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The True Costs of Running Cloud Native Infrastructure

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Background

- Research in performance modelling
- Capacity planning engineer
- Co-founder of Pax Automa, we build operos
- An easy way to run hyperscaler-grade massive automation for organizations of all sizes

Why This Topic?

- Pricing is quite complicated
- Understand the economics of the cloud and on-prem hosting



Hosting Infrastructure



!Holywar

Focus on the problem, and not on a solution



CPU and Memory Became a Utility

Co-allocation united all resources in a single pool



Kube & Servers

 No need to achieve server uptime at any cost



Storage and Compute Servers



⇐ Compute Chassis

CPU and Memory

- FatTwin
 - 112 Cores, 512 GB RAM
 - \$25,091/3y or \$8,300/y
- m4.10xlarge
 - 40 vCores, 160 GB RAM
 - \$2/h or \$17,250/1y
- Reserved (1y)
 - \$0.8/h or \$7,008/y



Resources for \$10k/y

Power and Real-estate

- Power
 - 1,600 W/chassis
 - 4200\$/month
- Real estate
 - 500\$/cabinet



Network

- Scalable
- Tolerates component failures
- East-west bandwidth is important
- Latency should be bound
- e.g. CLOS network



Network

Cloud

Colo

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- Internal is free

6 GB/\$

- \$0.12/GB/month

- \$1/Mbps/month

32 GB/\$

- External

Internal

- External

-

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Storage

- EC2 EBS

- 7.69 GB/\$/month
- 14 IOPS/\$/month
- On-prem
 - 60,000 IOPS/SSD
 - \$539 SSD/3Y
 - 22 GB/\$/Month
 - 222 IOPS/\$/Month



GB/\$/Month



Backups

- Colo
 - \$70,000
 - 890 TB of raw storage
 - \$0.0069/GB/month
 - 4U
- S3
 - \$0.024/GB/month



The Last, but not the Least



Staff

- In colo

- Remote hands for replacing parts
- Rack and stack contractors
- System administration
- Network administration
- 1 FTE => ~250,000k USD
 - 2-3 people
- Still need 1 person for managing cloud deployments

AWS Cost Breakdown

AWS, MRC, 500 m4.2xlarge



Colo Cost Breakdown

Colo, MRC, 500 m4.2xlarge



Provisioning



Demand for Resources

- Model assumes:
 - Demand increases over time
 - Can have seasonality
 - Can be predicted to some extent



Months

Demand and On-demand

- Cloud resources can be added at any time
- Small over-provisioning is ok
- Was hard with traditional 1:1 deployments



Demand and Reserved Instances

- 1Y reserved offer ~ 40% cost reduction
- Easier to switch when load is known
- There is a sweet spot in the ratio of on-demand to reserved



Colo Provisioning

- Capacities are expanded once or twice a year
- A lot more over provisioned
- Spare capacities can be used for batch jobs



Months

Colo Provisioning

- Better analytics enables higher confidence in prediction
- \$\$ can be saved





Colo and Cloud Side by Side



Cost Analysis

AWS and Colo



m4.2xlarge instances

Cross Over Point

AWS and Colo



Conclusion

- Hosting in a colo can save money only once a certain scale is reached ~100,000 \$/month
- People cost and uncertainty are the biggest contributors to cost overruns
- IOPS and data transfer in AWS are often overlooked in cost projections
- CPU and memory are still a large part of expense

Questions? dmytro@paxautoma.com/@dyachuk



