Introduction to Yale Spinup and Cloud Computing

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Key Traits of Cloud Computing¹

- Self-provisioning
- Shared
- Elastic/Ephemeral
- Accessible
- Metered





^{1.} Peter Mell; Timothy Grance (September 2011). The NIST Definition of Cloud Computing (Technical report). National Institute of Standards and Technology: U.S. Department of Commerce.

Implementation

- Identity and role-based access controls
- Policy
- Automated provisioning and configuration of workloads
- Wide area networks
- Service instrumentation





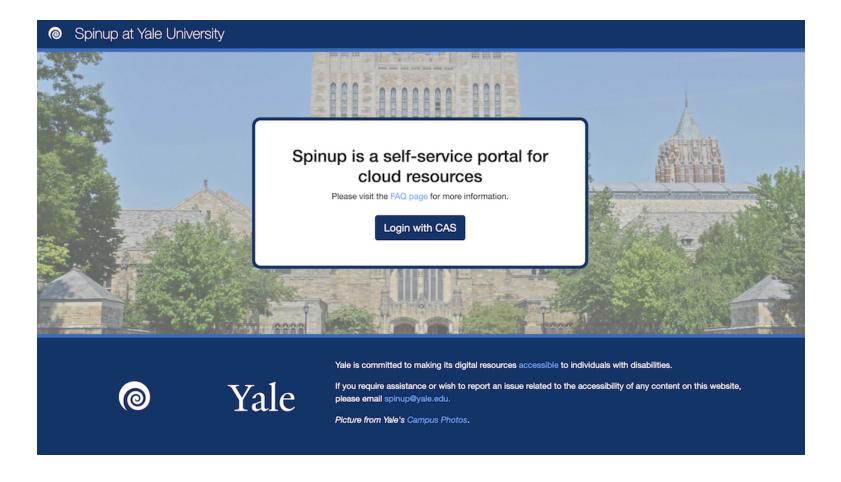
Yale Spinup

- Application layer over a shared AWS account
- Yale governance
 - CAS/Shibboleth identity
 - Enterprise and business agreement with Amazon
 - Automated creation and configuration adhering to institutional standards
 - Shared responsibility
- Enables self-service





Demonstration Spinup Web Application







Infrastructure as a Service (laaS): Server Instances

- Virtual servers hosted in Amazon EC2
- Cost directly proportional to provisioned resource
- Only charged for uptime and storage
- Regular snapshots





Demonstration: Spinup EC2 Instances





Platform as a Service (PaaS): Databases

- Provisioned to clustered database environment or to a fully managed instance
- Backups fully managed
- No need for patching
- Support for common databases





Demonstration: Spinup Database Services





Storage

- S3 object storage
- NFS volumes through Amazon Elastic File System (EFS)
- Static websites





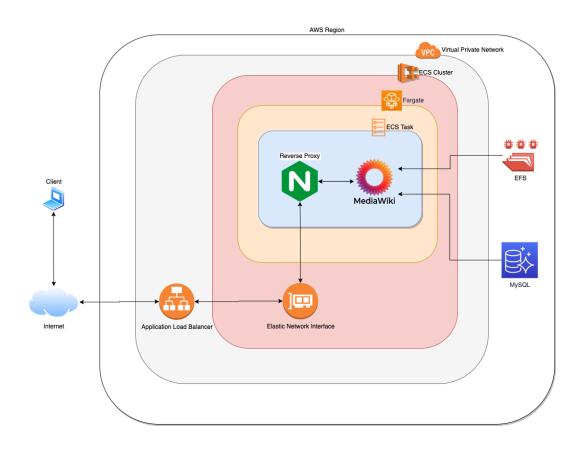
Demonstration: Spinup Storage Services





Containers

- Isolation of application from host
- All dependencies encapsulated
- Achieve greater densitity and utilization
- Drawbacks
 - Complicated infrastructure
 - Orchestration of interrelated services
 - Stateless







Demonstration: Spinup Container Services





Conclusion

- Constitutes an ideal environment to learn cloud computing.
- Provides convenient and secured access to the AWS cloud.
- Provides a stepping-off point for the other clouds that Yale offers





Resources

- Yale Spinup Selfservice FAQ
- #spinup channel in Yale University Slack



