

SAM Best Practices

MONSANTO

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A cartoon squirrel with brown fur and a white belly is wearing a yellow hard hat with a black Lambda logo on it. It has large, expressive eyes and a small smile. The background consists of dark blue and grey geometric shapes.

A Brief recap...



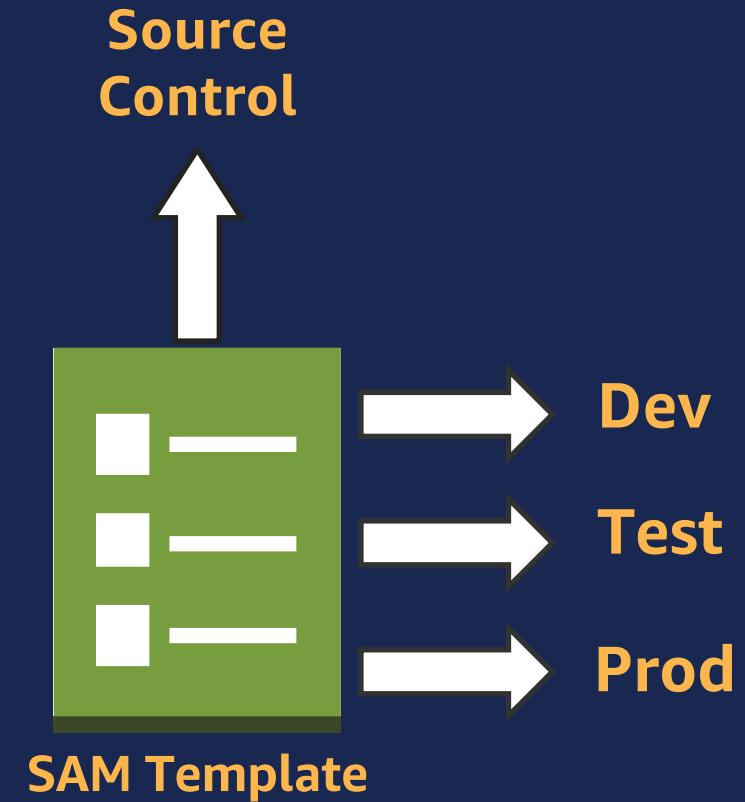
SAM template capabilities

- Mix with other AWS **CloudFormation resources** in the same template
 - e.g., Amazon S3, Amazon Kinesis, AWS Step Functions
- Supports use of **parameters, mappings, outputs, etc.**
- Supports intrinsic functions
- Can use **ImportValue**
(exceptions for RestApild, Policies, StageName attributes)
- YAML or JSON



SAM best practices

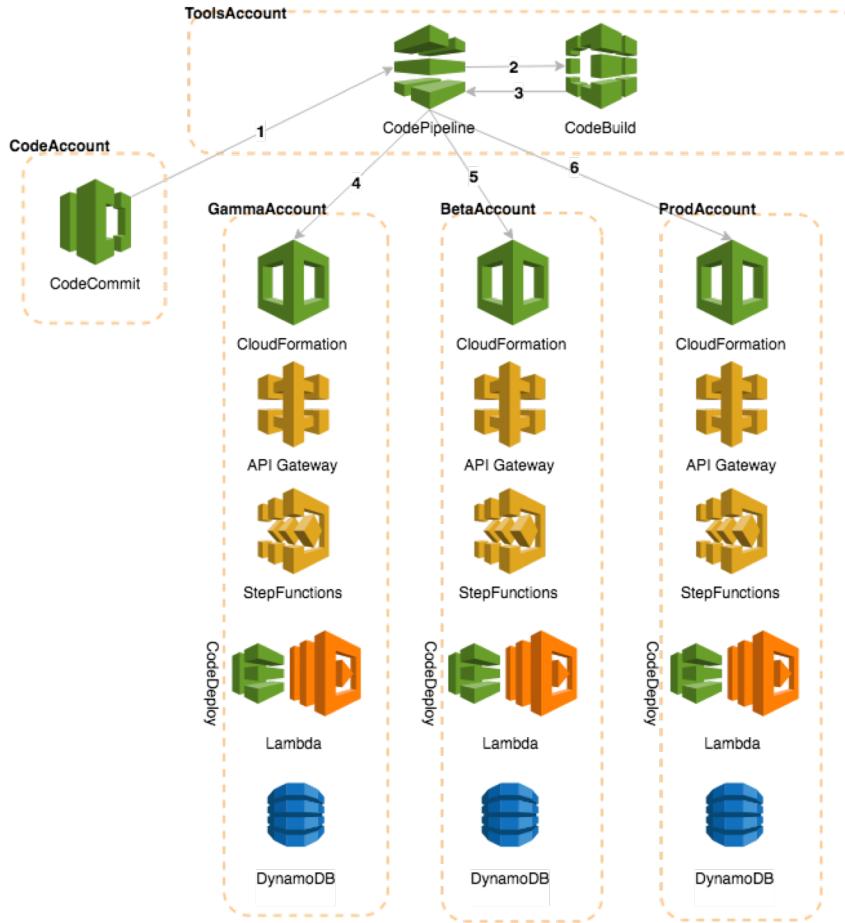
- Use **Parameters and Mappings** when possible to build dynamic templates based on user inputs and **pseudo parameters** such as `AWS::Region`
- Use the **Globals** section to simplify templates
- Use `ExportValue` & `ImportValue` to **share resource information across stacks**
- Build out **multiple environments**, such as for Development, Test, Production using the same template, even across accounts



SAM best practices

- Build function handlers as **independent Lambda function files or binaries**, unless they share code
 - Or build language-specific modules to share common code
- Manage functions with the **same event source** in the same repository and SAM template
- Locally **lint and validate** your SAM template before committing
 - Do it again in your CI/CD process

SAM best practices



<https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/devops/aws-building-a-secure-cross-account-continuous-delivery-pipeline/>

Lambda environment variables

- Key-value pairs dynamically passed to your function
- Available via standard environment variable APIs
 - Node.js: `process.env`
 - Python: `os.environ`
- Optionally encrypt via AWS Key Management Service (AWS KMS)
 - Specify IAM roles that have access to the keys to decrypt the information
- Useful for creating environments per stage



Amazon API Gateway stage variables

- Stage variables act like **environment variables**
- Use stage variables to store **configuration values**
- Stage variables are available in the `$context` object
- Values are accessible from most fields in API Gateway
 - Lambda function ARN
 - HTTP endpoint
 - Custom authorizer function name
 - Parameter mappings



Lambda and API Gateway variables + SAM

Parameters:

Environment:

Description: Environment of this stack

Type: String

Default: Dev

Allowedvalues:

- Dev

- Test

- Prod

Mappings:

IncludeNewFeatures:

Dev:

NewFeatureFlag: true

Test:

NewFeatureFlag: true

Prod:

NewFeatureFlag: false

Lambda

MyFunction:

Type: 'AWS::Serverless::Function'

Properties:

...

Environment:

variables:

ENVIRONMENT: !Ref: Environment

NEW_FEATURES: !FindInMap [IncludeNewFeatures,
!Ref Environment, NewFeatureFlag]

...

#API Gateway

MyApiGatewayApi:

Type: AWS::Serverless::Api

Properties:

...

variables:

ENVIRONMENT: !Ref: Environment

Lambda and API Gateway variables + SAM

Parameters:

Environment:

Description: Environment of this stack

Type: String

Default: Dev

AllowedValues:

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#API Gateway

MyApiGatewayApi:

Type: AWS::Serverless::Api

Properties:

...

variables:

ENVIRONMENT: !Ref: Environment

SAM + safe deployments

MyLambdaFunction:

Type: AWS::Serverless::Function

Properties:

Handler: index.handler

Runtime: nodejs8.10

AutoPublishAlias: !Ref ENVIRONMENT

DeploymentPreference:

Type: Linear10PercentEvery10Minutes

Alarms:

A list of alarms that you want to monitor

- !Ref AliasErrorMetricGreaterThanZeroAlarm

- !Ref LatestVersionErrorMetricGreaterThanZeroAlarm

Hooks:

Validation functions run before & after traffic shifting

PreTraffic: !Ref PreTrafficLambdaFunction

PostTraffic: !Ref PostTrafficLambdaFunction



SAM + safe deployments

MyLambdaFunction:

Type: AWS::Serverless::Function

Properties:

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AutoPublishAlias: !Ref ENVIRONMENT

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Type: Linear10PercentEvery10Minutes

Alarms:

A list of alarms that you want to monitor

- !Ref AliasErrorMetricGreaterThanOrEqualToZeroAlarm

- !Ref LatestVersionErrorMetricGreaterThanOrEqualToZeroAlarm

Hooks:

Validation functions run before & after traffic shifting

PreTraffic: !Ref PreTrafficLambdaFunction

PostTraffic: !Ref PostTrafficLambdaFunction



Deployments with AWS SAM

- Lambda alias traffic shifting enables canaries and blue/green deployments
- Automatic rollback based on CloudWatch metrics/alarms
- Pre/post-traffic triggers can integrate with other services (or call other Lambda functions)

Deployment preference type

Canary10Percent30Minutes
Canary10Percent5Minutes
Canary10Percent10Minutes
Canary10Percent15Minutes
Linear10PercentEvery10Minutes
Linear10PercentEvery1Minute
Linear10PercentEvery2Minutes
Linear10PercentEvery3Minutes
AllAtOnce

SAM globals

Globals:

Function:

Runtime: nodejs8.10

Handler: index.handler

Timeout: 10

Resources:

MyLambdaFunction:

Type: AWS::Serverless::Function

Properties:

...

MyLongRunningFunction:

Type: AWS::Serverless::Function

Properties:

Timeout: 30

...

The background features a complex arrangement of blue and grey 3D rectangular blocks of various sizes, some with soft shadows, creating a sense of depth and perspective.

Customer scenario...



Lambda Role

- Build secure functions using the least privilege principle to define policies
- Use SAM supported policy templates

SQSPollerPolicy

LambdaInvokePolicy

CloudWatchPutMetricPolicy

DynamoDBCrudPolicy

SQSSendMessagePolicy

SNSPublishMessagePolicy

VPCAccessPolicy

SNSCrudPolicy

KMSDecryptPolicy

SSMParameterReadPolicy

AWSSecretsManagerGetSecretValuePolicy

...

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/serverless-application-model/latest/developerguide/serverless-policy-template-list.html>

SAM policy templates

```
MyLambdaFunction:  
  Type: AWS::Serverless::Function  
  Properties:  
    Handler: index.handler  
    Runtime: nodejs8.10
```

Policies:

```
# CRUD permissions for one table  
- DynamoDBCrudPolicy:  
  TableName: !Ref MyTable
```

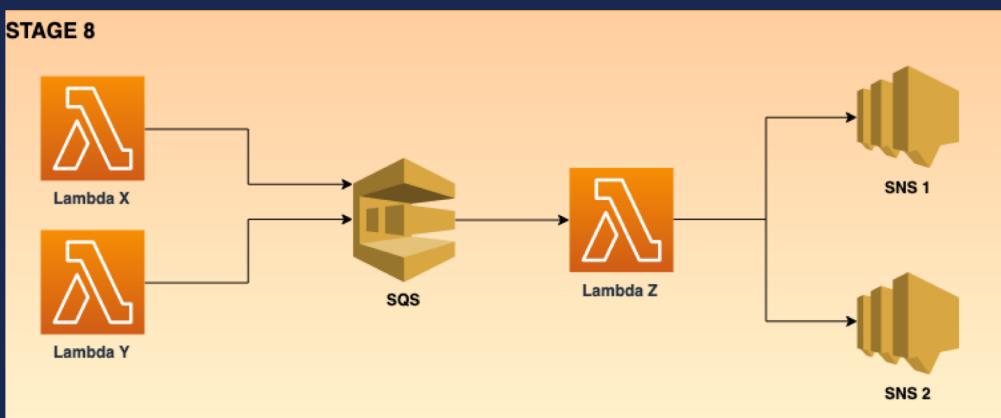
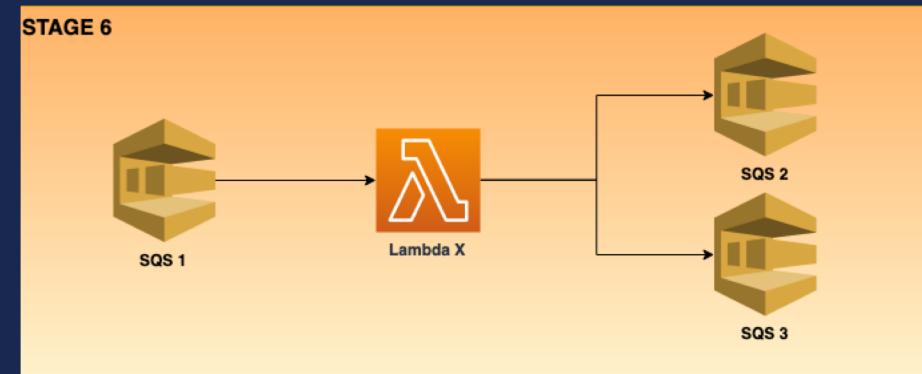
MyTable:

Type: AWS::Serverless::SimpleTable



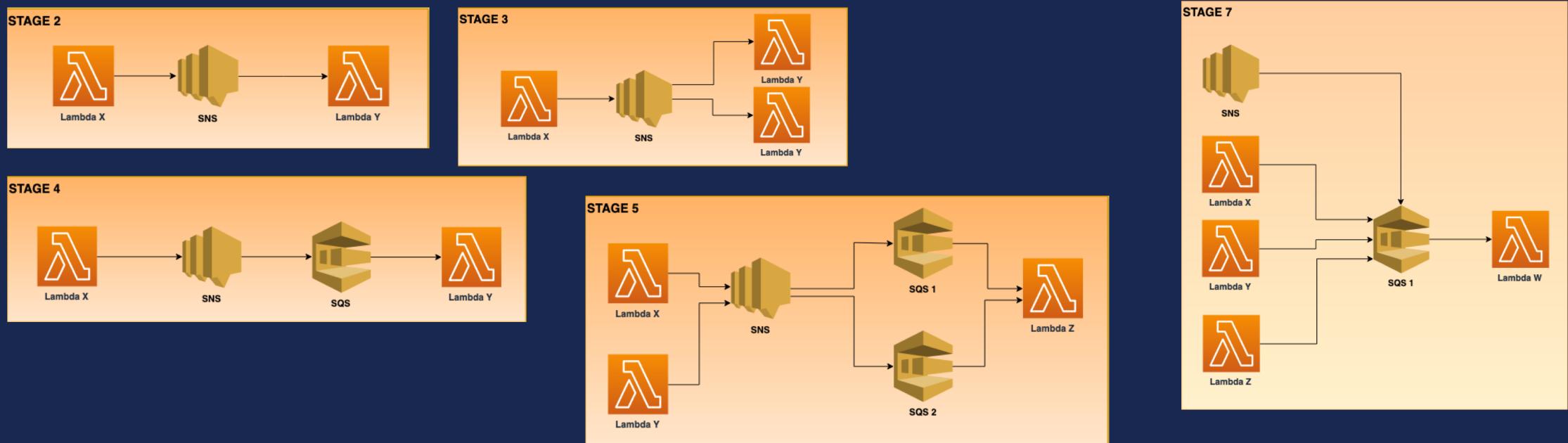
SQS

- Manage functions with the **same event source** in the same repository and SAM template



SNS

- Manage functions with the **same event source** in the same repository and SAM template



<https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/compute/introducing-amazon-eventbridge-schema-registry-and-discovery-in-preview/>

API Gateway

- Manage functions with the **same event source** in the same repository and SAM template
- Mix with other AWS **CloudFormation resources** in the same template
- Use SAM resource **AWS::Serverless::Api** (OpenApi definition)

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/serverless-application-model/latest/developerguide/sam-resource-api.html>

https://github.com/awslabs/serverless-application-model/blob/develop/examples/2016-10-31/api_lambda_token_auth/template.yaml

AWS SAM CLI



- CLI tool for local building, validating, testing of serverless apps
- Works with Lambda functions and “proxy-style” APIs
- Response object and function logs available on your local machine
- Mimic Lambda’s execution environment with open-source docker-lambda images
 - Emulates timeout, memory limits, runtimes

<https://github.com/awslabs/aws-sam-cli>

Thank you!

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