

Hands-on Cloud Computing Services

Lezione 3

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Recap

- ▶ We have seen how to deploy a web app using:
 - ▶ EC2
 - ▶ ELB
 - ▶ Auto Scaling Groups
- ▶ Application configuration through custom AMIs (or cloud-init scripts)
- ▶ **Problem:** infrastructure manually setup through the web UI!
- ▶ **Problem:** what if the application must be updated?

- ▶ *Command Line Interface* to interact with AWS
- ▶ Faster interaction compared to web console
- ▶ Installation: check official docs
- ▶ Before usage, we need to configure:
 - ▶ AWS Access Key ID and AWS Secret Access Key
 - ▶ default region to use (e.g., us-east-1)
 - ▶ output format (json, text)
- ▶ AWS CLI can be configured by:
 - ▶ running `aws configure`, or
 - ▶ editing `~/.aws/config` and `~/.aws/credentials`
- ▶ CLI commands well documented on AWS website

AWS CLI: example (1)

Create a new security group in our VPC:

```
$ aws ec2 create-security-group --group-name my-sg \  
--description "My security group" --vpc-id <VPC_ID>
```

We can see the properties of any SG:

```
$ aws ec2 describe-security-groups --group-ids <groupId>
```

Set inbound traffic rules, e.g.:

```
$ aws ec2 authorize-security-group-ingress --group-id <ID> \  
--protocol tcp --port 22 --cidr 0.0.0.0/0
```

AWS CLI: example (2)

Create an EC2 instance:

```
$ aws ec2 run-instances --image-id <ID AMI> --count 1 \  
    --instance-type t2.nano \  
    --key-name <MyKeyPair> --security-group-ids <sgId> \  
    --subnet-id <subnetId> --associate-public-ip-address
```

We can associate the instance with a tag:

```
$ aws ec2 create-tags --resources <instID> \  
    --tags Key=Name,Value=SDCC
```

We can get information about active instances:

```
$ aws ec2 describe-instances \  
    --filters "Name=tag:Name,Values=SDCC"  
$ aws ec2 describe-instances \  
    --filters "Name=instance-type,Values=t2.nano"
```

AWS CLI: example (3)

To terminate the instance:

```
$ aws ec2 terminate-instances --instance-ids <ID>
```

Exercise

- ▶ Create a script to destroy all the active EC2 instances.
- ▶ Create a script to destroy all the active EC2 instances with tag "Name=SDCC"

IT Automation using Ansible

- ▶ *Ansible delivers simple IT **automation** that ends repetitive tasks and frees up teams for more strategic work.*
- ▶ Define WHAT you want to achieve, instead of HOW
 - ▶ e.g., “Apache web server is installed and started”
- ▶ **Agentless**
- ▶ Available on Linux and macOS:
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible/latest/installation_guide/intro_installation.html
- ▶ Windows users need a Linux-based VM
- ▶ Alternatives: Chef, Puppet, ...

Ansible: Key Concepts

- ▶ **Playbooks** (e.g., “deploy Photogallery”)
- ▶ **Tasks** (e.g., (“install Flask”))
- ▶ **Modules** (e.g., file, archive, apt)
 - ▶ Built-in modules
 - ▶ Custom modules
- ▶ **Inventory** = hosts to be managed
 - ▶ Static
 - ▶ Dynamic

A playbook for Photogallery: inventory

- ▶ Create the inventory file 'hosts.ini'
 - ▶ (You may also put your local host in the inventory...)
- ▶ One line per host
- ▶ Possibly organized into groups (e.g., web, db, ...)
- ▶ We can add params for SSH authentication

Inventory file

```
[web]
18.185.19.141 ansible_user='ec2-user' \
    ansible_ssh_private_key_file='/path/to/keypair.pem'
```

Simple test using the *ping* module:

```
$ ansible -i hosts.ini -m ping all
```

A playbook for Photogallery

To deploy Photogallery we need to:

- ▶ Upload application files (module: **copy**)
- ▶ Install dependencies (modules: **yum**, **pip**)
- ▶ Install systemd unit file to start server at boot (module: **copy**)
- ▶ Enable systemd service (module: **systemd**)

Check `deploy_gallery.yaml`

```
$ ansible-playbook -v -i hosts.ini deploy_gallery.yaml
# What happens if we try again?
$ ansible-playbook -v -i hosts.ini deploy_gallery.yaml
```

Ansible: Dynamic Inventory

- ▶ Ansible requires an inventory
- ▶ Not necessarily a static file
- ▶ AWS Inventory Source: run your playbooks using (a subset of) your EC2 instances as target hosts (e.g., filtered by tag)
- ▶ Requires Ansible 2.9+
- ▶ A plugin required, easy to install:

```
$ ansible-galaxy collection install amazon.aws
```

Ansible: AWS Dynamic Inventory

- ▶ Create a YAML file (name MUST end with `aws_ec2.(yaml|yml)`)
→ `galleryInventory.aws_ec2.yaml`

Test

```
ansible-inventory -i galleryInventory.aws_ec2.yaml --graph
```

Running the playbook

```
ansible-playbook -i galleryInventory.aws_ec2.yaml  
--private-key=path/to/key.pem -u ec2-user  
deploy_gallery.yaml
```

Ansible: More Advanced Stuff

- ▶ Groups and Roles
- ▶ Templates
- ▶ Ansible Tower / AWX¹
 - ▶ Share playbooks / delegate
 - ▶ Schedule workflows
 - ▶ Dashboards

¹<https://github.com/ansible/awx>

Amazon S3

- ▶ Scalable object storage service
- ▶ Pricing: <https://aws.amazon.com/it/s3/pricing/>
- ▶ To be continued...