

FORTIFICATION AGAINST PASSWORD GUESSING ATTACKS IN ONLINE SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

Authentication is essential thing in every application implementation. Because in recent years attackers are trying to theft the secret information or private data by hacking the passwords. They are getting the secreta passwords or authentication keys very easily by continuous monitoring the system or guessing the passwords. The application in the network which is having login service as authentication, required more security to provide security to the information inside the application. Because login step is the first door step to the any application. If the intruder know the login credentials, it becomes easy to get all the data in the system. Now a day's online users have been rapidly increased in the real world. The difficulty is how secure we are for our privacy details that means password. The main goal of this project is to reduce the guessing attacks and encouraging users in selecting better passwords so that it becomes difficult to guess for the unauthenticated users. Automated Turing Tests continued to be a useful, simple to deploy approach to identify automated malicious login attempts with reasonable cost of difficulty to users. In this paper we propose the inadequacy of existing and proposed login protocols designed to address large-scale online dictionary attacks. Proposes a Password Guessing Resistant Protocol (PGRP), derived upon revisiting prior proposals designed to restrict such attacks.

Keywords: Password Guessing Attacks, Dictionary Attacks, Brute Force Attacks, Password Guessing Resistance Protocol.

I. INTRODUCTION

By growing amount of online users in the real world, maintaining solitude details and protecting them with a password also becomes difficult. Now we involve developing a secure application to prevent our privacy information by using Password Guessing Resistant Protocol (PGRP).

Password Guessing Attacks can be divided into two types

- Brute force attack
- Dictionary attack

1.1 Brute Force Attack

A Brute Force attack is a time consuming type of attack in which attacker tries every probable combination of upper and lower case letters, number's and symbols. During this user can't find attackers. It is a type of password guessing attack which consists of trying every probable code every combination or password until the correct one is found. As shown in Fig.1.

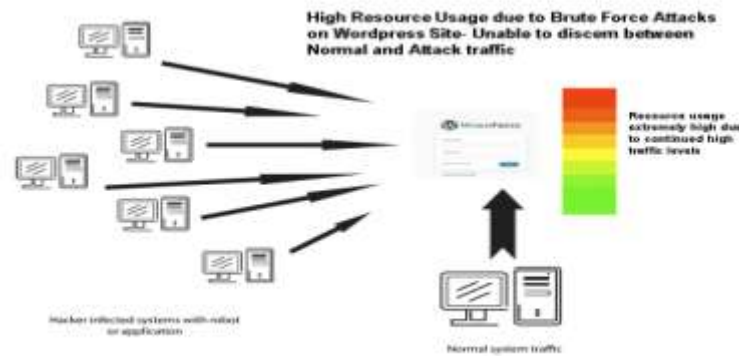


Fig.1 Example for Brute Force Attacks On Wordpress Website

A brute force attack is a very slow type of attack because of the many possible combinations of characters in the password. Though, brute force is effective; given enough time and processing power of all passwords can eventually be identified.

1.2 Dictionary Attack

A dictionary attack is a type of password guessing attacks which uses a dictionary of common words to identified user passwords. A dictionary attack is a method of breaking into a password protected server by systematically entering every word in a dictionary as a password.

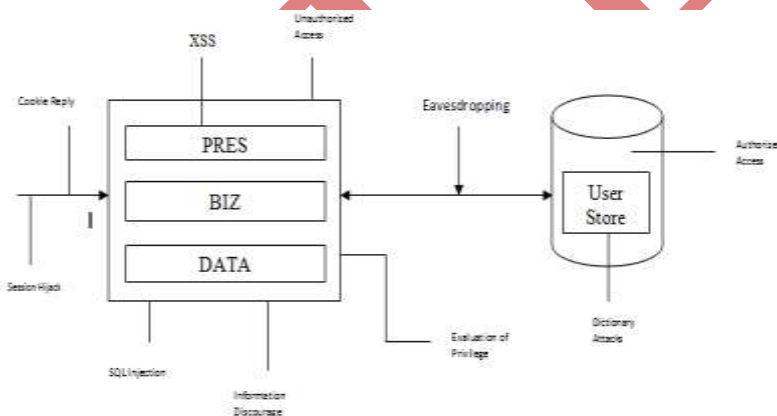


Fig. 2 Example for Dictionary Attack

II. RELATED WORK

The Usage of passwords is a very essential in computer security but passwords are sometimes easy to guess by automated programs and some hackers are developed tools that are running dictionary attacks. In the existing system, an automated test is implemented that humans can understand and easily pass, but current computer programs unable to pass. Any program that has high success over these tests can be used to guess passwords cause security risks. An example of such a test is a 'captcha'. A captcha is a test used in computing as an attempt which ensures that the response is generated by a person and not by a tool. Captchas are used in attempts to prevent automated software from performing actions which degrade the quality of service of a given system. Attackers can try only limited no. of guesses from single machine before being locked. Machines can only be restricted by using existing system but not humans. Captcha can be broke easily by high computation skill machine. The process usually involves a computer asking a user to complete a simple test which can ensure a successful login. These tests are designed to be easy for a computer to generate but a computer unable to solve,

thus that if a correct solution is established, it can be assumed to have been entered by a human. Following figure (Fig.3) is an example of the captcha.



Fig. 3 An Example Of Captcha

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGIES

In the proposed system the user login is identified by IP address saved on server side as White list OR in Cookies stored. Password Guessing Resistance Protocol (PGRP) uses Cookies or IP address for tracking. PGRP (Password Guessing Resistant Protocol) limits the total no of login attempts (Assume that 3 attempts) from unknown remote hosts to as low as single attempts. Our method of protection against online password guessing attacks and related denial of service attacks, the owner and user granted administrative privileges are referred to as administrators. Simply the owner registers with the application provider other user accounts are created by administrators using a web interface. A user id, which is known only to the user and administrators.

The proposed system is most convenient than the existing system and consists of minimal steps for legitimate user to login:

The major steps concerned in this process are:

- Suppose a trusted system fails the first login attempt then it is given two more chances (totally three chances). When if the user fails in the third attempt to login then the intimation will be given.
- In case an unknown system fails in the first login attempt then it will not be given any more chances and intimation.

A user who has been locked out is allowed to login again once she/he password has been reset. When the user changes him/her password, he is not allowed to select as the new password, which is already has been used as a permanent or temporary password on his user account. This method provides protection against online guessing attacks and related denial of service attacks, including attacks by unauthorized users or ex-users and other security benefits.

3.1 Password Guessing Resistant Protocol (PGRP)

PGRP Objectives include the following:

- ✓ The procedure of Login should make brute-force and dictionary attacks ineffective even for adversaries with access to large botnets that means capable of launching the attack from many remote hosts.
- ✓ The protocol should not have any significant impact on usability (user convenience). For example: for legitimate users, any additional steps besides entering login credentials should be nominal. Growing the security of the protocol must have minimal effect in decreasing the login usability.

- ✓ The protocol be supposed to be easy to deploy and scalable, requiring minimum computational resources in terms of memory, processing time, and disk space.

The general design behind PGRP is that user does not have to face an ATT challenge for the following two conditions.

- While the number of failed login attempts for a given username is very.
- When the remote host has successfully logged before reaching the threshold limit of failed login attempts. In contrast to previous protocols, PGRP uses either IP addresses, cookie identify systems from which users have been successfully authenticated.
- Then the number of failed login attempts for a specific username is below a threshold, the user is not required to answer an ATT challenge even if the login attempt is from a new machine for the first time.

3.2 Algorithm Implementation

3.2.1 Input

T1 (DEF=30D), T2 ((DEF=1D), T3 (DEF=1D), K1 (DEF=30), K2 (DEF=3)

Here DEF refers to default parameter value and D refers Day count and $K1, K2 \geq 0$

un, pw, cookie // username, password, host browser cookie

W // white list of IP with successful login

FT // table of no. of failed logins per username

FS // table of no. of failed logins by srcIP, username

Begin

Read Credential (un, pw, cookie)

If Login Correct (un, pw) **Then**

If (((Valid (cookie, un, k1, true) \vee ((srcIP, un) \in W)) \wedge (FS [srcIP, un] < k1)) \vee (FT[un] < k2)) **then**

FS [srcIP, un] \leftarrow 0

ADD srcIP to W

Grant Access (un, cookie)

Else

If (Captchavalue=Pass) **then**

FS [srcIP, un] \leftarrow 0

ADD srcIP to W

Grant Access (un, cookie)

Else

Display Message ("Please enter valid Captcha Value")

Else

If ((Valid (cookie, un, k1, false) \vee ((srcIP, un) \in W)) \wedge (FS [srcIP, un] < k1)) **then**

FS [srcIP, un] \leftarrow FS [srcIP, un] + 1

Display Message ("Please enter valid Login credentials")

Else If (Valid Username (un) \wedge (FT [un] < K2)) **then**

FT [un] \leftarrow FT [un] + 1

Display Message ("Please enter valid Login credentials")

Else

If (Captchavalue=Pass) **then**

Display Message (“Please enter valid Login credentials”)

Else

Display Message (“Please enter valid Captcha Value”)

End

The proposed method of protection against online password guessing attacks and interrelated denial of service attacks, so that the owner and the users granted administrative privileges are referred to as administrators. Simply the owner registers with the application provider other user accounts are created by administrators using a Web interface.

This algorithm can be explained by with the help of flow chart of the algorithm of the discussed protocol is shown below. Character based. It t will be given

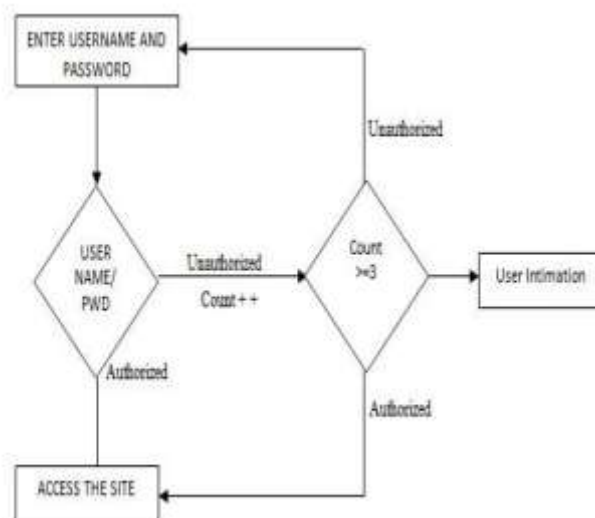


Fig. 4 Flow Chart of PGRP Algorithm

Every user logs in with three identifications rather than the usual two:

- The application instance name is considered as a secret shared by the users of the application instance.
- A user ID is known only to the user and the administrators.
- The user ID is chosen by the administrator who creates the user account, and can be changed by an administrator (by any administrator if the user has no administrative privileges, by the owner if the user is himself an administrator). A password, known only to the user.

After a certain number of consecutive bad guesses against a password user is blocked. Invalid attempts guesses are considered to be consecutive if there is no intervening successfully completed login to the user's account. Everyone on the successive bad guesses must be against the same password; counting starts over if the password is changed. The user who has been locked out is allowed to log in again once her password has been reset. While the user changes her password, he/she is not allowed to select as the new password a password that has previously been used as a permanent or temporary password on him/her user account. By this method provides protection against online guessing attacks and related denial of service attacks, including attacks by unauthorized users, and other security benefits.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

Password guessing attacks have been increasing quickly. To put an end to this we use PGRP. It will restrict the number of attempt made by a system or a machine and allow the legitimate user to have a full secured access over their account information. PGRP appears suitable for organizations of both small and large number of user accounts and data. PGRP can restrict brute force attack and dictionary attack, so it enhances the security of user's account.

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