

19. Serverless with Node.js

Serverless computing means you run code **without managing servers**. The cloud provider handles scaling, infrastructure, and availability. You only pay for execution time.

Common providers: **AWS Lambda**, **Google Cloud Functions (GCF)**, **Azure Functions**.

1. Why Serverless?

- ✓ Auto-scaling (no manual infra mgmt).
 - ✓ Pay-per-use (no idle costs).
 - ✓ Quick deployment & faster prototyping.
 - ✗ Cold start latency.
 - ✗ Limited execution time (e.g., AWS Lambda max ~15 mins).
 - ✗ Debugging is harder than traditional servers.
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2. Node.js in AWS Lambda

🔗 Lambda executes a handler function.

```
exports.handler = async (event) => {  
  console.log("Event:", event);  
  
  return {  
    statusCode: 200,  
    body: JSON.stringify({ message: "Hello from Lambda!" }),  
  };  
};
```

- Deploy via AWS Console or CLI.
 - Trigger with API Gateway, S3 events, DynamoDB streams, etc.
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3. Node.js in Google Cloud Functions

```
exports.helloWorld = (req, res) => {  
  res.send("Hello from Google Cloud Functions!");  
};
```

- Deploy with `gcloud functions deploy helloWorld --runtime nodejs20 --trigger-http`.
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4. Node.js in Azure Functions

```
module.exports = async function (context, req) {
  context.log("HTTP trigger function processed a request.");
  const name = req.query.name || (req.body && req.body.name);
  context.res = {
    body: "Hello " + (name || "World"),
  };
};
```

- Deploy via Azure CLI or VS Code Azure Extension.

5. Serverless Frameworks

Instead of manually deploying, use frameworks:

- **Serverless Framework** → Multi-cloud deployment (AWS, GCP, Azure).
- **SAM (Serverless Application Model)** → AWS-specific.
- **Architect, Claudia.js** → Simplify Lambda functions.

✂ Example (Serverless Framework `serverless.yml`):

```
service: hello-service

provider:
  name: aws
  runtime: nodejs20.x
  region: us-east-1

functions:
  hello:
    handler: handler.hello
    events:
      - http:
          path: hello
          method: get
```

6. Use Cases

- REST APIs (with API Gateway).
- Scheduled Jobs (cron-like).
- Event-driven tasks (file upload → process → store).
- Real-time notification services.

7. Interview Tips

- **Q:** Difference between serverless & containers?
A: Serverless → no infra management, auto-scaled, short-lived tasks. Containers → full control, long-running services.
 - **Q:** Cold start in Lambda?
A: Delay when spinning up a new container for first request. Mitigate via provisioned concurrency.
 - **Q:** When NOT to use serverless?
A: Long-running tasks, heavy compute, apps requiring persistent connections (like WebSockets without API Gateway).
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☒ Next is the **final one** → **20. Interview-Focused Questions.**

Want me to cover it like a **Q&A sheet** (straightforward for revision) or like **expanded explanations** (deep dive)?