Cairo-1.15.4 Denial-of-Service Attack due to Logical Problem in Program

Overview

I have found a vulnerability of Cairo-1.15.4 when fuzzing HarfBuzz with AFL. Cairo is a 2d graphics library, and HarBuzz is an OpenType text shaping engine which contains a tool named *hb-view* to give a graphical view of text by Cairo, using a font provided by user. The crash happens when calling memcpy() with src=0, i.e. null pointer deference. src=0 is caused by failing to allocate again after memory is freed, and then the failing information is ignored when transmitted to upper function, which leads to the occurrence of calling memcpy(src=0). Owing to logical problem in program, this vulnerability can cause a Denial-of-Service attack with a crafted font file.

Software and Environments

Software:

HarfBuzz 1.4.5 (https://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/HarfBuzz/)

Download by: git clone https://github.com/behdad/harfbuzz.git

Dependencies: FreeType (after harfbuzz is installed, reinstall FreeType), Cairo

FreeType 2.7.1 (https://www.freetype.org/index.html)

Download by: http://downloads.sourceforge.net/freetype/freetype-2.7.1.tar.bz2

Dependencies: HarfBuzz (first install without it; after it is installed, reinstall FreeType)

Cairo 1.15.4 (https://cairographics.org/)

Download by: git clone git://git.cairographics.org/git/cairo

Dependencies: Pixman, libpng, Xorg libraries

Pixman 0.34.0

Download by: git clone git://anongit.freedesktop.org/git/pixman

libpng: sudo apt-get install libpng12-dev

Xorg libraries: sudo apt-get install libx11-dev, libxrender-dev, libxft-dev

Operating System: Ubuntu 14.04 x86 64 Desktop

```
pengjiaqi@ubuntu:~/Documents/crash$ uname -a
Linux ubuntu 3.13.0-32-generic #57-Ubuntu SMP Tue Jul 15 03:51:08 UTC
2014 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
```

Compiler: gcc

```
pengjiaqi@ubuntu:~/Documents/crash$ gcc --version gcc (Ubuntu 4.8.4-2ubuntu1~14.04.3) 4.8.4
```

Reproducing

The crash can be reproduced in the following way:

```
cd /* path of freetype source code */
./configure --disable-shared; make; sudo make install

cd /* path of pixman source code */
./configure --disable-shared; make; sudo make install

cd /* path of cairo source code */
./autogen.sh --disable-shared; make; sudo make install

cd /* path of harfbuzz source code */
./autogen.sh --disable-shared; make; sudo make install

// reinstall FreeType

cd /* path of freetype source code */
./configure --disable-shared; make; sudo make install

cd /* path of harfbuzz source code */
./configure --disable-shared; make; sudo make install

cd /* path of harfbuzz source code */
./b-view or ./util/hb-view /*path of PoC font file*/ /*any text*/
```

Exception

Run 'hb-view' with PoC (i.e. 1.ttf), throwing exception of "Segmentation fault":

pengjiaqi@ubuntu:~/Documents/crash/harfbuzz-master/POC\$ hb-view 1.ttf hello Segmentation fault (core dumped)

Analysis

Here is the crash stack:

```
#0
         _memcpy_sse2_unaligned ()
at ../sysdeps/x86_64/multiarch/memcpy-sse2-unaligned.5:140
#1 0x0000000000483c08 in memcpy (__len=<optimized out>, __src=0x0 __dest=0x8756c0)
     at /usr/include/x86_64-linux-gnu/bits/string3.h:51
_get_bitmap_surface (bitmap=bitmap@entry=0x870698, library=<optimized out>,
      _own_buffer=own_buffer@entry=0x0, surface=surface@entry=0x7fffffffb598, font_options=<optimized out>) at cairo-ft-font.c:1178
#3 0x000000000484629 in _render_glyph_bitmap (face=0x870850, surface=0x7fffffffb598, font_options=0x873778) at cairo-ft-font.c:1527
#4 _cairo-ft_scaled_glyph_init (abstract_font=0x873590, scaled_glyph=0x873a70, info=CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_SURFACE) at cairo-ft-font.c:2443
#5 0x000000000477788 in _cairo_scaled_glyph_lookup (scaled_font=0x873590,
      index=index@entry=0x34, info=info@entry=CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_SURFACE,
scaled_glyph_ret=scaled_glyph_ret@entry=0x7fffffffb828) at cairo-scaled-font.c:3017
#6 0x00000000004adf80 in composite_glyphs (_dst=0x872d10, op=CAIRO_OPERATOR_DEST_OUT,
      _src=0x875450, src_x=0x0, src_y=0x0, dst_x=0x0, dst_y=0x0, info=0x7ffffffffc140) at cairo-image-compositor.c:889
compositor=compositor@entry=0x865d40 <compositor>,
extents=extents@entry=0x7fffffffc1e0,
      draw_func=draw_func@entry=0x4c0670 <composite_glyphs>,
      mask_func=mask_func@entry=0x0, draw_closure=draw_closure@entry=0x7ffffffffc140, need_clip=0x5) at cairo-traps-compositor.c:1049
#8 0x00000000004c240e in _cairo_traps_compositor_glyphs (
    _compositor=0x865d40 <compositor>, extents=0x7fffffffc1e0, scaled_font=0x873590,
    glyphs=0x7fffffffc720, num_glyphs=0x5, overlap=0x1) at cairo-traps-compositor.c:2331
#9 0x0000000004aa9c9 in _cairo_compositor_glyphs (compositor=0x865d40 <compositor>,
      surface=0x872d10, op=<optimized out>, source=<optimized out>,
glyphs=0x7fffffffc720, num_glyphs=0x5, scaled_font=0x873590, clip=clip@entry=0x0)
      at cairo-compositor.c:250
#10 0x000000000045bc2f in _cairo_image_surface_glyphs (
      abstract_surface=<optimized out>, op=<optimized out>, source=<optimized out>, glyphs=<optimized out>, num_glyphs=<optimized out>, scaled_font=<optimized out>,
      clip=0x0) at cairo-image-surface.c:1007
```

From the #1 function of call stack, we can know the crash is caused by **null pointer deference**, where the src of memcpy() is 0.

```
static <mark>cairo status</mark> t
bitmap
                                         library,
own_buffer,
1137
                  FI_Library
1138
                  cairo bool t
                                            *font_options,
1139
                  cairo_font_options_t
1140
                  cairo_image_surface_t **surface)
1141 {
            source = bitmap->buffer;
             dest = data;
             for (i = height; i; i--) {
                memcpy (dest, source, bitmap->pitch);
memset (dest + bitmap->pitch, '\0', stride - bitmap->pitch);
                 source += bitmap->pitch;
1182
                 dest += stride;
             }
```

src = source = bitmap->buffer

In #3:

```
| 1506 | _render_glyph_bitmap | (FT_Face | face | f
```

src = bitmap->buffer = face->glyph->bitmap.buffer
(Later, we will use buffer to indicate src)

Next, we want to know when the *buffer* attribute is assigned/changed. We use reverse execution of gdb.

```
Breakpoint 2, _get_bitmap_surface (bitmap=bitmap@entry=0x870698,

library=<optimized out>, own_buffer=own_buffer@entry=0x0,

surface=surface@entry=0x7fffffffb598, font_options=<optimized out>)

at cairo-ft-font.c:1175

1175 source = bitmap->buffer;

gdb-peda$ p bitmap->buffer

$1 = (unsigned char *) 0x0

Idb-peda$ p &bitmap->buffer

$2 = (unsigned char **) 0x8706a8
```

First reverse:

```
Hardware watchpoint 3: *(int*)0x8706a8

Dld value = 0x0

New value = 0x875420

ft_glyphslot_free_bitmap (slot=0x870600)

at /home/pengiiagi/Documents/crash/freetype-2.7.1/src/base/ftobjs.c:315

FT_FREE( slot->bitmap.buffer );
```

By calling FT_FREE(), buffer is set null. But before this, *buffer* must point to some memory. So, we continue reverse to see when the memory *buffer* points to is allocated. Second reverse:

By calling FT_ALLOC_MULT(), *buffer* pointers to some allocated memory. We continue reverse to see any other operation on *buffer*.

Third reverse:

```
Hardware watchpoint 3: *(int*)0x8706a8

Dld value = 0x0
Wew value = 0x38000000

memset () at ../sysdeps/x86_64/memset.S:95

95 ../sysdeps/x86_64/memset.S: No such file or directory.
```

Here, we come to memset() of *buffer*, meaning on more information about *buffer* before. Since now, we know that there is **one allocation and** then **one free** operation on *buffer*.

Next, we need to look carefully into the allocate and free. First allocate, here is the call stack:

(ps: remaining functions in the allocate stack are the same as functions after #10 in crash stack)

For the free operation, the call stack is similar to allocate stack, except for the first 2/3 functions:

```
#0 ft_glyphslot_free_bitmap (slot=0x870600)
    at /home/pengjiaqi/Documents/crash/freetype-2.7.1/src/base/ftobjs.c:316
#1 0x00000000056375e in ft_glyphslot_clear (slot=0x870600)
    at /home/pengjiaqi/Documents/crash/freetype-2.7.1/src/base/ftobjs.c:361
#2 FT_Load_Glyph (face=face@entry=0x870850, glyph_index=0x47,
    load_flags=load_flags@entry=0x202)
    at /home/pengjiaqi/Documents/crash/freetype-2.7.1/src/base/ftobjs.c:633
```

The first 2 functions in allocate stack:

So, all allocate and free operation happens quite early (9 functions gap) before crash. Next, we need to analysis FT_Load_Glyph():

It first calls ft_glyphslot_clear(), which definitely sets *buffer*=0 => free operation; It then calls FNT_Load_Glyph(), which will do some comparisons:

if all the cmp can succeed, we will come to the allocate operation; if one cmp fails, it will return some kind of error to FT Load Glyph().

Therefore, after calling FT_Load_Glyph():

```
if all comparisons succeed:
```

buffer != 0 else

buffer = 0

In this crash, buffer=0 is just because it fails some comparison.

We have mentioned, if buffer=0, it will return **error** to FT_Load_Glyph(), then return to upper caller _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph().

However, in _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph(), the error will be ignored except for FT Err Out Of Memory:

```
cairo int status t
*scaled_glyph,
                   cairo_scaled_glyph_t
                                          face,
load_flags,
                   FT_Face
                                          use_em_size,
                   cairo_bool_t
                   cairo_bool_t
                                          vertical layout)
    FT_Error error;
    cairo_status_t status;
    if (use_em_size) {
    cairo_matrix_t em_size;
cairo_matrix_init_scale (&em_size, face->units_per_EM, face->units_per_EM);
status = _cairo_ft_unscaled_font_set_scale (scaled_font->unscaled, &em_size);
    if (unlikely (status))
    return status;
    error = FT_Load_Glyph (face,
               _cairo_scaled_glyph_index(scaled_glyph),
               load_flags);
     ^{\prime \star} XXX ignoring all other errors for now. They are not fatal, typically
       (error == FT_Err_Out_Of_Memory)
    return _cairo_error (CAIRO_STATUS_NO_MEMORY);
```

In this crash, the allocate operation fails due to the following cmp and returns error type - Invalid File Format:

So, the error info will be ignored in _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph(), and when back to its caller _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_init(), the return value will be success, so it won't go to FAIL branch to do some error handling.

For the crash stack, it also contains _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_init():

```
#0 __memcpy_sse2_unaligned ()
    at ../sysdeps/x86_64/multiarch/memcpy-sse2-unaligned.S:140
#1 0x000000000483c08 in memcpy (__len=<optimized out>, __src=0x0, __dest=0x8756c0)
    at /usr/include/x86_64-linux-gnu/bits/string3.h:51
#2 _get_bitmap_surface (bitmap=bitmap@entry=0x870698, library=<optimized out>,
    own_buffer=own_buffer@entry=0x0, surface=surface@entry=0x7fffffffb598,
    font_options=<optimized out>) at cairo-ft-font.c:1178
#3 0x0000000000484629 in _render_glyph_bitmap (face=0x870850,
    surface=0x7fffffffb598, font_options=0x873/78) at cairo-ft-font.c:1527
#4 _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_init (abstract_font=0x873590, scaled_glyph=0x873a70,
    info=CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_SURFACE) at cairo-ft-font.c:2443
```

```
if ((info & CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_SURFACE) != 0) {
cairo_image_surface_t
                         *surface;
                                         from the argument of _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_init(), we know info=XXX_SURFACE. Take 'if' branch!
if (!scaled_glyph_loaded) {
    status = _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph (scaled_font,
                           scaled_glyph,
                          face,
load_flags,
                           FALSE,
                           vertical_layout);
                                                               two key conditions!
    if (unlikely (status))
    qoto FAIL;
    glyph = face->glyph;
    scaled_glyph_loaded = TRUE;
}
   (glyph->format == FT_GLYPH_FORMAT_OUTLINE)
    status = _render_glyph_outline (face, &scaled_font->ft_options.base,
                      &surface);
} else {
    status = _render_glyph_bitmap (face, &scaled_font->ft_options.base,
                    &surrace);
```

_cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_init() calls _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph() in different lines depending on the value of info. And the calling location of line 2316 or 2426 is excluded, which means if calling 2316, line 2426 won't be called and vice versa.

```
typedef enum _cairo_scaled_glyph_info {
    CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_METRICS = (1 << 0),
    CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_SURFACE = (1 << 1),
    CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_PATH = (1 << 2),
    CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_RECORDING_SURFACE = (1 << 3)
} cairo_scaled_glyph_info_t; info</pre>
```

Here, the caller of _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_init() pass the argument *info* as CAIRO_SCALED_GLYPH_INFO_SURFACE, so the first if branch in line 2422 must take, meaning that in crash cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph() is called in line 2426. Then, to reach render_glyph_bitmap(), which is in crash stack, we must satisfy the following two conditions:

(1)_cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph() calls FT_Load_Glyph() and returns error (the type of error is not FT_Err_Out_Of_Memory, e.g. Invalid_File_Format)
(2)glyph->format = face->glyph->format != FT_GLYPH_FORMAT_OUTLINE

For render glyph bitmap():

```
<u>tatic cairo_status_</u>t
_render_glyph_bitmap (FT_Face
                cairo_font_options_t
                                         *font_options,
               cairo_image_surface_t **surface)
    FT_GlyphSlot glyphslot = face->glyph;
    cairo_status_t status;
    FT_Error error;
    error = FT_Render_Glyph (glyphslot, FT_RENDER_MODE_NORMAL);
    if (error == FT_Err_Out_Of_Memory)
return _cairo_error (CAIRO_STATUS_NO_MEMORY);
    status = _get_bitmap_surface (&glyphslot->bitmap,
                    glyphslot->library,
                    FALSE, font_options,
                    surface);
    if (unlikely (status))
    return status;
```

If FT_Render_Glyph() succeeds or doesn't return FT_Err_Out_Of_Memory when fails, we will come to get_bitmap_surface(). Here, the return error is 0, which means successfully return. So, we don't take this condition into account, which seems easy to satify.

```
1524 if (error == FT_Err_Out_Of_Memory)

gdb-peda$ p error

$2 = 0x0 _
```

For get bitmap surface():

```
width = bitmap->width;
height = bitmap->rows;
 f (width == 6 || height == 6) {
surface = (cairo_image_surface_t *)
cairo_image_surface_create_for_data ()
return (*surface)->base.status;
stride = (((width +
if (own_buffer) {
    data = bitmap->buffer;
    assert (stride == bitmap->pitch);
  else { own_buffer=False, take else branch
  data = _cairo_malloc_ab (height, stride);
    if (!data)
    return _cairo_error (CAIRO_STATUS_NO_MEMORY);
    if (stride == bitmap->pitch) {
    memcpy (data, bitmap->buffer, stride * height); also can cause crash
    unsigned char *source, *dest;
    source = bitmap->buffer;
    dest = data;
for (i = height; i; i--) {
        memcpy (dest, source, bitmap->pitch); crash point
```

If (3)bitmap->width!=0 && bitmap->rows!=0, we will mostly come to memcpy(), which can cause null pointer deference.

In conclusion, to cause null pointer deference, the following three conditions are the least to satisfy:

(1)_cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph() calls FT_Load_Glyph() and returns error (the type of error is not FT_Err_Out_Of_Memory, e.g. Invalid_File_Format)
In the free operation discussed above, FT_Load_Glyph() calls FNT_Load_Glyph() and fails in line 1088:

```
bitmap->pitch = (int)pitch;
           if (!pitch
                offset + pitch * bitmap->rows > font->header.file_size )
                                                              fail in this cmp
             FT_TRACE2((
             error = FT_THROW( Invalid_File_Format );
                                                              if succeed, come to
                                                              allocate operation!
           /* can't use ft_glyphslot_set_bitmap
if ( FT_ALLOC_MULT( bitmap->buffer, pitch, bitmap->rows ) )
             qoto Exit;
         new_format = FT_BOOL( font->header.version ==
                   = new_format ?
        /* get glyph width and offset */
offset = ( new_format ? 148 : 11
                                            ) + len * glyph_index;
           p = font->fnt_frame + offset;
          bitmap->width = FT_NEXT_USHORT_LE( p );
                                      = font->header.pixel_height;
           bitmap->rows
1056
                            pitch = (bitmap->width + 7) >>
              FT_UInt
```

From screenshot, we know that **result of the critical cmp operation depends** *font*.

 $(1) \ glyph->format = face->glyph->format != FT_GLYPH_FORMAT_OUTLINE$

```
gdb-peda$ p face->glyph->format
$12 = FT_GLYPH_FORMAT_BITMAP
```

format is set in FNT Load Glyph():

slot is set in FT Load Glyph():

```
632 slot = face->glyph;
```

So, after calling FNT_Load_Glyph(), face->glyph->format=FT_GLYPH-FORMAT-BITMAP.

(2) bitmap->width!=0 && bitmap->rows!=0 (bitmap=&face->glyph->bitmap)

```
gdb-peda$ p face->glyph->bitmap
$17 = {
  rows = 0x810,
  width = 0x8,
```

width and rows are also set in FNT_Load_Glyph(), which has been shown in the first condition (1).

Therefore, all conditions to crash are directly related to font.

We continue to see when font is set.

```
gdb-peda$ p font
$45 = (FNT_Font) 0x8704a0
```

```
#4 0x000000000568a61 in FT_New_Face (library=<optimized out>, pathname=<optimized out>, face_index=<optimized out>, aface=<optimized out>)
    at /home/pengjiaqi/Documents/crash/freetype-2.7.1/src/base/ftobjs.c:1252
#5 0x000000000040c97c in helper_cairo_create_scaled_font (
    font_opts=font_opts@entry=0x7fffffffdba8) at helper-cairo.cc:95
#6 0x000000000040d8a6 in view_cairo_t::render (this=this@entry=0x7ffffffdca0, font_opts=font_opts@entry=0x7fffffffdba8) at view-cairo.cc:65
#7 0x000000000004091b0 in finish (font_opts=0x7ffffffdba8, this=0x7ffffffdca0)
    at view-cairo.hh:79
```

In FT_New_Face(), *face* is initialized. And face is initialized according to *font opts->font file*.

```
gdb-peda$ p font opts->font_file
$51 = 0x86d700 "1.ttf"
```

font opts->font file is just our PoC font file.

So, *face* is controlled by PoC and the conditions analyzed above to crash are all dependent on *face*, meaning that an attacker can craft a font file that causes null pointer deference in memcpy(), making a Denial of Service attack.

Patch

The crash is caused by null pointer deference in memcpy, and src=0 is caused by failing to allocate after free. Further, when allocation fails, the current function will return error, but the error will be ignored by upper function (except error type is FT_Err_Out_Of_Memory). So, the upper function will think allocation operation is successfully done and next call render_glyph_bitmap(), which will finally call memcpy() with src=pointer to allocated memory=0.

So, the patch is: in _cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph() @cairo-ft-font.c, don't ignore the error information return from FT Load Glyph().

```
static cairo_int_status_t
_cairo_ft_scaled_glyph_load_glyph (cairo_ft_scaled_font_t *scaled_font,
                    cairo_scaled_glyph_t *scaled_glyph,
                                            face,
load_flags,
                    FT_Face
                    cairo bool t
                                             use_em_size,
vertical_layout)
                    cairo_bool_t
    FT_Error error;
    cairo_status_t status;
    if (use em size) {
   cairo_matrix_t em_size;
cairo_matrix_init_scale (&em_size, face->units_per_EM, face->units_per_EM);
status = _cairo_ft_unscaled_font_set_scale (scaled_font->unscaled, &em_size);
    if (unlikely (status))
    return status:
    error = FT_Load_Glyph (face,
               _cairo_scaled_glyph_index(scaled_glyph),
load_flags);
    /* XXX ignoring all
```

Change line 2238 to if(error), which will handle all kinds of error.

Or, the patch can be: add some checks (if src!=0) before each memcpy() in _get_bitmap_surface()@ cairo-ft-font.c, which may be a little troublesome but can also avoid this Denial-of-Service attack.

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