Question: Can you please explain a bit more about the differences between AWS Elasticsearch and the Elasticsearch Service?
Answer:

Feature	Elasticsearch Service on Elastic Cloud	Amazon Elasticsearch Service
Elastic Stack - Open Source Products	Yes	Partial
Premium Elastic Features (like alerting)	Yes	No
Same Day Version Release	Yes	No (2-3 Month Delay)
One-Click Upgrades with Zero Downtime	Yes	No (2-3 Month Delay)
Instant Access to Security Patches	Yes	No
Elastic Technical Support	Yes	No
Monitor Multiple Clusters	Yes	No
Provision and Manage Multiple Clusters	Yes	No
Automated Periodic Snapshots	Yes, Every 30 Mins	Yes, every 24 Hours
Support for Hot/Warm Cluster Topologies	Coming Soon	No
Support for Elastic APM	Coming Soon	No

Question: What is the pricing model of Elasticsearch service?
Answer: It is a consumption model - based on the RAM used. There is a pricing calculator online: https://cloud.elastic.co/pricing.

You can build up your cluster here, including settings like HA, and see the amount of storage that will give you. You can also see the impact of adding Machine Learning and other features.

You can also pick which region you want to deploy in to see the impact of that.
Note the pricing shown here is standard monthly pricing - discounts are available for 1 year and longer terms.

Question: How does this compare with DataDog? what is the key differentiation?
Answer: The Elastic Stack is a general purpose platform that supports many use cases, beyond those that Data Dog can offer. For example, Search use cases (website search/app search, etc) - note these aren't being discussed today.
In terms of Observability, I feel that the Elastic Stack is much more flexible and extensible than Data Dog, with more choice around deployment models and much more flexible Machine Learning.

Question: How often are new versions of the Elastic Stack released?
Answer: Somewhere between 4-8 weeks.