

AMT305

Building BMW Group's Customer Engagement Platform on AWS

Constantin Gonzalez
Principal Solutions Architect
AWS

Julian Roedig
Principal Solution Architect
BMW Group

Patrick Lanners
Solution Architect
BMW Group

aws
re:Invent

© 2018, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.



In today's "always connected" world, brands must find unique ways to engage customers anywhere, anytime and across an ever-changing variety of formats. Large enterprises are often challenged by aging, monolithic applications that limit their ability to adapt quickly to changes. In this session, the BMW Group discusses how it is using microservices on the AWS Cloud to transform its customer engagement platform. Learn how the company built its Unified Configurator Platform (UCP) to serve 30+ branded customer-facing applications with over 300 RESTful API endpoints using services such as Amazon API Gateway, AWS Lambda, Amazon Elastic Beanstalk, and AWS Elastic Container Service. Additionally, the BMW Group discusses how Game Days and Chaos Monkey methodologies led to the success of the overall program.

What you'll get out of this session

An introduction to microservices

Real-world customer experience from BMW Group

Methodology

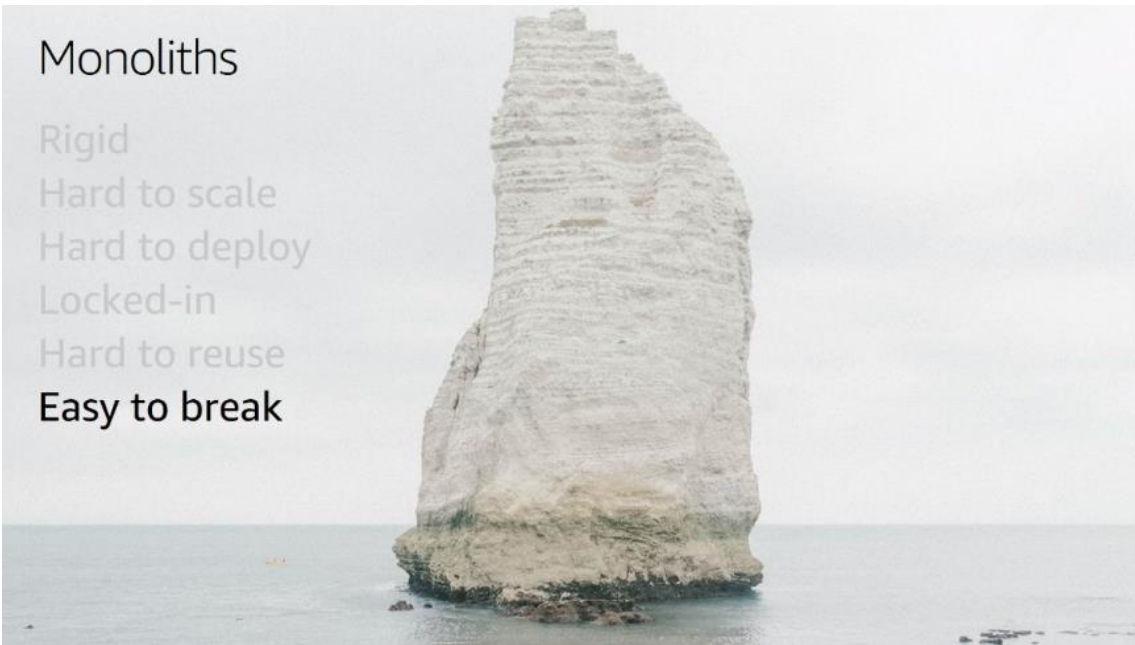
Architecture overview

Architecture deep dives

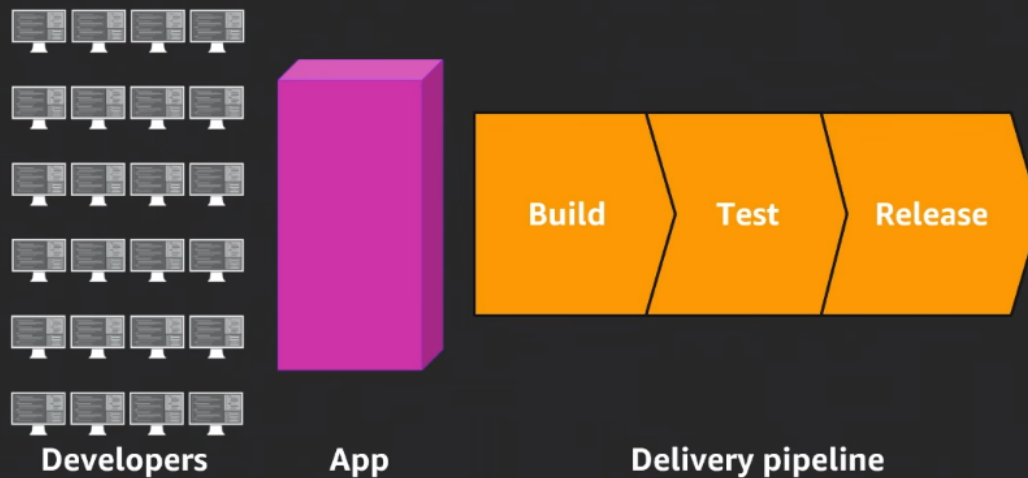
Guidelines and resources for your own microservices projects

Monoliths

Rigid
Hard to scale
Hard to deploy
Locked-in
Hard to reuse
Easy to break



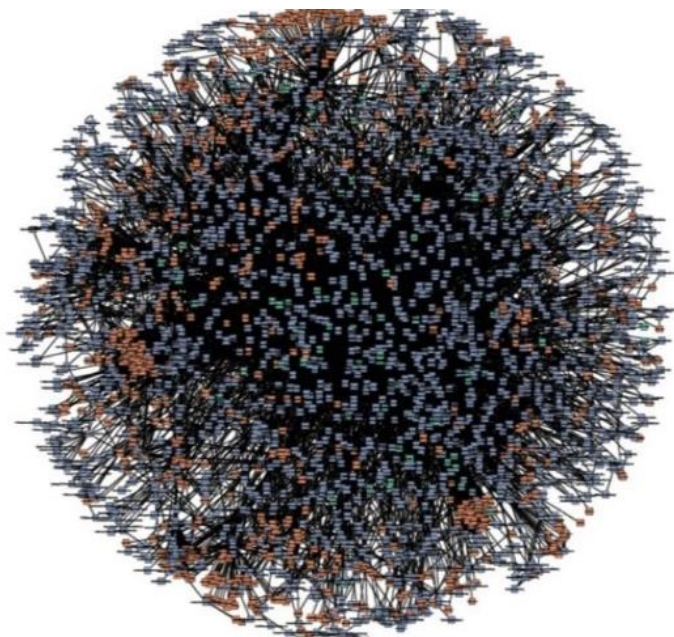
Monolith development lifecycle



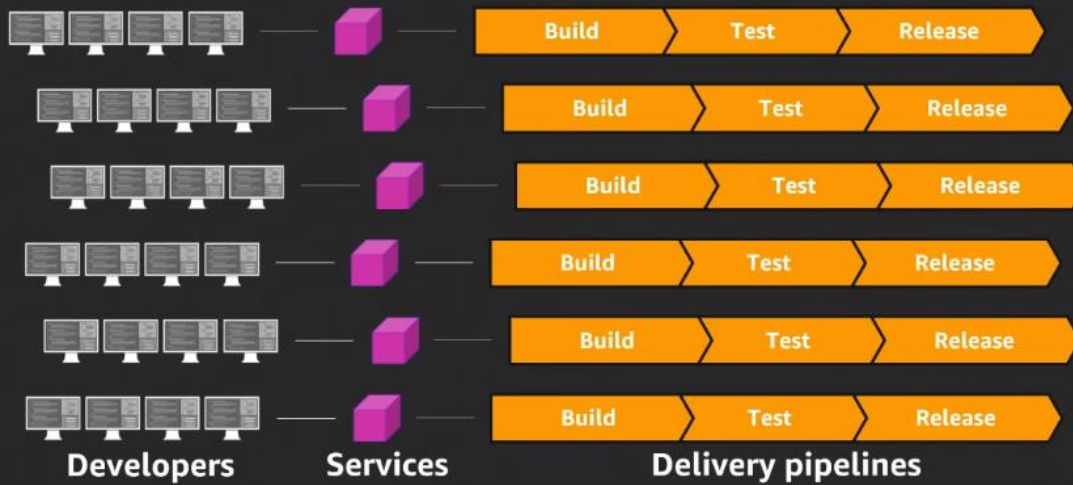
Microservices

Autonomous
Specialized

Agile
Flexible to scale
Easy to deploy
Freedom
Easy to reuse
Resilient



Microservice development lifecycle



But how?

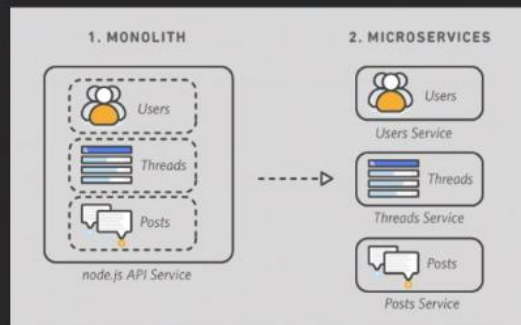
Migration?

Networking?

Service discovery?

Deployment?

Which services?



Patrick Lanners and Julian Roedig
BMW Group

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Architecture overview
- 3 Architecture deep dives
- 4 Conclusion

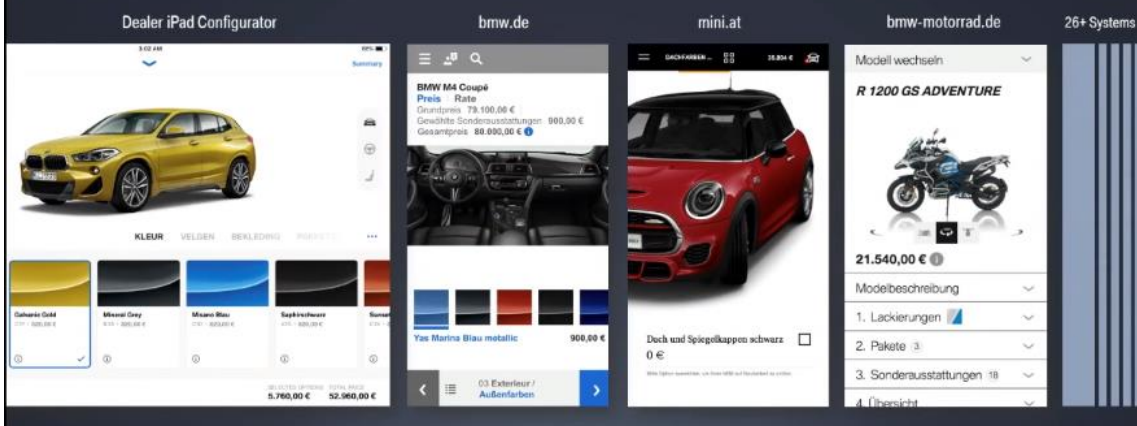
OUR PLATFORM CONSOLIDATES THE VEHICLE PRODUCTS AS SERVICES



=

Many possibilities to configure your dream car

EXAMPLES OF FRONT ENDS THAT USE OUR CONFIGURATOR PLATFORM



UNIFIED CONFIGURATOR PLATFORM: CENTRAL ENGAGEMENT PLATFORM AS BUSINESS ENABLER

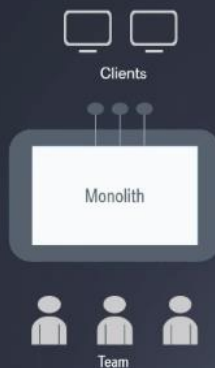


Key facts:

- RESTful API
- Used by ~30 products
- Hundreds of Mio API calls per month
- Supports all BMW Group brands and markets

- 1 Introduction
- 2 **Architecture overview**
- 3 Architecture deep dives
- 4 Conclusion

A MONOLITHIC SYSTEM ISN'T BY DEFINITION A BAD THING



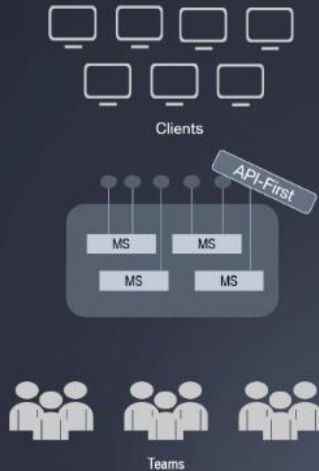
Benefits

- Fast development of a first production-ready MVP
- No need to handle the challenges of a distributed system

Challenges and driving factors for going the next step

- Increased number of requirements led to an increase of the overall complexity

MICROSERVICES WITH API-FIRST STRATEGY: ENABLES FASTER DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED TRANSPARENCY



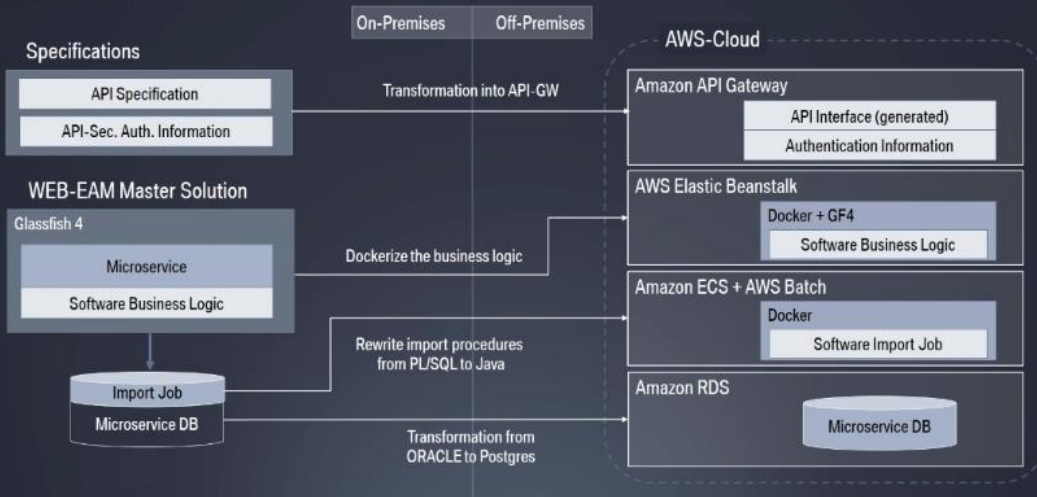
Benefits

- Increased transparency for API consumer due to API-first approach
- Multiple teams can work independently

Challenges and driving factors for going the next step

- Latency performance to provide our service on a worldwide basis
- Broader solution scope needed to satisfy business needs

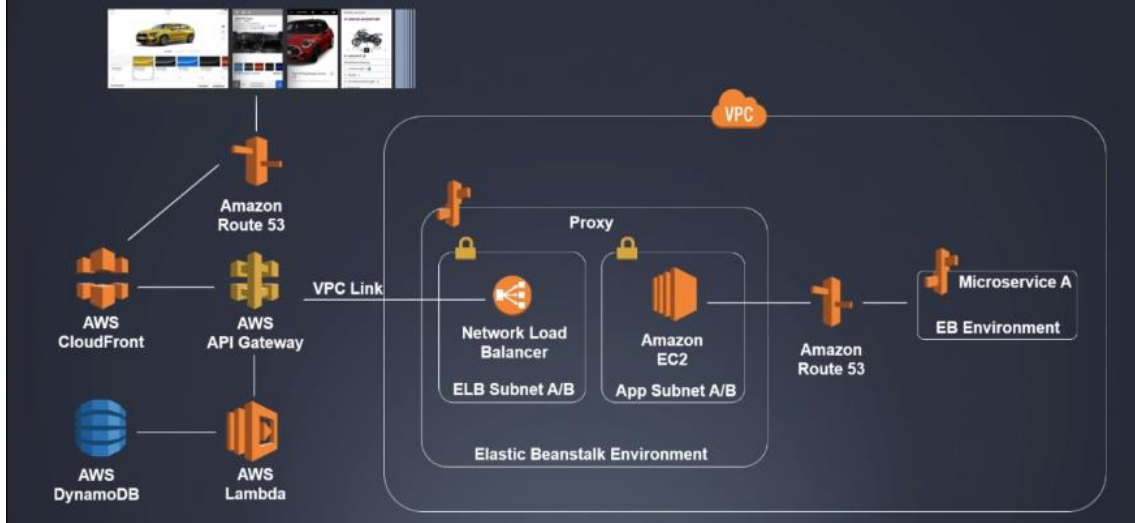
GAME CHANGER: BRINGING THE MICROSERVICES IN A "LIFT-THINK-SHIFT" APPROACH TO AWS



WE DEFINED A SINGLE ENTRY POINT TO OUR SERVICES

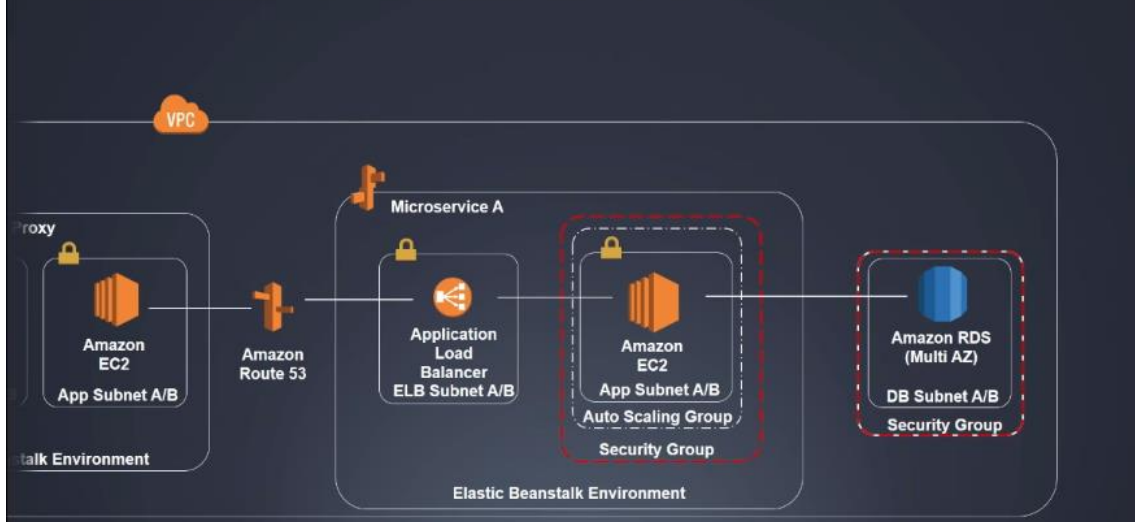


WE DEFINED A SINGLE ENTRY POINT TO OUR SERVICES



Our VPC consists of 3 different subnets for our load balancers, our applications, and our databases respectively. For our microservice applications, we used Route53 routing with private hosted zones and register the microservice endpoints.

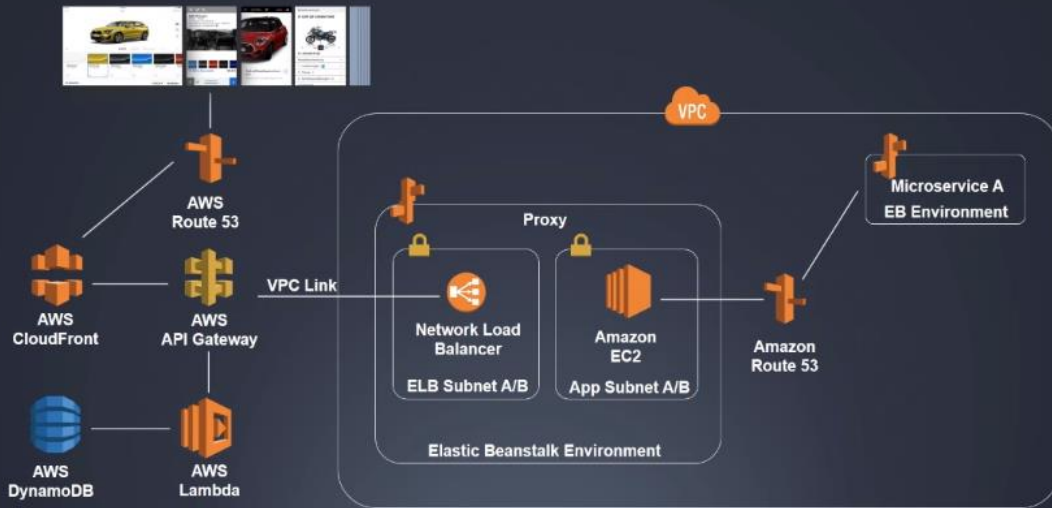
OUR BASE TECH STACK FOR MICROSERVICES ON BEANSTALK



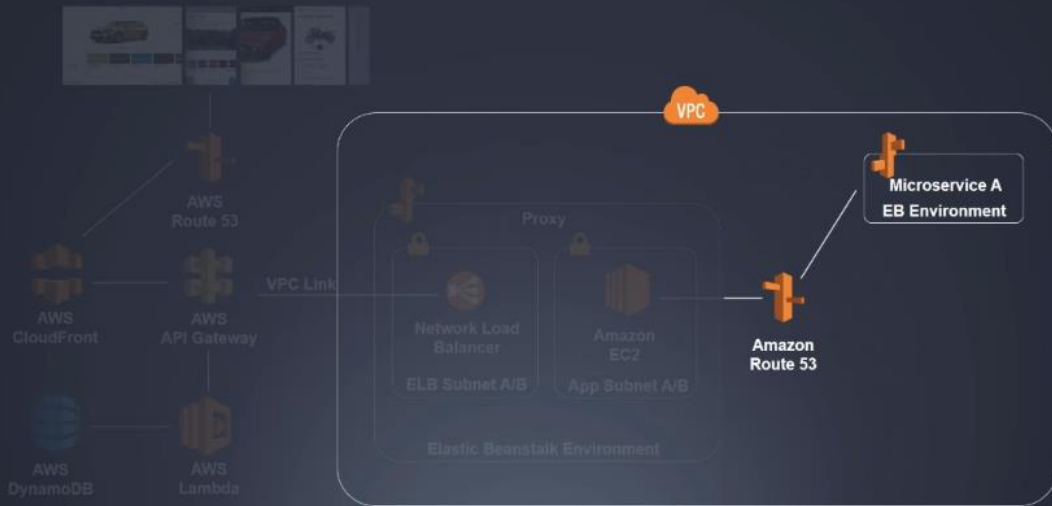
On ELB, we deploy our Java web app microservices as Docker containers



ENHANCED FLEXIBILITY THROUGH DNS-BASED SERVICE DISCOVERY

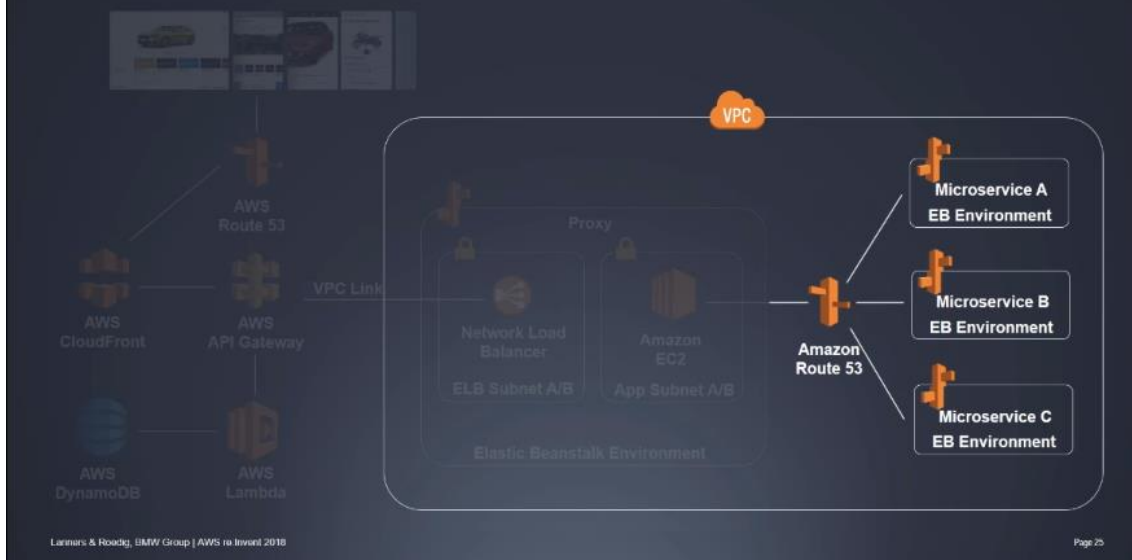


ENHANCED FLEXIBILITY THROUGH DNS-BASED SERVICE DISCOVERY



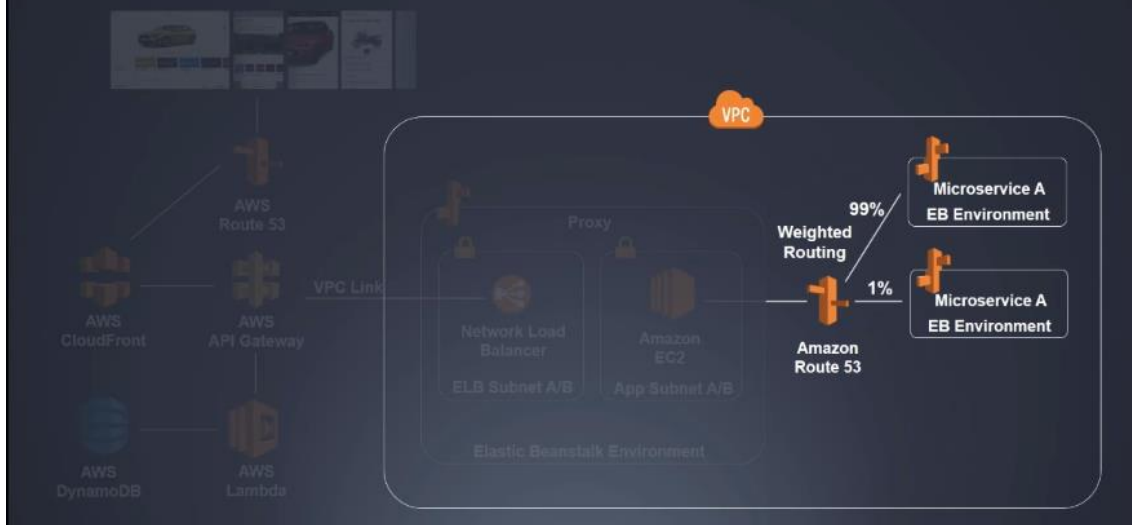
Within our VPC, we have a private hosted zone that allows each microservice to be accessible via an internal domain name like **microservice-a.bmw.com**, **microservice-b.bmw.com** that lay behind a LB and with a Route53 A-record.

ENHANCED FLEXIBILITY THROUGH DNS BASED SERVICE DISCOVERY.



We also use Route53 as an internal service discovery mechanism to allow the microservices to talk to each other, this also allows the Proxy to route traffic to the microservices using their internal domain names.

ENHANCED FLEXIBILITY THROUGH DNS BASED SERVICE DISCOVERY.



Route53 allows us to create multiple A-records for the same domain name and route the traffic through to multiple targets, this allows us to verify new deployments.

ENHANCED FLEXIBILITY THROUGH DNS BASED SERVICE DISCOVERY.



ENHANCED FLEXIBILITY THROUGH DNS BASED SERVICE DISCOVERY.

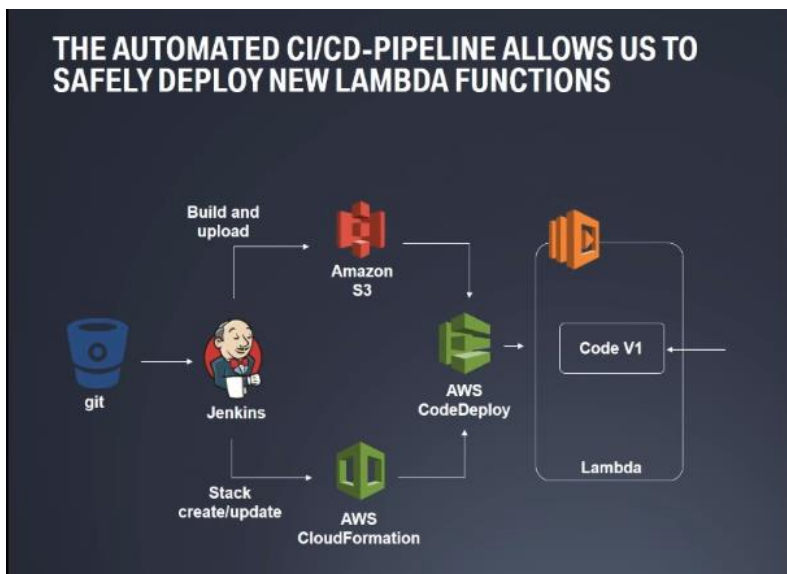


ENHANCED FLEXIBILITY THROUGH DNS BASED SERVICE DISCOVERY.



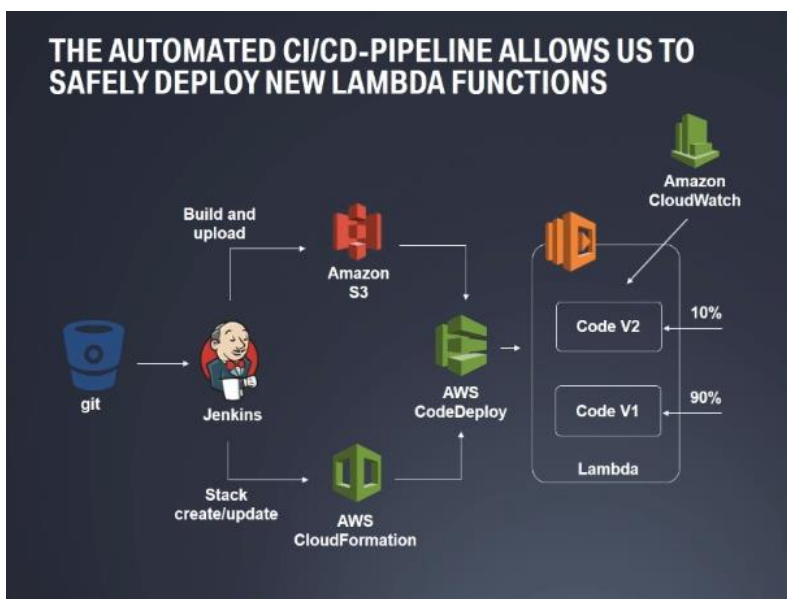
1	Introduction
2	Architecture overview
3	Architecture deep dives
	Service discovery
	AWS Lambda CI/CD
	Offline data processing
	Advanced Lambda use case
	Environments on demand
4	Conclusion

How do we deploy the different Lambda functions that we use?



Git

- Lambda code
- AWS CloudFormation
- Jenkinsfile



Git

- Lambda code
- AWS CloudFormation
- Jenkinsfile

AWS CloudFormation

- Creates new Lambda version
- Creates a new alias

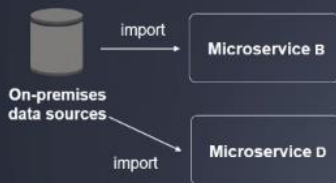
AWS CodeDeploy:

- Canary deployment (e.g. 10/90)
- Rollback with Amazon CloudWatch Metric

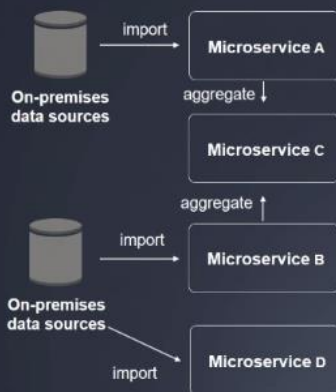
We can then set the deployment preferences in CodeDeploy like splitting traffic temporarily and switch the full traffic in 10 mins to the new version.

1	Introduction
2	Architecture overview
3	Architecture deep dives
	Service discovery
	AWS Lambda CI/CD
	Offline data processing
	Advanced Lambda use case
	Environments on demand
4	Conclusion

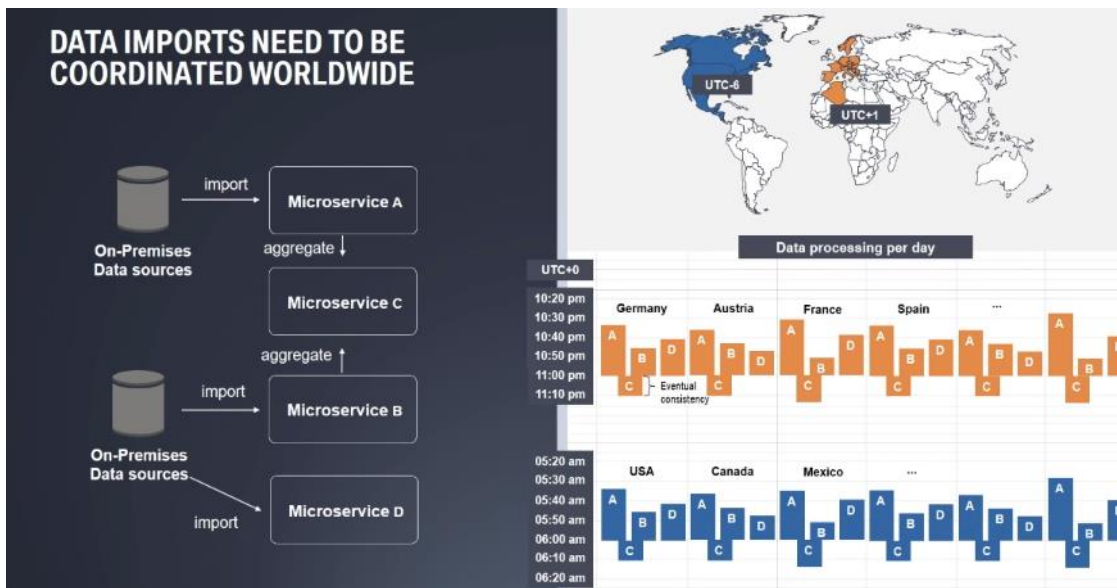
DATA IMPORTS NEED TO BE COORDINATED WORLDWIDE



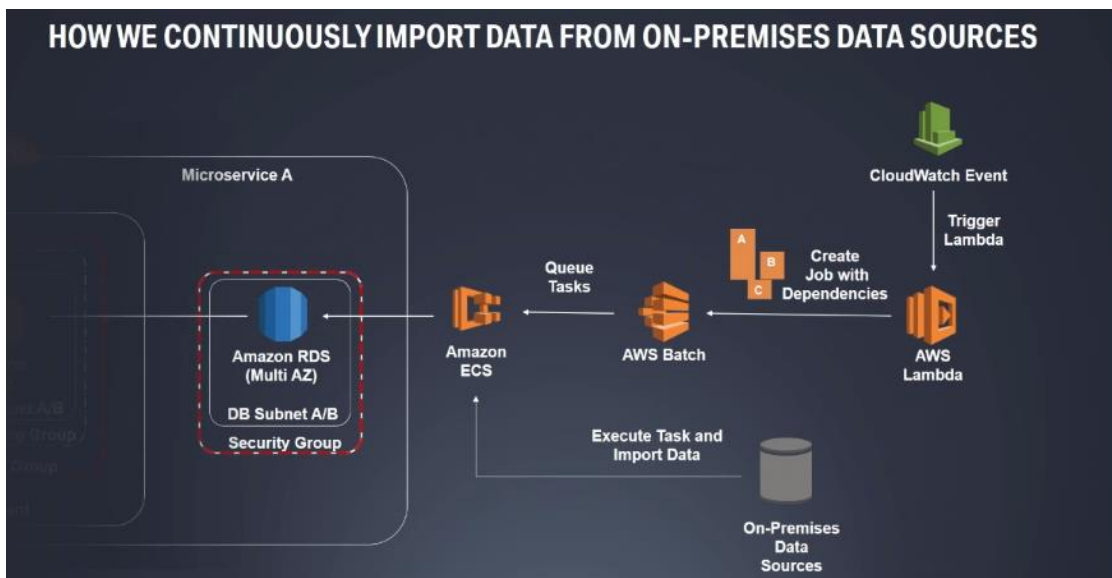
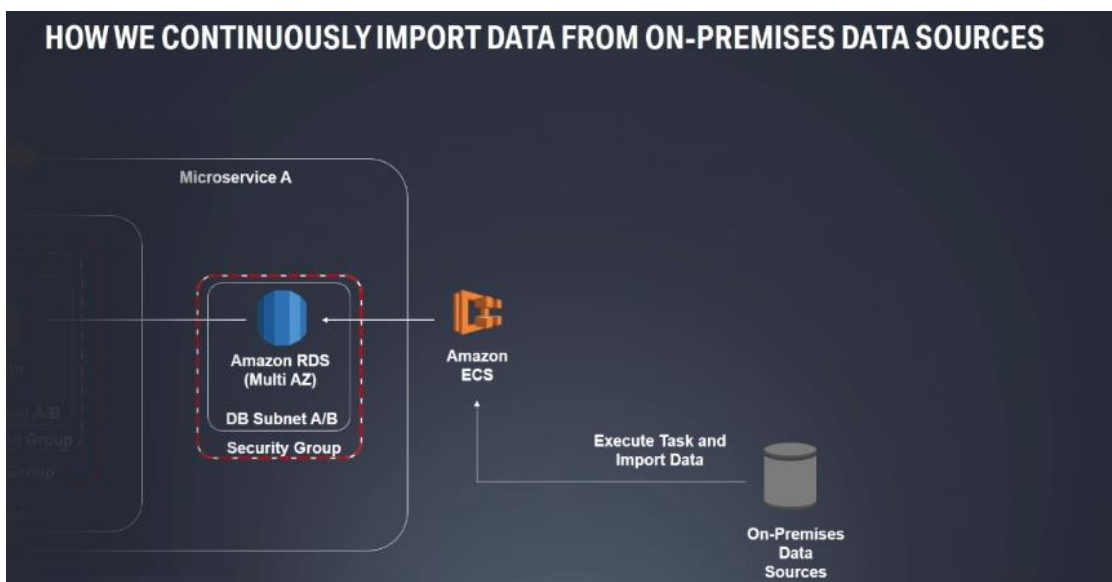
DATA IMPORTS NEED TO BE COORDINATED WORLDWIDE



We also have microservices that aggregate the results of other microservices by calling their APIs for data.

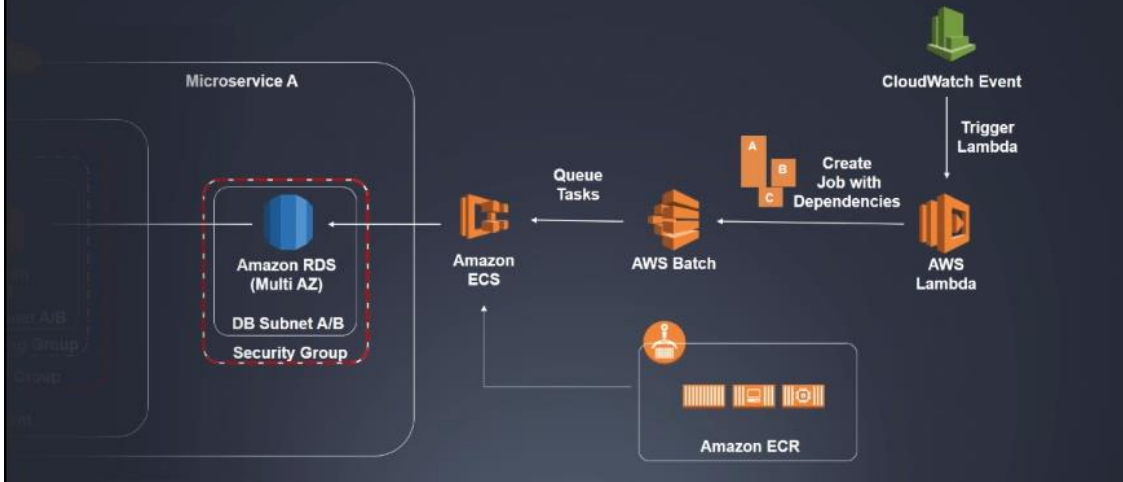


We also do data processing in different time zones, we need the right job executed at the right time.

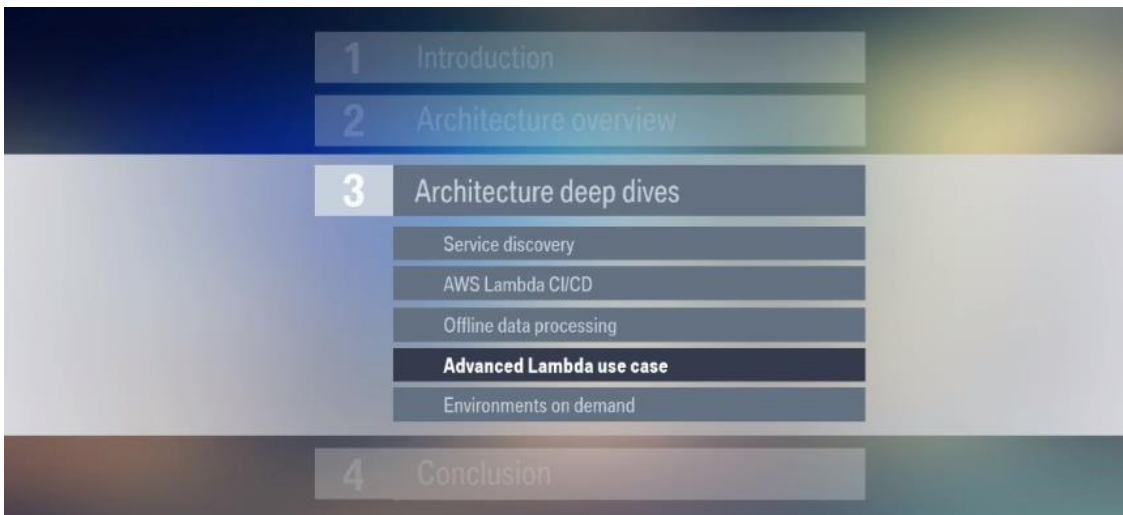


We use CloudWatch and Lambda services as a scheduler for triggering the right jobs at the right time in AWS Batch jobs.

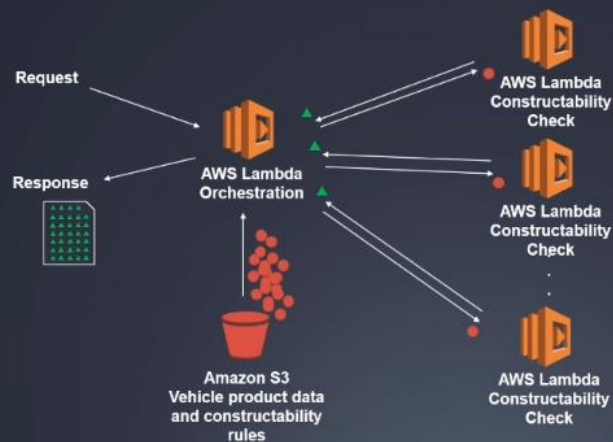
HOW WE CONTINUOUSLY IMPORT DATA FROM ON-PREMISES DATA SOURCES



We also use this setup for some offline data processing that runs in Docker containers



LEVERAGE AWS LAMBDA TO PERFORM THOUSANDS OF VEHICLES CONSTRUCTABILITY CHECKS



Use case

- Purpose-driven calculation
- Fast response

Solution

- Spawn parallel Lambdas

Limits

- Restricted parallel executions
- Reusage of hot lambdas
- Caching prevents recalculation
- Consider the costs

1	Introduction
2	Architecture overview
3	Architecture deep dives
	Service discovery
	AWS Lambda CI/CD
	Offline data processing
	Advanced Lambda use case
	Environments on demand
4	Conclusion

ON-DEMAND DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR AUTOMATED TEST PROCESS



Key Facts:

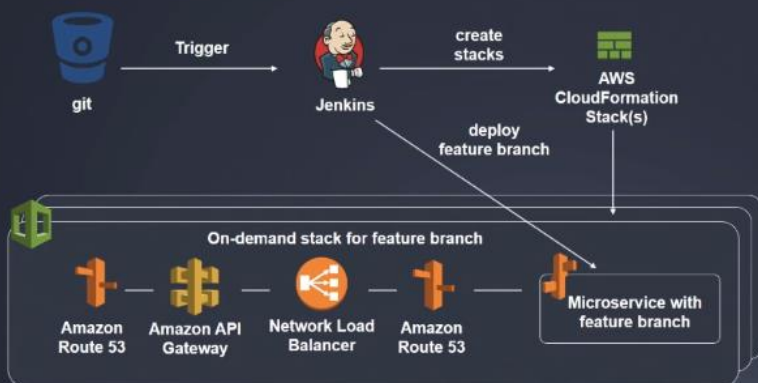
- Gitflow workflow
- Full stack “on demand”

Benefits

- Teams are not blocked
- Isolated testing
- Verification of AWS CloudFormation code
- Happy Dev teams

We define our infrastructure using CloudFormation as infrastructure as code.

ON-DEMAND DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR AUTOMATED TEST PROCESS



Key Facts:

- Gitflow workflow
- Full stack “on demand”

Benefits

- Teams are not blocked
- Isolated testing
- Verification of AWS CloudFormation code
- Happy Dev teams

Jenkins pulls of CF out if the Git repo and creates the microservice stack that contains all that is needed. Jenkins then deploys the microservice into the feature-branch, then the team can run the CI pipeline to do manual testing. The on-demand environment then gets terminated after some fixed time period.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Architecture overview
- 3 Architecture deep dives
- 4 **Conclusion**

WE INTRODUCED GAMEDAYS TO TRAIN OUR OPERATION TEAM TO BE WELL PREPARED FOR POTENTIAL PRODUCTION PROBLEMS

- Solve real production scenarios
- Gamification is used through scoring and leaderboards
- Chaos Monkey Team brings fun into the situation
- Each team gains points for
 - Availability of the system
 - Proposed improvements for DevOps-Cycle



FEEDBACK AFTER THE FIRST GAMEDAY

“ The gameday showed that it’s a great opportunity to deepen the transferred knowledge in a fun way and to gain hands on experience through simulated incidents for the operation work. ”

Operations team, March 2018

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE TRANSITION TO AWS

- Don’t build a distributed monolithic application
- Don’t try to make it too perfect
- Stop talking, start building
- Continuous learning and adaptation
- Be aware of AWS soft & hard limits, and build your architecture accordingly
- Doing the transformation in-house was a game changer
- Consider AWS Professional Services as a coach at the beginning of your transition

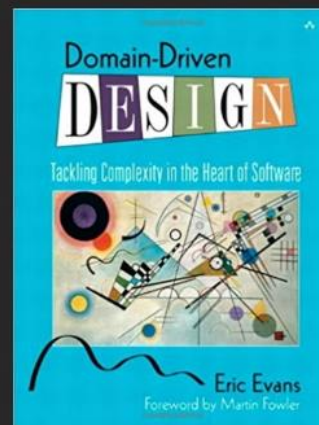
Your turn

Best practices

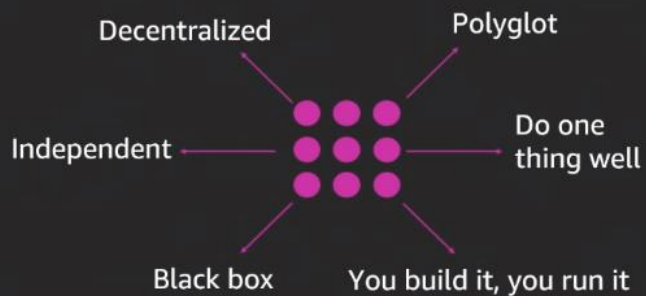


Start with domain-driven design

- Focus on the core domain
- Put a domain model at the center
- Collaborate between technical and domain experts



Adopt microservices principles



Adopt the three ways of DevOps

1. Systems thinking

The First Way: Systems Thinking



Adopt the three ways of DevOps

1. Systems thinking

2. Amplify feedback loops

The Second Way: Amplify Feedback Loops



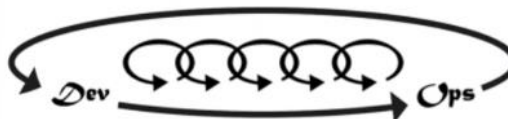
Adopt the three ways of DevOps

1. Systems thinking

2. Amplify feedback loops

3. Culture of continual experimentation and learning

The Third Way: Culture Of Continual Experimentation And Learning

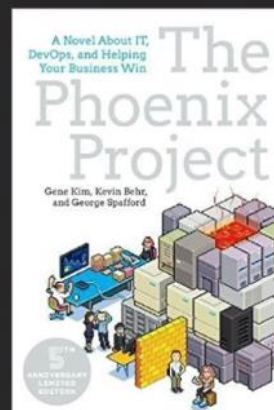


Adopt the three ways of DevOps

1. Systems thinking

2. Amplify feedback loops

3. Culture of continual experimentation and learning



<https://itrevolution.com/the-three-ways-principles-underpinning-devops/>

Adopt the three ways of DevOps

1. Systems thinking
2. Amplify feedback loops
3. Culture of continual experimentation and learning



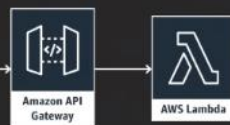
<https://itrevolution.com/the-three-ways-principles-underpinning-devops/>

Simple serverless microservice with AWS Lambda

User interface



Microservices



Data store



Simple serverless microservice with containers

User interface



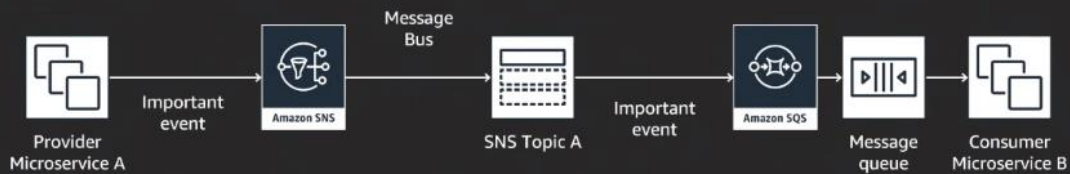
Microservices



Data store

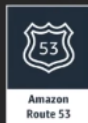


Simple messaging between microservices



Simple service discovery using Amazon Route 53

```
app1-tst → 10.1.0.11
db1-tst → 10.1.0.14
app2 → 10.1.0.16
db2 → 10.1.0.18
my-app → 10.1.0.20
db-dev → 10.1.0.19
websrv1 → 10.1.0.1
websrv2 → 10.1.0.2
websrv3 → 10.1.0.4
app-dev1 → 10.1.0.9
app-dev2 → 10.1.0.5
```



aws
re:Invent

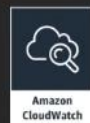
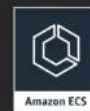
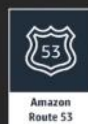
© 2018, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.



You can use Route53 DNS records to do the mapping between your service name and the IP address where your service is available.

Simple service discovery using Amazon Route 53

```
app1-tst → 10.1.0.11
db1-tst → 10.1.0.14
app2 → 10.1.0.16
db2 → 10.1.0.18
my-app → 10.1.0.20
db-dev → 10.1.0.19
websrv1 → 10.1.0.1
websrv2 → 10.1.0.2
websrv3 → 10.1.0.4
app-dev1 → 10.1.0.9
app-dev2 → 10.1.0.5
```



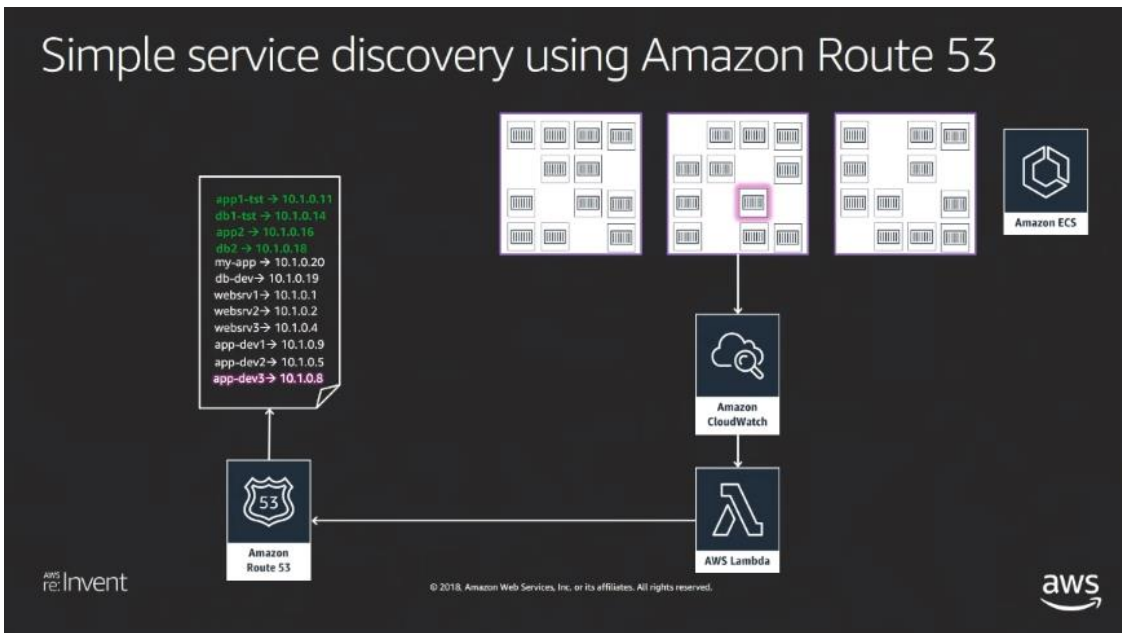
aws
re:Invent

© 2018, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.



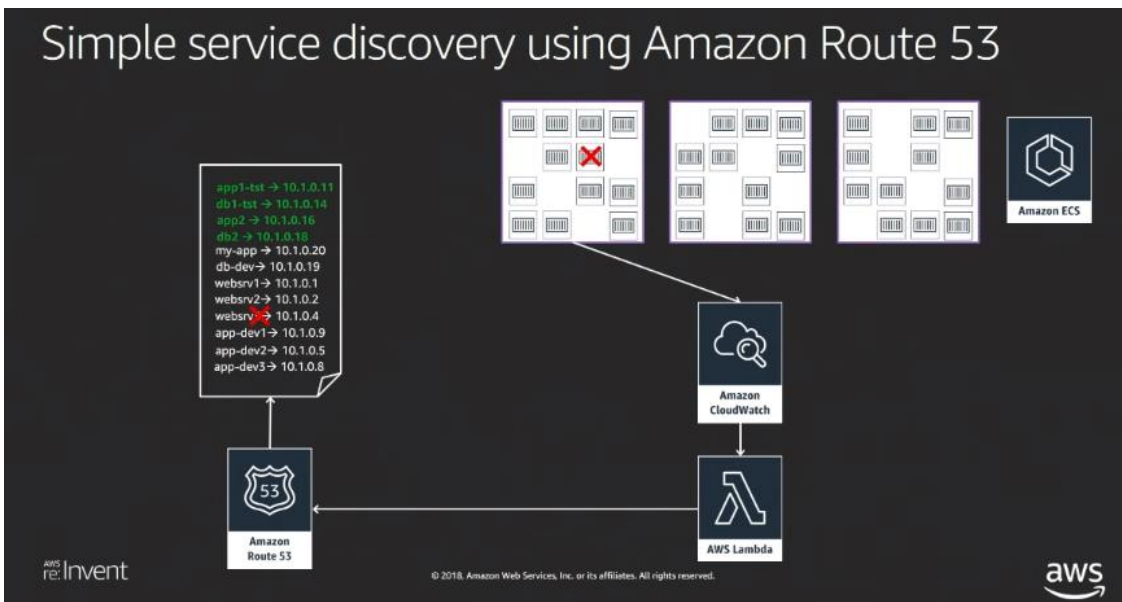
You can then set up CloudWatch to monitor the lifecycle of the individual containers running in your container fleet and you can use AWS Lambda as a dynamic way of updating the Route53 records.

Simple service discovery using Amazon Route 53



If you start a new microservice container in your container fleet, CloudWatch will automatically detect that a new container is running. It will notify AWS Lambda and then you can use code to update the record in Route53 so that the new entry shows up in Route53 and can serve requests.

Simple service discovery using Amazon Route 53



The same process takes place when a microservice container is down.

Wrap-up/summary

Monoliths aren't necessarily bad — in the beginning

Moving to microservices has a lot of advantages

Become a Builder: learn, build, experiment, iterate

Lots of best practices available

Domain-driven design, microservices, DevOps

AWS managed services help make stuff easier

AWS Lambda, Amazon API Gateway, Amazon ECS, Amazon Route 53, and friends

Work with AWS Professional Services, AWS Support, and AWS partners

Thank you!

aws
re:Invent

© 2018, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

