

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF HANOI



INTRUSION DETECTION AND PREVENTION SYSTEMS

Report

NVT: Weak Host Key Algorithm(s) (SSH)

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Hanoi, October 29, 2024

A. Introduction to this vulnerability

I. What is this vuln and type of vulnerability is this?

1. What is this vulnerability?
 - NVT: Weak Host Key Algorithm(s) (SSH)
 - The remote SSH server is configured to allow / support weak host key algorithm(s).
2. Type of vulnerability
 - Server-side vulnerability

II. Outline the technical mechanism of the vulnerability.

1. Key Exchange Vulnerabilities
 - SSH sessions start with a key exchange process to establish a secure communication channel.
 - In weak key exchanges, outdated algorithms like Diffie-Hellman Group1 (1024-bit) are often used, which can be vulnerable to man-in-the-middle (MITM) or logjam attacks, as they rely on short key lengths that can be brute-forced.
 - Attackers can intercept this exchange, potentially deriving the shared session key if the computation requirements are low due to a weak key size.
2. Cipher Vulnerabilities
 - SSH uses symmetric encryption to encrypt data after the key exchange. If weak ciphers (such as 3DES, Blowfish, or AES-128-CBC) are used, an attacker might break the encryption by leveraging known cryptographic weaknesses, such as padding oracle attacks or cipher block chaining (CBC) vulnerabilities.
 - Weak ciphers make the encrypted data more susceptible to cryptographic attacks, like known-plaintext or chosen-ciphertext attacks, which could reveal sensitive information or the entire session's contents.
3. Hashing Algorithm Weaknesses
 - Hash functions are used in SSH for creating digital signatures and integrity checks. However, older algorithms like MD5 and SHA-1 have known vulnerabilities (e.g., susceptibility to collision attacks).
 - If these weak algorithms are used for message authentication (HMAC), attackers could potentially forge or tamper with messages by exploiting hash collisions, which undermine the integrity of the SSH session.
4. Small Key Sizes
 - SSH keys generated with smaller bit sizes, such as RSA-1024 or DSA-1024, are easier to crack with modern computational power.

- If an attacker can break these keys, they could impersonate the server or client, hijack sessions, or decrypt past communications if they have been captured.

III. Impact and Severity

1. Potential Impact

- Increased Risk of Man-in-the-Middle (MitM) Attacks.
- Brute-Force Attacks on SSH Keys
- Compromised Confidentiality and Integrity of Data
- Potential Access to the System via Weak Authentication

2. Severity level

- CVSS: 5.3
- Quality of Detection (QoD): 80%

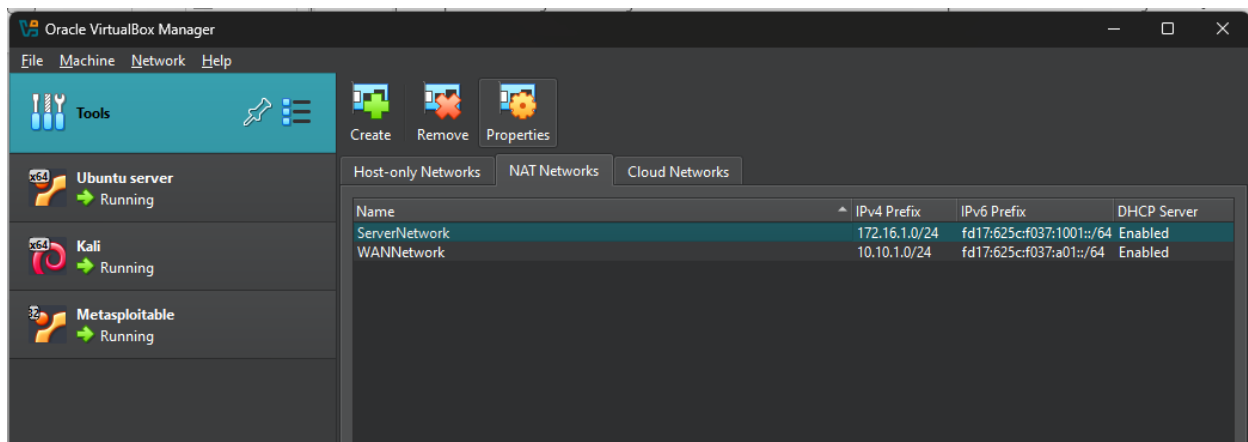
B. Implementation

I. Labwork 1: Creating environment for testing

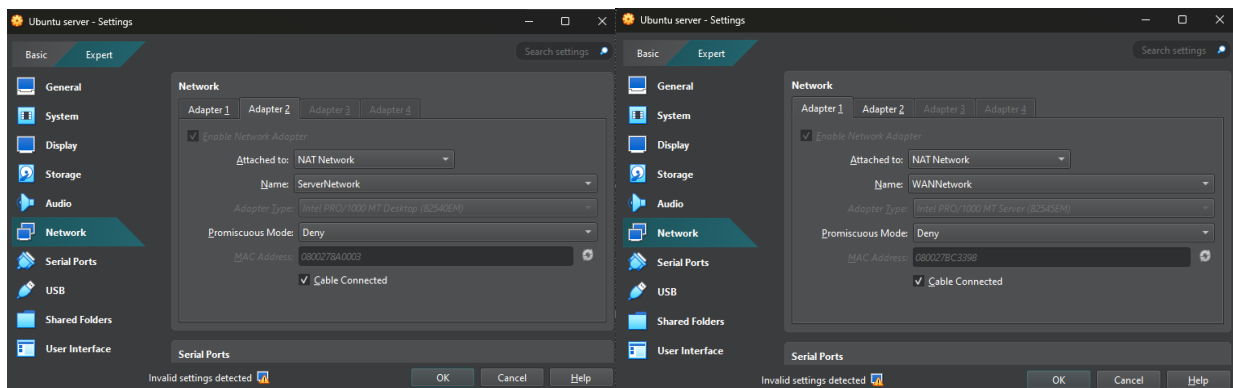
1. Requirement

- VirtualBox or VMware
- OVA or ISO file for Kali, Ubuntu server, Metasploitable 2

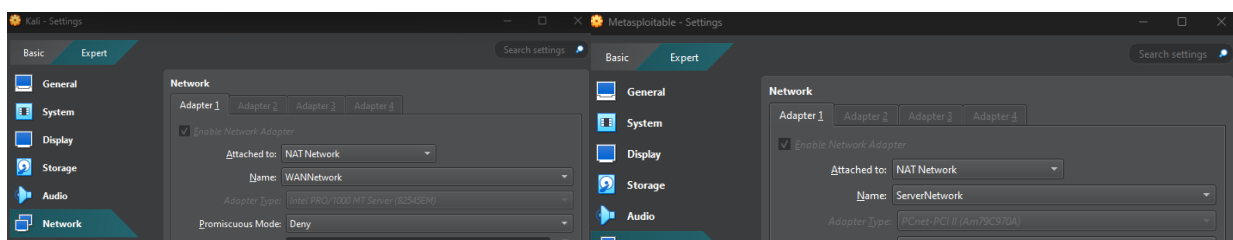
2. Configure virtual machine network



- For Ubuntu server, I will create 2 network adapters, both using NAT Network, one connects to ServerNetwork, the other connect to WANNetwork



- For Kali, I will connect to WANNetwork and for Metasploitable 2, I will connect to ServerNetwork, both using NAT Network



- After configure network outside in VirtualBox, continue to configure the IPs inside the virtual machine → Result:

```
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ ip a
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 16384 qdisc noqueue
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        inet6 ::1/128 scope host
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo_fast qlen 1000
    link/ether 08:00:27:27:f9:5b brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 172.16.1.6/24 brd 172.16.1.255 scope global eth0
        inet6 fd17:625c:f037:1001:a00:27ff:fe27:f95b/64 scope global dynamic
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe27:f95b/64 scope link
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ ip r
172.16.1.0/24 dev eth0 proto kernel scope link src 172.16.1.6
default via 172.16.1.1 dev eth0 metric 100
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$
```

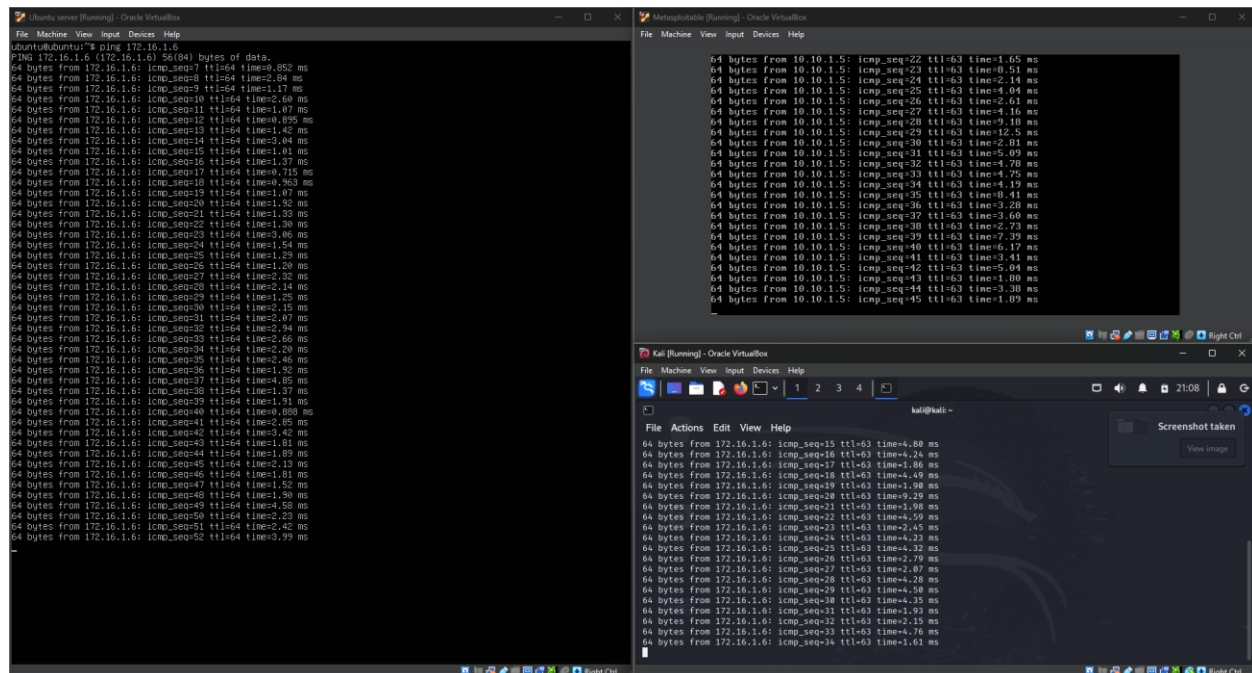
```
kali@kali:~$ ip a
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        inet6 ::1/128 scope host noprefixroute
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 08:00:27:bf:d9:57 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 10.10.1.1/24 brd 10.10.1.255 scope global dynamic noprefixroute eth0
        inet6 fd17:625c:f037:a01:000:27ff:fe27:f95b/64 scope global temporary dynamic
            valid_lft 602959sec preferred_lft 84178sec
    inet6 fd17:625c:f037:a01:000:27ff:fe27:f95b/64 scope global mngtmpaddr noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe27:f95b/64 scope link noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
kali@kali:~$ ip r
default via 10.10.1.1 dev eth0 proto dhcp src 10.10.1.1 metric 100
10.10.1.0/24 dev eth0 proto kernel scope link src 10.10.1.1 metric 100
```

```

ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ ip a
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 ::1/128 scope host noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: enp0s8: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo_fast state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 08:00:27:8a:00:03 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 172.16.1.1/24 brd 172.16.1.255 scope global enp0s8
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fd17:625c:f037:1001:a00:27ff:fe8a:3/64 scope global mngtmpaddr noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe8a:3/64 scope link
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
3: enp0s17: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo_fast state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 08:00:27:bc:33:98 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 10.10.1.1/24 brd 10.10.1.255 scope global enp0s17
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fd17:625c:f037:a01:a00:27ff:febc:3398/64 scope global mngtmpaddr noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:febc:3398/64 scope link
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ ip r
10.10.1.0/24 dev enp0s17 proto kernel scope link src 10.10.1.1
172.16.1.0/24 dev enp0s8 proto kernel scope link src 172.16.1.1

```

- Kali: **10.10.1.5**
 - Metasploitable 2: **172.16.1.6**
 - Ubuntu server: Gateway **10.10.1.1** and **172.16.1.1**
- ➔ Successfully ping these machines together



II. Labwork 2: Security threats and scanning

1. Using nmap (Network Mapper): Scan for ports
 - nmap: Host Discovery

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~] Scans Assets Resilience SecInfo
$ sudo nmap 172.16.1.*
[sudo] password for kali: Filter
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-10-26 10:50 CDT
Nmap scan report for 172.16.1.1
Host is up (0.00099s latency).
All 1000 scanned ports on 172.16.1.1 are in ignored states.
Not shown: 1000 closed tcp ports (reset)

Tasks by Severity Class (Total: 2) x Tasks with most High Results per Host
Nmap scan report for 172.16.1.2
Host is up (0.0035s latency).
All 1000 scanned ports on 172.16.1.2 are in ignored states.
Not shown: 1000 filtered tcp ports (no-response)

Nmap scan report for 172.16.1.6
Host is up (0.0043s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed tcp ports (reset)
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

Status Reports Last Report
1 100% 1 Fri, Oct 25, 2024 10:50 AM UTC
2 100% 2 Sat, Oct 26, 2024 10:50 PM UTC

Nmap done: 256 IP addresses (3 hosts up) scanned in 26.46 seconds
```

```
File Actions Edit View Help
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ sudo nmap 172.16.1.6
[sudo] password for kali:
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-10-25 03:38 CDT
Nmap scan report for 172.16.1.6
Host is up (0.014s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed tcp ports (reset)
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

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 14.27 seconds
```

- nmap: Port Scanning
 - SYN packets ***"sudo nmap -sS 172.16.1.x"***
 - Full TCP connections ***"sudo nmap -sT 172.16.1.x"***
 - ACK packets ***"sudo nmap -sA 172.16.1.x"***
 - Fin packets ***"sudo nmap -sF 172.16.1.x"***
 - Basic 100 UDP ports ***"sudo nmap -sU 172.16.1.x"***
 - Not scan any port, only host discovery ***"sudo nmap -sn 172.16.1.x"***

```

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo nmap -sS 172.16.1.6
[sudo] password for kali: service not known
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-10-25 10:22 CDT
Nmap scan report for 172.16.1.6
Host is up (0.039s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed tcp ports (reset) of data.
PORT/tes STATE SERVICE    icmp_seq=1 ttl=255 time=0.327 ms
21/tcp/s open  ftp0.1.1: icmp_seq=2 ttl=255 time=0.290 ms
22/tcp    open  ssh
23/tcp    open  telnet
Statistics ---
25/tcp/s open  smtped, 2 received, 0% packet loss, time 1007ms
53/tcp/s open  domain  0.290/0.308/0.327/0.018 ms
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn
445/tcp/s open  microsoft-ds) 56(84) bytes of data.
512/tcp   open  exec
513/tcp   open  login
Statistics ---
514/tcp/s open  shelled, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 10226ms
1099/tcp  open  rmiregistry
1524/tcp  open  ingreslock
2049/tcp  open  nfs
2121/tcp  open  ccproxy-ftp
3306/tcp  open  mysql(16.1.6) 56(84) bytes of data.
5432/tcp  open  postgresql icmp_seq=1 ttl=63 time=2.67 ms
5900/tcp  open  vnc
6000/tcp  open  X11
Statistics ---
6667/tcp  open  ircdted, 1 received, 0% packet loss, time 0ms
8009/tcp  open  ajp13  2.673/2.673/2.673/0.000 ms
8180/tcp  open  unknown
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 14.00 seconds

```

- nmap: OS Detection “**sudo nmap -O 172.16.1.x**”


```

kali$ sudo nmap -O 172.16.1.6 View Help
[sudo] password for kali:
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-10-25 03:56 CDT
Nmap scan report for 172.16.1.6
Host is up (0.0049s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed tcp ports (reset)
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
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: 2 hops

OS detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 15.47 seconds

```

- nmap: Service Detection “**sudo nmap -sV 172.16.1.x**”

```

kali$ sudo nmap -sV 172.16.1.6
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-10-25 03:57 CDT
Nmap scan report for 172.16.1.6
Host is up (0.0068s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed tcp ports (reset)
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?
25/tcp    open  smtp?
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  ccproxy-ftp?
3306/tcp  open  mysql?
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
Service Info: Host: irc.Metasploitable.LAN; OSs: Unix, 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 195.69 seconds

```

2. Using GVM (Greenbone Vulnerability Management): Scan for threats

- Architecture: Maily consists of the following three components
 - o GSA (Greenbone Security Assistants)
 - o GVM (Greenbone Vulnerability Management)
 - o OpenVAS Scanner

- Installation:
 - o Install GVM: ***“sudo apt install gvm”***
 - o Setup GVM: ***“sudo gvm-setup”***

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ sudo gvm-setup

[>] Starting PostgreSQL service

[>] Creating GVM's certificate files

[>] Creating PostgreSQL database
[i] User _gvm already exists in PostgreSQL
[i] Database gvmd already exists in PostgreSQL
[i] Role DBA already exists in PostgreSQL

[*] Applying permissions
NOTICE: role "_gvm" has already been granted membership in role "dba" by role "postgres"
GRANT ROLE
[i] Extension uuid-ossf already exists for gvmd database
[i] Extension pgcrypto already exists for gvmd database
[i] Extension pg-gvm already exists for gvmd database
[>] Migrating database
[>] Checking for GVM admin user
[*] Configure Feed Import Owner
[*] Update GVM feeds
Running as root. Switching to user '_gvm' and group '_gvm'.
Trying to acquire lock on /var/lib/openvas/feed-update.lock
Acquired lock on /var/lib/openvas/feed-update.lock
# Downloading Notus files from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/vulnerability-feed/22.04/vt-data/notus
/var/lib/notus
```

```
# Downloading NASL files from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/vulnerability-feed/22.04/vt-data/nasl/
/var/lib/openvas/plugins
rsync: getaddrinfo: feed.community.greenbone.net 873: Temporary failure in name resolution
rsync error: error in socket IO (code 10) at clientserver.c(139) [Receiver=3.3.0]

Releasing lock on /var/lib/openvas/feed-update.lock

Trying to acquire lock on /var/lib/gvm/feed-update.lock
Acquired lock on /var/lib/gvm/feed-update.lock
# Downloading SCAP data from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/vulnerability-feed/22.04/scap-data/ to
/var/lib/gvm/scap-data
rsync: getaddrinfo: feed.community.greenbone.net 873: Temporary failure in name resolution
rsync error: error in socket IO (code 10) at clientserver.c(139) [Receiver=3.3.0]

# Downloading CERT-Bund data from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/vulnerability-feed/22.04/cert-data/
/var/lib/gvm/cert-data
rsync: getaddrinfo: feed.community.greenbone.net 873: Temporary failure in name resolution
rsync error: error in socket IO (code 10) at clientserver.c(139) [Receiver=3.3.0]

# Downloading gvmd data from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/data-feed/22.04/ to
/var/lib/gvm/data-objects/gvmd/22.04
rsync: getaddrinfo: feed.community.greenbone.net 873: Temporary failure in name resolution
rsync error: error in socket IO (code 10) at clientserver.c(139) [Receiver=3.3.0]

Releasing lock on /var/lib/gvm/feed-update.lock

[*] Checking Default scanner
08b69003-5fc2-4037-a479-93b440211c73 OpenVAS /run/ospd/ospd.sock 0 OpenVAS Default
[i] No need to alter default scanner

[+] Done
[i] Admin user already exists for GVM
[i] If you have forgotten it, you can change it. See gvmd manpage for more information

[>] You can now run gvm-check-setup to make sure everything is correctly configured
```

- Setup username and password for GVM: “**sudo -u _gvm --gvm --user=admin --new-password=letmein**”

```
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ sudo -u _gvm gvmc --user=admin --new-password=moonlight
(kali@kali)-[~]
```

```
# Downloading NASL files from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/vulnerability-feed/22.04/vt-data/nasl/
/var/lib/openvas/plugins
rsync: getaddrinfo: feed.community.greenbone.net 873: Temporary failure in name resolution
rsync error: error in socket IO (code 10) at clientserver.c(139) [Receiver=3.3.0]

Releasing lock on /var/lib/openvas/feed-update.lock

Trying to acquire lock on /var/lib/gvm/feed-update.lock
Acquired lock on /var/lib/gvm/feed-update.lock
# Downloading SCAP data from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/vulnerability-feed/22.04/scap-data/ to
/var/lib/gvm/scap-data
rsync: getaddrinfo: feed.community.greenbone.net 873: Temporary failure in name resolution
rsync error: error in socket IO (code 10) at clientserver.c(139) [Receiver=3.3.0]

# Downloading CERT-Bund data from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/vulnerability-feed/22.04/cert-data/
/var/lib/gvm/cert-data
rsync: getaddrinfo: feed.community.greenbone.net 873: Temporary failure in name resolution
rsync error: error in socket IO (code 10) at clientserver.c(139) [Receiver=3.3.0]

# Downloading gvmc data from rsync://feed.community.greenbone.net/community/data-feed/22.04/ to
/var/lib/gvm/data-objects/gvmc/22.04
rsync: getaddrinfo: feed.community.greenbone.net 873: Temporary failure in name resolution
rsync error: error in socket IO (code 10) at clientserver.c(139) [Receiver=3.3.0]

Releasing lock on /var/lib/gvm/feed-update.lock

[*] Checking Default scanner
08b69003-5fc2-4037-a479-93b440211c73 OpenVAS /run/ospd/ospd.sock 0 OpenVAS Default
[i] No need to alter default scanner

[+] Done
[i] Admin user already exists for GVM
[i] If you have forgotten it, you can change it. See gvmc manpage for more information

[>] You can now run gvm-check-setup to make sure everything is correctly configured
```

- Start gvm: “**sudo gvm-start**”

```
File Actions Edit View Help
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ sudo gvm-start
[sudo] password for kali:
[+] Please wait for the GVM services to start.
[+] You might need to refresh your browser once it opens.
[+] Web UI (Greenbone Security Assistant): https://127.0.0.1:9392

• gsad.service - Greenbone Security Assistant daemon (gsad)
  Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/gsad.service; disabled; preset: disabled)
  Active: active (running) since Fri 2024-10-25 04:40:04 CDT; 12ms ago
  Invocation: 163941aca98748c8b5f239c7ef96b089
  Docs: man:gsad(8)
        https://www.greenbone.net
  Main PID: 35685 (gsad)
  Tasks: 1 (limit: 4606)
  Memory: 1.2M (peak: 1.2M)
  CPU: 3ms
  CGroup: /system.slice/gsad.service
          └─35685 /usr/sbin/gsad --foreground --listen 127.0.0.1 --port 9392

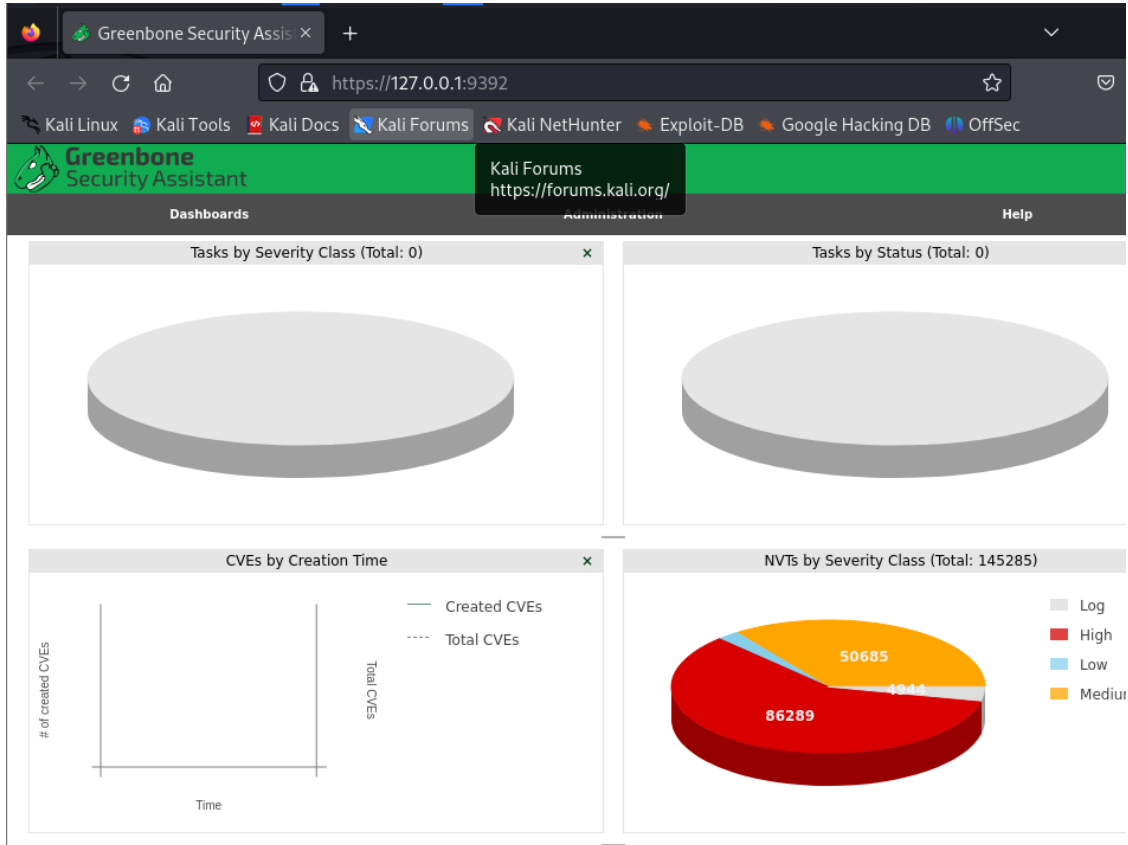
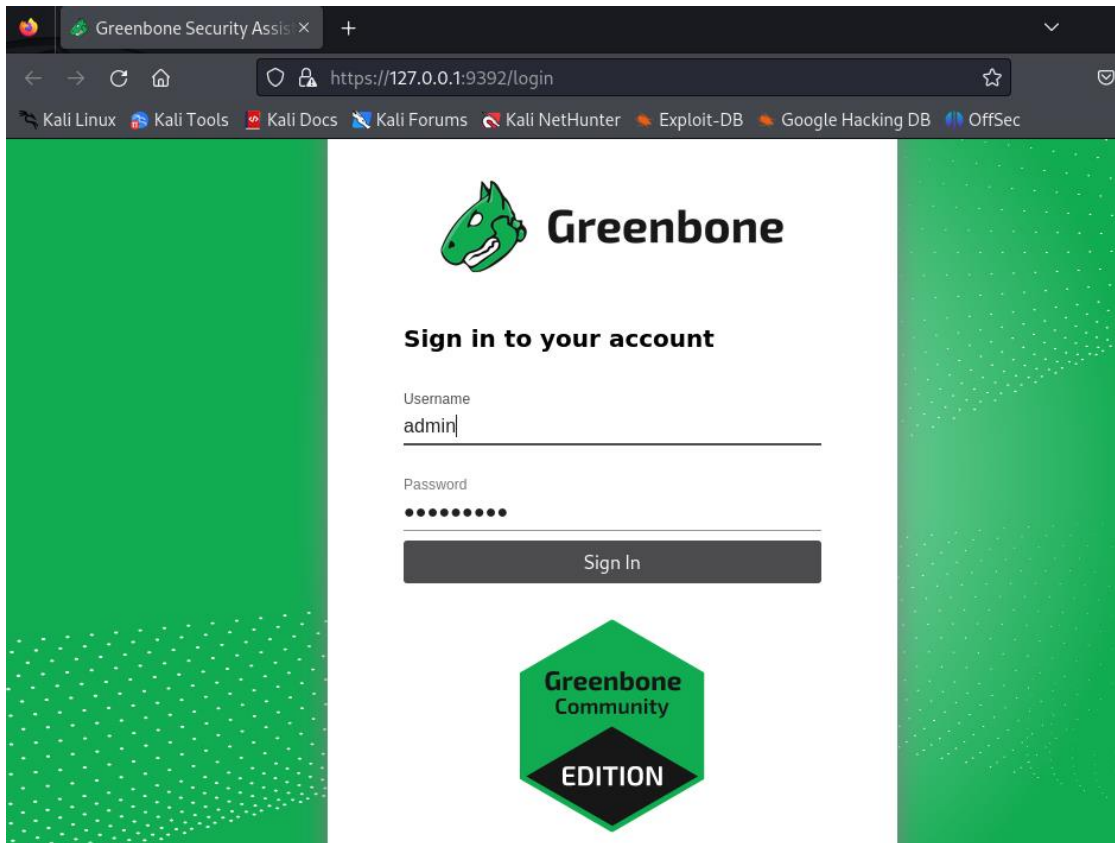
Oct 25 04:40:04 kali systemd[1]: Starting gsad.service - Greenbone Security Assistant daemon (gsad) ...
Oct 25 04:40:04 kali systemd[1]: Started gsad.service - Greenbone Security Assistant daemon (gsad).

• gvmc.service - Greenbone Vulnerability Manager daemon (gvmc)
  Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/gvmc.service; disabled; preset: disabled)
  Active: active (running) since Fri 2024-10-25 04:39:59 CDT; 5s ago
  Invocation: 428a2610ec4f4d9fa419ea364b04625
  Docs: man:gvmc(8)
  Process: 35577 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/gvmc --osp-vt-update=/run/ospd/ospd.sock --listen-group=...
  Main PID: 35578 (gvmc)
  Tasks: 2 (limit: 4606)
  Memory: 6.5M (peak: 9.3M)
  CPU: 2.277s

Oct 25 04:39:56 kali systemd[1]: Starting gvmc.service - Greenbone Vulnerability Manager daemon (gvmc) ...
Oct 25 04:39:56 kali systemd[1]: gvmc.service: Can't open PID file /run/gvmc/gvmc.pid (yet?) after start: No such file or directory
Oct 25 04:39:59 kali systemd[1]: Started gvmc.service - Greenbone Vulnerability Manager daemon (gvmc).

• ospd-openvas.service - OSPd Wrapper for the OpenVAS Scanner (ospd-openvas)
  Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/ospd-openvas.service; disabled; preset: disabled)
  Active: active (running) since Fri 2024-10-25 04:39:55 CDT; 8s ago
  Invocation: e574947ba93e42f193a3acc5d03d56d0
  Docs: man:ospd-openvas(8)
        man:openvas(8)
  Process: 35513 ExecStart=/usr/bin/ospd-openvas --config /etc/gvm/ospd-openvas.conf --log-con
  Main PID: 35548 (ospd-openvas)
  Tasks: 5 (limit: 4606)
  Memory: 60.7M (peak: 101.5M)
  CPU: 1.892s
  CGroup: /system.slice/ospd-openvas.service
          └─35548 /usr/bin/python3 /usr/bin/ospd-openvas --config /etc/gvm/ospd-openvas.conf
          --log-config /etc/gvm/ospd-logging.conf
          └─35551 /usr/bin/python3 /usr/bin/ospd-openvas --config /etc/gvm/ospd-openvas.conf
          --log-config /etc/gvm/ospd-logging.conf

Oct 25 04:39:53 kali systemd[1]: Starting ospd-openvas.service - OSPd Wrapper for the OpenVAS Scanner (ospd-openvas) ...
Oct 25 04:39:55 kali systemd[1]: Started ospd-openvas.service - OSPd Wrapper for the OpenVAS Scanner (ospd-openvas).
```



- Check if GVM start successfully: **“sudo ss -lntp”**

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo ss -lntp
```

State	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address:Port	Peer Address:Port	Process
LISTEN	0	244	127.0.0.1:5432	0.0.0.0:*	users:(("postgres",pid=5907,
LISTEN	0	4096	127.0.0.1:9392	0.0.0.0:*	users:(("gsad",pid=25645,fd=
LISTEN	0	4096	127.0.0.1:80	0.0.0.0:*	users:(("gsad",pid=25646,fd=
LISTEN	0	244	:::1:5432	:::.*	users:(("postgres",pid=5907,

- Stop GVM: **“sudo gvm-stop”**

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo gvm-stop
```

[>] Stopping GVM services

o gsad.service - Greenbone Security Assistant daemon (gsad)
 Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/gsad.service; disabled; preset: disabled)
 Active: inactive (dead)
 Docs: man:gsad(8)
<https://www.greenbone.net>

Tasks by Severity Class (Total: 0)

Oct 25 21:41:26 kali systemd[1]: Starting gsad.service - Greenbone Security Assistant daemon (gsad)...

Oct 25 21:41:26 kali systemd[1]: Started gsad.service - Greenbone Security Assistant daemon (gsad).

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: Stopping gsad.service - Greenbone Security Assistant daemon (gsad)...

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: gsad.service: Deactivated successfully.

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: Stopped gsad.service - Greenbone Security Assistant daemon (gsad).

o gvmd.service - Greenbone Vulnerability Manager daemon (gvmd)
 Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/gvmd.service; disabled; preset: disabled)
 Active: inactive (dead)
 Docs: man:gvmd(8)

Oct 25 21:41:08 kali systemd[1]: Starting gvmd.service - Greenbone Vulnerability Manager daemon (gvmd)...

Oct 25 21:41:08 kali systemd[1]: gvmd.service: Can't open PID file /run/gvmd/gvmd.pid (yet?) after start: No such file or directory

Oct 25 21:41:21 kali systemd[1]: Started gvmd.service - Greenbone Vulnerability Manager daemon (gvmd).

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: Stopping gvmd.service - Greenbone Vulnerability Manager daemon (gvmd)...

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: gvmd.service: Deactivated successfully.

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: Stopped gvmd.service - Greenbone Vulnerability Manager daemon (gvmd).

o ospd-openvas.service - OSPd Wrapper for the OpenVAS Scanner (ospd-openvas)
 Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/ospd-openvas.service; disabled; preset: disabled)
 Active: inactive (dead)
 Docs: man:ospd-openvas(8)
 man:openvas(8)

Oct 25 21:40:53 kali systemd[1]: Starting ospd-openvas.service - OSPd Wrapper for the OpenVAS Scanner (ospd-openvas)...

Oct 25 21:40:57 kali systemd[1]: Started ospd-openvas.service - OSPd Wrapper for the OpenVAS Scanner (ospd-openvas).

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: Stopping ospd-openvas.service - OSPd Wrapper for the OpenVAS Scanner (ospd-openvas)...

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: ospd-openvas.service: Deactivated successfully.

Oct 25 21:54:40 kali systemd[1]: Stopped ospd-openvas.service - OSPd Wrapper for the OpenVAS Scanner (ospd-openvas).

- GVM – Usage

- Create a target

Greenbone Security Assistant

1 2 3 4

https://127.0.0.1:9392

Kali Linux Kali Tools Kali Docs Kali Forums Kali NetHunter Exploit-DB Google Hacking DB OffSec

Greenbone Security Assistant

Dashboards Scans Assets Resilience Secinfo Configuration Administration Help

Dashboards

Overview

Tasks by Severity Class (Total: 0)

NVTs by Severity Class (Total: 145292)

CVES by Creation Time

Created CVEs

Total CVEs

Log

High

https://127.0.0.1:9392/targets

Greenbone Security Assistant (CCSA) Copyright 2007-2023 by Greenbone AG, www.greenbone.net

New Target

Name Metasploitable

Comment

Hosts

☒ Manual 172.16.1.6

☐ From file Browse... No file selected.

Exclude Hosts

☒ Manual

☐ From file Browse... No file selected.

Allow simultaneous scanning via multiple IPs

☒ Yes ☐ No

Port List All IANA assigned TCP

Alive Test Scan Config Default

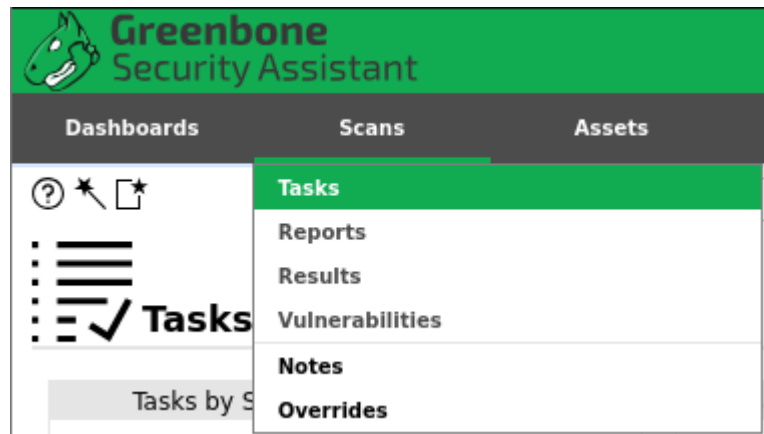
Credentials for authenticated checks

SSH -- on port 22

SMB --

Cancel Save

- As can be seen, my Metasploitable machine has IP 172.16.1.6 and it's OpenSSH connection is at port 22
- Port List using: All IANA assigned TCP (can check at Port Lists in Configuration tab)
- Create a task



- Navigate to Scans tab, choose “Tasks” and click to “*” icon to create a new task

New Task ×

Name

Comment

Scan Targets ▼ ★

Alerts ▼ ★

Schedule ▼ ☐ Once ★

Add results to Assets ☒ Yes ☐ No

Apply Overrides ☒ Yes ☐ No

Min QoD ▲ ▼ %

Alterable Task ☐ Yes ☒ No

Auto Delete Reports ☒ Do not automatically delete reports
☐ Automatically delete oldest reports but always keep newest ▲ ▼ reports

Scanner ▼



Scan Config ▼

Cancel
Save









- In Scan Targets, choose the target you have just created.








- Start the task
 - To run this task, click on the “start” button (triangle one)
 - After the task is started, the web UI of GVM will automatically refresh about the progress of the scan.


- Report


Greenbone
 Security Assistant
 

Dashboards
Scans
Assets
Resilience
SecInfo
Configuration
Administration
Help



Rep Sat, Oct 26, 202
ort: 4 3:29 PM UTC
 Done

0241da97-
 ID: c492-4816-8052-
 f29430baab5e

Sat, Oct 26,
 Created: 2024 3:29 PM
 UTC

Sat, Oct 26,
 Modified: 2024 4:23 PM
 UTC

Owner: admin

Information	Results (45 of 462)	Hosts (1 of 1)	Ports (11 of 22)	Applications (16 of 16)	Operating Systems (1 of 1)	CVEs (25 of 25)	Closed CVEs (0 of 0)	TLS Certificates (1 of 1)	Error Messages (2 of 2)	User Tags (0)
-------------	------------------------	-------------------	---------------------	----------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------	-------------------------	------------------------------	----------------------------	------------------

Task Name

Metasploitable

Scan Time

Sat, Oct 26, 2024 3:29 PM UTC - Sat, Oct 26, 2024 4:23 PM UTC

Scan Duration

0:53 h

Scan Status

Done

Hosts scanned

1

Filter

apply_overrides=0 levels=hml_min_qod=70

Timezone

Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)

Compose Content for Scan Report

Results Filter

apply_overrides=0 levels=hml rows=100 min_qod=70 first=1 sort-reverse=severity

Include

☒ Notes ☒ Overrides ☒ TLS Certificates

Report Format

PDF ▼

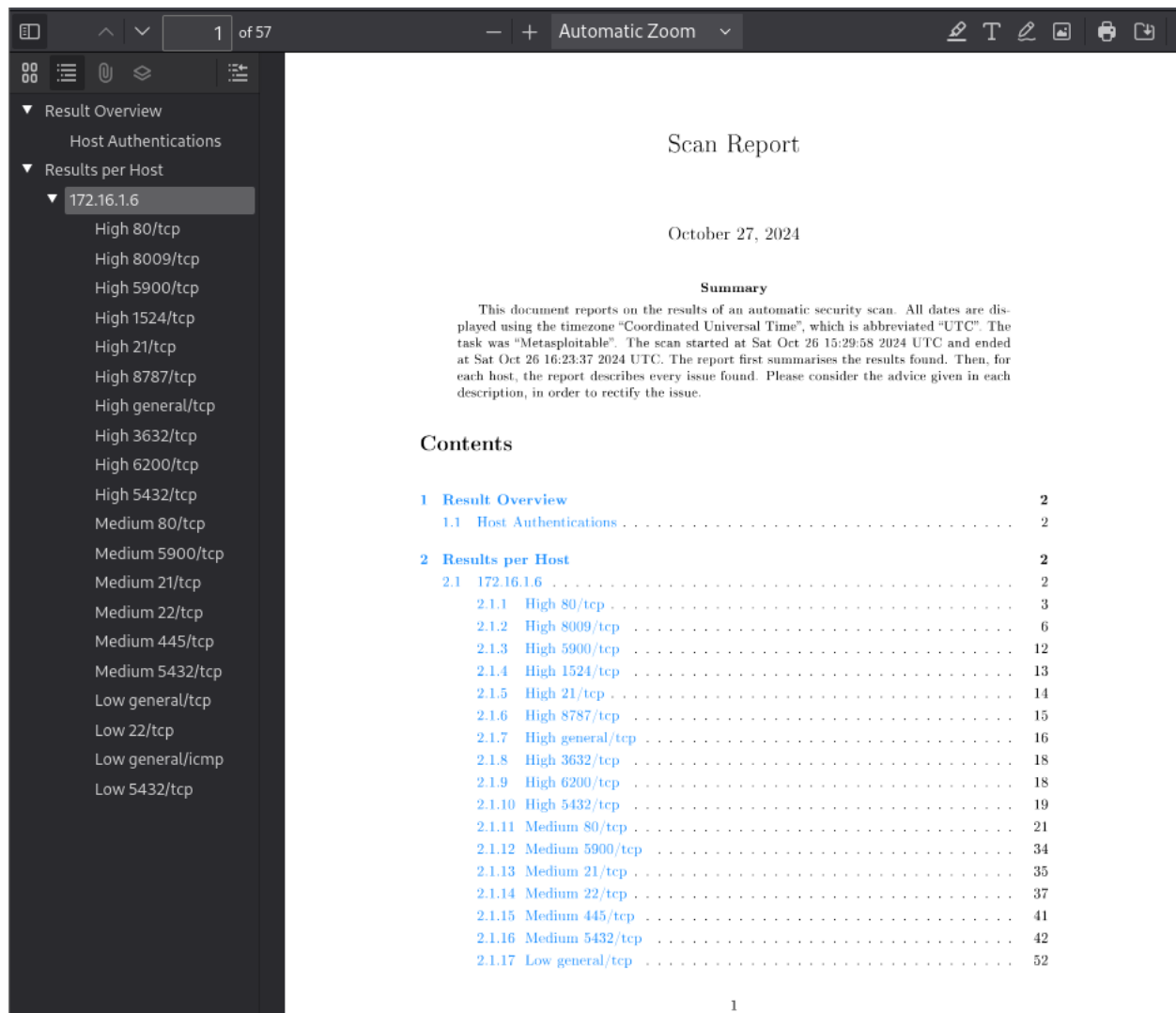
Report Config

-- ▼

☐ Store as default

Cancel

OK



3. Exploitation NVT: Weak Key Exchange (KEX) Algorithm(s) Supported (SSH)

- Connect to Metasploitable VM using SSH
 - o Start SSH in Metasploitable by using command ***“sudo nano /etc/rc.local”***, and then add a line ***“/etc/init.d/ssh start”*** to start SSH service each time Metasploitable VM is booted.
 - o In Kali, because Kali cannot detect and matching host key, so we have to use command ***“ssh -oHostKeyAlgorithms=+ssh-rsa -oPubkeyAcceptedAlgorithms=+ssh-rsa msfadmin@172.16.1.6”*** to connect to Metasploitable VM using SSH service.

```

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ssh -oHostKeyAlgorithms+=ssh-rsa -oPubkeyAcceptedAlgorithms+=ssh-rsa msfa
dmin@172.16.1.6
The authenticity of host '172.16.1.6 (172.16.1.6)' can't be established.
RSA key fingerprint is SHA256:BQHm5EoHX9GCiOLuVscegPXLQ0suPs+E9d/rrJB84rk.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '172.16.1.6' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.
msfadmin@172.16.1.6's password:
Linux metasploitable 2.6.24-16-server #1 SMP Thu Apr 10 13:58:00 UTC 2008 i68
6

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/
No mail.
Last login: Mon Oct 28 14:14:41 2024
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ ls
vulnerable

```

- Start Metasploit Framework
 - o Metasploit relies on a database to speed up searches. Ensure the database is started with
 - ***“sudo service postgresql start”***
 - ***“sudo msfdb init”***
 - o Using command ***“msfconsole”*** to start Metasploit framework

```
$ msfconsole
```

```
Metasploit tip: Network adapter names can be used for IP options set LHOST
eth0
```

[illegible]

```

+ -- ==[ 2458 exploits - 1264 auxiliary - 430 post
+ -- ==[ 1471 payloads - 49 encoders - 11 nops
+ -- ==[ 9 evasion

```

Metasploit Documentation: <https://docs.metasploit.com/>

```
msf6 >
```

- Using “**search ssh**”

[illegible]

126	_ target: 6.4_collector	127.0.0.1	.	.	.	.
127	_ target: 6.4_platform	.	.	.	.	.
128	_ target: 6.5_collector	.	.	.	.	.
129	_ target: 6.5_platform	.	.	.	.	.
130	_ target: 6.6_collector	.	.	.	.	.
131	_ target: 6.6_platform	.	.	.	.	.
132	_ target: 6.7_collector	.	.	.	.	.
133	_ target: 6.7_platform	.	.	.	.	.
134	_ target: 6.8_collector	.	.	.	.	.
135	_ target: 6.8_platform	.	.	.	.	.
136	_ target: 6.9_collector	.	.	.	.	.
137	_ target: 6.9_platform	.	.	.	.	.
138	_ target: 6.10_collector	.	.	.	.	.
139	_ target: 6.10_platform	.	.	.	.	.
140	_ target: All	.	.	.	.	.
141	exploit/linux/ssh/vmware_vdp_known_privkey	2016-12-20	excellent	No	VMware VDP K	
142	exploit/multi/http/vmware_vcenter_uploadova_rce	2021-02-23	manual	Yes	VMware vCent	
143	_ target: VMware vCenter Server ≤ 6.7 Update 1b (Linux)	.	.	.	.	.
144	_ target: VMware vCenter Server ≤ 6.7 Update 3j (Windows)	.	.	.	.	.
145	exploit/linux/ssh/vyos_restricted_shell_privsc	2018-11-05	great	Yes	VyOS restric	
146	post/windows/gather/credentials/whatsupgold_credential_dump	2022-11-22	manual	No	WhatsUp Gold	
147	_ action: Decrypt	.	.	.	Decrypt What	
148	_ action: Dump	.	.	.	Export Whats	
149	_ action: Export	.	.	.	Export Whats	
150	post/windows/gather/credentials/mremote	.	normal	No	Windows Gath	
151	exploit/windows/local/unquoted_service_path	2001-10-25	great	Yes	Windows Unqu	
152	exploit/linux/http/zyxel_lfi_unauth_ssh_rce	2022-02-01	excellent	Yes	Zyxel chaine	
153	_ target: Unix Command	.	.	.	.	.
154	_ target: Linux Dropper	.	.	.	.	.
155	_ target: Interactive SSH	.	.	.	.	.
156	auxiliary/scanner/ssh/libssh_auth_bypass	2018-10-16	normal	No	libssh Auth	
157	_ action: Execute	.	.	.	Execute a co	
158	_ action: Shell	.	.	.	Spawn a shel	
159	exploit/linux/http/php_imap_open_rce	2018-10-23	good	Yes	php imap ope	
160	_ target: prestashop	.	.	.	.	.
161	_ target: suitecrm	.	.	.	.	.
162	_ target: e107v2	.	.	.	.	.
163	_ target: Horde IMP H3	.	.	.	.	.
164	_ target: custom	.	.	.	.	.

- Set up the brute-force module

```
msf6 > use auxiliary/scanner/ssh/ssh_login
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > set RHOSTS 172.16.1.6
RHOSTS => 172.16.1.6
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > █
```

- Using command “**show options**” to check for everything that has been changed.

```

sudo: msfadmin: command not found
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > set USERNAME msfadmin
USERNAME => msfadmin
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > set PASSWORD msfadmin
PASSWORD => msfadmin
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > show options

Module options (auxiliary/scanner/ssh/ssh_login):



| Name             | Current Setting | Required | Description                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ANONYMOUS_LOGIN  | false           | yes      | Attempt to login with a blank username and password                                                                                                                                                 |
| BLANK_PASSWORDS  | false           | no       | Try blank passwords for all users                                                                                                                                                                   |
| BRUTEFORCE_SPEED | 5               | yes      | How fast to bruteforce, from 0 to 5                                                                                                                                                                 |
| CreateSession    | true            | no       | Create a new session for every successful login                                                                                                                                                     |
| DB_ALL_CREDS     | false           | no       | Try each user/password couple stored in the current database                                                                                                                                        |
| DB_ALL_PASS      | false           | no       | Add all passwords in the current database to the list                                                                                                                                               |
| DB_ALL_USERS     | false           | no       | Add all users in the current database to the list                                                                                                                                                   |
| DB_SKIP_EXISTING | none            | no       | Skip existing credentials stored in the current database (Accepted: none, user, user@realm)                                                                                                         |
| PASSWORD         | msfadmin        | no       | A specific password to authenticate with                                                                                                                                                            |
| PASS_FILE        |                 | no       | File containing passwords, one per line                                                                                                                                                             |
| RHOSTS           | 172.16.1.6      | yes      | The target host(s), see <a href="https://docs.metasploit.com/docs/using-metasploit/basics/using-metasploit.html">https://docs.metasploit.com/docs/using-metasploit/basics/using-metasploit.html</a> |
| RPORT            | 22              | yes      | The target port                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| STOP_ON_SUCCESS  | false           | yes      | Stop guessing when a credential works for a host                                                                                                                                                    |
| THREADS          | 1               | yes      | The number of concurrent threads (max one per host)                                                                                                                                                 |
| USERNAME         | msfadmin        | no       | A specific username to authenticate as                                                                                                                                                              |
| USERPASS_FILE    |                 | no       | File containing users and passwords separated by space, one pair per line                                                                                                                           |
| USER_AS_PASS     | false           | no       | Try the username as the password for all users                                                                                                                                                      |
| USER_FILE        |                 | no       | File containing usernames, one per line                                                                                                                                                             |
| VERBOSE          | false           | yes      | Whether to print output for all attempts                                                                                                                                                            |



View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.

msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > run

[*] 172.16.1.6:22 - Starting bruteforce
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) >

```

- Searching for currently running SSH sessions

- Using command **`"sessions -l"`**

```

msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > run

[*] 172.16.1.6:22 - Starting bruteforce
[+] 172.16.1.6:22 - Success: 'msfadmin:msfadmin' 'uid=1000(msfadmin) gid=1000(msfadmin) groups=4(adm),20(dialout),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),107(fuse),111(lpadmin),112(admin),119(sambashare),1000(msfadmin) Linux metasploitable 2.6.24-16-server #1 SMP Thu Apr 10 13:58:00 UTC 2008 i686 GNU/Linux '
[*] SSH session 3 opened (10.10.1.6:46571 → 172.16.1.6:22) at 2024-10-30 22:55:12 -0500
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > sessions -l

Active sessions



| Id | Name | Type        | Information | Connection                                   |
|----|------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 2  |      | shell linux | SSH kali @  | 10.10.1.6:32805 → 172.16.1.6:22 (172.16.1.6) |
| 3  |      | shell linux | SSH kali @  | 10.10.1.6:46571 → 172.16.1.6:22 (172.16.1.6) |


```

- Interaction with the currently running SSH connections

- Using command **`"session -i [session_id]"`**

```
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > sessions -i 1  
[*] Starting interaction with 1 ...
```

```
█
```

```
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > sessions -i 1  
[*] Starting interaction with 1 ...  
  
adsasd  
-bash: line 2: adsasd: command not found  
ls  
vJbcYFYq  
vulnerable  
ls  
vJbcYFYq  
vulnerable  
ls  
vJbcYFYq  
vulnerable  
clear  
lTERM environment variable not set.  
ls  
-bash: line 7: lls: command not found  
cd vulnerable  
ls  
mysql-ssl  
samba  
tikiwiki  
twiki20030201  
cd █
```

- As can be seen, I can interact with the SSH connection from outside of the main user terminal, it means that I can also interact with any SSH connections that are connected to the Metasploitable VM, and of course steal or cat data from them.

III. Labwork 3: Mitigation and Prevention

1. Detection (Next Lab)
2. Prevention (Block the port 22 immediately / Blocking Hacker's IP)
 - Blocking the port 22 immediately
 - o Using Iptables to set rule for the Ubuntu server (firewall) to block all SSH connections to the Metasploitable2 VM
 - Command: ***"sudo iptables -A FORWARD -d 172.16.1.6 -p tcp --dport 22 -j REJECT"***

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ sudo iptables -A FORWARD -d 172.16.1.6 -p tcp --dport 22 -j REJECT
[sudo] password for ubuntu:
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$
```

➔ Result:

```
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ ssh -oHostKeyAlgorithms=+ssh-rsa -oPubkeyAcceptedAlgorithms=+ssh-rsa msfadmin@172.16.1.6
ssh: connect to host 172.16.1.6 port 22: Connection refused
```

- o Optional: We can also set the allow IP that can SSH to the machine by using command: ***"sudo iptables -I FORWARD -s 10.10.1.6 -d 172.16.1.6 -p tcp --dport 22 -j ACCEPT"***
- ➔ Result: The machine with IP 10.10.1.6 (In my case is Kali) now can SSH to the Metasploitable2 machine while others still be rejected.
- Save the rules
 - o Command: ***"sudo netfilter-persistent save"***
 - o The iptables-persistent service will automatically load saved rules on boot. If you want to manually reload saved rules, you can use: ***"sudo netfilter-persistent reload"***
 - o Save rule manually: ***"sudo iptables-save > /etc/iptables/rules.v4"***
 - o Load Rules on Boot Using *"/etc/rc.local"*: ***"iptables-restore < /etc/iptables/rules.v4"***
 - o Check if rules are in place: ***"sudo iptables -L -v -n"***

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ sudo iptables -L -v -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT 0 packets, 0 bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source            destination
Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT 4 packets, 336 bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source            destination
    2  120 REJECT     6    --  *      *        0.0.0.0/0         172.16.1.6         tcp dpt:22 reject
rt-unreachable
Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT 0 packets, 0 bytes)
 pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source            destination
```


- Do not need to block each hackers' IPs, but no one can freely access the server through SSH connections except when the server allow an specific IP to connect to.
- Blocking directly hackers' Ips
 - Using tcpdump to catch all the SSH connections that are sending to the Metasploitable2 VM

```
00:44:37.372177 IP 172.16.1.6.ssh > 172.16.1.8.54062: P 161:201(40) ack 200 win 136 <nop,nop,timestamp 691766 2098248579>
00:44:37.373030 IP 172.16.1.8.54062 > 172.16.1.6.ssh: . ack 201 win 249 <nop,nop,timestamp 2098248580 691766>
00:44:37.388130 IP 172.16.1.6.ssh > 172.16.1.8.54062: P 201:353(152) ack 200 win 136 <nop,nop,timestamp 691768 2098248580>
00:44:37.389632 IP 172.16.1.6.ssh > 172.16.1.8.54062: P 353:409(56) ack 200 win 136 <nop,nop,timestamp 691768 2098248580>
00:44:37.389981 IP 172.16.1.8.54062 > 172.16.1.6.ssh: . ack 353 win 249 <nop,nop,timestamp 2098248597 691768>
00:44:37.390827 IP 172.16.1.8.54062 > 172.16.1.6.ssh: . ack 409 win 249 <nop,nop,timestamp 2098248598 691768>
00:44:42.195202 IP localhost.57770 > localhost.57770: UDP, length 64
00:44:47.296827 IP localhost.57770 > localhost.57770: UDP, length 20
00:44:47.300575 IP localhost.57770 > localhost.57770: UDP, length 944
00:44:47.300631 IP localhost.57770 > localhost.57770: UDP, length 760
00:44:47.300678 IP localhost.57770 > localhost.57770: UDP, length 208
```

- Here I have two VMs with IP 172.16.1.6 and 172.16.1.8 are SSH to Metasploitable2, and we can see that there are these IPs' log show on the tcpdump.
- Use iptables log to log the hackers' IPs: ***"sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j LOG --log-prefix "SSH attempt: " --log-level 4"***
- Blocking hackers' IPs by using command: ***"sudo iptables -A INPUT -s 172.16.1.8 -j DROP"*** or ***"sudo iptables -A INPUT -s 172.16.1.9 -j DROP"***
- Do not need to block the whole port 22, but each time being attacked, we have to log again to check the hackers' IPs and block them.

C. Conclusion

1. Vulnerability Description:

- This NVT detects SSH configurations using weak or outdated cryptographic algorithms, such as low-bit RSA or DSS (DSA) keys, and hash algorithms like MD5 or SHA-1.

2. Technical Mechanism:

- SSH keys with insufficient bit strength (e.g., RSA < 2048 bits) or deprecated algorithms (e.g., DSS/DSA) are easier to attack due to advancements in computing power and known cryptographic weaknesses.

3. Impact

- Man-in-the-Middle (MitM) Risk: Weak algorithms allow attackers to intercept or impersonate SSH connections.
- Brute-Force Susceptibility: Weaker encryption makes SSH connections more vulnerable to brute-force attacks.
- Data Confidentiality and Integrity Threat: Compromised encryption endangers the security of data transferred over SSH.
- Compliance Risks: Weak algorithms may violate security standards like PCI-DSS or GDPR.
- System Access Vulnerability: Weak host keys can potentially allow attackers to bypass authentication, leading to unauthorized access.

4. Mitigation

- Update the SSH configuration to use strong algorithms (e.g., ecdsa-sha2-nistp256, ed25519) and a minimum of RSA-2048 if RSA keys are used.
- Block SSH port 22 at the firewall if SSH access is unnecessary to prevent exploitation.

5. Practical Example

- Setup a system with Kali Linux as client (attacker), Ubuntu as a firewall, and Metasploitable2 as the target, blocking SSH traffic on the firewall or updating SSH settings on Metasploitable2 (if possible) could mitigate the risk of exploitation.

D. References

<https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc8332>

<https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc8709>

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