Django Deployments Cookbook Documentation

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CHAPTER 1

Using Zappa deploy in Lambda & use Aurora Serverless

We will see how to *deploy* a Django application onto **AWS Lambda** using **Zappa** and use **AWS Aurora-Serverless** as the DB.

AWS Lambda is a serverless computing platform by amazon, which is completely event driven and it automatically manages the computing resources. It scales automatically when needed, depending upon the requests the application gets.

Zappa is a python framework used for deploying python applications onto AWS-Lambda. Zappa handles all of the configuration and deployment automatically for us.

And Aurora Serverless is an on-demand, auto-scaling Relational Database System by Amazon AWS(presently compatible with only MySQL). It automatically starts up & shuts down the DB depending on the requirement.

1.1 Install and Configure the Environment

1.1.1 Configure AWS Credentials

First, before using AWS, we have to make sure we have a valid AWS account and have the aws environment variables(access-keys).

then, create a folder at the root level

```
$ mkdir .aws
```

Now, create a file called credentials and store the `aws_access_key_id` and `aws_secret_access_key`. To find these access credentials

- Go to IAM dashboard in AWS console
- Click on Users
- Click on your User name
- Then, go to Security credentials tab

- Go down to Access keys
- Note down the `access_key_id`. `secret_access_key` is only visible when you are creating new user or when creating a new access key, so you need to note down both the access_key_id and secret_access_key at the time of user creation only or create a new access key so that we can get both the keys.

```
###~/.aws/credentials
[default]
aws_access_key_id= XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
aws_secret_access_key=XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
```

1.1.2 Go to Django app

After setting up the aws credentials file, now let us go to the django project, here we used *Pollsapi* (https://github.com/agiliq/building-api-django) as the django project. Now go inside the *pollsapi* app in this repo.

Create a virtual env for the project and do `$ pip install -r requirements.txt`.

1.1.3 Install & Configure Zappa

Next install zappa

```
$ pip install zappa
```

After installing Zappa, let us initilise zappa

```
$ zappa init
```

which will ask us for the following:

- Name of environment - default 'dev'
- S3 bucket for deployments. If the bucket does not exist, zappa will create it for us. Zappa uses this bucket to hold the zappa package temporarily while it is being transferred to AWS lambda, which is then deleted after deployment.

(Its better to create an S3 bucket, which we will later also use to host the static files of our application)

- Project's settings - (which will take the 'pollsapi.settings')

Zappa will automatically find the correct Django settings file and the python runtime version

```
$ zappa init




Welcome to Zappa!

Zappa is a system for running server-less Python web applications on AWS Lambda and␣
↪AWS API Gateway.
This `init` command will help you create and configure your new Zappa deployment.
Let's get started!
```

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```
Your Zappa configuration can support multiple production stages, like 'dev', 'staging
↪', and 'production'.
What do you want to call this environment (default 'dev'):

AWS Lambda and API Gateway are only available in certain regions. Let's check to make␣
↪sure you have a profile set up inone that will work.
Okay, using profile default!

Your Zappa deployments will need to be uploaded to a private S3 bucket.
If you don't have a bucket yet, we'll create one for you too.
What do you want to call your bucket? (default 'zappa-xpxpcmpap'):zappa-
↪staticfiles1234

It looks like this is a Django application!
What is the module path to your projects's Django settings?
We discovered: pollsapi.settings
Where are your project's settings? (default 'pollsapi.settings'):

You can optionally deploy to all available regions in order to provide fast global␣
↪service.
If you are using Zappa for the first time, you probably don't want to do this!
Would you like to deploy this application globally? (default 'n') [y/n/(p)rimary]: n

Okay, here's your zappa_settings.json:

{
    "dev": {
        "django_settings": "pollsapi.settings",
        "profile_name": "default",
        "project_name": "pollsapi",
        "runtime": "python3.6",
        "s3_bucket": "zappa-staticfiles1234"
    }
}

Does this look okay? (default 'y') [y/n]: y
```

After accepting the info. A file `zappa_settings.json` gets created which looks like

```
{
  "dev": {
    "django_settings": "pollsapi.settings",
    "profile_name": "default",
    "project_name": "pollsapi",
    "runtime": "python3.6",
    "s3_bucket": "zappa-staticfiles1234"
  }
}
```

Now, before deploying we have to mention the `aws_region`(where we want ot deploy the django app). Make sure that you have the `s3_bucket` and `aws_region` in the same region.

```
{
  "dev": {
    "django_settings": "pollsapi.settings",
```

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```
    "profile_name": "default",
    "project_name": "pollsapi",
    "runtime": "python3.6",
    "s3_bucket": "zappa-staticfiles1234",

    "aws_region": "us-east-2" // aws_region
  }
}
```

Now let us deploy the app

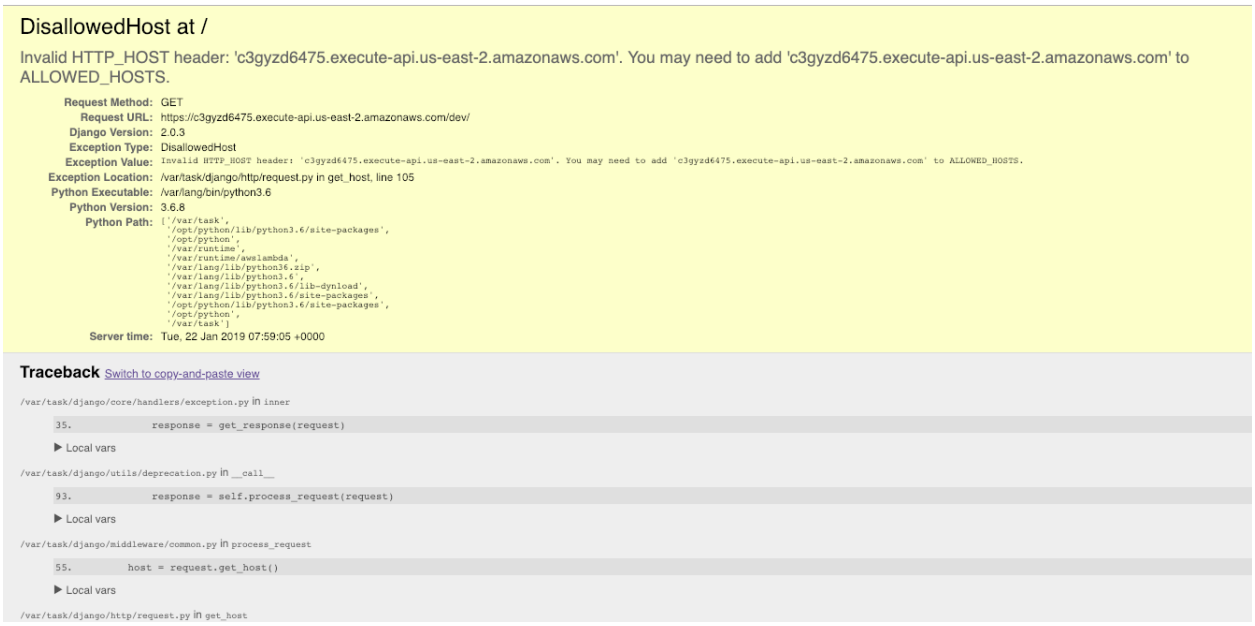
```
$ zappa deploy dev
```

which will show us

```
$ zappa deploy dev

Calling deploy for stage dev..
Downloading and installing dependencies..
 - markupsafe==1.1.0: Using locally cached manylinux wheel
 - sqlite==python36: Using precompiled lambda package
Packaging project as zip.
Uploading pollsapi-dev-1548143620.zip (36.2MiB)..
100%|| 37.9M/37.9M [00:14<00:00, 2.69MB/s]
Scheduling..
Scheduled pollsapi-dev-zappa-keep-warm-handler.keep_warm_callback with expression␣
↪rate(4 minutes)!
Uploading pollsapi-dev-template-1548143703.json (1.6KiB)..
100%|| 1.61K/1.61K [00:00<00:00, 3.40KB/s]
Waiting for stack pollsapi-dev to create (this can take a bit)..
100%|| 4/4 [00:10<00:00,  2.72s/res]
Deploying API Gateway..
Deployment complete!: https://1astmowyfc.execute-api.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/dev
```

Now, when we click on the link we will see this



So, we will add the host to our to our ALLOWED_HOSTS in `pollsapi/settings.py`

```
ALLOWED_HOSTS = [ '127.0.0.1', '1astmowyfc.execute-api.us-east-2.amazonaws.com', ]
```

After this, we have update zappa,

```
$ zappa update dev
```

and after updating the app when we refresh the page we see,

The Static files are not available !!

1.2 Serving Static Files

For serving static files we use S3 bucket(which we have created earlier).

We have to enable **CORS** for the S3 bucket, which enables browsers to get resources/files from different urls. Go to S3 Bucket properties and then to Permissions, and click `CORS Configuration`, and paste these lines

```
 <CORSConfiguration>
        <CORSRule>
            <AllowedOrigin>*</AllowedOrigin>
            <AllowedMethod>GET</AllowedMethod>
            <MaxAgeSeconds>3000</MaxAgeSeconds>
            <AllowedHeader>Authorization</AllowedHeader>
        </CORSRule>
</CORSConfiguration>
```

1.2.1 Configure Django for S3

```
$ pip install django-s3-storage
```

and also add it in the `requirements.txt` file.

```
...
django-s3-storage==0.12.4
...
```

Now update the *settings.py* file to add *'django*s3_storage'_ to `INSTALLED_APPS`

```
INSTALLED_APPS = (
          ...,
          'django_s3_storage',
     )
```

and also add these lines at the bottom

```
S3_BUCKET = "zappa-staticfiles1234"

STATICFILES_STORAGE = "django_s3_storage.storage.StaticS3Storage"

AWS_S3_BUCKET_NAME_STATIC = S3_BUCKET

STATIC_URL = "https://%s.s3.amazonaws.com/" % S3_BUCKET
```

Push the static files to the cloud

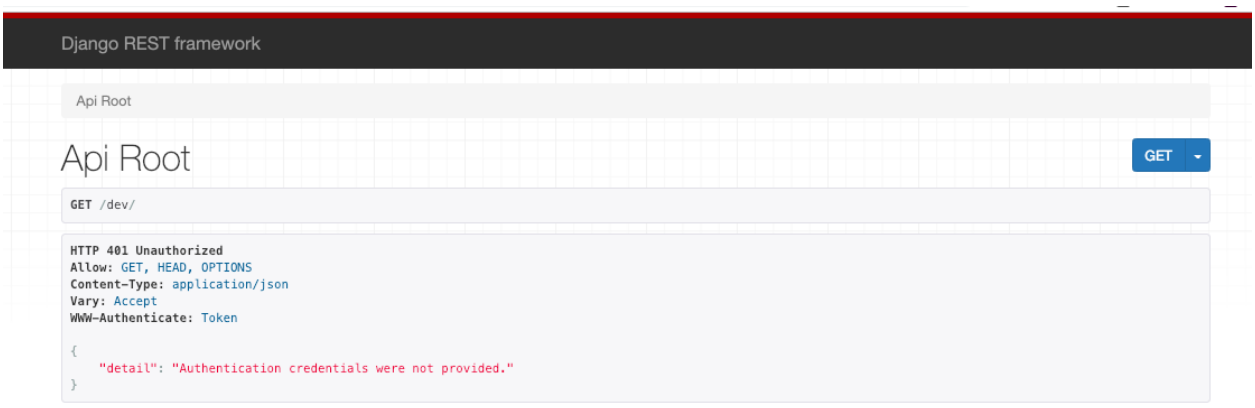
we can push the static files by

```
$ python manage.py collectstatic --noinput
```

and do

```
$ zappa update dev
```

and after updating zappa, let us check by refreshing the page



1.3 Setup Serverless MySQL Database

Let us create an AWS Aurora MySQL serverless.

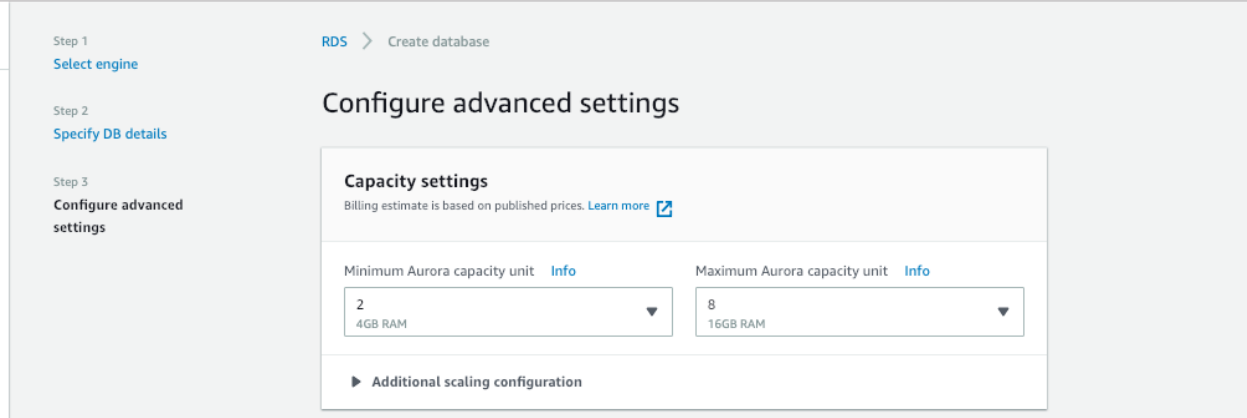
Go to AWS console and go to RDS and create a new Database

select *Amazon Aurora* and choose the edition which is *Aurora serverless* and click *next*

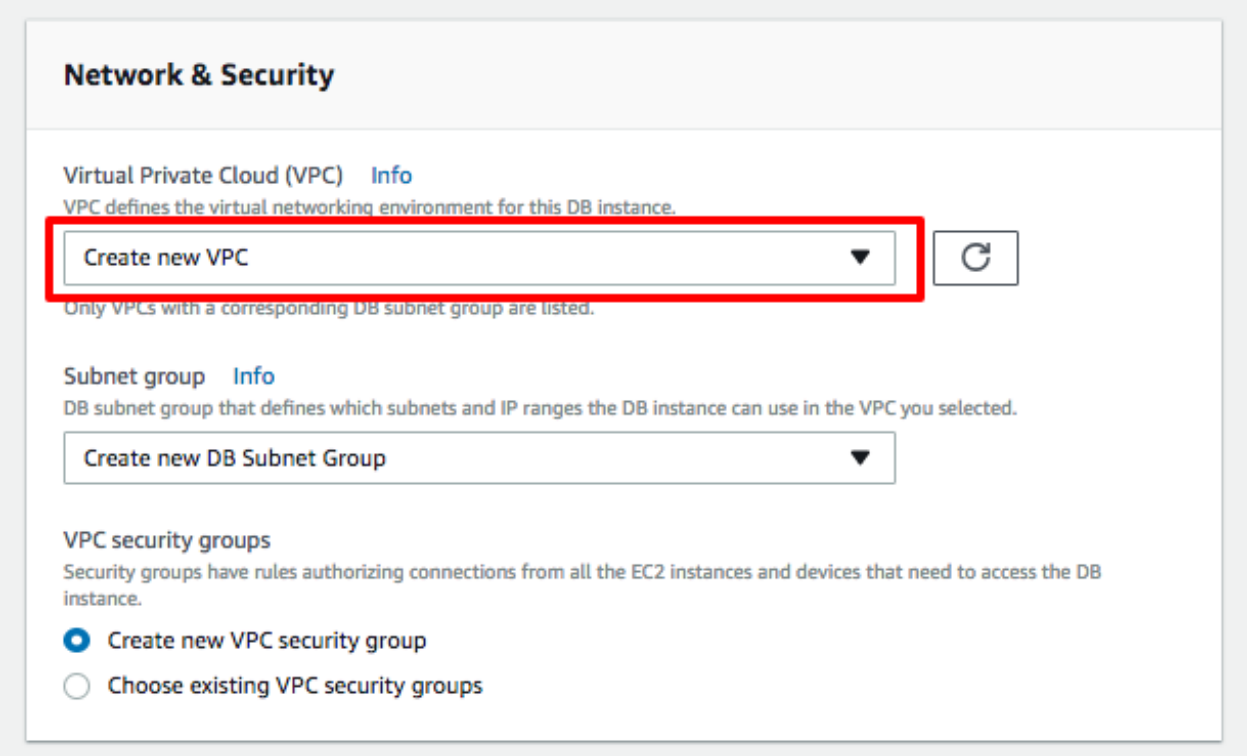
Select the *Serverless* radio button.

And in **DB cluster identifier** enter *MyClusterName*

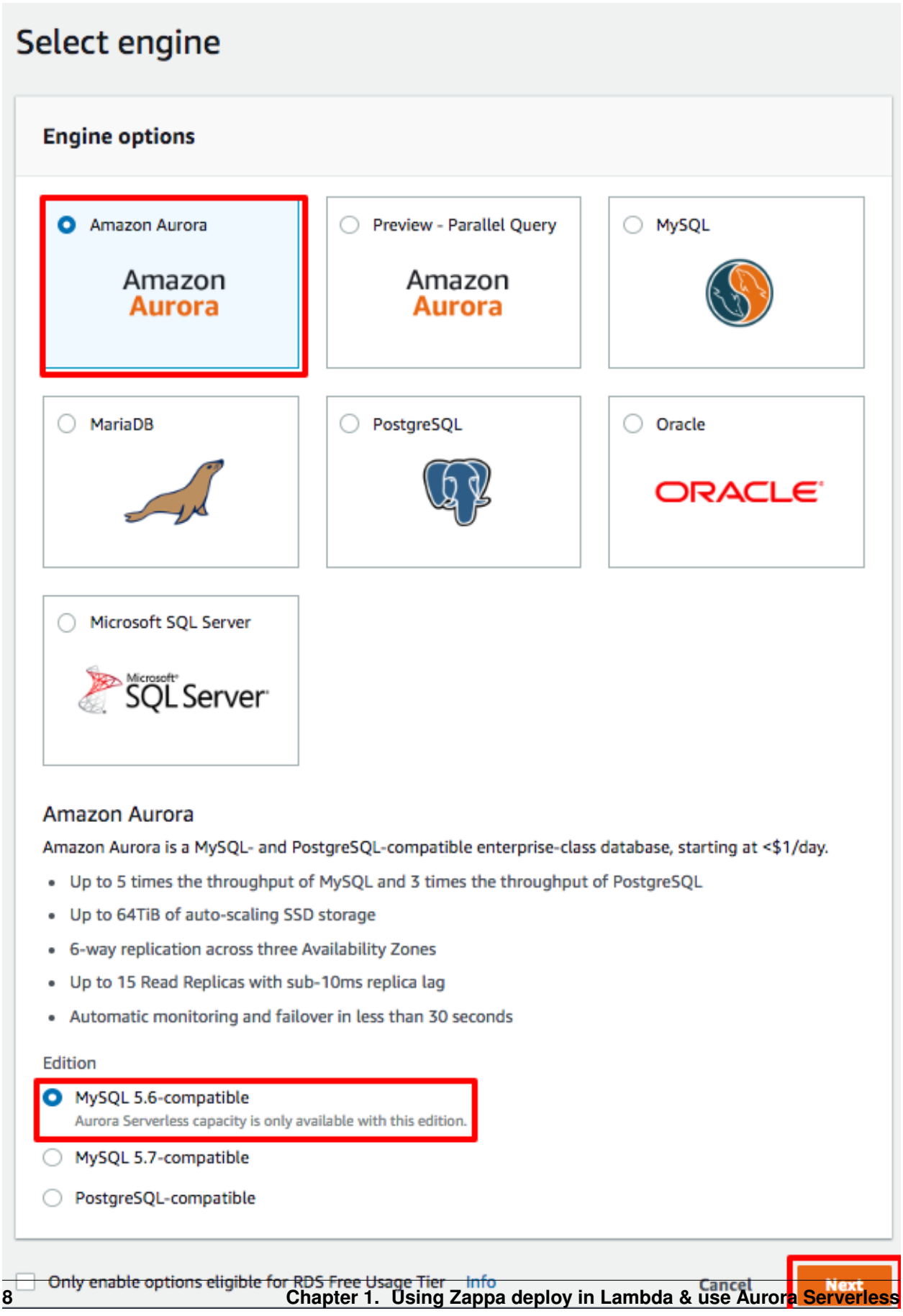
Set the *Master username* and *password* and remember them for later use. And click *Next*.

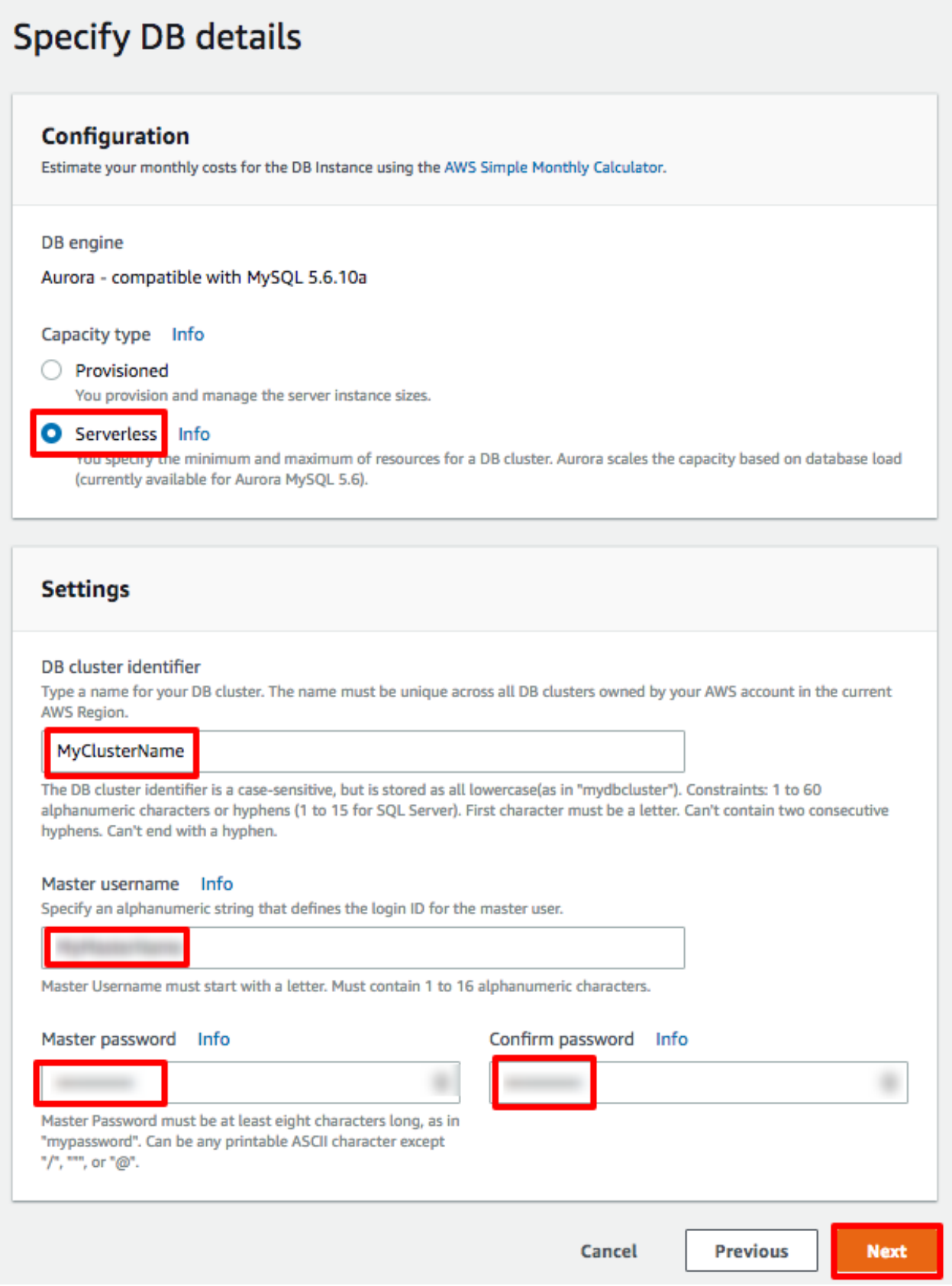


In next page, *Configure advanced settings* , in **Capacity setting** section, select the Minimum & Maximum Aurora capacity units.



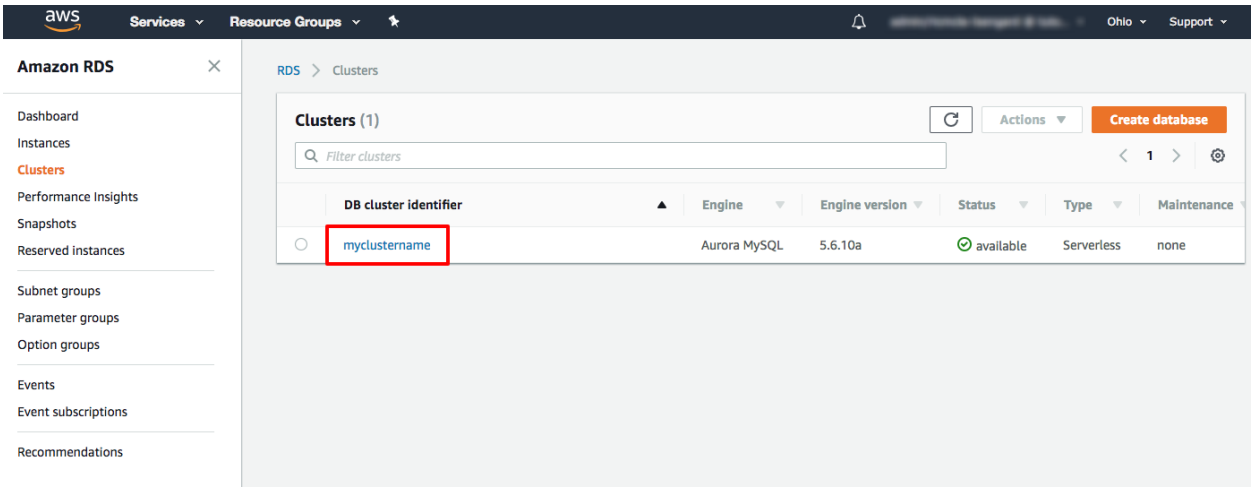
And in *Network & Security* section, under **Virtual Private Cloud (VPC)** list, select *Create new VPC*. Under **Subnet group** list, select *Create new DB Subnet Group*. Under **VPC security groups** list, select *Create new VPC security*


Select engine
Engine options
Amazon Aurora
Amazon Aurora
Preview - Parallel Query
Amazon Aurora
MySQL
MariaDB
PostgreSQL
Oracle
ORACLE
Microsoft SQL Server
Microsoft SQL Server
Amazon Aurora
Amazon Aurora is a MySQL- and PostgreSQL-compatible enterprise-class database, starting at <$1/day.
Up to 5 times the throughput of MySQL and 3 times the throughput of PostgreSQL
Up to 64TiB of auto-scaling SSD storage
6-way replication across three Availability Zones
Up to 15 Read Replicas with sub-10ms replica lag
Automatic monitoring and failover in less than 30 seconds
Edition
MySQL 5.6-compatible
Aurora Serverless capacity is only available with this edition.
MySQL 5.7-compatible
PostgreSQL-compatible
Only enable options eligible for RDS Free Usage Tier
Info
Cancel
Next

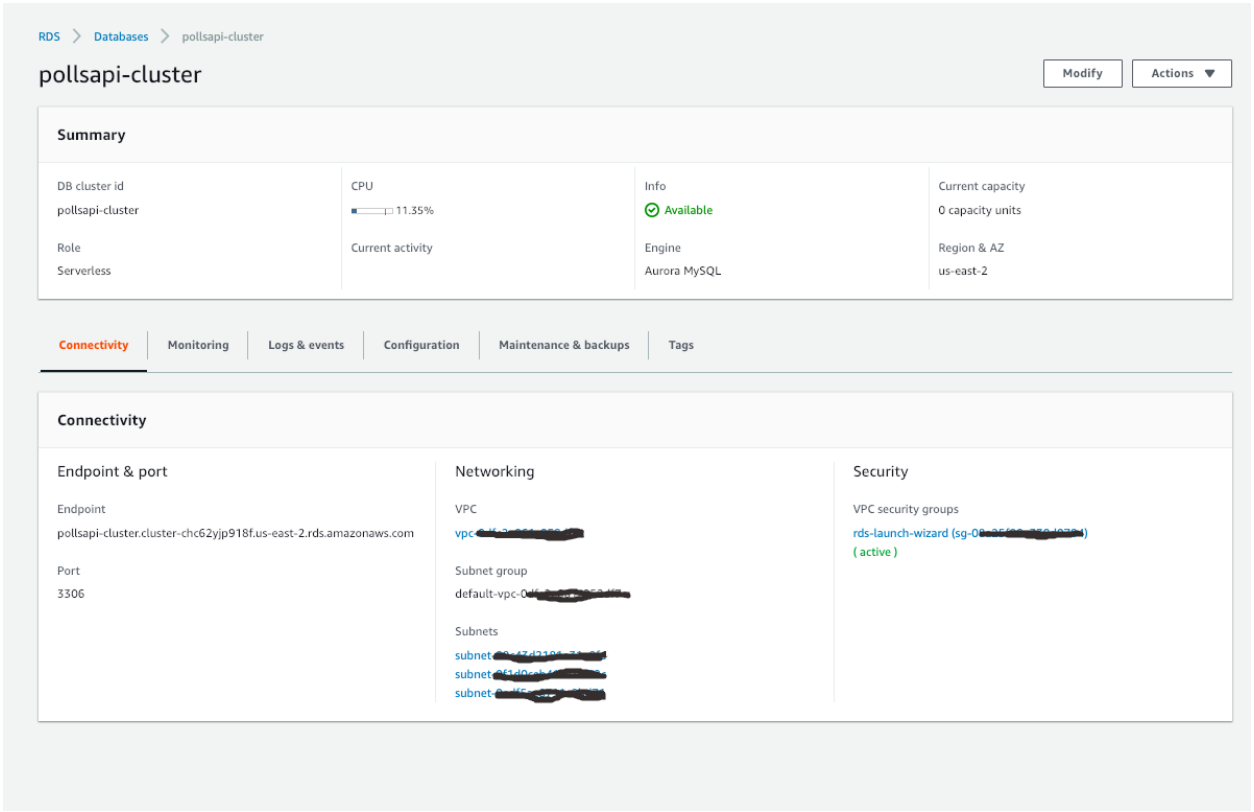

Specify DB details
Configuration
Estimate your monthly costs for the DB Instance using the AWS Simple Monthly Calculator.
DB engine
Aurora - compatible with MySQL 5.6.10a
Capacity type Info
Provisioned
You provision and manage the server instance sizes.
Serverless Info
You specify the minimum and maximum of resources for a DB cluster. Aurora scales the capacity based on database load (currently available for Aurora MySQL 5.6).
Settings
DB cluster identifier
Type a name for your DB cluster. The name must be unique across all DB clusters owned by your AWS account in the current AWS Region.
MyClusterName
The DB cluster identifier is a case-sensitive, but is stored as all lowercase(as in "mydbcluster"). Constraints: 1 to 60 alphanumeric characters or hyphens (1 to 15 for SQL Server). First character must be a letter. Can't contain two consecutive hyphens. Can't end with a hyphen.
Master username Info
Specify an alphanumeric string that defines the login ID for the master user.
Master Username must start with a letter. Must contain 1 to 16 alphanumeric characters.
Master password Info
Confirm password Info
Master Password must be at least eight characters long, as in "mypassword". Can be any printable ASCII character except "/", """, or "@".
Cancel
Previous
Next

group.

And Click **Create database**



Now our Serverless Database is created, click on the *db-cluster* name to see the details



We will use the *VPC*, *Subnet Ids* and the *security-group* later.

1.4 Connect Django to MySQL DB

Now our MySQL db is created, we have to link it to our app.

We use `mysqlclient` to connect django to the MySQl Database Server.

```
$ pip install mysqlclient
```

and add it to the `requirements.txt` file

```
# requirements.txt
...
mysqlclient==1.3.14
...
```

Now we need to update `pollsapi/settings.py` file,

```
DATABASES = {
    'default': {
        'ENGINE': 'django.db.backends.mysql',
        'NAME': 'pollsdb', # dbname
        'USER': 'polls_admin', # master username
        'PASSWORD': 'pollsadmin', # master password
        'HOST': 'pollsapi-cluster.cluster-chcxxxxx.us-east-2.rds.amazonaws.com', #␣
↪Endpoint
        'PORT': '3306',
    }
}
```

1.4.1 Configure Zappa Settings for RDS

Now go to **Lambda Management console** and click on **functions** and click on our lambda function(*pollsapi*)

Then we will go to the **configuration page**, Under the **Network** section, in **Virtual Private Cloud (VPC)**

select the same VPC as in Aurora DB

As Aurora Serverless DB clusters do not have publically accessible endpoints, our MyClusterName RDS can only be accessed from within the same VPC.

Then in **Subnets** select all the subnets as in Aurora DB

and for **Security groups** select a different security group than the one on Aurora DB.

Update Security Group Endpoint

Now we have to update the security group Inbound endpoint.

In the RDS console, go to databases section and click on our DB name, which will take us to

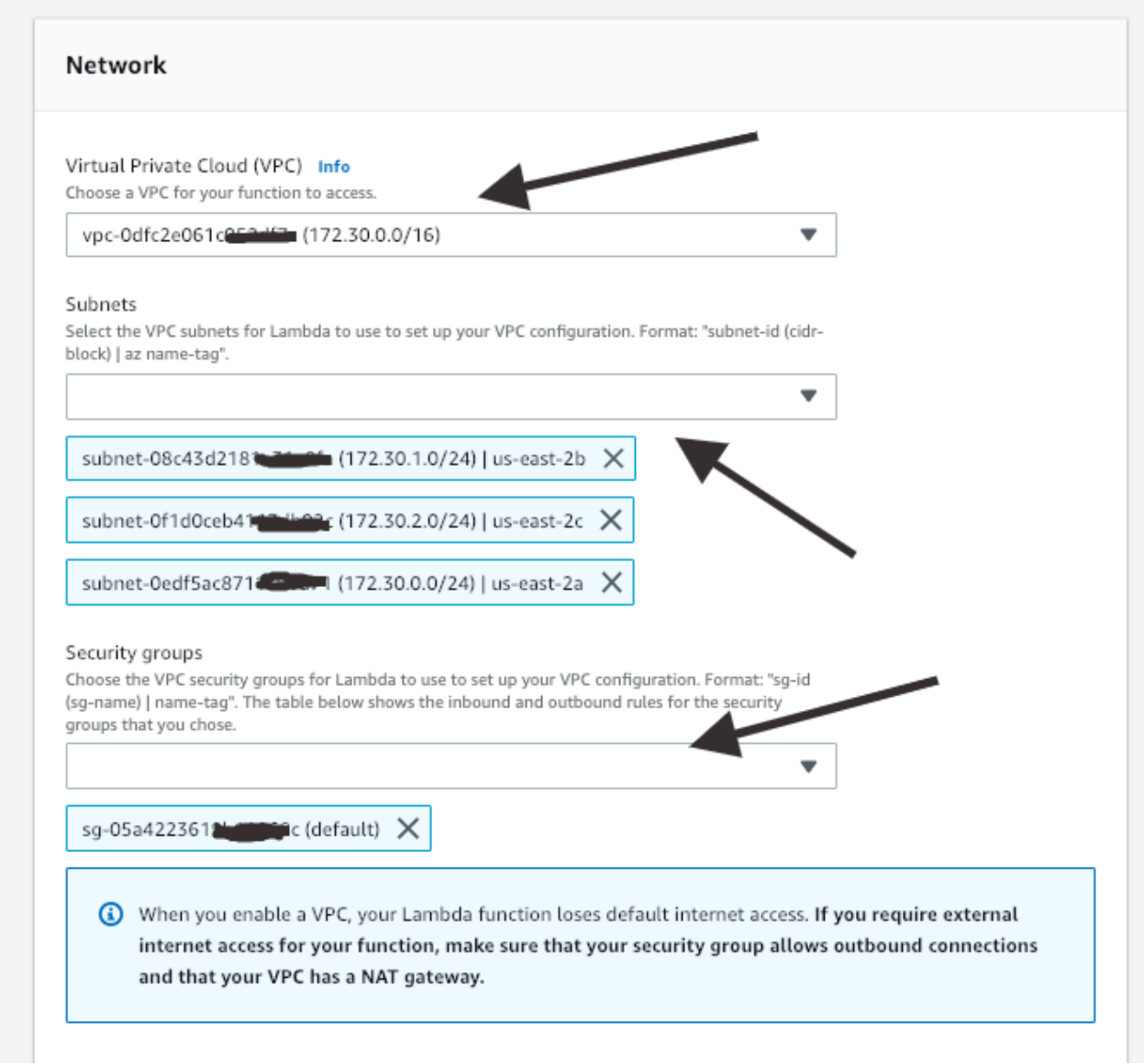
Now click on the security group and we will be taken to the Security Group page

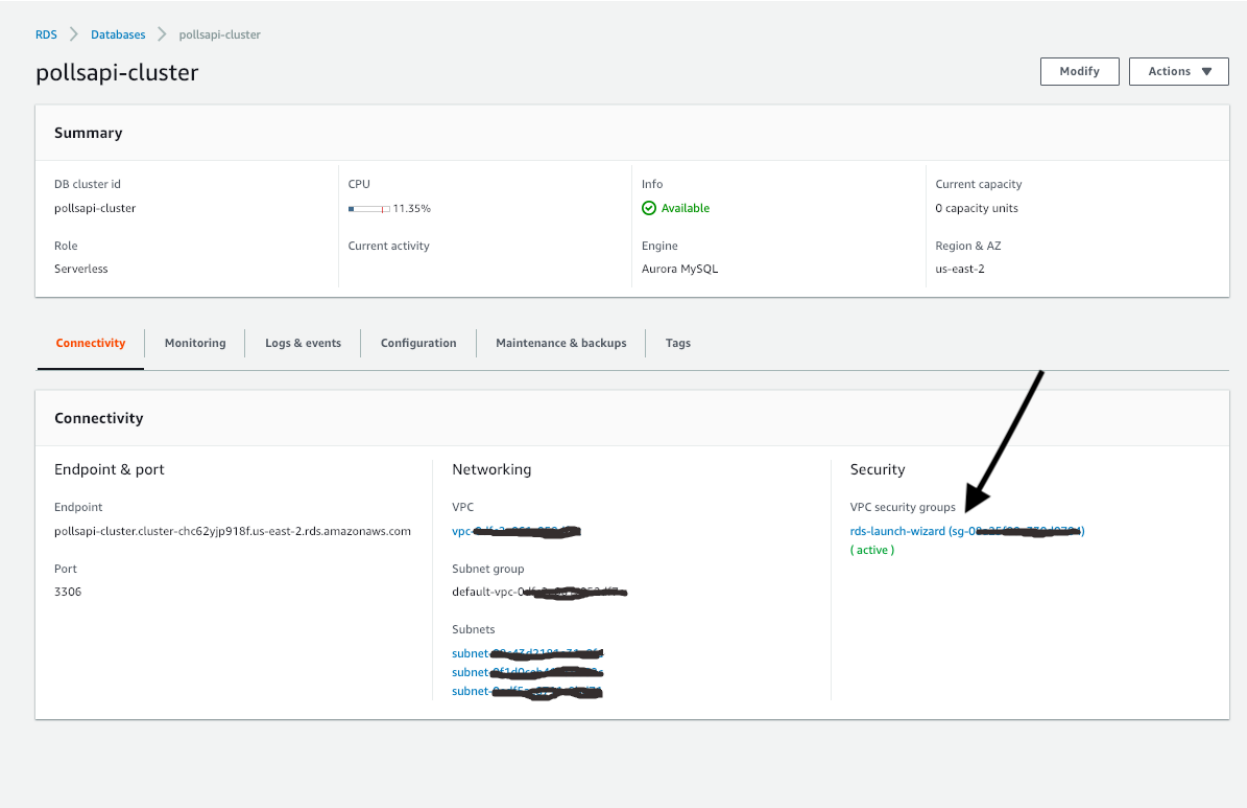
Go to **Inbound** tab in the bottom and click on the **edit** button

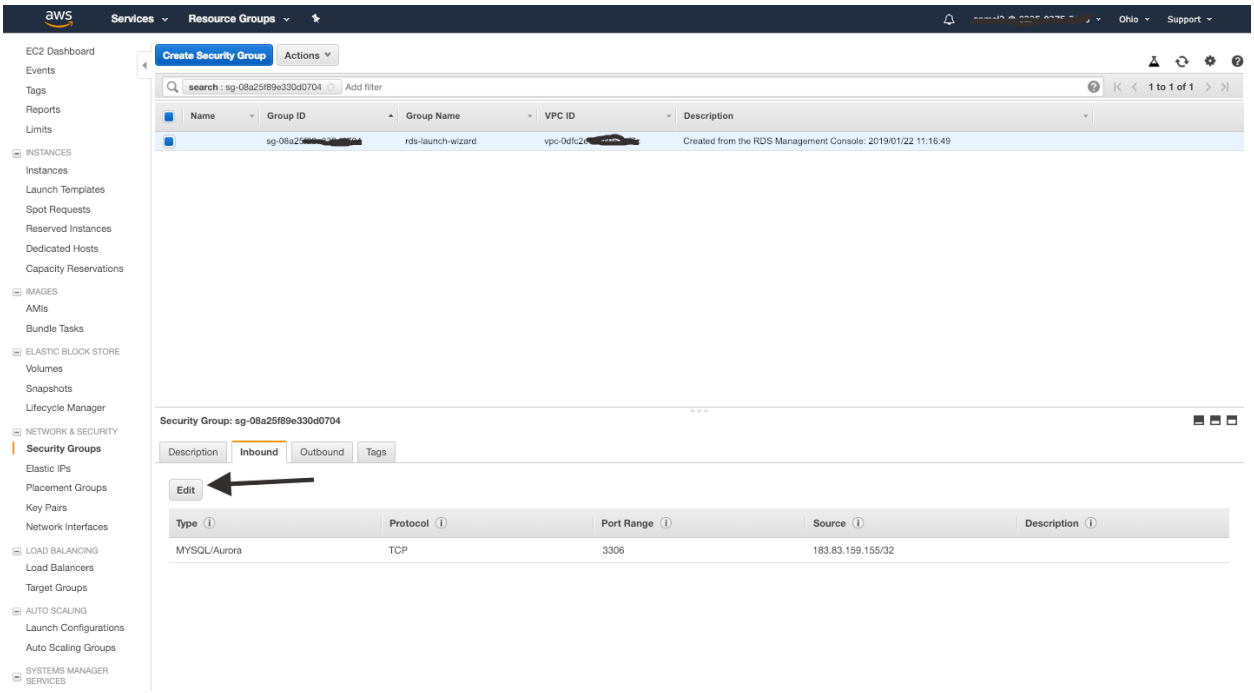
Here click on **Add Rule** and enter **Type** as **MYSQL/Aurora** & in **Source** enter the **Security Group Id of the Lambda function** and save it.

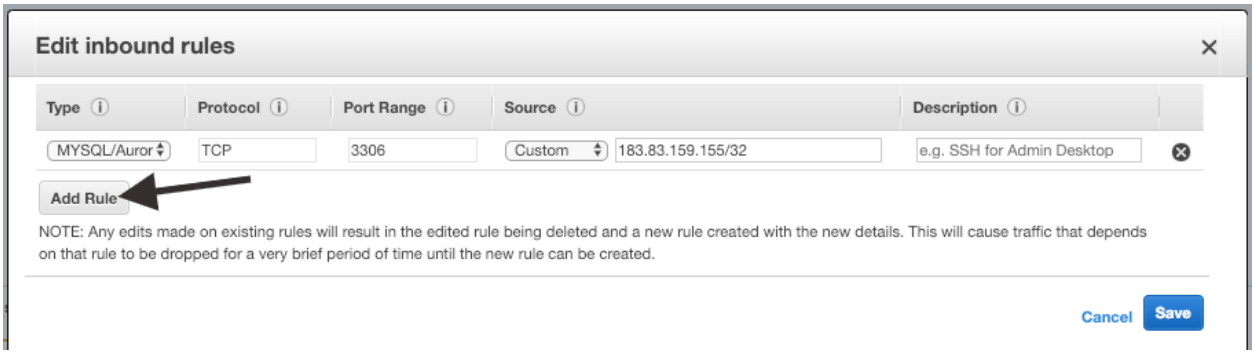
Setup the Database

Now let us create a management command our polls app


Network
Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) Info
Choose a VPC for your function to access.
vpc-0dfc2e061c (172.30.0.0/16)
Subnets
Select the VPC subnets for Lambda to use to set up your VPC configuration. Format: "subnet-id (cidr-block) | az name-tag".
subnet-08c43d218 (172.30.1.0/24) | us-east-2b
subnet-0f1d0ceb4 (172.30.2.0/24) | us-east-2c
subnet-0edf5ac871 (172.30.0.0/24) | us-east-2a
Security groups
Choose the VPC security groups for Lambda to use to set up your VPC configuration. Format: "sg-id (sg-name) | name-tag". The table below shows the inbound and outbound rules for the security groups that you chose.
sg-05a422361 (default)
When you enable a VPC, your Lambda function loses default internet access. If you require external internet access for your function, make sure that your security group allows outbound connections and that your VPC has a NAT gateway.


RDS > Databases > pollsapi-cluster
pollsapi-cluster
Modify
Actions
Summary
DB cluster id
pollsapi-cluster
CPU
11.35%
Info
Available
Current capacity
0 capacity units
Role
Serverless
Current activity
Engine
Aurora MySQL
Region & AZ
us-east-2
Connectivity
Monitoring
Logs & events
Configuration
Maintenance & backups
Tags
Connectivity
Endpoint & port
Endpoint
pollsapi-cluster.cluster-chc62yjp918f.us-east-2.rds.amazonaws.com
Port
3306
Networking
VPC
Subnet group
Subnets
Security
VPC security groups
rds-launch-wizard
(active)


aws
Services
Resource Groups
Ohio
Support
EC2 Dashboard
Events
Tags
Reports
Limits
INSTANCES
Instances
Launch Templates
Spot Requests
Reserved Instances
Dedicated Hosts
Capacity Reservations
IMAGES
AMIs
Bundle Tasks
ELASTIC BLOCK STORE
Volumes
Snapshots
Lifecycle Manager
NETWORK & SECURITY
Security Groups
Elastic IPs
Placement Groups
Key Pairs
Network Interfaces
LOAD BALANCING
Load Balancers
Target Groups
AUTO SCALING
Launch Configurations
Auto Scaling Groups
SYSTEMS MANAGER SERVICES
Create Security Group
Actions
search : sg-08a25f89e330d0704
Add filter
1 to 1 of 1
Name
Group ID
Group Name
VPC ID
Description
rds-launch-wizard
Created from the RDS Management Console: 2019/01/22 11:16:49
Security Group: sg-08a25f89e330d0704
Description
Inbound
Outbound
Tags
Edit
Type
Protocol
Port Range
Source
Description
MYSQL/Aurora
TCP
3306
183.83.159.155/32




```
$ cd polls
$ mkdir management
$ cd management
$ touch __init__.py
$ mkdir commands
$ cd commands
$ touch __init__.py
$ touch create_db.py
```

```
# polls/management/commands/create_db.py
import sys
import logging
import MySQLdb

from django.core.management.base import BaseCommand, CommandError
from django.conf import settings

rds_host = 'pollsapi-cluster.cluster-chc62yjp918f.us-east-2.rds.amazonaws.com'
db_name = 'pollsdb'
user_name = 'polls_admin'
password = 'pollsadmin'
port = 3306

logger = logging.getLogger()
logger.setLevel(logging.INFO)


class Command(BaseCommand):
    help = 'Creates the initial database'
```

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```
    def handle(self, *args, **options):
        print('Starting db creation')
        try:
            db = MySQLdb.connect(host=rds_host, user=user_name,
                                 password=password, db="mysql", connect_timeout=5)
            c = db.cursor()
            print("connected to db server")
            c.execute("""CREATE DATABASE pollsdb;""")
            c.execute(
                """GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON db_name.* TO 'polls_admin' IDENTIFIED BY
↪'pollsadmin';""")
            c.close()
            print("closed db connection")
        except:
            logger.error(
                "ERROR: Unexpected error: Could not connect to MySql instance.")
            sys.exit()
```

Now let us update zappa

```
$ zappa update dev
```

And create the databse using the management command

```
$ zappa manage dev create_db
```

which will show us

```
$ zappa manage dev create_db
[START] RequestId: 5c2de49d-856e-4d75-963d-017a98660XXX Version: $LATEST
[DEBUG] 2019-01-22T14:55:28.387Z 5c2de49d-856e-4d75-963d-017a98660XXX Zappa Event: {
↪'manage': 'create_db'}
Starting db creation
connected to db server
closed db connection
[END] RequestId: 5c2de49d-856e-4d75-963d-017a98660XXX
[REPORT] RequestId: 5c2de49d-856e-4d75-963d-017a98660XXX
Duration: 218.58 ms
Billed Duration: 300 ms
Memory Size: 512 MB
Max Memory Used: 83 MB
```

We have to migrate now

```
$ zappa manage dev migrate
```

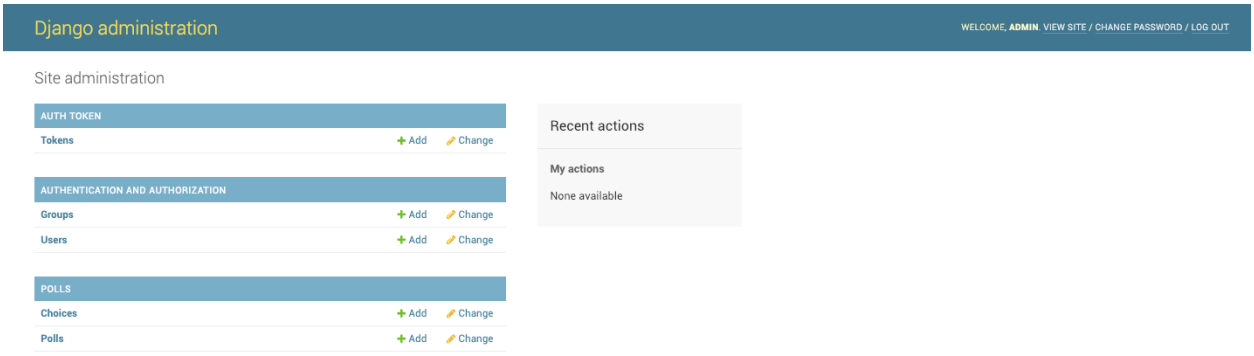
Now let us create the admin user

```
$ zappa invoke --raw dev "from django.contrib.auth.models import User; User.objects.
↪create_superuser('admin', 'anmol@agiliq.com', 'somerandompassword')"
```

Now let us check by logging in the admin page

NOW OUR DJANGO APP IS COMPLETELY SERVERLESS !!

We can check the lambda logs by `zappa dev tail`


Django administration
WELCOME, ADMIN. VIEW SITE / CHANGE PASSWORD / LOG OUT
Site administration
AUTH TOKEN
Tokens
Add
Change
AUTHENTICATION AND AUTHORIZATION
Groups
Add
Change
Users
Add
Change
POLLS
Choices
Add
Change
Polls
Add
Change
Recent actions
My actions
None available

CHAPTER 2

Using Apex-Up deploy in Lambda and use Aurora Serverless

We will try to deploy a basic django app onto **AWS Lambda** using **Apex Up**.

AWS Lambda is a serverless computing platform by amazon, which is completely event driven and it automatically manages the computing resources. It scales automatically when needed, depending upon the requests the application gets.

Apex Up is a Open Source framework used for deploying serverless applications onto AWS-Lambda. Up currently supports Node.js, Golang, Python, Java, Crystal, and static sites out of the box. Up is platform-agnostic, supporting AWS Lambda and API Gateway.

Note :

- **Apex-Up currently supports only Node.js lambda environment**, but we can use python 2.7 and 3.4 in it.
- **We have to use Django 2.0 as it is the only latest version which supports python3.4**

2.1 Install and Configure the Environment

First configure the AWS credentials

https://books.agiliq.com/projects/django-deployments-cookbook/en/latest/using_zappa_lambda_aurora.html#configure-aws-credentials.

2.1.1 Install Apex Up

Currently *Up* has only binary form releases and can be installed by

```
$ curl -sf https://up.apex.sh/install | sh
```

this installs *Up* in `/usr/local/bin` by default.

We can verify the installation by

```
$ up version

# or

$ up --help
```

2.1.2 Go to Django app

We will use *Pollsapi* (https://github.com/agiliq/building-api-django) as the django project.

Note: **We cannot see the django error messages in the url(even if we have DEBUG=True), we can see them in the apex-up logs only**

Now go inside the *pollsapi* app in this repo.

Next create a virtualenv with python34 and install `requirements.txt`

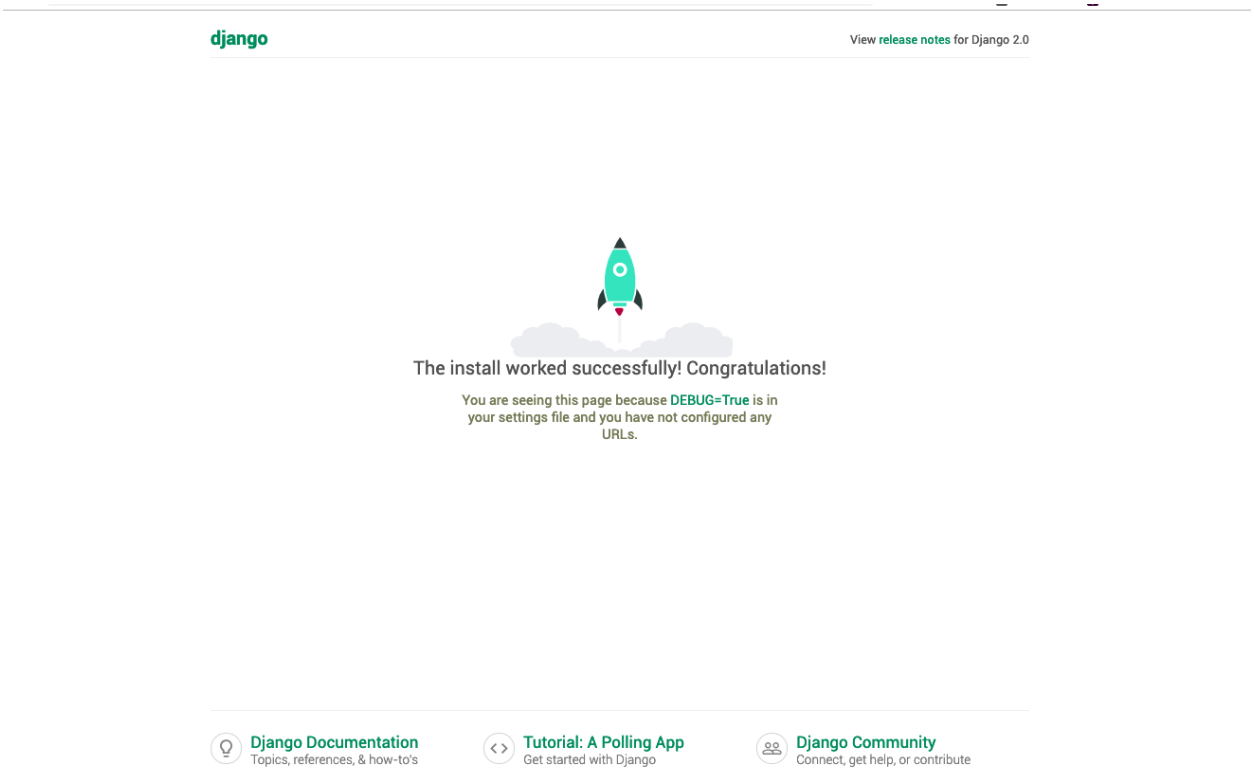
```
$ pip install -r requirements.txt
```

```
$ django-admin --version        # check the django version
2.0.3
```

Now rename the `manage.py` to `app.py` for *apex-up* to work.

```
$ python  app.py runserver
```

which will show us



and in `polls/settings.py` add aws subdomain to the 'ALLOWED_HOSTS'

```
...
ALLOWED_HOSTS = [".amazonaws.com", "127.0.0.1"]  # lambda subdomain and localhost
...
```

2.1.3 Serving Static Files

To configure static files in django https://www.agiliq.com/blog/2019/01/complete-serverless-django/#serving-static-files

2.1.4 Setup Serverless MySQL Database

To set up Aurora serverless DB follow https://www.agiliq.com/blog/2019/01/complete-serverless-django/#setup-serverless-mysql-database

2.1.5 Connect Our App to MySQL DB

To connect our Django App to aurora db, follow https://www.agiliq.com/blog/2019/01/complete-serverless-django/#connect-django-to-mysql-db

After configuring our `settings.py` file should have a similar database config

```
...

DATABASES = {
    'default': {
        'ENGINE': 'django.db.backends.mysql',
        'NAME': 'pollsdb', # dbname
        'USER': 'polls_admin', # master username
        'PASSWORD': 'pollsadmin', # master password
        'HOST': 'pollsapi-cluster.cluster-chcxxxxx.us-east-2.rds.amazonaws.com', #␣
↪Endpoint
        'PORT': '3306',
    }
}
...
```

Now create a file in the same level as the `app.py` file named **"up.json"** and add the following lines

```
{
  "name": "pollsapi",
  "profile": "default",
  "regions": [
    "us-east-2"
  ],
  "proxy": {
    "command": "python3 app.py runserver 0.0.0.0:$PORT"
  }
}
```

here `name` is the name of the project to be deployed

`profile` is the aws credentials profile name

`region` is the region of the lambda function

`proxy` acts as a reverse proxy in front of our server, which provides features like CORS, redirection, script injection and middleware style features.

We have to include the following configuration to our proxy object

Add `command` Command run through the shell to start our server (Default ./server)

In the proxy command we have to give the command to start the django server ie *runserver* .

As presently *Up* supports only Node.js lambda runtime environment, but we can use python 2.7 and 3.4 in it. So we can use python3 by mentioning the command as `python3 app.py runserver 0.0.0.0:$PORT` where the `$PORT` is the port where our app runs(which is generated dynamically).

for more configuration settings like using custom domains, secrets, deploying to multiple AWS regions or multiple stages(test/staging/prod etc) check the docs

Now let us test the app by deploying it,

```
$ up
# or
$ up deploy
# or
$ up -v          # verbose
```

```
$ up

     build: 4,752 files, 16 MB (9.463s)
     deploy: staging (commit 3asdfjj) (17.103s)
     stack: complete (26.324s)
     endpoint: https://Xpiix0c1.execute-api.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/staging/

     Please consider subscribing to Up Pro for additional features and to help keep␣
↪the project alive!
     Visit https://github.com/apex/up#pro-features for details.
```

to get the url of the application

```
$ up url
# or
$ up url --open
```

Now when we open the url, we get

The logs can be checked by these commands

```
$ up logs
# or
$ up logs -f             # for live logs
```

Up also sends our logs to AWS cloudwatch, so we can search for the logs there also.

2.1.6 To run Django Migrations

We have to add the migrate command to the `proxy.command` in the *up.json* file.

```
{
  "name": "pollsapi",
  "profile": "default",
```

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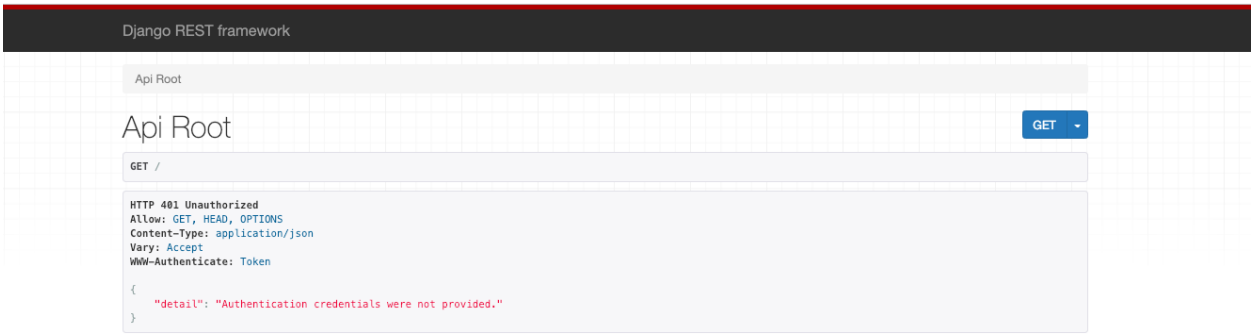

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```
  "regions": [
    "us-east-2"
  ],
  "proxy": {
    "command": "python3 app.py migrate && python3 app.py runserver 0.0.0.0:$PORT"
  }
}
```

2.2 Troubleshooting

We should note that we cannot see the django error messages in the url(even if we have DEBUG=True), we can see them in the apex-up logs

We can check for the errors by

```
$ up logs error               # Shows error logs.

$ up logs 'error or fatal'    # Shows error and fatal logs.

$ up logs 'status >= 400'     # Shows 4xx and 5xx responses.
```

To delete the deployment

```
$ up stack delete   # delete the deployment
```

We have to note that we have only python 2.7 and python 3.4 versions available at present in Apex-Up

---

CHAPTER 3

Using Zeit-Now & use RDS Postgres

We will see how to deploy a Django application using ***Zeit Now*** and use ***RDS Postgres*** as the DB.

'Zeit Now <https://zeit.co/now>'__ is a serverless deployment platform with its own CLI and a desktop app.

'RDS Postgres <https://aws.amazon.com/rds/postgresql/>'__ is the open source relational database for Postgres by AWS.

3.1 Get Zeit Now

1. First we have to create an account in Zeit.
2. Then we have to install the *Now* CLI or the *Now Desktop App(which includes CLI)* .

we can download the Now Desktop which does not require Node.js. *Now Desktop* comes with *Now CLI (our command line interface)*

or we can install Now Cli using npm

```
$ npm install -g now
```

To check if *Now* CLI has been installed

```
$ now --version
```

3.2 Go to Django app

After installing *Zeit Now*, let us set up our django project, here we used *Pollsapi* (https://github.com/agiliq/building-api-django) as the django project.

3.2.1 Configure Django Settings

We have to add our host to the `ALLOWED_HOSTS` in the `setting.py` file

```
...
ALLOWED_HOSTS = [".now.sh"]  # add this subdomain
```

3.2.2 Configure Django for S3

We will use AWS S3 bucket to serve our static files, so let us configure Django for S3

```
$ pip install django-s3-storage
```

and also add it in the `requirements.txt` file.

```
...
django-s3-storage==0.12.4
...
```

Now update the settings.py file to add 'django_s3_storage' to `INSTALLED_APPS`

```
INSTALLED_APPS = (
          ...,
          'django_s3_storage',
     )
```

and also add these lines at the bottom

```
S3_BUCKET = "now-staticfiles1234"

STATICFILES_STORAGE = "django_s3_storage.storage.StaticS3Storage"

AWS_S3_BUCKET_NAME_STATIC = S3_BUCKET

STATIC_URL = "https://%s.s3.amazonaws.com/" % S3_BUCKET
```

Push the static files to the cloud

```
$ python manage.py collectstatic
```

3.2.3 Setup now.json

Now go inside the *pollsapi* folder in this repo, and create a file named `now.json`, and add the following:

```
{
  "version": 2,
  "name": "django-pollsapi",
  "builds": [
    {
      "src": "index.py",
      "use": "@contextualist/python-wsgi",
      "config": { "maxLambdaSize": "60mb" }
```

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```
    }
  ],
  "routes": [{ "src": "/.*", "dest": "/" }]
}
```

- `"version"` Specifies the Now Platform version the deployment should use and to work with. Type is String.
- `"name"` is used to organise the deployment into a project. Is is also used as the perfix for all new deployment instances. Type is Number.
- **“”builds”“** Builders are modules that take a deployment's source and return an output, consisting of either static files or dynamic Lambdas.

  The builds property is an array of objects where each object is a build step, including a src and a use property, at least. If our project has source files that require transformation to be served to users, `Builders` enable this ability when deploying.

  Builds object consists of:

  - `"src"` (String): A glob expression or pathname. If more than one file is resolved, one build will be created per matched file. It can include _* and **_.
  - `"use"` (String): A npm module to be installed by the build process. It can include a semver compatible version (e.g.: @org/proj@1).
  - `"config"` (Object): Optionally, an object including arbitrary metadata(like maxLambdaSize etc) to be passed to the Builder.

  We are using builder - `"@contextualist/python-wsgi"` as we want python with wsgi.

- `"routes"` consists of a list of route definitions.
  - `"src"`: A regular expression that matches each incoming pathname (excluding querystring).
  - `"dest"`: A destination pathname or full URL, including querystring, with the ability to embed capture groups

Let us create a file named `index.py`, and copy all lines from `wsgi.py` to this file

```
import os
from django.core.wsgi import get_wsgi_application

os.environ.setdefault("DJANGO_SETTINGS_MODULE", "pollsapi.settings")
app = get_wsgi_application()  # application = get_wsgi_application()
```

Now we have to rename *application to app*, as the builder will search for the `app` to run.

After this add these lines to the the `index.py` file

```
...
os.system("python manage.py migrate")
os.system("python manage.py runserver")
```

At present we cannot change the python version of the Zeit Now environment(which is python 3.4), but this feature will be added in the future.

Now deploy the app

```
$ now
> Deploying ~/building-api-django/pollsapi under anmol@agiliq.com
> Using project django-pollsapi
```

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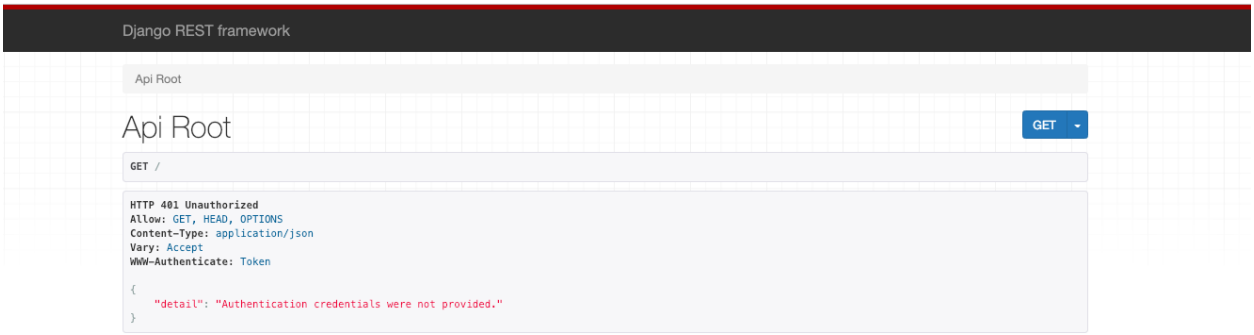
```
> Synced 1 file (234B) [1s]
> https://django-pollsapi-4l2pyh2um.now.sh [v2] [in clipboard] [2s]
 index.py        Ready               [1m]
└── λ index.py (20.53MB) [sfo1]
> Success! Deployment ready [1m]
```

Now go to the url, we will see that our project is running



Now we have to link it with the Database

3.3 Linking with RDS Postgres

We are using AWS RDS Postgres as our Database.

So first **create an RDS postgres instance** (which also comes in Free tier) and copy the *endpoint* (which we will use to link in the `DATABASES` in settings.py file)

so let us add postgres adapter to our `requirements.txt` file

```
psycopg2==2.7.7
```

and change the `settings.py` file for postgres

```
DATABASES = {
    'default': {
        'ENGINE': 'django.db.backends.postgresql',
        'NAME': 'nowdb', # dbname
        'USER': 'now_admin', # master username
        'PASSWORD': 'nowadmin', # master password
        'HOST': 'nowdb.chc62yjp9.us-east-2.rds.amazonaws.com', # Endpoint
        'PORT': '5432',
    }
}
```

But before using postgres in our Django App,

we have to first **download a custom compiled psycopg2 C-library for Python** from https://github.com/jkehler/awslambda-psycopg2

Using `psycopg2` via `requirements.txt` will not sufficient for lambda, as `psycopg2 C library for Python` is missing in default lambda.

As Zeit Now uses AWS Lambda to deploy our project, we need to use this custom pre-compiled library to use postgres.

First we have to download the repository and copy the folder `psycopg2-3.6` to our project and in the same level as our `now.json` and rename the folder from `psycopg2-3.6` to `psycopg2`.

this will make our app work with the Postgres-DB

After this we have to create an admin-user for our django-app so that we can access the admin

```
$ cd polls
$ mkdir management
$ cd management
$ touch __init__.py
$ mkdir commands
$ cd commands
$ touch __init__.py
$ touch create_admin_user.py
```

```
# polls/management/commands/create_admin_user.py
import sys
import logging

from django.core.management.base import BaseCommand, CommandError
from django.contrib.auth.models import User
from django.conf import settings



class Command(BaseCommand):
    help = 'Creates the initial admin user'

    def handle(self, *args, **options):
        if User.objects.filter(username="admin").exists():
            print("admin exists")
        else:
            u = User(username='admin')
            u.set_password('adminpass')
            u.is_superuser = True
            u.is_staff = True
            u.save()
            print("admin created")
        sys.exit()
```

this command will create the admin user if it does not exists

let us update the `index.py` by adding the command to create the admin user below the migrate command

```
...
os.system("python manage.py migrate")
os.system("python manage.py create_admin_user")      # add this line
os.system("python manage.py runserver")
```

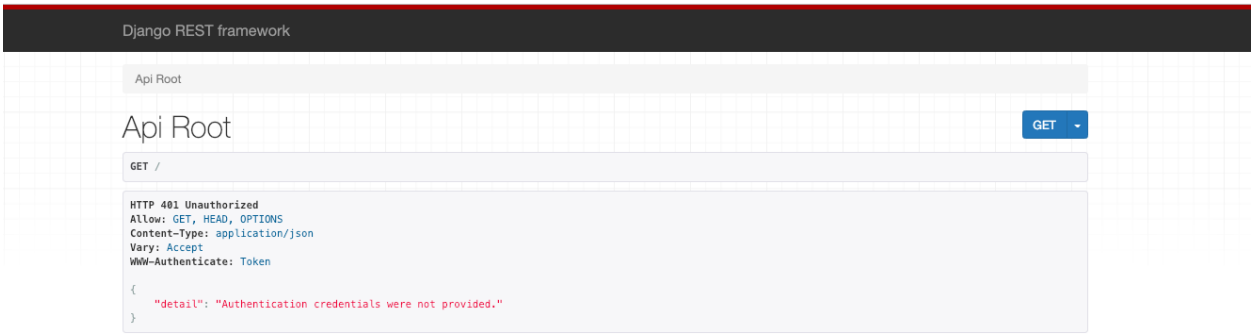
Now let us deploy the app with the updated database settings and the custom postgres library

```
$ now
> Deploying ~/building-api-django/pollsapi under anmol@agiliq.com
> Using project django-pollsapi
> Synced 1 file (234B) [1s]
> https://django-pollsapi-1asdsdfum.now.sh [v2] [in clipboard] [2s]
 index.py        Ready               [1m]
└── λ index.py (20.53MB) [sfo1]
> Success! Deployment ready [1m]
```

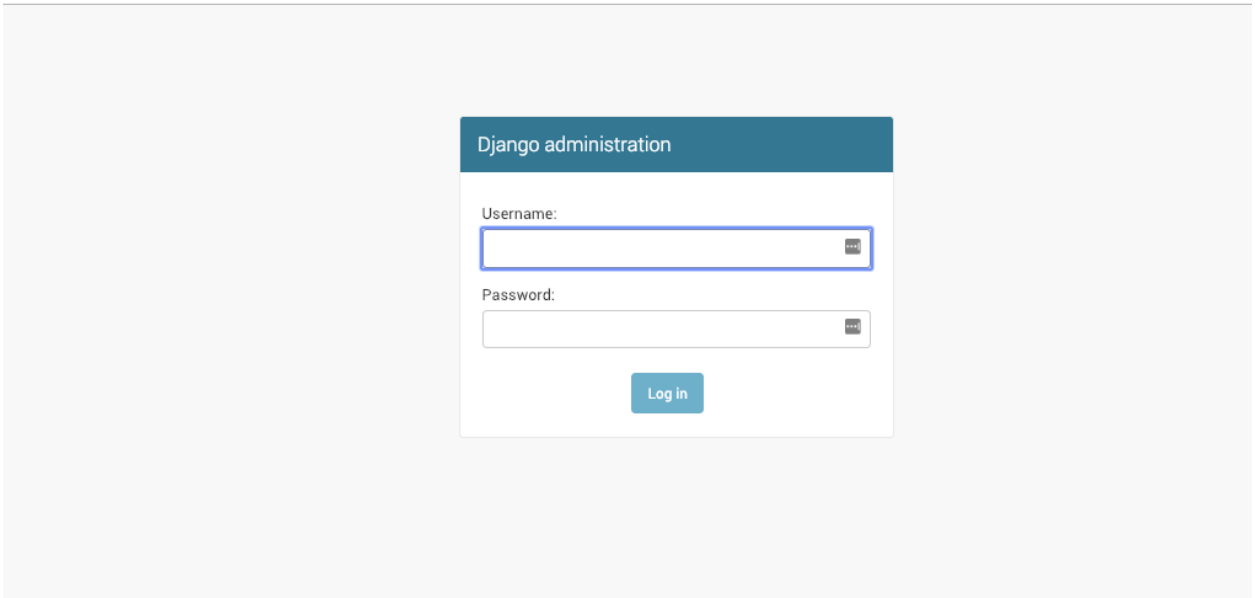
we can check the logs of the deployment by adding `/_logs` after our url like https://django-pollsapi-1asdsdfum.now.sh/_logs

Let us check the url

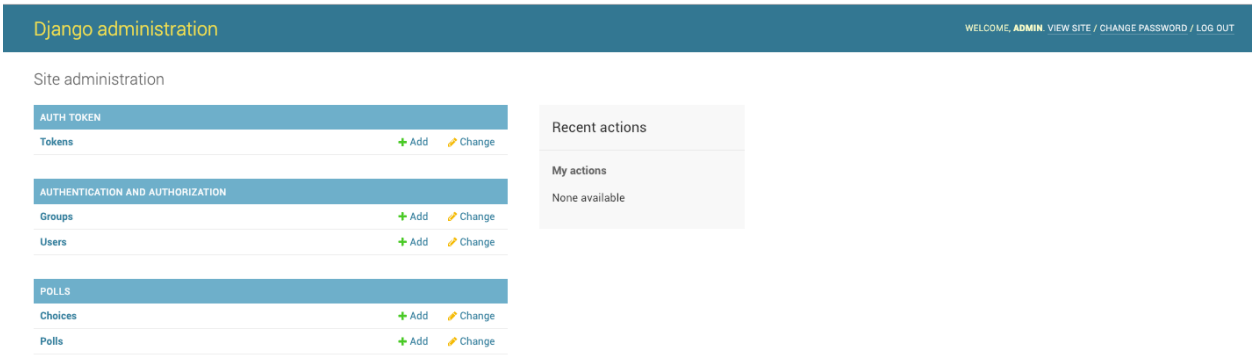
https://django-pollsapi-1asdsdfum.now.sh



https://django-pollsapi-1asdsdfum.now.sh/admin



Now let us login to our admin



Now our Django app is linked to postgres and deployed using Zeit Now.

CHAPTER 4

Deploy in AWS Fargate

We will deploy a Django app in **AWS Fargate** and use Aurora serverless as the db.

AWS Fargate lets users build and deploy containerized applications without having to manage the underlying servers themselves.

Fargate is a compute engine that allows running containers in Amazon ECS without needing to manage the EC2 servers for cluster. We only deploy our Docker applications and set the scaling rules for it. Fargate is an execution method from ECS.

With *AWS Fargate*, we pay only for the amount of vCPU and memory resources that our containerized application requests ie *We pay only for what we use*.

Docker is a tool designed to make it easier to create, deploy, and run applications by using containers. Containers allow us to package up an application with all of the parts it needs, like libraries and other dependencies, and ship it all out as one package.

And Aurora Serverless is an on-demand, auto-scaling Relational Database System by Amazon AWS(presently compatible with only MySQL). It automatically starts up & shuts down the DB depending on the requirement.

Prerequisites: AWS account and configure the system with aws credentials & aws-cli and Docker in the system.

4.1 Go to Django app

We will use *Pollsapi* (https://github.com/agiliq/building-api-django) as the django project.

Now go inside the *pollsapi* app in this repo.

Let us create a virtual environment and install the requirement.txt

```
$ pip install -r requirements.txt
```

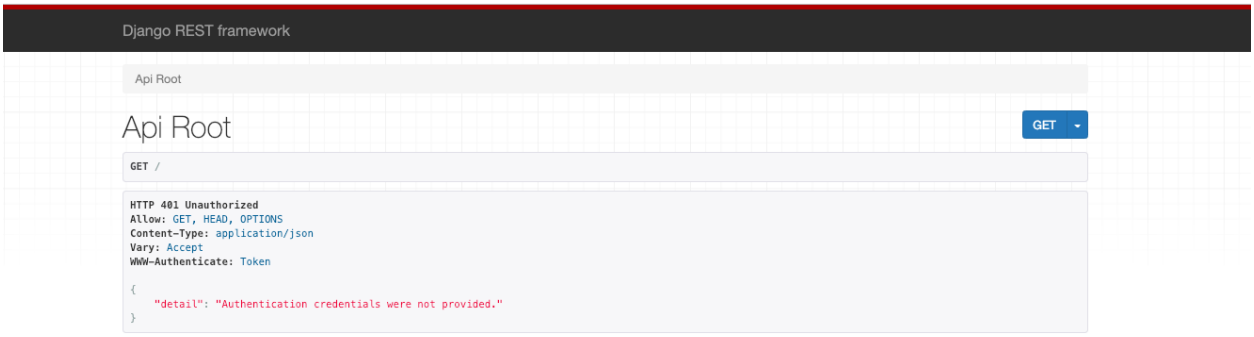
and in `polls/settings.py` add aws subdomain to the 'ALLOWED_HOSTS'

```
...
ALLOWED_HOSTS = ["*"]  # for all domains - only for development
...
```

And run the application

```
$ ./manage.py runserver
```

which will show us



4.2 Build the application using Docker

Now lets now containerize our application using Docker. Let us create a file named `Dockerfile` in the *pollsapi* folder and in the same level as *manage.py* .

```
$ touch Dockerfile
```

and add the following lines

In this Dockerfile, we install Python and our application and then specify how we want to run our application in the container.

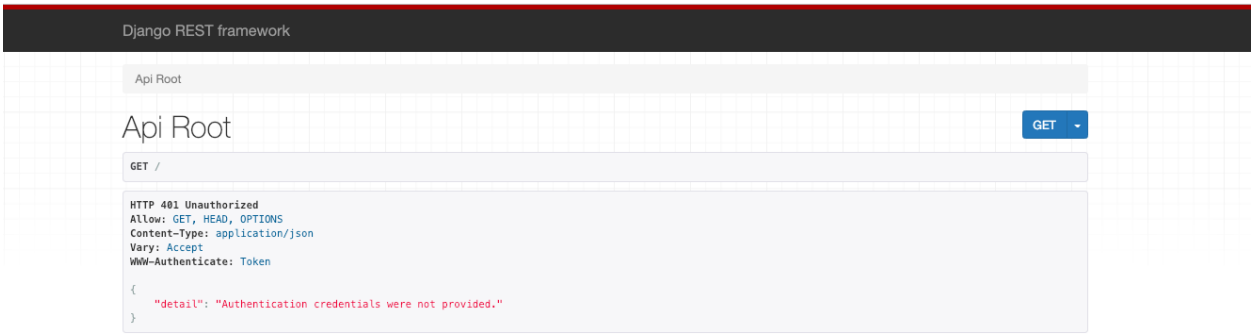
Let us Build the Docker container for our pollsapi app

```
$ docker build -t pollsapi-app .
```

The `docker build` command builds Docker images from a Dockerfile. We will run the container we created in the previous step.

```
$ docker run -p 8800:8800 -t pollsapi-app
February 19, 2019 - 13:22:46
Django version 2.0.3, using settings 'pollsapi.settings'
Starting development server at http://0.0.0.0:8800/
Quit the server with CONTROL-C.
```

now when we go to the url `0.0.0.0:8800`, we will see



4.3 Deploying our application using AWS Fargate

Here, we will deploy our container to Amazon's Elastic Container Repository (ECR) and then launch the application using Fargate.

4.3.1 Create a new repository in ECR

Run the following command to create a new repository for the application:

```
$ aws ecr create-repository --repository-name pollsapi-app --region us-east-1
```

If the command is successful, we should see:

```
{
    "repository": {
        "repositoryArn": "arn:aws:ecr:us-east-1:822502757923:repository/pollsapi-app",
        "registryId": "822502757923",
        "repositoryName": "pollsapi-app",
        "repositoryUri": "822502757923.dkr.ecr.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/pollsapi-app",
        "createdAt": 1550555101.0
    }
}
```

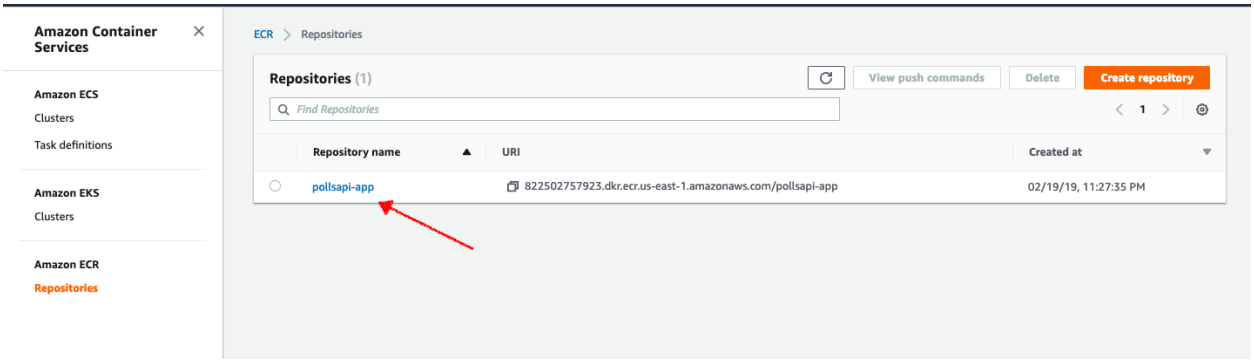
This will create a repository by name `pollsapi-app` in AWS ECR

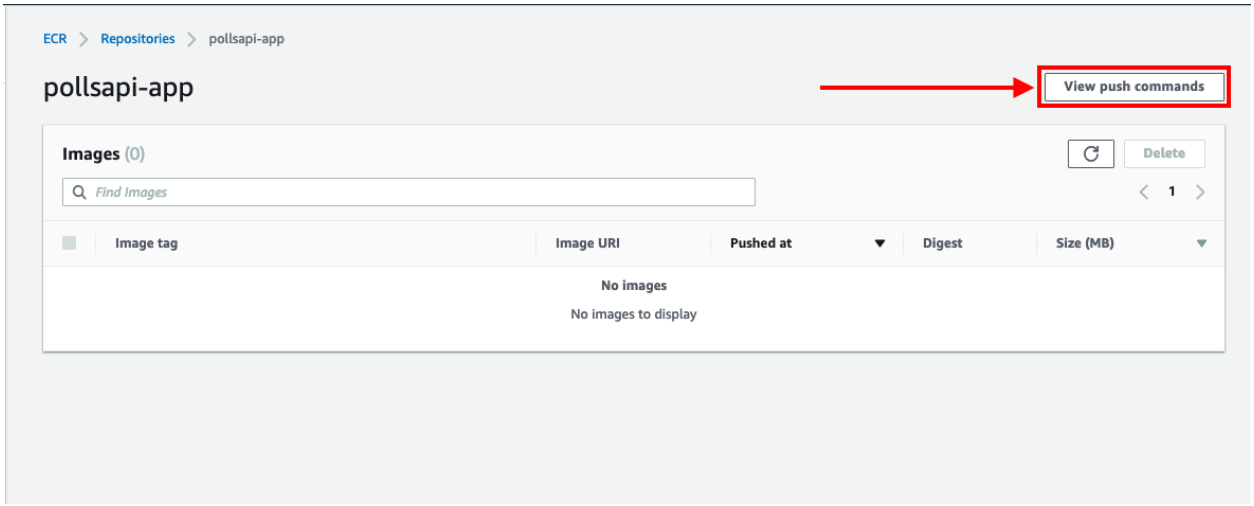
Now click on the repository name and go inside

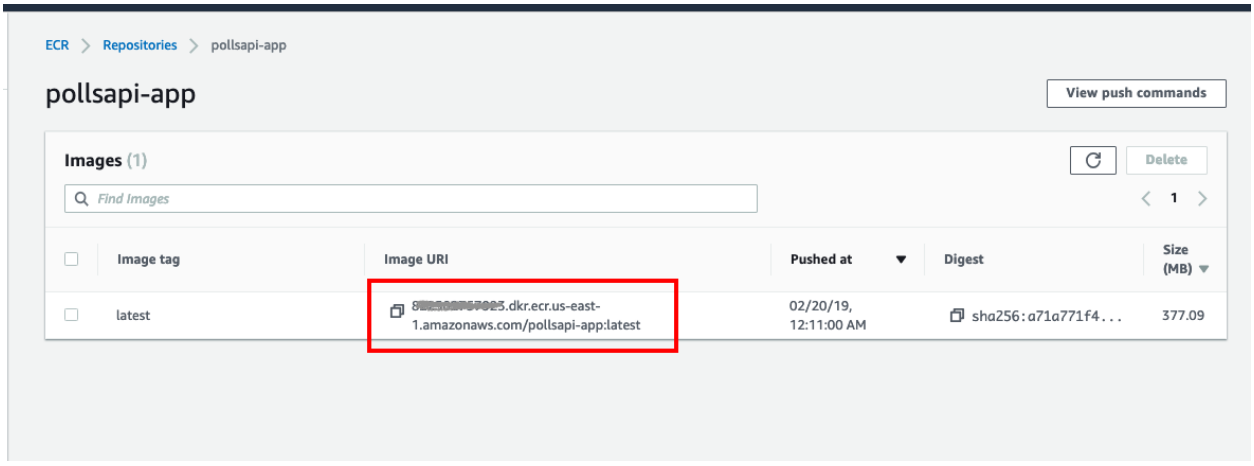
we will see that we have no image here, click on `Push Commands` to get a list of commands that we need to run to be able to push our image to ECR. Follow the steps as they are given.

Now we have pushed our image in ECR.

After pushing the image, we can see the image-url


Amazon Container Services
Amazon ECS
Clusters
Task definitions
Amazon EKS
Clusters
Amazon ECR
Repositories
ECR > Repositories
Repositories (1)
View push commands
Delete
Create repository
Find Repositories
Repository name
URI
Created at
pollsapi-app
822502757923.dkr.ecr.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/pollsapi-app
02/19/19, 11:27:35 PM

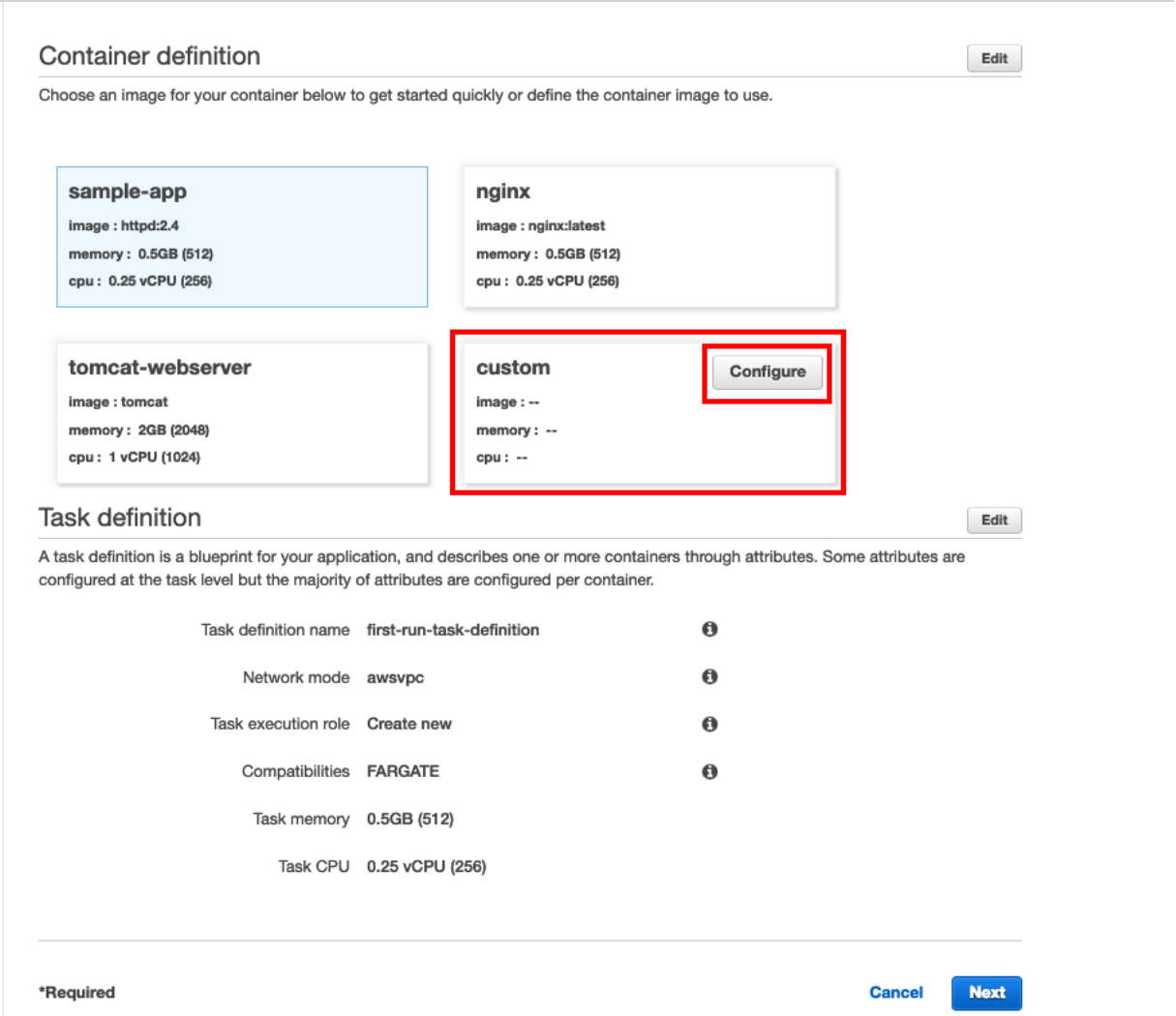

ECR > Repositories > pollsapi-app
pollsapi-app
View push commands
Images (0)
Delete
Find Images
Image tag
Image URI
Pushed at
Digest
Size (MB)
No images
No images to display


ECR > Repositories > pollsapi-app
pollsapi-app
View push commands
Images (1)
Delete
Find Images
Image tag
Image URI
Pushed at
Digest
Size (MB)
latest
.dkr.ecr.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/pollsapi-app:latest
02/20/19, 12:11:00 AM
sha256:a71a771f4...
377.09

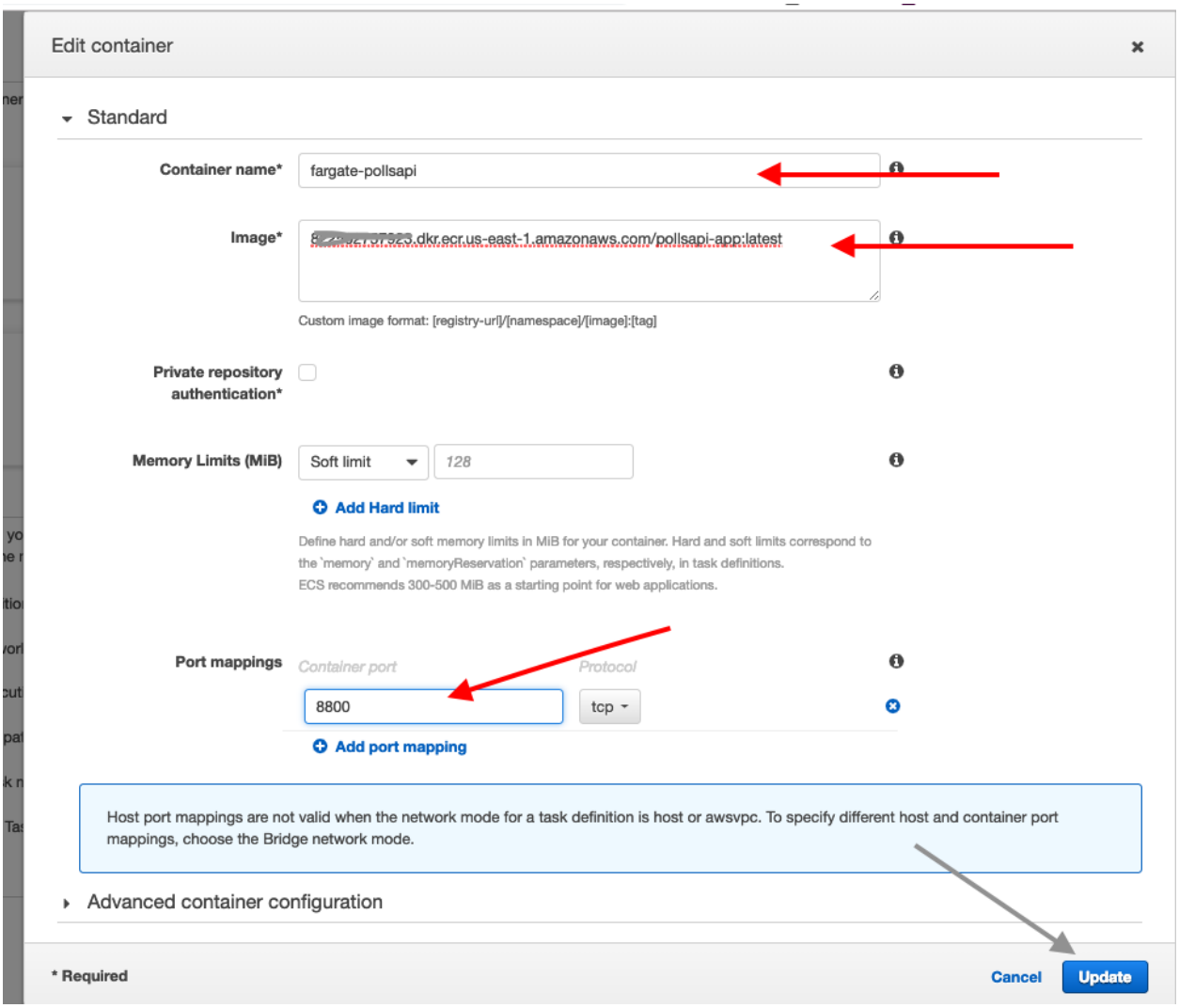
4.3.2 Create Fargate Application

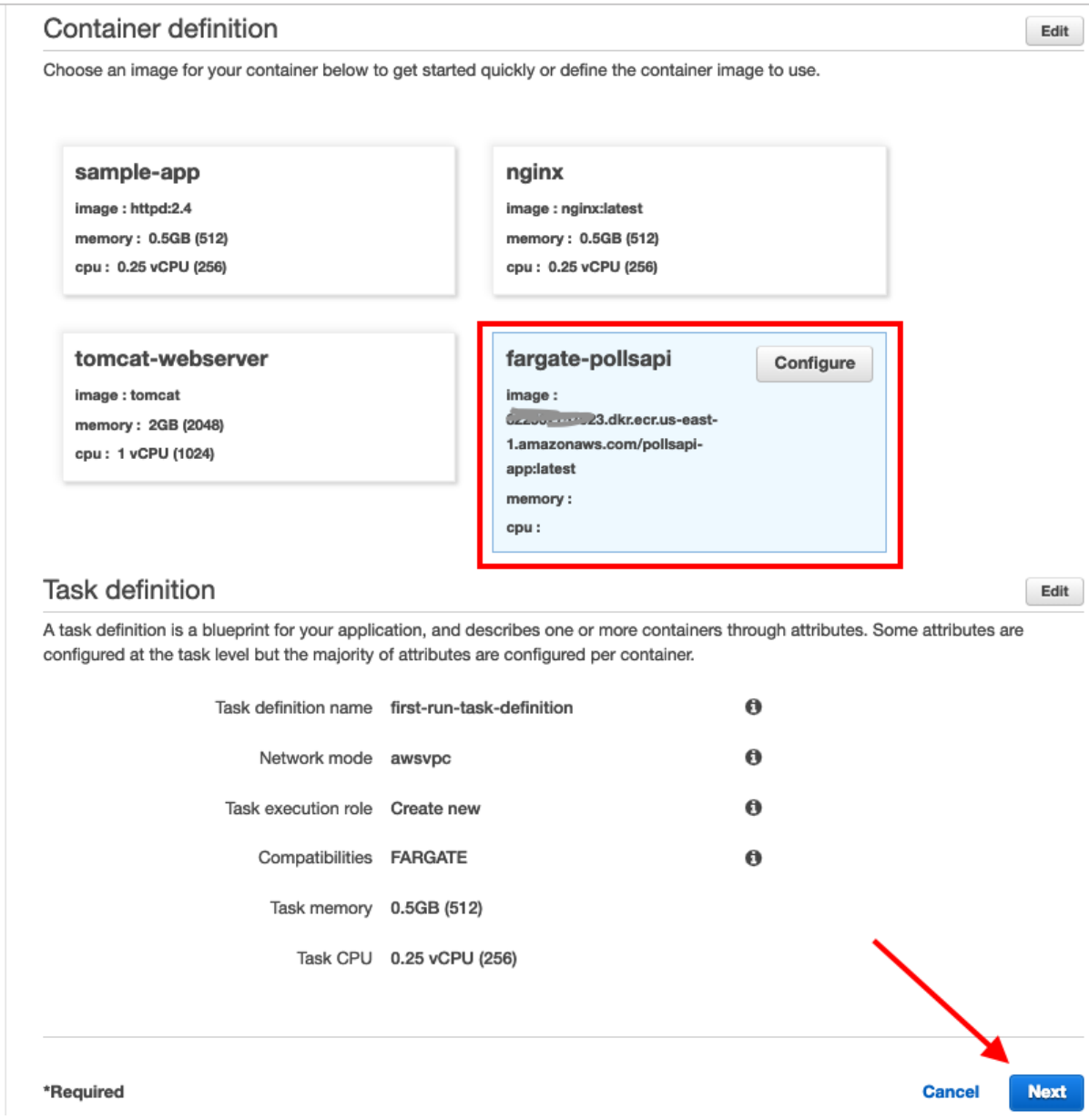
Now, let us go to the link https://console.aws.amazon.com/ecs/home?region=us-east-1#/getStarted and create a new Fargate Application. Click on *Get Started*.

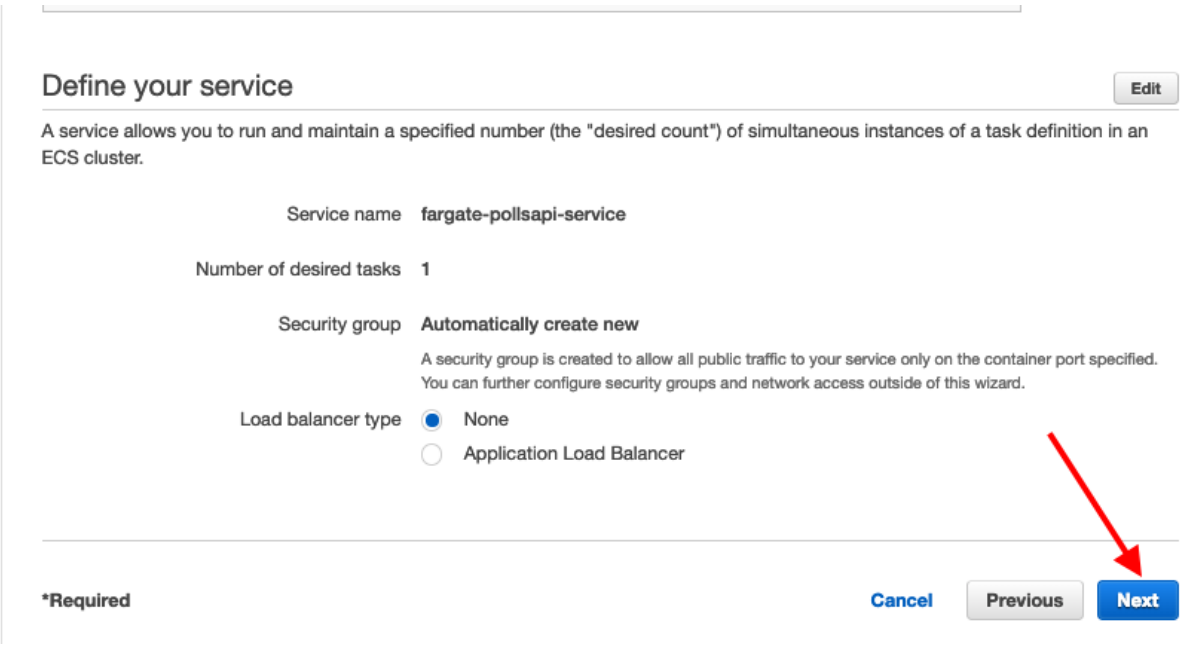
Now select under the container definition choose *Custom* and click on *Configure*.

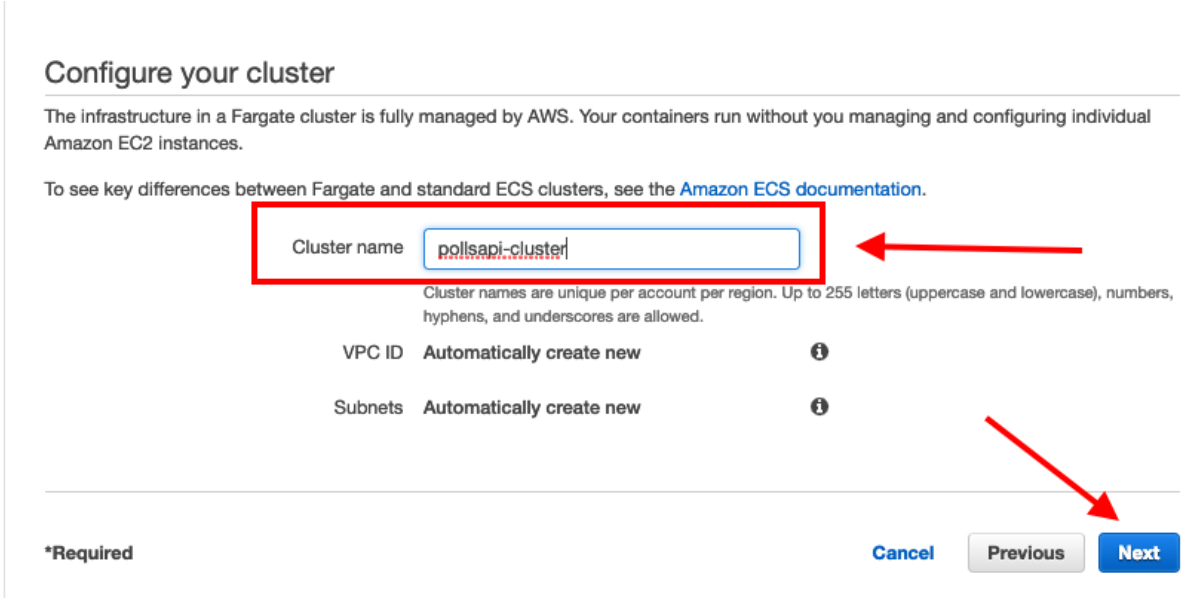


In the popup, enter a name for the container and add the URL to the container image. We should be able to get the URL from ECR. The format of the URL should be similar to the one listed below.


Edit container
Standard
Container name*
fargate-pollsapi
Image*
.dkr.ecr.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/pollsapi-app:latest
Custom image format: [registry-url]/[namespace]/[image]:[tag]
Private repository authentication*
Memory Limits (MiB)
Soft limit
128
Add Hard limit
Define hard and/or soft memory limits in MiB for your container. Hard and soft limits correspond to the `memory` and `memoryReservation` parameters, respectively, in task definitions.
ECS recommends 300-500 MiB as a starting point for web applications.
Port mappings
Container port
Protocol
8800
tcp
Add port mapping
Host port mappings are not valid when the network mode for a task definition is host or awsvpc. To specify different host and container port mappings, choose the Bridge network mode.
Advanced container configuration
* Required
Cancel
Update


Container definition
Edit
Choose an image for your container below to get started quickly or define the container image to use.
sample-app
image : httpd:2.4
memory : 0.5GB (512)
cpu : 0.25 vCPU (256)
nginx
image : nginx:latest
memory : 0.5GB (512)
cpu : 0.25 vCPU (256)
tomcat-webserver
image : tomcat
memory : 2GB (2048)
cpu : 1 vCPU (1024)
fargate-pollsapi
Configure
image :
23.dkr.ecr.us-east-
1.amazonaws.com/pollsapi-
app:latest
memory :
cpu :
Task definition
Edit
A task definition is a blueprint for your application, and describes one or more containers through attributes. Some attributes are configured at the task level but the majority of attributes are configured per container.
Task definition name first-run-task-definition
Network mode awsvpc
Task execution role Create new
Compatibilities FARGATE
Task memory 0.5GB (512)
Task CPU 0.25 vCPU (256)
*Required
Cancel
Next





In the cluster section, give the cluster name.

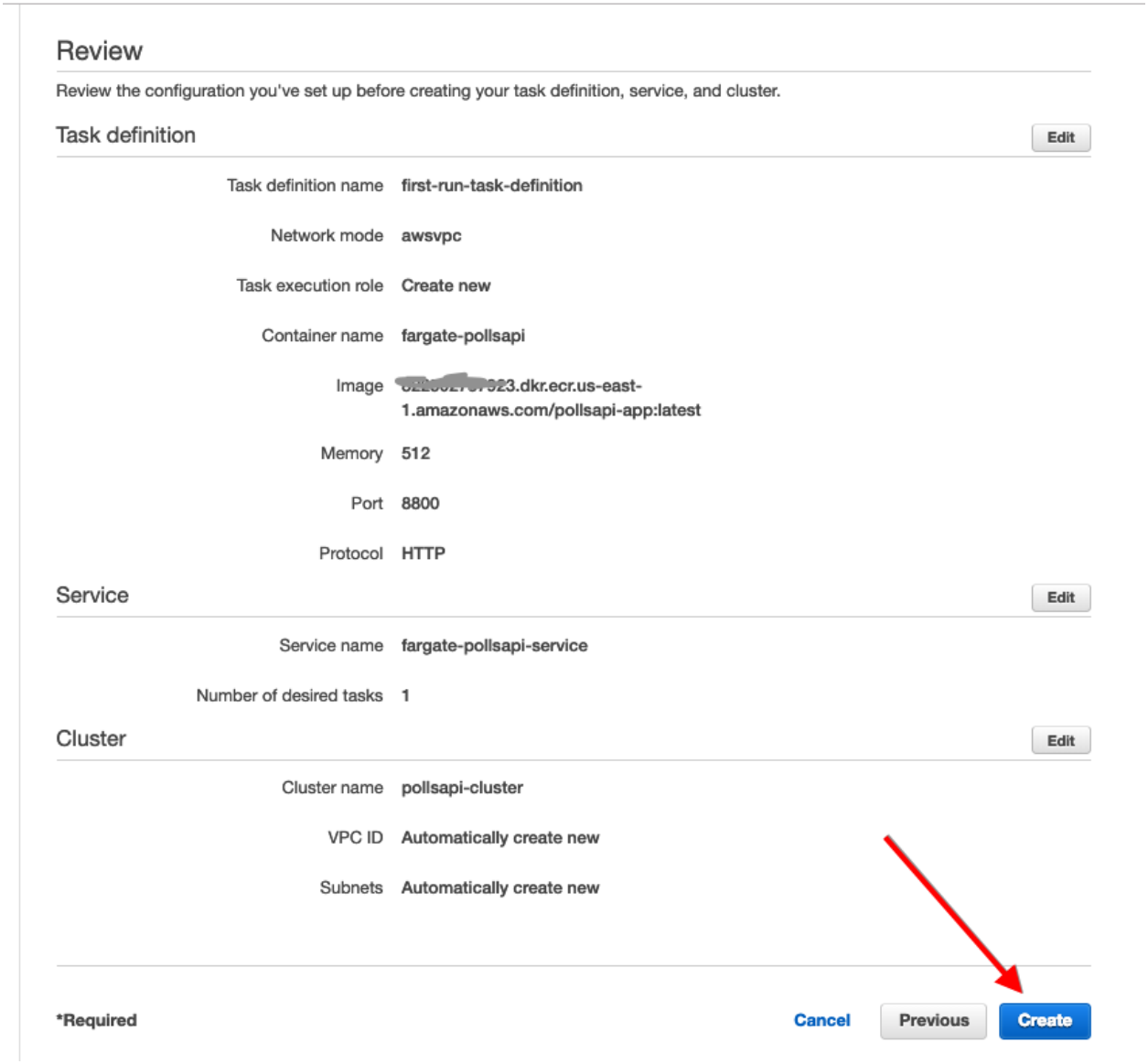
Now we can see the status of the service we just created. Wait for the steps to complete and then click on `View Service`.

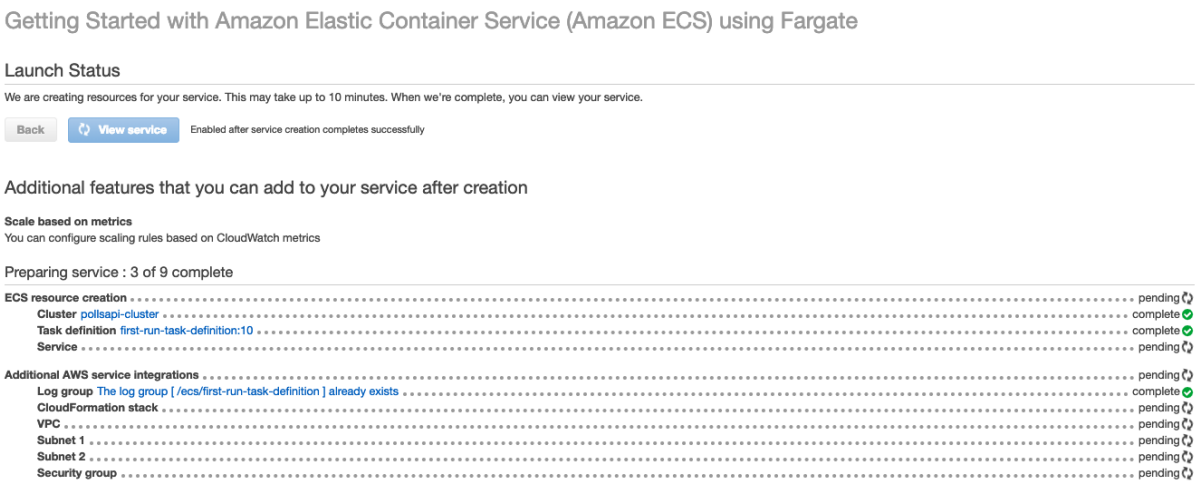
Once on the services page, click on the Tasks tab to see the different tasks running for our application. Click on the task id.

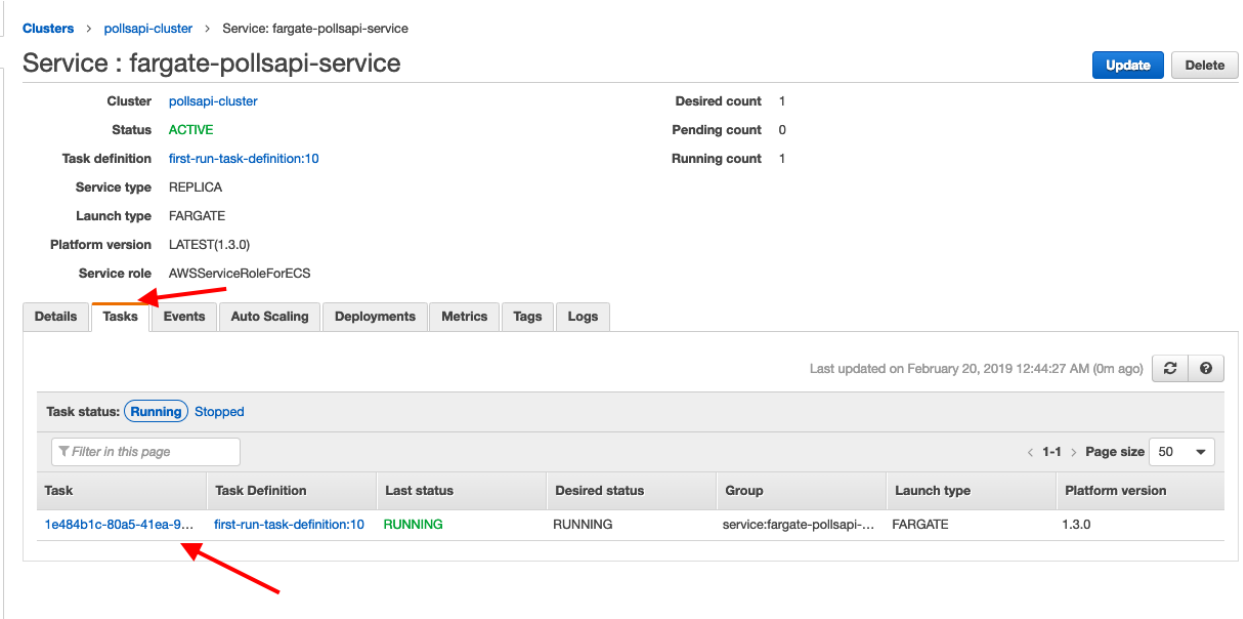
Now let us go to the url in the public-ip with the port `http://3.88.173.94:8800`, we can see

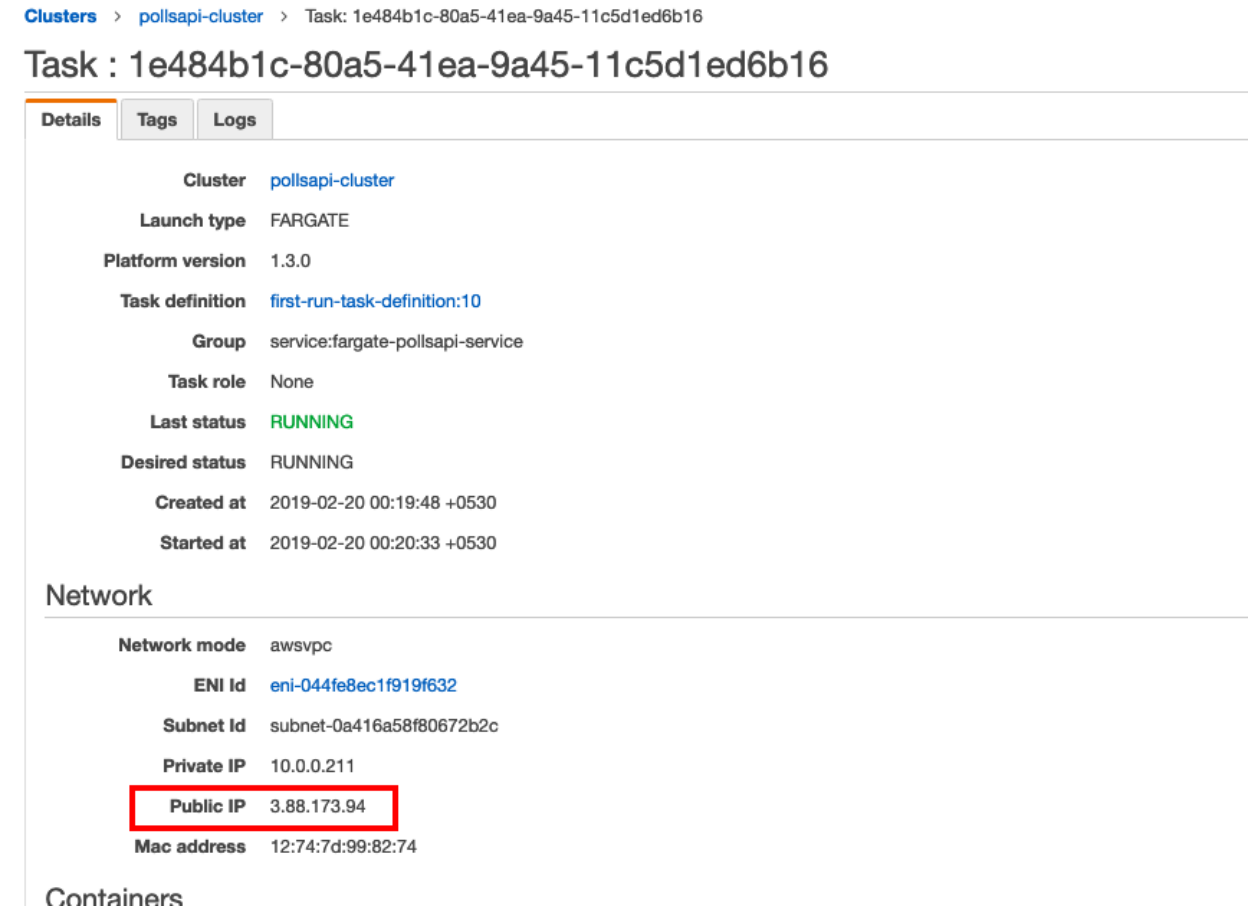
to check logs we have to go to the `logs` tab in the services page

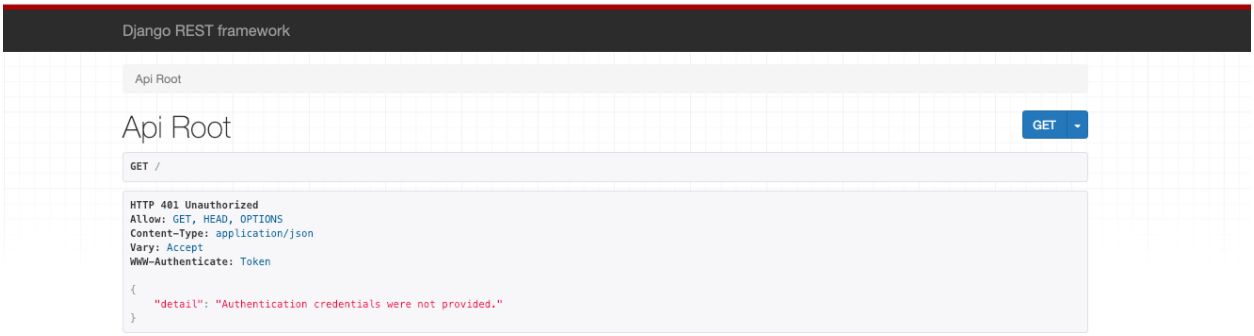
Now let us create an Aurora Serverless to link it with


Review
Review the configuration you've set up before creating your task definition, service, and cluster.
Task definition
Edit
Task definition name first-run-task-definition
Network mode awsvpc
Task execution role Create new
Container name fargate-pollsapi
Image [redacted]3.dkr.ecr.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/pollsapi-app:latest
Memory 512
Port 8800
Protocol HTTP
Service
Edit
Service name fargate-pollsapi-service
Number of desired tasks 1
Cluster
Edit
Cluster name pollsapi-cluster
VPC ID Automatically create new
Subnets Automatically create new
*Required
Cancel
Previous
Create


Getting Started with Amazon Elastic Container Service (Amazon ECS) using Fargate
Launch Status
We are creating resources for your service. This may take up to 10 minutes. When we're complete, you can view your service.
Back
View service
Enabled after service creation completes successfully
Additional features that you can add to your service after creation
Scale based on metrics
You can configure scaling rules based on CloudWatch metrics
Preparing service : 3 of 9 complete
ECS resource creation pending
Cluster pollsapi-cluster complete
Task definition first-run-task-definition:10 complete
Service pending
Additional AWS service integrations pending
Log group The log group [/ecs/first-run-task-definition] already exists complete
CloudFormation stack pending
VPC pending
Subnet 1 pending
Subnet 2 pending
Security group pending


Clusters › pollsapi-cluster › Service: fargate-pollsapi-service
Service : fargate-pollsapi-service
Update
Delete
Cluster pollsapi-cluster
Status ACTIVE
Task definition first-run-task-definition:10
Service type REPLICA
Launch type FARGATE
Platform version LATEST(1.3.0)
Service role AWSServiceRoleForECS
Desired count 1
Pending count 0
Running count 1
Details
Tasks
Events
Auto Scaling
Deployments
Metrics
Tags
Logs
Last updated on February 20, 2019 12:44:27 AM (0m ago)
Task status: Running Stopped
Filter in this page
1-1
Page size 50
Task
Task Definition
Last status
Desired status
Group
Launch type
Platform version
1e484b1c-80a5-41ea-9...
first-run-task-definition:10
RUNNING
RUNNING
service:fargate-pollsapi-...
FARGATE
1.3.0


Clusters › pollsapi-cluster › Task: 1e484b1c-80a5-41ea-9a45-11c5d1ed6b16
Task : 1e484b1c-80a5-41ea-9a45-11c5d1ed6b16
Details
Tags
Logs
Cluster pollsapi-cluster
Launch type FARGATE
Platform version 1.3.0
Task definition first-run-task-definition:10
Group service:fargate-pollsapi-service
Task role None
Last status RUNNING
Desired status RUNNING
Created at 2019-02-20 00:19:48 +0530
Started at 2019-02-20 00:20:33 +0530
Network
Network mode awsvpc
ENI Id eni-044fe8ec1f919f632
Subnet Id subnet-0a416a58f80672b2c
Private IP 10.0.0.211
Public IP 3.88.173.94
Mac address 12:74:7d:99:82:74
Containers



4.4 Setup Serverless MySQL Database

To set up Aurora serverless DB follow https://www.agiliq.com/blog/2019/01/complete-serverless-django/#setup-serverless-mysql-database

4.5 Connect Our App to MySQL DB

While creating Aurora-serverless **make sure that Fargate and Aurora are in same VPC**

To connect our Django App to aurora db, follow https://www.agiliq.com/blog/2019/01/complete-serverless-django/#connect-django-to-mysql-db

After configuring our `settings.py` file should have a similar database config

```
...

DATABASES = {
    'default': {
        'ENGINE': 'django.db.backends.mysql',
        'NAME': 'pollsdb', # dbname
        'USER': 'polls_admin', # master username
        'PASSWORD': 'pollsadmin', # master password
        'HOST': 'pollsapi-cluster.cluster-chcxxxxx.us-east-2.rds.amazonaws.com', #␣
↪Endpoint
        'PORT': '3306',
    }
}
...
```

4.5.1 Update Security Group Endpoint

Update Security Group Endpoint of Aurora and add Security Group of Fargate in the inbound rules, follow https://www.agiliq.com/blog/2019/01/complete-serverless-django/#update-security-group-endpoint

4.5.2 Setup the Database

We will write a command to create the database. To setup the database follow,

```
$ cd polls
$ mkdir management
$ cd management
$ touch __init__.py
$ mkdir commands
$ cd commands
$ touch __init__.py
$ touch create_db.py
```

```
# polls/management/commands/create_db.py
import sys
import logging
import MySQLdb

from django.core.management.base import BaseCommand, CommandError
from django.conf import settings

rds_host = 'pollsapi-cluster.cluster-chc62yjp918f.us-east-2.rds.amazonaws.com'
db_name = 'pollsdb'
user_name = 'polls_admin'
password = 'pollsadmin'
port = 3306

logger = logging.getLogger()
logger.setLevel(logging.INFO)


class Command(BaseCommand):
    help = 'Creates the initial database'

    def handle(self, *args, **options):
        print('Starting db creation')
        try:
            db = MySQLdb.connect(host=rds_host, user=user_name,
                                 password=password, db="mysql", connect_timeout=5)
            c = db.cursor()
            print("connected to db server")
            c.execute("""CREATE DATABASE pollsdb;""")
            c.execute(
                """GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON db_name.* TO 'polls_admin' IDENTIFIED BY
↪'pollsadmin';""")
            c.close()
            print("closed db connection")
        except:
            logger.error(
                "ERROR: Unexpected error: Could not connect to MySql instance.")
            sys.exit()
```

Now let us create another command to *create admin*, follow

```
$ cd polls
$ mkdir management
$ cd management
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```
$ touch __init__.py
$ mkdir commands
$ cd commands
$ touch __init__.py
$ touch create_admin_user.py
```

```
# polls/management/commands/create_admin_user.py
import sys
import logging

from django.core.management.base import BaseCommand, CommandError
from django.contrib.auth.models import User
from django.conf import settings


class Command(BaseCommand):
    help = 'Creates the initial admin user'

    def handle(self, *args, **options):
        if User.objects.filter(username="admin").exists():
            print("admin exists")
        else:
            u = User(username='admin')
            u.set_password('adminpass')
            u.is_superuser = True
            u.is_staff = True
            u.save()
            print("admin created")
        sys.exit()
```

this command will create the admin user if it does not exists

Now next create a shell script file with name `start.sh`, and write the following

```
$ touch start.sh
```

```
#!/bin/sh
python manage.py create_db
python manage.py migrate
python manage.py create_admin_user
python manage.py runserver 0.0.0.0:8800
exec "$@"
```

And give it permissions

```
$ chmod +x start.sh
```

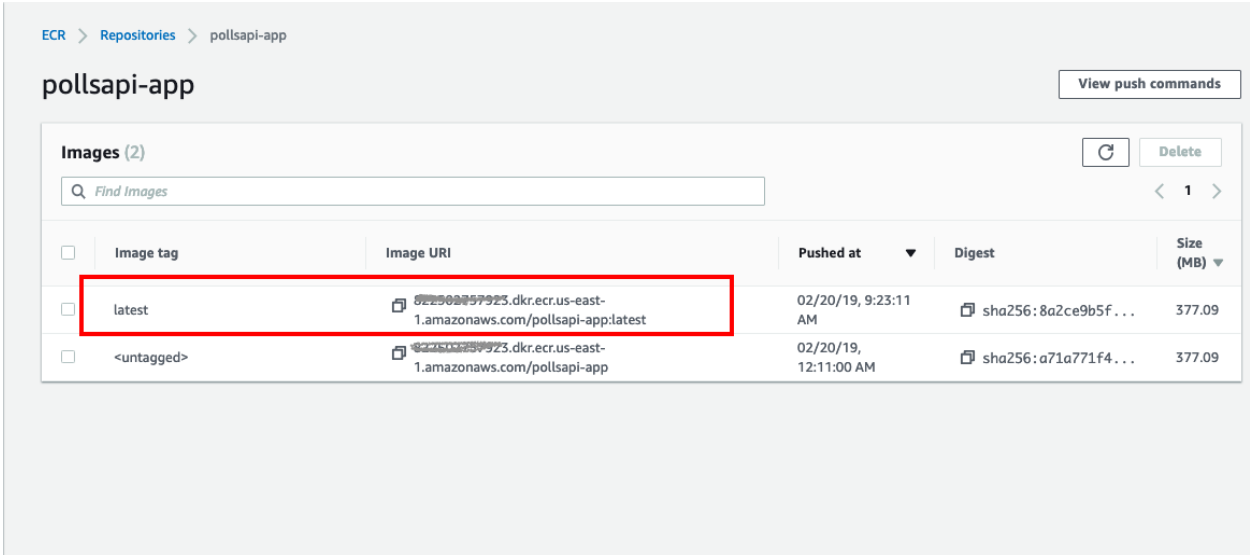
And Now update the `Dockerfile`

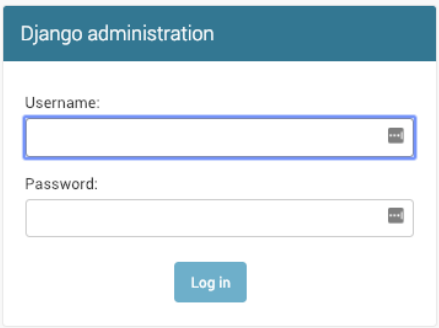
Now lets push the updated container image to ECS by following the `Push Commands`.

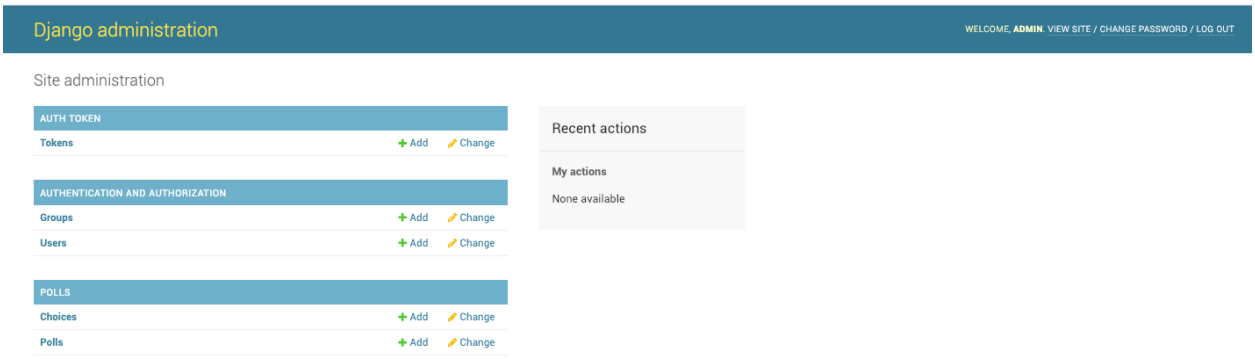
With Fargate, our containers are always started with the latest ECS image and Docker version.

Let us go to the `http://3.88.173.94:8800/admin`, we can see Now we can see that we can login and that our Database connection is established fine.

Now our Django app is running in AWS Fargate and used Aurora Serverless as the DB.


ECR > Repositories > pollsapi-app
pollsapi-app
View push commands
Images (2)
Delete
Find Images
1
Image tag
Image URI
Pushed at
Digest
Size (MB)
latest
.dkr.ecr.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/pollsapi-app:latest
02/20/19, 9:23:11 AM
sha256:8a2ce9b5f...
377.09
<untagged>
.dkr.ecr.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/pollsapi-app
02/20/19, 12:11:00 AM
sha256:a71a771f4...
377.09


Django administration
Username:
Password:
Log in


Django administration
WELCOME, ADMIN. VIEW SITE / CHANGE PASSWORD / LOG OUT
Site administration
AUTH TOKEN
Tokens
+ Add
Change
AUTHENTICATION AND AUTHORIZATION
Groups
+ Add
Change
Users
+ Add
Change
POLLS
Choices
+ Add
Change
Polls
+ Add
Change
Recent actions
My actions
None available

CHAPTER 5

Indices and tables

- genindex
- modindex
- search