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Python API IProcess read() problem

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Python API IProcess read() problem

by **hoverflow** » 24. Feb 2015, 04:17

I have a problem using Python VBOX API when it comes to create a process and read from stdout.
The problem is that when I create a process and execute the command, the process doesn't terminate. I have to set a time limit but this is a problem since even if the process I create takes only 1 sec, it will last until this time limit pass because the process doesnt terminate.

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```
     #Connect to the current guest VM and return guestSession object on success or -1
on fail
    def _connectToGuest(self, machine):
        guest = self.session.console.guest
        #Creating session with the guest VM

        guestSession = ""
        if (machine == cons.ATTACKER):
            guestSession = guest.createSession(self.attackerUser, self.attackerPass,
"", "")
        elif (machine == cons.DEFENDER):
            guestSession = guest.createSession(self.defenderUser, self.defenderPass,
"", "")
```

```
        result = guestSession.waitFor(1, cons.GuestSessionConnectionTimeout)
        if (result != 1):
            print result
            self._printFail("Connecting to guest VM...")
            return -1
        else:
            self._printSuccess("Connecting to guest VM...")
            return guestSession


    #Lock the given machine to the current session

    def _lockMachine (self, machine, mode):
        if (machine == cons.DEFENDER):
            self.defenderMachine = self.vbox.findMachine(self.defenderMachineName)
            self.defenderMachine.lockMachine(self.session, mode)
        elif (machine == cons.ATTACKER):
            self.attackerMachine = self.vbox.findMachine(self.attackerMachineName)
            self.attackerMachine.lockMachine(self.session, mode)
        else:
            self._printFail("Locking machine...")
            return -1
        return 0

def runScript(self, machine, scriptURL, args):
        #Lock given machine to the current session

        lock = self._lockMachine(machine, cons.LockType_Shared)
        if (lock == 0):
            guestSession = self._connectToGuest(machine)
            if (guestSession != -1):
                guestProcess = guestSession.processCreate("/bin/sh", [scriptURL,
args[0], args[1]], [], [5], 0)
                result = guestProcess.waitFor(2, 3000)
                data = guestProcess.read(1, 1000000, 100000)
                result = guestProcess.waitFor(2, 3000)
                print data
                print guestProcess.status
                print result
                #Close guest session

                guestSession.close()
                #Unlock machine

                self.session.unlockMachine()
            else:
                #Unlock machine

                self.session.unlockMachine()
```

I just want to wait until the process terminate and I get all the data from stdout. But when i wait for process termination it lasts forever!! Any ideas?

[hoverflow](#)

Posts: 4
Joined: 24. Feb 2015, 02:37

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Re: Python API IProcess read() problem

by **hoverflow** » 24. Feb 2015, 04:47

I forgot to mention that I came around that problem by letting the script(that is supposed to run on guestVM) to print "done" at the end. So each time in a while loop, I waitFor 1 sec and try to read data from stdout if the last 4 chars are "done", then don't wait anymore and kill the process. Although, It's not a good solution, I thought its worth mentioning.

hoverflow

Posts: 4
Joined: 24. Feb 2015, 02:37

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Re: Python API IProcess read() problem

by **noteirak** » 24. Feb 2015, 23:39

It's tricky and not will documented.
Please check my Java code sample - it waits for process termination and read Stdout. Let me know if it is not clear and I can explain a bit more if needed.
It should work out of the box under Python if you simply replace names with their python equivalent.
Hyperbox - Virtual Infrastructure Manager - https://kamax.io/hbox/
Manage your VirtualBox infrastructure the free way!

noteirak
Site Moderator

Posts: 5135
Joined: 13. Jan 2012, 11:14
Primary OS: Debian other
VBox Version: OSE Debian
Guest OSses: Debian, Win 2k8, Win 7

- Website

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