

Process

1. Install Nebula in WSL2

Command: `sudo snap install nebula`

```
rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/c/Users/陈芷薇$ sudo snap install nebula
2025-10-16T10:37:26+08:00 INFO Waiting for automatic snapd restart...
nebula v1.9.7 from Will Sinatra (durrendal) installed
```

2. A Nebula certificate authority

It create files named ca.key and ca.cert in the current directory. The ca.key file is the key used to sign the certificates for individual nebula nodes/hosts.

Command: `./nebula-cert ca -name "chenzhiwei"`

```
rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ ./nebula-cert ca -name "chenzhiwei"
rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ ls
ca.crt ca.key nebula nebula-cert
```

3. Generate Nebula host keys and certificates from that certificate authority

Command: `./nebula-cert sign -name "lighthouse" -ip "192.168.100.1/24"`

`./nebula-cert sign -name "MBP15" -ip "192.168.100.15/24"`

`./nebula-cert sign -name "mini" -ip "192.168.100.10/24"`

This assumes I have three nodes, named lighthouse1, MBP15 and mini, followed with the chosen IP addresses and the associated subnet.

```
rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ ./nebula-cert sign -name "lighthouse" -ip "192.168.100.1/24"
rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ ./nebula-cert sign -name "MBP15" -ip "192.168.100.15/24"
rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ ./nebula-cert sign -name "mini" -ip "192.168.100.10/24"
```

4. Run nebula on each host

```
rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ sudo ./nebula -config /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/conf/lh.yaml
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:outgoing endPort:0 groups:[] host:any ip: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:incoming endPort:0 groups:[] host:any ip: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall started             firewallHash=21716b47a7a140e448077fe66c31b4b42f232e996818d7dd1c6c4991e066dbdb
INFO[0000] Main HostMap created         network=192.168.100.1/24 preferredRanges=[]
INFO[0000] UDP hole punching enabled
INFO[0000] Nebula interface is active   build=1.4.0 interface=nebula1 network=192.168.100.1/24 udpAddr=":::4242"
INFO[0221] Handshake message received   certName=MBP15 fingerprint=9ff84564a6699a4396a66b0162a776bd8d61417ba94119c583dcb0762f171ce6 handshake="map[stage:1 style:ix_psk0]" initiatorIndex=161550090
5 issuer=46caale2ef880dfb1b9b087653c15a2aa3ef9558e095b093f053541c20f1fc77 remoteIndex=0 responderIndex=0 udpAddr="127.0.0.1:4243" vpnIp=192.168.100.15
INFO[0221] Handshake message sent       certName=MBP15 fingerprint=9ff84564a6699a4396a66b0162a776bd8d61417ba94119c583dcb0762f171ce6 handshake="map[stage:2 style:ix_psk0]" initiatorIndex=161550090
5 issuer=46caale2ef880dfb1b9b087653c15a2aa3ef9558e095b093f053541c20f1fc77 remoteIndex=0 responderIndex=2798152680 sentCachedPackets=0 udpAddr="127.0.0.1:4243" vpnIp=192.168.100.15

rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ sudo ./nebula -config /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/config.yaml
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:outgoing endPort:0 groups:[] host:any ip: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:incoming endPort:0 groups:[] host:any ip: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall started             firewallHash=21716b47a7a140e448077fe66c31b4b42f232e996818d7dd1c6c4991e066dbdb
INFO[0000] Main HostMap created         network=192.168.100.15/24 preferredRanges=[]
INFO[0000] UDP hole punching enabled
INFO[0000] Nebula interface is active   build=1.4.0 interface=nebula2 network=192.168.100.15/24 udpAddr=":::4243"
INFO[0000] Handshake message sent       handshake="map[stage:1 style:ix_psk0]" initiatorIndex=1615500905 udpAddrs="[127.0.0.1:4242]" vpnIp=192.168.100.1
INFO[0000] Handshake message received   certName=lighthouse durationNs=8366658 fingerprint=921082c069988bbac1c84ba5c9d20886707b4d110cd40310ed18b1fb9b09da48 handshake="map[stage:2 style:ix_psk0]" initiatorIndex=1615500905 issuer=46caale2ef880dfb1b9b087653c15a2aa3ef9558e095b093f053541c20f1fc77 remoteIndex=1615500905 responderIndex=2798152680 sentCachedPackets=1 udpAddr="127.0.0.1:4242" vpnIp=192.168.100.1
INFO[0256] Close tunnel received, tearing down. certName=lighthouse udpAddr="127.0.0.1:4242" vpnIp=192.168.100.1
```

5. Ping from one host to another one

```

rosalind@rosalind:~$ ping 192.168.100.1
PING 192.168.100.1 (192.168.100.1) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.039 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.076 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.075 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.073 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.069 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=6 ttl=64 time=0.087 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=7 ttl=64 time=0.082 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=8 ttl=64 time=0.091 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=9 ttl=64 time=0.080 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=10 ttl=64 time=0.224 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=11 ttl=64 time=0.068 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=12 ttl=64 time=0.084 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=13 ttl=64 time=0.072 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=14 ttl=64 time=0.067 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=15 ttl=64 time=0.090 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=16 ttl=64 time=0.075 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=17 ttl=64 time=0.076 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=18 ttl=64 time=0.080 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=19 ttl=64 time=0.065 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=20 ttl=64 time=0.076 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=21 ttl=64 time=0.074 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=22 ttl=64 time=0.081 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.1: icmp_seq=23 ttl=64 time=0.070 ms

```

Problems that I met

1. This image indicates that my Lab.2.lighthouse.config.yaml file has syntax errors in its YAML format, especially issues with the colon, indentation, or quotation marks near line 8.

```

rosalind@rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ ./nebula -config /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/Lab.2.lighthouse.config.yaml
failed to load config: yaml: line 8: mapping values are not allowed in this context
rosalind@rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$

```

Solution:

The modified conffh.yaml

```

pki:
  ca: /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/ca.crt
  cert: /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/lighthouse.crt
  key: /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/lighthouse.key

lighthouse:
  am_lighthouse: true
  interval: 60

listen:
  host: "[::]"
  port: 4242

punchy:

```

punch: true

cipher: chachapoly

tun:

disabled: false

dev: nebula1

drop_local_broadcast: false

drop_multicast: false

tx_queue: 500

mtu: 1300

logging:

level: info

format: text

firewall:

conntrack:

tcp_timeout: 12m

udp_timeout: 3m

default_timeout: 10m

max_connections: 100000

outbound:

- port: any

proto: any

host: any

inbound:

- port: any

proto: any

host: any

2. This indicates that Nebula failed to create the virtual network interface (TUN/TAP) during startup. TUN/TAP is a virtual network interface at the operating system kernel level; ordinary users do not have permission to create it.

Therefore, start Nebula with **sudo** instead.

```
rosalind@Rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ ./nebula -config /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/config.yaml
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added                firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:outgoing endPo
rt:0 groups:[] host:any ip: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added                firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:incoming endPo
rt:0 groups:[] host:any ip: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall started                    firewallHash=21716b47a7a140e448077fe66c31b4b42f232e996818
d7dd1c6c4991e066dbdb
ERRO[0000] Failed to get a tun/tap device      error="operation not permitted"
```

3. Lighthouse has already started successfully and is listening on port 4242 normally. I am currently running two Nebula instances (Lighthouse + Node) on the same machine, both of which are trying to create a network interface with the same name, nebula1, causing a resource conflict.

Solution:

Change the dev in

“

tun:

disabled: false

dev: nebula1

“

to nebula2

```
rosalind@rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ sudo ./nebula -config /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/config.yaml
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:outgoing endPort:0 groups:[] host:any i
p: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:incoming endPort:0 groups:[] host:any i
p: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall started             firewallHash=21716b47a7a140e448077fe66c31b4b42f232e996818d7dd1c6c4991e066dbdb
ERROR[0000] Failed to get a tun/tap device error="device or resource busy"
```

- Each Nebula node needs to bind to a UDP port for communication (4242 by default). A Lighthouse instance is already running on the same machine, occupying UDP port 4242. Therefore, when a second instance (config.yaml) also tries to listen on the same port, a conflict occurs. This is because a UDP port cannot be bound to by two programs simultaneously on the same IP address.

Solution: change the listening port of config to 4243.

```
rosalind@rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ sudo ./nebula -config /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/config.yaml
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:outgoing endPort:0 groups:[] host:any i
p: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:incoming endPort:0 groups:[] host:any i
p: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall started             firewallHash=21716b47a7a140e448077fe66c31b4b42f232e996818d7dd1c6c4991e066dbdb
ERROR[0000] Failed to open udp listener   error="unable to bind to socket: address already in use" queue=0
```

- My node (192.168.100.15) wants to contact Lighthouse (192.168.100.1), but I don't know its real IP/port because static_host_map is not configured.

Solution: The static_host_map was modified to use 127.0.0.1 because it runs on the same host.

```
rosalind@rosalind:/mnt/e/nebula-linux-386$ sudo ./nebula -config /mnt/e/nebula-linux-386/config.yaml
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:outgoing endPort:0 groups:[] host:any i
p: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall rule added          firewallRule="map[caName: caSha: direction:incoming endPort:0 groups:[] host:any i
p: proto:0 startPort:0]"
INFO[0000] Firewall started             firewallHash=21716b47a7a140e448077fe66c31b4b42f232e996818d7dd1c6c4991e066dbdb
INFO[0000] Main HostMap created         network=192.168.100.15/24 preferredRanges="[]"
INFO[0000] UDP hole punching enabled
ERROR[0000] Lighthouse unreachable      error="Lighthouse 192.168.100.1 does not have a static_host_map entry"
INFO[0000] Nebula interface is active   build=1.4.0 interface=nebula2 network=192.168.100.15/24 udpAddr=":::4243"
INFO[0009] Handshake timed out         durationNs=9578722353 handshake="map[stage:1 style:ix_psk0]" initiatorIndex=167349
4110 remoteIndex=0 udpAddr="" vpnIp=192.168.100.1
```