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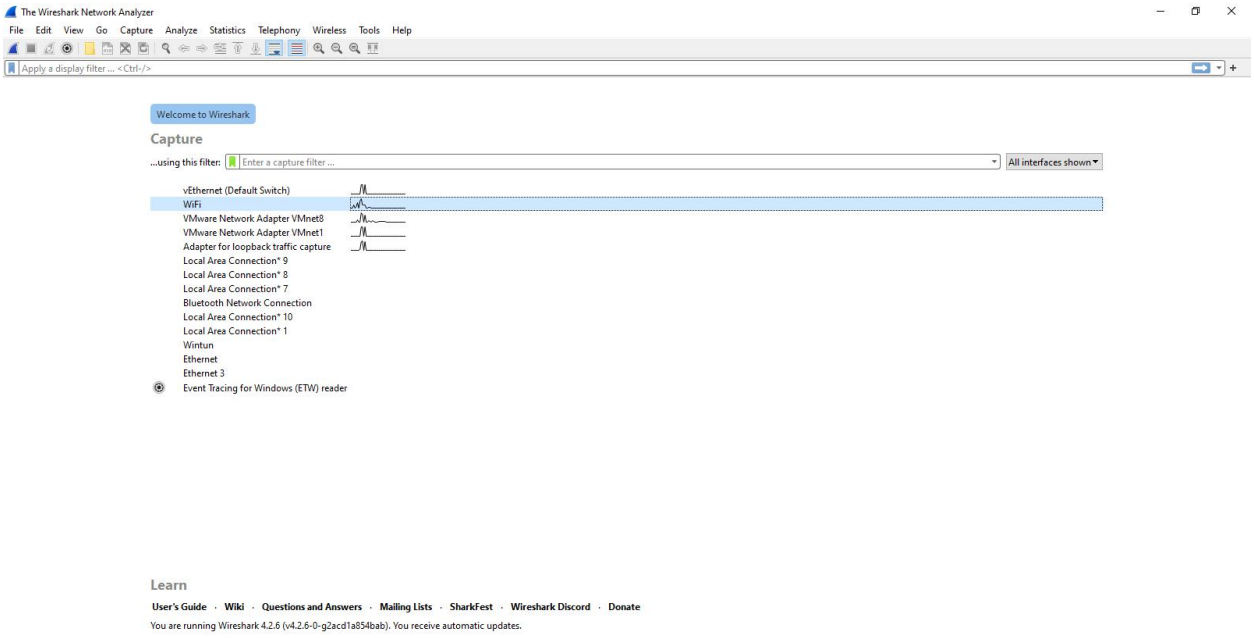
Week 2: Exploitation, Web Application Testing, and Advanced Networking

INT302: Kali Linux Tools and System Security – Lab 7: Practical Use Cases for Wireshark in Real-World

Exercise 1: Describe the overall network traffic during the incident. Are there any noticeable spikes or anomalies? What potential indicators of compromise did you identify?

Using Wireshark helps to easily capture packets and network traffic. My analysis is stated below:



In the above diagram, we can see that different interfaces can be captured. I chose to capture the one WiFi interface. The wave means it is actively capturing traffic.

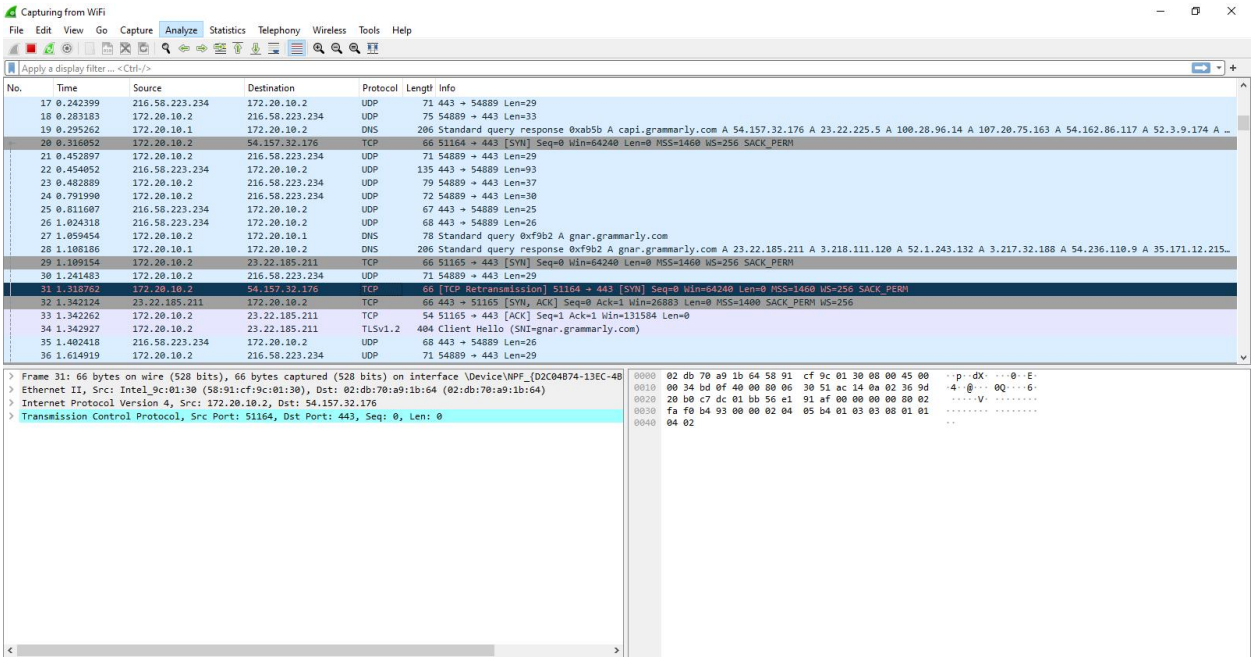
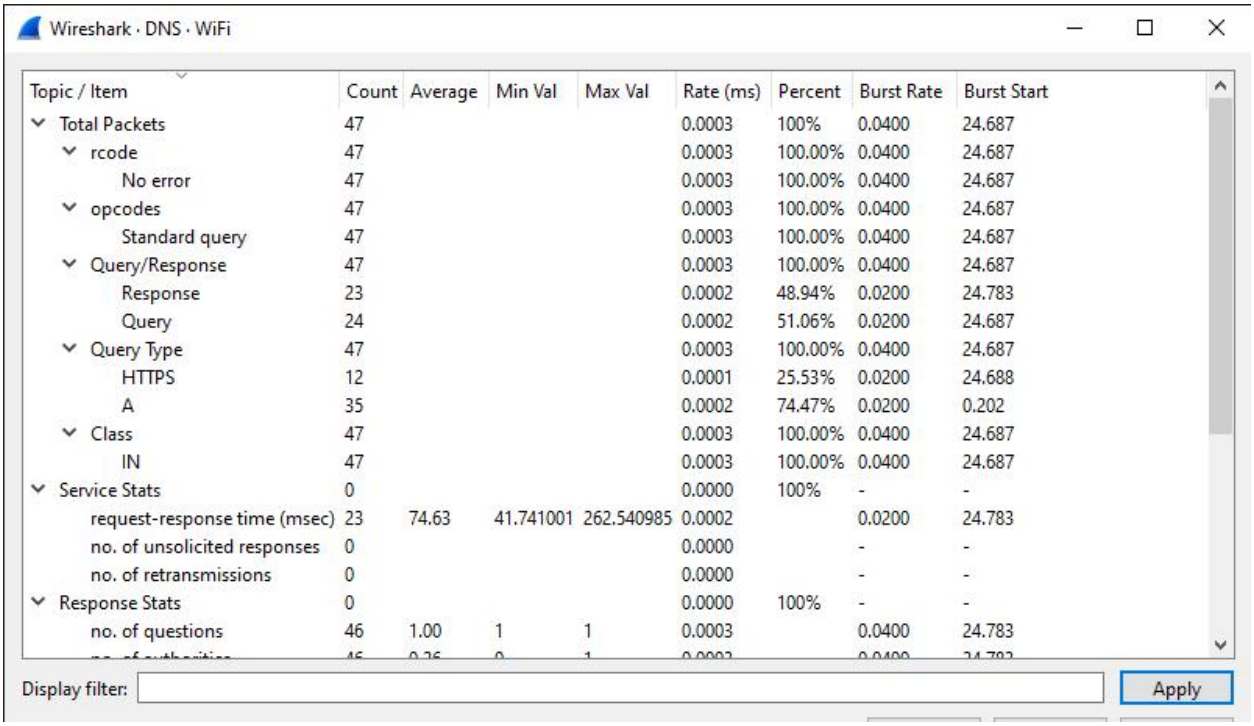


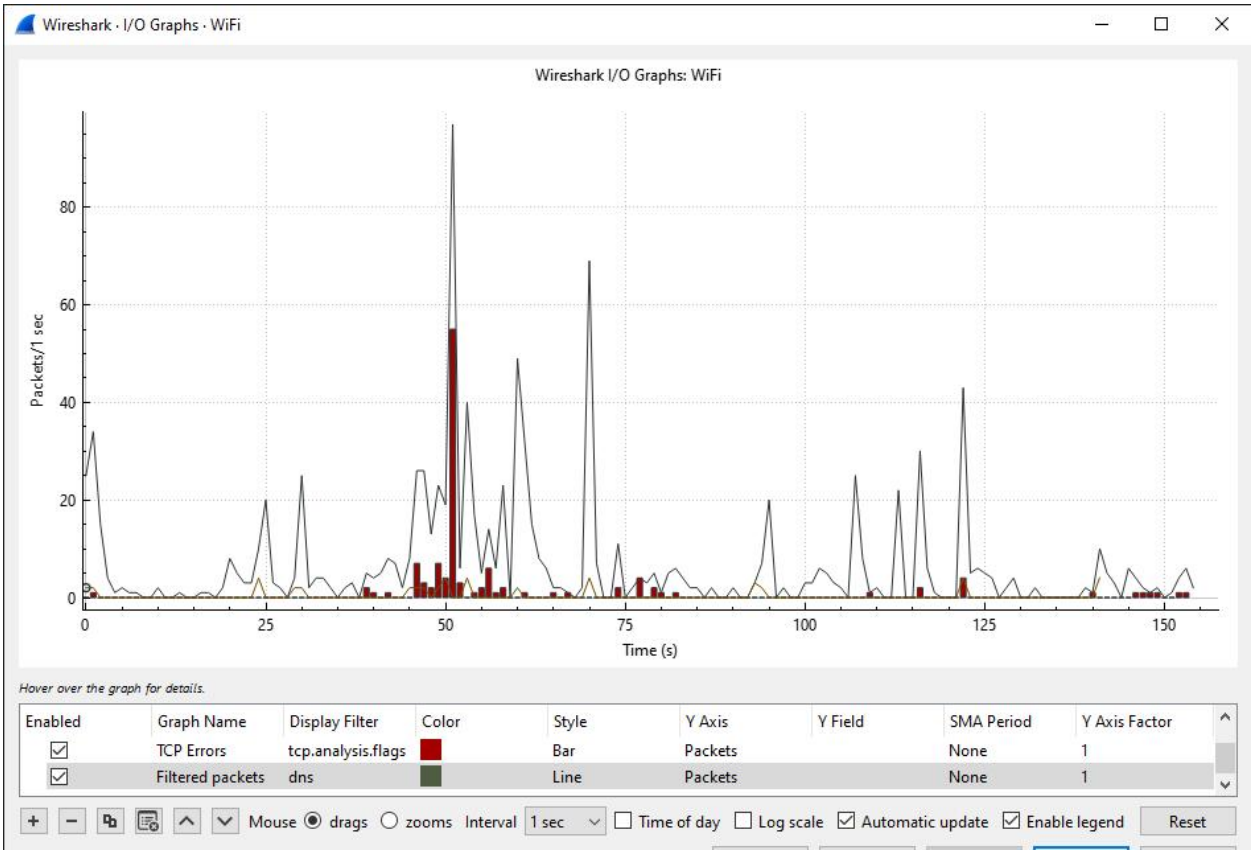
Diagram of different packets being captured. The red indicator can mean an **error** or **issues** with the packet. Often this is used to indicate **error messages**, failed connections, or other abnormal network conditions.



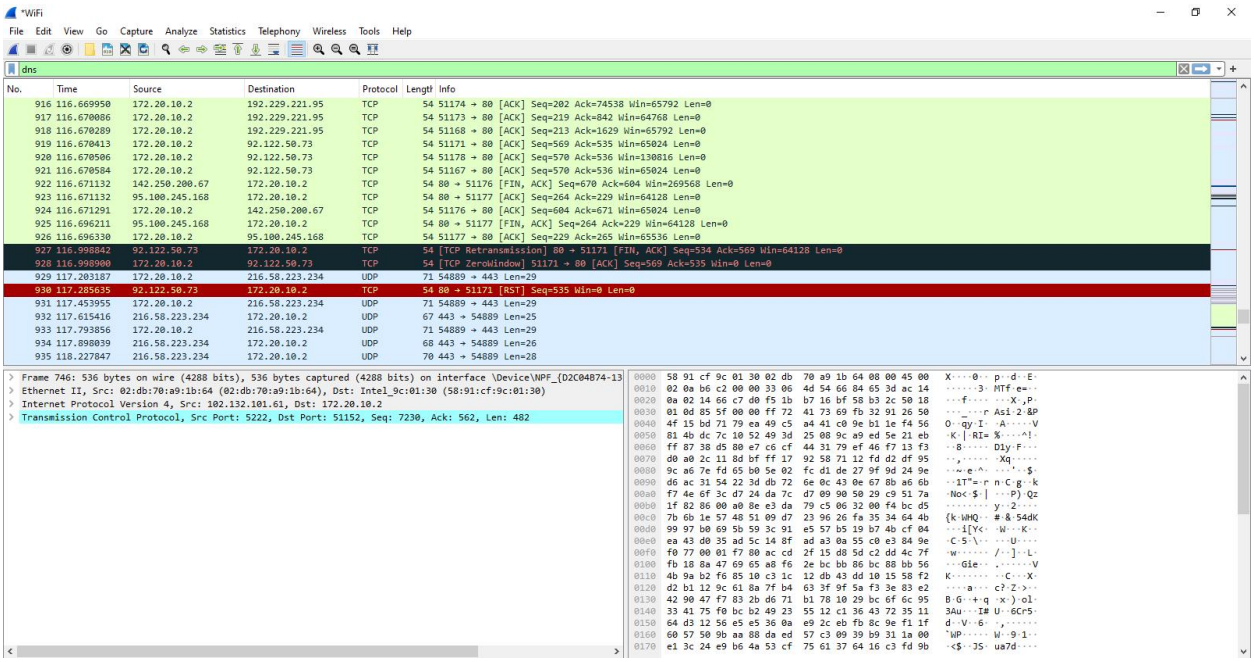
A DNS rate of **0.0003 to 0.0001 pps** is **very low,** in my case, this is due to working in a small environment with minimal DNS usage.

In other cases, it may be due to Long Periods Between Captures, Short Sampling Window, Low DNS traffic, and Limited Network Activity.

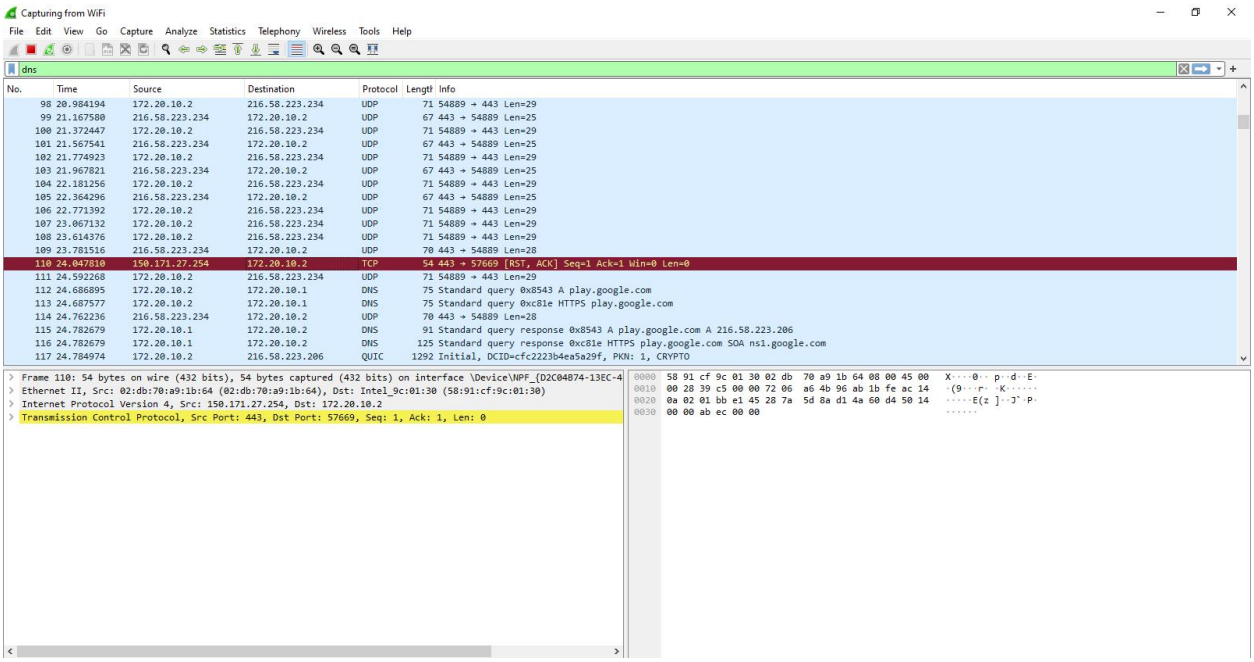
A time to be concerned is if you're expecting DNS traffic and its rate is unusually low.



The diagram above shows how the packets evolve over time. The **green** is for normal traffic, and the **red** is for abnormal spikes. Abnormal spikes may mean a burst of network activity (e.g., a file transfer, large web requests, or DDoS attacks), potential network problems such as congestion or a pattern of **sustained high traffic**, which might be normal during business hours, or an event like a system update.

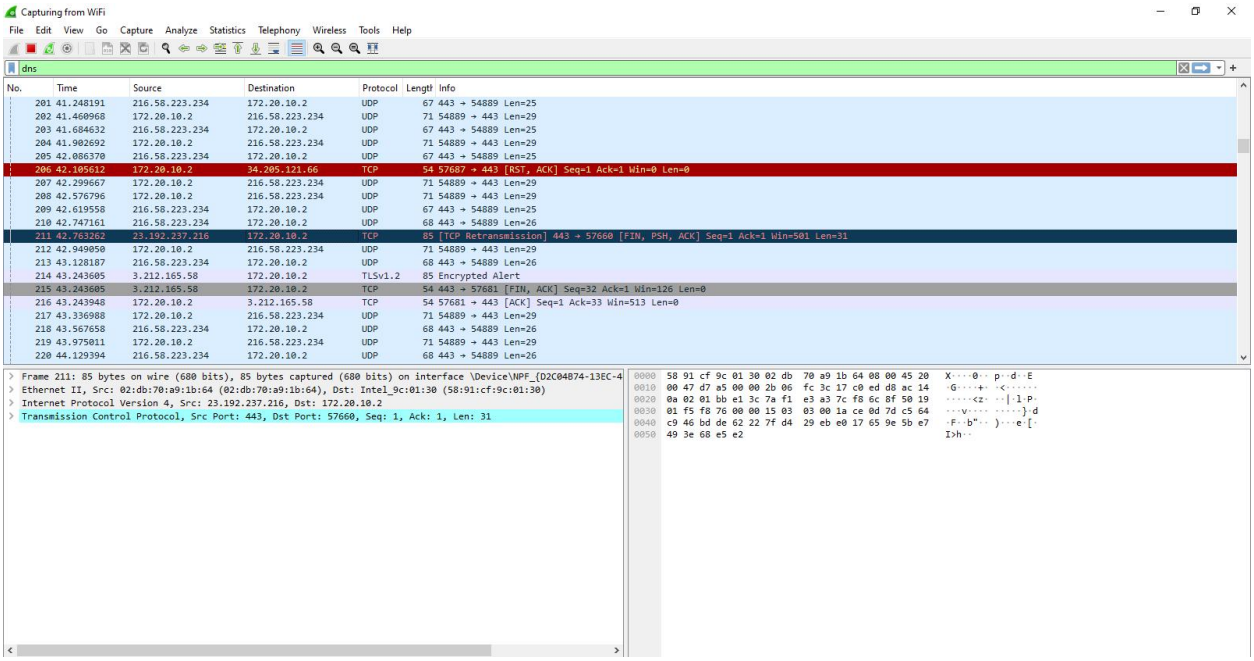


In the diagram above, different colours are displayed. The **green colour** indicates normal successful packets, the **black** indicates a warning, unusual traffic, or retransmissions, the **red** indicates error or failure packets, and the **light blue** indicates normal, ongoing TCP conversation packets.



The information on the yellow colour: Src port **443** is the well-known port for **HTTPS (Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure)**. **Seq 1** means this is the first packet in the sequence of data transmitted between the two devices. The **ACK 1** number is used to confirm the successful receipt of data. **Len 0** indicates that the packet carries no data but is likely being used for ACK.

Exercise 2: Identify a specific packet that raises suspicion. Provide details about the packet, including source and destination IPs, ports, and protocol. What makes this packet suspicious?



The packet shows no suspicious activity per se but for study purpose, I'll explain a few activity that may occur.

- **Source Port (src)**: 443 (HTTPS)
- **Destination Port (dst)**: 57660 (a high, ephemeral port)
- **Sequence Number (Seq)**: 1
- **Acknowledgment Number (Ack)**: 1
- **Length (len)**: 31 bytes of data

What Can Be Inferred From This Packet?

Let's break it down based on the information you provided:

1. **Source Port: 443 (HTTPS)**: Port 443 is commonly used for **HTTPS** traffic (secure web traffic). This means typically a secure website or API.

   If this is coming from an internal server, it's usually fine as it's a standard web protocol. However, if it's coming from an unfamiliar or external server, it could be suspicious.

2. **Destination Port: 57660**: Port 57660 is a **high-numbered ephemeral port** (often used for dynamic or temporary connections).

   This suggests that the packet is part of an **outbound** connection, where the internal system is acting as the client and is establishing a connection to an external service or server. The high port number suggests it's dynamically allocated by the operating system for a client-side connection.

   If this connection is going to an unknown or suspicious IP address, it could indicate **malicious activity**, like a botnet command-and-control (C2) server, or **data exfiltration** using unusual ports.

3. **Sequence Number: 1** and **Acknowledgment Number: 1**: The **sequence number** and **acknowledgment number** are both set to 1, which is typical for the **initial handshake** of a TCP connection.

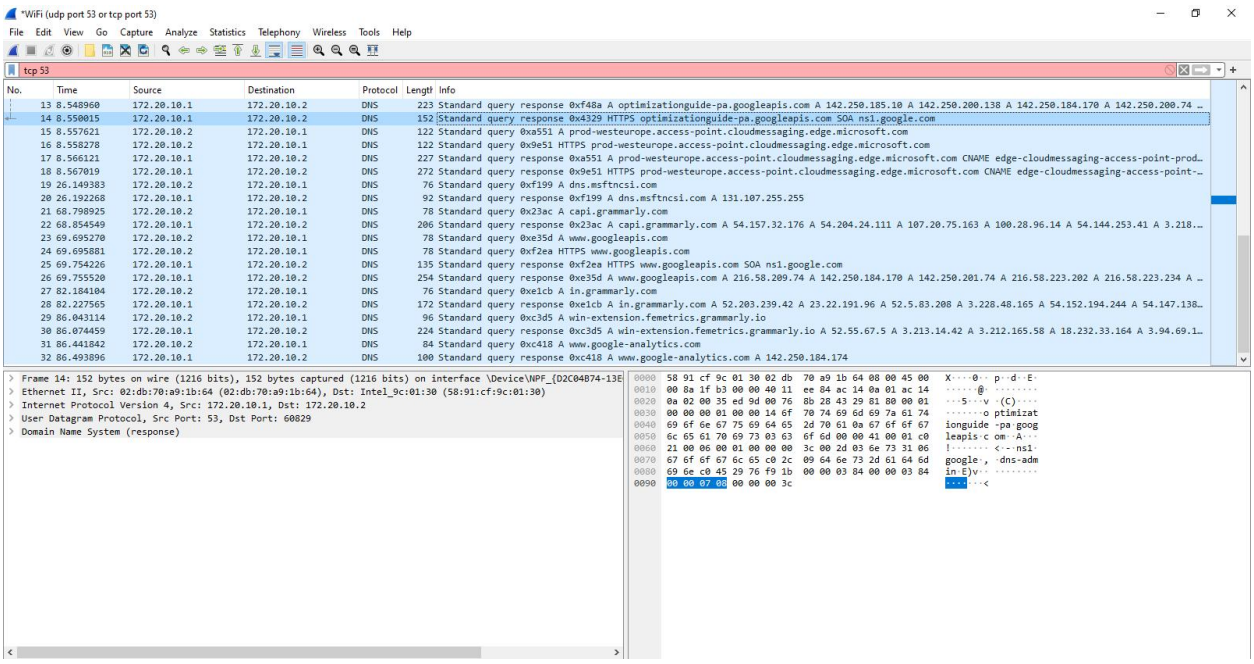
4. **Length: 31 bytes**: The packet length of 31 bytes is relatively small but might still carry meaningful data. For example, if it's part of an HTTP request (even over HTTPS), it could be a **malicious payload** or command being passed along the network.

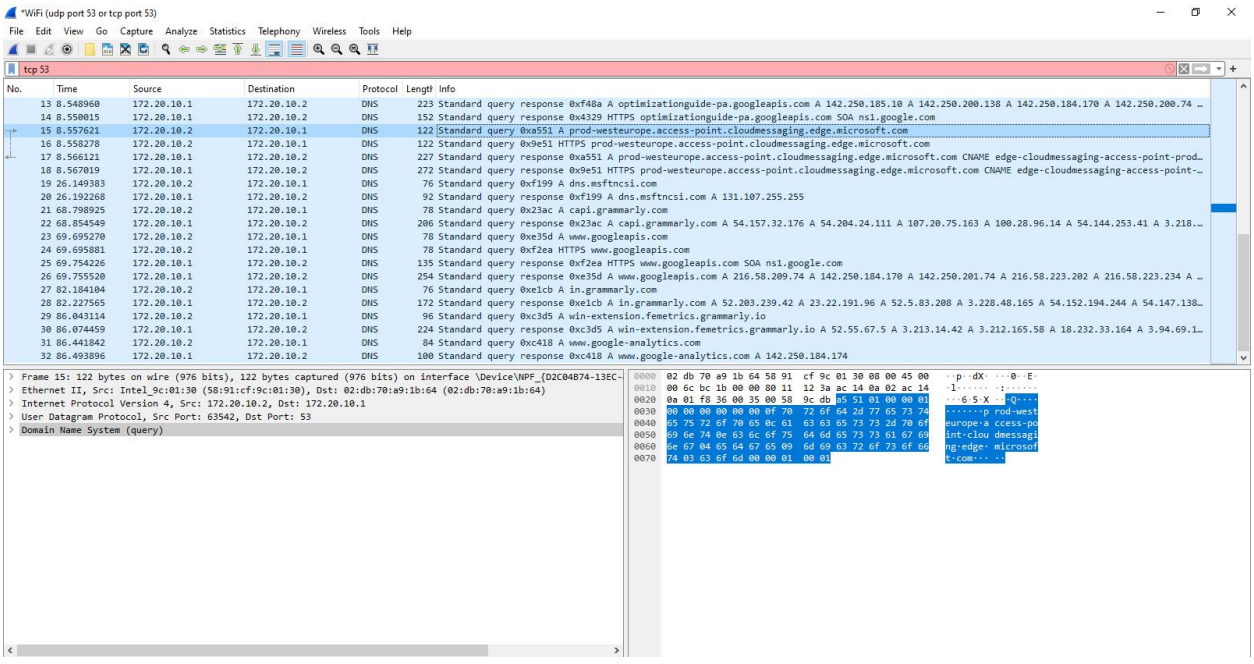
Potential Suspicious Indicators:

1. **Unusual Communication Pattern**: Combination of port 443 (HTTPS) with a high-numbered ephemeral port (57660) might suggest that this is an application trying to disguise or obfuscate its traffic (for example, **malware** using HTTPS to hide its communication or **data exfiltration** using web protocols).

2. **Encrypted Traffic**: Since this is using **HTTPS (port 443)**, the traffic would be **encrypted**. This packet is from a known, trusted server, so there's nothing inherently suspicious here. However, if the source IP is unfamiliar, or if this is occurring with large volumes of traffic, this could point to **malicious tunneling** or **command-and-control communication**.

Exercise 3: Implement a capture filter to monitor DNS traffic. Analyze the captured packets and summarize any findings related to unusual queries or connections.





After analysing the above packets, both the query and response it is concluded that there is no unusual queries or connections. Though,

If you see DNS queries to unknown external servers, it could be indicative of a compromise or an attempt to contact a command and control (C&C) server, and Large numbers of DNS queries from a single internal host indicate potential malware.

Exercise 4: Identify any DNS packets that may indicate a connection to a suspicious or malicious domain. Provide details about the domain queried and any associated IP addresses.

No domain was queried. The answer to this is same as exercise 3.

Exercise 5: Document any anomalous traffic patterns you discovered. What does this suggest about potential malicious activity?

No anomalous traffic was discovered. Though potential malicious activity may include:

Suspicious DNS queries: Queries to unusual or unexpected domain names, or an unusually high volume of DNS queries from a particular host.

DNS tunneling: Malicious activity where attackers encode data in DNS queries to exfiltrate information.

Unusual traffic patterns: Uncommon or unexpected DNS port usage, unusual DNS server IP addresses, etc.

Exercise 6: Prepare an incident report based on your analysis. Include any relevant packet captures, screenshots, and detailed explanations of the findings.

Incident Report: Network Traffic Analysis

Objective

The goal of this report is to summarize the findings of a proactive network traffic analysis using Wireshark. Specifically, the focus was on monitoring DNS traffic, identifying potential indicators of compromise (IoC), and detecting any unusual or suspicious activities on the network.

1. Overview of Network Traffic During the Incident

The network traffic was captured using Wireshark on a Wi-Fi interface, and several key observations were made based on packet captures.

Traffic Observations

DNS Traffic: The DNS traffic rate was observed to be 0.0003 to 0.0002 in some and 0.0003 to 0.0001 packets per second (pps), which is relatively low. This low rate was expected, considering the small environment with minimal DNS usage.

Potential Causes for Low Traffic:

- Long periods between captures.
- Short sampling windows.
- Low DNS traffic due to limited network activity.

Concern: The DNS traffic rate was low, but since no major DNS activity was expected in the environment, this wasn't immediately a concern. However, in a larger network where DNS traffic is expected to be more frequent, an unusually low rate could be a red flag.

General Traffic Patterns:

Normal Traffic: Represented by **green packets**; most packets seemed to be part of standard TCP conversations and HTTPS connections (port 443).

Anomalies: **Red spikes** were observed, which typically indicate:

- A burst of network activity, possibly due to file transfers, large web requests, or Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks.

- Network congestion or a pattern of sustained high traffic, possibly due to business operations or system updates.

Red flags: **Error packets (red)**, indicating failed connections or abnormal network conditions. These should be reviewed for any recurring patterns that could point to issues such as network misconfigurations or attack attempts.

Potential Indicators of Compromise:

While no immediate signs of compromise were detected, abnormal spikes in network traffic or error packets (as seen in the red indicators) could warrant further investigation. Additionally, patterns such as high-frequency DNS queries or unusual traffic (especially to external DNS servers) should be monitored for potential malware or exfiltration attempts.

2. Suspicious Packet Analysis:

For this exercise, I identified a suspicious packet for analysis. Here's a breakdown:

Packet Breakdown:

- Source Port (src): 443 (HTTPS)

-Destination Port (dst): 57660 (High ephemeral port)

-Sequence Number (Seq): 1

-Acknowledgment Number (Ack): 1

-Length (len): 31 bytes of data

Inferences from the Packet:

-Source Port (443 - HTTPS): Port 443 is typically used for encrypted HTTPS traffic. If this packet is coming from a trusted internal server, it would be considered normal. However, if the source is unfamiliar or external, it could be suspicious, as it may indicate unauthorized communication.

-Destination Port (57660 - Ephemeral Port): Port 57660 is a high, dynamic port commonly used for client-side communication. The use of this port could indicate a legitimate outbound connection from an internal client to an external server. However, if the destination IP is unknown or suspicious, this could signal:

-Data exfiltration or command-and-control (C&C) communication using HTTPS to disguise the traffic.

- Sequence and Acknowledgment Numbers (Seq: 1, Ack: 1): These numbers are typical during the initial TCP handshake, which is normal for establishing connections.

-Packet Length (31 bytes): While the packet length is small, it still carries data. If this packet is part of a larger, sustained communication session, it could indicate a pattern of potential C&C communication or other malicious activity.

Suspicious Indicators:

-Unusual Destination Port: The combination of port 443 and a high-numbered ephemeral port suggests the potential for:

-Malware traffic disguised as legitimate HTTPS traffic.

-Data exfiltration over encrypted channels.

-Encrypted Traffic: Since this packet uses HTTPS, it is encrypted, making it difficult to analyze the content directly. If this traffic is coming from an unfamiliar source or involves large volumes of data, it could be a red flag.

Conclusion

The packet itself is not inherently suspicious, but the context (i.e., if it originates from an unknown source or involves unknown destination IPs) could warrant further investigation for potential malicious activity.

3. DNS Traffic Monitoring:

For Exercise 3, I implemented a Wireshark capture filter to monitor DNS traffic, using the following filter to capture UDP and TCP traffic on port 53 (DNS):

Capture Filter: tcp 53

Analysis of Captured DNS Packets:

Findings: After analyzing the DNS query and response packets, no unusual queries or connections were found.

- All observed DNS queries appeared to be legitimate and related to standard domain resolution.

- Responses included valid DNS A-records for known domains, with no evidence of malicious domains or unusual patterns of behavior.

Key Observations:

-No DNS tunneling: No large TXT record responses or unusual data patterns were observed.

-No Suspicious Domains: All queries resolved to common, known domains with no evidence of external command-and-control (C&C) or malware-related domains.

4. Malicious Domain Detection (Exercise 4):

During the packet analysis for DNS queries, no suspicious or malicious domain names were identified. All DNS queries were either internal or directed to reputable external DNS servers. Therefore, no indicators of a connection to malicious domains were found.

5. Anomalous Traffic Patterns (Exercise 5):

No significant anomalous traffic patterns were identified during the packet capture. However, based on general network traffic behavior, potential signs of malicious activity could include:

-Suspicious DNS Queries: Large numbers of DNS queries originating from a single host or requests to unknown external servers could indicate a **compromised host** or **C&C server communication**.

-DNS Tunneling: Malicious activity where data is exfiltrated through DNS requests (e.g., unusually large TXT records) could also be a red flag.

-Unusual Traffic Patterns: If DNS traffic uses unexpected ports or involves unusual destination IPs, it could suggest that an attacker is trying to bypass network monitoring.

Incident Report Summary:

-Normal Traffic: Most packets observed in the capture were part of typical network operations (e.g., HTTPS traffic on port 443).

-Suspicious Packet: A packet with source port 443 (HTTPS) and destination port 57660 raised suspicion due to the high-numbered ephemeral port, which might indicate obfuscation or malicious activity if the destination IP was unfamiliar.

-DNS Traffic: No anomalies were detected in DNS queries. All DNS traffic appeared to be legitimate, with no unusual domains or queries observed.

Potential Indicators of Malicious Activity:

- Unusual or high-frequency DNS queries.

- Unfamiliar or suspicious external IP addresses.

- Uncommon port usage (especially for DNS).

- Large TXT records, which could indicate DNS tunneling.

Recommendations:

1. Monitor Network Traffic: Continue to monitor DNS and HTTPS traffic for any unusual patterns or spikes.

2. Investigate Suspicious Outbound Connections: Further investigate any outgoing traffic to unfamiliar external IPs, especially involving high ephemeral ports.

3. Network Security Policies: Consider implementing stricter DNS filtering or blocking of non-standard DNS traffic to prevent exfiltration attempts or C&C communication.

sudo update-alternatives --config java

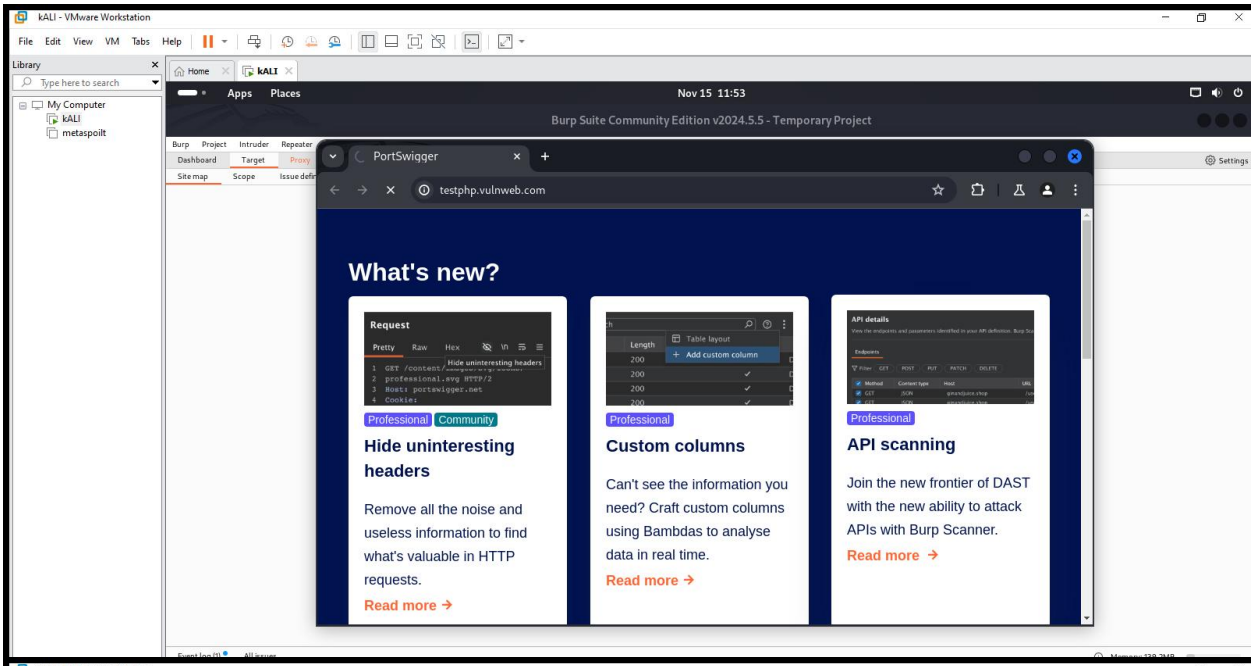
curl https://raw.githubusercontent.com/xiv3r/Burpsuite-Professional/main/install.sh |sudo bash

INT302: Kali Linux Tools and System Security – Lab 8: Web Application Security Testing with Burp Suite and OWASP ZAP

Exercise 1:

• Document the HTTP request and response headers for the home page of the target application.

What information do you find in these headers?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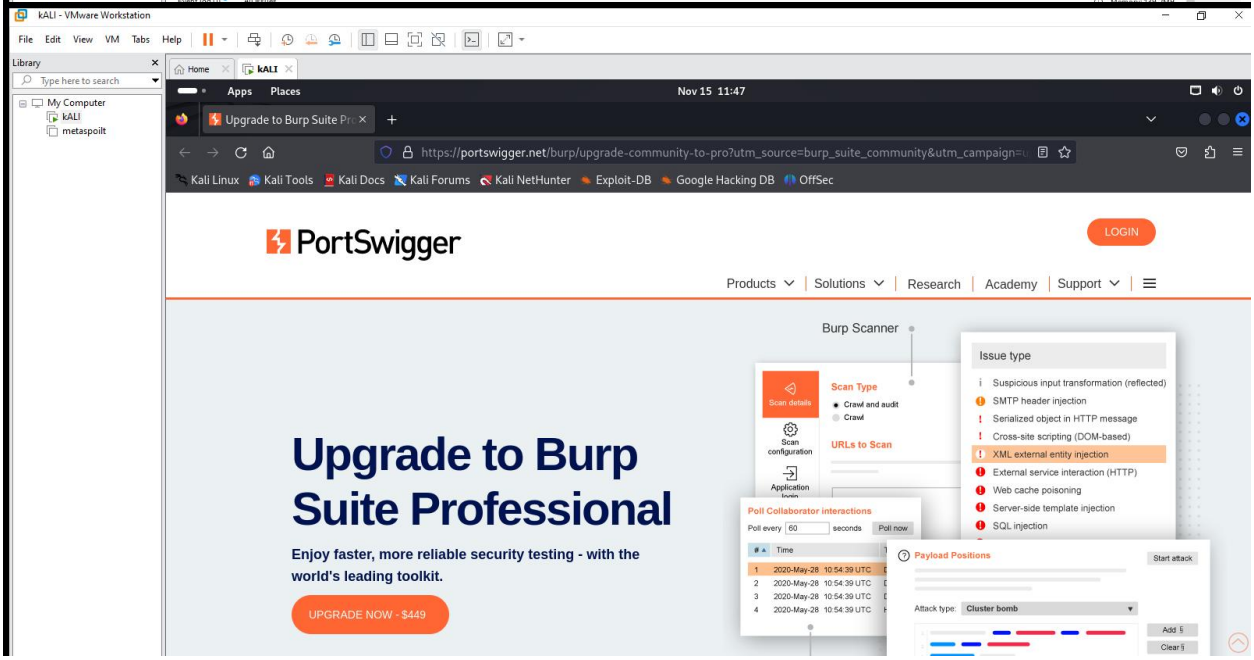
Burp Suite Community Edition v2024.5.5 - Temporary Project
Burp Project Intruder Repeater
Dashboard Target Proxy
Site map Scope
Settings
PortSwigger
testphp.vulnweb.com
What's new?
Request
Pretty Raw Hex
Hide uninteresting headers
Professional Community
Hide uninteresting headers
Remove all the noise and useless information to find what's valuable in HTTP requests.
Read more →
Table layout
Add custom column
Professional
Custom columns
Can't see the information you need? Craft custom columns using Bambdas to analyse data in real time.
Read more →
API details
Professional
API scanning
Join the new frontier of DAST with the new ability to attack APIs with Burp Scanner.
Read more →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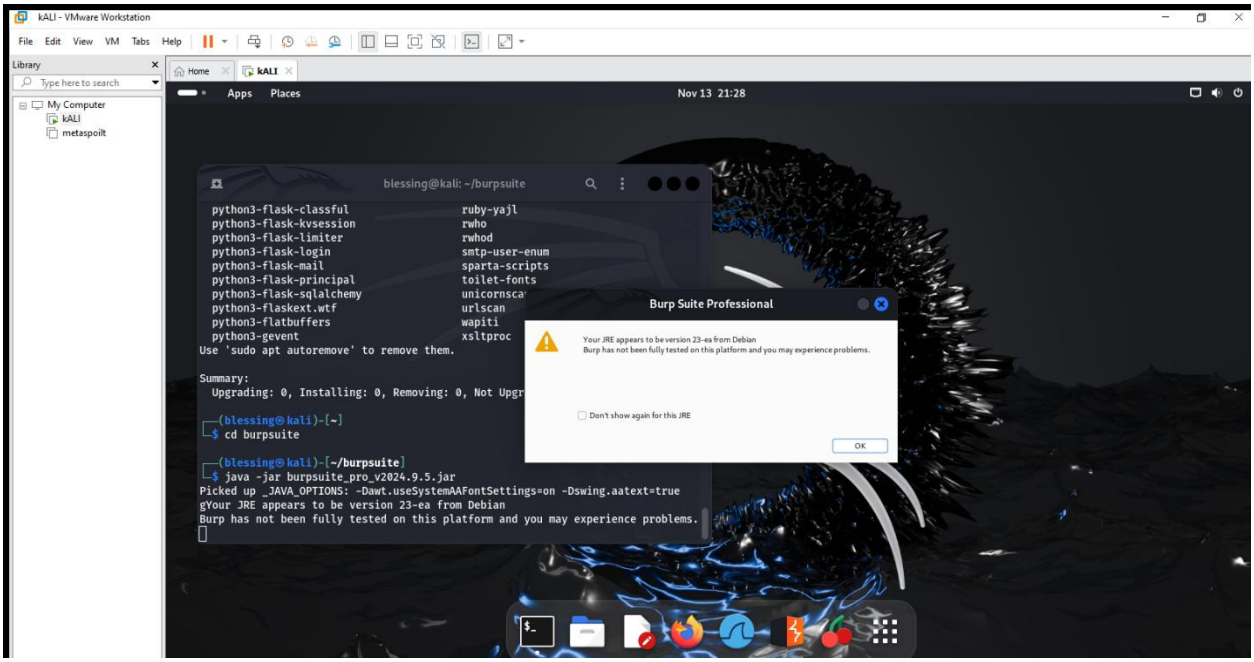
Upgrade to Burp Suite Pro
https://portswigger.net/burp/upgrade-community-to-pro?utm_source=burp_suite_community&utm_campaign=
Kali Linux Kali Tools Kali Docs Kali Forums Kali NetHunter Exploit-DB Google Hacking DB OffSec
PortSwigger
LOGIN
Products Solutions Research Academy Support
Upgrade to Burp Suite Professional
Enjoy faster, more reliable security testing - with the world's leading toolkit.
UPGRADE NOW - $449
Burp Scanner
Scan details
Scan configuration
Application login
Scan Type
Crawl and audit
Crawl
URLs to Scan
Issue type
Suspicious input transformation (reflected)
SMTP header injection
Serialized object in HTTP message
Cross-site scripting (DOM-based)
XML external entity injection
External service interaction (HTTP)
Web cache poisoning
Server-side template injection
SQL injection
Poll Collaborator interactions
Poll every 60 seconds
Poll now
Payload Positions
Start attack
Attack type: Cluster bomb
Add §
Clear §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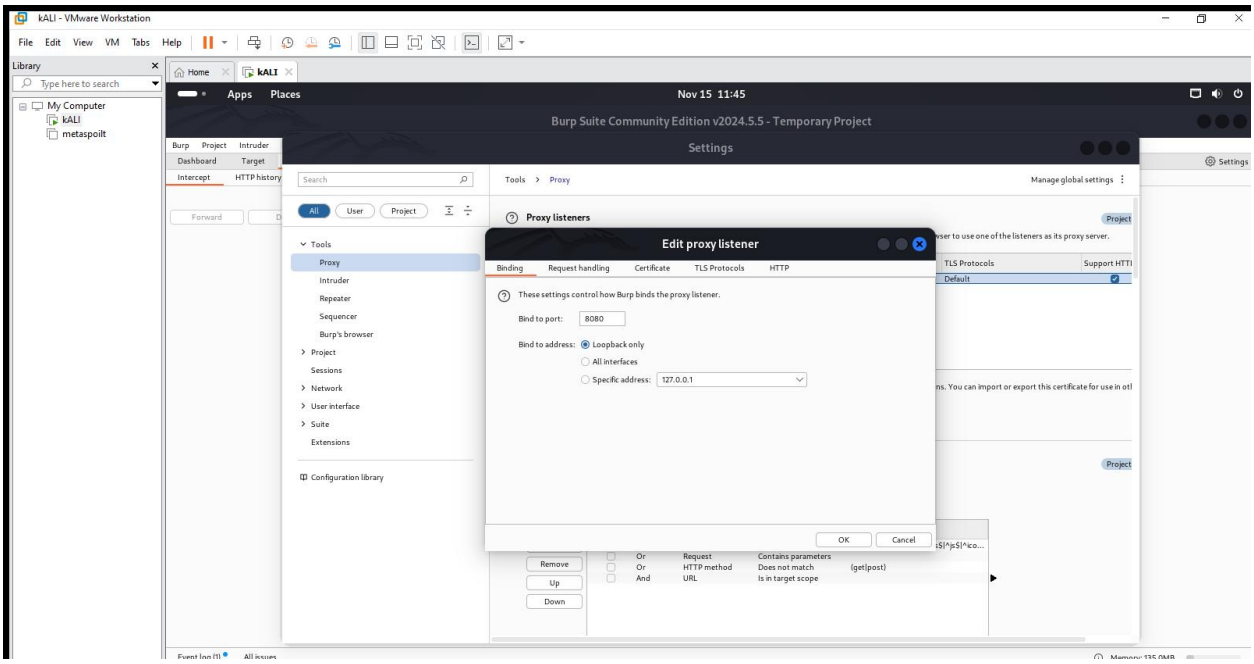
python3-flask-classful
python3-flask-kvsession
python3-flask-limiter
python3-flask-login
python3-flask-mail
python3-flask-principal
python3-flask-sqlalchemy
python3-flaskext.wtf
python3-flatbuffers
python3-gevent
ruby-yajl
rwho
rwhod
smtp-user-enum
sparta-scripts
toilet-fonts
unicornscan
urlscan
wapiti
xsltproc
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
Summary:
Upgrading: 0, Installing: 0, Removing: 0, Not Upgr
(blessing㉿kali)-[~]
$ cd burpsuite
(blessing㉿kali)-[~/burpsuite]
$ java -jar burpsuite_pro_v2024.9.5.jar
Picked up _JAVA_OPTIONS: -Dawt.useSystemAAFontSettings=on -Dswing.aatext=true
gYour JRE appears to be version 23-ea from Debian
Burp has not been fully tested on this platform and you may experience problems.
Burp Suite Professional
Your JRE appears to be version 23-ea from Debian
Burp has not been fully tested on this platform and you may experience problems.
Don't show again for this JRE
OK


kALI - VMware Workstation
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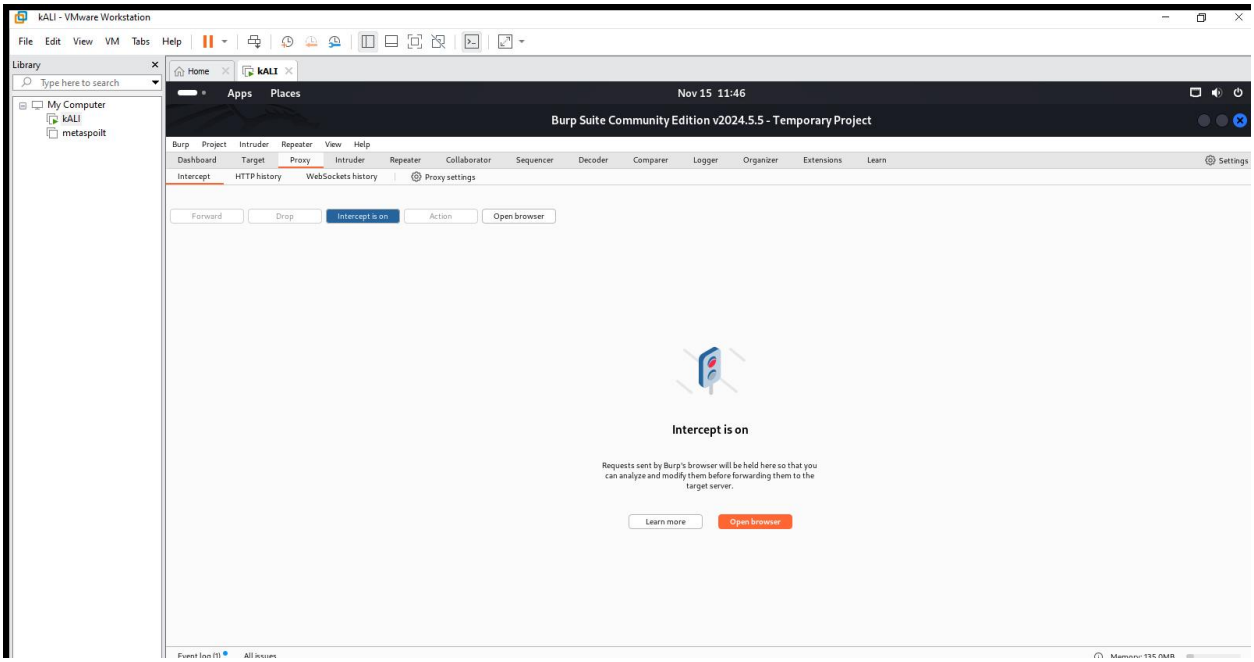
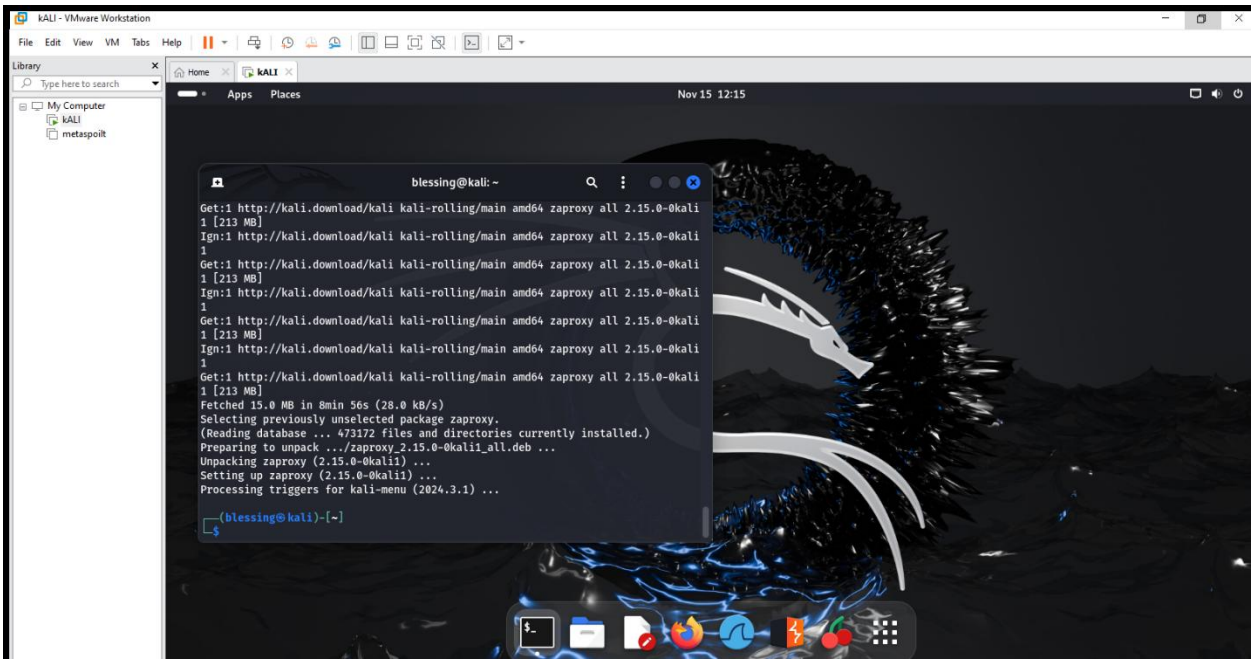
Nov 15 11:45
Burp Suite Community Edition v2024.5.5 - Temporary Project
Settings
Burp Project Intruder
Dashboard Target
Intercept HTTP history
Search
Tools > Proxy
Manage global settings
All User Project
Proxy listeners
Tools
Proxy
Intruder
Repeater
Sequencer
Burp's browser
Project
Sessions
Network
User interface
Suite
Extensions
Configuration library
Edit proxy listener
Binding Request handling Certificate TLS Protocols HTTP
These settings control how Burp binds the proxy listener.
Bind to port: 8080
Bind to address: Loopback only
All interfaces
Specific address: 127.0.0.1
TLS Protocols
Support HTTI
Default
OK
Cancel
Remove
Up
Down
Or Request Contains parameters
Or HTTP method Does not match (get|post)
And URL Is in target scope



1.Launch OWASP ZAP:

• Start OWASP ZAP from your Kali Linux environment



INT302: Kali Linux Tools and System Security – Lab 9: Information Gathering with Recon-ng and Shodan

Exercise 1:

• List the modules that can be used for domain reconnaissance. What are some key modules you might consider?

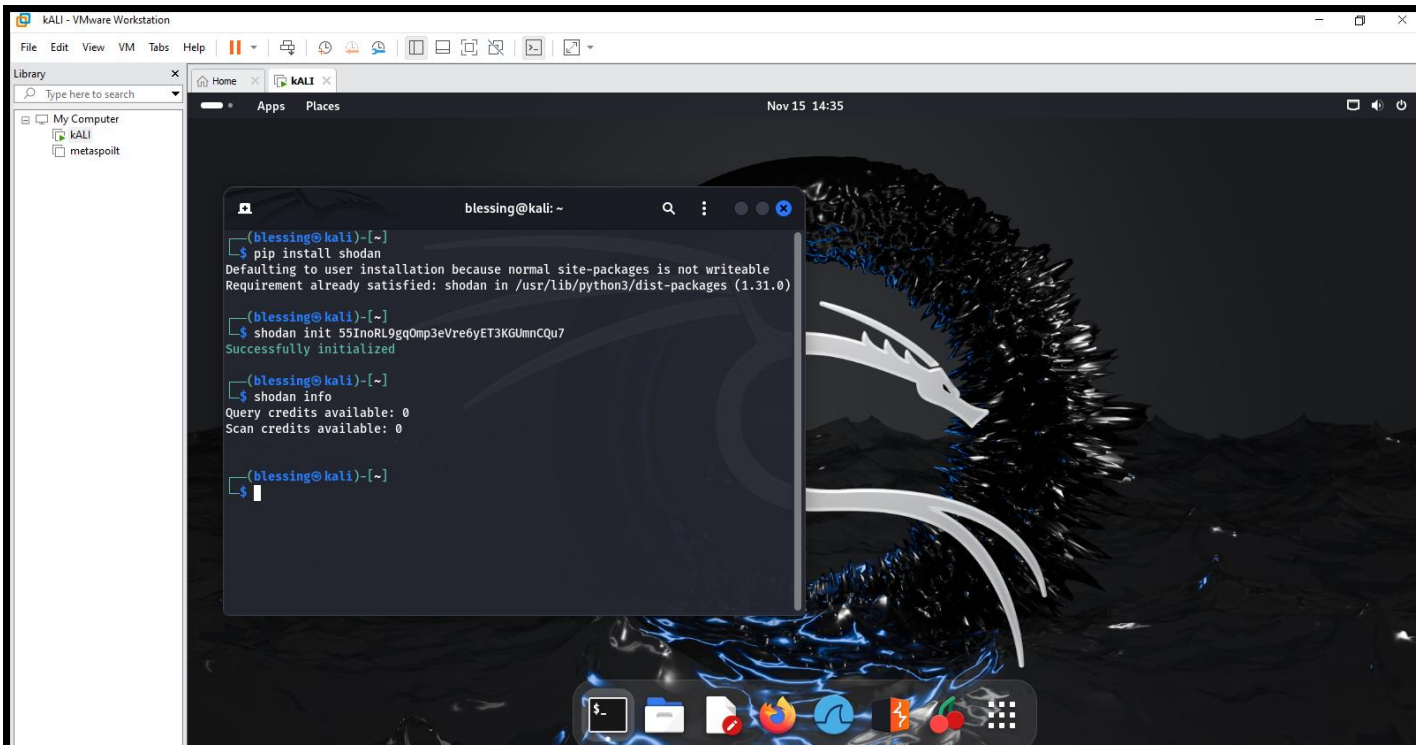
The modules are sub-domain discovery, DNS information, WHOIS data, and vulnerability scanning.

For **domain reconnaissance**, the most critical modules are those related to subdomain discovery, DNS resolution, WHOIS data, and vulnerability scanning. Some of the key modules include bing_domain_web, google_site_web, resolve_dns, and whois_record. These modules will help you gather a comprehensive set of data about your target domain, including subdomains, IP addresses, DNS records, and registration information, which are essential for a thorough reconnaissance phase.

Exercise 4:

• Verify that your API key is working by running:

• Shodan info



Exercise 5:

• What devices were discovered related to the target domain? Provide a brief description of the findings.

Exercise 6:

• Perform an advanced search using two different filters. Document the results and discuss what types of devices you found.