

## POC Task 2

### 1. Setup: Enabling SSH & Weak Security Settings

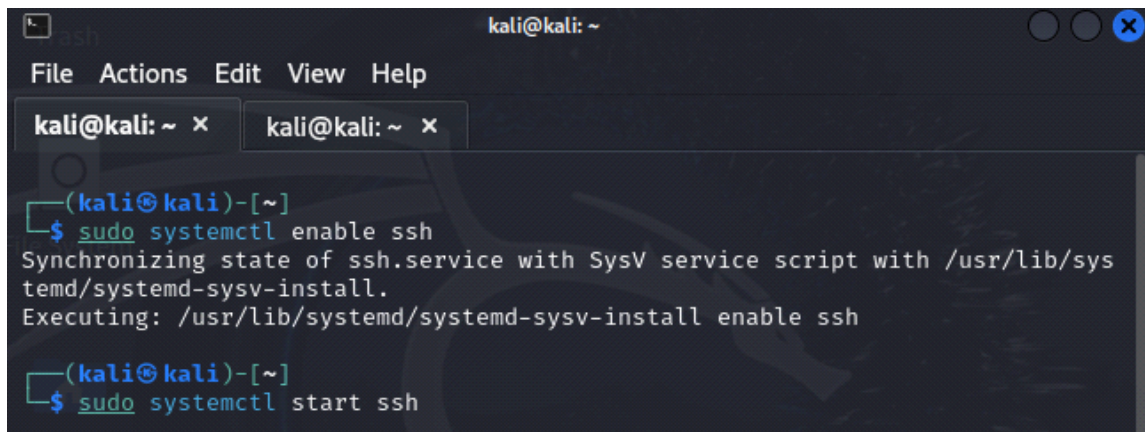
#### 1.1 Install & Enable SSH

Ensure SSH is installed and running:

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt install -y openssh-server
```

```
sudo systemctl enable ssh
```

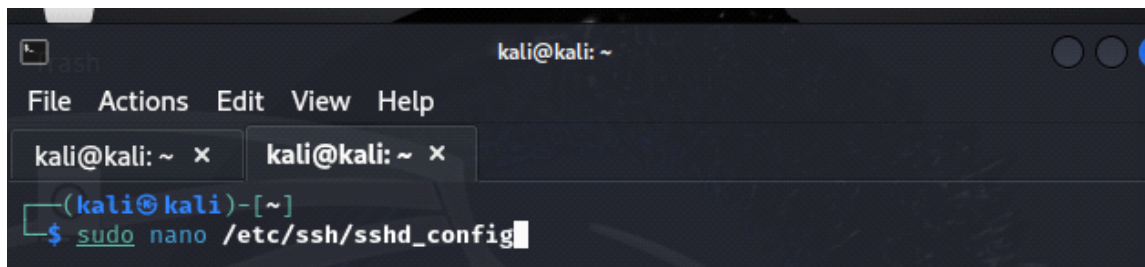
```
sudo systemctl start ssh
```

A terminal window titled 'kali@kali: ~' with a menu bar (File, Actions, Edit, View, Help) and two tabs labeled 'kali@kali: ~ x'. The terminal shows the following commands and output:

```
(kali@kali)-[~]  
$ sudo systemctl enable ssh  
Synchronizing state of ssh.service with SysV service script with /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install.  
Executing: /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install enable ssh  
  
(kali@kali)-[~]  
$ sudo systemctl start ssh
```

#### 1.2 Allow Root Login & Password Authentication

Edit the SSH configuration file:

A terminal window titled 'kali@kali: ~' with a menu bar (File, Actions, Edit, View, Help) and two tabs labeled 'kali@kali: ~ x'. The terminal shows the following command:

```
(kali@kali)-[~]  
$ sudo nano /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

Restart SSH to apply changes:

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl start ssh

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl restart ssh
Home

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ hydra -l root -P kat.txt ssh://192.168.29.133
Hydra v9.5 (c) 2023 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in
military or secret service organizations, or for illegal purposes (this is n
on-binding, these *** ignore laws and ethics anyway).

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2025-03-24 20:
13:33
[WARNING] Many SSH configurations limit the number of parallel tasks, it is r
ecommended to reduce the tasks: use -t 4
[ERROR] File for passwords not found: kat.txt
```

## 2) Exploit:

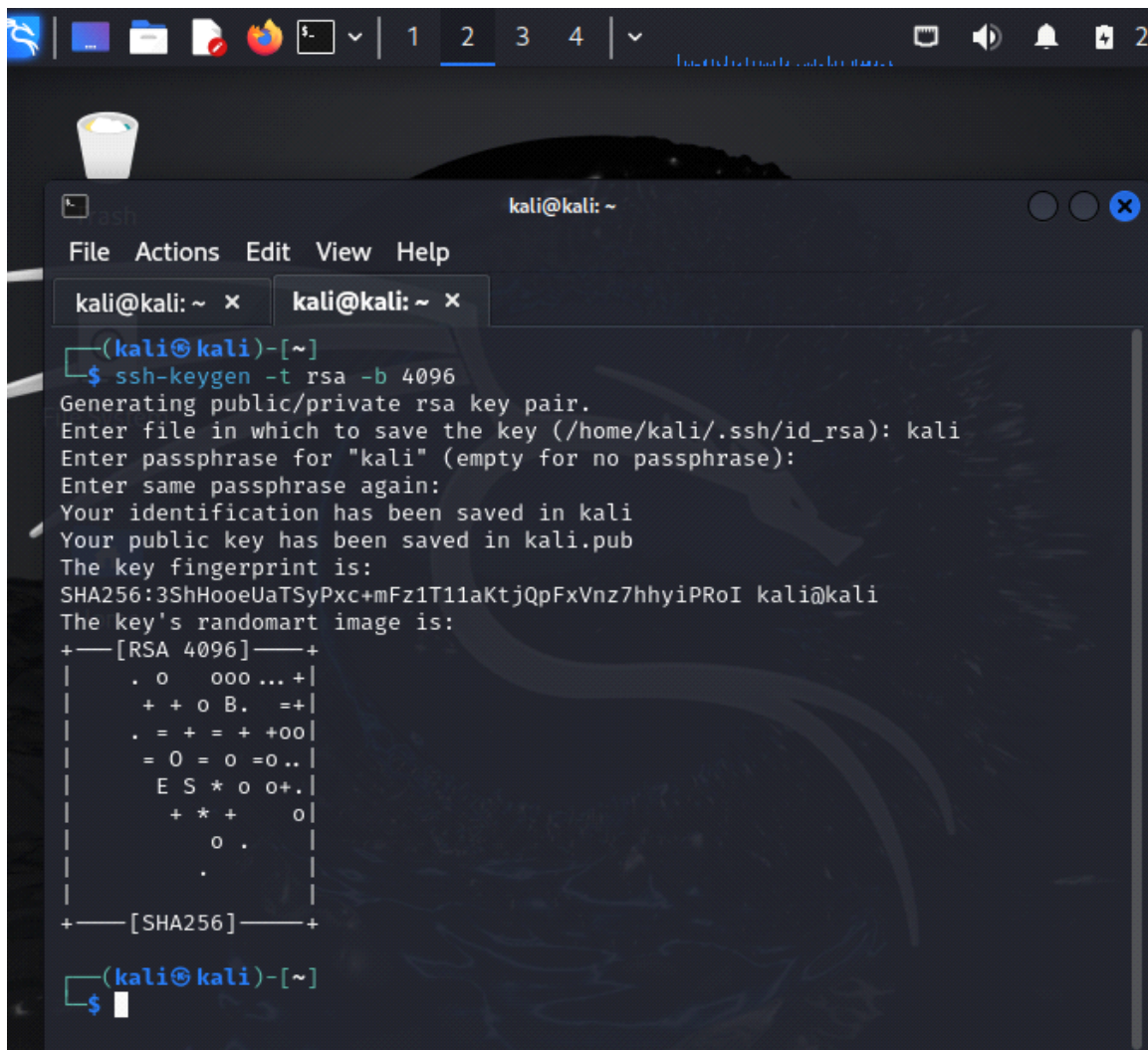
### 2.1) Disable root login:

`sudo nano /etc/ssh/sshd_config`

# Set PermitRootLogin no

### 3.2 Enable Key-Based Authentication

On your local machine, generate SSH keys:



The image shows a terminal window on a Kali Linux system. The window title is "kali@kali: ~". The terminal output shows the execution of the command `ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096`. The user is prompted to enter a file name to save the key (default is `/home/kali/.ssh/id_rsa`), a passphrase, and to confirm the passphrase. The output indicates that the key pair has been successfully generated and saved. The key fingerprint is displayed as `SHA256:3ShHooeUaTSyPxc+mFz1T11aKtjQpFxVnz7hhyiPRoI`. A randomart image for the RSA 4096 key is also shown. The terminal prompt is `(kali@kali)-[~]`.

```
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096
Generating public/private rsa key pair.
Enter file in which to save the key (/home/kali/.ssh/id_rsa): kali
Enter passphrase for "kali" (empty for no passphrase):
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in kali
Your public key has been saved in kali.pub
The key fingerprint is:
SHA256:3ShHooeUaTSyPxc+mFz1T11aKtjQpFxVnz7hhyiPRoI kali@kali
The key's randomart image is:
+--[RSA 4096]--+
| . o  ooo ...+|
| + + o B.  =+|
| . = + = + +oo|
| = O = o =o..|
| E S * o o+.|
| + * +   o|
|   o .
|   .
+--[SHA256]--+
(kali@kali)-[~]
$
```

4) Configure fail2ban:

```

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo apt install fail2ban
[sudo] password for kali:
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer require
d:
  libpython3.12-dev  python3.12-dev  python3.12-venv
  python3.12        python3.12-minimal
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.

Upgrading:
  blueman          libtdb1          python3-samba
  curl             libtevent0t64    python3-talloc
  icu-devtools     libwbclient0     python3-tdb
  ldap-utils       onboard          python3-venv
  libcurl3t64-gnutls  onboard-common  python3.13-tk
  libcurl4t64      onboard-data     samba
  libicu-dev       openssl          samba-ad-dc
  libjs-sphinxdoc  openssl-provider-legacy  samba-ad-provision
  libldap-common   python3          samba-common
  libldb2          python3-aardwolf  samba-common-bin
  libnss-winbind   python3-arc4     samba-dsdb-modules
  libpam-winbind   python3-dev      samba-libs
  libpython3-dev    python3-donut    smbclient
  libpython3-stdlib  python3-ldb      tdb-tools
  libsmbclient0     python3-minimal  winbind
  libssl3t64       python3-nassl
  libtalloc2        python3-pycurl

Installing:
  fail2ban

```

## 4.2) sudo systemctl enable fail2b

```

kali (Running) - Oracle VM VirtualBox
File Machine View Input Devices Help
1 2 3 4
kali@kali: ~
File Actions Edit View Help
kali@kali: ~ x kali@kali: ~ x
nmdb.service is a disabled or a static unit not running, not starting it.
Setting up winbind (2:4.22.0+dfsg-1+b1) ...
winbind.service is a disabled or a static unit not running, not starting it.
Setting up libnss-winbind:amd64 (2:4.22.0+dfsg-1+b1) ...
Setting up smbclient (2:4.22.0+dfsg-1+b1) ...
Setting up libpam-winbind:amd64 (2:4.22.0+dfsg-1+b1) ...
Setting up samba-ad-dc (2:4.22.0+dfsg-1+b1) ...
Removing 'diversion of /lib/systemd/system/samba-ad-dc.service to /lib/systemd/system/samba-ad-dc.service.usr-is-merged by samba-ad-dc'
samba-ad-dc.service is a disabled or a static unit not running, not starting it.
Processing triggers for kali-menu (2024.4.0) ...
Processing triggers for desktop-file-utils (0.27-2) ...
Processing triggers for hicolor-icon-theme (0.18-1) ...
Processing triggers for doc-base (0.11.2) ...
Processing 1 changed doc-base file ...
Processing triggers for libc-bin (2.40-3) ...
Processing triggers for systemd (256.6-1) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.13.0-1) ...
Processing triggers for libgl2.0-0t64:amd64 (2.82.2-2) ...
Processing triggers for dbus (1.14.10-6) ...
Setting up onboard-data (1.4.1-10) ...

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl enable fail2ban
Synchronizing state of fail2ban.service with SysV service script with /usr/lib/sy
stemd/systemd-sysv-install.
Executing: /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install enable fail2ban
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/fail2ban.service' +
'/usr/lib/systemd/system/fail2ban.service'.

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$

```

