On the State of Serverless Computing

Edward Oakes





Outline

Academic Perspective

- New Problems
- Evaluation

Developer Perspective

Academic & Developer Cooperation

Academic Perspective

- New challenges in scheduling
 - Global load balancing & fair resource allocation
- Increased importance of data locality & management
 Lambdas are stateless, but not all applications can be
- Security concerns
- Pushing the limits of containers
 - Something else?

Cloud provider has more control & information than ever before

The Evaluation Challenge

- How can we evaluate at scale?
- What metrics should we evaluating?
- What do large applications built on serverless look like?
 What types of applications are important?

To understand what's important in serverless,

we need to build a **community**

Developers' Perspective

- Only pay for resources they actually use
- Remove the overhead of configuring a server, network, etc.
- Simplify deployment
- Execute in response to events

Performance shouldn't be our only focus

Looking Forward

Reconcile the goals of researchers & developers

performance+

- Package support (Pipsqueak)
- Fine-grained accounting
- Detailed logging & traces

Thank you!