Thanks to Dave Mathews for his post: <https://www.hackster.io/ggdm/hello-good-night-smarthome-control-without-a-hub-cbe3f3#code> which greatly helped in setting this up.

**Background**

I have WeMo smart plugs all over the house. One of them is connected to a cat water fountain. We have two cats, one of which likes to drink from the fountain when it’s on, the other when it is off. The WeMo app is wonderful, and so is the integration with Alexa, however both are a bit cumbersome to use when we sense a cat near the fountain at 3 am (yes, we are crazy about our fuzzbuckets! Plus, you;ve never met our cats 😊 ). And what if you are not able to use voice commands??? What if you don’t have your phone with you???

So I created a process to toggle the fountain on/off with an IoT button as another option. A one-click process with a kind of ‘wireless light switch’. No more issuing a voice command to Alexa or your digital home assistant of choice, or opening your phone, opening an app, finding the switch and click it.

**Components**

* WeMo Smart Plug or light switch: Internet-enabled electrical outlet.
* WeMo app: this allows you to control the above.
* IFTTT account: If This Then That. This is a way to synchronize heretofore discrete apps.
* AWS account: Cloud
* AWS Lambda: Serverless computing. It’s not \*actually\* serverless, but be that as it may....
* AWS IoT: Internet connected objects (Internet of Things). Physical objects that are embedded with ‘computer smarts’ (sensors, chips etc.) that they use to communicate with the world.
* Seeed IoT Button: intelligent button.

**Process**

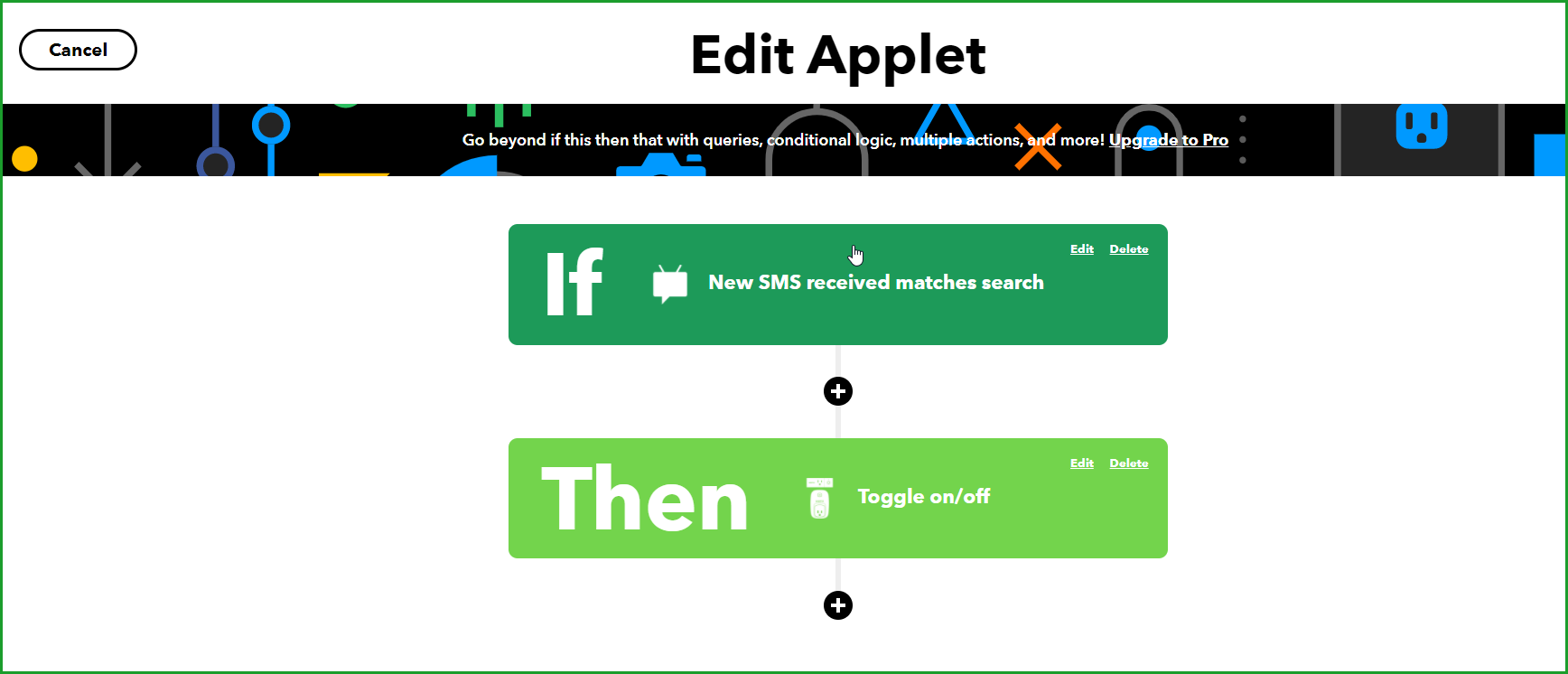
Click button -> AWS Lambda runs -> SMS is sent to phone -> IFTTT triggers and sends a command to … > WeMo App to toggle the WeMo Smart Plug

**Steps**

* Buy a Seeed IoT button: <https://wiki.seeedstudio.com/SEEED-IOT-BUTTON-FOR-AWS/#operating-instructions>. You'll also need a rechargeable battery that doesn't come with it. (sorry, I didn’t make up the rules 😊)
* Create an AWS account if you don't have one.
* Create an IFTTT account if you don't have one.
* Launch AWS and access the IoT One-click service and select Claim Your Device. Then enable it.
* Select the AWS IoT One-Click service and select Create a Project. Select a Device Template as All Button Types and the Action is 'Send SMS'. Supply your mobile number and for message default value "#WeMo".
* Launch AWS Lambda, and select the default SMS Lambda created to attach to this button. Overwrite the lambda\_function.py with the code provided here. I hard-coded the phone number but you can pass it through the parameters in the AWS Lambda console if you like, by uncommenting the appropriate lines above ‘<YOUR PHONE NUMBER HERE>’ line and removing or commenting out that line.



* Launch IFTTT and Create an Applet. Select 'New SMS Received that matches search” and supply the text “WeMo”. For the 'Then' part select Wemo and supply your switch type and name and 'Toggle on/off'. Be sure to turn on ‘Get notifications when this Applet is active’ otherwise when the app is in sleep mode on your mobile it will wait for it to wake.



Future enhancement: speed up the execution. That may require an IFTTT Pro account. Currently the process takes ~ 20 seconds to complete due to the several handoffs that need to occur. The biggest time-intensive task seems to be the IFTTT trigger, hence the possible enhancement.