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2	Preparedness(2)	
3	Output(2)	
4	Post Lab Questions (4)	
	TOTAL	

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Cloud Computing Lab

Prof. Sunil Choudhary

Cloud Security AWS IAM

Introduction

Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud provides a secure virtual platform where users can deploy their applications. Compared to an on-premises environment, AWS security provides a high level of data protection at a lower cost to its users. There are many types of security services, but Identity and Access Management (IAM) is one the most widely used. AWS IAM enables you to securely control access to AWS services and resources for your users. Using IAM, you can create and manage AWS users and groups, and use permissions to allow and deny their access to AWS resources.

Cloud security is the highest priority in AWS. When you host your environment in the cloud, you can be assured that it's hosted in a data center or in a network architecture that's built to meet the requirements of the most security-sensitive organization. Additionally, this high level of security is available on a pay-as-you-go basis, meaning there is really no upfront cost, and the cost for using the service is a lot cheaper compared to an on-premises environment.

There are many types of security services available but some of them are widely used by AWS, such as:

- IAM
- Key Management System (KMS)
- Cognito
- Web Access Firewall (WAF)

IAM

What is IAM?

AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) is a web service for securely controlling access to AWS resources. It enables you to create and control

services for user authentication or limit access to a certain set of people who use your AWS resources.

Components Of IAM

Users

These are the people that will be interacting with your resources. In other words, anyone that you want to have the ability to log into the AWS console.

Groups

Groups are a collection of users. For example, you can organize your users who are in the business development team to a group named BusinessDev. By grouping all the users into a group you are able to assign group permissions, and therefore can only allow access to the resources needed by the group.

Roles

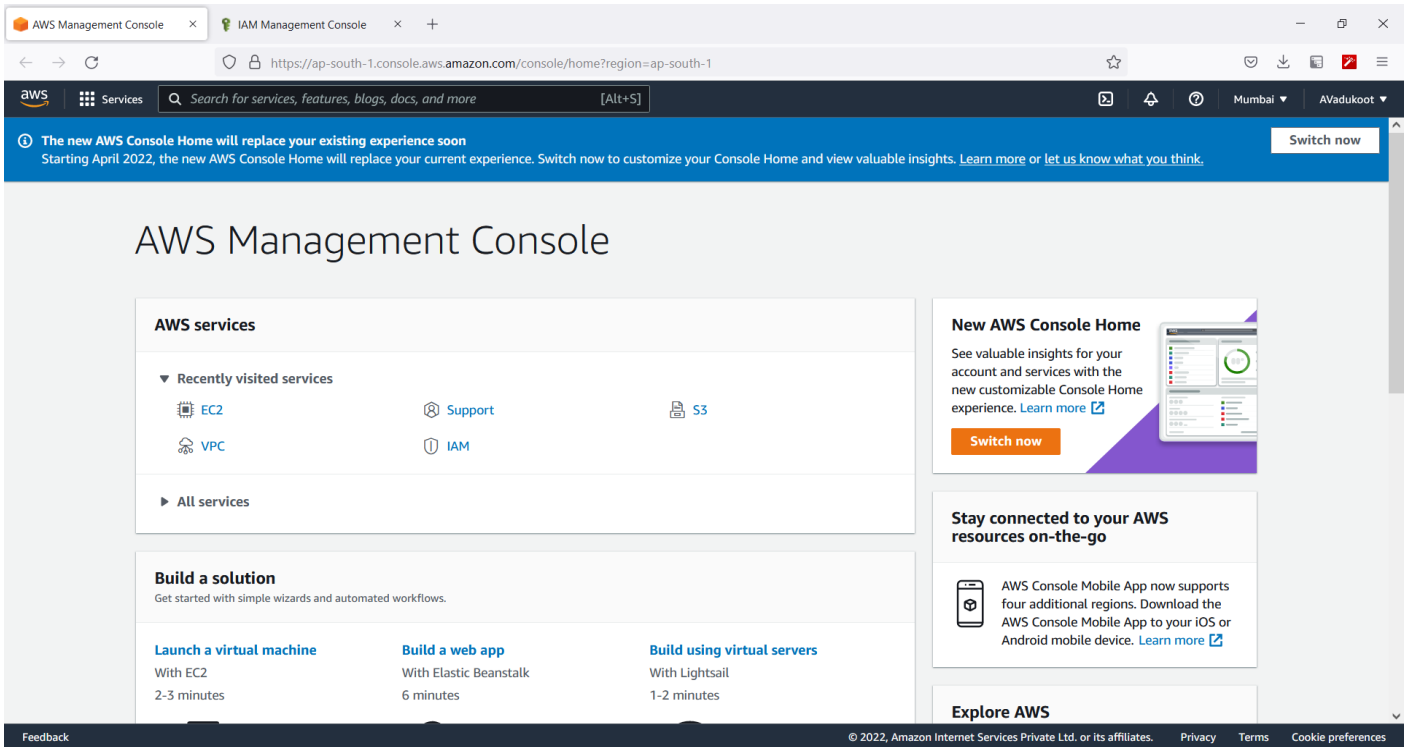
An IAM role defines a set of permissions that can be attributed to users, groups, or services such as EC2.

Policies

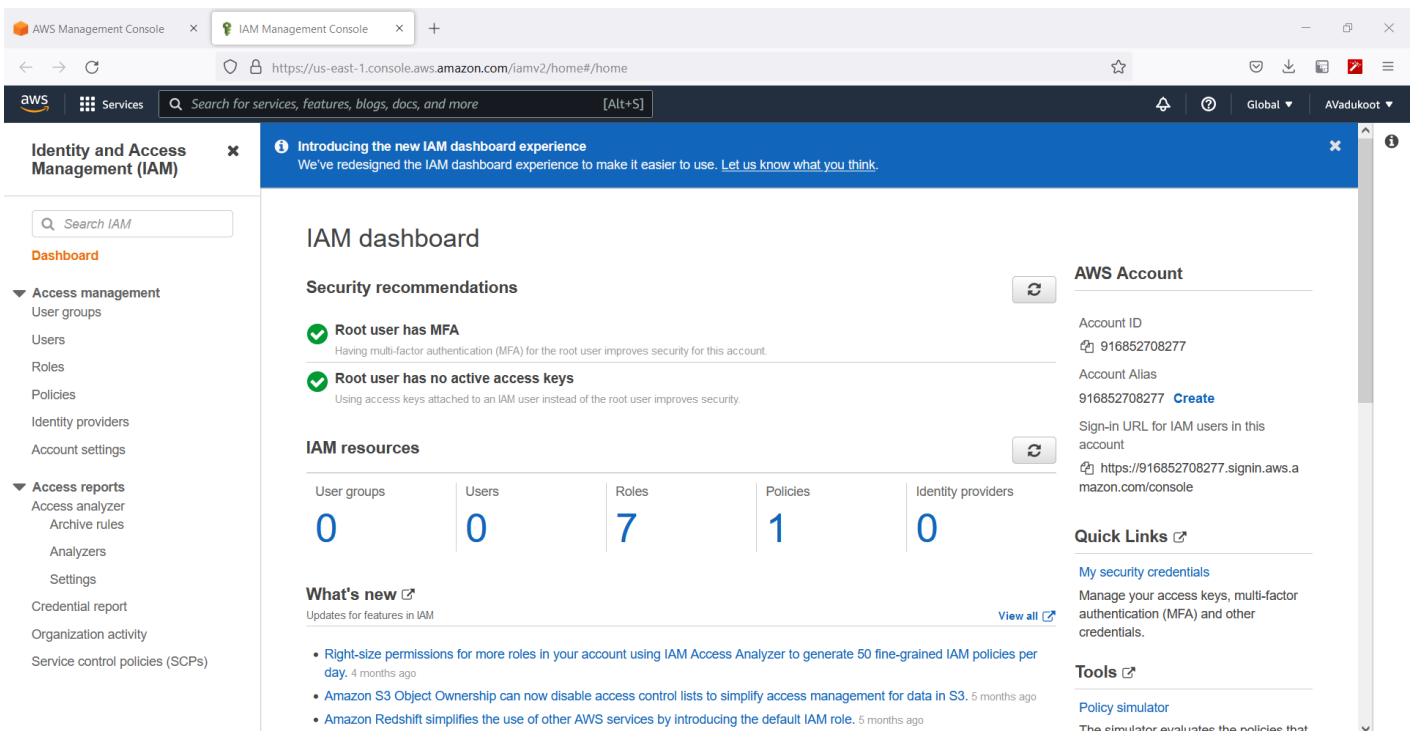
A policy is a document that defines one or more permissions.

How to use IAM and create Users, assign User Groups, Roles

Step 1 : Go to the Services dropdown menu and search for IAM.



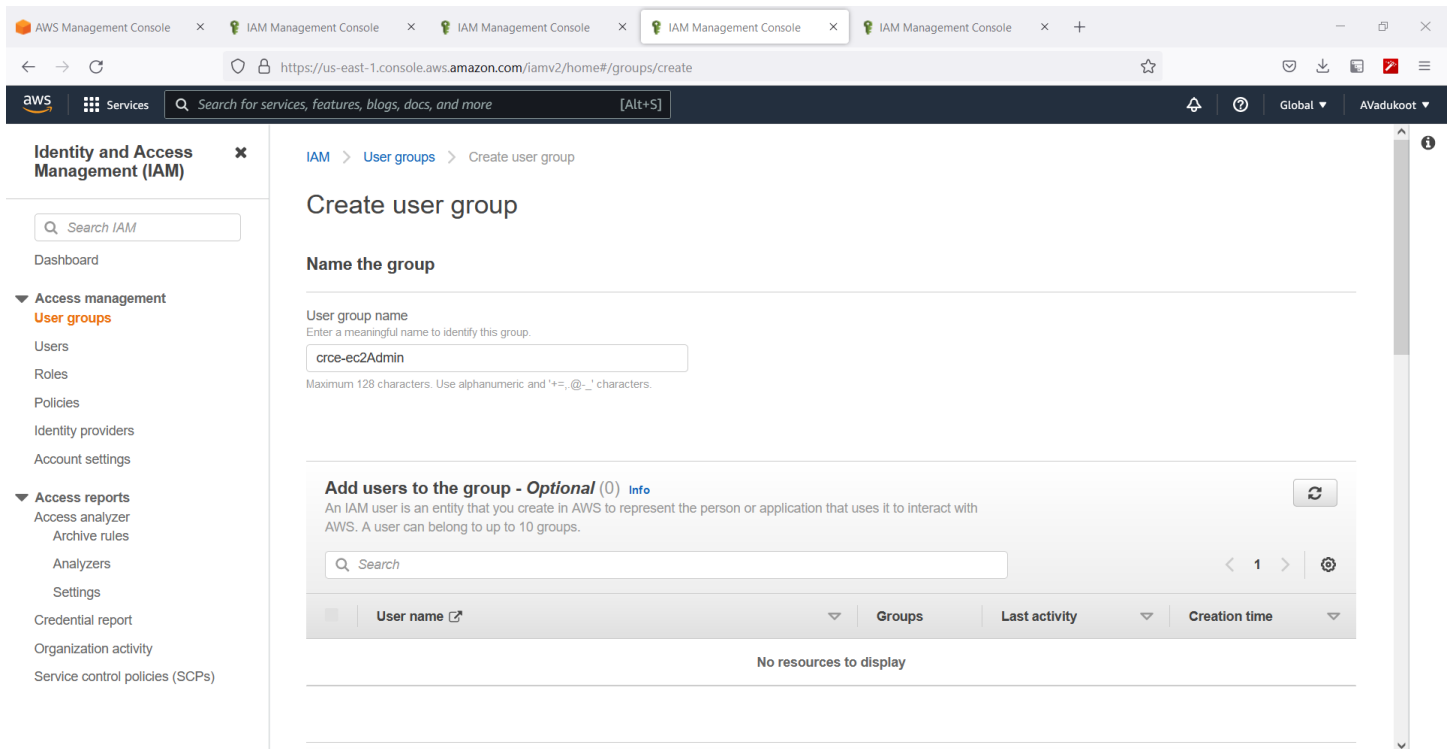
Step 2 : Click on IAM. You should be navigated to the IAM Dashboard.



In this section, before getting to creating users, AWS will prompt you to enable MFA (Multifactor Authentication) and ask you to delete active keys.

Step 3: Create IAM User Group

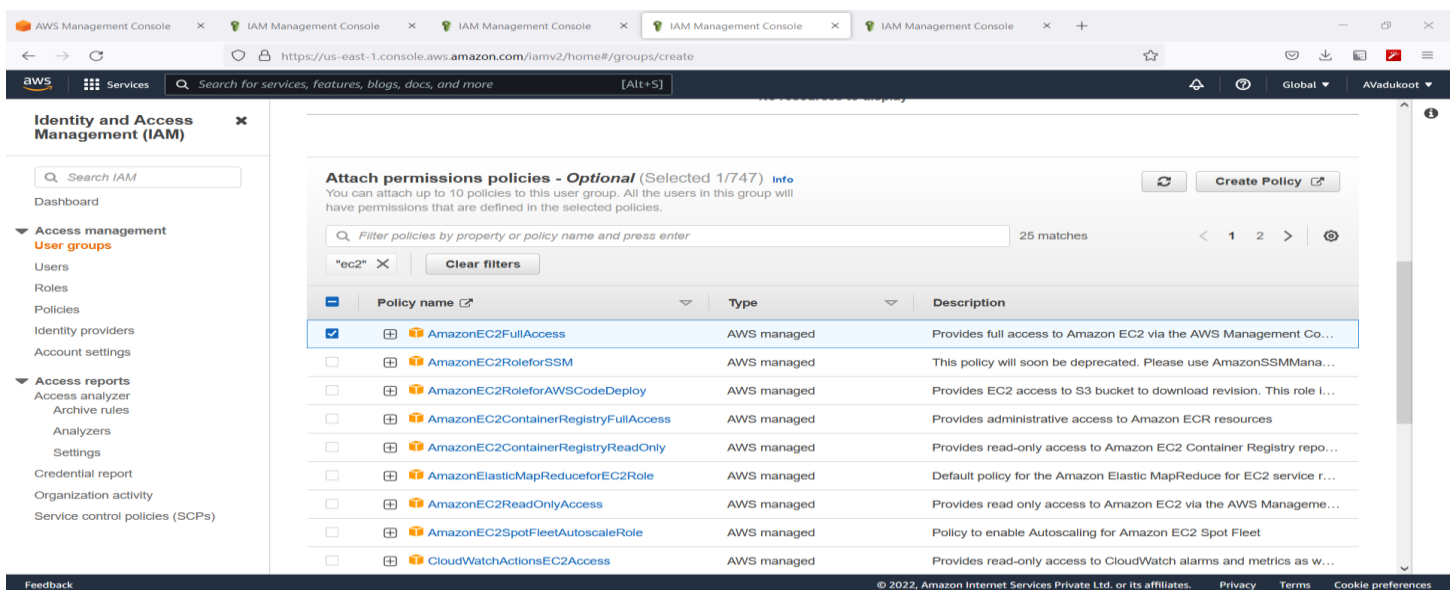
In the main IAM page, there exists a USER GROUP tab which enables the root user to view all the user groups and also create/delete user groups.



To create a new user group :

Root User has to mention the group name

And Assign it specific Roles



AWS Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x +

← → ↻ https://us-east-1.console.aws.amazon.com/iam/home#/users\$new?step=details ☆

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Add user

1 2 3 4 5

Set user details

You can add multiple users at once with the same access type and permissions. [Learn more](#)

User name*

+ Add another user

Select AWS access type

Select how these users will primarily access AWS. If you choose only programmatic access, it does NOT prevent users from accessing the console using an assumed role. Access keys and autogenerated passwords are provided in the last step. [Learn more](#)

Select AWS credential type* ☐ **Access key - Programmatic access**
Enables an **access key ID** and **secret access key** for the AWS API, CLI, SDK, and other development tools.

☐ **Password - AWS Management Console access**
Enables a **password** that allows users to sign-in to the AWS Management Console.

* Required

Cancel Next: Permissions

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Then it will ask you to add the user to a user group or assign roles to the user.

AWS Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x +

← → ↻ https://us-east-1.console.aws.amazon.com/iam/home#/users\$new?step=permissions&login&userNames=crce-user2&passwordType=autogen ☆

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Add user

1 2 3 4 5

Set permissions

Add user to group Copy permissions from existing user Attach existing policies directly

Add user to an existing group or create a new one. Using groups is a best-practice way to manage user's permissions by job functions. [Learn more](#)

Add user to group

Create group Refresh

Search Showing 5 results

Group	Attached policies
<input type="checkbox"/> crce-s3Admin	AmazonS3FullAccess
<input type="checkbox"/> crce-AdminFull	AmazonRDSFullAccess and 2 more
<input type="checkbox"/> crce-ec2Admin	AmazonEC2FullAccess
<input type="checkbox"/> crce-ec2Read	AmazonEC2ReadOnlyAccess
<input type="checkbox"/> crce-s3Read	AmazonS3ReadOnlyAccess

Cancel Previous Next: Tags

After that step, IAM prompt will give out the password and id of the user.

This can be downloaded or sent to mail for reference

new_user_credentials(5) - E

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	User name	Password	Access key ID	Secret access key	Console login link	
2	crce-user1]&w2Ed]d1YnC!Bf			https://916852708277.signin.aws.amazon.com/console	
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						

In this way you can create multiple users and assign them different Roles or put them in different User Groups.

AWS Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x IAM Management Console x +

https://us-east-1.console.aws.amazon.com/iamv2/home#/users

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

Search IAM

Dashboard

Access management

- User groups
- Users**
- Roles
- Policies
- Identity providers
- Account settings

Access reports

- Access analyzer
- Archive rules
- Analizers
- Settings
- Credential report
- Organization activity
- Service control policies (SCPs)

IAM > Users

Users (5) Info

An IAM user is an identity with long-term credentials that is used to interact with AWS in an account.

Find users by username or access key

	User name	Groups	Last activity	MFA	Password age	Active key age
<input type="checkbox"/>	crce-user1	crce-AdminFull	Never	None	5 minutes ago	-
<input type="checkbox"/>	crce-user2	crce-s3Admin	Never	None	3 minutes ago	-
<input type="checkbox"/>	crce-user3	crce-ec2Admin	Never	None	2 minutes ago	-
<input type="checkbox"/>	crce-user4	crce-ec2Read	Never	None	1 minute ago	-
<input type="checkbox"/>	crce-user5	crce-s3Read	Never	None	Now	-

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The users above have these permissions

Crce-user1 – S3FullAccess

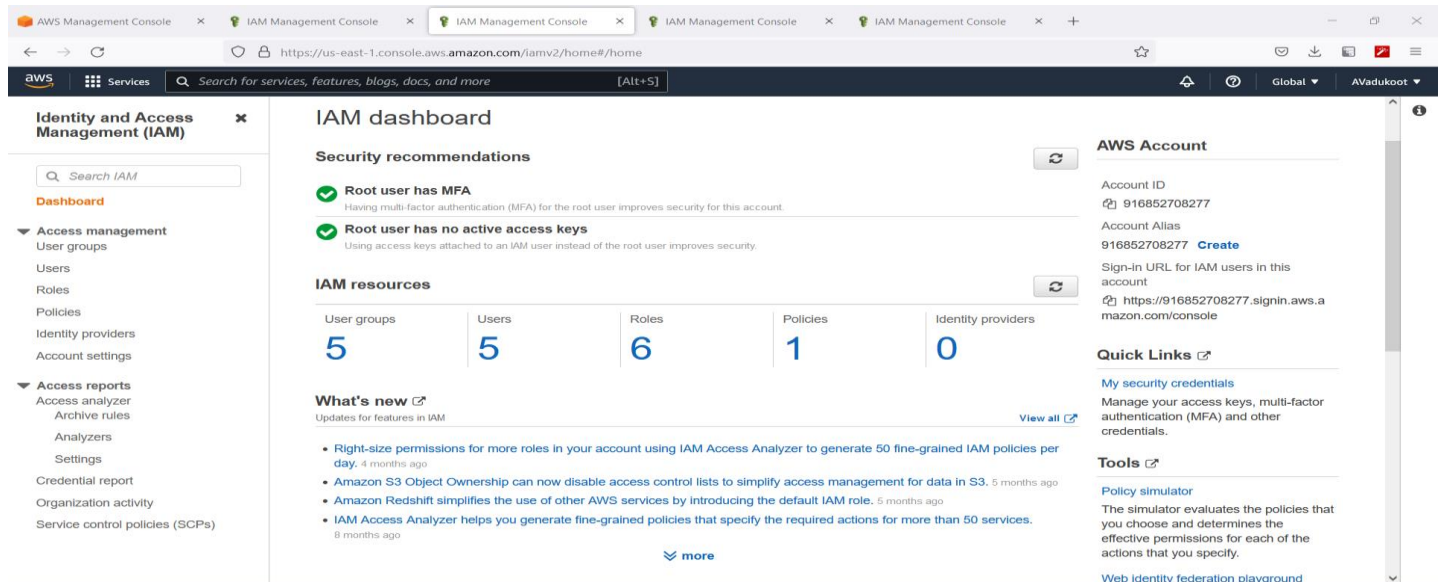
Crce-user2 – FullAccess (RDS,EC2,S3)

Crce-user3 – EC2FullAccess

Crce-user4 – EC2ReadOnly

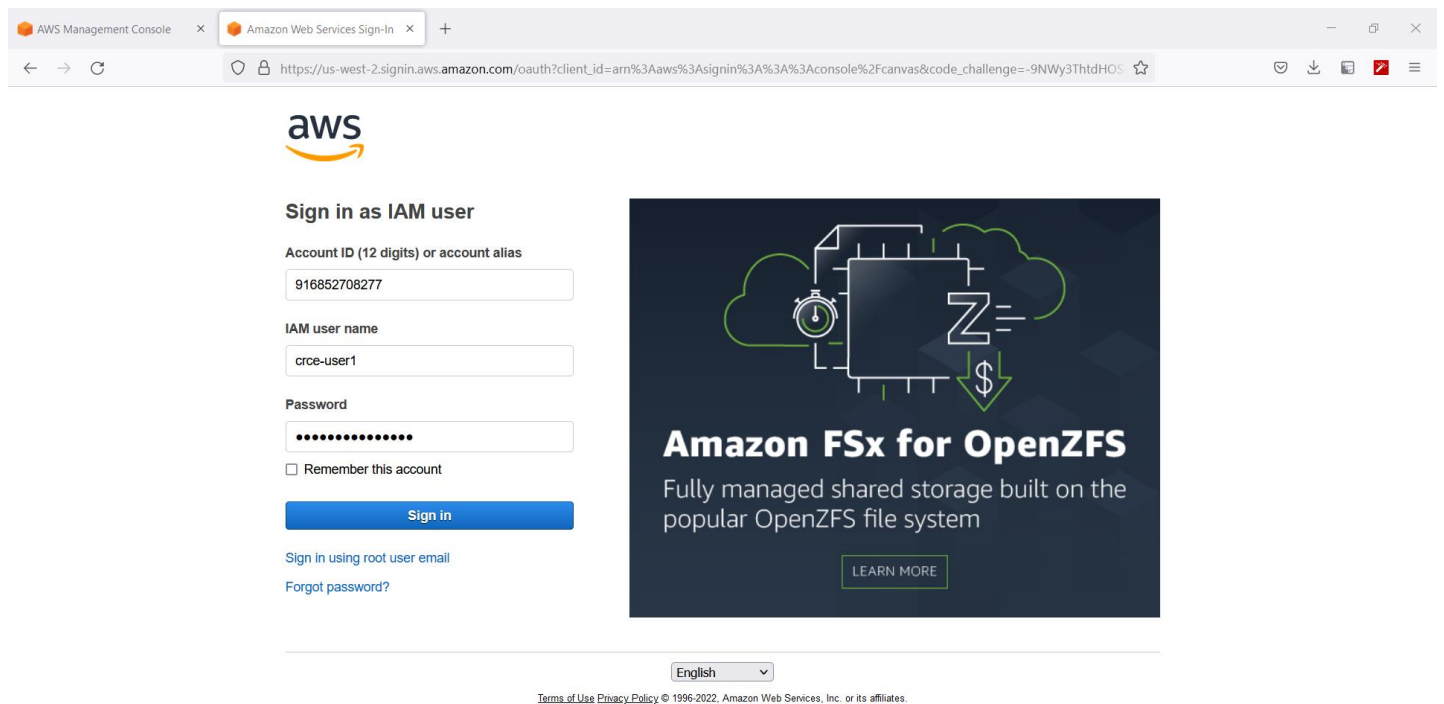
Crce-user5 – S3ReadOnly

After creation of Users and Groups , the Main IAM Dashboard will appear like this



Step 5: Now that created Users have been assigned to specific User Groups, let us sign in as the user and check what permissions it has.

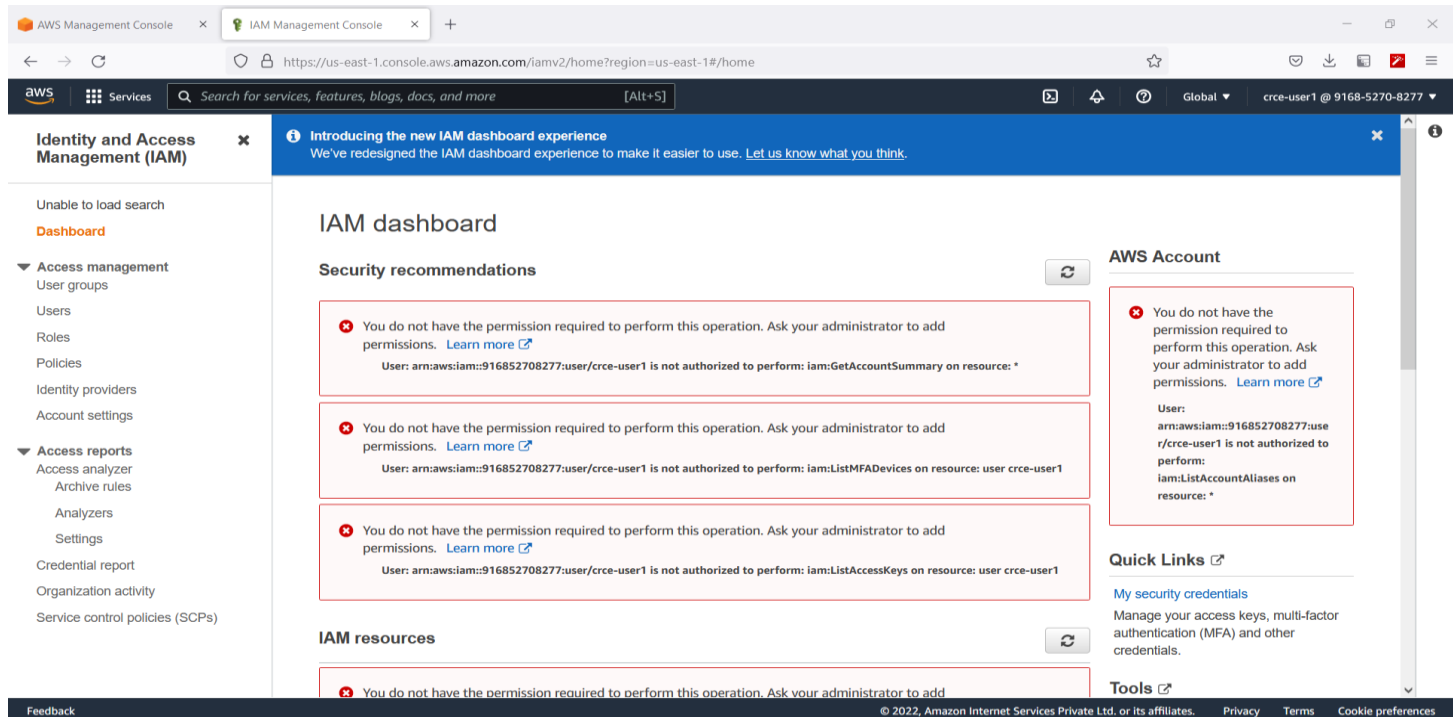
The root user has a code , called the Account ID , which all users must have to sign in



This specific user, crce-user1, has full access for S3 buckets

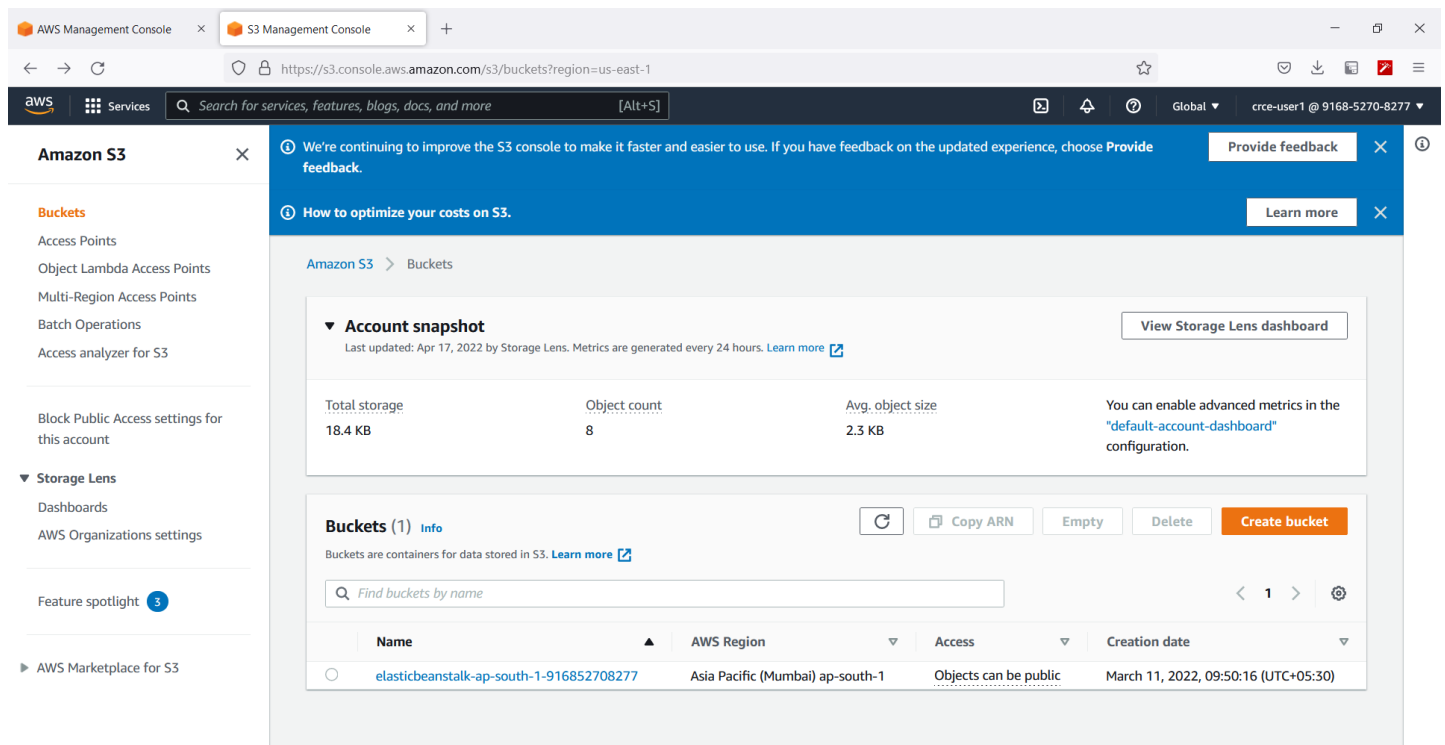
This should allow crce-user1 to handle only S3 bucket services and no other services.

IAM service (used by Root user) is not allowed to be used by crce-user1

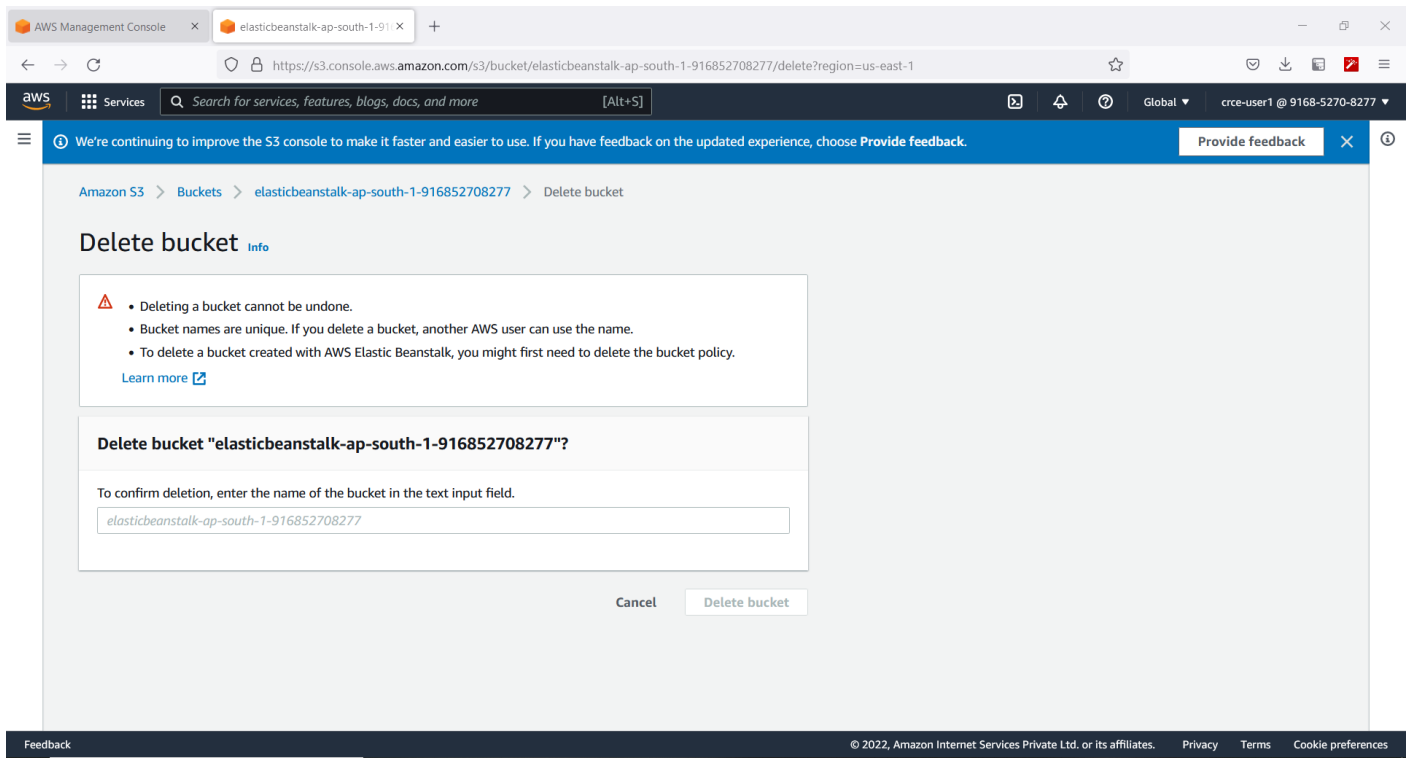


The screenshot shows the AWS IAM Management Console for user `crce-user1`. The dashboard is titled "IAM dashboard" and includes sections for "Security recommendations" and "IAM resources". Both sections display error messages indicating that the user is not authorized to perform certain operations. The "Security recommendations" section lists three errors: "You do not have the permission required to perform this operation. Ask your administrator to add permissions. Learn more" for `iam:GetAccountSummary`, `iam:ListMFADevices`, and `iam:ListAccessKeys`. The "IAM resources" section also shows a similar error. The "AWS Account" section on the right displays the user's ARN and a message stating that the user is not authorized to perform `iam:ListAccountAliases`. The "Quick Links" section provides a link to "My security credentials". The "Tools" section is also visible.

But it is able to freely use S3 buckets service

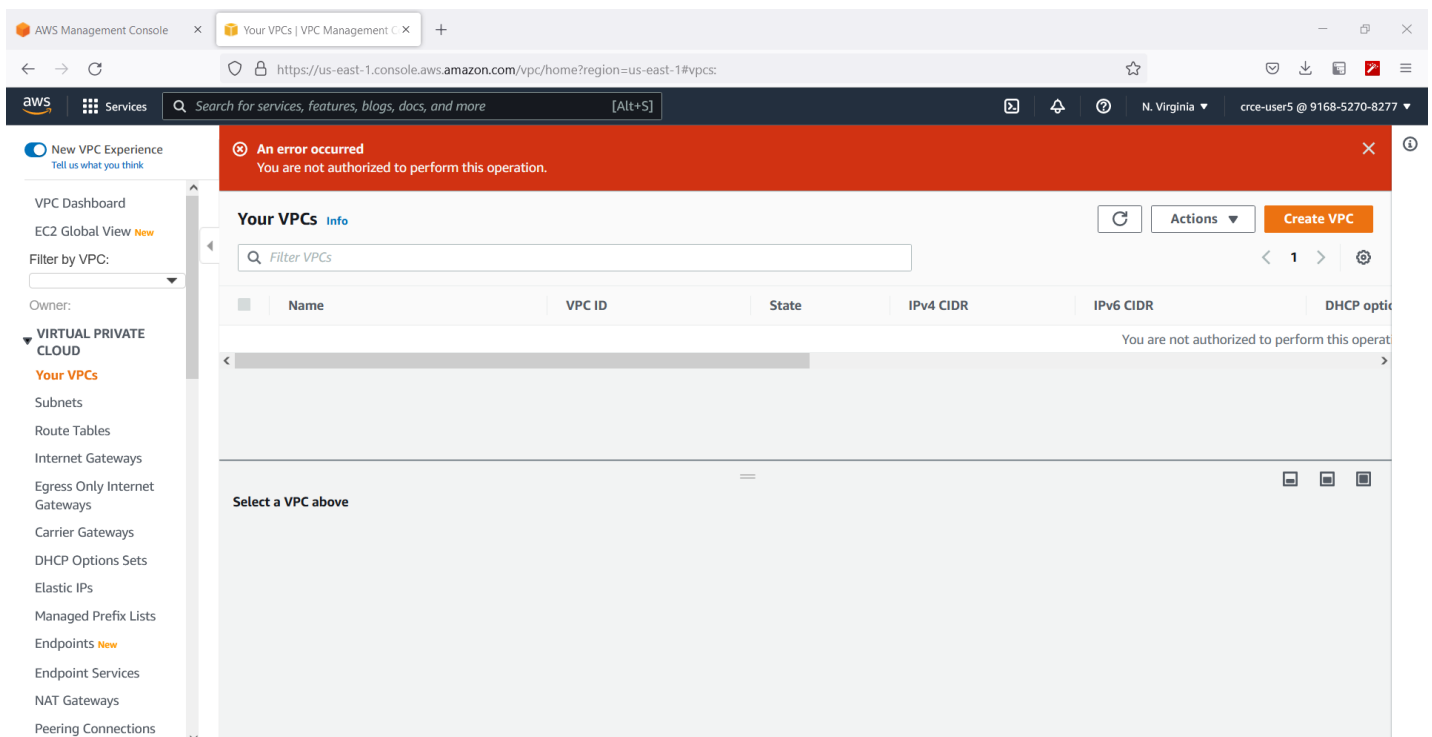


The screenshot shows the AWS S3 Management Console for user `crce-user1`. The page is titled "Amazon S3" and includes a "Buckets" section. The "Account snapshot" section displays metrics for the account, including total storage (18.4 KB), object count (8), and average object size (2.3 KB). The "Buckets (1)" section shows a list of buckets, with one bucket named `elasticbeanstalk-ap-south-1-916852708277` listed. The bucket is located in the `Asia Pacific (Mumbai) ap-south-1` region and has the access setting "Objects can be public". The "Create bucket" button is visible, indicating that the user is able to create and manage buckets.

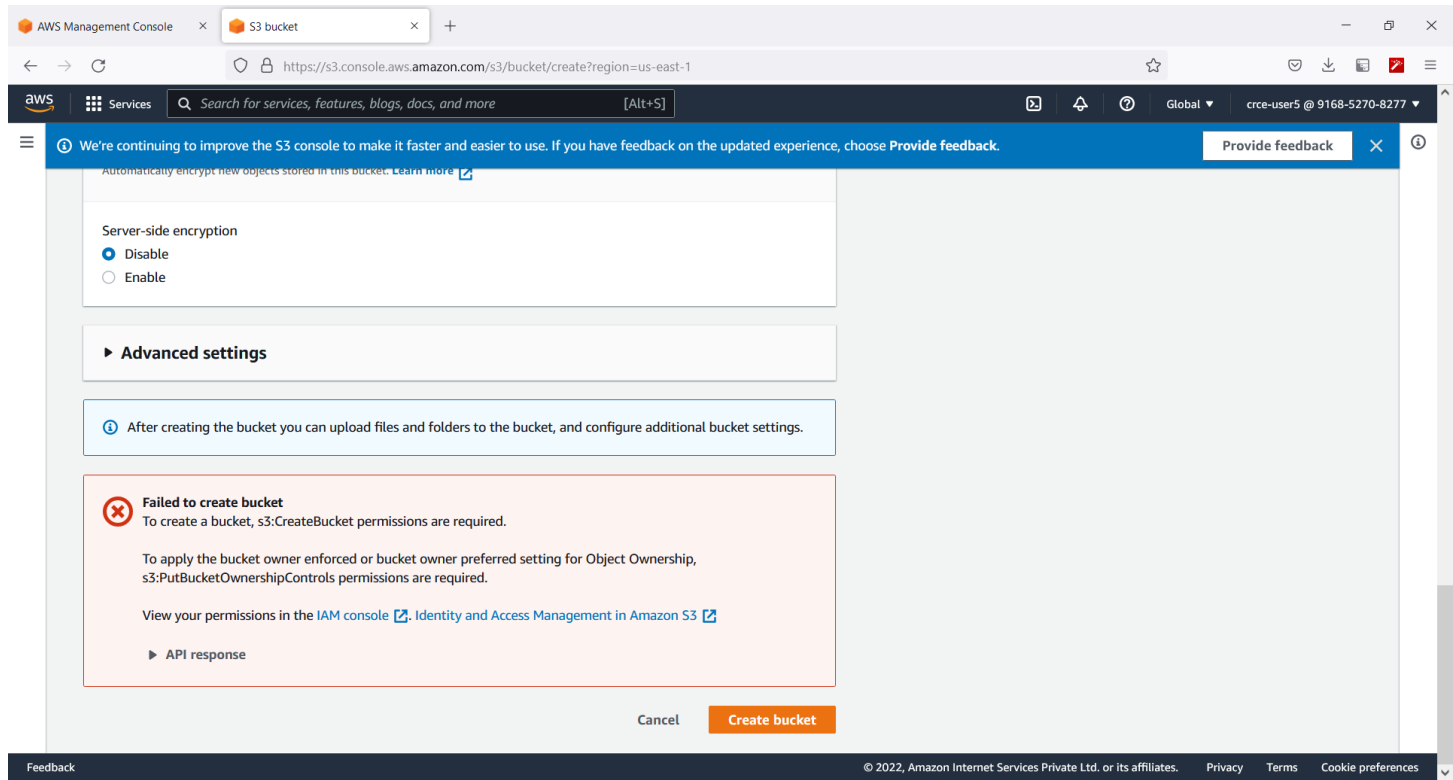


Now for example : crce-user5, has been given pepmission to only get S3ReadAccess

So, it is not able to use the VPC Services and Functions



Also, not able to create/delete buckets



Conclusion:

The main feature of IAM is that it allows you to create separate usernames and passwords for individual users or resources and delegate access. Restrictions can be applied to requests. For example, you can allow the user to download information, but deny the user the ability to update information through the policies. IAM supports MFA, in which users provide their username and password plus a one-time password from their phone—a randomly generated number used as an additional authentication factor. The IAM password policy allows you to reset a password or rotate passwords remotely. You can also set rules, such as how a user should pick a password or how many attempts a user may make to provide a password before being denied access.

Post Lab Questions:

Q1. What is AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM)?

AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) is a web service for securely controlling access to AWS resources. It enables you to create and control services for user authentication or limit access to a certain set of people who use your AWS resources.

Components Of IAM

Users

These are the people that will be interacting with your resources. In other words, anyone that you want to have the ability to log into the AWS console.

Groups

Groups are a collection of users. For example, you can organize your users who are in the business development team to a group named BusinessDev. By grouping all the users into a group you are able to assign group permissions, and therefore can only allow access to the resources needed by the group.

Roles

An IAM role defines a set of permissions that can be attributed to users, groups, or services such as EC2.

Policies

A policy is a document that defines one or more permissions.

Q2. What problems does IAM solve?

- management pains
- streamline provisioning and de-provisioning
- boost user productivity
- lowering costs
- reducing demands on IT
- providing the enterprise with comprehensive data to assist in complying with regulatory standards.

Q3. How are IAM users managed?

The IAM workflow includes the following six elements:

1. A principal is an entity that can perform actions on an AWS resource. A user, a role or an application can be a principal.

2. Authentication is the process of confirming the identity of the principal trying to access an AWS product. The principal must provide its credentials or required keys for authentication.
3. Request: A principal sends a request to AWS specifying the action and which resource should perform it.
4. Authorization: By default, all resources are denied. IAM authorizes a request only if all parts of the request are allowed by a matching policy. After authenticating and authorizing the request, AWS approves the action.
5. Actions are used to view, create, edit or delete a resource.
6. Resources: A set of actions can be performed on a resource related to your AWS account.

Q4. What kinds of security credentials can IAM users have?

Cloud security is the highest priority in AWS. When you host your environment in the cloud, you can be assured that it's hosted in a data center or in a network architecture that's built to meet the requirements of the most security-sensitive organization. Additionally, this high level of security is available on a pay-as-you-go basis, meaning there is really no upfront cost, and the cost for using the service is a lot cheaper compared to an on-premises environment.

There are many types of security services available but some of them are widely used by AWS, such as:

- IAM
- Key Management System (KMS)
- Cognito
- Web Access Firewall (WAF)

We shall deal with IAM in this tutorial.

IAM enables you to manage access to AWS services and resources in a very secure manner. With IAM you can create groups and allow those users or groups to access some servers, or you can deny them access to the service.