Lesson 03 Demo 04

Starting and Accessing a Windows Instance on EC2

Objective: To launch a Windows-based EC2 instance on Amazon Web Services (AWS) and securely access it using the Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP)
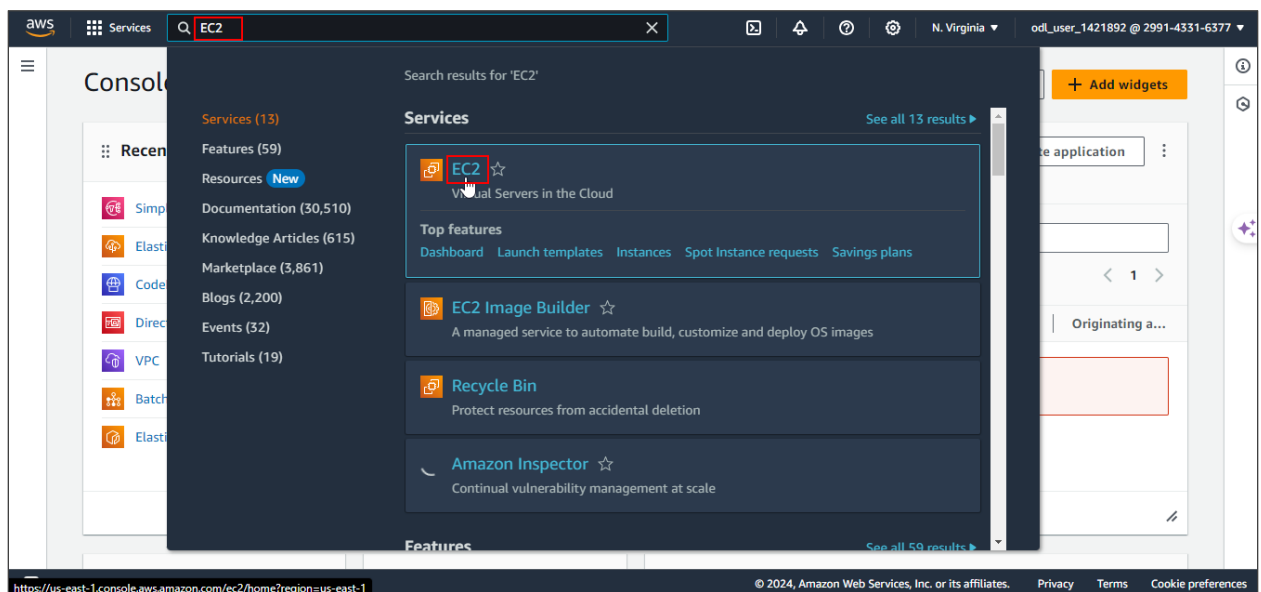
Tools required: AWS account
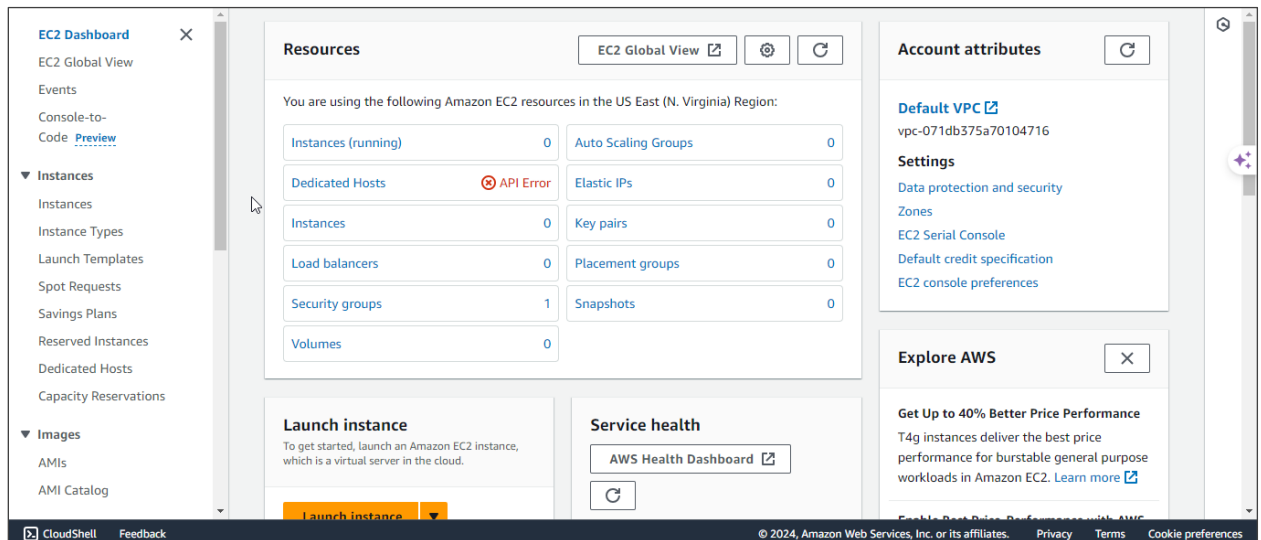
Prerequisites: NA

Steps to be followed:

1. Launch an EC2 instance
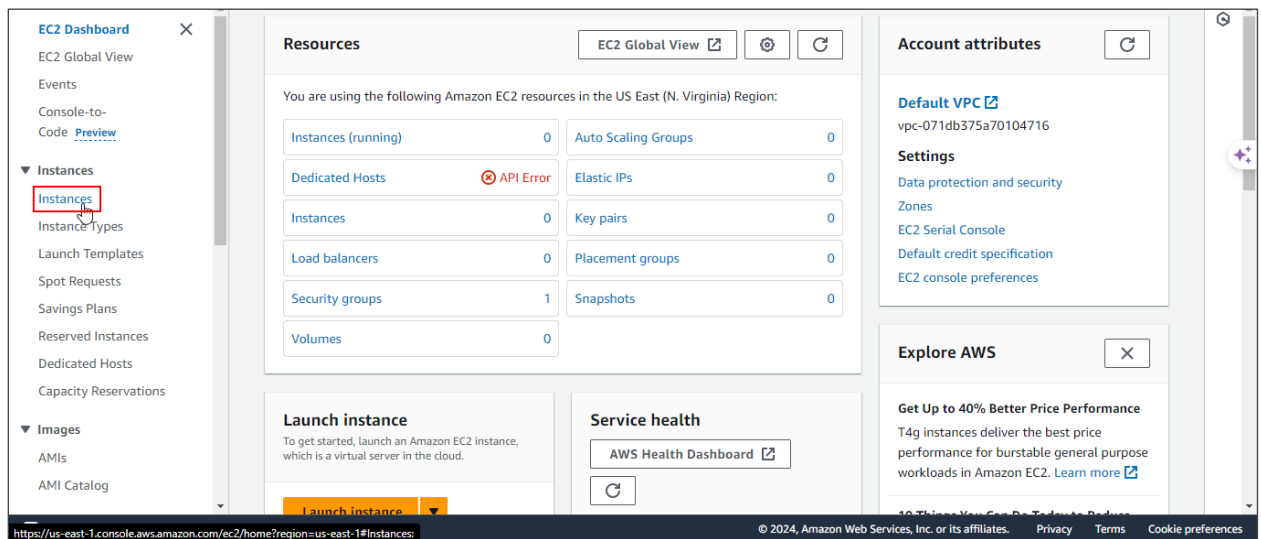2. Access the EC2 instance via RDP

Step 1: Launch an EC2 instance

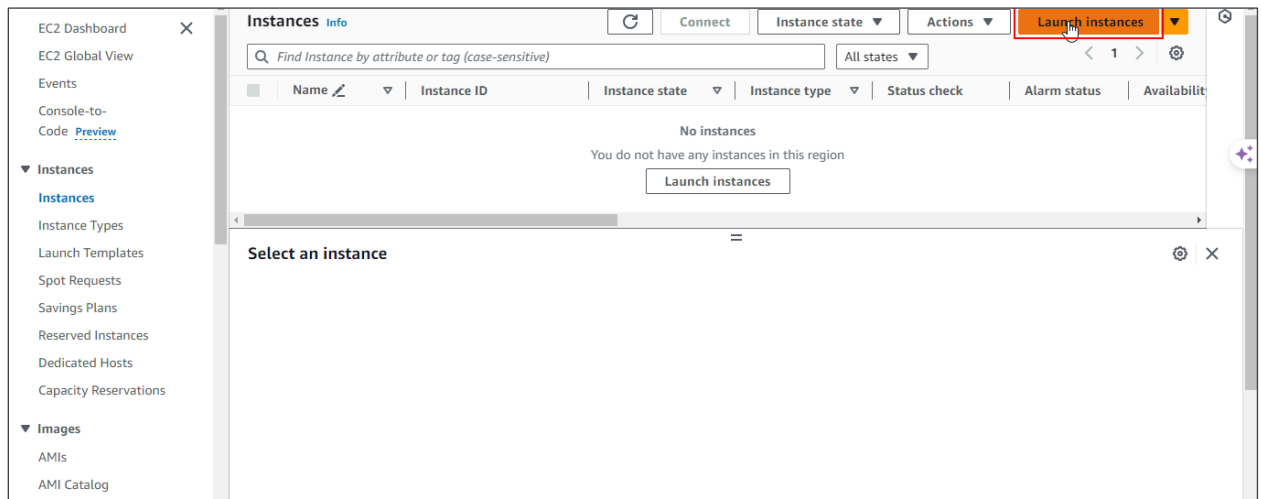1.1 Open the AWS console home dashboard, search for and click on **EC2** as shown:

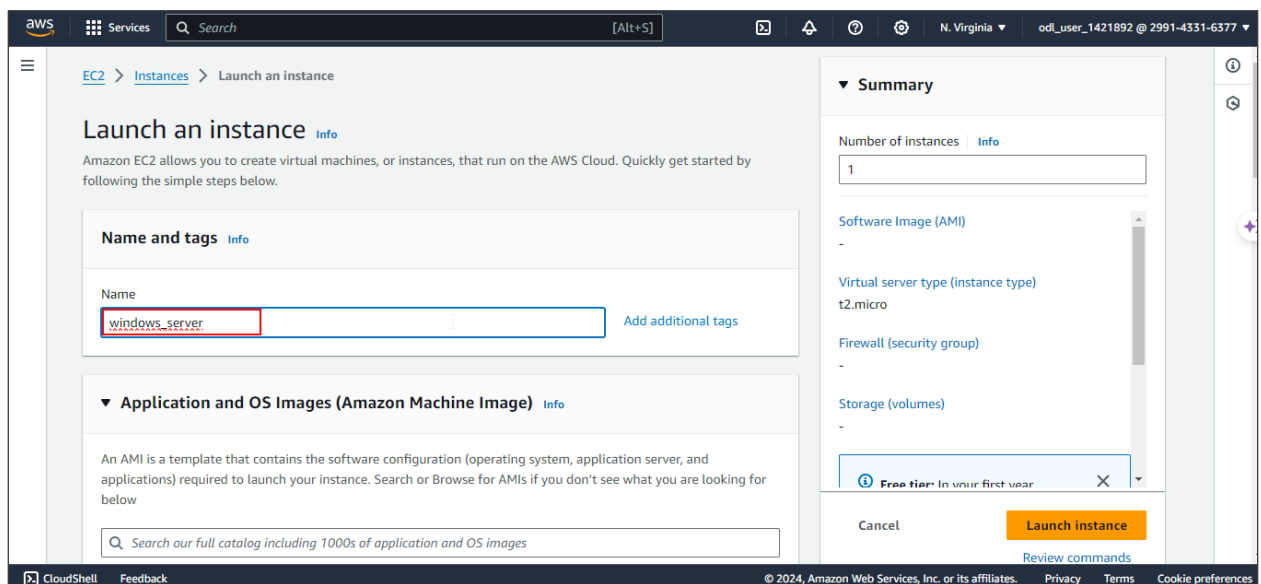You will see the following interface:
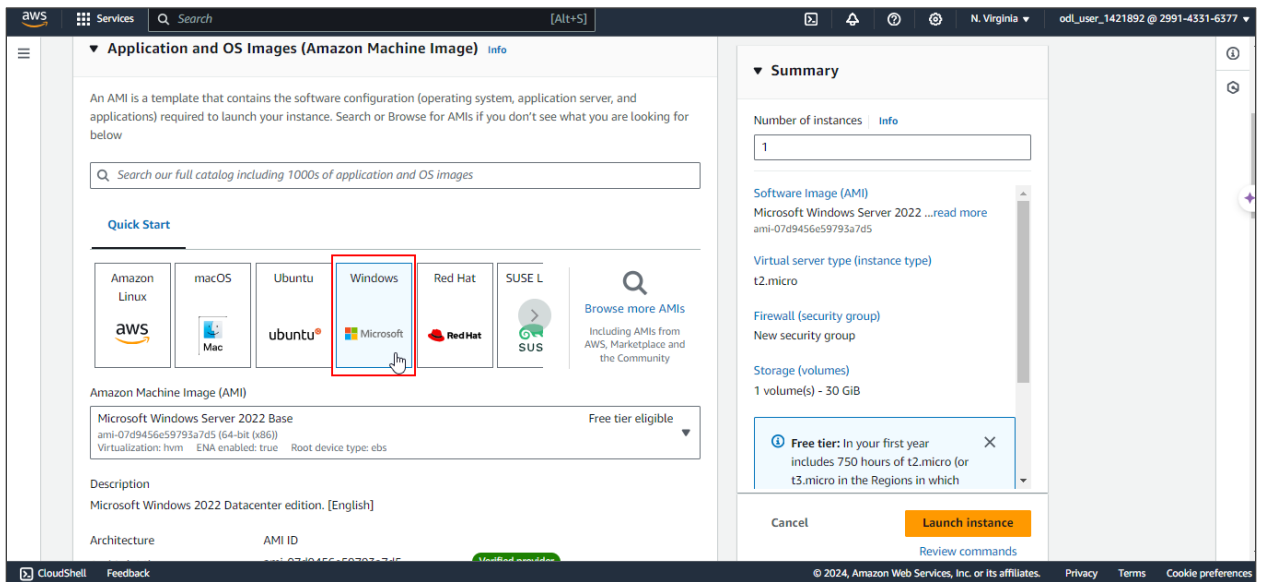

1.2 Click on **Instances** on the left pane
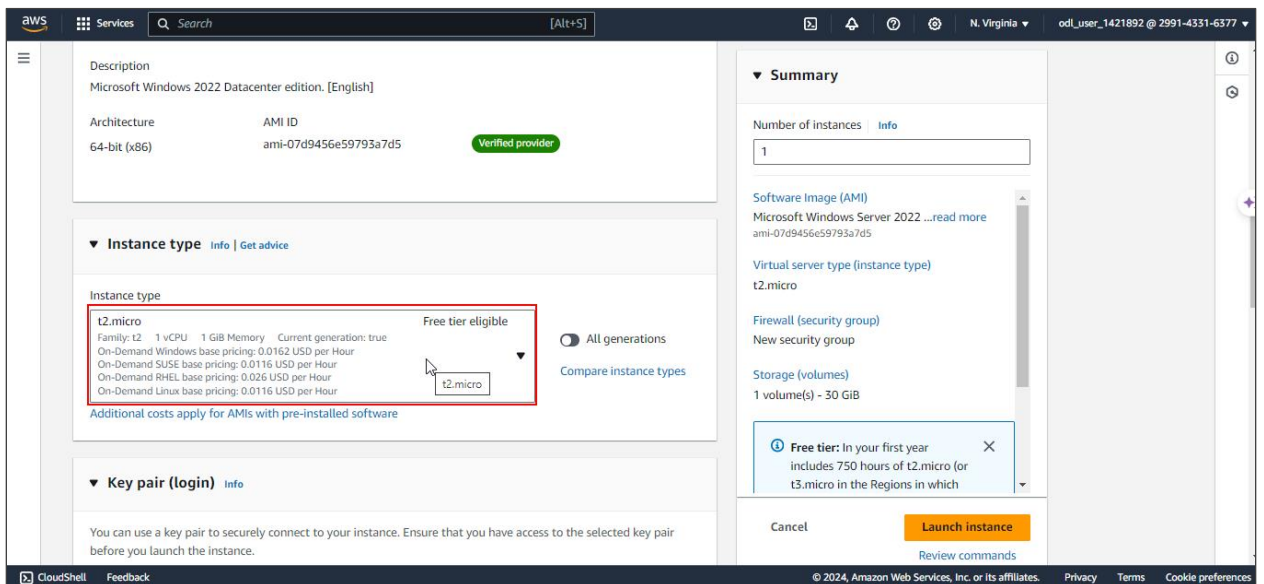
1.3 Click on the **Launch instances** button as shown:

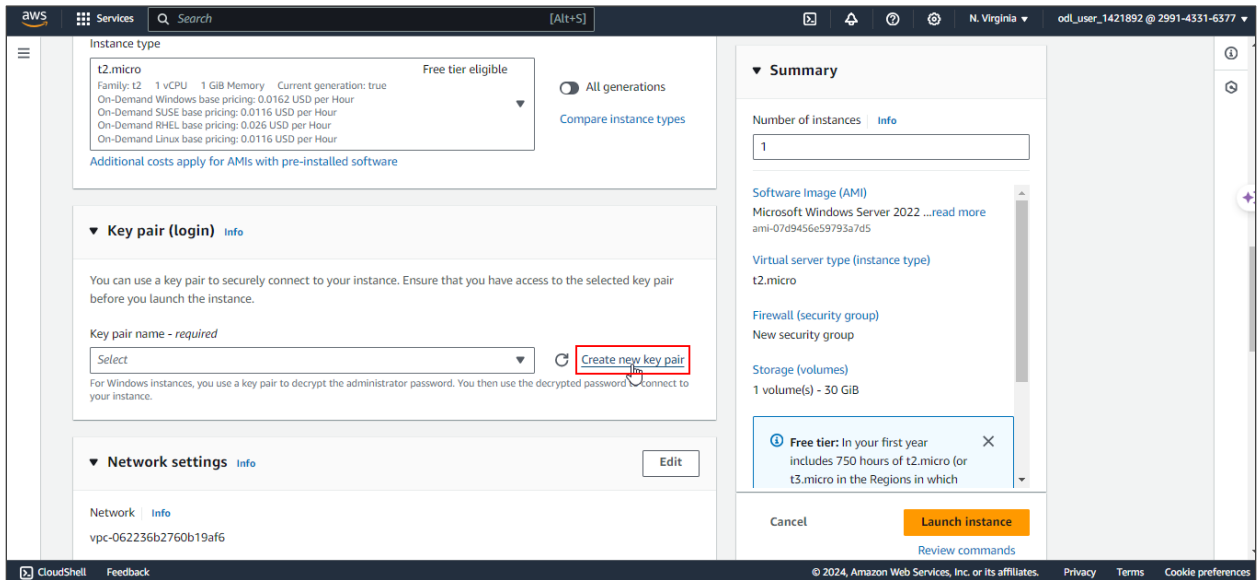1.4 Add any arbitrary name, such as **windows_server**, under the **Name and tags** section

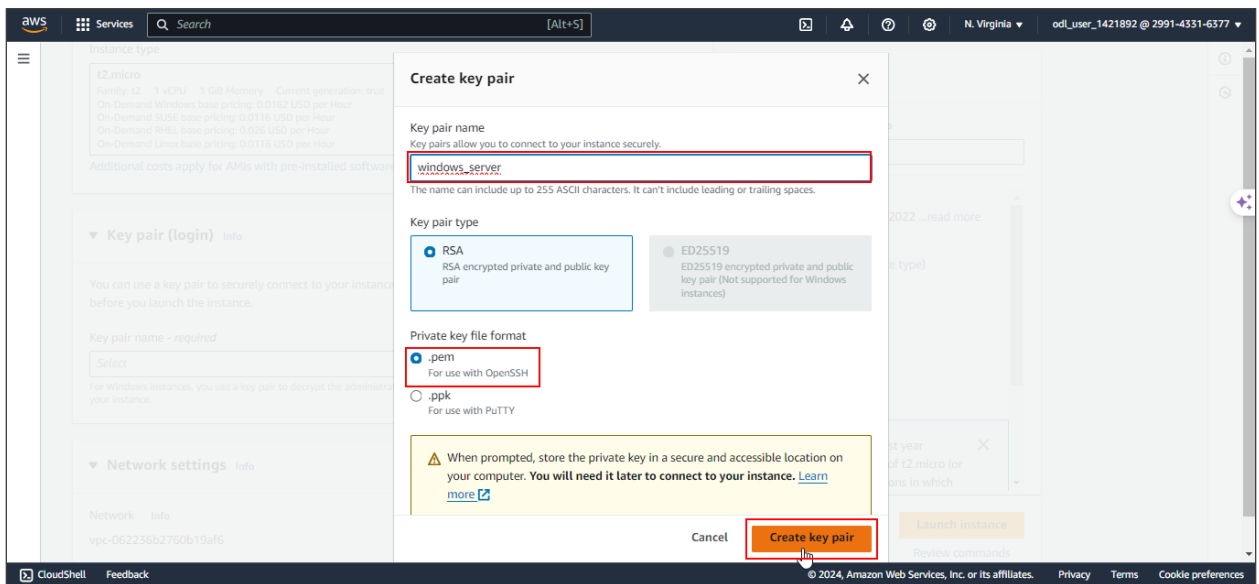1.5 Select the **Windows** OS under the **Quick Start** option

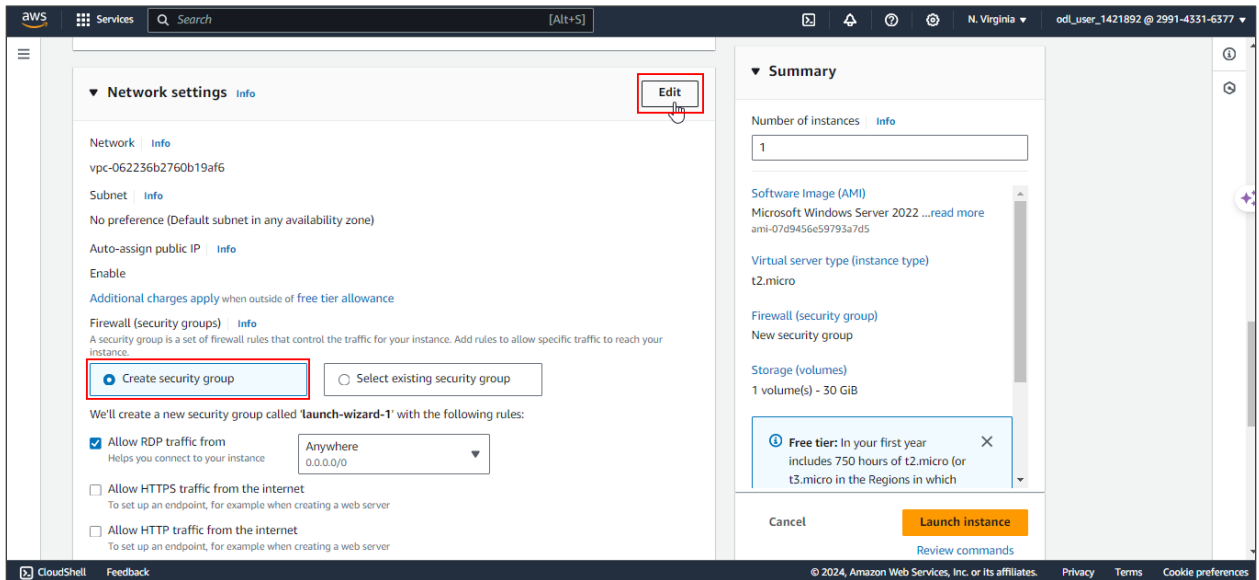1.6 Select **t2.micro** under the **Instance type** section
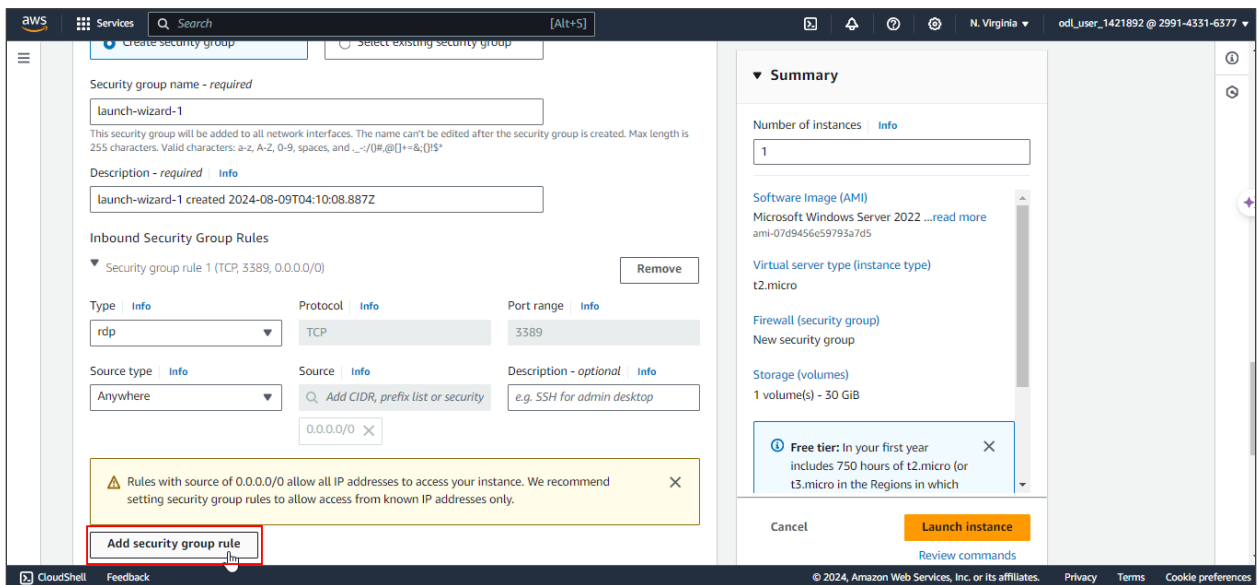
1.7 Click on **Create new key pair**

1.8 Add **windows_server** as the **Key pair name**, select **.pem** for the **Private key file format**, then click on **Create key pair**
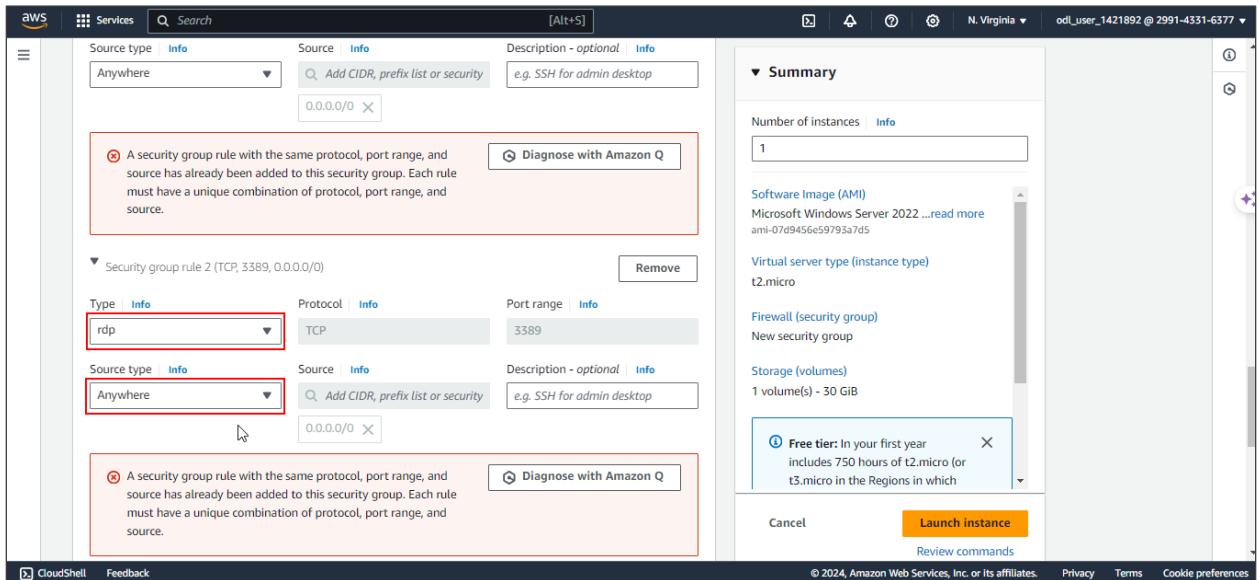
1.9 Select **Create security group** in the **Firewall (security groups)** option, and click on **Edit**
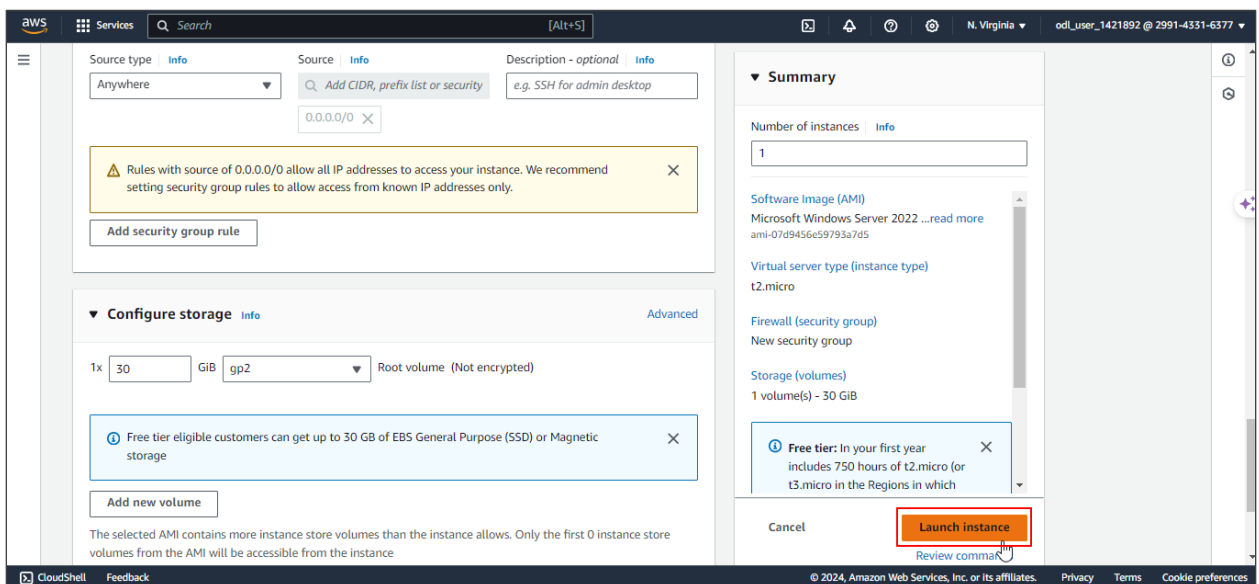

1.10 Click on **Add security group rule**

1.11 Select **rdp** in the **Type** field and **Anywhere** in the **Source type** field
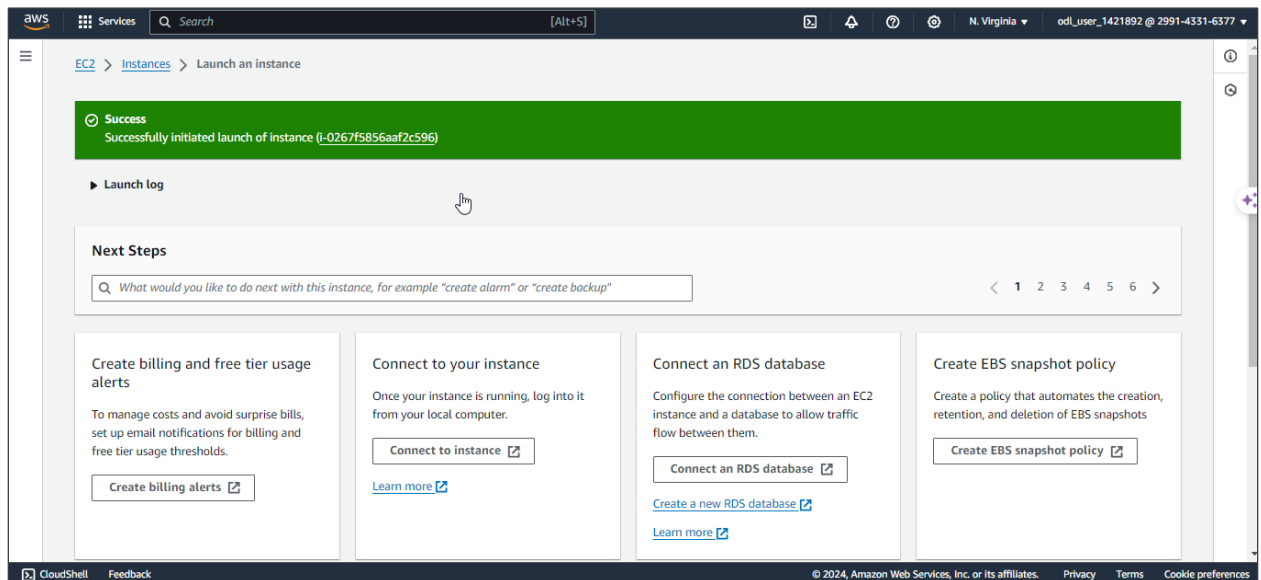

If the user gets a security group error, as shown in the screenshot, it means that there is an existing security group with the same name. In such a case, please modify the name accordingly.
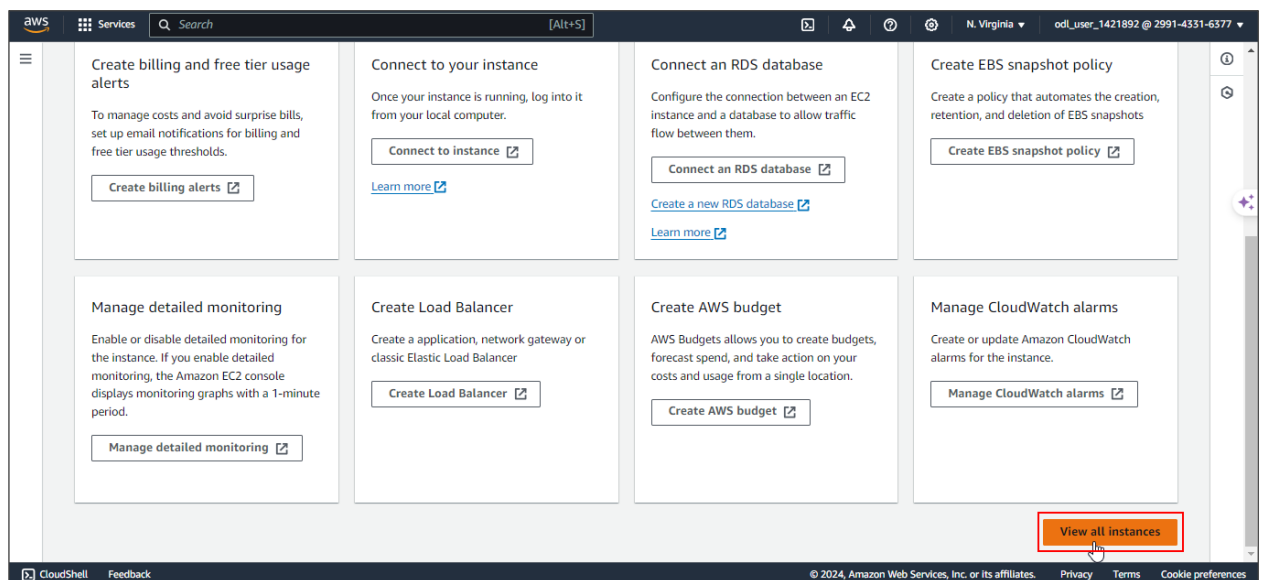
1.12 Click on **Launch Instance**
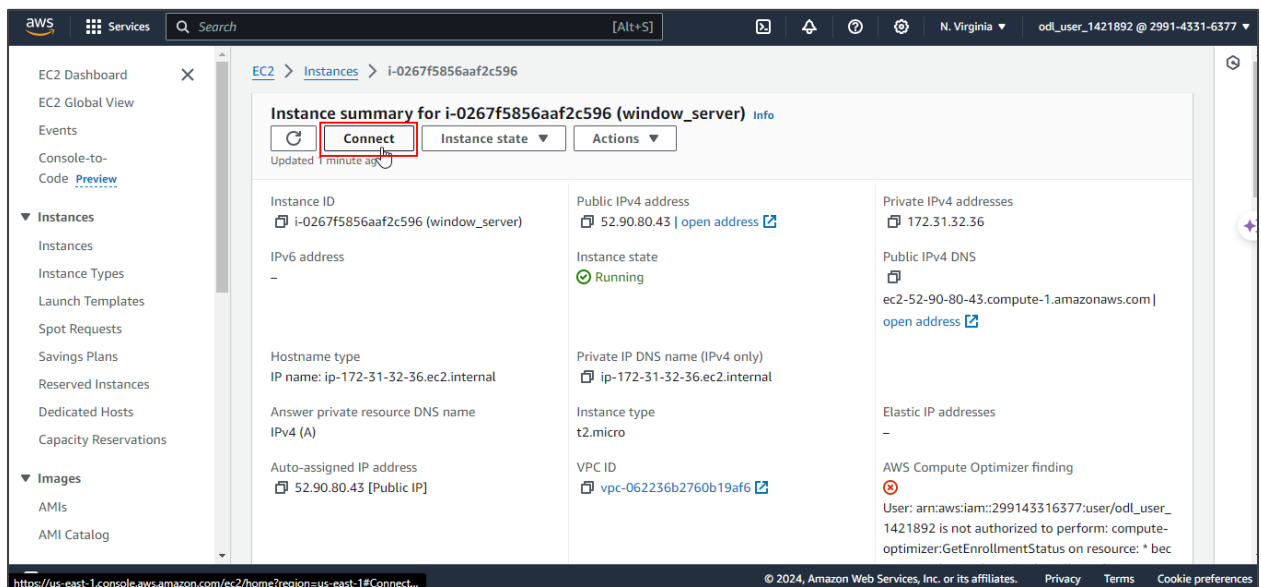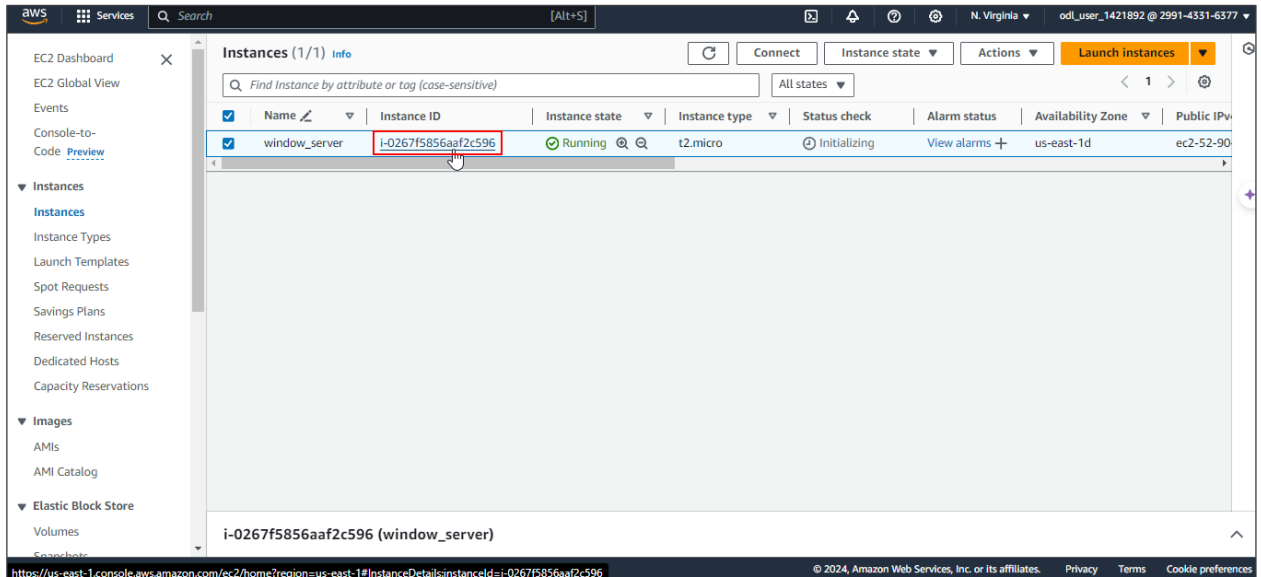
The instance is successfully initiated as shown:

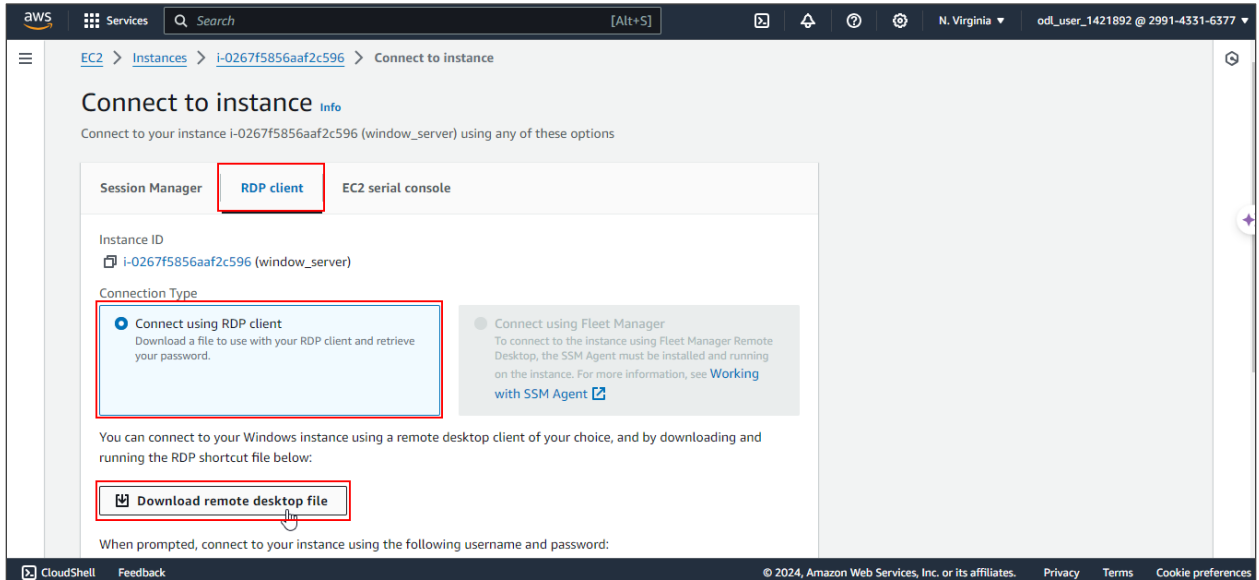
1.13 Click on **View all instances**

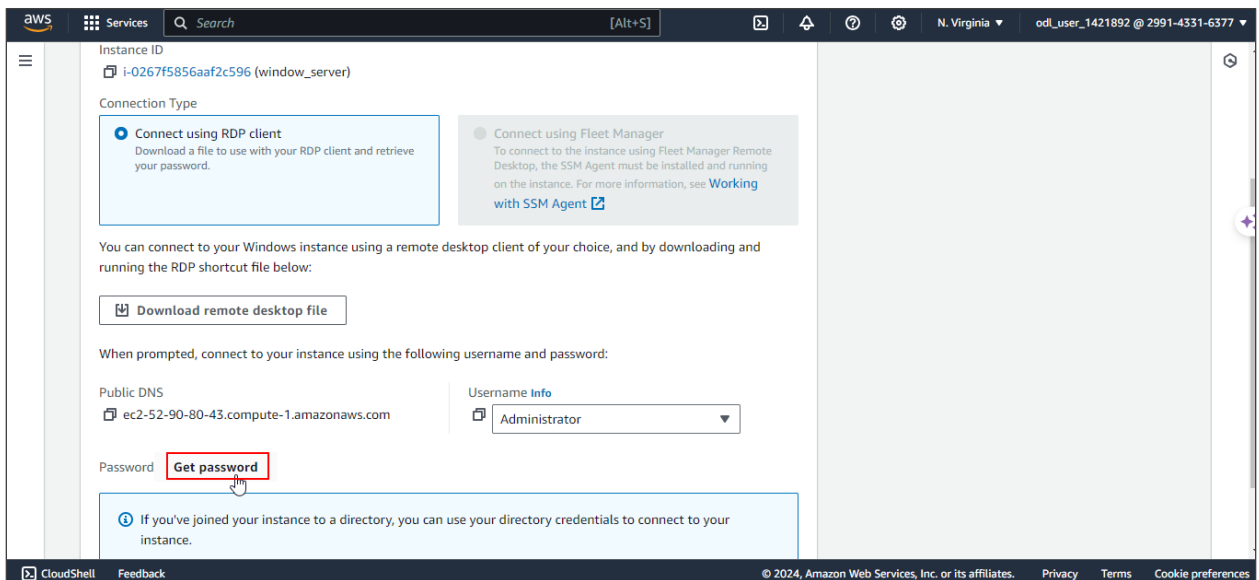## Step 2: Access the EC2 instance via RDP

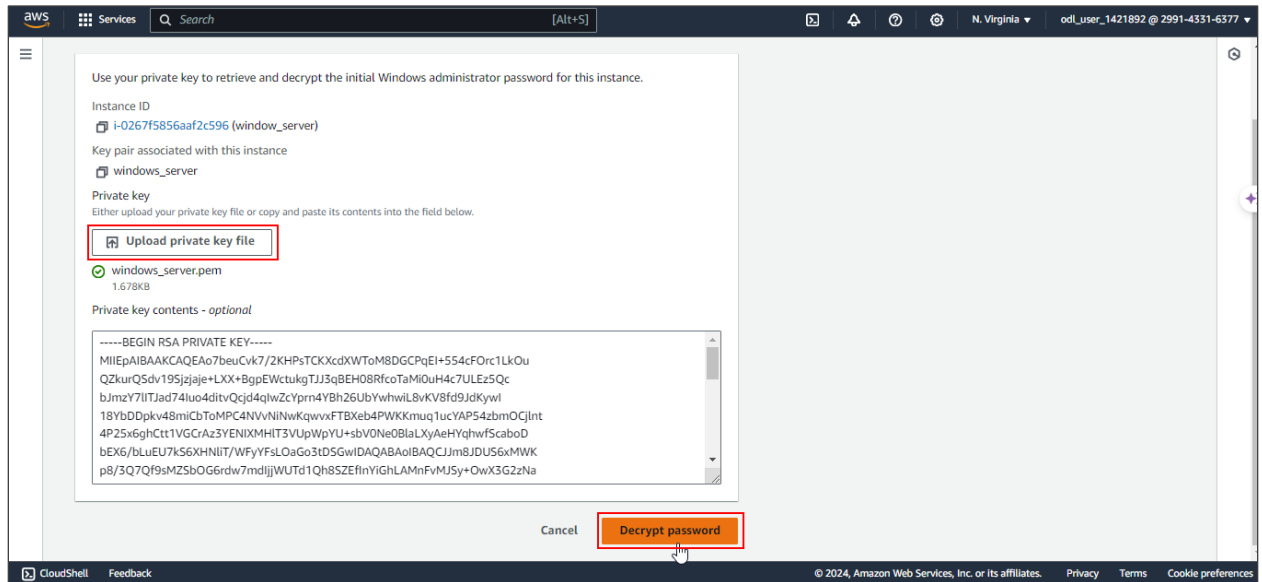2.1 Click on the **Instance ID,** then click on **Connect**

2.2 Go to the **RDP client** tab, select **Connection Type** as **Connect using RDP client**, click on **Download remote desktop file**, and run the downloaded .exe file
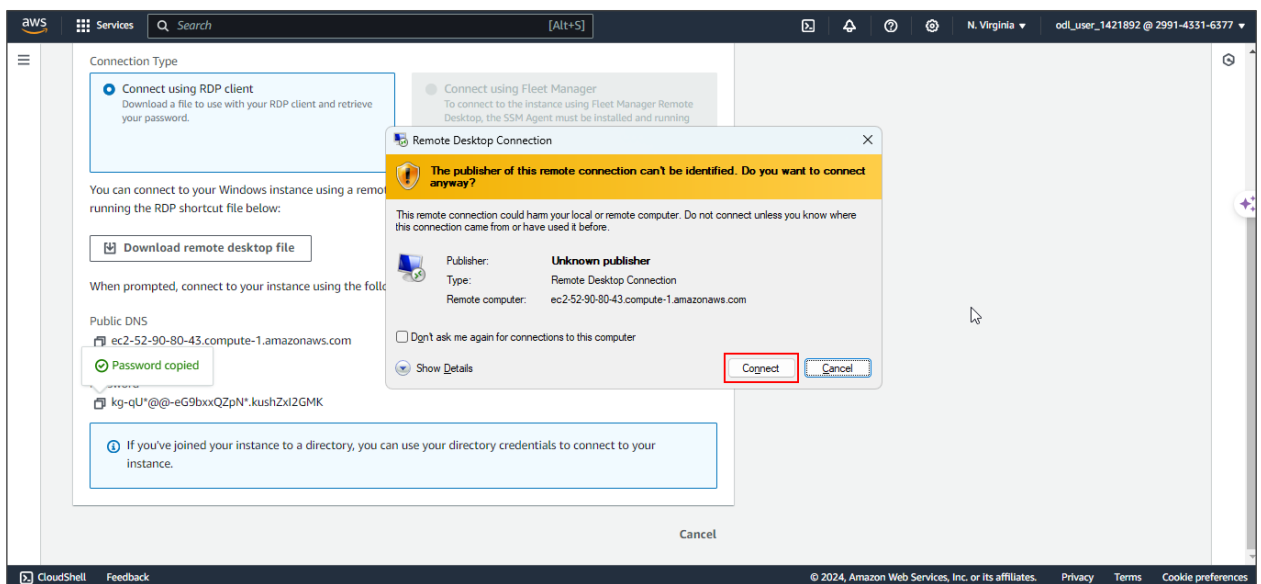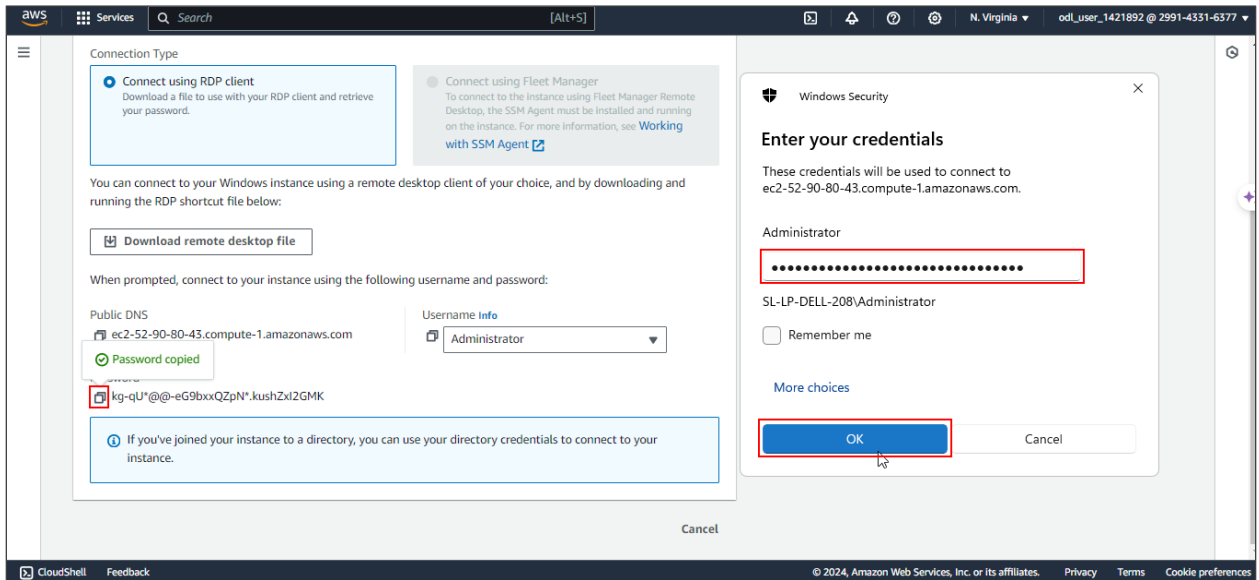

2.3 Click on **Get password**

2.4 Click on **Upload private key file**, select the key pair generated for this instance, and then click on **Decrypt password**
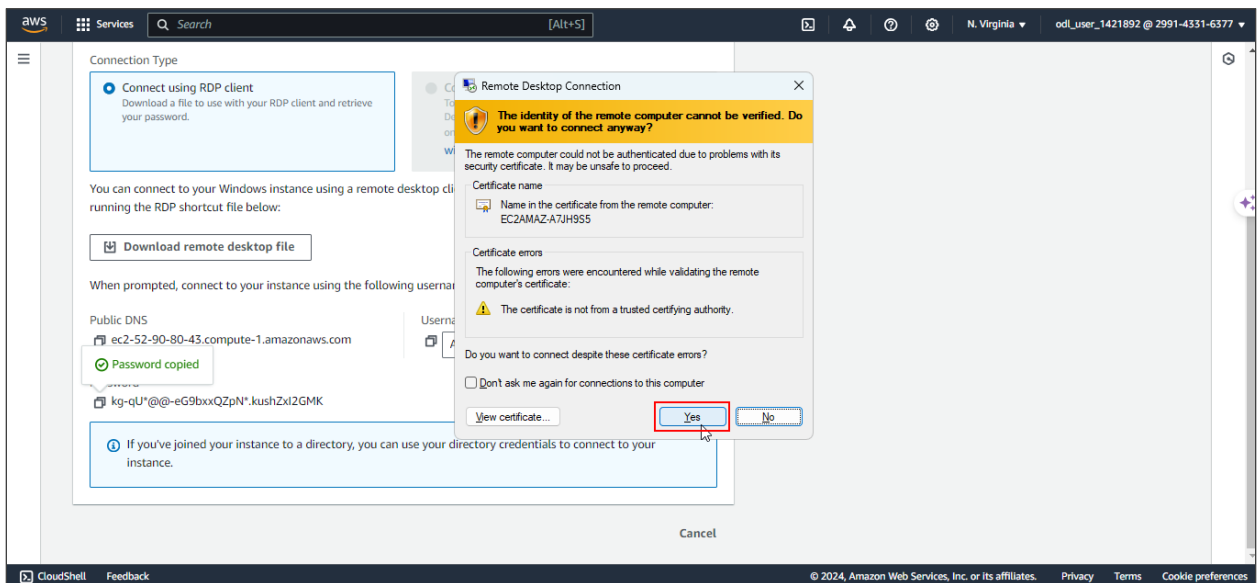

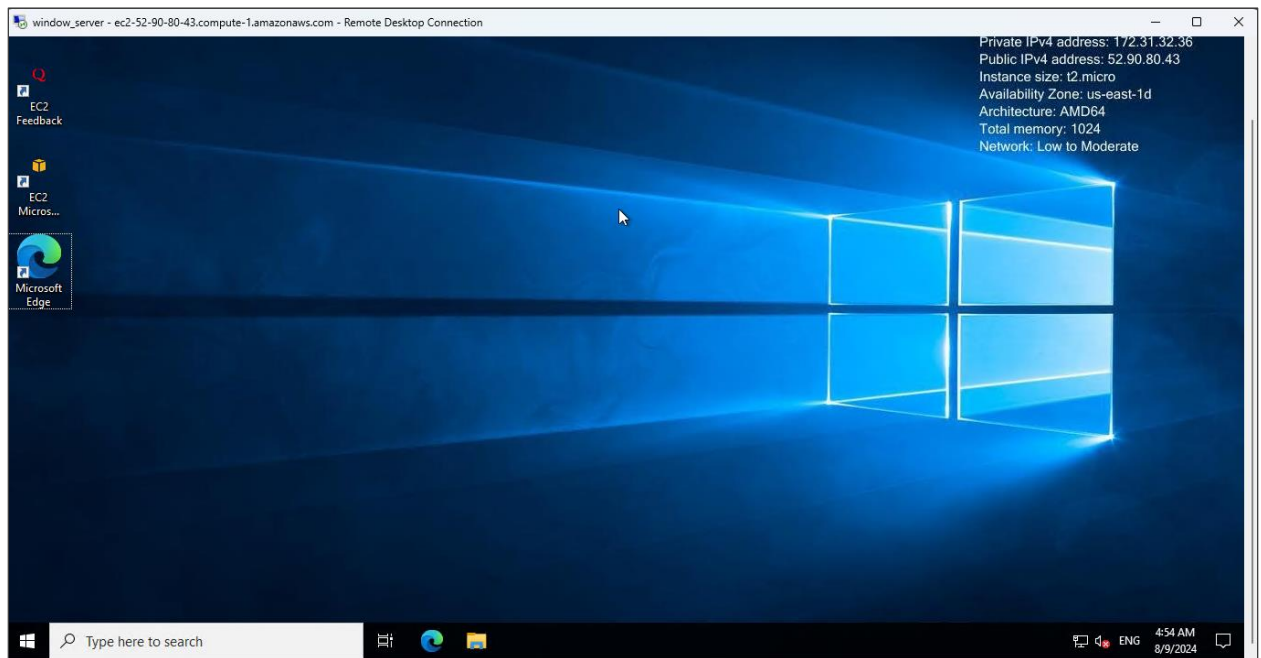2.5 Run the **.exe** file downloaded in **step 2.2,** and click on **Connect**

2.6 Copy the password and paste it into the **Windows Security** box, and click on **OK**

2.7 Select **Yes**

You will be logged into the Windows instance.

The Windows instance has been launched successfully.

By following these steps, you have successfully launched a Windows-based EC2 instance on Amazon Web Services (AWS).