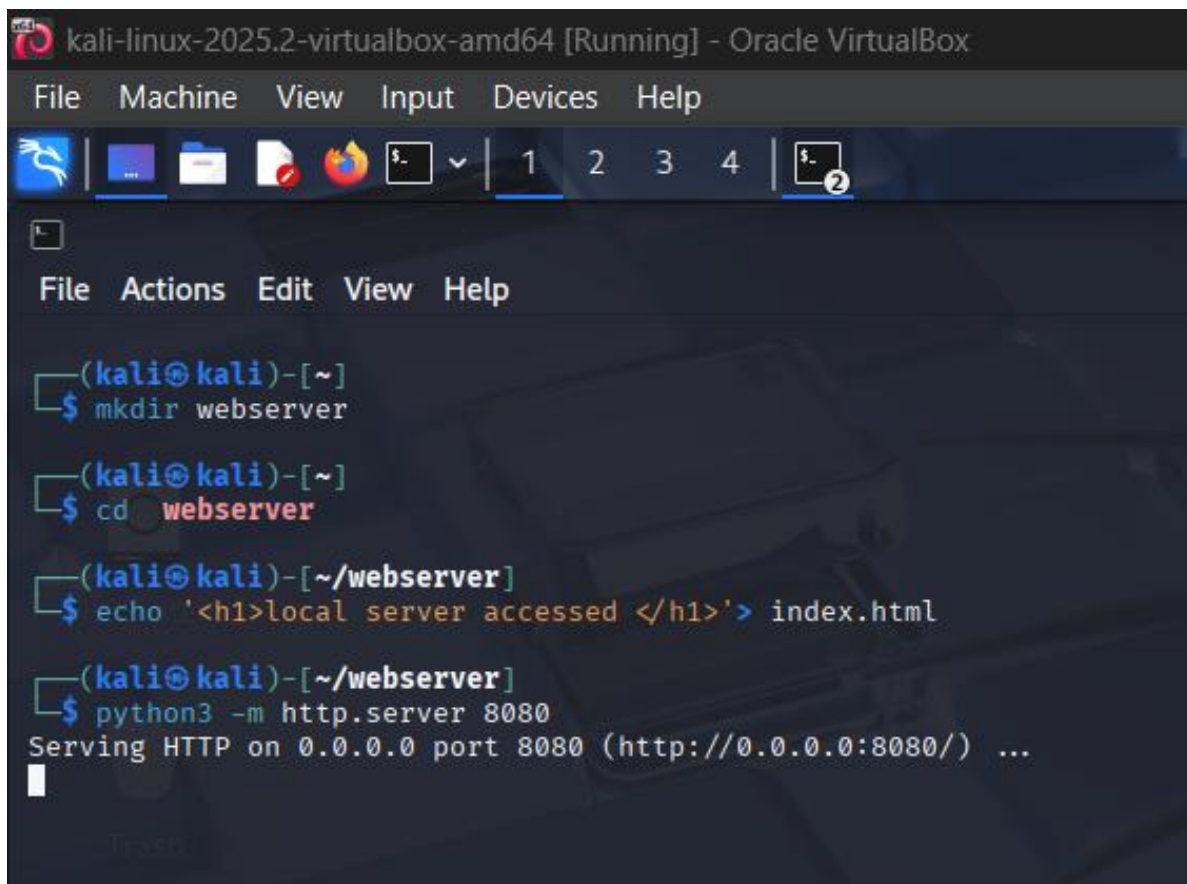


Assignment 12: Serve a Directory using Python

Aim: Turn your computer into a simple web server to share files over the internet.

Methodology:

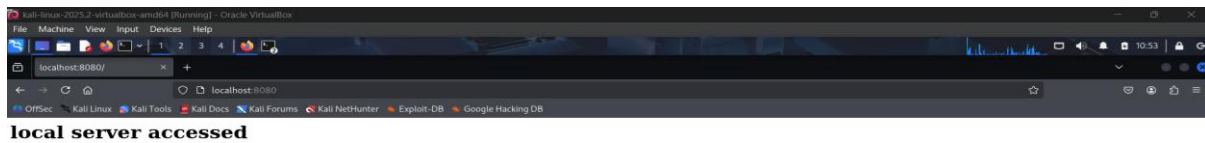
1. Create a directory named webserver using mkdir command
2. Go into the directory using cd command then create a html file using echo command naming it index.html makes the browser open the html file by default other wise in browser we need to type `http://localhost:8080/(name of the html file)`
3. Then run the server using **`python3 -m http.server 8080`**



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "kali-linux-2025.2-virtualbox-amd64 [Running] - Oracle VirtualBox". The terminal has a menu bar with "File", "Machine", "View", "Input", "Devices", and "Help". Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for file operations and a terminal window. The terminal content shows the following commands and output:

```
(kali@kali)-[~]  
$ mkdir webserver  
  
(kali@kali)-[~]  
$ cd webserver  
  
(kali@kali)-[~/webserver]  
$ echo '<h1>local server accessed </h1>'> index.html  
  
(kali@kali)-[~/webserver]  
$ python3 -m http.server 8080  
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 8080 (http://0.0.0.0:8080/) ...  
█
```

4. Then open the browser and enter `http://localhost:8080` then the html file would be accessed.



5. Then the terminal would show like a data which is the webserver's log entry.

A screenshot of a terminal window titled 'kali-linux-2025.2-virtualbox-amd64 [Running] - Oracle VirtualBox'. The terminal shows the following commands and output:

```
(kali@kali)-[~] webserver
$ mkdir webserver

(kali@kali)-[~]
$ cd webserver

(kali@kali)-[~/webserver]
$ echo '<h1>local server accessed </h1>'> index.html

(kali@kali)-[~/webserver]
$ python3 -m http.server 8080
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 8080 (http://0.0.0.0:8080/) ...
127.0.0.1 - - [30/Jul/2025 10:52:53] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 -
```

Findings and Conclusions

Python's built-in HTTP server is useful for quickly testing or sharing files locally.

The server lacks authentication and encryption, making it unsuitable for public use.

Without an index.html, directory listing is shown, which can leak file names a security risk.

Learned how web servers expose files, how clients make HTTP GET requests, and how logs record those interactions.