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iOS 5

# An Exploitation Nightmare?

Stefan Esser <[stefan.esser@sektioneins.de](mailto:stefan.esser@sektioneins.de)>



CAN  
SEC  
WEST

CanSecWest Vancouver

## Stefan Esser

- from Cologne / Germany
- in information security since 1998
- PHP core developer since 2001
- Month of PHP Bugs and Suhosin
- recently focused on iPhone security (ASLR, jailbreak)
- Head of Research and Development at SektionEins GmbH

# What is the talk about?

- iOS 5 introduced more than 200 new features and changes ...
  - some of them had a security impact
  - release of a public jailbreak for iOS 5 seemed to take forever
- ➔ this session will discuss some of these changes and answer if iOS 5 exploitation is really a nightmare

# Real Reasons for Slow Jailbreaking

- Jailbreaking scene's biggest iOS kernel guru **comex** was snatched by Apple
- Apple killed several bugs in iOS 5 that the jailbreak developers relied on
- changes to iOS 5 restore process
  - required more reverse engineering
  - requires a more strategic vulnerability release
- new devices like iPad 2/iPhone 4S do not have limer1n bootrom vulnerability

# Part I

## iOS Restore Process or SHSH...it

# iOS 4 - Restore Process 101 - Request

- during restore an ApTicket request is sent to Apple **gs.apple.com**
- connection is plaintext HTTP
- ApTicket request contains hashes for each firmware file

```
POST /TSS/controller?action=2 HTTP/1.1
Accept: */*
Cache-Control: no-cache
Content-type: text/xml; charset="utf-8"
User-Agent: InetURL/1.0
Content-Length: 12345
Host: gs.apple.com
```

(here comes the Plist request file)

# iOS 4 - Restore Process 101 - APTicket Request (I)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple Computer//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN"
"http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
```

```
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
  <key>@APTicket</key>
  <true/>
  <key>@HostIpAddress</key>
  <string>192.168.0.1</string>
  <key>@HostPlatformInfo</key>
  <string>darwin</string>
  <key>@Locality</key>
  <string>en_US</string>
  <key>@VersionInfo</key>
  <string>3.8</string>
  <key>ApBoardID</key>
  <integer>_____</integer>
  <key>ApChipID</key>
  <integer>_____</integer>
  <key>ApECID</key>
  <string>*****</string>
  <key>ApProductionMode</key>
  <true />
  <key>ApSecurityDomain</key>
  <integer>_____</integer>
  <key>UniqueBuildID</key>
  <data>_____</data>
  ...

```

- ApTicket request is an XML Plist
- contains device's ECID
- Apple can track how many devices are at what firmware version and how often/fast people upgrade

# iOS 4 - Restore Process 101 - APTicket Request (II)

```
...
<key>RestoreRamDisk</key>
<dict>
  <key>Digest</key>
  <data>                                </data>
  <key>PartialDigest</key>
  <data>                                </data>
  <key>Trusted</key>
  <true />
</dict>
<key>iBEC</key>
<dict>
  <key>BuildString</key>
  <string>_____</string>
  <key>PartialDigest</key>
  <data>                                </data>
</dict>
<key>iBSS</key>
<dict>
  <key>BuildString</key>
  <string>_____</string>
  <key>PartialDigest</key>
  <data>                                </data>
</dict>
<key>iBoot</key>
<dict>
  <key>Digest</key>
  <data>                                </data>
  <key>PartialDigest</key>
  <data>                                </data>
  <key>Trusted</key>
  <true />
</dict>
</dict>
</plist>
```

- contains hashes for each firmware file
- filled with values from **BuildManifest.plist**
- Apple can verify each of the fields against known good values



# iOS 4 - Restore Process 101 - Response (I)

- Response from server looks like

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
Date: Sun, 15 Aug 2010 19:25:18 GMT
```

```
Server: Apache-Coyote/1.1
```

```
X-Powered-By: Servlet 2.4; JBoss-4.0.5.GA (build: CVSTag=Branch_4_0  
date=200610162339)/Tomcat-5.5
```

```
Content-Type: text/html
```

```
Content-Length: 123456
```

```
MS-Author-Via: DAV
```

```
STATUS=0&MESSAGE=SUCCESS&REQUEST_STRING=(here comes the requested SHSH file)
```

- Following status responses are known

```
STATUS=0&MESSAGE=SUCCESS
```

```
STATUS=94&MESSAGE=This device isn't eligible for the requested build.
```

```
STATUS=100&MESSAGE=An internal error occurred.
```

```
STATUS=511&MESSAGE=No data in the request
```

```
STATUS=551&MESSAGE=Error occurred while importing config packet with cpsn:
```

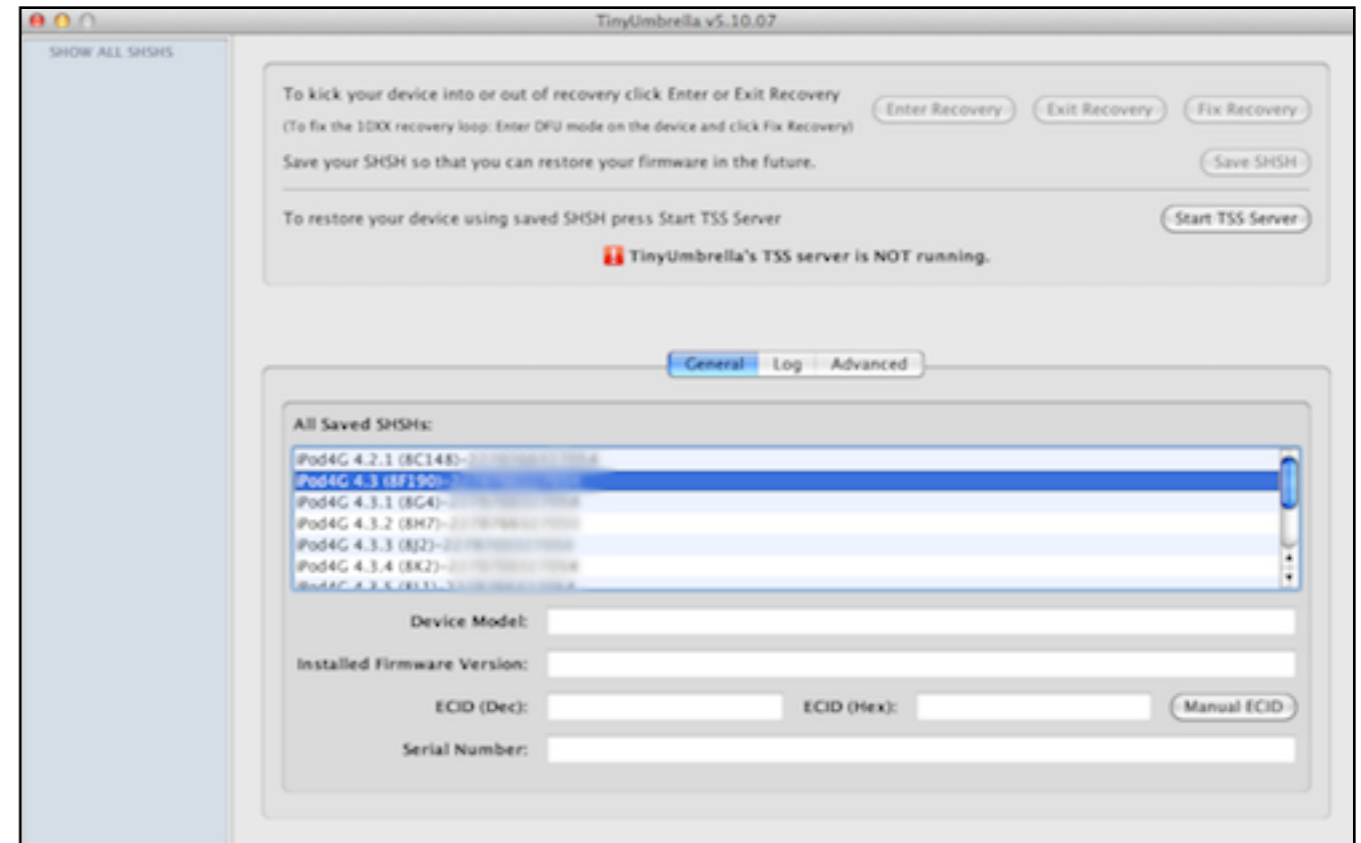
```
STATUS=5000&MESSAGE=Invalid Option!
```

# iOS 4 - Restore Process 101 - Response (II)

- in the good case Apple servers return a signed SHSH file
- SHSH hashes are stitched to each firmware file on the device
- SHSH signature is validated by the boot chain
- this whole systems allows Apple to control
  - if a specific device is allowed to get a specific firmware
  - that it is not possible to restore to an older firmware
  - downgrading is not allowed

# iOS 4 - Restore Process Weakness

- luckily the whole process has an obvious weakness
- replay attacks are easily possible
- ApTicket requests are plaintext and therefore can easily be recorded
- there is no token / nonce in the ApTicket request
- **Tinyumbrella** / **Cydia** implement this attack



# iOS 4 - Restore Process Weakness Consequence

- the replay attack vulnerability allowed to
  - save SHSH for each new firmware (during signing window)
  - restore to a firmware with a known vulnerability
  - downgrade if a new version fixes a jailbreak vulnerability

# iOS 5 - Restore Process Changes

- there are a number of changes in the iOS 5 restore process
  - e.g. SHSH are not stitched but kept in a central file
- most important is the addition of an **ApNonce** in the ApTicket request

```
<key>ApBoardID</key>
<integer>      </integer>
<key>ApChipID</key>
<integer>      </integer>
<key>ApECID</key>
<string>*****</string>
<key>ApNonce</key>
<data>_____</data>
```

- **ApNonce** is validated by iBEC

# iOS 5 - Restore Process Changes Consequence

- downgrade to iOS 4 still possible if SHSH are saved (even on iPad 2)
  - for iOS 5.x **ApNonce** closes the general replay vulnerability
  - but verification of **ApNonce** can be bypassed with bootrom or iBoot exploit
- ➔ old devices can be downgraded to a lower iOS 5 version
- ➔ iPad 2 / iPhone 4S cannot be downgraded to a lower iOS 5
- jailbreak release must be timed strategically
    - only when all devices are supported
    - not too near to a new firmware update

# Part II

## ASLR (Address Space Layout Randomization)

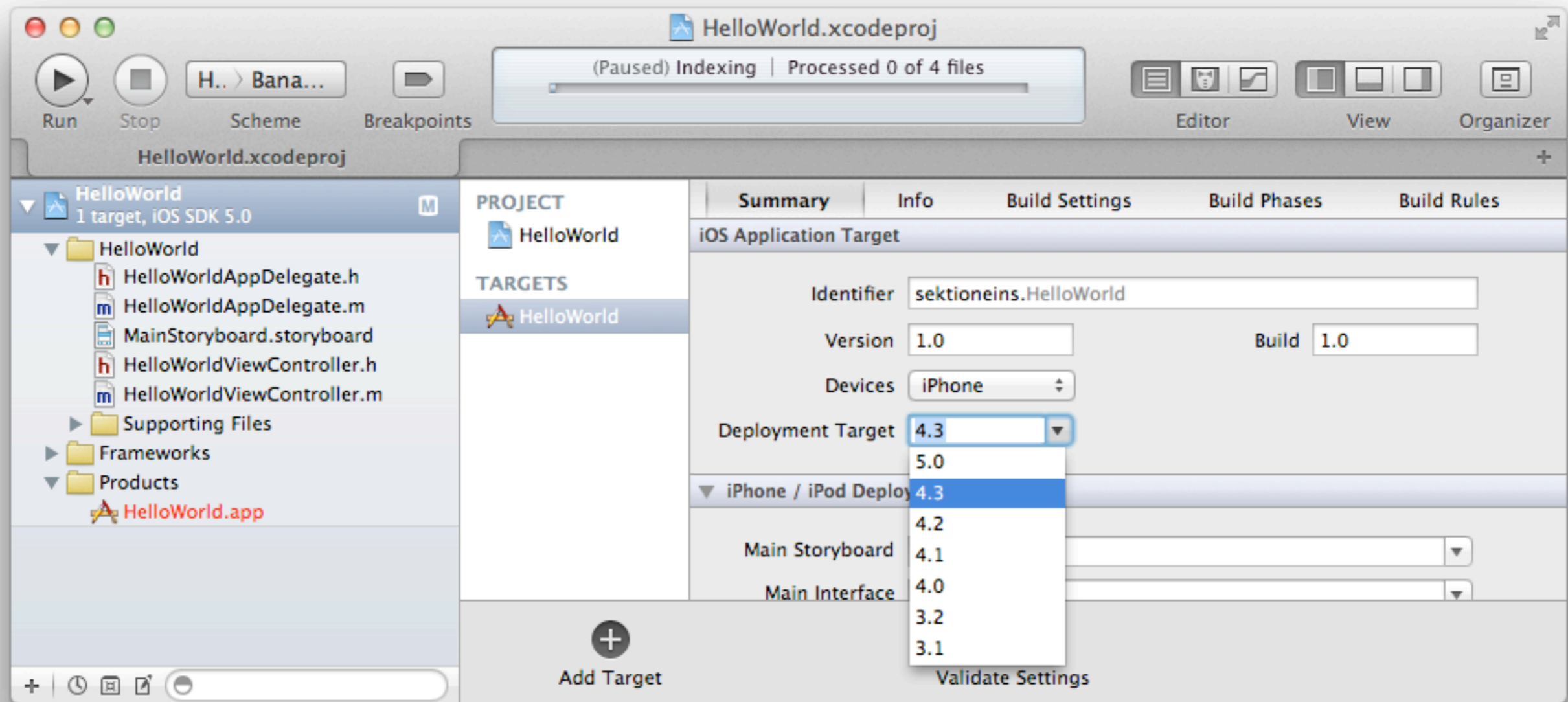
# ASLR in iOS 4

- introduced with iOS 4.3 - iPhone 3G never got ASLR
- randomly slides dynamic library cache, main binary and dyld
  - dyld\_shared\_cache randomness = ~4200 different positions
  - main binary = 256 different positions (if PIE binary)
  - dyld binary = 256 different positions (if main binary is PIE)



# Position Independent Executables (I)

- main binary can only be slided if it is PIE compiled
- Xcode will only make PIE binaries if deployment target is iOS  $\geq$  4.3



# Position Independent Executables (II)

```
$ python ipapiescan.py
Adobe Reader          -      armv7 - PIE      - N/A
Bluefire Reader       - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 3.0
DiamondDash           -      armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.2
Ebook Reader          - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
eBookS Reader         - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
Facebook              - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.0
Fly With Me           - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 3.0
FPK Reader            - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 3.2
Hotels                - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 3.1
iBooks                - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.2
KakaoTalk             - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 3.1
Messenger             - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.0
PerfectReader Mini    - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
QR Reader             - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.0
QR Scanner            - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
QR-Scanner           -      armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.0
QRCode               - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
Quick Scan           - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.0
Skype                 - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
Twitter              - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.0
vBookz PDF           -      armv7 - PIE      - 4.3
VZ-Netzwerke         - armv6      - NO_PIE - 3.0
Wallpapers           - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.1
WhatsApp             - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 3.1
Where is             - armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.1
```

- all system binaries are compiled as PIE
- most 3rd party apps are not compiled as PIE

source code of `idapiescan.py` is available at Github

<https://github.com/stefanesser/idapiescan>

# WebKit - MobileSafari - Twitter - Facebook

- if there ever is another WebKit vulnerability (erm, erm, ...)
- in MobileSafari you have to bypass full ASLR
- but if the user clicks on a link in Twitter / Facebook
  - you have a non PIE main binary
  - no relocation of dyld (in iOS 4)
  - gadgets can be taken from main binary or dyld

# ASLR in iOS 5

- mostly the same
  - but Apple fixed the major weakness in its implementation
  - dynamic linker is now slided regardless of main binary's PIE status
- ➔ for the Twitter - Facebook case you now have to use main binary gadgets

# iOS 5: remaining DYLD randomization weaknesses

- dynamic linker is slided same amount as main binary
- any main binary info leak allows determining dyld position
- randomization is only 8 bit -> naive exploit = 256 tries
- but multi-environment ROP payloads can greatly improve this

*(BabyARM - „HITB 2011 KUL - One ROPe to bind them all“)*

# BabyARM vs. DYLD from iOS 5.0.1

GADGET FOUND AT 2fe01e60 - PC AT 4  
POP {r7, pc}

GADGET FOUND AT 2fe02e60 - PC AT 16  
POP {r4, r5, r6, r7, pc}



GADGET FOUND AT 2fe0b7f6 - PC AT 4  
POP {r7, pc}

GADGET FOUND AT 2fe03e60 - PC AT 16  
POP {r4, r5, r6, r7, pc}



GADGET FOUND AT 2fe0c7f6 - PC AT 8  
POP {r4, r7, pc}

GADGET FOUND AT 2fe12e60 - PC AT 28  
POP.W {r8, r10, r11}  
POP {r4, r5, r6, r7, pc}

GADGET FOUND AT 2fe17e60 - PC AT 8  
POP {r4, r7, pc}

- iOS 5.0.1's DYLD binary has 5 colliding gadgets
- using **0x2fe17e60** as gadget will work in 5 / 256 cases ~ 1 / 51 chance

# Part III

## iOS 5 and the Partial Code-signing Vulnerability

# Partial Code-signing Vulnerability

- in iOS 4.x jailbreaks the method of choice to launch untether exploits
- when a *mach-o* is loaded the kernel will load it as is
- a possible signature will be registered
- missing signature is okay until a not signed executable page is accessed
- dyld is tricked with malformed ***mach-o*** data structures to execute code



# iOS 3/4.0 - Tricking Dyld - Spirit & Star

- when `/var/db/.launchd_use_gmalloc` exists launchd will re-exec itself with injected library
  - injected library `/usr/lib/libgmalloc.dylib` is a malicious lib that tricks dyld
  - function interposing is used to redirect execution of the **launchd** binary into code gadgets
- ➔ fixed by Apple by doing a range check on interposing function addresses

**credits: comex**

# iOS 4.1 - Tricking Dyld - pf2

- still uses the *libgmalloc.dylib* trick
- but uses *mach-o* module initializer function feature to start a ROP chain
- dyld will start the ROP chain by executing the following gadget as initializer function

```
LDMIBMI R11, {SP, PC} # increments R11 by 4, then pops SP and PC
```

- ➔ fixed by Apple by doing a range check on initializer function addresses

*credits: comex*

# iOS 4.2.1 - Tricking Dyld - HFS

- no longer uses the *libgmalloc.dylib* trick - instead *launchd* binary is replaced
- abuses a flaw in the range check introduced by Apple
- also uses *mach-o* module initializer functions feature to start a ROP chain
- code changes in dyld now require two initializer functions for the stack pivot

```
POP {R6,R7}      ; R6=&context.programVars->mh, R7=inits  
BX LR
```

```
SUB SP, R7, #0 ; do the stack pivot  
POP {R7,PC}
```

- ➔ Apple did not fix this, but next iOS version had ASLR

*credits: jan0*

# iOS 4.3.0 - 4.3.2 - Tricking Dyld - NDRV

- replaces the *launchd* binary
- uses function binding to overwrite size field in *mach-o* header
- overwritten size field completely kills range checks
- function binding is also used to set addresses of ROP gadgets to bypass ASLR
- module initializer function feature is used to execute the module termination functions
- module termination function feature is used to execute the following gadget

```
ldm    r5, {r2, r4, r5, r7, r8, r9, r10, r11, r12, sp, pc}
```

➔ Apple did not fix this before the next trick was used

*credits: stefan esser*

# iOS 4.3.4 - End of incomplete code-signing?

- in iOS 4.3.4 Apple added a new check to the dynamic linker
  - dyld now verifies that the ***mach-o*** load commands are within an executable segment
  - therefore accessing the ***mach-o*** header is only possible if there is a valid signature
  - the end of incomplete code-signing ?!?
- ➔ not really because Apple failed to take care of ***LC\_SEGMENT64***

# LC\_SEGMENT64 Incomplete Code-signing Vuln...

- **LC\_SEGMENT64** is used for loading 64 bit segments
  - iOS kernel supports this load command and parses it correctly
  - the dynamic linker on the other hand does not know about **LC\_SEGMENT64**
  - check in dyld can be tricked by having
    - a **RW- LC\_SEGMENT64** for **mach-o** header
    - and a fake **R-X LC\_SEGMENT** for **mach-o** header
- ➔ **FAIL:** I mentioned this bug on Twitter because I wrongly believed it was fixed in iOS 5.0

# Alternative Way to bypass ASLR in an untether

- ASLR can be easily bypassed within a launchdaemon configuration
- unfortunately now public due to **corona**

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://
www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
  <key>Label</key>
  <string>jb</string>
  <key>ProgramArguments</key>
  <array>
    <string>/usr/sbin/corona</string>
    <string>-f</string>
    <string>racoon-exploit.conf</string>
  </array>
  <key>WorkingDirectory</key>
  <string>/usr/share/corona/</string>
  <key>RunAtLoad</key>
  <true/>
  <key>LaunchOnlyOnce</key>
  <true/>
  <key>DisableAslr</key>
  <true/>
</dict>
</plist>
```

← might be fixed in yesterday's iOS 5.1 update

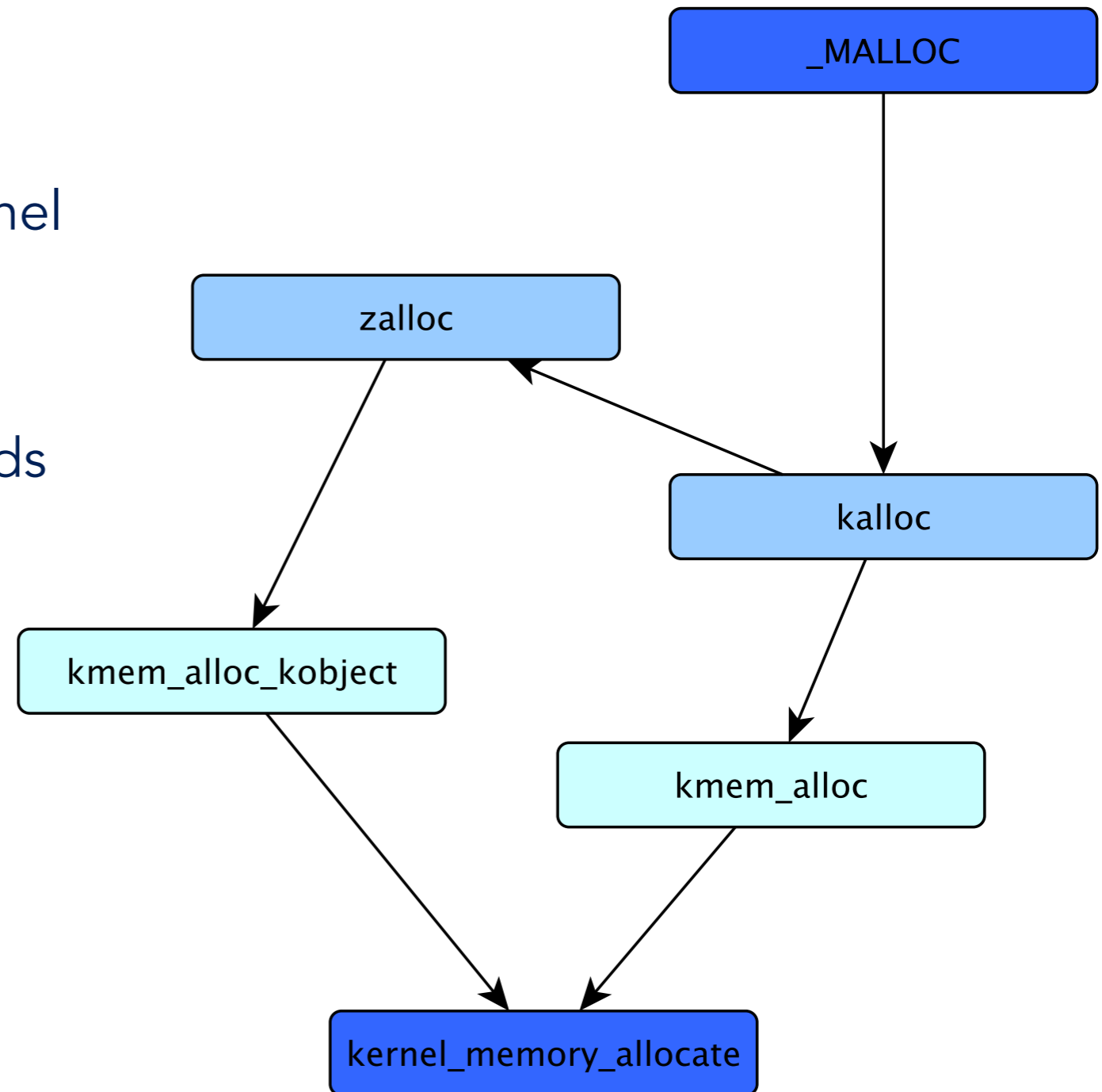
# Part IV

## iOS 5 Kernel Heap Allocator Changes



# Kernel Heap Allocators (Extract)

- XNU has many different kernel heap allocation functions
- this is just a small extract around `_MALLOC` and friends
- iOS 5 brings changes to `_MALLOC` and `kalloc`
- more in my upcoming paper about the iOS 5 kernel heap



# \_MALLOC() in iOS 4.x

```
void *_MALLOC(size_t size, int type, int flags)
{
    struct __mhead *hdr;
    size_t memsize = sizeof (*hdr) + size;

    if (type >= M_LAST)
        panic("_malloc TYPE");

    if (size == 0)
        return (NULL);

    if (flags & M_NOWAIT) {
        hdr = (void *)kalloc_noblock(memsize);
    } else {
        hdr = (void *)kalloc(memsize);
        ...
    }
    ...
    hdr->mten = memsize;

    return (hdr->dat);
}
```

possible integer overflow  
with huge size values



```
struct __mhead {
    size_t mten;
    char dat[0];
}
```

# \_MALLOC() in iOS 5.x

```
void *_MALLOC(size_t size, int type, int flags)
{
    struct __mhead *hdr;
    size_t memsize = sizeof (*hdr) + size;
    int overflow = memsize < size ? 1 : 0;

    ...
    if (flags & M_NOWAIT) {
        if (overflow)
            return (NULL);
        hdr = (void *)kalloc_noblock(memsize);
    } else {
        if (overflow)
            panic("_MALLOC: overflow detected, size %llu", size);
        hdr = (void *)kalloc(memsize);
        ...
    }
    ...
    hdr->mlen = memsize;

    return (hdr->dat);
}
```

integer overflow  
detection

attacker can use  
overflow to panic  
kernel  
M\_WAIT

# This bug is dead now...

```
static int ndrvc_remove_multicast(struct ndrvc *np, struct sockopt *sopt)
{
    struct sockaddr*      multi_addr;
    struct ndrvc_multiaddr* ndrvc_entry = NULL;
    int                   result;

    if (sopt->sopt_val == 0 || sopt->sopt_valsize < 2 ||
        sopt->sopt_level != SOL_NDRVPROTO)
        return EINVAL;
    if (np->nd_if == NULL)
        return ENXIO;

    // Allocate storage
    MALLOC(multi_addr, struct sockaddr*, sopt->sopt_valsize,
           M_TEMP, M_WAITOK);
    if (multi_addr == NULL)
        return ENOMEM;

    // Copy in the address
    result = copyin(sopt->sopt_val, multi_addr, sopt->sopt_valsize);

    // Validate the sockaddr
    if (result == 0 && sopt->sopt_valsize != multi_addr->sa_len)
        result = EINVAL;
}
```

sopt\_valsize  
is size\_t  
can be 0xFFFFFFFF

user controlled  
allocation

buffer overflow  
for values >  
0xFFFFFFFFC

# Integer Overflow Fix in `_MALLOC()`

- the integer overflow fix in `_MALLOC()` killed a bunch of real bugs
- I already had working exploit code for several paths exposing it
- by fixing it Apple killed some of my private untethering exploits
- most of the affected code pathes are only triggerable as root
- Apple did not fix it in Mac OS X Lion 10.7.3  
(but it is fixed in Mac OS X Mountain Lion 10.8 - according to beta tester)

# kalloc()

- **kalloc()** is a wrapper around **zalloc()** and **kmem\_alloc()**
- for small requests **zalloc()** is used
- for bigger requests **kmem\_alloc()** is used
- **kalloc()** registers several zones with names like **kalloc.\***

# iOS 4 - kalloc() Zones

```
$ zprint kalloc
```

zone name	elem size	cur size	max size	cur #elts	max #elts	cur inuse	alloc size	alloc count
kalloc.16	16	204K	273K	13056	17496	12517	4K	256 C
kalloc.32	32	564K	648K	18048	20736	17935	4K	128 C
kalloc.64	64	560K	576K	8960	9216	8431	4K	64 C
kalloc.128	128	412K	512K	3296	4096	3041	4K	32 C
kalloc.256	256	400K	1024K	1600	4096	1349	4K	16 C
kalloc.512	512	244K	512K	488	1024	395	4K	8 C
kalloc.1024	1024	160K	1024K	160	1024	149	4K	4 C
kalloc.2048	2048	156K	2048K	78	1024	74	4K	2 C
kalloc.4096	4096	192K	4096K	48	1024	45	4K	1 C
kalloc.8192	8192	360K	32768K	45	4096	39	8K	1 C

- **kalloc.\*** zones exists for different powers of 2
- smallest zone is for 16 byte long memory blocks
- every memory block is aligned on its own size

# iOS 5 - kalloc() Zones

```
$ zprint kalloc
```

zone name	elem size	cur size	max size	cur #elts	max #elts	cur inuse	alloc size	alloc count
kalloc.8	8	68K	91K	8704	11664	8187	4K	512 C
kalloc.16	16	96K	121K	6144	7776	5479	4K	256 C
kalloc.24	24	370K	410K	15810	17496	15567	4K	170 C
kalloc.32	32	136K	192K	4352	6144	4087	4K	128 C
kalloc.40	40	290K	360K	7446	9216	7224	4K	102 C
kalloc.48	48	95K	192K	2040	4096	1475	4K	85 C
kalloc.64	64	144K	256K	2304	4096	2017	4K	64 C
kalloc.88	88	241K	352K	2806	4096	2268	4K	46 C
kalloc.112	112	118K	448K	1080	4096	767	4K	36 C
kalloc.128	128	176K	256K	1376	4096	1024	4K	28 C
kalloc.192	192	102K	256K	531	4096	320	4K	17 C
kalloc.256	256	196K	256K	768	4096	448	4K	12 C
kalloc.384	384	596K	640K	1536	4096	1024	4K	8 C
kalloc.512	512	48K	256K	96	4096	64	4K	4 C
kalloc.768	768	97K	256K	128	4096	96	4K	3 C
kalloc.1024	1024	128K	256K	128	4096	128	4K	2 C
kalloc.1536	1536	108K	256K	72	4096	72	4K	1 C
kalloc.2048	2048	88K	256K	44	4096	44	4K	1 C
kalloc.3072	3072	67K	256K	32	4096	32	4K	1 C
kalloc.4096	4096	120K	256K	24	4096	24	4K	1 C
kalloc.6144	6144	420K	576K	70	96	38	12K	2 C
kalloc.8192	8192	176K	32768K	22	4096	20	8K	1 C

- introduces new *kalloc.\** zones that are not powers of 2
- smallest zone is now for 8 byte long memory blocks
- memory block are only aligned to their own size if in power of 2 zone



# iOS 5 kalloc() Zone Changes Consequences

thank you to Apple  
because this change made  
one kernel bug I have  
exploitable

and for another bug it  
made exploitation a lot  
easier

## From Apple's point of view

- new *kalloc()* zones are most probably there to save kernel memory
- changes are not in Mac OS X Lion 10.7.3 / Mountain Lion 10.8 (not embedded - 10.8 info from beta tester)

## From attacker's point of view

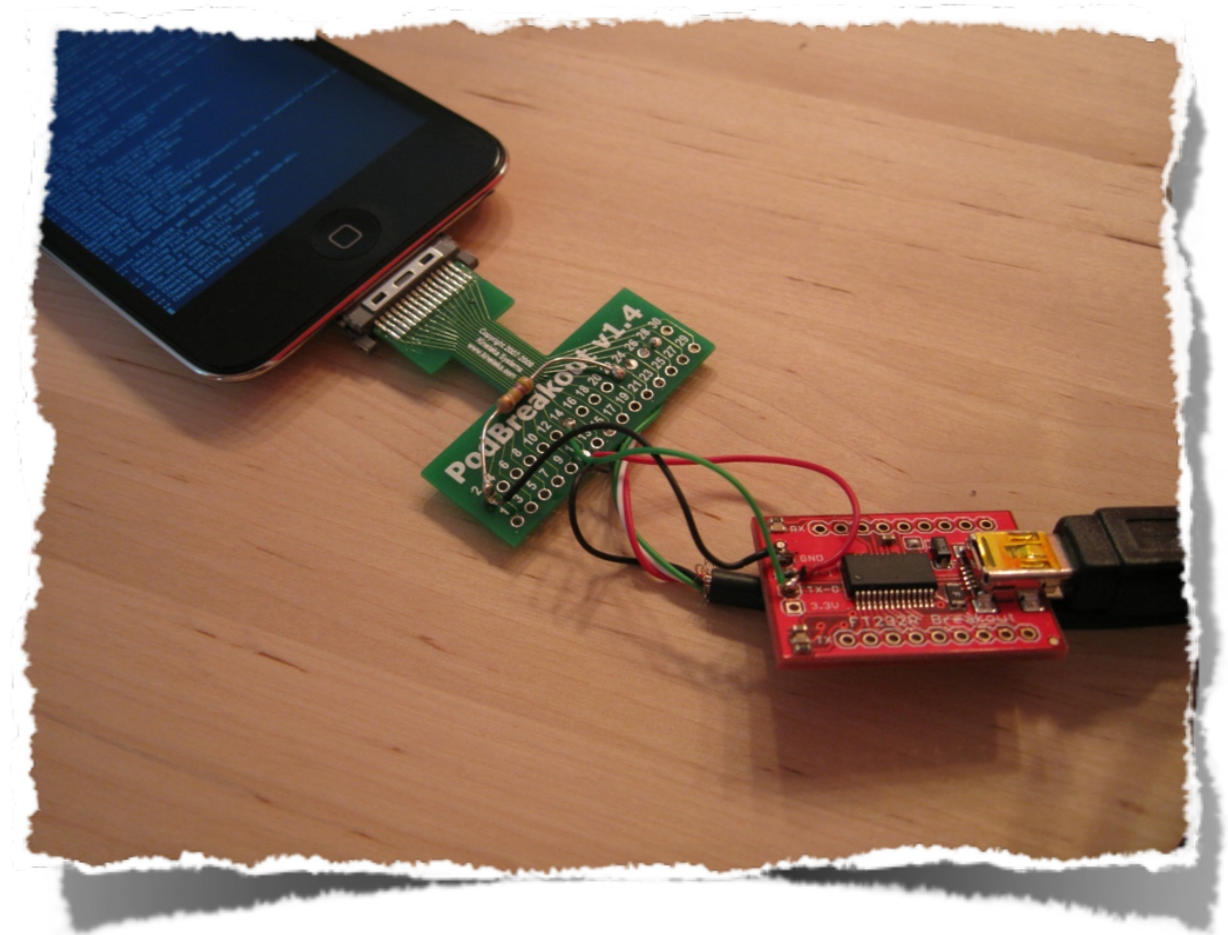
- new zone sizes require adjustment of your kernel heap spraying code
- new zone sizes have impact on exploitability of bugs (e.g. off by one situation)
- new zone alignment has impact on exploitability of bugs (NUL byte overflow)

# Part V

## iOS 5 and KDP Kernel Debugging

# iOS Kernel Debugging in iOS 4 days

- KDP kernel debugging of iOS is possible over serial connection
- requires SerialKDProxy
- and setting a kernel boot-arg
- easily possible with limer1n
- iOS SDK comes with usable gdb



# iOS Kernel Debugging in iOS 5

- Kernel debugging demo at BlackHat / SyScan only covered iOS 4
- Apple said they would not remove KDP, but people expected it to go away
- when iOS 5 came out the instructions on my slides did not work anymore
- serial *kprintf()* still worked but not connecting to KDP

```
$ SerialKDPProxy /dev/tty.usbserial-A600exos
Opening Serial
Waiting for packets, pid=362
^@AppleS5L8930XI0::start: chip-revision: C0
AppleS5L8930XI0::start: PIO Errors Enabled
AppleARMPL192VIC::start: _vicBaseAddress = 0xccaf5000
AppleS5L8930XGPIOIC::start: gpioicBaseAddress: 0xc537a000
AppleARMPerformanceController::traceBufferCreate: _pcTraceBuffer: 0xcca3a000 ...
AppleS5L8930XPerformanceController::start: _pcBaseAddress: 0xccb3d000
AppleARMPerformanceController configured with 1 Performance Domains
AppleS5L8900XI2SController::start: i2s0 i2sBaseAddress: 0xcb3ce400 i2sVersion: 2
...
AppleS5L8930XUSBPhy::start : registers at virtual: 0xcb3d5000, physical: 0x86000000
AppleVXD375 - start (provider 0x828bca00)
AppleVXD375 - compiled on Apr  4 2011 10:19:48
```

# SerialKDProxy vs. Mac OS X Lion

- after I upgraded to iOS 5 I could not debug the kernel anymore
- my inbox got flooded with emails asking about the same problem
- however I could still see the KDP code inside the kernel binary
- it seemed like Apple had somehow disabled it
- and then I realized that I could use KDP in iOS 5 with my old MacBook
- problem was that upgrading to Lion broke SerialKDProxy
- so just use the fixed SerialKDProxy from <https://github.com/stefanesser/SerialKDProxy>

# KDP and iPad 2 / iPhone 4S

- debugging kernel exploits on these devices interesting
- both have new hardware drivers and a multi-core CPU
- and soon older devices will be outdated
  
- however activating KDP requires a kernel boot argument
- only possible with a bootrom or iBoot level exploit
- but iPad 2 and iPhone 4S come with a fixed bootrom

# Activating KDP for iPad 2 / iPhone 4S

- there is no public bootrom exploit
  - but we can trick an already exploited kernel
  - we have to fake boot arguments, patch some data
  - and call several initializer functions
- ➔ **Chicken & Egg - need a working kernel exploit to do KDP debugging**

# Activating KDP for iPad 2 / iPhone 4S - Step 1

- find ***kalloc()*** in kernel binary
- call it to allocate some memory
- write **debug=8** boot argument into this memory
- alternatively just write **debug=8** into an unused kernel area



# Activating KDP for iPad 2 / iPhone 4S - Step 2

- find *PE\_boot\_args()* in kernel binary
- patch it to return a pointer to our fake boot arguments

```
80240084          _PE_boot_args          ; CODE XREF: 80016886p
80240084          ; j__PE_boot_argsj ...
80240084 01 48          LDR          R0, =dword_802F52F8
80240086 00 6F          LDR          R0, [R0, # (dword_802F5368 - 0x802F52F8)]
80240088 38 30          ADDS        R0, #0x38
8024008A 70 47          BX          LR
```

# Activating KDP for iPad 2 / iPhone 4S - Step 3

- find *PE\_i\_can\_has\_debugger()* in kernel binary
- use it to lookup address of *debugging\_allowed* variable
- use it to lookup address of *debug\_boot\_arg* variable
- set *debugging\_allowed* to 1
- set *debug\_boot\_arg* to 8 / DB\_KPRT

```
80240B90          PE_i_can_has_debugger          ; CODE XREF: sub_80009D58+42p
80240B90          ; sub_8007C240+16p ...
80240B90 38 B1          CBZ          R0, loc_80240BA2
80240B92 05 49          LDR          R1, =debug_allowed
80240B94 09 68          LDR          R1, [R1]
80240B96 00 29          CMP          R1, #0
80240B98 0E BF          ITEE EQ
80240B9A 00 21          MOVEQ       R1, #0
80240B9C 03 49          LDRNE       R1, =debug_boot_arg
80240B9E 09 68          LDRNE       R1, [R1]
80240BA0 01 60          STR          R1, [R0]
80240BA2
80240BA2          loc_80240BA2
80240BA2 01 48          LDR          R0, =debug_allowed
80240BA4 00 68          LDR          R0, [R0]
80240BA6 70 47          BX          LR
80240BA8 EC 53 2F 80  off_80240BA8  DCD debug_allowed
80240BAC 3C 11 2E 80  off_80240BAC  DCD debug_boot_arg
```

# Activating KDP for iPad 2 / iPhone 4S - Step 4

- find *PE\_init\_kprintf()* in kernel binary
- call it with parameter 0 to initialize the serial kprintf()

```
80240DF4      _PE_init_kprintf
80240DF4
80240DF4      var_8          = -8
80240DF4
80240DF4  90 B5      PUSH        {R4,R7,LR}
80240DF6  01 AF      ADD        R7, SP, #4
80240DF8  81 B0      SUB        SP, SP, #4
80240DFA  04 46      MOV        R4, R0
80240DFC  12 48      LDR        R0, =dword_802F52F8
80240DFE  00 68      LDR        R0, [R0]
80240E00  00 28      CMP        R0, #0
80240E02  04 BF      ITT EQ
80240E04  00 20      MOVEQ     R0, #0
80240E06  D5 F5 0F FB BLEQ     sub_80016428
80240E0A  D4 B9      CBNZ     R4, loc_80240E42
```

# Activating KDP for iPad 2 / iPhone 4S - Step 5

- finally find *kdp\_init()* in kernel binary
- call it to initialize the serial KDP

```
8000BD14          _kdp_init                      ; CODE XREF: 80024212p
8000BD14
8000BD14 B0 B5          PUSH        {R4,R5,R7,LR}
8000BD16 02 AF          ADD         R7, SP, #8
8000BD18 97 B0          SUB         SP, SP, #0x5C
8000BD1A 2C 48          LDR         R0, =unk_802D757C
8000BD1C 4F F4 80 72    MOV.W      R2, #0x100
8000BD20 2B 49          LDR         R1, =aDarwinKernelVe ; "Darwin Kernel Version 11.0.0"...
8000BD22 6F F0 E6 EE    BLX         sub_8007BAF0
8000BD26 2B 48          LDR         R0, =byte_802D8980
8000BD28 00 78          LDRB        R0, [R0]
8000BD2A 60 B1          CBZ         R0, loc_8000BD46
8000BD2C 27 4C          LDR         R4, =unk_802D757C
8000BD2E 4F F4 80 72    MOV.W      R2, #0x100
8000BD32 29 49          LDR         R1, =aUuid ; "; UUID="
```

# Part VI

## Return to Syscall Arguments - A Story of FAIL

# Returning to Syscall arguments

- in the iOS 4.3.x untethering exploit I used a **BX R1** gadget
- gadget replaced one of the system call handlers
- idea was to return to the system call argument buffer
- introducing code as easy as storing it in the syscall arguments
  - ***syscall(185, 0xe0800001, 0xe12fff1e)***
- but when I tried it in a iOS 5.0 exploit it just crashed...

# And so the Story of FAIL began

- my experiments showed an attempted execution at **0xCxxxxxxxx**
- back in the iOS 4.3.x days it always had been **0x8xxxxxxxx**
- roughly speaking kernel memory at
  - **0x8xxxxxxxx** is executable
  - **0xCxxxxxxxx** or **0xDxxxxxxxx** is not executable
- made me believe Apple moved system call arguments into NX memory
- my iOS 5.x exploits use therefore different methods

```
Incident Identifier: xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxxx
CrashReporter Key:   bb3508569b89cdbabb7e5bea39cf09162dfe9c91
Hardware Model:      iPhone4,1
Date/Time:           2012-02-28 14:45:24.012 +0100
OS Version:          iPhone OS 5.0.1 (9A406)
```

```
panic(cpu 0 caller 0x8007e8d4): sleh_abort: prefetch abort in kernel mode: fault_addr=0xc135b08c
r0: 0x820e5b54  r1: 0xc135b08c  r2: 0x8f13d1c4  r3: 0x80357925
r4: 0x8f13d1c0  r5: 0x000000d1  r6: 0xc135b088  r7: 0xd27abfa8
r8: 0x8f13d180  r9: 0xc135ae50  r10: 0x00000006  r11: 0x802ccf44
12: 0x00000000  sp: 0xd27abf78  lr: 0x801e1144  pc: 0xc135b08c
cpsr: 0xa0000013  fsr: 0x0000000f  far: 0xc135b08c
```

# And I was so wrong...

- when I researched the “change” for CanSecWest I realized my FAIL
- have a look at the decompiled version of the ARM *unix\_syscall()* function

```
maxstateargs = 7;
uthread->uu_ap = NULL;
args = &uthread->uu_ap;
numargs = callp->sy_narg;
if ( !v43 ) maxstateargs = 6;

if ( numargs <= maxstateargs ) {
    uthread->uu_ap = &state->r[firstarg];
} else if ( numargs <= 8 - firstarg ) {
    memmove(&uthread->uu_args, &state[firstarg], 4 * maxstateargs);
    if ( !copyin(state->sp + 28, &uthread->uu_args[maxstateargs],
                4 * (callp->sy_narg - maxstateargs)) ) {
        uthread->uu_ap = uthread;
    }
}
uthread->uu_flags |= 4u;
uthread->uu_rval[0] = 0;
uthread->uu_rval[1] = 0;
state->cpsr &= 0xDFFFFFFFu;
error = (callp->sy_call)(p, uthread->uu_ap, uthread->uu_rval);
```

if less than 8 parameters  
use them directly from  
arm\_saved\_state

if 8 or more parameters  
copy them into uthread



# The Truth

- Apple did not actually fix this exploitation vector in iOS 5
- if there are less than 8 defined parameters
  - they are used directly from the ***arm\_saved\_state***
  - the saved state is on the ARM supervisor mode stack
  - that happens to be in the **0xCxxxxxxxx** memory area which is NX
- if there are 8 or more defined parameters
  - they are copied into ***uthread*** struct
  - uthread is allocated via ***zalloc()***
  - usually resides in the executable kernel heap area **0x8xxxxxxxx**

# iPhone 4S - CacheFAIL

- however if you try this attack on an iPhone 4S it will likely crash
- and the crash reports will make no sense at all
- it executes code but crashes at an address it should never reach

```
Incident Identifier: xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxxx
CrashReporter Key:   bb3508569b89cdbabb7e5bea39cf09162dfe9c91
Hardware Model:      iPhone4,1
Date/Time:           2012-02-28 15:24:42.980 +0100
OS Version:          iPhone OS 5.0.1 (9A406)
```

```
panic(cpu 1 caller 0x8007de74): undefined kernel instruction
r0: 0x89138000  r1: 0x8a337c00  r2: 0x8a337c44  r3: 0x80524070
r4: 0x8a337c40  r5: 0x000000d1  r6: 0xc0fd1e58  r7: 0xd281bfa8
r8: 0x8a337c00  r9: 0xc0fd1c20  r10: 0x00000006  r11: 0x802ccf44
12: 0xc0fd1c20  sp: 0xd281bf78  lr: 0x801e1144  pc: 0x8a337ca0
cpsr: 0xa0000013  fsr: 0xd281bf2c  far: 0x915bd600
```

execution obviously happend  
but it did not stop at the BX LR ?????

# It is only a Caching Problem

- the obscure problem is caused by the CPU cache
- the easiest solution seems to be an extra roundtrip into the kernel
  - `syscall(222, 0xe0800001, 0xe12fff1e) -> normal`
  - `syscall(185, 0xe0800001, 0xe12fff1e) -> overwritten`

# Part VII

Honey, there is a weird machine in my kernel ...

# Kernel Based Weird Machines

- when you believe easy solutions are gone
  - and are very bored
    - and watch too many Halvar talks
      - then you start to see weird machines everywhere

# BPF a weird machine for free

- BPF - Berkley Packet Filter / BSD Packet Filter
- comes with a virtual machine for filtering packets
- can only read packet data, but can read & write to scratch memory
- BPF programs are validated **before execution - not during**
- BPF programs can only be added by the root user
- BUT we can use ***bpf\_filter()*** instead of injecting own code into kernel

# BPF Instructions

each instruction is 64 bit wide

- 16 bit opcode
- 8 bit jump true delta
- 8 bit jump false delta
- 32 bit constant parameter

instruction types

- load instructions
- store instructions
- ALU instructions
- branch instructions
- return instructions
- misc instructions

<i>opcodes</i>	<i>addr modes</i>				
ldb	[k]			[x+k]	
ldh	[k]			[x+k]	
ld	#k	#len	M[k]	[k]	[x+k]
ldx	#k	#len	M[k]	4 * ([k] & 0xf)	
st	M[k]				
stx	M[k]				
jmp	L				
jeq	#k, Lt, Lf				
jgt	#k, Lt, Lf				
jge	#k, Lt, Lf				
jset	#k, Lt, Lf				
add	#k			x	
sub	#k			x	
mul	#k			x	
div	#k			x	
and	#k			x	
or	#k			x	
lsh	#k			x	
rsh	#k			x	
ret	#k			a	
tax					
txa					

Source: S. McCanne, V. Jacobson, "The BSD Packet Filter: A New Architecture for User-level Packet Capture", 1992

# Unchecked Scratch Memory

- Access to the stack base scratch memory is not validated (at execution time)
  - ➔ BPF programs can read and write stack values
- BPF program can use ROP to re-execute another BPF program
- BPF program can modify itself if address and **SP** is known
  - this allows read and write access to whole mem
  - ➔ such a BPF program can apply all kernel patches



# Conclusion

- Apple killed a lot of bugs in iOS 5
- new HW and changes to restore process require more strategic jailbreak release
- iOS is a hard to debug environment
- slightest test error might lead to wrong conclusions
- in reality Apple still makes it too easy to PWN the kernel



Checkout my github  
<https://github.com/stefanesser>