

Bug 1189684 (CVE-2021-23239) VUL-0: CVE-2021-23239: sudo: Possible Dir Existence Test due to Race Condition in `sdoedit`

Status: RESOLVED FIXED

Classification: Novell Products

Product: SUSE Security Incidents

Component: Incidents

Version: unspecified

Hardware: Other Other

Priority: P3 - MediumSeverity: Normal

Target Milestone: ---

Assigned To: Security Team bot

QA Contact: Security Team bot

URL: [none]

Whiteboard: CVSSv3.1:SUSE:CVE-2021-23239:2.5(AV:...

Keywords:

Depends on:

Blocks:

Create test case

Clone This Bug

Reported: 2021-01-08 09:27 UTC by Matthias Gerstner

Modified: 2021-10-14 07:28 UTC (History)

CC List: 7 users (show)

See Also:

Found By: ---

Services Priority:

Business Priority:

Blocker: ---

Show dependency tree / graph

Attachments

[Add an attachment](#) (proposed patch, testcase, etc.)

Note

You need to [log in](#) before you can comment on or make changes to this bug.

Matthias Gerstner 2021-01-08 09:27:14 UTC

Description

Tracking for item c) in [bug 1177799](#). This is still embargoed but will be published somewhen next week with sudo 1.9.5.

c) Possible Dir Existence Test due to Race Condition in `sdoedit`

The `sdoedit` personality by default wants to prevent that the edited file is in any way under control of an unprivileged user. This logic is rooted in `sudo_edit_open()` / `sudo_edit_open_nonwritable()`. It follows the complete file path from The file system root downwards and avoids symlinks in directories that are writable by unprivileged users.

There is a corner case, however, when the target file does not exist yet. This is handled in `sudo_edit.c:545`. `errno` will be set to `ENOENT`, because the file didn't exist yet. Now the code checks the parent directory of the path for existence and whether it is a directory. If this is both true then the edit operation continues in the expectation that later on a new file will be created. The check is done using `stat()`, however, thus if the parent directory is under control of the unprivileged user, it can try to win a race condition and place an arbitrary symlink at the parent directory location just in time for the check in `sudo_edit.c:549` to succeed.

This means the precondition covered in `sudo_edit.c:576` is no longer true ("editing files in a writable directory is not permitted"). As far as I can see this only allows an attacker to test for existence of directories in arbitrary locations, if the target user is root, because `sdoedit` behaves differently if the link target exists and is a directory, or if it doesn't exist or isn't a directory. It *cannot* be used to write to arbitrary locations, because the write operation happens in `sudo_edit.c:1043` via `sudo_edit_copy_tfiles()`, which uses `sudo_edit_open()`, this time with `O_CREAT` to open the target file. This will not follow a symlink this time.

Example: A regular user 'testuser' is for some reason allowed to edit the file /home/testuser/subdir/file with root privileges and without password entry.

```
...
sudoedit ~/subdir/file
...
```

Initially ~/subdir is empty or doesn't exist. The logic in `sudo_edit.c:545` will come into play. 'testuser' wins the race to create a symlink:

```
...
ln -s /root/.gnupg ~/subdir
..
```

If /root/.gnupg exists then `sdoedit` will now open the editor, if it doesn't exist it will fail with

```
...
sudoedit: /home/testuser/subdir/file: No such file or directory
...
```

Matthias Gerstner 2021-01-08 10:04:50 UTC

Comment 1

I have looked into the maintained codestreams. Factory, SLE-15 and SLE-12 based codestreams are all equally affected and have similar code in this spot.

SLE-11 based code already has sdoedit functionality, but the whole logic to check the parent directories of the target path is not existing yet. This means SLE-11 based codestreams could have a bunch of issues in this area if

the target path is somehow under control of the invoking user. This would be difficult to fix there.

Matthias Gerstner 2021-01-11 13:21:11 UTC

The bugfixes have been published now by upstream. The fixing commit is 12799:ea19d0073c02. Please provide submissions for affected codestreams.

Comment 2

Swamp Workflow Management 2021-01-26 23:16:14 UTC

SUSE-SU-2021:0226-1: An update that solves three vulnerabilities and has one errata is now available.

Category: security (important)
Bug References: 1180684,1180685,1180687,1181090
CVE References: CVE-2021-23239,CVE-2021-23240,CVE-2021-3156
JIRA References:
Sources used:
SUSE OpenStack Cloud Crowbar 9 (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE OpenStack Cloud Crowbar 8 (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE OpenStack Cloud 9 (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE OpenStack Cloud 8 (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP 12-SP4 (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP 12-SP3 (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12-SP4-LTSS (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12-SP3-LTSS (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12-SP3-BCL (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
SUSE Enterprise Storage 5 (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1
HPE Helion Openstack 8 (src): sudo-1.8.20p2-3.20.1

NOTE: This line indicates an update has been released for the listed product(s). At times this might be only a partial fix. If you have questions please reach out to maintenance coordination.

Comment 5

Swamp Workflow Management 2021-01-26 23:17:45 UTC

SUSE-SU-2021:0227-1: An update that solves three vulnerabilities and has one errata is now available.

Category: security (important)
Bug References: 1180684,1180685,1180687,1181090
CVE References: CVE-2021-23239,CVE-2021-23240,CVE-2021-3156
JIRA References:
Sources used:
SUSE Manager Server 4.0 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Manager Retail Branch Server 4.0 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Manager Proxy 4.0 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP 15-SP1 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP 15 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15-SP1-LTSS (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15-SP1-BCL (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15-LTSS (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Module for Basesystem 15-SP3 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Module for Basesystem 15-SP2 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Module for Basesystem 15-SP1 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise High Performance Computing 15-SP1-LTSS (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise High Performance Computing 15-SP1-ESPOS (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise High Performance Computing 15-LTSS (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise High Performance Computing 15-ESPOS (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE Enterprise Storage 6 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1
SUSE CaaS Platform 4.0 (src): sudo-1.8.22-4.15.1

NOTE: This line indicates an update has been released for the listed product(s). At times this might be only a partial fix. If you have questions please reach out to maintenance coordination.

Comment 6

Swamp Workflow Management 2021-01-26 23:19:04 UTC

SUSE-SU-2021:0225-1: An update that solves three vulnerabilities and has one errata is now available.

Category: security (important)
Bug References: 1180684,1180685,1180687,1181090
CVE References: CVE-2021-23239,CVE-2021-23240,CVE-2021-3156
JIRA References:
Sources used:
SUSE Linux Enterprise Software Development Kit 12-SP5 (src): sudo-1.8.27-4.6.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12-SP5 (src): sudo-1.8.27-4.6.1

NOTE: This line indicates an update has been released for the listed product(s). At times this might be only a partial fix. If you have questions please reach out to maintenance coordination.

Comment 7

Swamp Workflow Management 2021-01-27 11:15:42 UTC

openSUSE-SU-2021:0170-1: An update that solves three vulnerabilities and has one errata is now available.

Category: security (important)
Bug References: 1180684,1180685,1180687,1181090
CVE References: CVE-2021-23239,CVE-2021-23240,CVE-2021-3156
JIRA References:
Sources used:
openSUSE Leap 15.2 (src): sudo-1.8.22-lp152.8.6.1

Comment 8

Swamp Workflow Management 2021-01-27 11:17:00 UTC

openSUSE-SU-2021:0169-1: An update that solves three vulnerabilities and has one errata is now available.

Category: security (important)
Bug References: 1180684,1180685,1180687,1181090
CVE References: CVE-2021-23239,CVE-2021-23240,CVE-2021-3156
JIRA References:
Sources used:
openSUSE Leap 15.1 (src): sudo-1.8.22-lp151.5.12.1

Comment 9

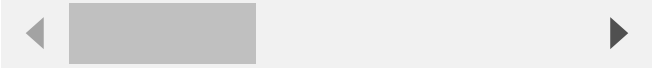
SUSE-SU-2021:0232-1: An update that fixes two vulnerabilities is now available.

Category: security (important)
Bug References: 1180684,1181090
CVE References: CVE-2021-23239,CVE-2021-3156
JIRA References:
Sources used:
SUSE OpenStack Cloud 7 (src): sudo-1.8.10p3-10.29.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for SAP 12-SP2 (src): sudo-1.8.10p3-10.29.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12-SP2-LTSS (src): sudo-1.8.10p3-10.29.1
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12-SP2-BCL (src): sudo-1.8.10p3-10.29.1

NOTE: This line indicates an update has been released for the listed product(s). At times this might be only a partial fix. If you have questions please reach out to maintenance coordination.

would SLE11 sudo versions also be affected?

(In reply to [yuliu@suse.com](#) from [comment #13](#))
> Please confirm whether sudo-1.8.10p3-10.29.1.x86_64 is successfully repaired. The



You may have posted in the wrong bug. Where does this reproducer come from?

Should be done reassigning to security to close

done