

**SERVERLESS  
AND IOT: BEST  
OF FRIENDS!**



# ABOUT ME

- 'THE NODEBOTANIST'
- DEVELOPER RELATIONS ENGINEER AT IOPIPE
- B.S.E. ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT AT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY. HOLDS A B.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
  - SPECIALIZES IN WEARABLES AND EDUCATION
  - FROM AUSTIN, TEXAS

# **WHAT I MEAN WHEN I SAY 'IOT DEVICE'**

**AN IOT DEVICE IS ANY INTERNET-CONNECTED DEVICE FOR WHICH  
A WEB BROWSER IS NOT THE MAIN UI (THOUGH IT CAN BE  
CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET THROUGH SUCH A DEVICE)**

**FITNESS BANDS, WATCHES, THERMOSTATS, TOASTERS**

**...BASICALLY ANYTHING THAT ISN'T A PHONE/TABLET/PERSONAL  
COMPUTER**

# **TWO ENDS OF THE IOT ARCHITECTURE SPECTRUM**

- 1) YOU HAVE A VERY LIMITED DEVICE THAT COLLECTS RAW DATA  
AND NEEDS TO OFFLOAD IT**
- 2) YOU HAVE A DEVICE THAT IS CAPABLE OF MANIPULATING AND  
STORING INFORMATION BUT NEEDS TO SYNC WITH THE CLOUD**

# HOW DOES SERVERLESS HELP IN GENERAL?

- NO NEED TO BUILD OUT ANOTHER INFRASTRUCTURE
- SCALE OUT TO DATA CENTERS WHERE YOUR PRODUCT IS GOING
  - USE THE HTTP YOU KNOW AND (MAYBE) LOVE

# **A NOTE ON JS IN SERVERLESS AND IOT**

**AS THE JS COMMUNITY FINDS MORE AND MORE WAYS TO RUN JS ON HARDWARE, AND NODE.JS IS QUICKLY BECOMING THE LANGUAGE OF SERVERLESS, I FORSEE A TIME WHEN THERE CAN BE AN IOT STACK THAT IS JS ALL THE WAY DOWN. FOR BETTER OR WORSE.**

**LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT HOW  
IOT AND SERVERLESS  
WORK TOGETHER  
IN THE EXTREMES**

# **CASE 1: LIMITED MICROCONTROLLER**

- > EMBEDDED DEVICE, AIMING FOR SIZE AND POWER CONSUMPTION OVER COMPUTE POWER**
- > GATHERS DATA VIA SENSORS, BUT CAN'T STORE MUCH OR DO MUCH WITH IT WITHOUT HARMING THE POWER CONSUMPTION**
- > NEEDS TO OFFLOAD DATA AT REGULAR INTERVALS, AND REACT TO COMPUTED RESULTS**



# **EXAMPLE: TESSEL 2 WITH TRACKBALL AND LEDS**

- TRACKBALL DATA NEEDS TO BE UPLOADED TO GENERATE A COLOR**
  - SERVERLESS FUNCTION COMPUTES COLOR BASED ON TRACKBALL DATA AND SENDS IT BACK**
- MICROCONTROLLER THEN LIGHTS THE LEDS WITH THE COMPUTED COLOR EVER 5 SECONDS**

# WHY SERVERLESS HERE?

- **INSTEAD OF HAVING MY LIMITED MICROCONTROLLER COMPUTE THE COLOR FROM HUE AND BRIGHTNESS, I LET THE LAMDA FUNCTION DO THAT WORK**
- **(COLOR MANIPULATION IS ALSO WAY EASIER FOR ME IN NODE >.>)**
- **MICROCONTROLLER MAKES 1 NETWORK REQUEST 5 SECONDS AFTER A CHANGE IS DETECTED (DEEP SLEEP MODE COULD BE USED!)**

# **EXAMPLE 2: POWERFUL MICROCONTROLLER WITH SYNC**

- SMALL LINUX-BASED MICROCONTROLLER AND A KEYPAD**
- DEVICE STORES VOTES FOR PURPLE AND ORANGE, AND OFFLOADS EVERY 5 VOTES**
- EVENTUAL CONSISTENCY ACROSS MULTIPLE VATING DEVICES**

# WHY SERVERLESS HERE?

- **ALL I NEED IS A TASK THAT WILL TAKE IN VOTES AND SEND THEM OFF TO BE STORED**
- **GREAT FOR BOTS THAT HAVE COMPUTING POWER, BUT WANT TO LOWER REQUEST OVERHEAD**

**THERE ARE DANGERS!**

# SECURITY

- **BOTH IOT AND SERVERLESS ARE NEW-- MEANING WE'RE FINDING NEW SECURITY ISSUES AS WE GO.**
- **IOT TENDS TO HAVE BIGGER ISSUES-- SECURING HARDWARE IS A WHOLE DIFFERENT RODEO**

**WHAT'S NEXT FOR IOT AND SERVERLESS**

# **AWS GREENGRASS**

- **LAMBDA AND AWS TAILORED FOR IOT PURPOSES**
  - **OTHER PROVIDERS FOLLOWING SUIT**



**A BETTER NAME FOR SERVERLESS:**

**SKYNET.**

# THANKS FOR LISTENING!



- **KASSANDRA PERCH**
- **DEVELOPER RESATIONS ENGINEER @ IOPIPE**
- **@NODEBOTANIST, THE@NODEBOTANI.ST**