ASSIGNMENT 2: CONFIGURING VPNS (OPTIONAL) WRITEUP

Introduction

IPsec, short for Internet Protocol Security, is a set of protocols and standards used to secure and authenticate Internet Protocol (IP) communications. It provides a framework for ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and authentication of IP packets transmitted over a network. IPsec acts at the network layer, protecting and authenticating IP packets between participating IPsec devices (peers), such as Cisco routers. In this assignment, we learn how to enable security features and configure two routers to support a site-to-site IPsec VPN for traffic flowing from their respective LANs to understand how to secure networks from layer 1-3 in the OSI model.

Part 1: Enable Security Features

In this section details the process of enabling the security features by activating the securityk9 module by keying the following commands:

```
R1(config)# license boot module c2900 technology-package securityk9
R1(config)# end
R1# copy running-config startup-config
R1# reload
```

Figure 1: Commands for activating securityk9 module.

and verifying using the show version command under the CLI on R1 and R3 as shown below.

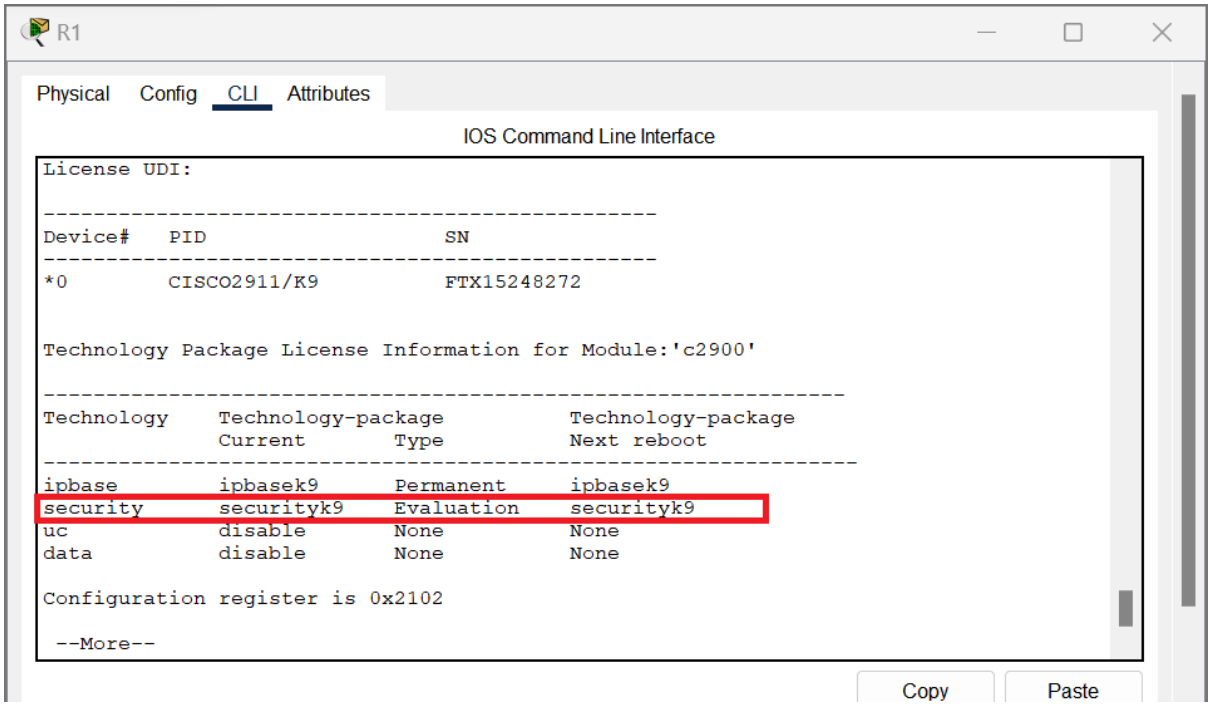


Figure 2:Verifying using show command.

Part 2: Configure IPsec Parameters on R1

This section details a step-by-step process of configuring IPsec Parameter on Router 1.

Step 1: Test connectivity.

The first step is testing the connectivity by pinging from PC-A to PC-C.

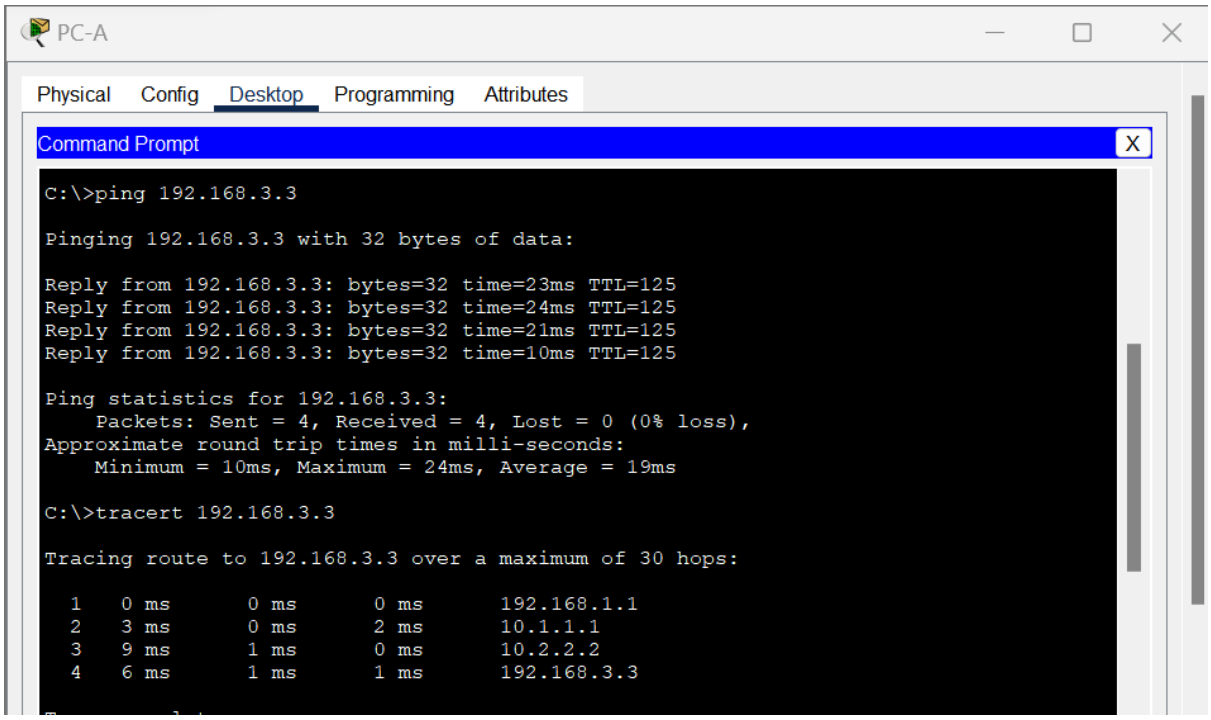
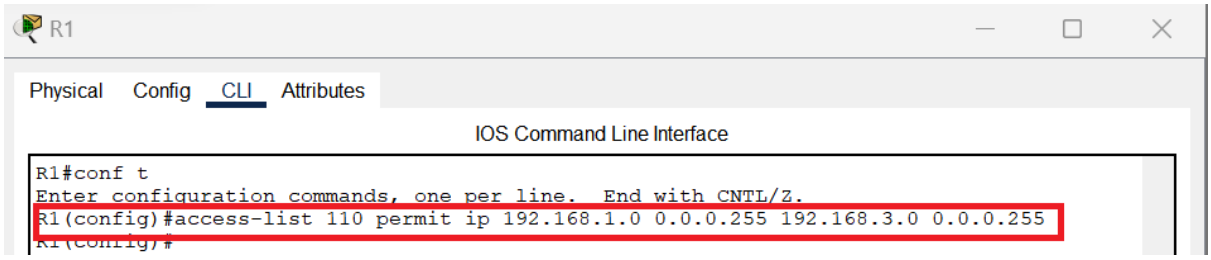


Figure 3: Testing connectivity

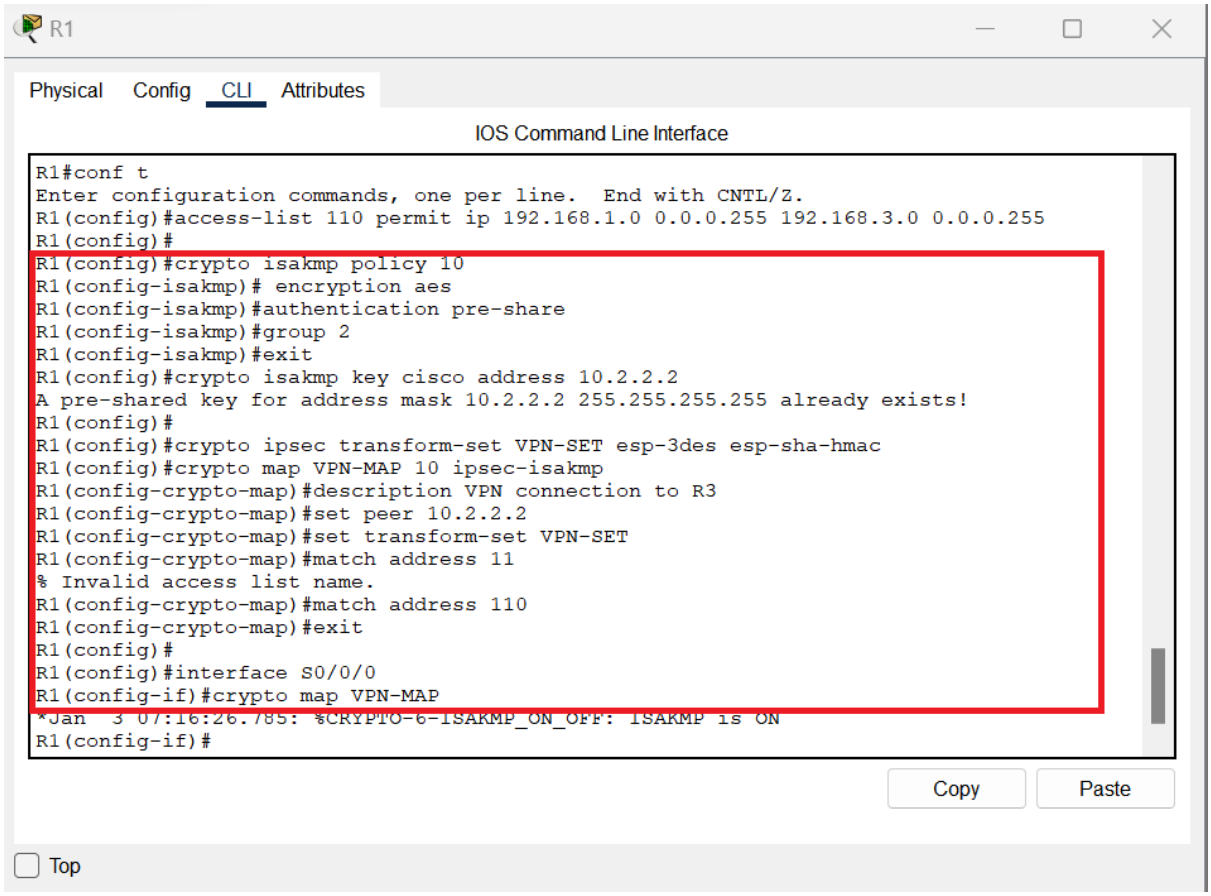
Step 2: Identify interesting traffic on R1.

The next step is identifying interesting traffic on R1 by configuring Access list 110 to identify the traffic from the LAN on R1 to the LAN on R3 as interesting. This interesting traffic will trigger the IPsec VPN to be implemented whenever there is traffic between R1 to R3 LANs. All other traffic sourced from the LANs will not be encrypted.



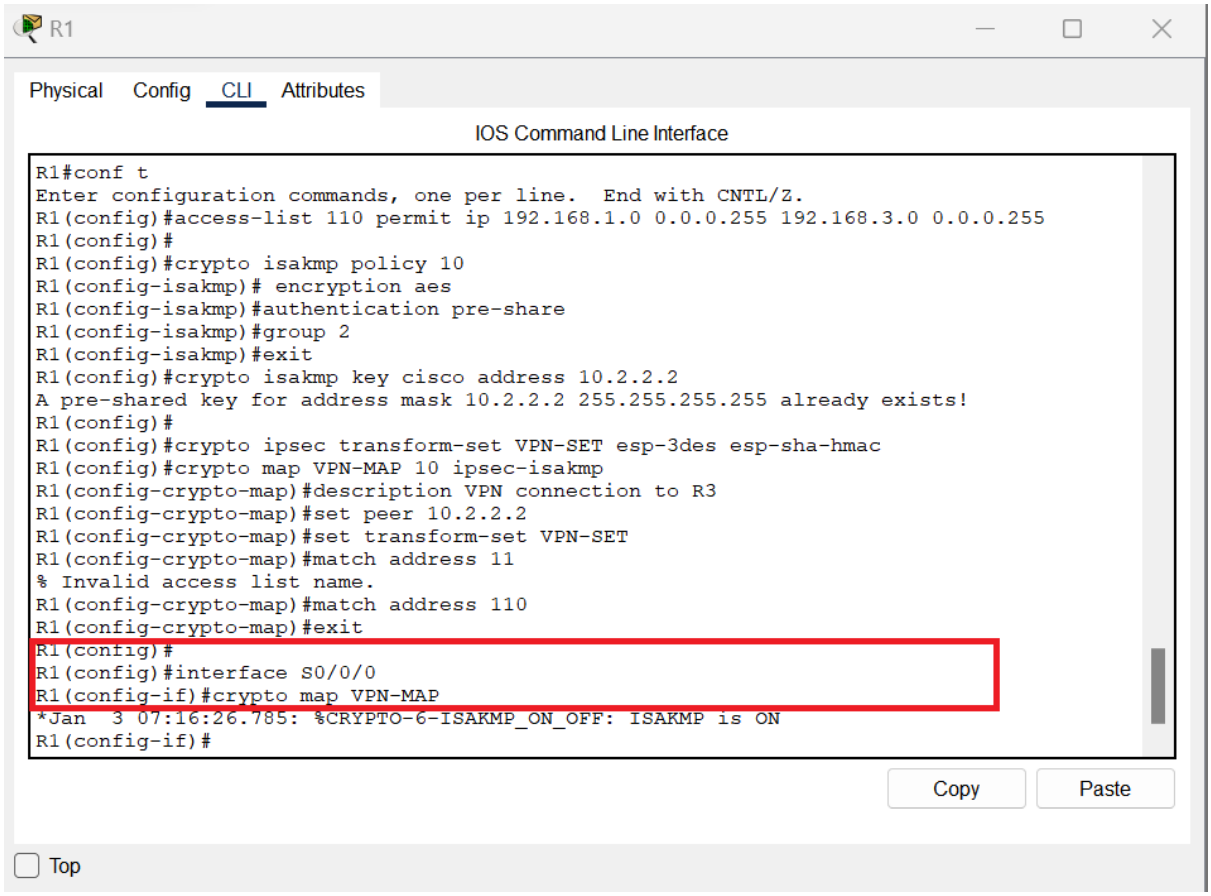
Step 3: Configure the ISAKMP Phase 1 and the ISAKMP Phase 2 properties on R1.

In this step, configuring the crypto ISAKMP policy 10 properties on R1 along with the shared crypto key cisco and Create the transform-set VPN-SET to use esp-3des and esp-sha-hmac, then create the crypto map VPN-MAP that binds all of the Phase 2 parameters together. Use sequence number 10 and identify it as an ipsec-isakmp map.



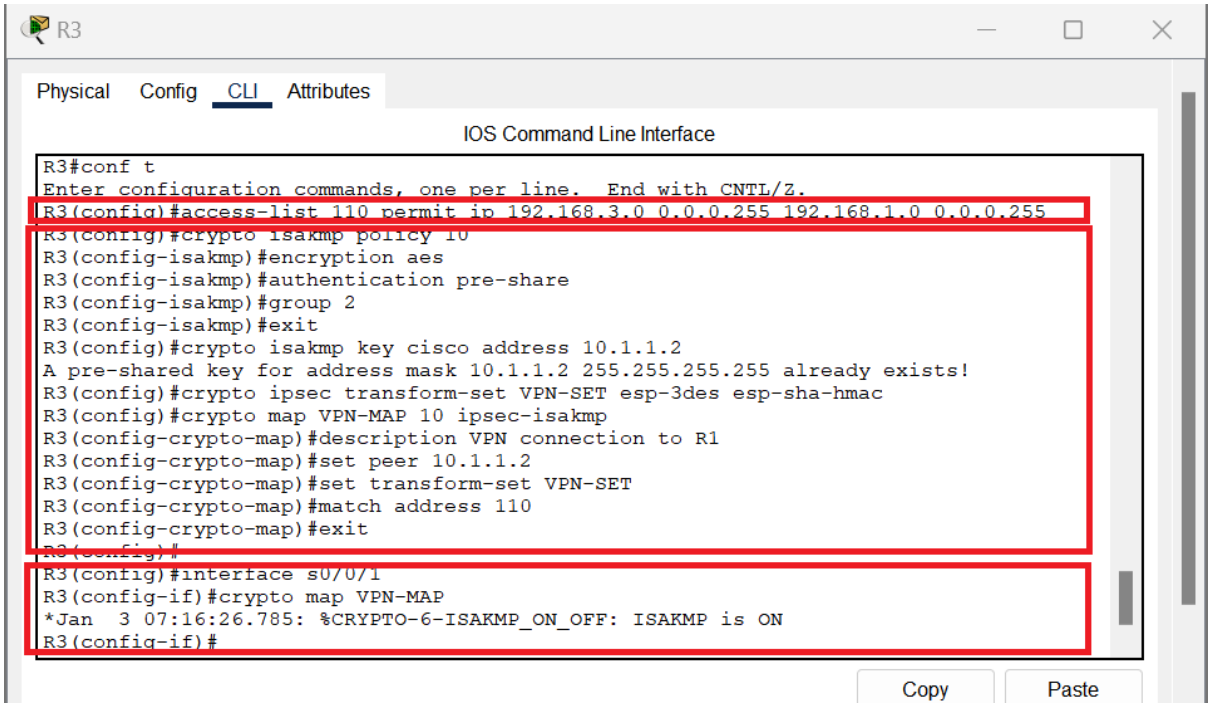
Step 4: Configure the crypto map on the outgoing interface.

Finally, bind the VPN-MAP crypto map to the outgoing Serial 0/0/0 interface by running the following command.



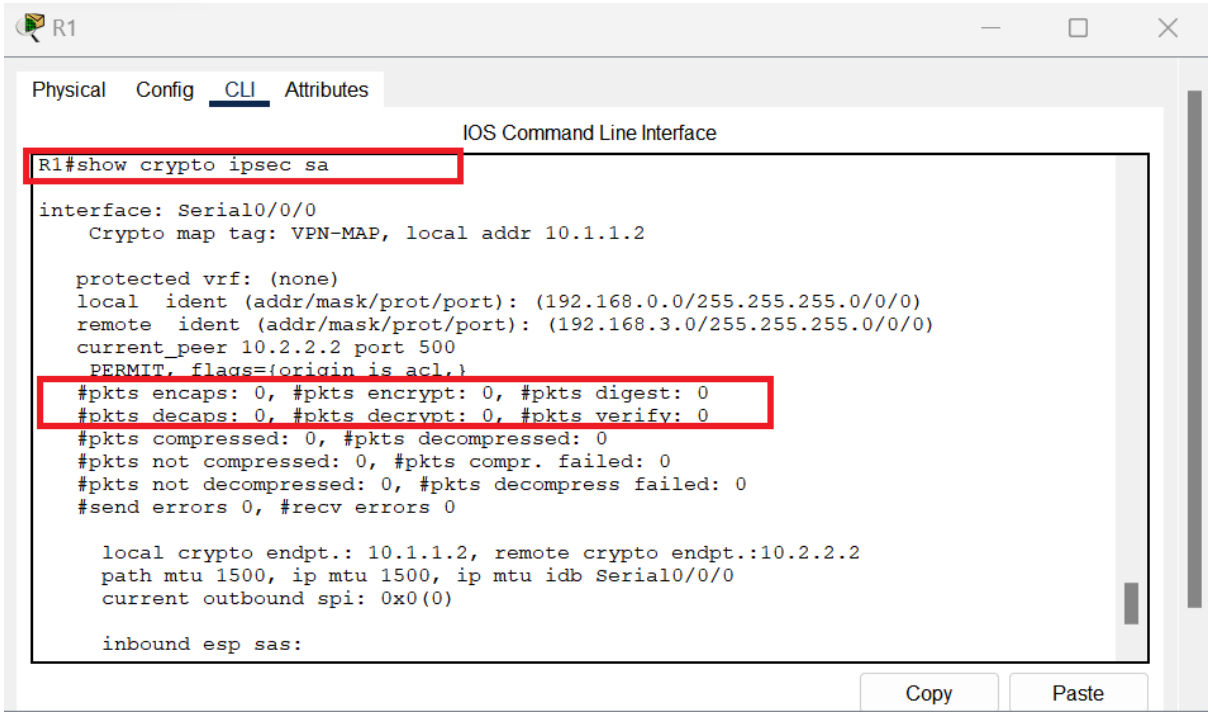
Part 3: Configure IPsec Parameters on R3

In the section, configuring IPsec Parameters on Router 3(R3), like router 1, follow the same steps as part 2.

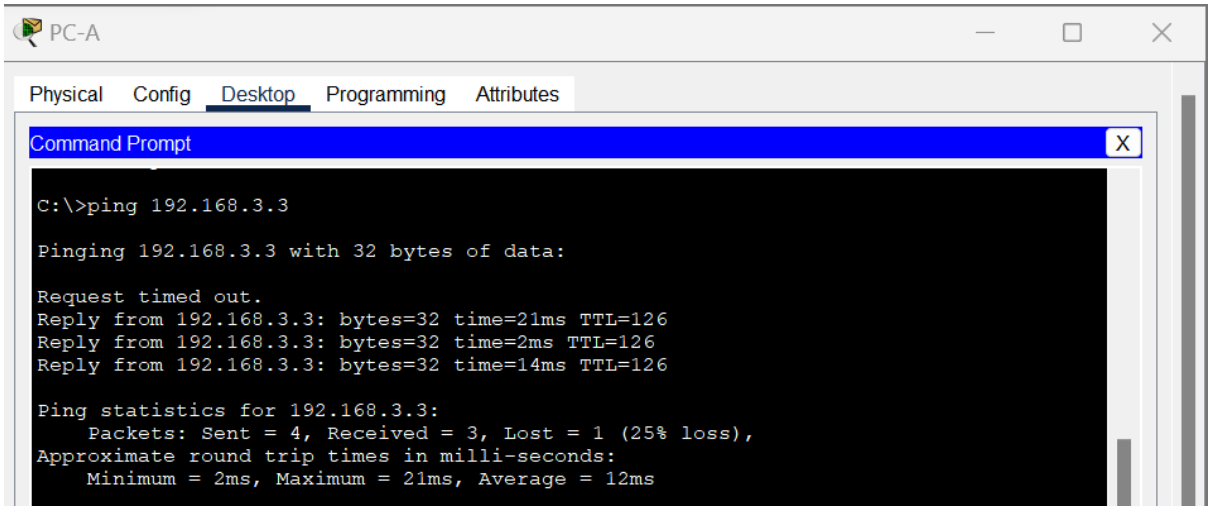


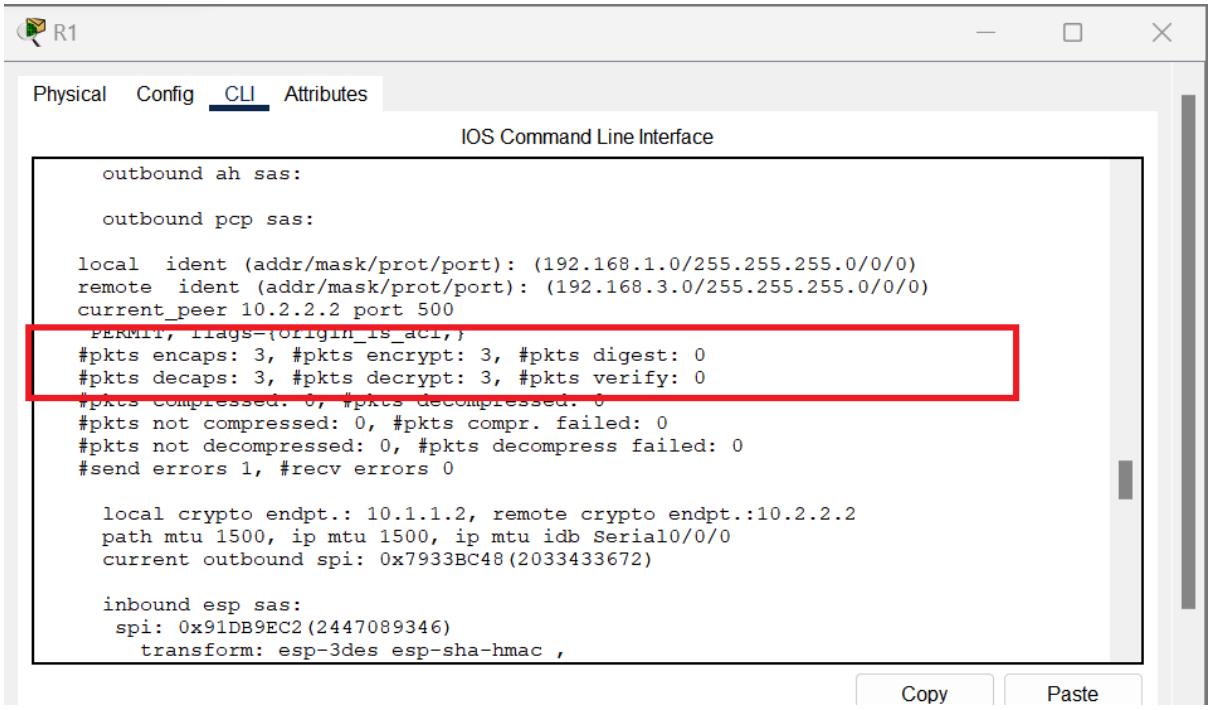
Part 4: Verify the IPsec VPN

In this section, verification of the IPsec VPN was done by verifying the tunnel prior to interesting traffic by using the show ipsec sa command as shown below.



Then create traffic by pinging PC-C from PC-A then use the show ipsec sa command again and the number of packets is more than 0 indicating that the IPsec VPN tunnel is working.





Conclusion

In conclusion, by successfully completing this task, I have been provided with hands on experience in implementing a secure connection between two LANs by enabling IPsec VPN on the routers, which has allowed me to create a secure tunnel that safeguards the communication between the two networks by implementing encryption algorithms, such as AES which ensures that data remains confidential during transmission. In addition, I have understood the importance of this setup in which can be valuable to organizations that have multiple branch offices or remote locations that need to securely exchange sensitive information over public networks.