

Managing and Monitoring Elastic Cloud Applications

Demetris Trihinas, Chrystalla Sofokleous, Nicholas Loulloudes, Athanasios Foudoulis,

George Pallis, Marios D. Dikaiakos

Department of Computer Science, University of Cyprus

{trihinas, stalosof, loulloudes.n, afoudo01, gpallis, mdd} @ cs.ucy.ac.cy



<http://linc.ucy.ac.cy/CELAR/icwe2014/>



Introduction

- Elastic Cloud applications** have the ability to expand or contract their comprised resources to meet runtime demands
- Managing** and **monitoring** Cloud applications' lifecycle is a challenging endeavor
- Current Application Management Frameworks and Monitoring Tools lack in **portability** and **interoperability**

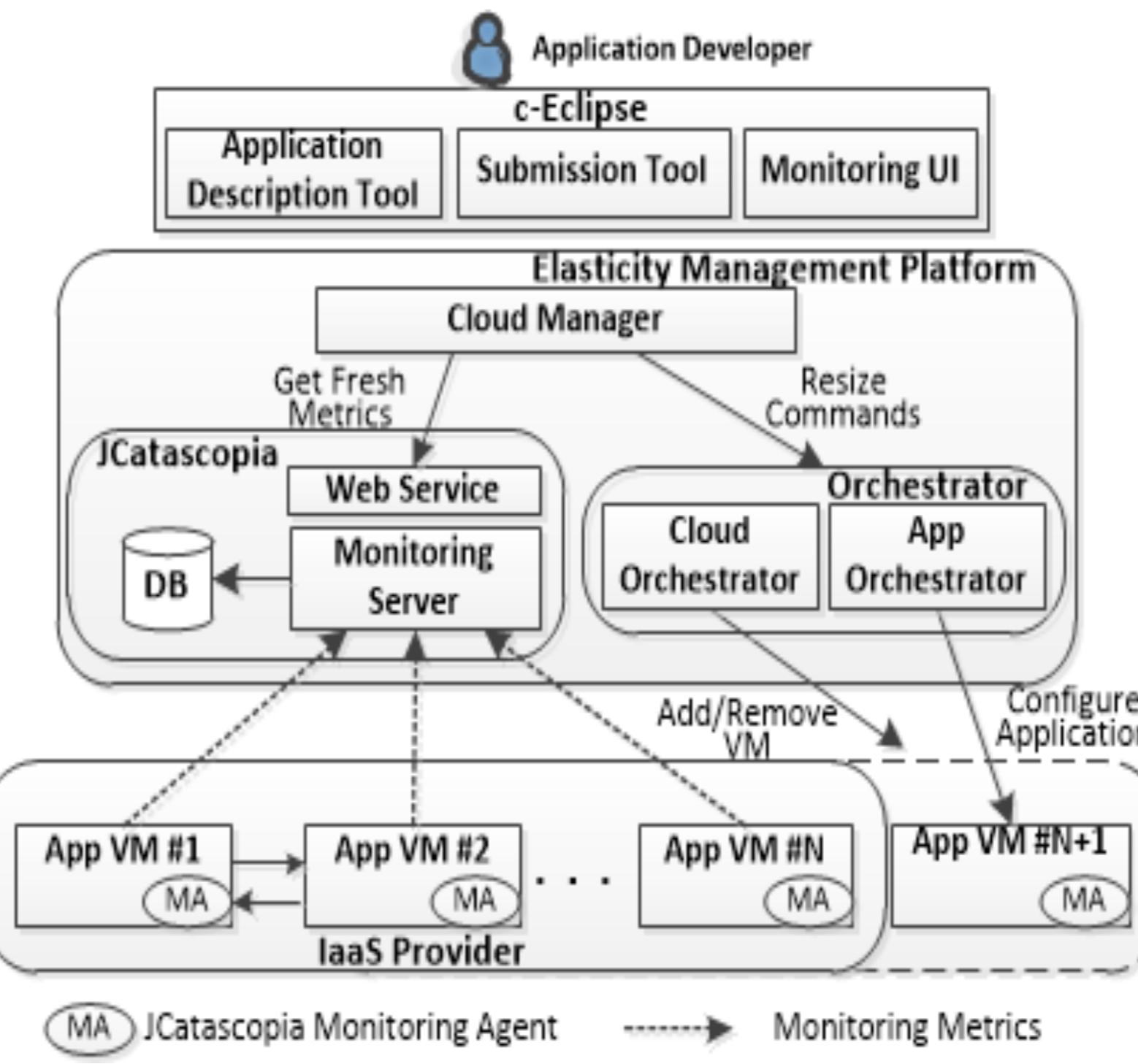
Contribution

We present two **open-source tools** for **managing and monitoring elastic Cloud applications**:

- c-Eclipse**: Facilitates portable descriptions of elastic Cloud applications by adopting an open Cloud standard (TOSCA), and a language for elasticity requirements specification
- JCatascopia**: Fully automated, platform independent, interoperable Cloud monitoring system, that considers application topology changes due to elasticity actions

Our Approach:

Elasticity Management Platform

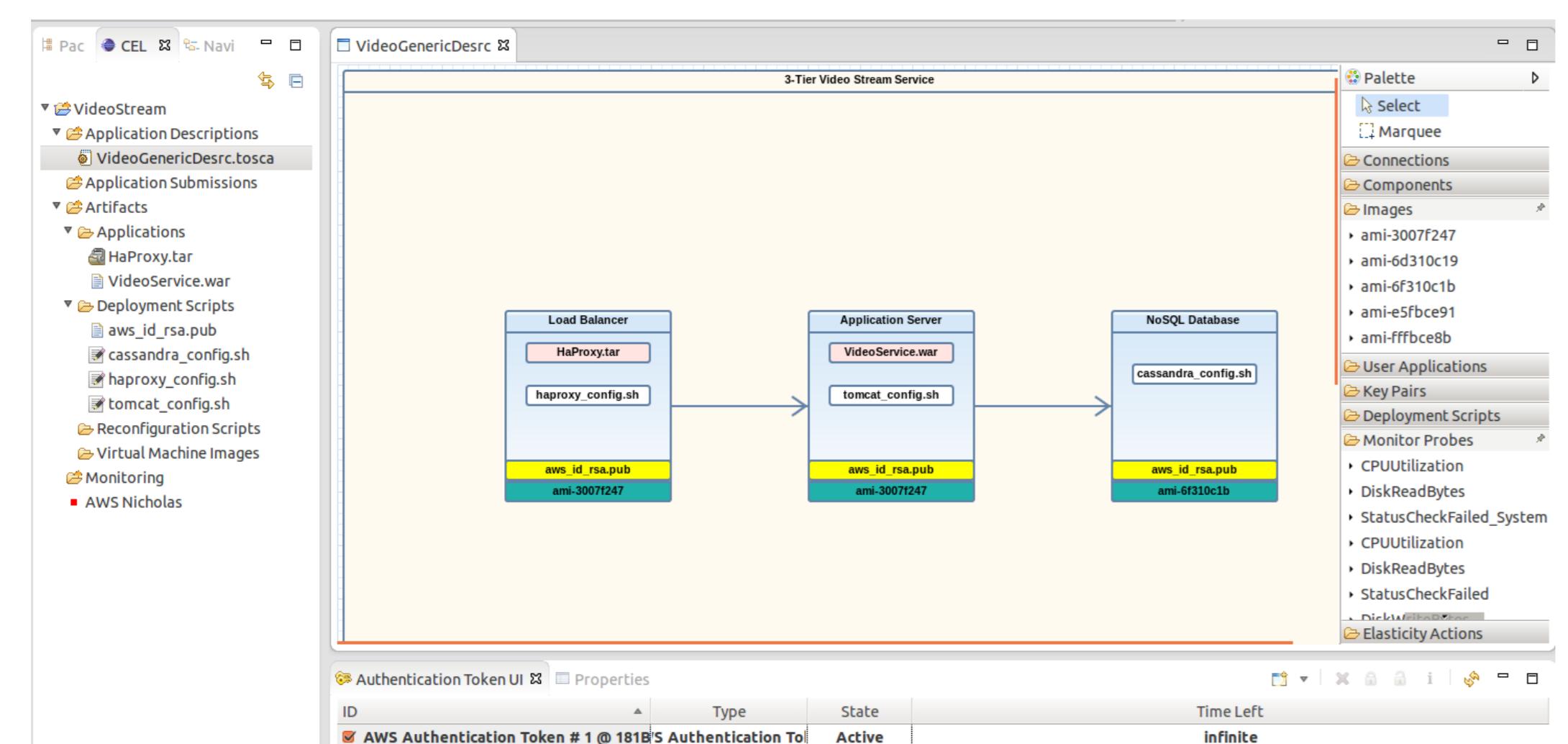


- Graphically **describe** application **structure** & **management** operations
- Specify **elasticity strategies**
- Deploy** application over selected Cloud providers
- Monitor** Cloud platform resources and application's performance
- Scale** deployed application based on elasticity strategies

Application Description

c-Eclipse Application Management Framework

- Portable application descriptions via a GUI
- On the fly translation of graphical descriptions into TOSCA
- Specification of elasticity capabilities/ requirements

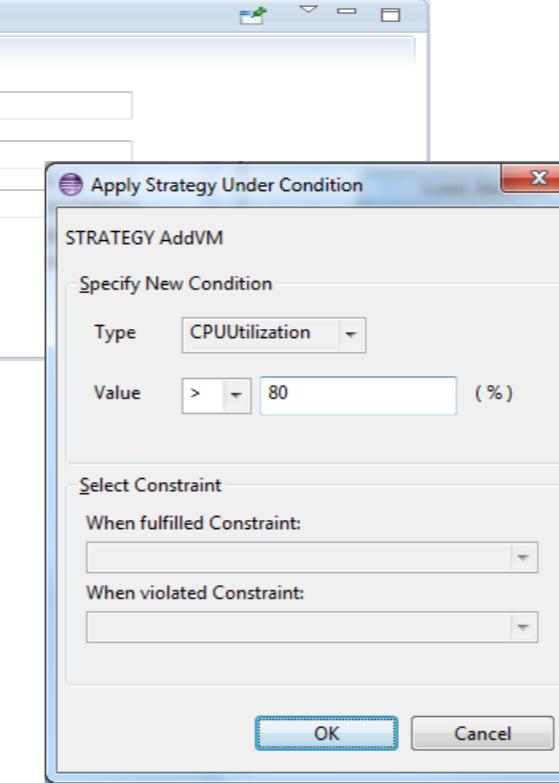


Application Description Contents

- Application Topology** (components & relationships)
- Deployment Files** (deployment/configuration scripts, executable files, VM images, key pairs)
- Deployment Preferences** (VM flavors, number of components' instances)

- Elasticity Strategies** at different application levels

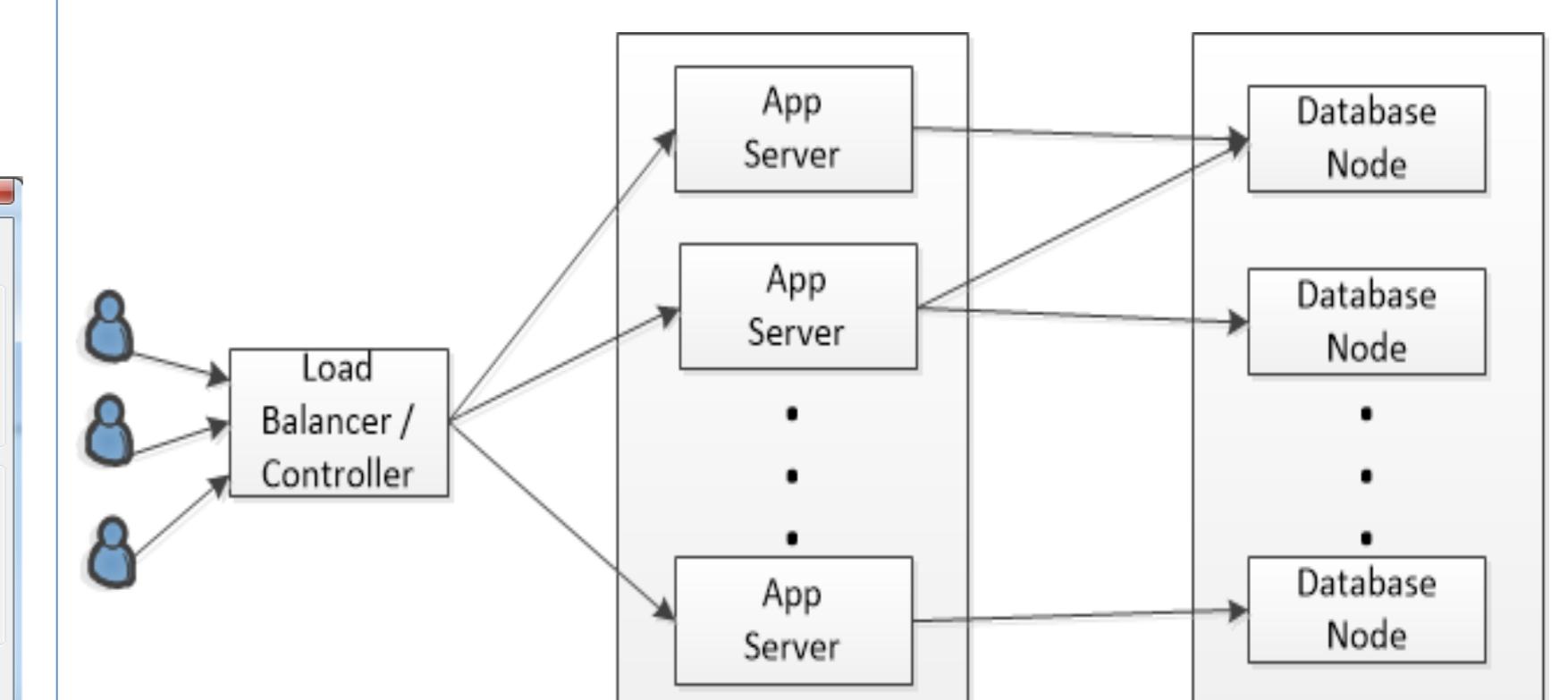
If(CPUUtilization (NoSQL_DB) > 80%)
then AddVM



Use - Case

3-Tier Online Video Streaming Service

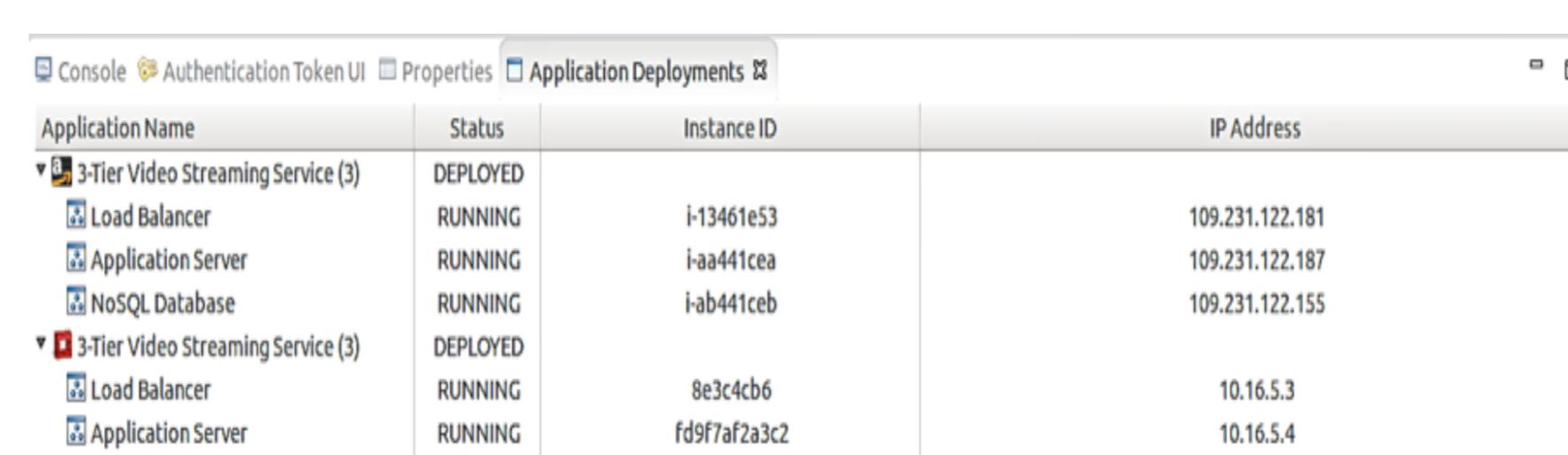
- Load Balance Tier**
HAProxy
- Application Server Tier**
Tomcat with Video Streaming Web Service
- Database Tier**
Cassandra NoSQL



"c-Eclipse: An Open-Source Application Management Framework for Cloud Applications", C. Sofokleous, N. Loulloudes, D. Trihinas, G. Pallis, M.D. Dikaiakos, Euro-Par 2014, Porto, Portugal, 2014.

Application Deployment

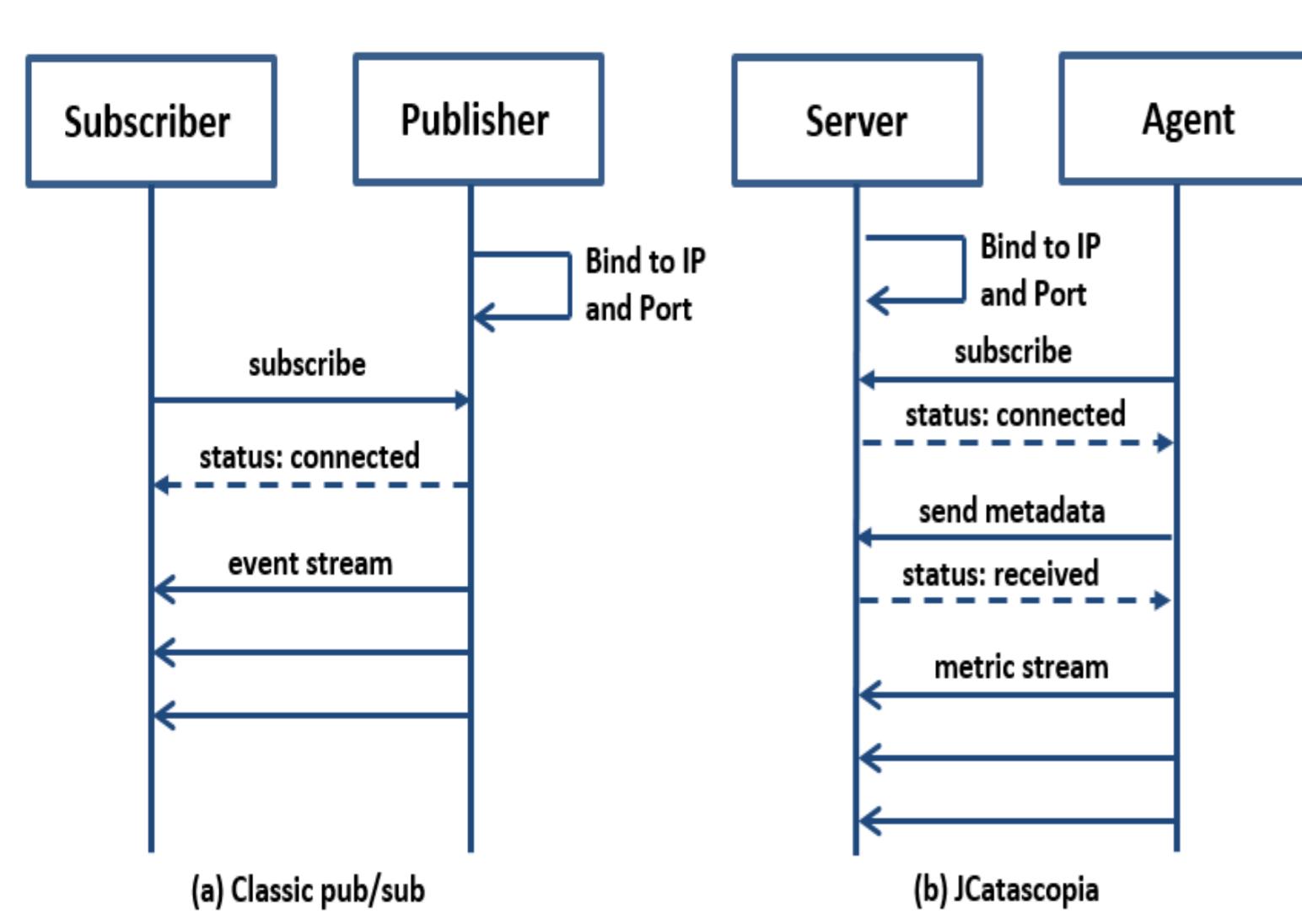
- c-Eclipse sends **deployment requests** to the **Cloud Manager**
- Requests contain all necessary contextualization artifacts
- Deployments Tab shows details for each node status per IaaS



Application (& Cloud) Monitoring

JCatascopia Monitoring System

- Deployable in a fully automatic manner
- Deployable on any underlying platform
- Dynamically detects application topology changes due to elasticity actions
- Provides filtering capabilities
- Dynamically generates high-level app metrics



JCatascopia Pub/Sub Message Pattern

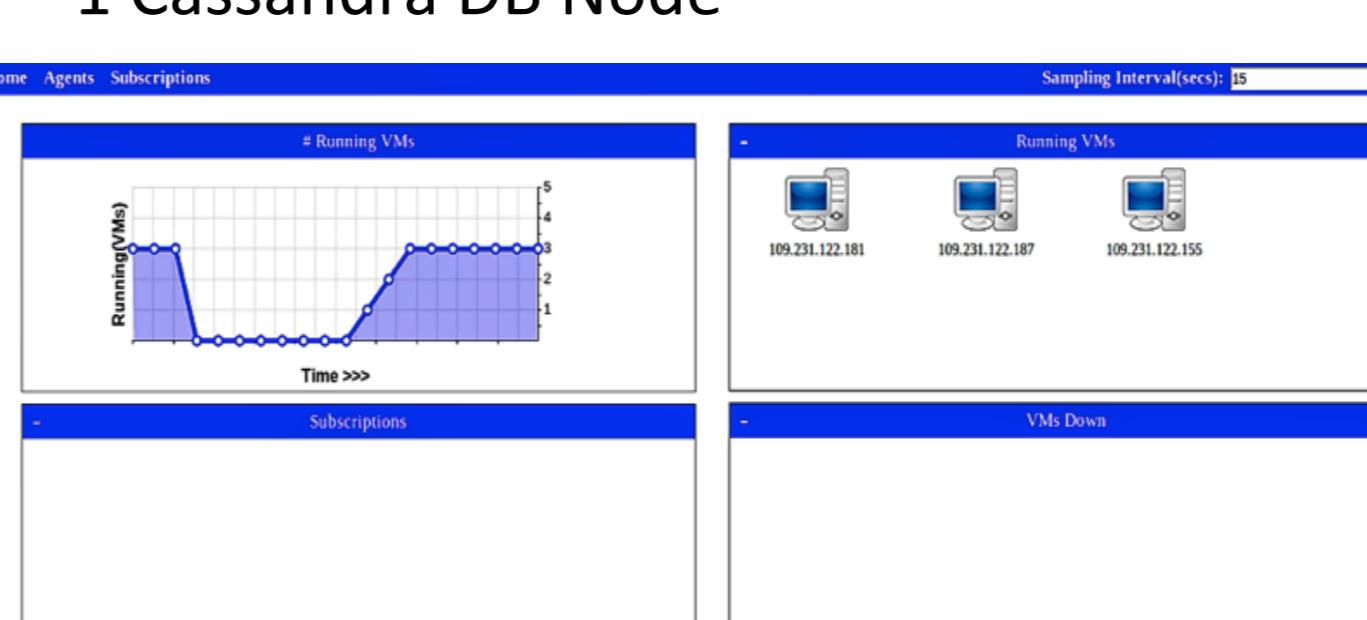
- Monitoring Servers bind to network interface, awaiting for incoming requests
- Monitoring Agents initiate **subscription** by pinging the Monitoring Server and **publish** collected metrics

"JCatascopia: Monitoring Elastically Adaptive Applications in the Cloud", D. Trihinas and G. Pallis and M. D. Dikaiakos, "14th IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Cluster, Cloud and Grid Computing" (CCGRID 2014), Chicago, IL, USA 2014

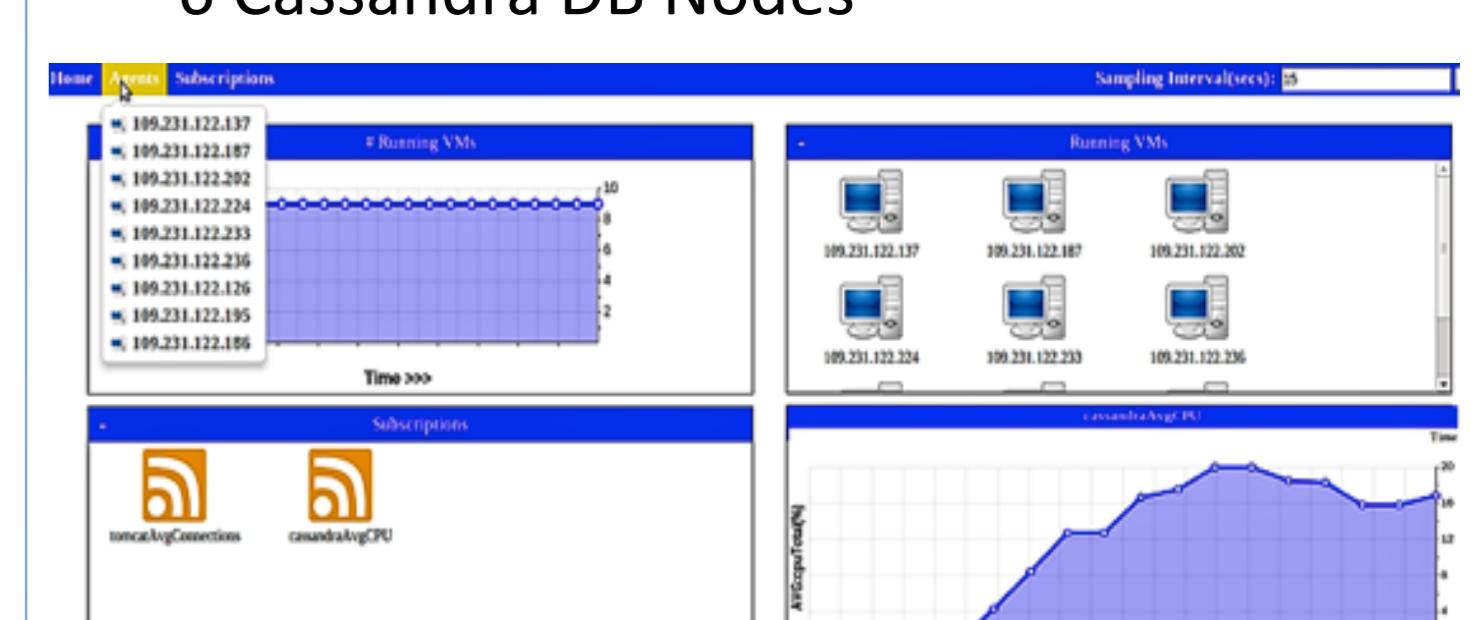
Application Scaling

Initial Deployment

- 1 Load Balancer
1 App Server
1 Cassandra DB Node

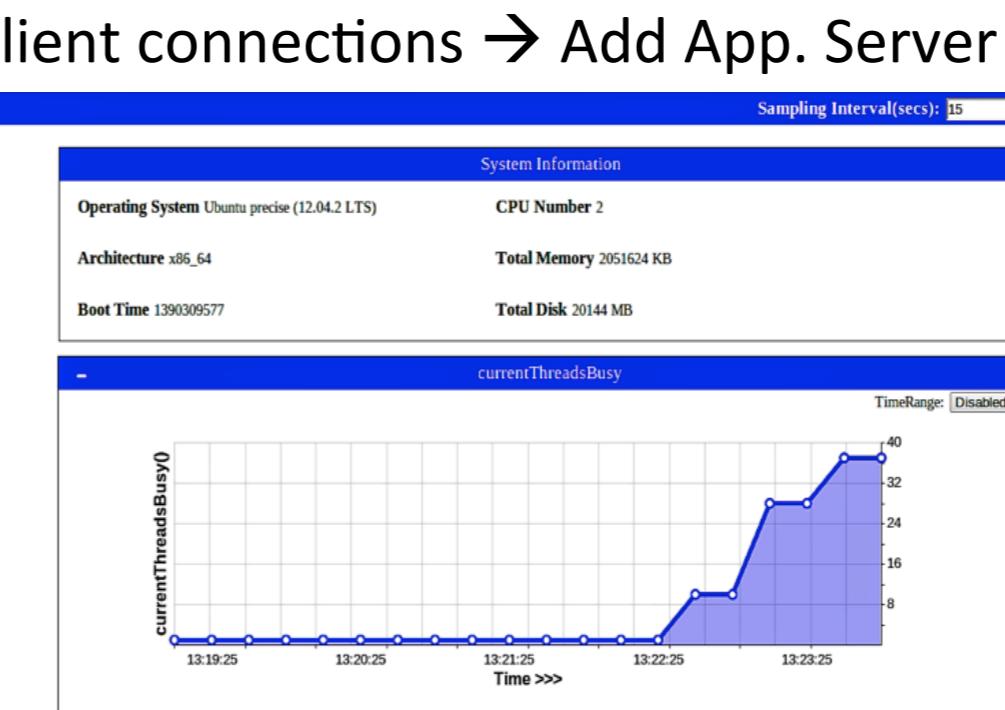


- After 1 hour
1 Load Balancer
2 App Servers
6 Cassandra DB Nodes



Scaling Strategies

- Application Server:**
High # of client connections → Add App. Server



- Cassandra Ring:**
High CPU utilization → Add Cassandra Node

