

Can you share a few practical use cases where DevOps teams commonly use AWS Lambda?

Infrastructure Automation

- Automated Backups: Lambda triggers via CloudWatch to create and clean up EBS snapshots or perform backups on a schedule, reducing manual intervention.
- Resource Cleanup: Used for cleaning up unused EC2 instances, removing orphaned resources, or deleting old CloudFormation stacks.
- Cost Optimization: Lambda can shutdown development server during night for cost optimization.

Event-Driven Workflows

- S3 Event Processing: Lambda functions are triggered when files are uploaded to S3, enabling automatic content transformation (e.g., video transcoding, image resizing, or metadata extraction).
- Change Data Capture: Integration with DynamoDB Streams allows Lambda to react to database changes for monitoring, replication, or audit flows.
- Notification Systems: Lambda works with SNS to send emails, Slack messages, or other notifications when specific events occur, such as new database entries or system alerts.

CI/CD and Deployment

- Continuous Deployment/Rollback: Systems like Harness use Lambda in pipelines for basic and canary deployments, handling function updates and automatic rollbacks upon failures, all integrated with version tracking and artifact management.
- Certificate Automation: Lambda automates issuance or renewal of SSL/TLS certificates with services like Let's Encrypt.

API and Microservices

• Lightweight Backends: Lambda operates behind API Gateway to serve as a backend for microservices, authentication endpoints, or independent APIs without managing servers.

Monitoring, Security, and Custom Utilities

- Custom Security Automation: Creating, updating, or auditing IAM policies, responding to WAF (Web Application Firewall)or guard duty events, or performing security checks automatically.
- Workflow Utilities: Simple utilities such as updating DNS when ASG changes size, automating login authentication steps, or on-demand reporting jobs.

Which of the following is a common Lambda use case for infrastructure automation?

- a) Sending real-time chat messages
- b) Auto-resizing EC2 instances based on CPU load
- c) Creating and cleaning up EBS snapshots on a schedule
- d) Hosting a static website

Answer: c) Creating and cleaning up EBS snapshots on a schedule

An organization wants to automatically shut down development servers at night to save costs. How they can do it?

- a) CloudWatch Alarm
- b) Lambda
- c) AWS SNS
- d) AWS SES

Answer: b) Lambda

In a CI/CD pipeline, Lambda can be used for:

- a) Hosting static frontends
- b) Automatic rollbacks upon deployment failures
- c) Storing container images
- d) Serving DNS records

Answer: b) Automatic rollbacks upon deployment failures

How to renew SSL/TLS certificates automatically?

- a) CloudWatch Alarm
- b) Lambda
- c) AWS SNS
- d) AWS SES

Answer: b) Lambda