

DOCUMENTATION OF AWS PROJECT

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Platform Used : AMAZON WEB SERVICES

Services used :

- Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2)
- Virtual Private Cloud (VPC)
- Subnets
- Route tables
- Internet gateway
- Peering connections
- Security groups

Abstract

AWS users who need to access services or resources within a private network typically connect to the bastion host and VPC peering . Though both functionality is similar , there is a slight difference . The primary purpose of a bastion host is to serve as a secure gateway for remote access to instances or resources within a single VPC. It acts as a controlled entry point for users or administrators to connect to specific resources within the same VPC. Bastion hosts are used for secure remote management and access control . While the VPC peering is to establish network-level connectivity between two or more Virtual Private Clouds (VPCs). It enables resources in one VPC to communicate directly with resources in another VPC, essentially extending the network. VPC peering is used for inter-VPC communication and resource sharing. In essence, VPC peering is about connecting separate VPCs for inter-VPC communication, while a bastion host is focused on providing secure remote access to resources within a single VPC. Their roles and functions are fundamentally different, addressing distinct networking and security needs.

Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) :

Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) provides on-demand, scalable computing capacity in the Amazon Web Services (AWS) Cloud. Using Amazon EC2 reduces hardware costs so you can develop and deploy applications faster. You can use Amazon EC2 to launch as many or as few virtual servers as you need, configure security and networking, and manage storage. You can add capacity (scale up) to handle compute-heavy tasks, such as monthly or yearly processes, or spikes in website traffic. When usage decreases, you can reduce capacity (scale down) again. Amazon EC2 provides different instance types to enable you to choose the CPU, memory, storage, and networking capacity that you need to run your applications.

Benfits of EC2 instance :

- Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) provides secure, resizable compute capacity in the cloud.
- Access reliable, scalable infrastructure on demand.
- Optimize performance and cost with flexible options.

Steps to launch instance :

- Select a region
- Navigate to the EC2 console
- Create the EC2 instance
- Name instance
- Choose an Amazon machine image
- Choose an instance type
- Create key pair
- Edit network settings
- Configure storage
- Launch instance

Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) :

Virtual Private Cloud (Amazon VPC), you can launch AWS resources in a logically isolated virtual network that you've defined. This virtual network closely resembles a traditional network that you'd operate in your own data center, with the benefits of using the scalable infrastructure of AWS. You can provide multiple layers of security, including security groups and network access control lists, to help control access to Amazon EC2 instances in each subnet. For example, you can create a public-facing subnet for web servers that can access to the internet and can also place your backend system such as databases or application servers to a private-facing subnet.

Steps to Create a VPC:

1. Login to your AWS Console.
2. Create your VPC with Valid CIDR and name.
3. Click Subnet and create your subnet with public subnet valid name & VPC.
4. Valid subnet range which is valid IPv4 CIDR block.
5. Repeat steps 2 & 3, with Private Subnet too.

What can we do with a VPC:

- Launch instances in a subnet of your choosing. We can choose our own subnet addressing.
- We can assign custom IP address ranges in each subnet.
- We can configure route tables between subnets.
- We can create an internet gateway and attach it to our VPC.
- It provides much better security control over your AWS resources.
- We can assign security groups to individual instances.
- We also have subnet network access control lists (ACLs).

Subnetwork or subnet :

Subnetwork or subnet is a logical subdivision of an IP network. The practice of dividing a network into two or more networks is called subnetting. AWS provides two types of subnetting one is Public which allow the internet to access the machine and another is private which is hidden from the internet. A subnet is a range of IP addresses in your VPC. You can create AWS resources, such as EC2 instances, in specific subnets.

Route tables:

A route table contains a set of rules, called routes, that are used to determine where network traffic from your VPC is directed. You can explicitly associate a subnet with a particular route table. Otherwise, the subnet is implicitly associated with the main route table. Each route in a route table specifies the range of IP addresses where you want the traffic to go (the destination) and the gateway, network interface, or connection through which to send the traffic (the target).

Internet Gateway(IGW):

Internet Gateway is a horizontally scalable, redundant, and highly available VPC component that enables the communication between instances in a VPC and the Internet. It acts as a bridge between a VPC and the Internet and allows you to route Internet traffic to your instances. Internet Gateways also provide security features such as security groups and network access control lists to control inbound and outbound traffic, as well as a way to connect to on-premises resources via VPN or Direct Connect.

Security Groups:

An AWS security group acts as a virtual firewall for your EC2 instances to control incoming and outgoing traffic. Both inbound and outbound rules control the flow of traffic to and traffic from

your instance, respectively. AWS Security Groups help you secure your cloud environment by controlling how traffic will be allowed into your EC2 machines. With Security Groups, you can ensure that all the traffic that flows at the instance level is only through your established ports and protocols.

VPC Peering Connection:

VPC Peering connection is a networking connection between two VPCs that enables you to route traffic between them privately (using private IPv4 or IPv6 addresses). Instances in either VPC can communicate with each other as if they are within the same network. You can create a VPC peering connection between your own VPCs, with a VPC in another AWS account or with a VPC in a different AWS Region. VPC peering connection is a one to one relationship between two VPCs. You can create multiple VPC peering connections for each VPC, but transitive peering relationships are not supported. You can modify a VPC peering connection to enable instances in their VPC to communicate with linked EC2-Classical instances in the peer VPC. AWS uses the existing infrastructure of a VPC to create a VPC peering connection; it is neither a gateway nor a VPN connection, and does not rely on a separate piece of physical hardware.

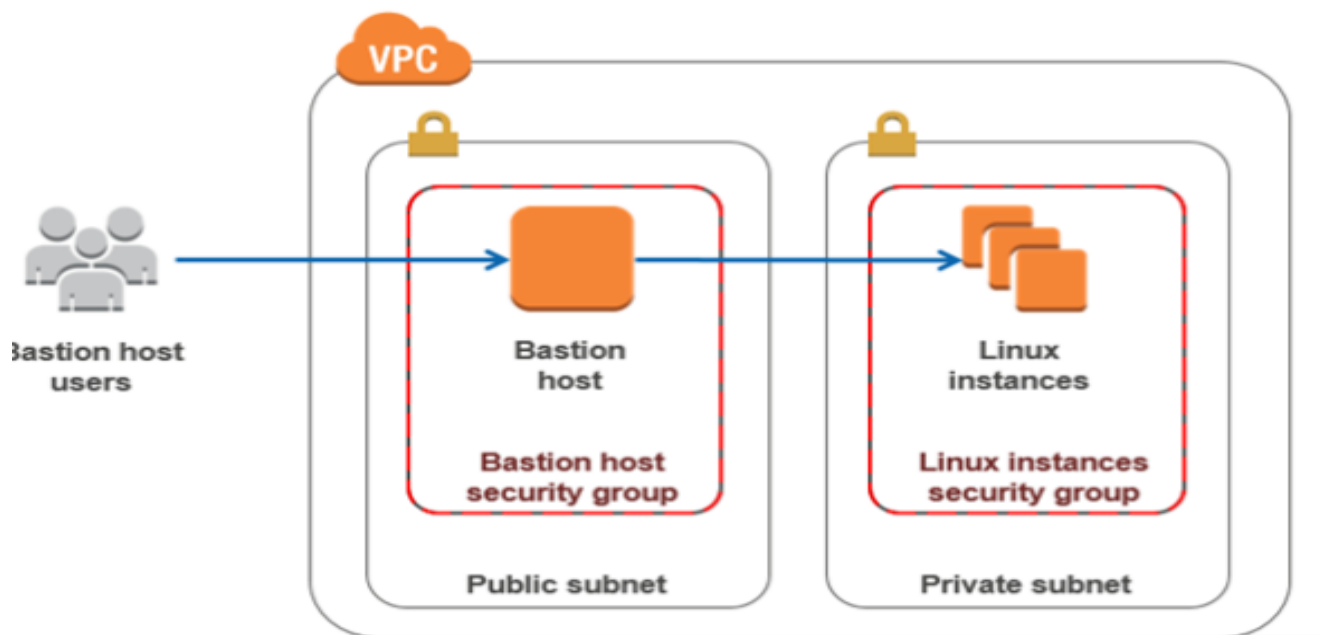
Rules:

-
- VPC peering connection cannot be created between VPCs that have matching or overlapping CIDR blocks.

-
- VPC peering does not support transitive peering relationships. If A is peered with B, B is peered with C, A is not peered with C.
-

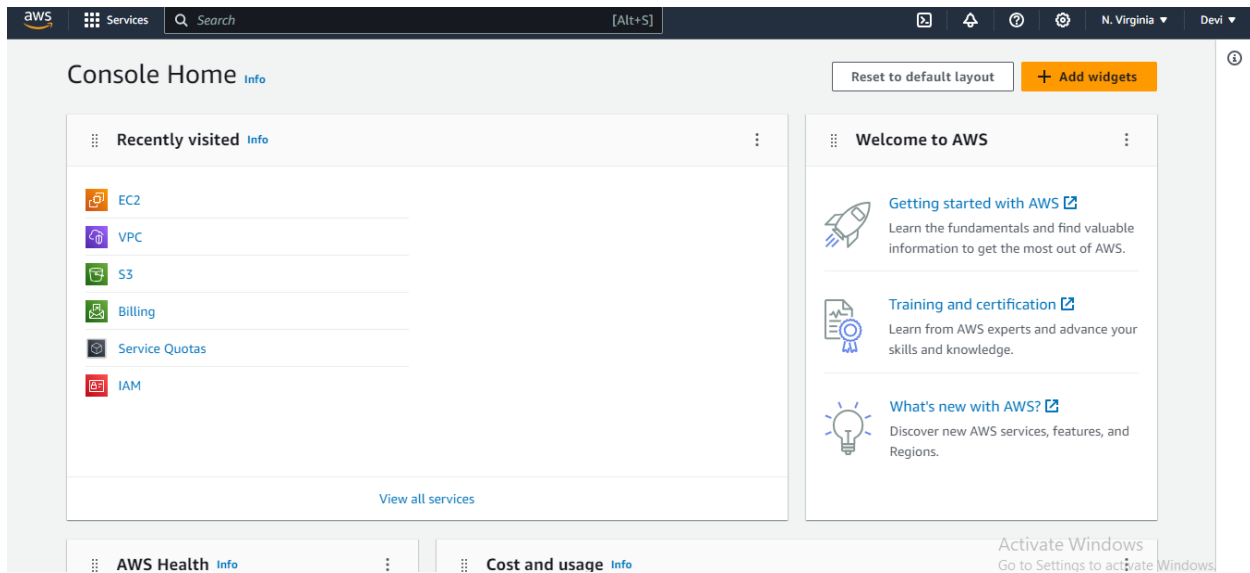
BASTION HOST

A bastion host is a server used to manage / access to a private network from a public network. Sometimes called a jump box or jump server. Bastion host basically provides an entry point into the private networks which are to be connected to the external network securing from the attacks. A bastion host has both internal and external IP addresses. If users want to connect the internal instance without using external IP addresses then it can connect to a Bastion host and then connect to your internal instances from that Bastion host. While using Bastion service you have to log in first to your Bastion host and then directed to the private instances.

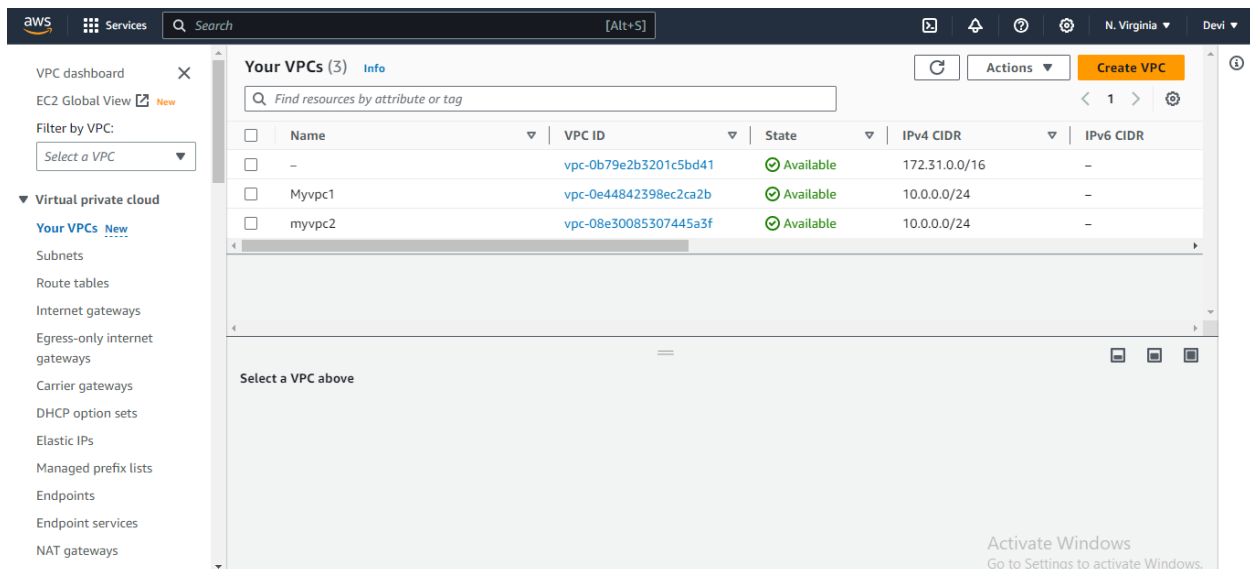


Steps Followed:

- Log in to AWS Management Console.



- Create VPC with required CIDR range.



- Divide the VPC into subnets – Private and Public subnets

Subnets (10) Info

Find resources by attribute or tag

Name	Subnet ID	State	VPC	IPv4 CIDR
mysubnet2pub	subnet-09bce976d07cc90a7	Available	vpc-08e30085307445a3f myv...	10.0.0.0/24
mysubnet1pri	subnet-0991b51303f2de51f	Available	vpc-0e44842398ec2ca2b Myv...	10.0.0.1/24
mysubnet2pri	subnet-05af3f00ed1a7df2f	Available	vpc-08e30085307445a3f myv...	10.0.0.1/24
mysubnet1pub	subnet-0f70440480a16fd45	Available	vpc-0e44842398ec2ca2b Myv...	10.0.0.0/24
-	subnet-03e987a6b002a3bf9	Available	vpc-0b79e2b3201c5bd41	172.31.0.0/24
-	subnet-0893426d64f4a8516	Available	vpc-0b79e2b3201c5bd41	172.31.0.0/24
-	subnet-0a861df436a149eb1	Available	vpc-0b79e2b3201c5bd41	172.31.0.0/24
-	subnet-0f760a130b13150df	Available	vpc-0b79e2b3201c5bd41	172.31.0.0/24
-	subnet-0a5559d5c0ca73149	Available	vpc-0b79e2b3201c5bd41	172.31.0.0/24

Select a subnet

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

- Create Route tables and attach to corresponding subnets.

Route tables (1/5) Info

Find resources by attribute or tag

Name	Route table ID	Explicit subnet associati...	Edge associations	Main
myrt2	rtb-09f0ffafb39c6e0ec	subnet-09bce976d07cc9...	-	No
myrt1	rtb-0404adc5174026036	subnet-0f70440480a16f...	-	No

Explicit subnet associations (1)

Find subnet association

Name	Subnet ID	IPv4 CIDR	IPv6 CIDR
mysubnet1pub	subnet-0f70440480a16fd45	10.0.0.0/25	-

Subnets without explicit associations (1)

The following subnets have not been explicitly associated with any route tables and are therefore associated with the main route table:

Find subnet association

Name	Subnet ID	IPv4 CIDR	IPv6 CIDR
mysubnet1pri	subnet-0991b51303f2de51f	10.0.0.128/25	-

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

- Create Internet gateway and attach to the VPC.

Internet gateways (1/3) Info

Filter internet gateways

Name	Internet gateway ID	State	VPC ID	Owner
-	igw-0055a0b5eb82191a1	Attached	vpc-0b79e2b3201c5bd41	38001580
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> myig1	igw-0b63927e93f3aa729	Attached	vpc-0e44842398ec2ca2b Myvpc1	38001580
<input type="checkbox"/> myig2	igw-0b86de3625677dc8a	Attached	vpc-08e30085307445a3f myvpc2	38001580

igw-0b63927e93f3aa729 / myig1

Details | Tags

Details

Internet gateway ID	State	VPC ID	Owner
igw-0b63927e93f3aa729	Attached	vpc-0e44842398ec2ca2b Myvpc1	380015800586

- Attach Internet gateway to the public subnet inorder to provide internet to the public subnets.

Subnets (1/10) Info

Find resources by attribute or tag

Name	Subnet ID	State	VPC	IPv4 CIDR
<input type="checkbox"/> mysubnet2pub	subnet-09bce976d07cc90a7	Available	vpc-08e30085307445a3f myv...	10.0.0.0/24
<input type="checkbox"/> mysubnet1pri	subnet-0991b51303f2de51f	Available	vpc-0e44842398ec2ca2b Myv...	10.0.0.1/24
<input type="checkbox"/> mysubnet2pri	subnet-05af3f00ed1a7df2f	Available	vpc-08e30085307445a3f myv...	10.0.0.1/24
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mysubnet1pub	subnet-0f70440480a16fd45	Available	vpc-0e44842398ec2ca2b Mv...	10.0.0.0/24

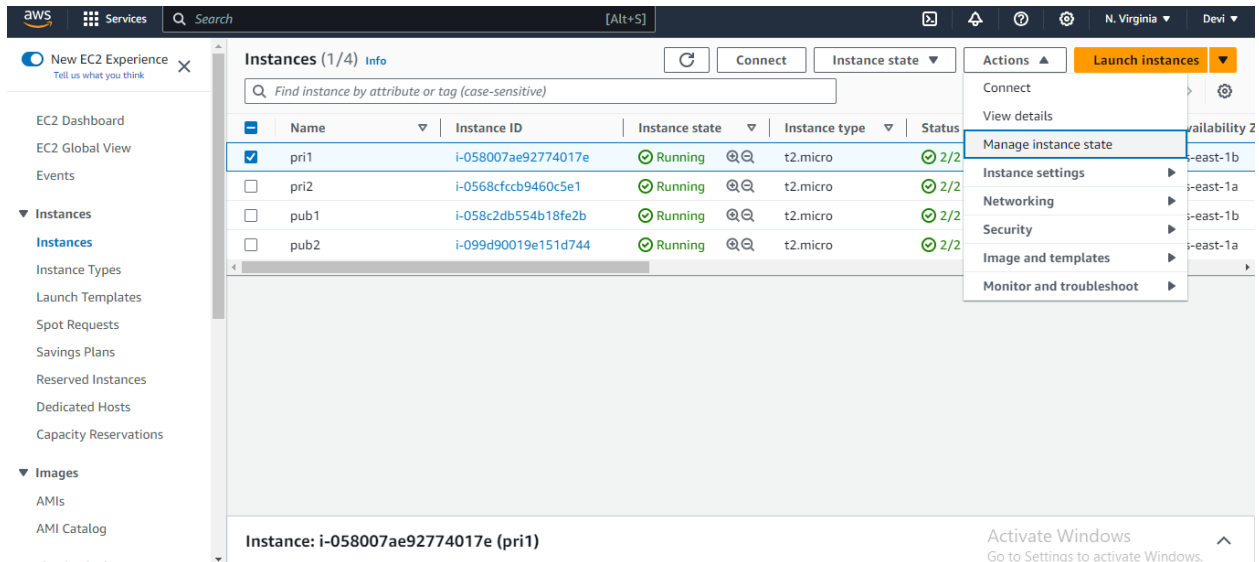
Route table: rtb-0404adc5174026036 / myrt1

Edit route table association

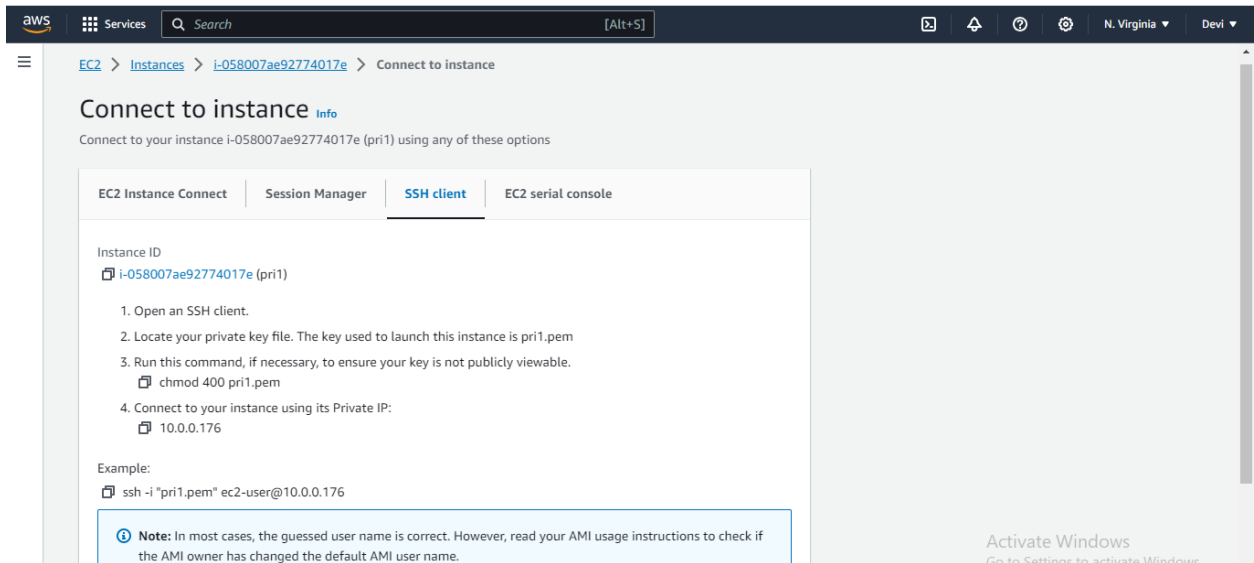
Routes (2)

Destination	Target
10.0.0.0/24	local
0.0.0.0/0	igw-0b63927e93f3aa729

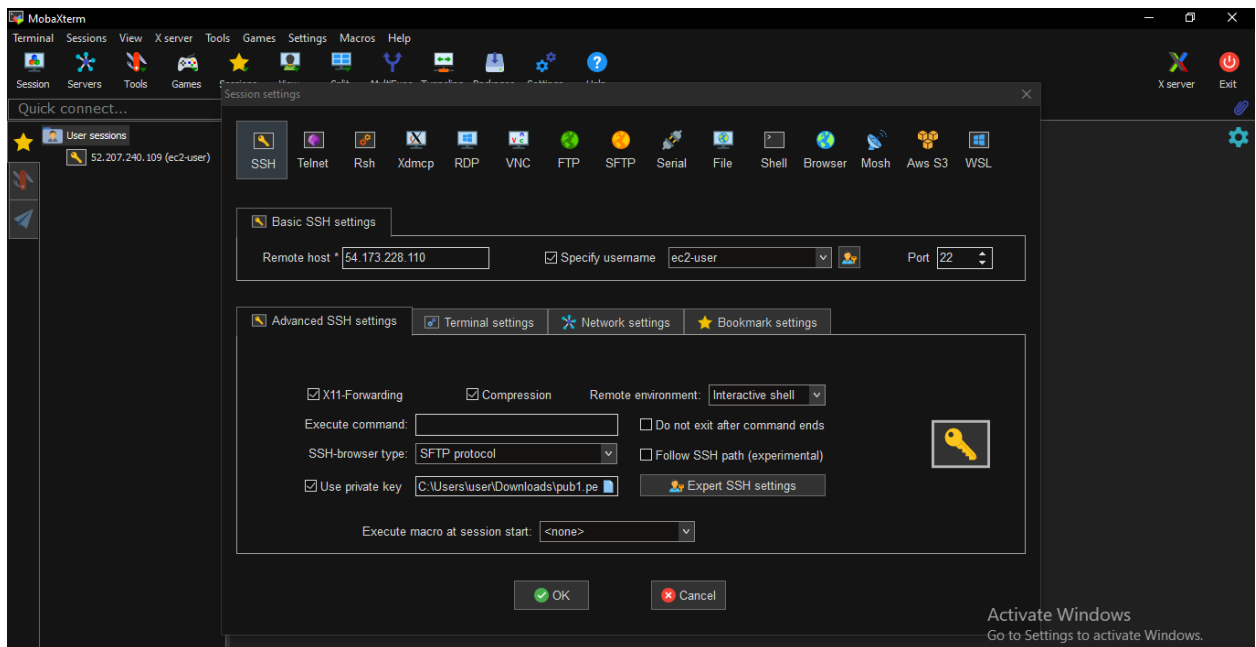
- Launch EC2 instance in each subnet. Select OS, create key pair, edit network settings. Enable associate IP address for public network and disable for private network.



- Now connect to the instance.



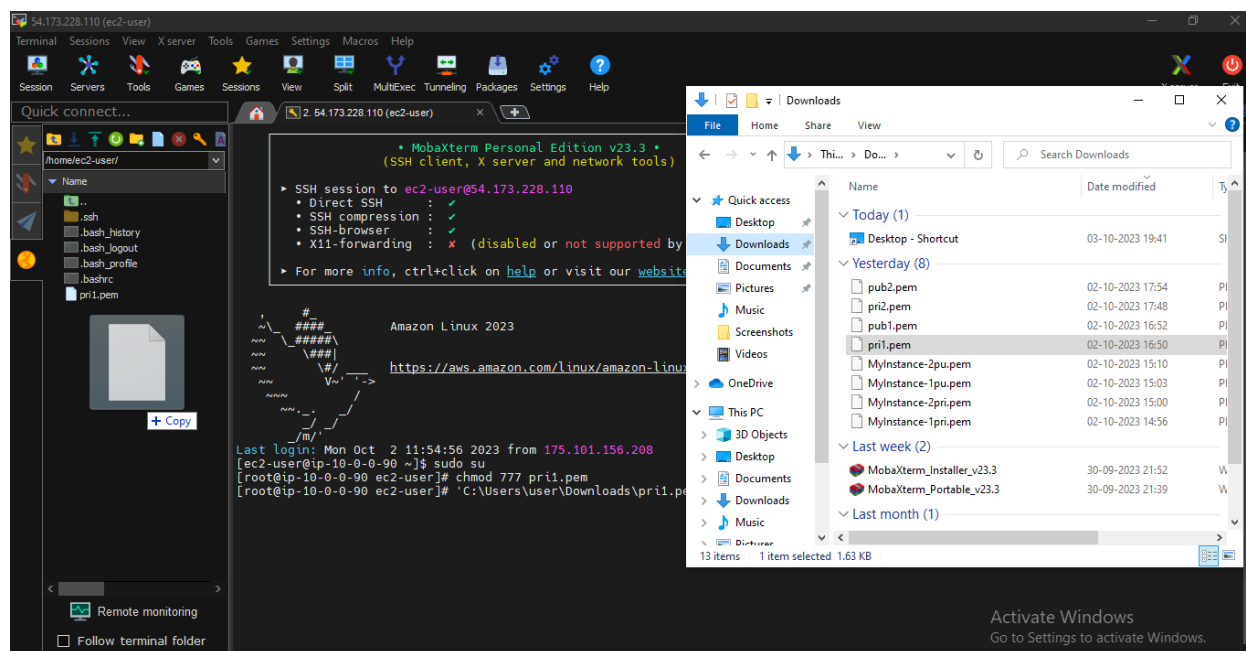
- Here we are connecting through MobaXterm.
 - ⇒ Select SSH session.
 - ⇒ Remote host - our public IP
 - ⇒ Username - ec2-user
 - ⇒ Finally upload the public key pair in advanced settings.



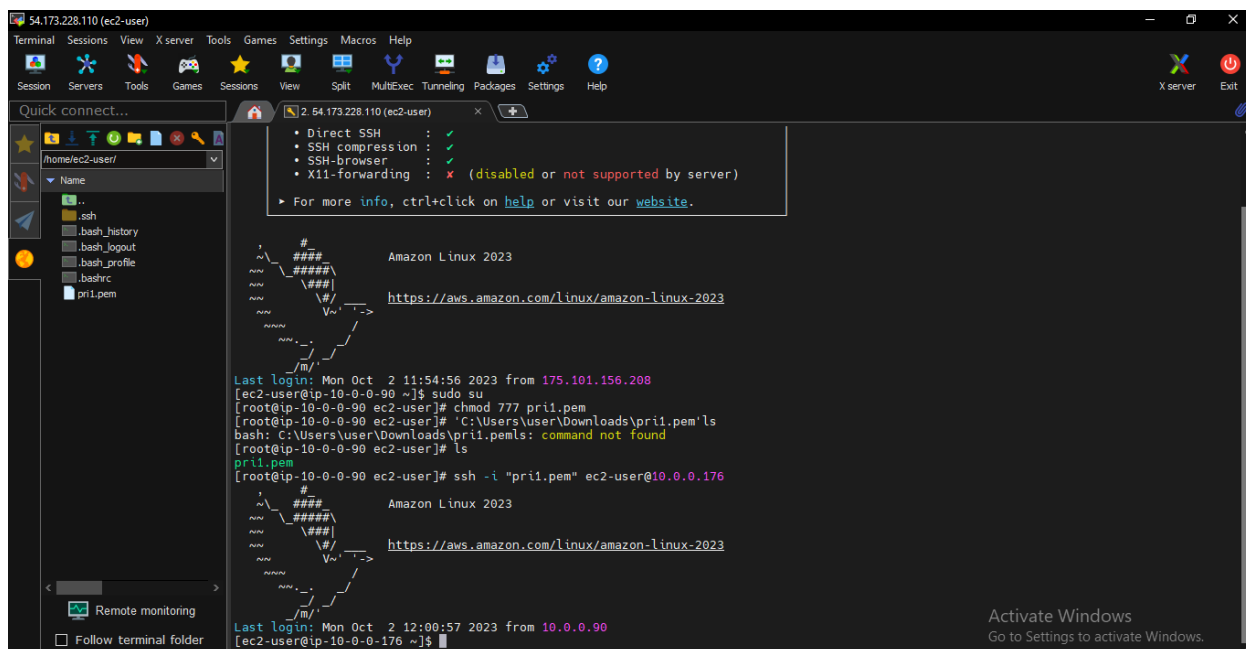
- We will connect to the public instance successfully. Now by using some commands we will connect private instance.
 - ⇒ `sudo su` — Change to root account
 - ⇒ `chmod 777 privatekeypair.pem` — Giving access to read, write, execute

Drag the private key pair file to left side.

⇒ `ssh -i "privatekeypair.pem" ec2-user@privateip`

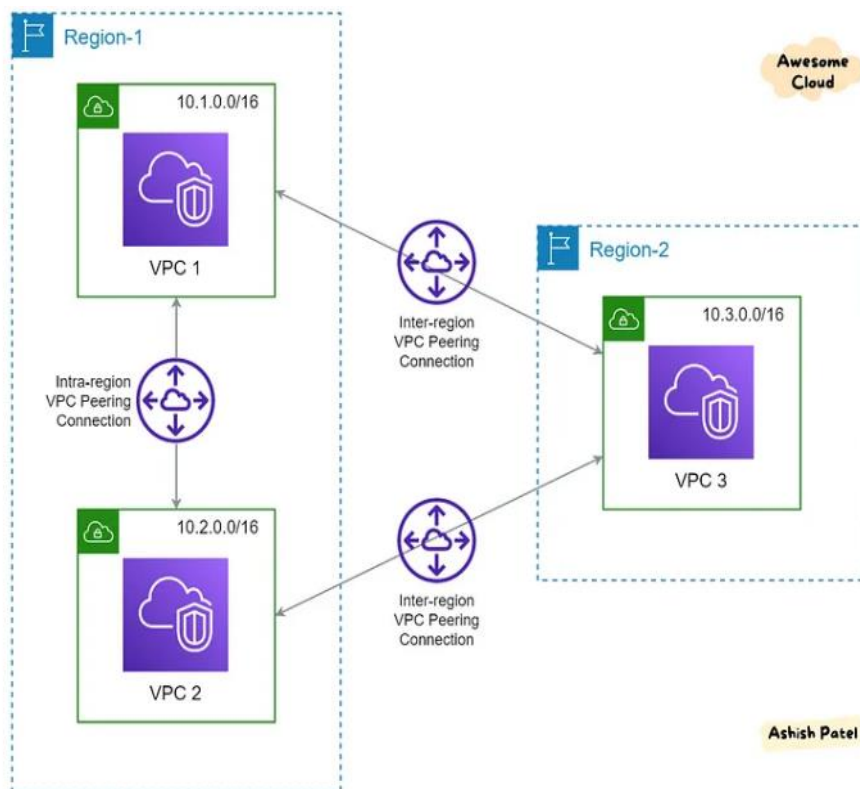


- Finally, we connected the private instance through public instance



VPC PEERING

- VPC peering is connecting private instance of one VPC from public subnet instance of other VPC. It may be between two VPCs of the same regions or different regions or between two VPC of different accounts.
- IPs of each VPCs should not match/overlap. Must be different.
- This is one to one connection.



- Create peering connection between two VPC's of different IP ranges.

Create peering connection

A VPC peering connection is a networking connection between two VPCs that enables you to route traffic between them privately. [Info](#)

Peering connection settings

Name - optional
Create a tag with a key of 'Name' and a value that you specify.

Select a local VPC to peer with
VPC ID (Requester)

VPC CIDRs for vpc-0e44842398ec2ca2b (Myvpc1)

CIDR	Status	Status reason
10.0.0.0/24	Associated	-

Select another VPC to peer with
Account
☒ My account
☐ Another account

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

Region
☒ This Region (us-east-1)
☐ Another Region

VPC ID (Acceptor)

VPC CIDRs for vpc-0e03483dbcb84584 (Myvpc2)

CIDR	Status	Status reason
11.0.0.0/24	Associated	-

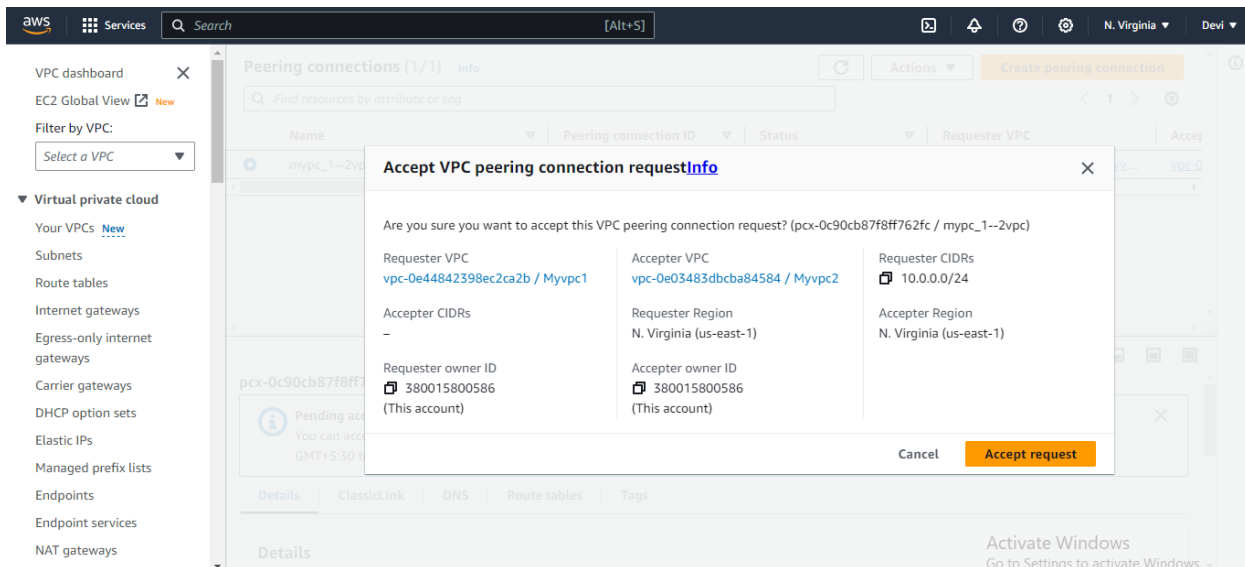
Tags
A tag is a label that you assign to an AWS resource. Each tag consists of a key and an optional value. You can use tags to search and filter your resources or track your AWS costs.

Key	Value - optional
Name	myvc_1--2vpc

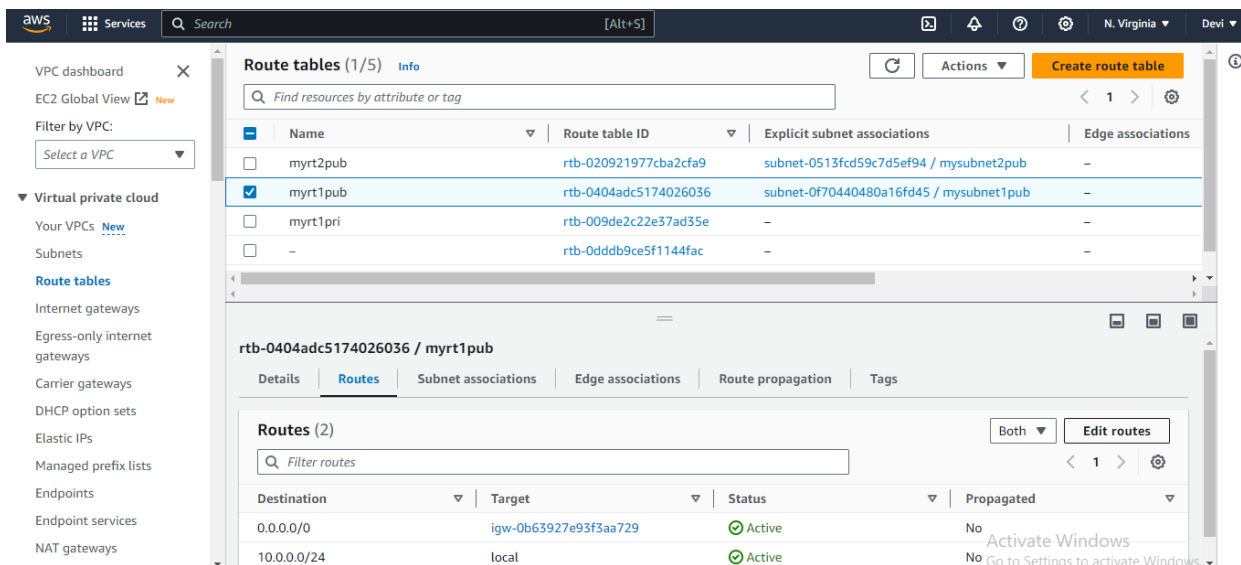
You can add 49 more tags.

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

- Send request from one VPC to other and accept the request.



- Add 2nd private IP to 1st public IP and vice versa.



aws Services Search [Alt+S] N. Virginia Dev

VPC > Route tables > rtb-0404adc5174026036 > Edit routes

Edit routes

Destination	Target	Status	Propagated
10.0.0.0/24	local	Active	No
0.0.0.0/0	igw-0b63927e93f3aa729	Active	No
11.0.0.0/24	pcx-0c90cb87f8ff762fc	-	No

Add route

Cancel Preview **Save changes**

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

aws Services Search [Alt+S] N. Virginia Dev

VPC dashboard
EC2 Global View
Filter by VPC: Select a VPC

Virtual private cloud
Your VPCs
Subnets
Route tables
Internet gateways
Egress-only internet gateways
Carrier gateways
DHCP option sets
Elastic IPs
Managed prefix lists
Endpoints
Endpoint services
NAT gateways

Route tables (1/5)

Find resources by attribute or tag

Name	Route table ID	Explicit subnet associations	Edge associations
myrt1pub	rtb-0404adc5174026036	subnet-0f70440480a16fd45 / mysubnet1pub	-
myrt1pri	rtb-009de2c22e37ad35e	-	-
-	rtb-0dddb9ce5f1144fac	-	-
myrt2pri	rtb-006ce907fb03e44d9	-	-

rtb-006ce907fb03e44d9 / myrt2pri

Details Routes Subnet associations Edge associations Route propagation Tags

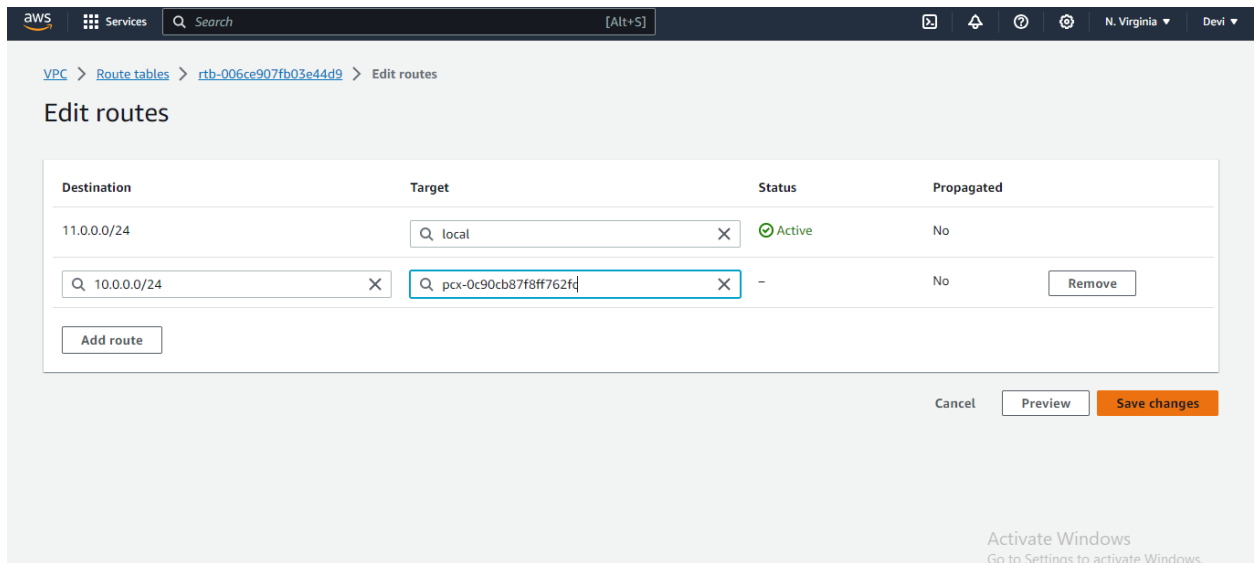
Routes (1)

Filter routes

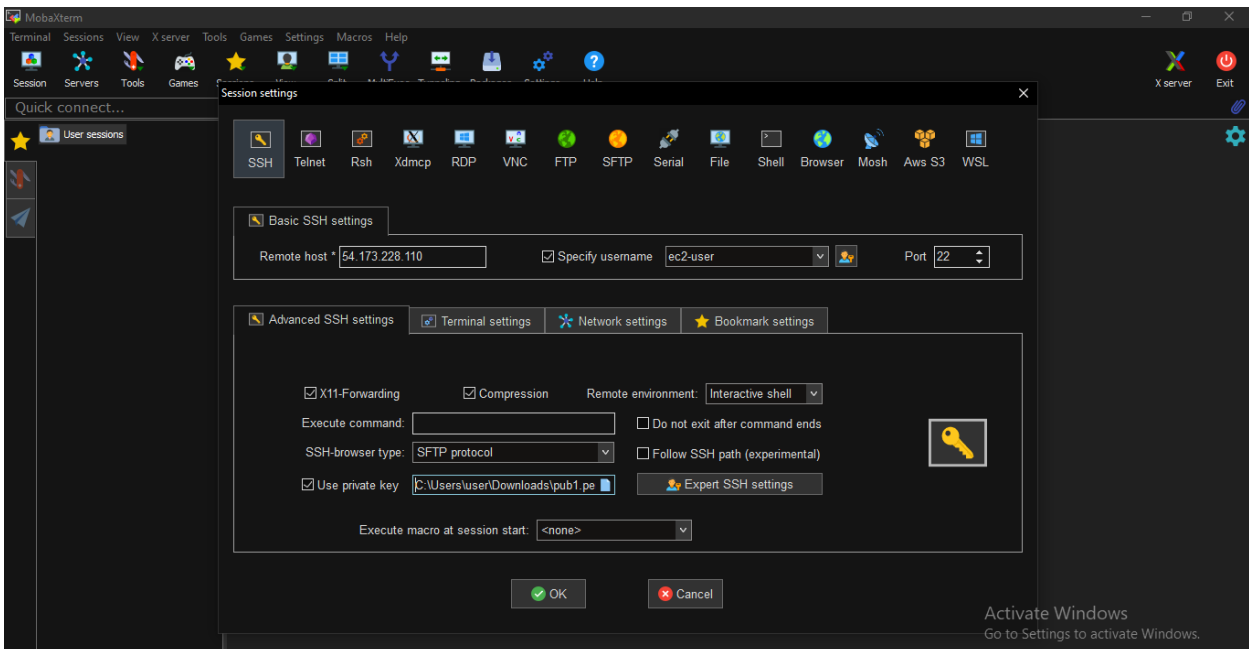
Destination	Target	Status	Propagated
11.0.0.0/24	local	Active	No

Both Edit routes

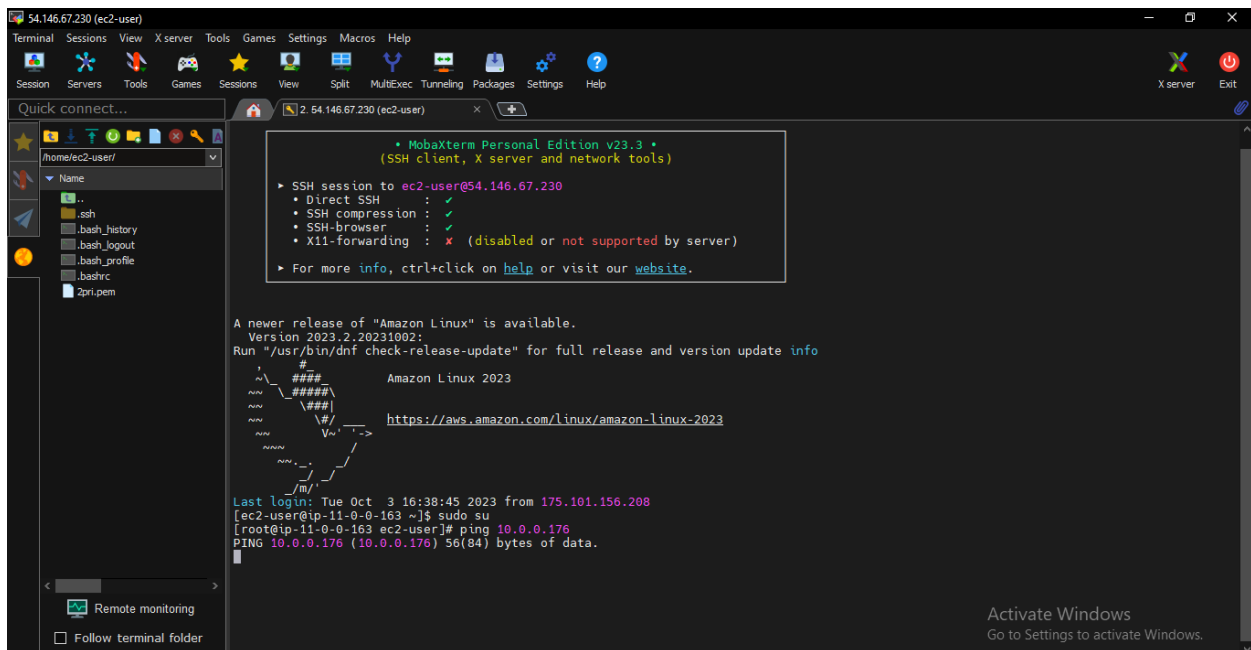
Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.



- Now connect through MobaXterm and ping the two VPC's.



- Finally we connected.



CONCLUSION :

We finally conclude that AWS provides a number of efficient, secure connectivity options to help users. In conclusion, a bastion host is an essential component for securing an AWS VPC environment, providing enhanced security, simplified access, scalability, and easy management. By using a bastion host, you can ensure secure and controlled access to private instances within the VPC environment, reduce complexity and overheads, and improve overall performance and security. And VPC peering connection helps the user to increase data flow speed. If users possess several AWS accounts then they can peer the VPCs across numerous accounts to build a file-sharing network.

----- THE END -----