



# Serverless Architectures

Can we really live without them?

# Introducing

**Bart M. Veldhuis**

Cloud Architect

@ Weolcan - Amsterdam

Founded the Cloud Architect  
Alliance in 2014

@BartMVeldhuis

+31 6 502 969 71



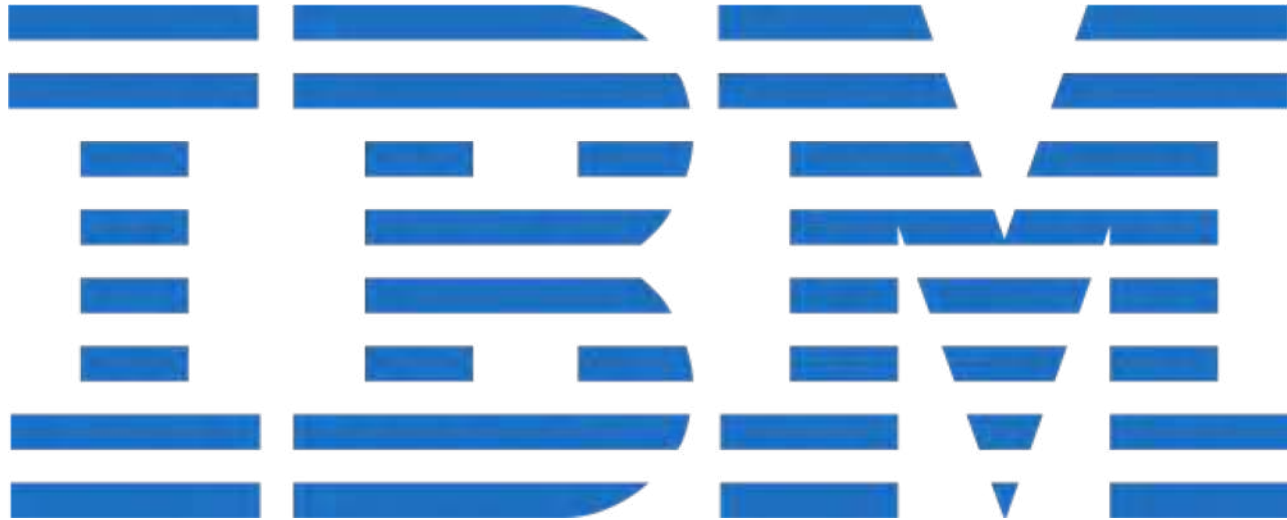


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Thank you:



Thank you:



**NetApp™**

# Events calendar

2018-2019

Thursday **15 November 2018**

**CAA #13 High Performing Cloud Architects**

Thursday **17 January 2019**

**CAA #14 Cloud Architect of the Year & New Year drinks**

Nominate your peer through:

<https://cloudarchitectalliance.com/election>





January 17th

Nominate your peers:

[cloudarchitectalliance.com  
/election](https://cloudarchitectalliance.com/election)



# Categories

**1: Cloud Architect of the year**

**2: Cloud Security Architect of the year**

**3: Cloud Analyst of the year**



Global Knowledge



**Cloud Architect  
ALLIANCE**



# Serverless Architectures

Can we really live without them?

# Programme

18:00	18:30	<b>Henri Koppen</b> - <i>Appetizer</i> -	<b>#noOps with serverless</b>
19:00	19:30	<b>Sander Nagtegaal</b> - <i>Main course</i> -	<b>Serverless Architectures in practice</b>
20:00	20:30	<b>Cyle Riggs</b> - <i>Dessert &amp; Coffee</i> -	<b>Live coding: A serverless platform in 100 lines</b>
21:00	21:30	<b>Simon Heerschap</b> <b>Yvo van Doorn</b> - <i>Drinks and networking</i> -	<b>Ask the experts!</b>



# Henri Koppen

**#noOps with serverless**

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**menti.com** code: (code will be added later)





# Sander Nagtegaal

**Serverless Architectures in practice**





100% SERVERLESS ARCHITECTURE

Serverless since

2015

[unless.com](https://unless.com)



# This is Marcel and me.

Marcel is my business partner. We go back a long way. We met at a startup that is now called Albelli.

In 2007, we were launching customer for AWS in Europe.





# We love rules

- Peecho product owners had to do 50 push-ups to add a story to the backlog.



peecho

- At myTomorrows, our developer dance-offs are legendary.



myTomorrows

In 2015, we bumped into an  
Amazon project called “Lambda”.

Although Lambda was in early beta, we decided to build our latest startup with a new rule: **we were not allowed to use servers.**



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## The Serverless Start-up - Down With Servers!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2015 AT 8:55AM

*This is a guest post by Marcel Panse and Sander Nagtegaal from [Teletext.io](#).*

In our early [Peecho](#) days, we wrote an [article](#) explaining how to build a really scalable architecture for next to nothing, using [Amazon Web Services](#). Auto-scaling, merciless decoupling and even automated bidding on unused server capacity were the tricks we used back then to operate on a shoestring. Now, it is time to take it one step further.

We would like to introduce [Teletext.io](#), also known as the serverless start-up - again, entirely built around AWS, but leveraging only the [Amazon API Gateway](#), [Lambda](#) functions, [DynamoDB](#), [S3](#) and [Cloudfront](#).

### The Virtues Of Constraint



MileIQ is hiring

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Python, Spark, Storm, Kafka, etc.  
[careers@mileiq.com](#)

  
**stream**

Scalable  
Feeds API

**InMemory.Net**

DOT NET NATIVE  
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MEMORY

#### RECENT POSTS

[Adcash - 1 Trillion](#)

[HTTP Requests Per Month](#)

[Stuff The Internet Says On Scalability For September 22nd, 2017](#)

[Evolution of data structures in Yandex, Metrics](#)

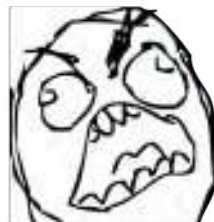
[Stuff The Internet Says On Scalability For September 15th, 2017](#)

[Have you noticed there's a lot more collaboration going on these days? Why?](#)



[-] **kernelzeroday** 109 points 10 months ago

Otherwise known as "reverse not invented here syndrome". Instead of building everything from scratch, this approach pretends nothing exists! Aha, the cloud doesn't have an OS! The cloud doesn't have hardware! It's just a bunch of magical pixie dust that automatically serves our content! Yippee!



FFFFFFF  
FFFFFFF  
FFFFFFF  
FFFFU  
UUUU  
UUUU  
UUUU  
UUUU  
UUUU

# It takes some effort to out-valley the valley.

[-] **kintamanimatt** 8 points 10 months ago

I don't know why everyone's so horrified... it's absolutely hilarious!

[-] **felix** 1 point 10 months ago

considering this is the programming subreddit, the amount of people perplexed by physical activity in the workplace is not the least bit surprising  
keep it up felix

[-] **WisconsinNymphomaniac** 1 point 10 months ago

It could be a gag on Silicon Valley.

## What in the actual fuck.

## It's craft.

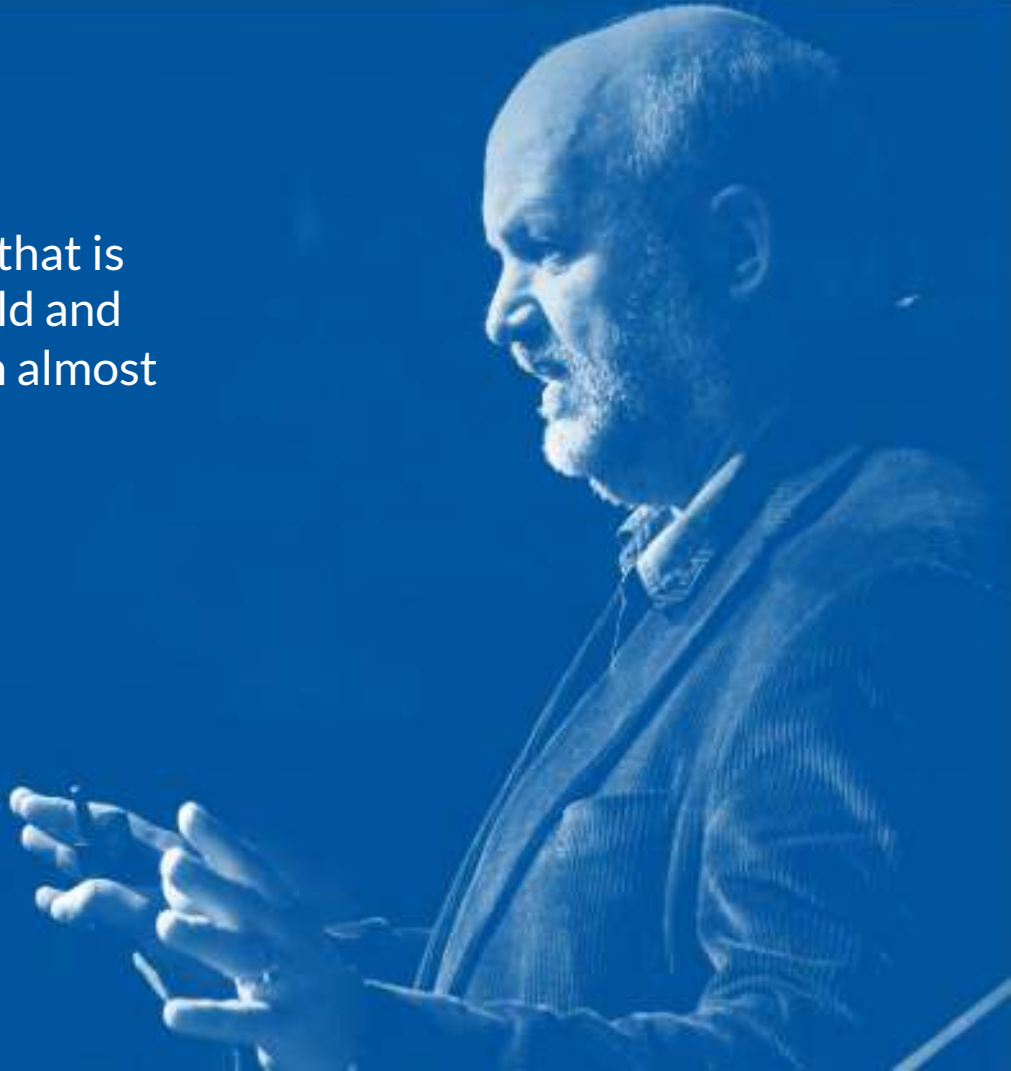
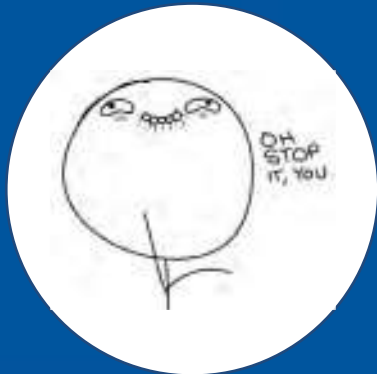
[-] **kernelzeroday** 23 points 10 months ago

See, there is no value to a web based text editor. Text editors were the first application we invented for fucks sake, there is no business model here. This is not a real startup and is not a real company. It's the modern day equivalent of a drug front laundering money. In fact, this seems a lot more like a pyramid scheme to be honest,

”

UNLESS was able to launch a service that is helpful to businesses all over the world and gives them a scalable solution with an almost infinite peak capacity.

— WERNER VOGELS, AMAZON



# Obviously, people had a strong opinion about serverless.

So, why did we still build a startup with this clunky beta service? Let me quickly run you through the project.  
Backwards.



The internet is great for cats, but...



# The internet also sucks.

< 10  
SECONDS

average visit duration  
before leaving

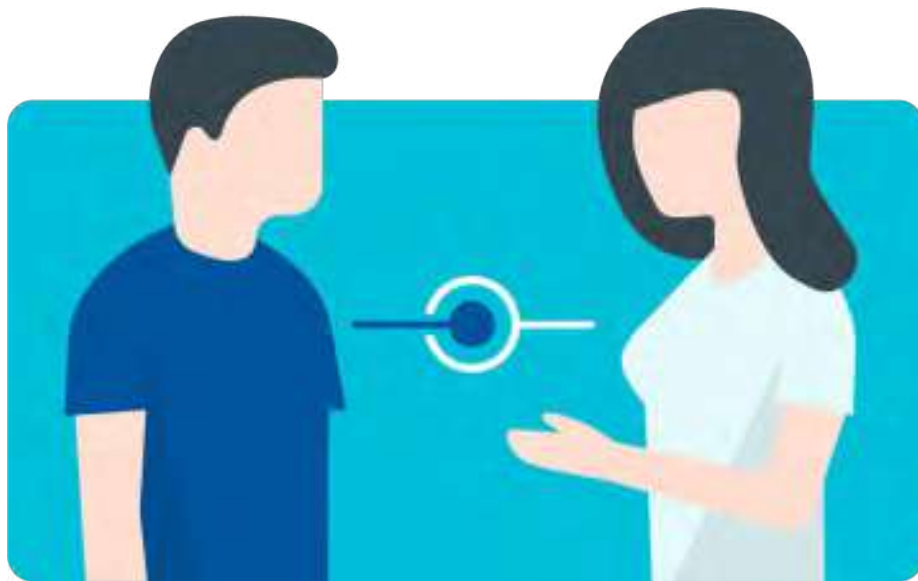
1.5%

average  
conversion rate





**Real people do much better.**





**Salespeople  
outperform websites  
30 times over.**



What if your website  
could do the same?

**Unless adapts your online message to each unique visitor, like a human would.**



# Goal



WITHOUT  
UNLESS



WITH  
UNLESS



**-30%**

Reduction in  
acquisition costs



**2-10%**

Better  
conversion rates



# Simplified entity model

## ACCOUNT

An account represents our B2B customer.

## WEBSITE

An account can have multiple websites.

## WEB PAGE

A website can have multiple web pages.

## VISITOR

A visitor is someone looking at a web page.

## AUDIENCE

Group of visitors with the same characteristics.

## PERSONALIZATION

A personalization is a changed piece of content.

# Resulting requirements

## Global scale

Serve personalized content to thousands of websites across the world.

## Speed

Replace original content with personalized variations without flash of content.

## Reliability

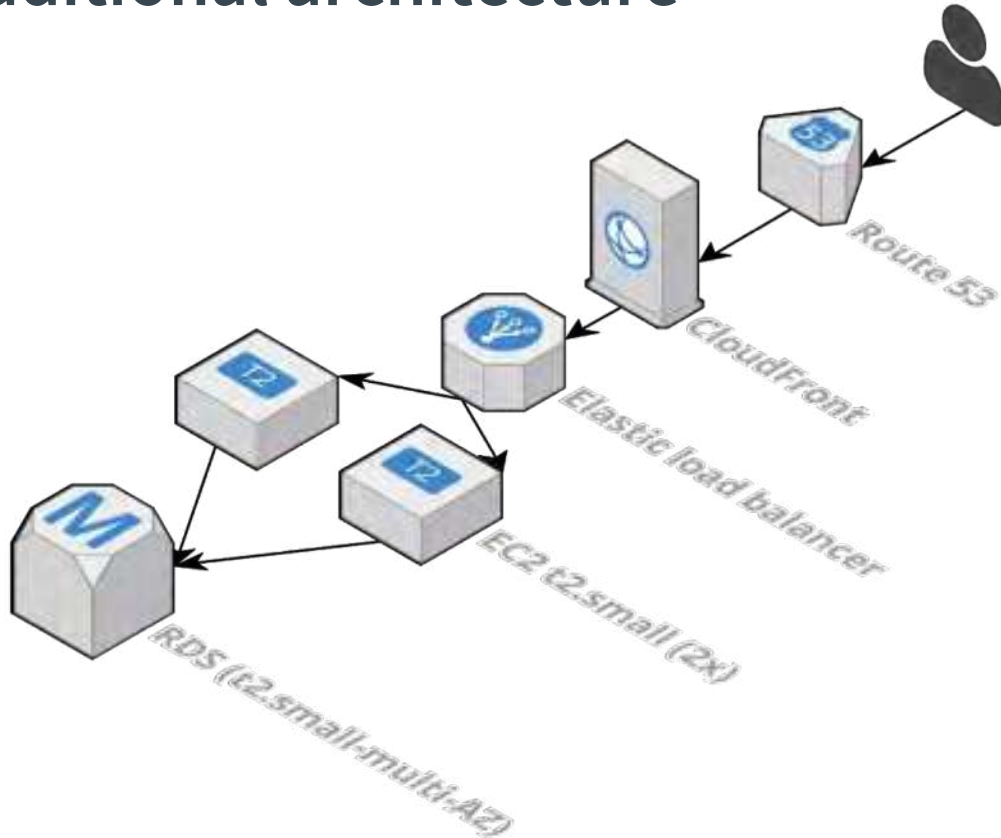
Never go down. Ever.

## Cost

We are just two guys. Also, we don't have money.



# Traditional architecture



## SCORE CARD



Global scale



Speed

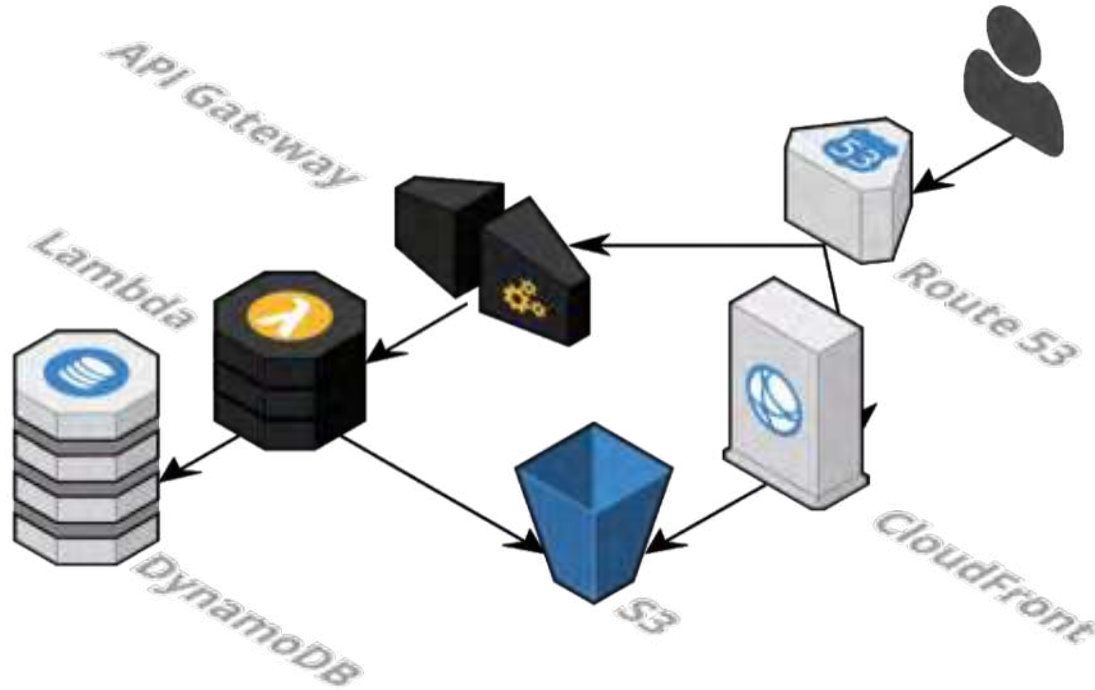


Reliability



Cost

# Serverless architecture 2015



## SCORE CARD



Global scale



Speed



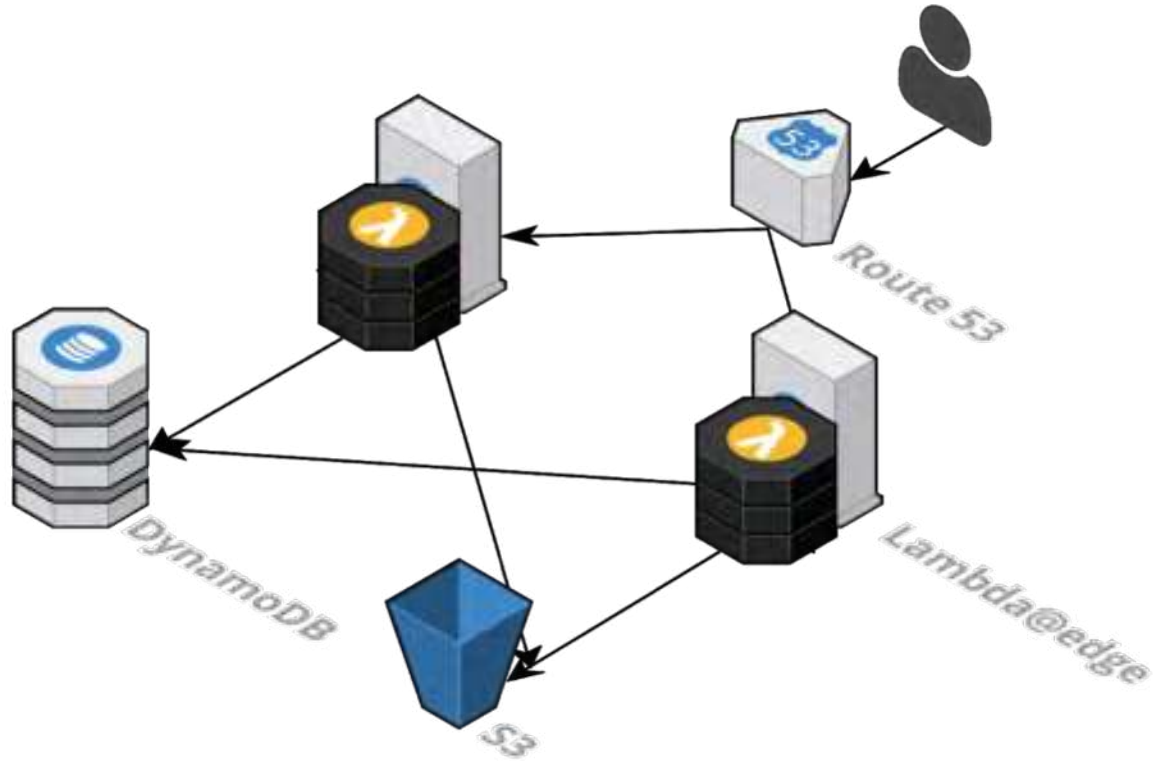
Reliability



Cost



# Serverless architecture 2018



## SCORE CARD



Global scale



Speed



Reliability



Cost

# Benefits



Super cheap to start



Zero maintenance



Scaling is part of the stack

And you get forced into a micro-services architecture (that's a good thing).



# Downsides



Difficult logging and debugging



Error reporting is not standard



No local dev environment



Gets really complex with large teams

# Proof

**7.2K**

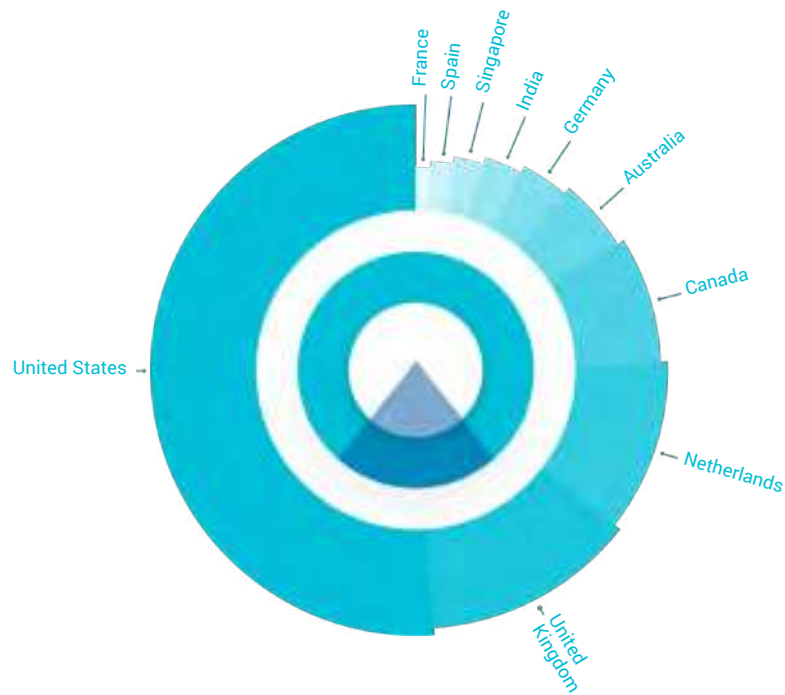
Total  
accounts

**8.5K**

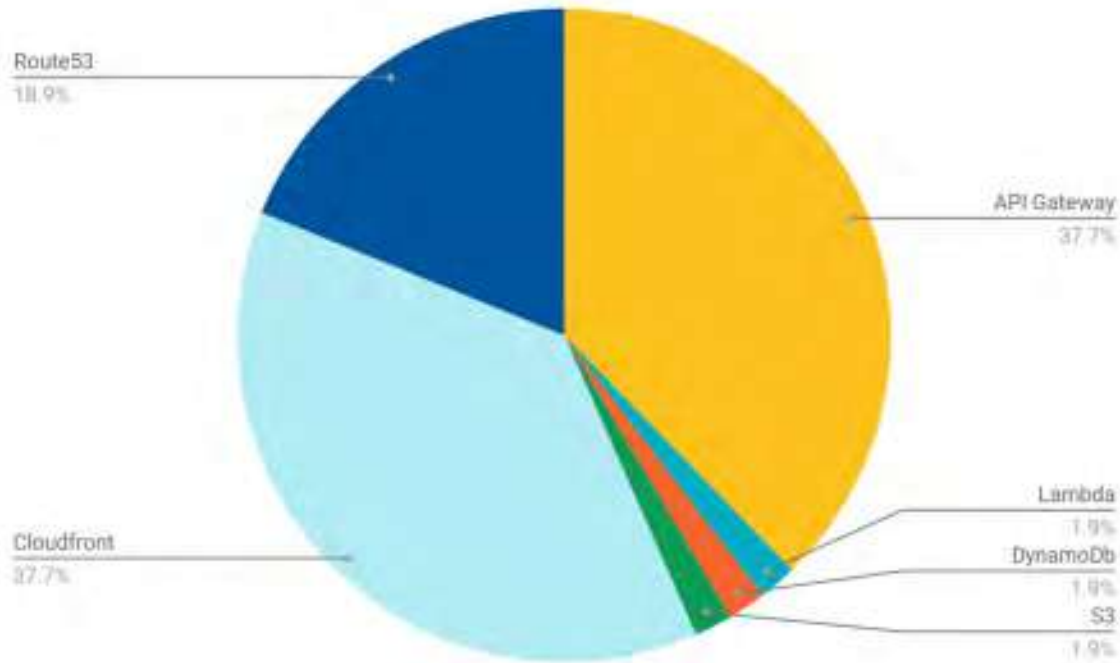
Personalized  
websites

**20M**

Monthly entries



# Costs



**145** EUR

TOTAL MONTHLY COST  
Excluding monitoring and such.



Thank you - any questions?

[sander@unless.com](mailto:sander@unless.com)

# API Gateway



→ **Details**

Define RESTful API endpoints

Add/remove/modify headers  
CORS supported

Connect endpoints to Lambda  
functions

Custom domain ([api.unless.com](https://api.unless.com))

IAM authentication supported

Generate SDK for Android, iOS  
or JavaScript

# Lambda functions



## Details

NodeJs, Java or Python

Pay per 100ms usage

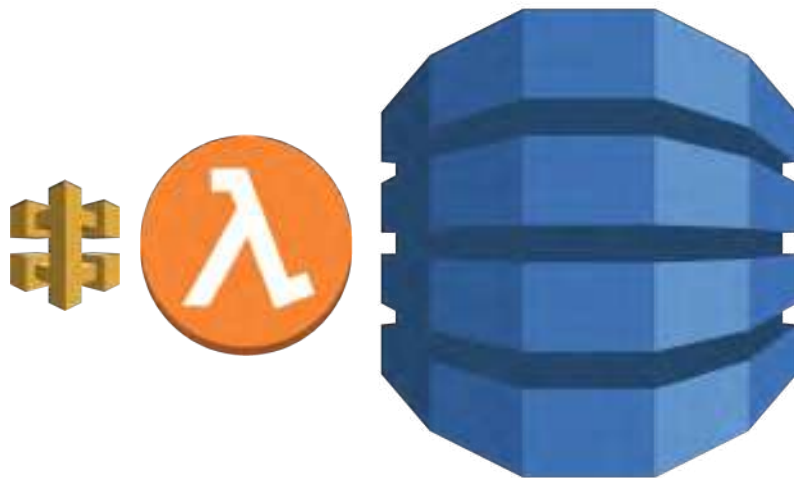
Price depends on memory allocation

Free tier

IAM authentication supported

Connect to events in AWS

# DynamoDb



→ **Details**

NoSQL service

Single digit ms latency

API Gateway -> Lambda ->  
DynamoDb = 100~500 ms

Store live data in S3 and serve  
through Cloudfront in 30~50 ms



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# Cyle Riggs

**Live coding: A serverless platform in 100 lines**



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# Ask the experts:

**Yvo van Doorn**



**Mission Critical Engineer | Schuberg Philis**

**Simon Heerschap**



**Sr. Software Architect | Mirabeau**

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# Introducing

**Freek Beemster**

Entrepreneur

@ NIAH Executive Search

co-founded the Cloud  
Architect Alliance in 2014





# Thank You