Monitoring Applications in AWS with X-Ray and CloudWatch



Ryan Lewis
CLOUD ENGINEER

@ryanmurakami ryanlewis.dev

X-Ray monitoring is great for troubleshooting

Overview

A bird's eye view of X-Ray

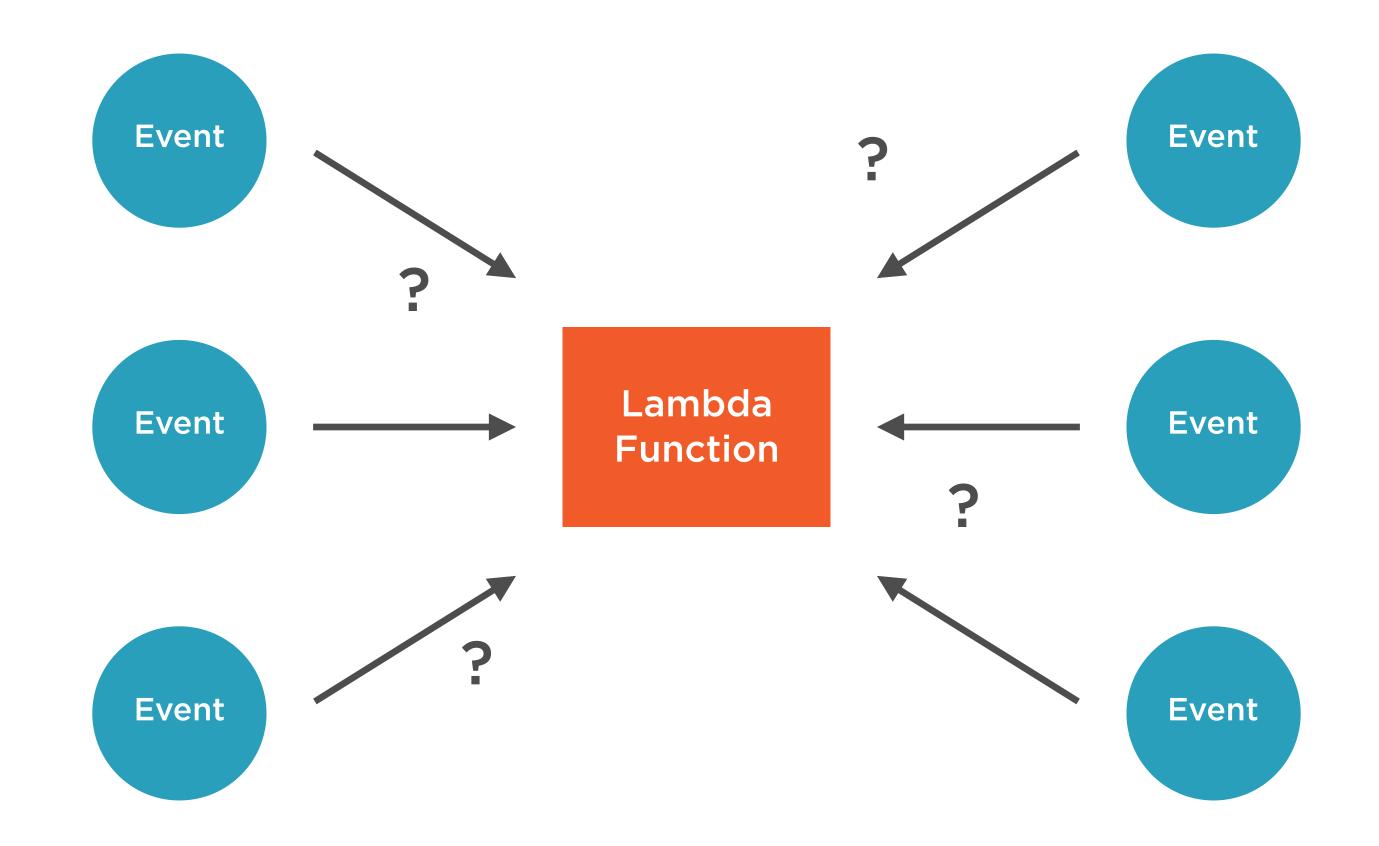
Traces are everywhere

X-Raying a Serverless application

Don't be alarmed by CloudWatch

Clean it up and go home

How X-Ray Works



Ways to Improve AWS Application Insight

Aggregate logs to a common place Use X-Ray to monitor applications

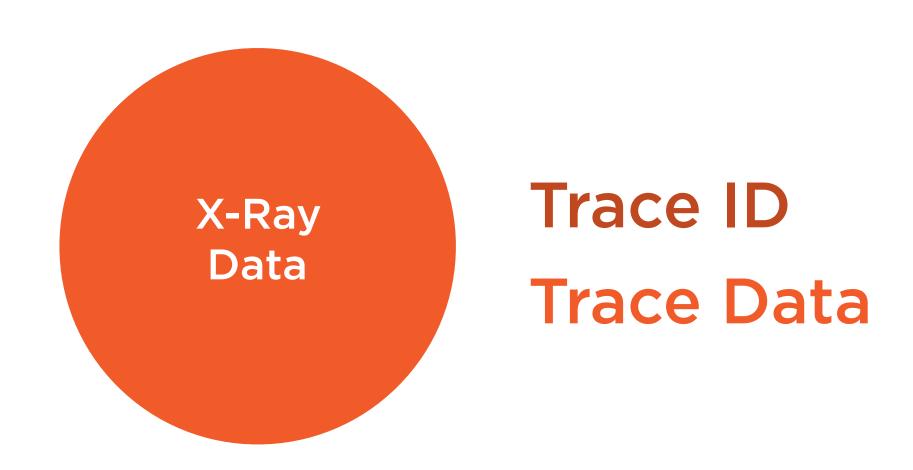
AWS X-Ray

X-Ray Service



Your Application

X-Ray Data Contents



AWS X-Ray

X-Ray Service



Lambda Function

X-Ray Daemon Process

X-Ray daemon is preinstalled for Lambda and Elastic Beanstalk

X-Ray Sampling Default Rules

1 request/second 5% of subsequent requests

Tracing in AWS X-Ray

X-Ray Trace

Representation of the actions taken in response to a single request to your application.

The first X-Ray enabled service in your application that receives a request will generate a **Trace ID**

X-Ray Segment

A single packet of data describing an action that took place in response to a request. Contains a Trace ID.

X-Ray Segments and Subsegments

- - X-Ray Trace -

API Gateway
Generated Segment

Lambda Invocation Subsegment Lambda Invocation Segment

Kinesis putRecord Subsegment

X-Ray Instrumented Code

```
const AWSXRay = require('aws-xray-sdk')
const segment = new AWSXRay.Segment('my-segment')
AWSXRay.setSegment(segment)
// complicated code
segment.addMetadata('result', codeResult)
segment.close()
```

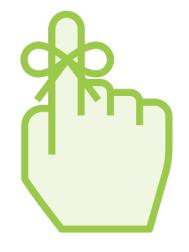
Monitoring Serverless Applications with X-Ray

Configuring an Application for X-Ray

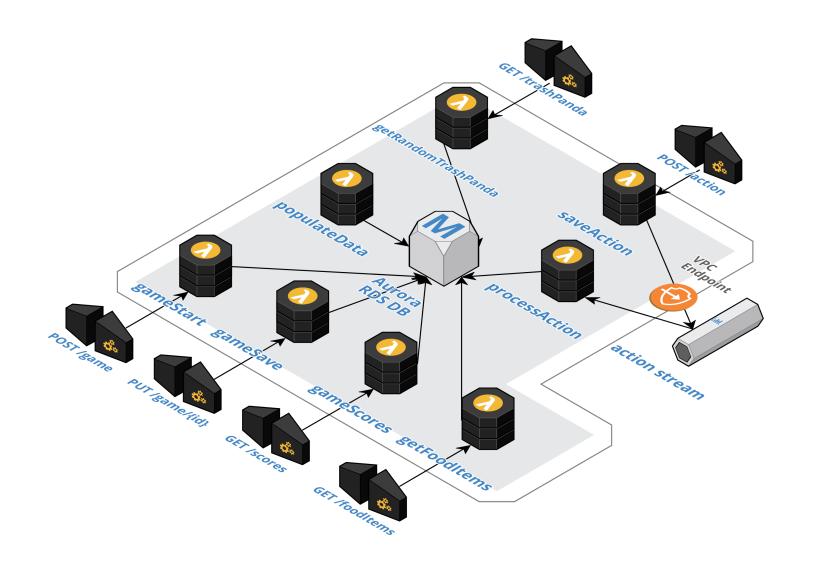
Enabling
X-Ray tracing
for services

Instrumenting application code with X-Ray SDK





CloudWatch Alarms can invoke Lambda functions when triggered



If one Lambda fails in a Serverless application, does it make a sound?

Removing Demo Application Resources

Conclusion

Summary

A diagram for X-Ray

Tracing between API Gateway and Lambda

A watchman for our Lambda errors

Saved by the Serverless removal script

Thank you!



Ryan Lewis
CLOUD ENGINEER

@ryanmurakami ryanlewis.dev