



VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS

Module Objectives



Overview of Vulnerability Research, Vulnerability Assessment, and Vulnerability Scoring Systems

Overview of Vulnerability Management Life Cycle (Vulnerability Assessment Phases)

Understanding Various Types of Vulnerabilities and Vulnerability Assessment Techniques

Understanding Different Approaches of Vulnerability Assessment Solutions

Understanding Different Types of Vulnerability Assessment Tools and Criteria for Choosing Them

Vulnerability Assessment Tools

Generating and Analyzing Vulnerability Assessment Reports

Module Flow



Vulnerability Research

- The process of analyzing protocols, services, and configurations to **discover vulnerabilities and design flaws** that will expose an operating system and its applications to exploit, attack, or misuse
- Vulnerabilities are classified based on **severity level** (low, medium, or high) and **exploit range** (local or remote)

An administrator needs vulnerability research:

- 1 To gather information concerning **security trends, threats, attack surfaces**, attack vectors and techniques
- 2 To discover **weaknesses** in the OS and applications, and alert the network administrator before a **network attack**
- 3 To **gather information** to aid in the prevention of security issues
- 4 To know **how to recover** from a network attack

Resources for Vulnerability Research



Microsoft Vulnerability Research (MSVR)
<https://www.microsoft.com>



Security Magazine
<https://www.securitymagazine.com>



SecurityFocus
<https://www.securityfocus.com>



Dark Reading
<https://www.darkreading.com>



PenTest Magazine
<https://pentestmag.com>



Help Net Security
<https://www.helpnetsecurity.com>



SecurityTracker
<https://securitytracker.com>



SC Magazine
<https://www.scmagazine.com>



HackerStorm
<http://www.hackerstorm.co.uk>



Trend Micro
<https://www.trendmicro.com>



Exploit Database
<https://www.exploit-db.com>



Computerworld
<https://www.computerworld.com>

What is Vulnerability Assessment?

- Vulnerability assessment is an in-depth **examination of the ability of a system or application**, including current security procedures and controls, to withstand the exploitation
- It recognizes, measures, and classifies security vulnerabilities in a **computer system, network, and communication channels**

A vulnerability assessment may be used to:

- Identify weaknesses that could be exploited
- Predict the effectiveness of additional security measures in protecting information resources from attacks



Information obtained from the vulnerability scanner includes:

- Network vulnerabilities
- Open ports and running services
- Application and services vulnerabilities
- Application and services configuration errors

Vulnerability Scoring Systems and Databases

Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS)

- CVSS provides an open framework for communicating the characteristics and impacts of IT vulnerabilities
- Its quantitative model ensures repeatable accurate measurement, while enabling users to view the underlying vulnerability characteristics used to generate the scores

CVSS v3.0 Ratings

Severity	Base Score Range
None	0.0
Low	0.1-3.9
Medium	4.0-6.9
High	7.0-8.9
Critical	9.0-10.0

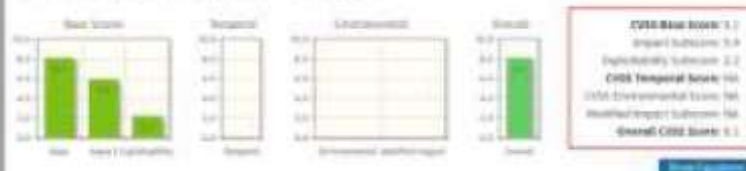
CVSS v2.0 Ratings

Severity	Base Score Range
Low	0.0-3.9
Medium	4.0-6.9
High	7.0-10

<https://www.first.org>

Common Vulnerability Scoring System Calculator Version 2 CVE-2017-0144

This page shows the components of the CVSS score for example and allows you to refine the CVSS base score. Please read the CVSS standards guide to fully understand how to score CVSS vulnerabilities and to interpret CVSS scores. The scores are computed in sequence such that the Base Score is used to calculate the Temporal Score and the Temporal Score is used to calculate the Environmental Score.



CVSS v2 Score
8.5 (Base) 8.5 (Temporal) 8.5 (Environmental) 8.5 (Overall)

Base Score Metrics

Exploitability Metrics

Attack Vector (AV)*

Network (N) | Adjacent Network (AN) | Local (L) | Physical (P)

Attack Complexity (AC)*

Low (L) | High (H)

Privileges Required (PR)*

None (N) | Low (L) | High (H)

User Interaction (UI)*

None (N) | Required (R)

Scope (S)*

Unchanged (U) | Changed (C)

Impact Metrics

Confidentiality Impact (CI)*

None (N) | Low (L) | High (H)

Integrity Impact (I)*

None (N) | Low (L) | High (H)

Availability Impact (A)*

None (N) | Low (L) | High (H)

* All base metrics are required to generate a base score.

<https://nvd.nist.gov>

Vulnerability Scoring Systems and Databases (Cont'd)



Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE)

A publicly available and free-to-use **list or dictionary of standardized identifiers** for common software vulnerabilities and exposures



Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures

[CVE List](#)

[CNAs About](#)

[WGs News & Blog](#)

[Board](#)

NVD

Go to form:
[CVE Scores](#)
[CVE Info](#)
[Advanced Search](#)

[Search CVE List](#)

[Download CVE](#)

[Data Feeds](#)

[Request CVE IDs](#)

[Update a CVE Entry](#)

TOTAL CVE Entries: **118175**

[HOME](#) > [CVE](#) > [SEARCH RESULTS](#)

Search Results

There are **414** CVE entries that match your search.

Name	Description
CVE-2019-9565	Druid Antidote RX, HD, 8 before 8.05.2287, 9 before 9.5.3937 and 10 before 10.1.2147 allows remote attackers to steal NTLM hashes or perform SMB relay attacks upon a direct launch of the product, or upon an indirect launch via an integration such as Chrome, Firefox, Word, Outlook, etc. This occurs because the product attempts to access a share with the PLUG-INS subdomain name; an attacker may be able to use Active Directory Domain Services to register that name.
CVE-2019-7097	Adobe Dreamweaver versions 19.0 and earlier have an insecure protocol implementation vulnerability. Successful exploitation could lead to sensitive data disclosure if smb request is subject to a relay attack.
CVE-2019-6452	Kyocera Command Center RX TASKalfa4501i and TASKalfa5052ci allows remote attackers to abuse the Test button in the machine address book to obtain a cleartext FTP or SMB password.

<https://cve.mitre.org>

Vulnerability Scoring Systems and Databases (Cont'd)

National Vulnerability Database (NVD)

- A **U.S. government repository** of standards-based vulnerability management data represented using the **Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP)**
- These data **enable the automation of vulnerability management**, security measurement, and compliance
- The NVD includes **databases of security checklist** references, security-related software flaws, misconfigurations, product names, and impact metrics



NIST
Information Technology Laboratory
NATIONAL VULNERABILITY DATABASE

Vulnerability Identifier
CVE-2019-6452 Detail

Vulnerability Published Date
06/06/2019

Current Description
Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and Transfer Control Protocol (TCP) allows remote attackers to abuse the Text button in the machine address book to obtain a cleartext FTP or SMB password.

Source: MITRE
View Analysis Discussion

Impact

CVSS v3.0 Severity and Metrics:
Base Score: 5.8 (HIGH)
Vector: AV:N/AC:L/PR:L/UI:N/S:U/C:N/I:N/AU:N
Impact Score: 5.8
Exploitability Score: 2.8

CVSS v2.0 Severity and Metrics:
Base Score: 5.0 (MEDIUM)
Vector: (AV:N/AC:L/Au:S/PR:N/I:N/C:N/UI:N/S:U) (V2) Impact: 5
Impact Subscore: 2.8
Exploitability Subscore: 2.2

Access Vector (AV): Network
Access Complexity (AC): Low
Authentication (AU): Single
Confidentiality (C): Partial
Integrity (I): None

QUICK INFO:
CVE Dictionary Entry:
CVE: 2019-6452
NVD Published Date:
06/06/2019
NVD Last Modified:
06/11/2019

<https://nvd.nist.gov>

Vulnerability Scoring Systems and Databases (Cont'd)

Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE)

- A **category system** for **software vulnerabilities and weaknesses**
- It is sponsored by the **National Cybersecurity FFRDC**, which is owned by **The MITRE Corporation**, with support from **US-CERT** and the **National Cyber Security Division** of the **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**
- It has over **600 categories** of weaknesses, which enable CWE to be effectively employed by the community as a **baseline for weakness identification, mitigation, and prevention efforts**



CWE Common Weakness Enumeration
A Community-Developed List of Software Weakness Types

Home About CWE List Searching Community News Search

CWE™ is a community-developed list of common software security weaknesses. It serves as a common language, a measuring stick for software security tools, and as a baseline for weakness identification, mitigation, and prevention efforts.

View the List of Weaknesses

by Research Concepts by Development Concepts by Architectural Concepts

Search CWE

Easily find a specific software weakness by performing a search of the CWE List by keyword(s) or by CWE-ID number. To search by multiple keywords, separate each by a space.

SMB

About 115 results (0.17 seconds)

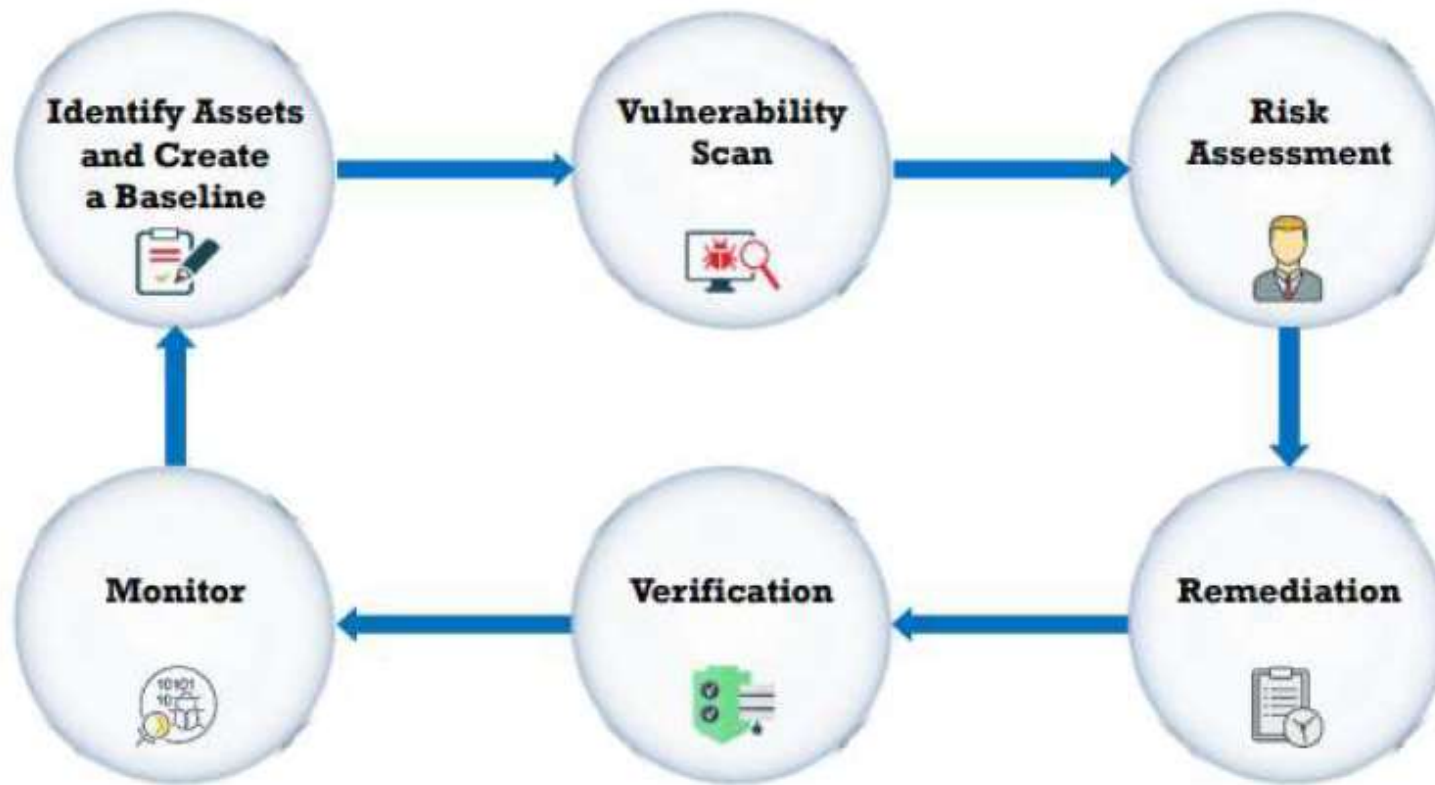
CWE-427: Uncontrolled Search Path Element (3.2) - CWE
<https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/427.html>
In some cases, the attack can be conducted remotely, such as when SMB or WinCC/ network shares are used. In some Unix-based systems, a PATH entry is ...

CWE-130: Improper Handling of Length Parameter (3.2) - CWE
<https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/130.html>
Predict allows remote attackers to cause a denial of service and possibly execute arbitrary code via an SMB parser that specifies a buffer length that is ...

CWE-294: Authentication Bypass by Cache Poison (3.2) - CWE
<https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/294.html>
A capture replay flaw exists when the design of the software makes it possible for a malicious user to off-network traffic and bypass authentication by replaying ...

<https://cwe.mitre.org>

Vulnerability-Management Life Cycle



Pre-Assessment Phase



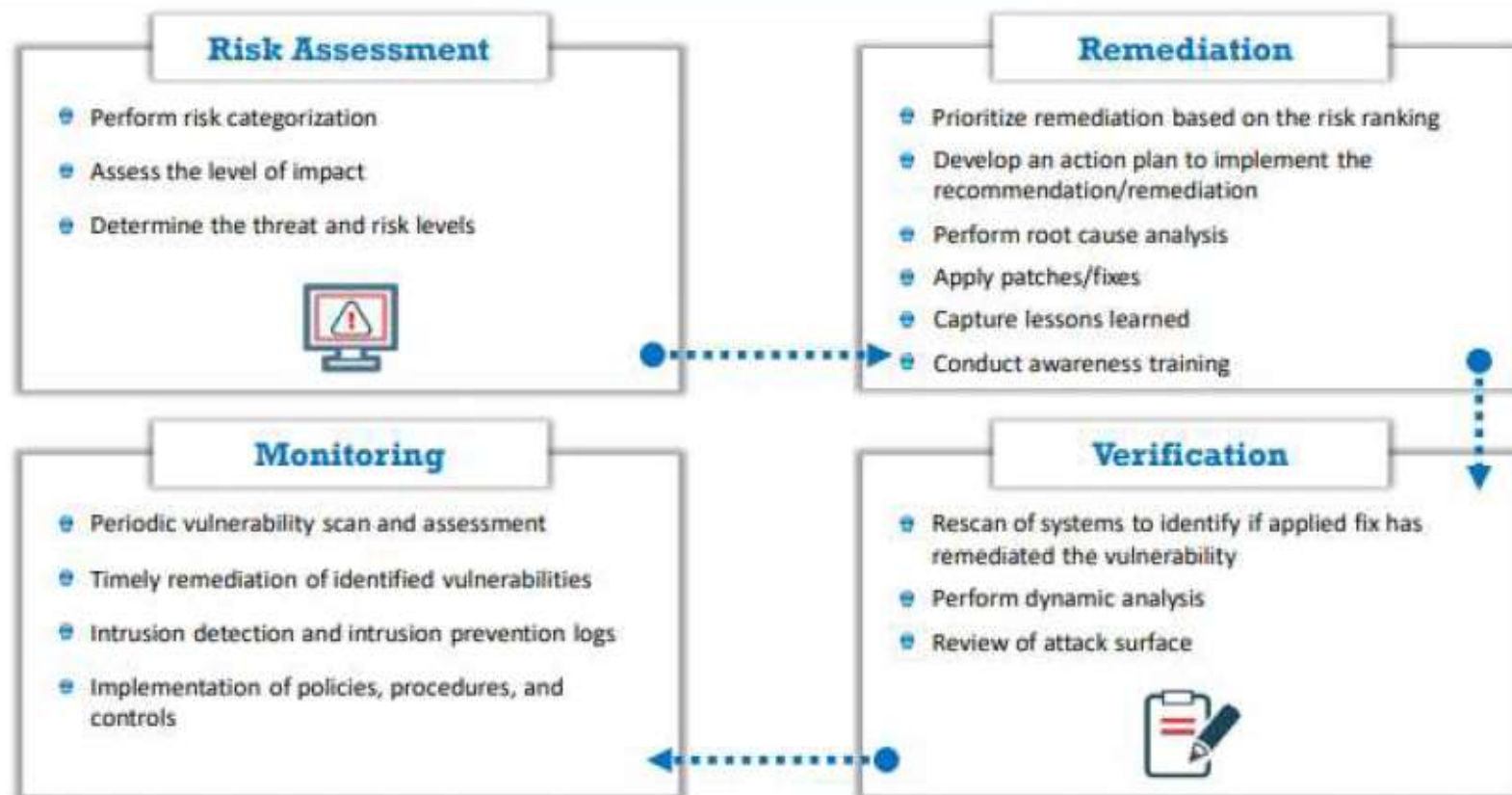
Identify
Assets and
Create a
Baseline

- 1 Identify and **understand** business processes
- 2 Identify the **applications, data, and services** that support the business processes and perform code reviews
- 3 Identify **approved software**, drivers, and the **basic configuration** of each system
- 4 Create an **inventory** of all assets, and **prioritize/rank** critical assets
- 5 Understand the **network architecture** and **map** the **network infrastructure**
- 6 Identify the **controls** already in place
- 7 Understand **policy** implementation and **standards** compliance
- 8 Define the **scope** of the assessment
- 9 Create **information protection procedures** to support effective planning, scheduling, coordination, and logistics

Vulnerability Assessment Phase

- 1 Examine and evaluate the **physical security** 
- 2 Check for **misconfigurations** and human errors 
- 3 Run vulnerability scans 
- 4 Select type of scan based on the organization or **compliance requirements** 
- 5 Identify and **prioritize** vulnerabilities 
- 6 Identify **false positives** and **false negatives** 
- 7 Apply business and technology **context** to scanner results 
- 8 Perform OSINT information gathering to **validate** the vulnerabilities 
- 9 Create a vulnerability scan **report** 

Post Assessment Phase



Module Flow

1

Vulnerability Assessment Concepts



2

**Vulnerability Classification and
Assessment Types**



3

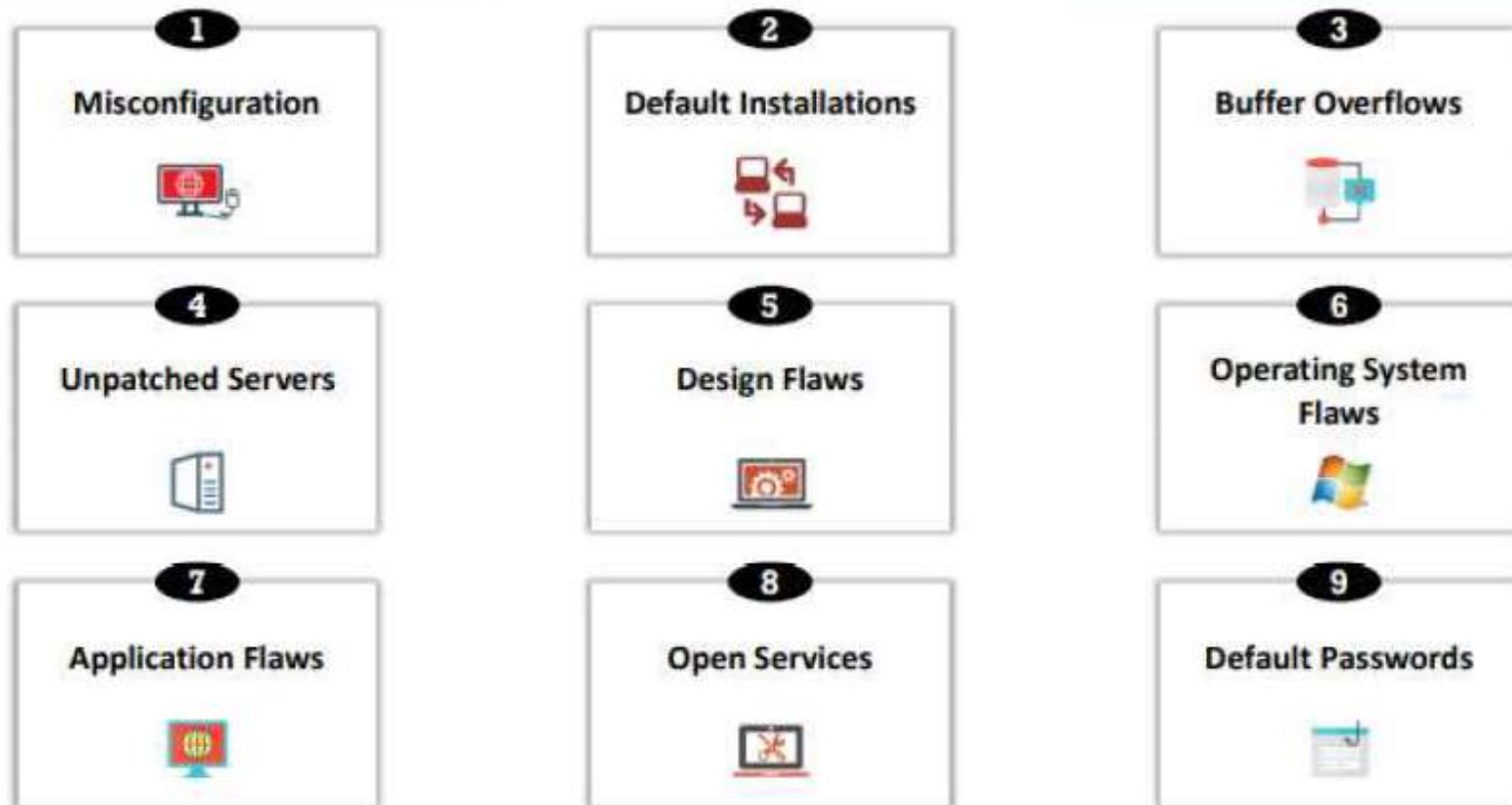
**Vulnerability Assessment Solutions
and Tools**



4

Vulnerability Assessment Reports

Vulnerability Classification



Types of Vulnerability Assessment

Active Assessment

Uses a **network scanner** to find hosts, services, and vulnerabilities

External Assessment

Assesses the network from a hacker's perspective to discover exploits and vulnerabilities that are accessible to the outside world

Host-based Assessment

Conducts a **configuration-level check** to identify system configurations, user directories, file systems, registry settings, etc., to evaluate the possibility of compromise

Application Assessment

Tests and analyzes all elements of the **web infrastructure** for any **misconfiguration**, **outdated content**, or **known vulnerabilities**

Passive Assessment

Used to **sniff the network traffic** to discover present active systems, network services, applications, and vulnerabilities present

Internal Assessment

Scans the **internal infrastructure** to discover exploits and vulnerabilities

Network-based Assessment

Determines possible **network security attacks** that may occur on the organization's system

Database Assessment

Focuses on testing databases, such as **MYSQL**, **MSSQL**, **ORACLE**, **POSTGRESQL**, etc., for the presence of **data exposure** or **injection** type vulnerabilities

Types of Vulnerability Assessment (Cont'd)

Wireless Network Assessment

Determines the vulnerabilities in the organization's **wireless networks**

Distributed Assessment

Assesses the **distributed organization assets**, such as client and server applications, simultaneously through appropriate synchronization techniques

Credentialed Assessment

Assesses the network by **obtaining the credentials** of all machines present in the network

Non-Credentialed Assessment

Assesses the network without acquiring **any credentials** of the assets present in the enterprise network

Manual Assessment

In this type of assessment, the ethical hacker **manually** assesses the **vulnerabilities, vulnerability ranking, vulnerability score**, etc.

Automated Assessment

In this type of assessment, the ethical hacker employs various **vulnerability assessment tools**, such as **Nessus, Qualys, GFI LanGuard**, etc.

Module Flow

1

Vulnerability Assessment Concepts



2

**Vulnerability Classification and
Assessment Types**

3

**Vulnerability Assessment Solutions
and Tools**



4

Vulnerability Assessment Reports

Comparing Approaches to Vulnerability Assessment

Product-Based versus Service-Based Assessment Solutions

Product-Based Solutions

- Installed in the **organization's internal network**
- Installed in **private or non-routable space** or the Internet-addressable portion of an organization's network
- If installed in the private network or, in other words, behind the firewall, it cannot always **detect outside attacks**



Service-Based Solutions

- Offered by third parties**, such as auditing or security consulting firms
- Some solutions are hosted **inside the network**, while others are hosted outside the network
- A drawback of this solution is that attackers can audit the **network from outside**



Comparing Approaches to Vulnerability Assessment (Cont'd)



Tree-Based versus Inference-Based Assessment

Tree-Based Assessment

- The auditor **selects different strategies** for each machine or component of the information system
- For example, the administrator selects a scanner for servers running Windows, databases, and web services, and uses another scanner for Linux servers
- This approach relies on the **administrator providing a starting shot of intelligence**, and then scanning continuously without incorporating any information found at the time of scanning



Inference-Based Assessment

- **Scanning starts by building an inventory of protocols** found on the machine
- After finding a protocol, the scanning process detects **which ports are attached to services**, such as an email server, web server, or database server
- After finding services, the process **selects vulnerabilities on each machine** and starts to execute only the relevant tests

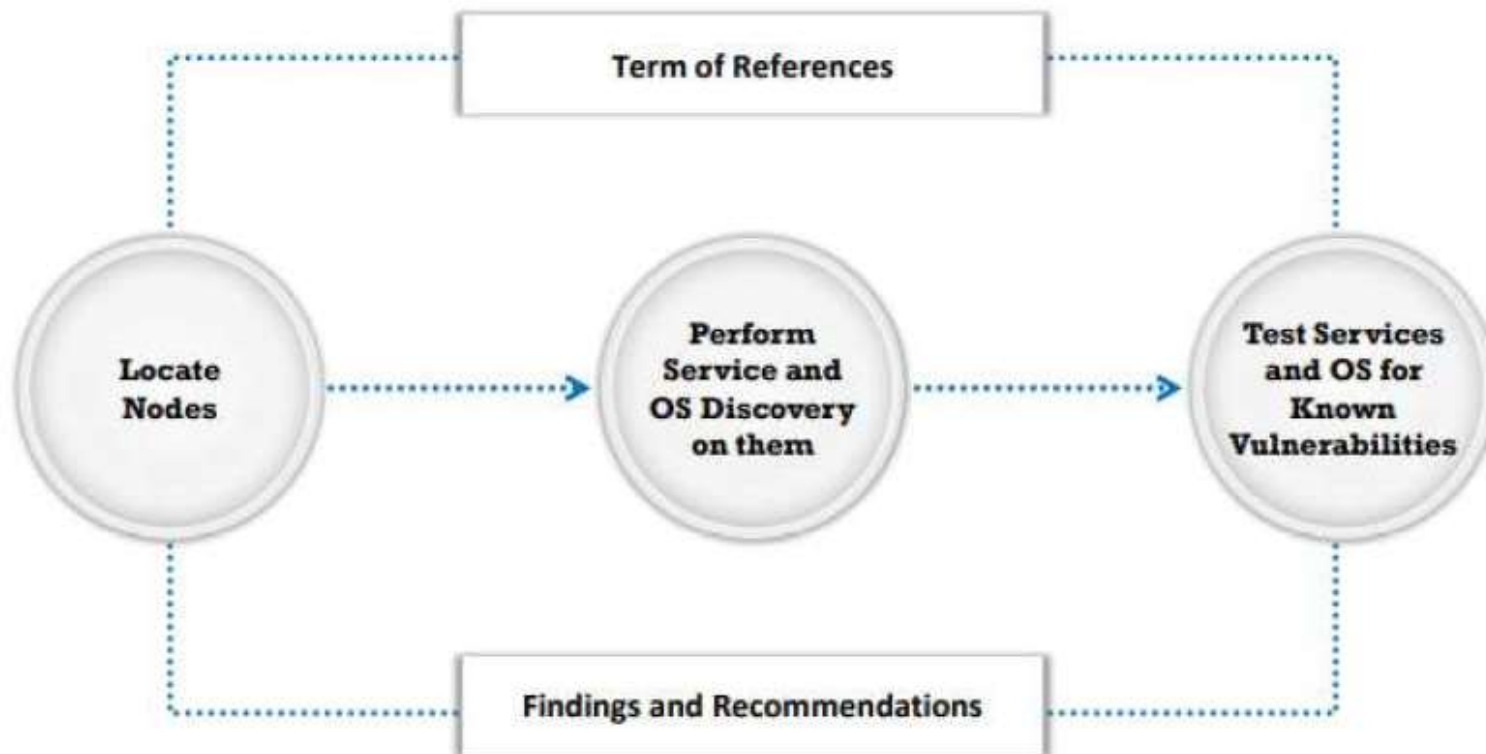


Characteristics of a Good Vulnerability Assessment Solution



- 1 Ensures **correct outcomes by testing the network**, network resources, ports, protocols, and operating systems
- 2 Uses a well-organized **inference-based approach** for testing
- 3 Automatically scans against continuously **updated databases**
- 4 Creates brief, actionable, and customizable reports, including **vulnerabilities, by severity level**, and trend analysis
- 5 Supports multiple **networks**
- 6 Suggests **appropriate remedies** and **workarounds** to correct vulnerabilities
- 7 Imitates the **outside view of attackers**

Working of Vulnerability Scanning Solutions



Types of Vulnerability Assessment Tools

Host-Based Vulnerability Assessment Tools

- Finds and identifies the **OS running on a particular host computer** and tests it for known deficiencies
- Searches for common applications and services

Depth Assessment Tools

- Finds and identifies previously **unknown vulnerabilities in a system**
- These types of tools include "fuzzers"



Application-Layer Vulnerability Assessment Tools

- Directed toward **web servers or databases**



Scope Assessment Tools

- Provides **security to the IT system** by testing for vulnerabilities in the applications and OS



Active and Passive Tools

- Active scanners perform vulnerability checks on the network that **consume resources on the network**
- Passive scanners do not affect system resources considerably; they only **observe system data and perform data processing** on a separate analysis machine

Location and Data Examination Tools

- Network-based scanner
- Agent-based scanner
- Proxy scanner
- Cluster scanner



Choosing a Vulnerability Assessment Tool

- Vulnerability assessment tools are used to **test a host** or **application** for vulnerabilities



- Choose the tools that best **satisfy** the following requirements:
 - Can test from dozens to 30,000 different vulnerabilities, depending on the product
 - Contains several hundred different **attack signatures**
 - Matches your **environment and expertise**
 - Has accurate network, application mapping, and penetration tests
 - Has a number of **regularly updated vulnerability scripts** for the platforms that you are scanning
 - Generates **reports**
 - Checks different **levels of penetration** in order to prevent lockups



Criteria for Choosing a Vulnerability Assessment Tool

1 Types of vulnerabilities being assessed

2 Testing capability of scanning

3 Ability to provide accurate reports

4 Efficient and accurate scanning

5 Capability to perform a smart search

6 Functionality for writing its own tests

7 Test run scheduling



Best Practices for Selecting Vulnerability Assessment Tools

Ensure that it **does not damage your network or system** while running tools



Understand the functionality, and decide on the information that needs to be collected before beginning



Decide the **source location** of the scan, taking into consideration the information that needs to be collected



Enable logging every time a computer is scanned



Users should **scan their systems frequently** for vulnerabilities



Vulnerability Assessment Tools: Qualys Vulnerability Management



- A cloud-based service that offers immediate global visibility into IT system areas that might be **vulnerable to the latest Internet threats** and how to protect them
- Aids in the continuous **identification of threats and monitoring of unexpected changes** in a network before they become breaches



<https://www.qualys.com>

Vulnerability Assessment Tools: Nessus Professional and GFI LanGuard

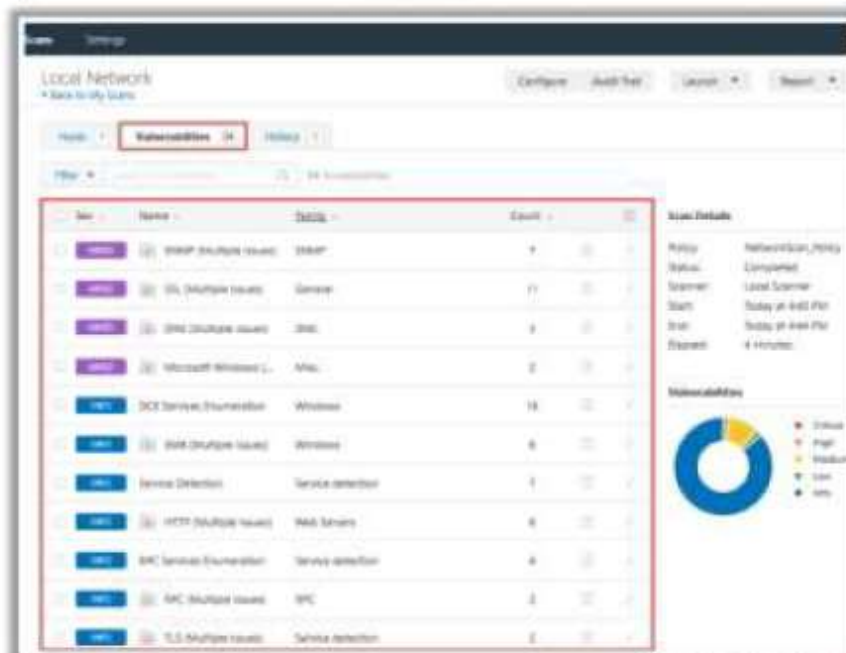


Nessus Professional

An assessment solution for **identifying the vulnerabilities, configuration issues, and malware**

GFI LanGuard

Scans, detects, assesses, and rectifies **security vulnerabilities** in a network and connected devices



<https://www.tenable.com>



<https://www.gfi.com>

Vulnerability Assessment Tools: OpenVAS and Nikto



OpenVAS

A framework of several services and tools offering a comprehensive and powerful **vulnerability scanning** and **vulnerability management solution**

Nikto

A **web server assessment tool** that examines a web server to discover potential problems and security vulnerabilities

Greenbone Security Assistant

Logged in as Admin: admin | Logout
Tue Oct 29 05:39:51 2019 UTC

Dashboard | Scans | Assets | SecInfo | Configuration | Extras | Administration | Help

Anonymous: EML | Filter:

Report: Results (3 of 43)

Vulnerability	Severity	QoD	Host	Location	Actions
GCE/BC and MSRPC Services Enumeration Reporting	High (CVSS: 7.5)	80%	10.10.10.16	135/tcp	
SSL/TLS: Report Weak Cipher Suites	Medium (CVSS: 5.0)	98%	10.10.10.16	3300/tcp	
TCP timestamps	Low (CVSS: 2.0)	80%	10.10.10.16	general/tcp	

Backlinks: 4.134 | Greenbone Security Assistant (GSA) Copyright 2009 - 2019 by Greenbone Networks GmbH, www.greenbone.net

<http://www.openvas.org>

```
root@kali:~# nikto -h www.certifiedhacker.com -Tuning x
Nikto v2.1.5

+-----+
+ Target IP:      162.241.216.11
+ Target Hostname: www.certifiedhacker.com
+ Target Port:    80
+ Start Time:     2019-11-19 20:41:24 (GMT)
+-----+

+ Server: Apache
+ The anti-clickjacking X-Frame-Options header is not present.
+ The X-XSS-Protection header is not defined. This header can hint to the user agent to protect against some forms of XSS.
+ The X-Content-Type-Options header is not set. This could allow the user agent to render the content of the site in a different fashion to the MIME type.
+ /certifiedhacker.zip: Potentially interesting archive/cert file found.
+ ERROR: Error limit (20) reached for host, giving up. Last error:
+ ERROR: Error limit (20) reached for host, giving up. Last error:
+ Scan terminated: 19 error(s) and 4 item(s) reported on remote host
+ End Time:       2019-11-19 20:51:15 (GMT) (591 seconds)
+-----+
+ 1 host(s) tested
```

<https://cirt.net>

Other Vulnerability Assessment Tools



Qualys FreeScan
<https://freescan.qualys.com>



Acunetix Web Vulnerability Scanner
<https://www.acunetix.com>



Nexpose
<https://www.rapid7.com>



Network Security Scanner
<https://www.beyondtrust.com>



SAINT
<https://www.saintcorporation.com>



Microsoft Baseline Security Analyzer (MBSA)
<https://www.microsoft.com>



beSECURE (AVDS)
<https://www.beyondsecurity.com>



Core Impact Pro
<https://www.coresecurity.com>



N-Stalker Web Application Security Scanner
<https://www.nstalker.com>



ManageEngine Vulnerability Manager Plus
<https://www.manageengine.com>

Vulnerability Assessment Tools for Mobile

Vulners Scanner

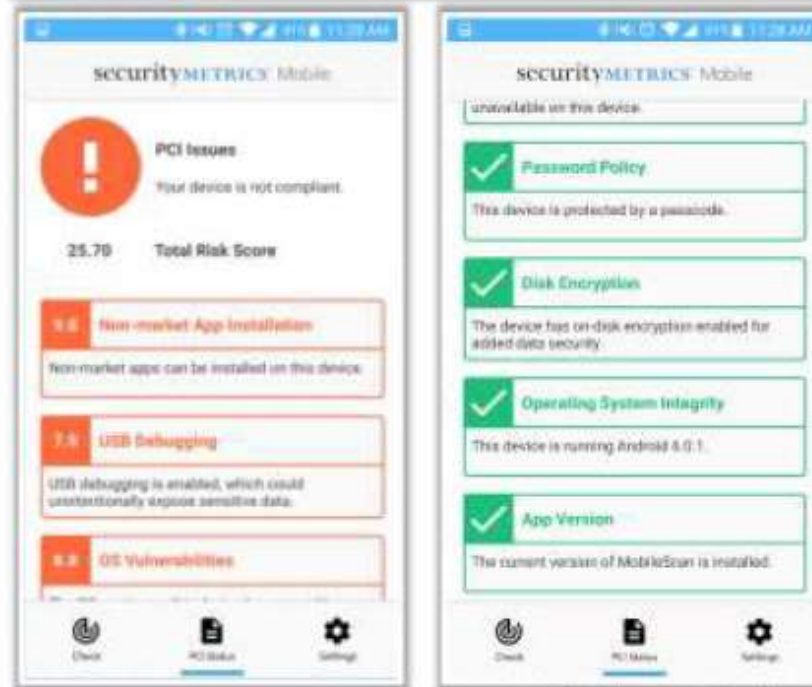
An android app that **performs passive vulnerability detection** based on the fingerprint of the software version



<https://vulners.com>

Security Metrics Mobile

An android app that **complies with PCI SSC guidelines to generate a scan report**



<https://www.securitymetrics.com>

Module Flow

1

Vulnerability Assessment Concepts



2

**Vulnerability Classification and
Assessment Types**

3

**Vulnerability Assessment Solutions
and Tools**



4

Vulnerability Assessment Reports



Vulnerability Assessment Reports

1

The vulnerability assessment report **discloses the risks detected after scanning** a network



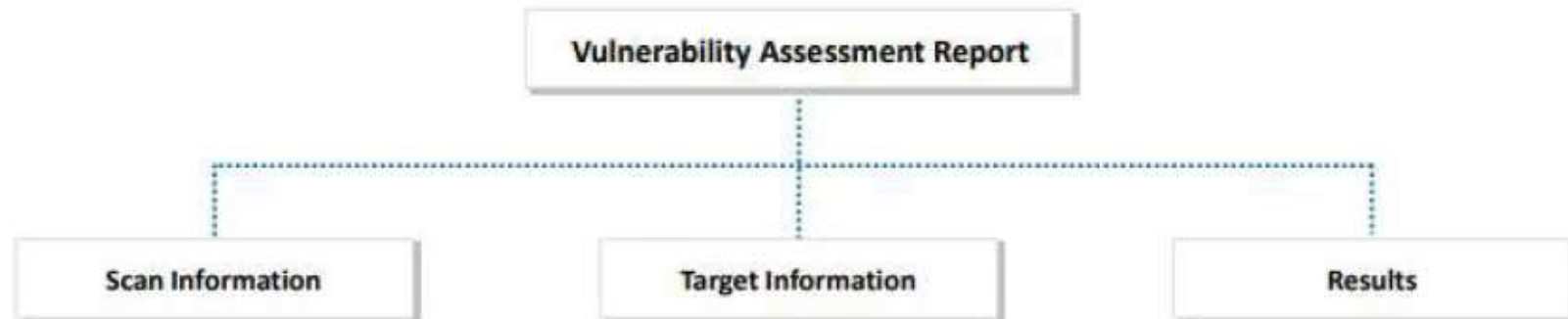
2

The report **alerts the organization** of possible attacks and suggests **countermeasures**



3

Information available in the reports is used to fix **security flaws**



Analyzing Vulnerability Scanning Report



Detailed Results

104.176.26.101 (www.certifiedethicalhacker.com) - Windows Vista / Windows 2008

Vulnerability name: CVE-2017-16995

Risk score: 2.97

CVSS Score: 2.97

CVSS Temporal: 2.97

CVSS Base: 2.97

CVSS Temporal: 2.97

Summary: CVE-2017-16995 is a buffer overflow vulnerability in the TLS implementation of the TLS client in Windows Vista and Windows 2008. It is a high severity vulnerability that can be exploited to cause a denial of service (DoS) or a remote code execution (RCE).

Impact: High

Exploitable: Yes

Associated Malware: None

Results: TLS 1.0 is supported.

Module Summary



- ❑ In this module, we have discussed:
 - The definition of vulnerability research, vulnerability assessment, and vulnerability-management life cycle
 - The CVSS vulnerability scoring system and databases
 - Various types of vulnerabilities and vulnerability assessment techniques
 - Various vulnerability assessment solutions, along with their characteristics
 - Various tools that are used to test a host or application for vulnerabilities, along with the criteria and best practices for selecting the tool
 - We concluded with a detailed discussion on how to analyze a vulnerability assessment report and how it discloses the risks detected after scanning the network
- ❑ In the next module, we will discuss the methods attackers, as well as ethical hackers and pen testers, utilize to hack a system based on the information collected about a target of evaluation; for example, footprinting, scanning, enumeration, and vulnerability analysis phases



THANK YOU