

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

**A Research Internship / Industry Internship
on**

**“ Secure Serverless API using AWS API Gateway, Lambda,
IAM and WAF”**

Subject Code : 21INT82

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Introduction

- **Cloud Security in Serverless Architectures :** In modern cloud computing, securing applications built using **serverless services like AWS Lambda and API Gateway** is vital. The serverless model removes infrastructure management but demands strong controls for identity, access, and traffic monitoring.
- **Project Focus: Securing Serverless APIs with AWS :** This project implements a secure REST API using **AWS Lambda, API Gateway, IAM, and AWS WAF**, ensuring protection against unauthorized access and web threats while demonstrating best practices in serverless application security.

About the Company

- **Founded:** 2006, Seattle, USA
- **Name:** Amazon Web Services (AWS)
- **Founder:** Andy Jassy (as part of Amazon by Jeff Bezos)
- **Services:** Cloud computing (IaaS, PaaS, SaaS), Storage (S3), Serverless (Lambda), Databases, Security, AI/ML, Analytics, Networking
- **Training :** Offers certifications, online labs, and AWS Academy courses

Amazon Web Services (AWS) is a leading cloud service provider offering scalable, secure, and cost-effective cloud computing solutions

Aim /Objectives/ Future Implications

- **Aim** : To deploy and secure a REST API on AWS using serverless architecture.
- **Objectives:**
 - Use API Gateway with Lambda for compute
 - Secure API using IAM and WAF
 - Log and monitor access patterns
- **Future Implications:** Extend for user authentication, API rate limiting, and real-time analytics.

Internship Timeline

Task	January	February	March	April	May
Requirement specification and Analysis					
Design					
Test Case					
Coding with unit testing					
Testing					
Documentation					

Technical Skills/Knowledge Gained

- **Skills:** AWS CLI, IAM Policies, REST APIs, Python (Boto3), Cloud Security
- **Tools:** AWS Console, Postman, Python, Terminal
- **Framework:** Serverless REST architecture
- **Technology Stack:** AWS Lambda, API Gateway, IAM, WAF
- **Database Used:** None (Stateless API)

Tools/ Frameworks/Database/ Technology Stack

- **Cloud Platform:**
 - Amazon Web Services (AWS)
- **Key Services Used:**
 - API Gateway – For REST API endpoint
 - AWS Lambda – For serverless backend
 - IAM – For access control and secure authorization
 - AWS WAF – For web security and IP filtering
- **Programming Language:**
 - Python – Used for Lambda function and API testing
- **Tools:**
 - Postman – For API testing
 - AWS CLI – For command-line AWS operations
 - VS Code / Any IDE – For writing Lambda and test scripts
- **Security Mechanism:**
 - SigV4 Signing for IAM-based API request authentication

Hardware and Software Requirements

- **Hardware :**
 - Windows PC or MacBook
 - RAM: 4GB or higher (8GB+ recommended)
 - Internet: Stable connection
- **Software requirement:**
 - Python 3.x
 - AWS CLI
 - Visual Studio Code
 - Postman
 - Web Browser for AWS Console

Internship Implementation

Step-by-step AWS Lab Setup:

1. Lambda Function Creation
2. API Gateway Setup with REST API
3. Integration with Lambda
4. Deploy Stage */dev/hello*
5. Enable IAM Authorization
6. Apply WAF WebACL to API Gateway
7. Use AWS CLI to test IAM access
8. Test protection via WAF rules

Learning Outcomes

- **Gained practical skills in:**
 - Serverless deployment
 - IAM configuration
 - API security
 - WAF setup and testing
- **Outcome Mapping:**
 - CO1: Cloud architecture understanding
 - CO2: Hands-on deployment
 - CO3: Secure API communication

Outcome Analysis

Through this project, I developed practical skills in deploying a secure, serverless API using AWS services like Lambda, API Gateway, IAM, and WAF. I gained a deep understanding of how cloud-based applications are protected through authentication and traffic filtering. The outcomes of this project align with key learning objectives such as cloud architecture understanding, secure application deployment, and real-world security configurations using IAM and WAF.

Challenges Faced

- WAF rule configuration blocking own IP
- IAM Signature V4 authentication errors
- API Gateway test failures due to missing permissions
- Debugging endpoint errors like "Missing Authentication Token"

References

- AWS Documentation:
 - Lambda: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda>
 - API Gateway: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/apigateway>
 - IAM: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/iam>
 - WAF: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/waf>
- AWS Well-Architected Framework
- Online Courses & AWS Labs

THANK YOU