

Grab Digital Foot-printing & its countermeasures

Ethical Hacking | Web application footprinting

CDAC, Noida

CYBER GYAN VIRTUAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Submitted By:

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Project Trainee, (July-August) 2024

BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE

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Declaration by Author(s)

This is to declare that this report has been written by me/us. No part of the report is plagiarized from other sources. All information included from other sources has been duly acknowledged. I/We aver that if any part of the report is found to be plagiarized, I/we shall take full responsibility for it.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Overview of Digital Footprinting

Digital footprinting is the process of gathering information about a target, typically in the context of cybersecurity or ethical hacking, by utilizing publicly available data. This non-intrusive method helps identify a target's digital presence, including domain information, IP addresses, network infrastructure, emails, subdomains, and any other publicly accessible data. The primary objective is to build a detailed profile of the target, revealing potential vulnerabilities without engaging in direct interaction. Through tools like WHOIS, Nmap, TheHarvester, and Wireshark, attackers can uncover weaknesses in the target's infrastructure, which can later be exploited. Ethical hackers and penetration testers use digital footprinting as a foundational step in vulnerability assessment and penetration testing (VAPT) to discover and mitigate these security risks. Properly controlling a company's digital footprint can significantly reduce exposure to threats, making it a critical part of any organization's cybersecurity strategy.

Types of Footprinting

Footprinting in cybersecurity is typically categorized into two types: passive and active footprinting.

1. **Passive Footprinting:** This involves gathering information about a target without directly interacting with the target's systems. It relies on publicly accessible resources such as search engines, social media, domain registration databases (WHOIS), and internet services like Wireshark. Passive footprinting is stealthy, minimizing the risk of detection, as it does not engage with the target's infrastructure.
2. **Active Footprinting:** In contrast, active footprinting involves directly interacting with the target's network to obtain information. This can include techniques like network scanning, port scanning, or engaging with the target's systems using tools like Nmap or Netcat. Although it yields more detailed information, active footprinting runs the risk of being detected by the target's security mechanisms, such as firewalls or intrusion detection systems (IDS).

Grab Digital Foot-printing & its countermeasures

Introduction

Digital footprinting refers to the process of gathering publicly available information about a target, such as an individual, organization, or website, without direct interaction. In cybersecurity, footprinting is a crucial step in understanding a target's network, identifying vulnerabilities, and assessing risks. Ethical hackers and penetration testers can map a target's digital presence by using techniques like WHOIS lookup, Nmap scans, and Wireshark packet sniffing. This report covers the methodologies and tools employed in footprinting, uncovered vulnerabilities, and countermeasures to secure digital assets.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Gather the Digital Footprinting and provide its countermeasures.

Learning Objective

Understand Digital Footprinting: Learn how attackers gather publicly available information about a target, including domain details, services, and sensitive data.

Master Footprinting Tools: Gain hands-on experience using Kali Linux tools such as WHOIS, Wireshark, Google Dorking, Netcraft, and Nmap to collect data from websites.

Identify Vulnerabilities: Learn how to uncover common vulnerabilities like open ports, exposed subdomains, and sensitive files that can be exploited by attackers.

Implement Countermeasures: Develop strategies to protect against digital footprinting by using privacy settings, server hardening, and regularly monitoring the organization's digital presence.

Improve Security Awareness: Understand the importance of securing an organization's digital footprint to prevent cyberattacks, and explore real-world scenarios where these vulnerabilities were exploited.

APPROACH:

This section provides an overview of the tools and infrastructure and a diagram illustrating the environment where the assessment took place.

1.1 Tools & Technologies Used

- Operating System: Kali Linux 2024.1
- Tools:
 1. WHOIS: For retrieving domain information.
 2. Nmap: For network scanning and port detection.
 3. Google Dorking: For finding publicly accessible files and sensitive data.
 4. Netcraft: For analyzing infrastructure and uptime.
 5. Wireshark: For network sniffing and passive footprinting.
 6. Header Check: Giving information about content-encoding.
 7. Traceroutes with MTR: Hops are required to reach the web server.

1.2 Infrastructure Overview

- Target Website: <http://testphp.vulnweb.com/>
- Attacker Machine: Kali Linux
- Network Environment: The assessment is performed on a publicly accessible website.
- Key Components:
 - Server: Hosts the website and services.
 - Firewall: Protects the web server from external threats (hypothetical).
 - Attacker Machine: Kali Linux VM with tools for footprinting.

IP Address: [44.228.249.3](#)

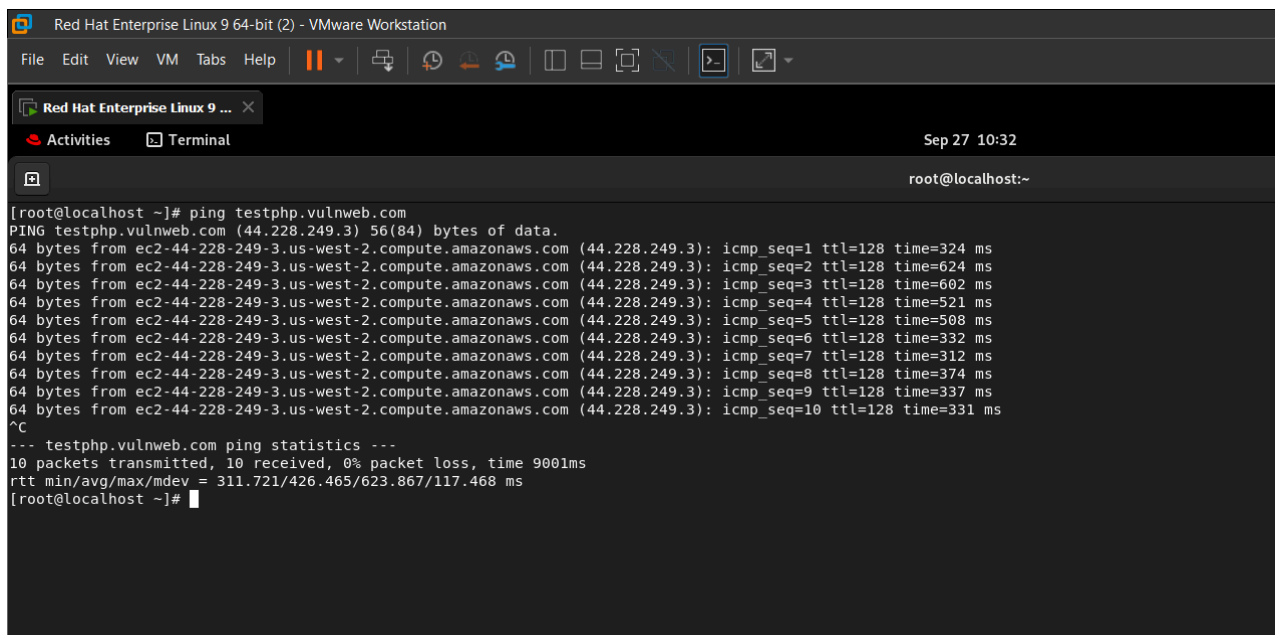
Attacker Machines: Kali Linux, Rhel 9, Ubuntu, Windows, and ParrotOS.

IMPLEMENTATION:

In this section, the step-by-step process followed during the assessment is outlined along with screenshots and commands for each step.

2.1 Passive Footprinting

- **Step 0: Ping testphp.vulnweb.com**



```
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 64-bit (2) - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 ...
Activities Terminal
root@localhost:~
[root@localhost ~]# ping testphp.vulnweb.com
PING testphp.vulnweb.com (44.228.249.3) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=1 ttl=128 time=324 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=2 ttl=128 time=624 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=3 ttl=128 time=602 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=4 ttl=128 time=521 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=5 ttl=128 time=508 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=6 ttl=128 time=332 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=7 ttl=128 time=312 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=8 ttl=128 time=374 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=9 ttl=128 time=337 ms
64 bytes from ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3): icmp_seq=10 ttl=128 time=331 ms
^C
--- testphp.vulnweb.com ping statistics ---
10 packets transmitted, 10 received, 0% packet loss, time 9001ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 311.721/426.465/623.867/117.468 ms
[root@localhost ~]#
```

=> Host is active on ec2- user on AWS(cloud service by amazon).

- **Step 1: WHOIS Lookup**

- **Command:** `whois testphp.vulnweb.com`
- **Purpose:** Retrieve domain registration information such as owner, registrar, and nameservers.
- **Outcome:** Displays the target's domain details.

#

ARIN WHOIS data and services are subject to the Terms of Use

available at: <https://www.arin.net/resources/registry/whois/tou/>

#

If you see inaccuracies in the results, please report at

https://www.arin.net/resources/registry/whois/inaccuracy_reporting/

#

Copyright 1997-2024, American Registry for Internet Numbers, Ltd.

#

start

NetRange: 44.192.0.0 - 44.255.255.255

CIDR: 44.192.0.0/10

NetName: AMAZO-4

NetHandle: NET-44-192-0-0-1

Parent: NET44 (NET-44-0-0-0-0)

NetType: Direct Allocation

OriginAS:

Organization: Amazon.com, Inc. (AMAZO-4)

RegDate: 2019-07-18

Updated: 2019-07-18

Ref: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/ip/44.192.0.0>

OrgName: Amazon.com, Inc.

OrgId: AMAZO-4

Address: Amazon Web Services, Inc.

Address: P.O. Box 81226

City: Seattle

StateProv: WA

PostalCode: 98108-1226

Country: US

RegDate: 2005-09-29

Updated: 2022-09-30

Comment: For details of this service please see

Comment: <http://ec2.amazonaws.com>

Ref: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/AMAZO-4>

OrgRoutingHandle: ARMP-ARIN

OrgRoutingName: AWS RPKI Management POC

OrgRoutingPhone: +1-206-555-0000

OrgRoutingEmail: aws-rpki-routing-poc@amazon.com

OrgRoutingRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/ARMP-ARIN>

OrgAbuseHandle: AEA8-ARIN

OrgAbuseName: Amazon EC2 Abuse

OrgAbusePhone: +1-206-555-0000

OrgAbuseEmail: trustandsafety@support.aws.com

OrgAbuseRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/AEA8-ARIN>

OrgRoutingHandle: IPROU3-ARIN

OrgRoutingName: IP Routing

OrgRoutingPhone: +1-206-555-0000

OrgRoutingEmail: aws-routing-poc@amazon.com

OrgRoutingRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/IPROU3-ARIN>

OrgTechHandle: ANO24-ARIN

OrgTechName: Amazon EC2 Network Operations

OrgTechPhone: +1-206-555-0000

OrgTechEmail: amzn-noc-contact@amazon.com

OrgTechRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/ANO24-ARIN>

OrgNOCHandle: AANO1-ARIN

OrgNOCName: Amazon AWS Network Operations

OrgNOCPhone: +1-206-555-0000

OrgNOCEmail: amzn-noc-contact@amazon.com

OrgNOCRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/AANO1-ARIN>

end

start

NetRange: 44.224.0.0 - 44.255.255.255

CIDR: 44.224.0.0/11

NetName: AMAZO-ZPDX

NetHandle: NET-44-224-0-0-1

Parent: *AMAZO-4 (NET-44-192-0-0-1)*

NetType: *Reallocated*

OriginAS:

Organization: *Amazon.com, Inc. (AMAZO-47)*

RegDate: *2019-08-01*

Updated: *2019-08-01*

Ref: *<https://rdap.arin.net/registry/ip/44.224.0.0>*

OrgName: *Amazon.com, Inc.*

OrgId: *AMAZO-47*

Address: *EC2, EC2 1200 12th Ave South*

City: *Seattle*

StateProv: *WA*

PostalCode: *98144*

Country: *US*

RegDate: *2011-05-10*

Updated: *2021-07-22*

Ref: *<https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/AMAZO-47>*

OrgTechHandle: *ANO24-ARIN*

OrgTechName: *Amazon EC2 Network Operations*

OrgTechPhone: *+1-206-555-0000*

OrgTechEmail: *amzn-noc-contact@amazon.com*

OrgTechRef: *<https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/ANO24-ARIN>*

OrgAbuseHandle: AEA8-ARIN

OrgAbuseName: Amazon EC2 Abuse

OrgAbusePhone: +1-206-555-0000

OrgAbuseEmail: trustandsafety@support.aws.com

OrgAbuseRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/AEA8-ARIN>

OrgRoutingHandle: ARMP-ARIN

OrgRoutingName: AWS RPKI Management POC

OrgRoutingPhone: +1-206-555-0000

OrgRoutingEmail: aws-rpki-routing-poc@amazon.com

OrgRoutingRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/ARMP-ARIN>

OrgNOCHandle: AANOI-ARIN

OrgNOCName: Amazon AWS Network Operations

OrgNOCPhone: +1-206-555-0000

OrgNOCEmail: amzn-noc-contact@amazon.com

OrgNOCRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/AANOI-ARIN>

OrgRoutingHandle: IPROU3-ARIN

OrgRoutingName: IP Routing

OrgRoutingPhone: +1-206-555-0000

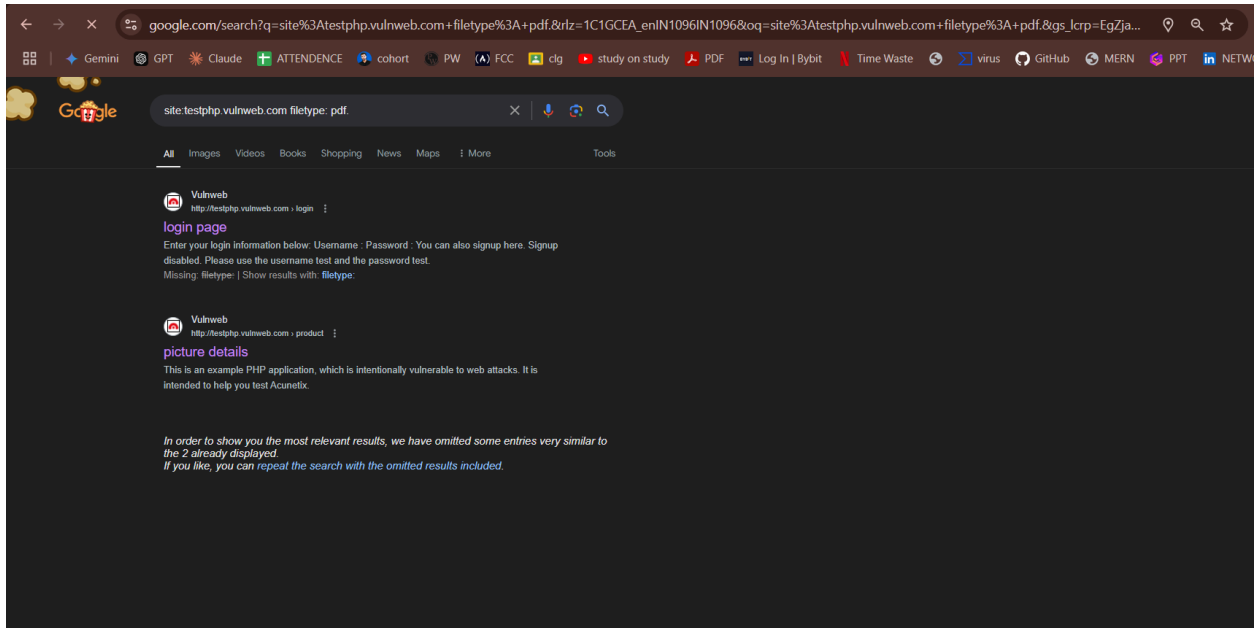
OrgRoutingEmail: aws-routing-poc@amazon.com

OrgRoutingRef: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/IPROU3-ARIN>

end

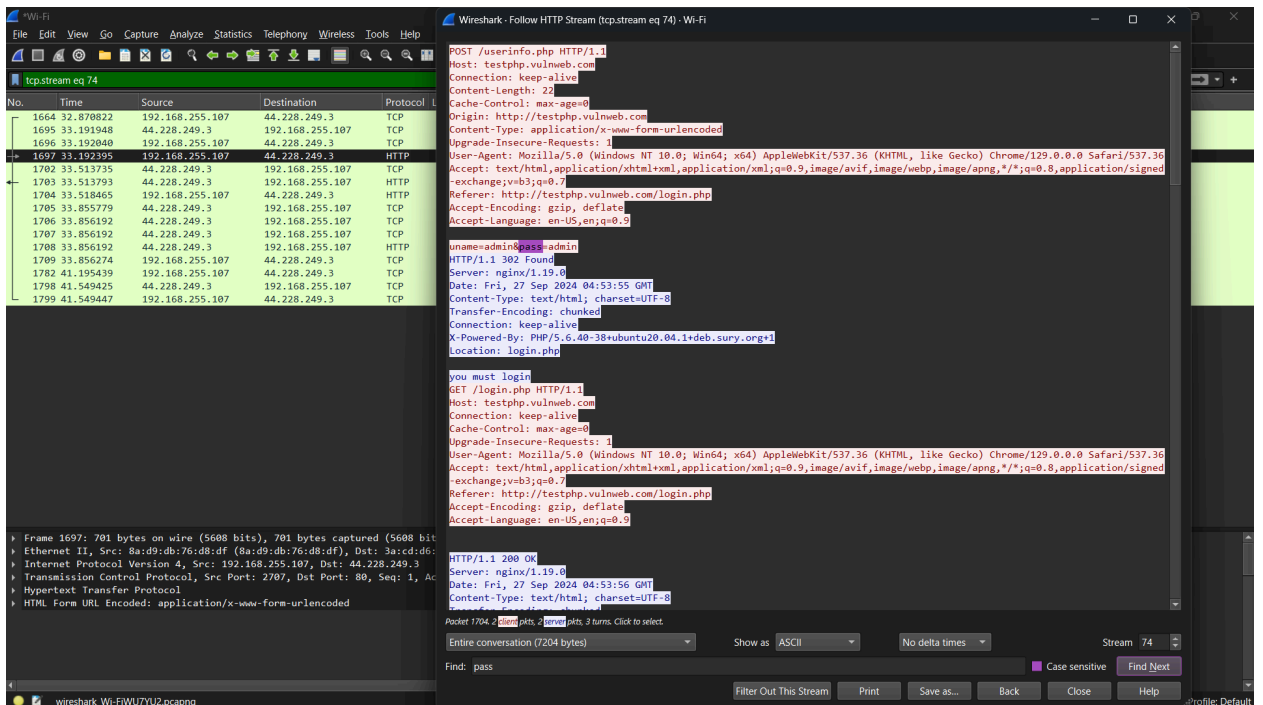
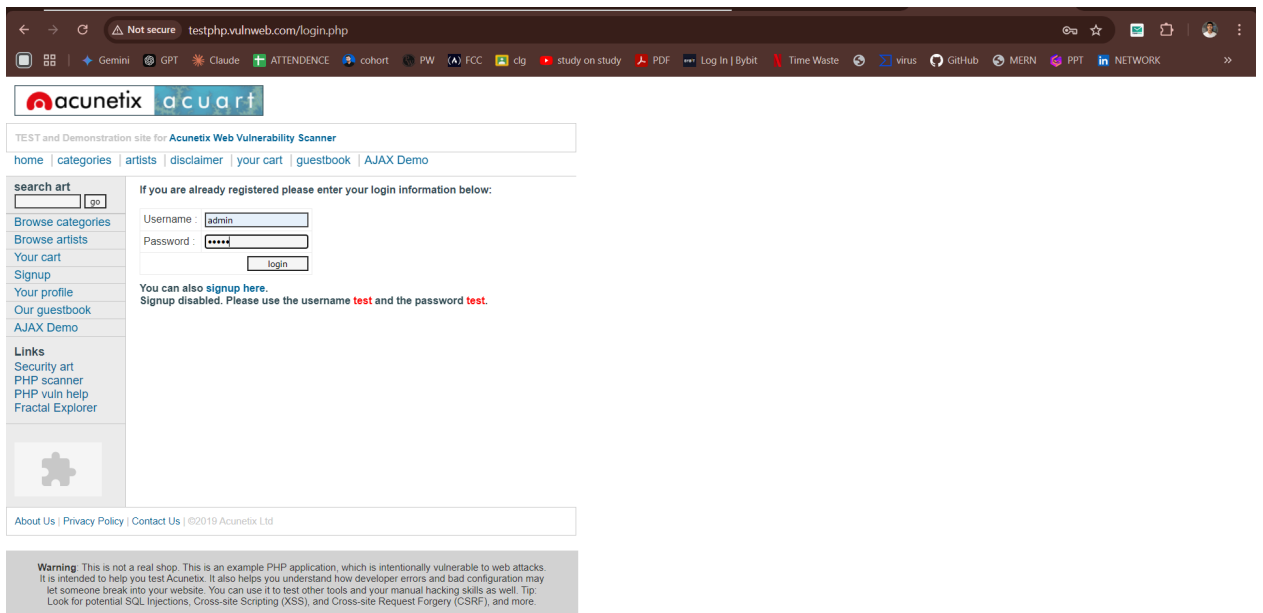
- **Step 2: Google Dorking**

- **Command:** Use Google search operators like `site:testphp.vulnweb.com filetype: pdf`.
- **Purpose:** To discover files, exposed directories, and sensitive information indexed by search engines.
- **Outcome:** A list of publicly accessible files.



- **Step 3: Wireshark Network Analysis**

- **Command:** Use Wireshark to capture and analyze network traffic.
 - **Purpose:** Monitor and inspect network packets to detect any suspicious activities or unsecured protocols that may expose sensitive data.
 - **Outcome:** A detailed view of network traffic, including any open protocols, unencrypted data transmission, and possible indications of compromise (e.g., unusual traffic patterns, exposed credentials, or sensitive information in transit).
- If an attacker is on the same network as a normal user then he/she could steal the critical information of the username and password of the user via network sniffing as shown in the images below.
 - The Username and the Password are going into the network via plain text, which is a critical Vulnerability for the website, it can be fixed by using SSL and TLS certifications.



2.2 Active Footprinting

Step 1: Nmap Scan

- **Command:** `nmap -A testphp.vulnweb.com`
- **Purpose:** Scan for open ports, services, OS, and version details.
- **Outcome:** Open ports, services running, OS detection, and service versions.

```
[root@localhost /]# nmap -p80,5060 testphp.vulnweb.com -V
Nmap version 7.91 ( https://nmap.org )
Platform: x86_64-redhat-linux-gnu
Compiled with: nmap-liblua-5.3.5 openssl-3.0.0-beta2 libz-1.2.11 libpcap-1.10.0 nmap-libdnet-1.12 ipv6
Compiled without: libssh2
Available nsock engines: epoll poll select
[root@localhost /]# nmap -p80,5060 testphp.vulnweb.com
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-09-26 15:49 IST
Nmap scan report for testphp.vulnweb.com (44.228.249.3)
Host is up (0.036s latency).
rDNS record for 44.228.249.3: ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com

PORT      STATE SERVICE
80/tcp    open  http
5060/tcp  open  sip

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.38 seconds
[root@localhost /]# nmap -p80,5060 testphp.vulnweb.com -A
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-09-26 15:49 IST
Nmap scan report for testphp.vulnweb.com (44.228.249.3)
Host is up (0.073s latency).
rDNS record for 44.228.249.3: ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com

PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
80/tcp    open  http      nginx 1.19.0
5060/tcp  open  sip?

Warning: OSScan results may be unreliable because we could not find at least 1 open and 1 closed port
Aggressive OS guesses: DD-WRT v24-sp2 (Linux 2.4.37) (99%), Actiontec MI424WR-GEN3I WAP (97%), Linux 3.2 (97%), Linux 4.4 (97%), Microsoft Windows XP SP3 or Windows 7 or Windows Server 2012 (94%), Microsoft Windows XP SP3 (94%), BlueArc Titan 2100 NAS device (93%), VMware Player virtual NAT device (92%), Pirelli DP-10 VoIP phone (90%)
No exact OS matches for host (test conditions non-ideal).
Network Distance: 2 hops

TRACEROUTE (using port 80/tcp)
HOP RTT      ADDRESS
1   0.06 ms  192.168.85.2
2   0.07 ms  ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (44.228.249.3)

OS and Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 98.24 seconds
[root@localhost /]#
```

System Information:

- **Operating System:** Likely a Linux distribution, possibly one of the following: DD-WRT v24-sp2, Actiontec MI424WR-GEN3I WAP, Linux 3.2, Linux 4.4, Microsoft Windows XP SP3, Windows 7, Windows Server 2012, Microsoft Windows XP SP3, BlueArc Titan 2100 NAS device, VMware Player virtual NAT device, Pirelli DP-10 VoIP phone.
- **Nmap Version:** 7.91
- **Platform:** x86 64-bit
- **Compiled With:** nmap-liblua-5.3.5, openssl-3.0.0-beta2, libz-1.2.11, libpcap-1.10.0, nmap-libdnet
- **Compiled Without:** libssh2

-
- **Available nsock Engines:** epoll, poll, select

Target Information:

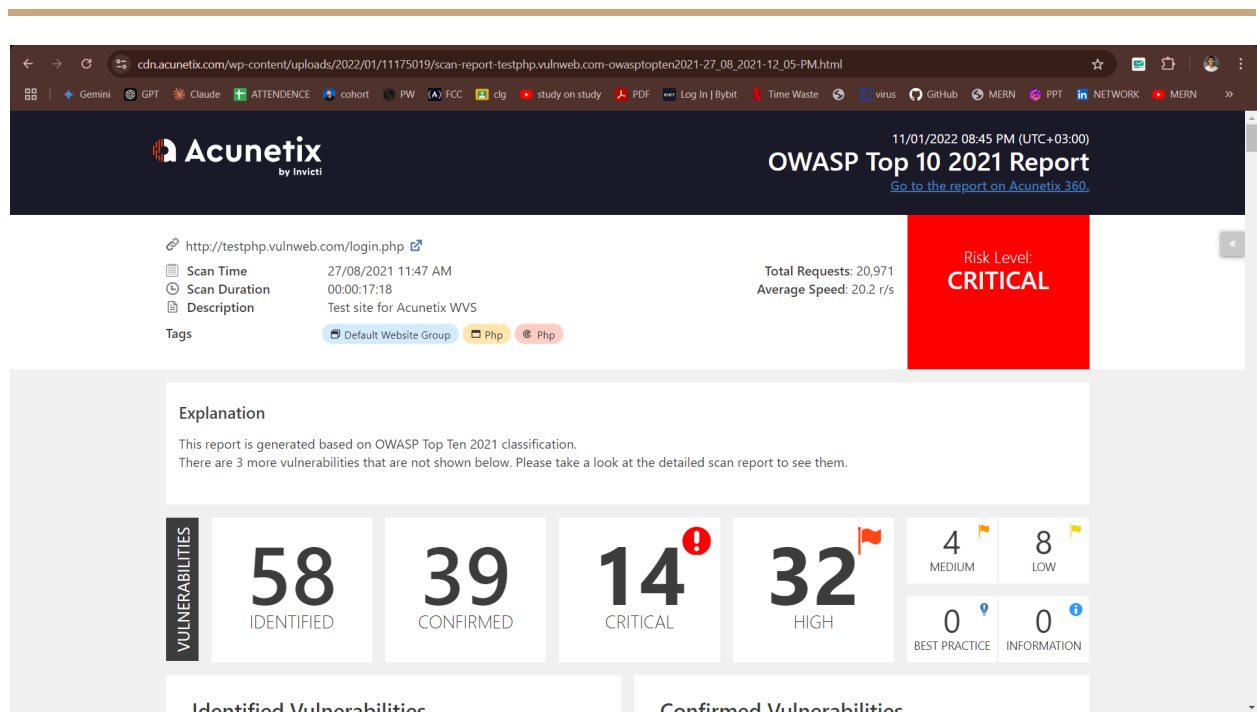
- **Hostname:** testphp.vulnweb.com
- **IP Address:** 44.228.249.3
- **rDNS Record:** ec2-44-228-249-3.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com
- **Host Uptime:** 0.036 seconds latency
- **Network Distance:** 2 hops

Open Ports and Services:

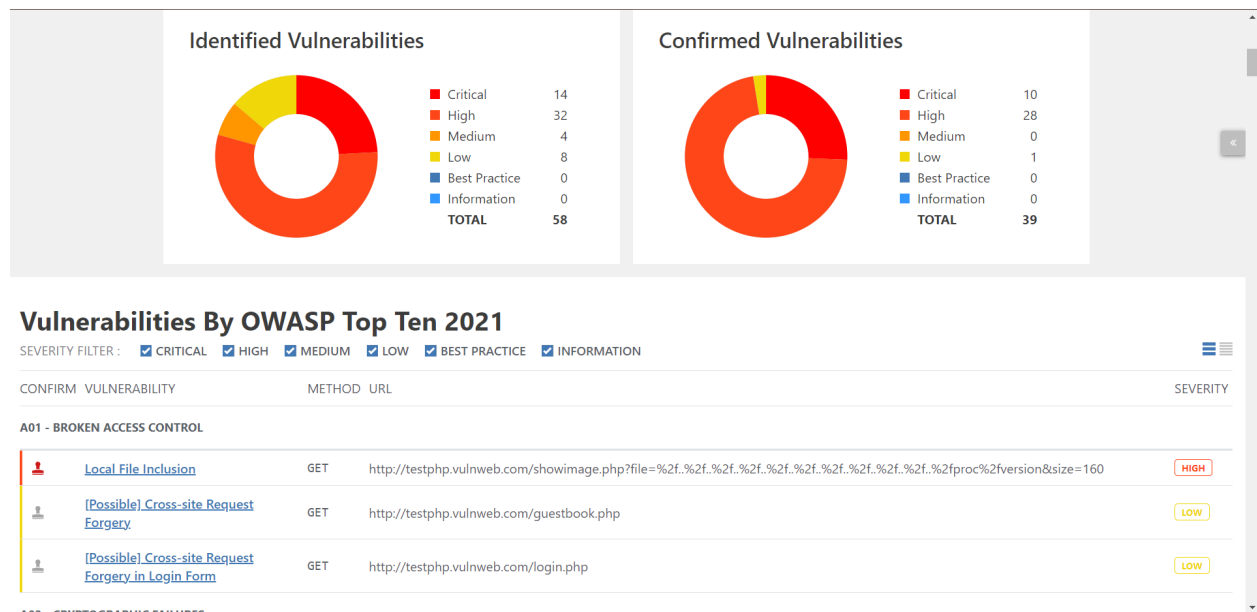
- **Port 80/tcp:** Open, HTTP, nginx 1.19.0
- **Port 5060/tcp:** Open, SIP (service version unknown)

Additional Notes:

- The OS guess is based on aggressive scanning and may not be entirely accurate.
- The service version for port 5060/tcp could not be reliably determined.
- Detailed traceroute information is provided.
- The results are available for further analysis and potential exploitation.



=> List of vulnerabilities listed on Acunetix, which is a source for information on the web.



=> Listed Vulnerabilities on Acunetix that can be easily bypassed by a script kiddie to gain sustainable access to the website.

SEVERITY FILTER : ☒ CRITICAL ☒ HIGH ☒ MEDIUM ☒ LOW ☒ BEST PRACTICE ☒ INFORMATION

CONFIRM VULNERABILITY

METHOD URL

SEVERITY

A01 - BROKEN ACCESS CONTROL

	Local File Inclusion	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/showimage.php?file=%2f.%2f.%2f.%2f.%2f.%2f.%2f.%2f.%2fproc%2fversion&size=160	HIGH
	[Possible] Cross-site Request Forgery	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/guestbook.php	LOW
	[Possible] Cross-site Request Forgery in Login Form	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php	LOW

A02 - CRYPTOGRAPHIC FAILURES

	Password Transmitted over HTTP	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php	HIGH
	SSL/TLS Not Implemented	GET	https://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php	MEDIUM

A03 - INJECTION

	Boolean Based SQL Injection	POST	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/userinfo.php	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/Mod_Rewrite_Shop/rate.php?id=-1%20OR%2017-7%3d10	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/artists.php?artist=1%20OR%2017-7%3d10	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/listproducts.php?artist=1%20OR%2017-7%3d10	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/Mod_Rewrite_Shop/details.php?id=-1%20OR%2017-7%3d10	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/product.php?pic=1%20OR%2017-7%3d10	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/listproducts.php?cat=1%20OR%2017-7%3d10	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	POST	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/userinfo.php	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	GET	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/Mod_Rewrite_Shop/buy.php?id=-1%20OR%2017-7%3d10	CRITICAL
	Boolean Based SQL Injection	POST	http://testphp.vulnweb.com/secured/newuser.php	CRITICAL

hackertarget.com/http-header-check/

Gemini

GPT

Claude

ATTENDANCE

cohort

PW

FCC

clg

study on study

PDF

Log In | Bybit

Time Waste

virus

GitHub

MERN

PPT

NETWORK

MERN

HACKER TARGET

SCANNERS

TOOLS

RESEARCH

ASSESSMENTS

ABOUT

PRICING


LOG IN

HTTP Header Check

Review the HTTP Headers from a web server with this quick check.

Valid input

☐ I'm not a robot



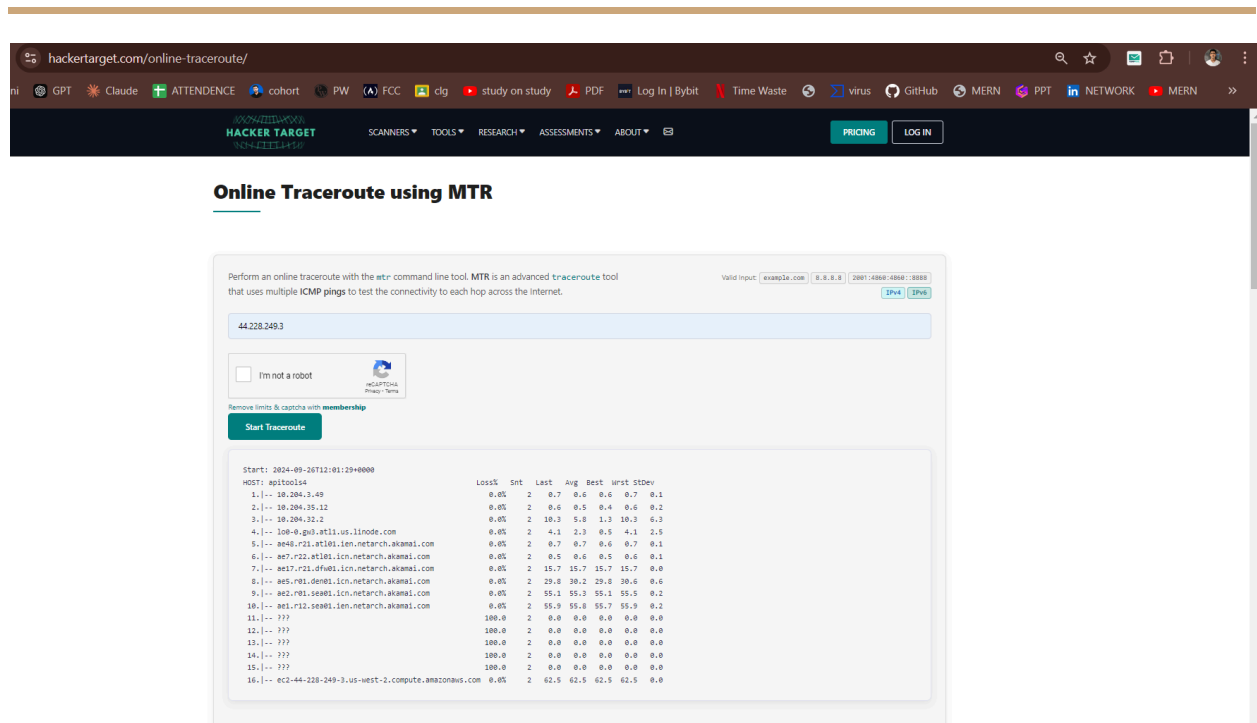
HCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

Remove limits & captcha with [membership](#)

Get the HTTP Headers

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: nginx/1.19.0
Date: Thu, 26 Sep 2024 11:58:24 GMT
Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
Transfer-Encoding: chunked
Connection: keep-alive
X-Powered-By: PHP/5.6.40-38+ubuntu20.04.1+deb.sury.org+1
Content-Encoding: gzip
```

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2.3 Indicators of Compromise

After performing the footprinting process, the following indicators of compromise (IOCs) were identified:

- **Open Ports:** Multiple open ports were detected during the Nmap scan, revealing potentially exploitable services.
- **Subdomain Exposure:** Subdomains discovered that may not be properly secured.
- **Sensitive Files:** Files indexed by search engines that could expose sensitive data.
- **Services with Known Vulnerabilities:** Services identified via Wireshark and Nmap that may be running outdated or vulnerable versions.

CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS:

3.1 Conclusion

The footprinting process revealed several security risks associated with the target website, including:

-
- Open ports and services exposed to the internet.
 - Sensitive files and information are accessible via Google Dorking.
 - Unprotected subdomains that could be leveraged in attacks.

These findings highlight the importance of maintaining strong security configurations and limiting the digital footprint of a website.

3.2 Recommendations

To mitigate the identified risks, the following countermeasures are recommended:

- **Close Unnecessary Ports:** Only open necessary ports and services. Use firewalls to restrict access.
- **Use Domain Privacy:** Protect domain information by using privacy services to prevent public access to WHOIS data.
- **Secure Subdomains:** Ensure subdomains are properly secured with authentication and SSL encryption.
- **Robust Robots.txt Configuration:** Limit search engine indexing of sensitive files through proper `robots.txt` configurations.
- **Monitor Vulnerabilities:** Regularly scan and patch services exposed to the internet.
- **Employee Training:** Educate employees about avoiding exposure of sensitive information and ensuring strong passwords for email and server access.

LIST OF REFERENCES:

Provide references to the tools, resources, and documentation used during the assessment.

Examples include:

- **Nmap Documentation:** <https://nmap.org/>
- **Google Dorking Guide:** <https://exploit-db.com/google-dorks/>
- **Wireshark:** <https://www.wireshark.org/docs/>
- **QWASP Top 10 Report:**
https://cdn.acunetix.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/11175019/scan-report-testphp.vulnweb.com-owasptopen2021-27_08_2021-12_05-PM.html
- **Traceroutes and Header Check:** <https://hackertarget.com/>
- **Digital Footprinting:**
<https://www.kaspersky.com/resource-center/definitions/what-is-a-digital-footprint>
