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AWS Lambda: A Guide To Serverless Microservices



Synopsis

AWS Lambda - A Guide to Serverless Microservices takes a comprehensive look at developing "serverless" workloads using the new Web Services Lambda service. Lambda enables users to develop code that executes in response to events - API calls, file uploads, schedules, etc - and upload it without worrying about managing traditional server metrics such as disk space, memory, or CPU usage. With its "per execution" cost model, Lambda can enable organizations to save hundreds or thousands of dollars on computing costs. With in-depth walkthroughs, large screenshots, and complete code samples, the reader is guided through the step-by-step process of creating new functions, responding to infrastructure events, developing API backends, executing code at specified intervals, and much more.

Introduction to AWS Computing
Evolution of the Computing Workload
Lambda Background
The Internals
The Basics
Functions
Languages
Resource Allocation
Getting Set Up
Hello World
Uploading the Function
Working with Events
AWS Events
Custom Events
The Context Object
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Policies
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Console Popups
Cross Account Access
Dependencies and Resources
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OS Dependencies
OS Resources
OS Commands
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Searching Logs
Testing Your Function
Lambda Console Tests
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Simulating Context
Hello S3 Object
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The Role
The Code
The Event
The Trigger
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When Lambda Isn't the Answer
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Security
Long-Running Tasks
Where Lambda Excels
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Scheduled Events (Cron)
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API Endpoints
Infrequently Used Services
Real-World Use Cases
S3 Image Processing
Shutting Down Untagged Instances
Triggering Code
Deploy with New S3 Uploads
Processing Inbound Email
Enforcing Security Policies
Detecting Expiring Certificates
Utilizing the AWS API
Execution Environment
The Code Pipeline
Cold vs. Hot Execution
What is Saved in Memory
Scaling and Container Reuse
From Development to Deployment
Application Design
Development Patterns
Testing
Deployment
Monitoring
Versioning and Aliasing
Costs
Short Executions
Long-Running Processes
High-Memory Applications
Free Tier
Calculating Pricing
CloudFormation
Reusable Template with Minimum Permissions
Cross Account Access
CloudWatch Alerts
AWS API Gateway
API Gateway Event
Creating the Lambda Function
Creating a New API, Resource, and Method
Initial Configuration
Mapping Templates
Adding a Query String
Using HTTP Request Information Within Lambda
Deploying the API
Additional Use Cases
Lambda Competitors
Iron.io
StackHut
WebTask.io
Existing Cloud Providers
The Future of Lambda
More Resources
Conclusion

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Customer Reviews

Excellent introduction. Very concise, not a wasted word. Will save you tons of time. A 0.01 star deduction for not mentioning that when invoking a lambda function via 'API Gateway' the function will only be allowed to run for just 10 seconds(at least as of 1/15/2016)

This is a great little book to get you started with Lambda. You can get through it pretty quickly and it has the information you need to get you up and running. I found this book to be much easier to read than the AWS Lambda documentation, and it includes handy tips you won't find in the documentation.

A short and well written introduction to AWS Lambda. Helping me grasp what it is, where it could be used, where it falls short. The book uses examples written in Node.js, and tells you how to test such functions locally before spending cheap yet valuable Lambda cycles. How to set up IAM roles and policies. How to log. How to monitor. With a brief look at AWS API Gateway - as this is one event generator, which fits perfectly with AWS Lambda.

This was a nice quick intro to AWS Lambda, easily digested in a couple hours. Kudos for that! Minor downside: code samples were formatted in fixed width boxes, so lots of line wraps, which makes even simple code snippets a bit painful to read.

I've found this book very useful and well written. I haven't tried Lambda yet but after reading this book I feel I know the concepts and ideas in a very confident way.

I've been trying to learn lambda for a couple weeks now, but its really difficult to learn best practices when 99% of the resources out there are two page opinionated blog posts about a single aspect of lambda. This book puts all of the most important info in one place and is easily read in an afternoon. The author also does a good job of being unbiased. If youre just starting with Lambda then do yourself a favor and buy this book!

If you are new to AWS Lambda then this is a good place to start. It uses Node.js so if you are planning to use a different language it will take a bit to translate the examples. Covers many different aspects of Lambda and not just for to write a Lambda function.

This book was a great intro to Lambda and I'd recommend it to anyone familiar with AWS wanting to get started with Lambda. It would have been nice if the book went into more detail on each of the event triggers.

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