



Using Terraform Safely

Martez Reed



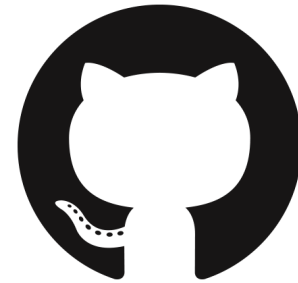
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Infrastructure as Code (IaC)

Declaring and creating
infrastructure resources
through code

- AWS Cloudformation
- Azure ARM
Templates
- Pulumi
- HashiCorp Terraform



HashiCorp Terraform

- Written in Golang
- Resource declaration in HCL
- Terraform providers for resource interaction

```
resource "aws_instance" "web" {  
  ami          = "${data.aws_ami.ubuntu.id}"  
  instance_type = "t2.micro"  
  
  tags = {  
    Name = "HelloWorld"  
  }  
}
```



Terraform Modules

A container for multiple resources used together.

- Corporate EC2 Instance
- Application Stack
- AWS Network Stack



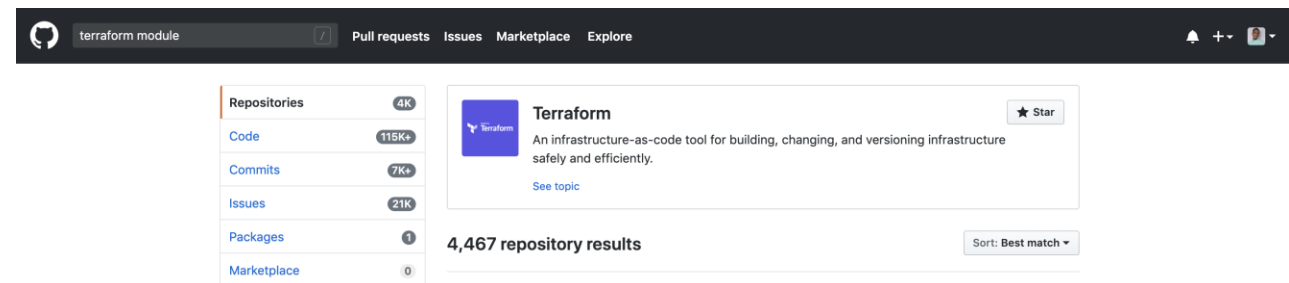
Public Terraform Modules

Terraform Registry: 109 Terraform Modules



<https://registry.terraform.io/>

GitHub: 4,467 Terraform Modules

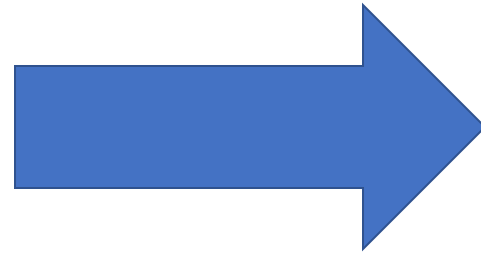


<https://github.com/search?q=terraform+module>



Public Terraform Modules

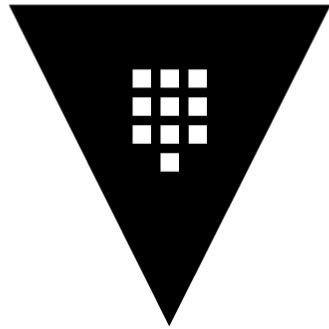
Speed
(Agility)



Security



Public Terraform Modules



HashiCorp
Vault

```
# !! WARNING !! These example AMIs are meant only convenience when initially testing this repo. Do NOT use these example  
# AMIs in a production setting as those TLS certificate files are publicly available from the Module repo containing  
# this code.
```

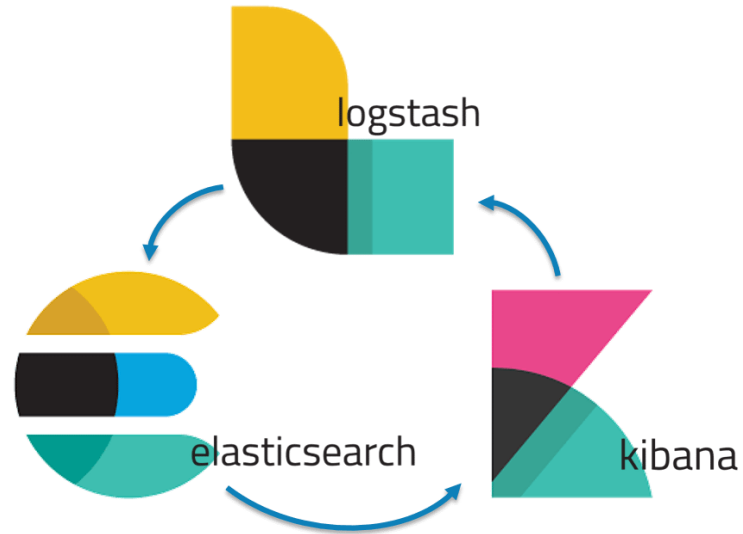
```
# To make testing easier, we allow requests from any IP address here but in a production deployment, we *strongly*  
# recommend you limit this to the IP address ranges of known, trusted servers inside your VPC.
```

```
allowed_ssh_cidr_blocks      = ["0.0.0.0/0"]  
allowed_inbound_cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"]
```


Public Terraform Modules



Jenkins



Public Terraform Modules



- Develop a formal module review process
- Understand the technology
- Update the module version accordingly



Terraform Secrets

```
resource "tls_private_key" "example" {
  algorithm = "ECDSA"
}

resource "tls_self_signed_cert" "example" {
  key_algorithm      = "${tls_private_key.example.algorithm}"
  private_key_pem    = "${tls_private_key.example.private_key_pem}"
  validity_period_hours = 12
  allowed_uses = [
    "key_encipherment",
    "digital_signature",
    "server_auth",
  ]
  subject {
    common_name = "example.com"
  }
}
```

<https://www.terraform.io/docs/state/sensitive-data.html>



Terraform Secrets

`tls_private_key` resource

Important Security Notice The private key generated by this resource will be stored *unencrypted* in your Terraform state file. **Use of this resource for production deployments is *not* recommended.** Instead, generate a private key file outside of Terraform and distribute it securely to the system where Terraform will be run.

https://www.terraform.io/docs/providers/tls/r/private_key.html



Terraform Secrets

Terraform Show Output

```
# tls_private_key.example:
resource "tls_private_key" "example" {
  algorithm      = "ECDSA"
  ecdsa_curve    = "P224"
  id             = "97bbb6dc1cfe44f5cf33976a2b94fba8671c422f"
  private_key_pem = "-----BEGIN EC PRIVATE KEY-----\nMGgCAQEEHIFodc48ov0xgeTF0hw039UcMC5gLOZyI8NIcq2gBwYFK4EEACGhPAM6\nAAQ044dMB
tBC7BG4oeRiKYEBg+2Poy0qE1LNNXcAeURuKhQZGj9AL/jxAgKRMan/\nJstJekojzTRQ7Q==\n-----END EC PRIVATE KEY-----\n"
  public_key_pem  = "-----BEGIN PUBLIC KEY-----\nME4wEAYHKoZIzj0CAQYFK4EEACED0gAEN0OHTAbQQuwRuKHkYimBAYPtj6MjqhNS\nnzTV3AHLEbioUG
Ro/QC/48QICKTAJ/ybLSXpKI800U00=\n-----END PUBLIC KEY-----\n"
  rsa_bits        = 2048
}
```

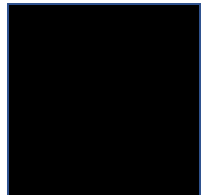


Terraform Secrets

Private key is visible in tfstate files #38

Open

opened this issue 21 days ago · 4 comments



commented 21 days ago



I can see private key in tfstate file..... isn't it a security breach..?

Terraform Secrets

State Storage Encryption

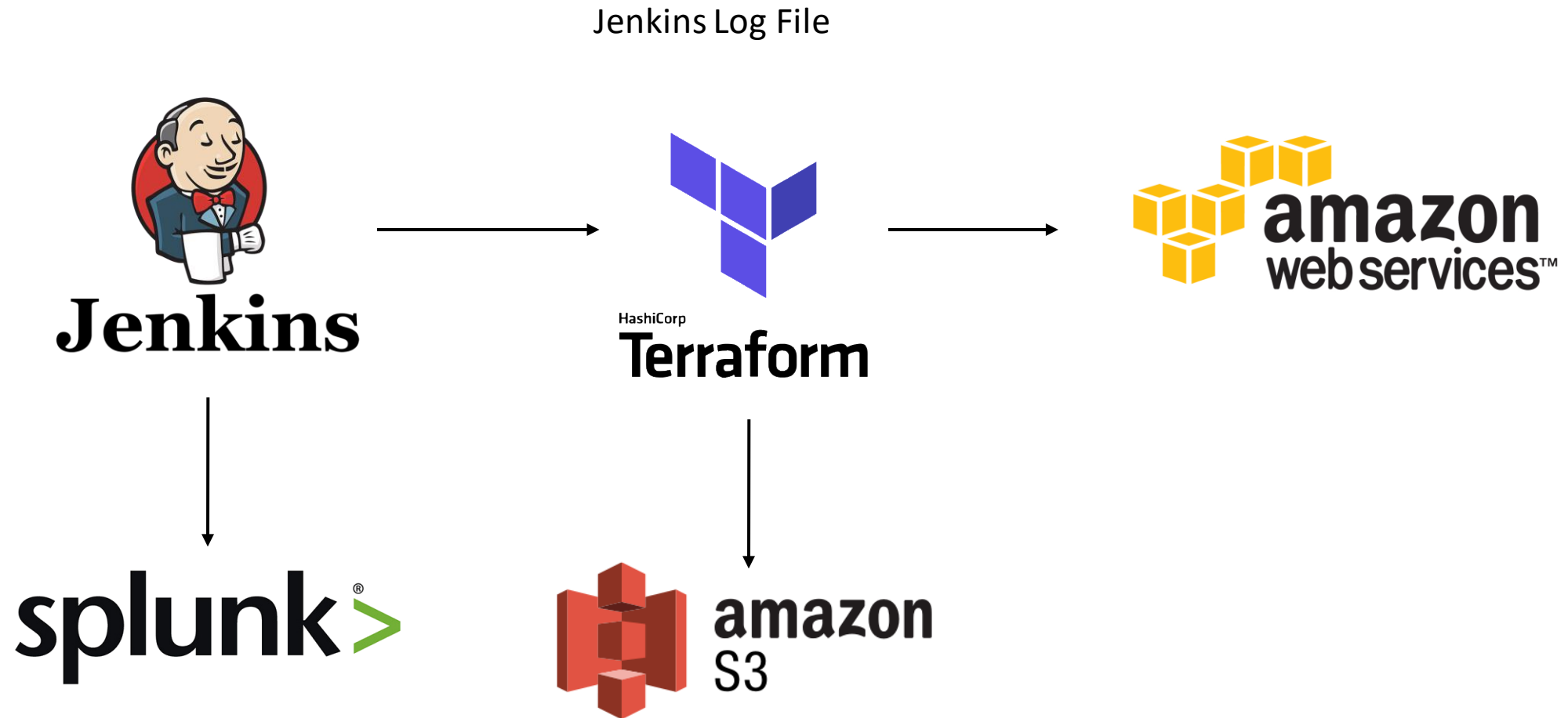


Terraform Secrets

Jenkins Console Output



Terraform Secrets





Terraform Secrets

- [Terrahelp](#): A tool written in GO that integrates with HashiCorp Vault to provide both file and inline encryption of Terraform state files.
- [Terraformectomy](#): A shell script for redacting aws secrets from Terraform state files.
- [Terraform IAM Redact Script](#): Another shell script for redacting AWS secrets from Terraform state files.



Terraform Secrets

There's no perfect solution but knowledge is
power and knowing is half the battle



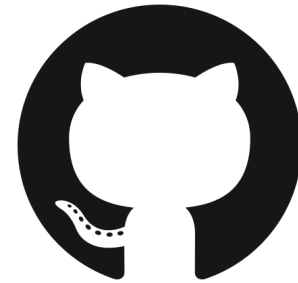
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