AWS Application Programming Interface (API)

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What is an Application Programming Interface (API)?

An API is software that allows two applications/services to talk to each other. The most common type of API is via HTTP/S requests.

AWS API is an HTTP API and you can interact by sending HTTPS requests, using an application interacting with APIs like Postman.



Each AWS Service has its own Service Endpoint which you send requests

GET / HTTP/1.1

host: monitoring.us-east-1.amazonaws.com

x-amz-target: GraniteServiceVersion20100801.GetMetricData

x-amz-date: 20180112T092034Z

Authorization: AWS4-HMAC-SHA256 Credential=REDACTEDREDACTED/20180411/.....

Content-Type: application/json

Accept: application/json

Content-Encoding: amz-1.0

Content-Length: 45

Connection: keep-alive

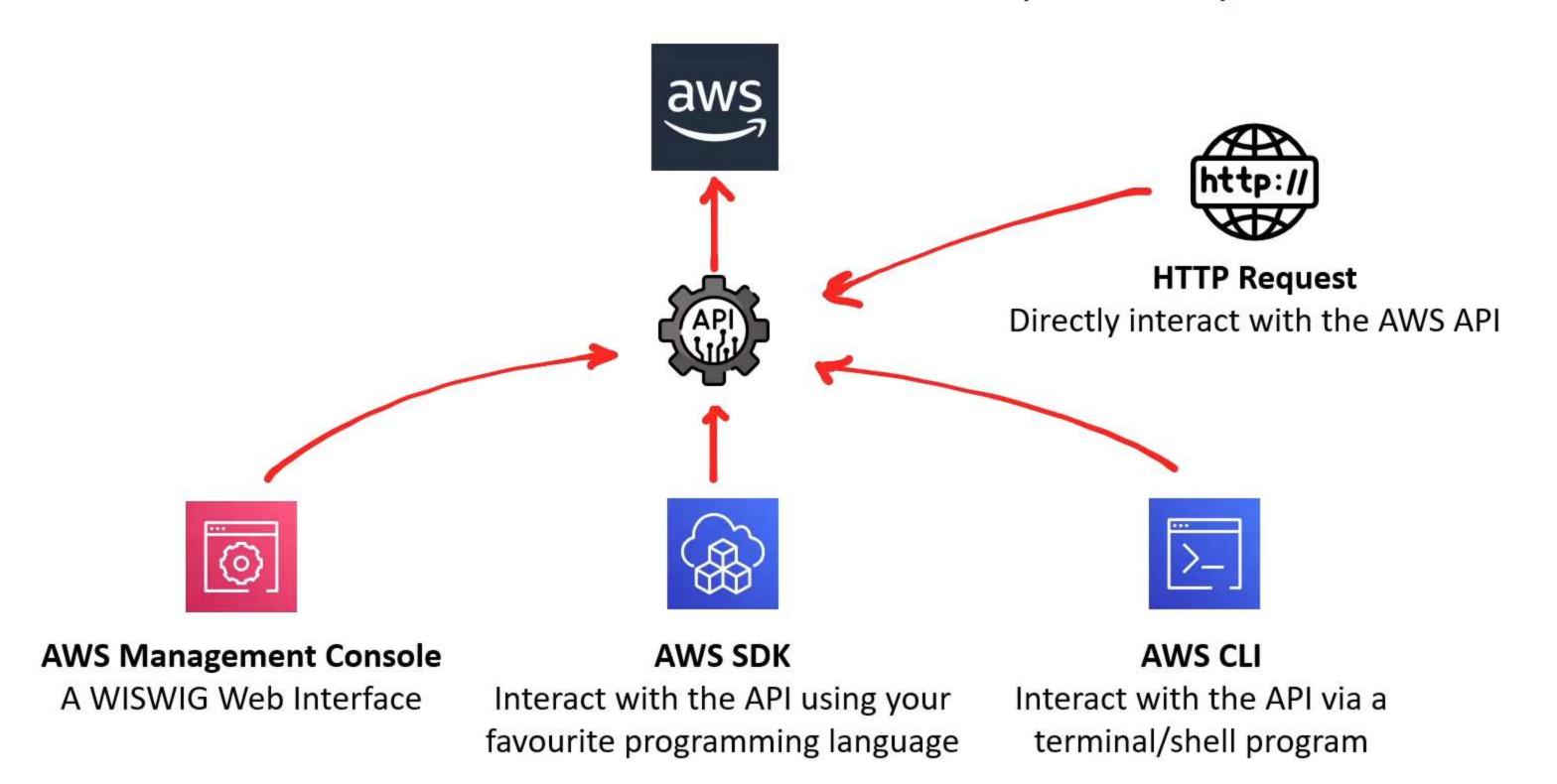
To authorize use you will need generate a **signed request**You make a separate request with your AWS credentials and get back a token.

You need to also provide an **ACTION** and accompanying **parameters** as the paylo

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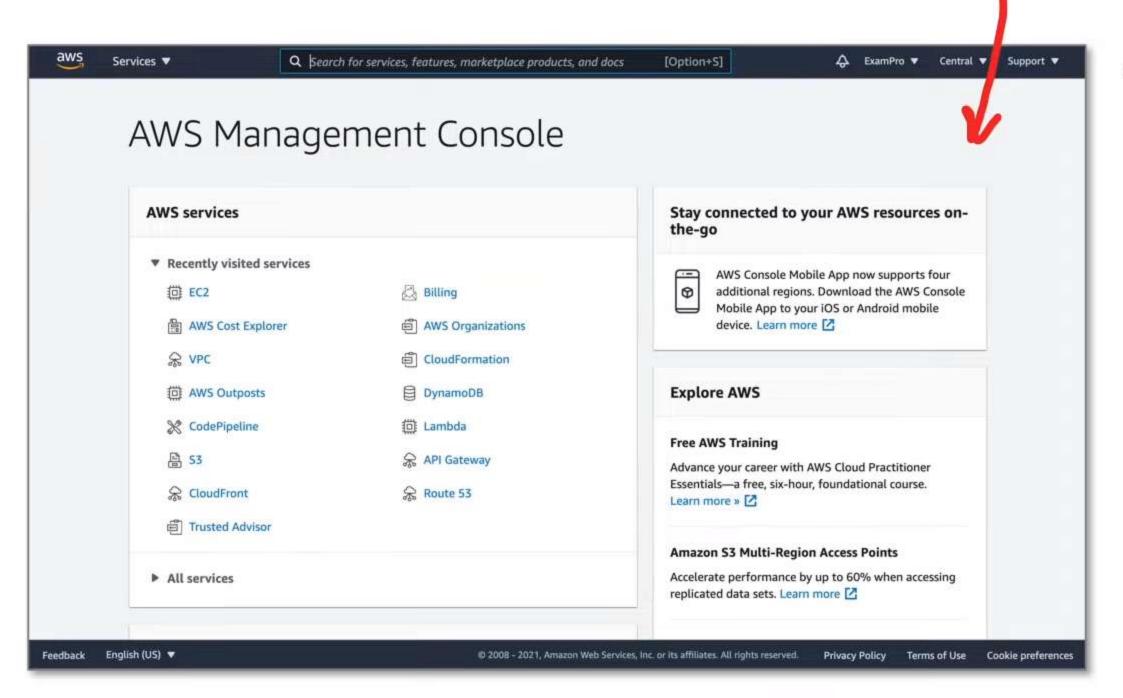
Rarely do users directly send HTTP requests directly to the AWS API. Its much easier to interact with the API via a variety of Developer Tools



AWS Management Console

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The AWS Management Console is a web-based unified console Build, manage, and monitor everything from simple web apps to complex cloud deployments.





Point and Click to manually launch and configure AWS resources with limited programming knowledge.

This is known as "ClickOps" since you can perform all your system operations via clicks.

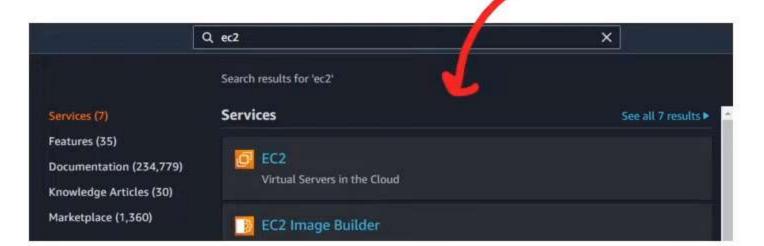


AWS Management Console – Service Console

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AWS Service each have their own customized console.

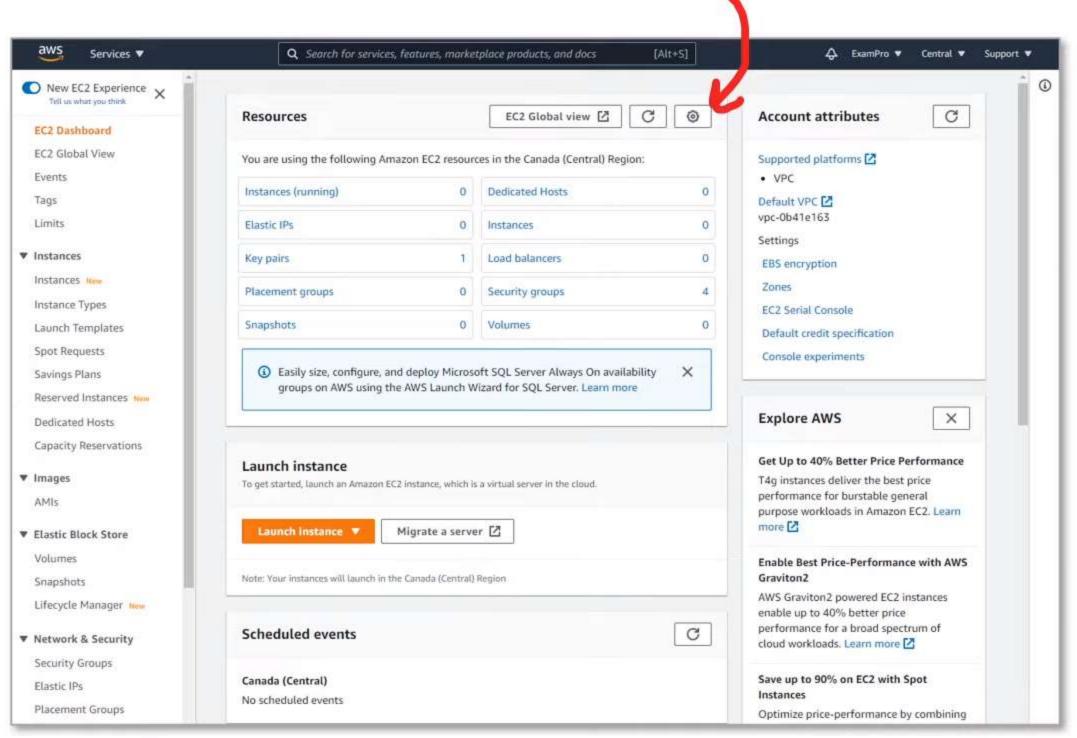
You can access these consoles by searching the service name.





Some AWS Services Console will act as an umbrella console containing many AWS Services: eg

- VPC Console
- EC2 Console
- Systems Manager Console
- SageMaker Console
- CloudWatch Console.



The EC2 Console



AWS Account ID

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Every AWS Account has a unique Account ID.

The Account ID can be easily found by dropping down the current user in the Global Navigation

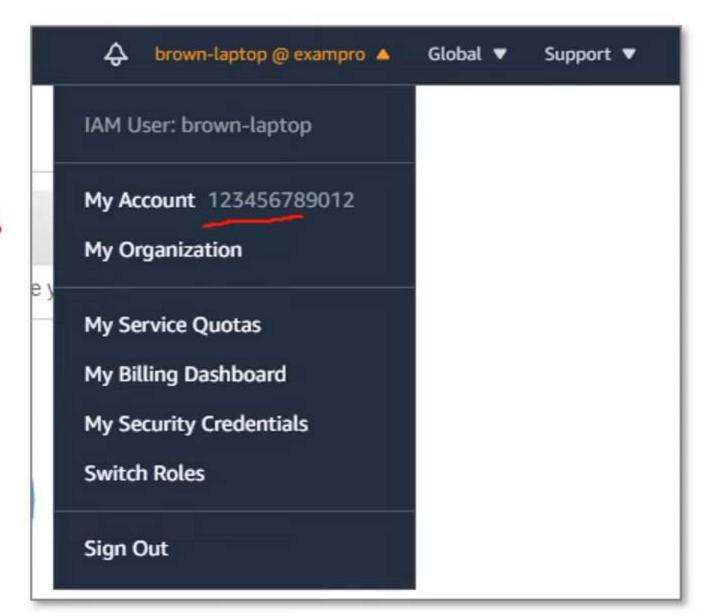
The AWS Account ID is composed of 12 digits eg:

- 123456789012
- 121212121212
- 498241098510

The AWS Account ID is used

- when logging in with a non-root user account.
- Cross-account roles
- Support cases





It is generally good to keep your Account ID private as it is one of many components used to identity an account for attack by a malicious actor.



AWS Tools for PowerShell



What is PowerShell?

PowerShell is a task automation and configuration management framework.

A command-line shell and a scripting language.

Unlike most shells, which accept and return text, PowerShell is built on top of the .NET Common Language Runtime (CLR), and accepts and returns .NET objects.

```
Windows PowerShell
  Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . .
                                    : fe80::541f:9e31:7df6:9847%22
  Default Gateway . . . . . . . :
Ethernet adapter vEthernet (New Virtual Switch):
  Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
  Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . : fe80::2c0d:8306:9bcf:8247%14
  Default Gateway . . . . . . . : 10.0.0.254
Jnknown adapter Local Area Connection:
  Media State . . . . . . . . . . . . Media disconnected
  Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
Ethernet adapter Ethernet 4:
  Media State . . . . . . . . . . . . Media disconnected
  Connection-specific DNS Suffix .:
   C:\Users\Andrew>
```

AWS Tools for PowerShell lets you interact with the AWS API via PowerShell Cmdlets

Cmdlet is a special type of command in PowerShell in the form of capitalized verb-and-noun *e.g. New-S3Bucket*







Amazon Resource Name (ARNs)

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Amazon Resource Names (ARNs) uniquely identify AWS resources.

ARNs are required to specify a resource unambiguously across all of AWS

The ARN has the following

format variations



arn:partition:service:region:account-id:resource-id

arn:partition:service:region:account-id:resource-type/resource-id

arn:partition:service:region:account-id:resource-type:resource-id

Partition

- aws AWS Regions
- aws-cn China Regions
- aws-us-gov AWS GovCloud (US) Regions

Service - Identifies the service

- ec2
- s3
- iam

Region – which AWS resource

- us-east-1
- ca-central-1

Account ID

- 121212121212
- 123456789012

Resource ID

Could be a number name or path:

- user/Bob
- instance/i-1234567890abcdef0

In the AWS Management Console its common to be able to copy the ARN to your clipboard



arn:aws:s3:::my-bucket

my-webserver-alb Name

arn:aws:elasticloadbalancing:us-east-1:123456789012:loadbalancer/app/my-webserver-alb/31e9d2ce26643cd8 [2] Copied ARN







Paths in ARNs

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Resource ARNs can include a path
Paths can include a wildcard character, namely an asterisk (*)

IAM Policy ARN Path

arn:aws:iam::123456789012:user/Development/product_1234/*

S3 ARN Path

arn:aws:s3:::my_corporate_bucket/Development/*

AWS Command Line Interface (CLI)

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What is a CLI?

A Command Line Interface (CLI) processes commands to a computer program in the form of lines of text. Operating systems implement a command-line interface in a shell.

What is a Terminal?

A terminal is a text only interface (input/output environment)

What is a Console?

A console is a physical computer to physically input information into a terminal

What is a Shell?

A shell is the command line program that users interact with to input commands. Popular shell programs:

- Bash
- 7sh
- PowerShell



People commonly (erroneously) use Terminal, Shell or Console to generally describe interacting with a Shell.



AWS Command Line Interface (CLI)

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AWS Command Line Interface (CLI) allows users to programmatically interact with the AWS API via entering single or multi-line commands into a shell or terminal

```
aws ec2 describe-instances \
    --filters Name=tag-key, Values=Name \
                                                                                                DescribeInstances
    --query 'Reservations[*].Instances[*].
                                                                                 AZ
                                                                                                 Instance
                                                                                                                          Name
{Instance:InstanceId, AZ:Placement.AvailabilityZone, Name: Tags[?
Key==`Name`]|[0].Value}' \
                                                                             us-east-2b
                                                                                             i-057750d42936e468a
                                                                                                                    my-prod-server
    --output table
                                                                                                                    test-server-1
                                                                             us-east-2a
                                                                                             i-001efd250faaa6ffa
                                                                              us-east-2a
                                                                                             i-027552a73f021f3bd
                                                                                                                    test-server-2
```



The AWS CLI is a Python executable program.

Python is required to install AWS CLI
 The AWS CLI can be installed on Windows, Mac or Linux/Unix
 The name of the CLI program is aws



AWS Software Development Kit (SDK)

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A Software Development Kit (SDK) is a collection of software development tools in one installable package.



You can use the **AWS SDK** to programmatically create, modify, delete or interact with AWS resources.

AWS SDK is offered in various programing languages:

- Java
- Python
- Node.js
- Ruby
- Go
- .NET
- PHP
- JavaScript
- C++

```
s3 = Aws::S3::Resource.new({
  region: aws_default_region,
  credentials: Aws::Credentials.new(
   aws_access_key_id,
  aws_secret_access_key
  )
})
bucket = s3.bucket s3_bucket
file = File.open file_path
md5 = Digest::MD5.hexdigest file.read
md5 = Base64.encode64([md5].pack("H*")).strip

attrs = {
  key: data["path"],
  body: I0.read(file),
  content_md5: md5
}
resp = bucket.put_object(attrs)
```



AWS CloudShell

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AWS CloudShell is a browser-based shell built into the AWS Management Console.

AWS CloudShell is scoped per region, Same credentials as logged in user. Free Service!

Preinstalled Tools

AWS CLI, Python, Node.js git, make, pip, sudo, tar, tmux, vim, wget, and zip and more

Storage included

1 GB of storage free per AWS region

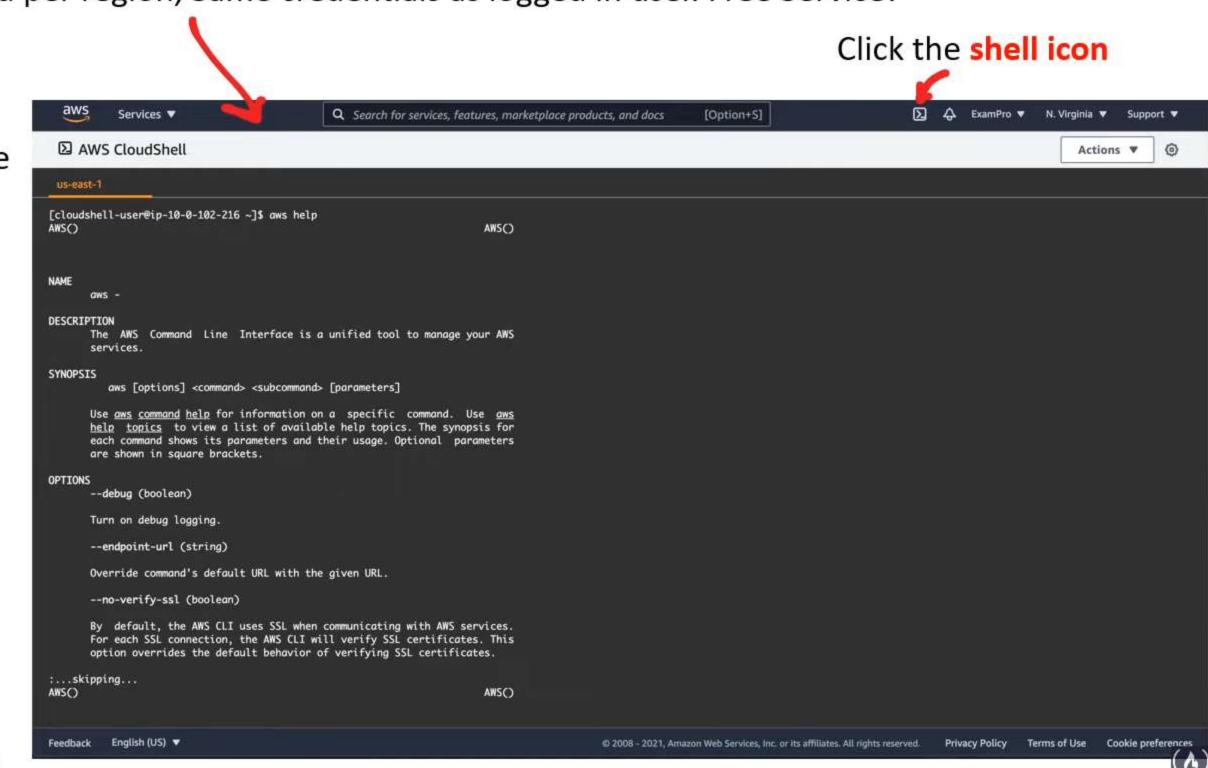
Saved files and settings

Files saved in your home directory are available in future sessions for the same AWS region

Shell Environments

Seamlessly switch between

- Bash
- PowerShell
- Zsh



Infrastructure as Code (IaC)

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Infrastructure as Code (IaC)

You write a configuration script to automate creating, updating or destroying cloud infrastructure.

- IaC is a <u>blueprint</u> of your infrastructure.
- IaC allows you to easily share, version or inventory your cloud infrastructure.

AWS has two offerings for writing Infrastructure as Code.



AWS CloudFormation (CFN)

CFN is a Declarative IaC tool



AWS Cloud Development Kit (CDK)

CDK is an Imperative IaC tool.

Declarative

- What you see is what you get. Explicit
- More verbose, but zero chance of mis-configuration
- Uses scripting languages eg. JSON, YAML, XML

Imperative

- You say what you want, and the rest is filled in. Implict
- Less verbose, you could end up with misconfiguration
- Does more than Declarative
- Uses programming languages eg. Python, Ruby, JavaScript



CloudFormation

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AWS CloudFormation allows you to write Infrastructure as Code (IaC) as either a JSON or **YAML** file.

CloudFormation is simple but it can lead to large files or is limited in some regard to creating dynamic or repeatable infrastructure compared to CDK.

CloudFormation can be easier for DevOps Engineers who do not have a background in web programming languages.

Since CDK generates out CloudFormation its still important to be able to read and understand CloudFormation in order to debug IaC stacks.

```
Ec2Instance
  Type AWS EC2 Instance
  Properties
    ImageId
     Fn::FindInMap
          "RegionMap"
          Ref: "AWS::Region"
          "AMI"
   KeyName
     Ref: "KeyName"
    NetworkInterfaces
       AssociatePublicIpAddress "true"
       DeviceIndex "0"
       GroupSet
            Ref "myVPCEC2SecurityGroup"
        SubnetId
          Ref "PublicSubnet"
```



Cloud Development Kit

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AWS CDK allows you to use your favorite programming language to write Infrastructure as Code (IaC)



- CDK is powered by CloudFormation (it generates out CloudFormation templates)
- CDK has a large library of reusable cloud components called CDK Construct https://constructs.dev
- CDK comes with its own CLI
- CDK Pipelines to quickly setup CI/CD pipelines for CDK projects
- CDK has a testing framework for Unit and Integration Testing



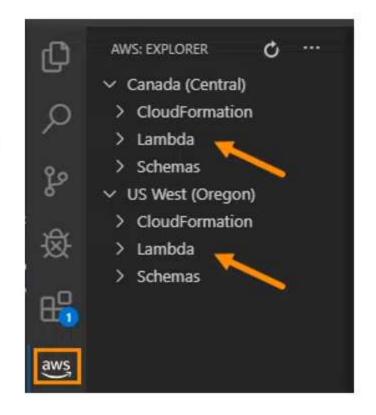
AWS Toolkit for VSCode

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AWS Toolkit is an open-source plugin for VSCode to create, debug, deploy AWS resources

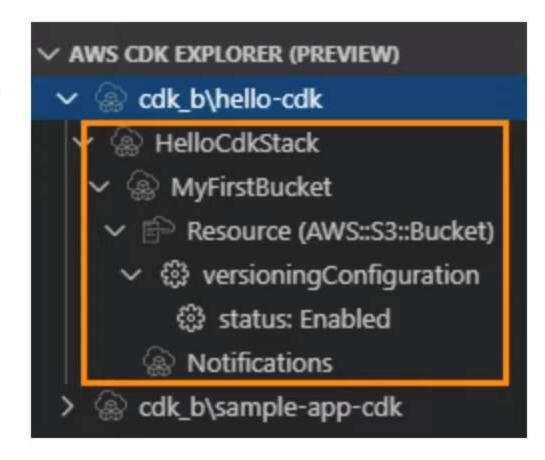
1. AWS Explorer

Explore a wide range of AWS resources to your linked AWS Account



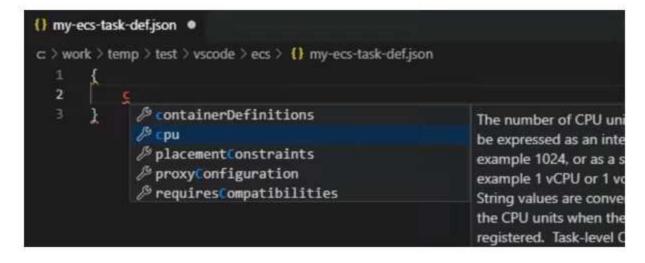
2. AWS CDK Explorer

Allows you to explore your stacks defined by CDK.



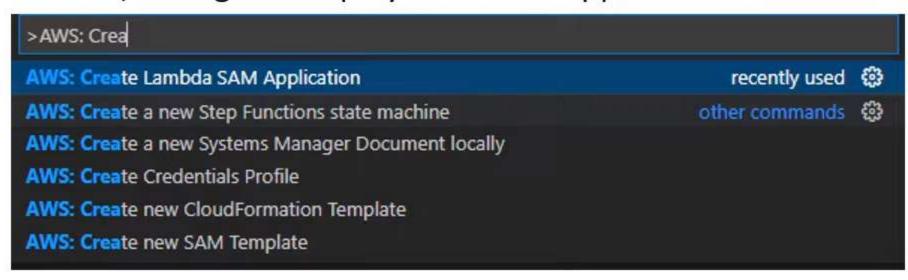
3. Amazon Elastic Container Service

Provides IntelliSense for ECS task-definitions files



4. Serverless Applications

Create, debug and deploy serverless applications via SAM and CFN





Access Keys

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Access Keys is a key and secret required to have programmatic access to AWS resources when interacting with the AWS API outside of the AWS Management Console

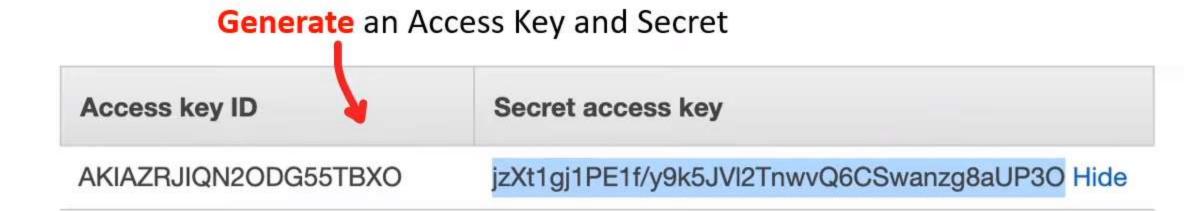


An Access Key is commonly referred to as AWS Credentials

A user must be granted access to use Access Keys



- Never share your access keys
- Never commit access keys to a codebase
- You can have two active Access Keys
- You can deactivate Access Keys
- Access Keys have whatever access a user has to AWS resources.





Access Keys

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Access Keys are to be store in ~/.aws/credentials and follow a TOML file format

You can store multiple access keys by giving the profile names.

You can use the **aws configure**CLI command to populate the credential file.

[default]
aws_access_key_id=AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE
aws_secret_access_key=wJalrXUtnFEMI/K7MDENG/bPxRfiCYEXAMPLEKEY
[exampro]
aws_access_key_id=AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE
aws_secret_access_key=wJalrXUtnFEMI/K7MDENG/bPxRfiCYEXAMPLEKEY
region=ca-central-1

\$ aws configure
AWS Access Key ID [None]: AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE
AWS Secret Access Key [None]: wJalrXUtnFEMI/K7MDENG/bPxRfiCYEXAMPLEKEY
Default region name [None]: us-west-2
Default output format [None]: json

The AWS SDK will automatically read from these environment variables.

This is the safe way of using an Access Key within your code.

```
export AWS_ACCESS_KEY_ID=AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE
export AWS_SECRET_ACCESS_KEY=wJalrXUtnFEMI/K7MDENG/bPxRfiCYEXAMPLEKEY
export AWS_DEFAULT_REGION=us-west-2
```



AWS Documentation

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AWS Documentation is a large collection of technical documentation on how to use AWS Services.

docs.aws.amazon.com

AWS is very good about providing detailed information about every AWS service.

The basis of this course and for any AWS Certification will derive mostly from the AWS Documentation

