- NSHUTI Kevin
- 26770
- Assignment 2
- Group F

Q1. Investigating Compromised System Directories (2 pts)

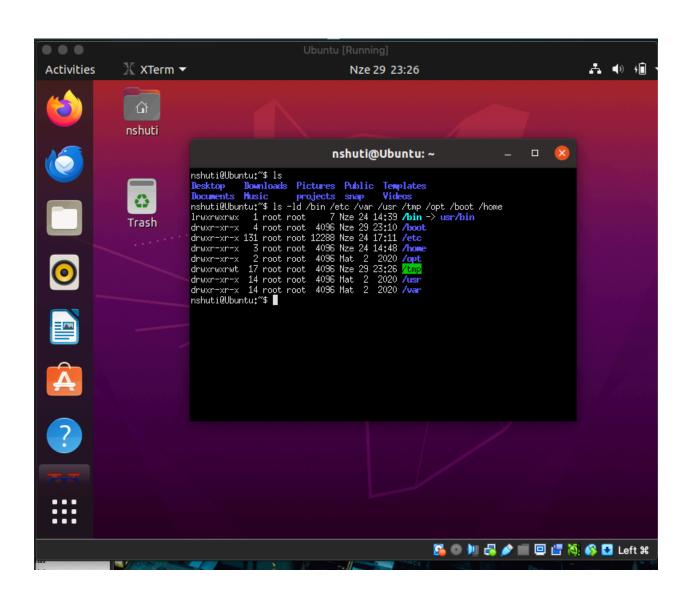
Task: Identify which directories may contain system configs, essential binaries, and logs that attackers could target.

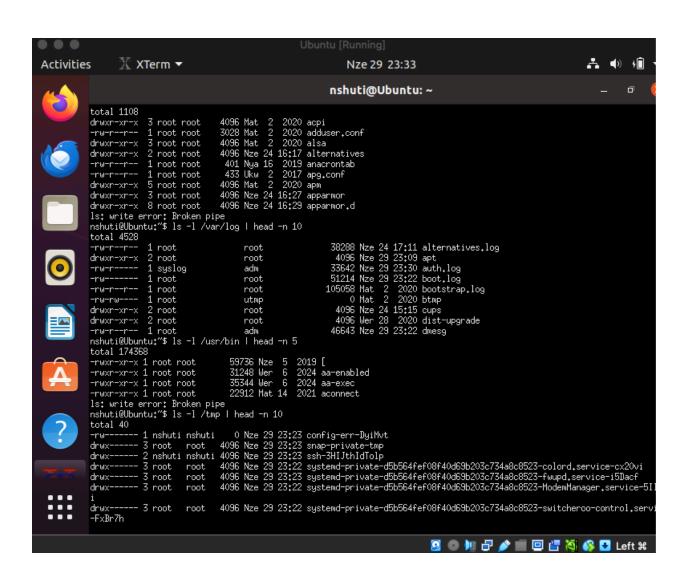
Answer:

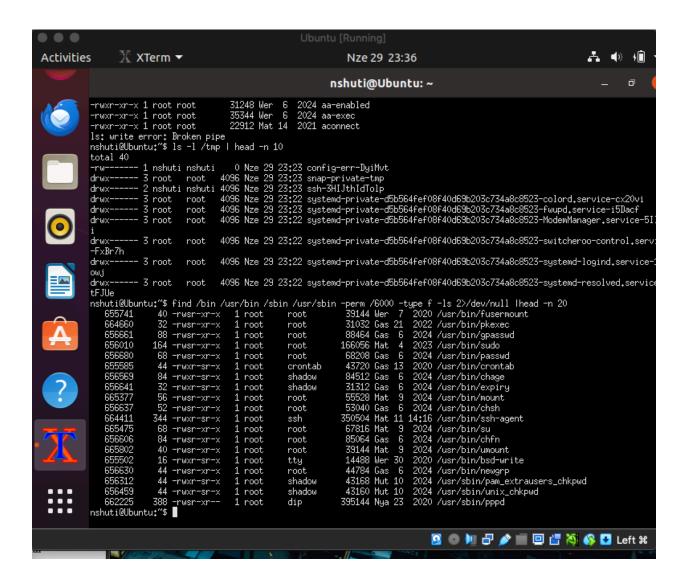
- /bin → essential binaries
- /etc → system configs
- /var → logs (evidence of intrusion)
- /usr → installed applications/libraries
- /tmp → temporary attacker payloads
- /opt → third-party apps (hidden malware possible)
- /boot → bootloader/kernel (persistence risk)
- /home → user files/dotfiles (backdoors in .bashrc, authorized_keys)

Commands Run:

```
ls -ld /bin /etc /var /usr /tmp /opt /boot /home
ls -l /var/log | head
find /bin /usr/bin -perm /6000 -type f -ls | head
```







Q2. Directory Structure Creation (2 pts)

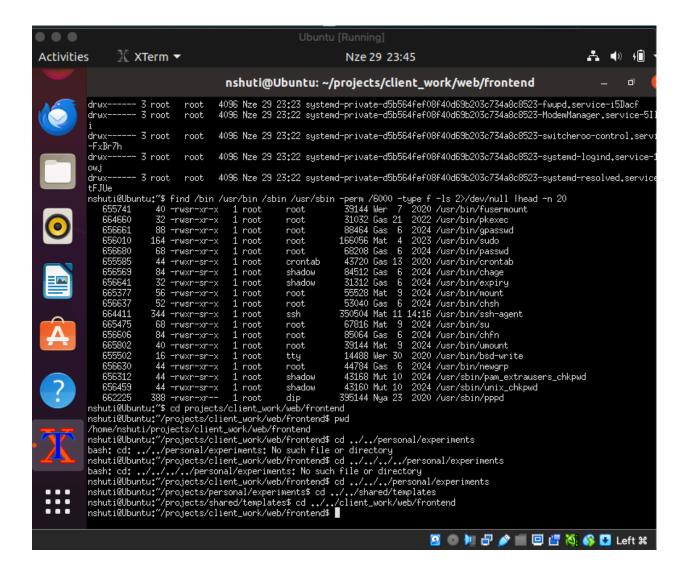
Task: Create a project structure with minimal commands.

```
mkdir -p
~/ia2_work/projects/{client1/{src,tests,docs},client2/{src,tests,docs}
,personal/{notes,experiments}}
tree -L 3 ~/ia2_work/projects
```

Q3. Relative Path Navigation (1 pt)

Task: Navigate using ≤3 cd commands.

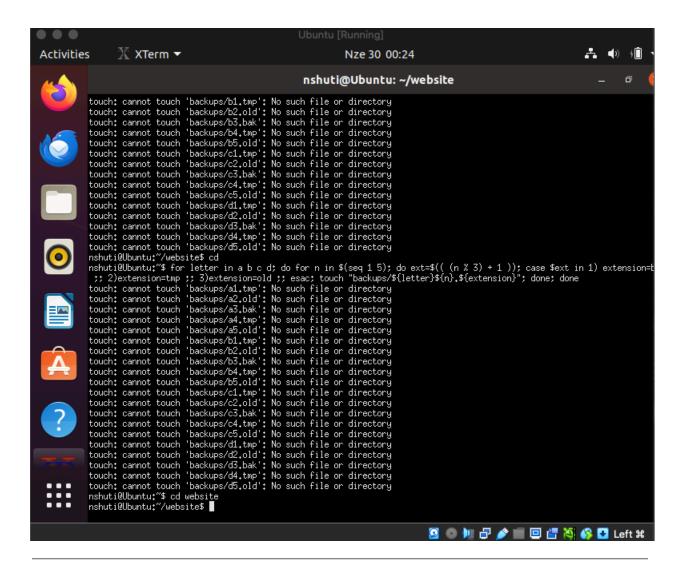
```
pwd # starting location
cd ../../../personal/experiments
pwd
cd ../../shared/templates
pwd
cd ../../client_work/web/frontend
pwd
```



Q4. Web Project Structure (2 pts)

Task: Create HTML, CSS, JS, and backup files.

```
mkdir -p web_project/{html,css,js,backups}
touch web_project/html/{index,about,contact}.html
for i in $(seq -w 1 12); do touch web_project/html/page_${i}.html;
done
touch
web_project/css/{main,reset,theme_light,theme_dark,mobile,tablet,deskt
op,print}.css
touch
web_project/js/{app_script,init_script,helpers_util,dom_util,app_confi
g,env_config}.js
for l in a b c d; do for n in {1..5}; do touch
web_project/backups/${1}${n}.{bak,tmp,old}; done; done
```



Q5. Wildcard Operations (2 pts)

Examples of patterns used:

- Move numeric: mv html/page_*.html archive/
- Copy excluding: cp css/!(mobile.css|tablet.css) css_desktop/
- Exactly 3 chars before dot: find . -regex '.*/[^/]\{3\}\.[^/]\+\$'
- Consonant start: find . -regex './[b-df-hj-np-tv-z].*'

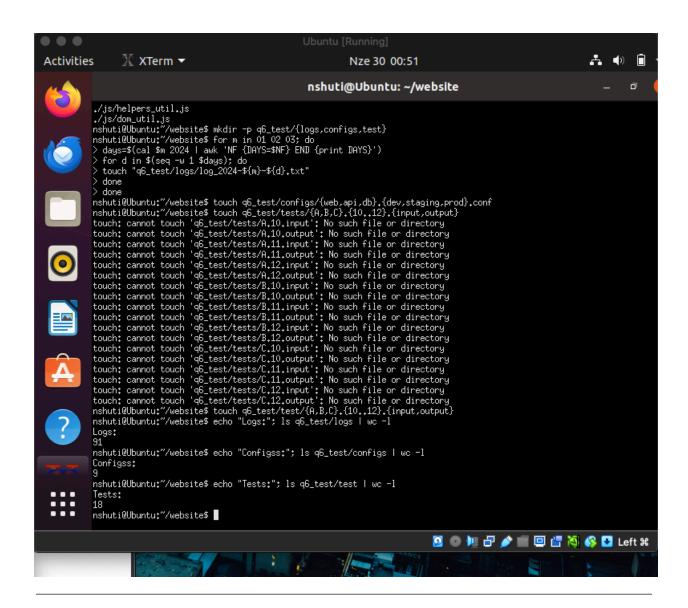
• 2-char extension: find . -regex '.*\.[[:alnum:]]{2}\$'

```
Finder File Edit View Go Window Help
Activities

    XTerm ▼
                                                                                Nze 30 00:39
                                                                     nshuti@Ubuntu: ~/website
            total 0
                          1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze
                          1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze
1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze
                           1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze
                           1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze
                          1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze 29 23:54
1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze 29 23:54
1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze 29 23:54
                           1 nshuti nshuti 0 Nze 29 23;
            nshuti@Ubuntu:"/website$ mkdir -p css_desktop
nshuti@Ubuntu:"/website$ shopt -s extglob
nshuti@Ubuntu:"/website$ cp css/!(mobile.css|tablet.css) css_desktop/
nshuti@Ubuntu:"/website$ ls -l css_desktop/
             total 0
            .v"/"./[/]\{3\}\.[^/]\+$' -print
-extended -regex './[b-df-hj-np-tv-zB-DF-HJ-NP-TV-Z].*' -print
             ./css/resret.css
./css/print.css
            ./css/theme_light.css
./css/tablet.css
              /css/mobile.css
                                                                                                                                 🔯 💿 🌬 🗗 🎤 📰 🖭 🚰 🚫 🚱 🛂 Left 🕊
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```

Q6. Brace Expansion (1 pt)

```
for m in 01 02 03; do d=(cal m 2024 | awk 'NF \{DAYS=NF\} END \{print DAYS\}'); for i in (seq -w 1 d); do touch logs/log_2024-m-i.txt; done; done touch configs/(web,api,db).\{dev,staging,prod\}.conf touch tests/(A,B,C).\{10...12\}.\{input,output\}
```



Q7. Linux vs Windows Line Endings (1 pt)

```
cat > linux.txt <<EOF
line one
line two
line three
EOF
awk '{print $0"\r"}' linux.txt > windows.txt
diff linux.txt windows.txt
cmp -l linux.txt windows.txt
```

Explanation:

- \bullet diff \rightarrow shows differences in lines.
- cmp \rightarrow shows CR (0x0d) mismatch.
- ullet comm o compares sorted content, ignoring line endings.

```
nshuti@Ubuntu: ~/projects/q7/q7
nshuti@Ubuntu:~/projects/q7/q7$ cat > linux_conf.txt <<'EOF'
  line one
> line two
> line three
> E0F
nshuti@Ubuntu:~/projects/q7/q7$ awk '{printf "%s\r\n", $0}' linux_conf.txt > win
nshuti@Ubuntu:"/projects/q7/q7$ xxd -g 1 linux_conf.txt | head 000000000: 6c 63 6e 65 20 6f 6e 65 0a 6c 63 6e 65 20 74 77 line one.line tw 00000010: 6f 0a 6c 63 6e 65 20 74 68 72 65 65 0a o.line three.
2025-09-30 23:04:33.315166246 +0200
+++ windows_conf.txt
00 -1,3 +1,3 00
-line one
-line two
-line three
+line one
+line two
+line three
nshuti@Ubuntu:"/projects/q7/q7$ cmp -l linux_conf.txt windows_conf.txt | head
cmp: EOF on linux_conf.txt after byte 29
9 12 15
10 154 12
11 151 154
12 156 151
13 145 156
14 40 145
15 164 40
16 167 164
17 157 167
18 12 157
nshuti@Ubuntu:~/projects/q7/q7$ sort linux_conf.txt > linux_sorted.txt
nshuti@Ubuntu:~/projects/q7/q7$ sort windows_conf.txt > windows_sorted.txt
nshuti@Ubuntu:"/projects/q7/q7$ comm linux_sorted.txt windows_sorted.txt || true
line one
         line one
line three
         line three
line two
         line two
nshuti@Ubuntu:~/projects/q7/q7$ command -v dos2unix >/dev/null && dos2unix windo ws_conf.txt linux2.txt || true _
nshuti@Ubuntu:~/projects/q7/q7$
```

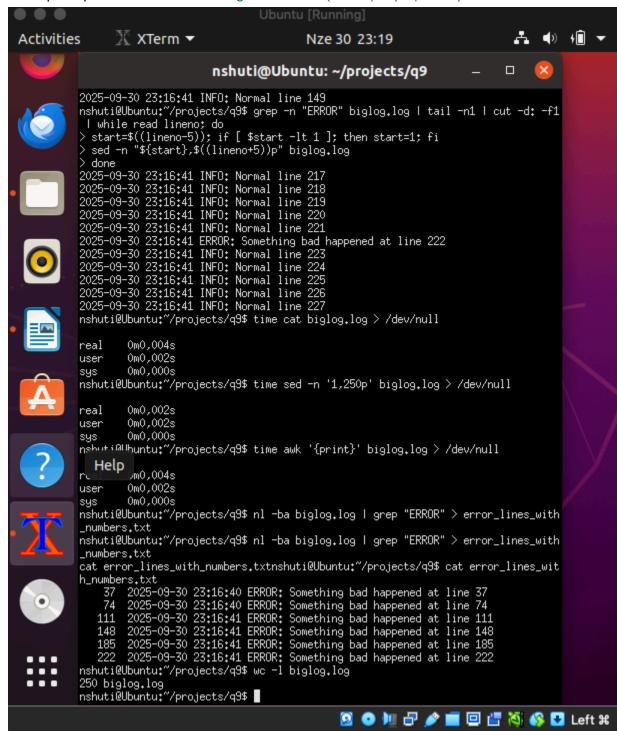
Q8. File Search with find (3 pts)

Examples:

• Larger than average: find . -size +\${avg}c

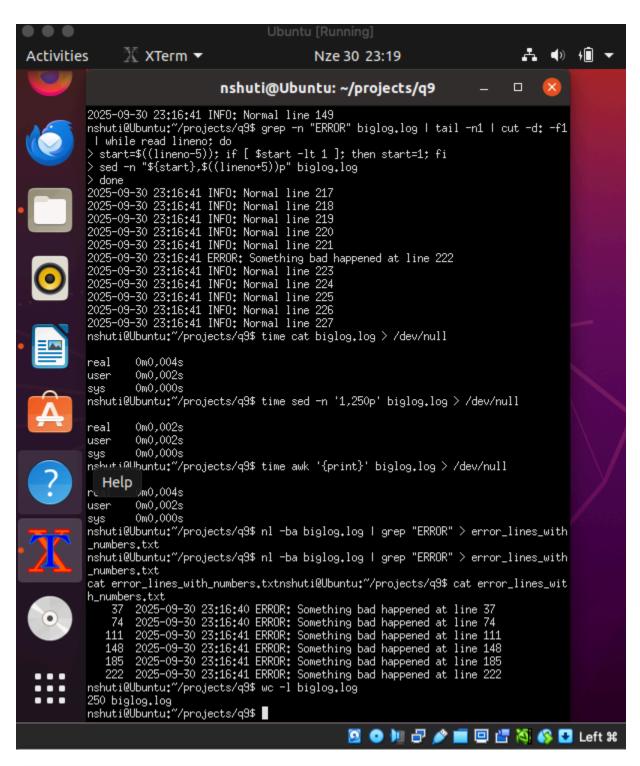
- Modified last 72 but not 24h: find . -mtime -3 -mtime +1
- Empty or hidden-only dirs: find . -empty
- World writable: find . -perm -o=w
- Other owners: find . ! -user \$(whoami) ! -user root

Backup/temp names: find . -regex '.*\.\(bak\|tmp\|old\)\$'



Q9. Log File Analysis (2 pts)

```
for i in {1..250}; do echo "INFO line $i"; done > big.log
sed -n '101,150p' big.log
grep -n "ERROR" big.log | tail -1
nl big.log | grep ERROR
```



Q10. File Maintenance Automation (1 pt)

Examples:

• Change perms except executables:

```
find . -type f ! -executable -exec chmod 644 {} \;
```

• Disk space older 30d:

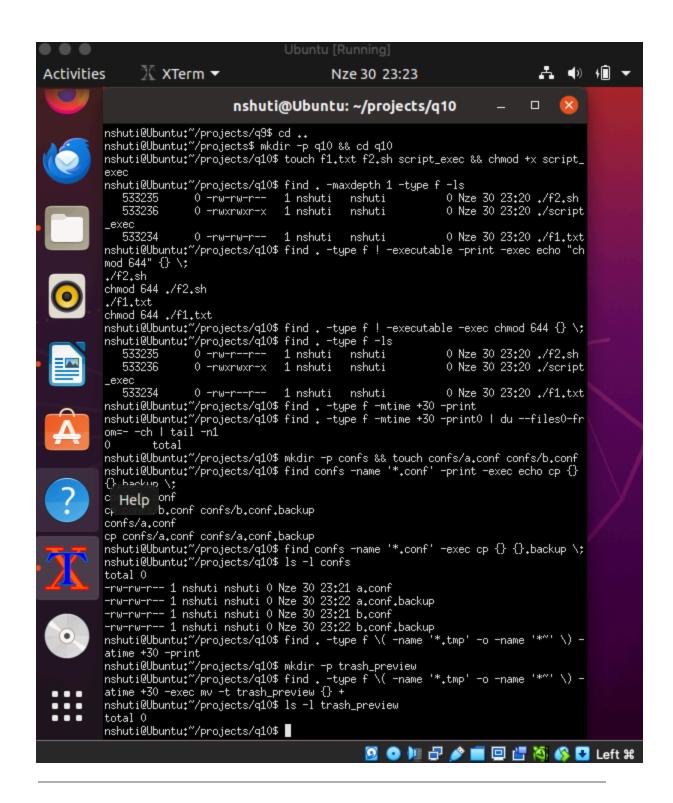
```
find . -mtime +30 -print0 | du --files0-from=- -ch
```

• Backup configs:

```
find . -name '*.conf' -exec cp {} {}.backup \;
```

• Remove stale tmp:

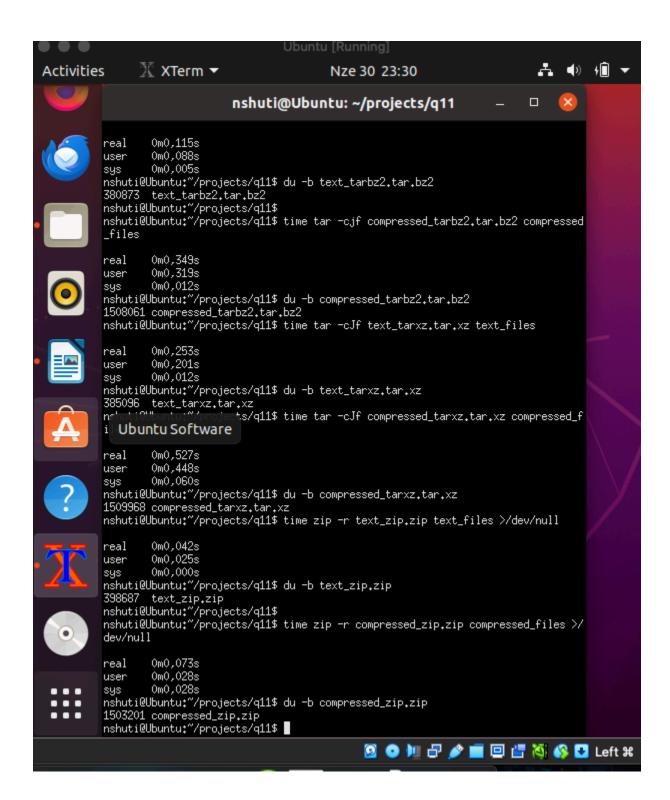
```
find . -name '*.tmp' -atime +30 -delete
```



Q11. Compression Analysis (2 pts)

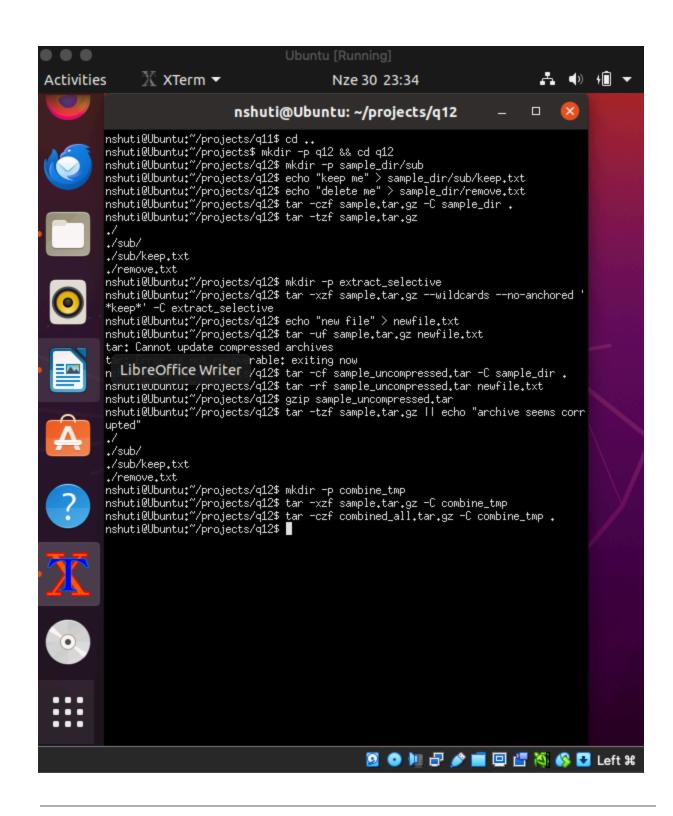
Text compresses best with xz/bzip2.

- Already compressed (jpg/mp4) → no gain.
- Recommendation: tar+gzip for balance.



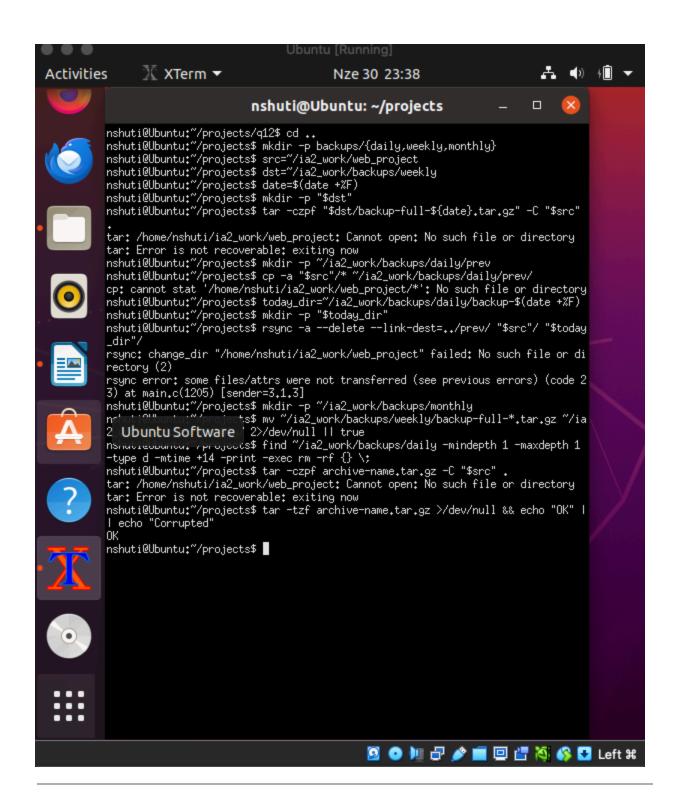
Q12. Archive Handling (1 pt)

- List contents: tar -tzf archive.tar.gz
- Selective extract: tar -xzf archive.tar.gz --wildcards '*keep*'
- Update: tar -rf archive.tar newfile
- Corrupt handling: tar -tzf archive.tar.gz || echo "bad archive"
- Merge: extract all → tar -czf new.tar.gz combined_dir/



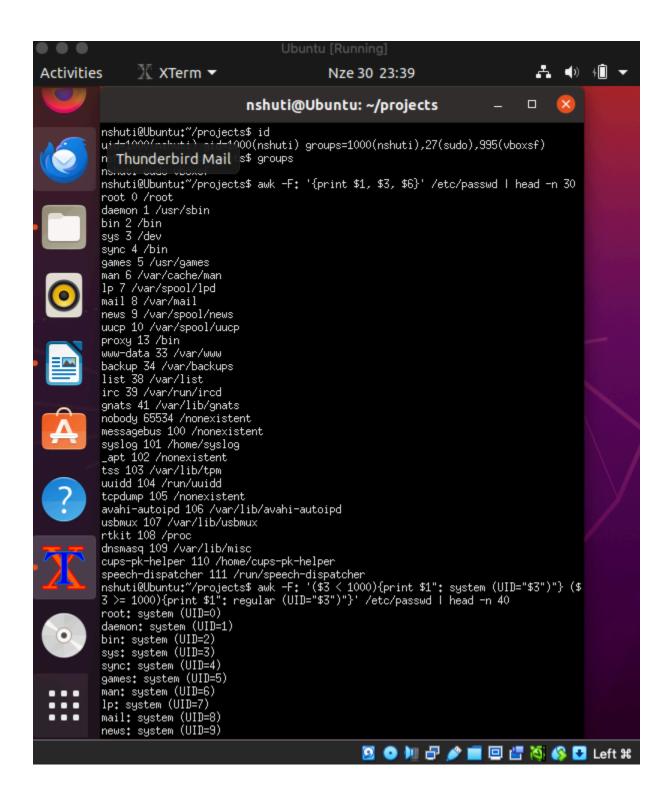
Q13. Backup Rotation (1 pt)

- Daily incremental \rightarrow rsync --link-dest
- $\bullet \quad \text{Weekly full} \rightarrow \text{tar -czf backup-full-YYYYMMDD.tar.gz}$
- Monthly archive \rightarrow move weekly \rightarrow monthly/
- Cleanup \rightarrow find backups/daily -mtime +14 -exec rm -rf {} \;



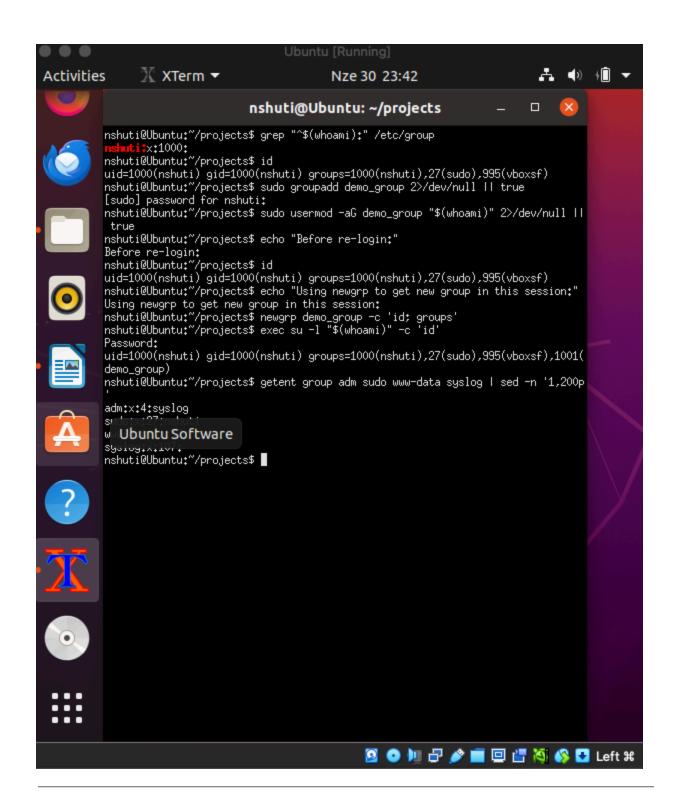
Q14. User & Groups Analysis (2 pts)

awk -F: '{print \$1,\$3,\$6}' /etc/passwd | head



Q15. Group Membership Propagation (1 pt)

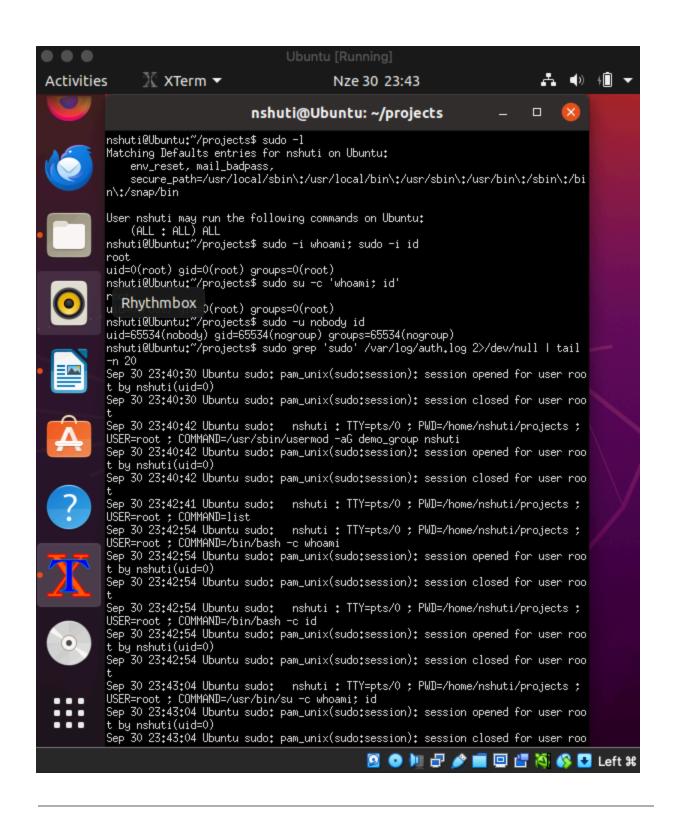
- Add user to group: sudo usermod -aG demo_group \$USER
- Effective only after re-login → or use newgrp.



Q16. Sudo Audit (1 pt)

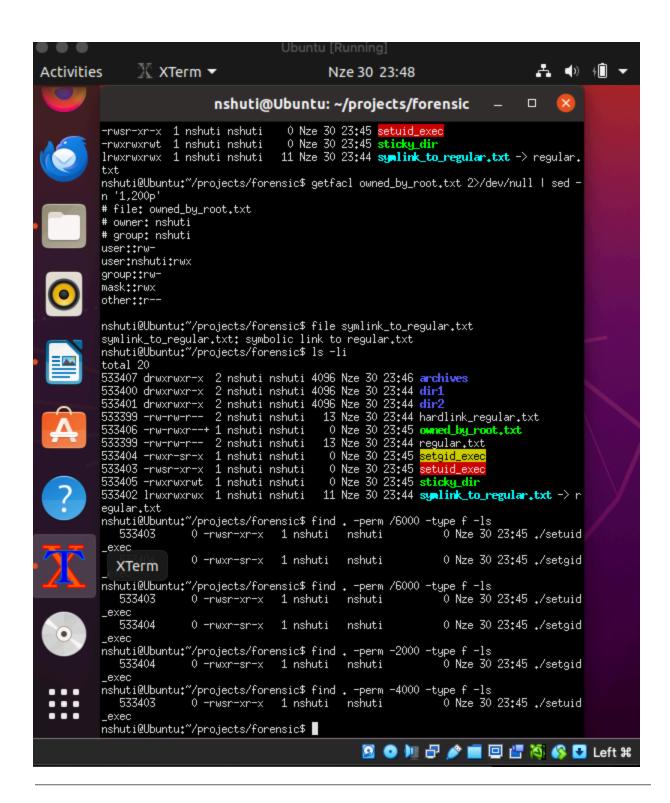
• List privileges: sudo -1

- Compare: sudo -i, sudo su, su -
- Run as another user: sudo -u nobody id
- Audit logs: grep sudo /var/log/auth.log



Bonus Q17. Forensic Environment (2 pts)

- Create files: touch regular.txt
- Symlinks: ln -s regular.txt sym.txt
- Hard links: ln regular.txt hard.txt
- SUID/SGID: chmod 4755 suid_file
- Sticky dir: chmod 1777 sticky_dir
- Archives: tar -czf file.tar.gz regular.txt





- What I Did: Summarized Linux filesystem investigation, permissions, backups, and archives.
- Why I Did It: To simulate forensic investigation and system admin tasks.
- What I Learned: File manipulation, wildcard power, backup strategies, security audit basics.
- Challenges: VirtualBox Guest Additions setup, permissions issues.
- **Recommendations:** Automate repetitive tasks with scripts, always test dangerous commands with -print before executing.