LAB: Understand Meta-Data

You need:

- An active AWS Account with Root Account Access

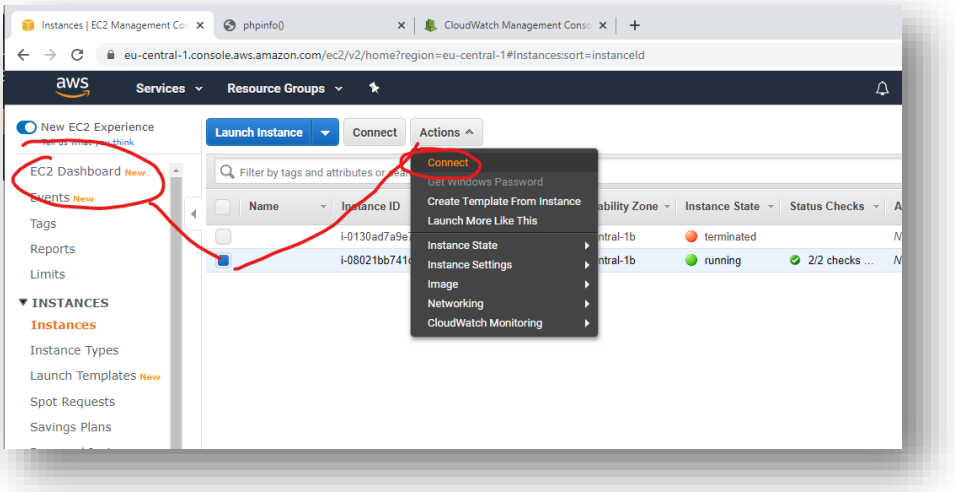
Duration of the Lab: 15 Minutes.

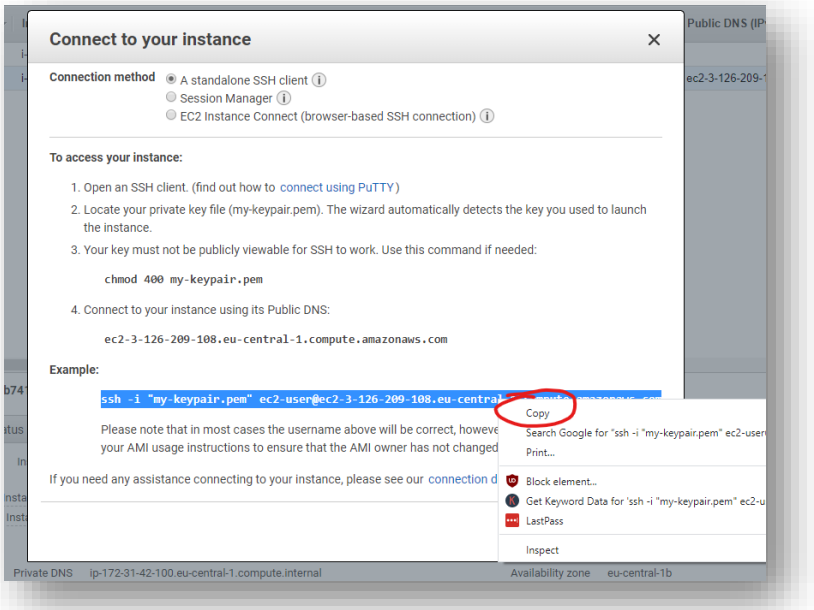
Goal: Understand how to retrieve Meta-Data from within Instances

Difficulty: Very easy.

Connect to your Instance

SSH into the instance created during the last Assignment:





```
Course 14 - Understanding Docker with AWS ECS and Fargate> ssh -i "my-keypair.pem" ec2-user@ec2-3-126-209-108.eu-central-1.compute.amazonaws.com
The authenticity of host 'ec2-3-126-209-108.eu-central-1.compute.amazonaws.com (3.126.209.108)' can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:cdVrVyiEUHxkcqV1s9l7R23Tahbk9G2WET9oKrTj6oU.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'ec2-3-126-209-108.eu-central-1.compute.amazonaws.com,3.126.209.108' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.

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      ___|\___|___|

https://aws.amazon.com/amazon-linux-2/
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-42-100 ~]$
```

The host, reachable from within your EC2 instance, under http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/ is very special, because it gives you all the information about the currently running instance.

Try "`curl http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/`"

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-42-100 ~]$ curl http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/
ami-id
ami-launch-index
ami-manifest-path
block-device-mapping/
events/
hibernation/
hostname
identity-credentials/
instance-action
instance-id
instance-type
local-hostname
local-ipv4
mac
metrics/
network/
placement/
profile
public-hostname
public-ipv4
public-keys/
reservation-id
security-groups
```

You will get a list of endpoints.

Try:

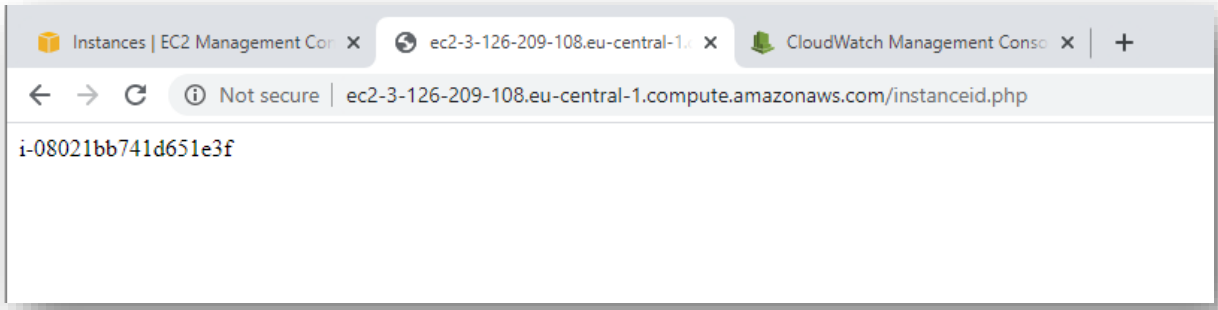
```
curl http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/instance-id
```

and you will get the instance-id of your machine.

We could use this inside our PHP file too. Run the following command to create a new file in instanceid.php:

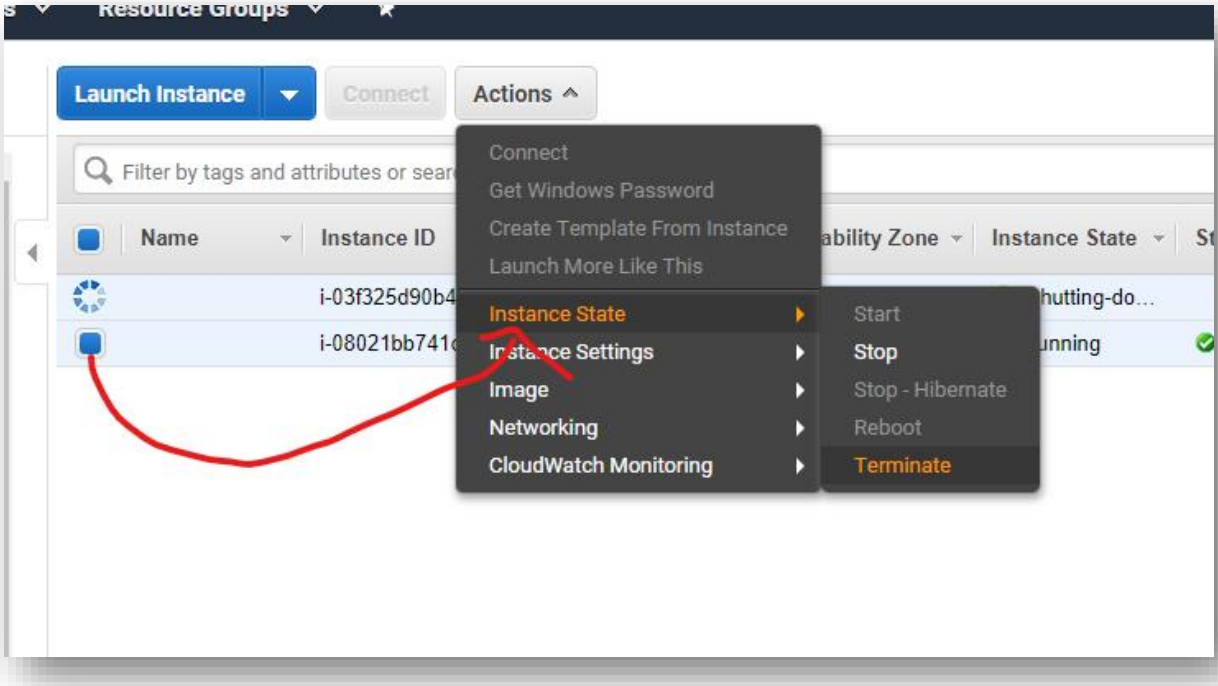
```
echo "<?php echo
file_get_contents('http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/instance-
id/');" > /var/www/html/instanceid.php
```

Then open it in your browser, to see the output:



Next you will see how scalability is achieved in the cloud.

You can safely Terminate your instance now, so no costs incur.



Lab End