

SAA-C03^{Q&As}

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate (SAA-C03)

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QUESTION 1

A company hosts a multi-tier web application that uses an Amazon Aurora MySQL DB cluster for storage. The application tier is hosted on Amazon EC2 instances. The company's IT security guidelines mandate that the database credentials be encrypted and rotated every 14 days

What should a solutions architect do to meet this requirement with the LEAST operational effort?

- A. Create a new AWS Key Management Service (AWS KMS) encryption key Use AWS Secrets Manager to create a new secret that uses the KMS key with the appropriate credentials Associate the secret with the Aurora DB cluster Configure a custom rotation period of 14 days
- B. Create two parameters in AWS Systems Manager Parameter Store one for the user name as a string parameter and one that uses the SecureString type for the password Select AWS Key Management Service (AWS KMS) encryption for the password parameter, and load these parameters in the application tier Implement an AWS Lambda function that rotates the password every 14 days.
- C. Store a file that contains the credentials in an AWS Key Management Service (AWS KMS) encrypted Amazon Elastic File System (Amazon EFS) file system Mount the EFS file system in all EC2 instances of the application tier. Restrict the access to the file on the file system so that the application can read the file and that only super users can modify the file Implement an AWS Lambda function that rotates the key in Aurora every 14 days and writes new credentials into the file
- D. Store a file that contains the credentials in an AWS Key Management Service (AWS KMS) encrypted Amazon S3 bucket that the application uses to load the credentials Download the file to the application regularly to ensure that the correct credentials are used Implement an AWS Lambda function that rotates the Aurora credentials every 14 days and uploads these credentials to the file in the S3 bucket

Correct Answer: A

AWS Secrets Manager allows you to easily rotate, manage, and retrieve database credentials, API keys, and other secrets throughout their lifecycle. With this service, you can automate the rotation of secrets, such as database credentials, on a schedule that you choose. The solution allows you to create a new secret with the appropriate credentials and associate it with the Aurora DB cluster. You can then configure a custom rotation period of 14 days to ensure that the credentials are automatically rotated every two weeks, as required by the IT security guidelines. This approach requires the least amount of operational effort as it allows you to manage secrets centrally without modifying your application code or infrastructure.

QUESTION 2

A company is deploying an application in three AWS Regions using an Application Load Balancer. Amazon Route 53 will be used to distribute traffic between these Regions.

Which Route 53 configuration should a solutions architect use to provide the MOST high-performing experience?

- A. Create an A record with a latency policy.
- B. Create an A record with a geolocation policy.
- C. Create a CNAME record with a failover policy.
- D. Create a CNAME record with a geoproximity policy.

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 3

A company previously migrated its data warehouse solution to AWS. The company also has an AWS Direct Connect connection. Corporate office users query the data warehouse using a visualization tool. The average size of a query returned by the data warehouse is 50 MB and each webpage sent by the visualization tool is approximately 500 KB. Result sets returned by the data warehouse are not cached.

Which solution provides the LOWEST data transfer egress cost for the company?

- A. Host the visualization tool on premises and query the data warehouse directly over the internet.
- B. Host the visualization tool in the same AWS Region as the data warehouse. Access it over the internet.
- C. Host the visualization tool on premises and query the data warehouse directly over a Direct Connect connection at a location in the same AWS Region.
- D. Host the visualization tool in the same AWS Region as the data warehouse and access it over a Direct Connect connection at a location in the same Region.

Correct Answer: D

<https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/pricing/> <https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/aws/aws-data-transfer-prices-reduced/>

QUESTION 4

A company wants to give a customer the ability to use on-premises Microsoft Active Directory to download files that are stored in Amazon S3. The customer's application uses an SFTP client to download the files.

Which solution will meet these requirements with the LEAST operational overhead and no changes to the customer's application?

- A. Set up AWS Transfer Family with SFTP for Amazon S3. Configure integrated Active Directory authentication.
- B. Set up AWS Database Migration Service (AWS DMS) to synchronize the on-premises client with Amazon S3. Configure integrated Active Directory authentication.
- C. Set up AWS DataSync to synchronize between the on-premises location and the S3 location by using AWS IAM Identity Center (AWS Single Sign-On).
- D. Set up a Windows Amazon EC2 instance with SFTP to connect the on-premises client with Amazon S3. Integrate AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM).

Correct Answer: A

using AWS Batch to LEAST operational overhead and have SFTP to no changes to the customer's application
<https://aws.amazon.com/vi/blogs/architecture/managed-file-transfer-using-aws-transfer-family-and-amazon-s3/>

QUESTION 5

A hospital wants to create digital copies for its large collection of historical written records. The hospital will continue to add hundreds of new documents each day. The hospital's data team will scan the documents and will upload the documents to the AWS Cloud.

A solutions architect must implement a solution to analyze the documents, extract the medical information, and store the documents so that an application can run SQL queries on the data. The solution must maximize scalability and operational efficiency.

Which combination of steps should the solutions architect take to meet these requirements? (Select TWO.)

- A. Write the document information to an Amazon EC2 instance that runs a MySQL database.
- B. Write the document information to an Amazon S3 bucket. Use Amazon Athena to query the data.
- C. Create an Auto Scaling group of Amazon EC2 instances to run a custom application that processes the scanned files and extracts the medical information.
- D. Create an AWS Lambda function that runs when new documents are uploaded. Use Amazon Rekognition to convert the documents to raw text. Use Amazon Transcribe Medical to detect and extract relevant medical information from the text.
- E. Create an AWS Lambda function that runs when new documents are uploaded. Use Amazon Textract to convert the documents to raw text. Use Amazon Comprehend Medical to detect and extract relevant medical information from the text.

Correct Answer: BE

Usually documents it can be few pages with text, so storing large text in Mysql is not very sufficient + deploy it on EC2 required operation overhead, so A is out.

Only Textract is used for converting documents to text and Comprehend Medical to parse medical phrases. So E is correct.

QUESTION 6

A company has an internal application that runs on Amazon EC2 instances in an Auto Scaling group. The EC2 instances are compute optimized and use Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) volumes.

The company wants to identify cost optimizations across the EC2 instances, the Auto Scaling group, and the EBS volumes.

Which solution will meet these requirements with the MOST operational efficiency?

- A. Create a new AWS Cost and Usage Report. Search the report for cost recommendations for the EC2 instances the Auto Scaling group, and the EBS volumes.
- B. Create new Amazon CloudWatch billing alerts. Check the alert statuses for cost recommendations for the EC2 instances, the Auto Scaling group, and the EBS volumes.
- C. Configure AWS Compute Optimizer for cost recommendations for the EC2 instances, the Auto Scaling group and the EBS volumes.
- D. Configure AWS Compute Optimizer for cost recommendations for the EC2 instances. Create a new AWS Cost and Usage Report. Search the report for cost recommendations for the Auto Scaling group and the EBS volumes.

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 7

A company wants to use high performance computing (HPC) infrastructure on AWS for financial risk modeling. The company's HPC workloads run on Linux. Each HPC workflow runs on hundreds of Amazon EC2 Spot Instances, is short-lived, and generates thousands of output files that are ultimately stored in persistent storage for analytics and long-term future use.

The company seeks a cloud storage solution that permits the copying of on-premises data to long-term persistent storage to make data available for processing by all EC2 instances. The solution should also be a high performance file system that is integrated with persistent storage to read and write datasets and output files. Which combination of AWS services meets these requirements?

- A. Amazon FSx for Lustre integrated with Amazon S3
- B. Amazon FSx for Windows File Server integrated with Amazon S3
- C. Amazon S3 Glacier integrated with Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS)
- D. Amazon S3 bucket with a VPC endpoint integrated with an Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) General Purpose SSD (gp2) volume

Correct Answer: A

<https://aws.amazon.com/fsx/lustre/>

Amazon FSx for Lustre is a fully managed service that provides cost-effective, high-performance, scalable storage for compute workloads. Many workloads such as machine learning, high performance computing (HPC), video rendering, and financial simulations depend on compute instances accessing the same set of data through high-performance shared storage.

QUESTION 8

An ecommerce company is building a distributed application that involves several serverless functions and AWS services to complete order-processing tasks. These tasks require manual approvals as part of the workflow. A solutions architect needs to design an architecture for the order-processing application. The solution must be able to combine multiple AWS Lambda functions into responsive serverless applications. The solution also must orchestrate data and services that run on Amazon EC2 instances, containers, or on-premises servers.

Which solution will meet these requirements with the LEAST operational overhead?

- A. Use AWS Step Functions to build the application.
- B. Integrate all the application components in an AWS Glue job.
- C. Use Amazon Simple Queue Service (Amazon SQS) to build the application.
- D. Use AWS Lambda functions and Amazon EventBridge (Amazon CloudWatch Events) events to build the application.

Correct Answer: A

AWS Step Functions is a serverless workflow service that makes it easy to coordinate distributed applications and

microservices using visual workflows. It is an ideal solution for designing architectures for distributed applications that involve multiple AWS services and serverless functions, as it allows us to orchestrate the flow of our application components using visual workflows. AWS Step Functions also integrates with other AWS services like AWS Lambda, Amazon EC2, and Amazon ECS, and it has built-in error handling and retry mechanisms. This option provides a serverless solution with the least operational overhead for building the application.

QUESTION 9

A company runs its Infrastructure on AWS and has a registered base of 700,000 users for res document management application. The company intends to create a product that converts large pdf files to jpg image files. The .pdf files average 5 MB in size. The company needs to store the original files and the converted files. A solutions architect must design a scalable solution to accommodate demand that will grow rapidly over time.

Which solution meets these requirements MOST cost-effectively?

- A. Save the pdf files to Amazon S3. Configure an S3 PUT event to invoke an AWS Lambda function to convert the files to jpg format and store them back in Amazon S3.
- B. Save the pdf files to Amazon DynamoDB. Use the DynamoDB Streams feature to invoke an AWS Lambda function to convert the files to jpg format and store them back in DynamoDB.
- C. Upload the pdf files to an AWS Elastic Beanstalk application that includes Amazon EC2 instances, Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) storage, and an Auto Scaling group. Use a program in the EC2 instances to convert the files to jpg format. Save the .pdf files and the .jpg files in the EBS store.
- D. Upload the .pdf files to an AWS Elastic Beanstalk application that includes Amazon EC2 instances, Amazon Elastic File System (Amazon EFS) storage, and an Auto Scaling group. Use a program in the EC2 instances to convert the file to jpg format. Save the pdf files and the jpg files in the EBS store.

Correct Answer: A

Elastic Beanstalk is expensive, and DocumentDB has a 400KB max to upload files. So Lambda and S3 should be the one.

QUESTION 10

A solutions architect is designing a REST API in Amazon API Gateway for a cash payback service. The application requires 1 GB of memory and 2 GB of storage for its computation resources. The application will require that the data is in a relational format.

Which additional combination of AWS services will meet these requirements with the LEAST administrative effort? (Choose two.)

- A. Amazon EC2
- B. AWS Lambda
- C. Amazon RDS
- D. Amazon DynamoDB
- E. Amazon Elastic Kubernetes Services (Amazon EKS)

Correct Answer: BC

"The application will require that the data is in a relational format" so DynamoDB is out. RDS is the choice. Lambda is severless.

QUESTION 11

A company recently deployed a new auditing system to centralize information about operating system versions patching and installed software for Amazon EC2 instances. A solutions architect must ensure all instances provisioned through EC2 Auto Scaling groups successfully send reports to the auditing system as soon as they are launched and terminated

Which solution achieves these goals MOST efficiently?

- A. Use a scheduled AWS Lambda function and run a script remotely on all EC2 instances to send data to the audit system.
- B. Use EC2 Auto Scaling lifecycle hooks to run a custom script to send data to the audit system when instances are launched and terminated
- C. Use an EC2 Auto Scaling launch configuration to run a custom script through user data to send data to the audit system when instances are launched and terminated
- D. Run a custom script on the instance operating system to send data to the audit system Configure the script to be invoked by the EC2 Auto Scaling group when the instance starts and is terminated

Correct Answer: B

Amazon EC2 Auto Scaling offers the ability to add lifecycle hooks to your Auto Scaling groups. These hooks let you create solutions that are aware of events in the Auto Scaling instance lifecycle, and then perform a custom action on instances when the corresponding lifecycle event occurs.

(<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/autoscaling/ec2/userguide/lifecycle-hooks.html>)

QUESTION 12

A company serves a dynamic website from a fleet of Amazon EC2 instances behind an Application Load Balancer (ALB) The website needs to support multiple languages to serve customers around the world The website's architecture is running in the us-west-1 Region and is exhibiting high request latency for users that are located in other parts of the world

The website needs to serve requests quickly and efficiently regardless of a user's location However the company does not want to recreate the existing architecture across multiple Regions

What should a solutions architect do to meet these requirements?

- A. Replace the existing architecture with a website that is served from an Amazon S3 bucket Configure an Amazon CloudFront distribution with the S3 bucket as the origin Set the cache behavior settings to cache based on the Accept-Language request header
- B. Configure an Amazon CloudFront distribution with the ALB as the origin Set the cache behavior settings to cache based on the Accept-Language request header
- C. Create an Amazon API Gateway API that is integrated with the ALB Configure the API to use the HTTP integration

type Set up an API Gateway stage to enable the API cache based on the Accept-Language request header

D. Launch an EC2 instance in each additional Region and configure NGINX to act as a cache server for that Region Put all the EC2 instances and the ALB behind an Amazon Route 53 record set with a geolocation routing policy

Correct Answer: B

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonCloudFront/latest/DeveloperGuide/header-caching.html>

QUESTION 13

A company has an AWS Direct Connect connection from its corporate data center to its VPC in the us-east-1 Region. The company recently acquired a corporation that has several VPCs and a Direct Connect connection between its on-premises data center and the eu-west-2 Region. The CIDR blocks for the VPCs of the company and the corporation do not overlap. The company requires connectivity between two Regions and the data centers. The company needs a solution that is scalable while reducing operational overhead.

What should a solutions architect do to meet these requirements?

- A. Set up inter-Region VPC peering between the VPC in us-east-1 and the VPCs in eu-west-2.
- B. Create private virtual interfaces from the Direct Connect connection in us-east-1 to the VPCs in eu-west-2.
- C. Establish VPN appliances in a fully meshed VPN network hosted by Amazon EC2. Use AWS VPN CloudHub to send and receive data between the data centers and each VPC.
- D. Connect the existing Direct Connect connection to a Direct Connect gateway. Route traffic from the virtual private gateways of the VPCs in each Region to the Direct Connect gateway.

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 14

A company runs container applications by using Amazon Elastic Kubernetes Service (Amazon EKS). The company's workload is not consistent throughout the day. The company wants Amazon EKS to scale in and out according to the workload.

Which combination of steps will meet these requirements with the LEAST operational overhead? (Choose two.)

- A. Use an AWS Lambda function to resize the EKS cluster.
- B. Use the Kubernetes Metrics Server to activate horizontal pod autoscaling.
- C. Use the Kubernetes Cluster Autoscaler to manage the number of nodes in the cluster.
- D. Use Amazon API Gateway and connect it to Amazon EKS.
- E. Use AWS App Mesh to observe network activity.

Correct Answer: BC

By combining the Kubernetes Cluster Autoscaler (option C) to manage the number of nodes in the cluster and enabling horizontal pod autoscaling (option B) with the Kubernetes Metrics Server, you can achieve automatic scaling of your

EKS cluster and container applications based on workload demand. This approach minimizes operational overhead as it leverages built-in Kubernetes functionality and automation mechanisms.

QUESTION 15

An analytics company uses Amazon VPC to run its multi-tier services. The company wants to use RESTful APIs to offer a web analytics service to millions of users. Users must be verified by using an authentication service to access the APIs. Which solution will meet these requirements with the MOST operational efficiency?

- A. Configure an Amazon Cognito user pool for user authentication. Implement Amazon API Gateway REST APIs with a Cognito authorizer.
- B. Configure an Amazon Cognito identity pool for user authentication. Implement Amazon API Gateway HTTP APIs with a Cognito authorizer.
- C. Configure an AWS Lambda function to handle user authentication. Implement Amazon API Gateway REST APIs with a Lambda authorizer.
- D. Configure an IAM user to handle user authentication. Implement Amazon API Gateway HTTP APIs with an IAM authorizer.

Correct Answer: A

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