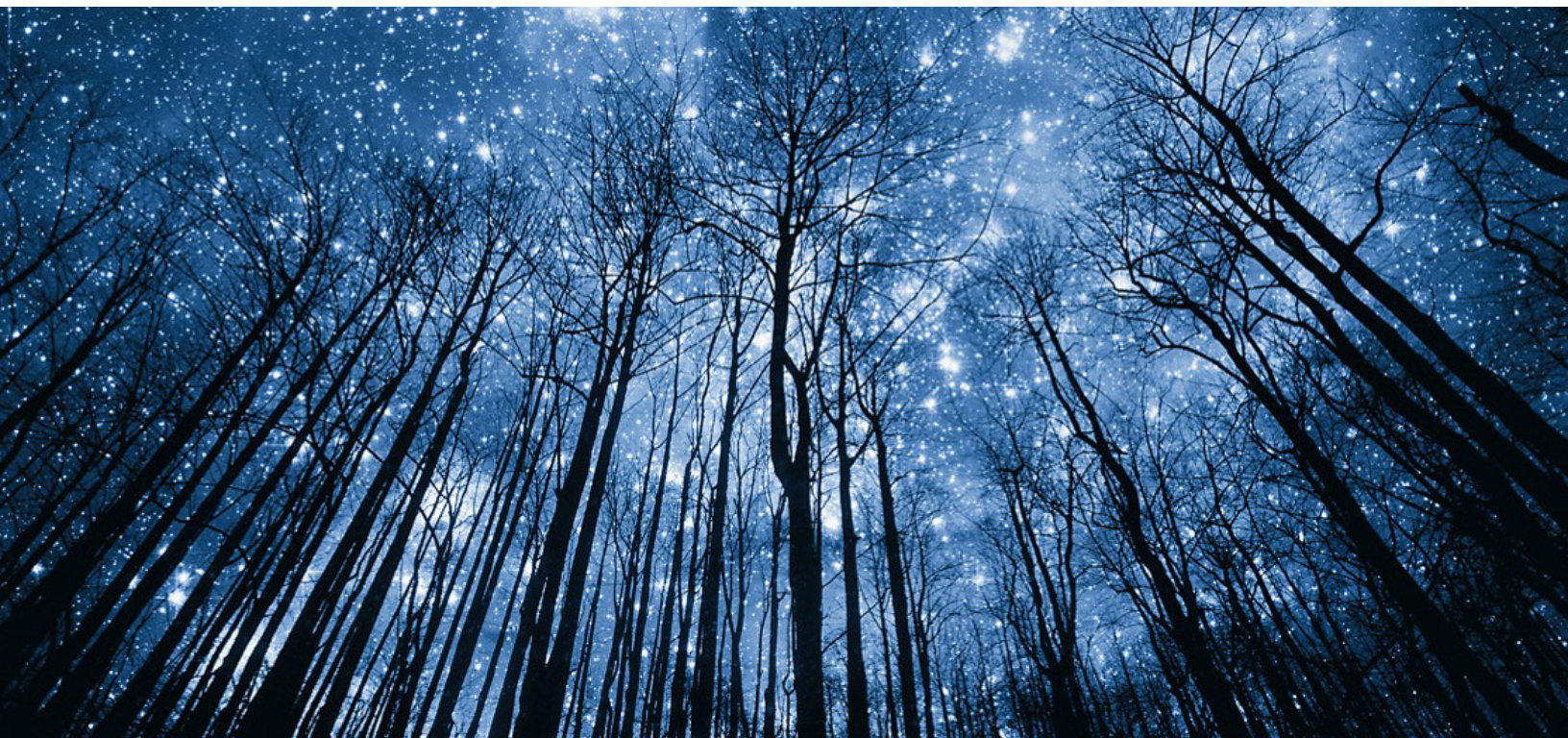


SERVERLESS COMPUTING: THE FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES



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Table of Contents

Introduction	4
Serverless Computing	4
The Serverless architecture	4
Serverless Computing for Business.....	5
Advantages of Serverless Computing	6
Disadvantages of Serverless computing	7
Future opportunities.....	8

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Introduction

Serverless computing is type of application that eliminates the underlying infrastructure, thereby simplifying the developer experience. It is a method of providing backend services on an as-used basis. Serverless does not mean that there are no servers involved; it means that you are not responsible for managing and provisioning of the servers. The Cloud provider allows users to write and deploy code for applications without worrying about the underlying infrastructure.

It started with BareMetal, where we managed and configured the servers and the environment. Then we moved to virtual machines, containers and now to serverless.

This article discusses the advantages, and disadvantages of Serverless Architecture, how Serverless computing is used for business, and the future opportunities. Below are the topics of discussion.

Serverless Computing

Serverless is a cloud-native development methodology that enables developers to create and execute apps without worrying about managing servers. Servers are still there in serverless, but they are separated from the app development process. The normal job of establishing, maintaining, and scaling the server infrastructure is handled by a cloud provider. For deployment, developers can simply wrap their code in containers.

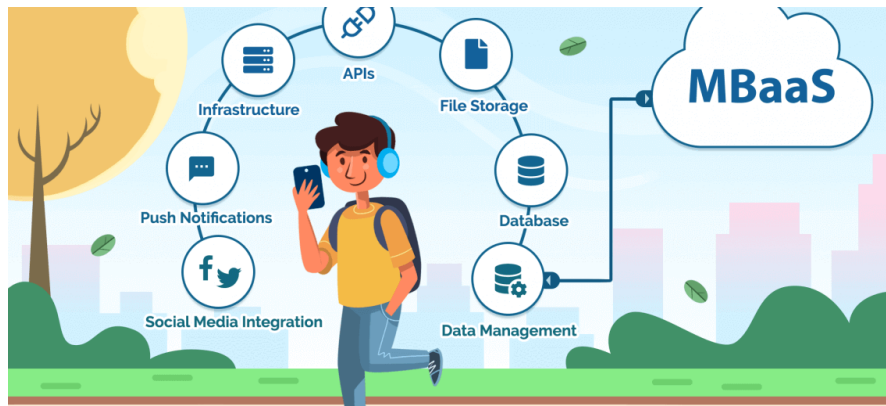
Serverless programmers respond to demand and autonomously scale up and down as needed once they've been launched. Public cloud providers' serverless products are often metered on-demand using an event-driven execution approach. As a result, a serverless function doesn't cost anything when it's not in use.

The serverless cloud is the next stage towards realizing the full potential of the cloud. Your apps still operate on servers in a serverless environment, but you don't have to own them. While those servers are managed or maintained, you can focus more on consuming compute infrastructure and services. The cloud service provider (CSP) provides cloud computing services responsible for the administration of the underlying infrastructure, freeing you to concentrate on your main business functions.

The Serverless architecture

Serverless computing offerings ideally fall into two groups; Backend-as-a-Service (BaaS) and Function-as-a-Service (FaaS).

- **Backend-as-a-Service**



BaaS is a cloud computing service paradigm that acts as middleware, allowing developers to link their Web and mobile apps to cloud services using APIs and software developer kits (SDK). BaaS is a new service model in the cloud computing environment as compared to other service models, and there are only a few suppliers. BaaS can be focused on your key business tasks with mobile backend as a service (MBaaS).

- **Function-as-a-Service**

FaaS is an event-driven computing execution architecture in which developers create logic that is deployed in containers that are fully managed by a platform and then performed on-demand. FaaS, in contrast to BaaS, gives developers more autonomy by allowing them to design unique apps rather than relying on a library of prewritten services. A cloud provider manages the deployment of code into containers. These are the containers where

- Data integration is simplified because the system is stateless.
- They are ephemeral, which means they can only be used for a short period of time.
- They're event-triggered, which means they'll run when they're needed.
- Fully managed by a cloud provider so you only pay for what you need, rather than always-on programs and servers.
- Developers can use FaaS to call serverless apps via APIs that the FaaS provides.

Serverless Computing for Business

Companies that want to extend their business offerings, services, or capabilities face the challenge of ensuring delivery and upkeep from a technological standpoint. Many corporate leaders' grasp of digital workflows and service delivery has been put to the test as they transition from on-premises hardware to cloud computing, making the concept of serverless computing seem like a step too far for many executives.

However, upon deeper inspection, not only does the concept of serverless architecture begin to make sense, but the business benefits of serverless architecture become apparent. This helps explain why, as the world enters one of the most uncertain decades in history, more companies are contemplating and adopting serverless structures.

Think of the time and commitment required to maintain and manage the servers. This involves complexities of adjusting servers according to custom offerings and scale whenever growth is needed. The thoughts of complex finances and assignment, and making plans are areas that most companies would prefer to avoid. Unfortunately for most companies, avoidance isn't an option, and the sources to have scalable ability are frequently slow. In fact, a Forbes article known as “legacy databases, a bottleneck to virtual transformation”, observed that 80% of IT architects were forced to reduce goals for cellular packages and offerings due to the demanding situations in the usage of data.

Serverless computing aims to clear these sorts of enterprise-demanding situations with the aid of reworking strategy, the manner in which IT companies operate. Rather than business shopping for cloud space or on-premises hardware for their projected data utilization, businesses can adopt serverless computing that provides an entry to server utility which is a package of custom offering solutions employed on a pay-as-you-move /pay-as-you-grow basis.

This method of the usage not only helps the business and meets the requirements but also provides builders and developers of business to lay out and construct serverless packages with extended agility at a lower cost. From an operational perspective, adopting serverless eliminates IT infrastructure responsibilities such as server provisioning, patching, work machine preservation and more. Doing so enables technical groups to focus on constructing or enhancing merchandise rather than spending valuable time handling and working with servers.

Of course, some may find it easier to stay with self-controlled servers, i.e. while using massive packages that have regular and predictable workloads. However, in a number of instances, using a serverless structure could make perfect sense from a technical and enterprise point of view.

Advantages of Serverless Computing

- **Quick deployment**

To compete in today's world, businesses need to operate at a rapid pace. Adopting a serverless structure eliminates complexity and delay, facilitating business to set up merchandise quickly.

- **Easy scalability**

Serverless boosts a company's potential to speedily scale offerings. Because they're now no longer constrained by server capacity, businesses can scale offerings up or down relying on commercial enterprise wishes or ambitions.

- **Better user experience**

Speed of service delivery is a key factor in both user satisfaction and loyalty. A serverless structure lessens latency that can arise among servers interacting with each other, thereby turning in a faster, greater frictionless experience.

- **Greater cost-efficiency**

Going serverless can dramatically reduce infrastructure and operational expenses as companies don't have to store bulky servers or pay for idle resources. Moreover, groups can quickly modify spending consistent with carrier needs.

- **Accurate resourcing**

The pay-as-you-grow version of serverless can help organizations determine utilization and match requirements and available capacities. It also offers extra transparency of charges and needs and how they fluctuate to further can enhance the accuracy of budgets and resource allocation.

- **Securing the ability to scale**

Most importantly, a serverless infrastructure gives business the agility to move quickly in what is a highly disruptive time for all industries. With user expectations on the rise, the ability to innovate has never been more crucial. Making the switch to a serverless architecture enables companies to keep pace with customers, without being hamstrung by the limitations of more traditional architectures.

Disadvantages of Serverless computing

A drawback of serverless computing for some developers is that it is event-driven and does not have a persistent state. Local variables' values don't persist across instantiations, so it can be a problem for developers who need persistent data. Serverless databases help fill this critical function for those who want serverless computing but need to store data. Serverless databases function the same as other serverless architecture; the only key difference is that they store data indefinitely.

Like serverless computing, the job of maintaining and provisioning a database is done by the service provider. Businesses only pay for the compute time used.

Future opportunities

Serverless is a great option for many organizations. It limits the number of things your teams need to think about while still freeing them to develop whatever custom application functionality you need. Serverless shouldn't be thought of as the only solution. It needs to be applied selectively and within contexts where it makes sense.

The good news is that selective adoption of serverless should make it easier to get started. Rather than thinking about how you can move your entire application ecosystem to a serverless environment, instead consider which applications would benefit from serverless architecture. Fundamentally, the future of serverless is bright.

- Increased demand for media and digital content is driving serverless growth for the telecommunications and information technology sectors, with a market share of over 20%.
- The financial sector uses the architecture to deliver real-time applications that scale. The CAGR for serverless computing in this sector is expected to exceed 25%.
- Widespread use of IoT is fueling demand for serverless infrastructures, especially in North America, where it is expected to have 45% of the market by 2026.

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