Password Cracking Report

Method Used: John the Ripper

Dictionary Used: rockyou.txt

Tool Environment: Kali Linux

User: root

Date: Sep 20, 2025

Objective

To crack the password of a protected PDF file using a dictionary attack with the rockyou.txt wordlist and john the ripper.
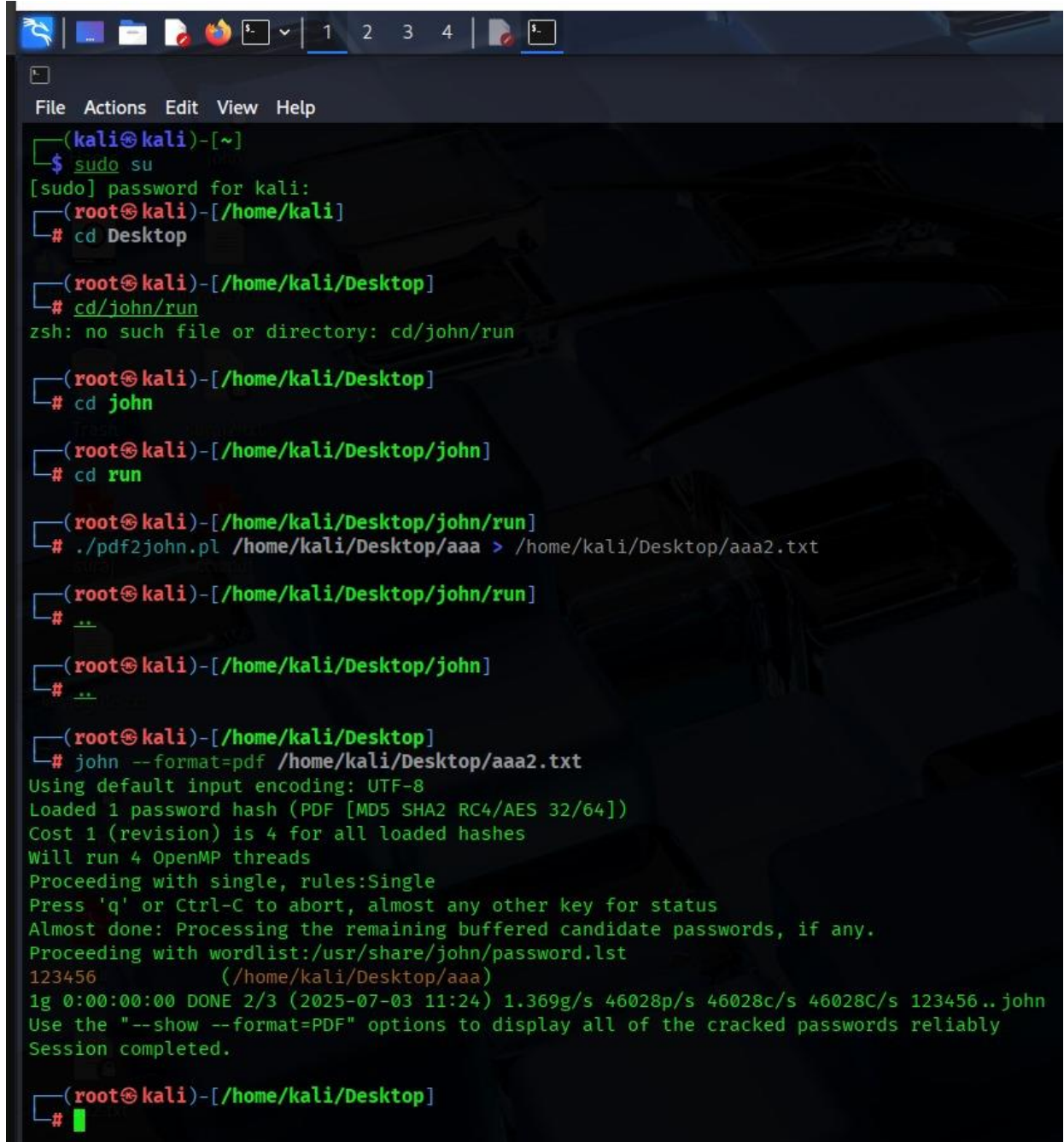
Tools & Resources

John the Ripper: A powerful password cracking tool.

rockyou.txt: A popular wordlist located at /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt.

pdf2john.pl: A utility script to extract hash from PDF files.

Target File: aaa.pdf

Procedure

1. Extract Hash from PDF

Used the pdf2john.pl script to extract the hash:

./pdf2john.pl /home/kali/Desktop/aaa > /home/kali/Desktop/aaa2.txt

2. Run John the Ripper   Command used to crack:

 john --format=pdf --wordlist=/usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt /home/kali/Desktop/aaa2.txt Output

indicates the password was successfully cracked:

123456

Result

Password Found: 123456

Hash Format Detected: PDF (MD5 SHA2 RC4/AES 32/64)

Cracking Speed: 46028 passwords/sec

Time Taken: 13 seconds
Conclusion: The password for the PDF file aaa.pdf was successfully cracked using John the Ripper with the rockyou.txt dictionary. The discovered password is 123456, which is a very weak and commonly used password, highlighting the importance of using strong, unique passwords for sensitive documents.