

Data Integrity

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client.py

Intercepted Data:

A legitimate message ("amount=100&to=alice") and its HMAC (intercepted_mac) are captured.

Attacker's Goal:

Append malicious data (e.g. "&admin=true") to the message without knowing the secret key used in the HMAC.

Key Assumption:

The attacker assumes the secret key is of a certain length (key_length = 14).

The attack only works if the guessed length is correct.

Attack Execution:

Uses hashpumpy.hashpump() to generate:

A forged message: original + padding + malicious data

A forged MAC for the new message

Verification:

The forged message and MAC are passed to the server's verify() function.

If the server accepts them, the attack succeeded.

```
C: > Users > User > Documents > client.py > ...
1  import hashpumpy # type: ignore
2  import server    # Assuming server.py has the 'verify' function
3
4  def perform_attack():
5      # Step 1: Intercepted values from the server
6      intercepted_message = b"amount=100&to=alice" # Original message intercepted
7      intercepted_mac = "614d28d808af46d3702fe35fae67267c" # Original MAC from server.py output
8
9      # Step 2: Malicious data to append
10     data_to_append = b"&admin=true" # Attack data
11
12     # Step 3: Key length (this should match the secret key length used in the server)
13     key_length = 14 # Adjust based on the server's secret key length
14
15     # Step 4: Perform length extension attack using hashpumpy
16     result = hashpumpy.hashpump(intercepted_mac, intercepted_message, data_to_append, key_length)
17     forged_mac = result[0]
18     forged_message = result[1] # Already bytes, no need to encode
19
20     # Step 5: Extract forged MAC and message
21
22     # Print forged message and MAC
23     print("=== Attacker Simulation ===")
24     print("Forged message:", forged_message)
25     print("Forged MAC:", forged_mac)
26
27     # Step 6: Use server's verify function to check if the forged MAC is valid
28     if server.verify(forged_message, forged_mac):
29         print("MAC verified successfully (attack succeeded!)")
30     else:
31         print("MAC verification failed (attack failed)")
32
33 if __name__ == "__main__":
34     perform_attack()
35
```

Steps 1 to 4

```
def perform_attack():  
    # Step 1: Intercepted values from the server  
    intercepted_message = b"amount=100&to=alice" # Original message intercepted  
    intercepted_mac = "614d28d808af46d3702fe35fae67267c" # Original MAC from server.py output  
  
    # Step 2: Malicious data to append  
    data_to_append = b"&admin=true" # Attack data  
  
    # Step 3: Key length (this should match the secret key length used in the server)  
    key_length = 14 # Adjust based on the server's secret key length  
  
    # Step 4: Perform length extension attack using hashpumpy  
    result = hashpumpy.hashpump(intercepted_mac, intercepted_message, data_to_append, key_length)  
    forged_mac = result[0]  
    forged_message = result[1] # Already bytes, no need to encode
```

Step 1: Intercept original message and MAC

- *The attacker captures a valid message and its MAC from a real request.*

•Step 2: Prepare malicious data to append

- The attacker defines new data they want to add to the message.*

•Step 3: Guess the secret key length

- The attacker makes an educated guess about how long the secret key is.*

- This guess is important for the attack to succeed.*

•Step 4: Run the length extension attack

- Using hashpumpy, the attacker creates:*

- A new forged message (original + padding + malicious data)*
- A new forged MAC that looks valid*

Step5 and 6

Step 5: Display forged data

The attacker prints the results of the attack:

- *forged_message: the new message (original + padding + &admin=true)*
- *forged_mac: the fake MAC that was generated using hashpumpy*

Step 6: Test if the attack worked

- *This line asks the server to verify the forged message and MAC.*
- *If the server accepts them, the attack was successful.*
- *If not, the attack failed (probably due to incorrect key length).*

```
# Step 5: Extract forged MAC and message

# Print forged message and MAC
print("=== Attacker Simulation ===")
print("Forged message:", forged_message)
print("Forged MAC:", forged_mac)

# Step 6: Use server's verify function to check if the forged MAC is valid
if server.verify(forged_message, forged_mac):
    print("MAC verified successfully (attack succeeded!)")
else:
    print("MAC verification failed (attack failed)")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    perform_attack()
```

client_mitg.py

To demonstrate that a server using insecure MAC generation (e.g., raw SHA256(secret + message)) can be tricked into accepting a tampered message with a valid MAC, using only the original message and MAC.

- *The attack exploits weaknesses in hash functions like MD5 or SHA1 when used improperly in MAC construction.*
- *Proper use of HMAC (Hash-based Message Authentication Code) prevents such attacks.*
- *The attacker must guess the secret key length correctly for the attack to work*

```
C:\Users\User> Documents > client_mitg.py > ...
1 import hashpumpy # type: ignore
2 import server_mitg # Assuming server.py has the 'verify' function
3
4 def perform_attack():
5     # Step 1: Intercepted values from the server
6     intercepted_message = b"amount=100&to=alice" # Original message intercepted
7     intercepted_mac = "a86f897948d15c923c1f77133e805c707ca4fa752e3960efde47d618425027d5" # Original MAC from server_mitg.py output
8
9     # Step 2: Malicious data to append
10    data_to_append = b"&admin=true" # Attack data
11
12    # Step 3: Key length (this should match the secret key length used in the server)
13    key_length = 14 # Adjust based on the server's secret key length
14
15    # Step 4: Perform length extension attack using hashpumpy
16    result = hashpumpy.hashpump(intercepted_mac, intercepted_message, data_to_append, key_length)
17    forged_mac = result[0]
18    forged_message = result[1] # Already bytes, no need to encode
19
20    # Step 5: Extract forged MAC and message
21
22    # Print forged message and MAC
23    print("=== Attacker Simulation ===")
24    print("Forged message:", forged_message)
25    print("Forged MAC:", forged_mac)
26
27    # Step 6: Use server's verify function to check if the forged MAC is valid
28    if server_mitg.verify(forged_message, forged_mac):
29        print("MAC verified successfully (attack succeeded!)")
30    else:
31        print("MAC verification failed (attack failed)")
32
33 if __name__ == "__main__":
34     perform_attack()
35
```

Steps 1 to 4

- *Step 1: Intercepted values from the server*
- *The attacker captures the original message (amount=100&to=alice) and its corresponding MAC from the server.*
- *These are necessary to craft a forged message.*

Step 2: Malicious data to append

- *The attacker defines extra data (&admin=true) they want to add to the original message to escalate privileges.*

Step 3: Key length

- *The attacker guesses the length of the secret key used by the server in the MAC.*
- *This guess must be correct for the attack to work.*

Step 4: Perform length extension attack using hashpumpy

- *The attacker uses hashpumpy.hashpump to generate:*
 - *A forged MAC valid for the extended message.*
 - *A forged message consisting of the original message plus padding and the malicious appended data*

Step 5: Print forged message and MAC

- *The forged message and forged MAC are printed for inspection.*
- *This shows the attacker's modified message and its new valid MAC.*

Step 6: Verify forged MAC using the server's function

- *The forged message and MAC are sent to the server's verify() function.*
- *If verification passes, the attack succeeded; otherwise, it failed*

server.py

- **Secret key:**

A 14-byte secret key (b'supersecretkey') is defined but unknown to attackers.

- **MAC generation (generate_mac):**

The MAC is computed by hashing the concatenation of the secret key and the message

- **MAC verification (verify):**

The server recalculates the MAC for the received message and compares it to the provided MAC.

If they match, the message is considered authentic.

- **Simulation in main():**

The server generates a MAC for an original message (b"amount=100&to=alice").

It verifies this original message successfully.

Then, a forged message is created by appending &admin=true to the original message.

The attacker naïvely reuses the original MAC to verify the forged message.

Verification fails as expected, showing that the server rejects this tampered message if no length extension attack is done.

```
C:\Users\User\Documents> server.py > ...
4 import hashlib
5
6 SECRET_KEY = b'supersecretkey' #14 byte Unknown to attacker
7 print(len(b'supersecretkey'))
8 def generate_mac(message: bytes) -> str:
9     return hashlib.md5(SECRET_KEY + message).hexdigest()
10
11 def verify(message: bytes, mac: str ) -> bool:
12     expected_mac = generate_mac(message)
13     return mac == expected_mac
14
15 def main():
16     # Example message
17     message = b"amount=100&to=alice"
18     mac = generate_mac(message)
19
20     print("=== Server Simulation ===")
21     print(f"Original message: {message}")
22     print(f"MAC: {mac}")
23     print("\n-- Verifying legitimate message ---")
24     if verify(message, mac):
25         print("MAC verified successfully. Message is authentic.\n")
26
27     # Simulated attacker-forged message
28     forged_message = b"amount=100&to=alice" + b"&admin=true"
29     forged_mac = mac # Attacker provides same MAC (initially)
30
31     print("--- Verifying forged message ---")
32     if verify(forged_message, forged_mac):
33         print("MAC verified successfully (unexpected).")
34     else:
35         print("MAC verification failed (as expected).")
36
37 if __name__ == "__main__":
38     main()
```

server_mitg.py

- Secret key:

A 14-byte secret key (b'supersecretkey') is used to sign messages.

The key is unknown to the attacker.

- MAC generation (generate_mac):

The MAC is generated using Python's hmac module with SHA-256:

`<hmac.new(SECRET_KEY, message, hashlib.sha256).hexdigest() >`

This method securely combines the key and message to prevent vulnerabilities.

- MAC verification (verify):

Recomputes the MAC on the received message and compares it with the provided MAC.

Returns True if they match, indicating authenticity.

- Simulation in main():

Generates a MAC for the original message "amount=100&to=alice".

Verifies the original message successfully.

Attempts to verify a forged message with appended data "&admin=true" but using the original MAC.

Verification fails, showing the system correctly detects tampering.

```
C: > Users > User > Documents > server_mitg.py > ...
1  import hmac
2  import hashlib
3
4  SECRET_KEY = b'supersecretkey' # 14 byte Unknown to attacker
5
6  def generate_mac(message: bytes) -> str:
7      # Using HMAC with SHA-256
8      return hmac.new(SECRET_KEY, message, hashlib.sha256).hexdigest()
9
10 def verify(message: bytes, mac: str) -> bool:
11     expected_mac = generate_mac(message)
12     return mac == expected_mac
13
14 def main():
15     # Example message
16     message = b"amount=100&to=alice"
17     mac = generate_mac(message)
18
19     print("=== Server Simulation ===")
20     print(f"Original message: {message.decode()}")
21     print(f"MAC: {mac}")
22     print("\n--- Verifying legitimate message ---")
23     if verify(message, mac):
24         print("MAC verified successfully. Message is authentic.\n")
25
26     # Simulated attacker-forged message
27     forged_message = b"amount=100&to=alice" + b"&admin=true"
28     forged_mac = mac # Attacker provides same MAC (initially)
29
30     print("--- Verifying forged message ---")
31     if verify(forged_message, forged_mac):
32         print("MAC verified successfully (unexpected).")
33     else:
34         print("MAC verification failed (as expected).")
35
```


server_mitg.py

```
C:\Users\User\Documents> server_mitg.py ...
36 if __name__ == "__main__":
37     main()
38 import hmac
39 import hashlib
40
41 SECRET_KEY = b'supersecretkey' # 14 byte Unknown to attacker
42
43 def generate_mac(message: bytes) -> str:
44     # Using HMAC with SHA-256
45     return hmac.new(SECRET_KEY, message, hashlib.sha256).hexdigest()
46
47 def verify(message: bytes, mac: str) -> bool:
48     expected_mac = generate_mac(message)
49     return mac == expected_mac
50
51 def main():
52     # Example message
53     message = b"amount=100&to=alice"
54     mac = generate_mac(message)
55
56     print("=== Server Simulation ===")
57     print(f"Original message: {message.decode()}")
58     print(f"MAC: {mac}")
59     print("\n--- Verifying legitimate message ---")
60     if verify(message, mac):
61         print("MAC verified successfully. Message is authentic.\n")
62
63     # Simulated attacker-forged message
64     forged_message = b"amount=100&to=alice" + b"&admin=true"
65     forged_mac = mac # Attacker provides same MAC (initially)
66
67     print("\n--- Verifying forged message ---")
68     if verify(forged_message, forged_mac):
69         print("MAC verified successfully (unexpected).")
70     else:
71         print("MAC verification failed (as expected).")
72
```

This Python script simulates the generation and verification of a Message Authentication Code (MAC) using HMAC with SHA-256, which is a secure method to verify message integrity and authenticity.

Key points:

Secret key (SECRET_KEY) is used to generate the MAC and is unknown to any attacker.

MAC generation is done securely with `hmac.new()` using SHA-256.

The verify function recalculates the MAC for a given message and checks if it matches the provided MAC.

The script tests two cases:

Legitimate message: The original message and MAC match, so verification succeeds.

Forged message: The message is altered by appending `&admin=true`, but the attacker uses the original MAC. Verification fails, demonstrating the security of HMAC.

†

