Aim: To Understand Continuous monitoring and Installation and configuration of Nagios Core, Nagios Plugins and NRPE (Nagios Remote Plugin Executor) on Linux Machine.

Theory:

What is Nagios?

Nagios is an open-source software for continuous monitoring of systems, networks, and infrastructures. It runs plugins stored on a server that is connected with a host or another server on your network or the Internet. In case of any failure, Nagios alerts about the issues so that the technical team can perform the recovery process immediately.

Nagios is used for continuous monitoring of systems, applications, service and business processes in a DevOps culture.

Why We Need Nagios tool?

Here are the important reasons to use Nagios monitoring tool:

- Detects all types of network or server issues
- Helps you to find the root cause of the problem which allows you to get the permanent solution to the problem
- Active monitoring of your entire infrastructure and business processes Allows you to monitor and troubleshoot server performance issues
- Helps you to plan for infrastructure upgrades before outdated systems create failures You can maintain the security and availability of the service
- Automatically fix problems in a panic situation

Features of Nagios

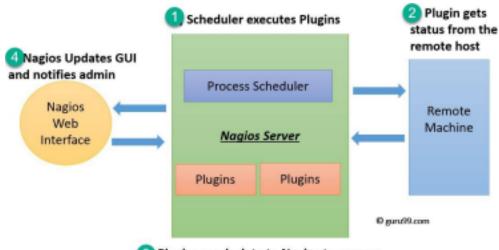
Following are the important features of Nagios monitoring tool:

- Relatively scalable, Manageable, and Secure
- Good log and database system
- Informative and attractive web interfaces
- Automatically send alerts if condition changes
- If the services are running fine, then there is no need to do check that host is an alive Helps you to detect network errors or server crashes

- You can troubleshoot the performance issues of the server.
- The issues, if any, can be fixed automatically as they are identified during the monitoring process
- You can monitor the entire business process and IT infrastructure with a single pass The product's architecture is easy to write new plugins in the language of your choice Nagios allows you to read its configuration from an entire directory which helps you to decide how to define individual files
- Utilizes topology to determine dependencies
- Monitor network services like HTTP, SMTP, HTTP, SNMP, FTP, SSH, POP, etc. Helps you to define network host hierarchy using parent hosts
- Ability to define event handlers that runs during service or host events for proactive problem resolution
- Support for implementing redundant monitoring hosts

Nagios Architecture

Nagios is a client-server architecture. Usually, on a network, a Nagios server is running on a host, and plugins are running on all the remote hosts which should be monitored.

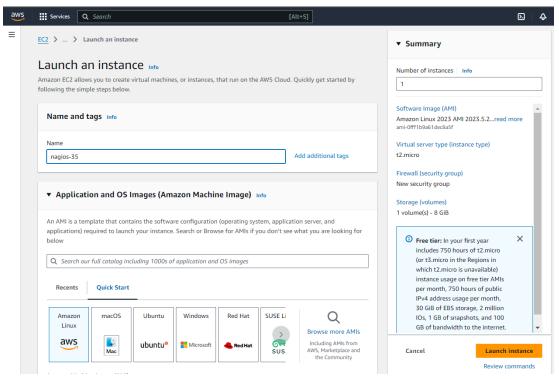


- 3 Plugins sends data to Nagios to process
- 1. The scheduler is a component of the server part of Nagios. It sends a signal to execute the plugins at the remote host.
- 2. The plugin gets the status from the remote host
- 3. The plugin sends the data to the process scheduler
- 4. The process scheduler updates the GUI and notifications are sent to admins.

Installation of Nagios

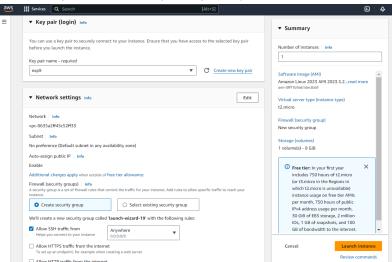
Prerequisites: AWS Free Tier

Step 1: Login to your AWS account. Search for EC2 on services. Open the interface and click on Create Instance.



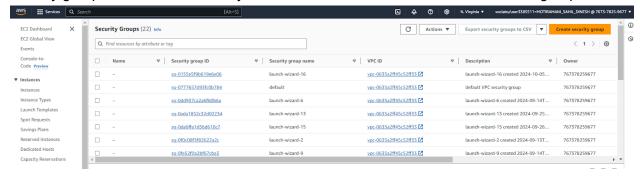
Select The OS Image as Amazon Linux.

Step 2: If you do not have a private key created or a .pem file created, click on create a key pair. Else select the key pair that you had created before. (Make sure you know where the .pem file for that key is present on your system)

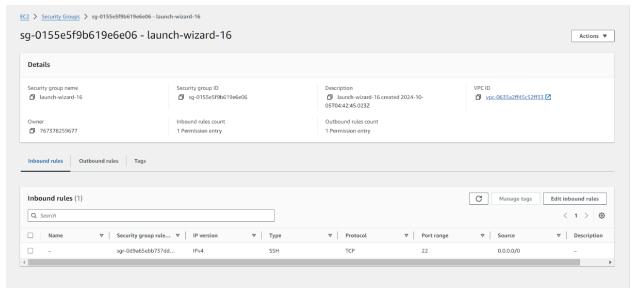


AWS will create a security group for this instance. Keep the name of that instance saved.

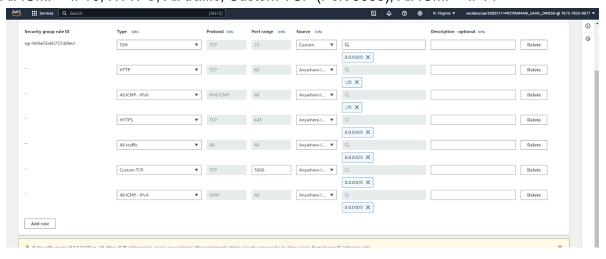
Step 3: After creating the instance, click on Security Groups from the left side pane. Find the security group that was created for your instance. Click on the instance ID for that group.



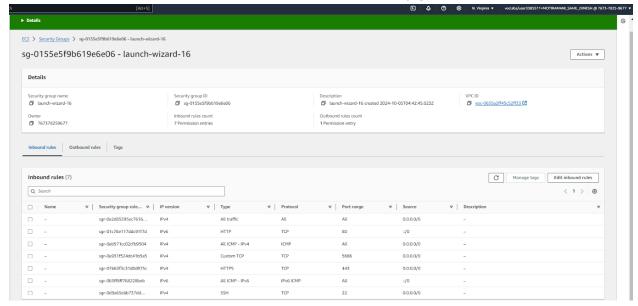
Here, click on Edit Inbound Rules.



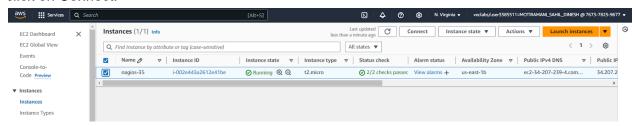
Now, click on add rules, and add teh rules for the following protocols: HTTP, All ICMP - IPv6, HTTPS, All traffic, Custom TCP (Port 5666), All ICMP - IPv4



Click on save. This will add all the inbound rules to the security group.



Step 4: Now come back to the instances screen. Click on the instance ID of your instance. Then click on Connect.



Click on SSH client. Copy the example command.

EC2 Instance Connect	Session Manager	SSH client	EC2 serial console
nstance ID			
i-002e443a2612e41	be (nagios-35)		
Open an SSH clier	nt.		
	e key file. The key used t	o launch this insta	ance is exp9.pem
3. Run this command	d, if necessary, to ensure xp9.pem"	your key is not pu	blicly viewable.
4. Connect to your ir	nstance using its Public D	INS:	
	39-4.compute-1.amazor	naws.com	
O Command copied			
¥	2-user@ec2-34-207-239		

Step 5: Now, we have to connect our local OS terminal to the instance using SSH. For this, Open terminal wher the private key file is located (.pem)

Paste the copied SSH command and run it.

Step 6: Now we start working on this terminal. First run the command sudo yum update

This command will check for any updates for the YUM library.

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$ sudo yum update
Last metadata expiration check: 0:19:35 ago on Sun Oct 6 10:11:16 2024.
Dependencies resolved.
Nothing to do.
Complete!
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$ |
```

Step 7: We are going to install an Apache server and a PHP on this instance. For that, run this command.

sudo yum install httpd php

Package	Architecture	Version	Repository	Size
======================================	============		=============	
httpd	x86_64	2.4.62-1.amzn2023	amazonlinux	48 H
php8.3	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	10
Installing dependencies:				
apr	x86_64	1.7.2-2.amzn2023.0.2	amazonlinux	129 k
apr-util	x86_64	1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	98 I
generic-logos-httpd	noarch	18.0.0-12.amzn2023.0.3	amazonlinux	19 k
httpd-core	x86_64	2.4.62-1.amzn2023	amazonlinux	1.4 /
httpd-filesystem	noarch	2.4.62-1.amzn2023	amazonlinux	14
httpd-tools	x86_64	2.4.62-1.amzn2023	amazonlinux	81
libbrotli	x86_64	1.0.9-4.amzn2023.0.2	amazonlinux	315
libsodium	x86_64	1.0.19-4.amzn2023	amazonlinux	176 k
libxslt	x86_64	1.1.34-5.amzn2023.0.2	amazonlinux	241
mailcap	noarch	2.1.49-3.amzn2023.0.3	amazonlinux	33
nginx-filesystem	noarch	1:1.24.0-1.amzn2023.0.4	amazonlinux	9.8
php8.3-cli	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	3.7 I
php8.3-common	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	737 I
php8.3-process	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	45
php8.3-xml	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	154
Installing weak dependenci	es:			
apr-util-openssl	x86_64	1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	17
mod_http2	x86_64	2.0.27-1.amzn2023.0.3	amazonlinux	166
mod_lua	x86_64	2.4.62-1.amzn2023	amazonlinux	61
php8.3-fpm	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	1.9
php8.3-mbstring	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	528 l
php8.3-opcache	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	379 l
php8.3-pdo	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	89 l
php8.3-sodium	x86_64	8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1	amazonlinux	41 -

```
Installed:
apr-1,7.2-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64
generic-logos-httpd-18.0.0-12.amzn2023.0.3.noarch
httpd-filesystem-2.4.62-1.amzn2023.noarch
httpd-filesystem-2.4.62-1.amzn2023.noarch
httpd-tools-2.4.62-1.amzn2023.x86_64
libsodium-1.0.19-4.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64
mod_http2-2.0.27-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64
mod_http2-2.0.27-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64
php8.3-6.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
php8.3-6.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
php8.3-pho-8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
php8.3-pdo-8.3.10-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
```

Step 8: Next we install C/C++ compiler (GCC) along with the necessary C libraries required for compiling and running C programs. Use the following command. sudo yum install gcc glibc glibc-common

```
| Rec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 -] | sudo yum install gcc glibc glibc-common | Last metadata expiration check: 6:21:56 ago no Sun Oct 6 10:11:16 2021. | Package glibc-common-2.34-52.amzn023.0:11.886_64 is already installed. | Package glibc-common-2.34-52.amzn023.0:11.886_64 | Section | Package glibc-devel | Package glibc-deve
```

Step 9: We would also need GD library and its development tools. For that, run this command sudo yum install gd gd-devel

Step 10: Now, we create a user called as 'nagios' and make sure that it has a home directory, and set up a password for it.

sudo adduser -m nagios sudo passwd nagios

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$ sudo adduser -m nagios sudo passwd nagios
Changing password for user nagios.
New password:
Retype new password:
passwd: all authentication tokens updated successfully.
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$
```

Step 11: Create a user group called as 'nagcmd' to execute nagios commands. sudo groupadd nagcmd

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$ sudo groupadd nagcmd [ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$ |
```

Step 12: Add users apache and nagios to this user group.

sudo usermod -a -G nagcmd nagios sudo usermod -a -G nagcmd apache

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$ sudo usermod -a -G nagcmd nagios sudo usermod -a -G nagcmd apache [ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$
```

Step 13: We create a directory downloads, to store the files of nagios server that are downloaded.

mkdir ~/downloads cd ~/downloads

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 ~]$ mkdir ~/downloads cd ~/downloads [ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 downloads]$
```

Step 14:Now we need to install the latest versions of nogios-core and nagios-plugins. Go to the respective websites and check whether a better version is available. If newer versions are available, then right click on the download button \rightarrow Copy link address.

Paste this link address in place of the current link in command.

If not run these commands.

wget https://assets.nagios.com/downloads/nagioscore/releases/nagios-4.5.5.tar.gz

wget https://nagios-plugins.org/download/nagios-plugins-2.4.11.tar.gz

Step 15:Now, we need to extract nagios-core file into the same directory. For that, we will use tar command.

tar zxvf nagios-4.5.5.tar.gz

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 downloads]$ tar zxvf nagios-4.5.5.tar.gz nagios-4.5.5/
nagios-4.5.5/
nagios-4.5.5/.github/
nagios-4.5.5/.github/workflows/
nagios-4.5.5/.gitignore
nagios-4.5.5/CONTRIBUTING.md
nagios-4.5.5/Changelog
nagios-4.5.5/INSTALLING
nagios-4.5.5/LEGAL
nagios-4.5.5/LICENSE
nagios-4.5.5/Makefile.in
nagios-4.5.5/README.md
nagios-4.5.5/README.md
nagios-4.5.5/THANKS
```

```
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/.gitignore
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/Makefile.in
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xcddefault.c
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xcddefault.h
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xodtemplate.c
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xodtemplate.h
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xpddefault.c
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xpddefault.h
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xrddefault.c
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xrddefault.h
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xrddefault.h
nagios-4.5.5/xdata/xsddefault.h
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 downloads]$
```

Step 16: We need to ensure that Nagios uses a specific group (in this case, nagcmd) for executing external commands.

./configure --with-command-group=nagcmd

An error could be encountered here: ./configure: no such path or directory

Solution: Navigate to the nagios-4.5.5 folder in downloads. (version could vary)

Steps: Is

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 downloads]$ ls
nagios-4.5.5 nagios-4.5.5.tar.gz
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 downloads]$
```

- cd nagios-4.5.5 (use the version shown by your ls command)
- ./configure --with-command-group=nagcmd

Another error could be Cannot find SSL headers.

To solve this, we need to install OpenSSL Dev Library

Steps:

sudo yum install openssl-devel

Package	Architecture	Version	Repository	Size
Installing: openssl-devel	x86_64	1:3.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.14	amazonlinux	3.0 M
ransaction Summary				
Install 1 Package				
Fotal download size: 3.0 M Enstalled size: 4.7 M Es this ok [y/N]: y Downloading Packages:				
openssl-devel-3.0.8-1.amzn2023	0.14.x86_64.rpm		26 MB/s 3.0 MB	80:80
Running scriptlet: openssl-de	.wel-1:3.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.14.x86_6 .wel-1:3.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.14.x86_6 .wel-1:3.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.14.x86_6	.4	18 MB/s 3.0 MB	90:00 1/1 1/1 1/1 1/1
Installed: openssl-devel-1:3.0.8-1.amzn; Complete:				

./configure --with-command-group=nagcmd

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.5.5]$ ./configure --with-command-group=nagcmd checking for a BSD-compatible install... /usr/bin/install -c checking build system type... x86_64-pc-linux-gnu checking host system type... x86_64-pc-linux-gnu checking for gcc... gcc checking whether the C compiler works... yes checking whether the C compiler works... yes checking for C compiler default output file name... a.out checking for suffix of executables... checking whether we are cross compiling... no checking for suffix of object files... o checking whether the compiler supports GNU C... yes checking whether gcc accepts -g... yes checking for gcc option to enable C11 features... none needed checking whether make sets $(MAKE)... yes
```

Step 17: We need to compile all components of this software according to the instruction in the Makefile. For that, use this command: make all

Then,
sudo make install
sudo make install-init
sudo make install-config
sudo make install-commandmode

[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.5.5]\$ sudo make install

```
sudo make install-init
sudo make install-config
sudo make install-commandmode
cd ./base && make install
make[1]: Entering directory '/home/ec2-user/downloads/nagios-4.5.5/base'
/usr/bin/install -c -m 775 -o nagios -g nagios -d /usr/local/nagios/bin
/usr/bin/install -c -s -m 774 -o nagios -g nagios nagios /usr/local/nagios/bin
/usr/bin/install: cannot stat 'nagios': No such file or directory
make[1]: *** [Makefile:188: install] Error 1
make[1]: Leaving directory '/home/ec2-user/downloads/nagios-4.5.5/base'
*** Config files installed ***
Remember, these are *SAMPLE* config files. You'll need to read
the documentation for more information on how to actually define
services, hosts, etc. to fit your particular needs.
/usr/bin/install -c -m 775 -o nagios -g nagcmd -d /usr/local/nagios/var/rw
chmod g+s /usr/local/nagios/var/rw
*** External command directory configured ***
```

Step 18: We need to update the email linked with this server to our email for it to send notifications (if any needed).

sudo nano /usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/contacts.cfg

Here, change the email under 'define contact{}' to your email address.

To save this use the following shortcut sequence CTRL+O→Enter→CTRL+X.

Name:Sahil Motiramani Div:D15C Rollno:35

CTRL+O: Overwrite the existing file with edited file

CTRL+X: Exit nano editor.

Step 19: We need to install the necessary configuration files for the Nagios web interface. Run the following command.

sudo make install-webconf

Step 20: Now we need to setup a user to access this nagios web interface. So we run this command to create a user called 'nagiosadmin'.

Keep this username and password saved as it is needed to login to the web interface. sudo htpasswd -c /usr/local/nagios/etc/htpasswd.users nagiosadmin

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.5.5]$ sudo htpasswd -c /usr/local/nagios/etc/htpasswd.users nagiosadmin
New password:
Re-type new password:
Adding password for user nagiosadmin
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.5.5]$ |
```

Step 21: Restart the apache server to apply all the recent configurations. sudo service httpd restart

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.5.5]$ sudo service httpd restart Redirecting to /bin/systemctl restart httpd.service [ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.5.5]$
```

Step 22: Now we go back to the downloads folder and extract the files of nagios plugin. cd ~/downloads

tar zxvf nagios-plugins-2.4.11.tar.gz (Version may vary)

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 downloads]$ tar zxvf nagios-plugins-2.4.11.tar.gz nagios-plugins-2.4.11/
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/compile
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/config.guess
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/config.rpath
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/config.sub
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/install-sh
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/ltmain.sh
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/missing
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/mkinstalldirs
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/depcomp
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/build-aux/snippet/
```

```
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/po/fr.gmo
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/po/de.gmo
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/po/nagios-plugins.pot
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/po/stamp-po
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/po/ChangeLog
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/po/LINGUAS
nagios-plugins-2.4.11/release
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 downloads]$
```

Step 23: Again, we need to install the configurations for these files. cd nagios-plugins-2.4.11 (version may vary) ./configure --with-nagios-user=nagios --with-nagios-group=nagios

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 downloads]$ cd nagios-plugins-2.4.11 [ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-plugins-2.4.11]$ ./configure --with-nagios-user=nagios --with-nagios-group=nagios checking for a BSD-compatible install... /usr/bin/install -c checking whether build environment is sane... yes checking for a thread-safe mkdir -p... /usr/bin/mkdir -p checking for gawk... gawk checking for gawk... gawk checking whether make sets $(MAKE)... yes checking whether make supports nested variables... yes checking whether to enable maintainer-specific portions of Makefiles... yes checking build system type... x86_64-pc-linux-gnu checking for gcc... gcc
```

```
config.status: executing depfiles commands config.status: executing libtool commands config.status: executing po-directories commands config.status: creating po/POTFILES config.status: creating po/Makefile [ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-plugins-2.4.11]$
```

Step 24: We need to compile all components of this software according to the instruction in the Makefile. For that, use the commands:

make

sudo make install

```
make[1]: Leaving directory '/home/ec2-user/downloads/nagios-plugins-2.4.11/po'
make[1]: Entering directory '/home/ec2-user/downloads/nagios-plugins-2.4.11'
make[2]: Entering directory '/home/ec2-user/downloads/nagios-plugins-2.4.11'
make[2]: Nothing to be done for 'install-exec-am'.
make[2]: Nothing to be done for 'install-data-am'.
make[2]: Leaving directory '/home/ec2-user/downloads/nagios-plugins-2.4.11'
make[1]: Leaving directory '/home/ec2-user/downloads/nagios-plugins-2.4.11'
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-plugins-2.4.11]$ |
```

Step 25: We need to register the Nagios service with the system, which would make it able to manage the server status. So run the following commands sudo chkconfig --add nagios sudo chkconfig nagios on

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.4.6]$ sudo systemctl enable nagios [ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.4.6]$ sudo systemctl start nagios
```

Step 26: We need to verify the Nagios configuration for any syntax errors or issues before starting or restarting the Nagios service.

sudo /usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -v /usr/local/nagios/etc/nagios.cfg

Step 27:

sudo service nagios start

[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios-4.4.6]\$ sudo service nagios start Redirecting to /bin/systemctl start nagios.service [002-usor@in-172-31-30-01 nagios-11 11 6]\$ |

sudo systemctl status nagios

```
2-user@ip-172-31-39-94 nagios=4 4.0$ sudo systemctl status nagios sigios.service - Nagios Core 4.4.6 
Loaded: Loaded (/usr/lib/system/system/nagios.service; enabled; preset: disabled)
Active: active (running) since Sun 2024-19-06 11:09:08 UTC; 2min 45 ago
Docs: https://www.nagios.org/documentation
Process: 68287 ExecStart=r/usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -v /usr/local/nagios/etc/nagios.cfg (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Process: 68288 ExecStart=/usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -d /usr/local/nagios/etc/nagios.cfg (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Iasiks: 6 (limit: 1112)
Remory: 2.4H
CPU: 42as
Group: /system.slice/nagios.service
                                     42ms

Aystem.slice/nagios.service

-68289 /usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -d /usr/local/nagios/etc/nagios.cfg

-68289 /usr/local/angios/bin/nagios -worker /usr/local/nagios/var/rw/nagios.qh

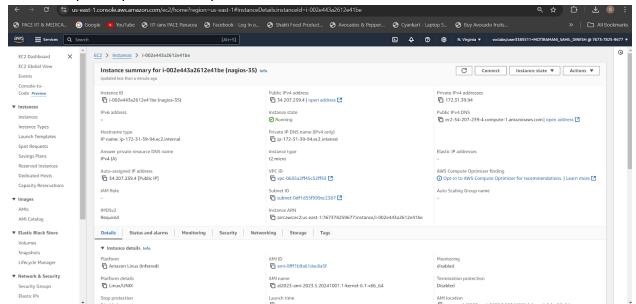
-68291 /usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -worker /usr/local/nagios/var/rw/nagios.qh

-68292 /usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -worker /usr/local/nagios/var/rw/nagios.qh

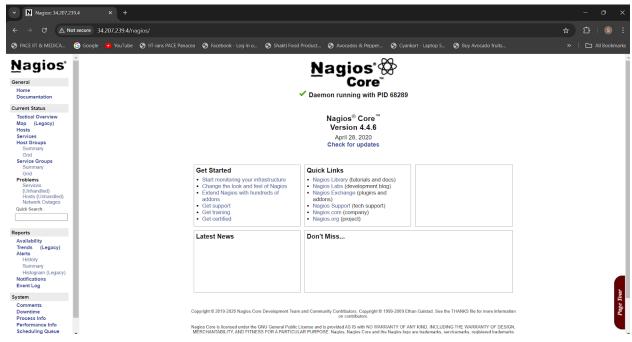
-68293 /usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -droker /usr/local/nagios/var/rw/nagios.qh

-68293 /usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -d/usr/local/nagios/var/rw/nagios.qh
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   wproc with query handler
3291;pid=68291
3292;pid=68292
3293;pid=68293
3290;pid=68290
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             y request mane of the worker with pid 68294
Localhost;HTTP;WARNING;SOFT;1;HTTP WARNING: HTTP/1.1 403 Forbidden – 319 bytes in 0.003 second response time
```

Step 28: Now, go to EC2 instance and click on instance id. Then, click on the copy icon just before the public ip address on public IP.



Step 29: Open a new tab. In the address bar type http://<publicipaddress>/nagios. This would be in the output



Conclusion:

In this experiment, we have learned how to install and set up Nagios Core, Nagios Plugins, and NRPE on a Linux machine. We are working with an Amazon Linux OS instance that has been configured with the necessary security rules. It's crucial to ensure that the links for Nagios Core and Nagios Plugins used in the wget commands are current and up-to-date. After downloading, we need to extract and configure these files to prevent any issues when starting the server. Once the setup is complete, we can launch the Nagios server. By using the public IP address of the EC2 instance, we can access the Nagios dashboard by entering that IP into a web browser.