# System Manager – Session Manager

AWS System Manager – Session Manager is a fully managed AWS System Manager capability that lets you manage your Amazon EC2 instances through an interactive one-click browser-based shell or through the AWS CLI.

The following Linux distributions are supported:

- Amazon Linux 2、Linux
- Ubuntu 18.04、16.04
- Windows Server 2008 R2 through Windows Server 2016
- **On-premises server and virtual machines for your hybrid environment__**

  __**You need to install the agent manually**
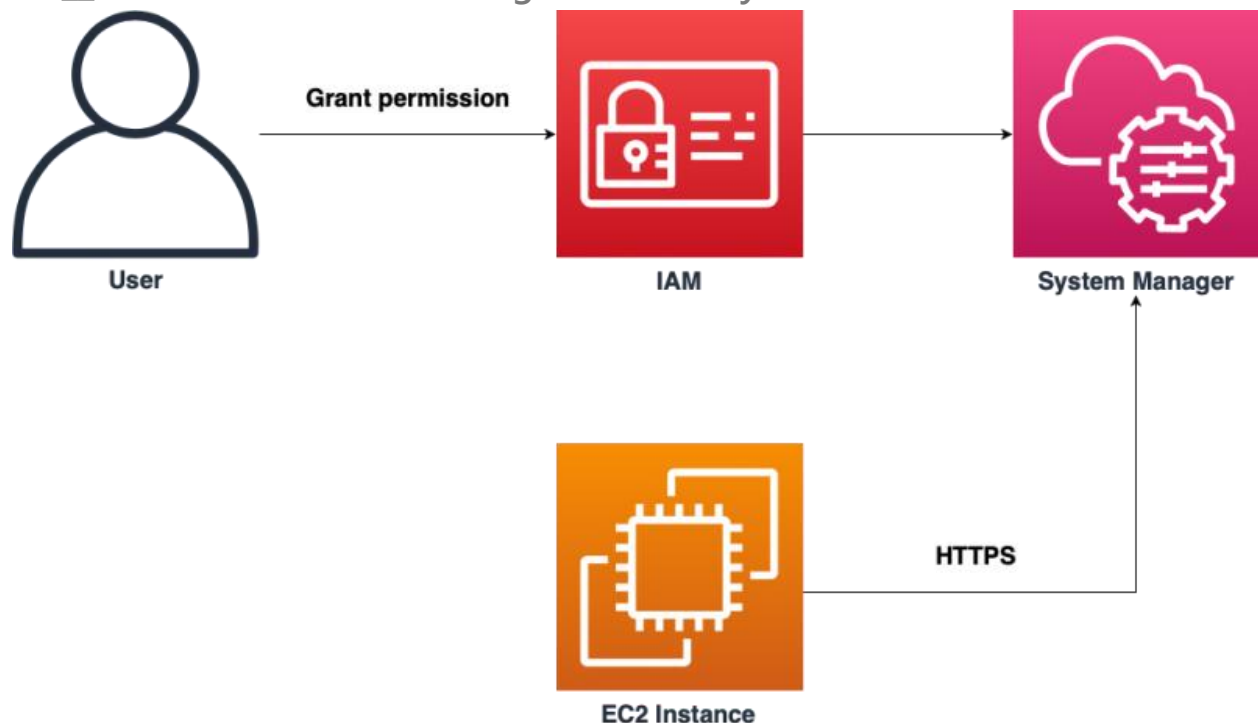
How to Configure

- Install the AWS Systems Manager agent on each EC2 instance (already installed on Amazon Linux).
- Create an IAM role for the EC2 instance which grants access to the AWS Systems Manager.

  You can attach the built-in policy, **AmazonSSMManagedInstanceCore** to a role.
- Attach the role to your instance.
- Use the Session Manager console to connect to your server.
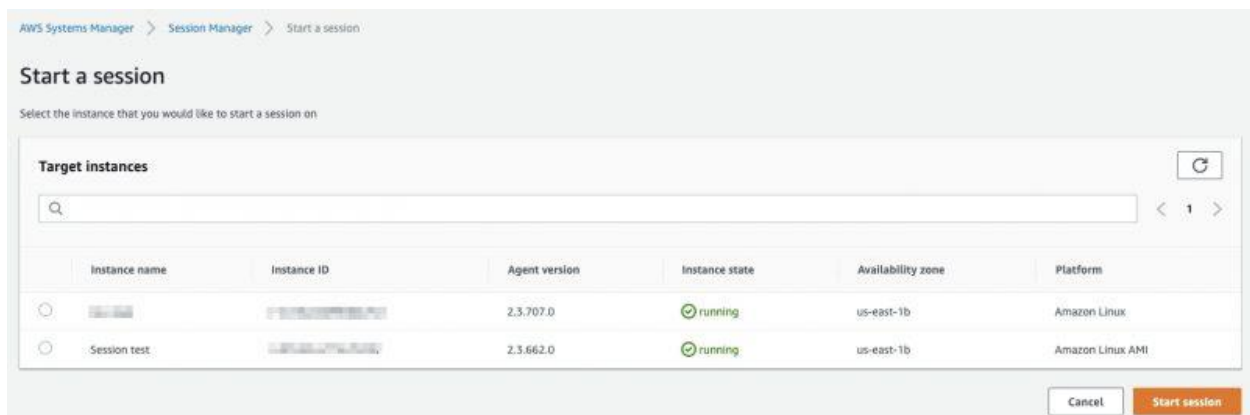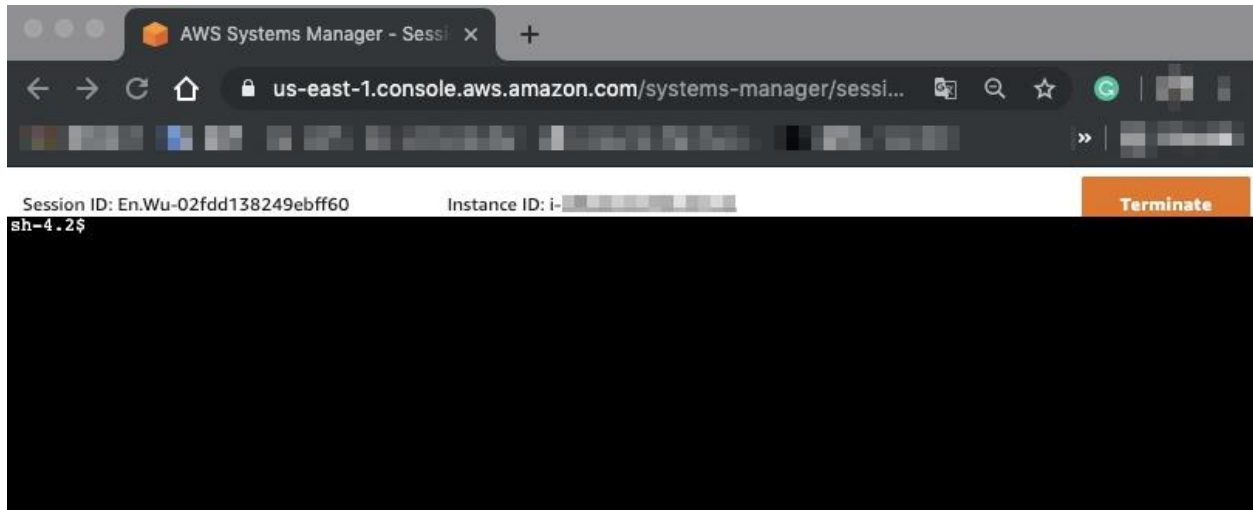
How It Works

- Authenticates against IAM (IAM user or SSO identity provider).
- IAM authorizes to start a session for an EC2 instance (IAM policy).
- The user uses the AWS Management Console or the terminal (AWS CLI and additional plugin required) to start a session via the Systems Manager.
- An agent running on the EC2 instance connects to the Systems Manager's backend and executes commands on the machine.

  The EC2 instance needs access to the Internet or a VPC endpoint.
- The Session Manager sends audit logs to CloudWatch Logs or S3.