NSSII Exercise 1

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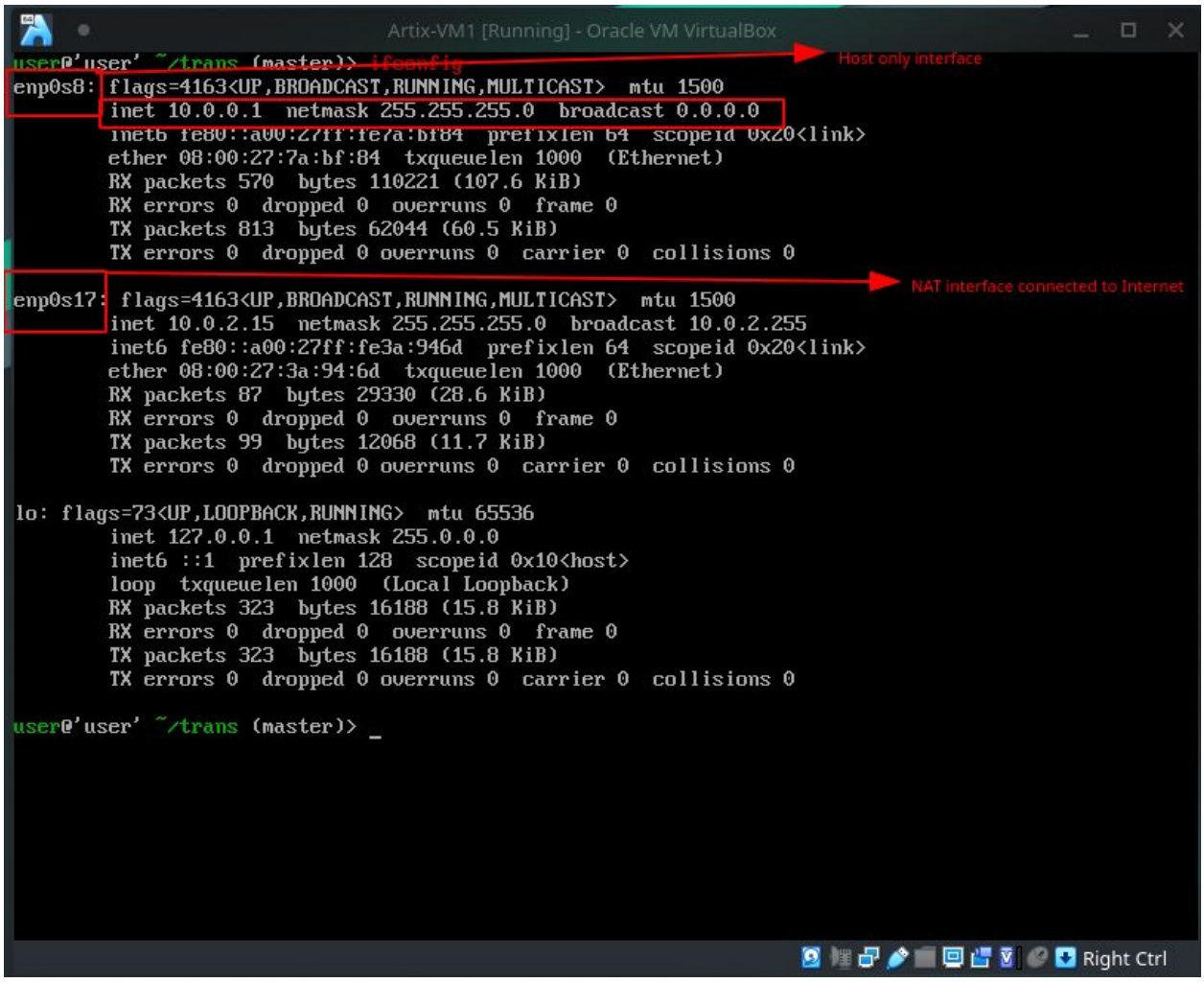
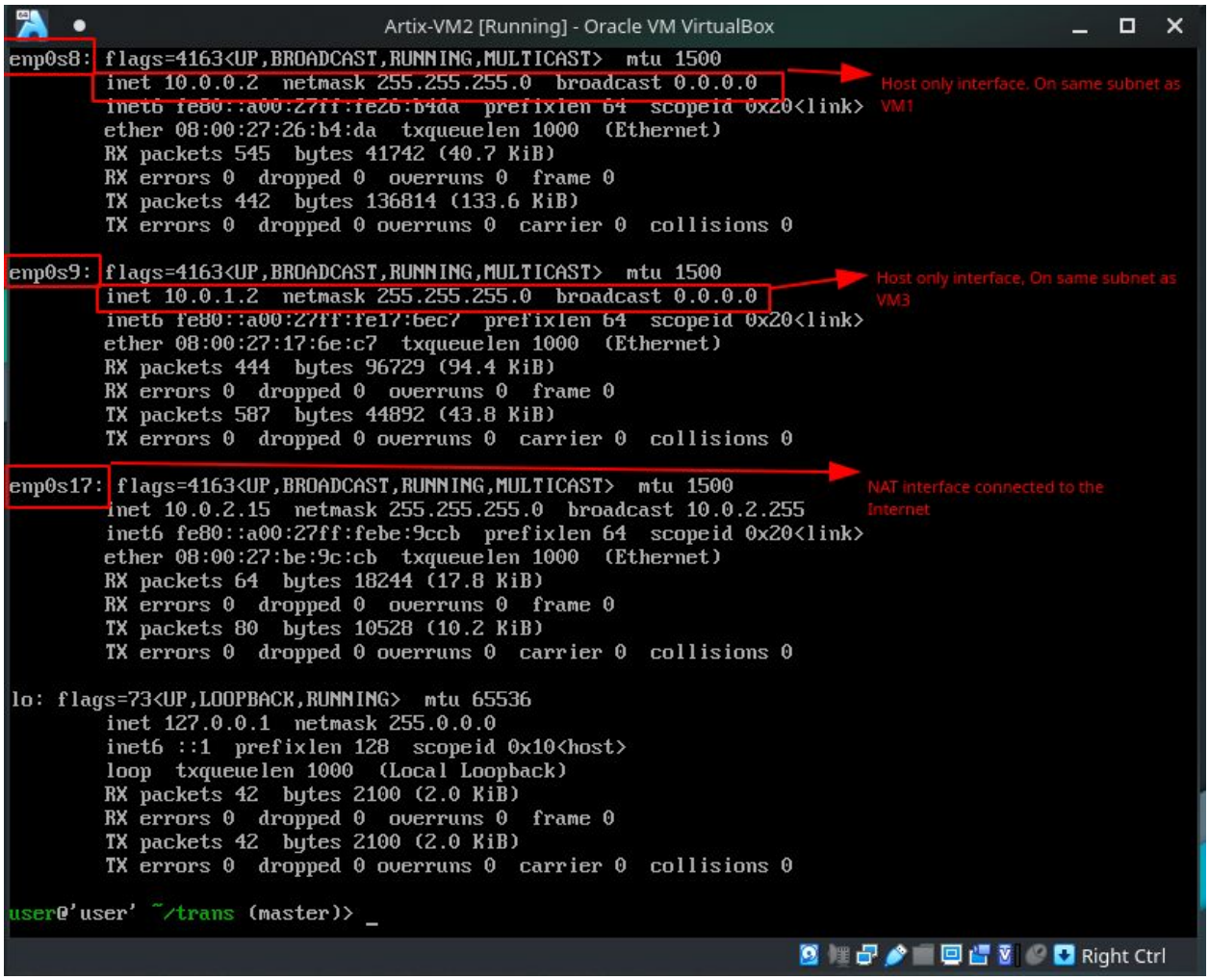
Procedure Details

Three VMs on Virtual Box, running Artix OS were used. The network configurations are as follows:

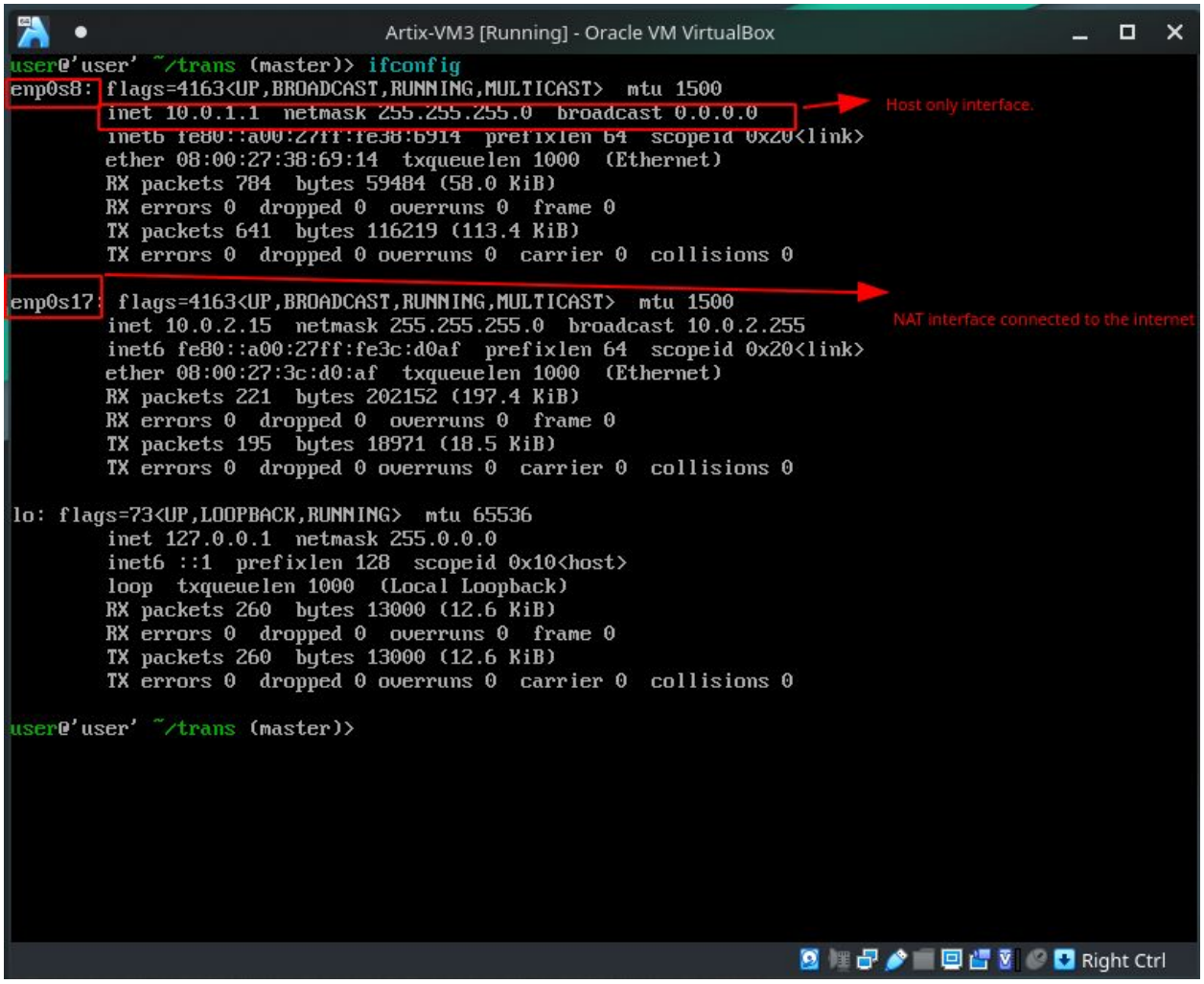
VM1



VM2


Artix-VM2 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox
enp0s8: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
inet 10.0.0.2 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 0.0.0.0
inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe26:b4da prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
ether 08:00:27:26:b4:da txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 545 bytes 41742 (40.7 KiB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 442 bytes 136814 (133.6 KiB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
Host only interface. On same subnet as VM1
enp0s9: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
inet 10.0.1.2 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 0.0.0.0
inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe17:6ec7 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
ether 08:00:27:17:6e:c7 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 444 bytes 96729 (94.4 KiB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 587 bytes 44892 (43.8 KiB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
Host only interface, On same subnet as VM3
enp0s17: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
inet 10.0.2.15 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 10.0.2.255
inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:febe:9ccb prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
ether 08:00:27:be:9c:cb txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 64 bytes 18244 (17.8 KiB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 80 bytes 10528 (10.2 KiB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
NAT interface connected to the Internet
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 42 bytes 2100 (2.0 KiB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 42 bytes 2100 (2.0 KiB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
user@'user' ~/trans (master)> _
Right Ctrl

VM3

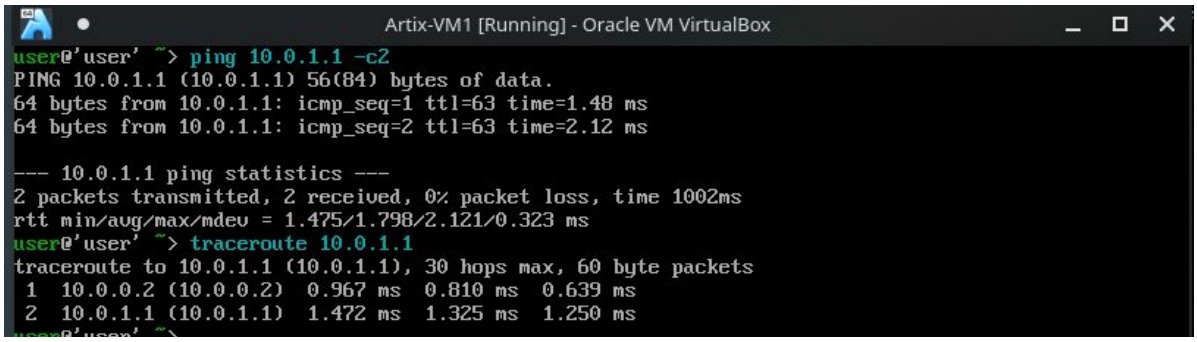


As evident in the above screen shots, VM1 and VM2(iface 1) are on subnet 10.0.0.0/24 and VM3 and VM2(iface 2) are on subnet 10.0.1.0/24.

Task 1

- The following commands were used to assign IP addresses to the interfaces.
  - Connecting to NAT interface for internet access
    - `ip link set dev enp0s17 up` **# To "up" the network interface"**
    - `dhcpcd enp0s17` **# To automatically assign the ip address and connect to the host machine for internet access.**
  - Configuring up Host-only interfaces
    - **VM1**
      - `ip link set dev enp0s8 up` **# To "up" the network interface"**

        - `ip addr add 10.0.0.1/24 dev enp0s8` **# Assigning IP address with subnet mask to the interface**
        - `route add -net 10.0.1.0 netmask 255.255.255.0 gw 10.0.0.2` **#Adding route for the given subnet in the routing table manually**
    - **VM2**
        - `ip link set dev enp0s8 up` **# To "up" the network interface"**
        - `ip addr add 10.0.0.2/24 dev enp0s8` **# Assigning IP address with subnet mask to the interface**
        - `route add -net 10.0.0.0 netmask 255.255.255.0 gw 10.0.0.2` **#Adding route for the given subnet in the routing table manually**
        - `ip link set dev enp0s9 up` **# To "up" the network interface"**
        - `ip addr add 10.0.1.2/24 dev enp0s9` **# Assigning IP address with subnet mask to the interface**
        - `route add -net 10.0.1.0 netmask 255.255.255.0 gw 10.0.1.2` **#Adding route for the given subnet in the routing table manually**
    - **VM3**
        - `ip link set dev enp0s8 up` **# To "up" the network interface"**
        - `ip addr add 10.0.1.1/24 dev enp0s8` **# Assigning IP address with subnet mask to the interface**
        - `route add -net 10.0.0.0 netmask 255.255.255.0 gw 10.0.1.2` **#Adding route for the given subnet in the routing table manually**
- To enable IP forwarding, `net.ipv4.ip_forward=1` was added to /etc/sysctl.conf file and command `sysctl -p` was issued to load the settings from the file. The following screenshot shows that VM1(10.0.0.1) was able to ping VM3(10.0.1.1) and also the route was followed through VM2(10.0.0.2)



- Commands to configure Bi-directional NAT for allowing only TCP connections from :
    - `sudo iptables -A OUTPUT -s 10.0.1.2/24 -j` **DR0P #Dropping all packets generated from VM2**
    - **#-----For TCP requests on Port 80---**
    - `sudo iptables -A FORWARD -i enp0s8 -o enp0s9 -p tcp --syn --dport 80 -m conntrack --ctstate NEW -j ACCEPT` **#Forwarding TCP SYN packets from VM2(Iface1) towards VM2(Iface2) on port 80 and track connection for stateful firewall in using conntrack extension.**
    - `sudo iptables -A FORWARD -i enp0s8 -o enp0s9 -m conntrack --ctstate ESTABLISHED,RELATED -j ACCEPT` **#Forwarding all the packets from VM2(Iface1) towards VM2(Iface2) related to already established TCP connections.**
    - `sudo iptables -A FORWARD -o enp0s8 -i enp0s9 -m conntrack --ctstate ESTABLISHED,RELATED -j ACCEPT` **#Forwarding all the packets from VM2(Iface2) towards VM2(Iface1) related to already established TCP connections**
    - `sudo iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i enp0s8 -p tcp --dport 80 -j DNAT --to-destination 10.0.1.1` **# Destination NAT the packets, for packets coming from VM1, change destination IP address to that of VM3**
    - `sudo iptables -t nat -A POSTROUTING -o enp0s9 -p tcp --dport 80 -d 10.0.1.1 -j SNAT --to-source 10.0.1.2` **# Source NAT the packets, for packets going towards VM3 to that of IP address of VM2(iface2)**
    - `sudo iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i enp0s9 -p tcp -j DNAT --to-destination 10.0.0.1` **# Destination NAT the packets, for packets coming from VM3, change destination IP address to that of VM1**
    - `sudo iptables -t nat -A POSTROUTING -o enp0s8 -p tcp -d 10.0.0.1 -j SNAT --to-source 10.0.0.2` **# Source NAT the packets, for packets going towards VM1 to that of IP address of VM2(iface1)**

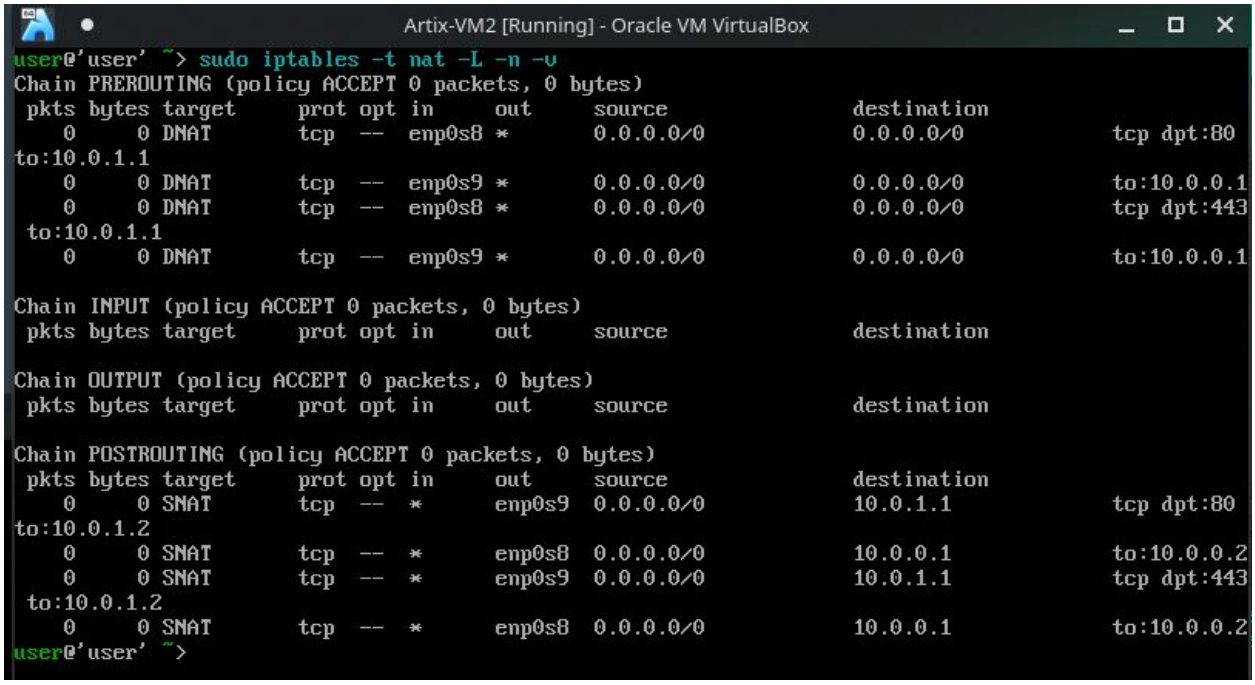
    - **#Similarly for port 443, just replacing port from 80 to 443**

    - `sudo iptables -A FORWARD -i enp0s8 -o enp0s9 -p tcp --syn --dport 443 -m conntrack --ctstate NEW -j ACCEPT`
    - `sudo iptables -A FORWARD -i enp0s8 -o enp0s9 -m conntrack --ctstate ESTABLISHED,RELATED -j ACCEPT`
    - `sudo iptables -A FORWARD -o enp0s8 -i enp0s9 -m conntrack --ctstate ESTABLISHED,RELATED -j ACCEPT`
    - `sudo iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i enp0s8 -p tcp --dport 443 -j DNAT --to-destination 10.0.1.1`
    - `sudo iptables -t nat -A POSTROUTING -o enp0s9 -p tcp --dport`

443 -d 10.0.1.1 -j SNAT --to-source 10.0.1.2

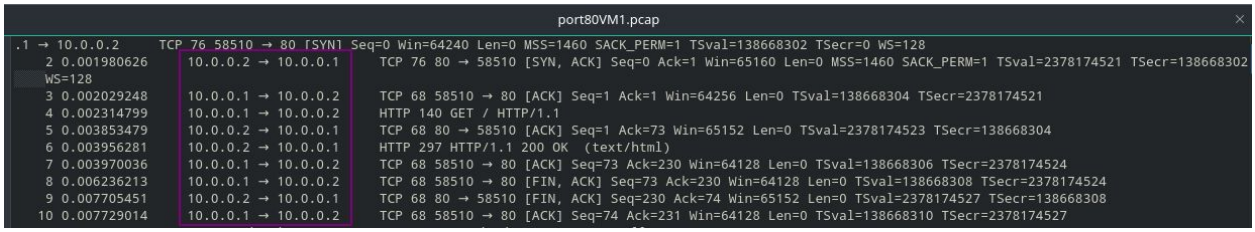
- `sudo iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i enp0s9 -p tcp  -j DNAT --to-destination 10.0.0.1`
- `sudo iptables -t nat -A POSTROUTING -o enp0s8 -p tcp  -d 10.0.0.1 -j SNAT --to-source 10.0.0.2`
- `#----`
- `sudo iptables -P FORWARD DROP` **#Dropping all the forward packets that are not matched in the rules above.**
- Reference: https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/how-to-forward-ports-through-a-linux-gateway-with-iptables

- NAT table:

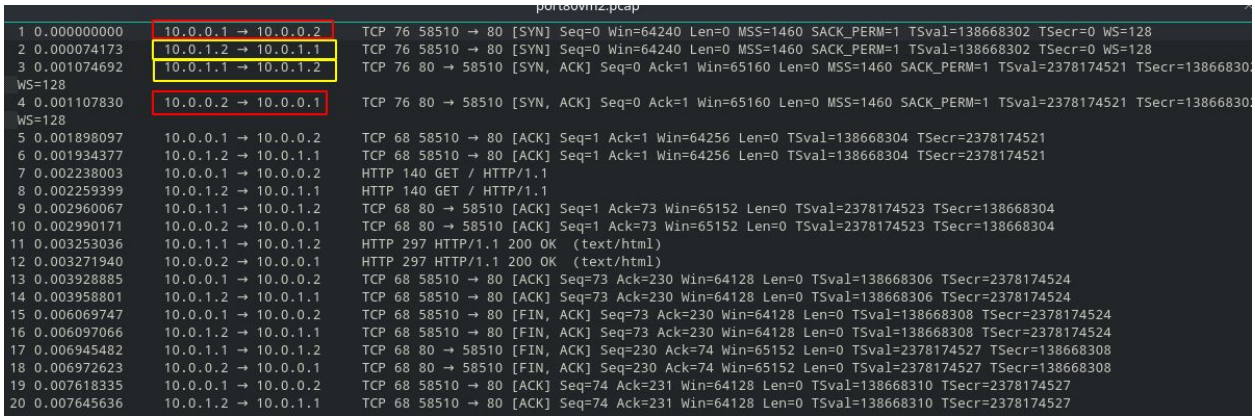


- The packets on the three machines were captured using tshark and saved in utf-8 format as shown in the screenshots below. The command used was: sudo `tshark -i any > file.`

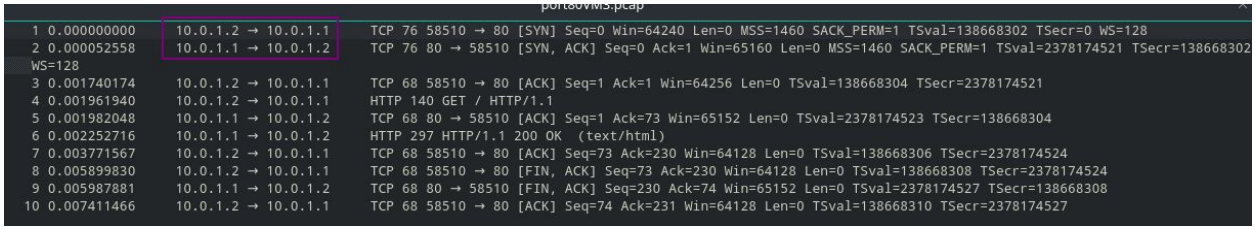
On VM1



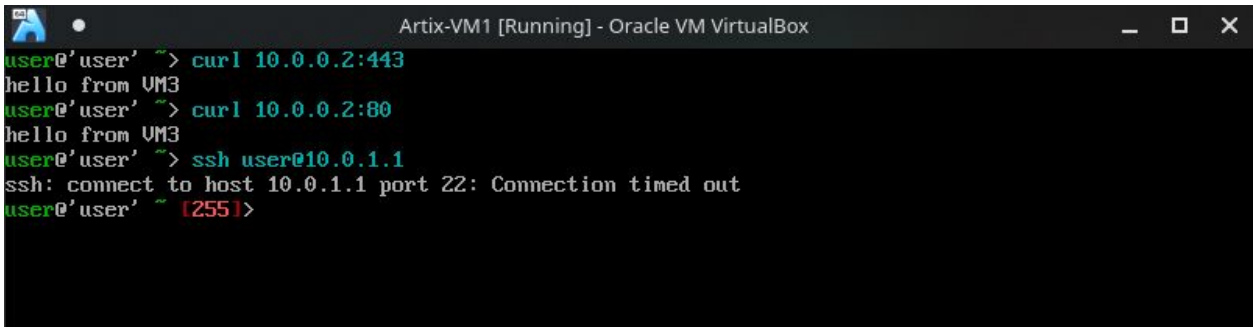
On VM2



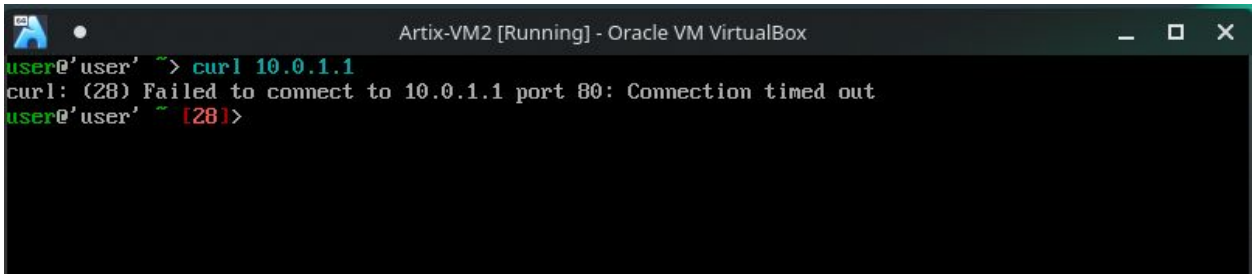
On VM3



- Following screen shot shows that HTTP request is working from VM1 to VM3 and SSH gives a timeout error.

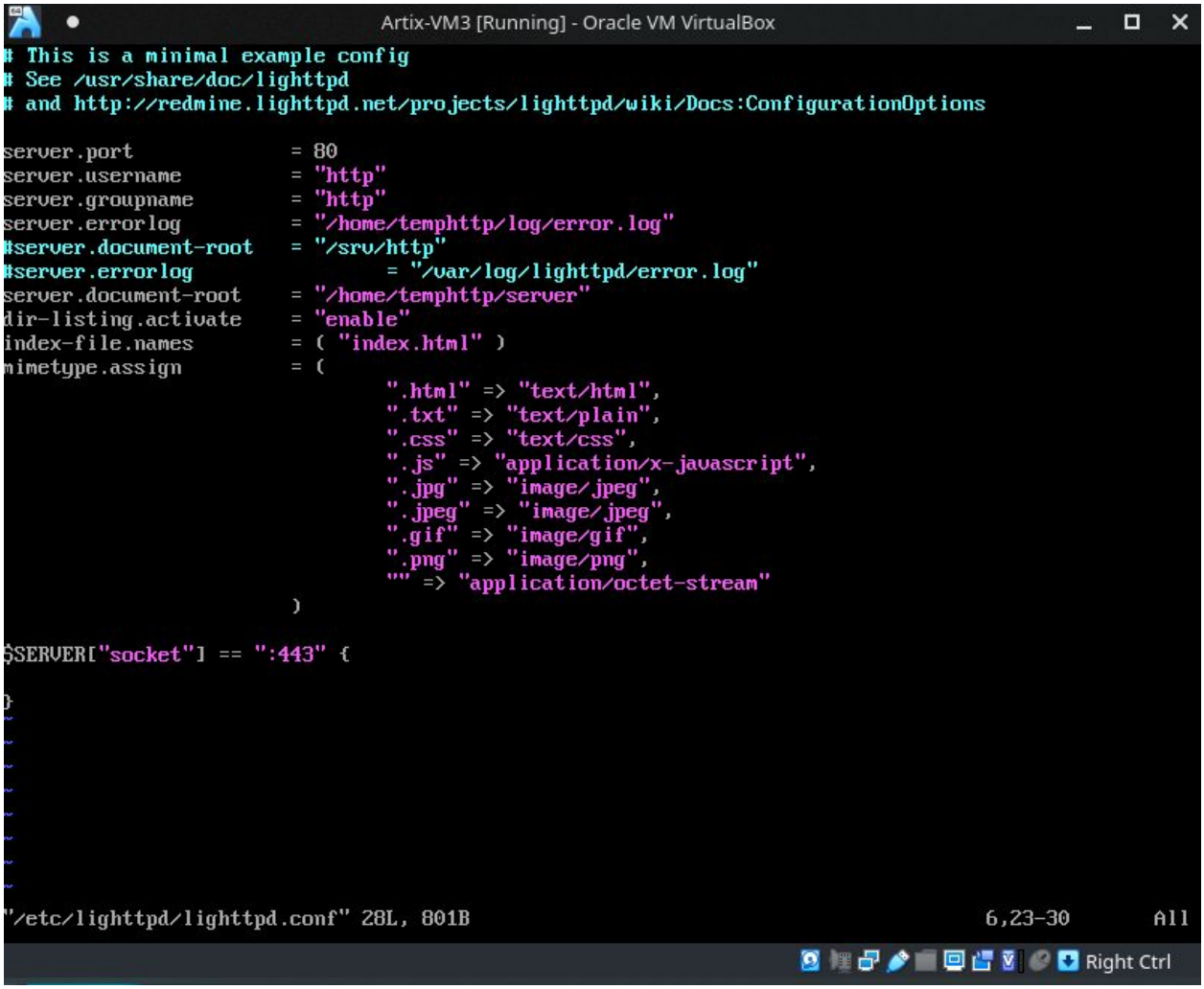


- Curl request from VM2 to VM3 results in a timeout error.

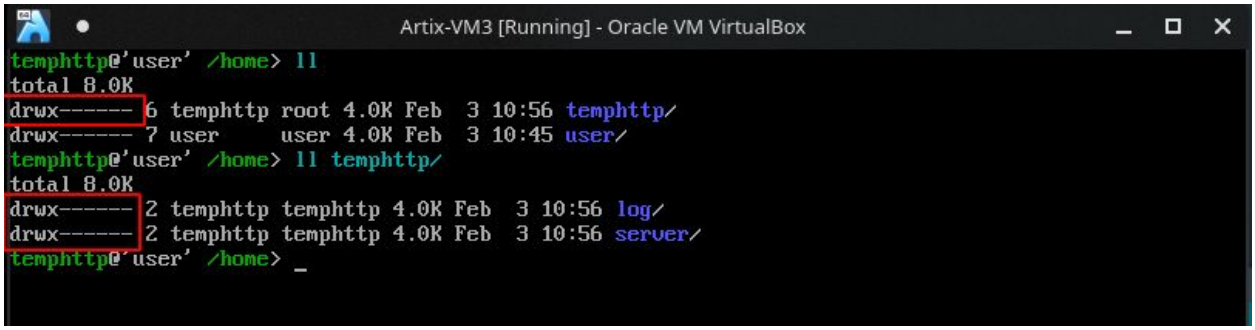


Task 2

- Changed the source root directory and error log file for lighttpd server to a directory in home folder of temphttp user.

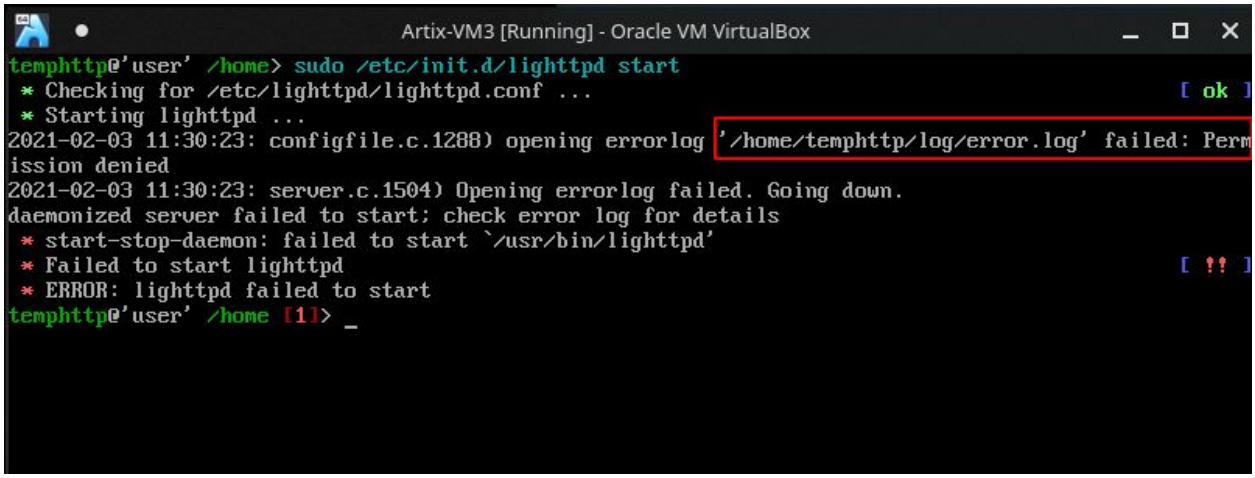


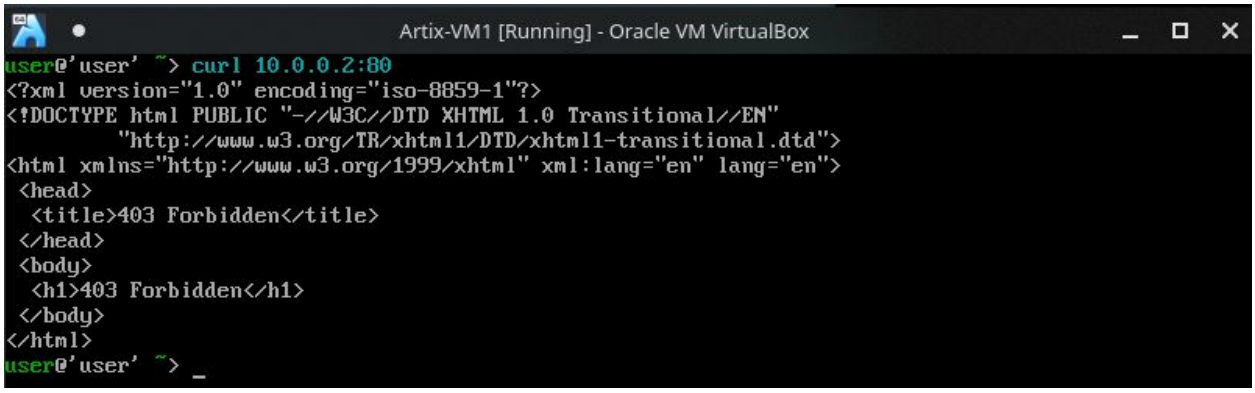
- The home /home/temphttp dir is owned by temphttp user and no r,w or x permissions are given to the group or other user.



- This way the server is not able to write into the log file thus giving error on startup as shown below. Even if the log file is accessible and the server is running, it gives a 403

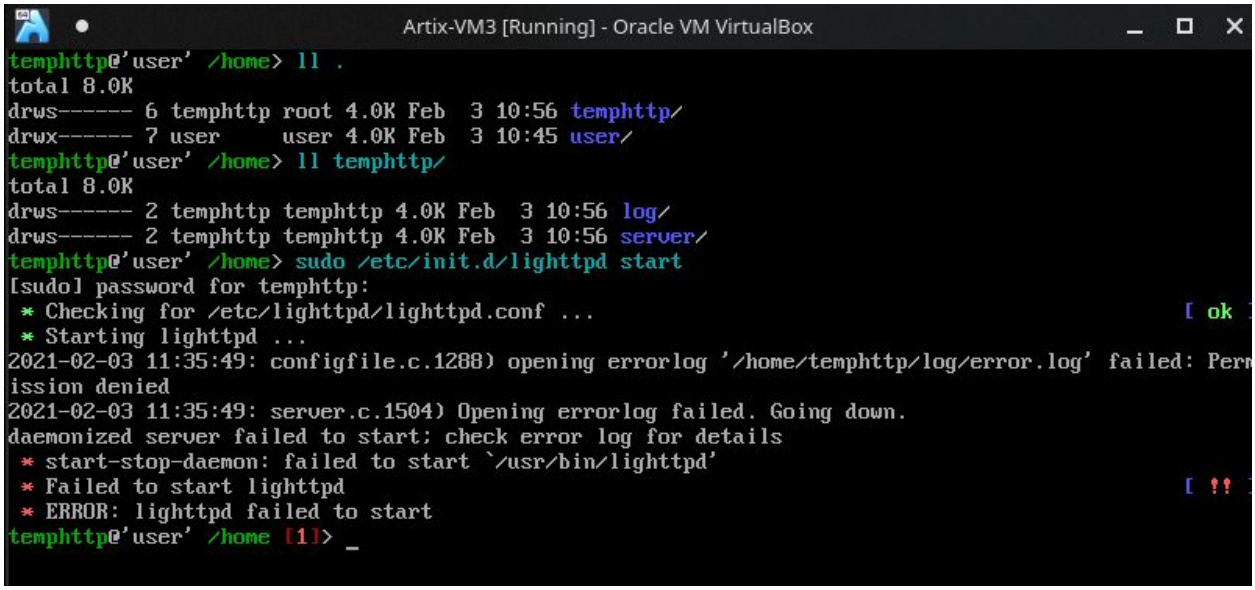
forbidden error in VM1. This is because a folder should have a executable permission to open it and here we can see only temphttp has that permission, whereas the server runs as another user called “http”.



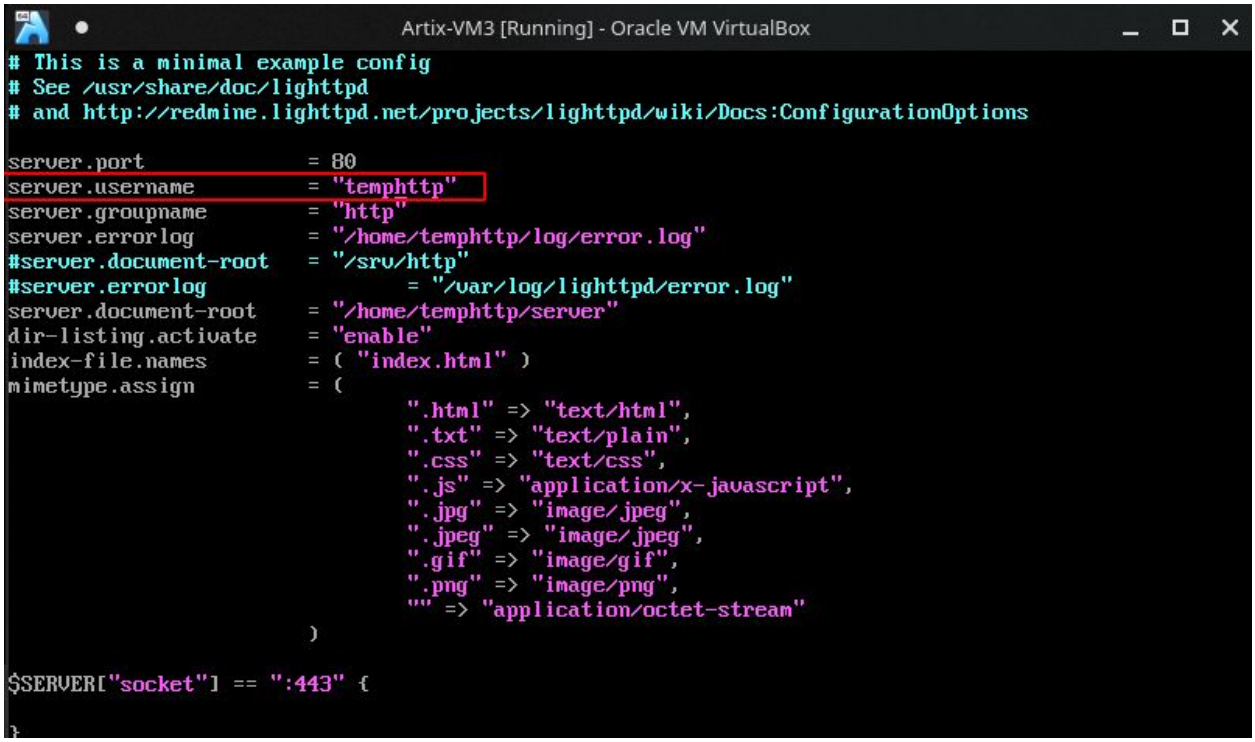


- Even adding the setuid bit does not help because as per https://linuxconfig.org/how-to-use-special-permissions-the-setuid-setgid-and-sticky-bits, the setuid bit has no effect on directories. Setuid bit is activated using command-

chmod u+s <folder name>



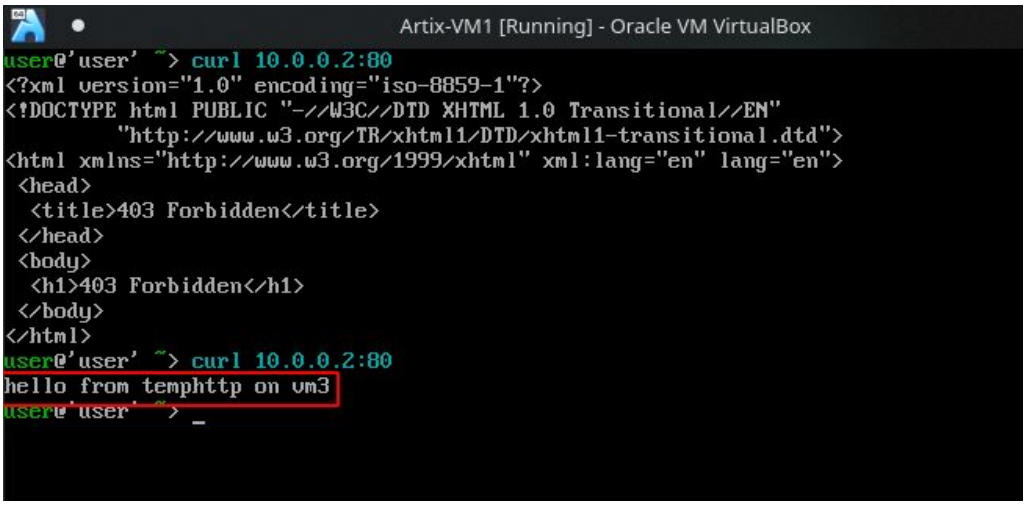
- One way to run the server without giving permission is to change the user name to temphttp in the server config file.



- To make temphttp server directory accessible to server using ACLs.

- Making sure that drive is mounted with ACL enabled, using `tune2fs -l /dev/sda3 | grep “Default mount”`

- To give user **http** execute and read permissions to the home directory of temphttp, the server directory and log directory. (-m is short of --modify and rx means read and execute. Format to give permission- `u:<username>:<permissions>`)
  - `cd /home`
  - `setfacl -m u:http:rx temphttp/ temphttp/server /temphttp/log`
  - Setting the mask so that permission for user http is correct using `setfacl -m mask:rx temphttp/ temphttp/server /temphttp/log`
  - Now checking if server is accessible from VM1



References

- https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/how-to-forward-ports-through-a-linux-gateway-with-iptables
- https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/Lighttpd
- https://linuxconfig.org/how-to-use-special-permissions-the-setuid-setgid-and-sticky-bits
- https://linuxconfig.org/how-to-manage-acls-on-linux