

Introduction

▶ Getting Started

▶ Module 1 - Introduction to Amazon API Gateway

▶ Module 2 - Deploy your first API with IaC

▶ Module 3 - API Gateway REST Integrations

▶ Module 4 - Observability in API Gateway

▼ **Module 5 - WebSocket APIs**

Module Goals

Set up your AWS SAM Project

Build the AWSome Pizza Bar with AWS SAM

Test the backend using a WebSocket client

▶ Module 6 - Enable fine-grained access control for your APIs

Clean up

Resources

Module 5 - WebSocket APIs



Important Note

This module is **independent from other modules**, however it's assumed that the **"Getting Started"** part was done already.

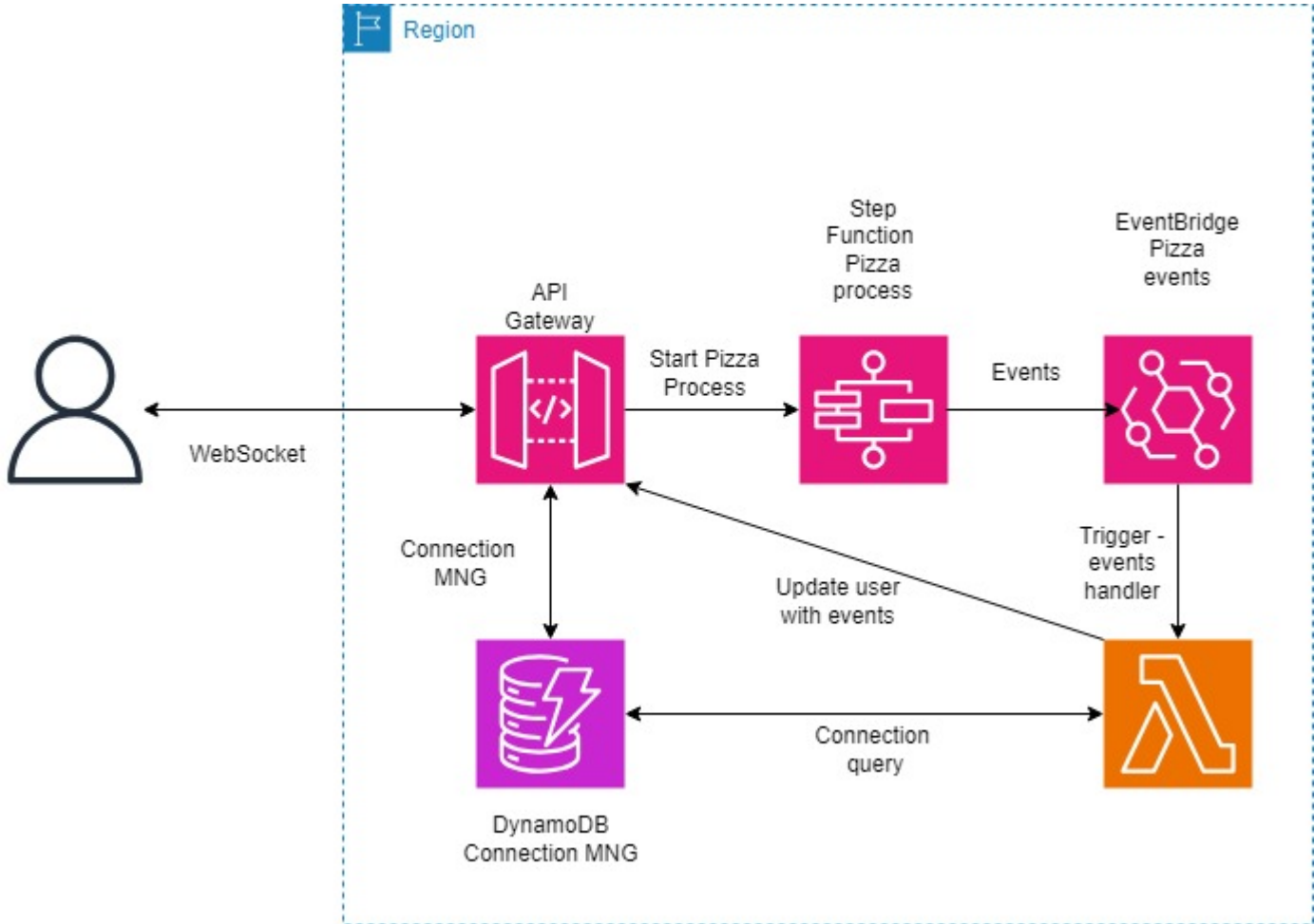
In this module you will learn how to create a WebSocket application using [SAM \(Serverless Application Model\)](#).

WebSocket protocol provides simultaneous two-way communication channels over a single Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) connection. It enables full-duplex interaction between a web browser (or other client application) and server with lower overhead than half-duplex alternatives such as HTTP polling (REST), facilitating real-time data transfer from and to the server. This is made possible by providing a standardized way for the server to send content to the client without being first requested by the client, and allowing messages to be passed back and forth while keeping the connection open. In this way, a two-way ongoing conversation can take place between the client and the server. Using WebSocket, an application frontend can become an integral part of an EDA (Event Driven Architecture) system, as it can receive events (messages) from the backend, instead of polling the backend periodically.

Some examples for applications and use cases that can benefit from using WebSocket:

1. Real time communication chat based applications (e.g WhatsApp).
2. A need for server to client communication (e.g sending notifications), usually called server-push.
3. Performance & reduced latency: since the connection is already established, each side can send data a lot more efficiently than via a HTTP request (REST) that necessarily contains headers, cookies etc. Also, latency is lower as data can be sent quicker.

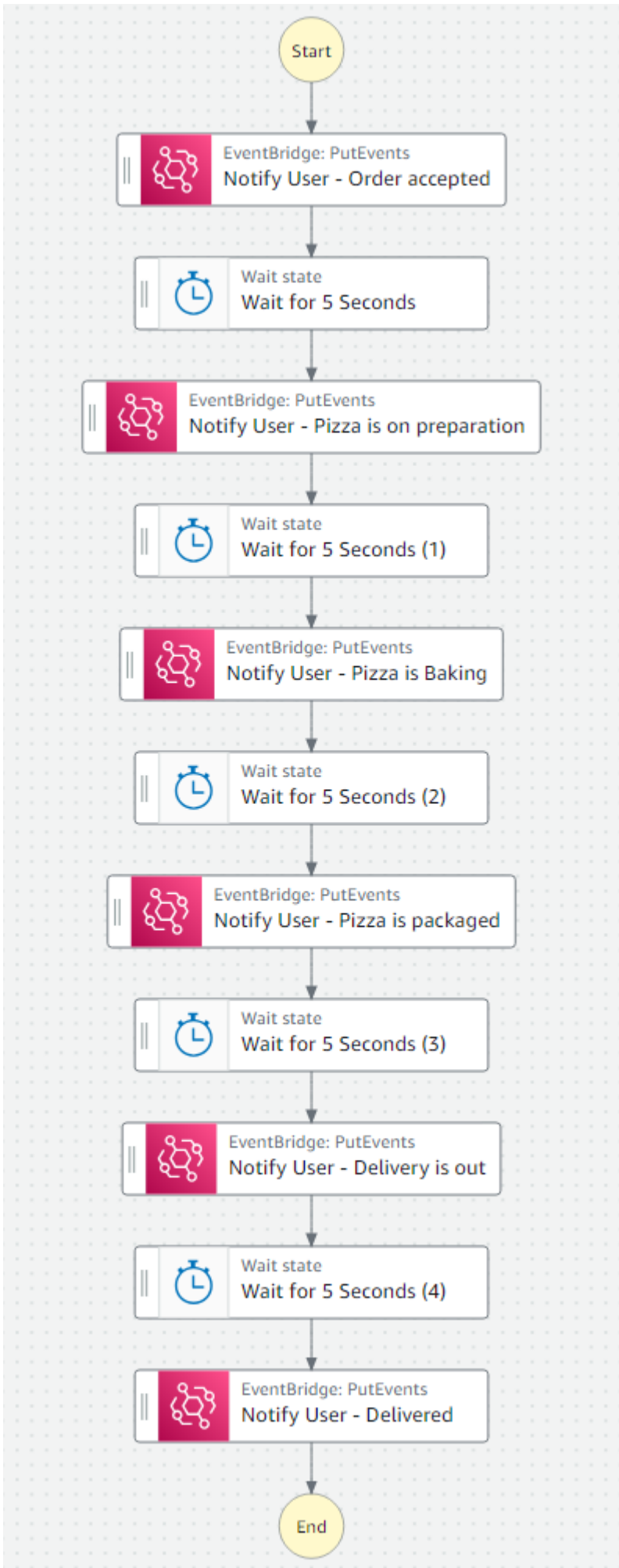
In this module we are going to implement our **AWSome Pizza Bar**. The backend will be able to receive a pizza order from the user frontend. The order of the pizza is being handled by the backend using [AWS Step Functions](#) to orchestrate the process. The user frontend will receive periodic updates using API Gateway and WebSocket based API.



This is the flow:

1. A user opens a new connection to its endpoint that uses a WebSocket api, provided by the Amazon API Gateway. API Gateway [\\$connect route](#) is invoked. It inserts a new connection entry in the DynamoDB Sessions table for persisting the connection.
2. The user sends a new order request for a pizza. API Gateway [\\$default route](#) is invoked. This triggers an AWS Step Functions state machine to process the order and prepare the pizza by the backend.
3. The state machine triggers events to AWS EventBridge. For example, if the pizza starts its baking, an event will be send.
4. EventBridge triggers a Lambda function to process each event. The Lambda function processes each event according to it's state. The Lambda function also updates the DynamoDB Orders table for its current pizza order status, and pushes notification to the user (via Amazon API Gateway) using the WebSocket connection.
5. When the user closes the connection, or it's timed out, API Gateway [\\$disconnect route](#) is invoked. It deletes the connection entry in the DynamoDB Sessions table.

Now let's zoom in to the AWS Step Function state machine that is processing the order, and preparing the pizza:



We can see there are several steps to notify the user on events during the order and pizza preparation. We also implemented a "Wait State" between the events, to simulate the time it takes to prepare the pizza. In this example we specified 5 seconds between each step, in reality the orchestration process can take longer and can be manually controlled by the pizzeria employees.

Select your cookie preferences

We use essential cookies and similar tools that are necessary to provide our site and services. We use performance cookies to collect anonymous statistics, so we can understand how customers use our site and make improvements. Essential cookies cannot be deactivated, but you can choose "Customize" or "Decline" to decline performance cookies.

If you agree, AWS and approved third parties will also use cookies to provide useful site features, remember your preferences, and display relevant content, including relevant advertising. To accept or decline all non-essential cookies, choose "Accept" or "Decline." To make more detailed choices, choose "Customize."

Accept

Decline

Customize

Introduction

► Getting Started

► Module 1 - Introduction to Amazon API Gateway

► Module 2 - Deploy your first API with IaC

► Module 3 - API Gateway REST Integrations

► Module 4 - Observability in API Gateway

▼ Module 5 - WebSocket APIs

Module Goals

Set up your AWS SAM Project

Build the AWSome Pizza Bar with AWS SAM

Test the backend using a WebSocket client

► Module 6 - Enable fine-grained access control for your APIs

Clean up

Resources

Set up your AWS SAM Project

1. Navigate to [Cloud9](#) in your AWS console and make sure you are in the correct region.
2. Click **Open on the APISetup your AWS SAM Project** workspace environment.
3. The AWS Cloud9 environment comes with some AWS utilities pre-installed. Run the following command in your AWS Cloud9 terminal to verify that it contains an updated version of AWS SAMs.

```
1 sam --version
```

4. Set up your AWS SAM project Folder and Files:

```
1 mkdir -p module-5 && cd module-5
```

5. Use the below command to create the SAM template file:

```
1 touch template.yaml
```

- `template.yaml` - This file is the primary AWS SAM configuration file. AWS SAM templates are an extension of AWS CloudFormation templates, with some additional components that make them easier to work with. For the full reference for AWS CloudFormation templates, see [AWS CloudFormation Template Reference](#) in the AWS CloudFormation User Guide.

Define the Amazon States Languages file

This module uses AWS Step Functions as an orchestrator for the AWSome Pizza Bar flow. [AWS Step Functions](#) is a cloud service that enables you to coordinate and manage the components of distributed applications and microservices using visual workflows. These workflows can be described using [Amazon States Languages \(ASL\)](#). Amazon States Languages (ASL) is a JSON-based language used to define state machines in AWS Step Functions, specifying the sequence of steps and conditions that makes up your workflow.

Step Functions can control certain AWS services directly from the Amazon States Language (ASL). Step Functions provides a service integration API for integrating with Amazon EventBridge. This lets you build event-driven applications by sending custom events directly from Step Functions workflows.

1. Set up your state machine project folder:

```
1 mkdir -p statemachine && cd statemachine
```

2. Use the below command to create the ASL definition file:

```
1 touch api-gw-websocket-asl.json
```

3. Review the code and then copy/paste it into the `api-gw-websocket-asl.json` file.

```
1 {
2   "Comment": "AWSome Pizza Bar Flow",
3   "StartAt": "Notify User - Order accepted",
4   "States": {
5     "Notify User - Order accepted": {
6       "Type": "Task",
7       "Resource": "arn:aws:states:::events:putEvents",
8       "Parameters": {
9         "Entries": [
10          {
11            "Detail": {
12              "target": "LAMBDA to notify user via WebSocket",
13              "connectionId.$": "$.connectionId",
14              "status": "order accepted",
15              "orderDetails.$": "$.data"
16            },
17            "DetailType": "OrderStatusChangedEvent",
18            "EventBusName": "${PizzaOrderEventBus}",
19            "Source": "WebsocketEvent"
20          }
21        ]
22      },
23      "ResultPath": null,
24      "Next": "Wait for 5 Seconds"
25    },
26    "Wait for 5 Seconds": {
27      "Next": "Notify User - Pizza is on preparation",
28      "Seconds": 5,
29      "Type": "Wait"
30    },
31    "Notify User - Pizza is on preparation": {
32      "Type": "Task",
33      "Resource": "arn:aws:states:::events:putEvents",
34      "Parameters": {
35        "Entries": [
36          {
37            "Detail": {
38              "target": "LAMBDA to notify user via WebSocket",
39              "connectionId.$": "$.connectionId",
40              "status": "order is now being prepared",
41              "orderDetails.$": "$.data"
42            },
43            "DetailType": "OrderStatusChangedEvent",
44            "EventBusName": "${PizzaOrderEventBus}",
45            "Source": "WebsocketEvent"
46          }
47        ]
48      },
49      "ResultPath": null,
50      "Next": "Wait for 5 Seconds (1)"
51    },
52    "Wait for 5 Seconds (1)": {
53      "Seconds": 5,
54      "Type": "Wait",
55      "Next": "Notify User - Pizza is Baking"
56    },
57    "Notify User - Pizza is Baking": {
58      "Type": "Task",
59      "Resource": "arn:aws:states:::events:putEvents",
60      "Parameters": {
61        "Entries": [
62          {
63            "Detail": {
64              "target": "LAMBDA to notify user via WebSocket",
65              "connectionId.$": "$.connectionId",
66              "status": "order is undergoing the baking process",
67              "orderDetails.$": "$.data"
68            },
69            "DetailType": "OrderStatusChangedEvent",
70            "EventBusName": "${PizzaOrderEventBus}",
71            "Source": "WebsocketEvent"
72          }
73        ]
74      },
75      "ResultPath": null,
76      "Next": "Wait for 5 Seconds (2)"
77    },
78    "Wait for 5 Seconds (2)": {
79      "Seconds": 5,
80      "Type": "Wait",
81      "Next": "Notify User - Pizza is packaged"
82    },
83    "Notify User - Pizza is packaged": {
84      "Type": "Task",
85      "Resource": "arn:aws:states:::events:putEvents",
86      "Parameters": {
87        "Entries": [
88          {
89            "Detail": {
90              "target": "LAMBDA to notify user via WebSocket",
91              "connectionId.$": "$.connectionId",
92              "status": "order is packed",
93              "orderDetails.$": "$.data"
94            },
95            "DetailType": "OrderStatusChangedEvent",
96            "EventBusName": "${PizzaOrderEventBus}",
97            "Source": "WebsocketEvent"
98          }
99        ]
100      },
101      "ResultPath": null,
102      "Next": "Wait for 5 Seconds (3)"
103    },
104    "Wait for 5 Seconds (3)": {
105      "Seconds": 5,
106      "Type": "Wait",
107      "Next": "Notify User - Delivery is out"
108    },
109    "Notify User - Delivery is out": {
110      "Type": "Task",
111      "Resource": "arn:aws:states:::events:putEvents",
112      "Parameters": {
113        "Entries": [
114          {
115            "Detail": {
116              "target": "LAMBDA to notify user via WebSocket",
117              "connectionId.$": "$.connectionId",
118              "status": "order is sent for delivery",
119              "orderDetails.$": "$.data"
120            },
121            "DetailType": "OrderStatusChangedEvent",
122            "EventBusName": "${PizzaOrderEventBus}",
123            "Source": "WebsocketEvent"
124          }
125        ]
126      },
127      "ResultPath": null,
128      "Next": "Wait for 5 Seconds (4)"
129    },
130    "Wait for 5 Seconds (4)": {
131      "Seconds": 5,
132      "Type": "Wait",
133      "Next": "Notify User - Delivered"
134    },
135    "Notify User - Delivered": {
136      "Type": "Task",
137      "Resource": "arn:aws:states:::events:putEvents",
138      "Parameters": {
139        "Entries": [
140          {
141            "Detail": {
142              "target": "LAMBDA to notify user via WebSocket",
143              "connectionId.$": "$.connectionId",
144              "status": "order delivered",
145              "orderDetails.$": "$.data"
146            },
147            "DetailType": "OrderStatusChangedEvent",
148            "EventBusName": "${PizzaOrderEventBus}",
149            "Source": "WebsocketEvent"
150          }
151        ]
152      },
153      "ResultPath": null,
154      "end": true
155    }
156  }
157 }
```

The Amazon States Languages (ASL) definition outlines a set of [States](#). Each state within the state machine is assigned the responsibility of executing particular actions in our flow. Each state in the Amazon States Language can have an associated **resource** field that specifies the action or service to be performed. To produce events to Amazon EventBridge during workflow, AWS Step Functions adds an additional resource type `arn:aws:states:::events:putEvents`. The integration between AWS Step Function and Amazon EventBridge is configured with the following Amazon States Language (ASL) parameter fields:

```
1 "Detail": A valid string or JSON object.
2 "DetailType": Free-form string used to decide what fields to expect in the event detail.
3 "EventBusName": The name or ARN of the event bus to receive the event.
4 "Source": The source of the event.
```

The "Detail" attribute within each state is used to store order information, and its structure is as follows:

```
"Detail": {
  "target": "[Text field containing the event target]",
  "connectionId.$": "[Text field containing the current WebSocket connection ID]",
  "status": "[Text field containing the current order status]",
  "orderDetails.$": "[JSON string containing the actual payload body]"
}
```

The integration between AWS Step Function and Amazon EventBridge requires to create an EventBridge rule in your account that matches the specific pattern of the events you will send. EventBridge Rules use event pattern to select events and send them to [targets](#). When the event matches the event pattern defined for a rule, the rule processes the event data and sends the pertinent information to the target. To match the specific pattern, each Step Function state is set with **DetailType=OrderStatusChangedEvent** and **Source=WebsocketEvent** which than will be used by the EventBridge event pattern on lines 52-56 of the `template.yaml` in the next step.

Create the Lambda function triggered by EventBridge

The target function which subscribes to the event emitted by the state machine is accountable for either creating or updating our Pizza order. Additionally, it dispatches a notification message to the active WebSocket connection.

1. Navigate to the root Project folder

```
1 cd ~/environment/module-5/
```

2. Create the Lambda Project Folders

```
1 mkdir -p handlers && cd handlers
```

3. Use the below command to create the following files:

```
1 touch lambda-target-example.js common.js package.json
```

4. Review the code and the comments below, then copy/paste it into the `lambda-target-example.js` file.

```
1 import { v4 as uuidv4 } from 'uuid';
2 import { Common } from './common.js';
3
4 const sessionTable = process.env.SESION_TABLE;
5 const orderTable = process.env.ORDER_TABLE;
6
7 export const handler = async (event) => {
8   console.log('testing Websocket event:', JSON.stringify(event));
9
10  // get request details
11  const { orderDetails, status, connectionId } = event.detail;
12
13  try {
14    // get session data
15    const sessionRecord = await Common.dynamodb_get('connectionId', connectionId, sessionTable);
16
17    if (!sessionRecord) {
18      throw Error(`API integration failed ${connectionId} not found in ${sessionTable}`);
19    }
20
21    let currentRecord = {};
22
23    // check if order already exists
24    if (sessionRecord.orderId) {
25      console.log('order already exists.... updating')
26
27      // fetch order record
28      const orderRecord = await Common.dynamodb_get('orderId', sessionRecord.orderId, orderTable);
29
30      // update order with new details
31      currentRecord = { ...orderRecord, ...orderDetails, status };
32      await Common.dynamodb_write(currentRecord, orderTable);
33
34    } else {
35      const newOrderId = uuidv4();
36      console.log('order id: ', newOrderId);
37
38      // set session with order id
39      const sessionData = {
40        ...sessionRecord,
41        orderId: newOrderId
42      };
43
44      currentRecord = {
45        ...orderDetails,
46        connectionId: connectionId,
47        orderId: newOrderId,
48        domainName: sessionRecord.domainName,
49        stage: sessionRecord.stage,
50        status: status
51      };
52
53      // update session table with new order
54      await Common.dynamodb_write(sessionData, sessionTable);
55
56      // update order table with new order
57      await Common.dynamodb_write(currentRecord, orderTable);
58
59      // send websocket message
60      await Common.websocket_send(currentRecord.domainName, currentRecord.stage, connectionId, status);
61      return Common.http_ok({message: JSON.stringify(currentRecord)});
62
63    } catch(error) {
64      return Common.http_notfound({message: JSON.stringify({
65        message: 'invalid order',
66        err: error
67      })});
68    }
69  }
70 }
```

Note: Event pattern that contains **DetailType=OrderStatusChangedEvent** and **Source=WebsocketEvent** will target the same Lambda function function above.

On line (11) we are using the [ES6 destructuring assignment syntax](#) to unpack values from the recieved event.

On line (15) the lambda function will fetch the details related to the existing connection.

For simplicity, in the order to ascertain whether the current event is categorized as "UPDATE" or "NEW", we will place the "order_id" value in the temporary Sessions Table. If the "order_id" value is not discovered in the Sessions table, a new order will be generated, and its ID will be established within the Session table. Moreover, a new order entry will be appended to the Orders Table. Conversely, if the "order_id" value is located in the Sessions table, we will only update the existing order with the new status.

Lines (24-35) responsible for updating the status of an order.

Lines (35-53) responsible for adding a new order.

WebSocket API in API Gateway has stages for managing deployments, custom domains for friendlier URLs, and connection IDs for uniquely identifying and managing individual WebSocket connections. These elements collectively contribute to the configuration and functionality of WebSocket communication in the context of API Gateway.

Line (63) uses the following WebSocket connection HTTP requests to send a callback message to a connected client. For enabling server callbacks, the **Stage, Domain and Connection ID** are necessary.

5. The provided code below includes utility functions featuring DynamoDB, HTTP, and WebSocket API calls, designed to be utilized by the `lambda-target-example.js` file. Review the code and the comments below then copy/paste it into the `common.js` file

```
1 import { DynamoDBClient } from '@aws-sdk/client-dynamodb';
2 import { DynamoDBDocumentClient, GetCommand, PutCommand } from '@aws-sdk/lib-dynamodb';
3 import { ApiGatewayManagementApiClient, PostToConnectionCommand } from '@aws-sdk/client-apigatewaymanagementapi';
4
5 const documentClient = new DynamoDBDocumentClient({});
6 const docClient = DynamoDBDocumentClient.from(documentClient);
7
8 // Get item from Dynamo db table
9 async function dynamodb_get(hash, value, TableName) {
10   const command = new GetCommand({
11     TableName,
12     Key: {
13       [hash]: value
14     },
15   });
16
17   const response = await docClient.send(command);
18   if (!response || !response.Item) {
19     throw Error('There was an error fetching the data for ID of ${ID} from ${TableName}');
20   }
21   console.log(response);
22   return response.Item;
23 }
24
25 // Write item to Dynamo db table
26 async function dynamodb_write(item, TableName) {
27   const command = new PutCommand({
28     TableName,
29     Item: item
30   });
31
32   await docClient.send(command);
33 }
34
35 // Return 200 status code
36 function http_ok(data = {}) {
37   return {
38     headers: {
39       'Content-Type': 'application/json',
40       'Access-Control-Allow-Methods': '*',
41       'Access-Control-Allow-Origin': '*',
42     },
43     statusCode: 200,
44     body: JSON.stringify(data),
45   };
46 }
47
48 // Return 404 status code
49 function http_notfound(data = {}) {
50   return {
51     headers: {
52       'Content-Type': 'application/json',
53       'Access-Control-Allow-Methods': '*',
54       'Access-Control-Allow-Origin': '*',
55     },
56     statusCode: 404,
57     body: JSON.stringify(data),
58   };
59 }
60
61 // Sending message to a websocket connection
62 async function websocket_send(domainName, stage, connectionId, status) {
63   const callback = `https://${domainName}/${stage}`;
64
65   console.log('Sending connection preparing sending message ${status} to ${callback}');
66
67   const client = new ApiGatewayManagementApiClient({
68     endpoint: callback,
69   });
70
71   const status = {
72     name: "STATUS_CHANGED_EVENT",
73     status: status
74   }
75
76   const messageEvent = {
77     type: "CHANGED_EVENT",
78     message: JSON.stringify(message)
79   }
80
81
82   const requestParams = {
83     ConnectionId: connectionId,
84     Data: JSON.stringify(messageEvent)
85   };
86
87   const command = new PostToConnectionCommand(requestParams)
88
89   console.log('sending to ${connectionId} ...');
90   await client.send(command);
91   console.log(`${status} sent`);
92 };
93
94 export const Common = {
95   http_ok,
96   http_notfound,
97   dynamodb_get,
98   dynamodb_write,
99   websocket_send
100 };
```

6. The lambda handler requires integrating the specified SDK libraries. Copy and paste the following code into the `package.json` file.

```
1 {
2   "name": "websocket_sample",
3   "version": "1.0.0",
4   "description": "websocket sample es6 compatible",
5   "type": "module",
6   "dependencies": {
7     "@aws-sdk/client-dynamodb": "^3.445.0",
8     "@aws-sdk/lib-dynamodb": "^3.445.0",
9     "uuid": "^9.0.1"
10 }
```

Select your cookie preferences

We use essential cookies and similar tools that are necessary to provide our site and services. We use performance cookies to collect anonymous statistics, so we can understand how customers use our site and make improvements. Essential cookies cannot be deactivated, but you can choose "Customize" or "Decline" to decline performance cookies.

If you agree, AWS and approved third parties will also use cookies to provide useful site features, remember your preferences, and display relevant content, including relevant advertising. To accept or decline all non-essential cookies, choose "Accept" or "Decline." To make more detailed choices, choose "Customize."

Accept

Decline

Customize

