



Cost Management Service 2022

Visualizing your costs using cost explorer

Use Cost Explorer to visualize and understand your costs

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Abstract

This guide describes how to manage your costs using the interactive Cost Explorer.

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CHAPTER 1. USING COST EXPLORER

The cost management Cost Explorer, allows you to see your costs through time. Using the Cost Explorer, you can now filter through your spend to find answers to your questions, see details, and look for trends in data.

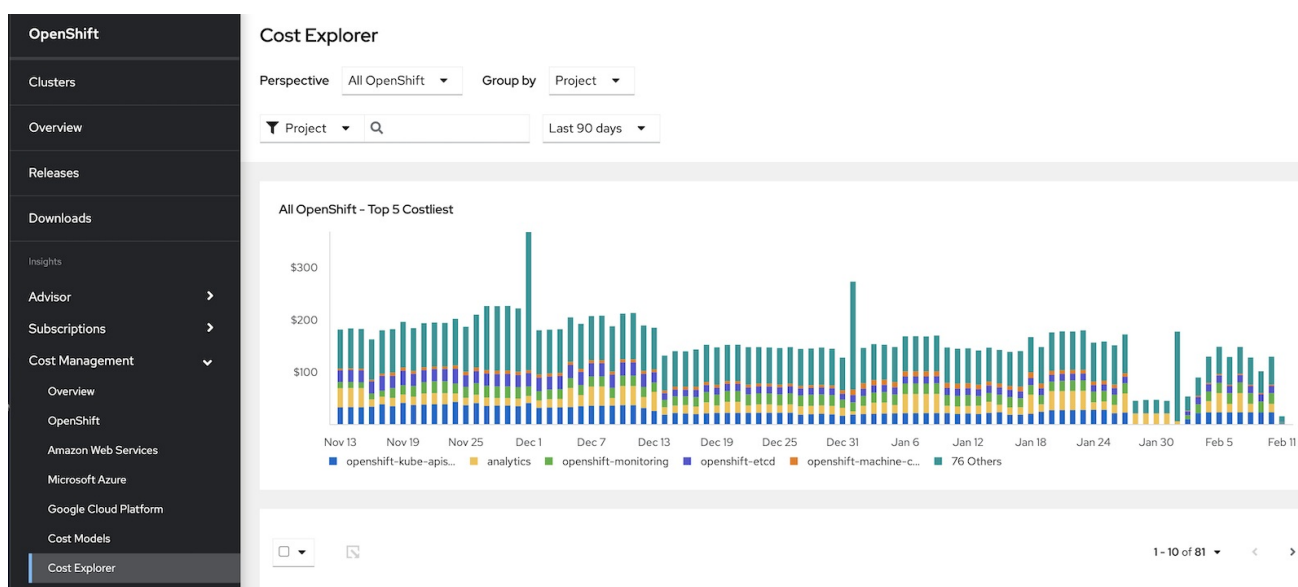
1.1. UNDERSTANDING COST EXPLORER

The cost management [Cost Explorer](#) allows you to create custom graphs containing up to 90 days of cost and usage information to better visualize and interpret your costs.

With Cost Explorer you can:

- Identify abnormal events.
- Understand how you cost data changes over time.
- Create custom bar charts of your cost and usage data.
- Export custom cost data files.

Figure 1.1. The Cost Explorer Interface



A single bar in the Cost Explorer chart represents one day of cost and usage data corresponding to the filtered options. The five most significant metrics are individually displayed and all other metrics placed into the *Others* category. See [Section 1.2, “Filtering cost data with Cost Explorer”](#) for more information on filtering your cost and usage data.

1.2. FILTERING COST DATA WITH COST EXPLORER

Using the filter options in [Cost Explorer](#) you can customize what data to view.

This example shows how to see the costs related to an OpenShift Container Platform project from the previous 90 days.

Prerequisites

- Your OpenShift cluster added as a cost management data source. See [Adding an OpenShift Container Platform source to cost management](#) for instructions.
- Your cloud infrastructure account added as a cost management data source. See [Adding sources to cost management](#) for instructions for your cloud provider type.

Procedure

1. From the **Cost Explorer**, select a **Perspective**. For example, select *All OpenShift Cost* to view your cumulative openshift costs.
2. Select a grouping. For example, with OpenShift Container Platform you can group by *Project, Node, Cluster, or Tag*. With other perspective views, the **Group by** options will change accordingly.
3. If desired, specify one or more *Projects, Nodes, Clusters, or Tags* by name.
4. Select *Last 90 days* to view the cost data from the previous 90 days.
5. Repeat these steps for different perspectives and groupings to better understand your costs.

Next Steps

After filtering your data, you can export it into a CSV file. See [Section 1.3, "Exporting cost data"](#) for more information.


1.3. EXPORTING COST DATA

Use the [Cost Explorer](#) to export customized CSV files of cost data to your local workstation. These files contain more details about your cost data that you can apply in your desired reporting tool.

Prerequisites

- Your OpenShift cluster added as a cost management data source. See [Adding an OpenShift Container Platform source to cost management](#) for instructions.
- Your cloud infrastructure account added as a cost management data source. See [Adding sources to cost management](#) for instructions for your cloud provider type.

Procedure

1. Navigate to the [Cost Explorer](#) application.
2. Use the Cost Explorer filter options to create the desired information.
3. Select items to be exported in the list populated below the Cost Explorer graph.
4. Click the  **Export** button.
5. Click **Generate and Download**
The CSV file will download to your local system.

