Day 10 of Learning Cyber Security

Platform: Kali Linux

Name: Ayesha Nadeem

Topic: Nessus

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Date: 10th July, 2025

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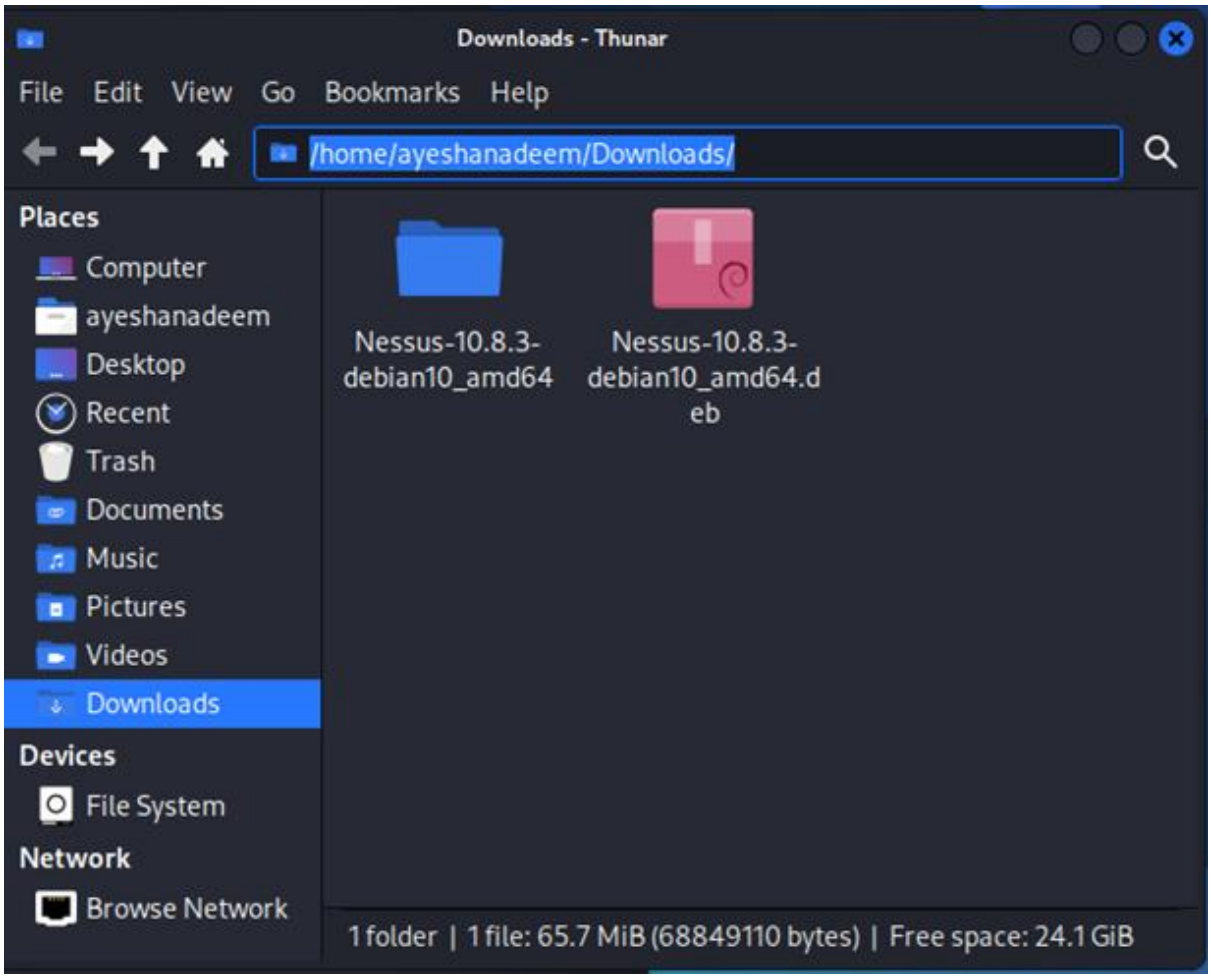
Nessus: Vulnerability Assessment Engine

Task 1: Install and Download Nessus

- Download Nessus
- Install Nessus.
- Setup scanners and verify their installation.

Nessus download:



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Nessus Installation:

```
┌──(ayeshanadeem㉿ayeshanadeem)-[~]
└─$ cd /home/ayeshanadeem/Downloads/

┌──(ayeshanadeem㉿ayeshanadeem)-[~/Downloads]
└─$ sudo dpkg -i Nessus-10.8.3-debian10_amd64.deb
Selecting previously unselected package nessus.
(Reading database ... 448409 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack Nessus-10.8.3-debian10_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking nessus (10.8.3) ...
Setting up nessus (10.8.3) ...
HMAC : (Module_Integrity) : Pass
SHA1 : (KAT_Digest) : Pass
SHA2 : (KAT_Digest) : Pass
SHA3 : (KAT_Digest) : Pass
TDES : (KAT_Cipher) : Pass
AES_GCM : (KAT_Cipher) : Pass
AES_ECB_Decrypt : (KAT_Cipher) : Pass
RSA : (KAT_Signature) : RNG : (Continuous_RNG_Test) : Pass
Pass
ECDSA : (PCT_Signature) : Pass
ECDSA : (PCT_Signature) : Pass
DSA : (PCT_Signature) : Pass
TLS13_KDF_EXTRACT : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
TLS13_KDF_EXPAND : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
TLS12_PRF : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
PBKDF2 : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
SSHKDF : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
KBKDF : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
HKDF : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
SSKDF : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
X963KDF : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
X942KDF : (KAT_KDF) : Pass
HASH : (DRBG) : Pass
CTR : (DRBG) : Pass
HMAC : (DRBG) : Pass
DH : (KAT_KA) : Pass
ECDH : (KAT_KA) : Pass
RSA_Encrypt : (KAT_AsymmetricCipher) : Pass
RSA_Decrypt : (KAT_AsymmetricCipher) : Pass
RSA_Decrypt : (KAT_AsymmetricCipher) : Pass
INSTALL PASSED
Unpacking Nessus Scanner Core Components...

 - You can start Nessus Scanner by typing /bin/systemctl start nessusd.service
 - Then go to https://ayeshanadeem:8834/ to configure your scanner


┌──(ayeshanadeem㉿ayeshanadeem)-[~/Downloads]
└─$  sudo systemctl start nessusd.service
```

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Verify Nessus is in running condition:

```
┌──(ayeshanadeem㉿ayeshanadeem)-[~/Downloads]
└─$ sudo systemctl status nessusd
[sudo] password for ayeshanadeem:
● nessusd.service - The Nessus Vulnerability Scanner
     Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/nessusd.service; disabled; preset: disabled)
     Active: active (running) since Thu 2025-03-20 10:53:50 EDT; 1h 47min ago
 Invocation: 933f02c2cd7b41e2a3c1e7437cb9f339
   Main PID: 5710 (nessus-service)
      Tasks: 20 (limit: 2210)
     Memory: 338.5M (peak: 1.2G, swap: 36M, swap peak: 63.1M)
        CPU: 4min 16.744s
     CGroup: /system.slice/nessusd.service
             ├─5710 /opt/nessus/sbin/nessus-service -q
             └─5712 nessusd -q

Mar 20 10:53:50 ayeshanadeem systemd[1]: Started nessusd.service - The Nessus Vulnerability Scanner.
Mar 20 10:54:25 ayeshanadeem nessus-service[5712]: Cached 306 plugin libs in 102msec
Mar 20 10:54:25 ayeshanadeem nessus-service[5712]: Cached 306 plugin libs in 276msec

┌──(ayeshanadeem㉿ayeshanadeem)-[~/Downloads]
```

Task 4: Configure and Start Nessus

- Start the Nessus service.
- Register and activate Nessus Essentials.
- Login and explore the Nessus interface.

Type https://localhost:8834 on firefox browser

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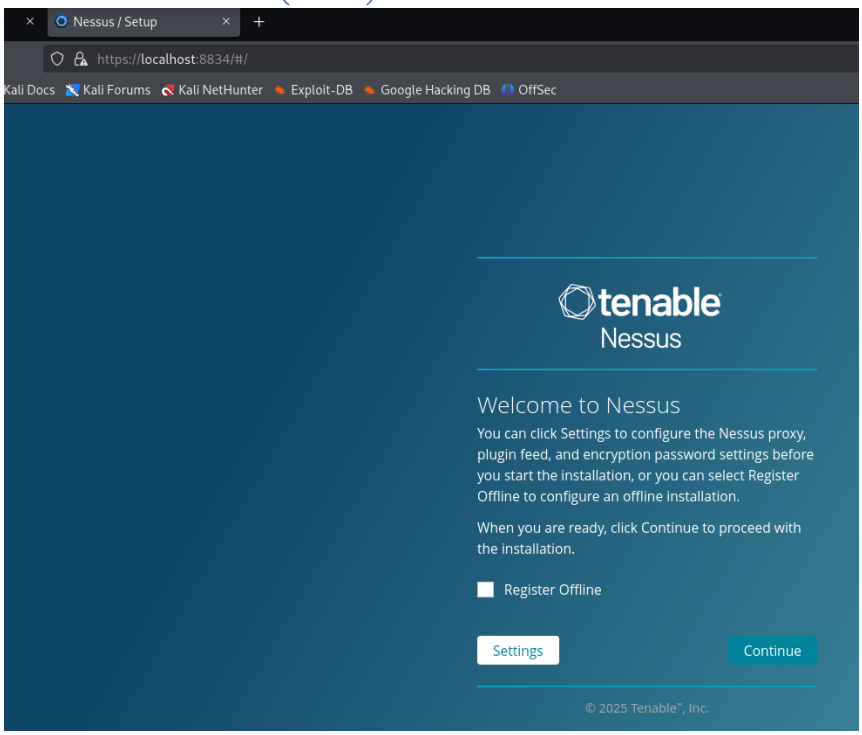
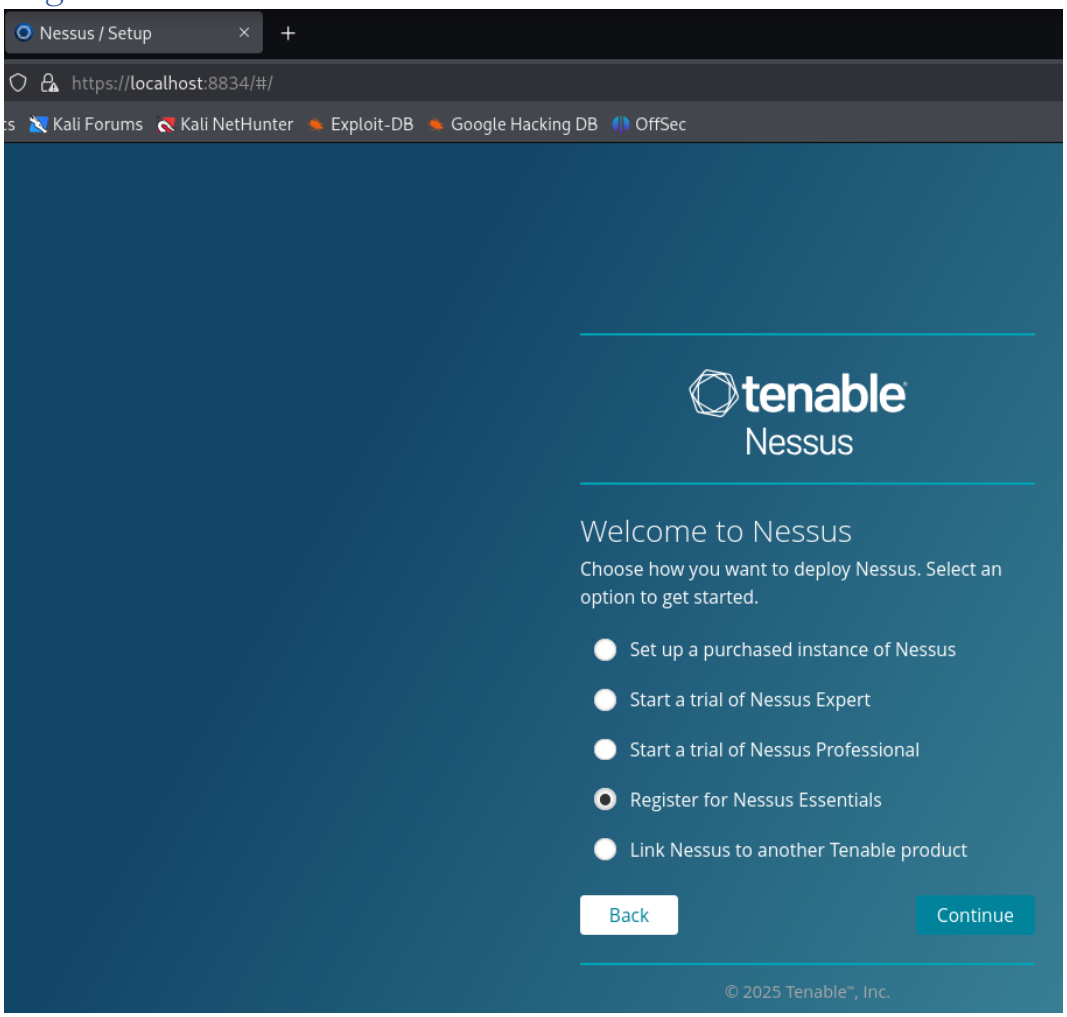
Tenable Interface (Start) :



Register and Activated Nessus Essential:



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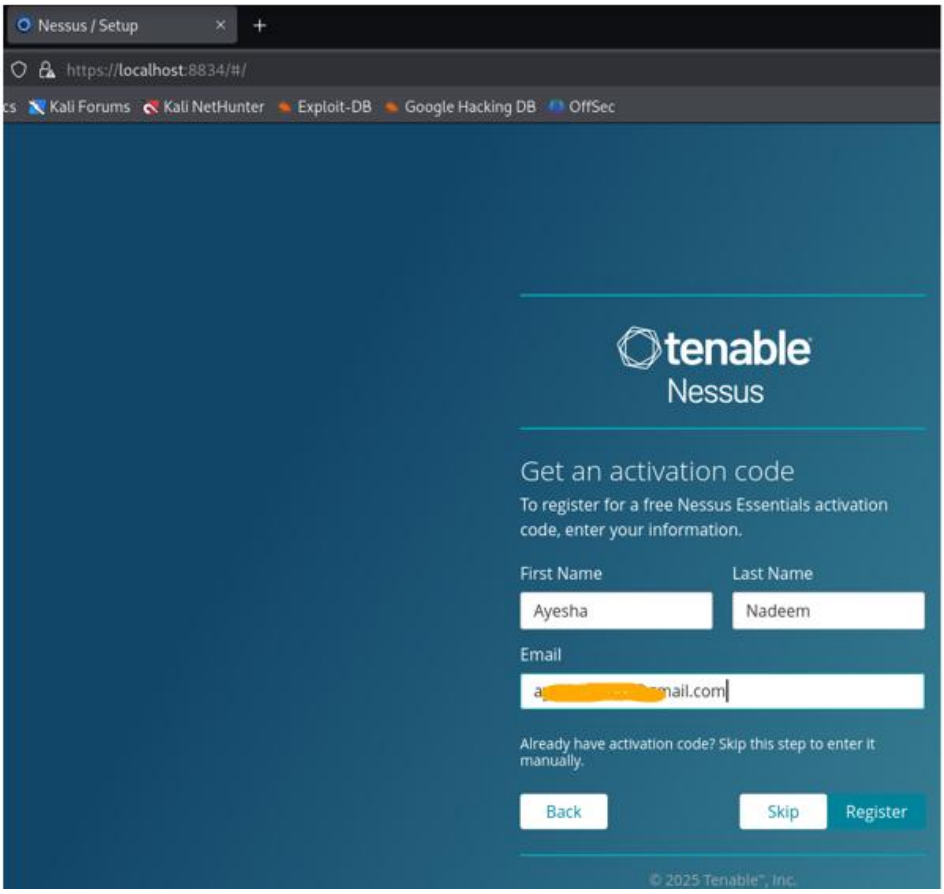
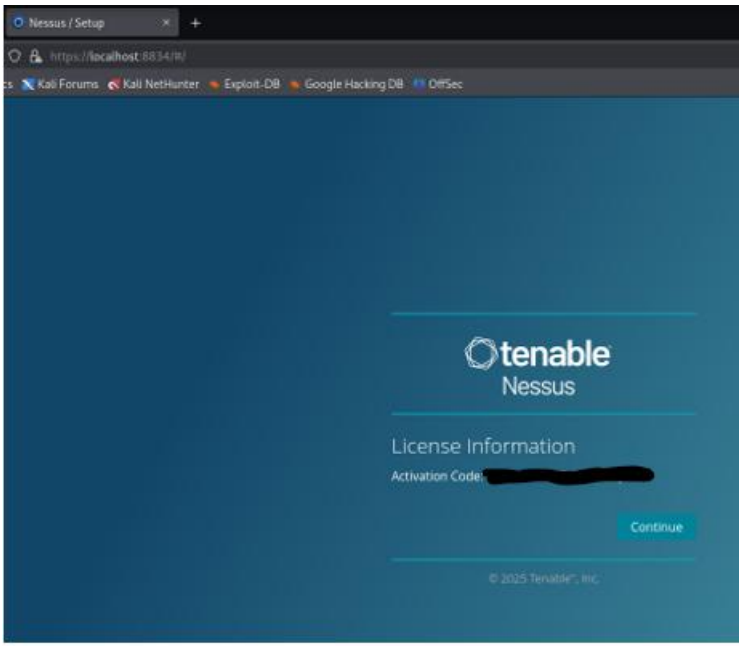


→ Clicked Register:



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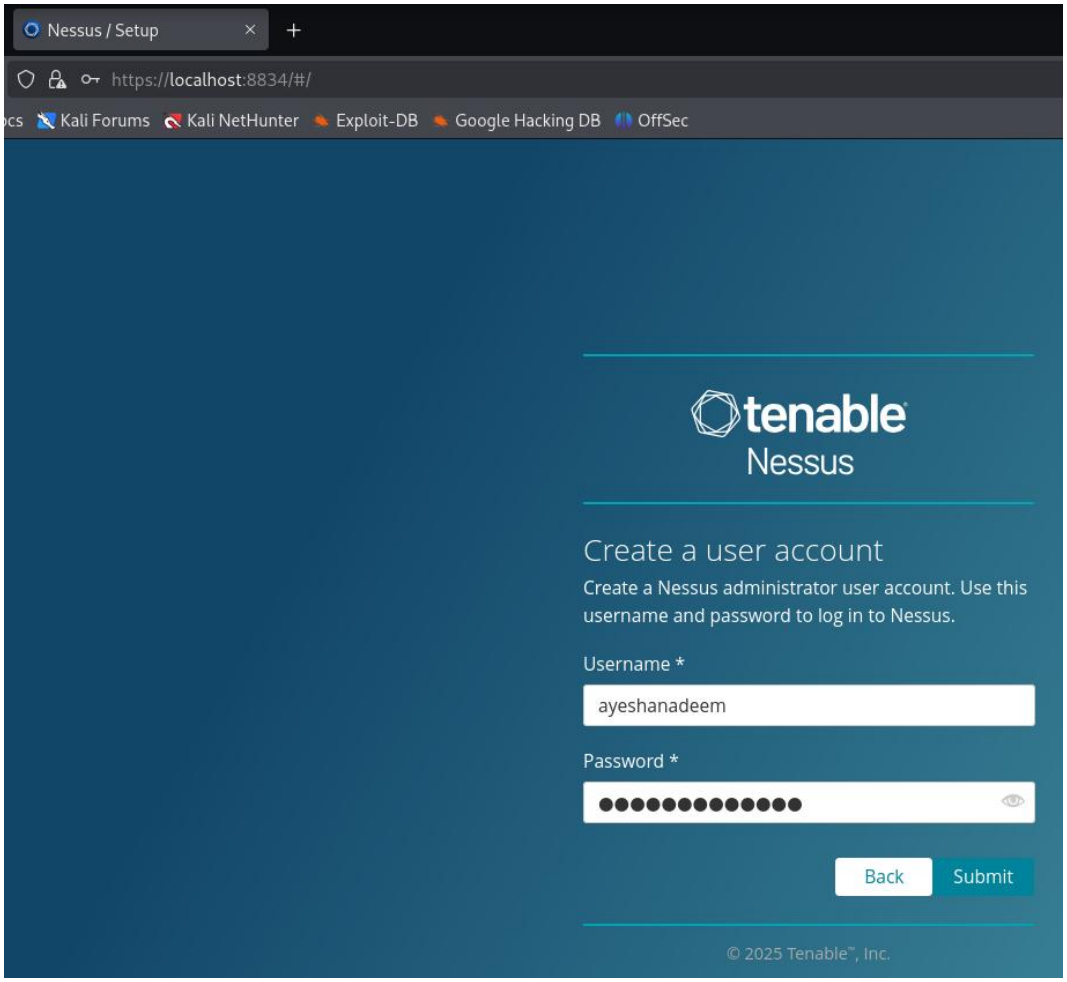

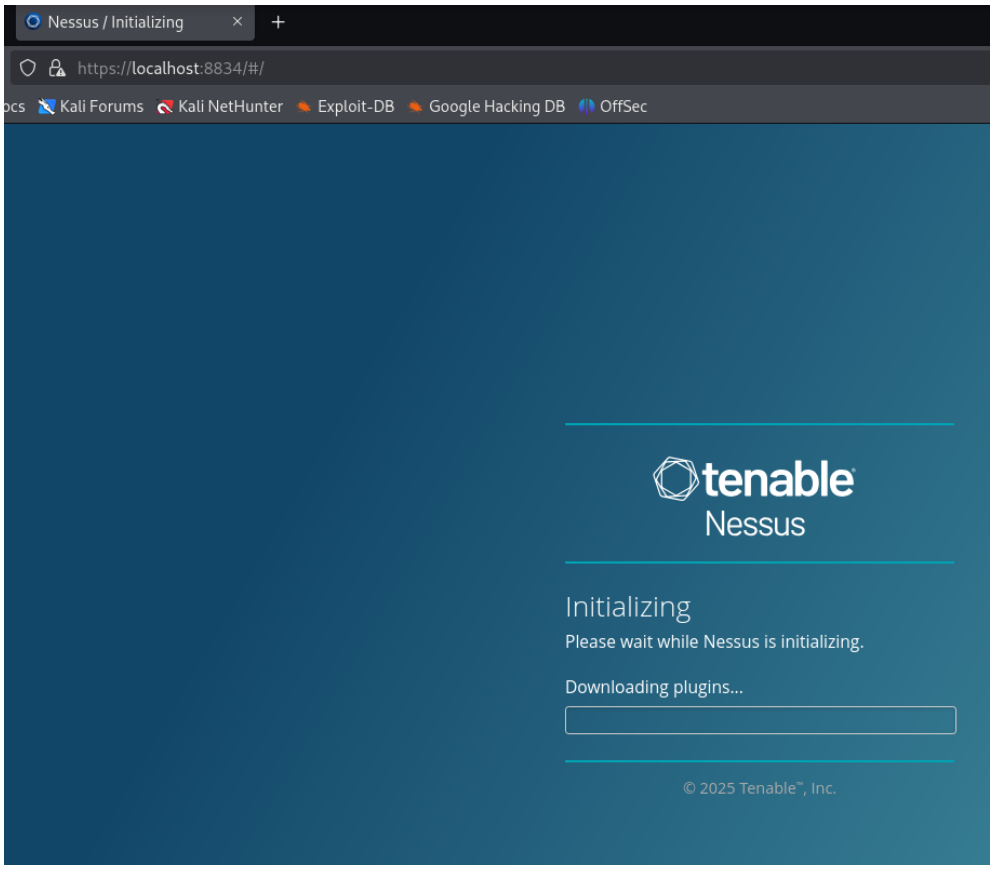

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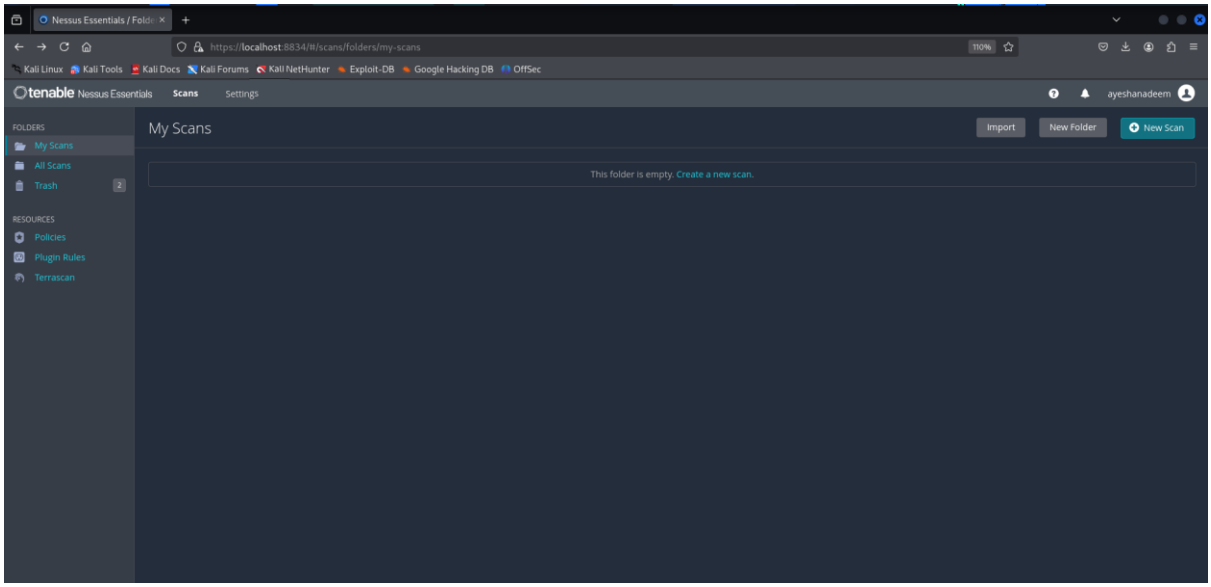
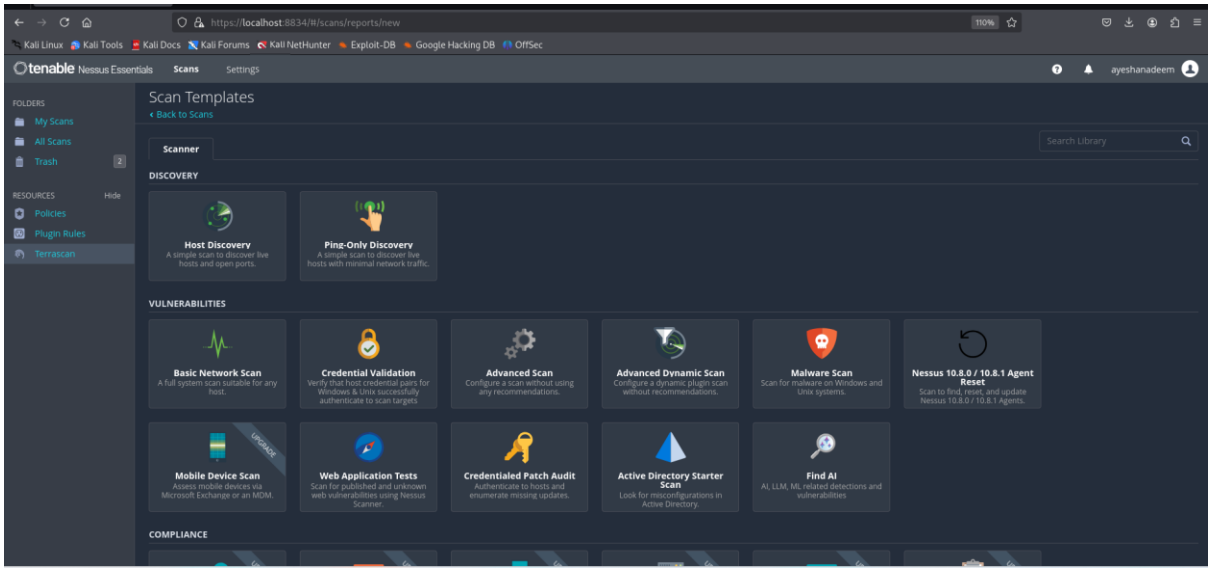
My dashboard:





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Task 5: Perform a Basic Vulnerability Scan Using Nessus

- Create a new scan task.
- Configure scan settings and targets.
- Run and analyze scan results.

Targetting cust.edu.pk:

→ Fetch ip of cust through ping
→ Fetch ip of cust through nslookup

```
Pinging cust.edu.pk [162.159.135.42] with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 162.159.135.42: bytes=32 time=241ms TTL=53
Reply from 162.159.135.42: bytes=32 time=156ms TTL=53
Reply from 162.159.135.42: bytes=32 time=172ms TTL=53
Reply from 162.159.135.42: bytes=32 time=192ms TTL=53

Ping statistics for 162.159.135.42:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 156ms, Maximum = 241ms, Average = 190ms

C:\Users\Nadeem Arif>nslookup cust.edu.pk
Server:  UnKnown
Address:  192.168.64.37

Non-authoritative answer:
Name:    cust.edu.pk
Address:  162.159.135.42
```

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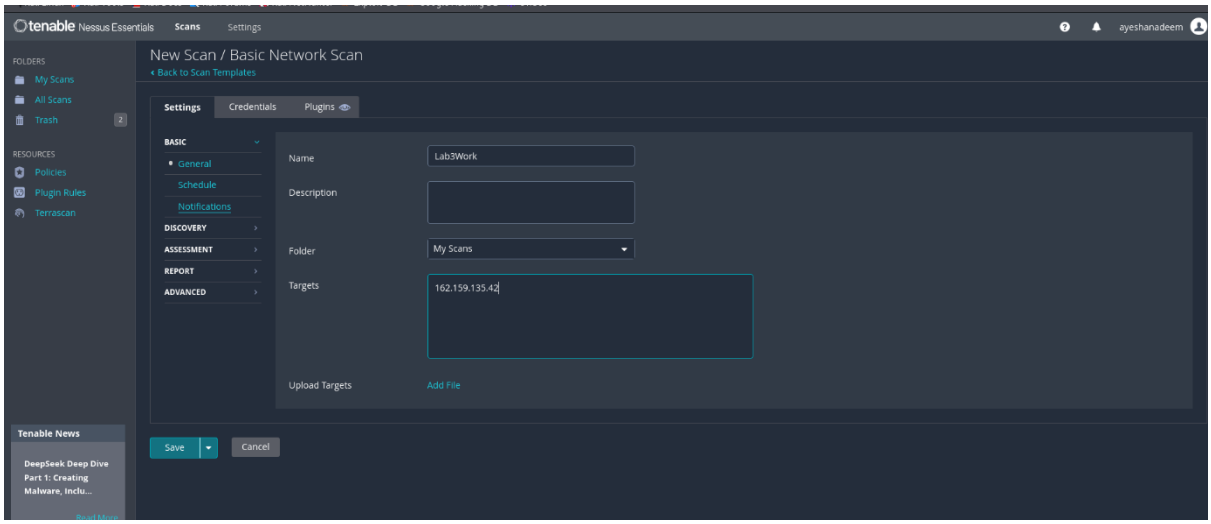
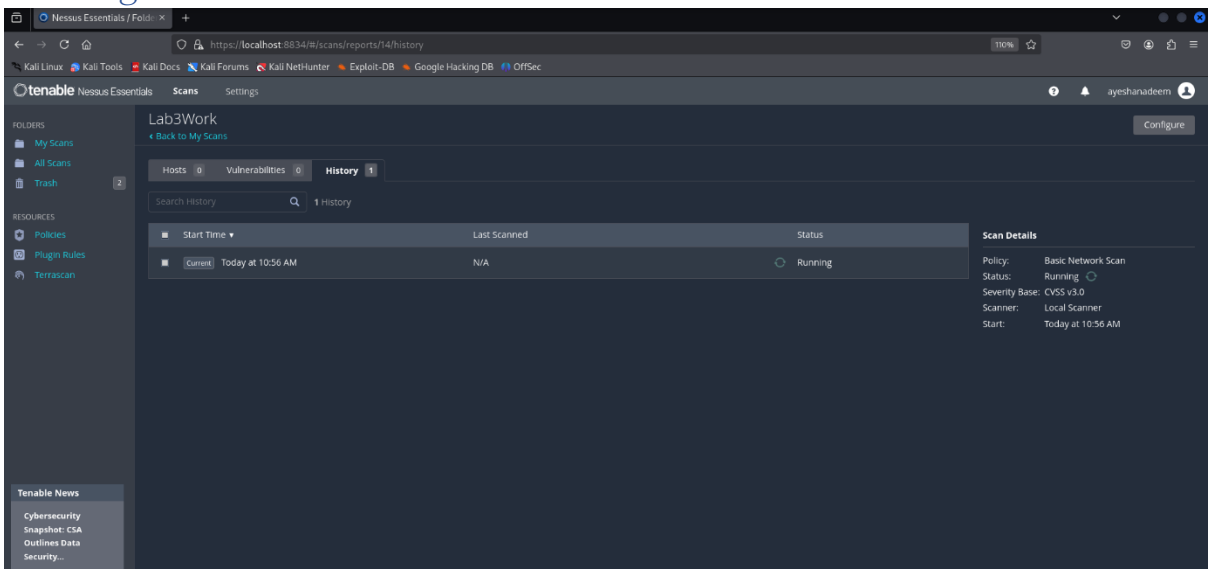
Setting parameters:

Just hit on scan button, you will see this interface. Here set you target and give any name to you scan.



Running the scan:



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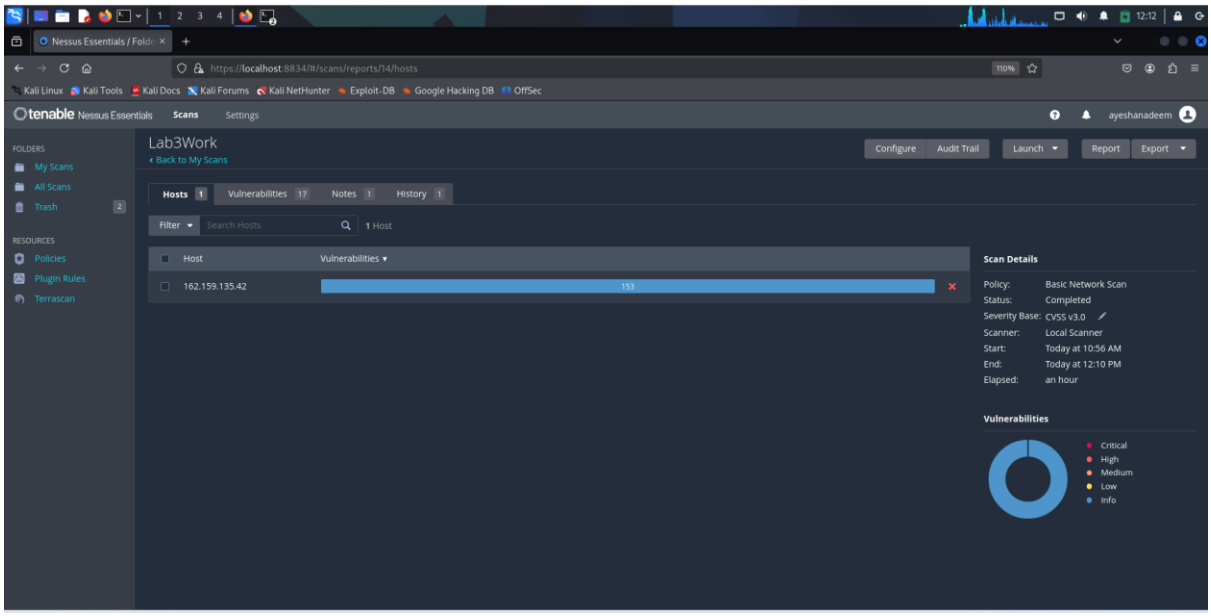
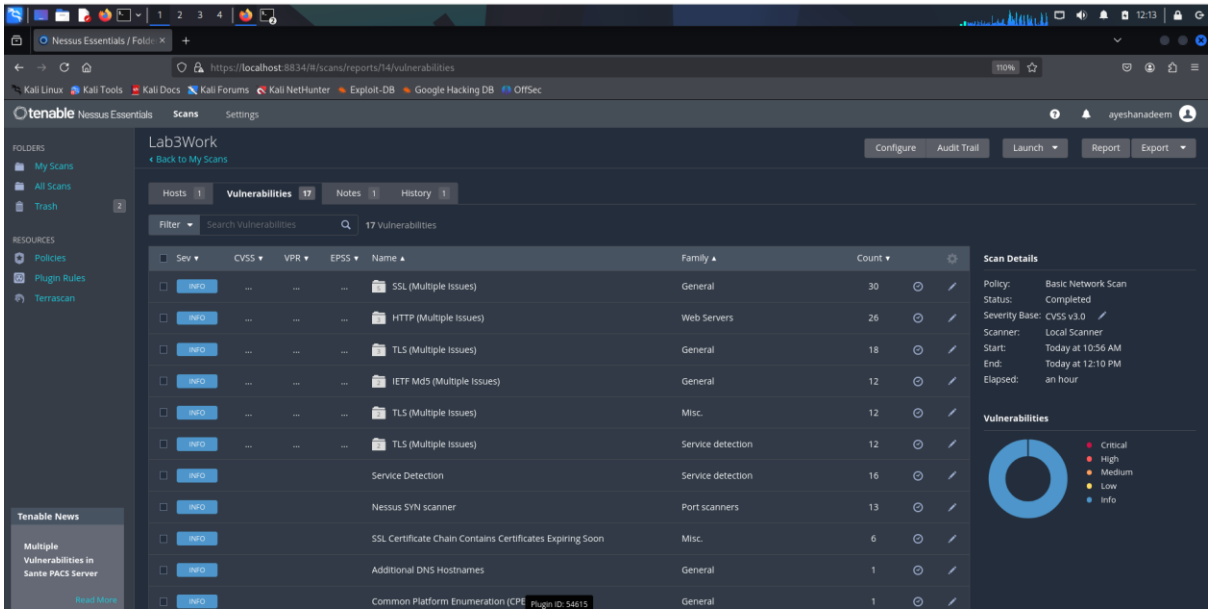
17 minor Vulnerabilities Found





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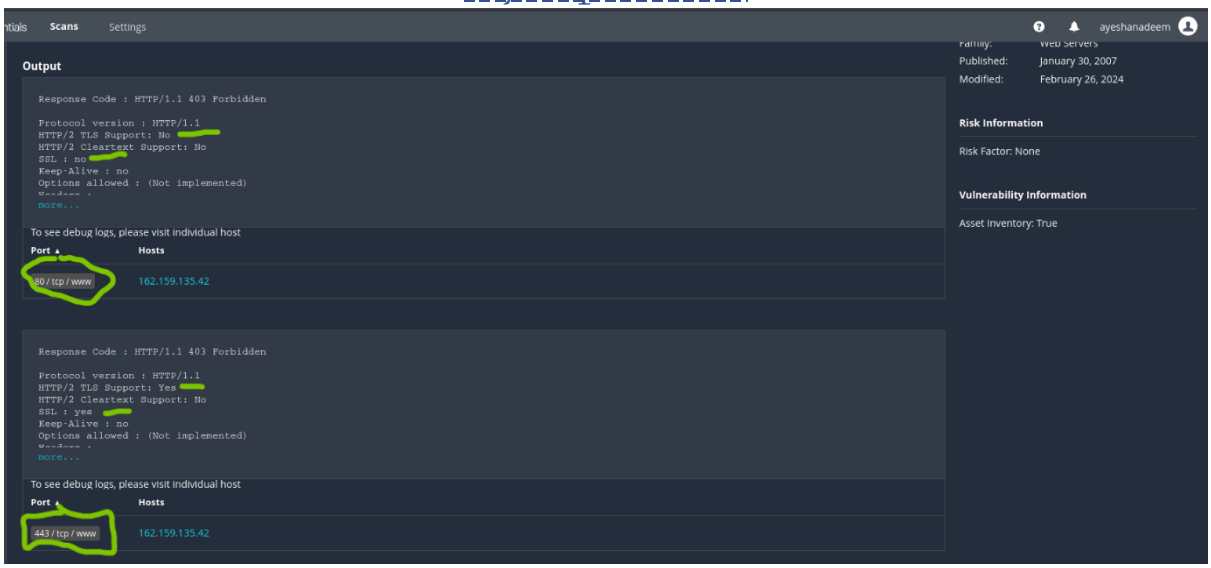
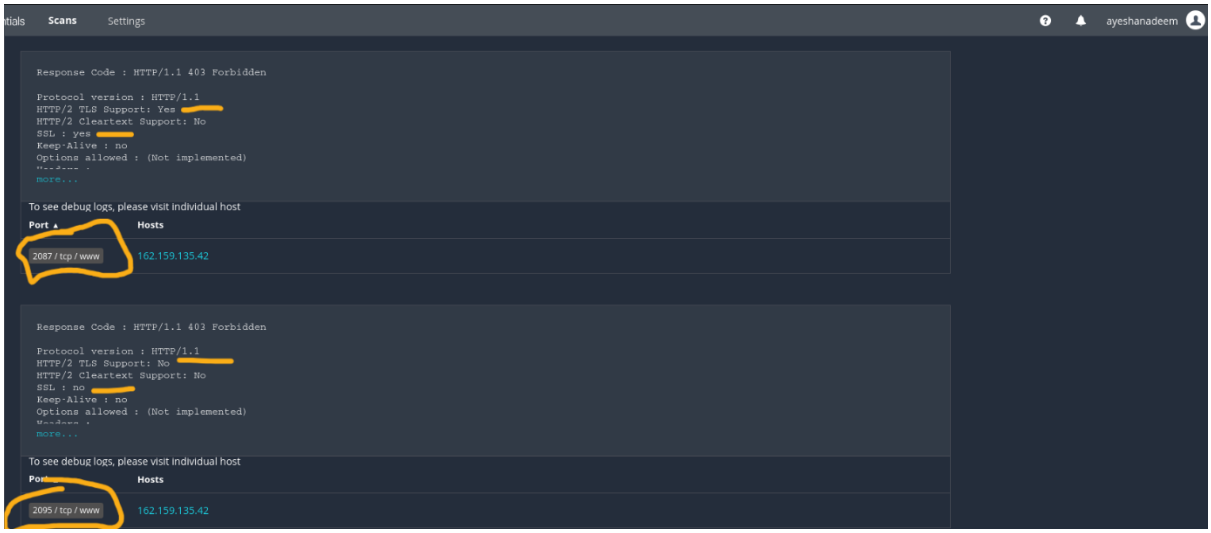
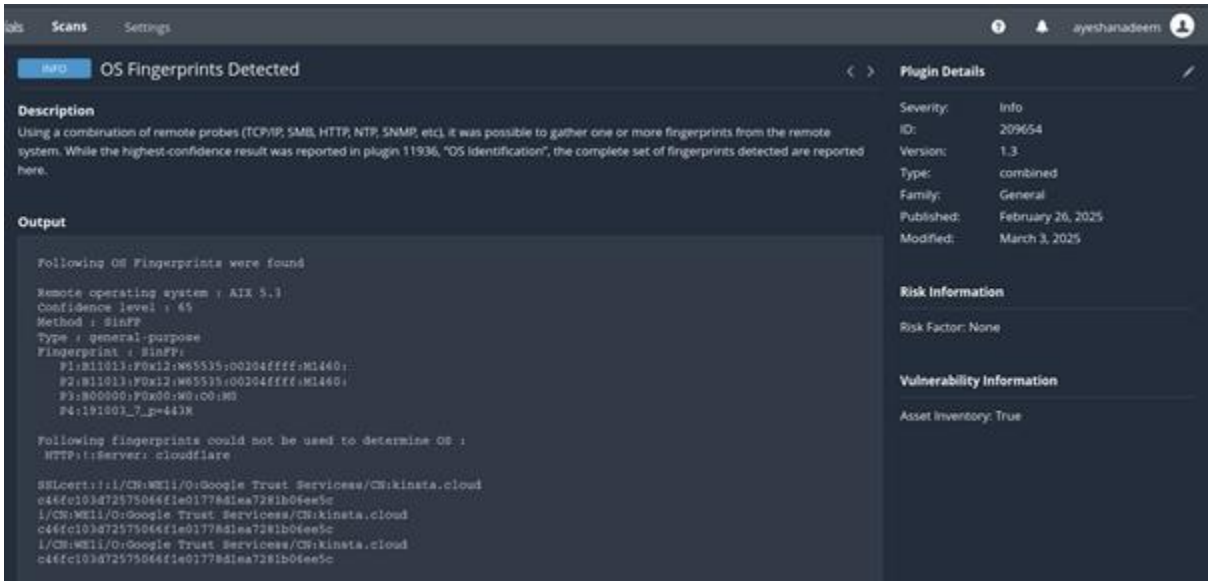
My Exploration:







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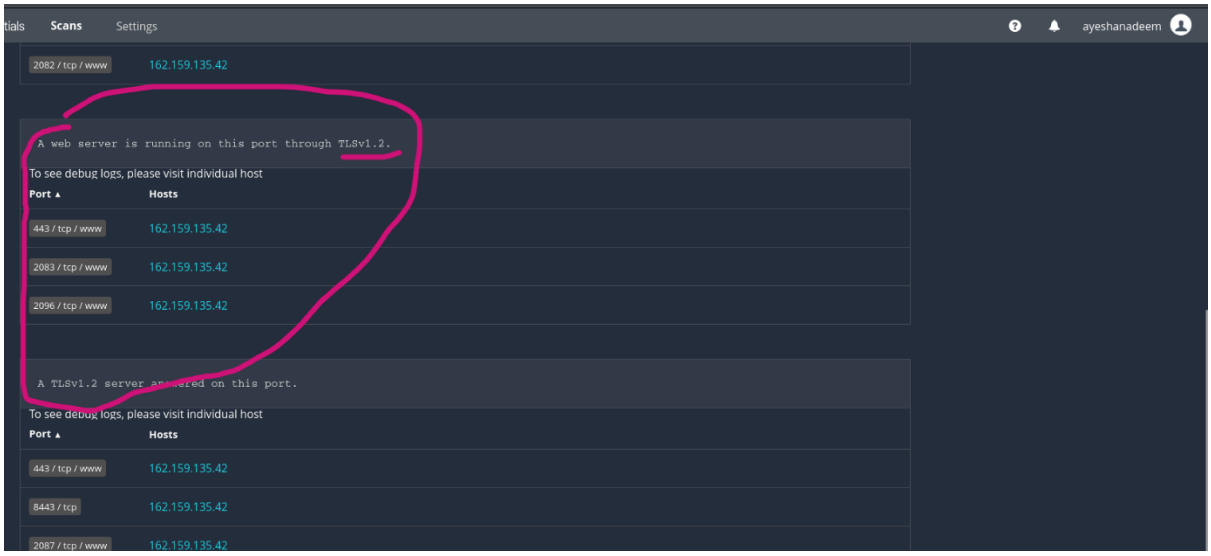

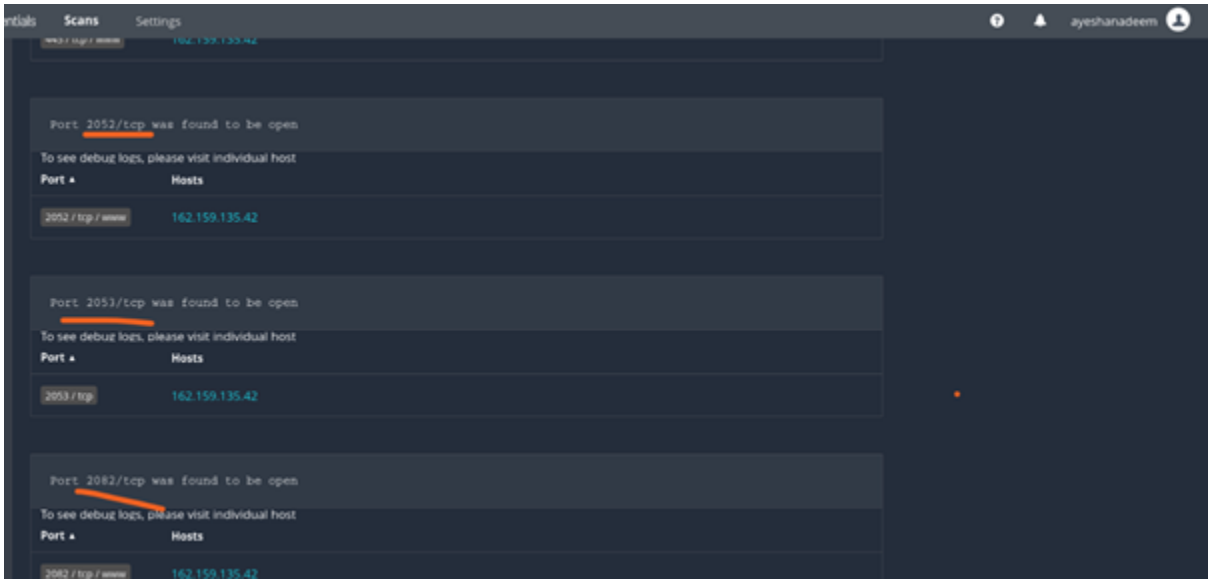

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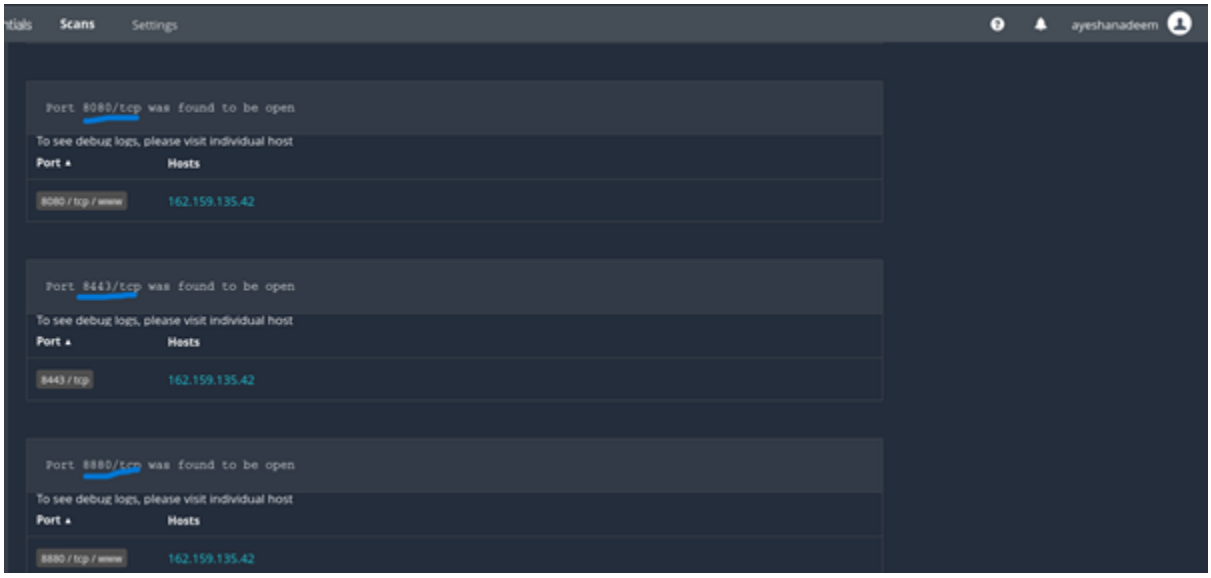

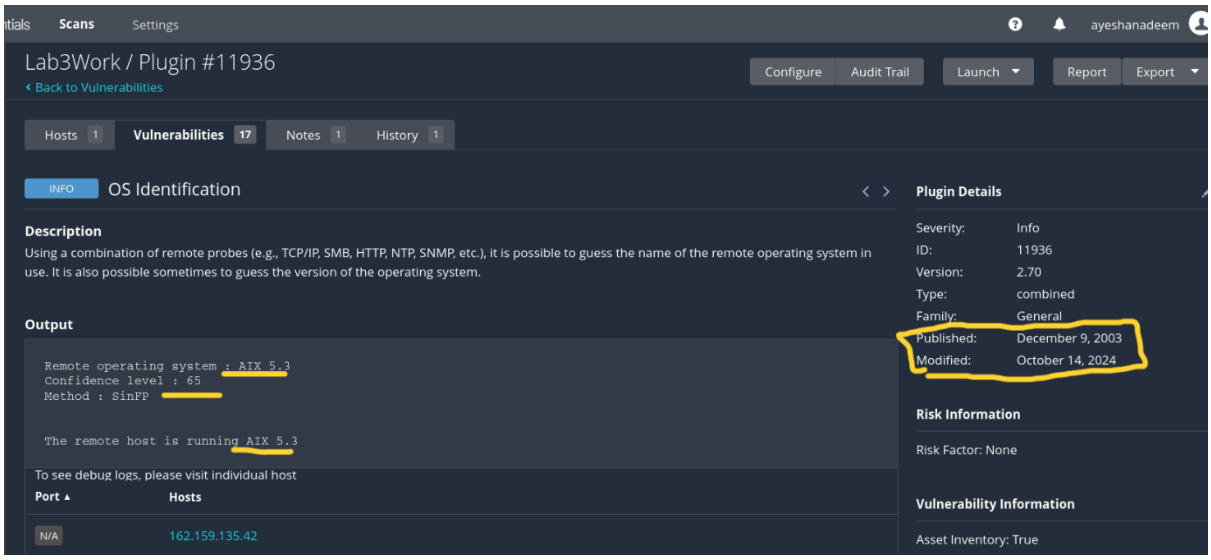

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