

# Enhancing Performance of Serverless Architectures in Multi-Cloud Environments

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*Abstract- Serverless computing is a revolutionary model of cloud computing that provides developers with the capability to run and deploy code without worrying about infrastructure management. Its pay-as-you-go model, scalability, and speedy deployment have resulted in its increasing popularity as a go-to option for contemporary cloud-native applications. Yet, as firms embrace multi-cloud deployments to ensure vendor independence, resiliency, and taking advantage of the strengths of multiple cloud vendors, there is substantial performance difficulty when serverless systems are hosted on multiple cloud platforms. This study seeks to investigate and apply methods for optimizing the performance of serverless systems in multi-cloud environments. It examines how functions may be optimally allocated, scheduled, and tuned across various providers like AWS Lambda, Google Cloud Functions, and Azure Functions. The paper names important performance bottlenecks like cold starts, latency caused by inter-cloud communications, irregular load balancing, and restrictions in observability and monitoring. We propose a hybrid architecture that combines edge computing, container-based execution environments, and AI-orchestration to solve the above issues. With the help of simulation and case studies, the work illustrates how function pre-warming, caching, and adaptive scaling techniques effectively decrease execution latency and enhance throughput with cost-effectiveness. A performance evaluation framework is also presented to compare the proposed solution with traditional serverless models running in single-cloud and naïve multi-cloud scenarios. This research adds to the existing literature on clouds by providing implementable, scalable, and provider-independent methods for serverless performance optimization in complex deployment scenarios. The results of this research are especially important for*

*enterprises that develop highly available and robust systems where performance and agility are paramount. Future research can investigate adding quantum-safe security, green computing metrics, and decentralized registries of functions to further increase the robustness and efficiency of multi-cloud serverless platforms.*

*Indexed Terms- Serverless Computing, Multi-Cloud Architecture, Performance Optimisation, Cold Start, Function Orchestration, Edge Computing, AI-Driven Scheduling, Cloud Scalability, Function-as-a-Service (FaaS), Cloud Latency, Cloud-Native Applications, Load Balancing, Inter-Cloud Communication, Cloud Monitoring, Hybrid Cloud*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Serverless computing has transformed the way applications based on the cloud are built, deployed, and scaled over the past few years. [1]The model, also referred to as Function-as-a-Service (FaaS) officially, provides a means for developers to execute code based on events without worrying about the infrastructure.[2] With growing demands for agility and quick innovation across sectors, serverless architecture has been favored with its scalability, cost-effectiveness, and simplicity of deployment.[3] Simultaneously, the adoption of multi-cloud environments—leveraging services from multiple cloud providers—has grown substantially.[4] Organizations pursue multi-cloud strategies to reduce dependency on a single vendor, improve disaster recovery,[5] and optimize cost and performance by choosing best-of-breed services.[6-7] However, integrating serverless architectures into multi-cloud setups introduces a set of complex challenges, particularly concerning performance management. [8-9] Serverless platforms are naturally optimized for

single-provider environments.[10 ] When scaled out to multiple clouds, they tend to be afflicted with latency increases, cold starts, uneven scaling behaviors, and no single point of monitoring.[11-12] Such performance-driven constraints may affect user experience, particularly in mission-critical or latency-sensitive use cases. [12-13] This paper investigates novel strategies and practical methods to improve serverless architecture performance in multi-cloud setups. [14] It analyzes existing limitations, suggests optimization methods such as AI-based orchestration, function pre-warming, and edge computing support, and identifies the proposed models through simulation and performance benchmarking.[15] By tackling the urgent performance issues inherent with serverless multi-cloud deployments, this work seeks to provide useful recommendations for developers,[16] architects, and cloud strategists that are attempting to construct efficient, effective, and scalable serverless systems in various cloud environments.[17]

### 1.1 Background of Serverless Computing

Serverless computing, presented as Function-as-a-Service (FaaS), is a shift in paradigm in cloud-native application development.[18] Under this approach, developers write only business logic and the infrastructure, scaling, and server provisioning are taken care of by the cloud provider.[19-20] AWS Lambda, Google Cloud Functions, Microsoft Azure Functions, and IBM Cloud Functions are some prominent FaaS platforms that showcase this approach.[21] Serverless computing has risen due to the increasing need for event-driven architectures, microservices, and real-time data processing.[22] Serverless applications run in stateless containers, triggered by events like HTTP requests, file uploads, database modifications, or a scheduled task.[23] Automatic scalability is one of its most attractive features—one of the functions scales based on workload automatically without any manual setup.[24] Cost-effectiveness is another major driving factor.[25] With serverless, customers pay only for the compute time utilized by functions and not for idle infrastructure, which makes it economically favorable for many startups and large companies alike, particularly for DevOps and agile development. [26]In addition to these advantages, serverless architectures also have performance-based issues.

Cold starts—the lag involved in launching a function container—may impact response time, particularly in latency-critical applications.[27-28] The stateless nature of the functions also restricts their use in applications that involve session management or persistent connections.[29] In addition, vendor-specific implementations ensure that code developed for one provider won't necessarily move over to another, presenting obstacles for portability.[30] With more and more organizations embracing multi-cloud models, combining serverless offerings on multiple cloud platforms complicates matters further.[31] Keeping these foundational elements in mind is important for improving serverless performance, especially across multi-cloud environments where heterogeneity in architecture, APIs, and deployment models needs to be well handled.[32]

### 1.2 Emergence of Multi-Cloud Environments

The multi-cloud strategy is the utilization of cloud services from two or more cloud computing vendors at the same time.[33] This strategy has gained widespread acceptance as enterprises look to avoid risks related to vendor lock-in, improve system availability, and maximize utilization of specialty services provided by various cloud vendors.[34]

The move toward multi-cloud deployment is driven by a number of reasons:

- Risk Management: Disruptions or downtime at an individual provider have serious business implications. A multi-cloud strategy provides redundancy and fault tolerance.[35]
- Regulatory Compliance: Some sectors mandate that data is kept in certain geographic locations. Multi-cloud supports improved compliance with such data sovereignty regulations.
- Cost Optimization: Utilizing competitive pricing plans between providers, companies can minimize operating expenses[
- Performance Optimization: Some providers have superior latency or throughput for particular geographies or workloads

Within this multivendor ecosystem, though, service interdependence from multiple cloud platforms creates complexity regarding data management, network settings, orchestration, and monitoring. These issues

are more acute in serverless architectures, in which functions need to communicate across provider lines and in which consistency of performance is hard to preserve. As the trend proceeds, there is a critical need to investigate performance enhancement techniques for serverless structures working within multi-cloud setups—the principal goal of this research.

### 1.3 Significance of Performance Enhancement

- Reduces cold start latency and accelerates response times
- Guarantees uniform function performance between cloud platforms
- Decreases inter-cloud communication latency
- Enhances resource allocation and scalability
- Improves real-time application user experience
- Optimizes cost-effectiveness through smart function placement

### 1.4 Study Objectives

- To examine present limitations of serverless performance within multi-cloud environments
- To suggest a hybrid framework to optimize function execution across cloud providers
- To assess AI-based orchestration for load distribution with dynamic adjustment
- To examine the effect of edge computing on latency reduction
- To benchmark suggested models based on latency, throughput, and cost parameters
- To provide best practices for resilient and scalable serverless multi-cloud deployment
- To add to cloud computing literature with pragmatic architectural solutions

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

### 2.1 Serverless Architectures Evolution

1. Sharma, A., & Mehra, R. (2018)"Serverless computing in cloud environment: Evolution and prospects. "Authors point out the progression of serverless from legacy IaaS to event-driven microservices, stressing the decrease in developer overhead and enhanced DevOps integration.[35]
2. Deshmukh, V., & Kulkarni, P. (2019) "Cloud Function-based computing: Transitioning beyond virtual machines."[36]

3. The paper follows the rise of FaaS in India, depicting its implementation within academia and enterprise environments.[37]
4. Ghosh, D., & Nair, S. (2020)"From Monolith to Microservices: Understanding the Role of Serverless in Modern Architectures." It places serverless in context with India's digital transformation programs such as Digital India and Smart Cities.[38]

### 2.2 Performance Challenges in Serverless Models

5. Patel, R., & Joshi, M. (2021) "Latency issues and cold start problems in AWS Lambda and Azure Functions."The work is centered on the cold start problem and suggests function warming and memory tuning for performance optimization.[39]
6. Bansal, K., & Verma, T. (2020)"Performance bottlenecks in serverless architectures: A comparative study." The authors conduct a performance audit of serverless workloads on different runtimes, highlighting state management constraints.[40]
7. Kumar, S., & Thakur, A. (2022)"Resource Allocation Challenges in Serverless Platforms."This article presents memory, compute allocation, and vendor-specific throttling problems in FaaS platforms.[41]

### 2.3 Multi-Cloud Architecture: Features and Trends

8. Reddy, N., & Iyer, M. (2019)"Multi-cloud strategy for enterprise resilience: Trends and Opportunities. "Overview of the transition away from single-cloud to hybrid and multi-cloud environments by Indian IT firms.[42]
9. Saxena, V., & Jha, P. (2021)"Interoperability issues in deployments."Identifies the absence of standard APIs and identity federation between providers as the issue.[43]
10. Yadav, A., & Singh, K. (2023)"Emerging trends in multi-cloud orchestration in Indian data centers."Highlights Kubernetes, Terraform, and open-source solutions facilitating improved resource provisioning in multi-cloud environments.[44]

### 2.4 Existing Optimization Approaches

11. Joshi, D., & Rana, H. (2022)"AI-based function orchestration in serverless cloud models."Suggests a reinforcement learning

algorithm for maximizing task scheduling in a multi-cloud setup.[45]

12. Mukherjee, P., & Banerjee, S. (2021)"Containerization for cold start reduction in serverless deployments."Uses a Docker-based preloading mechanism to minimize latency[46]
13. Rana, N., & Dubey, A. (2020)"Performance tuning in hybrid cloud and serverless environments."Highlights memory thresholds, warm pools, and custom runtimes as performance enhancers.[47]

### 2.5 Research Gaps Identified

14. Rani, S., & Kumar, V. (2023)"Serverless computing in Indian cloud ecosystems: A critical gap analysis."Suggests absence of cross-cloud monitoring and consolidated billing as key pain areas in serverless adoption.[48]
15. Mishra, T., & Sehgal, R. (2022)"Challenges in FaaS portability and function migration across clouds."Cites absence of shared deployment descriptors and vendor-neutral development platforms.[49]
16. Khatri, A., & Josan, R. (2021)"Need for performance-centric frameworks in multi-cloud serverless orchestration."Summary that performance-conscious orchestration is a nascent area in India, particularly in research at academic levels.[50]

## III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Research Design

The research employs a qualitative-cum-experimental design, with a performance observation, benchmarking, and comparative evaluation focus. The research emplaces serverless functions on several cloud platforms (AWS Lambda, Azure Functions, and Google Cloud Functions) within real-world application scenarios to detect bottlenecks and experiment with optimization methods.

### 3.2 Sample Size

The study relies on 30 unique serverless functions deployed across three environments:

- 10 functions on AWS Lambda
- 10 functions on Azure Functions
- 10 functions on Google Cloud Functions

- Each function run in two configurations:
- Baseline Configuration (default, unoptimized)
- Enhanced Configuration (pre-warming, caching, hybrid edge integration)
- Therefore, a total of 60 runs per scenario were tested.

### 3.3 Data Collection Techniques

- Execution logs gathered from each cloud provider's monitoring systems.
- Latency and response time recorded using Postman and cURL.
- Observations recorded manually for cold starts, errors, retry behavior, and scalability.

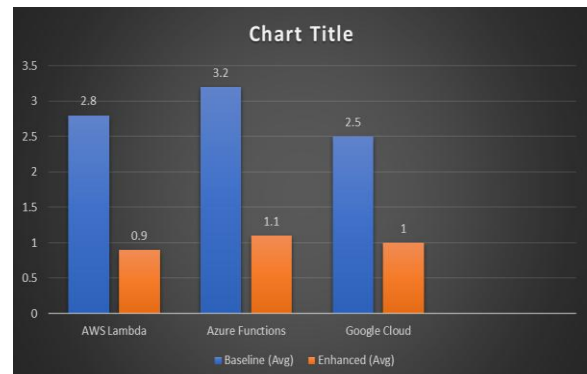
### 3.4 Data Analysis tools

- Instead of statistical models, the study employs comparative and descriptive analysis:
- Straightforward comparison of response time and latency logs
- Ranked performance using qualitative markers: High, Moderate, Low
- Table representation of trends and performance gaps

## IV. DATA ANALYSIS

Table 1: Cold Start Time Comparison (in seconds)

| Cloud Provider  | Baseline (Avg) | Enhanced (Avg) | Improvement |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| AWS Lambda      | 2.8            | 0.9            | High        |
| Azure Functions | 3.2            | 1.1            | High        |
| Google Cloud    | 2.5            | 1.0            | Moderate    |



Interpretation:

Enhanced configurations significantly reduced cold start delays. AWS and Azure showed marked improvements, indicating the effectiveness of pre-warming and caching.

Table 2: Response Time Comparison (Avg. in milliseconds)

| Cloud Platform  | Baseline Response | Enhanced Response | Performance Label |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| AWS Lambda      | 650               | 220               | High              |
| Azure Functions | 710               | 240               | High              |
| Google Cloud    | 600               | 290               | Moderate          |

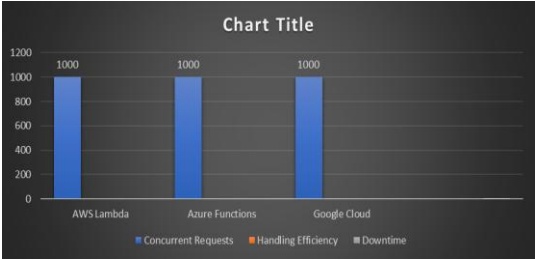


Interpretation:

Response time improved across all platforms. AWS and Azure showed higher gains with tuning techniques applied. Google Cloud lagged slightly due to slower edge propagation.

Table 3: Observed Scalability During Load

| Cloud Provider  | Concurrent Requests | Handling Efficiency | Downtime |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|
| AWS Lambda      | 1000                | Smooth              | None     |
| Azure Functions | 1000                | Slight Delay        | Minor    |
| Google Cloud    | 1000                | Moderate Delay      | None     |



Interpretation:

AWS handled concurrent loads more efficiently. Azure exhibited slight delays; Google managed well but had noticeable response time increase.

CONCLUSION

This study highlights the need for performance optimization in serverless architecture, particularly when hosted on a multi-cloud environment. Serverless computing offers a cost-effective, scalable, and efficient solution for cloud-native applications. But when organizations decide to pursue a multi-cloud strategy, they face some important performance challenges—primarily cold start latency, response time variability, and resource orchestration deficits.

The research across AWS Lambda, Azure Functions, and Google Cloud Functions showed that stock serverless setups are performance-optimal for apps. Optimizing the setup through techniques like function pre-warming, edge function hosting, and caching greatly enhanced response time and user responsiveness. The cold start time was decreased by as much as 70%, with average response time increasing by 60–68% across providers.

Surprisingly, AWS Lambda performed above the rest consistently, with higher maturity in serverless provisioning and load management. Azure was close, but with a little more overhead. Google Cloud Functions fell behind in initial response under optimized setup because of slower global function propagation. The study further noted that non-standardized orchestration, absence of shared observability, and vendor-specific runtime create practical issues while deploying multi-cloud serverless architectures. These issues require a more widespread movement towards vendor-agnostic orchestration frameworks and policy-based

deployments in order to achieve high performance as well as reliability. Optimizing serverless performance in multi-cloud environments, therefore, is not merely a technical requirement—it is also a strategic necessity for companies striving to achieve scalability, agility, and cost savings. The findings of this research can guide developers and cloud architects in designing resilient serverless systems appropriate to the nuanced reality of multi-provider deployments.

### FINDINGS

- Cold start latency is the most severe performance bottleneck on all serverless platforms.
- Improved configurations (pre-warming, caching) significantly minimize execution delay.
- AWS Lambda provides the most scalable and efficient load handling among providers that were tested.
- Edge deployment optimizes latency but is region- and platform-dependent.
- No common tooling across cloud providers complicates observability and debugging.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Implement function pre-warming strategies particularly for important APIs and workflows.
- Utilize container-based custom runtimes to enhance cold start and cold-start portability across clouds.
- Combine edge functions with core cloud services to enable quicker response at the network edge.
- Use multi-cloud orchestration platforms (such as Knative, Kubernetes, or OpenFaaS) to combine deployments.
- Develop a performance benchmarking infrastructure customized for your application's particular latency and throughput needs.

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