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**BRIEFINGS**

# Racing the Dark: A New TOCTTOU Story from Apple's Core

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About me

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Background of this research project

# User-mode Memory Access and TOCTTOU Vulnerability



# User-mode memory access on different platforms

Android/Linux kernel

Windows kernel

macOS/iOS kernel

## Android/Linux kernel functions

User Space Memory Access

Chapter 4. Memory Management in Linux

<https://www.kernel.org/doc/htmldocs/kernel-api/ch04s02.html>

`__copy_from_user`

<https://www.kernel.org/doc/htmldocs/kernel-api/API-copy-from-user.html>

`__copy_to_user`

<https://www.kernel.org/doc/htmldocs/kernel-api/API-copy-to-user.html>

## A real world case

```
990 static int simple_mmc_erase_partition_wrap(struct msdc_ioctl* msdc_ctl)
991 {
992     unsigned char name[25];
993
994     if (copy_from_user(name, (unsigned char*)msdc_ctl->buffer, msdc_ctl->total_size))
995         return -EFAULT;
996
997     return simple_mmc_erase_partition(name);
998 }
```

[https://github.com/kashifmin/KashKernel\\_4.2/blob/master/mediatek/platform/mt6589/kernel/drivers/mmc-host/mt\\_sd\\_misc.c#L990](https://github.com/kashifmin/KashKernel_4.2/blob/master/mediatek/platform/mt6589/kernel/drivers/mmc-host/mt_sd_misc.c#L990)



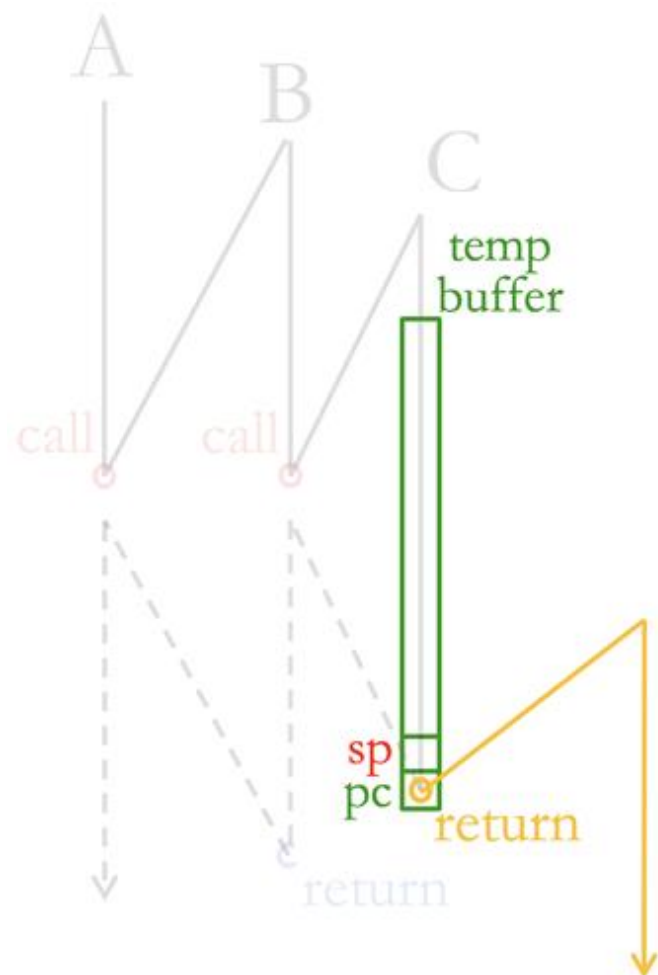
The Creation of Adam, Michelangelo



Bruce Almighty (2003)



# Vulnerability exploitation



c0406998:	e1a01005	mov	r1, r5
c040699c:	e59f0760	ldr	r0, [pc, #1888]
c04069a0:	eb0630fc	bl	0xc0592d98
c04069a4:	e3e05000	mvn	r5, #0
c04069a8:	e5845044	str	r5, [r4, #68]; 0x44
c04069ac:	ea000002	b	0xc04069bc
c04069b0:	e59f0750	ldr	r0, [pc, #1872]
c04069b4:	e3e05015	mvn	r5, #21
c04069b8:	eb0630f6	bl	0xc0592d98
c04069bc:	e1a00005	mov	r0, r5
c04069c0:	e24bd024	sub	sp, fp, #36 ; 0x24
c04069c4:	e89dadf0	ldm	sp, {r4, r5, r6, r7, r8, sl, fp, sp, pc}

## current\_thread

Getting the current thread on Linux v2.6:

```
94 static inline struct thread_info *current_thread_info(void)
95 {
96     register unsigned long sp asm ("sp");
97     return (struct thread_info *) (sp & ~(THREAD_SIZE - 1));
98 }
```

[https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/v2.6.39.4/source/arch/arm/include/asm/thread\\_info.h#L94](https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/v2.6.39.4/source/arch/arm/include/asm/thread_info.h#L94)

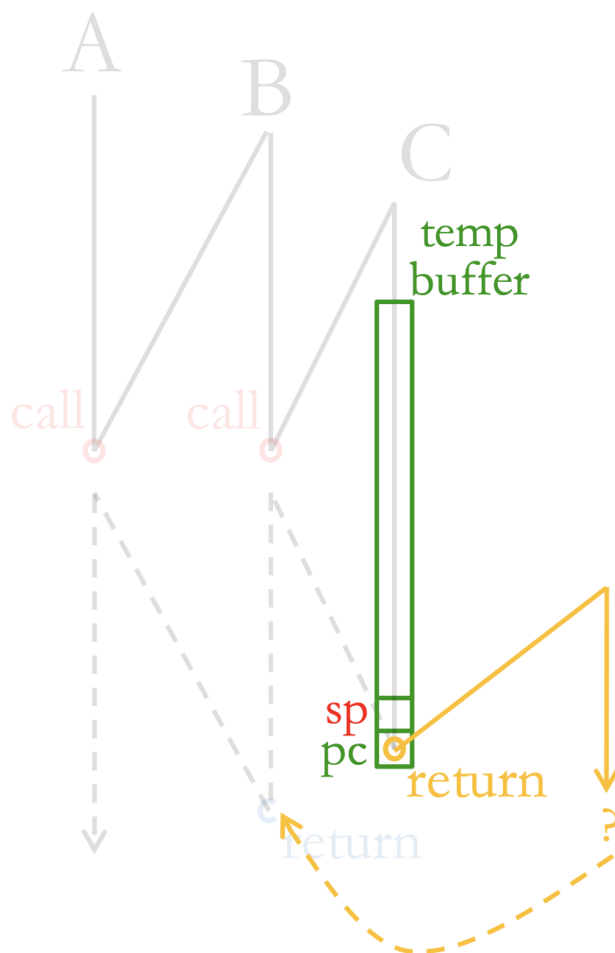
Getting the current thread on Windows WRK v1.2:

```
2746 FORCEINLINE
2747 struct _KTHREAD *
2748 NTAPI KeGetCurrentThread (VOID)
2749 {
2750 #if (_MSC_FULL_VER >= 13012035)
2751     return (struct _KTHREAD *) (ULONG_PTR) __readfsdword (FIELD_OFFSET (KPCR, PrcbData.CurrentThread));
2752 #else
2753     __asm { mov eax, fs:[0] KPCR.PrcbData.CurrentThread }
2754 #endif
2755 }
```

<https://github.com/mic101/windows/blob/master/WRK-v1.2/base/ntos/inc/i386.h#L2748>



# The return address



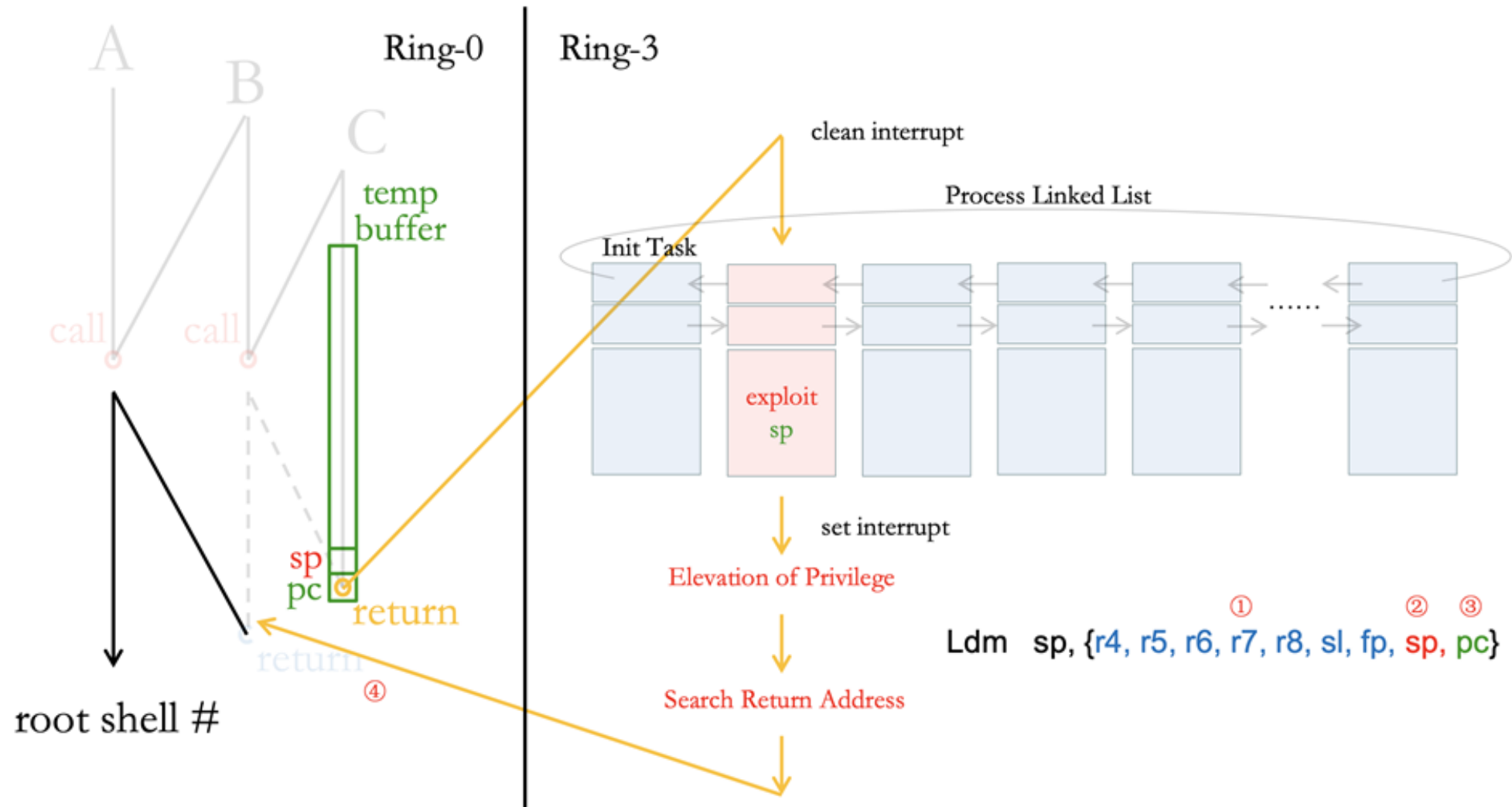
```

c0105cfc T do_vfs_ioctl
c01062d8 T sys_ioctl

c01062d8: e1a0c00d mov ip, sp
c01062dc: e92dd8f0 push {r4, r5, r6, r7, fp, ip, lr, pc}
.....
c010630c: e1a01007 mov r1, r7
c0106310: e1a02006 mov r2, r6
c0106314: ebffe78 bl 0xc0105cfc
c0106318: e51b3020 ldr r3, [fp, #-32]
c010631c: e3530000 cmp r3, #0
c0106320: e1a05000 mov r5, r0
c0106324: 0a000001 beq 0xc0106330
c0106328: e1a00004 mov r0, r4
c010632c: ebffc433 bl 0xc00f7400
c0106330: e1a00005 mov r0, r5
c0106334: e24bd01c sub sp, fp, #28
c0106338: e89da8f0 ldm sp, {r4, r5, r6, r7, fp, sp, pc}

```

# The complete process of exploitation



# The exploitation of simple\_mmc\_erase\_partition\_wrap

```

shell@hwH30-U10:/ $ id
uid=2000(shell) gid=2000(shell) groups=1003(graphics),1004(input),1007(log),1009(mount),1011(adb),1015(sdcar
),3006(net_bw_stats)
shell@hwH30-U10:/ $ /data/local/tmp/mmc_erase_partition
---[ 00 ]---
[REDACTED], H30-U10, 3.4.5, #1 SMP PREEMPT Thu Jul 3 02:40:39 CST 2014
[REDACTED], H30-U10, 3.4.5, #1 SMP PREEMPT Thu Jul 3 02:40:39 CST 2014
shellcode at 0x111a000, temp stack at 0x111e000
      -*> MEMORY DUMP <*-
+-----+
| ADDRESS | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F |
+-----+
| 0x0111a000 | c0 01 0c f1 30 d0 9f e5 00 d0 9d e5 01 da 8d e2 | .....0.....
| 0x0111a010 | 30 00 9f e5 00 00 90 e5 20 40 9f e5 34 ff 2f e1 | 0.....@..4./
| 0x0111a020 | 00 d0 a0 e1 c0 01 08 f1 18 00 9f e5 00 00 90 e5 | .....
| 0x0111a030 | 0c 40 9f e5 34 ff 2f e1 f0 ab 9d e8 ac c5 00 00 | .@..4./.....
| 0x0111a040 | 18 8d 00 00 10 88 00 00 d0 c4 00 00 | .....
+-----+
      -*> MEMORY DUMP <*-
+-----+
| ADDRESS | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F |
+-----+
| 0xbed9d820 | cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc | .....
| 0xbed9d830 | cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc | .....
| 0xbed9d840 | cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc | .....
| 0xbed9d850 | cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc cc 00 a0 11 01 | .....
+-----+
[+] got root!
shell@hwH30-U10:/ # id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
shell@hwH30-U10:/ # █

```



## Summary of Linux platform

1. All inputs are potentially harmful!
2. Stack-based buffer overflow exploitation in the real world is not as simple as in books. Especially when you don't have a kernel debugger.

3. Does stack-based buffer overflow vulnerability still make sense today?

CVE-2019-8648 (p101 - 109):

<https://i.blackhat.com/USA-19/Thursday/us-19-Huang-Towards-Discovering-Remote-Code-Execution-Vulnerabilities-In-Apple-FaceTime.pdf>

CVE-2020-9899 (p53):

<https://i.blackhat.com/USA-20/Thursday/us-20-Wang-Dive-into-Apple-IO80211FamilyV2.pdf>

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211289>

## Windows kernel routines

Windows Kernel Internals - Common Coding Errors (p14 - 18)

<https://www.i.u-tokyo.ac.jp/edu/training/ss/lecture/new-documents/Lectures/19-CommonCodingErrors/CommonCodingErrors.pdf>

ProbeForRead

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/ddi/wdm/nf-wdm-probeforread>

ProbeForWrite

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/ddi/wdm/nf-wdm-probeforwrite>

# CVE-2013-1291 case study

```

bf86187e 53          push    ebx
bf86187f 51          push    ecx
bf861880 52          push    edx
bf861881 ff5704     call   dword ptr [edi+4]    ds:0023:e16ef13c={win32k!pvGetPointerCallback (bf8e8942)}
bf861884 83c40c     add     esp,0Ch
bf861887 85c0       test    eax,eax
bf861889 0f8413ffff je      win32k!sfac_SearchForBitmap+0x3e (bf8617a2)
Command - Kernel 'com:pipe,port=\\.\pipe\com_1,baud=115200,reconnect' - WinDbg:6.13.0008.1108 X86
1: kd> dd esp
f5b9d460 e145b158 003769d4 000004e8 e16ef4bc
f5b9d470 e16ef4f4 e16ef4ca f5b9d6e8 00000030

```

```

bf86187f 51          push    ecx
bf861880 52          push    edx
bf861881 ff5704     call   dword ptr [edi+4]
bf861884 83c40c     add     esp,0Ch
bf861887 85c0       test    eax,eax
bf861889 0f8413ffff je      win32k!sfac_SearchForBitmap+0x3e (bf8617a2)
bf86188f 668b4dfc   mov     cx word ptr [ebp-4]
Command - Kernel 'com:pipe,port=\\.\pipe\com_1,baud=115200,reconnect' - WinDbg:6.13.0008.
1: kd> r
eax=00b169d4 ebx=000004e8 ecx=003769d4 edx=00376ebc esi=e16ef4a0 edi=e16ef138
eip=bf861884 esp=f5b9d460 ebp=f5b9d4a0 iopl=0         nv up ei pl nz na pe nc
cs=0008  ss=0010  ds=0023  es=0023  fs=0030  gs=0000             efl=00000206
win32k!sfac_SearchForBitmap+0x37:
bf861884 83c40c     add     esp,0Ch
1: kd> db 00b169d4 14e8
00b169d4 00 02 00 00 00 00 00 06-00 00 01 28 00 00 00 a0 .....(....
00b169e4 00 00 00 05 00 00 00 00-0a fe 0c 01 00 00 00 00 .....
00b169f4 0a fe 00 00 0a fe 0c 00-01 00 00 00 f4 00 00 00 .....
00b16a04 00 62 55 df 0c 0c 01 01-00 00 01 c8 00 00 00 a0 .bU.....
00b16a14 00 00 00 05 00 00 00 00-0c fe 0e 01 00 00 00 00 .....

```

Yu Wang, Understanding Windows Kernel Font Scaler Engine Vulnerability, SyScan360, 2012



## Bochspwn and double fetch vulnerability hunting

Bochspwn

<https://github.com/googleprojectzero/bochspwn>

27 instances of double fetches in win32k.sys functions performing user-mode callbacks

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eQamOx1Z4bwm7J-FMHgNOw8WJ0JFdNgQdK9vILRHLo/edit>

## Font fuzzing against Win32K kernel

A year of Windows kernel font fuzzing #1 and #2

[https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2016/06/a-year-of-windows-kernel-font-fuzzing-1\\_27.html](https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2016/06/a-year-of-windows-kernel-font-fuzzing-1_27.html)

<https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2016/07/a-year-of-windows-kernel-font-fuzzing-2.html>

One font vulnerability to rule them all #1, #2, #3 and #4

<https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/07/one-font-vulnerability-to-rule-them-all.html>

<https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/08/one-font-vulnerability-to-rule-them-all.html>

[https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/08/one-font-vulnerability-to-rule-them-all\\_13.html](https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/08/one-font-vulnerability-to-rule-them-all_13.html)

[https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/08/one-font-vulnerability-to-rule-them-all\\_21.html](https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/08/one-font-vulnerability-to-rule-them-all_21.html)

# A new type of font scaler engine TOCTTOU vulnerability

Understanding TOCTTOU in the Windows Kernel Font Scaler Engine

Black Hat USA 2014

<https://digteam.github.io/assets/tocttou.pdf>

<https://www.blackhat.com/us-14/archives.html#understanding-tocttou-in-the-windows-kernel-font-scaler-engine>



# My font scaler engine research project

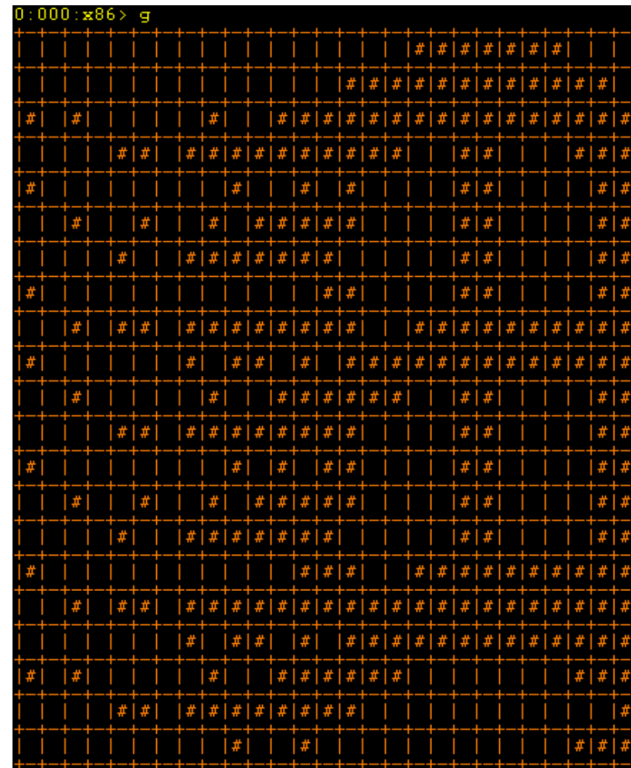
Project fs-engine

<https://github.com/keenjoy95/fs-engine>

```

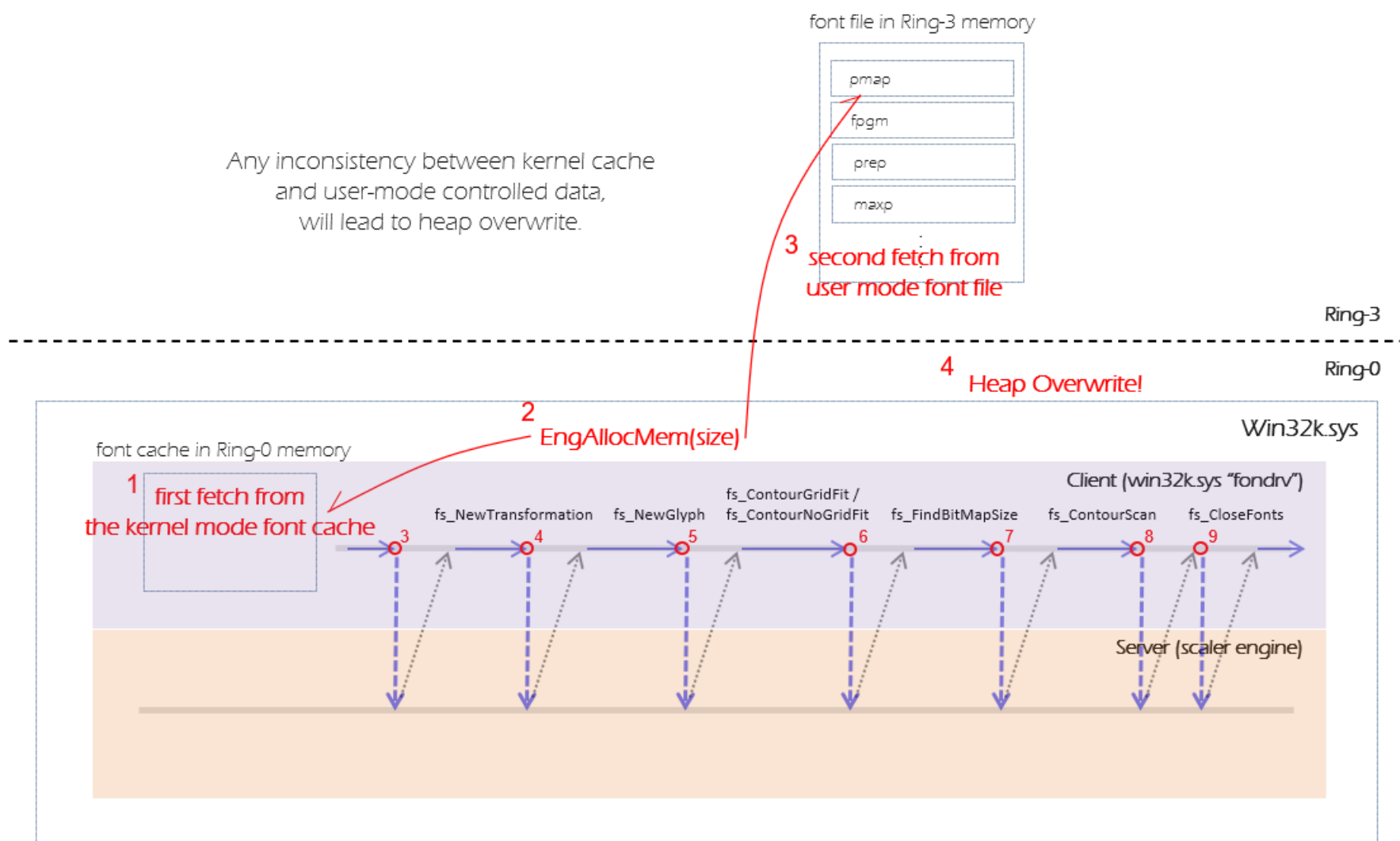
1 controlValueTable 00000000
2 -----
3 +0x000 stackBase : Ptr32 Int4B e1224afc
4 -0x004 store : Ptr32 Int4B e1224f00
5 -0x008 controlValueTable : Ptr32 Int4B e1224f80
6 +0x00c pixelsPerEm : UInt2B 0004
7 -0x00e pointSize : UInt2B 0003
8 +0x010 fpem : Int4B 00040000
9 -0x014 engine : [4] Int4B 00000000
10 00000000
11 00000000
12 00000000
13 -0x024 defaultParBlock : fnt_ParameterBlock
14 +0x000 wTCI : Int4B 00000044
15 +0x004 sWCI : Int4B 00000000
16 -0x008 scaledSW : Int4B 00000000
17 +0x00c scanControl : Int4B 00000000
18 +0x010 instructControl : Int4B 00000000
19 +0x014 minimumDistance : Int4B 00000040
20 +0x018 RoundValue : Ptr32 long bf8e89e0
21 -0x01c RoundValue2 : Int4B 00000003
22 +0x020 periodMask : Int4B 00000000
23 +0x024 period45 : Int2B 0000
24 +0x026 period : Int2B 0000
25 +0x028 phase : Int2B 0000
26 +0x02a threshold : Int2B 0000
27 +0x02c deltaBase : Int2B 0009
28 +0x02e deltaShift : Int2B 0003
29 +0x030 angleWeight : Int2B 0080
30 +0x032 sW : Int2B 0000
31 +0x034 autoFlip : Char 01
32 +0x035 pad : Char 00
33 +0x036 pad2 : Int2B 0000
34 -0x058 localParBlock : fnt_ParameterBlock
35 +0x000 wTCI : Int4B 00000044
36 +0x004 sWCI : Int4B 00000000
37 -0x008 scaledSW : Int4B 00000000
38 +0x00c scanControl : Int4B 00000000
39 +0x010 instructControl : Int4B 00000000
40 +0x014 minimumDistance : Int4B 00000040
41 +0x018 RoundValue : Ptr32 long bf8e89e0
42 +0x01c RoundValue2 : Int4B 00000003
43 +0x020 periodMask : Int4B 00000000
44 +0x024 period45 : Int2B 0000
45 +0x026 period : Int2B 0000
46 +0x028 phase : Int2B 0000
47 +0x02a threshold : Int2B 0000
48 +0x02c deltaBase : Int2B 0009
49 +0x02e deltaShift : Int2B 0003
50 +0x030 angleWeight : Int2B 0080
51 +0x032 sW : Int2B 0000
52 +0x034 autoFlip : Char 01
53 +0x035 pad : Char 00
54 +0x036 pad2 : Int2B 0000
55 -0x08c funcDef : Ptr32 fnt_funcDef e1224f80
56 -0x090 instrDef : Ptr32 fnt_instrDef e1224f80
57 +0x094 ScaleFuncXBase : Ptr32 long 00000000
58 +0x098 ScaleFuncYBase : Ptr32 long 00000000
59 +0x09c ScaleFuncX : Ptr32 long bf8e8656
60 +0x0a0 ScaleFuncY : Ptr32 long bf8e8656
61 -0x0a4 ScaleFuncCVT : Ptr32 long bf8e8656
62 +0x0a8 pgmList : [2] fnt_pgmList
63 +0x000 Instruction : Ptr32 UChar e1260bb3
64 +0x004 Length : UInt4B 0000000d
65 +0x000 Instruction : Ptr32 UChar e1225318
66 +0x004 Length : UInt4B 0003b89b

```



Wingdings TrueType Font

# The root cause of CVE-2014-1819



The kernel font cache issues

## Summary of Windows platform

1. Again, All inputs are potentially harmful!
2. The font scaler cache introduces some new TOCTTOU issues to the Win32K kernel, which are not traditional user data double-fetch vulnerabilities.



## macOS/iOS's BSD functions

Memory and Virtual Memory

<https://developer.apple.com/library/archive/documentation/Darwin/Conceptual/KernelProgramming/vm/vm.html>

copyin

<https://developer.apple.com/documentation/kernel/1441036-copyin>

<https://www.freebsd.org/cgi/man.cgi?query=copyin>

copyout

<https://developer.apple.com/documentation/kernel/1441088-copyout>

<https://www.freebsd.org/cgi/man.cgi?query=copyout>

## macOS/iOS's IOKit functions

IOConnectCallMethod

<https://developer.apple.com/documentation/iokit/1514240-ioconnectcallmethod>

IOConnectCallScalarMethod

<https://developer.apple.com/documentation/iokit/1514793-ioconnectcallscalarmethod>

IOConnectCallStructMethod

<https://developer.apple.com/documentation/iokit/1514274-ioconnectcallstructmethod>

IOMemoryDescriptor class

<https://developer.apple.com/documentation/kernel/iomemorydescriptor>

## CVE-2016-7620/7624/7625 case studies

Racing for everyone: descriptor describes TOCTOU in Apple's core

<https://github.com/flankerhq/descriptor-describes-toctou>

<https://keenlab.tencent.com/en/2017/01/09/Racing-for-everyone-descriptor-describes-TOCTOU-in-Apple-s-core/>

<https://keenlab.tencent.com/zh/2017/01/09/Racing-for-everyone-descriptor-describes-TOCTOU-in-Apple-s-core/>

Splitting atoms in XNU

<https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2019/04/splitting-atoms-in-xnu.html>



## Root cause

```
if (the input user-mode data is less than one page size) {  
    memcpy()  
} else {  
    IOMemoryDescriptor related operations  
}
```

The security update for CVE-2016-7620/7624/7625:

```
392 #define MAP_MEM_ONLY          0x010000 /* change processor caching */  
393 #define MAP_MEM_NAMED_CREATE  0x020000 /* create extant object */  
394 #define MAP_MEM_PURGABLE      0x040000 /* create a purgable VM object */  
395 #define MAP_MEM_NAMED_REUSE    0x080000 /* reuse provided entry if identical */  
396 #define MAP_MEM_USE_DATA_ADDR 0x100000 /* preserve address of data, rather than base of page */  
397 #define MAP_MEM_VM_COPY        0x200000 /* make a copy of a VM range */  
398 #define MAP_MEM_VM_SHARE       0x400000 /* extract a VM range for remap */  
398 #define MAP_MEM_4K_DATA_ADDR   0x800000 /* preserve 4K aligned address of data*/
```

[https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/osfmk/mach/memory\\_object\\_types.h#L397](https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/osfmk/mach/memory_object_types.h#L397)

## Summary of macOS/iOS platform

1. Penny Penny Penny! All inputs are potentially harmful!
2. Did Security Update 2016-003/007 really solve all the problems?  
<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT207423>

# Project Kemon



## Project Kemon

Kemon: An Open Source Pre and Post Callback-based Framework for macOS  
Kernel Monitoring

<https://github.com/didi/kemon>

<https://www.blackhat.com/us-18/arsenal/schedule/index.html#kemon-an-open-source-pre-and-post-callback-based-framework-for-macos-kernel-monitoring-12085>

The practice of kernel inline hooking:

<https://www.blackhat.com/us-19/arsenal/schedule/#ksbox-a-fine-grained-macos-malware-sandbox-15059>

## Supported features

1. File operation monitoring
2. Process operation monitoring
3. Network traffic monitoring
4. Dynamic library and kernel extension monitoring and blocking
5. macOS Mandatory Access Control (MAC) policy filtering
6. IPC/XPC based communication monitoring
7. macOS kernel inline hook engine, etc.

# Process creation monitoring

How can we obtain command line information without the context of process creation?

```
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=0, process(pid 1)=launchd, parent(ppid 0)=kernel_task, path=/usr/libexec/xpcproxy, command line=xpcproxy com.apple.dt.Xcode.sourcecontrol.Git.9B833A42-B4D4-462A-87DB-5794AD851...
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=0, process(pid 1)=launchd, parent(ppid 0)=kernel_task, path=/usr/libexec/xpcproxy, command line=xpcproxy com.apple.dt.Xcode.sourcecontrol.Subversion.82439C6B-C7CF-483A-BE23-21...
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=501, process(pid 3177)=xcodebuild, parent(ppid 3103)=make, path=/bin/sh, command line=sh -c /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/Toolchains/XcodeDefault.xctoolchain/usr/...
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=501, process(pid 3184)=ld, parent(ppid 3183)=sh, path=/Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/Toolchains/XcodeDefault.xctoolchain/usr/bin/ld, command line=/Applications/Xco...
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=501, process(pid 3250)=touch, parent(ppid 3177)=xcodebuild, path=/usr/bin/touch, command line=/usr/bin/touch -c /Users/dd/Desktop/kemon/build/Release/kemon.kext.
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=0, process(pid 1)=launchd, parent(ppid 0)=kernel_task, path=/usr/libexec/xpcproxy, command line=xpcproxy com.apple.mdworker.lsb.02000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000.
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=0, process(pid 280)=spindump, parent(ppid 1)=launchd, path=/usr/bin/footprint, command line=/usr/bin/footprint --corpsePid 3012 --corpseName Console --corpseDirtyFlags 0 --cor...
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=0, process(pid 280)=spindump, parent(ppid 1)=launchd, path=/usr/bin/malloc_history, command line=/usr/bin/malloc_history 3012 -callTree -getCorpseFromParent.
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=501, process(pid 578)=SystemUIServer, parent(ppid 1)=launchd, path=/usr/sbin/screencapture, command line=/usr/sbin/screencapture -idf -tpng /Users/dd/Desktop/Screen Shot 2021-...
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=0, process(pid 1)=launchd, parent(ppid 0)=kernel_task, path=/usr/libexec/xpcproxy, command line=xpcproxy com.apple.screencapturetb.agent.
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=501, process(pid 3255)=screencapturetb, parent(ppid 1)=launchd, path=/System/Library/CoreServices/screencapturetb.app/Contents/MacOS/screencapturetb, command line=/System/Libr...
```

kernel.development (kemon)

Subsystem: -- Category: -- [Details](#)

Volatile

2021-01-03 10:50:46.221519

```
[Kemon.kext] : action=KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC, uid=0, process(pid 280)=spindump, parent(ppid 1)=launchd, path=/usr/bin/footprint, command line=/usr/bin/footprint --corpsePid 3012 --corpseName Console --corpseDirtyFlags 0 --corpseProcFlags 4 --summary.
```

Kemon-based macOS process creation monitoring



# Mandatory Access Control (MAC) policy filtering

mac\_policy\_grab\_exclusive() and mac\_policy\_release\_exclusive() MUTEX operations:

[https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/security/mac\\_base.c#L674](https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/security/mac_base.c#L674)

[https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/security/mac\\_base.c#L788](https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/security/mac_base.c#L788)

(\* (mpc->mpc\_ops->mpo\_policy\_init)) (mpc) and

(\* (mpc->mpc\_ops->mpo\_policy\_initbsd)) (mpc) callback opportunities:

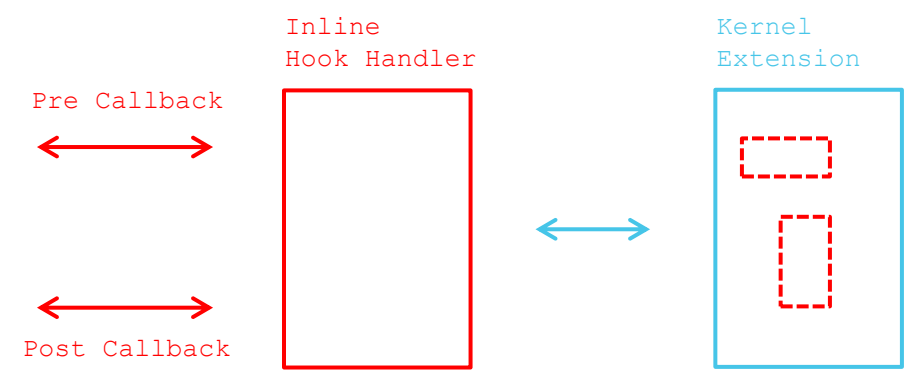
[https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/security/mac\\_base.c#L778](https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/security/mac_base.c#L778)

[https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/security/mac\\_base.c#L782](https://github.com/apple/darwin-xnu/blob/xnu-4903.221.2/security/mac_base.c#L782)

```
[Kemon.kext] : In mac_policy_register callback handler. Blocking!  
[Kemon.kext] : macOS MAC policy=procmon_m(procmon_m), load time flags=2(MPC_LOADTIME_FLAG_UNLOADOK), policy mpc=0xffffffff7fa34fb198, policy ops=0xffffffff7fa34fb1e8.  
[Kemon.kext] : handler address: 0xffffffff7fa34f10bb, policy name: mpo_cred_label_update_execve.  
[Kemon.kext] : In mac_policy_register callback handler. Blocking!  
[Kemon.kext] : macOS MAC policy=dylibmon_m(dylibmon_m), load time flags=2(MPC_LOADTIME_FLAG_UNLOADOK), policy mpc=0xffffffff7fa34fa6d0, policy ops=0xffffffff7fa34fa720.  
[Kemon.kext] : handler address: 0xffffffff7fa34edce5, policy name: mpo_file_check_mmap.  
[Kemon.kext] : In mac_policy_register callback handler. Blocking!  
[Kemon.kext] : macOS MAC policy=ttymon_grant_m(ttymon_grant_m), load time flags=2(MPC_LOADTIME_FLAG_UNLOADOK), policy mpc=0xffffffff7fa34f90b0, policy ops=0xffffffff7fa34f9150.  
[Kemon.kext] : handler address: 0xffffffff7fa34eb6d1, policy name: mpo_pty_notify_grant.  
[Kemon.kext] : In mac_policy_register callback handler. Blocking!  
[Kemon.kext] : macOS MAC policy=ttymon_close_m(ttymon_close_m), load time flags=2(MPC_LOADTIME_FLAG_UNLOADOK), policy mpc=0xffffffff7fa34f9100, policy ops=0xffffffff7fa34f9bc8.  
[Kemon.kext] : handler address: 0xffffffff7fa34ebcfe, policy name: mpo_pty_notify_close.  
[Kemon.kext] : In mac_policy_register callback handler. Blocking!  
[Kemon.kext] : macOS MAC policy=monitor_kextmon_m(monitor_kextmon_h), load time flags=2(MPC_LOADTIME_FLAG_UNLOADOK), policy mpc=0xffffffff7fa34fbc60, policy ops=0xffffffff7fa34fbc0.  
[Kemon.kext] : handler address: 0xffffffff7fa34f38ad, policy name: mpo_kext_check_load.
```

# Pre and Post callback-based inline hook engine

```
(lldb) di -b -n OSKext::start
kernel.development`OSKext::start:
  0xffffffff800ce1aa00 <+0>: 55          pushq  %rbp
  0xffffffff800ce1aa01 <+1>: 48 89 e5  movq   %rsp, %rbp
  0xffffffff800ce1aa04 <+4>: 41 57          pushq  %r15
  0xffffffff800ce1aa06 <+6>: 41 56          pushq  %r14
  0xffffffff800ce1aa08 <+8>: 41 55          pushq  %r13
  0xffffffff800ce1aa0a <+10>: 41 54          pushq  %r12
  0xffffffff800ce1aa0c <+12>: 53          pushq  %rbx
  0xffffffff800ce1aa0d <+13>: 48 83 ec 28  subq   $0x28, %rsp
  0xffffffff800ce1aa11 <+17>: 41 89 f6      movl   %esi, %r14d
  0xffffffff800ce1aa14 <+20>: 49 89 ff      movq   %rdi, %r15
  0xffffffff800ce1aa17 <+23>: 49 8b 07      movq   (%r15), %rax
  .....
  0xffffffff800ce1adfd <+1021>: 4c 8b 65 c0  movq   -0x40(%rbp), %r12
  0xffffffff800ce1ae01 <+1025>: 49 8b 7f 48  movq   0x48(%r15), %rdi
  0xffffffff800ce1ae05 <+1029>: 4c 89 e6      movq   %r12, %rsi
  0xffffffff800ce1ae08 <+1032>: ff 55 b0      callq  *-0x50(%rbp)
  .....
  0xffffffff800ce1ae60 <+1120>: 5b          popq   %rbx
  0xffffffff800ce1ae61 <+1121>: 41 5c          popq   %r12
  0xffffffff800ce1ae63 <+1123>: 41 5d          popq   %r13
  0xffffffff800ce1ae65 <+1125>: 41 5e          popq   %r14
  0xffffffff800ce1ae67 <+1127>: 41 5f          popq   %r15
  0xffffffff800ce1ae69 <+1129>: 5d          popq   %rbp
  0xffffffff800ce1ae6a <+1130>: c3          retq
```



# Pre and Post callback-based inline hook engine

```
[Kemon.kext] : action=MONITORING_KEXT_PRE_CALLBACK, uid=0, process(pid 59)=kextd, parent(ppid 1)=launchd, name=com.mandiant.monitor, path=/Applications/Monitor.app/Contents/PlugIns/monitor.kext, version=0.9.2...
[Kemon.kext] : Disassemble the OSKext::start(com.mandiant.monitor) -> startfunc(kmod_info, kmodStartData).
(02) ffd3 CALL RBX
(02) 89c3 MOV EBX, EAX
(02) 85db TEST EBX, EBX
[Kemon.kext] : In kext pre callback handler. Patching the driver entry point! name=com.mandiant.monitor, version=0.9.2, module base=0xffffffff7f8e0cd000, module size=0x16000.
[Kemon.kext] : action=MONITORING_KEXT_POST_CALLBACK, uid=0, process(pid 59)=kextd, parent(ppid 1)=launchd, status=5, name=com.mandiant.monitor, version=0.9.2, module base=0xffffffff7f8e0cd000, module size=0x160...
[Kemon.kext] : In kext post callback handler. status=5, name=com.mandiant.monitor, version=0.9.2, module base=0xffffffff7f8e0cd000, module size=0x16000.
Kext com.mandiant.monitor start failed (result 0x5).
Kext com.mandiant.monitor failed to load (0xdc008017).
Failed to load kext com.mandiant.monitor (error 0xdc008017).
Failed to load /Applications/Monitor.app/Contents/PlugIns/monitor.kext - (libkern/kext) kext (kmod) start/stop routine failed.
```

---

<b>kernel.development (kemon)</b>	Volatile
Subsystem: -- Category: -- <a href="#">Details</a>	2018-08-01 17:55:36.647081

---

```
[Kemon.kext] : action=MONITORING_KEXT_PRE_CALLBACK, uid=0, process(pid 59)=kextd, parent(ppid 1)=launchd, name=com.mandiant.monitor, path=/Applications/Monitor.app/Contents/PlugIns/monitor.kext, version=0.9.2, module base=0xffffffff7f8e0cd000, module size=0x16000.
```

Kemon-based macOS kernel extension firewall



## From Kemon to Bluetooth/Wi-Fi sniffers and fuzzers

Dive into Apple IO80211FamilyV2

Black Hat USA 2020

<https://i.blackhat.com/USA-20/Thursday/us-20-Wang-Dive-into-Apple-IO80211FamilyV2.pdf>

Please Make A Dentist Appointment ASAP:

Attacking IOBluetoothFamily HCI and Vendor-specific Commands

Black Hat Europe 2020

<https://i.blackhat.com/eu-20/Thursday/eu-20-Wang-Please-Make-A-Dentist-Appointment-ASAP-Attacking-IOBluetoothFamily-HCI-And-Vendor-Specific-Commands.pdf>

## IO80211 Family Get and Set request sniffer

```
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 198)=mDNSResponder, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_ELECTION_ALGORITHM_ENABLED, user buffer=0x809b110, length=0x20.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 198)=mDNSResponder, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_ELECTION_ALGORITHM_ENABLED, user buffer=0x809b110, length=0x20.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 158)=airportd, type=APPLE80211_IOC_RESTORE_DEFAULTS, user buffer=0x1c32b70, length=0x8.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 158)=airportd, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_ENABLE_ROAMING, user buffer=0x1d38e88, length=0x930.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 158)=airportd, type=APPLE80211_IOC_ASSOCIATE, user buffer=0x1c331d8, length=0x1d4.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 158)=airportd, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_RSDB_CAPS, user buffer=0x1dbbde0, length=0x4dc.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 158)=airportd, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_RSDB_CAPS, user buffer=0x1dbbde0, length=0x4dc.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 158)=airportd, type=APPLE80211_IOC_RESTORE_DEFAULTS, user buffer=0x1c32c60, length=0x8.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 158)=airportd, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_STATISTICS, user buffer=0xe56662b0, length=0x14.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 158)=airportd, type=APPLE80211_IOC_SCAN_REQ, user buffer=0x1ec1678, length=0x954.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 198)=mDNSResponder, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_ELECTION_ALGORITHM_ENABLED, user buffer=0x809beb0, length=0x20.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 198)=mDNSResponder, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_ELECTION_ALGORITHM_ENABLED, user buffer=0x809bfc0, length=0x20.  
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 198)=mDNSResponder, type=APPLE80211_IOC_AWDL_ELECTION_ALGORITHM_ENABLED, user buffer=0x809afc0, length=0x20.
```

Kemon-based IO80211 Family request sniffer

## CVE IDs of IO80211 Family

CVE-2020-9832, CVE-2020-9833 and CVE-2020-9834

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211170>

CVE-2020-9899

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211289>

CVE-2020-10013

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211843>

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211849>

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211850>

Apple Product Security Follow-up IDs: 739062926, 739063452, 739063674,  
739063984, 739064445, 739064671, 739064932, 739065914, 739066140, etc.



# IOBluetoothFamily HCI request sniffer

```
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestCreate(0x0/0), args number=4, output result size=0x4/4, output size=0x4/4.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCISendRawCommand(0x62/98), args number=3, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : --- raw command opcode=0xfd4c "Broadcom VSC -- LE Set Extended Scan Response Data".
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestDelete(0x1/1), args number=1, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestCreate(0x0/0), args number=4, output result size=0x4/4, output size=0x4/4.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCISendRawCommand(0x62/98), args number=3, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : --- raw command opcode=0xfd4b "Broadcom VSC -- LE Set Extended Advertising Data".
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestDelete(0x1/1), args number=1, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestCreate(0x0/0), args number=4, output result size=0x4/4, output size=0x4/4.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCISendRawCommand(0x62/98), args number=3, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : --- raw command opcode=0xfd4a "Broadcom VSC -- LE Set Extended Advertising Parameters".
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestDelete(0x1/1), args number=1, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestCreate(0x0/0), args number=4, output result size=0x4/4, output size=0x4/4.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCISendRawCommand(0x62/98), args number=3, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : --- raw command opcode=0xfd4d "Broadcom VSC -- LE Set Extended Advertising Enable".
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestDelete(0x1/1), args number=1, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestCreate(0x0/0), args number=4, output result size=0x4/4, output size=0x4/4.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCILESetScanEnable(0xc4/196), args number=3, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
[Kemon.kext] : process(pid 100)=bluetoothd, routine=IOBluetoothHCIUserClient::DispatchHCIRequestDelete(0x1/1), args number=1, output result size=0x0/0, output size=0x0/0.
```

Kemon-based IOBluetoothFamily HCI request sniffer

## CVE IDs of IOBluetoothFamily

CVE-2020-3892, CVE-2020-3893, CVE-2020-3905, CVE-2020-3907,  
CVE-2020-3908, CVE-2020-3912, CVE-2020-9779 and CVE-2020-9853

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211100>

CVE-2020-9831

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211170>

CVE-2020-9928 and CVE-2020-9929

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211289>

Apple Product Security Follow-up IDs: 733637811, 734810171, 733658775,  
733660424, 735099265, 735911525, 735912349, 735912935, 737656122, etc.

## The practice of kernel memory mapping fuzzing

I hooked almost all kernel mapping functions through the Kemon's inline engine, which helps me better understand the implementation of memory mapping.

This project can be easily transformed into a fuzzer through fault injection.

I also implemented a simple Kemon-based kernel address sanitizer (KASAN) for closed source kernel extensions.



# **The Latest macOS Kernel Memory Mapping Vulnerability Case Studies**

## Case studies

CVE-2020-27914

Apple Product Security Follow-up ID: 742395924 and 742396335.

CVE-2020-27915

Apple Product Security Follow-up ID: 742583254.

Patched via Security Update 2020-007

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211931>

<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT212011>





## Summary of CVE-2020-27914

1. The root cause of these vulnerabilities **seems to be** the lack of effective verification of user input, which leads to out-of-bounds access.
2. The number of loops can be set to any value.
3. This type of vulnerability can be easily captured by KASAN.

## The security update for CVE-2020-27914

The number of input entries (\*input\_buffer) is limited to a fixed value:

```
if ( *input_buffer > [REDACTED] )           // The number of input entries is limited to a fixed value
    return 0xE0[REDACTED];

[REDACTED];
for ( i = 0; i < *input_buffer; ++i )
{
    if ( input_buffer[ [REDACTED] * i + [REDACTED] ] )
    {
        return_value = [REDACTED];
        if ( return_value )
            input_buffer[ [REDACTED] * i + [REDACTED] ] = 0;
    }
}
```

macOS Big Sur 11.3 Beta 5 (20E5217a)

## We should re-examine the memory mapping mechanism

Although `input_buffer` is on the kernel heap, is it still possible to race against it from user-mode?

Is it possible to bypass the Security Update 2020-007/CVE-2020-27914?



Yes, there's something behind

A demo on the latest macOS Big Sur  
11.3 Beta 5 (20E5217a)

## Summary of CVE-2020-27914 security update bypass

1. TOCTTOU Vulnerabilities like CVE-2020-27914 and CVE-2020-27936 have been hidden in plain sight for a long time.
2. Some traditional fuzzing methods are difficult to find this type of vulnerability.
3. Security Update 2020-007/CVE-2020-27914 can be bypassed.

**The End**



## From the perspective of vulnerability research

1. Vulnerabilities like CVE-2020-27914 and CVE-2020-27936 have been hidden in plain sight for a long time. They remind us to re-examine the memory mapping mechanism of macOS/iOS.
2. Sometimes security patch can be bypassed. Understanding the implementation of patches is often helpful for vulnerability research.
3. From this research, I believe we can do more.

## From the perspective of security engineering

1. Kemon-based sniffers can help us better understand the design of the target subsystems (IO80211 Family, IOBluetooth, kernel memory mapping, etc).
2. Kemon-based fuzzing methods can help us hunt for kernel vulnerabilities more effectively.
3. With the help of Kemon project, I believe we can do better.

# Q&A

wang yu