



Monitoring Network Security and Audit Logs



In this module, we will examine two key topics: Monitoring as it relates to the VPC network, and Google's Cloud Audit logs.



Agenda

Monitoring Network Security

VPC Flow Logs

Firewall Rules Logging

Cloud NAT Logs

Packet Mirroring

Network Intelligence Center

Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

Specifically, you will learn to:

- Collect and analyze VPC Flow, Firewall Rule, and Cloud NAT logs so you can see what's happening to the traffic across your network
- Enable Packet Mirroring so you can replicate packets at the virtual machine network interface, and forward it for further analysis.
- Explain the capabilities of the Network Intelligence Center.

And ...



Agenda

Monitoring Network Security

Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

Audit Logs

Data Access Logging

Understanding Audit Logs

Best Practices

Use the Cloud Audit logs: Admin Activity, Data Access, and System Event, to answer the question, “Who, did what, and when?”

We will also cover best practices for Audit Logging.

Agenda

Monitoring Network Security

VPC Flow Logs

Firewall Rules Logging

Cloud NAT Logs

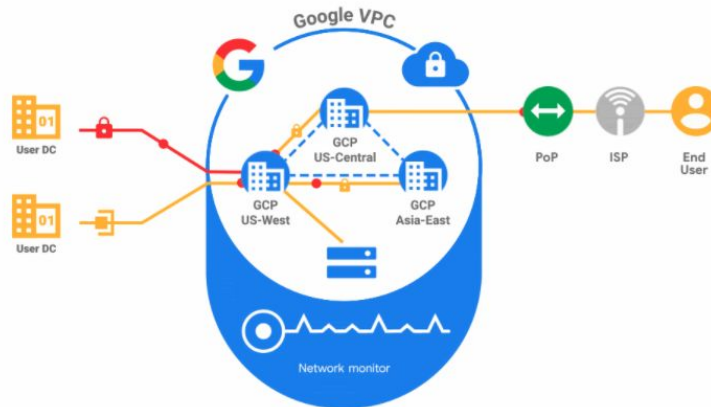
Packet Mirroring

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Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

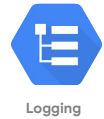
Let's start with monitoring the network...

VPC Flow Logs record a sample of network flows



VPC Flow Logs record a sample (about 1 out of 10 packets) of network flows sent from and received by VM instances, including Kubernetes Engines nodes. These logs can be used for network monitoring, traffic analysis, forensics, real-time security analysis, and expense optimization.

VPC Flow Logs is part of Andromeda, the software that powers VPC networks. VPC Flow Logs introduces no delay or performance penalty when enabled.



Enable VPC Flow Logs per VPC subnet

Field	Type	Description
src_ip	string	Source IP address
src_port	int32	Source port
dest_ip	string	Destination IP address
dest_port	int32	Destination port
protocol	int32	IANA protocol number

Other fields:

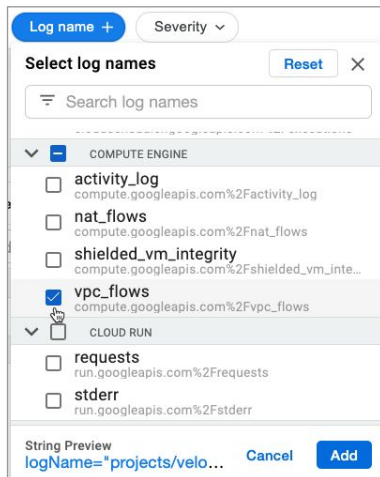
- Start/end time
- Bytes/packets sent
- Instance details
- VPC details
- Geographic details

You can enable or disable VPC Flow Logs per VPC subnet. Once enabled for a subnet, VPC Flow Logs collect data from all VM instances in that subnet.

Each log entry contains a record of different fields. For example, this table illustrates the IP connection information that is recorded. This consists of the source IP address and port, the destination IP address and port, and the protocol number. This set is commonly referred to as 5-tuple.

Other fields include the start and end time of the first and last observed packet, the bytes and packets sent, instance details including network tags, VPC details, and geographic details. For more information on all data recorded by VPC Flow Logs, please see the [documentation](#).

Use Logging to review your VPC Flow Logs



Log name + Severity ▾

Select log names Reset ×

Search log names

COMPUTE ENGINE

- ☐ activity_log
compute.googleapis.com%2Factivity_log
- ☐ nat_flows
compute.googleapis.com%2Fnat_flows
- ☐ shielded_vm_integrity
compute.googleapis.com%2Fshielded_vm_inte...
- ☒ vpc_flows
compute.googleapis.com%2Fvpc_flows

CLOUD RUN

- ☐ requests
run.googleapis.com%2Frequests
- ☐ stderr
run.googleapis.com%2Fstderr

String Preview
logName=*projects/velo... Cancel Add

The Google Cloud Logs Viewer can be used to access the VPC Flow Logs. The entries will be vpc_flows under the Compute Engine section. Searching the log names for vpc_flows works well.

Analyze Logs in BigQuery and visualize in Data Studio



The screenshot shows the BigQuery interface with a query result table. The table has columns: Row, vpc_name, bytes, subnetwork_name, dest_ip, src_ip, dest_port, and protocol. The data is as follows:

Row	vpc_name	bytes	subnetwork_name	dest_ip	src_ip	dest_port	protocol
1	vpc-demo	23529368	vpc-demo-web	74.125.28.95	10.1.1.2	443.0	6.0
2	vpc-demo	15237089	vpc-demo-web	74.125.197.95	10.1.1.2	443.0	6.0
3	vpc-demo	4390076	vpc-demo-web	74.125.135.95	10.1.1.2	443.0	6.0
4	vpc-demo	1606002	vpc-demo-web	74.125.199.95	10.1.1.2	443.0	6.0
5	vpc-demo	1479280	vpc-demo-web	108.177.98.95	10.1.1.2	443.0	6.0
6	vpc-demo	828169	vpc-demo-web	173.194.202.95	10.1.1.2	443.0	6.0
7	null	150991	null	10.1.1.2	151.101.52.204	48668.0	6.0
8	null	18024	null	10.1.1.2	74.125.199.95	37910.0	6.0
9	null	17573	null	10.1.1.2	74.125.199.139	58010.0	6.0
10	null	16687	null	10.1.1.2	74.125.28.95	46118.0	6.0

At the bottom of the table, there are tabs for 'Table' and 'JSON'.

Exporting VPC Flow logs to BigQuery allows you to analyze your network traffic with SQL, to understand traffic growth patterns and network usage better.

For example, in this screenshot, we queried logs to identify the top IP addresses that have exchanged traffic with the webserver.

Depending on where these IP addresses are and who they belong to, we could relocate part of the infrastructure to reduce latency, or we could denylist some of these IP addresses if we don't want them to access the webserver.

For more sophisticated visualizations, connect your BigQuery tables to Data Studio and transform the raw data into the metrics and dimensions needed to create end-user friendly reports and dashboards.



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- Monitoring Network Security

 - VPC Flow Logs

 - Firewall Rules Logging**

 - Cloud NAT Logs

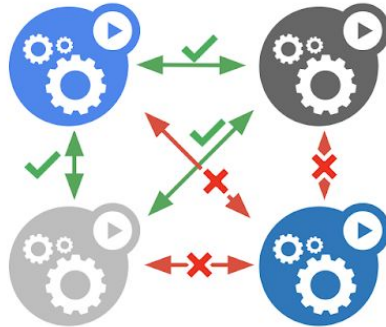
 - Packet Mirroring

 - Network Intelligence Center

- Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

Another essential part of knowing what's happening at the VPC network level is knowing what the firewall rules are doing.

VPC Firewalls



VPC firewall rules let you allow or deny connections to or from your virtual machine (VM) instances based on a configuration that you specify.

Enabled VPC firewall rules are always enforced, protecting your instances regardless of their configuration and operating system, even if they have not started up.

Firewall Rules Logging



Did my firewall rules cause that application outage?



How many connections match the rule I just created?



Are my firewall rules stopping (or allowing) the correct traffic?

Firewall Rules Logging allows you to audit, verify, and analyze the effects of your firewall rules.

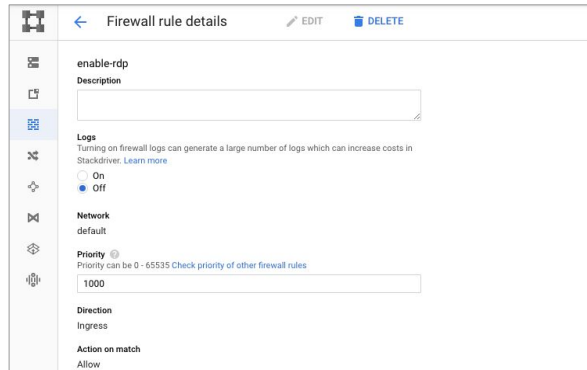
It can help answer questions like:

- Did my firewall rules cause that application outage?
- How many connections match the rule I just created?
- Are my firewall rules stopping (or allowing) the correct traffic?

See the Firewall Rule Logging [documentation](#) for details.

Enabling Firewall Rule Logging in the console

- Firewall Rule Logging is **disabled** by default
- You enable it on a per-rule basis



The screenshot shows the 'Firewall rule details' page in the Azure portal. The rule name is 'enable-rdp'. The 'Logs' section is expanded, showing a warning that turning on logs can increase costs in Stackdriver. The 'Logs' toggle is set to 'Off'. The 'Network' section is set to 'default'. The 'Priority' is set to '1000'. The 'Direction' is set to 'Ingress'. The 'Action on match' is set to 'Allow'.

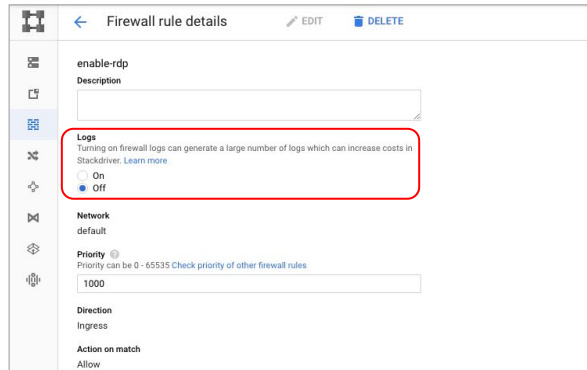
Section	Value
Name	enable-rdp
Description	
Logs	Off
Network	default
Priority	1000
Direction	Ingress
Action on match	Allow

By default, firewall rule logging is disabled.

You can enable it on a per-rule basis.

Enabling Firewall Rule Logging in the console

- Firewall Rule Logging is **disabled** by default
- You enable it on a per-rule basis



In the slide screenshot, the user is editing the firewall rule named *enable-rdp*. Selecting the radio button will enable firewall rules.

Caution. Firewall rule logging can generate a lot of data which may have a cost impact.

Enabling Firewall Rule Logging in the CLI

- Firewall Rule Logging can also be enabled or disabled using the following **gcloud** commands
- Substitute **[NAME]** for the name of your firewall rule

Enable:

```
gcloud compute firewall-rules update [NAME] --enable-logging
```

Disable:

```
gcloud compute firewall-rules update [NAME] --no-enable-logging
```

Firewall rule logging can also be enabled on existing firewall rules using the CLI. See these two examples on this slide. In both, [NAME] would be the name of your firewall rule.

Viewing the Firewall Rule Logs

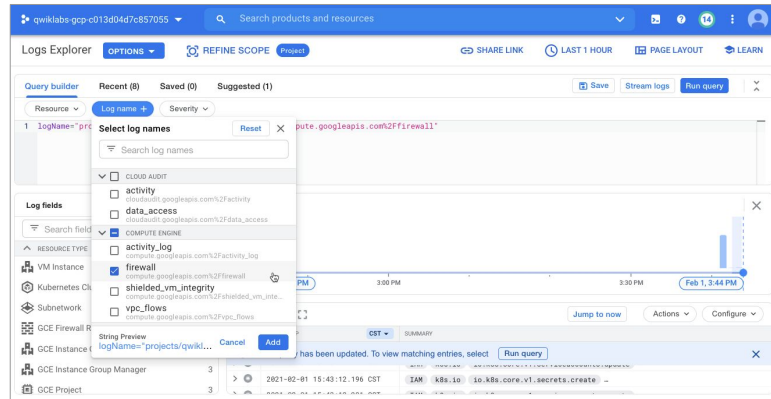
- In Logging, you can view the logs in real time
- Or, export the firewall logs to a BigQuery sink



Logging



BigQuery



Like all Google Cloud Logs, use Logs Explorer to view logs in real-time, or to configure exports.

BigQuery is frequently used to simplify firewall rule log analysis.

Viewing the Firewall Rule Logs

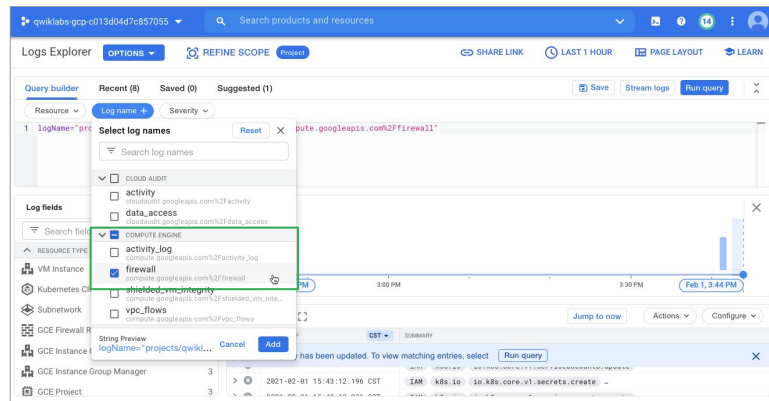
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Logging



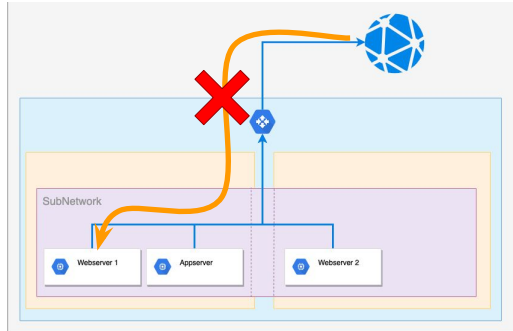
BigQuery



To filter for firewall logs, select **firewall** under the Compute Engine resource.

Firewall Rules provide microsegmentation

Segmentation/Gateway-centric



A lot of users are familiar with classic segmentation or gateway centric firewalls.

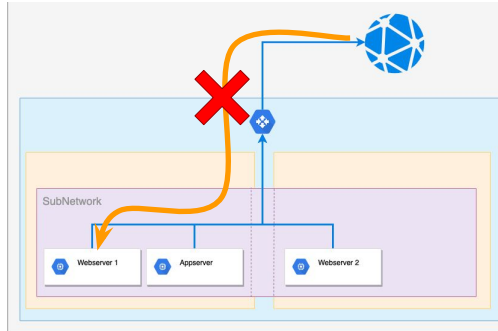
In this example, you can see a private network, possibly at your office or home.

At the network boundary, where the private network meets the outside internet, sits a firewall.

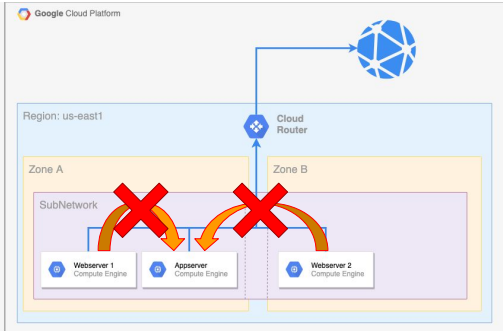
A segmentation firewall is designed to segment and secure a protected network from an outside insecure network.

Firewall Rules provide microsegmentation

Segmentation/Gateway-centric



Microsegmentation/VM-centric



Google Cloud VPC Firewalls are micro-segmentation firewalls.

These function more like a bunch of micro firewalls, each sitting on the NIC of every VM connected to the VPC.

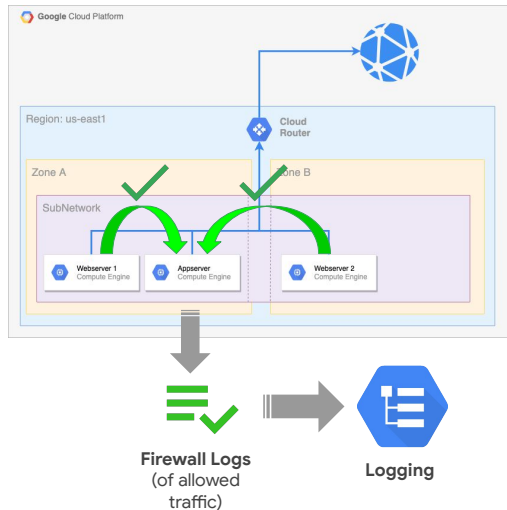
The micro firewalls can then grant or deny any configured incoming or outgoing traffic.

Now, imagine we have an issue. We have two different web servers, and after some configuration changes by a particular DevOps team, the web servers can no longer access the application server they both share.

How can we tell if this is a firewall related issue? Let's see.

Troubleshooting: using rules to catch incorrect traffic

- Logging all denied connections will create too many log entries
- Temporarily create a low-priority rule to allow traffic to the server
 - Enable logging
- If traffic now gets through, examine the logs as to why



If the connectivity issue is related to a firewall, then there are two major possibilities.

1. There's a firewall rule that's actively blocking the incoming connections from the web servers, or
2. Since network traffic is blocked by default in most networks, there could be a firewall rule that isn't allowing the traffic from the web servers as it should.

Two sides of the same coin.

Logging all denied connections could generate a lot of data that would take time and effort to go through. So, instead of starting with option one, let's start with option two.

Create a temporary low-priority rule specifically designed to allow the web server traffic through to the app server. Enable logging on it so you can examine the entries.

Suddenly the traffic is getting through, so you know it's firewall related. Now examine the log entries. Also, find the existing rule that's supposed to be allowing the traffic and see what you can find out.

Hey, look at that! The rule that's supposed to be allowing the traffic is based on a network tag named `webserver`, and the web server machines are actually using the network tag `web-server`. There it is, that's your problem.



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Packet Mirroring

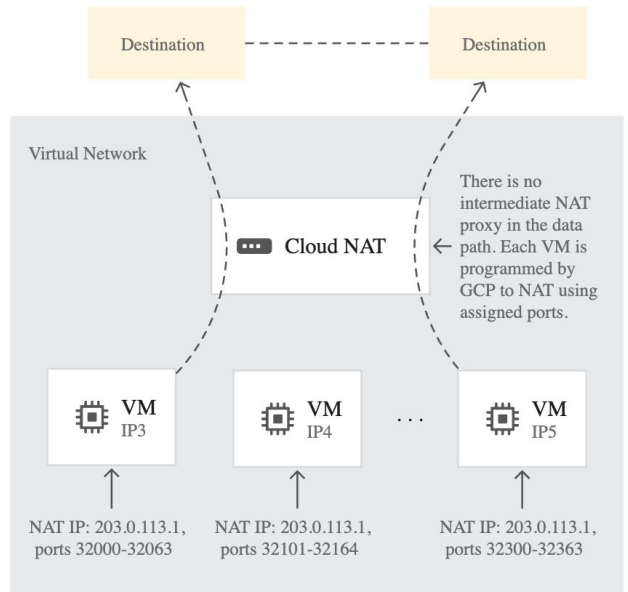
Network Intelligence Center

Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

Another piece of the network telemetry features in Google Cloud is Cloud NAT Logs

Cloud NAT overview

- Allows GCE VMs with no external IP to send packets to the internet
- Fully managed, software defined, grounded in Andromeda
- Benefits include:
 - Security
 - Availability
 - Scalability
 - Performance



Cloud NAT ([network address translation](#)) allows Google Cloud virtual machine (VM) instances without external IP addresses and private Google Kubernetes Engine (GKE) clusters to send outbound packets to the internet and receive any corresponding established inbound response packets.

Cloud NAT is a distributed, software-defined, fully managed service, grounded in the [Andromeda software](#) that powers your VPC network. It provides source network address translation (SNAT) for VMs without external IP addresses, as well as destination network address translation (DNAT) for established inbound response packets.

Cloud NAT benefits include:

- **Security:** You can reduce the need for individual VMs to have external IP addresses, lessening the surface area for attack. You can also confidently share a set of common external source IP addresses with a destination party.
- **Availability:** Cloud NAT is a distributed, software-defined, managed Google Cloud service. It doesn't depend on any VMs in your project or a single physical gateway device.
- **Scalability:** Cloud NAT can be configured to automatically scale the number of NAT IP addresses it uses, and it supports VMs that belong to managed instance groups, including those with [autoscaling](#) enabled.
- **Performance:** Cloud NAT does not reduce the network bandwidth per VM. Cloud NAT works directly with Google's Andromeda software-defined

- networking.

Cloud NAT logging

- Allows you to log NAT **connections** and/or **errors**
 - TCP and UDP traffic only
 - 50-100 entries per second, per vCPU
- Enable logging by editing the Cloud NAT settings
- View by filtering Logs Explorer:
 - Resource: Cloud NAT Gateway
 - (optional) Restrict to region or NAT Gateway

Advanced configurations

Stackdriver logging ?

Export Cloud NAT logs to Stackdriver

- ☐ No logging
- ☒ Translation and errors
- ☐ Translation only
- ☐ Errors only

Cloud NAT logging allows you to log NAT TCP and UDP connections and errors. When Cloud NAT logging is enabled, a log entry can be generated when a network connection using NAT is created, and/or when an egress packet is dropped because no port was available for NAT.

You can opt to log both kinds of events, or just one or the other. Logs contain TCP and UDP traffic only, and the log rate threshold will max out at 50-100 log events per vCPU before log filtering.

Cloud NAT logging may be enabled when a new Cloud NAT gateway is first created, or by editing an existing gateway's settings.

To view the collected logs in Logs Explorer, filter to the Cloud NAT Gateway resource and optionally, restrict to a particular region or Gateway.

The full query will look something like:

```
resource.type="nat_gateway"  
logName="projects/{#project_id}/logs/compute.googleapis.com%2Fnat_flows"
```



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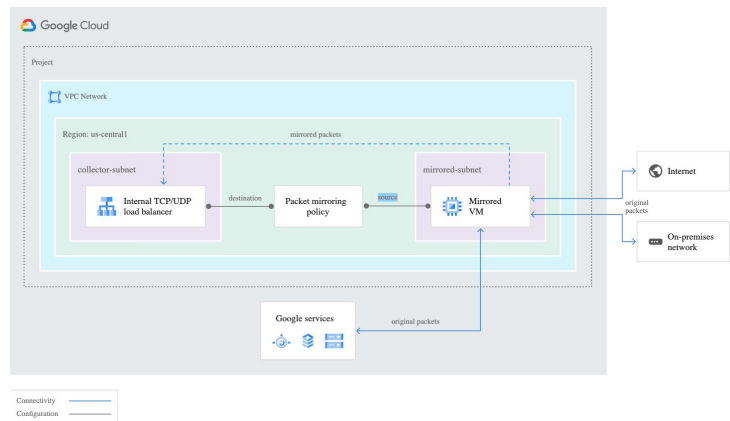
Network Intelligence Center

Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

Another way to monitor the network traffic flowing in and out of your Compute Engine virtual machines is to use packet mirroring.

Packet Mirroring: visualize and protect your network

- Clones VPC instance traffic and forwards for examination
- Happens at NIC not as part of VPC
- Can monitor and analyze security status
- Provides access to full traffic flow for regulatory or performance analysis



Packet Mirroring clones the traffic of specified instances in your Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) network and forwards it for examination. Packet Mirroring captures all ingress and egress traffic and packet data, such as payloads and headers.

The mirroring happens on the virtual machine (VM) instances, not on the network. Consequently, Packet Mirroring consumes additional bandwidth on the hosts.

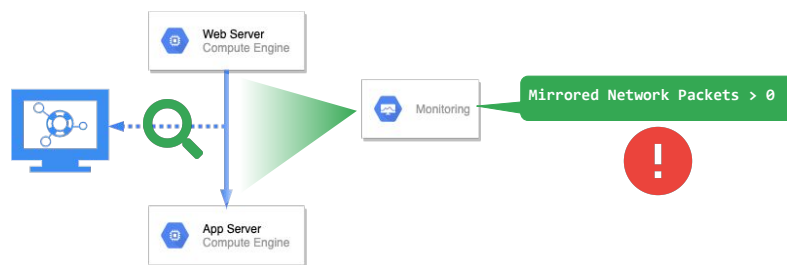
Packet Mirroring is useful when you need to monitor and analyze your security status. It exports all traffic, not only the traffic between sampling periods. For example, you can use security software that analyzes mirrored traffic to detect all threats or anomalies.

Additionally, you can inspect the full traffic flow to detect application performance issues and to provide network forensics for PCI compliance and other regulatory use cases.

Obviously, this can generate a lot of data, so the recommended target is a load-balanced Compute Engine Managed Instance Group or equivalent technology.

Monitoring Packet Mirroring

- Metrics can verify that instances are being monitored as intended



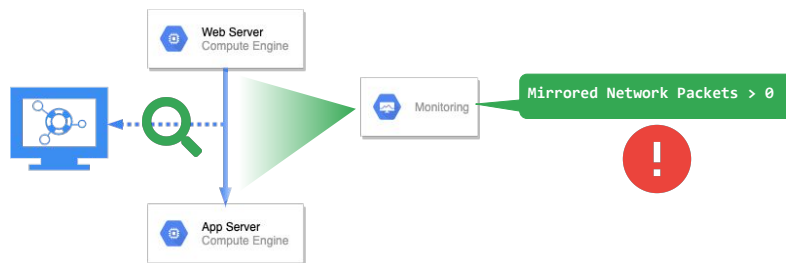
Packet Mirroring exports monitoring data about mirrored traffic to Cloud Monitoring.

You can use monitoring metrics to check whether traffic from a VM instance is being mirrored as intended.

For example, you can view the mirrored packet or byte count for a particular instance.

Monitoring Packet Mirroring

- Metrics can verify that instances are being monitored as intended
 - Mirrored Packets count
 - Mirrored Bytes Count
 - Dropped Packets Count

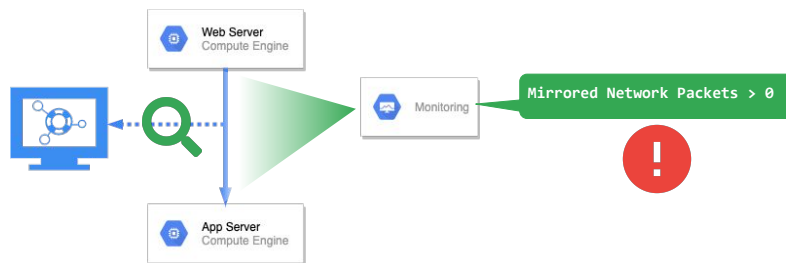


You can view the monitoring metrics of mirrored VM instances or instances that are part of the collector destination (internal load balancer).

For mirrored VM instances, Packet Mirroring provides metrics specific to mirrored packets, such as `/mirroring/mirrored_packets_count`, `/mirroring/mirrored_bytes_count`, and `/mirroring/dropped_packets_count`.

Monitoring Packet Mirroring

- Metrics can verify that instances are being monitored as intended
 - Mirrored Packets count
 - Mirrored Bytes Count
 - Dropped Packets Count
- Can also spot where packet mirroring shouldn't be happening



Monitoring can also spot where packet mirroring is being used unnecessarily or unexpectedly.

Keep in mind that, as noted, mirroring generates a lot of data that requires storage and processing, but also note that it slows the network throughput of the virtual machines being monitored and may accidentally expose sensitive data.



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 - [Network Intelligence Center](#)

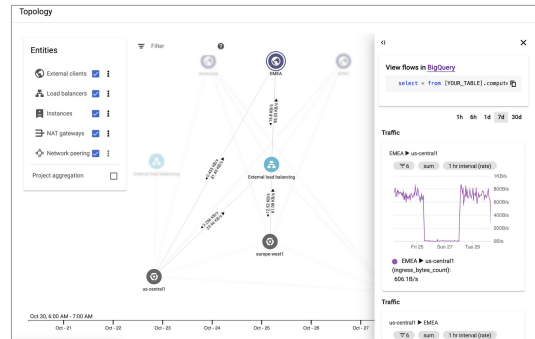
- Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

This section is a bit of a detour, but let's at least mention the Network Intelligence Center and how it helps with network analysis.

Network Intelligence Center

Centralized Network monitoring and visibility

- **Topology:** view VPC topology and associated metrics
- **Connectivity Tests:** Evaluate connectivity to and from VPC resources
- **Performance Dashboard:** VPC packet loss and latency metrics
- **Firewall Insights:** Visibility into firewall usage and configuration issues



Google's Network Intelligence Center is all about giving you centralized monitoring and visibility into your network, reducing troubleshooting time and effort, increasing network security, all while improving the overall user experience.

Currently, it offers four modules: network topology, connectivity testing, a performance dashboard, and firewall insights.

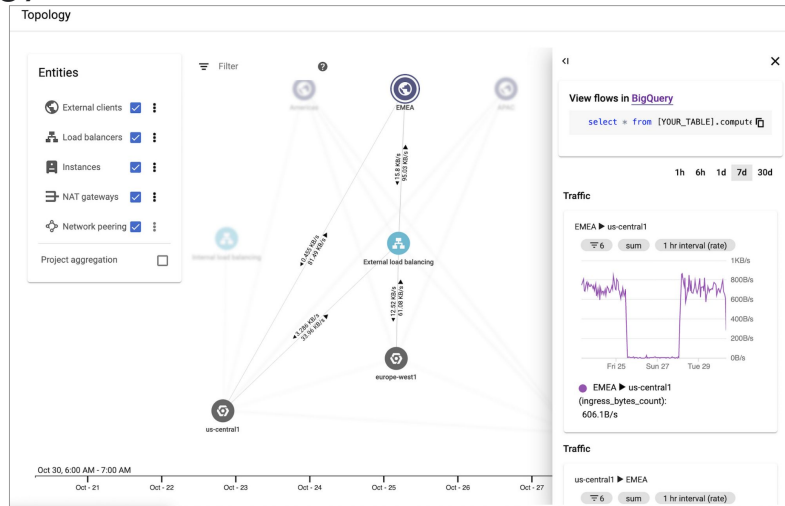
Network Topology is a visualization tool for viewing the topology of your VPC networks and the metrics that are associated with their Google Cloud resources.

Connectivity Tests enables you to evaluate connectivity to and from Google Cloud resources in your Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) network, by performing a static analysis of your resource configurations.

Performance Dashboard gives you visibility into the performance of your VPC network. It provides packet loss and latency (Round Trip Time) metrics between the zones where you have VMs.

Firewall Insights provides visibility into firewall usage and detects firewall configuration issues.

Topology



Network Topology visualizes your Google Cloud network as a graph.

You can use the graph to explore your existing configurations and quickly troubleshoot networking issues.

You can select network entities, filter, see lines of communication with bandwidth information, expand and collapse hierarchies, select time boundaries, and details for the item selected.

Connectivity Tests

- Quickly diagnose connectivity issues and prevent outages
- Verify configuration change impact to help prevent outages

Connectivity Tests BETA [+ CREATE CONNECTIVITY TEST](#) [RERUN](#) [DELETE](#) [SHOW INFO PANEL](#)

This test performs analysis based on the active configurations in your project and is intended to detect any configuration issues. It does not try to send a packet through the data plane to verify the actual state of the forwarding path.

Filter by test name or protocol Columns

Name	Protocol	Source	Destination	Destination port	Last test time	Last test result	Result details
ha-vpn-test	tcp	vpc1-asia-vm	vpc2-asia-vm	80	2019-10-29 (10:58:05)	Reachable	View
test-demo-2	icmp	vpc1-us-vm	vpc1-eu-vm	-	2019-10-30 (05:23:21)	Unreachable	View
test-demo-3	icmp	vpc1-us-vm	vpc1-eu-vm	-	2019-10-30 (05:24:27)	Unreachable	View
test-external-ct	icmp	vpc1-us-vm	223.165.26.161	-	2019-10-29 (10:51:03)	Reachable	View
test-icmp-demo	icmp	vpc1-us-vm	vpc1-eu-vm	-	2019-10-29 (10:45:16)	Reachable	View
test-icmp-demo1	icmp	vpc1-us-vm	vpc1-eu-vm	-	2019-10-29 (10:48:06)	Reachable	View

Network Intelligence Center [Connectivity Tests](#) help to quickly diagnose connectivity issues and prevent outages.

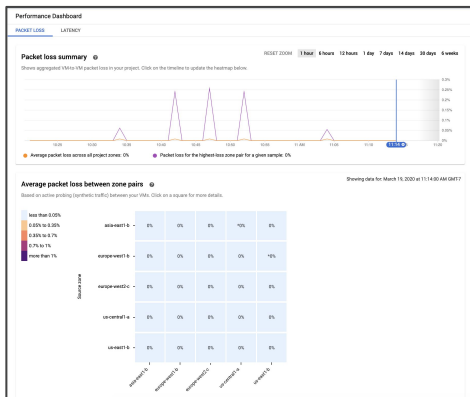
These tests enable you to self-diagnose connectivity issues within GCP or GCP to an external IP address (which could be on-prem or in another cloud) helping to isolate whether the issue is in GCP or not.

Run tests to help verify the impact of configuration changes and ensure that network intent captured by these tests is not violated, proactively preventing network outages.

These tests also help assure network security and compliance.

Performance dashboard

- Packet loss metrics aggregated across zones



Performance Dashboard gives you visibility into the performance of your VPC.

The Packet Loss tab shows the results of active probing between your VMs in a given VPC.

To get this data, it runs workers on the physical hosts that house your VMs.

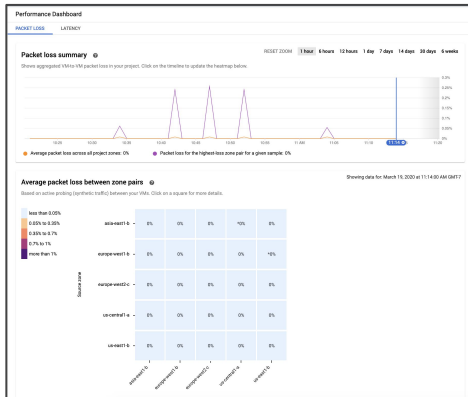
These workers insert and receive probe packets that run on the same network as your traffic, revealing issues on that network.

Because the workers run on the physical host and not on your VM, these workers do not consume VM resources and the traffic is not visible on your VMs.

Packet loss is aggregated for all zone pairs.

Performance dashboard

- Packet loss metrics aggregated across zones
- Median Latency summaries aggregated across zones



The Latency tab aggregates latency information based on a sample of your actual TCP VM traffic, using a method similar to the one used for [VPC Flow Logs](#).

The latency is calculated as the time that elapses between sending a TCP sequence number (SEQ) and receiving a corresponding ACK that contains the network RTT and TCP stack related delay.

The latency metric is only available if TCP traffic is around 1000 packets per minute or higher.

Firewall Insights

- Metrics to help understand and optimize firewall configurations
 - Based on data collected by Firewall Rules Logging

Reports included for every firewall with logging enabled

- Allow/deny counts
- Last Used
- Unused rules
- Shadowed rules

The screenshot shows the 'Firewall Insights' dashboard. At the top, there's a header with 'Firewall Insights' and a 'CHANGES HISTORY' link. Below the header is a 'Filter network' dropdown. The main content area is divided into three panels:

- Shadowed rules:** A panel with a warning icon. It states 'Detected 0 shadowed rules.' Below this is a table with columns 'Firewall' and 'Insight'. It shows 'No rows to display' and a 'View full list' link.
- Deny rules with hits:** A panel with a warning icon. It states '0 deny firewall rules were hit in the last 24 hours.' Below this is a table with columns 'Firewall' and 'Hit count'. It shows 'No rows to display' and a 'View full list' link.
- Allow rules with no hit:** A panel with a warning icon. It states '81 allow rules had no hit in the last 6 weeks.' Below this is a table with columns 'Firewall' and 'Insight'. It lists several firewall rules with their IDs and actions, such as 'a27804047120411eaa056a42010ba0027', 'a5553844f6c9f11e49f95b42010ba0025', 'a906a5617120411eaa057f42010ba0019', and 'a428983655c5711e49f95b42010ba0028'. It also shows 'allow internal sub-egress' and a 'View full list' link.

Firewall Insights enables you to better understand and safely optimize your firewall configurations by analyzing Firewall Rules logs and providing reports on firewall usage, and the impact of various firewall rules on your VPC.

For each firewall rule with logging enabled, you can see:

- How many times the firewall rule has blocked or allowed connections.
- The last time a particular firewall rule was applied to allow or deny traffic.
- A list of firewall rules that haven't been used in the last six weeks.
- and Shadowed firewall rules. (A *shadowed rule* is a firewall rule that has all of its relevant attributes, such as IP address range and ports, overlapped by attributes from one or more other firewall rules with higher or equal priority. A firewall doesn't evaluate a shadowed rule because of the overlap and because the shadowed rule has a lower priority than its shadowing rules.)



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Monitoring Network Security

Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

Audit Logs

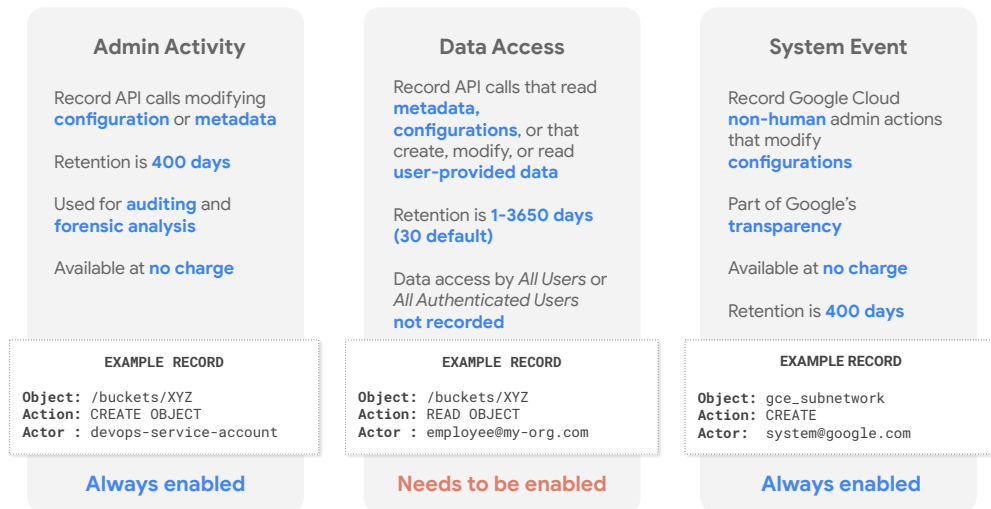
Data Access Logging

Understanding Audit Logs

Best Practices

In terms of sheer volume of useful information, probably the most important group of logs in Google Cloud are the Audit Logs.

Cloud Audit Logs: “Who Did What, Where, and When?”



[Cloud Audit Logs](#) help answer the question, "Who did what, when, and where?"

It maintains three audit logs for each Google Cloud project, folder, and organization: **Admin Activity**, **Data Access**, and **System Event**. All Google Cloud services will eventually provide audit logs. For now, see the [Google services with audit logs](#) documentation for coverage details.

Admin Activity audit logs contain log entries for API calls or other administrative actions that modify the configuration or metadata of resources. For example, these logs record when users create VM instances or change Cloud Identity and Access Management permissions. They are always on, are retained for 400 days, and are available at no charge. To view these logs, you must have the Cloud IAM role **Logging/Logs Viewer** or **Project/Viewer**.

Data Access audit logs contain API calls that read the configuration or metadata of resources, as well as user-driven API calls that create, modify, or read user-provided resource data. Data Access audit logs do not record the data-access operations on resources that are publicly shared (available to **All Users** or **All Authenticated Users**), or that can be accessed without logging into Google Cloud. They are disabled by default (except for BigQuery), and when enabled, the default retention is 30 days. To view these logs, you must have the Cloud IAM roles **Logging/Private Logs**

Viewer or **Project/Owner**.

System Event audit logs contain log entries for Google Cloud administrative actions that modify the configuration of resources. System Event audit logs are generated by Google systems; they are not driven by direct user action.

They are always enabled, free, and are retained for 400 days. To view these logs, you must have the Cloud IAM role **Logging/Logs Viewer** or **Project/Viewer**.

Filtering Audit Logs, log names

```
logName =  
projects/[PROJECT_ID]/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Factivity
```

```
logName =  
projects/[PROJECT_ID]/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Fdata_access
```

```
logName =  
organizations/[ORGANIZATION_ID]/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Factivity
```

```
logName =  
organizations/[ORGANIZATION_ID]/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Fdata_access
```

resource.type=

gae_app

aws_ec2_instance

gce_autoscaler

gce_disk

gce_instance

gcs_bucket

project

ml_job

..and many more

Here is an easy, but not foolproof, trick to try.

Put the Logs Viewer in advanced mode and simply type “AuditLog” in the filter box. That will find all audit log entries of all types, but be aware that it might also pick up non-audit log entries as well.

When looking for a particular log, a better way would be to set the resource.type to the Google Cloud resource type whose audit logs you want to see.

Then you can query: `logName = ("[log file name]")`

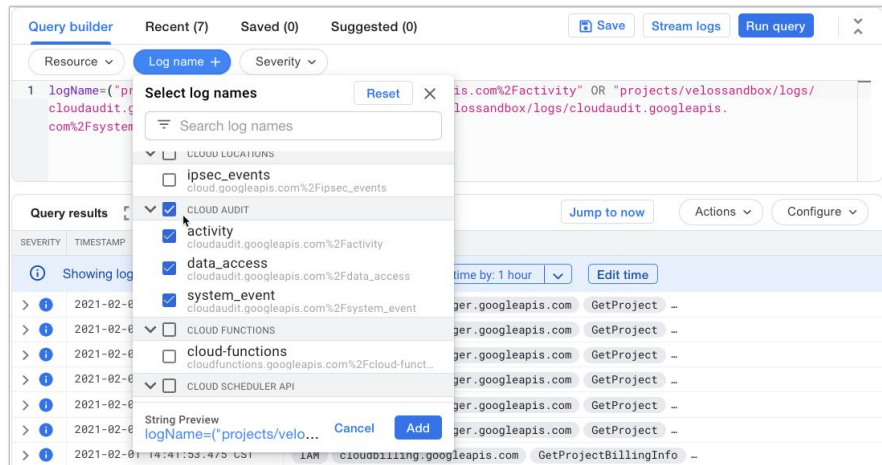
Where the name is one of the following. In the examples, PROJECT_ID can actually be the project id, folder id, or organization id:

```
projects/[PROJECT_ID]/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Factivity
```

```
projects/[PROJECT_ID]/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Fdata_access
```

```
projects/[PROJECT_ID]/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Fsystem_event
```

Filtering Audit Logs, an example



Here's an example where:

The resource is set to App Engine.

The log names are then set to the data access and admin activity logs for a single project.

You see the results below the query.

Access Transparency Logs



Show **how** and **why** customer data is accessed
once it has been stored in Google Cloud



Whether it's a hardware support engineer, or a rep working on a ticket, having dedicated experts manage parts of the infrastructure is a key benefit of operating in Google Cloud.

Access Transparency Logs



Show **how** and **why** customer data is accessed
once it has been stored in Google Cloud



Logs of accesses



To Cloud and Apps customer data



By human Googlers



Access transparency logs help by providing logs of accesses to your data by human Googlers (as opposed to automated systems).

Access Transparency Logs



Show **how** and **why** customer data is accessed
once it has been stored in Google Cloud



Logs of accesses



To Cloud and Apps customer data



By human Googlers



Provided to enterprises



In near real time

Surfaced through



Cloud and Apps APIs and UIs,

Security Command Center

Enterprises with appropriate support packages can enable the logs, and receive the log events in near real-time, surfaced through the APIs, Cloud Logging, and Security Command Center

Agenda

Monitoring Network Security

Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

Audit Logs

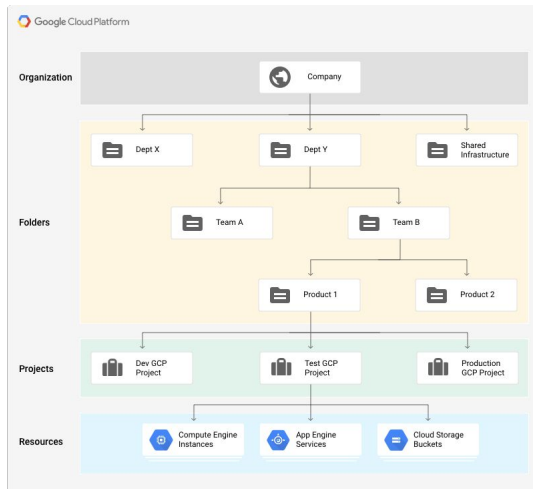
Data Access Logging

Understanding Audit Logs

Best Practices

Let's continue by taking a look at Data Access Logs.

Data Access Log enablement scope



- Enable at:
 - Organization
 - Folder
 - Project
 - Resource
- Added cost

Data Access logs can be enabled at the organization, folder, project, or resources levels.

The added logging does add to the cost, currently: \$.50 per gigabyte for ingestion.

Enabling Data Access logging per Google Cloud service

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud Platform IAM & Admin console. The left sidebar contains the navigation menu with 'IAM & Admin' selected. The main content area is titled 'Audit Logs' and shows a table of audit logs. The table has columns for 'Title', 'Admin Read', 'Data Read', 'Data Write', and 'Exemptions'. The 'Google Cloud Storage' entry is highlighted, and its configuration is shown on the right. The 'LOG TYPE' section for 'Google Cloud Storage' shows that 'Data Read' and 'Data Write' are enabled, while 'Admin Read' and 'Admin Write' are disabled. A 'SAVE' button is visible at the bottom of the configuration panel.

Title	Admin Read	Data Read	Data Write	Exemptions
<input type="checkbox"/> Genomics API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> GKE Connect/Hub APIs	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Google App Engine Admin API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Google Cloud Deployment Manager V2 API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Google Cloud DNS API	—	—	—	0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Google Cloud Storage	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Google Workspace Add-ons API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Identity and Access Management (IAM) API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Identity Toolkit API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Kubernetes Engine API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Pub/Sub Lite API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> reCAPTCHA Enterprise API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommendations AI API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Secret Manager API	—	—	—	0

Google Cloud Storage

LOG TYPE EXEMPTED USERS

Turn on/off audit logging for selected services.

☐ Admin Read
☒ Admin Write
☒ Data Read
☒ Data Write

SAVE

Data Access logs are disabled by default, for everything but BigQuery.

You can enable and configure Data Access logs at the organization, folder, project, or service level.

Enabling Data Access logging per Google Cloud service

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud Platform IAM & Admin console. The left sidebar lists various IAM & Admin services, with 'Audit Logs' selected. The main panel displays the 'Audit Logs' configuration for 'Google Cloud Storage'. The table below shows the default audit configuration for various services, with 'Google Cloud Storage' highlighted. The right sidebar shows the 'Google Cloud Storage' configuration panel, where the 'LOG TYPE' section is expanded, showing 'Admin Read', 'Admin Write', 'Data Read', and 'Data Write' options. The 'Data Read' and 'Data Write' options are checked, indicating that data access logging is enabled for these operations.

Title	Admin Read	Data Read	Data Write	Exemptions
<input type="checkbox"/> Genomics API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> GKE Connect/Hub APIs	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Google App Engine Admin API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Google Cloud Deployment Manager V2 API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Google Cloud DNS API	—	—	—	0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Google Cloud Storage	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Google Workspace Add-ons API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Identity and Access Management (IAM) API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Identity Toolkit API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Kubernetes Engine API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Pub/Sub Lite API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> reCAPTCHA Enterprise API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommendations AI API	—	—	—	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Secret Manager API	—	—	—	0

Google Cloud Storage

LOG TYPE EXEMPTED USERS

Turn on/off audit logging for selected services.

☐ Admin Read
☒ Admin Write
☒ Data Read
☒ Data Write

SAVE

You can control what kinds of information are kept in the audit logs.

There are three types of Data Access audit log information:

- **Admin-read:** Records operations that read metadata or configuration information. For example, you looked at the configurations for your bucket.
- **Data-read:** Records operations that read user-provided data. For example, you listed files and then downloaded one from GCS.
- **Data-write:** Records operations that write user-provided data. For example, you created a new GCS file.

Enabling Data Access logging per Google Cloud service

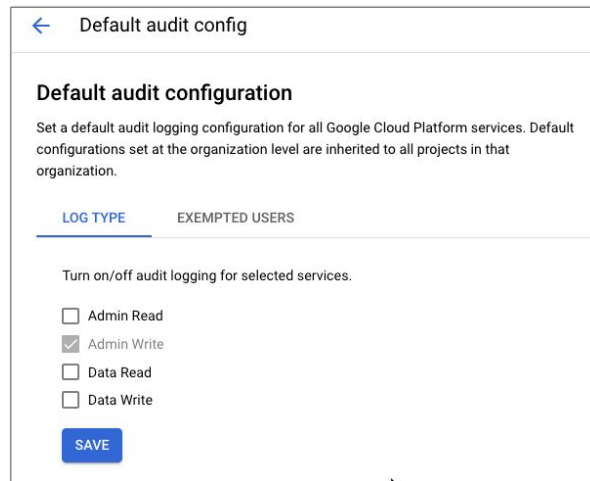
The screenshot displays the Google Cloud Platform IAM & Admin console. The left sidebar shows the navigation menu with 'IAM & Admin' selected. The main content area is titled 'Audit Logs' and shows a table of audit log configurations. The table has columns for 'Title', 'Admin Read', 'Data Read', 'Data Write', and 'Exemptions'. The 'Google Cloud Storage' entry is highlighted, and its 'Data Write' checkbox is checked. A modal dialog titled 'Google Cloud Storage' is open, showing the 'EXEMPTED USERS' tab. This dialog includes a 'Turn on/off' section with checkboxes for 'Admin Read', 'Data Read', and 'Data Write'. Below this is a section for 'Exempted users' with a text input field for 'New user' and a list of 'Exempt Log Types' (Admin Read, Data Read, Data Write) with checkboxes. The 'Data Write' checkbox is checked. The dialog also includes a 'SAVE' button and 'CANCEL'/'DONE' buttons at the bottom.

Title	Admin Read	Data Read	Data Write	Exemptions
Genomics API	—	—	—	0
GKE Connect/Hub APIs	—	—	—	0
Google App Engine Admin API	—	—	—	0
Google Cloud Deployment Manager V2 API	—	—	—	0
Google Cloud DNS API	—	—	—	0
Google Cloud Storage	—	—	—	0
Google Workspace Add-ons API	—	—	—	0
Identity and Access Management (IAM) API	—	—	—	0
Identity Toolkit API	—	—	—	0
Kubernetes Engine API	—	—	—	0
Pub/Sub Lite API	—	—	—	0
reCAPTCHA Enterprise API	—	—	—	0
Recommendations AI API	—	—	—	0
Secret Manager API	—	—	—	0

You can exempt specific users or groups from having their data accesses recorded.

As an example, you might decide to exempt your internal testing accounts from having their Cloud Debugger operations recorded.

Setting the default Data Access Logging behavior



← Default audit config

Default audit configuration

Set a default audit logging configuration for all Google Cloud Platform services. Default configurations set at the organization level are inherited to all projects in that organization.

LOG TYPE EXEMPTED USERS

Turn on/off audit logging for selected services.

- ☐ Admin Read
- ☒ Admin Write
- ☐ Data Read
- ☐ Data Write

SAVE

Set a configuration for all new and existing Google Cloud services in your project, folder, or organization inherit, ensuring that Data Access audit logs are captured.

Programmatically enabling Data Access Logging

```
auditConfigs:
- auditLogConfigs:
  - logType: ADMIN_READ
  - logType: DATA_READ
  - logType: DATA_WRITE
  service: run.googleapis.com #Could also be allServices
bindings:
- members:
  ...
```

- *gcloud projects get-iam-policy [project-id] > policy.yaml*
- Add/edit the auditLogConfigs
- *gcloud projects set-iam-policy [project-id] policy.yaml*

You can also use gcloud or the API to enable data access logging.

If you're using gcloud, frequently, the easiest way is to get the current IAM policies, as seen in the bullet, and write them to a file.

Then you can edit the file to add or edit the auditLogConfigs. You can also add the log details per service, like this example is enabling logging for cloud run, or even enable logging on all services.

Then, as seen in the bullet, you would set that as the new IAM policy.



Agenda

Monitoring Network Security

Monitoring Cloud Audit Logs

Audit Logs

Data Access Logging

[Understanding Audit Logs](#)

Best Practices

Now that we can enable the logs we need, let's examine the logging entries themselves.

Audit Log entries

```
{
  insertId: "-77e5fge38tyo"
  logName: "projects/patrick-haggerty/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Fdata_access"
  operation: {
    first: true
    id: "1581200795118-patrick-haggerty:bquxjob_56996f5_17026e67aa2"
    producer: "bigquery.googleapis.com"
  }
  protoPayload: {
    @type: "type.googleapis.com/google.cloud.audit.AuditLog"
    authenticationInfo: {
      principalEmail: "patrick.haggerty@roittraining.com"
    }
  }
}
```

Every audit log entry in Cloud Logging is an object of type [LogEntry](#).

What distinguishes an audit log entry from other log entries is the protoPayload field, which contains an [AuditLog](#) object that stores the audit logging data.

Audit Log entries

```
{
  insertId: "-77e5f9e38tvo"
  logName: "projects/patrick-haggerty/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Fdata_access"
  operation: {
    first: true
    id: "1581200795118-patrick-haggerty:bquxjob_56996f5_17026e67aa2"
    producer: "bigquery.googleapis.com"
  }
  protoPayload: {
    @type: "type.googleapis.com/google.cloud.audit.AuditLog"
    authenticationInfo: {
      principalEmail: "patrick.haggerty@roittraining.com"
    }
  }
}
```

Here, note the log name. This tells us that we're looking at an example from the data access log.

Audit Log entries

```
{
  insertId: "-77e5fge38tyo"
  logName: "projects/patrick-haggerty/logs/cloudaudit.googleapis.com%2Fdata_access"
  operation: {
    first: true
    id: "1581200795118-patrick-haggerty:bquxjob_56996f5_17026e67aa2"
    producer: "bigquery.googleapis.com"
  }
  protoPayload: {
    @type: "type.googleapis.com/google.cloud.audit.AuditLog"
    authenticationInfo: {
      principalEmail: "patrick.haggerty@roittraining.com"
    }
  }
}
```

Now, note the AuditLog type in the protoPayload.

Audit Log entries

```
authorizationInfo: [2]
methodName: "jobservice.getqueryresults"
requestMetadata: {...}
resourceName: "projects/patrick-haggerty/queries/bquxjob_1eb1f384_17026e9d185"
serviceData: {...}
serviceName: "bigquery.googleapis.com"
status: {...} }
receiveTimestamp: "2020-02-08T22:27:06.410866127Z"
resource: {
  labels: { project_id: "patrick-haggerty", op_unit: "USA"
  }
  type: "bigquery_resource"
}
severity: "INFO"
timestamp: "2020-02-08T22:27:05.908Z"
}
```

Google has a standard [List of official service names](#). You can use this list as a handy reference.

Audit Log entries

```
authorizationInfo: [2]
methodName: "jobservice.getqueryresults"
requestMetadata: {...}
resourceName: "projects/patrick-haggerty/queries/bquxjob_1eb1f384_17026e9d185"
serviceData: {...}
serviceName: "bigquery.googleapis.com"
status: {...} }
receiveTimestamp: "2020-02-08T22:27:06.410866127Z"
resource: {
  labels: { project_id: "patrick-haggerty", op_unit: "USA"
  }
  type: "bigquery_resource"
}
severity: "INFO"
timestamp: "2020-02-08T22:27:05.908Z"
}
```



Drill down and the query itself is in here

In this slide, you can tell we're looking at a query that was run in BigQuery.

If you expanded the serviceData field, you could actually see the query itself.

So, when someone at your organization runs that unexpected, \$40,000 query, you can figure out who and what the query was.

Then you can go learn more about price controls and BigQuery :-).



Agenda

Monitoring Network Security

Monitoring GCP Audit Logs

Audit Logs

Data Access Logging

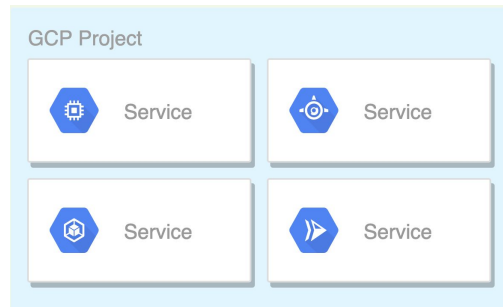
Understanding Audit Logs

Best Practices

Let's go over a few best practices before we wrap up this module.

Plan and create a test project

- Create a plan for Data Access logging
 - Think Org-wide, then folder, then project
- Create a test project and test plan there
- Roll out



Plan, Plan, Plan.

Like anything in the cloud, start by planning first.

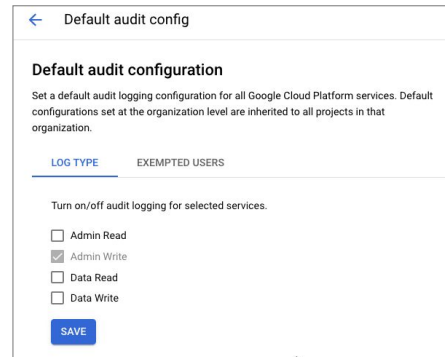
Spend time and create a solid plan for Data Access logs. Think organization, folder, then project. Like most organizations, some of your projects will be very specialized, but usually, they do break down into common organizational types.

Then, create a test project and experiment to see if the logging works the way you expect.

Then roll out, and don't forget automation (Infrastructure as Code, coming soon).

Decide and set org level data access

- Pro: detailed information on exactly who, accessed/edited/deleted what, and when
 - Free tier
 - Some logs always free
- Con: logs can be quite large
 - \$0.50/GiB



The screenshot shows the 'Default audit config' page in the Google Cloud Platform console. At the top, there is a back arrow and the title 'Default audit config'. Below this is the section 'Default audit configuration' with a subtitle: 'Set a default audit logging configuration for all Google Cloud Platform services. Default configurations set at the organization level are inherited to all projects in that organization.' There are two tabs: 'LOG TYPE' (selected) and 'EXEMPTED USERS'. Under the 'LOG TYPE' tab, there is a heading 'Turn on/off audit logging for selected services.' followed by four checkboxes: 'Admin Read' (unchecked), 'Admin Write' (checked), 'Data Read' (unchecked), and 'Data Write' (unchecked). At the bottom left of the form is a blue 'SAVE' button.

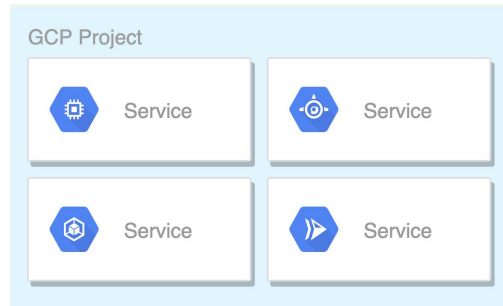
Remember that Data Access logs can be enabled as high as the organization.

The pro would be a lot of very detailed information on exactly who accessed, edited, and deleted what, and when.

The con is that Data Access logs can grow to be quite large, and are billed at \$.50 a gig.

Standard project logging plans

- Past default logging, what logging requirements exist at the project level
 - Different major project types



Outside of whatever default logging you institute, every project needs to be analyzed for specialized logging requirements.

Infrastructure as Code (IaC)



Terraform: OSS or Enterprise

Run CLI or pay for enterprise version
Open source, multi-cloud
State stored locally or in Cloud Storage
Logging at APIs

Infrastructure as Code (IaC) is essentially the process of automating the creation and modifications to your infrastructure using a platform that supports configuration files, which can be put through a CI/CD pipeline, just the same as code.

Terraform is an open-source package from Hashicorp.

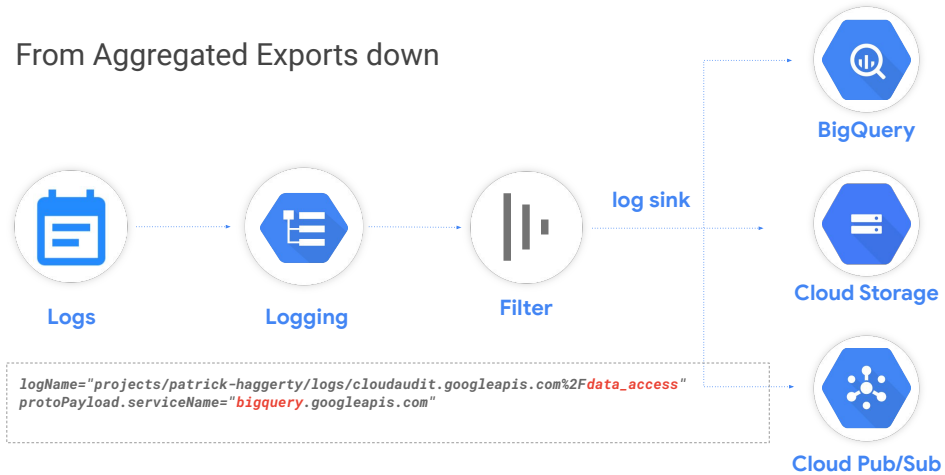
It isn't hosted directly in Google Cloud, though it is installed by default in Cloud Shell.

State management is a decision point for your organization.

Options include using Cloud Storage, using a Git repo like GitHub, setting up something local to your organization, or using Hashicorp's pay Enterprise service.

Plan and configure exports

- From Aggregated Exports down



We've discussed the options and benefits of exporting logs. Again, make this part of your plan.

Start by deciding what, if anything, you will export from Aggregated Exports at the organization level.

Then decide what options you will use, project by project, folder by folder, etc.

Then, carefully consider your filters - both what they leave in, and what they leave out.

This applies to all logging, not just to exports.

Lastly, carefully consider what, if anything, you will fully exclude from logging.

Remember that **excluded entries will be gone forever**.

Principle of Least Privilege

- Side-channel leakage of data through logs is a common issue
- Plan the project to monitoring project relationships
- Use appropriate IAM controls on both GCP-based and exported logs
- Data Access Logs contain Personally Identifiable Information (PII)

Side-channel leakage of data through logs is a common issue. You need to be careful who, gets what kind of access, to which logs.

Remember some of the discussions earlier in this course on monitoring workspaces and how a monitoring workspace can monitor the current project, or it can also monitor up to 100 other projects?

That's where your security starts. Are you monitoring project by project, or are you selectively grouping work projects into higher-level monitored projects?

Use appropriate IAM controls on both Google Cloud-based and exported logs, only allowing the minimal access required to get the job done.

Especially scrutinize the Data Access Log permissions, as they will often contain Personally Identifiable Information (PII)

Scenario: operational monitoring

- CTO: **resourcemanager.organizationAdmin**
 - Assigns permissions to security team and service account
- Security team: **logging.viewer**
 - Ability to view Admin Activity logs
- Security team: **logging.privateLogViewer**
 - Ability to view Data Access logs
- All permissions assigned at Org level
- Control exported data access through Cloud Storage and BigQuery IAM roles
- Explore using Cloud DLP (Data Loss Prevention) to redact PII

Lastly, let's look at [a few access scenarios](#), starting with operational monitoring.

These scenarios illustrate a typical high-level team and their assignments.

For example: The CTO has high level `resourcemanager.organizationAdmin` privileges, so he/she can assign permissions to the security team and service accounts.

The CTO can then give the security team `logging.viewer` permissions so that they may view the Admin Activity logs, and `logging.privateLogViewer` permissions, so they may view the Data Access logs.

These permissions would be assigned at the organization level, so they would be global in scope.

Access control to data exported to Cloud Storage or BigQuery will be controlled selectively with IAM.

You might also want to explore using Google's Cloud Data Loss Prevention API to redact PII from files and images.

Scenario: Dev teams monitoring Audit Logs

- Security team, same:
 - **logging.viewer**, **logging.privateLogViewer**
- Dev team: **logging.viewer** at folder level
 - See Admin Activity by dev projects in folder
- Dev team: **logging.privateLogViewer** at folder
 - See Data Access logs
- Again, use Cloud Storage or BigQuery IAM to control access to exported logs
 - Providing a Dashboard might be helpful

Now let's move on to development teams.

The security team is unchanged from the last slide. They already have **logging.viewer**, and **logging.privateLogViewer** from the global assignment.

The dev team might get **logging.viewer** at the folder level so they can see the Admin Activity logs for the projects under their development control.

They probably also need **logging.privateLogViewer** at the dev folder so they can see the Data Access logs. Limit data they test with though, so they aren't viewing actual customer information.

Again, use Cloud Storage or BigQuery IAM to control access to exported logs. Prebuilding dashboards might also be a good option.

Scenario: External Auditors

- Provide Dashboards for auditor usage
- **logging.viewer** at Org level
 - See Admin Activity by dev projects in folder
- **bigquery.dataViewer** at exported dataset
 - Backend for Dashboards
- For Cloud Storage, use IAM and/or, signed, temporary, URLs

For external auditors, provide pre-created dashboards where possible.

If they need broad access, you might make them `logging.viewer` at the org level.

For BigQuery, they could be `bigquery.dataViewer` on the exported dataset.

For Cloud Storage, again, you could use IAM, but also remember the temporary access URLs that Cloud Storage supports.

Lab Intro

Cloud Audit Logs



In this lab, you investigate Google Cloud Audit Logging. Cloud Audit Logging maintains multiple audit logs for each project, folder, and organization: Admin Activity tracks changes to Google cloud configurations and metadata. Data Access is more directly related to who accessed what data, and when.

Lab Intro

(Optional) Analyzing Network
Traffic with VPC Flow Logs



In this lab, you configure a network to record traffic to and from an Apache web server using VPC Flow Logs. You then export the logs to BigQuery to analyze them.