AGGREGATING DATA ACROSS DEVICES FOR IOT CENTRAL

Using Node.js to query a database, aggregate data and send data back to IoT Central

Abstract

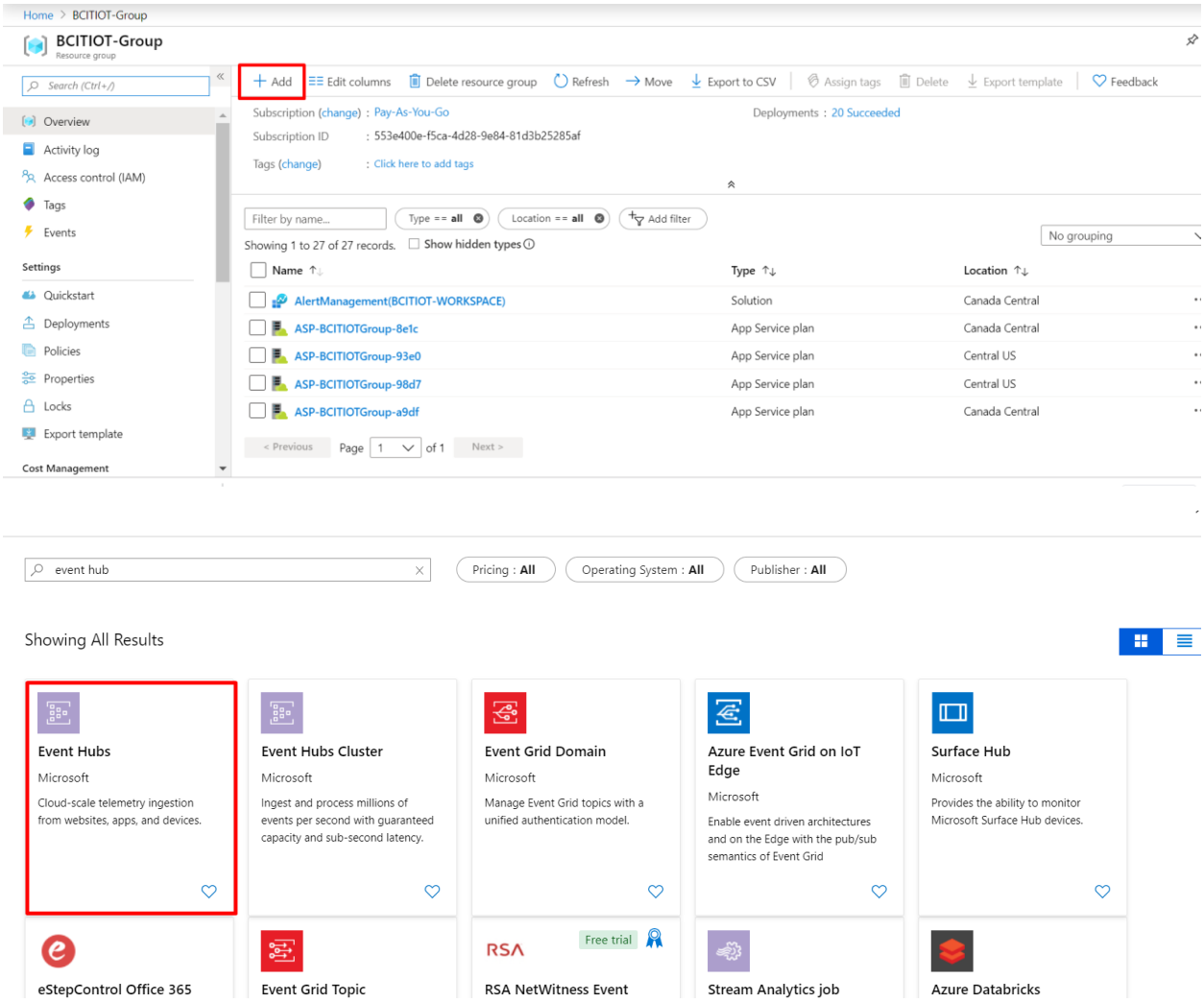
Azure's IoT Central platform currently has a 1-widget-to-1-device limitation. When thinking of use cases, sometimes you will need to aggregate device information for display on a widget. This document shows you how to do just that.

Justin Cervantes

Cervantes.jfa@gmail.com

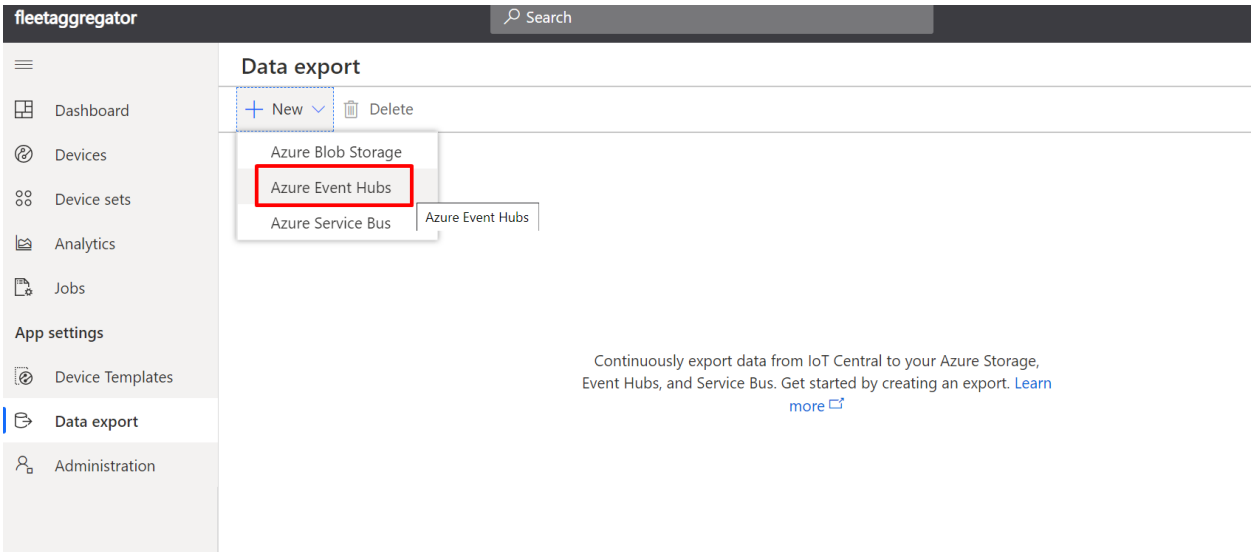
Exporting all data sent to IoT Central into a Cosmos DB (SQL-like database)

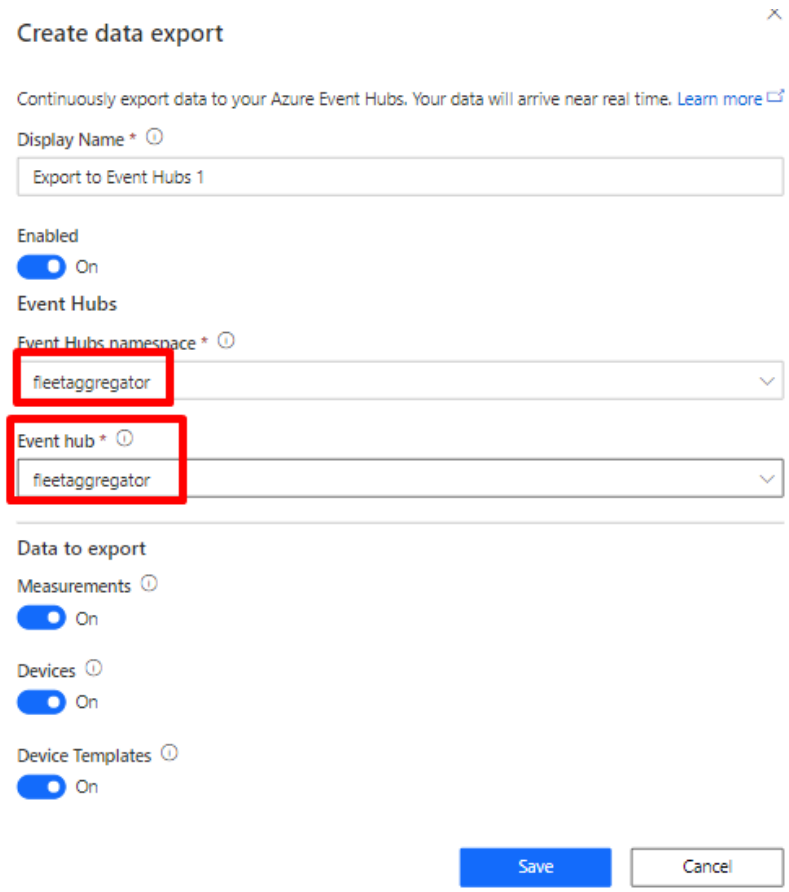
Get an Event Hub



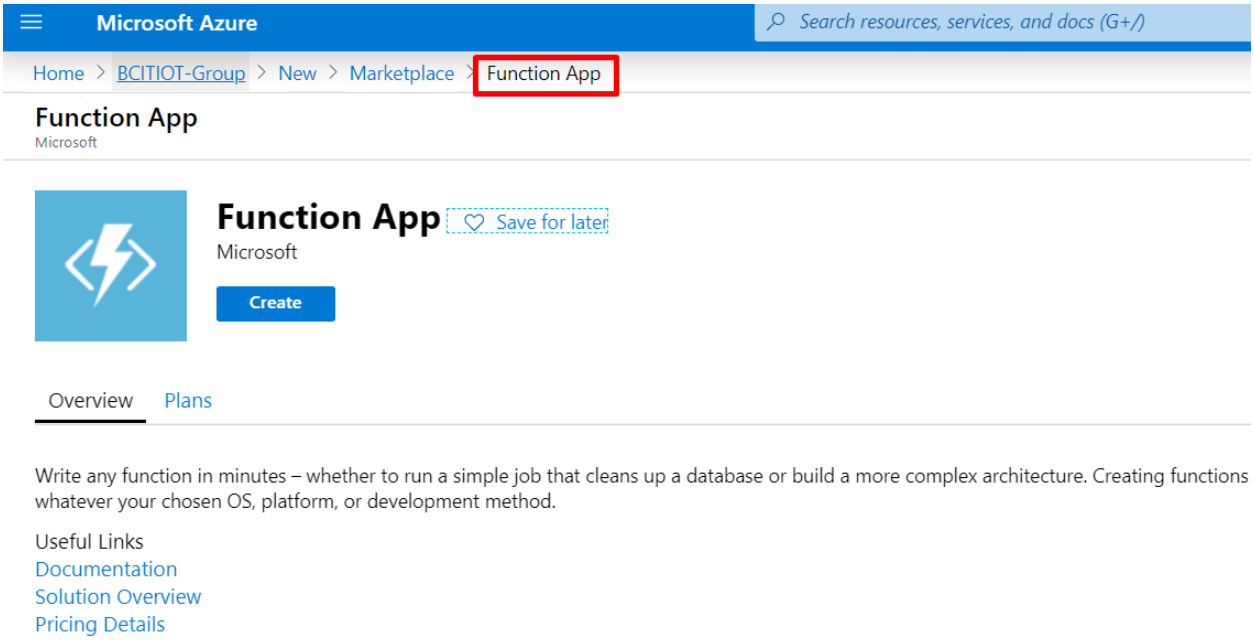
Follow the default prompts to build the event hub namespace and event hub.

Start exporting your data to the Event Hubs you just made

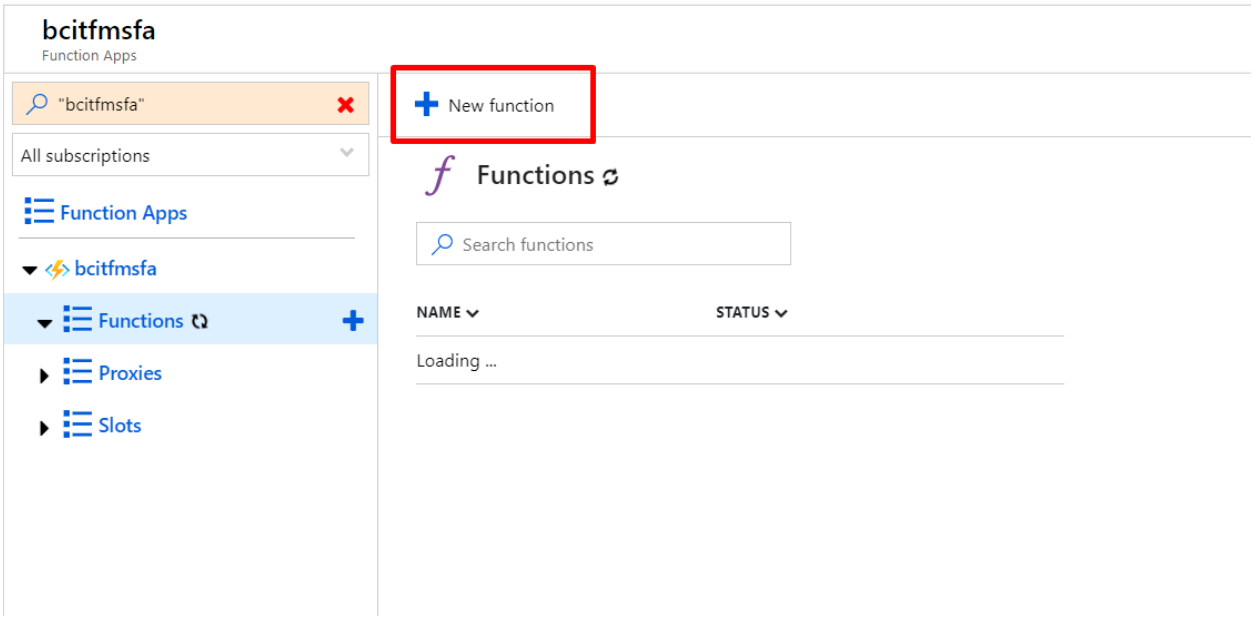




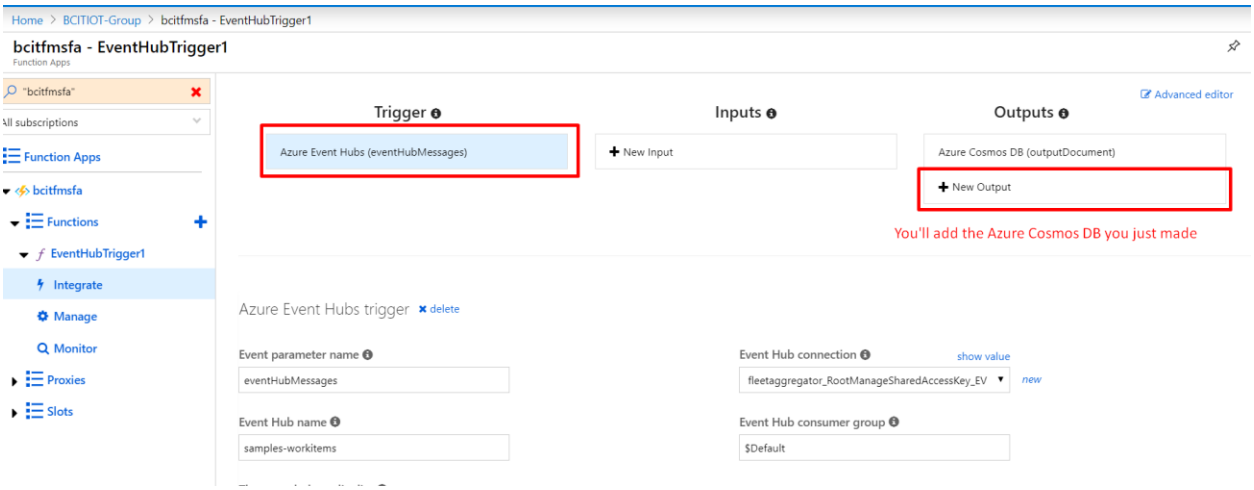
Get a FunctionApp service



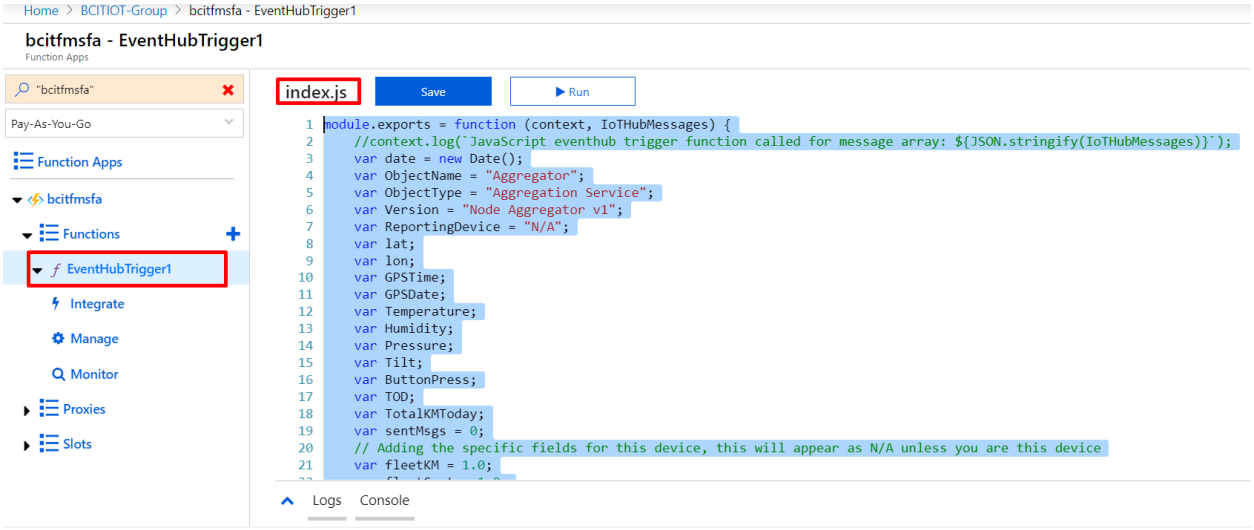
Build a new function…



Integrate the input trigger and the output binding (where to store the data)



Update the function you just made to match your input data and what you want to store in the database…



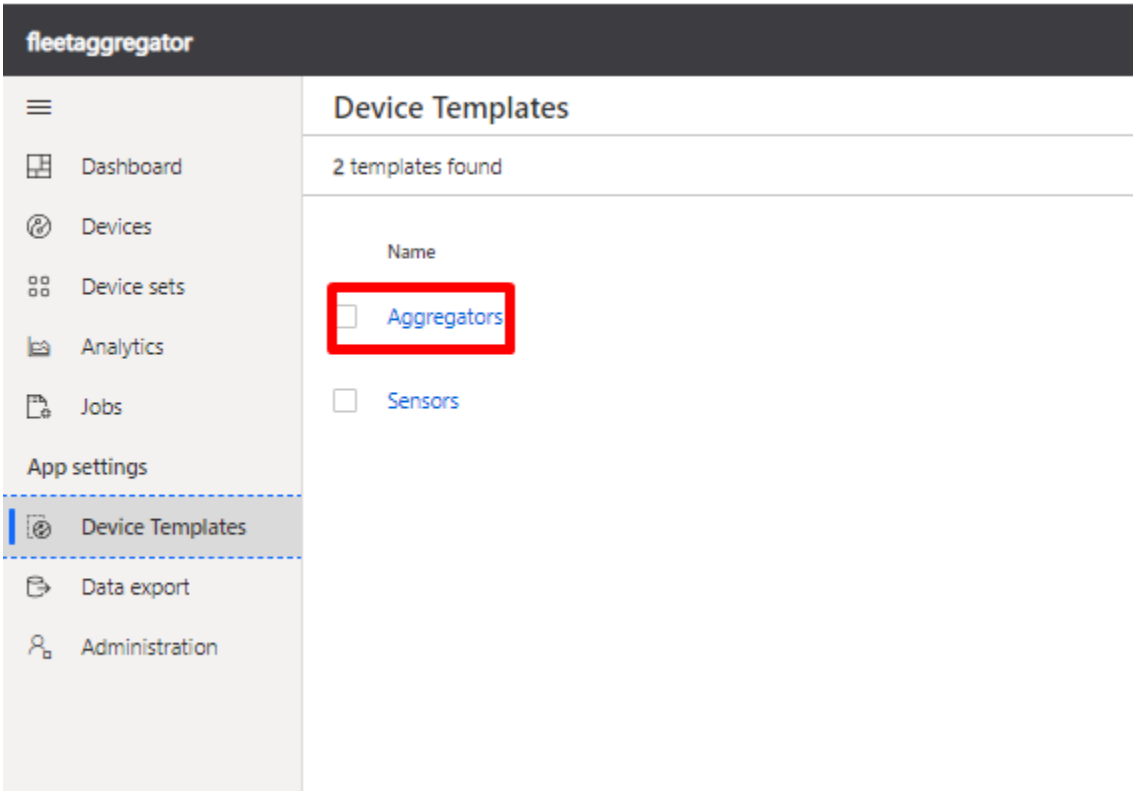
Here's an example which expects parameters like Humidity, Temperature, Location, TotalKMToday, etc. and stores them into the database specified :

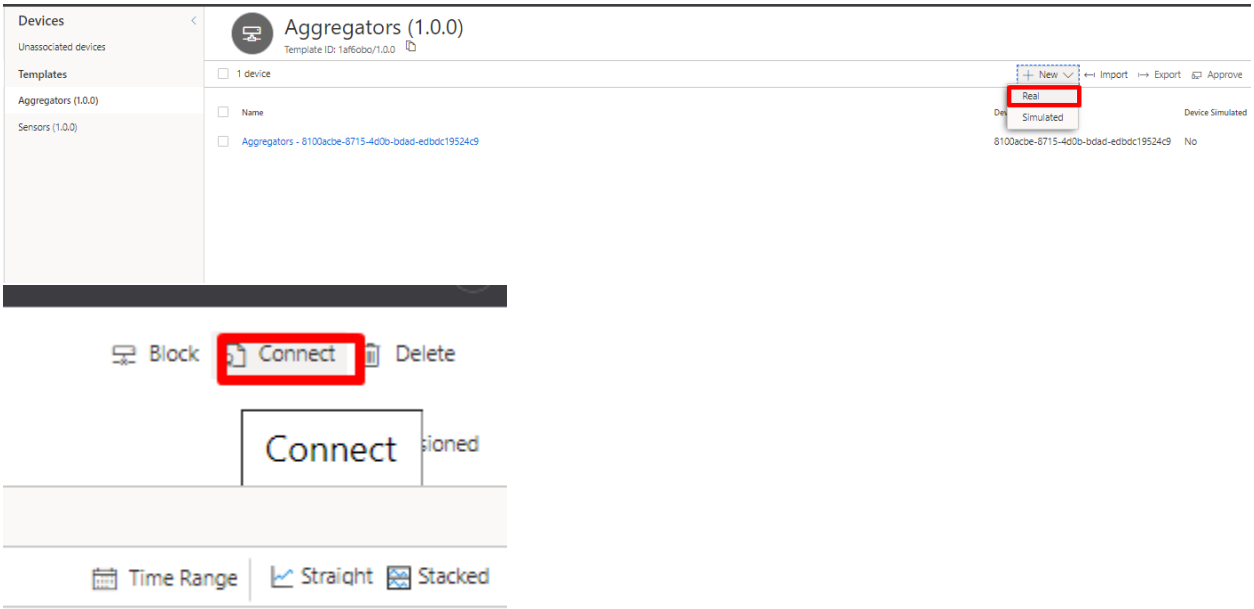
```
module.exports = function (context, IoTHubMessages) {
    //context.log(`JavaScript eventhub trigger function called for message array: ${JSON.stringify(IoTHubMessages)}`);
    var date = new Date();
    var ObjectName = "Aggregator";
    var ObjectType = "Aggregation Service";
    var Version = "Node Aggregator v1";
    var ReportingDevice = "N/A";
    var lat;
    var lon;
```

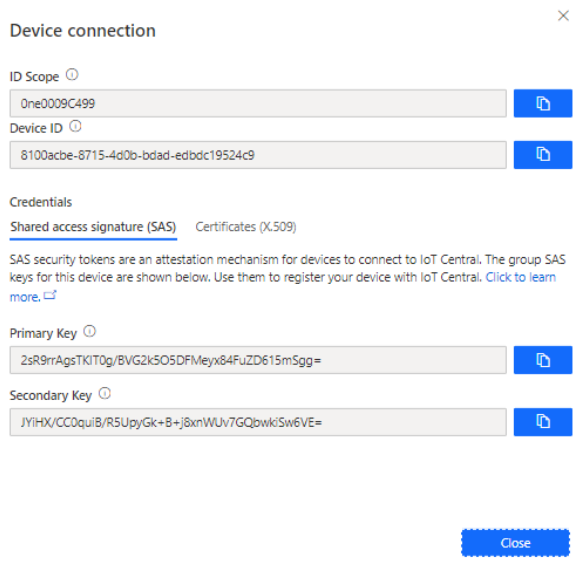
```
    var GPSTime;
    var GPSDate;
    var Temperature;
    var Humidity;
    var Pressure;
    var Tilt;
    var ButtonPress;
    var TOD;
    var TotalKMToday;
    var sentMsgs = 0;
    // Adding the specific fields for this device, this will appear as N/A unless
you are this device
    var fleetKM = 1.0;
    var fleetCost = 1.0;

   IoTHubMessages.forEach(message => {
       context.log("Printing the raw message received...");
       context.log(JSON.stringify(message, null, 1));


        //context.log(`JavaScript eventhub trigger function called for message
array: ${JSON.stringify(IoTHubMessages)}`);
        ObjectName = message.ObjectName;
        ObjectType = message.ObjectType;
        Version = message.Version;
        ReportingDevice = message.ReportingDevice;
        lat = message.location["lat"];
        lon = message.location["lon"];
        GPSTime = message.GPSTime;
        GPSDate = message.GPSTime;
        Temperature = message.Temperature;
        Humidity = message.Humidity;
        Pressure = message.Pressure;
        Tilt = message.Tilt;
        ButtonPress = message.ButtonPress;
        TOD = new Date().toLocaleString();
        TotalKMToday = message.TotalKMToday;
        sentMsgs = message.sentMsgs;
        // Adding the specific fields for this device, this will appear as N/A
unless you are this device
        fleetKM = message.fleetKM;
        fleetCost = message.fleetCost;

    });

    var output = {

        "ObjectName": ObjectName,
        "ObjectType": ObjectType,
        "Version": Version,
```

```
        "ReportingDevice": ReportingDevice,
        "lat": lat,
        "lon": lon,
        "GPSTime": GPSTime,
        "GPSDate": GPSDate,
        "Temperature": Temperature,
        "Humidity": Humidity,
        "Pressure": Pressure,
        "Tilt": Tilt,
        "ButtonPress": ButtonPress,
        "TOD": TOD,
        "TotalKMToday": TotalKMToday,
        "sentMsgs": sentMsgs,
        "fleetKM" : fleetKM,
        "fleetCost" : fleetCost
    };

    //this will print your output object in a nicely formatted way:
       context.log(TOD);
       context.log(JSON.stringify(output, null, 1));

    context.bindings.outputDocument = JSON.stringify(output);

    context.done();
};
```

Provision a device to be the aggregator in IoT Central







Provision the device using the same method from the Azure "Configuring Device and Setting Up IoT Central" document. As a reminder, you'll need to run a command like: *dps-keygen -di:8100acbe-8715-4d0b-bdad-edbdc19524c9 -dk:2sR9rrAgsTKIT0g/BVG2k5O5DFMeyx84FuZD615mSgg= -si:0ne0009C499* in order to get your connection string. This connection string will be used to push data from the node service you'll create to fake being a device transmitting messages to IoT Central.

Make sure you create a widget which is made to receive data from the device!

Pull all the data you want via a Node.js service

Reference: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cosmos-db/sql-api-nodejs-get-started#SetupNode

*Please refer to the sample code provided to follow along.

Set up a node project with dependencies to work with Azure

```
PS C:\Users\cerva\Desktop\node> fsutil file createnew app.js 0
File C:\Users\cerva\Desktop\node\app.js is created
PS C:\Users\cerva\Desktop\node> fsutil file createnew config.js 0
File C:\Users\cerva\Desktop\node\config.js is created
PS C:\Users\cerva\Desktop\node> npm init -y
Wrote to C:\Users\cerva\Desktop\node\package.json:

{
  "name": "node",
  "version": "1.0.0",
  "description": "",
  "main": "app.js",
  "scripts": {
    "test": "echo \"Error: no test specified\" && exit 1"
  },
  "keywords": [],
  "author": "",
  "license": "ISC"
}


PS C:\Users\cerva\Desktop\node> npm install @azure/cosmos --save
npm notice created a lockfile as package-lock.json. You should commit this file.
npm WARN node@1.0.0 No description
npm WARN node@1.0.0 No repository field.

+ @azure/cosmos@3.5.1
added 33 packages from 27 contributors and audited 36 packages in 2.591s
found 0 vulnerabilities

PS C:\Users\cerva\Desktop\node> _
```

Note: Your commands might differ if in a Linux OS

1. Windows:
    - fsutil file createnew app.js 0
    - fsutil file createnew config.js 0
2. Linux/OS X:
    - touch app.js
    - touch config.js

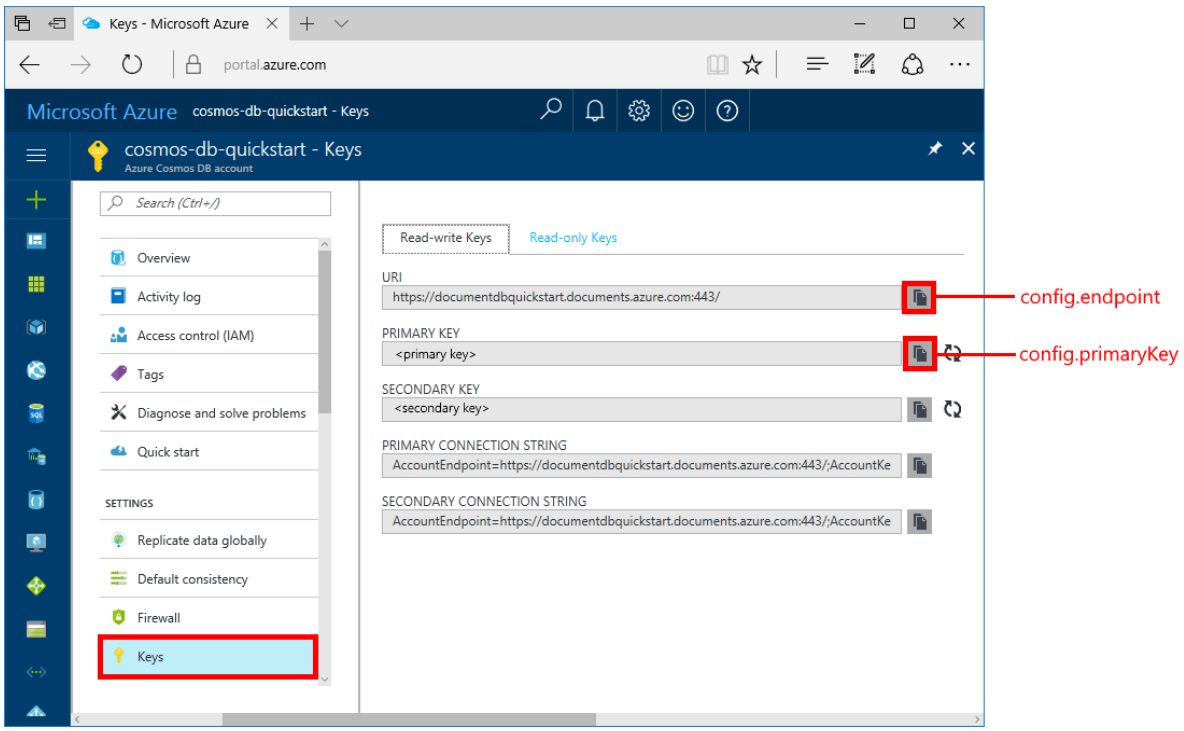
At the end of those 4 commands, you're file structure should look like this:

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
node_modules	2019-12-02 5:59 AM	File folder	
app	2019-12-02 5:59 AM	JavaScript File	0 KB
config	2019-12-02 5:59 AM	JavaScript File	0 KB
package	2019-12-02 5:59 AM	JSON File	1 KB
package-lock	2019-12-02 5:59 AM	JSON File	9 KB

Set your app's configurations

Now that your app exists, you need to make sure it can talk to Azure Cosmos DB. By updating a few configuration settings, as shown in the following steps, you can set your app to talk to Azure Cosmos DB:

1. Open config.js in your favorite text editor.
2. Copy and paste the code snippet below and set properties config.endpoint and config.key to your Azure Cosmos DB endpoint URI and primary key. Both these configurations can be found in the Azure portal.



Sample config.js connection strings and writing your aggregation code

```
var config = {}

config.endpoint = "https://fmscosmos.documents.azure.com:443/";
config.key =
"0QwJ7UK7BwDh9MJabChx8nei5aj8PKH0jFRTYLQAPyOx8l3bQCVDRnNL5jRgfcUKQDJ2Q5lfKq5P
taKwzhrjDg==";

config.database = {
  id: "outDatabase"
}

config.container = {
  id: "MyCollection"
}

config.items = {}

module.exports = config;
```

Sample app.js

Note: You'll need to input the details of the connection string of where you want to send the payload.

Below is a sample using the SQL API query…

```
//@ts-check
const CosmosClient = require('@azure/cosmos').CosmosClient
const config = require('./config')
const url = require('url')
const endpoint = config.endpoint
const key = config.key
const databaseId = config.database.id
const containerId = config.container.id
const partitionKey = { kind: 'Hash', paths: ['/Country'] }
const client = new CosmosClient({ endpoint, key })


/**
 * Application specific variables
 */
var nucleoboard2km;
var nucleoboard3km;
var date = new Date();

/**
 * Variables to make sure we transmit the same format as the other devices
 */

var ObjectName = "Aggregator";
```

```
var ObjectType = "Aggregation Service";
var Version = "Node Aggregator v1";
var ReportingDevice = "N/A";
var location = {
  "lat": "",
  "lon": ""
 };
var GPSTime = "N/A";
var GPSDate = "N/A";
var Temperature = "N/A";
var Humidity = "N/A";
var Pressure = "N/A";
var Tilt = "N/A";
var ButtonPress = "N/A";
var TOD = date.toLocaleString;
var TotalKMToday = "N/A";
var sentMsgs = 0;
// Adding the specific fields for this device, this will appear as N/A unless
you are this device
var fleetKM = 1.0;
var fleetCost = 1.0;

/**
 * Sending transmission code to move data to IoT Hub, this will get picked up
by the FunctionApp service
 * The method which actually handles the sending is in the aggregateKms
function
 */
var connectionString = 'HostName=iotc-000c0e58-
161c-4800-b262-e83ffb100c36.azure-
devices.net;DeviceId=8100acbe-8715-4d0b-bdad-
edbdc19524c9;SharedAccessKey=2sR9rrAgsTKIT0g/BVG
2k5O5DFMeyx84FuZD615mSgg=';

var Mqtt = require('azure-iot-device-mqtt').Mqtt;
var DeviceClient = require('azure-iot-device').Client
var Message = require('azure-iot-device').Message;
var clientSend = DeviceClient.fromConnectionString(connectionString, Mqtt);

/**
 * Create the database if it does not exist
 */
async function createDatabase() {
  const { database } = await client.databases.createIfNotExists({
    id: databaseId
  })
  //console.log(`Created database:\n${database.id}\n`)
}

/**
 * Read the database definition
 */
async function readDatabase() {
  const { resource: databaseDefinition } = await client
```

```
    .database(databaseId)
    .read()
  //console.log(`Reading database:\n${databaseDefinition.id}\n`)
}

/**
 * Create the container if it does not exist
 */
async function createContainer() {
  const { container } = await client
    .database(databaseId)
    .containers.createIfNotExists(
      { id: containerId, partitionKey },
      { offerThroughput: 400 }
    )
  //console.log(`Created container:\n${config.container.id}\n`)
}

/**
 * Read the container definition
 */
async function readContainer() {
  const { resource: containerDefinition } = await client
    .database(databaseId)
    .container(containerId)
    .read()
  //console.log(`Reading container:\n${containerDefinition.id}\n`)
}


/**
 * Cleanup the database and collection on completion
 */
async function cleanup() {
  await client.database(databaseId).delete()
}

/**
 * Exit the app with a prompt
 * @param {string} message - The message to display
 */
function exit(message) {
  console.log(message)
  console.log('Press any key to exit')
  process.stdin.setRawMode(true)
  process.stdin.resume()
  process.stdin.on('data', process.exit.bind(process, 0))
}
```

Sample Query Functions

```
/**
 * Calls for the latest transmission received from device NUCLEOBOARD2
 */
```

```
async function executeQuery1() {
    console.log();

    const { resources: results } = await client
    .database(databaseId)
    .container(containerId)
    .items.query('SELECT TOP 1 r.ObjectName, r.TotalKMToday, r._ts FROM root
r WHERE r.ObjectName = "NUCLEOBOARD2"  ORDER BY r._ts DESC')
    .fetchAll();

    console.log(results);
    nucleoboard2km = results[0]["TotalKMToday"];

}


/**
 * Calls for the latest transmission received from device NUCLEOBOARD3
 */
async function executeQuery2() {

    const { resources: results } = await client
        .database(databaseId)
        .container(containerId)
        .items.query('SELECT TOP 1 r.ObjectName, r.TotalKMToday, r._ts FROM
root r WHERE r.ObjectName = "NUCLEOBOARD3"  ORDER BY r._ts DESC')
        .fetchAll();


    console.log(results);
    nucleoboard3km = (results[0]["TotalKMToday"]);
    console.log();

}


/**
 * This function takes the totalKMs for each device, and adds them together
 * and stores them in variable totalKM. Then, the message is sent.
 */
function aggregateKms () {

    // This manages message sending
    setInterval(function(){
    // Simulate telemetry.
        sentMsgs++;
        executeQuery1();
        executeQuery2();
        fleetKM = parseFloat(nucleoboard2km) +
parseFloat(nucleoboard3km) * 1000; // This is
where we aggregate!
        fleetCost = fleetKM * .54;
        var message = new Message(JSON.stringify({
            ObjectName : ObjectName,
            ObjectType : ObjectType,
```

```
            Version : Version,
            ReportingDevice : ReportingDevice,
            location : location,
            GPSTime : GPSTime,
            GPSDate : GPSDate,
            Temperature : Temperature,
            Humidity : Humidity,
            Pressure : Pressure,
            Tilt : Tilt,
            ButtonPress : ButtonPress,
            TOD : new Date().toLocaleString(),
            TotalKMToday : TotalKMToday,
            sentMsgs : sentMsgs,
            fleetKM : fleetKM,
            fleetCost : fleetCost
        }));

        console.log('Sending message: ' + message.getData());

        // Send the message.
        clientSend.sendEvent(message, function (err) {
            if (err) {
                console.error('send error: ' + err.toString());
            } else {
                console.log("Message sent at: " + new
Date().toLocaleString());
            }
            });
    }, 3000); // Sends every 3000ms
}



/**
 * This drives the program and queries the devices, but will enter a
setInterval
 * loop at aggregateKms which runs the transmission every 15000ms
 */
createDatabase()
  .then(() => readDatabase())
  .then(() => createContainer())
  .then(() => readContainer())
  .then(() => aggregateKms())
  .then(() => {
    exit(`Completed successfully - transmission reports will display as they
are sent...`)
  })
  .catch(error => {
    exit(`Completed with error ${JSON.stringify(error)}`)
})
```

Run the service

You can now run the service by using your CLI, just run “node app.js” and the service should begin transmitting as a fake device which is aggregating data!