Presentation notes

Saturday, June 23, 2012 11:07 AM

What is the cloud?

IAAS

Infrastructure as a service. You are renting hardware (elastic hardware). Closest thing to "traditional hosting providers"

You manage the hardware. The advantage over a traditional host is elasticity

PAAS

Platform as a service. The hardware layer is abstracted away from you. You are renting "compute cycles" of some sort.

You don't know / care what the underlying hardware looks like you just want some sort of computation to occur within some configuration.

AAAS

The hardware AND the platform is abstracted away from you. High level service API's are exposed. You must play within these API's Salesforce is the biggest player here for the corporate world. Facebook is the biggest player in the consumer space. If your application fits within the SF or FB framework then you are good.

So which should I choose?

It depends:)

for mostly a seamless transition between on -premise / traditional hosting to "cloud" hosting IAAS works well. You can "dip your toes in to the... clouds?" this way.

You add elasticity and almost certainly reduce TOC for you system. The big win here is the reduction of overhead and support costs. The cloud provider, for all intents and purposes becomes your IT staff. Who do you think is more likely to manage your systems more effectively Amazon or Joe Blow's hosting provider?

You are "spinning up VM's for your configuration. Easy to use interface EC2 does this OK"

DEMO of EC2 Portal (Note free period for new sign ups, show pricing chart)

If you want to take it a step further then get into PAAS.

This almost certainly requires you to build your apps or retrofit your apps to take advantage of this paradigm. You build "worker roles" that can spin up and spin down as requests come in. For azure this is all bundled nicely in VS.

For EC2 services you have to do a bit more work to integrate with api.

DEMO of Azure Web Role from VS

When should I use AAAS?

If your application targets people on that application (Sales force, Facebook, Twitter etc..) then you can leverage all the underlying infrastructure and distribution of the application and deploy your app into their eco system to managed by the application provider (this is a limited use case)

So who should I use. What provider is better and what do they offer?

EC2 is primarily IAAS

Azure WAS primarily PAAS but now supports IAAS as well.

EC2 is the first to market and generally the leader in scale and proven infrastructure services. Very Linux focused. Does support Windows and SQL etc.. but Linux is the primary target. API's are command line friendly. Not well integrated in to VS or MSFT tooling. Some PowerShell support.

Adding more and more PAAS like services as time goes on. For basic web hosting it is not the most compelling offering out there. Free tier for new users for 12 months. very cheap Linux instances.

Latest Azure features give EC2 legitimate competition in the IAAS space.

Azure has had PAAS services since the beginning but lacked the general purpose Virtual Machine features. Latest preview exposes Virtual Machine support. LOTS of really compelling features for azure

DEMO new Azure portal