

FATIMA JINNAH WOMEN UNIVERSITY

Department of Software Engineering



ASSIGNMENT#02

Report

SUBJECT: CLOUD COMPUTING

SUBMITTED TO: SIR WAQAS SALEEM

SUBMITTED BY: UMBER QASIM

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Executive Summary

This assignment focuses on designing and deploying a secure, highly available, and scalable multi-tier web infrastructure on Amazon Web Services (AWS) using Terraform.

The infrastructure consists of:

- A Nginx reverse proxy/load balancer
- Multiple Apache backend web servers
- A secure VPC-based network
- Automated server configuration scripts
- Caching, SSL, security headers, rate limiting, and health checks

Terraform was used to provision all cloud resources in an Infrastructure as Code (IaC) approach, ensuring repeatability and consistency.

The system was tested for load balancing, fault tolerance, security, and performance.

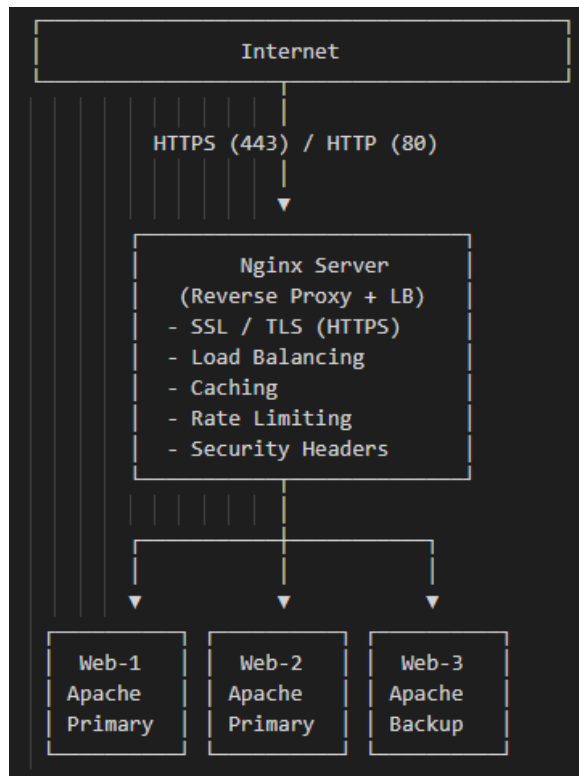
Key Achievements:

- Fully automated AWS infrastructure using Terraform
- Nginx HTTPS load balancer with SSL
- Multiple Apache backend servers with dynamic metadata display
- Secure networking using security groups
- Bonus features: rate limiting, health checks, caching, and security headers

Architecture Design

Architecture Overview

The architecture follows a three-tier design where traffic from the internet first reaches the Nginx load balancer, which then distributes requests to backend Apache servers.



Component Descriptions

Nginx Server

- ❖ Acts as a reverse proxy and load balancer
- ❖ Terminates SSL (HTTPS)
- ❖ Forwards requests to backend servers
- ❖ Implements caching and rate limiting
- ❖ Adds security headers

Backend Web Servers (Apache)

- ❖ Serve dynamic HTML pages
- ❖ Display instance metadata (IP, hostname, timestamp)
- ❖ Identified as web-1, web-2, and web-3
- ❖ web-3 acts as a backup server

Networking Components

- ❖ VPC
- ❖ Subnet

- ❖ Internet Gateway
- ❖ Route Table

Network Topology

- ❖ All servers are deployed inside a single VPC
- ❖ Public subnet allows internet access
- ❖ Security groups restrict traffic between layers
- ❖ Backend servers only accept traffic from Nginx

Security Design

- ❖ SSH access restricted to personal IP
- ❖ Backend servers not publicly exposed
- ❖ HTTPS encryption using SSL certificates
- ❖ Security headers enabled
- ❖ Rate limiting to prevent abuse

Implementation Details

Part 1: Infrastructure Setup

1.1 Project Structure

```
main.tf
├── id_ed25519
│   └── id_ed25519.pub
├── locals.tf
├── main.tf
├── main.tf.save
├── outputs.json
├── outputs.tf
├── variables.tf
├── terraform
│   ├── main.tf
│   ├── outputs.tf
│   └── variables.tf
├── terraform.tfstate
├── terraform.tfstate.backup
├── terraform.tfvars
├── variables.tf
├── outputs.json
├── outputs.tf
├── README.md
├── apache-setup.sh
├── nginx-setup.sh
├── terraform.tfstate
├── terraform.tfstate.backup
├── terraform.tfvars
├── variables.tf
```

1091 directories, 7618 files

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

```
README.md  main.tf.tfvars  locals.tf  main.tf  main.tf.save  outputs.json  outputs.tf  terraform.tfstate  terraform.tfstate.backup  terraform.tfvars  variables.tf
```

```
qumber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ cat .gitignore
# Terraform
.terraform/
terraform.tfstate
terraform.tfstate.backup
*.tfvars

# SSH Keys
keys/

# Backup / temp files
*.save

# Generated outputs
outputs.json
```

1.2 Variable Configuration

File: variables.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ cat variables.tf
variable "vpc_cidr_block" {
  description = "CIDR block for the VPC"
  type        = string

  validation {
    condition     = can(cidrnetmask(var.vpc_cidr_block))
    error_message = "VPC CIDR block must be a valid CIDR range."
  }
}

variable "subnet_cidr_block" {
  description = "CIDR block for the public subnet"
  type        = string

  validation {
    condition     = can(cidrnetmask(var.subnet_cidr_block))
    error_message = "Subnet CIDR block must be a valid CIDR range."
  }
}

variable "availability_zone" {
  description = "Availability zone for resources"
  type        = string
}

variable "env_prefix" {
  description = "Environment prefix (e.g., dev, prod)"
  type        = string
  default     = "dev"
}

variable "instance_type" {
  description = "EC2 instance type"
  type        = string
  default     = "t3.micro"
}

variable "public_key" {
  description = "Path to public SSH key"
  type        = string
}

variable "private_key" {
  description = "Path to private SSH key"
  type        = string
  sensitive   = true
}

variable "backend_servers" {
```

File: terraform.tfvars

```
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ cat terraform.tfvars
vpc_cidr_block      = "10.0.0.0/16"
subnet_cidr_block   = "10.0.10.0/24"
availability_zone    = "me-central-1a"

env_prefix          = "prod"
instance_type       = "t3.micro"

public_key           = "~/ssh/id_ed25519.pub"
private_key          = "~/ssh/id_ed25519"

backend_servers = [
  {
    name       = "web-1"
    script_path = "scripts/apache-setup.sh"
  },
  {
    name       = "web-2"
    script_path = "scripts/apache-setup.sh"
  },
  {
    name       = "web-3"
    script_path = "scripts/apache-setup.sh"
  }
]
```

```
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $
```

1.3 Networking Module

File: modules/networking/variables.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2 modules/networking/variables.tf *
variable "vpc_cidr_block" {
  description = "CIDR block for the VPC"
  type       = string
}

variable "subnet_cidr_block" {
  description = "CIDR block for the public subnet"
  type       = string
}

variable "availability_zone" {
  description = "Availability zone for subnet"
  type       = string
}

variable "env_prefix" {
  description = "Environment prefix for tagging"
  type       = string
}
```

File: modules/networking/main.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2 modules/networking/main.tf *
resource "aws_vpc" "this" {
  cidr_block = var.vpc_cidr_block

  tags = {
    Name = "${var.env_prefix}-vpc"
  }
}

resource "aws_subnet" "this" {
  vpc_id            = aws_vpc.this.id
  cidr_block        = var.subnet_cidr_block
  availability_zone  = var.availability_zone
  map_public_ip_on_launch = true

  tags = {
    Name = "${var.env_prefix}-public-subnet"
  }
}

resource "aws_internet_gateway" "this" {
  vpc_id = aws_vpc.this.id

  tags = {
    Name = "${var.env_prefix}-igw"
  }
}

resource "aws_route_table" "this" {
  vpc_id = aws_vpc.this.id

  route {
    cidr_block = "0.0.0.0/0"
    gateway_id = aws_internet_gateway.this.id
  }

  tags = {
    Name = "${var.env_prefix}-route-table"
  }
}

resource "aws_route_table_association" "this" {
  subnet_id      = aws_subnet.this.id
  route_table_id = aws_route_table.this.id
}
```

File: modules/networking/outputs.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2 modules/networking/outputs.tf *
output "vpc_id" {
  value = aws_vpc.this.id
}

output "subnet_id" {
  value = aws_subnet.this.id
}

output "igw_id" {
  value = aws_internet_gateway.this.id
}

output "route_table_id" {
  value = aws_route_table.this.id
}
```

1.4 Security Module

File: modules/security/variables.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2 modules/security/variables.tf *
variable "vpc_id" {
  description = "VPC ID where security groups will be created"
  type       = string
}

variable "env_prefix" {
  description = "Environment prefix for naming and tagging"
  type       = string
}

variable "my_ip" {
  description = "Your public IP address for SSH access (x.x.x.x/32)"
  type       = string
}
```

File: modules/security/main.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2 modules/security/main.tf *

from_port = 0
to_port   = 0
protocol  = "-1"
cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"]
}

tags = {
  Name = "${var.env_prefix}-nginx-sg"
}

# Backend Security Group
resource "aws_security_group" "backend_sg" {
  name        = "${var.env_prefix}-backend-sg"
  description = "Security group for backend web servers"
  vpc_id      = var.vpc_id

  ingress {
    description = "SSH from my IP"
    from_port   = 22
    to_port     = 22
    protocol    = "tcp"
    cidr_blocks = [var.my_ip]
  }

  ingress {
    description = "HTTP from Nginx only"
    from_port   = 80
    to_port     = 80
    protocol    = "tcp"
    security_groups = [aws_security_group.nginx_sg.id]
  }

  egress {
    description = "Allow all outbound traffic"
    from_port   = 0
    to_port     = 0
    protocol    = "-1"
    cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"]
  }

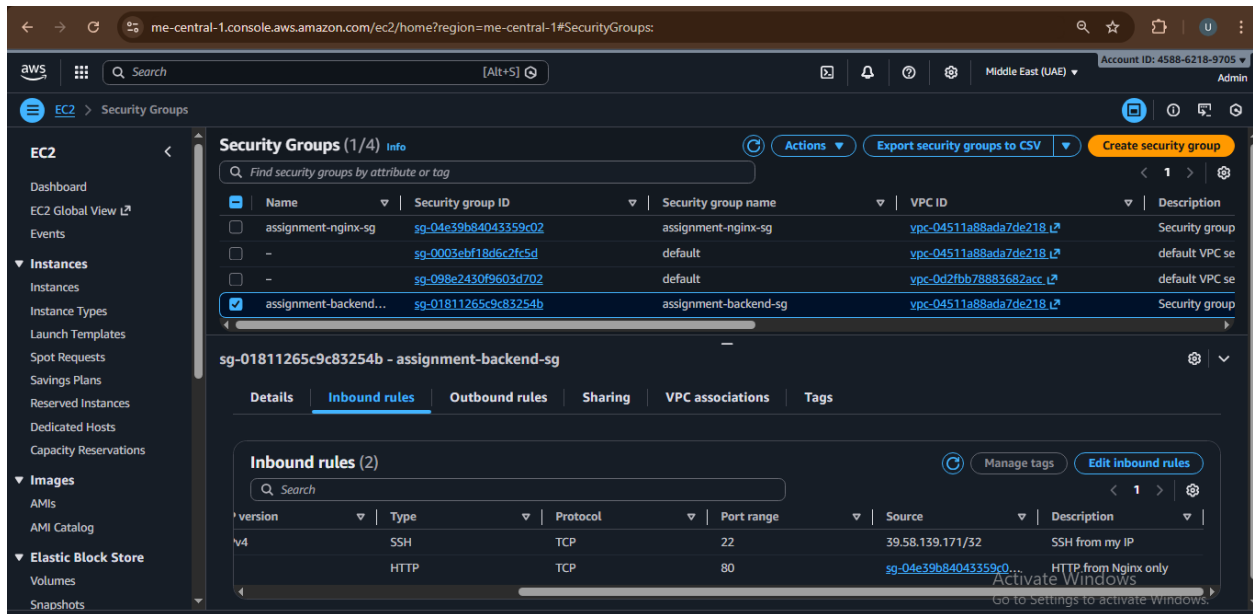
  tags = {
    Name = "${var.env_prefix}-backend-sg"
  }
}
```

File: modules/security/outputs.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2                                     modules/security/outputs.tf *
output "nginx_sg_id" {
  value = aws_security_group.nginx_sg.id
}

output "backend_sg_id" {
  value = aws_security_group.backend_sg.id
}
```

AWS Console



1.5 Locals Configuration

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2                                     locals.tf *
#####
# Get public IP dynamically
#####
data "http" "my_ip" {
  url = "http://ipinfo.io"
}

#####
# Local values
#####
locals {
  # Dynamic IP for SSH access
  my_ip = "${chomp(data.http.my_ip.response_body)}/32"

  # Common tags for all resources
  common_tags = {
    Environment = var.env_prefix
    Project     = "Assignment-2"
    ManagedBy   = "Terraform"
  }

  # Naming convention
  name_prefix = "${var.env_prefix}-assignment"

  # Backend servers configuration
  backend_servers = [
    {
      name       = "web-1"
      suffix     = "1"
      script_path = "../scripts/apache-setup.sh"
    },
    {
      name       = "web-2"
      suffix     = "2"
      script_path = "../scripts/apache-setup.sh"
    },
    {
      name       = "web-3"
      suffix     = "3"
      script_path = "../scripts/apache-setup.sh"
    }
  ]
}
```

Part 2: Webserver Module

2.1 Module Design

File: modules/webserver/variables.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2 modules/webserver/variables.tf *

variable "instance_suffix" {
  description = "Unique suffix for instance"
  type        = string
}

variable "instance_type" {
  description = "EC2 instance type"
  type        = string
}

variable "availability_zone" {
  description = "Availability zone"
  type        = string
}

variable "vpc_id" {
  description = "VPC ID"
  type        = string
}

variable "subnet_id" {
  description = "Subnet ID"
  type        = string
}

variable "security_group_id" {
  description = "Security group ID"
  type        = string
}

variable "public_key" {
  description = "Public SSH key path"
  type        = string
}

variable "script_path" {
  description = "User data script path"
  type        = string
}

variable "common_tags" {
  description = "Common resource tags"
  type        = map(string)
}
```

File: modules/webserver/main.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2 modules/webserver/main.tf *

#####
# AMI (Amazon Linux 2023)
#####
data "aws_ami" "amazon_linux" {
  most_recent = true
  owners      = ["amazon"]

  filter {
    name   = "name"
    values = ["al2023-ami-*x86_64"]
  }
}

#####
# Key Pair (unique per instance)
#####
resource "aws_key_pair" "this" {
  key_name   = "${var.env_prefix}-${var.instance_name}-${var.instance_suffix}-key"
  public_key = file(var.public_key)

  tags = merge(
    var.common_tags,
    {
      Name = "${var.env_prefix}-${var.instance_name}-key"
    }
  )
}

#####
# EC2 Instance
#####
resource "aws_instance" "this" {
  ami              = data.aws_ami.amazon_linux.id
  instance_type    = var.instance_type
  availability_zone = var.availability_zone
  subnet_id        = var.subnet_id
  vpc_security_group_ids = [var.security_group_id]
  key_name         = aws_key_pair.this.key_name
  associate_public_ip_address = true

  user_data = file(var.script_path)

  tags = merge(
    var.common_tags,
    {
      Name = "${var.env_prefix}-${var.instance_name}-${var.instance_suffix}"
    }
  )
}
```

File: modules/webserver/outputs.tf

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2                                     modules/webserver/outputs.tf *
output "instance_id" {
  value = aws_instance.this.id
}

output "public_ip" {
  value = aws_instance.this.public_ip
}

output "private_ip" {
  value = aws_instance.this.private_ip
}
```

2.2 Module Usage

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2                                     main.tf *
source = "./modules/webserver"

env_prefix      = var.env_prefix
instance_name   = "nginx-proxy"
instance_type   = var.instance_type
availability_zone = var.availability_zone

vpc_id          = module.networking.vpc_id
subnet_id       = module.networking.subnet_id
security_group_id = module.security.nginx_sg_id

public_key      = var.public_key
script_path     = "./scripts/nginx-setup.sh"
instance_suffix = "nginx"

common_tags = local.common_tags
}

#####
# Backend Web Servers
#####
module "backend_servers" {
  for_each = {
    for server in local.backend_servers :
      server.name => server
  }

  source = "./modules/webserver"

  env_prefix      = var.env_prefix
  instance_name   = each.value.name
  instance_type   = var.instance_type
  availability_zone = var.availability_zone

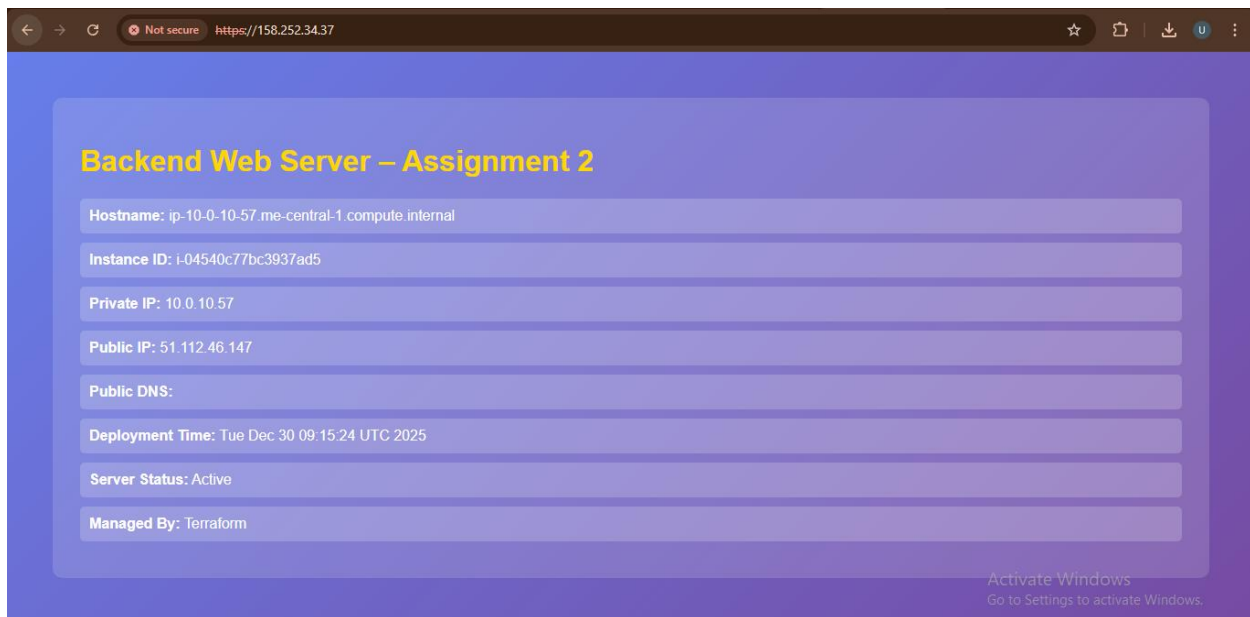
  vpc_id          = module.networking.vpc_id
  subnet_id       = module.networking.subnet_id
  security_group_id = module.security.backend_sg_id

  public_key      = var.public_key
  script_path     = each.value.script_path
  instance_suffix = each.value.suffix

  common_tags = local.common_tags
}
```

3.1 Apache Backend Server Script

A screenshot of a web browser displaying a page titled "Backend Web Server – Assignment 2". The browser's address bar shows the URL "https://158.252.34.37". The page content is displayed in a light blue box with a subtle grid pattern. It lists several server details in a table-like format with alternating light and dark blue rows. The details are: Hostname: ip-10-0-10-108.me-central-1.compute.internal, Instance ID: i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5, Private IP: 10.0.10.108, Public IP: 40.172.191.56, Public DNS: (empty), Deployment Time: Tue Dec 30 09:15:25 UTC 2025, Server Status: Active, and Managed By: Terraform. In the bottom right corner, there is a "Activate Windows" watermark with the text "Go to Settings to activate Windows."



3.2 Nginx Server Setup Script

```
Windows PowerShell
GNU nano 7.2 scripts/nginx-setup.sh *
proxy_cache_key "$scheme$request_method$host$request_uri";
proxy_cache_bypass $http_cache_control;
add_header X-Cache-Status $upstream_cache_status;

# Timeouts
proxy_connect_timeout 60s;
proxy_send_timeout 60s;
proxy_read_timeout 60s;
}

# Health check endpoint
location /health {
    access_log off;
    return 200 "Nginx is healthy\n";
    add_header Content-Type text/plain;
}

# HTTP Server (redirect to HTTPS)
server {
    listen 80;
    server_name _;

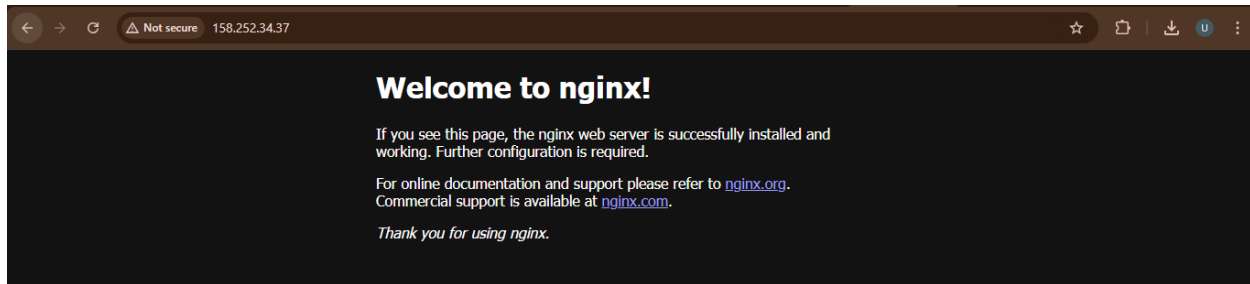
    location / {
        return 301 https://$host$request_uri;
    }

    # Allow health checks over HTTP
    location /health {
        access_log off;
        return 200 "Nginx is healthy\n";
        add_header Content-Type text/plain;
    }
}
EOF

# Create cache directory
mkdir -p /var/cache/nginx
chown -R nginx nginx /var/cache/nginx

# Test and restart Nginx
nginx -t && systemctl restart nginx

echo "Nginx setup completed successfully!"
echo "Remember to update backend server IPs in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf"
```



Part 4: Infrastructure Deployment

4.1 Initial Deployment

```
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ ls keys/  
id_ed25519 id_ed25519.pub
```

```
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ terraform init  
Initializing the backend...  
Initializing modules...  
Initializing provider plugins...  
- Reusing previous version of hashicorp/http from the dependency lock file  
- Reusing previous version of hashicorp/aws from the dependency lock file  
- Using previously-installed hashicorp/http v3.5.0  
- Using previously-installed hashicorp/aws v6.27.0
```

Terraform has been successfully initialized!

You may now begin working with Terraform. Try running "terraform plan" to see any changes that are required for your infrastructure. All Terraform commands should now work.

If you ever set or change modules or backend configuration for Terraform, rerun this command to reinitialize your working directory. If you forget, other commands will detect it and remind you to do so if necessary.

```
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $
```

```
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ terraform validate  
Success! The configuration is valid.
```

```
Windows PowerShell  
location /health {  
    access_log off;  
    return 200 "Nginx is healthy\n";  
    add_header Content-Type text/plain;  
}  
  
# HTTP Server (redirect to HTTPS)  
server {  
    listen 80;  
    server_name _;  
  
    location / {  
        return 301 https://$host$request_uri;  
    }  
  
    # Allow health checks over HTTP  
    location /health {  
        access_log off;  
        return 200 "Nginx is healthy\n";  
        add_header Content-Type text/plain;  
    }  
}  
EOF  
  
# Create cache directory  
mkdir -p /var/cache/nginx  
chown -R nginx:nginx /var/cache/nginx  
  
# Test and restart Nginx  
nginx -t && systemctl restart nginx  
  
echo "Nginx setup completed successfully!"  
echo "Remember to update backend server IPs in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf"  
EOF  
# (38 unchanged attributes hidden)  
# (9 unchanged blocks hidden)  
}  
  
Plan: 0 to add, 1 to change, 0 to destroy.  
  
Changes to Outputs:  
  ~ nginx_public_ip = "158.252.34.37" -> (known after apply)  
  
Note: You didn't use the -out option to save this plan, so Terraform can't guarantee to take exactly these actions if you run "terraform apply" now.  
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $
```

```

@qasim-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ terraform apply -auto-approve
data.http.my_ip: Reading...
data.http.my_ip: Read complete after 0s [id=https://icanhazip.com]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].data.aws_ami.amazon_linux: Reading...
module.backend_servers["web-1"].data.aws_ami.amazon_linux: Reading...
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_key_pair.this: Refreshing state... [id=prod-web-2-2-key]
module.backend_servers["web-3"].data.aws_ami.amazon_linux: Reading...
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_key_pair.this: Refreshing state... [id=prod-web-3-3-key]
module.networking.aws_vpc.this: Refreshing state... [id=vpc-04511a88ada7de218]
module.nginx_server.data.aws_ami.amazon_linux: Reading...
module.nginx_server.aws_key_pair.this: Refreshing state... [id=prod-nginx-proxy-nginx-key]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_key_pair.this: Refreshing state... [id=prod-web-1-1-key]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].data.aws_ami.amazon_linux: Read complete after 0s [id=ami-009ce8169fc88edf5]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].data.aws_ami.amazon_linux: Read complete after 0s [id=ami-009ce8169fc88edf5]
module.nginx_server.data.aws_ami.amazon_linux: Read complete after 0s [id=ami-009ce8169fc88edf5]
module.backend_servers["web-3"].data.aws_ami.amazon_linux: Read complete after 0s [id=ami-009ce8169fc88edf5]
module.networking.aws_internet_gateway.this: Refreshing state... [id=igw-009165a8629936870]
module.networking.aws_subnet.this: Refreshing state... [id=subnet-07717b21f184256f4]
module.security.aws_security_group.nginx_sg: Refreshing state... [id=sg-034f3c09a82c0d381]
module.networking.aws_route_table.this: Refreshing state... [id=rtb-01c8923928a660e8c]
module.security.aws_security_group.backend_sg: Refreshing state... [id=sg-0dcd23536fc056207]
module.nginx_server.aws_instance.this: Refreshing state... [id=i-006f45446d9906a9a]
module.networking.aws_route_table_association.this: Refreshing state... [id=rtbassoc-000990dfac1f05b7c]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_instance.this: Refreshing state... [id=i-04540c77bc3937ad5]
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_instance.this: Refreshing state... [id=i-08e586a0daf87c199]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_instance.this: Refreshing state... [id=i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5]

No changes. Your infrastructure matches the configuration.

Terraform has compared your real infrastructure against your configuration and found no differences, so no changes are needed.

Apply complete! Resources: 0 added, 0 changed, 0 destroyed.

```

4.2 Output Configuration

```

@qasim-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ terraform output
backend_servers_info = {
  "web-1" = {
    "instance_id" = "i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5"
    "private_ip" = "10.0.10.108"
    "public_ip" = "40.172.191.56"
  }
  "web-2" = {
    "instance_id" = "i-04540c77bc3937ad5"
    "private_ip" = "10.0.10.57"
    "public_ip" = "51.112.46.147"
  }
  "web-3" = {
    "instance_id" = "i-08e586a0daf87c199"
    "private_ip" = "10.0.10.31"
    "public_ip" = "158.252.79.165"
  }
}
configuration_guide = <<EOT

=====
DEPLOYMENT SUCCESSFUL!
=====

Next Steps:
1. SSH into Nginx server: ssh ec2-user@3.28.185.216
2. Edit Nginx config: sudo vim /etc/nginx/nginx.conf
3. Update backend IPs in upstream block:
   - BACKEND_IP_1: 10.0.10.108
   - BACKEND_IP_2: 10.0.10.57
   - BACKEND_IP_3: 10.0.10.31
4. Restart Nginx: sudo systemctl restart nginx
5. Test: https://3.28.185.216

Backend Servers:
- web-1: 40.172.191.56 (private: 10.0.10.108)
  - web-2: 51.112.46.147 (private: 10.0.10.57)
  - web-3: 158.252.79.165 (private: 10.0.10.31)

=====

EOT
nginx_instance_id = "i-006f45446d9906a9a"
nginx_public_ip = "3.28.185.216"
subnet_id = "subnet-07717b21f184256f4"
vpc_id = "vpc-04511a88ada7de218"
@qasim-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $

```

```
@Umber-qasim /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ terraform output -json > outputs.json
@Umber-qasim /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $
```

4.3 AWS Console Verification

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console VPC dashboard for the 'me-central-1' region. The 'Your VPCs' section displays a table with one VPC, 'prod-vpc', which is in an 'Available' state. Below the table, the 'prod-vpc' details are shown, including its IPv4 CIDR block of 10.0.0.0/16.

Name	VPC ID	State	Encryption c...	Encryption control ...	Block Public...
prod-vpc	vpc-04511a88ada7de218	Available	-	-	Off

IPv4 CIDRs

Address family	CIDR	Status
IPv4	10.0.0.0/16	Associated

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console Subnets page for the 'me-central-1' region. The 'Subnets (1/4)' section displays a table with four subnets. The 'prod-public-subnet' is highlighted, showing its details, including its IPv4 CIDR block of 10.0.10.0/24 and its association with the 'prod-vpc'.

Name	Subnet ID	State	VPC	Block Public...	IPv4 CIDR
-	subnet-008a6375773a6d67d	Available	vpc-0d2fbb78883682acc	Off	172.31.16.0/24
-	subnet-0e2b03348f83d9464	Available	vpc-0d2fbb78883682acc	Off	172.31.0.0/24
prod-public-subnet	subnet-07717b21f184256f4	Available	vpc-04511a88ada7de218	Off	10.0.10.0/24
-	subnet-003aaf45b7679f681	Available	vpc-0d2fbb78883682acc	Off	172.31.32.0/24

subnet-07717b21f184256f4 / prod-public-subnet

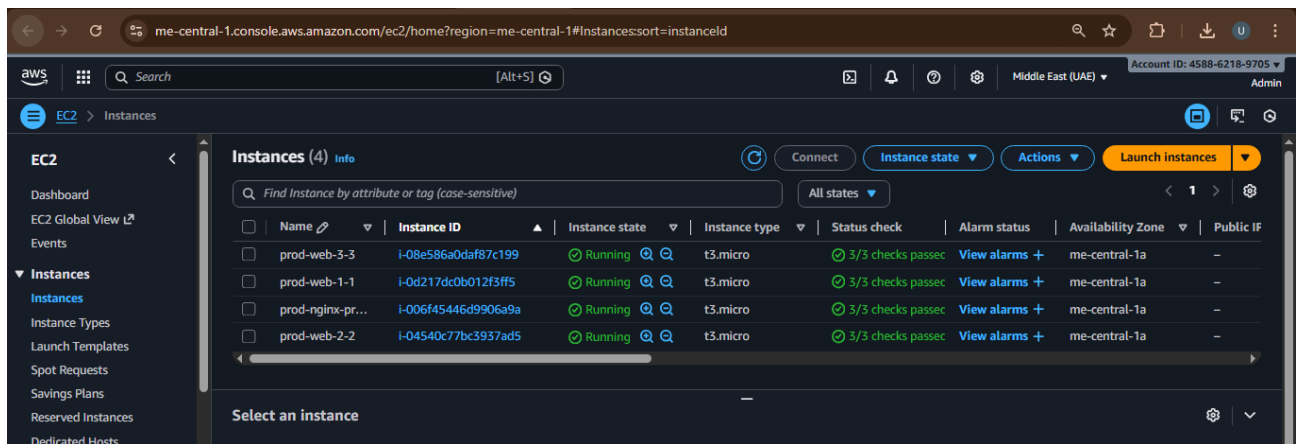
Details

- Subnet ID: subnet-07717b21f184256f4
- Subnet ARN: arn:aws:ec2:me-central-1:45886218:9705:subnet/subnet-07717b21f184256f4
- State: Available
- Block Public Access: Off
- IPv4 CIDR: 10.0.10.0/24
- Available IPv4 addresses: 247
- IPv6 CIDR: -
- Route table: rtb-01c8923928a660e8c | prod-route-table
- Network ACL: acl-0086ab98b23c0a2b5
- Default subnet: No
- VPC: vpc-04511a88ada7de218 | prod-vpc
- Auto-assign public IPv4 address: No
- Auto-assign IPv6 address: No
- Outpost ID: -
- Hostname type: -

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console Security Groups page for the 'me-central-1' region. The 'Security Groups (4)' section displays a table with four security groups. The 'prod-backend-sg' and 'prod-nginx-sg' are highlighted, showing their details, including their VPC IDs and descriptions.

Name	Security group ID	Security group name	VPC ID	Description
-	sg-0003ebf18d6c2fc5d	default	vpc-04511a88ada7de218	default VPC se
-	sg-098e2430f9603d702	default	vpc-0d2fbb78883682acc	default VPC se
prod-backend-sg	sg-0dcd23536fc056207	prod-backend-sg	vpc-04511a88ada7de218	Security group
prod-nginx-sg	sg-034f3c09a82c0d381	prod-nginx-sg	vpc-04511a88ada7de218	Security group

Select a security group




Part 5: Nginx Configuration & Testing

5.1 Update Nginx Backend Configuration

```
@Umberr-qasim ~ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ ssh -i keys/id_ed25519 ec2-user@3.28.185.216
The authenticity of host '3.28.185.216 (3.28.185.216)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:4VvtqnqEK76e4bDlPKqx0hM4jTeu7fS48nUIxVaVRjXA.
This host key is known by the following other names/addresses:
  ~/.ssh/known_hosts:1: [hashed name]
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '3.28.185.216' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.

#
~\#####
~\#####\
~\###|
~\#/ Amazon Linux 2023 (ECS Optimized)
~V~' '->
~\
~\
~\m/'

For documentation, visit http://aws.amazon.com/documentation/ecs
Last login: Tue Dec 30 10:14:24 2025 from 4.240.39.197
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$
```

 ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192:~

```
user nginx;
worker_processes auto;
error_log /var/log/nginx/error.log notice;
pid /run/nginx.pid;

events {
    worker_connections 1024;
}

http {
    # Logging
    log_format main '$remote_addr - $remote_user [$time_local] "$request" '
        '$status $body_bytes_sent "$http_referer" '
        '"$http_user_agent" "$http_x_forwarded_for" '
        'Cache: $upstream_cache_status';

    access_log /var/log/nginx/access.log main;

    # Basic settings
    sendfile on;
    tcp_nopush on;
    keepalive_timeout 65;
    types_hash_max_size 4096;

    include /etc/nginx/mime.types;
    default_type application/octet-stream;

    # Gzip compression
    gzip on;
    gzip_vary on;
    gzip_types text/plain text/css application/json application/javascript text/xml application/xml;

    # Cache configuration
    proxy_cache_path /var/cache/nginx
        levels=1:2
        keys_zone=my_cache:10m
        max_size=1g
        inactive=60m
        use_temp_path=off;

    # Upstream backend servers
    # PLACEHOLDER: Update these IPs after deployment
    upstream backend_servers {
        # Primary servers (active load balancing)
        server 10.0.10.108:80;
        server 10.0.10.57:80;

        # Backup server (only used when primary servers are down)
        server 10.0.10.31:80 backup;
    }

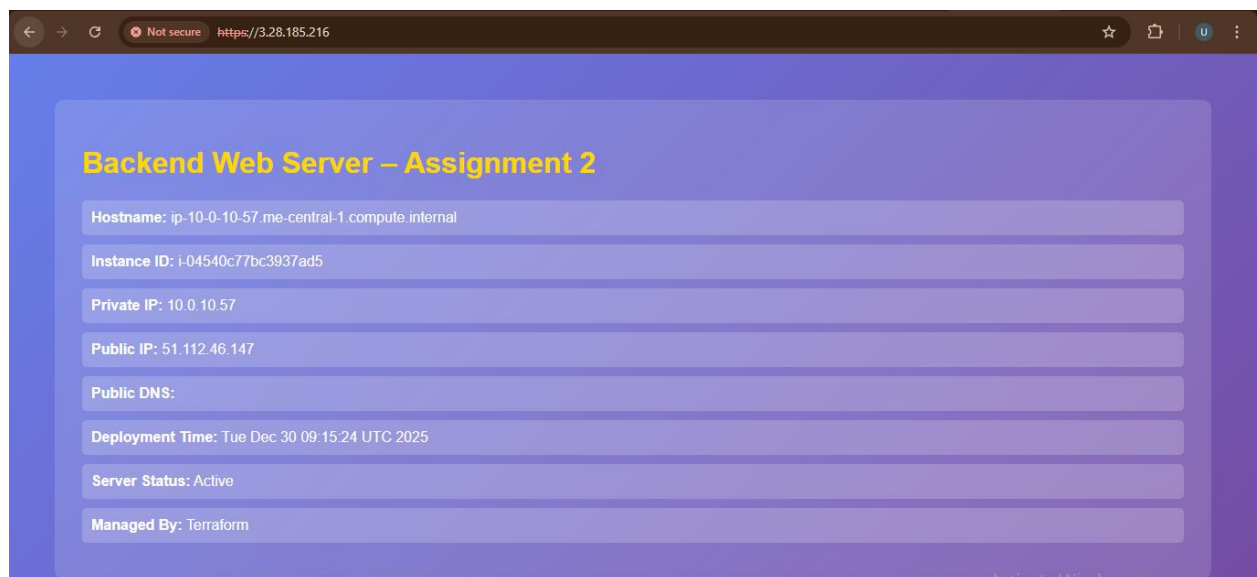
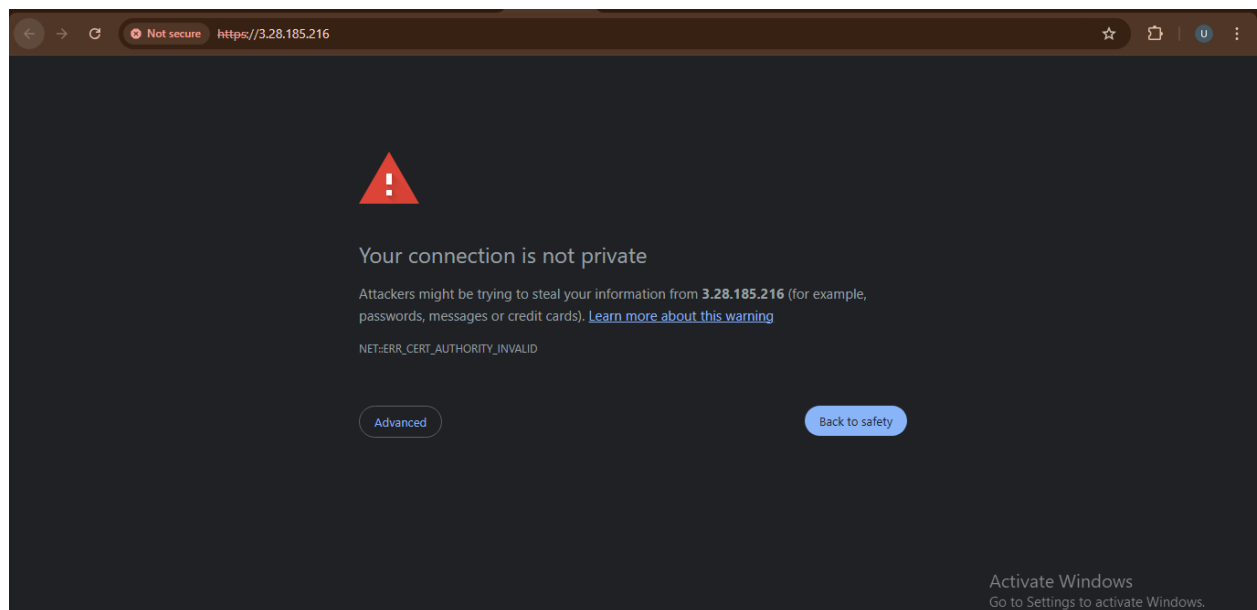
    # HTTPS Server
    server {
"/etc/nginx/nginx.conf" 118L, 3503B
```

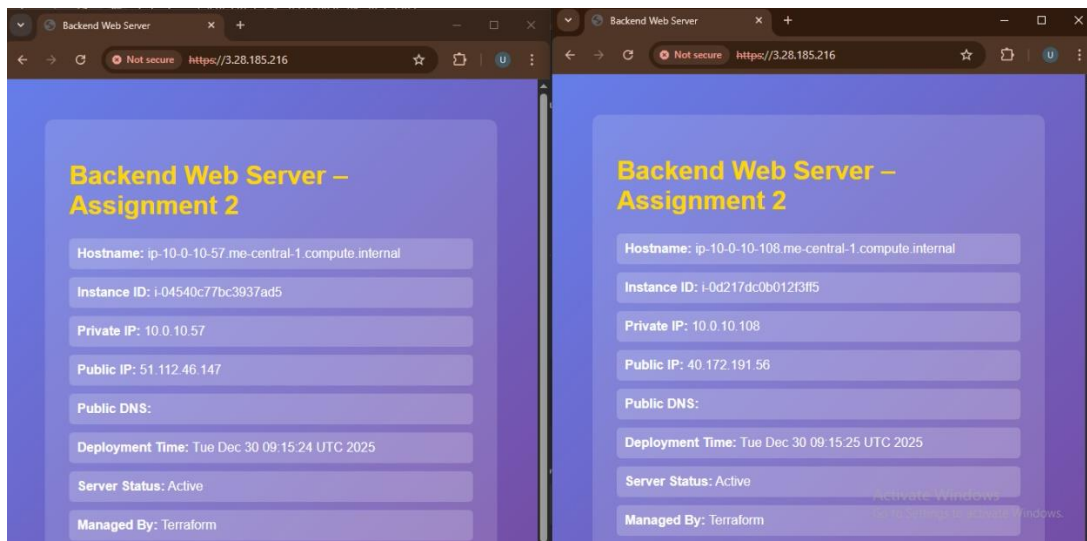
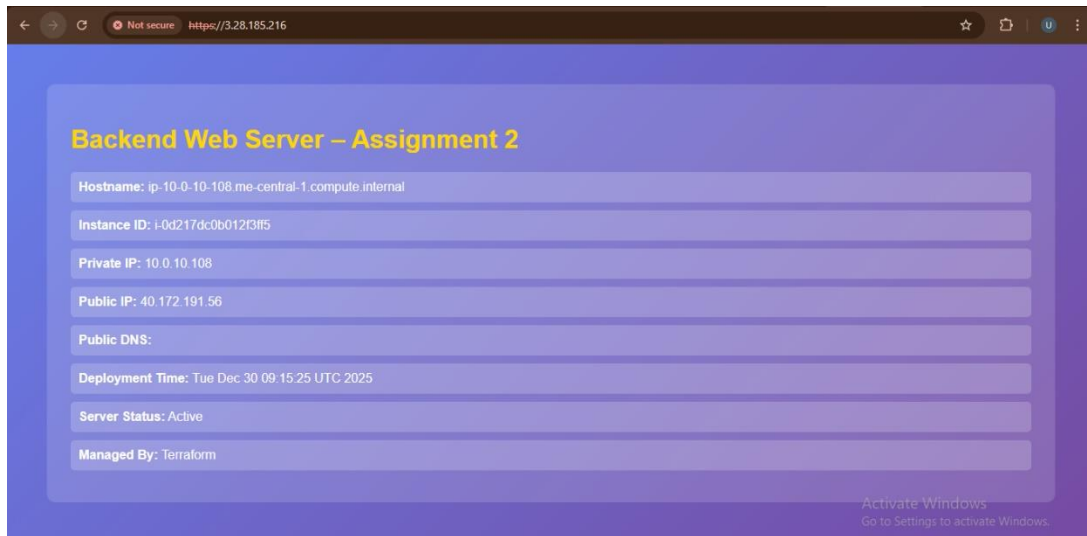
```
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$ sudo nginx -t
nginx: [warn] the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf:54
nginx: the configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf syntax is ok
nginx: configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf test is successful
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$
```

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$ sudo systemctl restart nginx
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$ sudo systemctl status nginx
● nginx.service - The nginx HTTP and reverse proxy server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/nginx.service; enabled; preset: disabled)
   Active: active (running) since Tue 2025-12-30 11:38:47 UTC; 5s ago
     Process: 39284 ExecStartPre=/usr/bin/rm -f /run/nginx.pid (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
     Process: 39285 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/nginx -t (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
     Process: 39286 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/nginx (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
    Main PID: 39287 (nginx)
      Tasks: 5 (limit: 1065)
     Memory: 4.3M
        CPU: 60ms
    CGroup: /system.slice/nginx.service
            └─39287 "nginx: master process /usr/sbin/nginx"
              └─39288 "nginx: worker process"
                └─39289 "nginx: worker process"
                  └─39290 "nginx: cache manager process"
                    └─39291 "nginx: cache loader process"

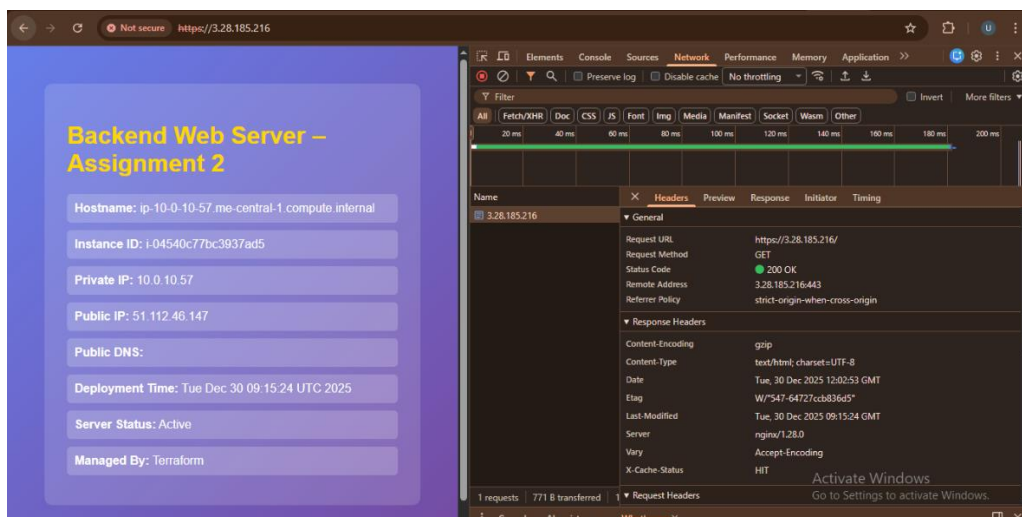
Dec 30 11:38:47 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal systemd[1]: Starting nginx.service - The nginx HTTP and reverse proxy server...
Dec 30 11:38:47 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal nginx[39288]: nginx: [warn] the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf:54
Dec 30 11:38:47 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal nginx[39288]: nginx: the configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf syntax is ok
Dec 30 11:38:47 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal nginx[39288]: nginx: configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf test is successful
Dec 30 11:38:47 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal nginx[39286]: nginx: [warn] the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf:54
Dec 30 11:38:47 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal systemd[1]: Started nginx.service - The nginx HTTP and reverse proxy server.
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$
```

5.2 Test Load Balancing





5.3 Test Cache Functionality



```

ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~$ sudo tail -f /var/log/nginx/access.log
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:02:13 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36" "-"
Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:02:29 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36" "-"
Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:02:37 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36" "-"
Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:02:39 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36" "-"
Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:02:49 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36" "-"
Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:02:53 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36" "-"
Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:03:56 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36" "-"
Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:04:33 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36" "-"
Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:04:44 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux aarch64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36 CrKey/1.54.2" "-"
593208 "-" Cache: HIT
39.58.139.171 - - [30/Dec/2025:12:04:53 +0000] "GET / HTTP/2.0" 200 594 "-" "Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux aarch64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/143.0.0.0 Safari/537.36 CrKey/1.54.2" "-"
593208 "-" Cache: HIT

```

5.4 Test High Availability (Backup Server)

A screenshot of a web browser window. The address bar shows a URL starting with 'https://3.28.185.216'. The page title is 'Backend Web Server – Assignment 2'. The page content is a list of instance details for 'ip-10-0-10-31.me-central-1.compute.internal'. The details are presented in a series of light blue rounded rectangular boxes, each containing a label and a value. The labels are: Hostname, Instance ID, Private IP, Public IP, Public DNS, Deployment Time, Server Status, and Managed By. The values are: ip-10-0-10-31.me-central-1.compute.internal, i-08e586a0daf87c199, 10.0.10.31, 158.252.79.165, (empty), Tue Dec 30 09:15:22 UTC 2025, Active, and Terraform. At the bottom right of the page, there is a watermark that says 'Activate Windows'.

```

[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$ sudo systemctl status nginx
● nginx.service - The nginx HTTP and reverse proxy server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/nginx.service; enabled; preset: disabled)
   Active: active (running) since Tue 2025-12-30 12:42:36 UTC; 8min ago
     Process: 96648 ExecStartPre=/usr/bin/rm -f /run/nginx.pid (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
     Process: 96650 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/nginx -t (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
     Process: 96651 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/nginx (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
  Main PID: 96652 (nginx)
    Tasks: 4 (limit: 1065)
     Memory: 5.5M
        CPU: 81ms
    CGroup: /system.slice/nginx.service
            └─96652 "nginx: master process /usr/sbin/nginx"
              └─96653 "nginx: worker process"
                └─96654 "nginx: worker process"
                  └─96655 "nginx: cache manager process"

Dec 30 12:42:36 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal systemd[1]: Starting nginx.service - The nginx HTTP and reverse proxy server...
Dec 30 12:42:36 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal systemd[1]: Started nginx.service - The nginx HTTP and reverse proxy server.
Dec 30 12:42:36 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal systemd[1]: nginx: [warn] the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf
Dec 30 12:42:36 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal nginx[96650]: nginx: the configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf syntax is ok
Dec 30 12:42:36 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal nginx[96650]: nginx: configuration file /etc/nginx/nginx.conf test is successful
Dec 30 12:42:36 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal nginx[96651]: nginx: [warn] the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf
Dec 30 12:42:36 ip-10-0-10-192.me-central-1.compute.internal systemd[1]: Started nginx.service - The nginx HTTP and reverse proxy server.

```

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5.5 Security & Performance Analysis

ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192:~

```
00:b1:ee:c8:be:f3:0c:f6:37:1e:de:e9:ea:9f:3d:
f4:a0:d6:07:78:8e:a3:c0:f0:84:21:a9:06:66:25:
cd:08:b2:f6:68:ce:44:0c:5f:04:b7:fe:4a:2c:dd:
1a:f6:4b:ed:e5:2c:61:23:ea:d4:55:f9:46:66:bb:
36:2e:7f:35:b0:64:93:45:a0:43:b1:54:a0:0a:06:
2b:a5:00:77:98:e7:0c:4e:22:ca:b3:84:ab:dc:b4:
ea:46:68:b9:e8:b1:3b:06:cc:70:d2:49:ec:10:75:
6d:16:46:3c:22:e2:6c:82:4a:b8:db:94:2f:38:dc:
24:8b:08:b8:d2:2b:74:50:25:74:76:ae:5a:08:68:
28:7b:cc:f3:0a:bb:46:b0:16:dc:5c:31:e7:3e:f9:
82:c9:3c:90:8b:74:9d:0c:05:d3:40:61:85:e8:fd:
63:01:d2:73:26:cc:af:4d:d5:79:de:04:cc:16:7a:
bc:af:a8:93:d4:38:48:1a:e4:0f:93:4e:35:d0:33:
65:bc:dd:66:59:41:6d:85:cb:22:53:f1:29:68:99:
fb:12:a9:6b:0d:a5:87:69:3e:22:07:db:da:7b:09:
78:28:84:2c:f6:45:f2:ea:b4:6b:e3:33:77:9d:d2:
c4:66:b1:06:fb:f6:30:ed:8c:23:f4:c3:03:87:fa:
42:7b
Exponent: 65537 (0x10001)
X509v3 extensions:
X509v3 Subject Key Identifier:
4B:51:D3:37:18:07:ED:45:81:12:58:AE:62:36:26:70:07:26:00:3B
X509v3 Authority Key Identifier:
4B:51:D3:37:18:07:ED:45:81:12:58:AE:62:36:26:70:07:26:00:3B
X509v3 Subject Alternative Name:
IP Address:158.252.34.37
X509v3 Basic Constraints:
CA:FALSE
X509v3 Key Usage:
Digital Signature, Key Encipherment
X509v3 Extended Key Usage:
TLS Web Server Authentication
Signature Algorithm: sha256WithRSAEncryption
Signature Value:
56:e3:06:1d:d4:c5:c1:69:c9:a8:0d:8d:75:95:9c:4d:e9:97:
1f:9a:67:bf:80:5b:5e:b1:b5:19:1a:7e:28:a1:79:c8:fa:65:
da:47:9b:98:a5:50:54:72:c4:2f:aa:5d:72:ce:01:ea:0a:2a:
25:0d:96:00:7f:dc:fc:42:99:71:e6:f1:01:37:54:35:80:f9:
f1:4c:f4:97:92:86:4a:c9:a1:89:05:06:d2:d4:d3:61:1a:91:
3f:3c:9c:7a:70:42:32:b2:d7:55:d2:48:f7:9d:3a:93:f4:90:
dd:5c:a8:d8:a0:63:58:77:c2:d7:4a:04:92:74:b1:85:49:f3:
1a:8f:cc:9f:4c:d5:16:a3:ee:52:e6:16:d2:3d:b3:fd:6c:44:
cc:61:cd:6d:4a:1a:2d:f3:3e:09:b8:7a:60:85:56:52:e9:65:
d3:8d:c6:ff:3f:30:37:98:47:c5:bc:0f:b2:c8:5b:0a:b0:8a:
4d:a9:95:09:5d:7d:a6:11:9e:51:e2:87:73:0c:cd:8e:d1:e8:
5b:03:55:ed:bb:75:2b:8d:11:cb:db:dc:59:e5:34:5c:ae:00:
b3:6d:e9:56:c9:7d:12:c0:94:55:2f:29:8d:f9:9b:95:88:8d:
e7:d9:c4:d5:d3:6c:b0:23:15:c7:df:e0:0a:75:14:6b:4c:30:
54:1a:1a:02
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$
```

```
@Umberr-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ curl -I -k https://3.28.185.216
HTTP/2 200
server: nginx/1.28.0
date: Tue, 30 Dec 2025 17:36:05 GMT
content-type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
content-length: 1351
vary: Accept-Encoding
last-modified: Tue, 30 Dec 2025 09:15:24 GMT
etag: "547-64727ccb836d5"
x-cache-status: MISS
accept-ranges: bytes
```

```

ec2-user@ip-10-10-10-192:~$
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [warn] 110524#110523: the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf:54
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [warn] 110524#110524: the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf:54
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110524#110524: using the "epoll" event method
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110524#110524: nginx/1.28.0
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110524#110524: OS: Linux 6.1.158-180.294.amzn2023.x86_64
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110524#110524: getrlimit(RLIMIT_NOFILE): 65535:65535
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110525#110525: start worker processes
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110525#110525: start worker process 110526
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110525#110525: start worker process 110527
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110525#110525: start cache manager process 110528
2025/12/30 12:57:59 [notice] 110525#110525: start cache loader process 110529
2025/12/30 12:58:59 [notice] 110529#110529: http file cache: /var/cache/nginx 0.000m, bsizе: 4096
2025/12/30 12:58:59 [notice] 110525#110525: signal 17 (SIGCHLD) received from 110529
2025/12/30 12:58:59 [notice] 110525#110525: cache loader process 110529 exited with code 0
2025/12/30 12:58:59 [notice] 110525#110525: signal 29 (SIGIO) received
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110525#110525: signal 3 (SIGQUIT) received from 1, shutting down
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110528#110528: exiting
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110527#110527: gracefully shutting down
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110527#110527: exiting
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110526#110526: exiting
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110526#110526: exit
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110525#110525: signal 17 (SIGCHLD) received from 110527
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110525#110525: worker process 110526 exited with code 0
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110525#110525: worker process 110527 exited with code 0
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110525#110525: signal 29 (SIGIO) received
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110525#110525: signal 17 (SIGCHLD) received from 110528
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110525#110525: cache manager process 110528 exited with code 0
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 110525#110525: exit
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [warn] 113062#113061: the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf:54
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [warn] 113062#113061: the "listen ... http2" directive is deprecated, use the "http2" directive instead in /etc/nginx/nginx.conf:54
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113061#113061: using the "epoll" event method
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113061#113061: nginx/1.28.0
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113061#113061: OS: Linux 6.1.158-180.294.amzn2023.x86_64
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113061#113061: getrlimit(RLIMIT_NOFILE): 65535:65535
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113062#113062: start worker processes
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113062#113062: start worker process 113063
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113062#113062: start worker process 113064
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113062#113062: start cache manager process 113065
2025/12/30 13:00:42 [notice] 113062#113062: start cache loader process 113066
2025/12/30 13:01:42 [notice] 113062#113062: http file cache: /var/cache/nginx 0.000m, bsizе: 4096
2025/12/30 13:01:42 [notice] 113062#113062: signal 17 (SIGCHLD) received from 113066
2025/12/30 13:01:42 [notice] 113062#113062: cache loader process 113066 exited with code 0
2025/12/30 13:01:42 [notice] 113062#113062: signal 29 (SIGIO) received
2025/12/30 14:41:44 [crit] 113063#113063: *279 SSL_do_handshake() failed (SSL: error:0A000172:SSL routines:wrong signature type) while SSL handshaking, client=10.16.40.84, server=0.0.0.0:443
2025/12/30 16:42:43 [crit] 113063#113063: *323 SSL_do_handshake() failed (SSL: error:0A000172:SSL routines:wrong signature type) while SSL handshaking, client=10.16.40.84, server=0.0.0.0:443
ec2-user@ip-10-10-10-192 ~$

```

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$ ps aux | grep nginx
root      113062  0.0  0.1 27032 1768 ?        Ss   13:00   0:00 nginx: master process /usr/sbin/nginx
nginx     113063  0.0  0.8 27808 8168 ?        S    13:00   0:00 nginx: worker process
nginx     113064  0.0  0.8 27808 7764 ?        S    13:00   0:00 nginx: worker process
nginx     113065  0.0  0.3 27204 3304 ?        S    13:00   0:00 nginx: cache manager process
ec2-user  365569  0.0  0.2 222328 2104 pts/0    S+   17:41   0:00 grep --color=auto nginx
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$
```

Bonus Tasks

Bonus 1: Custom Error Pages



Oops! Page Not Found (404)

Umber, check the URL again!



Server is Busy (502/503)

Backend servers are sleeping right now.

Bonus 2: Implement Rate Limiting

```
ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192:~
user nginx;
worker_processes auto;

events {
    worker_connections 1024;
}

http {
    include mime.types;
    default_type application/octet-stream;

    # @ BONUS 2: Rate limit zone (1 request per second per IP)
    limit_req_zone $binary_remote_addr zone=mylimit:10m rate=1r/s;

    # @ Backend servers (PRIVATE IPs)
    upstream backend_servers {
        server 10.0.10.108; # web-1
        server 10.0.10.57; # web-2
        server 10.0.10.192 backup; # web-3 (backup)
    }

    # HTTP → HTTPS redirect
    server {
        listen 80;
        server_name _;
        return 301 https://$host$request_uri;
    }

    # HTTPS server
    server {
        listen 443 ssl;
        server_name _;

        ssl_certificate /etc/ssl/certs/selfsigned.crt;
        ssl_certificate_key /etc/ssl/private/selfsigned.key;


        # @ Security headers
        add_header X-Frame-Options "SAMEORIGIN" always;
        add_header X-XSS-Protection "1; mode=block" always;
        add_header X-Content-Type-Options "nosniff" always;

        # @ BONUS 2: 429 status
        limit_req_status 429;

        location / {
            # @ Rate limiting applied HERE
            limit_req zone=mylimit burst=5 nodelay;

            proxy_pass http://backend_servers;
        }
    }
}
```

"/etc/nginx/nginx.conf" 61L, 1559B

 ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192:~

```
Server: nginx/1.28.0
Date: Tue, 30 Dec 2025 19:44:16 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 169
Connection: keep-alive
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
```

```
HTTP/1.1 429 Too Many Requests
Server: nginx/1.28.0
Date: Tue, 30 Dec 2025 19:44:16 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 169
Connection: keep-alive
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
```

```
HTTP/1.1 429 Too Many Requests
Server: nginx/1.28.0
Date: Tue, 30 Dec 2025 19:44:16 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 169
Connection: keep-alive
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
```

```
HTTP/1.1 429 Too Many Requests
Server: nginx/1.28.0
Date: Tue, 30 Dec 2025 19:44:16 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 169
Connection: keep-alive
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
```

```
HTTP/1.1 429 Too Many Requests
Server: nginx/1.28.0
Date: Tue, 30 Dec 2025 19:44:16 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 169
Connection: keep-alive
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
```

[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]\$

Bonus 3: Health Check Automation

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$ cat health_check.sh
#!/bin/bash

BACKENDS=("10.0.10.108" "10.0.10.57")
LOG_FILE="/home/ec2-user/health_check.log"

echo "--- Health Check Started: $(date) ---" >> $LOG_FILE

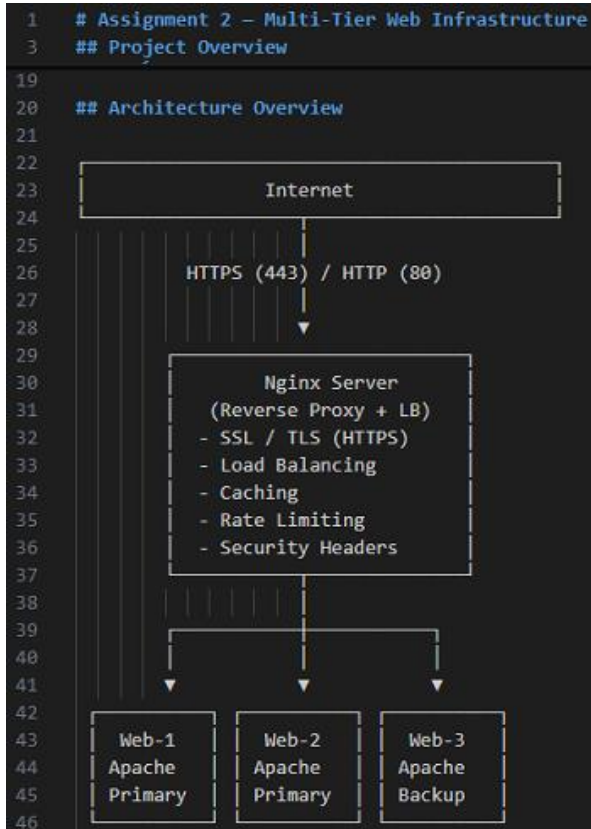
for IP in "${BACKENDS[@]}"
do
    if curl -s --head --connect-timeout 5 http://$IP | grep "200 OK" > /dev/null
    then
        echo "$(date): Server $IP is UP" >> $LOG_FILE
    else
        echo "$(date): ALERT - Server $IP is DOWN! Attempting restart..." >> $LOG_FILE
        ssh -o ConnectTimeout=5 $IP "sudo systemctl start httpd"
    fi
done
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$
```

```
--- Health Check Started: Tue Dec 30 20:15:31 UTC 2025 ---
Tue Dec 30 20:15:31 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.108 is UP
Tue Dec 30 20:15:31 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.57 is UP
--- Health Check Started: Tue Dec 30 20:16:01 UTC 2025 ---
Tue Dec 30 20:16:01 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.108 is UP
Tue Dec 30 20:16:01 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.57 is UP
--- Health Check Started: Tue Dec 30 20:16:31 UTC 2025 ---
Tue Dec 30 20:16:31 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.108 is UP
Tue Dec 30 20:16:31 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.57 is UP
--- Health Check Started: Tue Dec 30 20:17:02 UTC 2025 ---
Tue Dec 30 20:17:02 UTC 2025: ALERT - Server 10.0.10.108 is DOWN! Attempting restart...
Tue Dec 30 20:17:07 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.57 is UP
--- Health Check Started: Tue Dec 30 20:17:32 UTC 2025 ---
Tue Dec 30 20:17:32 UTC 2025: ALERT - Server 10.0.10.108 is DOWN! Attempting restart...
Tue Dec 30 20:17:37 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.57 is UP
--- Health Check Started: Tue Dec 30 20:18:01 UTC 2025 ---
Tue Dec 30 20:18:01 UTC 2025: ALERT - Server 10.0.10.108 is DOWN! Attempting restart...
Tue Dec 30 20:18:06 UTC 2025: Server 10.0.10.57 is UP
--- Health Check Started: Tue Dec 30 20:18:31 UTC 2025 ---
Tue Dec 30 20:18:31 UTC 2025: ALERT - Server 10.0.10.108 is DOWN! Attempting restart...
Tue Dec 30 20:18:36 UTC 2025: ALERT - Server 10.0.10.57 is DOWN! Attempting restart...
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-10-192 ~]$
```

Part 6: Documentation & Cleanup

6.1 README Documentation

```
C: > Users > Dell > Downloads > ① README.md > abc # Log Locations
1  # Assignment 2 – Multi-Tier Web Infrastructure
2
3  ## Project Overview
4
5  This project demonstrates the deployment of a multi-tier web infrastructure
6  on AWS, simulating a real-world web application architecture.
7
8  An Nginx server is used as a reverse proxy and load balancer to distribute
9  incoming client traffic across multiple Apache backend web servers.
10
11  ### Key Features
12  - Load Balancing
13  - Traffic Handling
14  - Fault Tolerance
15  - Scalability
16  - Performance Optimization
17
18  ---
19
20  ## Architecture Overview
21
```



```

1  # Assignment 2 - Multi-Tier Web Infrastructure
20 ## Architecture Overview
47
48 ## Components Description
49
50 ### Nginx Server (Load Balancer)
51
52 - Entry point for all client traffic
53 - Distributes requests to backend servers
54 - Implements:
55   - Reverse Proxy
56   - HTTPS Termination
57   - Caching (`proxy_cache`)
58   - Rate Limiting (`limit_req`, `limit_conn`)
59
60 ---
61
62 ### Backend Servers (Web-1, Web-2, Web-3)
63
64 - Run Apache HTTP Server
65 - Host the web application
66 - Web-1 and Web-2 act as primary servers
67 - Web-3 acts as a backup server
68
69 ---
70
71 ## Terraform
72
73 ### Infrastructure as Code (IaC) Tool
74
75 - Automates provisioning of AWS infrastructure
76 - Defines infrastructure components

```

```

1  # Assignment 2 - Multi-Tier Web Infrastructure
71 ## Terraform
73 ### Infrastructure as Code (IaC) Tool
74
75 - Automates provisioning of AWS infrastructure
76 - Defines infrastructure components
77 - Enables repeatable and consistent deployments
78 - Improves security and scalability
79
80 ---
81
82 ## Prerequisites
83
84 ### Required Tools
85
86 - Terraform
87 - AWS CLI
88 - SSH Client
89
90 ---
91
92 ## AWS Credentials Setup
93
94 ```bash
95 aws configure
96 ```
97
98 Provide:
99 - AWS Access Key: AKI*****
100 - AWS Secret Key: LUhx*****
101 - Region: me-central-1
102 - Output format: json
103

```

```

1 # Assignment 2 – Multi-Tier Web Infrastructure
137
138 # Reload Nginx:
139 sudo systemctl reload nginx
140
141 # Nginx Configuration Explanation
142 # proxy_pass - forwards requests to backend servers
143 # load balancing - distributes incoming traffic
144 # limit_req - enforces rate limiting
145 # error_page - handles custom error responses
146
147 ---
148
149 ## Testing
150
151 ```bash
152 curl http://3.28.185.216
153 ```
154
155 # Test Rate Limiting:
156 for i in {1..20}; do curl -I http://3.28.185.216; done
157
158 # Verify Cache:
159 Check response headers for cache status.
160 ---
161
162 ## Architecture Details
163
164 # Network Topology
165 Single VPC
166 Public subnet for Nginx
167 Backend servers accessible only through Nginx

```

```

1 # Assignment 2 – Multi-Tier Web Infrastructure
106 ## SSH Key Setup
108 Creating a new EC2 key pair: keys
109
110 ---
111
112 ## Deployment Instructions
113
114 ```bash
115 git clone git@github.com:Umber-qasim/Assignment-2.git
116 cd Assignment-2
117 terraform init
118 terraform validate
119 terraform apply
120 ```
121
122 Type **yes** when prompted.
123
124 ---
125
126 ## Configuration Guide
127
128 Update backend IPs in Nginx:
129
130 ```nginx
131 upstream backend_servers {
132     server 10.0.10.57;
133     server 10.0.10.108;
134     server 10.0.10.31; backup;
135 }
136 ```

```

```

138 # Reload Nginx:
139 sudo systemctl reload nginx
140
141 # Nginx Configuration Explanation
142 # proxy_pass - forwards requests to backend servers
143 # load_balancing - distributes incoming traffic
144 # limit_req - enforces rate limiting
145 # error_page - handles custom error responses
146
147 ---
148
149 ## Testing
150
151 ```bash
152 curl http://3.28.185.216
153 ```
154
155 # Test Rate Limiting:
156 for i in {1..20}; do curl -I http://3.28.185.216; done
157
158 # Verify Cache:
159 Check response headers for cache status.
160 ---
161
162 ## Architecture Details
163
164 # Network Topology
165 Single VPC
166 Public subnet for Nginx
167 Backend servers accessible only through Nginx
168


```

```

164 # Network Topology
168
169 # Security Group Setup
170 Nginx Security Group: Allow HTTP (80), Allow SSH (22)
171 Backend Security Group: Allow HTTP from Nginx only, Allow SSH for administration
172
173 # Load Balancing Strategy
174 Nginx round-robin load balancing
175 Backup server activated if primary servers fail
176
177 ## Troubleshooting
178
179 # Common Issues and Solutions
180
181 Backend not responding:
182 - sudo systemctl status httpd
183 - curl 3.28.185.216 - Verify backend IP addresses. Ensure Apache is running on backend servers.
184
185 # Log Locations
186 Nginx access log: /var/log/nginx/access.log
187 Nginx error log: /var/log/nginx/error.log

```

6.2 Infrastructure Cleanup

 Windows PowerShell

```
- backend_servers_info = {
  - web-1 = {
    - instance_id = "i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5"
    - private_ip  = "10.0.10.108"
    - public_ip   = "40.172.191.56"
  }
  - web-2 = {
    - instance_id = "i-04540c77bc3937ad5"
    - private_ip  = "10.0.10.57"
    - public_ip   = "51.112.46.147"
  }
  - web-3 = {
    - instance_id = "i-08e586a0daf87c199"
    - private_ip  = "10.0.10.31"
    - public_ip   = "158.252.79.165"
  }
} -> null
- configuration_guide = <<-EOT
=====
DEPLOYMENT SUCCESSFUL!
=====

Next Steps:
1. SSH into Nginx server: ssh ec2-user@3.28.185.216
2. Edit Nginx config: sudo vim /etc/nginx/nginx.conf
3. Update backend IPs in upstream block:
  - BACKEND_IP_1: 10.0.10.108
  - BACKEND_IP_2: 10.0.10.57
  - BACKEND_IP_3: 10.0.10.31
4. Restart Nginx: sudo systemctl restart nginx
5. Test: https://3.28.185.216

Backend Servers:
- web-1: 40.172.191.56 (private: 10.0.10.108)
  - web-2: 51.112.46.147 (private: 10.0.10.57)
  - web-3: 158.252.79.165 (private: 10.0.10.31)

=====
EOT -> null
- nginx_instance_id = "i-006f45446d9906a9a" -> null
- nginx_public_ip   = "3.28.185.216" -> null
- subnet_id         = "subnet-07717b21f184256f4" -> null
- vpc_id            = "vpc-04511a88ada7de218" -> null
```

Do you really want to destroy all resources?

Terraform will destroy all your managed infrastructure, as shown above.
There is no undo. Only 'yes' will be accepted to confirm.

Enter a value: yes

Windows PowerShell

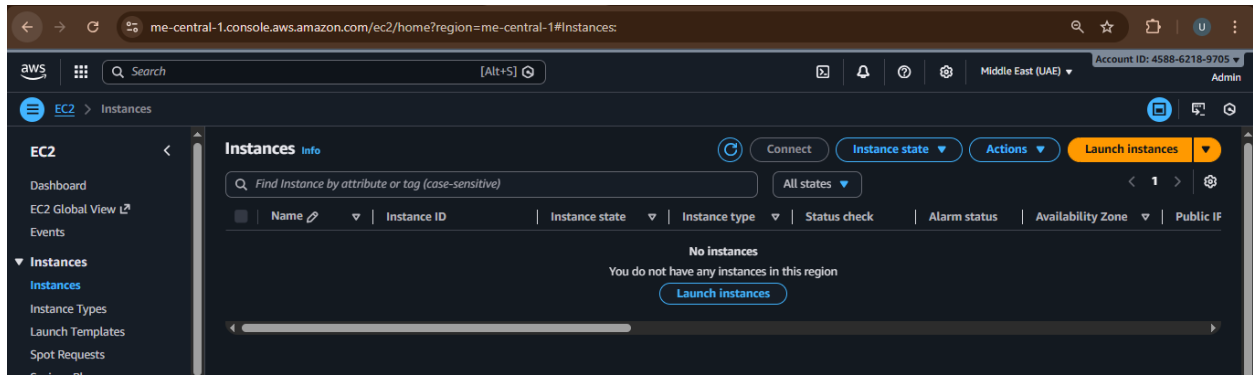
```
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-08e586a0daf87c199, 00m20s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-04540c77bc3937ad5, 00m20s elapsed]
module.nginx_server.aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-006f45446d9906a9a, 00m20s elapsed]
module.networking.aws_internet_gateway.this: Still destroying... [id=igw-009165a8629936870, 00m20s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-08e586a0daf87c199, 00m30s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5, 00m30s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-04540c77bc3937ad5, 00m30s elapsed]
module.nginx_server.aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-006f45446d9906a9a, 00m30s elapsed]
module.networking.aws_internet_gateway.this: Still destroying... [id=igw-009165a8629936870, 00m30s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-08e586a0daf87c199, 00m40s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5, 00m40s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-04540c77bc3937ad5, 00m40s elapsed]
module.nginx_server.aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-006f45446d9906a9a, 00m40s elapsed]
module.networking.aws_internet_gateway.this: Still destroying... [id=igw-009165a8629936870, 00m40s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-08e586a0daf87c199, 00m50s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5, 00m50s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-04540c77bc3937ad5, 00m50s elapsed]
module.nginx_server.aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-006f45446d9906a9a, 00m50s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_instance.this: Destruction complete after 50s
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_key_pair.this: Destroying... [id=prod-web-3-3-key]
module.backend_servers["web-3"].aws_key_pair.this: Destruction complete after 0s
module.networking.aws_internet_gateway.this: Still destroying... [id=igw-009165a8629936870, 00m50s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5, 01m00s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-04540c77bc3937ad5, 01m00s elapsed]
module.nginx_server.aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-006f45446d9906a9a, 01m00s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_instance.this: Destruction complete after 1m0s
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_key_pair.this: Destroying... [id=prod-web-2-2-key]
module.backend_servers["web-2"].aws_key_pair.this: Destruction complete after 1s
module.networking.aws_internet_gateway.this: Still destroying... [id=igw-009165a8629936870, 01m00s elapsed]
module.networking.aws_internet_gateway.this: Destruction complete after 1m8s
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5, 01m10s elapsed]
module.nginx_server.aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-006f45446d9906a9a, 01m10s elapsed]
module.nginx_server.aws_instance.this: Destruction complete after 1m10s
module.nginx_server.aws_key_pair.this: Destroying... [id=prod-nginx-proxy-nginx-key]
module.nginx_server.aws_key_pair.this: Destruction complete after 1s
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_instance.this: Still destroying... [id=i-0d217dc0b012f3ff5, 01m20s elapsed]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_instance.this: Destruction complete after 1m21s
module.security.aws_security_group.backend_sg: Destroying... [id=sg-0dcd23536fc056207]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_key_pair.this: Destroying... [id=prod-web-1-1-key]
module.networking.aws_subnet.this: Destroying... [id=subnet-07717b21f184256f4]
module.backend_servers["web-1"].aws_key_pair.this: Destruction complete after 0s
module.networking.aws_subnet.this: Destruction complete after 0s
module.security.aws_security_group.backend_sg: Destruction complete after 0s
module.security.aws_security_group.nginx_sg: Destroying... [id=sg-034f3c09a82c0d381]
module.security.aws_security_group.nginx_sg: Destruction complete after 1s
module.networking.aws_vpc.this: Destroying... [id=vpc-04511a88ada7de218]
module.networking.aws_vpc.this: Destruction complete after 1s
```

```
Destroy complete! Resources: 15 destroyed.
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $
```

```
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $ cat terraform.tfstate
```

```
{
  "version": 4,
  "terraform_version": "1.14.3",
  "serial": 56,
  "lineage": "79d35338-6378-d15b-5623-bb3b415b5e56",
  "outputs": {},
  "resources": [],
  "check_results": [
    {
      "object_kind": "var",
      "config_addr": "var.subnet_cidr_block",
      "status": "unknown",
      "objects": null
    },
    {
      "object_kind": "var",
      "config_addr": "var.vpc_cidr_block",
      "status": "unknown",
      "objects": null
    }
  ]
}
```

```
@Umber-qasim @ /workspaces/Assignment-2 (main) $
```



Challenges & Solutions

Challenge 1: SSH Key Errors

Solution: Regenerated key pairs and updated Terraform variables

Challenge 2: Backend Not Reachable

Solution: Corrected security group rules

Challenge 3: Rate Limiting Not Triggering

Solution: Reduced request rate threshold and tested using loops

Lessons Learned

- ❖ Importance of IaC
- ❖ Security-first cloud design
- ❖ Debugging cloud networking issues

Conclusion

This assignment successfully demonstrated the deployment of a production-like multi-tier architecture using AWS and Terraform.

It enhanced practical skills in:

- Cloud infrastructure
- Linux server automation
- Security and performance optimization
- Troubleshooting real-world issues

Future Improvements

- Use ACM certificates instead of self-signed
- Auto Scaling Groups
- Monitoring with CloudWatch
- CI/CD integration

Appendices

Included

- Complete Terraform code
- Apache and Nginx scripts
- Configuration files
- Screenshots

References:

- AWS Documentation
- Terraform Documentation
- Nginx Official Docs