

# Damn Vulnerable AWS API

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# The Problem

- Over 90% of organizations in 2021 were using the cloud for some IT functionality (Source: O-Reilly)
- Threat actors are mastering exploitation of common oversights in cloud security. (Source: Palo-Alto)
- Personal data breaches were the 2nd most common Cyber Crime reported in 2022 (Source: FBI Internet Crime Report)
- Overall estimated losses due to reported Cyber Crimes in the last five years was \$27.6 Billion (Source: FBI Internet Crime Report)
- Common free to access cyber security content providers, such as HTB and TryHackMe, have little to no cloud focused training exercises that are available for free

# Who cares? What difference will it make?

## Users

- IT Administrators
- Software Architects
- Cybersecurity Students
- Risk Consultants
- Application Developers

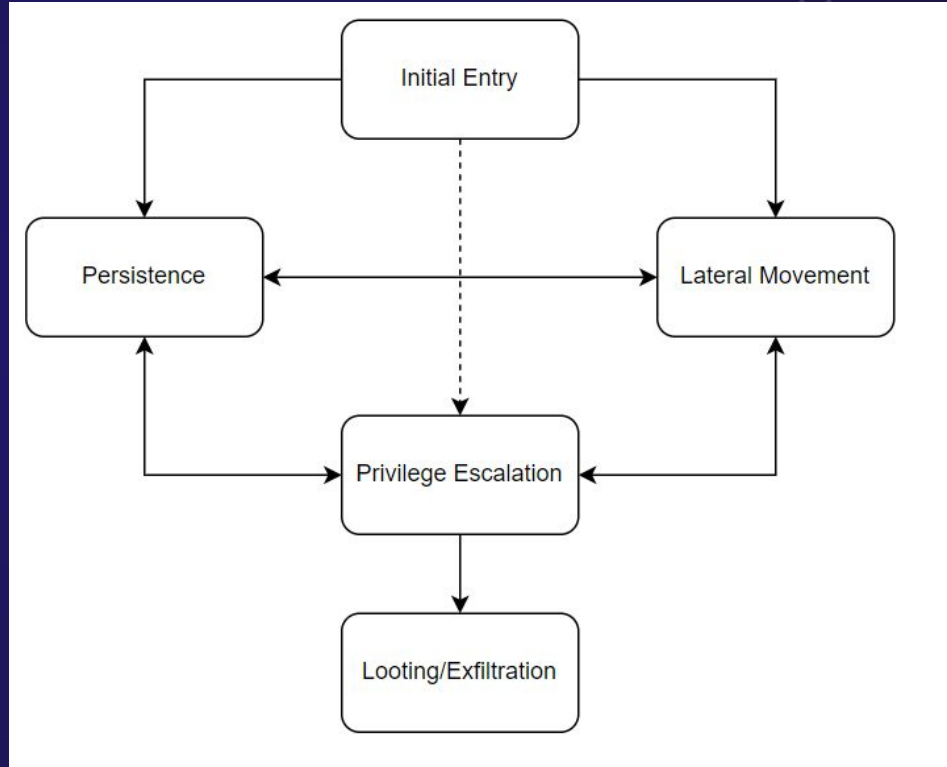
## Use Cases

- Testing and Development
- Security
- Education



# A Holistic Approach

- Based on typical cyber attack flow
- Two separate attack paths
- Narrative for each component to model real world systems
- Four design iterations
  - Feedback from client
  - Feedback from industry professionals



# Attack Path 1

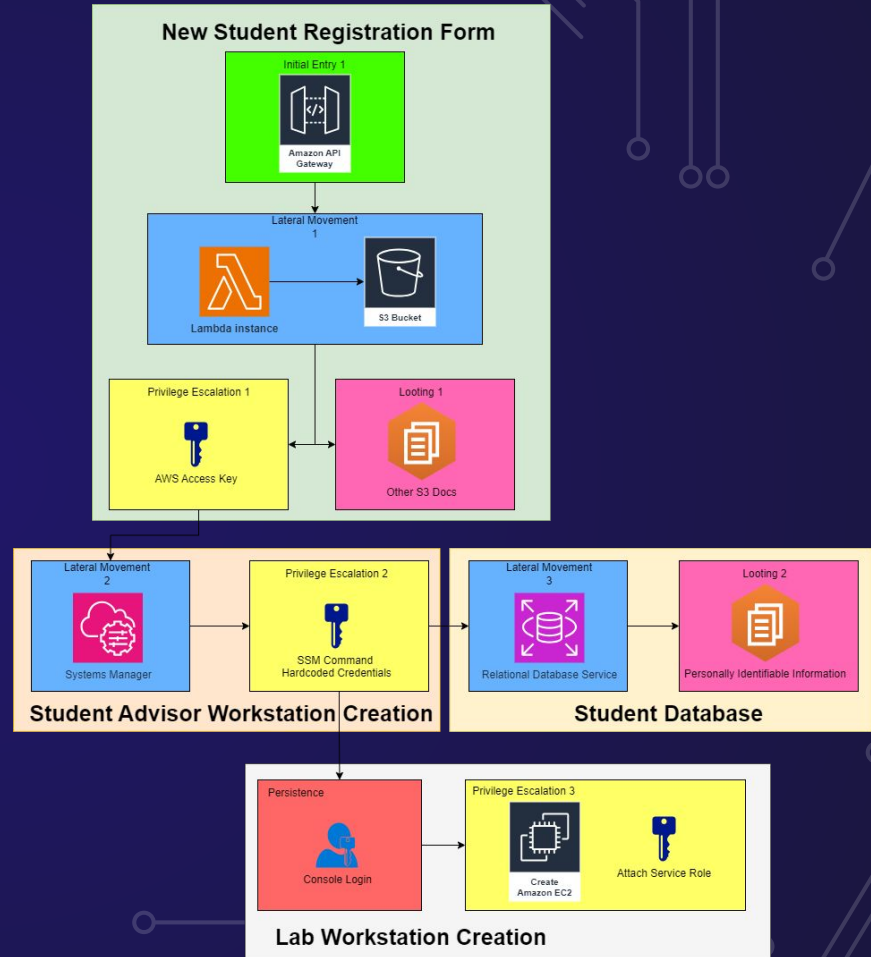
Attack Path based on University network scenario

Common AWS services

- API Gateway
- Lambda Function
- EC2 Instances
- S3 Bucket
- RDS

Common mistakes

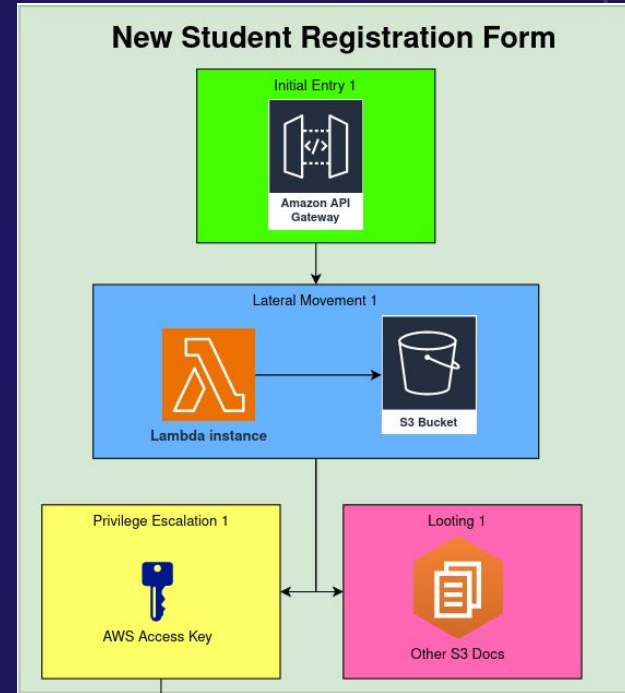
- Reusing passwords across services
- Not deleting old services/tools
- Hardcoding passwords
- Incorrect read/write permissions



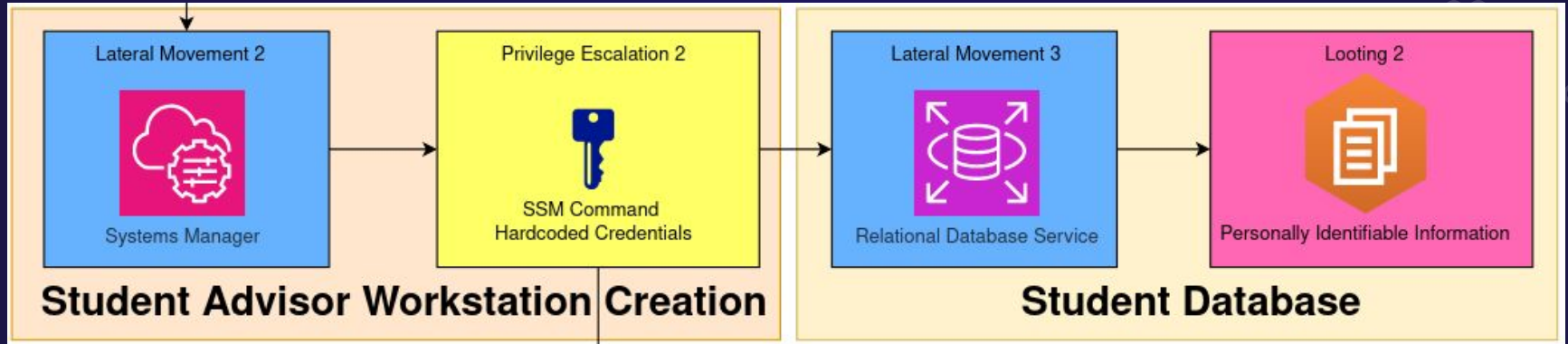
# Attack Path 1

## New Student Registration Form

- Misconfigured S3 Bucket Permissions
  - Accessible through Lambda Function and API Gateway
- Find AWS Access Key
- Loot other new student data

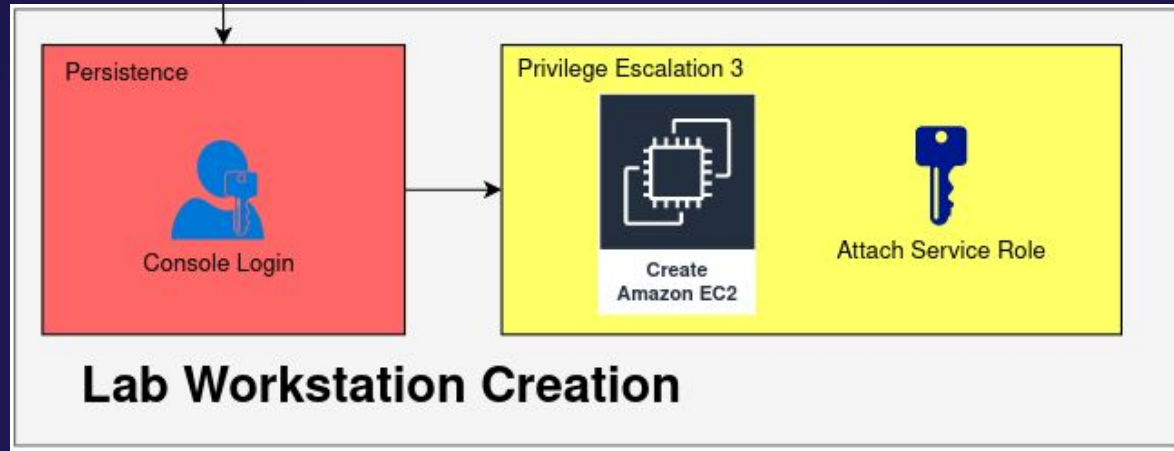


# Attack Path 1



- Student Advisor Workstation Creation
  - Access Systems Manager with AWS Access Key
  - Find SSM command in the Systems Manager with hardcoded credentials
  - Login to RDS Database
  - Loot Student's personal information, financial info, etc.

# Attack Path 1



- Lab Workstation Creation
  - Access AWS Console with hardcoded credentials
  - Misconfigured Role policies
    - Can attach a higher role to a EC2 Instance
  - Create an EC2 Instance and attach a role that grant complete AWS control



# Final Design - Attack Path 2

Based on Red Team Methodology

5 sections follow methodology

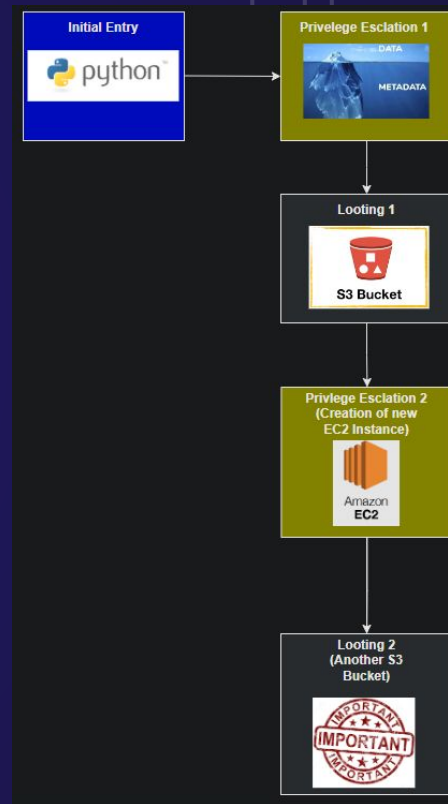
- Initial Entry SSRF
- Privilege Escalation 1
- Looting 1
- Privilege Escalation 2
- Looting 2

Components leverage IMDS

- Wildly used metadata service in AWS
- Based on misconfigured services

Certain components based on real life attacks

- Initial Entry based on Capital one attack
- Priv Esc 2 based on United hack



# System Design - Attack Path 2

## Initial Entry SSRF

- Utilizing an SSRF attack on an Django web server
- Attackers will then find an admin page

## Privilege Escalation 1

- Metadata api
- Temp credentials used to rollback policies

## Looting 1

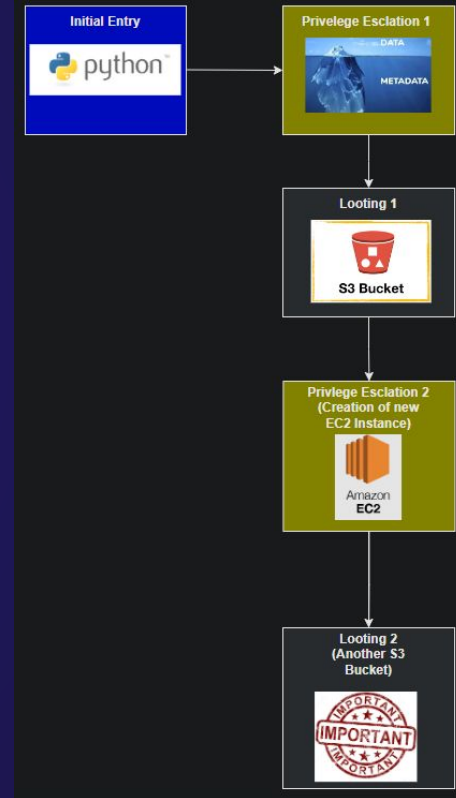
- Loot credentials from S3
- Using passrole permissions

## Privilege Escalation 2

- Create new Ec2 instance, passrole more privileged role to ec2

## Looting 2

- Loot sensitive information from second S3 with new privileged role



# Testing

- Unit Testing
  - Run against each component in attack path
  - View state before attack, run attack, check state after
  - Primarily checked using logs
- Interface Testing
  - Component testing
  - Cross machine communication
  - Check unit testing across different components
- Security Testing
  - Project is purposely vulnerable
  - Testing is for unintended vulnerabilities
    - Still a learning opportunity
  - Check IAM policies to check for these routes

# Current Progress

## AP1

- API Gateway Created
- RDS and VPC Created
- Created Roles and User for Persistence

```
AWS::CloudFormation::Template
AWSTemplateFormatVersion: "2010-09-09"

Description: This template creates vpc with public and private subnets

#Metadata:
#template metadata, could be used for more complex stack organization

Parameters:
  #Full cidr range for the VPCs
  CIDR:
    Default: 10.0.0.0/24
    Description: IP range (CIDR notation) for this VPC
    Type: String

  #Define IP range for private subnet
  PrivateSubnet1CIDR:
    Default: 10.0.0.0/24
    Description: IP range (CIDR notation) for private subnet 1
    Type: String

Resources:
  # Create VPC
  VPC:
    Type: AWS::EC2::VPC
    DeletionPolicy: Delete
    Properties:
```

## AP2

- Web Server for initial entry is near completion
- All resources needed have been created
- Looting 1/Priv Escalation 2 are a work in progress
  - Most Roles/Policies have been created, subject to modification
- Looting 2 is set up, just need to correctly set up priv escalation 2 for passing an existing role.
- Documenting steps for user as we go, also subject to change once we test.
- We have started creating and testing with cloud formation templates.

# Current Progress

- Initial Entry Cloudformation stack test

AttackPath2InitialEntryStackTest

Stack info | **Events** | Resources | Outputs | Parameters | Template | Change sets | Git sync - new

Events (42) Detect root cause

Search events

Timestamp	Logical ID	Status	Status reason
2024-03-06 18:28:07 UTC-0600	AttackPath2InitialEntryStackTest	IMPORT_COMPLETE	-
2024-03-06 18:28:06 UTC-0600	EC2Instance00i00289424380f2875800frtNa	UPDATE_COMPLETE	-
2024-03-06 18:27:51 UTC-0600	EC2Instance00i00289424380f2875800frtNa	UPDATE_IN_PROGRESS	Apply stack-level tags to imported resource if applicable.
2024-03-06 18:27:50 UTC-0600	EC2Instance00i00289424380f2875800frtNa	IMPORT_COMPLETE	Resource import completed.
2024-03-06 18:27:50 UTC-0600	EC2Instance00i00289424380f2875800frtNa	IMPORT_IN_PROGRESS	-
2024-03-06 18:27:49 UTC-0600	EC2Instance00i00289424380f2875800frtNa	IMPORT_IN_PROGRESS	Resource import started.
2024-03-06 18:27:49 UTC-0600	IAMInstanceProfile00IEtest00mQCe7	UPDATE_COMPLETE	Applying stack-level tags as part of this import operation will cause a replacement of this resource, we are therefore not going to apply or update tags.
2024-03-06 18:27:48 UTC-0600	IAMInstanceProfile00IEtest00mQCe7	UPDATE_IN_PROGRESS	Apply stack-level tags to imported resource if applicable.
2024-03-06 18:27:47 UTC-0600	IAMInstanceProfile00IEtest00mQCe7	IMPORT_COMPLETE	Resource import completed.

# Current Progress

- Simple web server login page

← ↻ ⚠ Not secure | ec2-35-173-190-251.compute-1.amazonaws.com:8000/Ieapp/http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/iam/security-credentials/IETest/ 🔊 ☆ 🔄 📄 ⌵ 🌐 📶 ⋮

## Rendered Content

```
{ "Code" : "Success", "LastUpdated" : "2024-03-07T19:45:54Z", "Type" : "AWS-HMAC", "AccessKeyId" : "ASIAUPPQJX5AGGLJTJII", "SecretAccessKey" : "g4Pd+NQxLN3izRCYHIC15W0pRCD+FH6QGJJCxQH9",  
"Token" :  
"IQoJb3JpZ2luX2VjEMz////////wEaCXVzLWVhc3QtMSJIMEYCIQDFM7WYcVu+cQ5nCPsAj1WC3kQJrZaID0CrxikFACIT3QIhAP/NliJtmk4R0xpQjGubKs2SLzjAoC6Te5fpiBSPTCBGksYFCMX////////wEQARoMMzA  
"Expiration" : "2024-03-08T01:47:11Z" }
```

# Current Progress

## AP1 VPC RDS Stack

AP1-VPC-RDS

Delete Update Sta

Stack info Events **Resources** Outputs Parameters Template Change sets Git sync - new

Resources (7)

Search resources

Logical ID	Physical ID	Type	Status
DatabaseInstance	<a href="#">mysqldb</a>	AWS::RDS::DBInstance	CREATE_COMPLETE
DataBaseSecurityGroup	<a href="#">sg-074ace5074d4616b8</a>	AWS::EC2::SecurityGroup	CREATE_COMPLETE
DatabaseSubnetGroup	<a href="#">ap1-vpc-rds-databasesubnetgroup-cgctf34kmf7u</a>	AWS::RDS::DBSubnetGroup	CREATE_COMPLETE
PrivateSubnet1	<a href="#">subnet-0d671f4be85fff0c5</a>	AWS::EC2::Subnet	CREATE_COMPLETE
PrivateSubnet2	<a href="#">subnet-005f2d325c484b695</a>	AWS::EC2::Subnet	CREATE_COMPLETE
VPC	<a href="#">vpc-0af4db437d3981dbf</a>	AWS::EC2::VPC	CREATE_COMPLETE
WorkstationSecurityGroup	<a href="#">sg-0b8b11d392651c0fa</a>	AWS::EC2::SecurityGroup	CREATE_COMPLETE

# Current Progress

- AP1 API Gateway Service setup in Cloud Formation

```
    },
    "APIGateway": {
      "Type": "AWS::ApiGateway::RestApi",
      "Properties": {
        "Name": "APIkvkAPIGateway"
      },
      "Metadata": {
        "AWS::CloudFormation::Designer": {
          "id": "49334e40-c229-445e-be04-fa2a2b8d57b9"
        }
      }
    },
    "APIGatewayMethod": {
      "Type": "AWS::ApiGateway::Method",
      "Properties": {
        "AuthorizationType": "AWS_IAM",
        "HttpMethod": "POST",
        "ResourceId": {
          "Fn::GetAtt": [
            "APIGateway",
            "RootResourceId"
          ]
        },
        "RestApiId": {
          "Ref": "APIGateway"
        },
        "Integration": {
          "IntegrationHttpMethod": "POST",
          "Type": "AWS_PROXY",
          "Uri": {
            "Fn::Sub": "arn:aws:apigateway:${AWS::Region}:lambda:path/2015-03-31/functions/${AccessS3Lambda.Arn}/invocations"
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```



# Project Plan

- Create SSM Command to login to database - March 10th
- Finish Individual parts with Units Test - by March 24th
- Integration Testing - by March 24th
- Full attack path testing - by April 7th
- Final Testing/Presentation Prep - by April 28th