

STEP 1: Information Security Framework Design

1.1 Overview of the Security Framework

The proposed Information Security Framework is designed to protect cloud-based enterprise environments from common security threats such as unauthorized access, data breaches, misconfigurations, and compliance violations. The framework follows a **layered security approach** and aligns with international standards such as **ISO/IEC 27001**.

The framework integrates:

- Asset classification
- Risk assessment and risk treatment
- Encryption for data protection
- Strong authentication and access control mechanisms

This structured approach ensures confidentiality, integrity, and availability (CIA triad) of cloud resources.

1.2 Asset Classification

Asset classification helps identify and prioritize resources that require protection based on their sensitivity and business impact.

Asset Classification Table

Asset Category	Asset Description	Classification
Data Assets	Customer data, credentials, logs	Confidential
Application Assets	Cloud-hosted web application	Critical
Infrastructure Assets	Virtual machines, cloud storage	High
Network Assets	Firewalls, VPC, load balancers	High
Identity Assets	User accounts, admin credentials	Critical

Purpose:

- Ensures appropriate security controls are applied
- Supports compliance with **ISO/IEC 27001 – A.8 (Asset Management)**

1.3 Risk Assessment Methodology

Risk assessment is conducted to identify threats, vulnerabilities, and their potential impact on cloud assets.

Risk Calculation Formula

Risk = Likelihood × Impact

Risk Rating Scale

Level	Likelihood	Impact
Low	1	1
Medium	2	2
High	3	3

Sample Risk Assessment Table

Threat	Asset Affected	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Score	Risk Level
Data Breach	Cloud Database	3	3	9	High
Unauthorized Access	User Accounts	3	2	6	Medium
Network Sniffing	Data in Transit	2	3	6	Medium
Misconfiguration	Cloud Storage	2	2	4	Medium

1.4 Risk Treatment Strategy

Each identified risk is handled using one of the following strategies:

Risk	Treatment Strategy	Security Control
Data Breach	Mitigate	Encryption (AES, RSA)
Unauthorized Access	Mitigate	MFA + RBAC
Network Attacks	Mitigate	TLS, Firewall
Low Impact Risk	Accept	Monitoring

ISO Mapping:

- **A.6 – Risk Assessment and Treatment**
-

STEP 2: Encryption Mechanisms

2.1 Importance of Encryption in Cloud Security

Encryption ensures that sensitive data remains protected even if unauthorized access occurs. The framework uses:

- **Symmetric encryption** for data at rest
 - **Asymmetric encryption** for data in transit and key exchange
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2.2 Data at Rest – Symmetric Encryption

Algorithm Used

- **AES (Advanced Encryption Standard – 256 bit)**

Why AES?

- High performance
- Widely accepted industry standard
- Suitable for large volumes of cloud data

Implementation Using OpenSSL

```
openssl enc -aes-256-cbc -salt -in data.txt -out data.enc
```

Explanation:

- data.txt → original data
- data.enc → encrypted file
- AES protects stored cloud data from unauthorized access

ISO Mapping:

- **A.10 – Cryptographic Controls**
-

2.3 Data in Transit – Asymmetric Encryption

Algorithm Used

- RSA (2048-bit)

Purpose

- Secure key exchange
- Enable HTTPS / TLS communication
- Prevent Man-in-the-Middle (MITM) attacks

Key Generation Using OpenSSL

```
openssl genrsa -out private.key 2048
```

```
openssl rsa -in private.key -pubout -out public.key
```

Explanation:

- Public key encrypts data
- Private key decrypts data
- Used in secure cloud communication channels

2.4 Encryption Summary

Data Type	Encryption Type	Algorithm
Data at Rest	Symmetric	AES-256
Data in Transit	Asymmetric	RSA + TLS

STEP 3: Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)

3.1 Authentication and Authorization in Cloud Security

In cloud-based enterprises, authentication and authorization are critical to prevent unauthorized access to sensitive systems and data. Authentication verifies the identity of a user, while authorization determines what actions the user is allowed to perform.

To strengthen access control, this framework integrates **Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)** and **Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)**.

3.2 Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

3.2.1 Overview of MFA

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) enhances security by requiring users to provide **two or more independent authentication factors** before granting access. This reduces the risk of account compromise even if passwords are stolen.

3.2.2 Authentication Factors

MFA uses the following factors:

Factor Type	Example	Description
Something you know	Password, PIN	Knowledge-based authentication
Something you have	OTP, Smart card, Authenticator app	Possession-based authentication
Something you are	Fingerprint, Face ID	Biometric authentication

3.2.3 MFA Implementation Flow

1. User enters username and password
2. System sends a One-Time Password (OTP) or requests authenticator approval
3. User verifies the second factor
4. Access is granted to cloud resources

3.2.4 Benefits of MFA

- Prevents unauthorized access even if credentials are compromised
- Protects against phishing and brute-force attacks
- Enhances compliance with security standards

ISO/IEC 27001 Mapping:

- **A.9 – Access Control**
-

3.3 Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)**3.3.1 Overview of RBAC**

Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) restricts system access based on predefined user roles. Instead of assigning permissions to individual users, permissions are assigned to roles, and users are assigned to roles.

This approach simplifies access management and improves security.

3.3.2 Defined Roles in the Framework

Role	Description	Permissions
Admin	System administrator	Full system access
Manager	Department manager	Read and limited write access
User	Regular employee	Read-only access

3.3.3 RBAC Implementation Process

1. Define roles based on organizational structure
 2. Assign permissions to each role
 3. Assign users to roles
 4. Enforce access policies in the cloud environment
-

3.3.4 Benefits of RBAC

- Prevents privilege escalation
- Reduces misconfigurations
- Simplifies access audits
- Supports least privilege principle

ISO/IEC 27001 Mapping:

- **A.9.1 – Business Requirements for Access Control**
 - **A.9.2 – User Access Management**
-

3.4 Integration of MFA and RBAC

In the proposed framework, MFA and RBAC are integrated to provide layered access security.

Access Flow:

- 1. User authenticates using MFA
- 2. System verifies role using RBAC policies
- 3. User is granted access based on role permissions

This layered approach ensures that only authenticated and authorized users can access cloud resources.

3.5 Security Advantages of MFA + RBAC Integration

Threat	Mitigation Control
Credential theft	MFA
Insider threats	RBAC
Privilege abuse	RBAC
Phishing attacks	MFA
Unauthorized access	MFA + RBAC

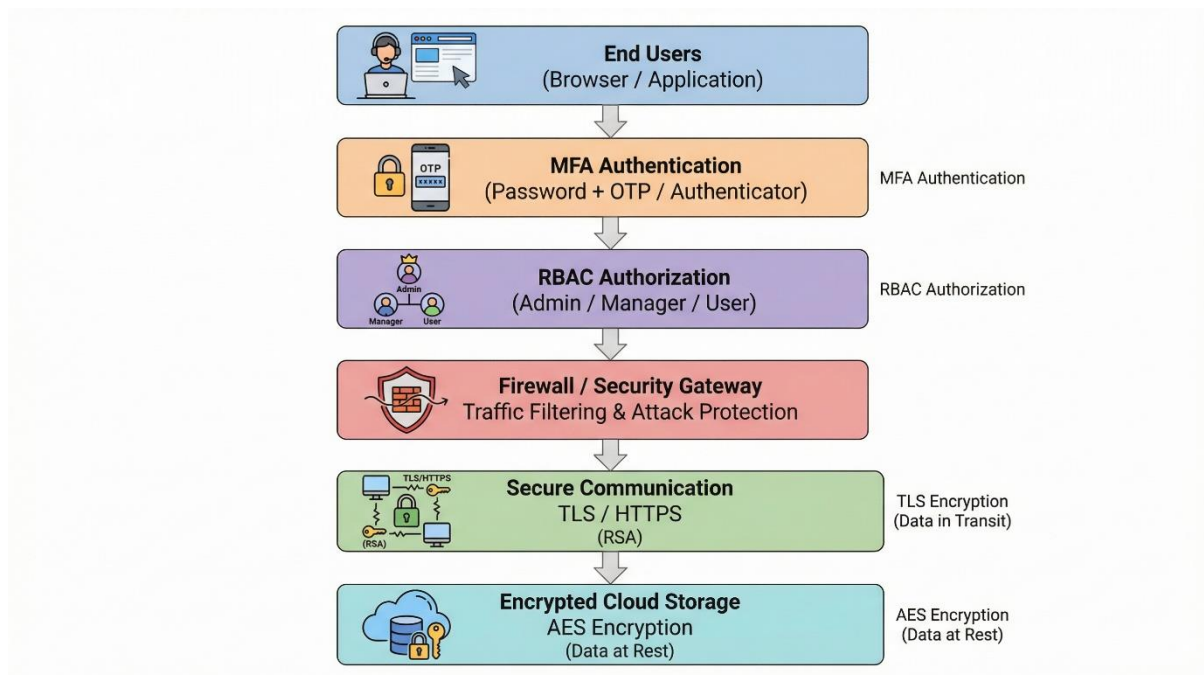
3.6 Summary

The integration of Multi-Factor Authentication and Role-Based Access Control significantly strengthens cloud security by ensuring that only verified users with appropriate privileges can access sensitive resources. This approach aligns with industry best practices and international security standards.

STEP 4: Cloud Security Architecture Diagram

4.1 Overview of Cloud Security Architecture

The Cloud Security Architecture represents how security controls are layered within a cloud-based enterprise to protect data, applications, and infrastructure. The proposed architecture follows a **defense-in-depth approach**, ensuring security at multiple levels.



4.2 Components of the Architecture

1 User Layer

- End users access cloud services through browsers or applications
 - Users must authenticate before accessing resources
-

2 Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

- Verifies user identity using password + OTP/authenticator
 - Prevents unauthorized access due to stolen credentials
-

3 Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)

- Assigns permissions based on user roles (Admin, Manager, User)
 - Ensures least privilege access
-

4 Firewall / Security Gateway

- Filters incoming and outgoing traffic
 - Blocks unauthorized network access
 - Protects against common attacks
-

5 Secure Communication (TLS/HTTPS)

- Encrypts data in transit
 - Prevents Man-in-the-Middle (MITM) attacks
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6 Encrypted Cloud Storage

- Stores sensitive data using AES encryption
- Ensures data confidentiality at rest

STEP 5: Risk Assessment Report

5.1 Purpose of Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is performed to identify potential threats and vulnerabilities in a cloud-based enterprise environment and evaluate their impact on organizational assets. This process helps in selecting appropriate security controls to reduce risks to an acceptable level.

5.2 Identified Assets

Asset ID	Asset Name	Asset Type
A1	Cloud Database	Data
A2	User Accounts	Identity
A3	Cloud VM	Infrastructure
A4	Network Traffic	Network
A5	Cloud Storage	Storage

5.3 Threats and Vulnerabilities

Threat ID	Threat Description	Vulnerability
T1	Data breach	Weak encryption
T2	Unauthorized access	Weak authentication
T3	Man-in-the-Middle attack	Unencrypted traffic
T4	Insider misuse	Excessive privileges
T5	Misconfiguration	Poor access policies

5.4 Risk Evaluation Matrix

Risk Formula:

Risk = Likelihood × Impact

Threat	Asset	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Score	Risk Level
Data breach	Cloud DB	3	3	9	High
Unauthorized access	User accounts	3	2	6	Medium
MITM attack	Network traffic	2	3	6	Medium
Insider misuse	Cloud VM	2	3	6	Medium
Misconfiguration	Cloud storage	2	2	4	Medium

5.5 Risk Mitigation Controls

Risk	Mitigation Control
Data breach	AES encryption
Unauthorized access	MFA + RBAC
MITM attack	TLS / HTTPS
Insider threats	RBAC + logging
Misconfiguration	Security policies

5.6 Risk Assessment Summary

The risk assessment highlights that encryption, access control, and secure communication are critical to reducing cloud security risks. The implemented controls significantly lower the likelihood and impact of major threats.

Conclusion & Future Enhancements

6.1 Conclusion

This project successfully designed and implemented a comprehensive information security framework for a cloud-based enterprise. The framework integrates asset classification, risk assessment, encryption techniques, Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), and Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) to enhance the overall security posture.

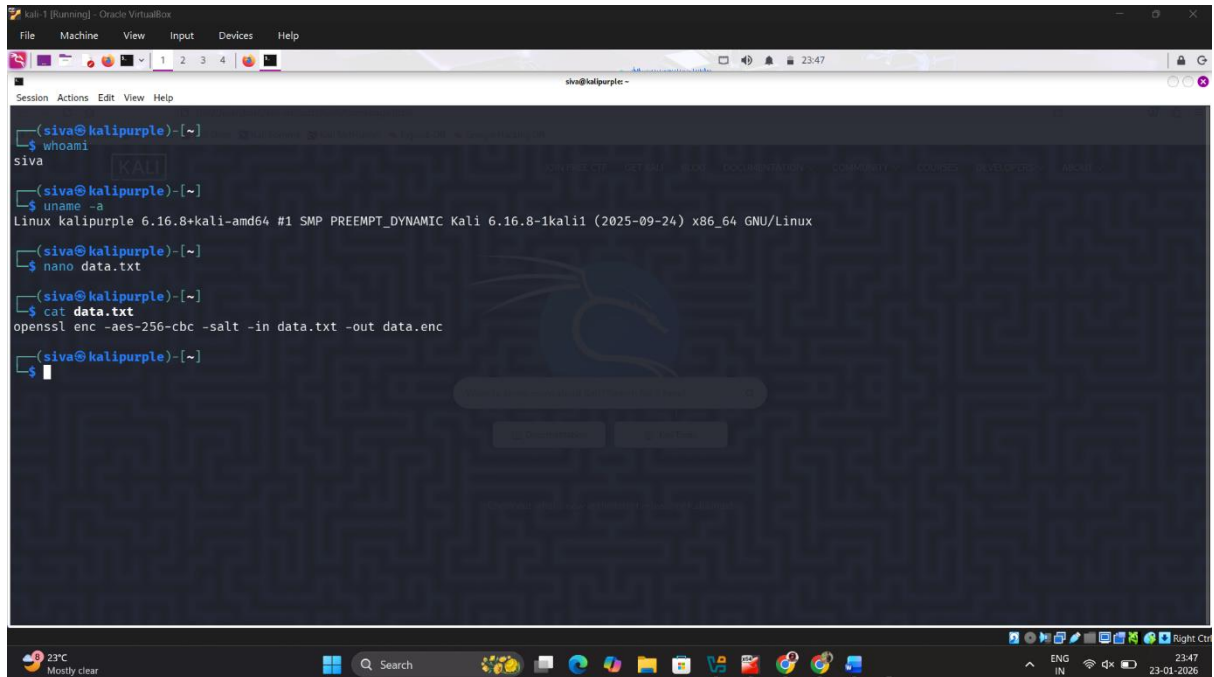
Practical implementation using industry-standard tools such as OpenSSL, Wireshark, and Metasploit provided hands-on experience in encryption, traffic analysis, and vulnerability assessment. The framework aligns with ISO/IEC 27001 standards and effectively addresses common cloud security challenges.

6.2 Future Enhancements

The framework can be further enhanced by:

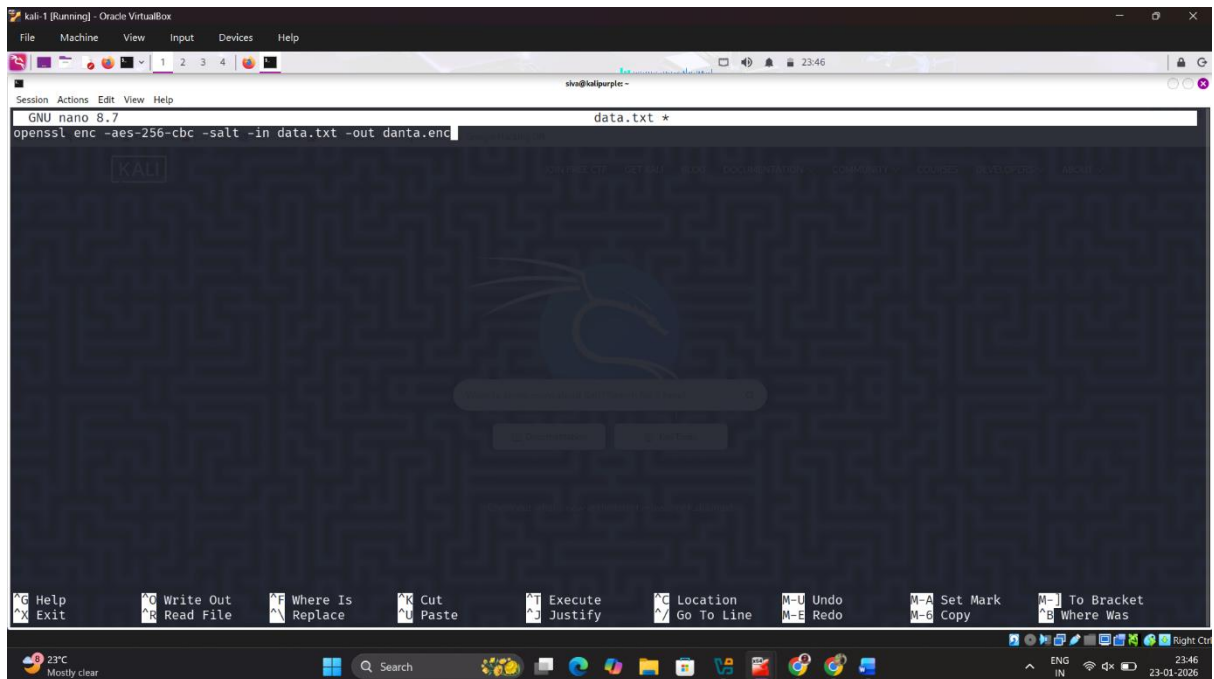
- Implementing Attribute-Based Access Control (ABAC)
- Integrating Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)
- Automating compliance monitoring
- Using AI-based threat detection
- Deploying Zero Trust Architecture

SCREENSHOTS:



This screenshot shows a terminal window on a Kali Linux system. The user has executed several commands to identify the system and create a file. The terminal output shows the user is 'siva' on a machine named 'kalipurple'. The system is Linux kalipurple 6.16.8+kali-amd64. The user has created a file named 'data.txt' and encrypted it using openssl.

```
(siva@kalipurple)-[~]  
$ whoami  
siva  
(siva@kalipurple)-[~]  
$ uname -a  
Linux kalipurple 6.16.8+kali-amd64 #1 SMP PREEMPT_DYNAMIC Kali 6.16.8-1kali1 (2025-09-24) x86_64 GNU/Linux  
(siva@kalipurple)-[~]  
$ nano data.txt  
(siva@kalipurple)-[~]  
$ cat data.txt  
openssl enc -aes-256-cbc -salt -in data.txt -out data.enc  
(siva@kalipurple)-[~]  
$
```



This screenshot shows the nano text editor interface. The file 'data.txt' is open, and the user has entered the command to encrypt the file. The command is 'openssl enc -aes-256-cbc -salt -in data.txt -out danta.enc'. The editor shows the command on the first line, followed by a blank line.

```
GNU nano 8.7  
openssl enc -aes-256-cbc -salt -in data.txt -out danta.enc  
data.txt *
```

MFA, RBAC CREATION:

```

kali-1 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox
File Machine View Input Devices Help

siva@kalipurple -
Session Actions Edit View Help

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ whoami
siva

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ uname -a
Linux kalipurple 6.16.8+kali-amd64 #1 SMP PREEMPT_DYNAMIC Kali 6.16.8-1kali1 (2025-09-24) x86_64 GNU/Linux

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ nano data.txt

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ cat data.txt
openssl enc -aes-256-cbc -salt -in data.txt -out data.enc

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ openssl genrsa -out private.key 2048

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ openssl rsa -in private.key -pubout -out public.key
writing RSA key

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ ls
'2025-12-26 10:42:33' Desktop Malware_Analysis.lock Music private.key public_key.pem Videos
certificate.cert Documents Malware_Analysis.lock~ Music passwd private_key.pem secret.txt wordlists.txt
data.txt Downloads Malware_Analysis.rep Pictures Public Templates
demo.pcapng Malware_Analysis.gpr MD5hashfunction.txt pkiexp public.key tls_experiment

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$

```

[illegible][illegible]

```
(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ groups admin_user
admin_user : admin_user admin

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ groups manager_user
manager_user : manager_user manager

(siva@kalipurple)-[~]
$ groups normal_user
normal_user : normal_user user
```

Network traffic captured using Wireshark showing TLS-encrypted communication over TCP (HTTPS), demonstrating secure data transmission:

The image displays a Wireshark network traffic capture showing TLS-encrypted communication over TCP (HTTPS). The packet list on the left shows a sequence of packets including SYN, ACK, Client Hello, Server Hello, Change Cipher Spec, and Encrypted Handshake Message. The packet details pane on the right shows the structure of the TLS handshake, including the Client Hello, Server Hello, Change Cipher Spec, and Encrypted Handshake Message. The packet bytes pane on the right shows the raw data of the captured packets, including the TLS handshake messages.

Packet List:

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
20516	61.956887357	34.107.221.82	172.100.4.104	TCP	74	88 → 38258 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65160 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=1410494402 TSecr=6995691 WS=128
20517	61.956887386	34.107.221.82	172.100.4.104	TCP	74	443 → 38258 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65160 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=1410494402 TSecr=3928917120 WS=128
20518	61.956204512	172.100.4.104	34.107.221.82	TCP	66	38258 → 88 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64512 Len=0 TSval=6995726 TSecr=1410494402
20519	61.956719602	172.100.4.104	34.49.51.44	TCP	66	32842 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64512 Len=0 TSval=3928917156 TSecr=1410494405
20522	61.960921211	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TLSv1.2	159	Client Key Exchange, Change Cipher Spec, Encrypted Handshake Message
20523	61.975046113	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TLSv1.2	159	Client Key Exchange, Change Cipher Spec, Encrypted Handshake Message
20524	61.987410937	172.100.4.104	34.49.51.44	TLSv1.3	1975	Client Hello (SN=normandy.cdn.mozilla.net)
20525	61.992210552	172.100.4.104	34.49.51.44	TLSv1.3	1975	Client Hello (SN=normandy.cdn.mozilla.net)
20526	62.003999220	172.100.4.104	34.49.51.44	TLSv1.3	97	Encrypted Alert
20527	62.003527445	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TLSv1.2	97	Encrypted Alert
20528	62.003702880	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TCP	66	38426 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=347 Ack=1400 Win=67584 Len=0 TSval=1941938934 TSecr=1410494136
20529	62.004583000	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TCP	66	38448 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=347 Ack=1400 Win=67584 Len=0 TSval=1941938934 TSecr=1410494136
20530	62.004972360	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TCP	66	38448 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=347 Ack=1400 Win=67584 Len=0 TSval=1941938934 TSecr=1410494136
20531	62.005747113	172.100.4.104	34.49.51.44	TCP	74	40668 → 443 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65160 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=1410494402 TSecr=3928917120 WS=128
20557	62.110264807	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TCP	74	40668 → 443 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65160 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=1941938939 TSecr=1410494136
20644	62.281663618	151.101.129.91	172.100.4.104	TLSv1.2	117	Change Cipher Spec, Encrypted Handshake Message
20645	62.281633290	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TCP	54	38426 → 443 [RST] Seq=310 Win=0 Len=0
20646	62.281663894	151.101.129.91	172.100.4.104	TLSv1.2	117	Change Cipher Spec, Encrypted Handshake Message
20650	62.282386489	172.100.4.104	151.101.129.91	TCP	54	38448 → 443 [RST] Seq=310 Win=0 Len=0
20652	62.282815291	34.107.221.82	172.100.4.104	HTTP	597	HTTP/1.1 302 Found

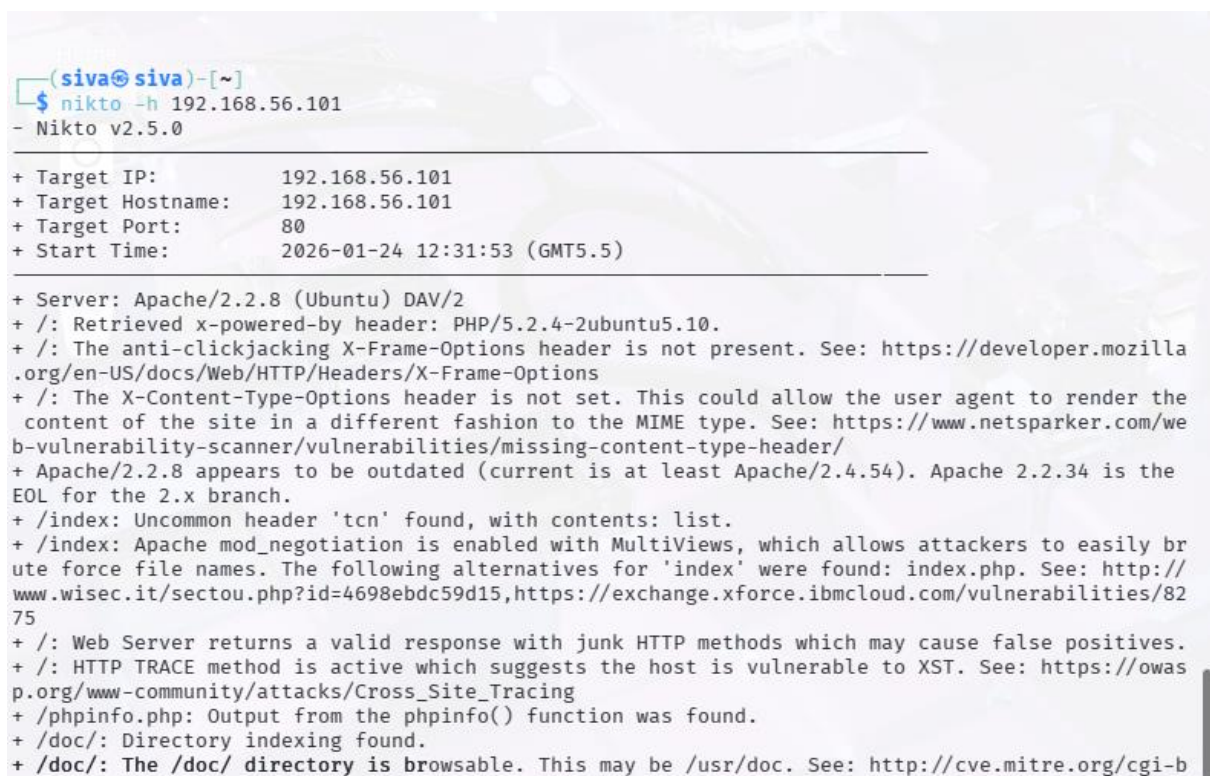
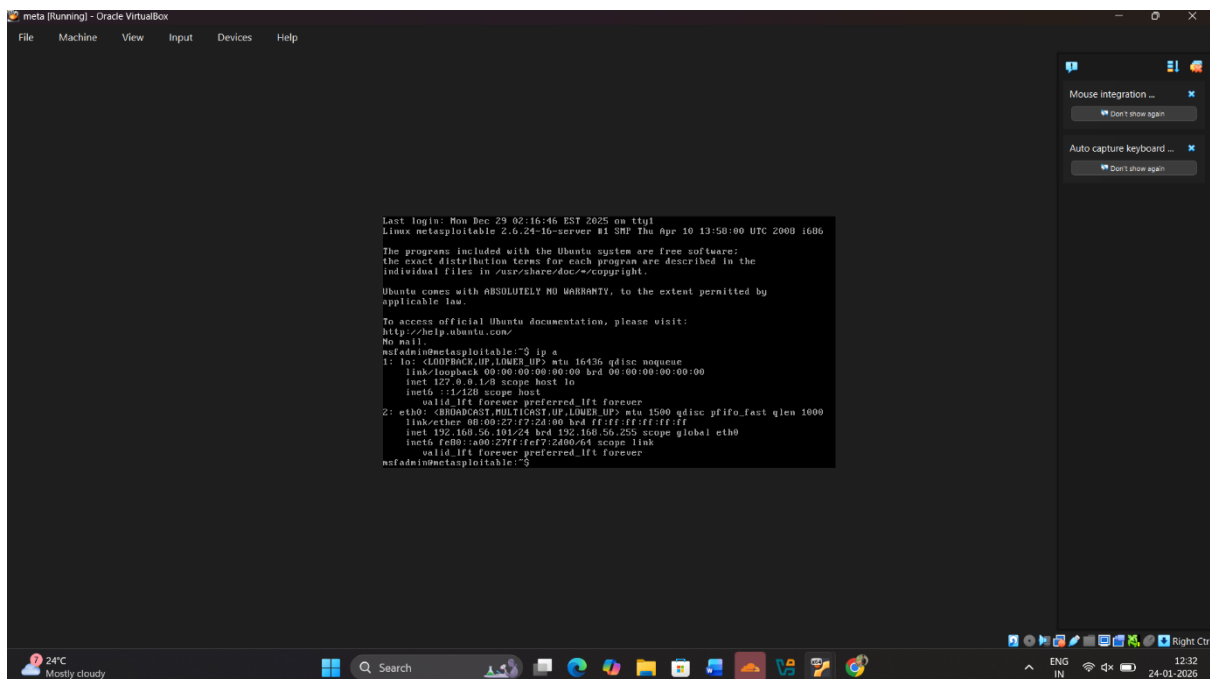
Packet Details:

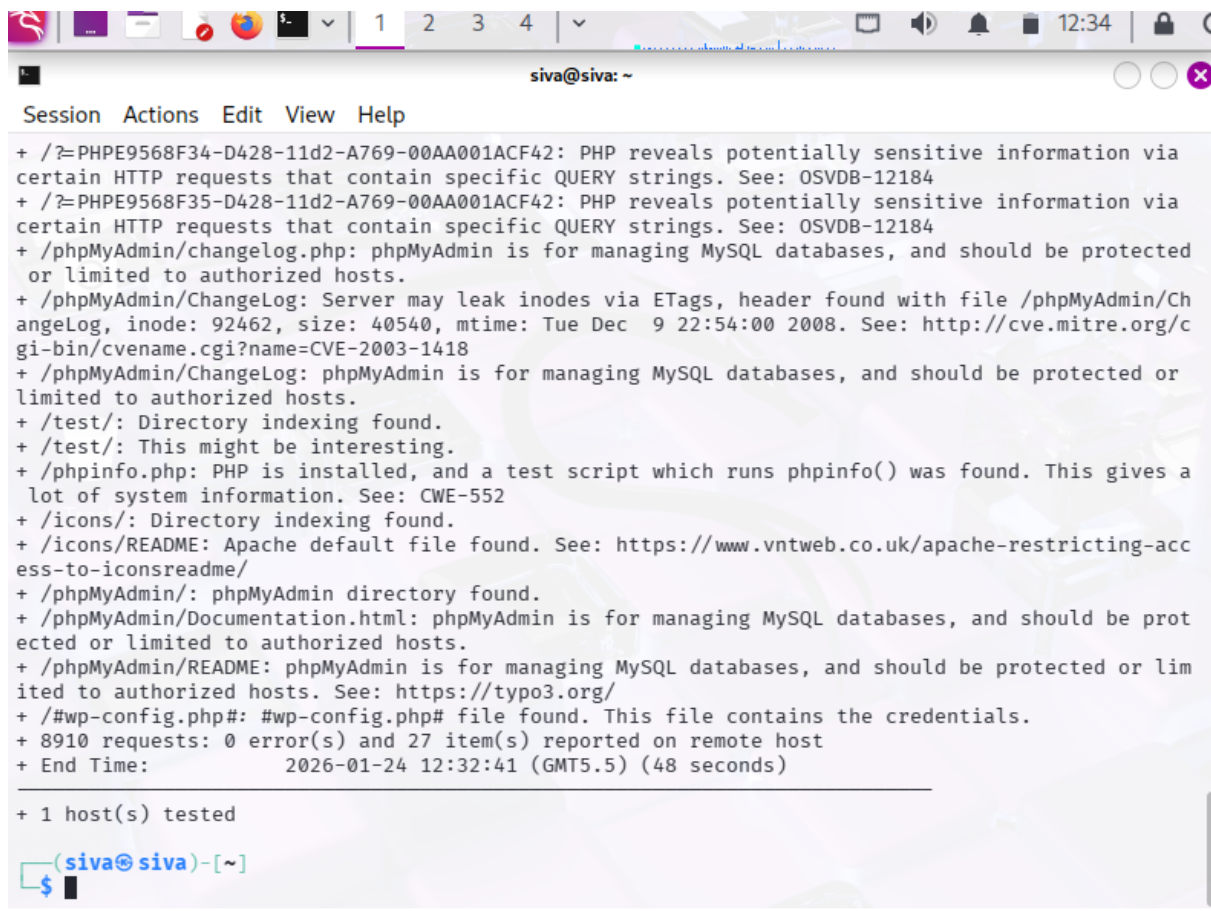
Frame 20525: Packet, 376 bytes on wire (3088 bits), 376 bytes captured (3088 bits) on interface eth0, 1 Ethernet II, Src: PCSysSystemec, b7:15:87 (08:00:27:07:15:87), Dst: Broadcom_46:d5:40 (8c:84:74:40:d5:40), Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 172.100.4.104, Dst: 34.107.221.82, Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 38248, Dst Port: 88, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 310, Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Packet Bytes:

0000 0c 84 74 40 d5 40 80 00 27 b7 15 87 08 00 45 80 t f 0 E
0010 01 6a bf d1 40 00 49 06 c9 32 ac 64 04 68 22 6b j _ @ _ 2 d h * k
0020 dd 52 95 68 00 50 8d 7e f9 fc ad b7 0e df 08 18 R h P ~
0030 00 7e b1 e6 00 01 01 08 0a 00 6a bf 32 54 12 ~ j 2 t
0040 6e b9 47 43 54 29 2f 73 75 63 63 65 73 2e 74 n G E T / s u c c e s s . i
0050 78 74 3f 69 70 76 34 20 48 54 54 50 2f 31 2e 31 x t 7 i p v 4 H T T P / 1 . 1
0060 00 0a 48 6f 73 74 3a 20 64 65 74 65 63 74 70 6f . H o s t : d e t e c t p o
0070 72 74 61 6c 2e 66 68 72 65 66 6f 78 2e 63 6f 6d r t a l . f i r e f o x . c o m
0080 0d 0a 55 73 65 72 2d 41 67 65 6e 74 3a 20 4d 6f - U s e r - A g e n t : M o
0090 74 69 6c 6c 61 2f 35 2e 30 20 28 58 31 31 3b 20 z i l l a / 5 . 0 (X L I ;
00a0 4c 69 6e 75 78 20 78 38 30 5f 36 34 30 20 72 76 L i n u x x 8 6 5 4 ; r v
00b0 3a 31 34 30 2e 30 29 20 47 65 63 6b 6f 2f 32 30 (1 4 0 . 0) G e c k o / 2 0
00c0 31 30 30 31 30 31 20 46 69 72 65 66 6f 78 2f 31 100101 F i r e f o x / 1
00d0 34 30 2e 30 0d 0a 41 63 63 65 70 74 2d 4c 61 6e 67 75 61 48 . 0 A c c e p t : /
00e0 2a 0d 0a 41 63 63 65 70 74 2d 4c 61 6e 67 75 61 * A c c e p t - L a n g u a
00f0 07 05 3a 20 65 6e 2d 55 53 2c 65 6e 3b 71 3d 30 g e : e n - U S , e n j q = 0
0100 2e 35 0d 0a 41 63 63 65 70 74 2d 4c 61 6e 67 64 . 5 A c c e p t - E n c o d
0110 69 6e 67 3a 20 67 7a 69 70 2c 20 64 65 66 6c 61 i n g : g z 1 , p , d e f l a
0120 74 65 0d 0a 43 6f 6e 6e 65 63 74 69 6f 6e 3a 20 t e C o n n e c t i o n
0130 0b 65 65 78 2d 61 6c 69 70 65 0d 0a 50 72 69 6f k e e p - a l i v e P r i o
0140 72 69 74 79 3a 20 75 3d 34 0d 0a 50 72 61 67 6d r i t y : u = 4 P r a g m

Metasploitable Virtual Machine Setup and Target Identification:





```
siva@siva: ~
Session Actions Edit View Help
+ /?=PHPE9568F34-D428-11d2-A769-00AA001ACF42: PHP reveals potentially sensitive information via
certain HTTP requests that contain specific QUERY strings. See: OSVDB-12184
+ /?=PHPE9568F35-D428-11d2-A769-00AA001ACF42: PHP reveals potentially sensitive information via
certain HTTP requests that contain specific QUERY strings. See: OSVDB-12184
+ /phpMyAdmin/changelog.php: phpMyAdmin is for managing MySQL databases, and should be protected
or limited to authorized hosts.
+ /phpMyAdmin/ChangeLog: Server may leak inodes via ETags, header found with file /phpMyAdmin/Ch
angelog, inode: 92462, size: 40540, mtime: Tue Dec 9 22:54:00 2008. See: http://cve.mitre.org/c
gi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2003-1418
+ /phpMyAdmin/ChangeLog: phpMyAdmin is for managing MySQL databases, and should be protected or
limited to authorized hosts.
+ /test/: Directory indexing found.
+ /test/: This might be interesting.
+ /phpinfo.php: PHP is installed, and a test script which runs phpinfo() was found. This gives a
lot of system information. See: CWE-552
+ /icons/: Directory indexing found.
+ /icons/README: Apache default file found. See: https://www.vntweb.co.uk/apache-restricting-acc
ess-to-iconsreadme/
+ /phpMyAdmin/: phpMyAdmin directory found.
+ /phpMyAdmin/Documentation.html: phpMyAdmin is for managing MySQL databases, and should be prot
ected or limited to authorized hosts.
+ /phpMyAdmin/README: phpMyAdmin is for managing MySQL databases, and should be protected or lim
ited to authorized hosts. See: https://typo3.org/
+ /#wp-config.php#: #wp-config.php# file found. This file contains the credentials.
+ 8910 requests: 0 error(s) and 27 item(s) reported on remote host
+ End Time: 2026-01-24 12:32:41 (GMT5.5) (48 seconds)

+ 1 host(s) tested

(siva@siva)-[~]
$
```