

Linux, day 15



Objectives covered

Objective	Summary	Boek
4.1	Given a scenario, analyze system properties and remediate accordingly.	20
4.2	Given a scenario, analyze system processes in order to optimize performance.	21

LAB: PKill

Assignment

- Write a shell script to start 15x "*sleep 120*".
- Use "*pkill*" to kill all of them in one go.

LAB: Swap space

Preparations

- We made extra disk devices for Fedora a while back.
 - If you still have those, unused, use one of those.
 - If they are in use, make a new device of 100MB.
- The next slide assumes `"/dev/sdc"`.
 - Adjust for your situation!

Checking and expanding swap

- Make the (new) device into swap space.
 - Use "*mkswap*" and "*swapon*".
 - Verify swap space with "*free*" before and after.
 - Add the swap device to "*/etc/fstab*" and reboot.
- After the lab, remove from fstab again,
 - And remove with "*swapoff*".

LAB: System performance



Installing sar

- Install the "*sysstat*" package.
- Check where the "*sa1*" and "*sa2*" scrips were added.
 - You will need the path, to add into *cron*.
 - So far I've seen:
 - */usr/lib/sa/, /usr/lib/sysstat/, /usr/lib64/sa/*

Checking sar cronjobs

- Check */etc/cron.d*.
 - Are there config files for "*sysstat*"?
 - Any other job files that have "*sa1*"?
- **If these cron-jobs exist, skip the next slide.**

Manually creating cron jobs

- Edit the "root" crontab (*sudo crontab -e*).
 - Add *sa1* and *sa2*. For example (check the path):

```
# Collect measurements at 10-minute intervals
*/10 * * * * /usr/lib/sysstat/sa1

# Create daily reports and purge old files
0 0 * * * /usr/lib/sysstat/sa2 -A
```

Manual testing

- Run *sa1* a few times, manually.
- Run *sa2* once.
- Go to `"/var/log/sa/"` (Fedora). Check the files there.
 - On Ubuntu the path is `"/var/log/sysstat"`.
 - You should at least have one report.

Querying reports

- Query the "sar" file, for example (check the name).

```
# sar -u -f /var/log/sa/sa03
```

```
# sar -r -f /var/log/sa/sa03
```

```
# sar -d -f /var/log/sa/sa03
```

LAB: Storage issues

Assignment 1: Isof

- Can you find:
 - Which processes currently access "*system.journal*"?
 - Which processes use files from "*/etc/*"?
 - Which files and resources are used by "*sshd*"?
- Can you spot port 22?

Assignment 2: iostat

- Choose one of your throw-away disk devices.
 - Like `"/dev/sdc"` that was used for swap space.
- Open two terminals.
 - In one keep a running `"iostat /dev/sdc 1"`
 - In the other we will try a few `"dd"` tests.

Assignment 2: Raw devices (Fedora)

- Run:

```
$ sudo raw /dev/raw/raw1 /dev/sdc
```

- This creates a "raw" device to access the disk.
 - What does that mean? Do you remember?

Assignment 2: Raw devices (Ubuntu)

- Run:

```
$ echo "raw1:sdc" | sudo tee -a /etc/raw  
  
$ sudo mkdir /dev/raw; cd /dev/raw  
$ sudo mknod raw1 c 162 1  
$ sudo modprobe raw  
  
$ sudo raw /dev/raw/raw1 /dev/sdc
```

Assignment 2: iostat

- The following need "*root*" (use *sudo* or *su*).
- Compare speed, throughput and iostat activity.

```
# dd if=/dev/urandom of=/dev/sdc bs=1M count=50
# dd if=/dev/urandom of=/dev/raw/raw1 bs=1M count=50
# dd if=/dev/urandom of=/dev/sdc bs=1024 count=50000
# dd if=/dev/urandom of=/dev/raw/raw1 bs=1024 count=50000
```

- Can you tell what is happening and why?

LAB: Network issues

Assignment 1

- Start a *netcat* listener on port 8080.
- Use *netcat* in a second shell to connect to port 8080.
 - Type a bit of text. Does it arrive?
- Try a file transfer with netcat ([example here](#)).
- Try to access a "bind" shell with netcat ([example here](#)).

Assignment 2

- Let's see how you can connect to `www.google.com`.
 - Compare "*getent hosts*" and "*nslookup*".
 - Can you ping the host?
 - Do a *traceroute*. Can you see where you leave ITVitae?
 - What does "*mtr --report www.google.com*" tell you?

Assignment 3

- Start a web server on your VM.
- Start a *netcat* listener on port 3389.
- Run an *nmap* scan from your other VM.
 - What services do you find?
 - Can you access both services?
 - Are there any firewalls in the way?

LAB: Extra work, DVWA

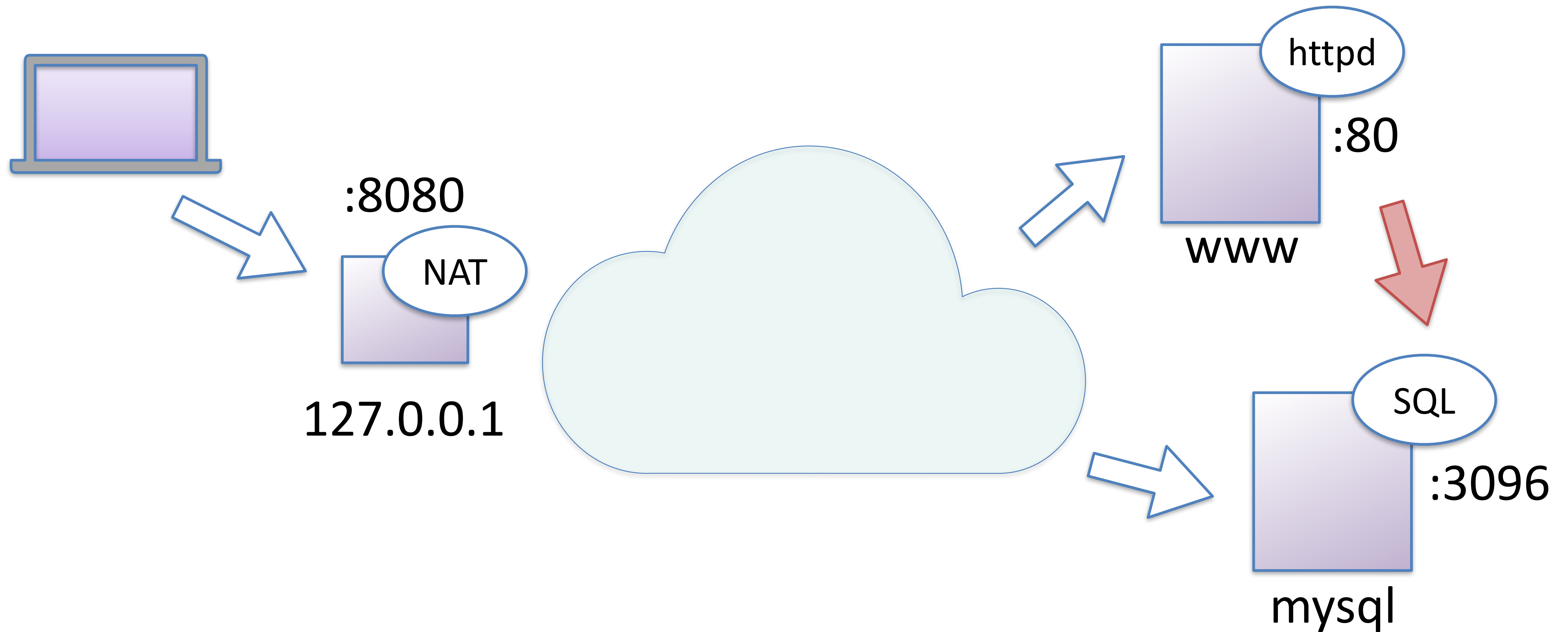
Introduction

- *D*mn Vulnerable Web App*
 - A learning tool for InfoSec students.
 - A highly vulnerable web application to exploit.
- Vulnhub has plenty more like these.
 - But we're going for a challenge.

What we'll do

- Normally DVWA runs on one host / VM.
- We will use one *Vagrantfile* to define **two** VMs.
 - In a shared network segment, with fixed IPs.
 - One will run MySQL / MariaDB,
 - The other Apache and the web app.

The end result



Don't worry!

- Take things step by step! Don't get flustered. :)
- Remember!
 - Disable the auto-update of vbox guest additions.
 - If Vagrant provisioning fails, no need to rebuild.
 - You can re-run "*vagrant provision*".
 - If you're blocked, open the firewall.

Resources

- *"015-Vagrantfile-start-here"* is your **starting point**.
 - Yes, there is also *"015-Vagrantfile-spoilers"*.
- [The DVWA Github page](#) has setup guides and wiki.
- MySQL have [a getting-started guide](#).

Step 1: Vagrant

- Adjust the example configuration:
 - Run generic/centos7
 - Just make sure networking works.
- One VM should install MySQL
- The other should install Apache and git-clone DVWA.
- The DVWA Github page lists all required packages.

Step 1: Vagrant

- One VM should install MySQL
- The other should install Apache and git-clone DVWA.
 - The DVWA Github page lists all required packages.
 - Don't forget the port forward for 80.

Step 2: Basic networking

- Boot both VMs and login to both.
- Can you confirm that they can communicate?
 - Can you SSH between the two hosts?
 - Can you connect between the hosts with netcat?
- If it doesn't work, let's troubleshoot!

Step 3: MySQL basic checks

- On the database host, verify that MySQL was installed.
 - Or MariaDB of course... depending on your distro.
- Make sure the DB software starts (also at reboot).
 - Can you connect to the database?
 - Check the [MySQL getting-started guide](#).

Step 4: Setup MySQL database

- Follow [the DVWA database setup instructions](#).
- You will need to create:
 - A database
 - A user (don't use "*@localhost*", use "*@'%'*")
 - Access privileges for the user.
 - From both localhost AND the webserver host!

Step 5: Testing MySQL

- Can you login to the DB with the new account?
 - Localhost: *mysql -u dvwa -p -h localhost dvwa*
 - From webserver: *mysql -u dvwa -p -h mysql dvwa*
- If the first fails, we troubleshoot MySQL.
- If the second fails, let's check networking!

Step 6: Apache setup

- Make sure that Apache (httpd) starts at boot.
- After starting, can you pull <http://localhost> with curl?
 - Can you also access the page from your host OS?
 - <http://localhost:8080>
 - If not, did you set up the port forward?
 - And from mysql? <http://www/login.php>

Step 7: DVWA install

- Clone the DVWA Git repo to *"/var/www/html/"*.
- Edit *"/var/www/html/config/config.php"*.
 - Follow the setup guide on Github.
 - At least you should setup the DB connection info.

Closing

Homework

- Reading:
 - Chapter 22
 - Chapter 24

Homework

- Go do:
 - Get DVWA up and running on two VMs.
 - The lab describes all the steps needed.
 - You can first try each step separately or manually.

Reference materials

Resources

- [Linux load averages, solving the mystery](#)
- [Troubleshooting high load averages](#)
- [System Activity Reporter \(sar\)](#)
- [Quick sar explanation](#)
- [IOPing tutorial](#)
- In-depth: [redis.io performance improvements](#)

Resources

- [File transfer with netcat](#)
- [Netcat shells, bind and reverse](#)
- [Netcat cheatsheet](#)
- [CloudFlare: what is MTR?](#)
- [Linux ate my RAM!](#)
- Deepdive: [Interpreting iostat output](#)