aws re: Invent

SVS407-R

Architecting and operating resilient serverless systems at scale

David Yanacek

Principal Engineer AWS Lambda Amazon Web Services

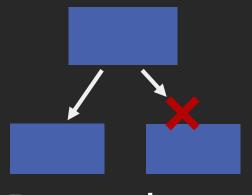




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Avoid brownout by rejecting excess load



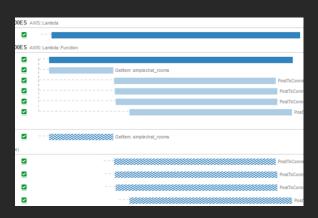
Dependency isolation

Prevent one dependency from affecting unrelated functionality



Avoiding queue backlogs

Prevent a backlog from extending recovery time



Operating

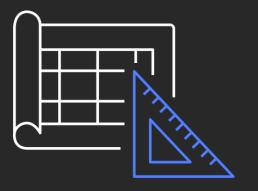
Quickly diagnose and mitigate issues

Structure

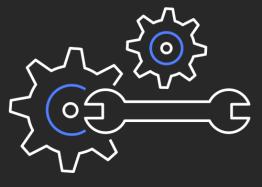




Serverless resiliency tools



Motivation for serverless



AWS under the hood

Overload, illustrated

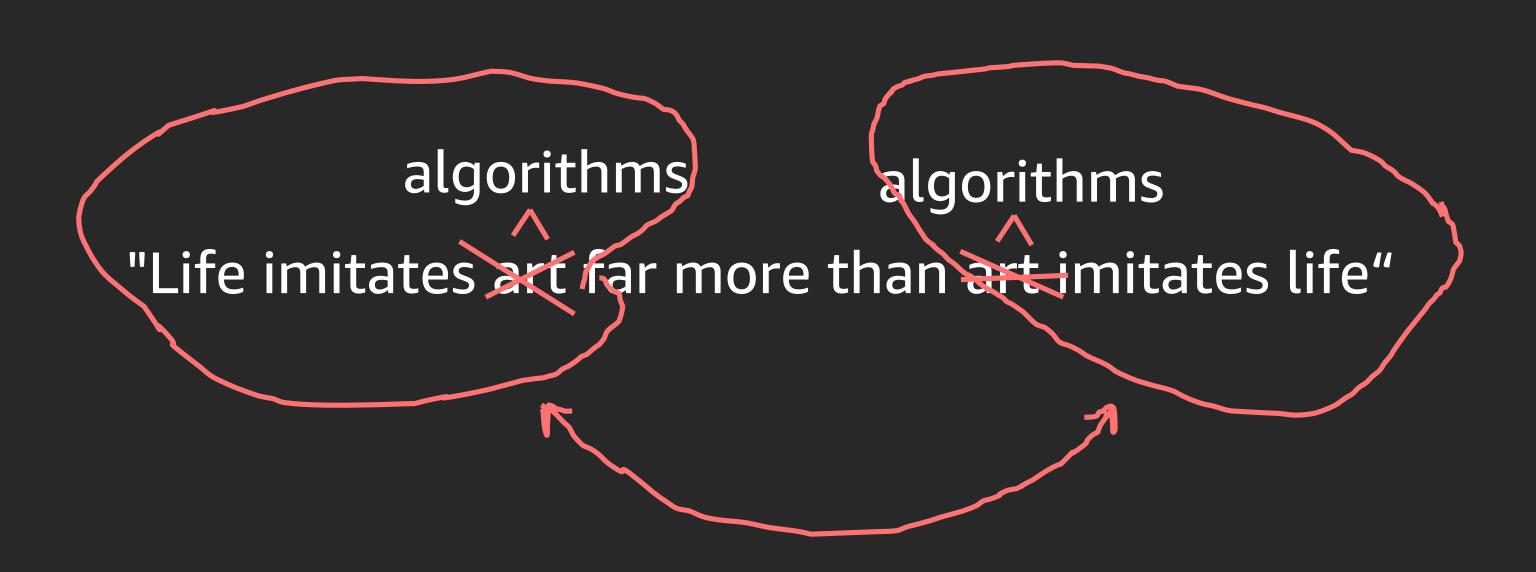




"Life imitates art far more than art imitates life"

- Oscar Wilde, 1889

algorithms algorithms
"Life imitates art far more than art imitates life"



"Algorithms imitate life far more than life imitates algorithms"

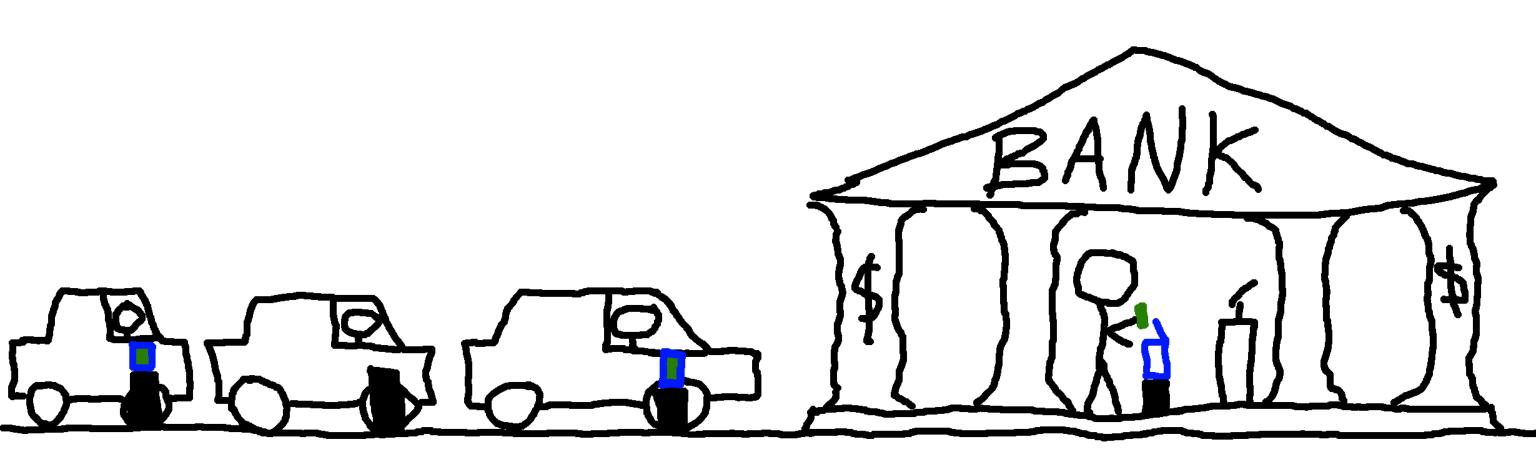
- Somebody, probably

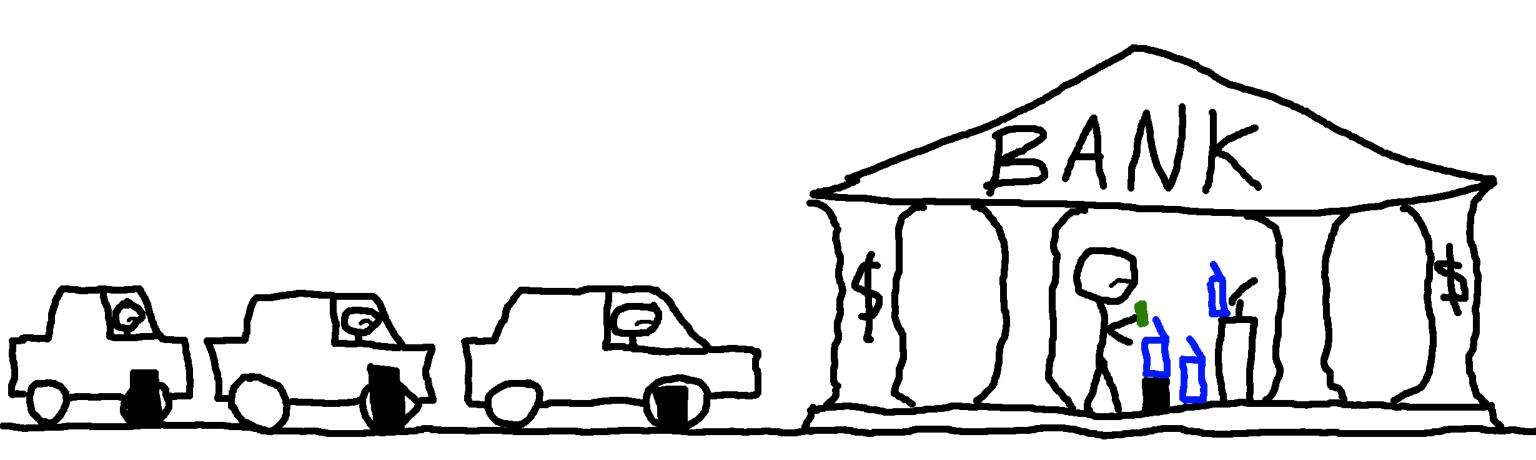
Back in high school...

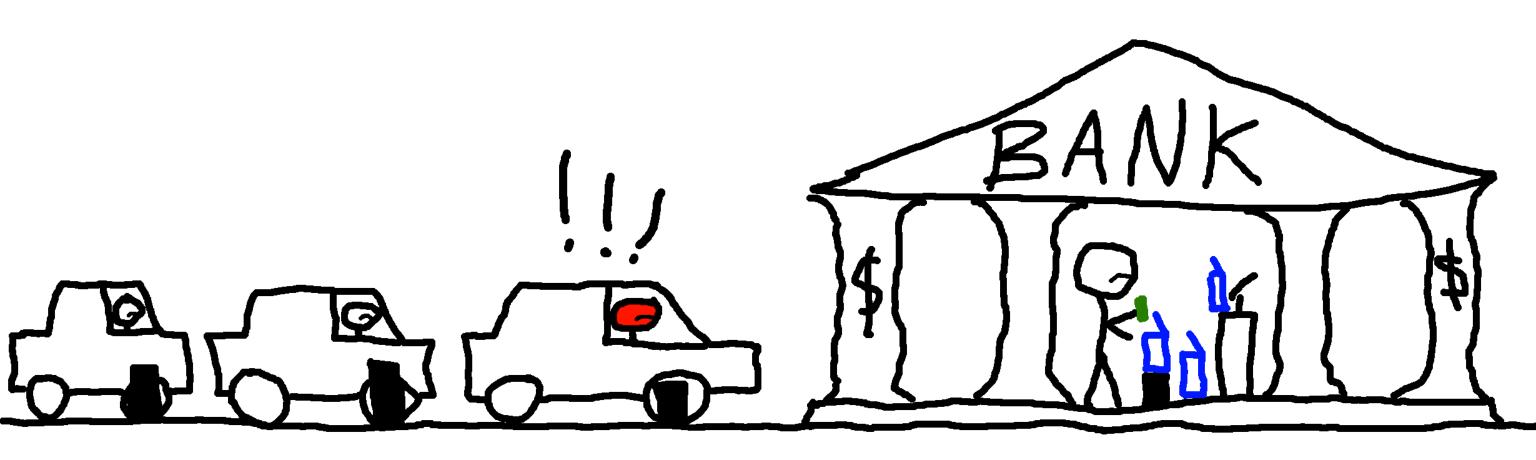


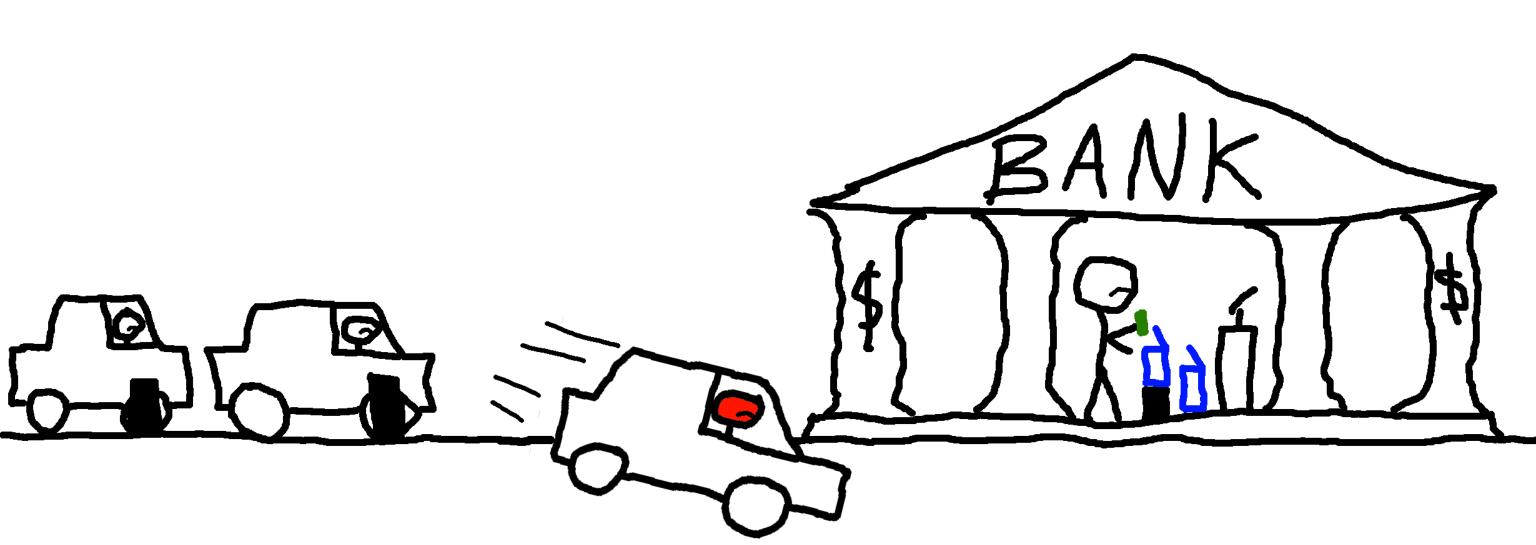








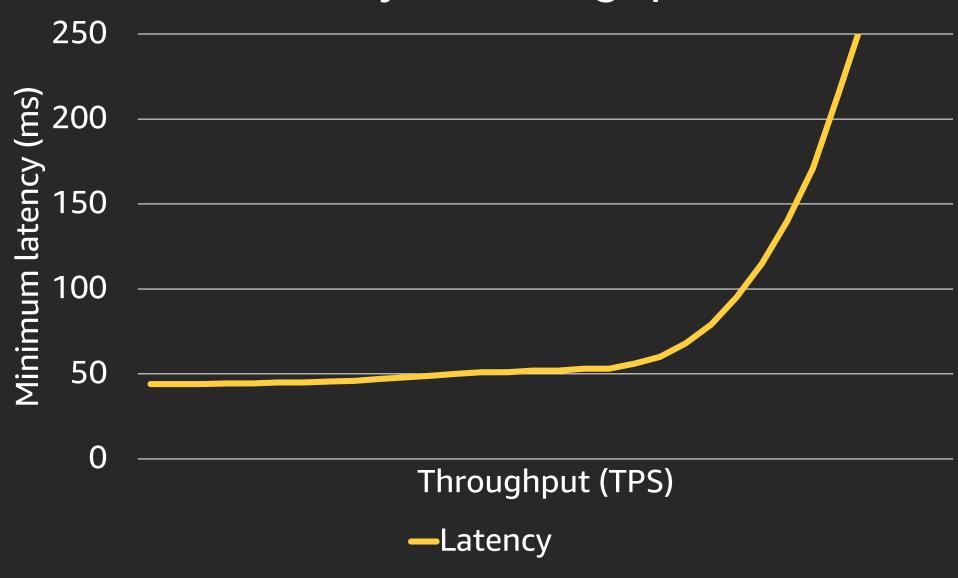


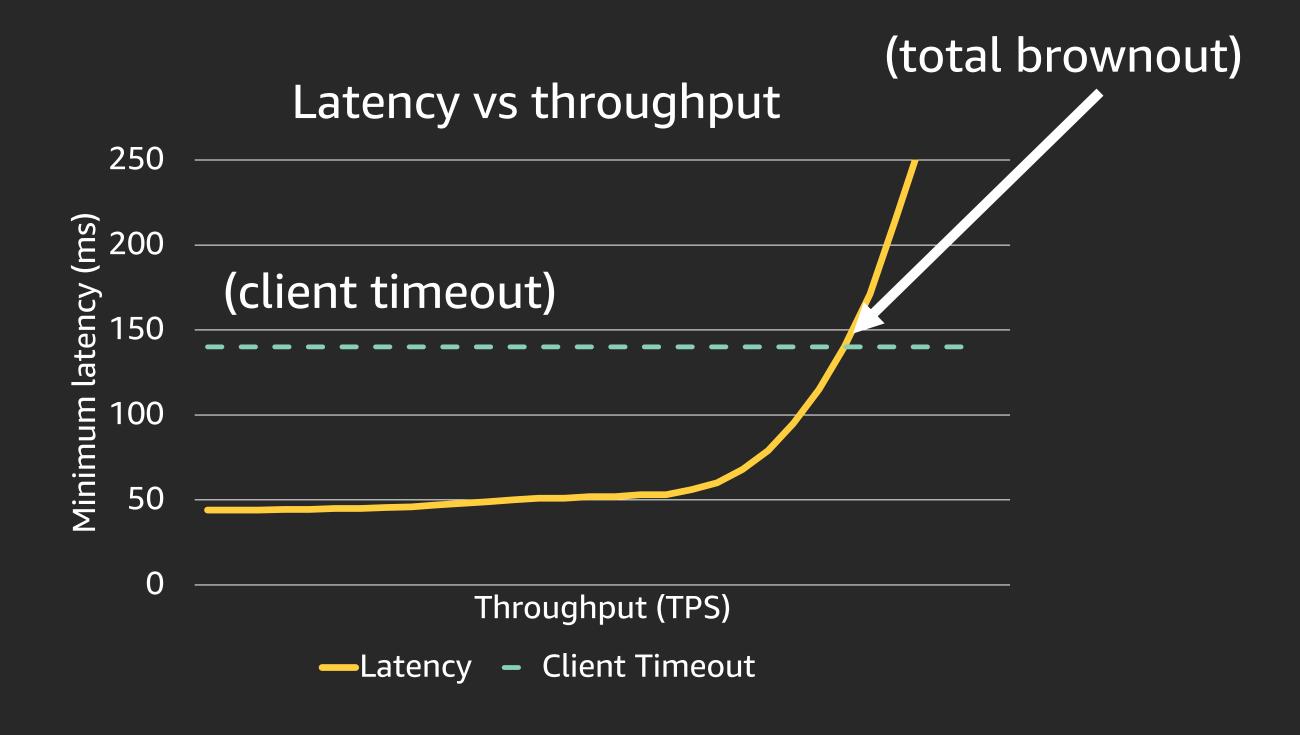


Amdahl's Law, Universal Scalability Law

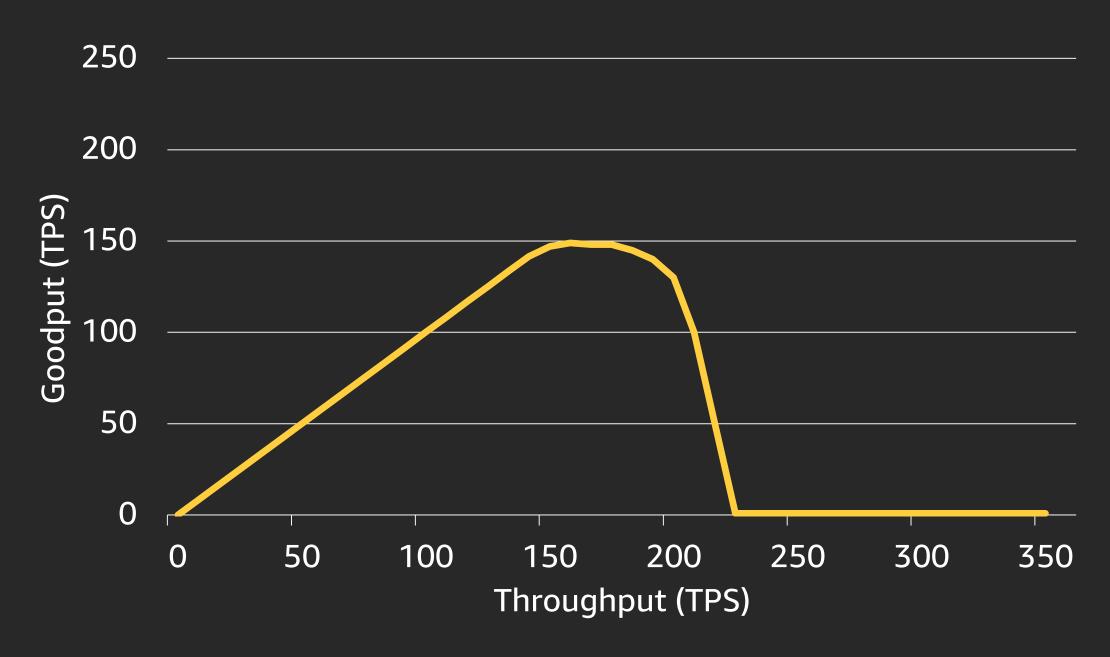
You can parallelize a system up to the point where contention becomes the bottleneck

Latency vs throughput

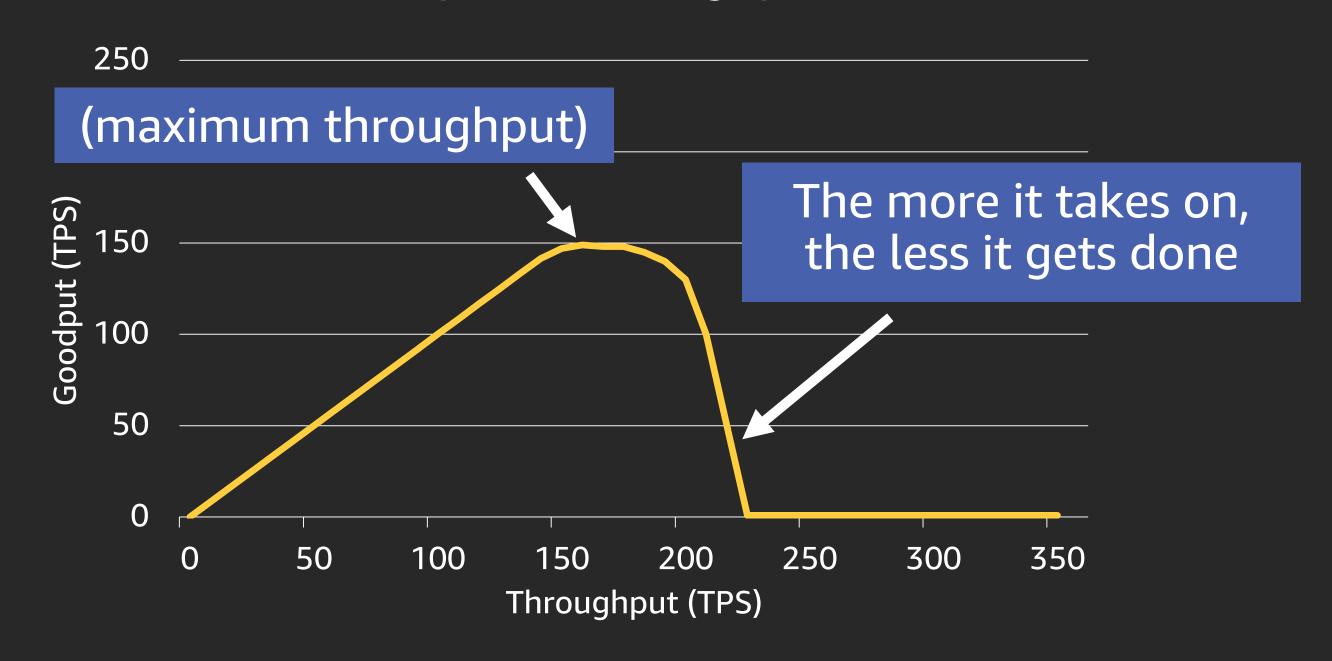




Goodput vs throughput

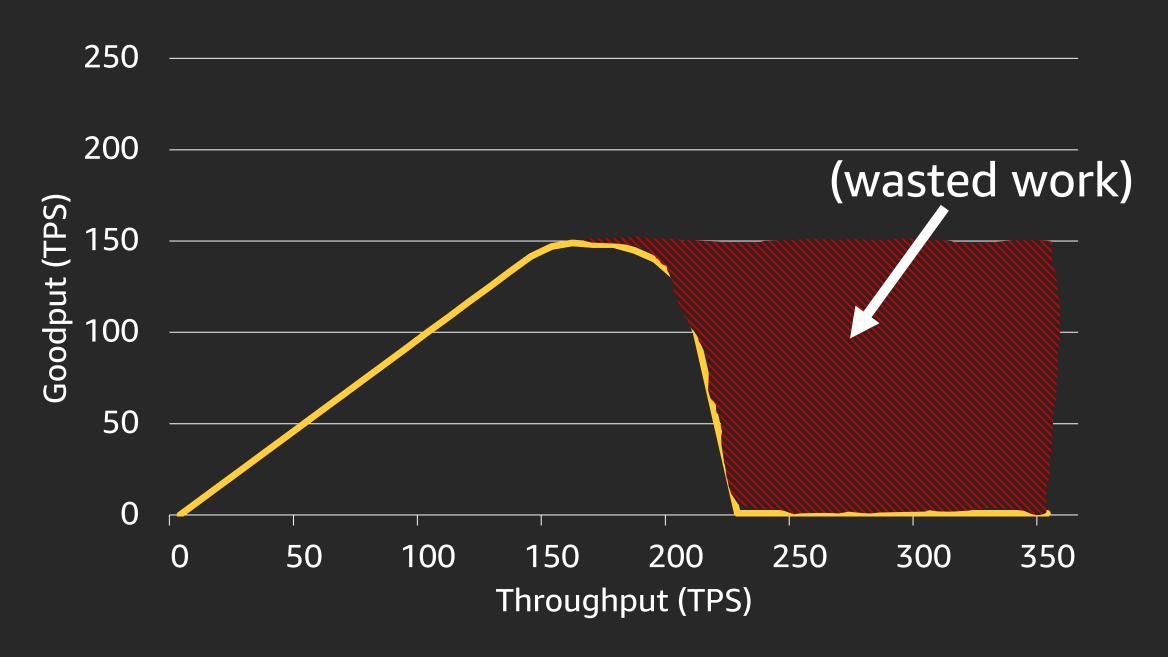


Goodput vs throughput



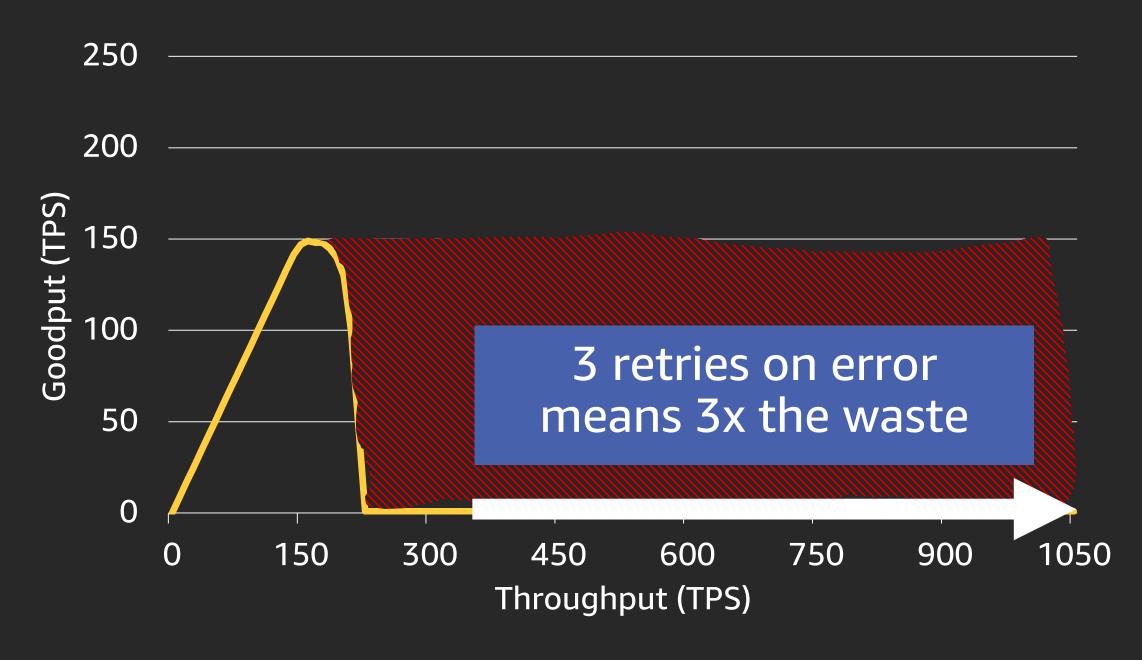
Servers are too optimistic

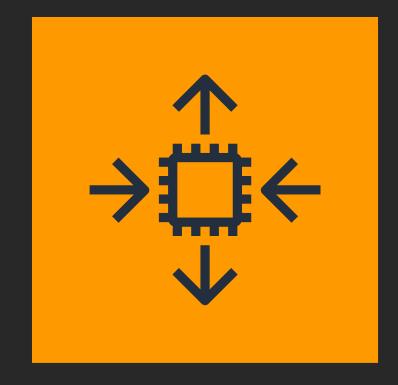
Goodput vs throughput



Clients retry

Goodput vs throughput

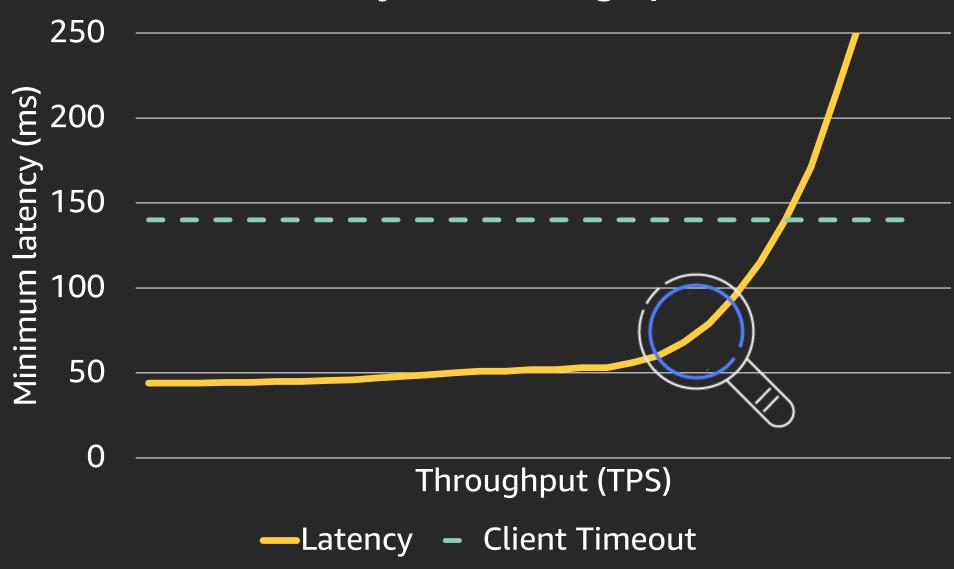




Amazon EC2
Auto Scaling

Understand tipping points

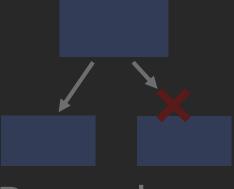
Latency vs throughput



Chapter one

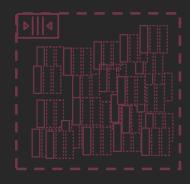


Avoid brownout by rejecting excess load



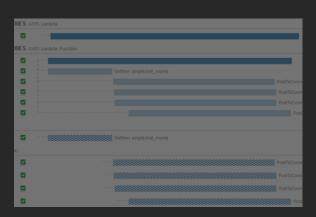
Dependency isolation

Prevent one dependency from affecting unrelated functionality



Avoiding queue backlogs

Prevent a backlog from extending recovery time

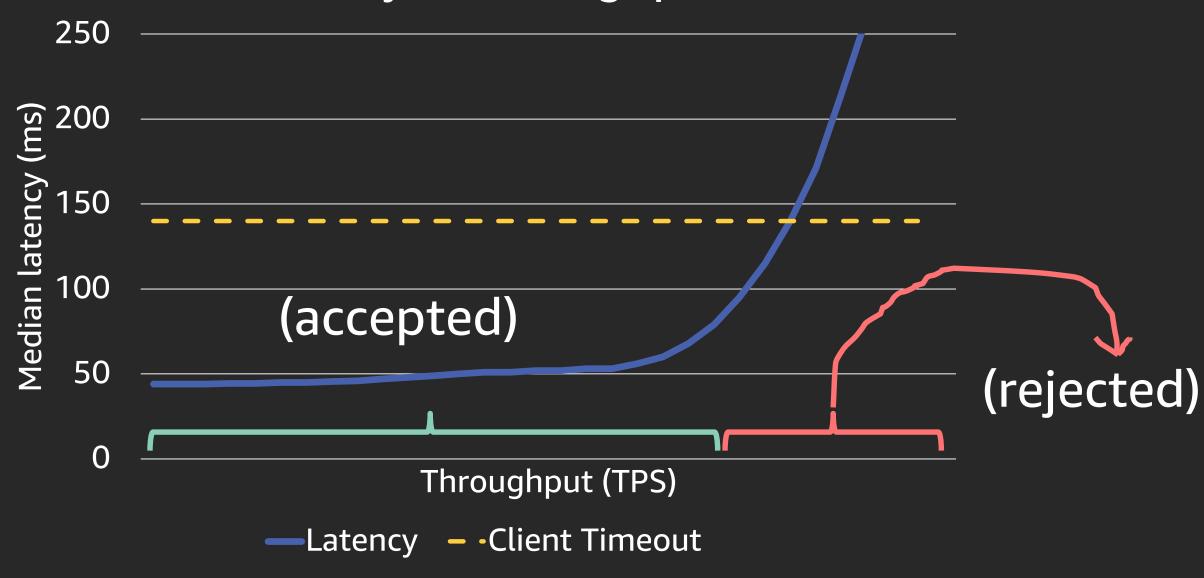


Operating

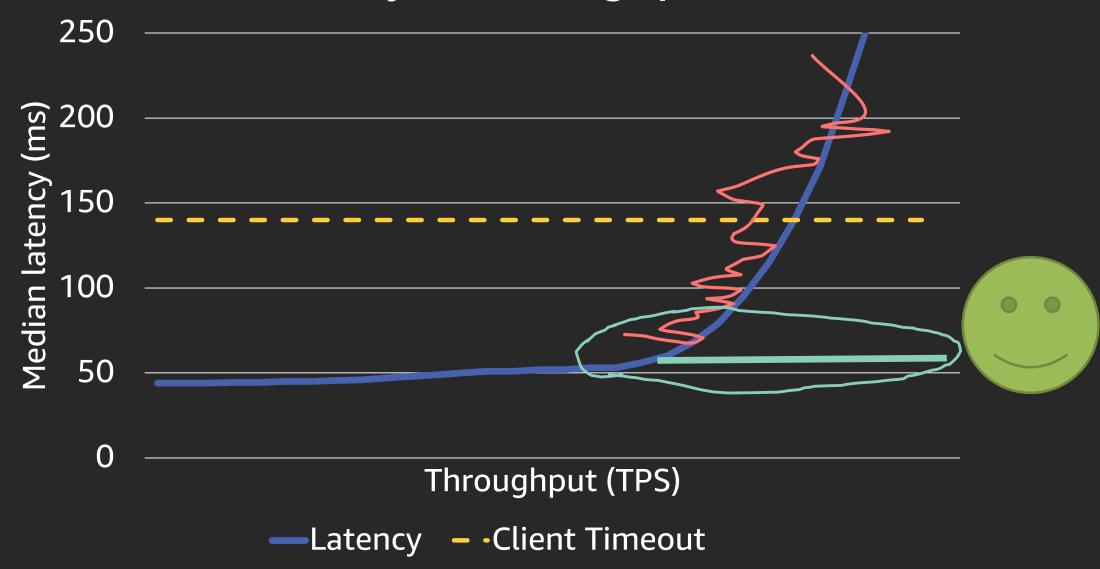
Quickly diagnose and mitigate issues

Cheaply reject excess work

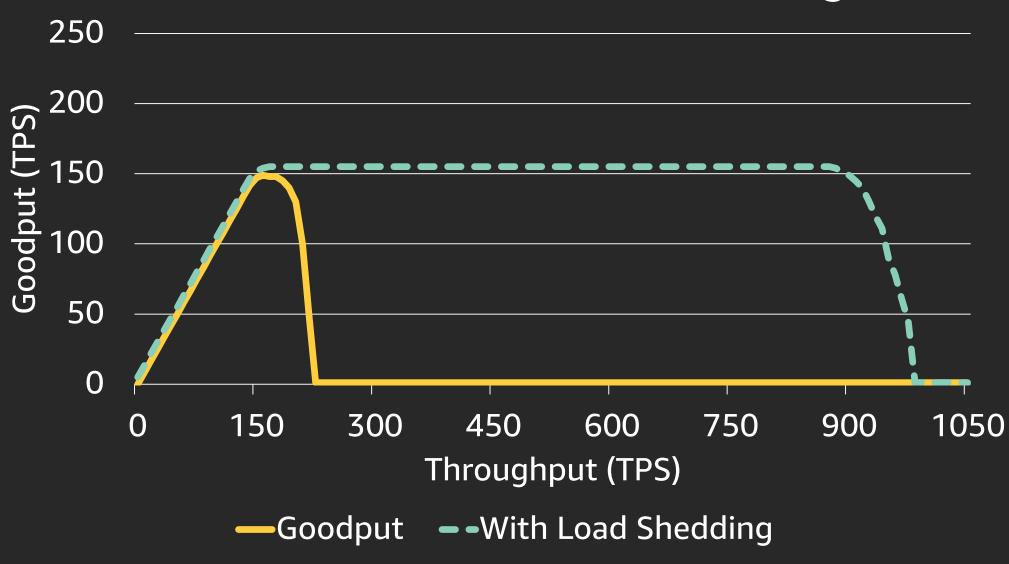
Latency vs throughput



Latency vs throughput

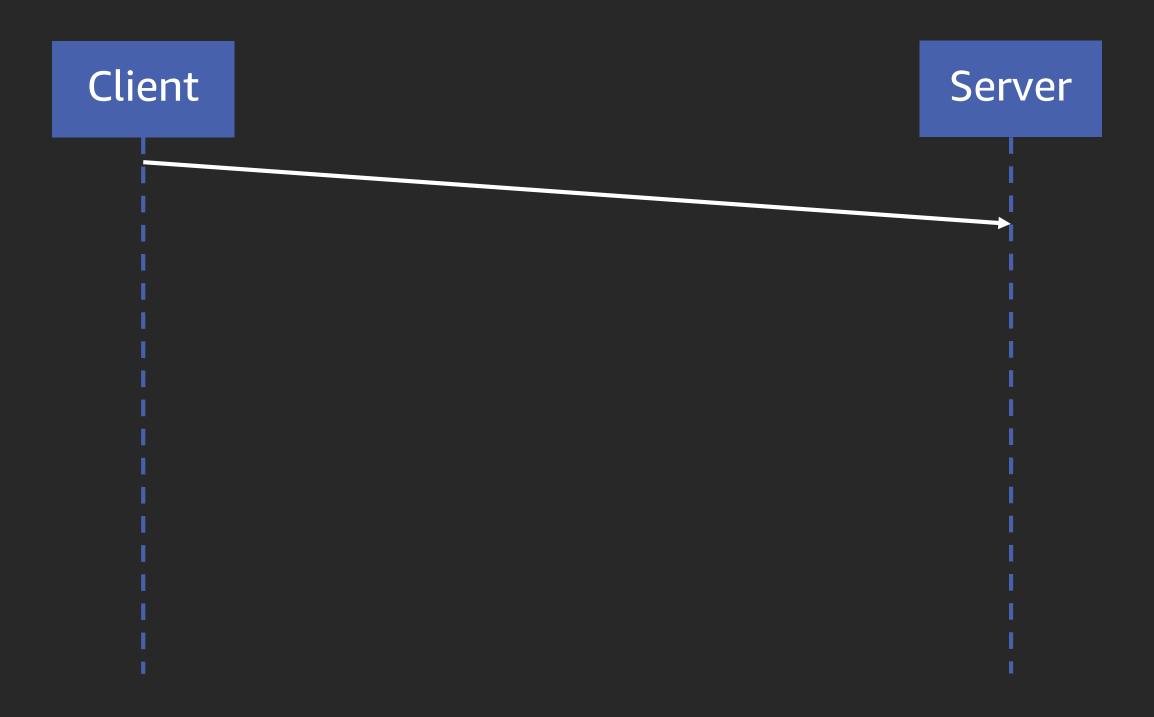


Goodput vs throughput, with and without load shedding

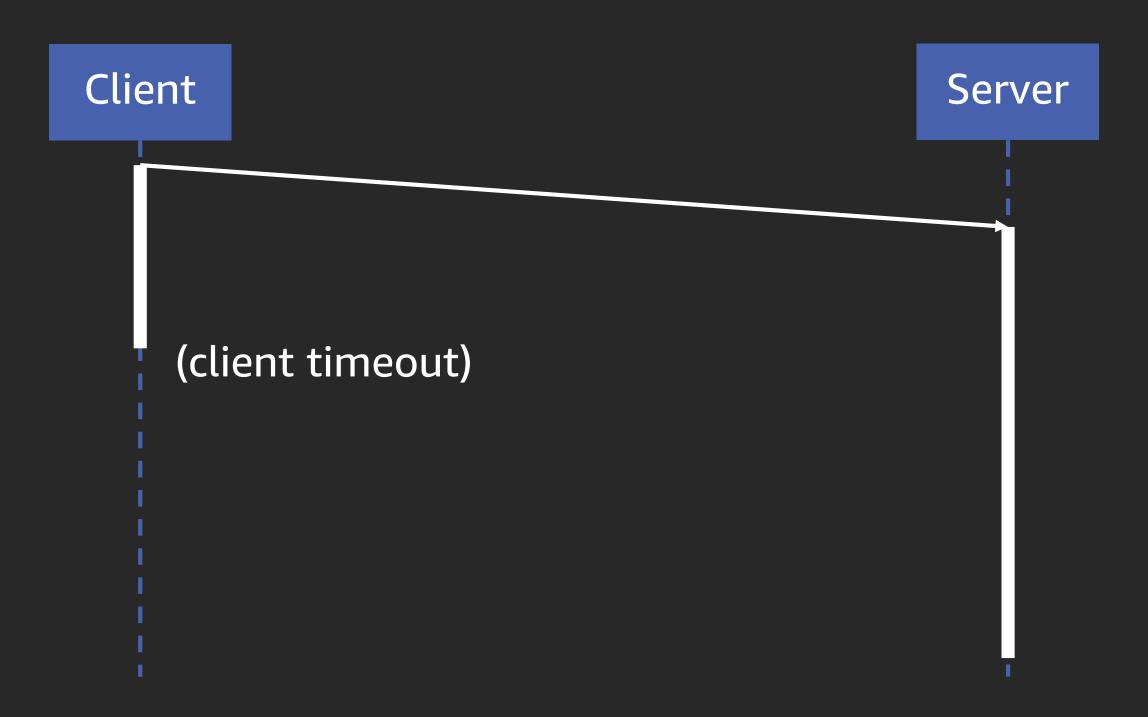


Don't waste work

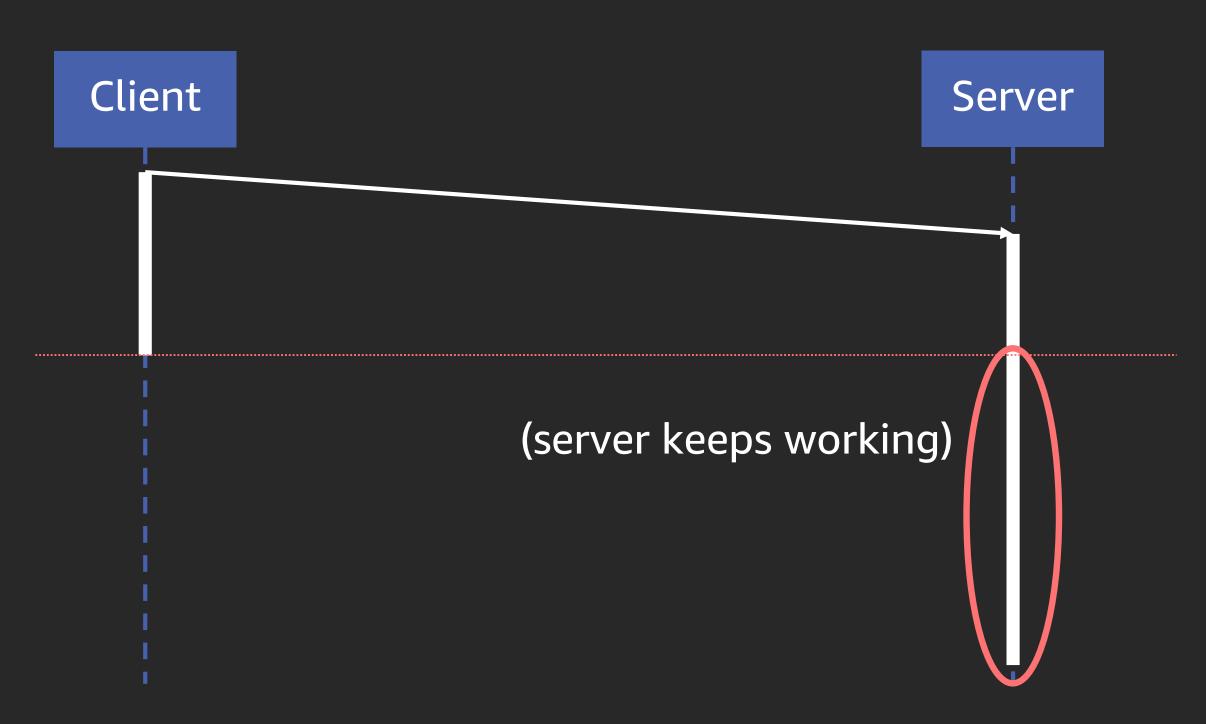
Timeout wasting work



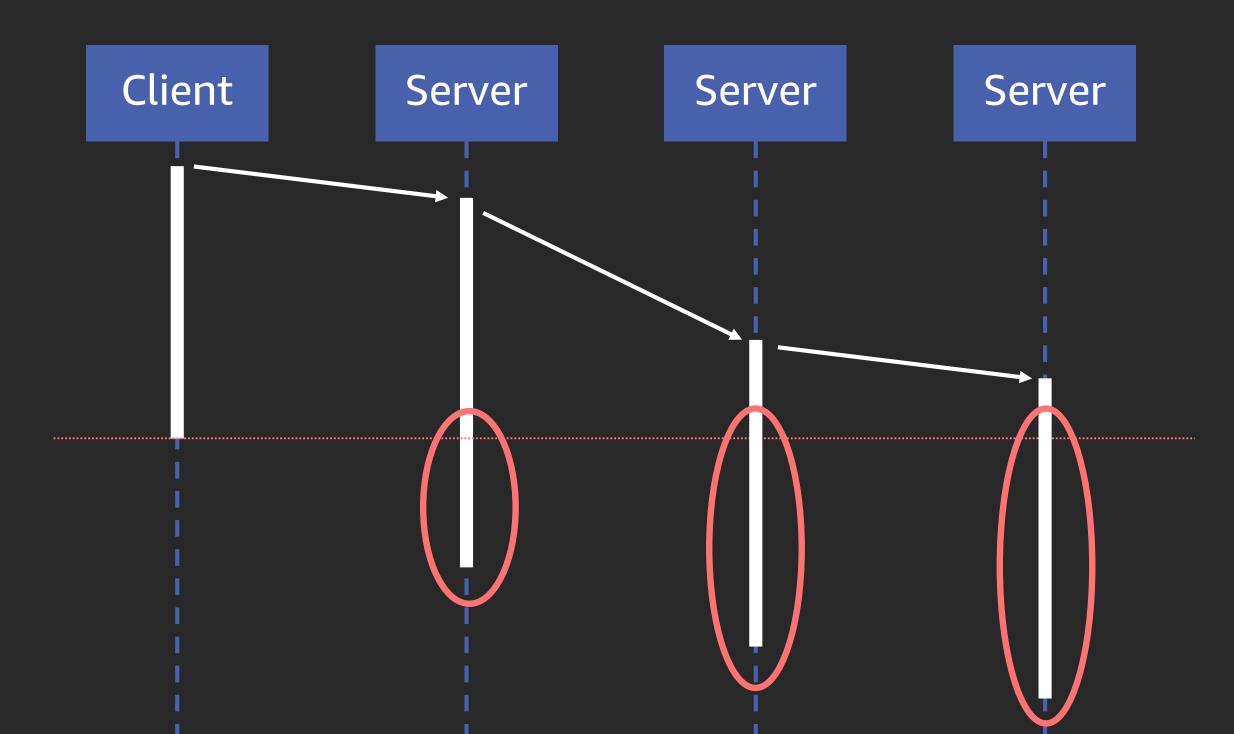
Timeout wasting work



Timeout wasting work



Layers of waste



Server(less?)-side timeouts in Lambda

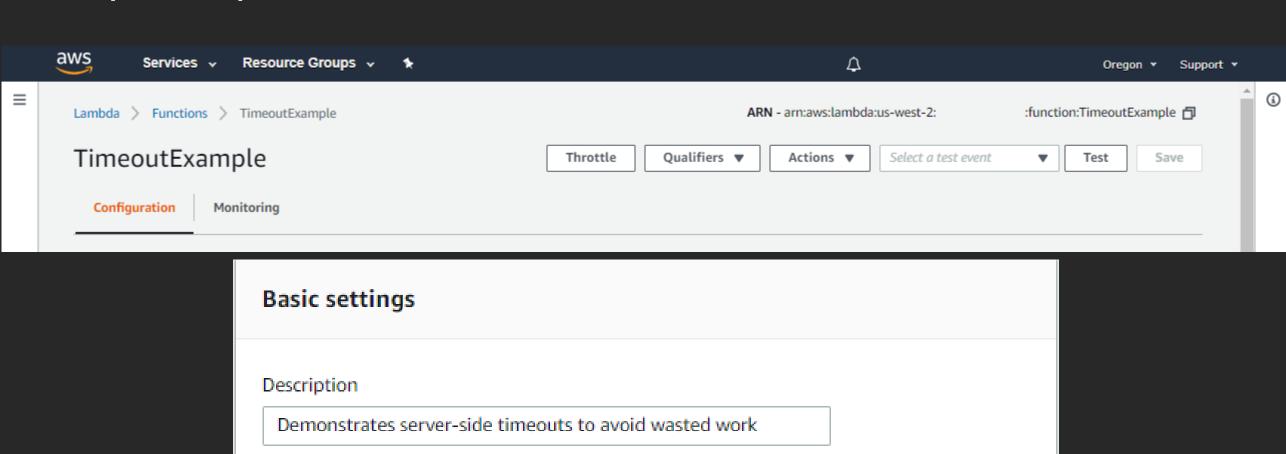
Memory (MB) Info

Timeout Info

0

min

3

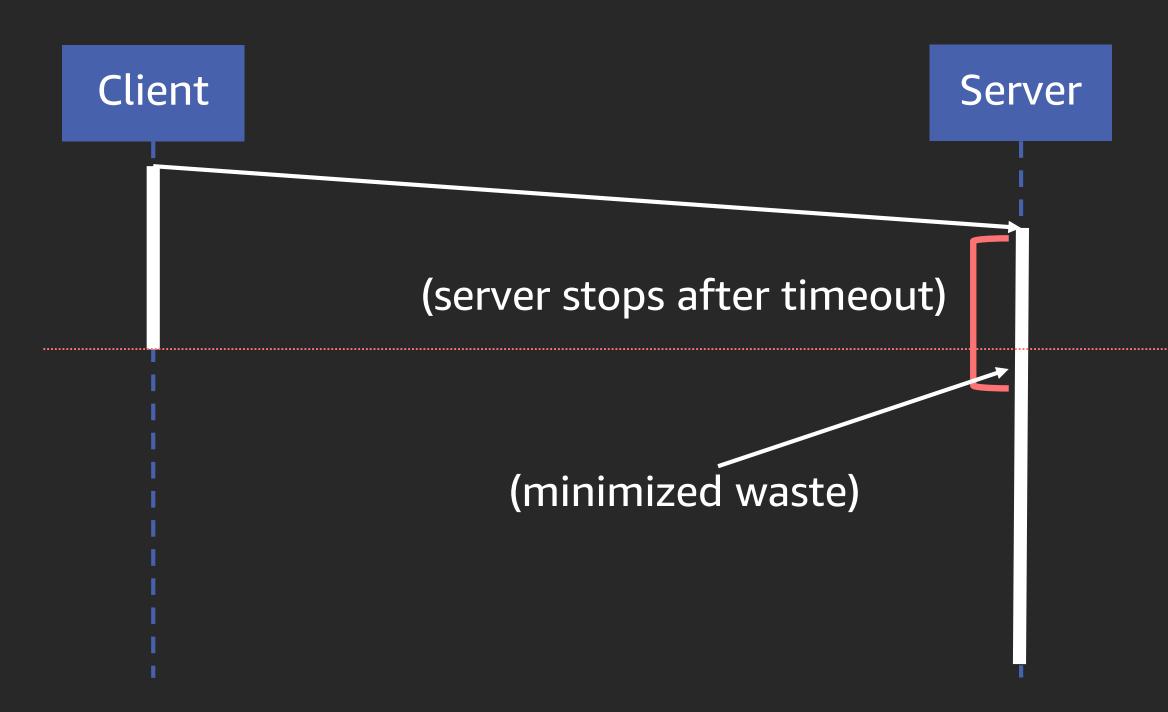


128 MB

Your function is allocated CPU proportional to the memory configured.

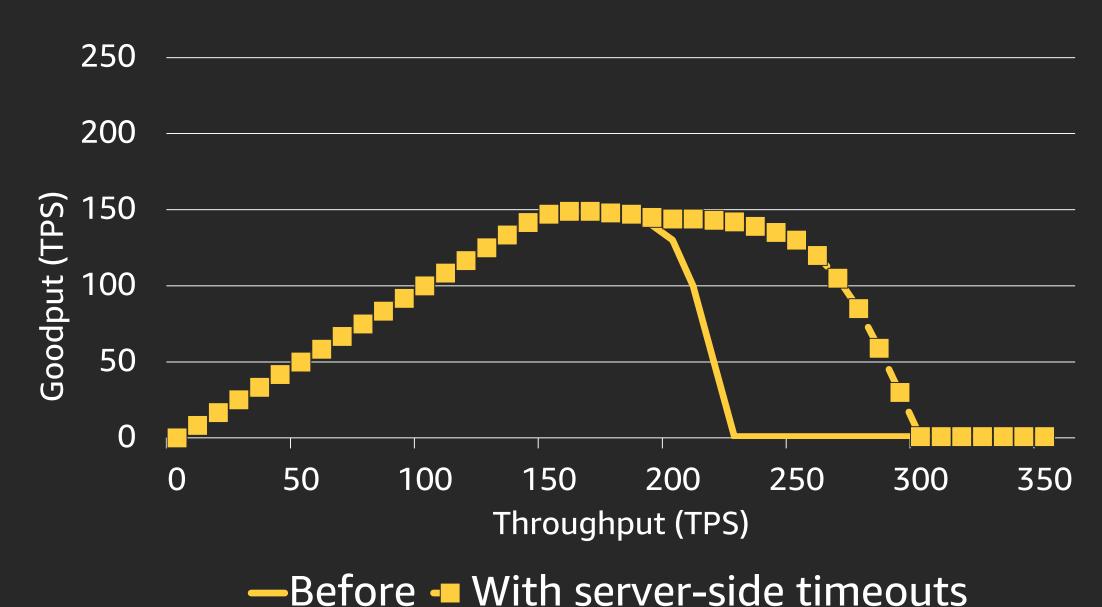
sec

Server-side timeouts



Better, still not great

Goodput vs throughput



(Un?)Intended consequences?

Expensive requests?

Slow dependency?

Bounded work

Input size validation
Pagination
Checkpointing

Checkpointing



Checkpointing

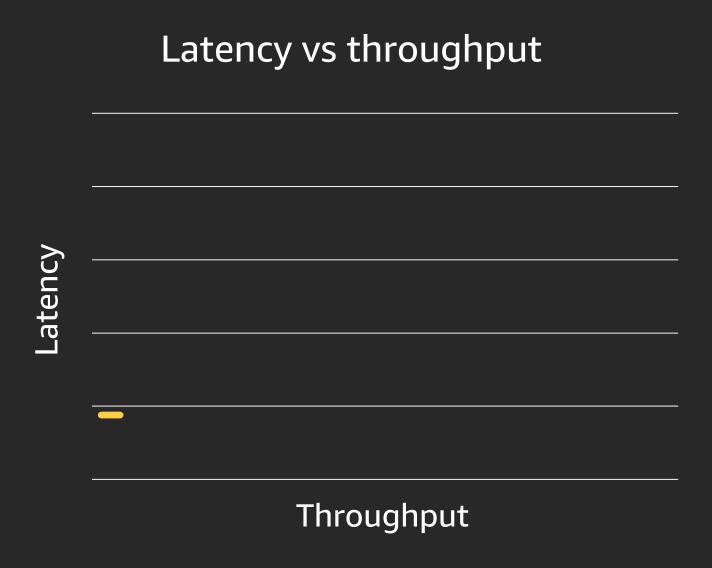


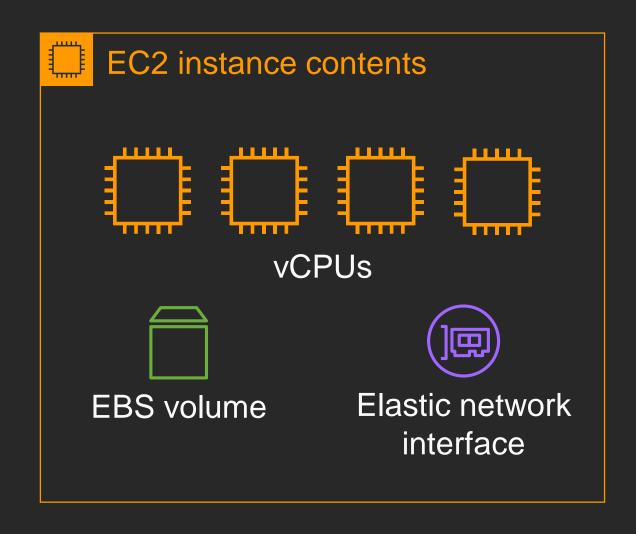
Checkpointing

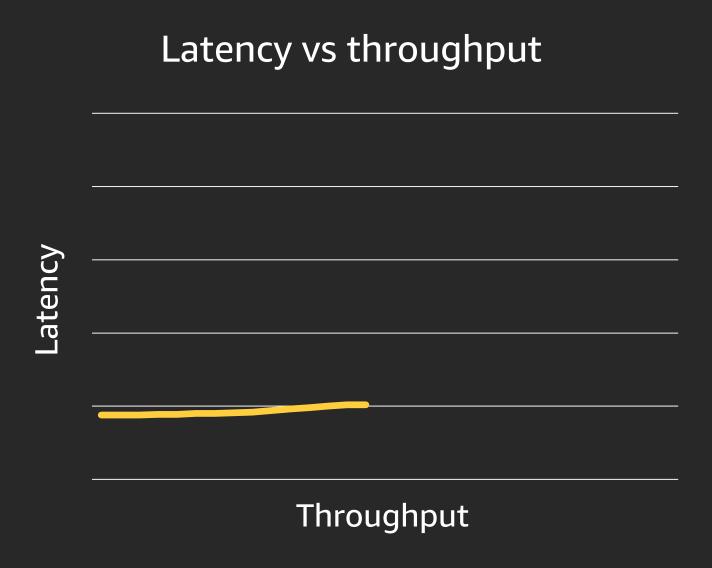


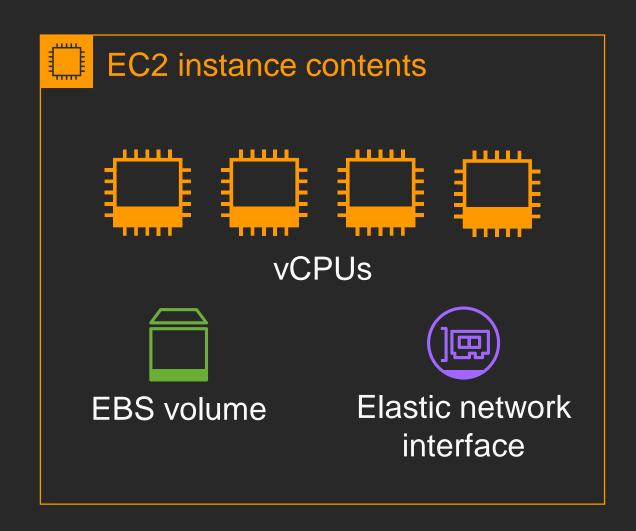
Bounded work

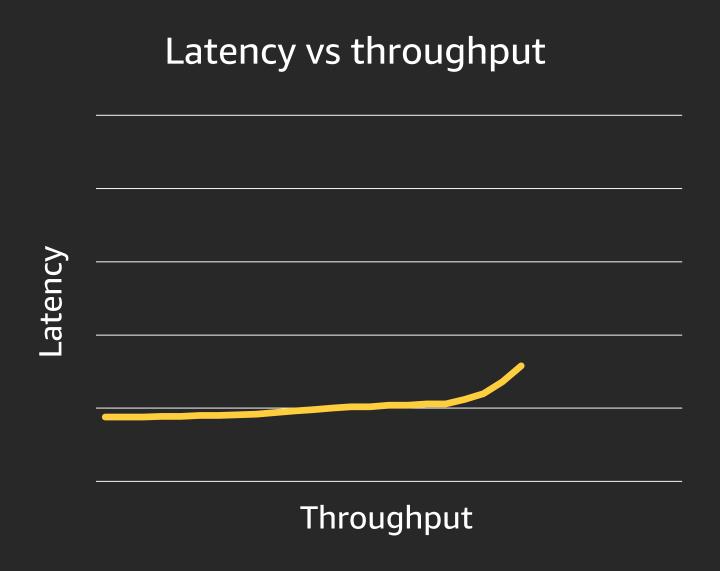
Don't take on too much work

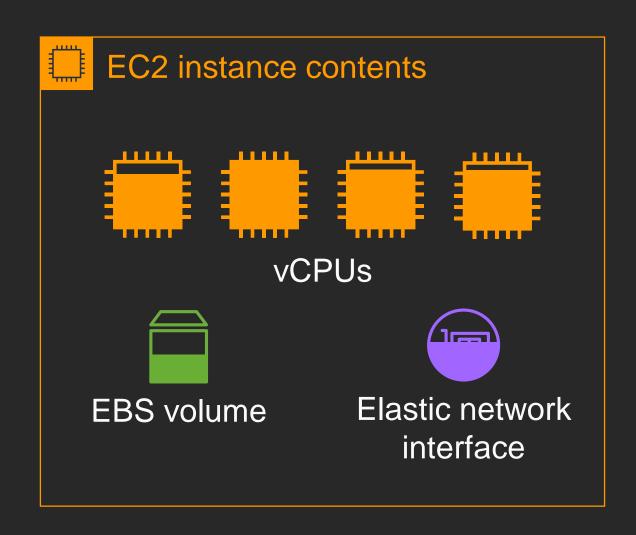


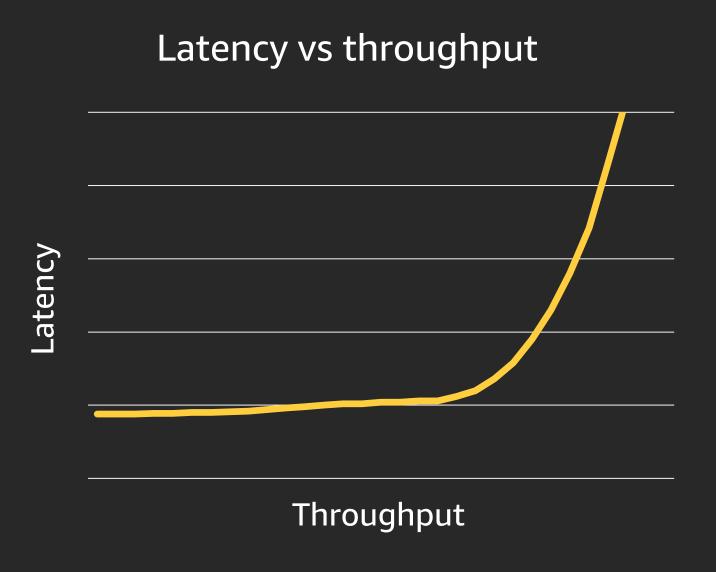


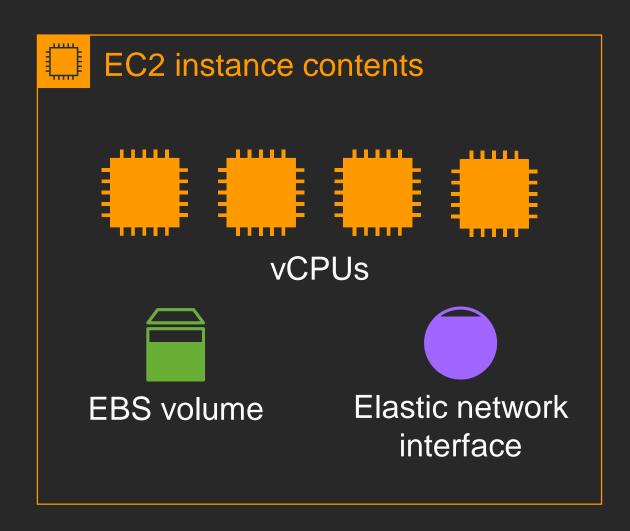


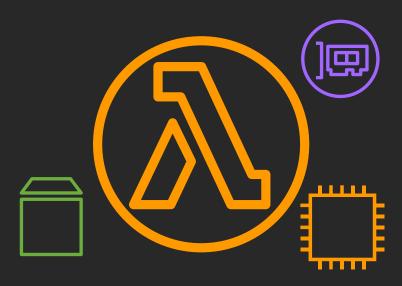




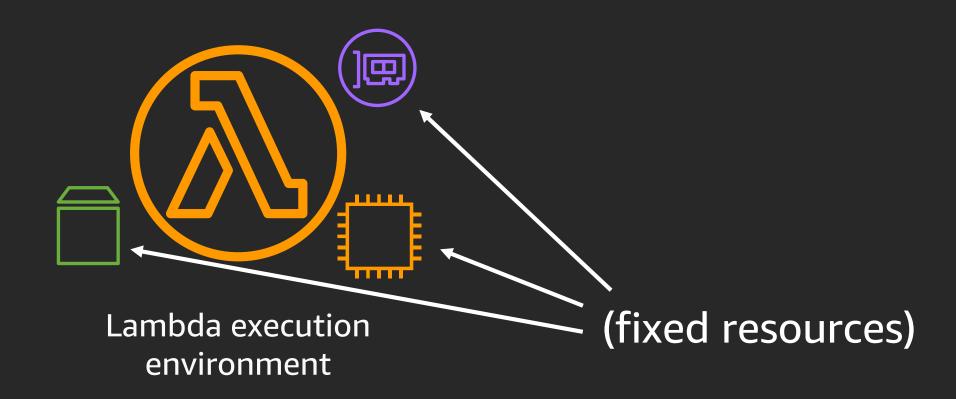


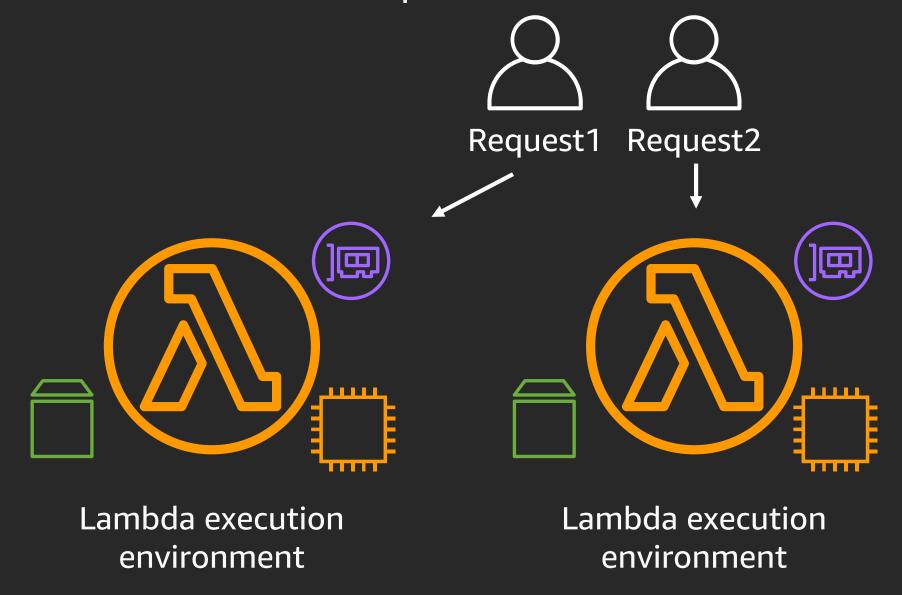




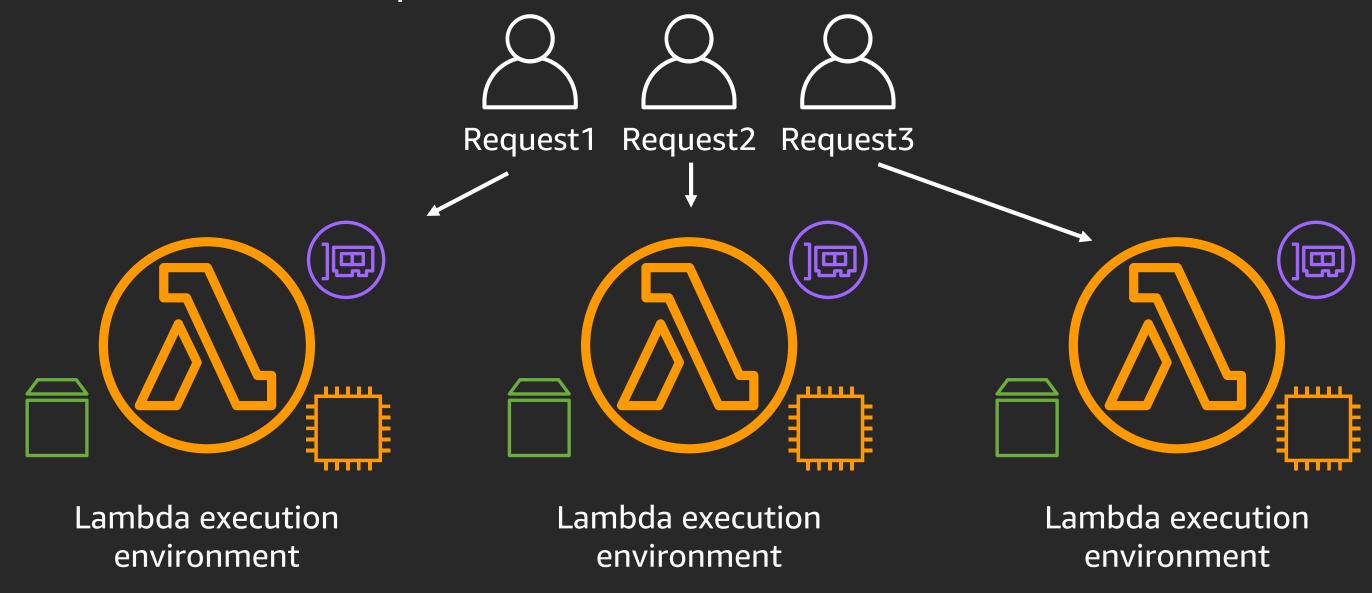


Lambda execution environment

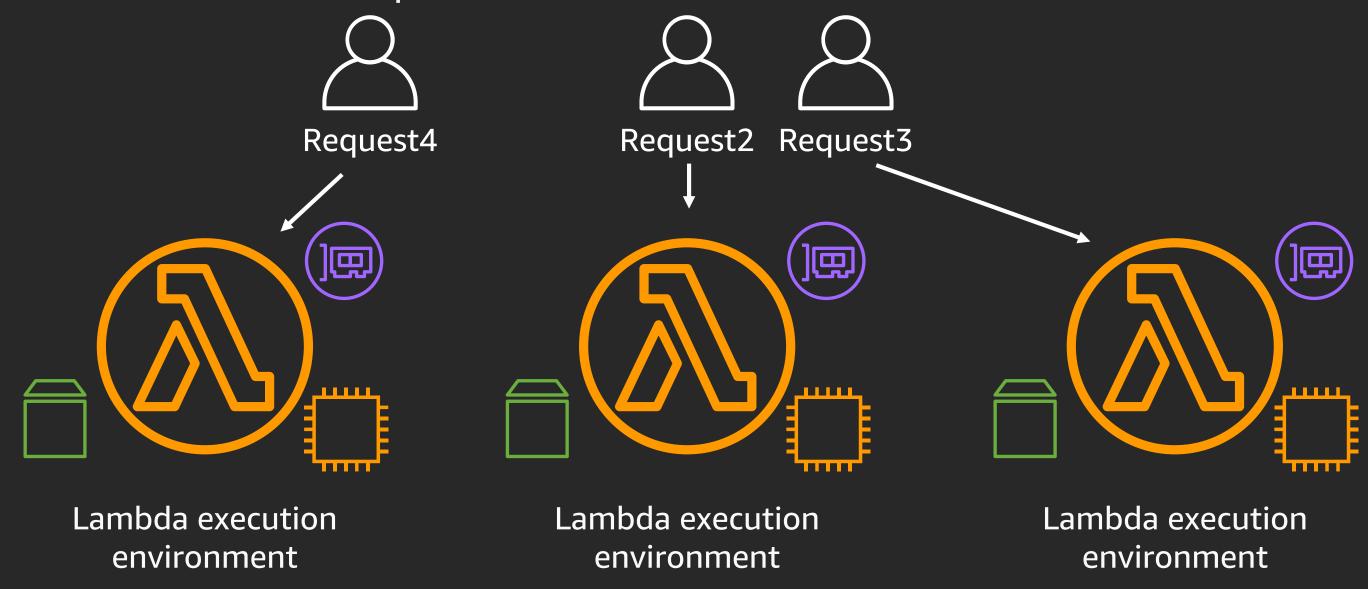




(only work on one thing at a time)

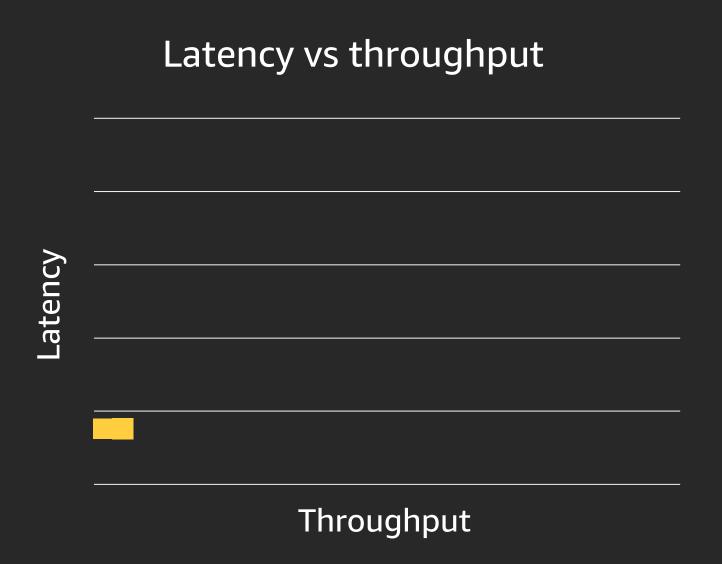


(only work on one thing at a time)



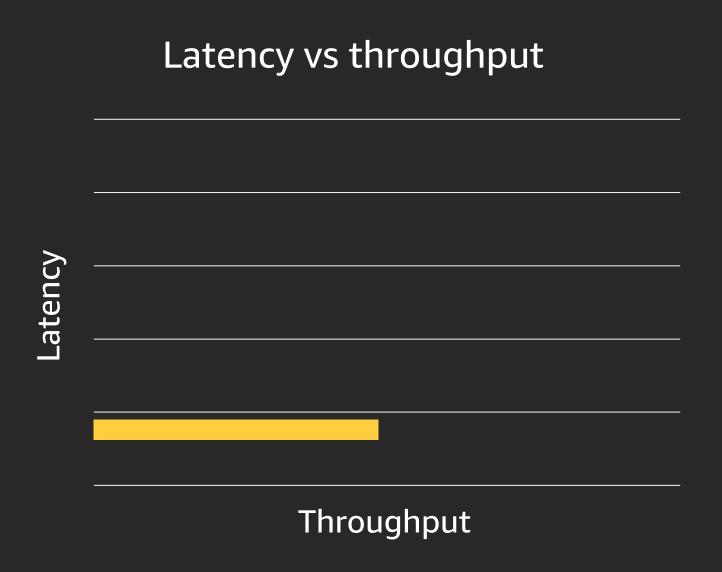
(only work on one thing at a time)

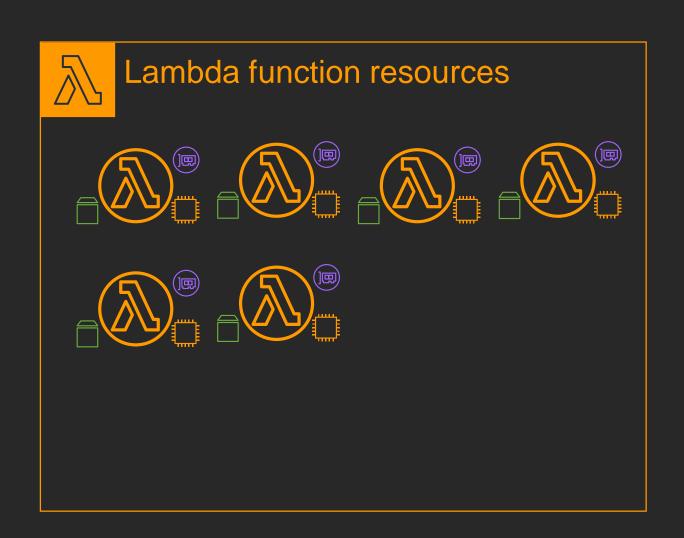
Workload isolation means predictable performance



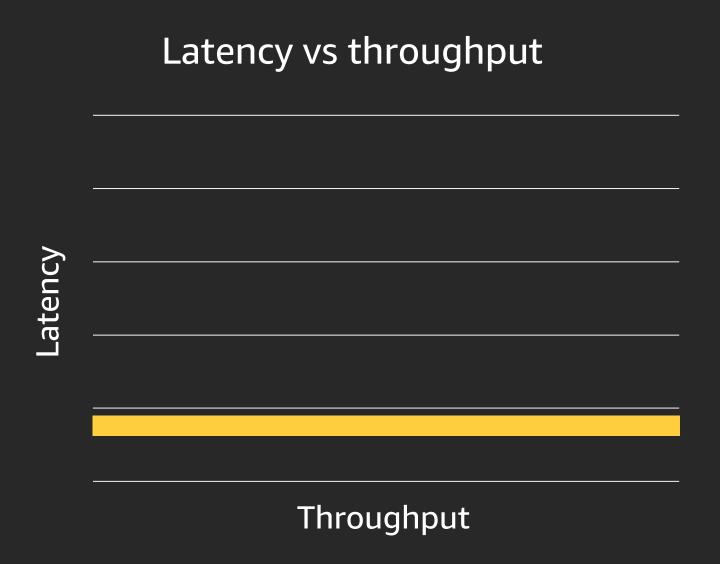


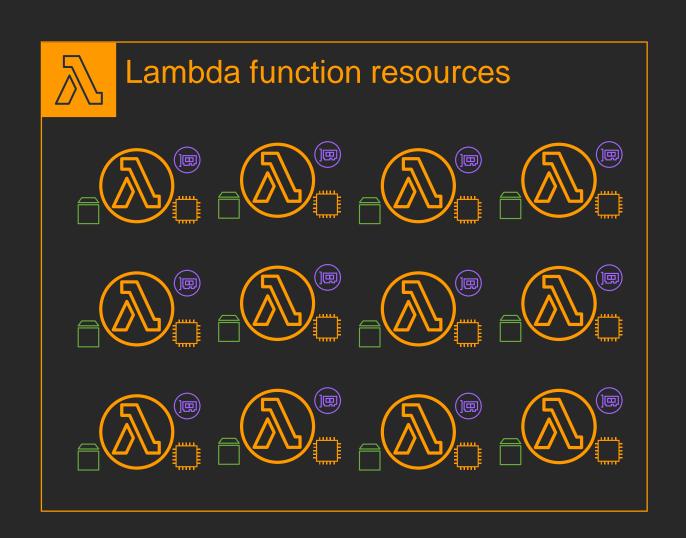
Workload isolation means predictable performance





Workload isolation means predictable performance



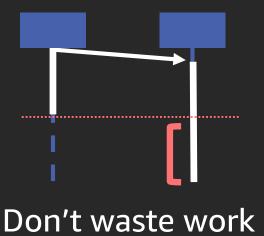


Don't take on too much work

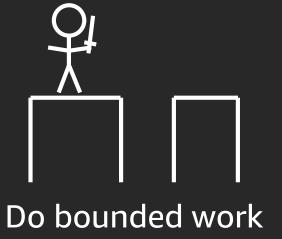
Load shedding recap



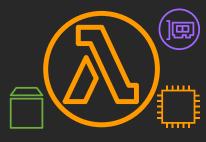
Keep latency low for the work you take on



Wasting work reduces throughput



Make scaling more predictable and testable



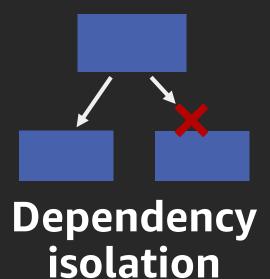
Don't take on extra work

Give the same resources to each request

Chapter two



Avoid brownout by rejecting excess load

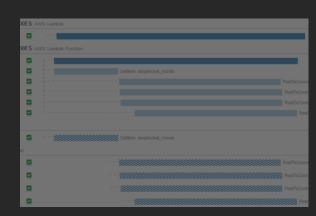


Prevent one dependency from affecting unrelated functionality



Avoiding queue backlogs

Prevent a backlog from extending recovery time



Operating

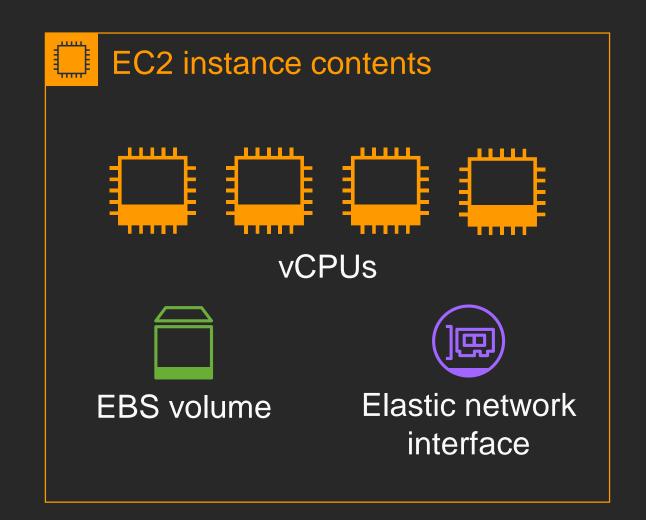
Quickly diagnose and mitigate issues

Running out of concurrency

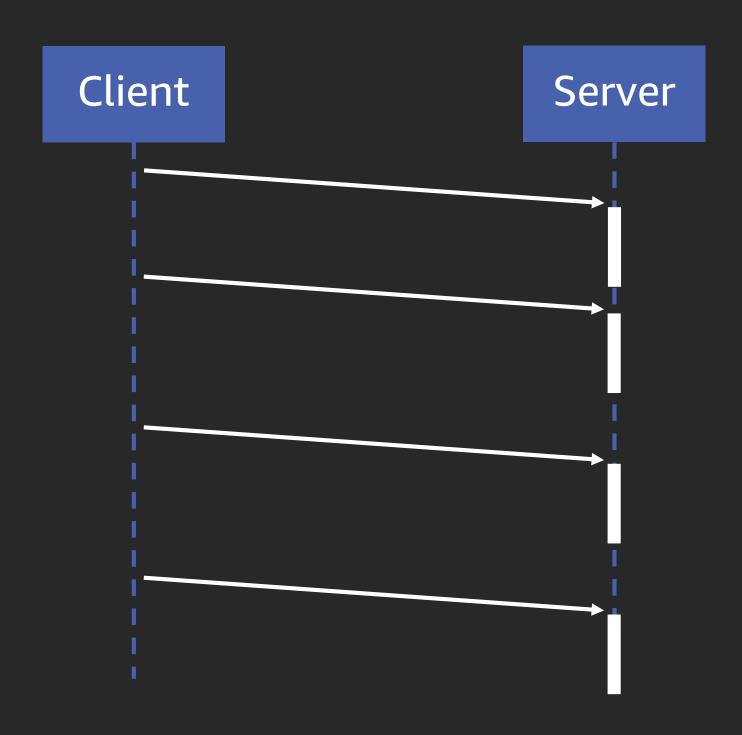
Application bottlenecks

Not pictured:

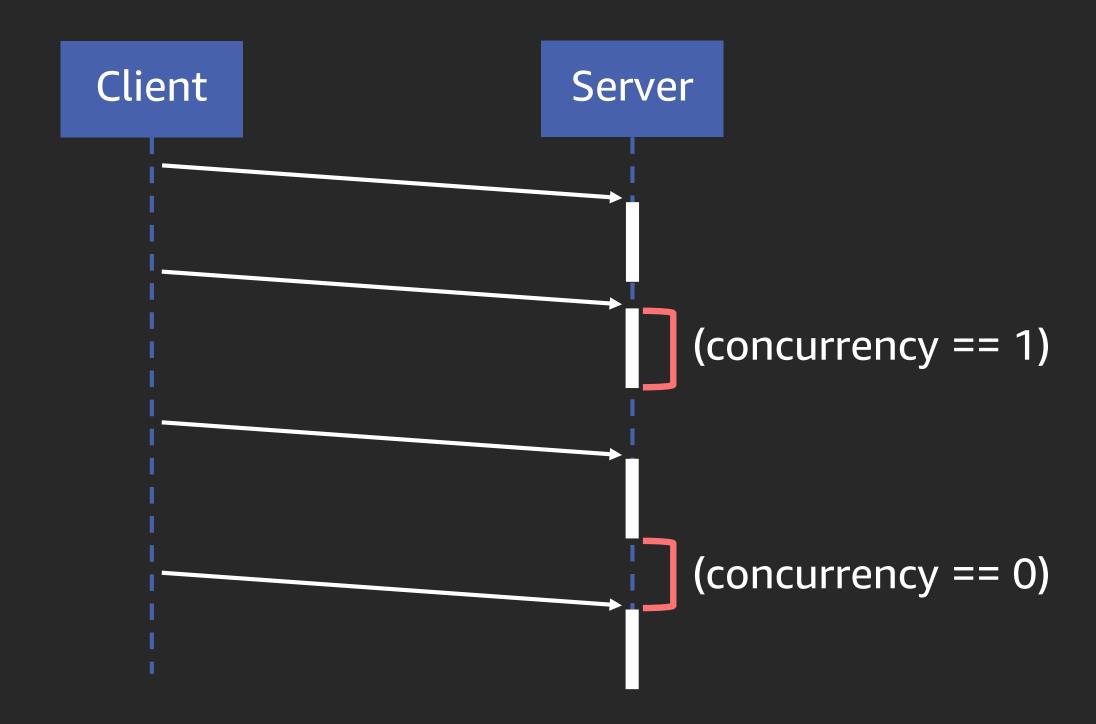
- Application thread pools
- File descriptors
- Ephemeral ports



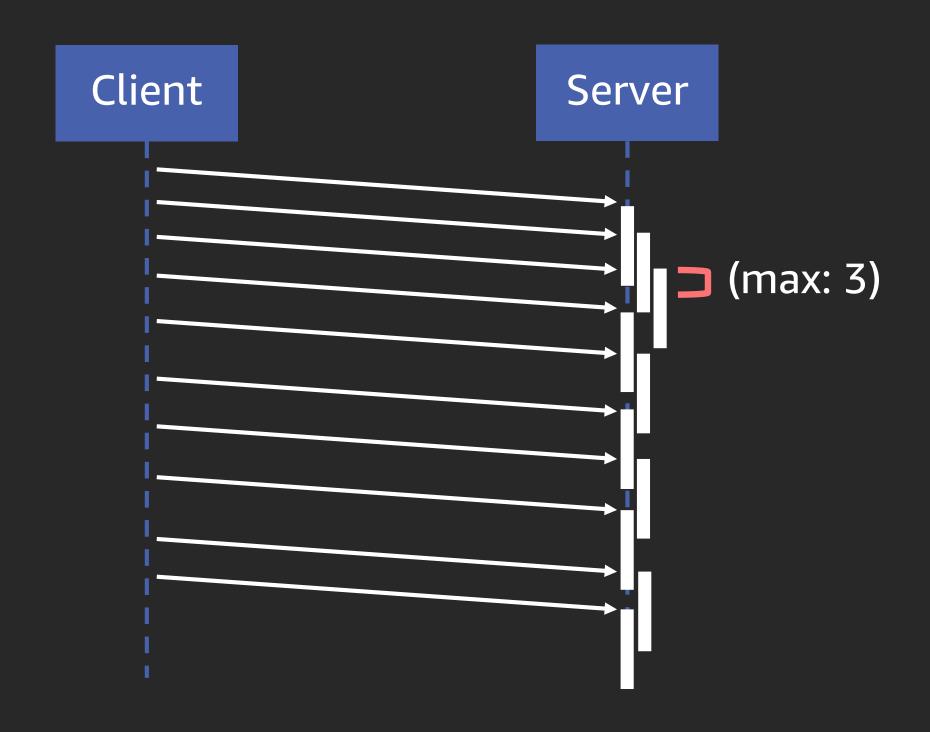
Concurrency, visualized



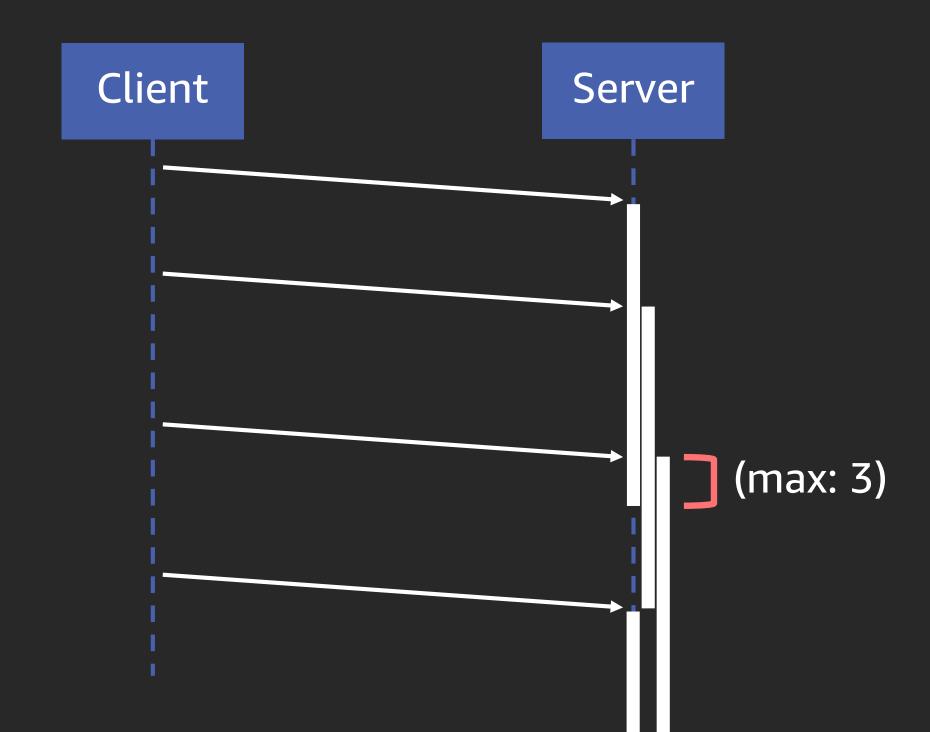
Concurrency with low request rate, low latency



Concurrency increases with arrival rate



Concurrency increases with latency



Little's Law

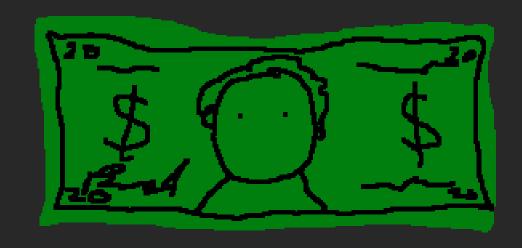
 $concurrency = arrival \ rate \times latency$



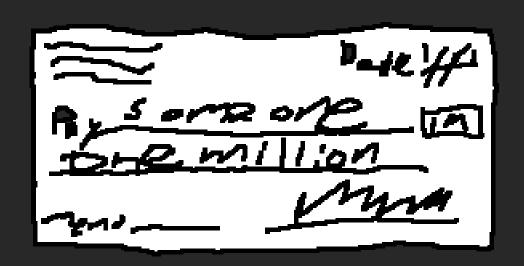




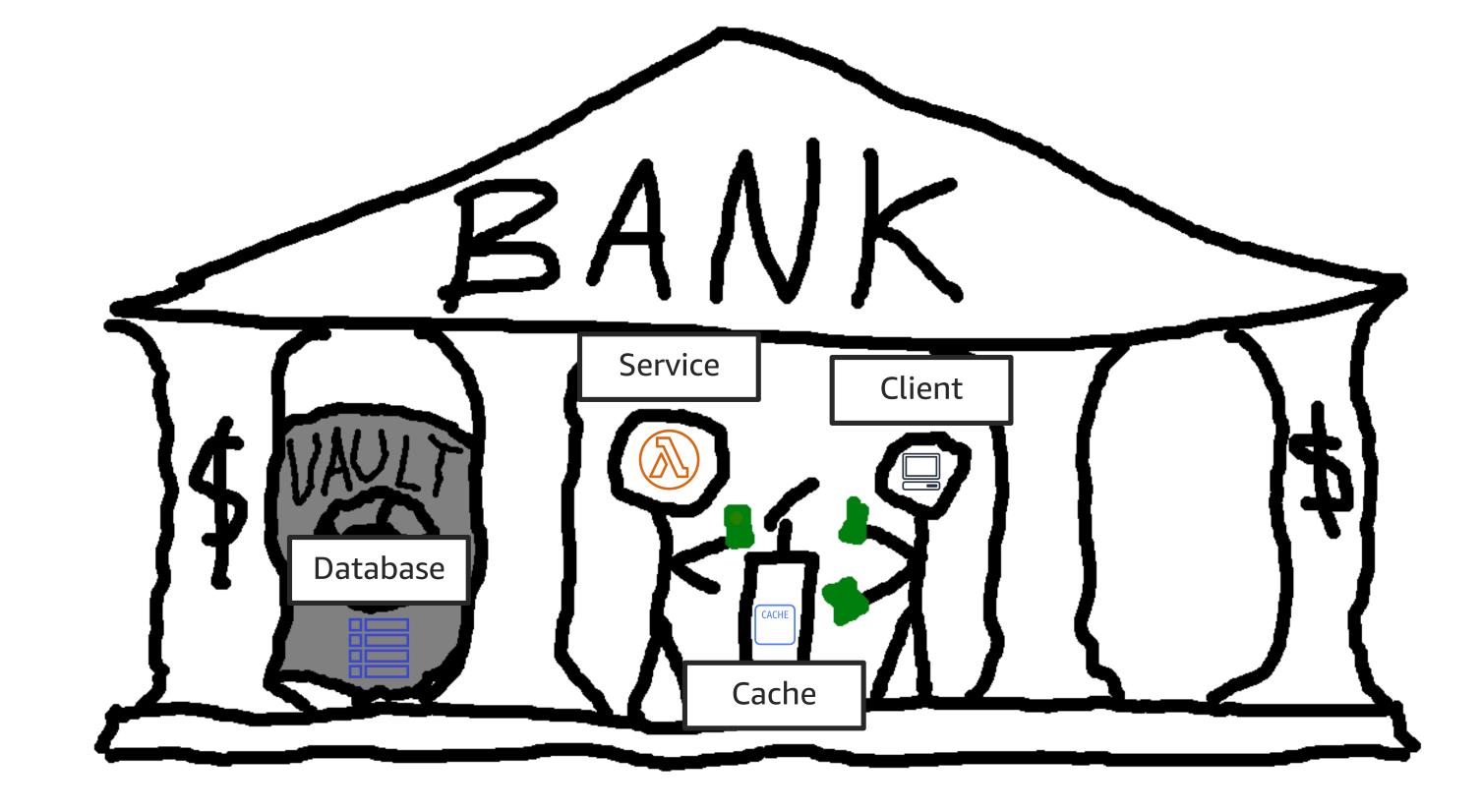
 $concurrency = arrival \ rate \times latency$



Cash Check







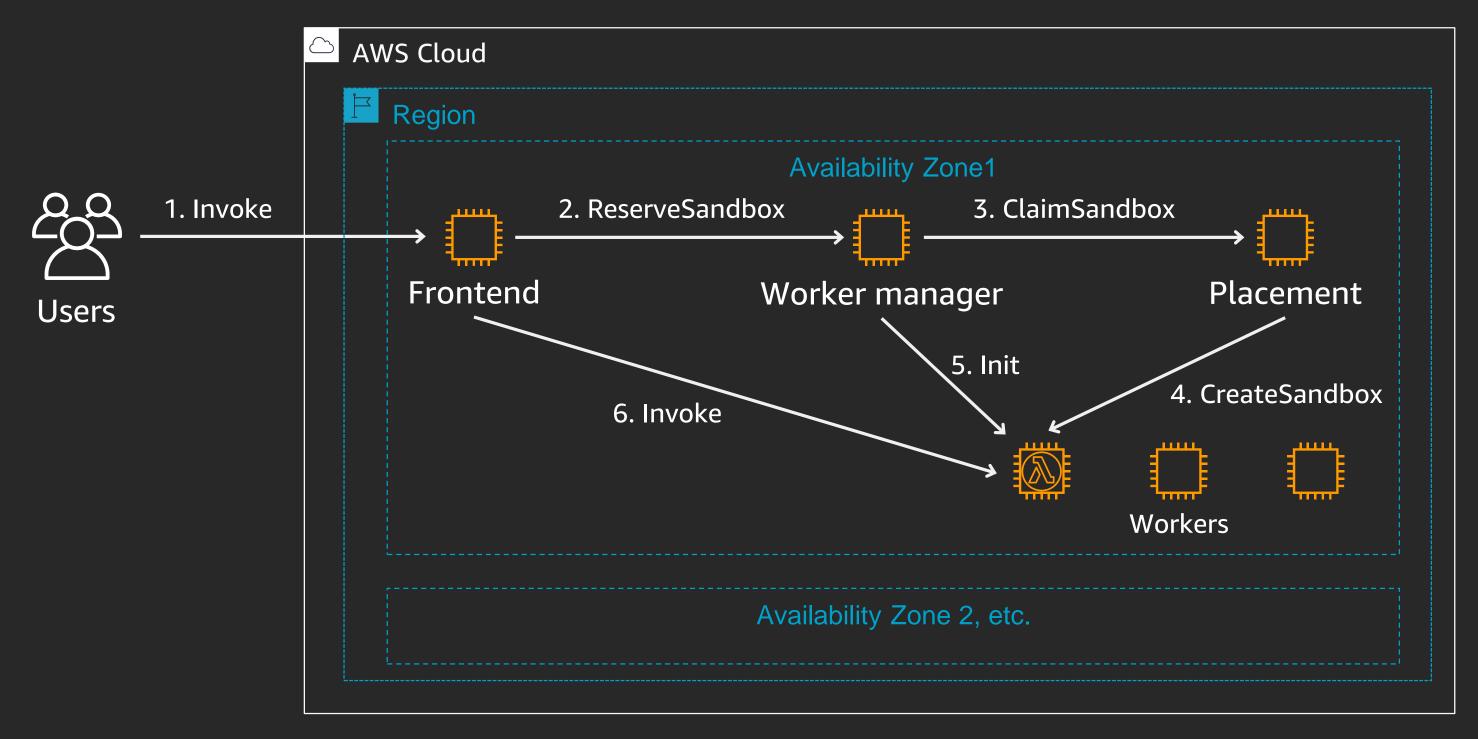




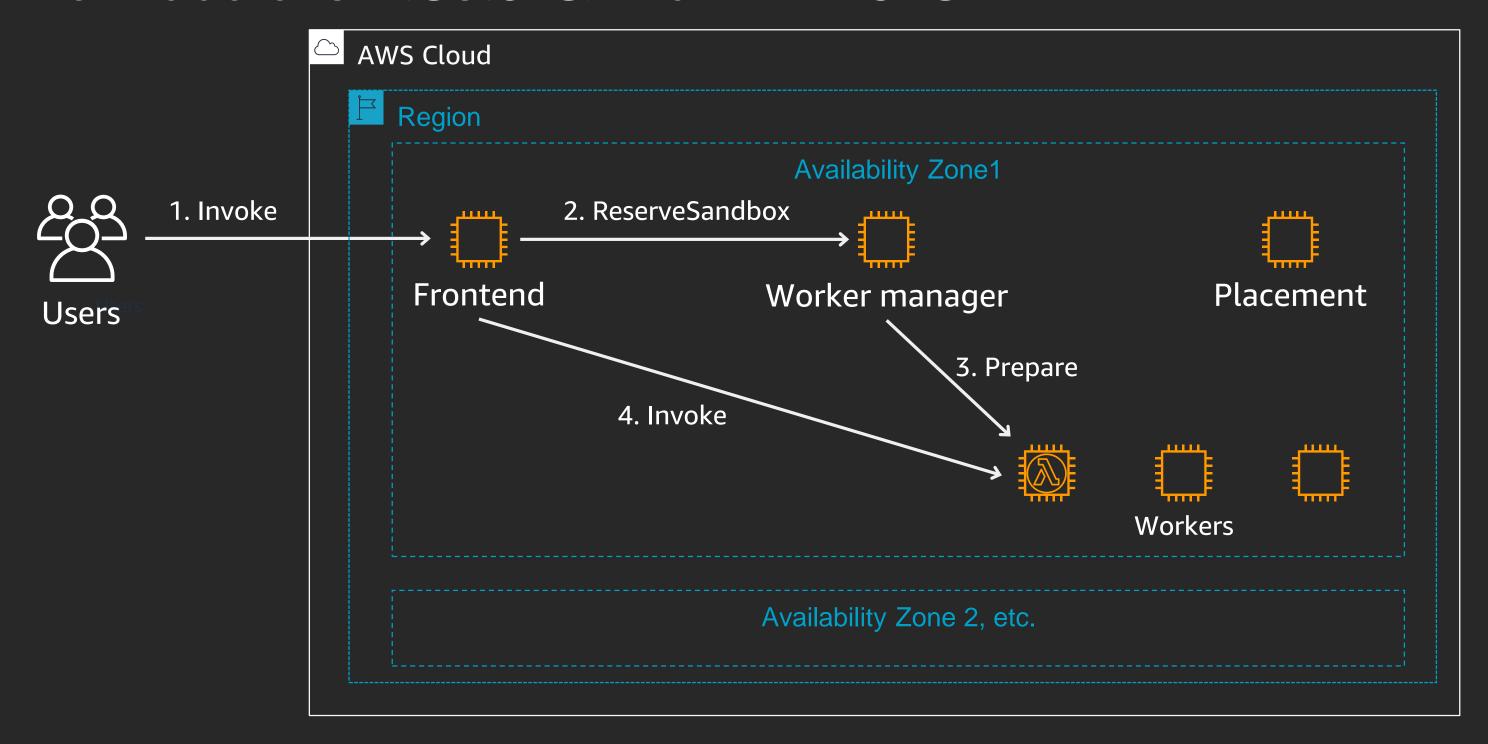
Dependency isolation within AWS Lambda

Lambda architecture*

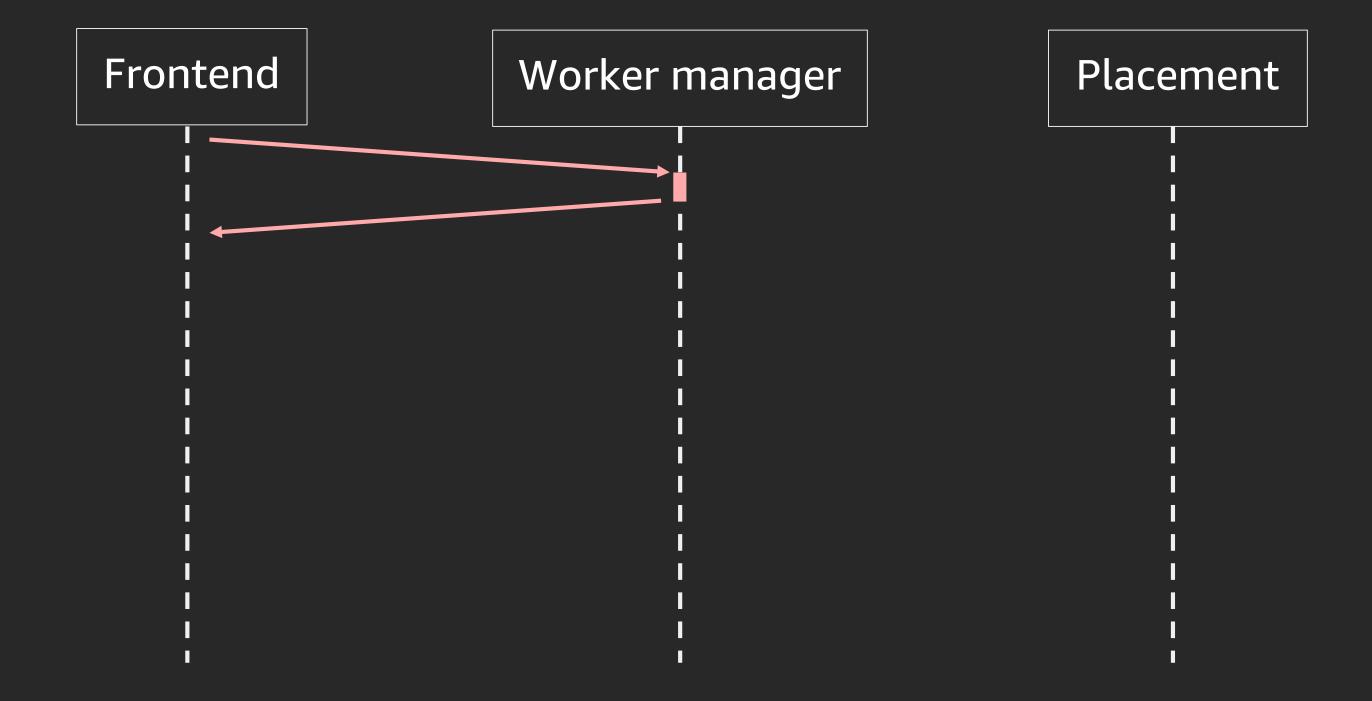
Lambda architecture: Cold invoke



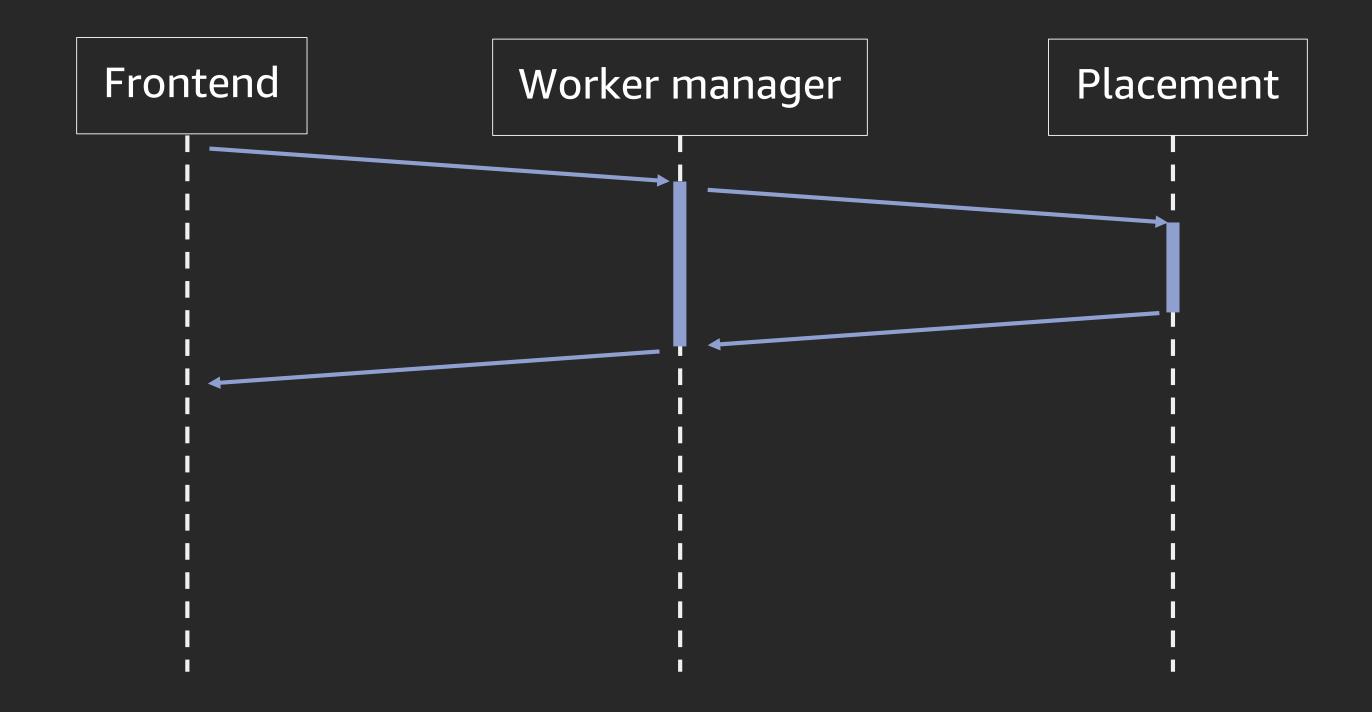
Lambda architecture: Warm invoke



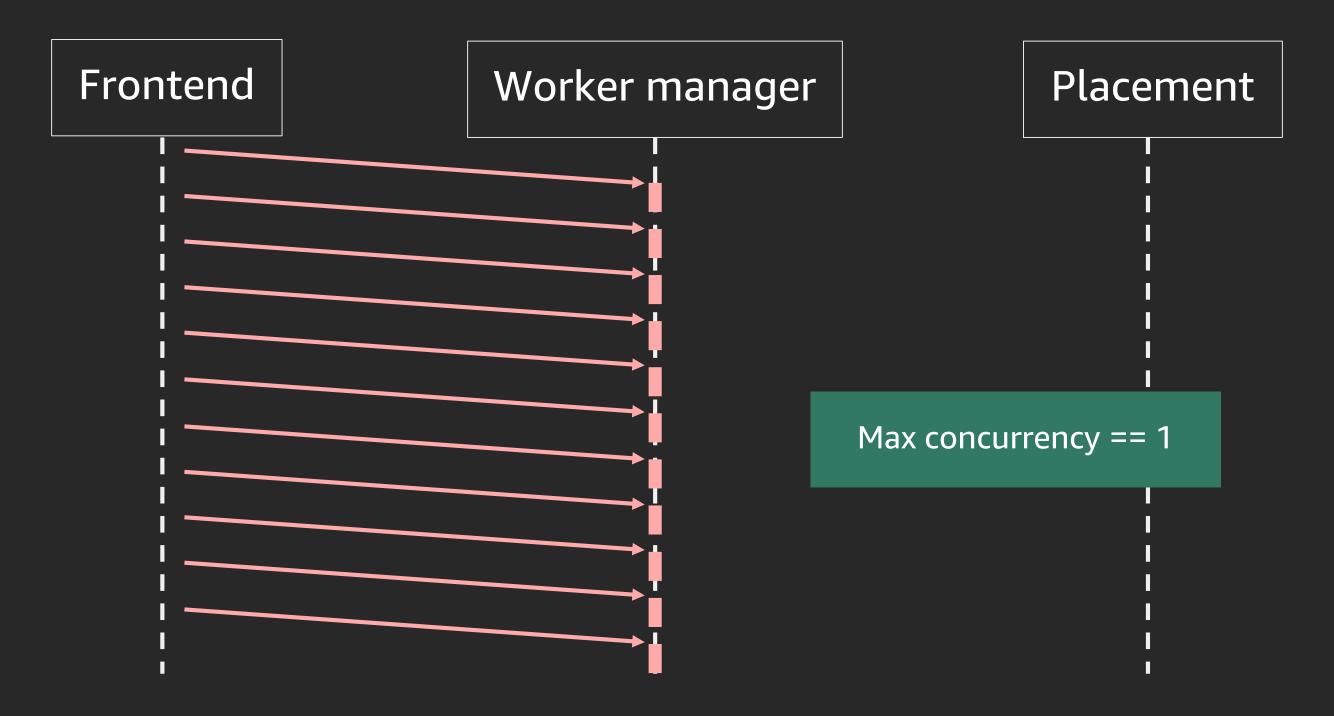
Warm invoke



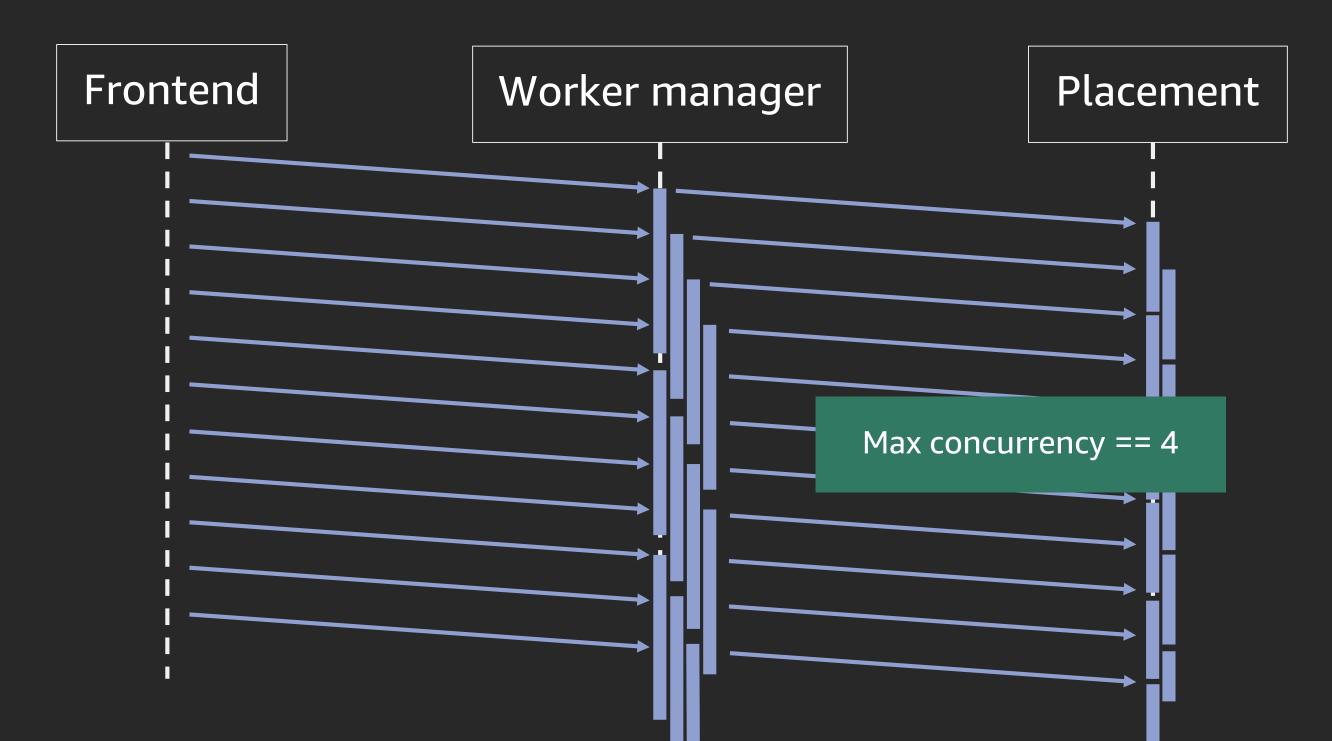
Cold invoke



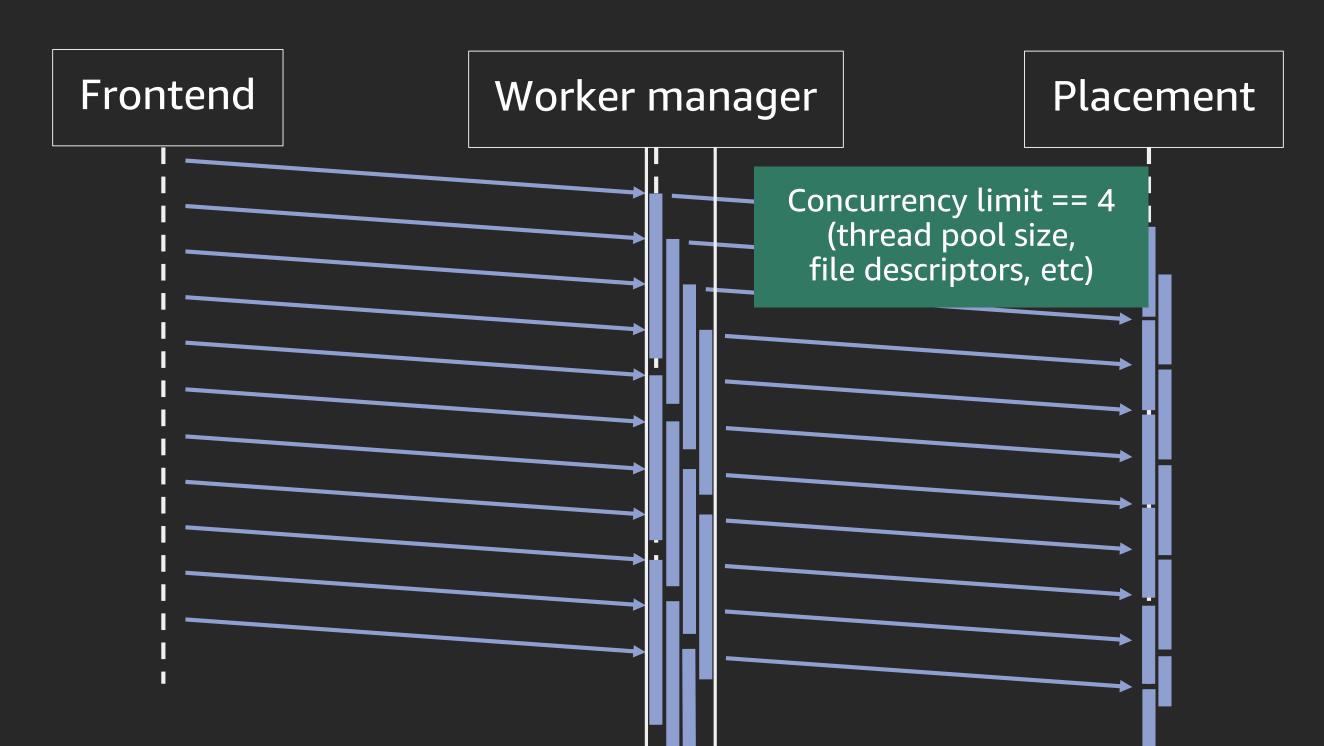
Concurrency from warm invokes



Flipping modes to cold invokes



Concurrency limits



Approaching concurrency limits



Exceeding concurrency limits



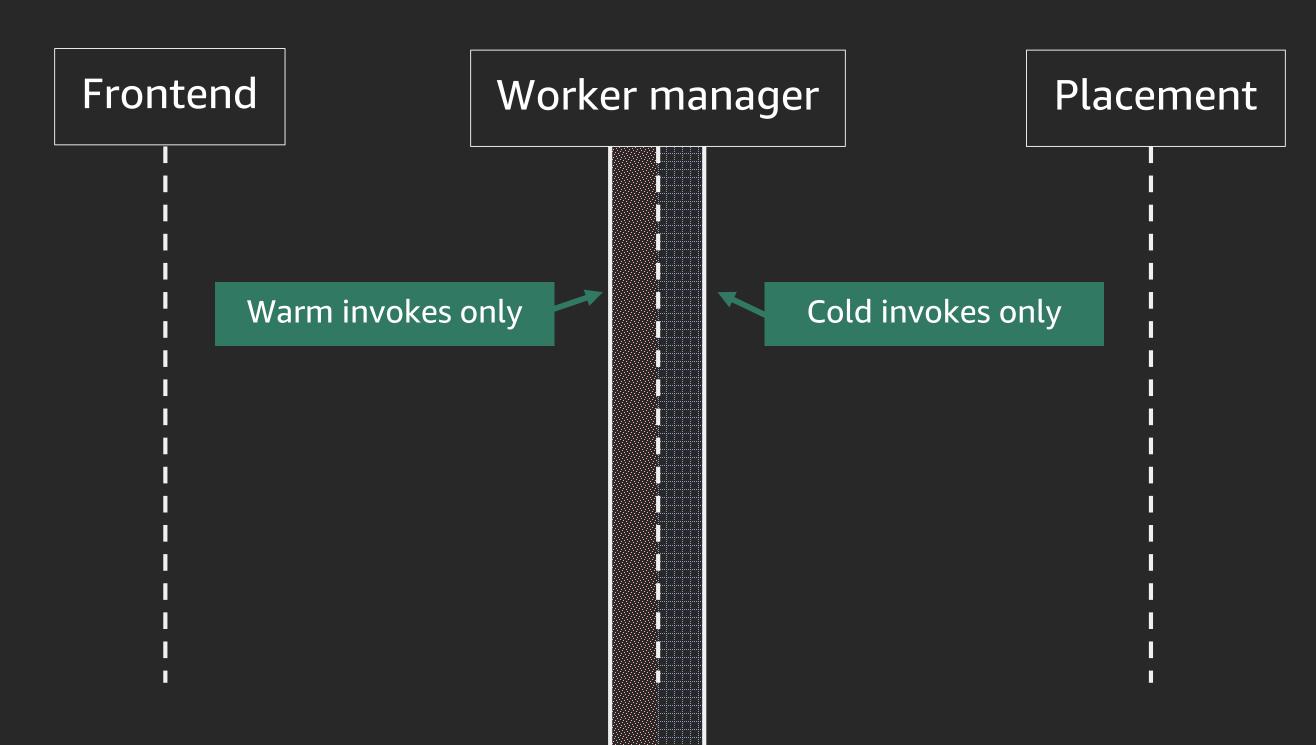
Worker manager behavior

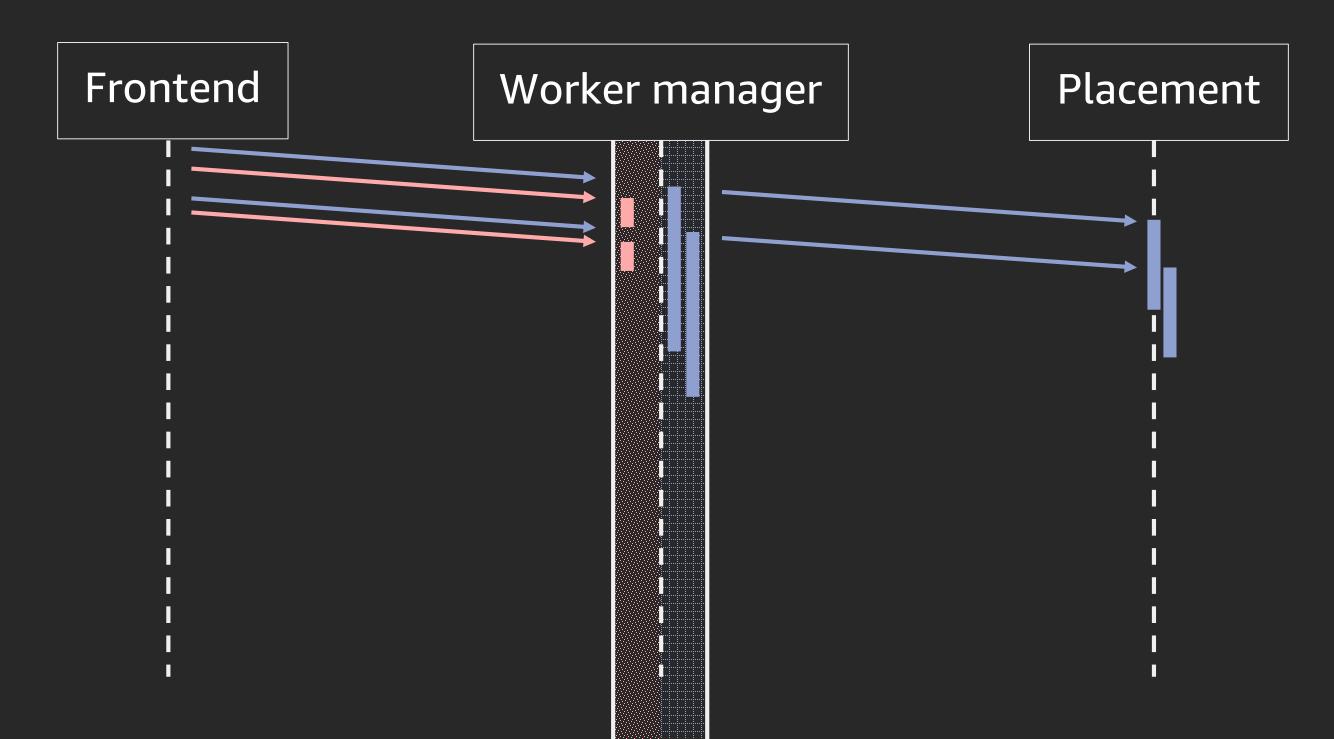
- Automatically scale
- Spread out increases in traffic to other worker managers
- Favor reusing existing sandboxes over creating new ones

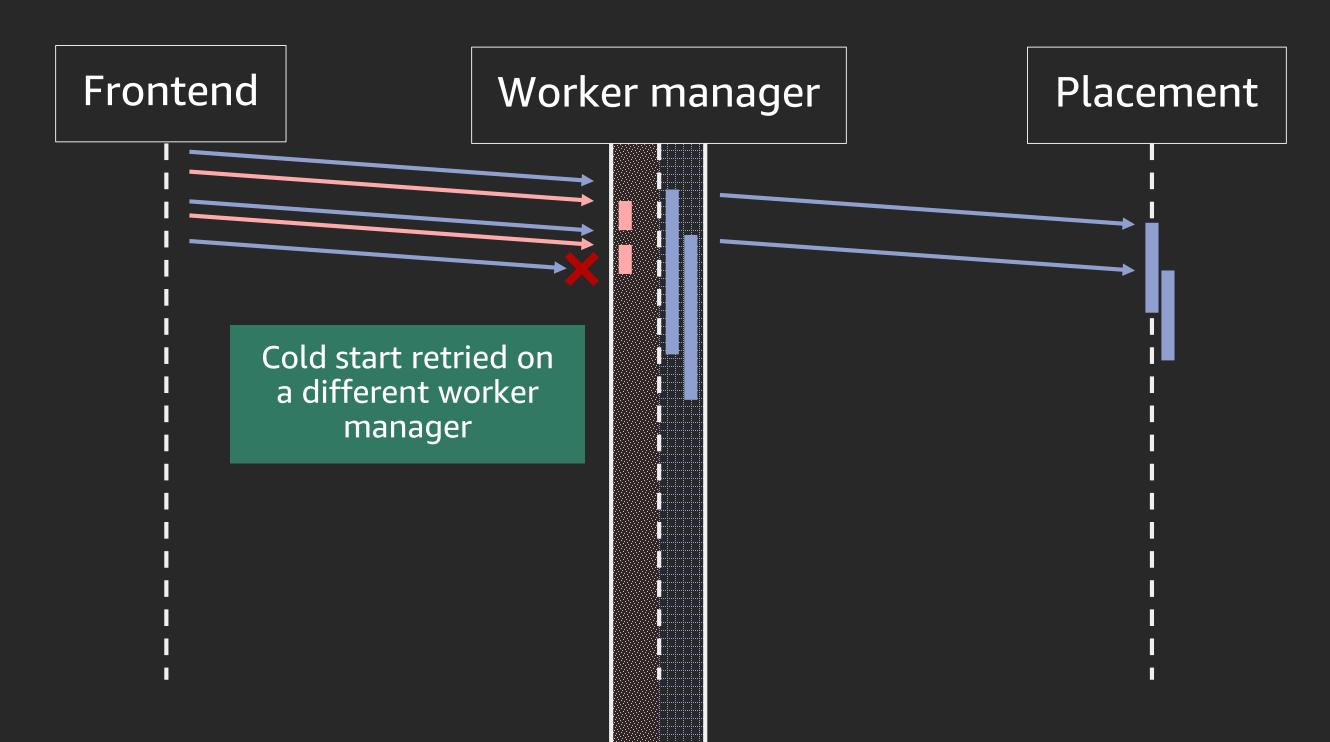
Worker manager behavior

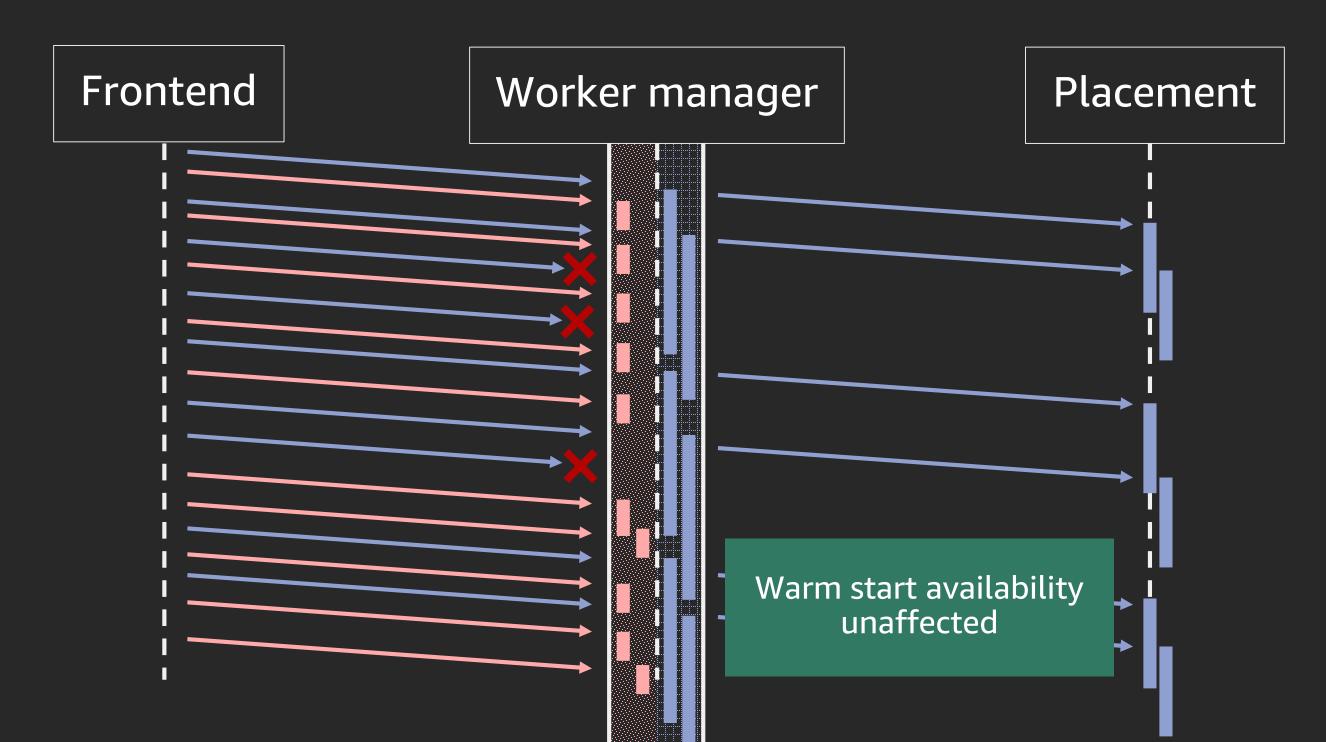
- Automatically scale
- Spread out increases in traffic to other worker managers
- Favor reusing existing sandboxes over creating new ones

warm start > cold start

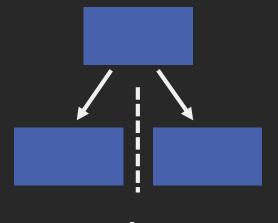




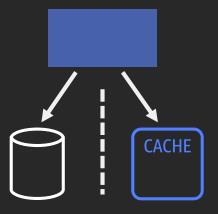




Dependency isolation: Why?

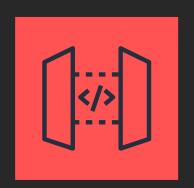


Isolate unrelated APIs



Protect against modal behavior

API isolation: How?

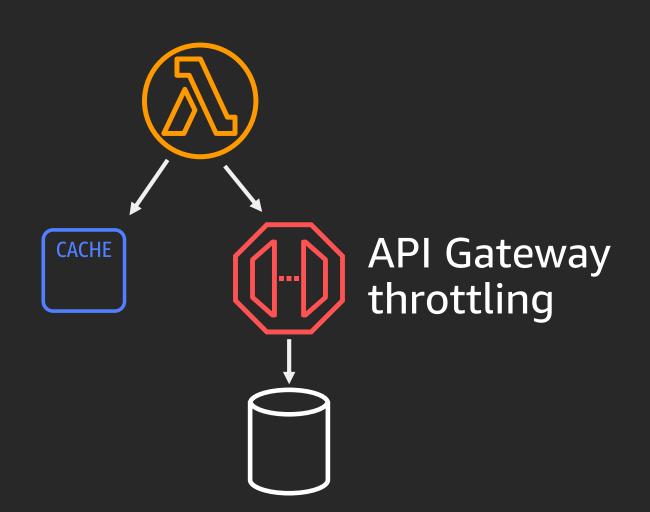


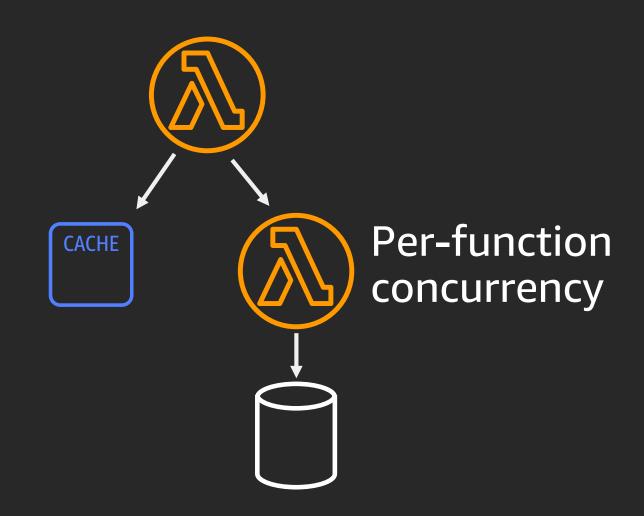
Amazon API Gateway per-API throttling



Lambda per-function concurrency controls

Modal behavior protection: How?

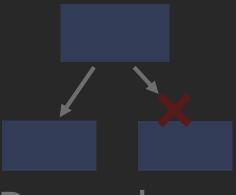




Chapter three



Avoid brownout by rejecting excess load



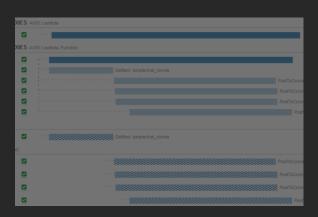
Dependency isolation

Prevent one dependency from affecting unrelated functionality



Avoiding queue backlogs

Prevent a backlog from extending recovery time



Operating

Quickly diagnose and mitigate issues







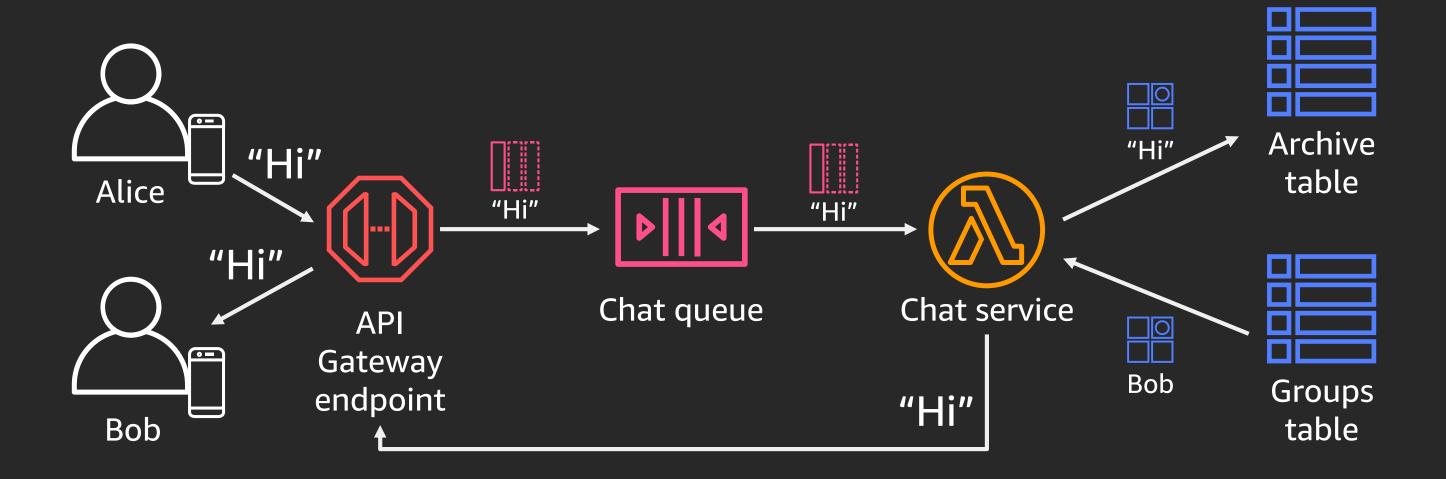


Store

Store

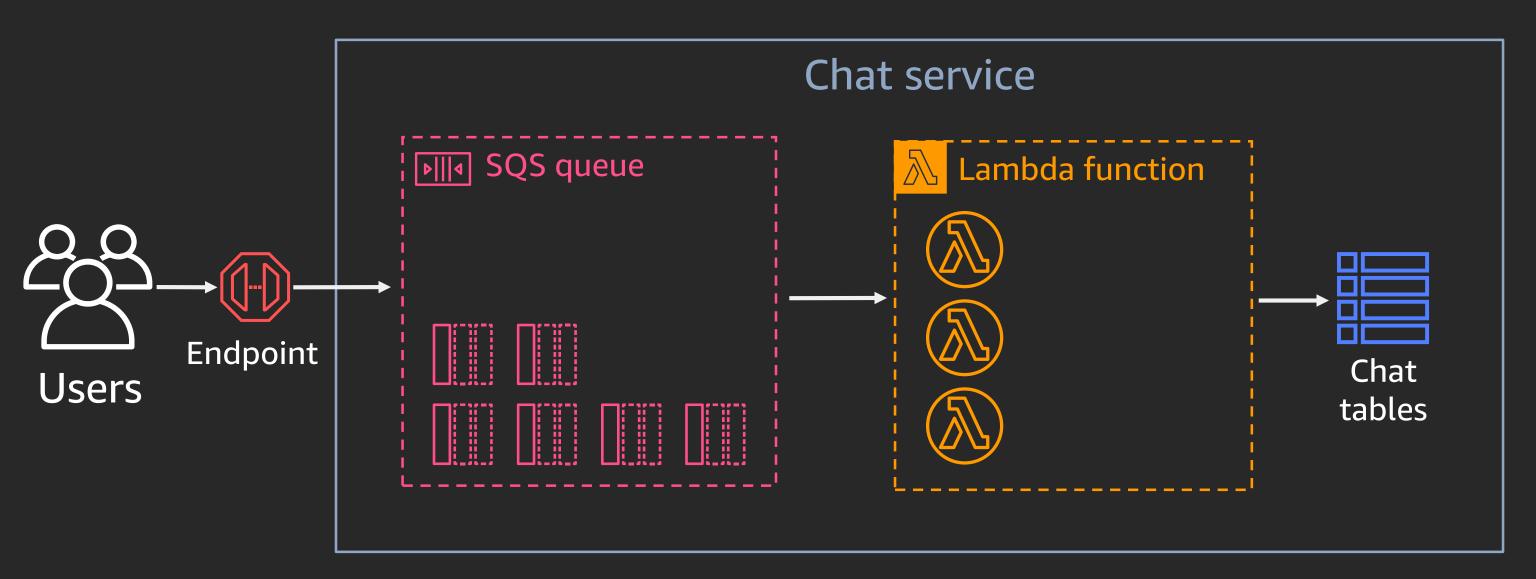
Store

Basic chat architecture

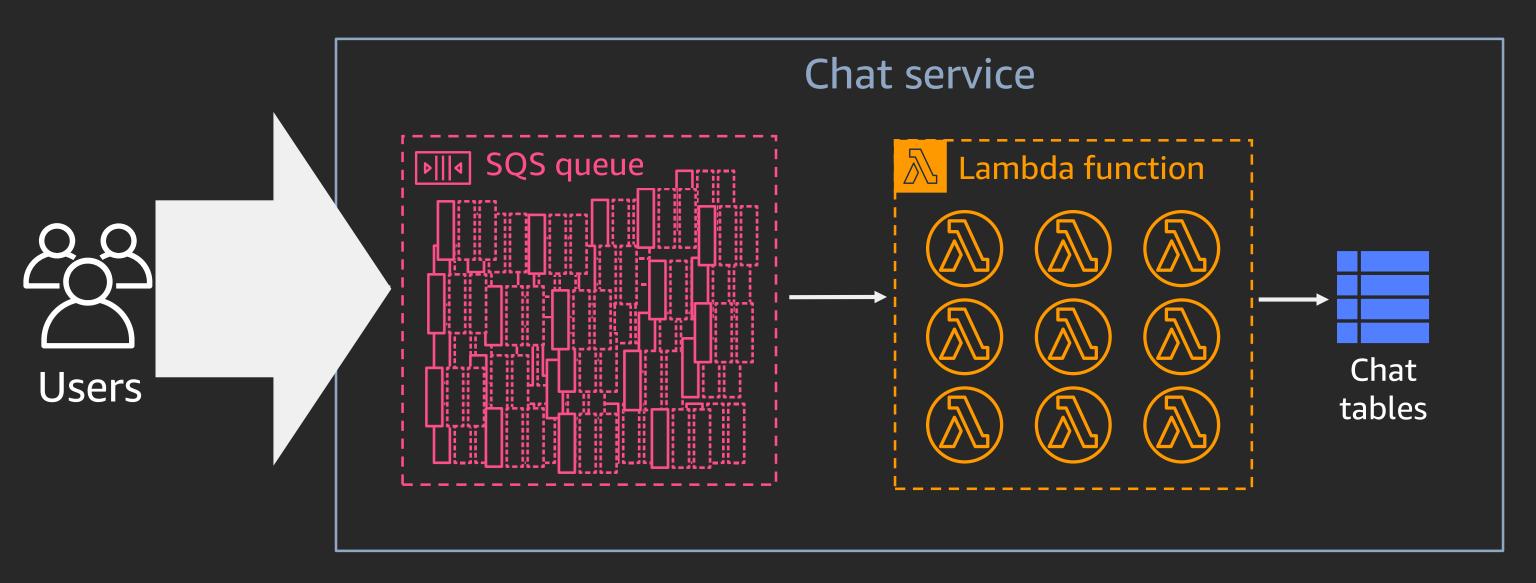


https://github.com/aws-samples/simple-websockets-chat-app

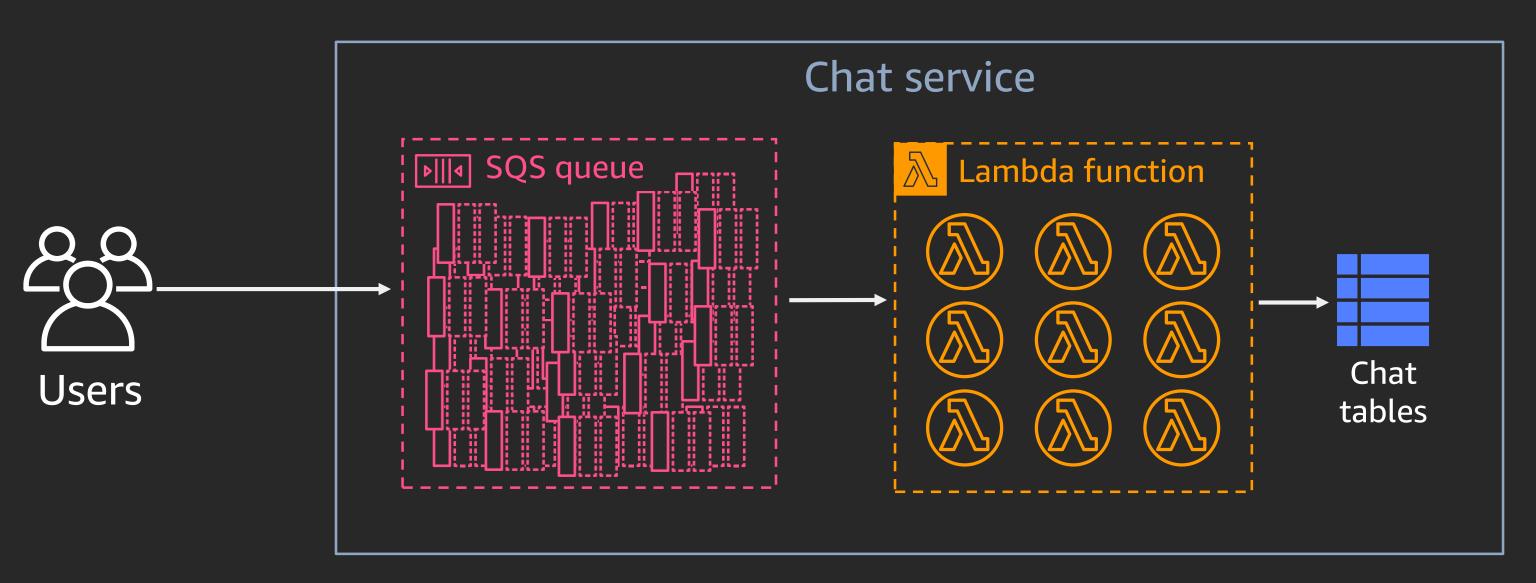
Business as usual



Surge in traffic

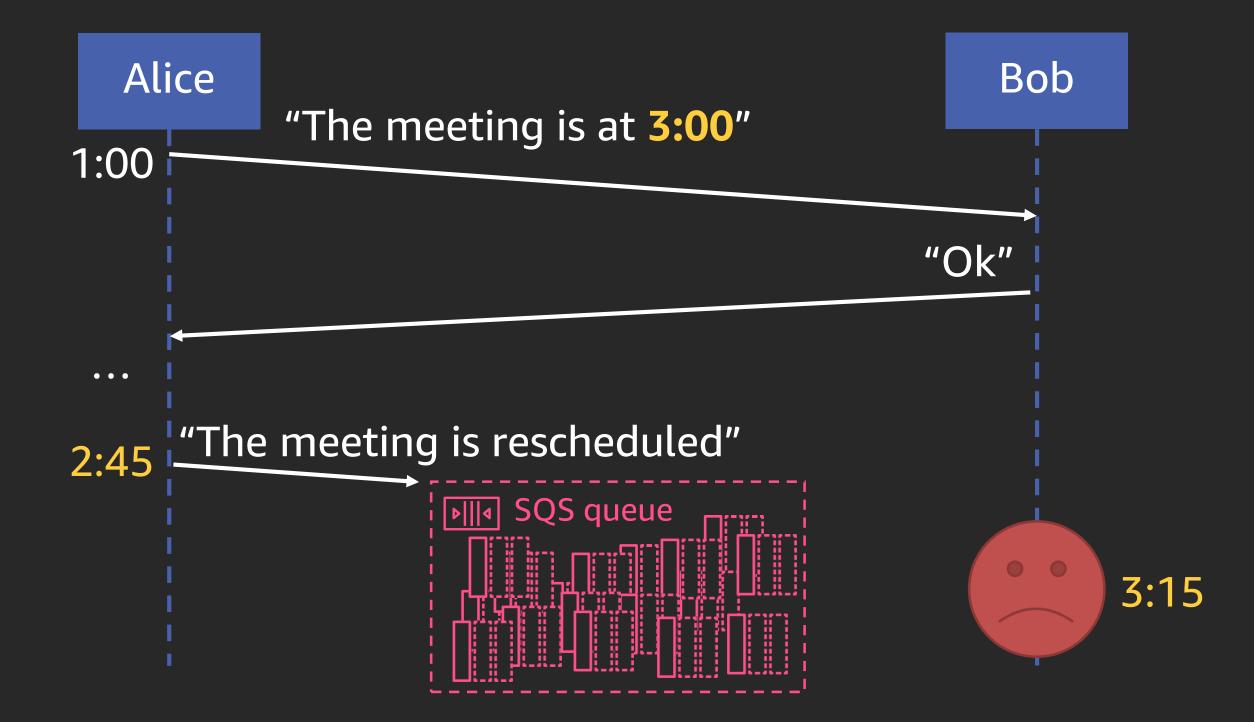


Surge subsides, backlog remains



Ideal customer experience?

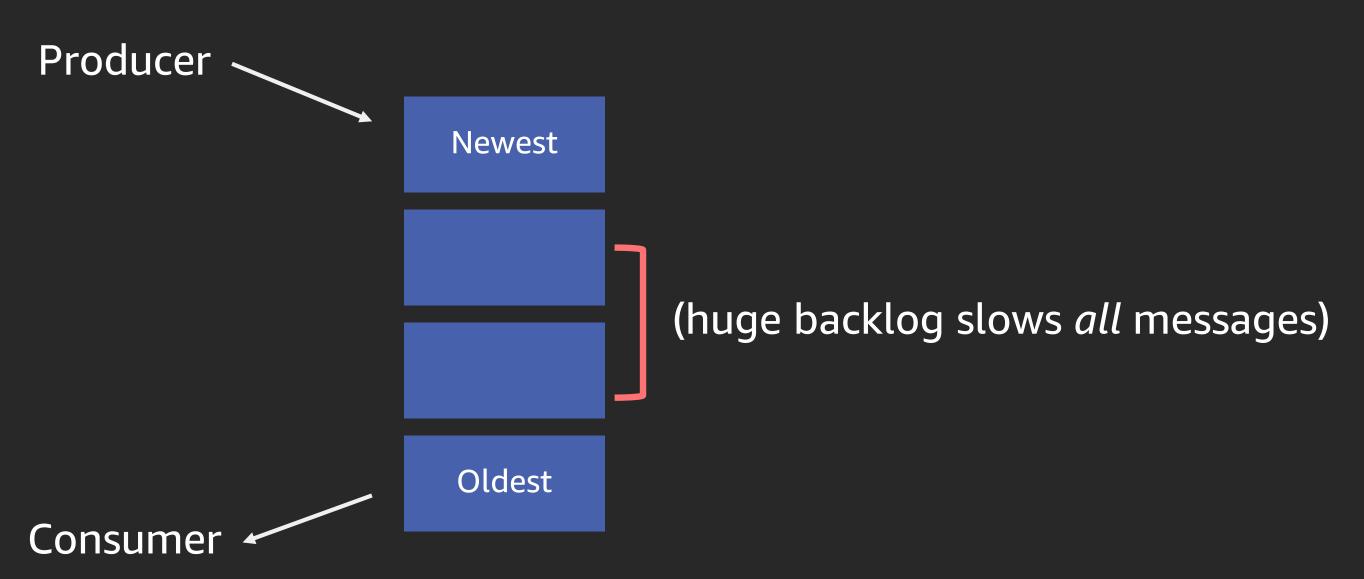
(Un)Ideal customer experience?



Queue backlogs are bad

FIFO

(First In, First Out)

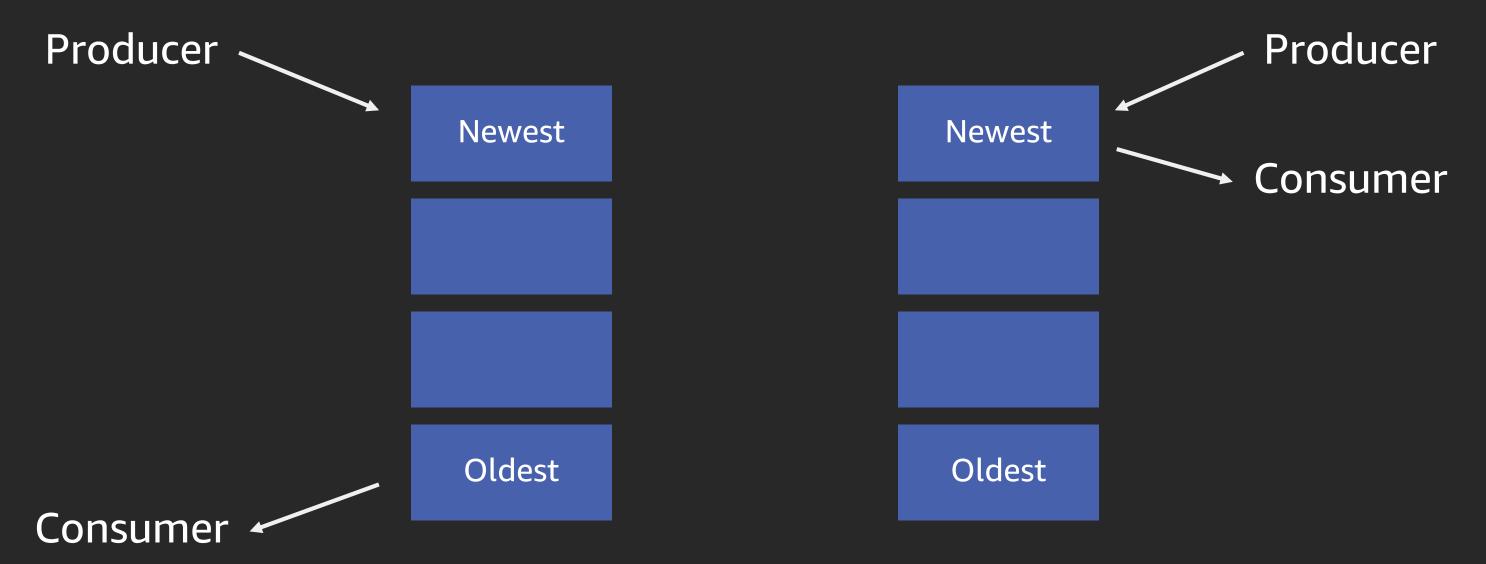


FIFO

LIFO

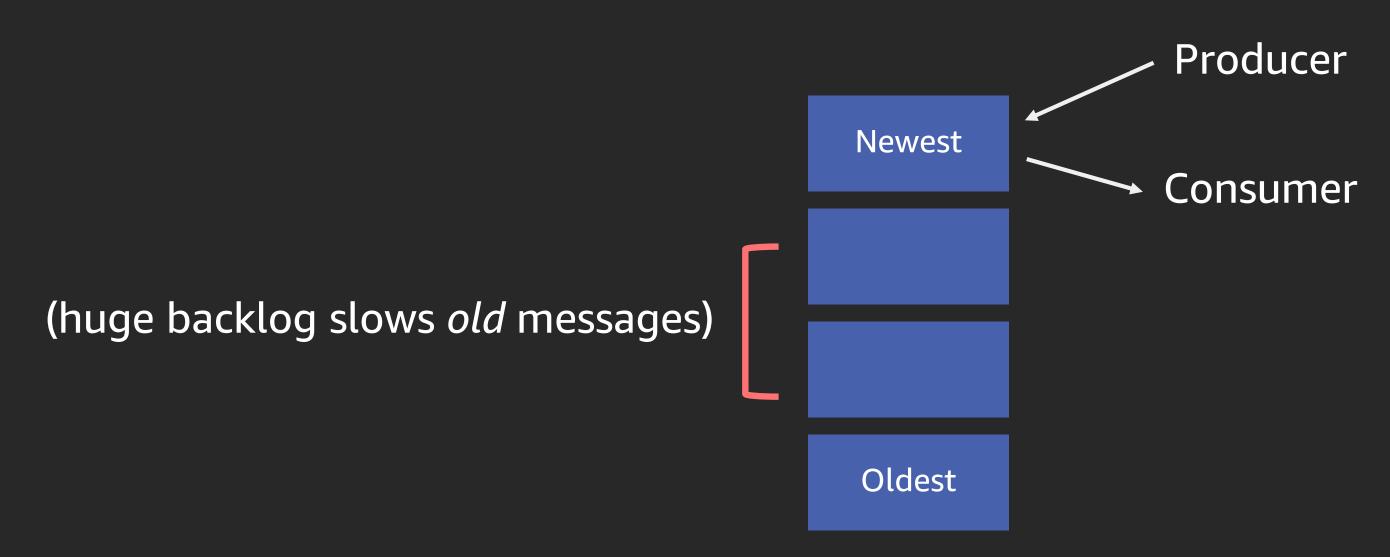
(First In, First Out)

(Last In, First Out)



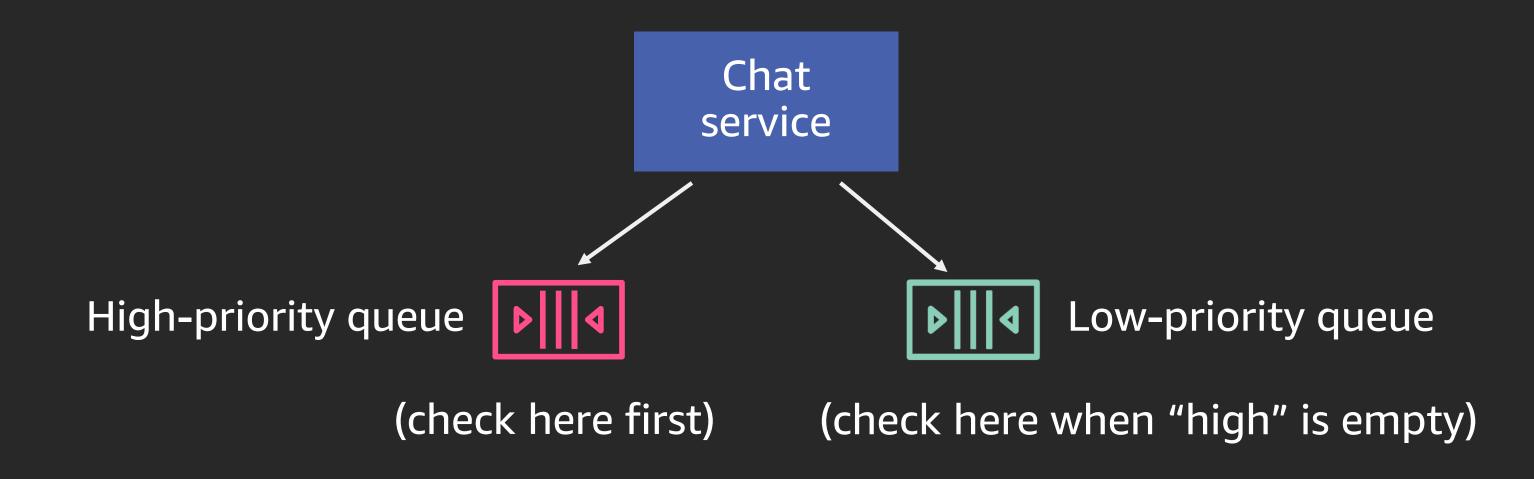
LIFO

(Last In, First Out)

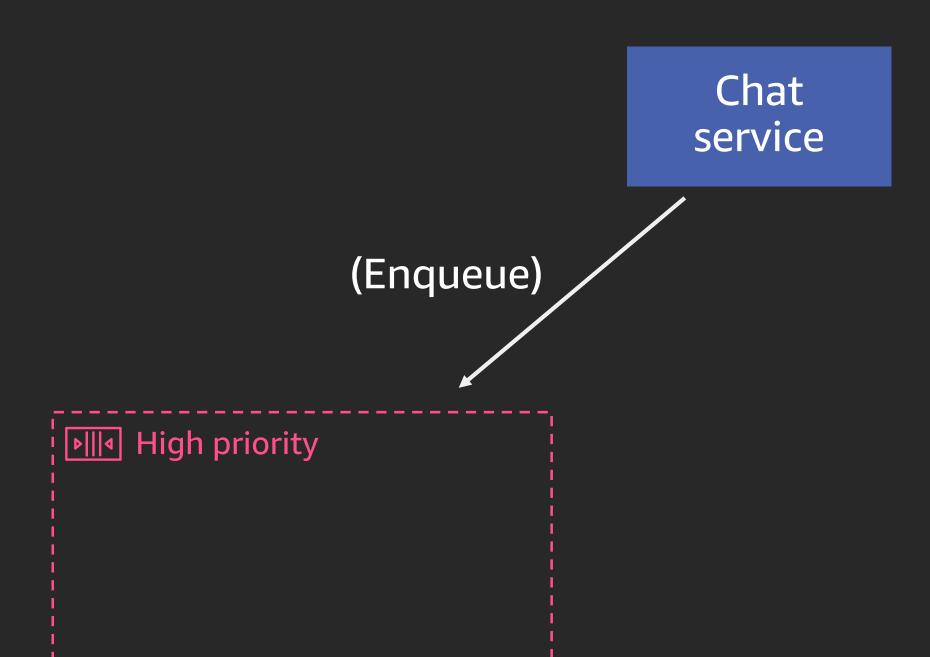


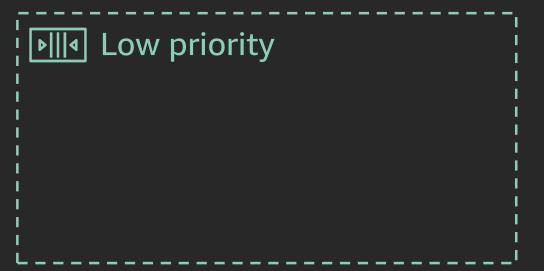
Making FIFO behave LIFO

Priority queues

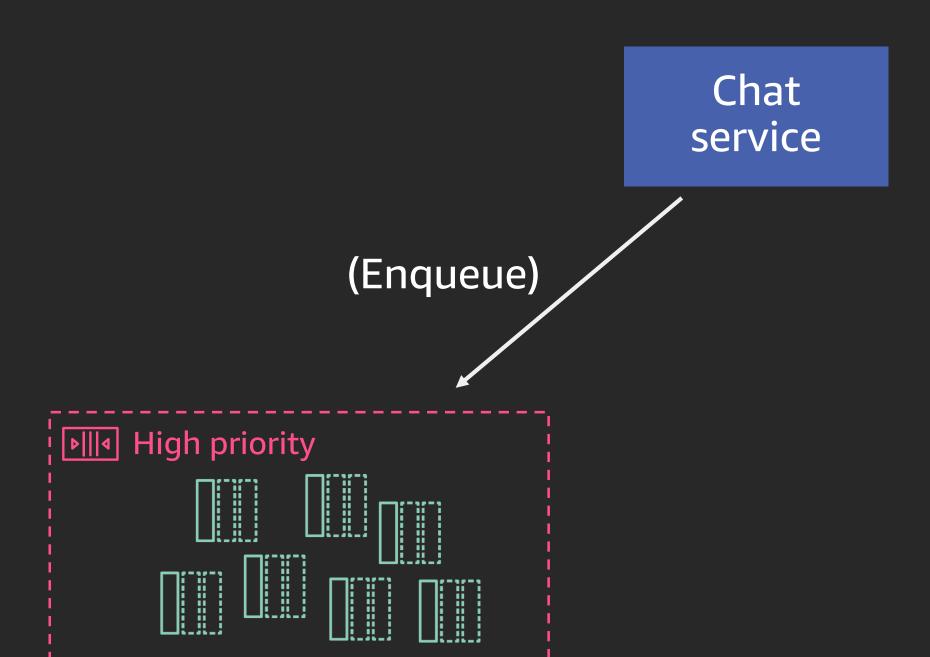


Priority is not known upfront



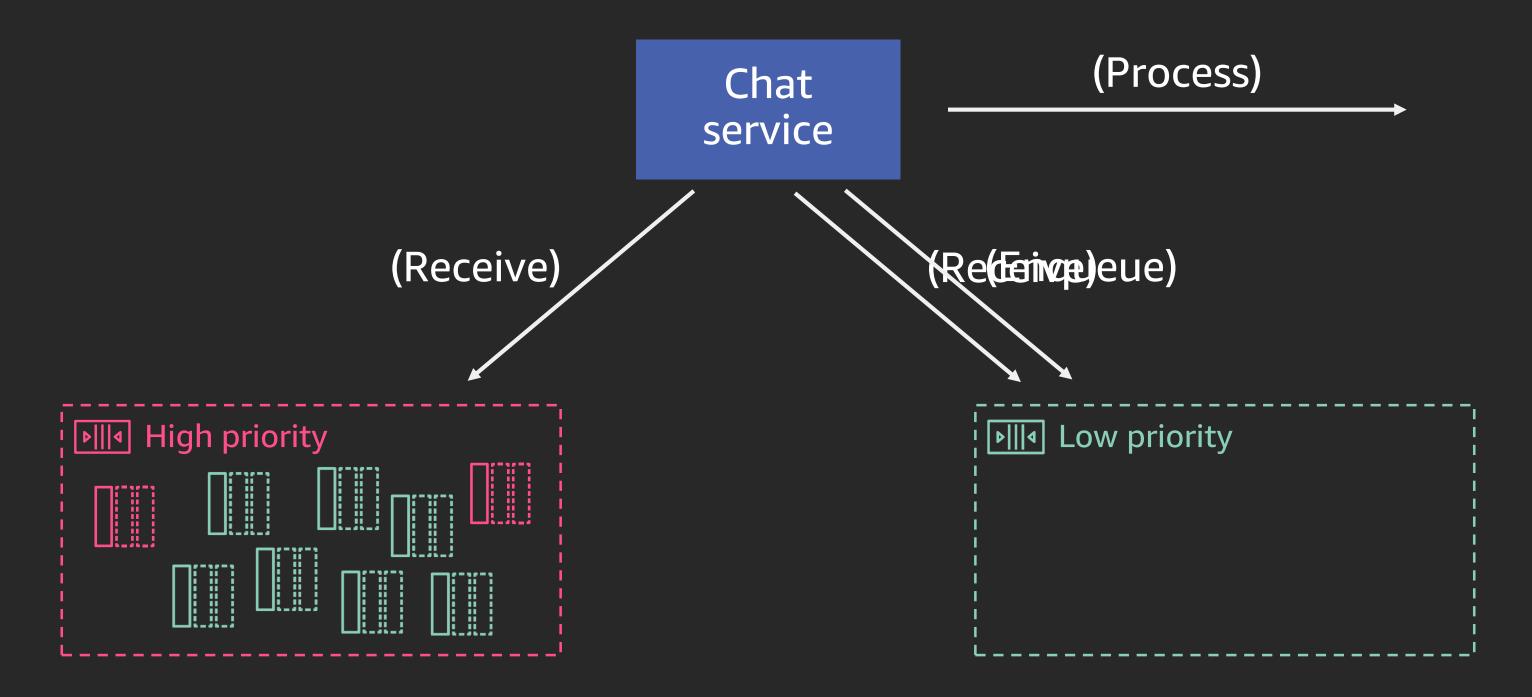


Priority is not known upfront

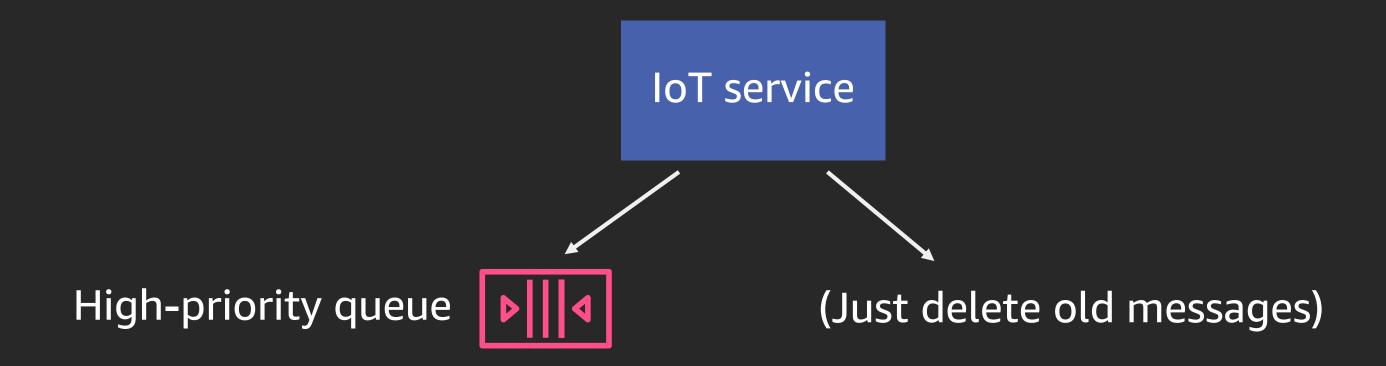


```
I Low priority
```

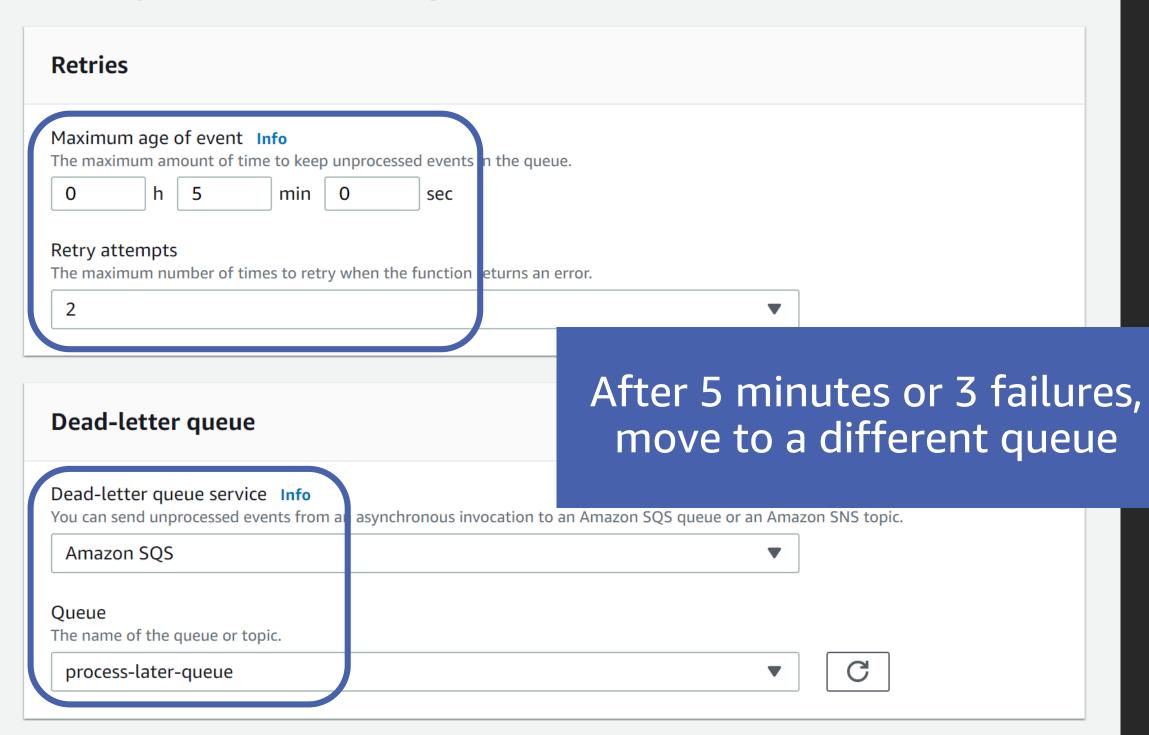
Move old messages to low-priority queue



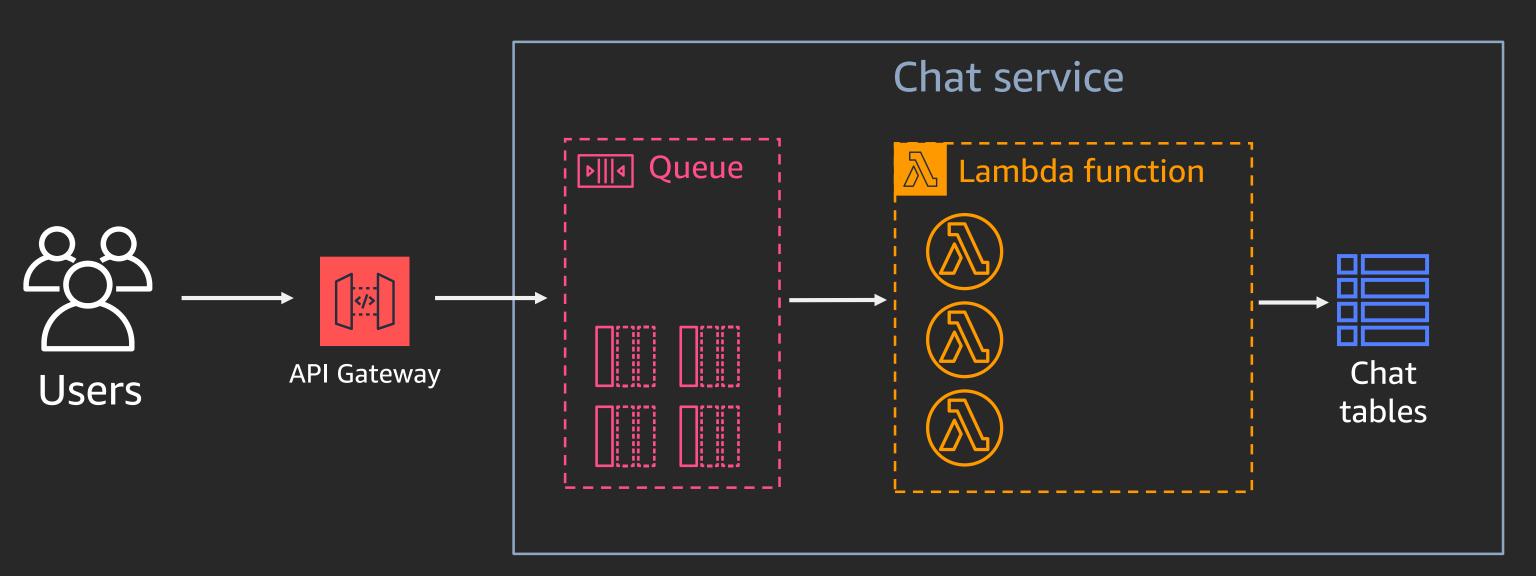
Time to Live (TTL)



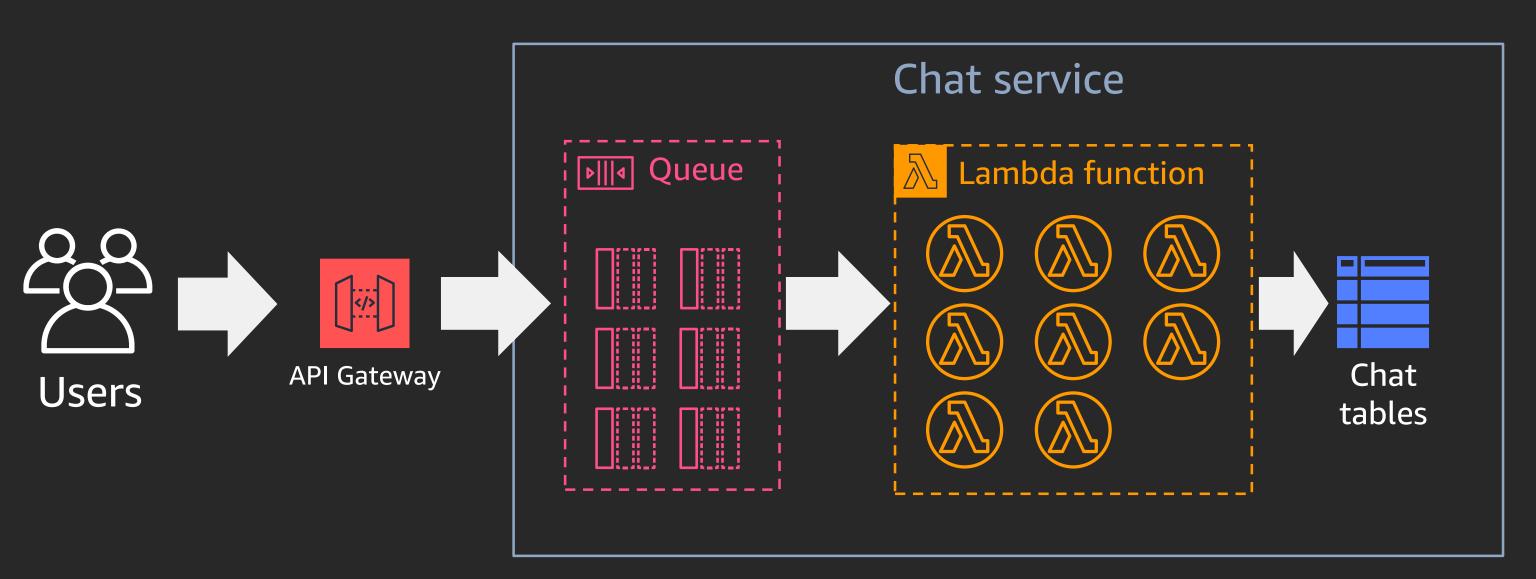
Edit asynchronous configuration



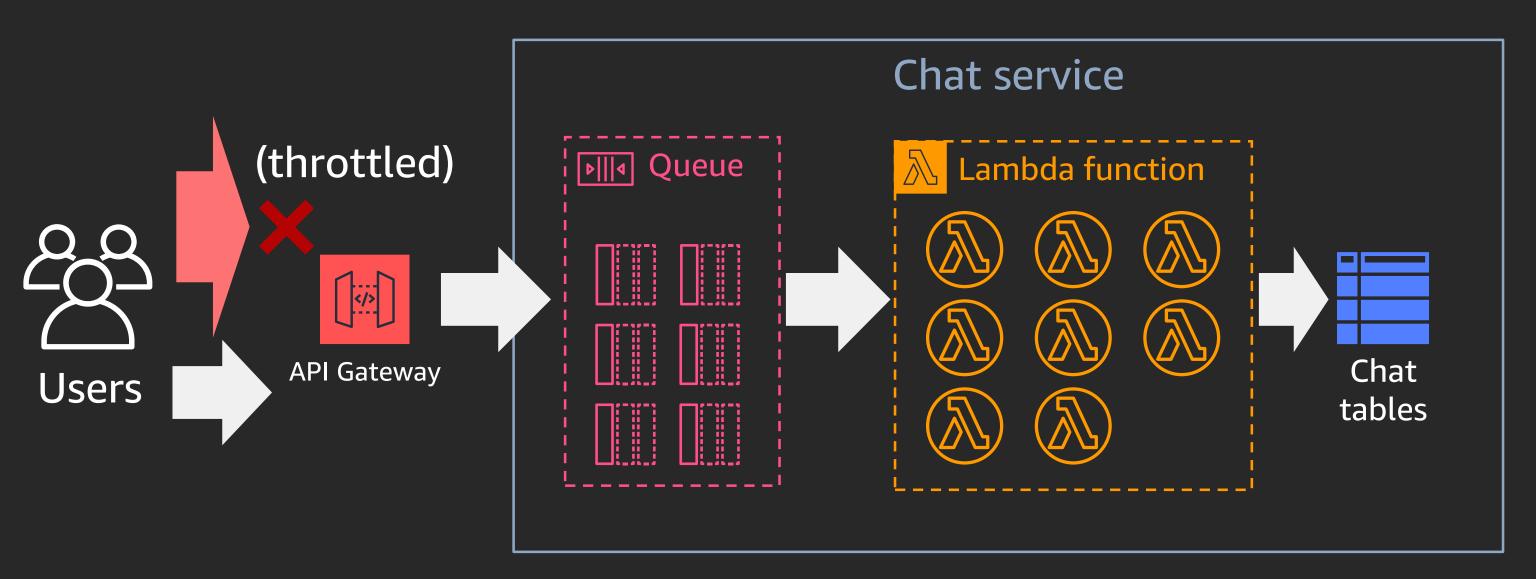
Backpressure (throttling)



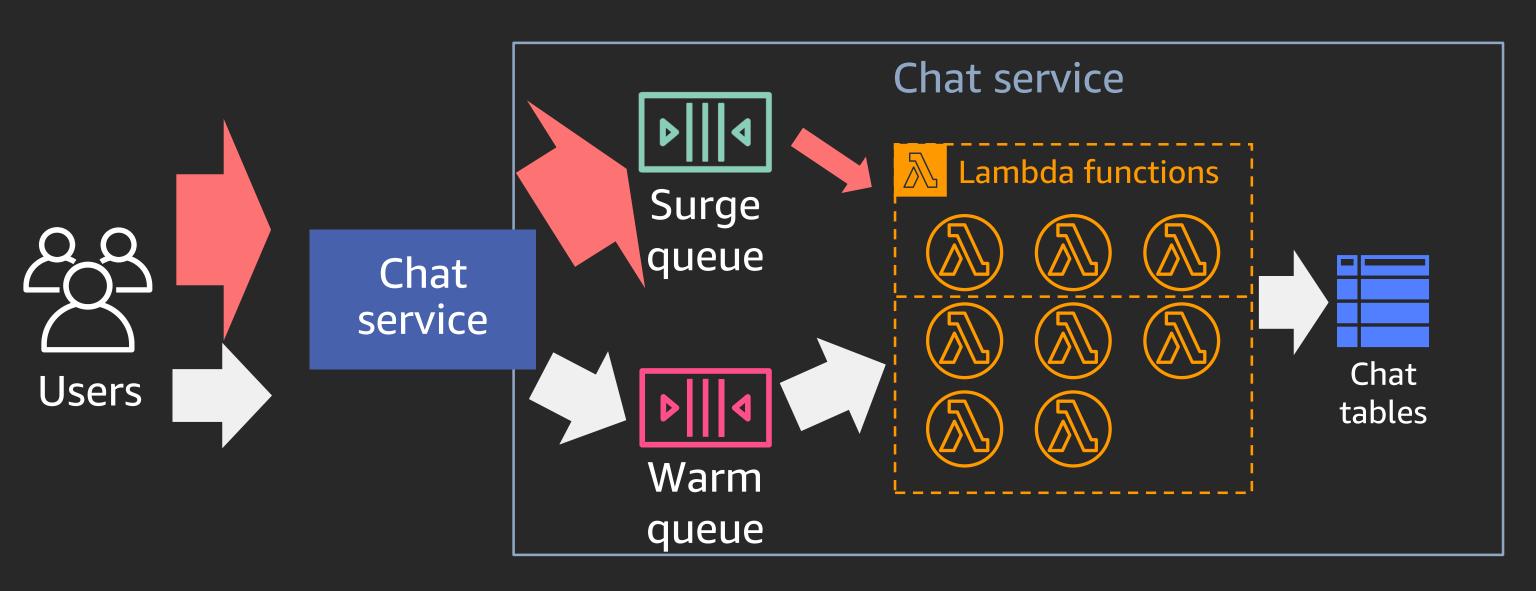
Backpressure (throttling)



Backpressure (throttling)

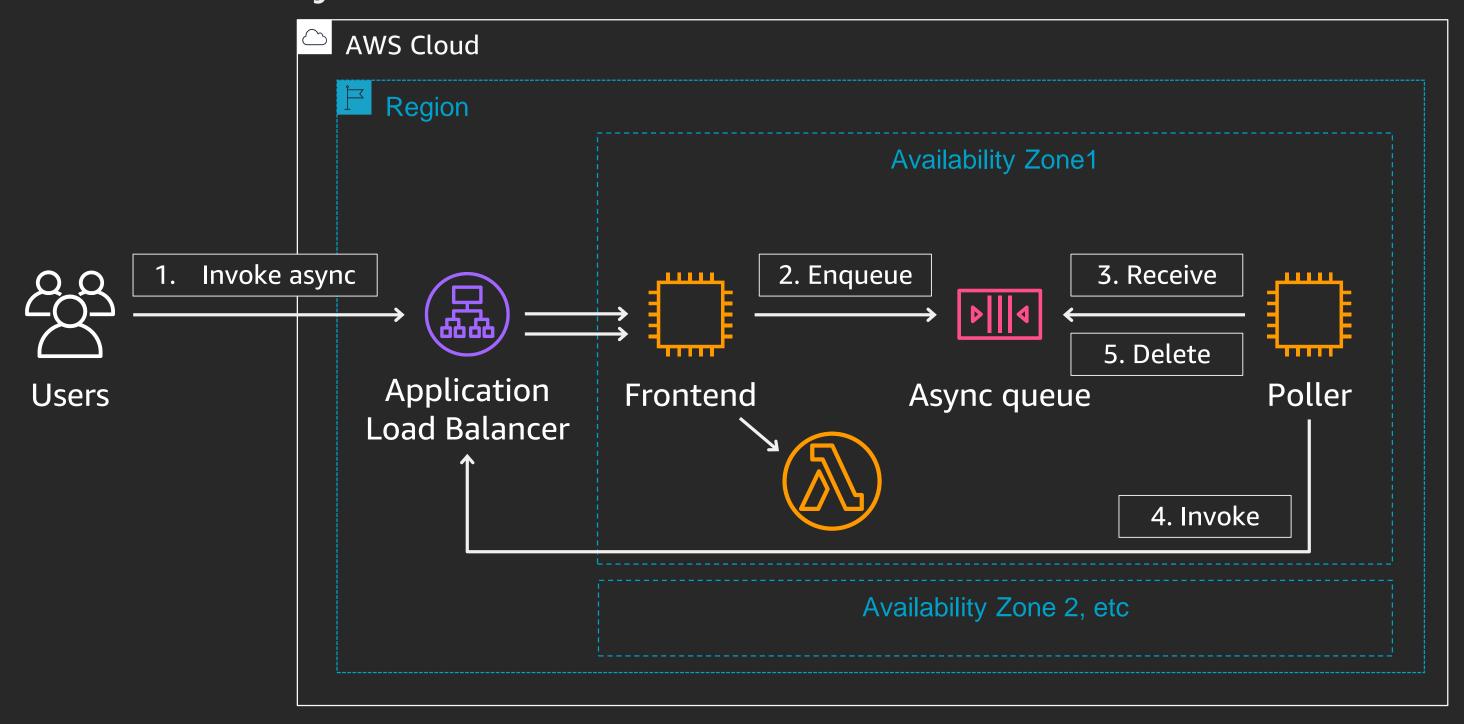


Priority queues + throttling: Best of both worlds?

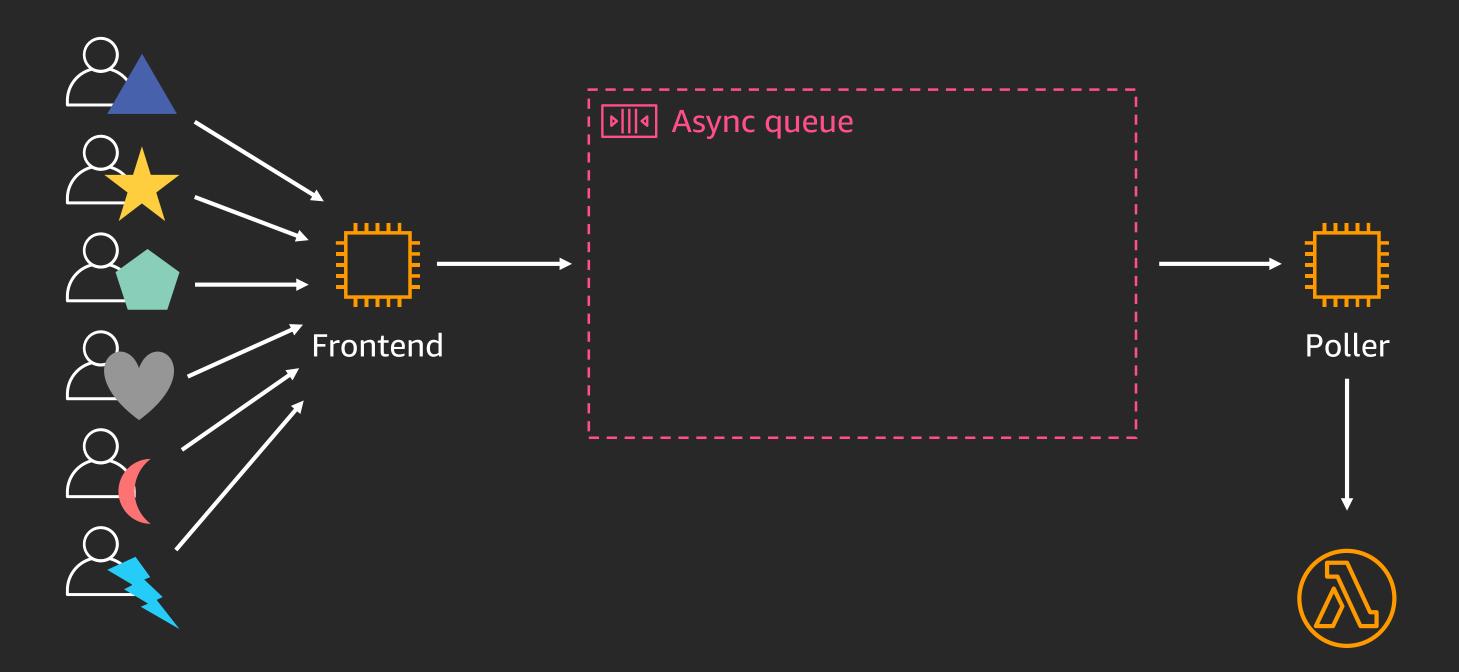


Under the hood: Lambda async

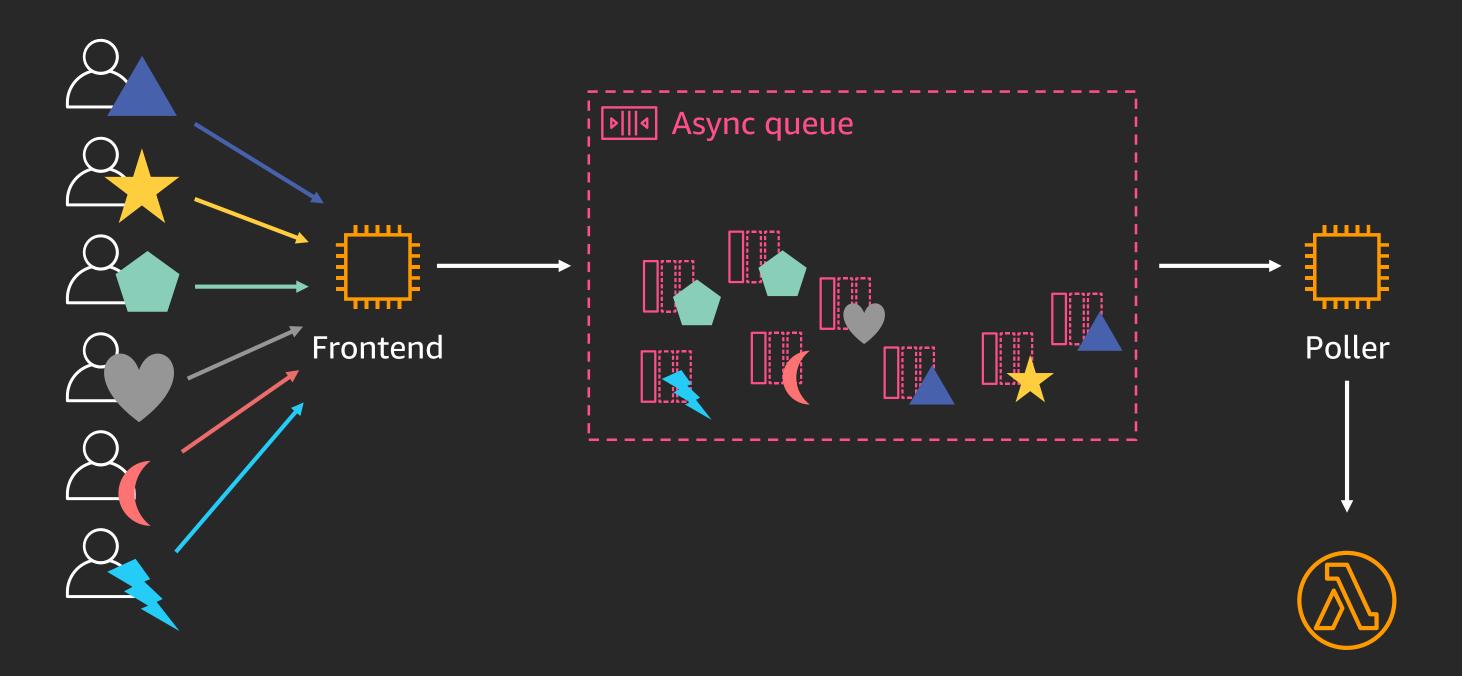
Lambda async



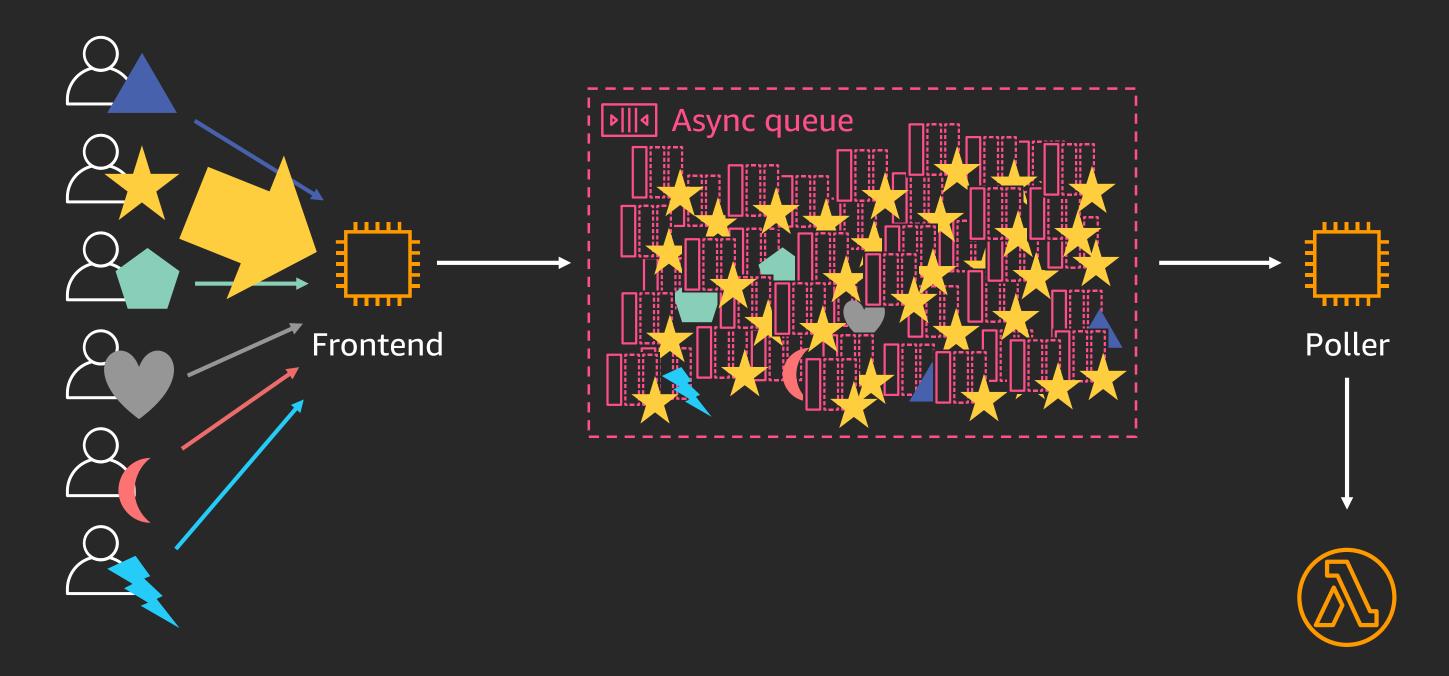
Lambda async



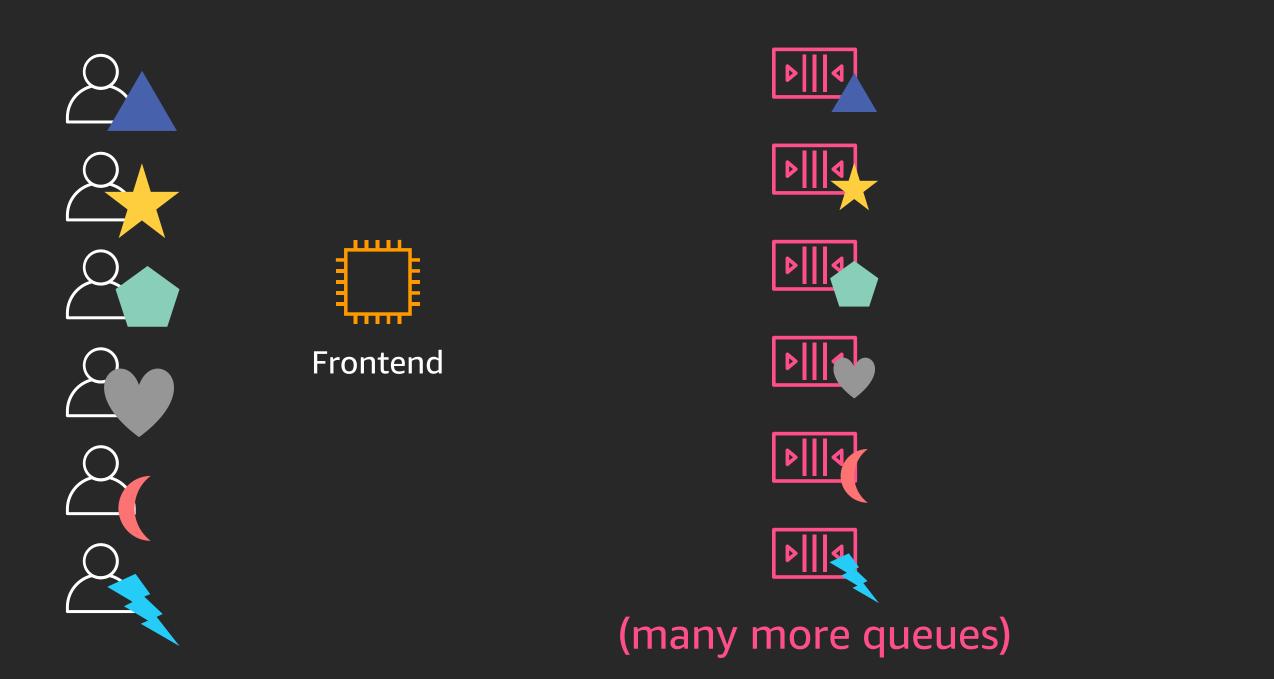
Lambda async

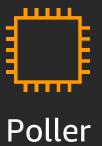


Lambda async (this is not what happens)



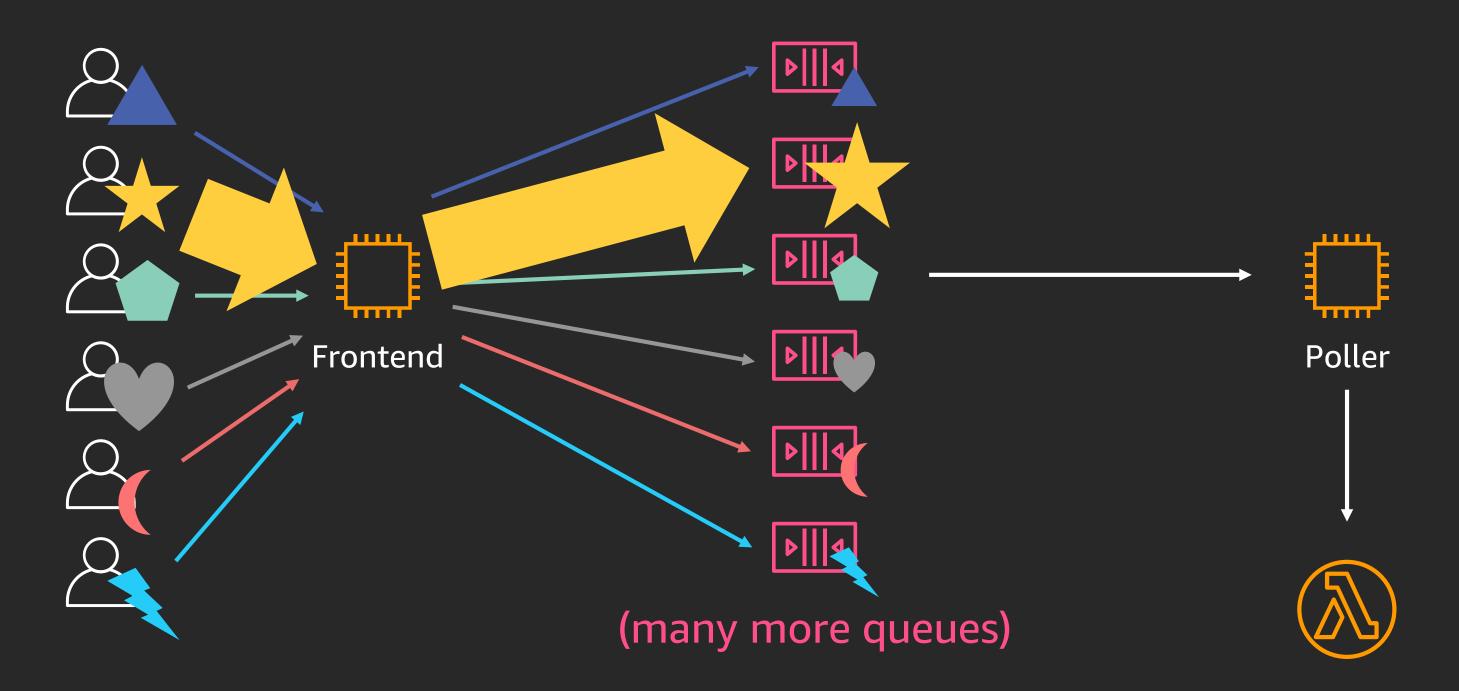
Queue per workload



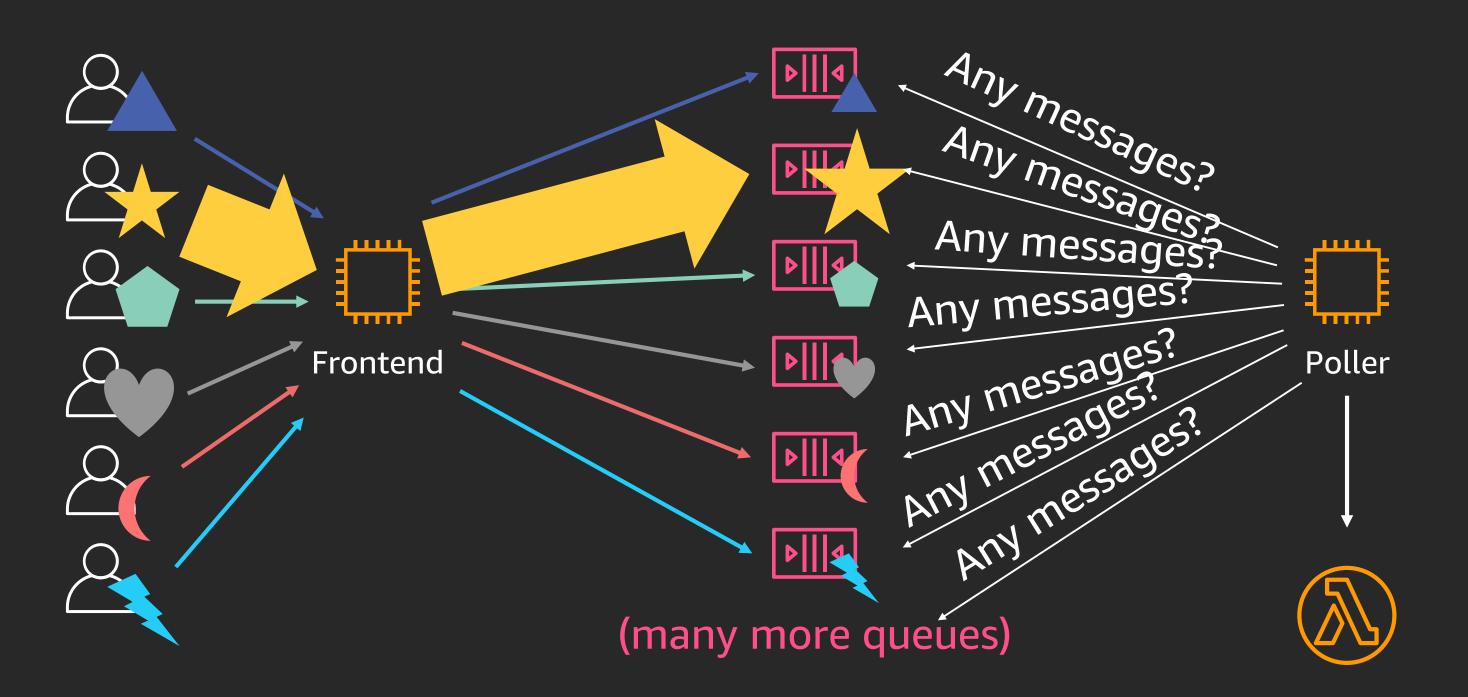




Queue per workload



Polling is not free







(fixed number of N queues)













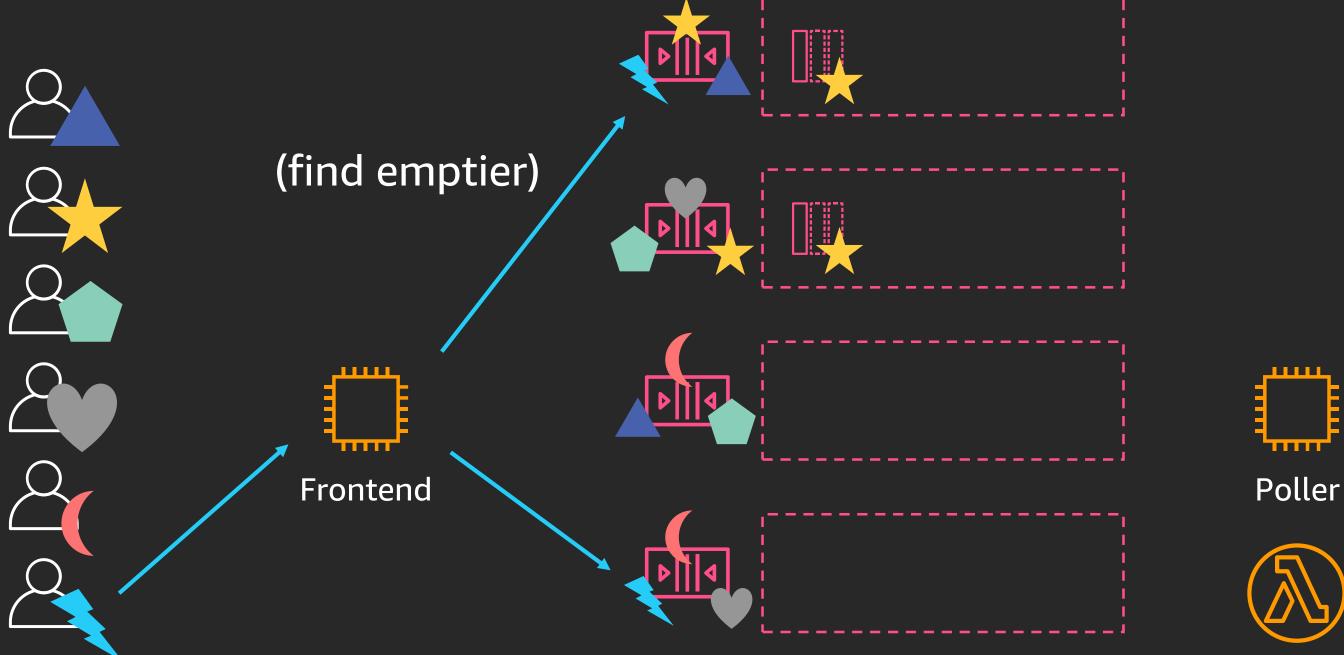
(fixed number of N queues)



(map each workload to K queues)



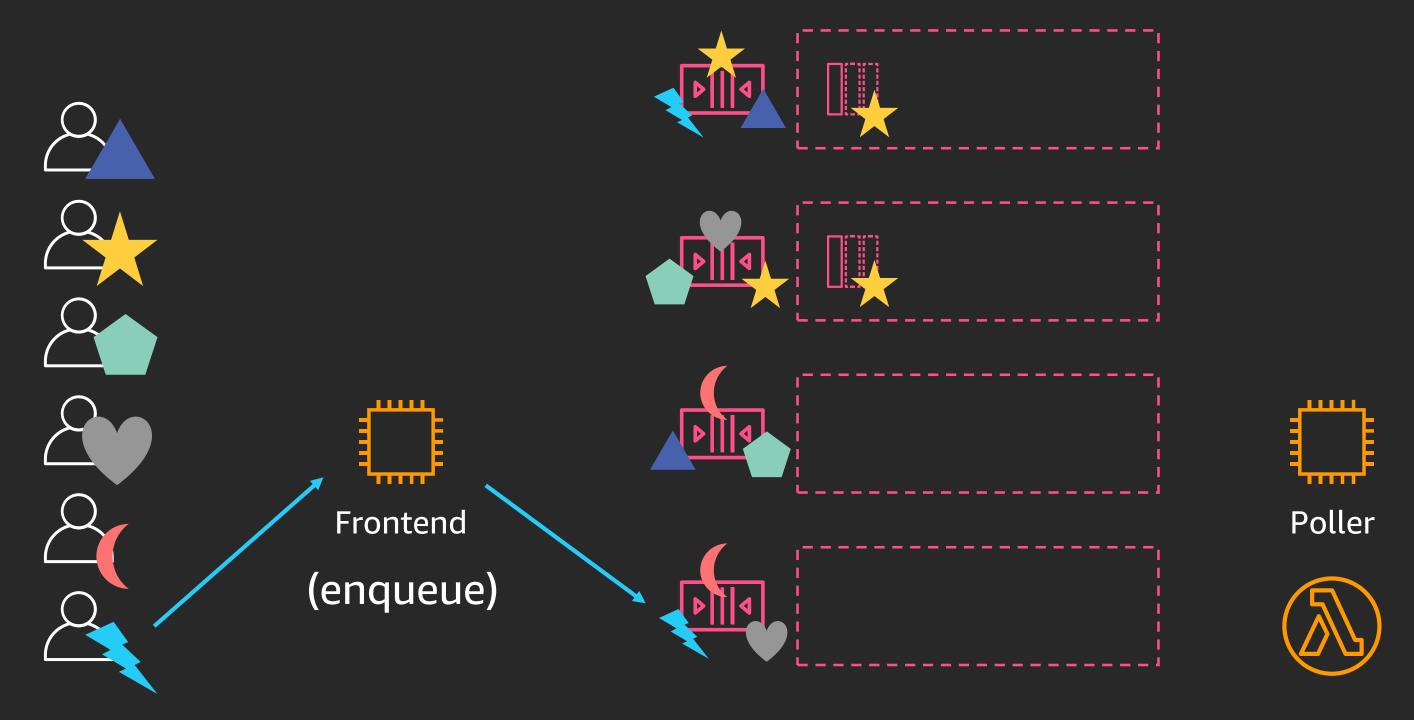
Shuffle-sharding: Enqueue



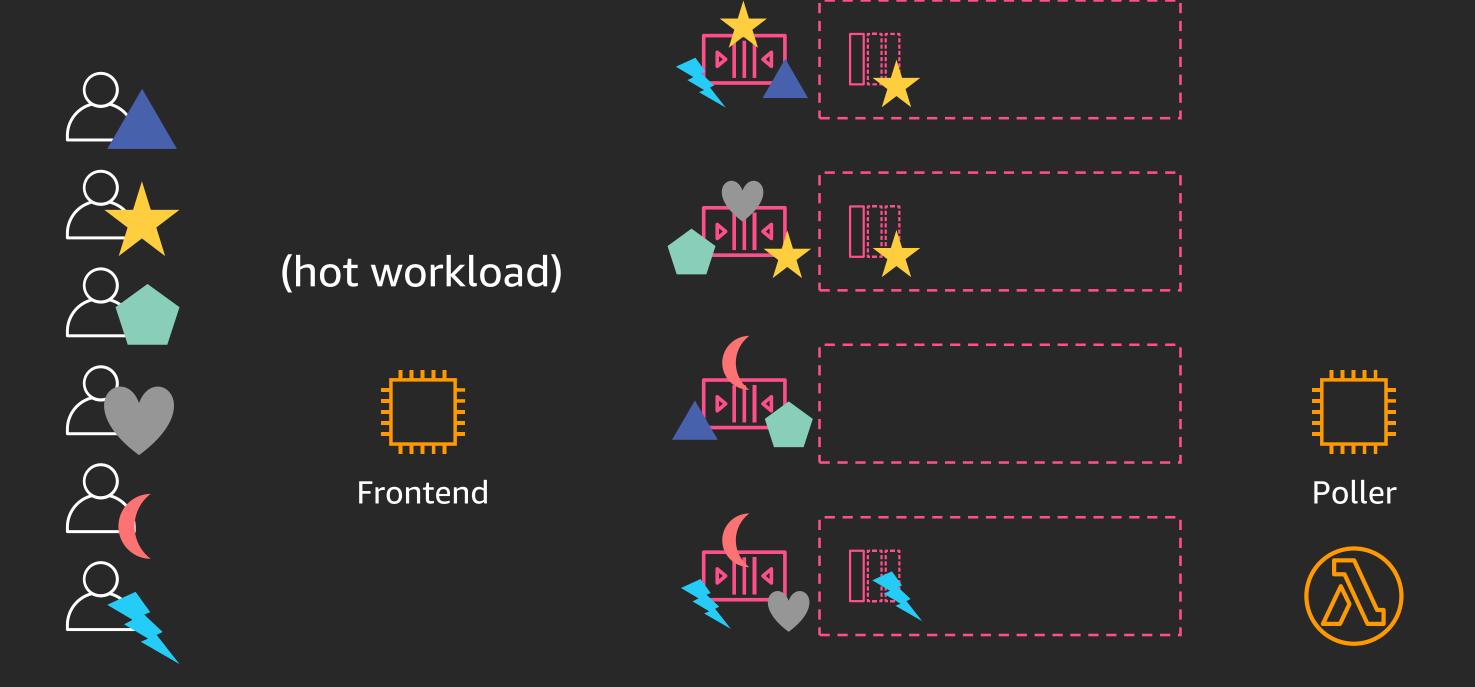




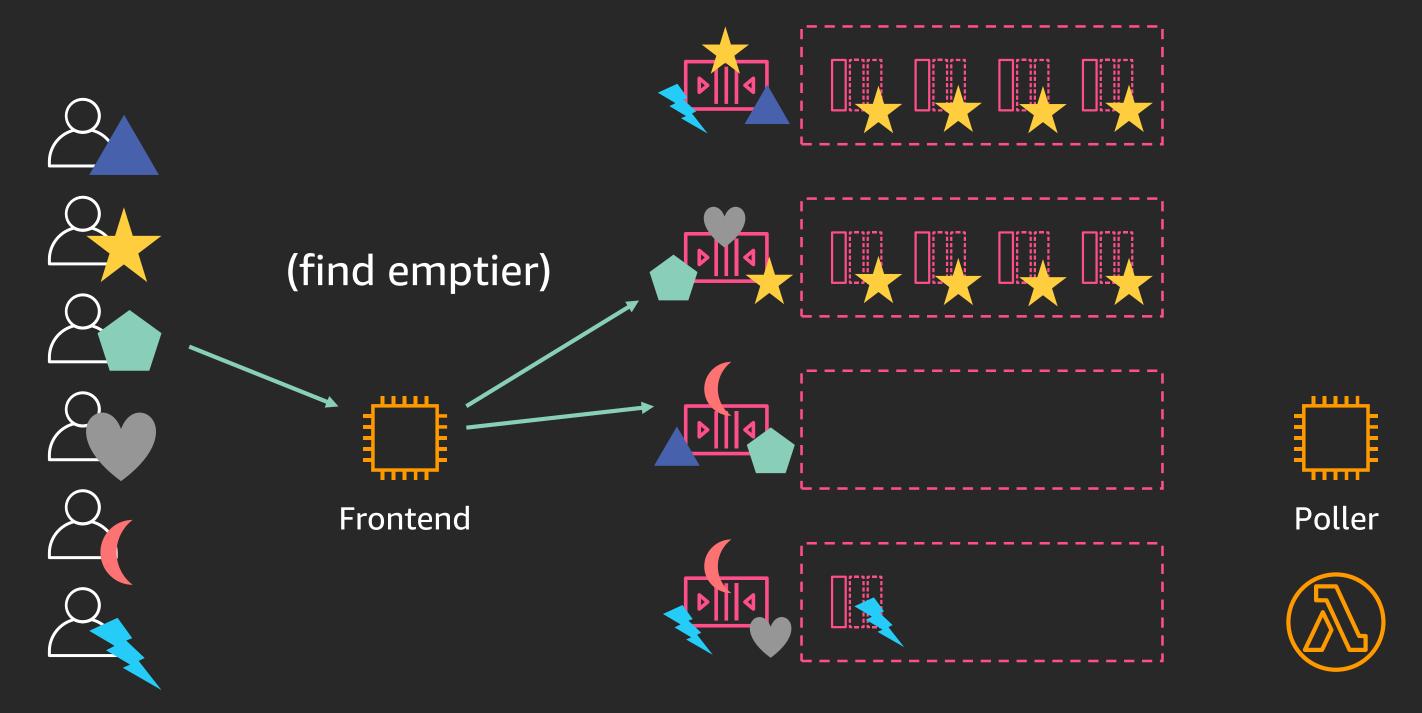
Shuffle-sharding: Enqueue



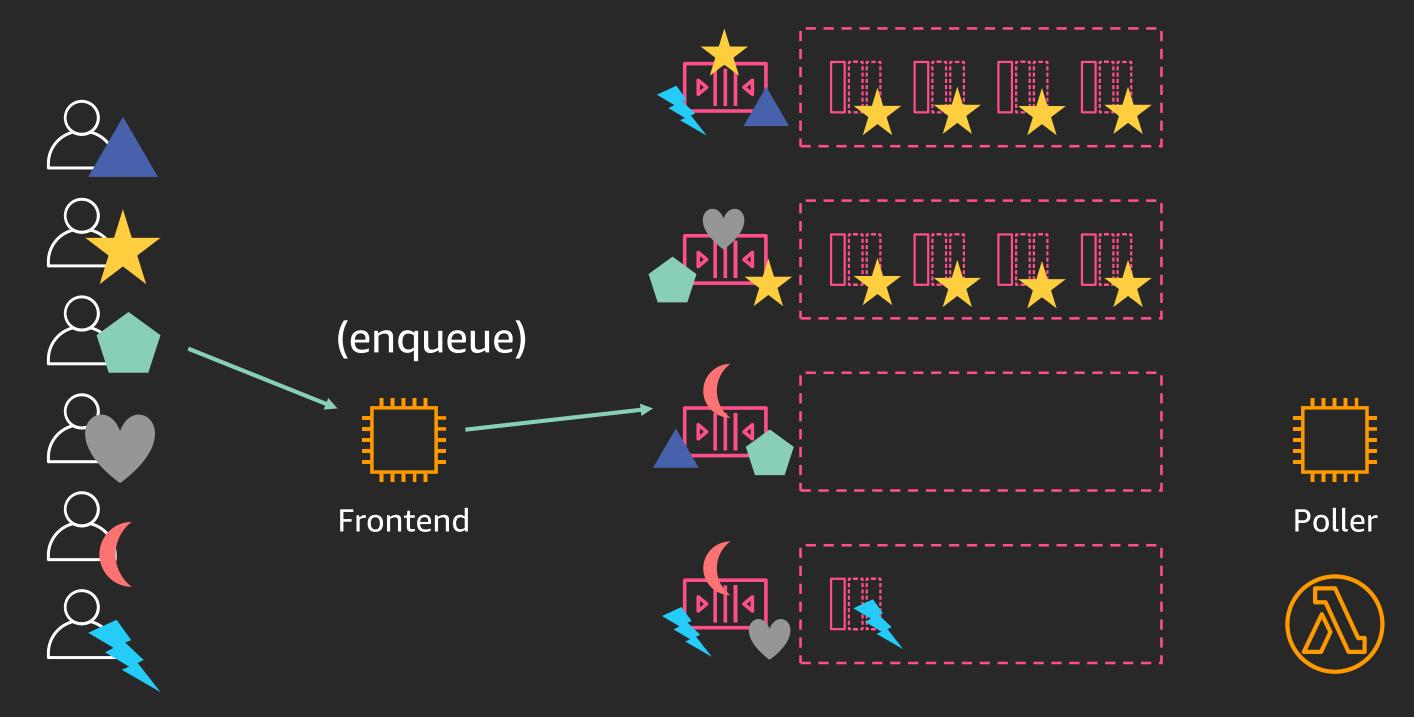
Shuffle-sharding: Busy workload



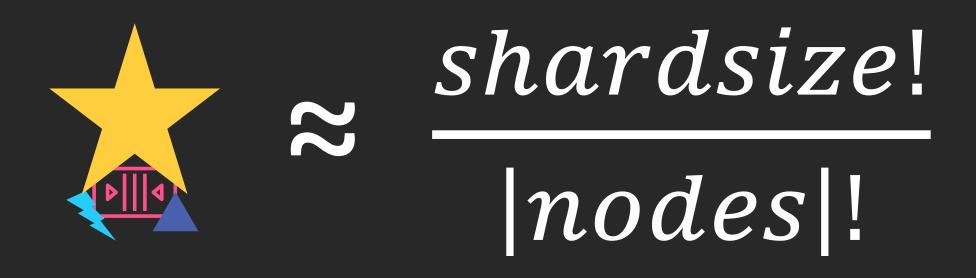
Shuffle-sharding: Busy workload



Shuffle-sharding: Busy workload



Shuffle-sharding: Magical resource isolation



Shuffle-sharding: Magical resource isolation

Nodes = 8

Shard size = 2



Overlap	% workloads
0	53.6%
1	42.8%
2	3.6%

Shuffle-sharding: Magical resource isolation

Nodes =

= 100

Shard size

= 5



Overlap	% workloads
0	77%
1	21%
2	1.8%
3	0.06%
4	0.0006%
5	0.0000013%

Isolate busy workloads





(isolate busy workload)







Avoiding queue backlogs

Backlogs build quickly, introduce modes

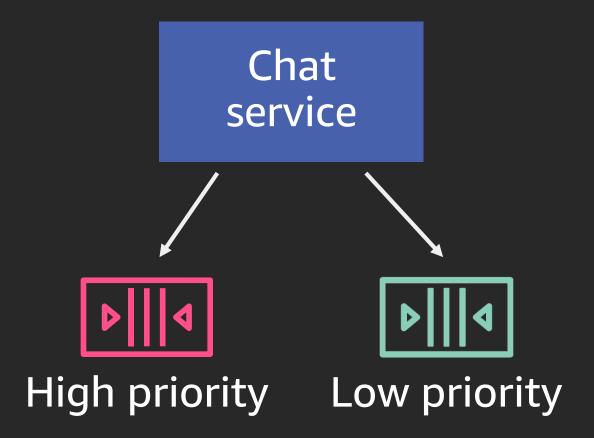


- Backlogs build quickly, introduce modes
- Auto Scaling and Lambda react quickly

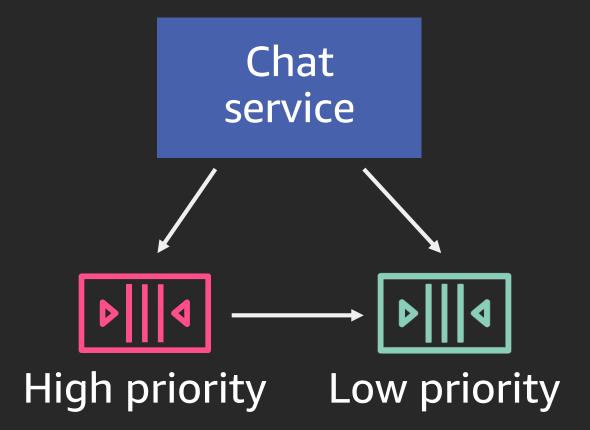




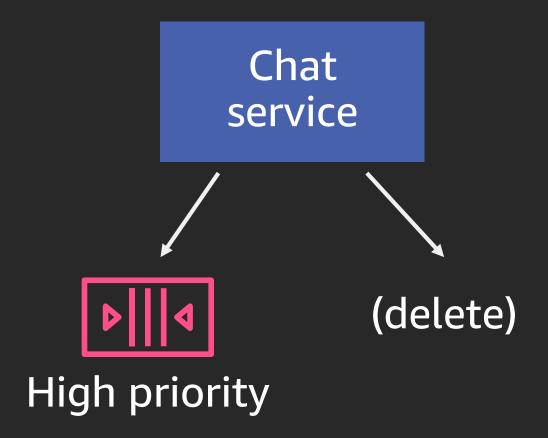
- Backlogs build quickly, introduce modes
- Auto Scaling and Lambda react quickly
- Priority queueing emulates LIFO



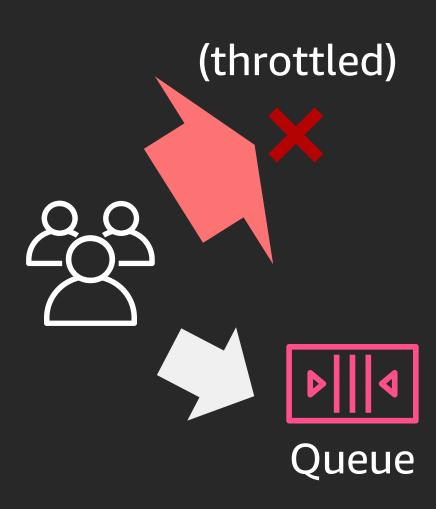
- Backlogs build quickly, introduce modes
- Auto Scaling and Lambda react quickly
- Priority queueing emulates LIFO
- Move old messages to low priority



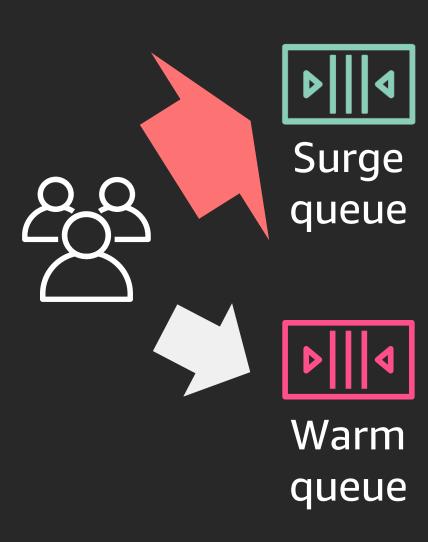
- Backlogs build quickly, introduce modes
- Auto Scaling and Lambda react quickly
- Priority queueing emulates LIFO
- Move old messages to low priority
- Message TTLs for stale information



- Backlogs build quickly, introduce modes
- Auto Scaling and Lambda react quickly
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- Apply backpressure



- Backlogs build quickly, introduce modes
- Auto Scaling and Lambda react quickly
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- Move old messages to low priority
- Message TTLs for stale information
- Apply backpressure
- Surge queue excess traffic



- Backlogs build quickly, introduce modes
- Auto Scaling and Lambda react quickly
- Priority queueing emulates LIFO
- Move old messages to low priority
- Message TTLs for stale information
- Apply backpressure
- Surge queue excess traffic
- Shuffle-sharding for isolation

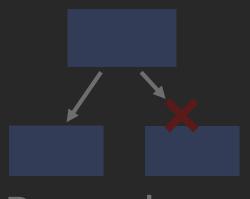




Chapter four



Avoid brownout by rejecting excess load



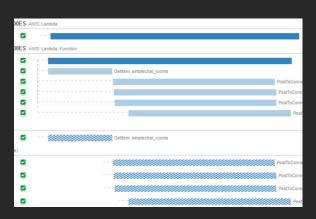
Dependency isolation

Prevent one dependency from affecting unrelated functionality



Avoiding queue backlogs

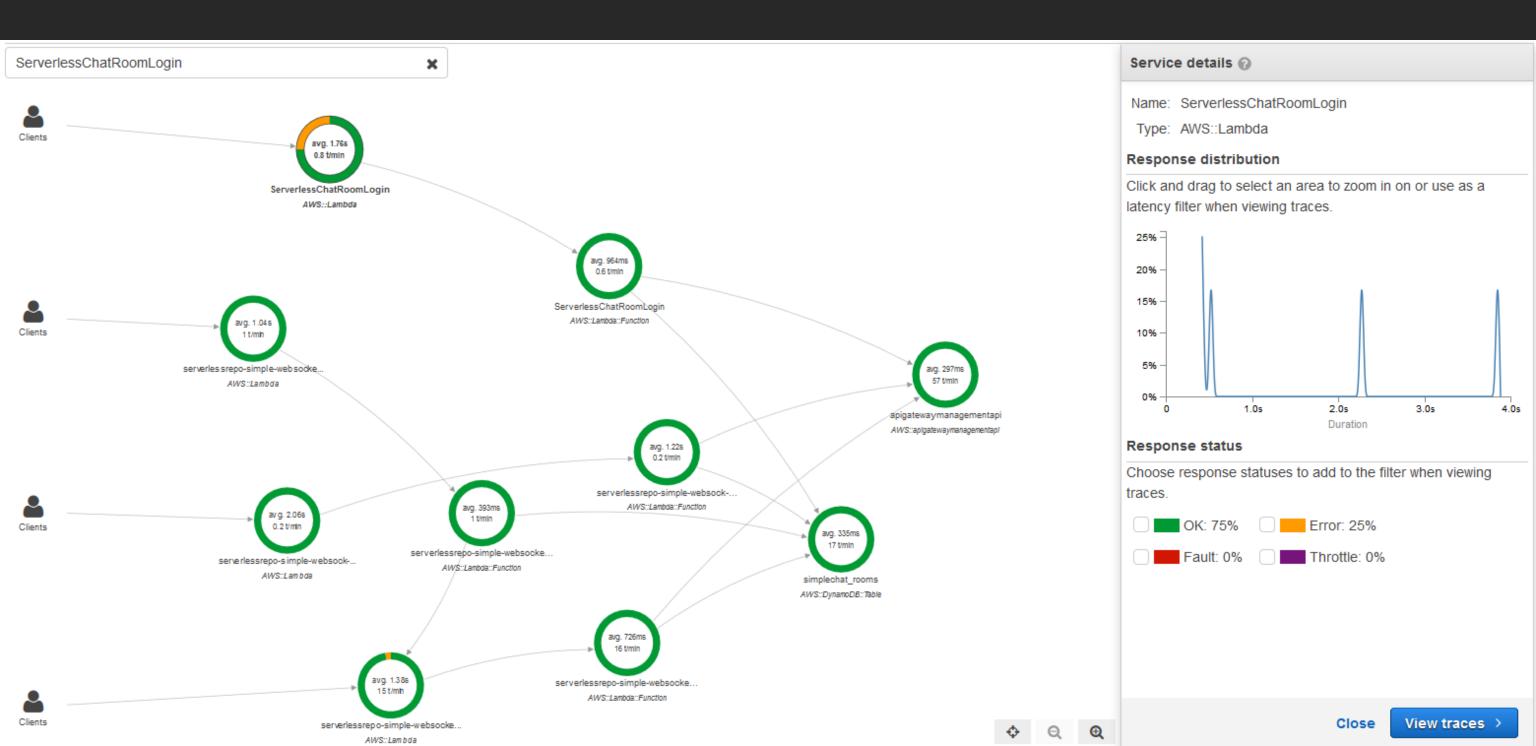
Prevent a backlog from extending recovery time



Operating

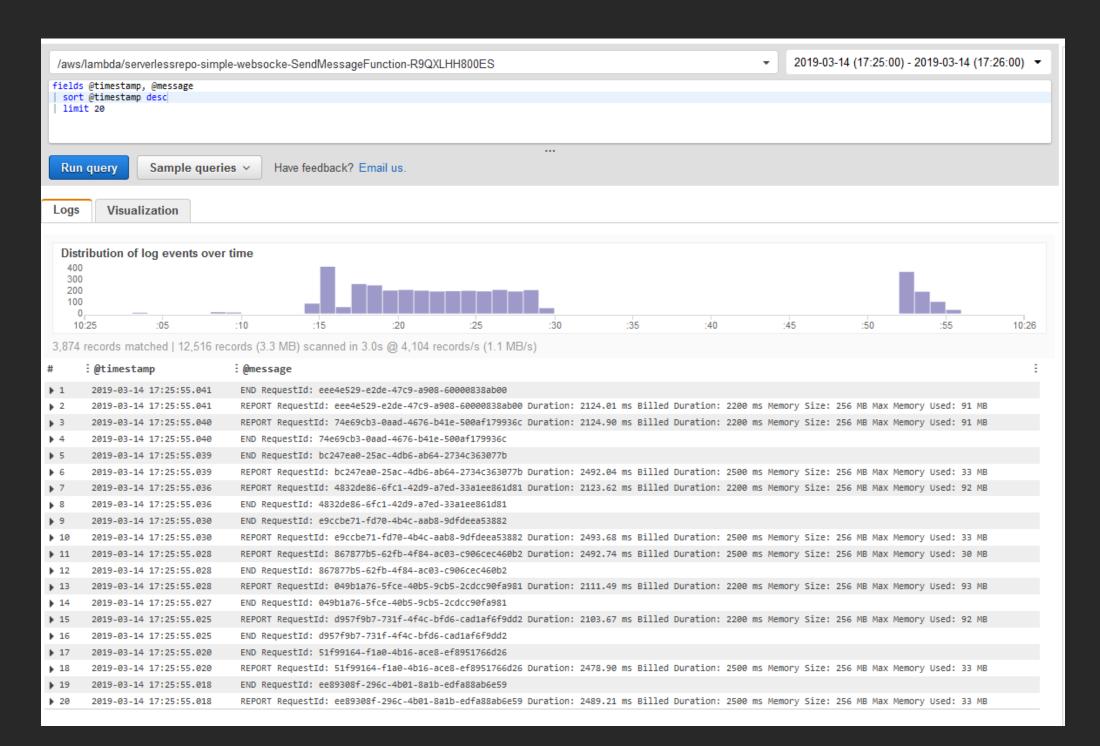
Quickly diagnose and mitigate issues

AWS X-Ray tracing



Method	Response Duration Age					ID									
	200	309 ms 5.3 min (2019-03-16 22:59:06 UTC)				1-5c8d7fba-b3b2ae429da8149f3e47df66									
Name			Res.	Duration	Status	0.0ms	50ms I	100ms I	150ms I	200ms I	250ms I	300ms I	350ms I		
▼ serverlessrepo-simple-websocke-SendMessageFunction-R9QXLHH800ES AWS::Lambda															
serverlessrep	po-simple-websocl	ke-SendMessage	Fun 200	306 ms	~										
▼ serverlessre	epo-simple-webs	ocke-SendMess	ageFunctio	n-R9QXLHH8	00ES AW	/S::Lambda::Fi	unction								
serverlessre	po-simple-websocl	ke-SendMessage	Fun -	300 ms	~										
DynamoDB			200	79.0 ms	~	GetItem: simplechat_rooms									
apigatewaymanagementapi			200	199 ms	$\overline{\mathbf{v}}$							Po	stToConnection		
apigatewaymanagementapi			200	200 ms	~							P	ostToConnection		
apigatewaymanagementapi			200	199 ms	~							P	ostToConnection		
apigatewaymanagementapi			200	200 ms	$\overline{\mathbf{v}}$	L							PostToConnection		
▼ DynamoDB AWS::DynamoDB::Table (Client Response)															
serverlessrepo-simple-websocke-SendMessageFu			Fun 200	79.0 ms	~			Getltem: sim	nplechat_rooms						
▼ apigatewaymanagementapi AWS::apigatewaymanagementapi (Client Response)															
serverlessre	po-simple-websocl	ke-SendMessage	Fun 200	199 ms	$\overline{\mathbf{v}}$			- "///////				//////////////////////////////////////	stToConnection		
serverlessrepo-simple-websocke-SendMessageFu			Fun 200	200 ms	\checkmark							/////////////////////////P	ostToConnection		
serverlessrep	po-simple-websocl	ke-SendMessage	Fun 200	199 ms	~							///////// P	ostToConnection		

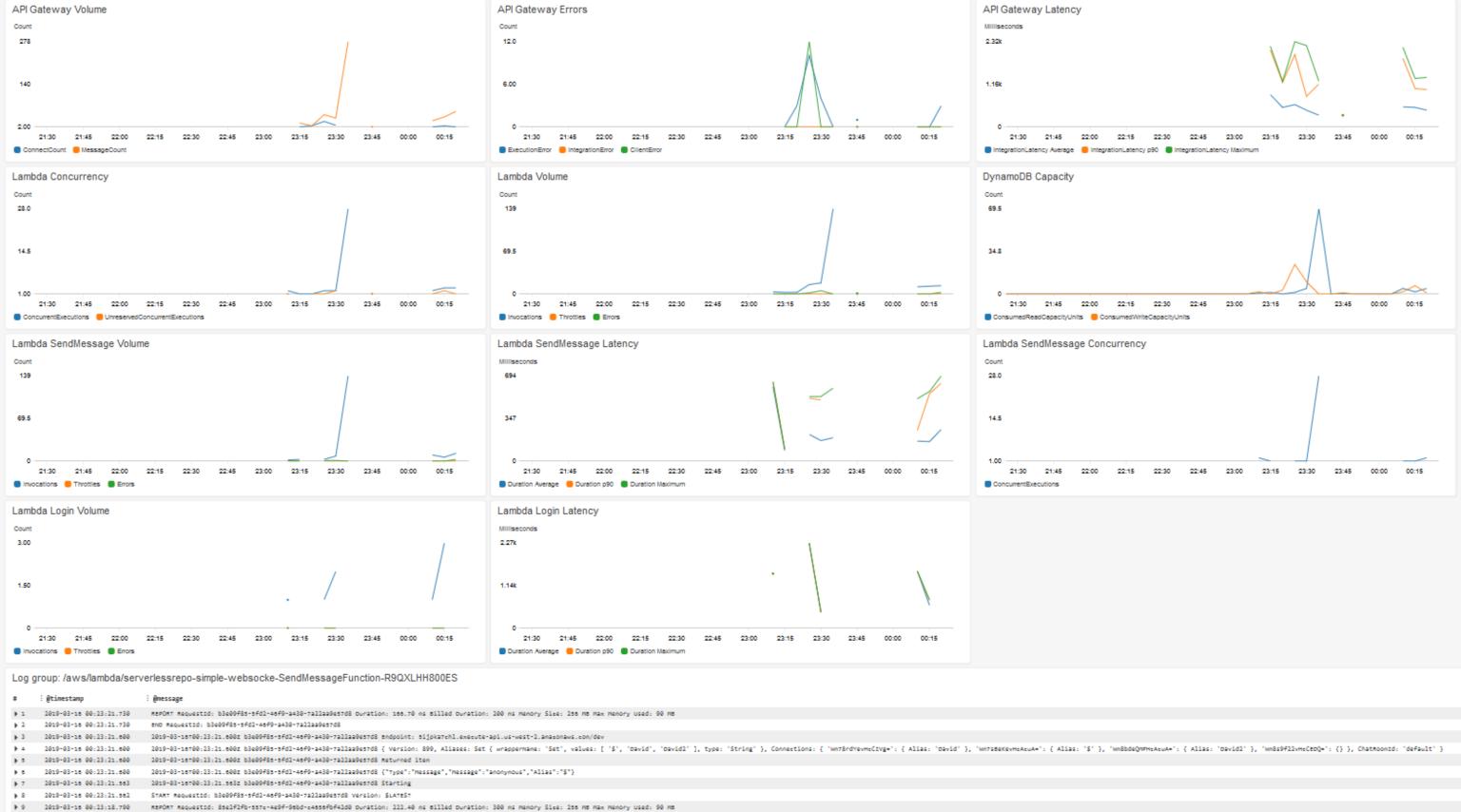
Amazon CloudWatch insights



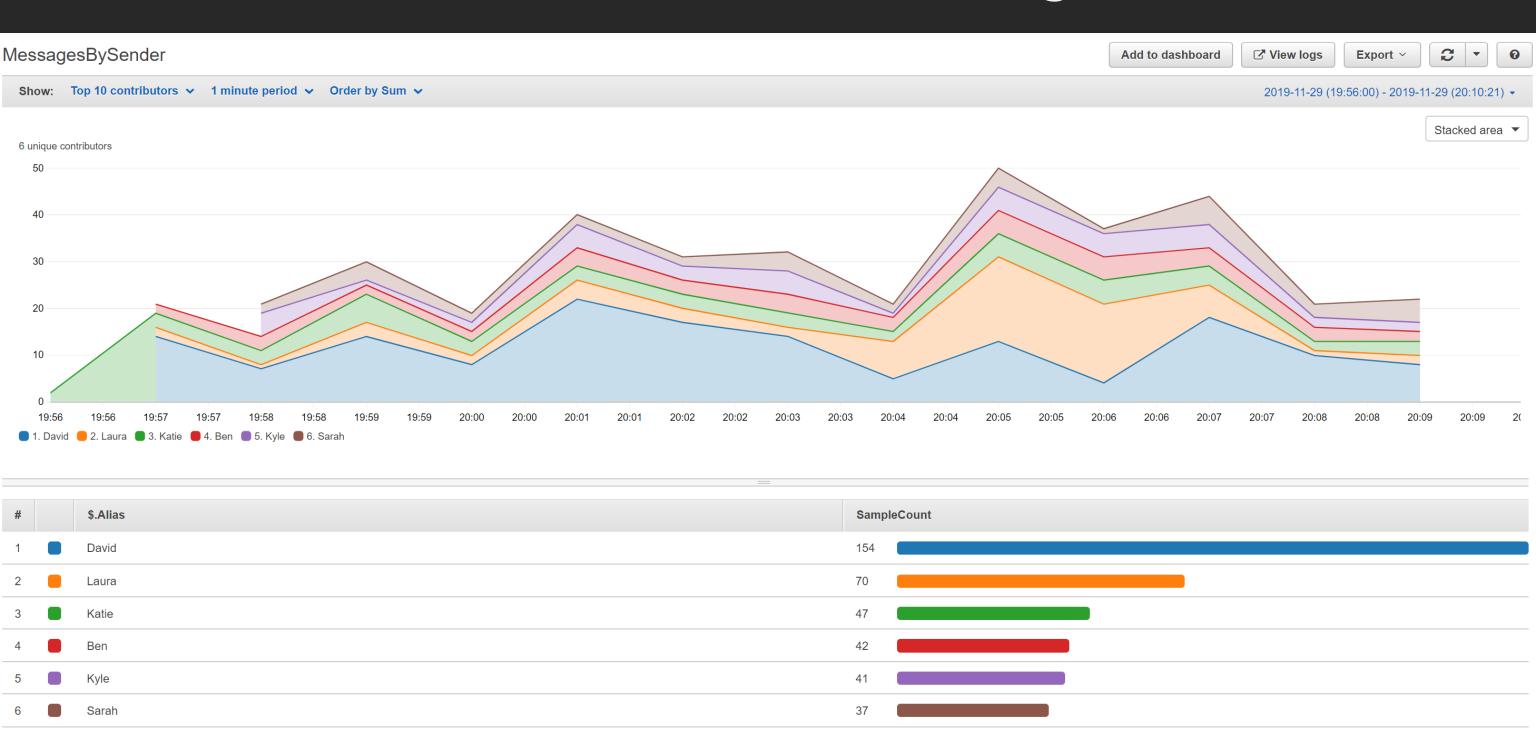
Amazon CloudWatch insights

```
fields @timestamp, @duration, date_floor(@timestamp, 1s)
| filter @duration > 0
| stats avg(@duration), count(*), (avg(@duration) / 1000.0) * count(*) as concurrency by bin(1s)
| sort concurrency desc
```

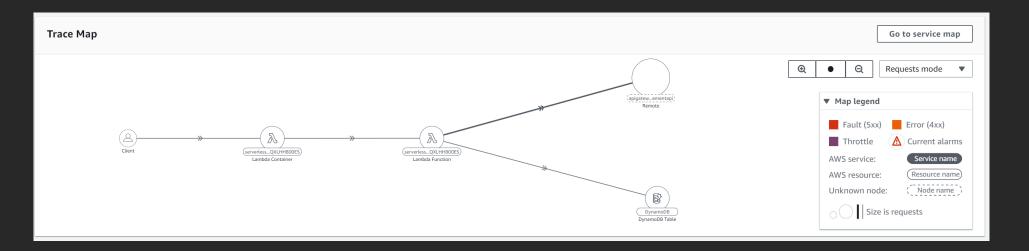
#	: bin(1s)	: avg(@duration)	: count(*)	: concurrency
1	2019-03-14 17:26:17.000	3003.174	471	1414.4949
2	2019-03-14 17:26:18.000	3003.1106	351	1054.0918
3	2019-03-14 17:25:17.000	2400.892	65	156.058
4	2019-03-14 17:26:16.000	2818.4718	44	124.0128
5	2019-03-14 17:26:20.000	3002.2058	40	120.0882
6	2019-03-14 17:25:54.000	1878.0819	52	97.6603
7	2019-03-14 17:26:04.000	1903.5012	49	93.2716
8	2019-03-14 17:26:15.000	1868.6393	46	85.9574
9	2019-03-14 17:25:18.000	1315.5267	52	68.4074
10	2019-03-14 17:26:05.000	3003.1705	19	57.0602
11	2019-03-14 17:26:19.000	3002.1027	15	45.0315
12	2019-03-14 17:25:55.000	2231.6844	16	35.707
13	2019-03-14 17:25:53.000	1072.0553	32	34.3058
14	2019-03-14 17:25:16.000	1811.7122	18	32.6108
15	2019-03-14 17:26:14.000	1303.0379	24	31.2729



Amazon CloudWatch Contributor Insights



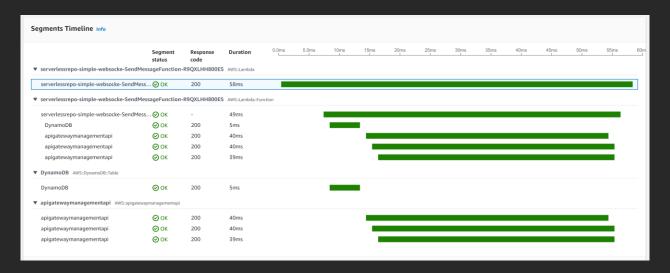
Amazon CloudWatch ServiceLens



Overall system health

Drill down to a specific request





Recap: Resilient systems

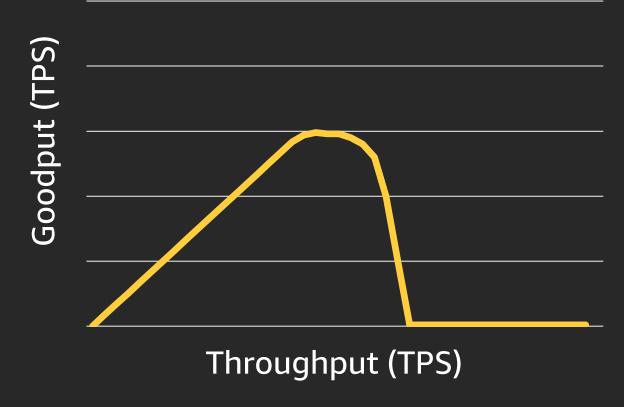




Don't take on too much work

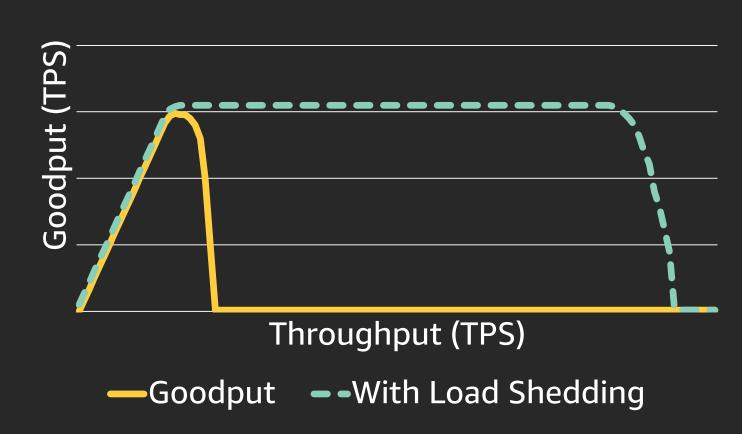




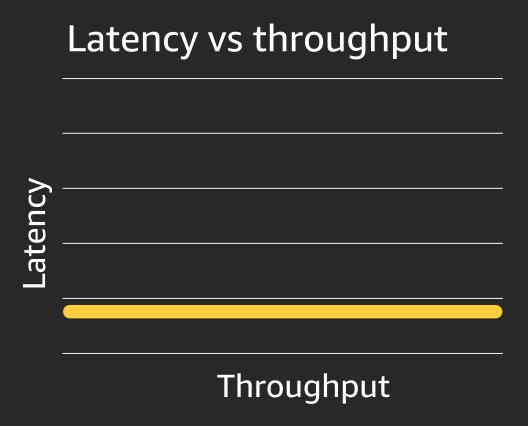


Reject excess work

Goodput vs throughput



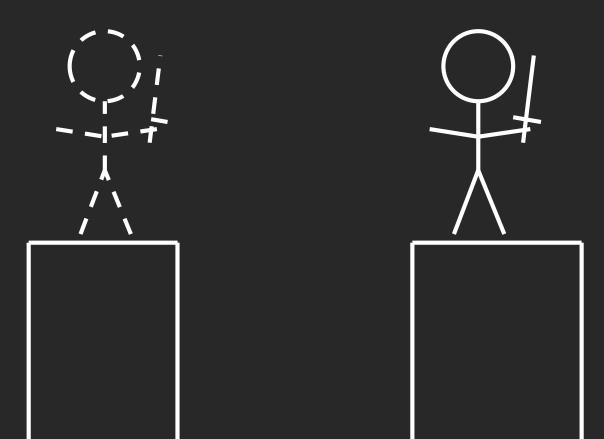
Workload isolation means predictable performance



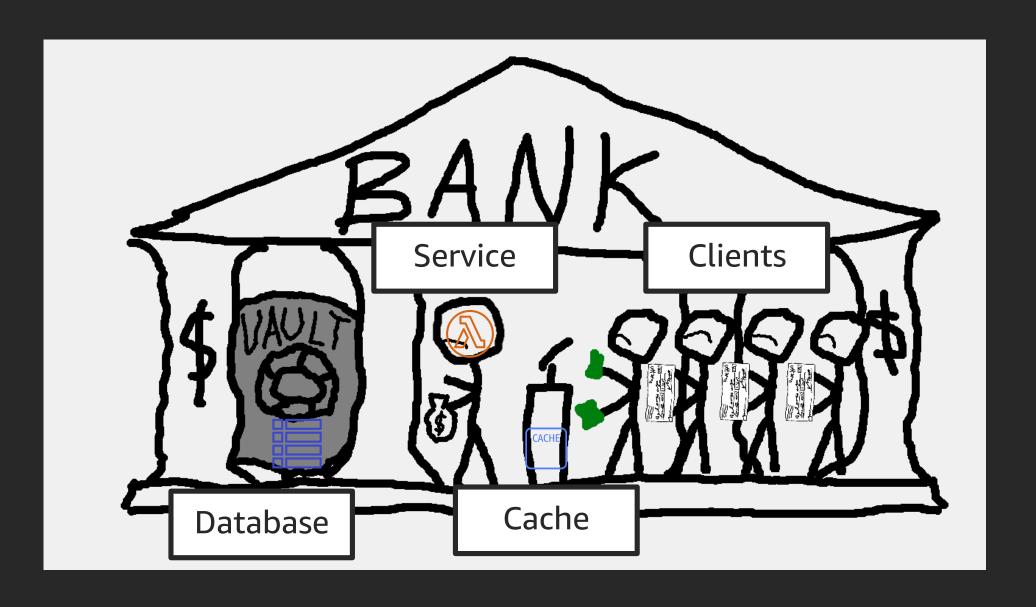


(only work on one thing at a time)

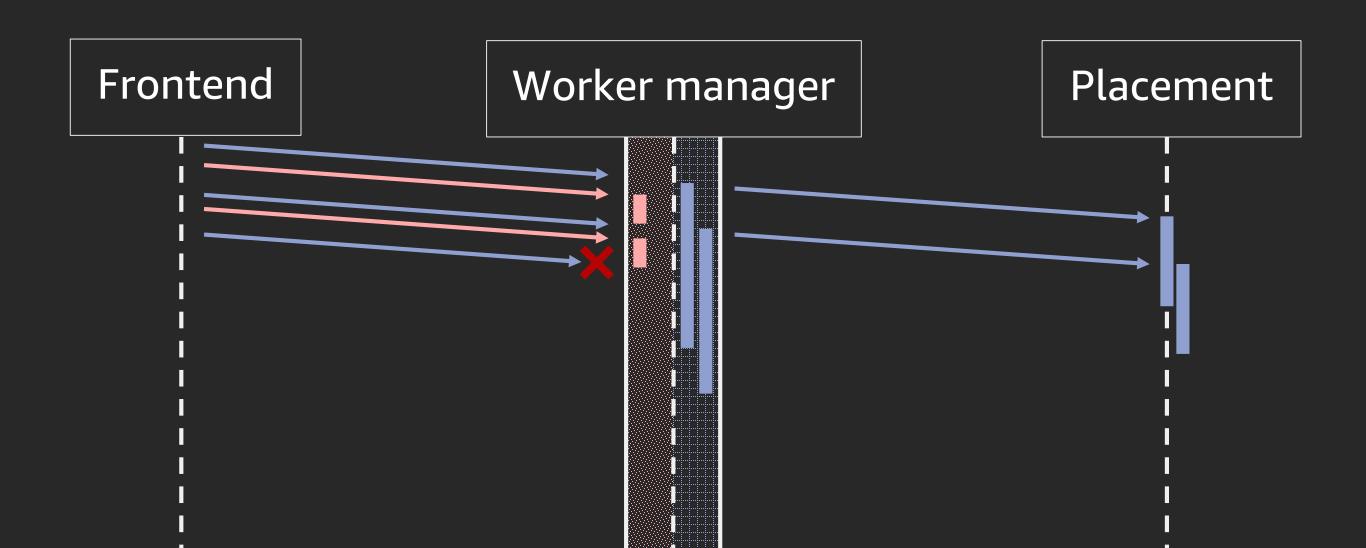
Bounded work



Compartmentalize dependencies



Compartmentalize dependencies



Compartmentalize dependencies



(per-function concurrency control)



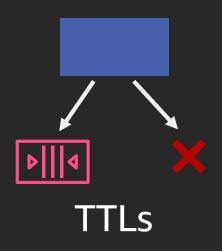
(per-API throttling)

Watch out for queue backlogs



Avoid pile-ups

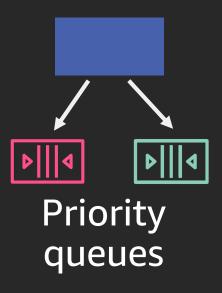
Queues are quick to fill, slow to drain



Drop messages that are no longer relevant



Prevent a backlog from becoming unmanageable



Shift the backlog into a low-priority queue



Isolate backlogs in unrelated workloads

Serverless == resiliency

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- Getting into the Serverless

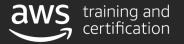
 Mindset
- AWS Lambda Foundations

- Amazon API Gateway for Serverless Applications
- Amazon DynamoDB for Serverless Architectures



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