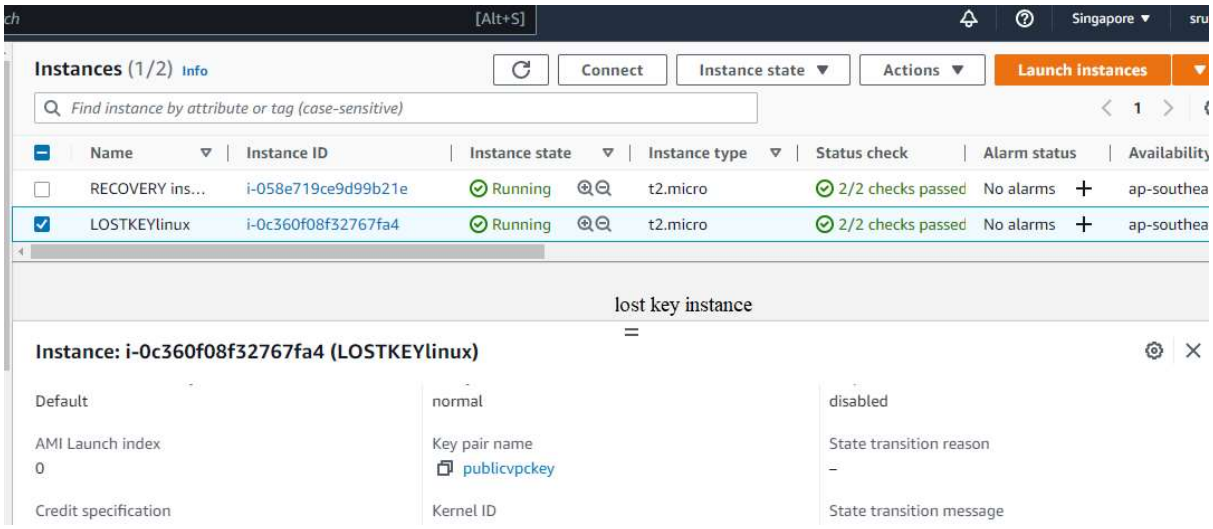
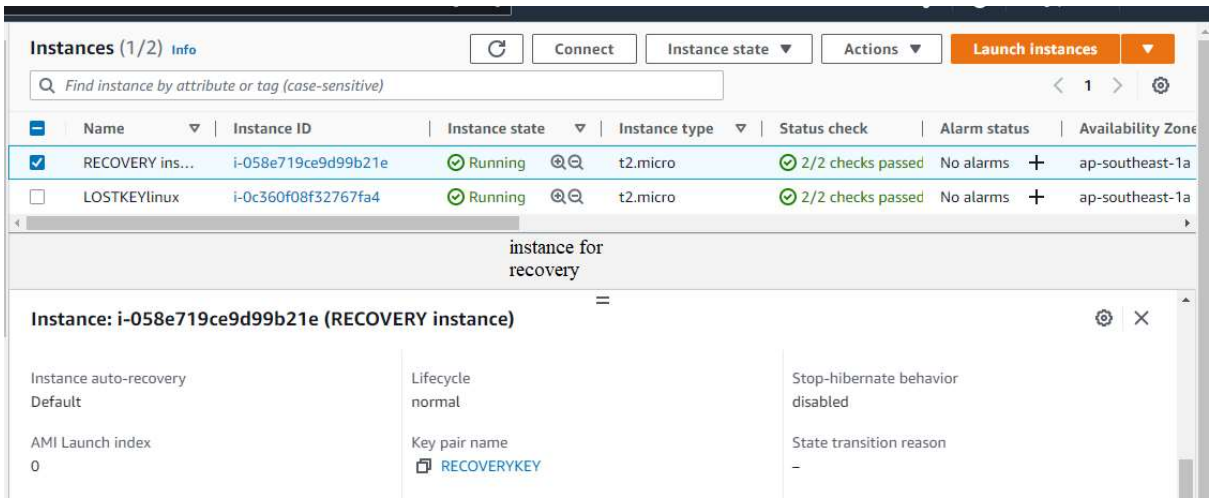
Changing the Key for the instance (lost key)

1. Stop the instance, for which the key is lost.



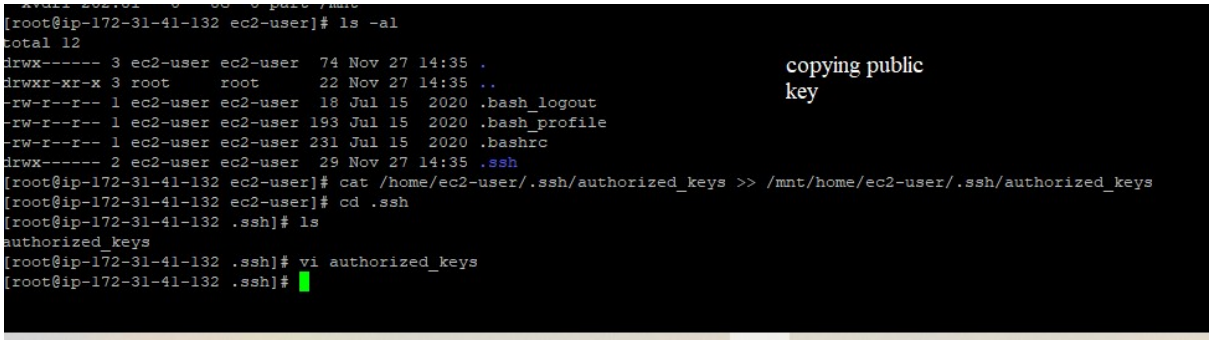
2. Detach the volume from that instance in Volumes tab on the AWS EC2 console.
3. Then attach the volume to another instance (Recovery instance).



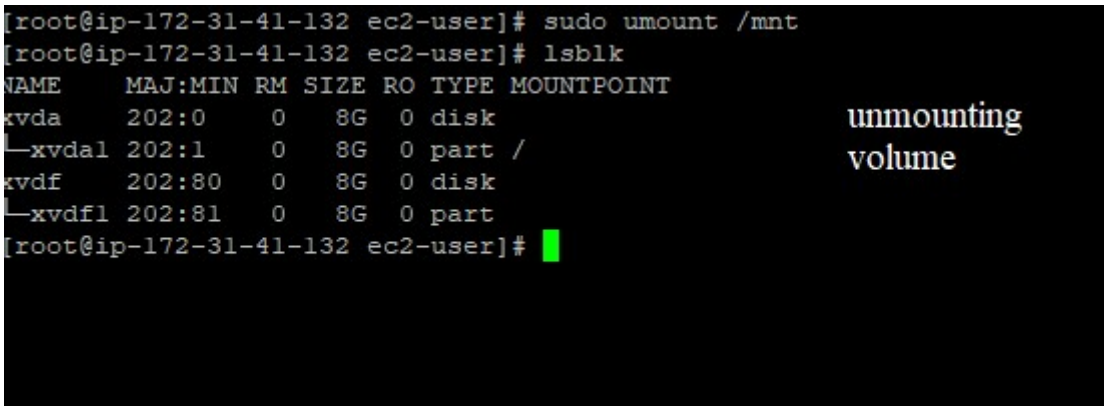
4. Launch the Recovery instance and mount the volume using
   sudo mount –o rw,nouuid /dev/xvdf1 /mnt

5. The key files are stored in .ssh folder get it using ls –al
   command.

6. Using the command
   Cat /home/ec2-user/.ssh/authorized_keys >> /mnt/home/ec2-user/.ssh/authorized_keys
   Copy the key to the mounted volume.

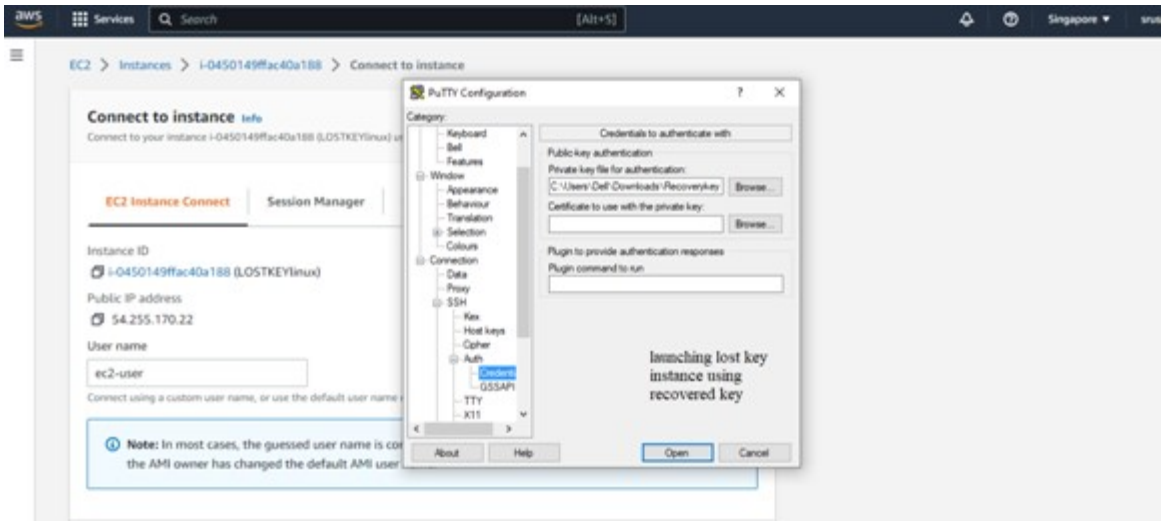


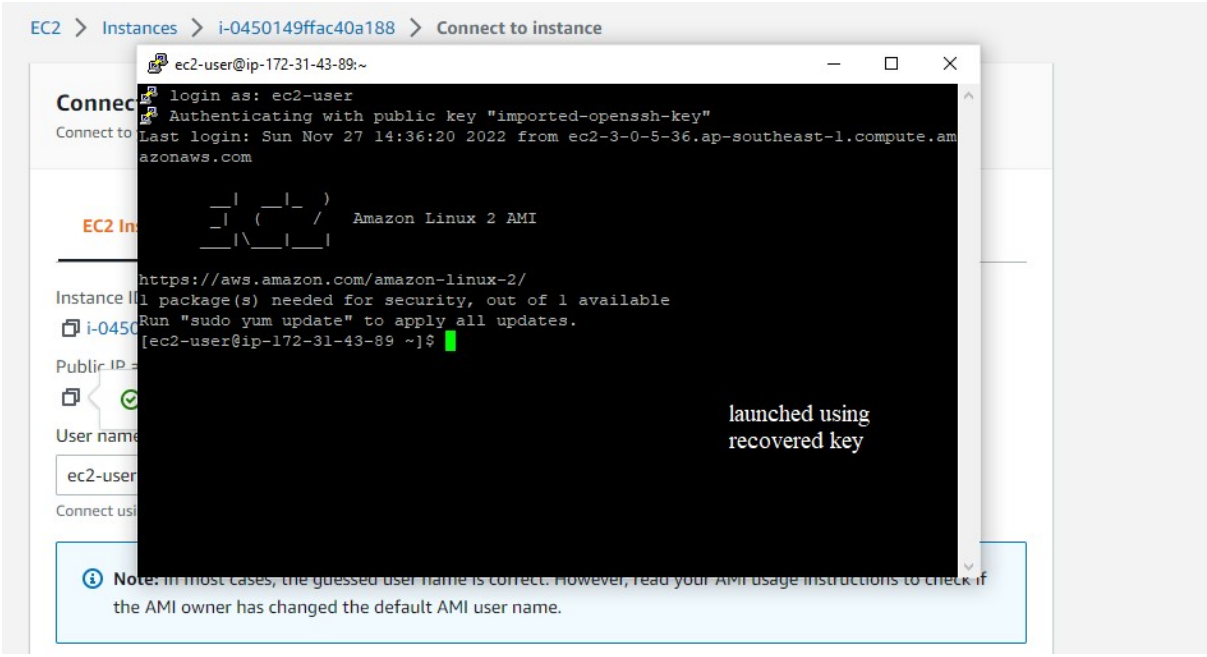
7. Now unmount the volume sudo unmount /mnt



8. Stop the recovery instance and detach the volume in AWS console.
9. Then attach the volume to the original instance and launch it using the Recovered key.

Launching the instance using recovered key



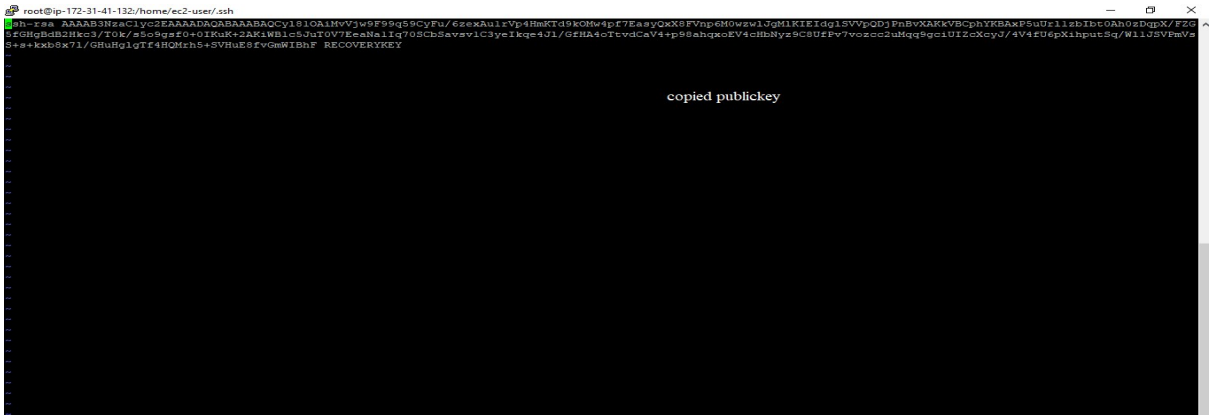


NOTES:

Cat /home/ec2-user/.ssh/authorized_keys >> /mnt/home/ec2/.ssh/authorized_keys

This command copies the public key along with the Existing key existing public key.

So us vi authorized_keys to edit the file.



Otherwise this key will not launch the instance.