Lab Objective:

Conducting a dictionary attack to crack passwords online, using Hydra.

Lab Purpose:

Hydra is an advanced password cracker which can be used to crack passwords for online pages, such as the login page of a website. This is useful as we don't need to capture a hash and attempt to crack it offline; we can simply target the login page itself, with any username and password combination we like.

A dictionary attack is a type of password attack which uses a combination of words from a wordlist and attempts all of them in association with a username to login as a user. It typically takes a long time to perform, and the results are dependent on the accuracy and quality of your wordlist. A dictionary attack is a form of brute forcing.

Lab Tool:

Kali Linux

Lab Topology:

Kali Linux in a virtual machine is used for this lab.

STEP ONE:

The first step is to power up Kali Linux in a virtual machine. Then, open the Hydra help menu with the following command as "root" user:

sudo hydra

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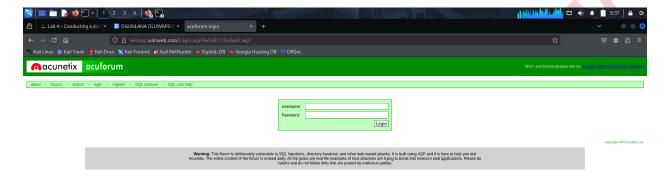
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STEP TWO:

The site we will be targeting is the following:

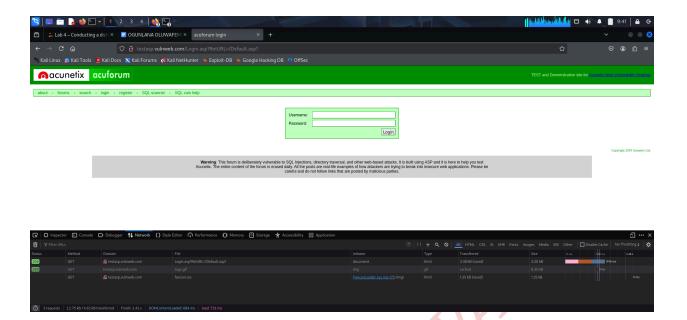
http://testasp.vulnweb.com/Login.asp?RetURL=/Default.asp?

Note that this site has been developed for the purpose of hacking, and you should not use Hydra on any other site without permission from the owner.

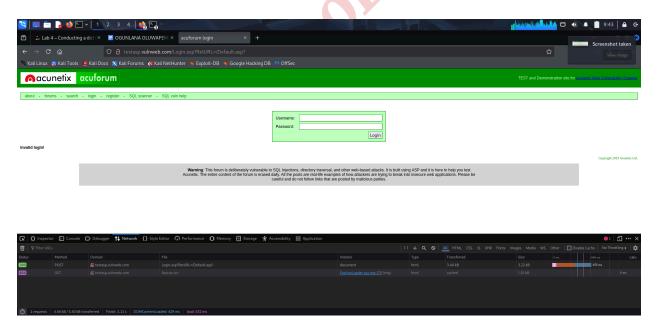


To use Hydra against an online target such as this one, we need to capture the post-form parameters. Hydra will use these parameters to send its various requests to the correct target. To capture this information, open target site with web browser in Kali. Then, press ctrl + shift + I to open the browser developer tools panel.

Navigate to the tab called "Network". When you are there, reload the page by pressing ctrl + F5. You should see several GET requests. This is our machine requesting data from the server so that we can see the login form.

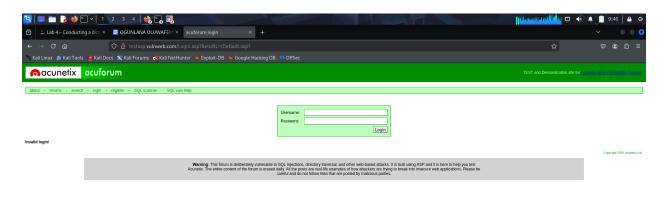


Now enter a random username and password into the login page and click login. You should see a new POST request pop up in the Network tab. This is our machine sending the data to the server. This request contains the parameters we need.



STEP THREE:

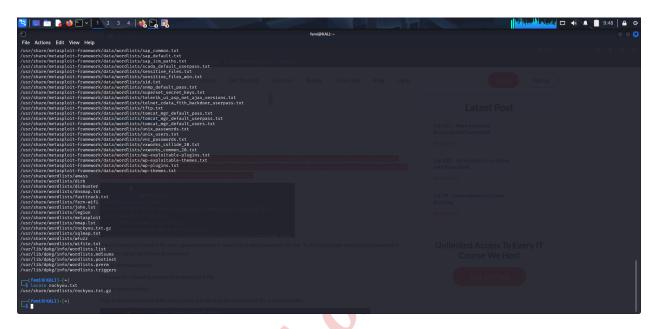
Right click on the POST request and select "Edit and Resend". A page will open to the right of the Network header, with information regarding the POST request. Scroll down to the Request Body section and copy the tfUName and tfUPass Parameters. Hydra will need this information.





STEP FOUR:

For this attack, we will be attempting to login as admin. We will need to choose a wordlist to guess passwords to login as this account. Open the terminal and type: "locate wordlists" to see all the different wordlists Kali has installed. We will use the rockyou.txt wordlist for this attack. Type "locate rockyou.txt" to see the path to this wordlist.



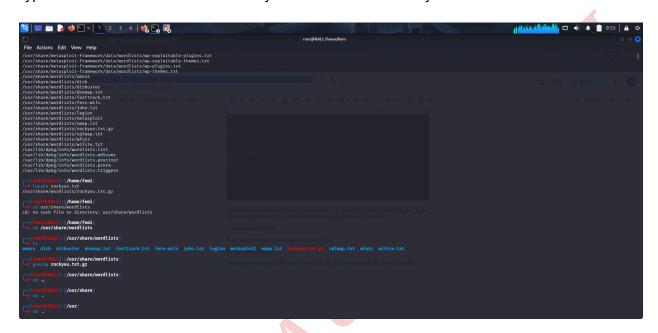
If the rockyou.txt wordlist file has a .gz extension on it, we will first need to extract the file. To do this, change directory to the wordlist directory using the following command:

cd /usr/share/wordlists

Then use the following command to extract the file:

gunzip rockyou.txt.gz

Type Is into the terminal after this and you will see that the rockyou.txt file is now available.

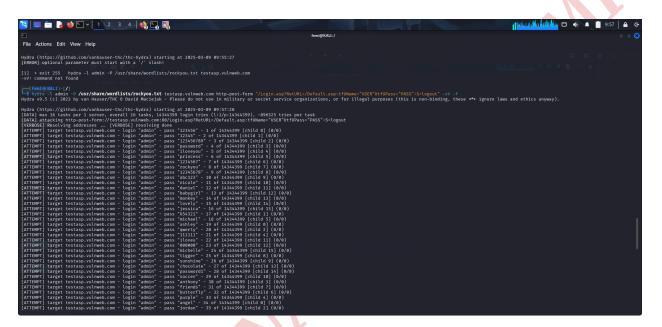


STEP FIVE:

Let's begin the attack by submitting the following command to hydra:

hydra -I admin -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt testasp.vulnweb.com http-post-form "/Login.asp?RetURL=/Default.asp?:tfUName=^USER^&tfUPass=^PASS^:S=logout" -vV -f

Once you press enter, the attack will begin and Hydra will start guessing a lot of passwords for the username admin in an attempt to login



END