

Title: Secure Website Deployment, Firewall Configuration & Server Monitoring

Module: Internetworking Security

Group Name:

- ❖ Ronuck Neyhaul
- ❖ Urvashi Chakoury
- ❖ Marie delphia Sonia jameerbocus
- ❖ Anne Gaelle Jolicoeur
- ❖ Megha Rambojun

Cohort DCY8B & DCY8A

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Part 1: Website and Web Server Setup

For this project, the WordPress Content Management System (CMS) was selected due to its simplicity, flexibility, and wide community support. WordPress is ideal for creating a quick, secure, and extensible website with minimal configuration.

i. Web Server Installation and Configuration

A Linux-based server (Ubuntu 22.04 LTS) was used. The Apache web server was chosen due to its compatibility with WordPress and widespread usage.

Commands Executed:

```
sudo apt update
```

```
sudo apt install apache2 mysql-server php php-mysql libapache2-mod-php php-cli php-curl php-xml  
php-mbstring unzip wget -y
```

```
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo apt update
sudo apt upgrade -y
sudo apt install apache2 mysql-server php libapache2-mod-php php-mysql phpmyadmin -y
[sudo] password for ronuck:
Hit:4 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu oracular-security InRelease
Hit:1 https://mu.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu oracular InRelease
Hit:2 https://mu.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu oracular-updates InRelease
Hit:3 https://mu.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu oracular-backports InRelease
292 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
  linux-headers-6.11.0-8          linux-tools-6.11.0-8
  linux-headers-6.11.0-8-generic  linux-tools-6.11.0-8-generic
  linux-modules-6.11.0-8-generic  python3-netifaces
  linux-modules-extra-6.11.0-8-generic
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.

Upgrading:
  alsa-ucm-conf          libgtk-3-0t64
  amd64-microcode        libgtk-3-bin
  apport                 libgtk-3-common
  apport-core-dump-handler  libgtk-4-1
  apport-gtk             libgtk-4-bin
  apt                   libgtk-4-common
  apt-utils             libgtk-4-media-gstreamer
  bash                  libharfbuzz-gobject0
```

Apache Configuration:

```
cd /var/www/
```

```
sudo wget https://wordpress.org/latest.tar.gz
```

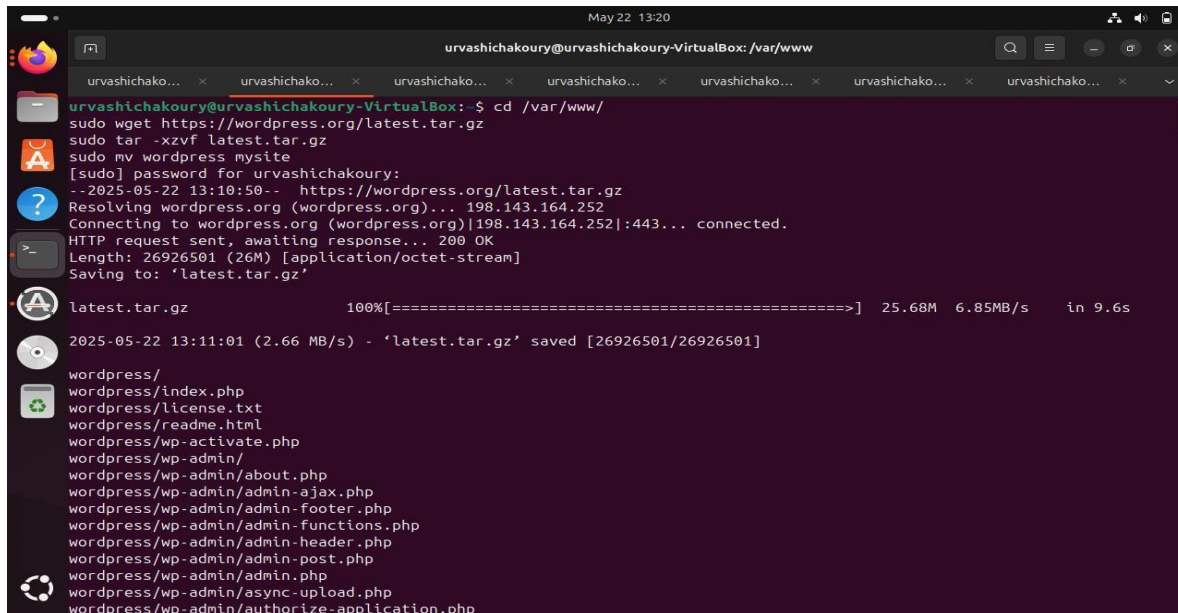
```
sudo tar -xzvf latest.tar.gz
```

```
sudo mv wordpress mysite
```

Set permissions:

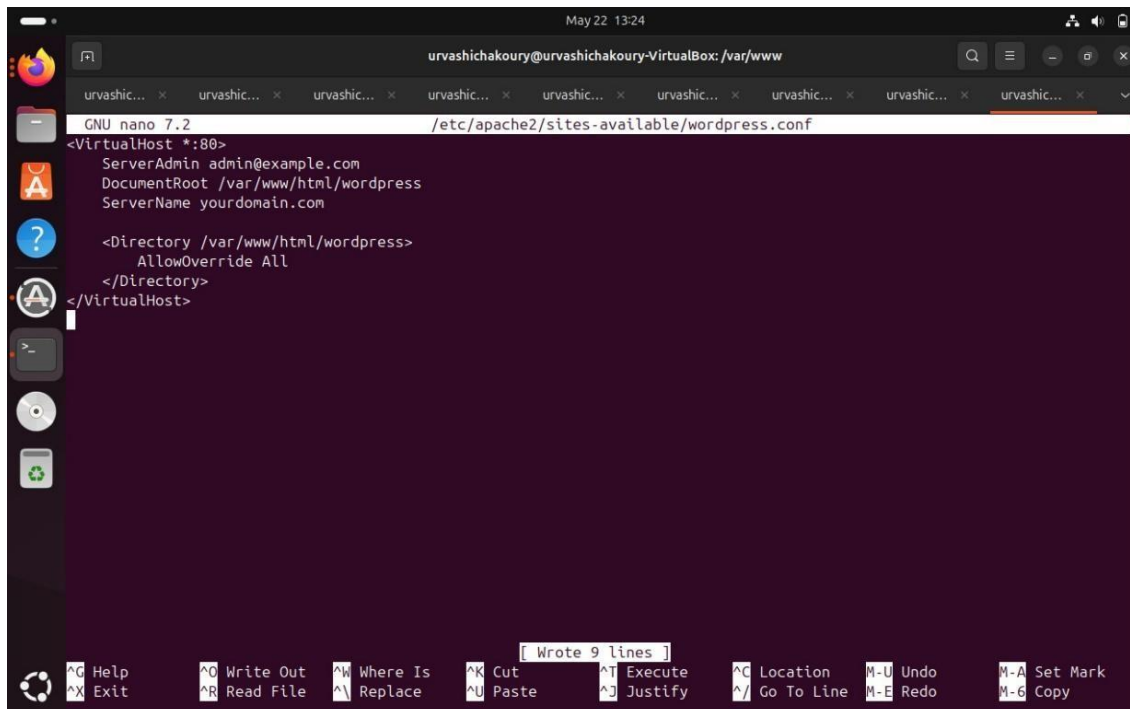
sudo chown -R www-data:www-data /var/www/mysite

sudo chmod -R 755 /var/www/mysite



```
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: /var/www
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ cd /var/www/
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ sudo wget https://wordpress.org/latest.tar.gz
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ sudo tar -xzf latest.tar.gz
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ sudo mv wordpress mysite
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ [sudo] password for urvashichakoury:
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ --2025-05-22 13:10:50-- https://wordpress.org/latest.tar.gz
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ Resolving wordpress.org (wordpress.org)... 198.143.164.252
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ Connecting to wordpress.org (wordpress.org)[198.143.164.252]:443... connected.
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ Length: 26926501 (26M) [application/octet-stream]
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ Saving to: 'latest.tar.gz'
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ latest.tar.gz      100%[=====] 25.68M  6.85MB/s  in 9.6s
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ 2025-05-22 13:11:01 (2.66 MB/s) - 'latest.tar.gz' saved [26926501/26926501]
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/index.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/license.txt
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/readme.html
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-activate.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/about.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/admin-ajax.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/admin-footer.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/admin-functions.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/admin-header.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/admin-post.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/admin.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/async-upload.php
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ wordpress/wp-admin/authorize-application.php
```

Configure Apache for the Site:



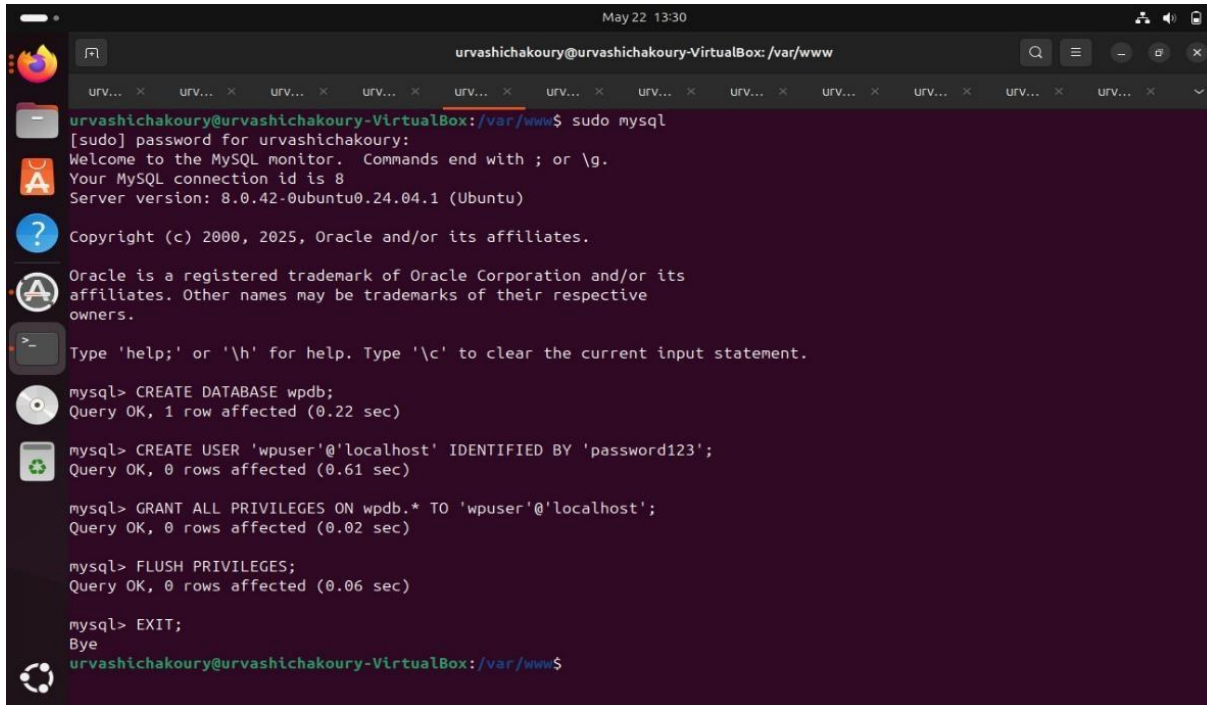
```
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: /var/www
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~$ nano /etc/apache2/sites-available/wordpress.conf
GNU nano 7.2 /etc/apache2/sites-available/wordpress.conf
<VirtualHost *:80>
    ServerAdmin admin@example.com
    DocumentRoot /var/www/html/wordpress
    ServerName yourdomain.com

    <Directory /var/www/html/wordpress>
        AllowOverride All
    </Directory>
</VirtualHost>
```

ii. WordPress Installation

Database Setup:

sudo mysql



A terminal window titled 'May 22 13:30' and 'urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: /var/www'. The prompt is 'urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:/var/www\$'. The user enters 'sudo mysql'. The terminal shows the MySQL monitor welcome message, connection ID 8, server version 8.0.42-0ubuntu0.24.04.1 (Ubuntu), and copyright information. The user enters several SQL commands: 'CREATE DATABASE wpdb;', 'CREATE USER 'wpuser'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password123';', 'GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON wpdb.* TO 'wpuser'@'localhost';', and 'FLUSH PRIVILEGES;'. Each command is followed by a confirmation message. Finally, the user enters 'EXIT;' and 'Bye', returning to the shell prompt.

```
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:/var/www$ sudo mysql
[sudo] password for urvashichakoury:
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 8
Server version: 8.0.42-0ubuntu0.24.04.1 (Ubuntu)

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affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

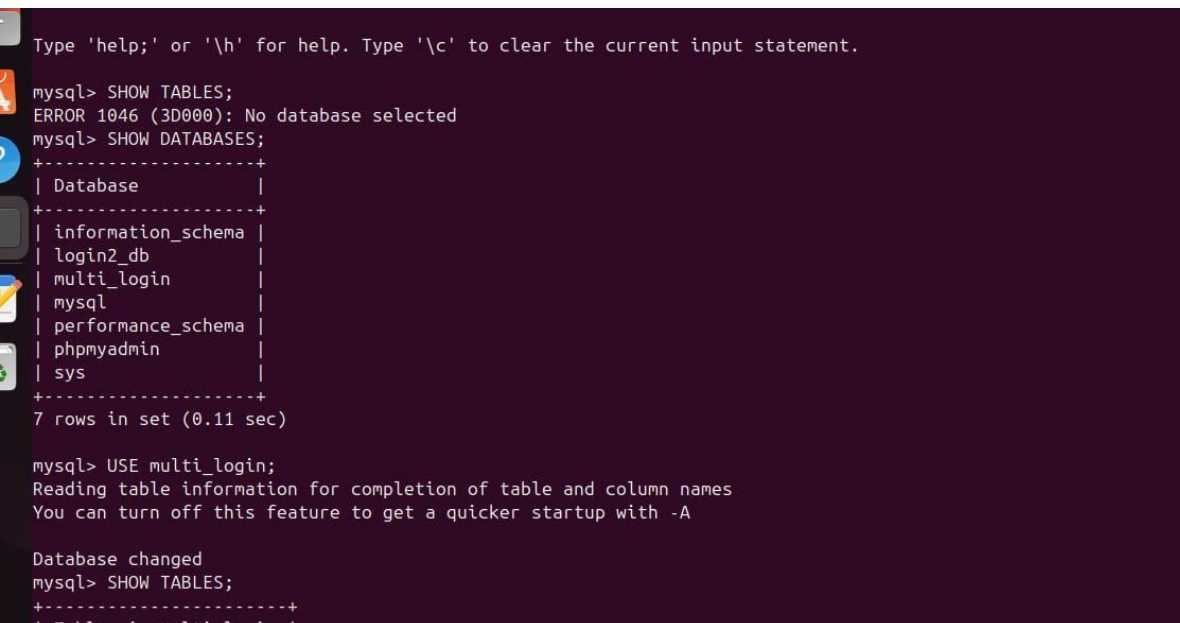
mysql> CREATE DATABASE wpdb;
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.22 sec)

mysql> CREATE USER 'wpuser'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password123';
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.61 sec)

mysql> GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON wpdb.* TO 'wpuser'@'localhost';
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.02 sec)

mysql> FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.06 sec)

mysql> EXIT;
Bye
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:/var/www$
```



A terminal window showing MySQL commands and output. The prompt is 'mysql>'. The user enters 'SHOW TABLES;', which results in 'ERROR 1046 (3D000): No database selected'. The user then enters 'SHOW DATABASES;', which displays a list of databases: information_schema, login2_db, multi_login, mysql, performance_schema, phpmyadmin, and sys. The user then enters 'USE multi_login;', which changes the database. Finally, the user enters 'SHOW TABLES;', which displays the tables in the multi_login database.

```
mysql> SHOW TABLES;
ERROR 1046 (3D000): No database selected
mysql> SHOW DATABASES;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| login2_db |
| multi_login |
| mysql |
| performance_schema |
| phpmyadmin |
| sys |
+-----+
7 rows in set (0.11 sec)

mysql> USE multi_login;
Reading table information for completion of table and column names
You can turn off this feature to get a quicker startup with -A

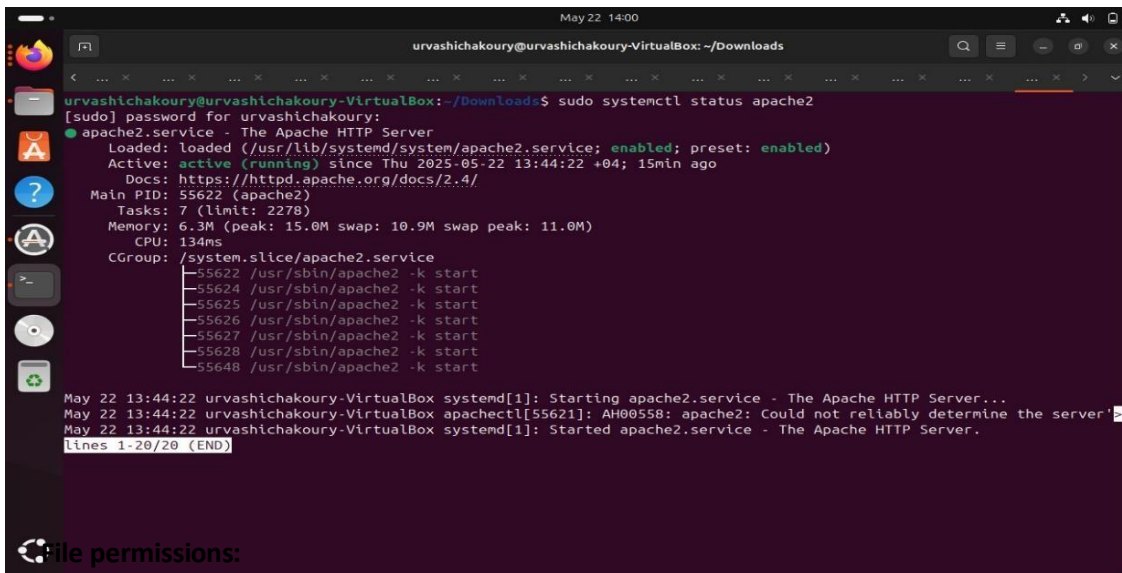
Database changed
mysql> SHOW TABLES;
+-----+
| Tables in multi_login |
+-----+
```

Website Accessibility

The site was successfully hosted and is accessible via HTTP (port 80). HTTPS setup will be handled as part of the optional bonus section if implemented.

Apache status:

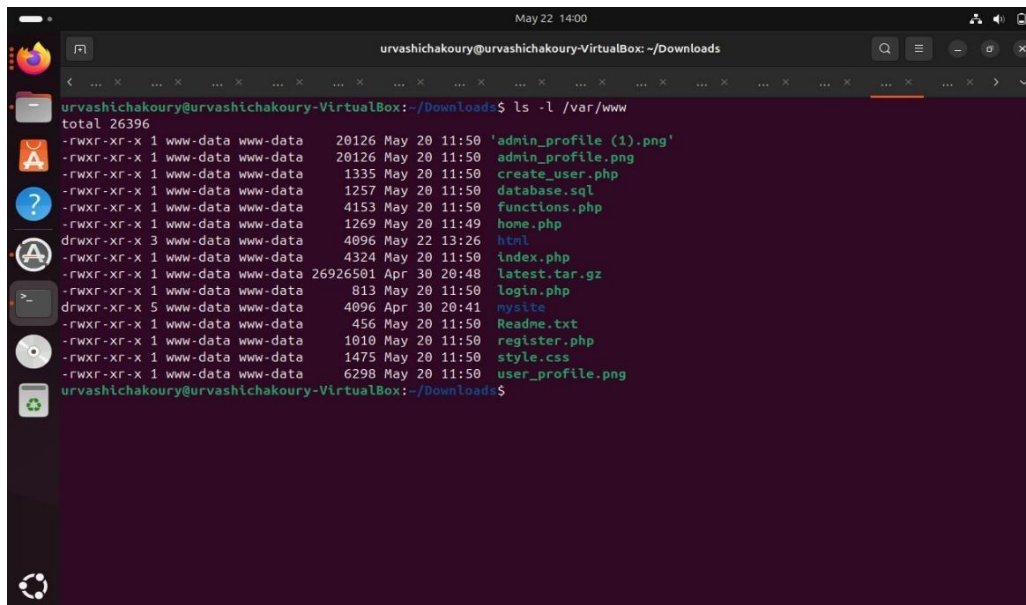
sudo systemctl status apache2



```
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ sudo systemctl status apache2
[sudo] password for urvashichakoury:
● apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/apache2.service; enabled; preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Thu 2025-05-22 13:44:22 +04; 15min ago
     Docs: https://httpd.apache.org/docs/2.4/
   Main PID: 55622 (apache2)
    Tasks: 7 (limit: 2278)
  Memory: 6.3M (peak: 15.0M swap: 10.9M swap peak: 11.0M)
     CPU: 134ms
    CGroup: /system.slice/apache2.service
            └─55622 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
              55624 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
              55625 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
              55626 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
              55627 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
              55628 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
              55648 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start

May 22 13:44:22 urvashichakoury-VirtualBox systemd[1]: Starting apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server...
May 22 13:44:22 urvashichakoury-VirtualBox apachectl[55621]: AH00558: apache2: Could not reliably determine the server's
May 22 13:44:22 urvashichakoury-VirtualBox systemd[1]: Started apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server.
lines 1-20/20 (END)
```

ls -l /var/www/mysite



```
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ ls -l /var/www
total 26396
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 20126 May 20 11:50 'admin_profile (1).png'
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 20126 May 20 11:50 admin_profile.png
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 1335 May 20 11:50 create_user.php
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 1257 May 20 11:50 database.sql
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 4153 May 20 11:50 functions.php
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 1269 May 20 11:49 home.php
drwxr-xr-x 3 www-data www-data 4096 May 22 13:26 html
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 4324 May 20 11:50 index.php
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 26926501 Apr 30 20:48 latest.tar.gz
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 813 May 20 11:50 login.php
drwxr-xr-x 5 www-data www-data 4096 Apr 30 20:41 nysite
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 456 May 20 11:50 Readme.txt
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 1010 May 20 11:50 register.php
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 1475 May 20 11:50 style.css
-rwxr-xr-x 1 www-data www-data 6298 May 20 11:50 user_profile.png
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads$
```

The Website Page:

- **index.html or index.php:** Main HTML or PHP file for the homepage

- **style.css:** Custom CSS file for layout and design
- **database.sql**
- Additional PHP files (e.g., config.php, login.php)
- **images**
- **CSS**

```

k?php
    session_start();

    // connect to database
    $db = mysql_connect('localhost', 'root', '', 'multi_login');

    // variable declaration
    $username = "";
    $email = "";
    $errors = array();

    // call the register() function if register_btn is clicked
    if (isset($_POST['register_btn'])) {
        register();
    }

    // call the login() function if login_btn is clicked
    if (isset($_POST['login_btn'])) {
        login();
    }

    if (isset($_GET['logout'])) {
        session_destroy();
        unset($_SESSION['user']);
        header("location: ../login.php");
    }

```

```

k?php
    include('functions.php');

    if (!isLoggedIn()) {
        $_SESSION['msg'] = "You must log in first";
        header('location: login.php');
    }
?>
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
    <title>Cybersecurity Portfolio</title>
    <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="style.css">
    <style>
        .portfolio-section {
            margin: 20px 0;
            padding: 20px;
            background: #f9f9f9;
            border-radius: 5px;
        }
        .skills-list {
            display: flex;
            flex-wrap: wrap;

```

```

k?php include('../functions.php') ?>
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
    <title>Registration system PHP and MySQL - Create user</title>
    <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="style.css">
    <style>
        .header {
            background: #003366;
        }
        button[name=register_btn] {
            background: #003366;
        }
    </style>
</head>
<body>
    <div class="header">
        <h2>Admin - create user</h2>
    </div>

    <form method="post" action="create_user.php">

        <?php echo display_error(); ?>

        <div class="input-group">

```



```

CREATE DATABASE multi_login;

USE multi_login;

CREATE TABLE users (
  id INT(11) AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
  username VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
  user_type VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,
  password VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL
);

-- Insert admin user
INSERT INTO users (username, email, user_type, password)
VALUES ('admin', 'admin@example.com', 'admin', MD5('admin123'));

-- Insert first regular user
INSERT INTO users (username, email, user_type, password)
VALUES ('john_doe', 'john@example.com', 'user', MD5('user123'));

-- Insert second regular user
INSERT INTO users (username, email, user_type, password)
VALUES ('jane_smith', 'jane@example.com', 'user', MD5('secure456'));

```

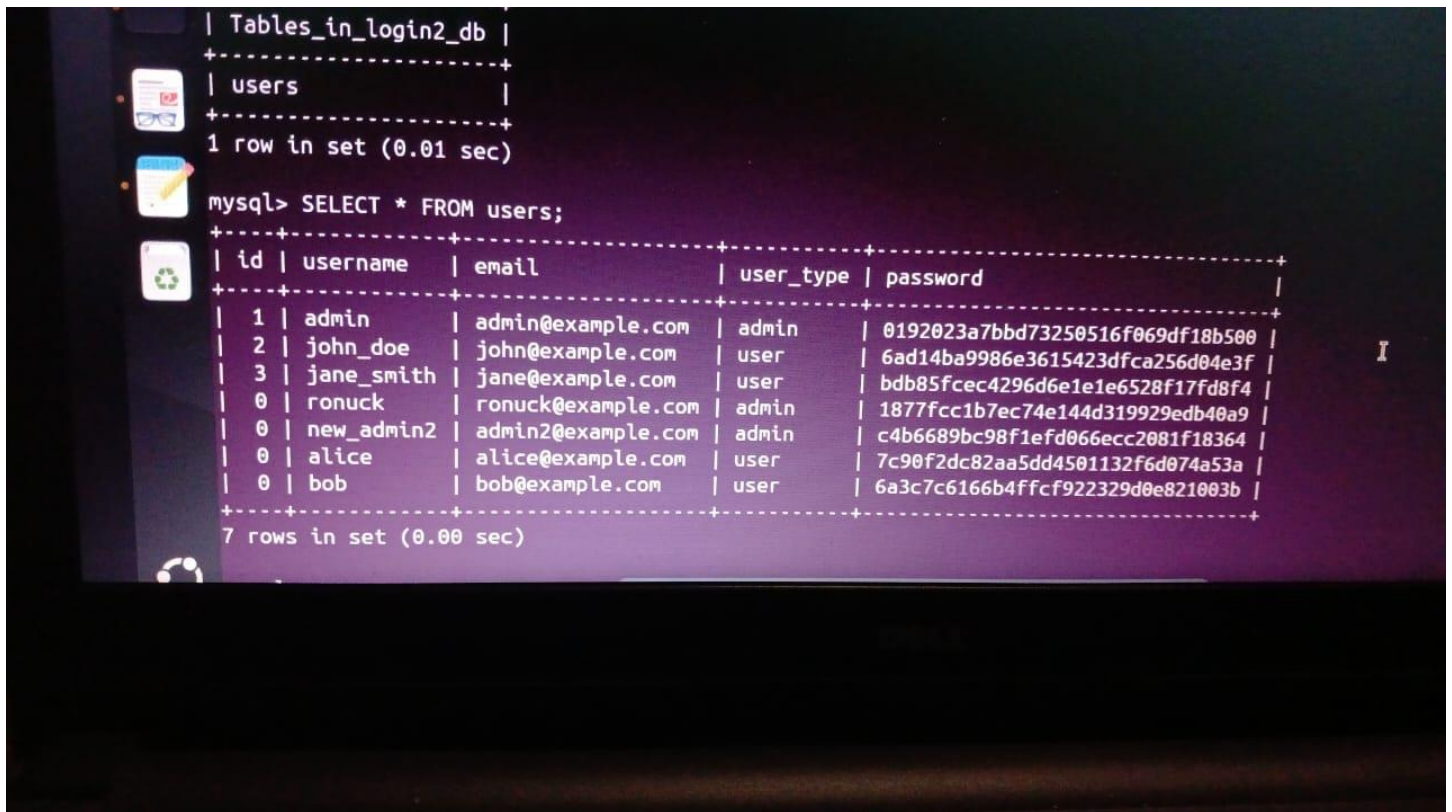
The Login Page: **192.168.148.60/login.php**

Sign up'."/>

The index.php:

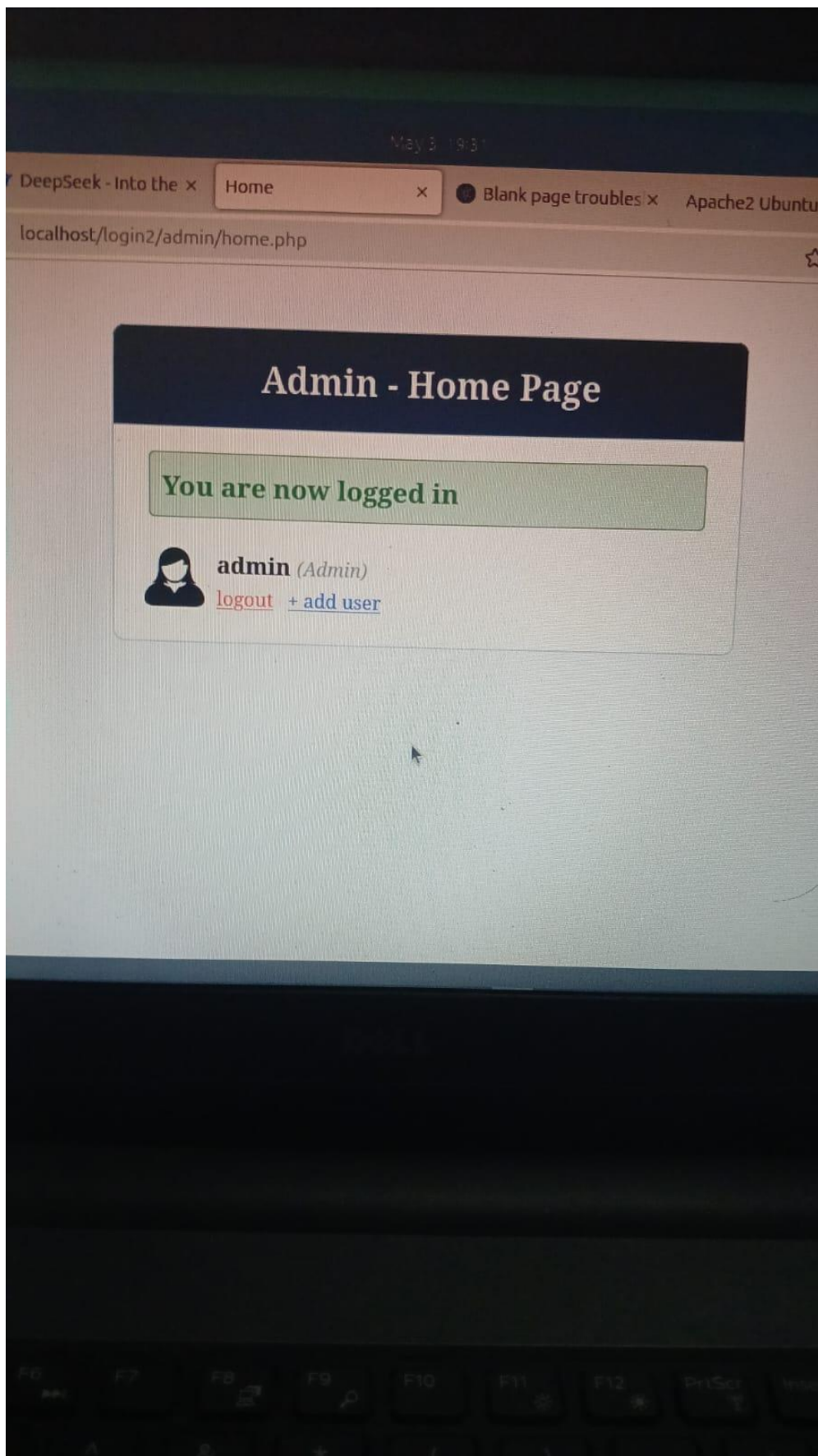
192.168.148.60/index.php

A website is hosted on a web server (Apache/Nginx) to provide online access to content or services. PHP is a server-side scripting language commonly used with HTML and CSS for dynamic websites. MySQL is used for storing structured data. Here is the page where is the access of access control using RBAC with admin and user page



The screenshot shows a MySQL terminal window with a dark background. On the left side, there is a vertical sidebar with several icons: a document with a red checkmark, a pair of glasses, a notepad with a pencil, and a circular arrow. The terminal text is as follows:

```
| Tables_in_login2_db |  
+-----+  
| users |  
+-----+  
1 row in set (0.01 sec)  
  
mysql> SELECT * FROM users;  
+-----+  
| id | username | email | user_type | password |  
+-----+  
| 1 | admin | admin@example.com | admin | 0192023a7bbd73250516f069df18b500 |  
| 2 | john_doe | john@example.com | user | 6ad14ba9986e3615423dfca256d04e3f |  
| 3 | jane_smith | jane@example.com | user | bdb85fcec4296d6e1e1e6528f17fd8f4 |  
| 0 | ronuck | ronuck@example.com | admin | 1877fcc1b7ec74e144d319929edb40a9 |  
| 0 | new_admin2 | admin2@example.com | admin | c4b6689bc98f1efd066ecc2081f18364 |  
| 0 | alice | alice@example.com | user | 7c90f2dc82aa5dd4501132f6d074a53a |  
| 0 | bob | bob@example.com | user | 6a3c7c6166b4ffcf922329d0e821003b |  
+-----+  
7 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

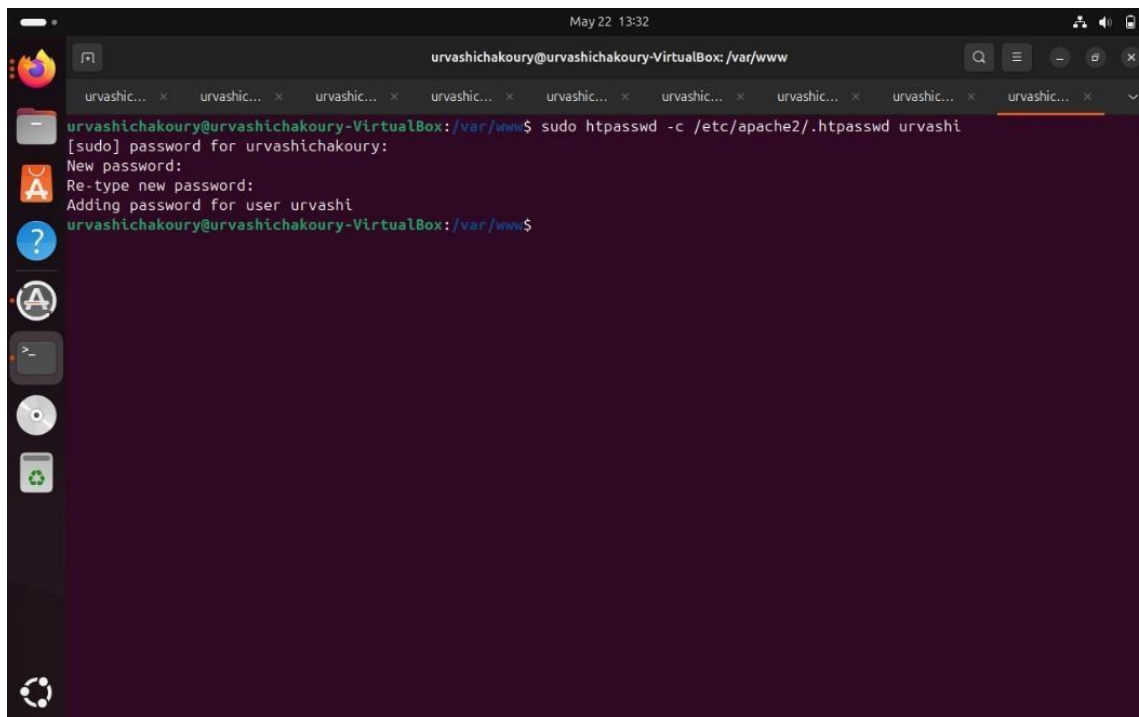


Practice:

- Apache2 was installed to serve HTML and PHP files
- A website was deployed in **`/var/www/html/`**
- WordPress or a custom PHP+SQL site was used
- The site was tested locally (localhost).

Part 2: Implement Access Control Feature

Choose: Basic Authentication with **`.htaccess`** and **`.htpasswd`**.



```
May 22 13:32
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: /var/www
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: /var/www$ sudo htpasswd -c /etc/apache2/.htpasswd urvashi
[sudo] password for urvashichakoury:
New password:
Re-type new password:
Adding password for user urvashi
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: /var/www$
```

Part 3: Firewall Configuration Using iptables

The objective of this section is to secure the web server using a firewall configured with iptables. Only essential ports: HTTP (80), HTTPS (443), and SSH (22) were allowed. All other incoming traffic was blocked. SSH access can optionally be restricted to a specific IP address. The rules were made persistent to ensure they survive system reboots.

sudo iptables -F

sudo iptables -P INPUT DROP

sudo iptables -P FORWARD DROP

sudo iptables -P OUTPUT ACCEPT

```
Summary:
Upgrading: 0, Installing: 0, Removing: 0, Not Upgrading: 10
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -F
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -P INPUT DROP
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -P INPUT DROP
sudo iptables -P FORWARD DROP
sudo iptables -P OUTPUT ACCEPT
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -i lo -j ACCEPT
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -m conntrack --ctstate ESTABLISHED,RELATED -j ACCEPT
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 443 -j ACCEPT
Bad argument 'sudo'
Try 'iptables -h' or 'iptables --help' for more information.
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT # Allow HTTP
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 443 -j ACCEPT # Allow HTTPS
```

Allow Established: To ensure proper functioning of internal services and ongoing connections, the following rules were added:

sudo iptables -A INPUT -i lo -j ACCEPT

sudo iptables -A INPUT -m conntrack --ctstate ESTABLISHED,RELATED -j ACCEPT

```
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -D INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j ACCEPT # Remove general SSH access, if exists
iptables: Bad rule (does a matching rule exist in that chain?).
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.100.199 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.182.80 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
\\ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.182.80 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j DROP
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ # Allow loopback interface
sudo iptables -A INPUT -i lo -j ACCEPT

# Allow established/related connections
sudo iptables -A INPUT -m state --state ESTABLISHED,RELATED -j ACCEPT
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo apt install iptables-persistent
sudo netfilter-persistent save
The following package was automatically installed and is no longer required:
  python3-netifaces
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove it.

Installing:
  iptables-persistent
```



```
Created symlink '/etc/systemd/system/ssh.service' → '/usr/lib/systemd/system/ssh.service'.
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo systemctl status ssh
● ssh.service - OpenBSD Secure Shell server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/ssh.service; enabled; preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Tue 2025-05-20 13:25:05 +04; 1min 26s ago
 Invocation: 2a4cfe45e4744c53aeb14626440fee2d
   TriggeredBy: ● ssh.socket
     Docs: man:sshd(8)
           man:sshd_config(5)
   Process: 7322 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/sshd -t (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
  Main PID: 7324 (sshd)
    Tasks: 1 (limit: 2487)
   Memory: 2.2M (peak: 2.5M)
      CPU: 46ms
   CGroup: /system.slice/ssh.service
           └─7324 "sshd: /usr/sbin/sshd -D [listener] 0 of 10-100 startups"

May 20 13:25:05 ronuck-VirtualBox systemd[1]: Starting ssh.service - OpenBSD Secure Shell server...
May 20 13:25:05 ronuck-VirtualBox sshd[7324]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 22.
May 20 13:25:05 ronuck-VirtualBox sshd[7324]: Server listening on :: port 22.
May 20 13:25:05 ronuck-VirtualBox systemd[1]: Started ssh.service - OpenBSD Secure Shell server.
```

```
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -L -n -v
Chain INPUT (policy DROP 574 packets, 126K bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source               destination
 866 90594 ACCEPT     0    --  lo     *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0
2319 1339K ACCEPT     0    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            ctstate RELATED,ESTABLISHED
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:80
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:443
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *      192.168.100.199      0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:22
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *      192.168.182.80       0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:22
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *      192.168.182.80       0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:22
 0      0 DROP       6    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:22
 0      0 ACCEPT     0    --  lo     *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0
 0      0 ACCEPT     0    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            state RELATED,ESTABLISHED

Chain FORWARD (policy DROP 0 packets, 0 bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source               destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT 3482 packets, 556K bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source               destination
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo systemctl status iptables
● netfilter-persistent.service - netfilter persistent configuration
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/netfilter-persistent.service; enabled; preset: enabled)
```

Sudo iptables -L -n -v

```
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo iptables -L -n -v
Chain INPUT (policy DROP 574 packets, 126K bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source               destination
 866 90594 ACCEPT     0    --  lo     *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0
2319 1339K ACCEPT     0    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            ctstate RELATED,ESTABLISHED
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:80
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:443
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *      192.168.100.199      0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:22
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *      192.168.182.80       0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:22
 0      0 ACCEPT     6    --  *      *      192.168.182.80       0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:22
 0      0 DROP       6    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            tcp dpt:22
 0      0 ACCEPT     0    --  lo     *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0
 0      0 ACCEPT     0    --  *      *       0.0.0.0/0            0.0.0.0/0            state RELATED,ESTABLISHED

Chain FORWARD (policy DROP 0 packets, 0 bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source               destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT 3482 packets, 556K bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source               destination
ronuck@ronuck-VirtualBox:~$ sudo systemctl status iptables
● netfilter-persistent.service - netfilter persistent configuration
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/netfilter-persistent.service; enabled; preset: enabled)
```

The rules were saved using iptables-persistent to ensure they reload after reboot:

sudo apt install iptables-persistent -y

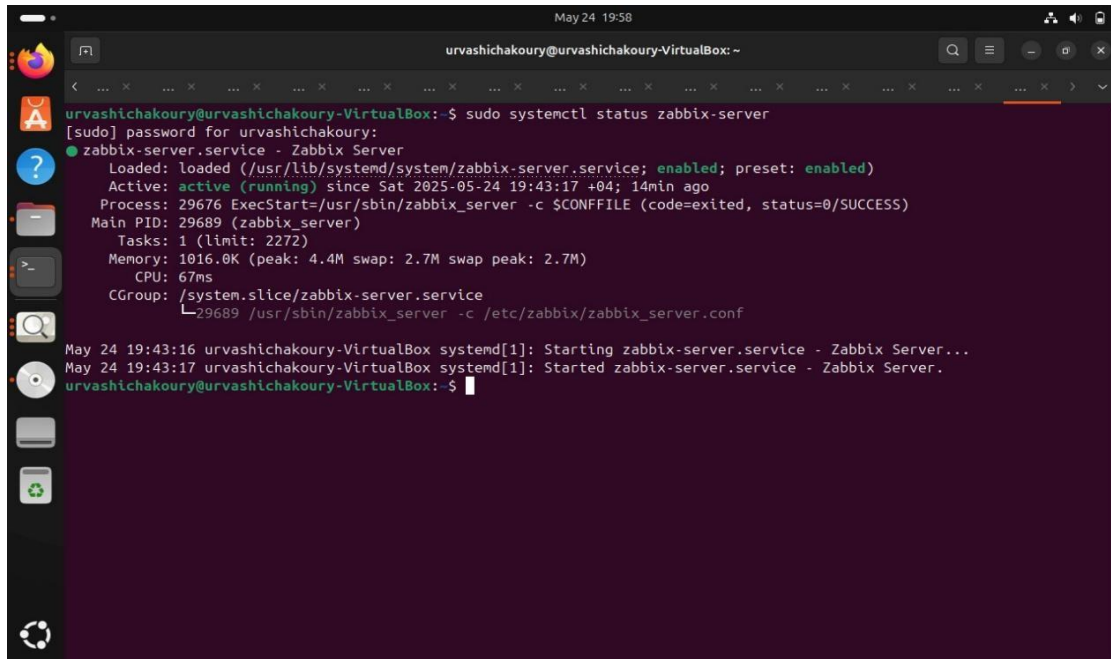
sudo netfilter-persistent save

```
● netfilter-persistent.service - netfilter persistent configuration
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/netfilter-persistent.service; enabled; preset: enabled)
   Drop-In: /usr/lib/systemd/system/netfilter-persistent.service.d
            └─iptables.conf
   Active: active (exited) since Tue 2025-05-20 13:53:58 +04; 11min ago
  Invocation: da5797e8e82f43ba8e35db854ae656db
     Docs: man:netfilter-persistent(8)
   Main PID: 8275 (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
    Mem peak: 1.5M
      CPU: 14ms

May 20 13:53:58 ronuck-VirtualBox systemd[1]: Starting netfilter-persistent.service - netfilter persistent
May 20 13:53:58 ronuck-VirtualBox netfilter-persistent[8277]: run-parts: executing /usr/share/netfilter-per
May 20 13:53:58 ronuck-VirtualBox netfilter-persistent[8277]: Warning: skipping IPv4 (no rules to load)
May 20 13:53:58 ronuck-VirtualBox netfilter-persistent[8277]: run-parts: executing /usr/share/netfilter-per
May 20 13:53:58 ronuck-VirtualBox netfilter-persistent[8279]: Warning: skipping IPv6 (no rules to load)
May 20 13:53:58 ronuck-VirtualBox netfilter-persistent[8279]: /usr/share/netfilter-persistent/plugins.d/25-
May 20 13:53:58 ronuck-VirtualBox netfilter-persistent[8279]: Error: IPv6 rules failed test load. New rules
May 20 13:53:58 ronuck-VirtualBox systemd[1]: Finished netfilter-persistent.service - netfilter persistent
```

Part 4: Server Monitoring with Zabbix

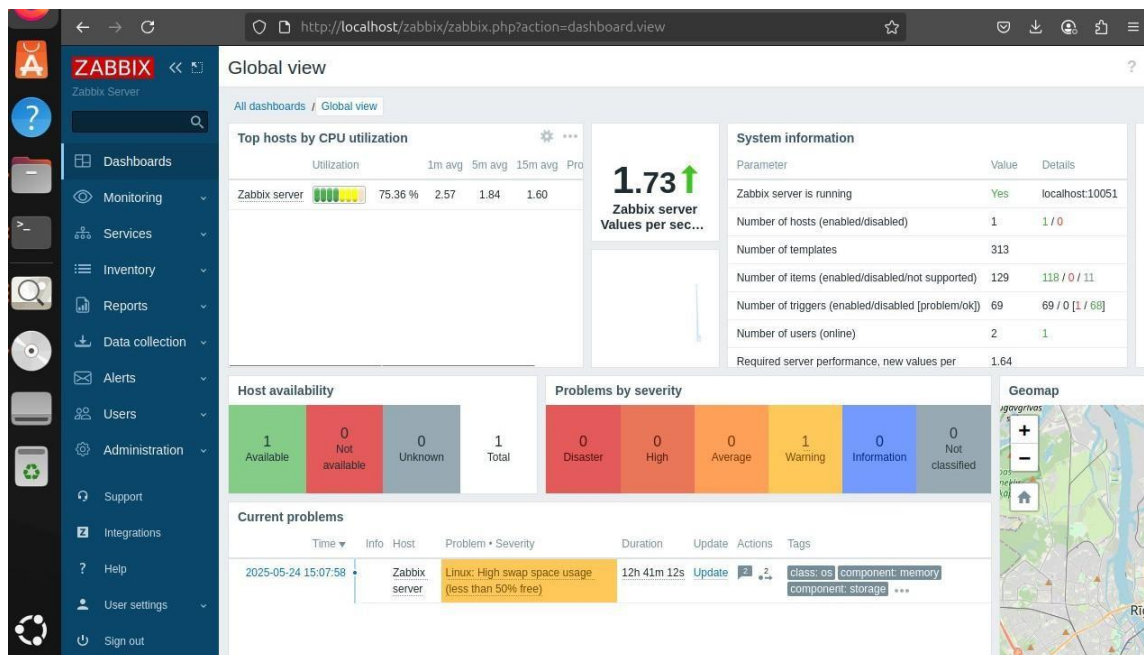
sudo systemctl status zabbix-server : This command checks the current status of the Zabbix Server service on your system.



```
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: ~  
$ sudo systemctl status zabbix-server  
[sudo] password for urvashichakoury:  
● zabbix-server.service - Zabbix Server  
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/zabbix-server.service; enabled; preset: enabled)  
   Active: active (running) since Sat 2025-05-24 19:43:17 +04; 14min ago  
     Process: 29676 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/zabbix_server -c $CONFFILE (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)  
    Main PID: 29689 (zabbix_server)  
       Tasks: 1 (limit: 2272)  
      Memory: 1016.0K (peak: 4.4M swap: 2.7M swap peak: 2.7M)  
         CPU: 67ms  
      CGroup: /system.slice/zabbix-server.service  
              └─29689 /usr/sbin/zabbix_server -c /etc/zabbix/zabbix_server.conf  
  
May 24 19:43:16 urvashichakoury-VirtualBox systemd[1]: Starting zabbix-server.service - Zabbix Server...  
May 24 19:43:17 urvashichakoury-VirtualBox systemd[1]: Started zabbix-server.service - Zabbix Server.  
urvashichakoury@urvashichakoury-VirtualBox: ~$
```

Access the Zabbix Web Interface

http://localhost/zabbix



Zabbix Server installed and configured successfully.

Web interface accessible at <http://localhost/zabbix>.

Zabbix Monitoring System Status

Current System Status

The Zabbix monitoring system has detected several critical issues affecting the Apache web service on host "ronuck-VirtualBox." The primary alert shows an Average severity PROBLEM indicating the Apache service is currently down. This main issue has triggered multiple dependent warnings including:

- ➔ Failed to fetch status page
- ➔ High service response time (0ms, indicating service unavailability).

Concurrently, the system has recorded several informational alerts:

- Apache service was recently restarted
- Apache version has changed
- Linux system modifications (/etc/passwd change)
- Open file descriptor configuration notice Incident Analysis

The monitoring triggers reveal a cascading failure pattern originating from the Apache service interruption. The dependency chain shows the service outage is causing subsequent monitoring checks to fail. Key metrics currently unavailable include:

- Apache uptime status (last known status: unavailable)
- TCP service check failing on configured port
- Performance metrics exceeding warning thresholds

The system successfully sent an email notification to roney22ab@gmail.com, confirming the alerting mechanism is operational. The test message demonstrates Zabbix's notification system is properly configured for email delivery.

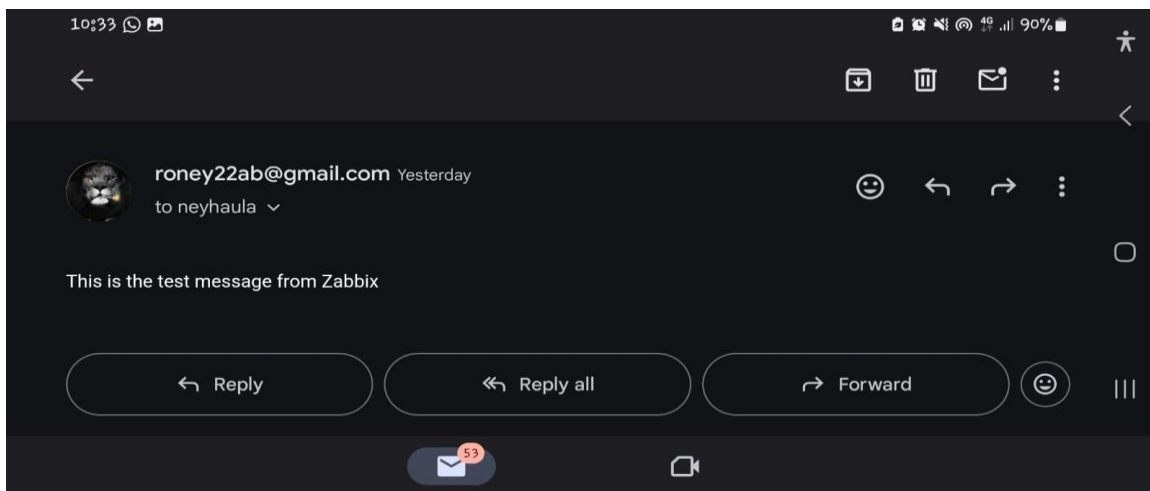
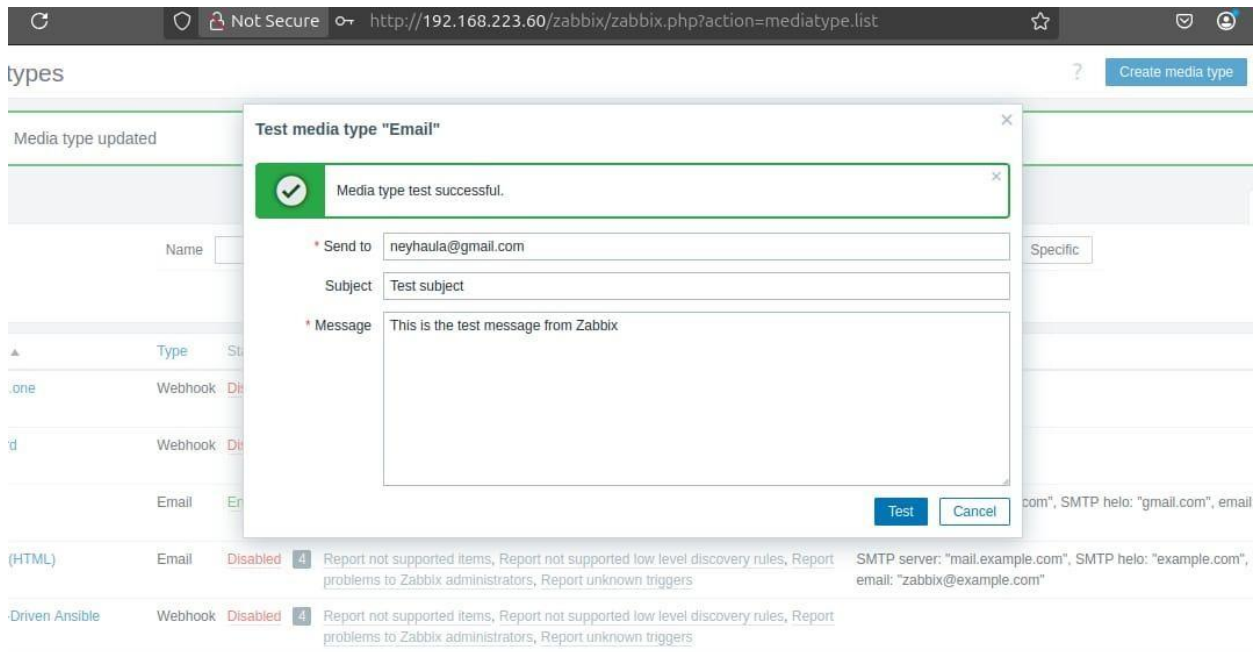
Recommended Actions

Configuration Review

- Verify Apache status page accessibility
- Validate TCP port configuration in Zabbix items
- Review trigger dependencies to prevent alert storms

Preventive Measures

- Implement automatic service recovery scripts
- Schedule regular configuration audits
- Establish maintenance windows for planned changes



<input type="checkbox"/>	Severity	Value	Name ▲	Operational data	Expression	Status	Info	Tags
<input type="checkbox"/>	Warning	OK	Apache by HTTP: Apache: Failed to fetch status page Depends on: ronuck-VirtualBox: Apache: Service is down		<code>nodata(/ronuck-VirtualBox/apache.get_status,30m)=1</code>	Unknown		scope: availa
<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	OK	Apache by HTTP: Apache: Service has been restarted		<code>last(/ronuck-VirtualBox/apache.uptime)<10m</code>	Unknown		scope: notice
<input type="checkbox"/>	Average	PROBLEM	Apache by HTTP: Apache: Service is down		<code>last(/ronuck-VirtualBox/net.tcp.service[http,"{\$APACHE.STATUS.HOST}","{\$APACHE.STATUS.PORT}"])=0</code>	Enabled		scope: availa
<input type="checkbox"/>	Warning	OK	Apache by HTTP: Apache: Service response time is too high Depends on: ronuck-VirtualBox: Apache: Service is down		<code>min(/ronuck-VirtualBox/net.tcp.service.perf[http,"{\$APACHE.STATUS.HOST}","{\$APACHE.STATUS.PORT}"],5m)>{\$APACHE.RESPONSE_TIME.MAX.WARN}</code>	Enabled		scope: perfor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	OK	Apache by HTTP: Apache: Version has changed		<code>last(/ronuck-VirtualBox/apache.version,#1)<>last(/ronuck-VirtualBox/apache.version,#2) and length(last(/ronuck-VirtualBox/apache.version))>0</code>	Unknown		scope: notice
<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	OK	Linux by Zabbix agent: Linux: /etc/passwd has been changed Depends on: ronuck-VirtualBox: Linux: Operating system description has changed ronuck-VirtualBox: Linux: System name has changed		<code>last(/ronuck-VirtualBox/vfs.file.cksum[/etc/passwd,sha256],#1)<>last(/ronuck-VirtualBox/vfs.file.cksum[/etc/passwd,sha256],#2)</code>	Enabled		scope: secur
<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	OK	Linux by Zabbix agent: Linux: Configured max number of open files per process is too low		<code>last(/ronuck-VirtualBox/kernel.maxfiles)<{\$KERNEL.MAXFILES.MIN}</code>	Enabled		scope: perfor