

# BUILDING A SECURE NETWORK WITH IDS/IPS



**Date:** June 2025

**Prepared By:** Sahithi Gudigopuram

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## 1. Project Overview

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**1.1. Project Title:** Implementation of a Network Intrusion Detection and Prevention Lab Using Snort and Fail2ban

**1.2. Objective / Purpose:** The primary objective of this project is to design, configure, and test a virtual lab environment capable of detecting and responding to common network-based attacks in real time. The goal is to deploy Snort as an Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and fail2ban as a lightweight Intrusion Prevention System (IPS), validating both detection accuracy and automated mitigation through live simulations.

**1.3. Scope:** This project covers the setup and configuration of a secure network topology using:

- Static IP addressing for stability
- Snort for traffic analysis and threat detection
- Fail2ban for dynamic response and IP banning
- Kali Linux to simulate real-world attack vectors (e.g., ping sweeps, Nmap scans, SSH brute-force)
- Rule customisation and tuning to reduce false positives.

## 2. Tools & Technologies Used

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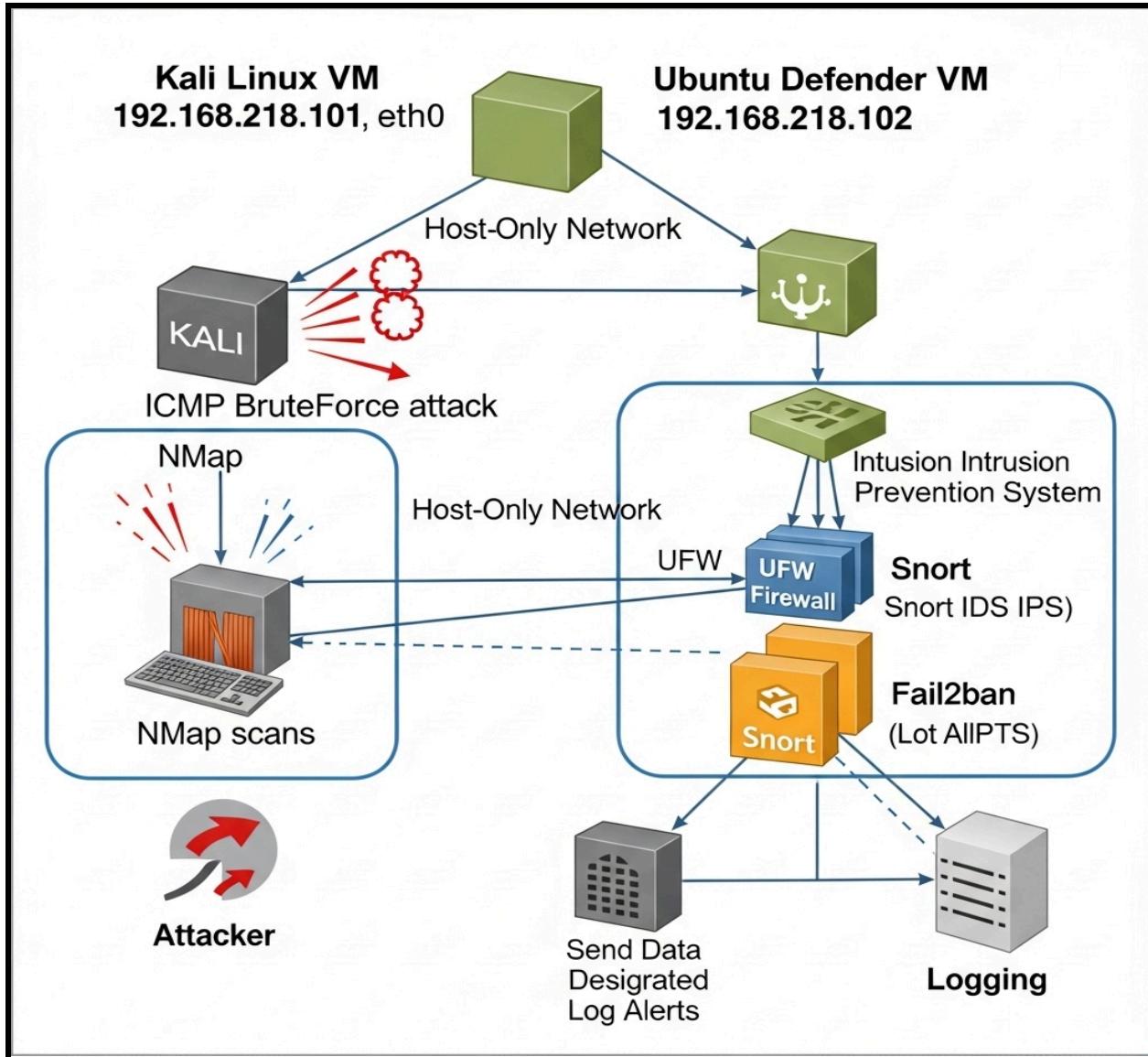
- **Operating Systems:** Ubuntu (IDS/IPS host), Kali Linux (attacker simulation)
- **Intrusion Detection System (IDS):** Snort v2.x
- **Intrusion Prevention / Response:** fail2ban v1.x
- **UFW (Uncomplicated Firewall)** for traffic filtering and access control
- **Offensive Security Tools (Testing & Validation):** nmap (port scanning), hydra (brute-force testing)
- **Configuration Files Used:**
  - /etc/snort/snort.conf
  - /etc/snort/rules/local.rules
  - /etc/fail2ban/jail.local

### **3. Network Topology**

---

#### **Description of system setup**

<b>Host</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>IP address</b>	<b>Interface</b>
Ubuntu	IDS/IPS	192.168.218.102	ens33
Kali	Attacker	192.168.218.101	eth0



## 4. System Configuration and System Setup

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### 4.1. UFW Firewall Setup on Ubuntu

- Step 1: Install and enable UFW: “ sudo apt update && sudo apt install ufw -y”

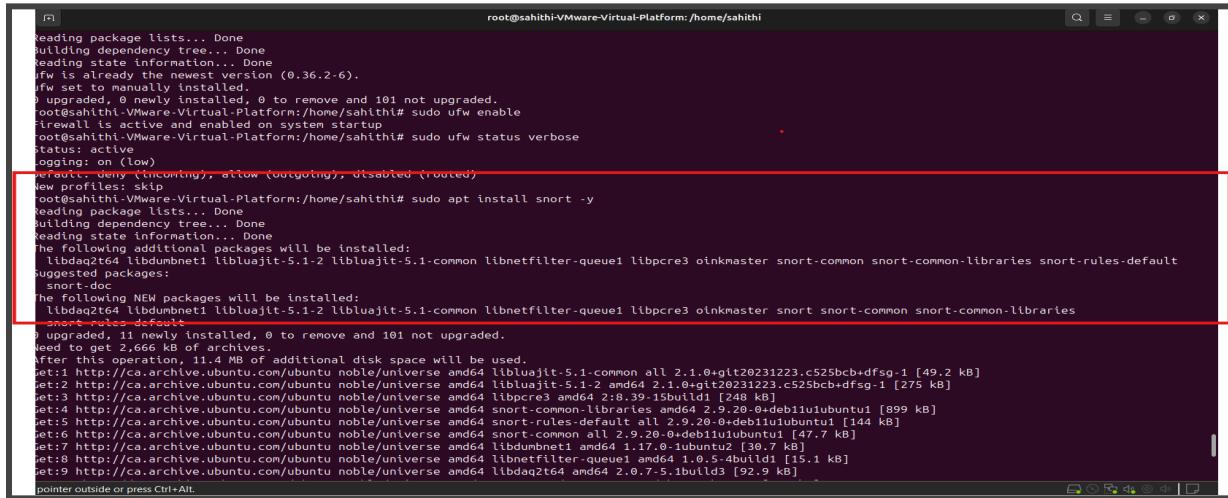
```
Processing triggers for libc-bin (2.39-0ubuntu8.4) ...
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi# sudo apt update && sudo apt install ufw -y
Get:1 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-security InRelease [126 kB]
Hit:2 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble InRelease
Get:3 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates InRelease [126 kB]
Get:4 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-security/main amd64 Components [21.6 kB]
Get:5 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-backports InRelease [126 kB]
Get:6 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-security/restricted amd64 Components [212 B]
Get:7 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-security/universe amd64 Components [52.3 kB]
Get:8 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-security/multiverse amd64 Components [212 B]
Get:9 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/main amd64 Packages [1,158 kB]
Get:10 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/main amd64 Components [161 kB]
Get:11 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/restricted amd64 Components [212 B]
Get:12 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/universe amd64 Packages [1,092 kB]
Get:13 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/universe amd64 Components [376 kB]
Get:14 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-updates/multiverse amd64 Components [940 B]
Get:15 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-backports/main amd64 Components [7,076 B]
Get:16 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-backports/restricted amd64 Components [216 B]
Get:17 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-backports/universe amd64 Components [16.3 kB]
Get:18 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble-backports/multiverse amd64 Components [212 B]
Fetched 3,265 kB in 1s (3,336 kB/s)
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
101 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
ufw is already the newest version (0.36.2-6).
ufw set to manually installed.
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 101 not upgraded.
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi#
```

- Step 2: We need to enable and check the status “sudo ufw enable  
sudo ufw status verbose”

```
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 101 not upgraded.
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi# sudo ufw enable
Firewall is active and enabled on system startup
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi# sudo ufw status verbose
Status: active
Logging: on (low)
Default: deny (incoming), allow (outgoing), disabled (routed)
New profiles: skip
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi#
```

## 4.2 Snort Installation and Verification

- Step 1: Install Snort “sudo apt install snort -y”



```
root@sahithi:~# sudo apt install snort -y
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
ifw is already the newest version (0.36.2-6).
ifw set to manually installed, 0 to remove and 101 not upgraded.
0 upgraded, 11 newly installed, 0 to remove and 101 not upgraded.
root@sahithi:~# sudo ufw enable
firewall is active and enabled on system startup
root@sahithi:~# sudo ufw status verbose
status: active
Logging: on (low)
default: deny (incoming), allow (outgoing), disabled (routed)
new profiles: skip
root@sahithi:~# sudo apt install snort -y
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
libdaq2t64 libdumbneti libluajit-5.1-2 libluajit-5.1-common libnetfilter-queue1 libpcap3 oinkmaster snort-common snort-common-libraries snort-rules-default
Suggested packages:
snort-doc
The following NEW packages will be installed:
libdaq2t64 libdumbneti libluajit-5.1-2 libluajit-5.1-common libnetfilter-queue1 libpcap3 oinkmaster snort snort-common snort-common-libraries
0 upgraded, 11 newly installed, 0 to remove and 101 not upgraded.
Need to get 2,666 kB of archives.
After this operation, 11.4 MB of additional disk space will be used.
get:1 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 libluajit-5.1-common all 2.1.0+git20231223.c525bc4+dfsg-1 [49.2 kB]
get:2 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 libluajit-5.1-2 amd64 2.1.0+git20231223.c525bc4+dfsg-1 [275 kB]
get:3 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 libpcap3 amd64 2.18.39-15ubuntu1 [242 kB]
get:4 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 libnetfilter-queue1 amd64 1.0.7-1ubuntu1 [184 kB]
get:5 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 snort-rules-default all 2.9.20.0+deb11u1ubuntu1 [899 kB]
get:6 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 snort-common all 2.9.20.0+deb11u1ubuntu1 [47.7 kB]
get:7 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 libdumbneti amd64 1.17.0-1ubuntu2 [30.7 kB]
get:8 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 libnetfilter-queue1 amd64 1.0.5-4build1 [15.1 kB]
get:9 http://ca.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 libdaq2t64 amd64 2.0.7-5.1build3 [92.9 kB]
pointer outside or press Ctrl+Alt.
```

- Step 2: We need to test “ snort -V”

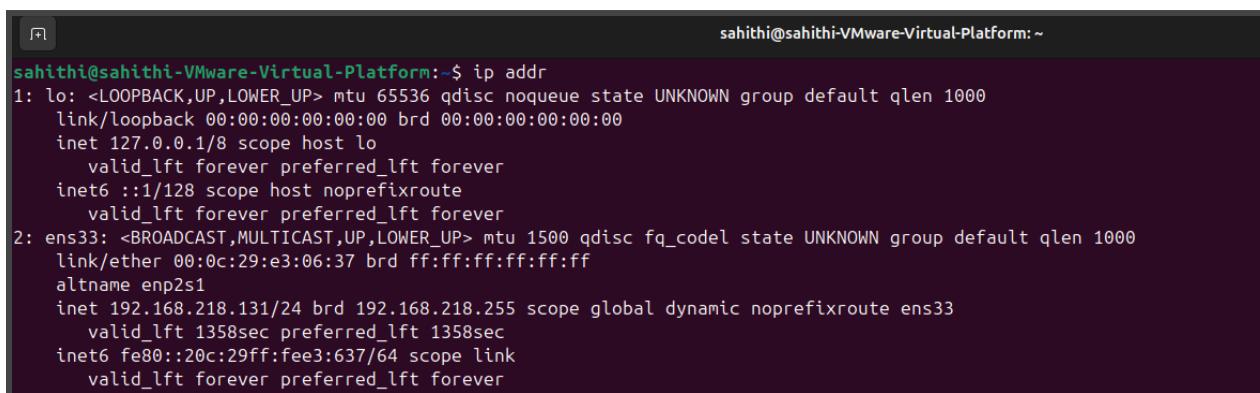


```
Snort configuration: interface default netdev using ens33
Processing triggers for man-db (2.12.0-4build2) ...
Processing triggers for libc-bin (2.39-0ubuntu8.4) ...
root@sahithi:~# snort -V
'*,-- -*> Snort! <*-
o" )~ Version 2.9.20 GRE (Build 82)
    By Martin Roesch & The Snort Team: http://www.snort.org/contact#team
    Copyright (C) 2014-2022 Cisco and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.
    Copyright (C) 1998-2013 Sourcefire, Inc., et al.
    Using libpcap version 1.10.4 (with TPACKET_V3)
    Using PCRE version: 8.39 2016-06-14
    Using ZLIB version: 1.3

root@sahithi:~#
```

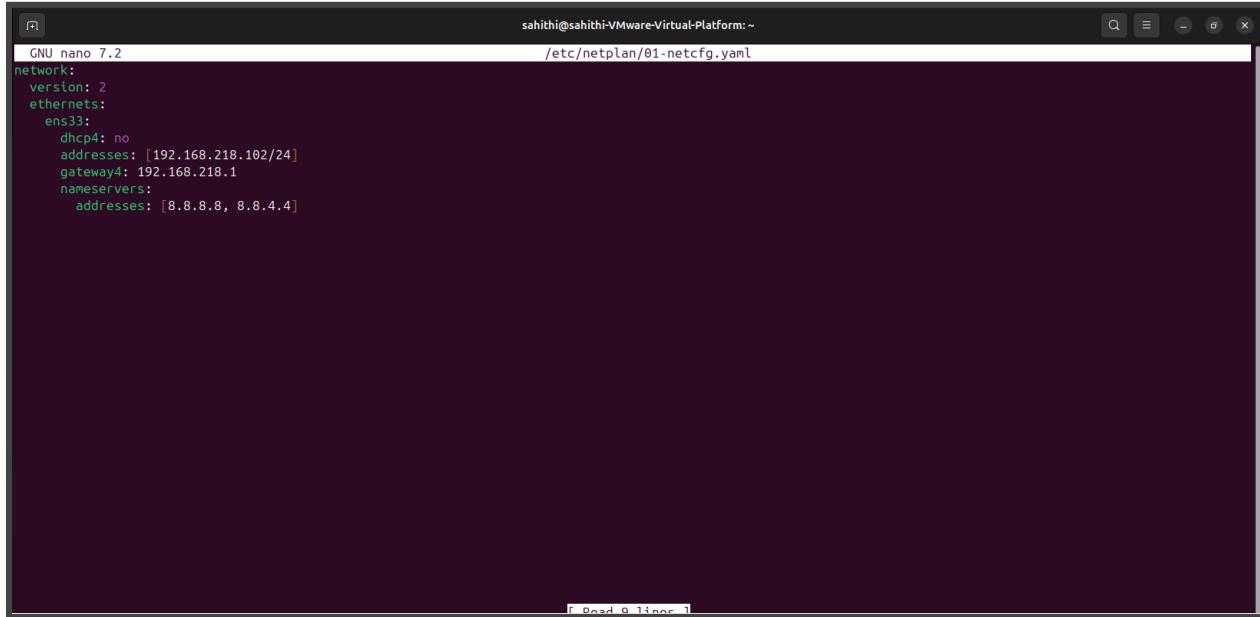
## 4.3. Static IP Configuration for Ubuntu

- Step 1: We need to set our VM network to Host-Only
- Step 2: Check Identity Interface “ ip a” and My Ubuntu is using the ens33 network interface 192.168.218.131.



```
sahithi@sahithi:~# ip addr
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
        inet6 ::1/128 scope host noprefixroute
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: ens33: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 00:0c:29:e3:06:37 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    altname enp2s1
    inet 192.168.218.131/24 brd 192.168.218.255 scope global dynamic noprefixroute ens33
        valid_lft 1358sec preferred_lft 1358sec
        inet6 fe80::20c:29ff:fee3:637/64 scope link
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
```

- Step 3: We need to configure Netplan” sudo nano /etc/netplan/01-netcfg.yaml”



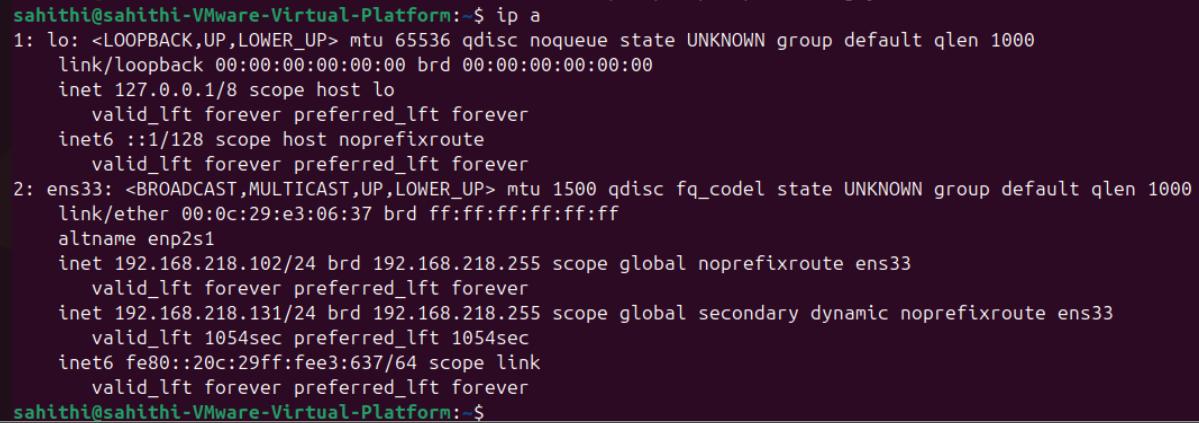
```

GNU nano 7.2
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~ /etc/netplan/01-netcfg.yaml

network:
  version: 2
  ethernets:
    ens33:
      dhcp4: no
      addresses: [192.168.218.102/24]
      gateway4: 192.168.218.1
      nameservers:
        addresses: [8.8.8.8, 8.8.4.4]

```

- Step 4: Apply Changes “ sudo netplan apply”
- Step 5: Now we need to check the “ip a” and my static ip is 192.168.218.102/24



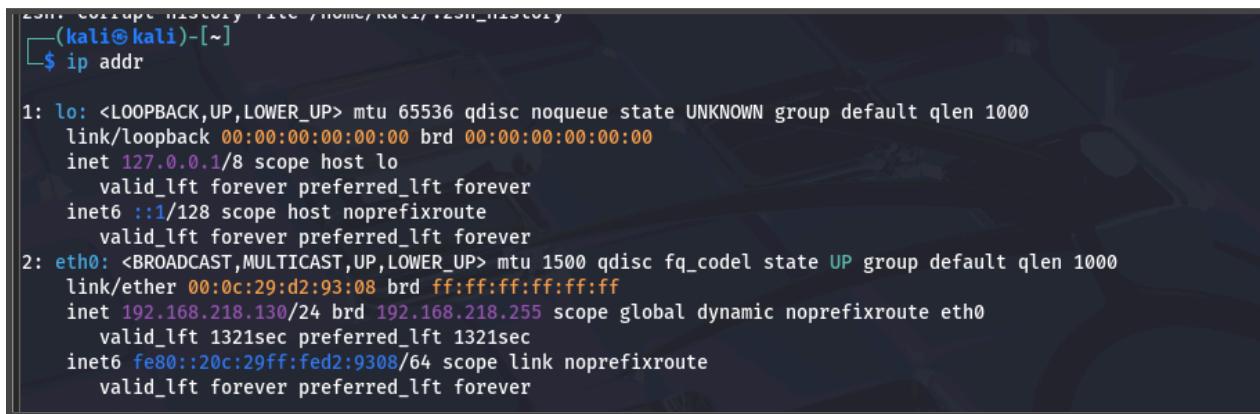
```

sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~ $ ip a
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 ::1/128 scope host noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: ens33: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 00:0c:29:e3:06:37 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    altname enp2s1
    inet 192.168.218.102/24 brd 192.168.218.255 scope global noprefixroute ens33
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet 192.168.218.131/24 brd 192.168.218.255 scope global secondary dynamic noprefixroute ens33
        valid_lft 1054sec preferred_lft 1054sec
    inet6 fe80::20c:29ff:fee3:637/64 scope link
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~ $

```

#### 4.4. Static IP Configuration for Kali Linux

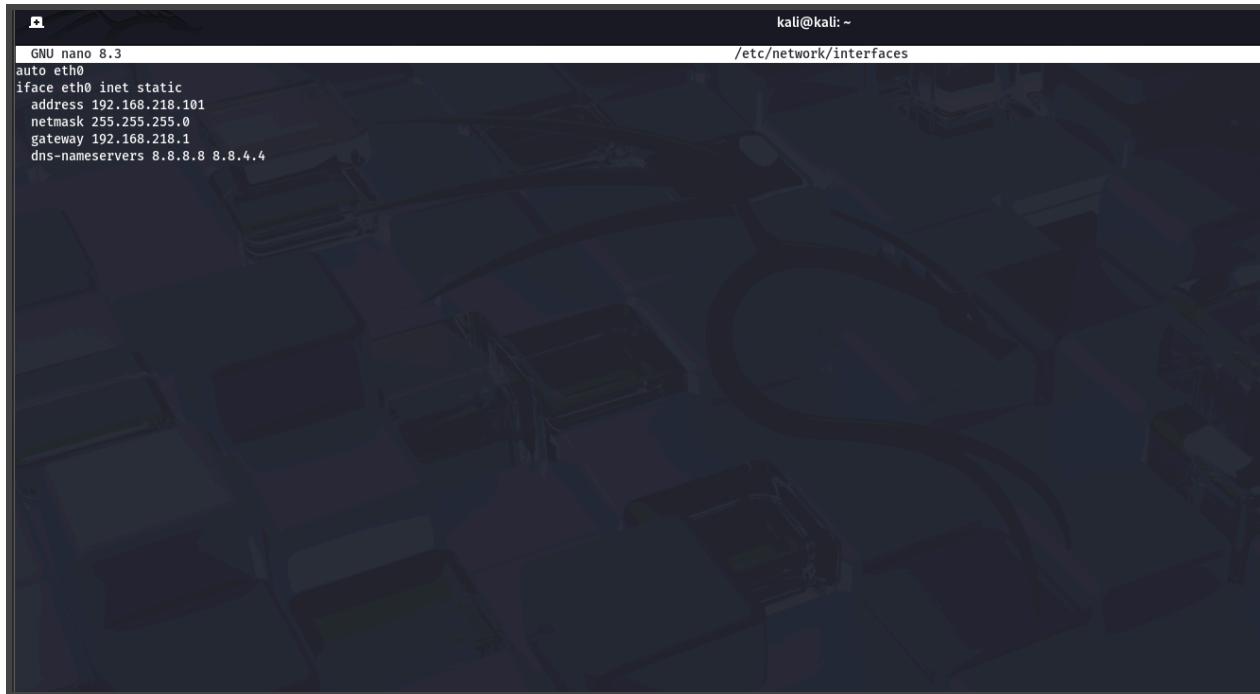
- Step 1: Check Identity Interface “ ip a:



```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ip addr

1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
        inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
        inet6 ::1/128 scope host noprefixroute
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 00:0c:29:d2:93:08 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
        inet 192.168.218.130/24 brd 192.168.218.255 scope global dynamic noprefixroute eth0
            valid_lft 1321sec preferred_lft 1321sec
        inet6 fe80::20c:29ff:fed2:9308/64 scope link noprefixroute
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
```

- Step 2: Edit the interfaces file “ sudo nano /etc/network/interfaces”



```
GNU nano 8.3
kali@kali: ~
/etc/network/interfaces

auto eth0
iface eth0 inet static
    address 192.168.218.101
    netmask 255.255.255.0
    gateway 192.168.218.1
    dns-nameservers 8.8.8.8 8.8.4.4
```

- Step 3: Restart the networking service “ sudo systemctl restart networking” and check the “ip a” and my static IP is 192.168.192.101.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ip a
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
        inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
        inet6 ::1/128 scope host noprefixroute
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 00:0c:29:d2:93:08 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
        inet 192.168.218.130/24 brd 192.168.218.255 scope global dynamic noprefixroute eth0
            valid_lft 912sec preferred_lft 912sec
        inet 192.168.218.101/24 brd 192.168.218.255 scope global secondary eth0
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
        inet6 fe80::20c:29ff:fed2:9308/64 scope link noprefixroute
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
```

## 5. Attack Simulations & IDS/IPS Response

---

### 5.1.TCP SYN Scan Detection:

- A TCP SYN scan (nmap -sS) was executed from Kali to the target Ubuntu.
- This mimics stealthy reconnaissance techniques used by attackers to detect open ports.
- Snort was run in console alert mode on interface ens33.
- Used default rule sets defined in /etc/snort/snort.conf.
- Snort identified SNMP-related traffic on TCP ports 705 and 161.
- Alerts were labelled as “Attempted Information Leak”, suggesting unauthorised probing behaviour.
- UFW successfully filtered all scanned ports, providing passive protection while Snort logged the scanning attempt.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ nmap -sS 192.168.218.102
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-06-25 14:14 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.218.102
Host is up (0.00057s latency).
All 1000 scanned ports on 192.168.218.102 are in ignored states.
Not shown: 1000 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:53:C6:4A (VMware)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 34.32 seconds
---(kali㉿kali)-[~]
```

```
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi# sudo snort -i ens33 -A console -q -c /etc/snort/snort.conf
06/25-14:14:20.129314  [**] [1:1421:11] SNMP AgentX/tcp request [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:60676 -> 192.168.218.102:705
06/25-14:14:20.229839  [**] [1:1421:11] SNMP AgentX/tcp request [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:60678 -> 192.168.218.102:705
06/25-14:14:24.579737  [**] [1:1418:11] SNMP request tcp [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:60676 -> 192.168.218.102:161
06/25-14:14:24.679908  [**] [1:1418:11] SNMP request tcp [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:60678 -> 192.168.218.102:161
```

## **5.2. SSH Brute Force Attack**

- I used Hydra for the brute force attack, so I installed it “`sudo apt install hydra`”
  - We need to enable the wordlist “`sudo gzip -d /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt.gz`”
  - Now we need to run the attack “

```
hydra -l testuser -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt ssh://192.168.218.102 -t 4"
```

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ hydra -l tester -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt ssh://192.168.218.102

Hydra v9.5 (c) 2023 by van Hauser/TMC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or secret service organizations, or for illegal purposes (this is non-binding, these *** ignore laws and ethics anyway).

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2025-06-25 14:32:16
[WARNING] Many SSH configurations limit the number of parallel tasks, it is recommended to reduce the tasks: use -t 4
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 14344399 login tries (l:1/p:14344399), -896525 tries per task
[DATA] attacking ssh://192.168.218.102:22/
[ERROR] could not connect to ssh://192.168.218.102:22 - Timeout connecting to 192.168.218.102

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ telnet 192.168.218.102 22

Trying 192.168.218.102...
Connected to 192.168.218.102.
Escape character is '^]'.
SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_9.4p1 Ubuntu-ubuntu13.12
Connection closed by foreign host.

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ hydra -l tester -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt ssh://192.168.218.102 -t 4

Hydra v9.5 (c) 2023 by van Hauser/TMC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or secret service organizations, or for illegal purposes (this is non-binding, these *** ignore laws and ethics anyway).

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2025-06-25 14:38:46
[DATA] max 4 tasks per 1 server, overall 4 tasks, 14344399 login tries (l:1/p:14344399), -3586100 tries per task
[DATA] attacking ssh://192.168.218.102:22/
[STATUS] 84.00 tries/min, 84 tries in 00:01h, 14344315 to do in 2846:06h, 4 active
[STATUS] 82.07 tries/min, 248 tries in 00:03h, 14344151 to do in 2891:58h, 4 active

[STATUS] 75.43 tries/min, 528 tries in 00:07h, 14343871 to do in 3169:25h, 4 active
[STATUS] 73.07 tries/min, 1096 tries in 00:15h, 14343303 to do in 3271:45h, 4 active
```

- Start running the snort in verbose “ sudo snort -i ens33 -v -A console -c /etc/snort/snort.conf”
  - This screenshot shows Snort capturing live SSH brute-force traffic between Kali (192.168.218.101) and Ubuntu IDS (192.168.218.102). The logs highlight TCP packets targeting port 22 with a series of connection attempts. Response packets (AP) from Ubuntu confirm active SSH handshake sequences.

- To catch SSH login attempts, we need to set the rules “ sudo nano /etc/snort/rules/local.rules”
  - Add this rule “alert tcp any any -> 192.168.218.102 22 (msg:"SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected"; flags:S; threshold:type threshold, track by\_src, count 1, seconds 5; sid:1000003; rev:1;)”
  - Multiple alerts are generated in real time
  - Each alert indicated 1 or more connection attempts from the attacker's IP within a 5-second window.
  - Traffic was verified with packet data showing consistent SYN activity.

```
^*** Caught Int-Signal
root@sahithi:~# sudo nano /etc/snort/rules/local.rules
root@sahithi:~# sudo snort -i ens33 -A console -q -c /etc/snort/snort.conf
06/25-15:26:00.632306 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:34650 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:00.967755 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:34654 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:00.968537 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:34660 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:00.969719 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:34664 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:00.969719 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:346680 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:15.181052 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:42750 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:15.191260 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:42766 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:15.201905 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:42768 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:15.206135 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:42772 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:15.34.083265 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:38260 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:34.107390 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:38262 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:34.116152 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:38276 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:34.128566 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:38292 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:55.346765 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:46076 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:57.719944 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:46078 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:57.730537 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:46090 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:26:57.740281 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:46106 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:11.910213 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:54982 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:16.628714 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:53392 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:16.638989 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:53398 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:16.649347 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:53412 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:30.814921 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:54088 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:35.564731 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:32888 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:35.575670 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:32892 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:35.586894 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:32896 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:54.444572 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:39044 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:59.182993 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:39048 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:59.194468 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:39062 -> 192.168.218.102:22
06/25-15:27:59.204829 [**] [1:1000003:1] SSH Brute-Force Attempt Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:39064 -> 192.168.218.102:22
```

- **Log analysis:** We are finding the password failed logins "grep "Failed password"/var/log/auth.log"

### 5.3 SYN Flood Attack (DDoS)

- First, we need to update the Snort rules “ sudo nano /etc/snort/rules/local.rules”
  - I am adding a new rule to the IDS “ alert tcp any any -> 192.168.218.102 22 (flags:S; msg:"Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port"; threshold: type both, track by\_src, count 20, seconds 5; sid:1000015; rev:1;)”
  - We are sending SYN packets “ sudo hping3 -S -p 22 -i u1000 192.168.218.102”

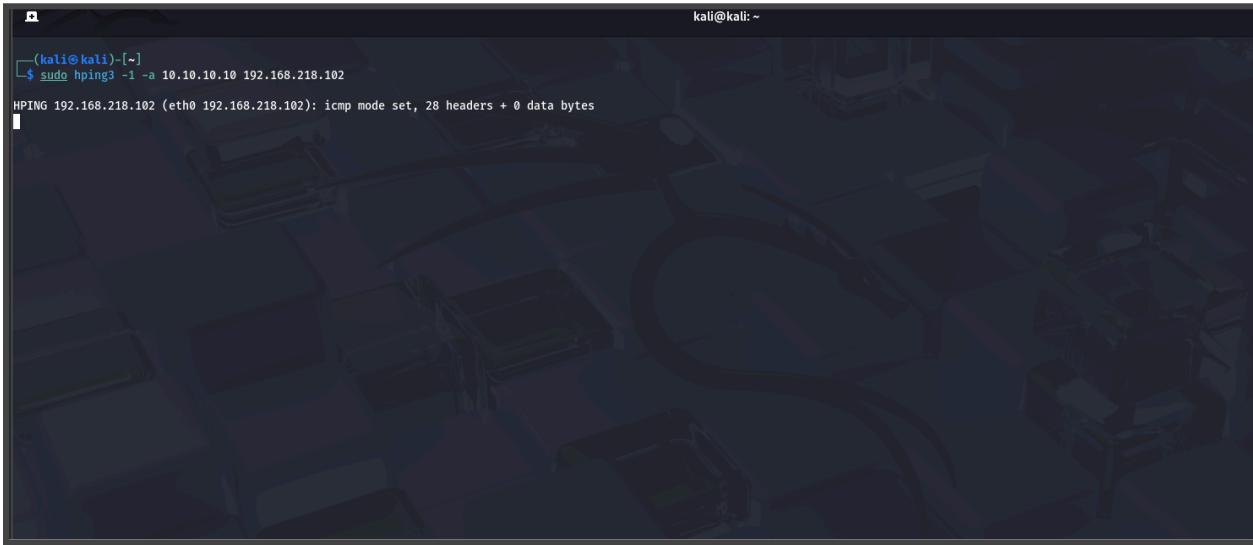
- Start running the snort “ sudo snort -i ens33 -A console -q -c /etc/snort/snort.conf”
  - Alerts were triggered when 20+ SYN packets were detected within 5 seconds from the same source.
  - TCP packets from **source port 0** (invalid/malformed).
  - Traffic from **ports 20 (FTP)** and **53 (DNS)** targeting SSH—suspicious and unexpected.

```
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~
```

06/25/16:43:44.021455 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:55929 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:43:49.023740 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:60119 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:43:54.025573 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:64313 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:43:55.478717 [\*\*] [1:524:8] BAD-TRAFFIC tcp port 0 traffic [\*] [Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:0 -> 192.168.218.10  
2:22  
06/25/16:43:55.479033 [\*\*] [1:524:8] BAD-TRAFFIC tcp port 0 traffic [\*] [Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:0 -> 192.168.218.10  
2:22  
06/25/16:43:55.501056 [\*\*] [1:503:7] MISC Source Port 20 to <1024 [\*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:20 -> 192.1  
6.218.102:22  
06/25/16:43:55.504598 [\*\*] [1:504:7] MISC source port 53 to <1024 [\*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:53 -> 192.1  
6.218.102:22  
06/25/16:43:59.022850 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:2982 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:04.023044 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:6903 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:09.022298 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:10944 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:14.024548 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:15153 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:19.023037 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:19295 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:24.023177 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:23384 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:29.022493 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:27511 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:34.029273 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:31457 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:39.024503 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:35469 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:44.027873 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:39373 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:49.024696 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:43324 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:54.023240 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:47416 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:44:59.027784 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:51176 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:45:04.024067 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:54759 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:45:09.023564 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:58848 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:45:14.023734 [\*\*] [1:1000015:1] Potential SYN Flood on SSH Port [\*\*] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:62923 -> 192.168.218.102:22  
06/25/16:45:17.0237862 [\*\*] [1:524:8] BAD-TRAFFIC tcp port 0 traffic [\*] [Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:0 -> 192.168.218.10  
2:22  
06/25/16:45:17.374510 [\*\*] [1:524:8] BAD-TRAFFIC tcp port 0 traffic [\*] [Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:0 -> 192.168.218.10  
2:22  
06/25/16:45:17.398563 [\*\*] [1:503:7] MISC Source Port 20 to <1024 [\*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:20 -> 192.1  
6.218.102:22  
06/25/16:45:17.439802 [\*\*] [1:504:7] MISC source port 53 to <1024 [\*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 192.168.218.101:53 -> 192.1  
6.218.102:22

## 5.4. Spoofed ICMP Echo Request

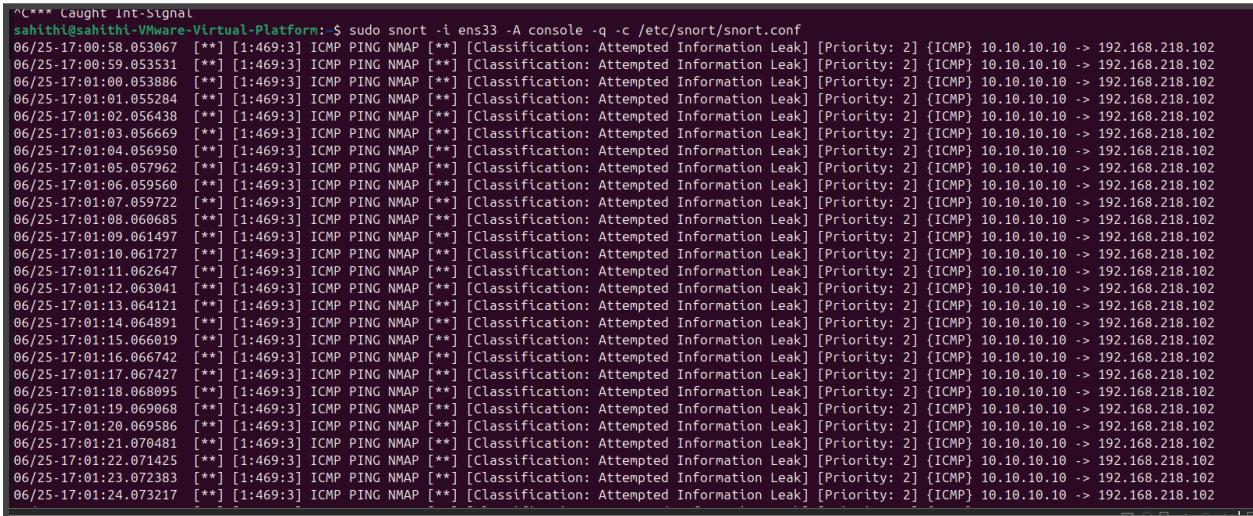
- To simulate a suspicious ICMP echo from a fake source, “ sudo hping3 -1 -a 10.10.10.10 192.168.218.102”
- In this -1 ICMP echo, -a is the spoofed source IP



(kali㉿kali)-[~]\$ sudo hping3 -1 -a 10.10.10.10 192.168.218.102

HPING 192.168.218.102 (eth0 192.168.218.102): icmp mode set, 28 headers + 0 data bytes

- An attacker system (10.10.10.10) ran to sent ICMP echo requests (ping scan) toward the target (192.168.218.102) for host discovery.
- Snort identified and logged multiple alerts using rule SID:469, labelled as “ICMP PING NMAP”, classified under Attempted Information Leak with Priority 2.



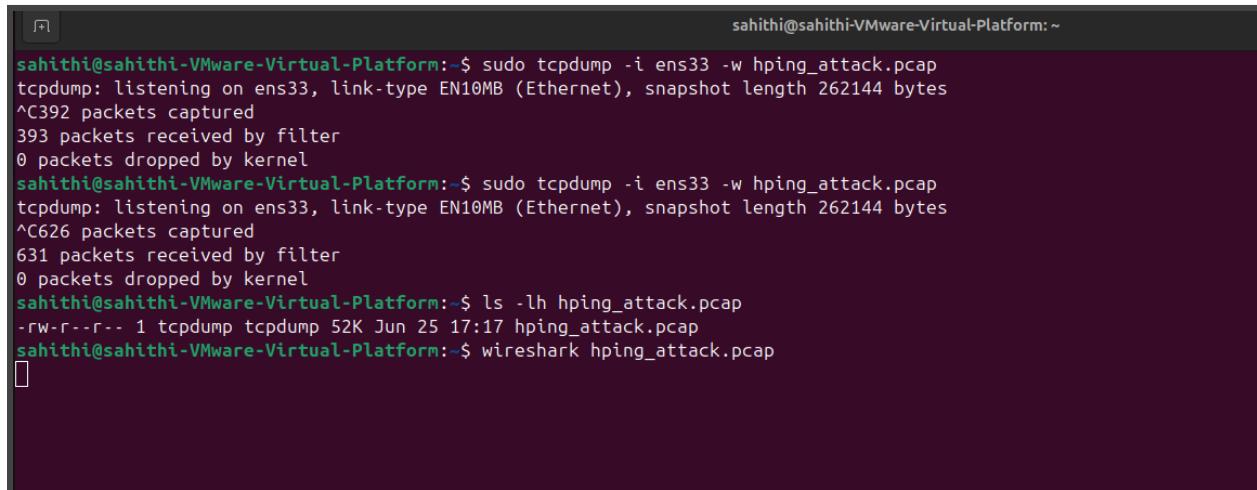
```
^C*** Caught Int-Signal
sahithi@sahithi-Virtual-Platform:~$ sudo snort -i ens33 -A console -q -c /etc/snort/snort.conf
06/25-17:00:58.053067 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:00:59.053531 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:00.053886 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:01.055284 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:02.056438 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:03.056669 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:04.056950 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:05.057962 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:06.059560 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:07.059722 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:08.060685 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:09.061497 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:10.061727 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:11.062647 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:12.063041 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:13.064121 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:14.064891 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:15.066019 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:16.066742 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:17.067427 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:18.068095 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:19.069068 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:20.069586 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:21.070481 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:22.071425 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:23.072383 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
06/25-17:01:24.073217 [**] [1:469:3] ICMP PING NMAP [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {ICMP} 10.10.10.10 -> 192.168.218.102
```

## 6. Traffic Capture & Log Analysis

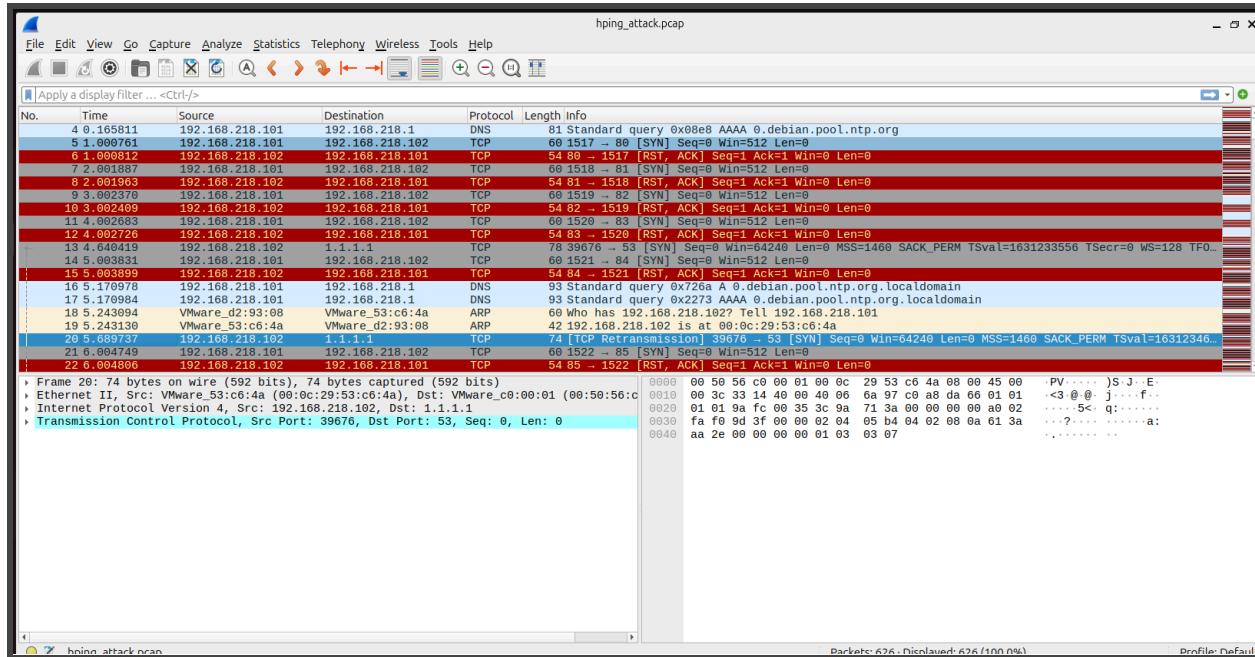
---

### 6.1. Network capturer and analysis

- Launch tcpdump and start monitoring the interface ens33 and write the captured packets to a .pcap file “sudo tcpdump -i ens33 -w hping\_attack.pcap”
- This captures all incoming packets—including potential SYN flood traffic—for offline analysis
- Run a simulated attack using hping3 to send rapid TCP SYN packets “sudo hping3 -S -p ++50 192.168.218.102” We need to stop and save the files “ ls -lh hping\_attack.pcap”
- Now open the Wireshark “wireshark hping\_attack.pcap”



```
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~$ sudo tcpdump -i ens33 -w hping_attack.pcap
tcpdump: listening on ens33, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet), snapshot length 262144 bytes
^C392 packets captured
393 packets received by filter
0 packets dropped by kernel
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~$ sudo tcpdump -i ens33 -w hping_attack.pcap
tcpdump: listening on ens33, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet), snapshot length 262144 bytes
^C626 packets captured
631 packets received by filter
0 packets dropped by kernel
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~$ ls -lh hping_attack.pcap
-rw-r--r-- 1 tcpdump tcpdump 52K Jun 25 17:17 hping_attack.pcap
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~$ wireshark hping_attack.pcap
```



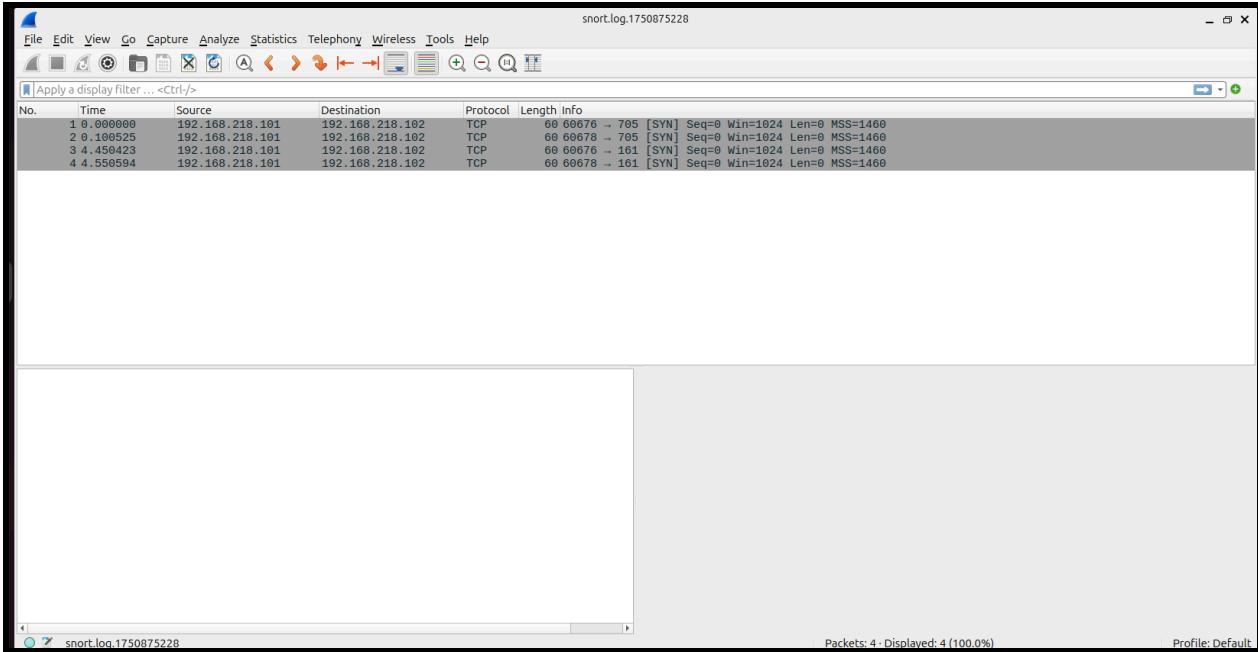
- Allows detailed packet analysis, including TCP flags, sequence numbers, and timing—helpful for confirming SYN flood patterns.
- The .pcap shows **TCP, DNS, and ARP** packets, indicating both normal background communication and possible attack traffic.

## 6.2. SYN Flood Log Analysis Using Snort and Wireshark

- Open the Snort log “ sudo less /var/log/snort/alert”
- We need to verify the alert directory “ ls /var/log/snort”

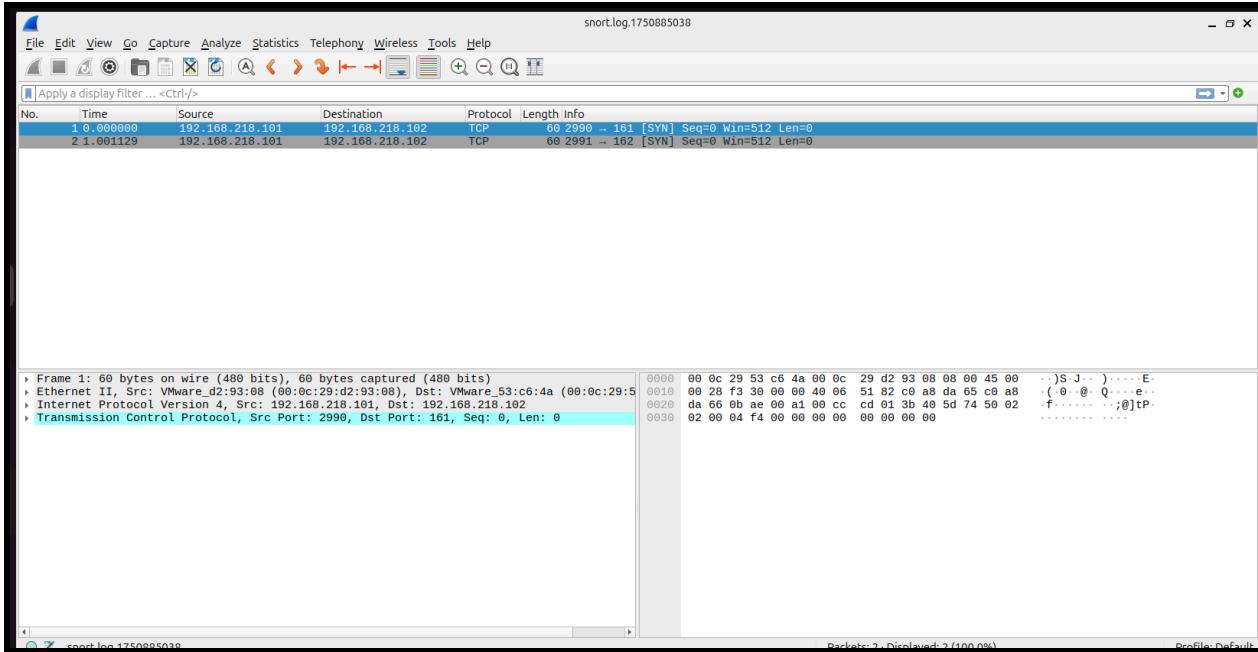
```
/var/log/snort/alert: No such file or directory
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~$ sudo snort -i ens33 -A fast -q -c /etc/snort/snort.conf
^C*** Caught Int Signal
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~$ ls /var/log/snort
alert      snort.alert.fast  snort.log.1750875228  snort.log.1750879239  snort.log.1750883309  snort.log.1750885038
snort.alert snort.log       snort.log.1750878646  snort.log.1750879557  snort.log.1750884089  snort.log.1750885257
sahithi@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~$ alert
```

- Now we need “sudo less /var/log/snort/alert”
- wireshark /var/log/snort/snort.log.1750875228
- Permit me “ sudo chmod 644 /var/log/snort/snort.log.1750875228”, it helps to access the file.



- Multiple repeated **TCP SYN packets** with identical sequence numbers and no response (**no SYN-ACK**), typical of a **SYN flood**.
- Source: 192.168.218.101 → Destination: 192.168.218.102 on different ports (e.g., 705, 161).
- Now we need “sudo less /var/log/snort/alert”
- wireshark /var/log/snort/snort.log.1750885038
- Permit me “ sudo chmod 644 /var/log/snort/snort.log.1750885038” to access this file.

```
sahithi@sahithi-Virtual-Platform:~$ wireshark /var/log/snort/snort.log.1750885038
^C
sahithi@sahithi-Virtual-Platform:~$ sudo chmod 644 /var/log/snort/snort.log.1750885038
sahithi@sahithi-Virtual-Platform:~$ wireshark /var/log/snort/snort.log.1750885038
```



- This capture shows a **TCP SYN packet** sent from 192.168.218.101 (Src Port: 2990) to 192.168.218.102 (Dst Port: 161).
- The packet length is 60 bytes, and the **TCP flags field shows only SYN set**, which aligns with the pattern of a SYN flood

## 7. fail2ban Configuration & Jail Testing

---

- First, we need to install fail2ban “sudo apt install fail2ban”
- We need to verify the installation “ snort -V  
fail2ban-client status”

```
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi
'^'+prefix+'<F-ID>User <F-USER>\S+</F-USER></F-ID> not allowed\n'
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/fail2ban/tests/fail2banregetestcase.py:443: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\$'
'^'+prefix+'User <F-USER>\$+</F-USER> not allowed\n'
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/fail2ban/tests/fail2banregetestcase.py:444: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\d'
'^'+prefix+'Received disconnect from <F-ID><ADDR> port \d+</F-ID>'
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/fail2ban/tests/fail2banregetestcase.py:451: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\$'
    _test_variants('common', prefix="^$*\$ sshd[<F-MLFID>\d+</F-MLFID>]\$:\$")
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/fail2ban/tests/fail2banregetestcase.py:537: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\['
'common[prefregex="^svc\(\<F-MLFID>\d+</F-MLFID>\) connect <F-CONTENT>.+</F-CONTENT>$"]'
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/fail2ban/tests/server testcase.py:1375: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\$'
" { nft -a list chain inet f2b-table f2b-chain | grep -oP '@addr-set-j-w-nft-mp\$.*\$+\\khandle\$+(\\d+)$'; } | while read -r hdl; do"
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/fail2ban/tests/server testcase.py:1378: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\$'
" { nft -a list chain inet f2b-table f2b-chain | grep -oP '@addr6-set-j-w-nft-mp\$.*\$+\\khandle\$+(\\d+)$'; } | while read -r hdl; do"
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/fail2ban/tests/server testcase.py:1421: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\$'
" { nft -a list chain inet f2b-table f2b-chain | grep -oP '@addr-set-j-w-nft-ap\$.*\$+\\khandle\$+(\\d+)$'; } | while read -r hdl; do"
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/fail2ban/tests/server testcase.py:1424: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\$'
" { nft -a list chain inet f2b-table f2b-chain | grep -oP '@addr6-set-j-w-nft-ap\$.*\$+\\khandle\$+(\\d+)$'; } | while read -r hdl; do"
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/fail2ban.service → /usr/lib/systemd/system/fail2ban.service.
Setting up python3-pyinotify (0.9.6-2ubuntu1) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.12.0-4build2) ...
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi# snort -V      # Should show version info
fail2ban-client status # Should show it's active

'--> Snort! <--
o--- Version 2.9.20 GRE (Build 82)
    By Martin Roesch & The Snort Team: http://www.snort.org/contact#team
    Copyright (C) 2014-2022 Cisco and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.
    Copyright (C) 1998-2013 Sourcefire, Inc., et al.
    Using libpcap version 1.10.4 (with TPACKET_V3)
    Using PCRE version: 8.39 2016-06-14
    Using ZLIB version: 1.3

Status
|- Number of jail:      1
`- Jail list:  sshd
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi#
```

- Create SSH/jail configuration “ sudo nano /etc/fail2ban/jail.local”

```
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi
GNU nano 7.2                                     /etc/fail2ban/jail.local
[sshd]
enabled = true
port = 22
logpath = /var/log/auth.log
maxretry = 3
bantime = 600
```

- We need to test the jail from Kali “ ssh invaliduser@192.168.181.102”

```
(root@kali)-[~/home/kali]
└─# ssh invaliduser@192.168.181.102
The authenticity of host '192.168.181.102 (192.168.181.102)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:zNGDas/2746TzCymSzxmSVPKM43oeY8BErM9TB8.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? Yes
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.181.102' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
invaliduser@192.168.181.102: Permission denied, please try again.
invaliduser@192.168.181.102: Permission denied, please try again.
invaliduser@192.168.181.102: Permission denied, please try again.
Connection closed by 192.168.181.102 port 22

(root@kali)-[~/home/kali]
└─#
```

- After doing it two to three times, we need to check “sudo fail2ban-client status sshd”

```
- Banned IP list:
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi# sudo fail2ban-client status sshd
Status for the jail: sshd
|- Filter
| |- Currently failed: 0
| |- Total failed: 3
|- Journal matches: _SYSTEMD_UNIT=sshd.service + _COMM:sshd
`- Actions
  |- Currently banned: 1
  |- Total banned: 1
  - Banned IP list: 192.168.181.101
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi#
```

- We need to remove the band on Kali “sudo fail2ban-client set sshd unbanip 192.168.181.101”

```
`- total banned: 1
`- Banned IP list: 192.168.181.101
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi# sudo fail2ban-client set sshd unbanip 192.168.181.101
1
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi# sudo fail2ban-client set sshd unbanip 192.168.181.101
0
root@sahithi-VMware-Virtual-Platform:/home/sahithi#
```

## 8. Adding Custom Rules to Reduce False Positives

---

- First, we need to edit the rules “ sudo nano /etc/snort/rules/local.rules”
- Adding text rule to ICMP “ alert icmp any any -> \$HOME\_NET any (msg:”ICMP test alert”; sid:1000001; rev:1;)”
- Run Snort “ sudo snort -i ens33 -A console -q -c /etc/snort/snort.conf”
- Move to Kali and try running “ ping 192.168.181.102”

```
Fatal Error, Quitting..  
sahithi@sahithi-Virtual-Platform:~$ sudo nano /etc/snort/snort.conf  
sahithi@sahithi-Virtual-Platform:~$ sudo snort -A console -q -c /etc/snort/snort.conf -i ens33  
06/25-21:07:47.093246 [**] [1:1917:6] SCAN UPnP service discover attempt [*] [Classification: Detection of a Network Scan] [Priority: 3] {UDP} 169.254.116.40:2488 -> 239.255.255.250:1900  
06/25-21:07:47.391412 [**] [1:527:8] BAD-TRAFFIC same SRC/DST [*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {UDP} 0.0.0.0:68 -> 255.255.255.255:67  
06/25-21:07:47.395858 [**] [1:527:8] BAD-TRAFFIC same SRC/DST [*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {UDP} 0.0.0.0:68 -> 255.255.255.255:67  
06/25-21:07:52.661280 [**] [1:1917:6] SCAN UPnP service discover attempt [*] [Classification: Detection of a Network Scan] [Priority: 3] {UDP} 192.168.181.1:58312 -> 239.255.255.250:1900  
06/25-21:07:52.661526 [**] [1:1917:6] SCAN UPnP service discover attempt [*] [Classification: Detection of a Network Scan] [Priority: 3] {UDP} 192.168.181.1:58312 -> 239.255.255.250:1900  
06/25-21:07:52.661540 [**] [1:1917:6] SCAN UPnP service discover attempt [*] [Classification: Detection of a Network Scan] [Priority: 3] {UDP} 192.168.181.1:58312 -> 239.255.255.250:1900  
06/25-21:07:53.101305 [**] [1:1917:6] SCAN UPnP service discover attempt [*] [Classification: Detection of a Network Scan] [Priority: 3] {UDP} 192.168.181.1:58312 -> 239.255.255.250:1900  
06/25-21:07:53.689866 [**] [1:527:8] BAD-TRAFFIC same SRC/DST [*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {IPV6-ICMP} :: -> ff02::16  
06/25-21:07:53.998138 [**] [1:527:8] BAD-TRAFFIC same SRC/DST [*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {IPV6-ICMP} :: -> ff02::16  
06/25-21:07:54.371261 [**] [1:527:8] BAD-TRAFFIC same SRC/DST [*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {UDP} 0.0.0.0:68 -> 255.255.255.255:67  
06/25-21:07:54.378322 [**] [1:527:8] BAD-TRAFFIC same SRC/DST [*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {IPV6-ICMP} :: -> ff02::16  
06/25-21:07:55.060569 [**] [1:527:8] BAD-TRAFFIC same SRC/DST [*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {IPV6-ICMP} :: -> ff02::16  
06/25-21:07:55.062253 [**] [1:1917:6] SCAN UPnP service discover attempt [*] [Classification: Detection of a Network Scan] [Priority: 3] {UDP} 192.168.181.1:58312 -> 239.255.255.250:1900  
06/25-21:07:55.124914 [**] [1:527:8] BAD-TRAFFIC same SRC/DST [*] [Classification: Potentially Bad Traffic] [Priority: 2] {IPV6-ICMP} :: -> ff02::1:ff53:c64a  
06/25-21:07:56.109120 [**] [1:1917:6] SCAN UPnP service discover attempt [*] [Classification: Detection of a Network Scan] [Priority: 3] {UDP} 192.168.181.1:58312 -> 239.255.255.250:1900  
06/25-21:07:58.073583 [**] [1:1917:6] SCAN UPnP service discover attempt [*] [Classification: Detection of a Network Scan] [Priority: 3] {UDP} 192.168.181.1:58312 -> 239.255.255.250:1900
```

- This screenshot shows Snort actively logging alerts in console mode, detecting repeated TCP and UPnP traffic. These alerts illustrate typical false positives, later fine-tuned using suppression rules.

## 9. Observations

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- The Snort IDS successfully detected a wide range of simulated network intrusions, including SYN scans, brute-force SSH attempts, SYN floods, and spoofed ICMP echo requests.
- The combined use of UFW, Snort, and fail2ban created a multi-layered security defence that monitored, alerted, and actively responded to threats in real time.
- Log analysis using tcpdump, Wireshark, and Snort's own alert files provided insight into network behaviour and traffic anomalies.
- Custom rules and threshold tuning significantly reduced false positives, helping refine the detection accuracy and overall usability of the IDS/IPS setup.

## **10. Conclusion**

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This project demonstrates the effectiveness of a properly configured open-source intrusion detection and prevention system in a controlled lab environment. By integrating Snort, fail2ban, and UFW, the lab achieved comprehensive coverage for threat visibility, traffic control, and automated mitigation. The simulation of real-world attacks and the use of forensic tools like Wireshark validated the setup's capability to detect and respond to malicious behaviour.

With further optimisation and rule tuning, this solution could serve as a foundational security layer for small to medium-sized networks or as a learning environment for security professionals in training.