Cloud Backend for Remote Lora Networks

Cloud Setup Guide

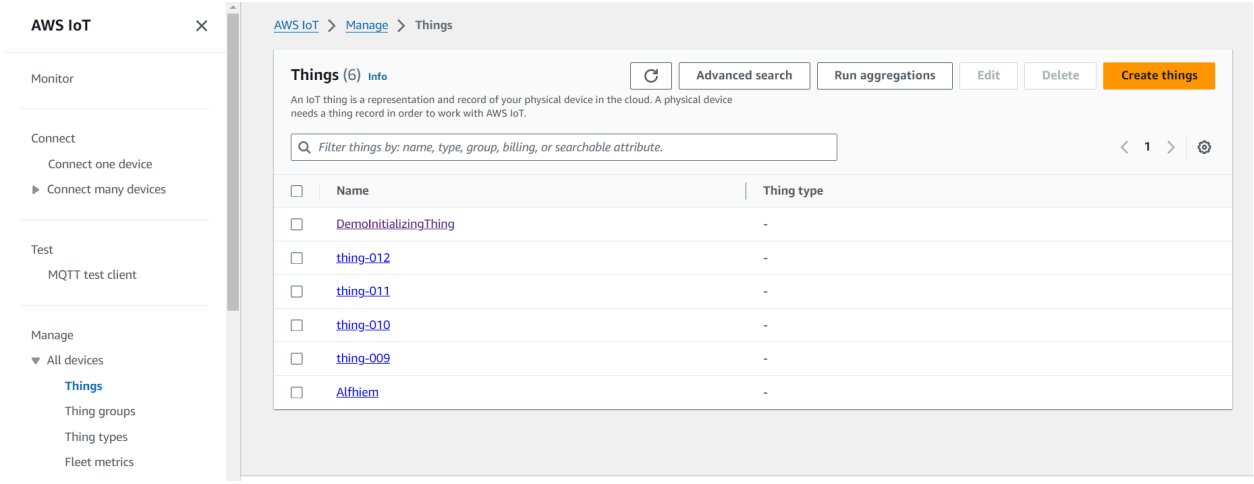
Step 1: Setting up an AWS Thing

We need to create an AWS Thing to initiate our AWS IoT integration. The name of this Thing should be recorded in our GatewayWebServerModule.cpp file before being compiled into our Gateway.

After creating the Thing, AWS generates associated certificates. These certificates serve as crucial authentication tokens for secure communication between our devices and AWS IoT services, and they should be stored in the secrets.h file provided in the GitHub repository.

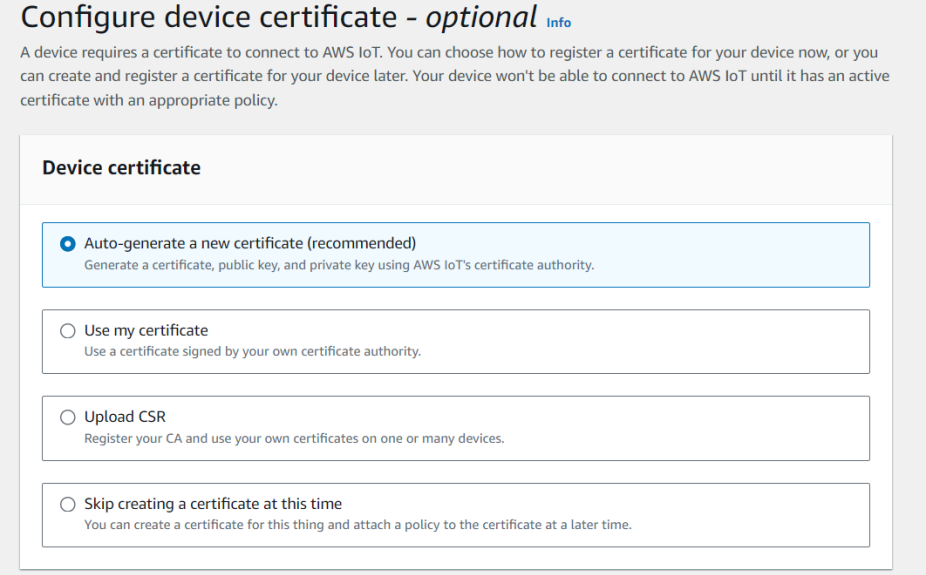
Now, A Step by Step process to create an AWS IOT Thing on AWS Console:

- Launch the IoT Core service in AWS
- Click **All Devices -> Things** in the sidebar to receive a menu like seen below. And click the yellow Create Thing button.

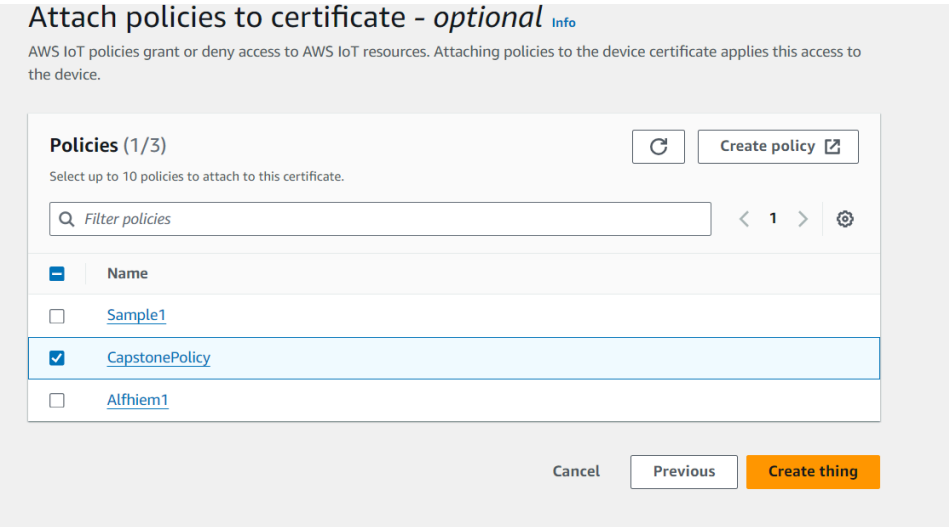


- AWS will display a simple form with three small steps.
    - For Step 1: “Specify Thing Property,” set the Thing Name field to any name of choice and leave the rest of the field as its default value.

- For Step 2: “Configure Device Certificate,” select the auto-generate a new certificate field, as seen in the screenshot below.

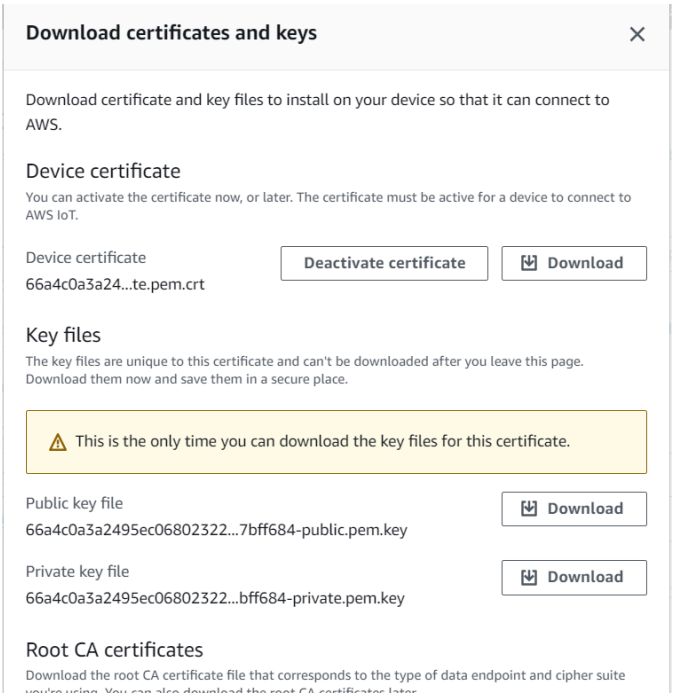


- For Step 3: Here, we attach the policies, which are the actions the certificate will allow the IOT device to take, like Connect, Subscribe, and Publish. In case the policy does not exist, we can create a new one by clicking on Create Policy.



- The configuration of the new policy should look like the following Image. Then, we can go back to the page shown in Step 3 and click on the policy created.

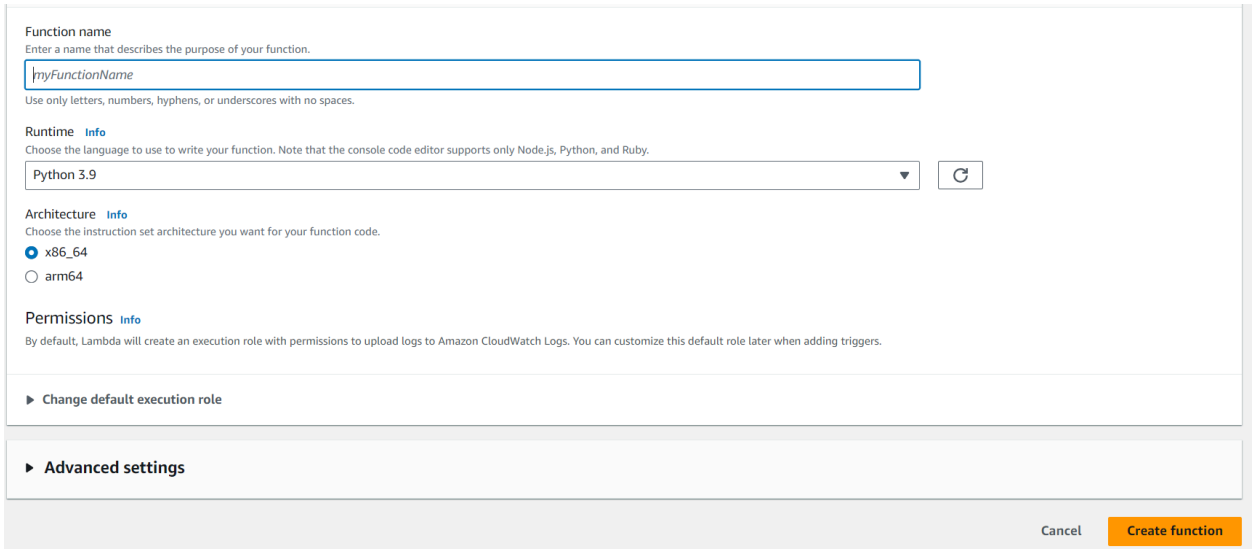
- Once the thing creation is successful, AWS will generate the certificates for the Thing. The next step is to download and save these certificates. The Device Certificate, The Private Key, and Root CA Certificates can be pasted into the secrets.h file so that a secure connection with appropriate credentials can be established with AWS.

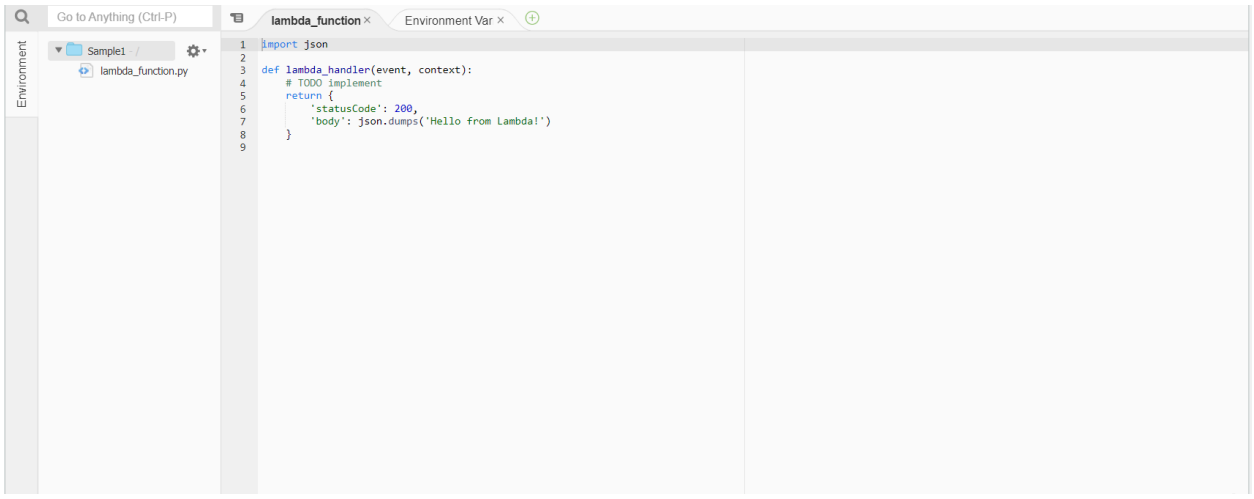


Step 2: Creating AWS Lambda Functions and Configuring Permissions

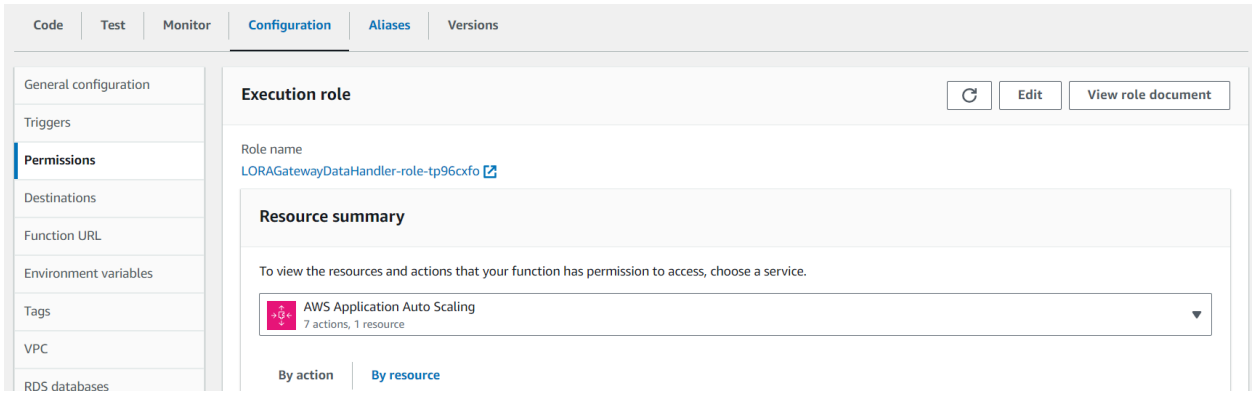
- To deploy our application logic to AWS Lambda, we follow these steps:
- Create Lambda Functions: We create two Lambda functions, namely GatewayInitialization and GatewayDataHandling. These functions will host the code from our GitHub repository. We can modify this code to tailor it to our specific application requirements.
- Set Permissions: Each Lambda function requires specific permissions to execute properly and interact with other AWS services. By configuring these permissions correctly, we ensure that our Lambda functions can seamlessly integrate with AWS IoT services and perform their designated tasks effectively. Additionally, this setup provides the necessary security measures to safeguard our IoT infrastructure and application logic.

- Launch the AWS Lambda service, and click on Create New Function, and follow the configurations in the following two images.

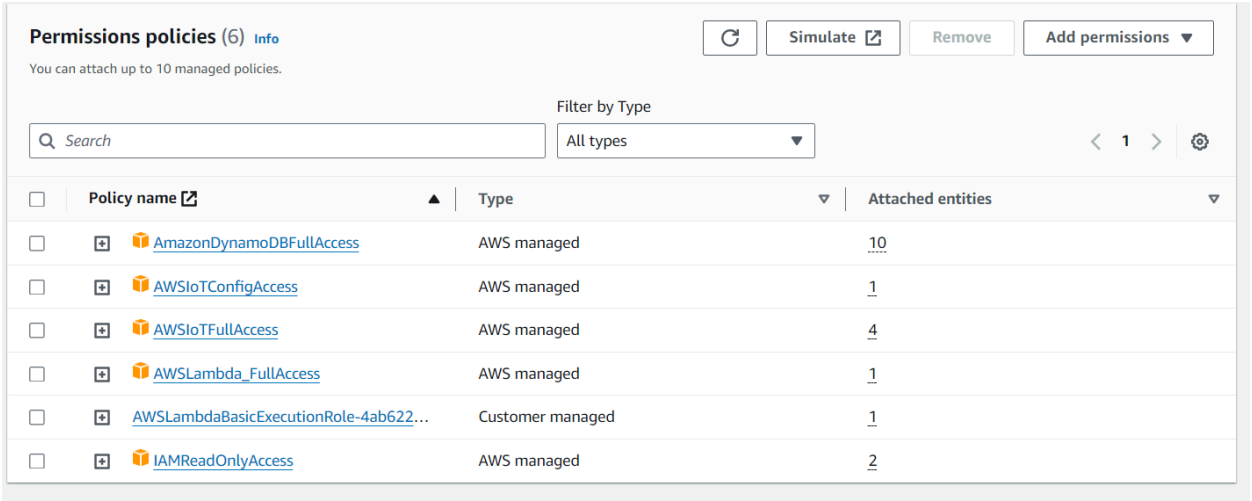


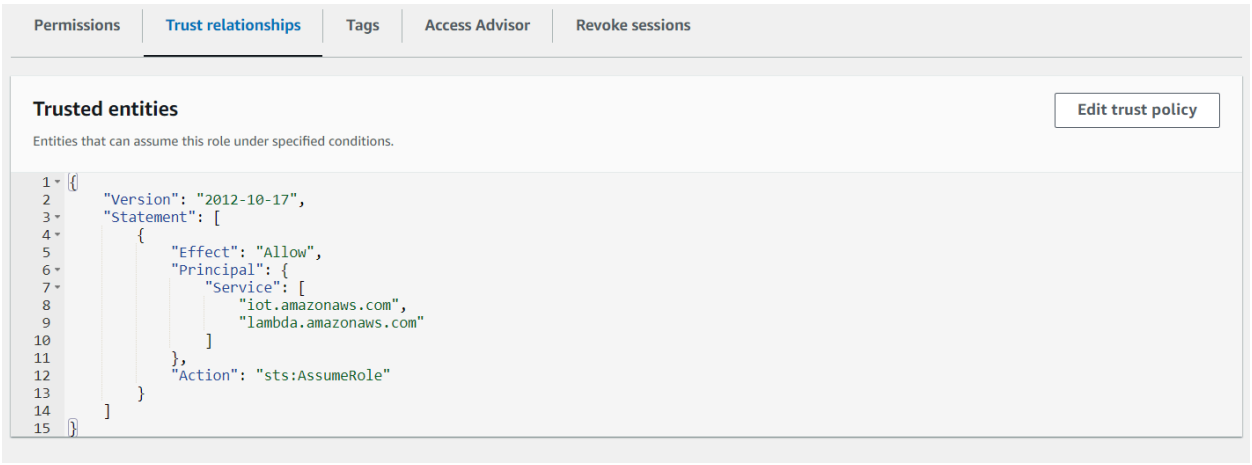


- Now, transfer the code for each of the Lambda Functions.
- Now, go to Configurations, then Permissions in the Lambda Functions:

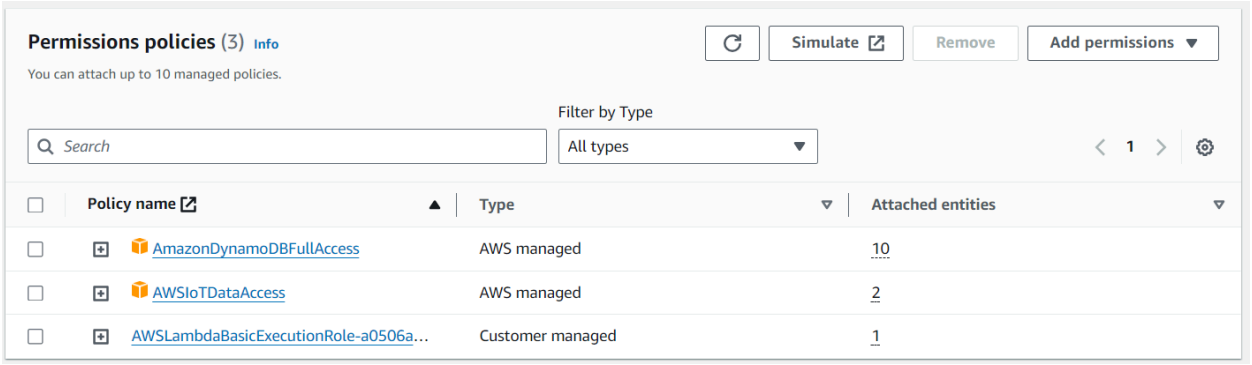


- GatewayInitialization Lambda Function Permissions and Trust Relationships





- GatewayDataHandling Lambda Function Permissions:



Now, we create the Rules to Link to the Gateway Initialization Lambda Function.

Step 3: Creation of an AWS IoT Rule

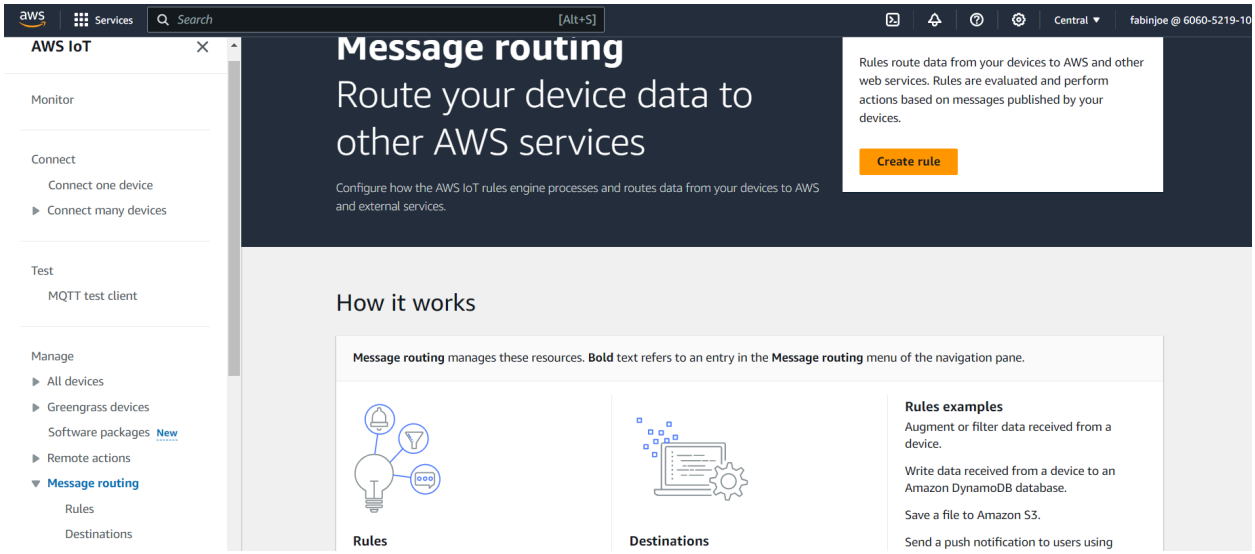
To streamline message routing within our AWS IoT ecosystem, we create an AWS IoT Rule designed to handle the initialization messages sent from all gateways. This rule ensures that these initialization messages are efficiently routed to the designated Gateway Initialization Lambda Function.

It's worth noting that the Lambda function responsible for gateway initialization will also handle the subsequent message routing for sensor data. Therefore, there's no need to create additional rules for this purpose. This setup simplifies our configuration and ensures that message routing is effectively managed within our IoT infrastructure.

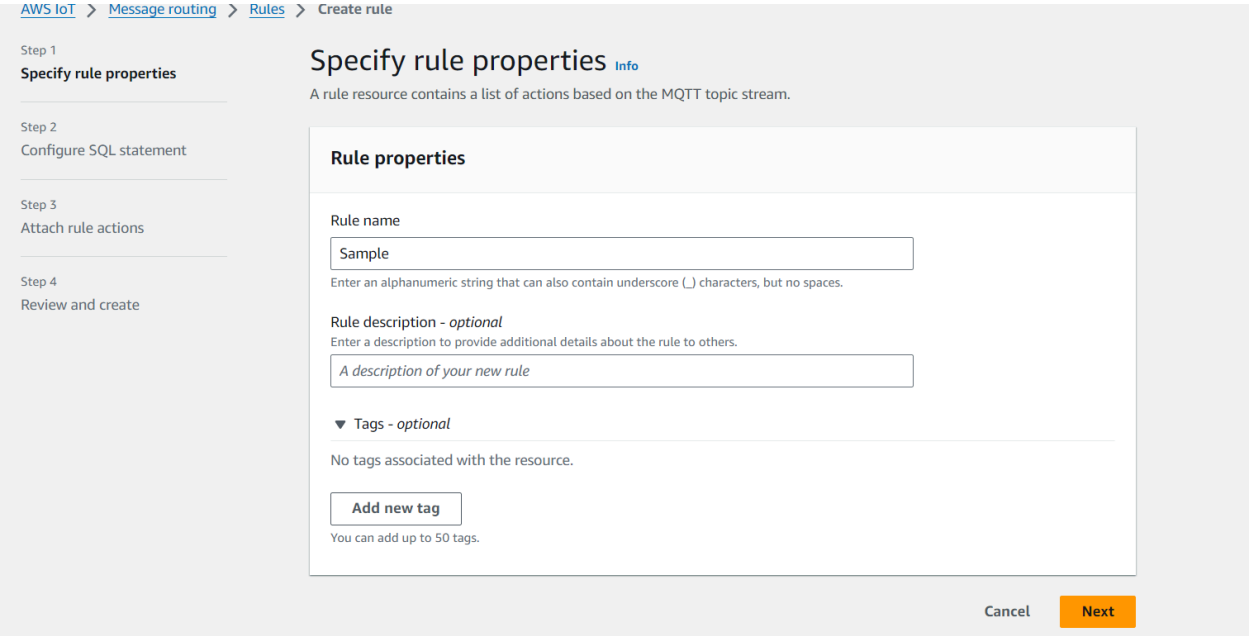
Once configured, this rule only needs to be set up once, providing a seamless and automated process for handling gateway initialization messages moving forward.

The steps to do so are as follows:

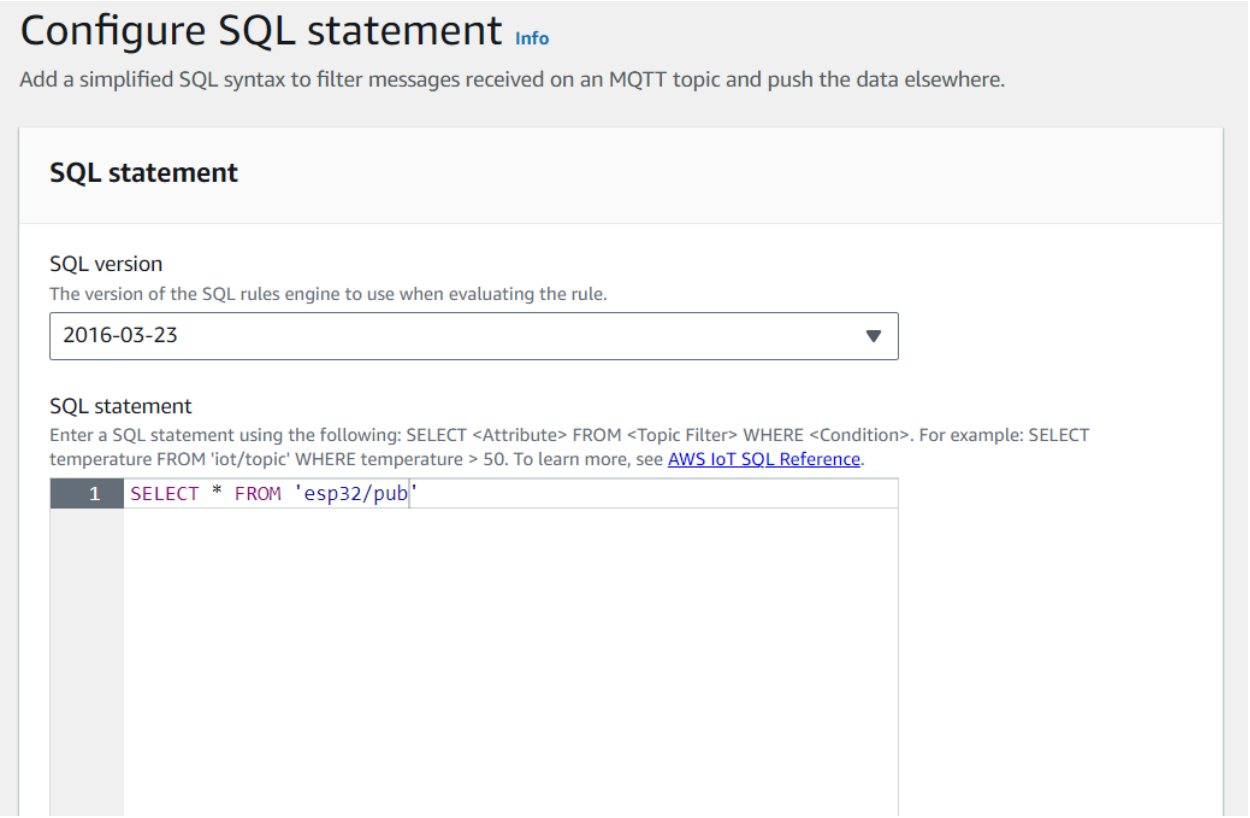
- First, we go to Message Routing in AWS IOT and then create a Rule by clicking Create Rule, as shown in the image.



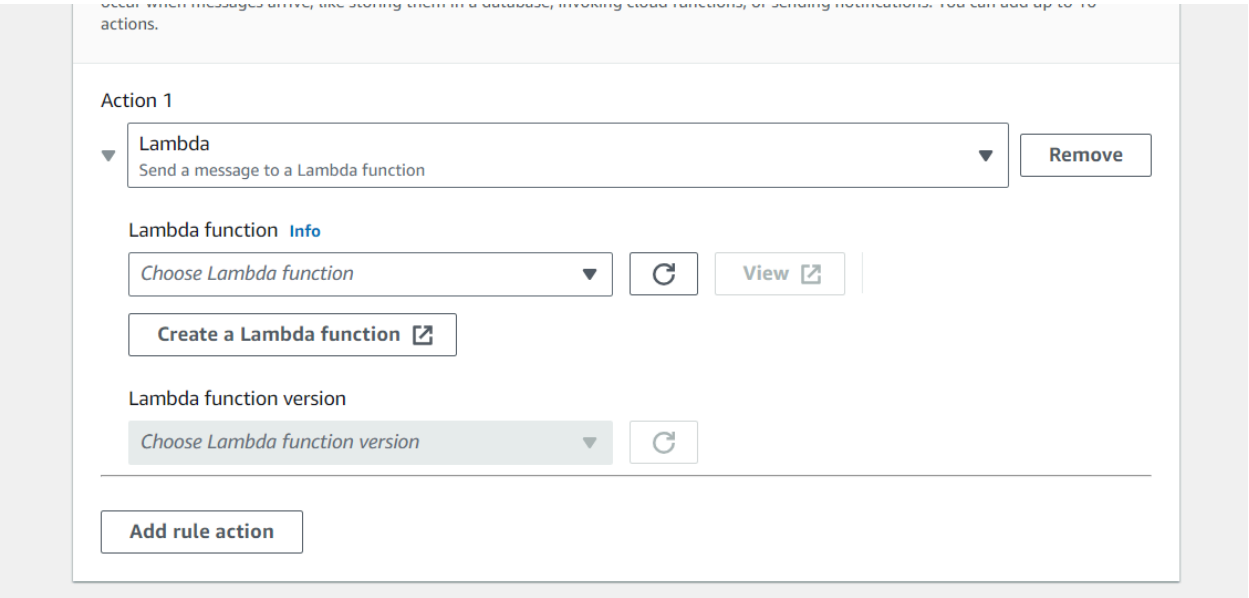
- We give the rule a name.



- Next, we configure the topic to which all gateways will send initialization messages, as shown in the image below.



- Finally, we specify the Gateway Initialization Lambda function, which will complete the initialization process.



After the rule is created, we can create our APIs to get sensor information, which will be used by the Elastic Search and Control Dashboard.

Step 4: Adding API Triggers for Sensor Data Lambda Function and Control Lambda Function

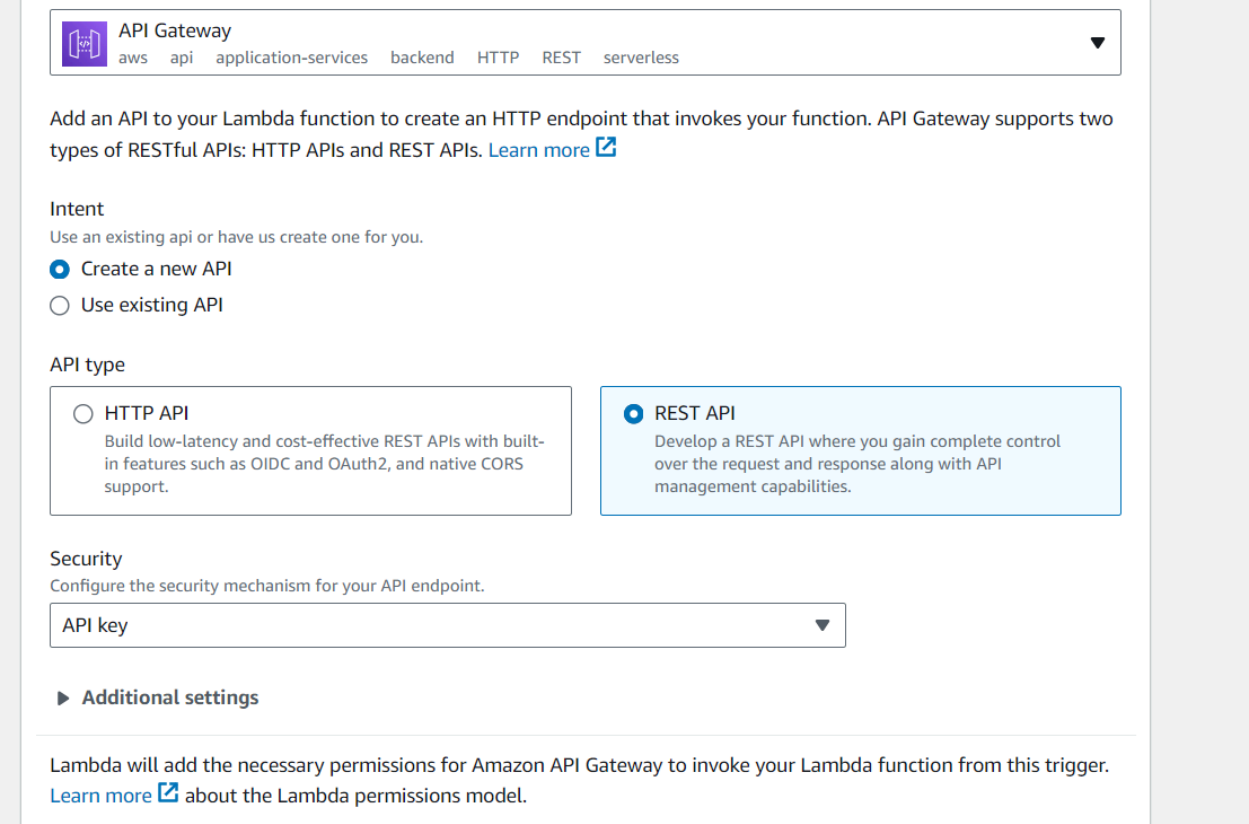
To enable API triggers for our Sensor Data Lambda Function and Control Lambda Function,

follow these steps:

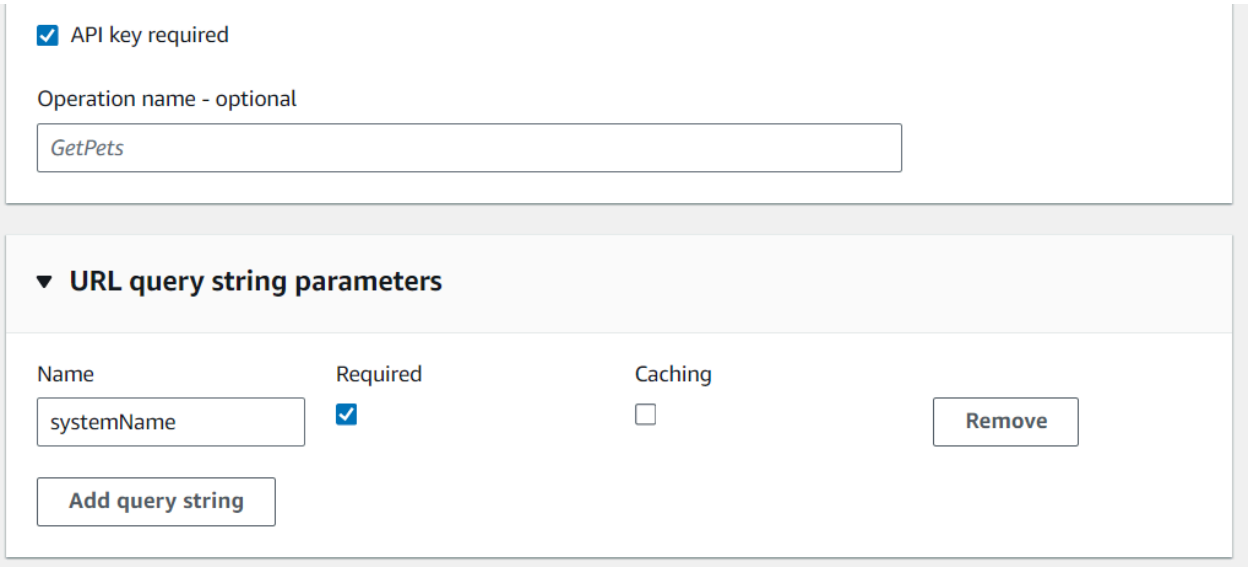
1. Sensor Data API Handler Lambda Function

- Add a trigger in the form of a REST API endpoint.

- Configure the REST API using the settings provided in the picture.



- Navigate to the AWS API Gateway console to manage the API.
- Apply the settings specified in the picture to the method associated with the Sensor Data API Handler Lambda Function.



2. Control Lambda Function:

- Add a trigger using the same method as the Sensor Data Lambda Function.
- Keep the default configuration for this trigger without making any changes.

By setting up API triggers in this manner, we establish endpoints through which external systems can interact with our Lambda functions. This enables seamless integration of our IoT infrastructure with external applications or services like our Elastic Search Dashboard and Control Dashboard.