Lab 12: Deploying AWS Lambda Function

Objective

Learn how to:

- Create a Lambda function using Python
- Understand Lambda's event-driven model
- Deploy and test the function directly in the AWS Console

Theory: What is AWS Lambda?

AWS Lambda is a serverless compute service that lets you run code **without provisioning or managing servers**. It automatically scales, is event-driven, and charges only for the compute time you consume.

Use cases include:

- Backend logic for apps
- Event processing (e.g., S3 uploads, DynamoDB changes)
- Cron jobs
- Lightweight automation

Prerequisites

- AWS account with Lambda access
- IAM Role: AWSLambdaBasicExecutionRole or equivalent

Steps to Create & Deploy a Lambda Function

Step 1: Create Lambda Function

- 1. Go to AWS Console > Lambda > Create function
- 2. Choose **Author from scratch**
- 3. Fill in:
 - Function name: greetUser
 - Runtime: Python 3.10 or above
- 4. Under **Permissions**:
 - Choose: Create a new role with basic Lambda permissions
- 5. Click **Create function**

Step 2: Replace Default Code

In the function code editor, replace the default handler with:

```
import datetime

def lambda_handler(event, context):
    name = event.get('name', 'Guest')
    current_time = datetime.datetime.now().strftime("%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S")

message = f"""
Hello, {name}!
Current server time: {current_time}

This message is served by your AWS Lambda function.
"""

return {
    'statusCode': 200,
    'body': message
}
```

This code:

- Reads a name parameter (if passed via test input)
- Returns a decorated greeting with timestamp

Step 3: Test the Lambda Function

```
1. Click Test
```

```
2. Configure a test event:
```

```
{
   "name": "Alice"
}
```

3. Click **Test**

```
You should see:
```

```
{
   "statusCode": 200,
   "body": "Hello, Alice!\n Current server time: 2025-07-11 20:13:00\n This
message is served by your AWS Lambda function."
}
```

Optional Cleanup

If required, delete the function to avoid confusion or costs.