



Privilege Escalation using DOP in x86-64 macOS

Yoochan Lee, Sangjun Song, Junoh Lee, and Jeongsu Choi

Whoami?

Team GYG

We focus on CTF and Bug Hunting.



Yoochan Lee

- Ph.D student
- Linux, macOS



Sangjun Song

- Security Researcher
- Web3



Junoh Lee

- Security Researcher
- Windows



Jeongsu Choi

- Security Researcher
- Web

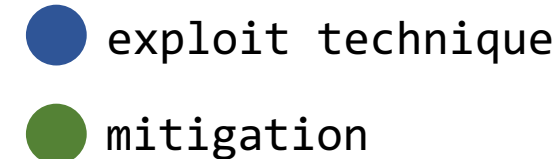


The history

In user application



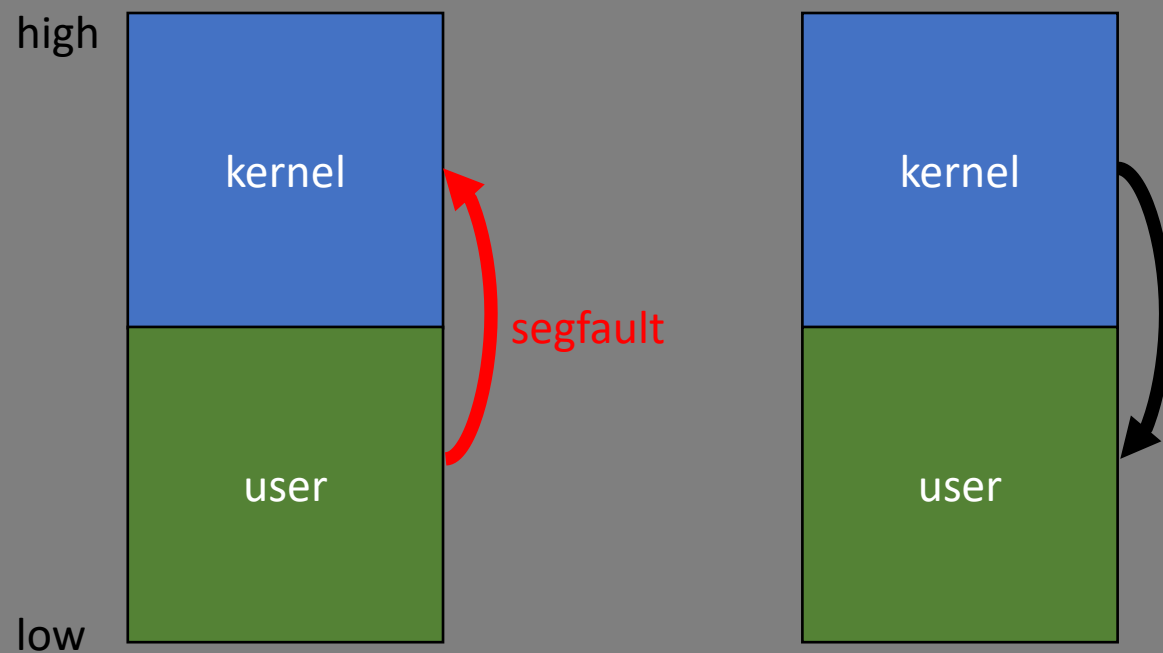
In kernel



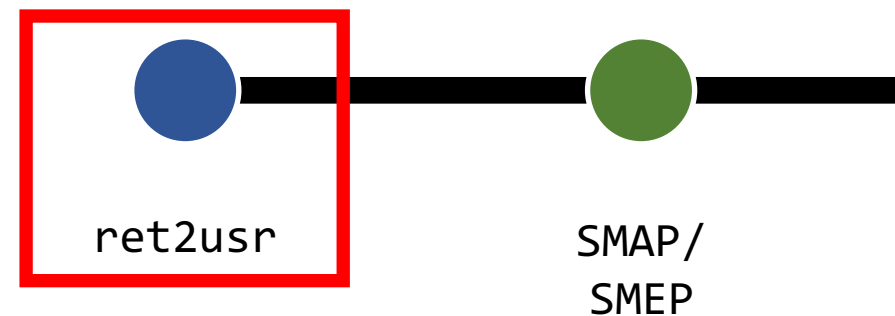
The history

- ret2usr

Change RIP register to user space address



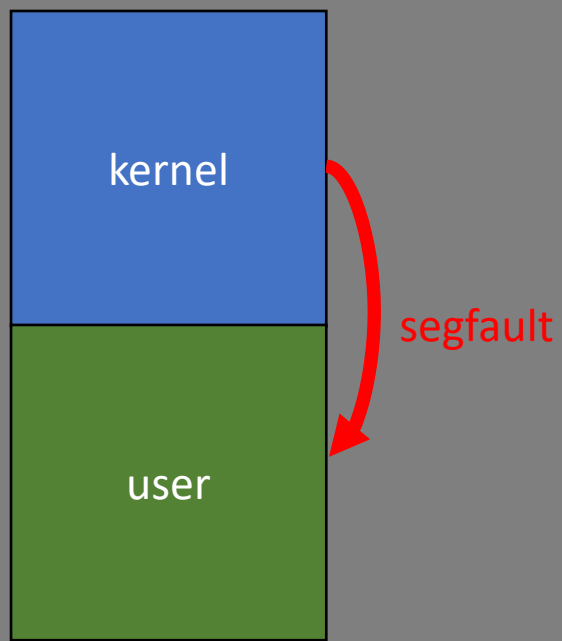
In kernel



The history

- SMAP/SMEP

Prevent user memory access when kernel runs



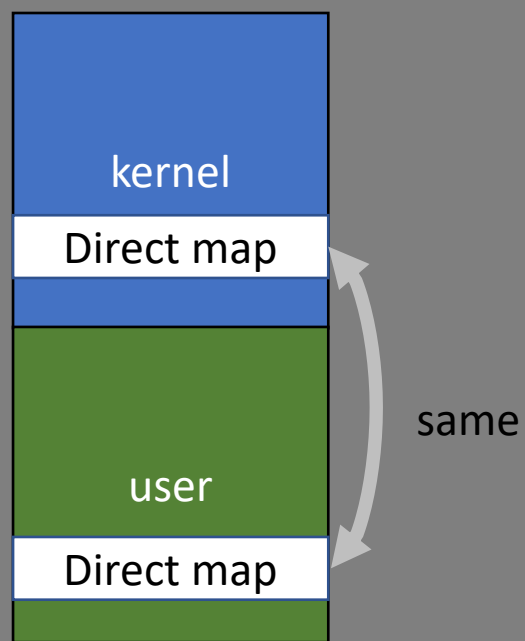
In kernel



The history

- ret2dir

Using direct mapping area for executing shellcode



In kernel



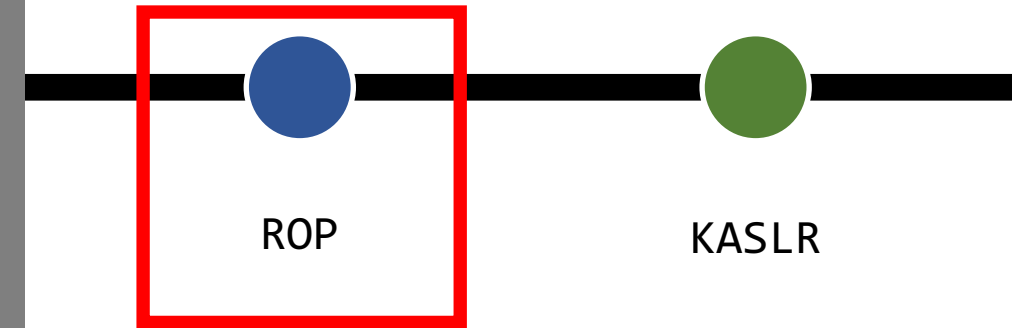
The history

- ROP

Return-Oriented Programming

Manipulating control-flow to execute code snippets (ROP gadget) sequentially.

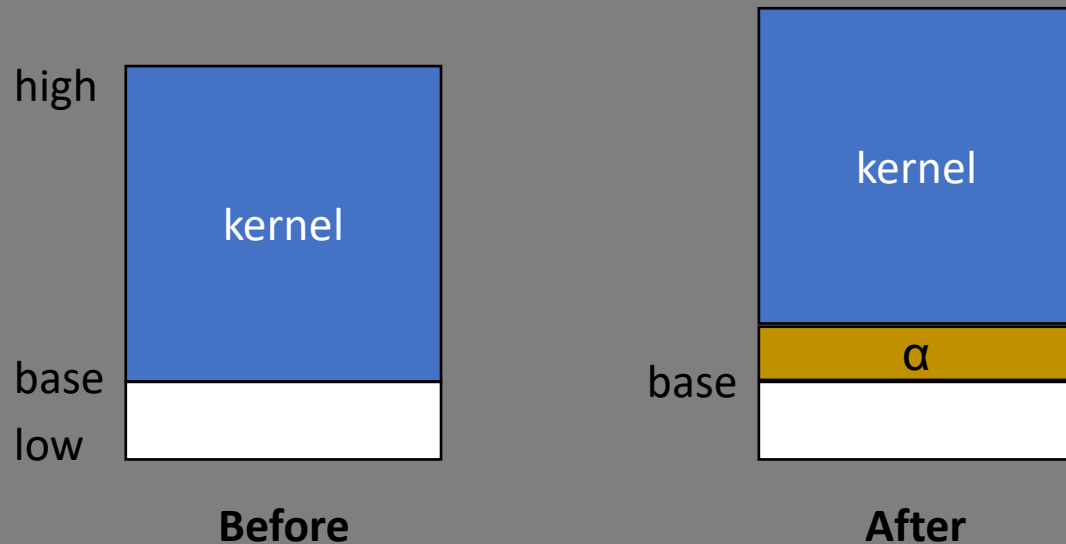
In kernel



The history

- Kernel ASLR

For preventing the execution of ROP gadget, the kernel randomizes the kernel memory address at boot time



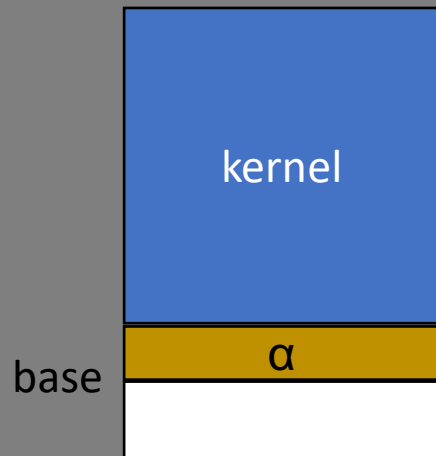
In kernel



The history

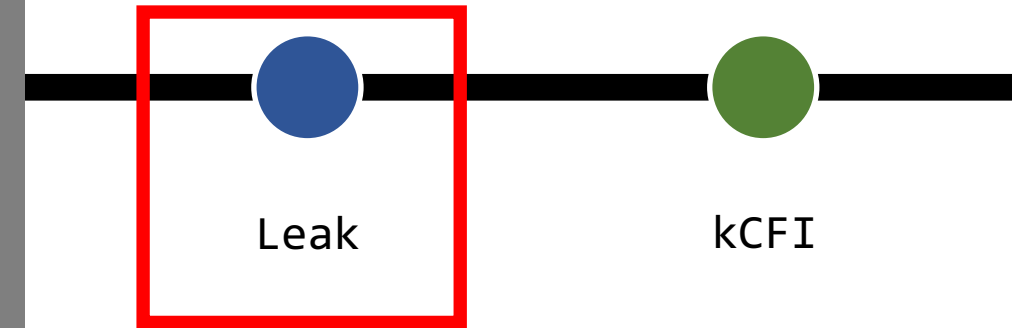
- Information Leakage

For bypassing KASLR, the attacker needs to leak a kernel address for calculating changed address



$\alpha = \text{Leaked pointer} - \text{offset} - \text{base}$

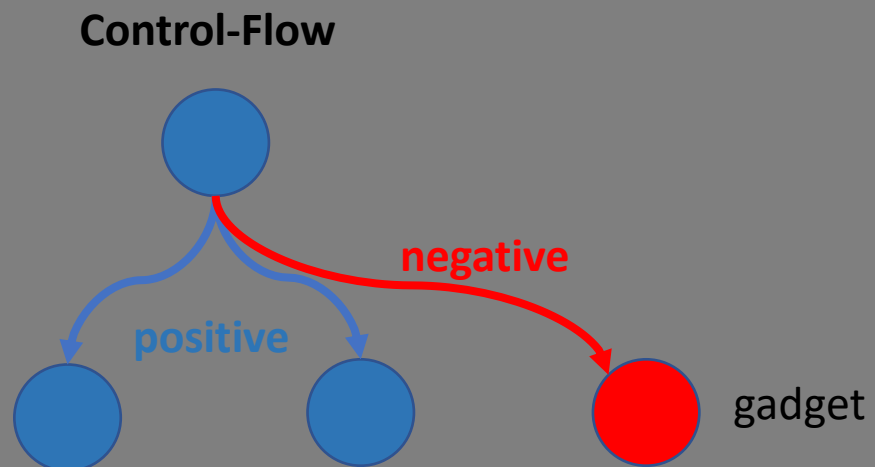
In kernel



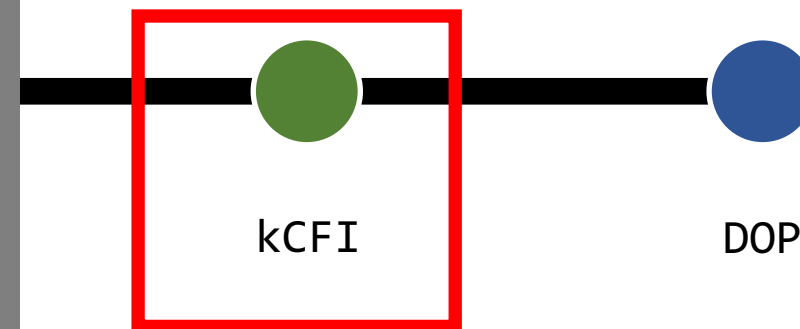
The history

- Kernel CFI

Restrict when control-flow change



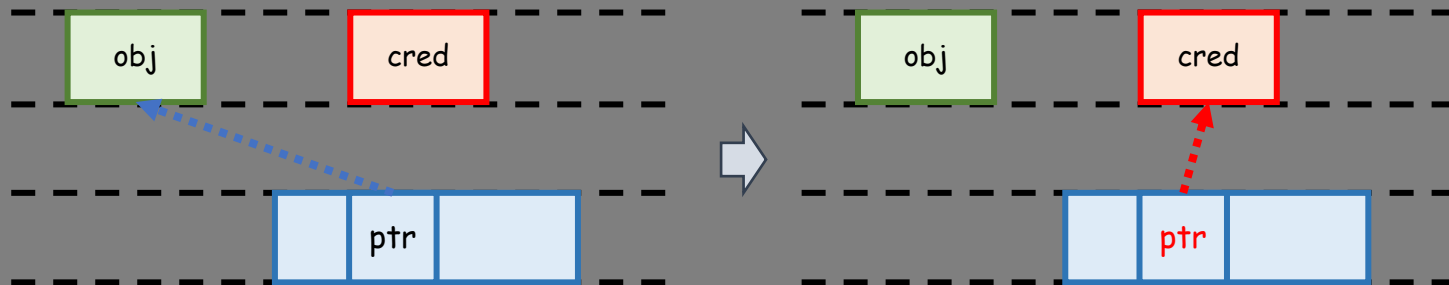
In kernel



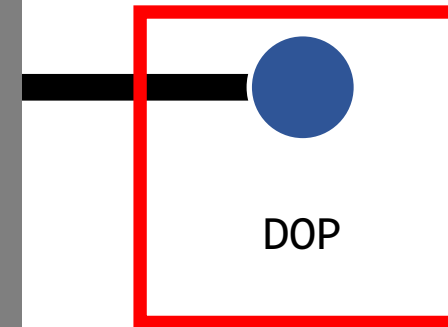
The history

- DOP

Data-Oriented Programming

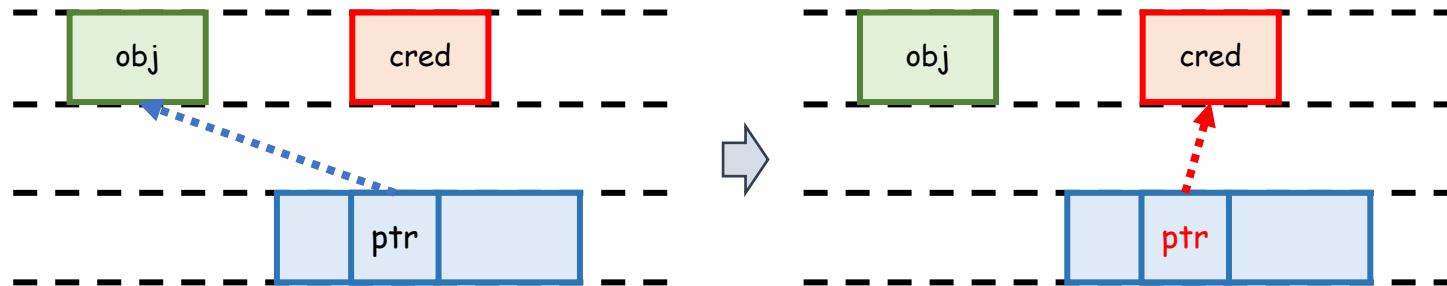


In kernel



Data-Oriented Programming

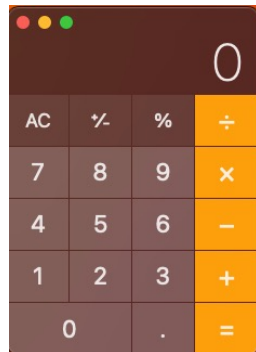
- Manipulate the data-flow to read/write a target data.
- That is, it has advantage when corrupting specific data.



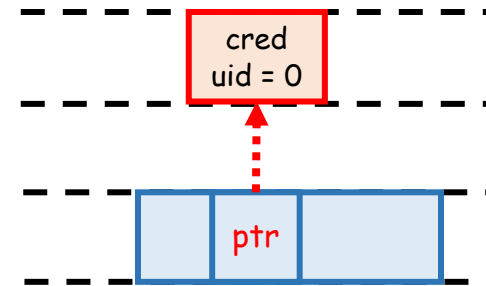
Strength of DOP

Specialized in kernel exploit

- DOP is effective not in User App but in Kernel



The goal of user application exploit

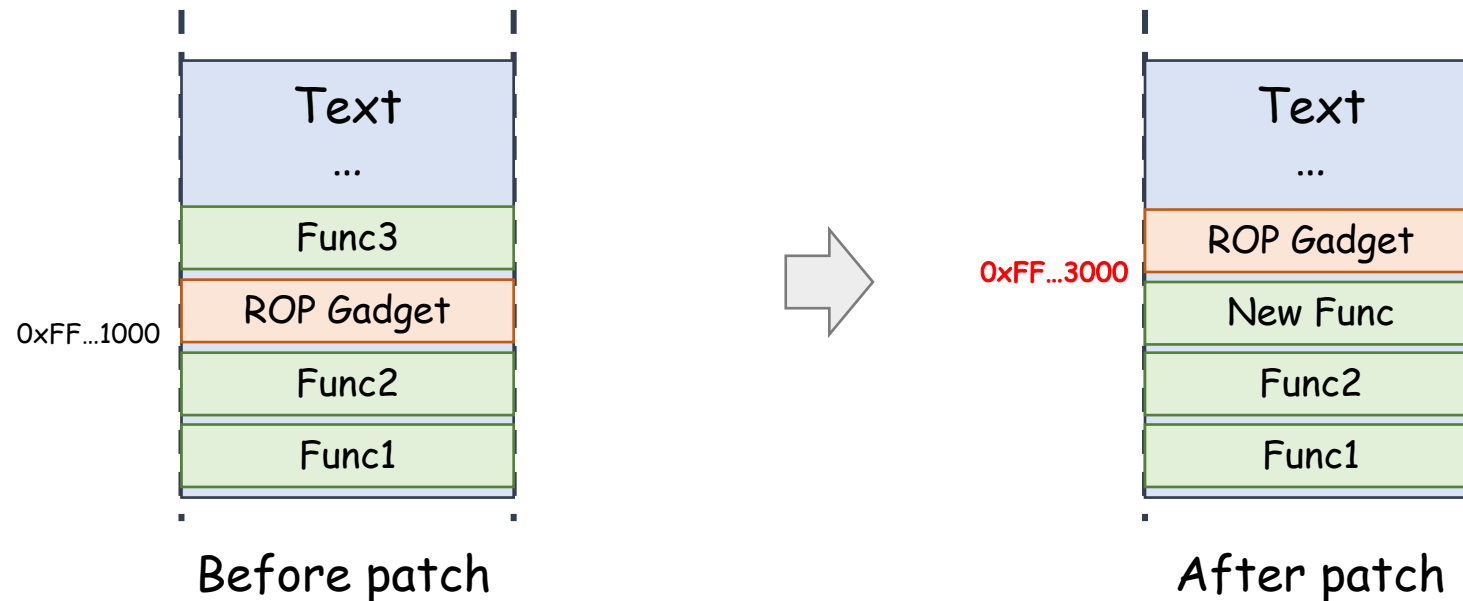


The goal of kernel exploit

Strength of DOP

Patch-agnostic exploits

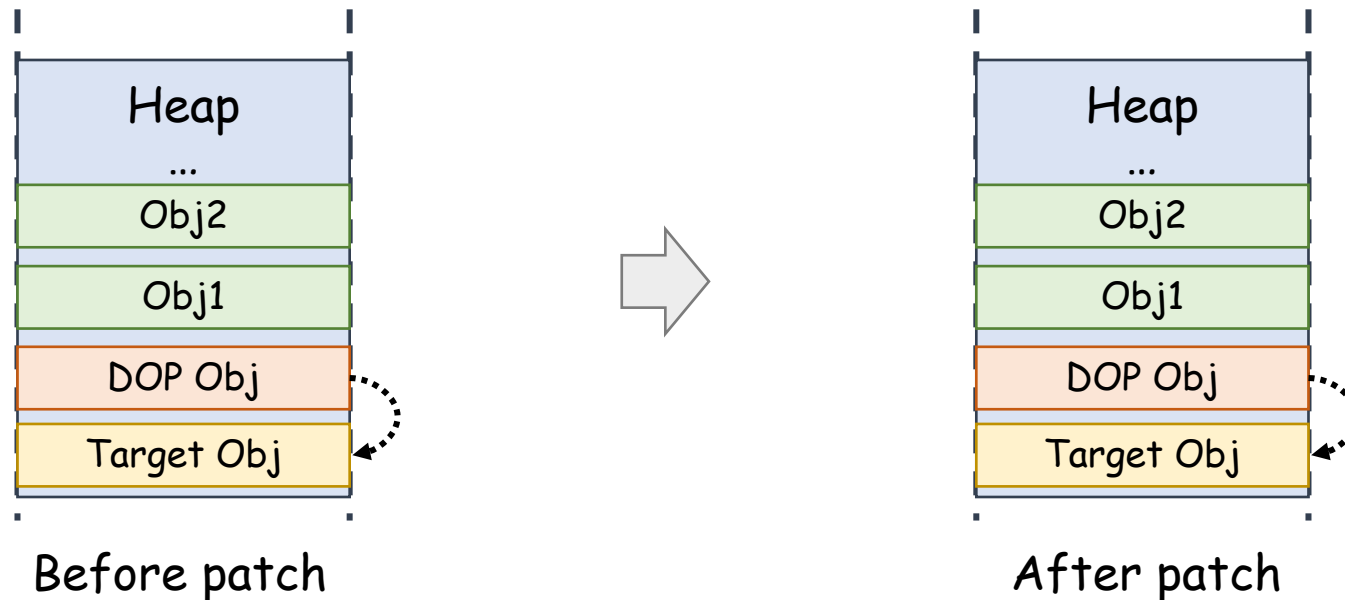
- ROP gadget is highly affected by the patch.
- Because the patch makes the offset of the ROP gadget changes.



Strength of DOP

Patch-agnostic exploits

- DOP is less affected by the patch.
- Unless the object used in the exploit is changed, the exploit hasn't changed.

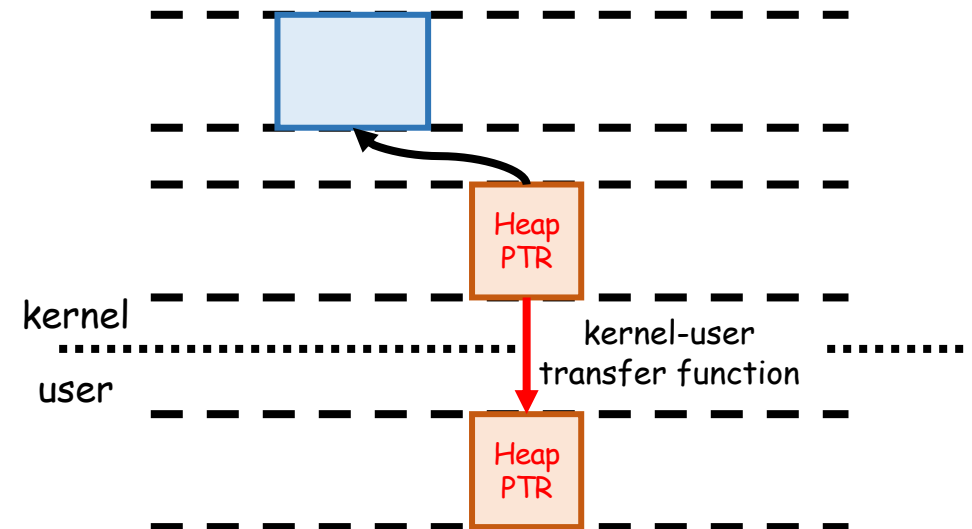


Requirements of DOP

- Privilege Escalation using DOP needs three exploit primitives.
 - Information Leakage
 - Arbitrary Address Read
 - Arbitrary Address Write

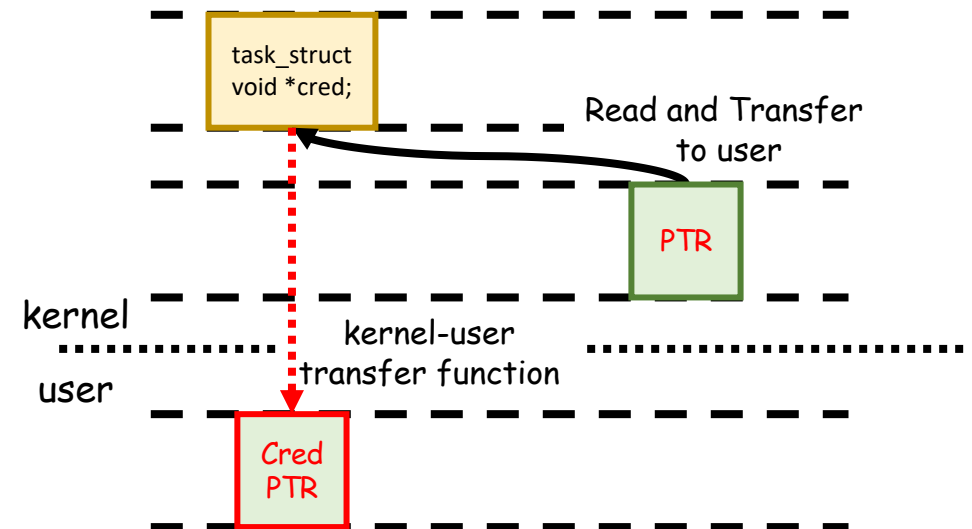
Requirements of DOP

- Privilege Escalation using DOP needs three exploit primitives.
 - **Information Leakage**
 - Arbitrary Address Read
 - Arbitrary Address Write



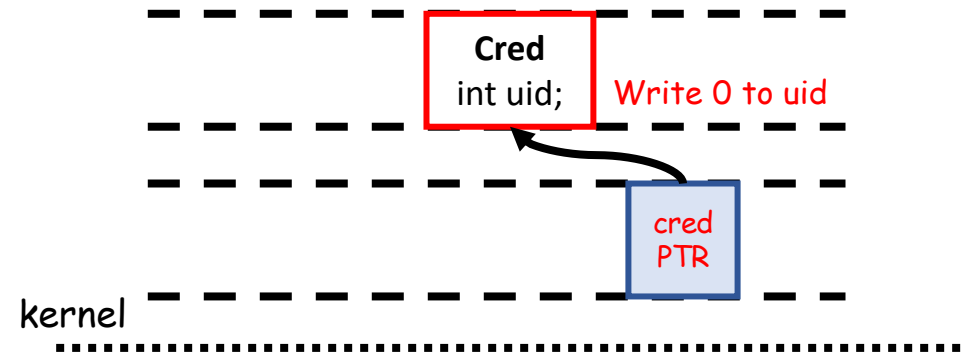
Requirements of DOP

- Privilege Escalation using DOP needs three exploit primitives.
 - Information Leakage
 - **Arbitrary Address Read**
 - Arbitrary Address Write



Requirements of DOP

- Privilege Escalation using DOP needs three exploit primitives.
 - Information Leakage
 - Arbitrary Address Read
 - **Arbitrary Address Write**



CVE - 2021 - 31077

- One Heap Overflow
- Vulnerability Timeline
 - Found this vulnerability in late 2018
 - Exploit this vulnerability in 2020. 05
 - Report to the vendor in 2020. 05
 - Bug bounty reward in 2022. 06
 - Upload at patch note in 2023. 03

Attack Surface

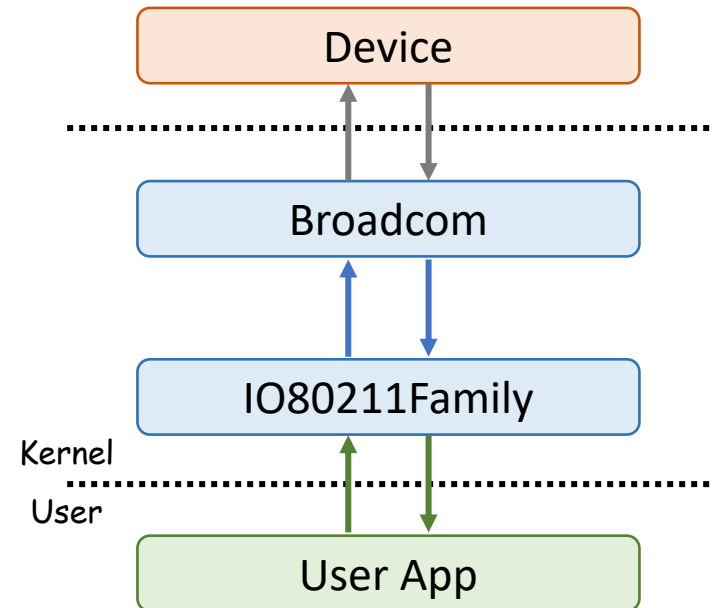
- IO80211, Broadcom

- IO80211Family.kext
- AirPort.BrcmNIC.kext

x86 macOS

- IO80211Family.kext
- AppleBCM WLANCore.kext

ARM macOS



Attack Surface

- IO80211, Broadcom
- Our attack surface is disclosed a very few times.

**CVE-2018-4338: TRIGGERING AN
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE ON MACOS
THROUGH A BROADCOM AIRPORT KEXT**

- ZDI blog in 2018
Based on my report

**Dive into
Apple IO80211 Family V2**

- BlackHat 2020 by Wang

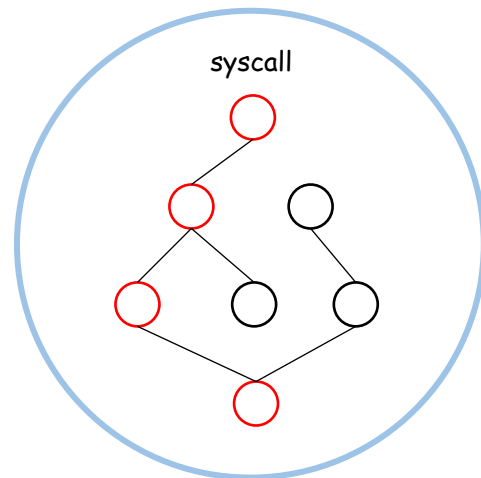
Attack Surface

- IO80211, Broadcom
- We found a number of bugs and vulnerabilities.
 - CVE-2018-4084 : Information Leakage
 - CVE-2018-4338 : Information Leakage
 - CVE-2020-3839 : Information Leakage
 - CVE-2021-31077 : Local Privilege Escalation

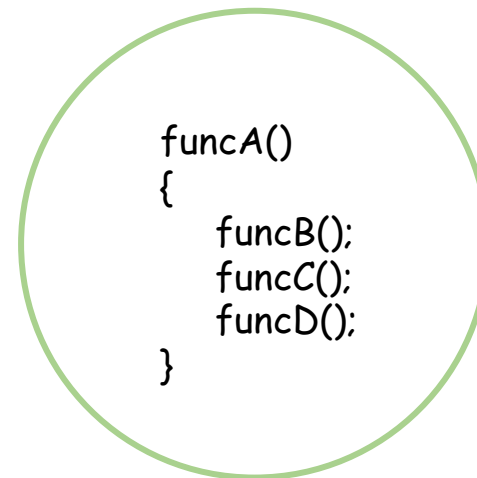
Reward about \$40,000

Attack Surface

- How to know this module can be called by user.



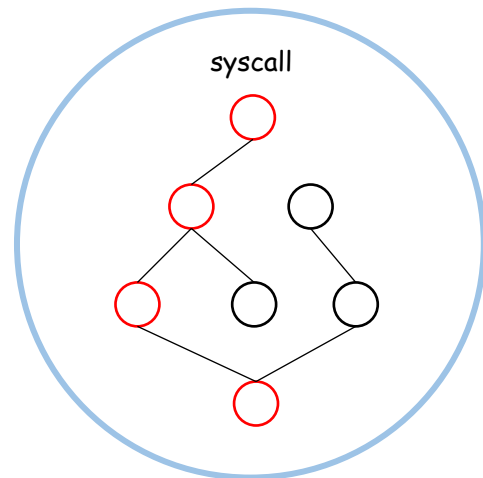
1) Tracking root function



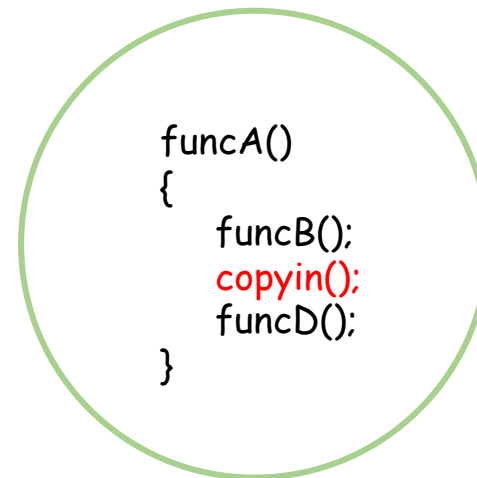
2) Finding the specific function

Attack Surface

- How to know this module can be called by user.



1) Tracking root function



2) Finding the specific function

Attack Surface

- How to know this module can be called by user.

```
funcA()  
{  
    funcB();  
    copyin();  
    funcD();  
}
```

2) Finding the specific function

Attack Surface

- How to connect and trigger
 - Answer is in [Google](#)



hotexamples.com

<https://cpp.hotexamples.com> › examples › cpp-apple8...

C++ (Cpp) Apple80211Open Examples - HotExamples

C++ (Cpp) `Apple80211Open` - 4 examples found. These are the top rated real world C++ (Cpp) examples of `Apple80211Open` extracted from open source projects.

CVE-2021-31077

- The kernel extension has two functions: `setIE`, `getIE`.
- Two functions can be called by `ioctl()`.
- Two function treats storing and getting Information Element.
- The bug is triggered when executing `getIE`.
- However, to understand the bug, we have to understand the mechanism of `setIE` and `getIE`.

CVE-2021-31077

- setIE stores Information Element in vndr_ie.

```
int AirPort_BrcmNIC::setIE(a1, a2, apple80211_ie_data *input)
{
    uint8_t *ptr = osl_mallocz(*(a1 + 2528), 10000);
    ...
    strncpy_chk(ptr, "add", 4, 4);
    ptr[12] = input->data->id;
    memcpy(ptr+14, &input->data->len, input->ie_len-1);

    /* Point 0. this value is the key point of triggering overflow */
    ptr[13] = BYTE(input->ie_len-1);

    // store the buffer to "vndr_ie" variable
    err = wliovarOp(a1, "vndr_ie", 0, 0, ptr, v18 + 14);
}
```

CVE-2021-31077

- `getIE` in `IO80211Family` allocates the heap buffer.

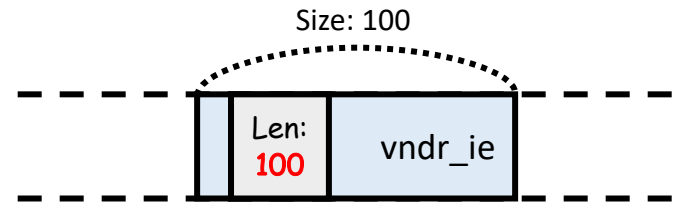
```
int getIE(a1, a2, a3, a4, input)
{
    struct apple80211_ie_data data;
    vndr_ie *ptr;
    copyIn(*(input + 32), &data, 0x20uLL);
    ...
    /* Point 1. allocate with size that user input */
    ptr = IOMalloc(data.ie_len);
    data.ie_data = ptr;
    ...
    // this function calls Airport_BrcmNIC::getIE() internally.
    apple80211RequestIoctl(this, 0xC03069C9, 85, a2, &data);
    ...
    err = copyOut(&data, *(input + 32), 32);
    if(!err)
        copyOut(data.ie_data, user_ptr, data.ie_len);
}
```

CVE-2021-31077

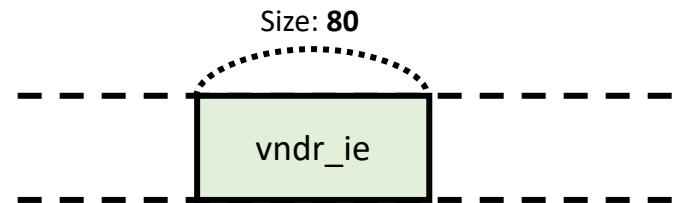
- A heap overflow bug is triggered in `AirPort_BrcmNIC::getIE`.
 - `input` == allocated buffer & `stored` == stored buffer in `setIE`

```
int Airport_BrcmNIC::getIE(a1, a2, apple80211_ie_data *input)
{
    ...
    void *ptr = osl_mallocz(*(a1 + 2528), 10000LL);
    // store the buffer to "vndr_ie" variable
    err = wliovarOp(a1, "vndr_ie", 0LL, 0LL, ptr, 10000LL);
    vndr_ie *stored = ptr+8;
    ...
    /* Point 2. overflow will be occurred when the size of input-
    >data is smaller than stored->len */
    memcpy(input->data + input->some_other_len, \
           &stored->data[0] + input->some_other_len, \
           stored->len - input->someotherlen + 2);
    input->ie_len = stored->len + 1;
}
```

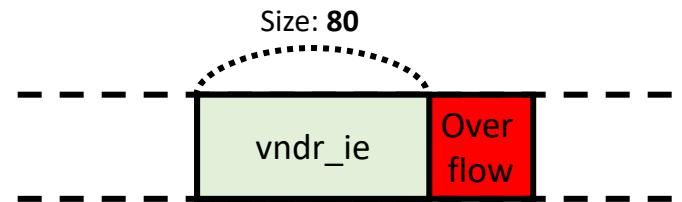
CVE-2021-31077



1) Information Element is stored by setIE().



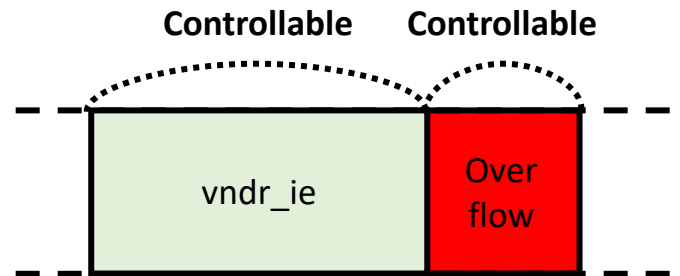
2) The buffer is allocated with user controllable size by getIE().



3) The memory copy is triggered with a stored length size. That is, if the allocated buffer's size is smaller than stored length, the heap buffer overflow is triggered.

CVE-2021-31077

In summary, this vulnerability can control the size of buffer and the size of overflow.

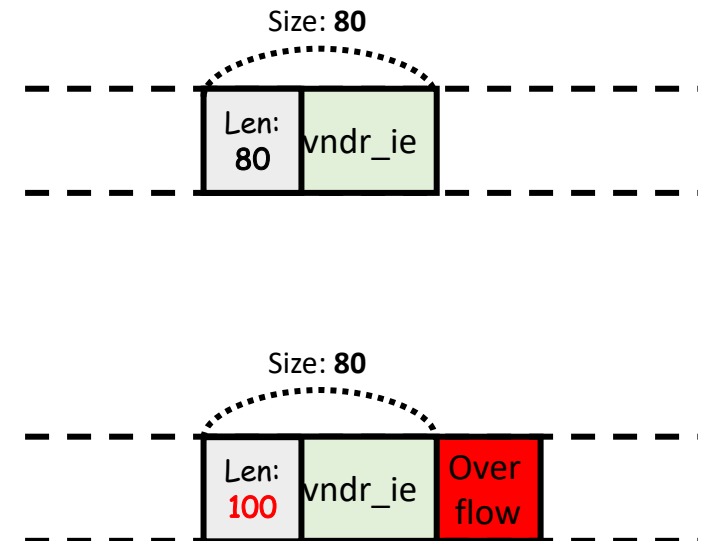


Exploit

- After overflow, kernel panic occurs because of **hardened copy**.
- This is because `data.ie_len` is overwritten to be larger than allocated.

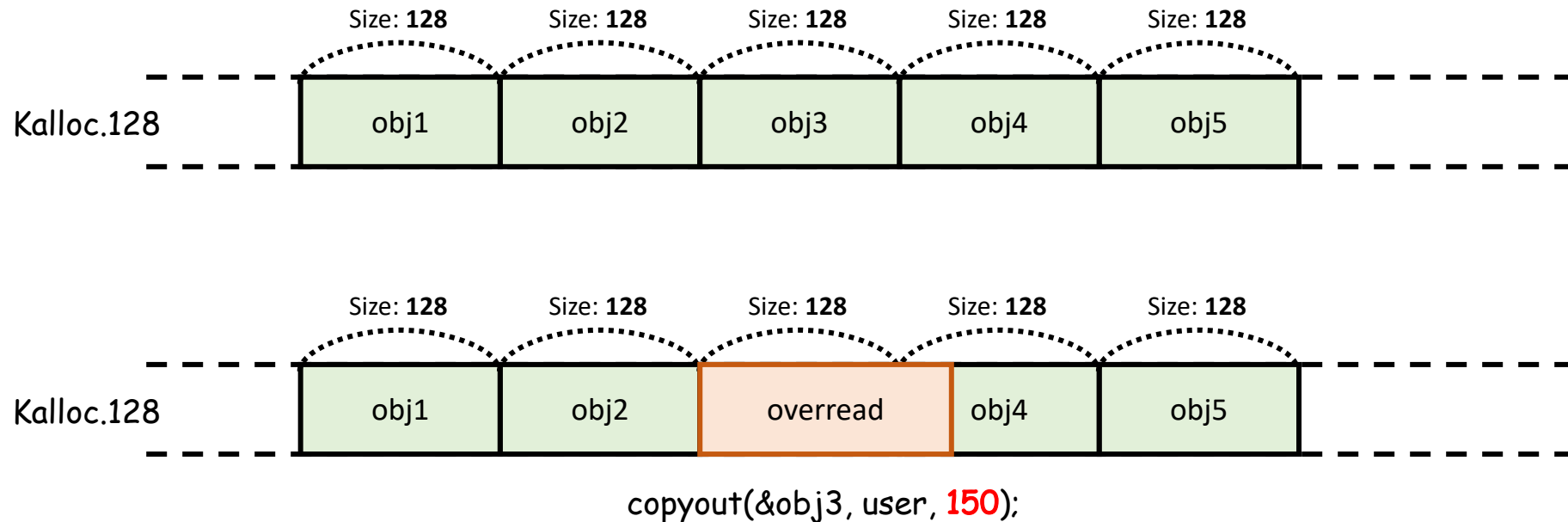
```
int getIE(a1, a2, a3, a4, input)
{
    // this function calls Airport_BrcmNIC::getIE() internally.

    apple80211RequestIoctl(this, 0xC03069C9, 85, a2, &data);
    ...
    err = copyOut(&data, *(input + 32), 32);
    if(!err)
        copyOut(data.ie_data, user_ptr, data.ie_len);
}
                                     e.g., 100
```



Hardened Copy

- It is a mitigation that prevents overread.
- If the copied size is bigger than the size of the object, it triggers kernel panic.



Exploit: Bypass Hardened Copy

- We thought the kernel panic by hardened copy must be triggered if the attacker tries to cause heap overflow.

```
int getIE(a1, a2, a3, a4, input)
{
    // this function calls AirPort_BrcmNIC::getIE() internally.

    apple80211RequestIoctl(this, 0xC03069C9, 85, a2, &data);
    ...
    err = copyOut(&data, *(input + 32), 32);
    if(!err)
        copyOut(data.ie_data, user_ptr, data.ie_len);
}
```

Exploit: Bypass Hardened Copy

- Here, we found a simple trick that prevents the second copyOut function.
- The second copyOut is not executed if the first copyOut is failed.

```
int getIE(a1, a2, a3, a4, input)
{
    // this function calls AirPort_BrcmNIC::getIE() internally.

    apple80211RequestIoctl(this, 0xC03069C9, 85, a2, &data);
    ...
    err = copyOut(&data, *(input + 32), 32);
    if(!err)
        copyOut(data.ie_data, user_ptr, data.ie_len);
}
```

Exploit: Bypass Hardened Copy

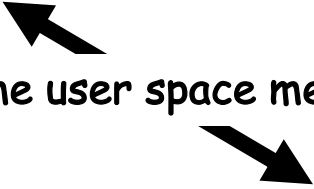
- copyOut function returns failed when it has a problem to copy the data to user space memory.
 - If the user space memory address is not assigned.
 - If the user space memory is read-only.
 - Etc.

Exploit: Bypass Hardened Copy

- If the user space memory address is not assigned.

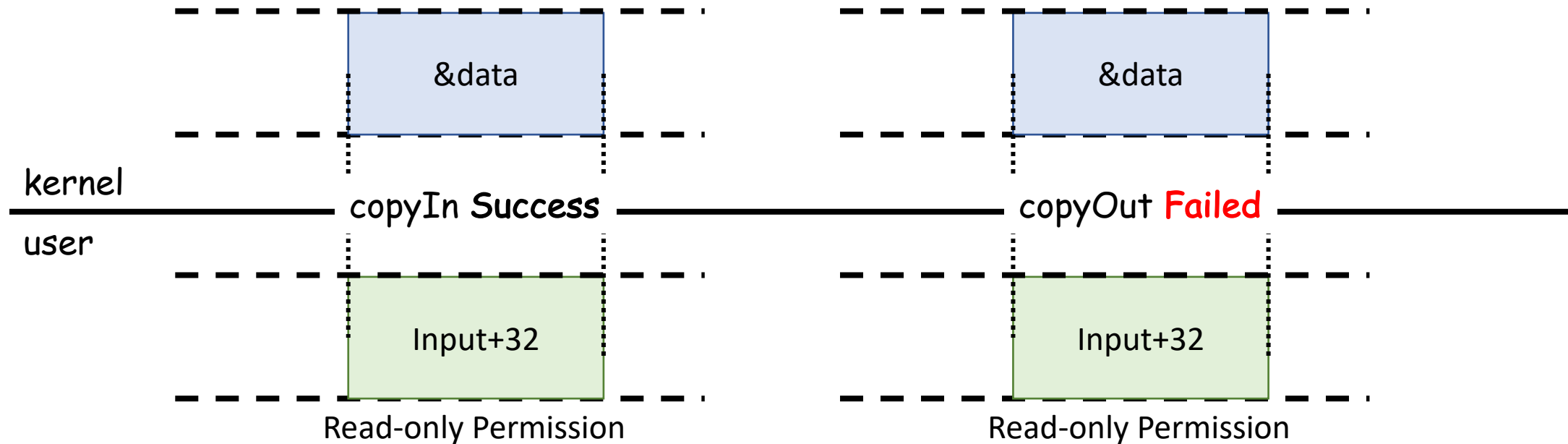
```
int getIE(a1, a2, a3, a4, input)
{
    struct apple80211_ie_data data;
    vndr_ie *ptr;
    copyIn(*(input + 32), &data, 0x20uLL);
    ...
    ...
    err = copyOut(&data, *(input + 32), 32);
    if(!err)
        copyOut(data.ie_data, user_ptr, data.ie_len);
}
```

Same user space memory



Exploit: Bypass Hardened Copy

- If the user space memory is read-only.



Exploit: Bypass Hardened Copy

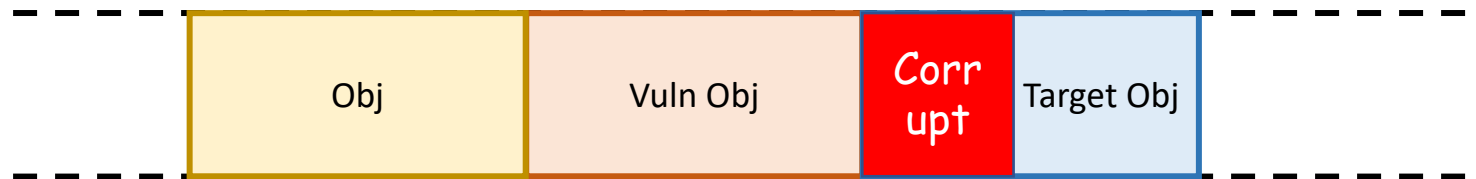
- Since the trick makes first copyOut failed, the second copyOut is not executed.

```
int getIE(a1, a2, a3, a4, input)
{
    // this function calls Airport_BrcmNIC::getIE() internally.

    apple80211RequestIoctl(this, 0xC03069C9, 85, a2, &data);
    ...
    err = copyOut(&data, *(input + 32), 32); // return fail
    if(!err) // goto else
        copyOut(data.ie_data, user_ptr, data.ie_len); // Panic!
}
```

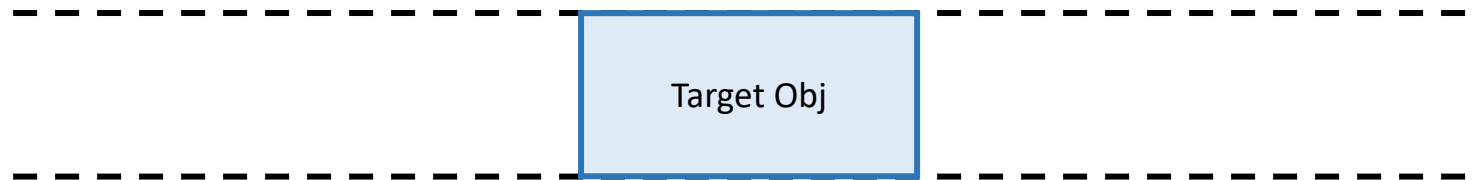
Exploit

Now, we can corrupt the target object which is placed right after the vulnerable object.



Exploit

Target object : According to the target object, the vulnerability can be turned into various exploit primitives.



DOP needs 3 primitives: Information Leakage, Arbitrary Address Read, Arbitrary Address Write

Exploit

Target object : According to the target object, the vulnerability can be turned into various exploit primitives.

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

SockPuppet: A Walkthrough of a Kernel Exploit for iOS 12.4

Posted by Ned Williamson, 20% on Project Zero

Exploit

Target object : According to the target object, the vulnerability can be turned into various exploit primitives.

```
struct ip6_pktopts {  
    struct mbuf *ip6po_m;  
    int ip6po_hlim;  
    struct in6_pktinfo *ip6po_pktinfo;  
    struct ip6po_nhinfo ip6po_nhinfo;  
    struct ip6_hbh *ip6po_hbh;  
    struct ip6_dest *ip6po_dest1;  
    struct ip6po_rhinfo ip6po_rhinfo;  
    struct ip6_dest *ip6po_dest2;  
    int ip6po_tclass;  
    int ip6po_minmtu;  
    int ip6po_prefer_tempaddr;  
    int ip6po_flags;  
};
```

```
struct in6_pktinfo {  
    struct in6_addr ipi6_addr;  
    unsigned int ipi6_ifindex;  
};
```

Exploit

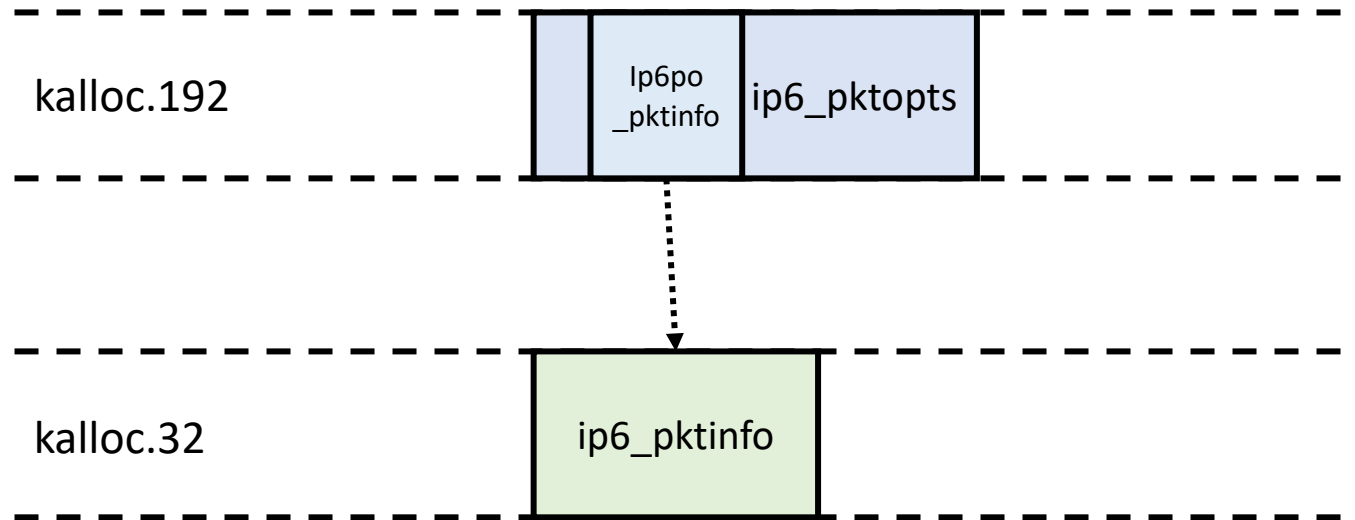
We only use ip6po_pktinfo for Information Leakage, AAR, AAW

```
struct ip6_pktopts {
    struct mbuf *ip6po_m;
    int ip6po_hlim;
    struct in6_pktinfo *ip6po_pktinfo;
    struct ip6po_nhinfo ip6po_nhinfo;
    struct ip6_hbh *ip6po_hbh;
    struct ip6_dest *ip6po_dest1;
    struct ip6po_rhinfo ip6po_rhinfo;
    struct ip6_dest *ip6po_dest2;
    int ip6po_tclass;
    int ip6po_minmtu;
    int ip6po_prefer_tempaddr;
    int ip6po_flags;
};
```

```
struct in6_pktinfo {
    struct in6_addr ipi6_addr;
    unsigned int ipi6_ifindex;
};
```

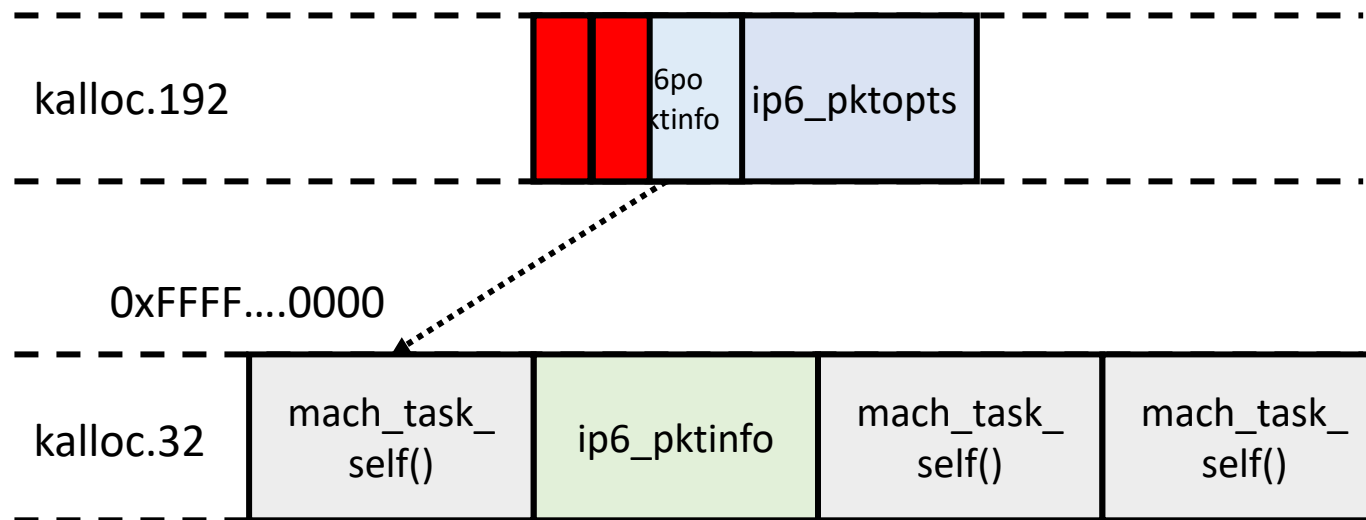
Exploit

Zone



Exploit

Information Leakage



ip6po_pckinfo : 0xFFFF...0032



ip6po_pckinfo : 0xFFFF...0000

Exploit

Recursive Arbitrary Address Read

```
1. struct ipc_port { ←  
2.     ... ←  
3.     union { ←  
4.         ipc_kobject_t kobject; // OFFSET 0x68 KOBJECT == struct task ←  
5.         ipc_importance task t imp task; ←  
6.         ipc_port t sync inheritor port; ←  
7.         struct knote *sync inheritor knote; ←  
8.         struct turnstile *sync inheritor ts; ←  
9.     } kdata; ←  
10.     ... ←  
11. } ←
```

Exploit

Recursive Arbitrary Address Read

```
13. struct task { ←  
14.     ... ←  
15.     void *bsd_info; // OFFSET 0x3a0 bsd_info == struct proc ←  
16.     ... ←  
17. } ←
```

Exploit

Recursive Arbitrary Address Read

```
19. struct proc { ↵  
20.     ... ↵  
21.     kauth_cred_t p_ucred; // OFFSET 0x100 p_ucred == struct ucred ↵  
22.     ... ↵  
23. }
```

Exploit

Arbitrary Address Write

```
25. struct ucred { ←
26.     ... ←
27.     struct posix_cred { ←
28.         uid_t cr_uid; /* effective user id */ // OFFSET 0x18 ←
29.         uid_t cr_ruid; /* real user id */ ←
30.         uid_t cr_svuid; /* saved user id */ ←
31.         short cr_ngroups; /* number of groups in advisory list */ ←
32.         gid_t cr_groups[NGROUPS]; /* advisory group list */ ←
33.         gid_t cr_rgid; /* real group id */ ←
34.         gid_t cr_svgid; /* saved group id */ ←
35.         uid_t cr_gmuid; /* UID for group membership purposes */ ←
36.         int cr_flags; /* flags on credential */ ←
37.     } cr_posix; ←
38.     ... ←
39. }; ←
```

Exploit

Proof-Of-Concept

A terminal window with a dark background. The title bar at the top shows three window control buttons on the left, the text 'zsh' in the center, and a window icon on the right. The main content area shows a shell prompt 'yoochanlee@Lee exploit2 %' followed by a cursor. The rest of the terminal is empty.

```
yoochanlee@Lee exploit2 %
```



Email: yoochan10@snu.ac.kr

Twitter: @_yoochanlee