

Information Gathering

Steps in hacking

- Information Gathering
- Exploitation
- Maintaining Access
- Clearing tracks

Steps in **pentesting**

- Information Gathering
- Exploitation
- Maintaining Access
- Clearing tracks
- Documentation
- Report writing

Why we need to know the target?

- Speed up the process of finding vulnerabilities
- Increase the chance of a successful exploitation

What do we want to know?

- Address of our target
- OS type
- Running services
- What type of service software
- Any info on the target



What do we want to know?

- Address of our target
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- Any info on the target



URL vs Internet address

- URL Uniform Resource Locater
 - For human
 - Translated to Internet Address through DNS
 - E.g. www.google.com
- Internet Address
 - For machines (and human)
 - The address being used for internet communication
 - E.g. 66.249.89.104

Internet address

- IP address
 - Internet protocol address
- Two versions

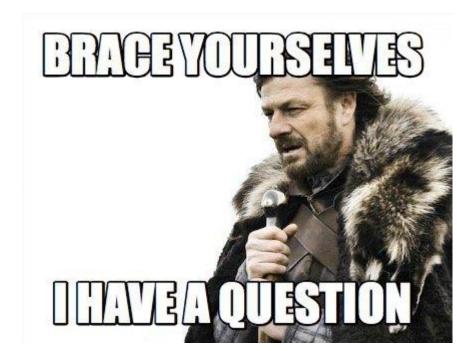
```
- IPv4 = 66.249.89.104 (decimal)
= 255.255.255.255
- IPv6 = 2001:4860:0:1001::68 (hexadecimal)
= ffff: ffff: ffff: ffff: ffff: ffff: ffff
```

IPv4

- Many forms of IPv4
 - Decimal66.249.89.104
 - Hexadecimal0x42F95968

Question

 What tool can we use to get the IP address of a host?



Favourite answer

PING

ping

- ping is a utility that sends an ICMP echo packet to usually used to check for the availability of a host
- Usage: ping <host>
- Example:

ping www.google.com

ping in action

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\Owner>ping www.google.com
Pinging www.l.google.com [66.249.89.104] with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 66.249.89.104: bytes=32 time=94ms TTL=51
Reply from 66.249.89.104: bytes=32 time=87ms TTL=51
Reply from 66.249.89.104: bytes=32 time=88ms TTL=51
Reply from 66.249.89.104: bytes=32 time=88ms TTL=51
Ping statistics for 66.249.89.104:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 87ms, Maximum = 94ms, Average = 89ms
C:\Users\Owner>
```

ping pros & cons

Pros:

- Easy to use
- Available on all platforms (built-in tool)

• Cons:

- Cannot change default nameserver (within the tool)
- Some server might block ICMP echo packets
- Might only get partial result

Tools to check IP address

- nslookup
- host
- dig



nslookup

- Usage: nslookup <host> [dns-server]
- Examples:

```
nslookup www.google.com
nslookup www.google.com 8.8.8.8
```

nslookup in action

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\Owner>nslookup www.google.com
Server: ns2.utm.my
Address: 161.139.16.2
Server:
Non-authoritative answer:
DNS request timed out.
    timeout was 2 seconds.
Name: www.l.google.com
Addresses: 66.249.89.99
           66.249.89.104
Aliases:
           www.google.com
C:\Users\Owner>_
```

nslookup in action (cont.)

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\Owner>nslookup www.google.com 8.8.8.8
Server: google-public-dns-a.google.com
Address: 8.8.8.8
Non-authoritative answer:
         www.l.google.com
Name:
Addresses: 209.85.175.147
          209.85.175.99
          209.85.175.104
          209.85.175.106
          209.85.175.103
          209.85.175.105
Aliases:
          www.google.com
C:\Users\Owner>_
```

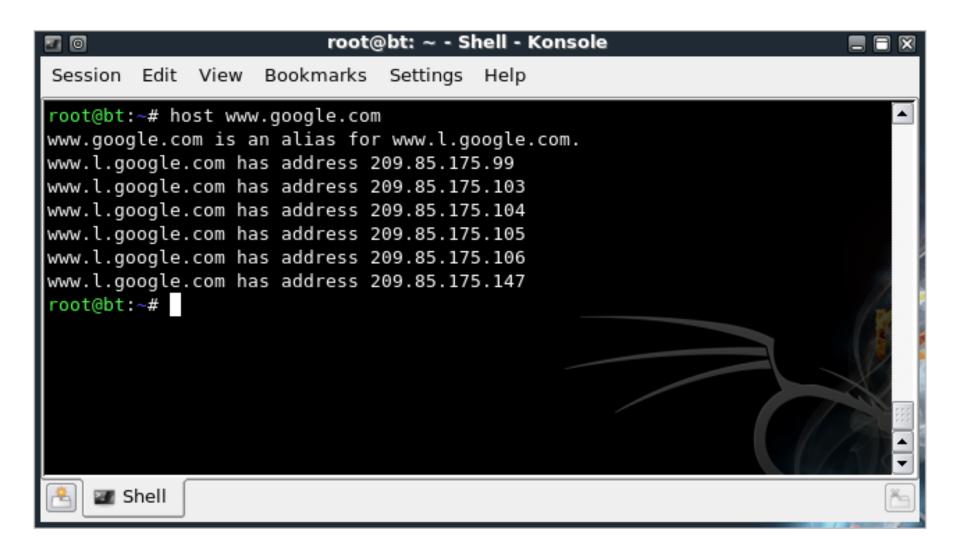
host

- Usage: host <host> [dns-server]
- Examples:

```
host www.google.com
```

host www.google.com 8.8.8.8

host in action

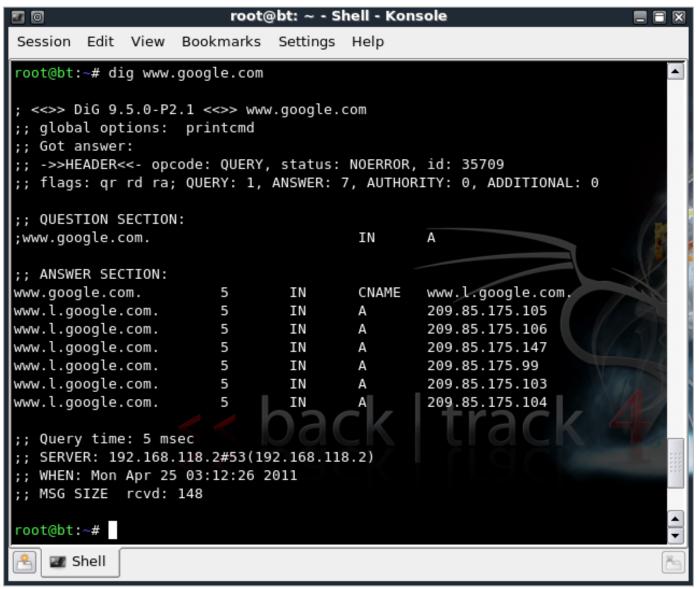


dig

- Usage: dig [host] [@dns-server]
- Examples:

```
dig www.google.com dig www.google.com @8.8.8.8
```

dig in action



Which tool to use?

- Depends on availability and personal preference
- Suggestion:
 - -ping NOT RECOMMENDED !
 - Go for nslookup / host / dig

What do we want to know?

- Address of our target
- OS type
- Running services
- Exact version of software
- Any info on the target



Operating Systems

- OS Software that runs/manages the computer and its services
- Different OS uses different sets of command and may do things differently
- Example:
 - Show list of files:
 - 1s = linux/unix
 - dir = windows

ls vs dir

```
root@bt: / - Shell - Konsole
Session Edit View
                   Bookmarks Settings Help
root@bt:/# ls
                                                   vmlinuz
            initrd.img media pentest
bin
            lib
boot
                               proc
                                        srv
cdrom home lost+found opt
                               root
                                        sys
root@bt:/#
    Shell
```

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
C:\>dir
Volume in drive C is System
 Volume Serial Number is 9002-5611
 Directory of C:\
                                    1.024 .rnd
08/03/2011
            10:47 PM
            05:42 AM
11/06/2009
                                       24 autoexec.bat
11/06/2009
            05:42 AM
                                       10 config.sys
Downloads
15/04/2011
             04:06 PM
                          <DIR>
14/07/2009
             10:37 AM
                          <DIR>
                                          PerfLogs
             02:45 PM
                                          Program Files
21/04/2011
                          <DIR>
04/03/2011
             04:26 PM
                          <DIR>
                                          Users
08/03/2011
             10:49 PM
                          <DIR>
                                          UMware
                          <DIR>
08/03/2011
            11:42 PM
                                          WinDDK
26/04/2011
            10:02 AM
                          <DIR>
                                          Windows
                            1,058 bytes
6,293,090,304 bytes free
                3 File(s)
                7 Dir(s)
```

Why we need to know the OS?

- Lets say that we found a vulnerability in a system that allows us to execute commands on the remote OS
- We send the command:

```
net user hacker 123456 /add
```

- However, we scratch our head wondering why the command didn't work
- Hint: The target is a linux machine

Tools to OS fingerprinting

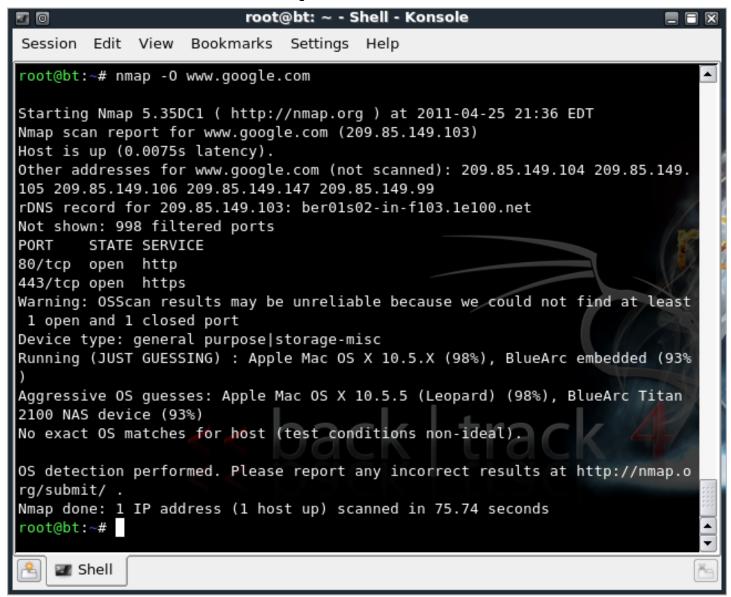
- nmap
- xprobe2

nmap

- nmap network mapper
- a multipurpose tool for OS detection, port scanning, & service software detection
- Option -O (capital 'O') is for OS detection
- Usage: nmap [options] <host>
- Example:

nmap -0 www.google.com

nmap in action

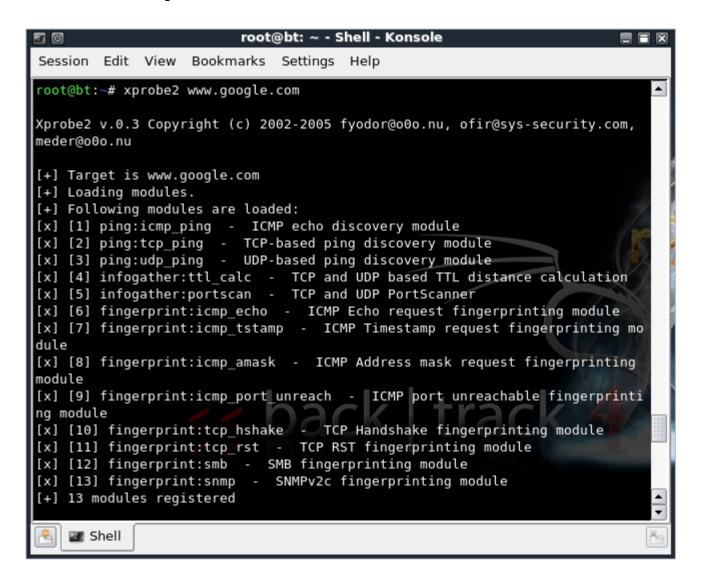


xprobe2

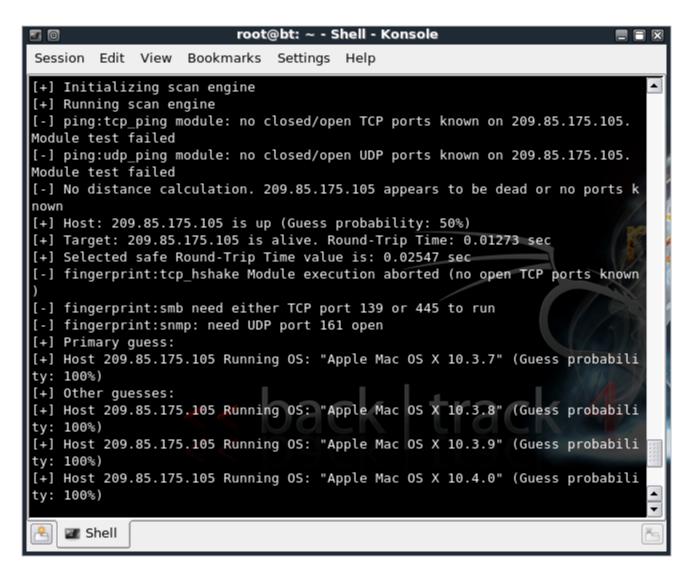
- xprobe2 is an OS fingerprinting tool
- uses multiple approaches for OS detection
- Usage: xprobe2 <host>
- Example:

xprobe2 www.google.com

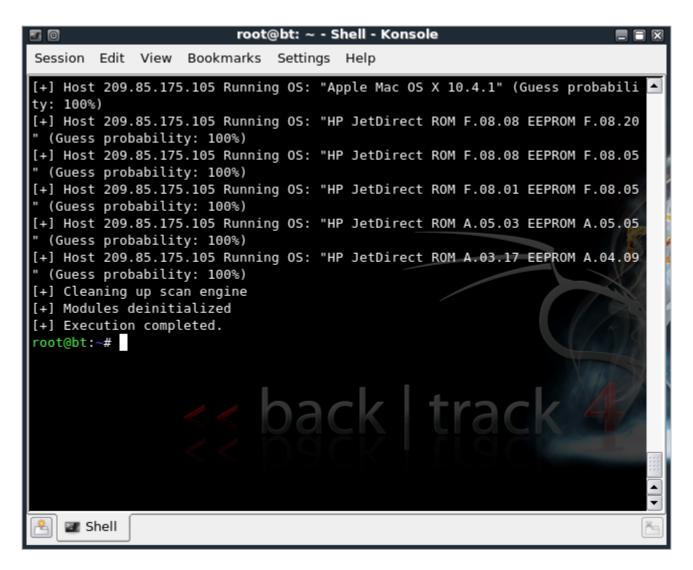
xprobe2 in action



xprobe2 in action (cont.)



xprobe2 in action (cont.)



nmap vs xprobe2

- nmap output is a lot cleaner, less info
- xprobe2 spills out tons of info, most of it about it's configuration
- Suggestion:
 - Go for nmap

What do we want to know?

- Address of our target
- OS type
- Running services
- Exact version of software
- Any info on the target



What are services?

- Services as the name implies what the computer can do for you
- Runs at a particular port address (number)
- Example:

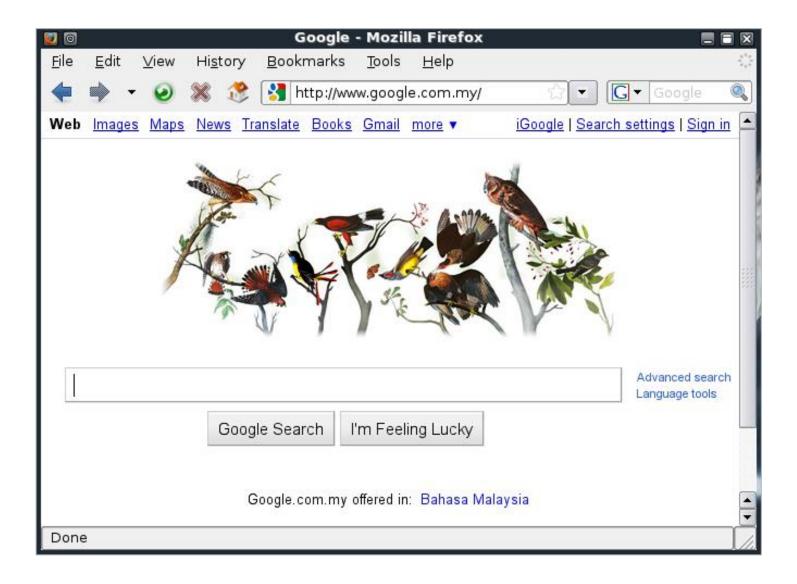
- http : 80

- https : 443

- ftp : 20 & 21 (for active mode)

- MySQL: 3306

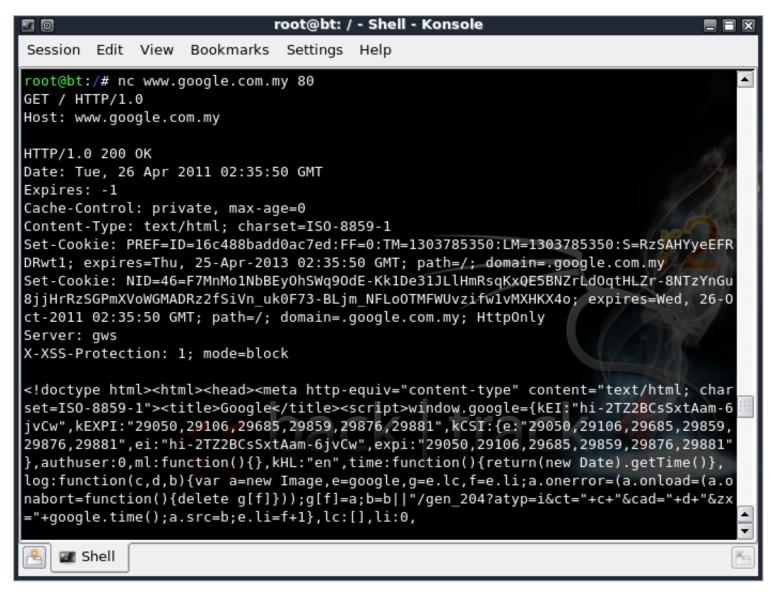
Normal access to http service



View source

```
Source of: http://www.google.com.my/ - Mozilla Firefox
                                                                                     Edit View Help
File
</doctype html><html><head><meta http-equiv="content-type" content="text/html;</pre>
charset=UTF-8"><title>Google</title><script>window.google={kEI:"OC-
2TZXrK82rrAeQh42KAq", kEXPI: "17259, 23756, 24878, 27400, 27495, 29050, 29106, 29432, 29680, 29685,
e: 17259, 23756, 24878, 27400, 27495, 29050, 29106, 29432, 29680, 29685, 29822, 29876, 29881", ei: "0
2TZXrK82rrAeQh42KAg",expi: "17259,23756,24878,27400,27495,29050,29106,29432,29680,29685,2
{},pageState:"#",kHL:"en",time:function(){return(new Date).getTime()},
log:function(c,d,b){var a=new Image,e=qoogle,q=e.lc,f=e.li;a.onerror=(a.onload=
(a.onabort=function(){delete q[f]}));q[f]=a;b=b||"/qen 204?atyp=i&ct="+c+"&cad="+d+"&
zx="+google.time();a.src=b;e.li=f+l},lc:[],li:0,j:{en:1,l:function()
{google.fl=true},e:function(){google.fl=true},b:location.hash&&
location.hash!="#",bv:ll,pl:[],mc:0,sc:0.5,u:"c9c9l8f0"},
Toolbelt:{}}; (function(){var c=google.j; window.onpopstate=function(){c.psc=l}; for(var
d=0,b;b=["ad","bc","is","p","pa","ac","pc","pah","ph","sa","slp","spf","xx","zc","zz"]
[d++];)(function(a){c[a]=function(){c.pl.push([a,arguments])}})(b)})();
window.google.sn="webhp";var i=window.google.timers=
{}; window.google.startTick=function(a,b){i[a]={t:{start:(new Date).getTime()},bfr:!
(!b)}}; window.google.tick=function(a,b,c){if(!i[a])google.startTick(a);
i[a].t[b]=c||(new
Date).getTime()};google.startTick("load",true);try{window.google.pt=window.gtbExternal&&
window.gtbExternal.pageT();
}catch(v){}
</script><style id=gstyle>body{margin:0}#gog{padding:3px 8px 0}td{line-
height: .8em}.gac m td{line-height:17px}form{margin-bottom:20px}body,td,a,p,.h{font-
family:arial,sans-serif}.h{color:#36c}.q{color:#00c}.ts td{padding:0}.ts{border-
collapse:collapse}em{font-weight:bold;font-
style:normal}.lst{height:25px;width:496px}.ds{border-bottom:solid lpx #e7e7e7;border-
<u>riabt.colid lov #070707.dicplay. maz inlina bay.dicplay.inlina black.margin.?nv 0.</u>
                                                                                     4 F
```

Manual access to http service



Tools to scan for services

- nmap
 - Scans for open ports
- amap
 - Scans services on nonstandard ports

nmap scan options

(-sX)

Unreliable

Soooo many scan options:

```
- TCP
```

```
    TCP Connect Scan (-sT)
```

— UDP

nmap: which one to choose?

- TCP port scanning
 - Fast scan (but noisy): TCP connect
 - Stealthy (but very slow) : SYN scan

- UDP port scanning
 - UDP scan (no other options)

nmap usage

- Usage: nmap [options] <host>
- Example:
 - TCP Connect scan

nmap -sT www.google.com

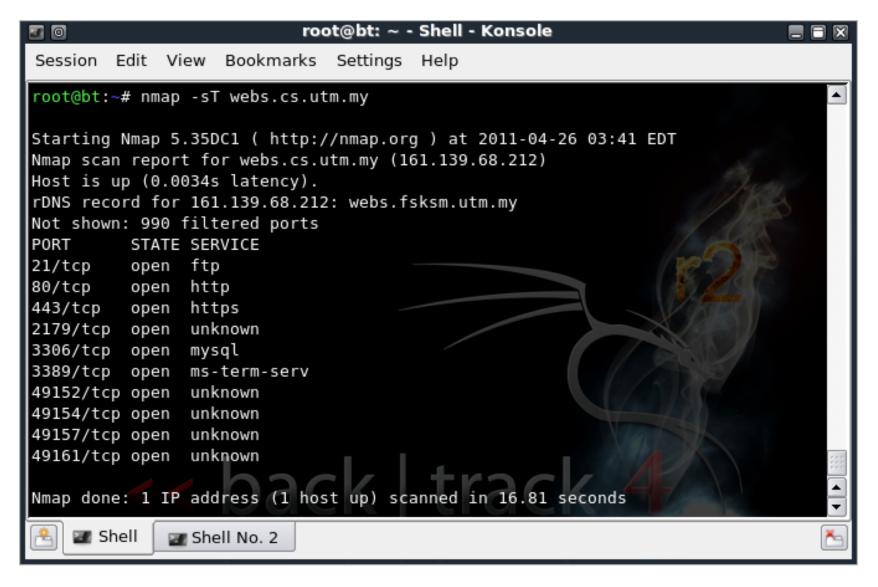
SYN scan

nmap -sS www.google.com

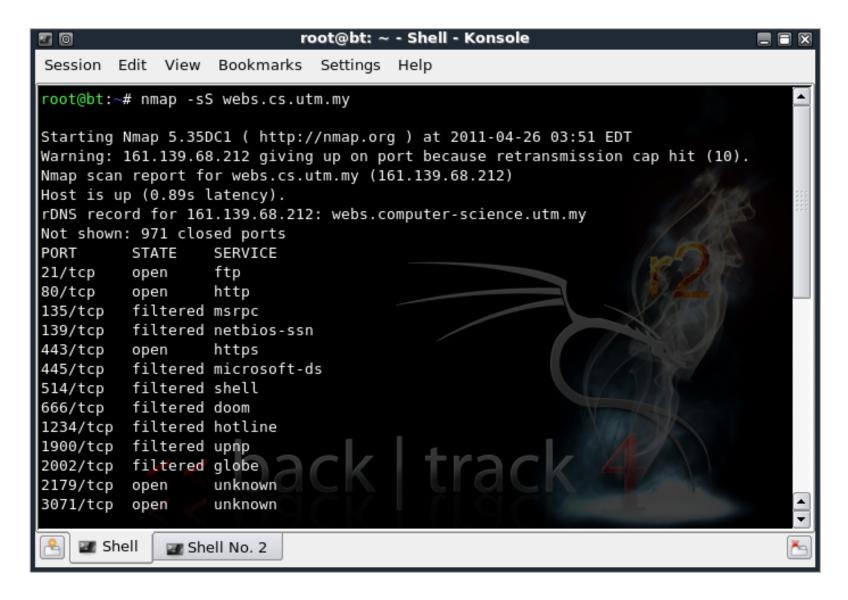
UDP scan

nmap -sU www.google.com

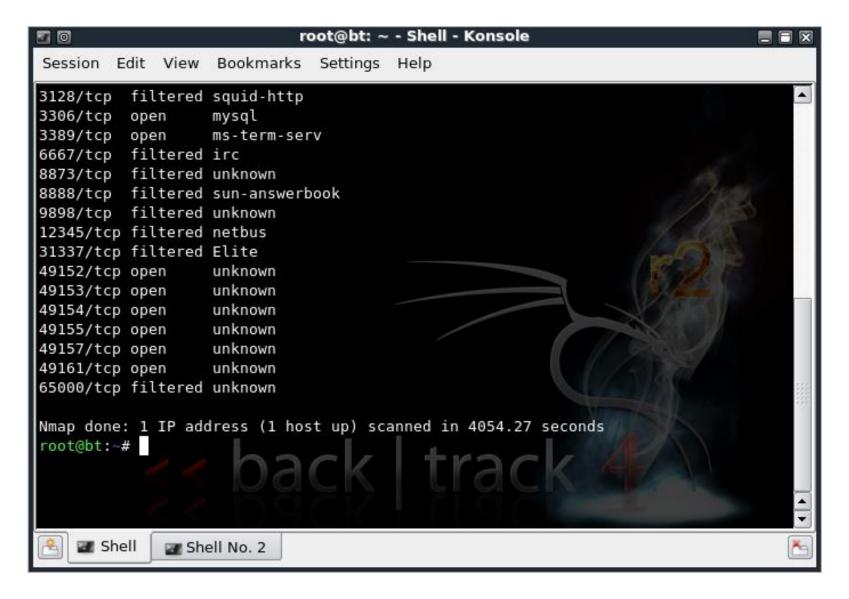
nmap TCP connect scan



nmap SYN scan



nmap SYN scan (cont.)

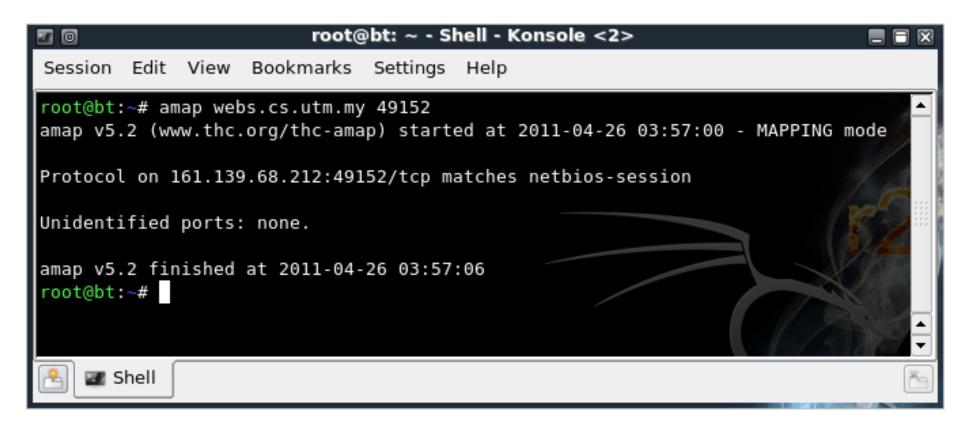


amap

- nmap scans sometimes resulted in a number of unknown ports
- These ports can be examined further by using amap
- Usage: amap <host> <port>
- Example:

amap webs.cs.utm.my 49152

amap scan



What do we want to know?

- Address of our target
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But why?

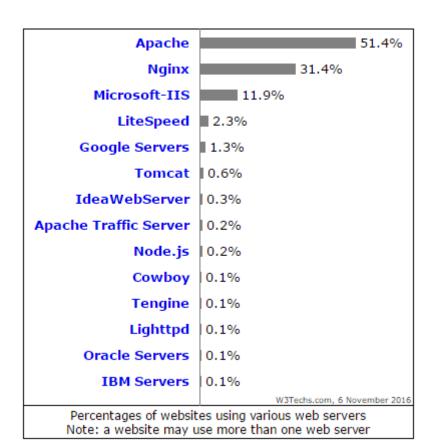
Enables faster identification of known or 0-day vulnerabilities



Service and Software

Service	Software
	Apache
HTTP	IIS
	nginx
	lighttpd
	FileZilla
FTP	ProFTPD
	Wu-ftpd

Usage share of webserver



Server (software)

- Different server (software) does things differently
- Some are cross platform (e.g. Apache),
 some are not (e.g. IIS)
- It is important to identify it because we can understand:
 - how it works
 - how to exploit it!

Service software detection tool

Automated:

```
- nmap (scan option: -sV)
```

Manual:

```
- nc / telnet (text based services)
```

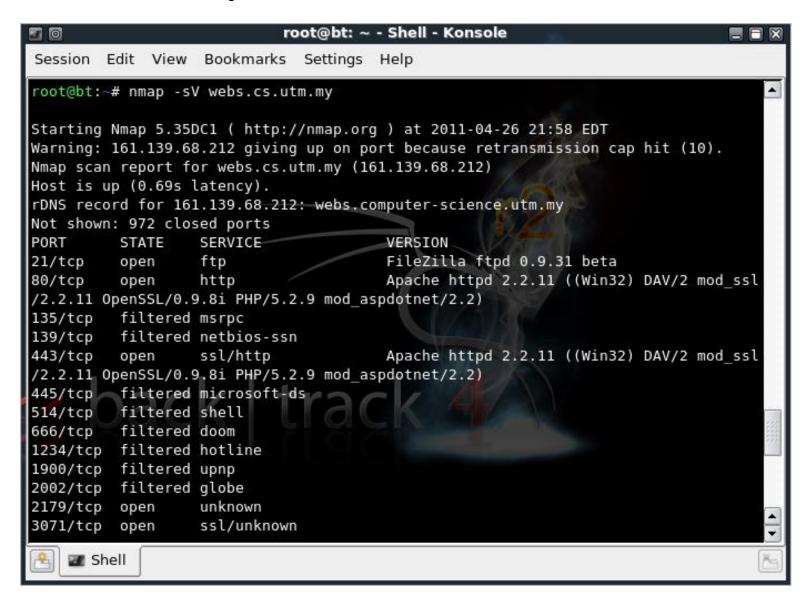
- openss1 (text based services + SSL)

Using nmap for service detection

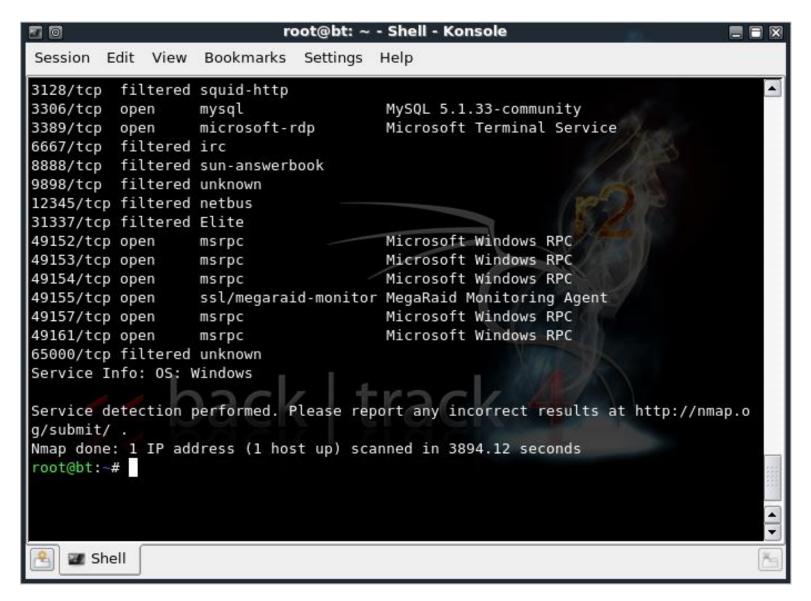
- Command: nmap –sV <host>
- Example:

nmap -sV www.google.com

nmap service detection



nmap service detection (cont.)



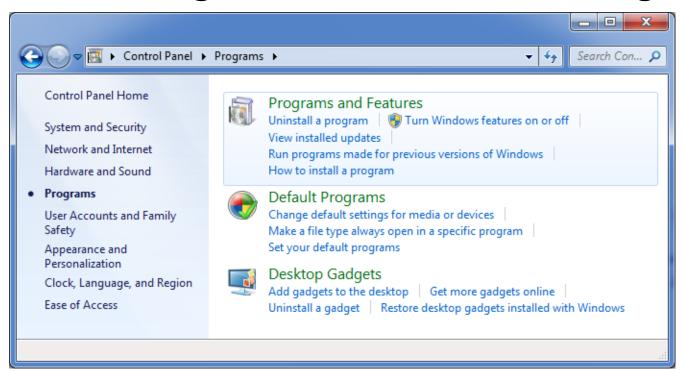
nc

- nc (netcat) is available by default in popular linux distributions
- netcat command: nc <host> <port>
- Example:

nc www.google.com 80

telnet

- telnet is not available by default in Windows Vista, Windows 2008 and Windows 7
- To enable it, go to Control Panel -> Programs

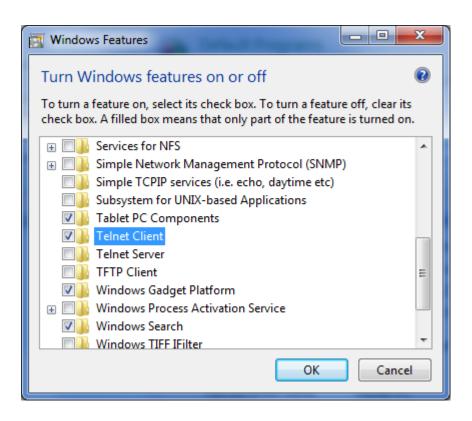


telnet (cont.)

Click on 'Turn Windows features on or off'

Check on 'Telnet Client' and click 'OK' and

restart your PC.



telnet (cont.)

- telnet usage: telnet <host> <port>
- Example:

telnet www.google.com 80

nc or telnet

- nc has a lot more features than telnet
- Both will do for banner grabbing

Banner grabbing

 Banner grabbing – grabbing a service software greeting info (banner)

 Service software usually greets newly connected clients by displaying a banner with useful information (for hackers of course!)

 Service software banner is normally not shown in client application

Banner grabbing

- Banner info may include:
 - OS type
 - Service Software name
 - Service Software version
 - Local time information

HTTP banner grabbing

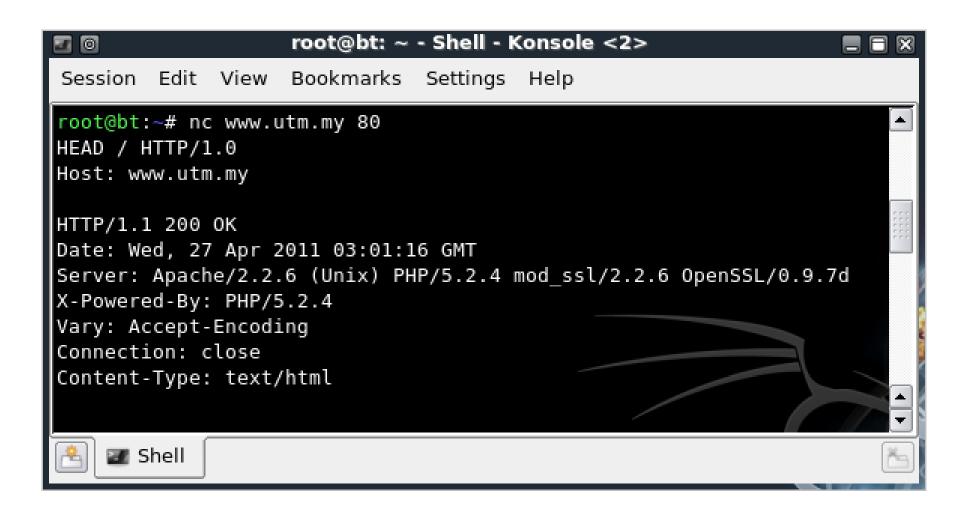
• Example:

```
nc www.google.com 80 4 HEAD / HTTP/1.0 4 Host: www.google.com 4 4
```

or

```
telnet www.google.com 80 
HEAD / HTTP/1.0 
Host: www.google.com
```

HTTP banner grabbing (cont.)



HTTPS banner grabbing using nc?

- HTTPS is different from HTTP
 - Uses SSL for encrypted communication
 - Runs on port 443
- nc cannot be used since it only supports plain text communication (no SSL support)
- Time for a new tool openss1

OpenSSL for banner grabbing

• Usage:

```
openssl s_client -connect <host>:<port>
```

Example:

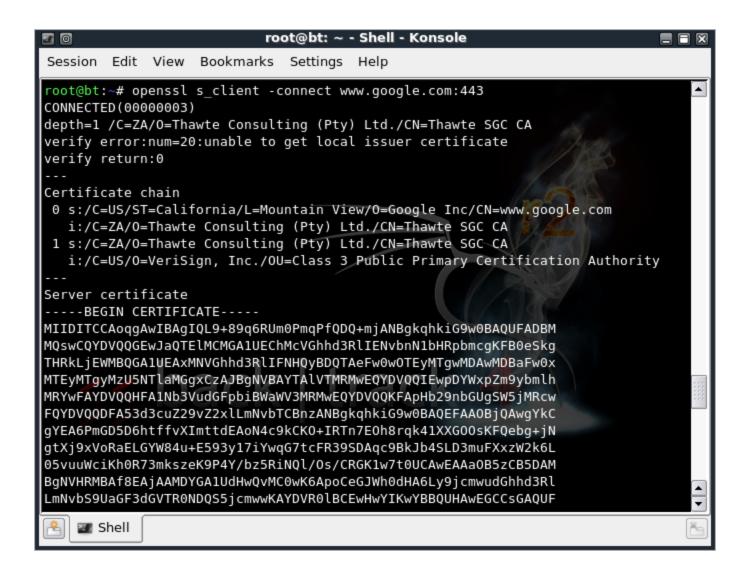
```
openssl s client -connect www.google.com:443
```

HTTPS banner grabbing

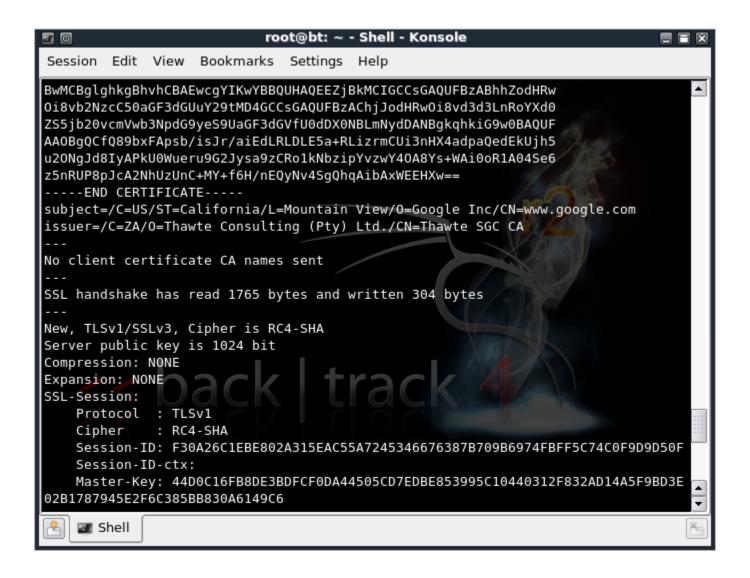
Example:

```
openssl s_client -connect www.google.com:443 HEAD / HTTP/1.0 Host: www.google.com
```

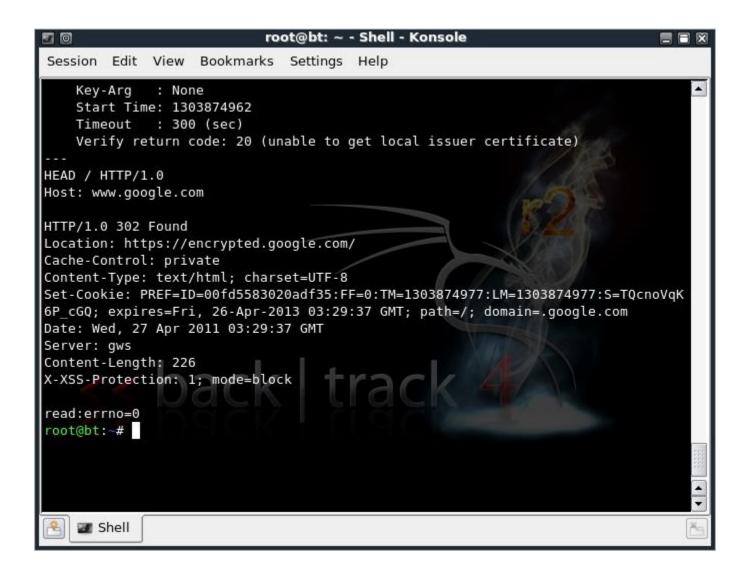
HTTPS banner grabbing (cont.)



HTTPS banner grabbing (cont.)



HTTPS banner grabbing (cont.)



nmap vs nc/telnet/openssl

nmap

- Easier to use
- Very noisy (not stealthy)
- Could be very slooow

nc/telnet

- Need to understand target protocol
- Could be stealthy (if we faking a particular client)
- Superfast!

What do we want to know?

- Address of our target
- OS type
- Running services
- Exact version of software
- Any info on the target



More info?

- We already know
 - Server IP address
 - OS type
 - Running service
 - Service Software

Isn't that enough already? NO

More info = better chance

- Additional ways to get information
 - Google
 - Error messages
 - Directory brute force

Google for hacking?

 Google hacking - the art of explicit google searching using advanced keywords (dork)

Useful advanced search keywords:

```
o site: = search within this website
```

o ext: = file extension to search for

oinurl: = word is in the URL

o intitle: = word is in the title page

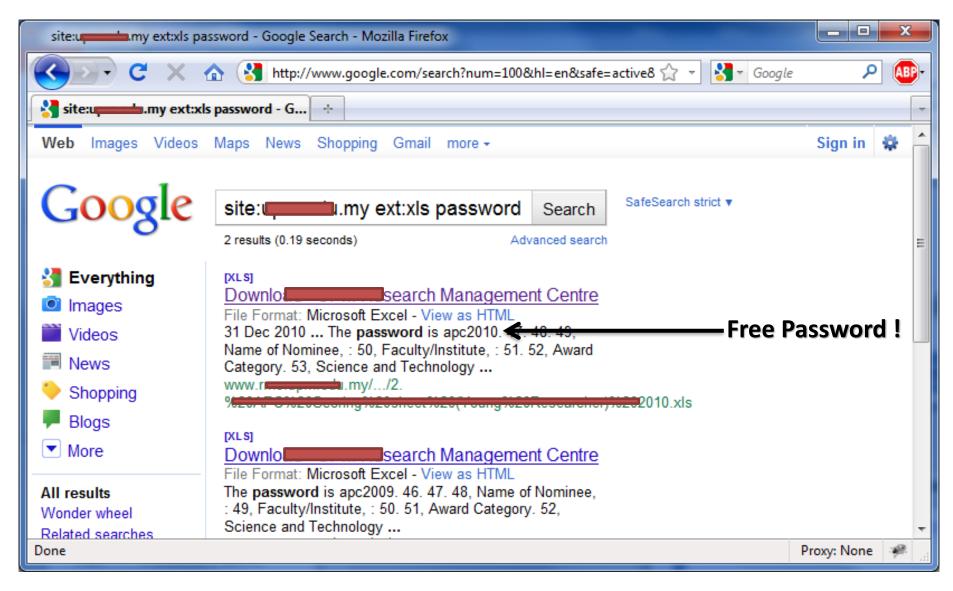
Google hacking

 Scenario: searching website.com for an excel file (XLS) that contains password

• Example:

```
site:website.com ext:xls password
```

Google hacking example



More dorks

Searching for login page
 site:website.com inurl:login.php

Searching for certain pattern (e.g. &controller)
 site:website.com inurl:&controller

Error message?

- Error message is a hacker's best friend
- Common methods to cause an error in web applications:
 - Invoking invalid URLs
 - Modifying GET/POST parameter
 - Modifying cookie values

Will be covered in later chapters Insya-Allah

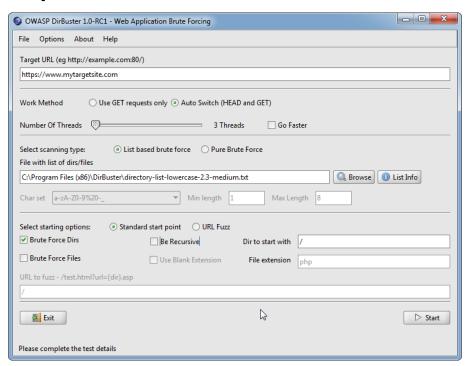
Invoking invalid URLs

Example: http://abc.com/<type anything>

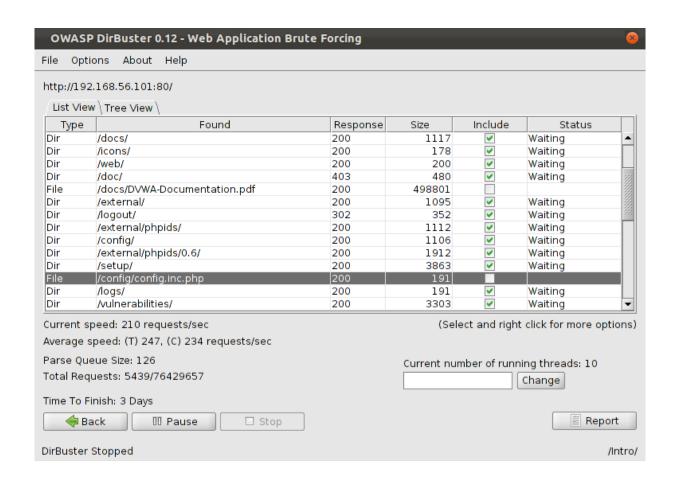


Directory brute forcing

- Find directories which are not referred to by any web page links
- Tool example: DirBuster



DirBuster sample output



Done?

- Information gathering is an art
- Techniques for information gathering evolve with technology
- Hackers will always try to find clever ways to gather enough information for an attack
- Never stop learning!

Thank you!

Appendix A

Proxy

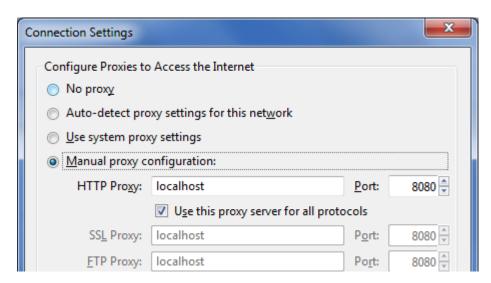
Paros

- Paros is a web proxy
- By default, listens (run) at localhost (127.0.0.1) at port 8080
- How to use:
 - Configure browser to use proxy
 (HTTP Proxy: localhost) (Port: 8080)
 - 2. Browse target website using the browser

Browser proxy configuration

Firefox

- (On Windows) Tools -> Options -> Advanced -> Network -> Settings
- (On Linux) Edit -> Preferences -> Advanced -> Network -> Settings



Paros in operation

