

COMPUTER NETWORKS

IT-303

PROJECT REPORT

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https://github.com/dhruvchandel/Reverse_shell

PROJECT REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

- In computing, a shell is a computer program which exposes an operating system's services to a human user or other program. In general, operating system shells use either a command-line interface or graphical user interface, depending on a computer's role and particular operation.
- A REVERSE SHELL IS A TYPE OF SHELL IN WHICH THE TARGET MACHINE (CLIENT) COMMUNICATES BACK TO THE ATTACKING MACHINE (SERVER). THE ATTACKING MACHINE HAS A LISTENER PORT ON WHICH IT RECEIVES THE CONNECTION, WHICH BY USING, CODE OR COMMAND EXECUTION IS ACHIEVED.
- A FIREWALL USUALLY BLOCKS INCOMING CONNECTIONS ON OPEN PORTS, BUT DOES NOT BLOCK OUTGOING TRAFFIC AND SINCE IN REVERSE SHELL THE CONNECTION IS INITIATED BY CLIENT ITSELF; THEREFORE REVERSE SHELL CAN EASILY BYPASS FIREWALL AND SERVER/HOST CAN EASILY EXECUTE COMMANDS ON CLIENT/TARGET MACHINE.

2. IDEA

- Reverse shell is a powerful tool **as they are** the only way to perform remote maintenance on hosts behind a NAT, so they have legitimate administrative **uses**. However, they can also be **used** by cybercriminals to execute operating system commands on hosts protected from incoming connections by a firewall or other network security systems.
- So our Aim is to implement a multi-client reverse shell program using socket programming in python which has various features which are described in further sections.

3. DESIGN

❖ Connection Initiation Request

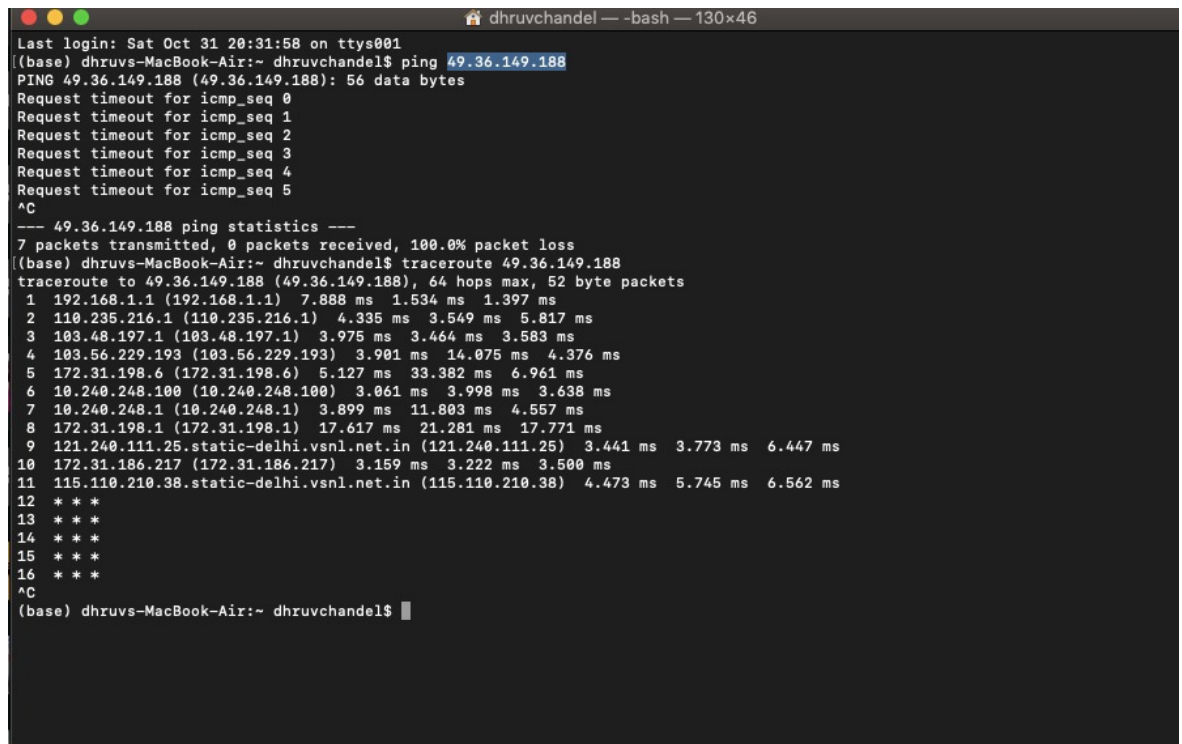
➤ LAN Connection: When 'server' and 'client' are present on same LAN then, connection can easily be established using private IP of the server only.

➤ Connection Outside LAN: when 'server' and 'client' are present on different networks and want to connect using public Internet (through ISP), then public IP of server needs to be accessible by the client.

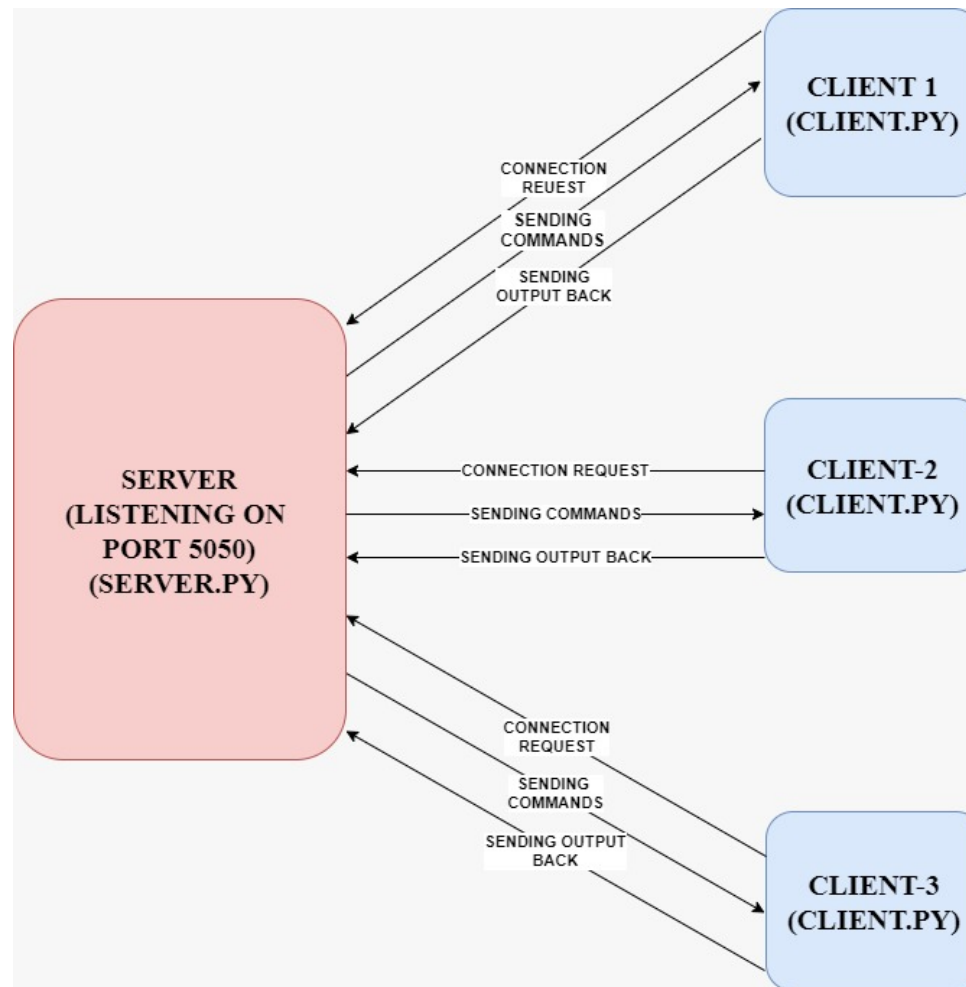
- But usually due to firewalls deployed by most ISP's on their internal Networks public IP's are not accessible, and also most ISP's don't allow port-forwarding on their routers.
- So to tackle above stated problem, we can use a third party VPN server (which allows port forwarding) to act as an intermediate to pass information from server to client and vice-versa and successfully (using VPN tunnelling). *Eg: OpenVPN*

❖ Sending Commands From Server to Client

➤ Interactive shell -> We created an interactive shell (KD) that provides various commands and functionalities for multi-client support which are mentioned in further section.



```
dhruvchandel ~ -bash — 130x46
Last login: Sat Oct 31 20:31:58 on ttys001
(base) dhruvs-MacBook-Air:~ dhruvchandel$ ping 49.36.149.188
PING 49.36.149.188 (49.36.149.188): 56 data bytes
Request timeout for icmp_seq 0
Request timeout for icmp_seq 1
Request timeout for icmp_seq 2
Request timeout for icmp_seq 3
Request timeout for icmp_seq 4
Request timeout for icmp_seq 5
^C
--- 49.36.149.188 ping statistics ---
7 packets transmitted, 0 packets received, 100.0% packet loss
(base) dhruvs-MacBook-Air:~ dhruvchandel$ traceroute 49.36.149.188
traceroute to 49.36.149.188 (49.36.149.188), 64 hops max, 52 byte packets
 1 192.168.1.1 (192.168.1.1) 7.888 ms 1.534 ms 1.397 ms
 2 110.235.216.1 (110.235.216.1) 4.335 ms 3.549 ms 5.817 ms
 3 103.48.197.1 (103.48.197.1) 3.975 ms 3.464 ms 3.583 ms
 4 103.56.229.193 (103.56.229.193) 3.901 ms 14.075 ms 4.376 ms
 5 172.31.198.6 (172.31.198.6) 5.127 ms 33.382 ms 6.961 ms
 6 10.240.248.100 (10.240.248.100) 3.061 ms 3.998 ms 3.638 ms
 7 10.240.248.1 (10.240.248.1) 3.899 ms 11.803 ms 4.557 ms
 8 172.31.198.1 (172.31.198.1) 17.617 ms 21.281 ms 17.771 ms
 9 121.240.111.25.static-delhi.vsnl.net.in (121.240.111.25) 3.441 ms 3.773 ms 6.447 ms
10 172.31.186.217 (172.31.186.217) 3.159 ms 3.222 ms 3.500 ms
11 115.110.210.38.static-delhi.vsnl.net.in (115.110.210.38) 4.473 ms 5.745 ms 6.562 ms
12 * * *
13 * * *
14 * * *
15 * * *
16 * * *
^C
(base) dhruvs-MacBook-Air:~ dhruvchandel$
```



❖ Receiving infrastructure (client to server)

- We used a send and receive infrastructure while transferring of files and commands in which we send an acknowledgement for each message received at either end and thus ensured that entire message sent from one end is received at other end successfully.

4. FEATURES

❖ Interactive Shell Commands

- Provides interactive shell for easy management and handling of multiple clients from single server.
- Commands :
 - List
 - Help
 - Select <client_id>
 - exit

❖ Webcam Feed

- It returns a webcam feed of the client machine (Pre-set at dur=6s and fps=20)
- Command = webcam

❖ Screenshot

- Displays .png format screenshot of the client machine
- Command = ss

❖ File Transfer

- File Transfer to and fro between client and server.
- Command (to retrieve file from client machine at the given file path) = getfile filepath
- Command (to send file from server to client at the given file path) = sendfile filepath

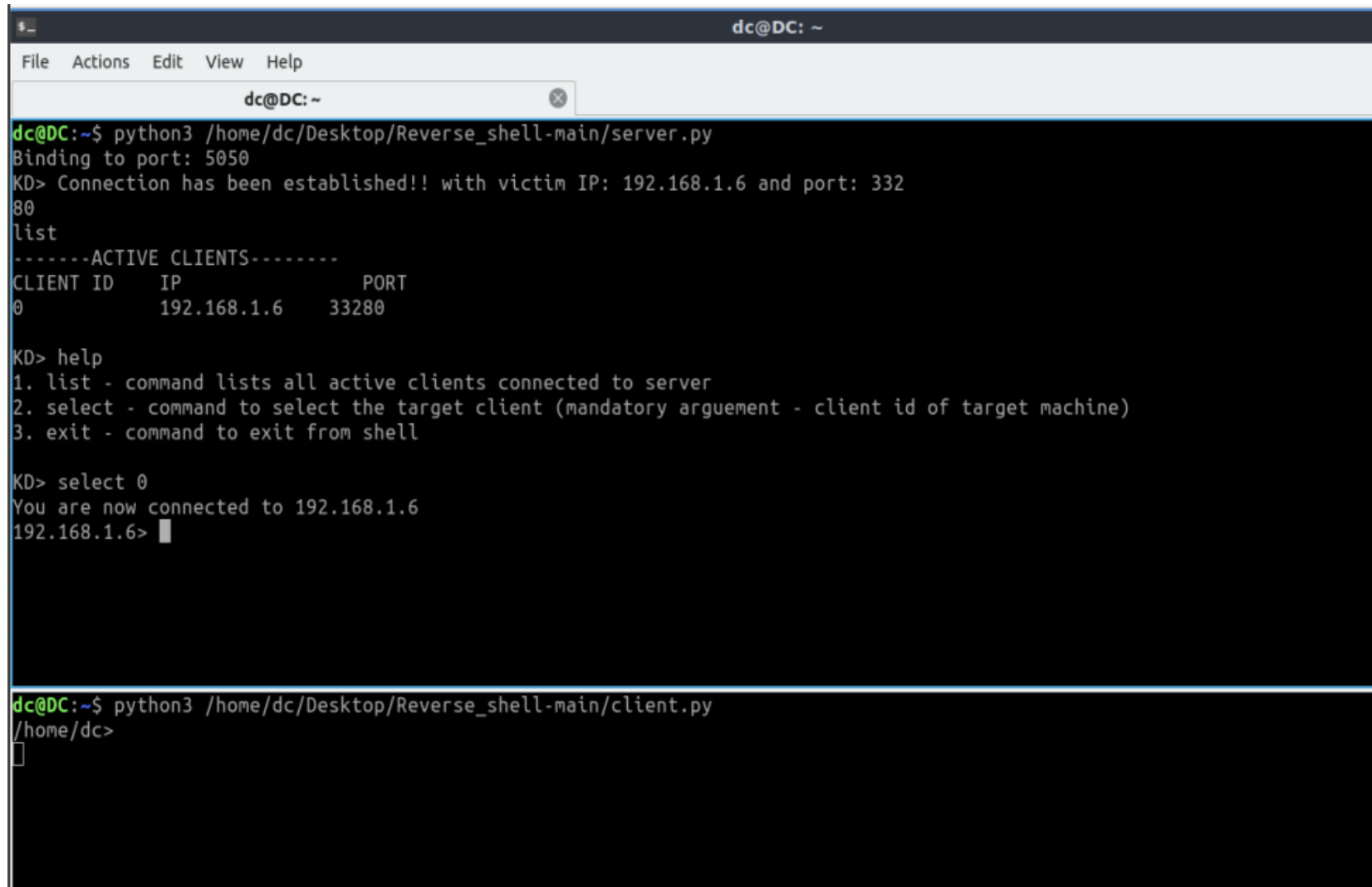
❖ Live Screen Feed

- It returns a screen feed of the client machine (Pre-set at dur=6s and fps=20)
- Command = rec
- ❖ **System Information**
 - Returns Host name, OS version, chip information etc.
 - Command = sysinfo
- ❖ **Shell Commands**
 - Execute terminal/cmd commands on the client machine.
- ❖ **Keylogger**
 - Stores keyboard key's presses in logs.txt file upto preset 50 character/until 'esc' is pressed.
 - Command = keylogger

Table I: Implementation Environment, an example

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE(S)	Python 3
OPERATING SYSTEM	Cross-Platform (Windows/Mac/Linux)
LIBRARY PACKAGES OR APIs USED (IF ANY)	Subprocess, threading, os, pyautogui, opencv, pyscreenshot, socket, sys, queue, platform
INTERFACE DESIGN (GUI / WEB / OTHER)	Interactive Shell
SERVERS USED (IF ANY)	OpenVpn (Non LAN connections)

5. RESULTS



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "dc@DC: ~" with a menu bar containing "File", "Actions", "Edit", "View", and "Help". The terminal output is as follows:

```
dc@DC:~$ python3 /home/dc/Desktop/Reverse_shell-main/server.py
Binding to port: 5050
KD> Connection has been established!! with victim IP: 192.168.1.6 and port: 33280
80
list
-----ACTIVE CLIENTS-----
CLIENT ID   IP           PORT
0           192.168.1.6   33280

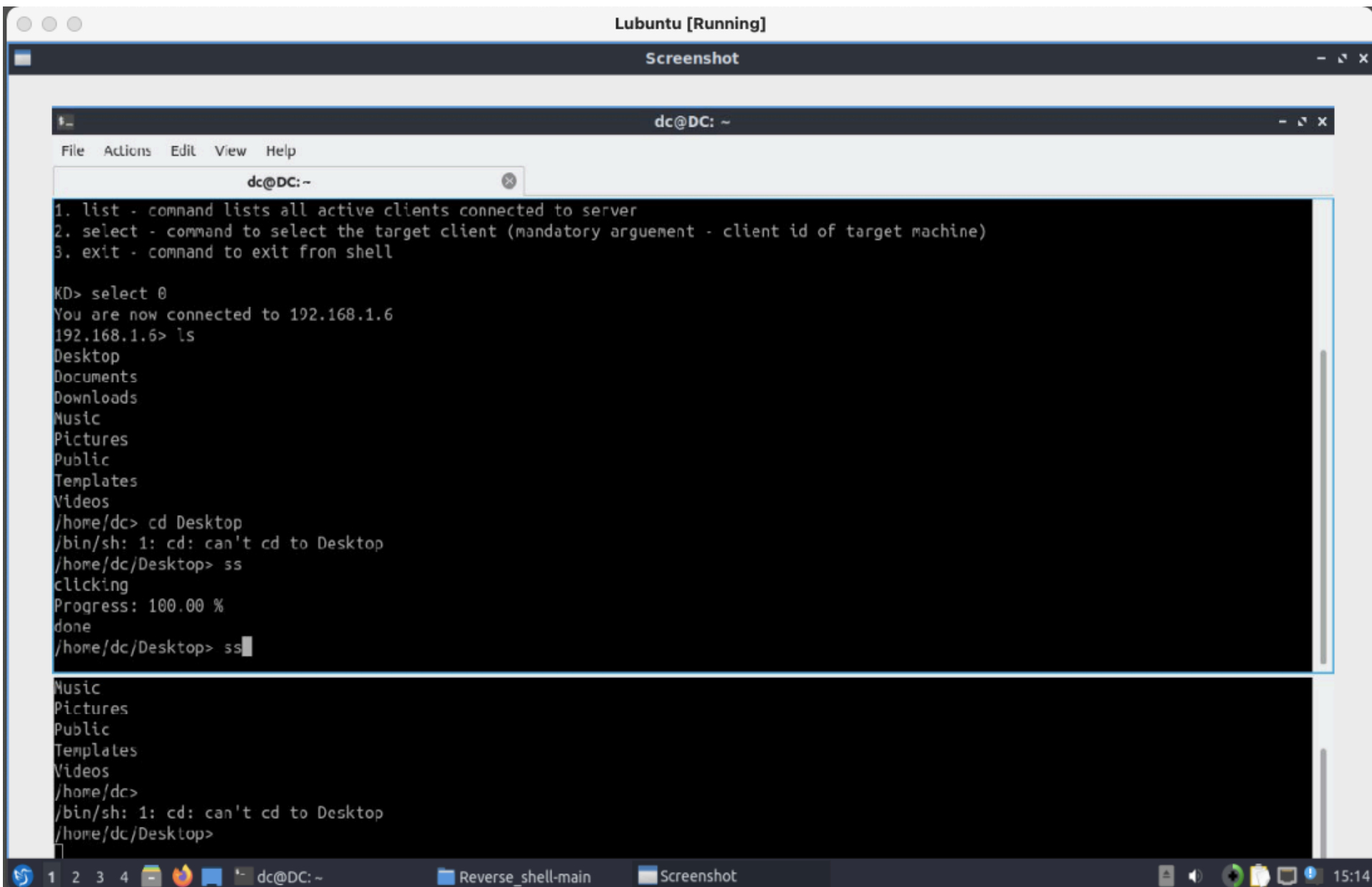
KD> help
1. list - command lists all active clients connected to server
2. select - command to select the target client (mandatory argument - client id of target machine)
3. exit - command to exit from shell

KD> select 0
You are now connected to 192.168.1.6
192.168.1.6> 
```

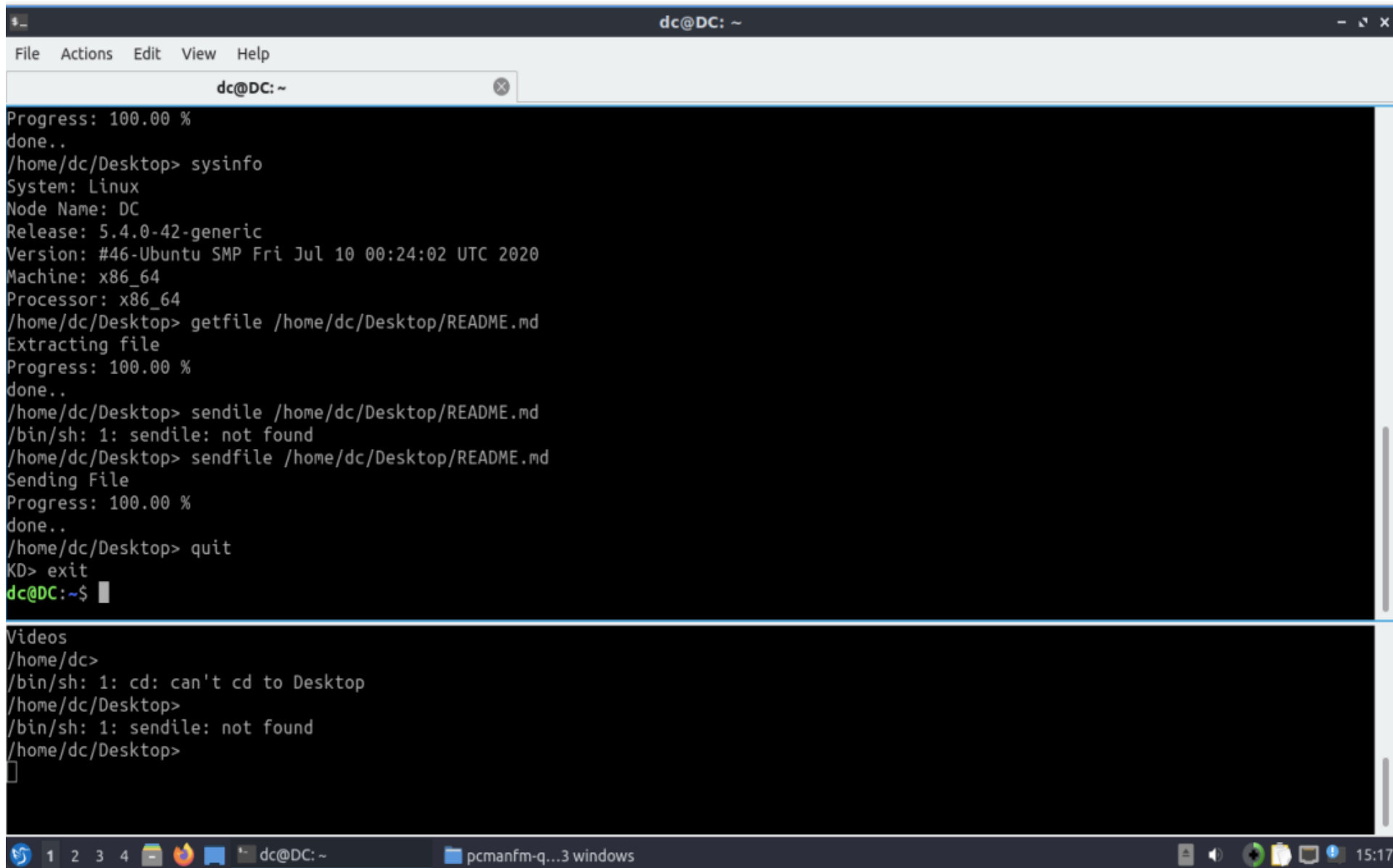
Below this, a new terminal session is shown:

```
dc@DC:~$ python3 /home/dc/Desktop/Reverse_shell-main/client.py
/home/dc> 
```

```
dc@DC: ~  
File Actions Edit View Help  
dc@DC: ~  
1. list - command lists all active clients connected to server  
2. select - command to select the target client (mandatory argument - client id of target machine)  
3. exit - command to exit from shell  
  
KD> select 0  
You are now connected to 192.168.1.6  
192.168.1.6> ls  
Desktop  
Documents  
Downloads  
Music  
Pictures  
Public  
Templates  
Videos  
/home/dc> cd Desktop  
/bin/sh: 1: cd: can't cd to Desktop  
/home/dc/Desktop> ss  
clicking  
Progress: 100.00 %  
done  
█  
  
Music  
Pictures  
Public  
Templates  
Videos  
/home/dc>  
/bin/sh: 1: cd: can't cd to Desktop  
/home/dc/Desktop>  
█
```

```
dc@DC: ~  
File Actions Edit View Help  
dc@DC: ~  
/home/dc/Desktop> rec  
capturing..  
Progress: 100.00 %  
done..  
/home/dc/Desktop> sysinfo  
System: Linux  
Node Name: DC  
Release: 5.4.0-42-generic  
Version: #46-Ubuntu SMP Fri Jul 10 00:24:02 UTC 2020  
Machine: x86_64  
Processor: x86_64  
/home/dc/Desktop> getfile /home/dc/Desktop/README.md  
Extracting file  
Progress: 100.00 %  
done..  
/home/dc/Desktop> sendile /home/dc/Desktop/README.md  
/bin/sh: 1: sendile: not found  
/home/dc/Desktop> sendfile /home/dc/Desktop/README.md  
Sending File  
Progress: 100.00 %  
done..  
/home/dc/Desktop>   
  
Videos  
/home/dc>  
/bin/sh: 1: cd: can't cd to Desktop  
/home/dc/Desktop>  
/bin/sh: 1: sendile: not found  
/home/dc/Desktop>  
]
```



```
dc@DC: ~  
File Actions Edit View Help  
dc@DC: ~  
Progress: 100.00 %  
done..  
/home/dc/Desktop> sysinfo  
System: Linux  
Node Name: DC  
Release: 5.4.0-42-generic  
Version: #46-Ubuntu SMP Fri Jul 10 00:24:02 UTC 2020  
Machine: x86_64  
Processor: x86_64  
/home/dc/Desktop> getfile /home/dc/Desktop/README.md  
Extracting file  
Progress: 100.00 %  
done..  
/home/dc/Desktop> sendile /home/dc/Desktop/README.md  
/bin/sh: 1: sendile: not found  
/home/dc/Desktop> sendfile /home/dc/Desktop/README.md  
Sending File  
Progress: 100.00 %  
done..  
/home/dc/Desktop> quit  
KD> exit  
dc@DC:~$  
  
Videos  
/home/dc>  
/bin/sh: 1: cd: can't cd to Desktop  
/home/dc/Desktop>  
/bin/sh: 1: sendile: not found  
/home/dc/Desktop>  
█  
1 2 3 4 pcmanfm-q...3 windows 15:17
```

6. FUTURE WORK

- Provide a more interactive and easy to use GUI for easy access to the functionalities.

https://github.com/dhruvchandel/Reverse_shell

- Provide high speed servers to provide live webcam/screen feed instead of recorded ones.
- Provide keyboard/mouse input from host to client machine.

7. REFERENCES

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reverse_connection#:~:text=In%20a%20normal%20forward%20connection,firewall%20and%20router%20security%20restrictions.