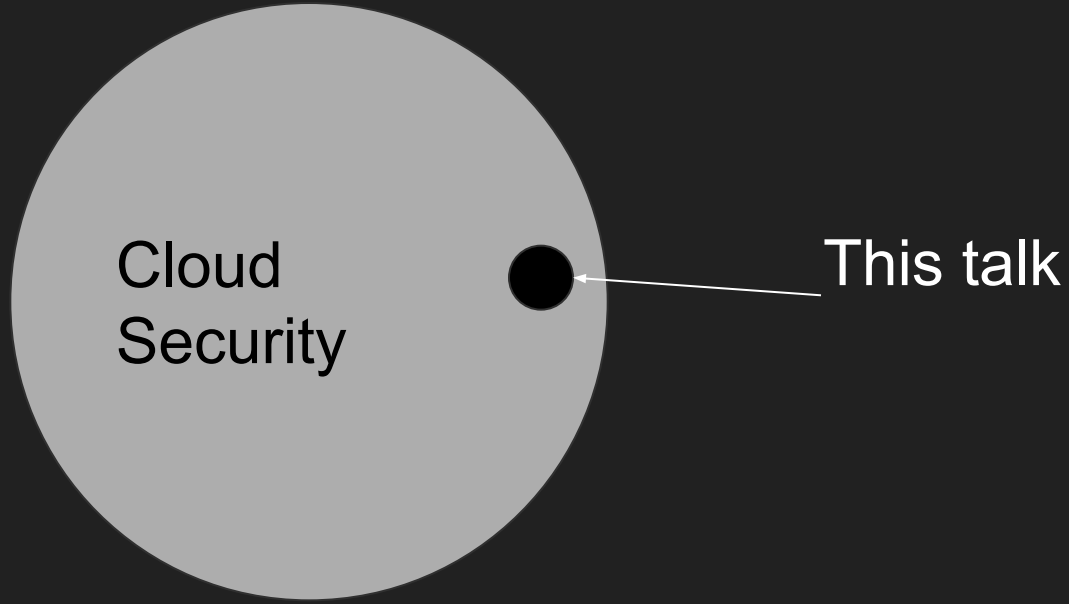


Cloud Catastrophes

and how to avoid them



It is a big topic



Theme

Many issues we see in Cloud environments are due to missing some of the mindshift required to do things the 'Cloudy' way

1. Global pools of identifiers -> Hijacking of orphaned resources
2. Cloud APIs are public -> Cred disclosure can be catastrophic
3. Gaps in knowledge of cloud auth models -> Gaps in Auth

Resource Hijacking

blah.com

img.blah.com



img.blah.com.s3.amazonaws.com



AWS acct: blah.com



AWS acct: attacker

Resource Hijacking

blah.com

img.blah.com



~~img.blah.com.s3.amazonaws.com~~
AWS acct: blah.com


AWS acct: attacker

Resource Hijacking

blah.com

img.blah.com

~~blahimages.s3.amazonaws.com~~
AWS acct: blah.com

img.blah.com.s3.amazonaws.com

AWS acct: attacker

Resource Hijacking

So removing a resource that you need is a basic error

Before deleting the "img.blah.com" bucket, consider the following:

- Bucket names are unique. If you delete this bucket, another AWS user can use the name.

[🔗 Learn more](#)

But sometimes basic errors .. can lead to code exec

Unclaimed bucket -> code exec

Install script pulls binary from unclaimed S3 bucket

```
+ curl -fSL "https://s3.amazonaws.com/rocketchatbuild/rocket.chat-develop.tgz" -o rocket.chat.tgz
tar xzf rocket.chat.tgz && rm rocket.chat.tgz
cd $ROOTPATH/bundle/programs/server
npm install
pm2 startOrRestart $ROOTPATH/current/$PM2FILE
```

So I decided to see if I could access the contents of that S3 bucket. To my surprise, I got the following error message:

```
$ aws s3 ls s3://rocketchatbuild
```

```
An error occurred (NoSuchBucket) when calling the ListObjects operation: The specified bucket does not exist
```

<https://hackerone.com/reports/399166>

Resource Hijacking

The namespace for many cloud resources is global

- If the identifier is user controlled AND
- Another party is able to register that name
- Then the attacker could serve their content to clients that visit that domain

Resource Hijacking

Service	Hijackable?
AWS S3	Yes
AWS Cloudfront	Edge case
Azure Webhosting	Yes
Heroku	Edge case
Google Cloud Storage	No

Source: <https://github.com/EdOverflow/can-i-take-over-xyz>

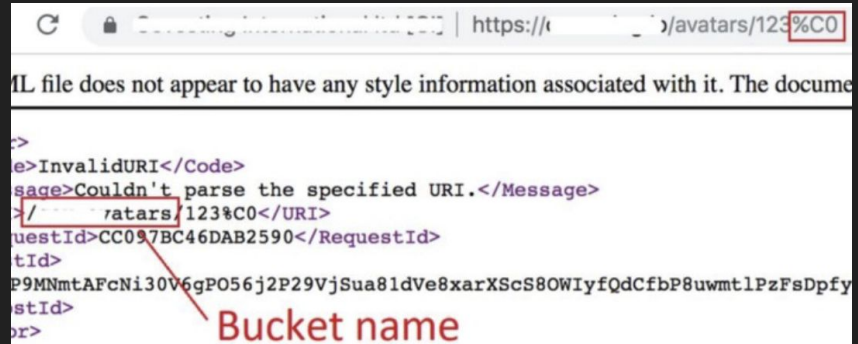
Mitigating Hijacking

1. Keep DNS and Cloud resources in sync to prevent “dangling” resources
2. Automate a mechanism of tracking DNS and cloud assets

Enumeration of S3 Buckets

Don't assume that because a bucket is behind a CDN that the name can't be discovered

1. Public buckets will serve a torrent file if you append “?torrent” (torrent file contains the bucket name)
2. Errors may include the name



If the bucket name is discovered attacker can check for write access & dir listing

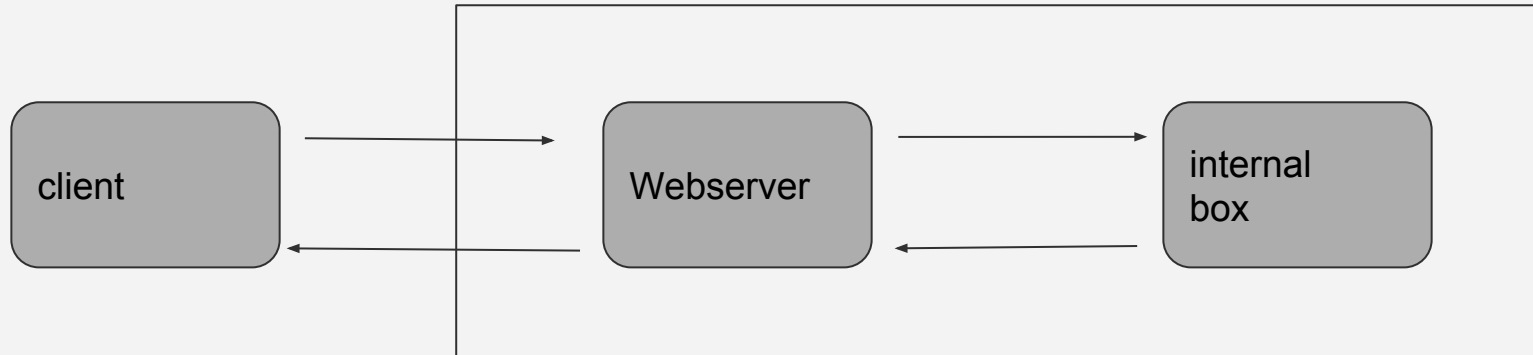
2. Credential Disclosure

One common way AWS credentials are disclosed is Server Side Request Forgery (SSRF) against the AWS metadata service

Server Side Request Forgery (SSRF)

Attacker causes server to make an HTTP request

Its most useful when the result is displayed to the attacker



Application functionality where SSRF is common

Common sources of SSRF

- XML parsing (XXE)
- PDF / page conversion functionality
- Application proxying (e.g. API gateway)

Sometimes useful

- Image uploads (may accept inline file OR a URL)
- Web hooks

What is the Metadata Service

Cloud services need a mechanism to populate instances with configuration

E.g SSH key

They use an internal service where instances can request this data

E.g. AWS uses **`http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data`**

Other services have equivalent URLs

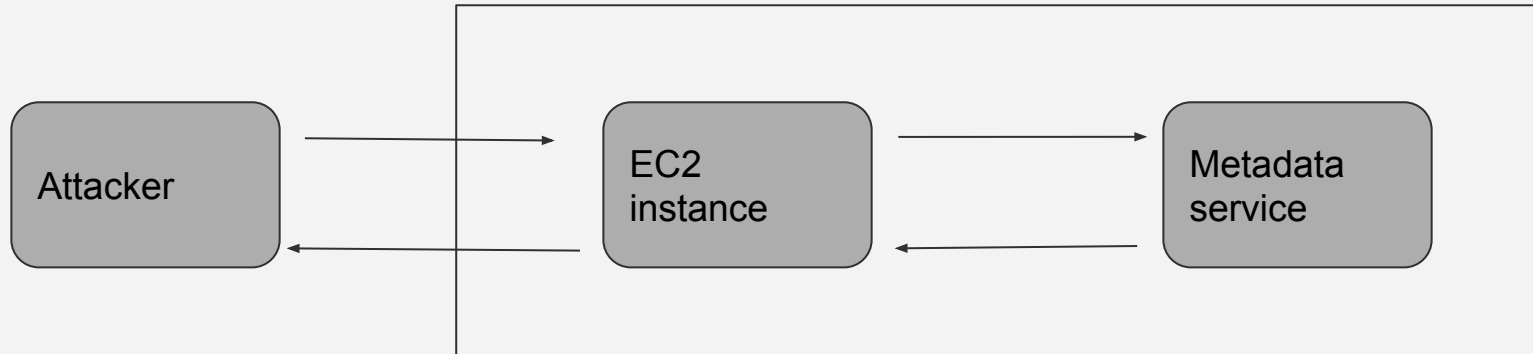
Listing: <https://gist.github.com/BuffaloWill/fa96693af67e3a3dd3fb>

Trivial Example

1. Attacker says: I want a PDF of this URL:

<http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/iam/security-credentials/instanceRole>

2. EC2 instance fetches page and returns the result as a PDF



Trivial Example cont.

PDF Contains:

```
{
  "Code"           : "Success",
  "LastUpdated"   : "2019-04-26T09:00:42Z",
  "Type"          : "AWS-HMAC",
  "AccessKeyId"   : "ASIAIB[redacted]ZZ",
  "SecretAccessKey" : "22oRmA[redacted]F2IJJ",
  "Token"        : "AAoDZZdzE0v////////[redacted]",
  "Expiration"   : "2019-04-26T16:00:16Z"
}
```

Attacker can import these credentials into the AWS CLI and perform actions with the rights of the instanceRole

Bypassing Anti-SSRF measures

An API gateway

1. Configuration step
 - Setup backend API URL
 - Setup frontend URL, so request is passed to backend URL
2. API Gateway is in service
 - Request comes in, DNS lookup for domain in backend URL
 - HTTP request to backend URL

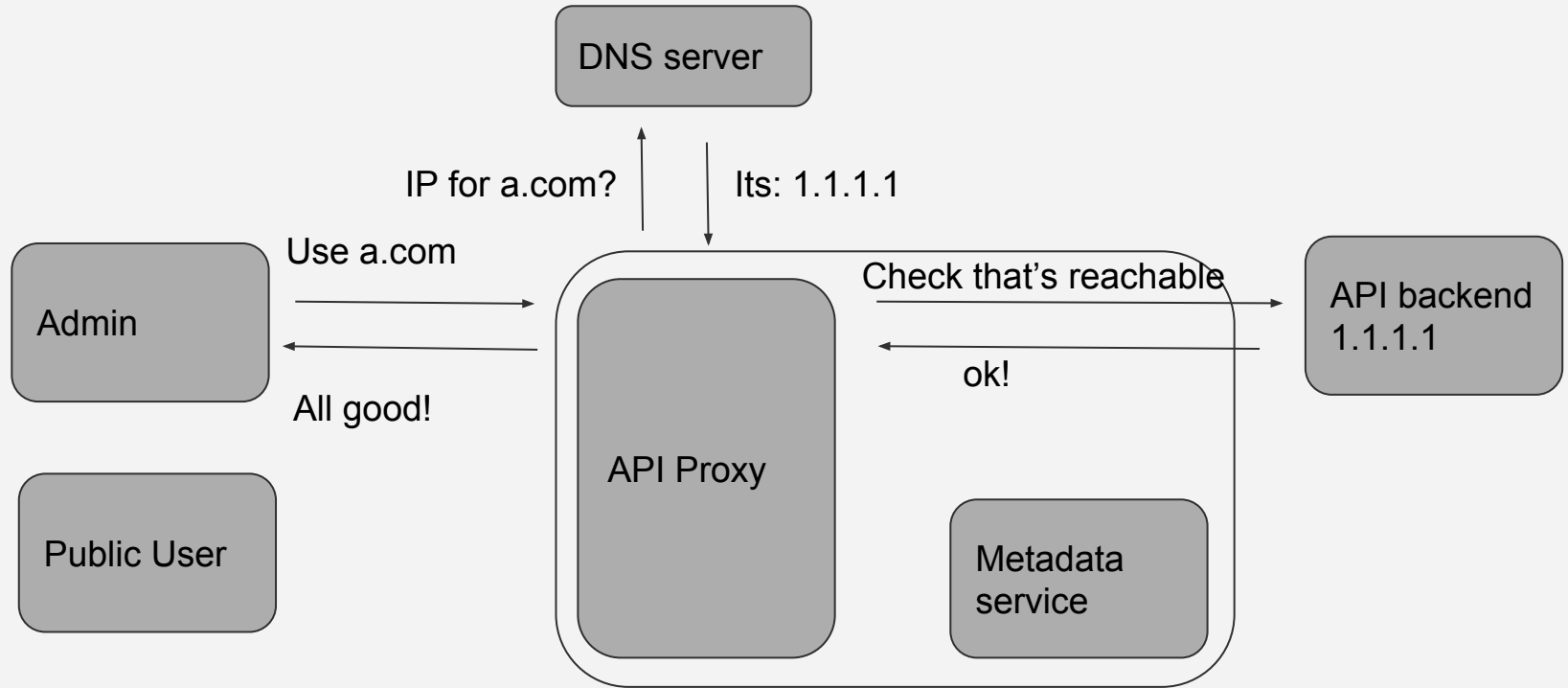
Bypassing Anti-SSRF measures

In step one there's a sanity check of the backend URL

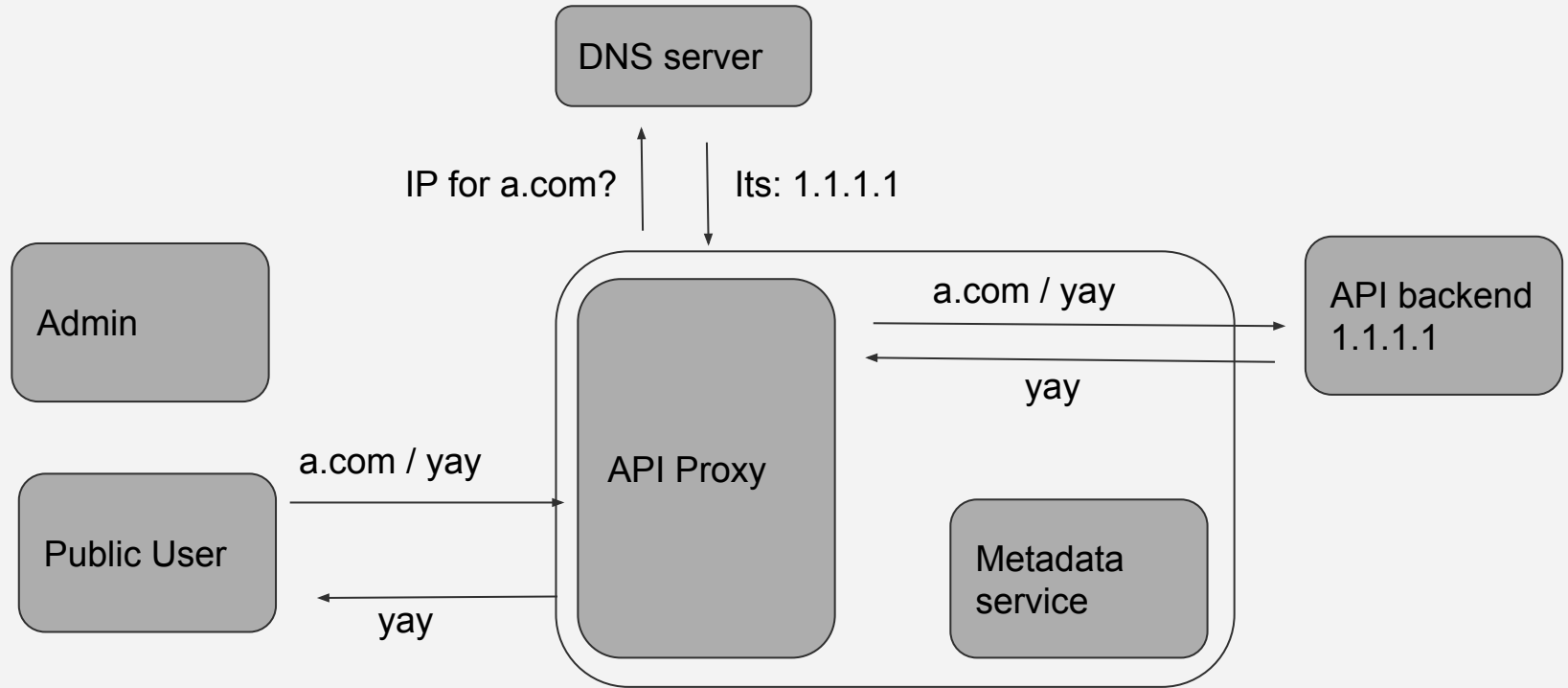
169.254.169.254 is not permitted

Any host that resolves to 169.254.169.254 is also not permitted :(

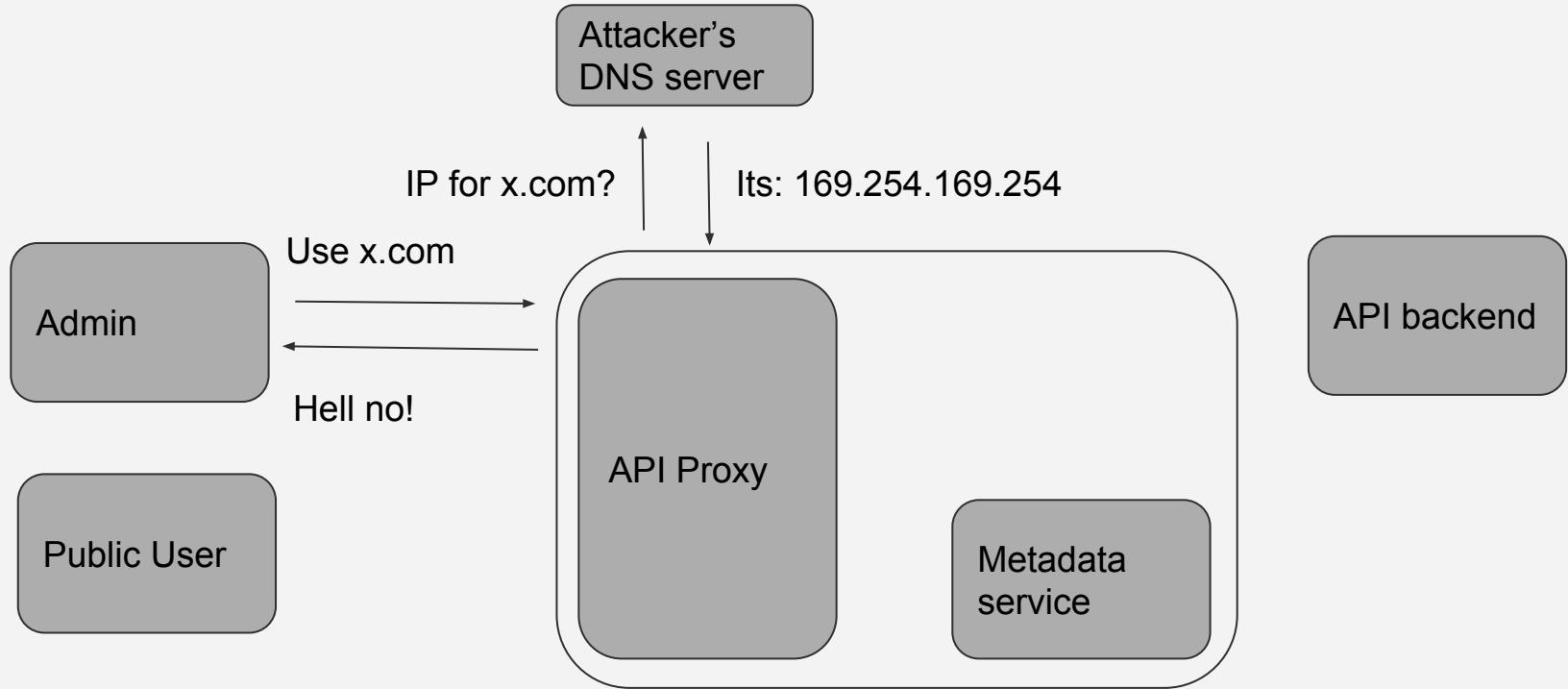
Normal use 1



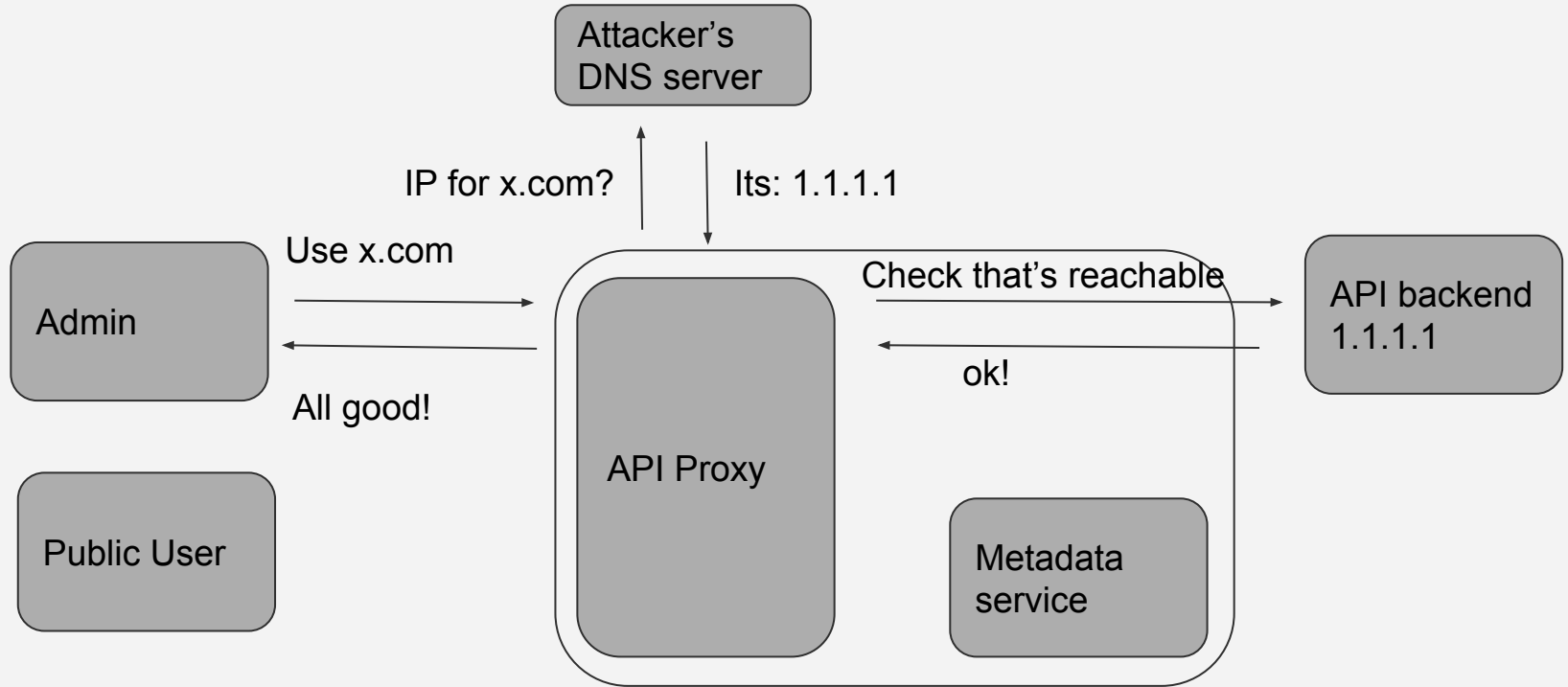
Normal use 2



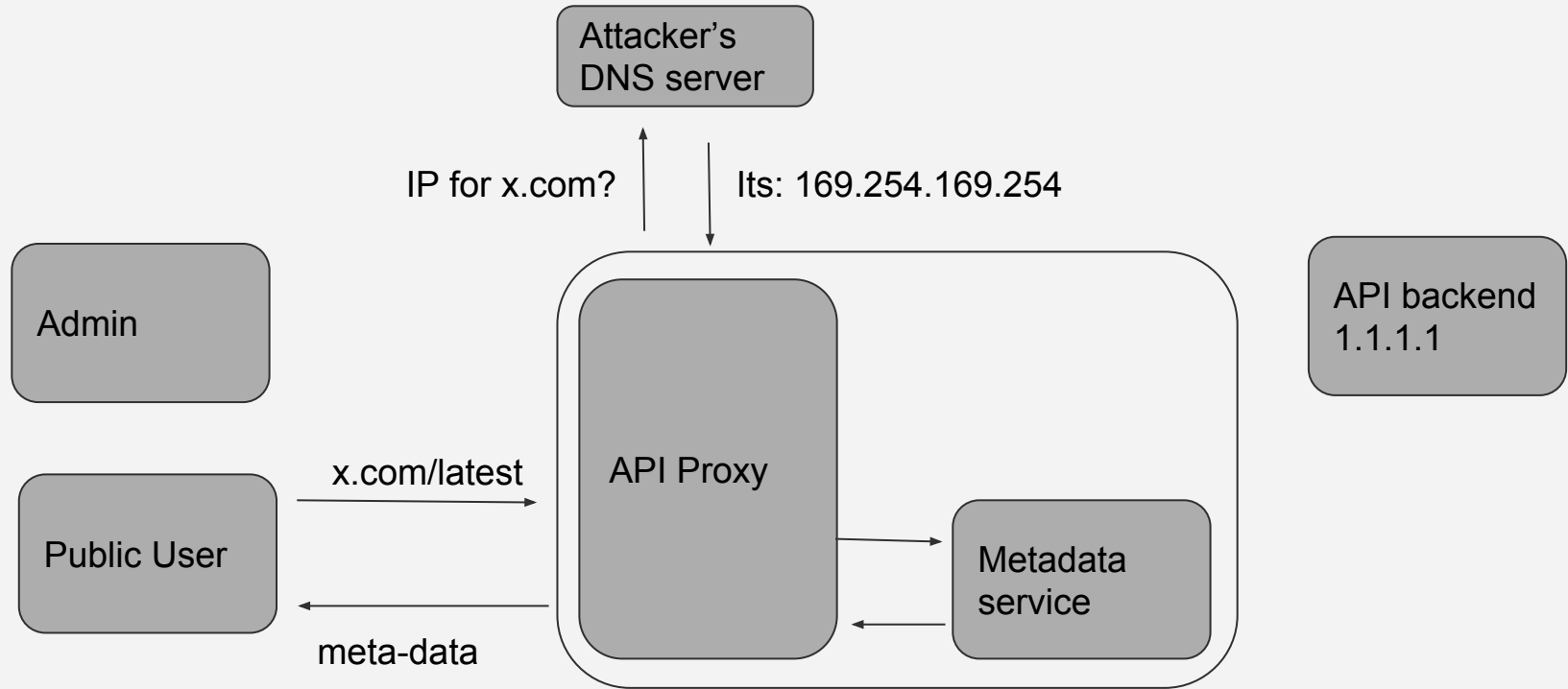
Attack attempt 1



Attack Attempt 2.



Second DNS request returns metadata IP



Mitigating Impact of SSRF in Cloud

Options:

- Avoid putting API keys in /user-data scripts etc

Mitigating Impact of SSRF in Cloud

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- Avoid putting API keys in /user-data scripts etc
- Implement an IAM policy where use of creds is IP restricted [1]

[1] <https://www.slideshare.net/AmazonWebServices/detecting-credential-compromise-in-aws-sec389-aws-reinvent-2018>

Mitigating Impact of SSRF in Cloud

Options:

- Avoid putting API keys in /user-data scripts etc
- Implement an IAM policy where use of creds is IP restricted [1]
- Implement a proxy that whitelists by user agent [1]

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Mitigating Impact of SSRF in Cloud

Options:

- Avoid putting API keys in /user-data scripts etc
- Implement an IAM policy where use of creds is IP restricted [1]
- Implement a proxy that whitelists by user agent [1]
- Trigger alerts when creds used from unknown IPs [1]

[1] <https://www.slideshare.net/AmazonWebServices/detecting-credential-compromise-in-aws-sec389-aws-reinvent-2018>

3. Authentication and Trust Relationships

Authentication and Trust Relationships

Scenario:

My rad dev shop starts off with just me and Joe

We both have admin access in AWS coz, we have like 1 customer

..

4 years later

Things are a bit more hectic, 10 developers, lots of customers

So we enabled MFA on all developer accounts, good to go!

API Keys

Those developer API keys have full access to the environment

Developers need the access to troubleshoot, so can't just segment per customer

What if a developer laptop is compromised or creds are accidentally disclosed?

API Keys

There are a lot of ways an API key could be exposed

API Keys

There are a lot of ways an API key could be exposed

You just don't want it to be a “game over” event.



Tabletop Scenarios

@badthingsdaily

Follow



A growing number of your engineers are streaming themselves on Twitch while coding.

One of them just revealed a production secret while alt-tabbing.

The chat is now being spammed with a production IaaS secret from your repository.

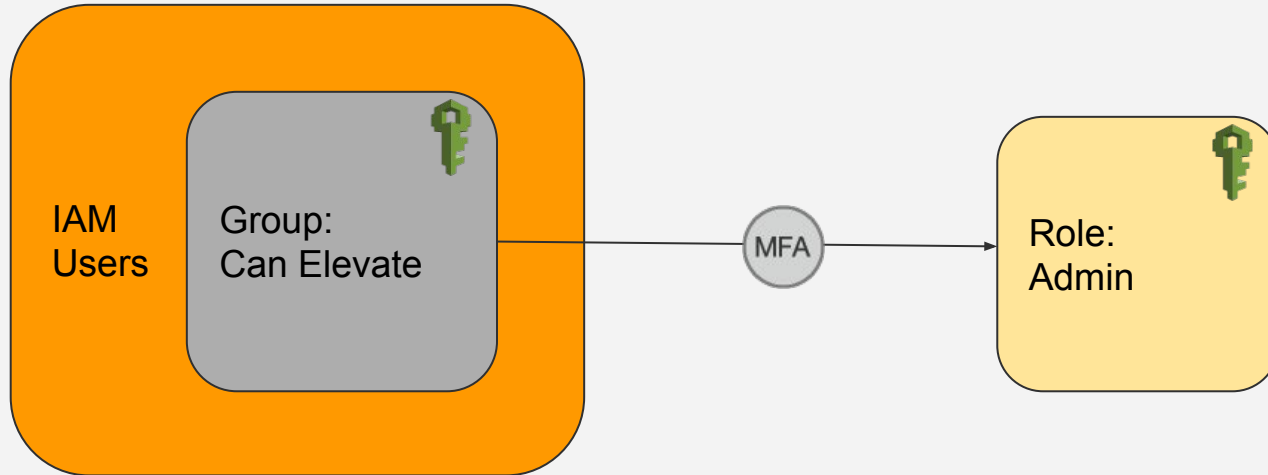
10:12 AM - 8 Nov 2018

Using AssumeRole to enforce MFA

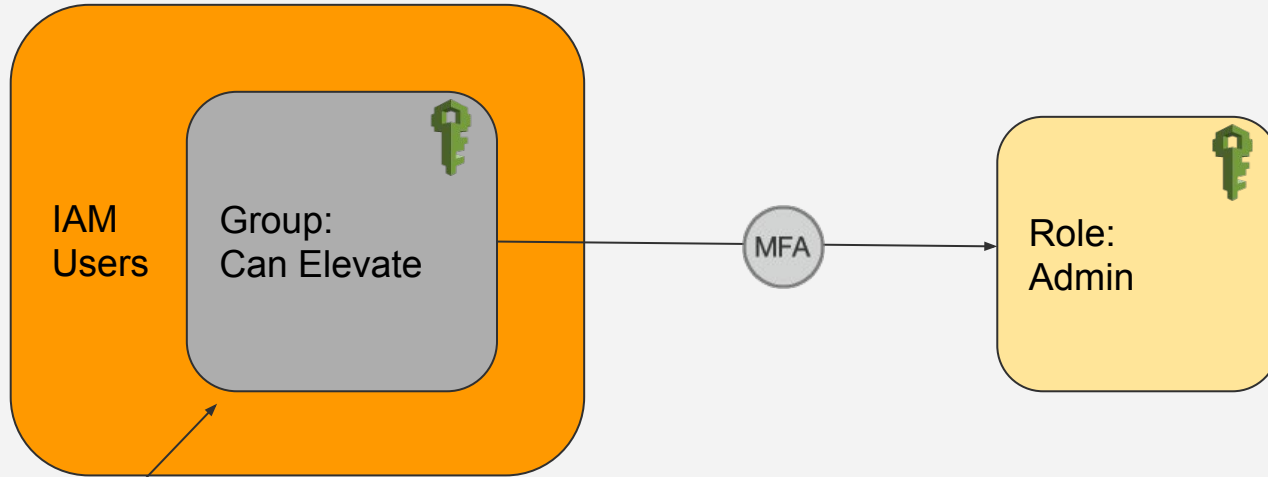
Admin starts in a “bastion” account with no rights

Then use AssumeRole to gain admin rights

Using AssumeRole to enforce MFA

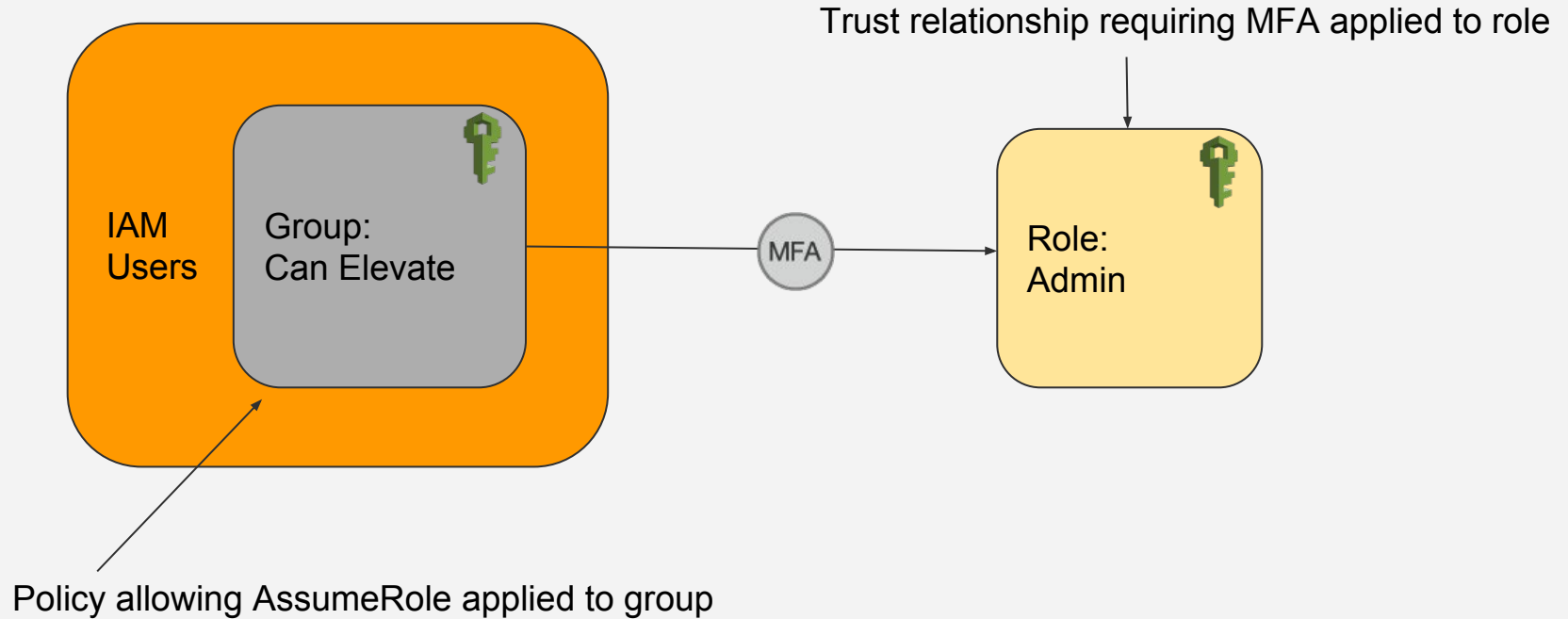


Using AssumeRole to enforce MFA



Policy allowing AssumeRole applied to group

Using AssumeRole to enforce MFA



How to 2FA API access overview

1. Enable MFA in AWS console for admins

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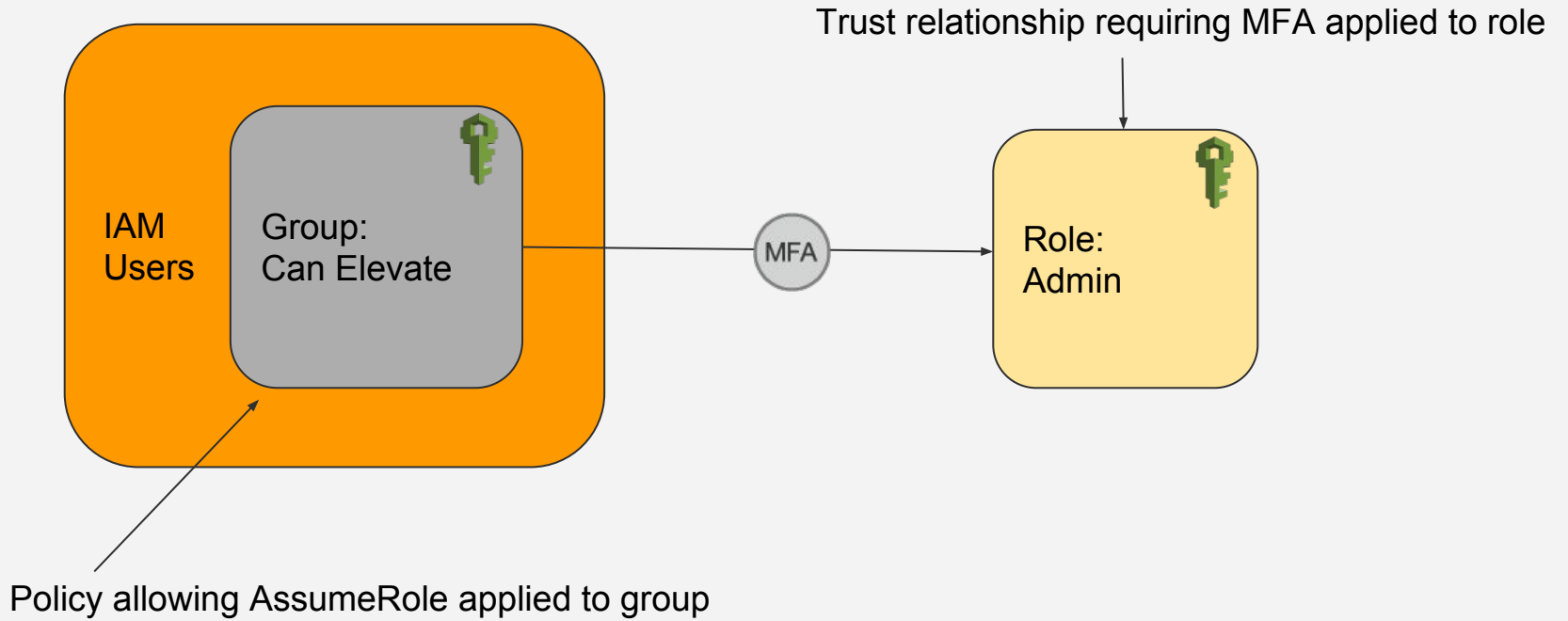
How to 2FA API access overview

1. Enable MFA in AWS console for admins
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4. Create a role 'admin' that trusts members of 'can-elevate' and requires MFA

How to 2FA API access overview

1. Enable MFA in AWS console for admins
2. Create a group 'can-elevate', put your admins in this group
3. Grant 'can-elevate' the right to AssumeRole
4. Create a role 'admin' that trusts members of 'can-elevate' and requires MFA
5. Setup AWS CLI so it prompts for MFA code

Ref: <https://blog.jayway.com/2017/11/22/aws-cli-mfa/>



Configure CLI to prompt for MFA

In `.aws/credentials` theres a user `mike-admin`

In `.aws/config` we add

```
[profile admin]
role_arn = arn:aws:iam::409 [REDACTED]:role/admin-role
source_profile = mike-admin
mfa_serial = arn:aws:iam::409 [REDACTED]:mfa/mike-admin
```

```
█
```

```
~
```

End result is we get a prompt for MFA code

```
mike@ubuntu:~$ aws s3 ls --profile admin
Enter MFA code for arn:aws:iam::409[REDACTED]:mfa/mike-admin:
2019-02-18 23:40:50 img.blah.com
2019-02-06 20:39:26 mhtest-9000
mike@ubuntu:~$
```

IAM Policy is Very Flexible

Because IAM is very flexible there are many ways to segment trust

But there are also many ways to make mistakes

Choose the simplest model that fits with how you work

IAM = Identity and Access Management

Reviewing IAM Policies

Sometimes IAM policy is obviously too permissive

Example from a ScoutSuite[1] IAM audit finding

```
Inline Policies
allow-assume-admin-role
  "Statement": [
    {
      "Action": [
        "sts:AssumeRole"
      ],
      "Effect": "Allow",
      "Resource": [
        "*"
      ]
    }
  ]
```

[1] <https://github.com/nccgroup/ScoutSuite>

IAM is complicated cont.

But it is not *always* that obvious

This policy was intended to grant access to all S3 functionality, except 2 delete perms

```
"Version": "2012-10-17",
"Statement": [
  {
    "Action": [
      "s3:*"
    ],
    "Resource": [
      "*"
    ],
    "Effect": "Allow"
  },
  {
    "Resource": [
      "*"
    ],
    "Effect": "Allow",
    "NotAction": [
      "s3:DeleteObject",
      "s3:DeleteObjectVersion"
    ]
  }
]
```

IAM is complicated cont.

But it is not *always* that obvious

This policy is intended to grant access to all S3

functionality, except 2 delete perms

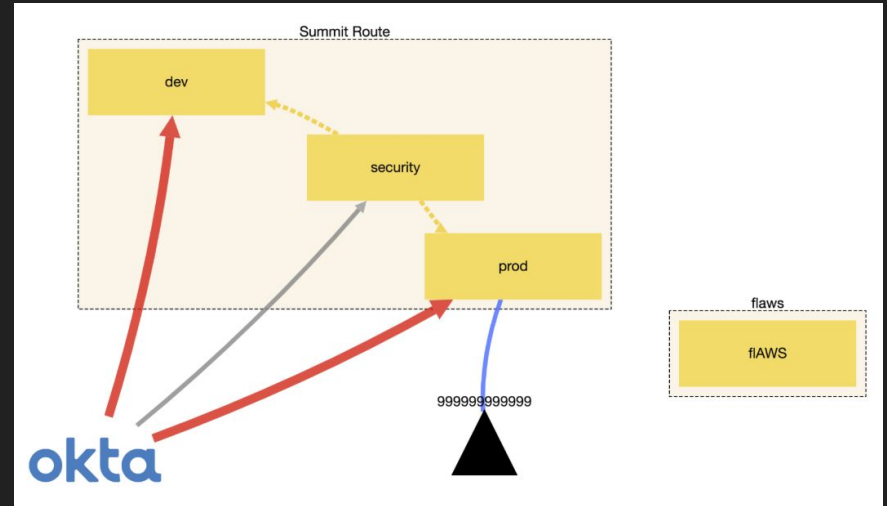
Actually it grants admin rights

```
"Version": "2012-10-17",
"Statement": [
  {
    "Action": [
      "s3:*"
    ],
    "Resource": [
      "*"
    ],
    "Effect": "Allow"
  },
  {
    "Resource": [
      "*"
    ],
    "Effect": "Allow",
    "NotAction": [
      "s3:DeleteObject",
      "s3:DeleteObjectVersion"
    ]
  }
]
```

Auditing IAM policy

Doing this manually in a complex environment can be daunting

Cloudmapper's web of trust feature can help visualise IAM trust relationships



<https://github.com/duo-labs/cloudmapper>

Summary

1. Global pools of identifiers -> Hijacking of orphaned resources

Mitigation: monitor DNS for orphaned resources

2. Cloud APIs are public -> Cred disclosure can be catastrophic

Mitigation: Proxy access to metadata services

3. Gaps in knowledge of cloud auth models -> Gaps in Auth

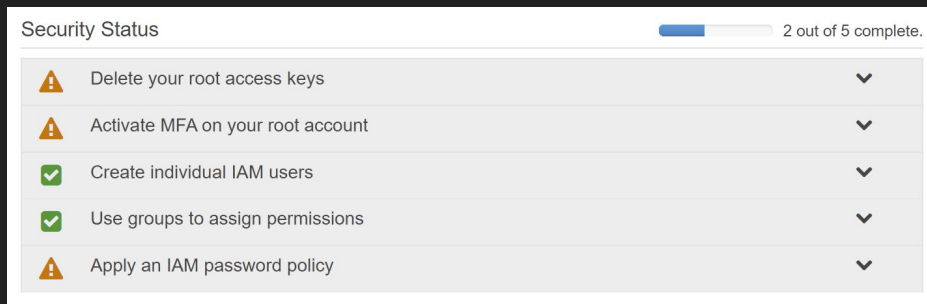
Mitigation: MFA admin CLI users and leverage tools to analyse complex policy

Stepping back

As mentioned there is a lot to cover and this talk was just a small part

Here's a quick security todo list (Basic and boring but that's where you start)

1. Leverage the built-in tools to review IAM security
 - Use 'credential report' to find unused accounts and remove them
 - Make that security status page happy!
 - Use "access advisor" tab to sanity check access



The screenshot shows the AWS IAM Security Status page. At the top right, there is a progress bar indicating that 2 out of 5 tasks are complete. Below the progress bar is a list of five security tasks, each with a status icon and a dropdown arrow.

Task	Status
Delete your root access keys	Warning (Yellow triangle)
Activate MFA on your root account	Warning (Yellow triangle)
Create individual IAM users	Success (Green checkmark)
Use groups to assign permissions	Success (Green checkmark)
Apply an IAM password policy	Warning (Yellow triangle)

Stepping back

2. Security groups and VPC ACLs

- Are there any 'allow all' rules e.g. for SSH or RDP?

3. S3 Buckets

- Do all the buckets marked 'public' need to be?

New policies lets you prevent public buckets at account or per bucket level

- Can you prevent public access account wide?
- Can you prevent public access on this bucket?

Thanks

OWASP NZ

Everyone at Insomnia Security

