Post Module Assignment Submission form

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Executive Summary

A client has engaged ACME Cybersecurity to perform penetration testing against their existing web application and security architecture. The shopping web application known as Juice Shop and the security architecture known as Retro. The purpose of this is observe how both perform against a range of security exploitation techniques. This report provides insight into the found vulnerabilities and the necessary mitigation methods to prevent them from being exploited in the future.

After completing the Juice Shop penetration testing, the following are the vulnerabilities found and the subsequent impact on business were they to be exploited.

Vulnerability 1: Poor password practices of the administrator account results in the user easily being able to access the account. Granting them the ability to delete customer reviews and view the emails of all registered customers. Said emails could be used as part of a phishing scheme

Vulnerability 2: A flaw in the forgetting password system allows a malicious user to view a registered users security question and reset it to their choosing. From here, a hacker could view the user's personal information and card details.

Vulnerability 3: Lacking security measures means a hacker can view confidential information such as legal information and coupon codes. This vital information could later be sold on the dark web.

Vulnerability 4: By intercepting a successful login attempt, a hacker could impersonate as any user they want on the site. From here, they can place fraudulent orders or post fake reviews.

Vulnerability 5: With sufficient cryptographic pattern understanding, a user can create their own infinitely reusable coupon code for up to a 99% discount on the store. This inevitably ruining the economy of the site.

Upon completing the Retro penetration testing, the following was discovered.

- Discovered hidden directories allowed access to content
- Poor password hygiene and security measures allowed easy access to WordPress site
- By utilising Privilege Escalation and a vulnerability present in an older build of Windows, a user can gain root access to the machine.

This report outlines the ideology and steps taken to perform both the tests. Juice Shop vulnerabilities will be accompanied with its risk rating pertaining to how deadly each vulnerability is if exploited, as well as the probability of it happening. The Retro section will outline the vulnerabilities and possible network configuration changes that can address the vulnerability.

Risk Ratings

To categorise the risks of each vulnerability, the CVSS v3.1 framework has been employed to provide a system to judge the impacts of security risks¹. The higher ranking a risk receives, the more significant an effect it will have on the underlying business were it to be exploited.

Risk Rating	CVSSv3.1 Score	Risk Description
Critical	9.0 – 10.0	A vulnerability with a critical rating should be dealt with at the utmost
		important. Often times easy to perform and causes significant damage to
		the system
High	7.0 – 8.9	A difficult to exploit vulnerability which can result in the attacker gaining
		increased privileges
Medium	4.0 – 6.9	The vulnerability which is contingent on multiple external factors to
		work. E.g., social engineering, needing privileges to perform the exploit
Low	0.1 – 3.9	A vulnerability which poses little threat to the system, often the
		organisation has measures to counter common exploits
None	0.0	Has no affect towards the system and organisation.

Preliminary Information

To ensure safe practice, both penetration tests were performed within a Kali Linux virtual machine. Before beginning the penetration testing for Juice Shop, it is vital to understand the technology stack which is used to create the application. Knowing this, we'll be able to discern what vulnerabilities can be exploited in the given technology stack. Juice Shop is primarily written with JavaScript frameworks such as Node.js, Angular and Express. Additionally, we used a web scrapper to search for hidden directories and useful pages. One of these pages being the sites File Transfer Protocol Page (FTP).

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¹ https://www.first.org/cvss/specification-document

Vulnerabilities

Juice Shop

Password Strength – Broken Authentication

Risk Rating: Critical

Probability: High

Summary: Due to the poor password practices of the Juice Shop administrator account, a malicious user could user a dictionary attack or guess common passwords to gain access to the account. Granting the ability to delete users and edit user information

Vulnerability Details:

Affects	https://sand2-pma.herokuapp.com/#/login
Fields(s)	Password, Password Payload
Attack Vectors	Burp Suite POST Parameters
Reference	https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/284.html

Exploit performed:

User reviews are posted with the user's email address to better identify who wrote the review. One such account for one of the reviews is admin@juice-sh.op. By the name, it can be inferred to be the administrator account, as seen in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Administrator email address

Knowing this address, we can attempt to try log into it. Since this exploit tests for password strength, we will forgo methods such as SQL injection to gain access to the account.

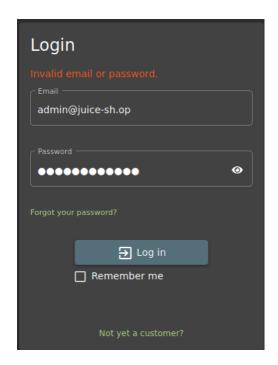


Figure 2: Failed Login

As seen in Figure 2, there aren't preventative measures or anything stopping a user from repeatedly trying to log into an email account.



Figure 3: Login Attempt

Figure 3 shows how Burp Suite can be used to observe this login attempt. Sending this POST request to the Intruder, we can use the highlighted password parameter as a payload. With this, we can load a word list containing common passwords which will be input into the password payload as seen on Figure 4.

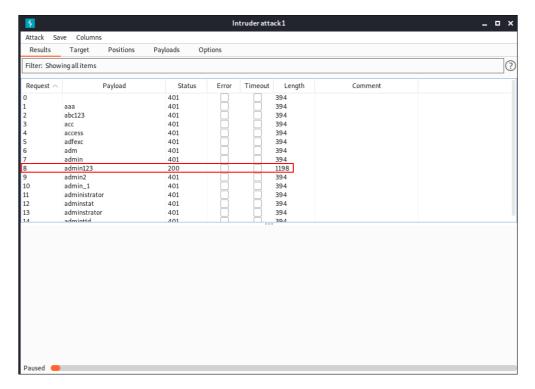


Figure 4: Successful Login

Referring back to Figure 4, 'Admin123' is the password of the account, denoted by its '200' success status.

Outcome: Successfully performing this attack will result in the user being able to gain access to user accounts which have poor passwords. From here they can do things such as post fraudulent reviews, edit user information etc.

Rationale	This exploit was performed to gauge how well Juice Shop handles incorrect inputs for user emails and passwords. Most sites have measures such as preventing logins for an account if the wrong password was given too many times. In term, excessive guessing, and brute force attacks
Mitigation Guide	 Enforce better password practices Two factor authentication for secure logins Restrict access to account after number of incorrect logins
Reference	https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/Authentication_Cheat_Sheet https://owasp.org/www-project-top-ten/2017/A2_2017-Broken_Authentication

Resetting Passwords – Broken Authentication

Risk Rating: High

Probability: High

Summary: By abusing an oversight in Juice Shop, a malicious user can discover a user's security question. If answered correctly, the password can be reset to their choosing. If there is discernible information about the user, a hacker could perform reconnaissance to find out the answer to the security question

Vulnerability Details:

Affects	https://sand2-pma.herokuapp.com/#/login
Fields(s)	Security Questions, New Password
Attack Vector(s)	N/A
Reference	https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/284.html

Tools/Steps taken:

Given that a valid email that has been already signed up is provided, when attempting to reset a user's password, the security question field visibly shows the security question for the given account, as seen in Figure 5. For this scenario, we will supply the email address jim@juice-sh.op, an account which has left multiple reviews on the site.

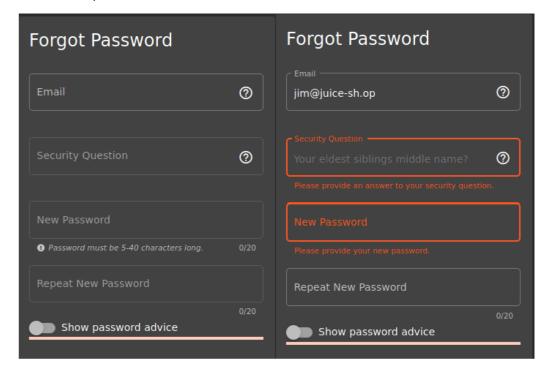


Figure 5: Security Question

When further investigating the items in the Juice Shop store, we find further information that alludes to what Jim's security question answer is. The following reviews left by Jim reveals the following information seen in Figure 6.

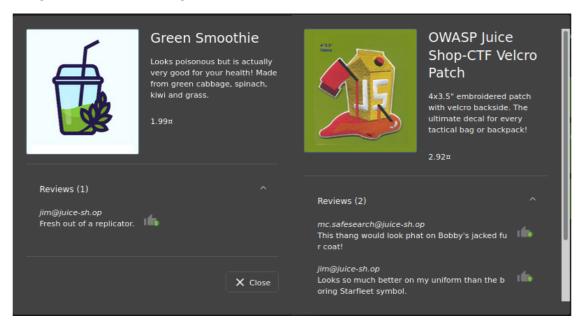


Figure 6: Jim's Juice Shop reviews

Taking the information from the reviews, both 'Starfleet replicator' and 'Starfleet Jim' were typed into Google. Identifying that 'Jim' is a reference to James T. Kirk from the television series "Star Trek". Doing further research into research into James Kirk reveals he has an older brother named George Samuel Kirk. Providing "Samuel" as the answer to the security question easily grants us the ability to change the password freely

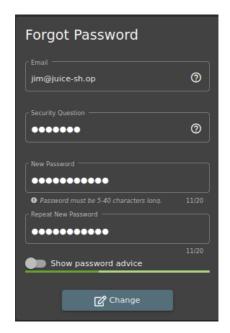


Figure 7: Successful Password Reset

Rationale	This exploit was performed to gauge how well Juice Shop handles password recovery. Most sites give vague feedback if the account provided exists on the site, whereas Juice Shop makes it very clear if the account is a user or not.
Mitigation Guide	 Do not reveal what the user's security question is. Enough discernible information about the user online would make guessing the answer easy. Provide security token providing identity (SMS or email)
Reference	https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/Forgot_Password_Cheat_Sheet https://owasp.org/www-project-top-ten/2017/A2_2017-Broken_Authentication

Poison Null Byte – Improper Input Validation

Probability:	Medium

Risk Rating: High

Summary: By visiting the Juice Shop's FTP page and manipulating the URL of the site, a malicious user can access and download confidential files they aren't intended to see. Example of files are old coupon codes and a file outlining the sites dependencies.

Vulnerability Details:

Affects	https://sand2-pma.herokuapp.com/ftp/
Fields(s)	N/A
Attack Vectors	.md and .pdf Parameters
Reference	https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/158.html

Exploit performed: As mentioned in the Preliminary section, Juice Shop utilises an FTP client to store and distribute some files.

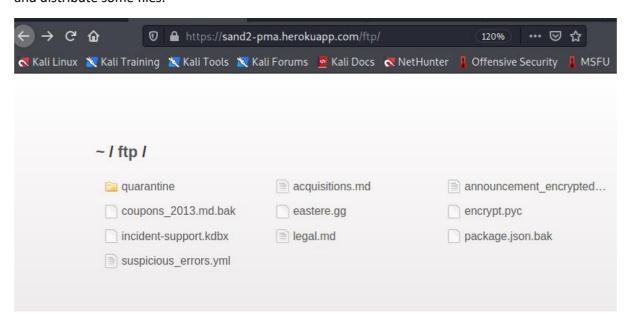
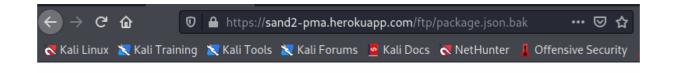


Figure 8: FTP Page

From here, it was discovered that the files with the extension names of .kdbx, .md, and .url are able to be downloaded and viewed. Attempting to open a file with any other extension is blocked and the error message shown in Figure 9 is displayed.



OWASP Juice Shop (Express ^4.17.1)

403 Error: Only .md and .pdf files are allowed!

at verify (/app/build/routes/fileServer.js:31:18) at /app/build/routes/fileServer.js:15:13

at Layer.handle [as handle_request] (/app/node_modules/express/lib/router/layer.js:95:5)

at trim_prefix (/app/node_modules/express/lib/router/index.js:317:13)

at /app/node_modules/express/lib/router/index.js:284:7

at param (/app/node_modules/express/lib/router/index.js:354:14)

at param (/app/node_modules/express/lib/router/index.js:365:14)

at Function.process_params (/app/node_modules/express/lib/router/index.js:410:3)

at next (/app/node modules/express/lib/router/index.js:275:10)

at /app/node modules/serve-index/index.js:145:39

at callback (/app/node_modules/graceful-fs/polyfills.js:299:20)

at FSReqCallback.oncomplete (node:fs:194:5)

Figure 9: FTP Error Message

By utilising a null byte attack, we can append the following string of characters to the end of the url. "'%2500.md'. This sequence of string effectively serves as a break in the string, tricking the site to thinking a .md file is requested. "%25" represents a URL encoder, while "%00" represents a null byte. Combining the two as "%2500" and appending it to the end isn't enough, so we can use .md or .pdf to append after it, tricking the site and granting us access to the file seen in Figure 10.

Q https://sand2-pma.herokuapp.com/ftp/package.json.bak%2500.md

Figure 10: Successful byte attack

The contents of the file can be viewed via a text editor, giving information about the Juice Shop website.

Figure 11: Contents of package

Outcome: By utilising a NULL terminator, a malicious user can trick the site into downloading a potentially confidential file.

Rationale	As observed in the preliminary section, the FTP page is visible to any user if they can find it. Knowing this, this exploit was performed to gauge if there are sufficient protection measures to stop unauthorised users gaining access to files and important document
Mitigation	Have measures for when the user supplies NULL characters.
Guide	Disable anonymous access to FTP page and files.
	Hide backlines to avoid access via web crawlers.
Reference	https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/Input_Validation_Cheat_Sheet.html http://capec.mitre.org/data/definitions/52.html

Risk Rating: High

Probability: High

Summary: By intercepting a legitimate login, a malicious user can edit it and disguise themselves as a user who doesn't exists on the site. Afterwards, tasks such as purchases, and personal information can be edited.

Vulnerability Details:

Affects	https://sand2-pma.herokuapp.com/#/
	/rest/products/search?q=
Fields(s)	N/A
Attack Vectors	GET Parameters
	Authorization: Bearer
Reference	https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/20.html

Exploit performed:

When a user logs into Juice Shop, Juice Shop provides a JSON Web Token (JWT). Burp Suite can be used to view the GET request with the users provided JWT. This encoded JWT provides information about the user's login as seen in Figure 12.

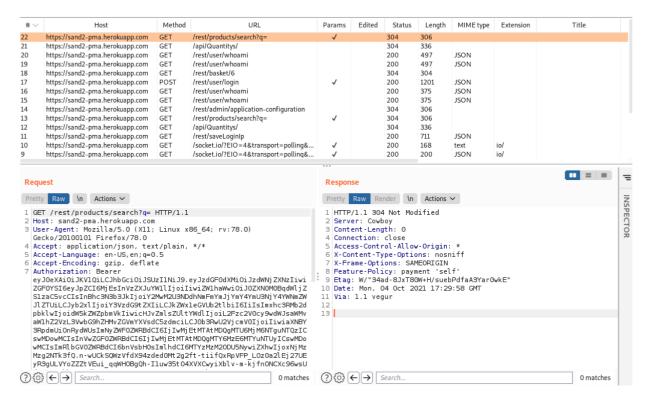


Figure 12: JWT Token

Receiving this JWT, we can use the site JWT.io² to decode the JWT, being able to edit the header and payload parameters as seen in Figure 13.

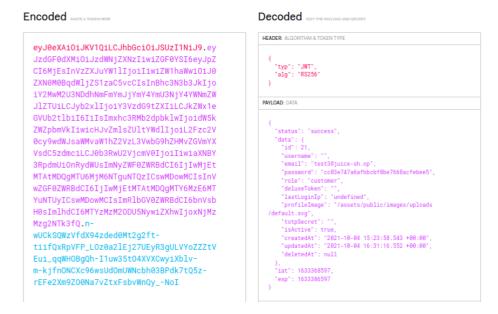


Figure 13: Decoded Token

To bypass the token signature checks, we will change the 'alg' property from 'RS246' to 'none'. Additionally, changing the email to 'jwtn3d0juice-sh.op', a user who doesn't exist on the site as seen in Figure 14.

```
HEADER: ALGORITHM& TOKENTYPE

"typ": "JWT",
    "alg": "none"

}

PAYLOAD: DATA

{
    "status": "success",
    "data": {
    "id: 21,
    "username": "",
    "emsil": "jwtn3d0juice-sh.op",
    "password": "cc83a747a6afbbcbf8be7668acfebee5",
    "role": "customer",
    "deluxeToken": "",
    "lastloginIp: "undefined",
    "profileImage": "/assets/public/images/uploads
/default.svg",
    "totpSecret": "",
    "isActive": true,
    "createdAt": "2021-10-04 15:23:58.543 +00:00",
    "updatedAt": "2021-10-04 16:31:16.552 +00:00",
    "deletedAt": null
    ),
    "iat": 1633386597,
    "exp": 1633386597
}
```

Figure 14: Edited Data

² https://jwt.io/

Both the edited header and payload will be encoded to the URL friendly format of base64url with base64.guru³, shown in Figure 15.

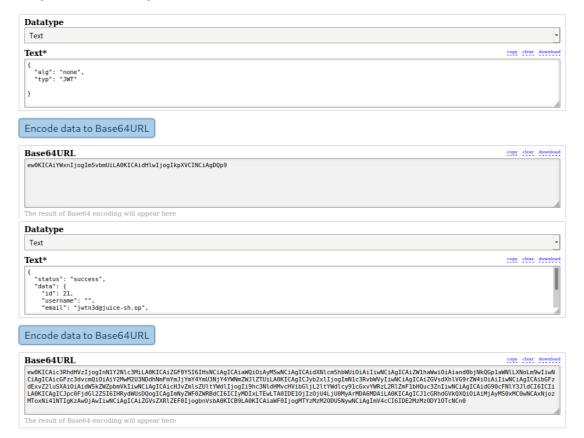


Figure 15: Encoded Header and Payload

-

³ base64.guru

To finalize, both are appended together, with a '.' at the end of each. Returning to Burp Suite, after sending a JSON post request to the Repeater, we can replace everything below the header with our new token as seen in Figure 16.

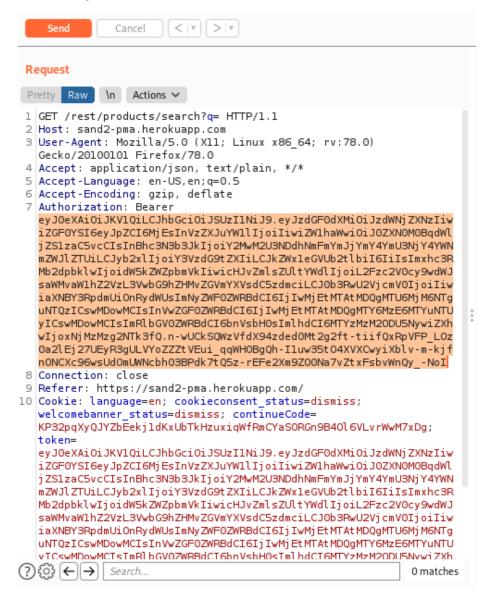


Figure 16: Edited JWT

Outcome: By intercepting a JSON web token, a malicious user can bypass authentication and impersonate who they please on the site, even as a user who doesn't exist.

Rationale	JWTs are necessary regarding the integrity and authorisation of a user. This exploit was done to determine if the sufficient security measures are in place to prevent edited tokens.
Mitigation Guide	 Set JWT to expire after a set amount of time, to prevent possible interception Validify tokens provided against a whitelist of algorithms to prove if legitimate
Reference	https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/JSON_Web_Token_for_Java_Cheat_Sheet.html

Forged Coupon – Cryptographic Issues

Risk Rating: Critical

Probability: Medium

Summary: With sufficient pattern recognition and knowledge of encoding, a user can create their own discount codes to be used at checkout in the Juice Shop store.

Vulnerability Details:

Affects	https://sand2- pma.herokuapp.com/ftp/coupons_2013.md
	https://sand2- pma.herokuapp.com/#/payment/shop
Fields(s)	N/A
Attack Vectors	N/A
Reference	https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/327.html

Exploit performed:

Referring back to the FTP webpage, there exists a file called 'coupons_2013.md.bak'. Using the poison null attack described in the previous section, we can download this file.

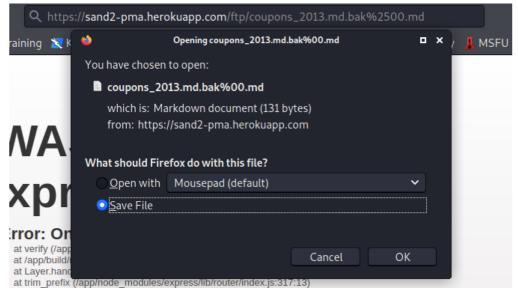


Figure 17: Null Byte Attack Coupon

Below in Figure 18 are the coupon codes contained in the file. Entering these 2013 coupon codes into the checkout of any given purchase returns as an invalid coupon.

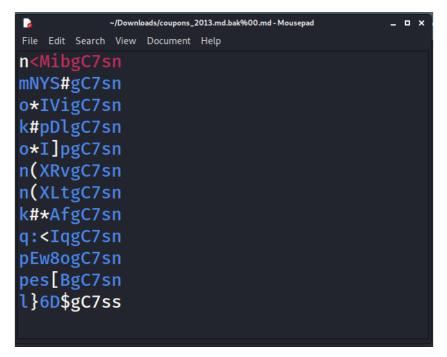


Figure 18: Coupon Codes

Despite the codes not working, two things can be observed. The codes themselves are encoded with some kind of algorithm and almost all of them end in the same 5 characters of 'gC7sn'. Visiting the linked Twitter page, found in About Us section, we discover recent coupon codes seen in Figure 19. Same codes adhering to the same pattern as before. Testing both in checkout, we can confirm both the codes work and give the intended discounts.



Figure 19: Current Coupon Codes

Referring back to the package file seen prior in Figure 11, the following dependency "z85" was found in Figure 20. Further research reveals this is an ASCII encoding method.

```
~/Downloads/package.json.bak%00.md - Mousepad
                                                                                      File Edit Search View Document Help
     coupons_2013.md.bak%00.md
                                                       package.json.bak%00.md
     "jsonwebtoken": "~8",
     "jssha": "~2.3",
     "libxmljs": "~0.18",
    "marsdb": "~0.6",
"morgan": "~1.9",
     "multer": "~1.3"
     "pdfkit": "~0.8"
     "replace": "~0.3",
     "request": "~2",
"sanitize-html": "1.4.2",
     "sequelize": "~4",
"serve-favicon": "~2.4",
    "serve-index": "~1.9",
"socket.io": "~2.0",
"sqlite3": "~3.1.13",
     "z85": "~0.0"
```

Figure 20: Juice Shop Dependencies

Using the online decoder Cryptii⁴ the message was decoded.

Understanding that the last two digits denote the discount amount, and the prior eight denote the date, the 80% code was create, as seen in Figure 21.

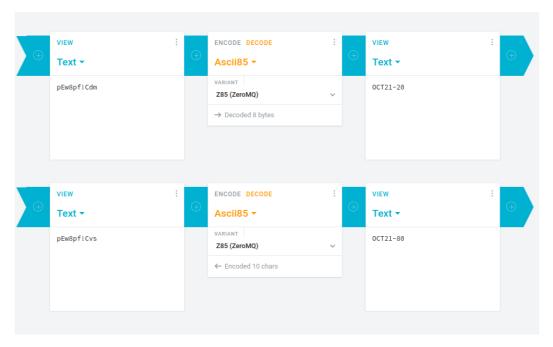


Figure 21: Code decoding and creation

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⁴ https://cryptii.com/

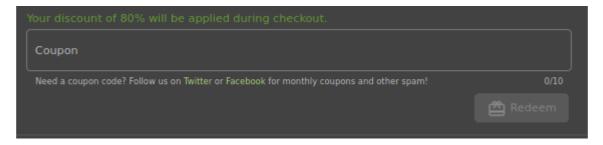


Figure 22: Code Applied

Outcome: The generated code applies a reusable 80% discount code for all purchases on the shop. Knowing how the code is created allows a user to create a code applying up to a 99% discount on their Juice Shop purchases.

Rationale	This exploit was done to firstly check if the coupon functionality works as intended, and if the coupons the made in a way that users can't guess or create their own codes. A user being able to do so would cause incredible financial damage to the site.
Mitigation Guide	 Don't store older coupon codes on the site Authenticate coupon codes server side, only check against currently assigned coupon code(s) Limit coupon usage per customer. 1 code per customer Assign coupon codes to individual customers, sent via email.
Reference	https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/Authentication_Cheat_Sheet https://owasp.org/www-project-top-ten/2017/A2_2017-Broken_Authentication

System Vulnerabilities Testing

Regarding checking our client's system vulnerabilities, we wish to report any vulnerabilities present and gain root access to the machine. The virtual machine 'Retro' will be used for the purpose of this section. It has the IP Address of '10.10.217.216'.

Due to the machine not responding to ping requests, an 'Nmap' search with '-Pn' to find out more about the machine in question. As we can see in Figure 18, it has a Windows operating system and two open ports. Port '80' and '3389'. 80 being an ISS server and 3389 being a remote desktop service.

```
kali@kali: ~
                                                                                           File Actions Edit View Help
  –(kali⊕kali)-[~]
$ nmap -Pn -A 10.10.217.216
Host discovery disabled (-Pn). All addresses will be marked 'up' and scan times will be slowe
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-10-06 17:02 EDT
Stats: 0:00:13 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing Script Scan
NSE Timing: About 0.00% done
Nmap scan report for 10.10.217.216
Host is up (0.039s latency).
Not shown: 998 filtered ports
       STATE SERVICE
                            VERSION
                             Microsoft IIS httpd 10.0
80/tcp open http
 http-methods:
   Potentially risky methods: TRACE
 _http-server-header: Microsoft-IIS/10.0
 _http-title: IIS Windows Server
3389/tcp open ms-wbt-server Microsoft Terminal Services
 rdp-ntlm-info:
    Target_Name: RETROWEB
    NetBIOS_Domain_Name: RETROWEB
   NetBIOS_Computer_Name: RETROWEB DNS_Domain_Name: RetroWeb
   DNS_Computer_Name: RetroWeb
   Product_Version: 10.0.14393
System_Time: 2021-10-06T21:13:04+00:00
  ssl-cert: Subject: commonName=RetroWeb
 Not valid before: 2021-10-05T21:05:10
 Not valid after: 2022-04-06T21:05:10
 _ssl-date: 2021-10-06T21:13:05+00:00; +10m47s from scanner time.
Service Info: OS: Windows; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows
```

Figure 23: Nmap of machine

Visiting 10.10.217.216 brings us to a default ISS page with nothing of note. All links leading to the same Microsoft IIS page.

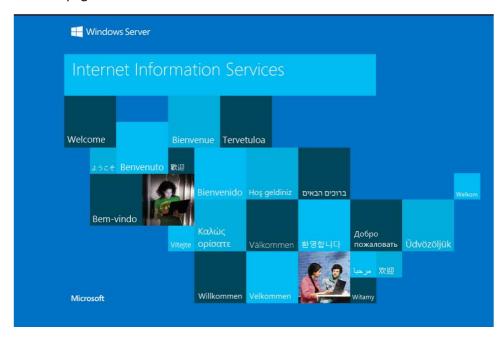


Figure 24: Default Page

Knowing this, we used Dirbuster to find any hidden directories within the machine. A medium sized wordlist is provided as seen in Figure 25 and the results are shown in Figure 26.

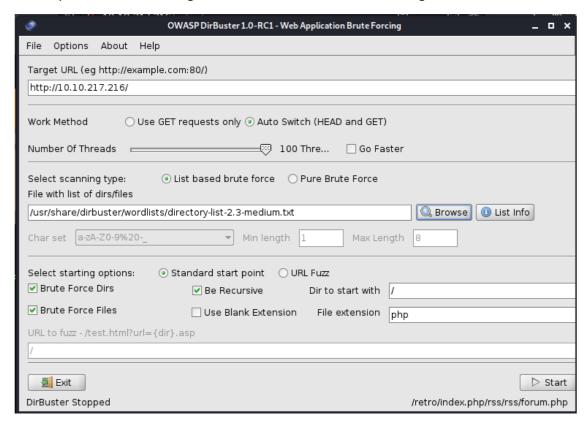


Figure 25: Dirbuster Wordlist

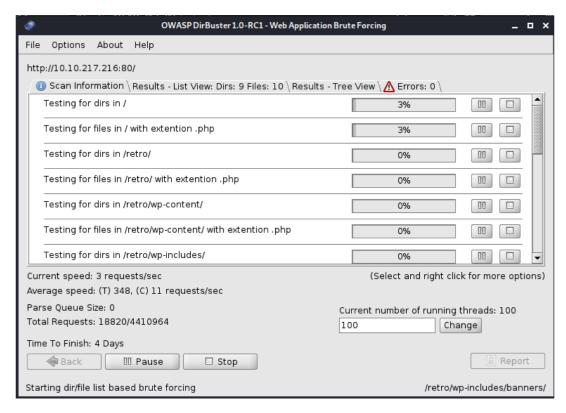


Figure 26: Dirbuster Findings

Taking note of the directory 'retro', we follow it to the following webpage. Another thing of one from Figure 26 is the use 'wp-content'. This confirms that the site was created using the website creator, WordPress.

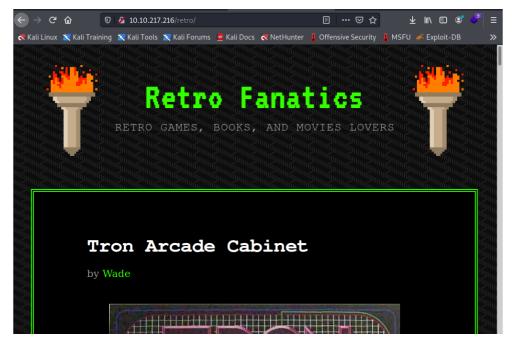


Figure 27: Retro Page

The consists of blogposts and articles written by the user 'Wade'. Visiting his profile shows us the posts created by him. Most importantly, at the bottom of the profile page is a 'Log in' link which leads to a WordPress login page, seen in Figure 28

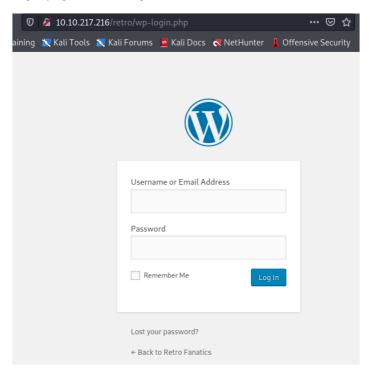


Figure 28: Login Access

When attempting a login, the first vulnerability can be noted. Firstly, the WordPress login system displays if the password supplied for a valid user is incorrect, as seen in Figure 29. There are also preventative measures stopping someone from repeatedly trying to log on.

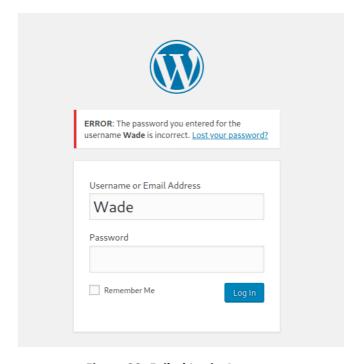


Figure 29: Failed Login Attempt

Knowing this, a brute force attack via Burp Suite or a program like Hydra is possible. Before this attempting this, a further investigation is done on the site to find any clues. Of Wald's reviews an article, one of note is the one for 'Ready Player One'. The following paragraph and comment see in Figure 30 provides a possible lead.



Figure 30: Wade's Review and Comment

Testing out 'parzival' turns out to be the correct login credential. The login brings us to the standard WordPress dashboard seen in Figure 31.

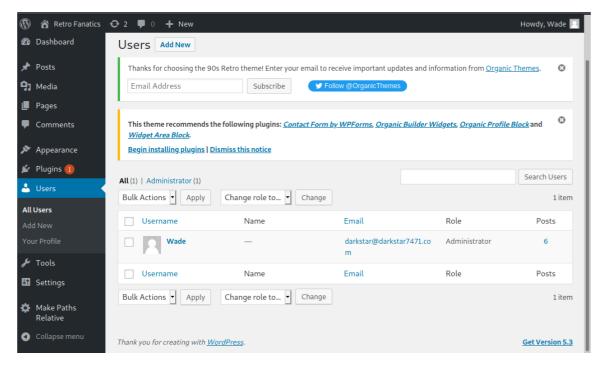


Figure 31: WordPress Dashboard

An area of note for possible vulnerabilities is Plugins. Figure 32 shows that only two of the plugins are activated, and further investigations reveals that both versions of the respective plugins don't have any vulnerabilities.

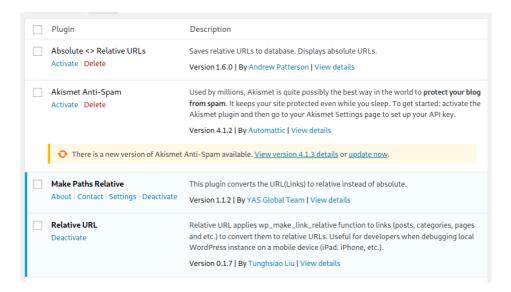


Figure 32: WordPress Plugins

Exploring all the evident options for this port, the software 'xfreerdp' is used to access the remote desktop service of port 3389. The same login credentials used for Wade's account is used to login and is successful.

```
(kali® kali)-[~]
$ xfreerdp /u:wade /p:parzival /v:10.10.217.216
```

Figure 33: Remote Desktop Login

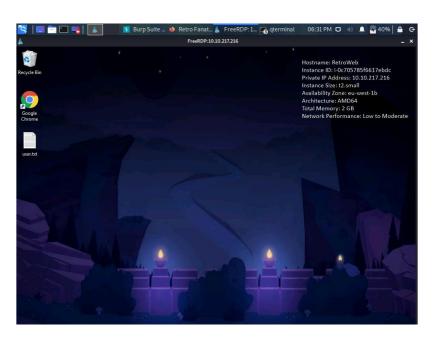


Figure 34: Remote Desktop Access

To understand the properties of the machine, 'systeminfo' was entered into the Terminal.

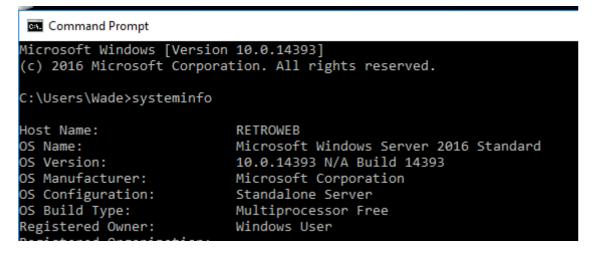


Figure 35: System Information

The desktop comes with a text file containing '3b99fbdc6d430bfb51c72c651a261927' and the Chrome browser. From here, there is a bookmarked link. While the site cannot be reached due to the lack of internet connectivity within the machine, the CVE-2019-1388 exploit is observed in the URL as seen in Figure 36.

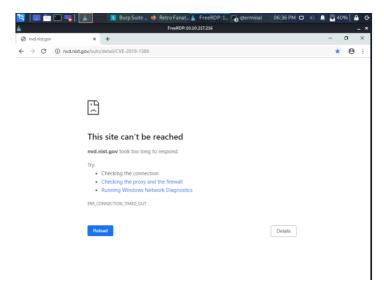


Figure 36: Exploit Page

Investigating further, this exploit is about the 'Elevation of Privilege Vulnerability' ⁵. Comparing the OS version to the vulnerable ones tells us that this machine is not vulnerable to this exploit.

Research was done to find if there exist an Elevation of Privilege Vulnerability exploit available in the Build 14393 version of Windows 10. The following vulnerability was found on GitHub ⁶.

Having downloaded the exploit, a Python SimpleHTTPServer was created to help transfer over

Figure 37: Python Server

⁵https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CVE-2019-1388

⁶ https://github.com/SecWiki/windows-kernel-exploits/tree/master/CVE-2017-0213

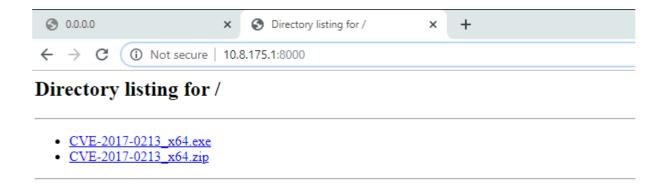


Figure 38: Transferred exploit

Running this exploit grants root access to the machine, seen in Figure 39

```
Administrator: C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe — — X

Microsoft Windows [Uersion 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>whoami
nt authority\system

C:\Windows\system32>_
```

Figure 39: Root Access

Network Configuration

The main exploit performed in the System Vulnerabilities that allowed root access was Windows Privilege Escalation. The following are Linux based IPTables which can be used to prevent such a vulnerability from occurring.

To block connectivity to the system, stopping the process of the exploit being sent over, the following IPTable can be used:

iptables -A OUTPUT -p tcp --dport 8000/ -j DROP

Same table can be used to block access to the port altogether

iptables -A OUTPUT -p tcp --dport 3389/ -j DROP

The following can be used to block ping requests to the system

iptables -A INPUT -p icmp -i eth0 -j DROP

Reference: https://www.tecmint.com/linux-iptables-firewall-rules-examples-commands/