

COS20019 - Cloud Computing Architecture
Assignment 2
Developing a highly available Photo Album website.

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I. Introduction

Amazon Web Services (AWS) provides a comprehensive set of services that can be leveraged to build a robust and highly available photo album website. By utilizing key AWS services for storage, hosting, databases, caching, load balancing, and monitoring, we will build a highly available Photo Album website with more advanced features than the previous assignments.

II. Foundation and Infrastructure

Before moving to the deployment phase, we first need to lay the foundation for our website, namely creating VPC with accurately configured subnets according to the given Architecture diagram.

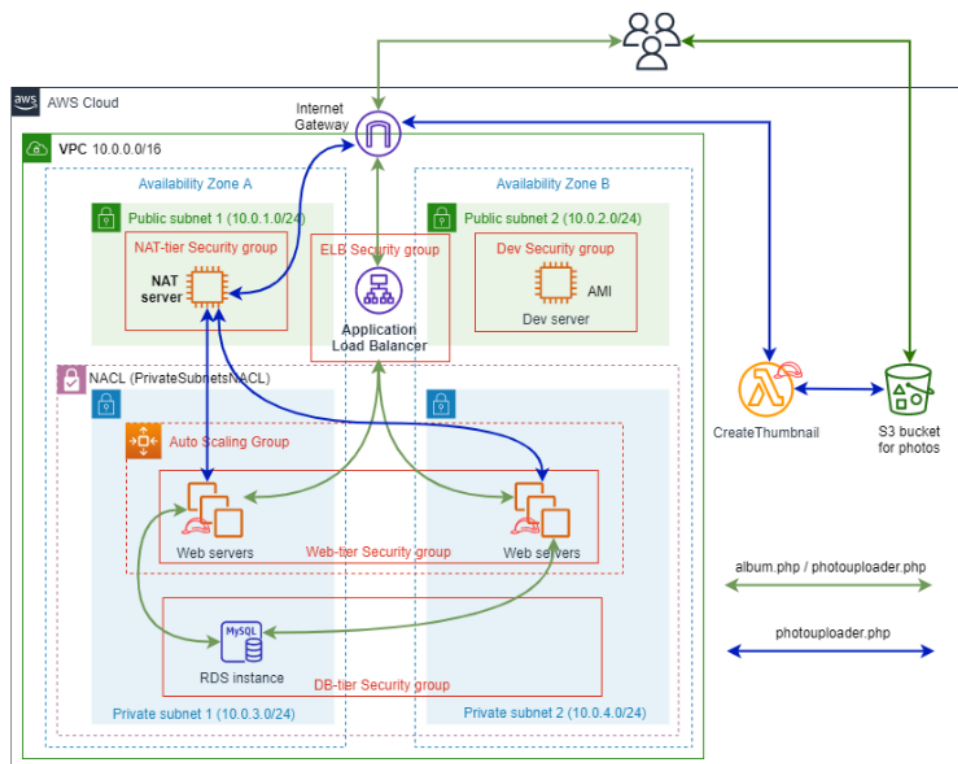


Figure 1: Architecture diagram.

This task is not so difficult as Assignment 1A and 1B has already introduced such objective. After configuring we might have a Resource map for our VPC and their according subnets as follows:

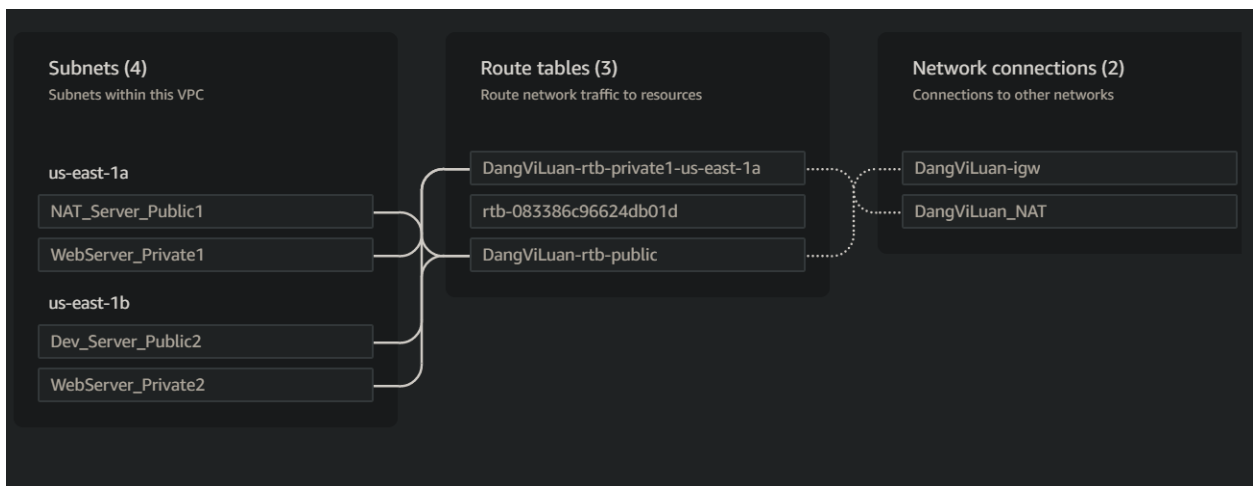


Figure 2: VPC resource map.

	Name	Subnet ID	State	VPC	IPv4 CIDR
	WebServer_Private2	subnet-0a55ac3079dada19a	Available	vpc-082e956a61b1be174 Da...	10.0.4.0/24
	WebServer_Private1	subnet-08bd6bf8b872d1fe5	Available	vpc-082e956a61b1be174 Da...	10.0.3.0/24
	NAT_Server_Public1	subnet-067671b979ac8a755	Available	vpc-082e956a61b1be174 Da...	10.0.1.0/24
	Dev_Server_Public2	subnet-07245c69f0f62a9cd	Available	vpc-082e956a61b1be174 Da...	10.0.2.0/24

Figure 3: IPv4 CIDR for each subnet.

As it is still in development phase, the Dev_Server_Public2 Subnet will be routed to the Internet Gateway so as to test the website for its functionality. Later on, when the website is completed in terms of functionality, we will create an AMI for Deb_Server_Public2 and deploy it wherever necessary.

The two Private subnets will be used to deploy autoscaling group, therefore, they will be routed to the NAT. It is noteworthy that in this assignment, the NAT Gateway will be used instead of NAT instance.

Finally, the NAT_Server_Public1 will be the subnet to host the NAT Gateway, so it will be routed to the Internet Gateway. The following figure will further illustrate this:

nat-0869cb908f4af63e6 / DangViLuan_NAT			
Details	Secondary IPv4 addresses	Monitoring	Tags
Details			
NAT gateway ID nat-0869cb908f4af63e6	Connectivity type Public	State Available	State message -
NAT gateway ARN arn:aws:ec2:us-east-1:315149204672:natgateway/nat-0869cb908f4af63e6	Primary public IPv4 address 52.44.48.83	Primary private IPv4 address 10.0.1.163	Primary network interface ID eni-03a2ed927ae56a7e0
VPC vpc-082e956a61b1be174 /	Subnet subnet-067671b979ac8a755 / NAT_Server_Public1	Created Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 18:09:41 GMT+7	Deleted -

Figure 4: NAT Gateway in NAT_Server_Public1

NAT will also conclude our first stage of this assignment, with the VPC fully constructed, we will move on to create entities that reside in these subnets.

III. Functionalities of the Website

As mentioned above, we will develop our website in public subnet 2 and only after making sure that every functionality is satisfied will we deploy it onto other subnets. Our first task would be to make sure that S3 bucket is working.

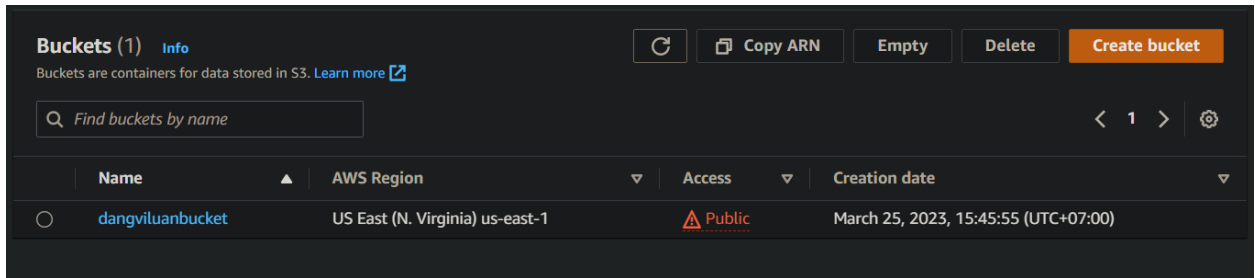


Figure 5: S3 Bucket for Assignment 2.

According to the architecture diagram our S3 bucket will only allow access from and by the Application Load Balancer (ALB), therefore, a bucket policy will be provided so as to restrict permission from and to our bucket.

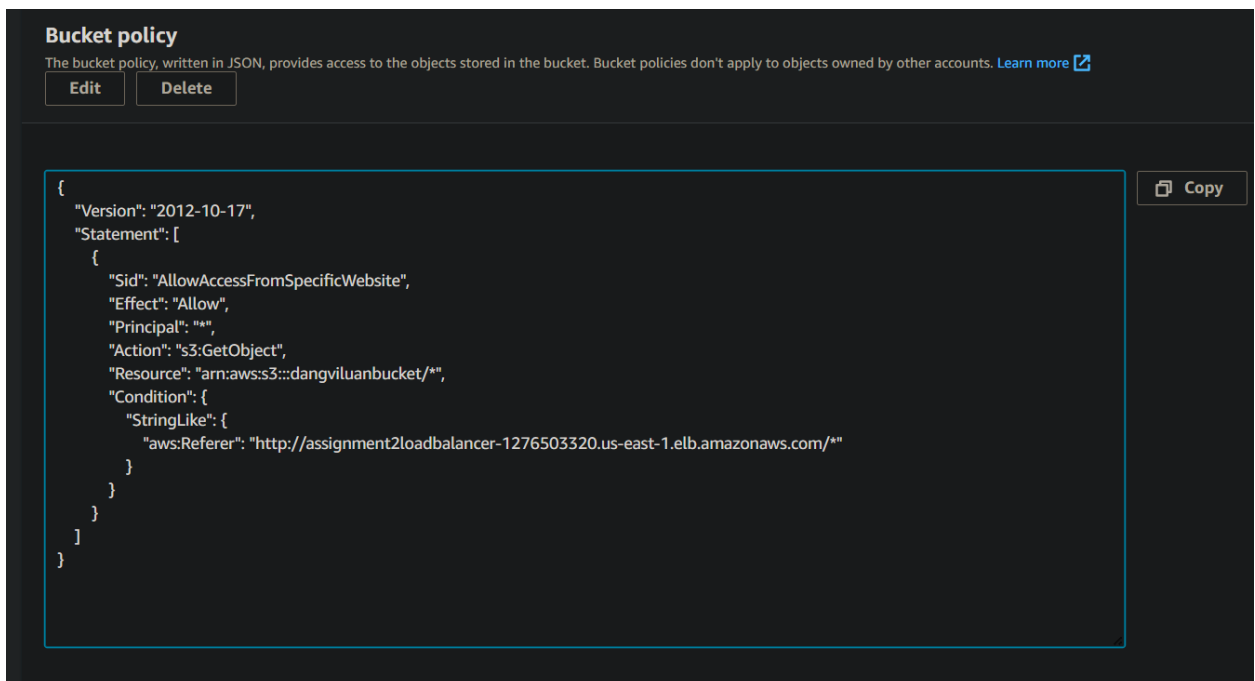


Figure 6: S3 Bucket Policy.

With the policy in its place, unauthorized access to our objects will not be possible.

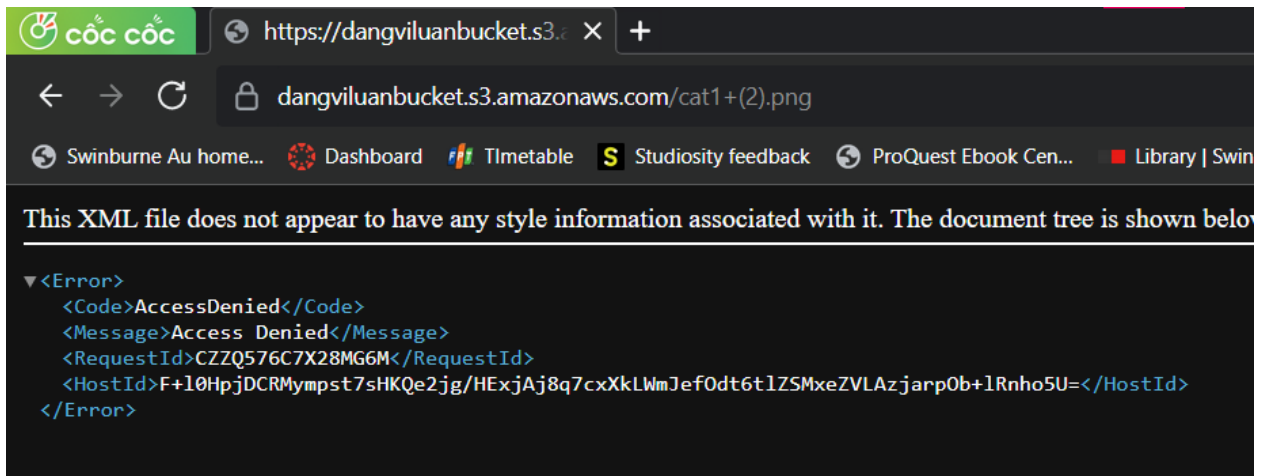


Figure 7: Unauthorized access to the S3 Objects.

A Lambda function will also be needed to resize uploaded picture to S3.

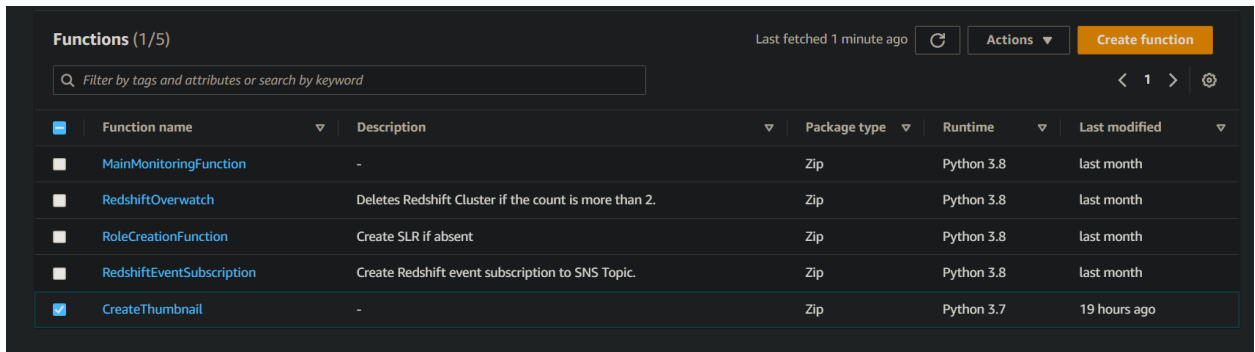


Figure 8: Lambda function for creating thumbnail.

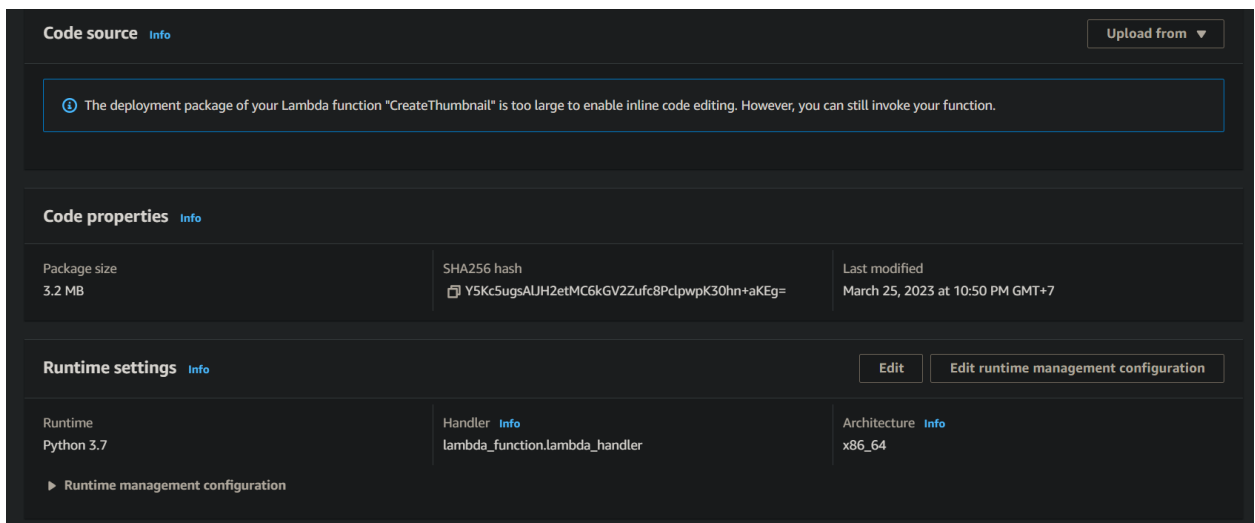


Figure 9: Code structure and properties of the Lambda function.

As the package for creating the function is provided, we only need to test the package to make sure nothing goes wrong.

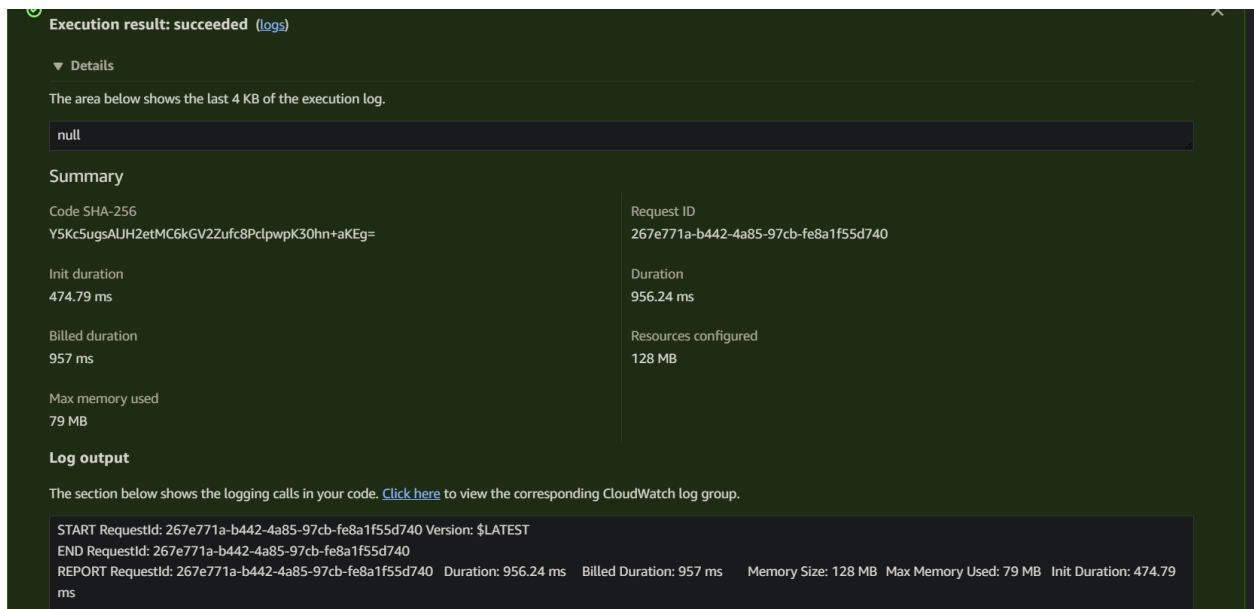


Figure 10: Lambda function test case.

With the test case successfully executed we will move onto the next part which is to create Relational Database Service (RDS), with RDS we can launch a database instance in minutes.

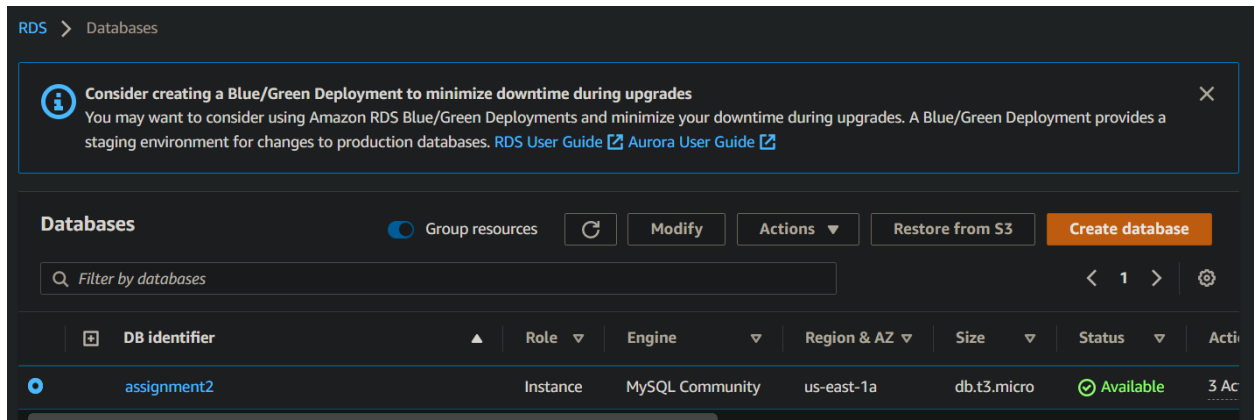


Figure 11: RDS successfully deployed.

Detailed configuration of the RDS are as follows:


Instance			
Configuration	Instance class	Storage	Performance Insights
DB instance ID assignment2	Instance class db.t3.micro	Encryption Not enabled	Performance Insights enabled Turned off
Engine version 8.0.25	vCPU 2	Storage type General Purpose SSD (gp2)	
DB name -	RAM 1 GB	Storage 20 GiB	
License model General Public License	Availability	Provisioned IOPS -	
Option groups default:mysql-8-0  In sync	Master username admin	Storage throughput -	
Amazon Resource Name (ARN) arn:aws:rds:us-east-1:315149204672:db:assignment2	Master password *****	Storage autoscaling Enabled	
Resource ID db-SYOZIYGQSMVXR5Z3GQORNFCYYU	IAM DB authentication Not enabled	Maximum storage threshold 1000 GiB	
Created time March 25, 2023, 20:02 (UTC+07:00)	Multi-AZ No		
	Secondary Zone -		

Figure 12: RDS detailed configuration.

Before we can put our website onto the development server, we will need to configure all the missing part of the provided code for the website. To be specific, we will need to modify the *constant.php* in the provided ZIP file.

```
// [ACTION REQUIRED] your full name
define('STUDENT_NAME', 'Vi Luan Dang');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] your Student ID
define('STUDENT_ID', '103802759');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] your tutorial session
define('TUTORIAL_SESSION', 'Saturday 08:15AM');

// [ACTION REQUIRED] name of the S3 bucket that stores images
define('BUCKET_NAME', 'dangviluanbucket');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] region of the above bucket
define('REGION', 'us-east-1');
define('S3_BASE_URL', 'https://'.BUCKET_NAME.'.s3.amazonaws.com/');

// [ACTION REQUIRED] name of the database that stores photo meta-data (note that this is not the DB identifier of the RDS instance)
define('DB_NAME', 'photos');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] endpoint of RDS instance
define('DB_ENDPOINT', 'assignment2.c1hmghs7oecl.us-east-1.rds.amazonaws.com');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] username of your RDS instance
define('DB_USERNAME', 'admin');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] password of your RDS instance
define('DB_PWD', 'labpassword');

// [ACTION REQUIRED] name of the DB table that stores photo's meta-data
define('DB_PHOTO_TABLE_NAME', 'photos');
// The table above has 5 columns:
// [ACTION REQUIRED] name of the column in the above table that stores photo's titles
define('DB_PHOTO_TITLE_COL_NAME', 'Photo-title');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] name of the column in the above table that stores photo's descriptions
define('DB_PHOTO_DESCRIPTION_COL_NAME', 'Description');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] name of the column in the above table that stores photo's creation dates
define('DB_PHOTO_CREATIONDATE_COL_NAME', 'Creation_Date');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] name of the column in the above table that stores photo's keywords
define('DB_PHOTO_KEYWORDS_COL_NAME', 'Keywords');
// [ACTION REQUIRED] name of the column in the above table that stores photo's Links in S3
define('DB_PHOTO_S3REFERENCE_COL_NAME', 'referenceToS3');

// [ACTION REQUIRED] name (ARN can also be used) of the Lambda function that is used to create thumbnails
define('LAMBDA_FUNC_THUMBNAILS_NAME', 'CreateThumbnail');

?>
```

Figure 13: Modified constant.php

With all the components successfully configured, we can then move to creating an EC2 instance on the development server.

IV. Development of the Website using EC2 and AMI

All the functionalities of our website will require a host to work, an EC2 instance would be an ideal environment for our website.

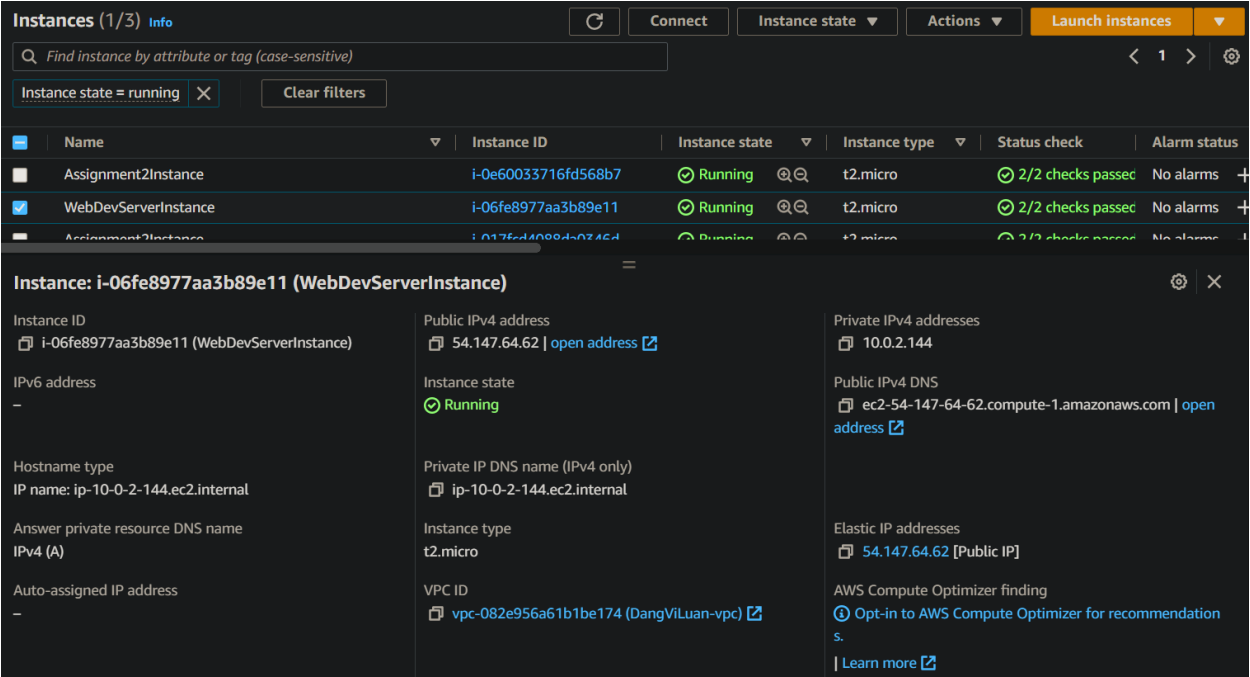


Figure 14: WebDevServerInstance.

An IAM role would also be necessary to be able to put objects into the S3 bucket and invoke the CreateThumbnail Lambda function.



Figure 15: Further configuration of WebDevServerInstance.

After deploying the EC2 instance, we can check if it is accessible by allocating for it an Elastic Ips and access the website via its public IPv4 DNS:

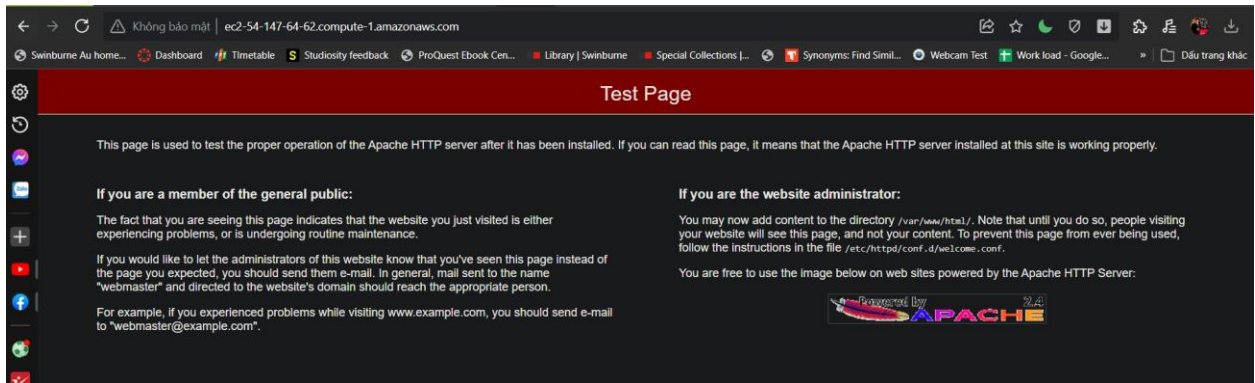


Figure 16: EC2 Instance successfully deployed.

We will then connect to the instance via SSH to configure the database using the same Public IPv4 DNS.

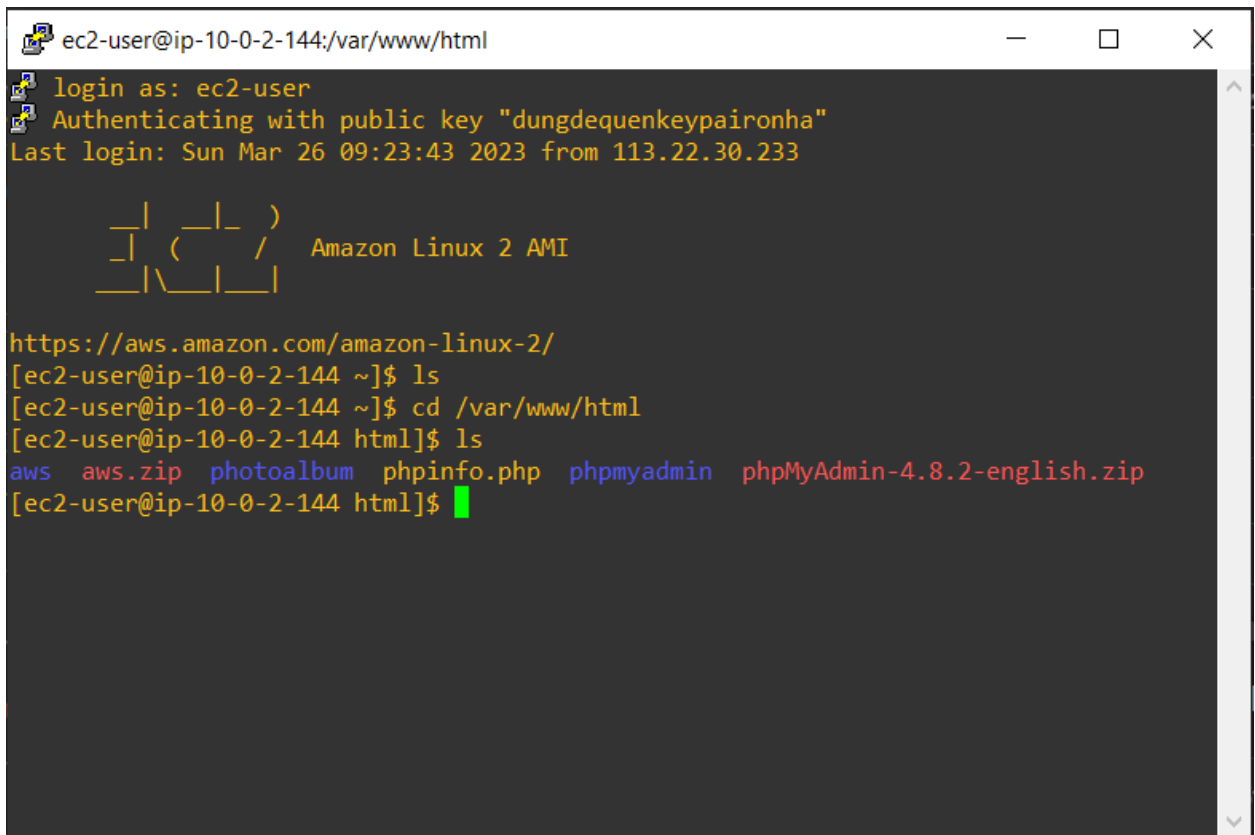


Figure 17: WebDevServer SSH terminal.

Phpmyadmin is required to create meta-data for our database as well as monitor its overall operation. A small adjustment in *config.inc.php* is required so as to connect our *phpMyAdmin* console with the RDS instance created in stage 3.

```
* All directives are explained in documentation in the doc/ folder
* or at <https://docs.phpmyadmin.net/>.
*
* @package PhpMyAdmin
*/

/**
 * This is needed for cookie based authentication to encrypt password in
 * cookie. Needs to be 32 chars long.
 */
$config['blowfish_secret'] = ''; /* YOU MUST FILL IN THIS FOR COOKIE AUTH! */

/**
 * Servers configuration
 */
$i = 0;

/**
 * First server
 */
$i++;
/* Authentication type */
$config['Servers'][$i]['auth_type'] = 'cookie';
/* Server parameters */
$config['Servers'][$i]['host'] = 'assignment2.clhmghs7oecl.us-east-1.rds.amazonaws.com';
$config['Servers'][$i]['compress'] = false;
$config['Servers'][$i]['AllowNoPassword'] = false;

/**
 * phpMyAdmin configuration storage settings.
 */

/* User used to manipulate with storage */
// $config['Servers'][$i]['controlhost'] = '';
// $config['Servers'][$i]['controlport'] = '';
// $config['Servers'][$i]['controluser'] = 'pma';
// $config['Servers'][$i]['controlpass'] = 'pmapass';
```

Figure 18: config.inc.php

After changing the value of *'localhost'* in *config.inc.php* we can access *phpMyAdmin* on our developing server website to create meta-data for our database.

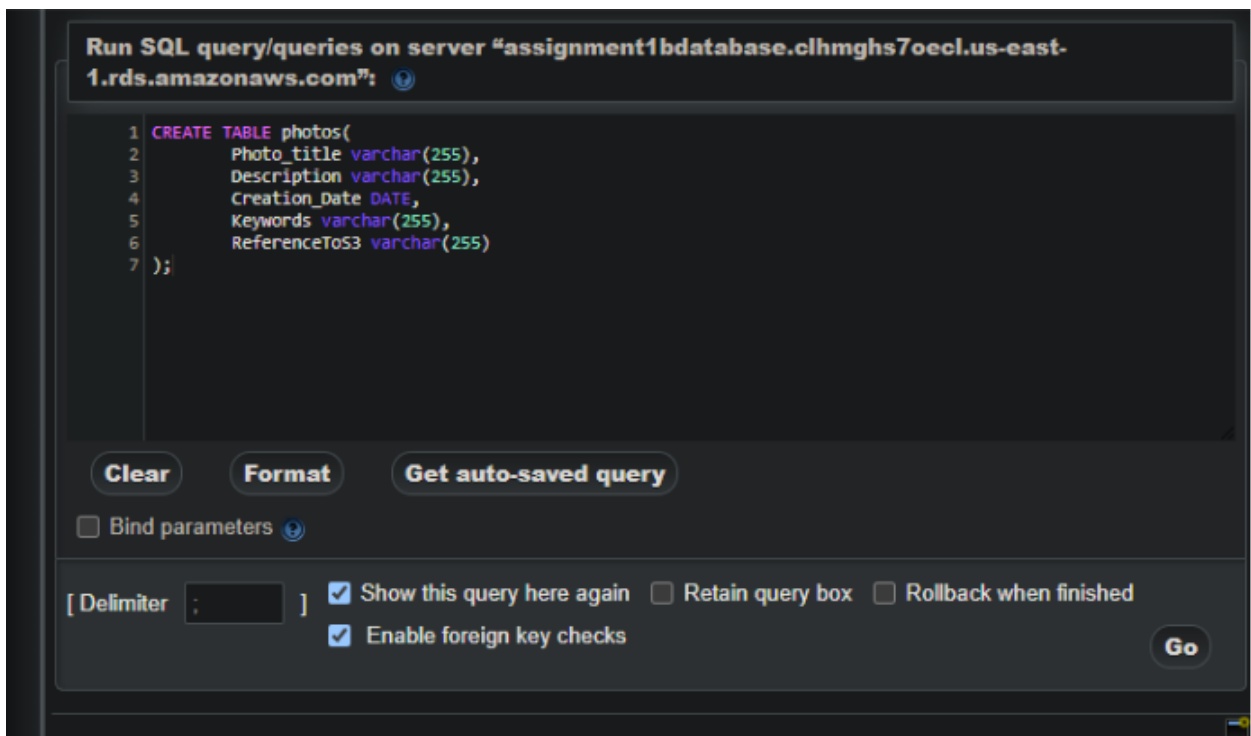


Figure 19: Meta-data for the database

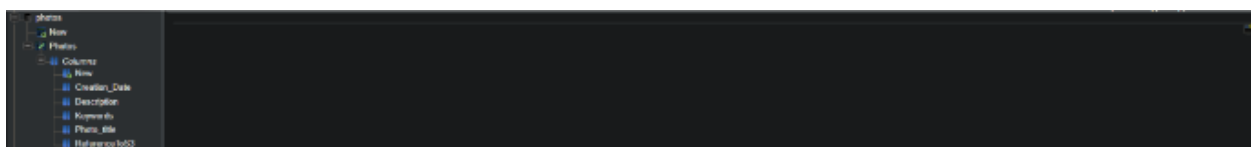


Figure 20: Table photos

We can then upload the provided codes to test our website.

/var/www/html/photoalbum/		
Name	Size	Changed
		3/25/2023 10:04:51 PM
uploads		3/26/2023 4:46:44 PM
utils.php	2 KB	9/7/2021 9:18:49 PM
photouploadtemplate...	2 KB	9/7/2021 9:35:04 PM
photouploader.php	4 KB	3/26/2023 1:59:28 AM
photo.php	2 KB	8/20/2021 12:23:05 PM
mydb.php	3 KB	9/7/2021 9:18:58 PM
defaultstyle.css	1 KB	8/20/2021 12:15:45 PM
constants.php	4 KB	3/26/2023 1:12:47 AM
album.php	2 KB	9/7/2021 9:29:50 PM

Figure 21: Uploaded codes for the website

Our *album.php* site on the developing server website would look like this:

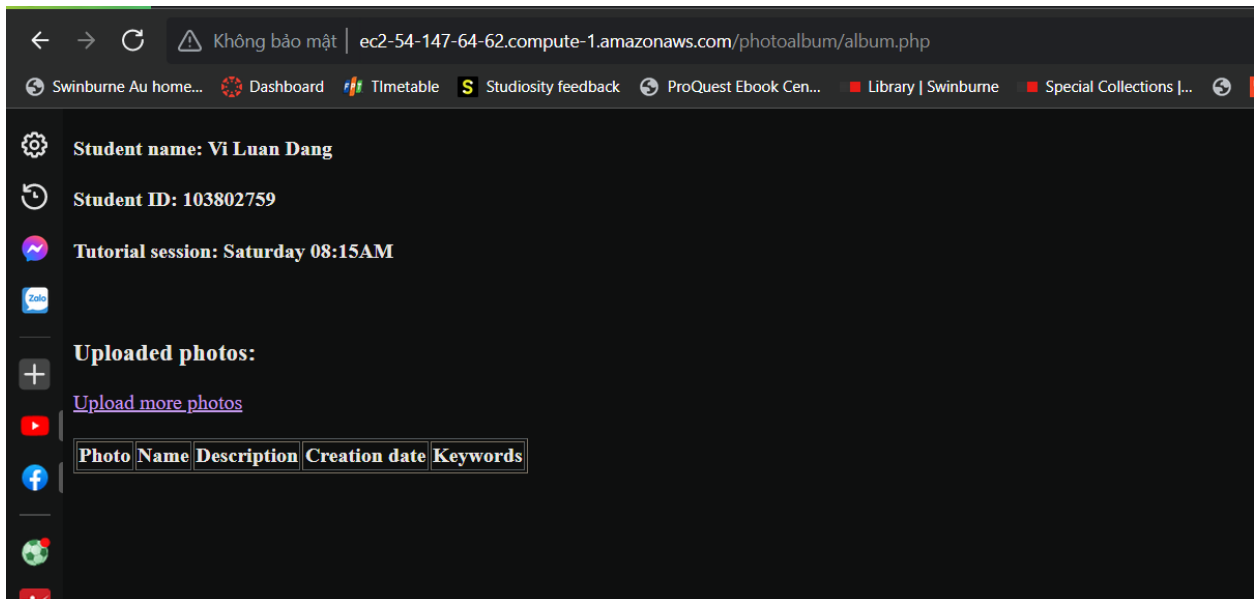


Figure 22: *album.php*

We can proceed to upload some photos on the website.



Figure 23: *photouploader.php*

After uploading we can observe the photo in both phpMyAdmin to view meta-data, and S3 to view the resized picture. However, as we will restrict *album.php* so that it only show the pictures whenever we access from our Load Balancer, there will not be any picture in *album.php* when viewing from the developing server. This will, however, change when we deploy our Web server from Auto Scaling Group.

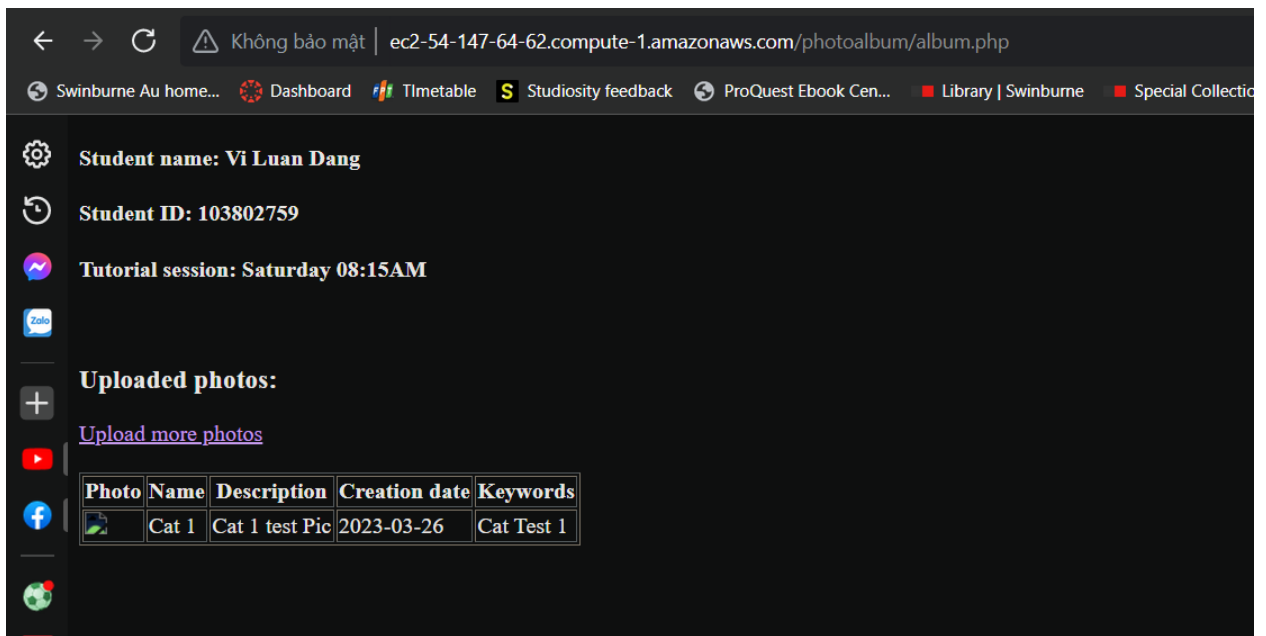


Figure 24: album.php from the developing server

In the meantime, however, we can see that S3 and the meta data in phpMyAdmin works as expected.

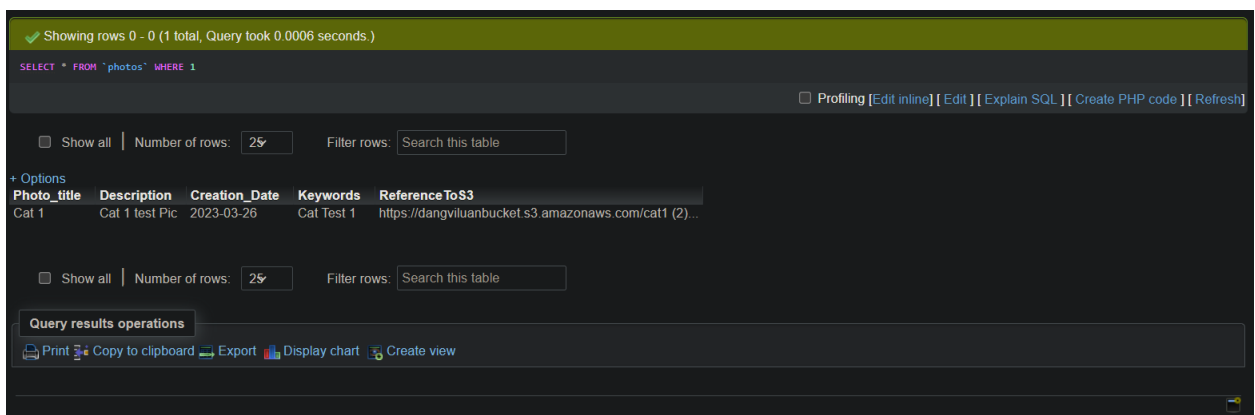


Figure 25: Meta-data in phpmyadmin

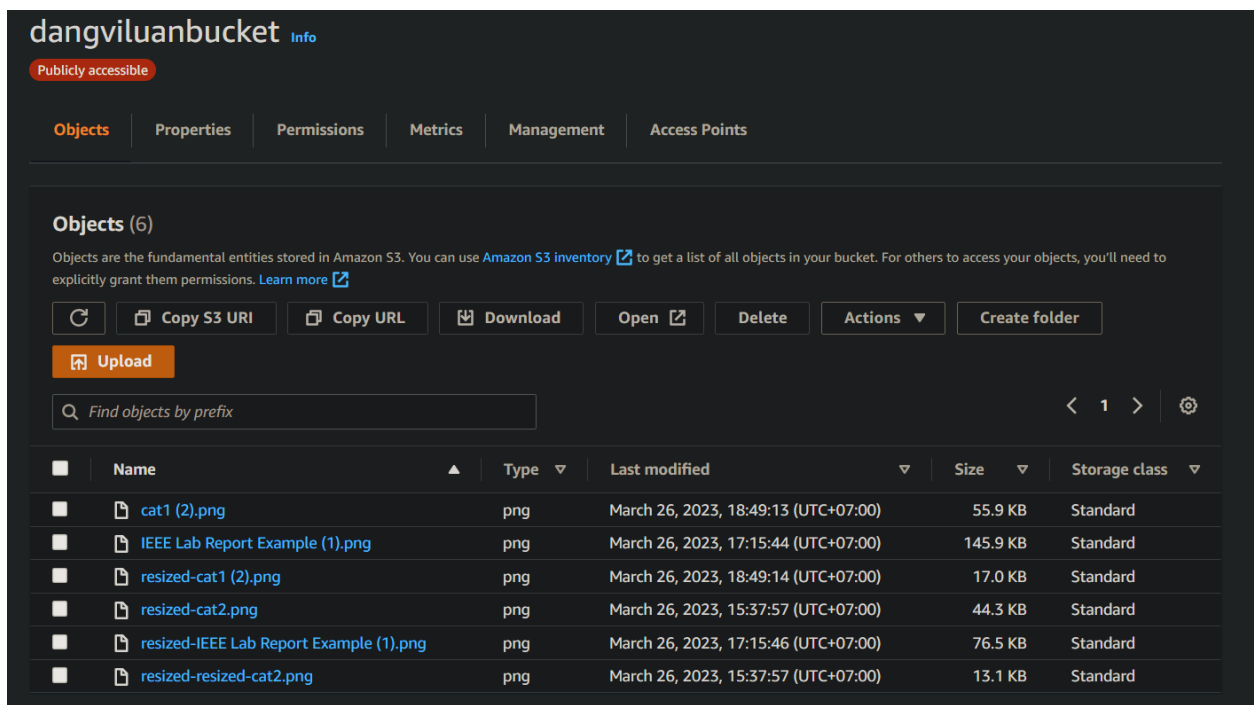


Figure 26: Cat1 and resized-cat1 objects in S3 Bucket.

This means that the functionality of our website is successfully configured and perfectly worked. We will move on to create an AMI of this WebDevServer and deploy it in our Auto Scaling Group.

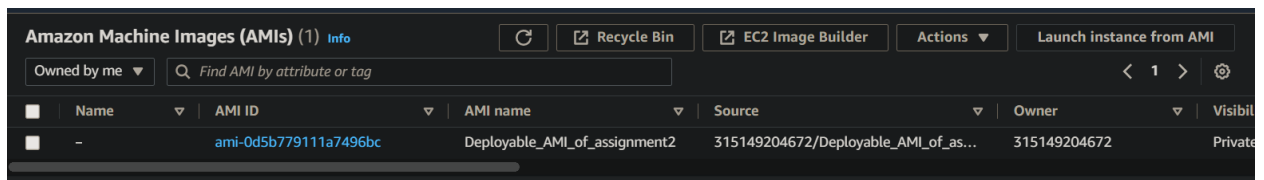


Figure 27: AMI of our WebDevServer.

V. Elastic Load Balancer and Auto Scaling Group

With the developing process finished, we can then focus on equipping our website with high availability and scalability using Elastic Load Balancer and Auto Scaling Group.

Firstly, we will need to create a Launch Configuration

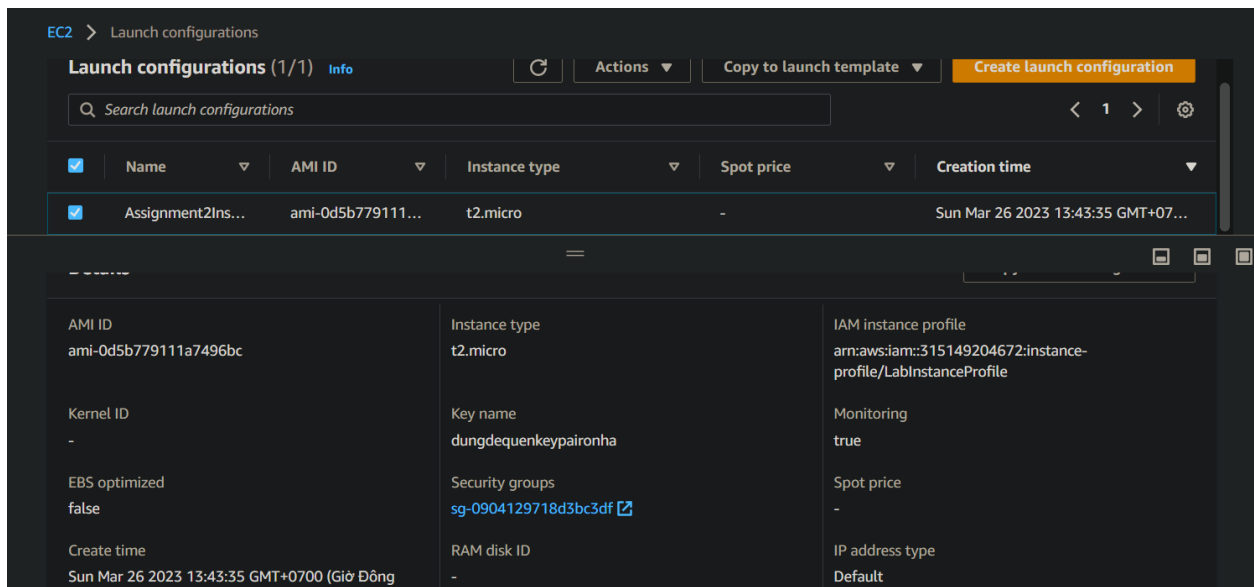


Figure 28: Launch Configuration

Apart from the configuration shown in the picture above, we need to ensure that the IAM is applied correctly using the provided profile.

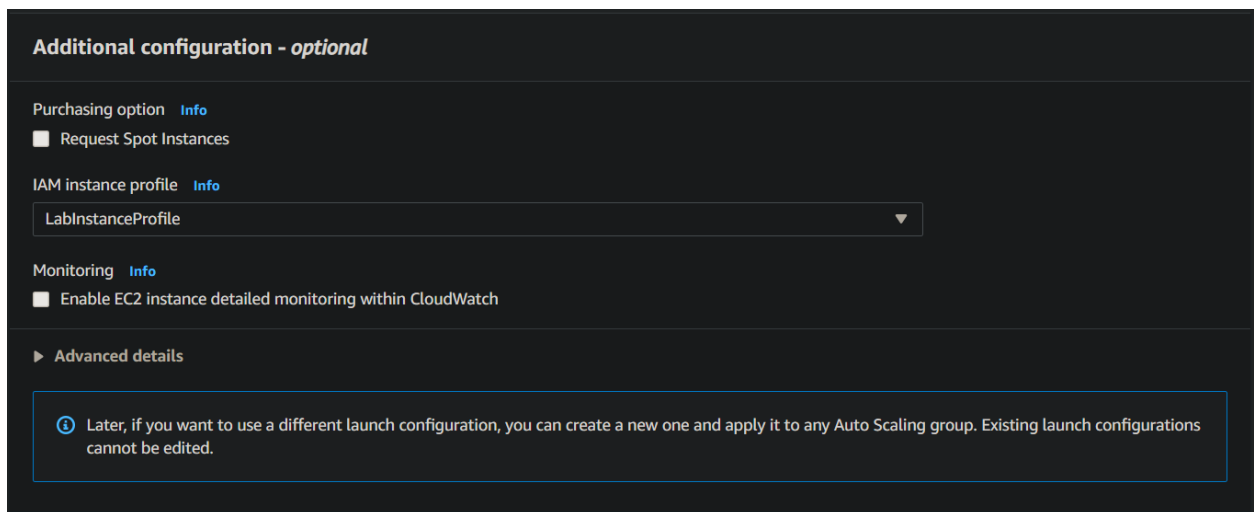


Figure 29: IAM configuration

After that we can create an Auto Scaling Group that will control the Web Server Instance.

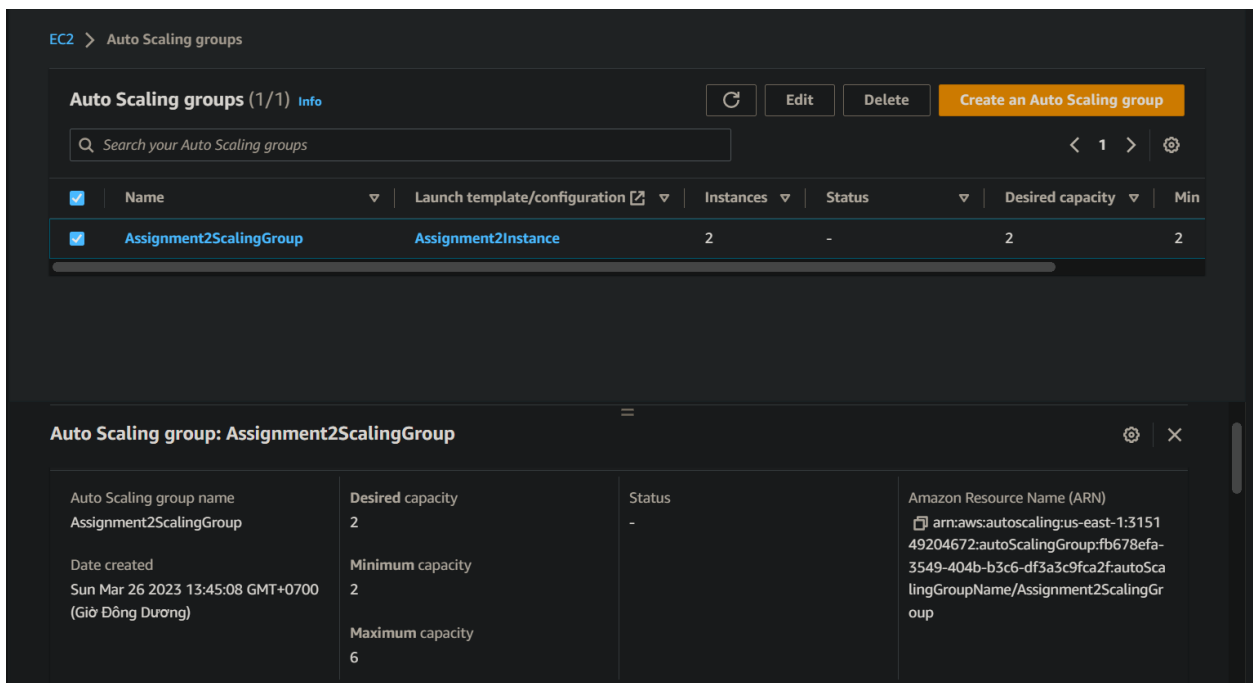


Figure 30: Auto Scaling Group

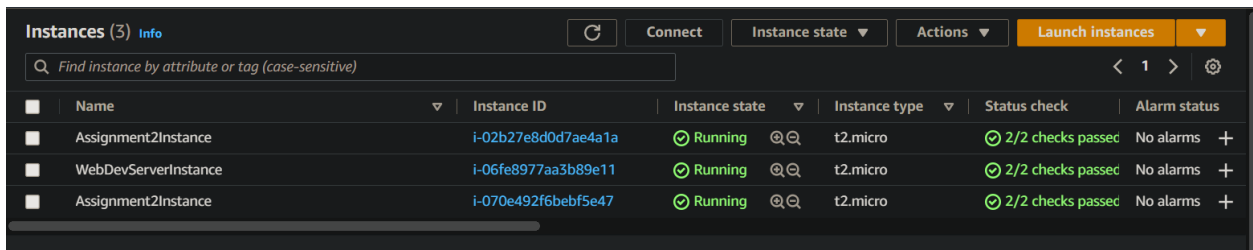


Figure 31: 2 Assignment2Instance creating from Auto Scaling Group.

A Target group will also be required to launch the load balancer.

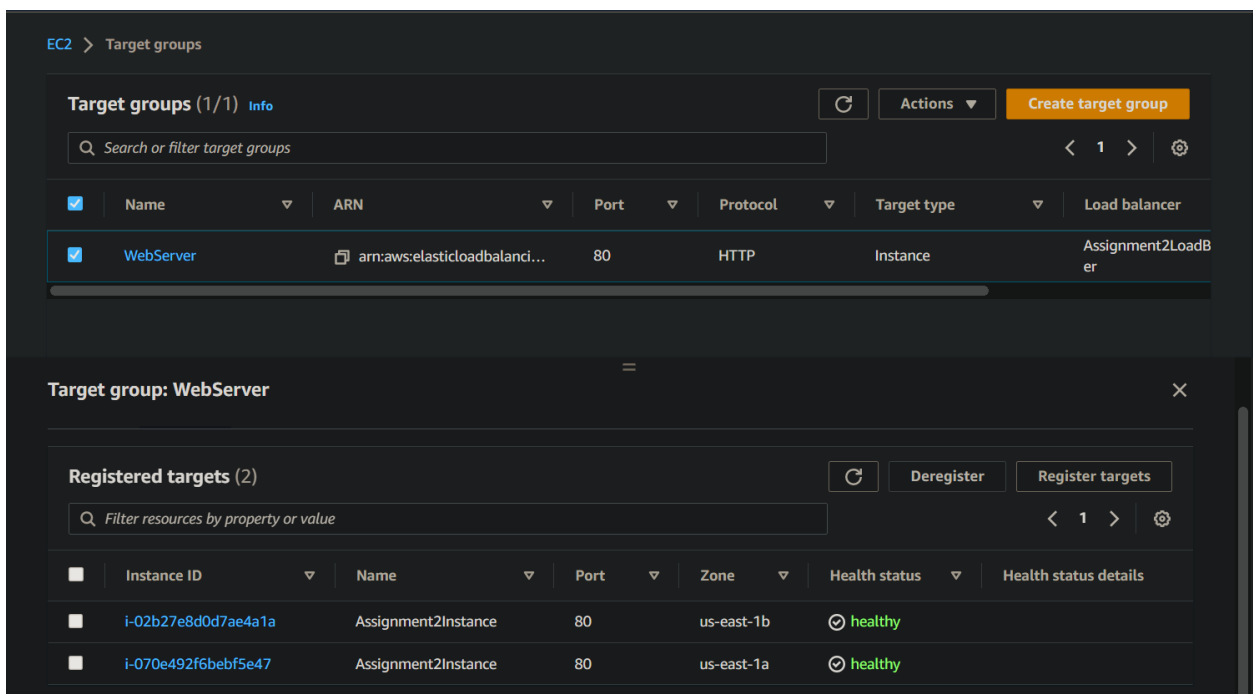


Figure 32: Target groups that will be attached to the Load Balancer.

Our Load Balancer will look like this.

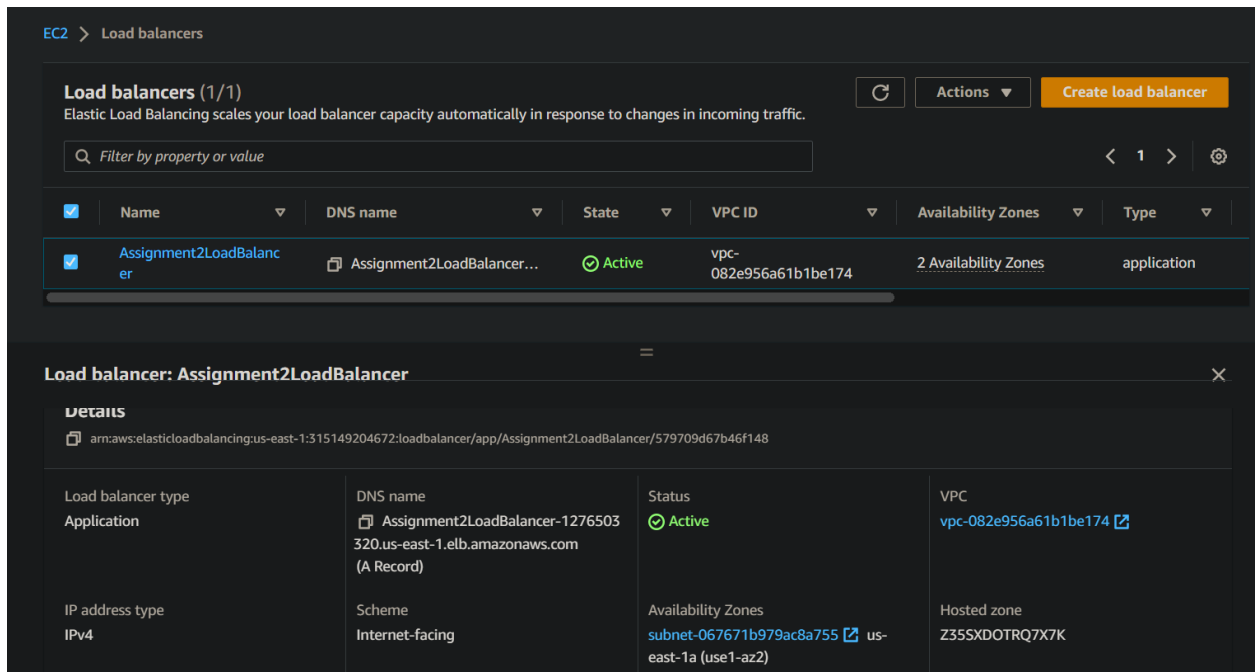


Figure 33: Load Balancer

The listener of this load balancer will forward to the target group created above.

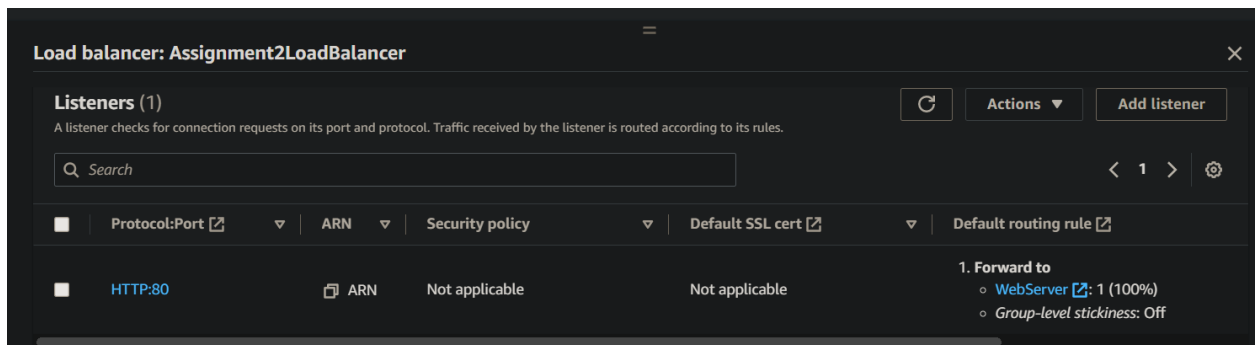


Figure 34: Listener of Load Balancer.

We can then use the DNS name provided by the Load Balancer to access our Web Server Instances created by the Auto Scaling Group.

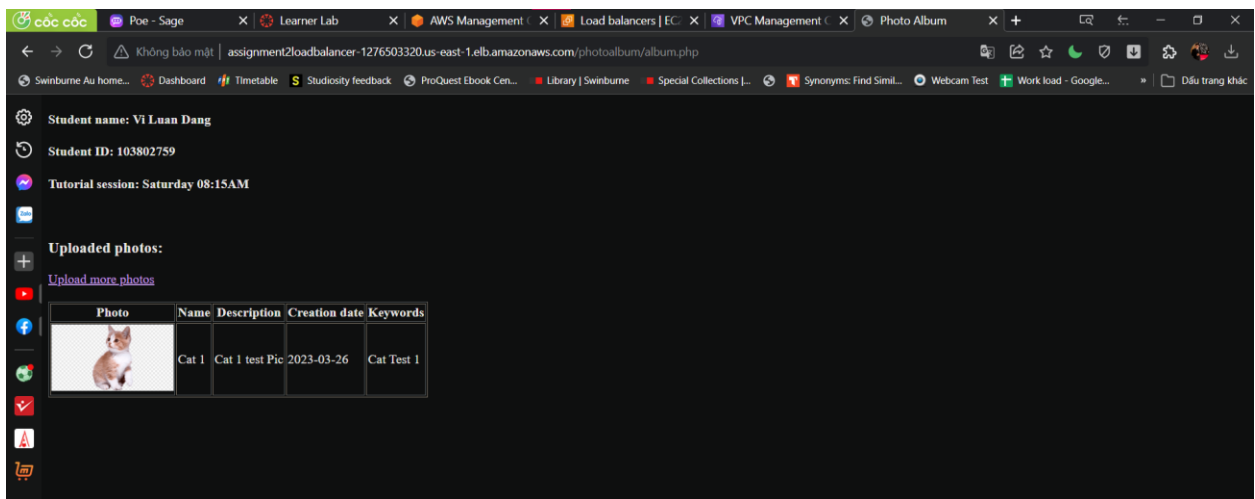


Figure 35: Album.php accessed from the Load Balancer

As the S3 Bucket will only allow access from the Load Balancer that we just created, the picture of a cute cat will be presented. We can also upload more cute cats to test the functionality of our website.

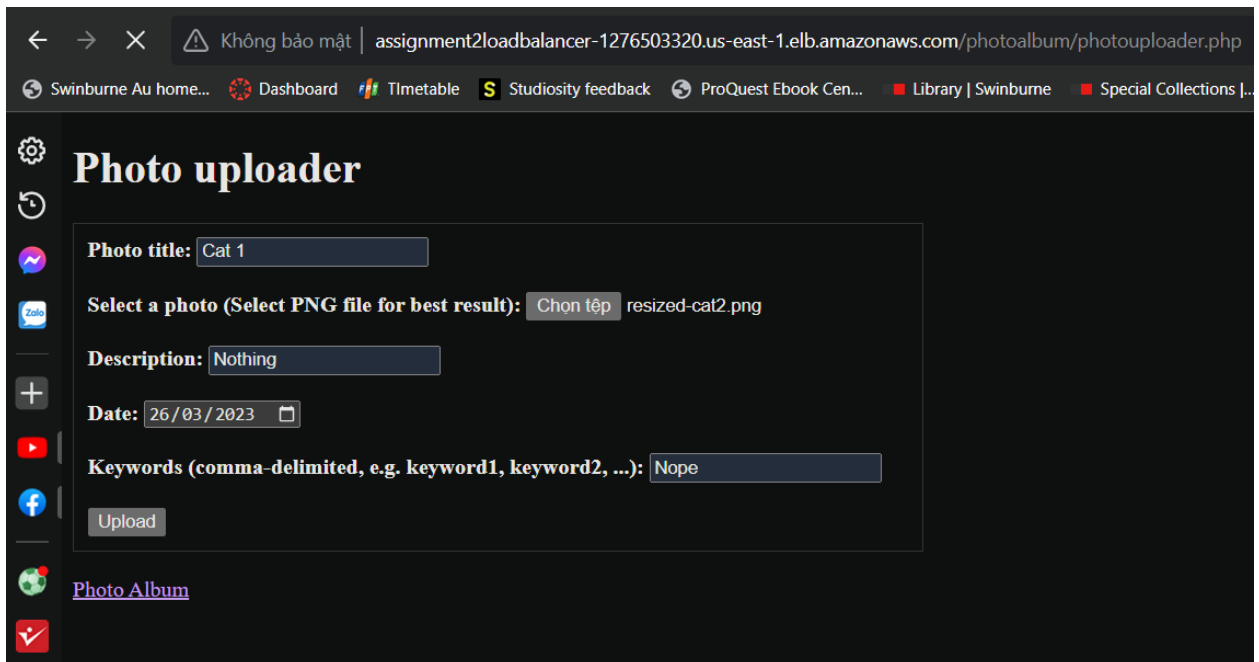


Figure 36: photouploader.php accessed from the Load Balancer

← → ↻ ⚠ Không bảo mật | assignment2loadbalancer-1276503320.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com/photoalbum/album.php

Swinburne Au home... Dashboard TImetable S Studiosity feedback ProQuest Ebook Cen... Library | Swinburne Special Col

⚙ **Student name: Vi Luan Dang**

🕒 **Student ID: 103802759**

💬 **Tutorial session: Saturday 08:15AM**

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Uploaded photos:

[Upload more photos](#)



Photo	Name	Description	Creation date	Keywords
	Cat 1	Cat 1 test Pic	2023-03-26	Cat Test 1
	Cat 1	Nothing	2023-03-26	Nope

Figure 37: Functionalities test from Load Balancer.

S3 and the database from phpMyAdmin also work with the Load Balancer.

Objects (6)

Objects are the fundamental entities stored in Amazon S3. You can use [Amazon S3 inventory](#) to get a list of all objects in your bucket. For others to access your objects, you'll need to explicitly grant them permissions. [Learn more](#)

🔄 Copy S3 URI 📄 Copy URL 📄 Download 🔗 Open 🗑 Delete ⌵ Actions 📁 Create folder

📁 Upload

🔍 Find objects by prefix

☐	Name	▲	Type ▼	Last modified ▼	Size ▼	Storage class ▼
☐	📄 cat1 (2).png		png	March 26, 2023, 18:49:13 (UTC+07:00)	55.9 KB	Standard
☐	📄 IEEE Lab Report Example (1).png		png	March 26, 2023, 17:15:44 (UTC+07:00)	145.9 KB	Standard
☐	📄 resized-cat1 (2).png		png	March 26, 2023, 18:49:14 (UTC+07:00)	17.0 KB	Standard
☐	📄 resized-cat2.png		png	March 26, 2023, 22:02:09 (UTC+07:00)	44.3 KB	Standard
☐	📄 resized-IEEE Lab Report Example (1).png		png	March 26, 2023, 17:15:46 (UTC+07:00)	76.5 KB	Standard
☐	📄 resized-resized-cat2.png		png	March 26, 2023, 22:02:11 (UTC+07:00)	13.1 KB	Standard

Figure 38: Cat 2.png and its resized picture is recorded.

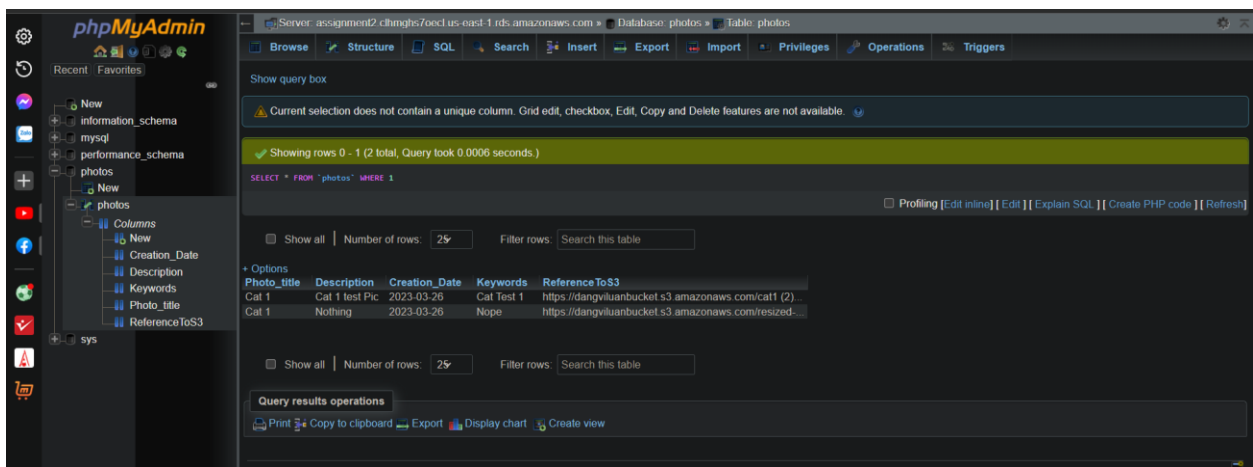


Figure 39: Cat2.png and its meta data is recorded.

VI. Security Group and Network ACL

After making sure that all of our Web Server Instances are working properly, we can then proceed to ensure Security and Accessibility to and from our Web Server Instances.

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console 'Security Groups' page. The table lists several security groups, including 'WebServerSG' which is highlighted.

Name	Security group ID	Security group name	VPC ID	Description	Owner
-	sg-03fe684468ee68b4a	default	vpc-01a64643c81c9739d	default VPC security group	31514
-	sg-05e79664f99936c34	default	vpc-082e956a61b1be174	default VPC security group	31514
-	sg-0015ae72fc141c045	DBServerSG	vpc-082e956a61b1be174	Database Server Security Group	31514
-	sg-0b326c4aff7c1f878	DevServerSG	vpc-082e956a61b1be174	Security Group For Dev Server	31514
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sg-0904129718d3bc3df	WebServerSG	vpc-082e956a61b1be174	Security Group For Web Server	31514
-	sg-0b8e7a6aab2df50b7	ELBSG	vpc-082e956a61b1be174	Elastic Load Balancer Security Group	31514

Figure 40: Security Groups

Web Server Security Group should only accept Inbound from Elastic Load Balancer and Outbound to the NAT gateway.

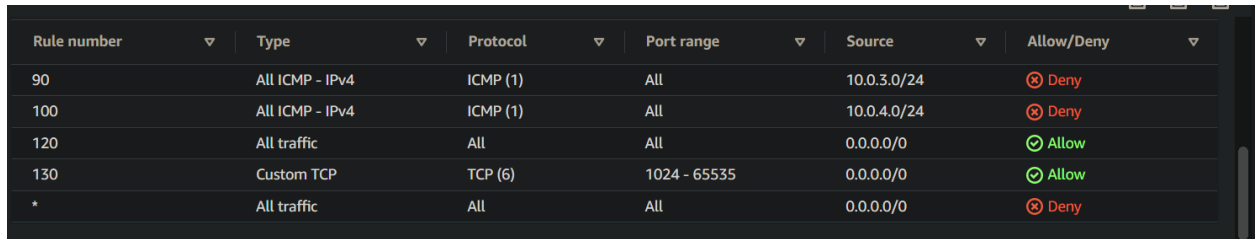
DevServer Security Group can accept Inbound and Outbound from All Traffic.

Database Server Security Group can accept all Inbound and Outbound traffic from the Webserver and the Devserver.

The Elastic Load Balancer Security Group can accept all Inbound and Outbound Traffic from the Internet Gateway.

Network ACL is going to be the last part of our configuration, we will create an ACL that will restrict DevServer from sending ICMP packet to the WebServer.

The Inbound and Outbound rules for our Network ACL will look like this.



Rule number	Type	Protocol	Port range	Source	Allow/Deny
90	All ICMP - IPv4	ICMP (1)	All	10.0.3.0/24	Deny
100	All ICMP - IPv4	ICMP (1)	All	10.0.4.0/24	Deny
120	All traffic	All	All	0.0.0.0/0	Allow
130	Custom TCP	TCP (6)	1024 - 65535	0.0.0.0/0	Allow
*	All traffic	All	All	0.0.0.0/0	Deny

Figure 41: Network ACLs.

We can SSH into our DevServer to confirm if our Network ACL is working properly.

ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-144:~

login as: ec2-user
Authenticating with public key "dungdequkenkeypaironha"
Last login: Sun Mar 26 11:24:07 2023 from 113.22.30.233

```
 _ | _ | _ )  
 _ | ( _ /   Amazon Linux 2 AMI  
 _ | \ _ | _ |
```

<https://aws.amazon.com/amazon-linux-2/>

[ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-144 ~]\$ ping 10.0.3.1

PING 10.0.3.1 (10.0.3.1) 56(84) bytes of data.

^C

--- 10.0.3.1 ping statistics ---

5 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 4096ms

[ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-144 ~]\$ ping 10.0.4.1

PING 10.0.4.1 (10.0.4.1) 56(84) bytes of data.

^C

--- 10.0.4.1 ping statistics ---

5 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 4096ms

[ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-144 ~]\$ ping 10.0.1.1

PING 10.0.1.1 (10.0.1.1) 56(84) bytes of data.

^C

--- 10.0.1.1 ping statistics ---

3 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 2053ms

[ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-144 ~]\$ ping 0.0.0.0

PING 0.0.0.0 (127.0.0.1) 56(84) bytes of data.

64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=255 time=0.019 ms

64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=2 ttl=255 time=0.030 ms

64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=3 ttl=255 time=0.029 ms

64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=4 ttl=255 time=0.029 ms

^C

--- 0.0.0.0 ping statistics ---

4 packets transmitted, 4 received, 0% packet loss, time 3049ms

rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.019/0.026/0.030/0.007 ms

[ec2-user@ip-10-0-2-144 ~]\$

Figure 42: ICMP testing

According to the picture above, we can ping the NAT gateway, which located at 0.0.0.0, but the ICMP sent to private subnet 1(10.0.3.1) and private subnet 2(10.0.4.1) is not reachable. Therefore, our Network ACL is working properly.

VII. Testing

We will perform several tests to see if the functionality of our website is configured properly. Some of the tests have been conducted above and this section will only perform the remaining tests.

Test 1: Termination of Web Instance and Auto Scaling Group

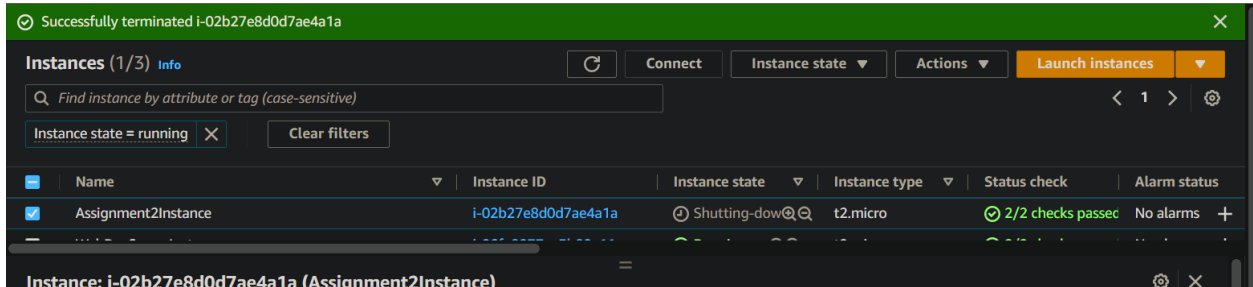


Figure 43: A Web Instance from the Auto Scaling Group is terminated.

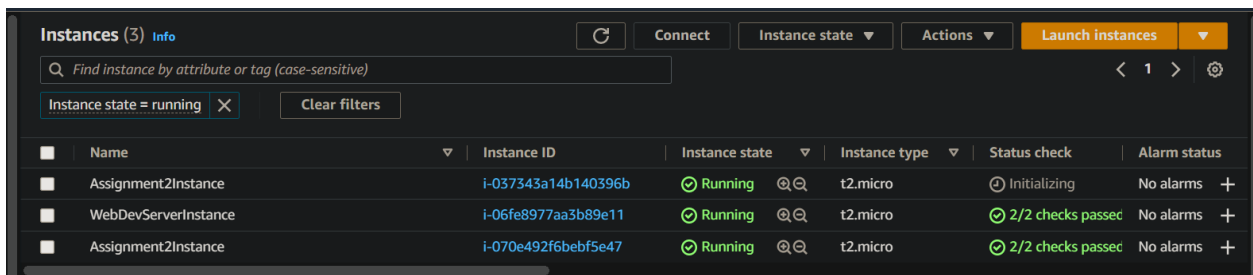


Figure 44: Another Web Instance is initializing according to the Auto Scaling Group

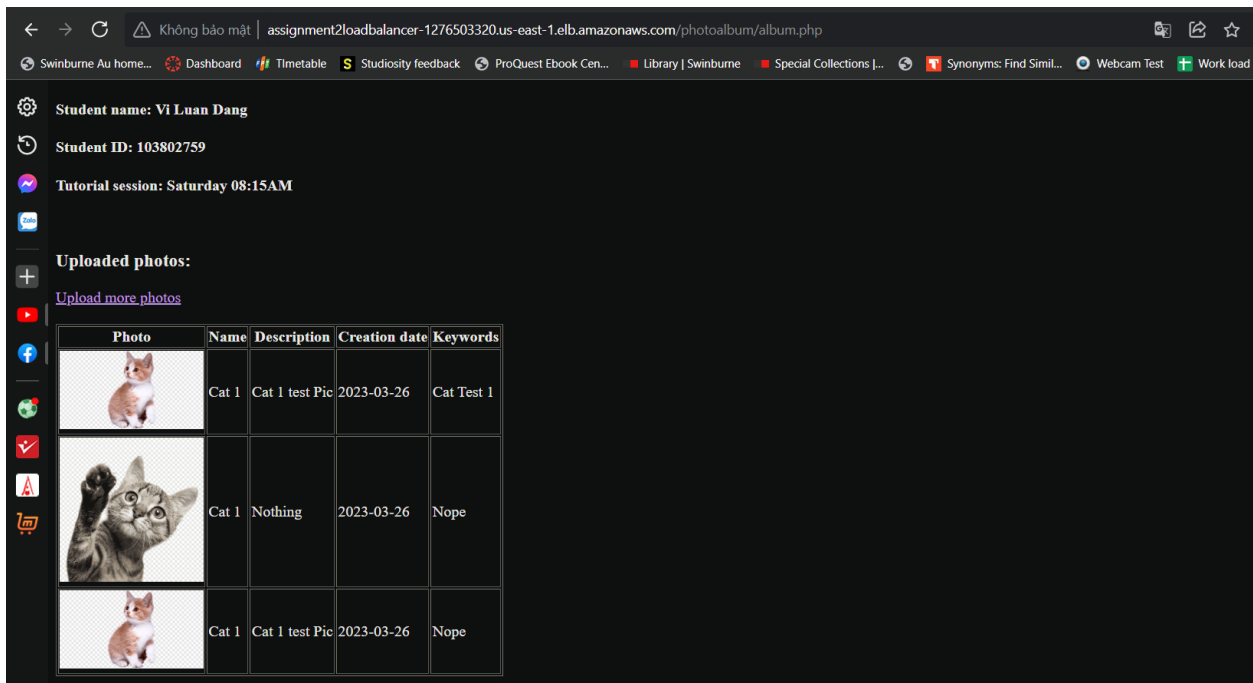


Figure 45: The Load Balancer DNS is still accessible after the termination and initialization of the Web Instance.

Target group: WebServer

Registered targets (2) Refresh Deregister Register targets

Filter resources by property or value

	Instance ID	Name	Port	Zone	Health status	Health status details
	i-037343a14b140396b	Assignment2Instance	80	us-east-1b	healthy	
	i-070e492f6bebf5e47	Assignment2Instance	80	us-east-1a	healthy	

Figure 46: Both Web Instances are healthy.

Test 2: Review of All Security Group and IAM roles.

	Name	Instance ID	Instance state	Instance type	Status check	Alarm status
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Assignment2Instance	i-037343a14b140396b	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks passed	No alarms
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assignment2Instance	i-02b27e8d0d7ae4a1a	Terminated	t2.micro	-	No alarms
<input type="checkbox"/>	WebDevServerInstance	i-06fe8977aa3b89e11	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks passed	No alarms
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assignment2Instance	i-070e492f6bebf5e47	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks passed	No alarms

Instance: i-037343a14b140396b (Assignment2Instance)

Details **Security** Networking Storage Status checks Monitoring Tags

▼ Security details

IAM Role LabRole	Owner ID 315149204672	Launch time Sun Mar 26 2023 22:39:03 GMT+0700 (Giờ Đồng Dương)
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Security groups

[sg-0904129718d3bc3df \(WebServerSG\)](#)

▼ Inbound rules

Filter rules

Figure 47: Both Web Instances are configured with the according IAM and Security Group.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WebDevServerInstance	i-06fe8977aa3b89e11	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks passed	No alarms
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assignment2Instance	i-070e492f6bebf5e47	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks passed	No alarms

Instance: i-06fe8977aa3b89e11 (WebDevServerInstance)

Details **Security** Networking Storage Status checks Monitoring Tags

▼ Security details

IAM Role LabRole	Owner ID 315149204672	Launch time Sun Mar 26 2023 21:44:58 GMT+0700 (Giờ Đồng Dương)
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Security groups

[sg-0b326c4aff7c1f878 \(DevServerSG\)](#)

▼ Inbound rules

Figure 48: WebDevServer is configured with the according IAM and Security Group

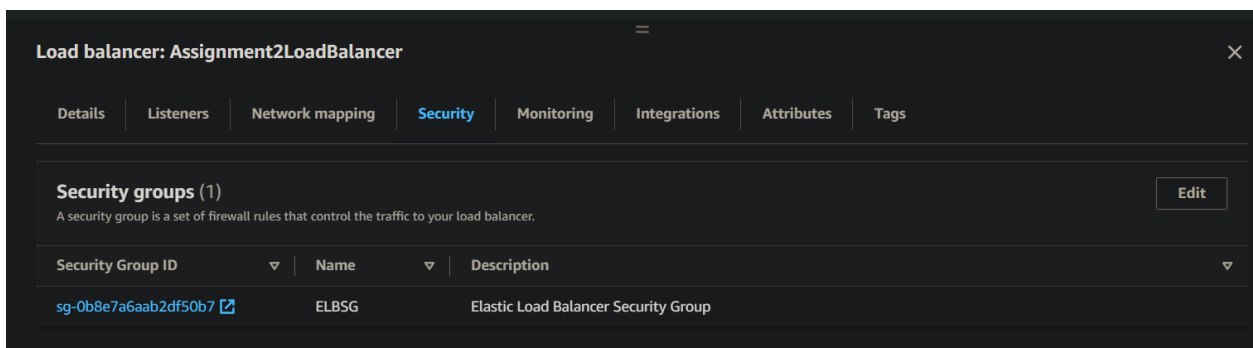


Figure 49: Load Balancer is configured with the according Security Group

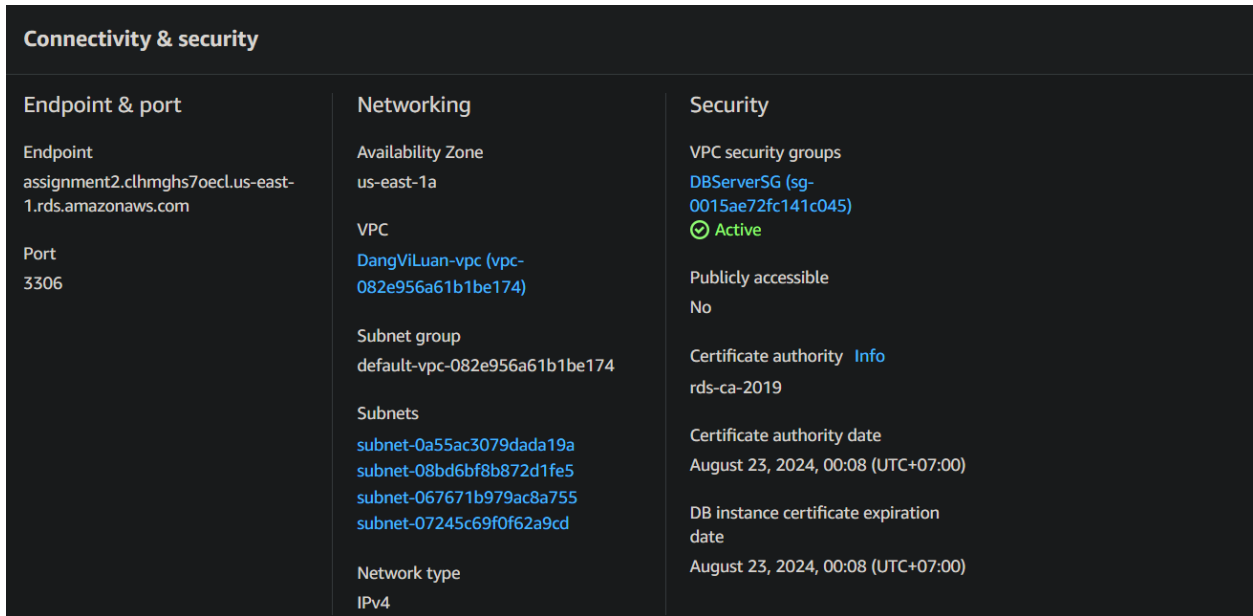


Figure 50: RDS is configured with the according Security Group

Link to the ELB album.php: <http://assignment2loadbalancer-1276503320.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com/photoalbum/album.php>

Link to the ELB photouploader.php: <http://assignment2loadbalancer-1276503320.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com/photoalbum/photouploader.php>

Link to the WebDevServer: <http://ec2-54-147-64-62.compute-1.amazonaws.com/>