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ENT332

AWS re:INVENT

Getting Started with Serverless Computing Using AWS Lambda

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re:Invent

aws

About me

Chris Munns – munns@amazon.com, @chrismunns

- Senior Developer Advocate — Serverless
- New Yorker
- Previously:
  - AWS Business Development Manager – DevOps, July '15–Feb. '17
  - AWS Solutions Architect Nov. '11–Dec. '14
  - Formerly on operations teams @Etsy and @Meetup
  - Little time at a hedge fund, Xerox, and a few other startups
- Rochester Institute of Technology: Applied Networking and Systems Administration '05
- Internet infrastructure geek

Serverless means...

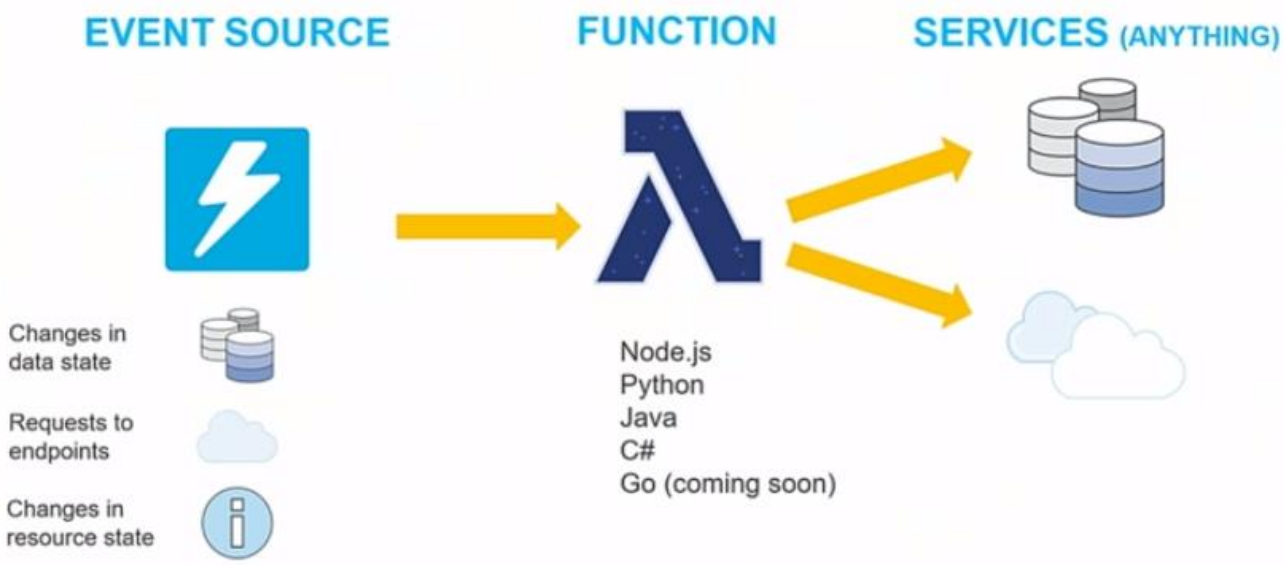
No servers to provision or manage

Scales with usage

Never pay for idle

Availability and fault tolerance built in

Serverless applications



CUSTOMERS LOVE SERVERLESS

Common serverless use cases

Web Applications

- Static websites
- Complex web apps
- Packages for Flask and Express

Backends

- Apps & services
- Mobile
- IoT

Data Processing

- Real time
- MapReduce
- Batch

Chatbots

- Powering chatbot logic

Amazon Alexa

- Powering voice-enabled apps
- Alexa Skills Kit

IT Automation

- Policy engines
- Extending AWS services
- Infrastructure management

Using AWS Lambda

Bring your own code

- Node.js, Java, Python, C#
- Bring your own libraries (even native ones)

Simple resource model

- Select power rating from 128 MB to 3 GB
- CPU and network allocated proportionately

Flexible use

- Synchronous or asynchronous
- Integrated with other AWS services

Flexible authorization

- Securely grant access to resources and VPCs
- Fine-grained control for invoking your functions

Using AWS Lambda

Authoring functions

- WYSIWYG editor or upload packaged .zip
- Third-party plugins (Eclipse, Visual Studio)

Monitoring and logging

- Metrics for requests, errors, and throttles
- Built-in logs to Amazon CloudWatch Logs

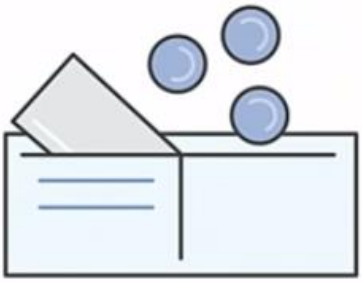
Programming model

- Use processes, threads, /tmp, sockets normally
- AWS SDK built in (Python and Node.js)

Stateless

- Persist data using external storage
- No affinity or access to underlying infrastructure

Fine-grained pricing



Buy compute time in 100ms increments

Low request charge

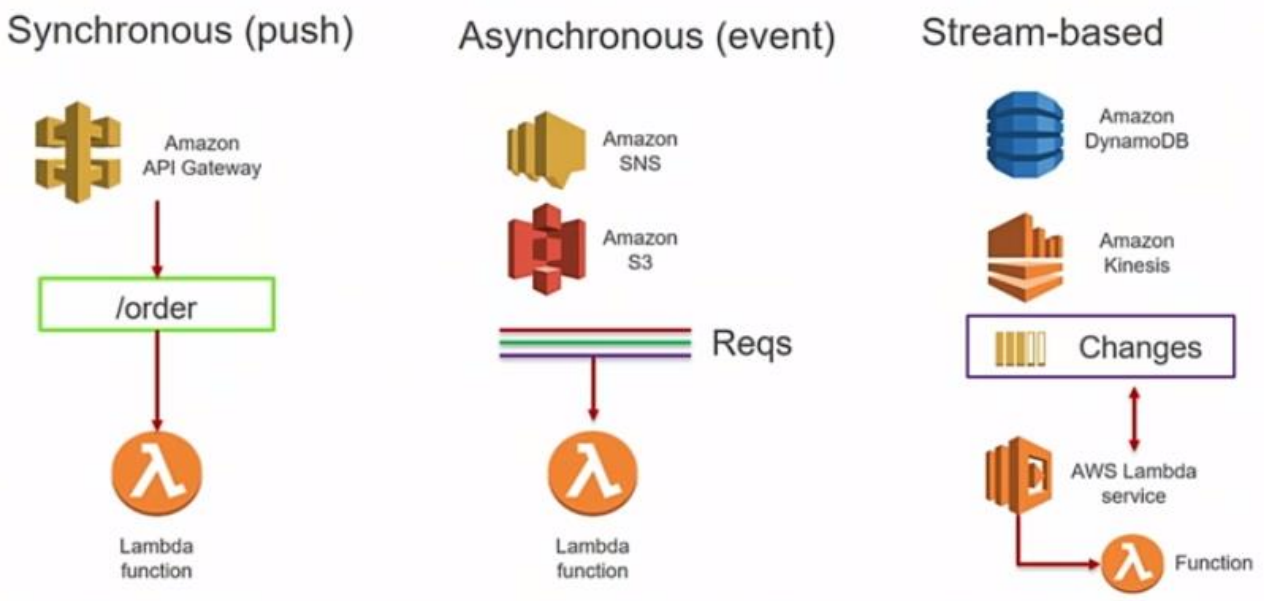
No hourly, daily, or monthly minimums

No per-device fees

Free Tier
1M requests and 400,000 GB of compute.
Every month, every customer.

Never pay for idle

Lambda execution model



These are the 3 ways you can invoke your Lambda function.

Event sources that trigger AWS Lambda

Lambda permissions model

Fine-grained security controls for both execution and invocation:

Execution policies:

- Define what AWS resources/API calls can this function access through IAM
- Used in streaming invocations
- E.g. ,"Lambda function A can read from DynamoDB table users"

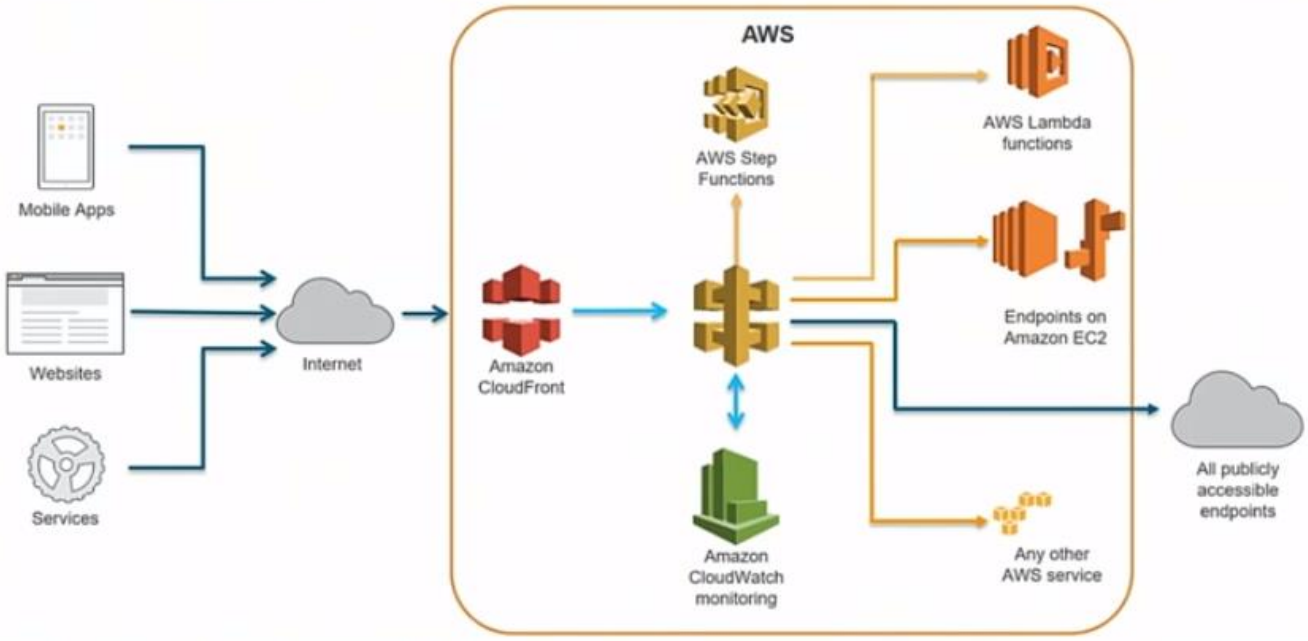
Function policies:

- Used for sync and async invocations
- E.g., "Actions on bucket X can invoke Lambda function Z"
- Resource policies allow for cross-account access

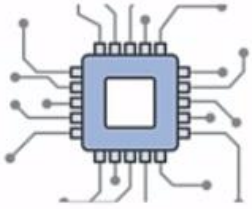
```
{
    "Version": "2012-10-17",
    "Statement": [
        {
            "Effect": "Allow",
            "Action": [
                "logs:CreateLogGroup",
                "logs:CreateLogStream",
                "logs:PutLogEvents"
            ],
            "Resource": "*"
        }
    ]
}
```

There are several ways to control use of your lambda function, the place where it sits like a VPC as well as its execution and operating policies.

Amazon API Gateway



Amazon API Gateway



Create a unified API front end for multiple micro-services

DDoS protection and throttling for your backend

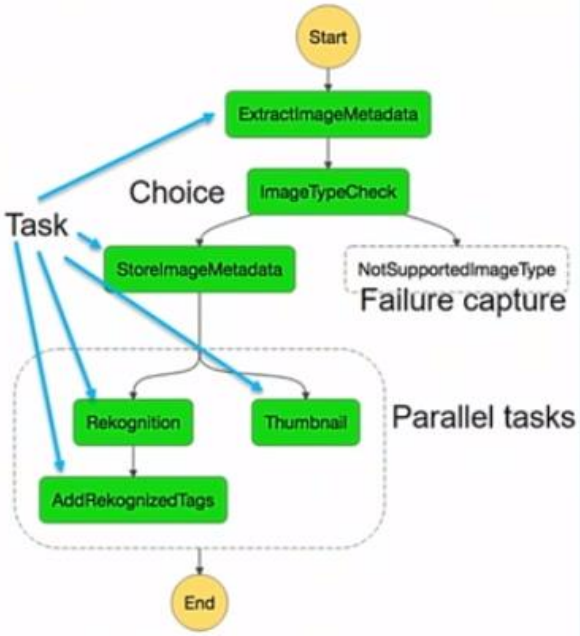
Authenticate and authorize requests to a backend

Throttle, meter, and monetize API usage by third-party developers

AWS Step Functions

"Serverless" workflow management with zero administration:

- Makes it easy to coordinate the components of distributed applications and microservices using visual workflows
- Automatically triggers and tracks each step, and retries when there are errors, so your application executes in order and as expected
- Logs the state of each step, so when things do go wrong, you can diagnose and debug problems quickly



Amazon Lex

Service for building conversational interfaces into any application using voice and text

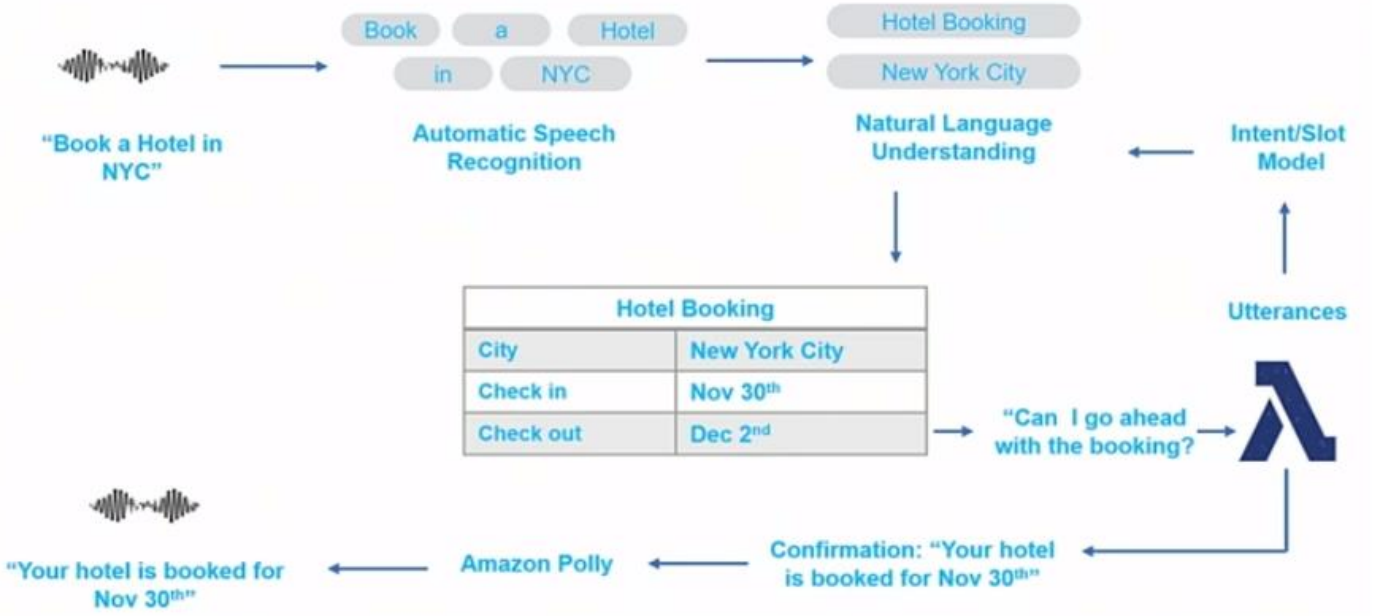
Automatic speech recognition (ASR) for converting speech to text

Natural language understanding (NLU) to recognize the intent of messages

Powered by the same deep learning technology as Alexa

Fully managed service

"Book a Hotel"



AWS Lambda + Amazon Kinesis

Real-time data processing:

1. Real-time event data sent to **Amazon Kinesis**, allows multiple **AWS Lambda** functions to process the same events.
2. In **AWS Lambda**, Function 1 processes and aggregates data from incoming events, then stores result data in **Amazon DynamoDB**
3. Lambda Function 1 also sends values to **Amazon CloudWatch** for simple monitoring of metrics.
4. In **AWS Lambda** function, Function 2 does data manipulation of incoming events and stores results in **Amazon S3**

https://s3.amazonaws.com/awslambda-reference-architectures/stream-processing/lambda-refarch-streamprocessing.pdf

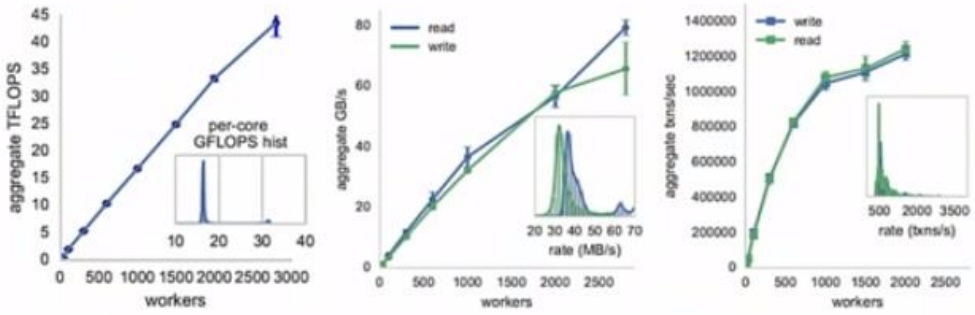
Serverless distributed computing: PyWren

PyWren Prototype developed at University of California, Berkeley

Uses Python with AWS Lambda stateless functions for large-scale data analytics

Achieved @ 30-40 MB write and read performance per-core to Amazon S3 object store

Scaled to 60-80 GB across 2,800 simultaneous functions



Build PCI and HIPAA-compliant serverless applications!

HIPAA

PCI

Serverless platform services that can be used in both:

AWS Lambda

Amazon S3

Amazon CloudFront

Amazon DynamoDB

Amazon Kinesis Streams

Amazon Cognito

Amazon API Gateway

Amazon SNS

Find a framework that fits the need you are looking to feel.

Claudia.js

Node.js framework for deploying projects to AWS Lambda and Amazon API Gateway

- Has sub-projects for microservices, chatbots, and APIs
- Simplified deployment with a single command
- Use standard NPM packages, no need to learn Swagger
- Manage multiple versions

```
1  var ApiBuilder = require('claudia-
       api-builder')
2
3  var api = new ApiBuilder();
4
5  module.exports = api;
6
7  api.get('/hello', function () {
8      return 'hello world';
9  });
10
```

https://claudiajs.com
https://github.com/claudiajs/claudia

$ claudia create --region us-east-1 --api-module app

Chalice

Python serverless “microframework” for AWS Lambda and Amazon API Gateway

- A command line tool for creating, deploying, and managing your app
- A familiar and easy-to-use API for declaring views in python code
- Automatic Amazon IAM policy generation

```
1  from chalice import Chalice
2
3  app = Chalice(app_name="helloworld"
       )
4
5  @app.route("/")
6  def index():
7      return {"hello": "world"}
8
9
```

https://github.com/aws/chalice
https://chalice.readthedocs.io

$chalice deploy

AWS Serverless Application Model (AWS SAM)

Template-driven resource management model optimized for serverless

New serverless resource types: Functions, APIs, and tables

Supports anything AWS CloudFormation supports

Open specification (Apache 2.0)

https://github.com/awslabs/serverless-application-model

SAM template

```
AWSTemplateFormatVersion: '2010-09-09'
Transform: AWS::Serverless-2016-10-31
Resources:
  GetHtmlFunction:
    Type: AWS::Serverless::Function
    Properties:
      CodeUri: s3://sam-demo-bucket/todo_list.zip
      Handler: index.gethtml
      Runtime: nodejs4.3
      Policies: AmazonDynamoDBReadOnlyAccess
      Events:
        GetHtml:
          Type: Api
          Properties:
            Path: /{proxy+}
            Method: ANY

  ListTable:
    Type: AWS::Serverless::SimpleTable
```

Tells AWS CloudFormation this is a SAM template it needs to "transform."

Creates a Lambda function with the referenced managed IAM policy, runtime, code at the referenced .zip location, and handler as defined. Also creates an API Gateway and takes care of all necessary mapping/permissions.

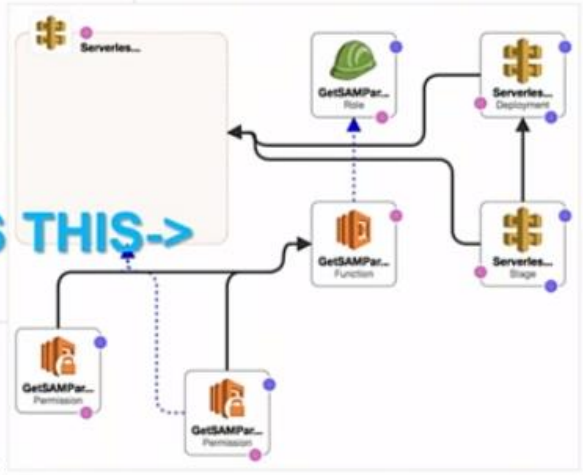
Creates a DynamoDB table with five Read & Write units.

SAM is all about managing the AWS resources,

SAM template

```
26 lines (25 sloc)  827 Bytes                                   Raw  Blame  History
1  Transform: 'AWS::Serverless-2016-10-31'
2  Parameters:
3      SamMultiplier:
4          Description: "SAM multiplier. Make this really big to have a party :)"
5          Type: "String"
6      OriginUrl:
7          Description: "The origin url to allow CORS requests from. This will be the base URL of your static SAM website."
8          Type: "String"
9  Resources:
10     GetSAMPartyCount:
11         Type: AWS::Serverless::Function
12         Properties:
13             Handler: index.handler
14             Runtime: nodejs4.3
15             CodeUri: ./
16             Environment:
17                 Variables:
18                     SAM_MULTIPLIER: !Ref SamMultiplier
19                     ORIGIN_URL: !Ref OriginUrl
20             Events:
21               GetResources:
22                 Type: Api
23                 Properties:
24                   Path: /sam
25                   Method: get
```

<-THIS BECOMES THIS->



From: https://github.com/awslabs/aws-serverless-samfarm/blob/master/api/saml.yaml

This piece of code will generate the 6 different AWS resources on the right for you automatically. It is better than using the CLI to create these same resources.

Introducing SAM Local

CLI tool for local testing of serverless apps

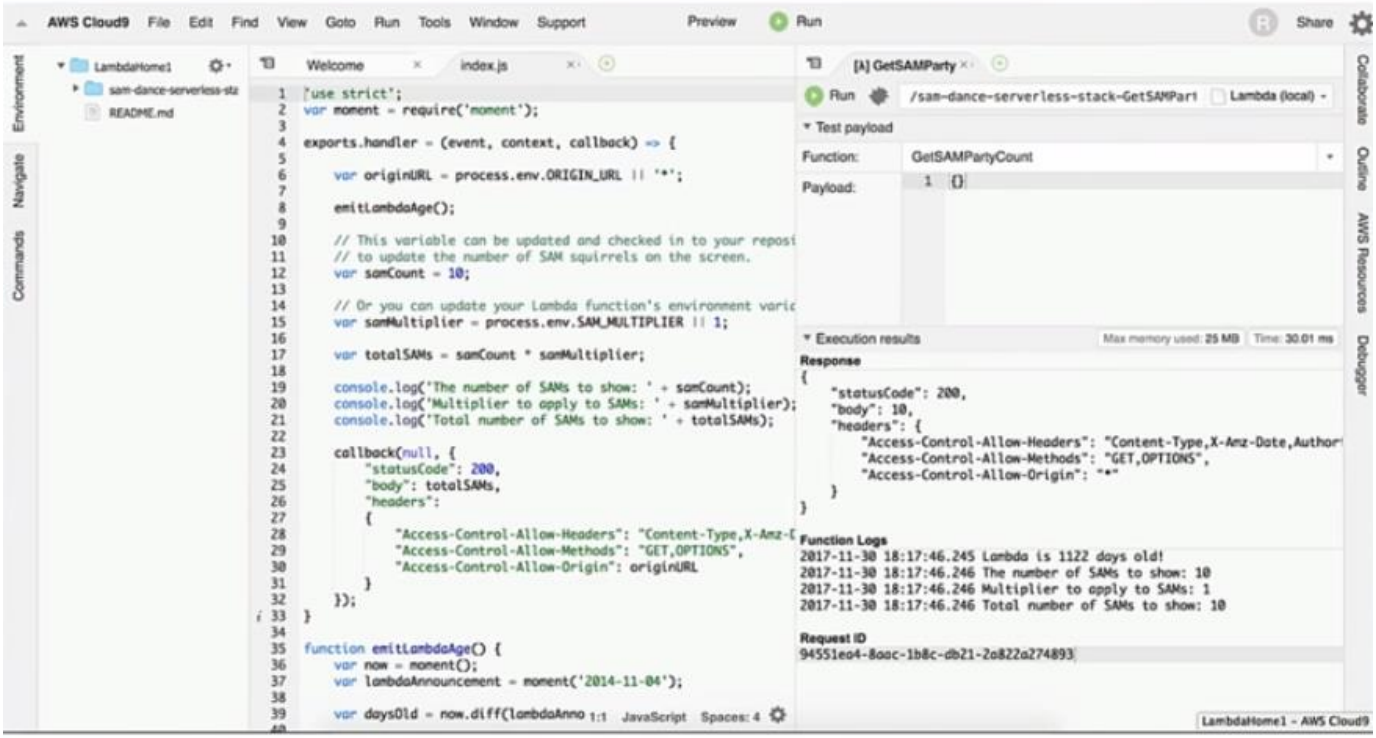
Works with Lambda functions and "proxy-style" APIs

Response object and function logs available on your local machine

Uses open-source docker-lambda images to mimic Lambda's execution environment:

- Emulates timeout, memory limits, runtimes

https://github.com/awslabs/aws-sam-local

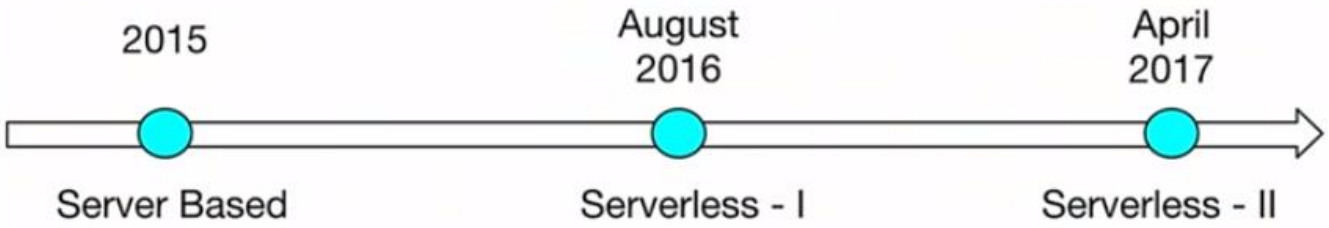


Let us see the way we migrated one of our marketing web applications to a Serverless architecture.

Capital One

- Top 10 U.S. Bank
- Alexa Website Ranking says capitalone.com traffic is "**81st** in U.S. websites"
- Auto Financing–1M hits/month

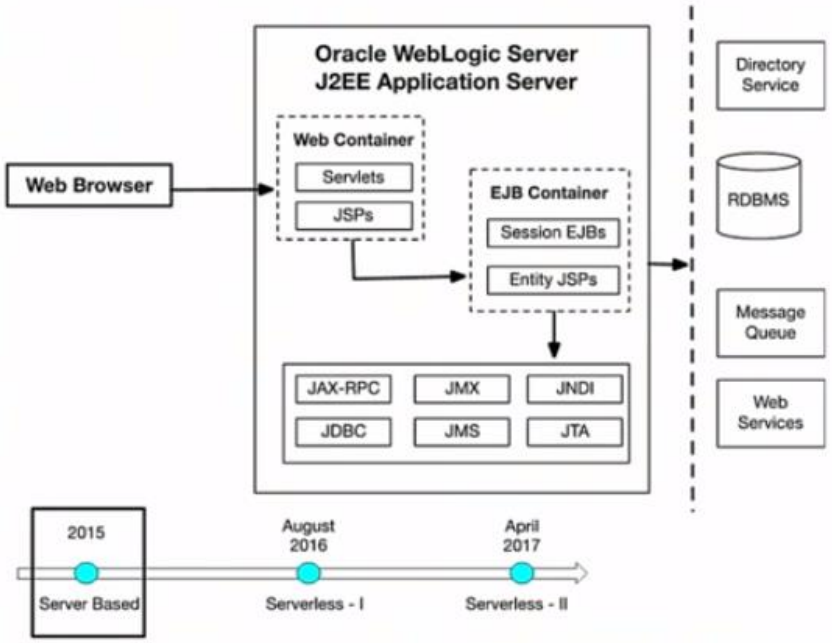
Migration Journey Timeline



Migration Requirements

- Full functionality and more
- Secure – yes, we actually are a Financial Institution
- Resilient (Active/Active)
- Responsive – front-facing Marketing Home Page, so initial load time is critical
- SEO friendly
- Continuous deployments – changes on demand
- Low maintenance – it just needs to run
- Use existing tools and processes in the enterprise – don't re-invent the wheel
    - Logging
    - Monitoring
    - Deployments

The Painful Old Days

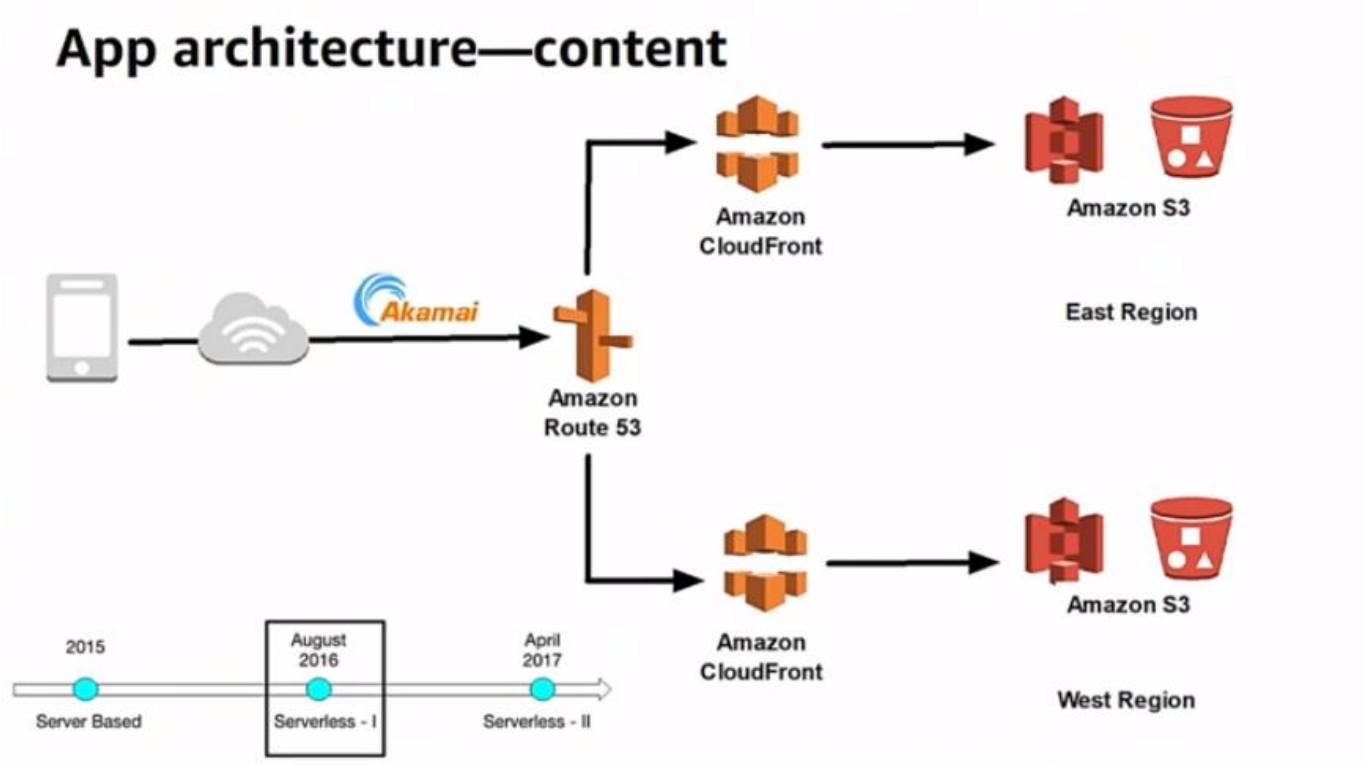


- Hosted in on-premises data center
- Enterprise-wide common deployments
- One calendar — features planned months in advance
- Tight coupling between components

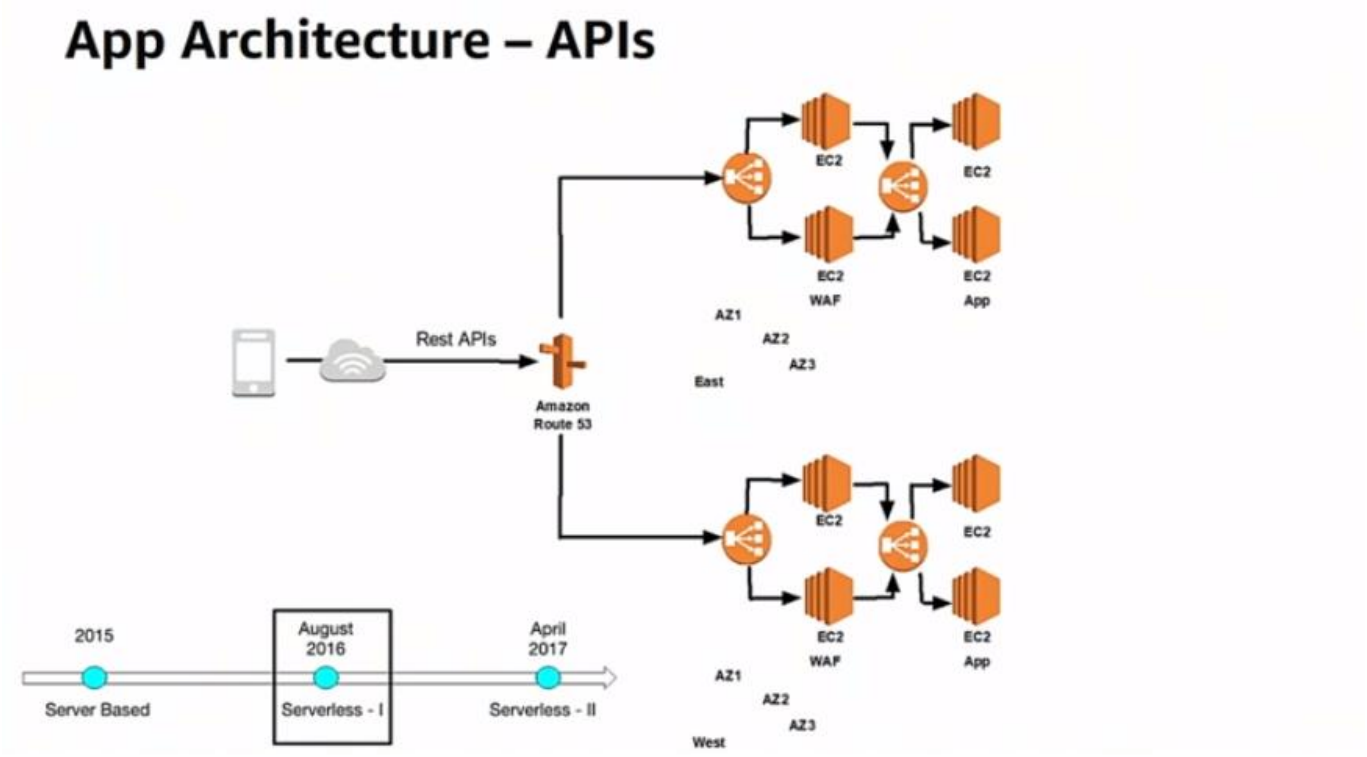
Serverless Migration – I

Move to AWS

Serverless Content Strategy

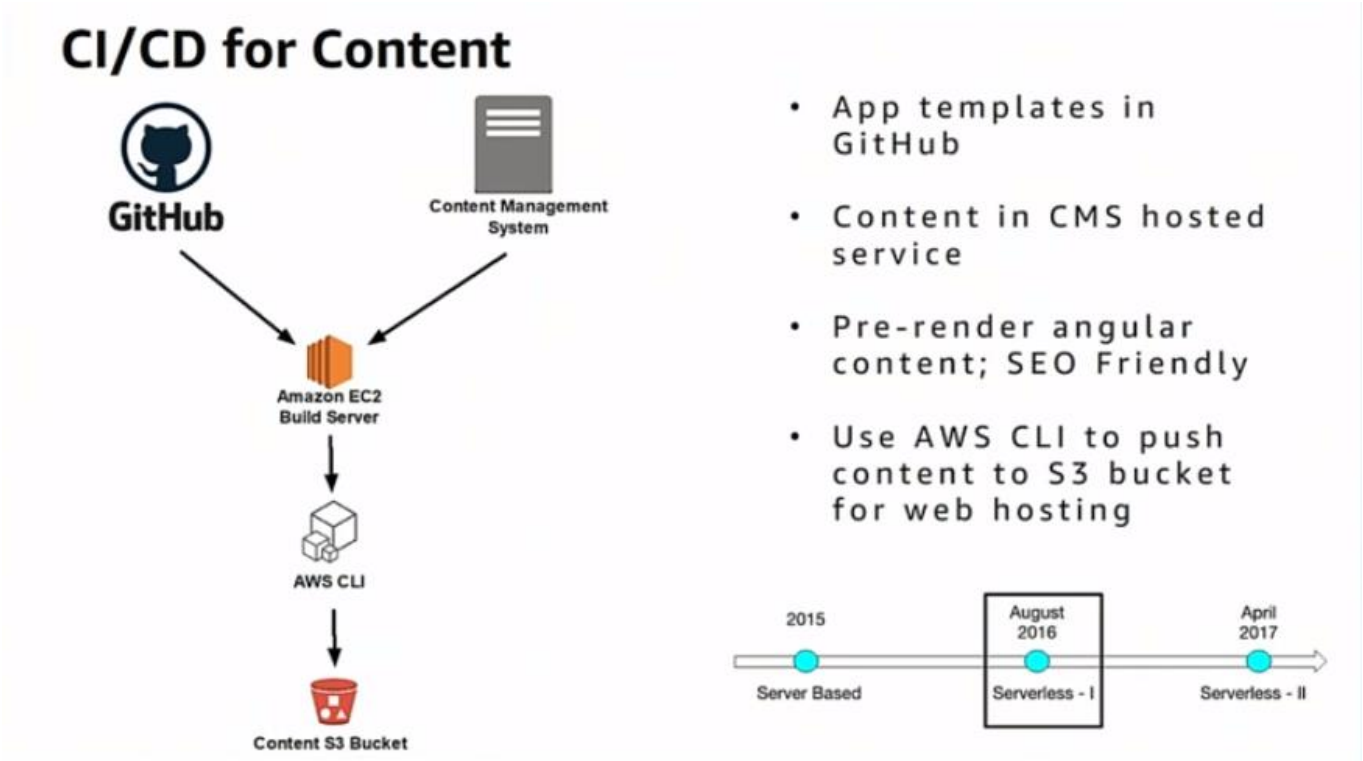


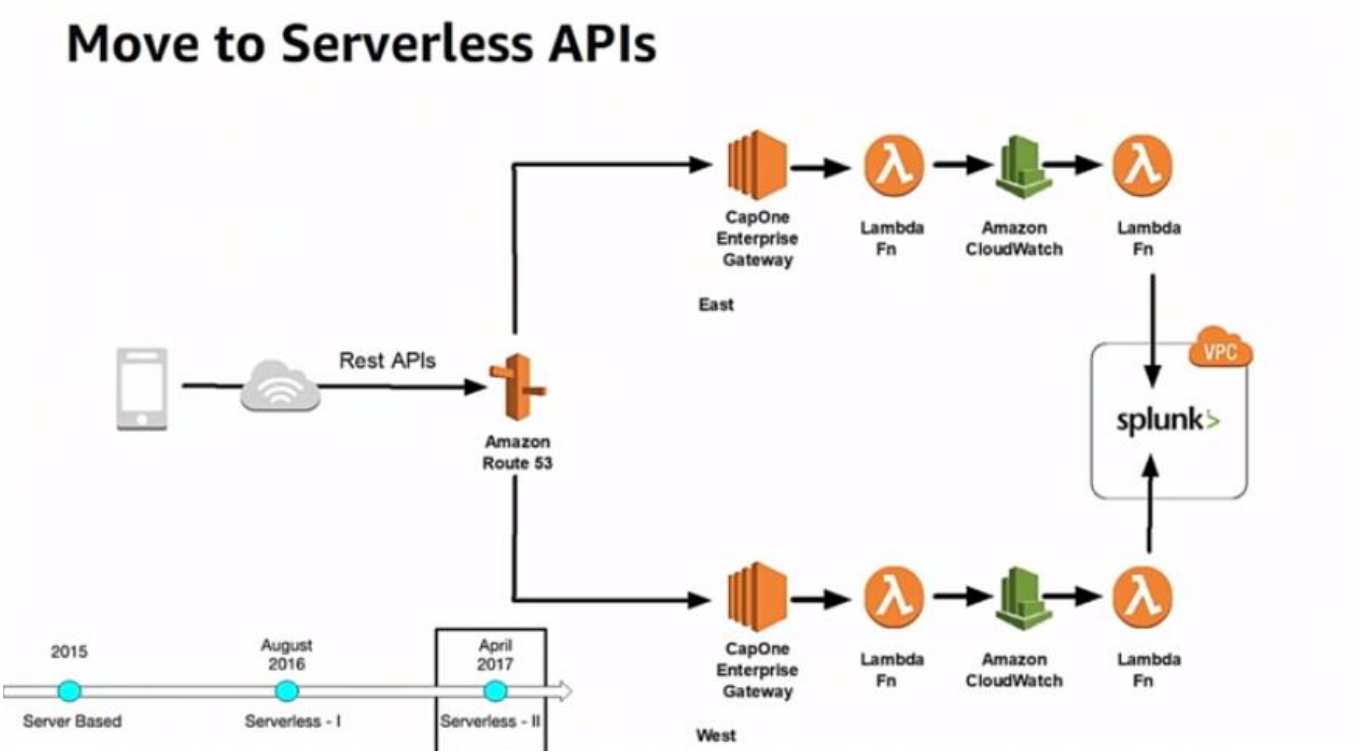
We created an Angular SPA app that was bundled and stored in an S3 bucket with web hosting enabled. We then replicated the S3 bucket in both the East and West regions for an active-active deployment, then we fronted the web app using Cloudfront that has the certificates for SSL termination and also using Roue53. We were also able to leverage non-AWS services like Akamai for content caching.



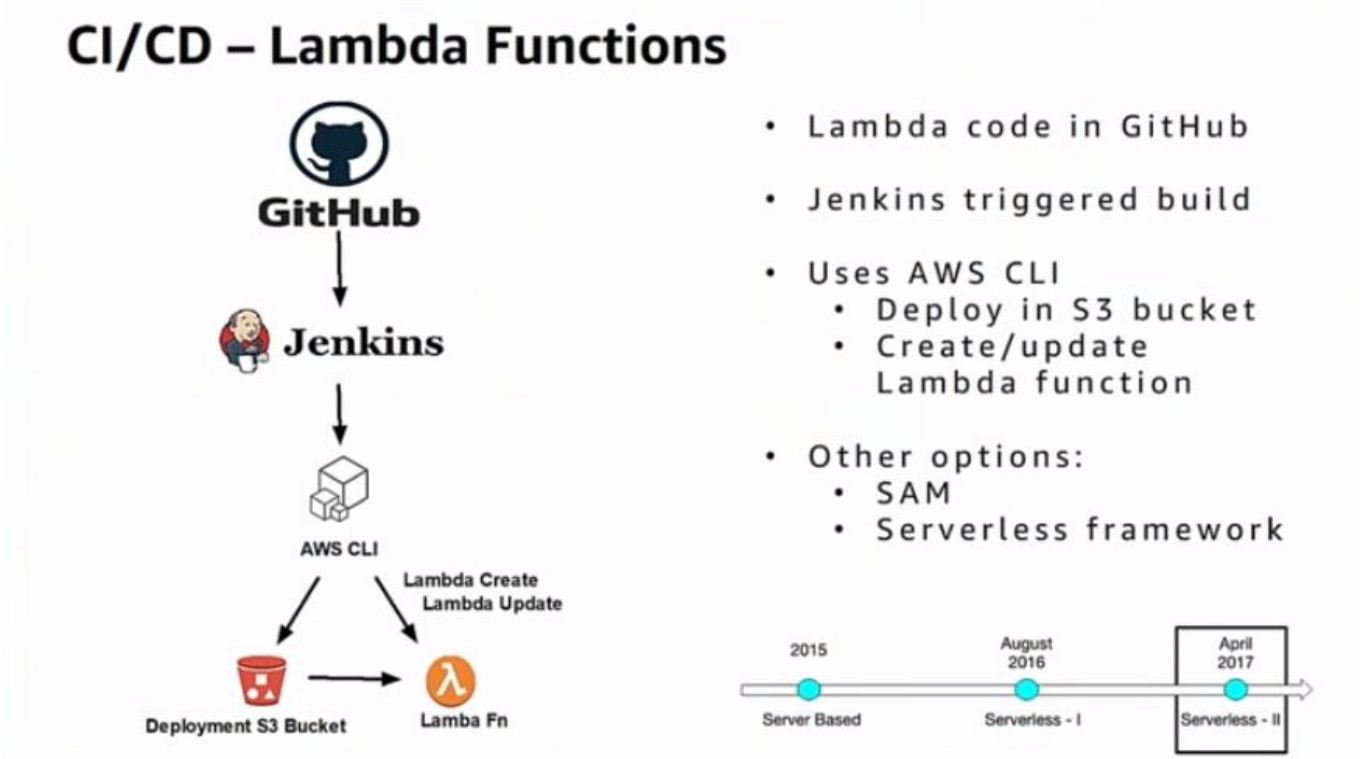
This is the architecture that we used for our APIs. Due to internal company policies in 2016 we couldn't go all serverless for our backends and had to come up with the alternate EC2-based architecture above. The first set of EC2 instances are running Apache with security configurations and serve as our web application firewall while the 2 EC2 instances behind

the firewall are running Tomcat with our application logic running in them. Next, we then replicated this whole setup in another region for an active-active configuration.





We have now eliminated the use of EC2 instances in our web app hosting architecture



For our CI/CD process for our lambda functions, Jenkins is our enterprise build tool of choice. We store our lambda function code in GitHub that triggers a build job in Jenkins, the Jenkins job then takes that code, uses the AWS CLI to create a deployment bundle that it stores in S3. By leveraging functions like lambda create and lambda update, we are able to create and update our lambda functions accordingly.

Benefits of Serverless

- Super simple architecture
- Runs itself, less monitoring
- Scales itself, no work on Auto Scaling needed
- No worries on AMI rehydration, which keeps compliance and operations happy
- Cost savings:
    - Conservative savings to tune of **$50K/year**
    - Amazon S3 web hosting eliminated any Amazon EC2 needs for website hosting
    - Able to eliminate 20 EC2 instances, CLBs, EBS volumes from API architecture
    - Countless hours saved on operations of application

Lessons Learned

- Migration can be a journey, so plan accordingly
- Step-by-step progress is recommended
    - Start small
- Serverless architectures are flexible and fungible
    - No one size fits all
- Reuse tools and processes in the organization
- Get stakeholder buy-in early

FIN, ACK

Serverless:

- No servers to manage
- No cost for idle
- Automatic scaling
- High availability

Use cases:

- Web applications
- Backends
- Data processing
- Chatbots
- Amazon Alexa
- IT Automation

Integrated across AWS:

- Amazon API Gateway
- AWS Step Functions
- Amazon S3
- Amazon Kinesis
- Amazon DynamoDB
- Amazon SNS
- Amazon Cognito
- AWS CloudFormation
- AWS CodePipeline
- Amazon CloudWatch
- AWS IoT
- many more!

aws.amazon.com/serverless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