



ADVENTURES IN AZURE PRIVILEGE ESCALATION

Karl Fosaaen

◆ Karl Fosaaen

- ◆ Pen Tester
 - ◆ Password Cracker
 - ◆ Social Engineer
 - ◆ Blogger
 - ◆ Cloud Enthusiast
 - ◆ Private Pilot
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- ◆ <https://github.com/netspi>
 - ◆ <https://blog.netspi.com/>
 - ◆ Twitter - @kfosaaen



- ◆ Everyone is moving to the cloud

- ◆ Developers
- ◆ Sys Admins
- ◆ Pen Testers

- ◆ Azure Benefits

- ◆ AzureAD
 - Integrated AD users/groups
- ◆ One-stop licensing
- ◆ Easy to integrate






- ◆ For the folks at home, this will assume some level of Azure knowledge, feel free to pause here, watch the following talks, and come back when you're done
- ◆ Primer Talks:
 - ◆ You Moved to O365, Now What? - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1loGEPn_n7U
 - ◆ Attacking & Defending the Microsoft Cloud - <https://adsecurity.org/?p=4179>
 - ◆ I'm in your cloud... - <https://media.defcon.org/DEF%20CON%2027/DEF%20CON%2027%20presentations/DEFCON-27-Dirk-jan-Mollema-Im-in-your-cloud-pwning-your-azure-environment.pdf>
 - ◆ Attacking Azure w/PowerShell - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IdORwngxDpkw>



- ◆ How to get credentials in the first place
 - ◆ This talk is about privilege escalation, but first we need access
- ◆ Gathered Credentials
 - ◆ GitHub/PasteBin/etc.
- ◆ Gussed Creds
 - ◆ Summer2019
- ◆ How to access Azure
 - ◆ Azure Portal - portal.azure.com
 - ◆ Azure CLI
 - ◆ PowerShell - AzureRM / AZ CLI / MSOnline



- ◆ Tenant Level
 - ◆ Global Admin
- ◆ Subscription Level
 - ◆ Owner
 - ◆ Contributor
 - ◆ Reader
- ◆ Special/Custom Roles
 - ◆ Multi-Level
 - ◆ Service Specific
 - ◆ Application Specific
- ◆ Application of Roles
 - ◆ Subscription/Resource Group/Asset Level

		Role			
		Reader	Resource-specific or custom role	Contributor	Owner
Scope	 Subscription	Observers	Users managing resources		Admins
	 Resource group				
	 Resource	Automated processes			

◆ How to Access/List Your Permissions

◆ AZ CLI

- List Roles: az role assignment list
- List your roles: az role assignment list -assignee YOUR_USERNAME
- List the Readers: az role assignment list --role reader
- List the Contributors: az role assignment list --role contributor
- List the Owners: az role assignment list --role owner

◆ Azure Portal - Search->Subscriptions

- Review subscription IAM

◆ Azure Portal - Search->Azure Active Directory

- Roles and Administrators
 - Built-in Roles, Global Admins, etc.



MY ROLE
Contributor
Reader
Owner

◆ General Privilege Overview

- ◆ Tenant/Global Admin
- ◆ Owner
- ◆ Contributor/Some Contributor Rights
- ◆ Reader
- ◆ No Azure Access



MY ROLE
Contributor
Reader
Owner

- ◆ No Azure Access
 - ◆ Portal is available, but there's nothing there...
 - Common for users without a Subscription
- ◆ Positives
 - ◆ You have valid credentials and can pivot to other services
 - Office365
 - Outlook/SharePoint/Teams/etc.
 - Single Factor Auth Interfaces
 - <https://myapps.microsoft.com>
- ◆ Negatives
 - ◆ Not that much valuable information available from Azure

Administration portal

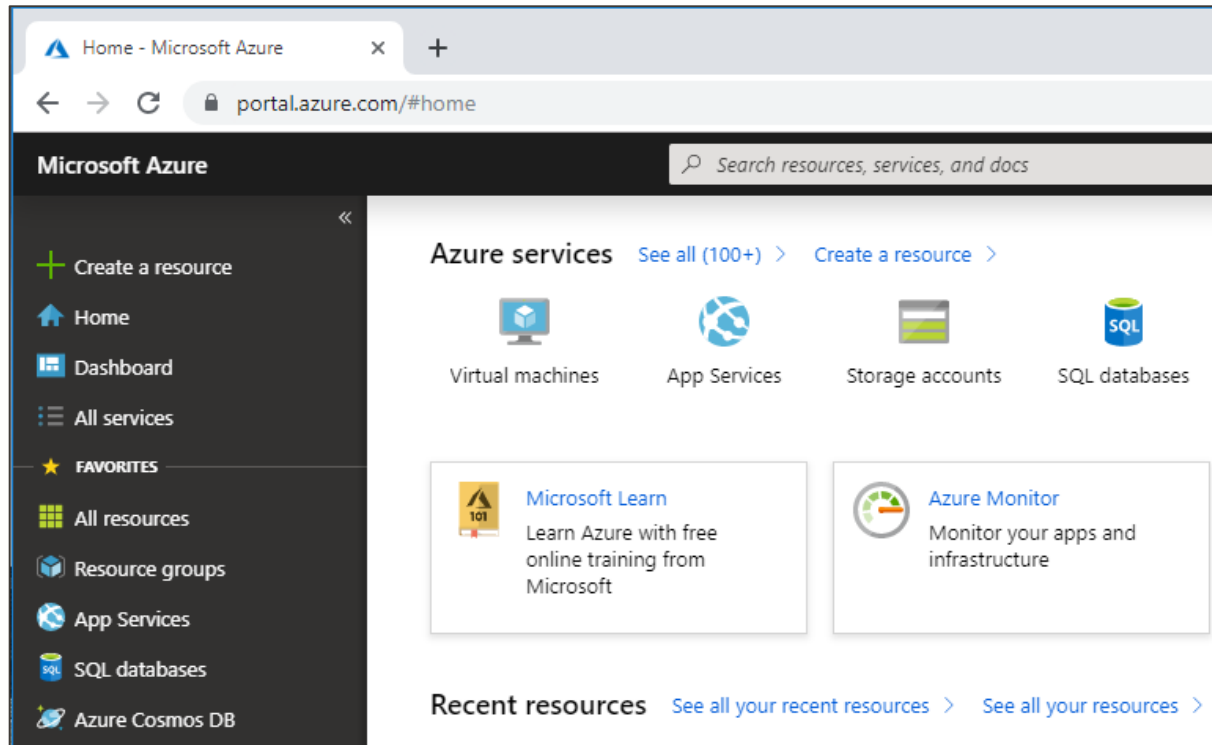
Restrict access to Azure AD administration portal ⓘ

Yes No

No Azure Access

◆ Reader Level Access

- ◆ AzureAD Password Guessing with a full list of users
 - Summer2019, Company1, Password2, etc.



Administration portal

Restrict access to Azure AD administration portal ⓘ

Yes

No

Reader

◆ Reading Deployment Parameters

- ◆ All Resource Groups, All Deployments
- ◆ Looking for config templates with Cleartext Credentials/Keys/Etc.

```
Get-AzureRmResourceGroup | Get-AzureRmResourceGroupDeployment >> ".\Deployments.txt"
```

Parameters :

Name	Type	Value
location	String	centralus
vmssName	String	testscale
vmSku	String	Standard_B1s
adminUsername	String	AZAdmin
instanceCount	String	2

[Truncated]

publicIpAddressPerInstance	String	false
upgradeMode	String	Manual
adminPassword	String	IsThisCleartext?

Reader

- ◆ Reading App Services Configurations
 - ◆ Not enabled for default Reader access
 - Often granted to Developers with Reader access
 - ◆ Connection Strings for Azure SQL
 - ◆ Pivot into SQL DB
 - AzureSQL - Data Access Only
 - MSSQL on VM/Server - See PowerUpSQL

Connection strings

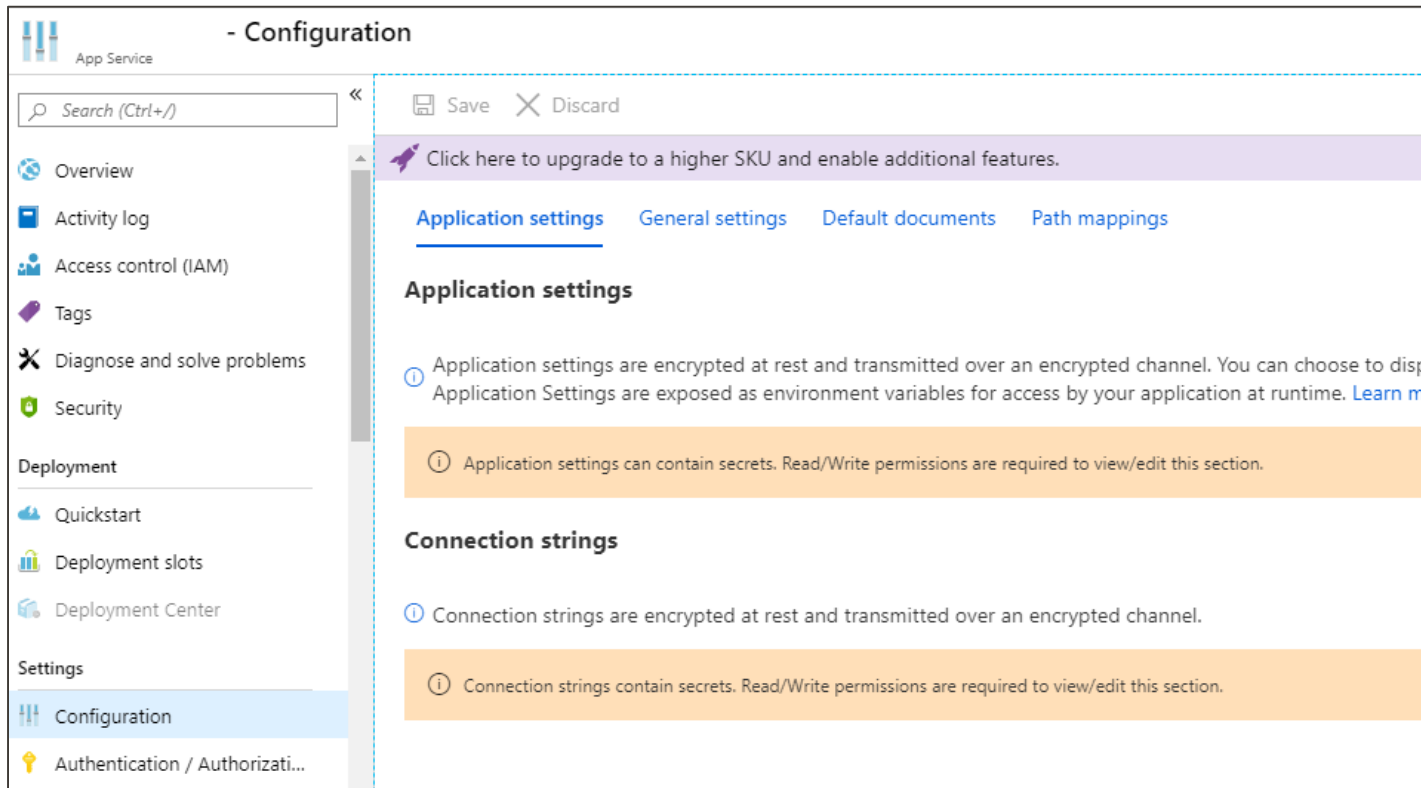
ⓘ Connection strings are encrypted at rest and transmitted over an encrypted channel.

+ New connection string 👁 Show values ✎ Advanced edit ⏺ Filter

Name	Value	Type
CUSTOM	👁 Hidden value. Click to show	Custom

Reader

- ◆ Reading App Services Configurations
 - ◆ Credentials for Deploying Applications
 - Backdoor applications, access source code, etc.



The screenshot shows the Azure App Service Configuration page. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Diagnose and solve problems, Security, Deployment (Quickstart, Deployment slots, Deployment Center), and Settings (Configuration, Authentication / Authorizati...). The main content area is titled '- Configuration' and includes a search bar, 'Save' and 'Discard' buttons, and a link to upgrade to a higher SKU. The 'Application settings' tab is selected, showing information about encrypted settings and a warning that they can contain secrets. The 'Connection strings' section also shows encrypted settings and a warning about secrets.

Reader

◆ Reader Level Example

- ◆ Guessed external credentials
- ◆ User has Subscription Reader rights
- ◆ Deployment parameters expose local admin credential for domain joined virtual machine
- ◆ RDP to VM exposed to available external network
- ◆ Mimikatz Contributor account from Azure VM machine



Contributor

Reader

Contributor Access

Contributor

- ◆ Your user has some level of contributor access
 - ◆ Subscription Level
 - Great!
 - ◆ Individual Resource Groups
 - Not bad
 - ◆ Single Resources/Services
 - We'll see...



Contributor

- ◆ Contributor Level Access on Virtual Machines
- ◆ NT Authority\SYSTEM command execution on VMs
- ◆ Next Steps
 - ◆ Use PowerShell commands or the Portal to get data/shells/etc. from the VMs, pivot from there
- ◆ Related Blog:
<https://blog.netspi.com/running-powershell-scripts-on-azure-vm/>

Contributor

- ◆ Contributor Level Access on Storage Accounts
 - ◆ List out all of the Containers and Files
 - ◆ Look for config files, passwords, keys
- ◆ Next Steps
 - ◆ Copy off files
 - ◆ Backdoor office documents



Contributor

- ◆ Contributor Level Access on Virtual Disks
 - ◆ Ability to copy a disk off to another Azure VM
 - ◆ Read the disk
 - Hashes, files, etc.
 - See cloudcopy AWS attack (@_StaticFlow_)

https://medium.com/@_StaticFlow_/cloudcopy-stealing-hashes-from-domain-controllers-in-the-cloud-c55747f0913

<https://github.com/Static-Flow/CloudCopy>

Contributor

- ◆ Contributor Level Access to:
 - ◆ Key Vaults/App Services/Automation Accounts

- ◆ Get-AzurePasswords
 - ◆ Dump Key Vault Entries
 - ◆ App Services (See Reader Slides)
 - ◆ Automation Accounts
 - Frequently set up to run as Contributor Service accounts
 - Sometimes configured with higher level credentials
 - Cleartext credentials can be recovered for stored account “RunAs” creds
 - Automation Account certificate authentication “exportable” via runbooks



Contributor

- ◆ Contributor Level Access to Automation Accounts
- ◆ Runbooks = Funbooks
 - ◆ Accessing Key Vaults
 - New runbook to export all key vault entries
 - Automation account may have access that you don't
 - ◆ Escalating Privileges
 - New runbook to operate as the privileged user
 - Privilege Escalation
 - Owner and/or Tenant Admin
 - Add additional owner or admin rights to your account

◆ Related Blog:

<https://blog.netspi.com/azure-automation-accounts-key-stores/>



Contributor

◆ Reader Level Example (Continued)

- ◆ Guessed external credentials
- ◆ User has Subscription Reader rights
- ◆ Deployment parameters expose local admin credential for domain joined virtual machine
- ◆ RDP to VM exposed to available (internal/external) network
- ◆ Mimikatz Contributor account from Azure VM machine
- ◆ Login to Azure with New Account
- ◆ Contributor Access to Automation Accounts
- ◆ Get-AzurePasswords used to dump Owner Account Credential from Automation Accounts stored credentials



Owner

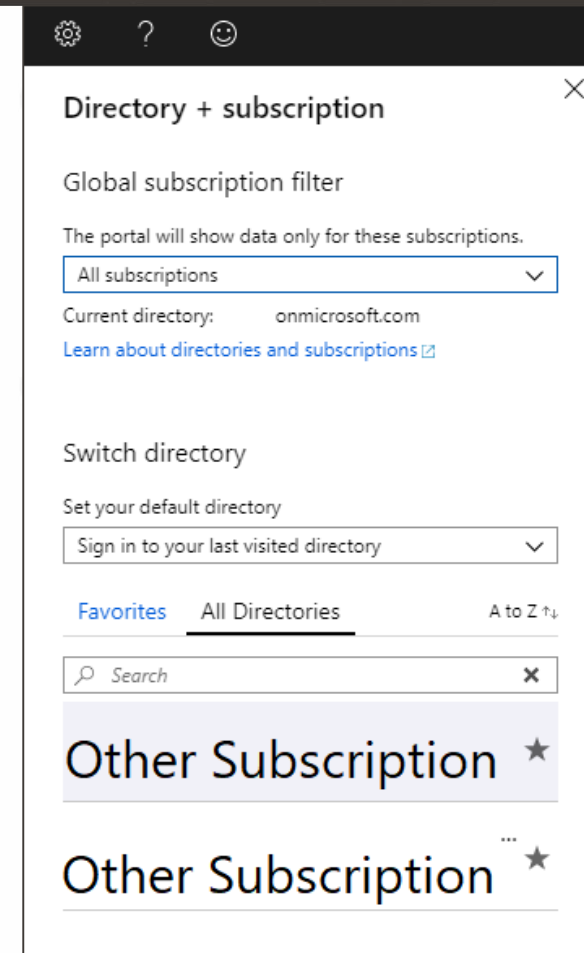
Contributor

Owner Access

Owner

◆ Owner Level Access

- ◆ Escalating up to Global Admin/Tenant Admin
- ◆ Frequently Owner Accounts are configured with multiple subscriptions
 - Global admins are kept on their own island (Think Enterprise Admins)
- ◆ Pivot to another subscription
 - Lather/Rinse/Repeat until you've accessed/"Owned" all subscriptions (effective Tenant Admin)
- ◆ Listing available subscriptions
 - `az account list --output table`
- ◆ Switching subscriptions
 - `az account set --subscription "My Demos"`



Owner



Tenant Admin and Persistence

Tenant Admin

◆ Tenant Admin Access

- ◆ You have global admin, now what?
- ◆ ~~Burn it all down...~~
- ◆ Pivot internally
 - Find your way to the internal network
 - Via Azure or other channels
- ◆ Persist Access



Tenant Admin

- ◆ Adding Azure AD accounts
 - ◆ Global Admins and User Admins are usually limited groups
 - Additions to these groups can be noisy
 - ◆ Slightly quieter...
 - Similar username to company (kfosaaen/karl.fosaaen)
 - Add as a Contributor or Owner for all (important) subscriptions
 - Mimic account attributes of other admins

List Subscriptions:

```
az account list | ConvertFrom-Json | ForEach-Object {$_.id}
```



Pipe those IDs into this command:

```
az role assignment create --role Owner --assignee USERNAME_HERE --scope /subscriptions/$id
```



- ◆ Guest access to Tenant
 - ◆ Using a look-alike email domain (netspi.cloud)
 - ◆ Using vendor email domain (comcast.net)
 - ISP customer email could be perceived as legit vendor domain
 - ◆ Add appropriate IAM assignments as needed

External collaboration settings

 Save  Discard

Guest users permissions are limited ⓘ

Yes No

Admins and users in the guest inviter role can invite ⓘ

Yes No

Members can invite ⓘ

Yes No

Guests can invite ⓘ

Yes No

Enable Email One-Time Passcode for guests (Preview) ⓘ

[Learn more](#)

Yes No

Collaboration restrictions

Allow invitations to be sent to any domain (most inclusive)

Deny invitations to the specified domains

Allow invitations only to the specified domains (most restrictive)

- ◆ Add your own subscription
 - ◆ Limit access to everyone (minus Global Admins)
 - ◆ Not really practical
 - ◆ Additional costs incurred
 - ◆ Most likely going to work best for malicious attackers
- ◆ Quieter Options...
 - ◆ Create SPN/Automation/Application with excessive privileges



◆ Automation Account Backdoors

- ◆ Use existing Automation Accounts (or Create New)
 - Add a runbook
 - Run with the rights for the account (Usually Contributor or more)
 - Add rights to the Automation Account, where needed
- ◆ Job examples
 - Create a new AzureAD user
 - Add to Admins Group
 - Use as short term access
 - Automation account is long term access
 - Add existing user back to admins group
 - Run a specific payload on all/some of the VMs
 - Dump current Azure info out to public storage blob



◆ Using Webhooks

- ◆ Your backdoor has been set, set a hook to trigger when you need it
- ◆ Trigger a run book with a web request
- ◆ <https://s13events.azure-automation.net/webhooks?token=q%2bREDACTEDJQ%3d>

```
1 $uri = "https://s15events.azure-automation.net/webhooks?token=Sk%[REDACTED]%3d"
2 $AccountInfo = @(@{RequestBody=@{Username="BlogDemoUser";Password="Password123"}})
3 $body = ConvertTo-Json -InputObject $AccountInfo
4 $response = Invoke-WebRequest -Method Post -Uri $uri -Body $body
5
```

◆ Related Blog:

- ◆ To Be Released Next Week

◆ Using Watchers

- ◆ Watch for a specific event (RunBook Runs every x minutes)
 - Check if AzureAD user has been removed
- ◆ Run another RunBook
 - Add Azure AD user back
- ◆ Double Dead Man's Switch
 - Two Automation accounts, they watch each other
 - One gets deleted, the other adds it back



<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/automation/automation-watchers-tutorial>

- ◆ Slightly “Loud” Options...
 - ◆ Adding a backdoor to VMs
 - C2 agents
 - Local admin account access
 - Might require opening FW rules (RDP, SSH, etc.)
 - ◆ Modify build templates to add accounts/software
 - Could be a major state change



Questions?

- ◆ MicroBurst GitHub - <https://github.com/NetSPI/MicroBurst>

- ◆ NetSPI Blog - <https://blog.netspi.com>

- ◆ MicroBurst Specific Blogs:
 - ◆ <https://blog.netspi.com/get-azurepasswords/>
 - ◆ <https://blog.netspi.com/anonymously-enumerating-azure-file-resources/>
 - ◆ <https://blog.netspi.com/enumerating-azure-services/>
 - ◆ <https://blog.netspi.com/running-powershell-scripts-on-azure-vms/>

- ◆ Twitter - @kfosaaen

- ◆ SlideShare - <http://www.slideshare.net/kfosaaen>





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