Lab 4: Working with EBS

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Lab Overview



This lab focuses on Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS), a key underlying storage mechanism for Amazon EC2 instances. In this lab, you will learn how to create an Amazon EBS volume, attach it to an instance, apply a file system to the volume, and then take a snapshot backup.

Topics covered

By the end of this lab, you will be able to:

- Create an Amazon EBS volume
- Attach and mount your volume to an EC2 instance
- Create a snapshot of your volume
- Create a new volume from your snapshot
- Attach and mount the new volume to your EC2 instance

Lab Pre-requisites

To successfully complete this lab, you should be familiar with basic Amazon EC2 usage and with basic Linux server administration. You should feel comfortable using the Linux command-line tools.

Duration

This lab will require approximately **30 minutes** to complete.

AWS service restrictions

In this lab environment, access to AWS services and service actions might be restricted to the ones that are needed to complete the lab instructions. You might encounter errors if you attempt to access other services or perform actions beyond the ones that are described in this lab.

What is Amazon Elastic Block Store?

Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) offers persistent storage for Amazon EC2 instances. Amazon EBS volumes are network-attached and persist independently from the life of an instance. Amazon EBS volumes are highly available, highly reliable volumes that can be leveraged as an Amazon EC2 instances boot partition or attached to a running Amazon EC2 instance as a standard block device.

When used as a boot partition, Amazon EC2 instances can be stopped and subsequently restarted, enabling you to pay only for the storage resources used while maintaining your instance's state. Amazon EBS volumes offer greatly improved durability over local Amazon EC2 instance stores because Amazon EBS volumes are automatically replicated on the backend (in a single Availability Zone).

For those wanting even more durability, Amazon EBS provides the ability to create point-in-time consistent snapshots of your volumes that are then stored in Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3) and automatically replicated across multiple Availability Zones. These snapshots can be used as the starting point for new Amazon EBS volumes and can protect your data for long-term durability. You can also easily share these snapshots with co-workers and other AWS developers.

This lab guide explains basic concepts of Amazon EBS in a step-by-step fashion. However, it can only give a brief overview of Amazon EBS concepts. For further information, see the <u>Amazon EBS documentation</u>.

Amazon EBS Volume Features

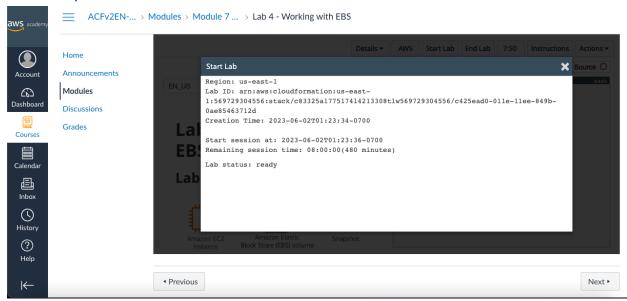
Amazon EBS volumes deliver the following features:

- **Persistent storage:** Volume lifetime is independent of any particular Amazon EC2 instance.
- **General purpose:** Amazon EBS volumes are raw, unformatted block devices that can be used from any operating system.
- **High performance:** Amazon EBS volumes are equal to or better than local Amazon EC2 drives.
- **High reliability:** Amazon EBS volumes have built-in redundancy within an Availability Zone.
- **Designed for resiliency:** The AFR (Annual Failure Rate) of Amazon EBS is between 0.1% and 1%.
- Variable size: Volume sizes range from 1 GB to 16 TB.
- **Easy to use:** Amazon EBS volumes can be easily created, attached, backed up, restored, and deleted.

Accessing the AWS Management Console

At the top of these instructions, click Start Lab to launch your lab.
 A Start Lab panel opens displaying the lab status.

2. Wait until you see the message "Lab status: ready", then click the X to close the Start Lab panel.



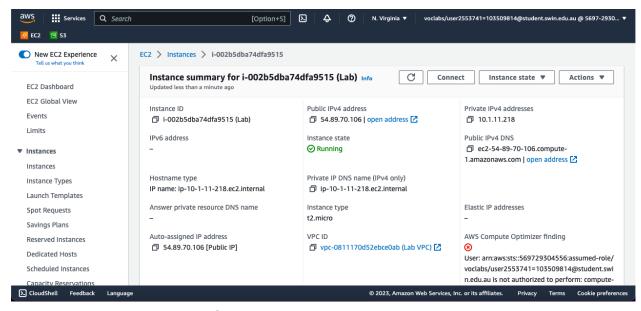
- 3. At the top of these instructions, click AWS
 - This will open the AWS Management Console in a new browser tab. The system will automatically log you in.
 - **Tip**: If a new browser tab does not open, there will typically be a banner or icon at the top of your browser indicating that your browser is preventing the site from opening pop-up windows. Choose the banner or icon and choose "Allow pop ups."
- 4. Arrange the AWS Management Console tab so that it displays along side these instructions. Ideally, you will be able to see both browser tabs at the same time, to make it easier to follow the lab steps.

Task 1: Create a New EBS Volume

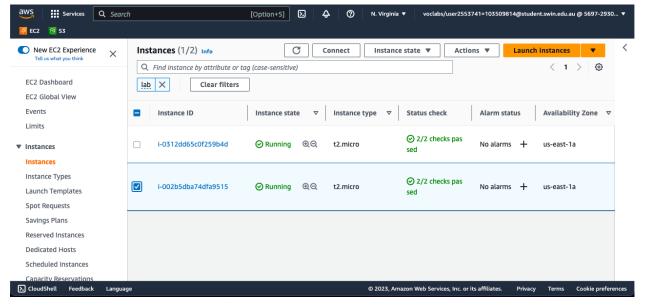
In this task, you will create and attach an Amazon EBS volume to a new Amazon EC2 instance.

5. In the AWS Management Console, on the Services menu, click EC2.

In the left navigation pane, choose Instances.
 An Amazon EC2 instance named Lab has already been launched for your lab.

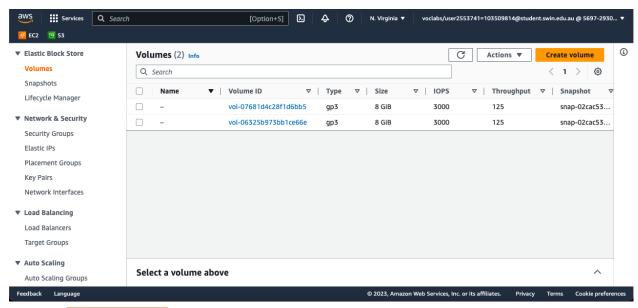


7. Note the **Availability Zone** of the instance. It will look similar to *us-east-1a*.

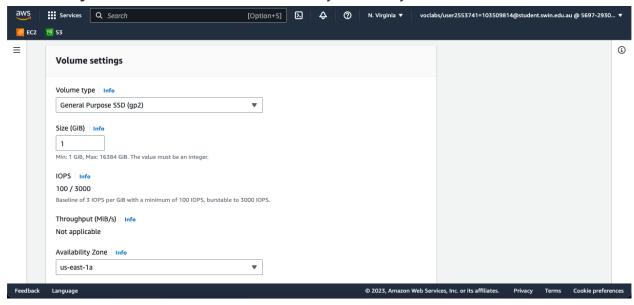


In the left navigation pane, choose Volumes.
 You will see an existing volume that is being used by the Amazon EC2 instance.
 This volume has a size of 8 GiB, which makes it easy to distinguish from the

volume you will create next, which will be 1 GiB in size.



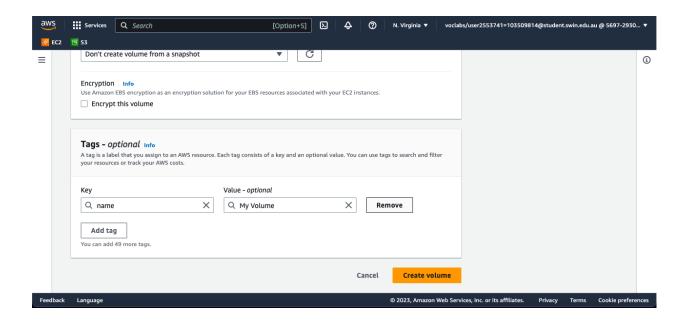
- 9. Choose Create volume then configure:
 - Volume Type: General Purpose SSD (gp2)
 - Size (GiB): 1. NOTE: You may be restricted from creating large volumes.
- o Availability Zone: Select the same availability zone as your EC2 instance.



- Choose Add Tag
- o In the Tag Editor, enter:

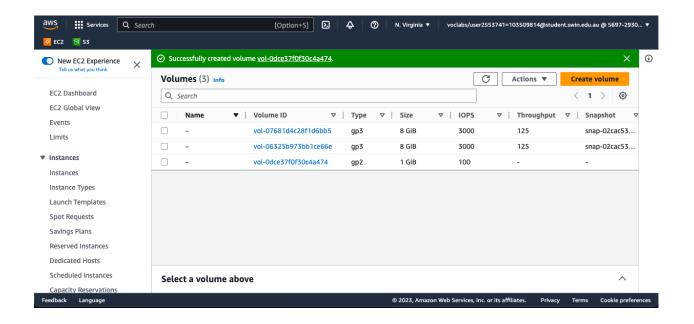
■ Key: Name

■ Value: My Volume



10. Choose Create Volume

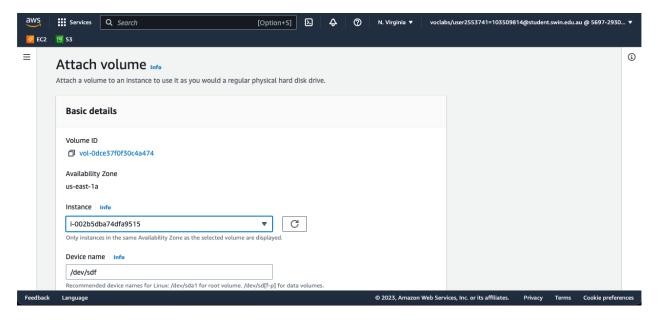
Your new volume will appear in the list, and will move from the *Creating* state to the *Available* state. You may need to choose **refresh** to see your new volume.



Task 2: Attach the Volume to an Instance

You can now attach your new volume to the Amazon EC2 instance.

- 11. Select **My Volume**.
- 12. In the Actions menu, choose Attach volume.
- 13. Choose the **Instance** field, then select the instance that appears (Lab). Note that the **Device** field is set to /dev/sdf. You will use this device identifier in a later task.



Choose **Attach volume**

14. The volume state is now *In-use*.

Task 3: Connect to Your Amazon EC2 Instance

Windows Users: Using SSH to Connect

These instructions are for Windows users only.

If you are using macOS or Linux, skip to the next section.

- 15. Read through the three bullet points in this step before you start to complete the actions, because you will not be able see these instructions when the Details panel is open.
 - Choose the Details drop down menu above these instructions you are currently reading, and then choose Show. A Credentials window will open.
 - Choose the **Download PPK** button and save the **labsuser.ppk** file.
 Typically your browser will save it to the Downloads directory.
 - Then exit the Details panel by choosing the X.
- 16. Download needed software.
 - You will use **PuTTY** to SSH to Amazon EC2 instances. If you do not have PuTTY installed on your computer, <u>download it here</u>.
- 17. Open putty.exe
- 18. Configure PuTTY to not timeout:
 - Choose Connection
 - Set Seconds between keepalives to 30
- 19. This allows you to keep the PuTTY session open for a longer period of time.
- 20. Configure your PuTTY session:
 - Choose Session
 - Host Name (or IP address): Paste the Public DNS or IPv4 address of the Lab instance that you noted earlier.
 - Back in PuTTY, in the Connection list, expand SSH
 - Choose Auth and expand Credentials
 - Under Private key file for authentication: Choose Browse
 - Browse to the *labsuser.ppk* file that you downloaded, select it, and choose
 Open
 - Choose Open again
- 20. To trust and connect to the host, choose **Accept**.
- 21. When prompted **login as**, enter: ec2-user This will connect you to the EC2 instance.
- 22. Windows Users: Choose here to skip ahead to the next task.

macOS and Linux Users

These instructions are for Mac/Linux users only. If you are a Windows user, skip ahead to the next task.

- 23. Read through all the instructions in this one step before you start to complete the actions, because you will not be able see these instructions when the Details panel is open.
 - Choose the Details drop down menu above these instructions you are currently reading, and then choose Show. A Credentials window will open.
 - Choose the **Download** button and save the **labsuser.pem** file.
 - Then exit the Details panel by choosing the X.



24. Open a terminal window, and change directory cd to the directory where the labsuser.pem file was downloaded.

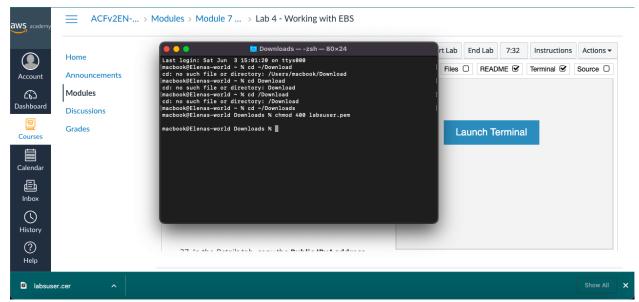
For example, run this command, if it was saved to your Downloads directory:

25.1

- 26. cd ~/Downloads
- 27.
- 28. Change the permissions on the key to be read only, by running this command:

29.1

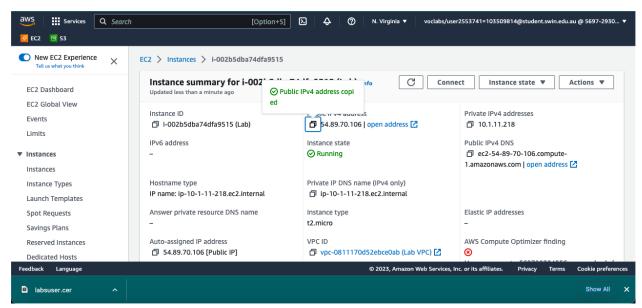
30. chmod 400 labsuser.pem



32. Return to the AWS Management Console, and in the EC2 service, choose **Instances**.

The **Lab** instance should be selected.

33. In the Details tab, copy the Public IPv4 address value.



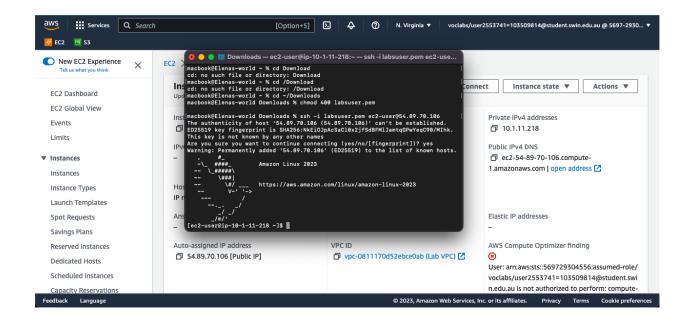
34. Return to the terminal window and run this command (replace <public-ip> with the actual public IP address you copied):

35.1

36. ssh -i labsuser.pem ec2-user@<public-ip> 37.

38. Type yes when prompted to allow a first connection to this remote SSH server.

Because you are using a key pair for authentication, you will not be prompted for a password.



Task 4: Create and Configure Your File System

In this task, you will add the new volume to a Linux instance as an ext3 file system under the /mnt/data-store mount point.

If you are using PuTTY, you can paste text by right-clicking in the PuTTY window.

30. View the storage available on your instance:

31.1

32. df -h

33. You should see output similar to:

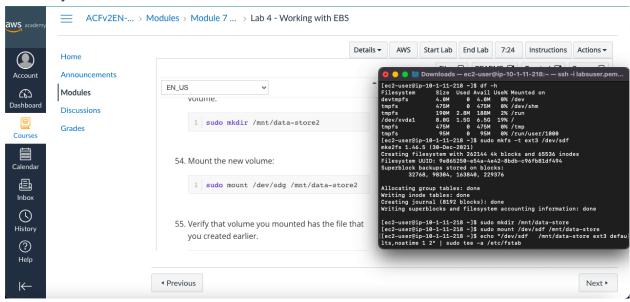
34.1

35. Filesystem Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on

36.2

37. devtmpfs 484M 0 484M 0% /dev	
	38.3
39.tmpfs 492M 0 492M 0% /dev/shm	40.4
41.tmpfs 492M 460K 491M 1% /run	40.4
41. tilipis 4021vi 4001C 401vi 1707tuli	42.5
43.tmpfs 492M 0 492M 0% /sys/fs/cgroup	
	44.6
45./dev/xvda1 8.0G 1.5G 6.6G 19% /	46.7
47.tmpfs 99M 0 99M 0% /run/user/0	40.7
	48.8
49. tmpfs 99M 0 99M 0% /run/user/1000	
50. This is showing the original 8GB disk volume. Your n	ew volume is not yet shown.
51. Create an ext3 file system on the new volume:	
or. Greate an exterme system on the new volume.	52.1
53. sudo mkfs -t ext3 /dev/sdf	
54.	
55. Create a directory for mounting the new storage volu	me: 56.1
57. sudo mkdir /mnt/data-store	50.1
58.	
59. Mount the new volume:	
	60.1
61. sudo mount /dev/sdf /mnt/data-store	

62. To configure the Linux instance to mount this volume whenever the instance is started, you will need to add a line to /etc/fstab.



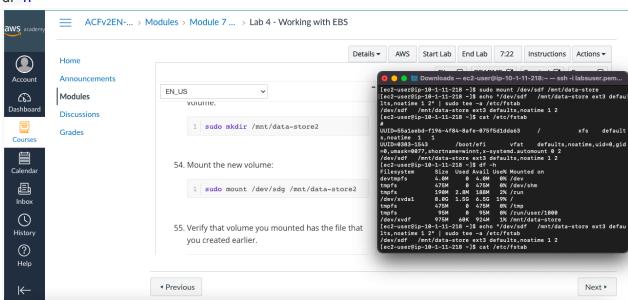
- 63.1
- 64. echo "/dev/sdf /mnt/data-store ext3 defaults,noatime 1 2" | sudo tee -a /etc/fstab
- 65.
- 66. View the configuration file to see the setting on the last line:

67.1

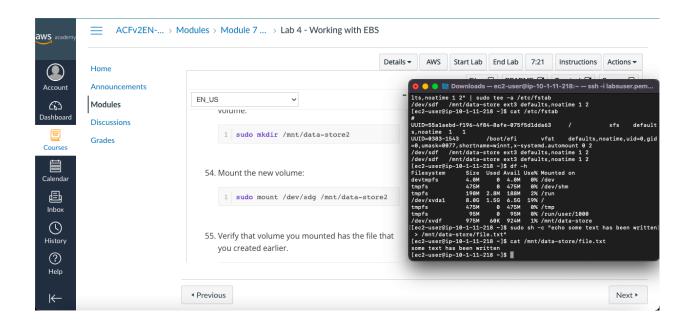
- 68. cat /etc/fstab
- 69
- 70. View the available storage again:

71.1

72. df -h



70 The content will be a contain an additional line. (do., but off	
73. The output will now contain an additional line - /dev/xvdf:	74 . 1
75. Filesystem Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on	
77. devtmpfs 484M 0 484M 0% /dev	76.2
77. devimple form o form o 707dev	78.3
79. tmpfs 492M 0 492M 0% /dev/shm	00.4
81. tmpfs 492M 460K 491M 1% /run	80.4
	82.5
83. tmpfs 492M 0 492M 0% /sys/fs/cgroup	84.6
85./dev/xvda1 8.0G 1.5G 6.6G 19% /	04.0
97 transfer	86.7
87. tmpfs 99M 0 99M 0% /run/user/0	88.8
89. tmpfs 99M 0 99M 0% /run/user/1000	
91./dev/xvdf 976M 1.3M 924M 1% /mnt/data-store	90.9
92.	
93. On your mounted volume, create a file and add some text to it.	94.1
95. sudo sh -c "echo some text has been written > /mnt/data-store/file.txt" 96.	
97. Verify that the text has been written to your volume.	98.1
99. cat /mnt/data-store/file.txt	90.



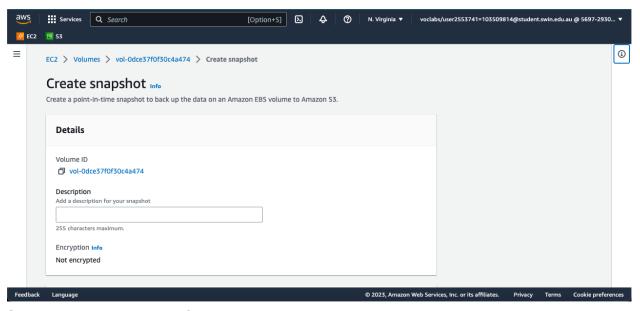
Task 5: Create an Amazon EBS Snapshot

In this task, you will create a snapshot of your EBS volume.

You can create any number of point-in-time, consistent snapshots from Amazon EBS volumes at any time. Amazon EBS snapshots are stored in Amazon S3 with high durability. New Amazon EBS volumes can be created out of snapshots for cloning or restoring backups. Amazon EBS snapshots can also be easily shared among AWS users or copied over AWS regions.

38. In the AWS Management Console, choose Volumes and select My Volume.

39. In the Actions menu, select Create snapshot.

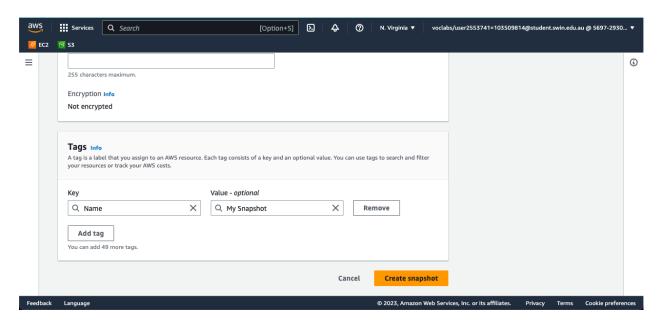


40. Choose Add tag then configure:

Key: Name

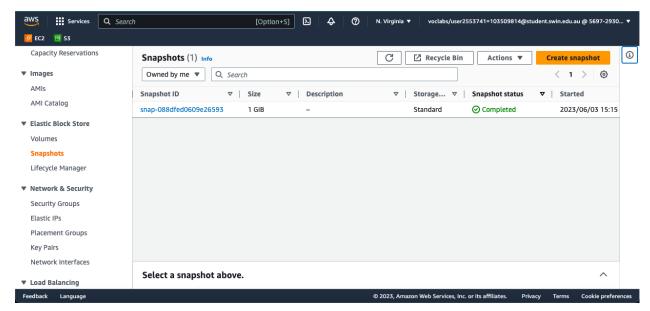
Value: My Snapshot

Choose Create snapshot



41. In the left navigation pane, choose **Snapshots**.

Your snapshot is displayed. The status will first have a state of *Pending*, which means that the snapshot is being created. It will then change to a state of *Completed*.



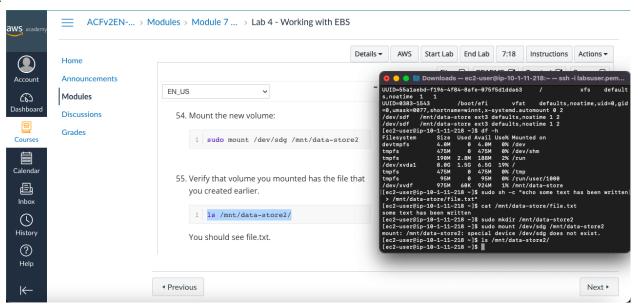
Note: Only used storage blocks are copied to snapshots, so empty blocks do not occupy any snapshot storage space.

42. In your remote SSH session, delete the file that you created on your volume.

43.1

44. sudo rm /mnt/data-store/file.txt

45.

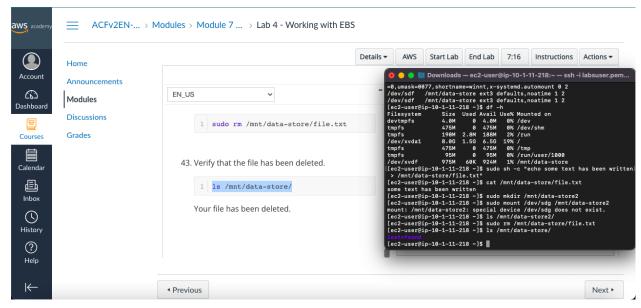


46. Verify that the file has been deleted.

47.1

48. Is /mnt/data-store/

49. Your file has been deleted.



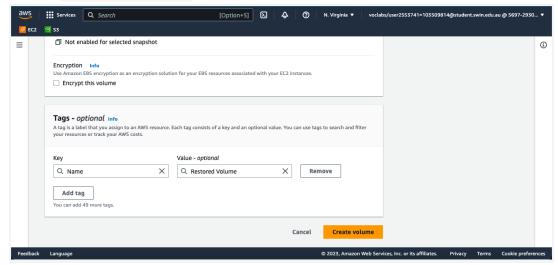
Task 6: Restore the Amazon EBS Snapshot

If you ever wish to retrieve data stored in a snapshot, you can **Restore** the snapshot to a new EBS volume.

Create a Volume Using Your Snapshot

- 44. In the AWS Management Console, select My Snapshot.
- 45. In the **Actions** menu, select **Create volume from snapshot**.
- 46. For **Availability Zone** Select the same availability zone that you used earlier.
- 47. Choose Add tag then configure:
 - Key: Name

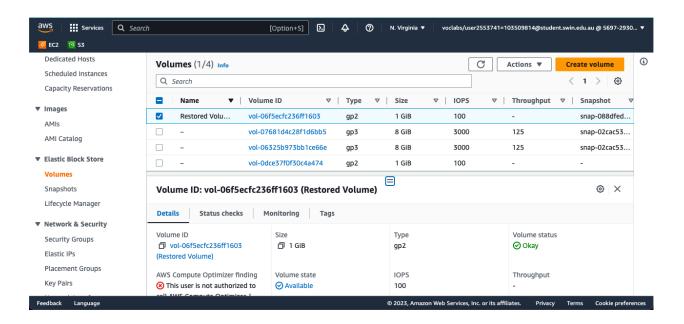
Value: Restored Volume



- Choose Create volume
- 48. Note: When restoring a snapshot to a new volume, you can also modify the configuration, such as changing the volume type, size or Availability Zone.

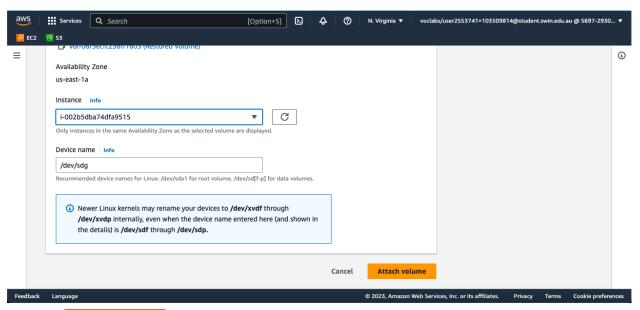
Attach the Restored Volume to Your EC2 Instance

- 48. In the left navigation pane, choose Volumes.
- 49. Select Restored Volume.



- 50. In the **Actions** menu, select **Attach volume**.
- 51. Choose the **Instance** field, then select the (Lab) instance that appears.

 Note that the **Device** field is set to /dev/sdg. You will use this device identifier in a later task.



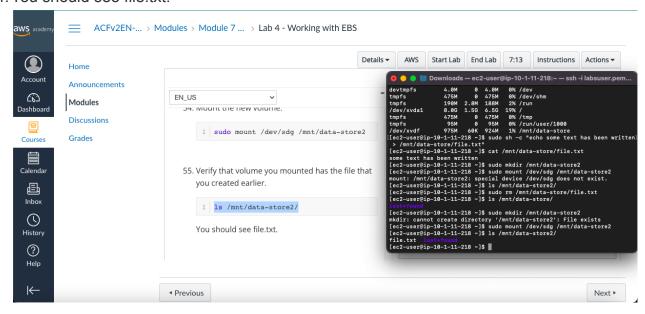
52. Choose Attach volume

The volume state is now *in-use*.

Mount the Restored Volume

53. Create a directory for mounting the new storage volume:	54.1
55. sudo mkdir /mnt/data-store2 56.	
57. Mount the new volume:	58.1
59. sudo mount /dev/sdg /mnt/data-store2 60.	
61. Verify that volume you mounted has the file that you created earlier.	62.1
63. ls /mnt/data-store2/	

64. You should see file.txt.



Conclusion

Congratulations! You now have successfully:

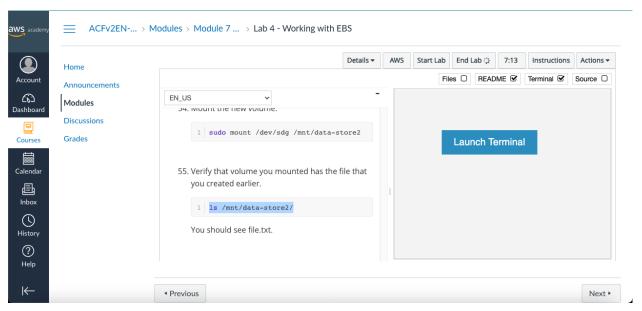
- Created an Amazon EBS volume
- Attached the volume to an EC2 instance
- Created a file system on the volume
- Added a file to volume
- Created a snapshot of your volume
- Created a new volume from the snapshot
- Attached and mounted the new volume to your EC2 instance
- Verified that the file you created earlier was on the newly created volume

Lab Complete

Congratulations! You have completed the lab.

56. Choose End Lab at the top of this page and then click Yes to confirm that you want to end the lab.

A panel will appear, indicating that "DELETE has been initiated... You may close this message box now."



- 57. Choose the **X** in the top right corner to close the panel.
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