How to Install gcloud on a Linux Server?

written by sysadmin | 1 February 2025

The previous articles explained how to install gcloud on Ubuntu/Debian distros and RockyLinux/AlmaLinux/CentOS distros. This article will explain how to install gcloud on Linux.

Problem

How to install gcloud on a Linux server?

Solution

If you use Linux other than the Ubuntu/Debian distro and the RockyLinux/AlmaLinux/CentOS distro, and you want to install gcloud on your Linux distro, then below are the steps (I use OpenSUSE 15 distro):

A. Install gcloud

As far as I know, there are 2 methods for installing on a Linux server, and both methods recommend using a user other than root.

1. Use the script

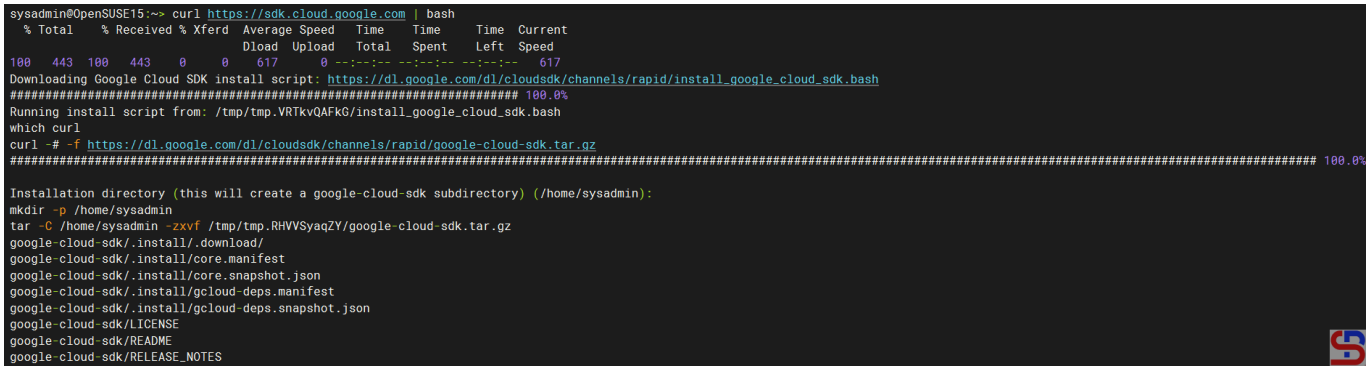
Before you install gcloud using the script, make sure there are tar and curl packages, and **Python version 3.8 and up** on your server. You can check it with the following command:

```
python3 --version
```

After that, use the following command to download and install the script:

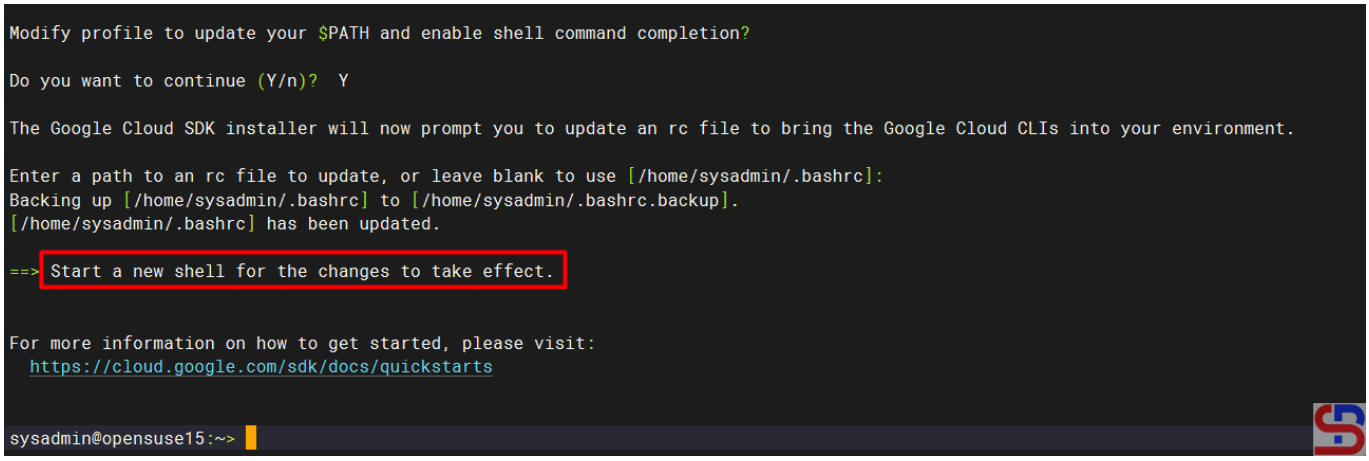
```
curl https://sdk.cloud.google.com | bash
```

Then you will see a display like the one below:



Install gcloud using the script

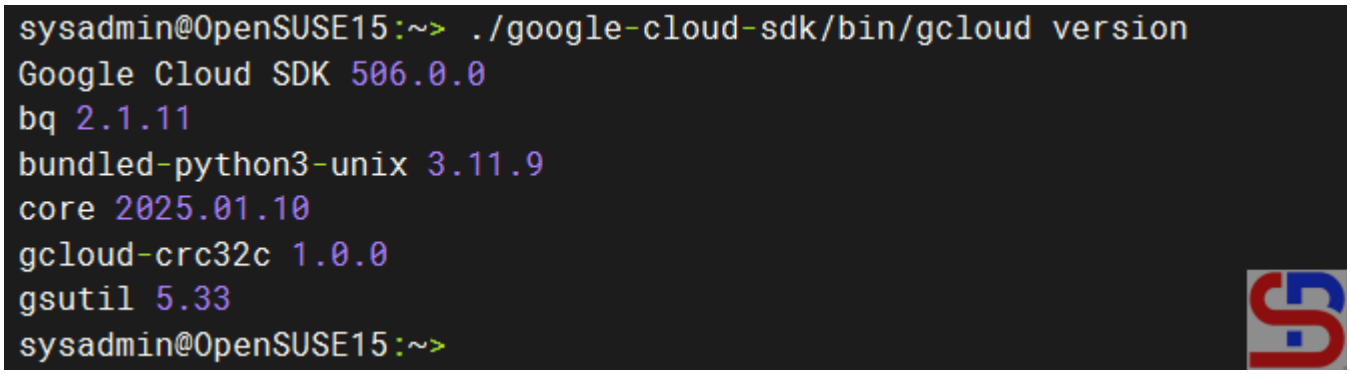
Wait until it’s finished, and you will see a display like the one below:



Installation complete

From the image above, you are asked to create a new SSH connection so that the effect can be seen, and type the command below:

```
./google-cloud-sdk/bin/gcloud version
```



Execute the gcloud version command

If you want to type the gcloud command without having to type **./google-cloud-sdk/bin/gcloud**, then run the command below:

```
echo "alias gcloud=./google-cloud-sdk/bin/gcloud" >> ~/.bashrc
source ~/.bashrc
```

Make an alias for gcloud

2. Using the installer

Run the following commands to install gcloud on your Linux server:

```
curl -O
https://dl.google.com/dl/cloudsdk/channels/rapid/downloads/google-cloud-cli-linux-x86_64.tar.gz
tar -xf google-cloud-cli-linux-x86_64.tar.gz
./google-cloud-sdk/install.sh
```

After installation completes, use the following command to test the gcloud command:

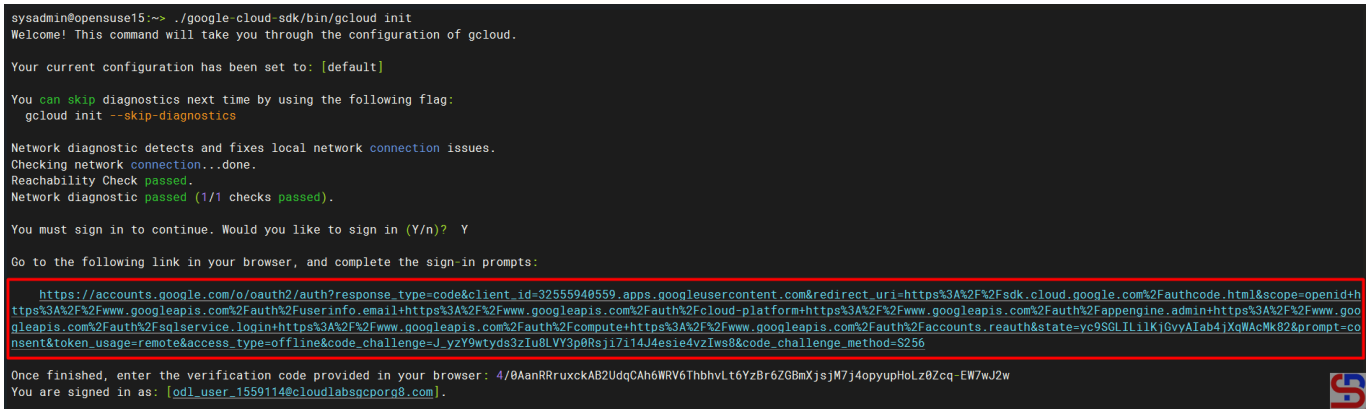
```
./google-cloud-sdk/bin/gcloud version
```

B. Connect to GCP

After you install gcloud on your server, type the command below:

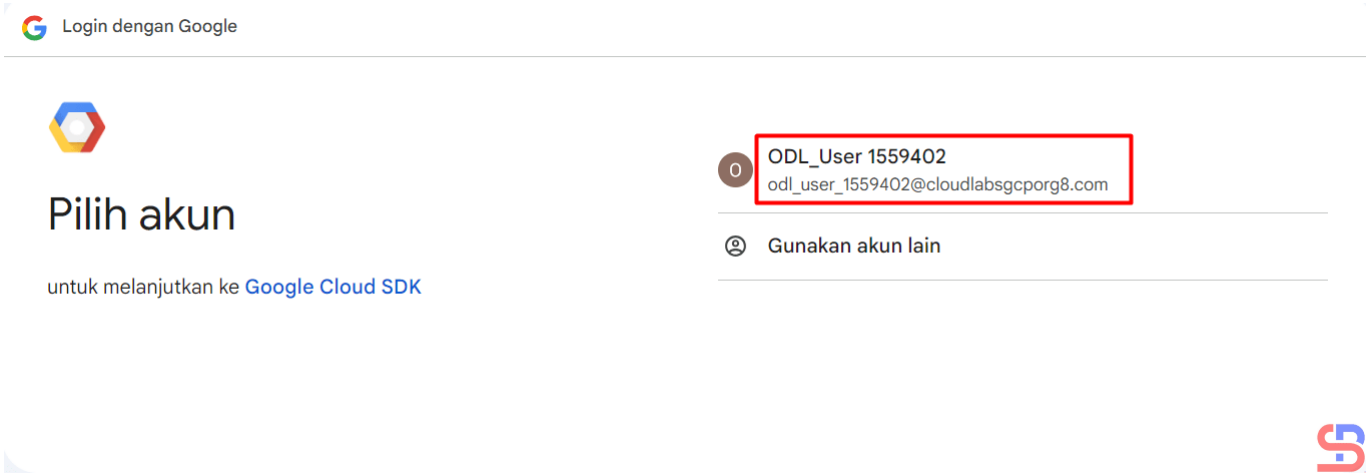
```
gcloud init
```

Then there will be a display like the image below:



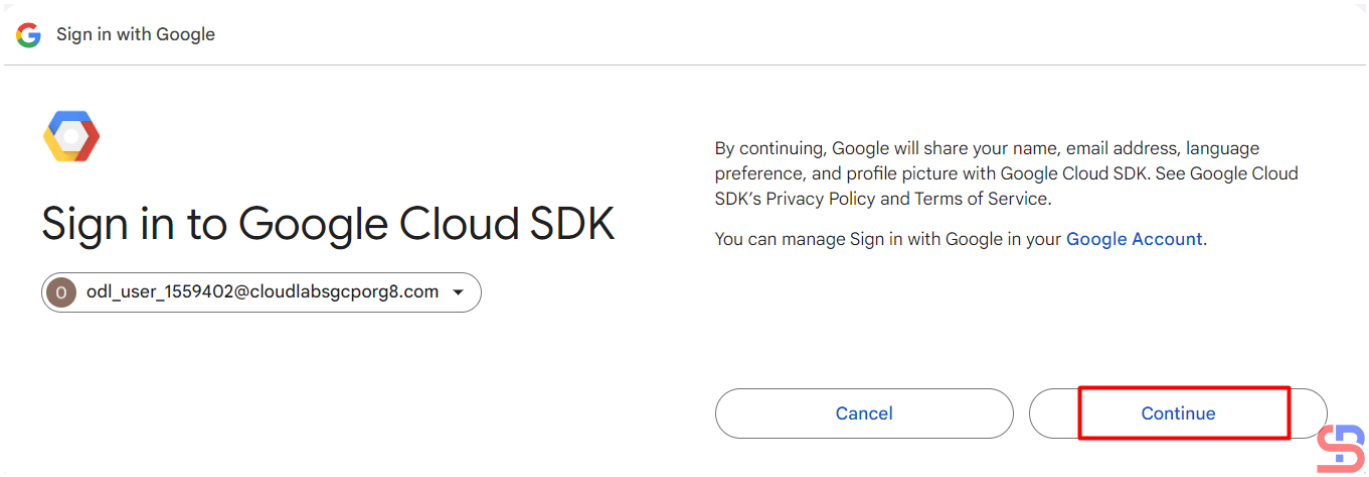
Click the link

Click the **Ctrl+Click** button in the red box to open the link in a browser, or if you have difficulty, copy what is in the red box and place it in your browser so you will see a display like the one below:



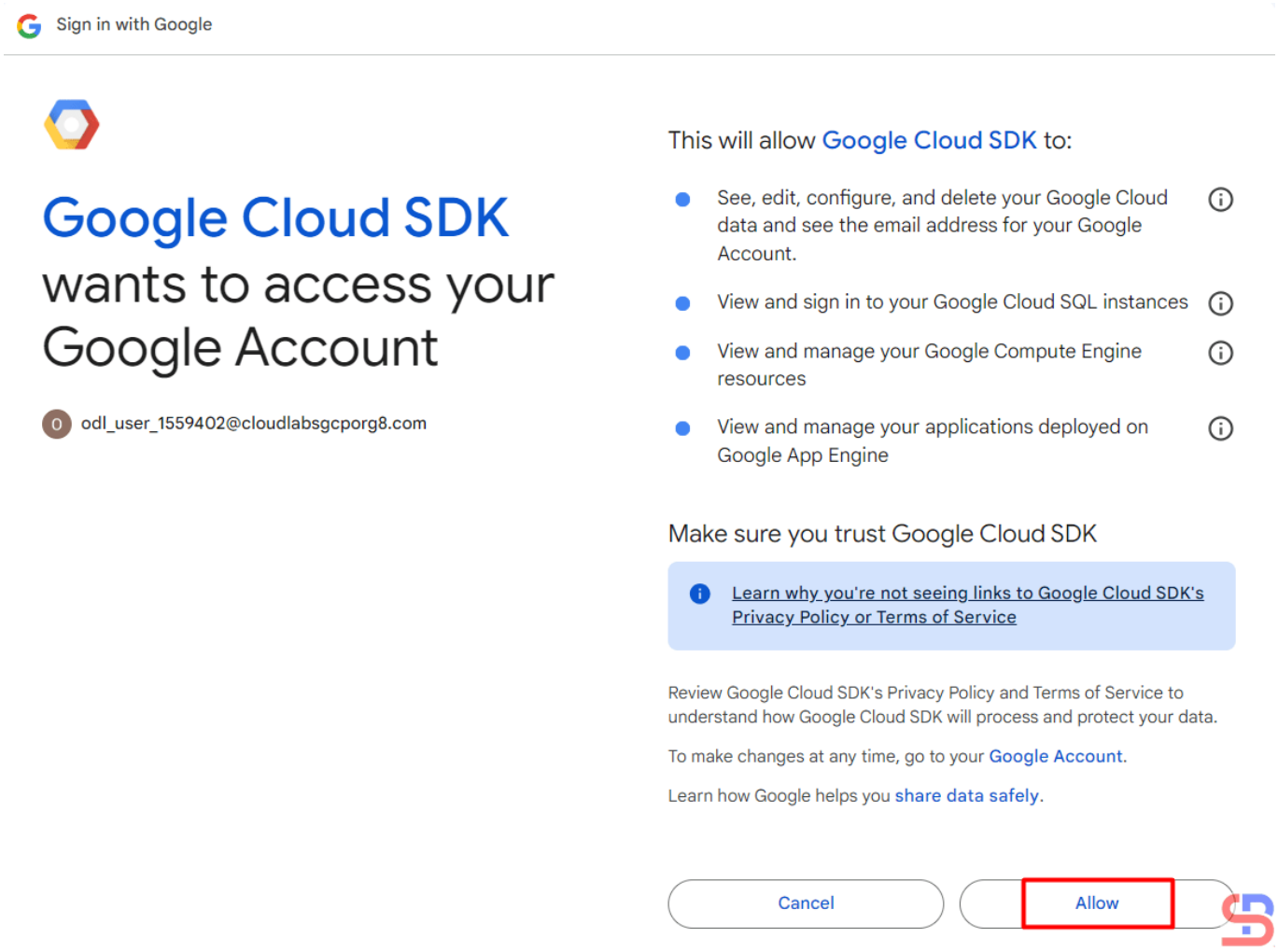
Click the account

Click on the Google account that will access GCP, then there will be a display like the image below:



Click the Continue button

Click the **Continue** button, then the display below will appear:



Click the Allow button

Click the **Allow** button, then the display below will appear:

Sign in to the gcloud CLI

You are seeing this page because you ran the following command in the gcloud CLI from this or another machine. If this is not the case, close this tab.

```
gcloud auth login --no-launch-browser
```

Enter the following verification code in gcloud CLI on the machine you want to log into. This is a credential **similar to your password** and should not be shared with others.

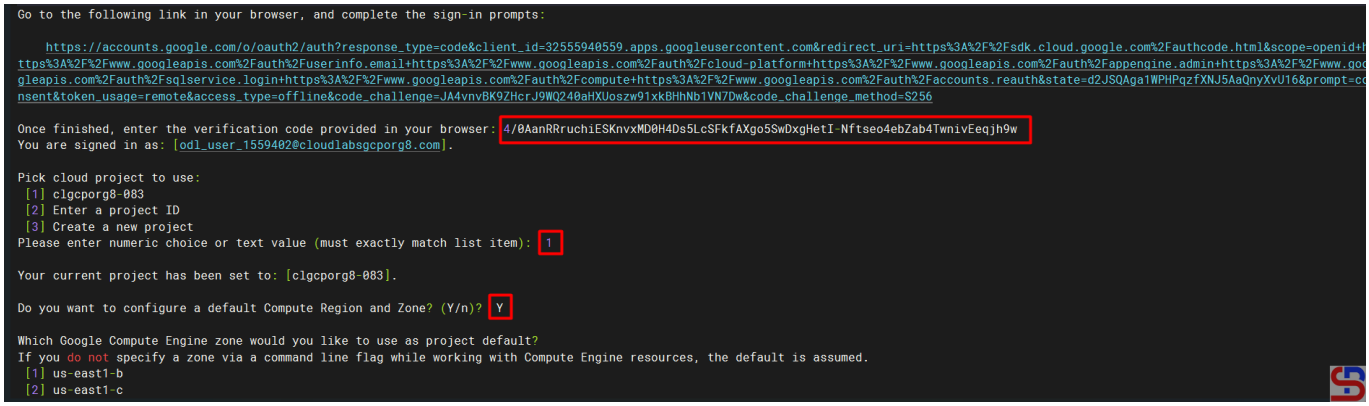
```
4/0AanRRruchiESKnvxMD0H4Ds5LcSFkfAXgo5
SwDxgHetI-Nftseo4ebZab4TwnivEeqjh9w
```

Copy

You can close this tab when you're done.

Click the Copy button

Click the **Copy** button, and paste it into the CLI on your server as in the image below:



Paste the code

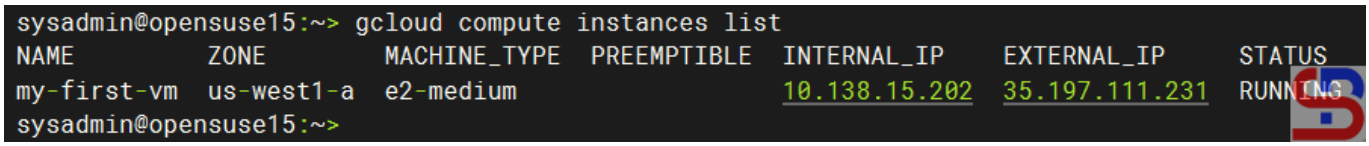
Select the project and configure the zone as in the image above. After that, the gcloud configuration is complete.

C. Test gcloud

Now, try gcloud to access your GCP. I try to list my virtual machine in GCP using the below command:

```
gcloud compute instances list
```

Then the display below will appear:



Display virtual machine in GCP using gcloud

If you get a display like the one above, you have successfully used gcloud to access your GCP.

Note

If you have many projects on your GCP, you can choose one of these projects as the starting point for your gcloud on GCP. You can switch projects using the command:

```
gcloud config set project PROJECT_ID
```

Change **PROJECT_ID** to the project ID you want to switch to.

References

cloud.google.com
liquidweb.com
bacancytechnology.com