

Lab Manual

EXPERIMENT NUMBER 9

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Title: Report on SIEM SPLUNK and NESSUS based on workshop conducted on 13-14 September 2024.

Objective: To make students understand SIEM SPLUNK and NESSUS tools.

Theory:

1. SIEM SPLUNK:

Splunk is a tool for Security Information and Event Management (SIEM). It collects, monitors, and analyzes data from various sources, like logs and servers, to help detect security threats in real time.

- Data Collection: Gathers data from different sources like servers and apps.
- Real-Time Monitoring: Monitors security events as they happen, enabling quick detection.
- Alerts and Dashboards: Custom dashboards and alerts help visualize data and notify you of issues.
- Incident Response: Helps investigate security incidents by allowing fast searches through logs.

2. NESSUS:

Nessus is a vulnerability scanner used to detect security weaknesses in systems.

- Vulnerability Scanning: Identifies known vulnerabilities like outdated software or misconfigurations.
- Compliance Checks: Ensures systems meet security standards like PCI-DSS.
- Reports: Provides detailed reports on vulnerabilities and fixes.
- Plugins: Regular updates help detect new vulnerabilities.

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Installation:

1. Installing SPLUNK on macOS Apple Silicon:

SPLUNK wasn't working on either the Windows or Linux OS of the college desktops, nor on my laptop.

2. Installing NESSUS on macOS Apple Silicon:

Nessus has a native macOS installer, and it works well with Apple Silicon. Follow these steps to install and set it up.

Steps:

1. Download Nessus for macOS:

- a. Go to the official Nessus download page: Nessus Downloads.
- b. Choose the macOS version and download the installer package (.pkg file).

2. Install Nessus:

- a. Open the .pkg file and follow the installation prompts.

3. Start Nessus:

- a. Once installed, open Terminal and start the Nessus service:

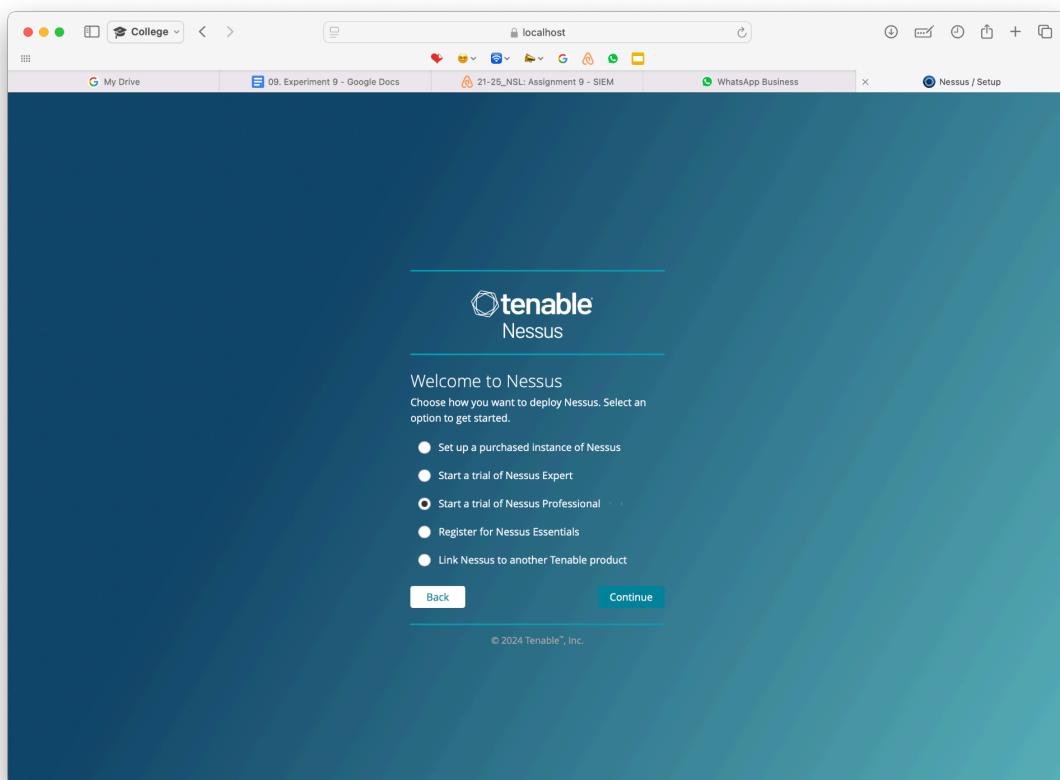
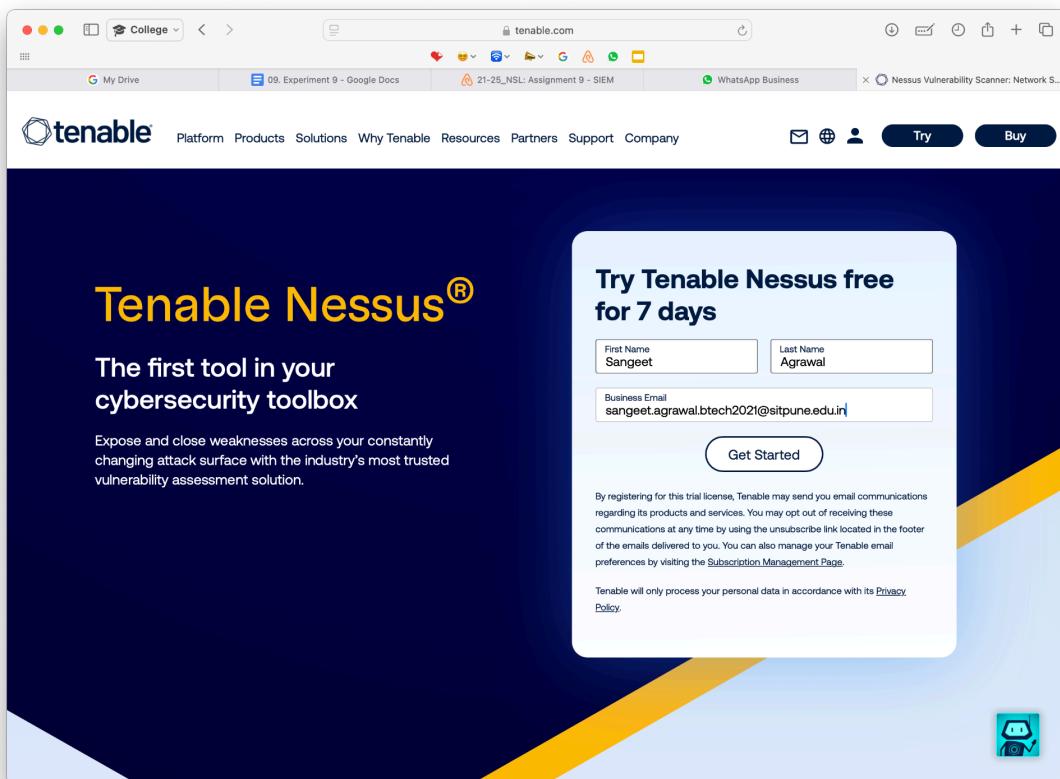
```
sudo /Library/Nessus/run/sbin/nessusd
```

4. Access Nessus:

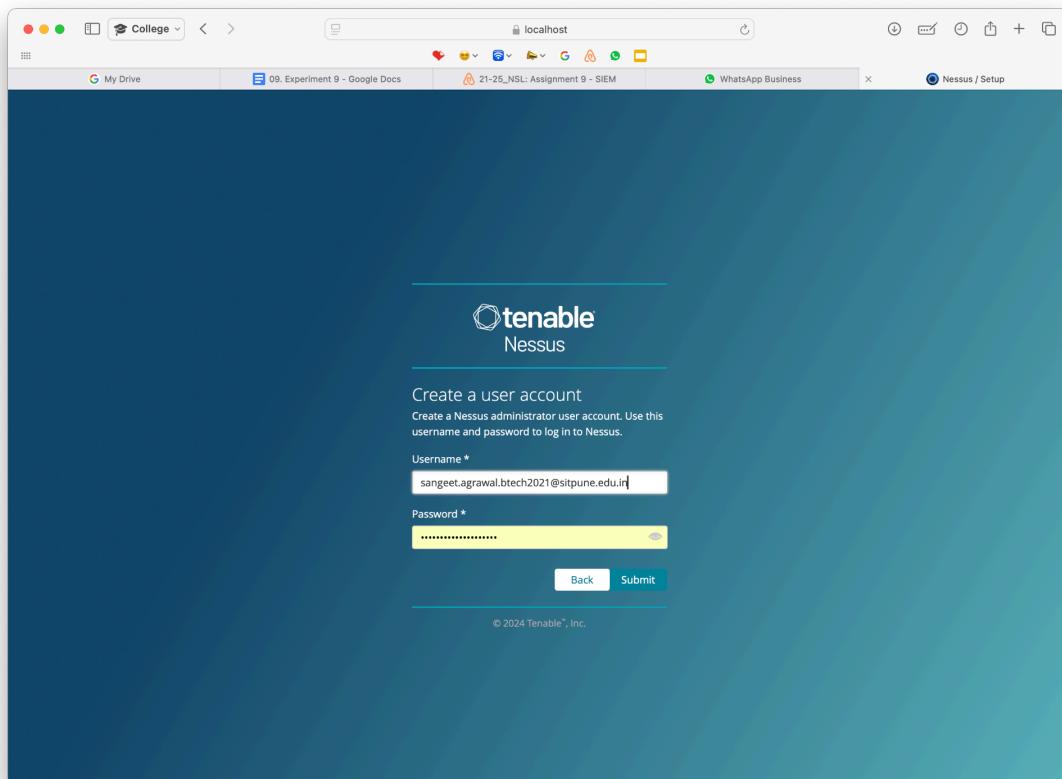
Open your browser and go to <https://localhost:8834>. Follow the setup steps to configure your account and run your first scan.

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Screenshots for Nessus:



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The screenshot shows the Tenable Nessus Professional interface. On the left, a sidebar lists "FOLDERS" (My Scans, All Scans, Trash) and "RESOURCES" (Policies, Plugin Rules, Customized Reports, Terrascan). The main area is titled "My Scans" and shows a message: "This folder is empty. Create a new scan." A modal dialog box titled "My Host Discovery Scan Results" is open, displaying a table with one row: "IP" (45.33.32.156) and "DNS" (scanme.nmap.org). Below the table, a progress bar says "Discovering Hosts..." and there are "Back" and "Run Scan" buttons.

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The figure consists of two side-by-side screenshots of the Tenable Nessus Professional web interface. The left screenshot shows a summary for a host named '45.33.32.156'. It displays 2 Critical and 4 Medium vulnerabilities. The right screenshot shows a detailed list of vulnerabilities, with columns for 'Sev', 'CVSS', 'VPR', 'EPSS', and 'Name'. The list includes various entries such as 'MIXED', 'LOW', 'INFO', and 'OSI'.

Conclusion:

The workshop on SIEM SPLUNK and NESSUS provided valuable hands-on experience with two key tools in the cybersecurity domain. Splunk's log monitoring and real-time analysis capabilities, coupled with Nessus's vulnerability scanning, offer comprehensive solutions for enhancing system security.

Note: Students are suggested to use Linux OS-based tools or free Windows OS-based tools.