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**Owner:** qin...@chromium.org

**CC:** qin...@chromium.org  
xingliu@chromium.org  
dtrainor@chromium.org

**Status:** Fixed (Closed)

**Components:** UI>Browser>Downloads

**Modified:** Sep 23, 2021

**Backlog-Rank:** ----

**Editors:** ----

**EstimatedDays:** ----

**NextAction:** ----

**OS:** Linux, Android, Windows, Chrome, Mac

**Pri:** 2

**Type:** Bug-Security

reward-500  
Security\_Severity-Low  
Security\_Impact-Stable  
allpublic  
reward-inprocess  
CVE\_description-submitted  
Release-0-M83  
CVE-2020-6488

## Issue 1044277: Security: Possible to bypass restrictions on multiple downloads by initiating download from data: frame

Reported by derce...@gmail.com on Tue, Jan 21, 2020, 3:02 PM EST

Code

### VULNERABILITY DETAILS

Typically it's not possible for a page to download more than one file without further user interaction. However, by initiating a download from an opaque origin, a page can, in certain circumstances, download multiple files.

### VERSION

Chrome Version: Tested on 79.0.3945.130 (stable) and 81.0.4034.0 (canary)  
Operating System: Windows 10, version 1909

### REPRODUCTION CASE

1. Open index.html.
2. This page will initiate a download of an empty text file, one download every 5 seconds.

Some explanation of that's happening:

If on a page you have a data: sub-frame that performs the following steps:

```
var newWindow = open();  
newWindow.location.href = "...url-to-download-file...";
```

The frame will be able to download multiple files without any restrictions.

From some testing, this won't work if the frame tries to download multiple files by setting its own location, or that of its parent. It also won't work if the new window the frame opens points to a regular http/https page (it has to be something like about:blank).

However, going through the above steps would likely mean that the user would have to interact with the page first (e.g. by clicking it), so that the page could successfully call window.open.

In the demonstration, there's no user interaction required, because the page changes its visible URL to about:blank (there are some comments in main.js that explain this). A data: frame on the page will then be able to download multiple files without any restrictions.

### CREDIT INFORMATION

Reporter credit: David Erceg

**index.html**  
203 bytes [View](#) [Download](#)

**main.js**  
1.0 KB [View](#) [Download](#)

Comment 1 by est...@chromium.org on Tue, Jan 21, 2020, 5:40 PM EST Project Member

**Status:** Assigned (was: Unconfirmed)  
**Owner:** dtrainor@chromium.org  
**Cc:** xingliu@chromium.org qin...@chromium.org  
**Components:** UI>Browser>Downloads

Downloads folks, could you please take a look and see if this is working as intended or not? Thanks!

[Comment 2](#) by [est...@chromium.org](#) on Wed, Jan 22, 2020, 10:59 AM EST Project Member

**Labels:** Security\_Impact-Stable Security\_Severity-Low OS-Android OS-Chrome OS-Linux OS-Mac OS-Windows

Tentatively triaging as Low severity, though I'm not sure this should be tracked as a security bug, and would still like to hear from downloads people on whether this is a known issue or not.

[Comment 3](#) by [sheriffbot@chromium.org](#) on Wed, Jan 22, 2020, 12:12 PM EST Project Member

**Labels:** Pri-2

Setting Pri-2 to match security severity Low. If this is incorrect, please reset the priority. Sheriffbot won't make this change again.

For more details visit <https://www.chromium.org/issue-tracking/autotriage> - Your friendly Sheriffbot

[Comment 4](#) by [dtrainor@chromium.org](#) on Thu, Jan 23, 2020, 12:38 AM EST Project Member

**Owner:** qin...@chromium.org  
**Cc:** dtrainor@chromium.org

Min can you take a look? Thanks!

[Comment 5](#) by [bugdroid](#) on Tue, Feb 11, 2020, 2:02 PM EST Project Member

The following revision refers to this bug:

<https://chromium.googlesource.com/chromium/src.git/+220ecb7e354511f3c457d99841a9c09ac3964995>

commit [220ecb7e354511f3c457d99841a9c09ac3964995](#)

Author: Min Qin <[qinmin@chromium.org](mailto:qinmin@chromium.org)>

Date: Tue Feb 11 18:59:47 2020

Fix an issue that opaque origin triggered download is not throttled

If a download is triggered by opaque origin, currently we create an origin from main WebContents' URL to determine if the download should be blocked.

However, if main WebContents' URL is also an opaque origin, the newly created origin will be different from the previous origin. And making the download always allowed.

This CL fixes the issue by using the originating opaque origin instead

if the WebContents' origin is opaque. An alternative solution is to assign a dedicated opaque origin to the main WebContents.

[BUG=1044377](#)

Change-Id: Ia38280f4237ba5cd35c7afcf350734833fb9d002

Reviewed-on: <https://chromium-review.googlesource.com/c/chromium/src/+2048843>

Commit-Queue: Min Qin <[qinmin@chromium.org](mailto:qinmin@chromium.org)>

Reviewed-by: Xing Liu <[xingliu@chromium.org](mailto:xingliu@chromium.org)>

Cr-Commit-Position: refs/heads/master@{#740375}

[modify] [https://crrev.com/220ecb7e354511f3c457d99841a9c09ac3964995/chrome/browser/download/download\\_request\\_limiter.cc](https://crrev.com/220ecb7e354511f3c457d99841a9c09ac3964995/chrome/browser/download/download_request_limiter.cc)

[modify] [https://crrev.com/220ecb7e354511f3c457d99841a9c09ac3964995/chrome/browser/download/download\\_request\\_limiter\\_unittest.cc](https://crrev.com/220ecb7e354511f3c457d99841a9c09ac3964995/chrome/browser/download/download_request_limiter_unittest.cc)

[Comment 6](#) by [qin...@chromium.org](#) on Tue, Feb 11, 2020, 3:55 PM EST Project Member

**Status:** Fixed (was: Assigned)

[Comment 7](#) by [sheriffbot](#) on Fri, Feb 14, 2020, 7:50 PM EST Project Member

**Labels:** -Restrict-View-SecurityTeam Restrict-View-SecurityNotify

[Comment 8](#) by [natashapabrai@google.com](#) on Tue, Feb 18, 2020, 11:14 AM EST Project Member

**Labels:** reward-topanel

[Comment 9](#) by [natashapabrai@google.com](#) on Wed, Feb 19, 2020, 7:00 PM EST Project Member

**Labels:** -reward-topanel reward-unpaid reward-500

\*\*\* Boilerplate reminders! \*\*\*

Please do NOT publicly disclose details until a fix has been released to all our users. Early public disclosure may cancel the provisional reward. Also, please be considerate about disclosure when the bug affects a core library that may be used by other products. Please do NOT share this information with third parties who are not directly involved in fixing the bug. Doing so may cancel the provisional reward. Please be honest if you have already disclosed anything publicly or to third parties. Lastly, we understand that some of you are not interested in money. We offer the option to donate your reward to an eligible charity. If you prefer this option, let us know and we will also match your donation - subject to our discretion. Any rewards that are unclaimed after 12 months will be donated to a charity of our choosing.

Please contact [security-vrp@chromium.org](mailto:security-vrp@chromium.org) with any questions.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Comment 10](#) by [natashapabrai@google.com](#) on Wed, Feb 19, 2020, 7:05 PM EST Project Member

Congrats! The Panel decided to award \$500 for this report

[Comment 11](#) by [natashapabrai@google.com](#) on Wed, Feb 19, 2020, 7:09 PM EST Project Member

**Labels:** -reward-unpaid reward-inprocess

[Comment 12](#) by [adetaylor@google.com](#) on Fri, May 15, 2020, 3:55 PM EDT Project Member

**Labels:** Release-0-M83

[Comment 13](#) by [adetaylor@chromium.org](#) on Mon, May 18, 2020, 11:59 AM EDT Project Member

**Labels:** CVE-2020-6488 CVE\_description-missing

[Comment 14](#) by [sheriffbot](#) on Wed, May 20, 2020, 3:01 PM EDT Project Member

**Labels:** -Restrict-View-SecurityNotify allpublic

This bug has been closed for more than 14 weeks. Removing security view restrictions.

For more details visit <https://www.chromium.org/issue-tracking/autotriage> - Your friendly Sheriffbot

[Comment 15](#) by [adetaylor@chromium.org](#) on Wed, May 20, 2020, 11:44 PM EDT Project Member

Labels: -CVE\_description-missing CVE\_description-submitted

Comment 16 by qin...@chromium.org on Thu, Sep 23, 2021, 8:03 PM EDT Project Member  
~~Issue 1055673~~ has been merged into this issue.