Title: Network Scanning using Nmap and Wireshark with NSE

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Warning

This project is just about Learning

Agenda

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Introduction

Understanding network behavior and vulnerabilities is essential in the quickly changing field of cybersecurity to guarantee the stability and security of digital environments. For network managers, cybersecurity experts, and IT supporters, network scanning and analysis tools like Nmap and Wireshark are essential.

The goal of this project is to use Nmap, a powerful network scanning tool, to find open ports, active devices, and possible network vulnerabilities. In parallel, network traffic is captured, inspected, and analyzed in real-time using Wireshark, an advanced packet analysis tool. When combined, these resources offer a thorough understanding of how network communications and security systems operate.

This project is to improve knowledge of network reconnaissance, traffic analysis, and anomaly detection by investigating the features, approaches, and real-world uses of Nmap and Wireshark. It provides a practical method for strengthening cybersecurity defenses and developing expertise in network diagnostics.

Introduction about Tools

1.Introduction about Nmap

- Network Mapper, sometimes known as Nmap, is a powerful and popular open-source program for network exploration and security analysis. It was developed by Gordon Lyon and has grown to be an essential tool for network managers and cybersecurity experts. By using Nmap, users can find vulnerabilities that an attacker could exploit, discover connected devices, scan networks, and find open ports. Proactive security measures require Nmap since it offers useful information about operating systems, running services, and network topology by sending custom packets and examining the responses.

- The program is very flexible, providing a range of scanning methods that may be customized for particular use cases, including OS detection, UDP scans, and TCP SYN scans. The Nmap Scripting Engine (NSE), which makes automation and sophisticated vulnerability assessments possible, extensively expands its functionality. Nmap has become vital for analyzing, controlling, and defending recent network settings because of its capacity to efficiently supervise networks of various sizes.

2. Introduction to Wireshark

- Wireshark is a well-known open-source program used in cybersecurity to analyze network traffic and identify potential threats. It allows specialists to record and evaluate data packets in real time, providing a thorough perspective of network activities. With support for decoding hundreds of protocols, Wireshark delivers extensive insights into communication processes, making it a crucial tool for discovering vulnerabilities and analyzing security occurrences.

- Wireshark is an essential tool in the field of cybersecurity for monitoring illegal access, analyzing malware activity, and identifying security breaches. Its sophisticated filtering capabilities help users focus on particular traffic patterns, like suspect IP addresses or unusual protocol usage, which are essential for spotting and resolving security threats. Wireshark is also incredibly useful for forensic investigations, intrusion detection, and strengthening network defenses because to its capacity to reconstruct data streams and examine packet-level details.

Project requirements and Testing website/network

Tools:
1. Nmap
2. Wireshark
3. A testing website(ctf365.com)
4. Windows System
5. Kali software

Test website- Select a website such as the Damn Vulnerable Web Application such as ctf365.com that is intended for security testing.

Virtual machine- Setup a Kali Linux and Windows machine using a Virtualbox/VM.

Windows Server ip - 192.168.23.32(Target Machine)

Kali Linux - 10.12.10.2 (Test Machine)

Test Website - ctf365.com, pentesting.com

Perform Wireshark IDS/Firewall evade techniques

Using tools like Wireshark to avoid detection by a firewall or Intrusion Detection System (IDS) is a delicate area of cybersecurity. Although understanding these ideas is helpful in identifying system vulnerabilities, testing and applying these strategies should always adhere to legal and ethical requirements.

1. Source Port Manipulation :

Source port manipulation is a method of changing the source port number in packet headers to get around firewalls, intrusion detection systems, and other network monit
ring tools. Rules that use particular port configurations to filter traffic can be circumvented using this method. This strategy, its ramifications, and countermeasures are broken down below.

Nmap uses -g or –source-port options to perform source port manipulation.S
Syntax: nmap -g target ip

Fig: A

In Kali linux terminal, after the execution of the command for source port manipulation, the result in Fig A, the command send the packets from port 80 of the ip address.

Simultaneously the result of wireshark in Fig B represents the details of the ip address packets with the detail of the source port 80 details info of port, port segment, sequence number, Acknowledgement, flags, window size is 1024.

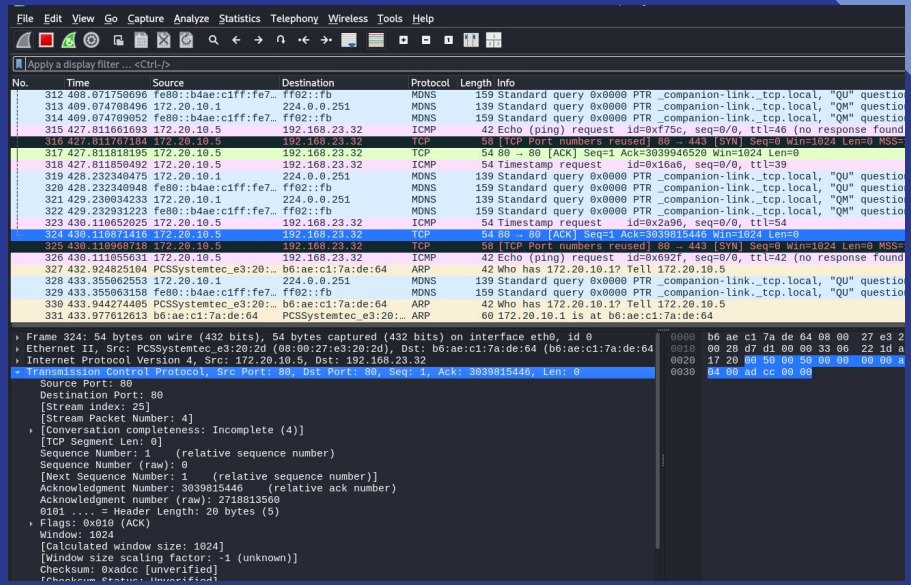


Fig: B

2.Packet Fragmentation:

In network scanning, packet fragmentation is a technique that divides packets into smaller pieces prior to transmission. In order to get beyond firewalls, intrusion detection systems (IDS), and other security measures that examine traffic, this technique is frequently used.

There are several uses for packet fragmentation when utilizing programs like Nmap and Wireshark:

- Avoid detection by security systems
- Test firewall rules
- Evade MTU restrictions

The TCP header is separated into various packets so packet filters are not able to detect what packets are intended to do.

Syntax: nmap -f targeted windows ip

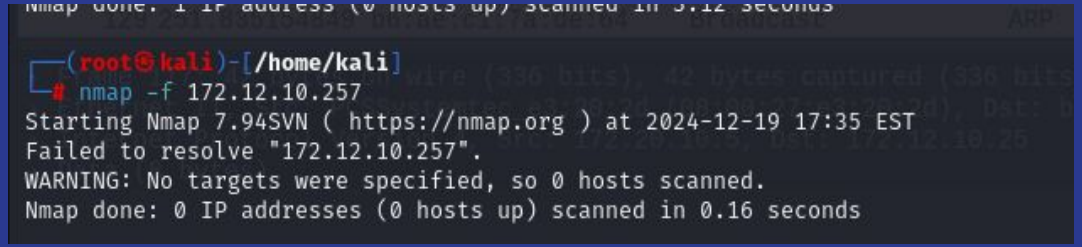
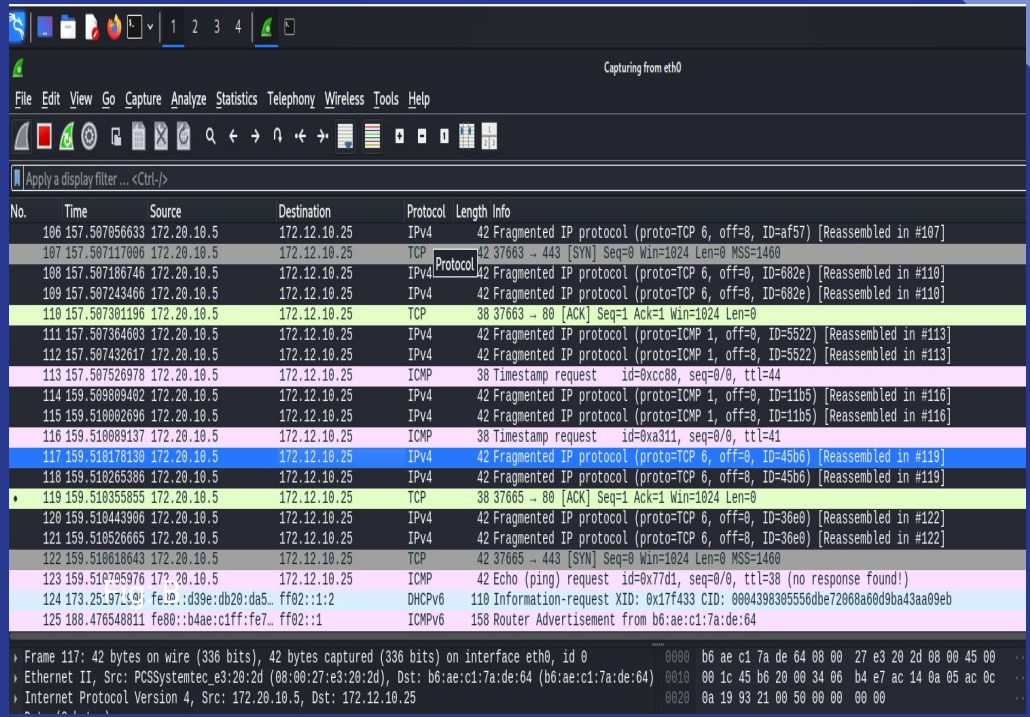


Fig: A

The result of the command shows the list of packets with fragmentation in the output of wireshark in Fig: B



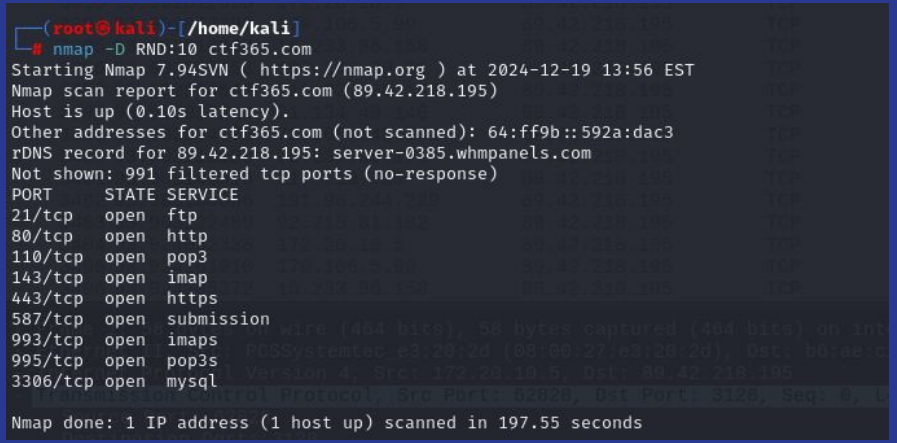
3. IP Address decoy:

Decoying IP addresses is a network spying method that is mostly used to hide the true source of a scan. This technique involves inserting several fictitious IP addresses (decoys) in the packet headers together with the attacker's actual IP address. Tools such as Nmap facilitate this technique.

The decoy can be performed in two ways.

Static Decoy:
Specify a fixed list of decoy IP addresses manually.
Syntax 1: nmap -D decoy 1, decoy 2, decoy 3, etc

Random Decoy:
Use a specified number of randomly generated decoy IPs.
Syntax 2: nmap _D RND: number target-ip/ target- website



In Fig: A, the execution of command, shows the RND as the random saple of 10 for the web address of ctf365.com, the out result in the port numbers, state and services.

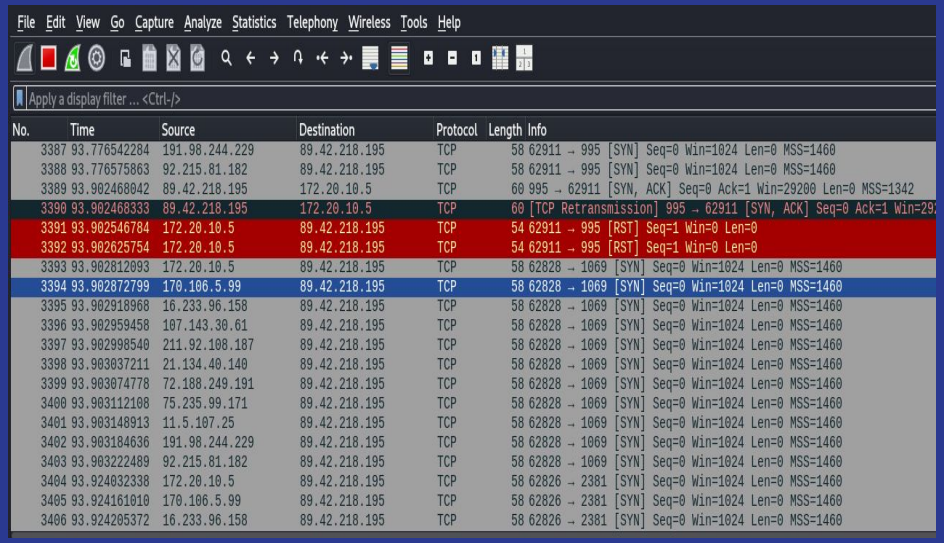


Fig: B

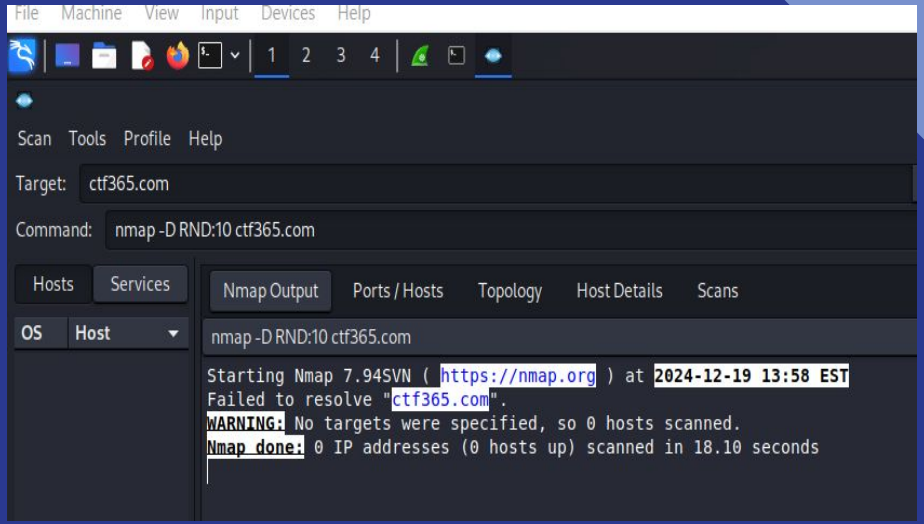


Fig: C

The result of the wireshark and the Nmap are shown in the Fig: B and Fig: C

Perform NSE scanning for testing network/website

The **Nmap Scripting Engine (NSE)** is a powerful feature of Nmap that extends its capabilities by using scripts to perform a wide variety of tasks. These tasks range from gathering information about the target system to exploiting vulnerabilities.

NSE scripts define a list of categories they belong to. Currently defined categories are auth, broadcast, brute, default, discovery, dos, exploit, external, fuzzer, intrusive, malware, safe, version and vuln. Category names are not case sensitive.

Features of NSE Scanning

1. **Extensibility**: Custom scripts can be written in Lua, allowing users to tailor the scanning process.
2. **Automation**: Automates complex tasks like vulnerability assessment, brute-forcing, or service version detection.
3. **Wide Range of Scripts**: Nmap includes hundreds of pre-written scripts categorized by their function.
4. **Customizability**: Users can control which scripts to run and pass arguments to modify behavior.

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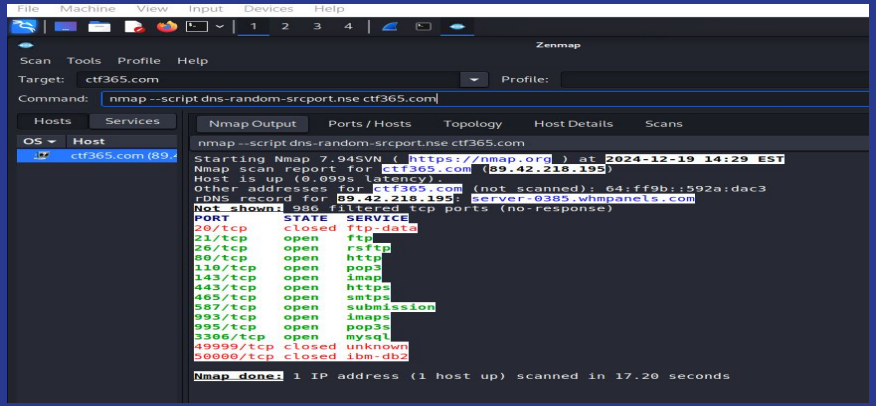
1.dns-random-srcport.nse

An Nmap Scripting Engine (NSE) script called dns-random-srcport.nse checks DNS servers for vulnerability to DNS cache poisoning attacks. It accomplishes this by verifying that source port randomization, a crucial security feature to guard against spoof answers, is implemented correctly by the server.




```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[/home/kali]
└─# nmap --script dns-random-srcport.nse ctf365.com
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-12-19 14:27 EST
Nmap scan report for ctf365.com (89.42.218.195)
Host is up (0.073s latency).
Other addresses for ctf365.com (not scanned): 64:ff9b::592a:dac3
rDNS record for 89.42.218.195: server-0385.whmpanels.com
Not shown: 986 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
PORT      STATE  SERVICE
20/tcp    closed ftp-data
21/tcp    open   ftp
26/tcp    open   rsftp
80/tcp    open   http
110/tcp   open   pop3
143/tcp   open   imap
443/tcp   open   https
465/tcp   open   smtps
587/tcp   open   submission
993/tcp   open   imaps
995/tcp   open   pop3s
3306/tcp  open   mysql
49999/tcp closed unknown
50000/tcp closed ibm-db2

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 7.27 seconds
```

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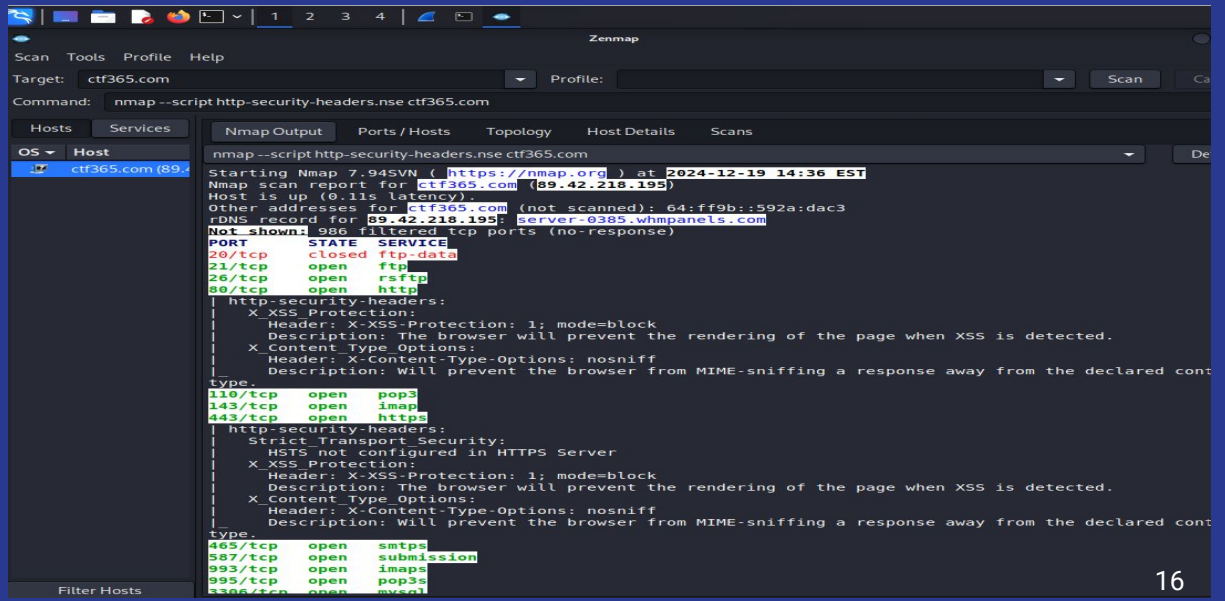
2. http-security-headers.nse script

This Script checks for the HTTP response headers related to security given in OWASP secure headers project and gives a brief description of the header and its configuration value.

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[/home/kali]
└─# nmap --script http-security-headers.nse ctf365.com
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-12-19 14:35 EST
Nmap scan report for ctf365.com (89.42.218.195)
Host is up (0.10s latency).
Other addresses for ctf365.com (not scanned): 64:ff9b::592a:dac3
rDNS record for 89.42.218.195: server-0385.whmpanels.com
Not shown: 986 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
PORT     STATE  SERVICE
20/tcp   closed ftp-data
21/tcp   open   ftp
26/tcp   open   rsftp
80/tcp   open   http
| http-security-headers:
|   X_XSS_Protection:
|     Header: X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
|     Description: The browser will prevent the rendering of the page when X
SS is detected.
|   X_Content_Type_Options:
|     Header: X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
|_    Description: Will prevent the browser from MIME-sniffing a response aw
ay from the declared content-type.
110/tcp  open   pop3
143/tcp  open   imap
443/tcp  open   https
| http-security-headers:
|   Strict_Transport_Security:
|     HSTS not configured in HTTPS Server
|   X_XSS_Protection:
|     Header: X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block
|     Description: The browser will prevent the rendering of the page when X
SS is detected.
|   X_Content_Type_Options:
|     Header: X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
|_    Description: Will prevent the browser from MIME-sniffing a response aw
ay from the declared content-type.
465/tcp  open   smtps
587/tcp  open   submission
993/tcp  open   imaps
995/tcp  open   pop3s
3306/tcp open   mysql
49999/tcp closed unknown
50000/tcp closed ibm-db2

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 24.66 seconds
```



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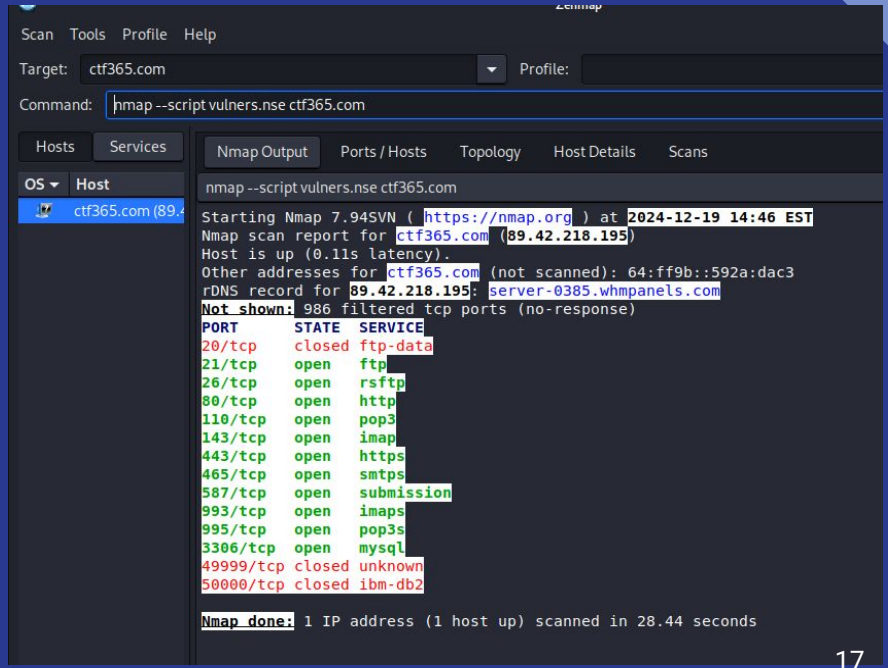
3. Vulners.nse

For each available CPE the script prints out known vulns and correspondent CVSS scores.

- Works only when some software version is identified for an open port
- Take all the known CPEs for that software.
- Make a request to remote servers to learn whether any known vulns exist for that CPE.

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[/home/kali]
└─# nmap --script vulners.nse 192.168.23.32
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-12-19 14:44 EST
Note: Host seems down. If it is really up, but blocking our ping probes, try
 -Pn
Nmap done: 1 IP address (0 hosts up) scanned in 3.51 seconds
```



Conclusion

- Network scanning with Wireshark and Nmap, enhanced by the Nmap Scripting Engine (NSE), provides robust tools for analyzing network security and identifying vulnerabilities. By leveraging Nmap's comprehensive scanning capabilities alongside Wireshark's in-depth packet analysis, we can uncover potential security gaps, monitor network traffic, and improve overall protection strategies.
- The integration of NSE scripts significantly enhances Nmap's versatility, enabling automated vulnerability detection and customized scans tailored to specific needs. Meanwhile, Wireshark delivers granular packet-level insights, making it easier to track network behavior and identify unusual activity.
- This project underscores the critical role of advanced scanning and analysis tools in strengthening cybersecurity measures. It also highlights the importance of ethical practices and legal compliance to ensure responsible and effective use of these powerful technologies.

Reference

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3. https://nmap.org/book/man-nse.html
4. McLeman, C., A technical investigation into port scanning using Nmap.
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THANK YOU