

module-5

Penetration Testing, Incident Response and Forensics

21/09/2022

(W1)

⇒ Penetration testing is security testing in which **attackers** mimic real-world attacks to identify methods for circumventing the security features of an application, system or network.

- important to take vulnerability scans (overcome an obstacle)
- to ensure cyber controls are working

↳ Approaches

- Internal vs External (hacking)
- web and mobile app assessments
- Social Engineering //
- Wireless Network, Embedded & IoT
- ICS penetration

↳ Industry control systems: outdated passwords, OS, etc. (oil, gas, electric industries)

↳ General methodology

planning > Discovery > Attack > Report

↳ Planning

- set Objectives
- Establish boundaries
- Informing need-to-know employees

↳ Discovery

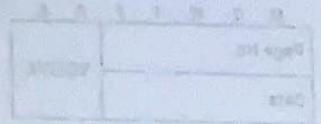
- Vulnerability Analysis (Identify OS & major software apps and match them with info or known vulnerabilities in vulnerability databases)

↳ Dorks : google dorks

- admin login pages
- usernames and names
- vulnerable entities
- sensitive documents
- Govt/military data
- Email list
- Bank account details and more

↳ passive vs active

- monitoring employees
- listening to network traffic
- vs
- Network mapping
- port mapping
- password cracking



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↳ Scanning tools

- network mapper (en: NMAP)
- network Analyzer & profiler (en: Wireshark)
- password crackers (en: John the Ripper)
- Hacking tools (en: Metasploit)

↳ Passive - Online

- Wire Sniffing (data packet capture across network)
- Man in the Middle. (hijacking session)
- Replay Attack (data retransmission or delay)

↳ Active - Online

- password Guessing (Brute force) Attack
- Trojan/Spyware/Keyloggers (collucts data from session)
- Hash Injection (Authenticate to a remote server or service by using underlying NTLM or LANMan hash of a user's password)

[getting password file
from server and decode it]

older version
of NTLM

(New Technology)
LAN Manager -
Suite of Microsoft -
provides authentication,
integrity and confidentiality
to users)

- phishing (malicious link)

↳ Offline Attacks

- pre-computed Hashes
- Distributed Network Attack (DNA)
- Rainbow Attack.

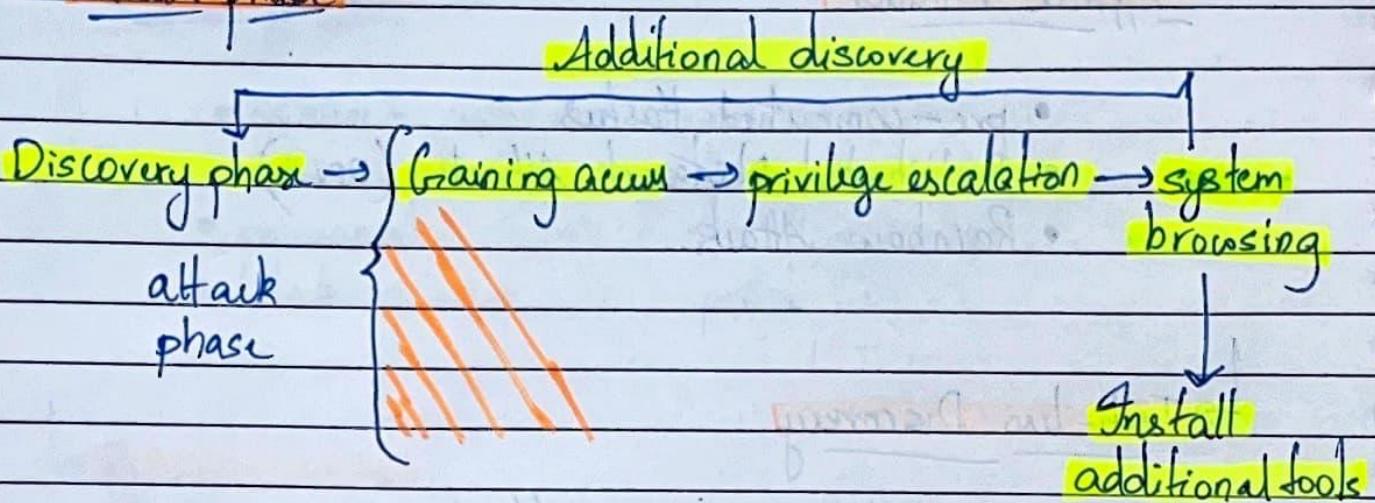
↳ Technique Discovery

- Social Engineering !!
- Shoulder surfing (use someone to physically see if the employee is inputting their password)
- Dumpster diving (not illegal to check trash of a company)

⇒ Notable website: securitytrails.com/blog/google-hacking-techniques
 - for google docks and more

: subscription.packthub.com/search/library

Attack phase



Exploited vulnerabilities

- Misconfiguration
- Kernel flaws
- Insufficient Input Validations
- Symbolic links (file point to another file)
- File descriptor attacks (numbers used to keep track of file streams/names)
- Race conditions

program or process entered privilege mode

- Buffer overflows (not checking input for appropriate length)
- Incorrect file or directory permissions

Resources

Penetration testing executing standard

- ibm.biz/PTES-exploit
- ibm.biz/owasp-pentest

Reporting

- Executive Summary (who, what, when, where of testing)

- Background
- Overall posture
- Risk Ranking
- General findings
- Recommendations
- Roadmap

high level detail

↳ Technical Review (Why and how of testing)

- Introduction (person involved, contact info, clients involved, etc.)
- Scope
- Vulnerability Assessment
- Vulnerability Confirmation
- Post Exploitation
- Risk/Exposure

penetration Tools for pentesting

- Kali Linux
- ~~www~~ nmap.org !! (for CEH)
- JT Ripper
- ~~jtr~~: metasploit
- wireshark

- HTB (practice) - lannwalkthrough

} @ ibm.biz / <tool-name>

(W2)

⇒ Incident Response

Event: something not with respect to normal behaviour of system or change to normal behaviour

Incident: Event that has a negative impact on the IT system or organization

↳ IR Team models

- Central (Single response team)
- Distributed (per site or per office)
- Coordinating

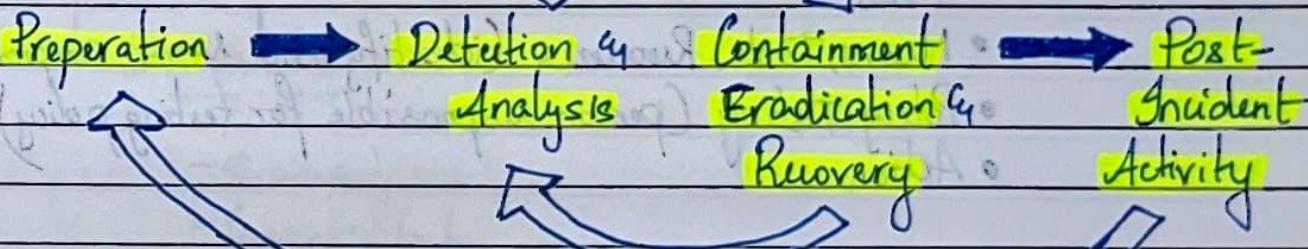
→ relationship with other teams (areas to look for)

- management
- Information Assurance
- IT Support
- Legal
- Public Affairs and media Relations
- Human Resources
- Business Continuity planning
- Physical Security and facilities management.

↳ Common Attack Vectors

- External/Removable media
- Attrition (sustained or persistent attack to weaken defense)
- Web
- Email
- Impersonation
- Loss or theft of equipment

↳ Incident Response phases (NIST framework)



Note: Sans Equivalent

- preparation

- identification

- Containment

- Eradication

- Recovery

- Lessons learned.



→ the best offence

- Risk Assessment
- Host Security
- Network Security
- Malware Prevention
- User awareness and training

} part of prep

→ Preparation

- Incident Response Policy

- IR Team
- Roles
- Means, Tools, Resources (identify and recover compromised data)
- Policy Testing (person responsible for testing policy)
- Action

Note: Documentation is to GR as an Air Tank is to Suba Diving

→ Detection and Analysis

- **Precursor:** sign that an incident may occur in the future. (web server log entries showing usage of vuln scanner)

- **Indicator:** sign that an incident may have occurred or maybe occurring now.

(Antivirus software alerts
malware infection)

↳ Monitoring systems

- IDS vs IPS

- DLP

- Data loss prevention - insures that sensitive data isn't lost, misused or accessed by unauthorized users.

- SIEM

- analysis of event and log data in real time with Security Information Management (SIM)

↳ Documentation

- Summary

- Current status

- Indicators

- Other related incidents

- Actions taken by incident handlers

- Chain of custody

- Impact assessment

- Contact info

- Evidence gathered

- Next steps to be taken

↳ Types of impact (functional)

- none - no effect to org's service to users
- low - minimal effect; lost efficiency
- Medium - lost ability to provide a critical service to a subset of system users
- high - no longer able to provide critical service to users

(Information)

- none - no info was infiltrated, changed or deleted
- primary Breach - sensitive PII of users caused or infiltrated
- proprietary Breach - undclassified proprietary information, such as protected critical infrastructure information (PCII) was caused or infiltrated.
- Integrity loss - Sensitive or proprietary info was changed or deleted.

(Recoverability effort)

- Regular - Time to recovery is predictable with existing resources
- Supplemented - "with additional resources"
- Extended - Time to recovery is unpredictable; additional resources and outside help are needed.
- Not Recoverable - Recovery from incident isn't possible.

(sensitive data exfiltrated and posted publicly);
launch investigation.

↳ Containment, Eradication and Recovery

- ↳ ①
 - potential damage to theft and resources
 - Need for evidence preservation
 - Service Availability
 - Time and resources needed to implement strategy
 - Duration of Solution

- forensics in IR

- capture backup image of system as-is
- gather evidence
- follow chain of custody protocol

- ↳ ②
 - deleting malware
 - disabling breached user account
 - identifying and mitigating all vulnerabilities exploited

- ↳ ③
 - Recovery using clean backups
 - replacing compromised files with clean versions
 - installing patches
 - changing passwords
 - tightening network parameter (firewall rulesets, router ACLs)

- high level testing, monitoring deployed.

↳ Post incident

- lessons learned

- Utilizing data collected (reviewing response times, system impacted)
- Evidence Retention
- Documentation

⇒ Incident Response Demo

↳ Common threats

- Software Attacks
- Data theft
- Information Sabotage
- Theft of equipment

↳ Attack Vectors

→ website using hosting malicious content.

• Gradar (collects system event info from drivers or apps on our network including log info from OS)

Counter mechanism

- McAfee endpoint Orchestrator
- Next generation firewall

↳ IR process

- preparation (contact shareholders, teams involved)
- Detection & analysis
- Containment, eradication & Recovery
- Post-Incident Activity

↳ Using Radar we see multiple information like

- Description

- Log ID

- Offense type

- Offense Source

- Magnitude

- Source IPs

- Destination IPs

- Users

- Log Source

- Events

- Flows

- Clicking on any of the offenses, brings us to the summary page giving us different details, including Top 5 Source IPs, dest IPs, log sources.

- Main thing to notice is top 5 Annotations.

- Going through the events to get more details (DNS queries, risk meter, threat, etc.)

- To check it out, go to events, click on Event/flow count.

- Then we note down our information to proceed to step 2 of Incident Response.

- In an Incident Response form, we have :

- Type of ~~Temporary~~ Incident : DNS query known
- Detection Source : CRadar
- Environment : LAB
- Hostname : LABPC02
- IP Address : 192.168.6.12 (affected one)
- Webserver : No. (system is a workstation)
- Public IP: 8.8.8.8 (google's DNS server)

#

- start recording what time we found the information

- timestamps
- 1302 - webdut.co (malicious DNS query discovered)
 - 1303 - workstation 192.168.4.6 LABPC02 (found out that DNS query came from our workstation)
 - 1307 - Submit ticket to network team to disable switch port.
 - 1309 - Kick off McAfee ENS full scan
 - 1313 - Reviewed McAfee ENS full scan results, 0 files were detected
 - 1314 - Recommend system to be reimaged
 - 1500 - Submit ticket to have system reimaged

- After doing all that, we can send the information up and allow them to process it and archive it.
- Now that the investigation is done, we close the incident
- Reason for closing - closed; testing
- Note - copy paste the incident response form.
- If we see any false positives, even a local to local DNS attack, it might just be an user working with server to develop application using an API.
- So multiple 443 is expected (session open, closes) for that system from workstation
- So we close the offense, stating reason: Non-issue
- Note: The rule threshold has been increased.
- Reduces the amount of false positives.

↳ So to summarize IR process

- Step 1 was preparation
 - know what to look for
 - know what assets we're monitoring
 - Events to trigger on
 - people to contact in case of incident

• Step 2 was Detection and Analysis

- gather information
- Research events that triggered alert
- determine if event is real

• Step 3 was Containment, Eradication and recovery

- disconnect from network
- contact team for those network connections
- look for other threats
- look for areas that it might have spread to
- get system back in state
- give direction to Seimage System
- logs

• Step 4 was post incident Activity

- after action report to be made
- include mistakes committed
- anything that could have been done better
- anything to increase efficiency.

⇒ free and open source IR tools

- Cynet 360
- GRR Rapid Response
- Alien Vault
- Cyphon
- Volatility
- Sans Investigative forensics Toolkit (SIFT) Workstation
- TheHive Project

↳ SOAR → combining IR, automation and threat intelligence.

- Security Orchestration Automation and Response

- capabilities include:

- **Orchestration**: ability to connect to and integrate various tools
- **Automation**: ability to collect data automatically and enrich events.
- **Response**: ability to allow analysts to manage, collaborate, and share data regarding incidents for better outcomes.

⇒ QRadar lab Using IBM QRadar SIEM (check files for instruction manual)

→ Incident Response team:

- Incident Handler Communication and facilities
- Incident Analysis Resources (portlist, Docs, Crypto hashes)
- Incident Analysis Hardware and Software

⇒ Forensics

(N3)

22/09/2022

↳ Digital forensics is application of science to the collection, identification, examination and analysis of data while preserving integrity of data and maintaining direct chain of custody.

↳ Types of data

- desktop Computers (CDs, DVDs)
- Servers (internal, external drives, application usage)
- Network Storage devices (network Activity)
- devices laptop (portable digital devices)

↳ need

- Incident handling
- log monitoring
- Data recovery
- Data acquisition
- operational troubleshooting
- Regulatory Compliance/ due diligence

↳ Forensic Process

- Collection ①
- Examination ②
- Analysis ③
- Reporting ④

↳ ①

- more Types of data

- Externally owned property
- Computer at home office
- Alternate Sources of data
- logs
- Keystroke monitoring.

- Steps to collect data

- Develop a plan to acquire the data
- Acquire data
- Verify integrity of data

- Observe Chain of Custody

- Keep log of every person who handled evidence.
- Store evidence in secure location.

- copy of evidence to be made
- verify integrity of copy vs original.

L → ②

- Bypassing Controls (OS and apps may have data compression, encryption, etc)
 - Sea of data
 - Tools
- Basically examining data

L → ③

- include identifying people, places items and events
- Putting pieces of data
- coordination between multiple sources of data is crucial

L → ④

- report needs to detail basis of your conclusions
- Detail every test conducted, methods and tools used and result

Report Composition

- Overview/Care Summary
- Forensic Acquisition & Examination Preparation
- Findings & Report (Analysis)
- Conclusions

- Sans Institute best practice (Findings & Analysis)

- Take ss
- Bookmark evidence via forensic application of choice
- Use built in logging/reporting options within forensic tool
- highlight and exporting data items into .csv or .txt files
- Use digital audio recorder vs handwritten notes when necessary.

↳ Data files

- Windows

- FAT

- 12

- 16

- 32

- NTFS

- ReFS

- Unix

- EXT - 2, 3, 4

- ReiserFS

- XFS

- JFS

- Btrfs

- macOS

- HFS +

- APFS

- What not there

- **Deleted files** : not really deleted, info pointing to file location is deleted

- **Slack Space** : entire file allocation unit size reserved for file even if it doesn't need that much space

- **Free space** : media ie not allocated

- MAC Data

- Modification Time
- Access Time
- Created Time

- Collecting Backup

- Logical Backup : copies files and directories of logical volume ; doesn't capture other data present on media (deleted files or residual data)
 - : Resource Intensive : can be used on live system
- Imaging : Generates bit-for-bit copy of original media (including free and ~~slack space~~ space)
 - : if evidence or analysis is needed, it should be worked on this duplicate.
 - : can't be used on live system

- Tools for Techniques

- File viewers
- Uncompressing files
- GUI for Data Structures
- Identifying known files
- String Searches and pattern matches
- Metadata

→ OS data exists in volatile and non-volatile state

data lost after
system powered
down, enⁿ network
connections.

- slack space
- open files
- running processes
- login sessions
- OS Time
- memory contents
- network configurations

exists even after system is
powered down

- Config files
- Logs
- Application files
- Data files
- Swap files
- Dump files
- Hibernation files
- Temporary files

- collection and prioritization
of volatile data (open files)

Collecting non
volatile data

- consider
power-down
options

→ logs

- In case of network hack:

- collect logs of all network devices lying in
the route of hacked device and perimeter
router (ISP Router)

- In case of an unauthorized access:

- Save web server logs, application server logs, application logs, router or switch logs, firewall logs, database logs, IDS logs, etc.

- In case of a Trojan / Virus / Worm Attack

- Save antivirus logs apart from event logs.

↳ Windows

- Analyzing locations like

- Recycle bin
- Registry
- Thumbs.db (Folder representing thumbnails of files)
- browser History
- print spoofing

↳ Mac OS

- Unix based OS containing Mach's micro kernel and FreeBSD based subsystem.

- Put the Mac into target disk mode to create a forensic duplicate of hard disk. with firewall cable between 2 pc's

↳ Linux

- Analyze location like:

- /etc [% SystemRoot %] /System32/config]

- contains system config directory holding separate config files for each application

- /var/log

- contains application and security logs.
- kept for 4-5 weeks

- /home/\$USER

- user data and configuration info

- /etc/passwd

- contains user account information.

↳ Application data

- config settings
- Authentication
- Logs
- data
- supporting files (Docs, links, graphics)
- App Architecture (local, client/server, peer-to-peer)

↳ Types of applications

- Email
- Web Usage (host-cookies, history, fav websites; server-TS, IPs, ...)
- Interactive Communications (group chat, etc) *Type of request*
- Data Concealment tools
- Security Applications
- Document Usage
- file sharing.

protocol : IRC → Internet Relay Chat

→ Network Data

→ TCP/IP

- Application layer : sends and receives data for particular apps, such as DNS, HTTP, SMTP

(packet) • Transport layer : provides connection oriented or connection-less services for transporting application layer services between network.

-TCP/UDP

(datagram) • Network layer (IP layer) : Routes packets across networks

IP - fundamental network protocol for TCP/IP.
other protocols - ICMP, IGMP.

(frame) • Hardware layer (Data link layer) : handles communications on physical network components
en : Ethernet protocol.

↳ Sources of network data

- firewalls and Routers (may log every packet)
- packet Sniffers & protocol Analyzers
- Intrusion detection system
- Remote Access

- Network forensic Analysis Tools
- Security events management Software

↳ Data Value

- IDS Software
- SEM Software
- NFAT Software (network forensic Analysis tool)
- Firewalls, routers, proxy servers, & RAS
- DHCP Servers (log each IP address assignment to associated MAC address)
- packet sniffers !!
- Network Monitoring
- ISP Records

↳ Attacker Identification

- Contact IP address owner
- Send network traffic (ping IP) (not recommended for org)
- Application Content (Data packet could contain attacker identity info)
- ask ISP Assistance
- History of IP address (trends of suspicious activity)

(W4)

⇒ Introduction to Scripting

23/09/2022

↳ IBM's Job Control language (JCL) → first scripting language

↳ Script Usage

- automation
- Image rollbacks
- Validation
- Backup
- Testing

↳ Python

- open source
- portable
- high level

↳ Data Structures

• Tuple → immutable sequence of objects → (), (1, 2, 3), ('python', 3)

• List → mutable sequence of objects → [], [1, 2, 3], ['hello', 'world']

• set → set/frozenset → unordered set of unique items

→ {1, 2, 3}, {"world", 'hello'}

→ frozenset → immutable ; set → mutable

• Dictionary → items composed of key value pair → {}, {'name': 'Egio', 'surname': 'Meclootti'}

↳ Digital forensics using python programming

- web server fingerprinting
- simulation of Attacks
- Port Scanning
- Website Cloning
- load generation and testing of website.
- creating IDS and IPS
- Wireless network Scanning
- Transmission of traffic in network
- Accessing mail Servers, etc

• website : <https://opensourcetech.com/2016/11/python-programming-digital-forensics-security-analysis/>

↳ Graphic and Visualization functions in python

- Seaborn
- Matplotlib

↳ Scientific Computing functions

- Numpy
- Pandas