Root Login to the Amazon EC2 by *Kvreddi.*

By default Amazon EC2 Linux machine configured in a way, so you can only login as *ec2-user*. And to run command as root, required prefix the command with *sudo*. To avoid such security restrictions we propose to configure *root*, generate public/private key pair and store into the key repository and reconfigure SSH client to be able to login as *root* by default.

Create public/private key

1. Initiate SSH session (as 'ec2-user') and connect to the Amazon Linux instance by it public DNS name.

2. Change the root password:

```
sudo passwd root
```

3. Login as root:

```
su root
```

4. Create a public/private key pair:

```
ssh-keygen -t rsa
```

This will create two files in (hidden) ~/.ssh directory
called id_rsa and id_rsa.pub. id_rsa is a private key and id_rsa.pub is a public key.

5. Set permissions on a private key:

```
chmod 700 ~/.ssh
chmod 600 ~/.ssh/id_rsa
```

6. Copy the public key (id_rsa.pub) to the server and install it to
the authorized_keys list:

```
cat id_rsa.pub >> ~/.ssh/authorized_keys
```

7. Set file permissions on the server:

```
chmod 700 ~/.ssh
chmod 600 ~/.ssh/authorized_keys
```

8. Update /etc/ssh/sshd_config configuration file to read:

```
PermitRootLogin yes
# EC2 uses keys for remote acc
PasswordAuthentication no
```

9. Copy private key id_rsa from Amazon EC Linux instance to the local file system using WinSCP tool.

Convert private key into PuTTY format

1. Download and install PuTTY on your Windows machine.

   2. Start PuTTYgen, click Load button and browse for the location of the private key on the system.
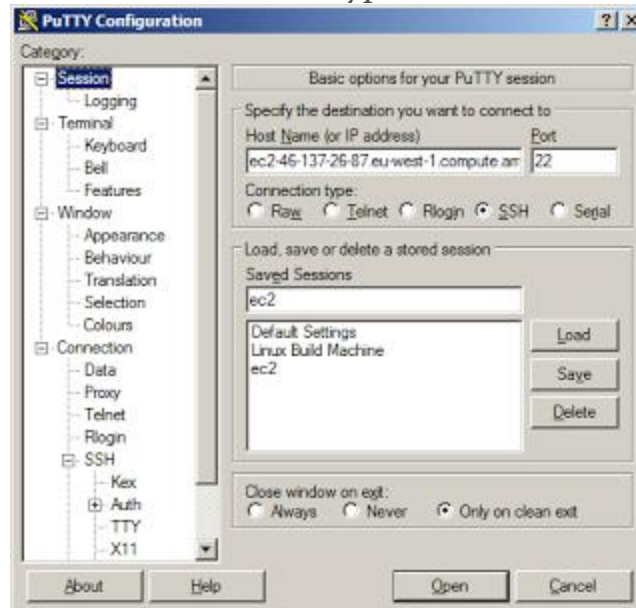
   3. Select id_rsa file and click Open button.
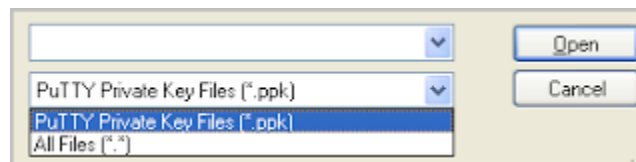
4. Click Save private key (don't press Generate button) and press Yes within warning dialog.
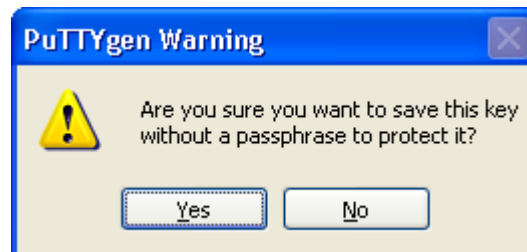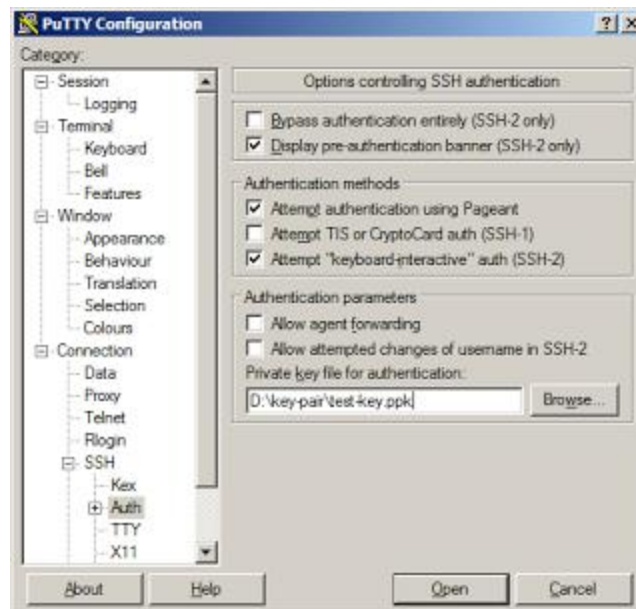
Initiate SSH session as root

1. Open PuTTY and in the Host Name fields type Public DNS of the instance.

2. Set previously generated private key in the Category menu under Connection>SSH>Auth.

3. Click Open and press Yes within security warning dialog.

4. In the SSH session window login with root.

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By Kvreddi