



# Adopting Java for the Serverless world

from the perspective of the **AWS** developer



GraalVM™



Java User Group Darmstadt  
Community der Java Anwender in und um Darmstadt



Vadym Kazulkin, ip.labs, JUG Darmstadt, 19 Mai 2022



# Contact



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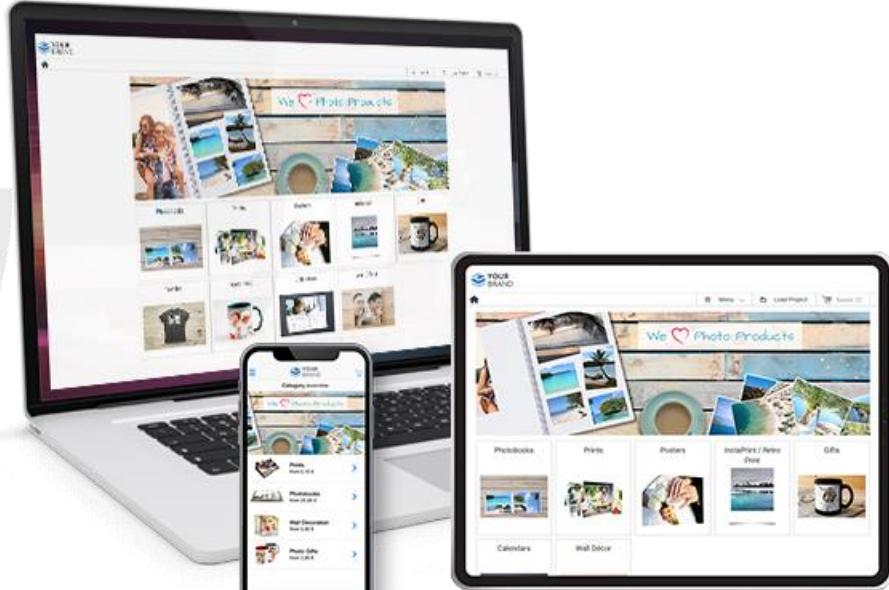
@VKazulkin



# ip.labs

Apps

iOS



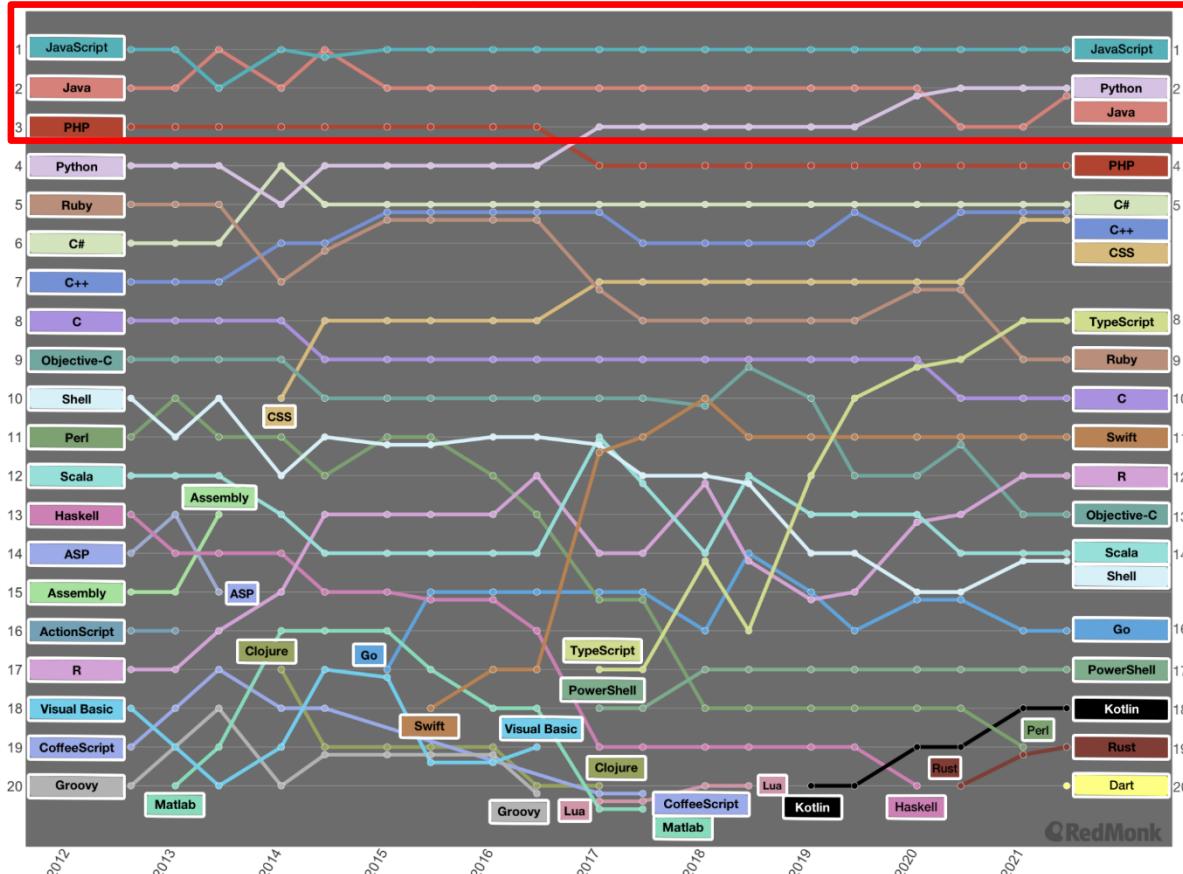


# Java popularity



# RedMonk Language Rankings

September 2012 - June 2021





# AWS and Serverless



Figure 1. Magic Quadrant for Cloud Infrastructure and Platform Services

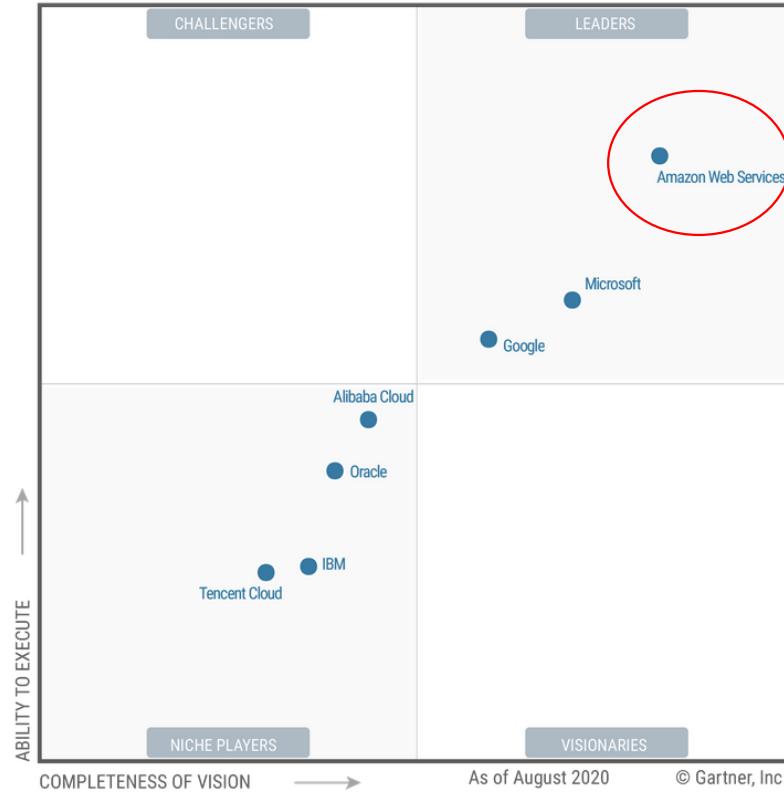


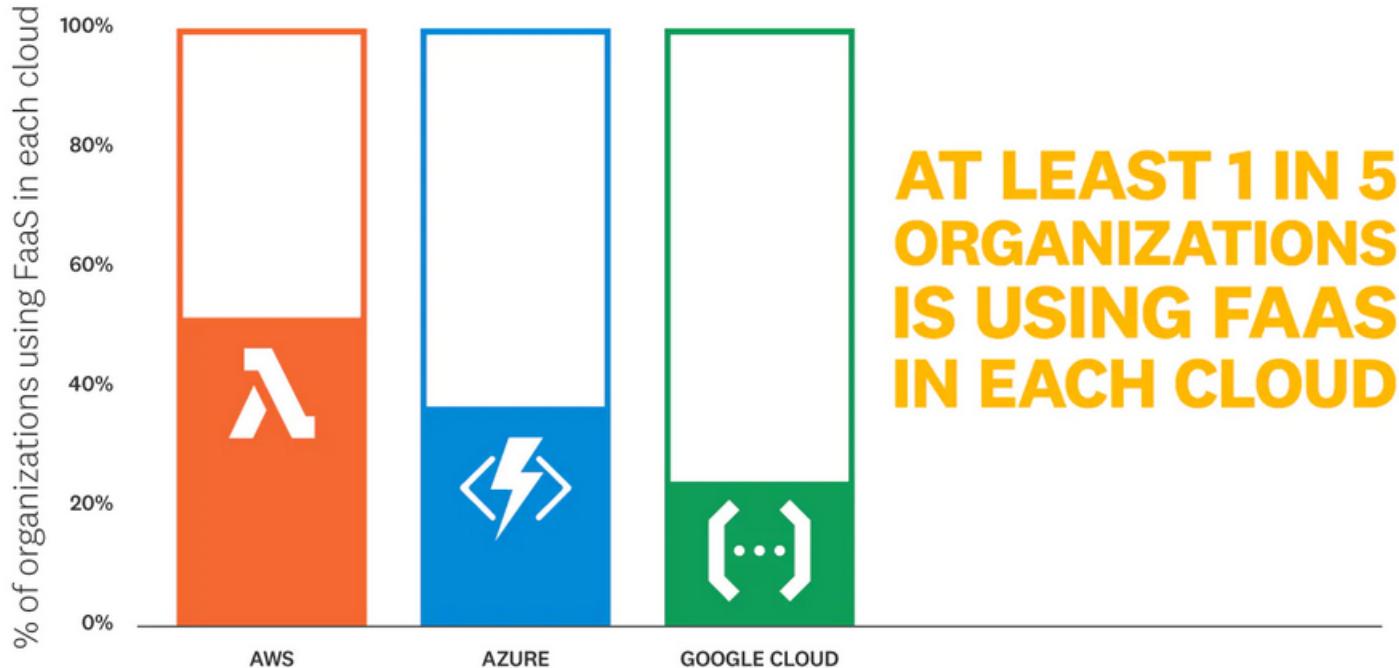
Figure 1: Magic Quadrant for Cloud Infrastructure and Platform Services



Source: Gartner (July 2021)



## FaaS Usage by Cloud Platform

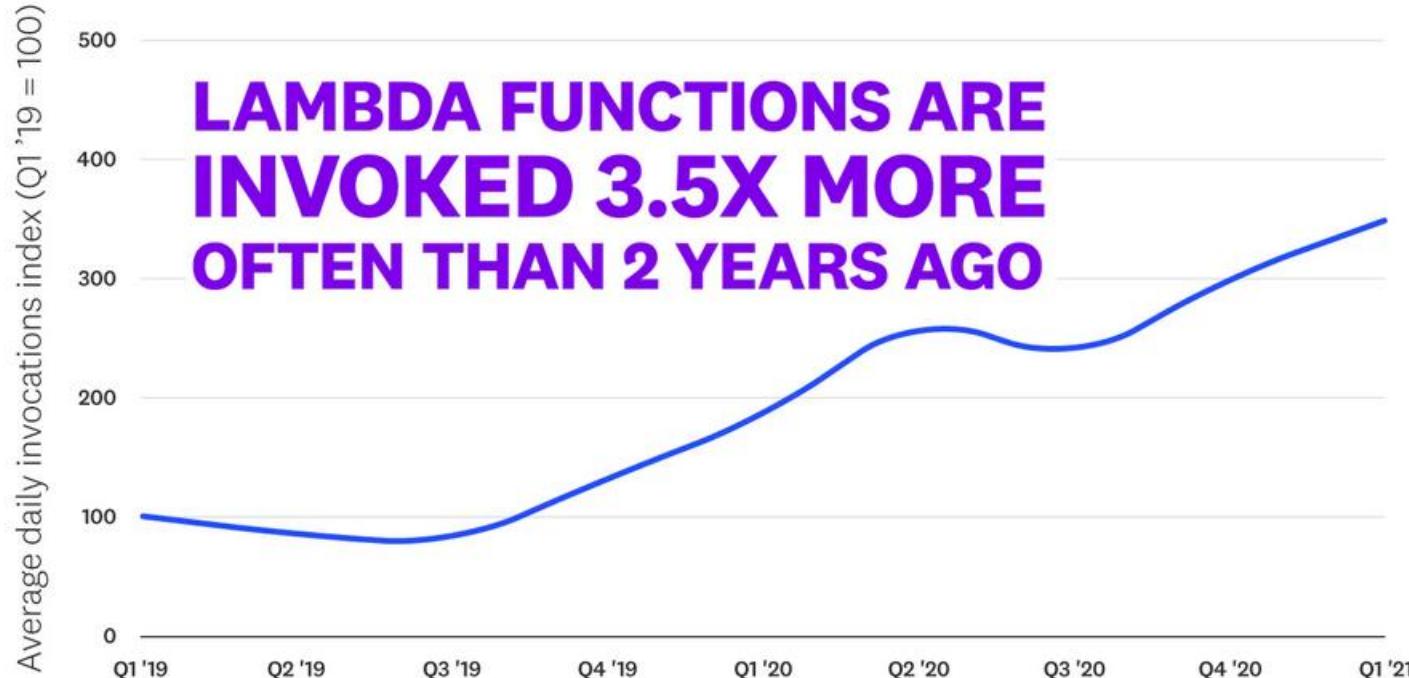


**AT LEAST 1 IN 5  
ORGANIZATIONS  
IS USING FAAS  
IN EACH CLOUD**

Source: Datadog



## Average Daily Invocations per Lambda Function Index



Source: Datadog



# Life of the Java Serverless developer on AWS



# AWS Java Versions Support

- Java 8
  - With extended long-term support
- Java 11 (since 2019)
- Only Long Term Support (LTS) by AWS
- Current LTS Java version is Java 17
  - Amazon Corrett Support for 17 is released, but not currently available for Lambda

## Amazon Corretto

No-cost, multiplatform, production-ready distribution of OpenJDK

Amazon Corretto is a no-cost, multiplatform, production-ready distribution of the Open Java Development Kit (OpenJDK). Corretto comes with long-term support that will include performance enhancements and security fixes. Amazon runs Corretto internally on thousands of production services and Corretto is certified as compatible with the Java SE standard. With Corretto, you can develop and run Java applications on popular operating systems, including Linux, Windows, and macOS.



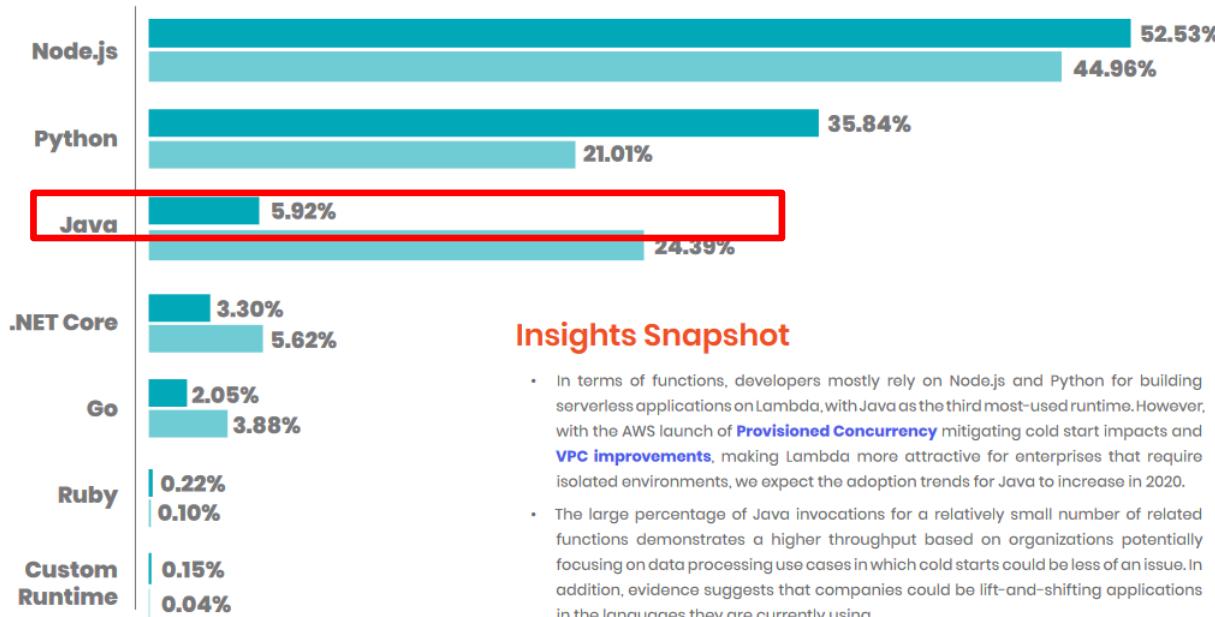
Java ist very fast  
and mature  
programming  
language...

... but Serverless  
adoption of Java  
looks like this





# Lambda Adoption by Runtime



## Insights Snapshot

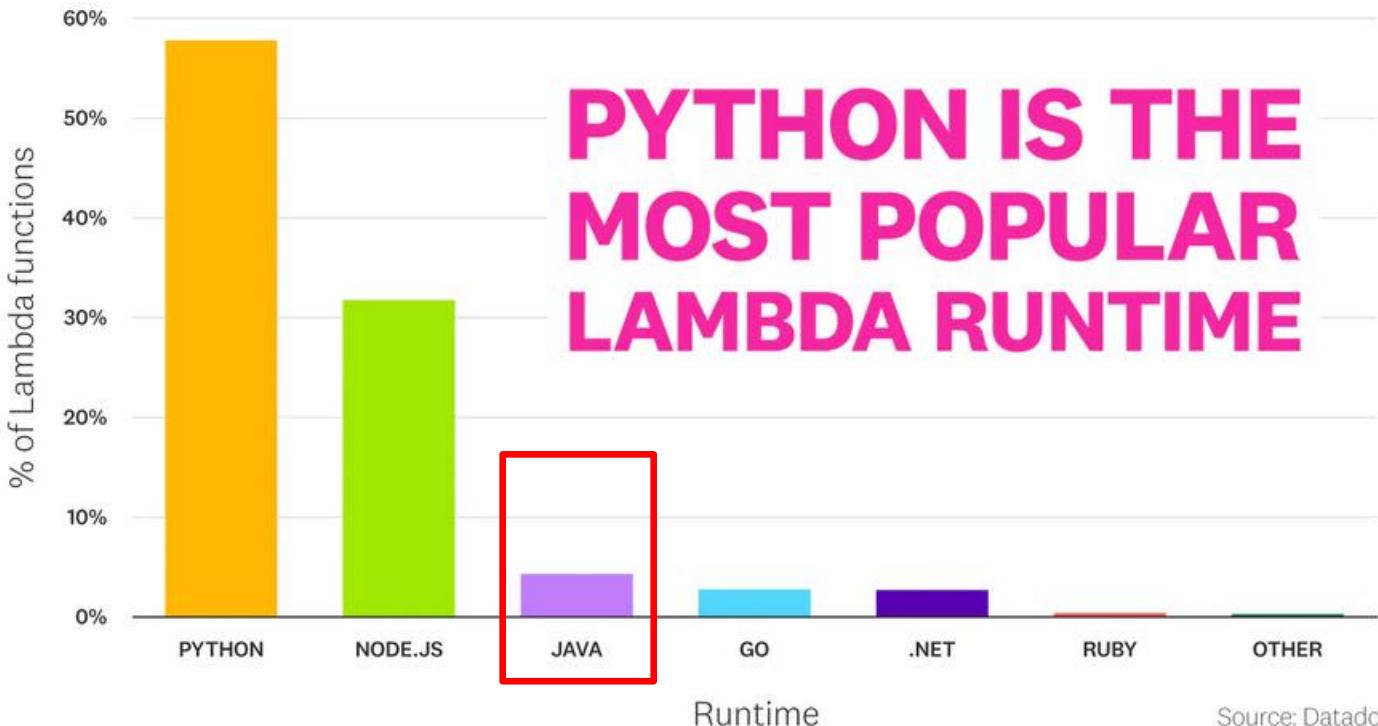
- In terms of functions, developers mostly rely on Node.js and Python for building serverless applications on Lambda, with Java as the third most-used runtime. However, with the AWS launch of [Provisioned Concurrency](#) mitigating cold start impacts and [VPC improvements](#), making Lambda more attractive for enterprises that require isolated environments, we expect the adoption trends for Java to increase in 2020.
- The large percentage of Java invocations for a relatively small number of related functions demonstrates a higher throughput based on organizations potentially focusing on data processing use cases in which cold starts could be less of an issue. In addition, evidence suggests that companies could be lift-and-shifting applications in the languages they are currently using.

[Red box highlights this section]  
Percentage of all **functions** monitored  
Percentage of all **invocations** monitored

Time frame July–December 2019



## Most Popular Runtimes by Distinct Functions



Source: Datadog



Developers love Java and will be happy  
to use it for Serverless

But what are the challenges ?



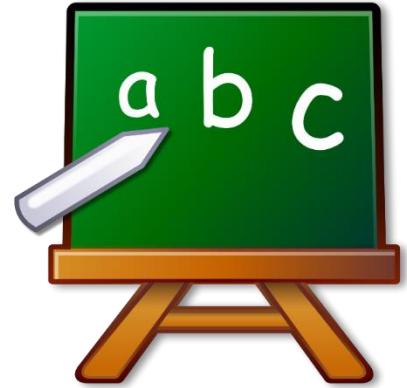
A screenshot of a Windows Command Prompt window titled 'C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe'. The window contains the following text:  
E:\Java>javac First.java  
E:\Java>java First  
Let's do something using Java technology.  
E:\Java>





# Serverless with Java challenges

- “cold start” times (latencies)
- memory footprint (high cost in AWS)



# AWS Lambda Basics



# Creating AWS Lambda with Java 1/3

## Basic information

### Function name

Enter a name that describes the purpose of your function.

MyFirstJavaFunction

Use only letters, numbers, hyphens, or underscores with no spaces.

### Runtime Info

Choose the language to use to write your function. Note that the console code editor supports only Node.js, Python, and Ruby.

Java 11 (Corretto)

### Architecture Info

Choose the instruction set architecture you want for your function code.

x86\_64

arm64

### Permissions Info

By default, Lambda will create an execution role with permissions to upload logs to Amazon CloudWatch Logs. You can customize this default role later when adding triggers.

#### ▼ Change default execution role

##### Execution role

Choose a role that defines the permissions of your function. To create a custom role, go to the [IAM console](#).

- Create a new role with basic Lambda permissions
- Use an existing role
- Create a new role from AWS policy templates

## Latest supported

.NET 6 (C#/PowerShell)

.NET Core 3.1 (C#/PowerShell)

## Go 1.x

Java 11 (Corretto)

Node.js 14.x

Python 3.9

Ruby 2.7

## Other supported

Java 8 on Amazon Linux 1

Java 8 on Amazon Linux 2

Node.js 12.x

Java 11 (Corretto)

## Basic settings

### Description

### Memory (MB) Info

Your function is allocated CPU proportional to the memory configured.



128 MB

### Timeout Info

0 min 3 sec



# Creating AWS Lambda with Java 2/3

```
import javax.inject.Inject;

import org.slf4j.Logger;
import org.slf4j.LoggerFactory;

import com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.Context;
import com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.RequestHandler;

public class MonthlyInvoiceGeneratorFunction
implements RequestHandler<MonthlyInvoiceRequest, MonthlyInvoiceResponse> {

    private static final Logger LOG = LoggerFactory.getLogger(MonthlyInvoiceGeneratorFunction.class);

    @Inject
    private MonthlyInvoiceGeneratorService monthlyInvoiceGeneratorService;

    @Override
    public MonthlyInvoiceResponse handleRequest(MonthlyInvoiceRequest monthlyInvoiceRequest,
                                                final Context context) {
        if (LOG.isDebugEnabled()) {
            LOG.debug("request: {}", monthlyInvoiceRequest);
        }
        return this.monthlyInvoiceGeneratorService.generateInvoice(monthlyInvoiceRequest);
    }
}
```

```
import java.util.function.Function;

import org.slf4j.Logger;
import org.slf4j.LoggerFactory;
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;

public class MonthlyInvoiceGeneratorFunction
    implements Function<MonthlyInvoiceRequest, MonthlyInvoiceResponse> {

    private static final Logger LOG = LoggerFactory.getLogger(MonthlyInvoiceGeneratorFunction.class);

    @Autowired
    private MonthlyInvoiceGeneratorService monthlyInvoiceGeneratorService;

    @Override
    public MonthlyInvoiceResponse apply(MonthlyInvoiceRequest monthlyInvoiceRequest) {
        if (LOG.isDebugEnabled()) {
            LOG.debug("request: {}", monthlyInvoiceRequest);
        }
        return this.monthlyInvoiceGeneratorService.generateInvoice(monthlyInvoiceRequest);
    }
}
```



# Creating AWS Lambda with Java 3/3

## AWS Lambda context object in Java

[PDF](#) | [Kindle](#) | [RSS](#)

When Lambda runs your function, it passes a context object to the [handler](#). This object provides methods and properties that provide information about the invocation, function, and execution environment.

### Context methods

- `getRemainingTimeInMillis()` – Returns the number of milliseconds left before the execution times out.
- `getFunctionName()` – Returns the name of the Lambda function.
- `getFunctionVersion()` – Returns the [version](#) of the function.
- `getInvokedFunctionArn()` – Returns the Amazon Resource Name (ARN) that's used to invoke the function. Indicates if the invoker specified a version number or alias.
- `getMemoryLimitInMB()` – Returns the amount of memory that's allocated for the function.
- `getAwsRequestId()` – Returns the identifier of the invocation request.
- `getLogGroupName()` – Returns the log group for the function.
- `getLogStreamName()` – Returns the log stream for the function instance.
- `getIdentity()` – (mobile apps) Returns information about the Amazon Cognito identity that authorized the request.
- `getClientContext()` – (mobile apps) Returns the client context that's provided to Lambda by the client application.
- `getLogger()` – Returns the [logger object](#) for the function.



# AWS Lambda Price Model



# Cost for Lambda



REQUEST



DURATION



Request Tier

**\$ 0.20**

Per 1 Mio Requests



Duration Tier

**\$ 0.00001667 (x86)**  
**\$ 0.00001333 (Arm)**

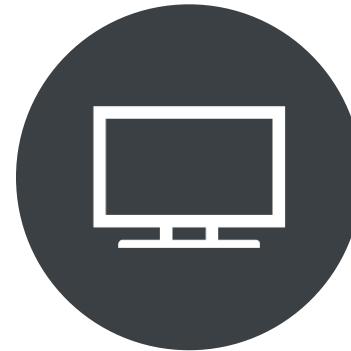
Per GB-Second



# GB-Second



ONE SECOND

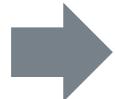


ONE GB



# Example

- 1 Mio requests
- Lambda x86 with 512MiB
- Each lambda takes 200ms



$$0.5 \text{ GiB} * 0.2 \text{ sec} * 1 \text{ Mio} \\ = 100\,000 \text{ GB-Seconds}$$



Requests:  
**\$0.20**



GB-Seconds:  
**\$1.67**



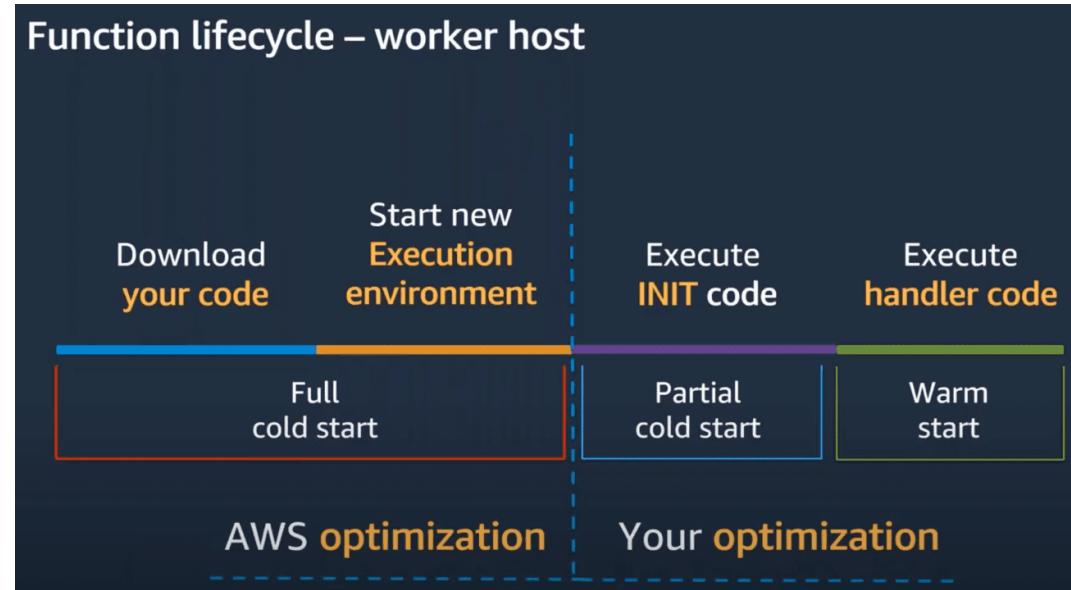
Challenge Number 1 with Java is a  
big **cold-start**





# Cold Start

## : Function lifecycle – worker host



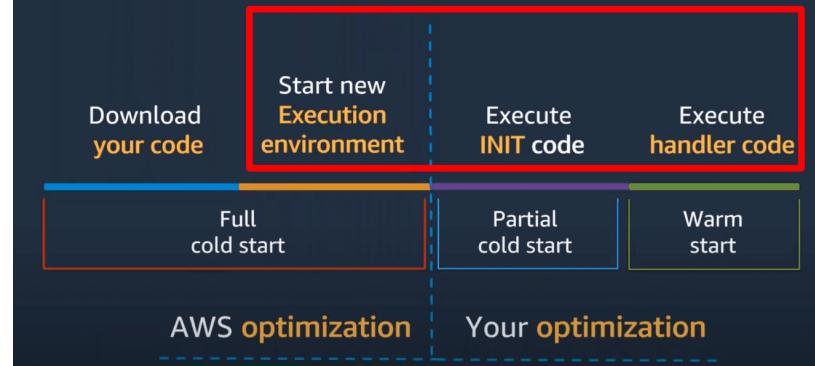


- Start Firecracker VM
- AWS Lambda starts the JVM
- Java runtime loads and initializes handler class

- Static initializer block of the handler class is executed
- Init-phase has **full CPU access up to 10 seconds *for free* for the managed execution environments**

- Lambda calls the handler method
  - Full CPU access only approx. at 1.8 GB “assigned” memory to the function

### Function lifecycle – worker host



Basic settings

Description

Memory (MB) **Info**  
Your function is allocated CPU proportional to the memory configured.  
128 MB

Timeout **Info**  
0 min 3 sec

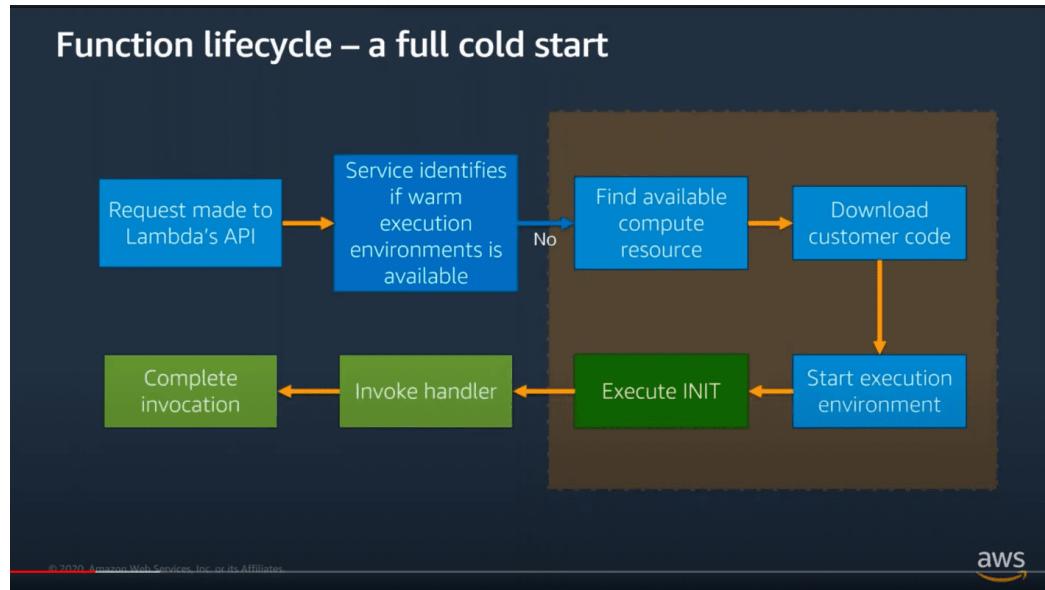
Sources: Ajay Nair „Become a Serverless Black Belt“ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQFORss02go>

Tomasz Łakomy "Notes from Optimizing Lambda Performance for Your Serverless Applications" <https://tlakomy.com/optimizing-lambda-performance-for-serverless-applications>

Michael Hart: „Shave 99.93% off your Lambda bill with this one weird trick“ <https://hichaelmart.medium.com/shave-99-93-off-your-lambda-bill-with-this-one-weird-trick-33c0acebb2ea>



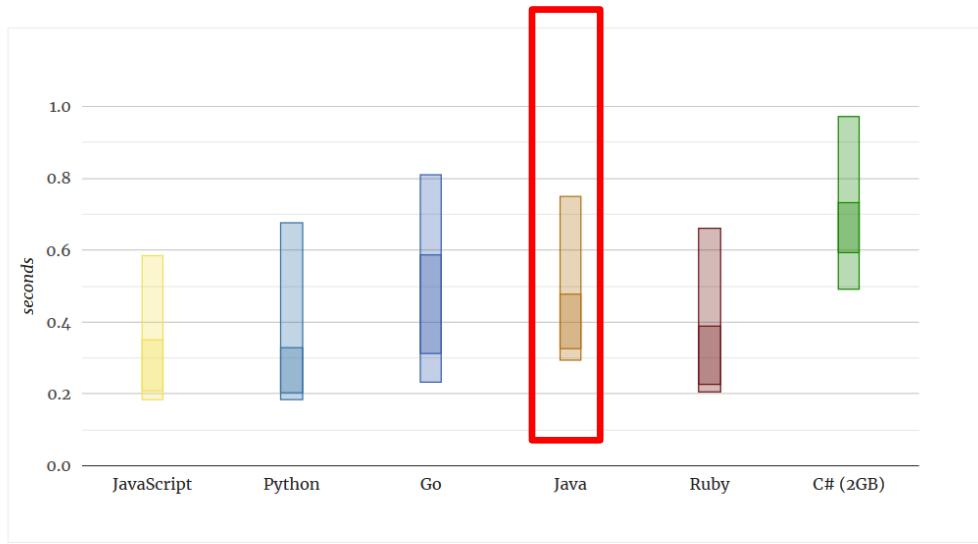
# Function lifecycle- a full cold start





# AWS Lambda cold start duration per programming language

The following chart shows the typical range of cold starts in AWS Lambda, broken down per language. The darker ranges are the most common 67% of durations, and lighter ranges include 95%.





# Cold start duration with Java

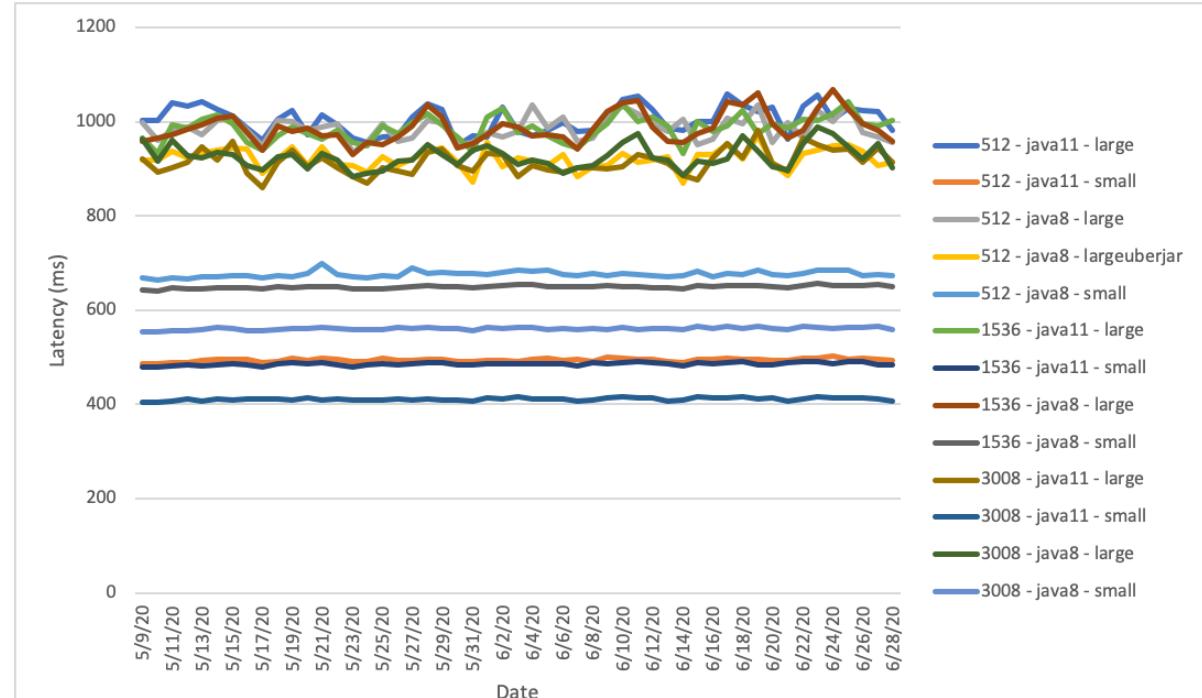
- Below 1 second is best-case cold start duration for very simple Lambda like HelloWorld with no dependencies
- It goes up significantly with more complex scenarios
  - Instantiation outside of the handler method (static initializer block) to communicate with other (AWS) services (e.g. DynamoDB, SNS, SQS, 3<sup>rd</sup> party)
- Artifact size



# AWS Lambda cold starts by memory size, runtime and artifact size

Artifact Size:

- Small zip (1KB)
- Large zip (48MB)
- Large uberjar (53MB)



Source: Mike Roberts "Analyzing Cold Start latency of AWS Lambda" [https://blog.symphonia.io/posts/2020-06-30\\_analyzing\\_cold\\_start\\_latency\\_of\\_aws\\_lambda](https://blog.symphonia.io/posts/2020-06-30_analyzing_cold_start_latency_of_aws_lambda)



# Cold start duration with Java

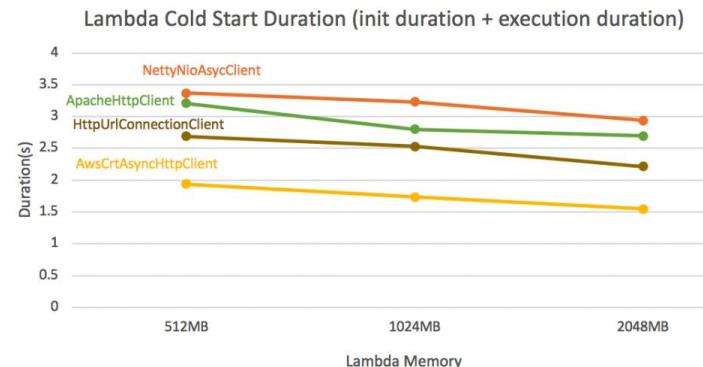
- Below 1 second is best-case cold start duration for very simple Lambda like HelloWorld with no dependencies
- It goes up significantly with more complex scenarios
  - Instantiation outside of the handler method (static instantiation) to communicate with other (AWS) services (i.e. Dynamodb, SNS, SQS, 3<sup>rd</sup> party)
- Artifact size
- To minimize the cold start time apply best practices from this talk
  - Worst-case cold starts can be higher than 10 and even 20 seconds



# Best Practices and Recommendations

- Switch to the AWS SDK 2.0 for Java
  - Lower footprint and more modular
  - Allows to configure HTTP Client of your choice (i.e. Java own Basic HTTP Client or *newly introduced AWS Common Runtime async HTTP Client*)

```
S3AsyncClient.builder()  
.httpClientBuilder(AwsCrtAsyncHttpClient.builder())  
.maxConcurrency(50))  
.build();
```





# Best Practices and Recommendations

- Less (dependencies, classes) is more
  - Include only required dependencies (e.g. not the whole AWS SDK 2.0 for Java, but the dependencies to the clients to be used in Lambda)
  - Exclude dependencies, which you don't need at runtime e.g. test frameworks like Junit

```
<dependency>
```

```
    <groupId>software.amazon.awssdk</groupId>
```

```
    <artifactId>bom</artifactId>
```

```
    <version>2.10.86</version>
```

```
    <type>pom</type>
```

```
    <scope>import</scope>
```

```
</dependency>
```

```
<dependency>
```

```
    <groupId>software.amazon.awssdk</groupId>
```

```
    <artifactId>dynamodb</artifactId>
```

```
    <version>2.10.86</version>
```

```
    </dependency>
```

```
<dependency>
```

```
    <groupId>org.junit.jupiter</groupId>
```

```
    <artifactId>junit-jupiter-api</artifactId>
```

```
    <version>5.4.2</version>
```

```
    <scope>test</scope>
```

```
</dependency>
```



# Best Practices and Recommendations

- Initialize dependencies during initialization phase
  - Use static initialization in the handler class, instead of in the handler method (e.g. handleRequest) to take the advantage of the access to the full CPU core for max 10 seconds
  - In case of DynamoDB client put the following code outside of the handler method:

```
AmazonDynamoDB client = AmazonDynamoDBClientBuilder.standard()...build();
DynamoDB dynamoDB = new DynamoDB(client);
```



# Best Practices and Recommendations

Provide all known values (for building clients i.e. DynamoDB client) to avoid auto-discovery

- credential provider, region, endpoint

```
AmazonDynamoDB client = AmazonDynamoDBClientBuilder.standard()  
    .withRegion(Regions.US_WEST_2)  
    .withCredentials(new ProfileCredentialsProvider("myProfile"))  
  
.build();
```

Source: Stefano Buliani : "Best practices for AWS Lambda and Java," <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddg1u5HLwg8>

Sean O'Toole „AWS Lambda Java Tutorial: Best Practices to Lower Cold Starts“ <https://www.capitalone.com/tech/cloud/aws-lambda-java-tutorial-reduce-cold-starts/>



# Best Practices and Recommendations

- Prime dependencies during initialization phase
  - „Fake“ the calls to pre-initialize „some other expensive stuff“
  - In case of DynamoDB client put the following code outside of the handler method to pre-initialize the Jackson Marshaller:

```
AmazonDynamoDB client = AmazonDynamoDBClientBuilder.standard()...build();  
DynamoDB dynamoDB = new DynamoDB(client);
```

```
Table table = dynamoDB.getTable("mytable");
```

```
Item item = table.getItem("Id", 210);
```

`getItem()` call forces Jackson Marshallers to initialize



# Best Practices and Recommendations Using Tiered Compilation

- Achieve up to 60% faster startup times can use level 1 compilation with little risk of reducing warm start performance

The screenshot shows the AWS Lambda Configuration page. The left sidebar has tabs: Code, Test, Monitor, Configuration (which is selected), Aliases, and Versions. The main area is titled "Environment variables (0)". It has columns for Key and Value, both currently empty. A note says "No environment variables associated with this function." There is an "Edit" button at the bottom.

Choose **Add environment variable**. Add the following:

## Bash

- Key: JAVA\_TOOL\_OPTIONS
- Value: -XX:+TieredCompilation -XX:TieredStopAtLevel=1

Lambda > Functions > example-with-tiered-comp > Edit environment variables

## Edit environment variables

### Environment variables

You can define environment variables as key-value pairs that are accessible from your function code. These are useful to store configuration settings without the need to change function code. [Learn more](#)

Key	Value
JAVA_TOOL_OPTIONS	-XX:+TieredCompilation -XX:TieredStop
<button>Remove</button>	
<button>Add environment variable</button>	

### Encryption configuration

Cancel

Save

Level 4 - C2

Level 3 - C1 w/ full profiling

Level 2 - C1 w/ basic profiling

Level 1 - C1 w/o profiling

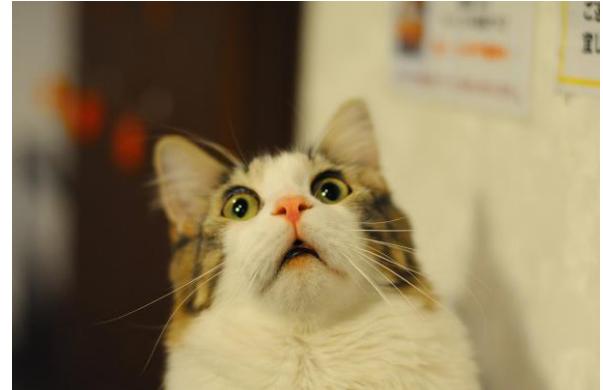
Level 0 - Interpreter



# Best Practices and Recommendations

Avoid:

- reflection
- runtime byte code generation
- runtime generated proxies
- dynamic class loading



Use DI Frameworks which aren't reflection-based



# Best Practices and Recommendations

## Cost optimization techniques





# Cost for Lambda



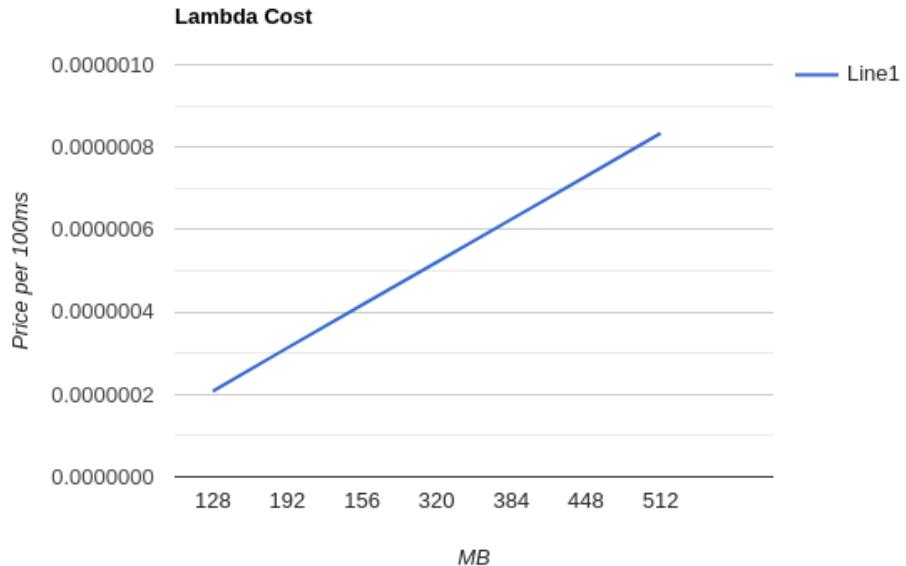
REQUEST



DURATION



# Cost scales linearly with memory





# More memory = more expensive?

**Basic settings**

Description

Memory (MB) [Info](#)  
Your function is allocated CPU proportional to the memory configured.

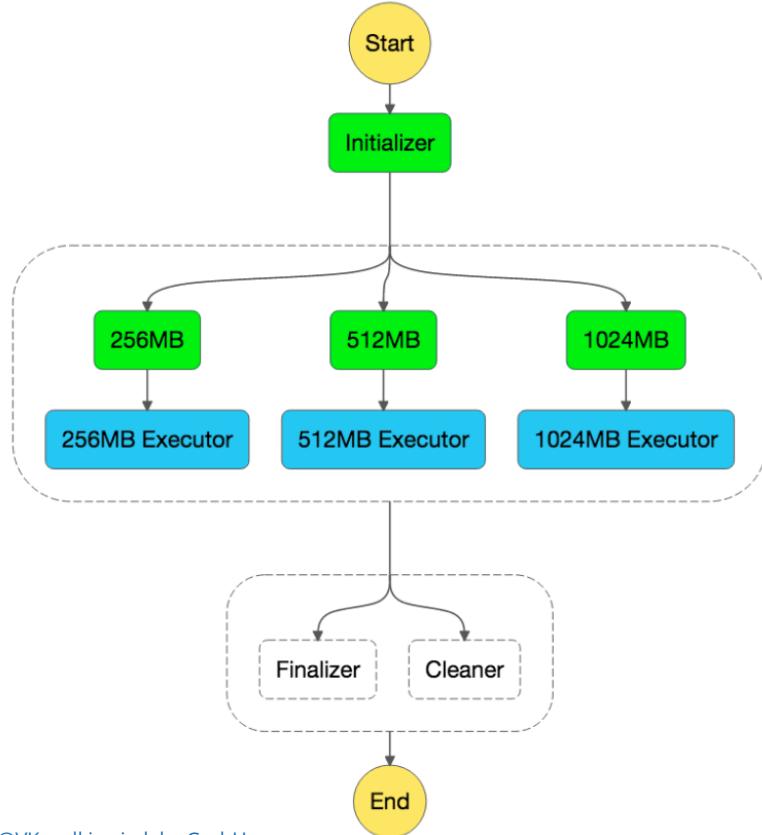
128 MB

Timeout [Info](#)  
 min  sec



# Lambda Power Tuning 1/2

- Executes different settings in parallel
- Outputs the optimal setting





# Lambda Power Tuning 2/2

- Executes different settings in parallel
- Outputs the optimal setting

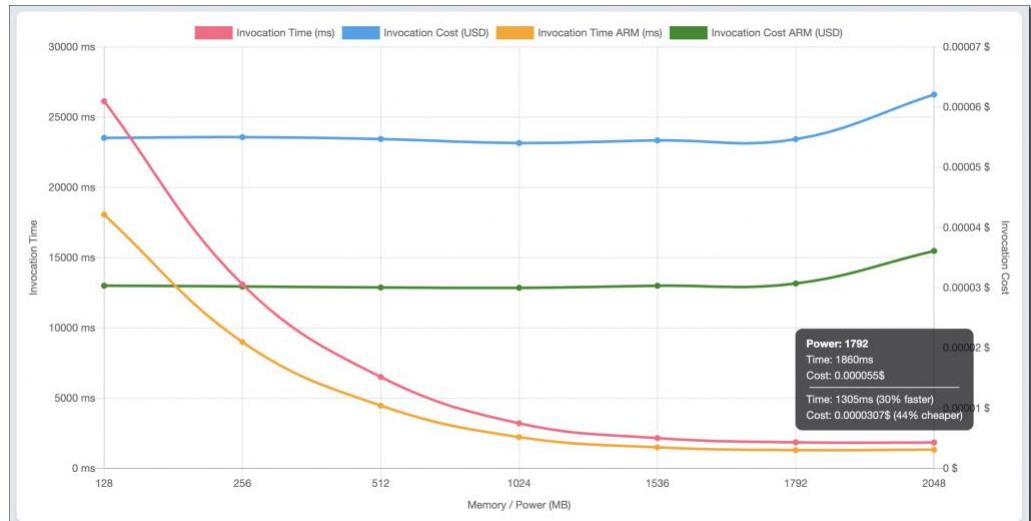


Image: <https://github.com/alexcasalboni/aws-lambda-power-tuning>

Alex Casalboni: "Deep dive: finding the optimal resources allocation for your Lambda functions"

<https://dev.to/aws/deep-dive-finding-the-optimal-resources-allocation-for-your-lambda-functions-35a6>

Kazulkin @VKazulkin , ip.labs GmbH



# Optimizing AWS Lambda cost and performance using AWS Compute Optimizer

Recommendations for Lambda functions (2) [Info](#)  
Recommendations for current resources to improve cost and performance.

Filter by one or more Regions: [Region: US East \(N. Virginia\)](#) X Clear filters

Function name	Function version	Finding Info	Finding reason Info	Current configured memory Info	Recommended configured memory Info
lambda-recommendation-test-sleep	\$LATEST	Not optimized	Memory over-provisioned	1024 MB	900 MB

AWS Compute Optimizer > Dashboard > Recommendations for Lambda functions > lambda-recommendation-test-sleep details

### lambda-recommendation-test-sleep details [Info](#)

Function version: \$LATEST

Compare current configured memory with recommended options [Info](#)

Consider an alternate memory configuration for the Lambda function.

Options	Configured memory <a href="#">Info</a>	Cost difference (%)	Used memory (maximum) <a href="#">Info</a>	Duration (average) <a href="#">Info</a>	Projected duration (expected) <a href="#">Info</a>
Current	1024 MB	-	819.0 MB	31333.6 milliseconds	-
Option 1	900 MB	-15.7% ~ -7.1%	-	-	31515.9 milliseconds

Bash

```
$ aws compute-optimizer \
  get-lambda-function-recommendations \
  --function-arns arn:aws:lambda:us-east-1:123456789012:function:lambda-recommendation-test-sleep
```

JSON

```
{
  "LambdaFunctionRecommendations": [
    {
      "UtilizationMetrics": [
        {
          "Name": "Duration",
          "Value": 31333.63587049883,
          "Statistic": "Average"
        },
        {
          "Name": "Duration",
          "Value": 32522.04,
          "Statistic": "Maximum"
        },
        {
          "Name": "Memory",
          "Value": 817.67049838188,
          "Statistic": "Average"
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```



# AWS Lambda Java Libs

 driverpt	Use JUnit 5 Parameterized Test (#319)	✓ 2448acc 6 days ago	⌚ 180 commits
 .github	Stage events 3.11.0, sdk-transformer 3.0.7, and tests 1.1.1 (#280)	5 months ago	
 aws-lambda-java-core	minor: Use full month name in RELEASE.CHANGELOG.md files	2 years ago	
 aws-lambda-java-events-sdk-transfor...	Assert on AttributeValue List type to ensure consistency when empty a...	2 months ago	
 aws-lambda-java-events	fix: add support for ARM based platforms (#300)	3 months ago	
 aws-lambda-java-log4j2	Update log4j-core and log4j-api dependencies to 2.17.1 (#299)	3 months ago	
 aws-lambda-java-runtime-interface-c...	fix: add support for ARM based platforms (#300)	3 months ago	
 aws-lambda-java-serialization	Use JUnit 5 Parameterized Test (#319)	6 days ago	
 aws-lambda-java-tests	fix: add support for ARM based platforms (#300)	3 months ago	
 git-config/hooks	Initial Java RIC Implementation (#190)	17 months ago	
 samples/kinesis-firehose-event-handl...	Stage events 3.11.0, sdk-transformer 3.0.7, and tests 1.1.1 (#280)	5 months ago	
 .gitignore	Initial Java RIC Implementation (#190)	17 months ago	
 CODE_OF_CONDUCT.md	Adding standard files	4 years ago	
 CONTRIBUTING.md	Adding standard files	4 years ago	
 LICENSE	Initial commit	7 years ago	
 README.md	Bump events-sdk-transformer to 3.1.0	2 months ago	

Official mirror for interface definitions and helper classes for Java code running on the AWS Lambda platform.

 [aws.amazon.com/lambda/](https://aws.amazon.com/lambda/)

 Readme

 Apache-2.0 License

 Code of conduct

 397 stars

 58 watching

 185 forks

## Releases

No releases published

## Packages

No packages published

## Contributors





# Cost optimization

- Java is well optimized for long running server applications
  - High startup times
  - High memory utilization

Even with all optimization applied we'll be left with seconds of the cold starts and high memory utilization



# GraalVM enters the scene

GraalVM™



# GraalVM

## Goals:

Low footprint ahead-of-time mode for JVM-based languages

High performance for all languages

Convenient language interoperability and polyglot tooling



## Community Edition

GraalVM Community is available for free for evaluation, development and production use. It is built from the GraalVM sources available on [GitHub](#). We provide pre-built binaries for Linux, macOS X, and Windows platforms on x86 64-bit systems. Windows support is [experimental](#).

[DOWNLOAD FROM GITHUB](#)

### LICENSE

- [Open Source Licenses](#)
- Free for development and production use

### BENEFITS

- Open-source license
- Free community support via [public channels](#)
- Presence of all enterprise components
- Bug fixes and enhancements

## Enterprise Edition

GraalVM Enterprise provides additional performance, security, and scalability relevant for running applications in production. It is free for evaluation uses and available for download from the [Oracle Technology Network](#). We provide binaries for Linux, macOS X, and Windows platforms on x86 64-bit systems. Windows support is [experimental](#).

[DOWNLOAD FROM OTN](#)

### LICENSE

- [Oracle Master License Agreement](#)
- Free for evaluation and non-production use
- [Contact us](#) for commercial use and support options

### BENEFITS

- Faster performance and smaller footprint
- Enhanced security features
- Managed capabilities for native code
- Premier 24x7x365 support via [MOS](#)

## Available Distributions

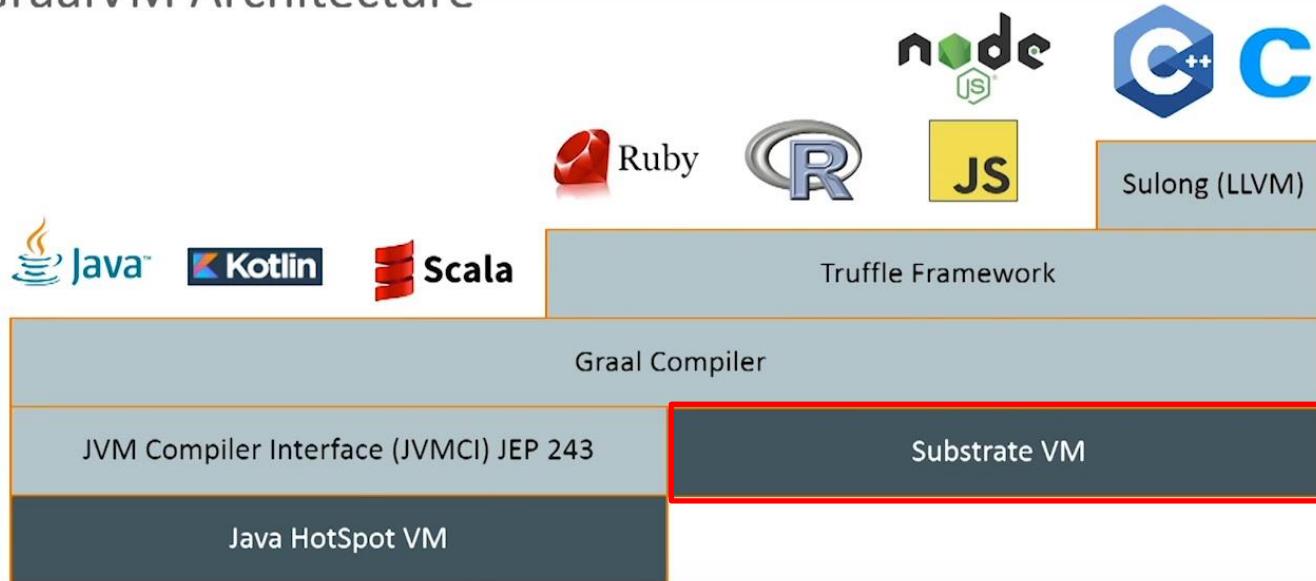
GraalVM is available as [GraalVM Enterprise](#) and [GraalVM Community](#) editions and includes support for [Java 11](#) and [Java 17](#). GraalVM Enterprise is based on Oracle JDK while GraalVM Community is based on OpenJDK.

GraalVM is available for Linux and macOS on x86 64-bit and ARM 64-bit systems, and for Windows on x86 64-bit systems. Depending on the platform, the distributions are shipped as [.tar.gz](#) or [.zip](#) archives. See the [Getting Started guide](#) for installation instructions.



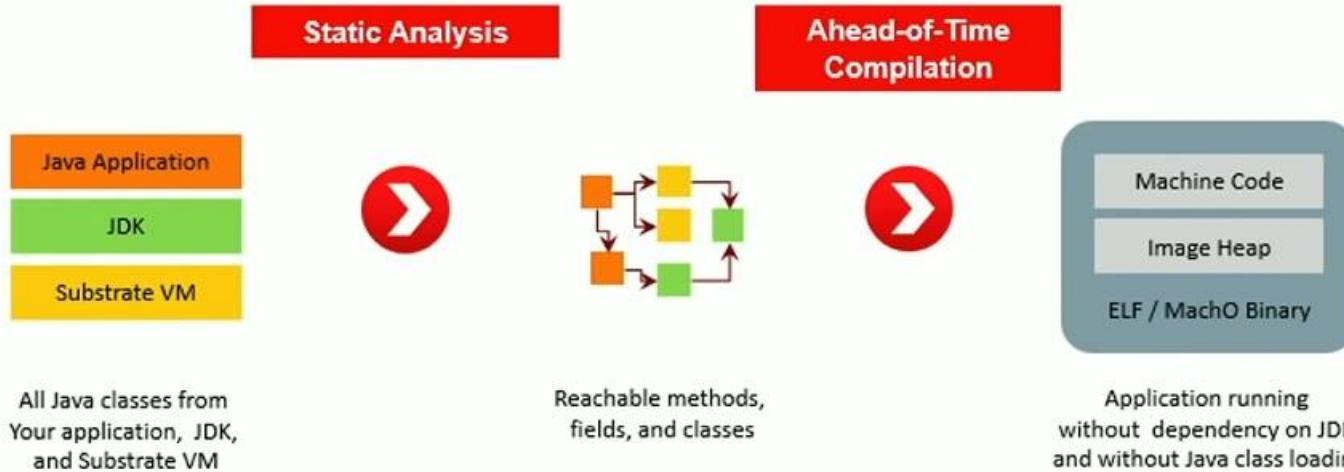
# GraalVM Architecture

## GraalVM Architecture





# SubstrateVM





# GraalVM on SubstrateVM

## A game changer for Java & Serverless?

Java Function compiled into a **native executable** using  
**GraalVM on SubstrateVM** reduces

- “cold start” times
- memory footprint

by order of magnitude compared to running on JVM.



# GraalVM on SubstrateVM

## A game changer for Java & Serverless?

Current challenges with **native executable** using **GraalVM** :

- Most Cloud Providers (AWS) doesn't provide GraalVM as Java Runtime out of the box, only Open JDK (i.e. AWS provides Corretto)
- Some Cloud Providers (e.g. AWS) provide Custom Runtime Option





# Custom Lambda Runtimes

## Custom AWS Lambda runtimes

You can implement an AWS Lambda runtime in any programming language. A runtime is a program that runs a Lambda function's handler method when the function is invoked. You can include a runtime in your function's deployment package in the form of an executable file named `bootstrap`.

A runtime is responsible for running the function's setup code, reading the handler name from an environment variable, and reading invocation events from the Lambda runtime API. The runtime passes the event data to the function handler, and posts the response from the handler back to Lambda.

Your custom runtime runs in the standard Lambda [execution environment](#). It can be a shell script, a script in a language that's included in Amazon Linux, or a binary executable file that's compiled in Amazon Linux.

To get started with custom runtimes, see [Tutorial – Publishing a custom runtime](#). You can also explore a custom runtime implemented in C++ at [awslabs/aws-lambda-cpp](#) on GitHub.

### Topics

- [Using a custom runtime](#)
- [Building a custom runtime](#)

## Using a custom runtime

To use a custom runtime, set your function's runtime to `provided`. The runtime can be included in your function's deployment package, or in a layer.

### Example function.zip

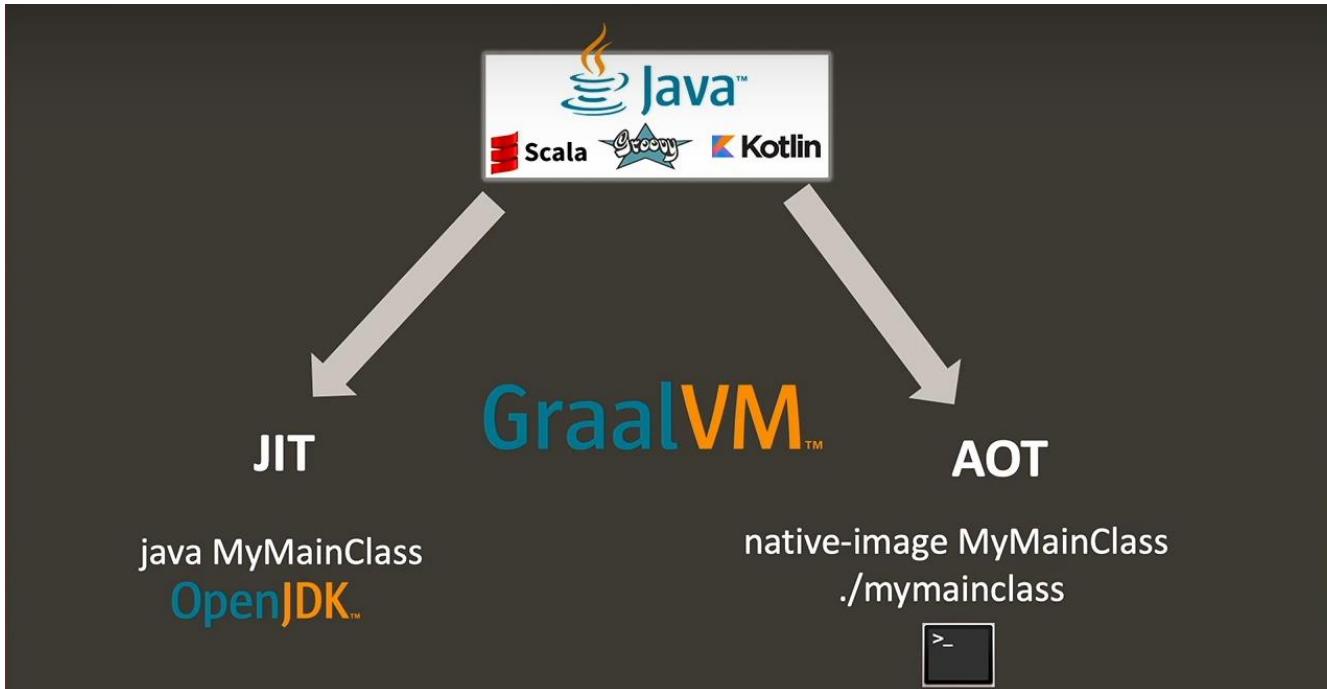
```
.
├── bootstrap
└── function.sh
```



If there's a file named `bootstrap` in your deployment package, Lambda executes that file. If not, Lambda looks for a runtime in the function's layers. If the `bootstrap` file isn't found or isn't executable, your function returns an error upon invocation.



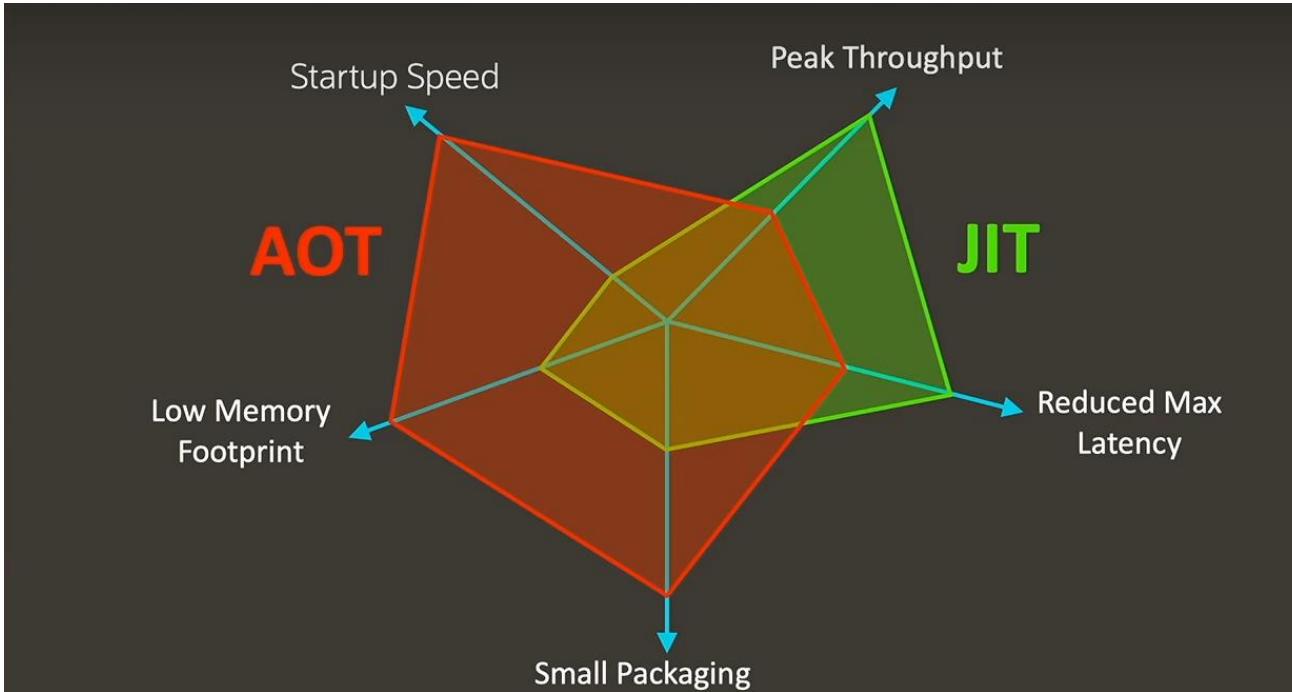
# GraalVM Complitation Modes



Source: „Everything you need to know about GraalVM by Oleg Šelajev & Thomas Wuerthinger“ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANN9rxYo5Hg>



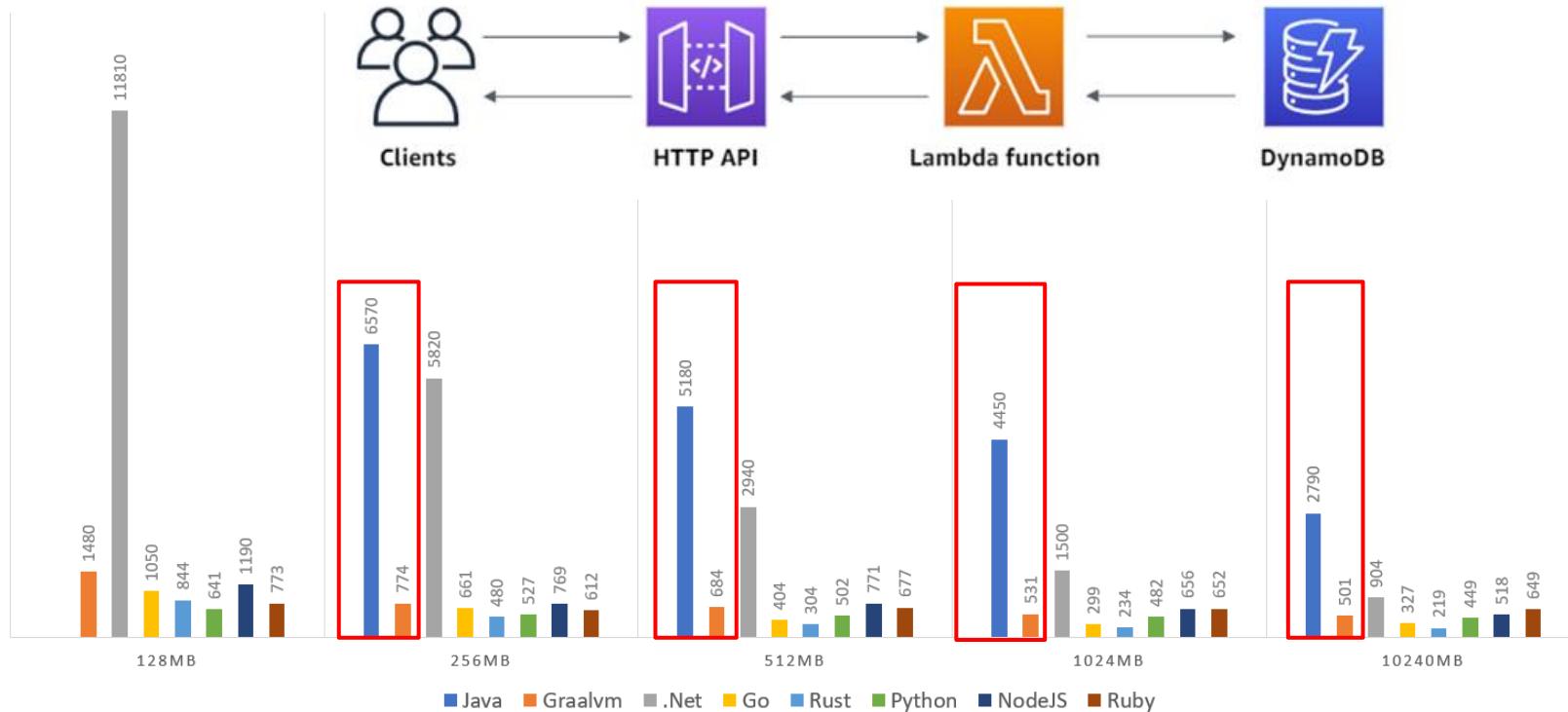
# AOT vs JIT



Source: „Everything you need to know about GraalVM by Oleg Šelajev & Thomas Wuerthinger“ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANN9rxYo5Hg>



# GraalVM Native Cold Start 2021



Source: Aleksandr Filichkin: "AWS Lambda battle 2021: performance comparison for all languages (cold and warm start)"  
<https://filia-aleks.medium.com/aws-lambda-battle-2021-performance-comparison-for-all-languages-c1b441005fd1>



# Support of GraalVM native images in Frameworks

**Spring Framework:** GraalVM native image support in Beta without requiring additional configuration

**Spring Boot:** Ongoing work on experimental Spring Graal Native project.

**Quarkus:** a Kubernetes Native Java framework developed by Red Hat tailored for GraalVM and HotSpot, crafted from best-of-breed Java libraries and standards.

**Micronaut:** a modern, JVM-based, full-stack framework for building modular, easily testable microservice and serverless applications.



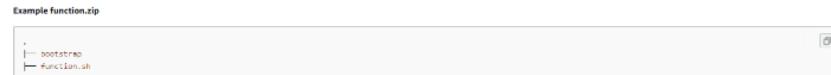
# Common principles for all frameworks

- Rely on as little reflection as possible
- Avoid runtime byte code generation, runtime generated proxies and dynamic class loading as much as possible
- Process annotations at compile time
- Compatible with Spring's annotations
- The common goals:
  - increase developer productivity
  - speed up start up times and decrease memory usage for **Microservice** and **Serverless Java applications**
    - *with and without usage of GraalVM and native image*



# Steps to deploy to AWS

- Installation prerequisites
  - Framework of your choice (Micronaut, Quarkus, Spring Native)
  - GraalVM and Native Image
  - Apache Maven or Gradle
  - AWS CLI and AWS SAM CLI (or SAM local for local testing)
- Build Linux executable of your application with GraalVM native-image
  - Use Maven or Gradle plugin
- Deploy Linux executable as AWS Lambda Custom Runtime
  - Function.zip with bootstrap Linux executable





# Quarkus





# Quarkus Example with Spring Annotations

```
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.*;

@RestController
public class PetsController {

    private PetData petData;

    @Autowired
    public PetsController(PetData data) {
        petData = data;
    }

    @RequestMapping(path = "/pets", method = RequestMethod.POST)
    public Pet createPet(@RequestBody Pet newPet) {
        if (newPet.getName() == null || newPet.getBreed() == null) {
            return null;
        }

        Pet dbPet = newPet;
        dbPet.setId(UUID.randomUUID().toString());
        return dbPet;
    }

    @RequestMapping(path = "/pets/{petId}", method = RequestMethod.GET)
    public Pet getPet(@RequestParam("petId") String petId) {
        Pet newPet = new Pet();
        newPet.setId(UUID.randomUUID().toString());
        newPet.setBreed(petData.getRandomBreed());
        newPet.setDateOfBirth(petData.getRandomDoB());
        newPet.setName(petData.getRandomName());
        return newPet;
    }

    @RequestMapping(path = "/pets", method = RequestMethod.GET)
    public Pet[] listPets(@RequestParam("limit") Optional<Integer> limit) {
        int queryLimit = 10;
    }
}
```



# Build GraalVM Native Image with Quarkus

```
<profile>
  <id>native</id>
  <activation>
    <property>
      <name>native</name>
    </property>
  </activation>
  <build>
    <plugins>
      <plugin>
        <groupId>io.quarkus</groupId>
        <artifactId>quarkus-maven-plugin</artifactId>
        <version>${quarkus.version}</version>
        <executions>
          <execution>
            <goals>
              <goal>native-image</goal>
            </goals>
            <configuration>
              <enableHttpUrlHandler>true</enableHttpUrlHandler>
            </configuration>
          </execution>
        </executions>
      </plugin>
    </plugins>
  </build>
</profile>
```

mvn **-Pnative** package  
and optionally  
-Dquarkus.native.container-  
build=true

```
<plugin>
  <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins</groupId>
  <artifactId>maven-assembly-plugin</artifactId>
  <version>3.1.0</version>
  <executions>
    <execution>
      <id>zip-assembly</id>
      <phase>package</phase>
      <goals>
        <goal>single</goal>
      </goals>
      <configuration>
        <finalName>function</finalName>
        <descriptors>
          <descriptor>src/assembly/zip.xml</descriptor>
        </descriptors>
        <attach>false</attach>
        <appendAssemblyId>false</appendAssemblyId>
      </configuration>
    </execution>
  </executions>
</plugin>
```



# Build GraalVM Native Image with Quarkus

```
<dependencies>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.quarkus</groupId>
    <artifactId>quarkus-resteasy</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.quarkus</groupId>
    <artifactId>quarkus-amazon-lambda-http</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.quarkus</groupId>
    <artifactId>quarkus-spring-web</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.quarkus</groupId>
    <artifactId>quarkus-junit5</artifactId>
    <scope>test</scope>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.rest-assured</groupId>
    <artifactId>rest-assured</artifactId>
    <scope>test</scope>
  </dependency>
</dependencies>
```



# AWS Lambda Deployment of Custom Runtime with SAM

```
Resources:  
  PetStoreNativeFunction:  
    Type: AWS::Serverless::Function  
    Properties:  
      Handler: not.used.in.provided.runtime  
      Runtime: provided  
      CodeUri: target/function.zip  
      MemorySize: 128  
      Policies: AWSLambdaBasicExecutionRole  
      Tracing: Active  
      Timeout: 15  
      Environment:  
        Variables:  
          DISABLE_SIGNAL_HANDLERS: true  
      Events:  
        GetResource:  
          Type: Api  
          Properties:  
            Path: /{proxy+}  
            Method: any  
  
Outputs:  
  PetStoreNativeApi:  
    Description: URL for application  
    Value: !Sub 'https://${ServerlessRestApi}.execute-api.  
      .${AWS::Region}.amazonaws.com/Prod/'  
  
  Export:  
    Name: PetStoreNativeApi
```

Local testing:

```
  sam local start-api -t sam.native.yaml  
  curl localhost:3000/{yourURI}
```

Cloud deployment:

```
  sam deploy -g -t sam.native.yaml  
  curl https://xxxxxxxxxx.execute-api.xx-xxxx-  
    1.amazonaws.com/Prod/pets/5
```



# Quarkus Example with Quarkus Annotations

```
import com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.Context;
import com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.RequestHandler;
import com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.events.APIGatewayProxyRequestEvent;
import com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.events.APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent;
import software.amazon.awssdk.http.HttpStatusCodes;

import javax.inject.Inject;
import javax.inject.Named;

@Named("petsRequestHandler")
public class PetsRequestHandler implements RequestHandler<APIGatewayProxyRequestEvent,
    APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent> {

    private PetData petData;
    private ObjectMapper objectMapper = new ObjectMapper();

    @Inject
    public PetsRequestHandler(PetData data) {
        petData = data;
    }

    @Override
    public APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent handleRequest(APIGatewayProxyRequestEvent request,
                                                    Context context) {
        Pet newPet = new Pet();
        newPet.setId(UUID.randomUUID().toString());
        newPet.setBreed(petData.getRandomBreed());
        newPet.setDateOfBirth(petData.getRandomDOB());
        newPet.setName(petData.getRandomName());

        try {
            return new APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent()
                .withStatusCode(HttpStatusCodes.OK)
                .withBody(objectMapper.writeValueAsString(newPet.toString()));
        } catch (Exception je) {
            return new APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent()
                .withStatusCode(HttpStatusCodes.INTERNAL_SERVER_ERROR)
                .withBody("Internal Server Error :: " + je.getMessage());
        }
    }
}
```

```
import javax.enterprise.context.ApplicationScoped;

@ApplicationScoped
public class PetData {
    .....
}

import io.quarkus.runtime.annotations.RegisterForReflection;

@RegisterForReflection
public class Pet {
    .....
}
```

main/resources/application.properties

```
quarkus.lambda.handler = petsRequestHandler
quarkus.ssl.native = true
quarkus.native.enable-http-url-handler = true
quarkus.native.native-image-xmx = 6G

quarkus.native.container-build=true
quarkus.native.container-runtime=docker
quarkus.native.builder-image=quay.io/quarkus/ubi-quarkus
-native-image:19.2.1
```



# Quarkus Additional Features

- AWS Lambda currently works by implementing com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.RequestHandler interface or by using Spring Web Annotations model like @RestController, @RequestMapping
  - Doesn't support Lambda function implementing Java 8 Functional Interface
- Website (<https://code.quarkus.io/>) or CLI for creating the App
- Eclipse MicroProfile compatible
- Funqy for multi cloud solutions

The screenshot shows the Quarkus application configuration interface. At the top, it displays "QUARKUS 2.9 io.quarkus.platform". Below that is a "CONFIGURE YOUR APPLICATION" section with fields for "Group" (org.acme), "Artifact" (code-with-quarkus), and "Build Tool" (Maven). To the right, there's a button "Generate your application (alt + ⌘)". A sidebar on the right says "Selected Extensions" and notes "You haven't selected any extension for your Quarkus application. Browse and select from the list below." The bottom section, titled "Web", lists three extensions:

- RESTEasy Reactive [quarkus-resteasy-reactive] (STARTER-CODE)
- RESTEasy Reactive Jackson [quarkus-resteasy-reactive-jackson]
- RESTEasy Reactive JSON-B [quarkus-resteasy-reactive-jsonb]



# Quarkus-Funqy AWS Serverless Support

- AWS Lambda
- AWS API Gateway

## QUARKUS - FUNQY

Quarkus Funqy is part of Quarkus's serverless strategy and aims to provide a portable Java API to write functions deployable to various FaaS environments like AWS Lambda, Azure Functions, Knative, and Knative Events (Cloud Events). It is also usable as a standalone service.

Because Funqy is an abstraction that spans multiple different cloud/function providers and protocols it has to be a very simple API and thus, might not have all the features you are used to in other remoting abstractions. A nice side effect though is that Funqy is as optimized and as small as possible. This means that because Funqy sacrifices a little bit on flexibility, you'll get a framework that has little to no overhead.



# Micronaut Framework





# Micronaut Example

```
package example.micronaut;

import io.micronaut.http.annotation.Controller;
import io.micronaut.http.annotation.Get;
import io.micronaut.http.annotation.Post;

@Controller("/book")
public class BookController {

    @Post("/saveBook/{name}/{isbn}")
    public Book save(String name, int isbn) {
        Book book = new Book();
        book.setName(name);
        book.setIsbn(isbn);
        return book;
    }

    @Get ("/getBook/{isbn}")
    public Book get(int isbn) {
        Book book = new Book ();
        book.setName("New Vadym's book");
        book.setIsbn(isbn);
        return book;
    }
}
```



# Build GraalVM Native Image with Quarkus

```
<dependencies>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.micronaut</groupId>
    <artifactId>micronaut-inject</artifactId>
    <scope>compile</scope>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.micronaut</groupId>
    <artifactId>micronaut-validation</artifactId>
    <scope>compile</scope>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.micronaut.aws</groupId>
    <artifactId>micronaut-function-aws-api-proxy</artifactId>
    <scope>compile</scope>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.micronaut.aws</groupId>
    <artifactId>micronaut-function-aws-custom-runtime</artifactId>
    <scope>compile</scope>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>io.micronaut.aws</groupId>
    <artifactId>micronaut-function-aws-api-proxy-test</artifactId>
    <scope>test</scope>
  </dependency>
```

./mvnw package -Dpackaging=native-image  
-Dmicronaut.runtime=lambda

Packaging can also have `docker` or  
`docker-native` value



# Micronaut Additional Features

- Website (<https://micronaut.io/launch>) or CLI for creating the App
- Custom Validators
- No MicroProfile standard
- Micronaut AOT

The screenshot shows the Micronaut Launch interface. At the top, there's a logo with a stylized 'μ' symbol and the text 'MICRONAUT LAUNCH'. Below the logo, there are several configuration sections:

- Application Type:** Set to "Micronaut Application".
- Java Version:** Set to "17".
- Name:** Set to "demo".
- Base Package:** Set to "com.example".
- Micronaut Version:** Set to "3.4.3".
- Language:** Set to "Java".
- Build Tool:** Set to "Maven".
- Test Framework:** Set to "JUnit".

At the bottom, there are four buttons: "+ FEATURES" (highlighted in black), "- DIFF", "PREVIEW", and "GENERATE PROJECT". Below these buttons, it says "Included Features (4)" followed by a list: "aws-lambda", "aws-lambda-custom-runtime", "spring", and "spring-boot".



# Micronaut® AOT: build-time optimizations for Micronaut applications

Micronaut AOT is an extension to the Micronaut Framework which is the foundation to many optimizations that can be implemented at build time but weren't possible solely with annotation processing.

By effectively analyzing the deployment environment, AOT is capable of reducing startup times or distribution size for both native and JVM deliverables.

```
./mvnw package -Dpackaging=native-image  
-Dmicronaut.runtime=lambda -Dmicronaut.aot.enabled=true
```

Packaging can also have `docker` or `docker-native` value

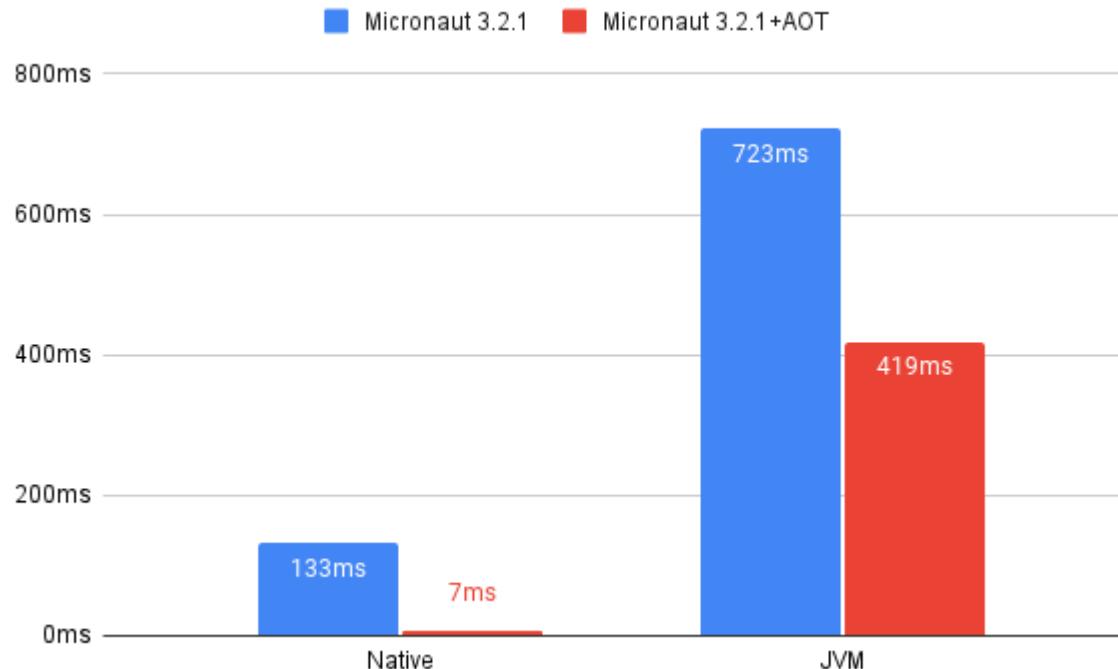


# Micronaut® AOT: build-time optimizations for Micronaut applications

- **optimize service loading** by pre-scanning the list of available services and implementing a loading strategy that's fully parallel in the JVM and serial in GraalVM native executables (because classloading is effectively free in native executables)
- **convert YAML configuration to Java configuration** to make apps startup faster, while reducing the final binary size because YAML parsing is no longer necessary
- **cache the environment** so that once the application is started, the framework assumes that system properties and environment variables won't change, saving classpath time when performing lookups
- **precompute bean requirements** to eliminate beans whose requirements won't be met at runtime (this can happen if you have transitive dependencies bringing beans that you don't use, for example)
- **deduce the environment at build time**, which is the major optimization we used in the example above
  - **precompute some expensive operations**, like converting environment variable names to Micronaut configuration properties
- **optimize classloading** by avoiding lookup for classes that we know are not on the classpath



# Micronaut® AOT: build-time optimizations for Micronaut applications



Source: "Introducing Micronaut® AOT: build-time optimizations for your Micronaut applications"  
<https://medium.com/graalvm/introducing-micronaut-aot-build-time-optimizations-for-your-micronaut-applications-68b8f1302c5>



# Spring (Boot) Framework





# Spring GraalVM Native Project

[build](#) failing [documentation](#)

Spring Native provides beta support for compiling Spring applications to native executables using [GraalVM native-image](#) compiler, in order to provide a native deployment option typically designed to be packaged in lightweight containers. In practice, the target is to support your Spring Boot application , almost unmodified, on this new platform.

Watch the [video](#) and read the [blog post](#) of Spring Native Beta announcement to learn more.

**Announcing  
Spring Native Beta!**



**Quick start**



# Spring Native Example

```
@SpringBootApplication
public class SpringBootNativeApp {

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        SpringApplication.run(SpringBootNativeApp.class, args);
    }

    @Bean
    public GetBookByIdFunction getBookById() {
        return new GetBookByIdFunction();
    }
}
```

GetBookByIdFunction:  
Type: AWS::Serverless::Function  
Properties:  
Environment:  
Variables:  
DEFAULT\_HANDLER: `getBookById`  
Events:  
GetRequestById:  
Type: Api  
Properties:  
RestApiId: !Ref MyApi  
Path: /book/{id}  
Method: get

```
import com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.events.APIGatewayProxyRequestEvent;
import com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.events.APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent;

import java.util.function.Function;

@Component
public class GetBookByIdFunction implements Function<APIGatewayProxyRequestEvent,
    APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent> {

    @Override
    public APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent apply(APIGatewayProxyRequestEvent requestEvent) {
        String id = requestEvent.getPathParameters().get("id");

        return new APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent()
            .withStatusCode(HttpStatusCode.OK)
            .withBody(objectMapper.writeValueAsString("book with id " + id +
                " found and has title " + " Vadym"));
    }
    catch (Exception je) {
        return new APIGatewayProxyResponseEvent()
            .withStatusCode(HttpStatusCode.INTERNAL_SERVER_ERROR)
            .withBody("Internal Server Error :: " + je.getMessage());
    }
}
```

curl <https://xxxxxxxxxx.execute-api.xx-xxxx-1.amazonaws.com/prod/book/5>



# Build GraalVM Native Image with Spring

mvn -Pnative package

```
<profiles>
  <profile>
    <id>native</id>
    <build>
      <plugins>
        <plugin>
          <artifactId>maven-assembly-plugin</artifactId>
          <executions>
            <execution>
              <id>native-zip</id>
              <phase>package</phase>
              <goals>
                <goal>single</goal>
              </goals>
              <inherited>false</inherited>
            </execution>
          </executions>
          <configuration>
            <descriptors>
              <descriptor>src/assembly/native.xml</descriptor>
            </descriptors>
          </configuration>
        </plugin>
      </plugins>
    </build>
  </profile>
</profiles>
```

```
<dependencies>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.experimental</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-native</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.cloud</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-cloud-function-adapter-aws</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.cloud</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-cloud-function-web</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-web</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
  </dependency>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-test</artifactId>
    <scope>test</scope>
  </dependency>
</dependencies>
```



# Spring Native

- AWS Lambda currently only works by implementing Java 8 Functional Interface
  - Doesn't support Lambda function implementing com.amazonaws.services.lambda.runtime.RequestHandler interface
  - Doesn't support Spring Web Annotations model like @RestController, @RequestMapping, which Quarkus and Micronaut do



# Framework Comparison

- Project Initializer
- Programming Model
- Database Access Model Support
- Testing Support
- Standards Support (i.e. MicroProfile)

Source: „Battle Of The Microservice Frameworks: Micronaut versus Quarkus edition! by Michel Schudel“

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnEXOqcNXPs>

„Micronaut 2.0 vs Quarkus 1.3.1 vs Spring Boot 2.3 Performance on JDK 14“ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJFgdFls\\_k8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJFgdFls_k8)

„Java EE, Jakarta EE, MicroProfile, or Maybe All of Them“ [https://www.eclipse.org/community/eclipse\\_newsletter/2019/february/Jakarta\\_Micro\\_All.php](https://www.eclipse.org/community/eclipse_newsletter/2019/february/Jakarta_Micro_All.php)

Vadym Kazulkin @VKazulkin , ip.labs GmbH



# Plain Java vs GraalVM Native Image

- Plain Java
  - Application Size
  - (Cold) Start Time
  - Request/Invocation duration
  - Memory Consumption
- GraalVM Native Image
  - Build time
    - GraalVM Native Image compilation time with Plain Java vs Framework
  - Native Image Size
    - with Plain Java vs Framework
  - (Cold) Startup Time
  - Request/Invocation duration
  - Memory Consumption

Source: „Battle Of The Microservice Frameworks: Micronaut versus Quarkus edition! by Michel Schudel“

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnEXOqcNXPs>

„Micronaut 2.0 vs Quarkus 1.3.1 vs Spring Boot 2.3 Performance on JDK 14“ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJFgdFls\\_k8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJFgdFls_k8)

Vadym Kazulkin @VKazulkin , ip.labs GmbH

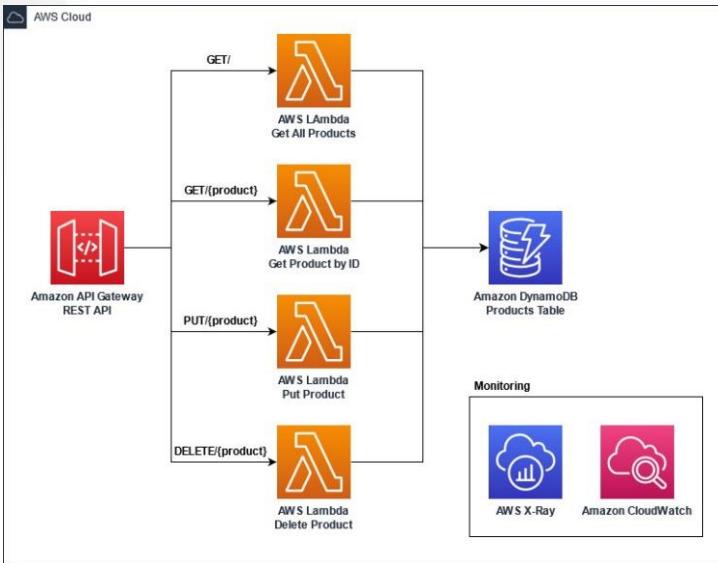


# Plain Java + GraalVM vs Quarkus + GraalVM

1	Criteria	Plain Java+GraalVM	Quarkus+GraalVM
2	Jar size	8.8mb	29mb
3	Native binary size	55mb	62mb
4	Compilation time	3m 1s	3m 50s
5	Cold start 128mb	1.073sec	1.65sec
6	Cold start 256mb	0.883sec	1.2sec
7	Cold start 512mb	0.62sec	0.913sec
8	Warm state 128mb	14ms	130ms
9	Warm state 256mb	14ms	60ms
10	Warm state 512mb	14ms	41ms



# Lambda demo with common Java application frameworks



Artillery is used to make 100 requests / second for 10 minutes to our API endpoints.

## Results from Managed Java Runtime

	Cold Start (ms)				Warm Start (ms)			
	p50	p90	p99	max	p50	p90	p99	max
Micronaut	8505.57	8977.26	9685.76	10512.48	9.38	14.86	40.39	553.75
Quarkus	6384.45	6671.49	7055.55	8303.17	10.41	19.07	48.45	317.69
Spring Boot	12673.61	13098.60	13497.31	14118.06	10.99	21.75	75.00	419.90

## Results from GraalVM Native images running in custom runtime

	Cold Start (ms)				Warm Start (ms)			
	p50	p90	p99	max	p50	p90	p99	max
Micronaut	604.16	659.02	700.45	893.70	6.30	8.00	15.88	69.9
Quarkus	437.45	475.76	519.50	528.03	7.45	12.60	21.32	93.45
Spring Boot	620.66	684.53	721.77	751.98	9.10	14.22	23.61	259.16



# Lambda Container Image Support

AWS News Blog

## New for AWS Lambda – Container Image Support

by Danilo Poccia | on 01 DEC 2020 | in Announcements, AWS Lambda, AWS Re:Invent, Compute, Containers, Serverless | Permalink | [Share](#)



Voiced by Amazon Polly

With AWS Lambda, you upload your code and run it without thinking about servers. Many customers enjoy the way this works, but if you've invested in container tooling for your development workflows, it's not easy to use the same approach to build applications using Lambda.

To help you with that, you can now package and deploy Lambda functions as **container images** of up to **10 GB** in size. In this way, you can also easily build and deploy larger workloads that rely on sizable dependencies, such as machine learning or data intensive workloads. Just like functions packaged as ZIP archives, functions deployed as container images benefit from the same operational simplicity, automatic scaling, high availability, and native integrations with many services.

We are providing **base images** for all the supported Lambda runtimes (Python, Node.js, Java, .NET, Go, Ruby) so that you can easily add your code and dependencies. We also have base images for custom runtimes based on Amazon Linux that you can extend to include your own runtime implementing the [Lambda Runtime API](#).

The screenshot shows the 'Create function' wizard. At the top, there are three options: 'Author from scratch', 'Use a blueprint', and 'Container image'. The 'Container image' option is selected, indicated by a blue border around its box and a checked radio button. Below this, under 'Basic information', there is a 'Function name' field containing 'random-letter'. Under 'Container image URI', there is a field with placeholder text 'Enter an Amazon ECR image URI' and a 'Browse images' button below it. To the right of the main form, there is a sidebar with the heading 'Browse serverless app repository' and a sub-section 'Deploy a sample Lambda application from the AWS Serverless Application Repository'.

Source: „<https://aws.amazon.com/de/blogs/aws/new-for-aws-lambda-container-image-support/>

Vadym Kazulkin @VKazulkin , ip.labs GmbH



# Lambda Container Image Support

## Use Cases:

- What about the support of the current Java version?
  - Only Long Term Support (LTS) by AWS
    - Java 8, Java 11, Java 17 (not for Lambda)
    - Use Container (Docker) Image with i.e. Java 18

### Amazon Corretto

No-cost, multiplatform, production-ready distribution of OpenJDK

Amazon Corretto is a no-cost, multiplatform, production-ready distribution of the Open Java Development Kit (OpenJDK). Corretto comes with long-term support that will include performance enhancements and security fixes. Amazon runs Corretto internally on thousands of production services and Corretto is certified as compatible with the Java SE standard. With Corretto, you can develop and run Java applications on popular operating systems, including Linux, Windows, and macOS.



# Lambda Container Image Support with Java 18

1. Download the desired Java version and copy the local application code to the Docker environment and build it with Maven:

```
FROM amazonlinux:2  
...  
# Update packages and install Amazon Corretto 18, Maven and Zip  
RUN yum -y update  
RUN yum install -y java-18-amazon-corretto-devel maven zip  
...
```

```
# Copy the software folder to the image and build the function  
COPY software software  
WORKDIR /software/example-function  
RUN mvn clean package
```

2. This step results in an uber-jar (function.jar) that you can use as an input argument for [jdeps](#). The output is a file containing all the Java modules that the function depends on:

```
RUN jdeps -q \  
--ignore-missing-deps \  
--multi-release 18 \  
--print-module-deps \  
target/function.jar > jre-deps.info
```

3. Create an optimized Java runtime based on those application modules with [jlink](#). Remove unnecessary information from the runtime, for example header files or man-pages:

```
RUN jlink --verbose \  
--compress 2 \  
--strip-java-debug-attributes \  
--no-header-files \  
--no-man-pages \  
--output /jre18-slim \  
--add-modules $(cat jre-deps.info)
```

4. This creates your own custom Java 18 runtime in the /jre18-slim folder. You can apply additional optimization techniques such as [Class-Data-Sharing \(CDS\)](#) to generate a classes.jsa file to accelerate the class loading time of the JVM.

```
RUN /jre18-slim/bin/java -Xshare:dump
```

<https://aws.amazon.com/de/blogs/compute/build-a-custom-java-runtime-for-aws-lambda/>



# Conclusion

- GraalVM and Frameworks are really powerful with a lot of potential
- GraalVM Native Image improves cold starts and memory footprint significantly
- GraalVM Native Image is currently not without challenges
  - AWS Lambda Custom Runtime requires Linux executable only
  - Managing Custom Runtime requires some additional effort
  - Build time is a factor
  - You pay for the init-phase of the function packaged as AWS Lambda Custom Runtime
    - Init-phase is free for the managed runtimes like Java 8 and Java 11 (Corretto)



# Personal Recommendations (highly opinionated)

- By default start with **plain managed** Java Long Term Support Version with Amazon Corretto 11
- If you don't want to miss 3 years of innovation and use the newest Java Version?
  - Use Lambda Docker Container Image Support
- If your function needs constantly low response times for the known period of time ?
  - Use Provisioned Concurrency additionally
- If your function needs constantly low response time and low cost is a requirement?
  - Use GraalVM Native Image and optionally with your favorite framework (Micronaut, Quarkus, Spring Boot GraalVM Native) and AWS Lambda Custom Runtime
- The usage of the frameworks (Micronaut, Quarkus, Spring Boot GraalVM Native) may improve your productivity but may add up additional costs (longer build time, larger cold starts)



# Try it yourselves

- Micronaut
  - <https://github.com/micronaut-guides/micronaut-function-aws-lambda>
- Spring Native
  - <https://github.com/spring-projects-experimental/spring-native/tree/main/samples/cloud-function-aws>
- Misc examples with all frameworks
  - <https://github.com/awslabs/aws-serverless-java-container/tree/master/samples>



# What about Project Helidon?



helidon.io

Helidon is a collection of Java libraries for writing microservices  
that run on a fast web core powered by Netty.

GraalVM™

GraalVM native-image support in both Helidon SE and Helidon  
MP





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