

Serverless Computing – Part 1



Service Management in Networks – WS 2021

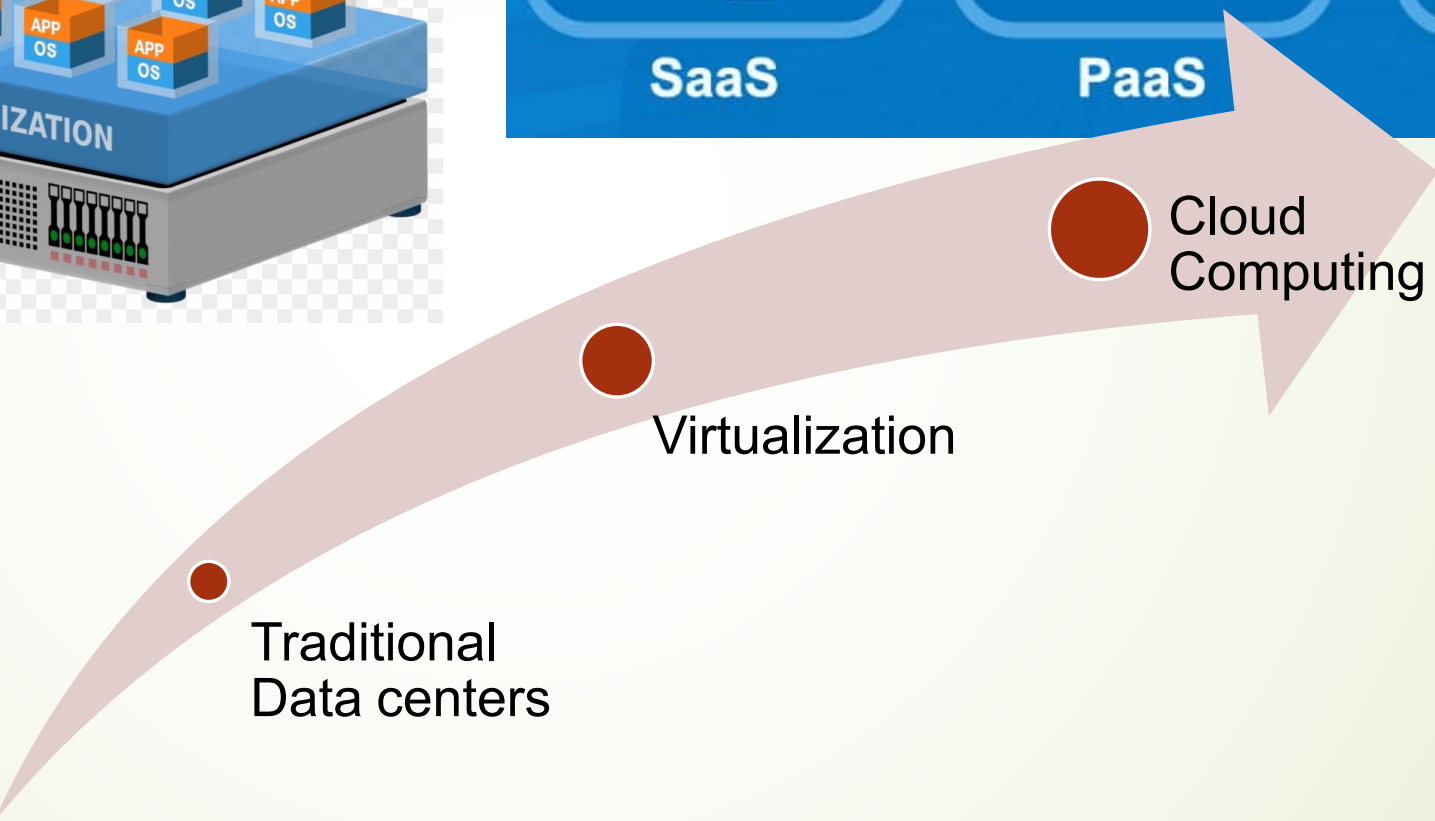
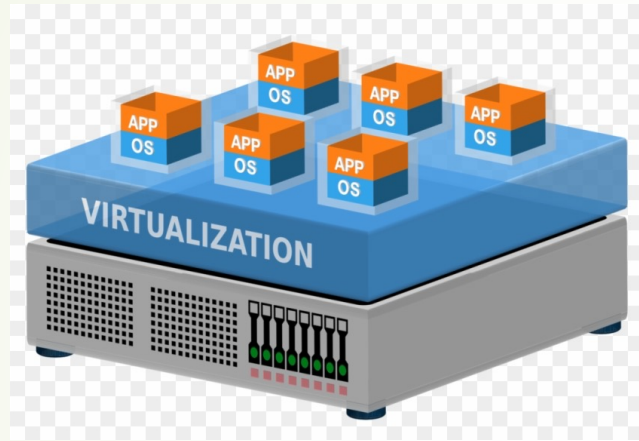
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- Evolution of Cloud Computing
- Serverless Computing
- Benefits and Challenges
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- Commercial and Open-Source provider services
- Conclusion

Evolution of Cloud Computing



Virtualization

1. Hypervisor-based Virtualization

- ❖ Type 1 / Bare-metal Hypervisor

Ex: Xen, Hyper-V

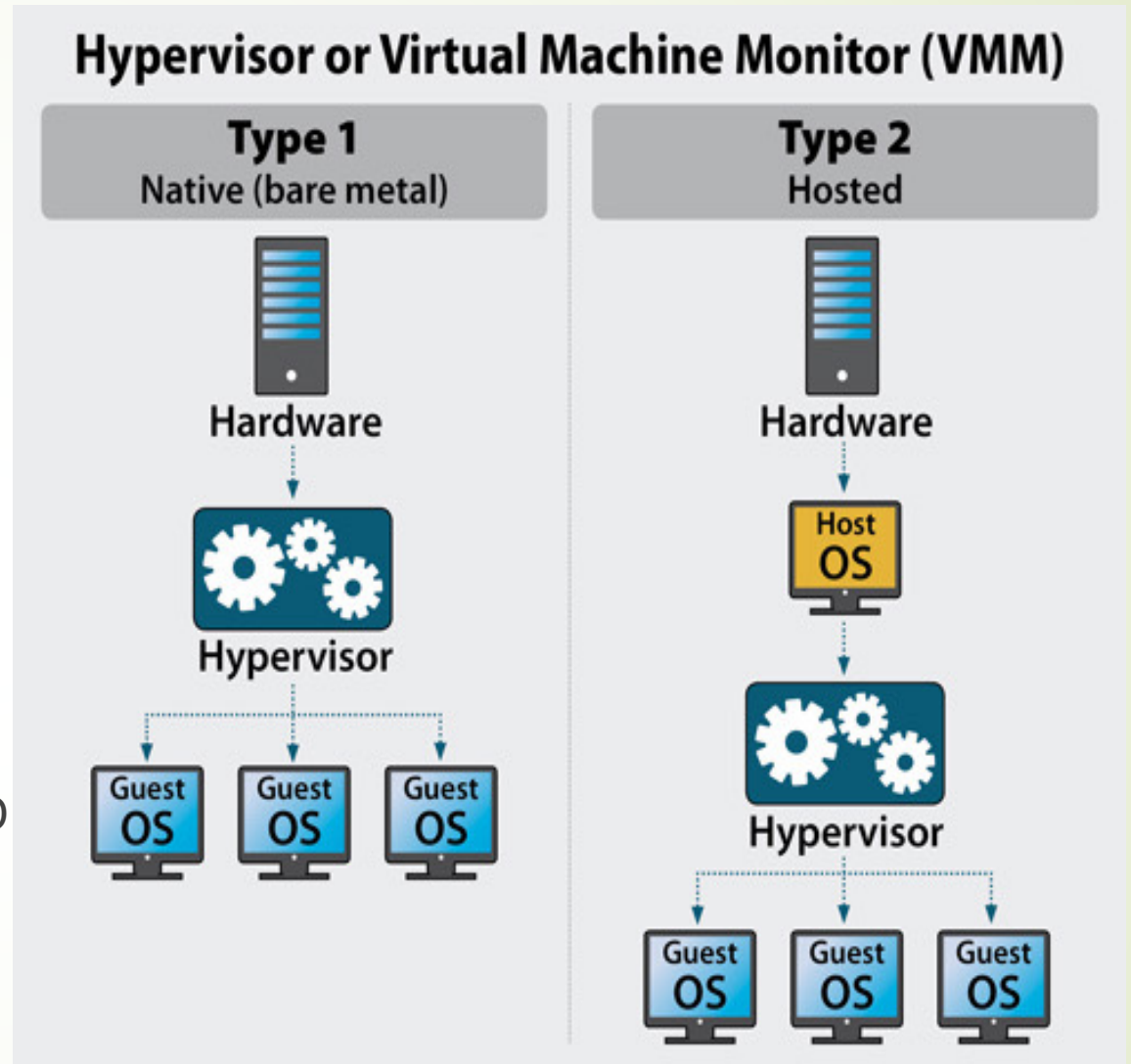
- ❖ Type 2 / Hosted Hypervisor

Ex: VMWare, VirtualBox

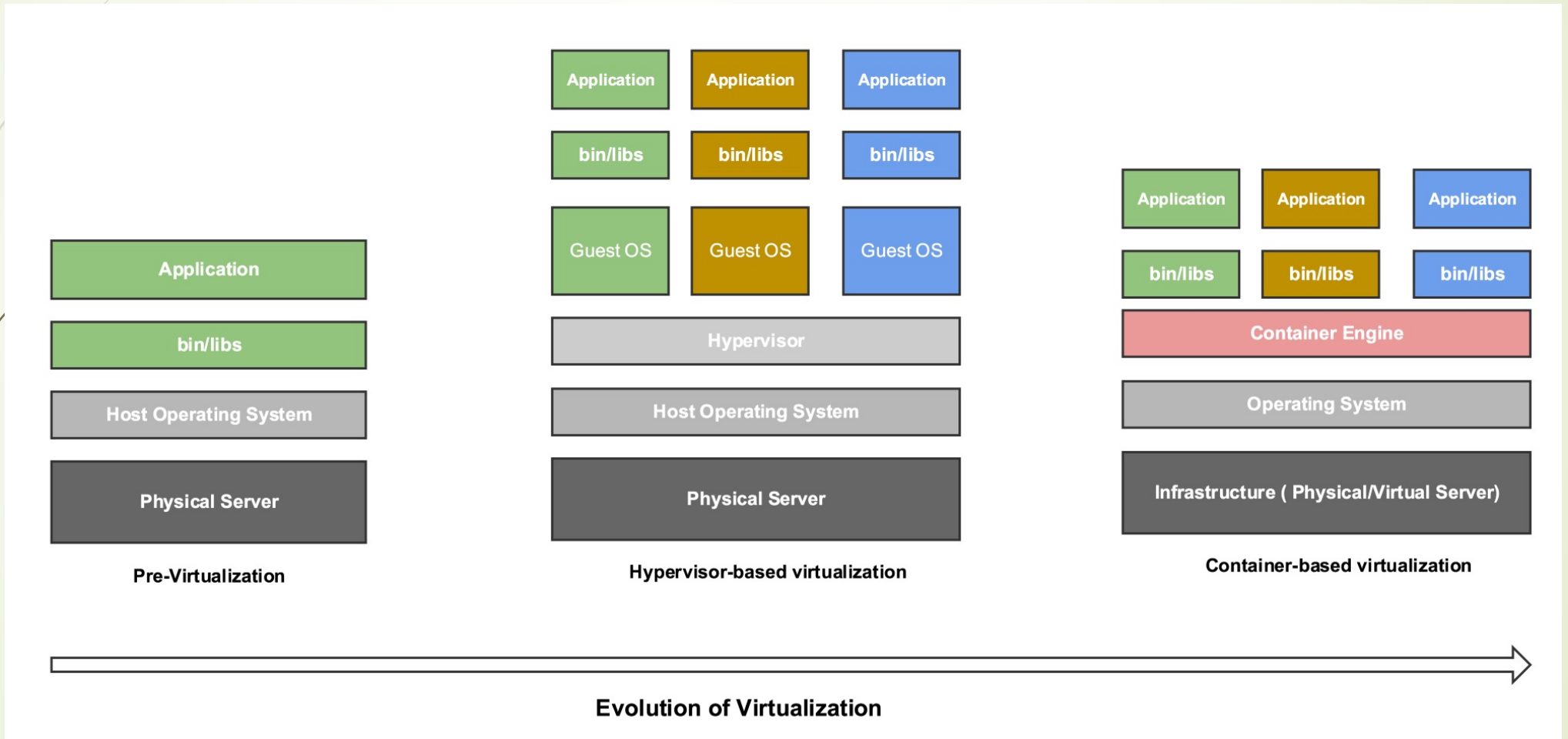
2. Container-based Virtualization

Ex: Docker, OpenVZ, LXC, FreeBSD

Zones, Solaris jails etc.



Virtualization (contd.)

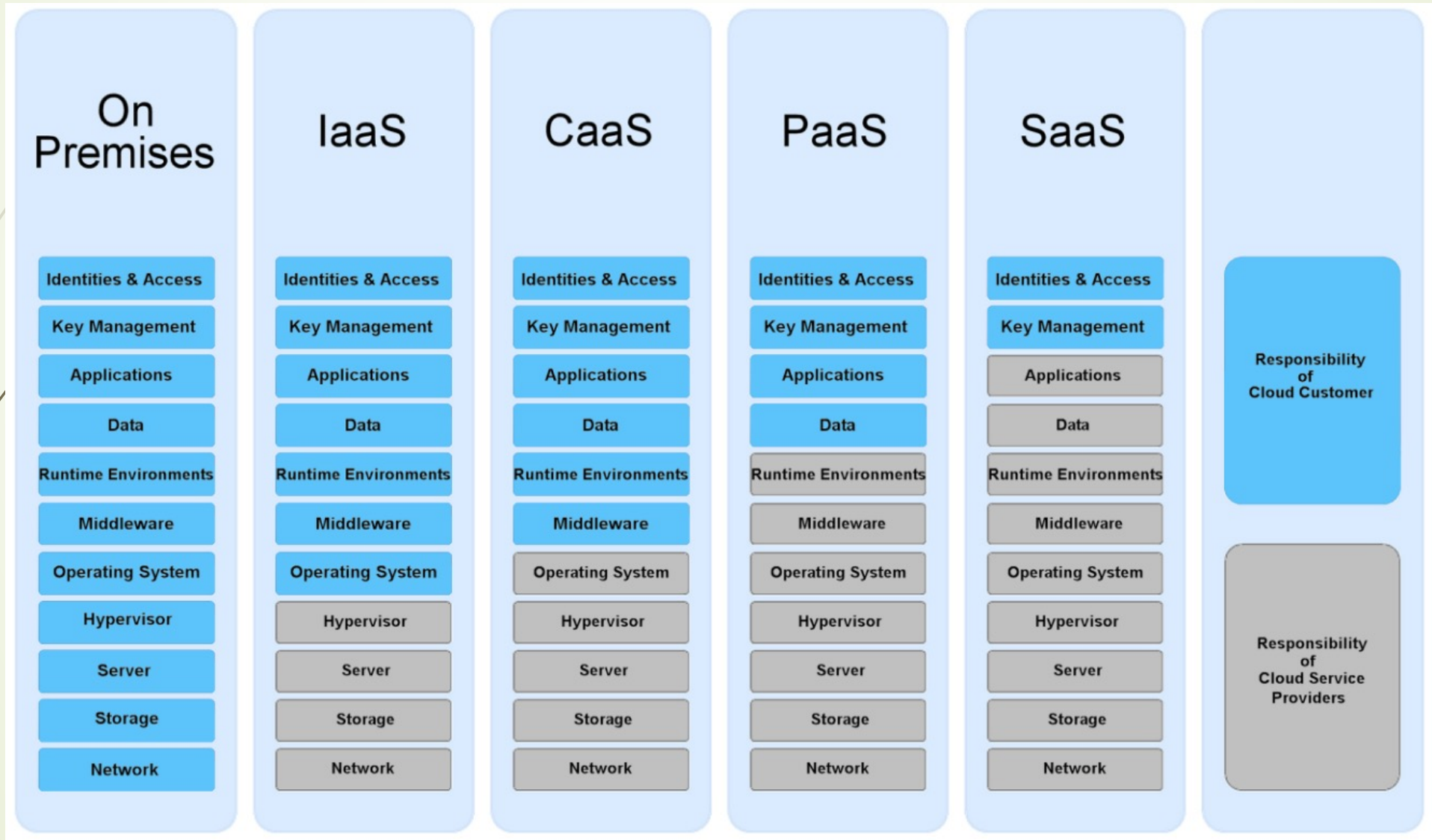




Cloud Computing

- Coined by NIST (U.S National Institute of Standards and Technology)
- Share of responsibilities between providers and consumers by choice
- Cloud Computing Models
 - ❖ Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)
 - ❖ Container as a Service (CaaS)
 - ❖ Platform as a Service (PaaS)
 - ❖ Software as a Service (SaaS)

Cloud Computing Models





Cloud Computing Models – Example Services

- ▶ IaaS

Azure IaaS, AWS EC2, Google cloud infrastructure, IBM IaaS cloud servers etc.

- ▶ CaaS

Google Kubernetes Engine (GKE), Amazon Elastic Container Service (ECS), Azure Container Instances

- ▶ PaaS (build web apps on cloud platforms)

SAP cloud, Google App Engine, IBM Cloud Foundry

- ▶ SaaS

Dropbox, Cloud based Microsoft Office 365, G Suite, Slack, Cisco WebEx, Box etc.

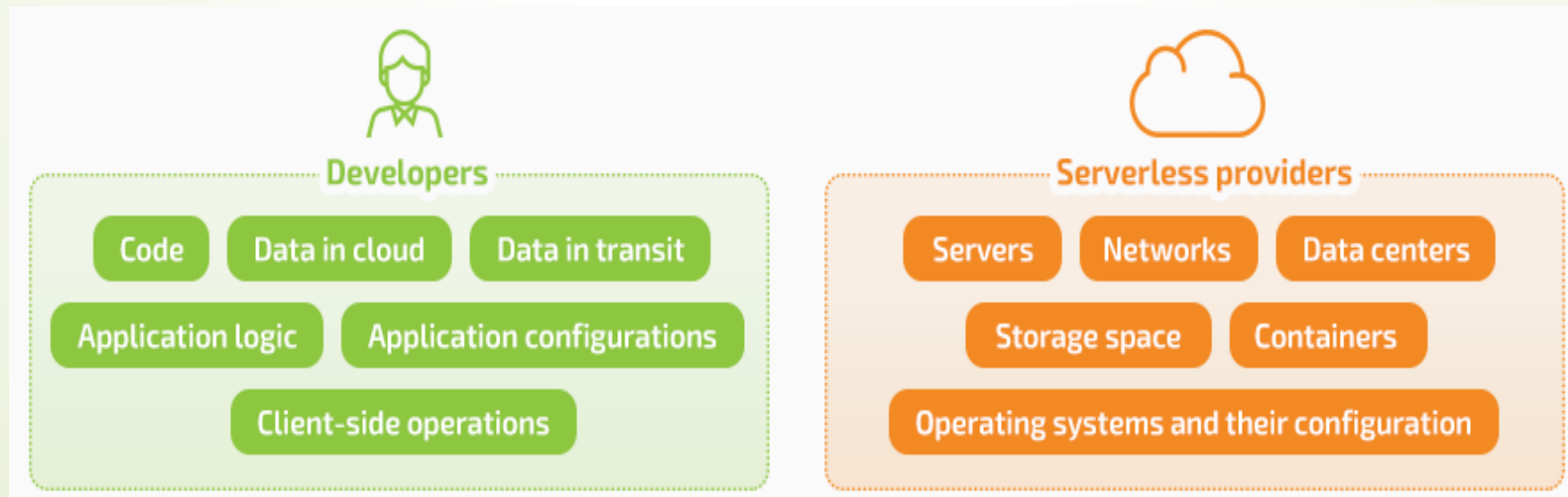


Serverless Computing

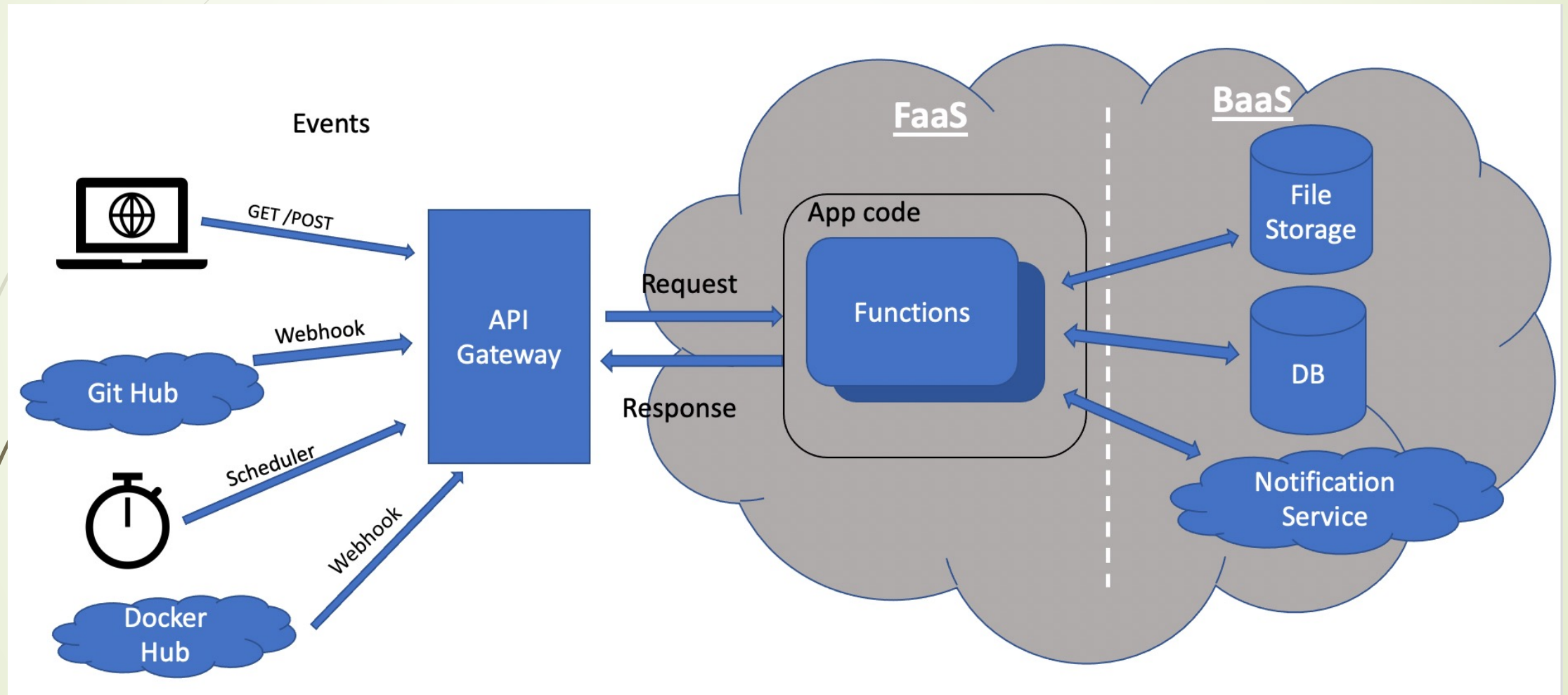
- Buzz word – introduced in 2012 by iron.io for their IronWorker product
- Serverless concept does not convey the literal meaning.
- Serverless represents the perspective of developer.
- Develop a program and launch it in cloud without worrying about infrastructure.
- ‘Pay-as-you-go’ billing model.
- Google App engine in 2008 and Amazon Lambda in 2014.
- ‘Serverless’ is a type of service architectures
 - ❖ Monolithic Architecture
 - ❖ Microservice Architecture
 - ❖ Serverless Architecture

Serverless Computing (contd.)

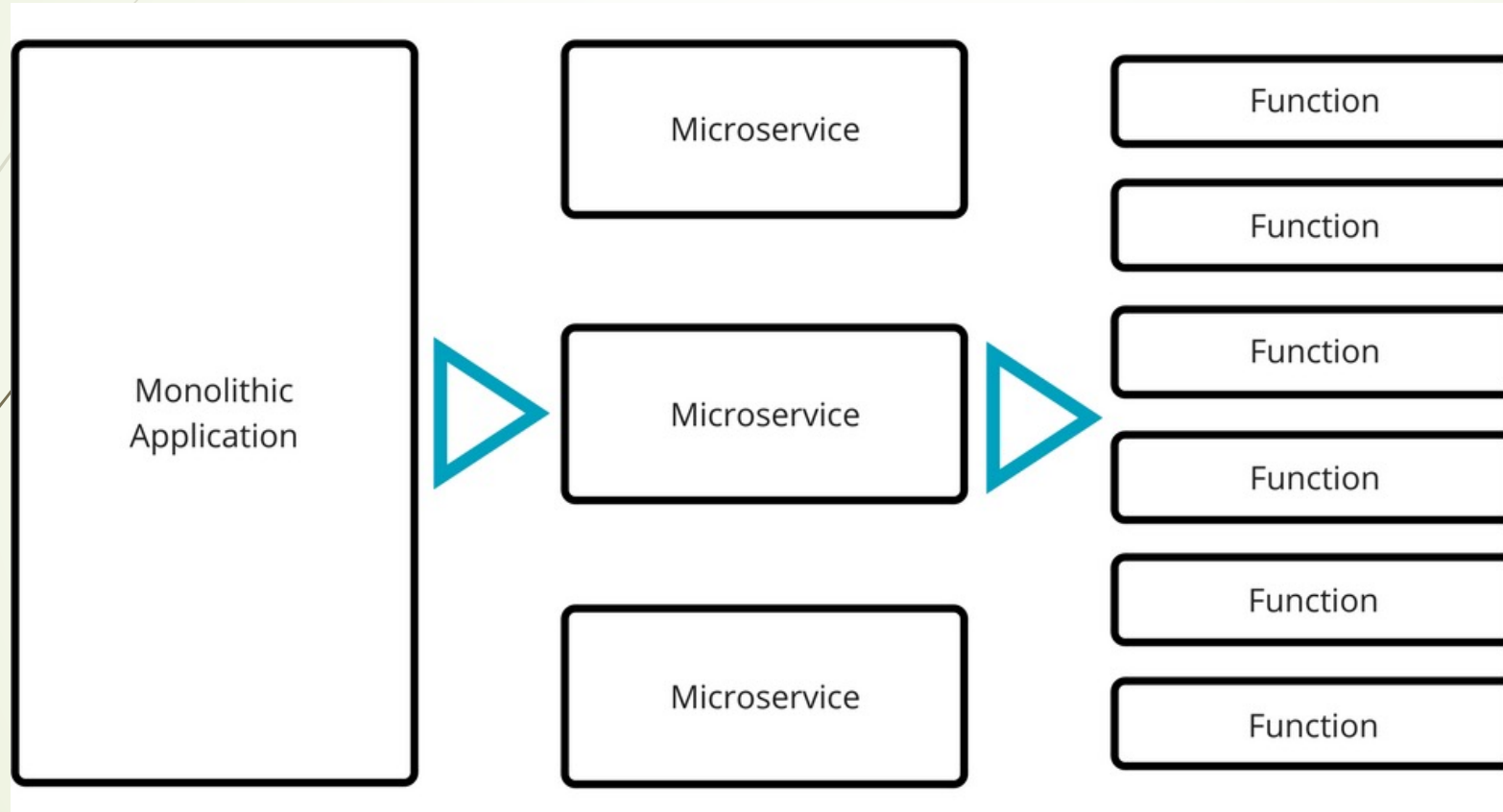
- Serverless resembles Platform as a Service (PaaS) model.
- CNCF (Cloud Native Computing Foundation) divides Serverless into two computing models.
 - ❖ Backend as a Service (BaaS)
 - ❖ Function as a Service (FaaS)
- Serverless model fits between PaaS and SaaS in the cloud computing chart.



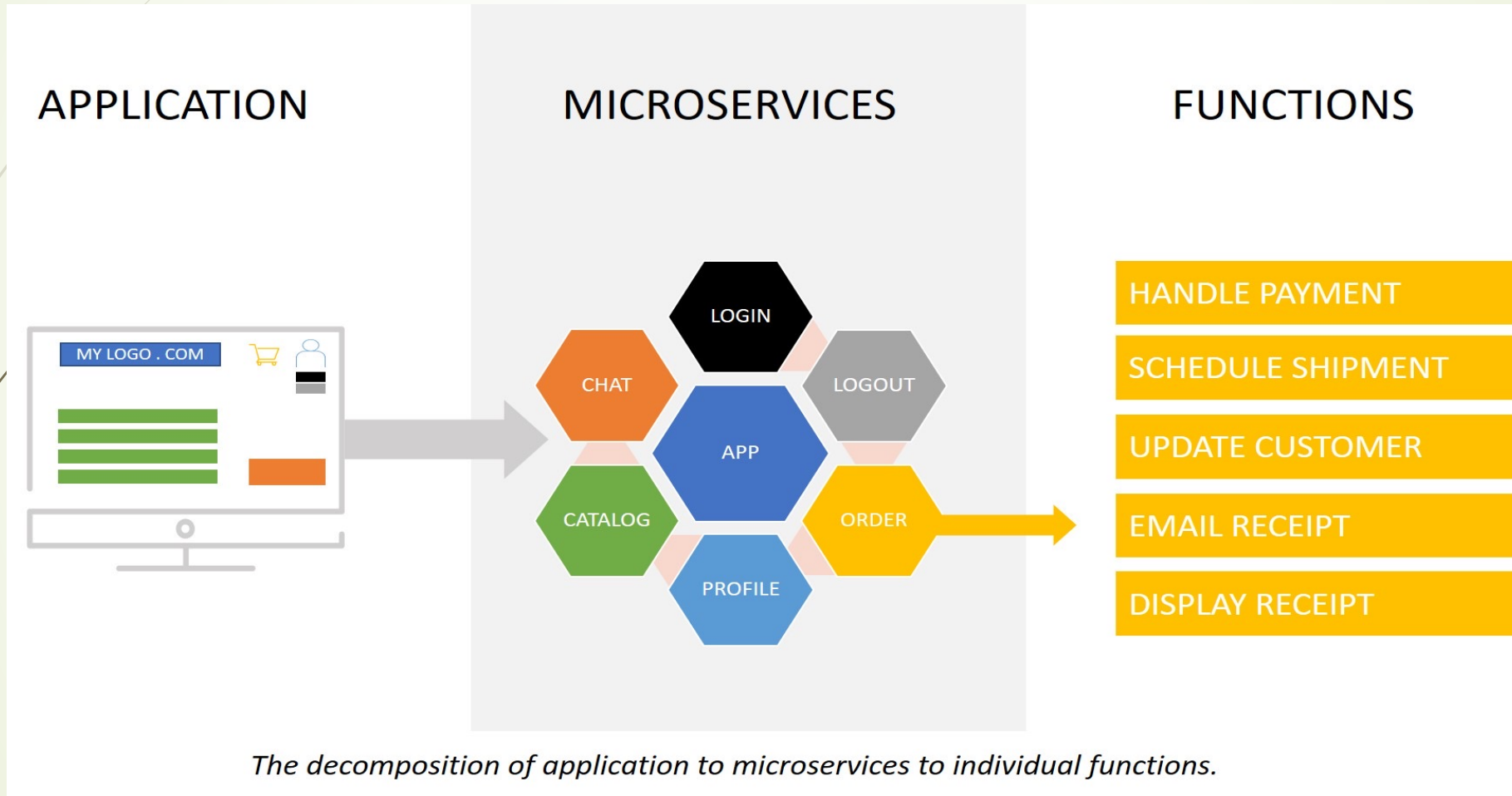
Serverless Computing – Event driven architecture



Comparing service architectures

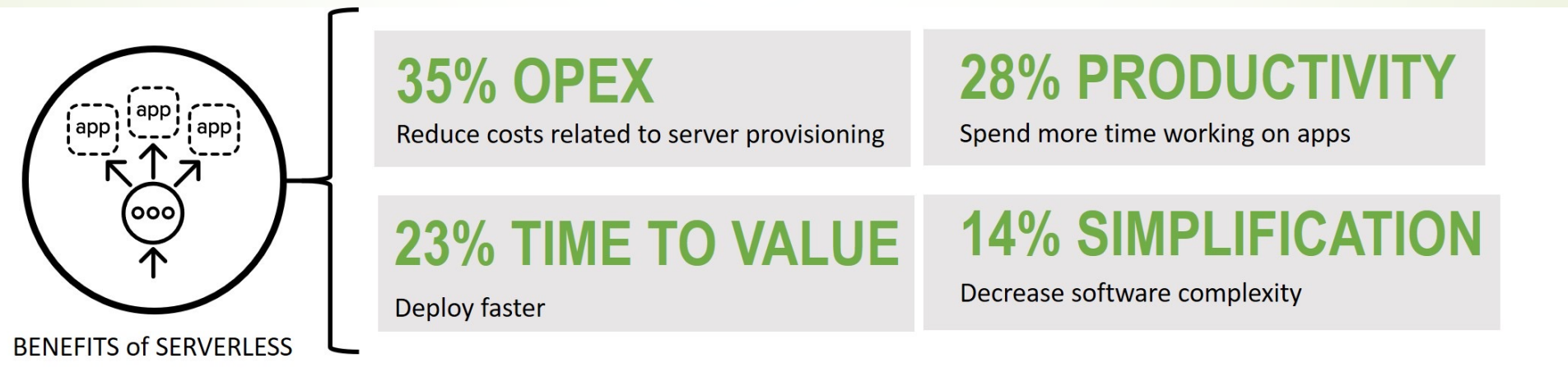



Comparing service architectures (contd.)



Benefits of Serverless models

- Pay-as-you-go model saves cost.
- No operations and infrastructure cost.
- Supports autoscaling
- Developers get more time to code
- Fast and independent deployment





Challenges with serverless models

- ▶ Testing and debugging
- ▶ Not suitable for long-running processes
- ▶ Startup latency or Cold start
- ▶ Vendor lock-in
- ▶ Security concerns with multi-tenant servers



Use cases

- ▶ Multimedia Processing
- ▶ Database changes
- ▶ IoT sensor input messages
- ▶ Large-scale data stream processing
- ▶ Chat bots
- ▶ Batch jobs & scheduled tasks
- ▶ HTTP REST APIs and web apps
- ▶ Mobile back-ends
- ▶ Business logic
- ▶ Continuous integration pipeline



Serverless providers

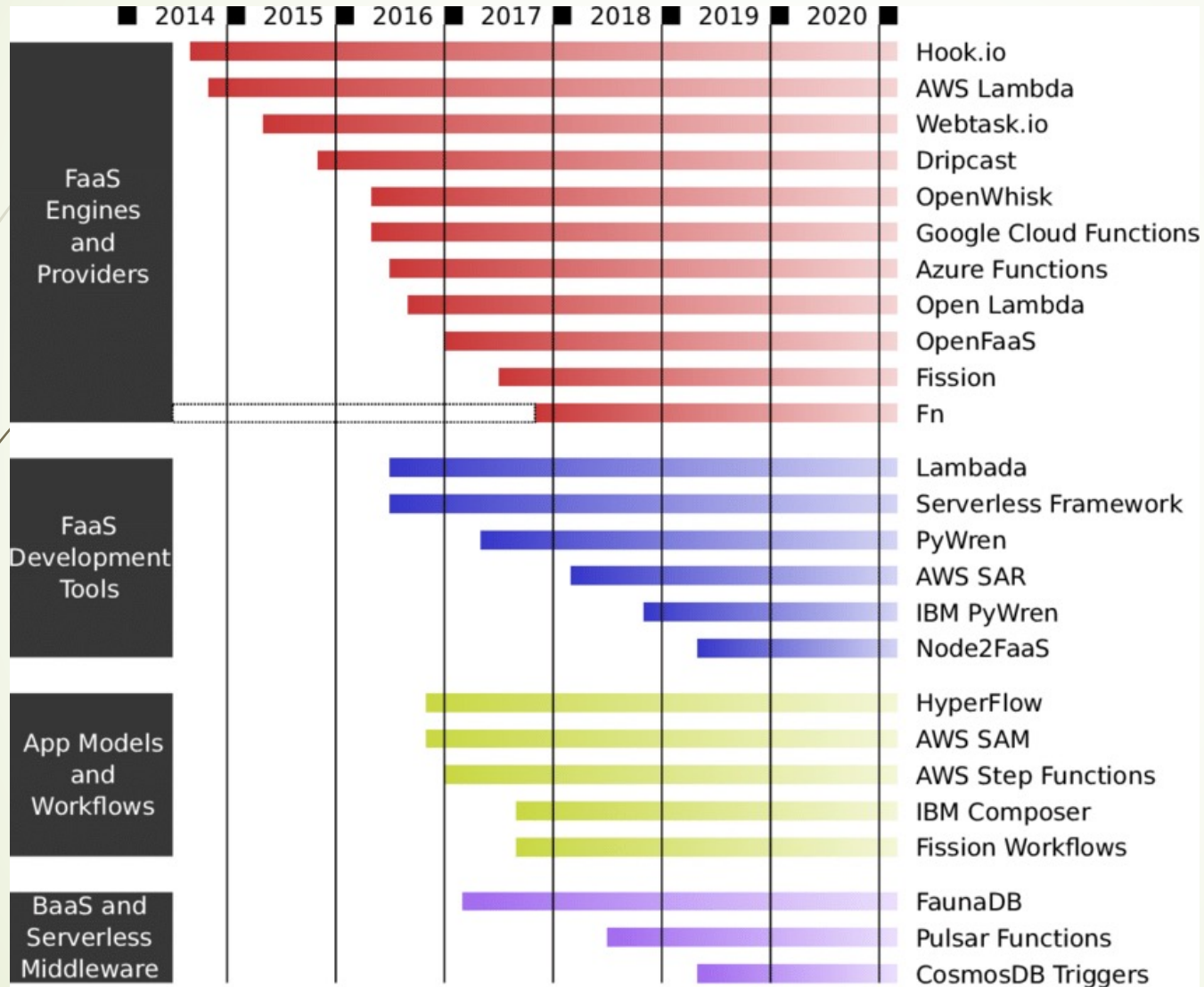
➤ Commercial providers

- ❖ AWS Lambda
- ❖ Azure Functions
- ❖ Google cloud functions
- ❖ IBM Cloud Functions

➤ Open-source providers

- ❖ OpenFaaS
- ❖ OpenWhisk
- ❖ Fission
- ❖ Kubeless
- ❖ Knative

Growth of serverless ecosystem





Conclusion

➤ What we have learnt

- ❖ Evolution of Cloud computing
- ❖ Fundamentals of Serverless computing
- ❖ Serverless providers

➤ What to expect next week

- ❖ Open-source serverless platforms
- ❖ Serverless web application on OpenFaaS demo
- ❖ Create and deploy a sample function using OpenFaaS platform

References

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