

Building an IoT Backend with AWS and Serverless

August 21, 2018



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Carlos Lemus

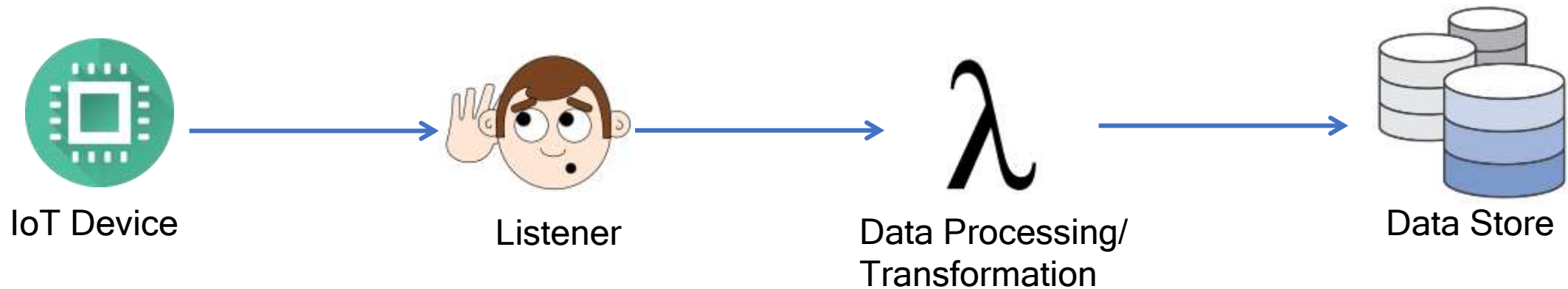
Senior Cloud Engineer @



The Three Steps to Building an IoT Backend on AWS

1. Prototyping through the console
2. Using a framework
3. Simulating your devices

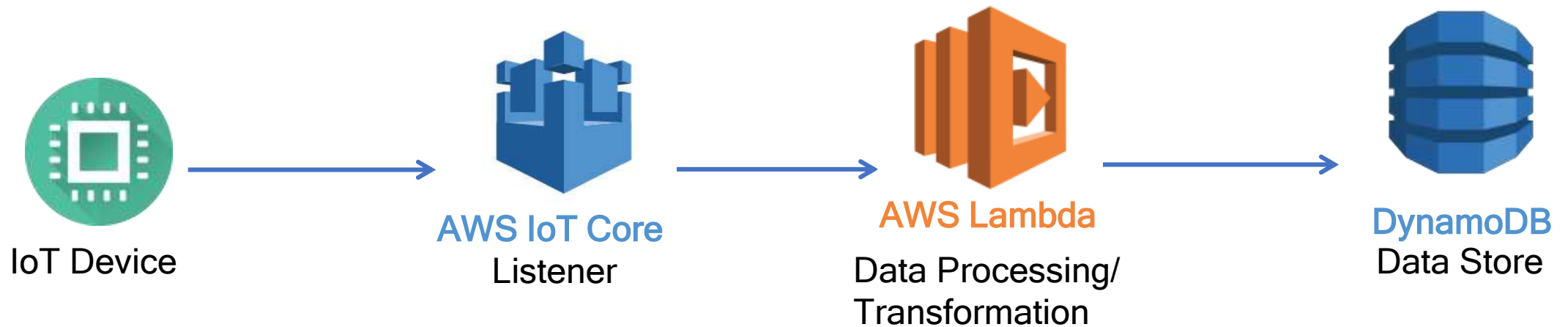
A Typical IoT Backend





Level 1: Simple Console Prototyping

A Typical (AWS) IoT Backend



AWS Lambda

- Serverless compute platform for code execution in response to events.
- Stateless
- Pay-per-use
- No hardware/OS/platform configuration





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Resource Groups ▾



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AWS services

Find a service by name or feature (for example, EC2, S3 or VM, storage) 🔍

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Lambda



Billing



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Support

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Managed Services



Mobile Services

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AWS AppSync

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Application Integration

Step Functions

Amazon MQ

Simple Notification Service

Simple Queue Service

SWF



Media Services

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Storage

S3

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Glacier

Storage Gateway



RDS

Helpful tips



Manage your costs

Monitor your AWS costs, usage, and reservations using AWS Budgets. [Start now](#)



Create an organization

Use AWS Organizations for policy-based management of multiple AWS accounts. [Start now](#)

Explore AWS

Machine Learning with Amazon SageMaker

The fastest way to build, train, and deploy machine learning models. [Learn more](#) ↗

Amazon Relational Database Service (RDS)

RDS manages and scales your database for you. RDS supports Aurora, MySQL, PostgreSQL, MariaDB, Oracle, and SQL Server. [Learn more](#) ↗

AWS Fargate Runs Containers for You

AWS Fargate works with Amazon ECS to run and scale your containers for you. [Learn more](#) ↗

AWS IoT Core

- Data ingestion service
- Securely connect IoT devices to AWS resources



AWS IoT Core - Concepts

Message

→ The Payload, typically in JSON

```
{  
  "timestamp": "2018-07-19 19:46:42.178000000",  
  "trip_id": "2b140fea-2e55-4d1f-9d27-474c493e7566",  
  "vin": "Y8CHZ0R48Z96YV0RM",  
  "name": "location",  
  "latitude": 38.8668,  
  "longitude": -77.44119  
}
```

Topic

→ The “destination” where the message should go.

Rule

→ What to do with messages that hit a certain topic.



Services ▾

Resource Groups ▾



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IoT Core



Lambda



DynamoDB



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  "name": "location",  
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  "longitude": -77.44119  
}
```



Publish location to
connectedcar/telemetry/lambo
Topic



AWS IoT



**Amazon
CloudWatch**

Rule
“connectedcar/telemetry”
topic prefix gets
processed by Lambda



AWS Lambda

`console.log(payload)`

Testing your lambda function

Test by invoking the function

Test by pushing dummy data through IoT Core



Level 2:
Use a
Framework
deploy and
test your
code

Message

```
{  
  "timestamp": "2018-07-19 19:46:42.178000000",  
  "trip_id": "2b140fea-2e55-4d1f-9d27-474c493e7566",  
  "vin": "Y8CHZ0R48Z96YV0RM",  
  "name": "location",  
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  "longitude": -77.44119  
}
```



Publish location to
connectedcar/telemetry/lambo
Topic



AWS IoT Core

Rule

“connectedcar”
topic prefix gets
processed by
Lambda



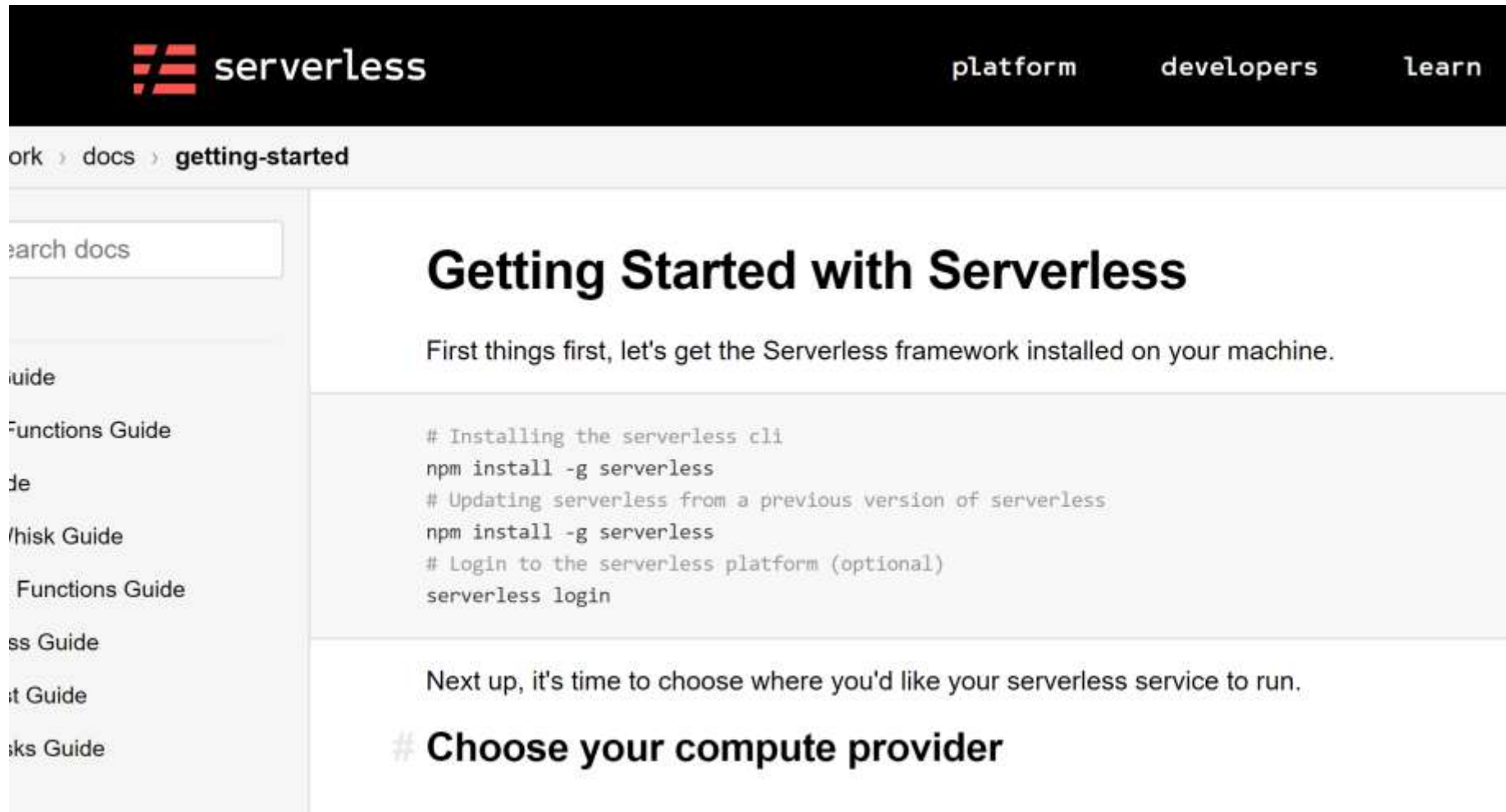
AWS Lambda



**DynamoDB
Table**

Serverless Framework Template and Code

http://serverless.com



The screenshot shows the 'Getting Started' page on the Serverless website. The top navigation bar is black with the 'serverless' logo on the left and links for 'platform', 'developers', and 'learn' on the right. Below the navigation bar, a breadcrumb trail reads 'work > docs > getting-started'. On the left side, there is a sidebar with a search box labeled 'search docs' and a list of links: 'guide', 'Functions Guide', 'de', 'thick Guide', 'Functions Guide', 'ss Guide', 'it Guide', and 'ks Guide'. The main content area has a large heading 'Getting Started with Serverless' followed by the text 'First things first, let's get the Serverless framework installed on your machine.' Below this is a code block containing the following commands:

```
# Installing the serverless cli
npm install -g serverless
# Updating serverless from a previous version of serverless
npm install -g serverless
# Login to the serverless platform (optional)
serverless login
```

Below the code block, the text reads 'Next up, it's time to choose where you'd like your serverless service to run.' followed by a section heading '# Choose your compute provider'.

Deploying a Serverless Project

```
serverless deploy -v --stage dev --region us-east-2
```

>

Invoking a Lambda Function

```
serverless invoke -f <function_name> -p <payload_file> -l
```

> serverless

AWS IoT Device Simulator

Create and simulate 100s of virtual devices without physical devices or complicated scripts.

AWS IoT Device Simulator

- Simulates random JSON payloads
- Publishes payloads to your AWS IoT Endpoint
- Automotive module

In Summary

- How to build a simple backend through the console
- How to use a framework to automate and manage development
- How to use Device Simulator

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