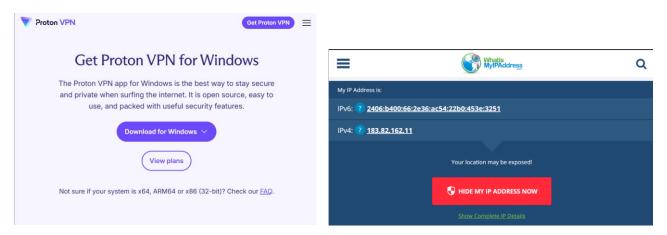
Task 8: Identify and Remove Suspicious Browser Extensions

Objective:

Use a free VPN service to observe how VPNs work, verify encryption, IP masking, and analyze benefits & limitations.

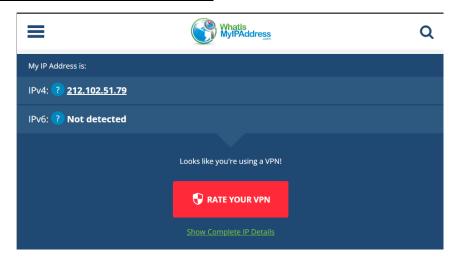
Step-by-Step Guide & Observations

- 1. Choose a Reputable Free VPN Service
 - Selected VPN: ProtonVPN
 - Reason: Open-source, based in Switzerland, strong privacy policy
- 2. Download and Install the VPN Client
 - Downloaded from https://protonvpn.com
 - Installed the ProtonVPN client on Windows.



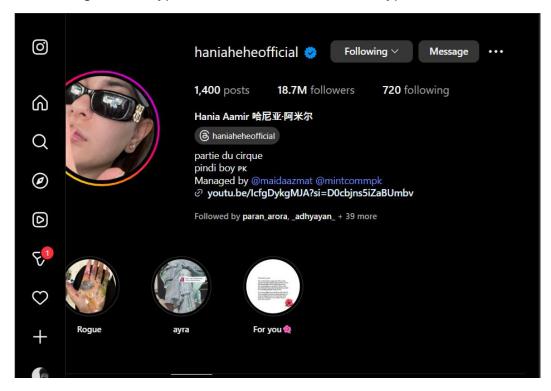
3. Connect to a VPN Server

- · Logged in and connected to the Japan
- Chose the closest location for better speed.
- 4. Verify IP Address Has Changed
 - Before VPN: My IP was 183.82.162.11
 - After VPN: IP showed as <u>212.102.51.79</u> (Japan)
 - Tool Used: https://whatismyipaddress.com



5. Browse a Website to Confirm Traffic is Encrypted

- Visited multiple sites (e.g., Reddit, GitHub).
- All data went through an encrypted tunnel (HTTPS + VPN encryption).



Due to restriction by Indian Government to Pakistani actors Instagram accounts, can be visible now after connecting to VPN.

6. Disconnect VPN and Compare Speed/IP

- After disconnecting:
 - IP Address: Reverted to original local IP.
 - o Browsing Speed: Slightly faster after disconnecting (VPN adds some latency).
 - Used speedtest.net for comparison.

7. Researched VPN Encryption and Privacy Features

- Encryption Used: AES-256 encryption with 4096-bit RSA key exchange.
- Protocols Supported: OpenVPN and WireGuard (Proton uses both)
- Privacy: No logs, DNS leak protection, kill switch (enabled)