

# Lambda: A first tutorial

Welcome, this walk through guides you to create a couple lambda functions. The first is a simple “Hello World” level function. The second, moves in the direction of using the DynamoDB AWS storage engine to collect data through the lambda function.

We will partially follow some existing AWS tutorials, with a little bit of deviation here and there for using Python 3 instead of Node.js or Python 2.

## Step 1: Set Up an AWS Account and the AWS CLI

(Done in prior labs)

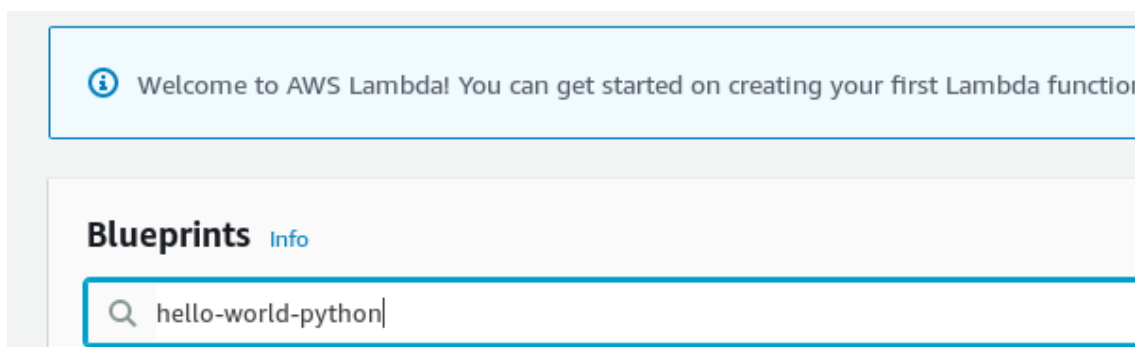
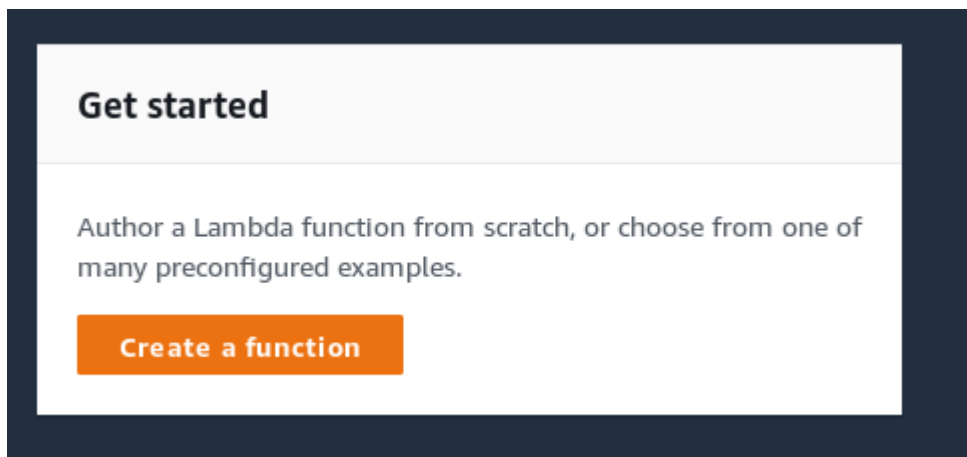
Log into the AWS Console

## Step 2: Create a HelloWorld Lambda Function and Explore the Console

<http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/getting-started-create-function.html>

### Step 2.1: Create a Hello World Lambda Function

<https://console.aws.amazon.com/lambda/home?region=us-east-1#/home>



**NOTE: We will be using Python 3, not 2.**

Welcome to AWS Lambda! You can get started on creating your first Lambda function by choosing one of the blueprints below.

Blueprints Info

Export **Author from scratch**

keyword : hello-world-python

hello-world-python

A starter AWS Lambda function.

python2.7

hello-world-python3

A starter AWS Lambda function.

python3.6

**SELECT the “hello-world-python3” blueprint**

Lambda > Functions > Create function > Using blueprint hello-world-python3

## Basic information [Info](#)

Name\*

Role\*

Defines the permissions of your function. Note that new roles may not be available for a few minutes after creation. [Learn more](#) about Lambda execution roles.

Lambda will automatically create a role with permissions from the selected policy templates. Note that basic Lambda logging to CloudWatch will automatically be added. If your function accesses a VPC, the required permissions will i

Role name\*

Enter a name for your new role.

Policy templates

Choose one or more policy templates. A role will be generated for you before your function is created. [Learn more](#) about permissions that each policy template will add to your role.

**Deviate from Tutorial: Choose Python 3, not 2**

5. Under **Configuration** in the **Lambda function code** section, note the following

- **Runtime** is Python 2.7

✔ Congratulations! Your Lambda function "my\_first\_dsa\_lambda" has been successfully created. You can now change its code and configuration. Click on the "Test" button to input a test event when you are ready to test your function.

Configuration

Triggers

Monitoring

▼ Function code

Code entry type

Edit code inline ▼

Runtime

Python 3.6 ▼

Handler [Info](#)

lambda\_function.lambda\_handler

lambda\_function.py

```
1 import json
2
3 print('Loading function')
4
5
6 def lambda_handler(event, context):
7     #print("Received event: " + json.dumps(event, indent=2))
8     print("value1 = " + event['key1'])
9     print("value2 = " + event['key2'])
10    print("value3 = " + event['key3'])
11    return event['key1'] # Echo back the first key value
12    #raise Exception('Something went wrong')
13
```

## Step 2.2: Invoke the Lambda Function Manually and Verify Results, Logs, and Metrics

TESTING:

ARN - arn:aws:lambda:us-east-1:426457766204:function:my\_first\_dsa\_lambda

Qualifiers ▼ Actions ▼ Select a test event.. ▼ Test

Lambda function "my\_first\_dsa\_lambda" has been successfully created. You can now change its code and configuration. ×

are ready to test your function

**DEVIATE: Specify "Event name"**

**Configure test event** ×

A function can have up to 10 test events. The events are persisted so you can switch to another computer or web browser and test your function with the same events.

☒ Create new test event  
☐ Edit saved test events

Event template  
Hello World ▼

Event name  
HelloTest

Then Create

Cancel Create

We now have a test event

ARN - arn:aws:lambda:us-east-1:426457766204:function:my\_first\_dsa\_lambda

Qualifiers ▼

Actions ▼

HelloTest ▼

Test

Click Test Again:

Lambda > Functions > my\_first\_dsa\_lambda

ARN - arn:aws:lambda:us-east-1:426457766204:function:my\_first\_dsa\_lambda

my\_first\_dsa\_lambda

Qualifiers ▼

Actions ▼

HelloTest ▼

Test

✓ Execution result: succeeded (logs)

▼ Details

The area below shows the result returned by your function execution.

"value1"

Summary

Code SHA-256  
7ddck7QZ/3YKp8f  
/QT1QIfz46AR+l8OjZ2  
P+M947a1g=

Request ID  
672b5ba2-c364-11e7-  
ab94-99c32a63fd32

Duration  
0.34 ms

Billed duration  
100 ms

Resources configured  
128 MB

Max memory used  
21 MB

Log output

The area below shows the logging calls in your code. These correspond to a single row within the CloudWatch log group corresponding to this Lambda function. [Click here](#) to view the CloudWatch log group.

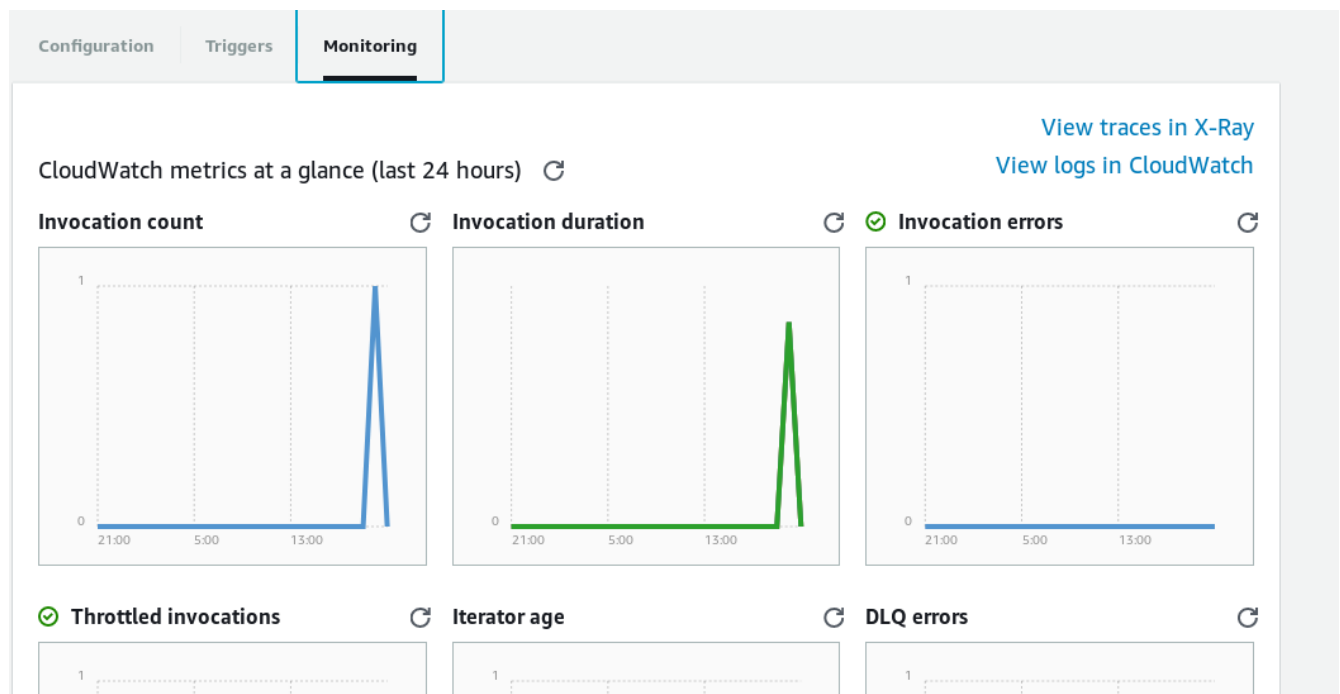
START RequestId: 672b5ba2-c364-11e7-ab94-99c32a63fd32 Version: \$LATEST  
value1 = value1  
value2 = value2  
value3 = value3  
END RequestId: 672b5ba2-c364-11e7-ab94-99c32a63fd32  
REPORT RequestId: 672b5ba2-c364-11e7-ab94-99c32a63fd32 Duration: 0.34 ms  
Billed Duration: 100 ms Memory Size: 128 MB Max Memory Used: 21 MB

Clicking on **(logs)** takes you to CloudWatch:

[CloudWatch](#) > [Log Groups](#) > [/aws/lambda/my\\_first\\_dsa\\_lambda](#) > 2017/11/07/[\$LATEST]ebff13e501f64c8cba81da840a940326

Filter events	
Time (UTC +00:00)	Message
2017-11-07	
No older events found at the moment. <a href="#">Retry</a> .	
▶ 02:36:05	Loading function
▶ 02:36:05	START RequestId: 672b5ba2-c364-11e7-ab94-99c32a63fd32 Version: \$LATEST
▶ 02:36:05	value1 = value1
▶ 02:36:05	value2 = value2
▶ 02:36:05	value3 = value3
▶ 02:36:05	END RequestId: 672b5ba2-c364-11e7-ab94-99c32a63fd32
▶ 02:36:05	REPORT RequestId: 672b5ba2-c364-11e7-ab94-99c32a63fd32 Duration: 0.34 ms Billed Duration: 100 ms Memory Size: 128 MB Max Memory Used: 21 MB
No newer events found at the moment. <a href="#">Retry</a> .	

Additionally, the Monitoring Tab under the test output gets you plots of usage history.



[http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/with-on-demand-https-example-configure-event-source\\_1.html](http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/with-on-demand-https-example-configure-event-source_1.html)

## Step 3: Create a Simple Microservice using Lambda and API Gateway

### Resources for US East (N. Virginia)

Lambda function(s)	1
Code storage	343 bytes (0% of 75.0 GB)
Full account concurrency	1000

Create function

Search with “microservice-http-endpoint”

Lambda > Functions > Create function

Blueprints Info

Export Author from scratch

keyword : microservice-http-endpoint

microservice-http-endpoint

A simple backend (read/write to DynamoDB) with a RESTful API endpoint using Amazon API Gateway.

nodejs6.10 · api-gateway

microservice-http-endpoint-python3

A simple backend (read/write to DynamoDB) with a RESTful API endpoint using Amazon API Gateway.

python3.6 · api-gateway

microservice-http-endpoint-python

A simple backend (read/write to DynamoDB) with a RESTful API endpoint using Amazon API Gateway.

python2.7 · api-gateway

DEVIATE: We are going to choose the Python 3 version.



Name your function something unique and create a unique role name that is similar

Example:

**Basic information** [Info](#)

**Name\***

**Role\***

Defines the permissions of your function. Note that new roles may not be available for a few minutes after creation. [Learn more](#) about Lambda execution roles.

Create new role from template(s) ▼

Lambda will automatically create a role with permissions from the selected policy templates. Note that basic Lambda permissions (logging to CloudWatch) will automatically be added. If your function accesses a VPC, the required permissions will also be added.

**Role name\***

Enter a name for your new role.

**Policy templates**

Choose one or more policy templates. A role will be generated for you before your function is created. [Learn more](#) about the permissions that each policy template will add to your role.

▼

Simple Microservice permissions ✕

Take note of the API gateway. There is a lot of customization and options here for your later real-world pipeline development.

api-gateway Remove

Please go to the [IAM console](#) to configure the security for your API endpoint. ✕

We'll set up an API Gateway endpoint with a [proxy Integration type](#) (learn more about the [input](#) and [output](#) format for your function). Any method (GET, POST, etc.) will trigger your Lambda function. To set up more advanced method mappings or subpath routes, visit [Amazon API Gateway console](#).

**API name**  
The name used to identify your API.

LambdaMicroservice ▼ Enter value

**Deployment stage**  
The name of your API's deployment stage.

prod ▼ Enter value

**Security**  
Configure the security mechanism for your API endpoint.

AWS IAM ▼

Lambda will add the necessary permissions for Amazon API Gateway to invoke your Lambda function from this trigger. [Learn more](#) about the Lambda permissions model.

Note some things in the Python Code:

1. it imports some Python Libraries,
2. instantiates the DynamoDB client object,
3. then defines a function.

```
import boto3    # You have seen this in prior labs
import json     # You have seen this in prior courses

print('Loading function')
dynamo = boto3.client('dynamodb')

# Respond forms up a response dictionary object,
# which happens to mimic JSON syntax
def respond(err, res=None):
    return {
        'statusCode': '400' if err else '200',
        'body': err.message if err else json.dumps(res),
        'headers': {
            'Content-Type': 'application/json',
        },
    }
```

Then it defines the actual body of the request handler:

... Go to next page

I have added some extra comments into the code below ...

```
def lambda_handler(event, context):
    # ...

    # These are the relevant HTTP client actions
    operations = {
        'DELETE': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.delete_item(**x),
        'GET': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.scan(**x),
        'POST': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.put_item(**x),
        'PUT': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.update_item(**x),
    }

    # Get the operation, typically referred to as "request method"
    operation = event['httpMethod']

    # Test if this is a known event operation
    if operation in operations:
        # if the request has query string parameters,
        # load them into the payload variable
        payload = event['queryStringParameters'] if operation ==
'GET' else json.loads(event['body'])
        # otherwise, load the body of the request into the payload
        return respond(None, operations[operation](dynamo, payload))
    else:
        # If not an allowed operation, return error message
        return respond(ValueError('Unsupported method
"{}".format(operation)))
```

### Wait a moment:

#### What are we doing with the data?

What we have done is created a dictionary where a key maps to a [Python lambda function](#). Here, *lambda* means anonymous, not AWS Lambda.

```
Operations = {
    # Delete key returns an anonymous function
    # which uses the dynamo object above, invokes delete
    'DELETE': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.delete_item(**x),
    # etc., etc., etc. ...
    'GET': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.scan(**x),
    'POST': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.put_item(**x),
    'PUT': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.update_item(**x),
}
```

Ignore the configure function stuff related to Node

5. On the **Configure function** page, do the following:

a. Review the preconfigured Lambda function configuration information, including:

- **Runtime** is Node.js 6.10

**Finally, Create the function**



**Now we have defined our Microservice function**


Lambda > Functions > my\_dsa\_microservice ARN - arn:aws:lambda:us-east-1:426457766204:function:my\_dsa\_microservice

## my\_dsa\_microservice

Qualifiers ▼ Actions ▼  Test

✔ Congratulations! Your Lambda function "my\_dsa\_microservice" has been successfully created and configured with Int11a0pn1 as a trigger in a disabled state. We recommend testing the function behavior before enabling the trigger. ✕

Configuration **Triggers** Monitoring



**API Gateway: LambdaMicroservice**  
arn:aws:execute-api:us-east-1:426457766204:int11a0pn1/prod/ANY/my\_dsa\_microservice

▶ Method: ANY Resource path: /my\_dsa\_microservice Authorization: AWS\_IAM

+ Add trigger ↻ Refresh triggers

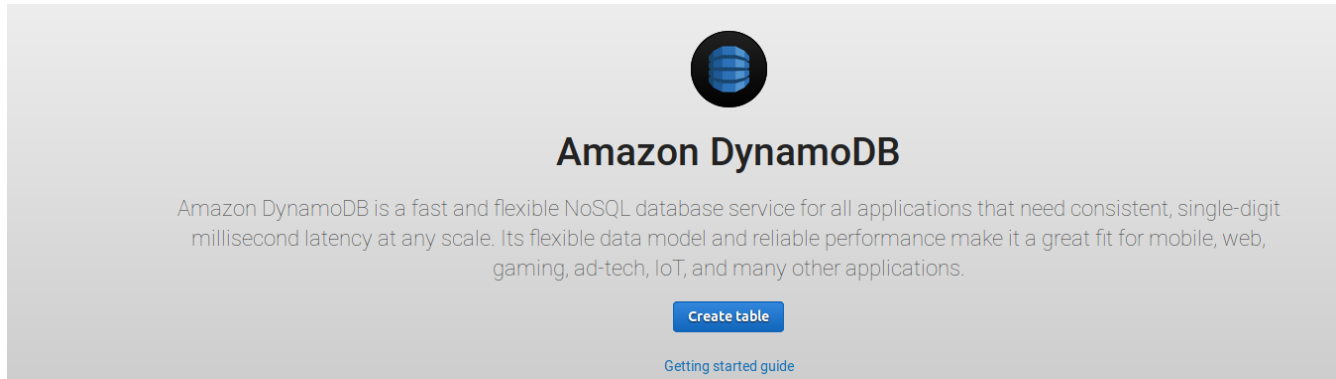
▶ View function policy

Delete

## IN A NEW BROWSER TAB:

### CREATE A DYNAMO DB Table

<http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/with-ddb-configure-ddb.html#with-ddb-create-buckets>



We will keep this simple for now:

Table: **DSA\_Microservice**

Key: **myKey**

### Create DynamoDB table

DynamoDB is a schema-less database that only requires a table name and primary key. The table name, primary key, and sort data within each partition.

Table name\*  ⓘ

Primary key\* Partition key

ⓘ

☐ Add sort key

### Table settings

Default settings provide the fastest way to get started with your table. You can modify these

☒ Use default settings

Then click the Create button.

Cancel

Create

DSA\_Microservice [Close](#)

**Overview**

Items

Metrics

Alarms


Capacity

Indexes

Triggers

Access control

Tags

 Table is being created

## Recent alerts

No CloudWatch alarms have been triggered for this table.

## Stream details

Stream enabled No

View type -

Latest stream ARN -

[Manage Stream](#)

## Table details

Once it is done being created:

DSA\_Microservice [Close](#)

**Overview**

Items

Metrics

Alarms

Capacity

Indexes

Triggers

Access control

Tags

## Recent alerts

No CloudWatch alarms have been triggered for this table.

## Stream details

Stream enabled No  
View type -  
Latest stream ARN -

[Manage Stream](#)

## Table details

Table name	DSA_Microservice
Primary partition key	myKey (String)
Primary sort key	-
Time to live attribute	DISABLED <a href="#">Manage TTL</a>
Table status	Active
Creation date	November 7, 2017 at 6:14:13 PM UTC-6
Provisioned read capacity units	5 (Auto Scaling Disabled)
Provisioned write capacity units	5 (Auto Scaling Disabled)
Last decrease time	-
Last increase time	-
Storage size (in bytes)	0 bytes
Item count	0
Region	US East (N. Virginia)
Amazon Resource Name (ARN)	arn:aws:dynamodb:us-east-1:426457766204:table/DSA_Microservice

[http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/with-on-demand-https-example-configure-event-source-test-end-to-end\\_1.html](http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/with-on-demand-https-example-configure-event-source-test-end-to-end_1.html)

## Step 3.2: Test Sending an HTTPS Request

Configure a test

ARN - arn:aws:lambda:us-east-1:426457766204:function:my\_dsa\_microservice

[Qualifiers](#) [Actions](#) [Select a test event..](#) [Test](#)

[Configure test events](#)

"service" has been successfully created and configured with lnt11a0pn1 as a trigger in a prior before enabling the trigger. [X](#)

This brings you to the large JSON text

Configure test event

A function can have up to 10 test events. The events are persisted so you can switch to another computer or web browser and test your function with the same events.

☒ Create new test event

☐ Edit saved test events

Event template

API Gateway AWS Proxy

Event name

MyEventName

1 {

2 "body": "{ \"test\": \"body\" }",

3 "resource": "/{proxy+}",

4 "requestContext": {

5 "resourceId": "123456",

6 "apiId": "1234567890",

7 "resourcePath": "/{proxy+}",

8 "httpMethod": "POST",

9 "requestId": "c6af9ac6-7b61-11e6-9a41-93e8deadbeef",

10 "accountId": "123456789012",

11 "identity": {

12 "apiKey": null,

13 "userArn": null,

14 "cognitoAuthenticationType": null,

15 "caller": null,

16 "userAgent": "Custom User Agent String",

17 "user": null,

18 "cognitoIdentityPoolId": null,

19 "cognitoIdentityId": null,

20 "cognitoAuthenticationProvider": null,

21 "sourceIp": "127.0.0.1",

22 "accountId": null

23 },

24 "stage": "prod"

25 },

26 "queryStringParameters": {

27 "foo": "bar"

28 },

29 "headers": {

30 "Via": "1.1 08f323deadbeefa7af34d5feb414ce27.cloudfront.net (CloudFront)".

Cancel

Create



We must update the test JSON to match our DynamoDB table name (**DSA\_Microservice**) and key name (**myKey**). The other parameters are just to get some additional data in the table.

```
{
  "httpMethod": "GET",
  "queryStringParameters": {
    "TableName": "DSA_Microservice"
  }
}
```

The Save the test, then click Test to execute it.

my\_dsa\_microservice

Qualifiers ▼ Actions ▼ MyMicroserviceTestEven ▼ Test

✓ Execution result: succeeded ([logs](#))

▶ Details

Expanding the details:

my\_dsa\_microservice

Qualifiers ▼ Actions ▼ MyMicroserviceTestEven ▼ Test

✓ Execution result: succeeded ([logs](#))

▼ Details

The area below shows the result returned by your function execution.

```
{
  "statusCode": "200",
  "body": "{\n  \"Items\": [],\n  \"Count\": 0,\n  \"ScannedCount\": 0,\n  \"ResponseMetadata\": {\n    \"RequestId\":\n    \"3ME744E1PL8NMSS3LNP2FQRBVV4KQNSO5AEMVJF66Q9ASUAAJG\",\n    \"HTTPStatusCode\": 200,\n    \"HTTPHeaders\": {\n      \"server\": \"Server\",\n      \"date\": \"Wed, 08 Nov 2017 00:15:27 GMT\",\n      \"content-type\": \"application/x-amz-json-1.0\",\n      \"content-length\": \"39\",\n      \"connection\": \"keep-alive\",\n      \"x-amzn-requestid\": \"3ME744E1PL8NMSS3LNP2FQRBVV4KQNSO5AEMVJF66Q9ASUAAJG\",\n      \"x-amz-crc32\": \"3413411624\",\n      \"RetryAttempts\": 0\n    }\n  },\n  \"headers\": {\n    \"Content-Type\": \"application/json\"\n  }\n}"
```

**Summary**  
Code SHA-256  
mwIHJFnax40IW8k3u  
zVpwh9tEXhwcYsTEol  
WQpkP8=  
  
Request ID  
ec050d77-  
c419-11e7-843f-

**Log output**  
The area below shows the logging calls in your code. These correspond to a single row within the CloudWatch log group corresponding to this Lambda function. [Click here](#) to view the CloudWatch log group.  

```
START RequestId: ec050d77-c419-11e7-843f-0146f4b8b8d6 Version: $LATEST
END RequestId: ec050d77-c419-11e7-843f-0146f4b8b8d6
REPORT RequestId: ec050d77-c419-11e7-843f-0146f4b8b8d6 Duration: 110.80 ms
Billed Duration: 200 ms Memory Size: 512 MB Max Memory Used: 39 MB
```

**Note:** Items = [] in the body response! This is an empty list.

## Lambda Code revisited!

```
operations = {  
    'DELETE': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.delete_item(**x),  
    'GET': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.scan(**x),  
    'POST': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.put_item(**x),  
    'PUT': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.update_item(**x),  
}
```

Review this link for actions on the DynamoDB:

[http://docs.aws.amazon.com/amazondynamodb/latest/APIReference/API\\_Operations\\_Amazon\\_DynamoDB.html](http://docs.aws.amazon.com/amazondynamodb/latest/APIReference/API_Operations_Amazon_DynamoDB.html)

Notice that we are doing one of four actions:

1. `delete_item ( x )`
2. `scan ( x )`
3. `put_item ( x )`
4. `update_item ( x )`

So, the GET request (test code: `"httpMethod": "GET"`) says to scan for `( x )`

## Add some data into the table:

DSA\_Microservice [Close](#)

Overview **Items** Metrics Alarms Capacity Indexes Triggers Access control Tags

[Create item](#) [Actions](#)

Scan: [\[Table\] DSA\\_Microservice: myKey](#) ^

Query

Partition key myKey String =  !

[Add filter](#)

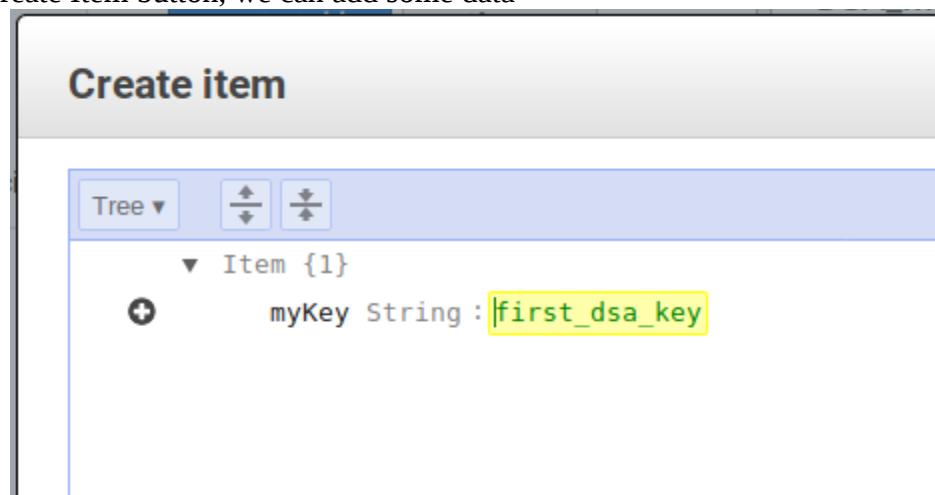
Sort ☒ Ascending ☐ Descending

Attributes ☒ All ☐ Projected

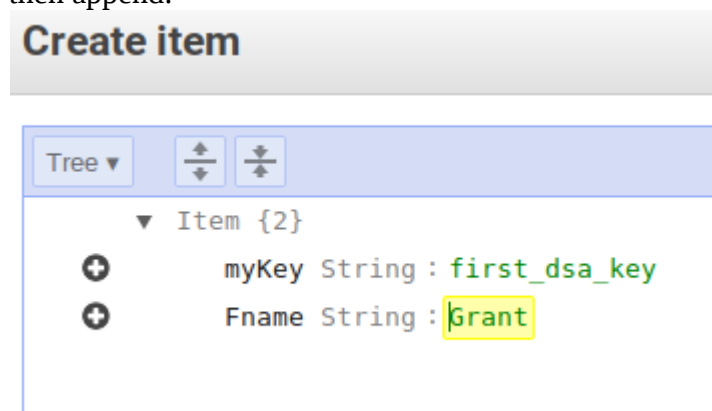
[Start search](#) [Cancel changes](#)

☐ myKey

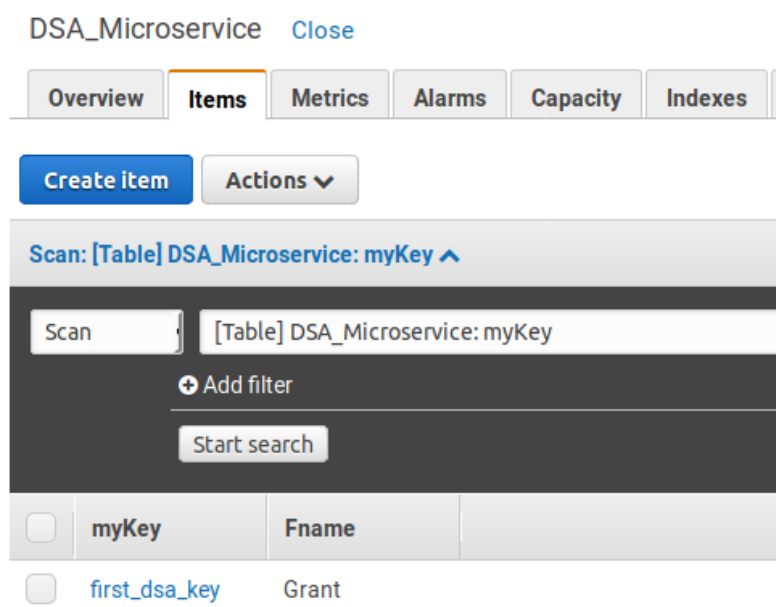
Clicking the Create Item button, we can add some data



Clicking the Plus-Sign, then append:



**Then, Save this new record!**



**Now we can re-run our Lambda function test and we get the new row back!!!**

```
{
  "statusCode": "200",
  "body": "{\"Items\": [{\"Fname\": {\"S\": \"Grant\"}, \"myKey\": {\"S\": \"first_dsa_key\"}}], \"Count\": 1, \"ScannedCount\": 1, \"ResponseMetadata\": {\"RequestId\": \"02JRA0UCUPBTEHSKNEGRV60R0FVV4KQNS05AEMVJF66Q9ASUAAJG\", \"HTTPStatusCode\": 200, \"HTTPHeaders\": {\"server\": \"Server\", \"date\": \"Wed, 08 Nov 2017 00:41:27 GMT\", \"content-type\": \"application/x-amz-json-1.0\", \"content-length\": \"92\", \"connection\": \"keep-alive\", \"x-amzn-requestid\": \"02JRA0UCUPBTEHSKNEGRV60R0FVV4KQNS05AEMVJF66Q9ASUAAJG\", \"x-amz-crc32\": \"3103740141\"}, \"RetryAttempts\": 0}}\",
  "headers": {
    "Content-Type": "application/json"
  }
}
```

## So what does it take to add data to our table?

- 'POST': lambda dynamo, x: dynamo.put\_item(\*\*x),

Now we will create a new test event:

### Configure test event

A function can have up to 10 test events. The **Configure test event** page allows you to create and test your function with the same events.

- ☒ Create new test event
- ☐ Edit saved test events

**Event Name:** MyDSAMicroserviceAddData

**Body:** (Bold change, Blue added)

```
{
  "httpMethod": "POST",
  "body": "{\\"TableName\\":\\"DSA_Microservice\\",\\"Item\\":{\\"myKey\\":
{\\"S\\":\\"my_second_dsa\\"}}}"
}
```

Then Save, and test!!!

NOTE: In the body element, we have written a double quoted escaped version of

```
{
  "TableName": "DSA_Microservice",
  "Item": {
    "myKey": { "S": "my_second_dsa" }
  }
}
```

The {"S": "my\_second\_dsa"} is the JSON format of saying that myKey is a (S)tring, "my\_second\_dsa"

If we go back to our DynamoDB table and refresh!



We have the new data row!

Create itemActions ▾

**Scan: [Table] DSA\_Microservice: myKey ^**

Scan

[Table] DSA\_Microservice: myKey

+ Add filter

Start search

<input type="checkbox"/>	myKey	Fname	
<input type="checkbox"/>	my_second_dsa		
<input type="checkbox"/>	first_dsa_key	Grant	

Event Name: MyDSAMicroserviceAddData

Body: (Bold change, Blue added)

```
{
  "httpMethod": "POST",
  "body": "{\\"TableName\\":\\"DSA_Microservice\\",\\"Item\\":{\\"myKey\\":
{\\"S\\":\\"my_second_dsa\\"}}}"
}
```

## **That is it!**

In this tutorial, you created two different lambda functions using Python 3. The latter of the two is an example of processing a request to load data into the NoSQL AWS, DynamoDB.

Imagine how this can be incorporated into data processing pipelines and integrated with S3 bucket events, DynamoDB or Redshift or in a model  $S3 \rightarrow \text{Lambda} \rightarrow S3 \rightarrow ???$