

- Why were you able to access the instance of your snapshot with both keys? Explain how this could be a serious security issue in a multi user cloud environment. Describe a scenario to illustrate this problem.

I was able to access the instance of my snapshot with both ssh keys since they originated from the same snapshot which has a key file. When you launch a new instance from a snapshot it generates another key which is how you gain both key files that are able to unlock the same instance.

Say for example, multiple people were storing secured customer information by creating instances of the same snapshot. Due to the nature of a snapshot it would be unsafe for each customers information since all the keys associated with the snapshot would work for all instances.

One way to resolve this problem would be to encrypting snapshots of data and root volumes, then attached to an AMI.

Sources:

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/AMIEncryption.html>

- What are the advantages of creating snapshots? How does using snapshots simplify working with cloud instances? (Briefly describe at least two scenarios)

A snapshots help to save an image of all the work you have done in an instance up to that point in time. Another definition would say it “is a copy of a data set at a particular moment in time, in other words, you don’t need to back up your entire data set to get full data protection which may be essential for mission critical businesses.” (cloudranger)

Advantages of creating a Snapshot:

- you are able to create an instance out of that snapshot, but if you mess up you can delete that instance and create a new instance from the original snapshot
- you are also able to perform this process multiple times by creating a new snapshot from an instance every time you would like to branch out and try other options with the same foundation
- it helps businesses gain efficient ways of backing up data and assets with a significantly reduced amount of infrastructure, resource utilization, and storage required.
- automation helps with efficiency

Snapshots simplify working with cloud instances:

One example would be by utilizing the snapshot as a baseline template for multiple people on your team to utilize. This way each member would not need to replicate the same exact steps in order to duplicate the instance. Another example would be when say your instance fails or gets deleted for some reason, if you have a snapshot of it, your work will still be saved there regardless of the state of the instance.

Sources:

<https://cloudranger.com/the-benefits-of-aws-snapshot-and-backup-automation/>