



1STRATEGY SERVERLESS ARCHITECTURE WORKSHOP

These are the work instructions that parallel the Serverless Architectures presentation materials

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PURPOSE

Purpose

The purpose of this training is to have users walk away with a working prototype of a Serverless Application on AWS using Lambda, Step Functions, API Gateway, SNS, SQS, and DynamoDB.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The intended audience for training is people who are interested in understanding and building “Serverless” applications. To be successful, attendees should have some understanding of or experience with:

- Writing code
- Application Architecture
- General AWS Services (IAM)

SET UP

Set Up

TRAINING ACCOUNT ACCESS

You should have received an email with credentials to the 1Strategy Training Account. If you haven't received these credentials, send an email to Training@1strategy.com.

LOG INTO THE TRAINING ACCOUNT

Log into the 1strategy training account by using the credentials provided before starting this lab.

NOTE TAKING APPLICATION

There are several points during this lab you will have to retain certain pieces of information, please have something for taking notes handy.

CURL UTILITY

This lab will require the use of the **curl** utility.

If you're using a Mac this can be accessed by using the **terminal**.

If you're using a PC or Chromebook, you can use a free online utility here: <http://onlinecurl.com/> to execute the curl commands for the lab.

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

Hands-on Instructions

This hands-on portion is broken into 6 separate parts. Each part relates to one of the AWS services covered in the presentation material.

LAMBDA

Concepts:

handler_name(event, context):

The **handler** is the “main” function that will be run when the lambda function is invoked.

<http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/python-programming-model-handler-types.html>

handler_name(**event**, context):

The **event** object– AWS Lambda uses this parameter to pass in event data to the handler. This parameter is usually of the Python **dict** type. It can also be list, **str**, **int**, **float**, or **NoneType** type.

<http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/python-programming-model-handler-types.html>

handler_name(event, **context**):

The **context** object – AWS Lambda uses this parameter to provide runtime information to your handler.

<http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/python-context-object.html>

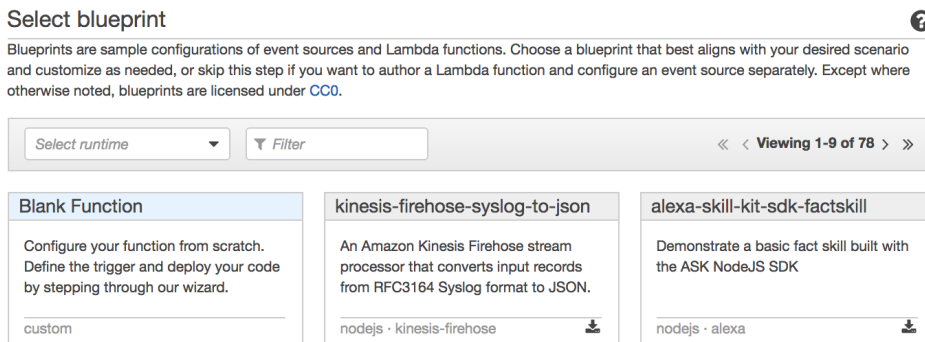
HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

Create a Lambda Function

1. Navigate to <https://us-west-2.console.aws.amazon.com/lambda/home?region=us-west-2>
2. Click on **Create a Lambda Function**



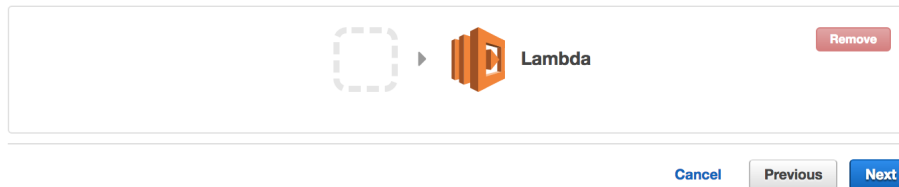
3. Select the **Blank Function** box



4. Press **Next**

Configure triggers

You can choose to add a trigger that will invoke your function.



5. Enter **your-name-lambda** as the name of the lambda function:
6. Select **Python 2.7** as the Runtime.
Note: We will be using Python examples in this workshop, however if you are sufficiently comfortable with Node.JS, it can be used as well.
7. Select **serverless_lambda_basic_execution** as the Existing Role.

Lambda function handler and role

| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| Handler* | <input type="text" value="lambda_function.lambda_handler"/> | ? |
| Role* | <input type="text" value="Choose an existing role"/> | ? |
| Existing role* | <input type="text" value="lambda_basic_execution"/> | ? |

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

8. Leave the rest of the parameters as their default values and press **Next** then press **Create Function**

Memory (MB) 128

Timeout 3

VPC No VPC

KMS key (default) aws/lambda

[Cancel](#) [Previous](#) [Export function](#) [Create function](#)

9. The Lambda function you just created will be used to pass the other AWS resources created in this lab (SQS, SNS, Activity, DynamoDB) as parameters into your Step Functions state machine (next session of this lab).
10. Enter the below code into your lambda function (if you copy and paste, double check your quotes to make sure they're not the fancy ones that Word uses).

```
import os
def lambda_handler(event, context):
    event['activity_arn'] = os.environ['activity_arn']
    event['sns_arn'] = os.environ['sns_arn']
    event['sqs_name'] = os.environ['sqs_name']
    event['dynamodb_table'] = os.environ['dynamodb_table']

    event['commander'] = {
        "rank": "<REPLACE ME>",
        "name": "<REPLACE ME>"
    }
    return event
```

11. Update the <REPLACE ME> items
12. Update the environment variables of your function as pictured below (you can leave the values blank for now, we will be updating them through the lab):

| Environment variables | | | |
|-----------------------|--|-------|---|
| dynamodb_table | | Value | × |
| sns_arn | | Value | × |
| activity_arn | | Value | × |
| sqs_name | | Value | × |

13. Press **Save**

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

14. Copy the ARN of the lambda (arn:aws:lambda:us-west-2:281782457076:function:**your-name-lambda**) to your note taking application
15. To confirm our function works, we can test it by pressing on **Save and Test**
16. This is the end of the Lambda Section

STEP FUNCTIONS

Concepts

A **State Machine** in AWS is an orchestration tool for lambda functions. It allows for complicated functionality (retries, decision trees, etc) while still allowing for the application to remain as loosely coupled as possible

An **Activity** in Step Function is an endpoint where worker nodes can receive instructions to perform tasks that require resource not natively supported by step functions (e.g. some compute resource other than a lambda function). Once the worker node has completed the task, it can send a success or failure notification back to the state machine via the activity.


Create a State Machine

1. Navigate to <https://us-west-2.console.aws.amazon.com/states/home?region=us-west-2#/tasks>
2. Click **Create New Activity**, name the activity **your-name-activity**

Tasks

On this page you can find your previous tasks, you can also create a new one here and configure them in the respective console

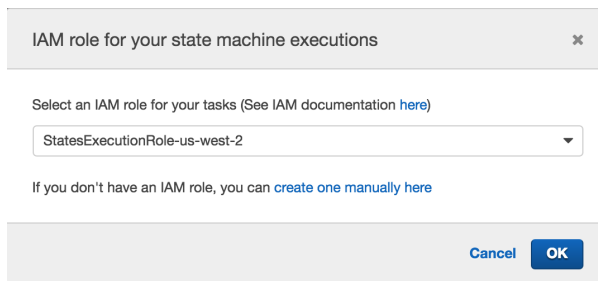
Create new activity

3. Press **Create Activity**
 4. A green confirmation message should appear
-  **Created**
Task Created
5. Copy the Activity ARN (arn:aws:states:us-west-2:281782457076:activity:**your-name-activity**) to your note taking application
 6. Navigate to <https://us-west-2.console.aws.amazon.com/states/home?region=us-west-2#/>
 7. Press **Create state machine**
 8. Take time to explore the sample state machines
 9. Under **Give your state machine a name**, enter **your-name-state-machine**
 10. Copy the SERVERLESS STATE MACHINE JSON from https://github.com/1Strategy/workshop-serverless/blob/master/serverless_state_machine_attendee.json
 11. Paste the JSON into **CODE** section
 12. In the JSON, find the <REPLACE ME> and insert the ARNs for your lambda function (line 7) and activity (line 157) from your notes
 13. Press the **circular arrows** next to **Preview** for a visualization of the state machine

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

14. Press **Create state machine**

15. Select the **StateExecutionRole-us-west-2** as the IAM role then press **Ok**



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "IAM role for your state machine executions". It contains a dropdown menu with "StatesExecutionRole-us-west-2" selected. Below the dropdown is a link: "If you don't have an IAM role, you can [create one manually here](#)". At the bottom right are "Cancel" and "OK" buttons.

16. Click on **Dashboard**

17. Find and Copy the State Machine ARN (arn:aws:states:us-west-

2:281782457076:stateMachine:**your-name-state-machine**) to your note taking application

18. Now that you've created your activity, update your lambda function from the Lambda section with an environment variable named: **activity_arn** with the value of the ARN from the activity you created in this section



The screenshot shows an environment variable configuration table with two columns: "Name" and "Value". The "Name" column contains "activity_arn" and the "Value" column contains "arn:aws:states:us-west-2:281782457076:". There is a close button (X) in the top right corner.

19. Save the lambda function

20. This is the end of the Step Function section

API GATEWAY

Concepts

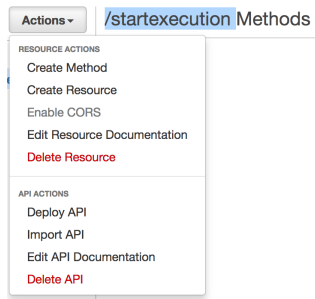
A **resource** is a part of a URL www.example.com/resource

A **method** is an HTTP verb that tells a URL endpoint what action the client is taking and how the server should respond (GET, PUT, POST, DELETE, etc.)

Create an API

1. Navigate to <https://us-west-2.console.aws.amazon.com/apigateway/home?region=us-west-2#/apis/>
2. Select **ServerlessAPI**
3. Click on **/startexecution**
4. Click on **Actions** then **Create Resource**

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS



5. Enter **your-name** as **Resource Name** and check the **Enable API Gateway CORS** then press **Create Resource**

New Child Resource

Use this page to create a new child resource for your resource.

Configure as [proxy resource](#) ☐ ⓘ

Resource Name*

Resource Path*

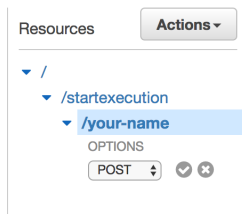
You can add path parameters using brackets. For example, the resource path **{username}** represents a path parameter called 'username'. Configuring /startexecution/{proxy+} as a proxy resource catches all requests to its sub-resources. For example, it works for a GET request to /startexecution/foo. To handle requests to /startexecution, add a new ANY method on the /startexecution resource.

Enable API Gateway CORS ☒ ⓘ

* Required

[Cancel](#) [Create Resource](#)

6. Click on **/your-name** then select **Actions** and **Create Method**. Select **POST** then press the **Checkmark** to the right of the drop-down menu



7. Click the **radio button** next to **AWS Service**

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

- Set **AWS Region** as **us-west-2**
- Set **AWS Service** to **Step Functions**
- Set **HTTP Method** to **POST**
- Set **Action** to **StartExecution**
- Set **Execution role** to: `arn:aws:iam::281782457076:role/serverless_api_gateway_step_functions/startexecution/your-name - POST - Setup`

Choose the integration point for your new method.

Integration type ☐ Lambda Function ⓘ ☒ HTTP ⓘ ☐ Mock ⓘ ☒ AWS Service ⓘ

AWS Region

AWS Service

AWS Subdomain

HTTP method

Action Type ☒ Use action name ☐ Use path override

Action

Execution role

Content Handling

Save

- Press **Save**
- To test your API, Click on **Test**

/startexecut



- Enter the below information in the **Request Body**

```
{
  "input": "{}",
  "name": "SomeName", "stateMachineArn":
  "arn:aws:states:us-west-2:281782457076:stateMachine:demo-state-machine"
}
```

Note: The state machine in this request is for testing purposes only, you will be using your own state-machine later in the workshop

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

16. Press the **Test** button at the bottom of the screen

17. The follow output should appear

Request: /startexecution/your-name

Status: 200

Latency: 269 ms

Response Body

```
{
  "executionArn": "arn:aws:states:us-west-2:281782457076:execution:demo-s
tate-machine:your-name",
  "startDate": 1487823928.743
}
```

Response Headers

```
{"X-Amzn-Trace-Id":"Root=1-58ae6438-0866bbce1a961de8e385f4e1","Content-Ty
pe":"application/json"}
```

18. If you don't see the success message, please complain loudly to the instructor

19. Press **Actions** then **Deploy API**

Deploy API

Choose a stage where your API will be deployed. For example, a test version of your API could be deployed to a stage named beta.

Deployment stage

prod

Deployment description

Cancel

Deploy

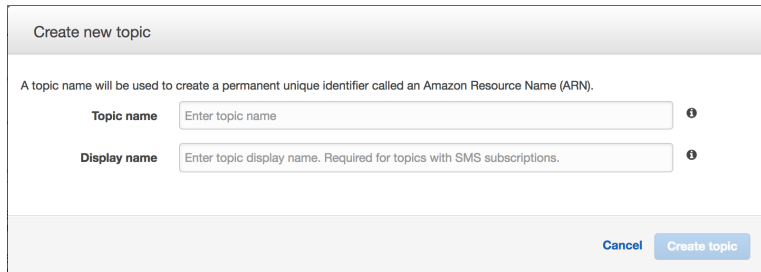
20. This is the end of the API Gateway Portion

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

SNS

Create an SNS Topic

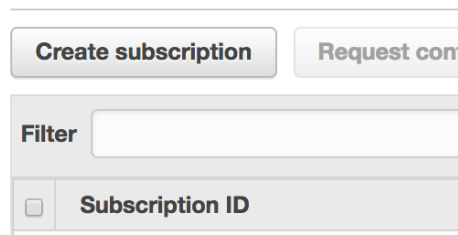
1. Navigate to: <https://us-west-2.console.aws.amazon.com/sns/v2/home?region=us-west-2#/home>
2. Click on **Create Topic**
3. Enter **your-name-topic** as the **Topic name** and **Serverless** as the **Display name** then press **Create Topic**.



The screenshot shows the 'Create new topic' form. At the top, it says 'Create new topic'. Below that, a note states: 'A topic name will be used to create a permanent unique identifier called an Amazon Resource Name (ARN)'. There are two input fields: 'Topic name' with the placeholder 'Enter topic name' and 'Display name' with the placeholder 'Enter topic display name. Required for topics with SMS subscriptions.' Both fields have an information icon to their right. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Create topic'.

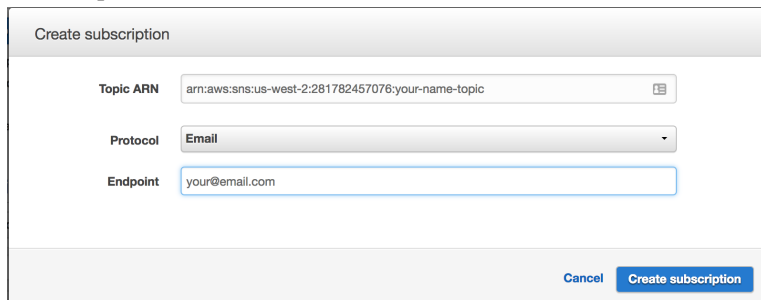
4. Click on the **ARN** of the newly created topic
[arn:aws:sns:us-west-2:281782457076:your-name-topic](#)
5. Press **Create Subscription**

Subscriptions



The screenshot shows the 'Subscriptions' section. At the top, there are two buttons: 'Create subscription' and 'Request confirmation link'. Below these is a 'Filter' input field. Underneath the filter is a table header with a checkbox and the text 'Subscription ID'.

6. Change the **Protocol** to **Email**. Enter your email address into **Endpoint** and press **Create subscription**



The screenshot shows the 'Create subscription' form. It has three input fields: 'Topic ARN' with the value 'arn:aws:sns:us-west-2:281782457076:your-name-topic', 'Protocol' with a dropdown menu showing 'Email', and 'Endpoint' with the value 'your@email.com'. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Create subscription'.

7. You should get an email that will prompt you to confirm your subscription. Click on the **Confirm subscription** link

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

You have chosen to subscribe to the topic:
arn:aws:sns:us-west-2:281782457076:your-name-topic

To confirm this subscription, click or visit the link below (If this was in error no action is necessary):
[Confirm subscription](#)

- Copy the ARN of your SNS topic to your notes
- Navigate back to your topic <https://us-west-2.console.aws.amazon.com/sns/v2/home?region=us-west-2#/topics/> and if you see the below image, you now have successfully subscribed to your topic

| Filter | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Subscription ID | Protocol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | arn:aws:sns:us-west-2:281782457076:your-name-topic:4a15d6e1-8acf-4617-9ad5-45405... | email |

- To send yourself a sample message, press **Publish to topic**.

Topic details: your-name-topic

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Publish to topic | Other topic actions ▾ |
| Topic ARN | arn:aws:sns:us-west-2:281782457076:your-name-topic |
| Topic owner | 281782457076 |
| Region | us-west-2 |
| Display name | serverless |

- Enter a **Subject** and **Message** then press **Publish message**. You should receive your message in your email
- Now that you've created your SNS topic, update your lambda function from the Lambda section with an environment variable named: **sns_arn** with the value of the ARN from the SNS topic you just created

Environment variables

| | |
|---------|---|
| sns_arn | arn:aws:sns:us-west-2:#####:your-  |
|---------|---|

- Save the lambda function
- This is the end of the SNS section

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

SQS

Concepts

Create an SQS queue

1. Navigate to <https://console.aws.amazon.com/sqs/home?region=us-west-2>
2. Press **Create new queue**
3. Enter **your-name-queue** under **Queue Name** and select **Standard Queue** then press **Quick create queue** at the bottom of the page

Create New Queue

Queue Name ⓘ
your-name-queue

Region ⓘ US West (Oregon)

Standard Queue

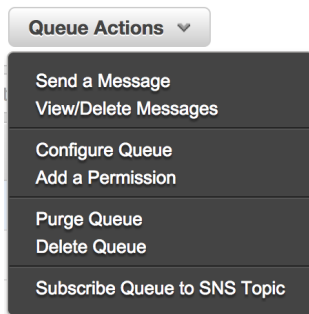
High Throughput: Standard queues have nearly-unlimited transactions per sec

At-Least-Once Delivery: A message is delivered at least once, but occasionally message is delivered.

Best-Effort Ordering: Occasionally, messages are delivered in an order differer

1 → 5

4. Spend some time exploring (e.g. Select **your-name-queue** then press **Queue Actions** and **Send a message**. View your message by pressing **Queue Actions** and **View/Delete Messages**)



5. Once you're done exploring clear your test messages. Select **Queue Actions, View/Delete Messages**, select your test messages, and then **Purge Messages**.
6. Update your lambda function from the Lambda section with an environment variable named: **sqs_name** with the value of the **your-name-queue** that was just created

sqs_name your-name-queue X

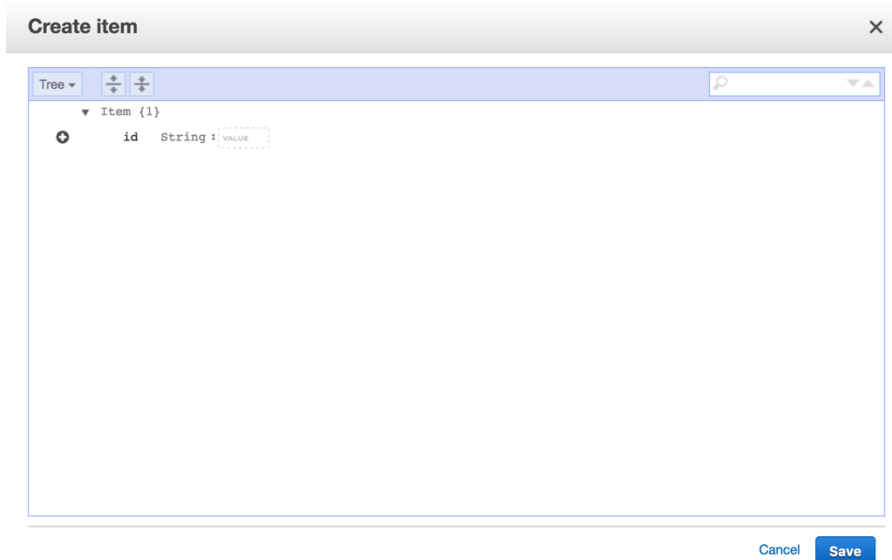
7. This is the end of the SQS section


HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

DYNAMODB


Create a DynamoDB Table

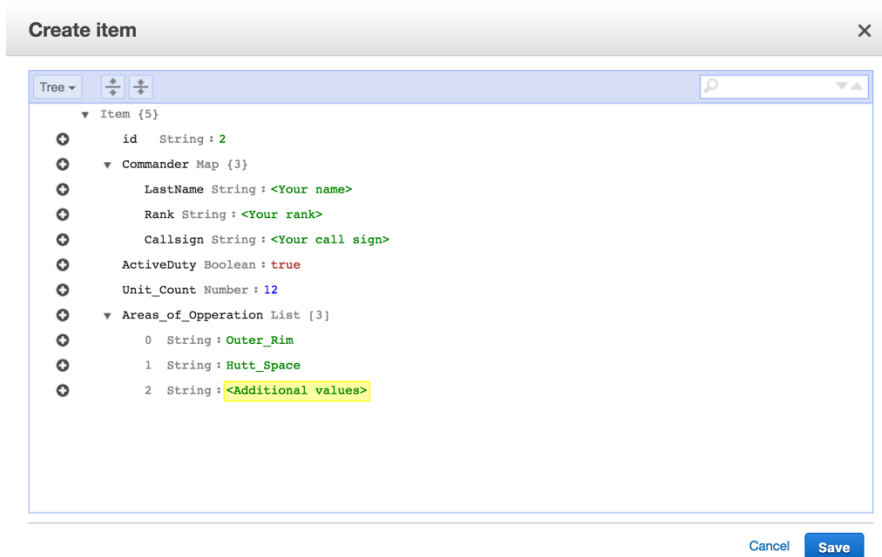
1. Navigate to <https://us-west-2.console.aws.amazon.com/dynamodb/home?region=us-west-2>
2. Press **Create table**
3. Enter **your-name-table** under **Table Name**
4. Enter **id** under **Partition key**
5. Ensure that the **String** option is selected in the data type field. This table should not need a **sort key**.
6. Leave the **Use default settings** radio button checked
7. The table should take 2 – 5 minutes to provision
8. With your table selected from the **Tables** tab, click on the **Items** tab
9. Click **Create item**. You should see the following window popup




10. Type a **number** in the **value** field (the number you input will be stored as a string type)
11. Click the 
12. When the drop-down menu appears, select the **Append** option
13. You will see another drop-down menu with a list of data types that you can add.
14. Choose the **Map** value
15. You have now inserted a blank Map object into this DynamoDB table. Now we will populate this map object with attributes.
16. Enter **Commander** in the **FIELD** box for the Map object
17. Append a **String** type item to the map

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

18. In the **FIELD** box type **Rank** and input your rank in the **VALUE** box
19. Append two more **String** types to the **Map** object, one for your last name and one for your call sign
20. Click the  next to the **Map** object to append items after the map (instead of appending attributes within the map)
21. Append a **Boolean** item type with **FIELD: ActiveDuty**, and **VALUE: true**
22. Append a **Number** type with **FIELD: Unit_Count** and **VALUE: 12**
23. Append a **List** type with **FIELD: Areas_of_Opperation**
24. Append a few **String** attributes into the **List** item
25. Your **Create item** window should look something like this



26. Click **Save**
27. You should now see your item in the **Items** tab of your table
28. Take a few minutes to explore the other tabs before moving on
29. When you are finished looking around, make sure your lambda function has the environment variable named: **dynamodb_table** with the value of the **your-name-table** that you just created



30. This is the end of the DynamoDB section

HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

RUNNING THE ENTIRE STATE MACHINE

Now onto the fun part, now that we have all of the elements in place, we're going to destroy our planet.

1. Navigate to your state machine in the console <https://us-west-2.console.aws.amazon.com/states/home?region=us-west-2#/>

[Dashboard](#) > your-name-state-machine

your-name-state-machine

On this page you can add one or more executions for this state machine

[New execution](#) [Stop execution](#)

| Search for executions | | | |
|-----------------------|------|--------|---------|
| | Name | Status | Started |
| No Executions | | | |

2. Open a Terminal and run the following command

```
curl -X POST -d '{"input": "{}", "name": "ATestOfThisBattleStation", "stateMachineArn": "arn:aws:states:us-west-2:281782457076:stateMachine:your-name-state-machine"}' \
https://00dlxb9yr1.execute-api.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/prod/startexecution/your-name
```

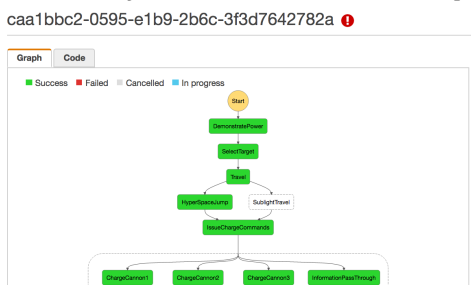
3. You should get a response in the terminal that looks like this:

```
{
  "executionArn": "arn:aws:states:us-west-2:281782457076:execution:demo-state-machine:SomeName",
  "startDate": 1487912974.749
}
```

4. Click on the **Refresh** button for your state machine and an execution should appear with the **status** of **Running**

| | Name | Status |
|--|--|----------------|
| | caa1bbc2-0595-e1b9-2b6c-3f3d7642782a arn:aws:states:us-west-2:281782457076:execution:alex-graves-state-machine:caa1bbc2-0.. | Running |

5. Click on the **ARN** of the running execution
6. From here you can watch the execution progress



HANDS-ON INSTRUCTIONS

7. The bottom of the page will show the execution of the state machine step by step including failures and retries of states
8. If the all of the states in the execution are successful (all the states are green), you should get an email with **your-name** and **rank** as well as a long stream of characters which represent a **firing code**
9. If there is an error in a state, that state will turn red and can check the **input** and **output** of failed step to troubleshoot the issue
10. Once you receive the email copy the **firing code** in the **terminal** execution the code below

```
curl https://serverless.1strategy.com/enter-firing-code --data "<Firing Code Here>"
```

Note: Alternatively, you can navigate <https://serverless.1strategy.com> and enter your firing code there.

11. If you do not execute the above command in under 120 seconds, the state machine will time out
12. In either case, you should get a notification in your email
13. This concludes this workshop

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