CloudFormation - Custom Resources

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSCloudFormation/latest/UserGuide/walkthrough-custom-resources-lambda-lookup-amiids.html

Custom Resources

Custom resources enable you to write custom provisioning logic in templates that AWS CloudFormation runs anytime you create, update (if you changed the custom resource), or delete stacks. For example, you might want to include resources that aren't available as AWS CloudFormation resource types. You can include those resources by using custom resources. That way you can still manage all your related resources in a single stack.

Use the AWS::CloudFormation::CustomResource or Custom::String resource type to define custom resources in your templates. Custom resources require one property: the service token, which specifies where AWS CloudFormation sends requests to, such as an Amazon SNS topic.

> **Note**
>
> If you use the VPC endpoint feature, custom resources in the VPC must have access to AWS CloudFormation-specific S3 buckets. Custom resources must send responses to a pre-signed Amazon S3 URL. If they can't send responses to Amazon S3, AWS CloudFormation won't receive a response and the stack operation fails. For more information, see Setting Up VPC Endpoints for AWS CloudFormation.

How Custom Resources Work

Any action taken for a custom resource involves three parties.

template developer

Creates a template that includes a custom resource type. The template developer specifies the service token and any input data in the template.

custom resource provider

Owns the custom resource and determines how to handle and respond to requests from AWS CloudFormation. The custom resource provider must provide a service token that the template developer uses.

AWS CloudFormation

During a stack operation, sends a request to a service token that is specified in the template, and then waits for a response before proceeding with the stack operation.

The template developer and custom resource provider can be the same person or entity, but the process is the same. The following steps describe the general process:

1. The template developer defines a custom resource in his or her template, which includes a service token and any input data parameters. Depending on the custom resource, the input data might be required; however, the service token is always required.

   The service token specifies where AWS CloudFormation sends requests to, such as to an Amazon SNS topic ARN or to an AWS Lambda function ARN. For more information, see AWS::CloudFormation::CustomResource. The service token and the structure of the input data is defined by the custom resource provider.

2. Whenever anyone uses the template to create, update, or delete a custom resource, AWS CloudFormation sends a request to the specified service token. The service token must be in the same region in which you are creating the stack.

3. In the request, AWS CloudFormation includes information such as the request type and a pre-signed Amazon Simple Storage Service URL, where the custom resource sends responses to. For more information about what's included in the request, see Custom Resource Request Objects.

The following sample data shows what AWS CloudFormation includes in a request:

```
{
   "RequestType" : "Create",
   "ResponseURL" : "http://pre-signed-S3-url-for-response",
   "StackId" : "arn:aws:cloudformation:us-west-2:123456789012:stack/stack-name/guid",
   "RequestId" : "unique id for this create request",
   "ResourceType" : "Custom::TestResource",
   "LogicalResourceId" : "MyTestResource",
   "ResourceProperties" : {
      "Name" : "Value",
      "List" : [ "1", "2", "3" ]
   }
}
```

Note

In this example, `ResourceProperties` allows AWS CloudFormation to create a custom payload to send to the Lambda function.

3. The custom resource provider processes the AWS CloudFormation request and returns a response of `SUCCESS` or `FAILED` to the pre-signed URL. The custom resource provider provides the response in a JSON-formatted file and uploads it to the pre-signed S3 URL. For more information, see Uploading Objects Using Pre-Signed URLs in the *Amazon Simple Storage Service Developer Guide*.

   In the response, the custom resource provider can also include name-value pairs that the template developer can access. For example, the response can include output data if the request succeeded or an error message if the request failed. For more information about responses, see Custom Resource Response Objects.

   Important

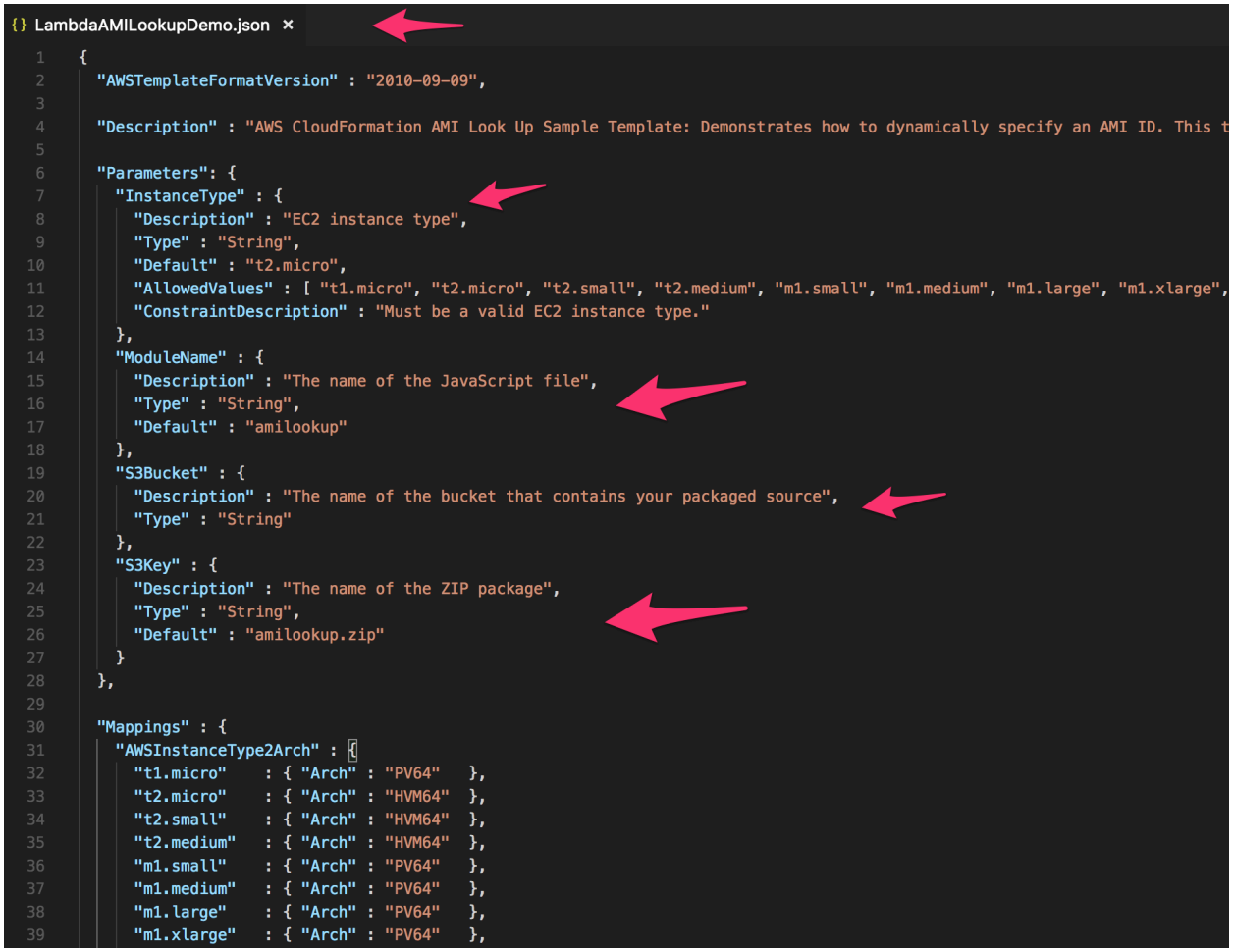
   If the name-value pairs contain sensitive information, you should use the `NoEcho` field to mask the output of the custom resource. Otherwise, the values are visible through APIs that surface property values (such as `DescribeStackEvents`).

   The custom resource provider is responsible for listening and responding to the request. For example, for Amazon SNS notifications, the custom resource provider must listen and respond to notifications that are sent to a specific topic ARN. AWS CloudFormation waits and listens for a response in the pre-signed URL location.

   The following sample data shows what a custom resource might include in a response:

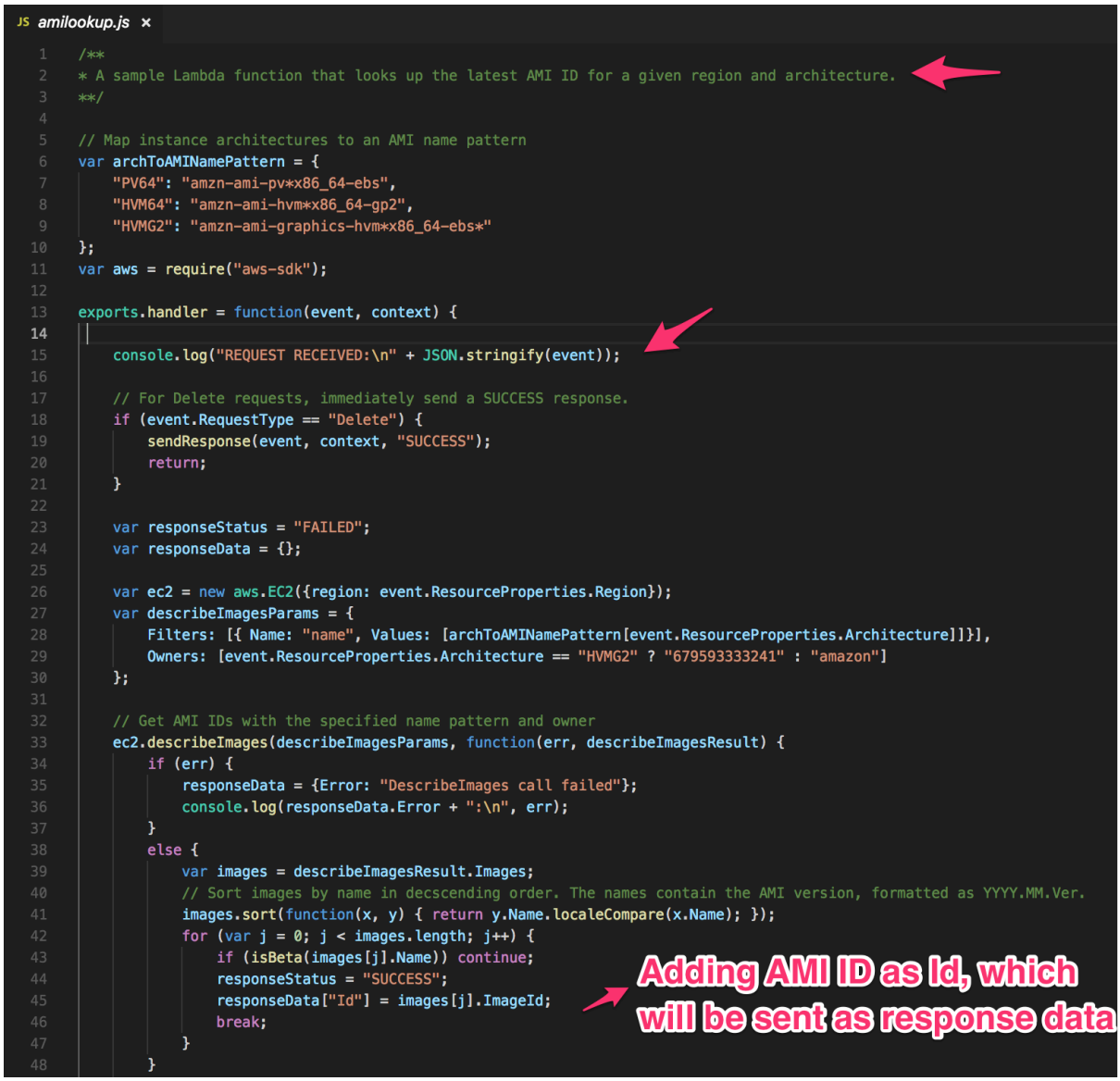
```
{
   "Status" : "SUCCESS",
   "PhysicalResourceId" : "TestResource1",
   "StackId" : "arn:aws:cloudformation:us-west-2:123456789012:stack/stack-name/guid",
   "RequestId" : "unique id for this create request",
   "LogicalResourceId" : "MyTestResource",
   "Data" : {
      "OutputName1" : "Value1",
      "OutputName2" : "Value2",
   }
}
```

4. After getting a `SUCCESS` response, AWS CloudFormation proceeds with the stack operation. If a `FAILED` response or no response is returned, the operation fails. Any output data from the custom resource is stored in the pre-signed URL location. The template developer can retrieve that data by using the Fn::GetAtt function.


LambdaAMILookupDemo.json
{
"AWSTemplateFormatVersion" : "2010-09-09",
"Description" : "AWS CloudFormation AMI Look Up Sample Template: Demonstrates how to dynamically specify an AMI ID. This t
"Parameters": {
"InstanceType" : {
"Description" : "EC2 instance type",
"Type" : "String",
"Default" : "t2.micro",
"AllowedValues" : ["t1.micro", "t2.micro", "t2.small", "t2.medium", "m1.small", "m1.medium", "m1.large", "m1.xlarge",
"ConstraintDescription" : "Must be a valid EC2 instance type."
},
"ModuleName" : {
"Description" : "The name of the JavaScript file",
"Type" : "String",
"Default" : "amilookup"
},
"S3Bucket" : {
"Description" : "The name of the bucket that contains your packaged source",
"Type" : "String"
},
"S3Key" : {
"Description" : "The name of the ZIP package",
"Type" : "String",
"Default" : "amilookup.zip"
}
},
"Mappings" : {
"AWSInstanceType2Arch" : {
"t1.micro" : { "Arch" : "PV64" },
"t2.micro" : { "Arch" : "HVM64" },
"t2.small" : { "Arch" : "HVM64" },
"t2.medium" : { "Arch" : "HVM64" },
"m1.small" : { "Arch" : "PV64" },
"m1.medium" : { "Arch" : "PV64" },
"m1.large" : { "Arch" : "PV64" },
"m1.xlarge" : { "Arch" : "PV64" },


LambdaAMILookupDemo.json
Custom Resource AMIInfo will have Id as response data, which will be AMI ID
Region and Architecture will be sent as request parameter to Lambda
ServiceToken is ARN of Lambda
"Resources" : {
"SampleInstance": {
"Type": "AWS::EC2::Instance",
"Properties": {
"InstanceType" : { "Ref" : "InstanceType" },
"ImageId": { "Fn::GetAtt": ["AMIInfo", "Id"] }
}
},
"AMIInfo": {
"Type": "Custom::AMIInfo",
"Properties": {
"ServiceToken": { "Fn::GetAtt" : ["AMIInfoFunction", "Arn"] },
"Region": { "Ref": "AWS::Region" },
"Architecture": { "Fn::FindInMap" : ["AWSInstanceType2Arch", { "Ref" : "InstanceType" }, "Arch"] }
}
},
"AMIInfoFunction": {
"Type": "AWS::Lambda::Function",
"Properties": {
"Code": {
"S3Bucket": { "Ref": "S3Bucket" },
"S3Key": { "Ref": "S3Key" }
},
"Handler": { "Fn::Join" : ["", [{ "Ref": "ModuleName" },".handler"]] },
"Role": { "Fn::GetAtt" : ["LambdaExecutionRole", "Arn"] },
"Runtime": "nodejs4.3",
"Timeout": "30"
}
},
"LambdaExecutionRole": {…
}
},
"Outputs" : {
"AMIID" : {
"Description": "The Amazon EC2 instance AMI ID.",
"Value" : { "Fn::GetAtt": ["AMIInfo", "Id"] }

AMILookup Lambda Code



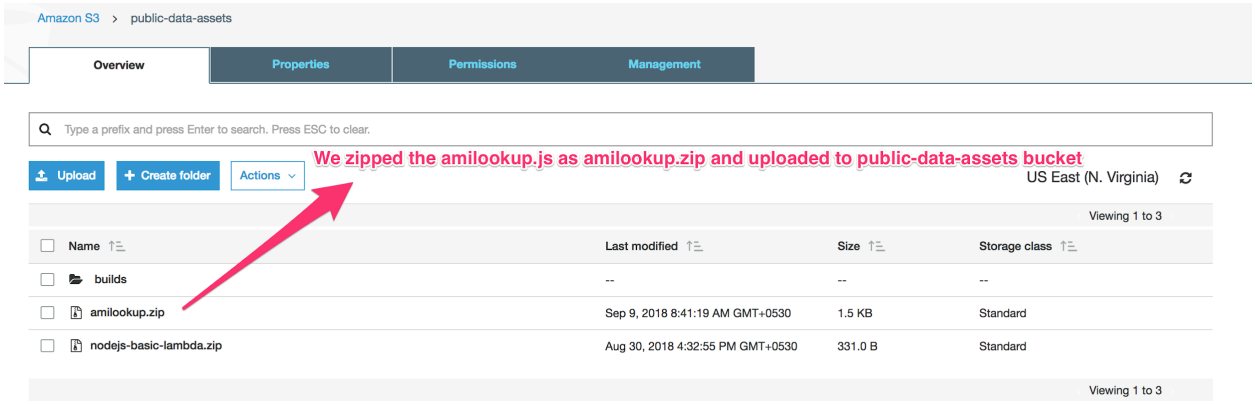
amilookup.js

```
        sendResponse(event, context, responseStatus, responseData);
    });
};

// Check if the image is a beta or rc image. The Lambda function won't return any of those images.
function isBeta(imageName) {
    return imageName.toLowerCase().indexOf("beta") > -1 || imageName.toLowerCase().indexOf(".rc") > -1;
}


// Send response to the pre-signed S3 URL
function sendResponse(event, context, responseStatus, responseData) {

    var responseBody = JSON.stringify({
        Status: responseStatus,
        Reason: "See the details in CloudWatch Log Stream: " + context.logStreamName,
        PhysicalResourceId: context.logStreamName,
        StackId: event.StackId,
        RequestId: event.RequestId,
        LogicalResourceId: event.LogicalResourceId,
        Data: responseData
    });

    console.log("RESPONSE BODY:\n", responseBody);

    var https = require("https");
    var url = require("url");

    var parsedUrl = url.parse(event.ResponseURL);
    var options = {
        hostname: parsedUrl.hostname,
        port: 443,
        path: parsedUrl.path,
        method: "PUT",
        headers: {
            "content-type": "",
            "content-length": responseBody.length
        }
    };

    console.log("SENDING RESPONSE...\n");

    var request = https.request(options, function(response) {
        console.log("STATUS: " + response.statusCode);
        console.log("HEADERS: " + JSON.stringify(response.headers));
        // Tell AWS Lambda that the function execution is done
        context.done();
    });
```

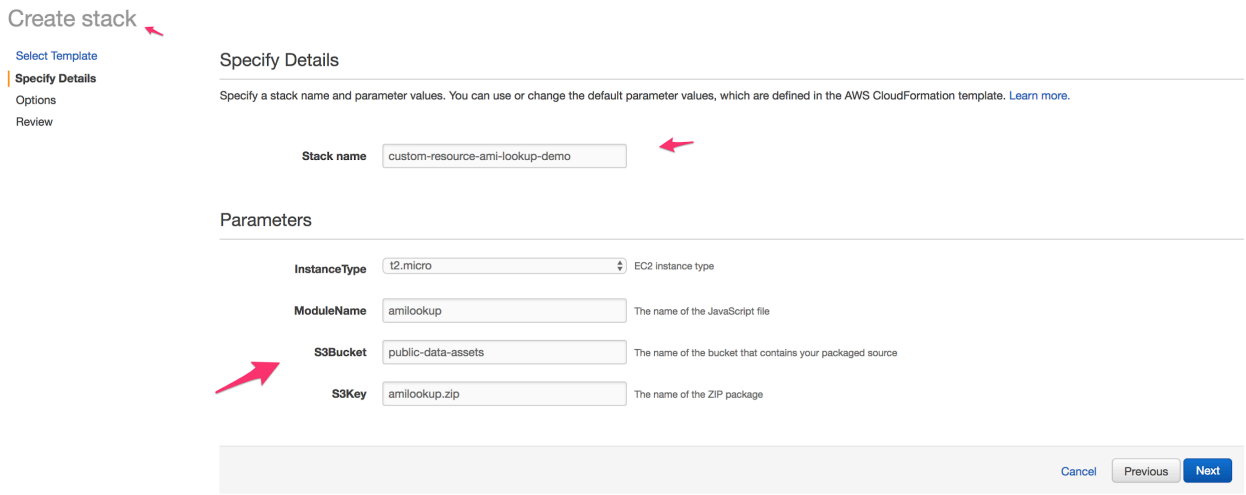
Sending response to pre-signed S3 URL which is sent by CloudFormation as part request call to Lambda

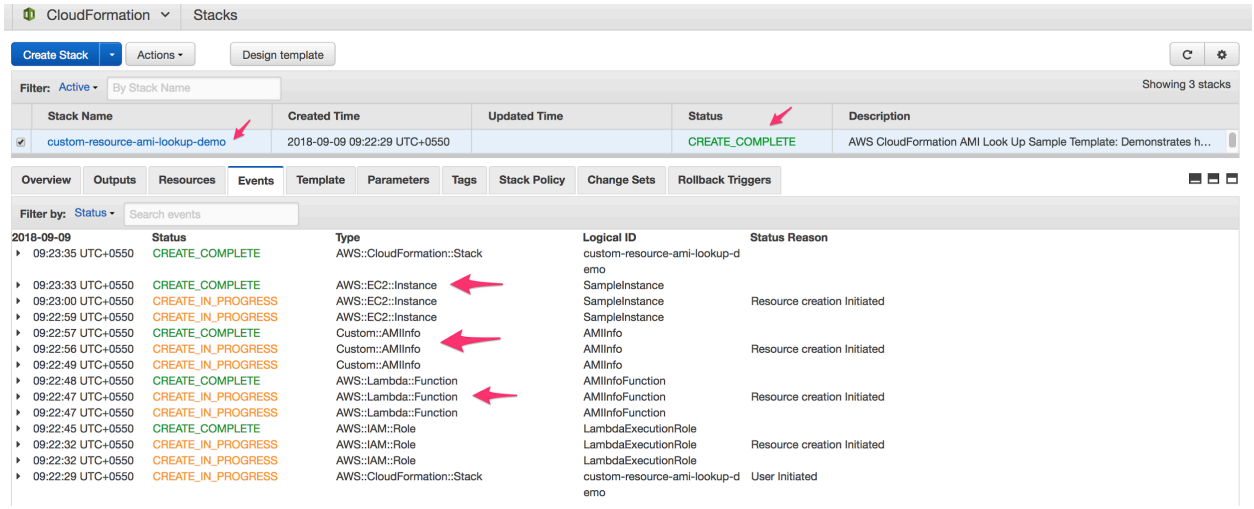
Next let's zip the amilookup.js into amilookup.zip and upload to S3 bucket

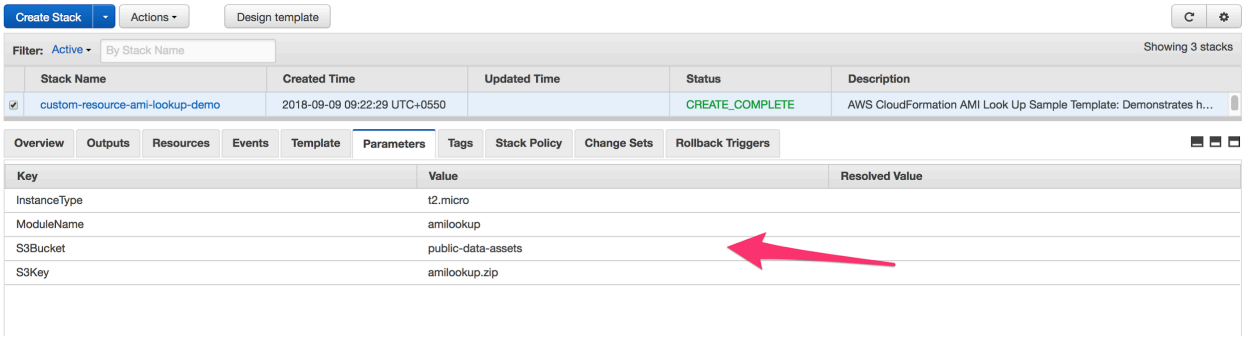
```
[INBL2-42RG3QD:AMILookup mahtab.alam$ pwd
/Users/mahtab.alam/cf/Custom-Resources/AMILookup
[INBL2-42RG3QD:AMILookup mahtab.alam$ ls
amilookup.js
[INBL2-42RG3QD:AMILookup mahtab.alam$ zip amilookup.zip amilookup.js
  adding: amilookup.js (deflated 62%)
[INBL2-42RG3QD:AMILookup mahtab.alam$ ls
amilookup.js    amilookup.zip
[INBL2-42RG3QD:AMILookup mahtab.alam$ ls -l
total 16
-rw-r--r--@ 1 mahtab.alam  26352421  3775 Sep  9 09:10 amilookup.js
-rw-r--r--  1 mahtab.alam  26352421  1627 Sep  9 09:18 amilookup.zip
INBL2-42RG3QD:AMILookup mahtab.alam$
```

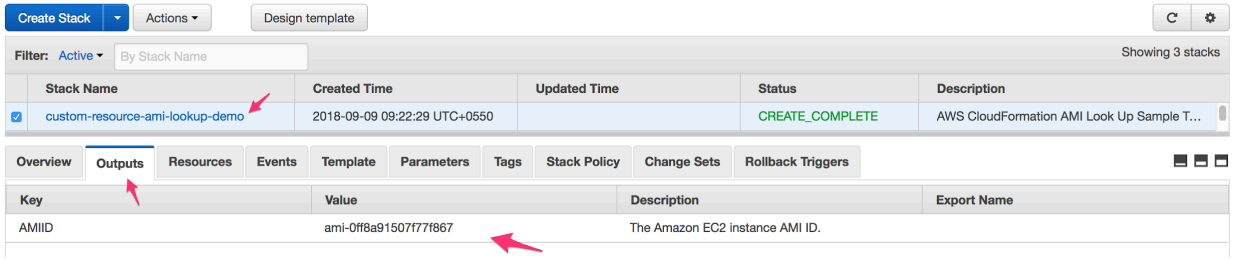


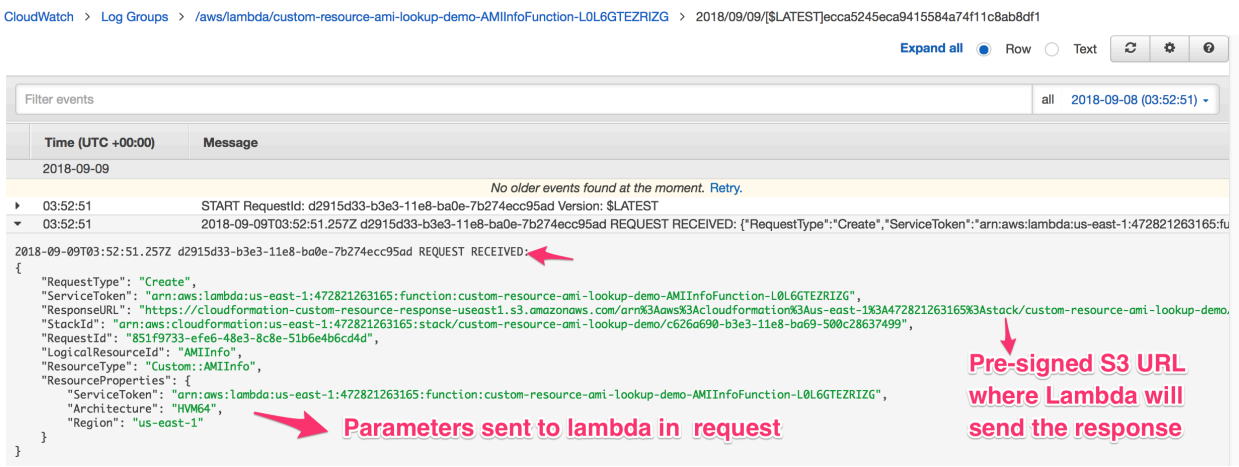
Next let's create stack

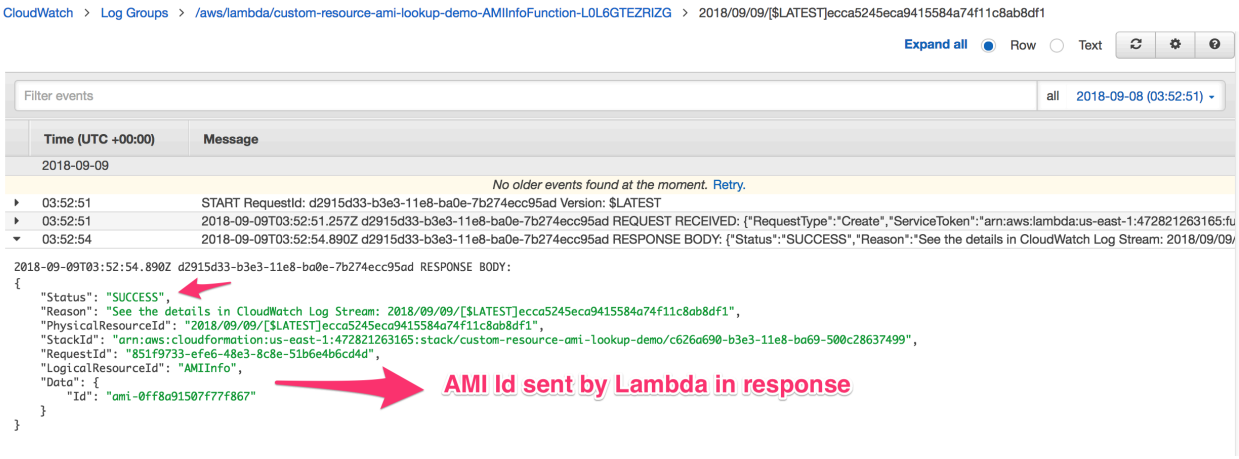



CloudFormation
Stacks
Create Stack
Actions
Design template
Filter: Active
By Stack Name
Showing 3 stacks
Stack Name
Created Time
Updated Time
Status
Description
custom-resource-ami-lookup-demo
2018-09-09 09:22:29 UTC+0550
CREATE_COMPLETE
AWS CloudFormation AMI Look Up Sample Template: Demonstrates h...
Overview
Outputs
Resources
Events
Template
Parameters
Tags
Stack Policy
Change Sets
Rollback Triggers
Filter by: Status
Search events
2018-09-09
Status
Type
Logical ID
Status Reason
09:23:35 UTC+0550 CREATE_COMPLETE AWS::CloudFormation::Stack custom-resource-ami-lookup-demo
09:23:33 UTC+0550 CREATE_COMPLETE AWS::EC2::Instance SampleInstance
09:23:00 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS AWS::EC2::Instance SampleInstance Resource creation Initiated
09:22:59 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS AWS::EC2::Instance SampleInstance
09:22:57 UTC+0550 CREATE_COMPLETE Custom::AMIInfo AMIInfo
09:22:56 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS Custom::AMIInfo AMIInfo Resource creation Initiated
09:22:49 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS Custom::AMIInfo AMIInfo
09:22:48 UTC+0550 CREATE_COMPLETE AWS::Lambda::Function AMIInfoFunction
09:22:47 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS AWS::Lambda::Function AMIInfoFunction Resource creation Initiated
09:22:47 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS AWS::Lambda::Function AMIInfoFunction
09:22:45 UTC+0550 CREATE_COMPLETE AWS::IAM::Role LambdaExecutionRole
09:22:32 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS AWS::IAM::Role LambdaExecutionRole Resource creation Initiated
09:22:32 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS AWS::IAM::Role LambdaExecutionRole
09:22:29 UTC+0550 CREATE_IN_PROGRESS AWS::CloudFormation::Stack custom-resource-ami-lookup-demo User Initiated


Create Stack
Actions
Design template
Filter: Active
By Stack Name
Showing 3 stacks
Stack Name
Created Time
Updated Time
Status
Description
custom-resource-ami-lookup-demo
2018-09-09 09:22:29 UTC+0550
CREATE_COMPLETE
AWS CloudFormation AMI Look Up Sample Template: Demonstrates h...
Overview
Outputs
Resources
Events
Template
Parameters
Tags
Stack Policy
Change Sets
Rollback Triggers
Key
Value
Resolved Value
InstanceType t2.micro
ModuleName amilookup
S3Bucket public-data-assets
S3Key amilookup.zip


Create Stack
Actions
Design template
Filter: Active
By Stack Name
Showing 3 stacks
Stack Name
Created Time
Updated Time
Status
Description
custom-resource-ami-lookup-demo
2018-09-09 09:22:29 UTC+0550
CREATE_COMPLETE
AWS CloudFormation AMI Look Up Sample T...
Overview
Outputs
Resources
Events
Template
Parameters
Tags
Stack Policy
Change Sets
Rollback Triggers
Key
Value
Description
Export Name
AMIID
ami-0ff8a91507f77f867
The Amazon EC2 instance AMI ID.





Let's verify that our EC2 Instance was launched using this AMI ID ami-0ff8a91507f77f867