**PA1-FAQ**

1. How to login to the EC2 nodes?

Solution:

(1) (1) Check whether the inbound rules of the security groups are correctly defined. Is SSH port allowed?

(2) Do not connect to your Linux instance using a web browser. It is not working quite well.

(3) Windows user: <http://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/putty.html>

Linux or Mac user: <http://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/AccessingInstancesLinux.html>

For Mac user: the key file will have a .txt format. Do the follows.

mv ~/Downloads/KEYFILE.pem.txt ~/.ssh/KEYFILE.pem

chmod 0600 ~/.ssh/KEYFILE.pem

2. Fail to connect to database

Solution:

(1) Check whether the inbound rules of the security groups are correctly defined. Is connection from webserver allowed. Read and redo the VPC tutorials carefully.

(2) Check whether dbinfo.inc file is correctly edited. This is an issue usually with the ‘dbinfo.inc’ file. Often times, students miscopied the db endpoint path and put the path of their EC2 instance. However, the purpose of the ‘dbinfo.inc’ file is to route the EC2 instance (which has been logged into) to the remote database that was created previously.

(3) Check if database id/password is correct (not always the same as the tutorial)

3. Windows issues

(1) Use PuTTY, however, ensure that the proper settings are inputted, including the correct port number

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4. Starter account issues

To actually get the credits for AWS, we have to activate the Amazon Educate Starter account. Why do we not use this?

Solution:

You can use AWS educate starter account in case AWS does not provide a promotional credit when you apply for an AWS educate account. However, remember to create an AWS account before applying for an educate account. And, if you are using AWS for <1 year, you will have free tier access to the resources.

Database issue:

At the end of PA1, there is a SamplePage.php page that displays the database information; however, it says that my database failed to connect with this statement:

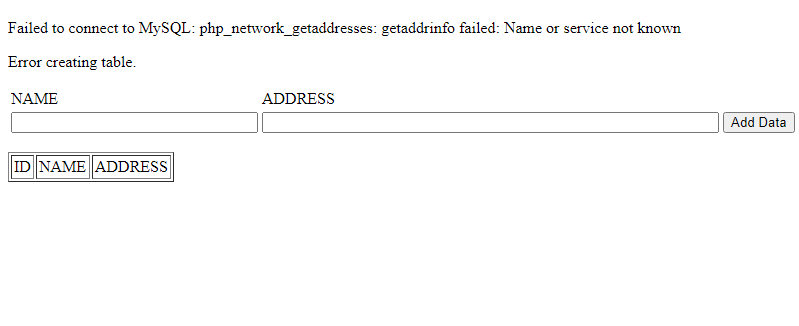
"Failed to connect to MySQL: Server sent charset unknown to the client. Please, report to the developers"

How can I change the charset to be properly configured? Or is this because something went wrong during the tutorial?

Solution:

Can you please check the version of MySQL you chose during the RDS setup? It should be MySQL 5.X. If you are still using 8.X, follow the additional steps mentioned in the tutorial.

The webpage says "failed to connect to MySQL: php\_network\_getaddresses: getaddresses: getaddrinfo failed. Name or service is not known". I checked the FAQ pdf and made sure that the DB\_SERVER was the db instance endpoint and that the samplepage.php includes the dbinfo.inc, but am unsure about what to do with this error.



Solution:

Check the dbinfo.inc to check whether it is configured properly.

I can't access the database instance we made in PA1 with any database client. I added new inbound traffic rules to allow my IP through the VPC security groups but it keeps telling me unable to connect.

I'm trying to access the db so I can add the entries as the last step of the assignment. please advise

Solution:

Check the inbound rules of the security groups as well as the dbinfo.inc file whether it is configured correctly.

Issues with sudo command:

When trying to sudo yum update -y, has anyone else also run into the following error? I get the error even if I remove -y

Cannot find a valid baseurl for repo: amzn-main/latest

Solution:

Make sure you configured your VPC correctly, especially inbound rules, you should have 0.0.0.0/0 for all access. Check whether your EC2 instance is connected to the correct subnet of VPC. Also check the VPC configurations and inbound rules for the security groups.