

MARCIN COPIK, TORSTEN HOEFLER

# High Performance Serverless for HPC and Clouds



# Tracking Wasted Money

# Tracking Wasted Money

## Job Characteristics on Large-Scale Systems: Long-Term Analysis, Quantification, and Implications\*

Tirthak Patel  
Northeastern University

Zhengchun Liu, Raj Kettimuthu  
Argonne National Laboratory

Paul Rich, William Allcock

Devesh Tiwari

## A Case For Intra-rack Resource Disaggregation in HPC

GEORGE MICHELOGIANNAKIS, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA  
BENJAMIN KLENK, NVIDIA, USA  
BRANDON COOK, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA  
MIN YEE TEH and MADELEINE GLICK, Columbia University, USA  
LARRY DENNISON, NVIDIA, USA  
KEREN BERGMAN, Columbia University, USA  
JOHN SHALF, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA

TACO, 2022

**FINAL REPORT**

## Quantifying Memory Underutilization in HPC Systems and Using it to Improve Performance via Architecture Support

Gagandeep Panwar* Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA gpanwar@vt.edu	Da Zhang* Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA daz3@vt.edu	Yihan Pang* Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA pyihan1@vt.edu
Mai Dahshan Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA mdahshan@vt.edu	Nathan DeBardeleben Los Alamos National Laboratory Los Alamos, USA ndebard@lanl.gov	Binoy Ravindran Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA binoy@vt.edu
	Xun Jian Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA xunj@vt.edu	

iv, 2017  
MICRO, 2019

## A Holistic View of Memory Utilization on HPC Systems: Current and Future Trends

Ivy B. Peng* peng8@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA	Ian Karlin karlin1@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA	Maya B. Gokhale gokhale2@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA
Kathleen Shoga Shoga1@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA	Matthew Legendre legendre1@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA	Todd Gamblin gamblin2@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA

MEMSYS, 2021

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, USA  
{hyou, haozhang}@utk.edu

JSSPP, 2012

# Tracking Wasted Money

## Job Characteristics on Large-Scale Systems: Long-Term Analysis, Quantification, and Implications\*

Tirthak Patel  
Northeastern University

Zhengchun Liu, Raj Kettimuthu  
Argonne National Laboratory

Paul Rich, William Allcock

Devesh Tiwari

## A Case For Intra-rack Resource Disaggregation in HPC

GEORGE MICHELOGIANNAKIS, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA  
BENJAMIN KLENK, NVIDIA, USA  
BRANDON COOK, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA  
MIN YEE TEH and MADELEINE GLICK, Columbia University, USA  
LARRY DENNISON, NVIDIA, USA  
KEREN BERGMAN, Columbia University, USA  
JOHN SHALF, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA

TACO, 2022

**FINAL REPORT**

## Quantifying Memory Underutilization in HPC Systems and Using it to Improve Performance via Architecture Support

Gagandeep Panwar* Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA gpanwar@vt.edu	Da Zhang* Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA daz3@vt.edu	Yihan Pang* Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA pyihan1@vt.edu
Mai Dahshan Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA mdahshan@vt.edu	Nathan DeBardeleben Los Alamos National Laboratory Los Alamos, USA ndebard@lanl.gov	Binoy Ravindran Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA binoy@vt.edu
	Xun Jian Virginia Tech Blacksburg, USA xunj@vt.edu	

iv, 2017  
MICRO, 2019

## A Holistic View of Memory Utilization on HPC Systems: Current and Future Trends

Ivy B. Peng* peng8@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA	Ian Karlin karlin1@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA	Maya B. Gokhale gokhale2@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA
Kathleen Shoga Shoga1@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA	Matthew Legendre legendre1@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA	Todd Gamblin gamblin2@llnl.gov Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory USA

MEMSYS, 2021

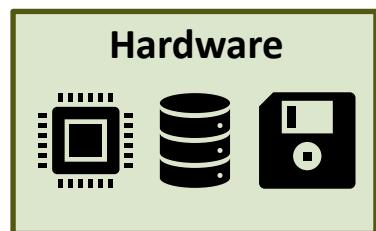
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, USA  
{hyou, haozhang}@utk.edu

JSSPP, 2012

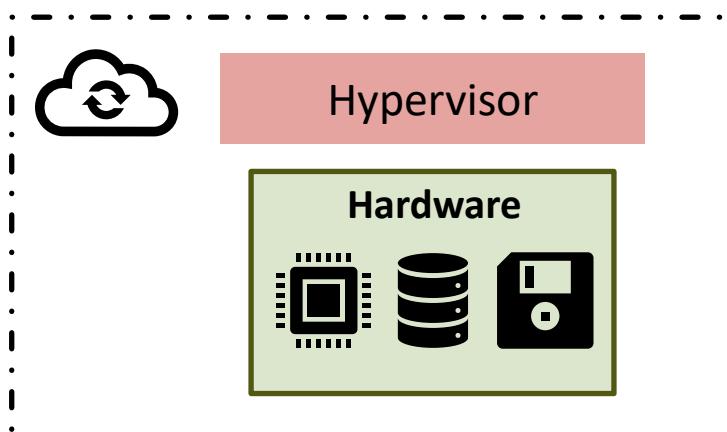
Can we solve underutilization with sharing and fine-grained allocations?

# Cloud and Serverless

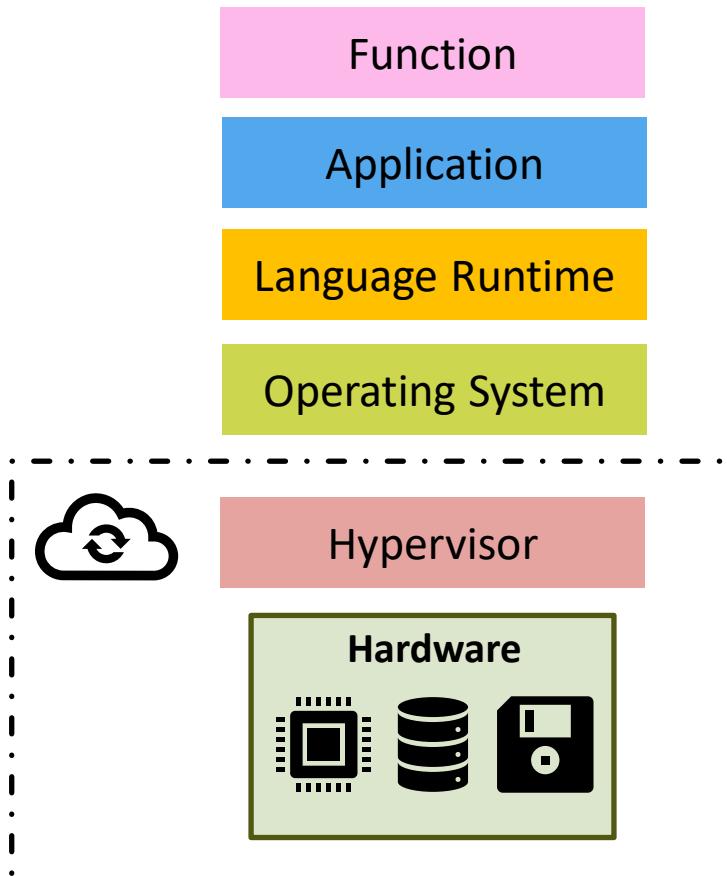
# Cloud and Serverless



# Cloud and Serverless

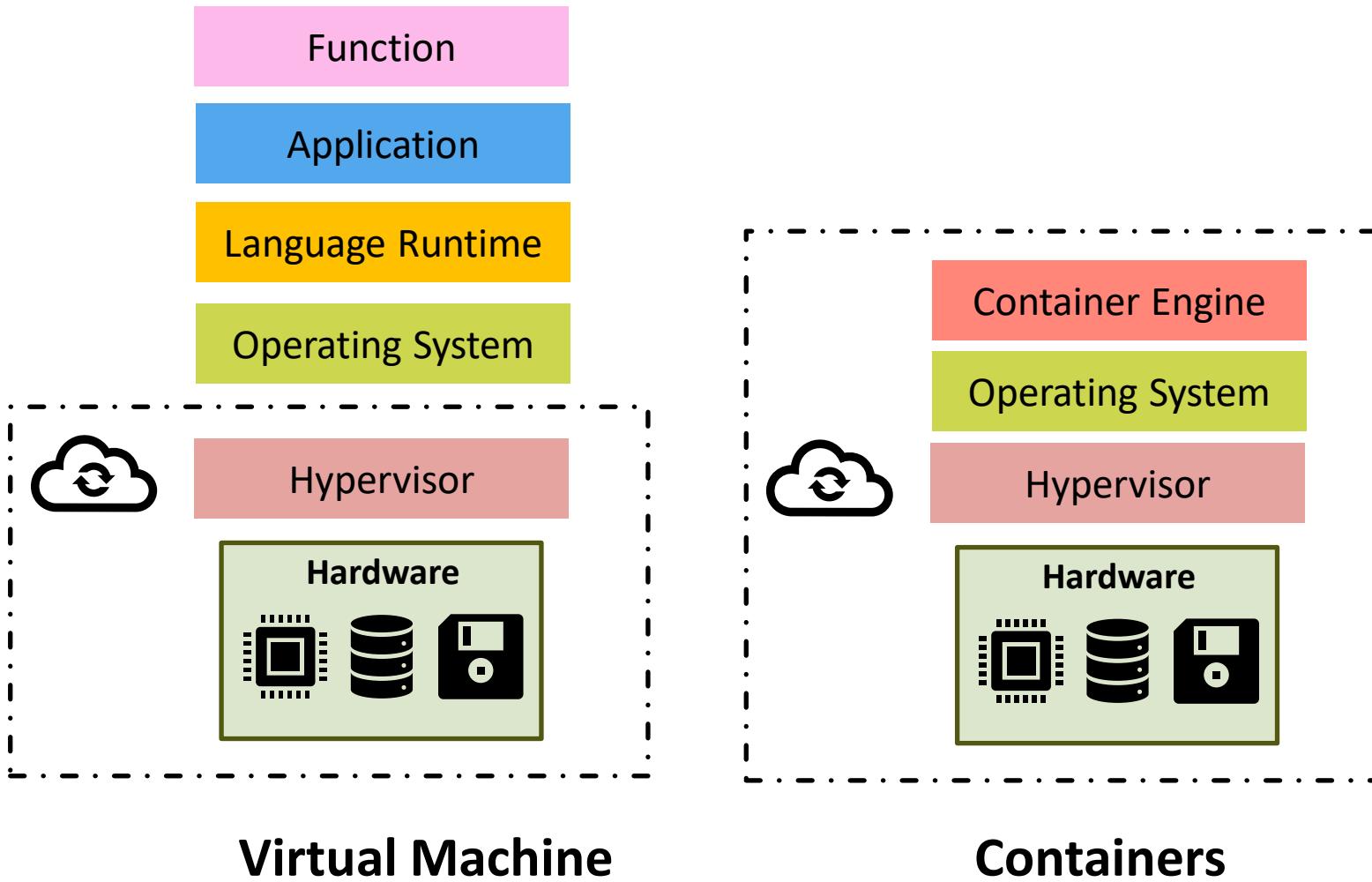


# Cloud and Serverless

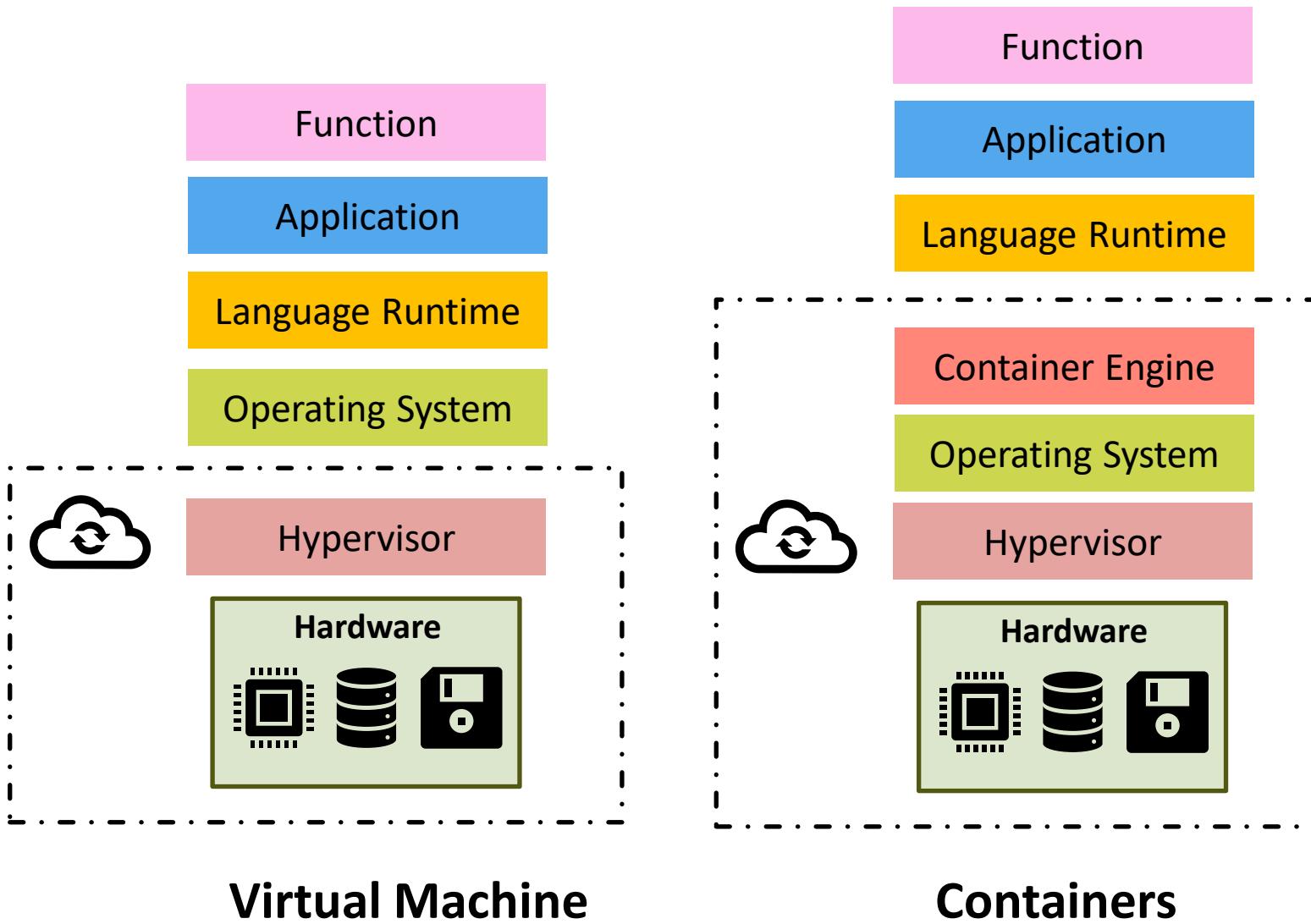


**Virtual Machine**

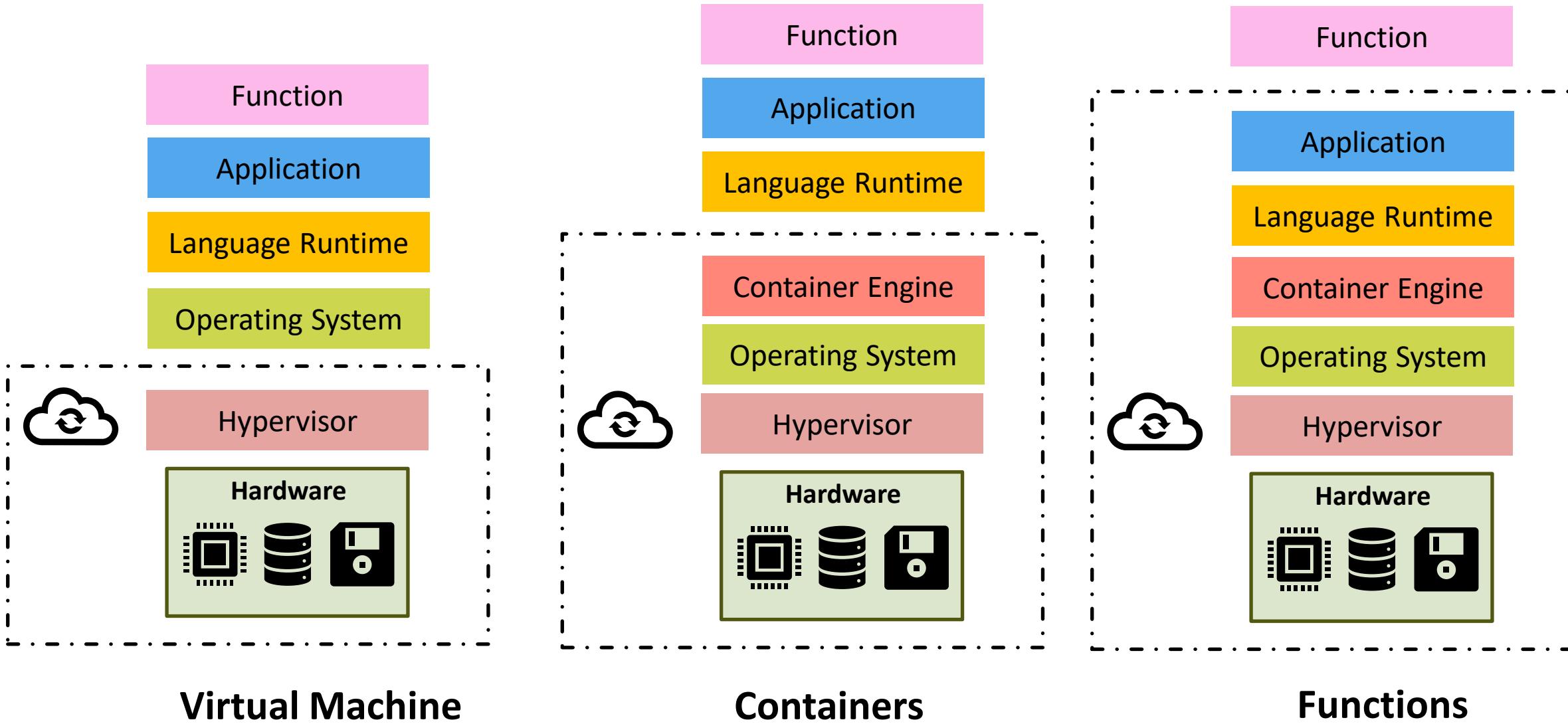
# Cloud and Serverless



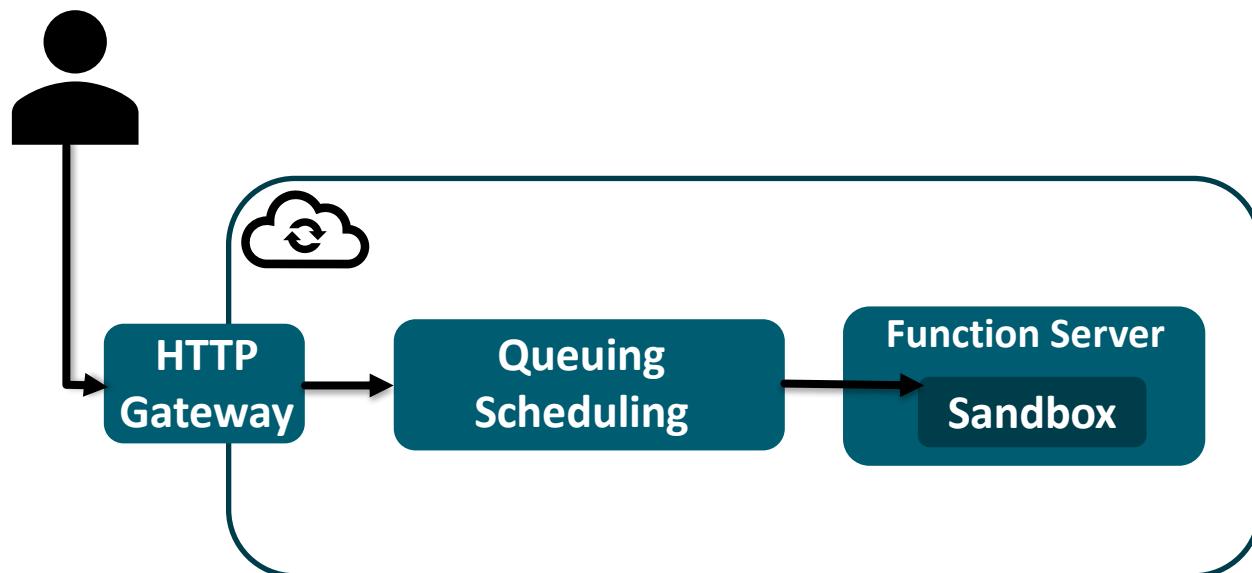
# Cloud and Serverless



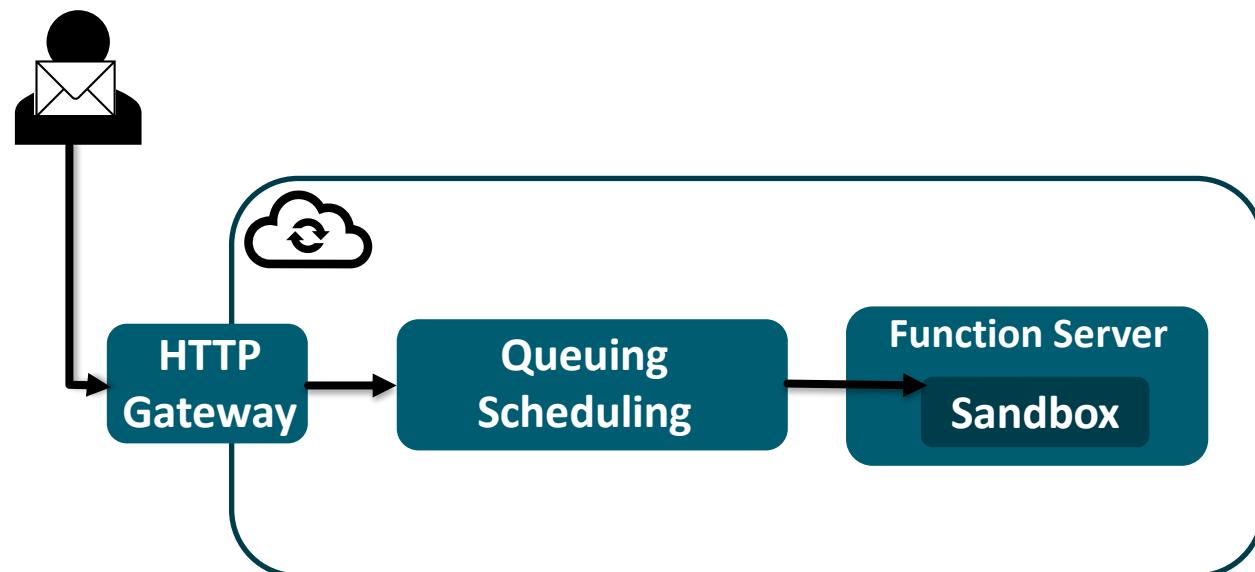
# Cloud and Serverless



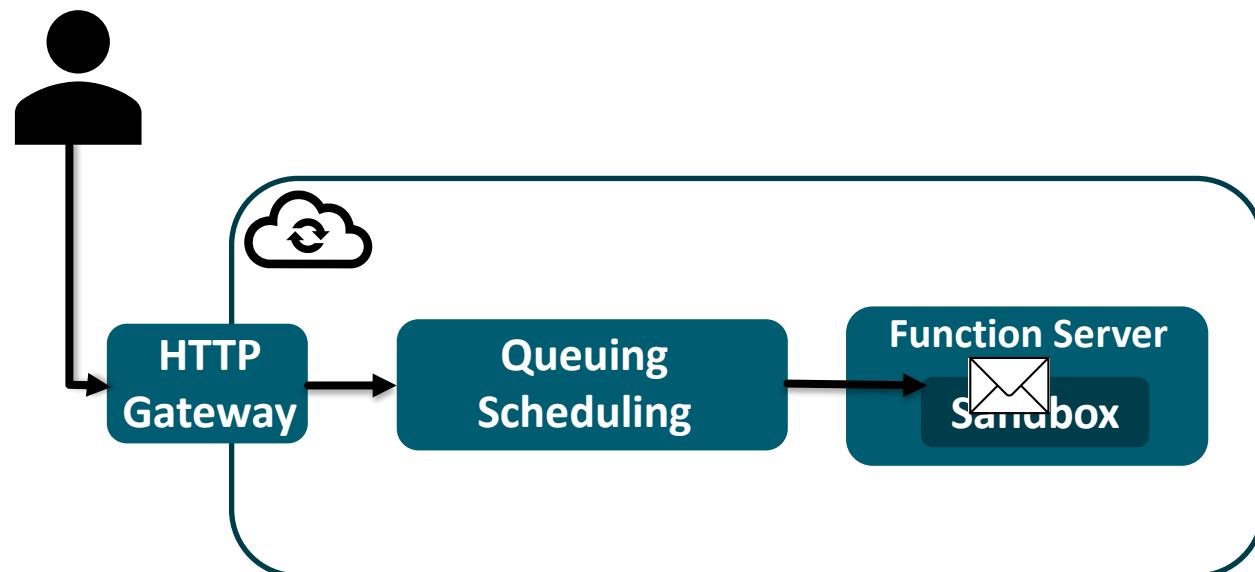
# How does Function-as-a-Service (FaaS) work?



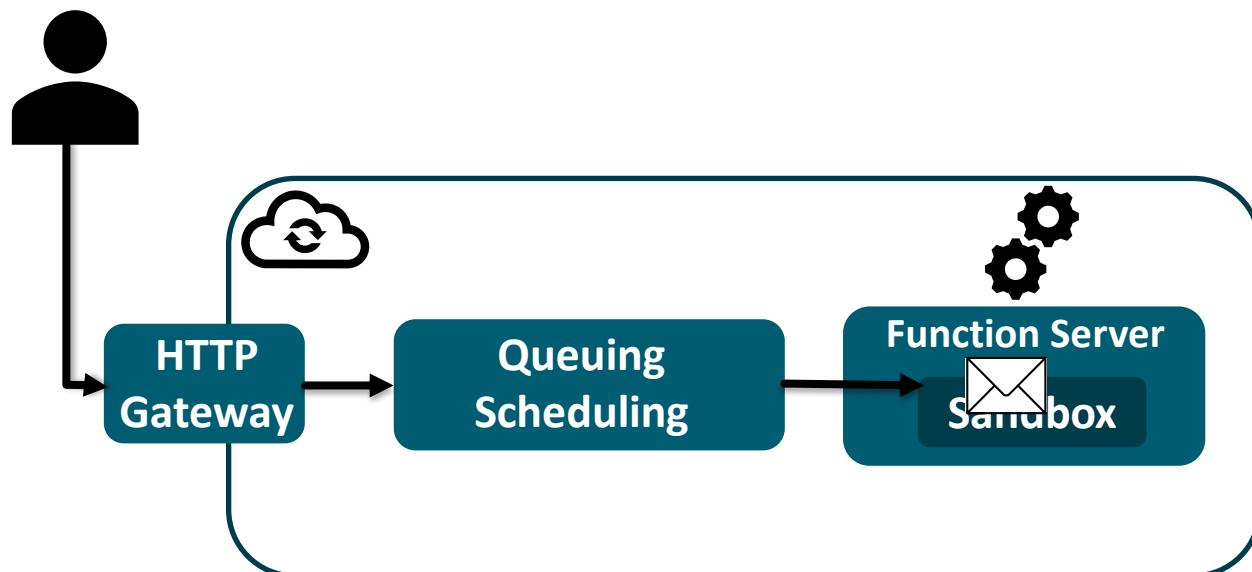
# How does Function-as-a-Service (FaaS) work?



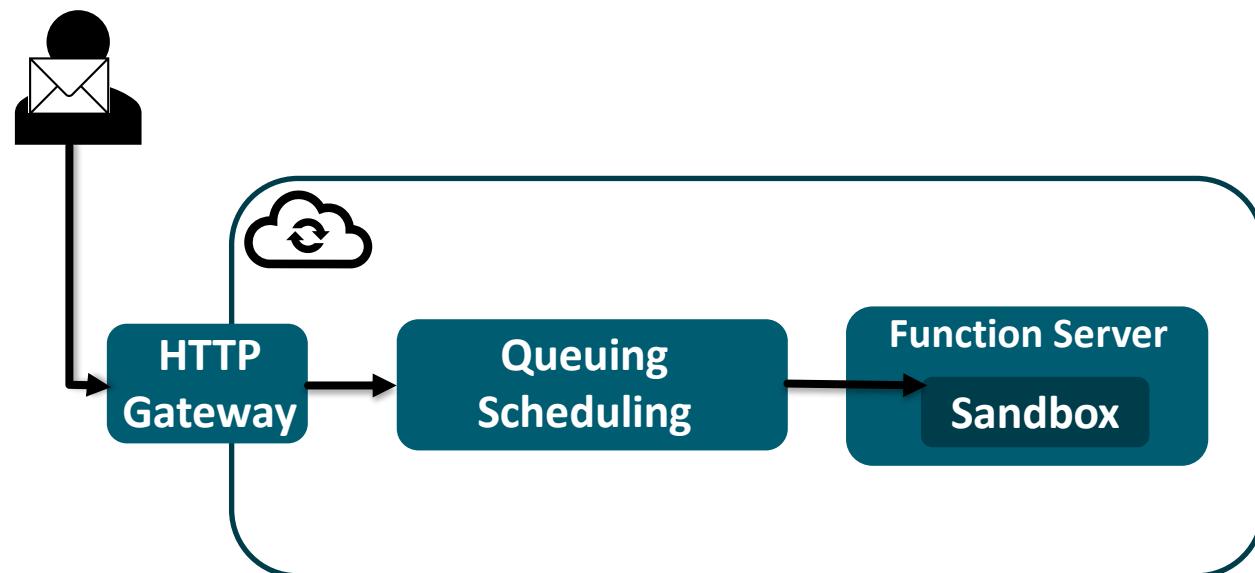
# How does Function-as-a-Service (FaaS) work?



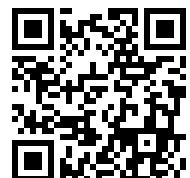
# How does Function-as-a-Service (FaaS) work?



# How does Function-as-a-Service (FaaS) work?



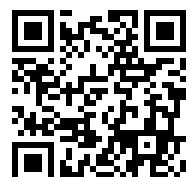
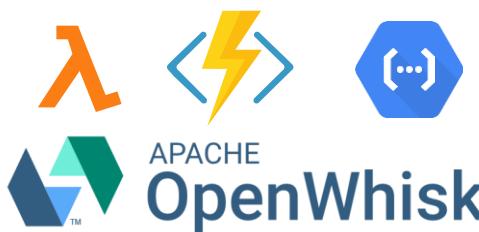
# ⚡ SeBS: The Serverless Benchmark Suite



“SeBS: a Serverless Benchmark Suite for Function-as-a-Service Computing”, ACM/IFIP Middleware 2021

# ⚡ SeBS: The Serverless Benchmark Suite

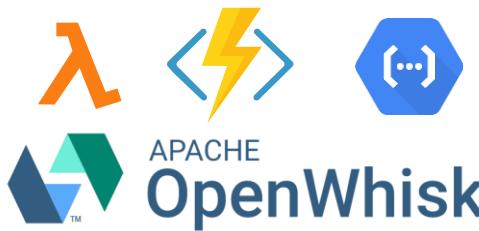
## Serverless Platforms



"SeBS: a Serverless Benchmark Suite for Function-as-a-Service Computing", ACM/IFIP Middleware 2021

# ⚡ SeBS: The Serverless Benchmark Suite

## Serverless Platforms

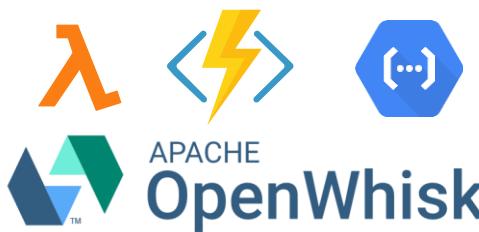


## Benchmarks



# SeBS: The Serverless Benchmark Suite

## Serverless Platforms

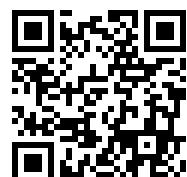


## Benchmarks

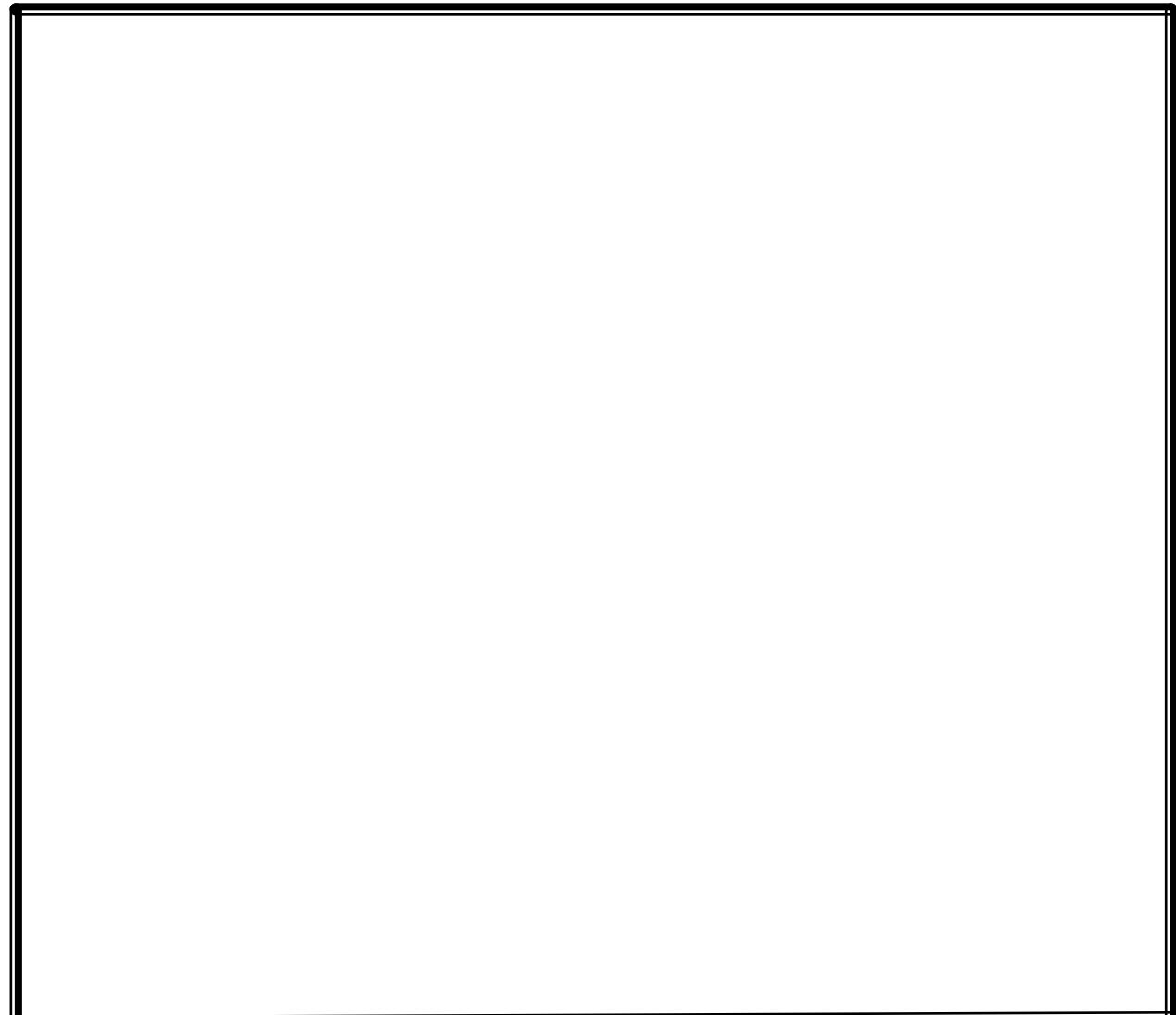


## Experiments

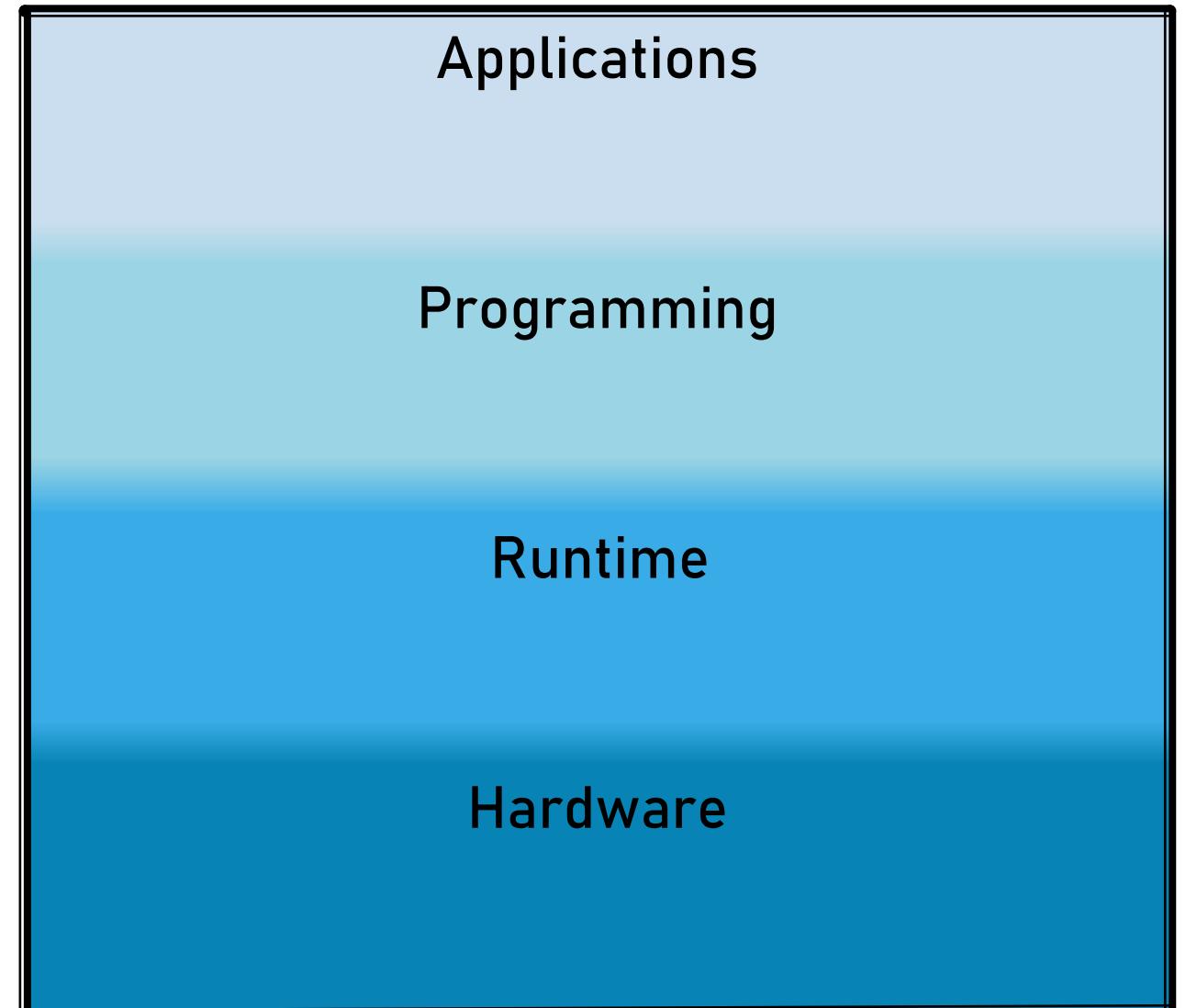
Performance & Cost  
Invocation Overhead  
Container Eviction  
Serverless Communication  
Serverless Workflows



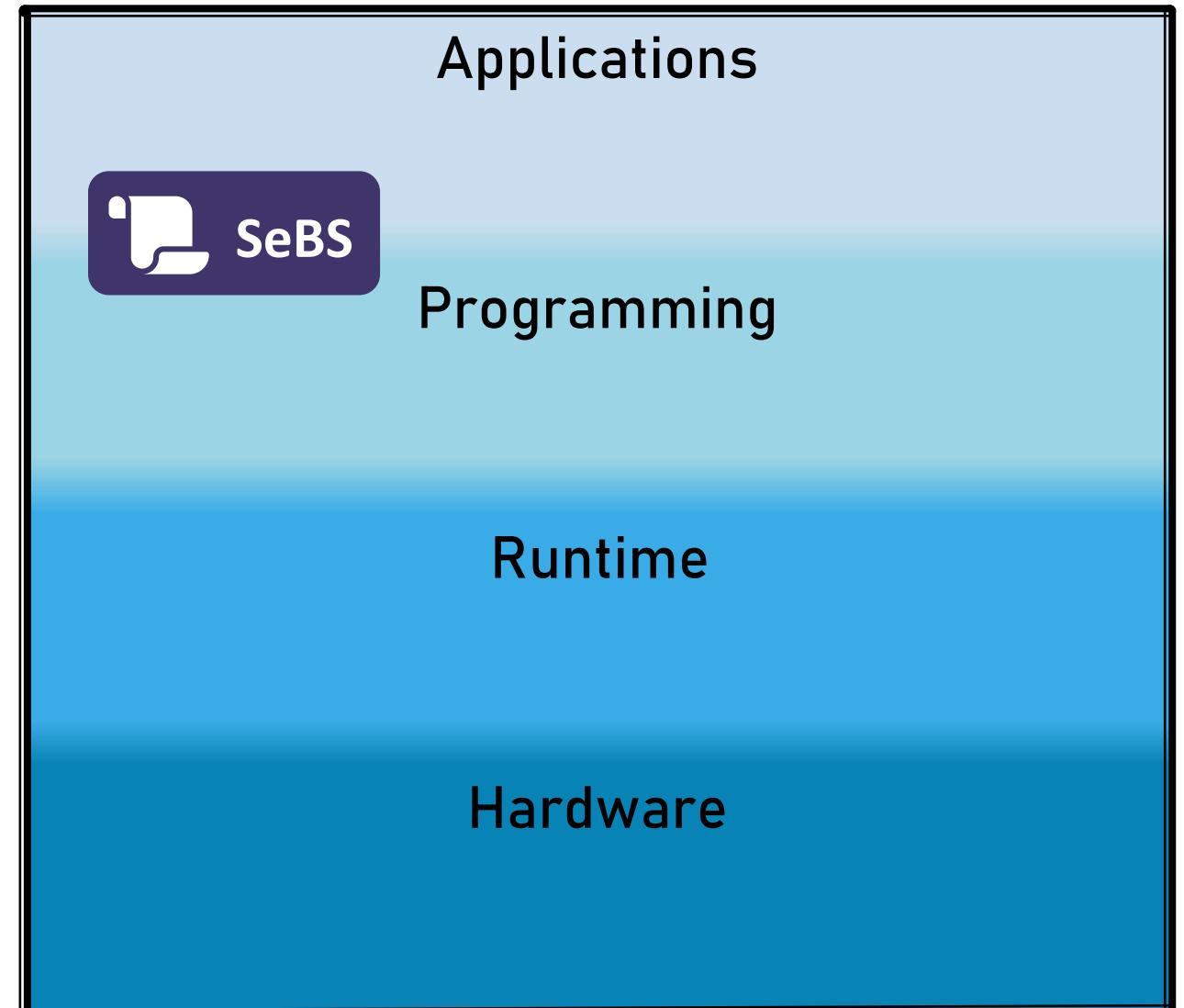
# Serverless for High-Performance Applications



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

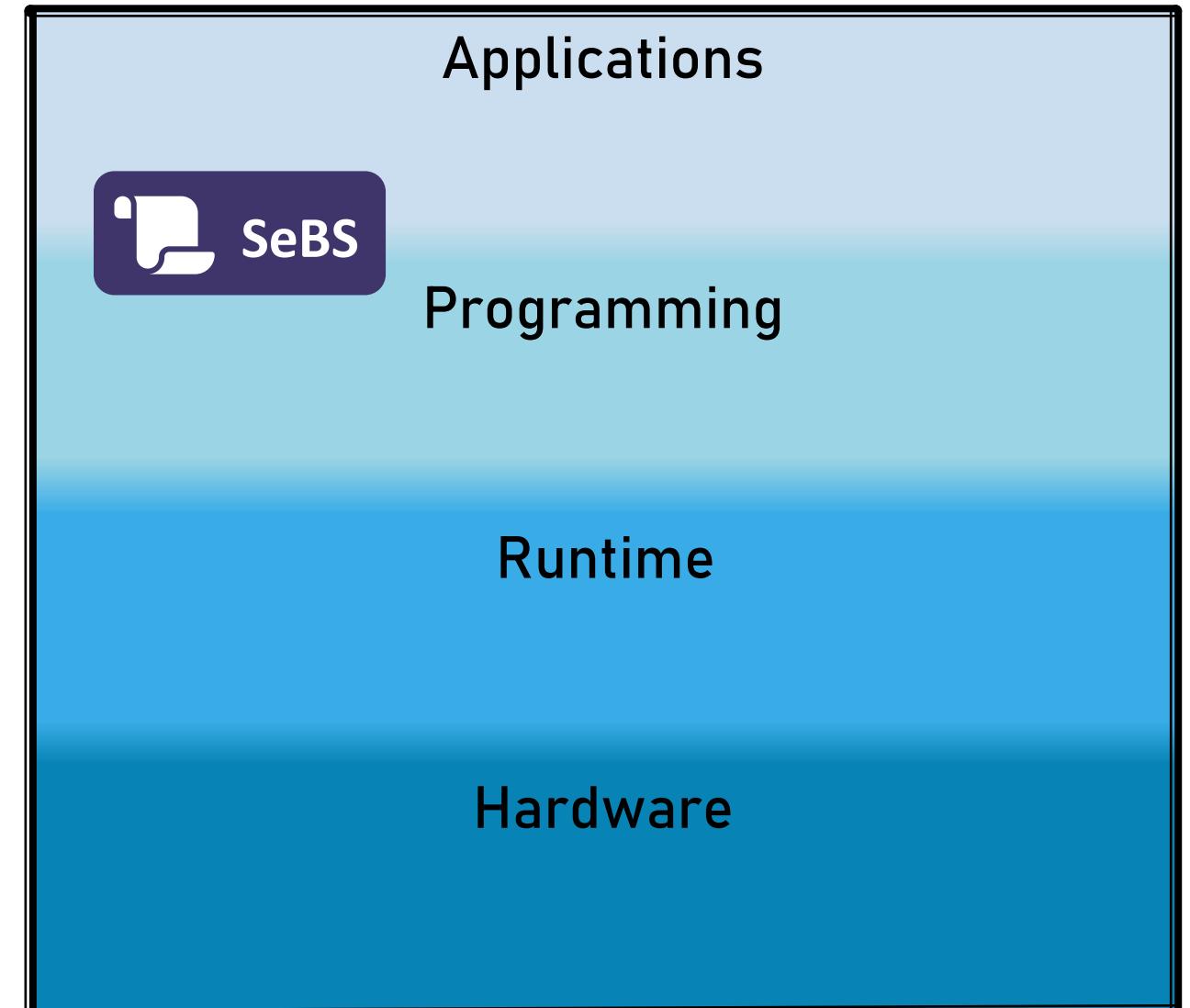


# Serverless for High-Performance Applications



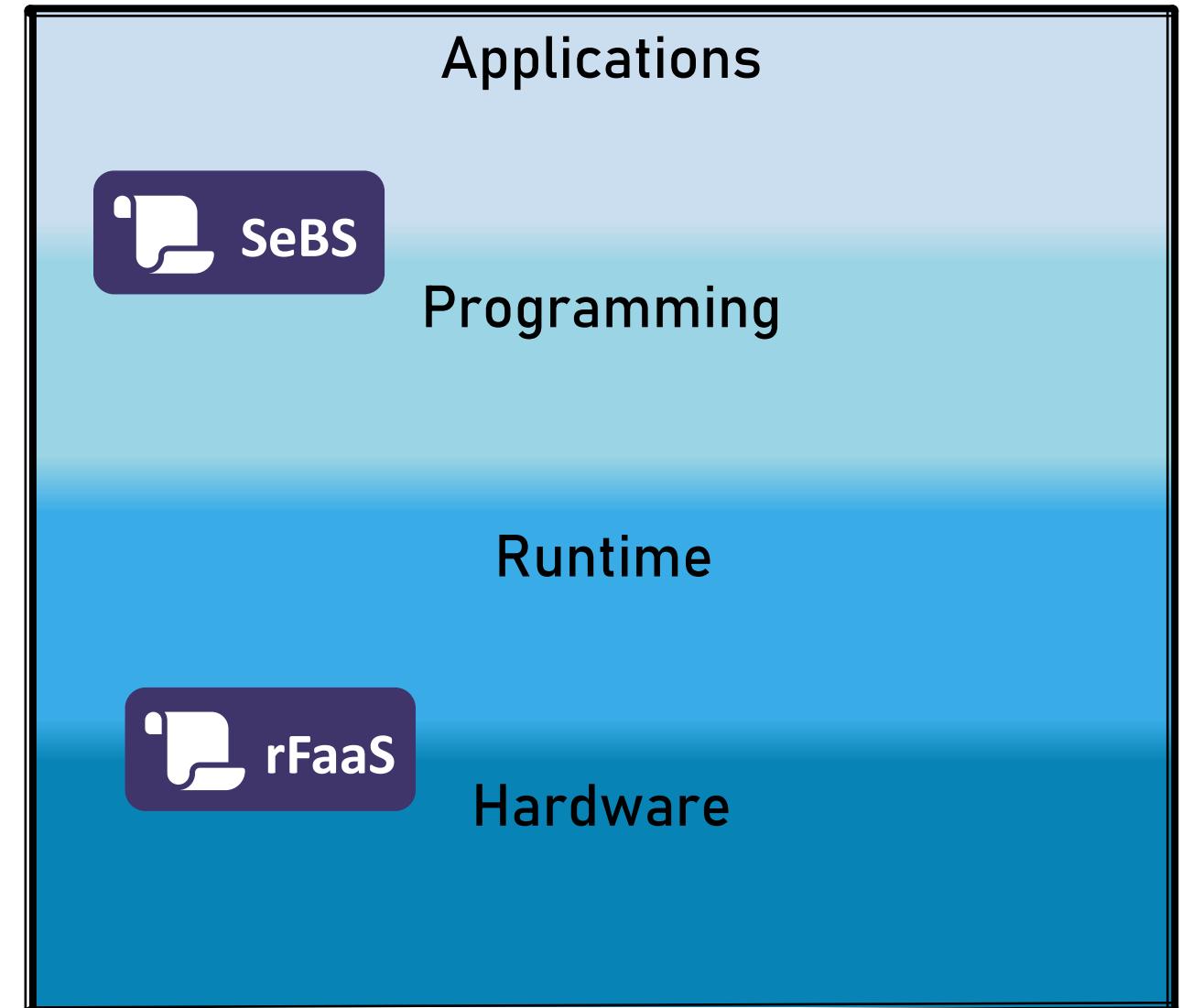
# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

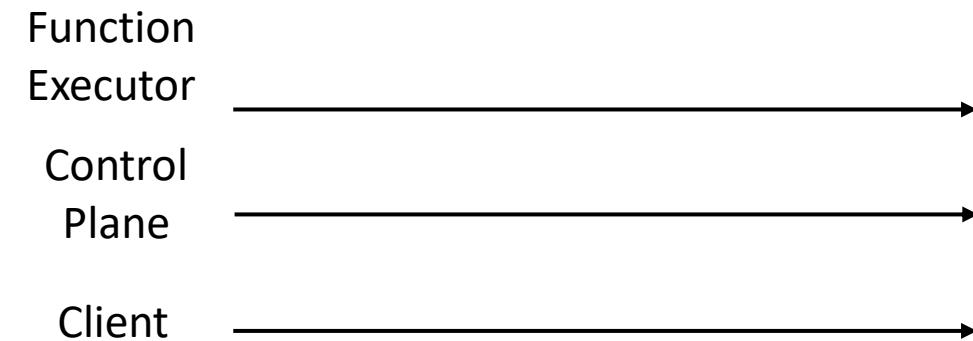


# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

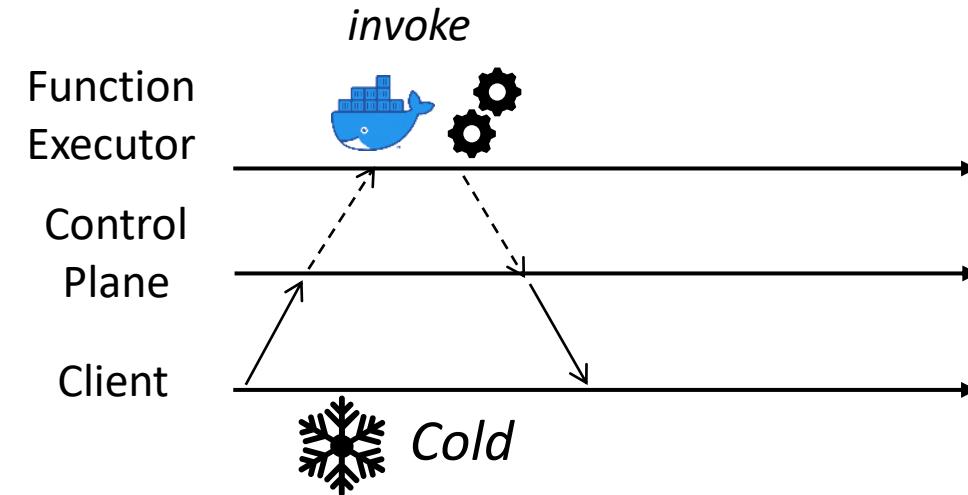
Functions are expensive  
to invoke.



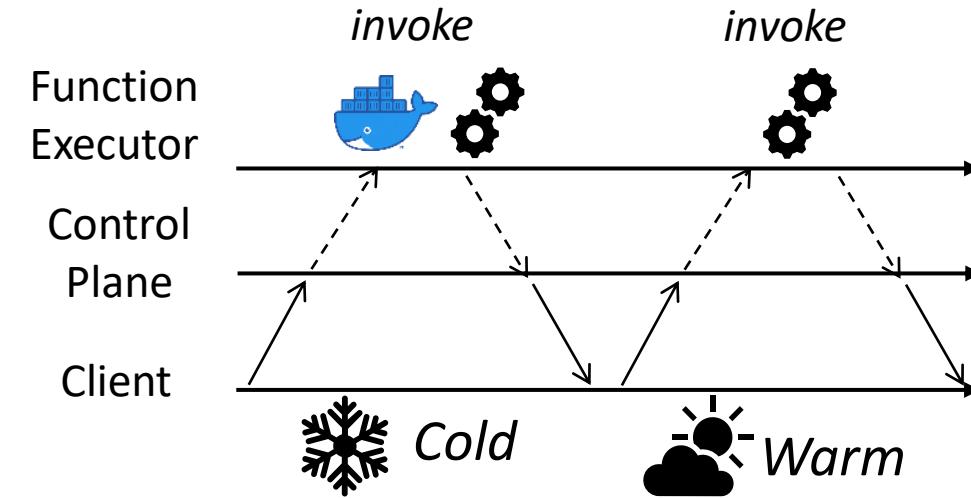
# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS



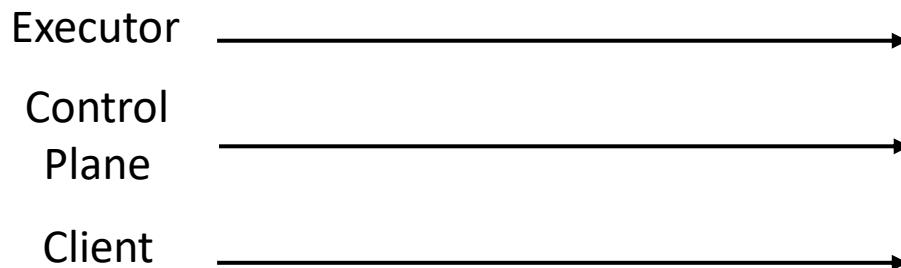
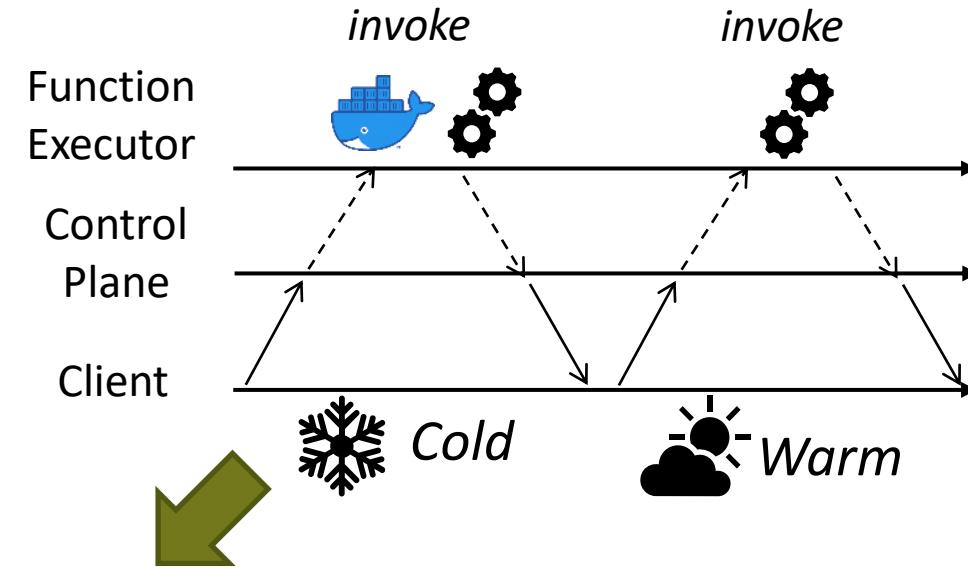
# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS



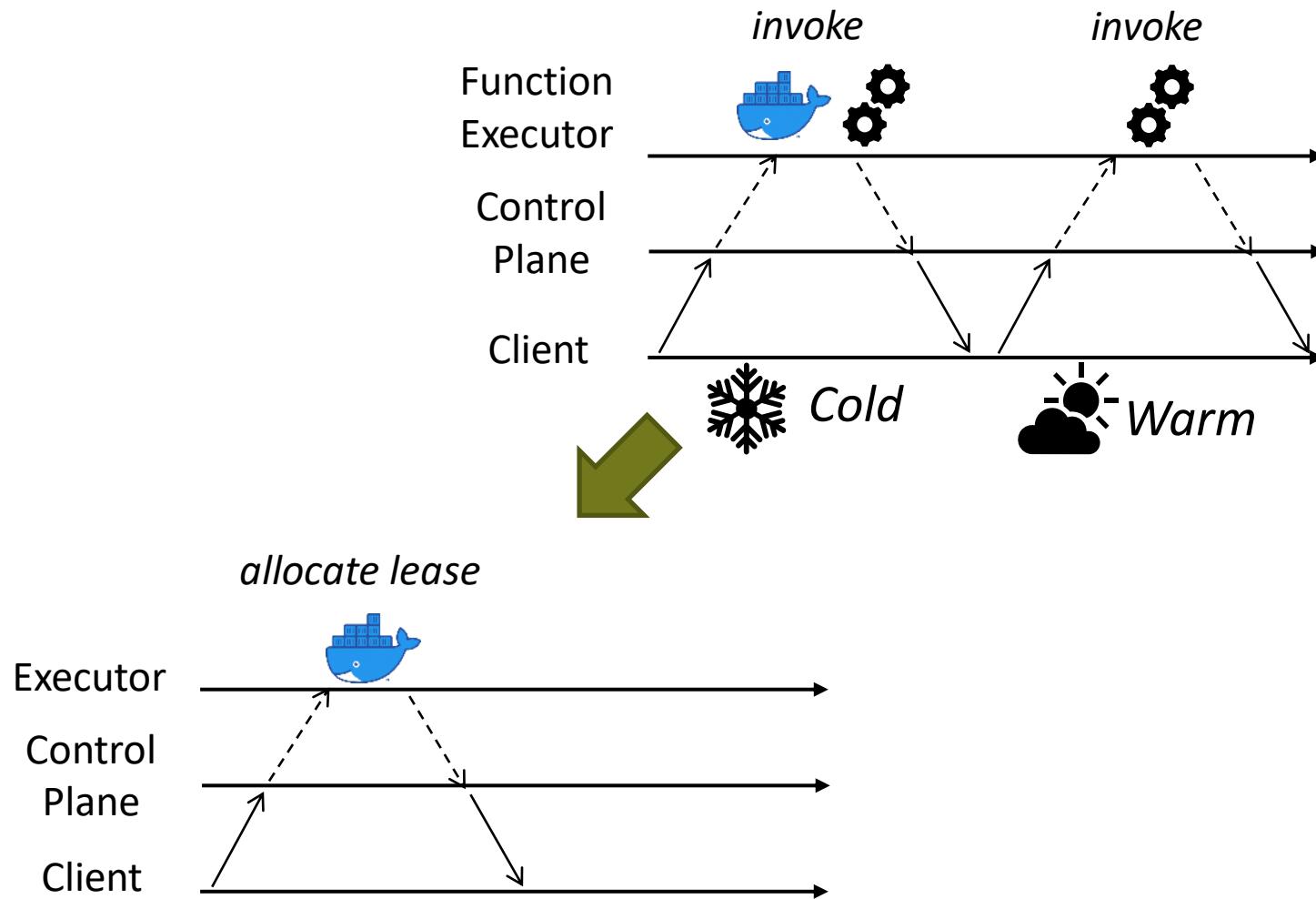
# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS



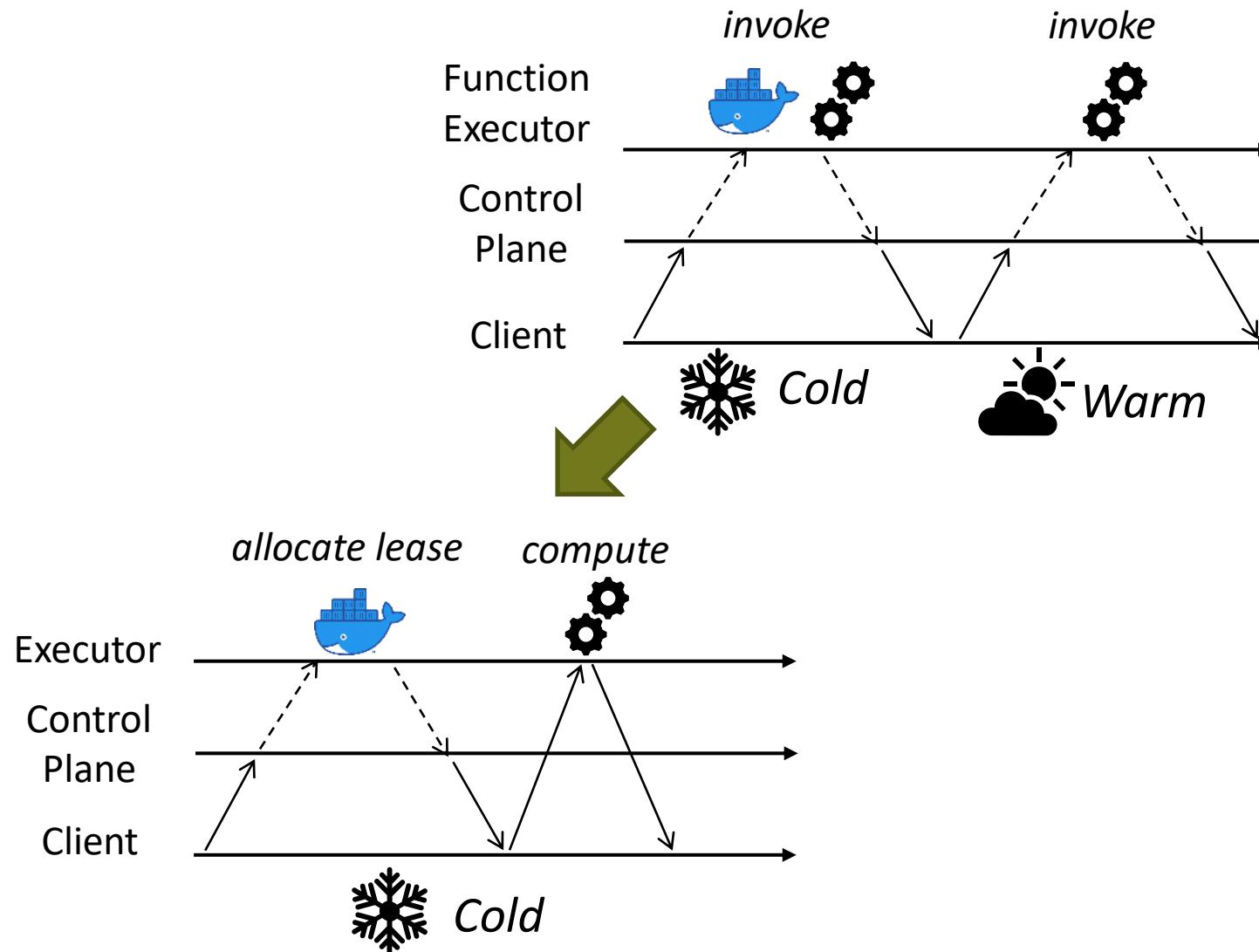
# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS



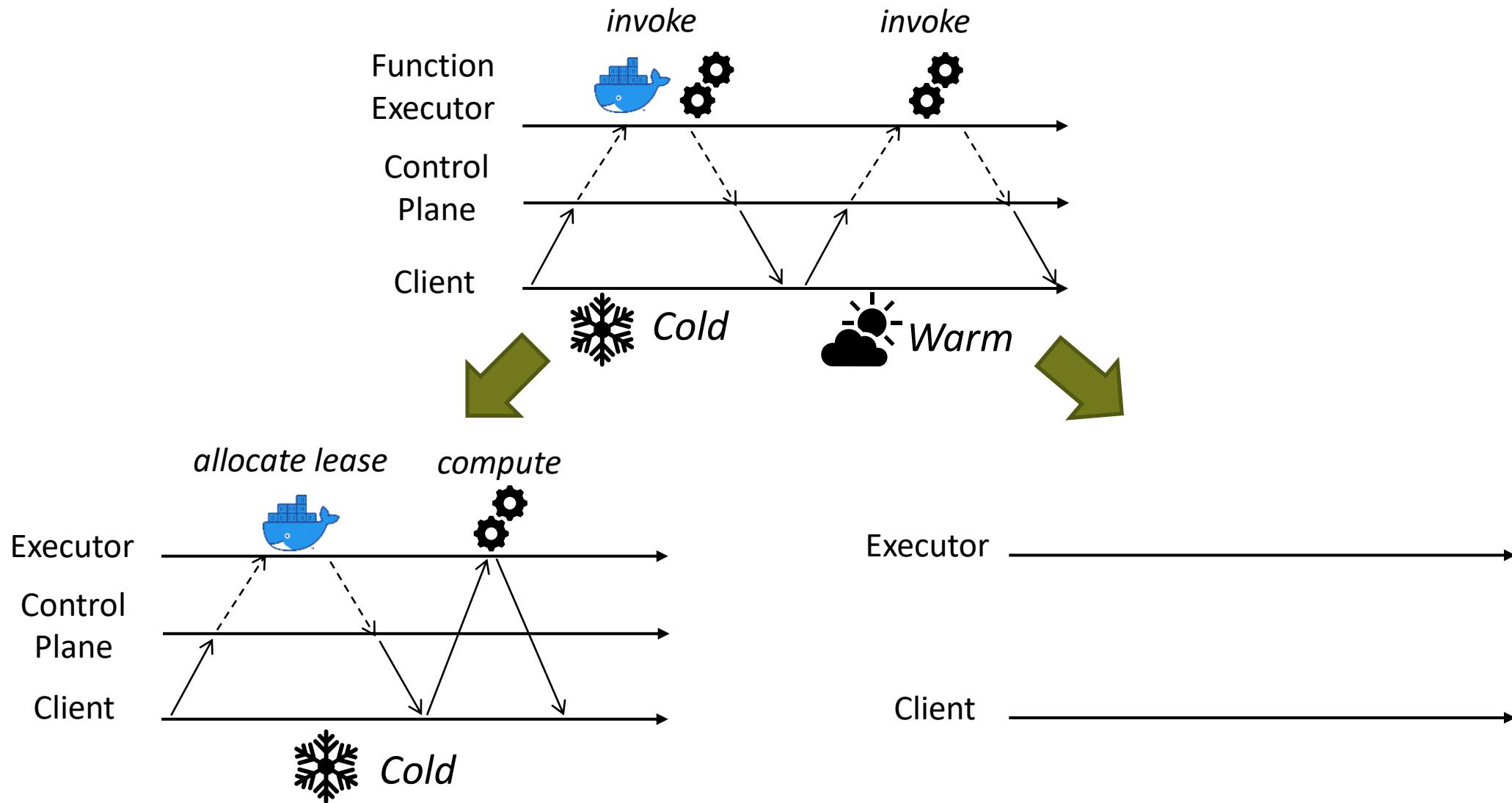
# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS



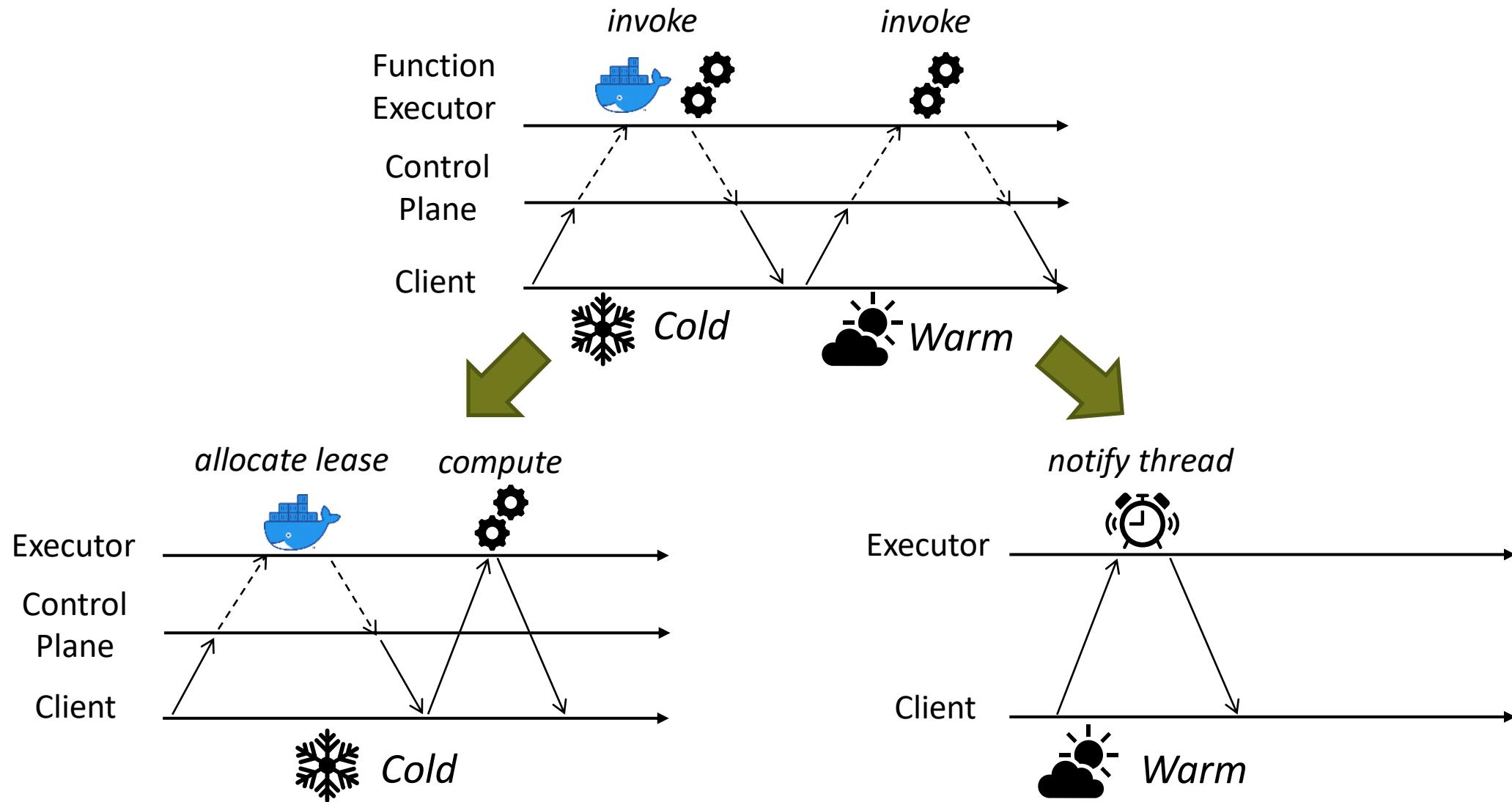
# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS



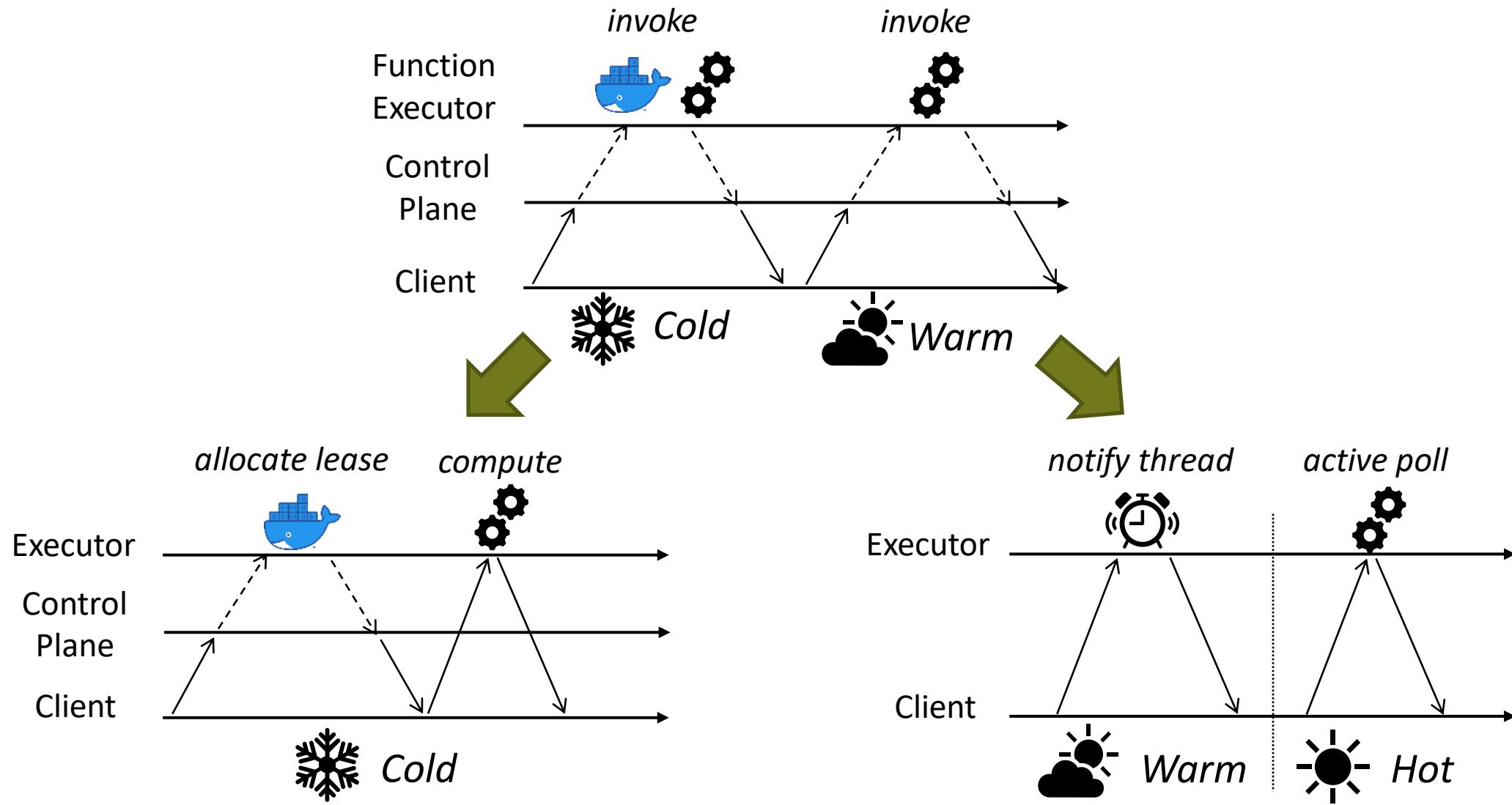
# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS



# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS

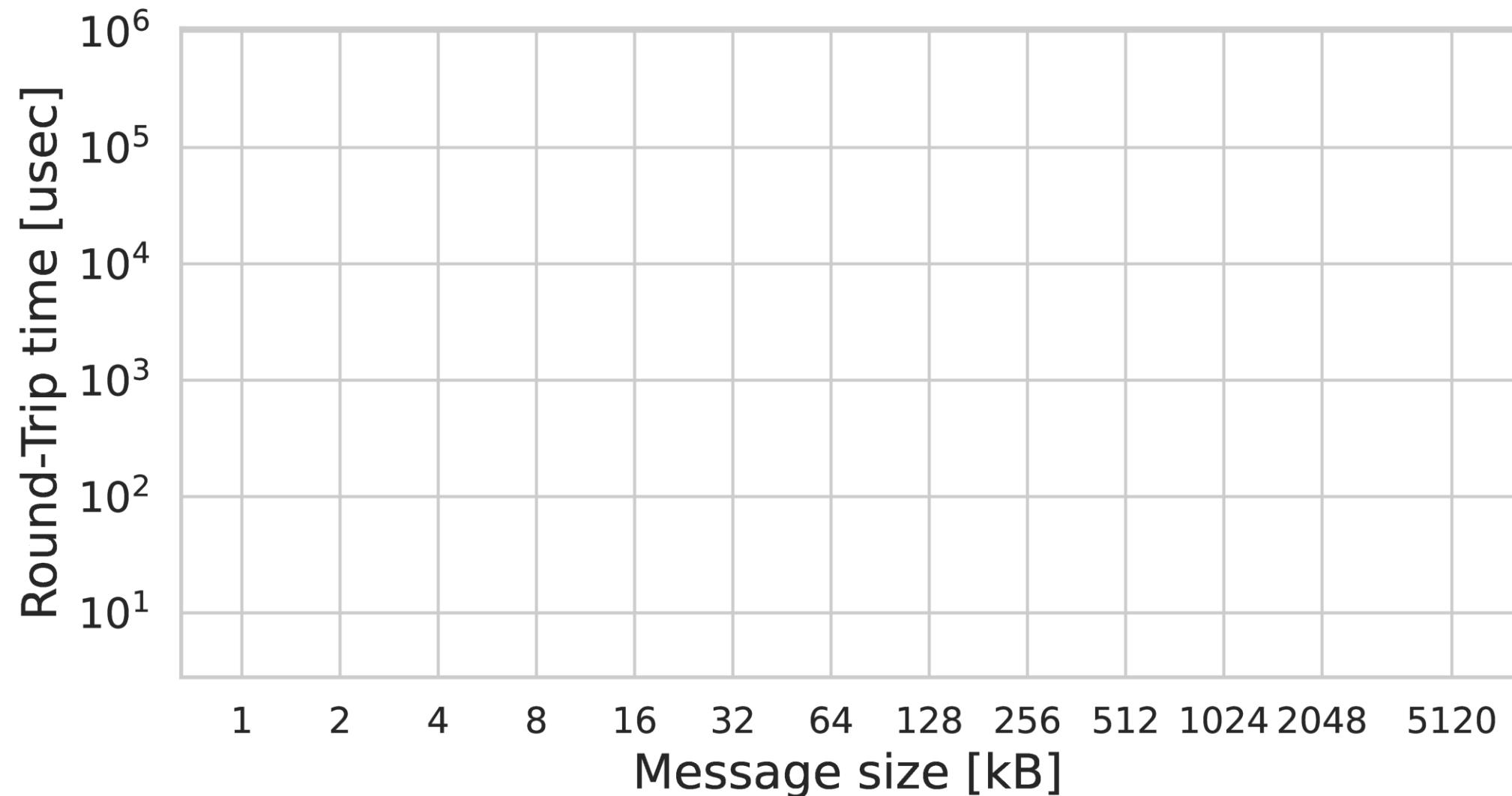


# Invocations in FaaS and rFaaS



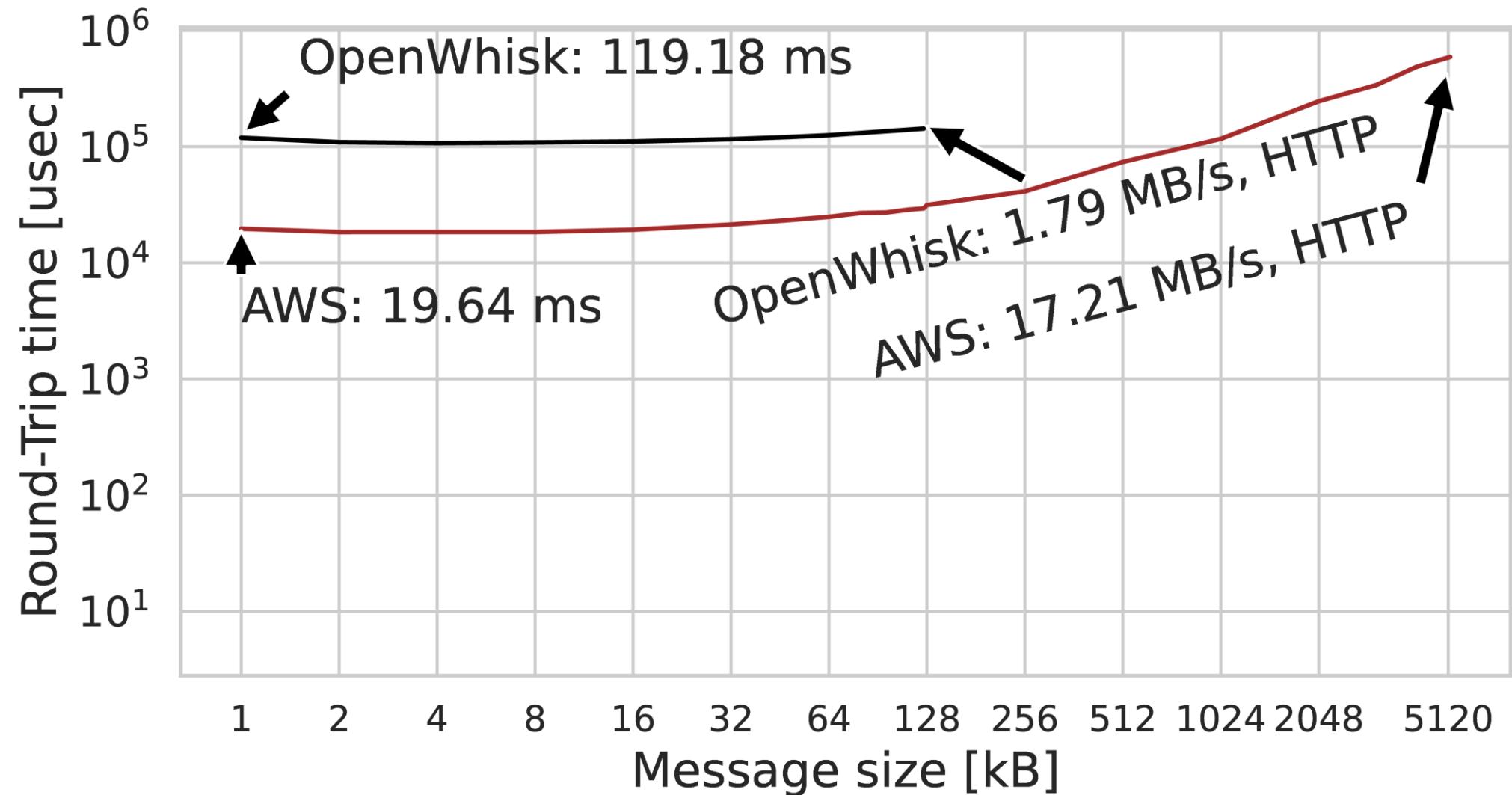
# How fast are invocations in FaaS?

36 CPU cores, 377 GB memory.  
100 Gbps Ethernet with RoCEv2 support.



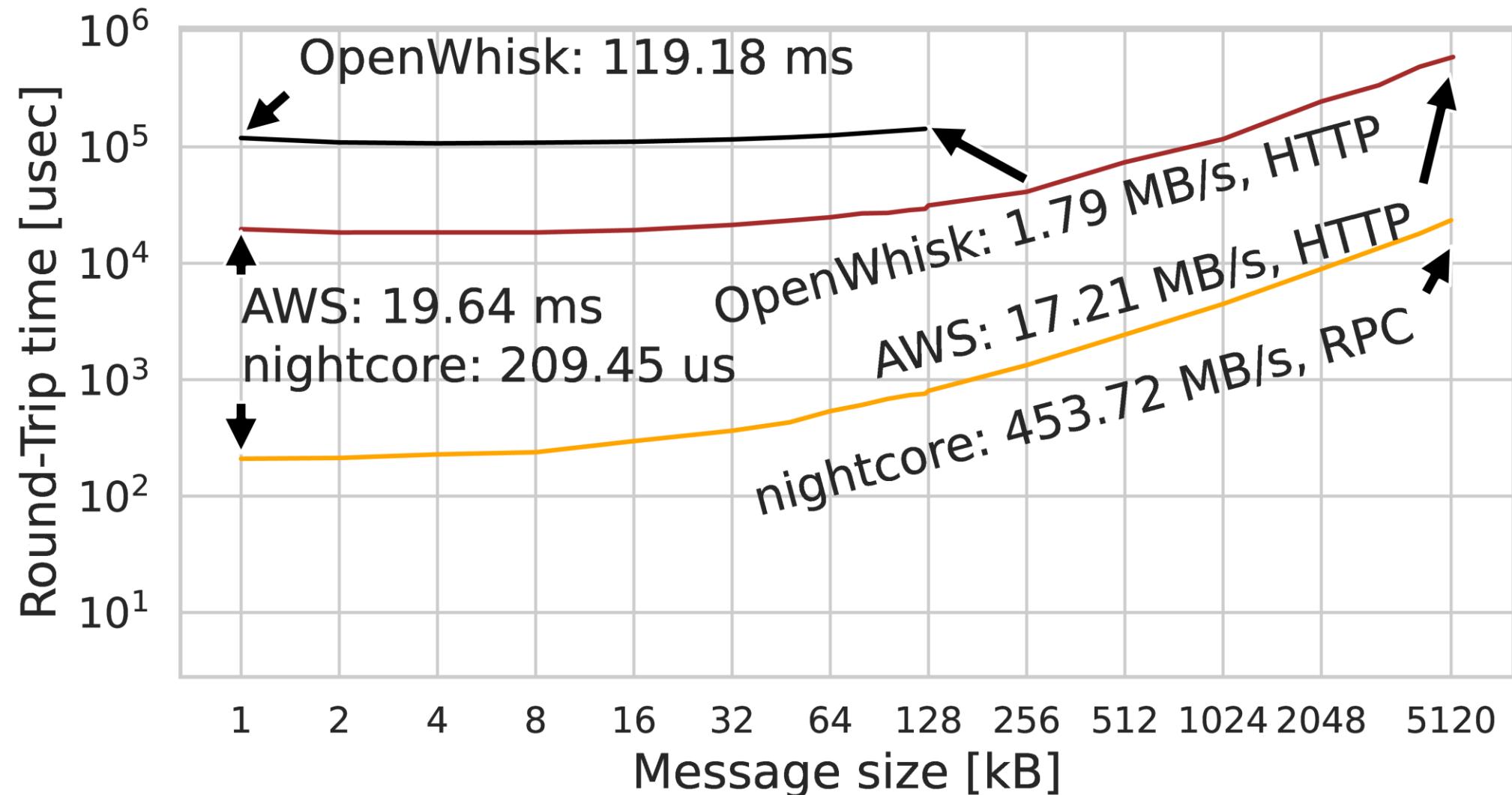
# How fast are invocations in FaaS?

36 CPU cores, 377 GB memory.  
100 Gbps Ethernet with RoCEv2 support.



# How fast are invocations in FaaS?

36 CPU cores, 377 GB memory.  
100 Gbps Ethernet with RoCEv2 support.

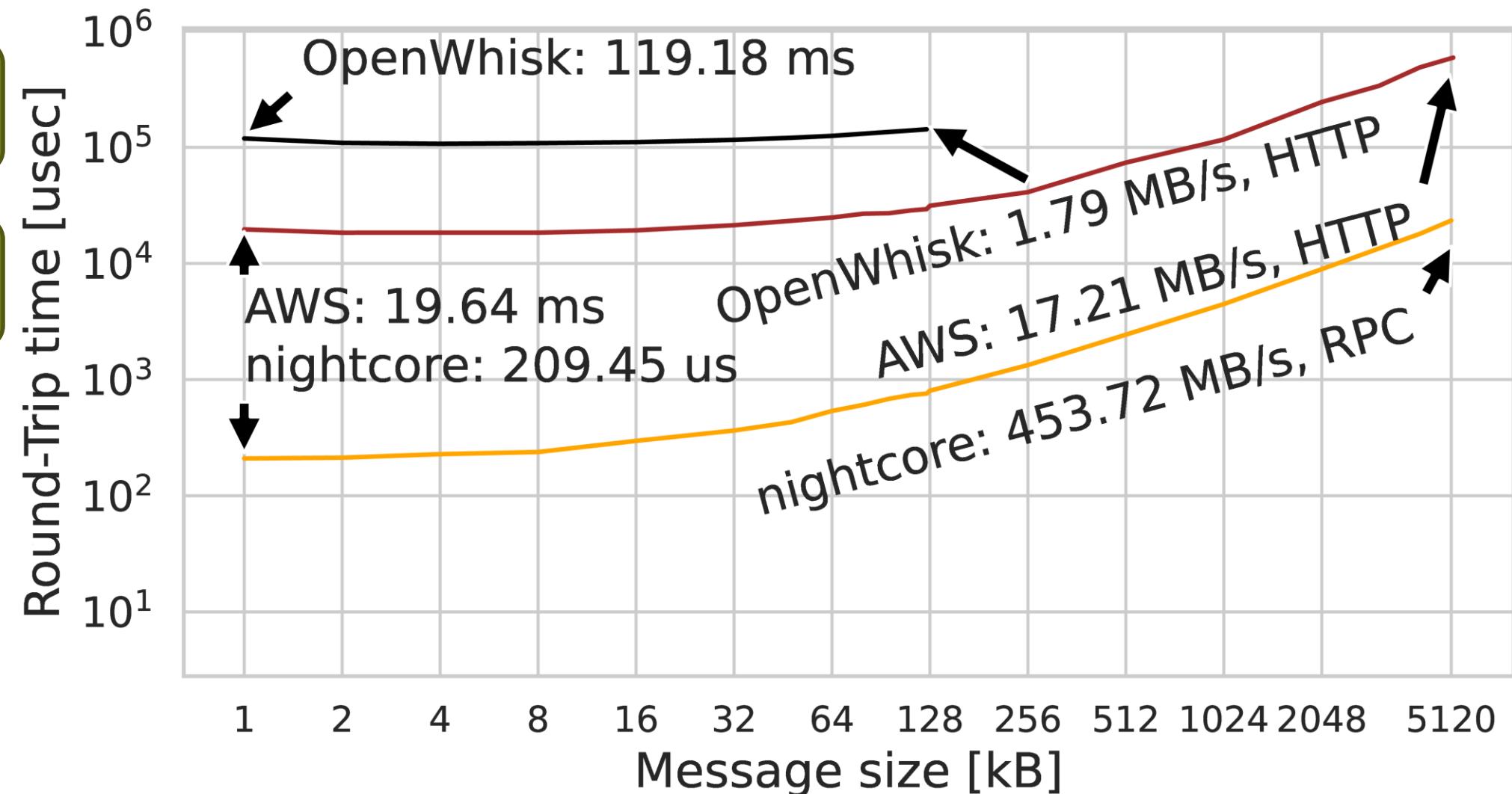


# How fast are invocations in FaaS?

36 CPU cores, 377 GB memory.  
100 Gbps Ethernet with RoCEv2 support.

Reduced  
invocation  
critical path

Zero-copy  
RDMA  
networking

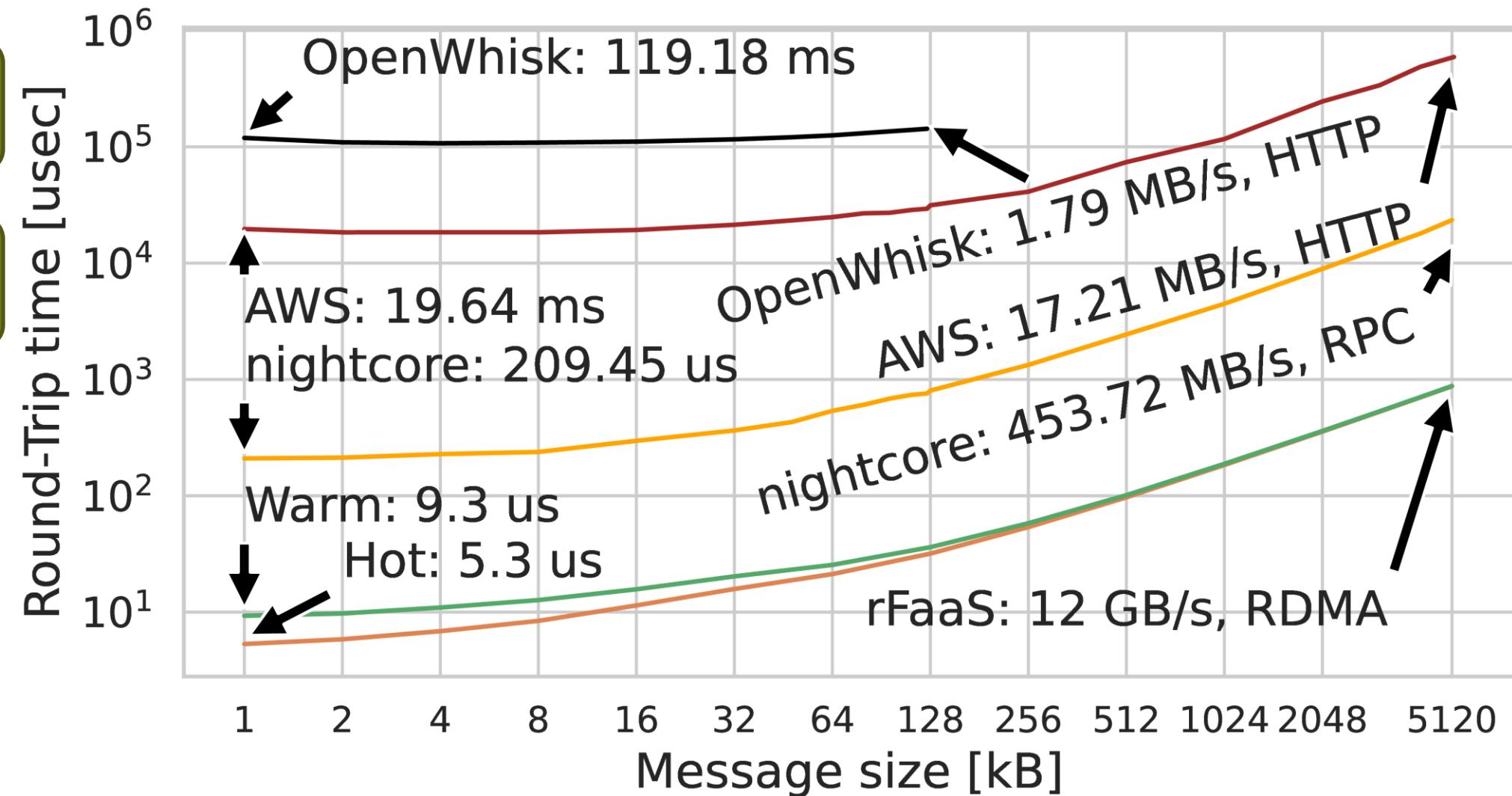


# How fast are invocations in FaaS?

36 CPU cores, 377 GB memory.  
100 Gbps Ethernet with RoCEv2 support.

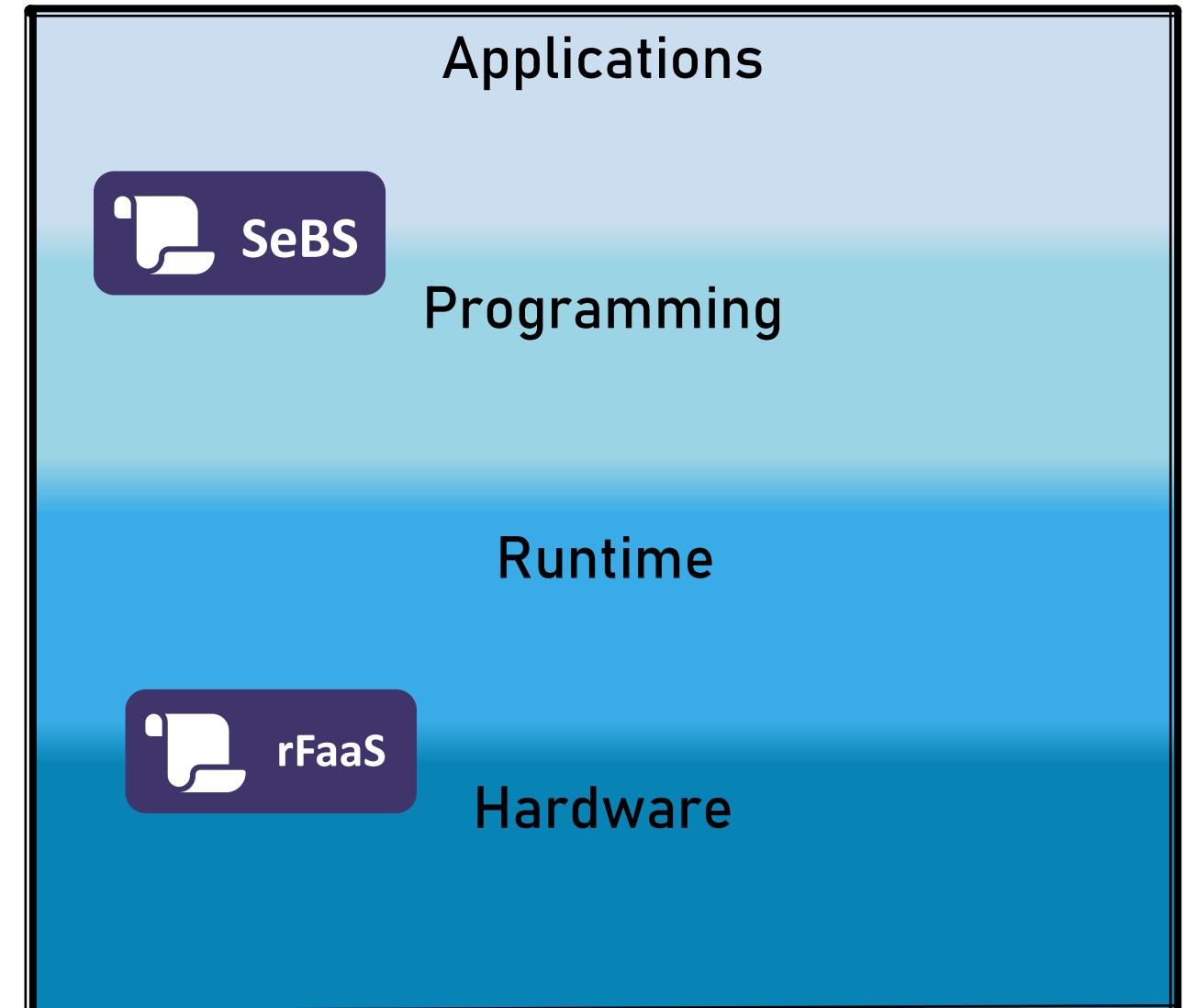
Reduced  
invocation  
critical path

Zero-copy  
RDMA  
networking



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

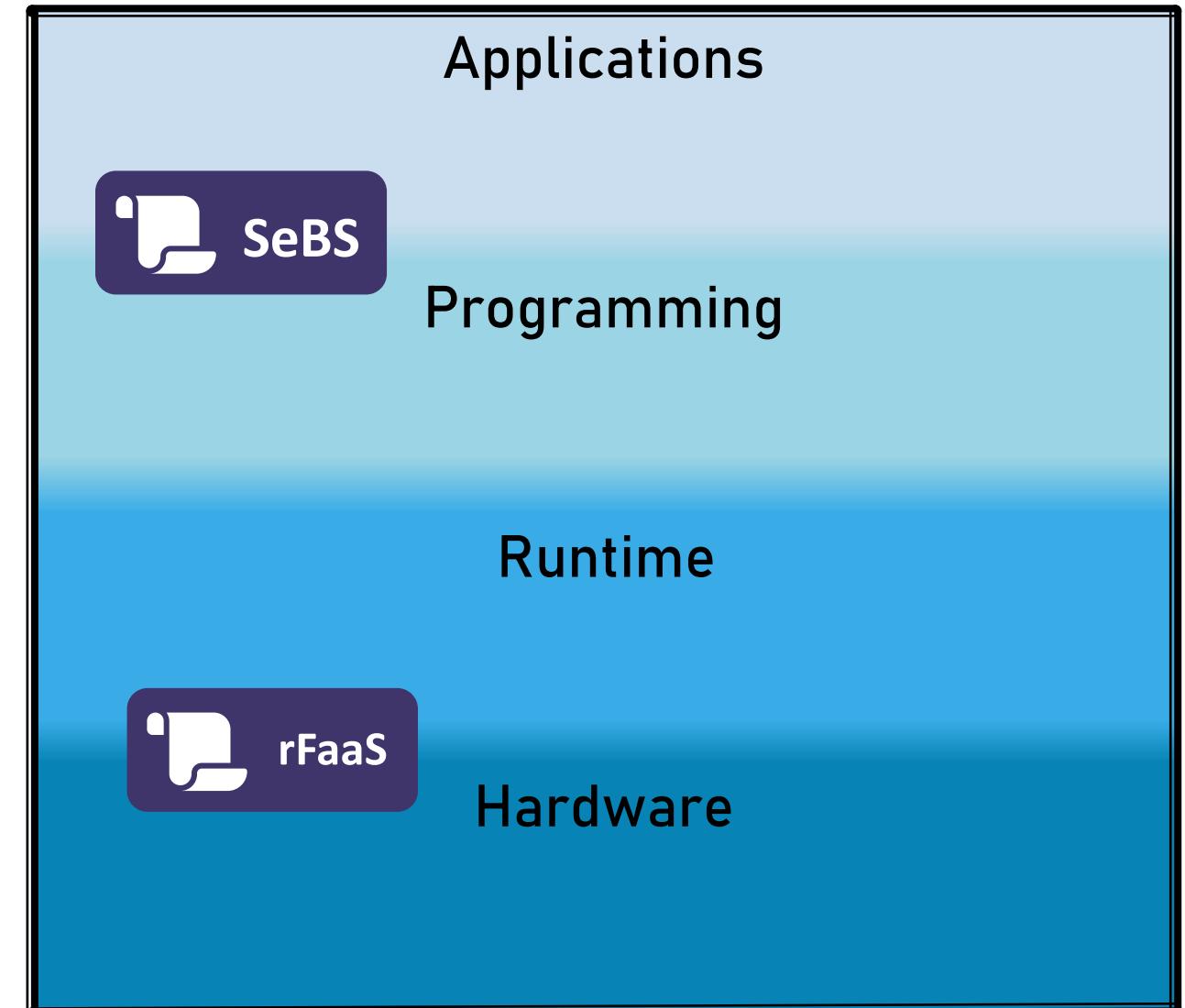
Functions are expensive  
to invoke.



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

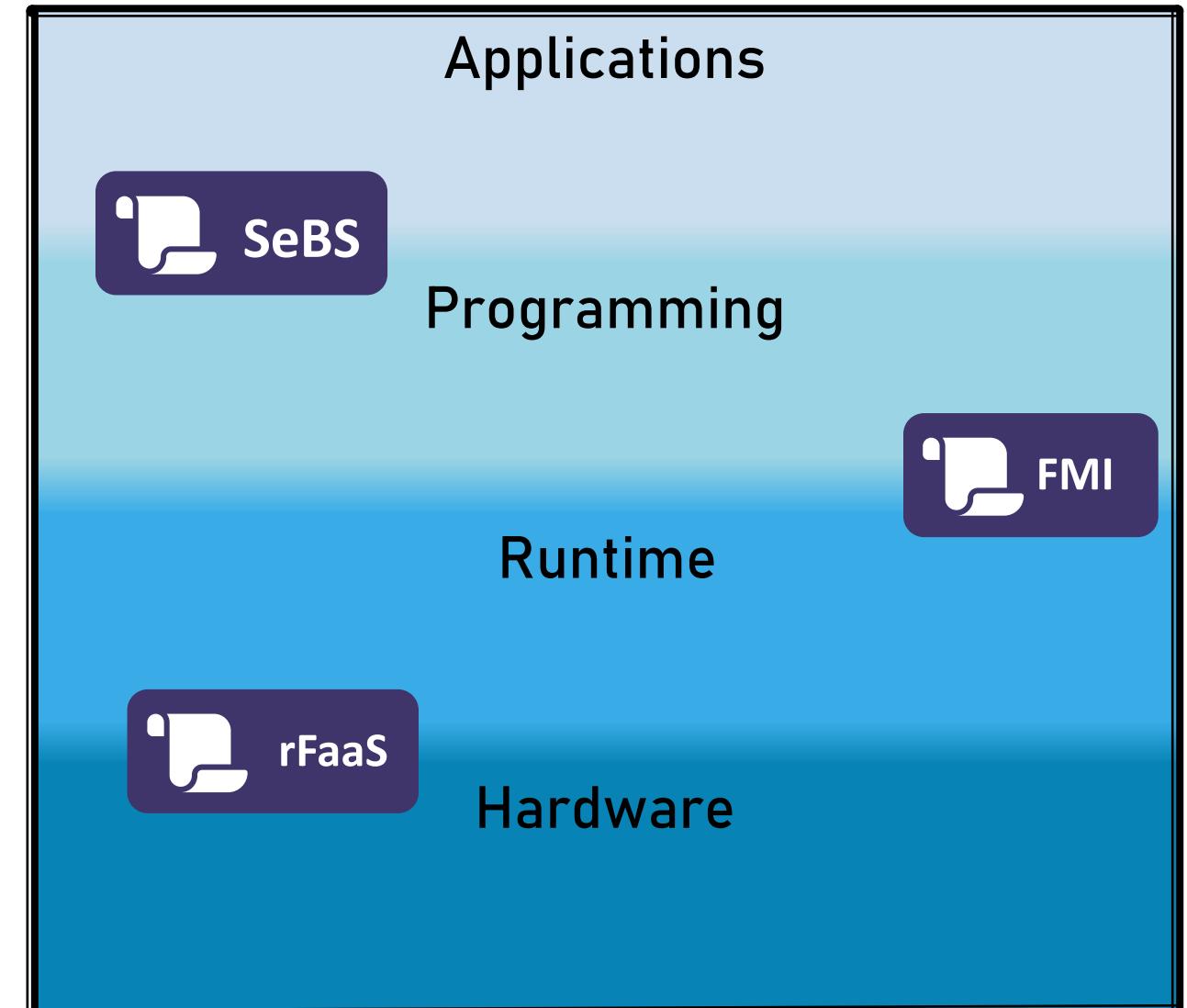
Communication is slow  
and restricted.



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

Communication is slow  
and restricted.



# Communication in serverless



“FMI: Fast and Cheap Message Passing for Serverless Functions”, ICS’23

# Communication in serverless



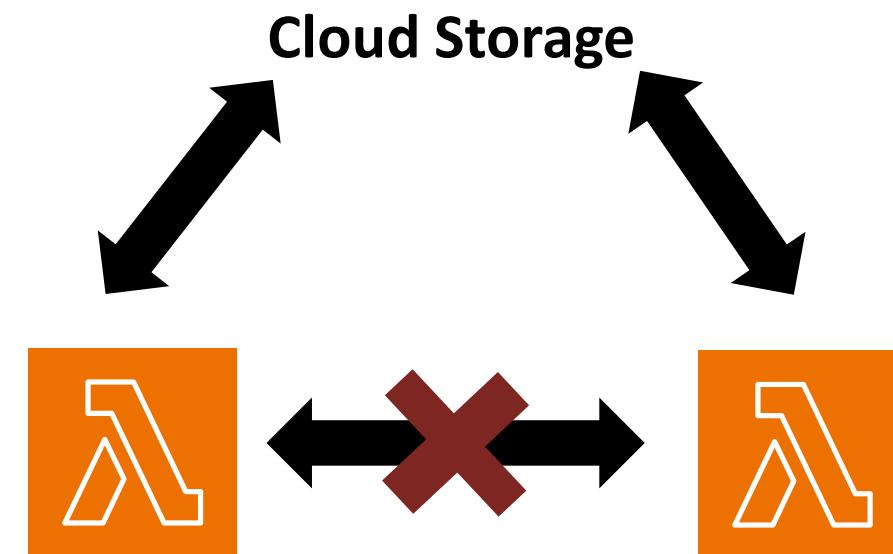
“FMI: Fast and Cheap Message Passing for Serverless Functions”, ICS’23

# Communication in serverless



“FMI: Fast and Cheap Message Passing for Serverless Functions”, ICS’23

# Communication in serverless



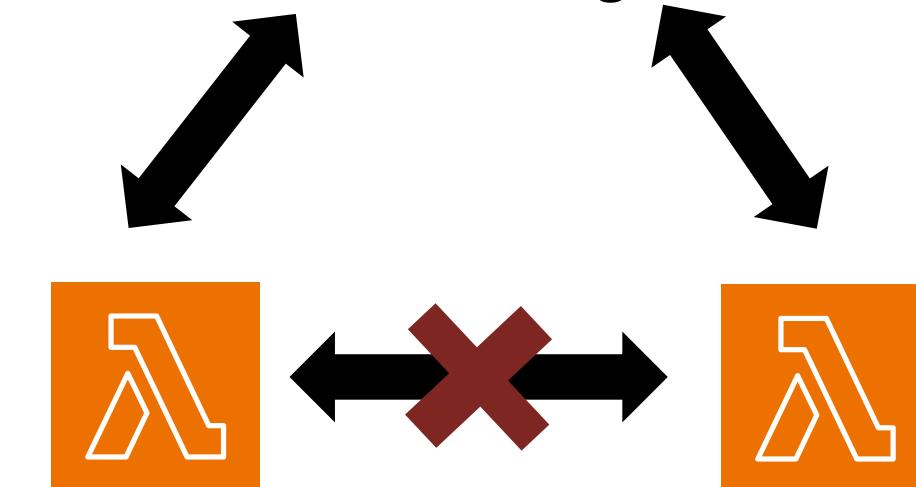
# Communication in serverless

High Latency  
For Small Messages



S3

Cloud Storage



# Communication in serverless

High Latency  
For Small Messages



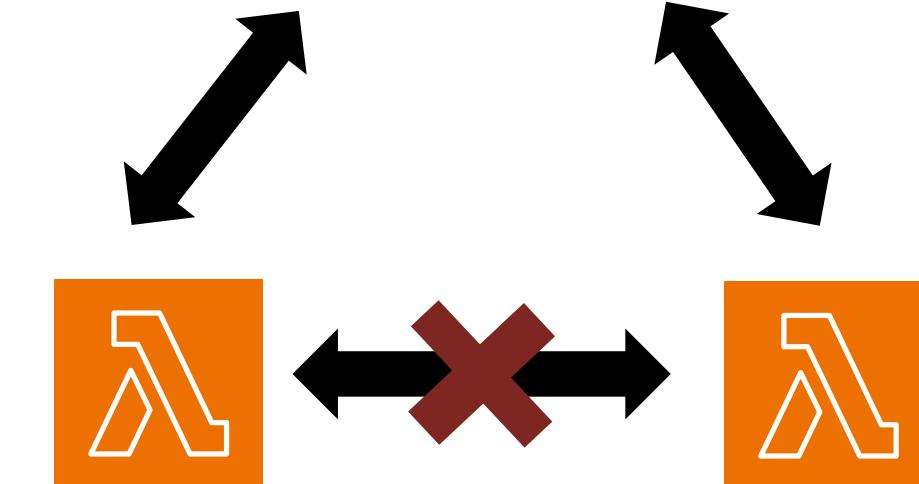
S3

Expensive for  
Large Messages



DynamoDB

Cloud Storage



# Communication in serverless

High Latency  
For Small Messages



S3

Expensive for  
Large Messages



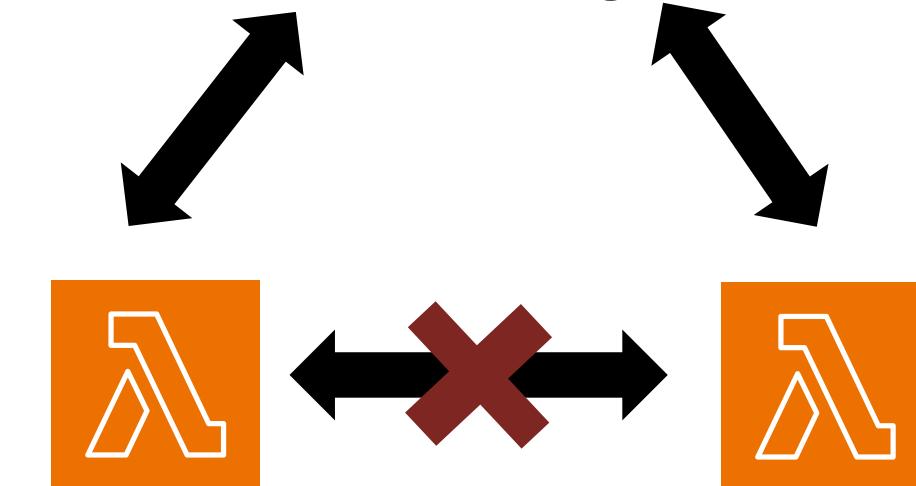
DynamoDB

Not Serverless



Redis

Cloud Storage

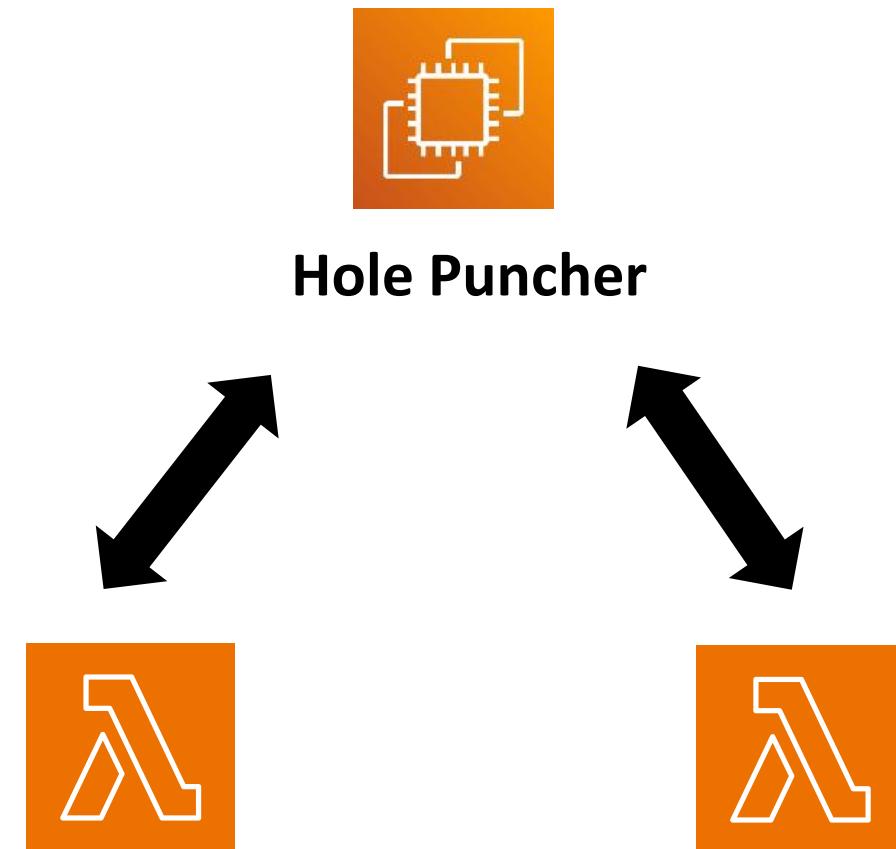


# Communication in serverless

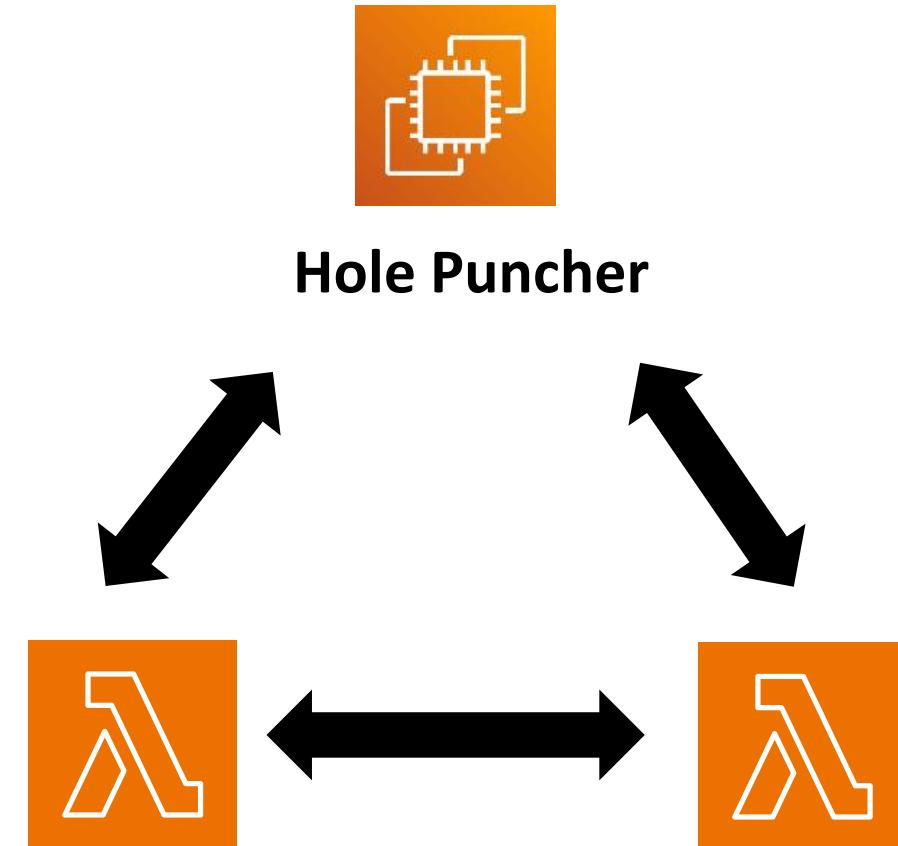


“FMI: Fast and Cheap Message Passing for Serverless Functions”, ICS’23

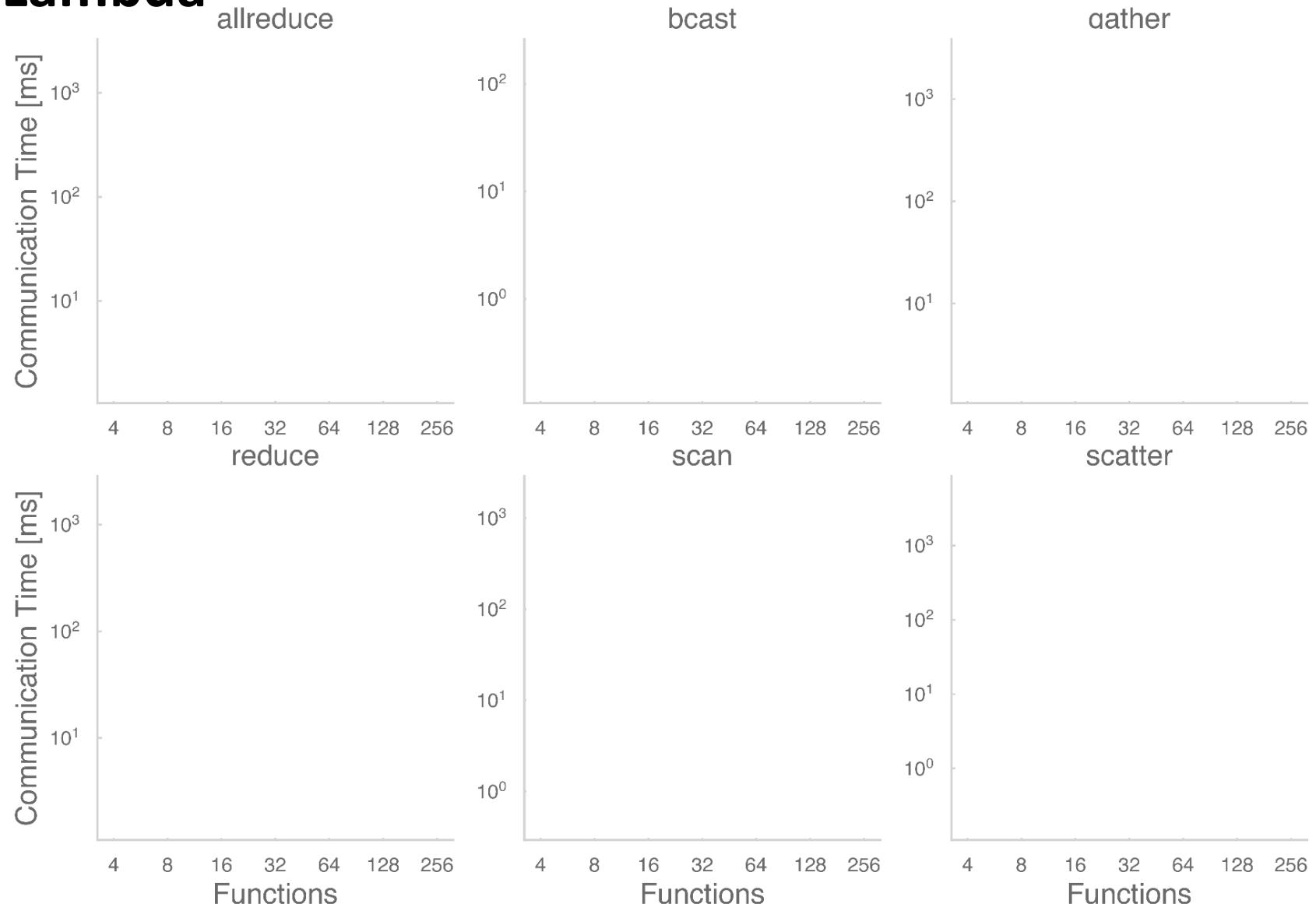
# Communication in serverless



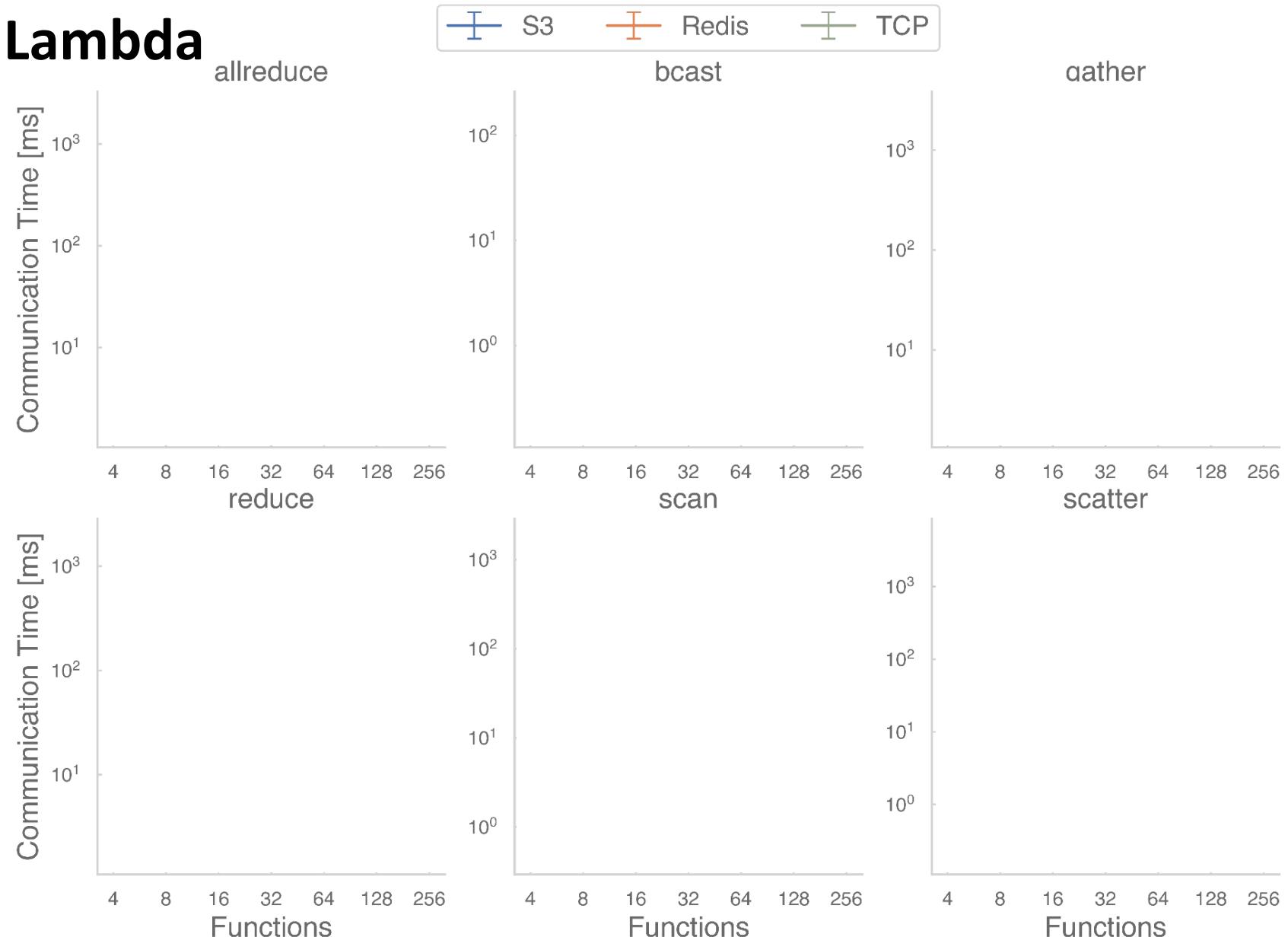
# Communication in serverless



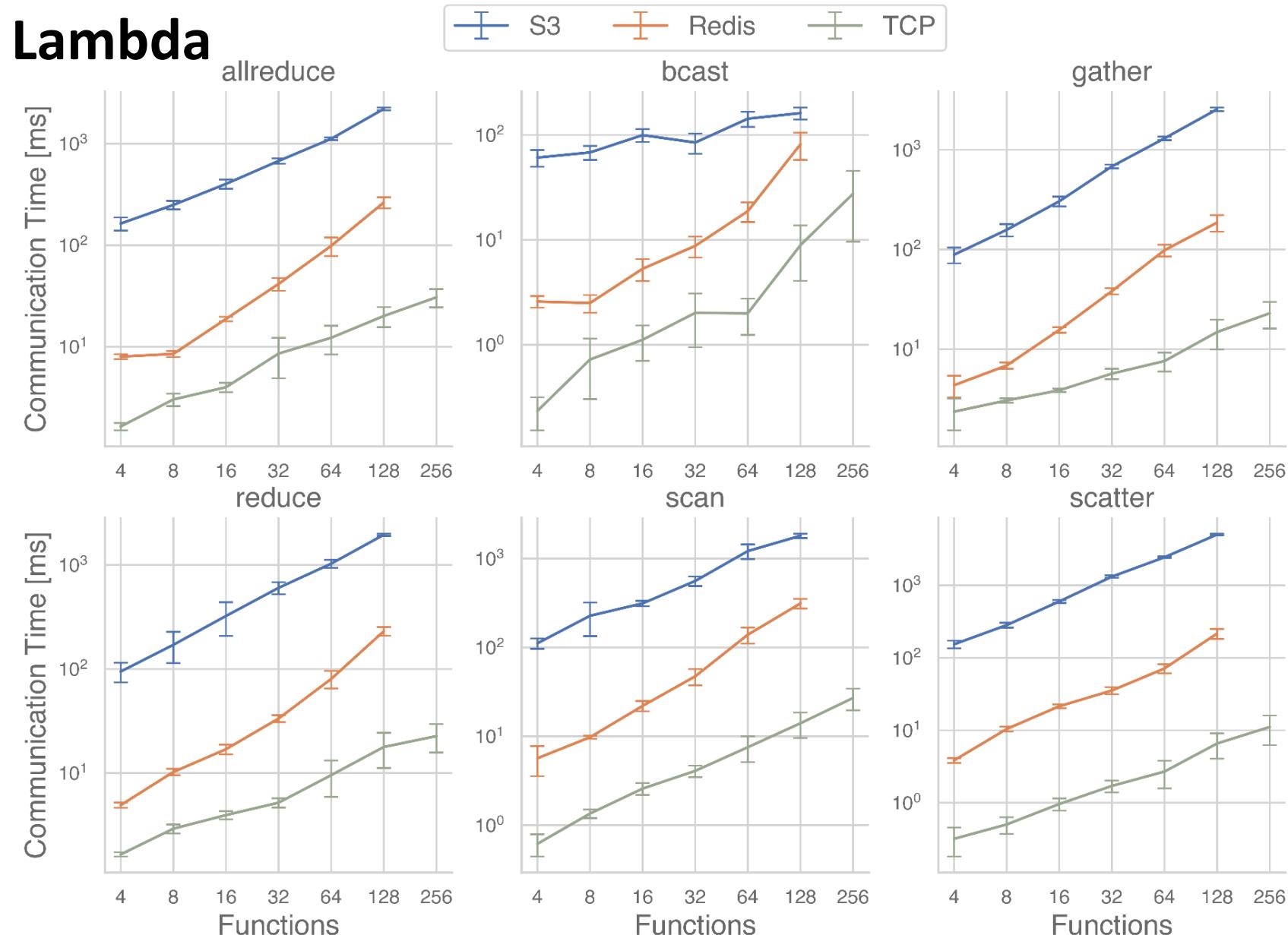
# FMI on AWS Lambda



# FMI on AWS Lambda



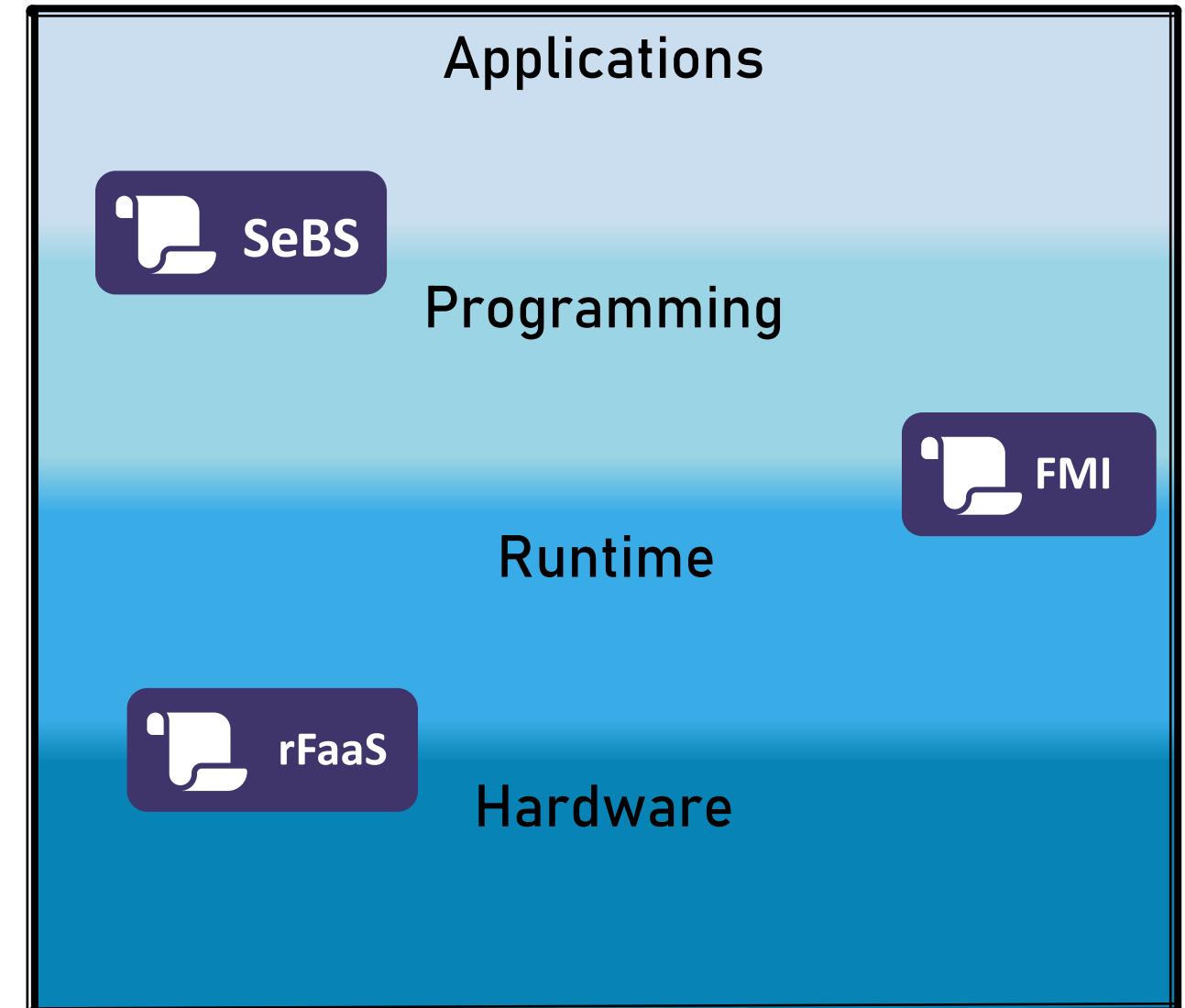
# FMI on AWS Lambda



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

Communication is slow  
and restricted.



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

Communication is slow  
and restricted.

Serverless is hard to  
implement in practice.

Applications



Programming



Runtime



Hardware

# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

Communication is slow  
and restricted.

Serverless is hard to  
implement in practice.

Applications



Programming

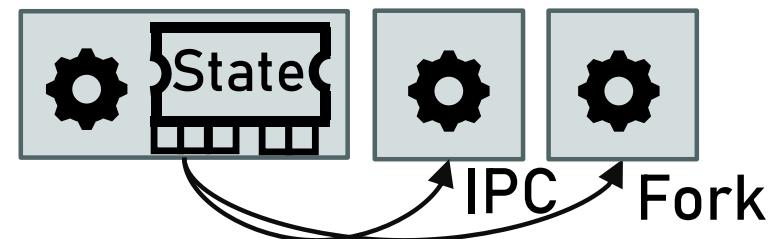


Runtime



Hardware

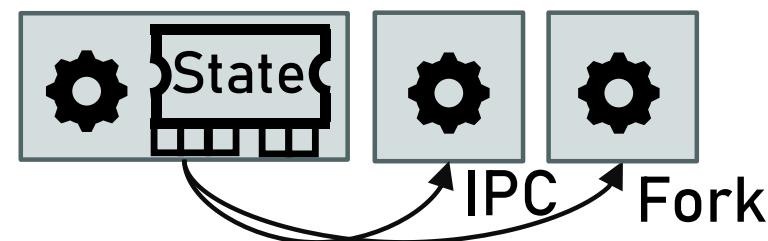
# Serverless Process



**OS Process**  
Nano- and micro-second latency of OS primitives.

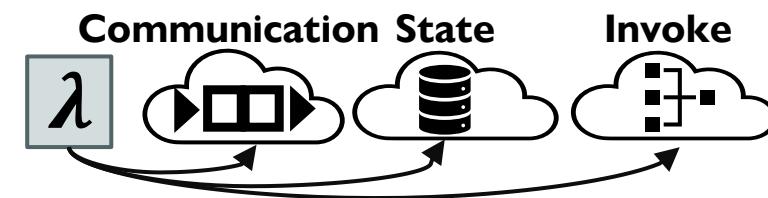


# Serverless Process



## OS Process

Nano- and micro-second latency of OS primitives.

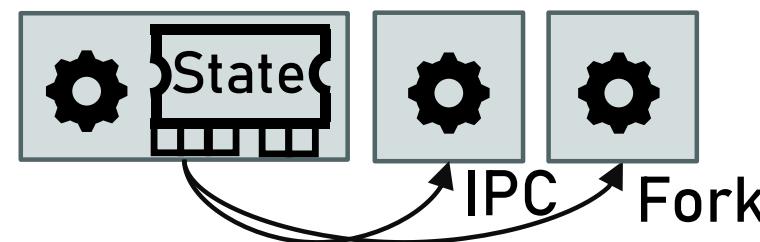


## Serverless Function

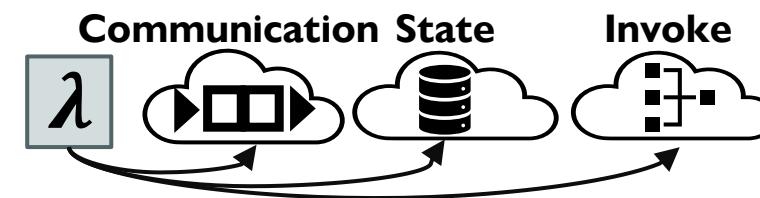
Millisecond latency of cloud proxies.



# Serverless Process



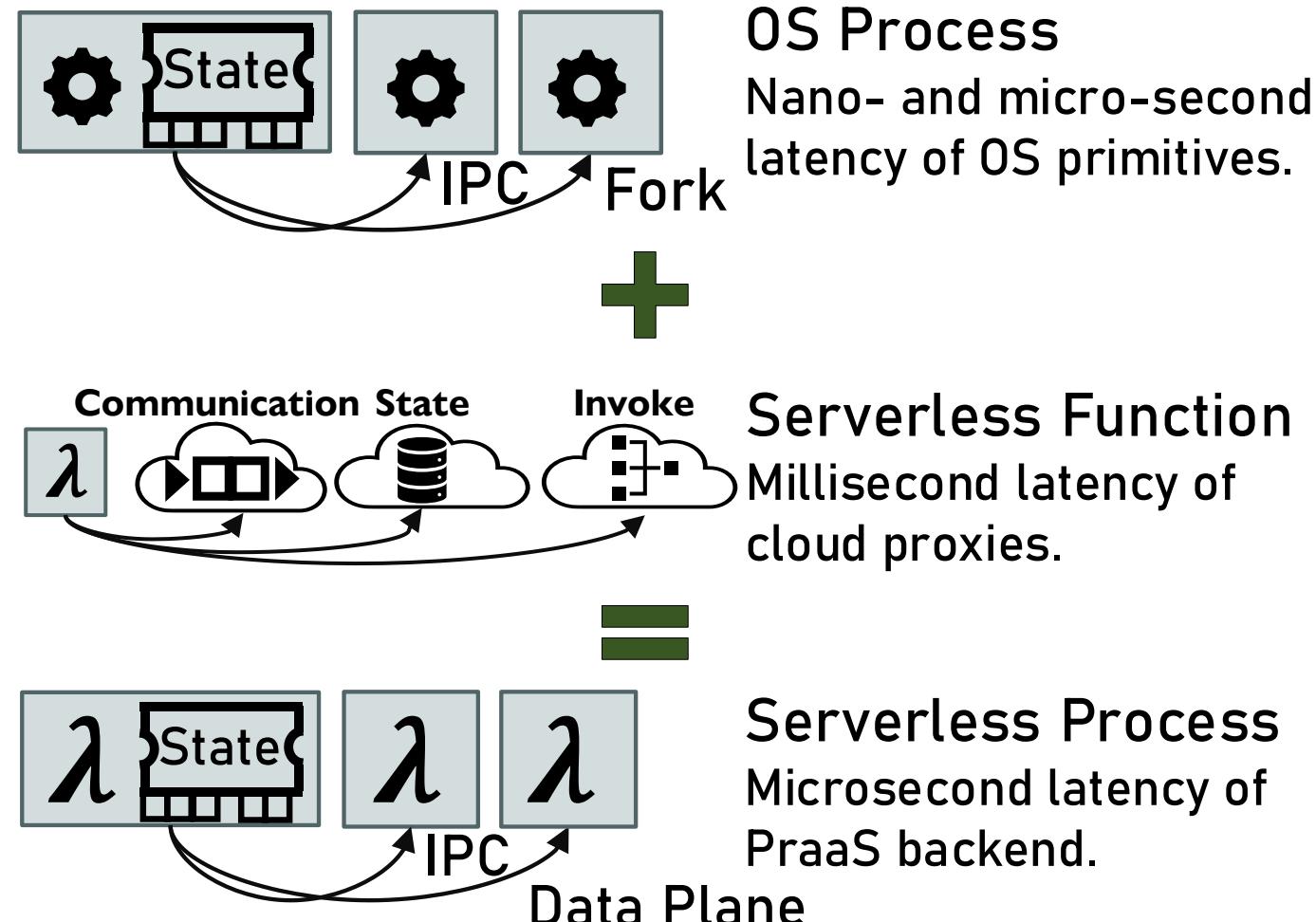
**OS Process**  
Nano- and micro-second latency of OS primitives.



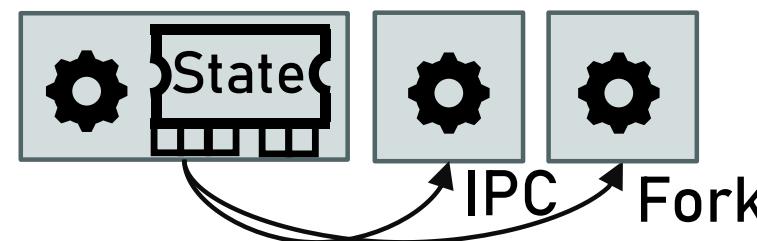
**Serverless Function**  
Millisecond latency of cloud proxies.



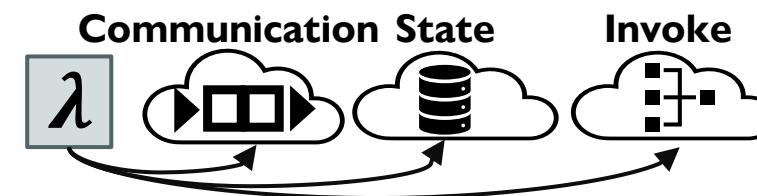
# Serverless Process



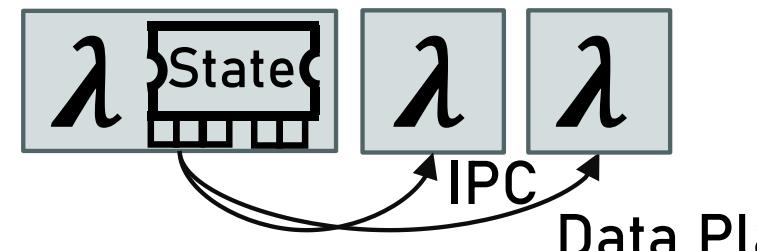
# Serverless Process



**OS Process**  
Nano- and micro-second latency of OS primitives.



**Serverless Function**  
Millisecond latency of cloud proxies.

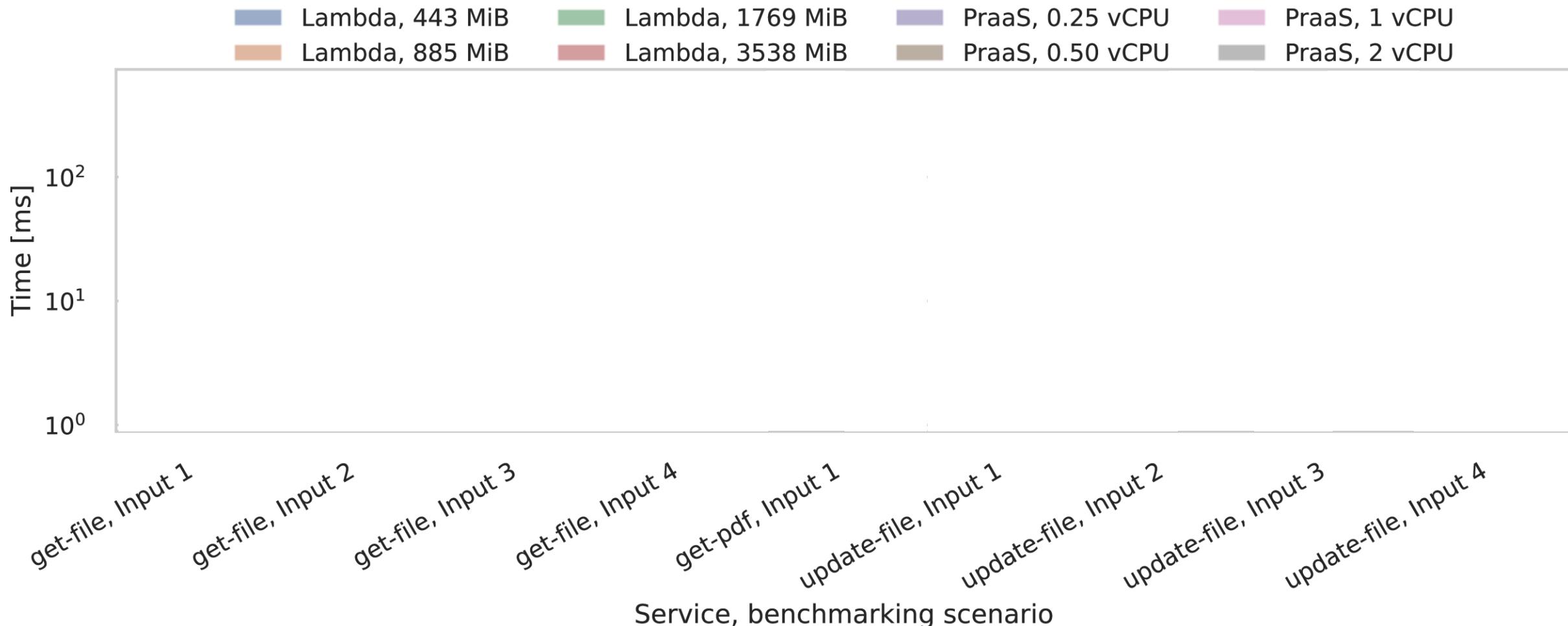


**Serverless Process**  
Microsecond latency of PraaS backend.

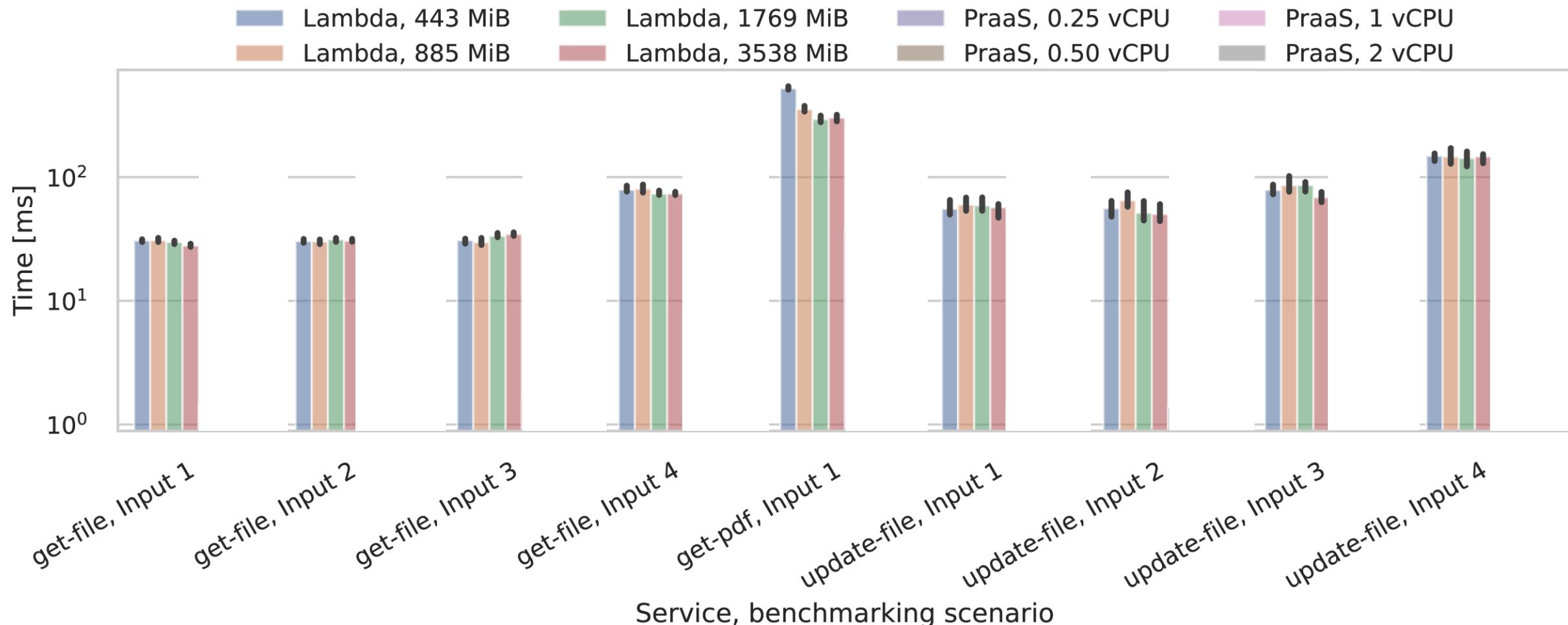
**Works on AWS Fargate, Knative, Kubernetes.**



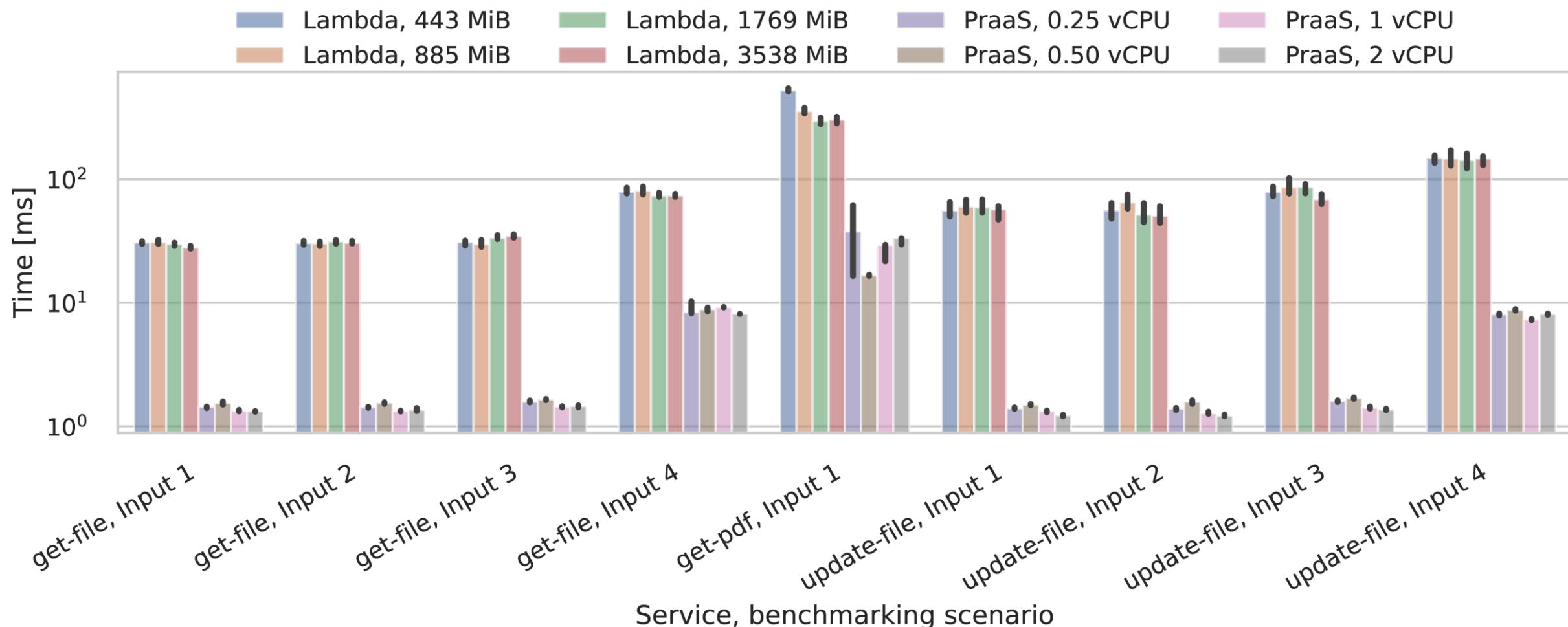
# Benchmark: LaTeX Microservice



# Benchmark: LaTeX Microservice



# Benchmark: LaTeX Microservice



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

Communication is slow  
and restricted.

Serverless is hard to  
program.

## Applications



SeBS



PraaS

## Programming



FMI

## Runtime



rFaaS

## Hardware

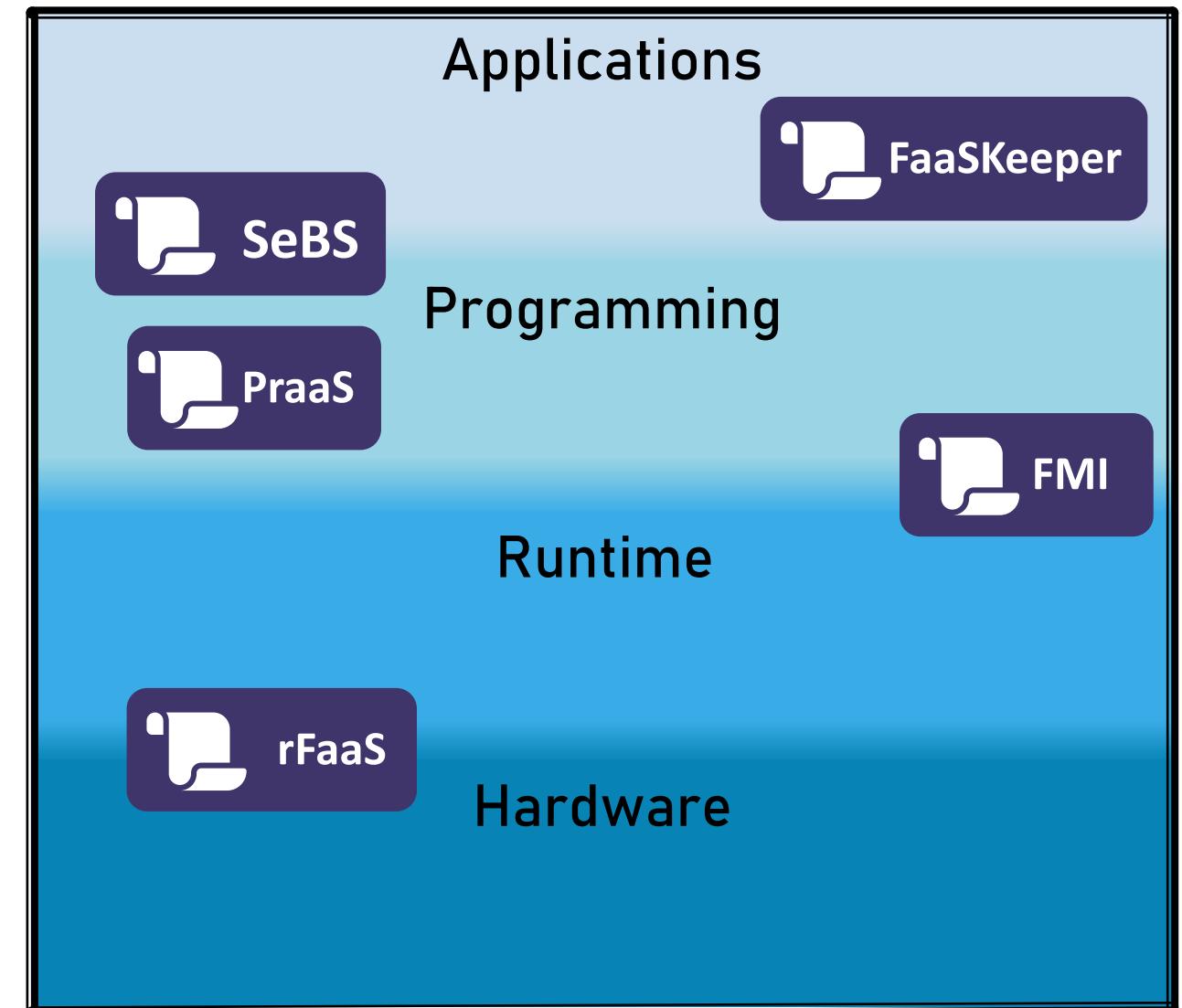
# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

Communication is slow  
and restricted.

Serverless is hard to  
program.

How to port existing and  
complex systems?



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive to invoke.

Communication is slow and restricted.

Serverless is hard to program.

How to port existing and complex systems?

How can serverless improve HPC?

## Applications



## Programming



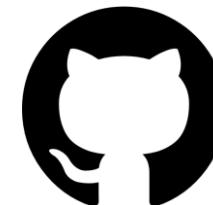
## Runtime



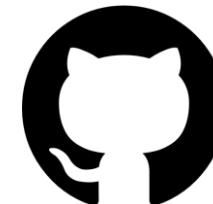
## Hardware

# Serverless Solutions for HPC

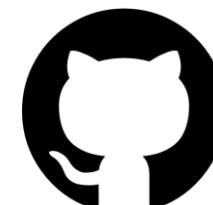
# Serverless Solutions for HPC



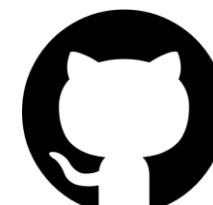
**spcl/serverless-benchmarks**



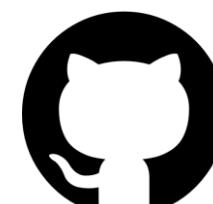
**spcl/rFaaS**



**spcl/fmi**

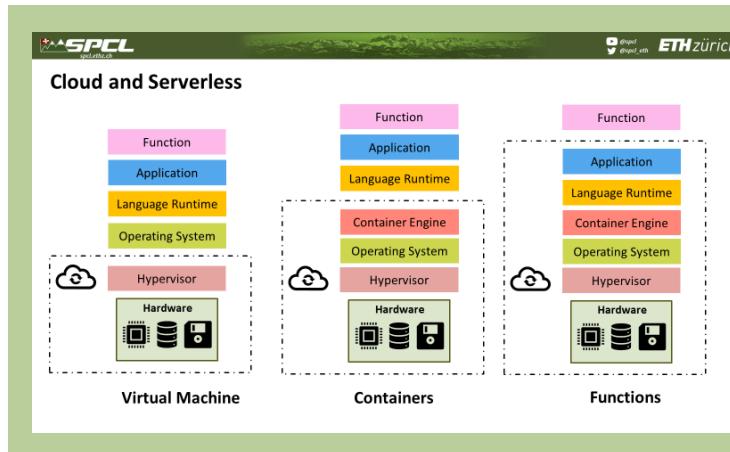


**spcl/PraaS**



**spcl/FaaSKeeper**

# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl 150+ Talks

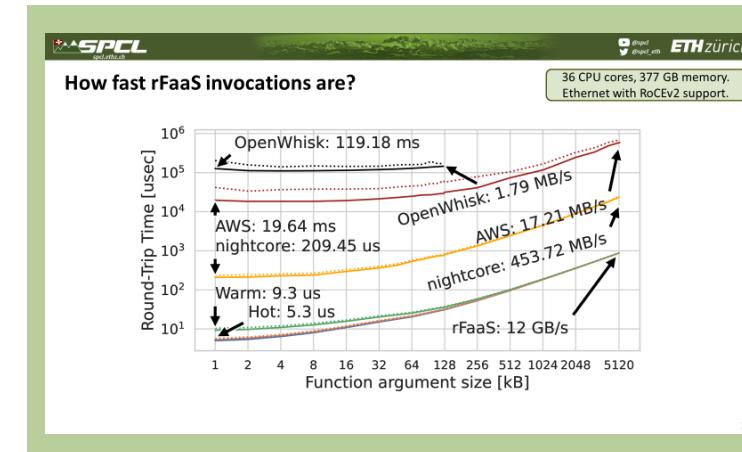
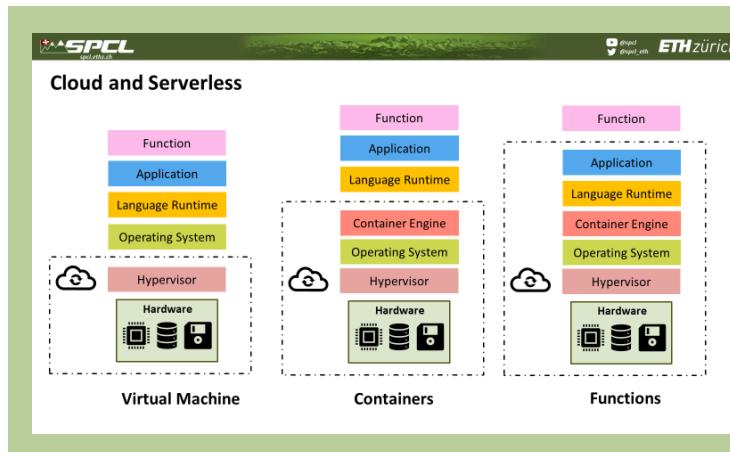
 twitter.com/spcl\_eth 1.2K+ Followers

 github.com/spcl 2K+ Stars

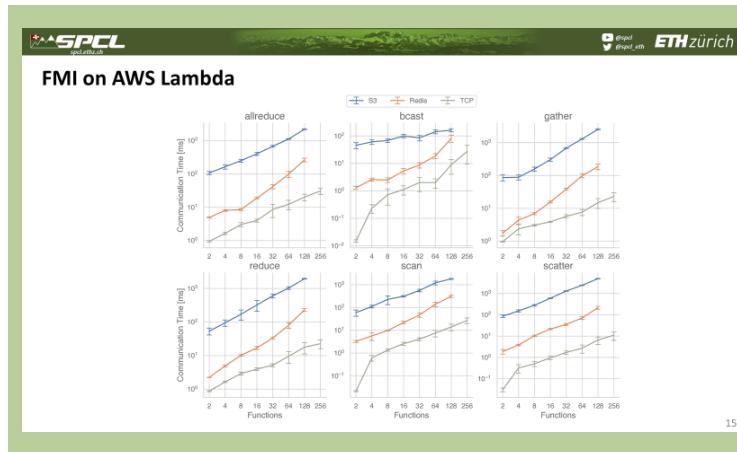
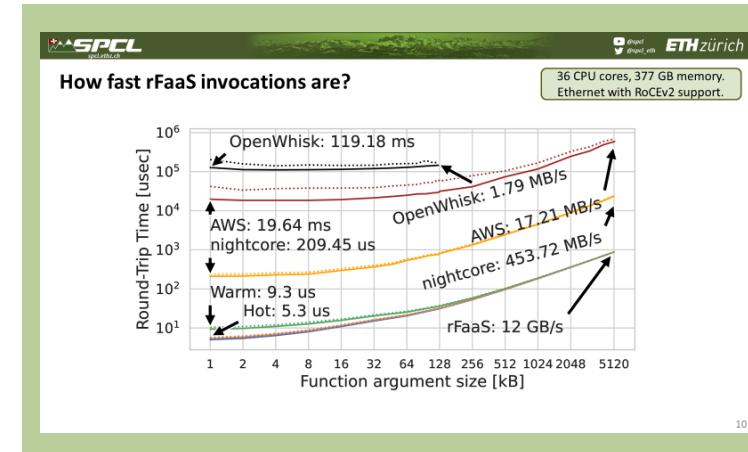
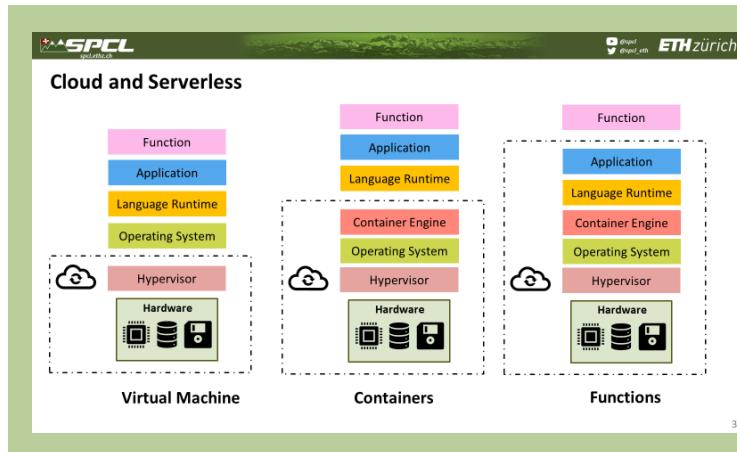
... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



# Conclusions



# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl 150+ Talks

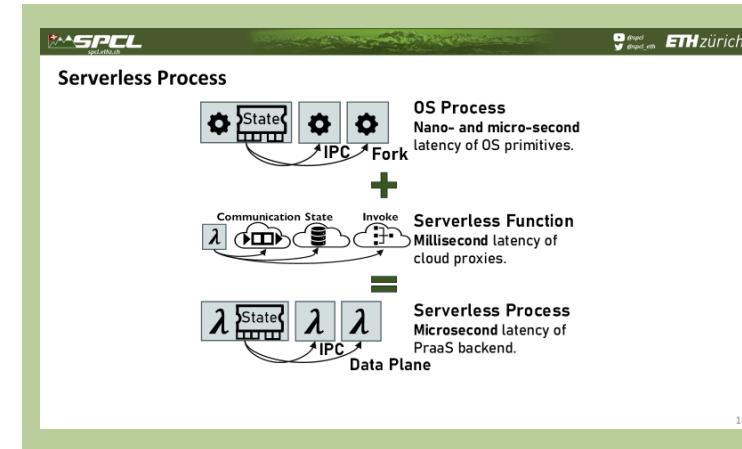
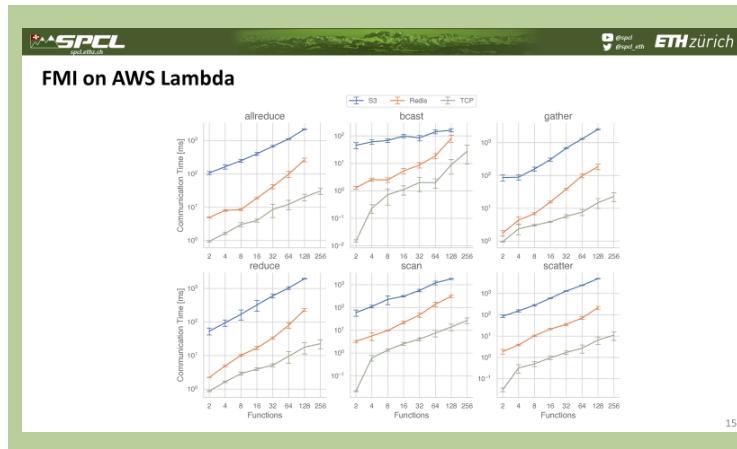
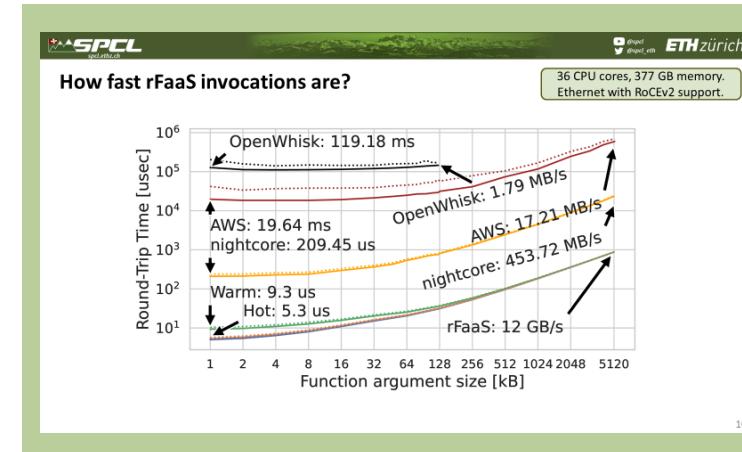
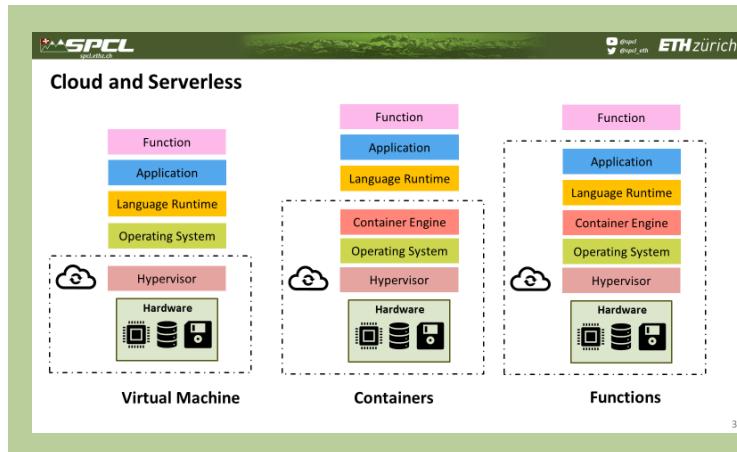
 twitter.com/spcl\_eth 1.2K+ Followers

 github.com/spcl 2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



# Conclusions



This work has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF), and from Amazon Web Services through the AWS Cloud Credits for Research program.

More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl

150+ Talks

 twitter.com/spcl\_eth

1.2K+ Followers

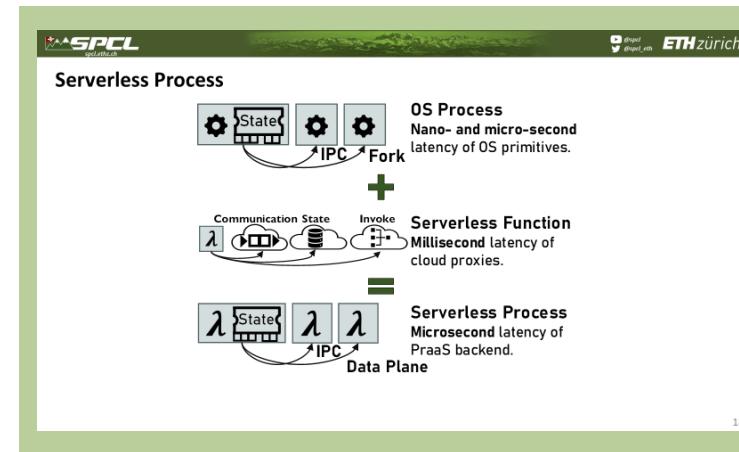
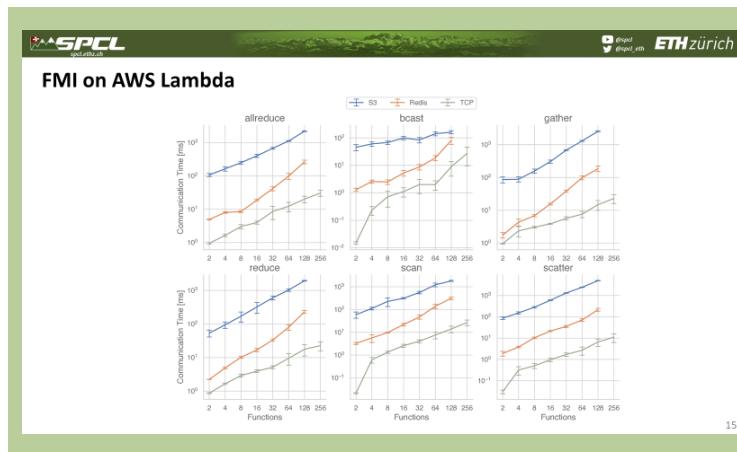
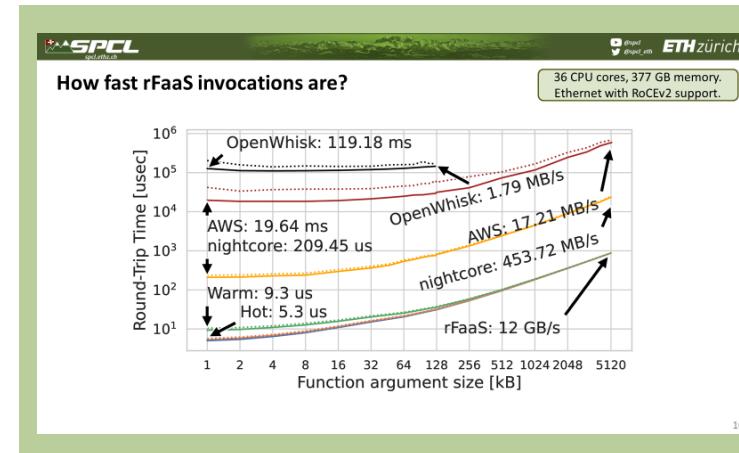
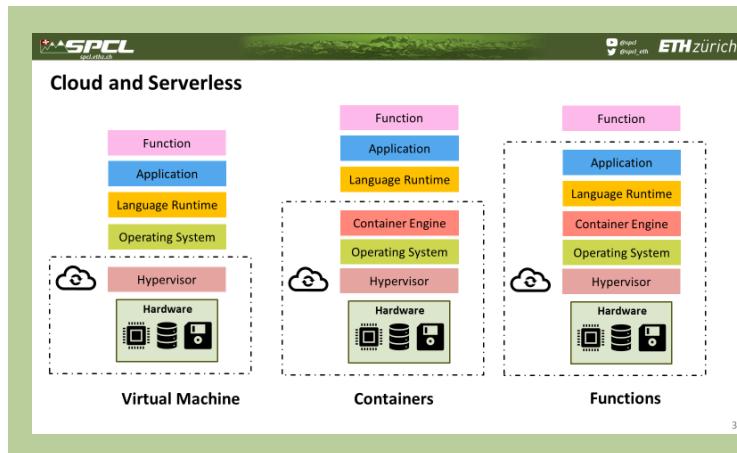
 github.com/spcl

2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl

150+ Talks

 twitter.com/spcl\_eth

1.2K+ Followers

 github.com/spcl

2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



Poster

All projects.



**“But serverless is slow and expensive”**

“But serverless is slow and expensive”

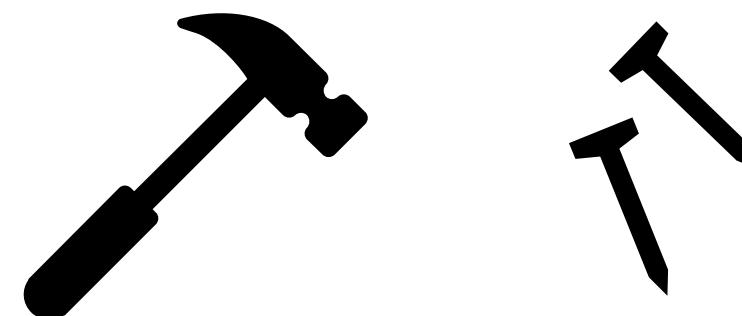
Scaling up the Prime Video audio/video monitoring service and reducing costs by 90%

The move from a distributed microservices architecture to a monolith application helped achieve higher scale, resilience, and reduce costs.

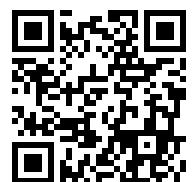
“But serverless is slow and expensive”

Scaling up the Prime Video audio/video monitoring service and reducing costs by 90%

The move from a distributed microservices architecture to a monolith application helped achieve higher scale, resilience, and reduce costs.

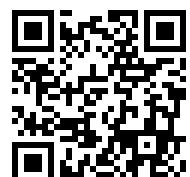
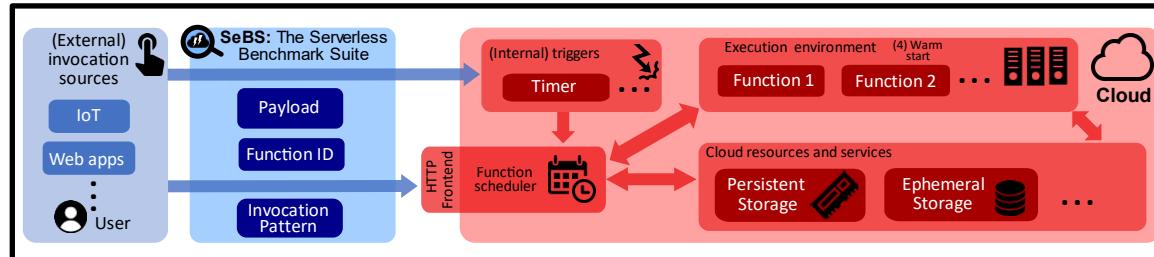


# Benchmarking Serverless

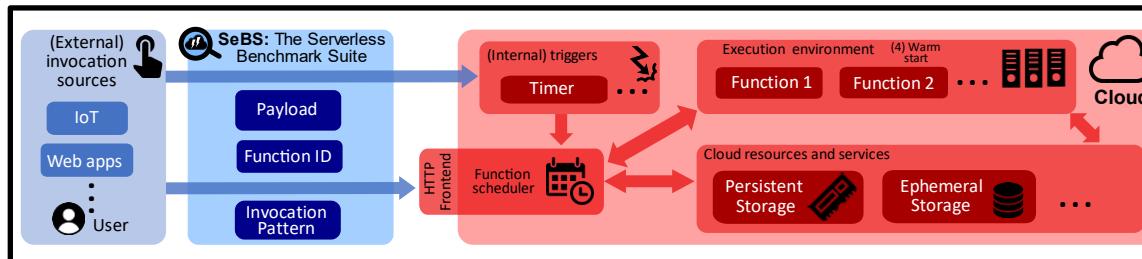


“SeBS: a Serverless Benchmark Suite for Function-as-a-Service Computing”, ACM/IFIP Middleware 2021

# Benchmarking Serverless



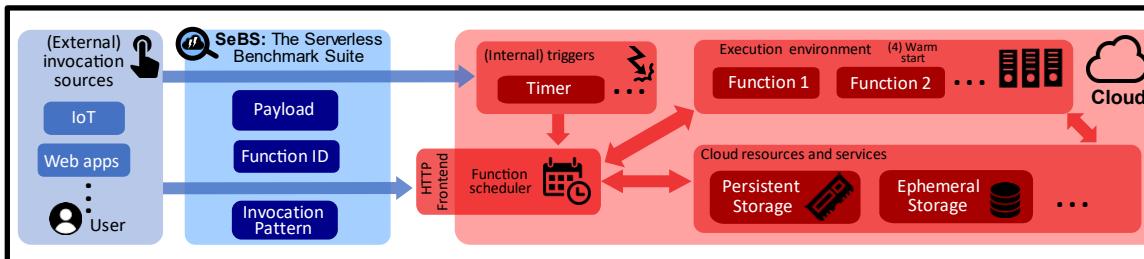
# Benchmarking Serverless



Type	Name	Language
Webapps	uploader	Python, Node.js
Multimedia	thumbnailer	Python, Node.js, C++
Utilities	compression	Python
Inference	image-recognition	Python, C++
Scientific	graph-bfs	Python



# Benchmarking Serverless

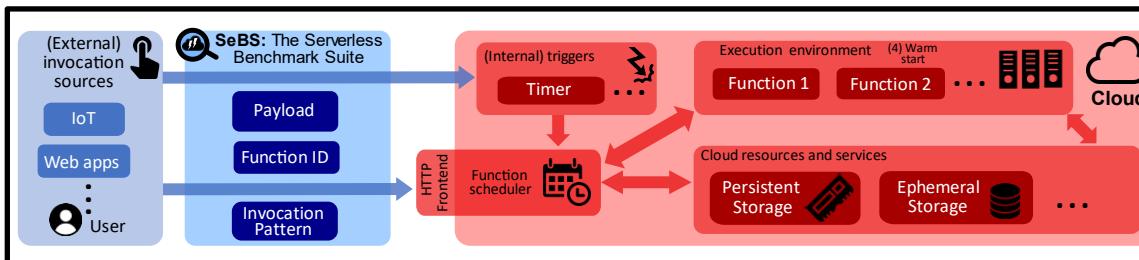


Type	Name	Language
Webapps	uploader	Python, Node.js
Multimedia	thumbnailer	Python, Node.js, C++
Utilities	compression	Python
Inference	image-recognition	Python, C++
Scientific	graph-bfs	Python

Results, methods, and insights	
	High-memory allocations increase cold startup overheads on GCP. GCP functions experience reliability and availability issues. I/O-bound functions experience very high latency variations. AWS Lambda achieves the best performance on all workloads. Irregular performance of concurrent Azure Function executions. AWS Lambda performance is not competitive against VMs assuming comparable resources.
	Break-even analysis for IaaS and FaaS deployment. Resource underutilization due to high granularity of pricing models. High costs of Azure Functions due to unconfigurable deployment. The function output size can be a dominating factor in pricing.
	Accurate methodology for estimation of invocation latency. Warm latencies are consistent and depend linearly on payload size. Highly variable and unpredictable cold latencies on Azure and GCP.
	AWS Lambda container eviction is agnostic to function properties. Analytical models of AWS Lambda container eviction policy.

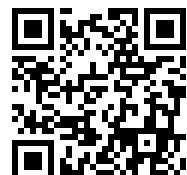
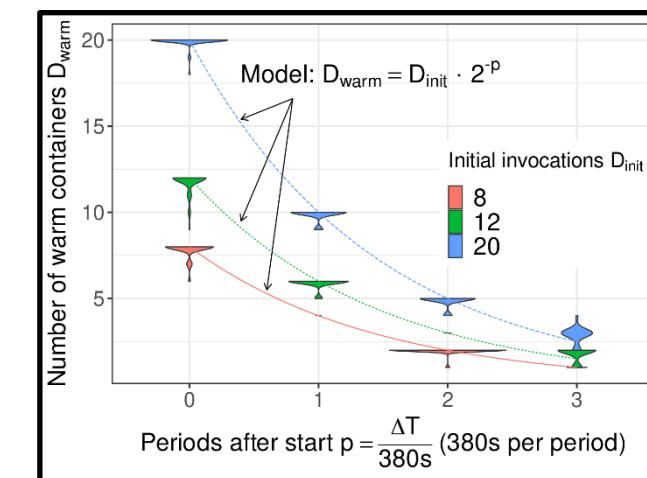


# Benchmarking Serverless



Type	Name	Language
Webapps	uploader	Python, Node.js
Multimedia	thumbnailer	Python, Node.js, C++
Utilities	compression	Python
Inference	image-recognition	Python, C++
Scientific	graph-bfs	Python

Results, methods, and insights	
	High-memory allocations increase cold startup overheads on GCP. GCP functions experience reliability and availability issues. I/O-bound functions experience very high latency variations. AWS Lambda achieves the best performance on all workloads. Irregular performance of concurrent Azure Function executions. AWS Lambda performance is not competitive against VMs assuming comparable resources.
	Break-even analysis for IaaS and FaaS deployment. Resource underutilization due to high granularity of pricing models. High costs of Azure Functions due to unconfigurable deployment. The function output size can be a dominating factor in pricing.
	Accurate methodology for estimation of invocation latency. Warm latencies are consistent and depend linearly on payload size. Highly variable and unpredictable cold latencies on Azure and GCP.
	AWS Lambda container eviction is agnostic to function properties. Analytical models of AWS Lambda container eviction policy.



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive  
to invoke.

Communication is slow  
and restricted.

Serverless is hard to  
program.

## Applications



SeBS



PraaS

## Programming



FMI

## Runtime



rFaaS

## Hardware

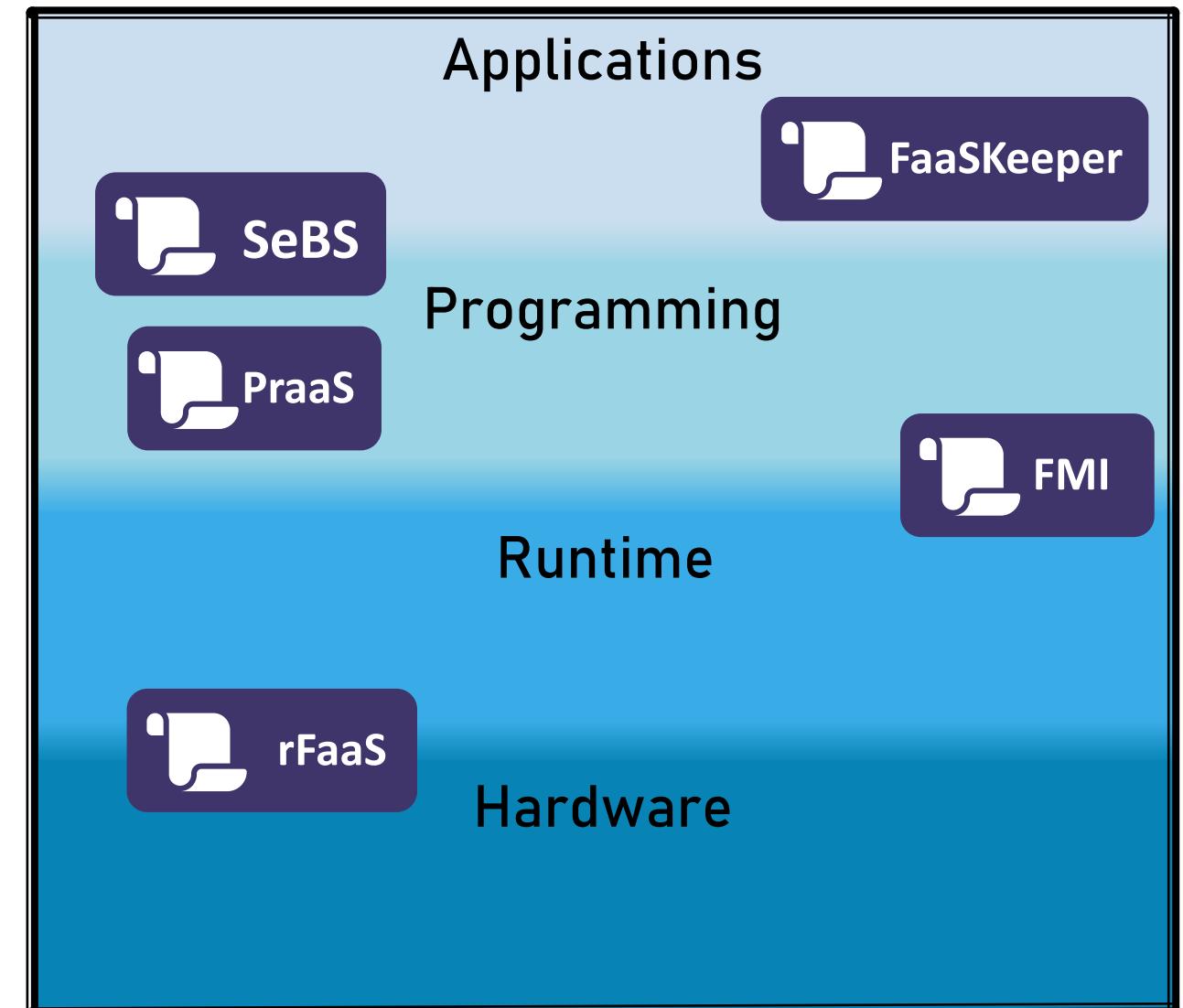
# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive to invoke.

Communication is slow and restricted.

Serverless is hard to program.

How to port existing and complex systems?



# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

Functions are expensive to invoke.

Communication is slow and restricted.

Serverless is hard to program.

How to port existing and complex systems?

How can serverless improve HPC?

## Applications



## Programming



## Runtime



## Hardware

# Serverless for High-Performance Applications

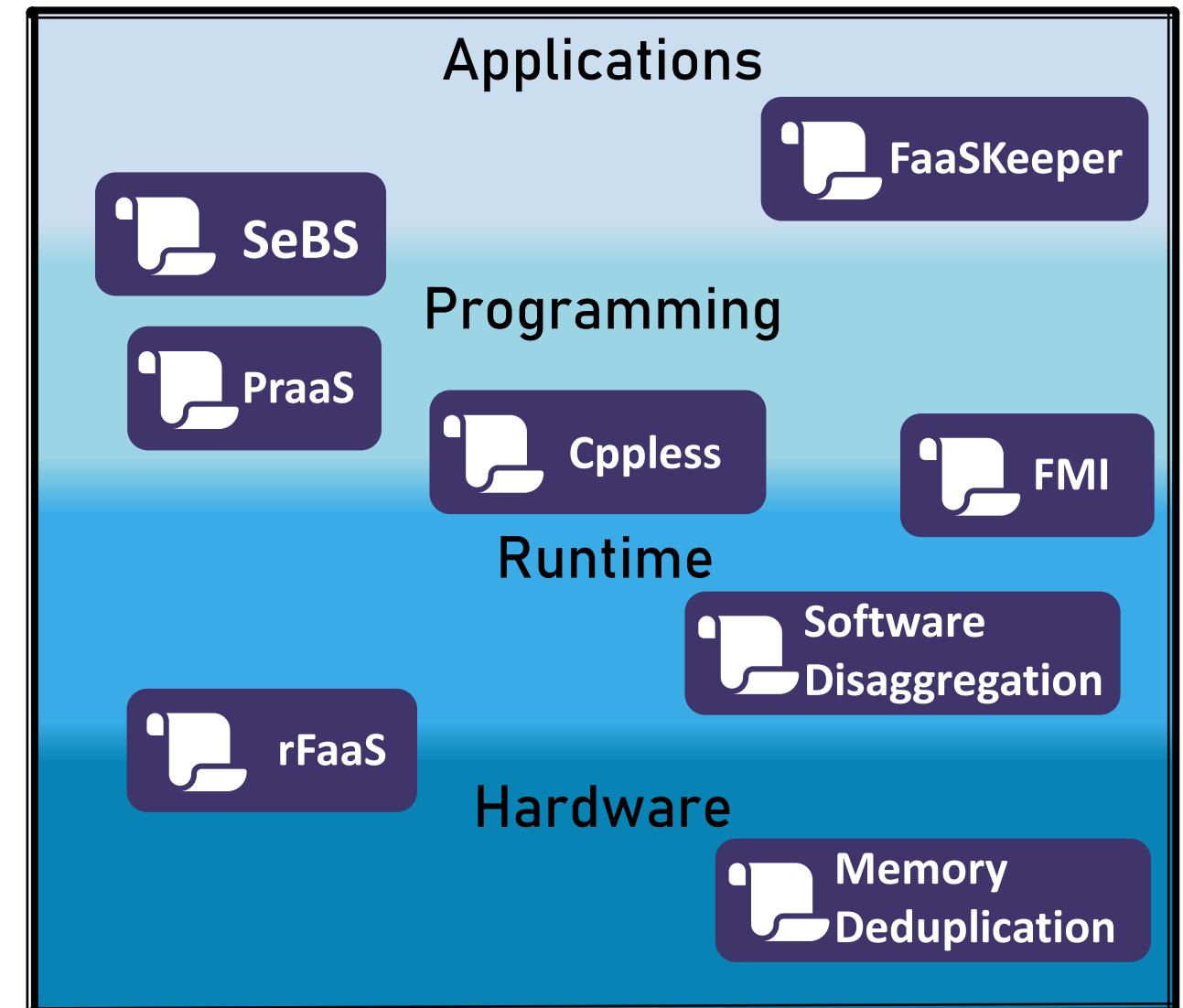
Functions are expensive to invoke.

Communication is slow and restricted.

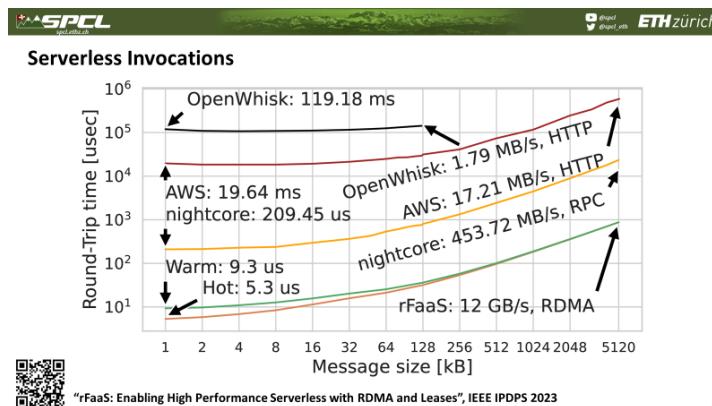
Serverless is hard to program.

How to port existing and complex systems?

How can serverless improve HPC?



# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl 150+ Talks

 twitter.com/spcl\_eth 1.2K+ Followers

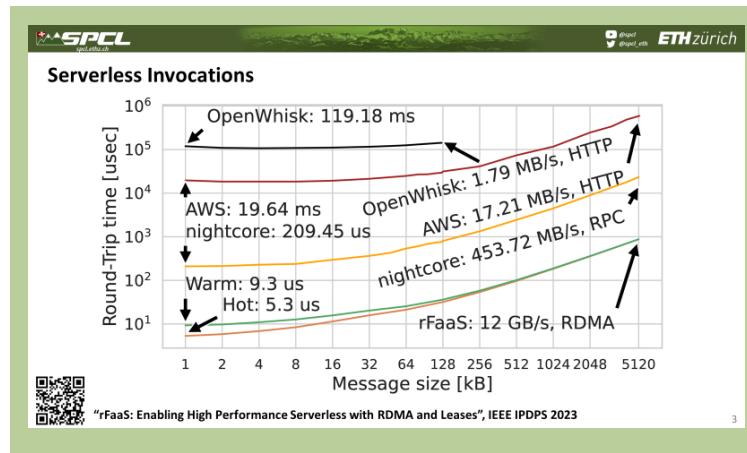
 github.com/spcl 2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



[mcopik.github.io/projects/pras](http://mcopik.github.io/projects/pras)

# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl

150+ Talks

 twitter.com/spcl\_eth

1.2K+ Followers

 github.com/spcl

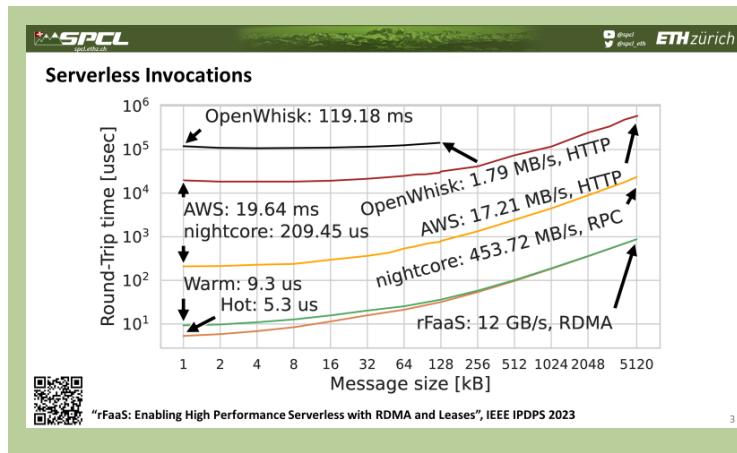
2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



[mcopik.github.io/projects/pras](http://mcopik.github.io/projects/pras)

# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl 150+ Talks

 twitter.com/spcl\_eth 1.2K+ Followers

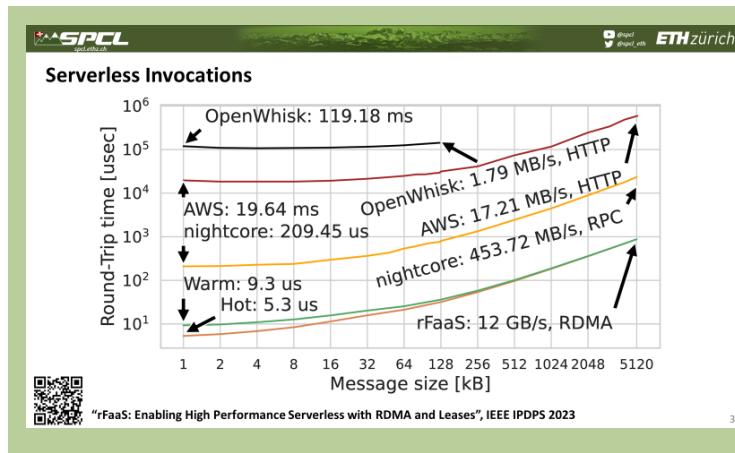
 github.com/spcl 2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



[mcopik.github.io/projects/pras](http://mcopik.github.io/projects/pras)

# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl 150+ Talks

 twitter.com/spcl\_eth 1.2K+ Followers

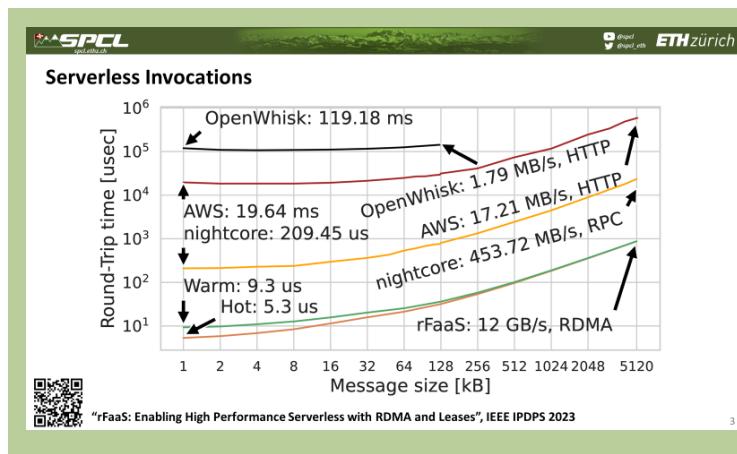
 github.com/spcl 2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



[mcopik.github.io/projects/pras](http://mcopik.github.io/projects/pras)

# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 [youtube.com/@spcl](https://youtube.com/@spcl)  150+ Talks

 [twitter.com/spcl\\_eth](https://twitter.com/spcl_eth)  1.2K+ Followers

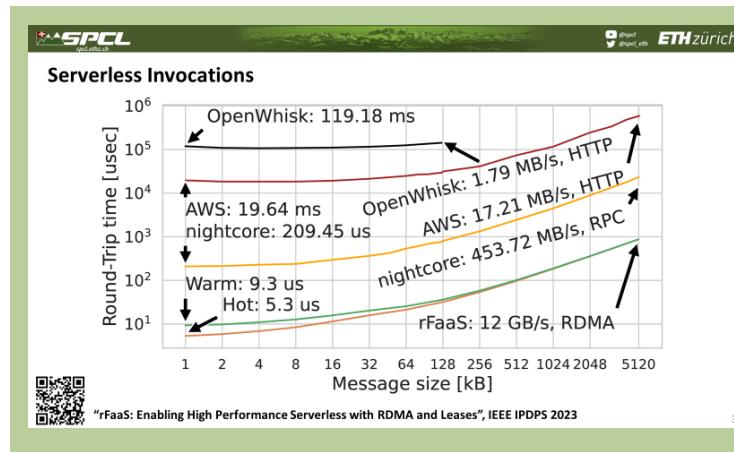
 [github.com/spcl](https://github.com/spcl)  2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](https://spcl.ethz.ch)



[mcopik.github.io/projects/pras](https://mcopik.github.io/projects/pras)

# Conclusions



More of SPCL's research:

 youtube.com/@spcl 150+ Talks

 twitter.com/spcl\_eth 1.2K+ Followers

 github.com/spcl 2K+ Stars

... or [spcl.ethz.ch](http://spcl.ethz.ch)



**spcl/praaS**



**Paper preprint**

[mcopik.github.io/projects/praaS](http://mcopik.github.io/projects/praaS)