Introduction

Metasploit is an essential tool for cybersecurity, providing a platform for penetration testing and vulnerability assessment. It enables researchers and security professionals to probe and secure systems against cyber threats.

https://academy.hackthebox.com/achievement/949661/39

Introduction to Metasploit

- Overview: Metasploit is a Ruby-based, modular penetration testing platform for developing, testing, and executing exploit code.
- Modules: It includes various exploit proof-of-concepts, targeting different platforms and services.
- Versatility: Metasploit is known for its wide range of targets and versions, and easy switching between target connections.

My response

Q: Which version of Metasploit comes equipped with a GUI interface? metasploit pro

Metasploit Pro

Metasploit Pro is for users who prefer to use a web interface for pen testing. Some features available in Pro are unavailable in Metasploit Framework.

Q: What command do you use to interact with the free version of Metasploit? Msfconsole

What is the MSFconsole?

The **msfconsole** is probably the most popular interface to the Metasploit Framework (MSF). It provides an "all-in-one" centralized console and allows you efficient access to virtually all of the options available in the MSF. MSFconsole may seem intimidating at first, but once you learn the syntax of the commands you will learn to appreciate the power of utilizing this interface.

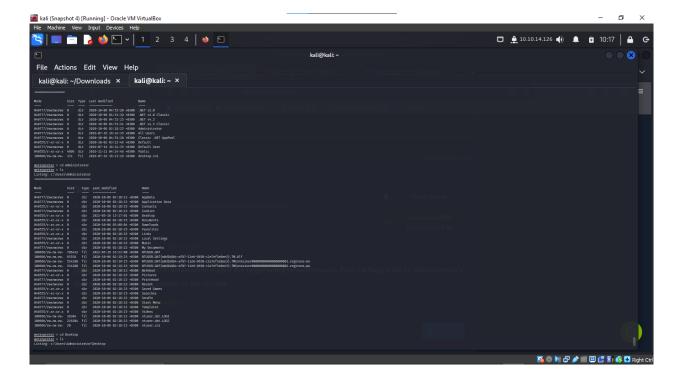
MSF Components

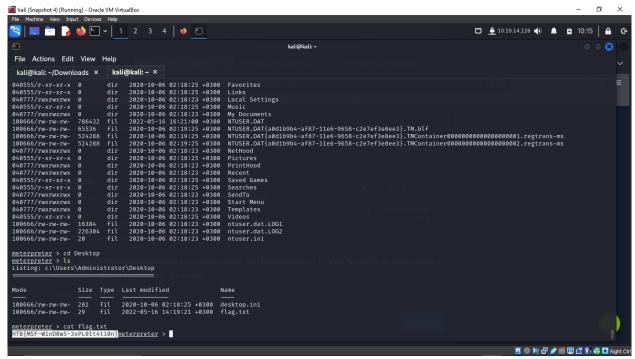
1. **Modules:** The core of Metasploit, modules are standalone pieces of code that the framework executes. They include exploits, auxiliary functions, post-exploitation code, and payloads.

My response

Q: Use the Metasploit-Framework to exploit the target with EternalRomance. Find the flag.txt file on Administrator's desktop and submit the contents as the answer.

A: HTB{MSF-W1nD0w5-3xPL01t4t10n}



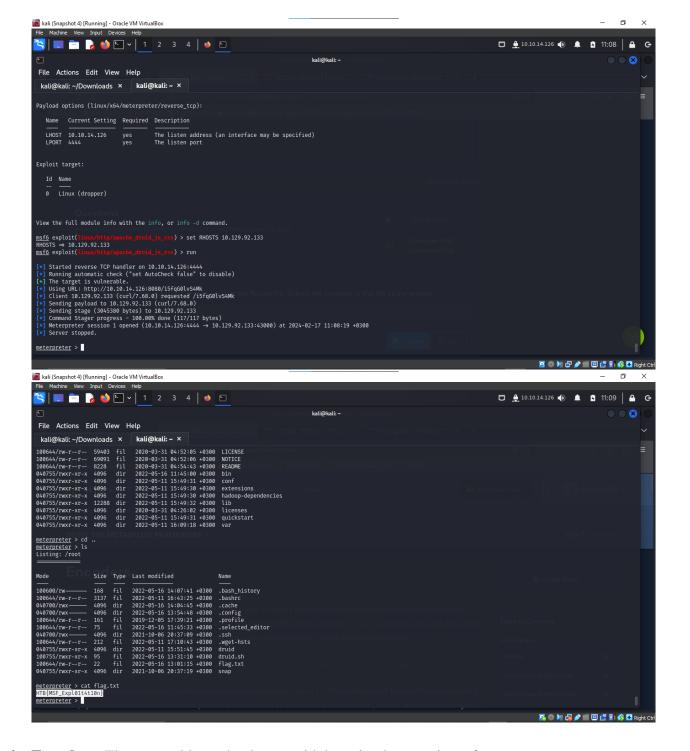


- 2. **Targets:** These are the specific systems or software that the modules are designed to exploit.
- **3.** Payloads: These are the pieces of code that run after a successful exploit, allowing the attacker to gain control over a system.

My response

Q: Exploit the Apache Druid service and find the flag.txt file. Submit the contents of this file as the answer.

A: HTB{MSF_Expl01t4t10n}



- **4. Encoders:** They scramble payloads to avoid detection by security software.
- 5. **Databases:** Metasploit integrates with a database to store information about networks, vulnerable systems, and exploits that have been tried.
- 6. **Plugins and Mixins:** These extend the framework's functionality, allowing for more customization and efficient use.

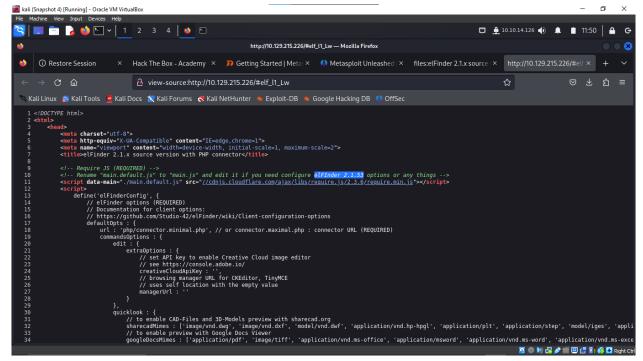
MSF Sessions and Meterpreter

1. **Sessions and Jobs**: These are instances of successfully executed exploits (sessions) and running background processes (jobs).

My responses

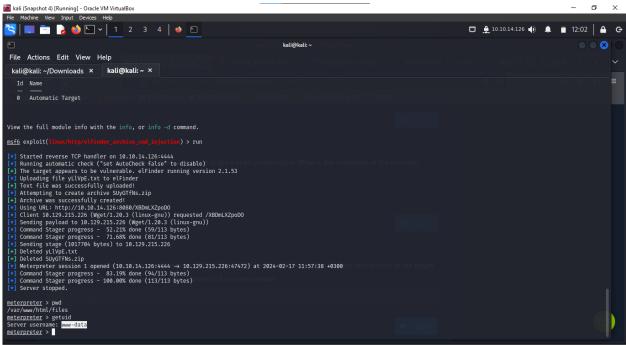
Q: The target has a specific web application running that we can find by looking into the HTML source code. What is the name of that web application?

A: elFInder



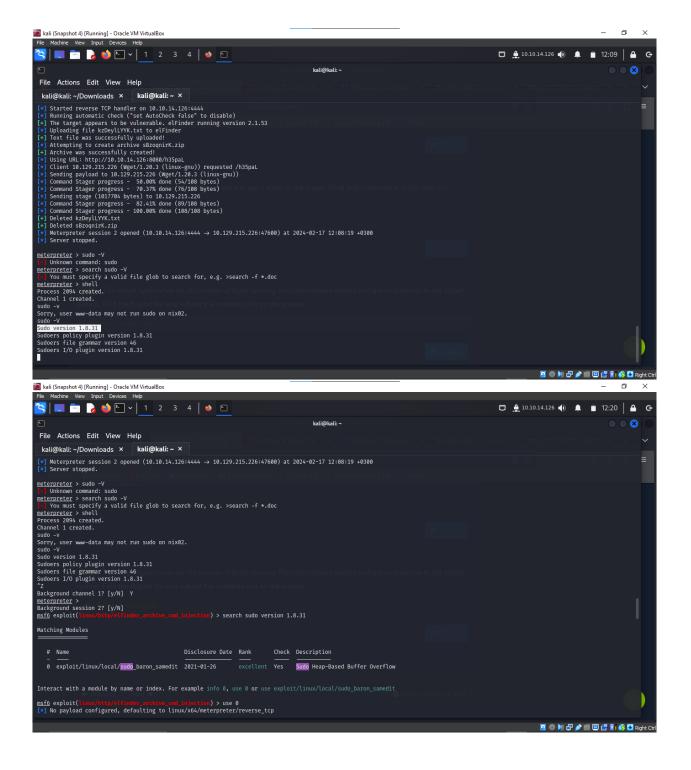
Q: Find the existing exploit in MSF and use it to get a shell on the target. What is the username of the user you obtained a shell with?

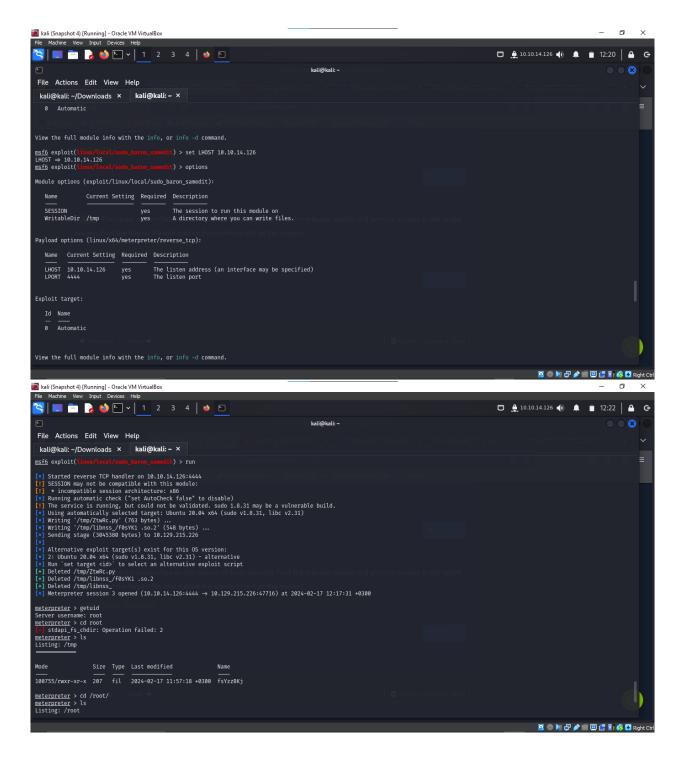
A: www-data

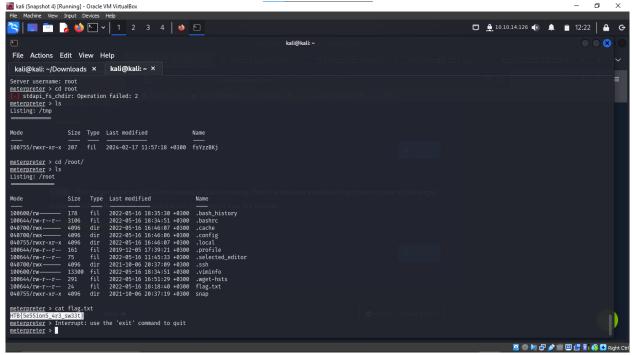


Q: The target system has an old version of Sudo running. Find the relevant exploit and get root access to the target system. Find the flag.txt file and submit the contents of it as the answer.

A: HTB{5e55ion5_4r3_sw33t}

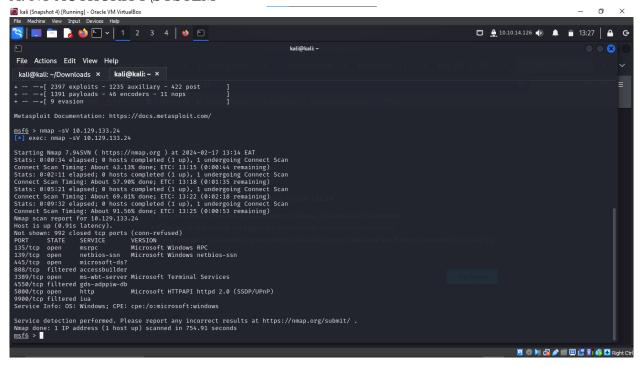


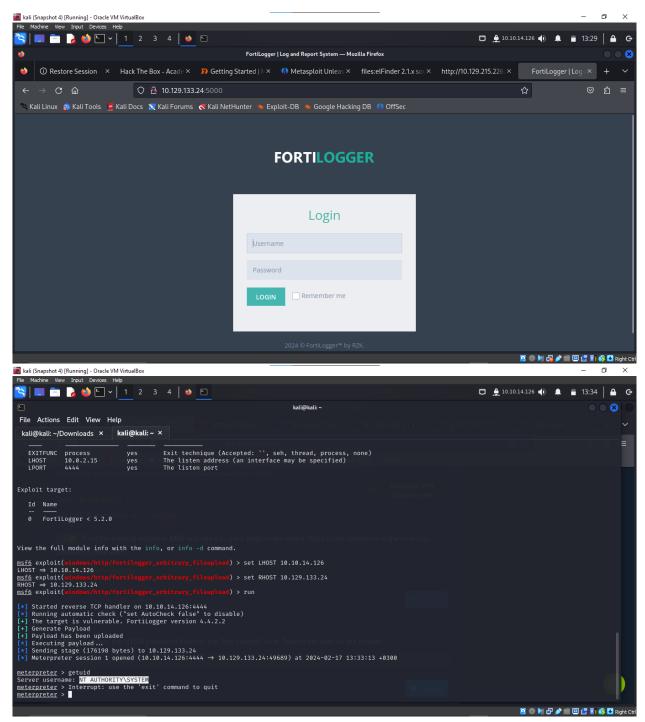




- 2. **Meterpreter:** A powerful payload that provides an interactive shell to the attacker, allowing advanced manipulation and exploration of the compromised system.
 - Q: Find the existing exploit in MSF and use it to get a shell on the target. What is the username of the user you obtained a shell with?

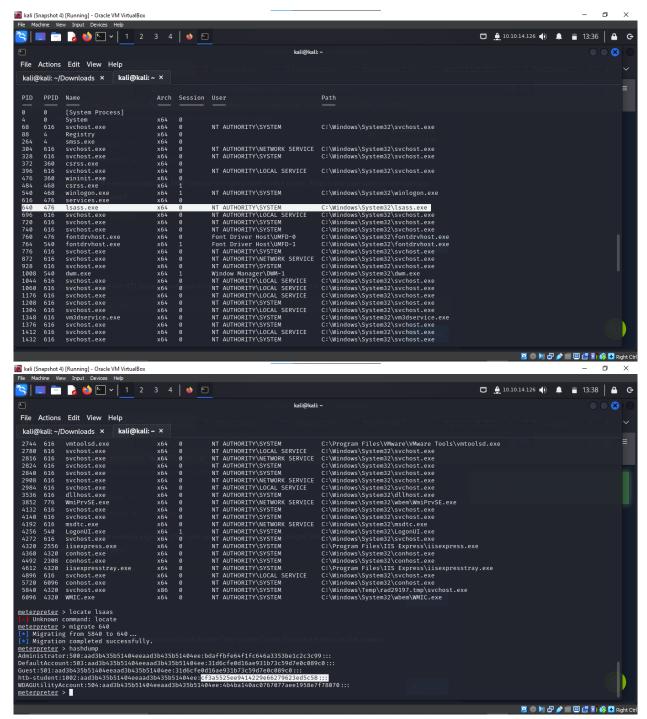
A: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM





Q: Retrieve the NTLM password hash for the "htb-student" user. Submit the hash as the answer.

A: cf3a5525ee9414229e66279623ed5c58



Additional Features

- 1. **Writing and Importing Modules:** Users can add custom modules or update existing ones to expand Metasploit's capabilities.
- 2. **Introduction to MSFVenom:** MSFVenom combines MSFPayload and MSFEncode for generating and encoding payloads. It's integral for crafting customized exploits and evading detection.
- 3. **Firewall and IDS/IPS Evasion**: Techniques to bypass network defenses, crucial for successful exploitation without detection.

Metasploit-Framework Updates - August 2020

The August 2020 update brought significant improvements, like end-to-end encryption for Meterpreter sessions, enhanced payload generation routines for evading antivirus and IDS, and the introduction of new features like SMBv3 client support and polymorphic payload generation.

Conclusion

Metasploit is a critical framework for cybersecurity exploration and defense, adaptable for a range of security tasks. Its ongoing development ensures it remains a vital tool in the evolving cybersecurity landscape.

