

***Task 8 — Working with VPNs***

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## Objective

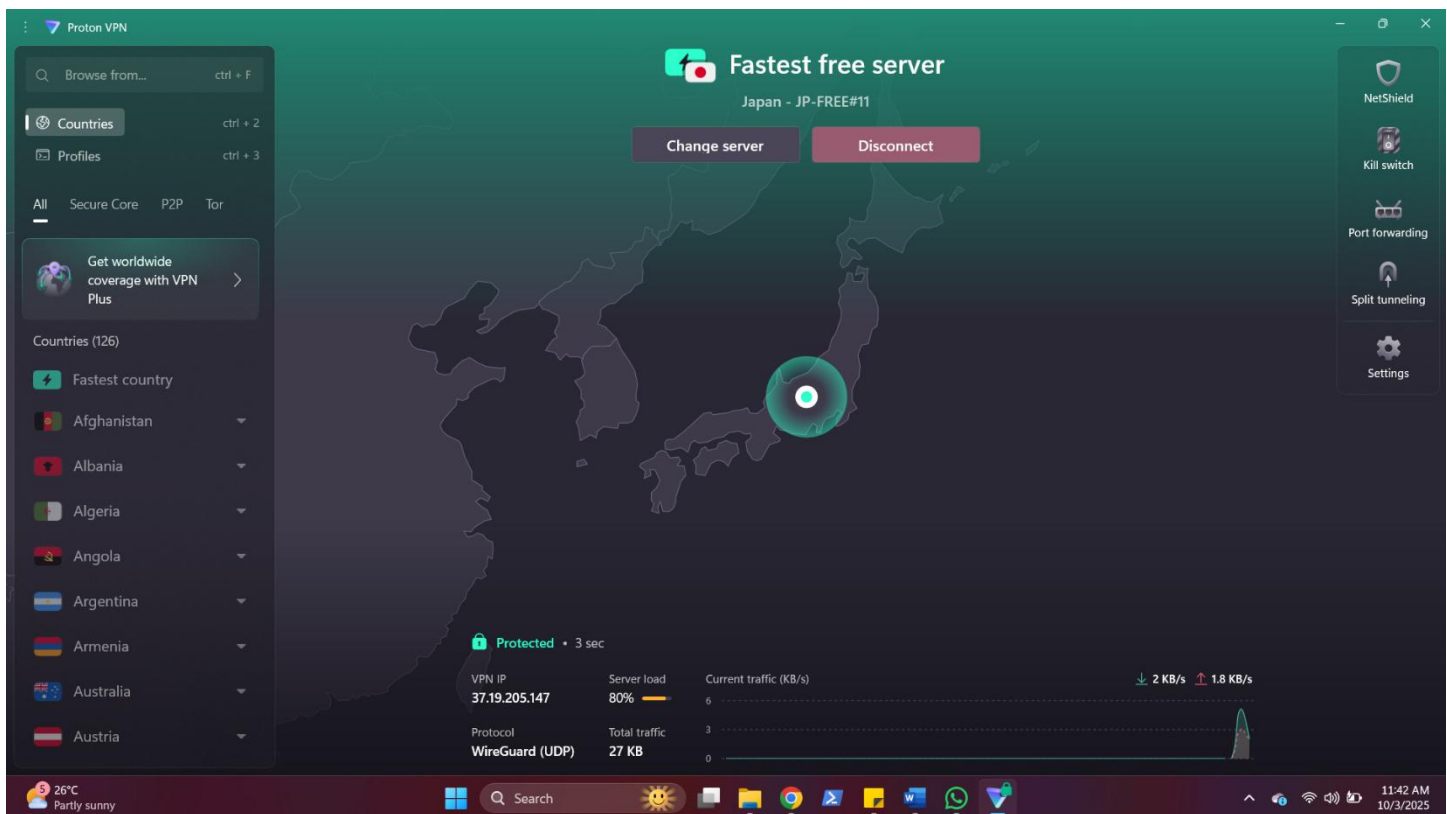
The objective of this task was to gain hands-on experience with a free VPN, understand its role in protecting privacy, encrypting communication, and compare browsing experience with and without a VPN.

## Tools Used

- ProtonVPN (Free Tier) client
- Web browser (Chrome)
- Website for IP verification: <https://whatismyipaddress.com>

## VPN Setup Steps

1. Created a free ProtonVPN account.
2. Installed ProtonVPN client on my system.
3. Launched the app and connected to a FREE server (server: Japan).



4. Verified that my public IP changed using whatismyipaddress.com.

WhatIs MyIPAddress.com

Enter Keywords or IP Address... Search

ABOUT PRESS PODCAST SUPPORT

MY IP IP LOOKUP HIDE MY IP VPNS TOOLS LEARN

My IP Address is:

IPv4: ? **37.19.205.147**

IPv6: ? **Not detected**

My IP Information:

ISP: DataCamp Limited

Services: [VPN Server](#)

City: Tokyo

Region: Tokyo

Country: Japan

Looks like you're using a VPN!

**RATE YOUR VPN**

[Show Complete IP Details](#)

Location not accurate?  
[Update My IP Location](#)

Click for more details about 37.19.205.147

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5. Browsed HTTPS websites to confirm secure traffic.

wikipedia.org

Connection is secure

Cookies and site data

Site settings

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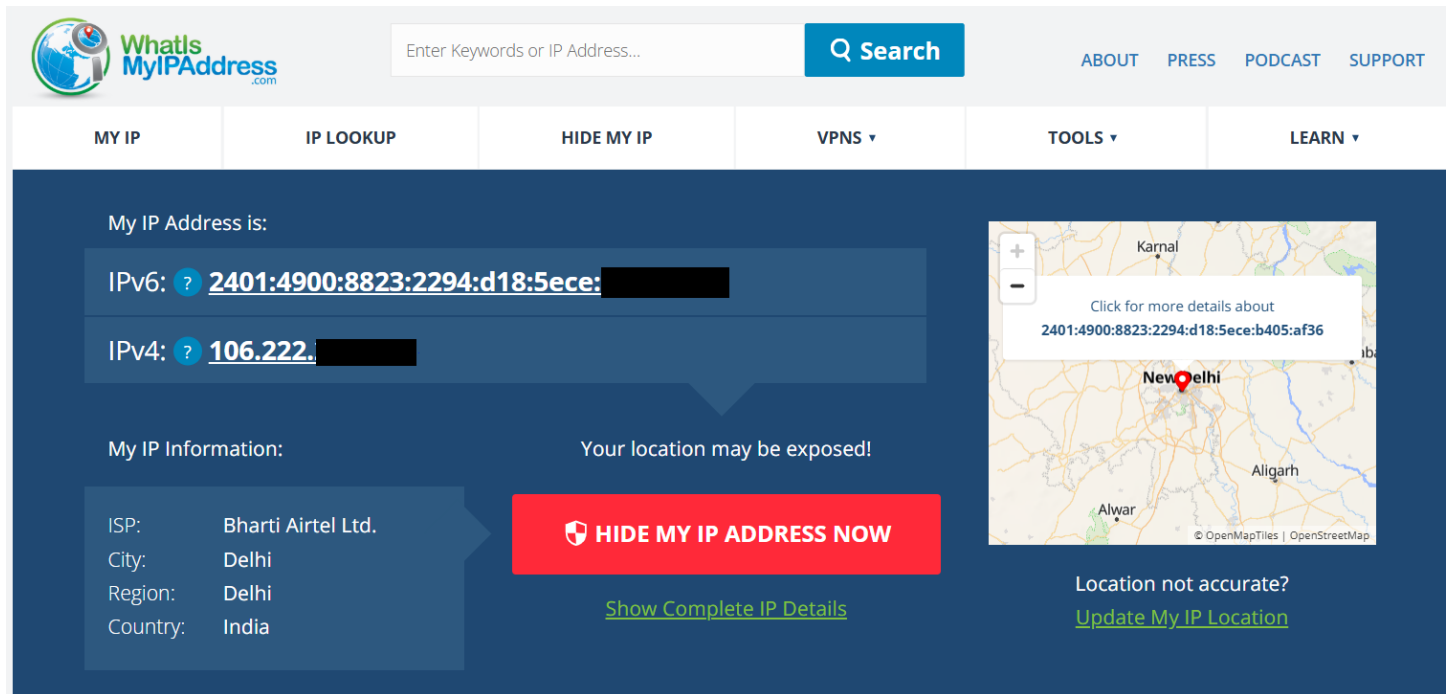
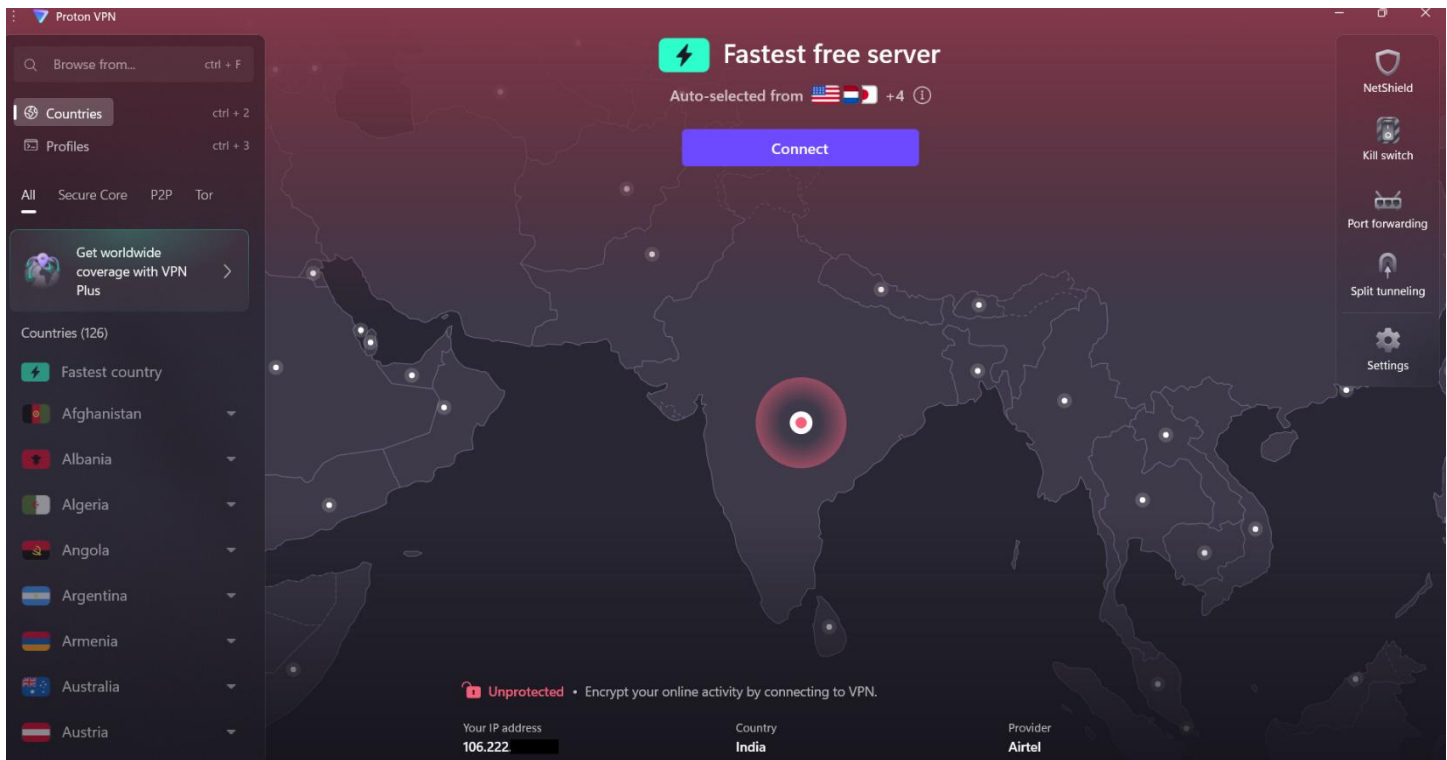
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## 6. Disconnected VPN and verified original IP returned.



## Observations

- VPN successfully masked my real IP while connected.
- Browsing worked normally — secure HTTPS sites loaded fine.
- Disconnecting VPN instantly restored my original IP.
- Slight slowdown in browsing observed when VPN was active.

## Benefits of VPN

- Encrypts internet traffic, protecting from ISPs and hackers.
- Masks IP, improving privacy.
- Useful on public WiFi for secure connections.
- Can bypass geo-blocks or censorship.

## Limitations of VPN

- Slightly slower speeds due to encryption and routing.
- Free VPNs may have limited server options.
- VPN does not guarantee complete anonymity.
- Dependence on trust in VPN provider.