MONOLITHS TO SERVERLESS

Cloud computing is ubiquitous in today's times and has seen wide adoption in industries as well as academia. Serverless computing as Function-as-a-Service is an emerging new paradigm in cloud computing. It enables the deployment of applications and services to the cloud as code snippets or functions as opposed to a monolithic program. In this, the user pays only for the time when the code is executing and is not concerned with resource provisioning, monitoring, maintenance, scalability and fault-tolerance.

Although monolithic applications were the best way to deliver business logic, new applications are being developed using serverless architecture. While serverless is rapidly evolving, it lacks a standard definition and general consensus within the technical community. This infrastructure has not been extensively researched yet.

Through this project, we aim to develop and deploy an application using two different approaches: monolithic and serverless. We compare and contrast these two modes with respect to cost, security and performance metrics; and gauge the suitability of serverless architecture for event-driven applications which access external microservices.

We plan to implement the above using the open source serverless computing platform IBM Bluemix OpenWhisk and AWS Lambda which is Amazon's FaaS. The application would be deployed in Cloud Foundry as well as AWS.

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