



Project Name :

Observing Live RDP Brute Force Attacks from
Around the World with Azure Sentinel and a
Custom PowerShell Script.

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Azure Sentinel is a cloud-native security information and event management (SIEM) solution that helps organizations detect, investigate, and respond to security threats. It provides a unified view of security data from across your organization, including your on-premises and cloud environments.

In this topic, we will set up Azure Sentinel and connect it to a live virtual machine acting as a honey pot. We will then use a custom PowerShell script to look up the attackers' geolocation information. This will allow us to observe live RDP brute force attacks from all around the world and track the location of the attackers.

This topic is relevant to security professionals who want to learn how to use Azure Sentinel to detect and investigate RDP brute force attacks. It is also relevant to anyone who is interested in learning more about how to use PowerShell to gather geolocation information.

Benefits of using Azure Sentinel to detect and investigate RDP brute force attacks:

Azure Sentinel provides a unified view of security data from across your organization, including your on-premises and cloud environments. This makes it easier to detect and investigate security threats.

Azure Sentinel uses machine learning to identify patterns and anomalies in your security data. This can help you to detect threats that you would not be able to detect manually.

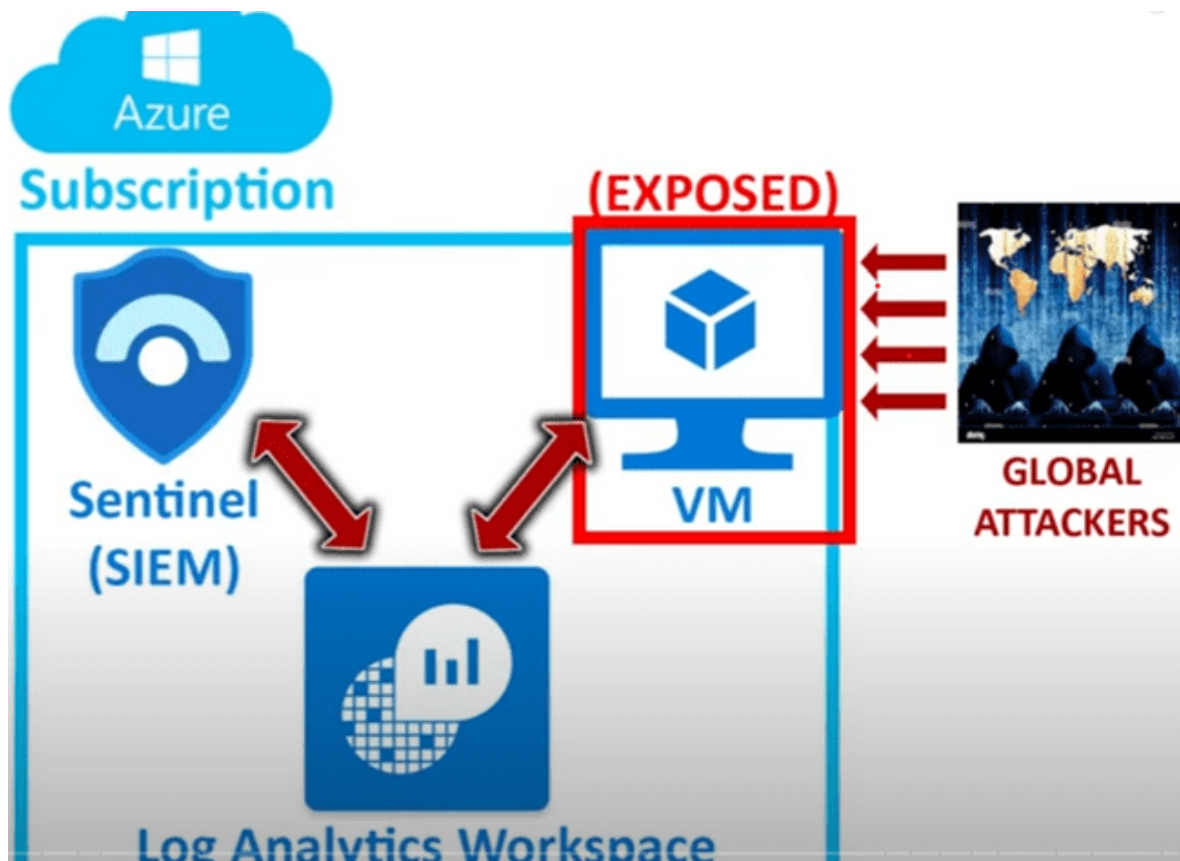
Azure Sentinel provides a variety of tools to help you investigate security threats. These tools include incident response tools, threat hunting tools, and forensics tools.

Benefits of using a custom PowerShell script to look up attackers' geolocation information:

PowerShell is a powerful scripting language that can be used to automate a variety of tasks.

The custom PowerShell script that we will be using in this topic is very efficient and can quickly look up the geolocation information of a large number of IP addresses.

The custom PowerShell script is also very flexible and can be modified to meet your specific needs.



1. Creating a virtual machine

Microsoft Azure

Home > Virtual machines > Create a virtual machine

Basics Disks Networking Management Monitoring Advanced Tags Review > create

Create a virtual machine that runs Linux or Windows. Select an image from Azure marketplace or use your own customized image. Complete the Basics tab then Review > create to provision a virtual machine with default parameters or review each tab for full customization. [Learn more >](#)

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * Azure for Students

Resource group * (new) Resource group

Instance details

Virtual machine name *

Region *

Availability options *

Availability zone *

Security type

Trusted launch virtual machines

Image *

Ubuntu Server 20.04 LTS - x64 Gen2

Review > create < Previous Next > Disks >

Resource group honeypot lab and vm name honey pot

The screenshot shows the 'Create a virtual machine' form in the Azure portal. The form is titled 'Create a virtual machine' and has a breadcrumb 'Home > Virtual machines'. The form fields are as follows:

- Virtual machine name:
- Region:
- Availability options:
- Availability zone:
- Security type:
- Image:
- VM architecture: ☐ (selected), ☐
- Run with Azure Spot discount: ☐
- Size:
- Administrator account:
- Username:
- Password:
- Confirm password:

At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Review + create', 'Previous', and 'Next: Disks'. A red banner at the bottom says 'We're sorry, but we can't create your virtual machine. Please check the error message and try again.'

2. Allow all in firewall

create a new network security group by giving destination port a * and setting priority to 100 so that security goes to its minimal stage

The screenshot shows the 'Add inbound security rule' form in the Azure portal. The form is titled 'Add inbound security rule' and has a breadcrumb 'Home > Virtual machines > Create network security group'. The form fields are as follows:

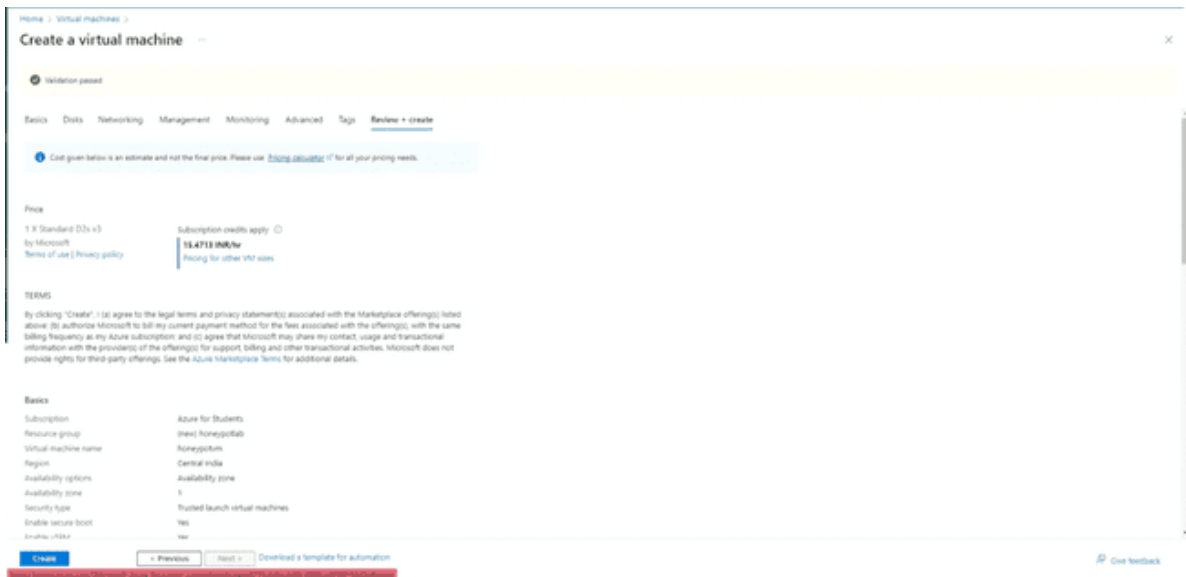
- Name:
- Inbound rules:
- Outbound rules:

On the right side, there is a form for 'Add inbound security rule' with the following fields:

- Source:
- Source port ranges:
- Destination:
- Service:
- Destination port ranges:
- Protocol: ☐ (selected), ☐, ☐, ☐
- Action: ☐ (selected), ☐
- Priority:
- Name:
- Description:

At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Add' and 'Cancel'. A red banner at the bottom says 'We're sorry, but we can't create your virtual machine. Please check the error message and try again.'

Review and create



3.Create a log analytics workspace

A Log Analytics workspace is a unique environment in Azure Monitor for storing and analyzing log data from Azure Monitor and other Azure services, such as Microsoft Sentinel and Microsoft Defender for Cloud. Each workspace has its own data repository and configuration, but it might combine data from multiple services.

Log Analytics workspaces are used to collect, store, and analyze log data to identify trends, patterns, and insights. Log Analytics workspaces can also be used to create alerts and notifications to help you quickly identify and respond to security threats.

Log Analytics workspaces are a powerful tool for monitoring and managing your Azure resources. They can help you to identify and troubleshoot problems, improve performance, and secure your environment.

Benefits of using a Log Analytics workspace:

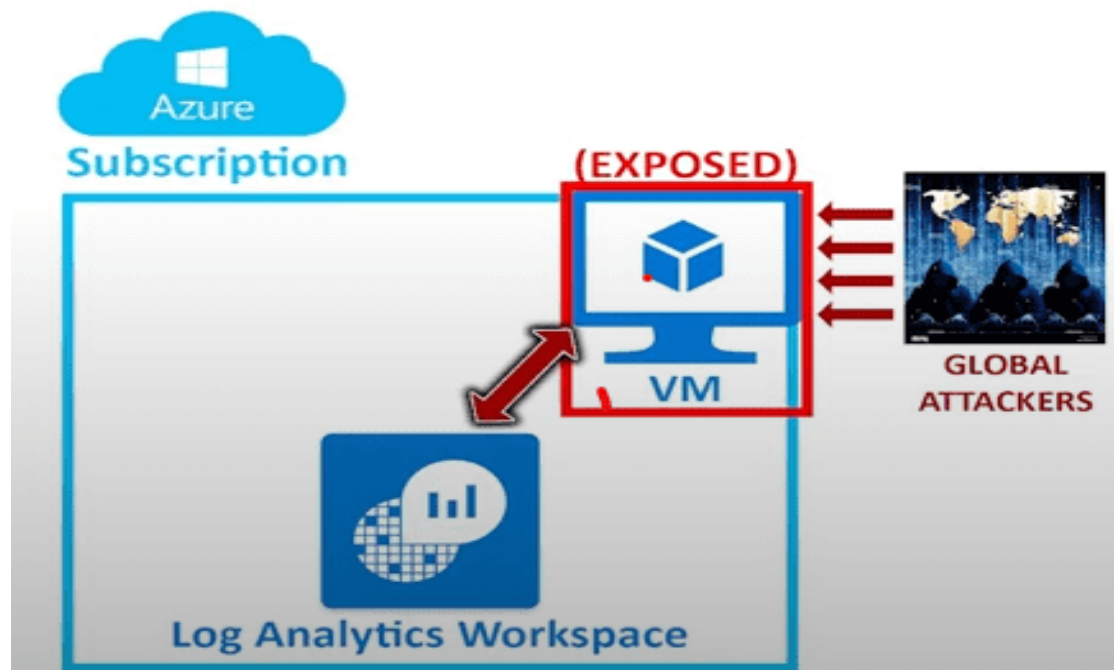
Centralized logging: Log Analytics workspaces provide a centralized location to store and analyze log data from all of your Azure resources. This makes it easier to identify trends and patterns in your data.

Advanced analytics: Log Analytics workspaces support advanced analytics capabilities, such as machine learning and artificial intelligence. This can help you to identify threats and problems that you would not be able to detect manually.

Alerting and notifications: Log Analytics workspaces can be used to create alerts and notifications to help you quickly identify and respond to security threats.

Compliance: Log Analytics workspaces can help you to comply with industry and regulatory requirements, such as PCI DSS and HIPAA.

If you are using Azure resources, I recommend that you create a Log Analytics workspace to collect and analyze your log data. Log Analytics workspaces are a powerful tool for monitoring and managing your Azure environment.



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure portal interface. The top navigation bar includes the Microsoft Azure logo, a search bar, and user information. The main content area is titled 'Create Log Analytics workspace'. Below the title, there are tabs for 'Basics', 'Tags', and 'Review + Create'. The 'Basics' tab is selected. A warning message states: 'A Log Analytics workspace is the basic management unit of Azure Monitor Logs. There are specific considerations you should take when creating a new Log Analytics workspace. [Learn more](#)'. Below this, a paragraph explains: 'With Azure Monitor Logs you can easily store, retain, and query data collected from your monitored resources in Azure and other environments for valuable insights. A Log Analytics workspace is the logical storage unit where your log data is collected and stored.' The 'Project details' section asks to 'Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.' It includes a 'Subscription' dropdown menu (set to 'Azure for Students') and a 'Resource group' dropdown menu (set to 'Create new'). The 'Instance details' section includes a 'Name' text input field and a 'Region' dropdown menu (set to 'East US'). At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Review + Create', '< Back', and 'Next: Tags >'. The 'Review + Create' button is highlighted in blue.

Use the same resource group and create

Microsoft Azure

Home > Log Analytics workspaces >

Create Log Analytics workspace

Basics | Tags | Review & Create

A Log Analytics workspace is the basic management unit of Azure Monitor Logs. There are specific considerations you should take when creating a new Log Analytics workspace. [Learn more](#)

With Azure Monitor Logs you can easily store, retain, and query data collected from your monitored resources in Azure and other environments for valuable insights. A Log Analytics workspace is the logical storage unit where your log data is collected and stored.

Project details
Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription *

Resource group * [Create new](#)

Instance details

Name *

Region *

[Review & Create](#) [Previous](#) [Next: Tags](#)

4.Enable gathering VM logs in Security Center

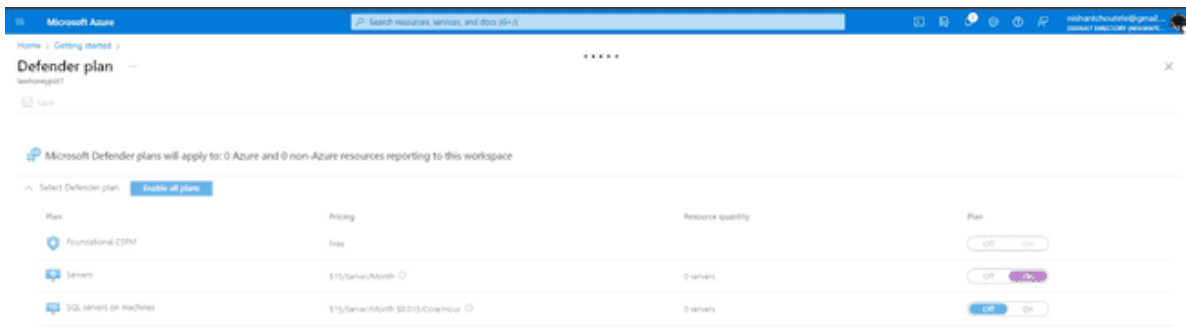
After creating go to Azure security center > pricing and settings> choose the created log analytics

Microsoft Defender plans will apply to: 0 Azure and 0 non-Azure resources reporting to this workspace

Select Defender plan [Create all plans](#)

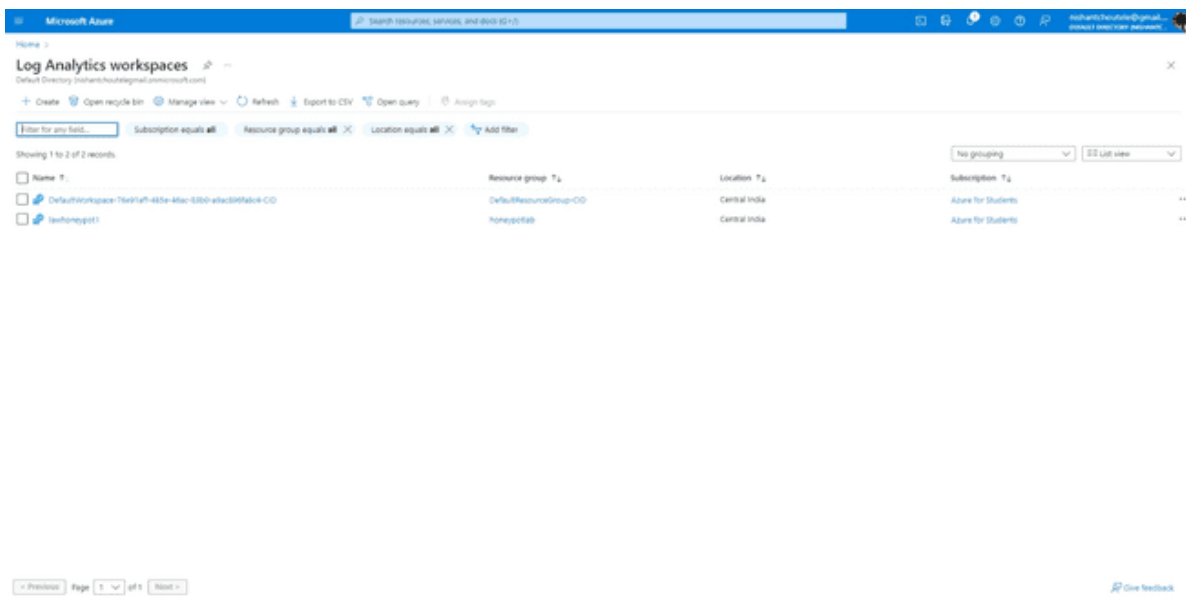
Plan	Pricing	Resource quantity	Plan
Foundational CSPM	Free		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On
Servers	\$15/Server/Month	0 servers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On
SQL servers on machines	\$15/Server/Month \$0.15/Conn/Hour	0 servers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On

Set servers on and SQL servers off

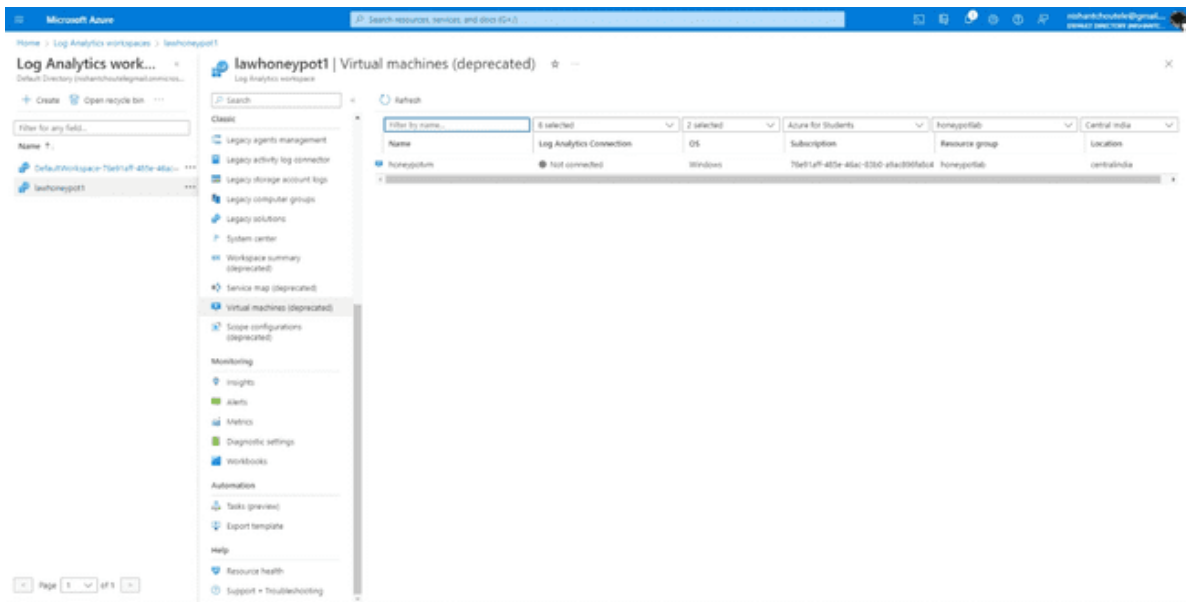


5. Connect Log Analytics to VM

Now go to log analytics workspace and connect the VM



click on the virtual machine

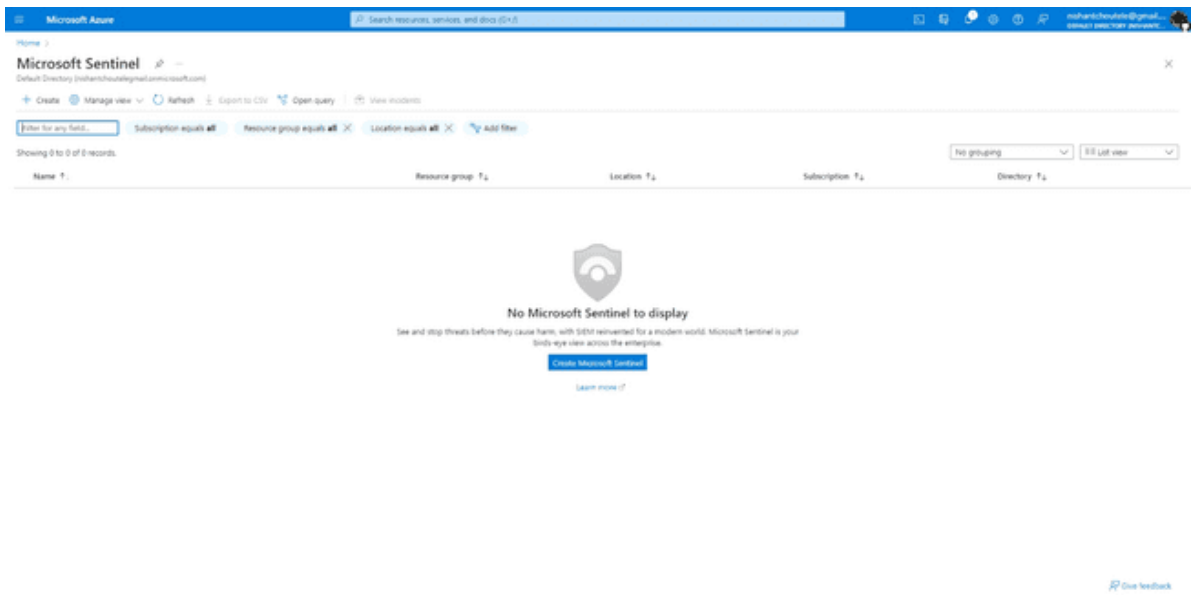


Connect

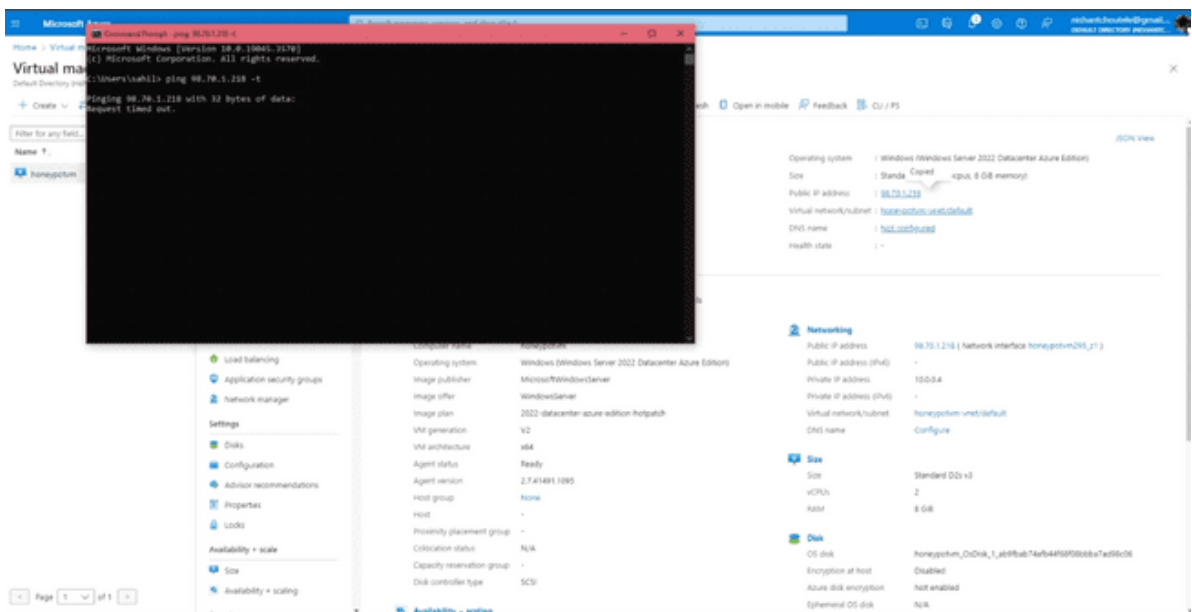


6. Setup Azure Sentinel

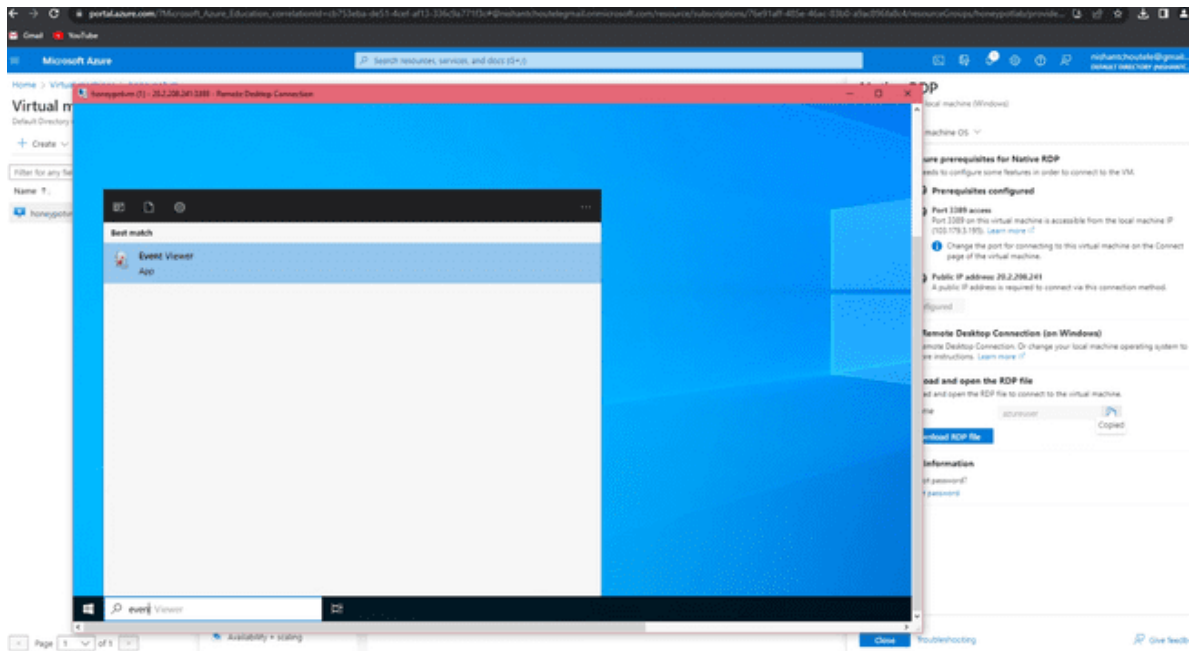
create> select the workspace connected to virtual > select ADD



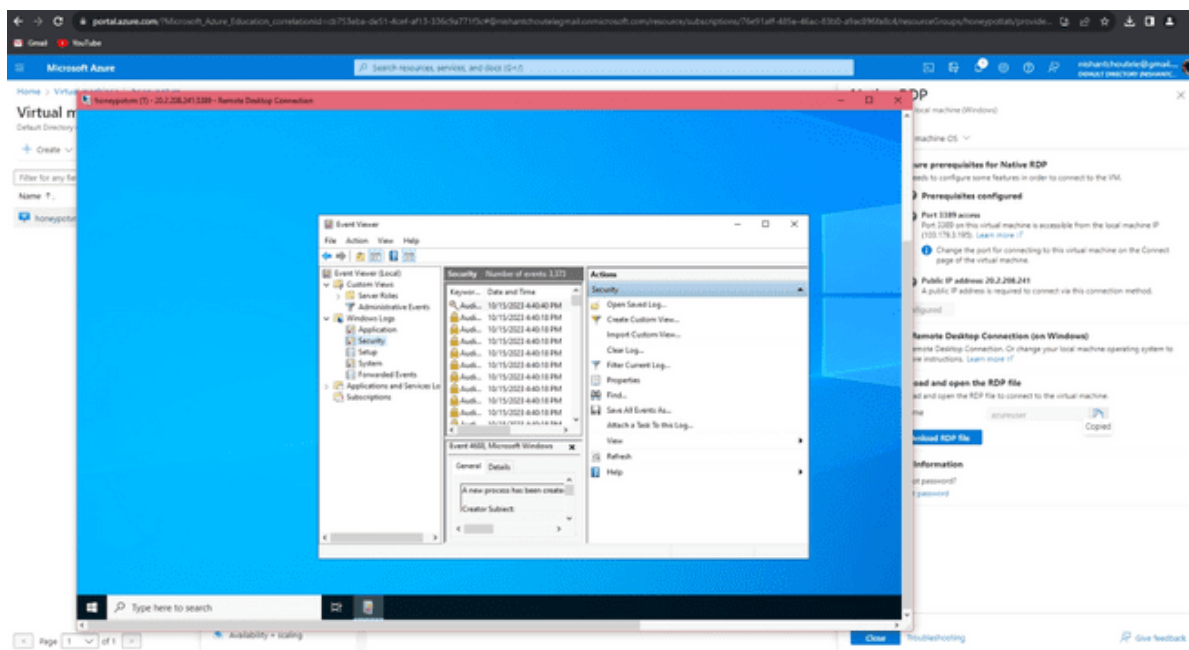
Before login in to virtual machine. Go to cmd and ping the public ip of the virtual machine with the command `ping 192.168.0.0 -t`



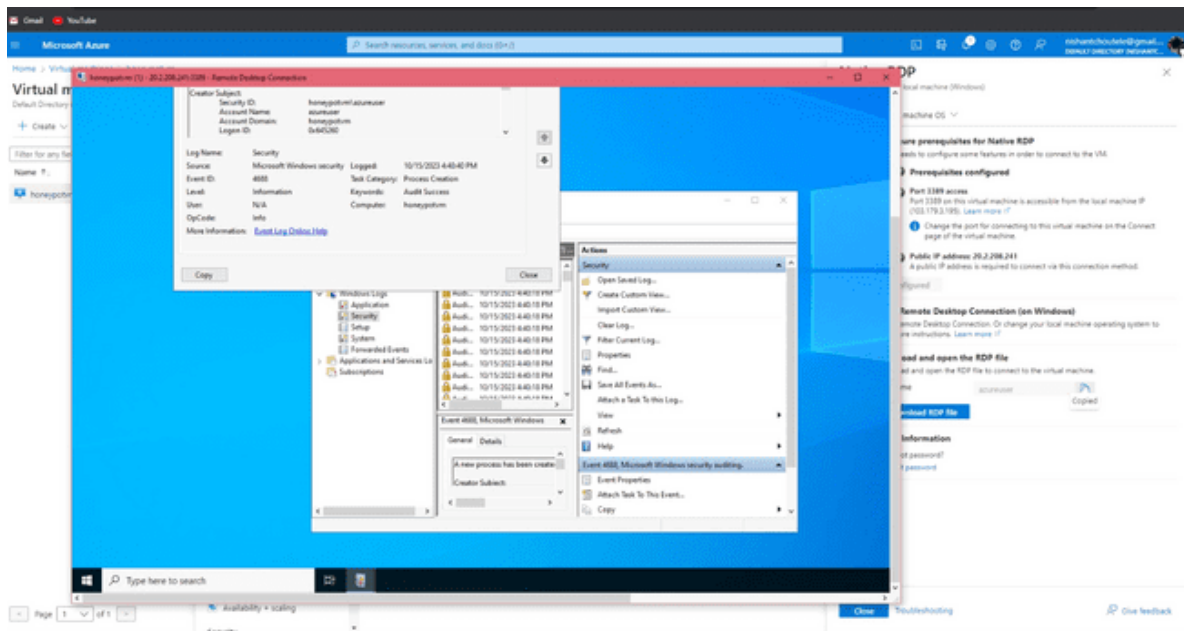
It will show request timeout. connect to the VM and go to Event Viewer



Go to Windows Logs> Security

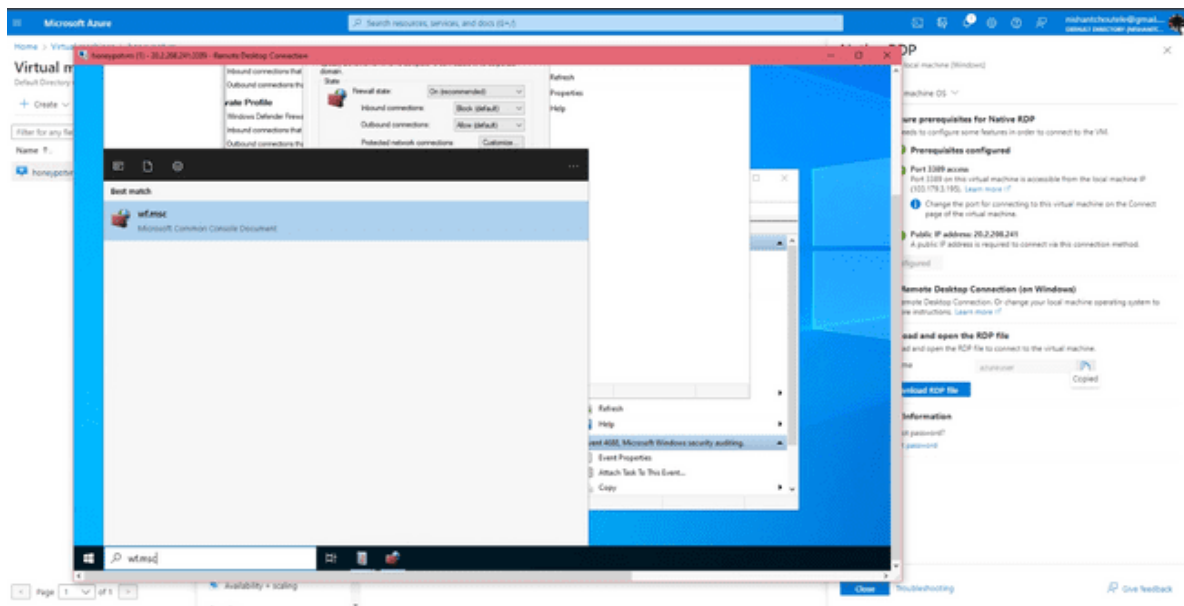


Click on the folders and check the login info of the user who logged in

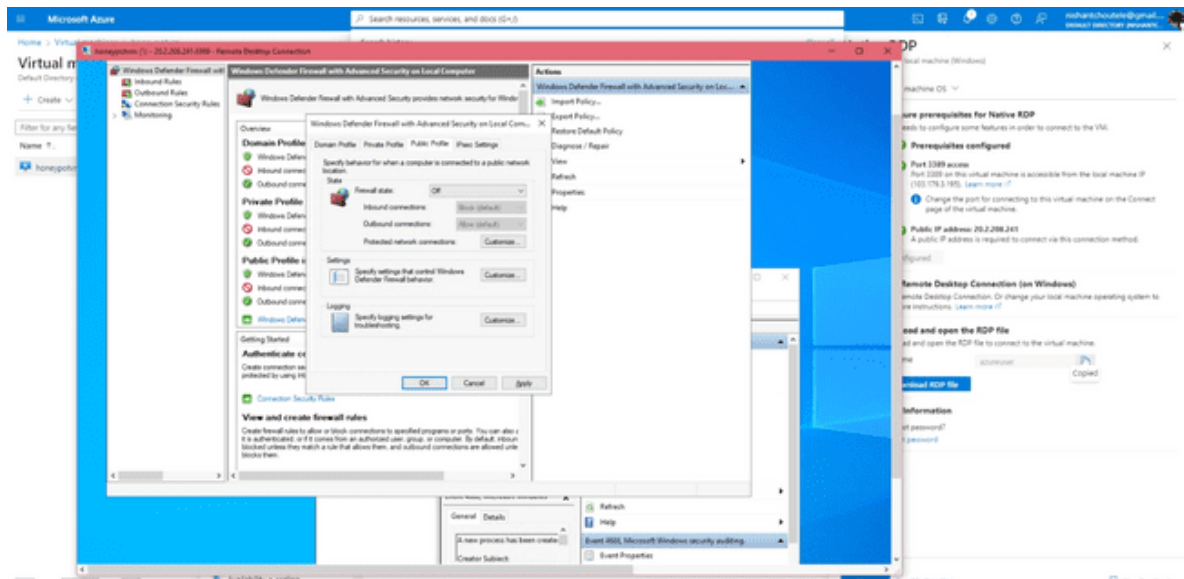


7. Turn of Windows Firewall on VM

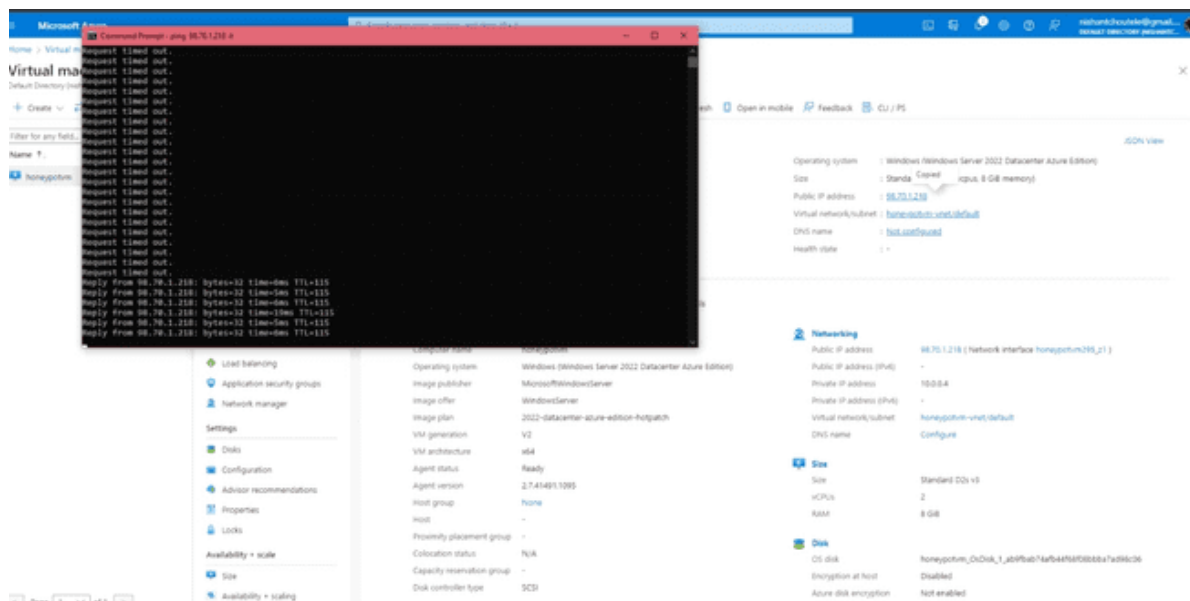
NOW go to wf.msc



Put Domain profile, private profile and private profile firewall status off so the attackers can see it

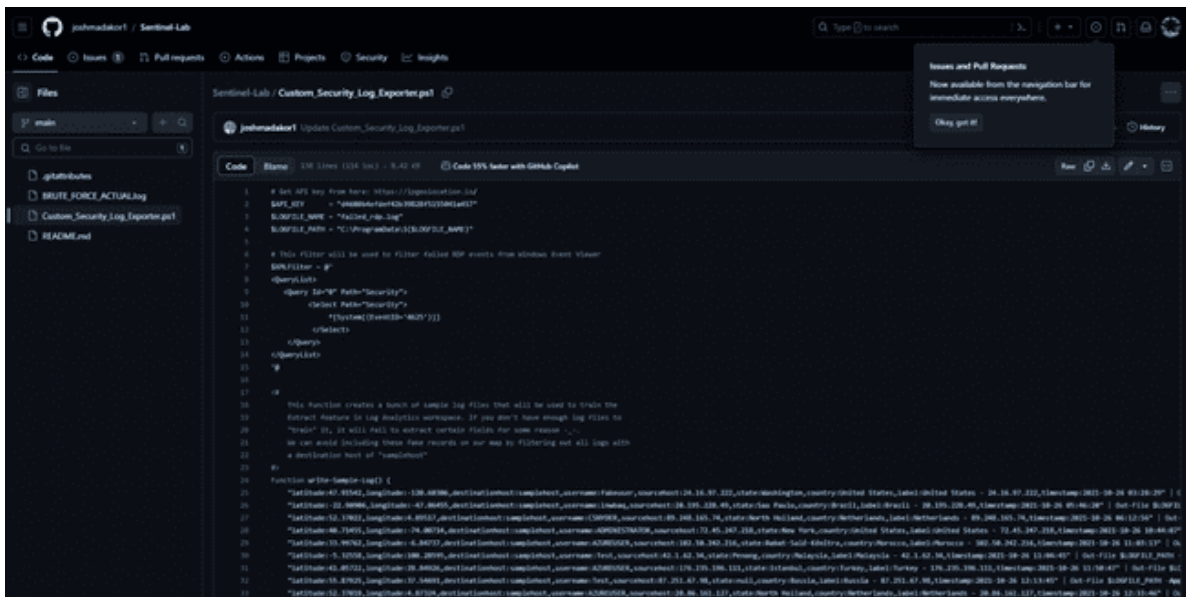


Now check the ping status in cmd

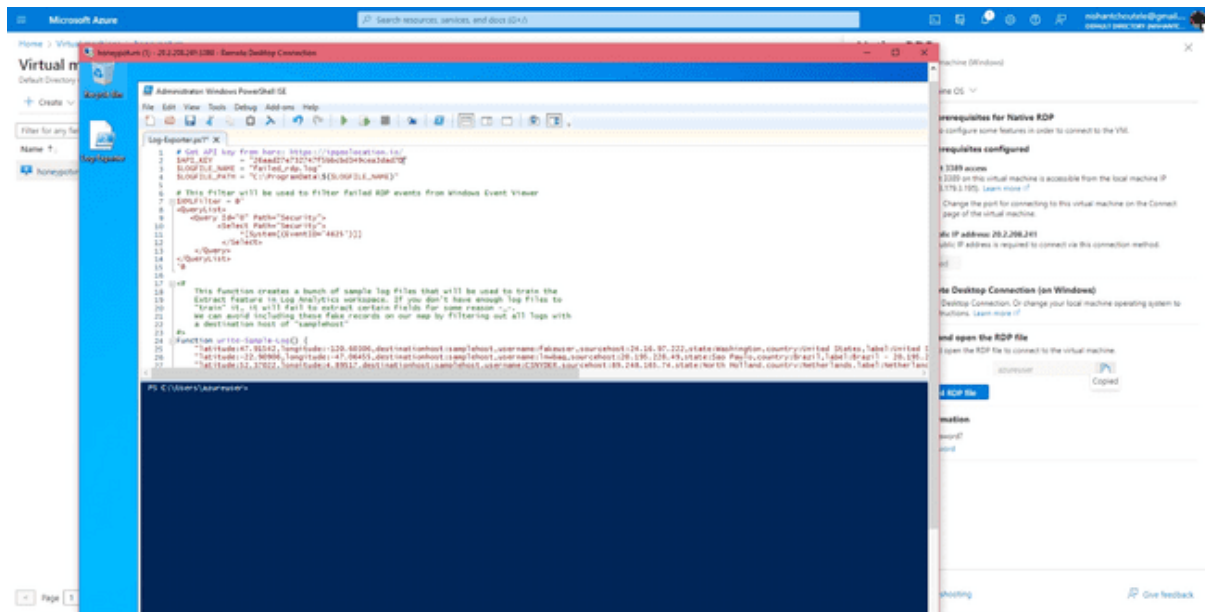


8. Download PowerShell Script

Now copy the script of custom security log

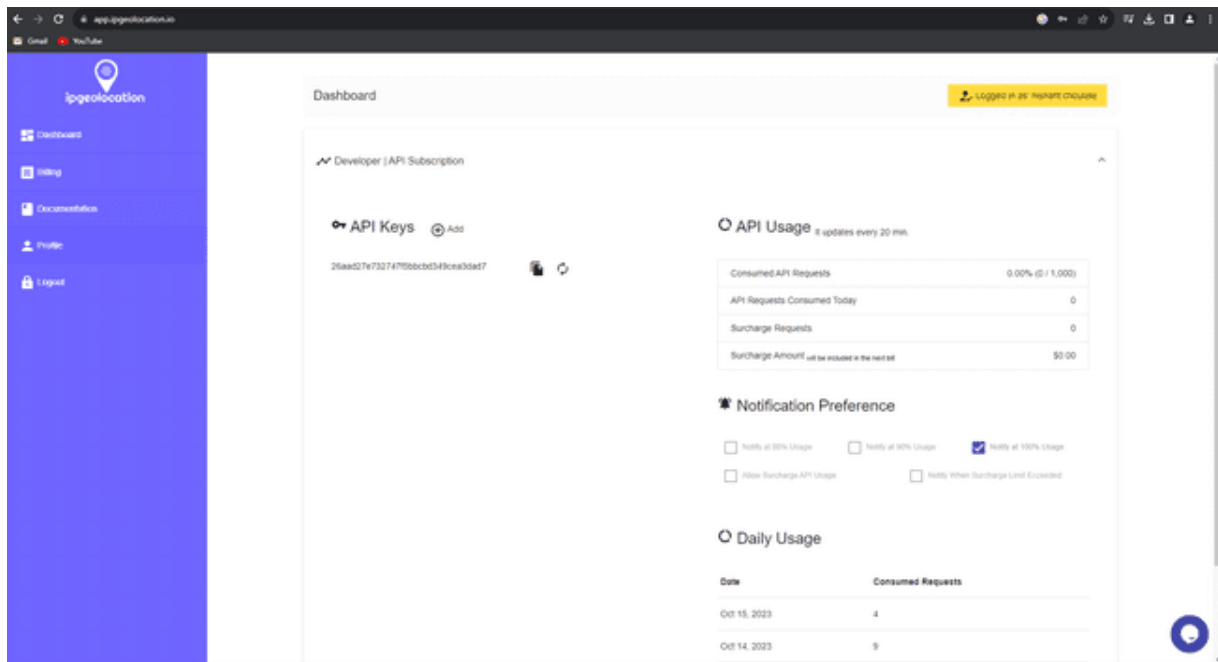


Paste it inside the Powershell.ISE and save it naming log exporter



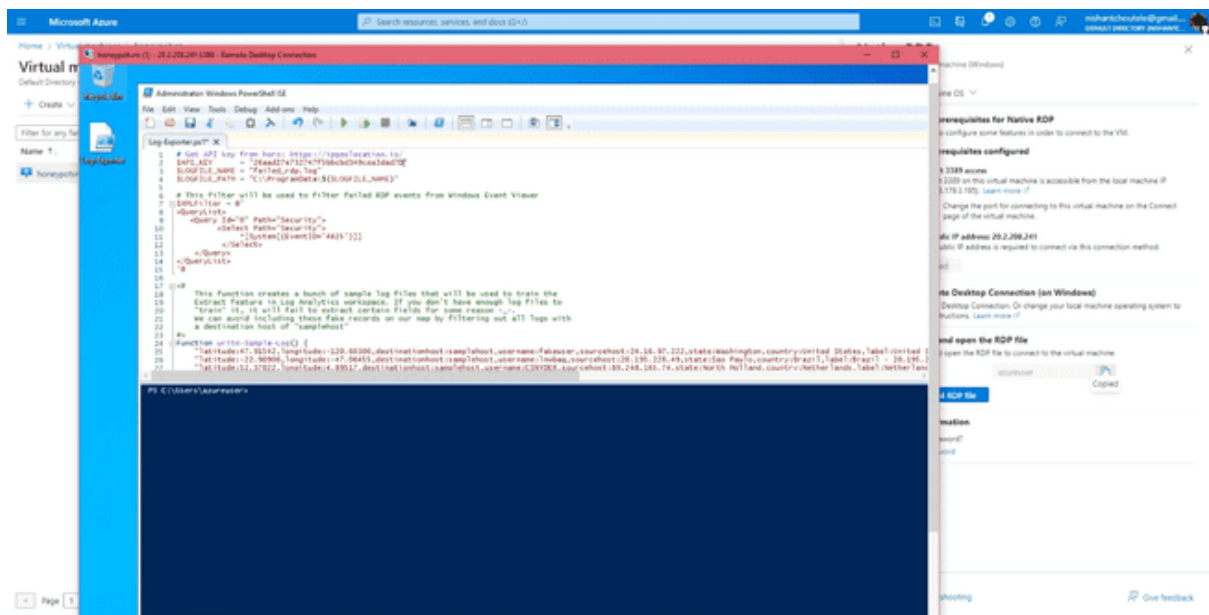
9. Get Geolocation.io API Key

now go to ipgeolocation for the API key without it we wont be getting the geodata and we wont be getting latitude, longitude etc.

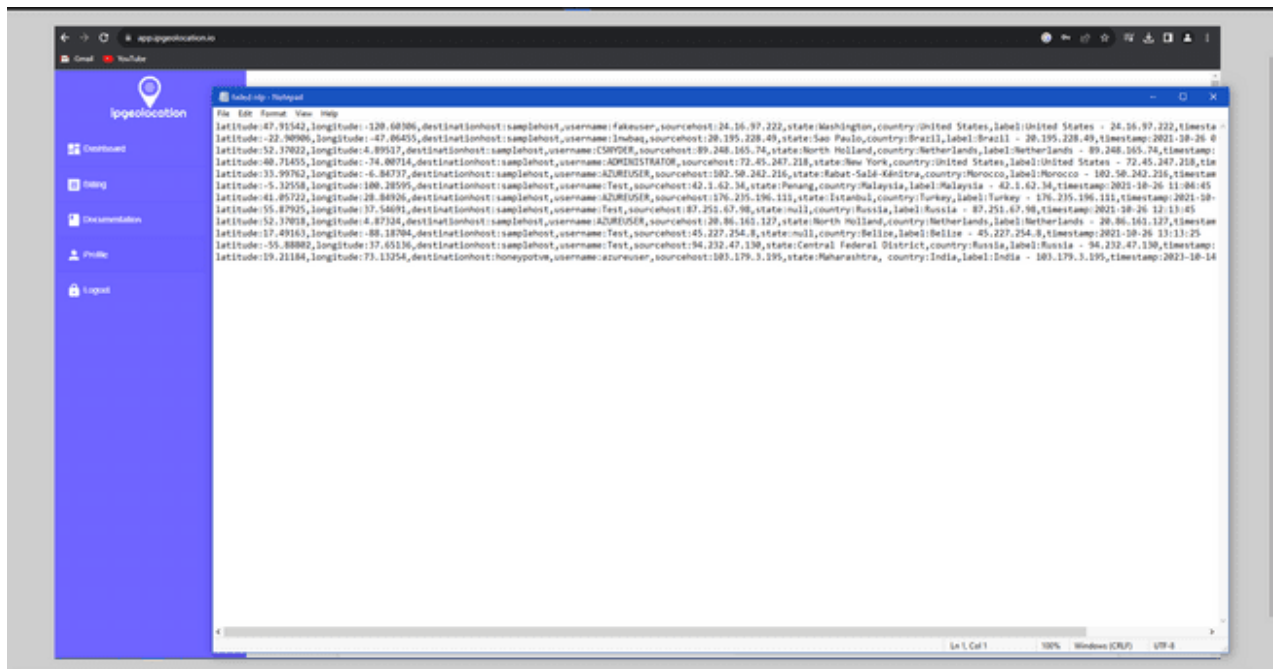


copy the api key and paste it in the script and Run!

This script runs in a loop. It looks through the event log and all the security log grabs all the events of people who failed to login into the honeypot virtual machine grabs the ip address and gets the geo data through the api key.



After running a log file get created inside the given path which trains the log analytics workspace to provide the data in a format which get showed in powershell



This the sample data to train the logt analytics works space



This is the data that is actual failed logon dummy attack we did

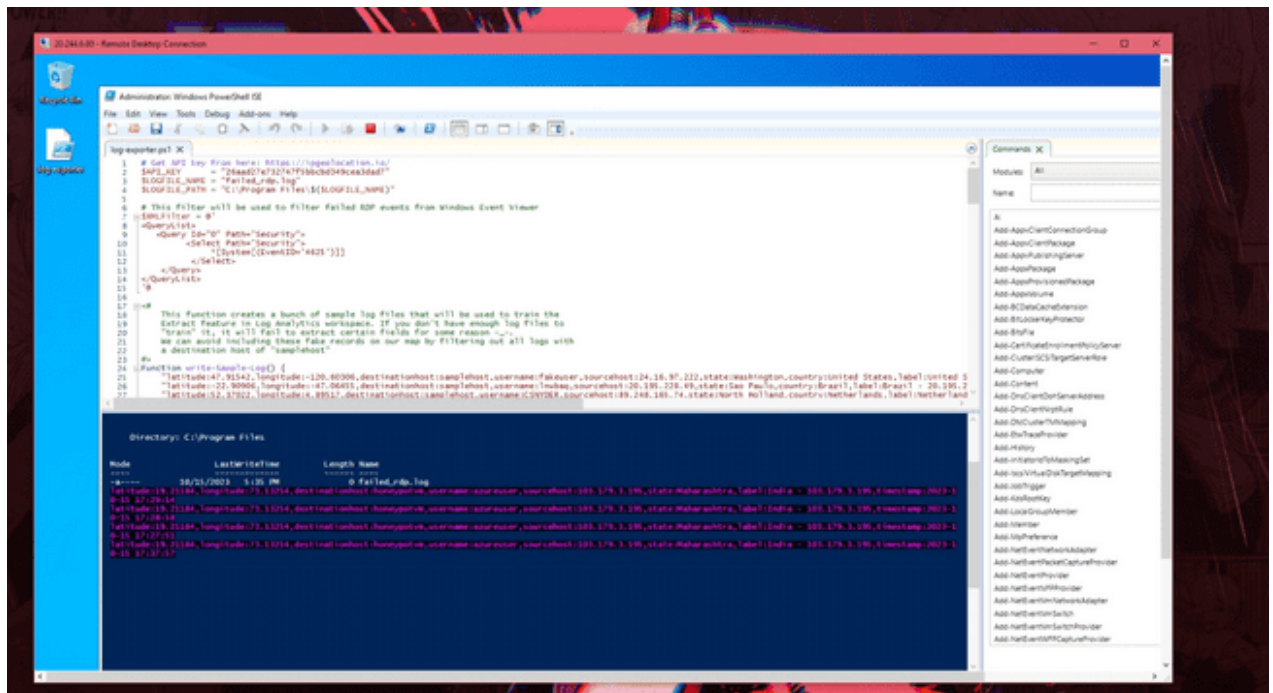


10. Run Script To get Geo Data from attackers

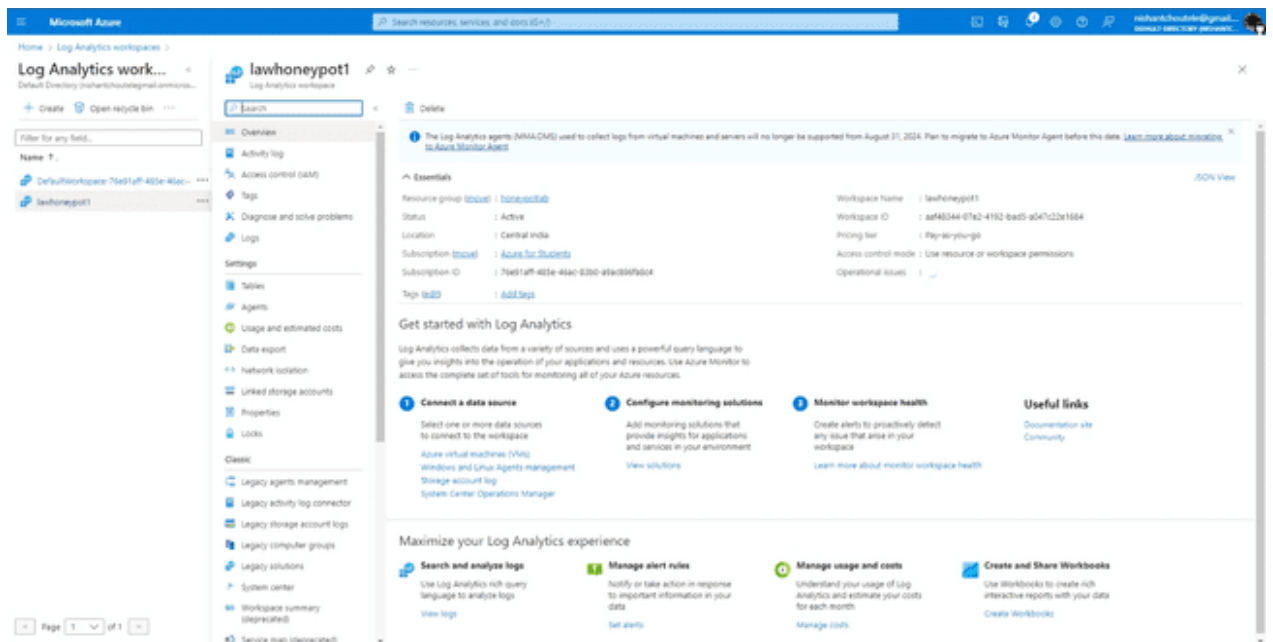
The screenshot displays a Windows Remote Desktop connection to a machine named 20.244.6.80. The main window shows a PowerShell console with a script that filters Windows Event Viewer logs for failed RDP events. The script output shows a list of failed RDP events, including details like the user name, source IP, and the reason for failure (e.g., 'The credentials did not work').

A security warning dialog box is overlaid on the console, stating 'Your credentials did not work' and 'The credentials that were used to connect to 20.244.6.80 did not work. Please enter new credentials.' The dialog includes a text field for the username (currently showing 'Administrator') and a password field (masked with asterisks). There are buttons for 'Remember me', 'The login attempt failed', 'More choices', 'OK', and 'Cancel'.

The background window shows the 'Remote Desktop Connection' window with the title 'Remote Desktop Connection' and the address '20.244.6.80'. The 'Comments' pane on the right is empty.



Now go to log analytics workspace> overview> tables



11. Create custom log in LAW to bring in our custom log

Create> new custom log MMA based.

Microsoft Azure | Search resources, services, and docs (Ctrl-F)

Home > Log Analytics workspaces > lawhoneyport1

Log Analytics workspaces

Default Directory (prohantchoudhary@gmail.com)

+ Create Open recycle bin

Filter for any field...

Name *

DefaultWorkspace-75d31a7f-48be-48ad-...
lawhoneyport1

lawhoneyport1 | Tables

Log Analytics workspace

Search

Overview
Activity log
Access control (IAM)
Tags
Diagnose and solve problems
Logs
Settings
Tables
Agents
Usage and estimated costs
Data export
Network isolation
Linked storage accounts
Properties
Locks
Classic
Legacy agents management
Legacy activity log connector
Legacy storage account logs
Legacy computer groups
Legacy solutions
System center
Workspace summary (deprecated)
Service map (deprecated)

For the list of tables supporting ingestion-time transformations please refer to [documentation](#)

+ Create Delete

New custom log (OCR-based)
New custom log (BULK-based)

Type: All Plan: All

Showing 83 results

No grouping

Table name	Type	Plan	Interactive retention	Archive period
ACRecommendation	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
Alert	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
AlertEvidence	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
AlertInfo	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
Anomalies	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
AppCenterError	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
ASimOpsActivityLogs	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
ASimOpsNetworkSessionLogs	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
ASimOpsWebSessionLogs	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
AWSCloudTrail	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
AWSCloudWatch	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
AWSGuardDuty	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
AzureADFlow	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
AzureActivity	Azure table	Analytics	90 days	
AzureMetrics	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	
CloudAppEvents	Azure table	Analytics	Workspace default (30 days)	

Page 1 of 1

Give the path of the file which collects the geo data>next

Microsoft Azure | Search resources, services, and docs (Ctrl-F)

Home > Log Analytics workspaces > lawhoneyport1 | Tables

Create a custom log

Sample Record delimiter Collection paths Details Review + Create

Upload a sample of the custom log. The wizard will parse and display the entries in this file. [Learn more](#)

Sample log

Select a sample log *

Failed rdp.log

Previous Next

Copy the path of the failed RDP file and paste it

Microsoft Azure Search resources, services, and docs (G+)

Home > Log Analytics workspaces > testhoneyport1 > Tables >

Create a custom log

Sample Record delimiter Collection paths Details Review + Create

Define one or more paths on the agent where it can locate the custom log. [Learn more](#)

Collection paths

Type	Path
Windows	C:\Program Files\Failed_RDP.log
Select type	

< Previous Next

Give the custom log a name and create.

Microsoft Azure Search resources, services, and docs (G+)

Home > Log Analytics workspaces > testhoneyport1 > Tables >

Create a custom log

Sample Record delimiter Collection paths Details Review + Create

Add a name and description to the custom log.

This name will be used for the log type, and will always end with _CL to distinguish it as a custom log. [Learn more](#)

Details

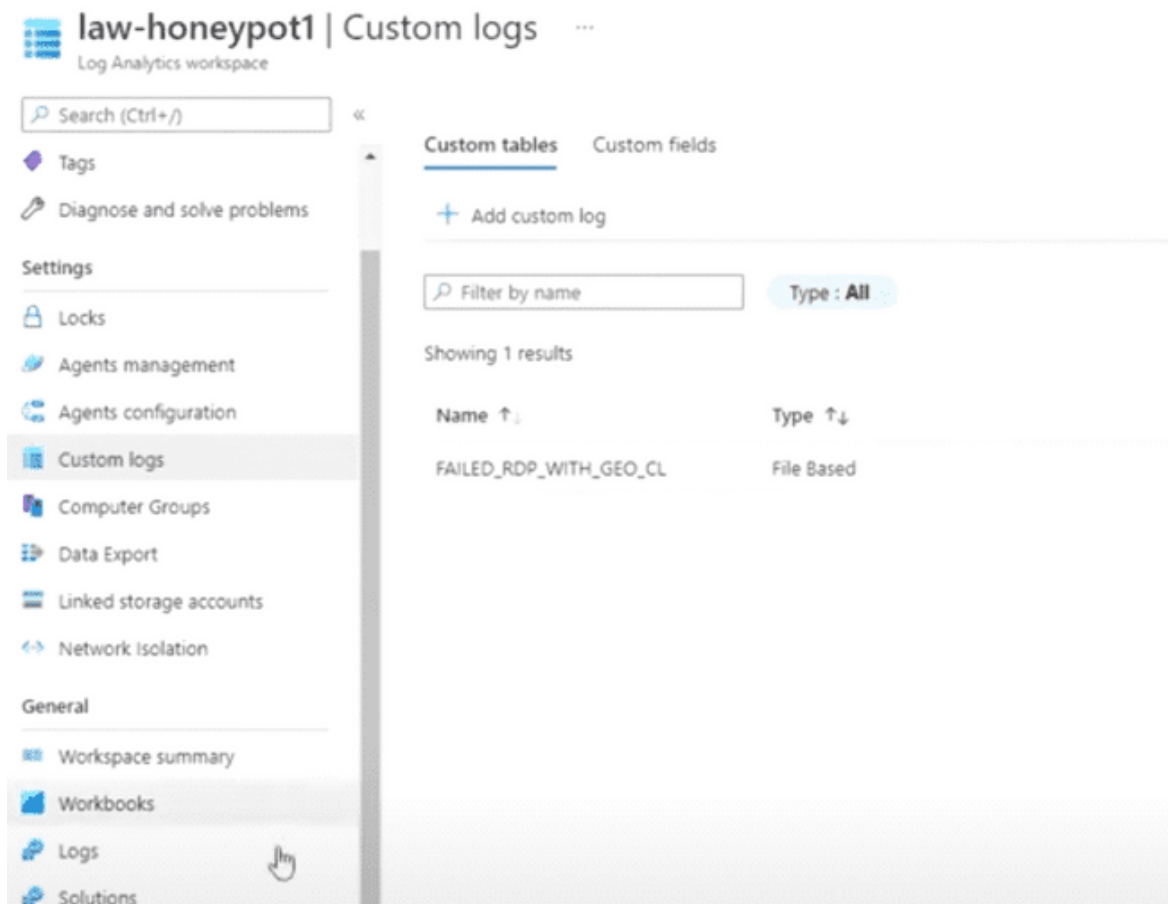
Custom log name * FAILED_RDP_WITH_GEO ✓

Description

Description

< Previous Next

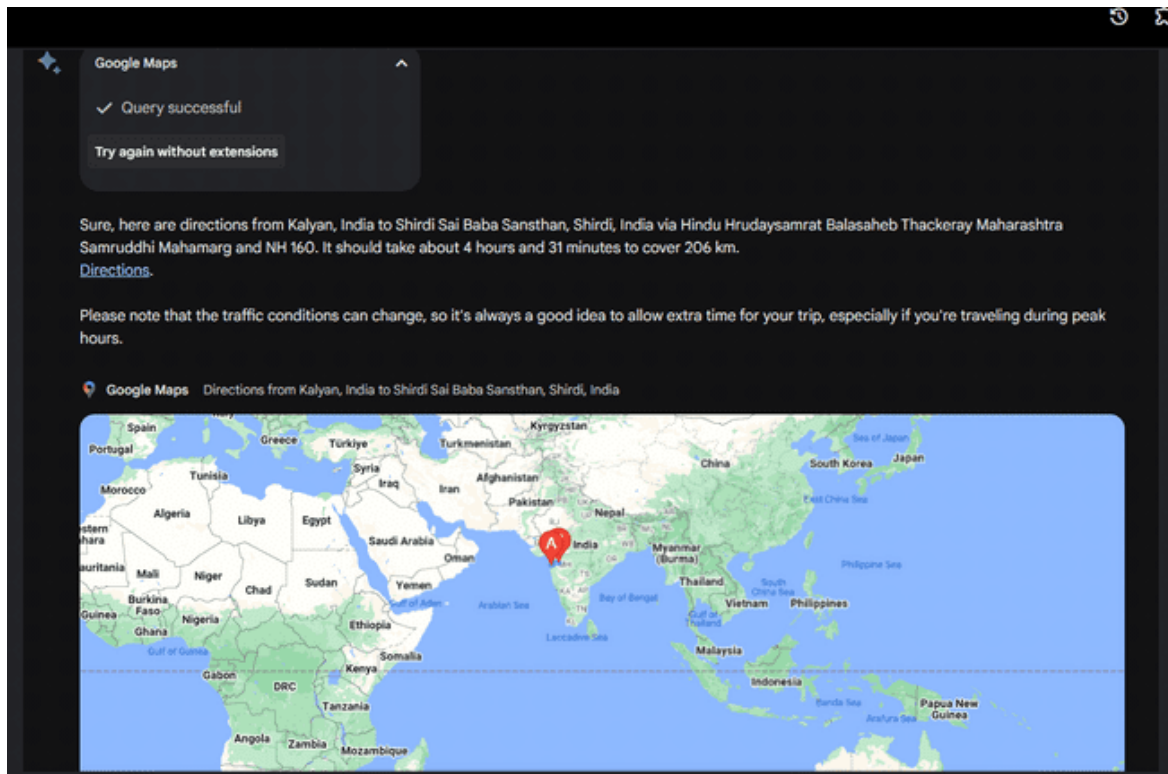
Go to the workbook it will show the log file named FAILED RDP WITH GEO CL (CL stands for custom logs)



Copy the file name and paste it in bard



Bard will take the file name as a query and show the live location of the attackers.



Thank you!!!