COS20019 CLOUD COMPUTING ARCHITECTURE

Assignment 2

Developing a highly available Photo Album website

Name: Tran Kim Thu

Student ID: 104061810

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

I.INTRODUCTION

This project is about creating a Photo Album website using various AWS services, such as EC2, S3, RDS, and Lambda. The website allows users to upload and browse photos, and creates resized thumbnails automatically. The project provides the full source code and instructions to connect the website with the S3 bucket, the RDS database, and the Lambda function. The project demonstrates how to use AWS services to build a dynamic and user-friendly website with features like photo storage, retrieval, and resizing.

II.WEBSITE ARCHITECTURE

1. Virtual Private Cloud (VPC)

The VPC has two public and two private subnets, each in a different Availability Zone. The public subnets can access the internet through an Internet Gateway, while the private subnets can access the internet through a NAT gateway. I use a NAT gateway instead of a NAT instance because it is more scalable and reliable. The public and private subnets have separate route tables that direct the traffic to the appropriate gateway.

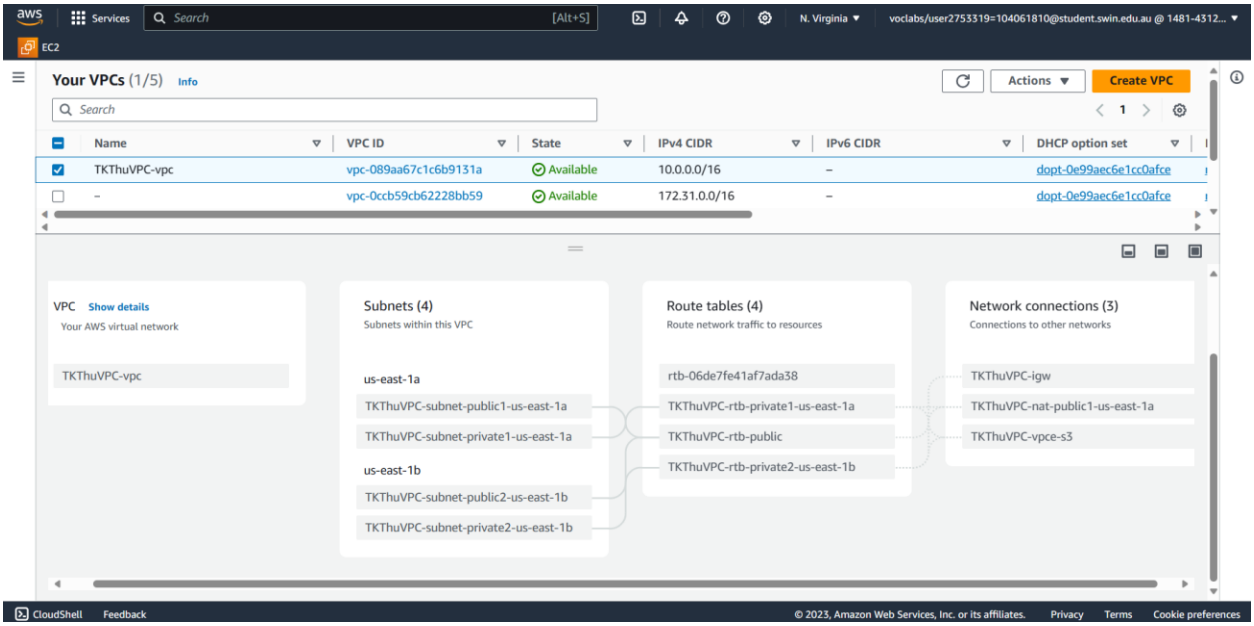


Figure 1: VPC Resource Map (NAT Gateway included)

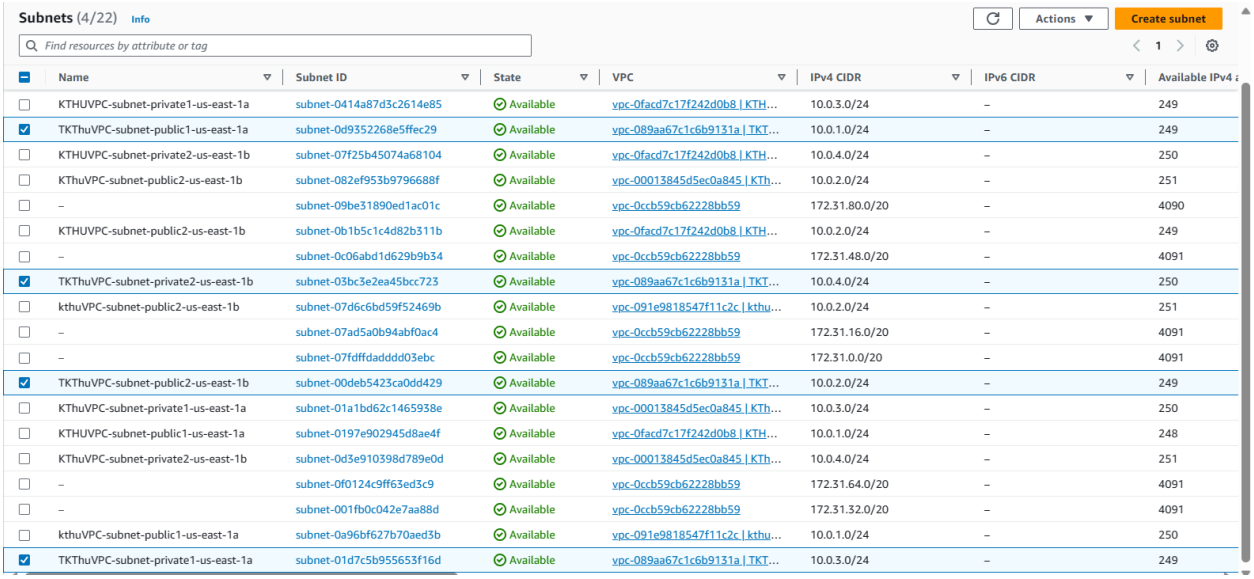


Figure 2: VPC Subnet CIDR Block

2. Security Group

The architecture has four security groups: ELBSG, WebServerSG, DBServerSG, and DevServerSG. ELBSG is for the load balancer, WebServerSG is for the web servers, DBServerSG is for the database server, and DevServerSG is for the development server. I don't need a NATServerSG because I use a NAT gateway instead of a NAT instance, which is more efficient and secure. All the security groups have the default outbound rule, which allows all traffic to any IPv4 destination.

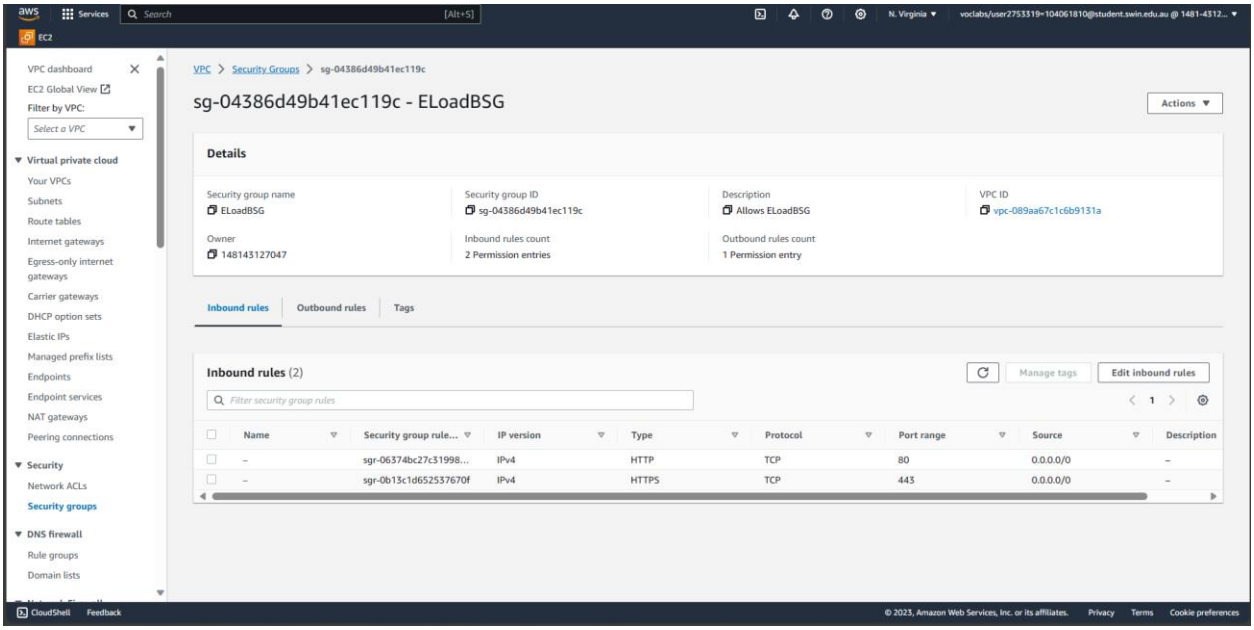


Figure 3: ELoadBSG Security Group used for Load Balancer

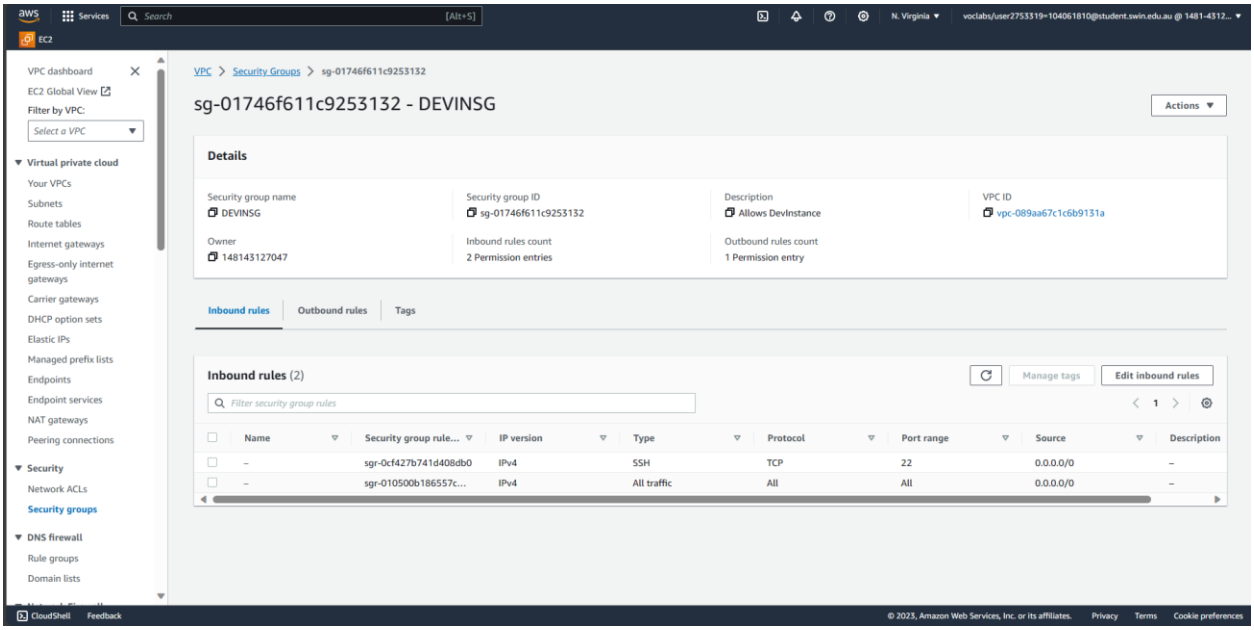


Figure 4: DEVINSG Security Group used for Dev Instance

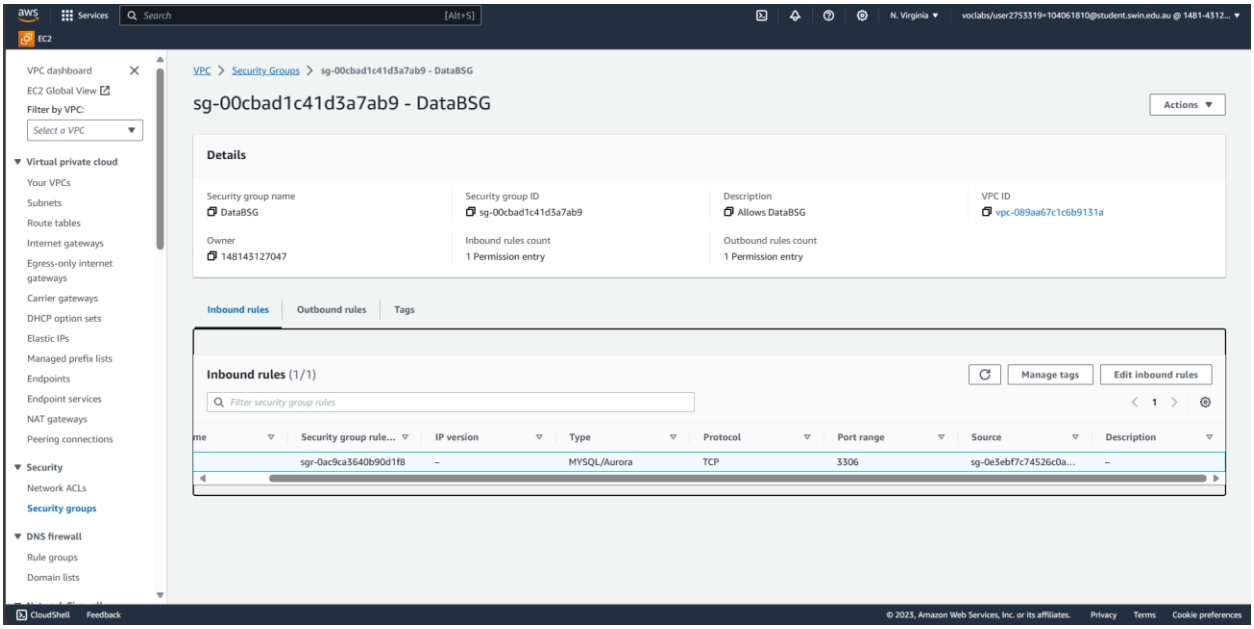


Figure 5:DataBSG Security Group used for RDS database.

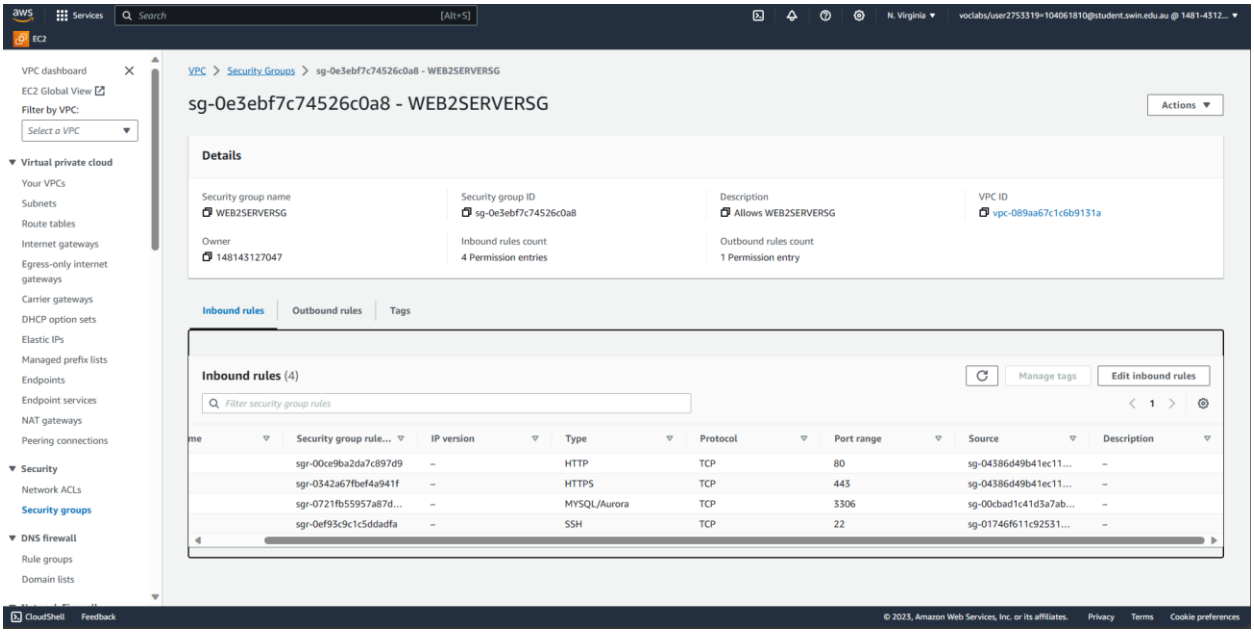


Figure 6:WEB2SERVERSG Security Group used for launch templates.

*3. **Network ACLs (NACL)***

To enhance the security of the web servers in the private subnets, I created and applied a Network Access Control List (NACL) named "Asm2-ACL". This NACL controls the ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol) traffic between the Dev Server and the other servers. It only allows the ICMP traffic that is necessary for the Dev Server to function properly and blocks the rest.

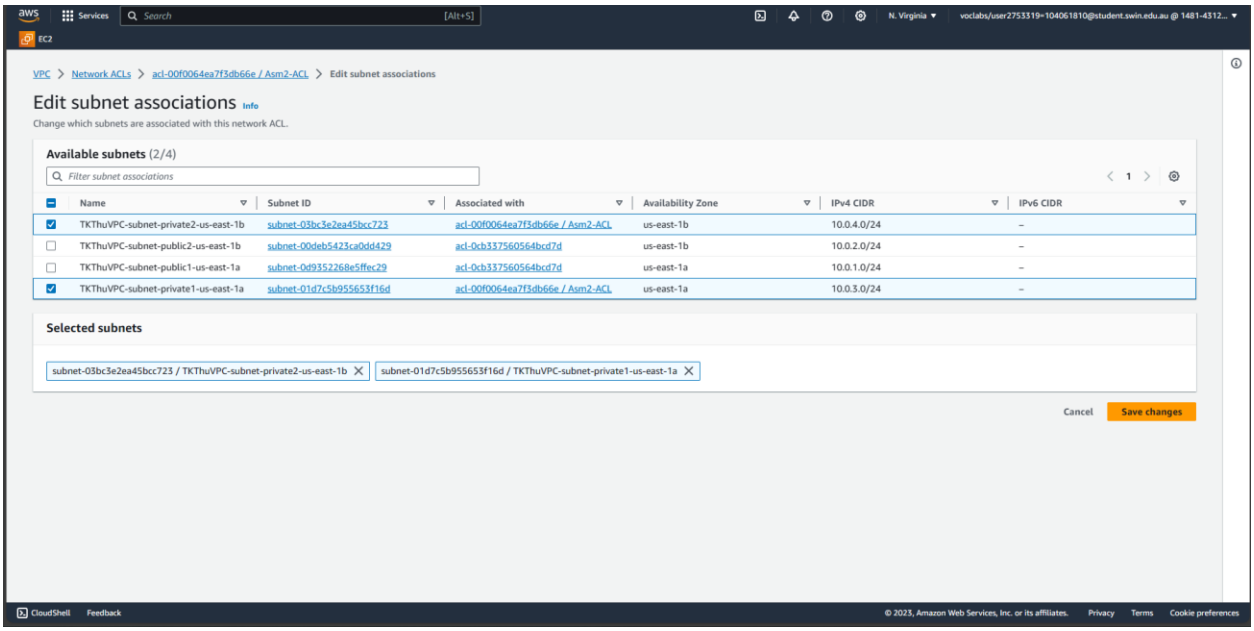


Figure 7:NACL associated with private subnets in the VPC

The Dev Server is located in Public Subnet 2, which has a CIDR of 10.0.2.0/24. The NACL for this subnet blocks the ICMP protocol in both directions. This means that the Dev Server cannot send or receive any ICMP messages, such as ping or traceroute.

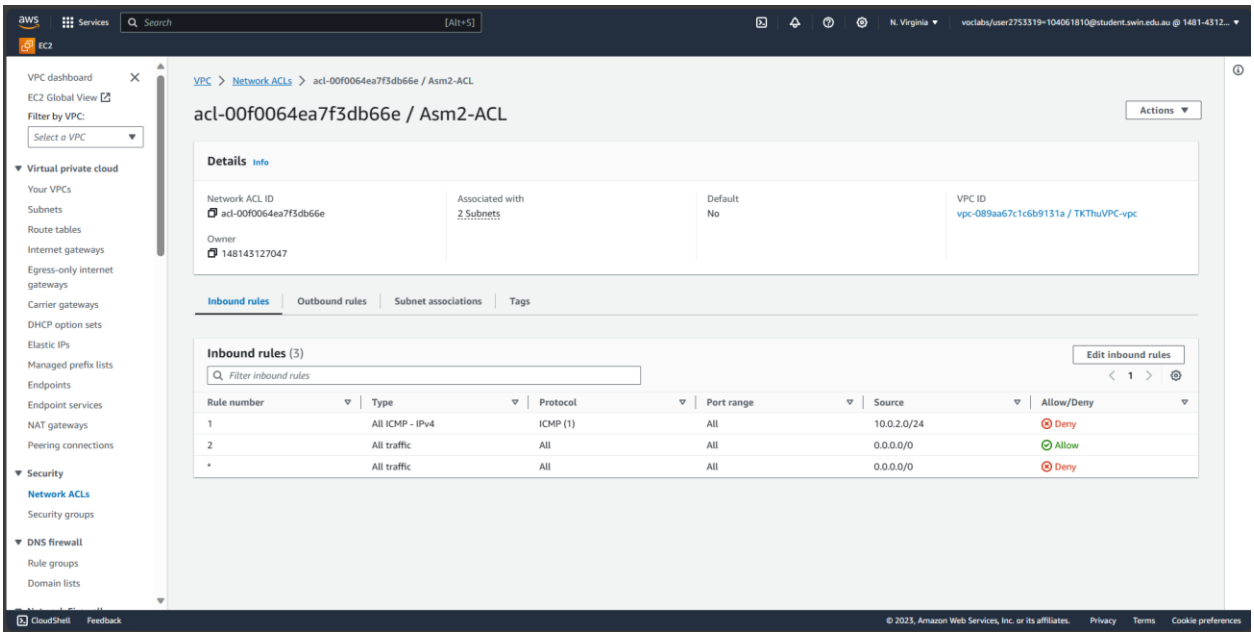


Figure 8: Inbound rules

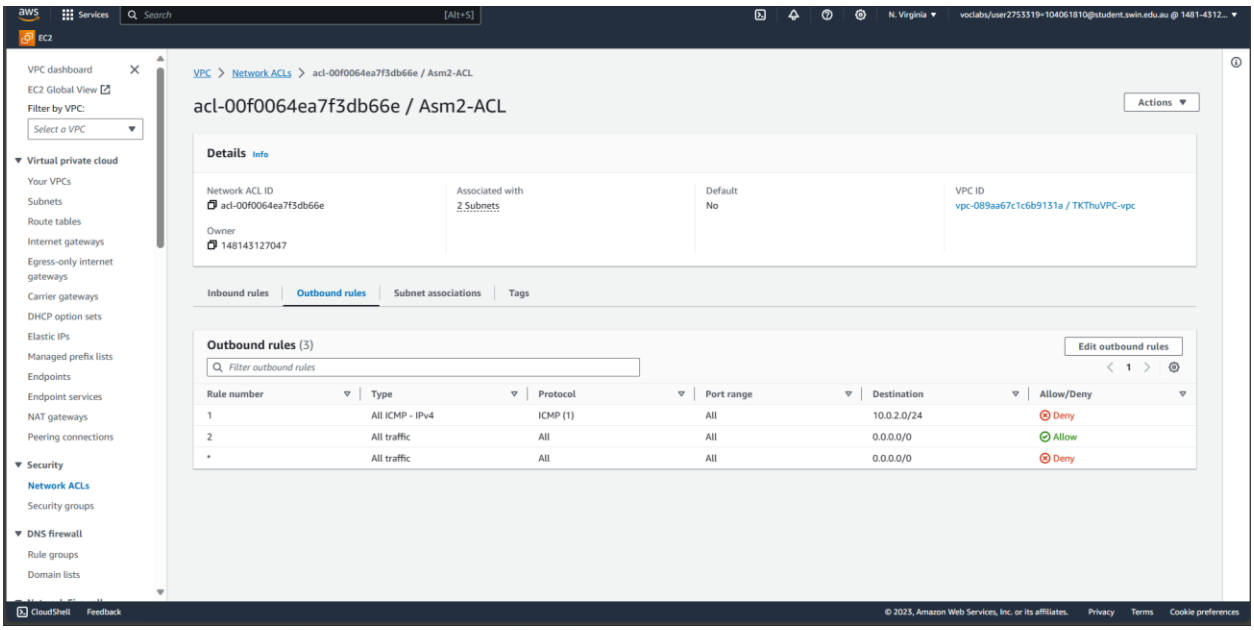


Figure 9:Outbound rules

4.IAM Role

The management console has IAM roles such as "LabRole" and "Labinstancerole" that have the necessary permissions for this assignment. These roles allow you to access and manage the AWS resources that are required for the assignment, such as EC2 instances, S3 buckets, and Lambda functions.

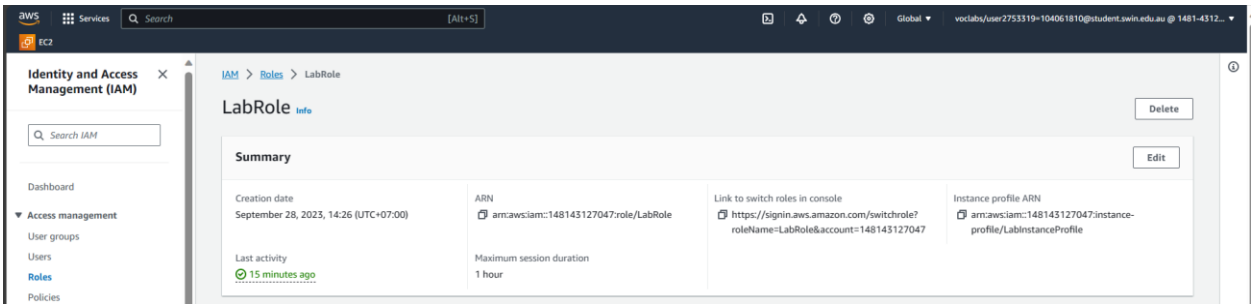


Figure 10: IAM roles

5. CreateThumbnail Lambda function

The Lambda function uses an IAM execution role to access and manage the objects in the S3 bucket securely and correctly. The IAM role is called LabRole and it has the minimum permissions needed for the assignment. The LabRole role was already created for you and assigned to the Lambda function.

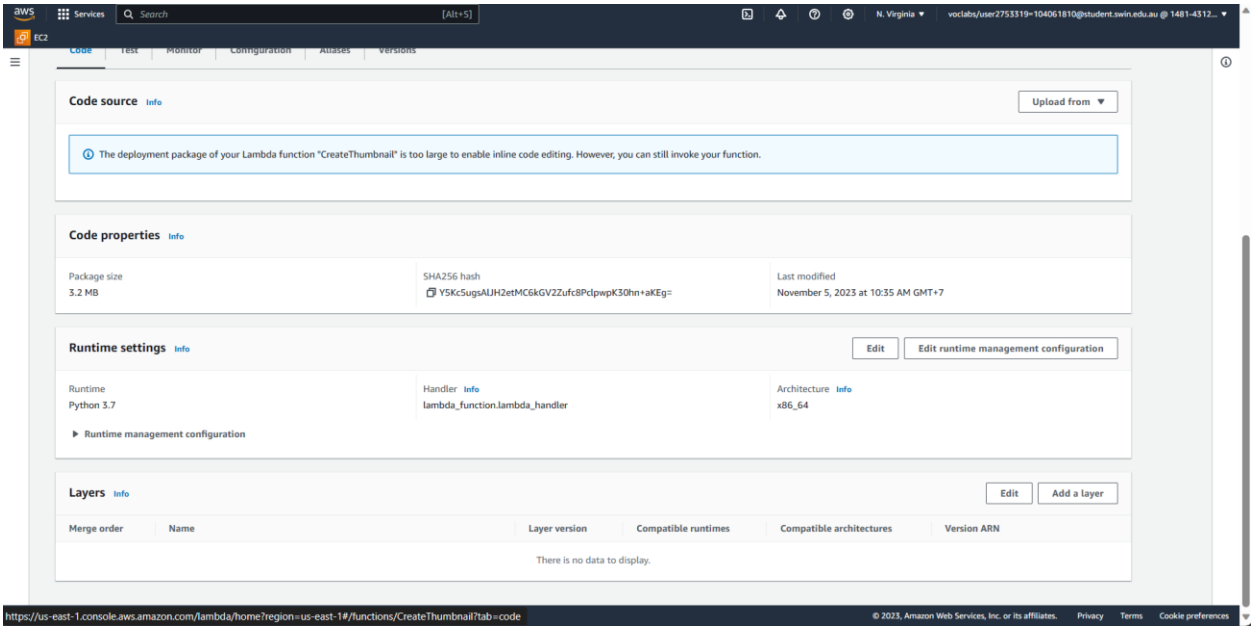


Figure 11:CreateThumbnail Lambda function configuration

I created a Lambda function called "CreateThumbnail" that uses Python 3.7 as the programming language. This function can resize images that are uploaded to the S3 bucket and save them as thumbnails.

I uploaded the "lambda-deployment-package.zip" file that contains the code and dependencies for the Lambda function. This file is needed to create and run the Lambda function on the AWS platform.

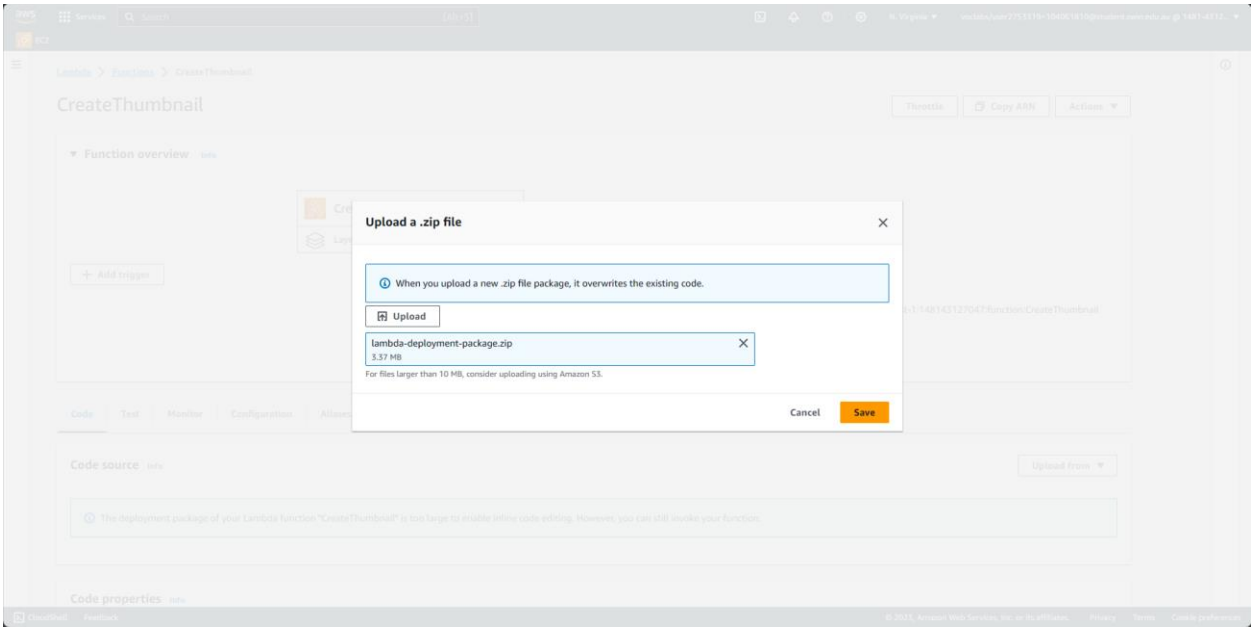


Figure 12:lambda-deployment-package.zip

6. Dev Server Instance

The Dev server does not get any traffic from the ELB, because it is only used for creating the custom AMI that is needed to run the PhotoAlbum website. Custom AMI has all the required components, such as the AWS PHP SDK, Apache web server, and website source code. The Dev server can also use phpMyAdmin to manage the MySQL RDS instance.

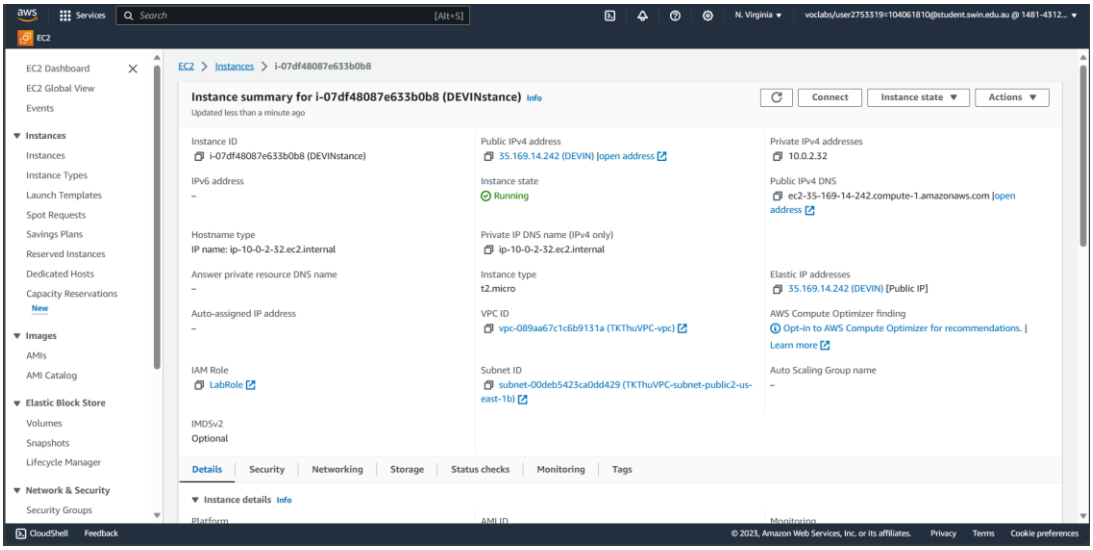


Figure 13:The Dev Server instance is in Public Subnet 2, which has a CIDR of 10.0.2.0/24. It also has an Elastic IP address that is attached to it.

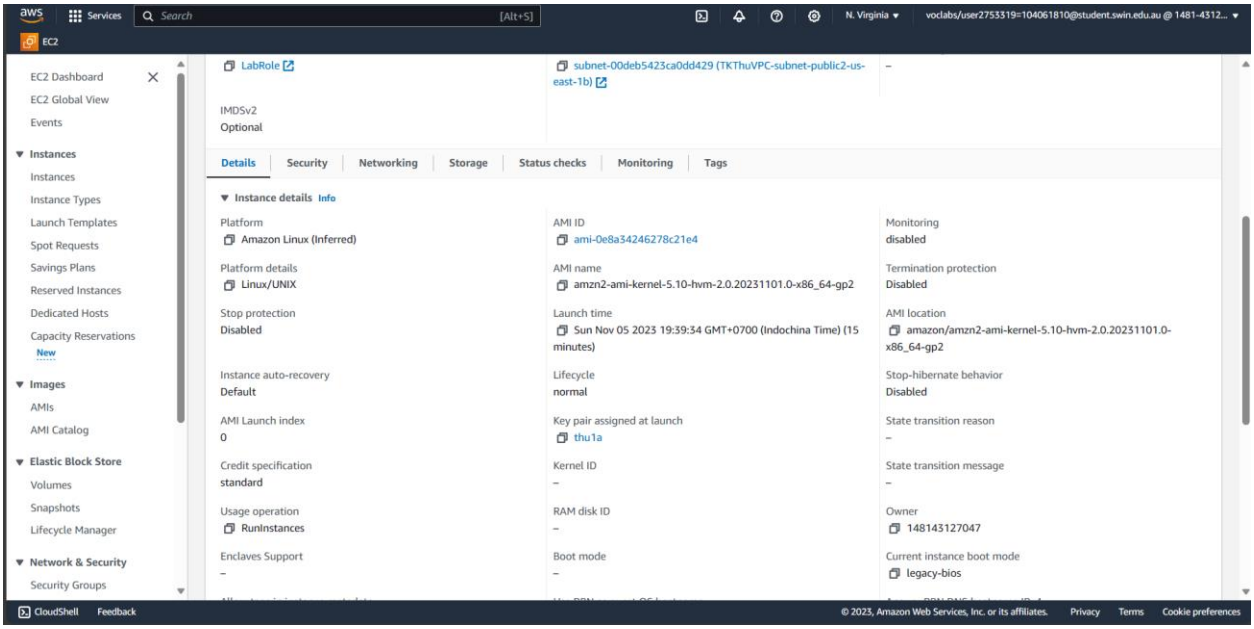


Figure 14:Configure Dev Instance

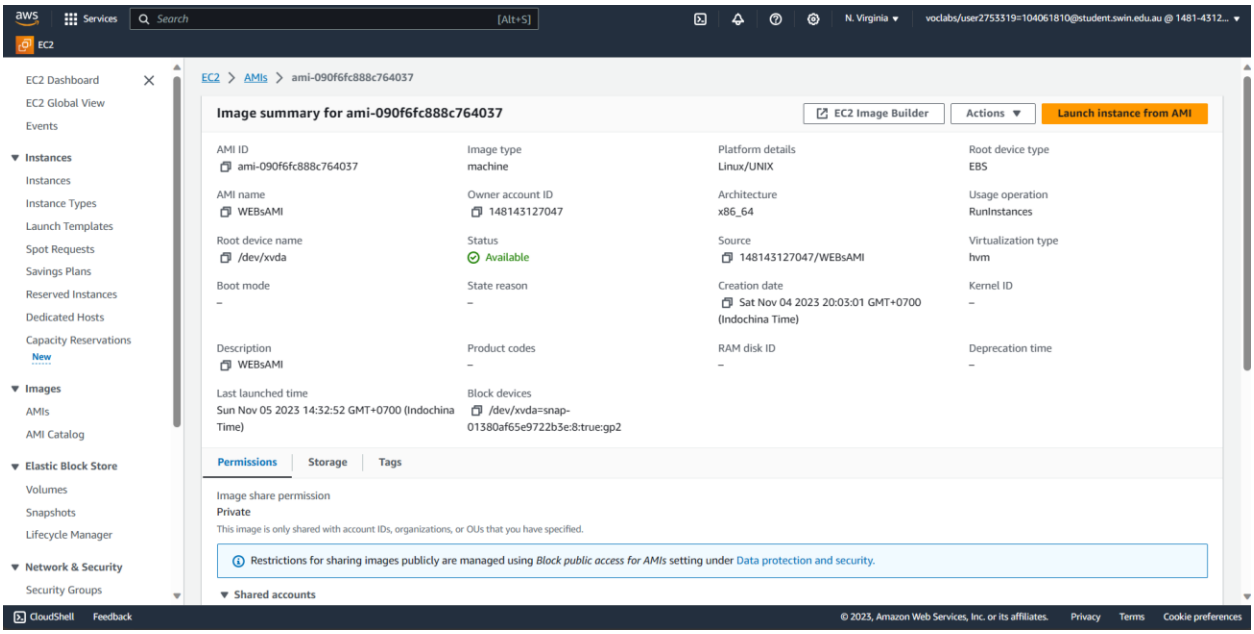


Figure 15:Create AMIS for Dev Instance

7. Auto Scaling Group (ASG)

The ASG is set up to launch instances only in the private subnets, keeping at least 2 instances and at most 3 instances, with 2 instances as the preferred number. This makes sure that the application always has enough instances running while also avoiding the infrastructure from scaling too much.

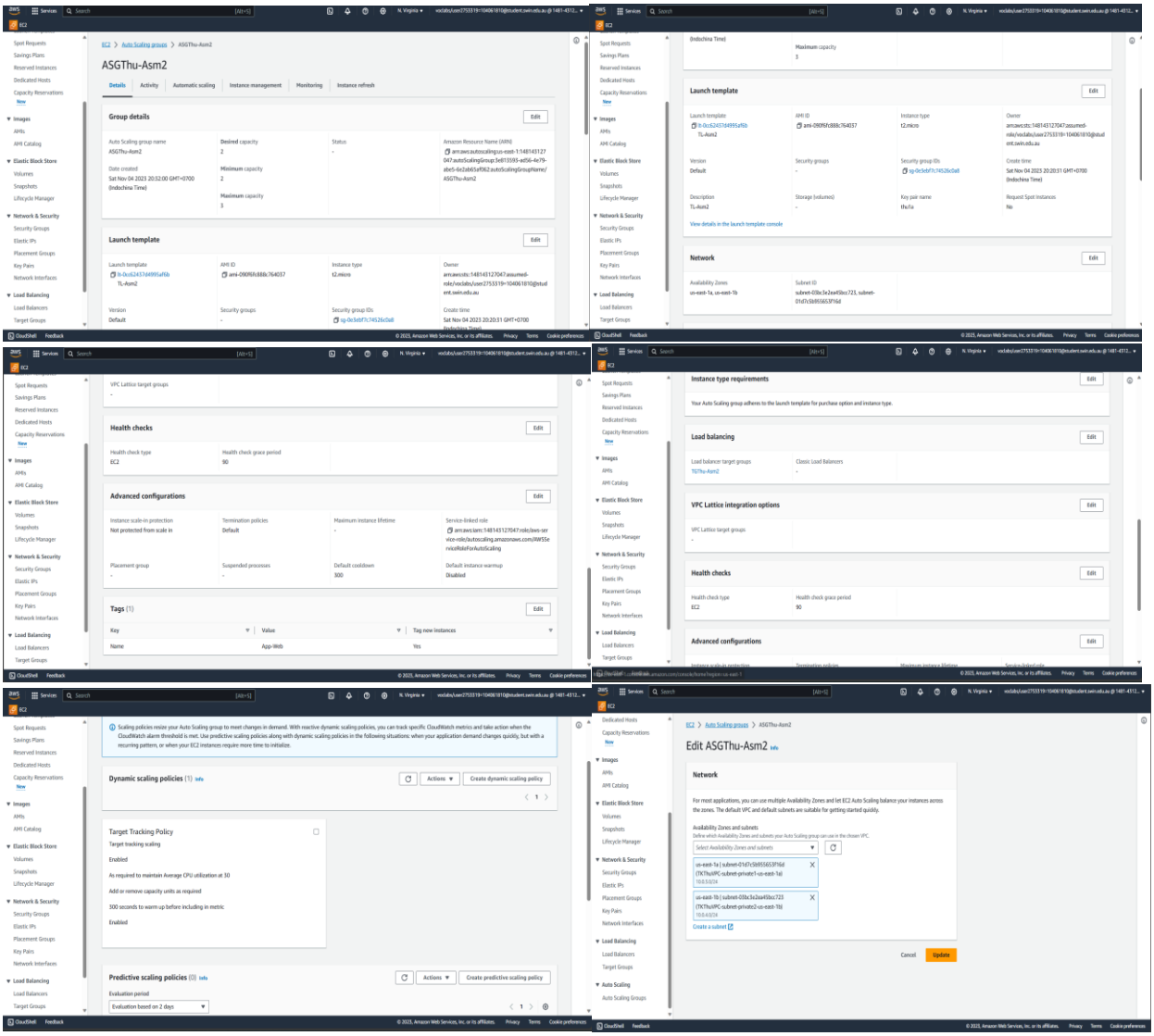


Figure16:Configure ASG

The web server can automatically adjust its capacity according to the request load, maintaining a steady number of requests per target and optimizing resource utilization.

8. Elastic Load Balancing (ELB)

To make the load balancer work, I need to create a new target group that contains the targets that the load balancer will send requests to and check their health.

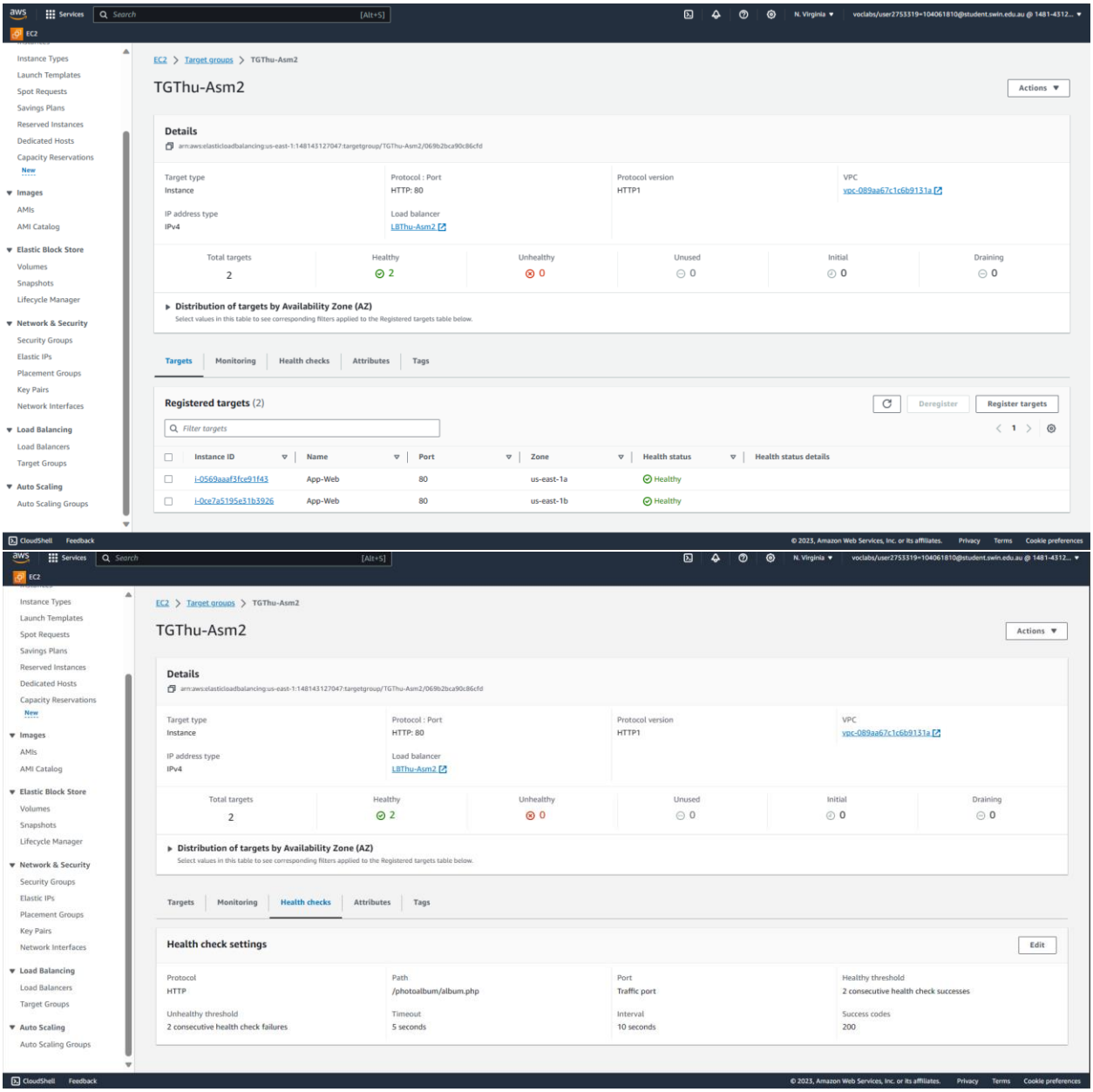


Figure 17: Target Group status with 2 Healthy Instance and Path set to /photoalbum/album.php

To connect the load balancer to the target group, I need to create a new load balancer and associate it with the target group.

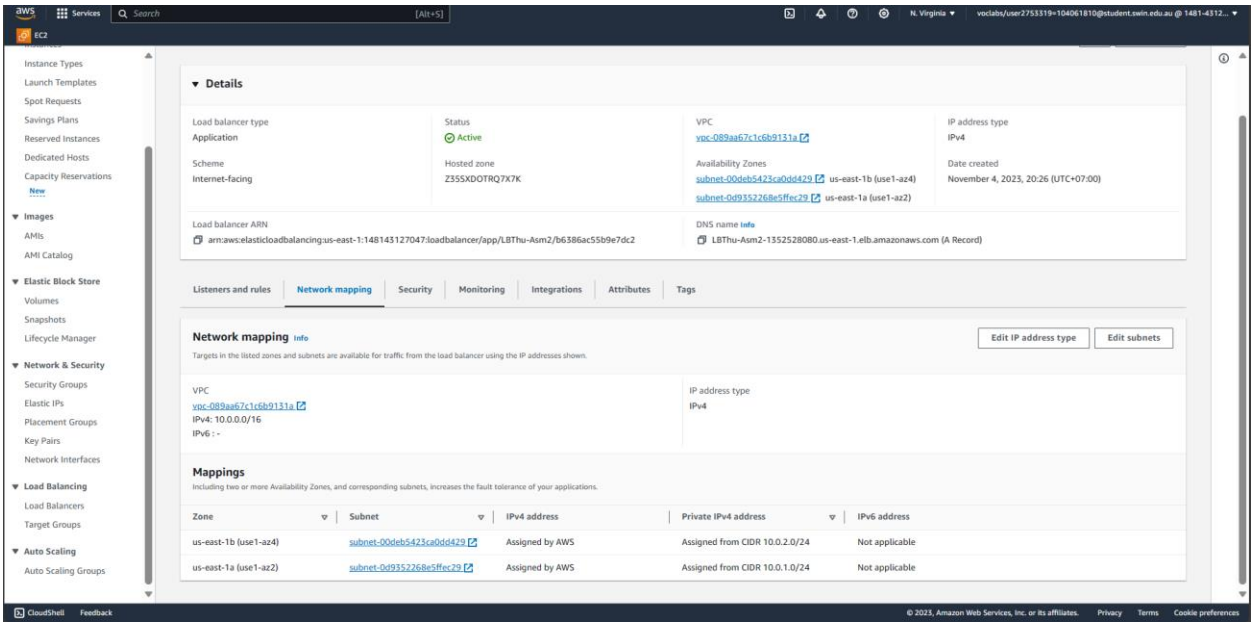
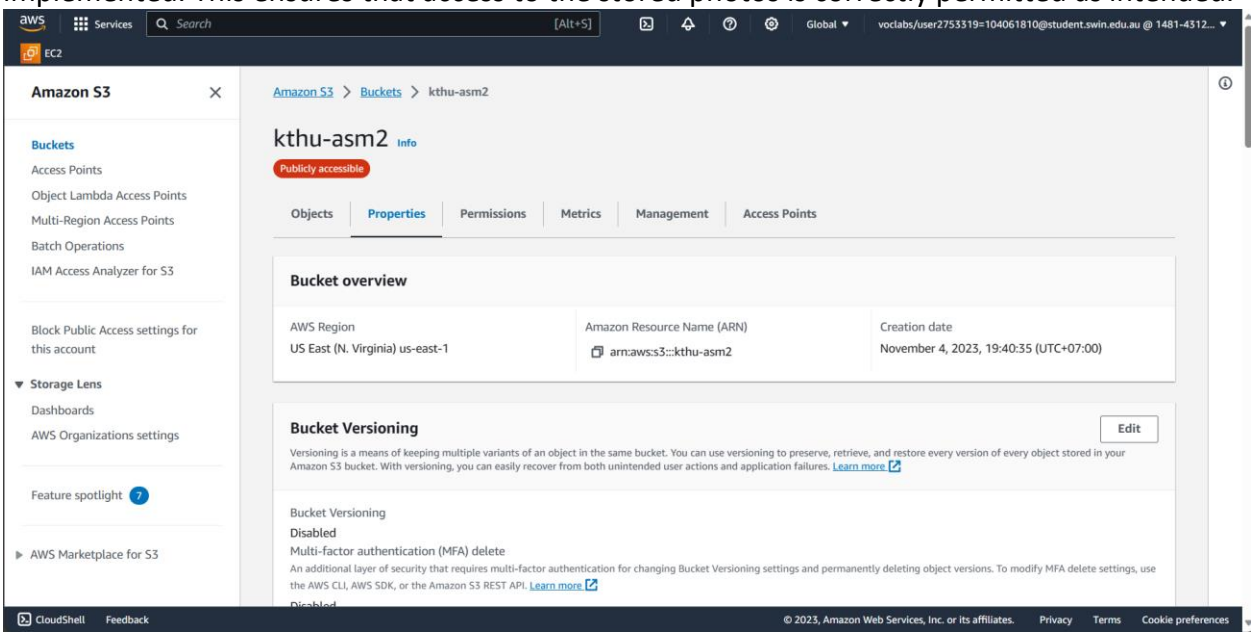


Figure 16:The Public Subnet 1 and Public Subnet 2 are connected to an Application Load Balancer.

The ELB is now capable of evenly distributing incoming HTTP and HTTPS traffic among multiple EC2 targets.

8. Simple Storage Service (S3)

I created a new bucket as assignment 1b specifically for photo storage. To ensure the objects in this S3 bucket are accessible as needed, suitable permissions and policies have been implemented. This ensures that access to the stored photos is correctly permitted as intended.



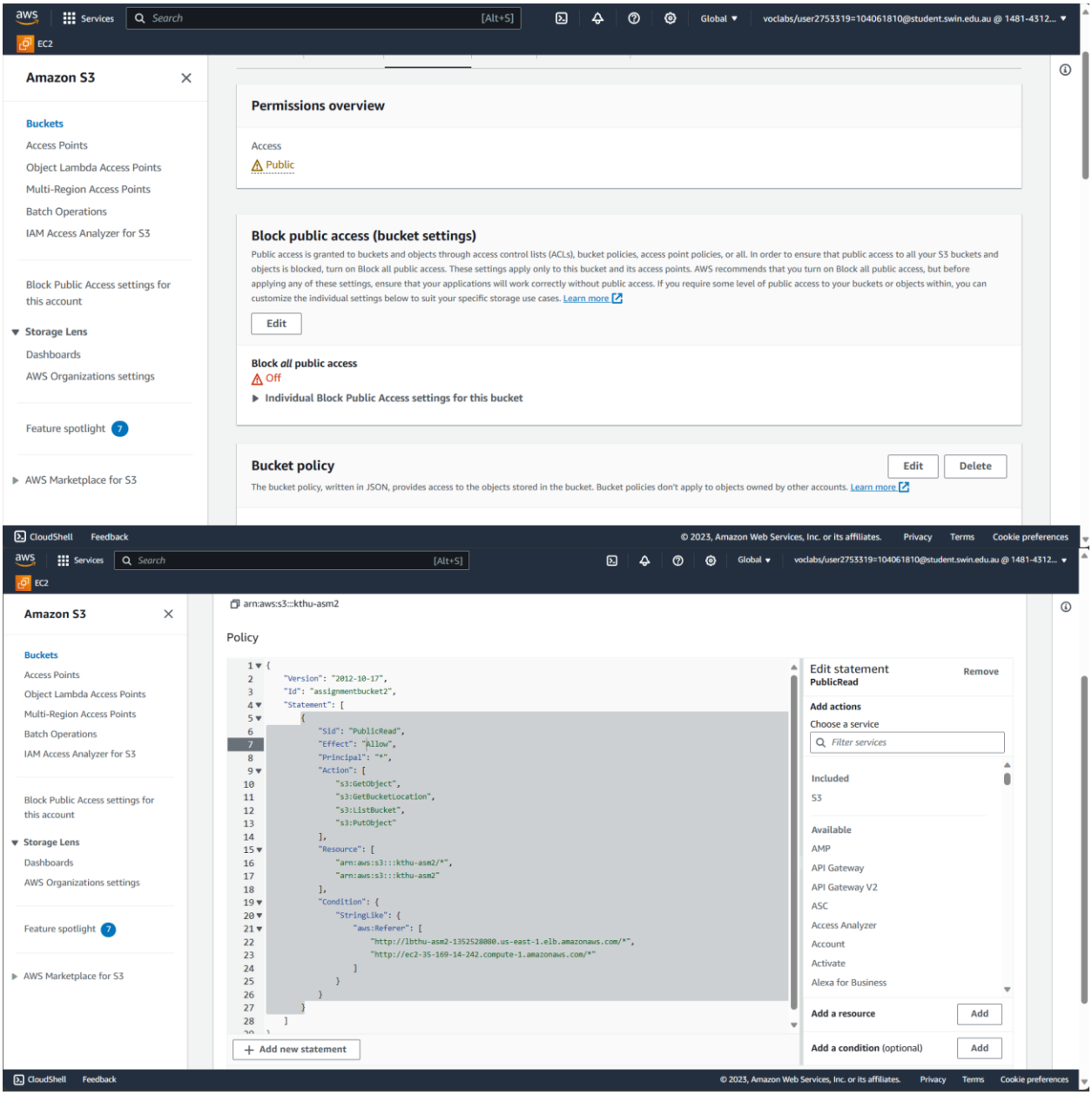


Figure 17:S3 bucket Policy

This policy limits the access to the S3 bucket to only those GET requests that come from the specified domains, thereby ensuring a regulated and secure access policy for the objects in the bucket.

9) Relational Database Service (RDS)

The RDS instance utilized in this assignment has been set up in the same manner as it was in the previous assignment.

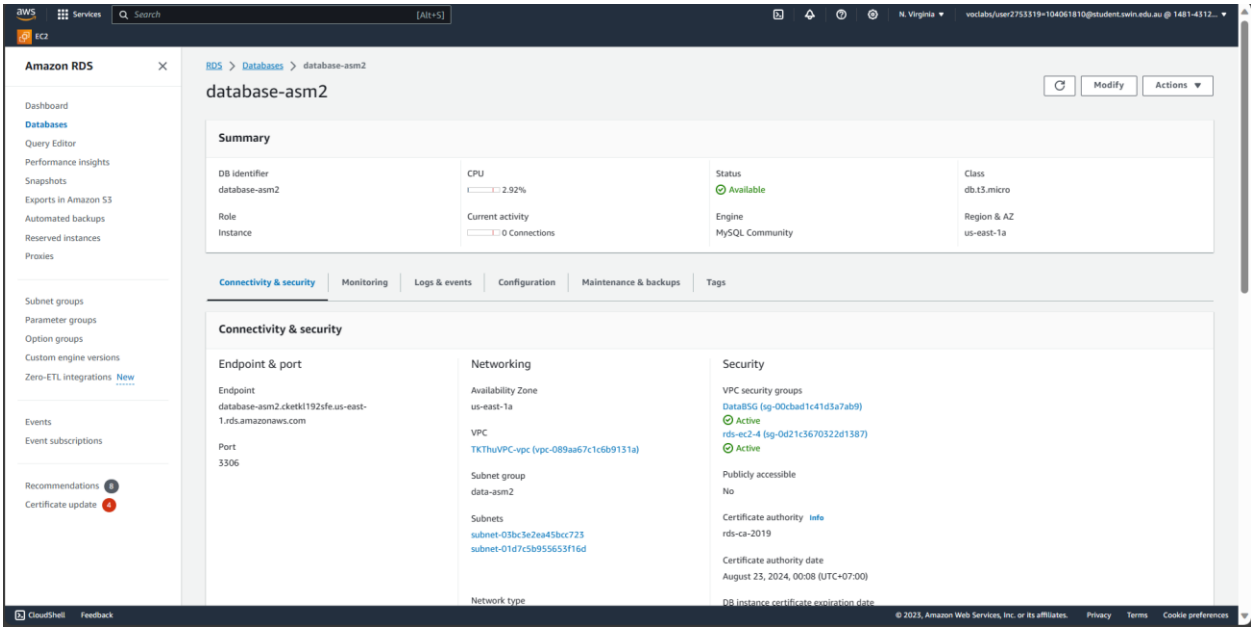


Figure 18: RDS Configuration

The RDS instance is linked with a subnet group named ‘data-asm2’, which includes private subnets from both Availability Zones.

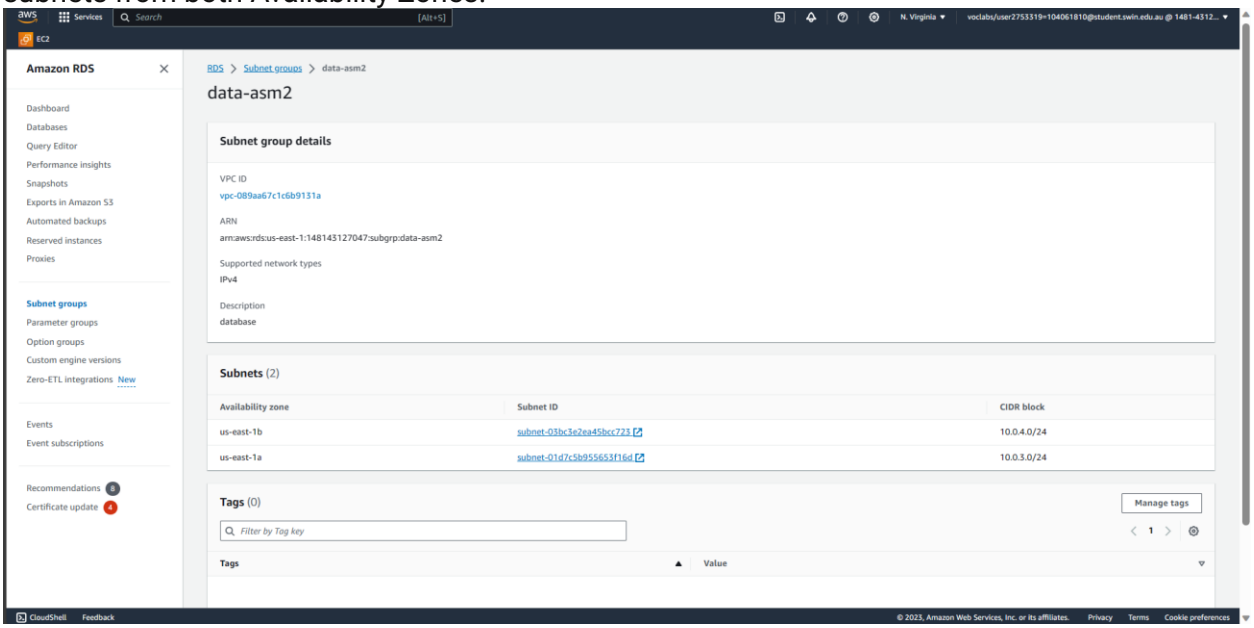


Figure 19: Subnet Group with Private Subnet 3 and 4

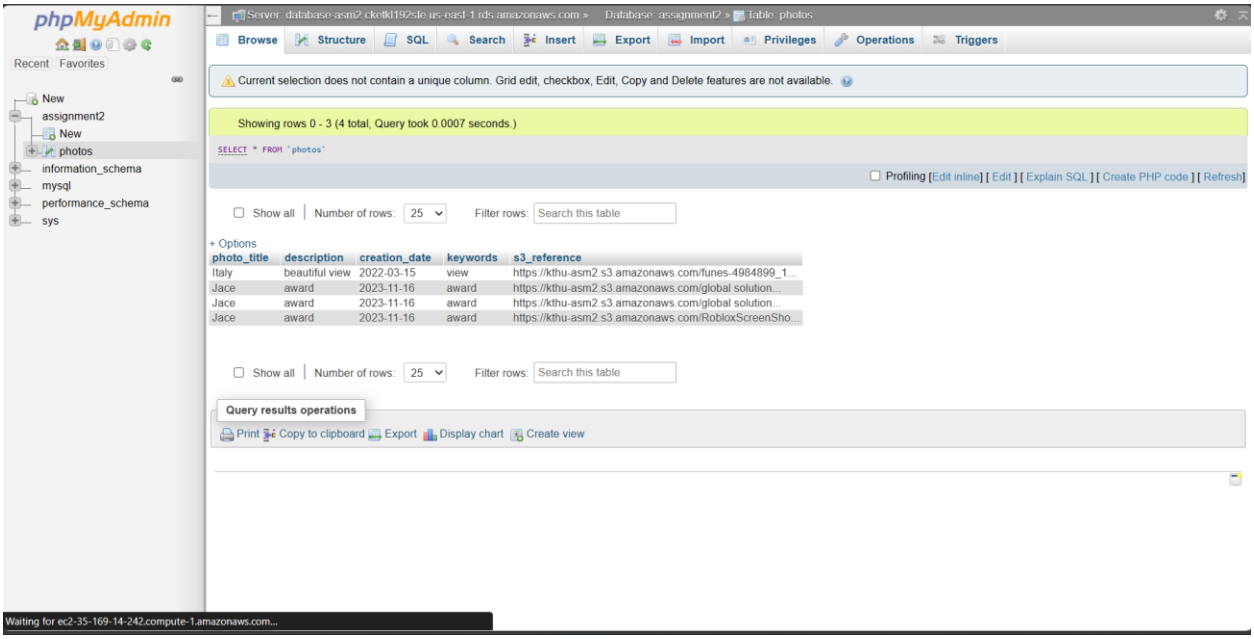
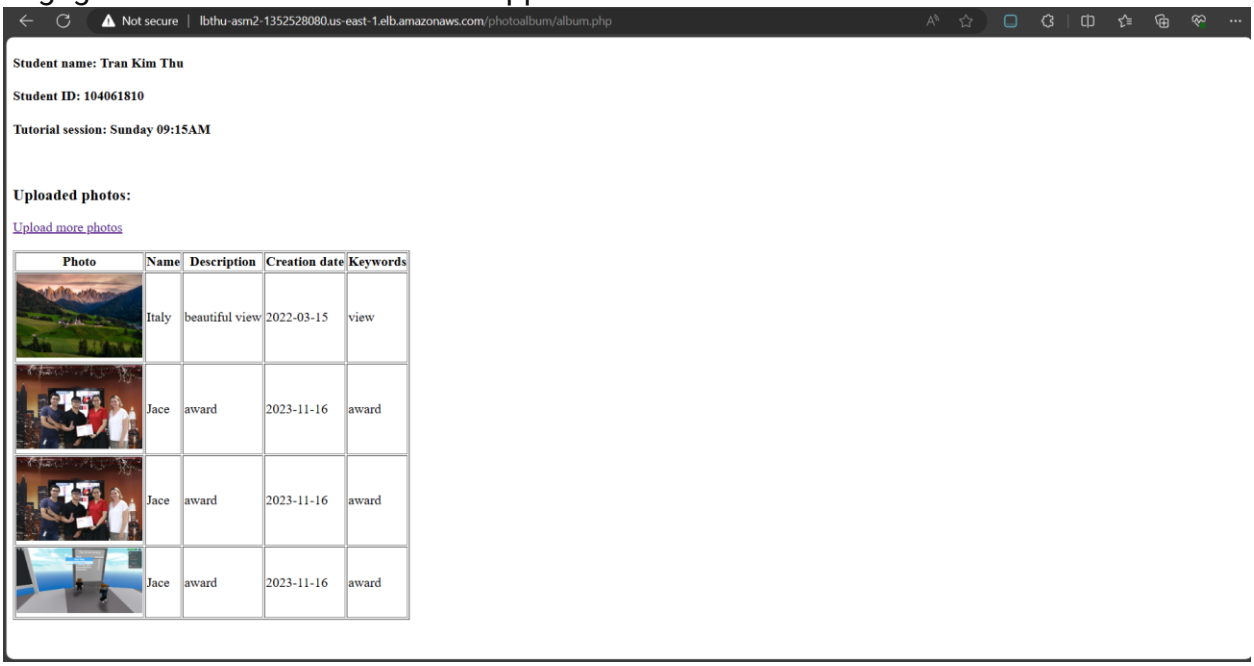


Figure 20: Update and Record data on PhyMyAdmin

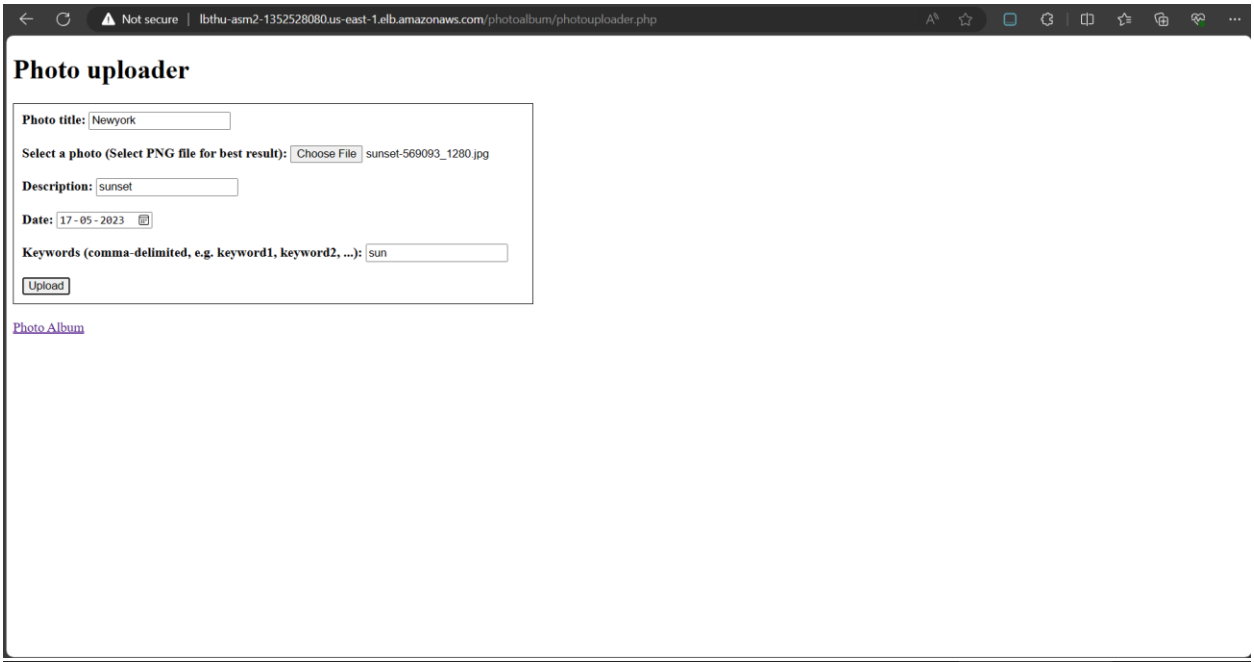
III. Functional requirements

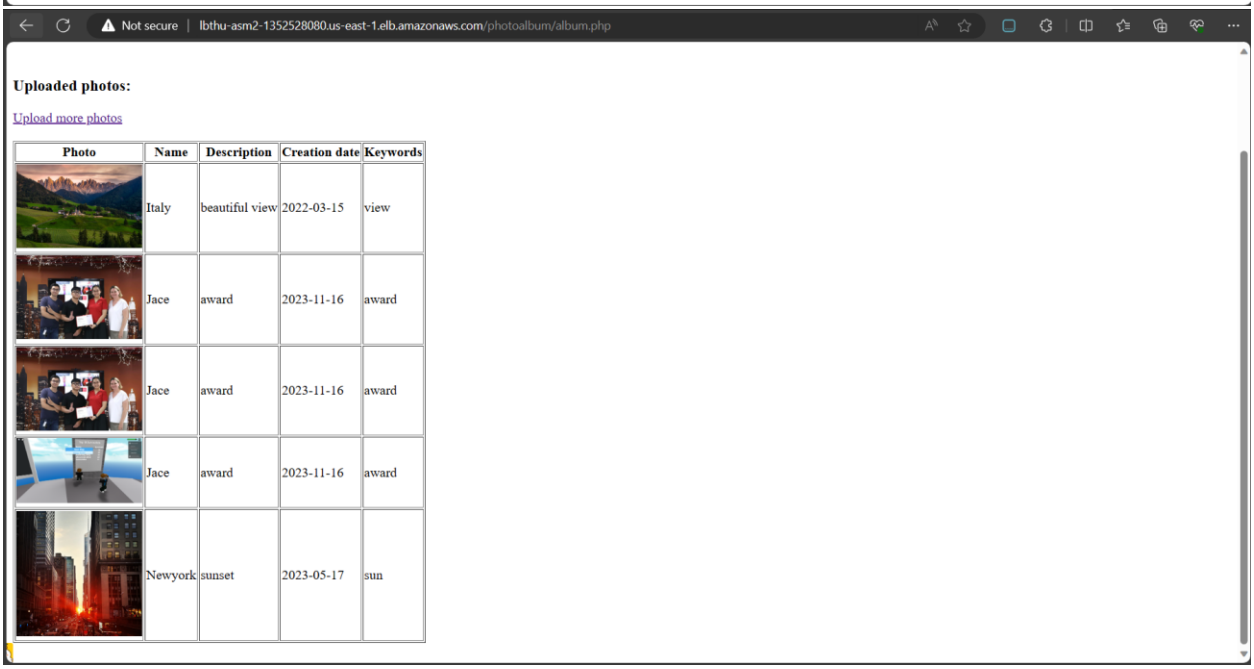
1) Website accessibility

To interact with the PhotoAlbum website, you can visit the following URL: **http://lbthu-asm2-1352528080.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com**. This site allows you to browse and engage with the PhotoAlbum web application.



Moreover, if you wish to upload photos along with their related metadata, you can use the PhotoUploader webpage at **http://lbthu-asm2-1352528080.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com**. This page enables you to easily upload multiple photos and enter their respective metadata, thereby enhancing the functionality of the PhotoAlbum website.





2. Resizing Lambda