LAB 01: THEORY

Introduction to
Penetration Testing

TOPICS

- Methodology
- Preparation
- Test procedures
- Tool selection

BASIC TERMINOLOGY

- Shell – Access to the command line terminal or command prompt.
- IDS – Intrusion Detection System. A security countermeasure that detects and logs events of attacks.
- IPS – Intrusion Prevention System. A security countermeasure that detects and blocks attacks.

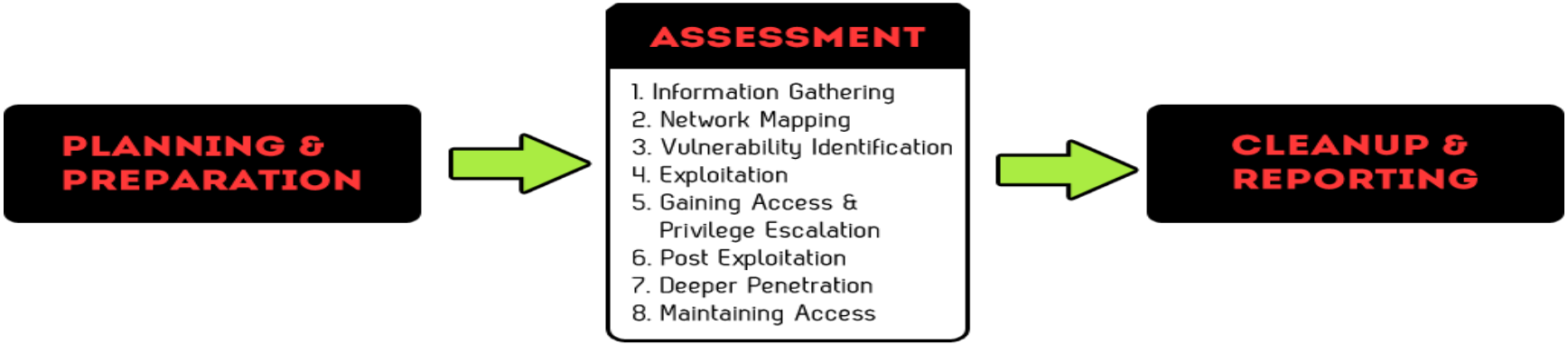
BASIC TERMINOLOGY

- Exploit – A piece of code that takes advantage of a vulnerability.
- 0Day – Zero day; A vulnerability that is unknown to the vendor and the general public.
- Hash – A condensed & unique representation of a message or a data file.
- Superuser – The highest privileged user on a system. Also referred to as "root" or "admin".

METHODOLOGY

1. Planning & preparation.
2. Assessment
    i. Information gathering
    ii. Network mapping
    iii. Vulnerability identification
    iv. Exploitation
    v. Gaining access & privilege escalation
    vi. Post exploitation
    vii. Deeper penetration
    viii. Maintaining access
3. Clean up & reporting

METHODOLOGY



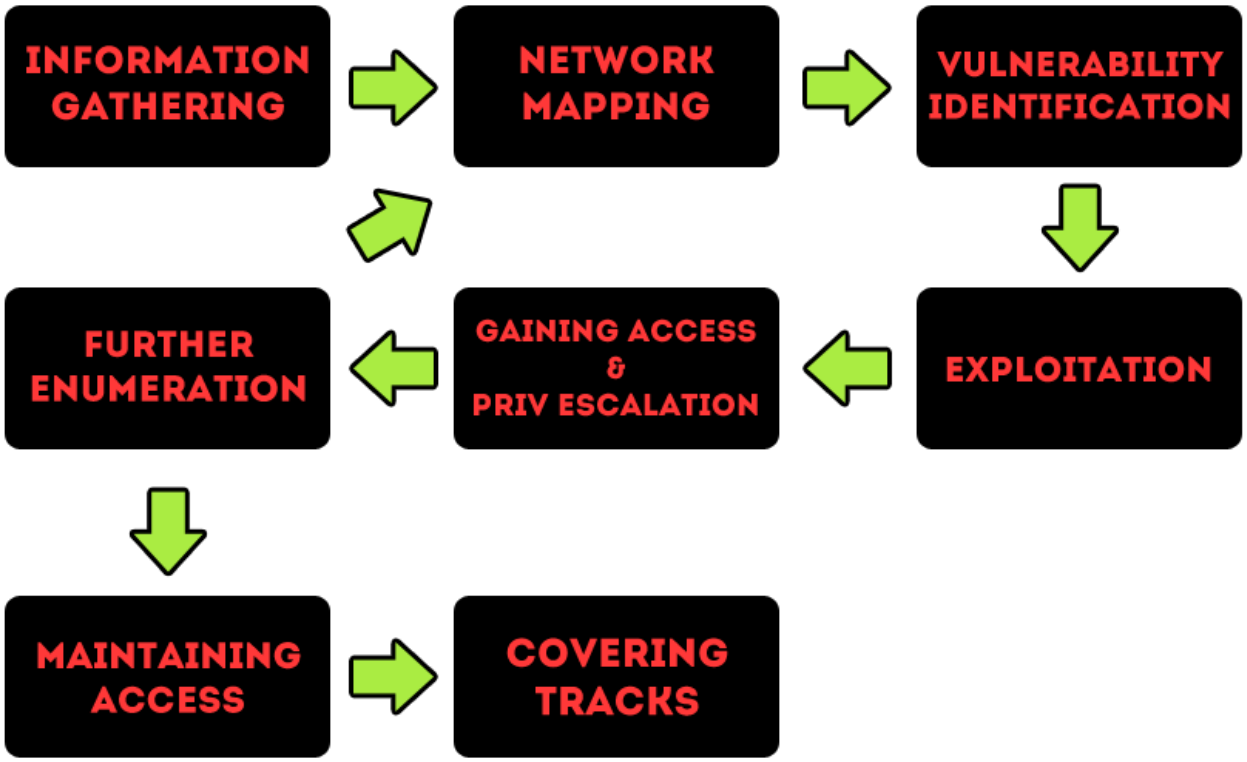
PREPARATION

- Make sure all legal contracts are signed such as the engagement letter (LoE) and the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) by someone in authority.
- Confirm the following details:
  - The engagement team
  - The scope of work
  - The time frame for testing
  - Test cases & escalation path
- Ensure that your tools are up-to-date.
- Prepare a checklist of your activities.

PREPARATION

- Always check and record your IP address.
- Keep a log book
  - Document your activities:
    - Time
    - Event
  - Keep track of system changes:
    - Files uploaded
    - Accounts created
    - Software installed
    - System file modifications
- Always collect evidence of findings.

LIFE CYCLE



TOOLS

Vulnerability Scanners

- Commercial:
  - Tennable Nessus
  - Foundstone Foundscan
  - GFI Languard
  - Eeye Retina
- Free / Open Source:
  - OpenVAS
  - Skipfish

TOOLS

Exploitation Frameworks

- Commercial:
  - Core Impact
  - Immunity Canvas
  - Metasploit Pro
- Free / Open Source:
  - Metasploit

TOOLS

Related Tools

- Hacking / forensic toolkits:
  - Kali Linux
  - Helix
  - Samurai
- Password crackers:
  - John the ripper
  - THC Hydra
  - oclHashCat

TOOLS

Related Tools

- Web hacking:
  - Commercial:
    - IBM AppScan
    - HP Webinspect
    - Acunetix Web Vulnerability Scanner
  - Free / Open Source:
    - Nikto
    - SQLMap
    - SQLNinja
    - Burp Suite
    - Arachni
    - W3af

INFORMATION GATHERING

- The technique of gathering information about computer systems and the entities they belong to.
- Essential towards any type of testing.
- Information gathering methods:
  - Active
    - Gathering information from sources which could alert the system owners.
  - Passive
    - Gathering information from publicly available sources.

INFORMATION GATHERING

Passive Information Gathering

- Information is gathered from public sources.
- Information is collected without the system owner's knowledge.
- Information source:
  - Search engines
  - Forums
  - Mailing lists
  - Documents

INFORMATION GATHERING

Google Hacking

INFORMATION GATHERING

OS identification with Netcraft

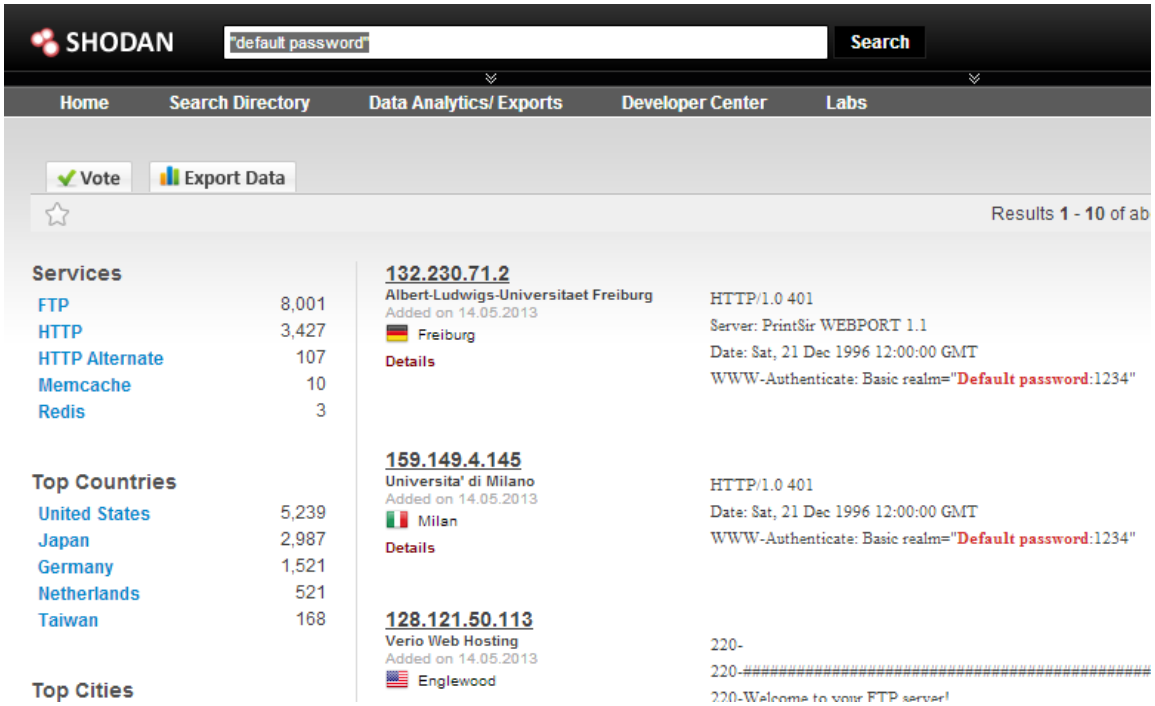
OS, Web Server and Hosting History for www.youtube.com

http://www.youtube.com was running Apache on unknown when last queried at 20-Aug-2007 09:36:49 GMT - refresh now Site Report FAQ
Try out the Netcraft Toolbar!

OS	Server	Last changed	IP address	Netblock Owner
unknown	Apache	15-Aug-2007	208.65.153.238	YouTube, Inc.
Linux	Apache	14-Aug-2007	208.65.153.238	YouTube, Inc.
unknown	Apache	31-Jul-2007	208.65.153.238	YouTube, Inc.
unknown	unknown	30-Jul-2007	208.65.153.238	YouTube, Inc.
Linux	Apache	29-Jul-2007	208.65.153.238	YouTube, Inc.
unknown	Apache	26-Jul-2007	208.65.153.238	YouTube, Inc.
unknown	unknown	25-Jul-2007	208.65.153.238	YouTube, Inc.
unknown	Apache	16-Jul-2007	208.65.153.251	YouTube, Inc.
unknown	Apache	13-Jul-2007	208.65.153.251	YouTube, Inc.
Linux	Apache	11-Jul-2007	208.65.153.251	YouTube, Inc.

INFORMATION GATHERING

Information gathering with Shodan



INFORMATION GATHERING

Active Information Gathering

- Actively probe the target systems.
- Might get detected by the system owner.
- Possibly IP being logged.
- Information source:
  - DNS records
  - Zone transfers
  - Whois lookup
  - Mail servers
  - Active directory
  - Content mirroring

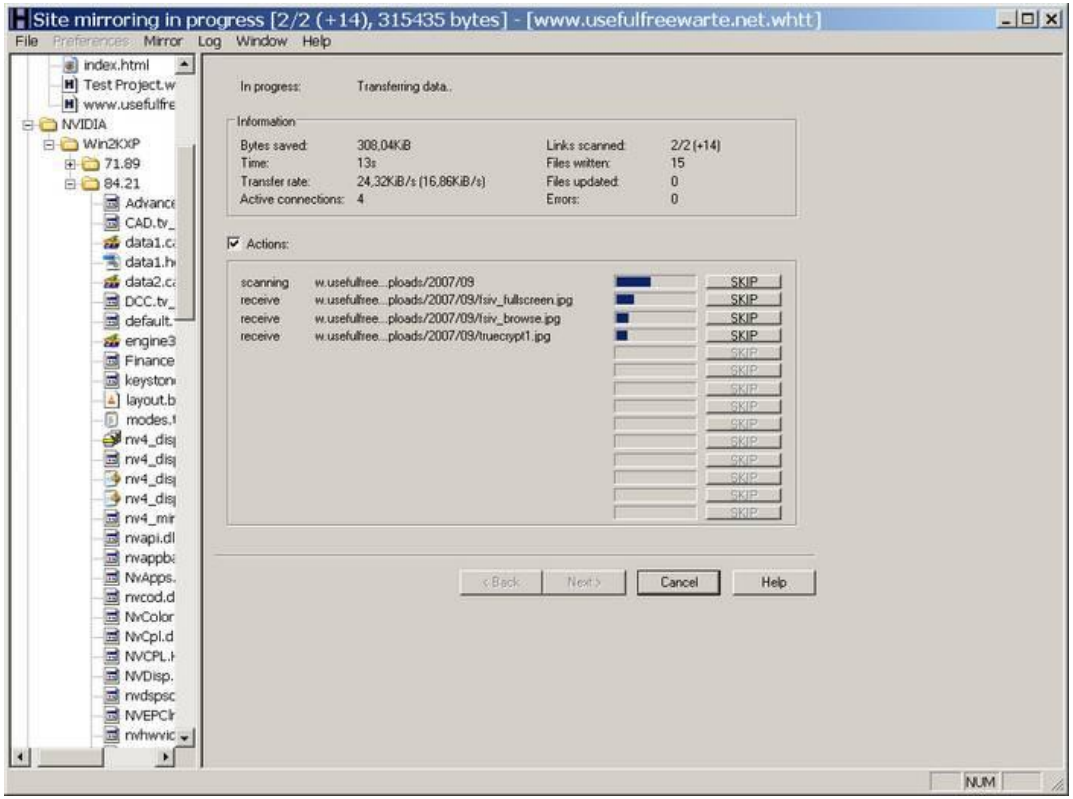
INFORMATION GATHERING

DNS querying

```
root@root:/pentest/enumeration/dns/fierce# perl fierce.pl -dns searching-eye.com
DNS Servers for searching-eye.com:
        prv1.hostupon.com
        prv2.hostupon.com
Trying zone transfer first...
        Testing prv1.hostupon.com
Whoah, it worked - misconfigured DNS server found:
searching-eye.com.      86400   IN      SOA     prv1.hostupon.com. support.hostupon.com. (
                                                2011111617      ; Serial
                                                86400   ; Refresh
                                                7200    ; Retry
                                                3600000 ; Expire
                                                86400 ) ; Minimum TTL
searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      MX      0 searching-eye.com.
searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      MX      10 mx.searching-eye.com.
searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      MX      15 infosecinstitute.searching-eye.com.
searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      MX      20 infosectutorial.searching-eye.com.
searching-eye.com.      86400   IN      NS      prv1.hostupon.com.
searching-eye.com.      86400   IN      NS      prv2.hostupon.com.
searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      A       174.36.180.4
cpanel.searching-eye.com.       14400   IN      A       174.36.180.4
ftp.searching-eye.com.  14400   IN      A       174.36.180.4
infosecinstitute.searching-eye.com.     14400   IN      A       74.125.236.81
localhost.searching-eye.com.    14400   IN      A       127.0.0.1
mail.searching-eye.com. 14400   IN      CNAME   searching-eye.com.
prateek.searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      CNAME   infosecinstitute.com.
sanjeev.searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      A       174.36.180.4
www.sanjeev.searching-eye.com.  14400   IN      A       174.36.180.4
webdisk.searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      A       174.36.180.4
webmail.searching-eye.com.      14400   IN      A       174.36.180.4
whm.searching-eye.com.  14400   IN      A       174.36.180.4
```

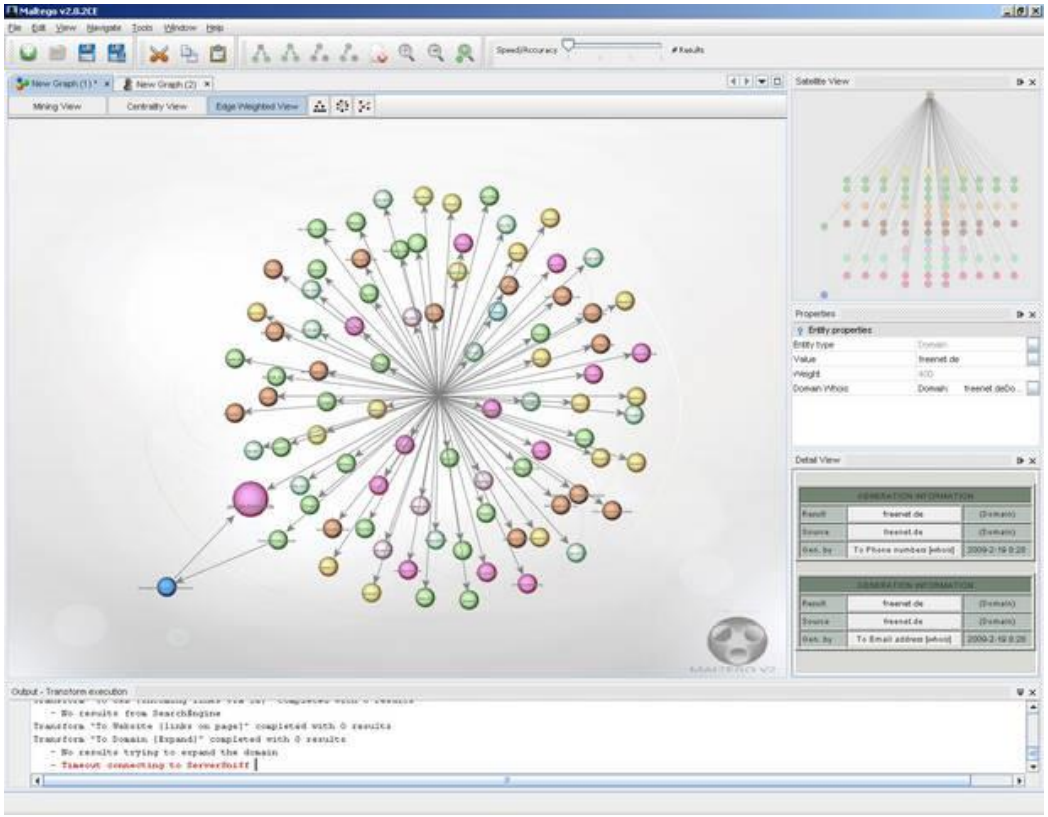
INFORMATION GATHERING

Website mirroring



INFORMATION GATHERING

Maltego

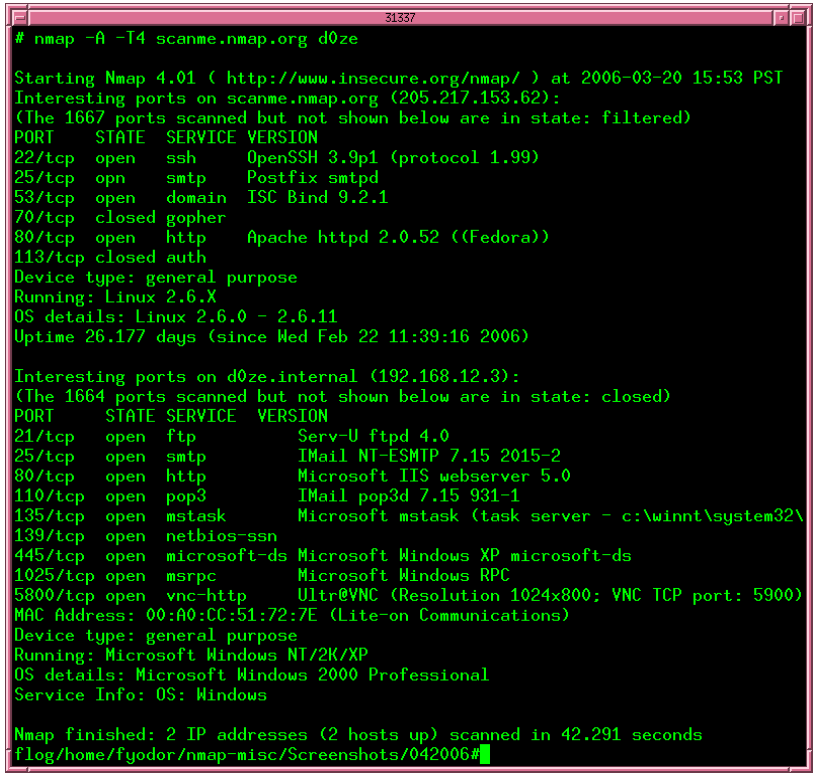


NETWORK MAPPING

- Helps visualize the network topology.
- Involves the following activities:
  - Enumerating and verifying live hosts
  - Port scanning
  - Service identification
  - Operating system identification
  - Identifying critical servers

NETWORK MAPPING

Port scanning

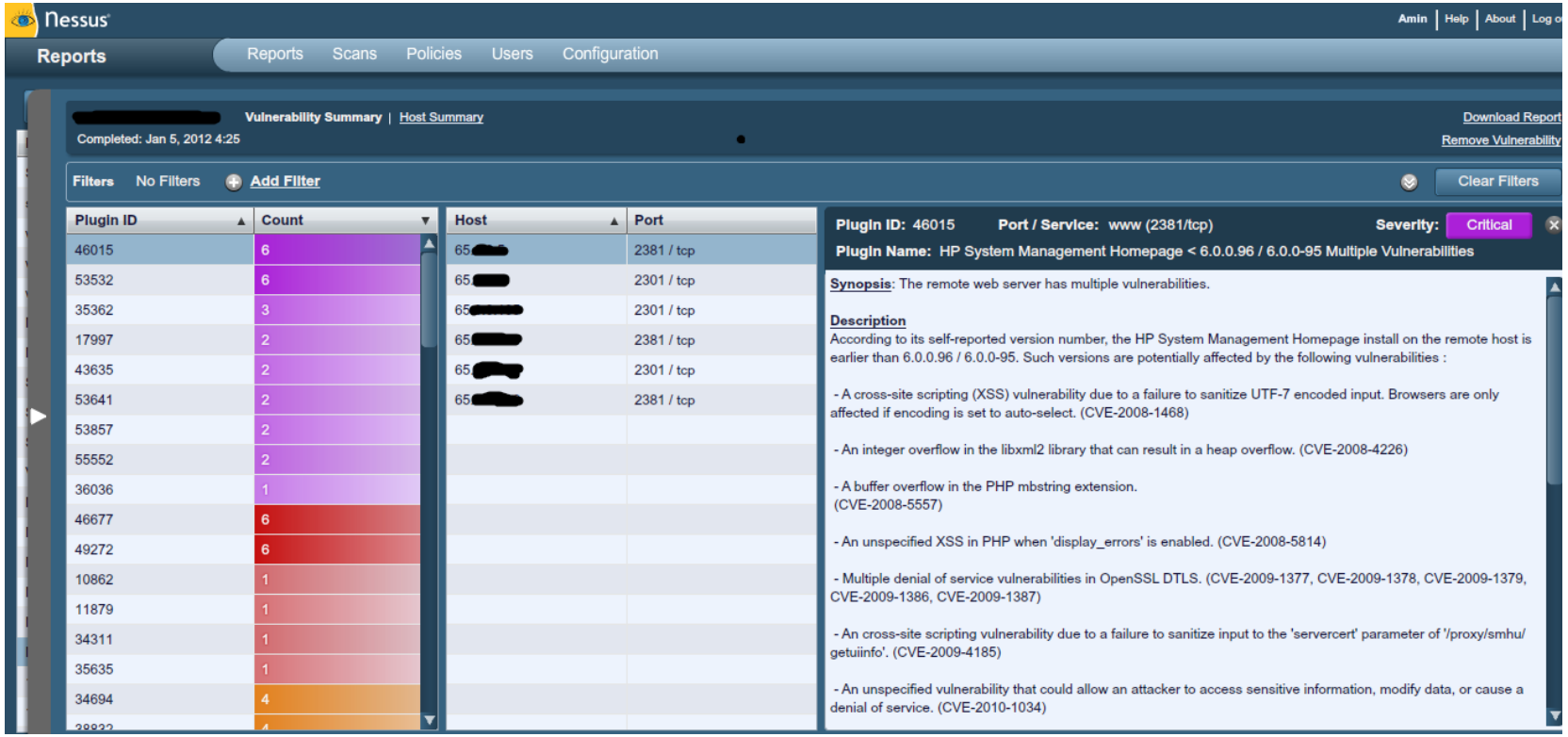


VULNERABILITY IDENTIFICATION

- Searching for potential vulnerabilities that can be used to compromise the targets.
- Remember, not all vulnerabilities will give you shell.
- Vulnerability identification involves:
  - Vulnerability scanning
  - Vulnerability validation
    - Banner grabbing
    - Version enumeration
  - Threat modeling & assessing impact

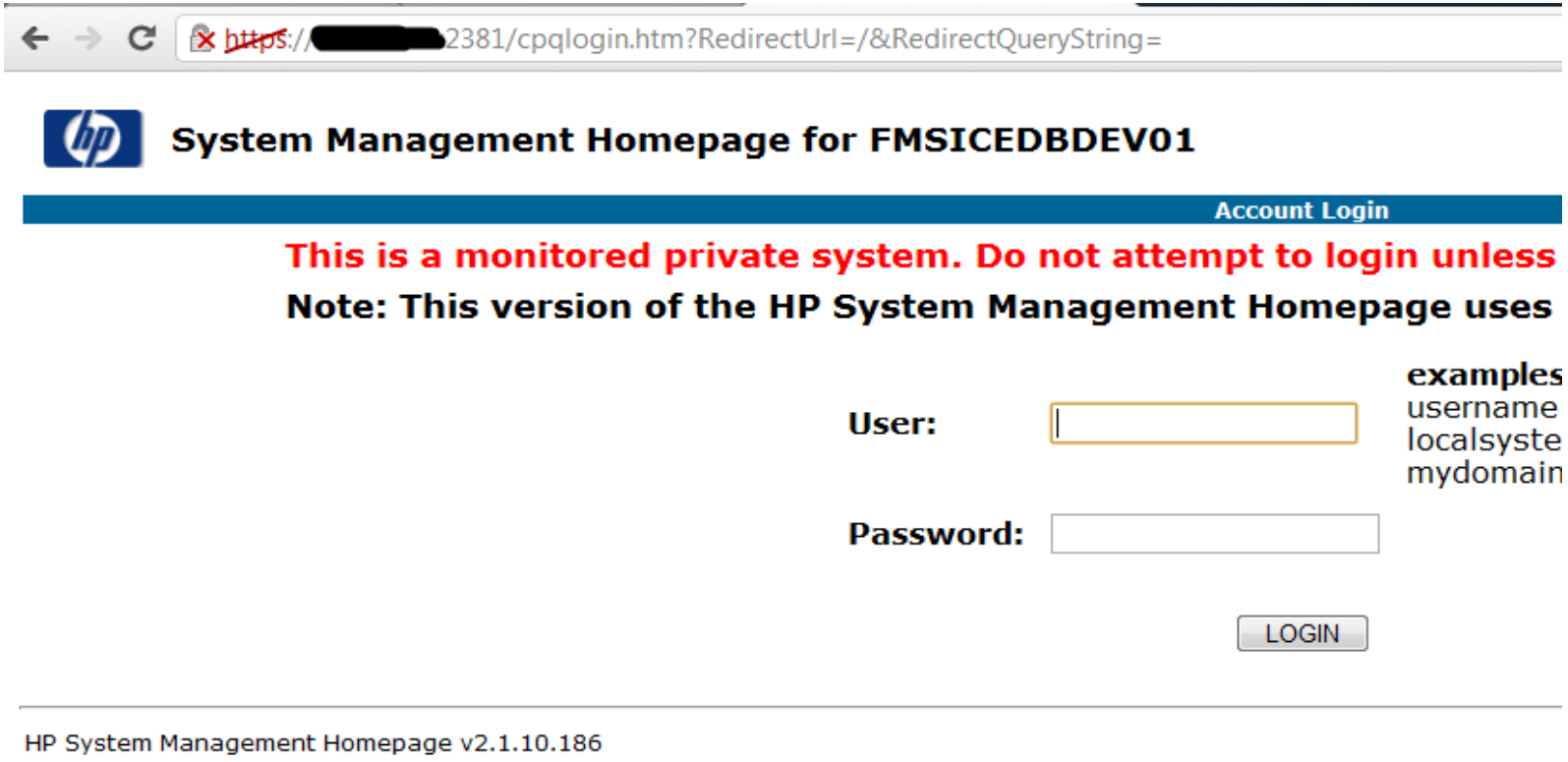
VULNERABILITY IDENTIFICATION

Vulnerability scanning



VULNERABILITY IDENTIFICATION

Vulnerability validation

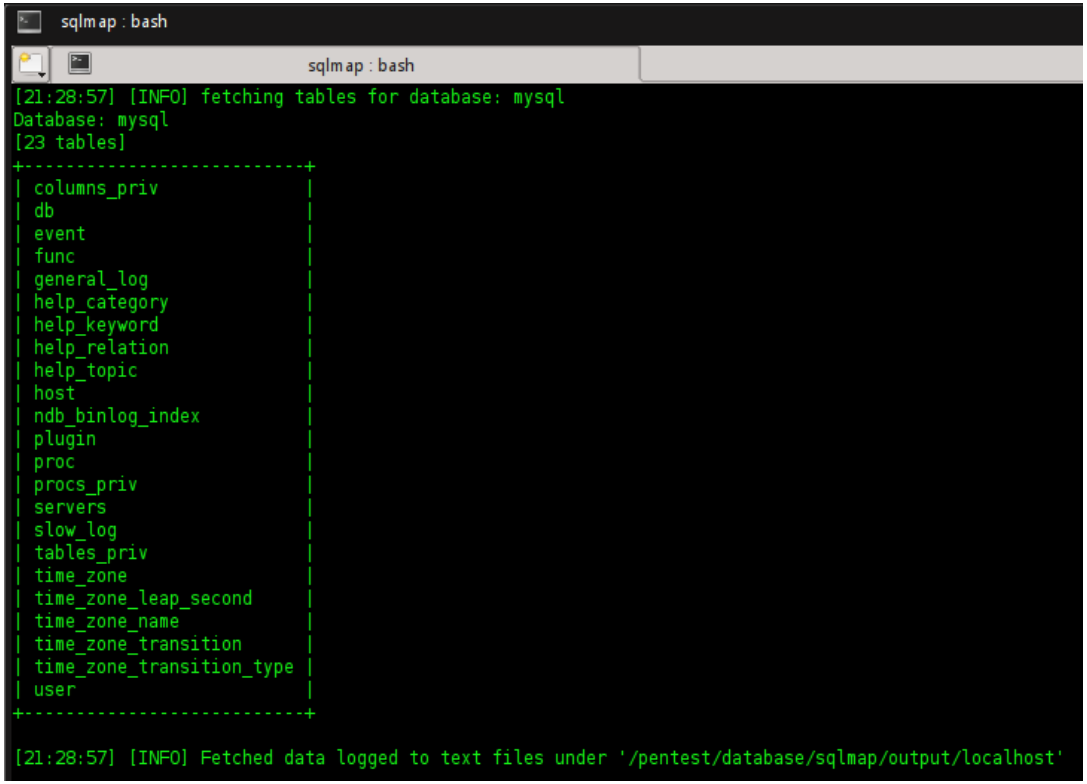


EXPLOITATION

- Attempts to take advantage of a vulnerability.
- Is also part of vulnerability validation.
- Several ways to do this:
  - Exploitation frameworks
  - Publicly available exploits
    - Exploit-DB, Security Focus, Packet Storm
  - Writing proof-of-concept (PoC) code
- Exploits must always be tested in a test environment before deployed against target.

VULNERABILITY IDENTIFICATION

Hacking the database via SQLi



GAINING ACCESS

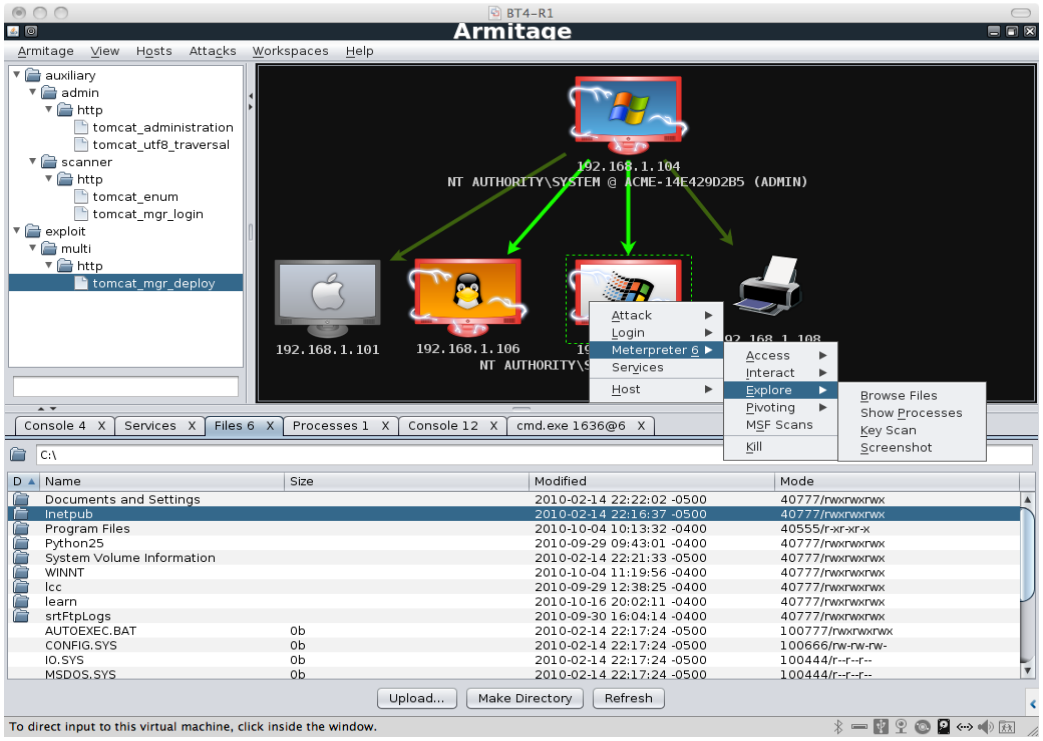
- Most of the time, a single vulnerability will not grant you access.
- Exploitation of a combination of several vulnerabilities is required to obtain the access.
- Sometimes it only takes a single vulnerability, but this is very rare.
- Exploitation frameworks and tested public exploits can be used to exploit vulnerabilities to gain access.

GAINING ACCESS

- In most situations, access is at a low privilege.
- The goal is to obtain elevated privileges.
- Taking the extra step to gain elevated privileges:
  - Local escalation vulnerabilities
  - Misconfigurations
  - Token impersonation
  - Shared credentials

GAINING ACCESS

Armitage

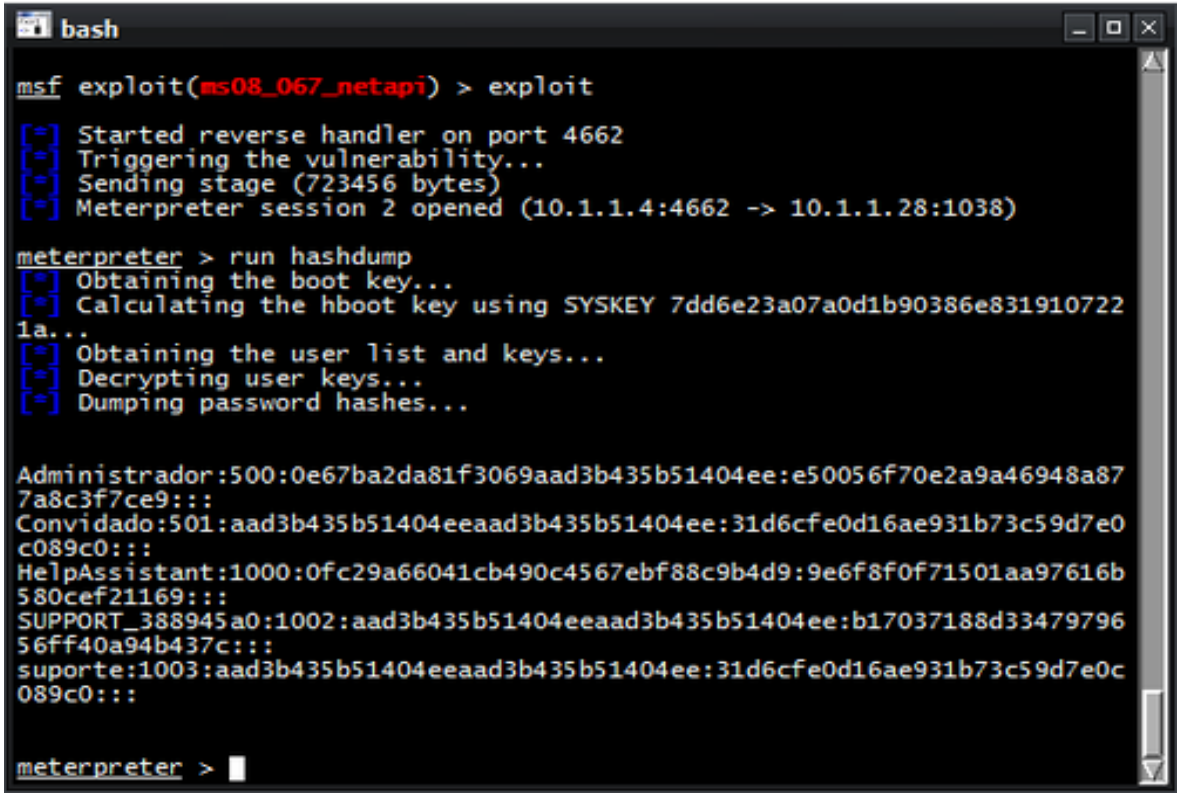


POST EXPLOITATION

- A compromised host is like a box of chocolate – you'll never know what's inside!
- Collect system credentials and hashes for offline password cracking.
- Explore the system for other loot:
  - Saved passwords
  - Documents
  - Keys
- Use keyloggers to record keystrokes.
- Install packet sniffers to sniff network traffic.

POST EXPLOITATION

Dumping Windows Hashes



POST EXPLOITATION

Installing a keylogger

```
meterpreter > ps

Process list
============

PID Name         Path
--- ----         ----
401 winlogon.exe C:\WINNT\system32\winlogon.exe

meterpreter > migrate 401

[*] Migrating to 401...
[*] Migration completed successfully.

meterpreter > keyscan_start
Starting the keystroke sniffer...

**** A few minutes later after an admin logs in ****

meterpreter > keyscan_dump
Dumping captured keystrokes...
Administrator ohnoes1vebeenh4x0red!
```

DEEPER PENETRATION

- A compromised host might have multiple networks connected to it.
- The host might be connected to other networks.
- Identify other routes and networks that are accessible from the compromised host.
- Identified hosts on the new network(s) can potentially be new targets.

DEEPER PENETRATION

Identifying new networks

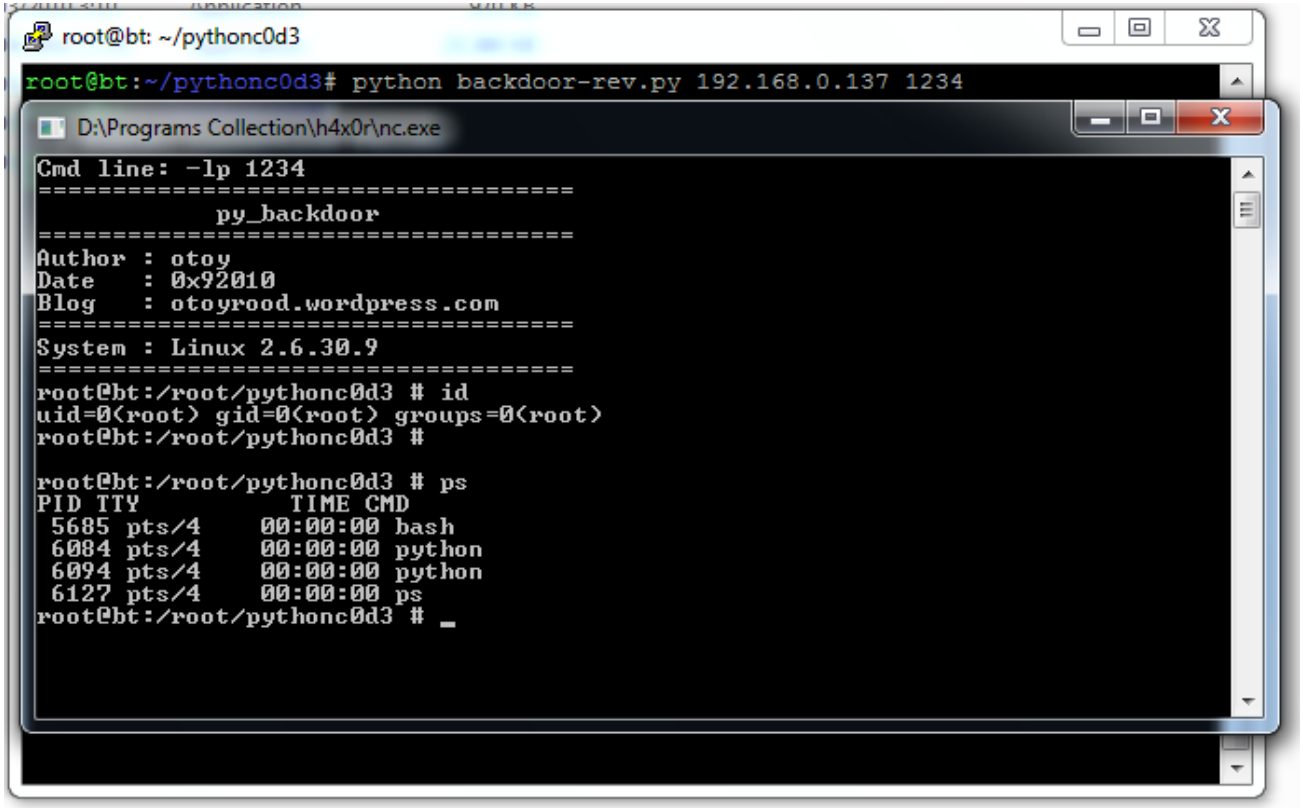
```
meterpreter > ipconfig

Interface -1
============
Name         : Intel(R) PRO/1000 MT Network Connection #2
Hardware MAC : 00:0c:29:00:dd:2d
IPv4 Address : 10.2.1.10
IPv4 Netmask : 255.255.255.0


Interface -1
============
Name         : Software Loopback Interface 1
Hardware MAC : 00:00:00:00:00:00
IPv4 Address : 127.0.0.1
IPv4 Netmask : 255.0.0.0


Interface -1
============
Name         : Intel(R) PRO/1000 MT Network Connection
Hardware MAC : 00:0c:29:00:dd:23
IPv4 Address : 172.16.184.9
IPv4 Netmask : 255.255.255.0


meterpreter >
```

MAINTAINING ACCESS

- Access can be maintained by installing back doors on compromised hosts.
- The access can later on be used for:
  - Resuming an incomplete pen test
  - Checking for keylog & network dumps
- Access can be maintained using the following methods:
  - Using covert channels
    - HTTP, SSH, ICMP tunnels, etc.
  - Using backdoors
    - Netcat, custom backdoors, system tools.
  - Using rootkits

MAINTAINING ACCESS

Python based backdoor



CLEANUP & REPORTING

- At the end of the pen test, everything has to be restored to it's original state.
- Refer to your log book for the list of changes you had made to the system.
- Ensure that you have all the evidence needed before you clean up!
- Proceed to reporting.

REVIEW

- Legal documents and other necessary arrangements must be in order before starting the pen test.
- Ensure that your tools and exploits are up-to-date.
- Keep a log book.
- Always take evidence.
- Not all vulnerability will give you access.
- Be creative and think outside the box.
- Always test exploits before deploying them against the targets.