CS 455 – Computer Security Fundamentals

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Computer Security Fundamentals

- Amazon EC2 instances with Security Groups and Session Manager
- AWS Network Access Control List (TBD)
- AWS Web Application Firewall (WAF) (TBD)
 - AWS WAF Bot Control Explained and Demonstrated

- First thing of all, let's examine the vulnerabilities of our EC2 instance
- Assuming that, my Kali Linux @ VirtualBox is the hacker's machine
- The instance's public IP address which I get from the AWS EC2 console is:

```
Public IPv4 address

18.218.230.188 | open address
```

Let's do some nmap scans (check the next page)

- I only have port 22 for SSH is open, and
- Port 3389 for RDP is open
- This is the same as our expectations. Remember the inbound traffic?

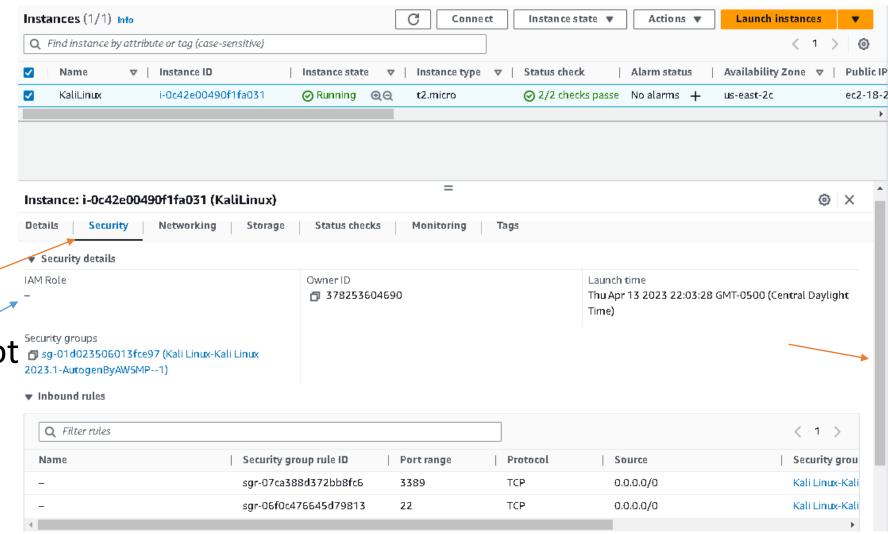
```
-(kali⊛kali)-[~]
 -$ nmap 18.218.230.188 -sV -v -Pn
Host discovery disabled (-Pn). All addresses will be marked 'up' and scan times may be slower.
Starting Nmap 7.93 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-04-16 22:02 EDT
NSE: Loaded 45 scripts for scanning.
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 22:02
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 22:02, 0.13s elapsed
Initiating Connect Scan at 22:02
Scanning ec2-18-218-230-188.us-east-2.compute.amazonaws.com (18.218.230.188) [1000 ports]
Discovered open port 22/tcp on 18.218.230.188
Discovered open port 3389/tcp on 18.218.230.188
Completed Connect Scan at 22:02, 10.22s elapsed (1000 total ports)
Initiating Service scan at 22:02
Scanning 2 services on ec2-18-218-230-188.us-east-2.compute.amazonaws.com (18.218.230.188)
Completed Service scan at 22:02, 11.24s elapsed (2 services on 1 host)
NSE: Script scanning 18.218.230.188.
Initiating NSE at 22:02
Completed NSE at 22:02, 0.01s elapsed
Initiating NSE at 22:02
Completed NSE at 22:02, 0.00s elapsed
Nmap scan report for ec2-18-218-230-188.us-east-2.compute.amazonaws.com (18.218.230.188)
Host is up (0.067s latency).
Not shown: 998 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
PORT
         STATE SERVICE
                             VERSION
                             OpenSSH 9.2p1 Debian 2 (protocol 2.0)
22/tcp open ssh
3389/tcp open ms-wbt-server xrdp
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
Read data files from: /usr/bin/../share/nmap
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 21.99 seconds
```

- Let's go back to our EC2 instance.
- Go ahead check the instance, and click the

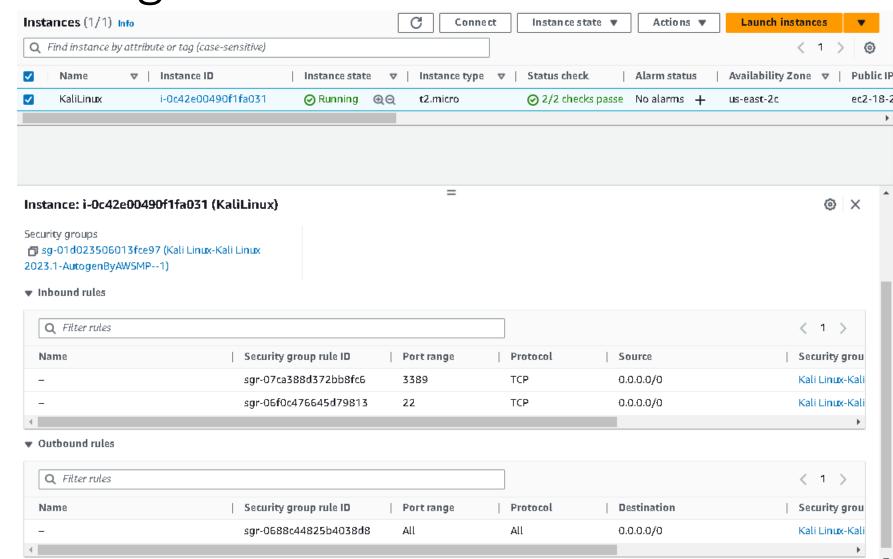
[Security] tab

It seems we do not

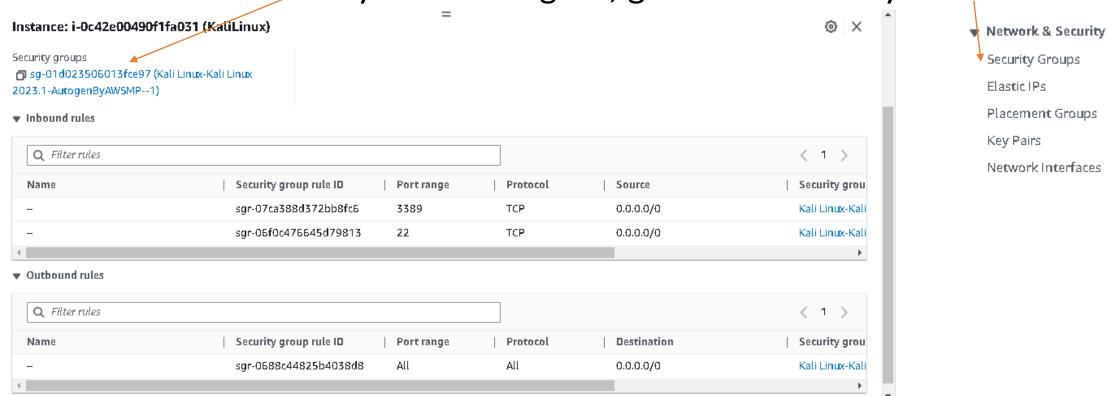
have IAM setup yet



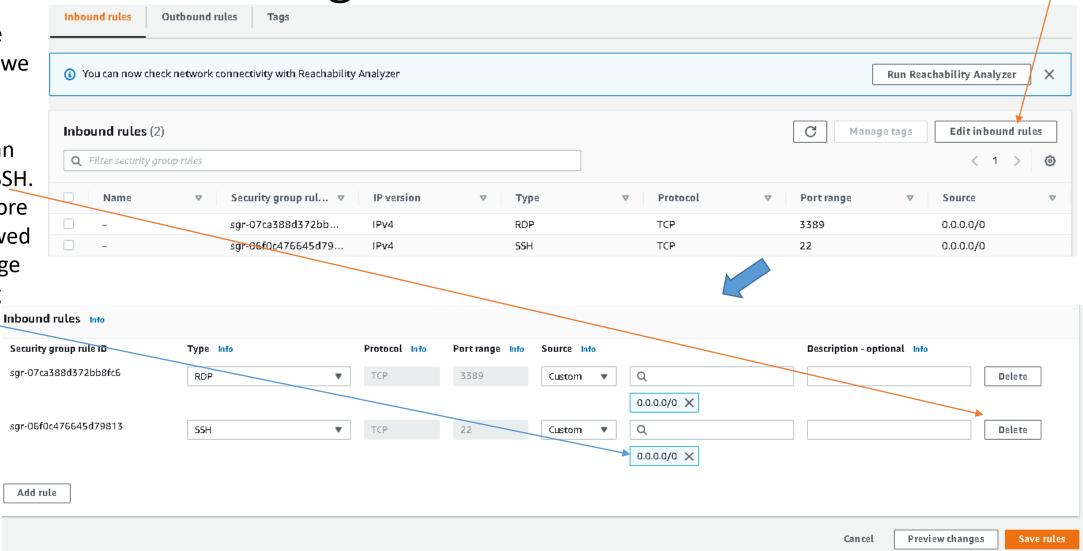
- Scroll down little bit more, you can see the details for "Security Group"
- Inbound andOutbound rules



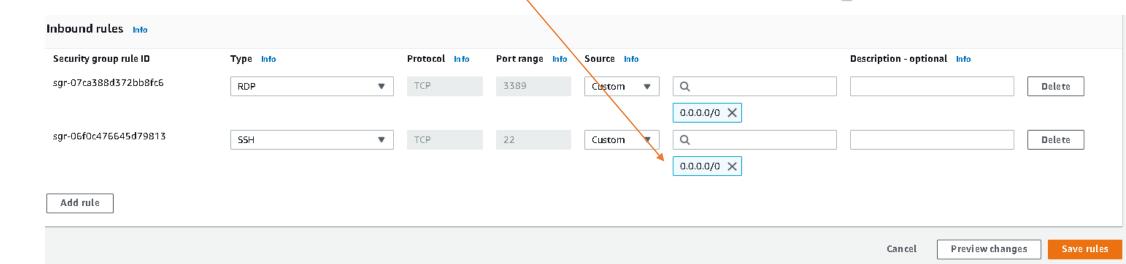
- Going to the [Security Groups] is easy.
- We can directly go to the security group by using the shortcut, which means the one you are using. Or, go to the link on your LHS



After a click on the [Security Groups], we can "tighten" the access rights
In this case, you can delete the whole SSH. That means, no more connection is allowed from SSH. Or change the current setting

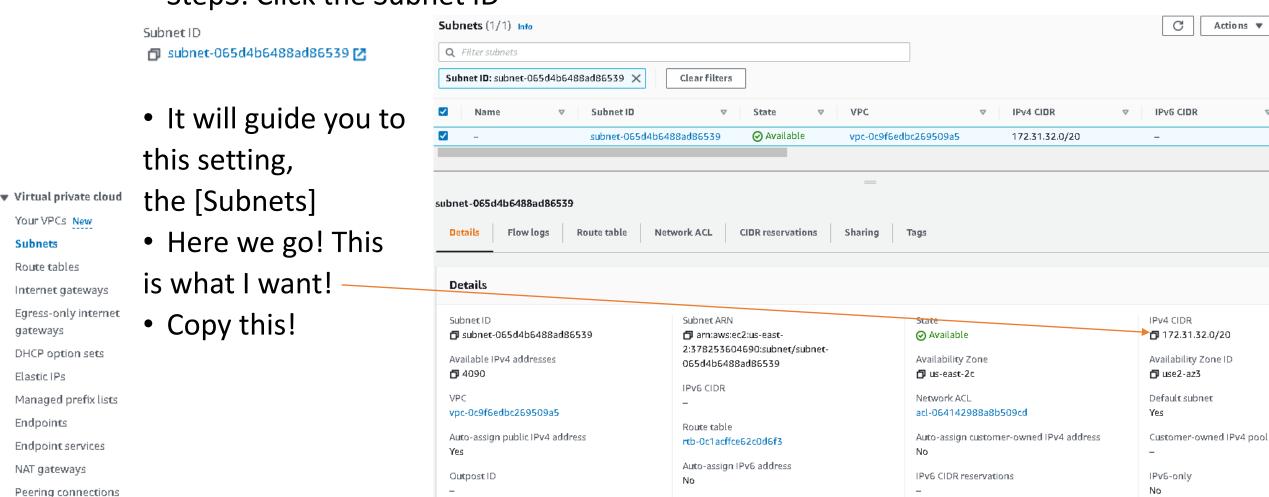


- What if we only allow local (private) IP addresses to be able to access this EC2 instance? (Allowing connections within AWS!)
 - Step1. Delete the current "setting" for SSH (0.0.0.0/0) We took SSH for example
 - Step2. Go back to the EC2 instance and check its Private IPv4 addresses in the [Networking] tab. Then, we get the following: 172.31.41.240 Private IPv4 addresses

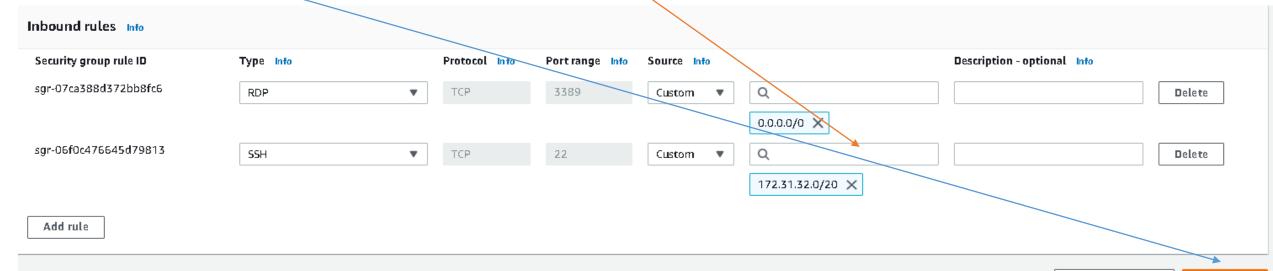


172.31.41.240

Step3. Click the Subnet ID



- Step4. We can head back to the EC2, inbound rules.
- Paste it to this field
- So, in this way, the IP addresses coming in from this subnet (in the private / local area network) are allowed to use SSH into this EC2 instance. In other words, the IP addresses must be in the AWS as well.
- Step5. Save rules. Then, enjoy your "basic" and "fundamental" protections!



Save rules

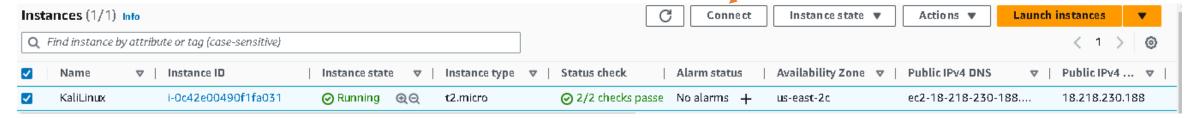
If I go back to the Kali Linux (VirtualBox) and run the exact same scan?

• See? The SSH port is closed to the public internet! (But is open to

AWS internal devices!)

```
—(kali⊛kali)-[~]
s nmap 18.218.230.188 -sV -v -Pn
Host discovery disabled (-Pn). All addresses will be marked 'up' and scan times may be slower.
Starting Nmap 7.93 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-04-17 01:14 EDT
NSE: Loaded 45 scripts for scanning.
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 01:14
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 01:14, 0.12s elapsed
Initiating Connect Scan at 01:14
Scanning ec2-18-218-230-188.us-east-2.compute.amazonaws.com (18.218.230.188) [1000 ports]
Discovered open port 3389/tcp on 18.218.230.188
Completed Connect Scan at 01:14, 10.69s elapsed (1000 total ports)
Initiating Service scan at 01:14
Scanning 1 service on ec2-18-218-230-188.us-east-2.compute.amazonaws.com (18.218.230.188)
Completed Service scan at 01:14, 11.22s elapsed (1 service on 1 host)
NSE: Script scanning 18.218.230.188.
Initiating NSE at 01:14
Completed NSE at 01:14, 0.01s elapsed
Initiating NSE at 01:14
Completed NSE at 01:14, 0.00s elapsed
Nmap scan report for ec2-18-218-230-188.us-east-2.compute.amazonaws.com (18.218.230.188)
Host is up (0.080s latency).
Not shown: 999 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
         STATE SERVICE
                             VERSION
3389/tcp open ms-wbt-server xrdp
Read data files from: /usr/bin/../share/nmap
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 22.37 seconds
```

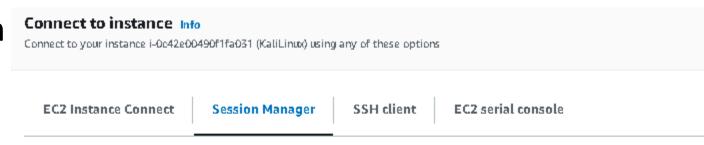
- In the beginning, go to the EC2 instance. Check the instance \rightarrow Connect.
- You may find the "session manager" is not working



Check the next page

- It is not working!
- It seems like we haven't finish the IAM setup (check slide #5)
- Step1: Click the

"AWS Systems Manager Quick Setup"





We weren't able to connect to your instance. Common reasons for this include:

- 1. SSM Agent isn't installed on the instance. You can install the agent on both <u>Windows instances</u> and <u>Linux instances</u>.
- The required <u>IAM instance profile</u> isn't attached to the instance. You can attach a profile using <u>AWS Systems Manager Quick Setup</u>.
- 3. Session Manager setup is incomplete. For more information, see Session Manager Prerequisites.

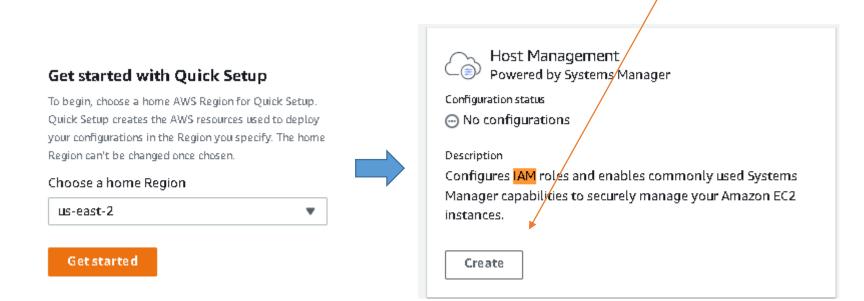
Session Manager usage:

- · Connect to your instance without SSH keys or a bastion host.
- · Sessions are secured using an AWS Key Management Service key.
- You can log session commands and details in an Amazon S3 bucket or CloudWatch Logs log group.
- Configure sessions on the Session Manager <u>Preferences</u> page.

• Check your instance info. I know my instance is in us-east-2 as region



- Finish the following setups, click the [Create].
- Bring you to the next screen



Check the 2 options in Amazon Cloudwatch

Configuration options

Quick Setup configures the following Systems Manager components based on best practices. Select the check boxes for actions you want to schedule. Learn more 🔀

Systems Manager

- Update Systems/Manager (SSM) Agent every two weeks.
- Collect inventory from your instances every 30 minutes.
- Scan instances for missing patches daily.

Amazon CloudWatch

- Install and configure the CloudWatch agent.
- Update the CloudWatch agent once every 30 days.

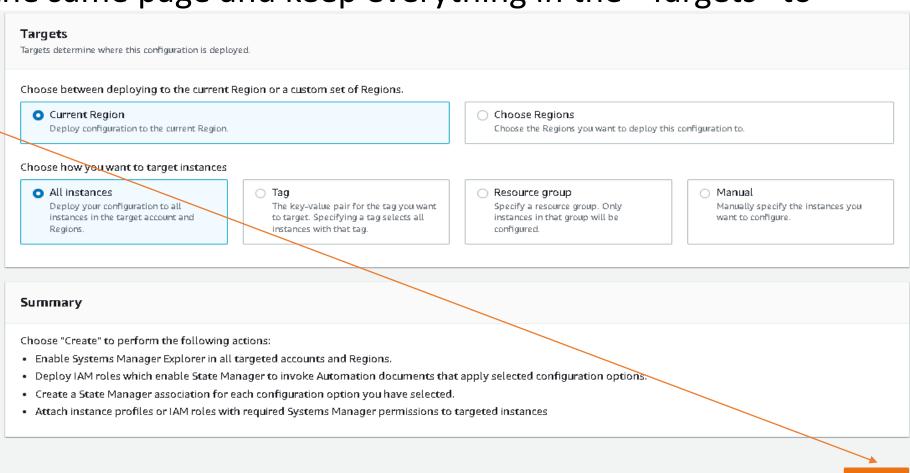
If you run this configuration, Systems Manager Explorer [2] is enabled.

Learn more about the metrics included in the CloudWatch agent's basic configuration 🛂 and Amazon CloudWatch pricing 🔼.

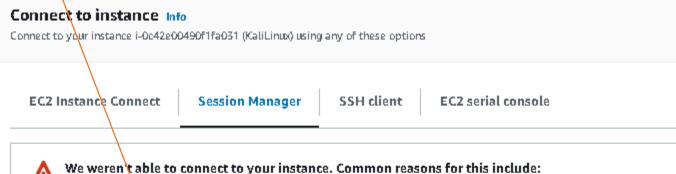
• Scroll down on the same page and keep everything in the "Targets" to

default settings

• Create!



Step2: Install the AWS SSM Agent





- 1. SSM Agent isn't installed on the instance. You can install the agent on both <u>Windows instances</u> and Linux instances.
- 2. The required IAM instance profile isn't attached to the instance. You can attach a profile using AWS Systems Manager Quick Setup.
- 3. Session Manager setup is incomplete. For more information, see Session Manager Prerequisites.

Session Manager usage:

- Connect to your instance without SSH keys or a bastion host.
- Sessions are secured using an AWS Key Management Service key.
- You can log session commands and details in an Amazon S3 bucket or CloudWatch Logs log group.
- Configure sessions on the Session Manager <u>Preferences</u> page.

By following some tutorial in the internet, make sure the "amazon-ssm-agent" service starts (This is for Debian family)

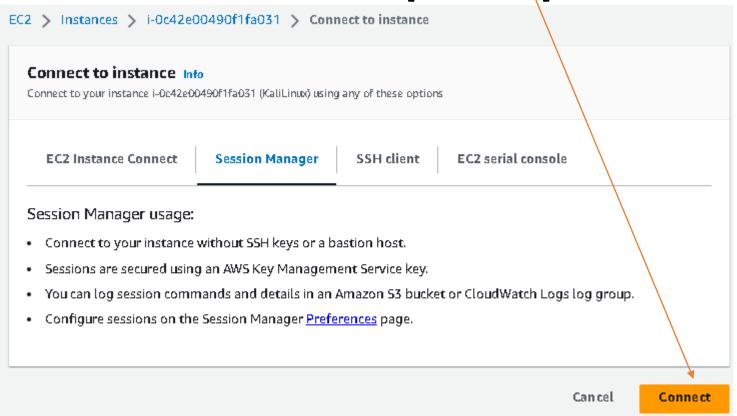
```
File Edit Format View Help
Debian:
mkdir /tmp/ssm
wget https://s3.amazonaws.com/ec2-downloads-windows/SSMAgent/latest/debian_amd64/amazon-ssm-agent.deb -O /tmp/ssm/amazon-ssm-agent.deb
sudo dpkg -i /tmp/ssm/amazon-ssm-agent.deb
sudo service amazon-ssm-agent stop
sudo -E amazon-ssm-agent -register -code "activation-code" -id "activation-id" -region "region"
sudo service amazon-ssm-agent start
Raspbian:
mkdir /tmp/ssm
sudo curl https://s3.amazonaws.com/ec2-downloads-windows/SSMAgent/latest/debian_arm/amazon-ssm-agent.deb -o /tmp/ssm/amazon-ssm-agent.deb
sudo dpkg -i /tmp/ssm/amazon-ssm-agent.deb
sudo service amazon-ssm-agent stop
sudo -E amazon-ssm-agent -register -code "activation-code" -id "activation-id" -region "region"
sudo service amazon-ssm-agent start
Ubuntu:
mkdir /tmp/ssm
curl https://s3.amazonaws.com/ec2-downloads-windows/SSMAgent/latest/debian_amd64/amazon-ssm-agent.deb -o /tmp/ssm/amazon-ssm-agent.deb
sudo dpkg -i /tmp/ssm/amazon-ssm-agent.deb
sudo service amazon-ssm-agent stop
sudo -E amazon-ssm-agent -register -code "activation-code" -id "activation-id" -region "region"
sudo service amazon-ssm-agent start
```

This is for CentOS (RedHat) family

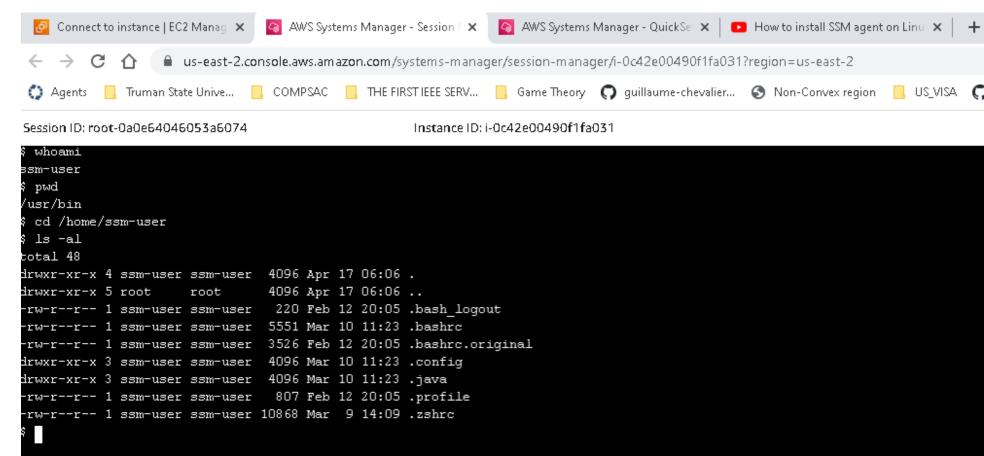
```
mkdir /tmp/ssm
cd /tmp/ssm
wget https://s3.ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/amazon-ssm-ap-south-1/latest/linux_amd64/amazon-ssm-agent.rpm
sudo rpm --install amazon-ssm-agent
sudo systemctl status amazon-ssm-agent
sudo systemctl enable amazon-ssm-agent
sudo systemctl status amazon-ssm-agent
sudo systemctl status amazon-ssm-agent
```

- Of course, our Kali Linux is the Debian family.
- Once you make sure your SSM agent is running, go back to the EC2 instance → [Connect]

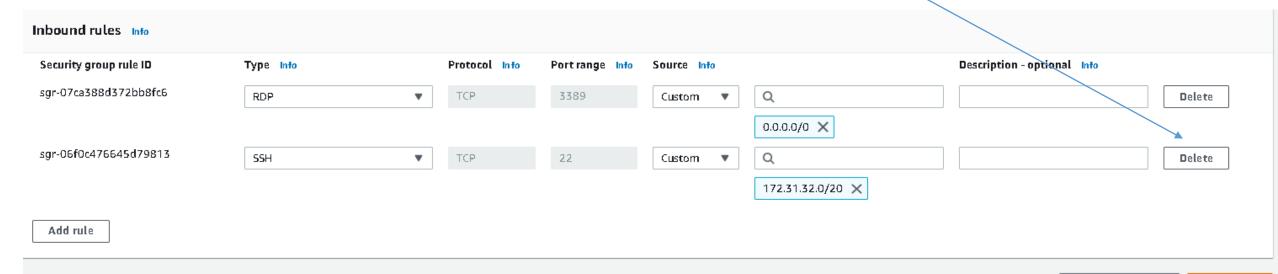
You will see this! Hit the [Connect]



- Here we go! I can access my EC2 instance from the browser!
- SSM Agent!

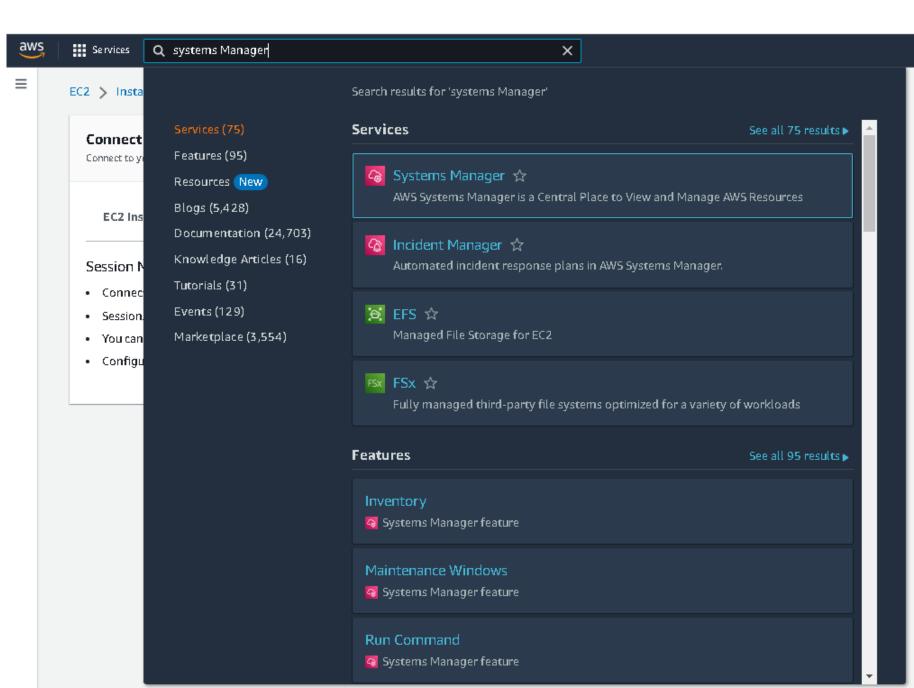


 Now, we can actually delete the SSH form inbound and use the [Session Manager] to manage our system connections.



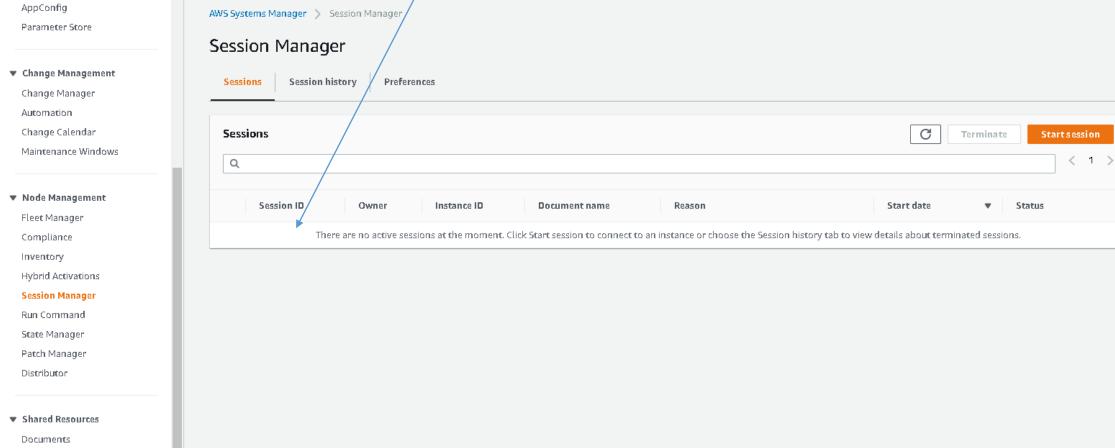
Save rules

Now we cansearch theSystems Manager



You can see right at the bottom left, the session manager

Nothing is there in the beginning! AWS Systems Manager > Session Manager



• If we go back to use the SSM Agent to [Connect] again? So you can do some management jobs over there. You can also check the session and terminate it, if it looks suspicious!

