

Problems with encryption Lab

Some students have reported problems completing the lab at the point where they create a new instance from the encrypted AMI. The symptoms are that either there is no instance type that can be used with the new AMI, or available types are very large and expensive types.

Why ?

The reason for the problem is fairly basic (and we will adjust the lecture as soon as possible).

There are two types of virtualization used by AWS. Paravirtual (para) and Hardware Virtual Machine (HVM). Except for specialists who know what they are doing, you cannot convert one to the other.

In the lab you take a snapshot of a standard AWS AMI that is type HVM. When you create the new AMI from the snapshot, you need to select type HVM to match the original. Unfortunately the GUI defaults to the older para type, resulting in a bad AMI.

The fix.

When creating the new AMI (Create Image from EBS Snapshot) , watch for the option to set.

Virtualization type : 'Hardware-assisted virtualisation'

If you make this setting, you will avoid the issues building the instance.

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Aug 2018