#### EXPERIMENT NO.7

Aim: Study the use of network reconnaissance tools and apply the following: WHOIS, dig, traceroute, nslookup

#### Theory:

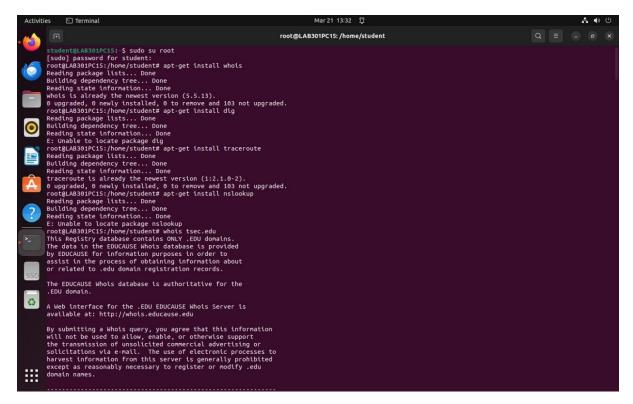
Reconnaissance tools are essential components in the toolbox of security professionals and ethical hackers. They are used in the initial phase of a security assessment or penetration testing, known as reconnaissance or information gathering. This phase aims to collect as much information as possible about the target system, network, or organization. Reconnaissance can be passive, where the attacker gathers information without directly interacting with the target, or active, where the attacker engages with the target system to gather insights. Tools like Nmap, WHOIS, Shodan, and Maltego allow professionals to uncover open ports, services running on a system, domain name details, and network infrastructure information. By understanding the target's landscape, security professionals can identify potential vulnerabilities and plan their penetration testing strategies effectively, while attackers could use this information to exploit weaknesses.

## Steps:

- 1. Open Ubuntu terminal.
- 2. Get root access, by typing "sudo su root".
- 3. Install the tools using the commands:

#apt-get install whois#apt-get install dig#apt-get install traceroute

#apt-get install nslookup



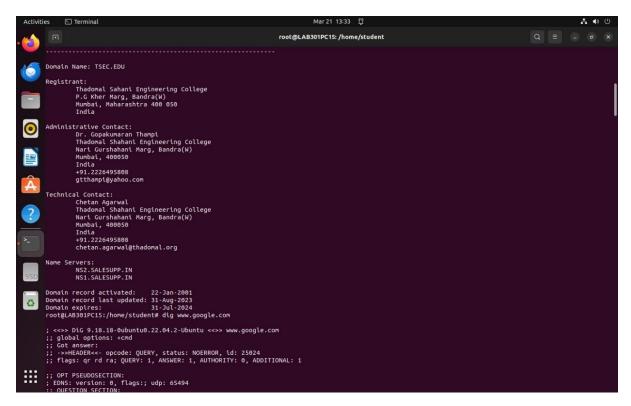
WHOIS: WHOIS is the Linux utility for searching an object in a WHOIS database. The WHOIS database of a domain is the publicly displayed information about a domains ownership, billing, technical, administrative, and nameserver information. Running a WHOIS on your domain will look the domain up at the registrar for the domain information. All domains have WHOIS information. WHOIS database can be queried to obtain the following information via WHOIS:

Administrative contact details, including names, email addresses, and telephone numbers Mailing addresses for office locations relating to the target organization

Details of authoritative name servers for each given domain

Example: Querying tsec.edu





DIG: Dig (domain information groper) is a network administration commandline tool for querying Domain Name System (DNS) name servers. Dig is useful for network troubleshooting and for educational purposes. When you pass a domain name to the dig ommand, by default it displays the A record(the ipaddress of the site that is queried) as shown below.

1. Simple dig Command Usage student@lab:~# dig www.google.com The dig command output has the following sections:

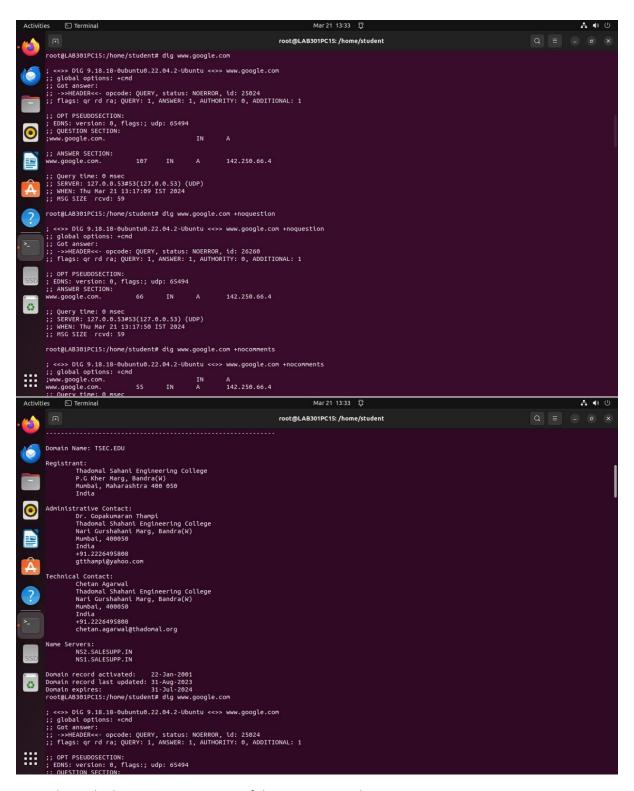
Header: This displays the dig command version number, the global options used by the dig command, and few additional header information. QUESTION SECTION: This displays the question it asked the DNS. i.e. input. Since we

said 'dig google.com', it indicates in this section that we asked for the record of the google.com website.

ANSWER SECTION: This displays the answer it receives from the DNS. i.e This is your output. This displays the record of google.com.

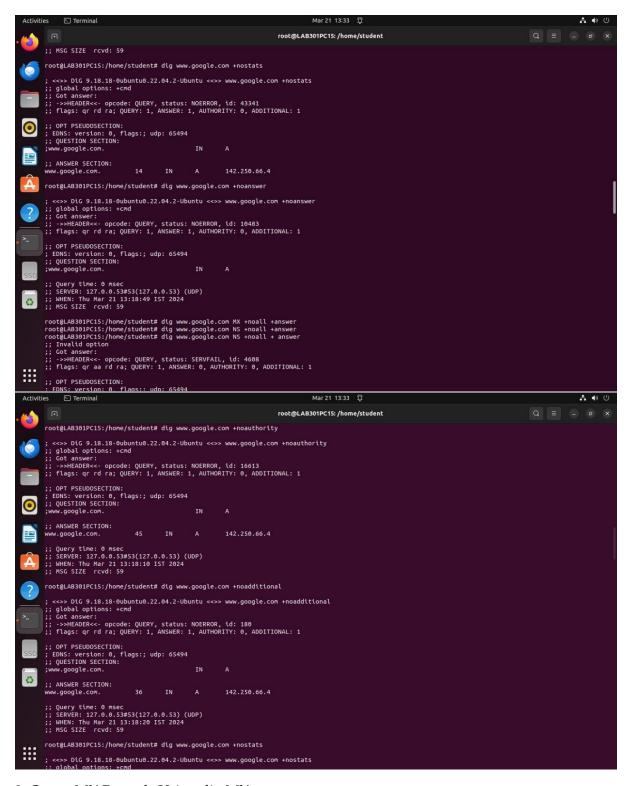
AUTHORITY SECTION: This displays the DNS name server that has the authority to re spond to this query. Basically this displays available name servers of google.com.

ADDITIONAL SECTION: This displays the ip address of the name servers listed in the AUTHORITY SECTION. Stats section at the bottom displays few dig command statistics including how much time it took to execute this query



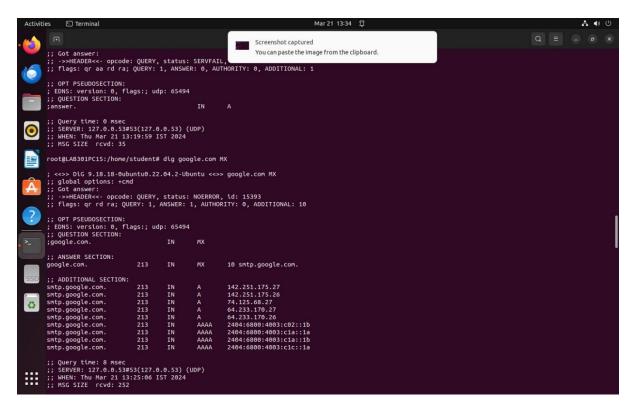
#### 2. Display Only the ANSWER SECTION of the Dig command Output

All you need to look at is the "ANSWER SECTION" of the dig command. So, we can turn off all other sections as shown below. i) student@lab:~ #dig google.com +noquestion ii) student@lab:~ #dig google.com +nocomments – Turn off the comment lines iii) student@lab:~ #dig google.com +noauthority – Turn off the authority section iv) student@lab:~ #dig google.com +noadditional – Turn off the additional section v) student@lab:~ #dig google.com +nostats – Turn off the stats section vi) student@lab:~ #dig google.com +noanswer – Turn off the answer section



## 3. Query MX Records Using dig MX

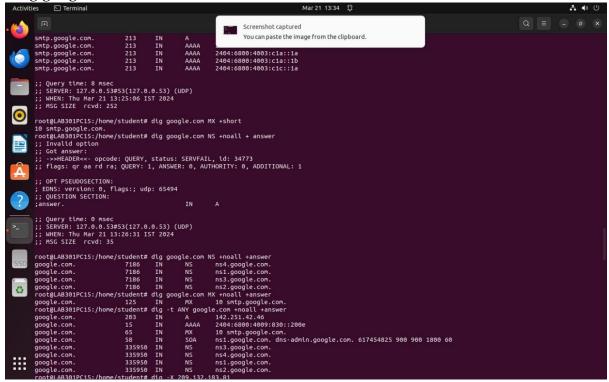
To query MX records, pass MX as an argument to the dig command as shown below. student@lab:~ #dig google.com MX +noall +answer



# 4. Query NS Records Using dig NS

To query the NS record use the type NS as shown below. student@lab:~

#dig google.com NS +noall +answer



## 5. View ALL DNS Records Types Using dig t ANY

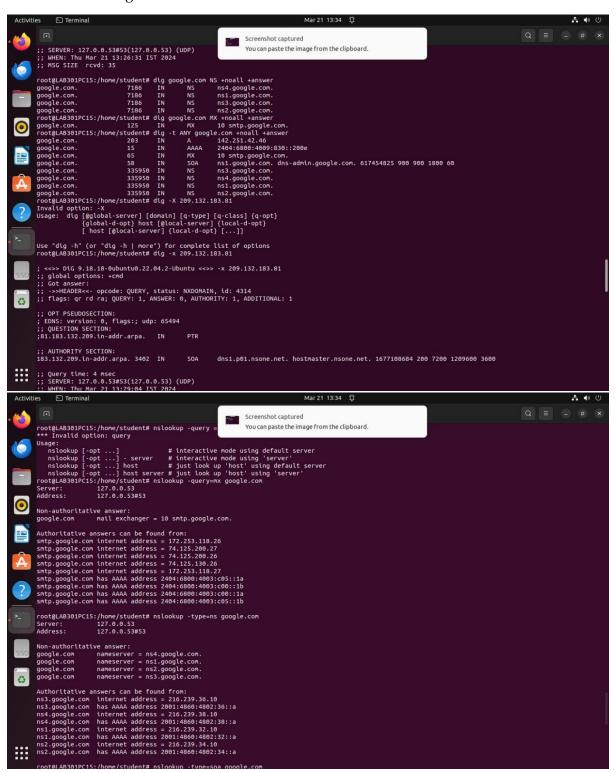
To view all the record types (A, MX, NS, etc.), use ANY as the record type as shown be low. student@lab:~ #dig t ANY google.com +noall +answer

6. View Short Output Using dig +short

To view just the ipaddress of a web site (i.e the A record), use the short form option as shown below. student@lab:~ #dig google.com +short

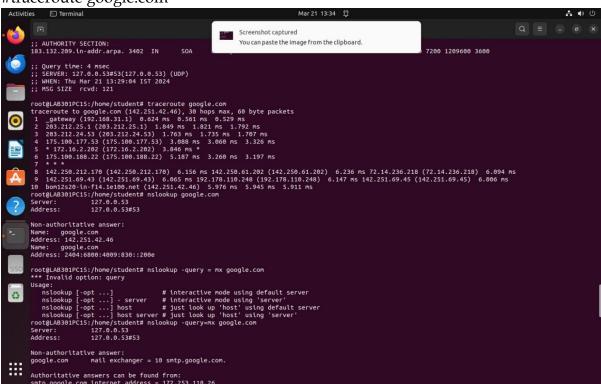
## 7. DNS Reverse Lookup Using dig -x

To perform a DNS reverse look up using the ip address using dig x as shown below student@lab:~ #dig x 209.132.183.81



Traceroute - Traceroute prints the route that packets take to a network host. Traceroute utility uses the TTL field in the IP header to achieve its operation. TTL field describes how much hops a particular packet will take while traveling on network. So, this effectively outlines the lifetime of the packet on network. This field is usually set to 32 or 64. Each time the packet is held on an intermediate router, it decreases the TTL value by 1. When a router finds the TTL value of 1 in a received packet then that packet is not forwarded but instead discarded. After discarding the packet, router sends an ICMP error message of —Time exceeded back to the source from where I packet generated. The ICMP packet that is sent back contains the IP address of the router. So now it can be easily understood that traceroute operates by sending packets with TTL value starting from 1 and then incrementing by one each time. Each time a router receives the packet, it checks the TTL field, if TTL field is 1 then it discards the packet and sends the ICMP error packet containing its IP address and this is what traceroute requires. So traceroute incrementally fetches the IP of all the routers between the source and the destination. Command: student@lab:~

#traceroute google.com



Nslookup - The nslookup command is used to query internet name servers interactively for information. Nslookup, which stands for "name server lookup". It is a useful tool for finding out information about a named domain. By default, nslookup will translate a domain name to an IP address (or vice versa). Nslookup has two modes: interactive and noninteractive.

Interactive mode allows the user to query name servers for information about variou shosts and domains or to print a list of hosts in a domain. Noninteractive mode is us ed to print just the name and requested information for a host or domain.

1. Simple nslookup command student@lab:~ #nslookup google.com

2. Query the MX Record using query=mx student@lab:~#nslookup query = mx google.comMX (Mail Exchange) record maps a domain name to a list of mail exchange servers f or that domain

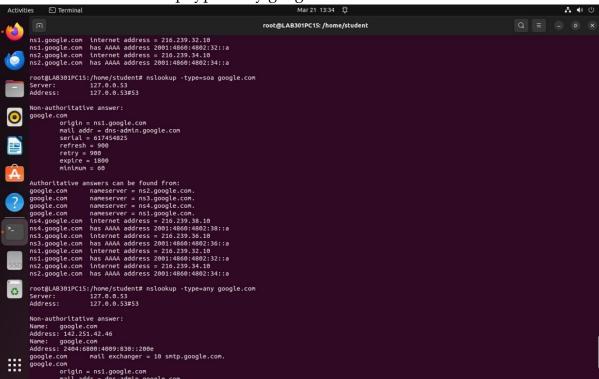
3. Query the NS Record using type=ns student@lab: ~ #nslookup type = ns google.com

NS (Name Server) record maps a domain name to a list of DNS servers authoritative for that domain. 4. Query the SOA Record using type=soa

student@lab: ~ #nslookup type = soa google.com SOA record (start of authority) pro vides the authoritative information about the domain,

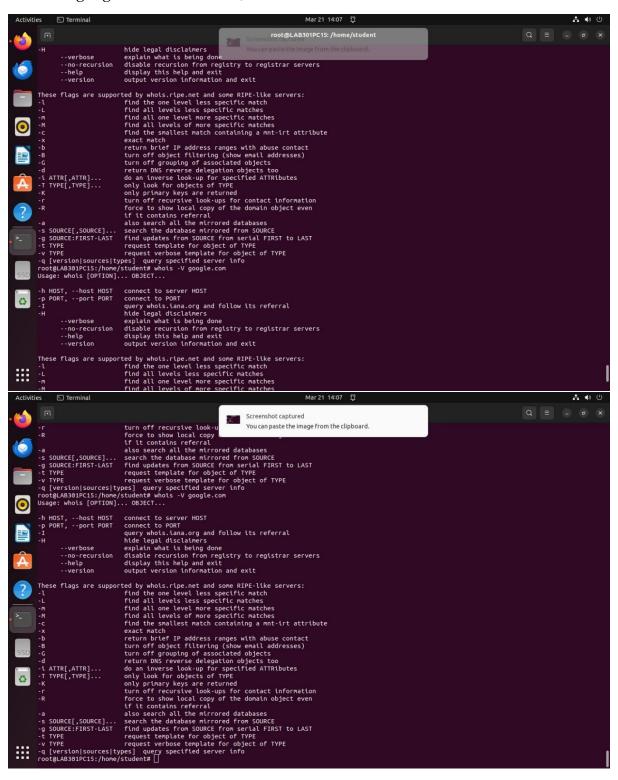
the email address of the domain admin, the domain serial number, etc

5. View available DNS records using query=any student@lab: ~ #nslookup type = any google.com

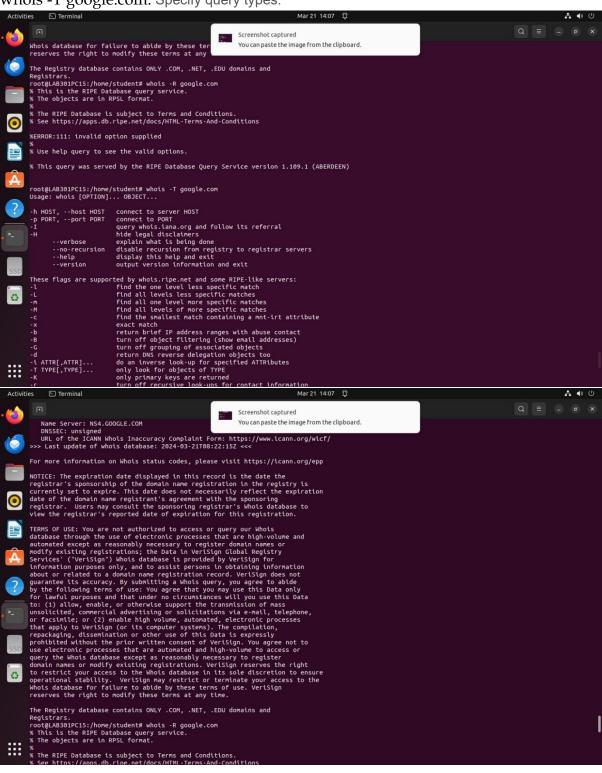


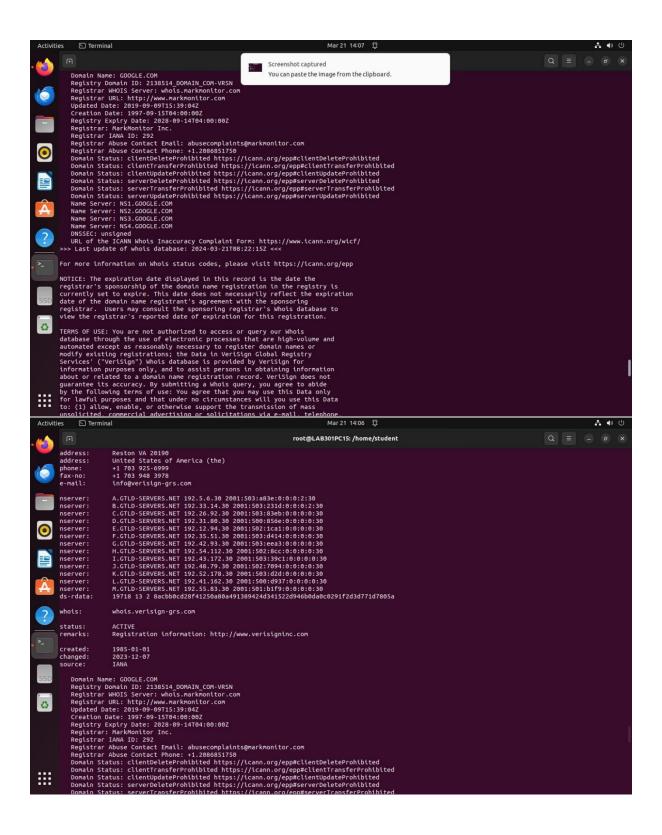
#### **EXTRA:**

### whois -V google.com: Verbose output

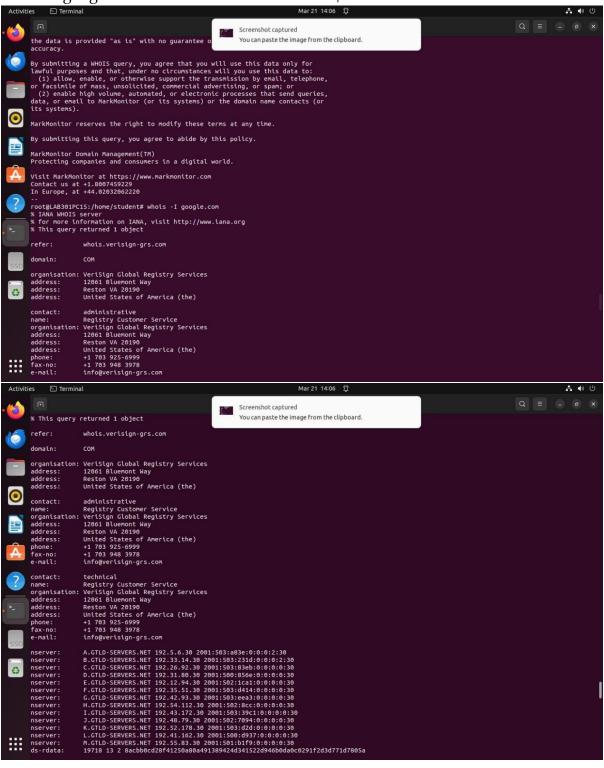


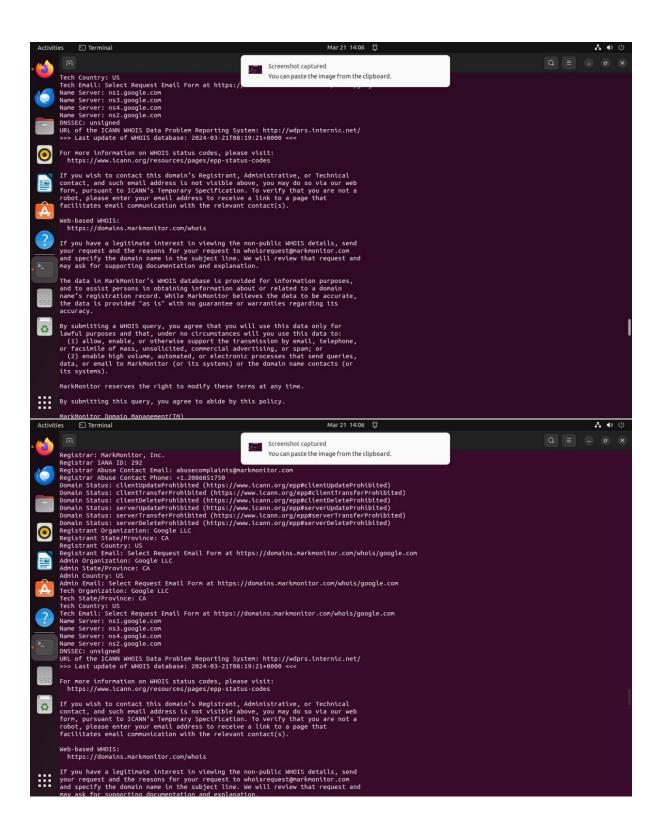
whois -T google.com: Specify query types.

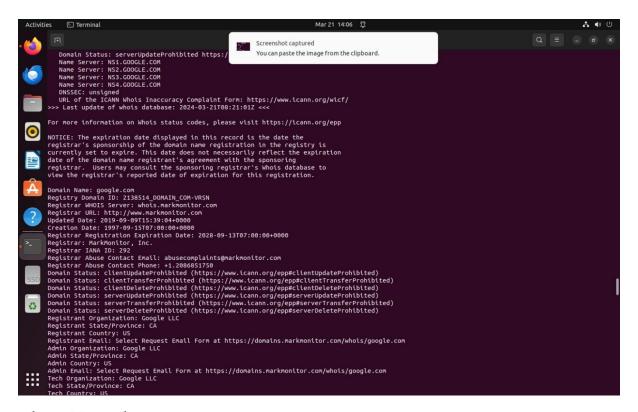




whois -I google.com: Enable case-insensitive lookups.







## whois -H google.com: Hide legal disclaimers.

