Project Name: **Creating a Secure Hacking Lab**

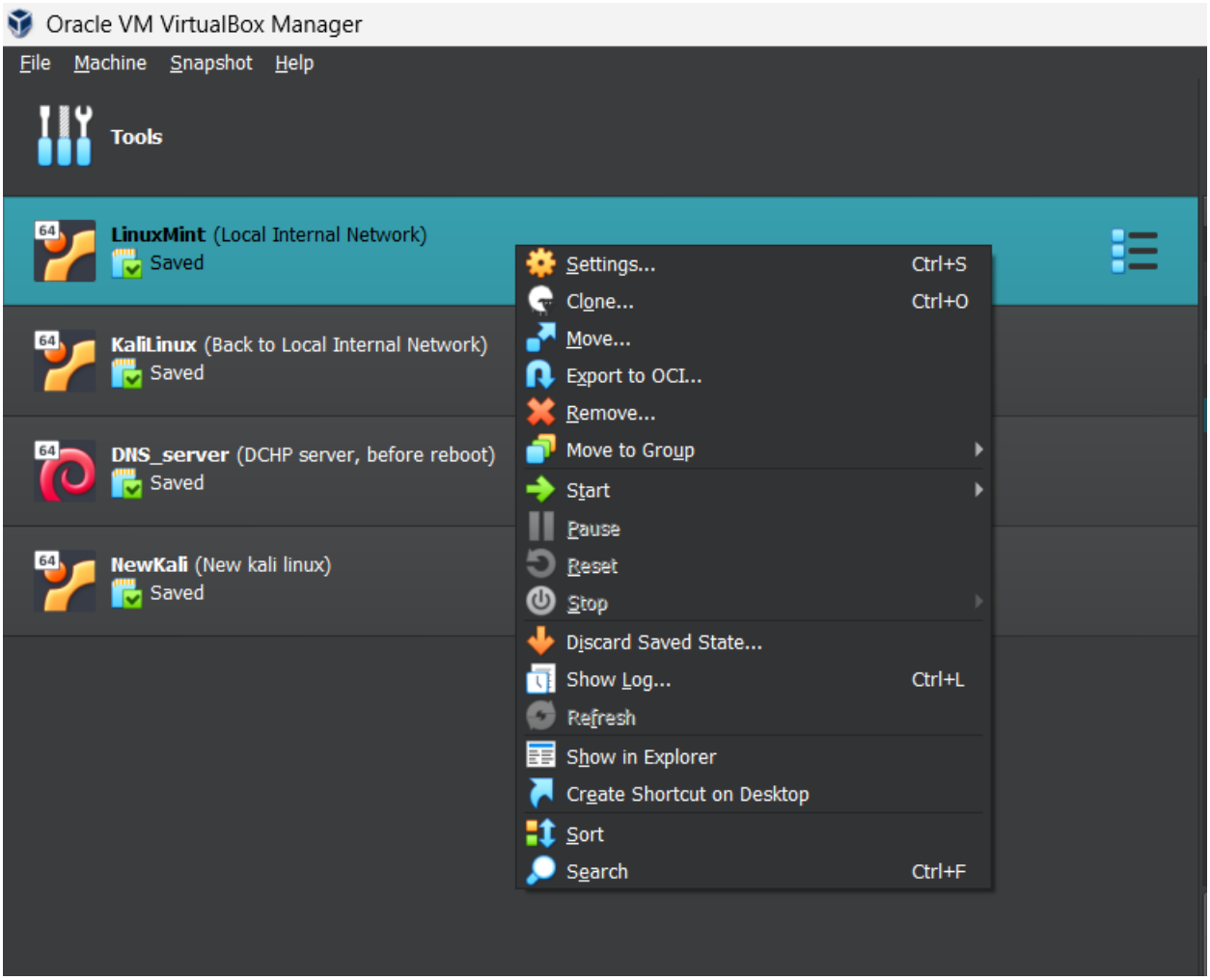
Date Completed: **August 5, 2023**

Created and performed by: **Jason Patrick Salerno**

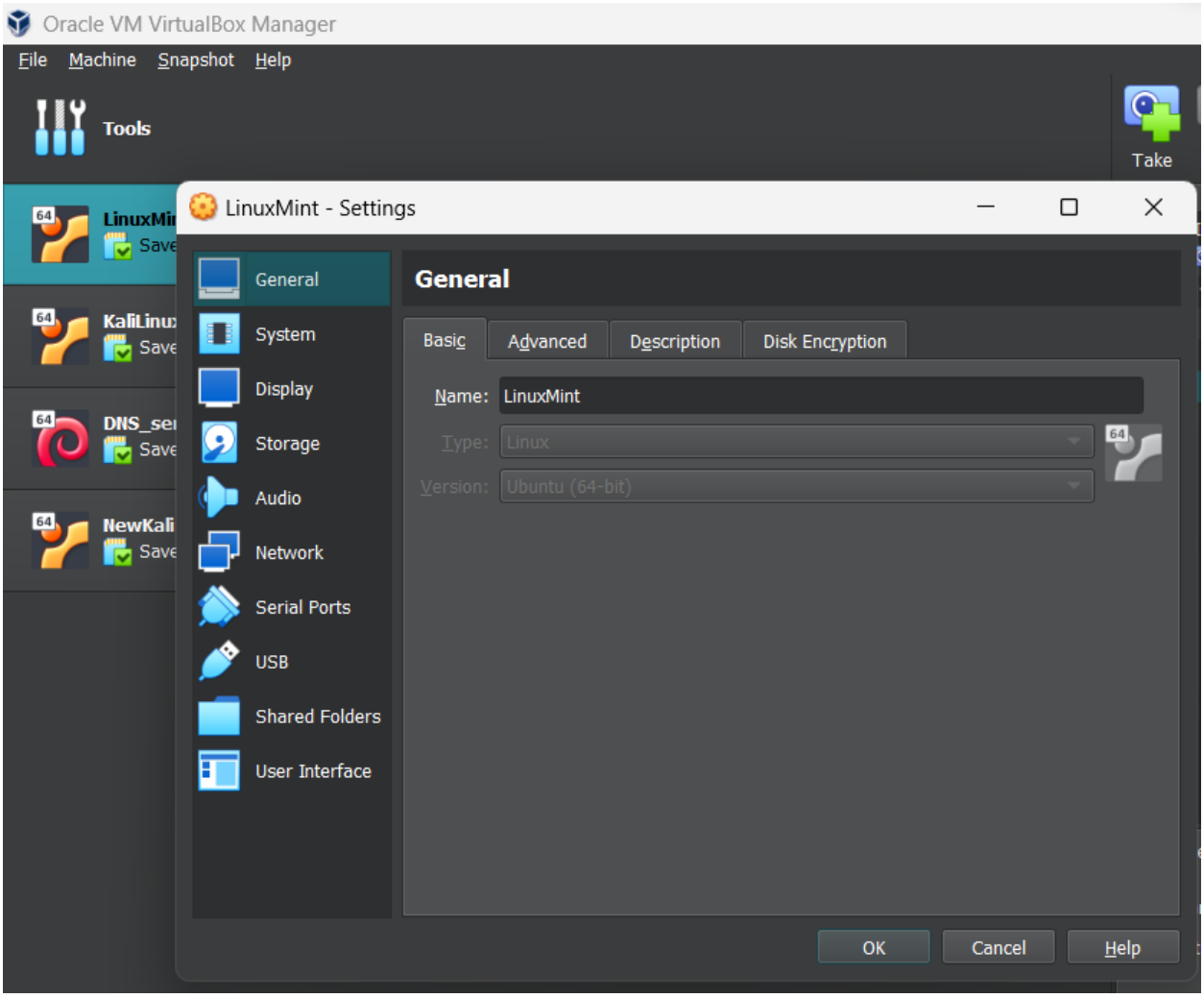
Purpose: **To Help Cyber Students Create Their Own Secure Learning Lab**

Part 1: Setting Up an Internal Network

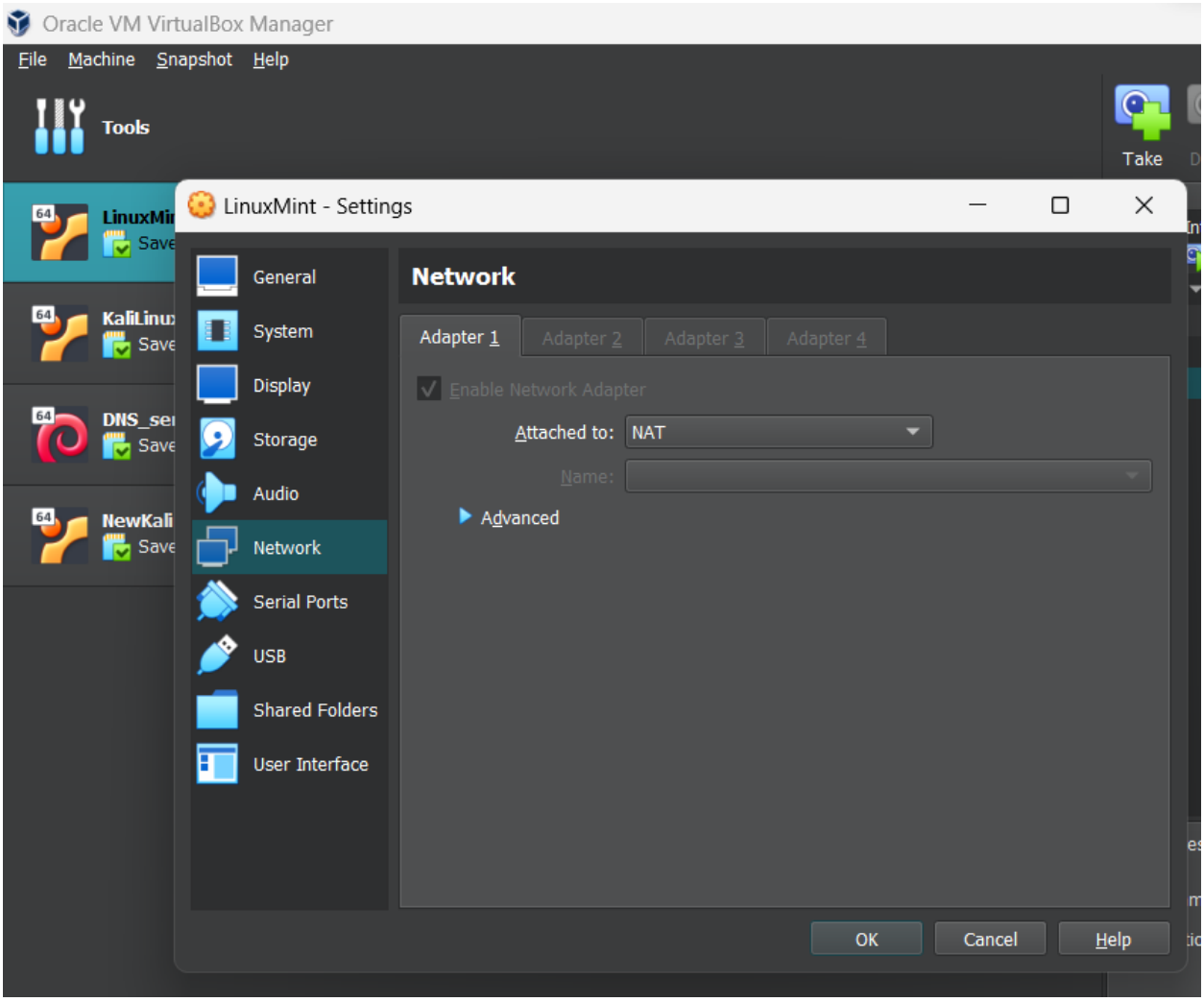
1. I open **Oracle VM VirtualBox,** then right click on **LinuxMint VM** > **Settings.**



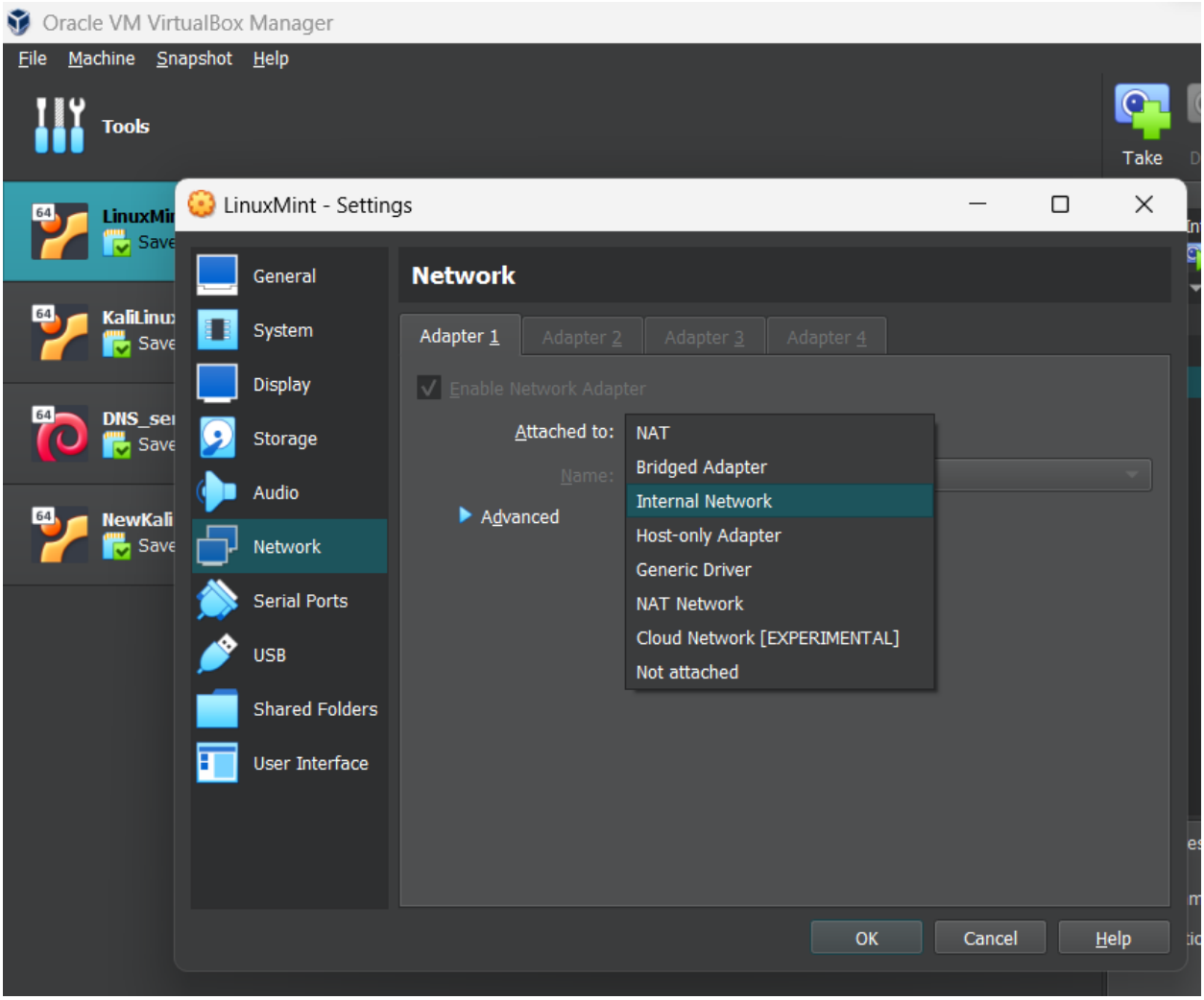
2. After the Settings have now opened.



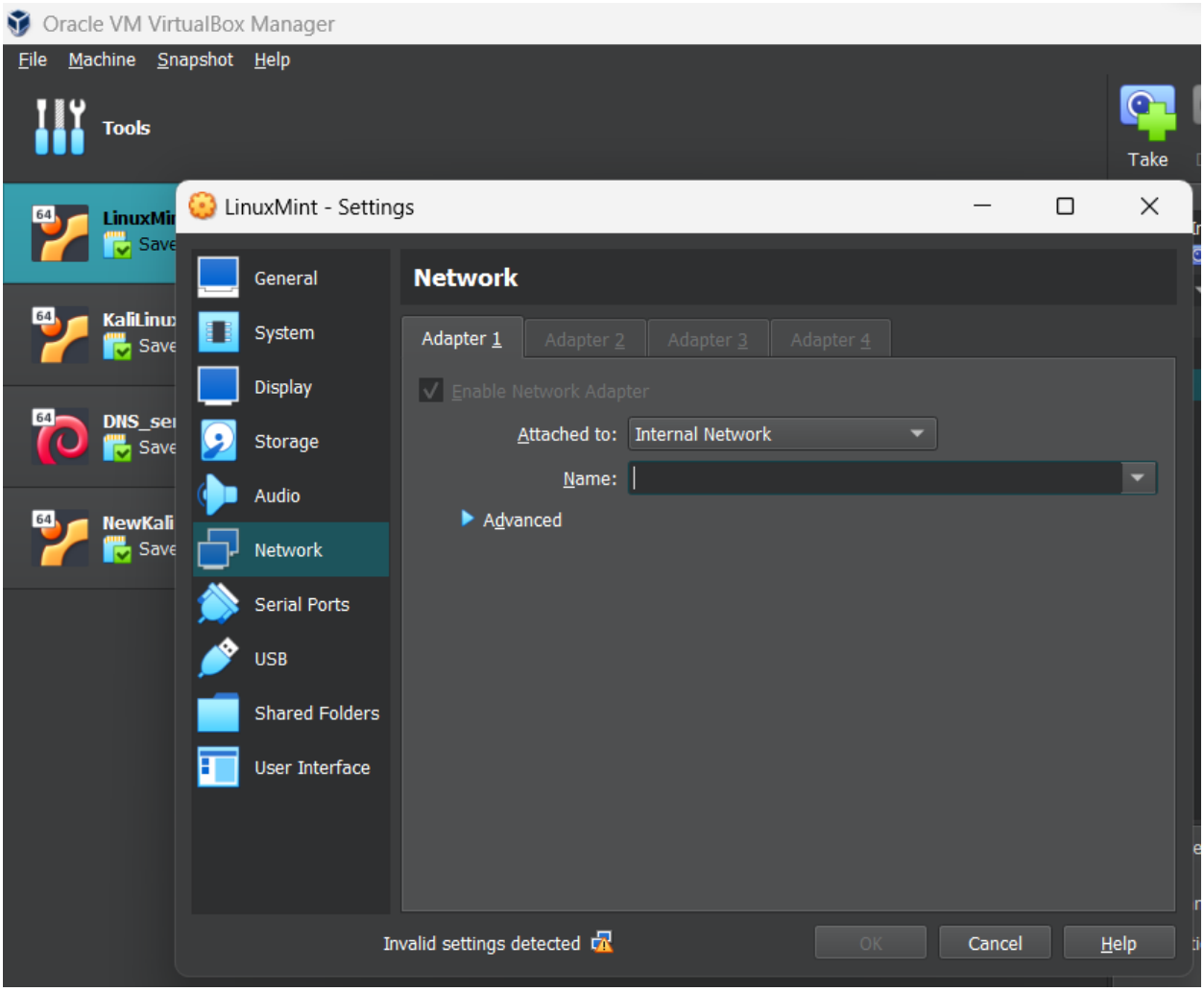
3. Next, I navigate to the **Network** tab, where we can see the VM's network settings.



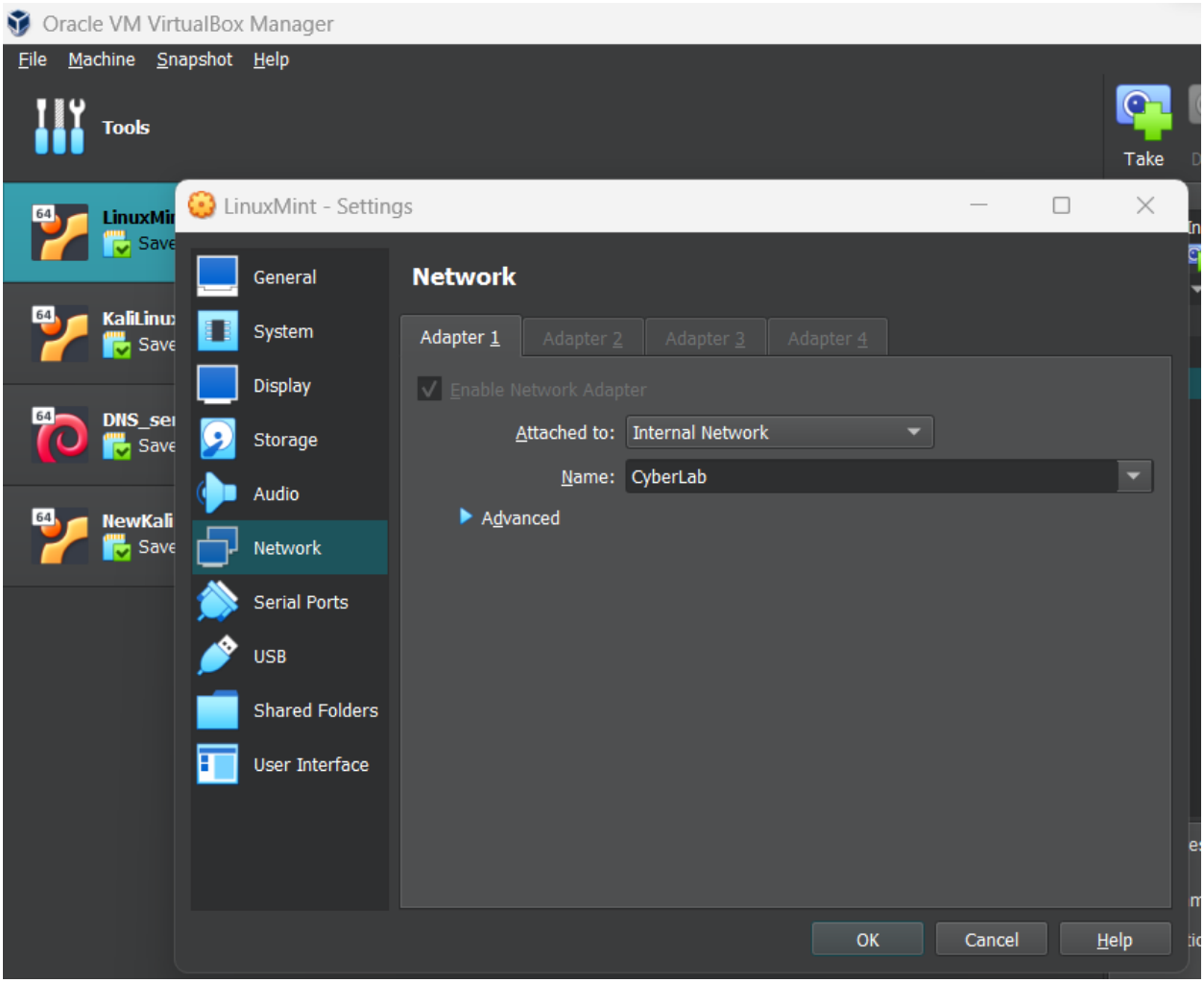
4. Then I click on **Attached to** then navigate to the Internal **Network**.



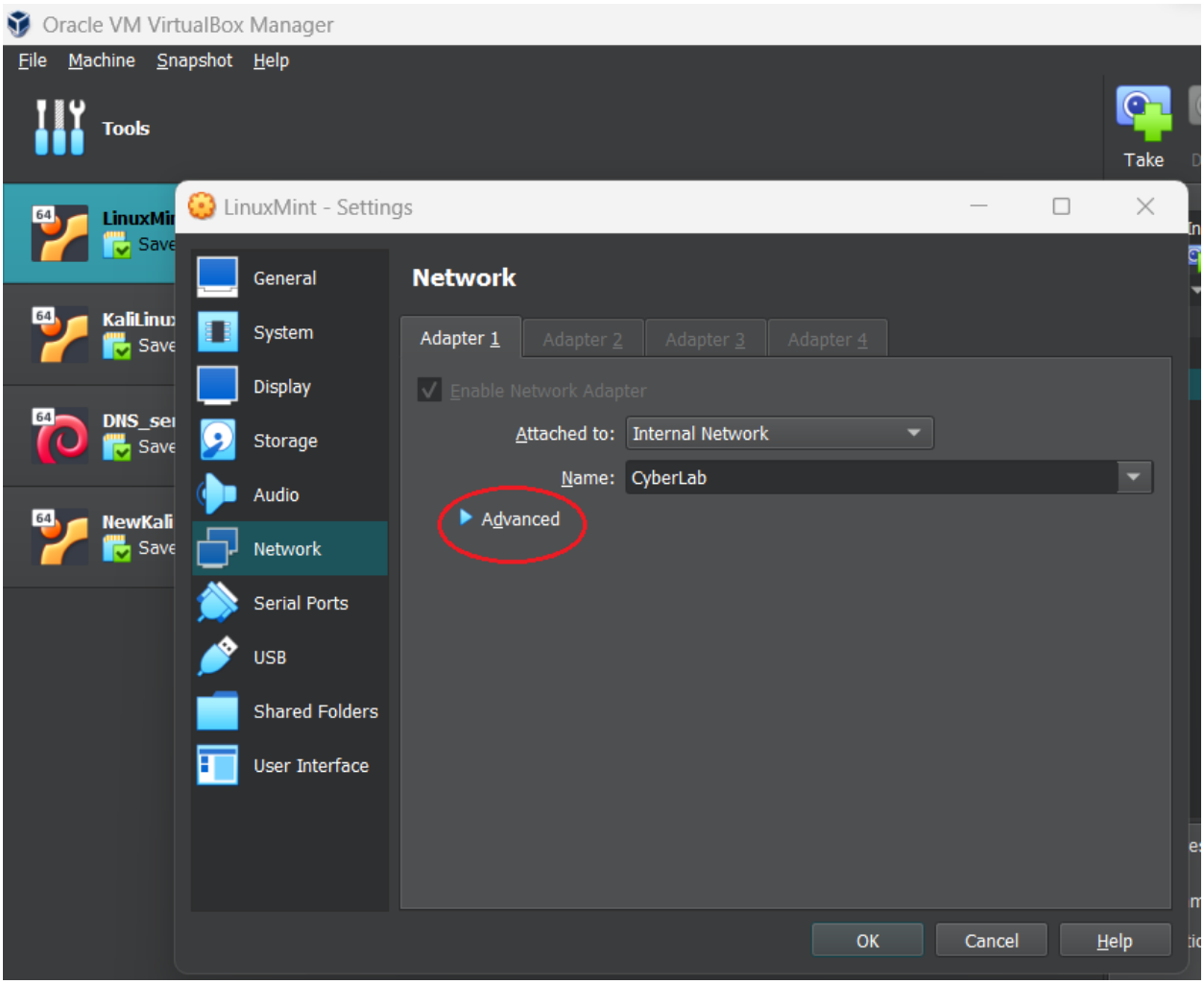
5. After selecting **Internal Network,** next in the **Name Box** you can type whatever name you want to call your internal network, so I name my internal network: **CyberLab.**



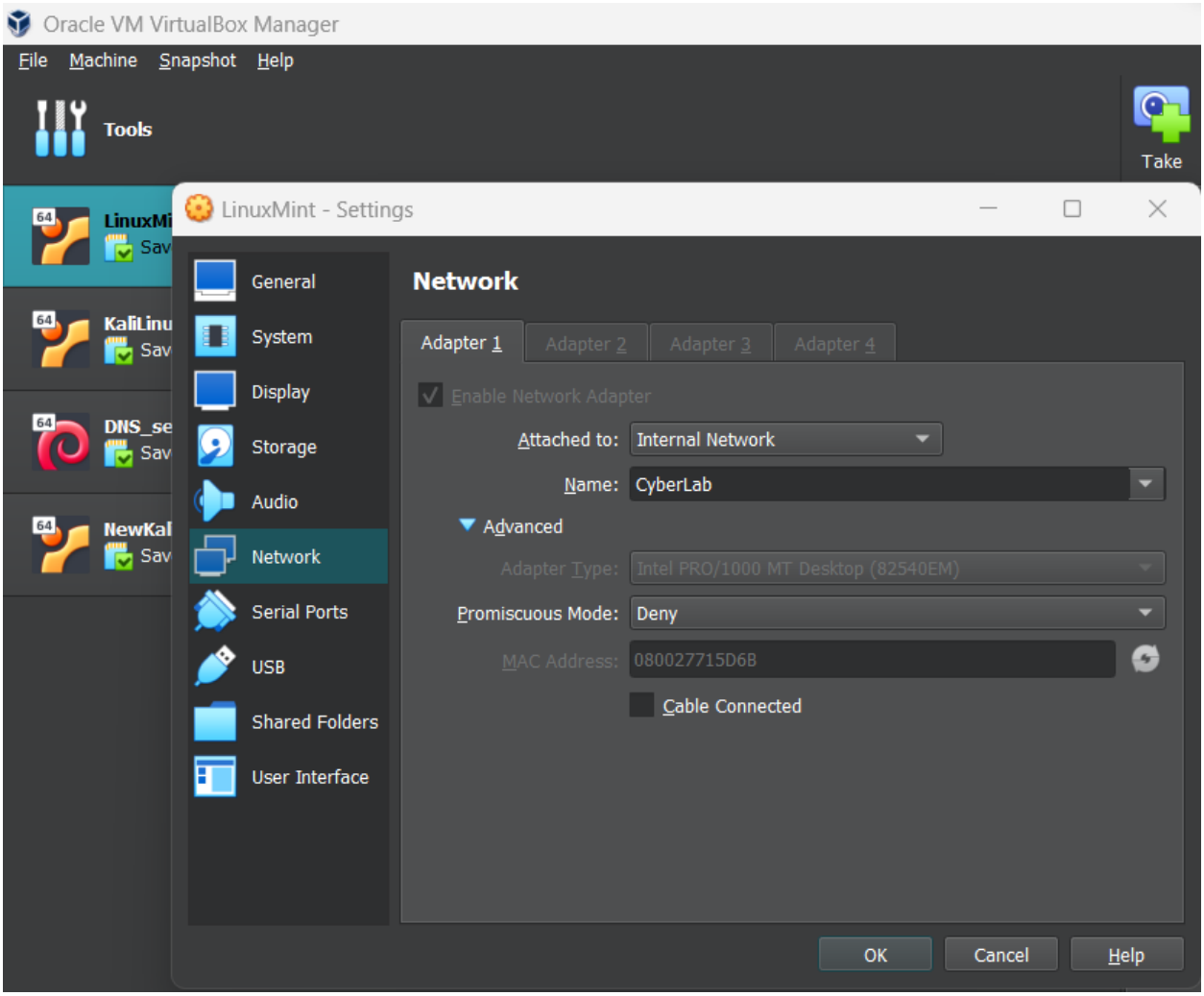
6. So, I have named my internal network **CyberLab**.



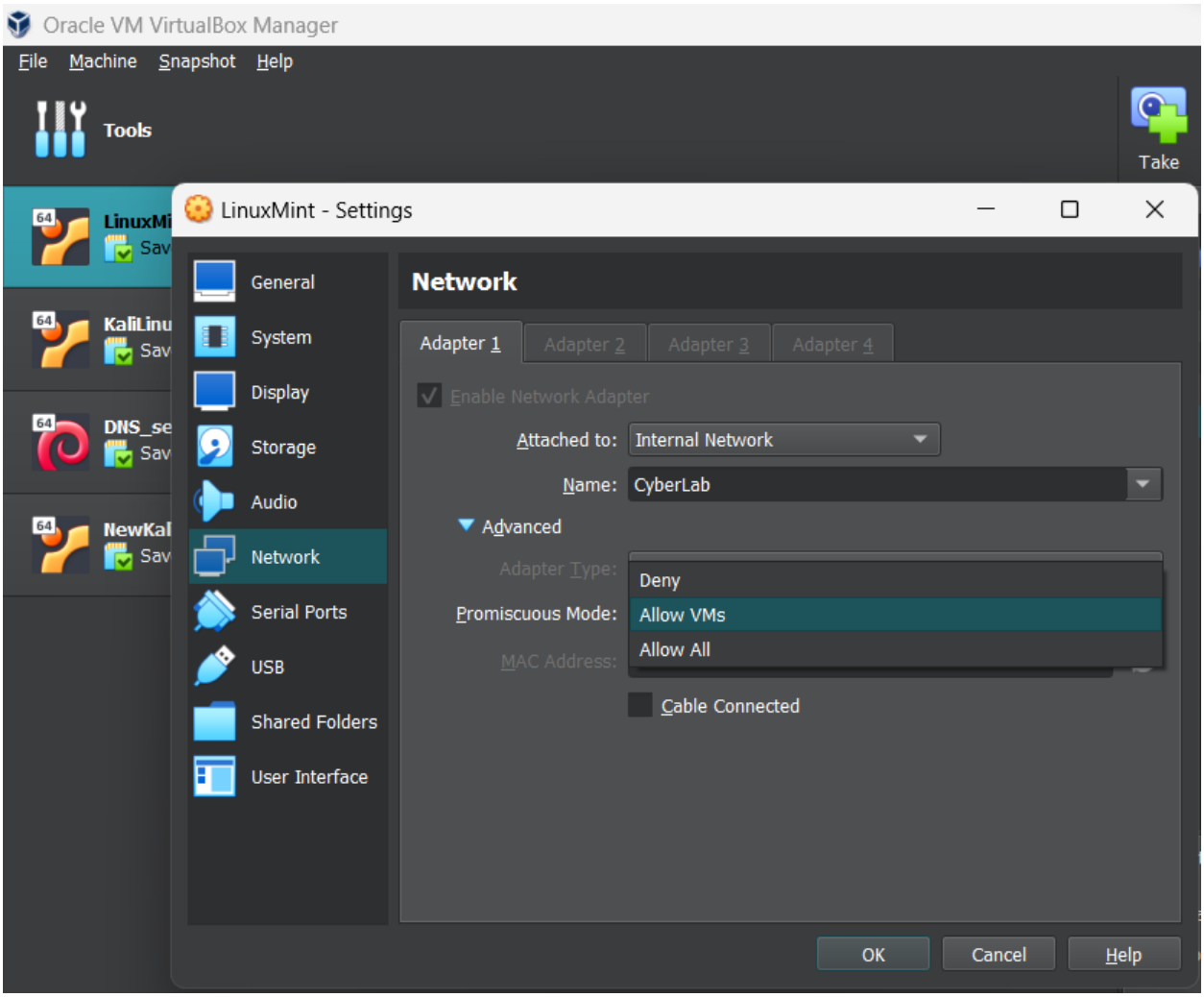
7. The next step is to click on **Advanced**.



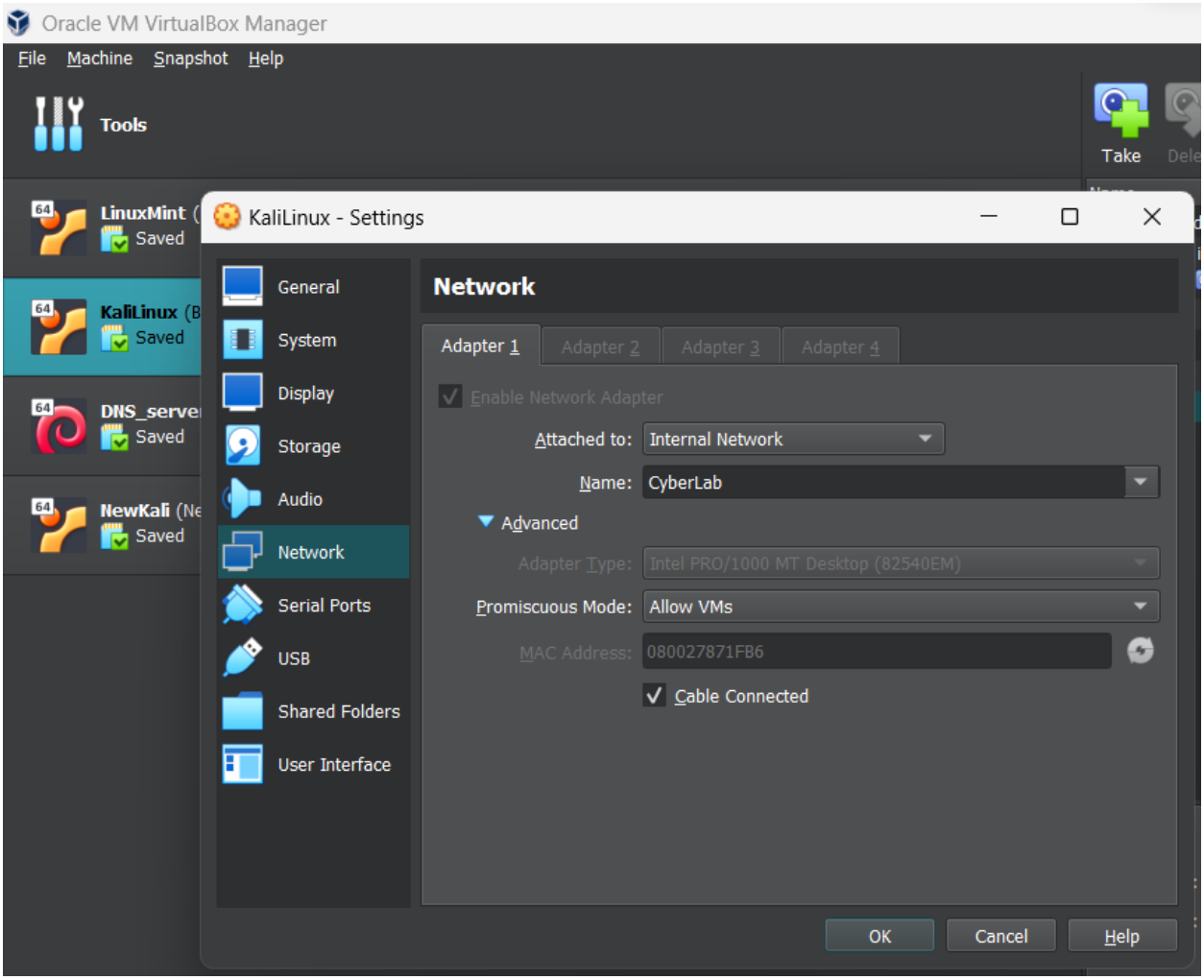
8. Here it displays its drop-down options, which are **Promiscuous Mode**, and **Cable Connected**.



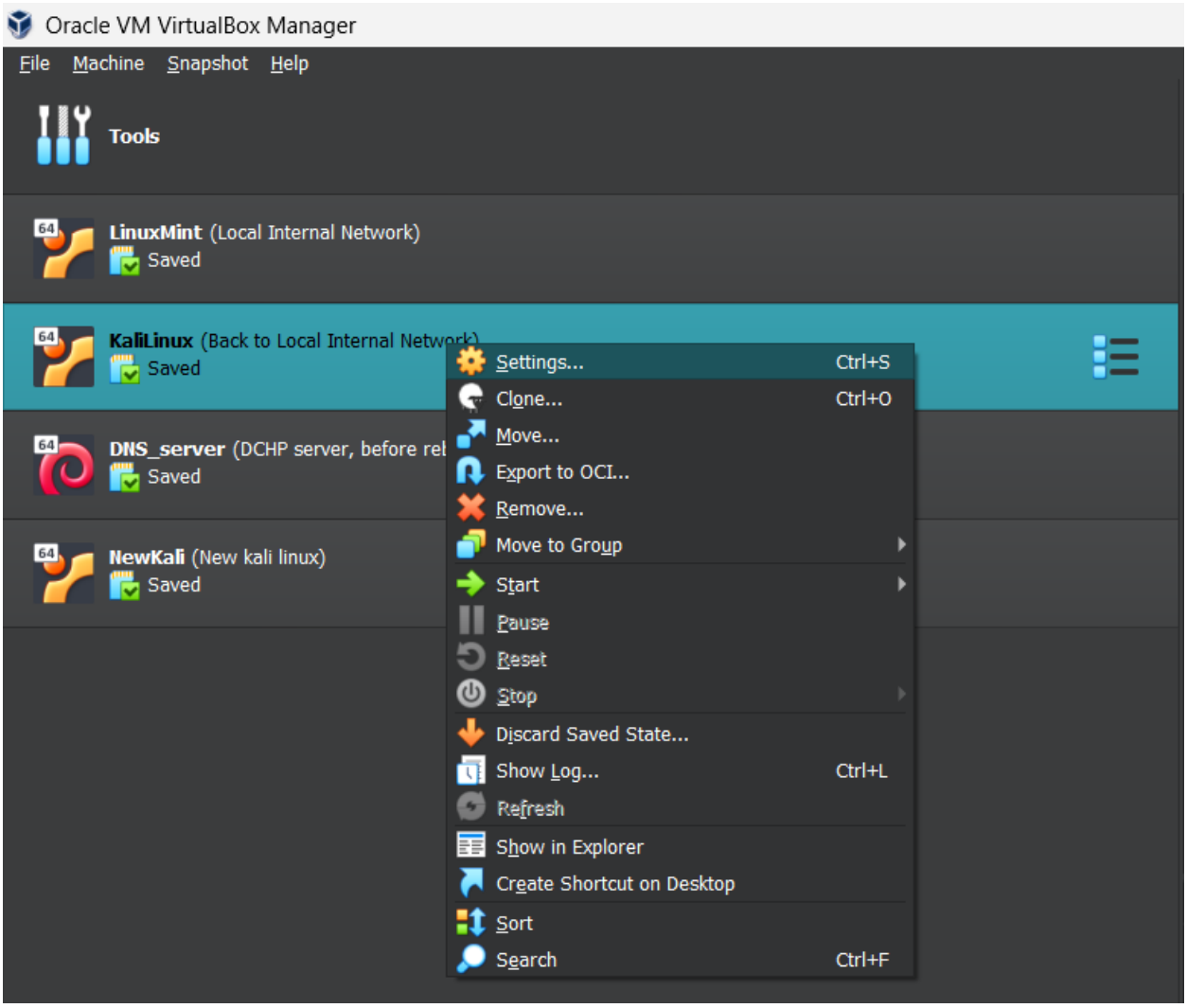
9. Next, I click on **Allow VMs**. The "Allow VMs" mode is typically used when you wish to promote communication between VMs operating on the same VirtualBox host but do not want VMs from different hosts on the same physical network to speak with one another.



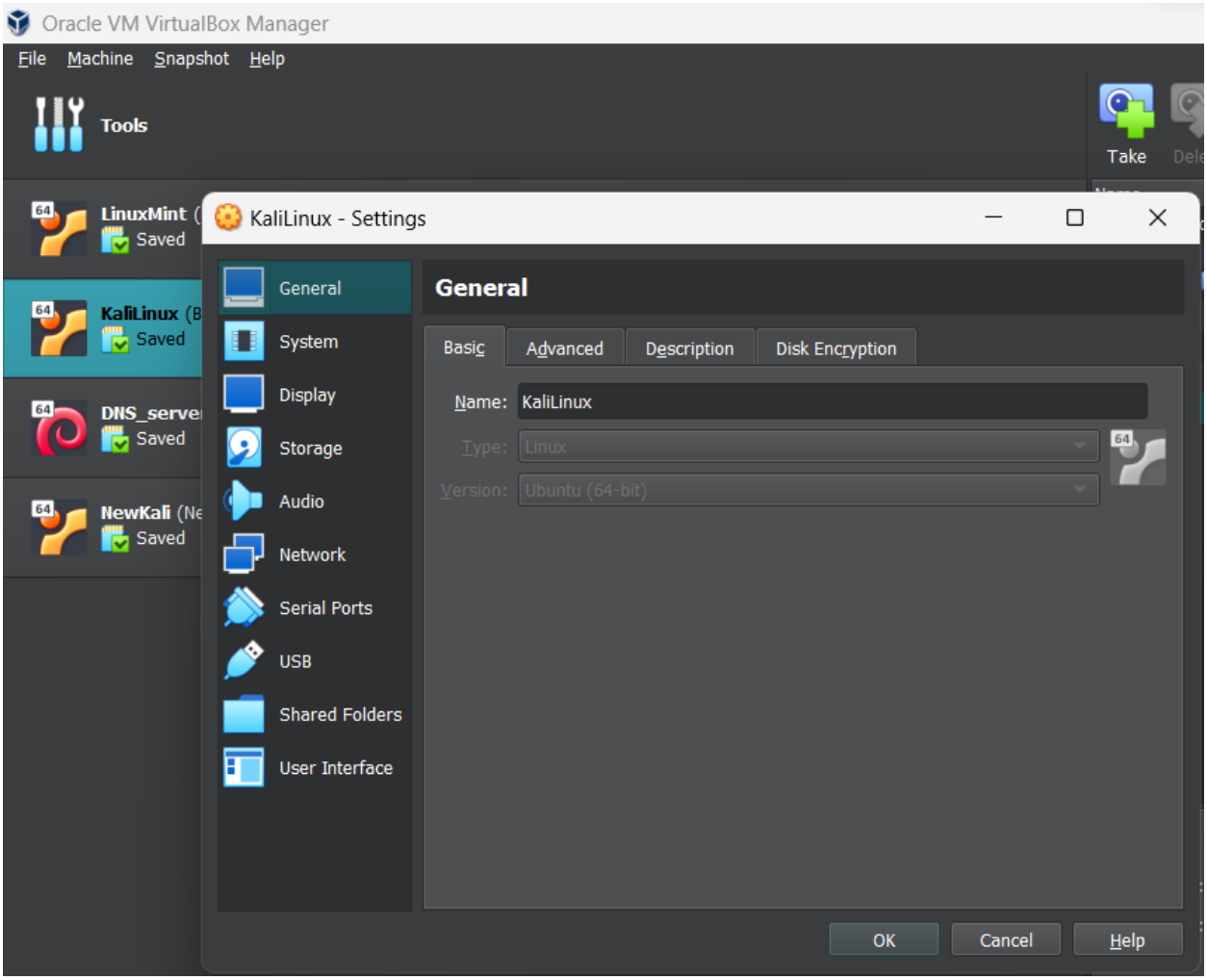
10. After selecting **Allow Vms**, I click the checkbox. What does checking the checkbox do? well it regulates the virtual network adapter's network connection, emulating the behavior of an actual network cable being connected or unplugged. After the checkbox I click on **OK** at the bottom to save our changes.



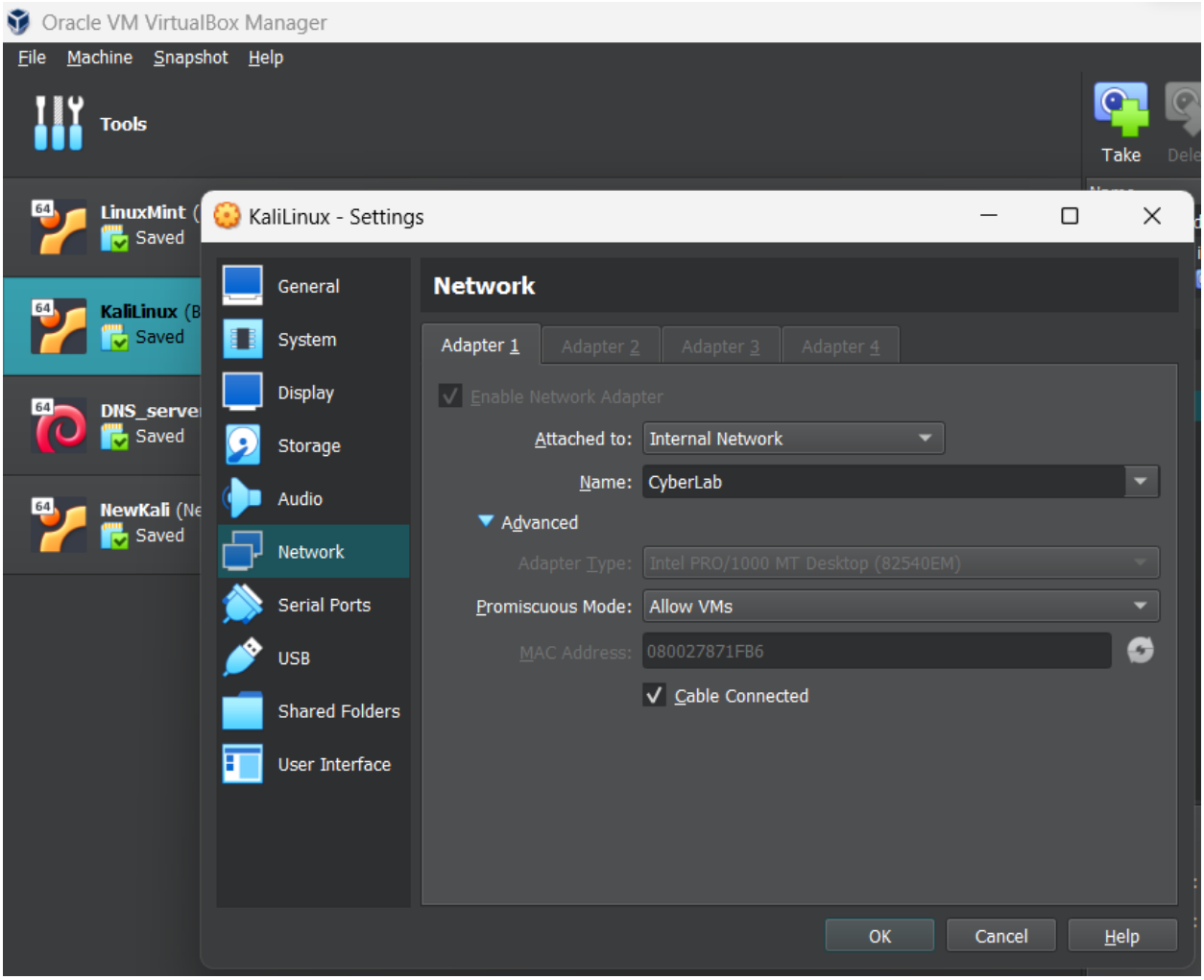
11. Next will do the same process for the Kali linux VM, so I right click then click settings.



12. Next I will do the same thing for my **kali linux VM**.

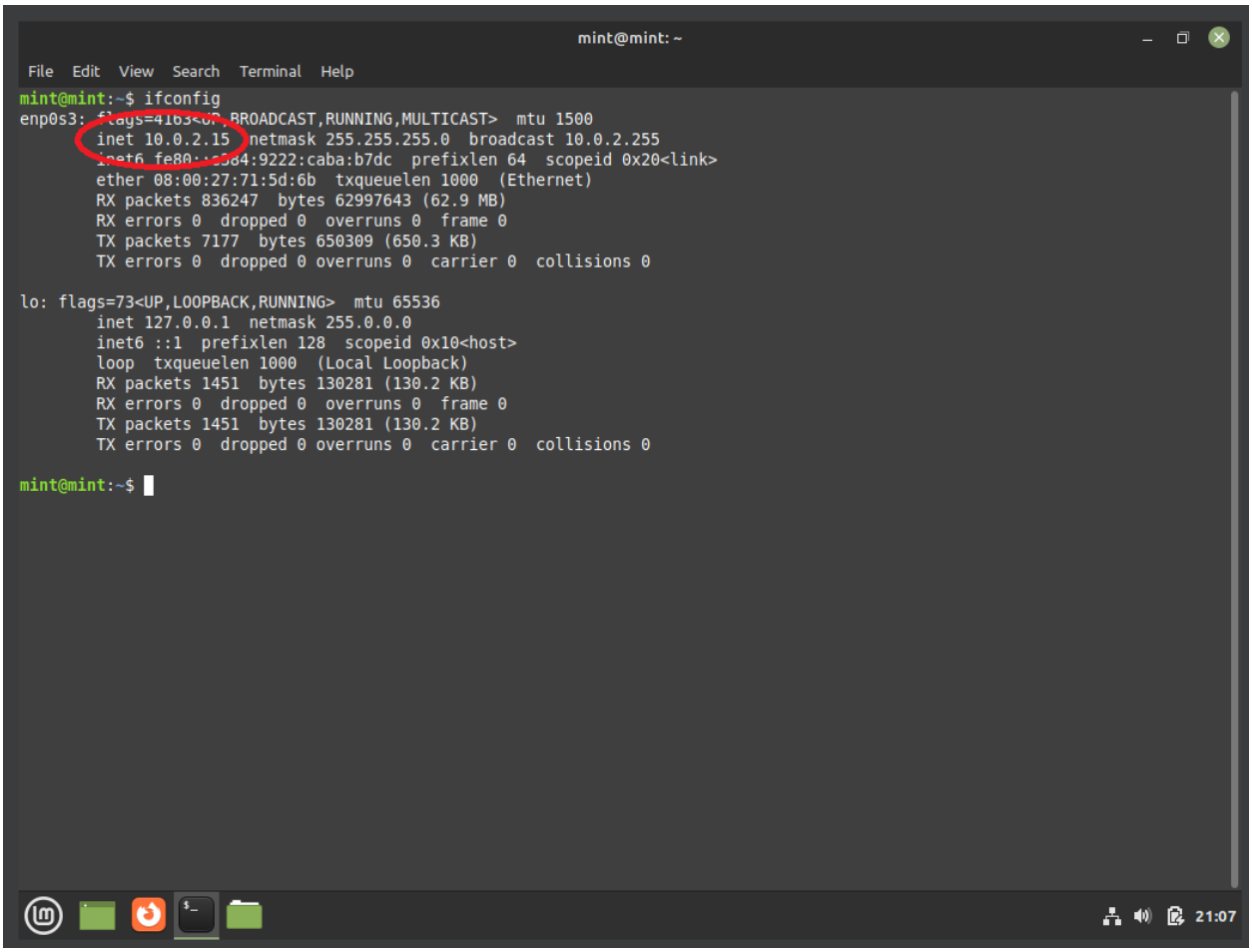


13. So this is pretty much the same process as on the linux mint VM, so I click **settings > Network > Name:** I add the name of my internal network called **CyberLab**, then **Promiscuous Mode:** Select **Allow VMs** > click the **checkbox**.

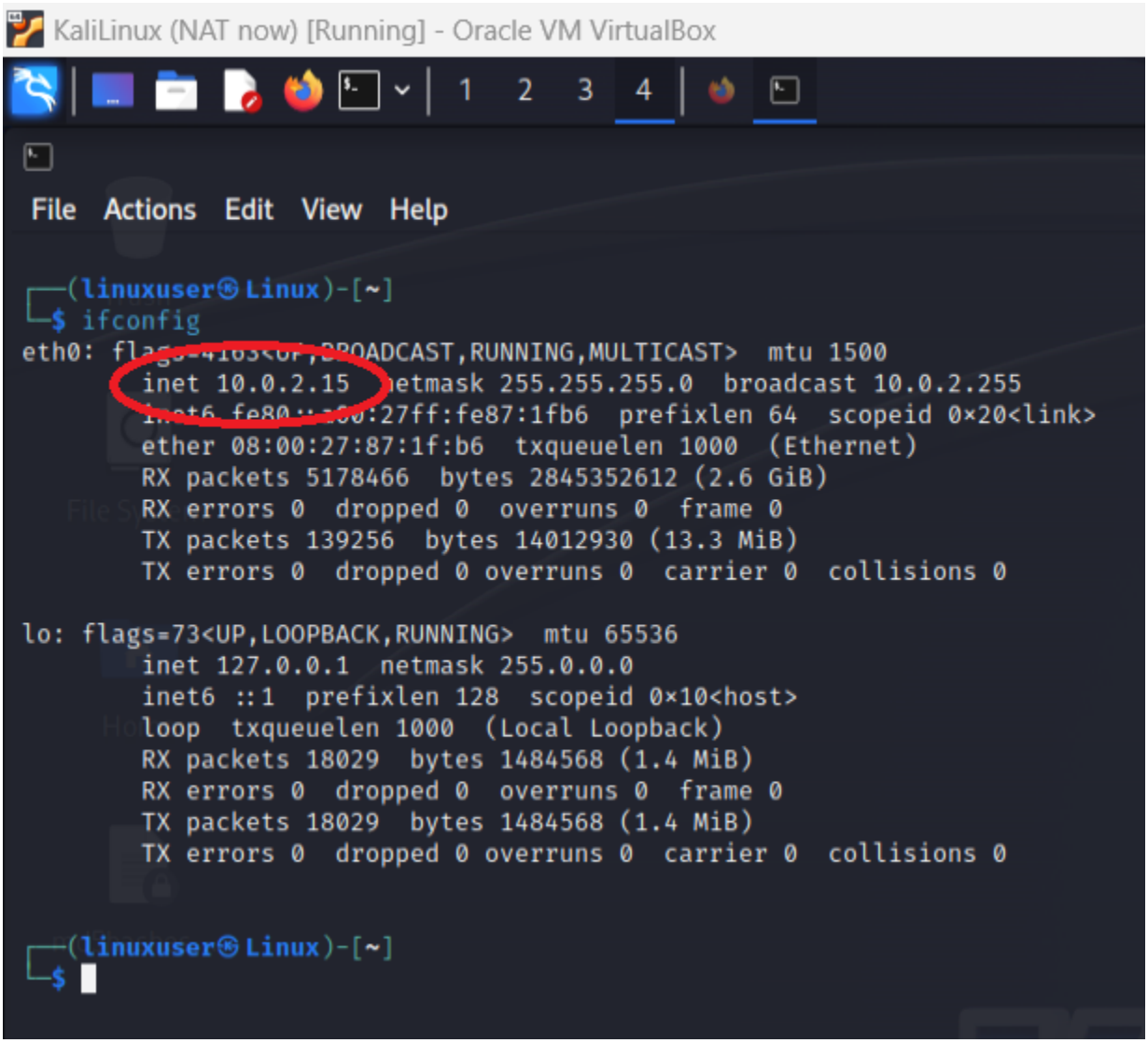


14. So first I turn on my Linux Mint Vm, and run the command: **ifconfig**, this command will display our **IP Address** which is **10.0.2.15**, since I am yet to set up a **DHCP server(Host Machine)** so that server will assign my VMs IP Addresses.

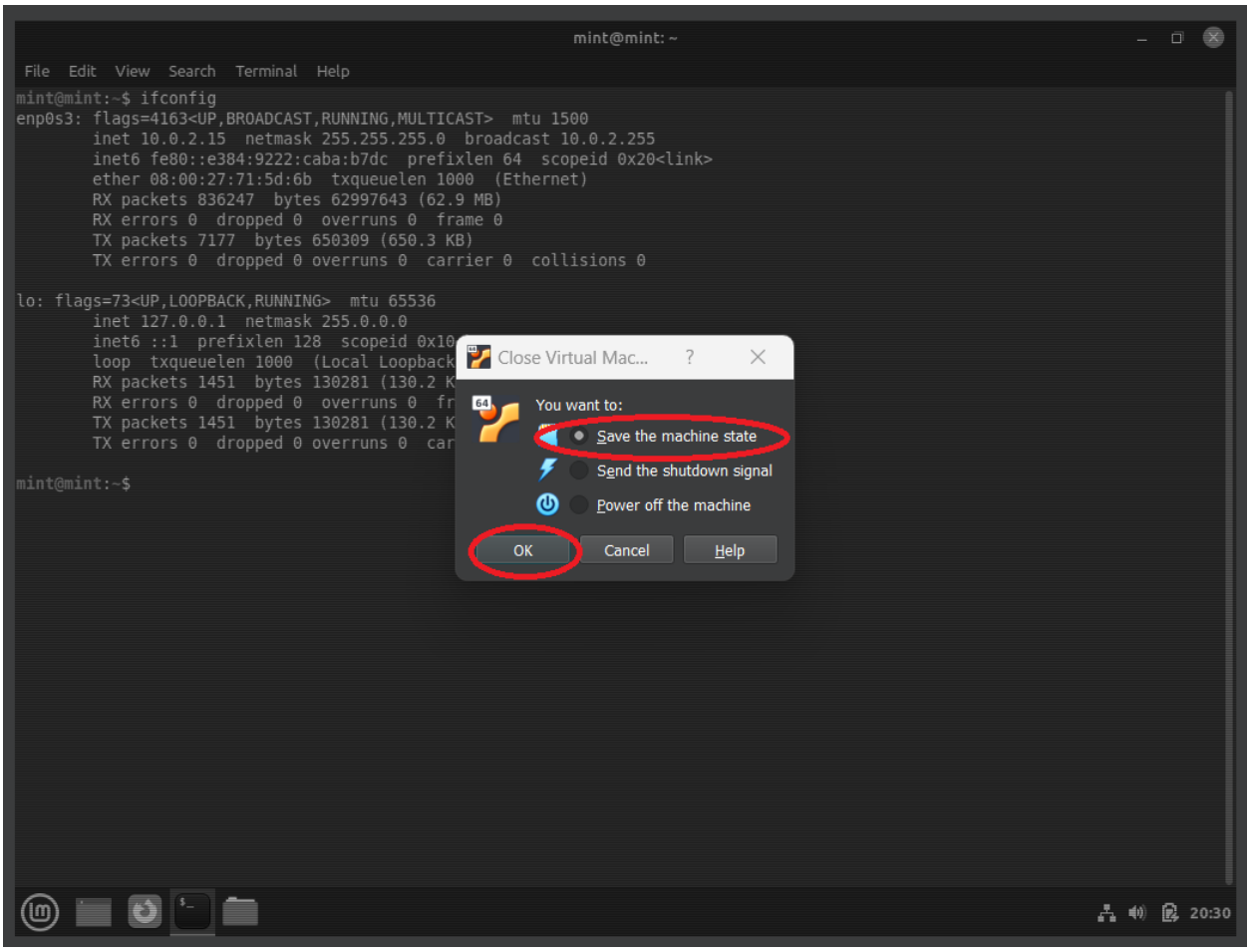
Note: The reason why I did not take a screenshot for both of these Vms side by side is because it would not fit in this document and would cause the screenshot to look really blurry therefore I separated both screenshots.



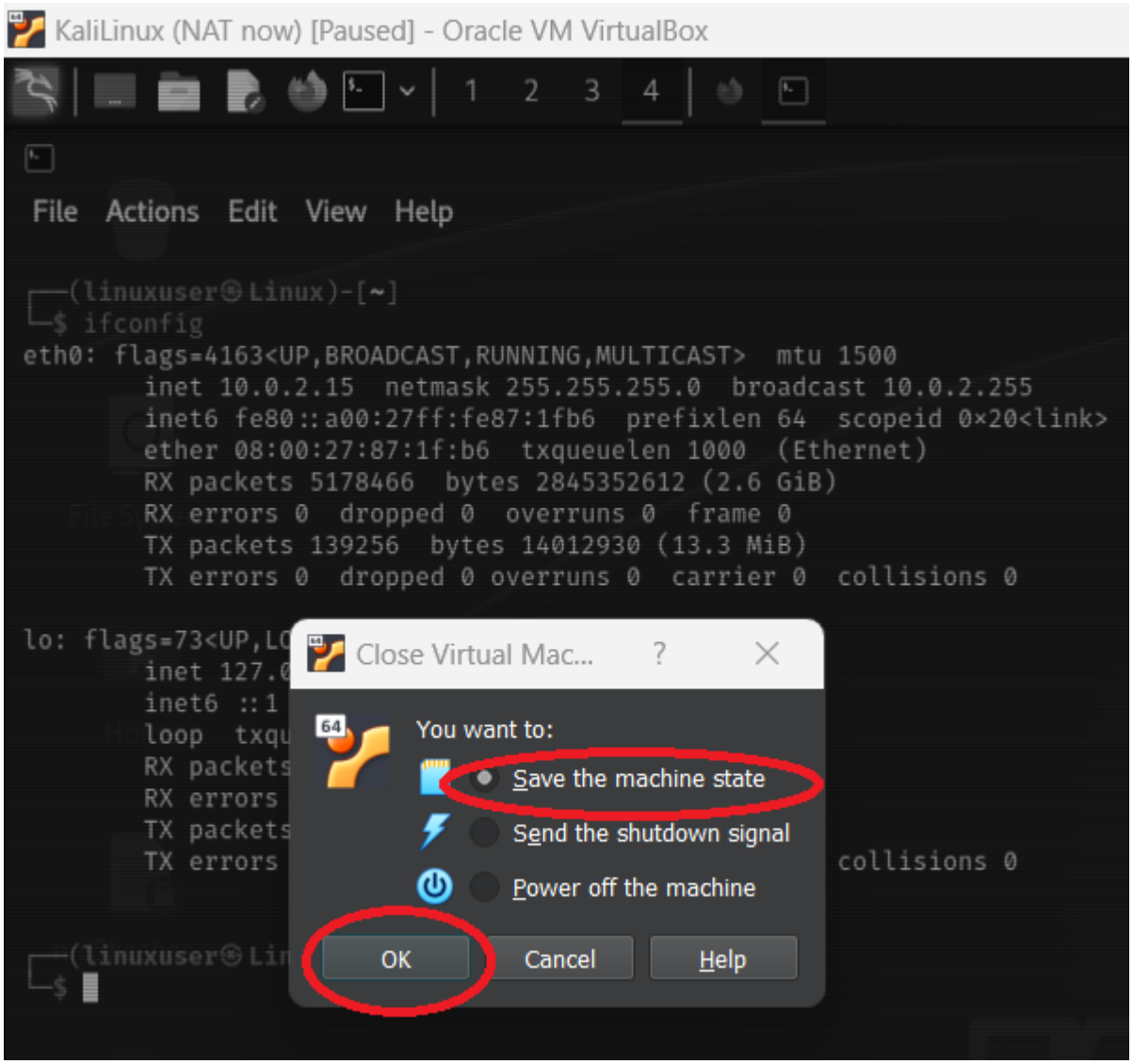
15. Next I power on my Kali Linux VM, and execute the command: **ifconfig**, to check its IP Address and we can see its ip address is **10.0.2.15**. For both VMs we can say that they are both using **NAT(Network Address Translation)** since I am yet to create a **DHCP server** to assign these both VMs ip addresses.



16. After seeing that both Vms are using NAT(Network Address Translation), now I will close both VMs, so I simply **save the machine state** and click **OK** for Linux Mint VM.

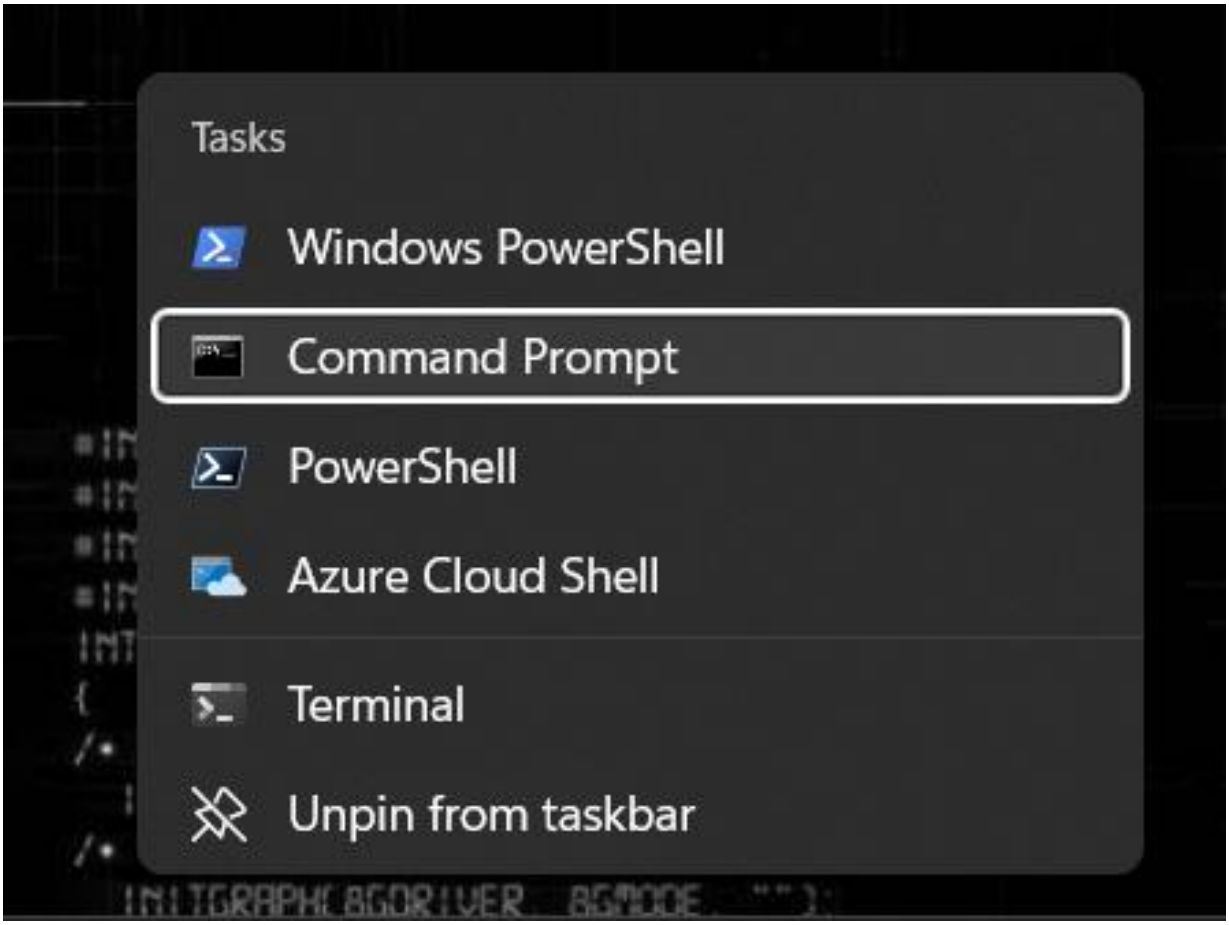


17. So I do the same thing for this Kali Linux VM, I save the machine state and click OK.

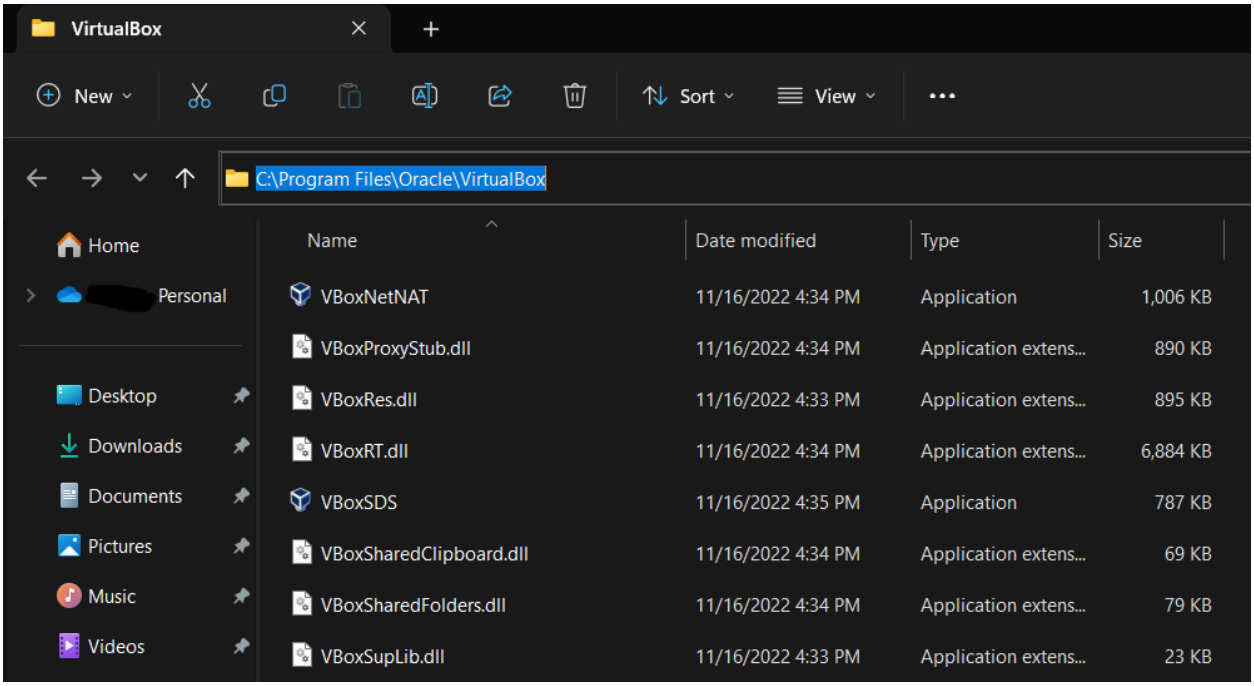


Part 2: Setting Up a DHCP Server

18. So on my host machine(Windows 11), I open up **Command Prompt** which I will be using to create my DHCP server.

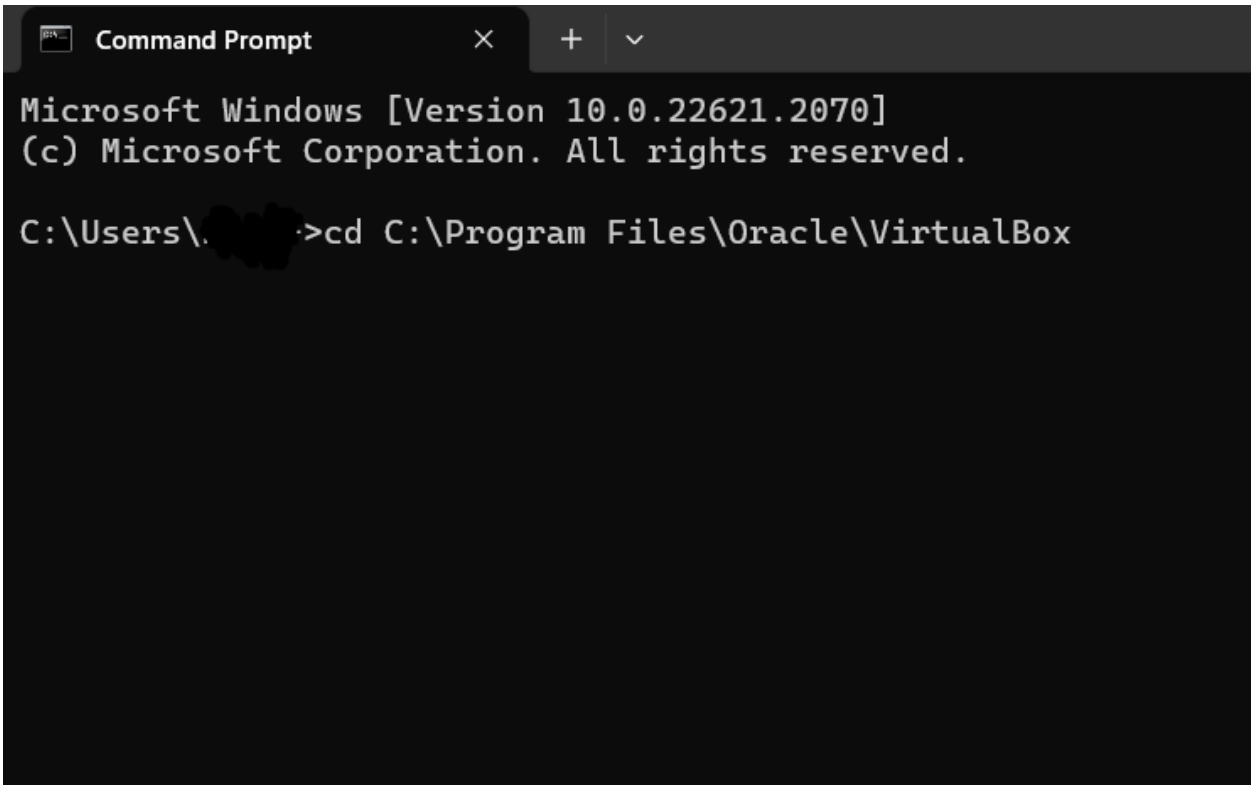


19. Then I open file explorer, and navigate to **Oracle VirtualBox** and copy its **PATH.**



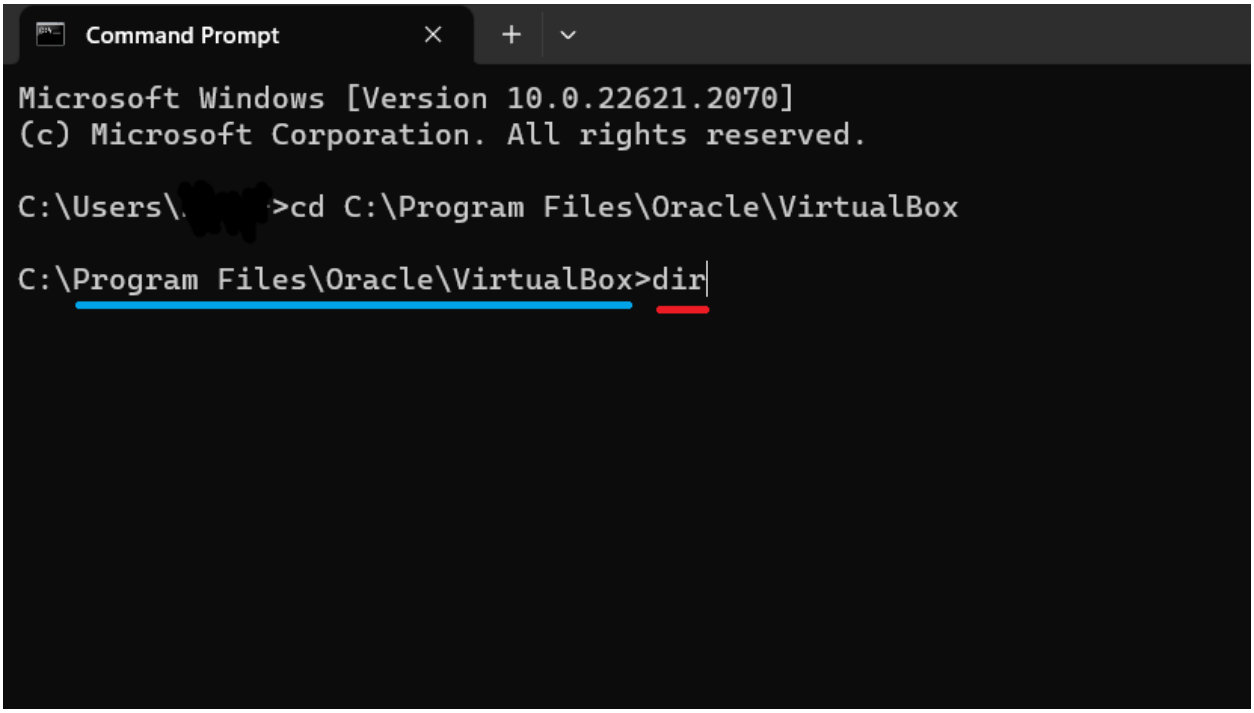
20. I resume back to the Command Prompt, and I type **cd** which stands for change directory and then paste the **PATH** of my **oracle virtualbox**.

    Note: I've blurred out my host name, which explains why it directly skips to **>cd**.

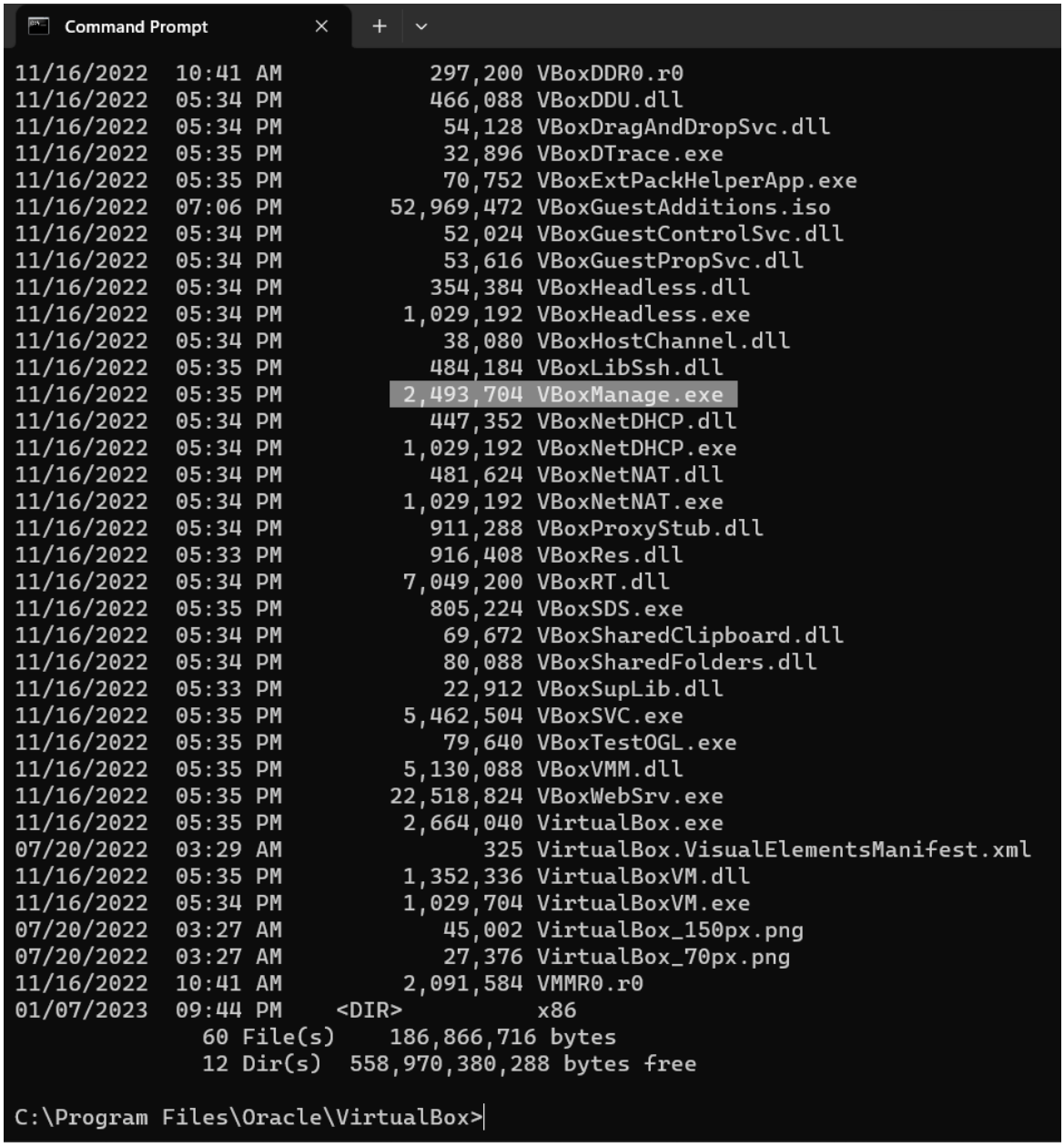


21. After executing: **cd C:\Program Files\Oracle\VirtualBox**, I now type: **dir** it will list down all the directories(folders) within our current directory.

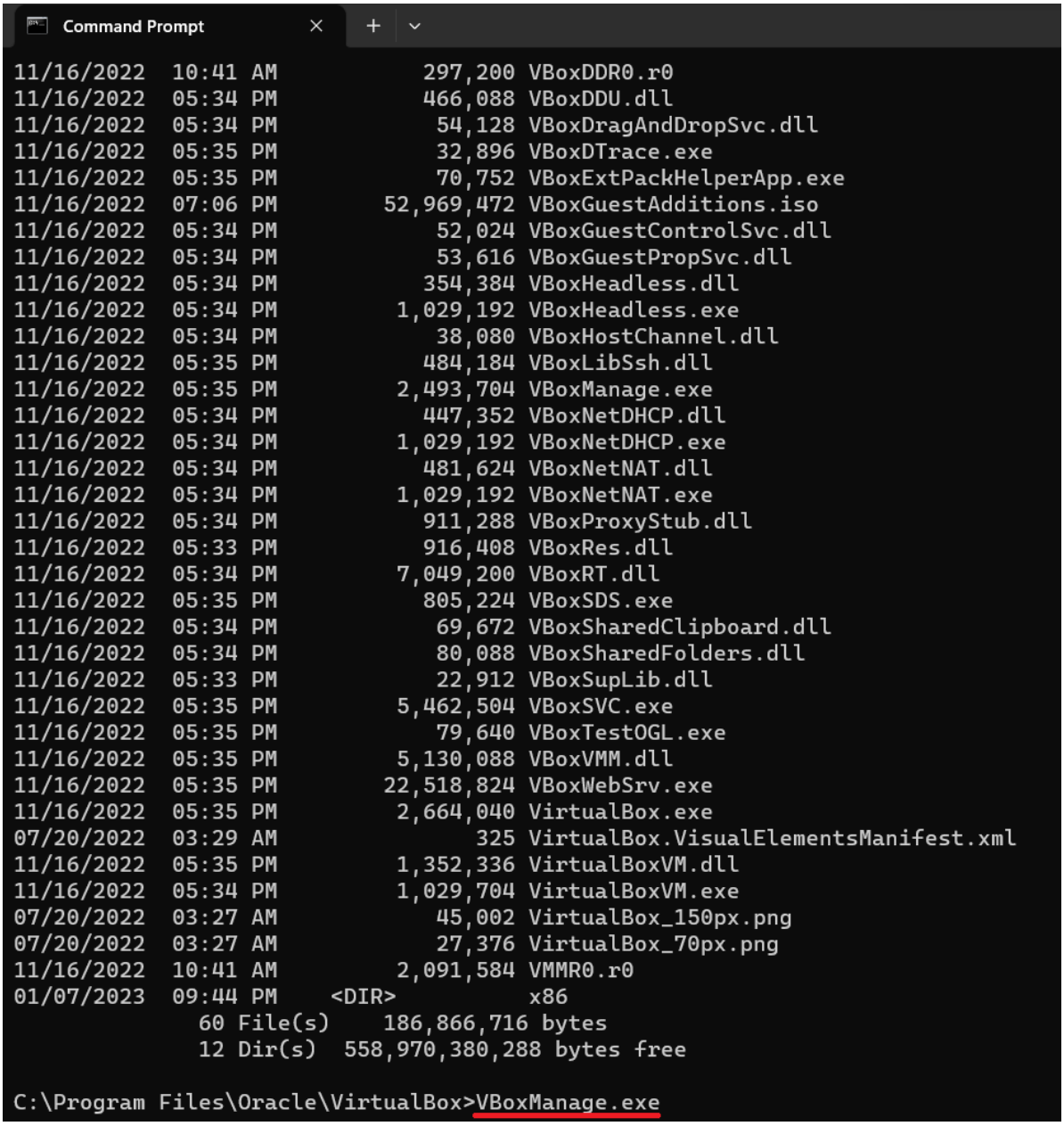
    Note: The blue line is our **PATH** of **oracle virtualbox** and the red line is the current command I'm about to run.



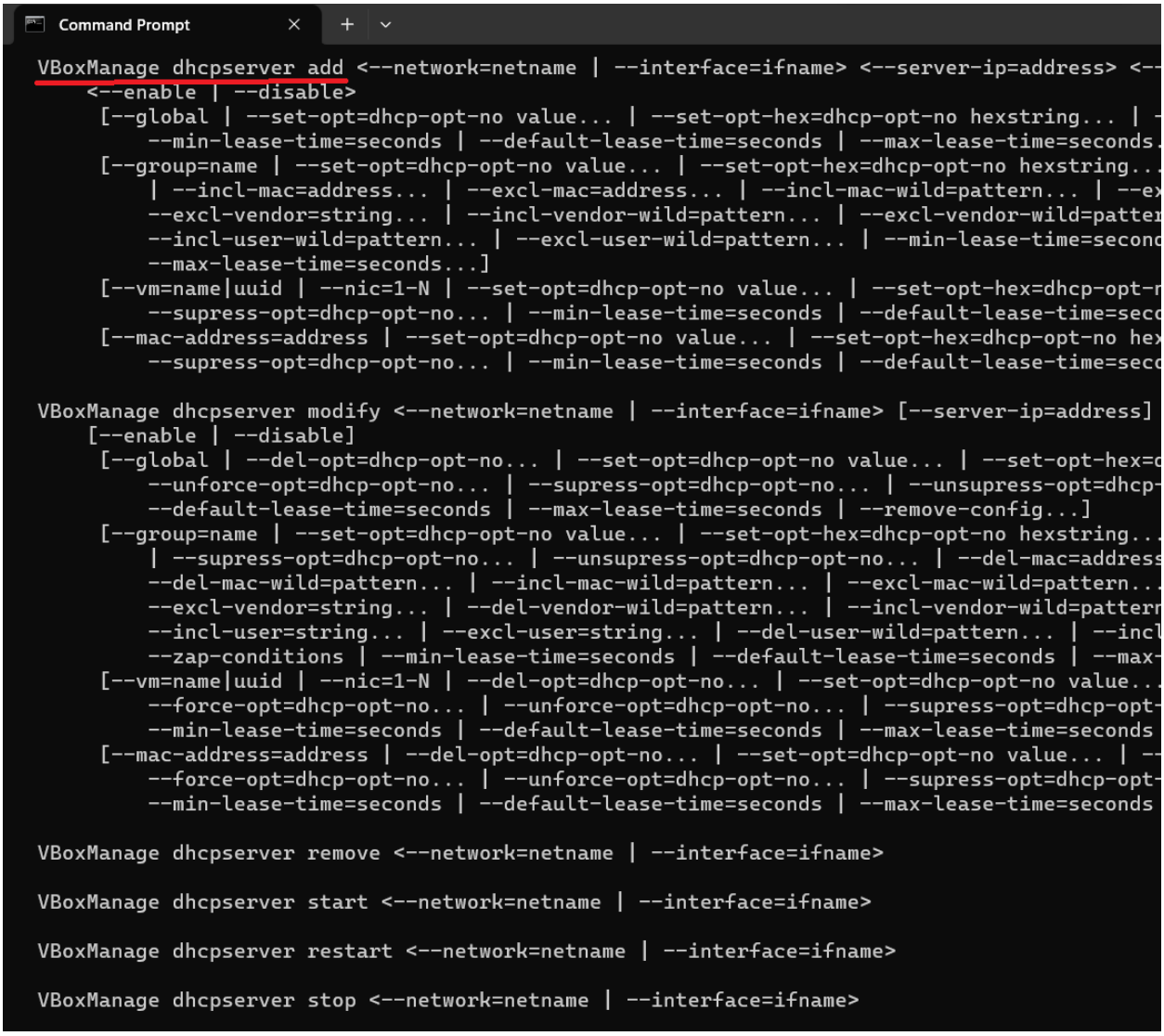
22. After executing the command: **dir** we can now see its dynamic links and executables, and the one that I have highlighted is **VBoxManage.exe** which I will be using in the next command I run.



23. So after checking to see if we have a **VBoxManage.exe** executable file I will now run it in the terminal.

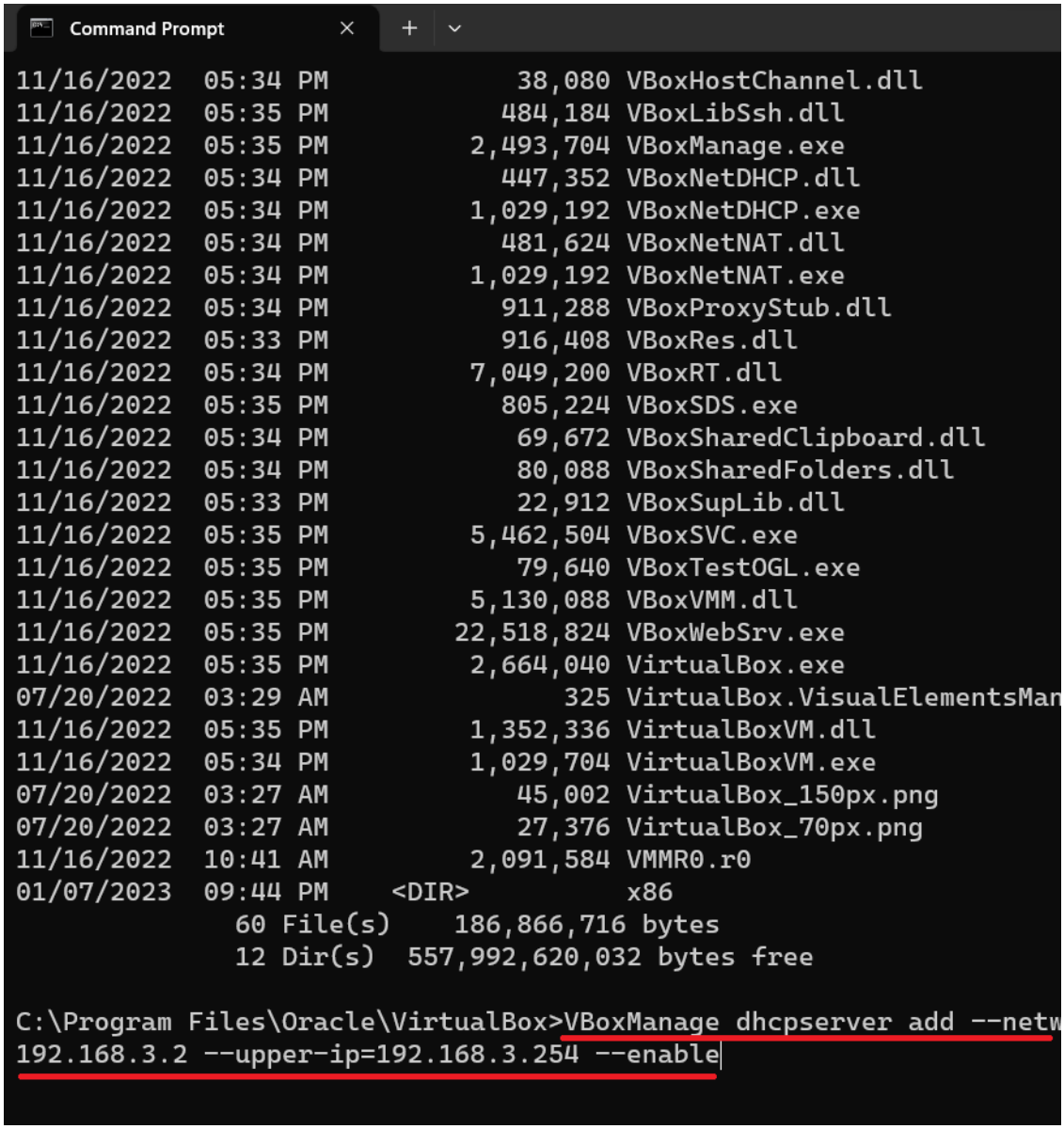


24. The previous command I've executed now displays everything we see here, so I scroll up and look for **VBoxManage dhcpserver add** which helps us know the correct syntax of adding a dhcp server.

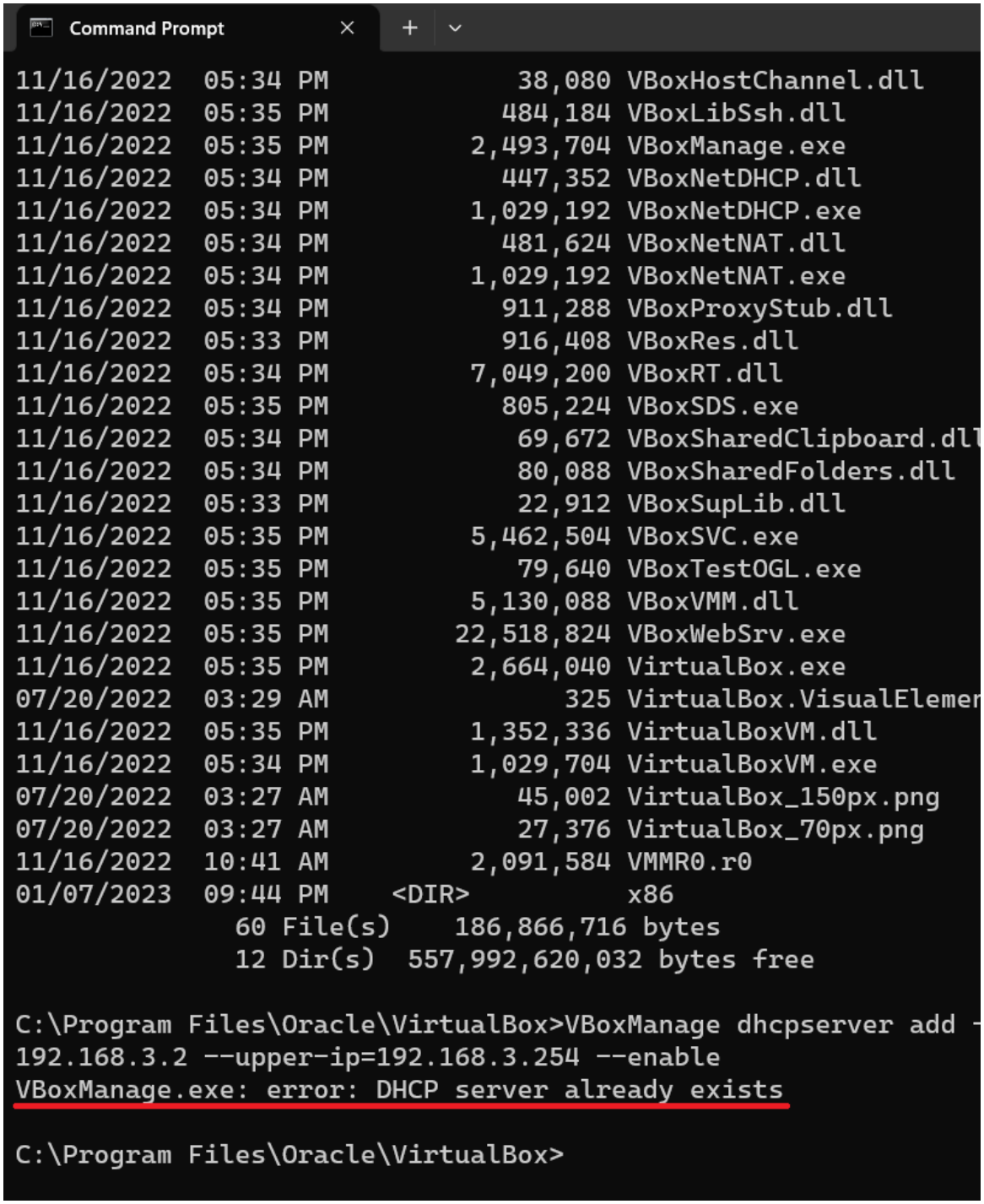


25. Using the syntax, I've seen earlier I now type my command/string: **VBoxManage dhcpserver add --network=CyberStudyLab --server-ip=192.168.3.1 --netmask=255.255.255.0 --lower-ip=192.168.3.2 --upper-ip=192.168.3.254 --enable**. Which will create a DHCP server for us to use and give our VMs ip address.

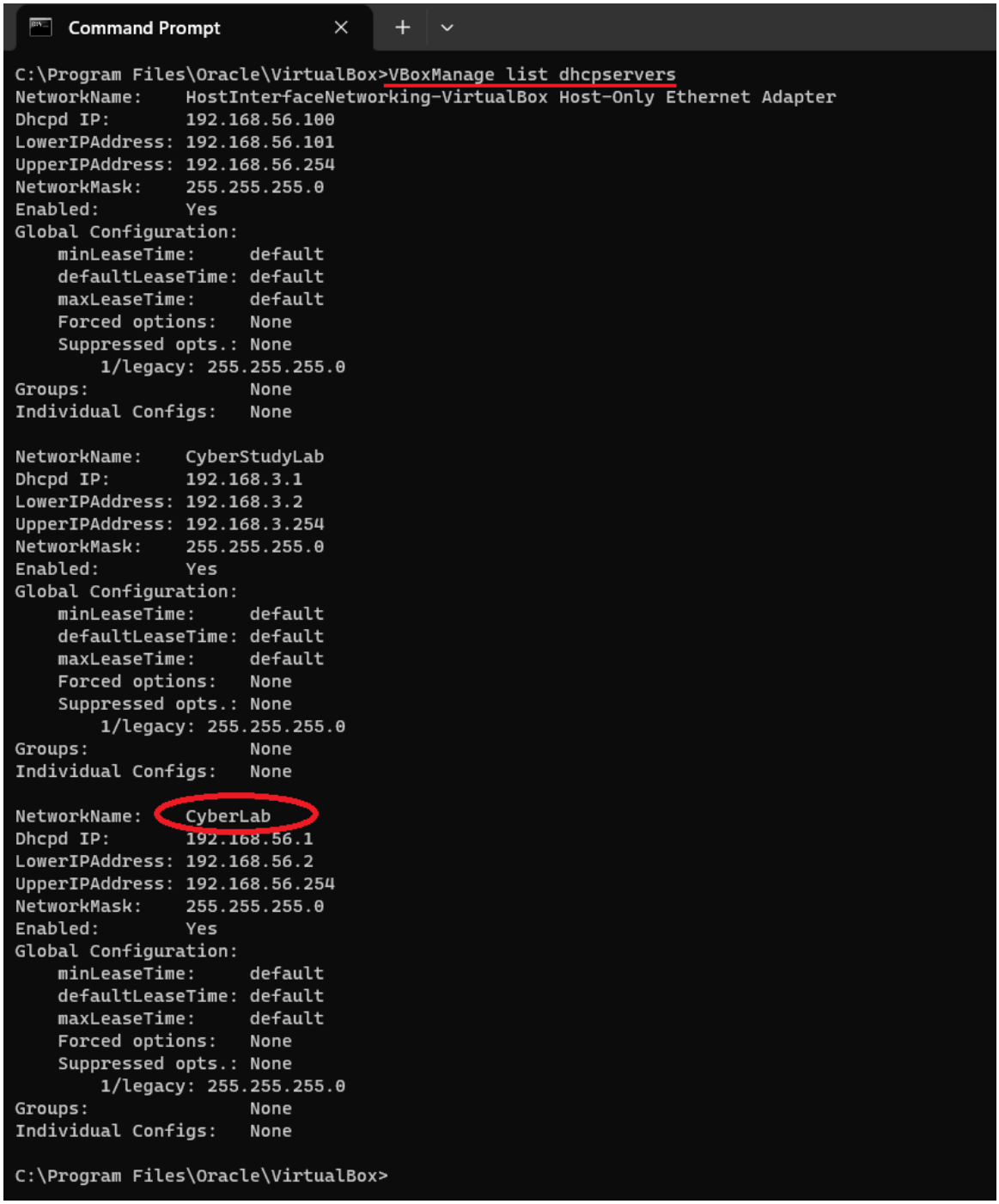
Note: For the sake of clarity I've only taken a screen of half of the command since the command is really long and taking a screenshot of that will blur the screenshot below if I did that.



26. So after executing the really long command we can now see that I have already created a DHCP server before, which displays the error below.

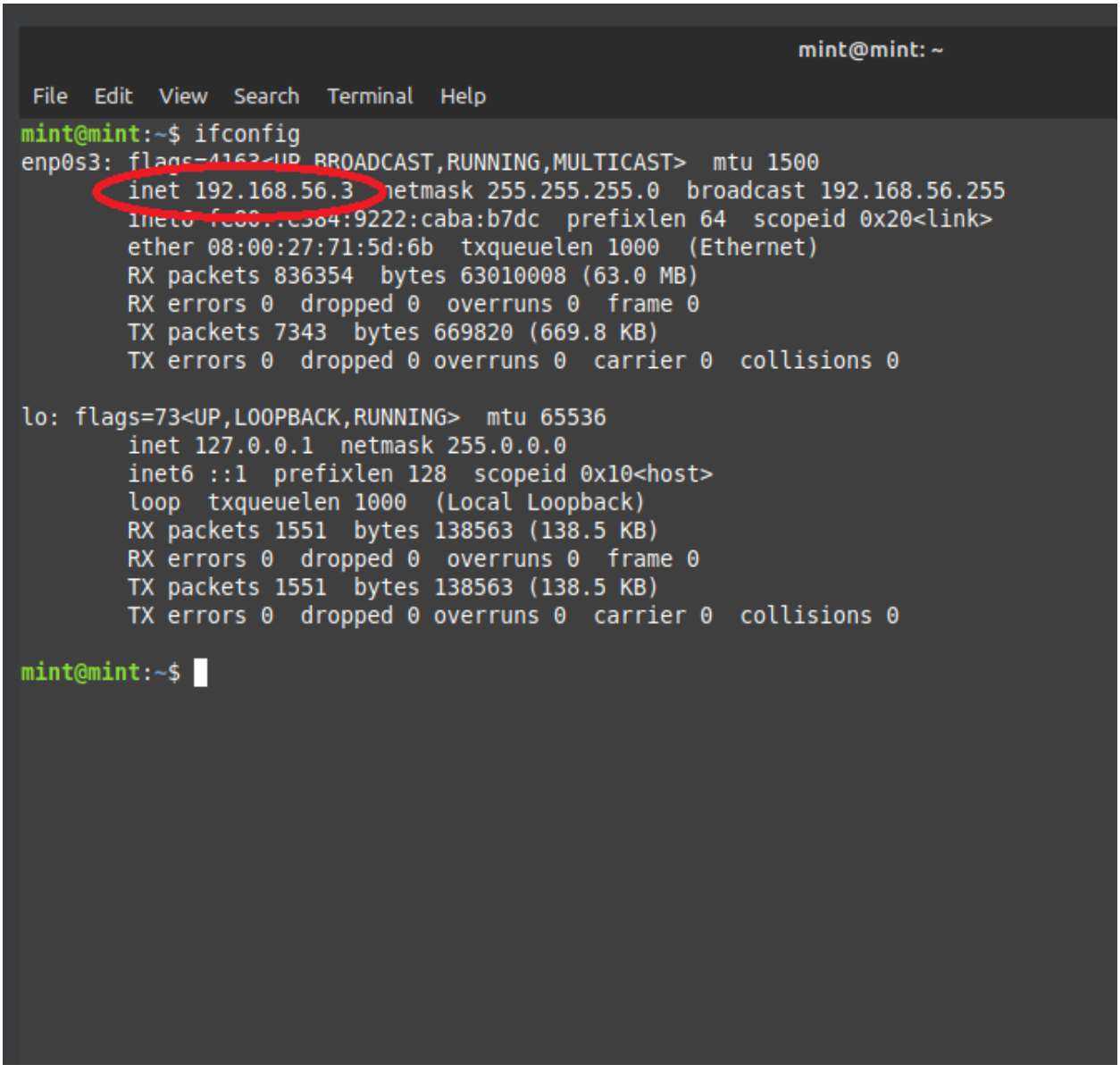


27. So to verify if I have already a DHCP server done, I execute the command: **VBoxManage list dhcpservers** and that will display the all the existing DHCP servers, in the circle I have highlighted below we can see that **CyberLab** is indeed existing in our DHCP server list



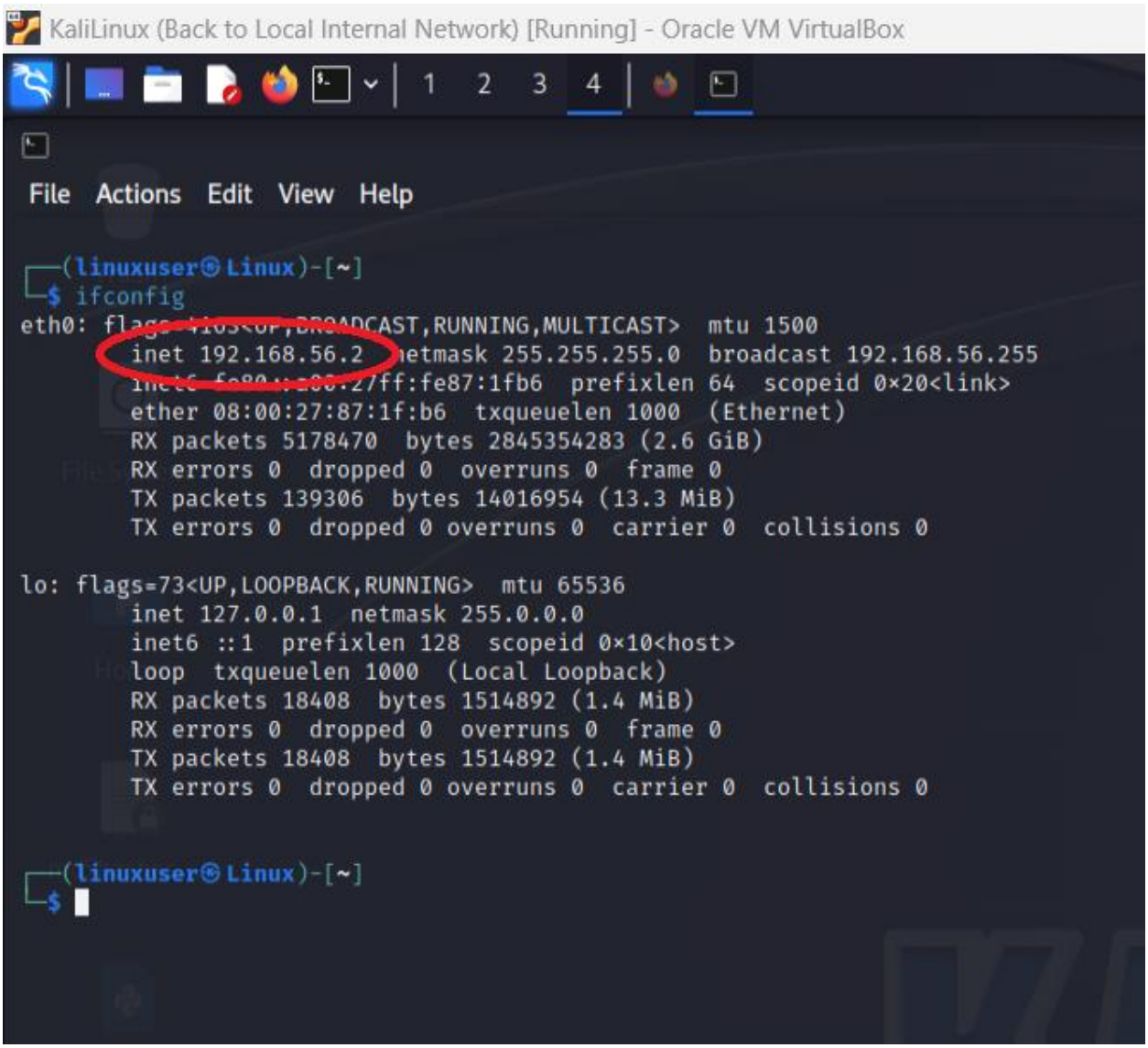
Part 3: Verifying Internal Network Connectivity

28. So I power both VMs again and I execute the command: **ifconfig** and it will display its ip address which is **192.168.56.3(Linux Mint VM).**



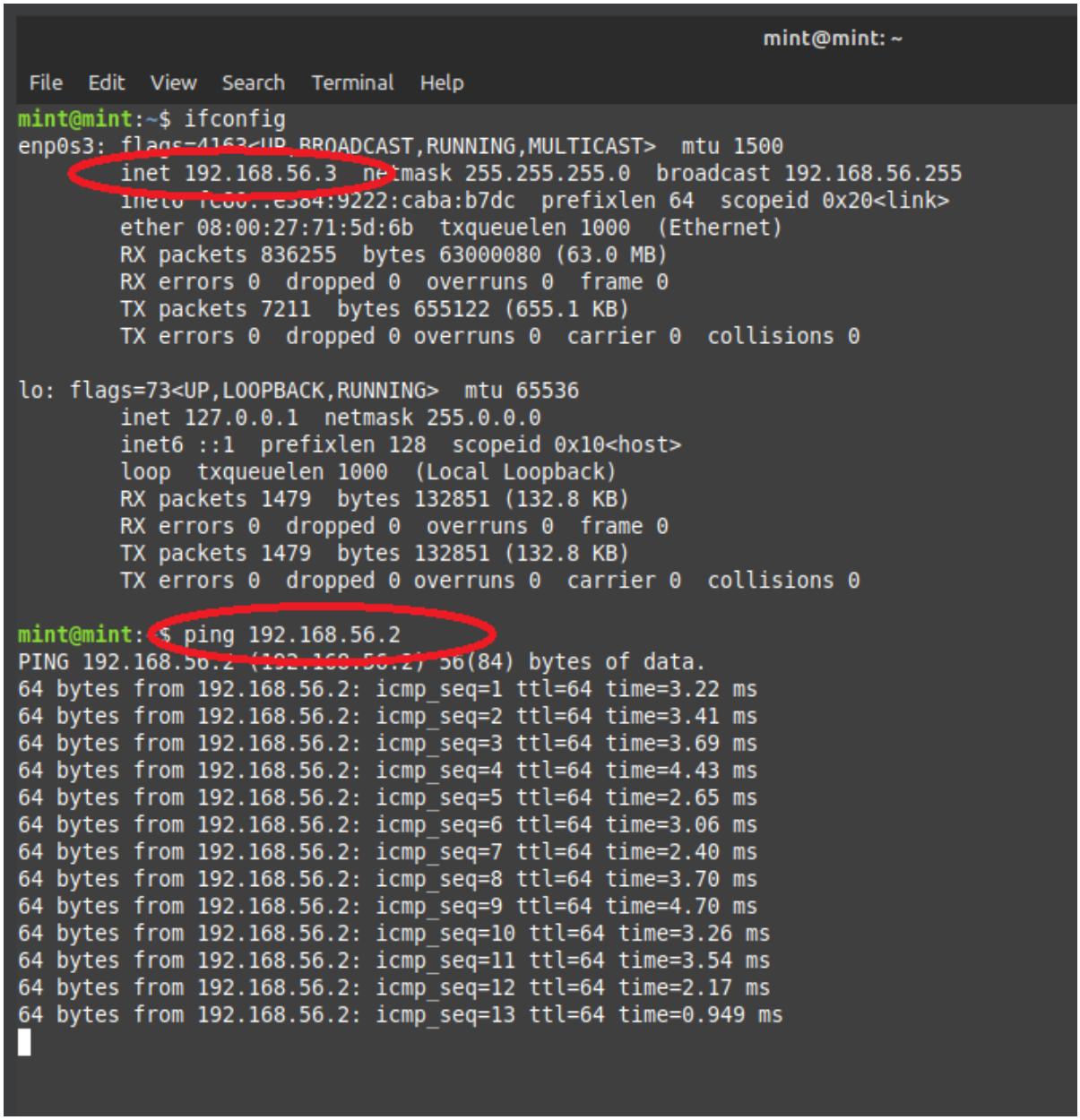
29. I do the same thing for the Kali Linux VM, I execute **ifconfig** and we can see its ip address is **192.168.56.2**. So now we can see that both VMs (Kali Linux VM, Linux Mint VM) are indeed assigned IP addresses by the dhcp server I have configured.

Note: The reason why I did not take a screenshot for both of these Vms side by side is because it would not fit in this document and would cause the screenshot to look really blurry therefore I separated both screenshots.



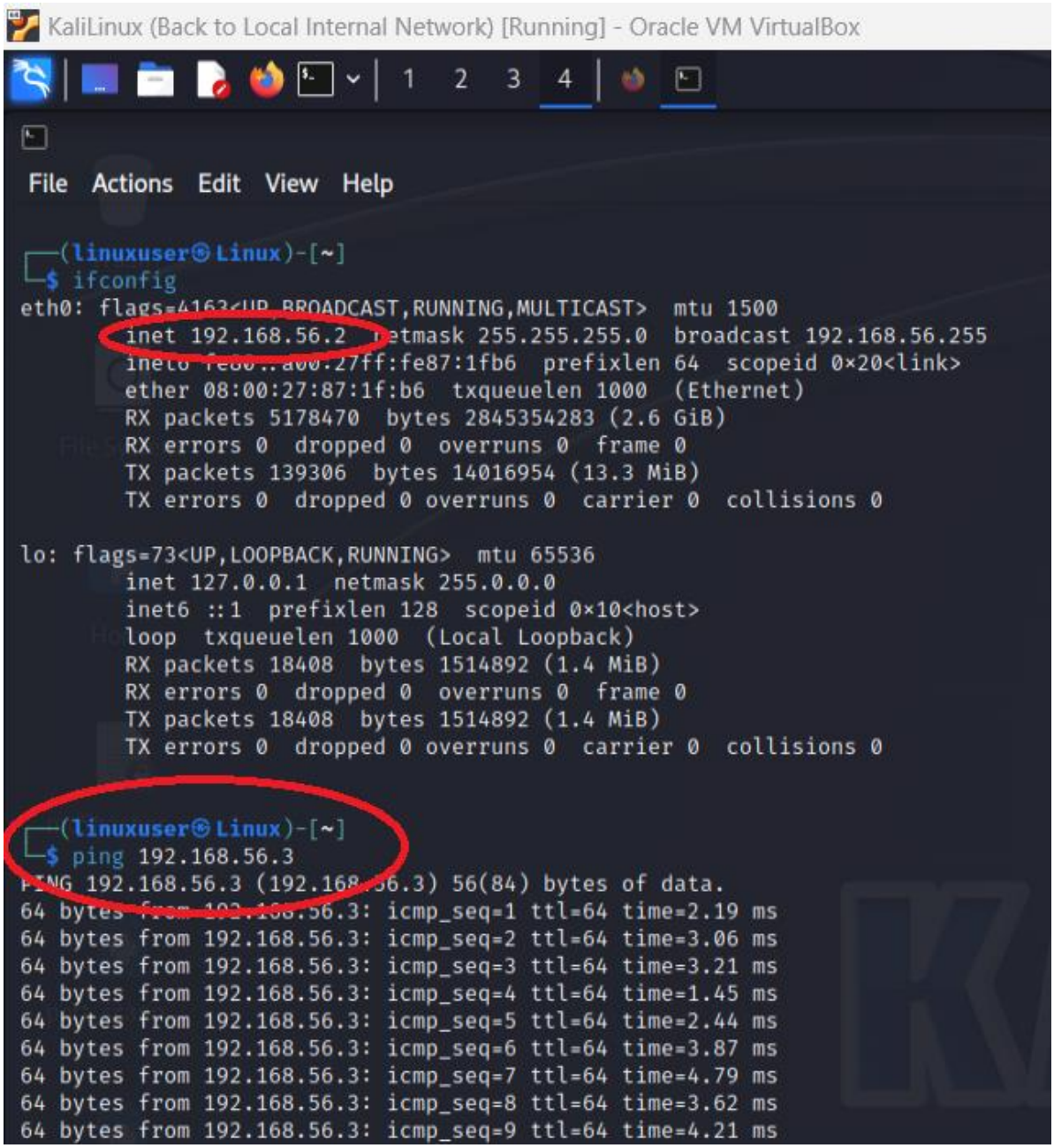
30. So now that we have verified the DHCP server has assigned both VMs IP addresses, it's time to find out if both VMs are in the same **Internal Network**. To verify that both VMs are in the same internal network I execute the command: **ping** including the IP address of the **Kali Linux VM.** As we can see from the screenshot below, there is connectivity for both VMs.

    Note: The ip address of the **Kali Linux VM** is **192.168.56.2.**
    The ip address of the **Linux Mint VM** is **192.168.56.3.**

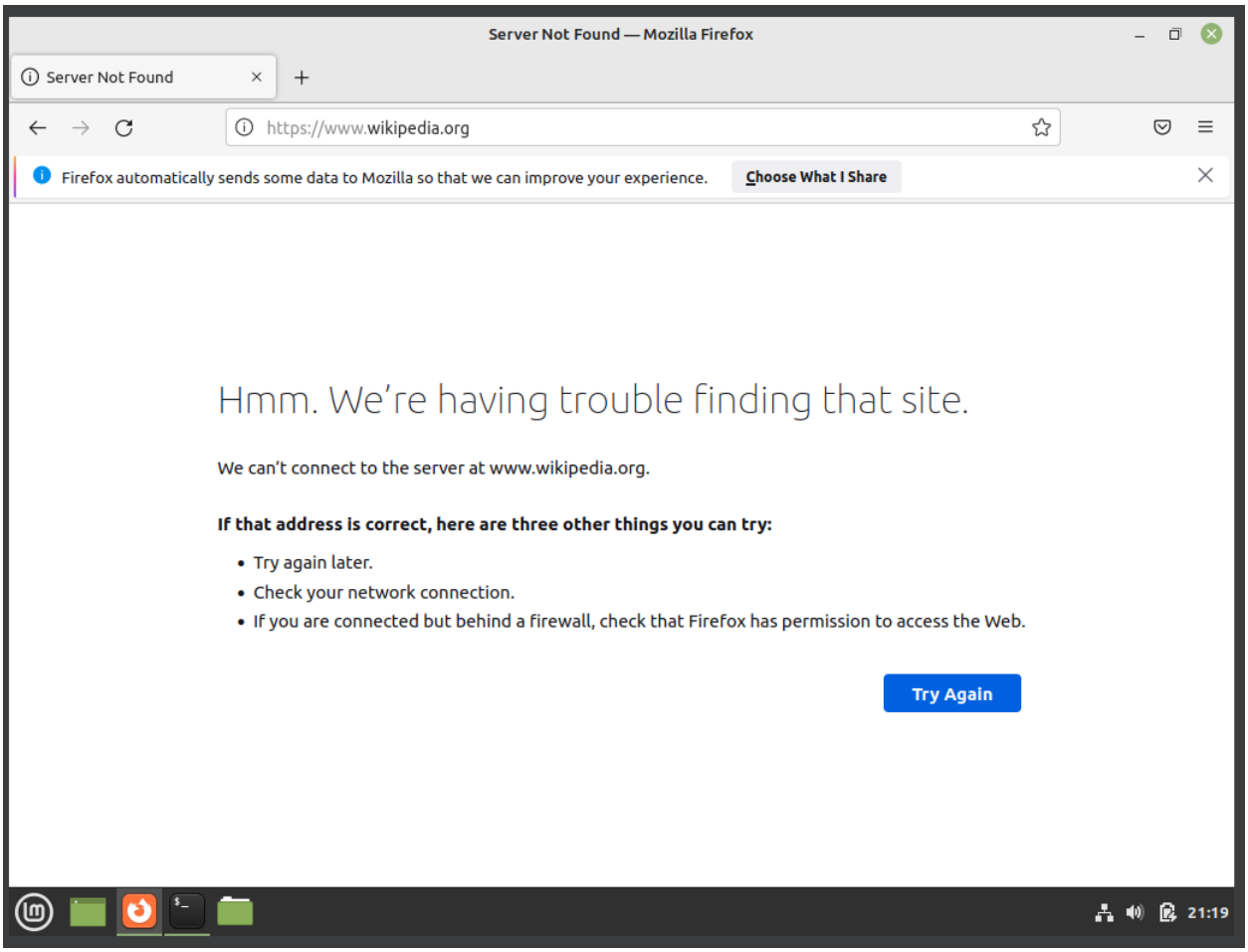


31. So now in the kali linux VM, we also want to verify that our **kali linux VM** can ping our **Linux Mint VM** by running the command **ping** and ip address of the linux mint VM which is **192.168.56.3.** So as we can see from the image below there is connectivity between both VMs therefore we can say that they are in their own internal network.

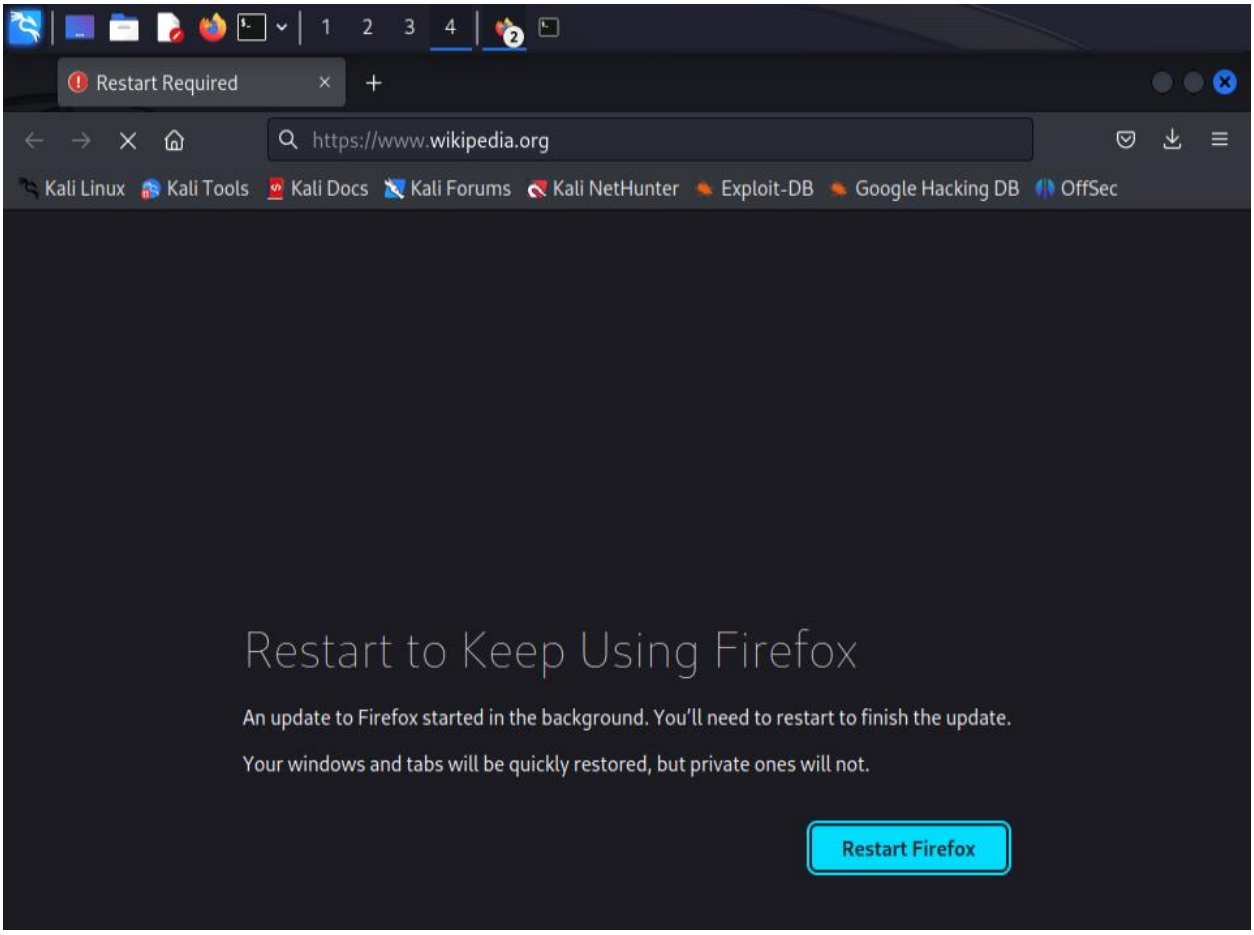
    Note: The ip address of the **Kali Linux VM** is **192.168.56.2.**
    The ip address of the **Linux Mint VM** is **192.168.56.3.**



32. Since both VMs are in the same **internal network**, we also want to verify that they do not have any internet access, and we can verify that by opening a browser and typing a **URL** to see if it can access it, since it cannot access the **URL** we have typed we can then say that our VMs do not have internet access.



33. I will do the same thing for the kali linux VM, so I open the browser and type a **URL** and check to see if it can access it, since there is no access to the **URL** we can then say that there is no internet connection.



End of Documentation

References: [How to build a SECURE hacking lab (VirtualBox Networking)]

By: JPS