Cloud Network Deployment with AWS: Configuring VPCs and EC2 Instances By Michael Emil Santos

Introduction

This project demonstrates configuring both default and custom Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) networks and deploying Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) instances using AWS. By setting up these environments, I gained experience in cloud networking essentials, such as IP addressing, subnets, internet gateways, and routing.

Project Objectives and Steps

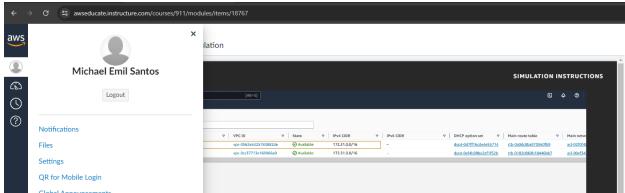
- 1. Configuring the Default VPC
- Objective: Understand and utilize AWS's default VPC setup.
- Steps: Reviewed the CIDR range, configured default subnets, and verified the internet gateway and route table settings to enable external connectivity for the instances.
- 2. Creating a Custom VPC
- Objective: Set up a unique VPC with customized IP addressing and network configurations.
- Steps: Designed a custom VPC, created subnets, and configured an internet gateway and routing table for controlled internet access.
- 3. Deploying EC2 Instances
- Objective: Launch EC2 instances in both the default and custom VPCs to test network connectivity.
- Steps: Deployed instances in each VPC, tested connectivity by pinging the public IPs, and accessed hosted web pages to verify network configurations.

Key Findings

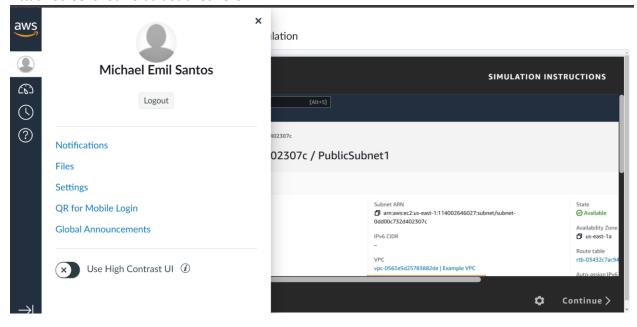
- 1. Network Segmentation and Security
- Setting up both default and custom VPCs demonstrated the flexibility of AWS networking, allowing for segmentation and controlled internet access based on configuration needs.
- 2. Connectivity Testing
- Verified network connectivity by accessing public IPs and confirming internet access through the internet gateway, ensuring correct VPC and route table settings.
- 3. Challenges and Solutions
- Challenge: Ensuring accurate configuration between the internet gateway and subnets.
- Solution: Regular checks and adjustments in the routing tables and security groups to confirm connectivity.

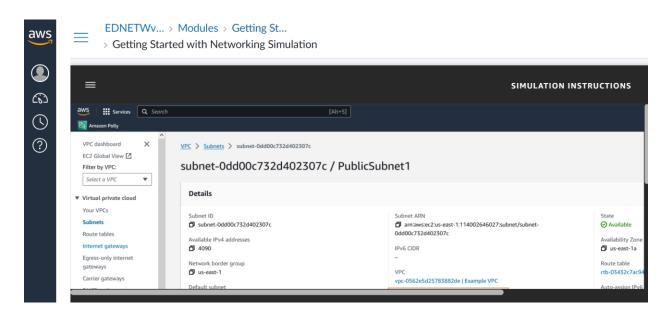
1 - EC2 in Default VPC

1. What is the CIDR range of default VPC? 172.31.0.0/16



- 2. Give the range of IP addresses in this VPC? 172.31.0.0 to 172.31.255.255 = 65,536 addresses
- 3. Attach Screenshot Default Subnet here.



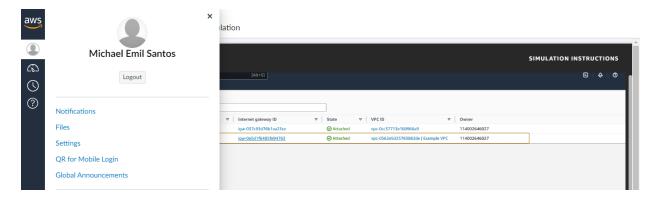


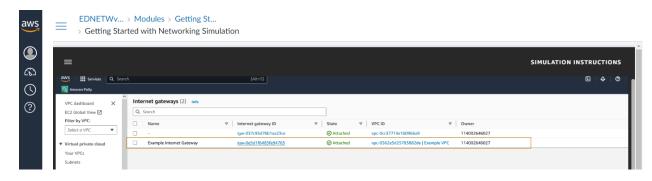
4. What is the CIDR range of default Subnet?

172.31.0.0/20

The VPC has a CIDR block of 172.31.0.0/16, which includes all 172.31.x.x IP addresses. This subnet has a CIDR block of 172.31.0.0/20, which includes addresses 172.31.0.0–172.31.15.255. These CIDR ranges might look similar, but the subnet is smaller than the VPC because of the /20 in the CIDR range. This subnet uses the first 4,096 addresses available in the VPC. The console shows that only 4,091 addresses are available to use because AWS always reserves five addresses in each subnet for IP networking purposes.

5. Attach Screenshot Internet Gateway in the default VPC





6. What is the Internet Gateway ID?

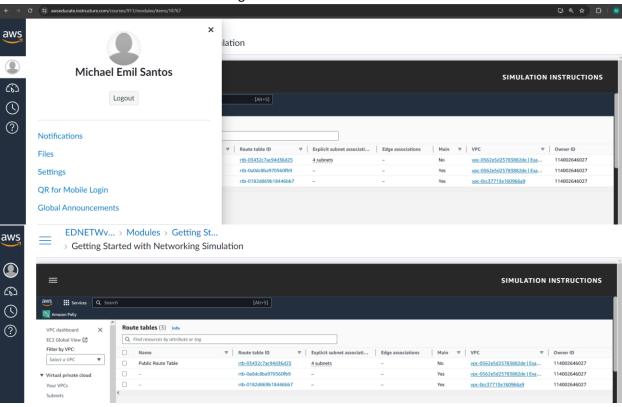
igw-037c93d76b1aa23ce igw-035d1f6485fe94763 - Example VPC

7. What is the VPC ID?

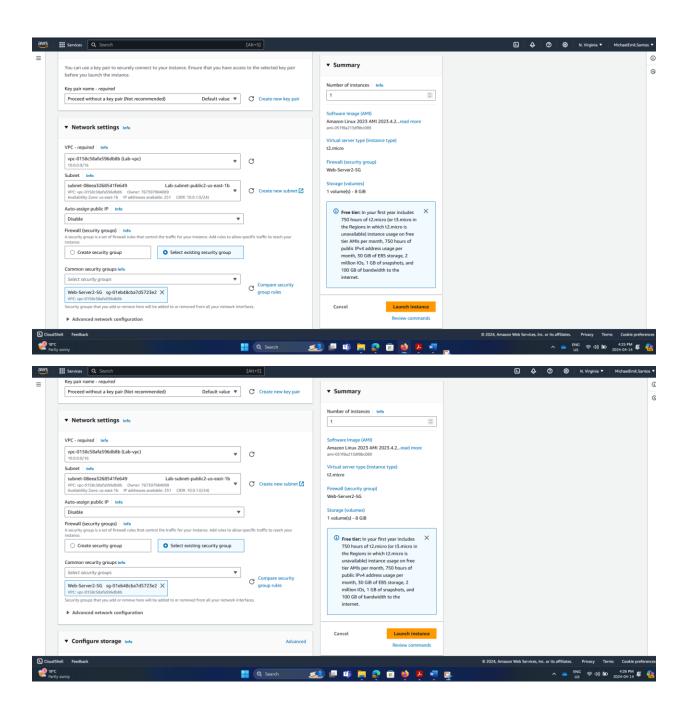
vpc-0cc37713e160966a9

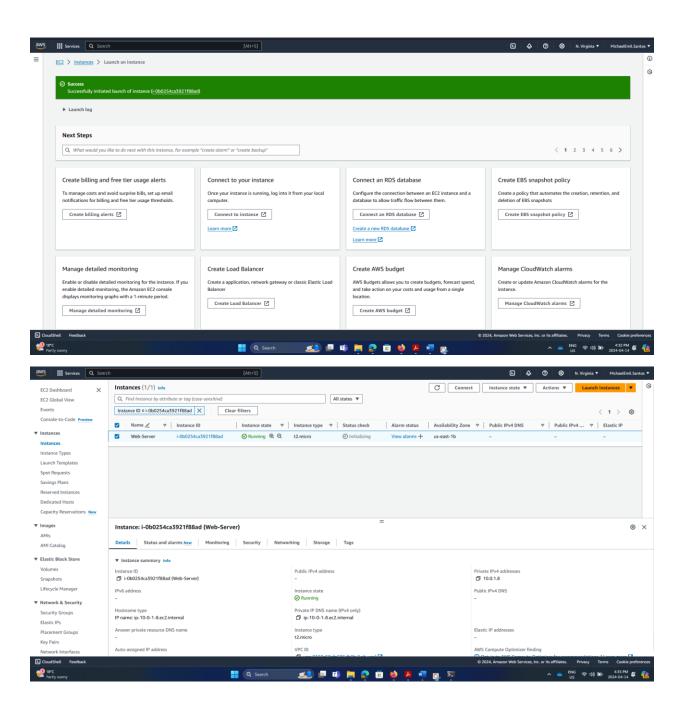
vpc-0562e5d25783882de - Example VPC

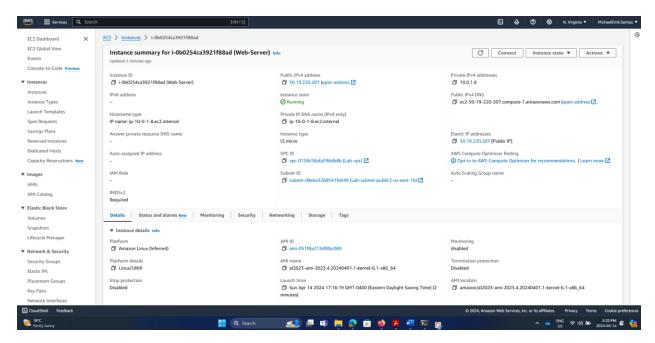
8. Attach screenshot of route table showing the default route allow internet access from the VPC



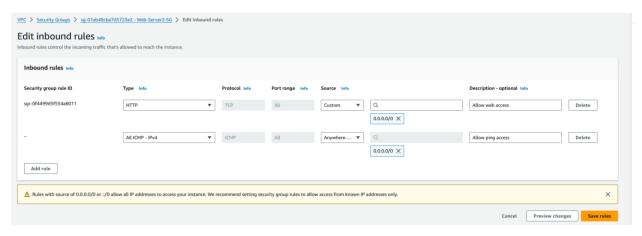
9. Attach the EC2 instance page of the AWS portal showing the EC2 in default VPC

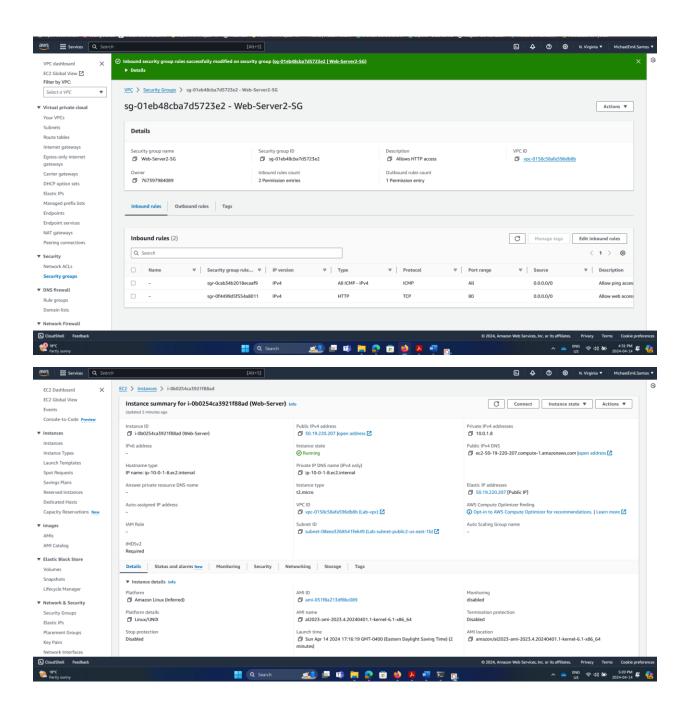


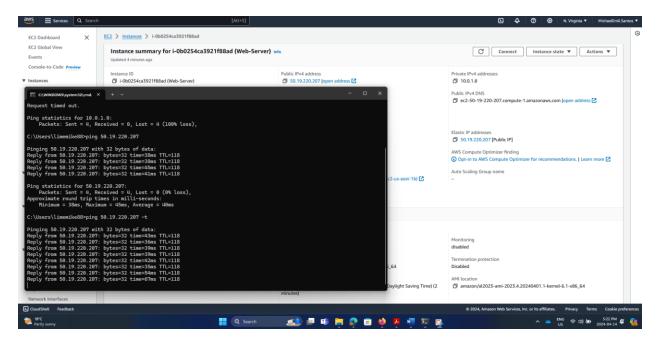




10. Screenshot of Pinging public IP of EC2 in default VPC

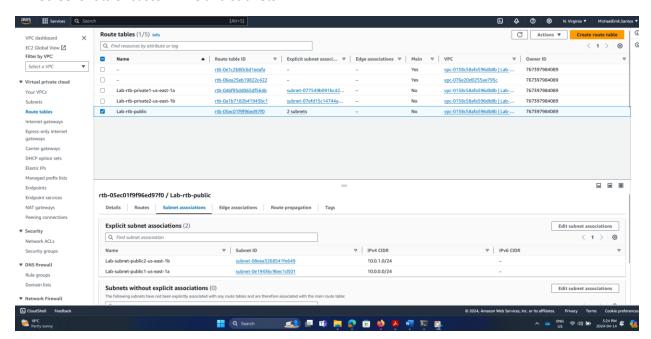


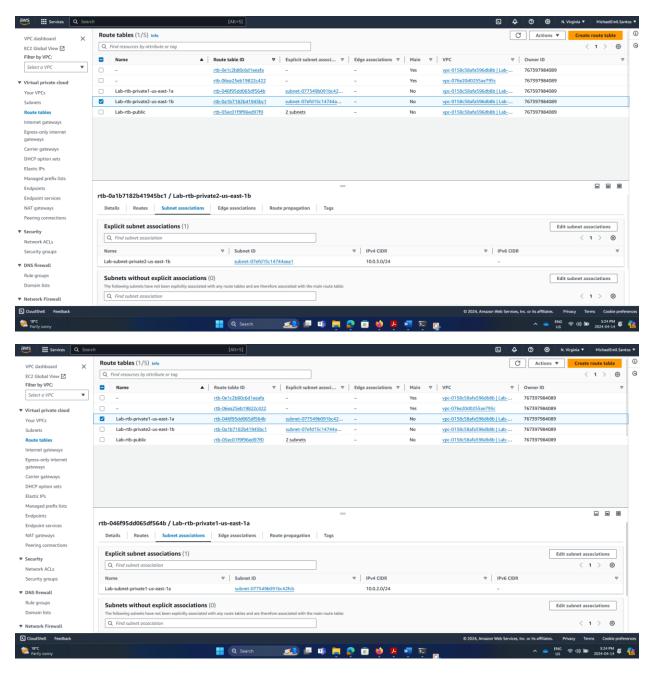




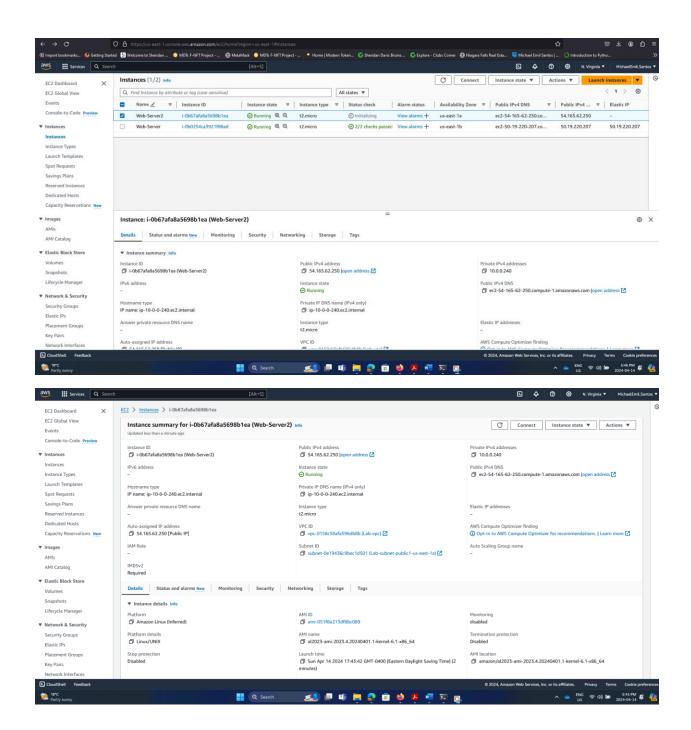
Part 2 - EC2 in Customer VPC

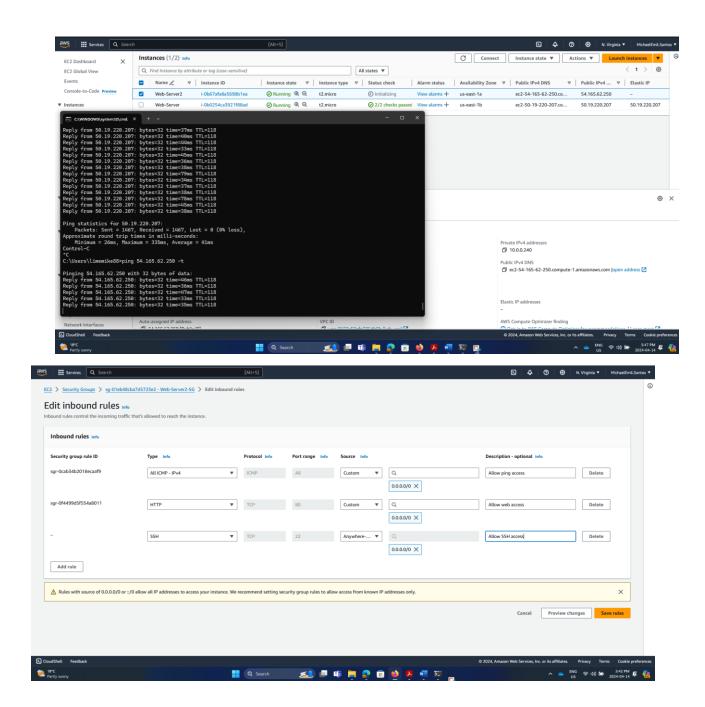
1. Screenshots of custom VPC and subnets

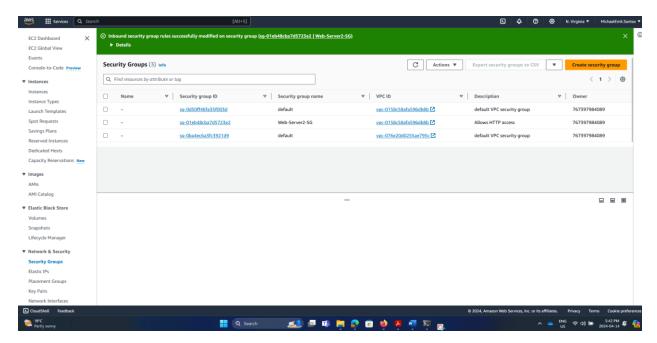




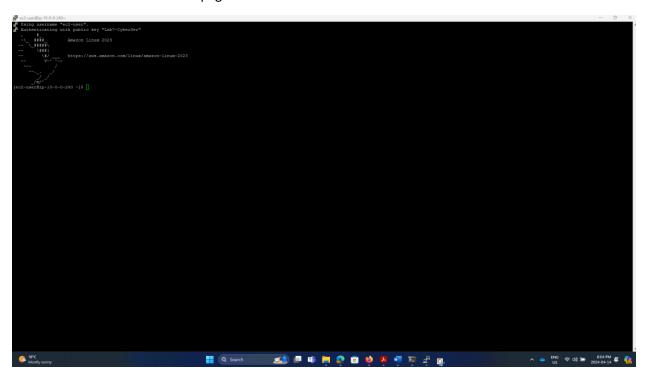
2. Attach the EC2 instance page of the AWS portal showing the EC2 in Custom VPC

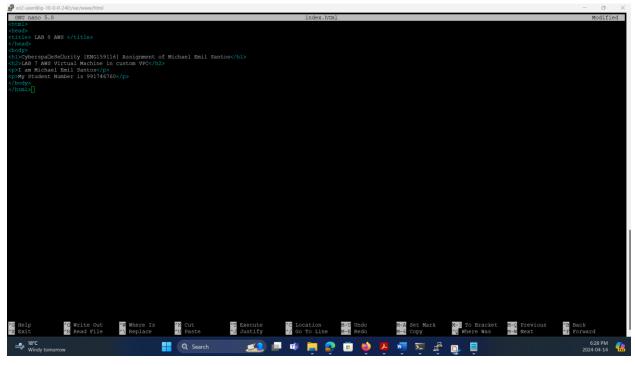


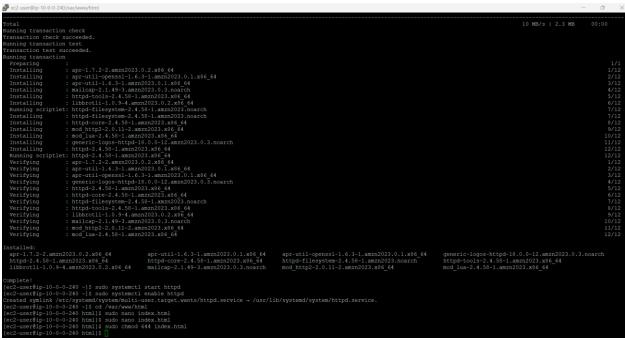




3. Screen shot of the web page from the virtual machine in custom VPC







Conclusion

This project offered an in-depth look at cloud networking through AWS, from initial configuration to deployment and connectivity testing. By working with both the default and custom VPCs, I gained practical experience in AWS's networking capabilities, including setting up isolated subnets, configuring secure internet access, and deploying EC2 instances.

Configuring a custom VPC allowed me to create a tailored environment with unique IP addressing and enhanced security controls, showcasing the flexibility and scalability of cloud networks. Testing connectivity and troubleshooting internet access strengthened my understanding of routing tables, internet gateways, and the critical role of security groups in maintaining secure yet accessible resources.

Ultimately, this project underscored the importance of network segmentation and secure configurations in cloud environments. These skills are foundational for designing and managing robust cloud infrastructures, where reliability, scalability, and security are paramount. This hands-on experience with AWS networking provides a solid foundation for future cloud architecture projects, ensuring I can design secure, efficient, and resilient cloud environments to meet diverse business needs.