

Experience and Lessons from Building and Teaching a Serverless Solution

*Second International Workshop on Serverless Computing (WoSC) 2017,
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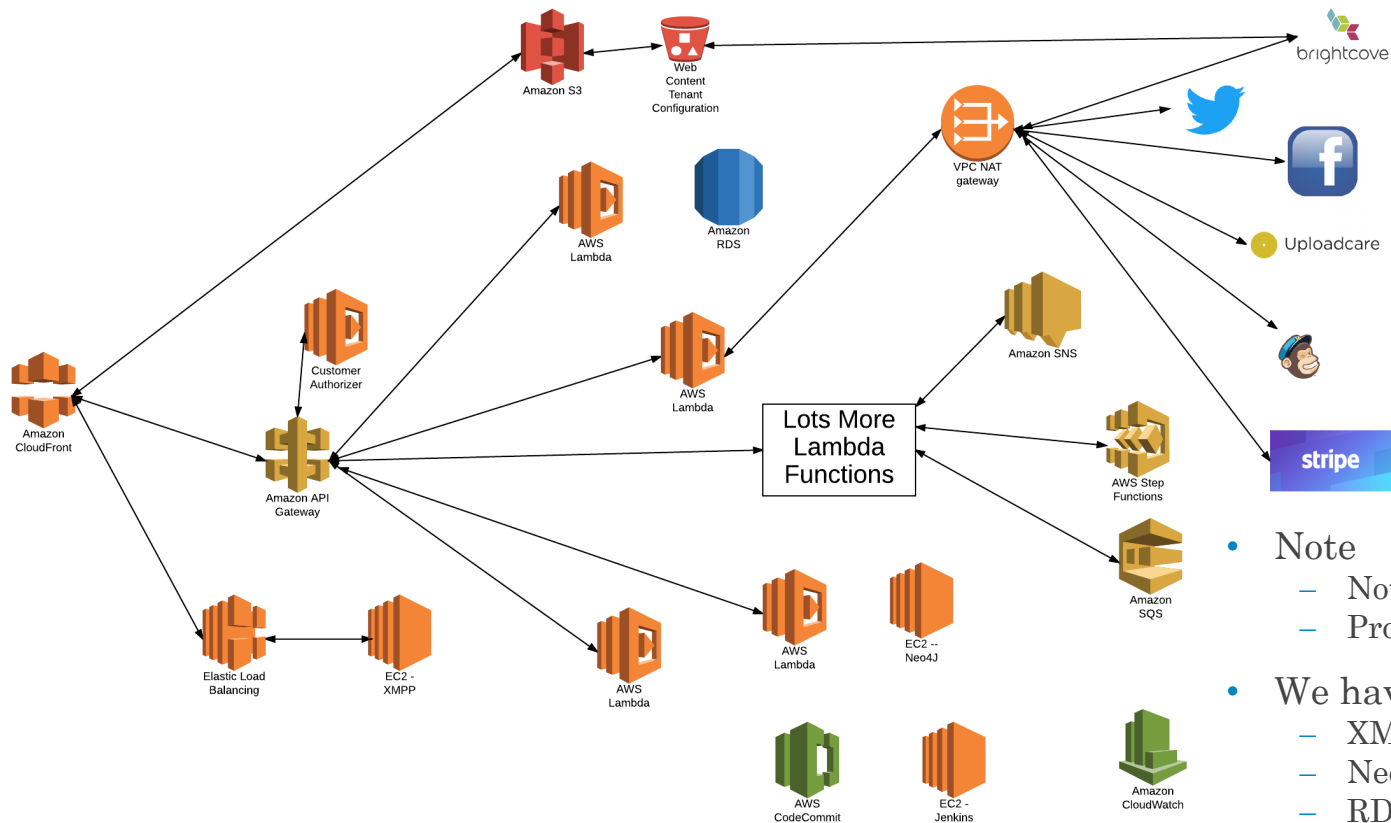
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Seeka TV Architecture



- Note
 - Not all connections shown
 - Probably forgot stuff
- We have a couple of servers
 - XMPP
 - Neo4J (Graphene)
 - RDS

Seeka TV Architecture

Lambda implementing microservices for

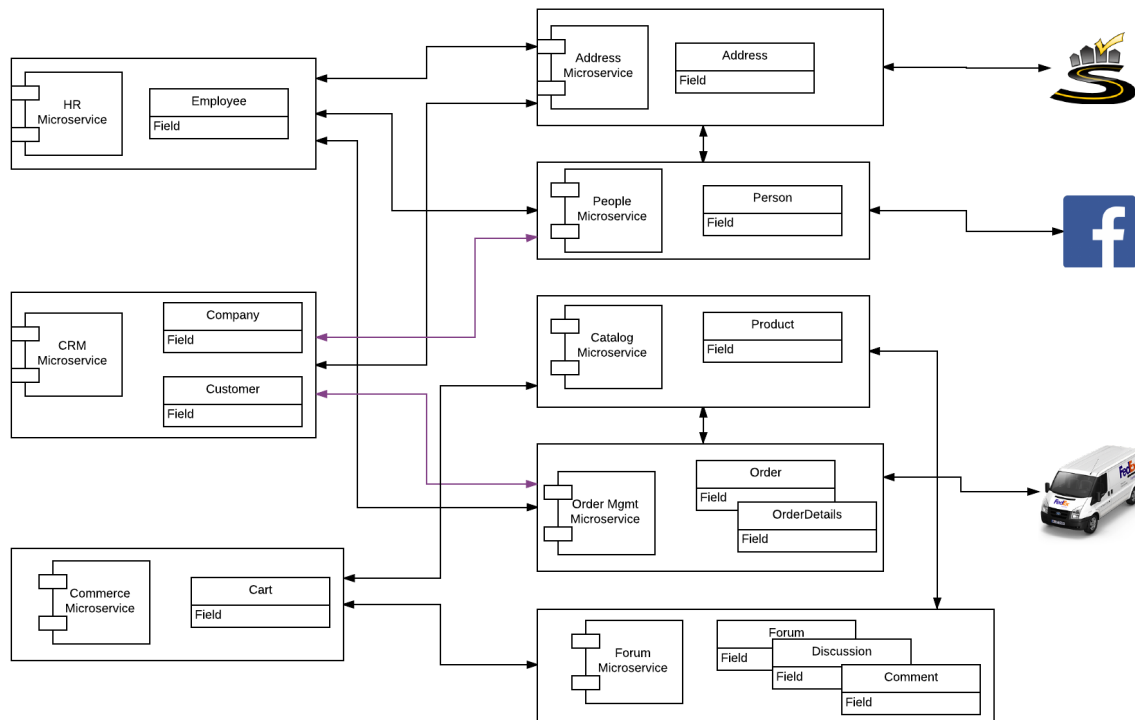
- Registration, authentication
- User and profile management
- Catalog and digital asset management
- Watch parties
- Commenting, tagging, ...
- Social media integration
- Placement (business videos)
- Tipping, crowd funding
- Multi-tenant management
- Other stuff I forgot



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got stuff
ple of servers
aphene)

E6998 – Microservice and Cloud Applications

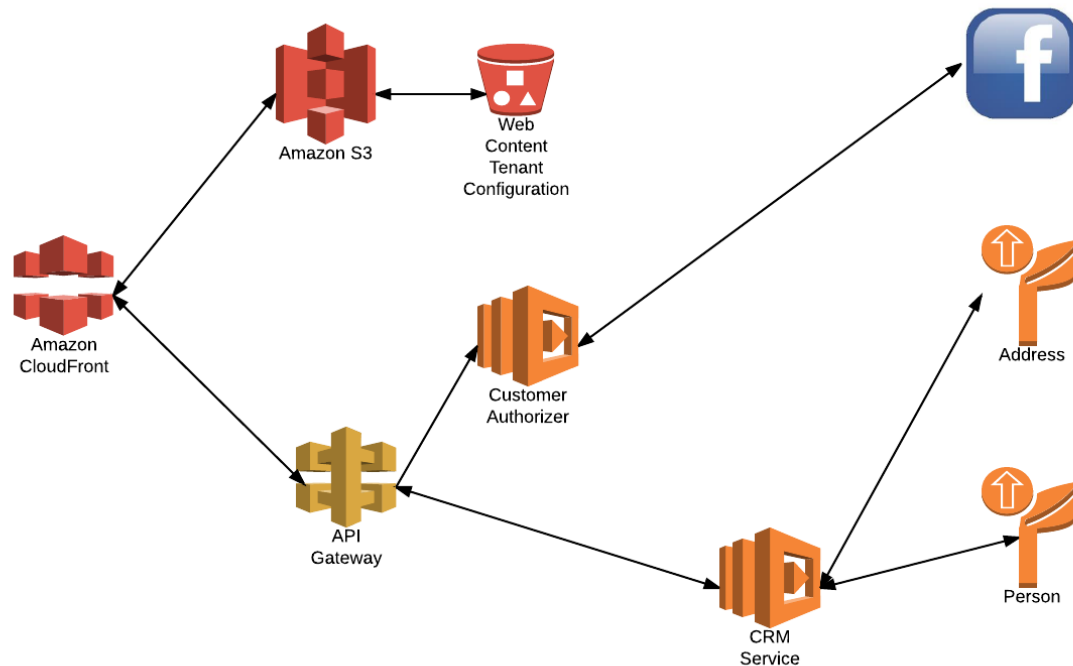
Microservices Model



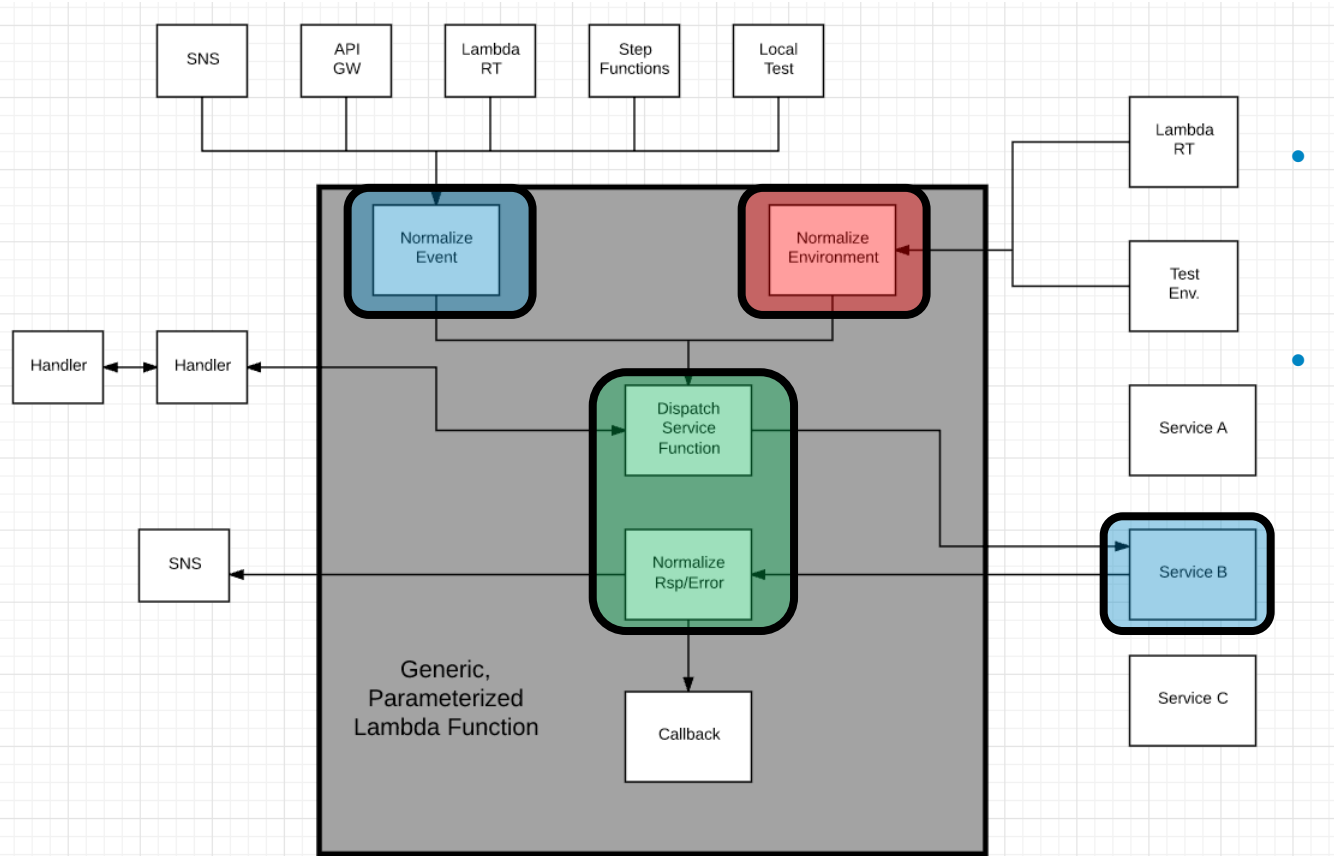
- We only accomplished a fraction
 - Address
 - Person
 - OAuth2
 - Some composite microservice functions

E6998 – Microservice and Cloud Applications

Component Model



Design Pattern – Generic Lambda Function



- Options

- In zip file
- Separate Lambda

- Config info

- Added to Lambda
- Env Variable
- From S3

Lessons Learned and Research Directions

- Lessons learned
 - Serverless is much more than Lambda functions/function.
 - Think of the environment the way I drew it. A bunch of icons.
 - If you can configure and program with a web browser, and you do not manage hardware, SW, upgrade, etc. → It is serverless.
 - The environment is like a massive programmable wiki of /URLs
 - Productivity
 - There is significant productivity, especially initially, by eliminating all HW and SW server configuration and management.
 - The stateless model becomes incredibly productive but requires evolving from a more traditional microservice/service/application model to a event-function-event model.
 - There are a lot of subtle configuration settings and interactions between elements, and this is within a single environment. Azure-IBM-Google-AWS-... terrifies me.
- Research opportunities
 - Service composition, even with SWF and Step Functions, is too tedious.
 - Application dependency mapping and end-to-end unit of work monitoring.
 - Declarative quality of service and middleware injection