

## ARC202 High Availability Application Architectures in Amazon Virtual Private Cloud

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Amazon Virtual Private Cloud (Amazon VPC) lets you provision a logically isolated section of the Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud where you can launch AWS resources in a virtual data center that you define. In this session you learn how to leverage the VPC networking constructs to configure a highly available and secure virtual data center on AWS for your application. We cover best practices around choosing an IP range for your VPC, creating subnets, configuring routing, securing your VPC, establishing VPN connectivity, and much more. The session culminates in creating a highly available web application stack inside of VPC and testing its availability with Chaos Monkey.

## Learning about High Availability Applications in VPC

- What is Amazon Virtual Private Cloud (VPC)?
- VPC common use cases
- VPC basics
- Why move to VPC?
- · Connecting VPC with your data centers
- Making your VPC infrastructure highly available
- Making your application highly available

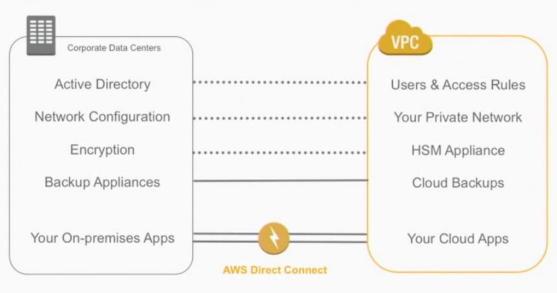
## What is Amazon VPC?

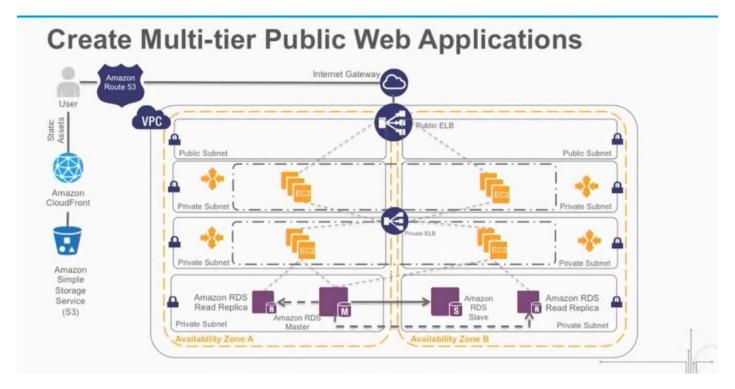
- A private, isolated section of the AWS cloud
- A virtual network topology you can deploy and customize
- Complete control of your networking

Most easily put, it is a virtual data center you can build out and control on AWS!

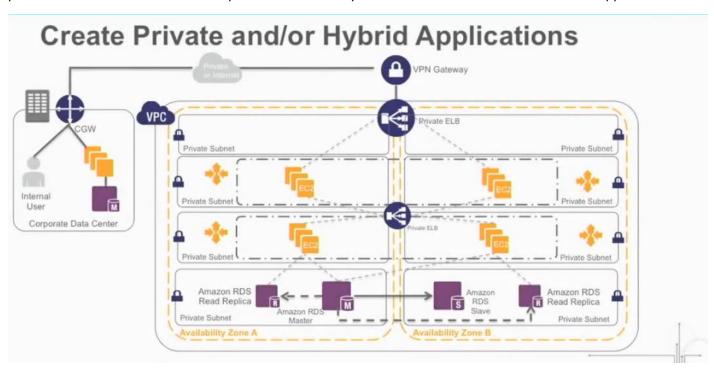
## **VPC Common Use Cases**

## **Design a Virtual Data Center on AWS**

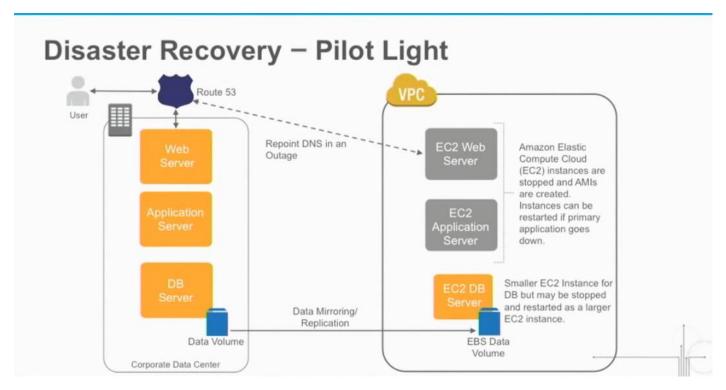




Notice that we are running a lot of our applications in private subnets, the only thing we are publicly exposing is our public load balancer. We also have a private LB that is only available between our web tier and our app tier.



Here we have the same application running except we are not connecting to it through an IGW, but connecting to it through a VPN Gateway which exposes either DirectConnect or VPN access to this VPN to hit the private web apps inside it.



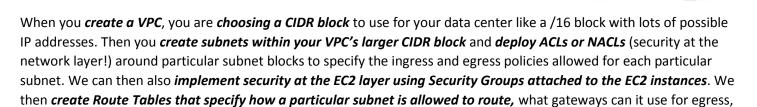
We are replicating our database server through DirectConnect or VPN to another server running in our VPC for Disaster Recovery, we will simply promote the VPC slave to a master and have our apps running again.



## **VPC Component Definitions**

- VPC = Virtual Private Cloud
- Subnets = A range of IP addresses in your VPC
- Network ACLs = Network access control lists that are applied to subnets
- Route tables = Applied to subnet(s) specifying route policies
- VPN connection = A pair of redundant encrypted connections between your data center and your Amazon VPC
- AWS Direct Connect = Private connection between your data center and your VPC(s)

etc. We can then create a VPN connection to connect or VPC back to our own data center networks, or use



VPC Component Definitions

- IGW = Internet gateway, which provides access to the Internet
- VGW = Virtual gateway, which provides access to your data centers
- CGW = Customer gateway or your router / firewall
- NAT = Network address translation server providing Internet to your private instances
- Security groups = Specify inbound and outbound access policies for an Amazon EC2 instance
- AZs = Availability Zones

DirectConnect.

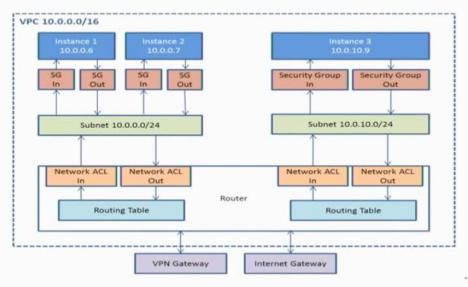
If you want to give access to your VPC, they need to come in through a VPN or through the internet. **NAT** is a service that you run inside your VPC to provide port address translation for services that are seeing private subnets that don't have internet access to get to the internet.

## **VPC Features**

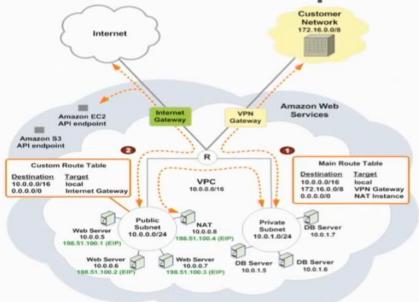
- Control of IP addressing CIDR block for your VPC
- · Ability to subnet your VPC CIDR block
- Network access control lists
- Assign multiple IP addresses and multiple elastic network Interfaces
- · Run private ELBs accessible from only within your VPC or over your VPN
- · Bridge your VPC and your onsite IT infrastructure with private connectivity

A VPC provides you another set of IP address range that you can go and launch EC2 instances into.

## **Amazon VPC Network Security Controls**



## **Virtual Private Cloud Example**



## Some VPC Considerations / Best Practices

- VPC CIDR block
- Subnets
- Network ACLs vs. security groups

## Why Move to VPC?



# All new accounts today already default to VPC\* for EC2 and many other products. What does this mean?

## What Is Default VPC / Default Subnet?

- Default VPC
  - Special VPC that is used with services when new accounts don't specify a target VPC
    - Amazon EC2, Amazon Relational Database Service (RDS), Elastic Load Balancing, Amazon Elastic MapReduce (EMR), AWS Elastic Beanstalk
  - One default VPC per region
  - Configurable the same as other VPCs; e.g., adding more subnets
- Default Subnets in Default VPC
  - Special subnet automatically created for each AZ for new accounts

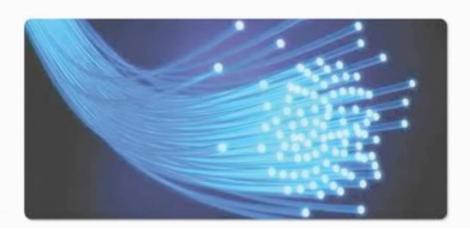


## Functionalities Delivered to EC2 by Move to VPC

- · Static private IP address allocation
- Multiple IP address allocation and multiple ENIs
- Dynamic security group membership configuration
- Outbound packet filtering by security group
- Network access control lists (ACLs)
- Private ELBs



## **Connecting VPC with Your Data Centers**



## **VPC Connectivity Options**

VPN connectivity

Connect dual redundant tunnels between your on-premises equipment and AWS

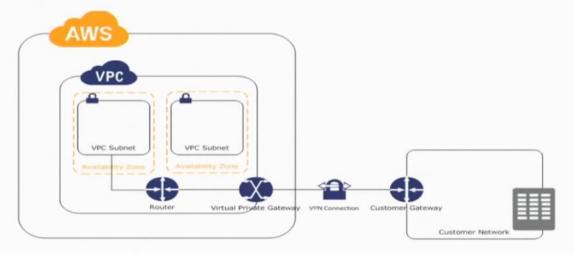
AWS Direct Connect

Establish a private network connection between your network and one of the AWS Regions

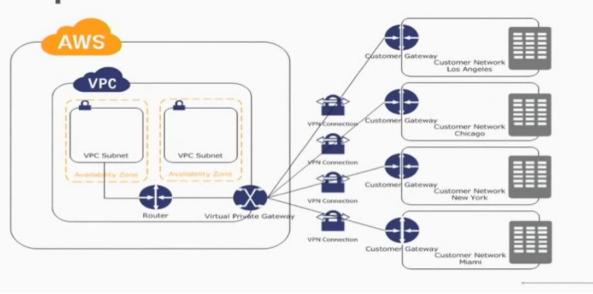
## **VPN** Connectivity

- · Redundant IPsec tunnels
- Supports BGP and static routing
- Redundant customer gateways

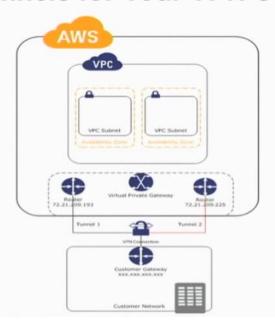
## Single VPN Connection



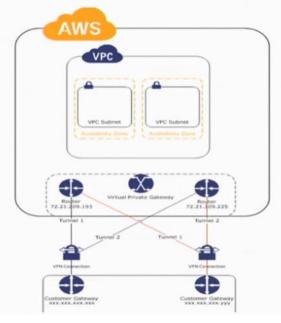
## **Multiple VPN Connections**



## **Redundant Tunnels for Your VPN Connection**



## **Redundant Customer Gateways**





## What is AWS Direct Connect?

- Alternative to using the Internet to access AWS cloud services
- Private network connection between AWS and your data center
- Can reduce costs, increase bandwidth, and provide a more consistent network experience than Internet-based connections

## Why AWS Direct Connect?

- · Reduces your bandwidth costs
- · Consistent network performance
- · Compatible with all AWS services
- Private connectivity to your Amazon VPC

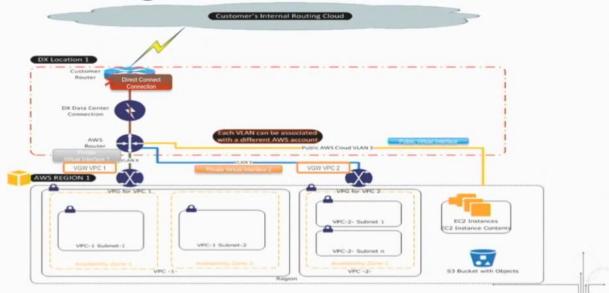
## We have many AWS Direct Connect locations.

http://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/#details

Let's look at some Direct Connect architectures.

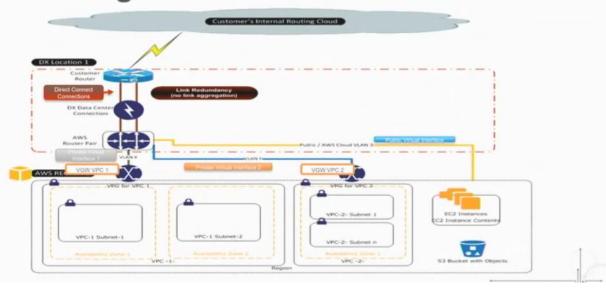






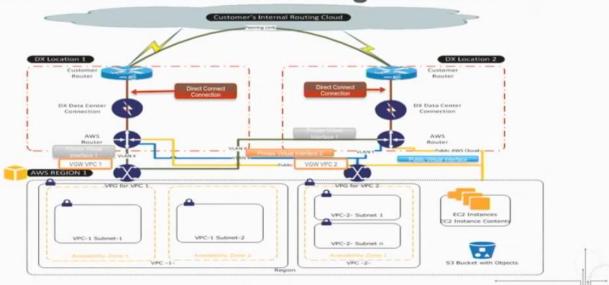
This is basic DirectConnect with no redundancy built in.

## **DX with Single Router and Dual Ports**



This is a more robust and recommended solution with dual routers being used.

## **Dual DX Locations with Single Routers**



Let's look at some design patterns for making your VPC infrastructure highly available. Floating Interface Pattern

### Problem

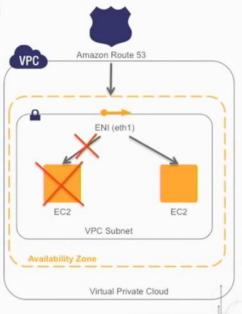
If my instance fails or I need to upgrade it, I need to push traffic to another instance with the same public and private IP addresses and same network interface

### Solution

Deploy your application in VPC and use an elastic network interface (ENI) on eth1 that can be moved between instances and retain same MAC, public, and private IP addresses

### Pros

- Since we are moving the ENI, DNS will not need to be updated
- Fallback is as easy as moving the ENI back to the original instance
- Anything pointing to the public or private IP on the instance will not need to be updated.
- ENIs can be moved across instances in a subnet



## On Demand NAT in VPC

### Problem

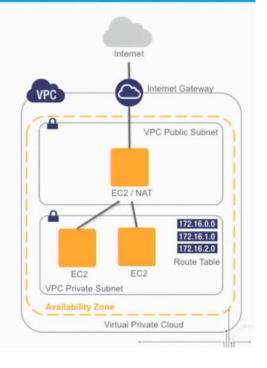
EC2 instances in a private subnet need access to the Internet to call APIs, for downloads and updates to software packages and the OS

### Solution

Deploy a NAT server on an EC2 instance that will provide Internet access to servers in private subnets

### Pros

- Your devices are not publicly addressable but still have Internet access
- NAT gives instances in private subnet capability to access AWS services and APIs outside of VPC



## High Availability (HA) NAT

### Problem

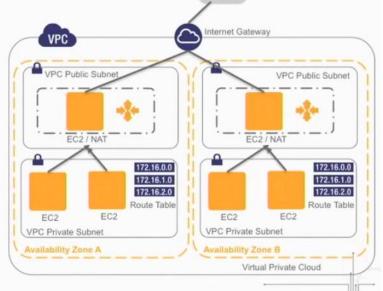
NAT inside of VPC is confined to a single instance, which could fail

### Solution

- Run NAT in independent ASGs per AZ.
- If NAT instance goes down, Auto Scaling will launch new NAT instance
- As part of launch config, assign a public IP and call VPC APIs to update routes

### Pros

 The NAT application is more HA with limited downtime



Internet

The ASG will be set to have a min of 1 and a max of 1 to make sure that that one instance is always healthy even if an instance dies.

## HA NAT – Squid Proxy

### Problem

- Standard NAT inside of VPC is confined to a single instance, which could fail
- I also need to perform large puts and gets to Amazon S3

### Solution

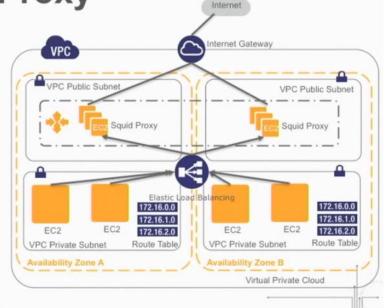
- Run Squid in proxy configuration in an ASG
- On boot, configure instances to point to proxy for all HTTP(S) requests

### Pros

- If a Squid proxy server dies, there are many and it will self heal and scale based on ASG policies
- Much greater throughput can be achieved here as there is not a single-server per route table

### Notes

- This is great for high-throughput requirements to get and put in Amazon S3 or elsewhere outside of the VPC
- Need to manage a separate cluster of servers so this is more costly and requires more management



## Next, let's look at some design patterns for making your application highly available.

Availability 99.000%	10000	Downtime Per Year (24x365)		
		3 Days	15 Hours	36 Minutes
99.500%	5000	1 Day	19 Hours	48 Minutes
99.900%	1000		8 Hours	46 Minutes
99.950%	500		4 Hours	23 Minutes
99.990%	100			53 Minutes
99.999%	10			5 Minutes
99.9999%	1			30 Seconds

DMP—Defects per Million



"High Availability"

## Multi-Data Center Pattern

### Problem

Increase availability of my application as everything fails when you least expect it

### Solution

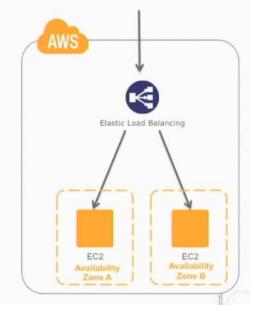
Distribute load between instances using Elastic Load Balancing across multiple AZs

### Pros

- If an EC2 instance fails, the systems is still available as a whole
- If an Availability Zone fails, the system is still available as a whole
- Using Auto Scaling, you can add or replace with new instances when instances become unhealthy

### Notes

- Need to store user-generated data in a common location such as Amazon S3 or NFS
- Need to use sticky sessions or move session state off of web server



## Web Storage Pattern

### Problem

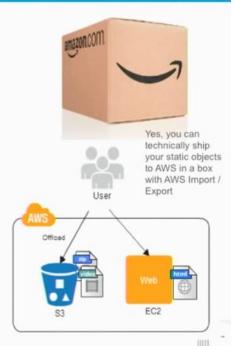
- Delivery of large files from a web server can become a problem in terms of network load
- User generated content needs to be distributed across all my web servers

### Solution

- Store static asset files in Amazon S3 and deliver the files directly from there
- Objects that are stored in S3 can be accessed directly by users if set to being public

### Pros

- The use of Amazon S3 eliminates the need to worry about network loads and data capacity on your web servers
- Amazon S3 performs backups in at least three different data centers, and thus has extremely high durability.
- The CloudFront CDN can be leveraged as a global caching layer in front of S3 to accelerate content to your end users



## **State Sharing**

### Problem

State is stored on my server so scaling horizontally does not work that well

### Solution

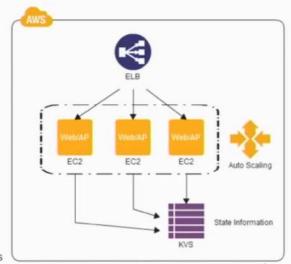
- In order to scale horizontally and not have a user locked into a single server, I need to move state off of my server into a KVS
- Moving session data into Amazon DynamoDB or Amazon ElastiCache allows my application to be stateless

### Pros

This lets you use a scale-out pattern without having to worry about inheritance or loss of state information.

### Notes

Because access to state information from multiple web/APP servers is concentrated on a single location, you must use caution to prevent the performance of the data store from becoming a bottleneck



## **High Availability Database Pattern**

### Problem

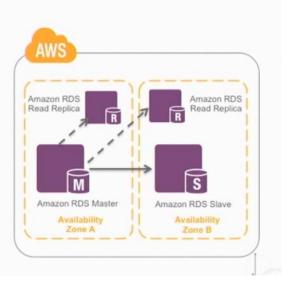
Need to have high availability solution that will withstand an outage of the DB master and can sustain high volume of reads

### Solution

Deploy Amazon RDS with a master and slave configuration. In addition, deploy a read replica in each Availability Zone for reads and offline reporting

### Pros

- One connection string for master and slave with automatic failover (takes approx. 3 min.) creates an HA database solution
- Maintenance does not bring down DB but causes failover
- Read replicas take load off of master so overall solution provides greater I/O for reads and writes



Use synchronous replication between the master DB and the slave DB. When the master goes down, you simply change the configuration file to point to the slave DB as the new master and move the master to slave when it gets back up.

## **Bootstrap Instance**

#### Problem

Code releases happen often and creating a new AMI every time you have a release and managing these AMIs across multiple regions adds complexity

### Solution

Develop a base AMI, and then bootstrap the instance during the boot process to install software, get updates, and install source code so that your AMI rarely changes

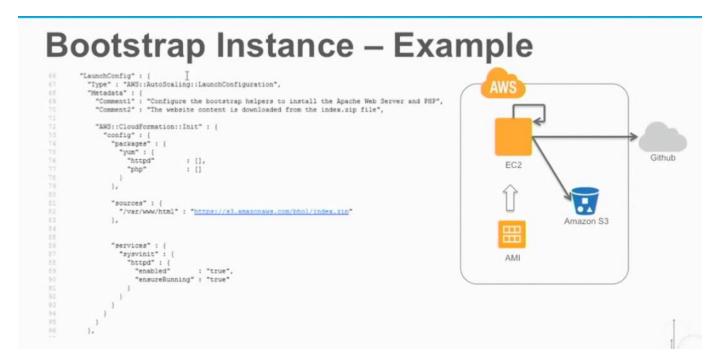
### Pros

Do not need to update AMI regularly and move customized AMI between regions for each software release

### Notes

- During boot, it will most likely take more time to install and perform configuration than it would with a golden AMI
- Bootstrapping can also be done through Auto Scaling and AWS CloudFormation





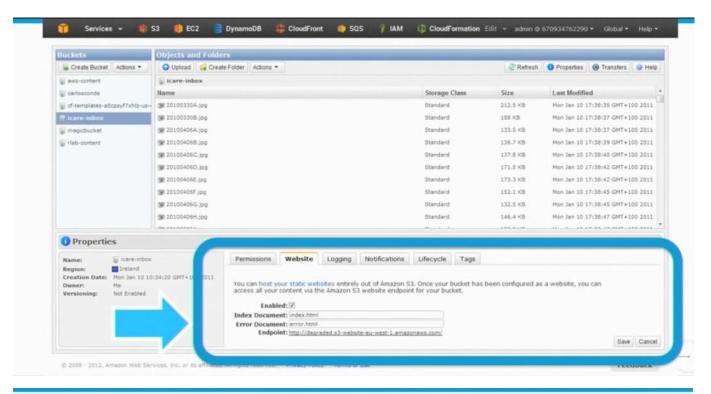
This is a CF template that does bootstrapping, we are using the CF *init* to bootstrap the application using an AMI base image during startup

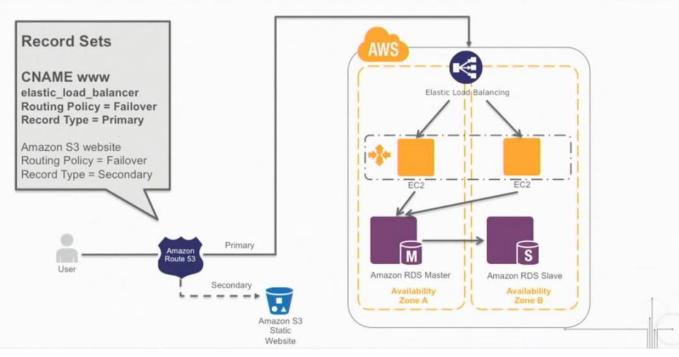
OK, but what happens if my application still degrades?

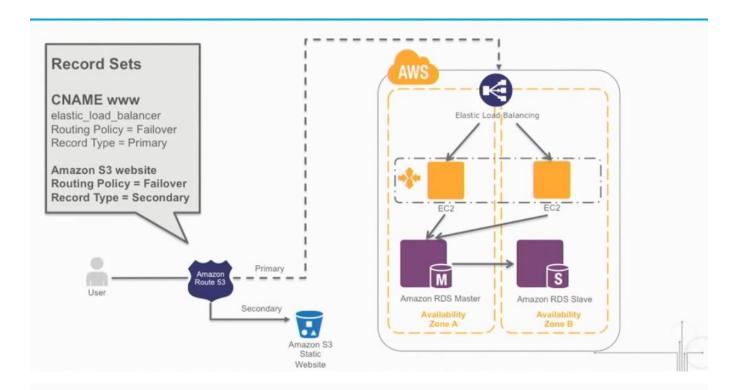
Amazon S3
Static Website

Amazon Route 53 **DNS failover** 

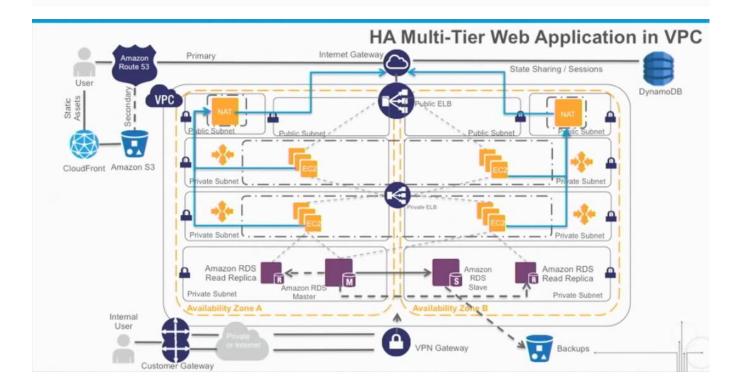
You can then use a DNS failover policy to switch to the static website version in S3 when your dynamic website running on your EC2 instances fail.







So what might a highly available application VPC look like using the best practices we learned?



## **Testing Our Highly Available Application**



You can use Bees Up to spin up a set of EC2 instance bees that will then run request load on your apps for testing.

## **Load and Fault Testing Tools**

- · Apache Bench
- · Bees with Machine Guns
- HP LoadRunner
- Chaos Monkey



## **Chaos Monkey**

- What is Chaos Monkey?
  - Chaos Monkey targets and terminates instances in a region
  - Implementations
    - · Open source Java code for a service implementation
    - · Command-line tool
- Why run Chaos Monkey?
  - Failures happen when you least expect it
  - Best to be prepared by testing
- Auto Scaling groups
  - Targets terminating instances in Auto Scaling groups
- Configuration
  - Opt in or out model
  - Tunable so you can terminate one instance per ASG per day
  - At Netflix, Chaos Monkey runs Monday Thursday 9AM 3PM for random instance kill





## Chaos Monkey Demo

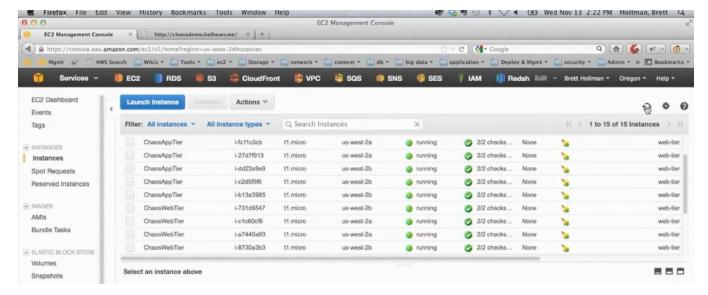


- We will demo Chaos Monkey against a mock three-tier application that has Auto Scaling groups at each layer
  - http://chaosdemo.hollman.me/
- Using Chaos Monkey CLI tool for demo
  - > ChaosMonkey
    - -l=chaoslog.txt
    - -S=ec2.us-west-2.amazonaws.com

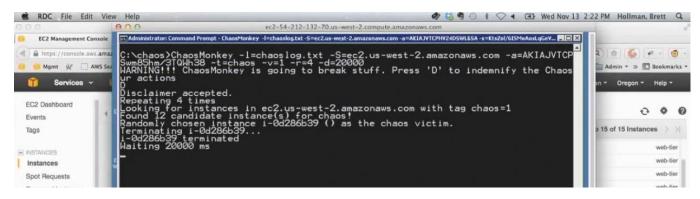
    - -t=chaos
    - -v=1
    - -r=4
    - -d=15000



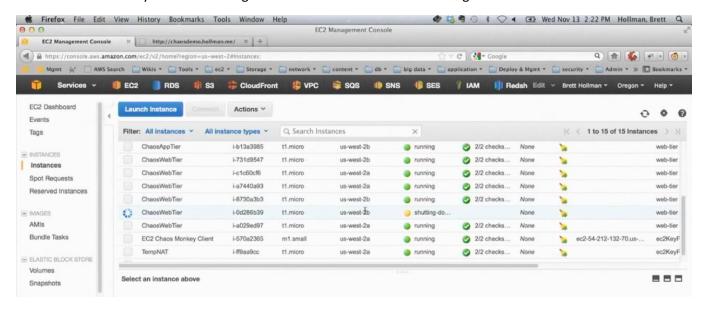
Chaos Monkey Demo



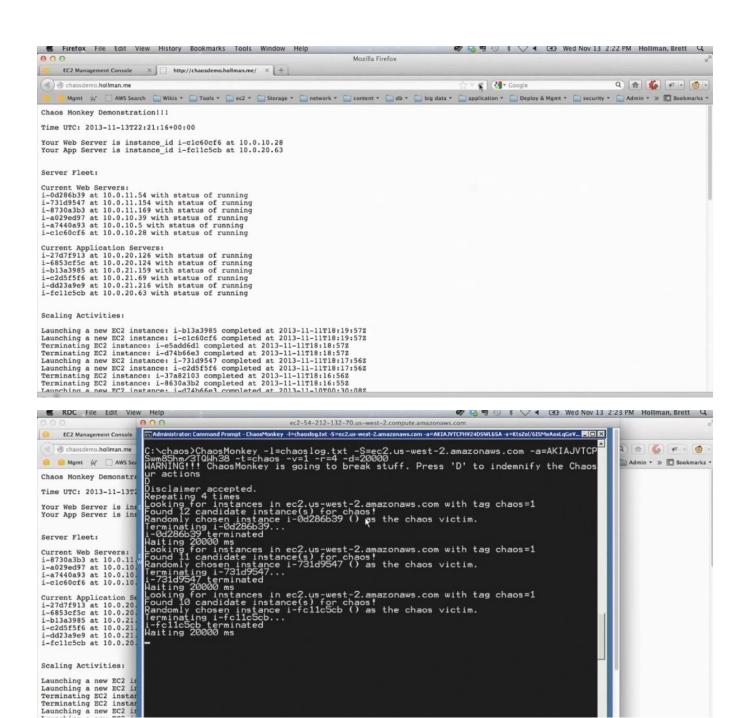
We have several EC2 instances running in our web and app tiers

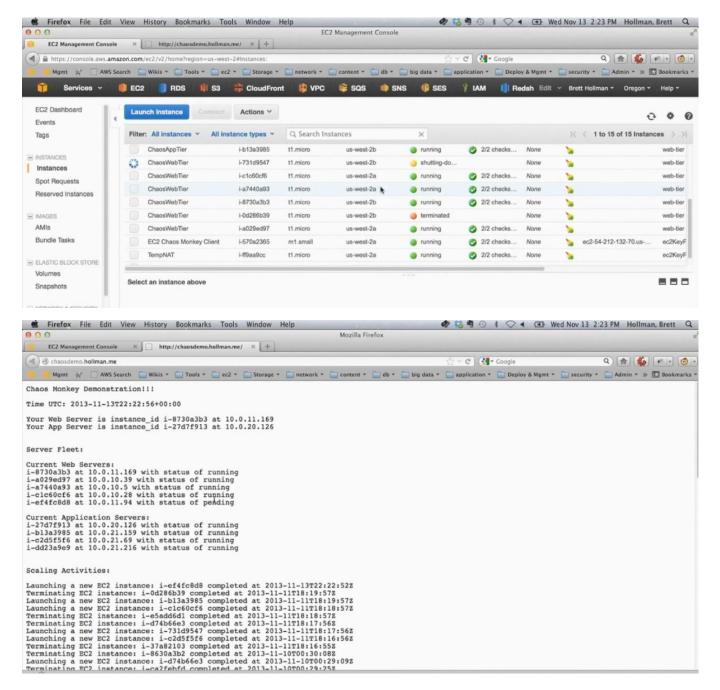


We use chaos monkey to start shutting down instances for resilience testing

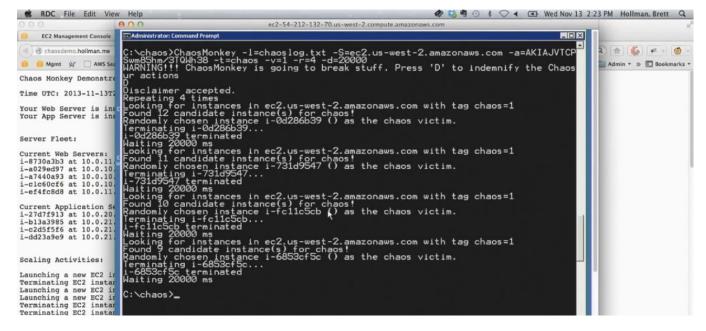


We can now see an instance shutting down in our web tier due to chaos monkey killing that instance

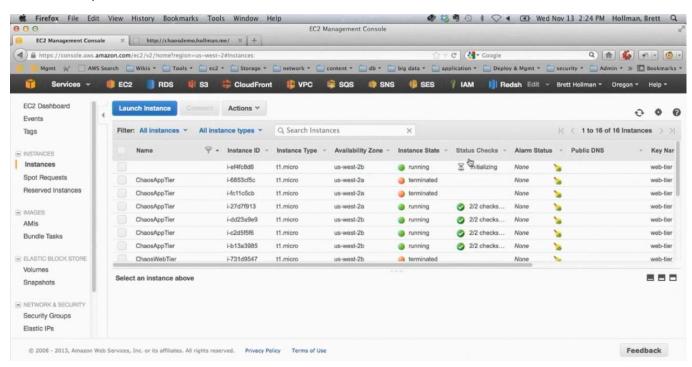


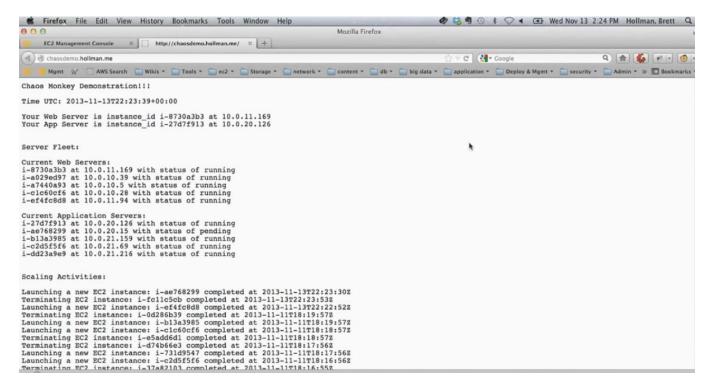


Our application is still working properly by trying to replace down servers



### Chaos monkey is now shut down for the test





Our application is still working fine by rebuilding itself automatically

## Other Sessions You May Want to Attend

ARC401: From One to Many: Evolving VPC Design Patterns
Thursday, November 14 at 5:30 PM in Lando 4303

ARC304: Hybrid Cloud Architectures with AWS Direct Connect Friday, November 15 at 9:00 AM in Lando 4303

### AWS re:Invent Pub Crawl

Join the AWS Startup Team this evening at the AWS Pub Crawl

When: Wednesday November 13, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Where: Canaletto at The Venetian, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Who Will Be There: Startups, The AWS Startup Team,
Startup Launch Companies and
AWS re:Invent Hackathon winners

### Startup Spotlight Sessions with Dr. Werner Vogels

Thurs. Nov 14, Marcello Room 4406

### SPOT 203 - Fireside Chats - Startup Founders, 1:30-2:30pm

- Eliot Horowitz, CTO of MongoDB
- Jeff Lawson, CEO of Twilio
- Valentino Volonghi, Chief Architect of AdRoll

### SPOT 204 - Fireside Chats - Startup Influencers, 3:00-4:00pm

- Albert Wegner, Managing Partner at Union Square Ventures
- David Cohen, Founder and CEO of TechStars

### SPOT 101 - Startup Launches, 4:15-5:15pm

5 companies powered by AWS launching at AWS re:Invent 2013

