IAM Section

IAM: Users & Groups

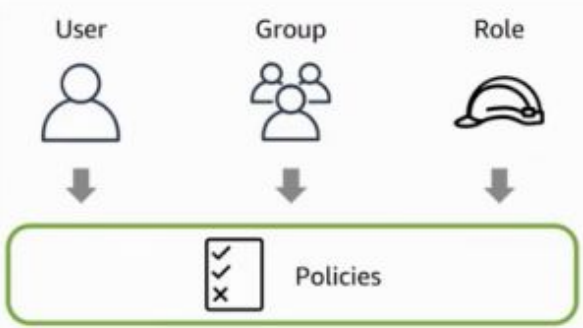
- IAM = Identity and Access Management, Global service
- Root account created by default, shouldn't be used or shared
- Users are people within your organization, and can be grouped
- Groups only contain users, not other groups
- Users don't have to belong to a group, and user can belong to multiple groups

AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM)

- **Authentication** (is it the right user?) and
- **Authorization** (do they have the right access?)
- **Identities** can be
  - AWS users or
  - Federated users (externally authenticated users)
- Provides very **granular** control
  - Limit a single user:
    - to perform single action
    - on a specific AWS resource
    - from a specific IP address
    - during a specific time window

Important IAM Concepts

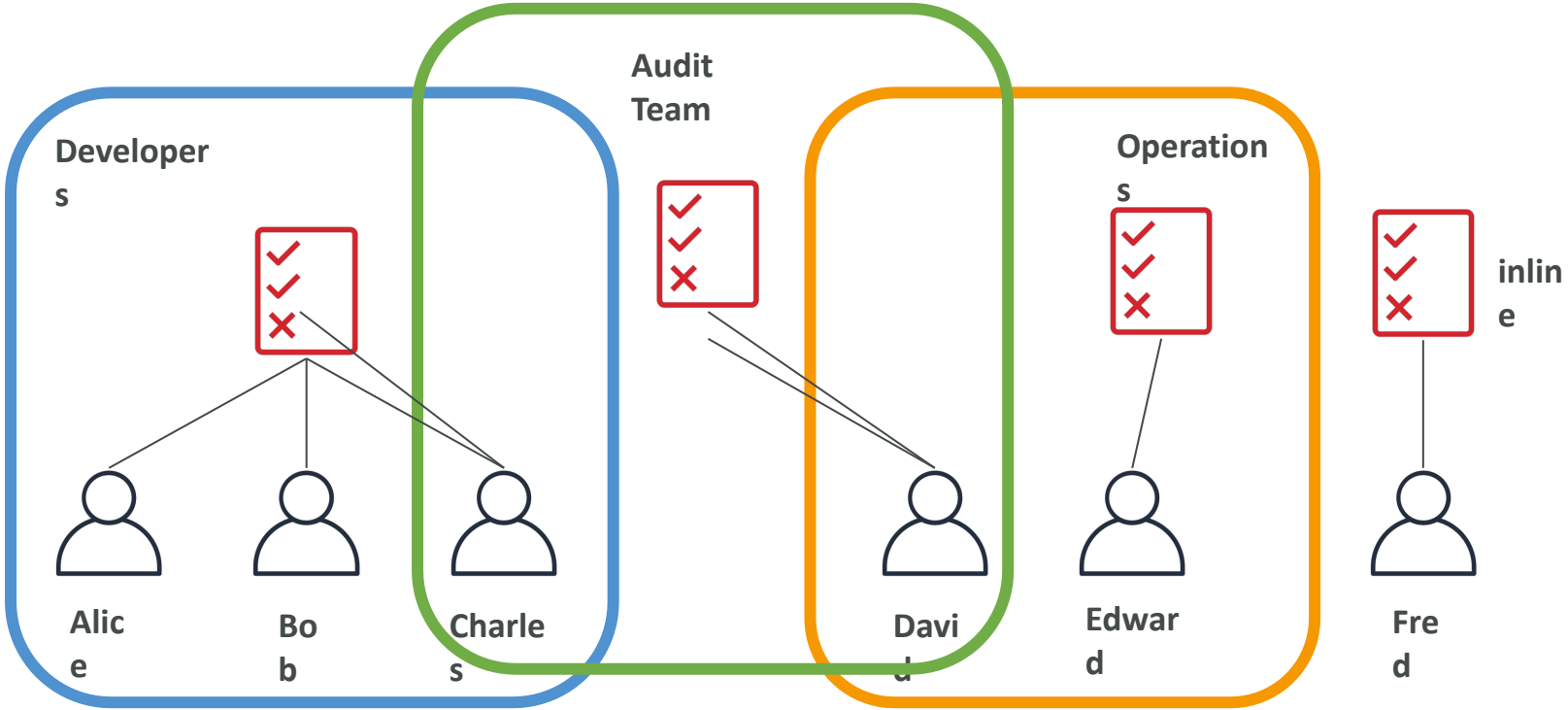
- **IAM users**: Users created in an AWS account
  - Has credentials attached (name/password or access keys)
- **IAM groups**: Collection of IAM users
- **Roles**: Temporary identities
  - Does NOT have credentials attached
  - (Advantage) Expire after a set period of time
- **Policies**: Define permissions
  - **AWS managed policies** - Standalone policy predefined by AWS
  - **Customer managed policies** - Standalone policy created by you
  - **Inline policies** - Directly embedded into a user, group or role



IAM: Permissions

- Users or Groups can be assigned JSON documents called policies
- These policies define the permissions of the users
- In AWS you apply the least privilege principle: don't give more permissions than a user needs

IAM Policies inheritance

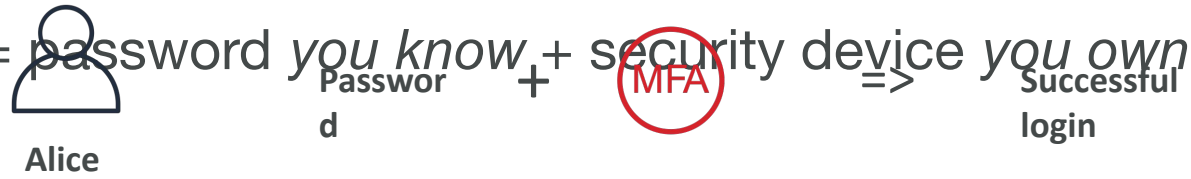


IAM – Password Policy

- Strong passwords = higher security for your account
- In AWS, you can setup a password policy:
  - Set a minimum password length
  - Require specific character types:
    - including uppercase letters
    - lowercase letters
    - numbers
    - non-alphanumeric characters
  - Allow all IAM users to change their own passwords
  - Require users to change their password after some time (password expiration)
  - Prevent password re-use

Multi Factor Authentication - MFA

- Users have access to your account and can possibly change configurations or delete resources in your AWS account
- You want to protect your Root Accounts and IAM users
- MFA = password *you know* + security device *you own*

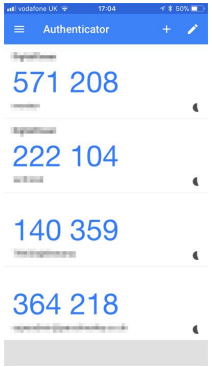


- Main benefit of MFA:

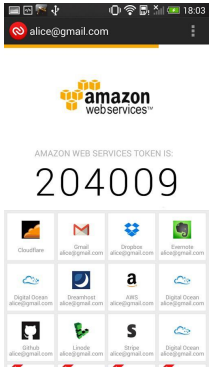
  <u>if a password is stolen or hacked, the account is not compromised</u>

MFA devices options in AWS

Virtual MFA device



Google Authenticator (phone only)



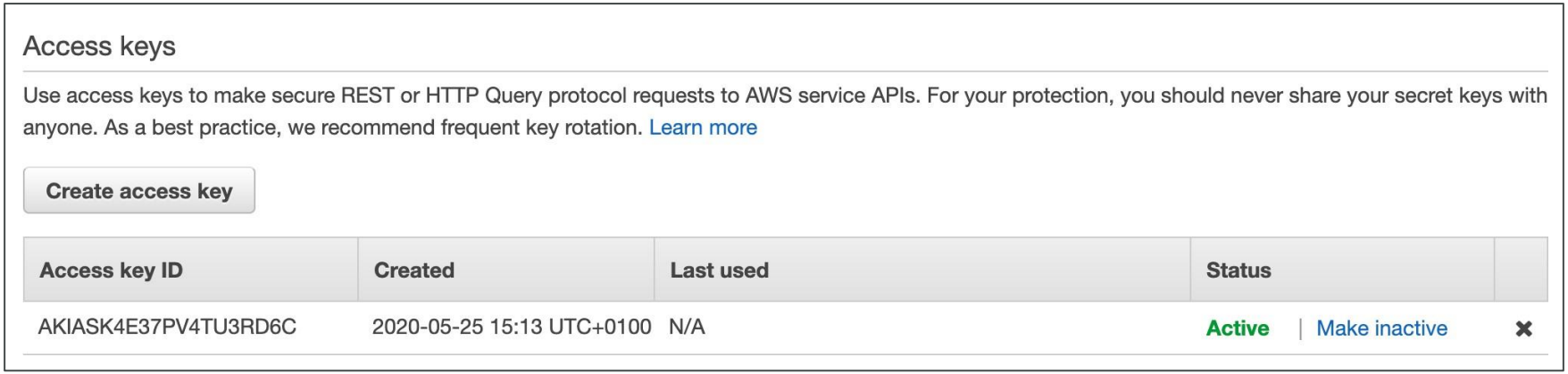
Authy (multi-device)

Support for multiple tokens on a single device.

How can users access AWS ?

- To access AWS, you have three options:
  - AWS Management Console (protected by password + MFA)
  - AWS Command Line Interface (CLI): protected by access keys
  - AWS Software Developer Kit (SDK) - for code: protected by access keys
- Access Keys are generated through the AWS Console
- Users manage their own access keys
- Access Keys are secret, just like a password. Don't share them
- Access Key ID ~= username

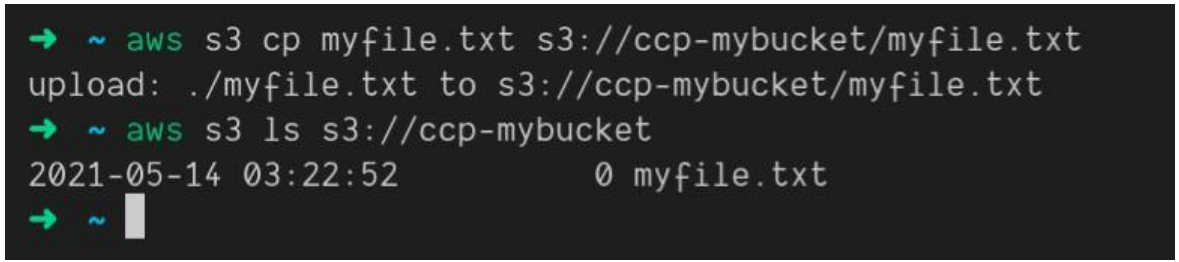
Example Access Keys



- Access key ID: AKIASK4E37PV4983d6C
- Secret Access Key: AZPN3zojWozWCndIjhB0Unh8239a1bzbzO5fqqkZq
- Remember: don't share your access keys

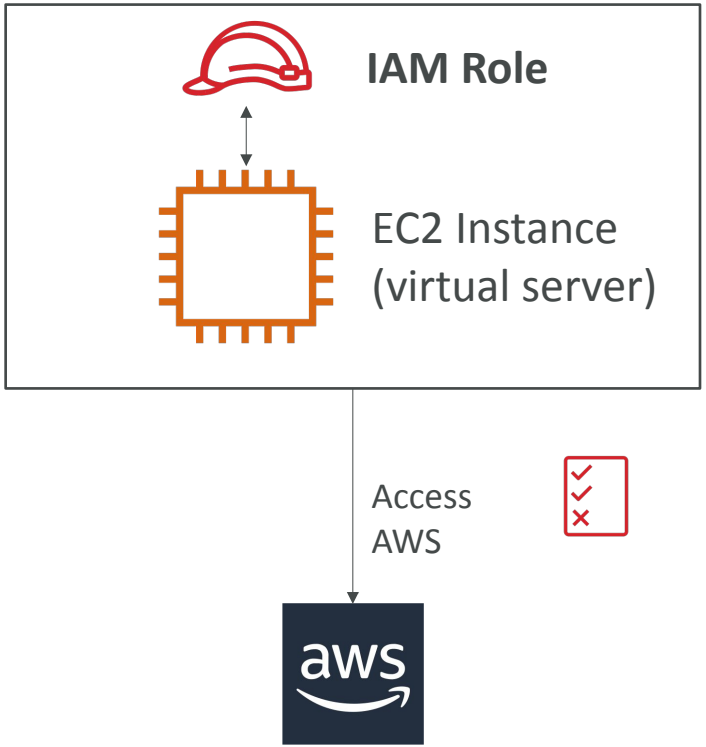
What's the AWS CLI?

- A tool that enables you to interact with AWS services using commands in your command-line shell
- Direct access to the public APIs of AWS services
- You can develop scripts to manage your resources
- It's open-source https://github.com/aws/aws-cli
- Alternative to using AWS Management Console



IAM Roles for Services

- Some AWS service will need to perform actions on your behalf
- To do so, we will assign permissions to AWS services with IAM Roles
- Common roles:
  - EC2 Instance Roles
  - Lambda Function Roles
  - Roles for CloudFormation



IAM Security Tools

- IAM Credentials Report (account-level)
  - a report that lists all your account's users and the status of their various credentials

- IAM Access Advisor (user-level)
  - Access advisor shows the service permissions granted to a user and when those services were last accessed.
  - You can use this information to revise your policies.

IAM Guidelines & Best Practices

- Don’t use the root account except for AWS account setup
- One physical user = One AWS user
- Assign users to groups and assign permissions to groups
- Create a strong password policy
- Use and enforce the use of Multi Factor Authentication (MFA)
- Create and use Roles for giving permissions to AWS services
- Use Access Keys for Programmatic Access (CLI / SDK)

Shared Responsibility Model for IAM

You

- Infrastructure (global network security)
- Configuration and vulnerability analysis
- Compliance validation

- Users, Groups, Roles, Policies management and monitoring
- Enable MFA on all accounts
- Rotate all your keys often
- Use IAM tools to apply appropriate permissions

IAM Section – Summary

- Users: mapped to a physical user, has a password for AWS Console
- Groups: contains users only
- Policies: JSON document that outlines permissions for users or groups
- Roles: for EC2 instances or AWS services
- Security: MFA + Password Policy
- AWS CLI: manage your AWS services using the command-line