A Growing Mongo Problem

Ming Chow

Email: mchow@cs.tufts.edu

Twitter: @0xmchow

MongoDB Use in the Present

- News websites. Examples: Business Insider (http://www.businessinsider.com/), The Guardian UK (http://www.slideshare.net/tackers/why-we-chose-mongodb-for-guardiancouk)
- Massively Multiplayer Online Games (MMORPGs): EA's FIFA Online 3 (http://www.mongodb.com/blog/post/ea-scores-mongodb-based-fifa-online-3)
- Countless companies including Adobe, Craigslist, Dropbox, eBay, MetLife (http://www.mongodb.com/mongodb-scale)

MongoDB Use in the Future

- The Internet of Things (IoT)
 - Embedded devices
 - For real-time data from sensors, connected devices
 - References:
 - http://www.mongodb.com/use-cases/internet-of-things
 - http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2014/07/01/mongodb-oracle-battle-of-the-databases-google-internet-of-things/11305863/
 - http://blogs.wsj.com/cio/2014/06/24/expect-internet-of-things-to-bring-new-datademands-mongodb-ceo/

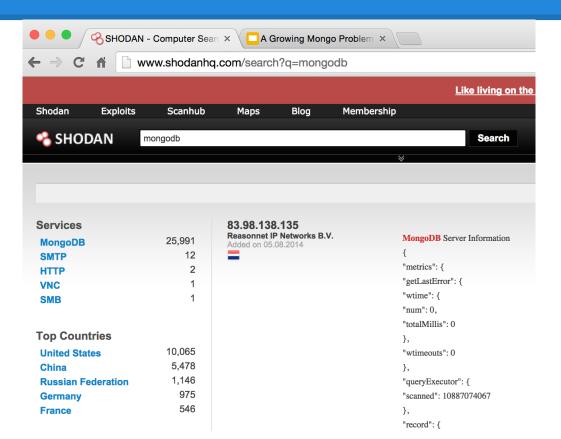
Why Target MongoDBs?

- For the enormous amount of data stored.
- Naive developers and administrators => they hardly care about security; defaults are almost never changed
 - Learning curve of using MongoDB is low
- 10Gen is oblivious to security issues: "...We were on with...the MongoDB guys talking about the security of the platform, and...it was really clear that they just didn't care, because their customers weren't asking for it." Rich Mogull, Security Weekly Podcast Episode 345

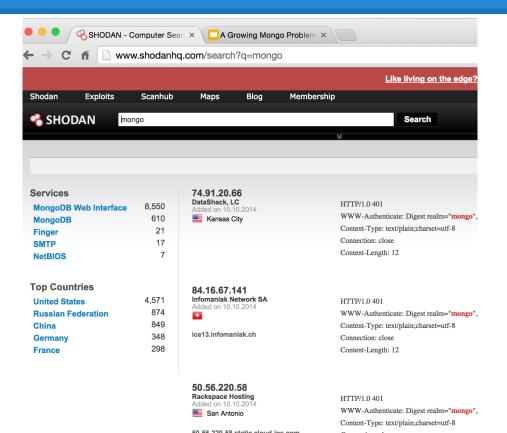
The Reality of MongoDB and Security: It Is That Bad

- "Just walk in"
- No authentication out-of-the-box
- Lots of blind trust
 - User input
 - Connections from other computers
- No encryption used for data or for transmission of data from server to client by default

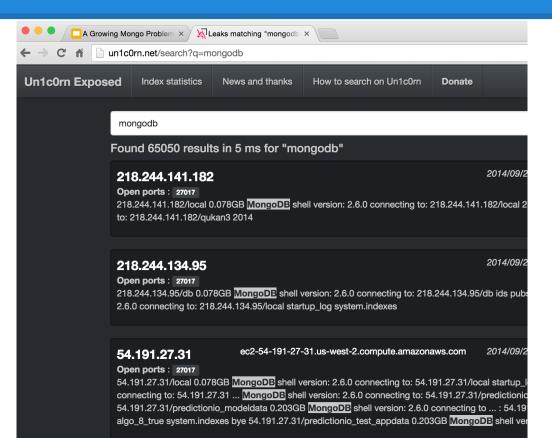
On SHODAN



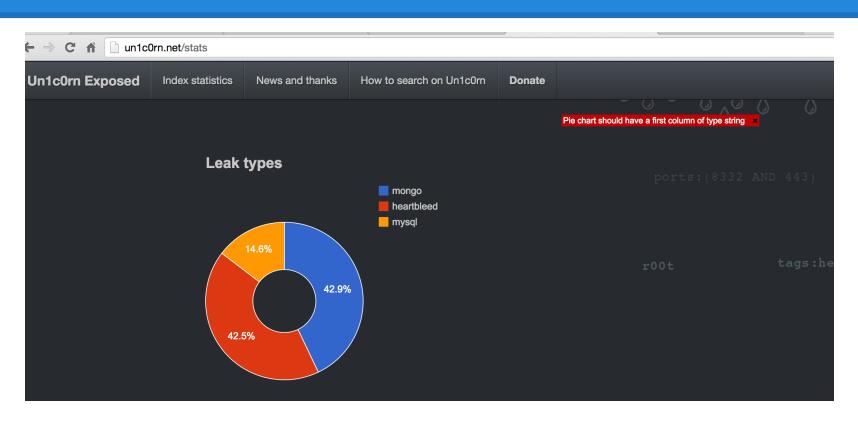
On SHODAN (continued)



On Project Un1c0rn (http://un1c0rn.net/)



On Project Un1c0rn (continued)



On the Application Side

Classes of Injection Attacks

- 1. **Query**: creating unsafe queries via string concatentation
- 2. **Schema**: inserting a record into a schema that does not exist will automatically create the new schema
- 3. JavaScript: \$where, db.eval() take in JavaScript functions as parameters

Russell Butturini's NoSQLMap

- http://www.nosqlmap.net/
- Automates injection attacks and exploit default configuration
- Supports MongoDB and now also CouchDB
- Notable features on MongoDB:
 - Database enumeration and cloning attacks
 - Extracts database names, users, and password hashes
 - Scans subnets or IP lists for MongoDB databases with default access and enumerating versions
 - Dictionary and brute force password cracking of recovered MongoDB hashes

```
1-Set target host/IP (Current:
2-Set web app port (Current: 80)
3-Set App Path (Current: Not Set)
4-Toggle HTTPS (Current: OFF)
5-Set MongoDB Port (Current : 27017)
6-Set HTTP Request Method (GET/POST) (Current: GET)
7-Set my local MongoDB/Shell IP (Current: Not Set)
8-Set shell listener port (Current: Not Set)
9-Togale Verbose Mode: (Current: ON)
0-Load options file
a-Load options from saved Burp request
b-Save options file
 -Back to main menu
Select an option: x
NoSQLMap-v0.5
nosqlmap@gmail.com
1-Set options
2-NoSQL DB Access Attacks
3-NoSQL Web App attacks
4-Scan for Anonymous MongoDB Access
5-Change Platform (Current: MongoDB)
x-Exit
Select an option: 2
DB Access attacks (MongoDB)
Checking to see if credentials are needed...
Successful access with no credentials!
```

Now What?

- What I underestimated: the flexibility and scaling of MongoDB.
- With the growing concerns of security of the "Internet of Things", this only adds fuel to the fire.
- The future is ripe for attackers.

References

- Chow, M. "Abusing NoSQL Databases" DEF CON 21, Las Vegas, NV <u>https://www.defcon.org/images/defcon-21/dc-21-</u> <u>presentations/Chow/DEFCON-21-Chow-Abusing-NoSQL-Databases.pdf</u>
- Butterini, R. "Making Mongo Cry: NoSQL for Penetration Testers"
 DerbyCon 2014, Louisville, KY http://slideplayer.us/slide/2510942/, Video: http://www.irongeek.com/i.php?page=videos/derbycon4/t408-making-mongo-cry-attacking-nosql-for-pen-testers-russell-butturini