

# Ghost in the allocator

*Abusing the windows 7/8 Low Fragmentation Heap*

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# Overview

- *Why are we targeting the heap manager?*
- *Heap terms*
- *Windows 7 heap theory*
  - *Front end*
  - *Back end*
  - *LFH structures/algorithms*
- *Windows 7 exploitation*
  - *Determinism*
  - *Ben Hawke's : #1 technique*
  - *Chris Valasek's : FreeEntryOffset overwrite*

# Overview

- *Windows 7 exploitation (continued)*
  - *Steven Seeley's : Offset match attack*
  - *Demo*
- *Changes introduced into Windows 8 heap*
  - *LFH structures/algorithms*
- *Windows 8 possible exploitation*
  - *Determinism*
  - *Chris Valasek's : UserBlocks overwrite*
  - *Demo*

*C:\Windows\System32> whoami*

*Stratsec senior consultant*

**BAE SYSTEMS**  stratsec

*<http://www.stratsec.net/>*

- *Penetration tester 9-5*
- *Security researcher 5-9*
- *Past member of the Corelan team*

*Disclaimers:*

*I'm not a software developer...*

# Why are we targeting the heap manager?

- *Because applications mature in their development cycle (simple memory corruption dies early)*
- *Because I fear a loss of heap exploitation knowledge in the info sec industry over time...*
- *To show when a DoS is not a DoS*
- *To facilitate heap overflows that attack application data*
- *Because Havlar, Ben, Nico, Brett and many others made it cool ;)*

# Why are we targeting the heap manager?

- *CVE-2012-0003*
  - *Windows Multimedia Library heap overflow*
- *CVE-2010-3972*
  - *IIS 7.0/7.5 ftpsvc heap overflow*
- *CVE-2008-0356*
  - *Citrix Presentation Server (IMA) <= 4.5 heap overflow*
- *CVE-2005-1009*
  - *BakBone NetVault v6.x/7.x heap overflow*

*But, what do all these exploits have in common?*

*Why are we targeting the heap manager?*

*...there complex and the odds are against us*



# *It's a challenge!*

- *Safe unlinking*
- *Heap base randomization*
- *Removal of static pointers*
- *Header encoding/decoding*
- *Blink insert validation*
- *Buckets separate chunks of different size*
- *Removal of FrontEnd chunks 'Flink'*
- *Randomized chunk allocation patterns (win8)*



# Heap Terms

- **Block:** 8 bytes
- **Chunk:** a continuous block of memory made up of sized blocks
- **Size:** will always be measured in blocks and represented in hex
- **Determinism:** The ability for an attacker to influence a process's heap layout to some level.
- **Bin:** an area of memory that contains chunks of the same size.

# Windows 7 heap theory



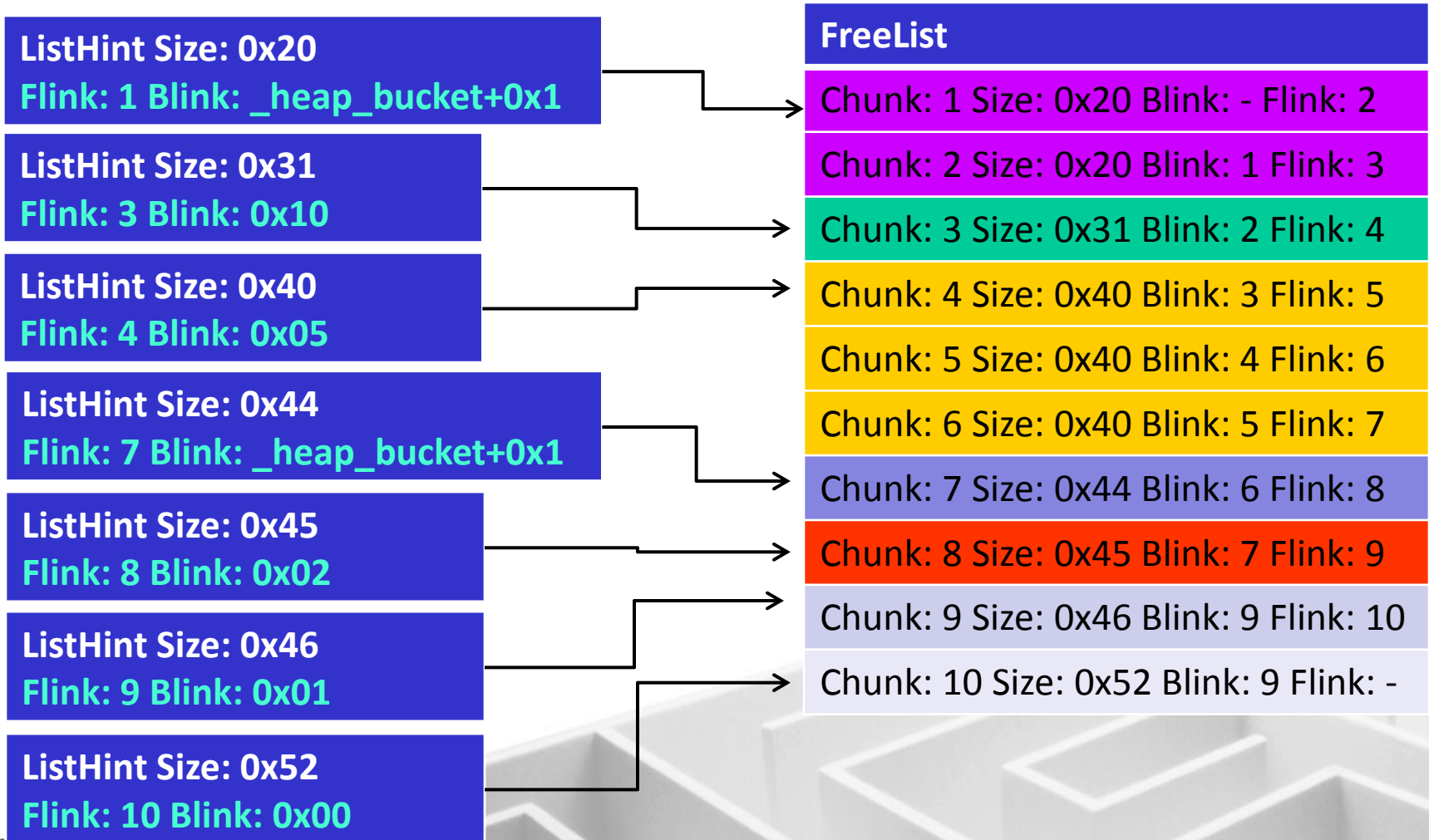
# Windows 7 front end

## The Low Fragmentation Heap

- Utilize 'Bins' that contains all chunks of a specific size
- A 'NextOffset' is used to determine the next chunk to be allocated
- Each `_heap_subsegment` has its own management structure for that particular sized bin
- 8 byte header (`_heap_entry`), 4 bytes are encoded in the header
- Activated on 18 consecutive allocations
- No more Flink's (Unlike the Lookaside)

# Windows 7 back end

## ListHint and FreeList for BlocksIndex 1 (< 0x80)



# Windows 7 back end

*ListHint[ArraySize-BaseIndex-1] for BlocksIndex 1  
( > 0x80)*

ListHint Size: 0x7f  
Flink: 1 Blink: 0x00



## FreeList

Chunk: 1	Size: 0x120	Blink: -	Flink: 2
Chunk: 2	Size: 0x120	Blink: 1	Flink: 3
Chunk: 3	Size: 0x131	Blink: 2	Flink: 4
Chunk: 4	Size: 0x140	Blink: 3	Flink: 5
Chunk: 5	Size: 0x140	Blink: 4	Flink: 6
Chunk: 6	Size: 0x140	Blink: 5	Flink: 7
Chunk: 7	Size: 0x144	Blink: 6	Flink: 8
Chunk: 8	Size: 0x145	Blink: 7	Flink: 9
Chunk: 9	Size: 0x146	Blink: 9	Flink: 10
Chunk: 10	Size: 0x152	Blink: 9	Flink: -

# Windows 7 LFH heap data structures

**\_HEAP**

+0xd4 – FrontEndHeap (\_LFH\_HEAP)

**\_LFH\_HEAP**

+0x310 – LocalData[1] (\_HEAP\_LOCAL\_DATA)

**\_HEAP\_LOCAL\_DATA**

+0x18 – SegmentInfo[0x80] (\_HEAP\_LOCAL\_SEGMENT\_INFO)

**\_HEAP\_LOCAL\_SEGMENT\_INFO**

\_HEAP\_LOCAL\_SEGMENT\_INFO

\_HEAP\_LOCAL\_SEGMENT\_INFO

....

**An array of 128 management structures that manage each separate sized bin**

# Windows 7 LFH heap data structures

## **\_HEAP\_LOCAL\_SEGMENT\_INFO**

+0x00 Hint (**\_HEAP\_SUBSEGMENT**)  
+0x04 ActiveSubsegment (**\_HEAP\_SUBSEGMENT**)

## **\_HEAP\_SUBSEGMENT**

+0x04 UserBlocks (**\_HEAP\_USERDATA\_HEADER**)  
+0x08 AggregateExchg (**\_INTERLOCK\_SEQ**)

## **\_HEAP\_USERDATA\_HEADER**

+0x00 SubSegment (**\_HEAP\_SUBSEGMENT**)  
+0x10 User chunks (**\_HEAP\_ENTRY**)

## **\_INTERLOCK\_SEQ**

+0x00 Depth  
+0x02 FreeEntryOffset

# Windows 7 LFH heap data structures

## **\_HEAP\_LOCAL\_SEGMENT\_INFO**

+0x00 Hint (`_HEAP_SUBSEGMENT`)  
+0x04 ActiveSubsegment (`_HEAP_SUBSEGMENT`)

## **\_HEAP\_SUBSEGMENT**

+0x04 UserBlocks (`_HEAP_USERDATA_HEADER`)  
+0x08 AggregateExchg (`_INTERLOCK_SEQ`)

## **\_HEAP\_USERDATA\_HEADER**

+0x00 SubSegment (`_HEAP_SUBSEGMENT`)  
+0x10 User chunks (`_HEAP_ENTRY`)

## **\_INTERLOCK\_SEQ**

+0x00 Depth  
+0x02 **FreeEntryOffset**

This is where the actual LFH chunks are stored

Dr Valasek exploits the LFH via the FreeEntryOffset



# Windows 7 heap data structures

<b>_HEAP_ENTRY</b>	<b>encoded</b>
+0x00 FunctionIndex/Size	Yes
+0x02 Flags/ContextValue	Yes
+0x03 SmallTagIndex	Yes
+0x04 PreviousSize/UnusedBytesLength	No
+0x06 LFHFlags/SegmentOffset	No
+0x07 UnusedBytes/ExtendedBlockSignature	No

 Encoded

<b>Header</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Flags</b>	<b>SmallTagIndex</b>	<b>PrevSize</b>	<b>SegOffset</b>	<b>UnusedBytes</b>
	<b>NextOffset</b>	Userdata				



Users can overwrite the NextOffset of an **allocated** chunk

# Windows 7 LFH heap data structures

Example:

- Which Bin should you use for an allocation size of 232?  
 $232 / 8 = 0x1d$

FrontEndHeap->LocalData[1]->SegmentInfo[0x1d]-  
>ActiveSubsegment->UserBlocks

- If the Hint or ActiveSubsegment is full then RtlpLowFragHeapAllocateFromZone() is called to initialise and create a \_heap\_subsegment and RtlpSubSegmentInitialize() is called to create the UserBlocks.
- However, if the \_lfh\_block\_zone is full, then RtlpLowFragHeapAllocateFromZone() will create a new \_lfh\_block\_zone too and return the first initialised \_heap\_subsegment

# Windows 7 LFH allocation

No chunk is allocated from the LFH unless a certain heuristic is triggered.

18 consecutive allocations of a particular size and you will have blink in ListHint point to valid `_heap_bucket+1`.

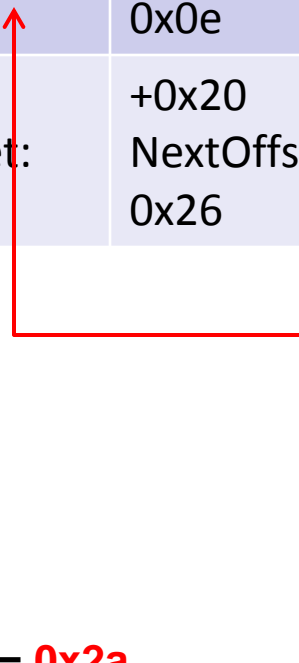
17 consecutive allocations if a chunk has been allocated and freed. Otherwise it will just be a counter value.

So, to activate the LFH, you do:

```
for (i=0; i<0x13; i++){  
    chunks[i] = (char*)HeapAlloc(myheap, 0, 0x20);  
}
```

# Windows 7 LFH allocation/free

UserBlocks			
+0x02 NextOffset: 0x08	+0x08 NextOffset: 0x0e	+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32



aggrExchg.Depth = **0x2a**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x10 (0x02 \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# Windows 7 LFH allocation/free

UserBlocks			
	+0x08 NextOffset: 0x0e	+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x29**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x40 (0x08 \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# Windows 7 LFH allocation/free

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x28**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x70 (0x0e \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# Windows 7 LFH allocation/free

UserBlocks			
+0x02 NextOffset: 0x0e		+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x29**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x10 (0x02 \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# *Windows 7 exploitation*





# Windows 7 exploitation

*The metadata attacks of today now facilitate application attacks.*

- *Ben Hawke - Cause arbitrary Frees*
- *Chris Valasek - Cause arbitrary Allocation*
- *Steve Seeley - Cause consecutive static Allocations*

*We need objects/structures that store function pointers that get used. We can directly target these structs or objects.*

# Determinism

*Very achievable in windows 7!*

- We have a predictable allocation pattern*

*Use primitives to facilitate exploitation...*

*Examples:*

- 1. Soft/hard leaks of a controlled size (object or chunks)*
- 2. Info leak*
- 3. Arbitrary writes*
- 4. The ability to trigger an frees of particular sizes*
- 5. The ability to trigger the heap cache*

# Determinism

- Often requires an attacker to reverse the allocation/free process
  - Can we arbitrarily control the allocation size (maybe indirectly)
  - Can we control when the chunk is freed? That leads to a hard or soft leak?
- Requires the detection of object creation and knowledge of whether those objects trigger function calls (for example TCP connection objects initiation/termination process)

This is by far the **HARDEST** part of heap exploitation

# Ben Hawkes # 1 technique

Overwrite the `ExtendedBytesHeader` to `0x05` and set the segment offset to a chunk in which you want to free (must be a valid `_heap_entry`).



Header	Size	Flags	SmallTagIndex	PrevSize	SegOffset	UnusedBytes
	NextOffset	Userdata				

Set the `contextValue` to `0x000000002`

# Ben Hawkes # 1 technique


Overwrite the `ExtendedBytesHeader` to `0x05` and set the segment offset to a chunk in which you want to free (must be a valid `_heap_entry`).



Lets assume we are using `UserBlock bin 0x5`. We set the segment offset for 2 chunks behind

# Ben Hawkes # 1 technique

UserBlocks			
Allocated Object	Allocated chunk	Allocated chunk	Allocated chunk
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32



We are suppose to free chunk 3


aggrExchg.Depth = **0x27**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0xd0 (0x1a \* 8)**

Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# Ben Hawkes # 1 technique

UserBlocks 			
Allocated Object	Allocated chunk	Allocated chunk	Allocated chunk
+0x1a	+0x20	0x26	0x2c
NextOffset: 0x20	NextOffset: 0x26	NextOffset: 0x2c	NextOffset: 0x32

But before we do, an overflow occurs against a busy chunk

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x27**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0xd0 (0x1a \* 8)**

Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# Ben Hawkes # 1 technique

UserBlocks			
+0x02 NextOffset: 0x14	Allocated chunk	Allocated chunk	Allocated chunk
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

Now when we free chunk 3,  
we actually free chunk 0 instead

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x28**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x10 (0x02 \* 8)**

Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.



# Ben Hawkes # 1 technique

UserBlocks			
<b>Allocated chunk</b>	Allocated chunk	Allocated chunk	Allocated chunk
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

Now when we allocate, we allocate over the object and overwrite the vtable with controlled data.

vtable = 0x41414141

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x27**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0xd0 (0x1a \* 8)**

Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.



# Ben Hawkes # 1 technique

```
// free target, but really, we free badassben  
HeapFree(myheap, 0, target);
```

```
// allocate over the badassben object  
allocben= HeapAlloc(pHeap,0,0x20);
```

```
// overwrite the badassben object  
memcpy(fillme,"AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA",32);
```

```
// tell ben to go get eip (trigger function call)  
badassben->geteip();
```

# FreeEntryOffset Overwrite

1. Overflow into the adjacent chunks  
'EntryOffset'
2. Allocate a chunk to update the  
FreeEntryOffset
3. Allocate an chunk that is already  
allocated as an object/struct
4. Overwrite the object/struct
5. Call a virtual function of the  
object/struct

# FreeEntryOffset Overwrite

Header	Size	Flags	SmallTagIndex	PrevSize	SegOffset	UnusedBytes
	0x000e					

# FreeEntryOffset Overwrite



Header	Size	Flags	SmallTagIndex	PrevSize	SegOffset	UnusedBytes
	0x4242					

Upon the next allocation of the overwritten chunk, the FreeEntryOffset will be updated to 0x21210 ( $0x4242 * 0x8$ ).

Now any other allocations after that will be taken from  $UserBlock + FreeEntryOffset$ .

You can jump segments to allocate objects in use and essentially overwrite them...

# Windows 7 LFH allocation/free

UserBlocks			
	+0x08 NextOffset: 0x0e	+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x29**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x40 (0x08 \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# Windows 7 LFH allocation/free

UserBlocks			
	+0x08 NextOffset: <b>0xffff</b>	+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x29**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x40 (0x08 \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.



# Windows 7 LFH allocation/free

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x28**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x7fff8 (0xffff \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.



# Windows 7 LFH allocation/free

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32



Fake Chunk

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x28**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x7fff8 (0xffff \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# FreeEntryOffset Overwrite

```
// make lots of object allocations
// triggers LFH and seeds the heap with objects
for(i=0,i<0x1f,i++){
    allocated_obj[i] = (obj *)HeapAlloc(pHeap,0,sizeof(Object));
}

// allocate
fillme = HeapAlloc(pHeap,0,0x20);

// now overflow and set EntryOffset to 0x4242...
memcpy(fillme,"AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AAA\x42\x42",42);
```

# FreeEntryOffset Overwrite

```
// alloc to set the FreeEntryOffset
a = HeapAlloc(pHeap,0,0x20);

// alloc an Object that is in use from above
b = HeapAlloc(pHeap,0,0x20);

// overwrite object in use, fill with 'shellcode'
memcpy(b,"AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA",32);

// trigger function call
for(i=0,i<0x7f,i++){
    allocated_obj[i]->pwn();
}
```

# Offset match attack

Concept: If we are able to taint the *next free chunk's EntryOffset*, with the calculated current *FreeEntryOffset* (the same chunk), then we can keep allocating the same memory.

# Offset match attack

*Obtaining malicious state:*

- 1. You need a  $n-4$  byte write or at least an increment/decrement as a primitive between double frees.*
- 2. You need a  $n-4$  byte write between a free and a heap overflow (using segment offset attack)*
- 3. Easy way: need a heap overflow (at least  $0x9$  bytes) and two allocations...*

# Offset match attack

Example using UserBlocks bin size: 0x05

- Current FreeEntryOffset is 0x60
- NextOffset Calculation:  $0x60 / 0x08 = 0x0c$

Header	Size	Flags	SmallTagIndex	PrevSize	SegOffset	UnusedBytes
	0x000c	Userdata				

# Offset match attack

Anyway... so the significance is...

The calculated `EntryOffset` and the calculated `FreeEntryOffset` both have the same values: `0xc`

Yet the `aggregatexchng.Depth` for the current `UserBlock` is `0x29`.

When we allocate, the `FreeEntryOffset` keeps getting updated from the same `EntryOffset`!

Keep allocating the same chunk address! :O)



# Offset match attack

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: 0x14	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x28**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = 0x70 (0x0e \* 8)

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# Offset match attack

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: <b>0x0e</b>	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32

aggrExchg.Depth = **0x28**

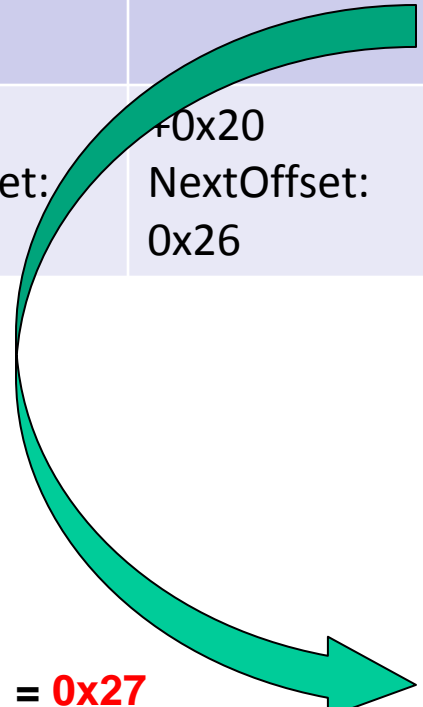
aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = 0x70 (0x0e \* 8)

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

# Offset match attack

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: <b>0x0e</b>	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32



aggrExchg.Depth = **0x27**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x70 (0x0e \* 8)**


Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

**Points to & returns  
0x0151ab60**

# Offset match attack

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: <b>0x0e</b>	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32



aggrExchg.Depth = **0x27**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset =  $0x70 (0x0e * 8)$

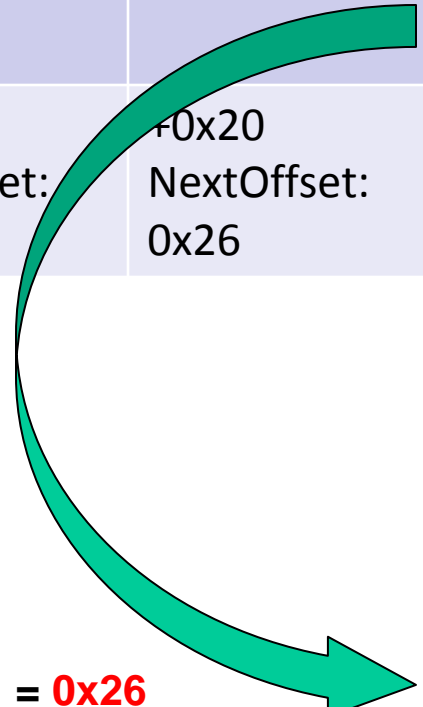
Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

**Points to & returns  
0x0151ab60**

# Offset match attack

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: <b>0x0e</b>	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32



aggrExchg.Depth = **0x26**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x70 (0x0e \* 8)**


Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

**Points to & returns  
0x0151ab60**

# Offset match attack

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: <b>0x0e</b>	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32



aggrExchg.Depth = **0x26**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset =  $0x70 (0x0e * 8)$

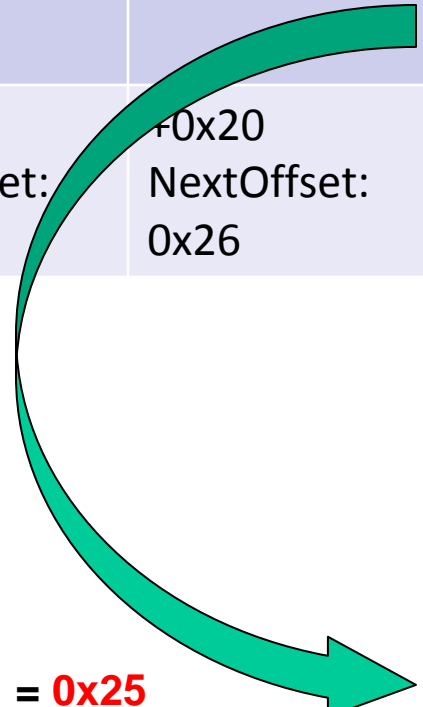
Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

**Points to & returns  
0x0151ab60**

# Offset match attack

UserBlocks			
		+0x0e NextOffset: <b>0x0e</b>	+0x14 NextOffset: 0x1a
+0x1a NextOffset: 0x20	+0x20 NextOffset: 0x26	0x26 NextOffset: 0x2c	0x2c NextOffset: 0x32



aggrExchg.Depth = **0x25**

aggrExchg.FreeEntryOffset = **0x70 (0x0e \* 8)**

Next chunk: Next chunk: UserBlocks + FreeEntryOffset

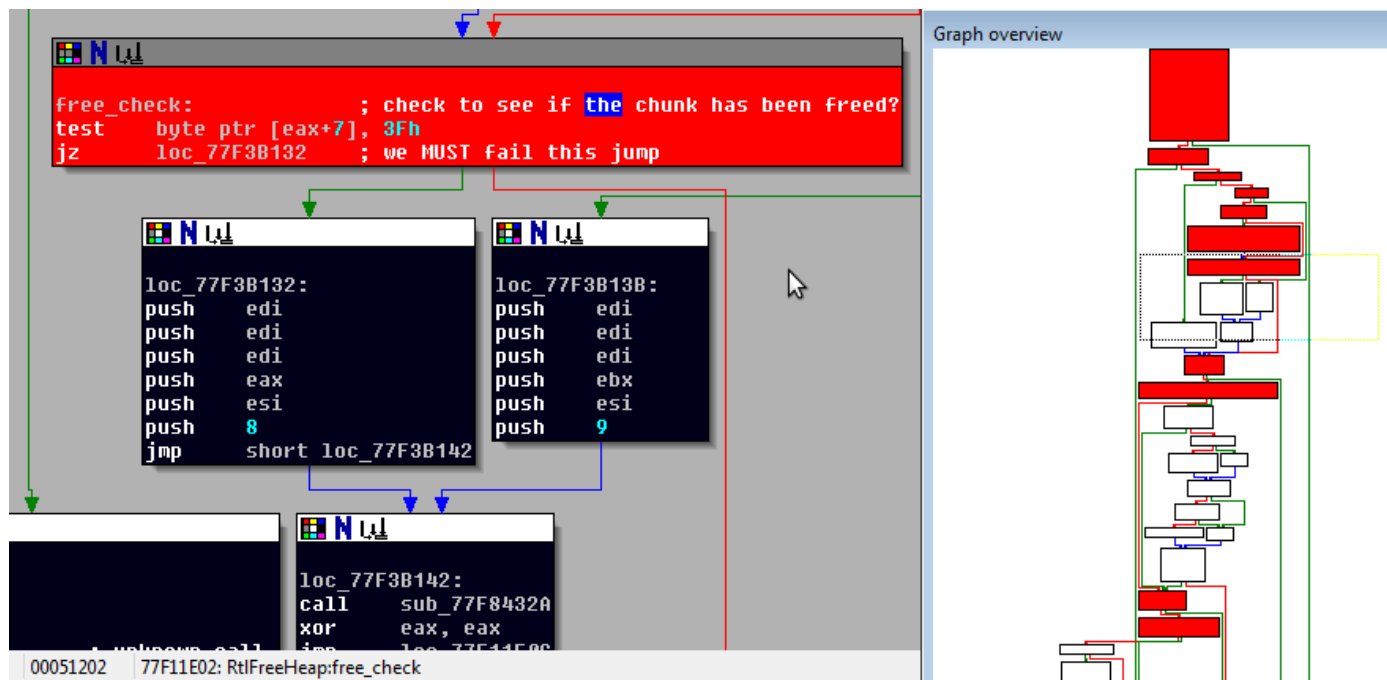
Start at 0x02 so the manager accommodates the UserBlocks header of 16 bytes.

**Points to & returns  
0x0151ab60**

# Offset match attack

If we are achieving this state by triggering a double free, then we need to pass this check:

```
test byte ptr [eax+7], 0x3f  
; eax = _heap_entry
```





# Offset match attack

*Sample code triggering state using a double free...*

```
a = (char*)HeapAlloc(myheap, 0, 0x20);
```

```
b = (char*)HeapAlloc(myheap, 0, 0x20);
```

```
HeapFree(myheap, 0, b);           // first free
```

```
offset = 0xFEB07;
```

```
// not so likely overwrite...
```

```
chunkheader = (long)myheap+offset; *(byte*)chunkheader = 0x88;
```

```
HeapFree(myheap, 0, b);           // second free
```

# Offset match attack

```
c = (char*)HeapAlloc(myheap,0,0x20);  
struct own_me* control_flow = (struct own_me*)  
HeapAlloc(myheap,0,sizeof(struct own_me));  
  
// initialise the function pointer  
control_flow->get_eip = &foo;  
  
// overwrite the struc's function pointer with 'shellcode'  
memcpy(c, "AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA", 32);  
  
// Call the function pointer from the struc  
control_flow->get_eip();
```

# Offset match attack

Immunity Debugger - offsetmatch.exe - [CPU - main thread]

File View Debug Plugins ImmLib Options Window Help Jobs

Immunity: Consulting Services Manager

**Registers (FPU)**

```

EAX 00000000 ASCII "AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAP i&*"
ECX 41414141
EDX 00000000
EBX 7FFDF000
ESP 002F700
EBP 002F7DC
ESI 002F704
EDI 002F7DC
EIP 41414141
CS 0 ES 0023 32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
DS 0 SS 0023 32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
EBP 0 DS 0023 32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
ESI 0 FS 003B 32bit 7FFDE000(FFF)
EDI 0 GS 0000 NULL
D 0
I 0 LastErr ERROR_SUCCESS (00000000)
EFL 00010212 (NO,NB,NE,A,NS,PO,GE,G)
ST0 empty g
ST1 empty g
ST2 empty g
ST3 empty g
ST4 empty g
ST5 empty g
ST6 empty g
ST7 empty g

FST 0000 Cond 0 0 0 0 Err 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 (GT)
FCW 027F Prec NEAR,53 Mask 1 1 1 1 1 1
    
```

Address	Hex dump	ASCII
0000E9E0	41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41	AAAAAAAA
0000E9E3	41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41	AAAAAAAA
0000E9F0	41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41	AAAAAAAA
0000E9F8	41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41	AAAAAAAA
0000E900	50 69 26 2A 00 00 00 80	Pi&*. .C
0000EB08	11 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	←.....
0000EB10	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB18	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB20	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB28	55 69 26 2A 00 00 00 80	Ui&*. .C
0000EB30	16 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB38	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB40	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB48	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB50	5A 69 26 2A 00 00 00 80	Zi&*. .C
0000EB58	1B 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	+.....
0000EB60	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB68	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB70	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB78	5F 69 26 2A 00 00 00 80	_Li&*. .C
0000EB80	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB88	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB90	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EB98	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0000EBA0	44 69 26 2A 00 00 00 80	Dli&*. .C
0000EBA8	25 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....

Registers (FPU) scrollbar: 002F700, 01101500, CS:0 RETURN to offsetna.01101500

!heaperv p peb

[07:57:48] Access violation when executing [41414141] - use Shift+F7/F8/F9 to pass exception to program

*Demo*



# Offset match attack

- *Advantage:*
  - *You do not need to know where object(s) are in memory or perform large seeding operations.*
  - *Used when you can only allocate objects after a chunk has been overflowed...*
    - *Otherwise you could just position the chunk to be overflowed before an object and overwrite the objects vtable. (application specific technique)*
- *Limitations:*
  - *Need the ability to trigger arbitrary allocations of an object/struct and multiple chunks*
  - *Knowledge of an upcoming virtual function call...*

# Changes introduced into Windows 8 heap




# Changes introduced into Windows 8 heap

- I focused on the Consumer Preview
- I only looked at the LFH for now:
  - `RtlpLowFragHeapAllocFromContext()`
  - `RtlpLowFragHeapFree()`

# Windows 8 LFH structures

## UserBlocks & BusyBitmap

```
0:004> dt _HEAP_USERDATA_HEADER
ntdll!_HEAP_USERDATA_HEADER
+0x000 SFreeListEntry : _SINGLE_LIST_ENTRY
+0x000 SubSegment : Ptr32 _HEAP_SUBSEGMENT
+0x004 Reserved : Ptr32 Void
+0x008 SizeIndexAndPadding : Uint4B
+0x008 SizeIndex : UChar
+0x009 GuardPagePresent : UChar
+0x00a PaddingBytes : Uint2B
+0x00c Signature : Uint4B
+0x010 FirstAllocationOffset : Uint2B
+0x012 BlockStride : Uint2B
+0x014 BusyBitmap : _RTL_BITMAP
+0x01c BitmapData : [1] Uint4B
0:004> dt _RTL_BITMAP
ntdll!_RTL_BITMAP
+0x000 SizeOfBitMap : Uint4B
+0x004 Buffer : Ptr32 Uint4B
- . . .
```



*BusyBitmap·Buffer->UserBlocks·BitmapData*



# Windows 8 LFH allocation

- LFH still triggered on 0x12 consecutive allocations (0x11 if allocated and freed)
- No more 'NextOffset/FreeEntryOffset'
  - RIP FreeEntryOffset overwrite, Offset match attacks
- Now the allocation pattern is randomized
- Anti-determinism
  - Guard pages on the Userblocks if triggering consistent allocations
  - BusyBitmap->Buffer used to help calculate the next chunk address

# Windows 8 LFH allocation

```
MOV EAX,DWORD PTR FS:[18] ; load the current teb
MOVZX ECX,WORD PTR DS:[EAX+FAA] ; arrayindex = _teb
; ->LowFragHeapDataSlot
MOVZX ESI,BYTE PTR DS:[ECX+773EFF40] ; rand_index =
; RtlpLowFragHeapRandomData
; [arrayindex]
MOV EAX,DWORD PTR FS:[18] ; load the current teb
MOV EBX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-2C] ; load the _heap_subsegment
; ->UserBlocks
INC ECX ; arrayindex++
AND ECX,OFF ; arrayindex &= 0xff
MOV WORD PTR DS:[EAX+FAA],CX ; _teb->LowFragHeapDataSlot
; = arrayindex
```

# Windows 8 LFH allocation

```
MOV EAX,ESI ; copy rand_index
MOV ESI,DWORD PTR DS:[EBX+14] ; load the _heap_subsegment
; ->UserBlocks
; BusyBitmap·SizeOfBitmap
MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-10],EAX ; save the rand_index
CMP ESI,20 ; compare BusyBitmap·SizeOfBitMap
; against 32
JB ntdll·77306CF2 ; jump if BusyBitmap·
; SizeOfBitMap is < 32
```

# Windows 8 LFH allocation

## Calculate the bitmap\_index

```
MOV EDI,DWORD PTR DS:[EBX+18] ; load the BusyBitmap->Buffer
IMUL ESI,EAX                ; bitmap_index = SizeOfBitmap * index
JMP SHORT ntdll.77306CE7
```

---

```
SHR ESI,7                    ; bitmap_index += bitmap_index / 128
MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-10],ESI ; save off the bitmap_index
JMP ntdll.77306C62
```

...now the code updates the BusyBitmap->Buffer using the `bitmap_index` (excluded for brevity)

# Windows 8 LFH allocation

## Reset the Offset and Depth

```
OR ECX,EAX ; calculate a new  
; AggregateExchg.OffsetAndDepth  
MOV EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-20] ; load the current  
; AggregateExchg.OffsetAndDepth  
MOV DWORD PTR DS:[EAX],ECX ; set the new  
; AggregateExchg.OffsetAndDepth
```

# Windows 8 LFH allocation

```
MOVZX EAX,WORD PTR DS:[EBX+12] ; zero extend the
                                ; UserBlocks·BlockStride
MOVZX ECX,WORD PTR DS:[EBX+10] ; zero extend the
                                ; UserBlocks·
                                ; FirstAllocationOffset
IMUL EAX,EDI                    ; next_chunk = BlockStride *
                                ; UserBlocks·BitmapData
ADD EAX,EBX                     ; next_chunk += UserBlocks
ADD ECX,EAX                     ; next_chunk += UserBlocks
                                ; ->FirstAllocationOffset
TEST BYTE PTR DS:[ECX+7],3F    ; is the chunk free?
JNZ ntdll·77392598             ; jump if it isn't
TEST ECX,ECX                   ; test to see if it returns a
                                ; value····
JE ntdll·7730EFEB             ; jump if it doesn't
```

# Windows 8 LFH allocation

That calculation again:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{next\_chunk} = & \\ & \text{UserBlocks} \cdot \text{FirstAllocationOffset} + \\ & ((\text{UserBlocks} \cdot \text{BlockStride} * \\ & \text{UserBlocks} \cdot \text{BitmapData}) + \text{UserBlocks}) \end{aligned}$$

# Windows 8 LFH free

During the `RtlpLowFragHeapFree`, `RtlpValidateLFHBlock` is called...

```
RtlpValidateLFHBlock (_heap *pHeap, _heap_entry *chunk)
```

...

```
SHR ECX,3                                ; _heap_subsegment
                                           ; subsegment =
                                           ; _heap_entry / 0x8

XOR ECX,DWORD PTR DS:[EAX]               ; subsegment ^=
                                           ; _heap_entry·
                                           ; InterceptorValue

XOR ECX,DWORD PTR DS:[7786F6D8]           ; subsegment ^= RtlpLFHKey
XOR ECX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8]             ; subsegment ^= _heap
```

`_heap_subsegment` is derived from the `_heap_entry`.



# Windows 8 LFH free

```
AND DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4],0           ; meh
MOV EAX,DWORD PTR DS:[ECX+4]        ; load subsegment->UserBlocks
CMP ECX,DWORD PTR DS:[EAX]          ; compare the derived
                                     ; subsegment with the
                                     ; subsegment->UserBlocks
                                     ; ->_heap_subsegment
JNZ SHORT ntdll.77841C4C             ; jump if they are not
                                     ; matching
```

Another thing...

We can no longer trigger the Dr Hawkes #1 technique as the arbitrary chunk we are freeing needs to also be a chunk marked with a segment offset.

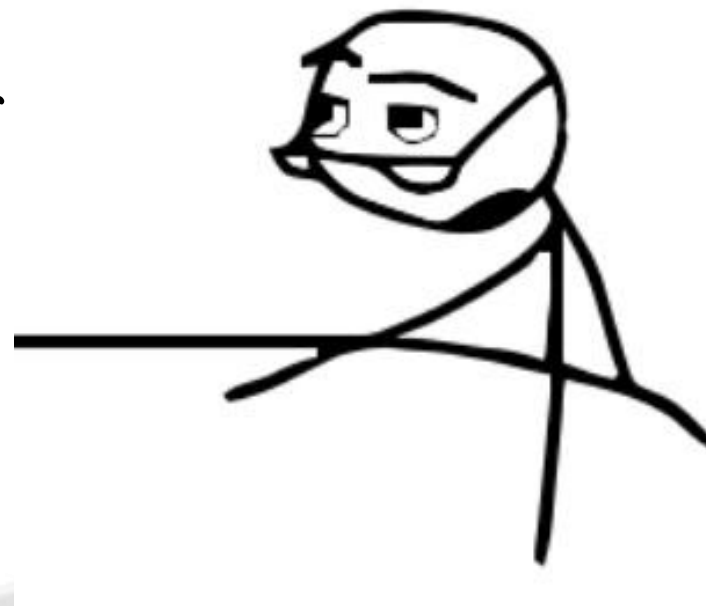
# Windows 8 exploitation



# Windows 8 exploitation

Originally I was playing with the concept of 3 null dword writes targeting the UserBlocks header to form an arbitrary allocation.

But Dr Valasek had a better idea... Valasek mentioned that you could possibly overwrite the whole UserBlocks header...



# Determinism

*Ok so determinism is at a all time low.  
Chunk allocations are non deterministic.*

*This effectivly means the LFH is now not F*

*But generally, if we have an application that allows arbitrary allocations of a particular bin size, we probably wouldn't be limited to 17 or 18 allocations...*

# Determinism

*Windows 7*

*Windows 8*

UserBlocks 0x40	UserBlocks 0x40
1	3
2	6
3	4
4	1
5	5
6	2

Uninitialized UserBlocks	Uninitialized UserBlocks
1	5

# Determinism

*Windows 7*

*Windows 8*

UserBlocks 0x40	UserBlocks 0x40
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*Windows 7*

*Windows 8*

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2	6
3	4
4	1
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6	2

Uninitialized UserBlocks	Uninitialized UserBlocks
1	5

# Determinism

*Windows 7*

*Windows 8*

UserBlocks 0x40	UserBlocks 0x40
1	3
2	6
3	4
4	1
5	5
6	2

UserBlocks 0x40	UserBlocks 0x40
1	5

# UserBlocks overwrite

*Windows 7*

*Windows 8*

UserBlocks 0x40	UserBlocks 0x40
1	3
2	6
3	4
4	1
5	5
6	2

UserBlocks 0x40	UserBlocks 0x40
1	5



*Unknown distance between last free chunk and next UserBlocks*

# UserBlocks overwrite

*Sized bin: 0x40*

**0x00E72700 UserBlocks0 -> 08 chunks – No Guard**

0x00e73710 SubSegment0 -> UserBlocks0

0x00e73738 SubSegment1 -> UserBlocks1

0x00e73760 SubSegment2 -> UserBlocks2

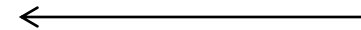
0x00e73788 SubSegment3 -> UserBlocks3

**0x00E73b00 UserBlocks1 -> 19 chunks – No Guard**

**0x00e75b00 UserBlocks2 -> 19 chunks – No Guard**

**0x00e77b00 UserBlocks3 -> 19 chunks – No Guard**

*We must not  
damage the  
\_lfh\_block\_zone*



# UserBlocks overwrite

*Sized bin: 0x40*

**0x00E72700 UserBlocks0 -> 08 chunks – No Guard**

0x00e73710 SubSegment0 -> UserBlocks0

0x00e73738 SubSegment1 -> UserBlocks1

0x00e73760 SubSegment2 -> UserBlocks2

0x00e73788 SubSegment3 -> UserBlocks3

**0x00E73b00 UserBlocks1 -> 19 chunks – No Guard**

**0x00e75b00 UserBlocks2 -> 19 chunks – No Guard**

**0x00e77b00 UserBlocks3 -> 19 chunks – No Guard**

*Overwrite starting  
From UserBlocks1*



# UserBlocks overwrite

Sized bin: 0x40

DS:[009607E4]=00E73760  
EBX=00000000

Address	Hex dump	ASCII	
\$-40	80 E5 34 CE 7A 78 00 08	€ã4îzx.□	SubSegment->UserBlocks
\$-38	04 00 96 00 04 00 96 00	+. . . . .	
\$-30	88 37 E7 00 F8 2A E7 00	■7ç.ø:ç.	SubSegment 0
\$-28	E0 07 96 00 00 27 E7 00	à. . . 'ç.	
\$-20	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	
\$-18	00 00 08 00 33 00 00 00	. . □.3.	
\$-10	09 00 29 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	
\$-8	01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	
\$==>	E0 07 96 00 00 3B E7 00	à. . . ;ç.	SubSegment 1
\$+8	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	
\$+10	00 00 12 00 33 00 00 00	. . 1.3. . .	
\$+18	13 00 29 00 00 00 00 00	!!.) . . . .	
\$+20	01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	
\$+28	E0 07 96 00 00 5B E7 00	à. . . [ç.	SubSegment 2
\$+30	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	
\$+38	13 00 01 00 33 00 00 00	!! . . .3. . .	AggregateExchng->Depth
\$+40	13 00 29 00 00 00 00 00	!!.) . . . .	
\$+48	07 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	
\$+50	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	
\$+58	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	. . . . .	

We must not damage the `_lfh_block_zone` for this specific attack!



# UserBlocks overwrite

- Chunks may not be deterministic, but SubSegments and UserBlocks are!
- Only after the second UserBlocks can we overwrite the UserBlocks header
- Here's an example for bin size 0x40:
  - Allocate to reach the LFH - 0x13
  - Allocate to reach UserBlocks2 - (0x8 + 0x13 + 0x1)
  - Overflow a previously allocated chunk (from UserBlocks1) and target the UserBlocks2 header
  - Allocate again to trigger an arbitrary allocation - 0x1

# UserBlocks overwrite

To achieve arbitrary allocations, we could target:

- `Userblocks·FirstAllocationOffset`
- `UserBlocks·BlockStride`
- `UserBlocks·BusyBitmap`
  - *Overwrite the `BusyBitmap·Buffer` pointer and set it to any pointer that points to `NULL`/low value and ensure that it is writable!*

Must ensure the newly allocated fake chunk has `_heap_entry + 0x7 (UnusedBytes)` is set correctly...

# UserBlocks overwrite

## Overwritten UserBlocks header in memory

```
773D6CA8 0FAFC7 IMUL EAX,EDI
773D6CAB 03C3 ADD EAX,EBX
773D6CAD 03C8 ADD ECX,EAX
773D6CAF F641 07 3F TEST BYTE PTR DS:[ECX+7],3F
773D6CB3 0F85 DFB80800 JNZ ntdll.77462598
773D6CB9 85C9 TEST ECX,ECX
773D6CBB 0F84 2A830000 JE ntdll.773DEFEB
773D6CC1 8B45 E8 MOV EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-18]
773D6CC4 0FB710 MOVZX EDX,WORD PTR DS:[EAX]
773D6CC7 8BC2 MOV EAX,EDX
773D6CC9 C1E0 03 SHL EAX,3
```

Overflow Direction



DS:[00D18868]=00 ← ECX = \_HEAP\_ENTRY = 0x00d18861

Address	Hex dump	ASCII
00D126F8	41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41	AAAAAAAA
00D12700	41 41 41 41 41 41 41 00	AAAAAAAA
00D12708	41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41	AAAAAAAA
00D12710	61 61 00 00 09 00 00 00	aa.....
00D12718	60 27 01 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00D12720	C7 7E 49 38 00 00 00 80	C~I;...■
00D12728	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00D12730	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00D12738	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00D12740	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00D12748	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....

- UserBlocks header
- FirstAllocationOffset and BlockStride
- BitmapData
- \_RTL\_BITMAP/SizeOfBitMap
- Pointer to NULL, writable

# UserBlocks overwrite

Manipulating where the next chunk will be allocated from...

next allocated chunk =

$$\text{UserBlocks} \cdot \text{FirstAllocationOffset} +$$
$$((\text{UserBlocks} \cdot \text{BlockStride} * \text{UserBlocks} \cdot \text{BitmapData}) +$$
$$\text{UserBlocks})$$

Sequential overflow against the UserBlocks will work...

$\text{FirstAllocationOffset} = 0xXXYY$  (any value)

$\text{BlockStride} = 0xXXYY$  (any value)

$\text{UserBlocks} \cdot \text{BitmapData} = 0x00000000$  (any value)

Setting BitmapData pointer to NULL seems best...

*Demo*

# UserBlocks overwrite

## Major drawbacks?

- You need to position the overflowed chunk *before* the initialized Userblocks that you are going to target and then overflow it...
  - You will most likely overwrite other chunks in the process and reduce reliability (do not free!)
- You need to ensure that the `_heap_entry` chunk header + `0x7` is set to a value that will pass the `& 0x3f` test.

## Major advantages?

- *No need for address leaks*

# UserBlocks overwrite

## Major drawbacks? - Reliability

- At minimum, there is a 50% chance of success due to the fact that we need 0x10 bytes for the UserBlocks overwrite
- Examples:
  - $(0x40 * 0x8) / 0x10$  requires an even number of chunks
  - $(0x41 * 0x8) / 0x10$  requires an odd number of chunks
  - etc
- Maybe you could sequentially overflow using a fake 0x8 byte structure but the `UserBlocks.FirstAllocationOffset + UserBlocks.BlockStride` need to also act as a pointer to a static value and is writable



# Conclusion?





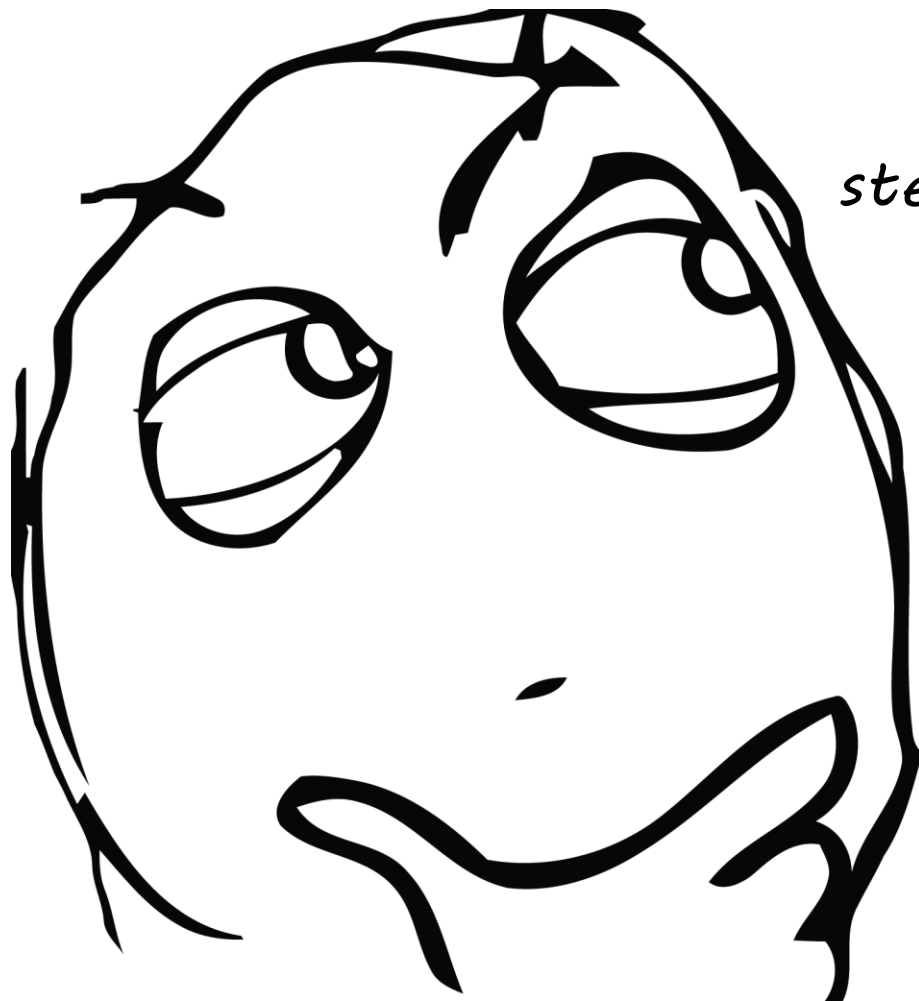
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- corelanc0d3r & sinn3r from Corelan
- Stratsec team
- My fiancé Vanessa!

# References

- **Understanding the LFH -**  
[http://illmatics.com/Understanding\\_the\\_LFH.pdf](http://illmatics.com/Understanding_the_LFH.pdf)
- **Heaps of Doom -**  
[http://xchg.info/conferences/SyScan+2012+Singapore/Day1-1+Chris+Valasek+&+Tarjei+Mandt/heaps\\_of\\_doom.pptx](http://xchg.info/conferences/SyScan+2012+Singapore/Day1-1+Chris+Valasek+&+Tarjei+Mandt/heaps_of_doom.pptx)
- **The Art of Exploitation: MS IIS 7.5 Remote Heap Overflow -**  
<http://www.phrack.org/issues.html?issue=68&id=12#article>
- **NTDLL v6.1.7601.17725 (Windows 7) & NTDLL v6.2.8250.0 (Windows 8) and their symbols**

# Questions?



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