

Azure Attack Surfaces



My User Properties

Microsoft Azure


Dashboard > Default Directory | Users >

Users ...

» [+ New user](#) [Download users](#) [Bulk operations](#) [Refresh](#) [Manage view](#) | [Delete](#) | [Per-user MFA](#)

[Add filter](#)

1 user found

| <input type="checkbox"/> | Display name ↑ | Company name | Department | Job title |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |  Thomas Poskocil | condignum GmbH | Professional Services | IT-Security Consultant |

Agenda


- Basics
 - Terminology & Hierarchy
 - Identity & Access Management (Entra ID & RBAC)
- Role-defined Attack Surfaces
 - Common Vectors
 - Attack Surface Reduction
- Takeaways
- Resources & Recommended materials

Terminology & Hierarchy

Azure = Cloud Computing Platform



Azure Services



Virtual Machines




Microsoft Entra ID



SQL databases



Function App



Virtual networks

Azure Services

The screenshot displays the 'All services' page in the Azure portal. The interface is organized into a grid of service tiles, each representing a different Azure offering. The tiles are categorized into several groups, including:

- Compute:** Includes services like Azure VM services, Azure Batch, Azure Container Instances, Azure App Service, and Azure Kubernetes Service.
- Storage:** Features Azure Blob Storage, Azure File Storage, Azure Data Lake Storage, and Azure Storage Explorer.
- Database:** Shows Azure SQL Database, Azure Cosmos DB, Azure Database for PostgreSQL, and Azure Database for MySQL.
- Networking:** Includes Azure Virtual Network, Azure Firewall, and Azure Front Door.
- AI and Analytics:** Lists Azure Machine Learning, Azure Cognitive Services, and Azure Synapse Analytics.
- Security and Compliance:** Features Azure Security Center, Azure Key Vault, and Azure Active Directory.
- Management and Governance:** Includes Azure Resource Manager, Azure Policy, and Azure Cost Management.

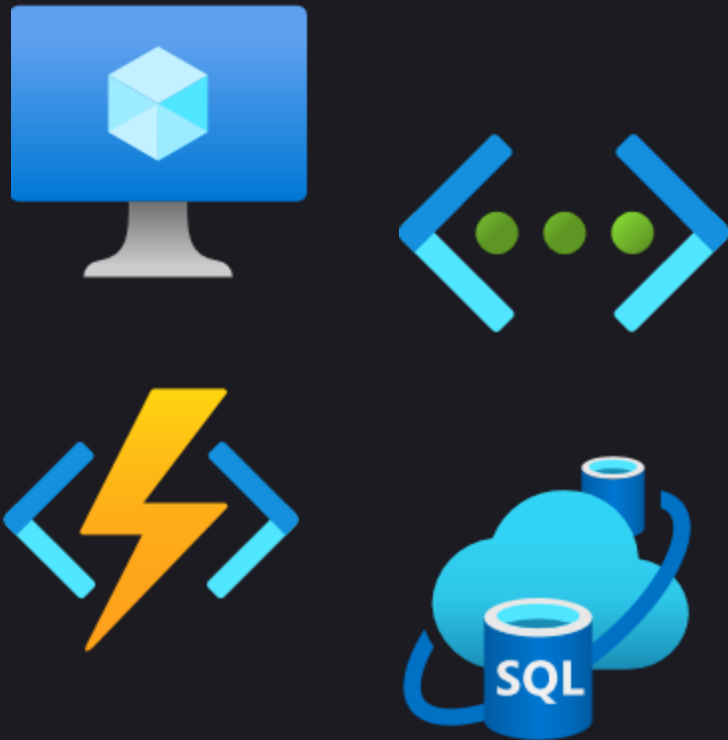
The left-hand navigation pane provides access to various portal sections such as 'Home', 'All services', 'Subscriptions', and 'My subscriptions'. The top of the page shows the user's profile and the current subscription details.

<https://portal.azure.com/#allservices/category/All>

Resources & Grouping

Resource

(actual instance of a service)



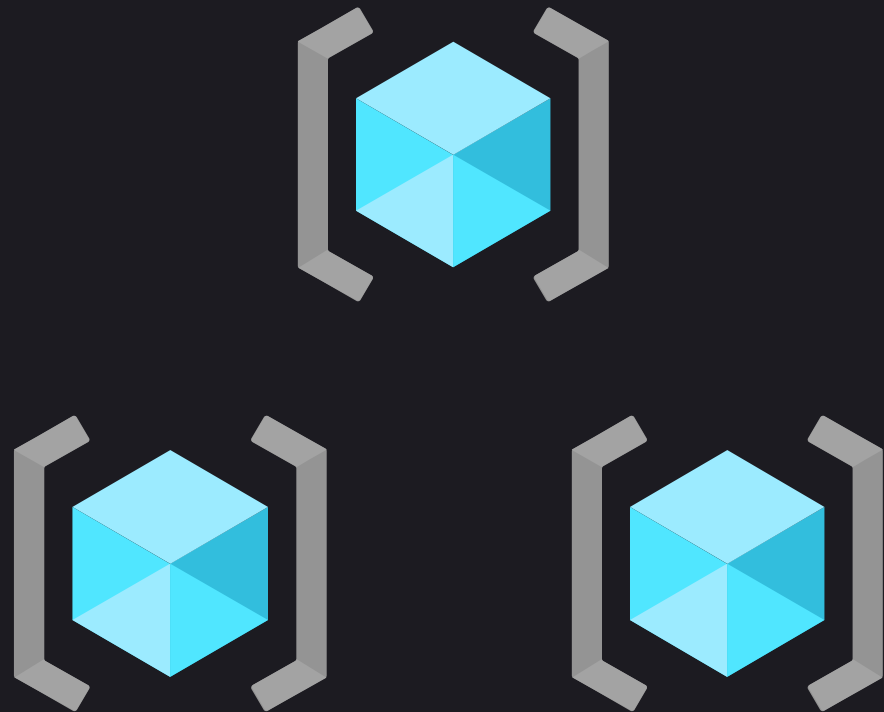
Resource Group

(logical grouping of resources)



\$ubscriptions

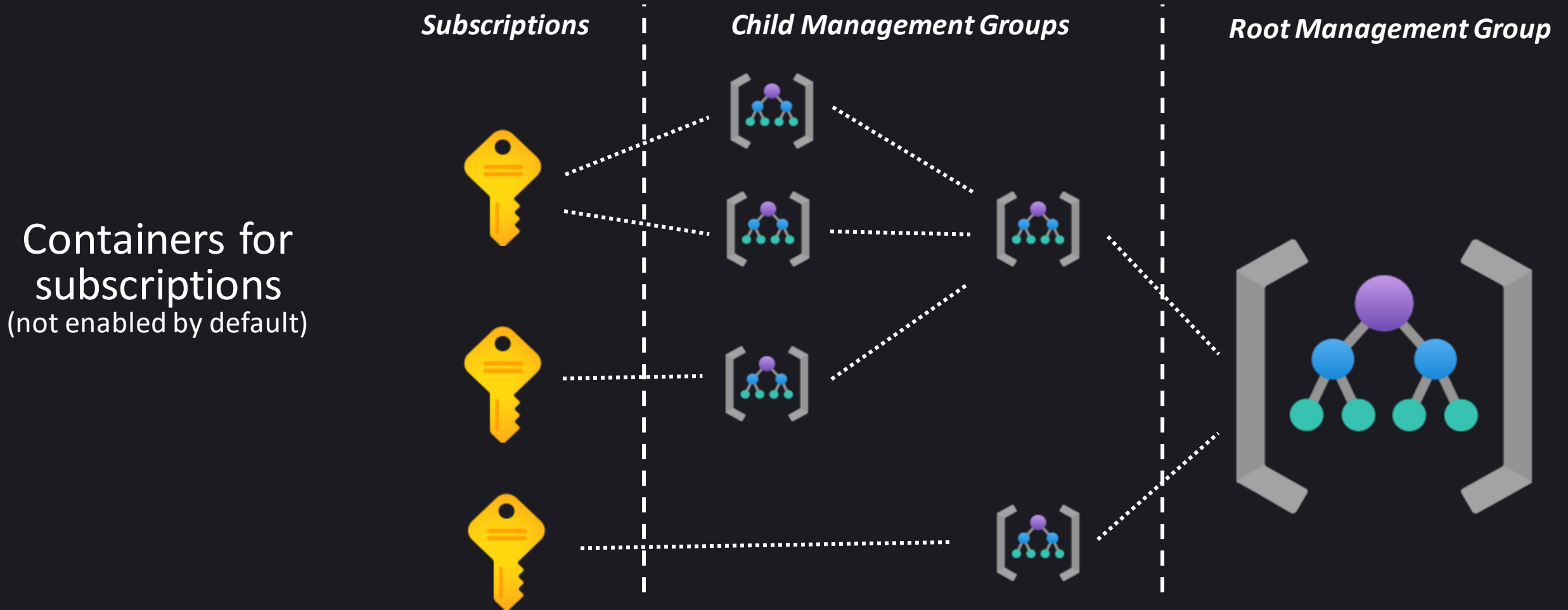
Resource Groups



Subscription
(logical payment container)



Management Groups



Entra Tenant

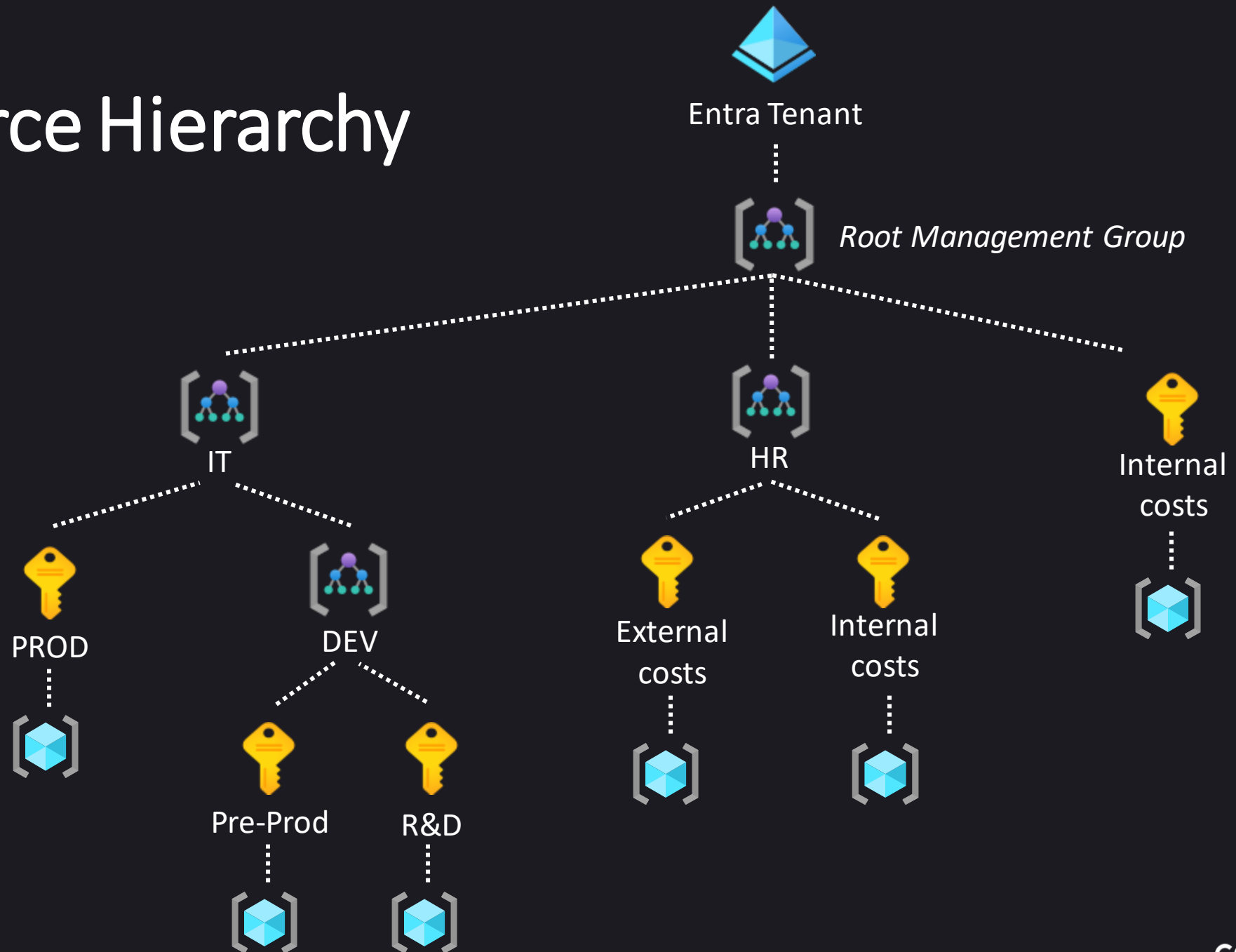
Represents an organization



Maintains all assets inside
(users, subscriptions, ...)

Dedicated Entra ID instance

Resource Hierarchy



Identity & Access Management

Entra ID & RBAC

Entra ID (~~Azure AD~~)

Identity & Access Management Service
(handles authentication)

Unique instance
per tenant



Used by multiple
Microsoft cloud platforms

There is no directory

Security Principals

Identity objects in Entra ID requesting access to Azure services



User



Group



Service Principal



Managed Identity

Roles

Entra Roles

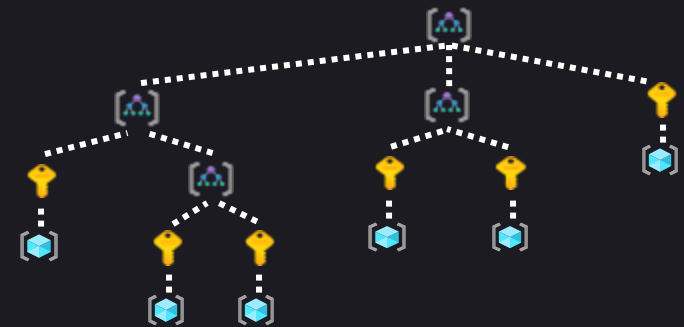


Manages access to
Entra resources
(Adding / Editing Users)

Azure Roles



Manages access to
Azure resources



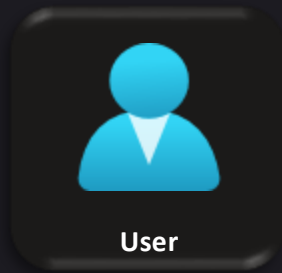
Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)

Security Principal



A role(s)

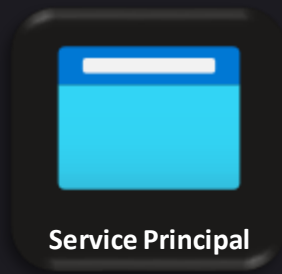
A scope(s)



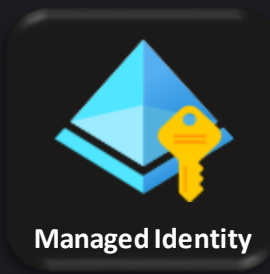
User



Group



Service Principal

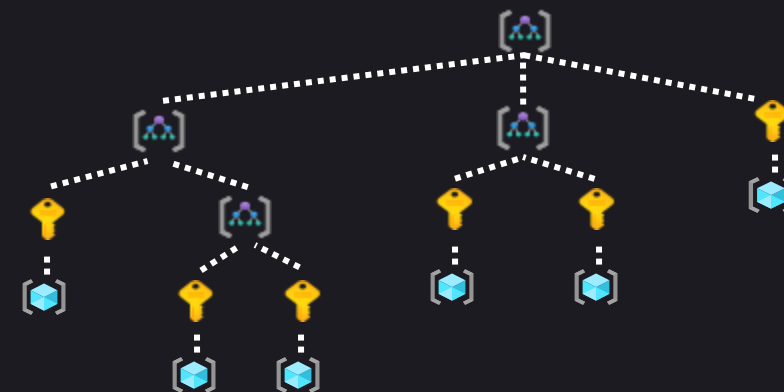


Managed Identity

HAS



ON

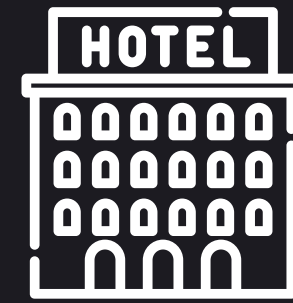
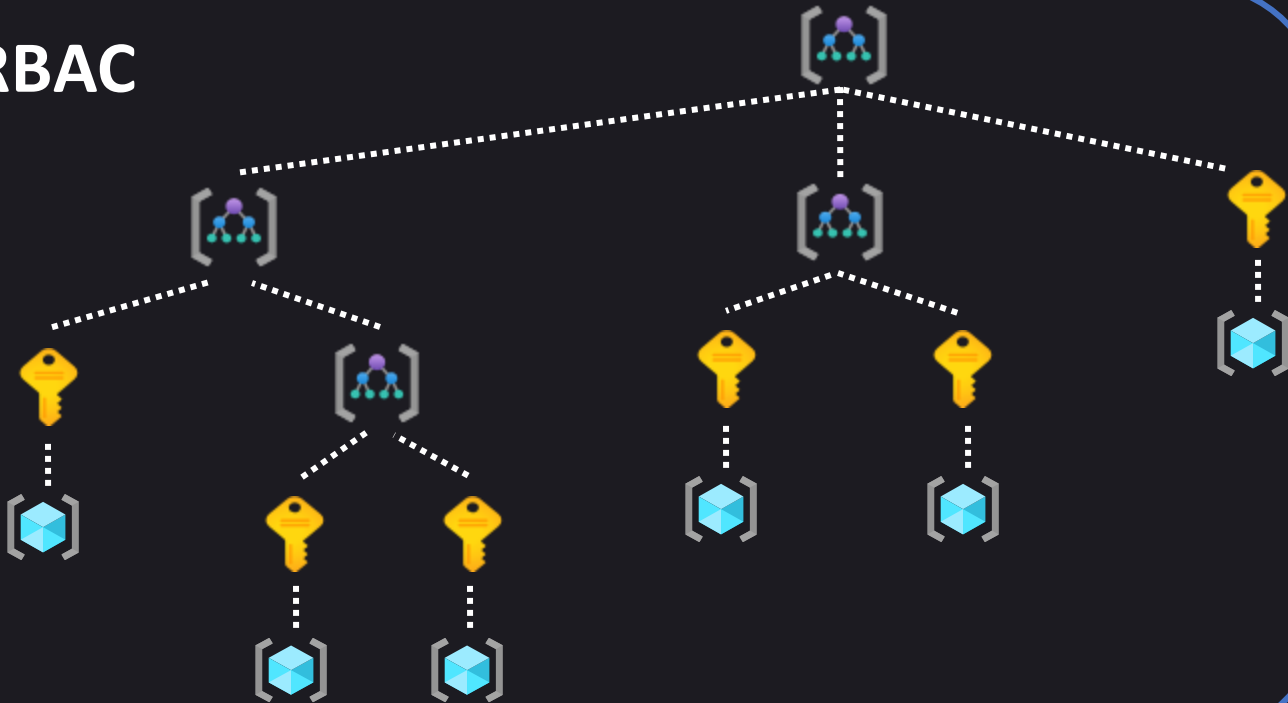


Hotel

Entra-ID



RBAC



Reception

token



Room 404



Gym



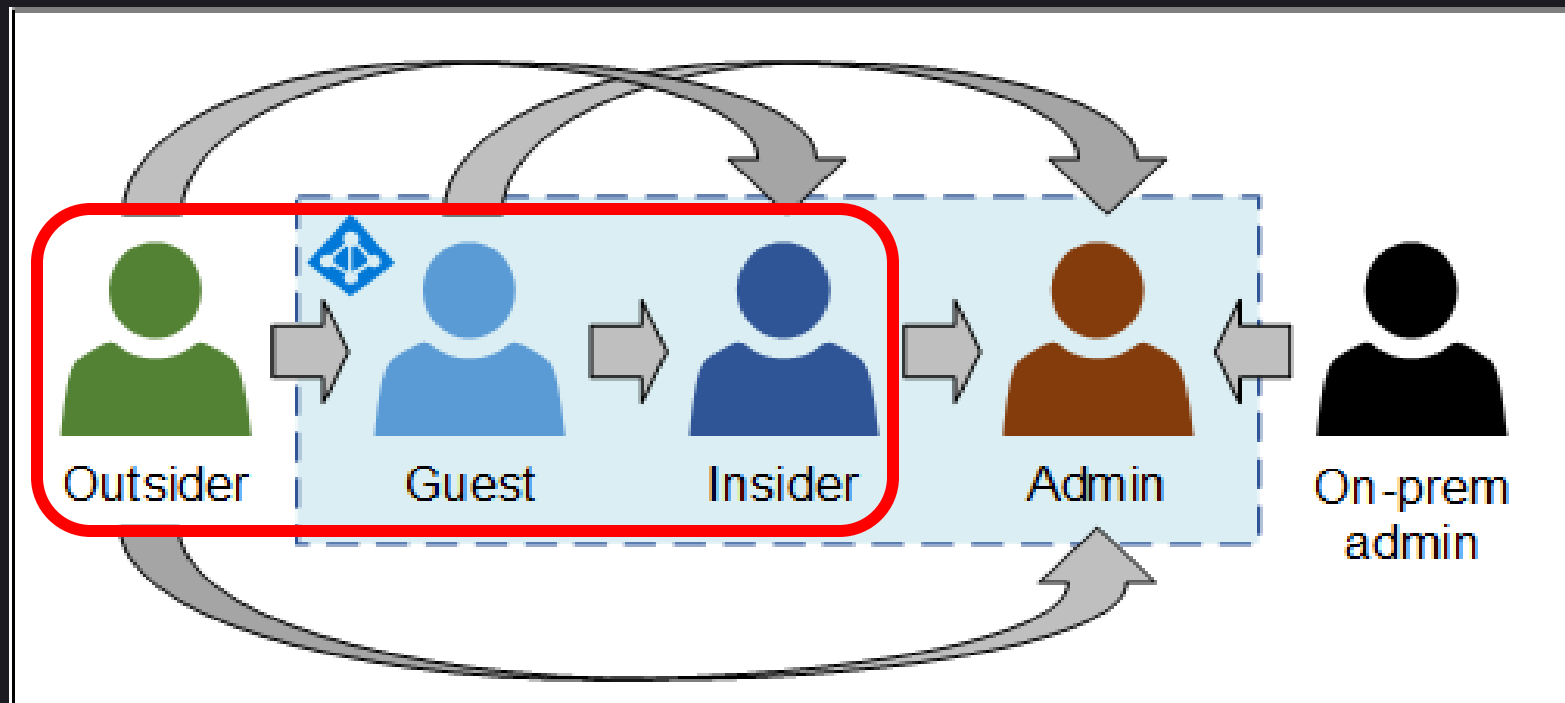
Sauna

condignum



Role-defined Attack Surfaces

Kill Chain Roles



© Dr Nestori Syynimaa

<https://aadinternals.com/>

OUTSIDER – Generic Attack Surfaces

Overly exposed resources

Vulnerable resources
(App Service or Function App Abuse)

Insecure data storage

Malware/Credential
Phishing

Weak credentials

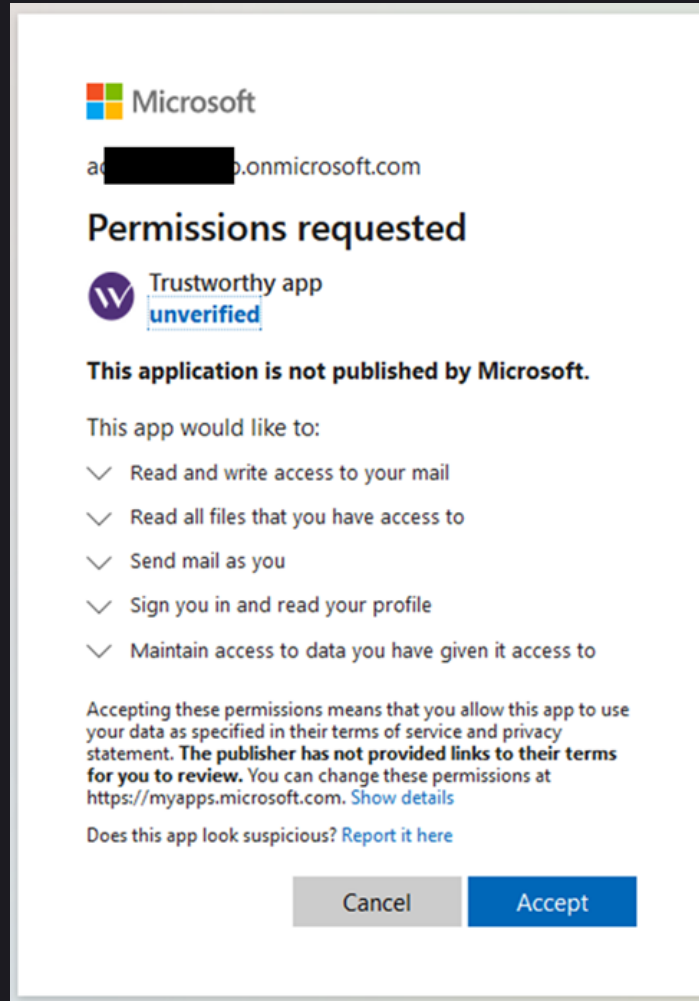


OUTSIDER – Illicit Consent Grant

ATTACKER



Registered app with a set of non-admin permissions



VICTIM



User receives a phishing mail with a link & accepts

Users are allowed by default to consent

Application's Service Principal is able to act on victim's behalf & query the APIs

OUTSIDER – Device Code Authentication

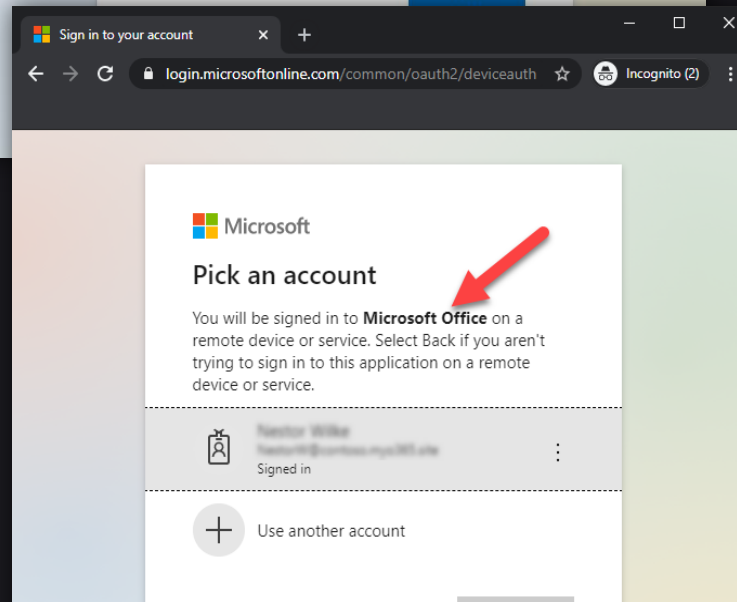
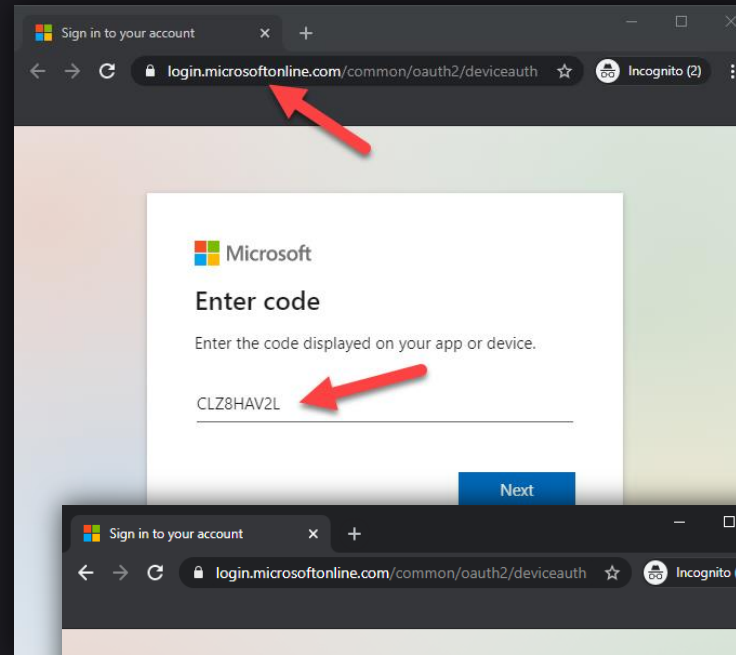
Used for logging in to devices with limited controls (Xbox, Kiosk terminals)

ATTACKER

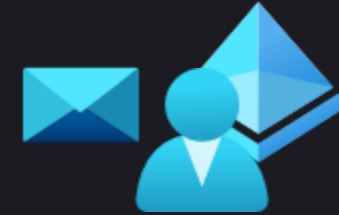


Requests the code

Sends verification link & code



VICTIM



Opens the link & enters the code - that's it

Legitimate Microsoft Domain

No consent is requested

Device code expires after

15 minutes

OUTSIDER – Blob Storage Hunting

Equivalent of a S3 bucket in AWS

Stores unstructured data (files, videos, ...)

Per default not publicly accessible

Might expose unwanted data
(Credentials, DBs, Backups, ...)

Can be found in website sources,
with google dorks or listen on shodan



The screenshot shows the Shodan search interface. At the top, the Shodan logo and the search query 'http.html:*.blob.core.windows.net' are visible. Below the search bar, the 'TOTAL RESULTS' section displays '420'. To the right of this section are two buttons: 'View Report' and 'Download'. Below the results count is the 'TOP COUNTRIES' section, which includes a world map with several countries highlighted in red, indicating the geographic distribution of the search results.

OUTSIDER – Attack Surface Reduction

Strong password policy &
enable MFA for all users

Awareness

Minimal infrastructure exposure



Do not allow user consent

(limited) Logging & Alert Rules

Proper Patch-Management

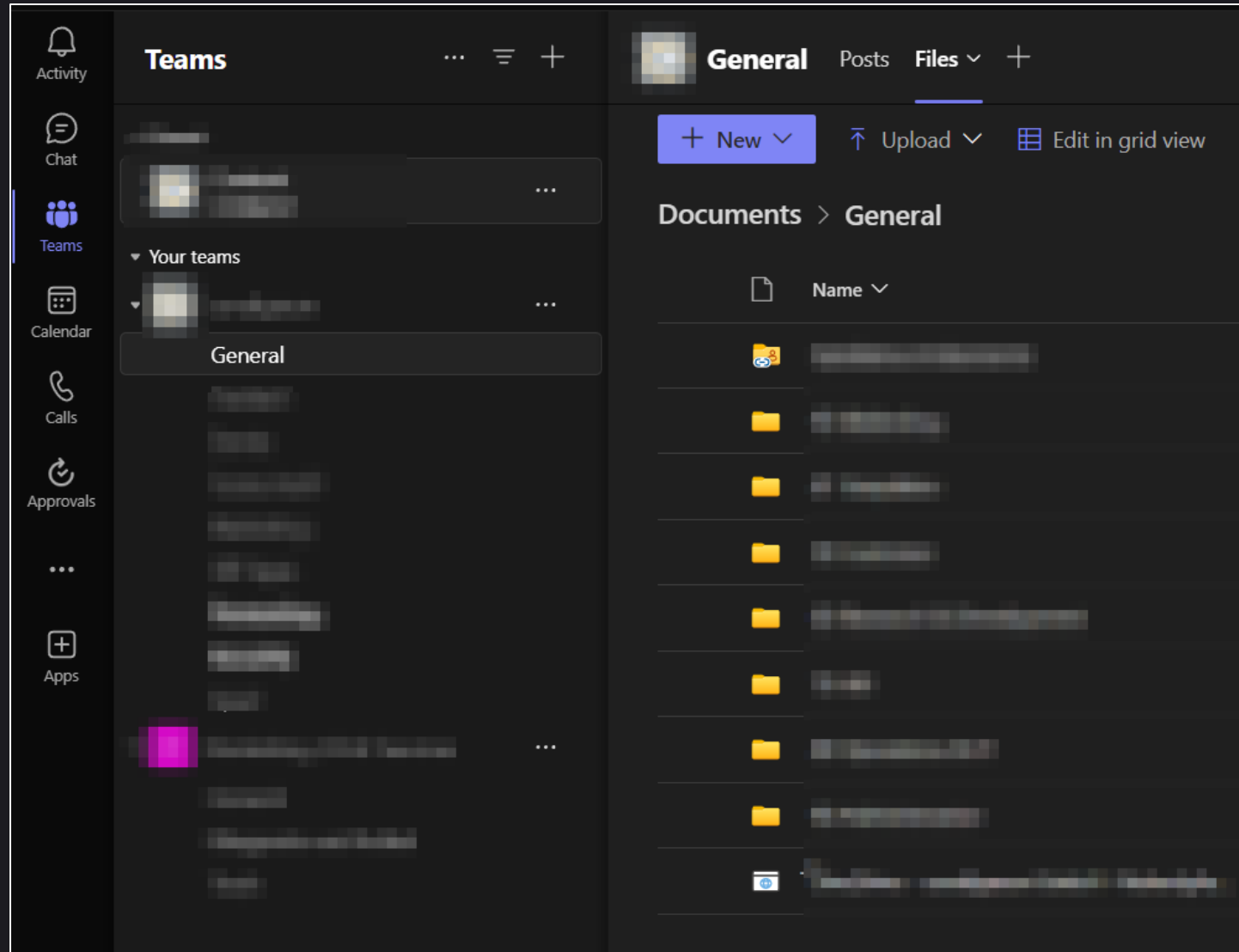
GUEST – Permissions



**READ-ONLY
access by default**

| Area | Default guest user permissions |
|--------------------|--|
| Users and contacts | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read their own properties• Read display name, email, sign-in name, photo, user principal name, and user type properties of other users and contacts• Change their own password• Search for another user by object ID (if allowed)• Read manager and direct report information of other users |
| Groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read properties of non-hidden groups, including membership and ownership (even non-joined groups)• Read hidden Microsoft 365 group memberships for joined groups• Search for groups by display name or object ID (if allowed) |
| Applications | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read properties of registered and enterprise applications• List permissions granted to applications |
| Devices | No permissions |
| Organization | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read company display name• Read all domains• Read configuration of certificate-based authentication |

GUEST – Public Teams



Self-join



View & share data

GUEST – Unrestricted File Share

Sharing settings

General

Share the link with

- Anyone
- People in [redacted] GmbH
- People with existing access
- People you choose
Share with specific people you choose inside or outside of condignum GmbH, using their name, group, or email.

More settings

- Can edit
- Block download Off


Apply Cancel

Thomas Poskocil shared the folder "General" with you.

TP Thomas Poskocil <no-repl>
To [redacted]
Cc Thomas Poskocil


If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser. Click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.


Sie erhalten nicht oft eine E-Mail von no-reply@sharepointonline.com. Erfahren Sie, warum dies wichtig ist



Thomas Poskocil shared a folder with you



Here's the folder that Thomas Poskocil shared with you.

 General

 This link only works for the direct recipients of this message.


Open

GUEST – Untrusted Apps

**Breakthru** 
Breakthru Immersive, INC Request


Tiny breaks to share and play, built right into your day.

Human resources & recruiting Productivity

**Approvals**
Microsoft Corporation Open

Send, receive, manage, and share approvals in Microsoft Teams

Productivity

**Incoming Webhook**
Microsoft Corporation Add

Send data from a service to your Office 365 group in real time.

Utilities

GUEST – Attack Surface Reduction

Create app permission policies for Teams



Users should only create private teams

Restrict File-Sharing to Users with existing access only

Very restrictive Guest roles (need-to-know)

Establish conditional access policies

INSIDER – Default Permissions

Invite Guests

Add up to 50
devices to Azure



Create new
applications

Create Security
Groups

INSIDER – Dynamic Group Memberships

Rules to automatically join groups



Can be an efficient
access control

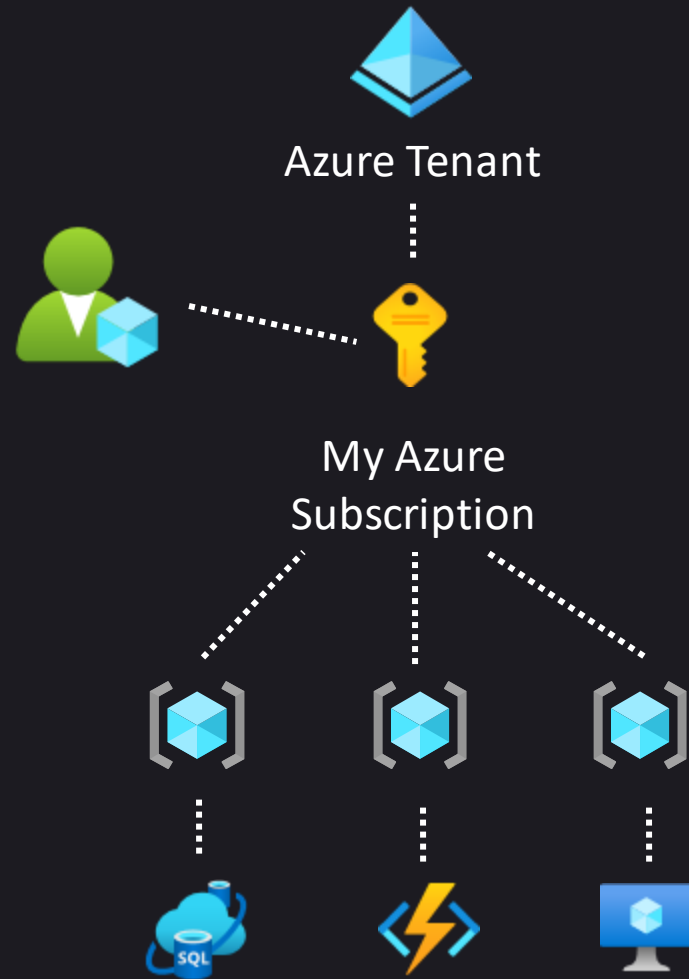
Memberships are
updated in "real-time"

Designed to reduce Group
management efforts

INSIDER – Insecure Azure Role Configuration

Overly permissive roles

Lack of Segmentation



INSIDER – Attack Surface Reduction

Properly segment your
resources

Follow a multi-tenant
approach



Users should only
create private teams

Fine tune your dynamic
group membership rules

Follow the least-privilege & need-to-know
principles, when defining & assigning roles

Takeaways

Focus on permissions & access controls
(role definition & assignment)

Don't trust default settings



Azure will not protect you
from service vulnerabilities

Everything compromised
might have an identity

Resources

Images & Icons:

- https://cdn-dynmedia-1.microsoft.com/is/image/microsoftcorp/geographies-hero?resMode=sharp2&op_usm=1.5,0.65,15,0&wid=2880&qlt=100&fit=constrain
- https://cdn-dynmedia-1.microsoft.com/is/image/microsoftcorp/products-hero?resMode=sharp2&op_usm=1.5,0.65,15,0&wid=2880&qlt=100&fit=constrain
- <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/icons/>
- <https://www.svgrepo.com/>
- <https://www.riskinsight-wavestone.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Imagebis.png>
- <https://aadinternals.com/images/posts/killchain.png>
- <https://aadinternals.com/post/phishing/>

Recommended material

Free hosted hands-on trainings (mini CTFs)

- <https://azure.enterprisesecurity.io/>
- <https://dartctf.enterprisesecurity.io/>

Mini Training Ranges (self-hosted)

- <https://github.com/ine-labs/AzureGoat>
- https://github.com/mandiant/Azure_Workshop
- <https://github.com/XMCyber/XMGoat>

Book + Labs (\$)

- <https://github.com/PacktPublishing/Penetration-Testing-Azure-for-Ethical-Hackers>

Trainings (\$\$\$)

- <https://training.xintra.org/attacking-and-defending-azure-m365>
- <https://www.alteredsecurity.com/azure-basic>
- <https://www.netSPI.com/training/dark-side-ops-azure-cloud-pentesting/>
- <https://cloudbreach.io/>

Penetration Testing Information

- <https://github.com/swisskyrepo/PayloadsAllTheThings/blob/master/Methodology%20and%20Resources/Cloud%20-%20Azure%20Pentest.md>
- <https://www.cobalt.io/blog/azure-ad-pentesting-fundamentals>
- <https://github.com/Kyuu-Ji/Awesome-Azure-Pentest>

Further readings

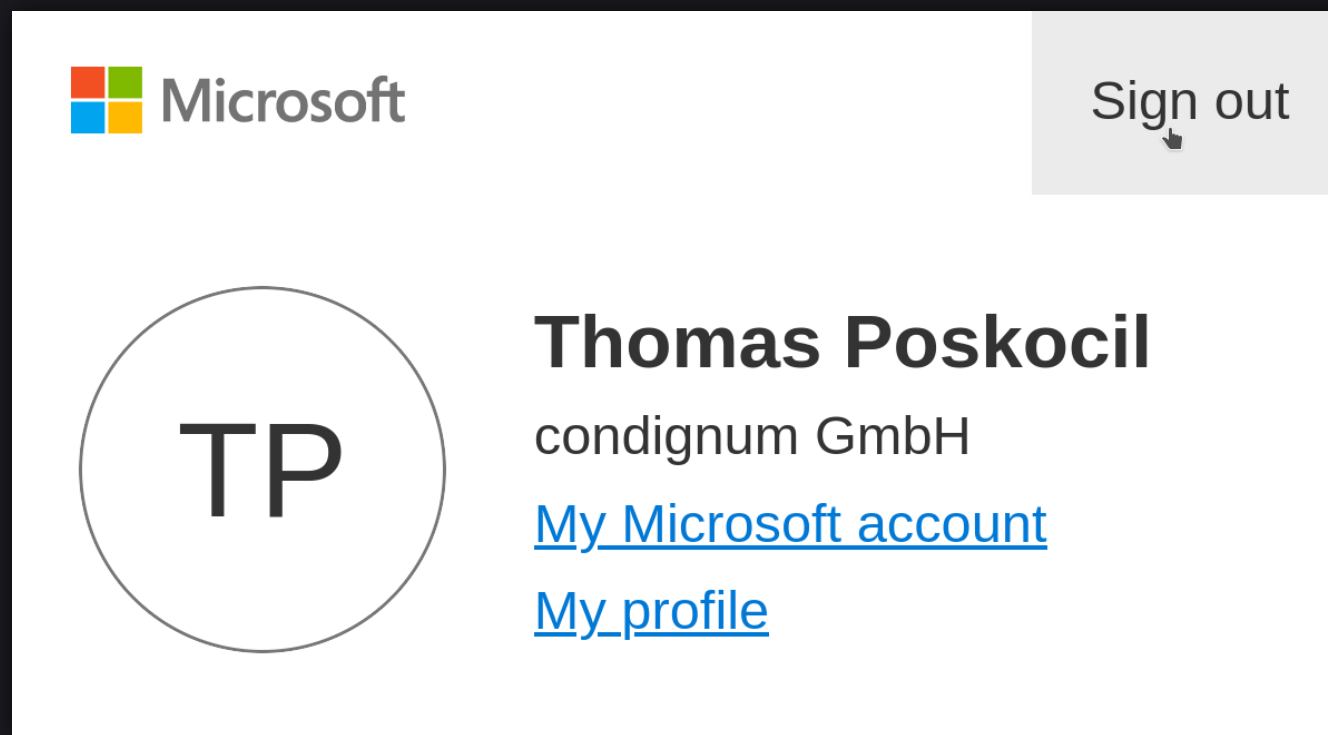
- <https://csandker.io/2022/10/19/Untangling-Azure-Permissions.html>
- <https://csandker.io/2022/11/10/Untangling-Azure-IL-Privileged-Access.html>
- <https://posts.specterops.io/azure-privilege-escalation-via-azure-api-permissions-abuse-74aee1006f48>
- <https://aadinternals.com/post/>

Follow them for up2date information

- https://twitter.com/nikhil_mitt
- <https://twitter.com/DrAzureAD>
- <https://twitter.com/DirectoryRanger>
- <https://twitter.com/XintraOrg>
- <https://twitter.com/Oxcsandker>
- https://twitter.com/_wald0



Focus on the ROLES an attacker gained access to, rather than which resources were compromised



The screenshot shows a Microsoft user interface. In the top left corner is the Microsoft logo. In the top right corner is a grey button labeled "Sign out" with a mouse cursor over it. Below the logo, on the left, is a circular profile picture containing the letters "TP". To the right of the profile picture, the name "Thomas Poskocil" is displayed in a large, bold font. Below the name, the text "condignum GmbH" is shown. Underneath that are two blue, underlined links: "My Microsoft account" and "My profile".