CYSE 301: Cybersecurity Technique and Operations

Assignment 3: Sword vs. Shield

In this assignment, you will act as an attacker to identify the vulnerabilities in the LAN network and a defender to apply proper countermeasures. You need to provide a screenshot for each task below.

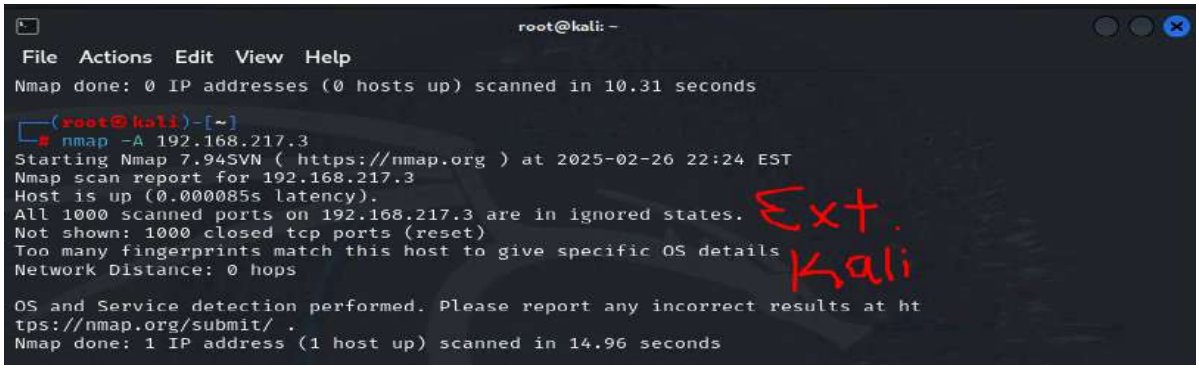
Task A: Sword - Network Scanning (20+ 20 = 40 points)

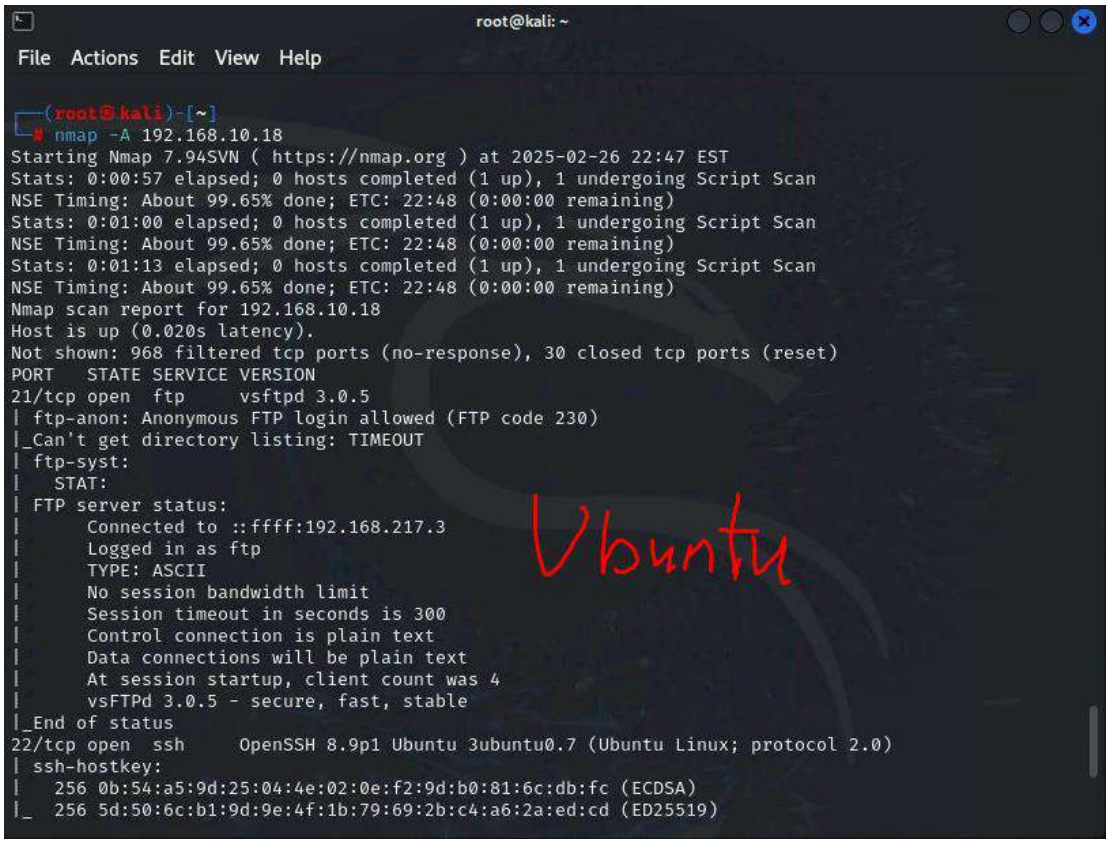
Power on the listed VMs and complete the following steps from the **External Kali** (you can use either nmap or zenmap to complete the assignment)

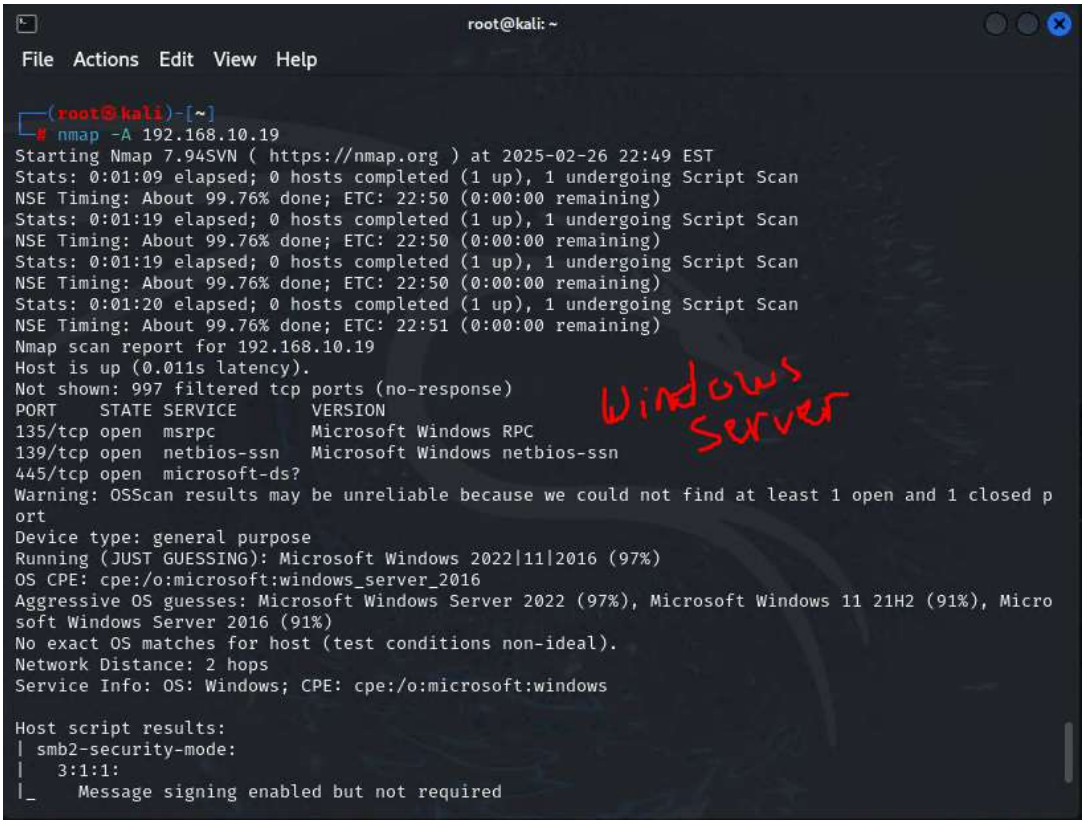
- External Kali
- pfSense
- Ubuntu
- Windows Server 2022

Make sure you didn't add/delete any firewall policy before continuing.

1. Use Nmap to profile the basic information about the **subnet** topology (including open ports information, operation systems, etc.) You need to get the **service** and **backend software** information associated with each opening port in each VM.




root@kali: ~
File Actions Edit View Help
(root㉿kali)-[~]
nmap -A 192.168.10.18
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN (https://nmap.org) at 2025-02-26 22:47 EST
Stats: 0:00:57 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing Script Scan
NSE Timing: About 99.65% done; ETC: 22:48 (0:00:00 remaining)
Stats: 0:01:00 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing Script Scan
NSE Timing: About 99.65% done; ETC: 22:48 (0:00:00 remaining)
Stats: 0:01:13 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing Script Scan
NSE Timing: About 99.65% done; ETC: 22:48 (0:00:00 remaining)
Nmap scan report for 192.168.10.18
Host is up (0.020s latency).
Not shown: 968 filtered tcp ports (no-response), 30 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
21/tcp open ftp vsftpd 3.0.5
| ftp-anon: Anonymous FTP login allowed (FTP code 230)
|_Can't get directory listing: TIMEOUT
| ftp-syst:
| STAT:
| FTP server status:
| Connected to ::ffff:192.168.217.3
| 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
| At session startup, client count was 4
| vsFTPd 3.0.5 - secure, fast, stable
|_End of status
22/tcp open ssh OpenSSH 8.9p1 Ubuntu 3ubuntu0.7 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
| 256 0b:54:a5:9d:25:04:4e:02:0e:f2:9d:b0:81:6c:db:fc (ECDSA)
|_ 256 5d:50:6c:b1:9d:9e:4f:1b:79:69:2b:c4:a6:2a:ed:cd (ED25519)
Ubuntu


root@kali: ~
File Actions Edit View Help
(root㉿kali)-[~]
nmap -A 192.168.10.19
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN (https://nmap.org) at 2025-02-26 22:49 EST
Stats: 0:01:09 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing Script Scan
NSE Timing: About 99.76% done; ETC: 22:50 (0:00:00 remaining)
Stats: 0:01:19 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing Script Scan
NSE Timing: About 99.76% done; ETC: 22:50 (0:00:00 remaining)
Stats: 0:01:19 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing Script Scan
NSE Timing: About 99.76% done; ETC: 22:50 (0:00:00 remaining)
Stats: 0:01:20 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing Script Scan
NSE Timing: About 99.76% done; ETC: 22:51 (0:00:00 remaining)
Nmap scan report for 192.168.10.19
Host is up (0.011s latency).
Not shown: 997 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
135/tcp open msrpc Microsoft Windows RPC
139/tcp open netbios-ssn Microsoft Windows netbios-ssn
445/tcp open microsoft-ds?
Warning: OSScan results may be unreliable because we could not find at least 1 open and 1 closed port
Device type: general purpose
Running (JUST GUESSING): Microsoft Windows 2022|11|2016 (97%)
OS CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows_server_2016
Aggressive OS guesses: Microsoft Windows Server 2022 (97%), Microsoft Windows 11 21H2 (91%), Microsoft Windows Server 2016 (91%)
No exact OS matches for host (test conditions non-ideal).
Network Distance: 2 hops
Service Info: OS: Windows; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows
Host script results:
| smb2-security-mode:
| 3:1:1:
|_ Message signing enabled but not required
Windows Server

2. Run Wireshark in Internal Kali VM while External Kali is scanning the network. Discuss the traffic pattern you observed. What do you find? **Please write a 200-word essay to discuss your findings.**

After running Wireshark in Internal Kali VM while External Kali was scanning the network, several findings can be observed in the traffic pattern. The scanning started with a few ARP packets where the External Kali VM queried the subnet for live hosts. Afterwards an ICMP packet was produced. It can be assumed that this was during the Nmap scanning of active virtual machines and that it was working to detect what active devices were in the network. There were a high number of DNS packets that appeared as standard queries during the Nmap's scanning of services. The ARP packets that were reported tells that 192.168.10.2 is at 00:15:5d:40:57:29. There was a high number of TCP SYN packets sent to different ports via various IPS, which can be traced back to a SYN scan. Based on these findings, the behavior of these traffic patterns on Wireshark is the typical behavior of network discovery and activities related to investigations. The main takeaway is that this sort of behavior has the aim to discover in the network what the live hosts are, what open ports exist, and the current services. All of this together can be used in providing security in the network.

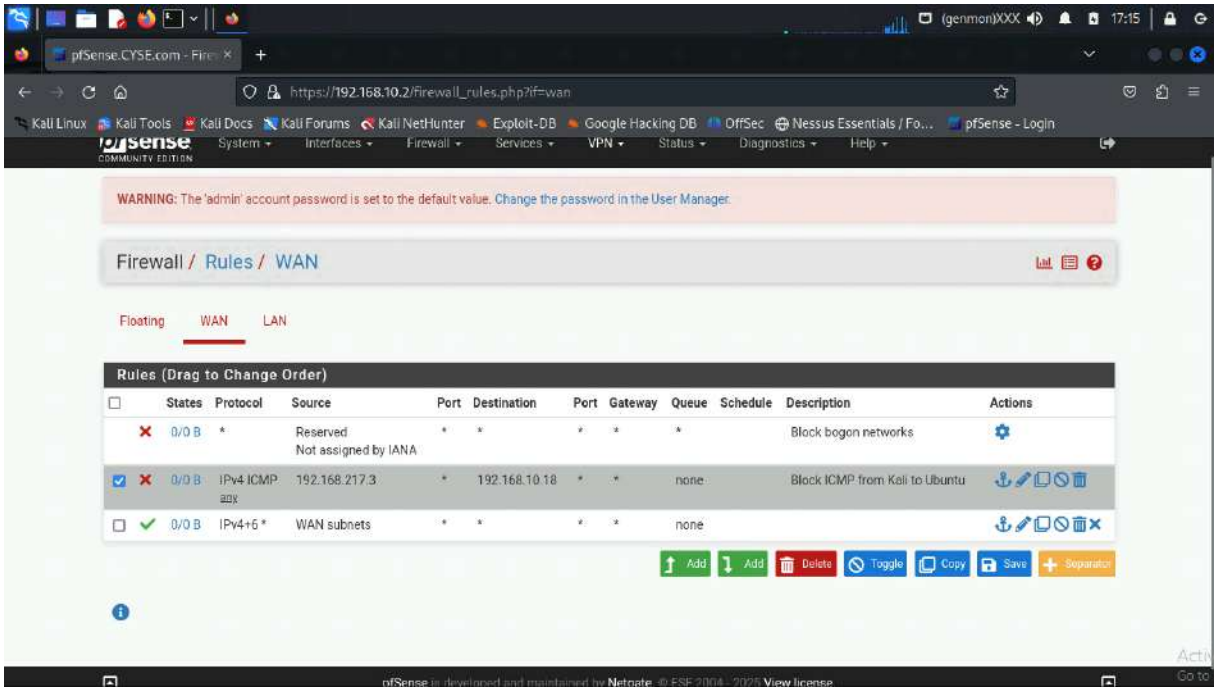
Task B: Shield – Protect your network with a firewall (10 + 10+ 20 + 20 = 60 points)

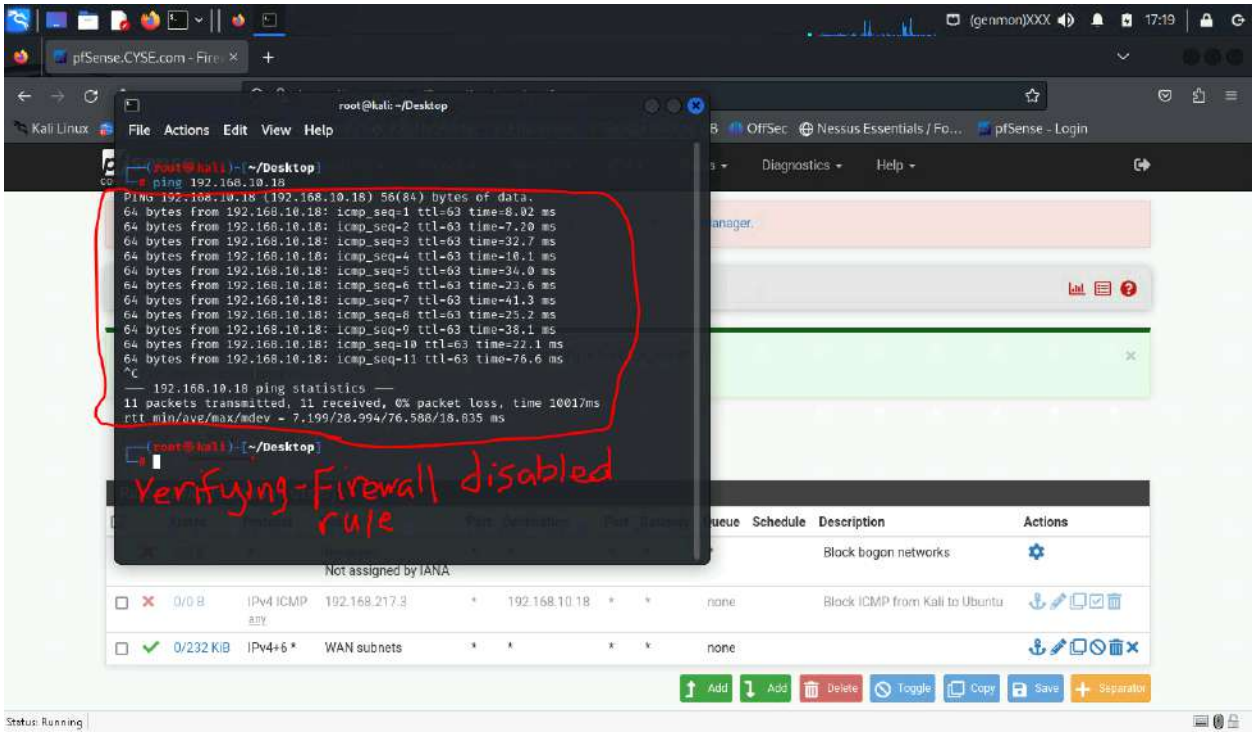
In order to receive full credits, you need to fill the table (add more rows if needed), implement the firewall rule(s), show me the screenshot of your firewall table, and verify the results.

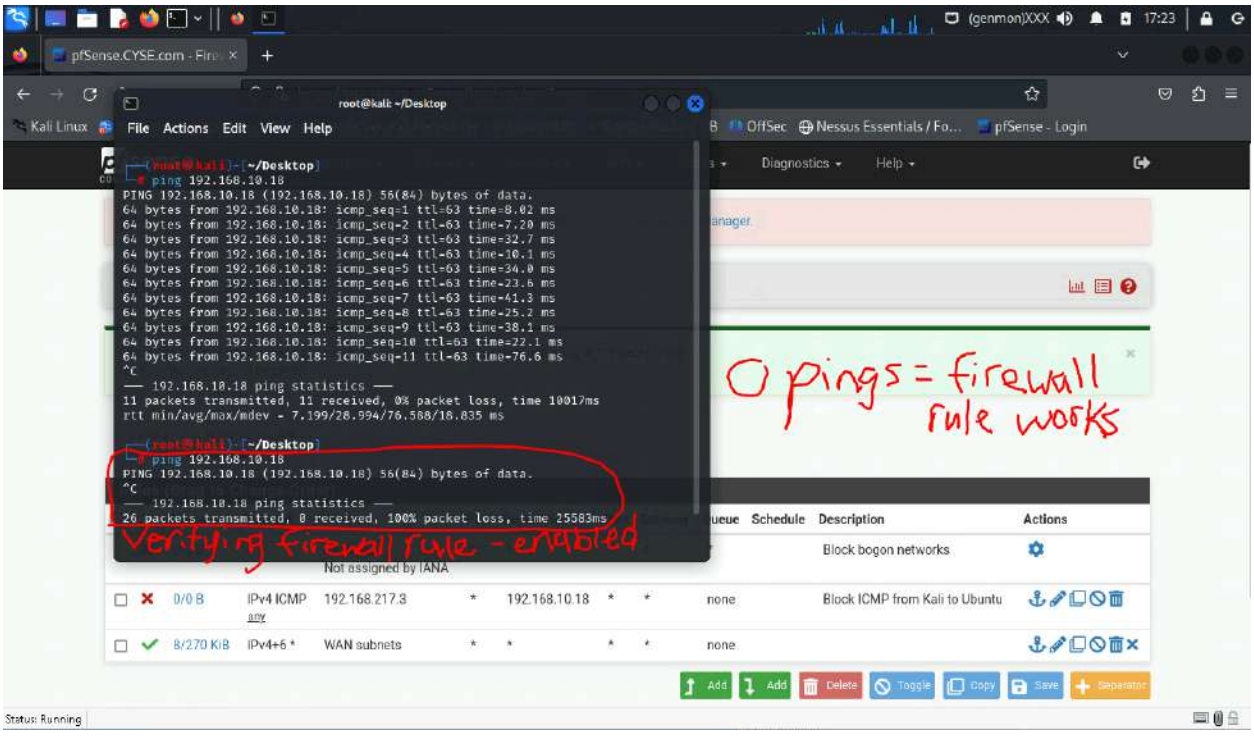
1. Configure the pfSense firewall rule to block the ICMP traffic from External Kali to Ubuntu VM.

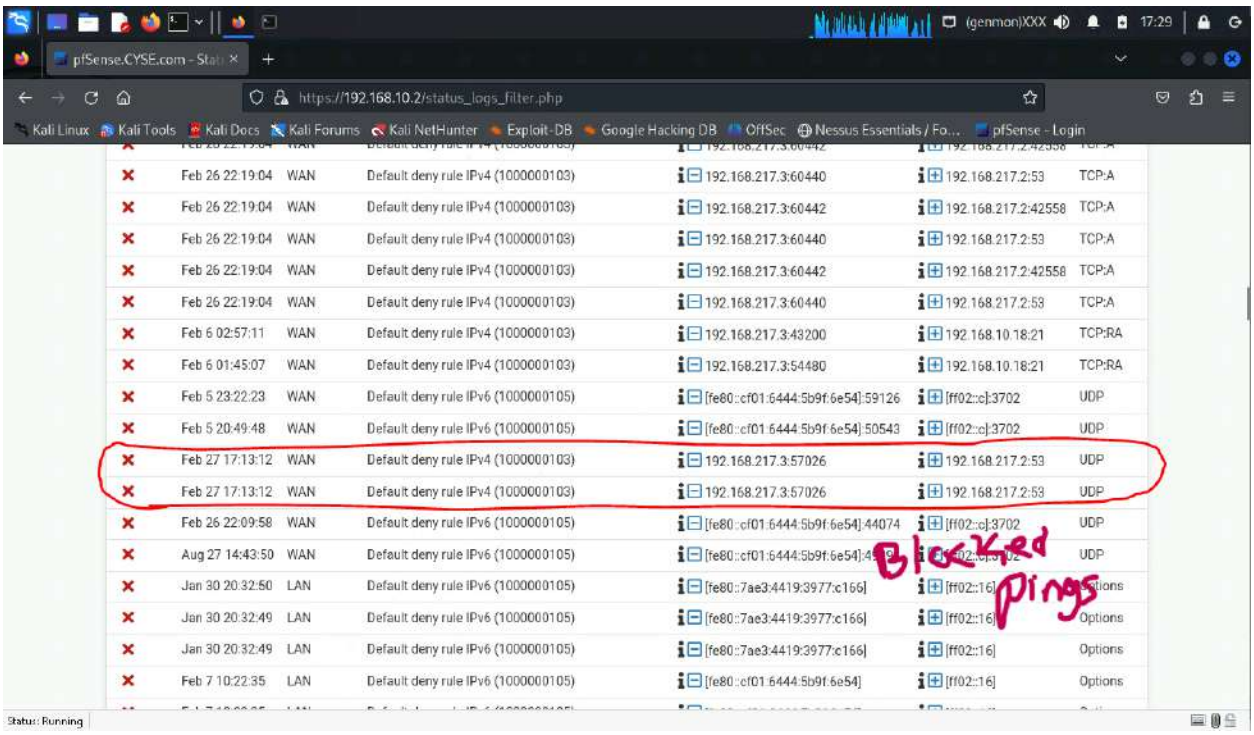
Rule #	Interface	Action	Source IP	Destination IP	Protocol (port # if appliable)
2	WAN	Block	192.168.217.3	192.168.10.18	IPv4 ICMP

[Add the screenshot here]




root@kali: ~/Desktop
File Actions Edit View Help
ping 192.168.10.18
PING 192.168.10.18 (192.168.10.18) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=1 ttl=63 time=8.02 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=2 ttl=63 time=7.20 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=3 ttl=63 time=32.7 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=4 ttl=63 time=10.1 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=5 ttl=63 time=34.0 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=6 ttl=63 time=23.6 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=7 ttl=63 time=41.3 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=8 ttl=63 time=25.2 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=9 ttl=63 time=38.1 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=10 ttl=63 time=22.1 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=11 ttl=63 time=76.6 ms
^C
— 192.168.10.18 ping statistics —
11 packets transmitted, 11 received, 0% packet loss, time 10017ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 7.199/28.994/76.588/18.835 ms
Verifying - Firewall disabled rule
Description
Actions
Block bogon networks
Not assigned by IANA
0/0 B
IPv4 ICMP any
192.168.217.3
192.168.10.18
none
Block ICMP from Kali to Ubuntu
0/232 KiB
IPv4+6 *
WAN subnets
none
Add
Add
Delete
Toggle
Copy
Save
Separator
Status: Running


root@kali: ~/Desktop
File Actions Edit View Help
ping 192.168.10.18
PING 192.168.10.18 (192.168.10.18) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=1 ttl=63 time=8.02 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=2 ttl=63 time=7.20 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=3 ttl=63 time=32.7 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=4 ttl=63 time=10.1 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=5 ttl=63 time=34.0 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=6 ttl=63 time=23.6 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=7 ttl=63 time=41.3 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=8 ttl=63 time=25.2 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=9 ttl=63 time=38.1 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=10 ttl=63 time=22.1 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.18: icmp_seq=11 ttl=63 time=76.6 ms
^C
— 192.168.10.18 ping statistics —
11 packets transmitted, 11 received, 0% packet loss, time 10017ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 7.199/28.994/76.588/18.835 ms
ping 192.168.10.18
PING 192.168.10.18 (192.168.10.18) 56(84) bytes of data.
^C
— 192.168.10.18 ping statistics —
26 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 25583ms
Verifying firewall rule - enabled
0 pings = firewall rule works
Description
Actions
Block bogon networks
Not assigned by IANA
0/0 B
IPv4 ICMP any
192.168.217.3
192.168.10.18
none
Block ICMP from Kali to Ubuntu
8/270 KiB
IPv4+6 *
WAN subnets
none
Add
Add
Delete
Toggle
Copy
Save
Separator
Status: Running



2. Clear the previous firewall policies and configure the pfSense firewall to block all ICMP traffic from External Kali to the LAN side.

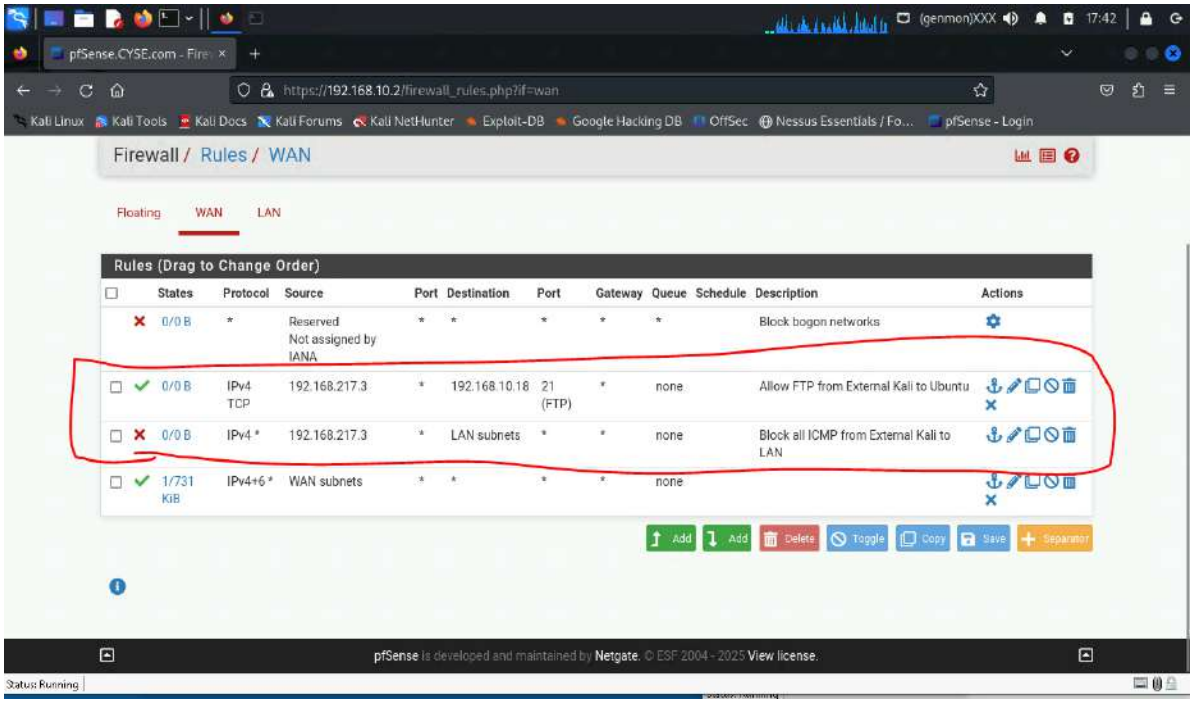
Rule #	Interface	Action	Source IP	Destination IP	Protocol (port # if appliable)
2	WAN	Block	192.168.217.3	LAN subnets	Any

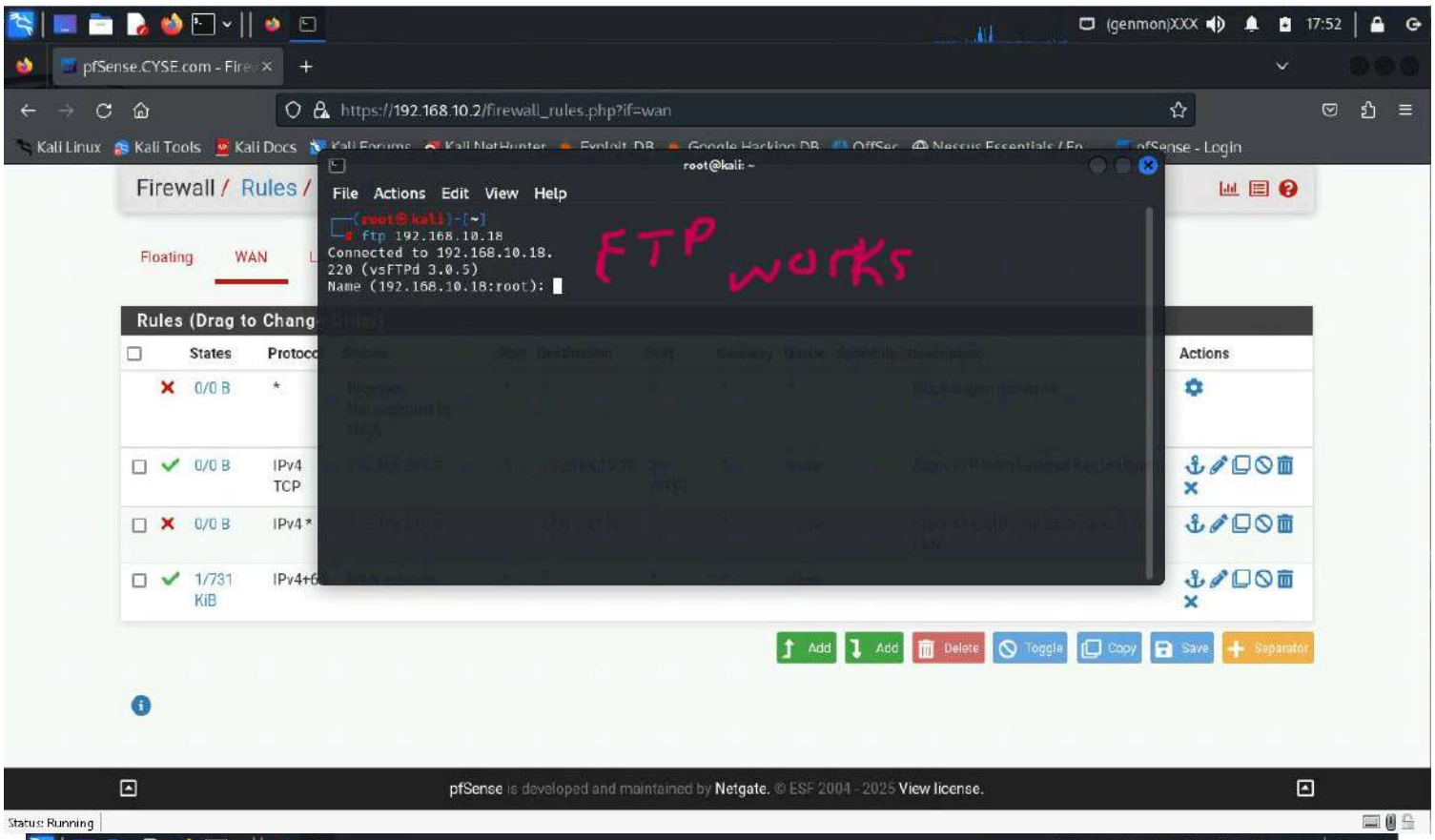
[Add the screenshot here]

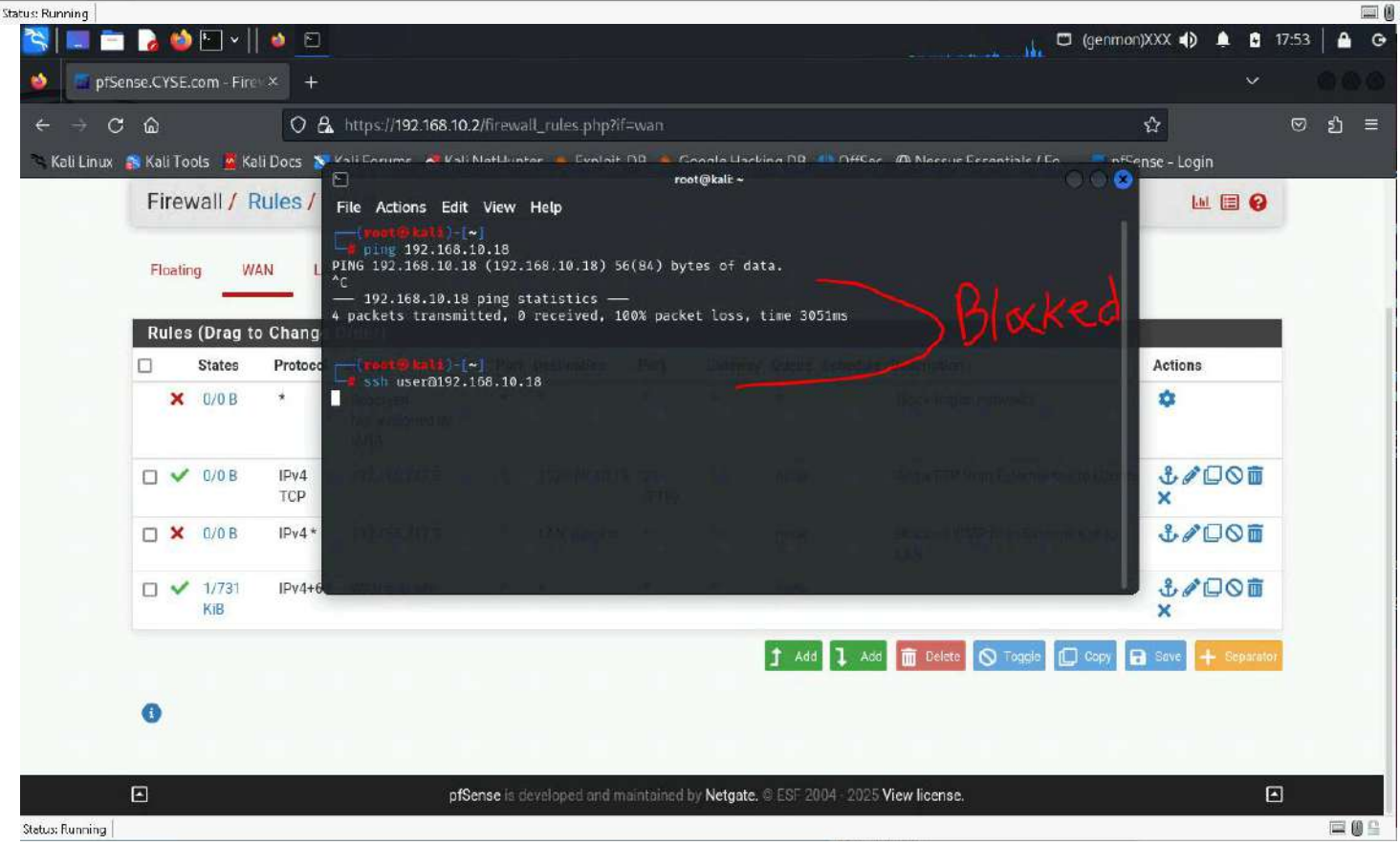
3. Clear the previous firewall policies and configure the pfSense firewall to block ALL traffic from External Kali to the LAN side, except for the FTP protocol towards Ubuntu.

Rule #	Interface	Action	Source IP	Destination IP	Protocol (port # if appliable)
2	WAN	Block	192.168.217.3	LAN subnets	Any
3	WAN	Allow	192.168.217.3	192.168.10.18	FTP (21)

[Add the screenshot here]




pfSense.CYSE.com - Firewall
https://192.168.10.2/firewall_rules.php?if=wan
Kali Linux
Kali Tools
Kali Docs
pfSense - Login
Firewall / Rules /
Floating
WAN
root@kali: ~
File Actions Edit View Help
ftp 192.168.10.18
Connected to 192.168.10.18.
220 (vsFTPd 3.0.5)
Name (192.168.10.18:root):
FTP works
Rules (Drag to Chang
States
Protocc
Actions
0/0 B
IPv4 TCP
IPv4 *
1/731 KiB
Add
Delete
Toggle
Copy
Save
Separator
pfSense is developed and maintained by Netgate. © ESF 2004 - 2025 View license.
Status: Running


pfSense.CYSE.com - Firewall
https://192.168.10.2/firewall_rules.php?if=wan
Kali Linux
Kali Tools
Kali Docs
pfSense - Login
Firewall / Rules /
Floating
WAN
root@kali: ~
File Actions Edit View Help
ping 192.168.10.18
PING 192.168.10.18 (192.168.10.18) 56(84) bytes of data.
^C
— 192.168.10.18 ping statistics —
4 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 3051ms
Blocked
ssh user@192.168.10.18
Rules (Drag to Chang
States
Protocc
Actions
0/0 B
IPv4 TCP
IPv4 *
1/731 KiB
Add
Delete
Toggle
Copy
Save
Separator
pfSense is developed and maintained by Netgate. © ESF 2004 - 2025 View license.
Status: Running

4. Keep the firewall policies you created in Task B.3 and repeat Task A.1. What's the difference?

   Originally in Task A.1., there were no restrictions set in the firewall rules other than blocking ICMP traffic. The difference now is that ALL traffic is blocked except FTP from Kali to LAN. The only one that works now is FTP and if you test pings of SSH for example, it will be blocked and not work.

Extra credit (15 points): Use NESSUS to enumerate the security vulnerabilities of Microsoft Windows Server 2022 VM in the CCIA network.