I. Experimental Objective

To build a Nebula-based overlay network, enabling devices behind different NAT networks to establish secure and direct connections through a public Lighthouse server, and to test its connectivity and usability.

II. Experimental Environment and Topology

Node 1 (Lighthouse): Cloud server (Ubuntu 22.04.5 LTS), IP: 104.243.20.247, Virtual IP: 192.168.100.1

Node 2 (Client): Personal Windows PC, Virtual IP: 192.168.100.135

Network topology: Star structure, all nodes register and coordinate with Lighthouse as the center.

III. Main Steps and Key Commands

Environment Preparation: Download and extract the Nebula for Windows version on the Windows client.

Certificate Configuration: Use the ca.crt, your_name.crt, and your_name.key provided by the instructor for identity authentication.

Configuration File Modification: Correctly configure config.yaml, specifying the public IP and port of Lighthouse.

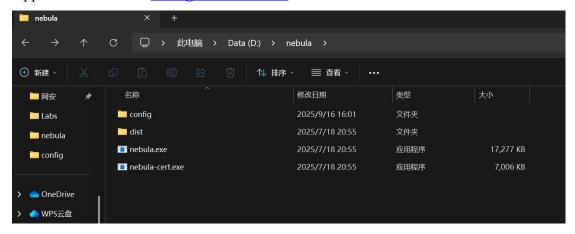
Driver Installation: Install the TAP-Windows virtual network card driver to create a virtual network interface for Nebula.

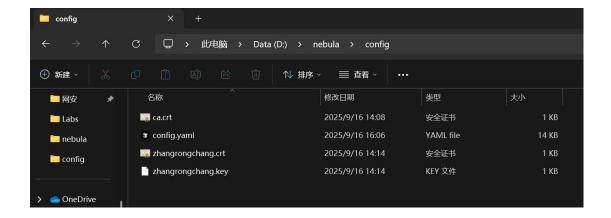
Starting the Connection: Run .\nebula.exe -config \config\config.yaml on the client to start the Nebula service.

Connectivity Test:

ICMP Test: ping 192.168.100.1

Application Test: ssh nuist@192.168.100.1





IV. Experimental Results and Analysis

Result: The experiment was successful. The client was able to ping Lighthouse through the Nebula overlay network and successfully establish an SSH remote connection.

Analysis:

The experimental results show that Nebula effectively penetrated the client's NAT and established a secure P2P tunnel with Lighthouse. The successful SSH connection verified the stability and practicality of the Nebula network, which is sufficient to carry real network applications. The key success factors of this experiment lie in: correct certificate configuration, opening of the Lighthouse firewall port, and correct installation of the TAP driver.

V. Conclusion

Through this experiment, we successfully verified that Nebula, as a software-defined network (SDN) tool, can quickly and securely build overlay networks, solve the interconnection and intercommunication problems in complex network environments, and has high practical value.