

Aim: To understand AWS Lambda, its workflow, various functions and create your first Lambda functions using Python / Java / Nodejs.

Theory:

Overview of AWS Lambda

AWS Lambda is a serverless computing service that allows you to run code without managing servers. It automatically scales in response to incoming requests or events, ensuring efficient resource use. You are billed only for the time your code is executed, making it a budget-friendly option for on-demand applications.

How AWS Lambda Works

1. **Function Development:** Begin by writing your code and designating a handler (the entry point). You can use the AWS Management Console, CLI, or upload a package.
2. **Trigger Setup:** Determine the events that will trigger your function, such as uploads to S3 or changes in a DynamoDB table.
3. **Execution:** Upon triggering, Lambda runs your function and handles the necessary logic while automatically scaling to accommodate the volume of events.
4. **Scaling and Concurrency:** Lambda dynamically scales by creating additional instances of your function for simultaneous requests. You can also configure reserved concurrency to manage peak traffic.
5. **Monitoring and Logging:** Integrated with Amazon CloudWatch, Lambda provides logging and monitoring capabilities. You can view logs for each execution, helping you track performance and troubleshoot issues.

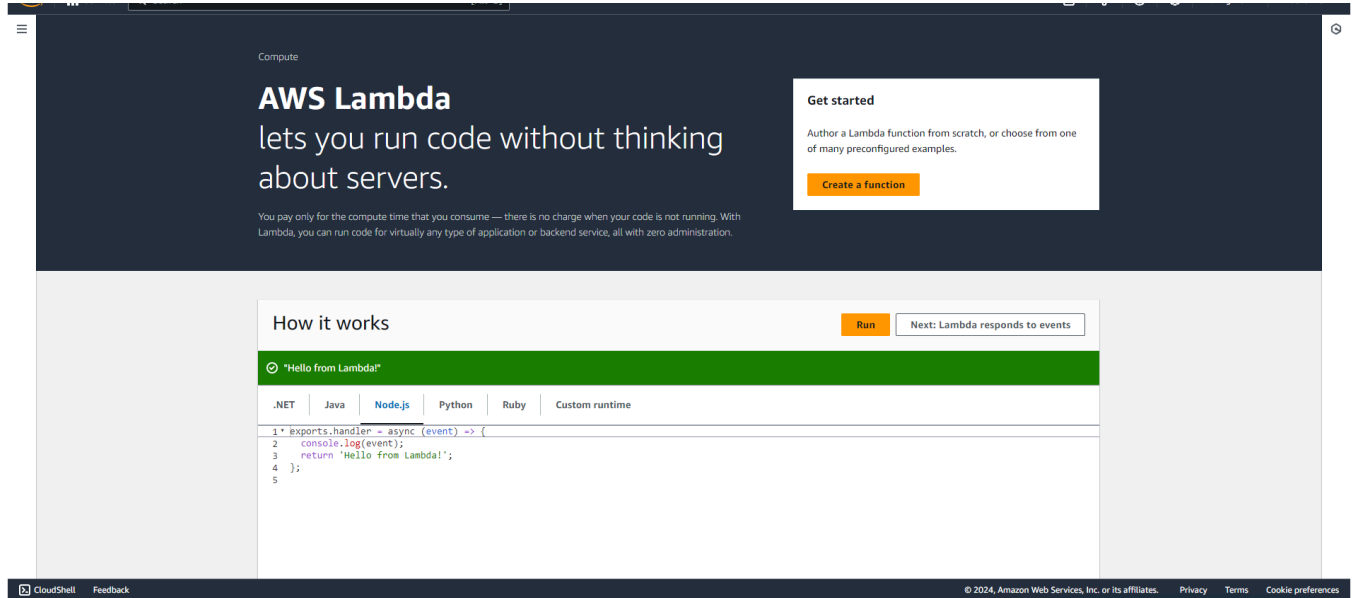
Programming Languages Supported

- **Python:** Excellent for quick development and lightweight tasks due to its extensive standard library.
- **Java:** Suitable for more demanding, compute-intensive applications, though it may have longer cold start times.
- **Node.js:** Well-suited for I/O-heavy applications like APIs, offering fast startup times and efficient resource use.

Prerequisites: AWS Personal/Academy Account

Steps To create the lambda function:

Step 1: Login to your AWS Personal/Academy Account. Open lambda and click on create function button.



Step 2: Now Give a name to your Lambda function, Select the language to use to write your function. Note that the console code editor supports only Node.js, Python, and Ruby. So will select Python 3.12 , Architecture as x86, and Existing(Lab Role) role to Create a new role with basic Lambda permissions.

Lambda > Functions > Create function

Create function info

Choose one of the following options to create your function.

☒ **Author from scratch**
Start with a simple Hello World example.

☐ **Use a blueprint**
Build a Lambda application from sample code and configuration presets for common use cases.

☐ **Container image**
Select a container image to deploy for your function.

Basic information

Function name
Enter a name that describes the purpose of your function.

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.

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

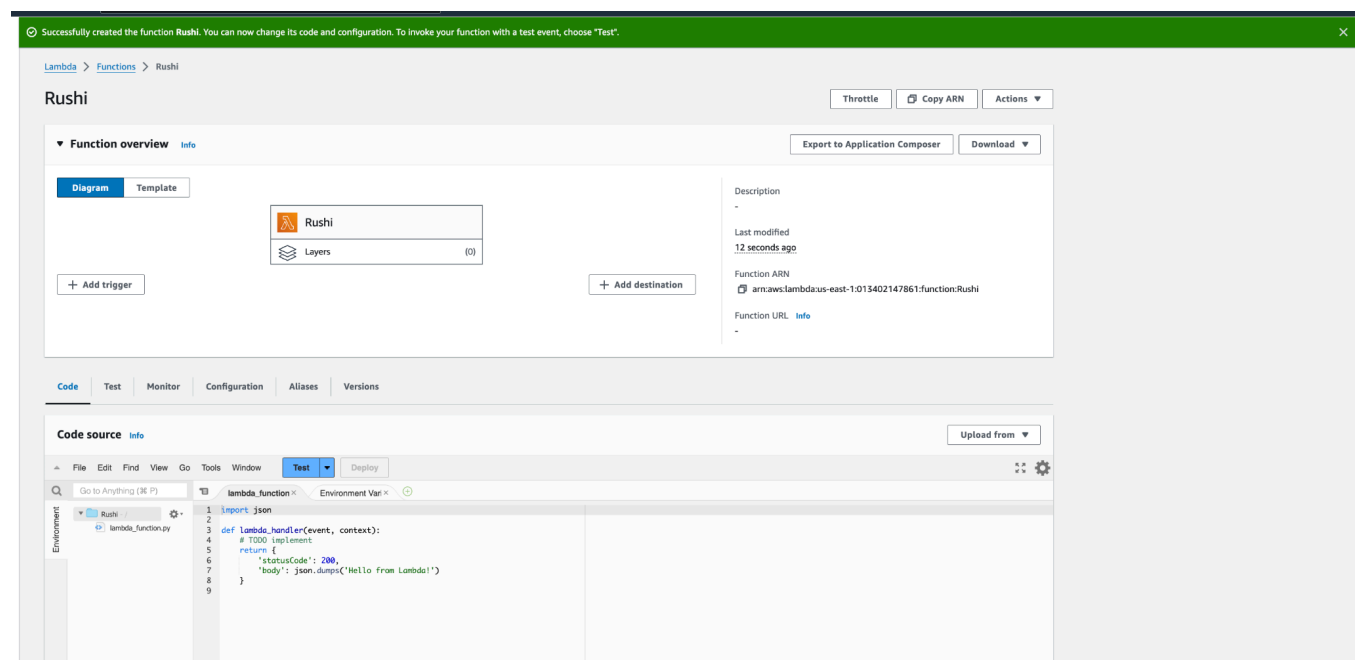
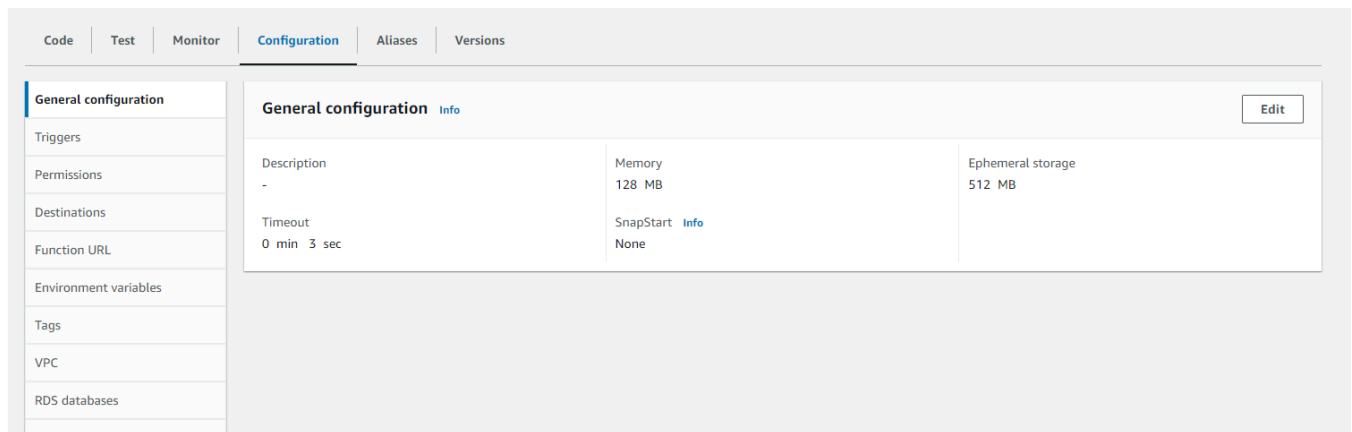
Existing role
Choose an existing role that you've created to be used with this Lambda function. The role must have permission to upload logs to Amazon CloudWatch Logs.

[View the LabRole role](#) on the IAM console.

► **Advanced settings**

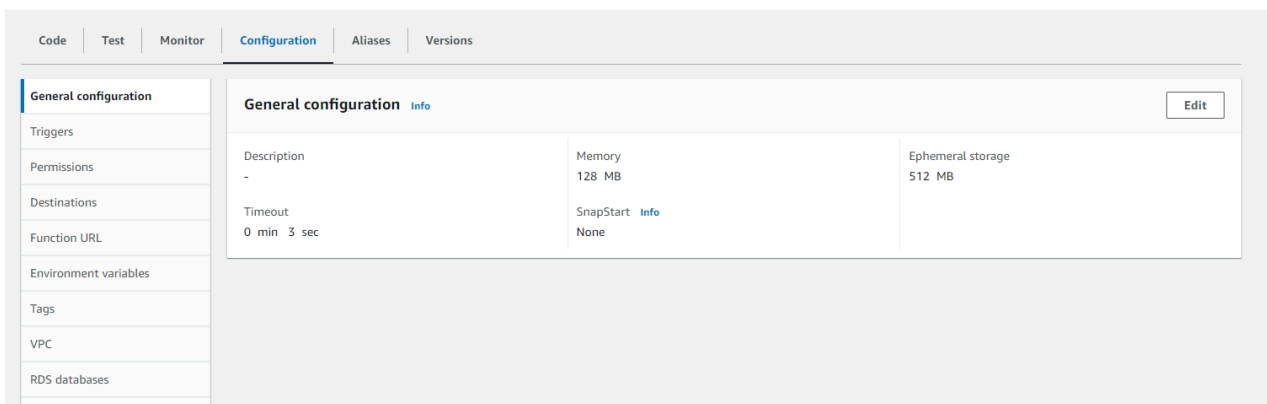
Cancel **Create function**

So See or Edit the basic settings go to configuration then click on edit general setting.



Here, you can enter a description and change Memory and Timeout. I've changed the Timeout period to 1 sec since that is sufficient for now.

Step 3: Now Click on the Test tab then select Create a new event, give a name to the event and select Event Sharing to private, and select hello-world template.



The screenshot shows the 'Edit basic settings' page for a Lambda function. The 'Basic settings' tab is active. The 'Description - optional' field contains 'Basic Settings'. The 'Memory' is set to 128 MB. The 'Ephemeral storage' is set to 512 MB. The 'SnapStart' is set to 'None'. The 'Timeout' is set to 0 minutes and 1 second. The 'Execution role' is set to 'Use an existing role'. The 'Supported runtimes' are listed as Java 11, Java 17, and Java 21.

Basic settings Info

Description - optional
Basic Settings

Memory Info
Your function is allocated CPU proportional to the memory configured.
128 MB
Set memory to between 128 MB and 10240 MB

Ephemeral storage Info
You can configure up to 10 GB of ephemeral storage (/tmp) for your function. [View pricing](#)
512 MB
Set ephemeral storage (/tmp) to between 512 MB and 10240 MB.

SnapStart Info
Reduce startup time by having Lambda cache a snapshot of your function after the function has initialized. To evaluate whether your function code is resilient to snapshot operations, review the [SnapStart compatibility considerations](#).
None
Supported runtimes: Java 11, Java 17, Java 21.

Timeout
0 min 1 sec

Execution role
Choose a role that defines the permissions of your function. To create a custom role, go to the [IAM console](#).
☒ Use an existing role
☐ Create a new role from AWS policy templates

The screenshot shows the 'Test event' page for a function named 'Rushi'. The 'Test' tab is active. The 'Test event action' is set to 'Create new event'. The 'Event name' is 'myevent'. The 'Event sharing settings' are set to 'Private'. The 'Template - optional' is 'hello-world'. The 'Event JSON' is a JSON object with three keys: 'key1', 'key2', and 'key3', each with a corresponding value.

Successfully created the function Rushi. You can now change its code and configuration. To invoke your function with a test event, choose "Test".

Code Test Monitor Configuration Aliases Versions

Test event Info Save Test

To invoke your function without saving an event, configure the JSON event, then choose Test.

Test event action
☒ Create new event Edit saved event

Event name
myevent
Maximum of 25 characters consisting of letters, numbers, dots, hyphens and underscores.

Event sharing settings
☒ Private
This event is only available in the Lambda console and to the event creator. You can configure a total of 10. [Learn more](#)
☐ Shareable
This event is available to IAM users within the same account who have permissions to access and use shareable events. [Learn more](#)

Template - optional
hello-world

Event JSON
Format JSON

```
1 {  
2   "key1": "value1",  
3   "key2": "value2",  
4   "key3": "value3"  
5 }
```

Step 4: Now In Code section select the created event from the dropdown of test then click on test . You will see the below output.

The screenshot shows the 'Execution results' page for a function named 'Rushi'. The 'Test' tab is active. The 'Test Event Name' is 'myevent'. The 'Response' is a JSON object with 'statusCode': 200 and 'body': 'Hello from Lambda!'. The 'Function Logs' show the execution details, including the request ID, request ID, and request ID.

Environment

File Edit Find View Go Tools Window Test Display

Go to Anything (X P)

lambda_function Environment Var Execution result Status: Succeeded Max memory used: 32 MB Time: 2.03 ms

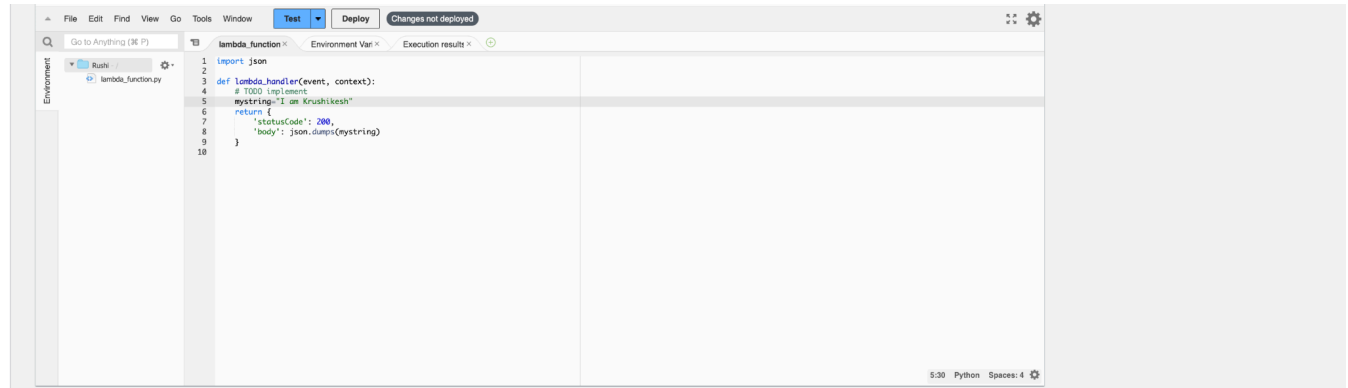
Test Event Name
myevent

Response
{
 "statusCode": 200,
 "body": "Hello from Lambda!"
}

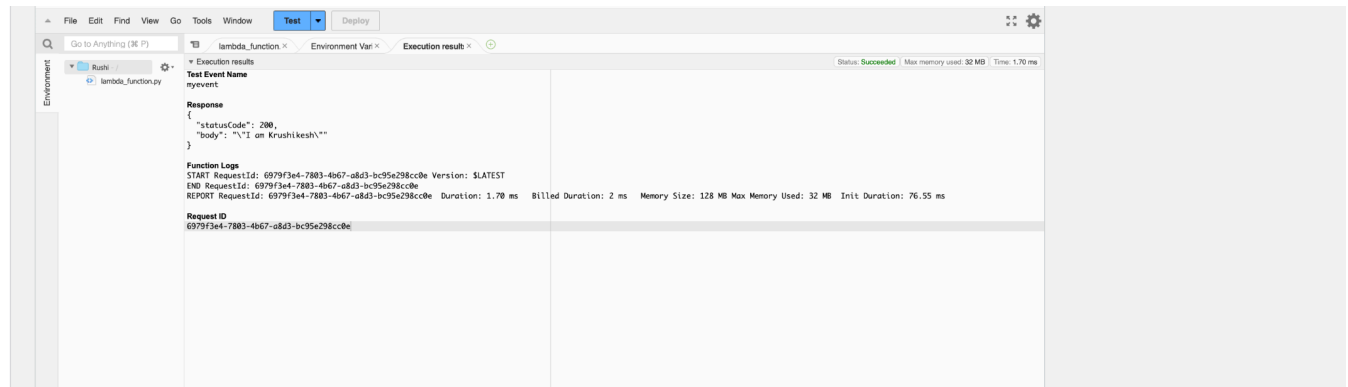
Function Logs
START RequestId: 246db2c9-72b6-4254-afbb-04e02bea8b88 Version: SLATEST
END RequestId: 246db2c9-72b6-4254-afbb-04e02bea8b88
REPORT RequestId: 246db2c9-72b6-4254-afbb-04e02bea8b88 Duration: 2.03 ms Billed Duration: 3 ms Memory Size: 128 MB Max Memory Used: 32 MB Init Duration: 91.88 ms

Request ID
246db2c9-72b6-4254-afbb-04e02bea8b88

Step 5: You can edit your lambda function code. I have changed the code to display the new String. Now ctrl+s to save and click on deploy to deploy the changes.



Step 6: Now click on the test and observe the output. We can see the status code 200 and your string output and function logs. On successful deployment.



Conclusion:

We successfully built an AWS Lambda function and explored the core steps involved. After developing the function in Python, we adjusted the key settings, including a timeout of 1 second. We then generated a test event, deployed the function, and checked the output. Furthermore, we updated the function's code and redeployed it to observe the immediate impact of those changes.

This hands-on session showcased the user-friendly nature and adaptability of AWS Lambda for building serverless applications, allowing us to focus on writing code while AWS efficiently handles infrastructure and scaling concerns.