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Use Case

1 We want to use the emoji Python library inside a Lambda function

2 But AWS Lambda doesn't have emoji by default, so we will

1 Write code that uses the library (and fails)

2 Fix it by creating a Lambda Layer

1 Go to AWS Lambda Console

2 Click Create function

1

1 Author from scratch

2 Function name EmojiFunction

3 Runtime Python 3.9

4 Click Create function

1 ☒ Step 1: Create a Lambda Function

import emoji

def lambda_handler(event, context):

message = emoji.emojize("Hello from Lambda! :rocket: :grinning_face_with_big_eyes:")

return {

'statusCode': 200,

'body': f'{message}'

2 ☒ Step 2: Add Code That Uses the emoji Library and Test the function

1 Replace the default code with

2 Click Deploy, then click Test (create a test event with default values)

3 See the Error

1

```
{
  "errorMessage": "Unable to import module 'lambda_function': No module named 'emoji'",
  "errorType": "Runtime.ImportModuleError"
}
```

2 This is expected — because emoji is not available in Lambda by default

1 Open AWS CloudShell

2 Create a folder and install emoji library

1 mkdir -p emoji-layer/python Create parent and subfolders

2 cd emoji-layer/python Change directory to the python folder

3 pip3 install emoji -t . Install the emoji library locally into this folder

3 ☒ Step 3: Create the emoji Layer ZIP File

3 Zip the folder

1 cd ~/emoji-layer Go back to the emoji-layer root directory

2 zip -r9 emoji_layer.zip python This creates the file emoji_layer.zip

3 Now you have emoji_layer.zip in your CloudShell environment.

4 Download the ZIP file to your local system

1 Open CloudShell Action menu

2 Choose Download file

3 Enter the full path /home/cloudshell-user/emoji-layer/emoji_layer.zip

4 Then click Download — this will save the ZIP to your PC

4 ☒ Step 4: Upload the ZIP File as a Lambda Layer

1 Go to the AWS Lambda Console

2 In the left sidebar, click "Layers"

3 Click the "Create layer" button

1 Name emoji-layer

2 Description: (optional) Layer for emoji Python library

3 Upload a .zip file Click "Upload" and choose emoji_layer.zip from your PC

4 Compatible runtimes ☒ Select Python 3.9

5 Click Create

5 ☒ Your emoji-layer is now ready!

5 ☒ Step 5: Attach the Layer to Your Lambda Function

1 Go to your Lambda function (EmojiFunction)

2 Scroll down to the "Layers" section

3 Click "Add a layer"

1 Custom layers

2 Select emoji-layer

3 Choose the latest version (usually version 1)

5 Click "Add"

6 ☒ Layer is now attached!

6 ☒ Step 6: Re-Test the Lambda Function

1 Click Deploy (if not done already)

2 Click Test (Use the same test event as before)

3 You should now see

```
{
  "statusCode": 200,
  "body": "Hello from Lambda! 🚀 😄"
}
```

4 Success! Your Lambda function now uses the emoji library from the custom layer!