

06 Messaging and Containers

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1 Messaging In The Cloud

There are often times that users of your applications need to be notified when certain events happen. Notifications, such as text messages or emails can be sent through services in the cloud. The use of the cloud offers benefits like lowered costs, increased storage, and flexibility

Messaging is a form of notification, but instead of the human receiving the message, another application is such as devices or internet-based applications

2 SNS

Amazon's Simple Notification Service is a cloud service that allows you to send notifications to the users of your applications. SNS allows you to decouple the notification logic from being embedded in your applications and allows notifications to be published to a large number of subscribers

2.1 Features

- SNS uses a publish/subscribe model
- subscribers can be people or other AWS services
- SNS publishes using mobile, text messages or email
- SNS can publish messages to Amazon SQS queues, AWS Lambda functions and HTTP/S webhooks

2.2 Tips

- SNS is found under the application integration section on the AWS management console
- SNS topic names are limited to 256 characters
- A notification can contain only one message

3 Queues

A queue is a data structure that holds requests called messages. Messages in a queue are commonly processed in order, first in, first out (FIFO)

Messaging Queues Improve: - Performance - Scalability - User Experience

Imagine You are a money transferring System: - You get a request for a transaction - you don't make the users wait for the request - you put it on a queue and then later let them know if it is available - you are basically Asynchronously processing data

4 SQS

Amazon's Simple Queue Service (SQS) is a fully managed message queuing service that allows you to integrate queueing functionality in your application. SQS offers two types of message queues: standard and FIFO

4.1 Features

- Send messages
- Store messages
- Receive messages

4.2 Tips

- FIFO queues support up to 300 messages per second
- FIFO queue guarantee the ordering of messages
- Standard queues offer best-effort ordering but no guarantees
- Standard queues deliver a message at least once, but occasionally more than one copy of a message is delivered

5 SNS Lab

1. Create a Topic

- On the AWS Management Console page, type `sns` in the `Find Services` box and then select `Simple Notification Service`. The SNS Dashboard appears.
- On the left-hand menu, click on `Topics`.
- Click on `Create topic`.
- Enter a name for your topic in the `Name` field.
- In the `Access policy – optional` section, for the `Define who can publish messages to the topic` section, ensure `Everyone` is selected allowing anyone to publish to the topic. For the `Define who can subscribe to this topic` section, ensure `Everyone` is selected.
- Click `Create Topic`. The topic screen will display.

2. Subscribe to a Topic

- Click `Create subscription` from the `Subscriptions` section.
- For the `Protocol` field, select `Email`.
- For the `Endpoint`, enter the email that should receive the notifications.
- Click `Create subscription`.
- The subscription page will display and the status will be `Pending confirmation`. After your subscription is created, you must confirm it.
- In your email client, check the email address that you provided for the `Endpoint` and choose `Confirm subscription` in the email from Amazon SNS.
- In your web browser, a subscription confirmation screen appears.

3. Publish a Message to a Topic

- From the menu on the left-hand side, click on `Topics`.
- Select the topic you created earlier and then click `Publish message`.
- Enter a subject in the `Subject` field.
- Enter a value in the `Message body to send to the endpoint` box in the `Message body` section.
- Scroll down and click `Publish message`.
- In your email client, read the email from Amazon SNS.

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5. Delete Auto Scaling Resources

- At the top of the screen, click the **Actions** button next to the **Create Auto Scaling group**.
- Click the **Delete** option.

6 Container Technology

A container consists of everything an application needs to run: the application itself and its dependencies (e.g. libraries, utilities, configuration files), all bundled into one package

Each container is an independent component that runs on its own and can be moved from environment to environment

Kubernetes is a container orchestration for Docker

6.1 Migration

Instead of having to migrate the application from development to production, you can just move the container

6.2 Example

Suppose you had a huge application that you wanted to break down into microservices architecture. Docker works well because each component is its own independent environment

7 Elastic Container Service (ECS)

ECS is an orchestration service used for automating deployment, scaling, and managing of your containerized applications

ECS works well with Docker containers by: - ECS is under the Compute section - You can schedule long-running applications, services and batch processes using EC2 - Docker is the only container platform supported by Amazon EC2

A cluster is a set of container instances running the container agent