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Microsoft Azure Developer Associate (AZ-204)

COURSE OUTLINE

MODULE 10

Introduction to Azure IaaS Compute Solutions

Implementing Azure Batch Service and Disk Encryption

Designing and Developing Applications That Use Containers

Implementing Azure App Service Web Apps and Mobile Apps

Implementing Azure App Service API Apps and Azure Functions

Developing Solutions That Use Azure Table Storage and Cosmos DB

Developing Solutions That Use Relational Database and Azure Blob Storage

Implementing Authentication and Access Control in Azure

Implementing Secure Data Solutions and Integrate Caching & CDN

Instrument Monitoring, Logging and Scalability of Apps & Services

Connecting to and Consuming Azure and Third-party Services

Developing Event-based and Message-based Solutions in Azure





Module 10 – Instrument Monitoring, Logging and Scalability of Apps & Services

Topics

- Cloud Monitoring
- Azure Monitor
- Alerts and Metrics
- Activity Log
- Service Health
- Application Insights
- Autoscaling In Azure
- Autoscale – Best Practices
- Common Autoscale Patterns
- Handling Transient Faults
- Transient Fault Handling – General Guidelines

Objectives

After completing this module, you should be able to:

- Understand how Azure Monitor works
- Configure instrumentation in an app or server by using Application Insights
- Analyze and troubleshoot solutions by using Azure Monitor
- Understand Auto-scale patterns and best practices for scaling their solutions
- Handle transient faults in your solution





Monitoring Azure Applications and Resources

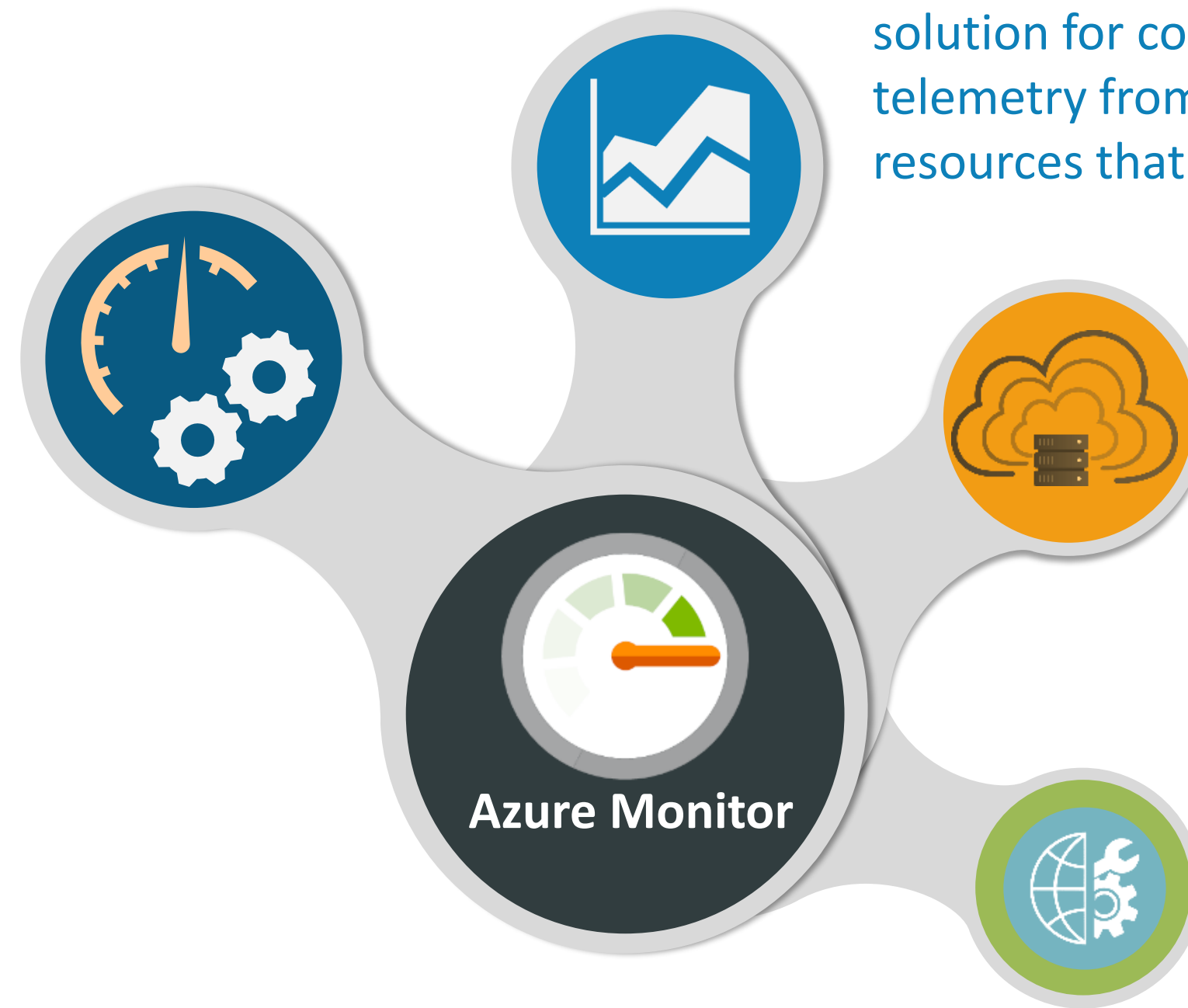
Cloud Monitoring

- Monitoring is the act of **collecting** and **analyzing** data to determine the performance, health, and availability of your business application and the resources that it *depends on*
- An **effective** monitoring strategy helps you understand the *detailed* operation of the components of your application
- It also helps you increase your **uptime** by *proactively* notifying you of critical issues so that you can resolve them before they become problems



Azure Monitor

Azure includes *multiple* services that **individually** perform a specific *role* or *task* in the monitoring space



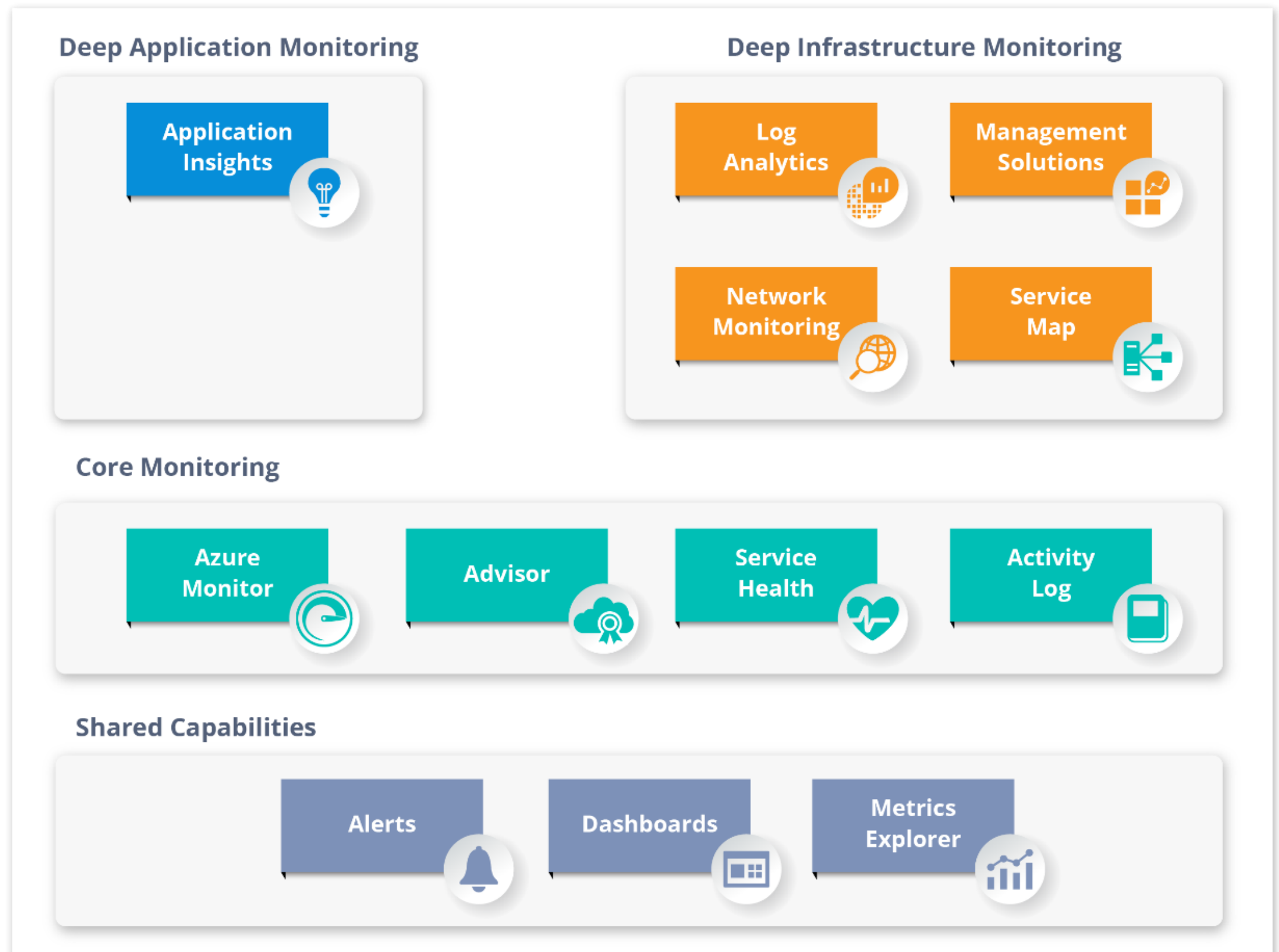
Together, these services deliver a comprehensive solution for collecting, analysing, and acting on telemetry from your application and the Azure resources that support them

They can also work to monitor *critical on-premises* resources in order to provide a **hybrid** monitoring environment

Understanding the **tools** and **data** that are available is the **first step** in developing a complete monitoring strategy for your application

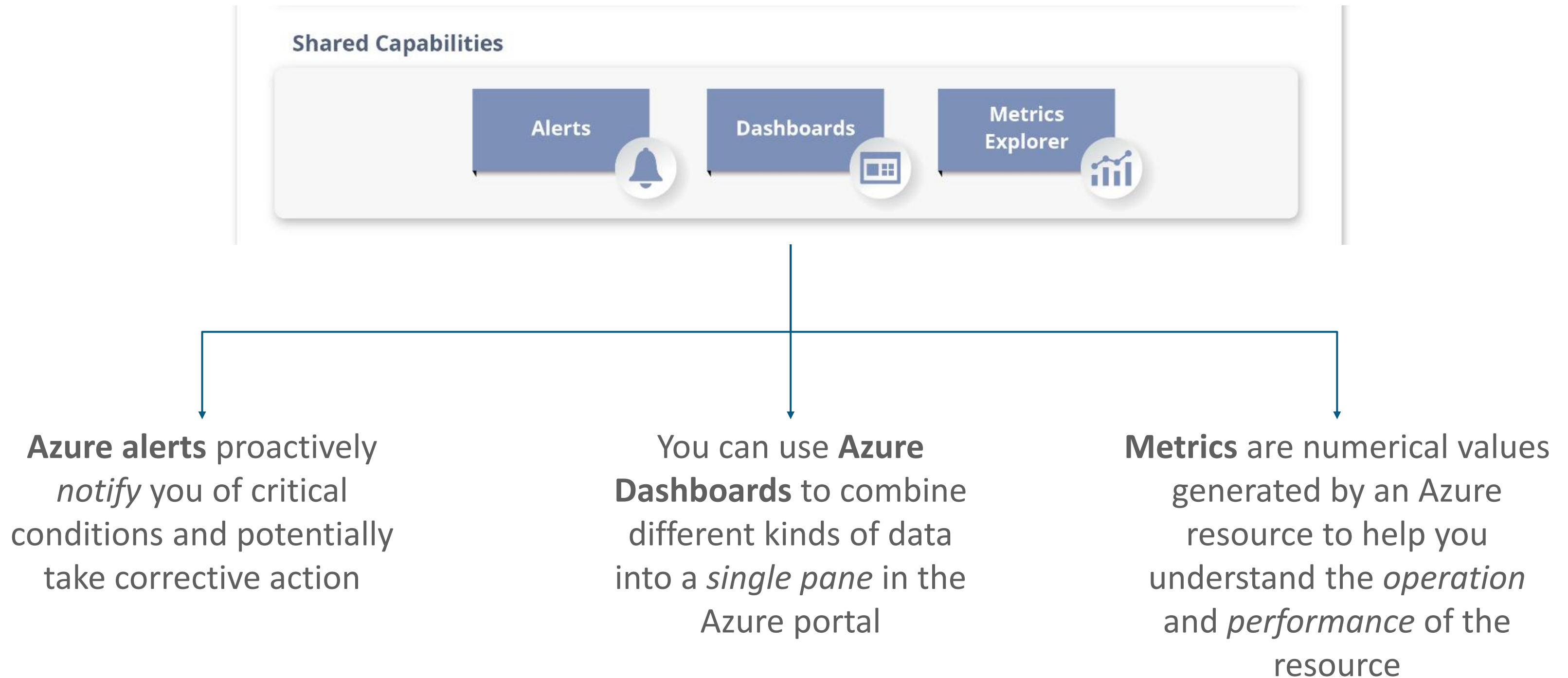
Conceptual View of Azure Monitoring

Conceptual view of the components that work together to provide monitoring of Azure resources:



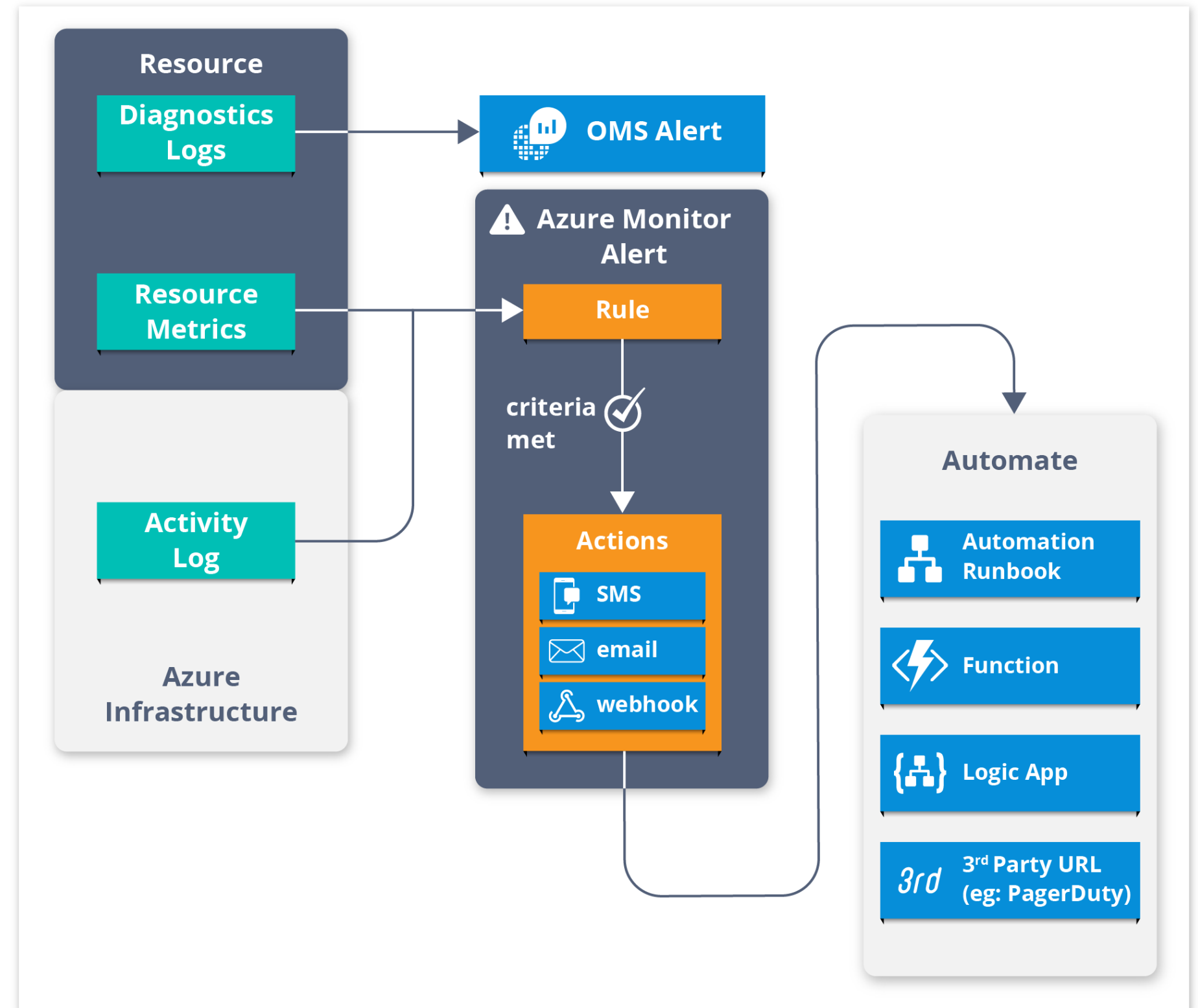
Azure Monitor – Shared Capabilities

The core and deep monitoring service share functionality which provides the following capabilities:



Shared Capabilities – Alerts

- Alert rules can use data from *multiple* sources, including **metrics** and **logs**
- They use **action groups**, which contain *unique* sets of **recipients** and **actions** in *response* to an alert
- Based on your *requirements*, you can have alerts start *external actions* by using **webhooks** and *integrate* with your **ITSM** (IT Service Management) tools



Shared Capabilities – Alerts Scenario

- Consider, You have a Virtual Machine or a Storage Service running in your Resource Group reaches it's **upper limit**, you might want it to upgrade to it's **higher Configuration** or **Tier**
- In this case, you have to create an **Alert Rule** in that resource to perform the above **Operation** for you
- In the next demo, you will learn how to create an Alert Rule based on **Metric**



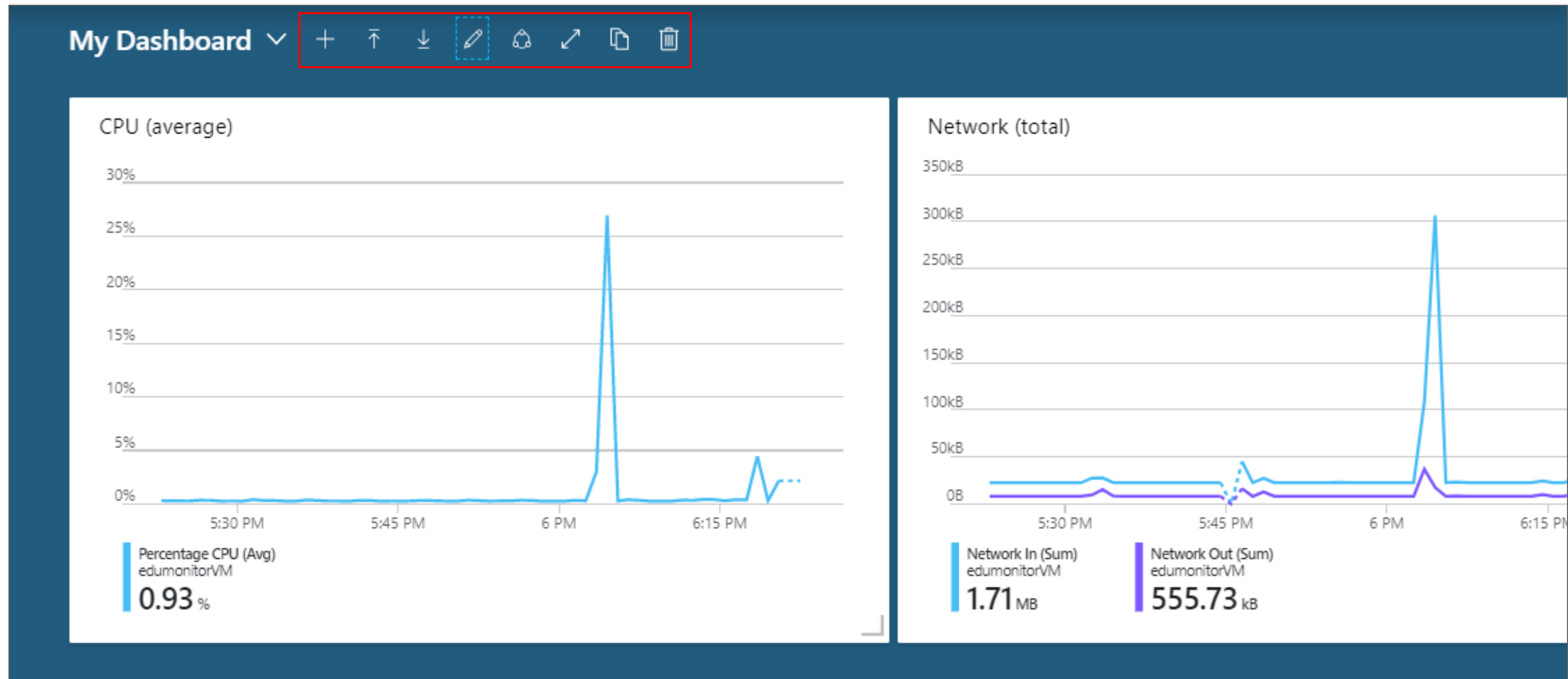
Azure Monitor – Shared Capabilities – Dashboards

- You can use **Azure dashboards** to *combine* different kinds of data into a single pane in the Azure portal
- You can then **share** the dashboard with other Azure users
- For example, you can create a dashboard that combines:
 - Tiles that show a graph of metrics
 - A table of activity logs
 - A usage chart from Application Insights
 - The output of a log search in Log Analytics



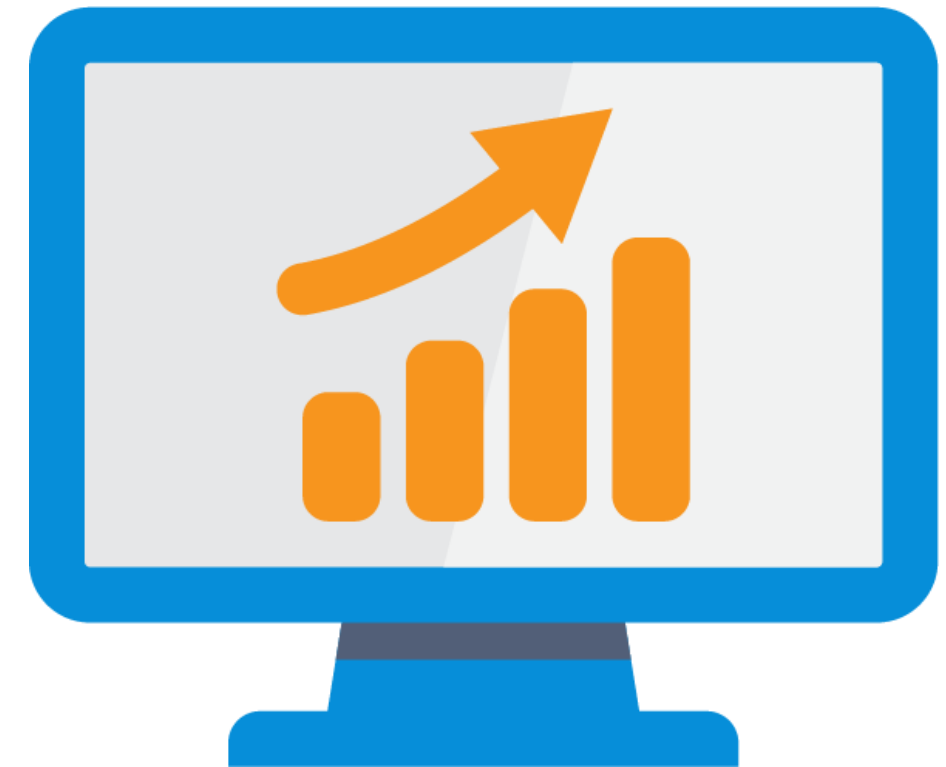
Azure Portal – Dashboard

You can **Add a New Dashboard**, **Upload/Download** Dashboard in **JSON** format, **Customize**, **Share** your Dashboard with other Users, **Clone** and **Delete** Dashboards:



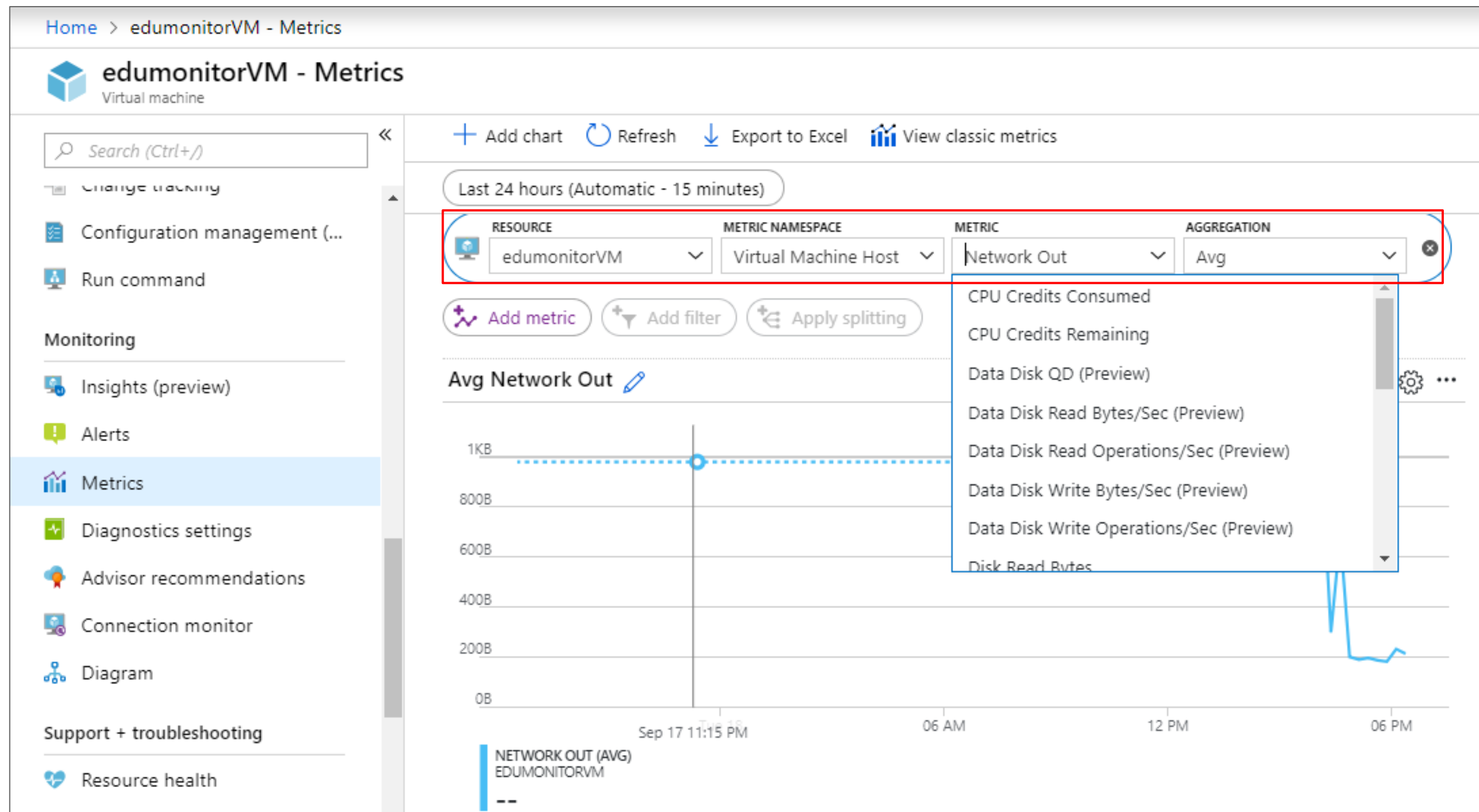
Azure Monitor – Shared Capabilities – Metrics

- **Metrics** are numerical values generated by an Azure resource to help you understand the ***operation*** and ***performance*** of the resource
- By using Metrics Explorer, you can send metrics to **Log Analytics** for analysis with data from other sources:



Metrics of a Specific Resource

To check the metrics of your resource, Goto: <<Your VM>> > Click on **Metrics** > Select any Metric:



Core Monitoring – Azure Monitor

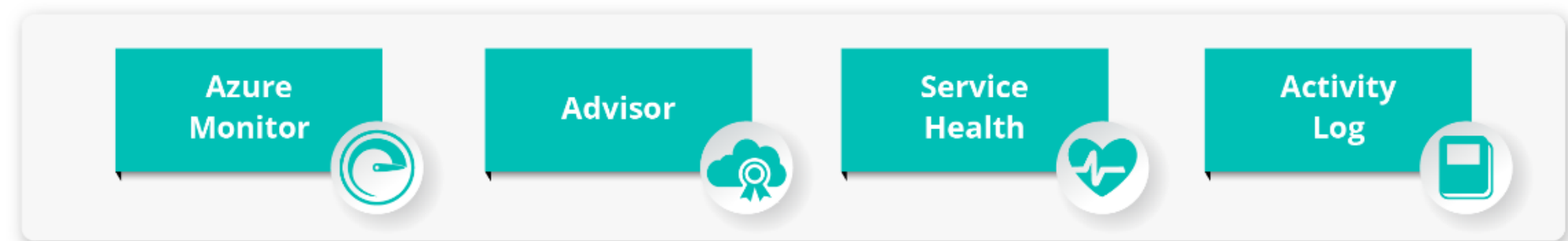
- **Azure Monitor** enables core monitoring for Azure services by allowing the collection of **metrics, activity logs,** and **diagnostic logs**
- For example, the activity log tells you when new resources are *created* or *modified*
- You can also send these metrics and logs to **Azure Log Analytics** for trending and detailed analysis

OR

Create additional **alert rules** to proactively notify you of critical issues as a result of that analysis

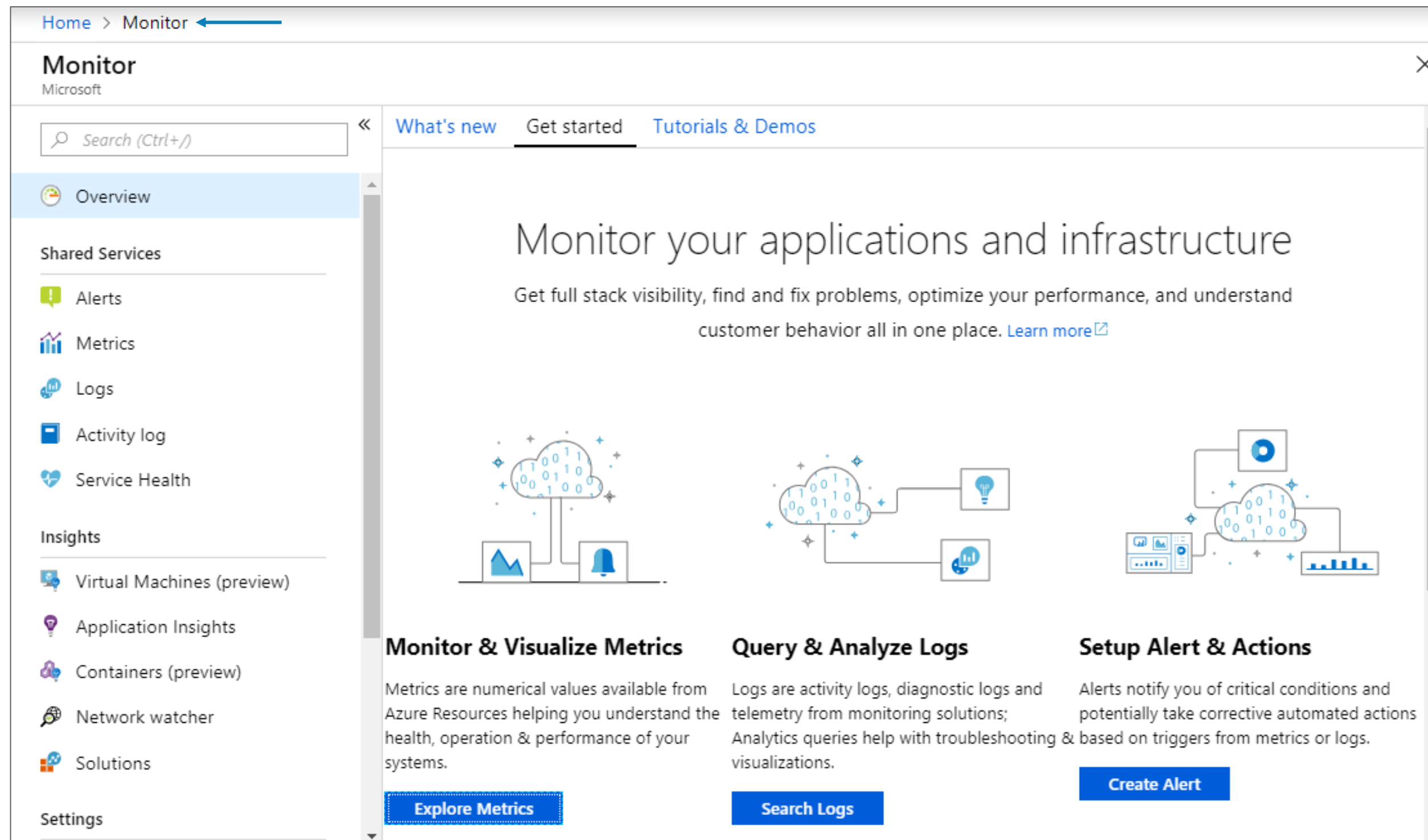


Core Monitoring



Azure Monitor – Portal

Find **Azure Monitor** Service on the Main Menu > Click on it:



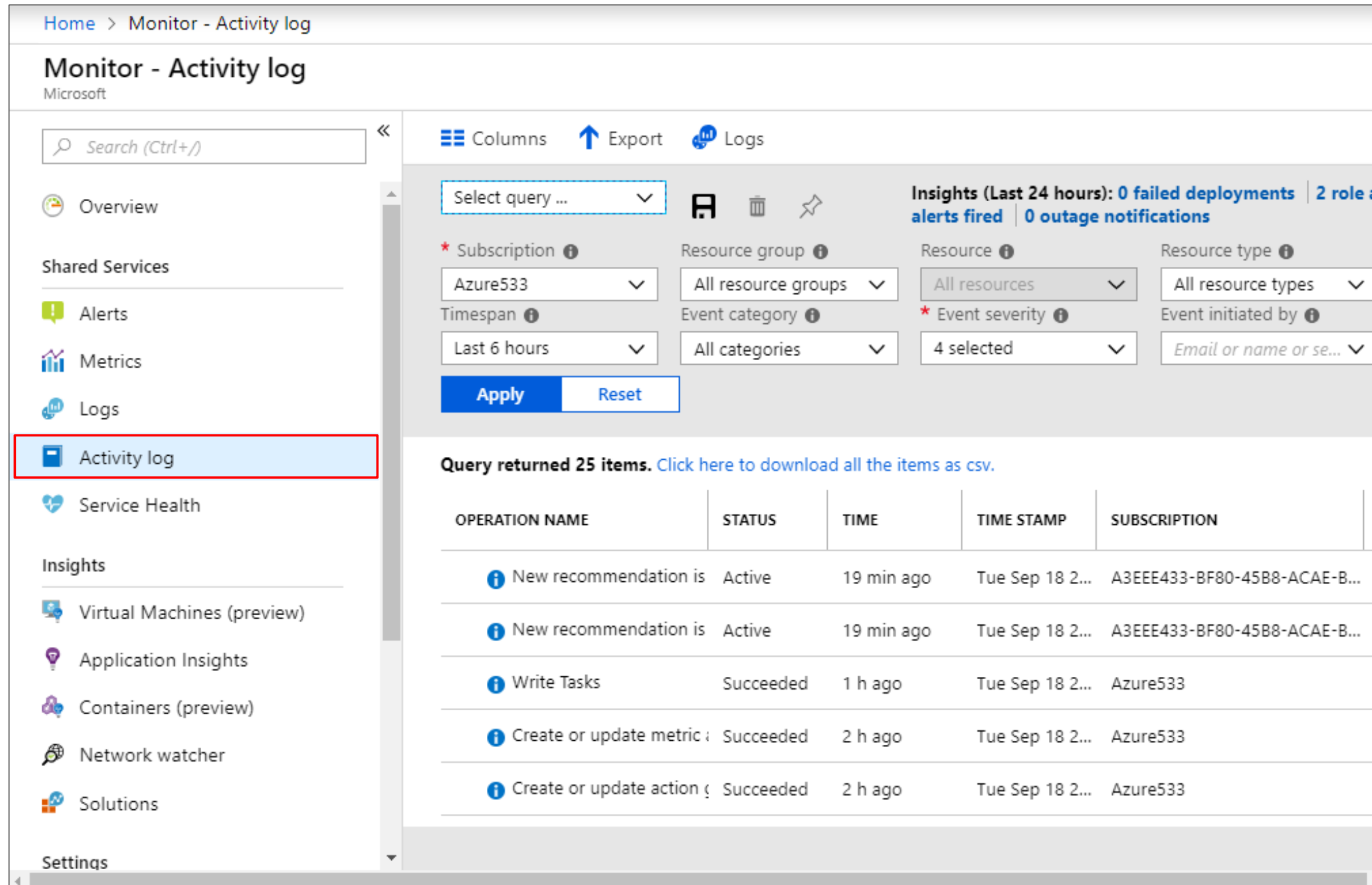
Azure Monitor – Activity Log

- **Activity Log** provides data about the operation of an Azure resource, this information includes:
 - Configuration changes to the resource
 - Service health incidents
 - Recommendations on better utilizing the resource
 - Information related to autoscale operations
- You can also send activity log entries to Log Analytics



Azure Monitor – Activity Log Explorer

Select **Activity Log** in the Azure Monitor window, You can see the below queries and results:



Home > Monitor - Activity log

Monitor - Activity log

Microsoft

Search (Ctrl+/)

Overview

Shared Services

- Alerts
- Metrics
- Logs
- Activity log**

Service Health

Insights

- Virtual Machines (preview)
- Application Insights
- Containers (preview)
- Network watcher
- Solutions

Settings

Columns Export Logs

Select query ...

Insights (Last 24 hours): 0 failed deployments | 2 role alerts fired | 0 outage notifications

* Subscription ⓘ Azure533

Resource group ⓘ All resource groups

Resource ⓘ All resources

Resource type ⓘ All resource types

Timespan ⓘ Last 6 hours

Event category ⓘ All categories

* Event severity ⓘ 4 selected

Event initiated by ⓘ Email or name or se...

Apply Reset

Query returned 25 items. [Click here to download all the items as csv.](#)

OPERATION NAME	STATUS	TIME	TIME STAMP	SUBSCRIPTION
<i>i</i> New recommendation is	Active	19 min ago	Tue Sep 18 2...	A3EEE433-BF80-45B8-ACAE-B...
<i>i</i> New recommendation is	Active	19 min ago	Tue Sep 18 2...	A3EEE433-BF80-45B8-ACAE-B...
<i>i</i> Write Tasks	Succeeded	1 h ago	Tue Sep 18 2...	Azure533
<i>i</i> Create or update metric i	Succeeded	2 h ago	Tue Sep 18 2...	Azure533
<i>i</i> Create or update action c	Succeeded	2 h ago	Tue Sep 18 2...	Azure533

Azure Monitor – Service Health

- The health of your application relies on the **Azure services** that it *depends on*
- **Azure Service Health** identifies any *issues* with Azure services that might *affect* your application
- Service Health also helps you *plan* for **scheduled maintenance**



Azure Monitor – Service Health Explorer

In Service Health, You can check for any Health issues or Planned Maintenance > Resource Health:

Home > Monitor > Service Health - Resource health

Service Health - Resource health

Search (Ctrl+ /)

ACTIVE EVENTS

Service issues

Planned maintenance

Health advisories

HISTORY

Health history

RESOURCE HEALTH

Resource health

ALERTS

Health alerts

Refresh

Subscription ⓘ

Azure533

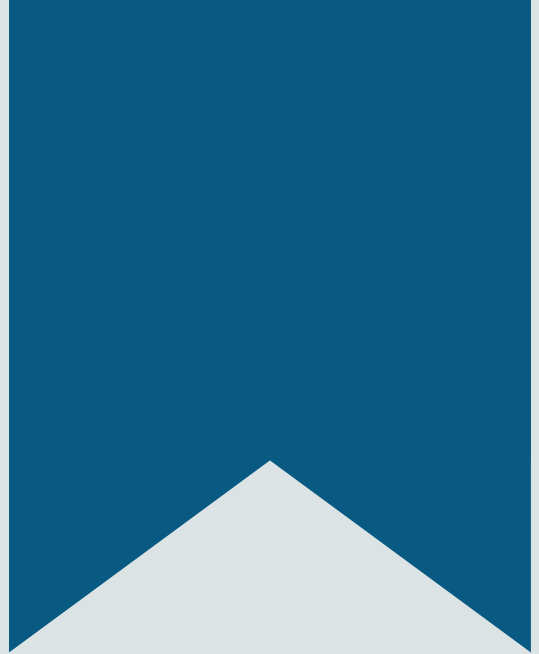
Resource type ⓘ

Virtual machine

RESOURCE NAME	TYPE	LOCATION	SUBSCRIPTION
edumonitorVM	Virtual machine	southindia	Azure533
wordless	Virtual machine	eastus	Azure533

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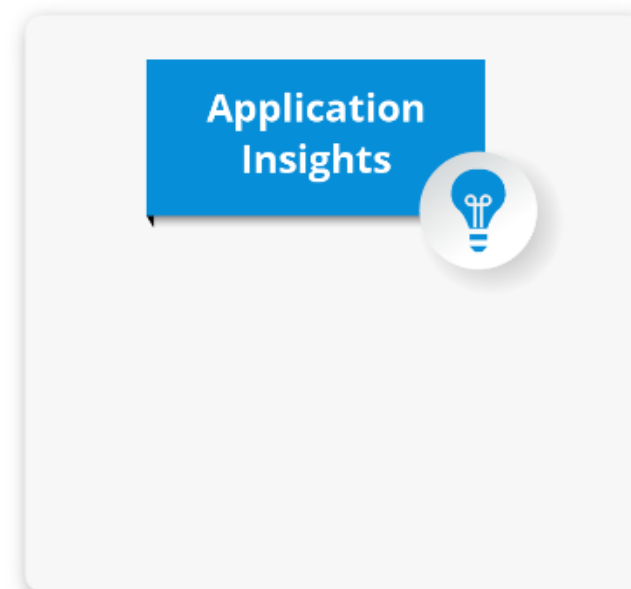


Demo 1 – Analyze and Troubleshoot Solutions Using Azure Monitor

Deep Monitoring Services

- **Deep Monitoring Services** provide rich capabilities for collecting and analyzing monitoring data at a deeper level
- These services build on core monitoring and take advantage of common functionality in Azure
- They provide powerful analytics with collected data to give you unique insights into your applications and infrastructure
- They present data in the context of scenarios that are targeted to different audiences

Deep Application Monitoring



Deep Infrastructure Monitoring



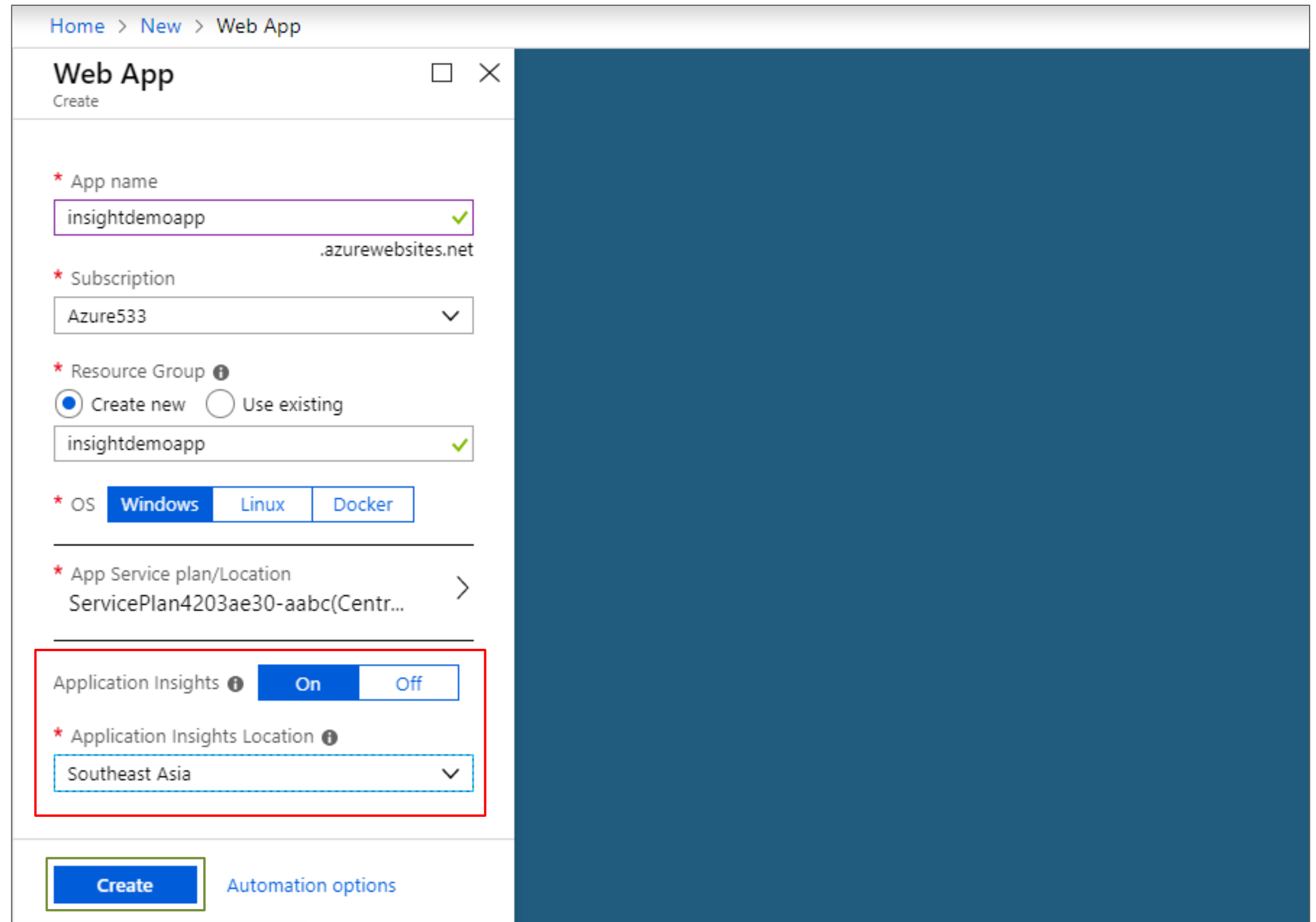
Deep Application Monitoring – Application Insights

- You can use [Azure Application Insights](#) to monitor availability, performance, and usage of your application, whether it's hosted in the cloud or on-premises
- By instrumenting your application to work with Application Insights, you can achieve deep insights and implement **DevOps** scenarios
- You can **quickly identify** and *diagnose errors* without waiting for a user to report them
- Application Insights has extensive tools for interacting with the data that it collects



Application Insights on Web App – Azure Portal

Enable Application Insights during
WebApp creation:



Home > New > Web App

Web App

Create

* App name
insightdemoapp ✓
.azurewebsites.net

* Subscription
Azure533 ▼

* Resource Group ⓘ
☒ Create new ☐ Use existing
insightdemoapp ✓

* OS **Windows** Linux Docker

* App Service plan/Location
ServicePlan4203ae30-aabc(Centr... >

Application Insights ⓘ **On** Off

* Application Insights Location ⓘ
Southeast Asia ▼

Create Automation options

Click on Application Insights in the App Settings

The screenshot displays the Azure portal interface for the 'insightdemoapp' Application Insights resource. The breadcrumb navigation at the top shows 'Home > insightdemoapp - Application Insights'. The left-hand navigation pane, under the 'Settings' section, lists various configuration options. The 'Application Insights' option, represented by a lightbulb icon, is highlighted with a red rectangular box. The main content area on the right is titled 'Application Insights' and features a 'View more in Application Insights' link with a right-pointing arrow icon, which is also enclosed in a red rectangular box. Below this link, a green checkmark icon indicates that the 'insightdemoapp' Application Insights resource is connected, with a 'Change' link provided for further actions.

Home > insightdemoapp - Application Insights

insightdemoapp - Application Insights
App Service

Search (Ctrl+ /)

Settings

- Application settings
- Authentication / Authorization
- Application Insights**
- Managed service identity
- Backups
- Custom domains
- SSL settings
- Networking
- Scale up (App Service plan)
- Scale out (App Service plan)
- WebJobs
- Push
- MySQL In App

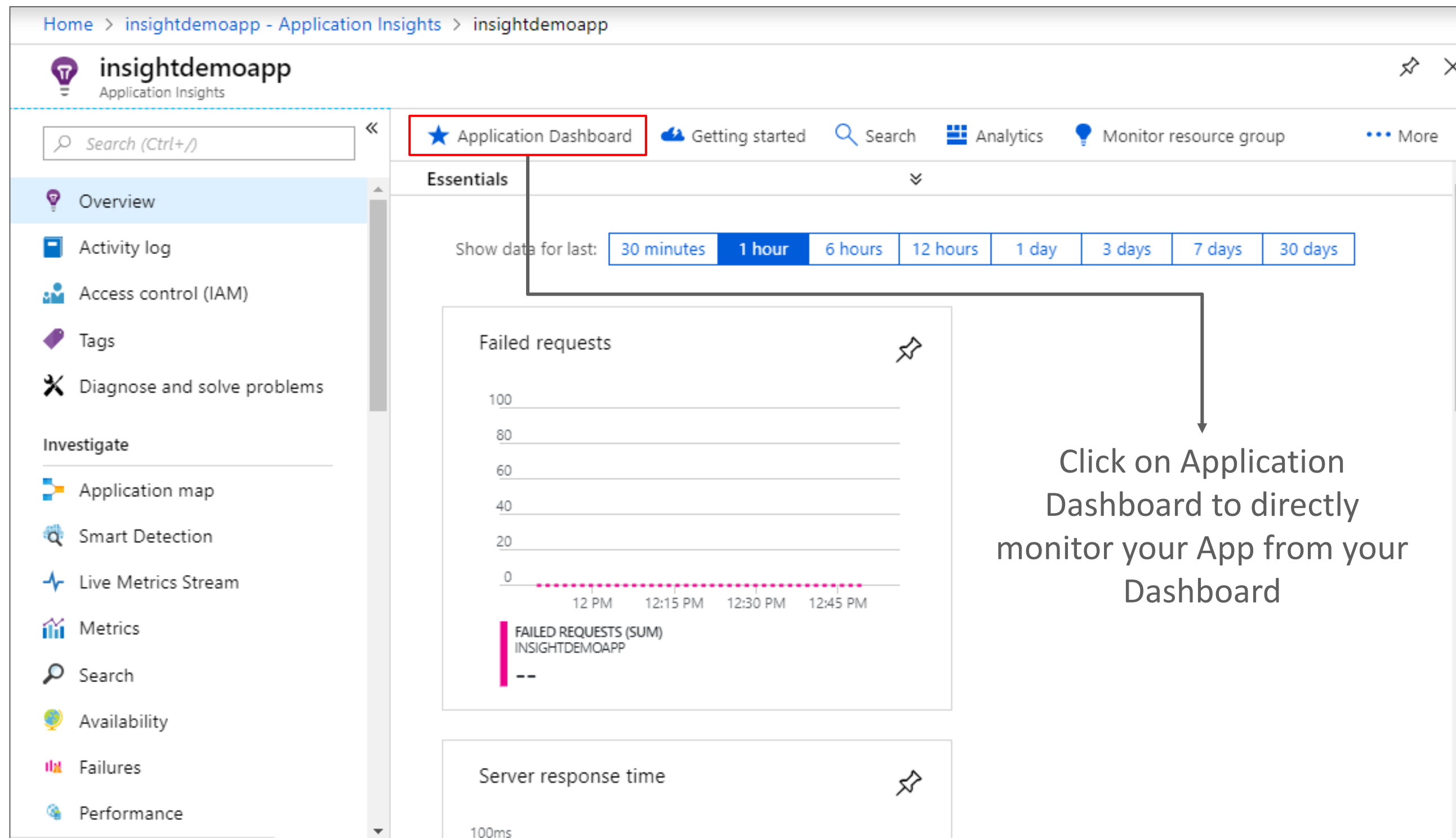
Application Insights

[View more in Application Insights](#)

✔ insightdemoapp Application Insights resource is connected [Change](#)

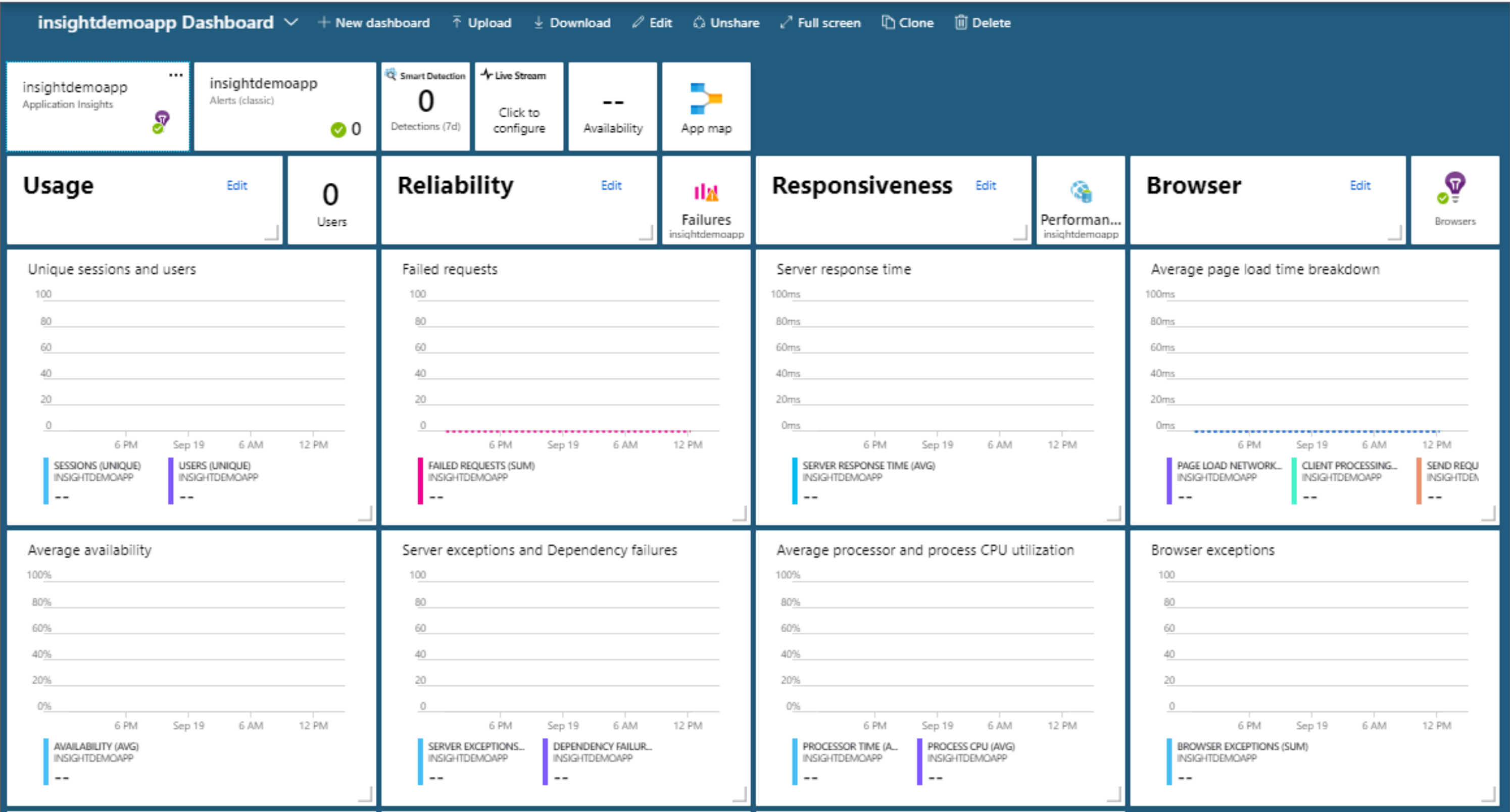
Application Insights – Overview

You can perform a lot of Monitoring operations on your WebApp as shown below:



Click on Application Dashboard to directly monitor your App from your Dashboard

Application Insights Dashboard





Demo 2 – Configure Instrumentation in an App Using Application Insights

Autoscaling in Azure

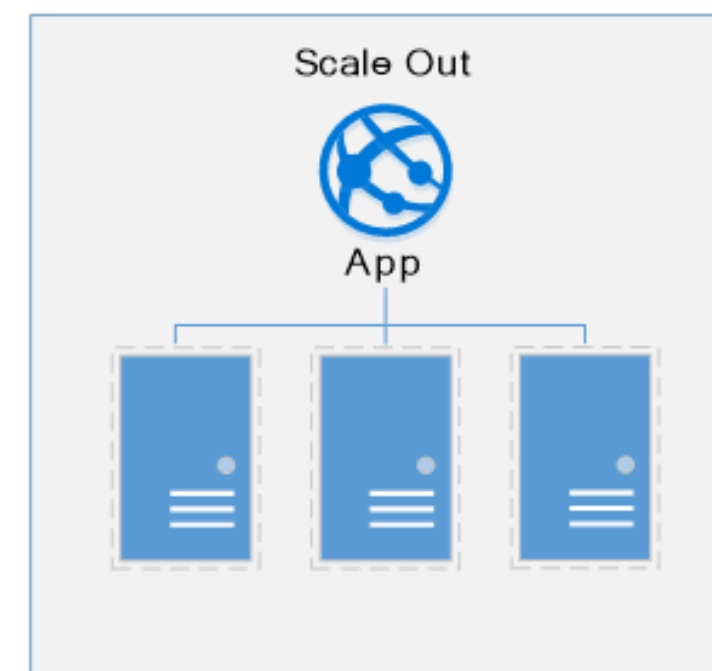
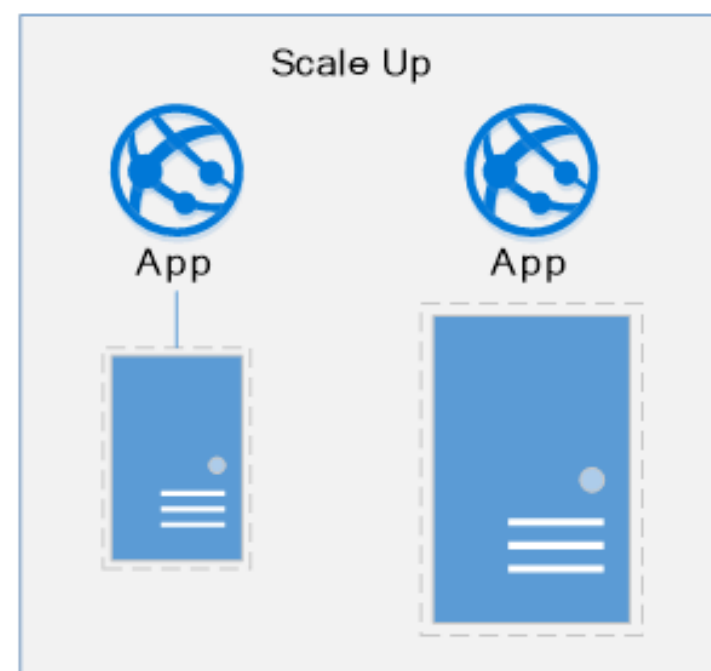
Autoscaling in Azure – Overview

Autoscaling is the process of *dynamically* allocating resources to match performance requirements

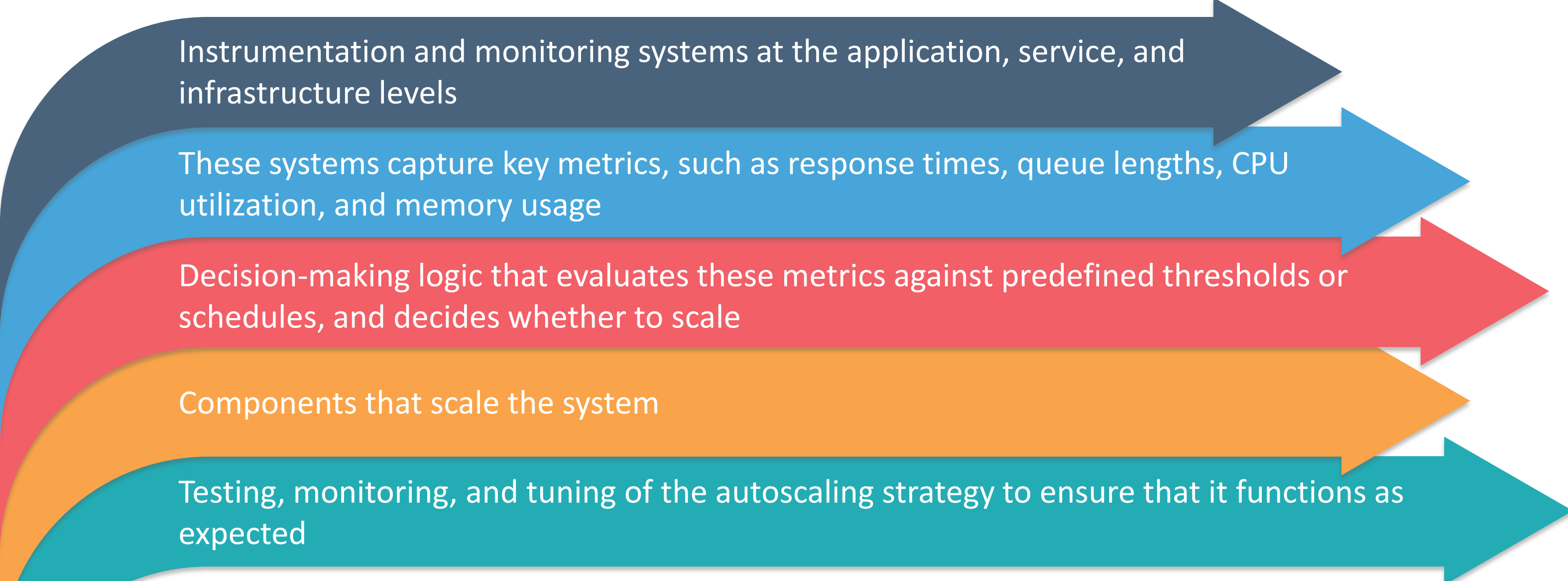


Vertical Scaling Vs. Horizontal Scaling

Vertical Scaling (Scale Up & Down)	Horizontal Scaling (Scale In & Out)
<input type="checkbox"/> Scale the number and power of resources up and down	<input type="checkbox"/> Scaling out and in, means adding or removing instances of a resource
<input type="checkbox"/> For example, you could move an application to a larger VM size	<input type="checkbox"/> Application continues running without interruption as new resources are provisioned
<input type="checkbox"/> Vertical scaling often requires making the system temporarily unavailable while it is being redeployed	<input type="checkbox"/> When the provisioning process is complete, the solution is deployed on these additional resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Less preferred	<input type="checkbox"/> If demand drops, the additional resources can be shut down cleanly and deallocated



Autoscaling Strategy



Instrumentation and monitoring systems at the application, service, and infrastructure levels

These systems capture key metrics, such as response times, queue lengths, CPU utilization, and memory usage

Decision-making logic that evaluates these metrics against predefined thresholds or schedules, and decides whether to scale


Components that scale the system

Testing, monitoring, and tuning of the autoscaling strategy to ensure that it functions as expected

An autoscaling strategy typically involves the above pieces

Configure Autoscaling for an Azure Solution

- **Azure Virtual Machines** autoscale via Virtual Machine Scale Sets (VMSS), which manage a set of VMs as a group
- **Service Fabric** also supports autoscaling through VMSS (Each Node in a Cluster is setup as a separate VMSS)
- **Azure App Service** Autoscale settings apply to all of the apps within an App Service (built-in autoscaling)
- **Azure Cloud Services** has built-in autoscaling at the role level
- **Azure Functions** differs from the previous compute options, because there's no need to configure any autoscale rules
 - Instead, Azure Functions automatically allocates compute power when your code is running, scaling out as necessary to handle load



These compute options all use **Azure Monitor autoscale** to provide a common set of autoscaling functionality

Autoscale – Best Practices

01 Ensure the maximum and minimum values are different and have an adequate margin between them

02 Manual scaling is reset by autoscale min and max

03 Always use a scale-out and scale-in rule combination that performs an increase and decrease

04 Choose the appropriate statistic for your diagnostics metric

05 Choose the thresholds carefully for all metric types

06 Always select a safe default instance count

07 Configure autoscale notifications

Azure Monitor Autoscaling – Web App Metrics

- You can generate a list of the Web Apps metrics by using the following command in PowerShell:

```
Get-AzMetricDefinition -ResourceId <resource_id> | Format-Table -Property Name,Unit
```

- You can generate a list of the Web Apps metrics by using the following command in PowerShell:

Metric Name	Unit
CpuPercentage	Percent
MemoryPercentage	Percent
DiskQueueLength	Count
HttpQueueLength	Count
BytesReceived	Bytes
BytesSent	Bytes

Common Autoscale Patterns

Scale based on CPU

Scale differently on weekdays vs weekends

Scale differently during holidays

Scale based on custom metric

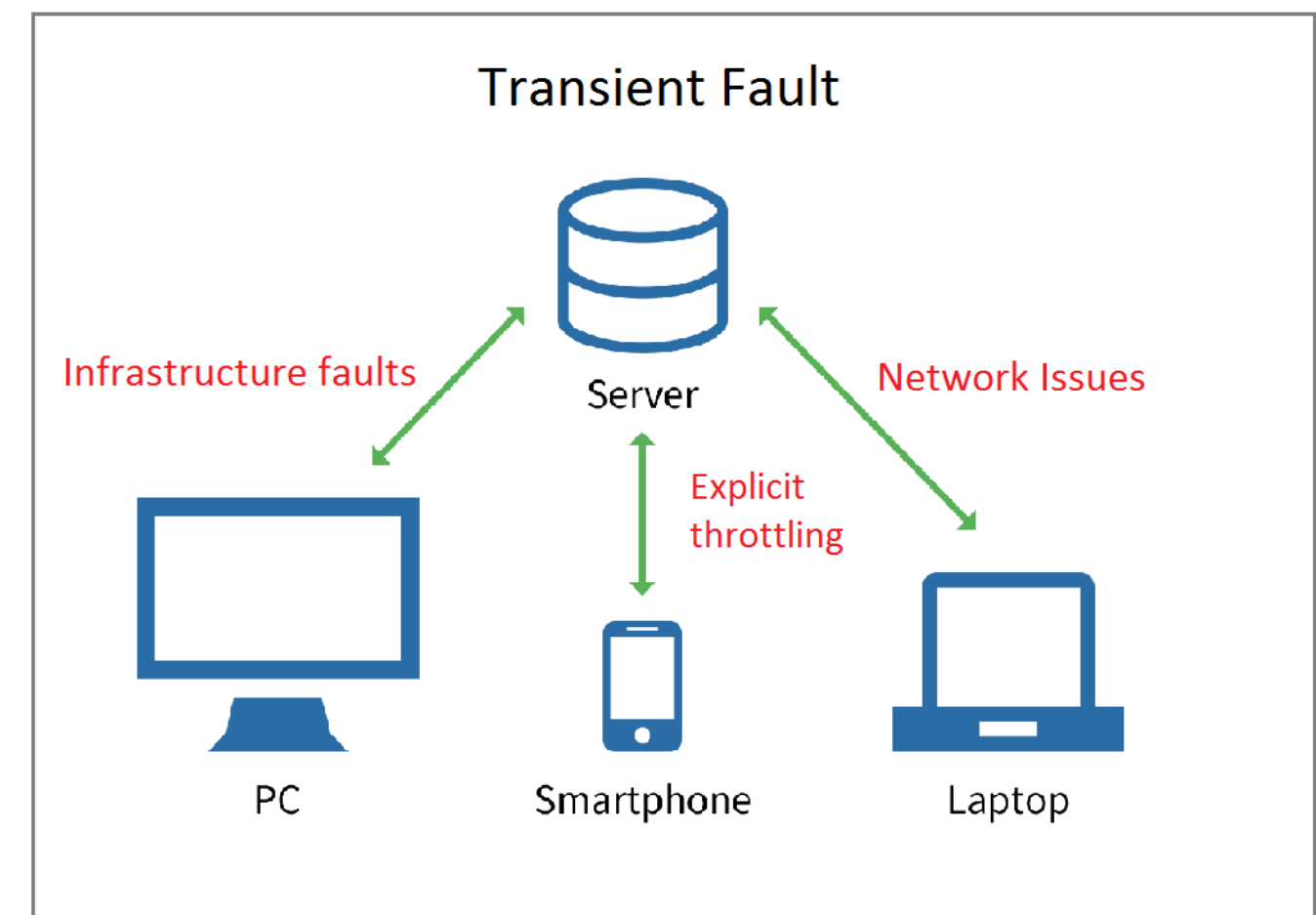


Demo 3 – Implement Autoscaling Rules and Patterns

Handling Transient Faults

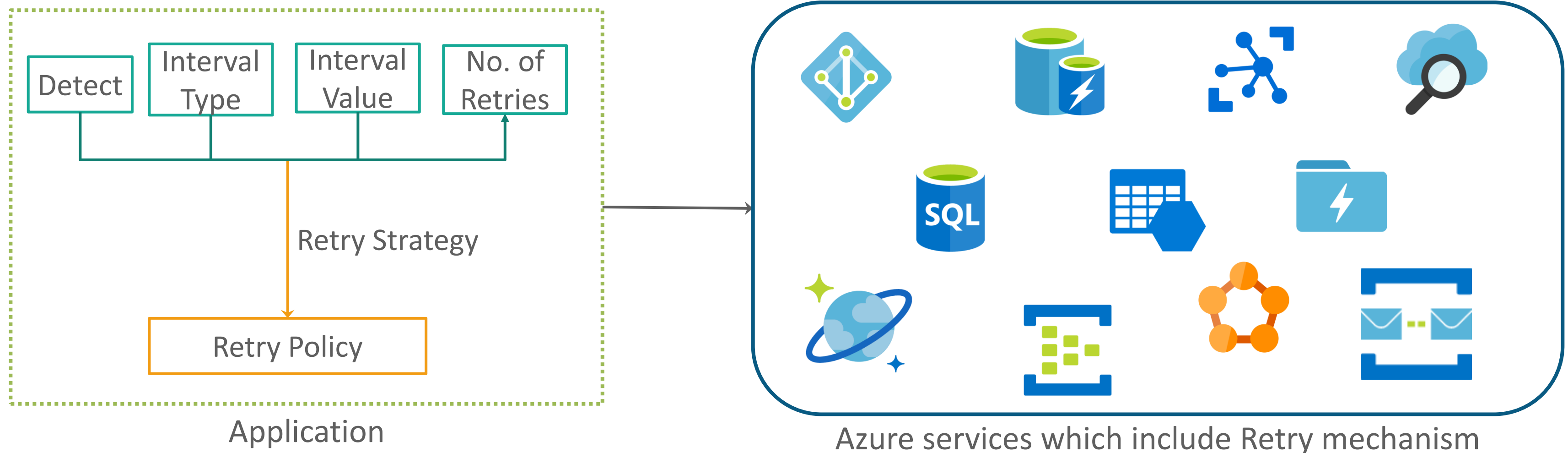
What are Transient Faults?

- When a client makes a request to the server, there may be failure responses because of temporary reasons such as:
 - Network Issues
 - Infrastructure faults
 - Explicit throttling
- These failures are very **common** in cloud applications
- **Retrying** the same operation after a short time may result in a successful response
- These errors are called as **Transient Faults**
- These errors occur **inconsistently** and no tracking can be done for this error



Transient Fault Handling

- There is no particular way to differentiate transient and non-transient faults
- By **retrying** the same server request few more times results in success
- Undergoing the retries based on a **predefined set of processes** is known as handing the transient faults
- A **Retry Policy** is a combination of all of the elements of your Retry Strategy



Transient Fault Handling – General Guidelines

Determine if there is a built-in retry mechanism

Determine if the operation is suitable for retrying

Determine an appropriate retry count and interval:

- Exponential back-off
- Incremental intervals
- Regular intervals
- Immediate retry
- Randomization

Avoid anti-patterns

Test your retry strategy and implementation

Manage retry policy configurations

Log and track transient and non-transient faults

Manage operations that continually fail



Demo 4 – Implement a Code That Handles Transient Faults

Summary

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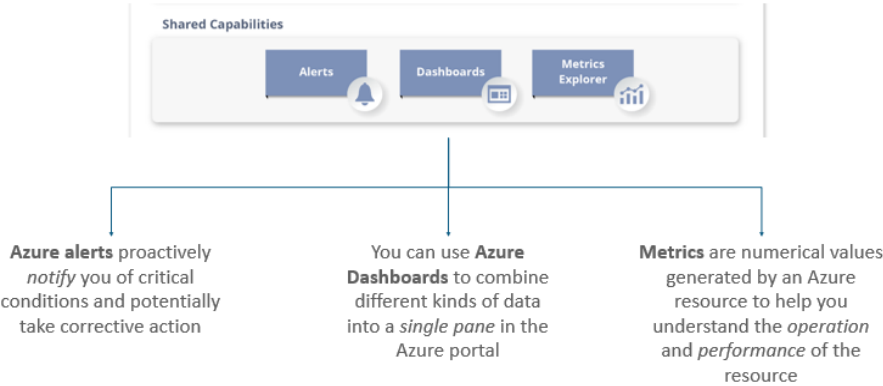


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Azure Monitor – Shared Capabilities

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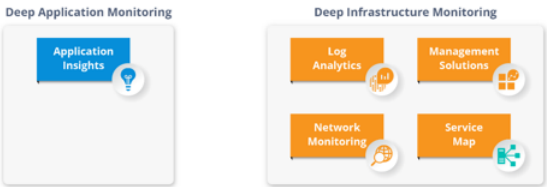


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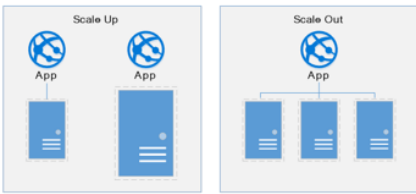


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Vertical Scaling V/S Horizontal Scaling

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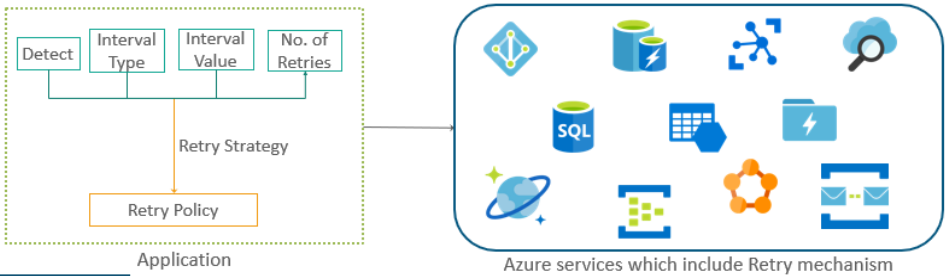


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- Log and track transient and non-transient faults
- Manage operations that continually fail

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Questions



FEEDBACK





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