

Cybersecurity

Linde Nouwen

KdG Karel de Grote
Hogeschool

Alle teksten, afbeeldingen, tabellen en andere items in deze cursus vallen onder de bescherming van het auteursrecht. Het is daarom verboden (een gedeelte van) deze cursus te kopiëren, over te nemen of verder te verspreiden zonder voorafgaandelijk schriftelijke toestemming van de auteur. Dit geldt ook voor vertalingen, wijzigingen of bewerkingen ervan en ongeacht de manier waarop (elektronisch, papier, ...). Elke inbreuk hierop kan aanleiding geven tot een tuchtsanctie en vervolging voor een rechtbank.

CyberSecurity Exploitation

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Exploitation

- General hacking mechanisms
- Methodical Approach
- Frameworks
- Defence

Exploitation

General Hacking Mechanisms

Exploitation

- General Hacking Mechanisms:
 - Manual Hacking
 - Automatic Hacking

Exploitation

- Hacking Mechanisms:
 - Manual Hacking
 - Automatic Hacking

Manual hacking	Automatic hacking
- The auditor uses commands, connects to ports, sends customized payloads, uses scripts or programs exploits.	- The auditor uses hacking frameworks developed by third parties, this could have or not some level of customization. Then chooses exploits, sets the target and executes the exploits with no major interaction.
- The auditor has more control about what to hack and how.	- The execution of exploits depends mostly on the implementation made by a third party.
- Deep knowledge of networking, operating systems, information security and programming is required.	- The auditor should know about networking, operating systems, information security and how to use the hacking software. Programming knowledge is recommended but not required.
- The auditor can use an exploit procedure published by a third party or develop a customized one.	- The auditor is usually limited by the plugins included with the hacking framework.

Exploitation

- General hacking mechanisms
- Methodical Approach
 - Password Cracking
 - Privilege Escalation
 - Executing Applications
 - Hiding files, covering tracks and concealing evidence
 - Expand the attack...
- Frameworks
- Defence

Exploitation

Password cracking

Exploitation

- Password Cracking

- Enumeration = you got the username
- Now you try to get the password
- Dualism in passwords:

- Easy to remember

Security/Convenience Dilemma

- Not easy to guess or break

- “Don’ts”:

- All numbers
- All letters
- All same case
- Proper names
- Dictionary words
- Short

Exploitation

- Password Cracking/guessing
 - Dictionary Attacks.
 - Brute-Force Attacks
 - Hybrid Attack
 - Syllable Attack
 - Rule-Based Attack
 - Passive Online Attacks
 - Active Online Attacks
 - Offline Attacks
 - Nontechnical Attacks

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
- Password-construction:

Dictionary Attacks

An attack of this type takes the form of a password-cracking application that has a dictionary file loaded into it. The dictionary file is a text file that contains a list of known words up to and including the entire dictionary. The application uses this list to test different words in an attempt to recover the password. Systems that use **passphrases** typically are not vulnerable to this type of attack.

Brute-Force Attacks

In this type of attack, every possible combination of characters is attempted until the correct one is uncovered. According to RSA Labs, "Exhaustive keysearch, or brute-force search, is the basic technique for trying every possible key in turn until the correct key is identified."

Passwords :

samuel123
m0nk3y99
49lakestreet
Y#Cb3\$D6dZYF

Pass-phrases :

I love ice-cream!
Jerry lives in Bugtussle KY
I can see tham, yall.
2 be or not 2 be, that is the ?

Exploitation

- Password Cracking

Password-construction:

Hybrid Attack This form of password attack **builds on the dictionary attack** but with additional steps as part of the process. In most cases, this means passwords that are tried during a dictionary attack are modified with the addition and substitution of special characters and numbers, such as *P@ssw0rd* instead of *Password*.

Syllable Attack This type of attack is a combination of a **brute-force attack and a dictionary attack**. It is useful when the password a user has chosen is not a standard word or phrase.

Rule-Based Attack This could be considered an advanced attack. It assumes that the user has created a password using information the attacker has **some knowledge of ahead of time**, such as phrases and digits the user may have a tendency to use.

Exploitation

- Something on “Brute Force”

- Formula:

$$P = n^x$$

P = Possible permutations

n = values for choice

x = number of values to choose

- Normally used:

- Uppercase letters: A-Z

- Lowercase letters: a-z

- Numbers: 0-9

- Symbols: ~`!@#\$%^&*()_+={ } | \ ; ' " < , > . ? /

- count = 32

Exploitation

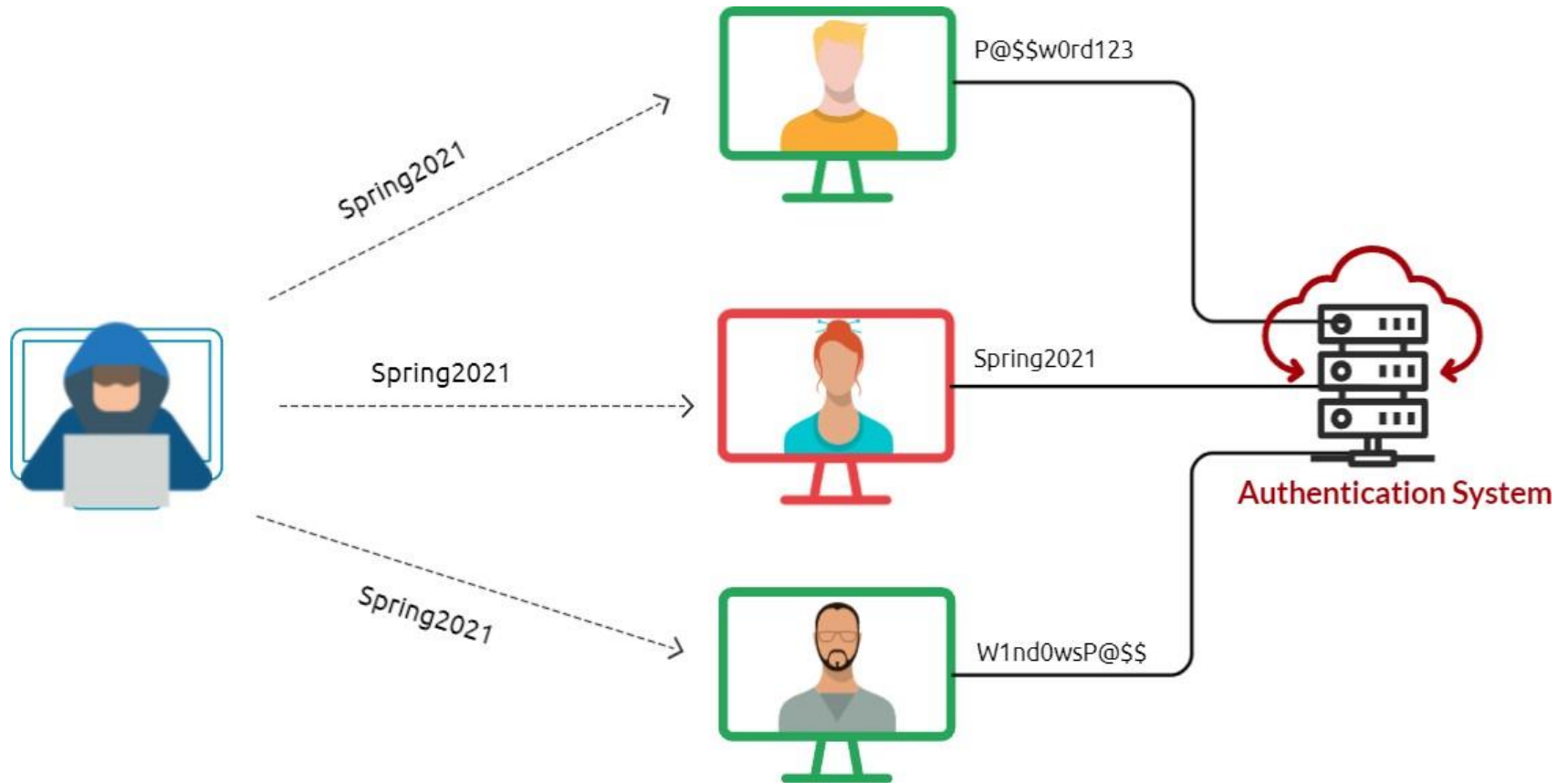
- Something on “Brute Force”
 - Example1:
 - Password = 2 numeric characters
 - Formula: $P=10^2=100$ combinations
 - Evaluation = can be done
 - Example2:
 - Password = 10 characters (letters and numbers)
 - Formula: $P=(26*2+10)^{10} = 8,39299E+17$ combinations
 - Evaluation: impossible?
 - Example3:
 - Password = 20 characters (letters + numbers + symbols)
 - Formula: $P=(26*2+10+32)^{20}=2,90106E+39$
 - Evaluation: impossible?

Exploitation

- Something on “Brute Force”
 - Time is limiting factor in cracking
 - Unless you “know something” (= shrink possible combinations)
 - Use wisely...

“Reverse” Exploitation

- Password Spraying



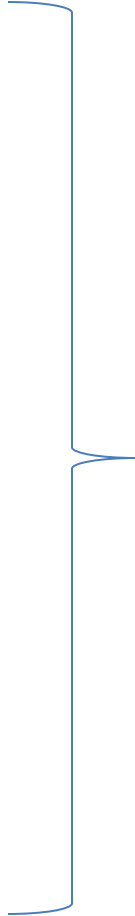
Exploitation

Password cracking

Passive & Active online cracking...

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Passive Online Attacks
 - Packet Sniffing
 - Man-in-the-Middle
 - Replay
 - Active Online Attacks
 - Guessing
 - Trojan, Spyware or keylogger
 - Hash injection



Not considered
real cracking,
cracking is usually
done offline using
a compromised
hash

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Passive Online Attacks
- Packet Sniffing
 - Network card in “promiscuous” mode = get all packets (also for other MAC addresses)
 - Packet sniffer captures packets
 - Contents are examined for readable or poorly protected passwords (FTP, Telnet, SMTP, ...)

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Passive Online Attacks
- Packet Sniffing
 - Difficult with modern switches (Hubs are OK)
 - » Options:
 - Retrieve from switch/router level...
 - Attack switch
 - Retrieve from end-device
 - Deceive end-device (MITM attack)
 - Wireless still OK

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Passive Online Attacks
- Packet Sniffing
 - Switch-attacking:
 - » Objective: make it behave like a hub (= replicate packets to all ports)
 - » Technique: mac flooding.
 - » Software that generates one frame after another, with fake source MAC addresses generated randomly
 - » Switch's MAC table begins to grow in size
 - » Device memory gets full.

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Passive Online Attacks
 - Packet Sniffing
 - Switch-attacking:
 - » Possible Results:
 1. switch responds deleting its MAC table, reversing its behavior to a hub → YES!
 2. switch can't support the load causing a momentary denial of service to the LAN
 3. switch is secured against this attack and that as a result we get ourselves blocked from accessing the LAN and busted

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Passive Online Attacks
 - Man-in-the-Middle
 - Third party puts itself in the middle of the communication of 2 other parties
 - Eavesdropping
 - Can be used for
 - Information gathering
 - Information altering
 - “Dual-side sniff” if needed = no detection
 - But ...
 - Tricky to execute
 - » Utilities exist (SSL Strip, Burp Suite, Browser Exploitation Framework, ...)

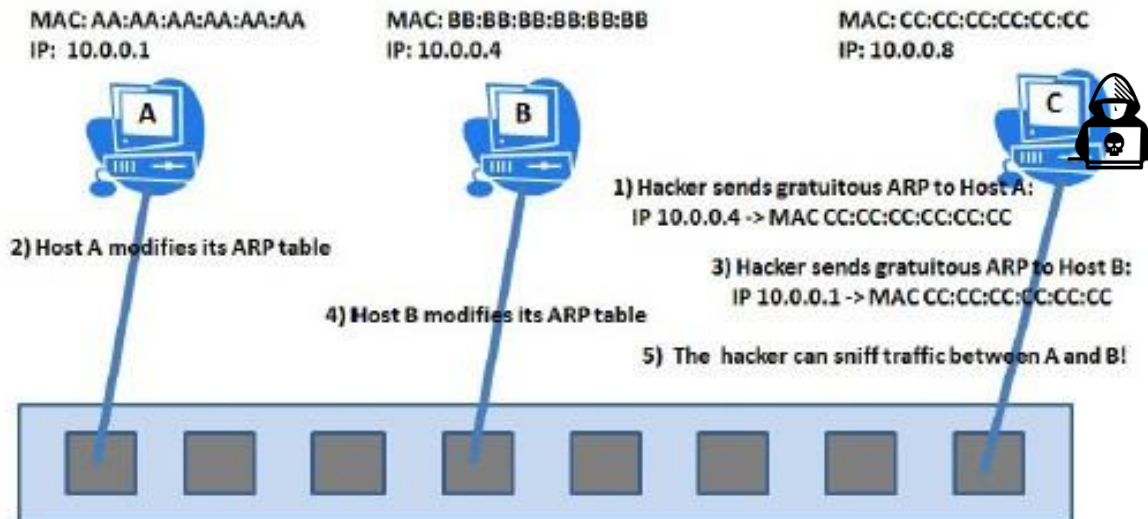
Exploitation

- From Spoofing to MITM attack
 - Simplest form = ARP spoofing
 - All systems have ARP tables (link IP to MAC)
 - Send (adapted) “gratuitous ARP” to target
 - saying that your MAC = the IP of the machine that the target should communicate with
 - Target will now send its packets to you
 - Receive the packets, record them and adapt them to follow normal route = only MAC (layer2) info gets changed
 - Put ARP of target back to original after attack = traffic gets back to normal. Avoid detection.

Note: 2-way if needed

Exploitation

- From Spoofing to MITM attack
 - Use ARP spoofing to setup MITM communication:
- ARP



BEFORE SPOOFING:

HOST A ARP TABLE

10.0.0.4 -> BB:BB:BB:BB:BB:BB
10.0.0.8 -> CC:CC:CC:CC:CC:CC

HOST B ARP TABLE

10.0.0.1 -> AA:AA:AA:AA:AA:AA
10.0.0.8 -> CC:CC:CC:CC:CC:CC

AFTER SPOOFING:

HOST A ARP TABLE

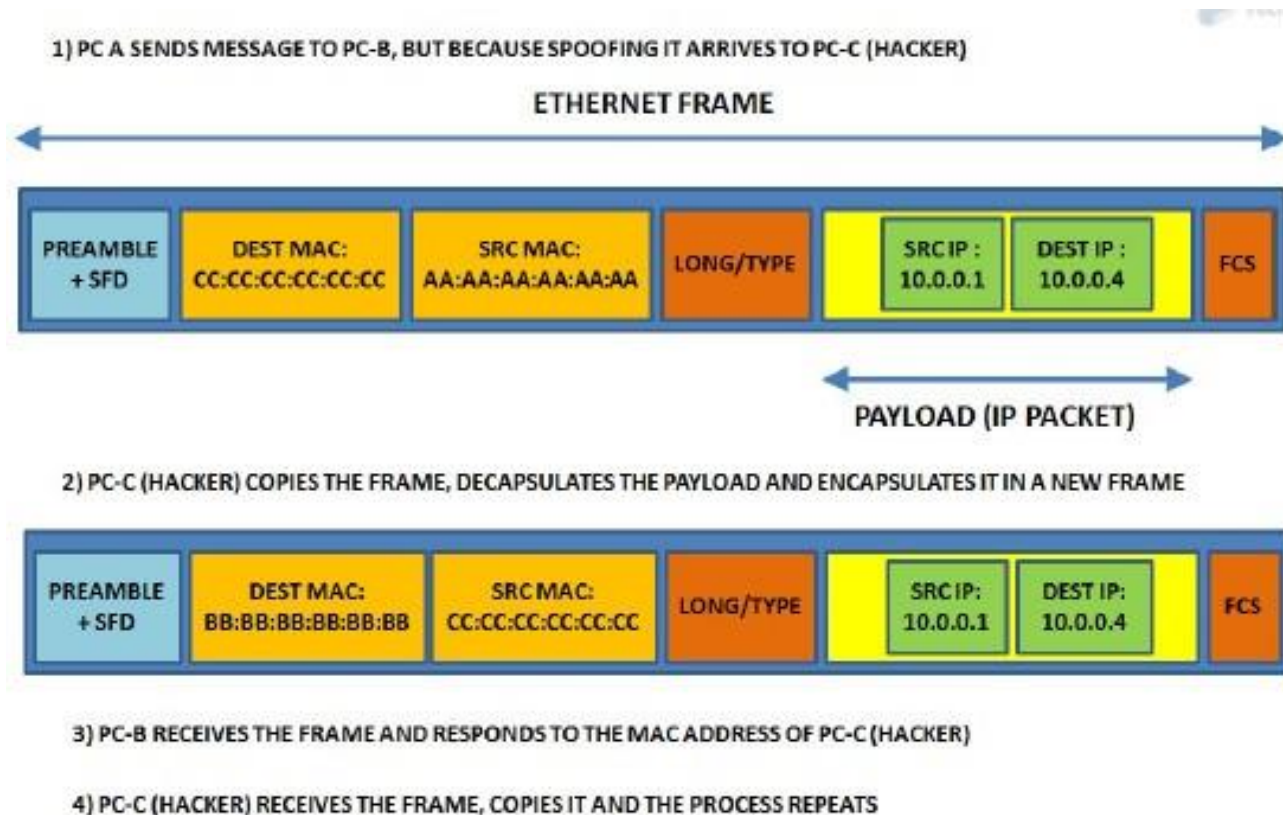
10.0.0.4 -> CC:CC:CC:CC:CC:CC
10.0.0.8 -> CC:CC:CC:CC:CC:CC

HOST B ARP TABLE

10.0.0.1 -> CC:CC:CC:CC:CC:CC
10.0.0.8 -> CC:CC:CC:CC:CC:CC

Exploitation

- From Spoofing to MITM attack
 - Final piece of the puzzle for MITM attack.
- IP-forwarding by hacker



Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Passive Online Attacks
 - Replay
 - Previously captured packets (with password which doesn't need to be known) are resent
 - Authentication result is sent to hacker

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Passive Online Attacks
 - Packet Sniffing
 - Man-in-the-Middle
 - Replay
 - Active Online Attacks
 - Guessing
 - Trojan, Spyware or keylogger
 - Hash injection

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Active Online Attacks
 - Guessing
 - Manually
 - Software application (dictionary with variations)

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Active Online Attacks
 - Trojan, Spyware or keylogger
 - Malware
 - Usually: keyboard sniffing or keylogging

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Active Online Attacks
 - Hash injection
 - Extract the password hashes for users with high permission profiles
 - Use hash to log on to server/domain controller

So, ...

- What is Hashing?
- What are Rainbow Tables

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - What is Hashing?
 - What are Rainbow Tables

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - What is Hashing?
 - Passwords are not stored in clear text on a system in most cases because of their extremely sensitive nature. Because storing passwords in the clear is considered risky, you can use security measures such as password hashes
 - Hashing is a form of **one-way encryption** that is used to verify integrity. Passwords are commonly stored in a hashed format so the password is not in clear text.
 - When a password provided by the user needs to be verified, it is hashed on the client side and then this hash is transmitted to the server, where the stored hash and the transmitted hash are compared. If they match, the user is authenticated; if not, the user is not authenticated.

Exploitation

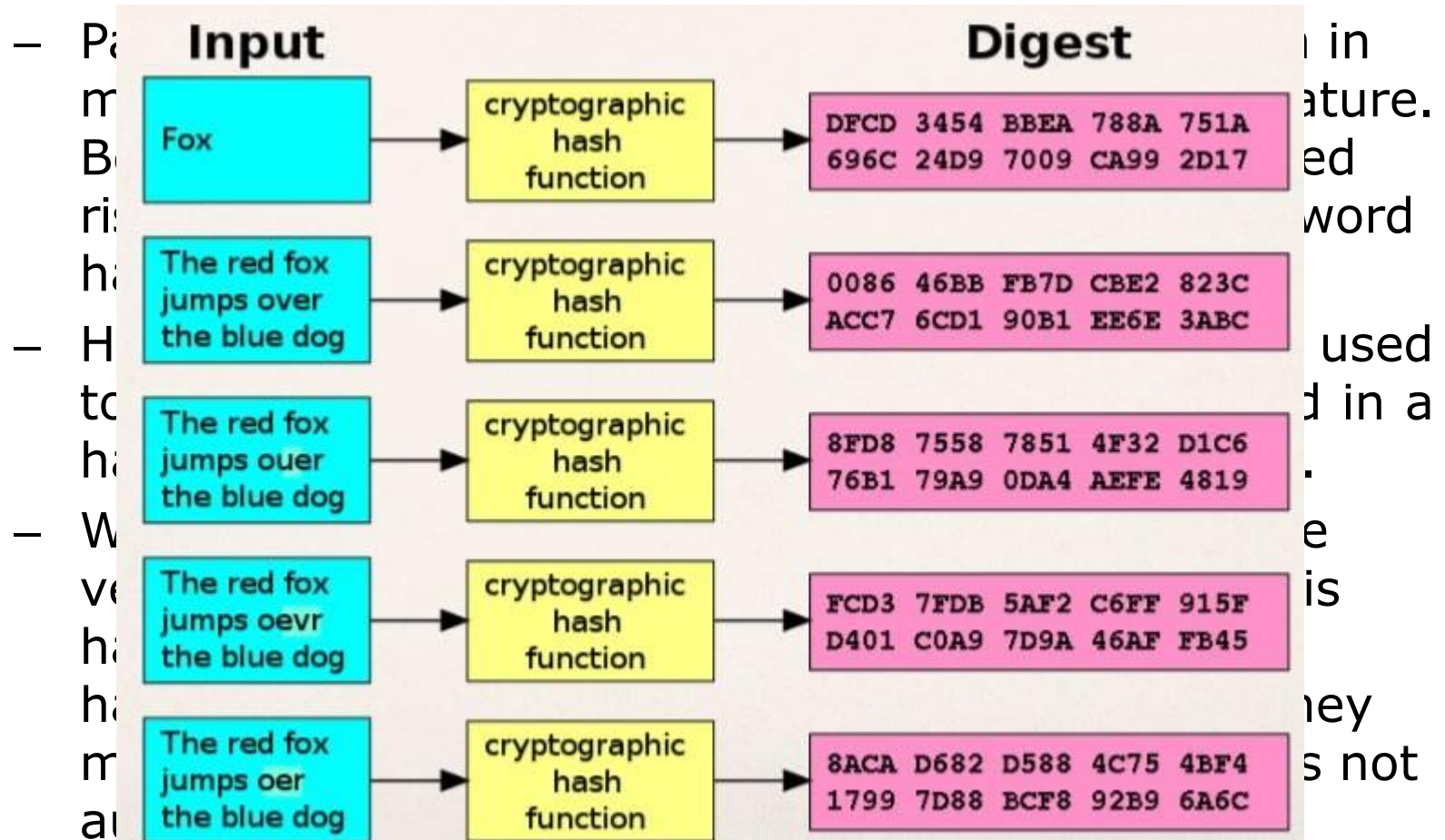
- Password Cracking

- Hash:

- Hash: one-way mathematical function to turn text of any size into result of fixed size
 - » $H(x)=y$
 - » $H(z)=y$
 - » Must mean $x=z$
 - Size of text can't be deduced from hash result
 - Principle:
 - » Password is created.
 - » System calculates hash and stores result(!) in db
 - » Next time password is entered: hash algorithm runs and result is checked against db.
 - » Equal = correct pw.
 - Hashing calculation takes time for cracking...

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - What is Hashing?



Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - What are Rainbow Tables
 - Rainbow tables compute every possible combination of characters prior to capturing a password.
 - Once all the passwords have been generated, the attacker can capture the password hash and compare it to the results.

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Rainbow Table:
 - Uses pre-created table with hashes:
 - Compare found hash with table.
 - » $H(x)?$, $H(Y)?$, $H(Z)=OK$
 - Key is found.
 - » Key must be Z

KEY	PRE-SET HASH
X	$H(X)$
Y	$H(Y)$
Z	$H(Z)$
...	
U	$H(U)$
V	$H(V)$

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - What are Rainbow Tables

- Rain
- char
- Once
- attac
- to th

Plaintext	MD5 Checksum
123456	e10adc3949ba59abbe56e057f20f883e
123456789	25f9e794323b453885f5181f1b624d0b
password	5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99
adobe123	7558af202997483d3afef3bb2b5a709d
12345678	25d55ad283aa400af464c76d713c07ad
qwerty	d8578edf8458ce06fbc5bb76a58c5ca4
1234567	fcea920f7412b5da7be0cf42b8c93759
111111	96e79218965eb72c92a549dd5a330112
photoshop	c7c9cfbb7ed7d1cebb7a4442dc30877f
123123	4297f44b13955235245b2497399d7a93

combination of
ed, the
nd compare it

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Hashing issues :
 - Rainbow tables
 - And...

username	hash
devnet_alice	0e8438ea39227b83229f78d9e53ce58b7f468278c2ffcf45f9316150bd8e5201
devnet_ava	a75e46e47a3c4cf3aaefe1e549949c90e90e0fe306a2e37d2880702a62b0ff31
devnet_bob	0e8438ea39227b83229f78d9e53ce58b7f468278c2ffcf45f9316150bd8e5201
devnet_blaine	6421e62bf41b6d52963b42d5467e25ed18d0ef26e5dfde8825e639600d2d9698
devnet_devon	9314342333718a996b107ff2de51e8105466a9f48310f1b47b679f64d60f5264
devnet_dave	5d86d07ab6c68ccdeab2815b26598c6d9ce0db92f455d499f70bca5067cc841c

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Hashing issues :
 - Rainbow tables
 - Identify identical passwords (devnet_password1)

username	hash
devnet_alice	0e8438ea39227b83229f78d9e53ce58b7f468278c2ffcf45f9316150bd8e5201
devnet_ava	a75e46e47a3c4cf3aaefe1e549949c90e90e0fe306a2e37d2880702a62b0ff31
devnet_bob	0e8438ea39227b83229f78d9e53ce58b7f468278c2ffcf45f9316150bd8e5201
devnet_blaine	6421e62bf41b6d52963b42d5467e25ed18d0ef26e5dfde8825e639600d2d9698
devnet_devon	9314342333718a996b107ff2de51e8105466a9f48310f1b47b679f64d60f5264
devnet_dave	5d86d07ab6c68ccdeab2815b26598c6d9ce0db92f455d499f70bca5067cc841c

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Hashing issues :
 - Rainbow tables
 - Identify identical passwords
 - Solution
 - “salting”

Exploitation

- Password Cracking

- Hashing issues :

- Rainbow tables
 - Identify identical passwords

- Solution

- “salting”

- » Salt = random string
 - » Devnet_bob & devnet_alice both have pw devnet_password1
 - » Salt for alice: salt706173776f726473616c74a
 - » Salt for bob: salt706173776f726473616253b
 - » Now calculate hash with password + salt (before or after pw)
 - » Store hash & salt

Exploitation

Hashed and salted password examples

- User: devnet_alice
 - Password: devnetpassword1
 - Salt: salt706173776f726473616c74a
 - Salted input: devnetpassword1salt706173776f726473616c74a
 - Hash (SHA-256):
cefee7f060ed49766d75bd4ca2fd119d7fcabe795b9425f4fa9d71
15f355ab8c
- User: devnet_bob
 - Password: devnetpassword1
 - Salt: salt706173776f726473616253b
 - Salted input: devnetpassword1salt706173776f726473616253b
 - Hash (SHA-256):
41fffe05d7aca370abaff6762443d9326ce22107783b8ff5bb0cf57
6020fc1d5

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Offline Attacks
 - Gather information from the computer and then analyse at home by any of the other cracking techniques

Exploitation

- Password Cracking
 - Nontechnical Attacks
 - Social engineering
 - Dumpster crawling
 - ...

*“Passwords are like underwear :
don’t let people see it, change it very often,
and you shouldn’t share it with strangers.”*

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
 - Password Cracking
 - Privilege Escalation
 - Executing Applications
 - Hiding files, covering tracks and concealing evidence
 - Expand the attack...

Exploitation

Privilege Escalation

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
 - Privilege Escalation
 - Working from low-level privileges to high-level privileges
 - Horizontal Privilege Escalation
 - An attacker attempts to take over the rights and privileges of another user who has the same privileges as the current account.
 - Vertical Privilege Escalation
 - The attacker gains access to an account and then tries to elevate the privileges of the account. It is also possible to carry out a vertical escalation by compromising (= using the imperfections within the OS) an account and then trying to gain access to a higher-privileged account.
 - Utilities exist: Active Password changer, trinity rescue kit, ERD commander, Win RE, password resetter,

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
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 - Hiding files, covering tracks and concealing evidence
 - Expand the attack...

Exploitation

Executing Applications

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
 - Executing Applications
- Backdoors
 - Applications of this type are designed to compromise the system in such a way as to allow later access to take place. An attacker can use these backdoors later to attack the system. Backdoors can come in the form of rootkits, Trojans, and similar types. They can even include software in the form of remote access Trojans (RATs).
- Crackers
 - Any software that fits into this category is characterized by the ability to crack code or obtain passwords.
- Keyloggers
 - Keyloggers are hardware or software devices used to gain information entered via the keyboard.

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
 - Executing Applications
- Malware
 - This is any type of software designed to capture information, alter, or compromise the system.
 - » Virus: malicious code that must infect a **host** program to run.
 - » Worms: malicious code that is able to replicate itself **without** intervention.
 - » Trojans: programs completely written to look like a legitimate program, but actually carry **malware within**. The cracker usually uses popular software as bait and hides malware inside using special programs called wrappers.
 - » Hybrids: are malicious programs that can combine multiple functionalities in one program and also have been programmed not to be detected (using packaging and code obfuscation techniques). These kind of programs are even in many cases able to defend from antivirus systems.

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
 - Password Cracking
 - Privilege Escalation
 - Executing Applications
 - Hiding files, covering tracks and concealing evidence
 - Expand the attack...

Exploitation

Hiding tracks

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
 - Hiding files, covering tracks and concealing evidence
- Prevent discovery
 - Disable Auditing
 - Eliminate Error Messages
 - Clean log files
 - ...
- Hide used files (file attributes)
- Not important for ethical hacking

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
 - Password Cracking
 - Privilege Escalation
 - Executing Applications
 - Hiding files, covering tracks and concealing evidence
 - Expand the attack...

Expand the attack...

Exploitation

- Methodical Approach
 - If possible expand the attack = new systems (methodology/PDCA cycle continues...)

Exploitation

- General hacking mechanisms
- Methodical Approach
 - Password Cracking
 - Privilege Escalation
 - Executing Applications
 - Hiding files, covering tracks and concealing evidence
 - Expand the attack...
- Frameworks
- Defense

Exploitation

Frameworks

Exploitation

- Frameworks (differences)
 - Reconnaissance
 - Scanning
 - Vulnerability scanning
 - Hacking/Exploitation

Can be all in 1 tool

- Examples:
 - ☐ Metasploit
 - ☐ Core Impact
 - ☐ Immunity Canvas
- Usually with different versions: pro (pay), community (free) etc...

Exploitation

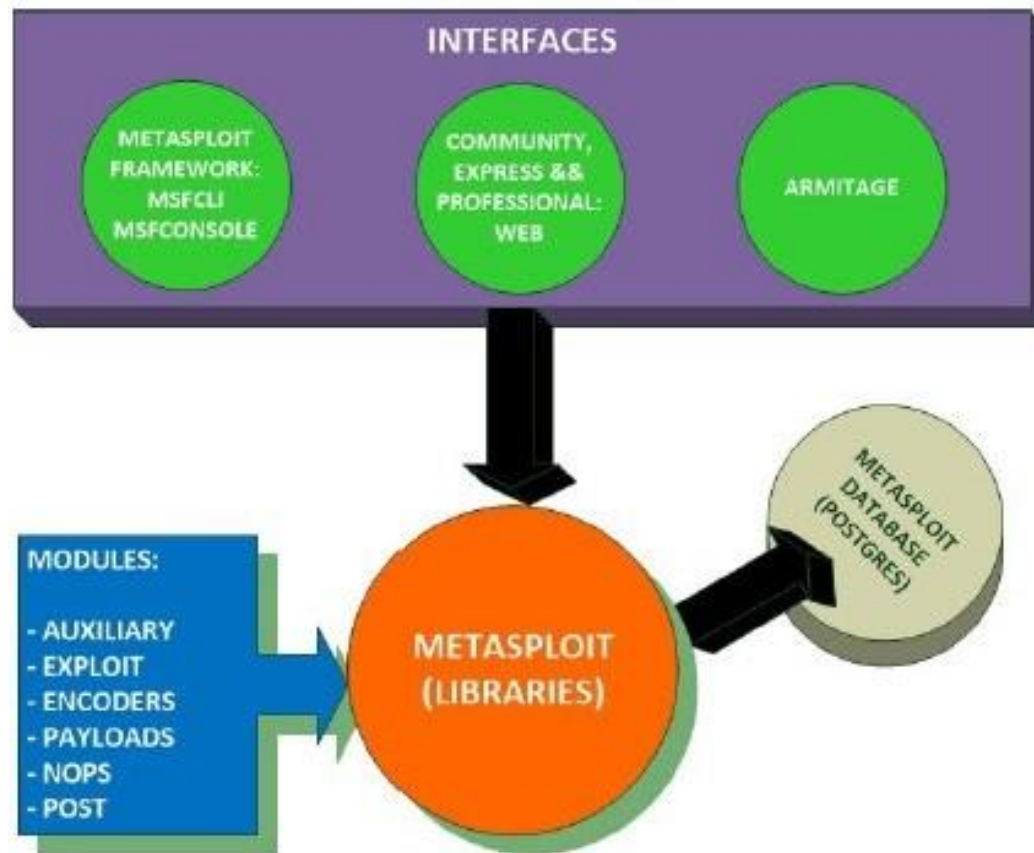
- Frameworks
 - Results
 - False Positive
 - Vulnerability found, but after investigation it's not really a vulnerability.
 - False Negative
 - Vulnerability not found, but after investigation there's a vulnerability.
 - True Positive
 - True Negative

Exploitation

- Framework: Metasploit
 - Rapid7
 - Commercial (Pay)
 - Part of KALI (framework)
 - Language = Ruby

Exploitation

- Framework: Metasploit
 - Metasploit Architecture



Exploitation

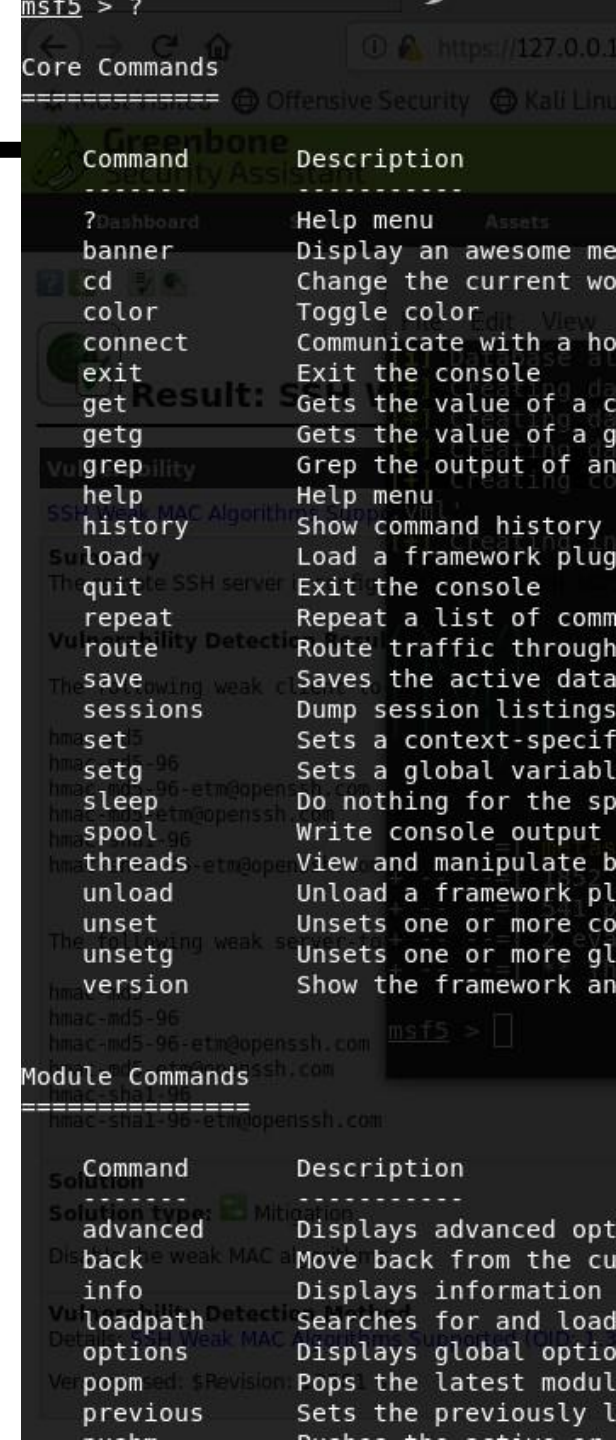
- Framework: Metasploit
 - Metasploit Architecture
 - Libraries
 - Manage basic functionality
 - Provide the different functions (APIs) for the interfaces
 - Interact with the supported protocols
 - Interfaces
 - Msfcli (scripting) (non existent, -x option in msfconsole?)
 - Msfconsole
 - Web
 - Armitage (GUI)
 - File System
 - Directories: data, lib, modules, plugins, scripts, tools
 - Inside: /opt/metasploit or /usr/share/metasploit-framework
 - Modules

Exploitation

- Framework: Metasploit
 - Metasploit Architecture
 - Modules
 - 1. Auxiliary
 - » Functionality = scanning ports, logging
 - 2. Encoders
 - » Encoding/decoding payloads
 - 3. Exploits
 - » Target specific system vulnerabilities for access. Use payloads = code to execute remotely.
 - 4. Nops
 - » Complex operations that are used within MSF to ensure the proper execution of a payload or provide stability to it.
 - 5. Payloads
 - » Payloads are programs that run remotely on a victim host after an exploit is successful
 - 6. Post
 - » Used to gain greater access, maintain it up or get further information from a victim host, after this has been compromised.

Exploitation

- Framework: Metasploit
 - Metasploit Architecture
- MSF Console
 - Shell type environment
 - Commands can be executed
 - Type ? to get all commands:
 - » Core
 - » Module
 - » Job
 - » Resource Script
 - » Database Backend
 - » Credentials Backend
 - » Developer



Exploitation

- Framework: Metasploit
 - Metasploit Architecture
 - Workspaces
 - Store information collected during audits
 - Saved in internal Postgres database
 - Workspace -a NameOfWorkspace = create
 - Workspace NameOfWorkspace = use
 - Workspace = all workspaces

Exploitation

- Framework: Metasploit
 - Metasploit Architecture
 - Community Edition
 - Has web browser on port 3790
 - Doesn't work by default?

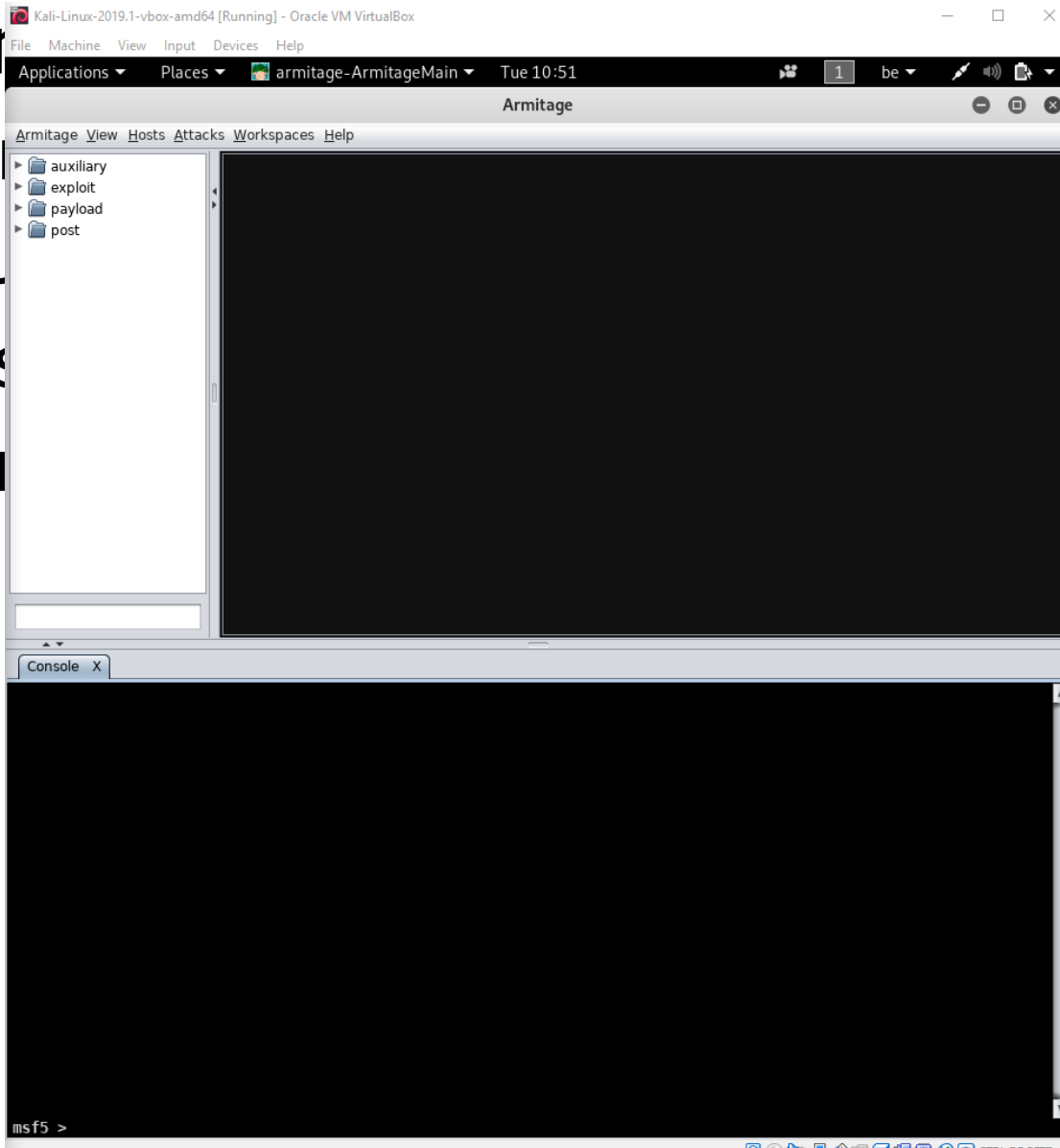
Exploitation

- Framework: Metasploit
 - Armitage
 - GUI to Metasploit
 - Installed by default in KALI
 - Run: Armitage & (+ few boxes to click)

Exploitation

- Frameworks

- Armitage
- GURU
- Insomniac
- Rubeus



(no click)

Exploitation

- General hacking mechanisms
- Methodical Approach
 - Password Cracking
 - Privilege Escalation
 - Executing Applications
 - Hiding files, covering tracks and concealing evidence
 - Expand the attack...
- Frameworks
- Defense

Exploitation

Defense

Exploitation

- DEFENSE:
 - Create a sufficient password security policy (length, use of special chars, expiration, blocking, ...)
 - Enable auditing on OS-level of end-user devices, servers, communication equipment.
 - Use logging and event-monitoring software.
 - Restrict Administrator/Root account = only logon locally

Exploitation

- DEFENSE:
 - Use port security and admission control (NAC) on networking devices so that only authorized users can connect to the network.
 - Replace insecure protocols that send information in plain text as HTTP, SMTP, TELNET, FTP, with their secure counterparts which use digital certificates and encryption for transmission: HTTPS, SMTP (higher version), SSL, SSH, SFTP, etc.
 - Set the switches to detect the sending of free and unauthorized ARP and other known attacks and react to port violation taking appropriate actions and reporting the event.
 - Implement secure authentication protocols in wireless equipment and isolate wireless segments from other internal subnets using intelligent next generation firewalls.

Exploitation

- DEFENSE:
 - Configure intelligent next generation firewalls and other network devices to block attacks.
 - Use network and security management software for threat detection, vulnerability assessment and automatic response to events.
 - Design and implement an Information Security Policy based on the ISO 27000 standard.
 - Implement awareness campaigns about good practices on information security for the end-users.
 - Train staff from the IT and related departments about information security and specialized topics such as ethical hacking, computer forensics and defense mechanisms.
 - Define profiles for IT personnel and establish which international certifications on information security your functionaries must obtain according to their position.