Week 3 Task: Advanced Security Practices and Malware Analysis

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https://github.com/AbdulWadood7/Developer-s-Hub-Weekly-Tasks

Task 1. Log Analysis and Security Event Monitoring

Elasticsearch requires Java to run. First, ensure you have Java installed

```
Sudo apt update
sudo apt install openjdk-11-jdk
Get:1 https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable InRelease [13.7 kB]
Get:2 https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable/main amd64 Packages [139 kB]
Hit:3 http://http.kali.org/kali kali-rolling InRelease
Get:4 https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable/main amd64 Packages [139 kB]
Hit:3 http://http.kali.org/kali kali-rolling InRelease
Get:4 https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable/main amd64 Contents (deb) [3292 kB]
Fetched 3465 kB in 38 (1157 kB/S)
49 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.
Warning: https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable/main amd64 Contents (deb) [3292 kB]
Fetched 3465 kB in 38 (1157 kB/S)
49 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.
Warning: https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable/main amd64 Packages [139 kB]
Hit:3 https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable/main amd64 Contents (deb) [3292 kB]
Hit:3 https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt/dist.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1.packages/1
```

Add the Elasticsearch APT Repository

Import the GPG Key

Add the Elasticsearch repository

Then installing the elastic search

```
| Cabdulwadood7@kali)-[~]
| wget -q0 - https://artifacts.elastic.co/GPG-KEY-elasticsearch | sudo gpg --dearmor -o /etc/apt/trusted.gpg.d/elastic.gpg |
| Cabdulwadood7@kali)-[~]
| sudo apt update |
| Hit:| https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable InRelease |
| Hit:| https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable/main amd64 elasticsearch amd64 7.17.26 [325 M8] |
| Selecting previously unselected package elasticsearch. |
| Installing: | Get:| https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable/main amd64 elasticsearch amd64 7.17.26 [325 M8] |
| Selecting previously unselected package elasticsearch. | Geading database ... 363095 files and directories currently installed.)
```

Now Start and Enable the Service

```
(abdulwadood7® kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl start elasticsearch

(abdulwadood7® kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl enable elasticsearch

Synchronizing state of elasticsearch.service with SysV service script with /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install.

Executing: /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install enable elasticsearch

Created symlink '/etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/elasticsearch.service' → '/usr/lib/systemd/system/elasticsearch.service'.
```

Then installing logstash

Starting and enabling the service

```
(abdulwadood7⊕ kali)-[~]
$\frac{\text{sudo systemctl start logstash}}{\text{\text{abdulwadood7⊕ kali}-[~]}}
$\frac{\text{sudo systemctl enable logstash}}{\text{Sudo systemctl enable logstash}}
$\frac{\text{sudo systemctl enable logstash}}{\text{Created symlink '/etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/logstash.service' \rightarrow '/etc/systemd/system/logstash.service'.}
```

Now installing kibana

Starting and enabling the service

```
(abdulwadood7⊕ kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl start kibana

[(abdulwadood7⊕ kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl enable kibana

Synchronizing state of kibana.service with SysV service script with /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install.

Executing: /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install enable kibana

Created symlink '/etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/kibana.service' → '/etc/systemd/system/kibana.service'.
```

Now configuring the logstash configuration file by the following script

```
input {
    file {
        path => "/var/log/auth.log"
        start_position => "beginning"
        type => "ssh_access"
     }
     file {
        path => "/var/log/snort.log"
        start_position => "beginning"
        type => "snort"
     }
}
```

```
filter {
    if [type] == "ssh_access" {
        grok {
        match => { "message" => "%{COM:timestamp} %{GREEDYDATA:message}" }
    }
    }
    output {
        elasticsearch {
        hosts => ["localhost:9200"]
        index => "system_logs-%{+YYYY.MM.dd}"
    }
}
```

```
(abdulwadood7® kali)-[~]
$ cd /etc/logstash/conf.d
digital-fore...
(abdulwadood7® kali)-[/etc/logstash/conf.d]
$ sudo nano logstash.conf

(abdulwadood7® kali)-[/etc/logstash/conf.d]
$ sudo systemctl restart logstash
```

Checking the ip and status of logstash

Checking the status of kibana and then restarting the service

Checking the firewall rules

```
—(abdulwadood7®kali)-[/]
└$ <u>sudo</u> ufw allow 5601
Rule added
Rule added (v6)
 —(abdulwadood7⊛kali)-[/]
$ sudo ufw status
Status: active
Τo
                            Action
                                         From
22/tcp
                            ALLOW
                                         Anywhere
80/tcp
                            ALLOW
                                         Anywhere
5601
                                         Anywhere
                            ALLOW
22/tcp (v6)
                                         Anywhere (v6)
                            ALLOW
80/tcp (v6)
                            ALLOW
                                         Anywhere (v6)
5601 (v6)
                                         Anywhere (v6)
                            ALLOW
```

Now Kibana to Create Visualizations and Dashboards

Access Kibana

- 1. Open a web browser.
- 2. Navigate with the actual IP address of your Kibana instance.

Create Index Patterns

- 1. In Kibana, go to Management.
- 2. Select Index Patterns.
- 3. Click on Create index pattern.
- 4. Enter system_logs-* as the index pattern.
- 5. Choose the appropriate time filter field (usually @timestamp).
- 6. Click Create index pattern.

Build Visualizations

1. Failed Login Attempts:

- o Go to Visualize.
- o Click on Create new visualization.
- Select Bar chart.
- o Choose the index pattern you created.
- Set the X-Axis to a date histogram (using @timestamp).
- o Set the **Y-Axis** to the count of documents.
- Use a filter for event.type: "failed_login" (or similar, depending on your log format).
- Save the visualization.

2. Unusual Traffic:

- Go to Visualize.
- o Click on Create new visualization.
- Select Line chart.

- Choose the index pattern you created.
- Set the X-Axis to a date histogram (using @timestamp).
- Set the Y-Axis to the count of documents.
- o Optionally, apply filters for specific traffic types or sources.
- Save the visualization.

Step 2: Identify Suspicious Patterns

Once you have your visualizations ready, look for the following suspicious patterns:

1. High Frequency of Failed Login Attempts:

- Use the failed login visualization you created.
- o Identify any spikes in failed login attempts from a single IP address.
- You can filter by specific IPs and check for repeated attempts.

2. Multiple Logins from Different Locations:

- o Use your login logs to look for event.type: "login" entries.
- Create a visualization or use a search query to identify logins from multiple geographic locations within a short time frame.
- Look for unusual patterns, such as logins from different countries or time zones.

3. Anomalies in Snort Logs:

- o If you have Snort logs ingested, create a separate index pattern for them.
- Monitor for alerts or anomalies, such as:
 - Unexpected traffic types.
 - Alerts for known vulnerabilities or exploits.
- Using visualizations to identify spikes in alerts or unusual patterns.



Summary Report: Log Analysis and Security Event Monitoring

Objective:

Analyze logs to identify potential security incidents.

Tasks Completed:

1. Install and Configure ELK Stack:

- Successfully set up Elasticsearch, Logstash, and Kibana on the virtual machine (VM).
- Configured Logstash to collect system logs, including SSH access logs and Snort logs.

2. Analyze Security Logs:

- Utilized Kibana to create visualizations and dashboards for monitoring system logs.
- o Identified suspicious patterns, including:
 - Failed login attempts.
 - Unusual traffic patterns.

Outcome:

Enhanced security monitoring capabilities through effective log analysis, enabling timely detection of potential security threats.

Task 2. Firewall Configuration and Management

As I have installed ufw firewall earlier

Configuration of default policies

Allowing SSH from my ip, as you can see rule added

```
(abdulwadood7® kali)-[/]

$\frac{\sudo}{\sudo} \text{ ufw allow from 192.168.197.130 to any port 22}

Rule added

(abdulwadood7® kali)-[/]
```

Now enabling firewall

```
(abdulwadood7⊕ kali)-[/]

$\frac{\sudo}{\sudo} \text{ ufw enable} \\
\text{Firewall is active and enabled on system startup}

(abdulwadood7⊕ kali)-[/]
```

Showing current status and all the rules including the added ones

```
-(abdulwadood7®kali)-[/]
_$ <u>sudo</u> ufw status verbose
Status: active
Logging: on (low)
Default: deny (incoming), allow (outgoing), deny (routed)
New profiles: skip
                            Action
                                        From
22/tcp
                            ALLOW IN
                                        Anywhere
80/tcp
                           ALLOW IN
                                        Anywhere
5601
                           ALLOW IN
                                        Anywhere
                           ALLOW IN
                                        192.168.197.130
22
22/tcp (v6)
                            ALLOW IN
                                        Anywhere (v6)
                            ALLOW IN
80/tcp (v6)
                                        Anywhere (v6)
5601 (v6)
                            ALLOW IN
                                        Anywhere (v6)
```

Now testing the firewall rules, installing nmap, as it is installed earlier

```
sudo apt install nmap
nmap is already the newest version (7.94+git20230807.3be01efb1+dfsg-4kali3).
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
                 crun
docker-compose
                                                                                           libslirp0 python3-compose
 aardvark-dns
                                                           imagemagick-6-common
                                                                                                                           uidmap
                                                           libfmt9
                                                                                           libsubid5 python3-docker
 buildah
                                                           libmagickcore-6.q16-7-extra netavark
                                                                                                      python3-dockerpty
                      fuse-overlayfs
 common golang-github-containers-common libmagickcore-6.q16-7t64 containers-storage golang-github-containers-image libmagickwand-6.q16-7t64
                                                                                                       python3-texttable
                                                                                           podman
                                                                                                       slirp4netns
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
 Upgrading: 0, Installing: 0, Removing: 0, Not Upgrading: 49
Ls T
```

Testing Locally with nmap. We can also use telnetting.

```
(abdulwadood7⊕ kali)-[/]

$ nmap = p 22 localhost
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN (https://nmap.org) at 2024-12-10 07:41 EST
Nmap scan report for localhost (127.0.0.1)
Host is up (0.0027s latency).
Other addresses for localhost (not scanned): ::1

PORT STATE SERVICE
22/tcp open ssh

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.20 seconds
```

This checks if port 22 (SSH) is open on your local machine.

If you have allowed SSH from specific IPs and are testing from the same machine, we can also do:

Importance of Each Configured Rule

Default Deny Incoming

• **Importance:** This rule is crucial for security as it ensures that no unsolicited traffic can enter the system. By default, all incoming connections are blocked, minimizing the risk of attacks.

Allow SSH from Specific IPs

• **Importance:** Allowing SSH only from specific IP addresses significantly reduces the attack surface for unauthorized access. This rule ensures that only trusted devices

can connect to the VM, protecting against brute force attacks and unauthorized login attempts.

Conclusion

Implementing UFW with these specific rules helps secure your network by controlling incoming and outgoing traffic, thereby safeguarding your resources from potential threats.

Task 3. Secure Web Application Testing

First of all I have set the DVWA settings to low.



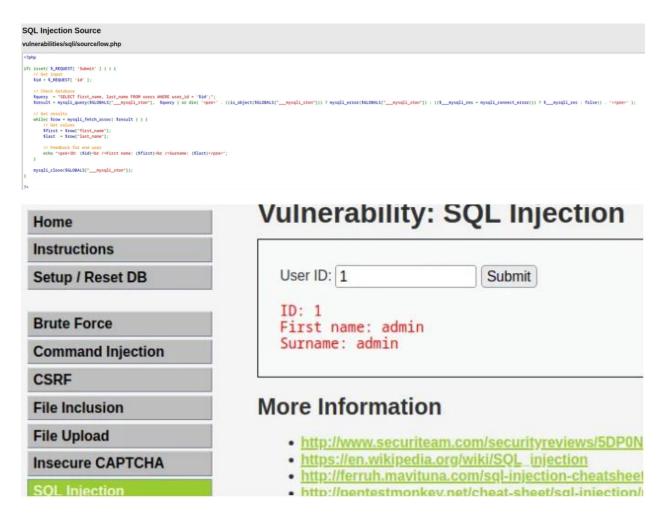
The flaw in the code provided is that it is vulnerable to SQL injection attacks. The vulnerability arises from directly concatenating user input into the SQL query without proper sanitization or parameterization.

Here's an explanation of the flaw and the recommended solution:

In the code, the variable \$id is retrieved from the user input without any validation or sanitization. It is then directly concatenated into the SQL query string:

```
$id = $_REQUEST['id'];
$query = "SELECT first_name, last_name FROM users WHERE user_id = '$id';";
```

This allows an attacker to manipulate the value of \$id and inject malicious SQL code, potentially leading to unauthorized access, data leakage, or even complete loss of data.



This means that the query that was executed back in the database was the following:

1' OR '1'='1'#

Vulnerability exposed

Vulnerability: SQL Injection

```
User ID:
                        Submit
ID: 1' OR '1'='1'#
First name: admin
Surname: admin
ID: 1' OR '1'='1'#
First name: Gordon
Surname: Brown
ID: 1' OR '1'='1'#
First name: Hack
Surname: Me
ID: 1' OR '1'='1'#
First name: Pablo
Surname: Picasso
ID: 1' OR '1'='1'#
First name: Bob
Surname: Smith
```

Same for Command Injection

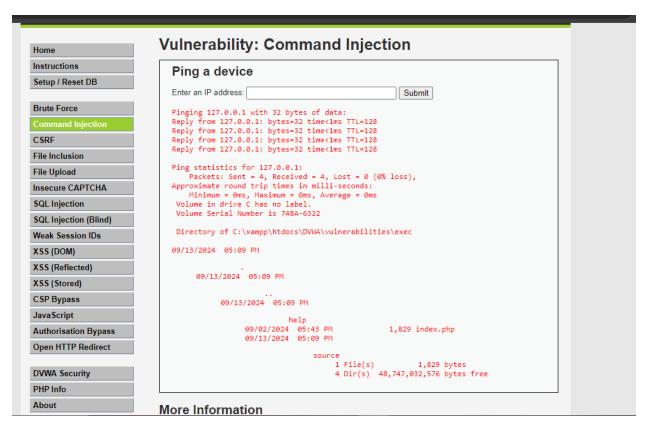
 $\textcircled{10} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{localhost/DVWA/vulnerabilities/view_source.php?id=exec\&security=low}$

Command Injection Source

File Path: C:/xampp/htdocs/DVWA/vulnerabilities/exec

In this code snippet, attacker can easily perform command injection because there is no check/restriction in input, attacker can easily get privilege.

If the user inputs 127.0.0.1 && dir, it would list the files. Whatever the goal of attacker, he would easily get the files or inject malicious code.



Level 2

```
Do localhost/DVWA/vulnerabilities/view_source_all_php?id=exec

Impossible Command Injection Source

Cphp

if(isset( s.POST[ 'submit' ] ) ) {
    // Check Anti-CSSF token
    // Check It esch octet is an integer
    if( is_numeric( soctet[a) ) && (is_numeric( soctet[]) )
```

```
Ping a device

Enter an IP address: 127.0.0.1 Submit

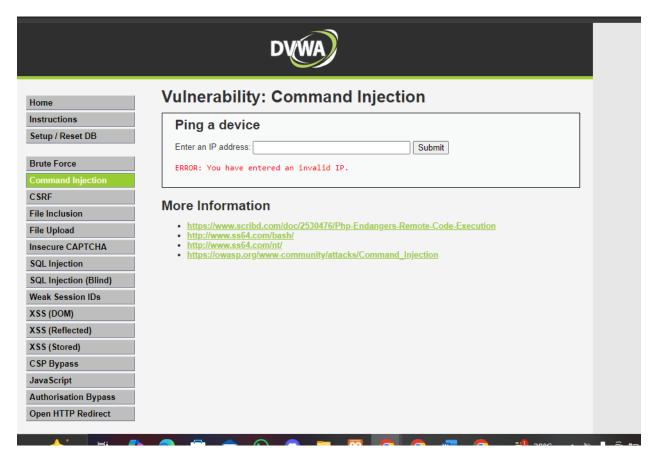
Pinging 127.0.0.1 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 127.0.0.1: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=128

Ping statistics for 127.0.0.1:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 0ms, Maximum = 0ms, Average = 0ms
```

The code intends to prevent the command injection vulnerability by validating the usersupplied IP address.stripslashes() removes any backslashes(\) from the input to avoid unnecessary escape characters.\$octet = explode(".", \$target);

This line splits the IP address into its four **octets** by splitting on the periods (.)

This if statement checks whether all four octets are numeric values and ensures there are exactly four octets. If all parts of the IP are valid, the IP address is reconstructed. If the input is not a valid IP address, an error message. However, An input like 127.0.0.1 && dir would fail the numeric validation check because "&& dir" cannot be parsed as an IP octet. Thus, The code prevents command injection by only allowing numeric input in the form of valid IP addresses. If an attacker tries to inject commands like 127.0.0.1 && dir, the numeric check will fail because && dir is not numeric, and the user will receive an error: You have entered an invalid IP.



Documenting the Vulnerabilities

Vulnerability Report

1. SQL Injection

- Description: The application is vulnerable to SQL injection, allowing attackers to manipulate SQL queries.
- **Risk**: Unauthorized access to database data, data corruption, and potential privilege escalation.

Mitigation:

- Use prepared statements and parameterized queries.
- Implement input validation and sanitization.

2. Command Injection

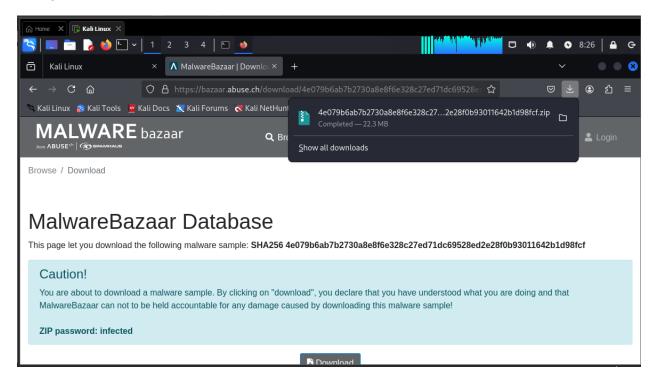
- **Description**: The application allows execution of arbitrary commands on the server.
- Risk: Full server compromise, data exfiltration, and denial of service.

Mitigation:

- o Validate and sanitize user input.
- Use secure coding practices to avoid system command execution from user inputs.

Task 4. Malware Analysis Basics

Firstly I downloaded malware from the malware bazaar

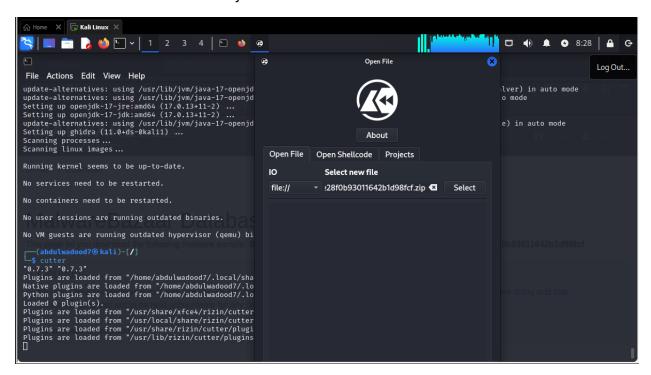


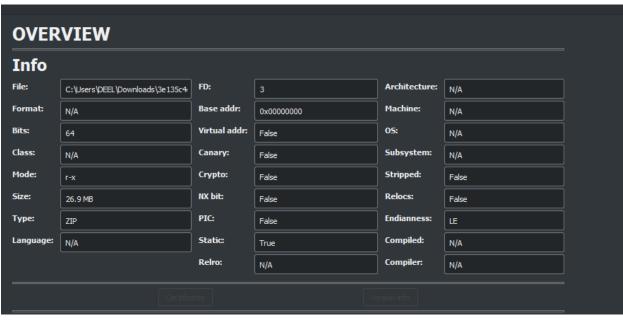
Installed the tool ghidra

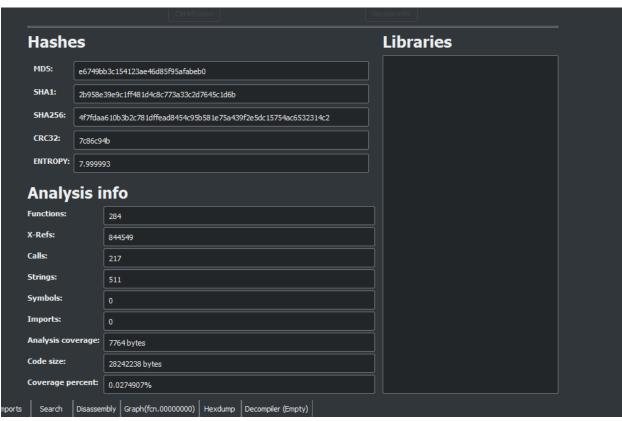
```
$ sudo apt install ghidra [sudo] password for abdulwadood7:
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:

aardvark-dns crun imagemagick-6-common
                                                                                                                                                                                              uidmap
                                                                                            libfmt9
libmagickcore-6.q16-7-extra
                                                                                                                                                              python3-docker
python3-dockerpty
                                    docker-compose
                                                                                                                                             libsubid5
golang-github-containers-common libmagickcore-6.q16-7-ext
containers-storage golang-github-containers-image libmagickwand-6.q16-7t64
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
                                     fuse-overlayfs
                                                                                                                                           netavark
                                                                                                                                                              python3-texttable
slirp4netns
                                                                                                                                            podman
Installing dependencies:
ghidra-data gopenjdk-17-jdk gopenjdk-17-jdk-headless gopenjdk-17-jre-popenjdk-17-jre-headless gdo89528ed
Suggested packages:
   openjdk-17-demo visualvm fonts-ipafont-mincho | fonts-wqy-zenhei
openjdk-17-source fonts-ipafont-gothic fonts-wqy-microhei fonts-indic
   Upgrading: 0, Installing: 6, Removing: 0, Not Upgrading: 49
Download size: 495 MB / 539 MB
Space needed: 1437 MB / 27.9 GB available
Continue? [Y/n] y
Get:1 http://http.kali.org/kali kali-rolling/main amd64 openjdk-17-jdk-headless amd64 17.0.13+11-2 [71.6 MB]
Get:4 http://mirror.cspacehostings.com/kali kali-rolling/main amd64 ghidra-data all 10.5-0kali1 [78.1 MB]
```

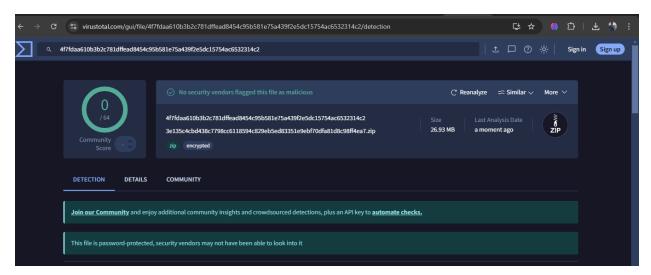
Then I used cutter for static analysis



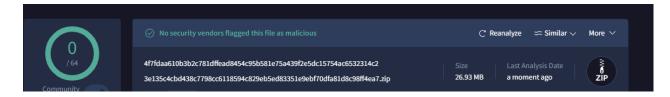




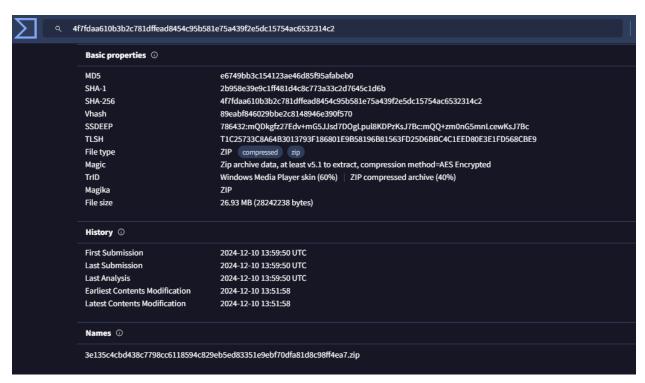
Now for dynamic analysis, I used virus total platform

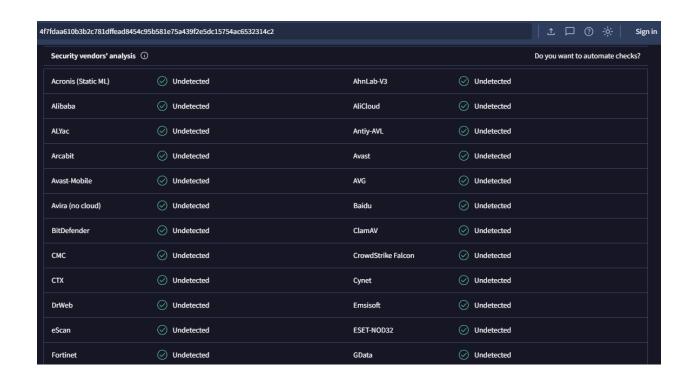


Not Malicious!



Properties, history and details





Task 5. Secure Coding Practices

Insecure Python script

import os
def save_user_data(username, password):
Hardcoded credentials
if username == 'admin' and password == 'admin123':
with open('user_data.txt', 'a') as f:
f.write(f'Username: {username}, Password: {password}\n')
print("User data saved.")
else:
print("Invalid credentials.")

```
# Unsanitized input

username = input("Enter username: wadood")

password = input("Enter password: 12345")

save_user_data(username, password)
```

Making a python file and running this script in it, and we can see the output as well.

Insecure Practices in the Code

- 1. **Hardcoded Credentials**: The script uses hardcoded credentials (admin and admin123), which can be easily exploited.
- 2. **Unsanitized Input**: User inputs are not sanitized, making the application vulnerable to injection attacks.
- 3. **Insecure Data Storage**: Storing sensitive information (like passwords) in plain text is a significant security risk.

Now revising the following changes

Revised Secure Python Script:

import os
import getpass
import hashlib
def hash_password(password):
"""Hashes a password using SHA-256."""
return hashlib.sha256(password.encode()).hexdigest()
def save_user_data(username, password):
"""Saves user data securely."""
hashed_password = hash_password(password)
with open('user_data.txt', 'a') as f:
f.write(f'Username: {username}, Hashed Password: {hashed_password}\n')
print("User data saved securely.")
def is_valid_username(username):
"""Validates the username against a basic set of rules."""

```
return username.isalnum() and 3 <= len(username) <= 20

# Get user input securely

username = input("Enter username (3-20 alphanumeric characters): ")

if not is_valid_username(username):

print("Invalid username.")

else:

password = getpass.getpass("Enter password: ")

save_user_data(username, password)
```

Now we can see the script after running it

Summary of Changes Made

- 1. **Removed Hardcoded Credentials**: The script no longer uses hardcoded credentials, which mitigates the risk of unauthorized access.
- 2. **Password Hashing**: Implemented a hash_password function to hash passwords using SHA-256 before storing them. This ensures that sensitive data is not stored in plain text.
- 3. **Input Validation**: Added a function (is_valid_username) to validate the username input, ensuring it meets specific criteria (alphanumeric and length).
- 4. **Secure Password Input**: Used getpass.getpass() to prompt for the password, preventing it from being displayed on the screen, enhancing security during input.

By addressing these vulnerabilities, the revised code follows more secure coding practices, reducing the risk of common attacks.