



SektionEins  
<http://www.sektioneins.de>

# iOS 6

Exploitation

280

Days Later

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



CAN  
SEC  
WEST

**CanSecWest Vancouver**

# Who am I?

## Stefan Esser

- from Cologne / Germany
- in information security since 1998
- initially did a lot of low level security
- from 2001 to 2010 focused on PHP / web app security
- since mid-2010 focused on iPhone security (ASLR, kernel exploitation)
- Head of Research and Development at SektionEins GmbH

# What is this talk about?

- iOS 6 is the new major version of iOS with tons of new security features
- new kernel security mitigations already discussed by Mark Dowd/Tarjei Mandt
- but iOS 6.x has other not yet mentioned new security features
- and some kernel features require commentary
- basically an update to my CSW 2012 talk
- *280 days later because it was about 280 days later when I submitted to Dragos*

# Part I

## iOS Security Timeline 2012-2013

# CanSecWest 2012 - iOS 5 An Exploitation Nightmare?

**March 2012**

- reasons why iOS 5 jailbreak took so long
- history of some iOS security features
- history of iOS security bugfixes
- getting kernel debugger running on new devices
- abusing BPF as kernel weird machine



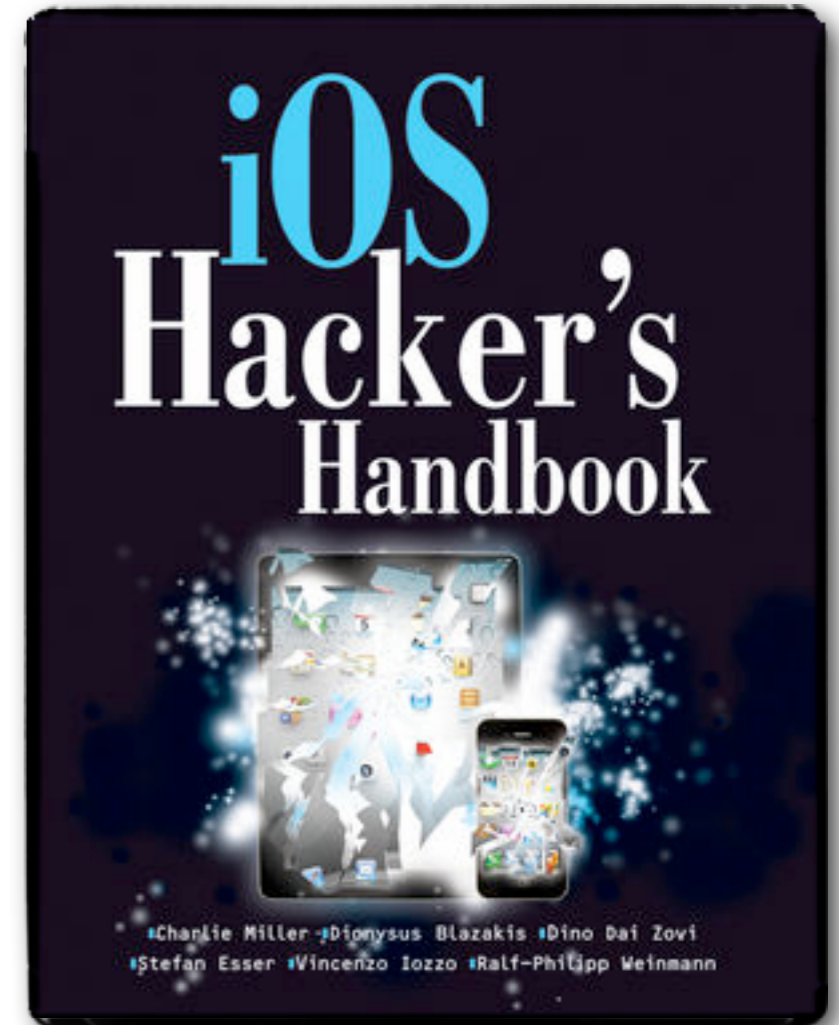
URL: [http://cansecwest.com/csw12/CSW2012\\_StefanEsser\\_iOS5\\_An\\_Exploitation\\_Nightmare\\_FINAL.pdf](http://cansecwest.com/csw12/CSW2012_StefanEsser_iOS5_An_Exploitation_Nightmare_FINAL.pdf)

# iOS Hacker's Handbook

April 2012

- Charlie Miller - Dionysius Blazakis - Dino Dai Zovi
- Stefan Esser - Vincenzo Iozzo - Ralf-Philipp Weinmann
- covers iOS 4 to iOS 5
- iOS Security Basics, iOS in the Enterprise
- Encryption, Code Signing and Memory Protection
- Sandboxing, Fuzzing iOS Applications
- Exploitation, Return-Oriented-Programming
- Kernel-Debugging and Exploitation, Jailbreaking, Baseband Attacks

URL: <http://ca.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1118204123.html>



# SyScan 2012 - iOS Kernel Heap Armageddon

April 2012

- different iOS kernel heap wrappers
- feasibility of cross zone / memory manager attacks
- attacking IOKit application data / object vtables instead of heap meta data
- using OSUnserializeXML() for generic kernel level heap feng shui
- talk updated for BlackHat USA & XCon 2012



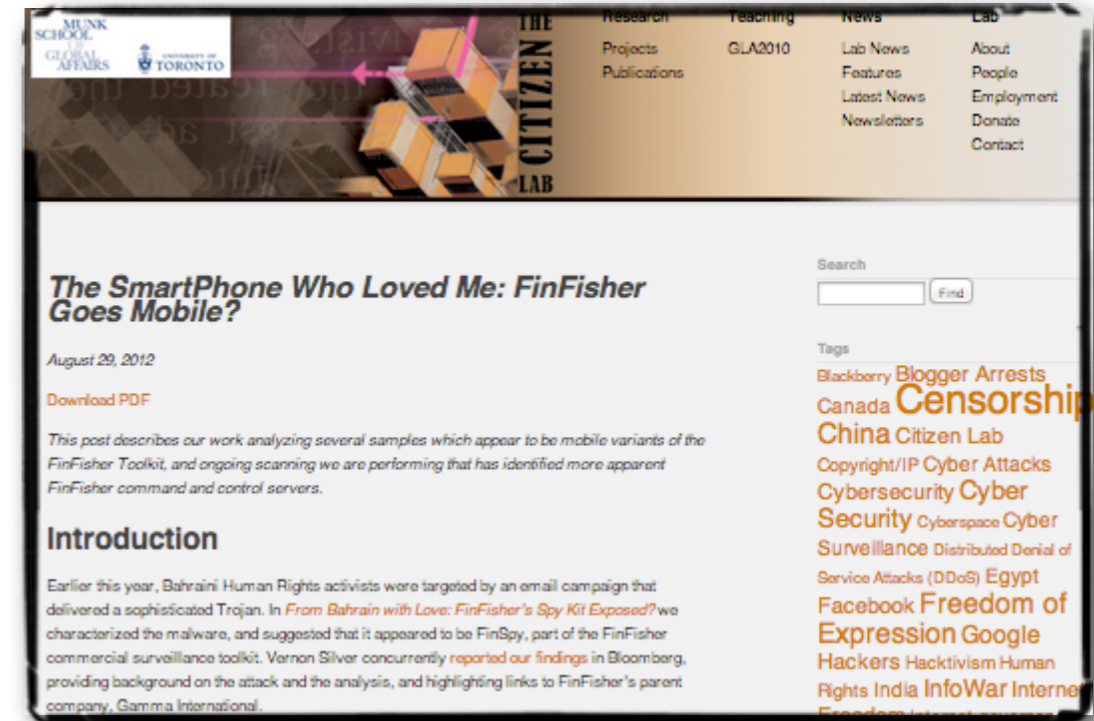
URL 1: [http://reverse.put.as/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/SyScan2012\\_StefanEsser\\_iOS\\_Kernel\\_Heap\\_Armageddon.pdf](http://reverse.put.as/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/SyScan2012_StefanEsser_iOS_Kernel_Heap_Armageddon.pdf)

URL 2: [http://media.blackhat.com/bh-us-12/Briefings/Esser/BH\\_US\\_12\\_Esser\\_iOS\\_Kernel\\_Heap\\_Armageddon\\_WP.pdf](http://media.blackhat.com/bh-us-12/Briefings/Esser/BH_US_12_Esser_iOS_Kernel_Heap_Armageddon_WP.pdf)

# FinFisher Mobile - The Smartphone Who Loved Me

August 2012

- by CitizenLab
- analysis of FinFisher for mobile devices
- samples caught in the wild
- iOS sample compiled for developer phones
- media wrongly assumed developer cert lets you write spy applications

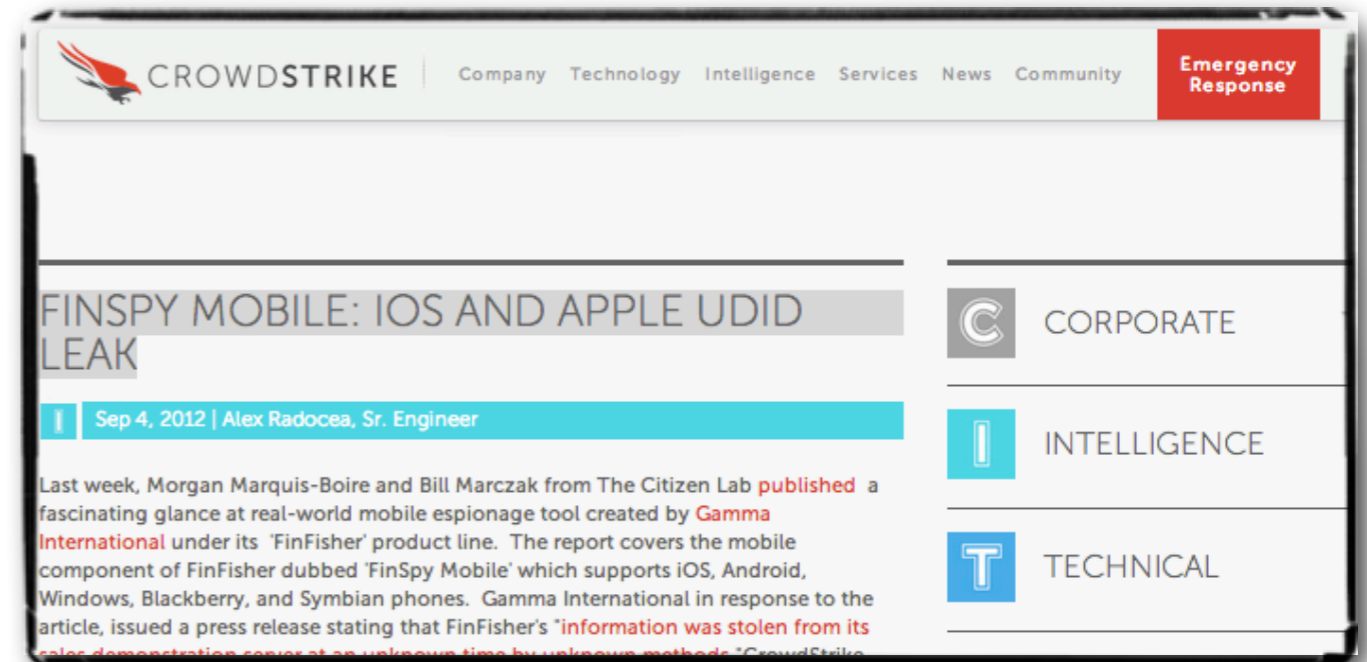


URL: <https://citizenlab.org/2012/08/the-smartphone-who-loved-me-finfisher-goes-mobile/>



# FinSpy Mobile: iOS and Apple UDID Leak

September 2012



- by Alex Radocea^CrowdStrike
- deep analysis of FinFisher for iOS
- revealed that there was no iOS priv escape 0-day in FinFisher iOS - just empty placeholder
- instead seems to heavily rely on being jailbroken with a public jailbreak prior to installation

URL: <http://www.crowdstrike.com/blog/finspy-mobile-ios-and-apple-udid-leak/index.html>

# iOS 6 Released and J/"F"ailbroken on Day 1

September 2012

- by Musclenerd
- iOS 6 on pre-A5 already tethered jailbroken on day one
- by CHPWN
- iOS 6 on iPhone 5 already failbroken on day one
- failbroken means Cydia runs but no kernel payload

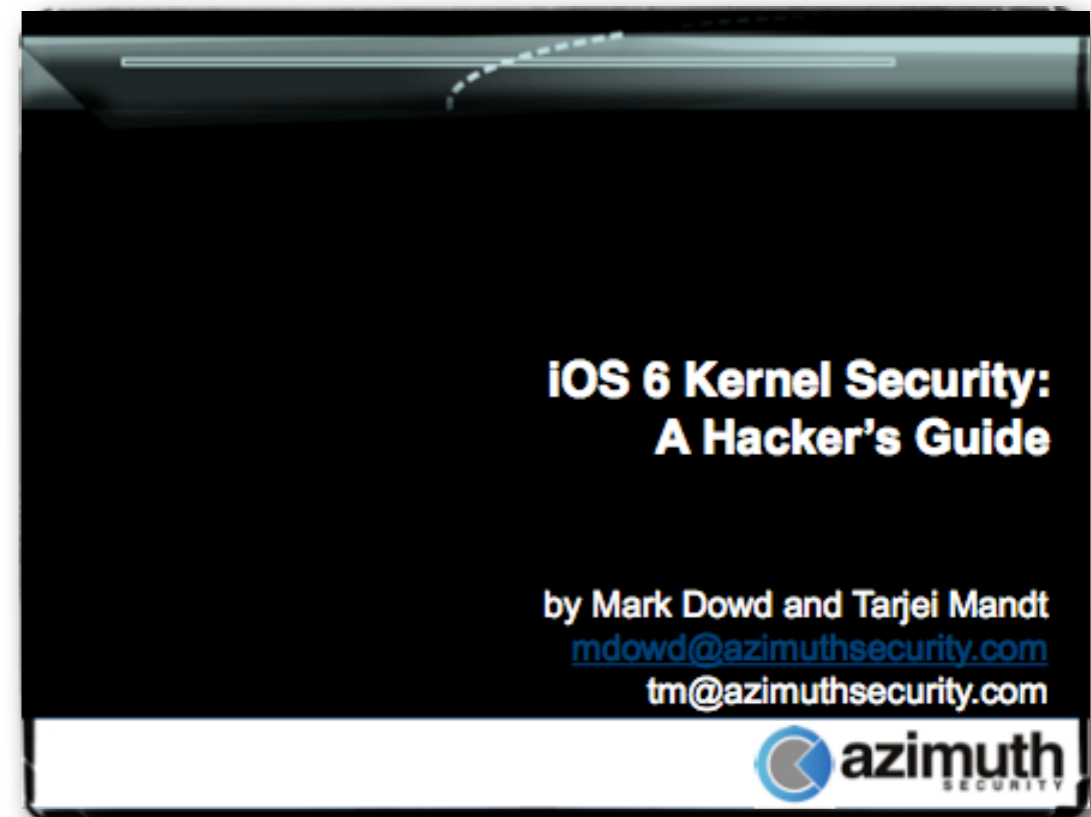


URL: <https://twitter.com/chpwn/status/249249908094296064>

# HITB2012 - iOS 6 Kernel Security

October 2012

- by Mark Dowd and Tarjei Mandt
- deep analysis of new iOS 6 kernel exploit mitigations
- contained a 0-day kernel info leak vulnerability
- and the vm\_map\_copy exploitation technique heavily used by latest iOS 6 jailbreak



URL: <http://conference.hackinthebox.org/hitbsecconf2012kul/materials/D1T2-%20-%20Mark%20Dowd%20&%20Tarjei%20Mandt%20-%20iOS6%20Security.pdf>

Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-WZinEoki4>

# POC2012 - Find your own iOS kernel bug

November 2012

- by Xu Hao and Chen Xiaobo
- analysis of previous IOKit vulnerability
- about fuzzing iOKit for vulnerabilities
- later repeated at SyScan360 in December



URL: [http://syscan.org/index.php/download/get/328bf4b37e6ae8b799472ff230465339/XuHao\\_Chen\\_Xiaobo\\_Find\\_your\\_own\\_iOS\\_kernel\\_bug.zip](http://syscan.org/index.php/download/get/328bf4b37e6ae8b799472ff230465339/XuHao_Chen_Xiaobo_Find_your_own_iOS_kernel_bug.zip)

# Hackulo.us / Installous shutdown

December 2012

- announcement that Hackulo.us shut down
- also took down Installous the notorious application used by iOS application pirates on jailbroken iPhones
- celebrated by media, jailbreak developers and iOS app developers around the world

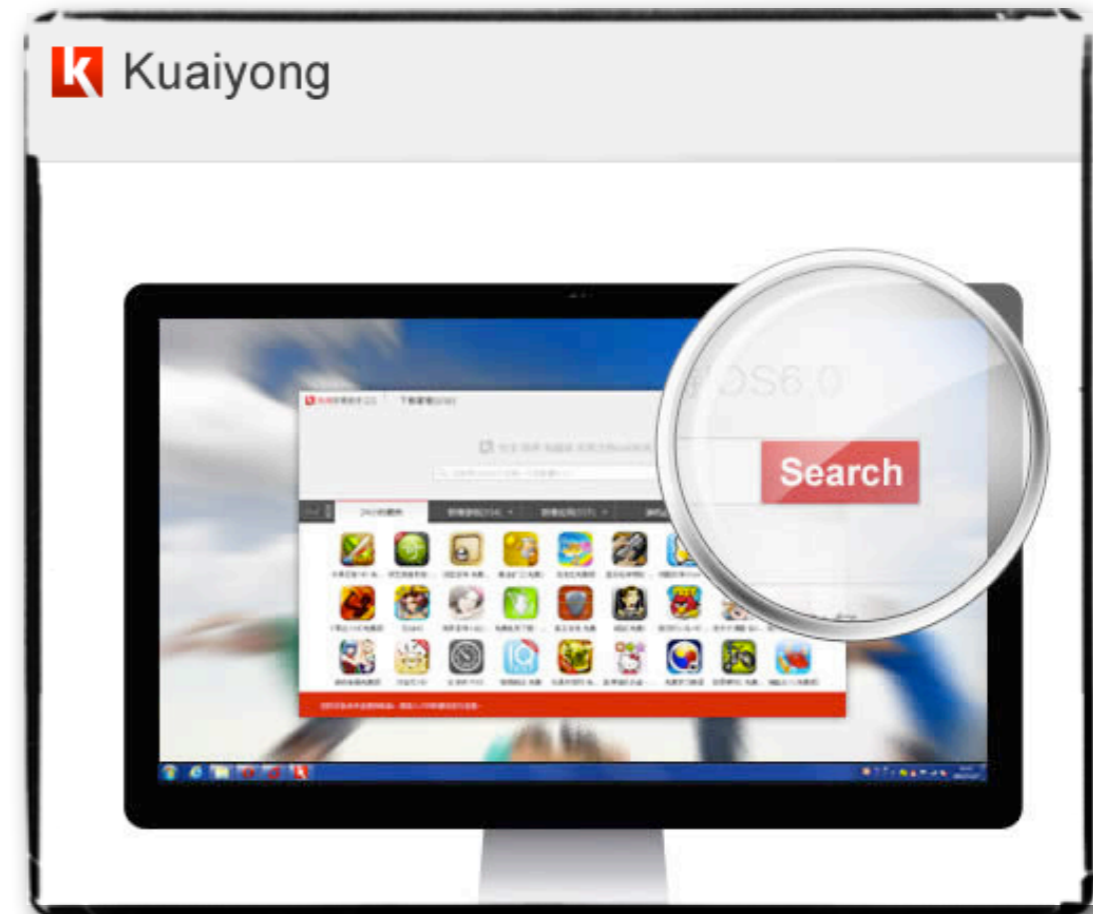
URL: <http://thanks-god-not-anymo.re>



# kuaiyong, Zeusmos, 25pp, ...

January 2013

- after installous is dead more and more iOS piracy solutions that do not require jailbreak
- solutions reportedly based on account sharing and/or some undisclosed exploit
- still active !?!



URL 1: <http://m.csoonline.com/article/725183/now-pirated-ios-apps-can-be-installed-without-jailbreak>

URL 2: <http://no.you.dont.get.the.url.you.want>

Research Assistant: Marc Rogers

# Community Milking and iOS 6 JB Release

February 2013

- **by evad3rs**
- website with donation button and multiple banner ads
- told people repeatedly for about a week to check website for status updates
- about one week later release of iOS 6.0/6.1 jailbreak
- so far the most expensive jailbreak in terms of crowdfunding

URL: <http://www.evasi0n.com/>

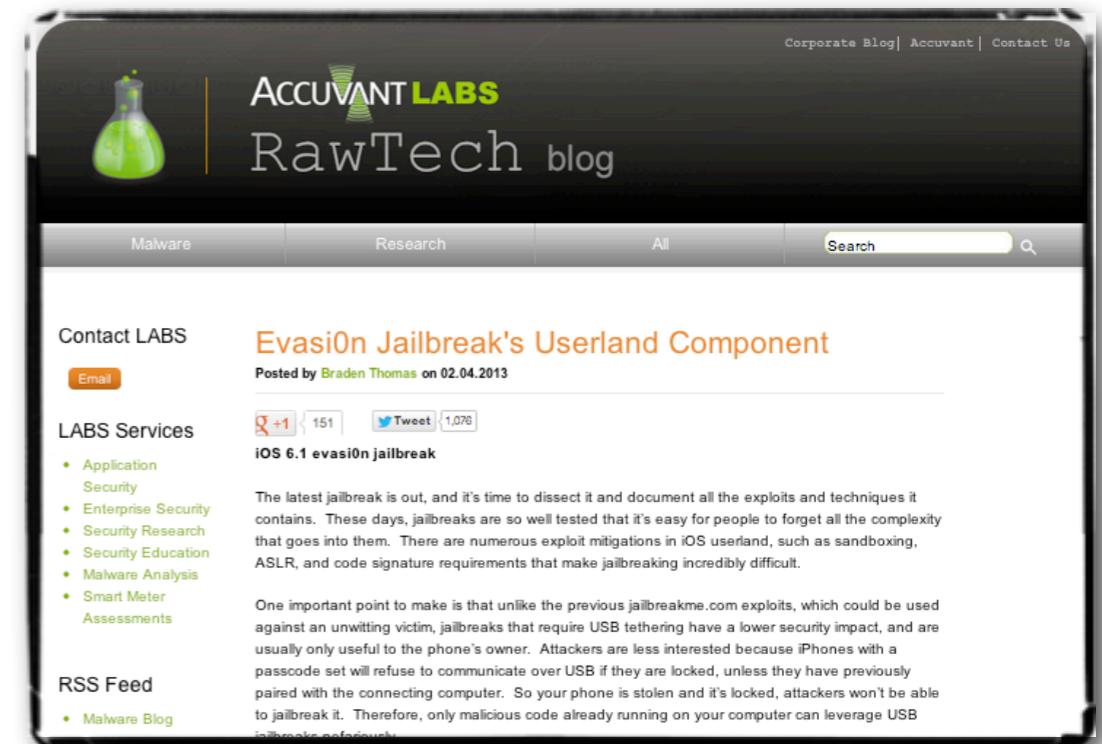


# evasi0n Jailbreak's Userland Components

February 2013

- by Braden Thomas^AccuvantLabs
- analysis of userland components of evasi0n jailbreak
- covers most of the userland bugs exploited by evasi0n

URL: <http://blog.accuvantlabs.com/blog/bthomas/evasi0n-jailbreaks-userland-component>

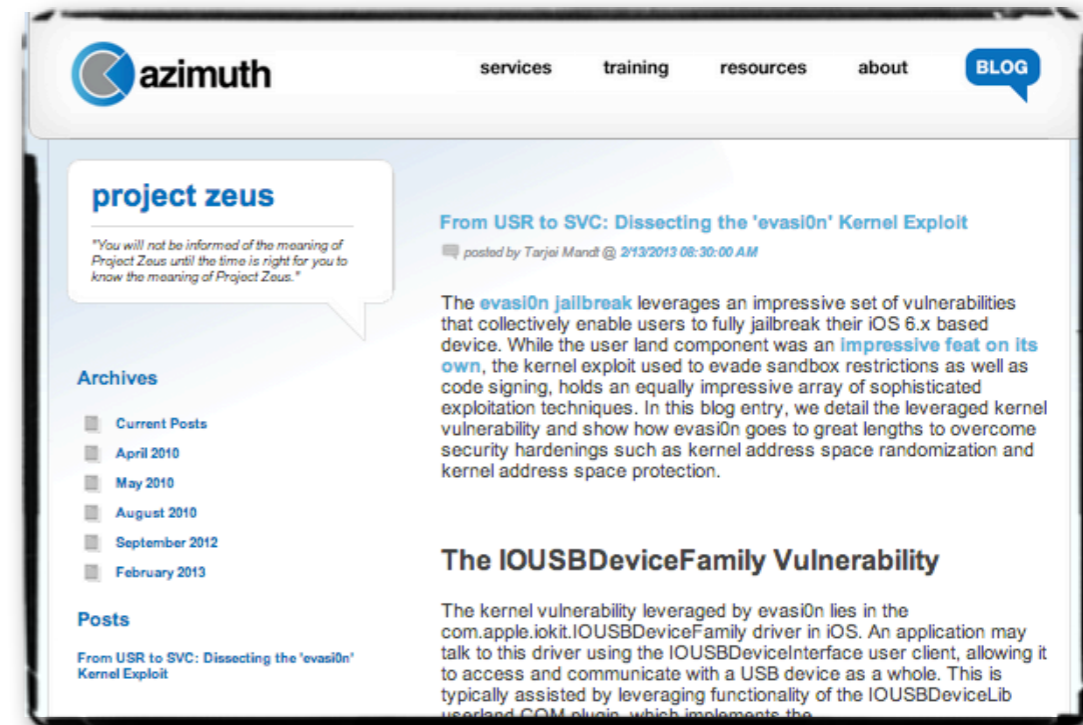




# Dissecting the "evasi0n" Kernel Exploit

February 2013

- by Tarjei Mandt^Azimuth
- analysis of kernel components of evasi0n jailbreak
- shows how evasi0n is based on techniques discussed in the iOS 6 kernel security talk by azimuth



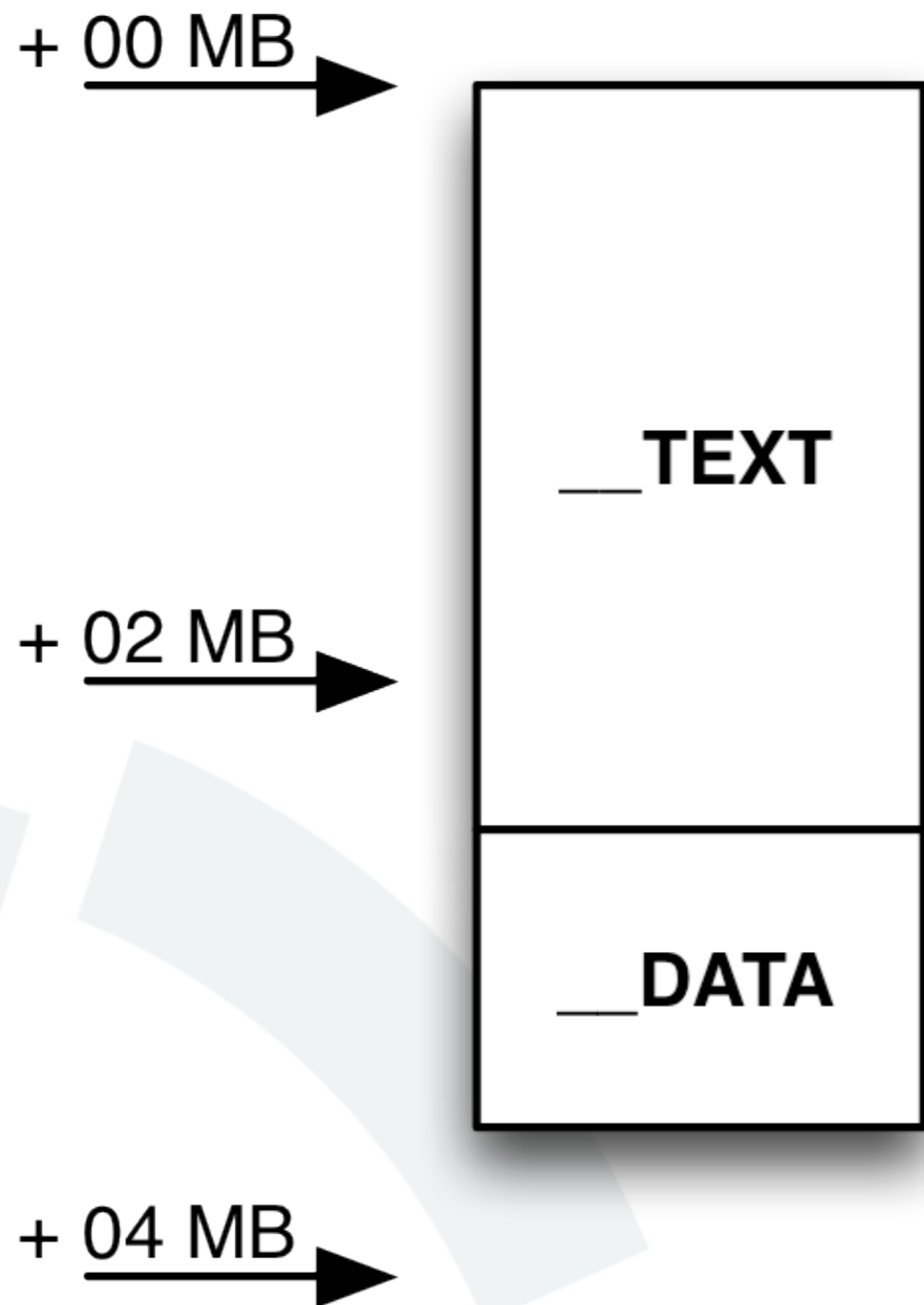
URL: <http://blog.azimuthsecurity.com/2013/02/from-usr-to-svc-dissecting-evasi0n.html>

# Part II

## iOS 6 Kernel Security “Improvements”

- iOS 6 introduces KASLR - kernel address space layout randomization
- only 256 possible load addresses
- each 2 MB apart
- starting at **0x81200000** ending at **0xA1000000**

# KASLR: But why 2 MB Aligned?



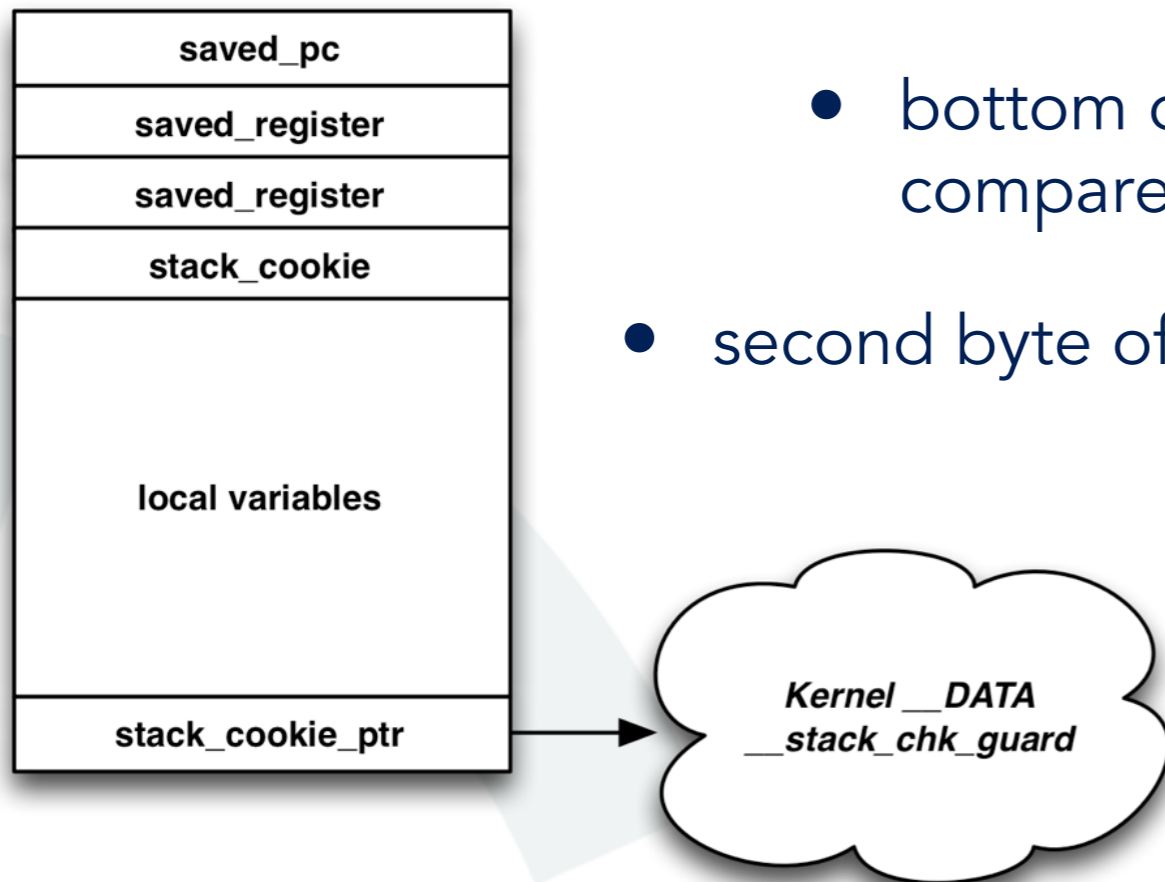
- 2 MB alignment of KASLR seems arbitrary
- why not smaller alignment?
- big alignment is less secure
- right now:
  - leak any address in `__DATA` and you know the kernel's base address  
 $(\text{address} - 0x200000) \& 0xFFE00000$
  - leak any address from first 2 MB of kernel `__TEXT` and know the kernel's base address  
 $\text{address} \& 0xFFE00000$

# Kernel Address Space Hardening

- kernel `__TEXT` no longer writable
  - ➔ to stop kernel code hotpatching
- kernel heap no longer executable
  - ➔ to stop just executing kernel data
- kernel address space is separated from user space processes
  - ➔ to stop return into user space code and offset from NULL-deref attacks

# Kernel Stack Cookies

- iOS 6 added stack cookies to protect from kernel stack buffer overflows
- implementation is rather unusual
  - stack cookie on top of stack
  - bottom of local stack contains ptr to the value it is compared against
- second byte of stack cookie is forced to **0x00**



# Kernel Stack Cookie Verification

- stack cookie verification in function epilog
- verification against cookie pointed to
- fact that `stack_cookie_ptr` and `stack_cookie` are both on stack is a weakness
- wrong cookie value will lead to a kernel panic without message

```
text:8027AFB0    LDR    R0, [SP,#0x4C+stack_cookie_ptr]
text:8027AFB2    LDR    R0, [R0]
text:8027AFB4    LDR    R1, [SP,#0x4C+stack_cookie]
text:8027AFB6    CMP    R0, R1
text:8027AFB8    ITTT  EQ
text:8027AFBA    ADDEQ    SP, SP, #0x34
text:8027AFBC    POPEQ.W {R8,R10,R11}
text:8027AFC0    POPEQ  {R4-R7,PC}
text:8027AFC2    BL    ___stack_chk_fail
```

# Kernel Heap Cookies

- iOS 4 and iOS 5 kernel heap exploitation has always attacked the free list
  - in iOS 6 Apple introduced heap protection cookies to protect free list
  - distinguishes between small poisoned and larger non-poisoned blocks
  - two different security cookies are used for this
- ➔ stops attacks against the free list as used before in public jailbreaks



# Kernel Heap Cookies (larger blocks)

- for larger blocks the memory content is kept but end is trashed with cookie
- secret cookie has lowest bit cleared
- if data of freed block leaks this leaks
  - a kernel heap address: **0x87b46500**
  - the secret cookie: **0x6b7769c8** ^ **0x87b46500** = **0xECC30CC8**

```
      next_pointer
87b46480: 00 65 b4 87 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .e.....
87b46490: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
87b464a0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
87b464b0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
87b464c0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
87b464d0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
87b464e0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
87b464f0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 c8 69 77 6b ..... .iwk
                                next_pointer^non_poisoned_cookie
```

# Kernel Heap Cookies (small blocks)

- for small blocks the memory content is overwritten with **0xdeadbeef**
- secret cookie has lowest bit set
- if data of freed block leaks this leaks
  - a kernel heap address: **0x92f1c740**
  - the secret cookie: **0x7ec1387b** ^ **0x92f1c740** = **0xEC30FF3B**

```
next_pointer
92f1c700: 40 c7 f1 92 ef be ad de ef be ad de ef be ad de @.....
92f1c710: ef be ad de ef be ad de ef be ad de ef be ad de .....
92f1c720: ef be ad de ef be ad de ef be ad de ef be ad de .....
92f1c730: ef be ad de ef be ad de ef be ad de 7b 38 c1 7e .....{8.~
next_pointer^poisoned_cookie
```

# Kernel Heap Cookies after allocation

- on allocation free list pointer and cookie are overwritten with **0xdeadbeef**
- most probably as defense in depth against information leaks

```
9072b000: ef be ad de 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff .....
9072b010: 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff .....
9072b020: 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff .....
9072b030: 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff .....
9072b040: 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff .....
9072b050: 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff .....
9072b060: 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff .....
9072b070: 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff 00 00 00 ff ef be ad de .....
```

# Kernel Heap Hardening

- previously **mach\_zone\_info()** and **host\_zone\_info()** leaked internal state
- both functions now require debugging kernel boot arguments
  
- previously **OSUnserializeXML()** allowed fine control over kernel heap
- Apple fixed some bugs in it and put some arbitrary limits on it
- only exact methods described at BlackHat / SyScan were killed
- **other ways to abuse this function for kernel heap feng shui still working**

# Death to Kernel Info Leaks

- two fold strategy to fight kernel info leaks
  - fix information leak vulnerabilities
  - obfuscate kernel addresses returned to user land
- example of fixed information leaks
  - **BPF** stack data info leak
  - **kern.proc** leak fixed
  - **kern.file** info leak fixed

# Kernel Address Obfuscation

- lots of kernel API return kernel addresses to user land processes

*e.g. mach\_port\_kobject(), mach\_port\_space\_info(), vm\_region\_recurse(),  
vm\_map\_region\_recurse(), vm\_map\_page\_info(), proc\_info(), fstat(), sysctl()*

- protected by adding a random 32 bit cookie (*lowest bit set*)

```
#define VM_KERNEL_ADDRPERM(_v) \
    (((vm_offset_t)(_v) == 0) ? \
     (vm_offset_t)(0) : \
     (vm_offset_t)(_v) + vm_kernel_addrperm)
```

```
iin->iin_urefs = IE_BITS_UREFS(bits);  
iin->iin_object = (natural_t)VM_KERNEL_ADDRPERM((uintptr_t)entry->ie_object);  
iin->iin_next = entry->ie_next;  
iin->iin_hash = entry->ie_index;
```

# Kernel Image Address Obfuscation

- some API might even return addresses inside the kernel image
- these addresses are additionally **unslid** to protect against **KASLR** leaks

```
#define VM_KERNEL_UNSLIDE(_v) \
    ((VM_KERNEL_IS_SLID(_v) || \
      VM_KERNEL_IS_KEXT(_v)) ? \
      (vm_offset_t)(_v) - vm_kernel_slide : \
      (vm_offset_t)(_v)) \
#define VM_KERNEL_SLIDE(_u) \
    ((vm_offset_t)(_u) + vm_kernel_slide) \
#define VM_KERNEL_ADDRPERM(_v) \
    (((vm_offset_t)(_v) == 0) ? \
      (vm_offset_t)(0) : \
      (vm_offset_t)(_v) + vm_kernel_addrperm)
```

```
if (0 != kaddr && is_ipc_kobject(*typep)) \
    *addrp = VM_KERNEL_ADDRPERM(VM_KERNEL_UNSLIDE(kaddr)); \
else \
    *addrp = 0;
```

# Readonly Syscall Table

- previous jailbreaks used partial syscall table overwrites
- Apple moved syscall table into section `__DATA:__const`
- section is made read only at runtime
- controlled by kernel boot argument `dataconstro`
- stops syscall table corruption ...



# Just replace Syscall Table completely?

- kernel linking changes in iOS 6 introduced lots of indirect accesses
- syscall table is no longer accessed directly (also true for lots of other stuff)
- instead pointer to syscall table is used from `__nl_symbol_ptr` section
- and guess what - this section is writable

```
text:8021F760 LDR R10, [R0,#0x30]
text:8021F764 CMP R10, #0
text:8021F768 LDREQ R10, [R0]
text:8021F76C MOV R2, #(_pNsys - 0x8021F77C) ; _pNsys
text:8021F774 LDR R2, [PC,R2] ; _pNsys
text:8021F778 MOV R1, #(_pSysent - 0x8021F78C) ; _pSysent
text:8021F780 UXTH R5, R10
text:8021F784 LDR R1, [PC,R1] ; _pSysent
text:8021F788 LDR R2, [R2]
text:8021F78C CMP R5, R2
text:8021F790 BLT loc_8021F7A0
text:8021F794 MOV R2, #0x5F8
```

```
nl_symbol_ptr:802D2C78
nl_symbol_ptr:802D2C7C _pNsys DCD _nsys
nl_symbol_ptr:802D2C7C
nl_symbol_ptr:802D2C80 _pSysent DCD _sysent
nl_symbol_ptr:802D2C80
```

# Part III

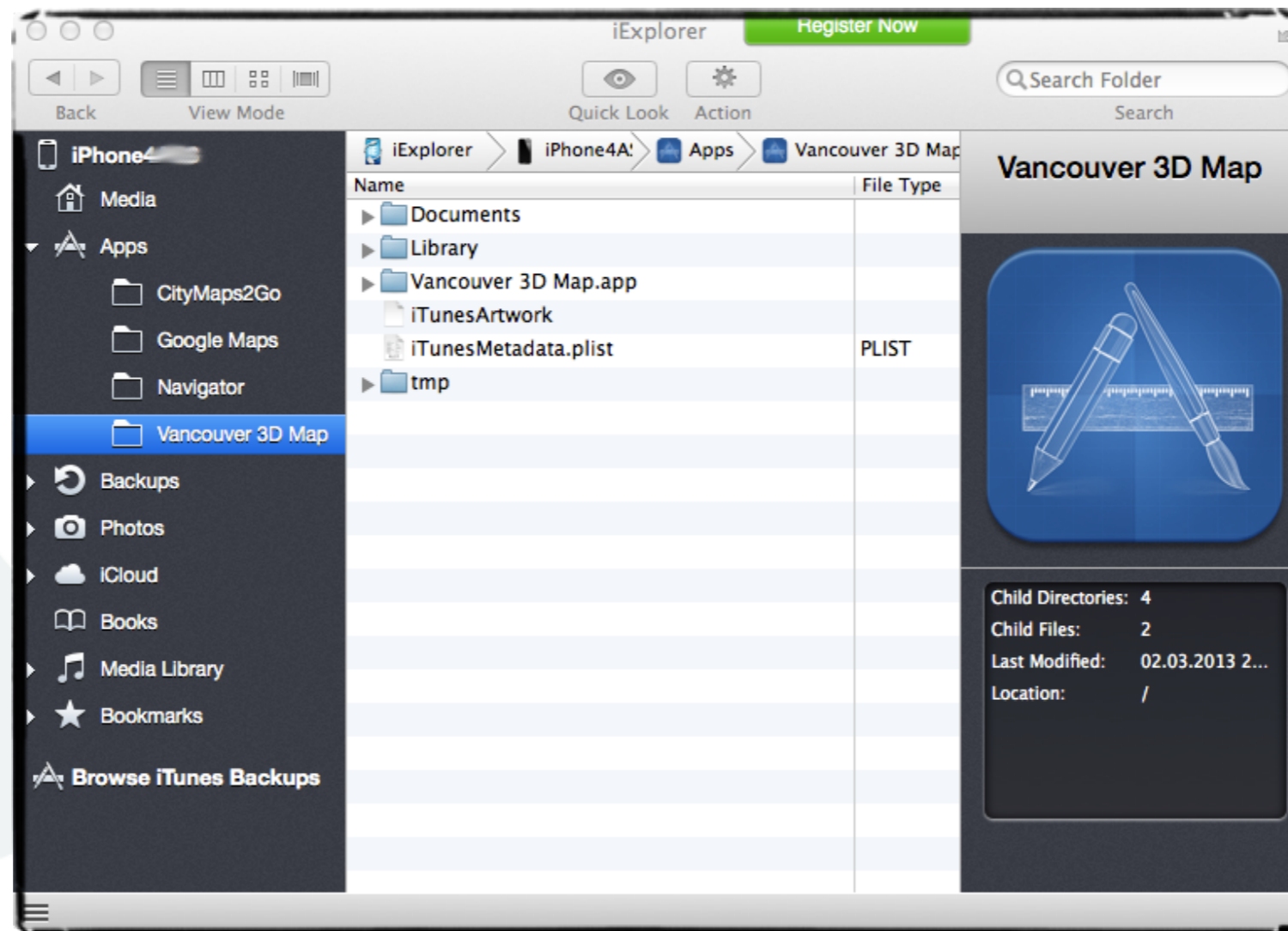
## iOS 6 Misc Hardening

# BPF not so weird anymore...

- at CSW 2012 BPF was mentioned as weird machine inside the kernel
- in iOS 6.x it is still a machine but not so weird anymore
- Apple added sanity checks inside the function
- access to slack memory is now checked for bounds

# mobile\_house\_arrest - Readonly Code Directory

- lockdown service for reading / writing into app directories
- since iOS 6 application's code directory is no longer writable
- previously it was possible to replace arbitrary application resources



# Part IV

## User Space ASLR (Address Space Layout Randomization)

# ASLR in iOS 4.3-6.x

- randomly slides
  - main binary
  - dyld (*dynamic linker*)
  - dynamic library cache

# Position Independent Executables in 2012

```
$ 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 were compiled as PIE
- most 3rd party apps were not compiled as PIE

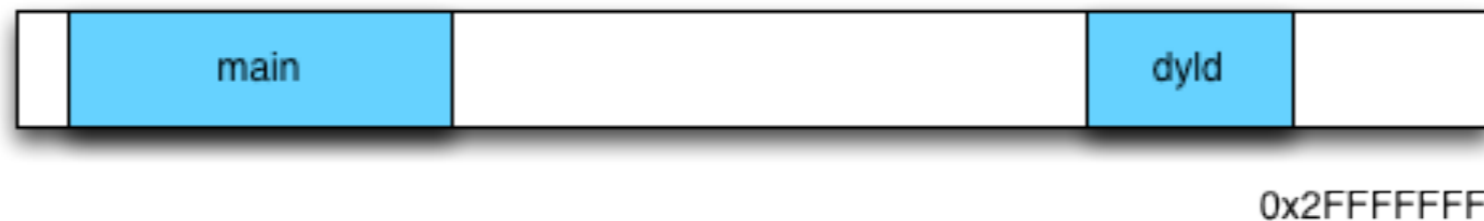
source code of old `idapiescan.py` is available at Github

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

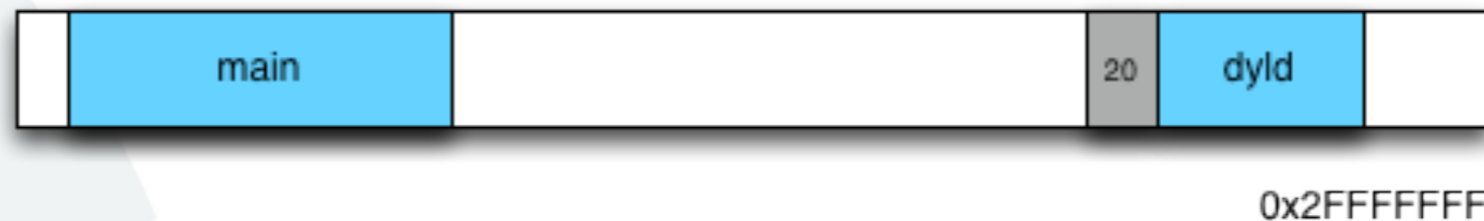
# iOS 4.3-6.x: NO PIE main binary randomization

- dynamic loader is not slid in iOS 4 for NO PIE main executables
- since iOS 5 the dynamic loader is always slid
- randomized by kernel in 256 positions

0x00000000 **iOS 4.3 - 4.3.x - NO PIE main executable**



0x00000000 **iOS 5.0 - 6.x - NO PIE main executable**





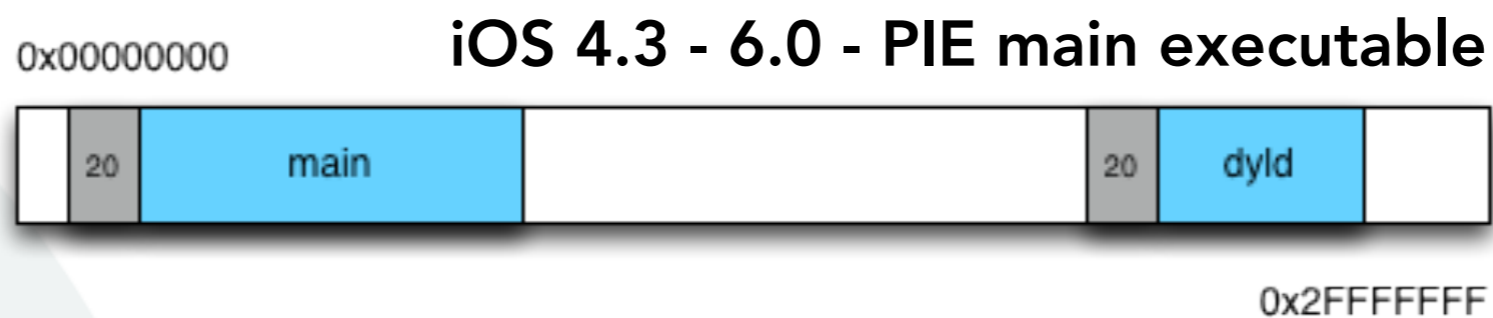
# Position Independent Executables in 2013

```
$ python ipapiescan.py
Bluefire Reader      -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
Calendar Pro         -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
CalenMob             -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 5.0
Chrome               -      armv7     - PIE      - 4.3
CloudOn              -      armv7     - NO_PIE   - 5.0
DiamondDash         -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
Documents            -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
Ebook Reader        -      armv7     - PIE      - 4.3
eBookS Reader       -      armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
Facebook            -      armv7     - PIE      - 4.3
G-Whizz!            -      armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.0
Gmail                -      armv7     - PIE      - 5.0
Google               -      armv7     - PIE      - 4.3
Google Drive        -      armv7     - PIE      - 5.0
Google Earth        -      armv7     - PIE      - 4.3
Google+             -      armv7     - PIE      - 5.0
iBooks              -      armv7     - PIE      - 5.0
IM+                 -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
Instagram           -      armv7     - PIE      - 4.3
KakaoTalk           -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
Latitude            -      armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
Local                -      armv6|armv7 - PIE      - 4.3
Lync 2010           -      armv7     - NO_PIE   - 4.3
Messenger           -      armv7     - PIE      - 4.3
MSN World           -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
SkyDrive            -      armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - 4.0
Skype                -      armv7     - NO_PIE   - 4.3
SmartGlass          -      armv7     - PIE      - 5.0
SSH Mobile Free     -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
SystemTools         -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
Translate           -      armv6|armv7 - NO_PIE - N/A
Trillian            -      armv7     - PIE      - 4.3
Twitter             -      armv7     - PIE      - 5.0
Usessh              -      armv7(s) - PIE      - 4.3
```

- all system binaries are compiled as PIE
- most 3rd party apps are now compiled as PIE
- NO\_PIE mostly unimportant apps
- some high profile exceptions are: Skype, SkyDrive, Google Translate, ...

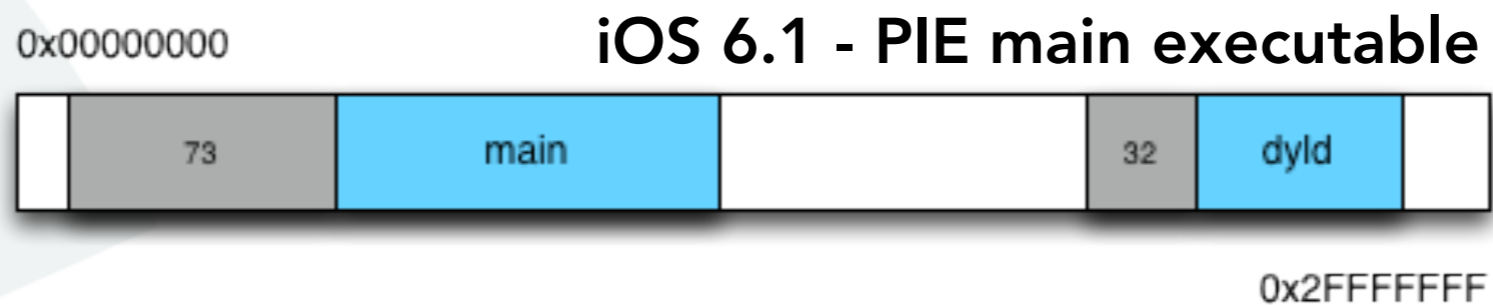
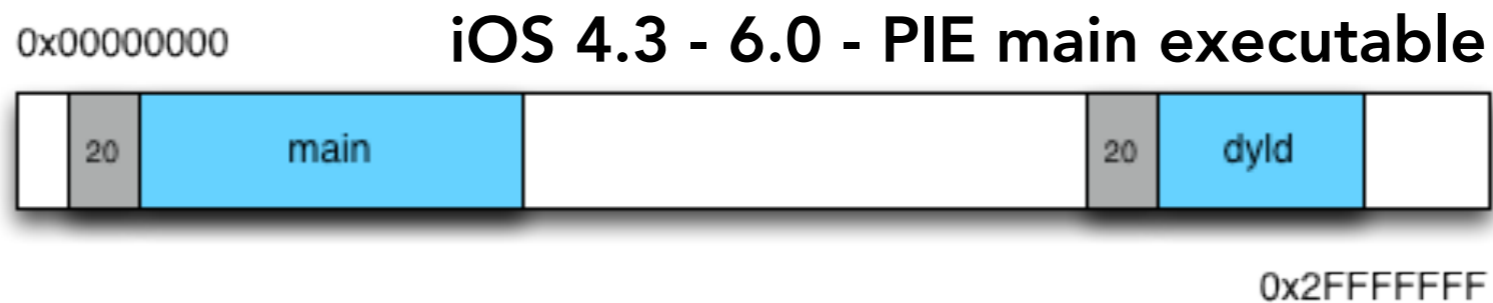
# iOS 4.3-6.0: PIE main binary randomization

- for PIE main executables the main binary and dyld are randomized
- main binary and dyld are slid the same amount
- randomized by kernel in 256 positions



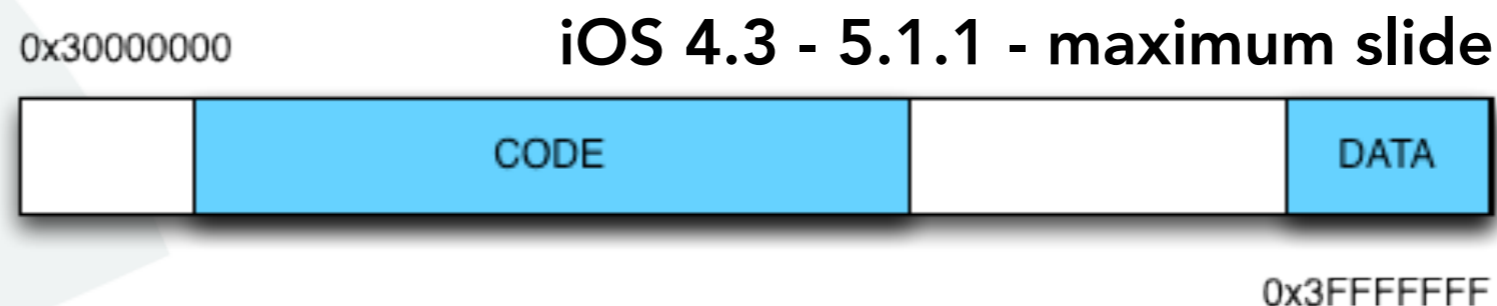
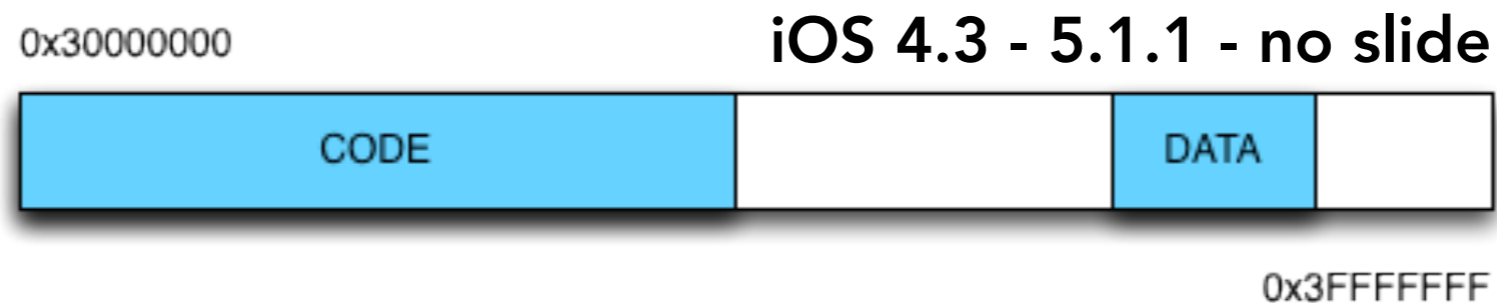
# iOS 6.1: PIE main binary randomization

- since iOS 6.1 the kernel finally generates two separate slides
- randomness of both is still limited to 256 positions
- knowing addresses in dyld / main no longer leaks address of other



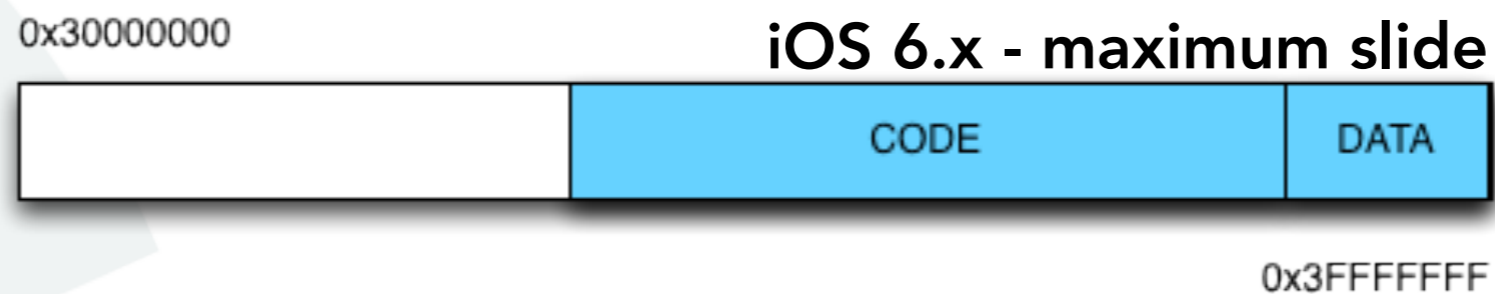
# iOS 4.3-5.1.1: dyld\_shared\_cache randomization

- data and code must slide together (*due to codesigning*)
- hole after code - data usually loaded to 0x3E000000
- max slide determined by difference of end of shared area and end of data
- around 4200 different positions



# iOS 6.x: dyld\_shared\_cache randomization

- code and data loaded right next to each other
- no more hole - no more wasted space
- max slide determined by size of shared area minus size of shared cache
- about 21500 different positions for iPod 4G  
(new devices = more code = less random)



# Part V

## iOS 6 and the Partial Code-signing Vulnerability

# Partial Code-signing Vulnerability (iOS 4)

- 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 was tricked with malformed ***mach-o*** data structures to execute code

# sniffLoadCommands (iOS 4.3.4)

- function does pre-handling of mach-o load commands
  - iOS 4.3.4 adds protection against partial code signing
    - mach-o load commands must be inside a segment
    - mach-o load commands can only be in R + X segment
    - mach-o load commands may not be partially in a segment
- ➔ *effect is that once dyld maps the header R+X it can only continue to work on it if there is a valid signature*



# Partial Code-signing Vuln (iOS 4.3.4-iOS 5.1.1)

- protection in `sniffLoadCommands` could be bypassed
  - by having a **RW- LC\_SEGMENT64** for *mach-o* header
  - and a fake **R-X LC\_SEGMENT** for *mach-o* header
- disclosed at **CanSecWest 2012** - here on stage
- worked because kernel handles **LC\_SEGMENT64** and dyld did not
- magic is that dyld will read mach-o header from from address in memory

# sniffLoadCommands (iOS 6.0)

- iOS 6.0 adds protection against CSW 2012 trick to sniffLoadCommands
  - if a LC\_SEGMENT64 load command is found an exception is thrown
- ➔ *CSW 2012 trick was already partially broken after iOS 5.1.1*
  - *in iOS 5.1.1 AMFI verified existence of a code signing blob*

# Load Command Segment Override (iOS 6.0-6.1.2)

- bug used by evasi0n
- kernel not directly involved in loading dynamic libraries only dyld is
- dyld could be tricked with a malicious dylib
  - contains real R-X segment with load commands in it
  - contains second R-- segment that contains copy of load commands
  - virtual address of both segments is set to same position
  - later segment in mach-o will replace previous in memory
- when dyld accesses header it is in RO memory = no sig needed = bypass

# sniffLoadCommands (iOS 6.1.3 beta 2)

- iOS 6.1.3 beta 2 adds additional protections to sniffLoadCommands
  - load commands must now be in one segment only
  - for dynamic libraries a second sniff pass is added
  - all segments must not intersect the R-X segment containing the load commands

➔ evasi0n untether killed

# Part VI

## iOS 6.1 and Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing

# Launch Daemons to launch Untethers

- in iOS 5.x jailbreaks were launched on boot via launch daemons
- launch daemons are plists describing system services

```
<?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>
```

← DisableAslr was removed from iOS 5.1

# Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing (I)

- abuse of launch daemons lead to new iOS 6.1 security feature
- launch daemon loading is now code signed
- implemented in `/bin/launchctl`
- can be bypassed by setting kernel boot arguments  
*(not possible without low-level exploit)*

```
bool launchctl_enforce_codesign()
{
    char buffer[1024];
    char *p, *tmp = NULL;
    size_t len;
    int res = 0;

    len = sizeof(buffer);
    if ( !sysctlbyname("kern.bootargs", buffer, &len, 0, 0) )
    {
        p = strstr(buffer, "cs_enforcement_disable=", len);
        if ( p )
            res = strtoul(p + 23, 0, 10);
        p = strstr(buffer, "launchctl_enforce_codesign=", len);
        if ( p )
        {
            if (strtoul(p + 27, &tmp, 10) == 0)
                res = 1;
        }
    }
    return res == 0;
}
```

# Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing (II)

- without launch-daemon-code-signing  
`/bin/launchctl scans /System/Library/LaunchDaemons` for defined launch daemons and loads them
- with activated launch-daemon-code-signing  
a big plist with all defined launch daemons is loaded instead
- launch daemon can only be loaded if it is defined in the plist and exists on disk

```
if ( !LaunchDaemonCachePlist )
{
    length = 0;
    xpcd_cache = dlopen("/System/Library/Caches/com.apple.xpcd/xpcd_cache.dylib", 2);
    if ( !xpcd_cache )
    {
        dlerror_msg = dlerror();
        launchctl_log(3, "cache loading failed: dlopen returned %s.", dlerror_msg);
        goto error1;
    }
    __xpcd_cache = dlsym(xpcd_cache, "__xpcd_cache");
    if ( !__xpcd_cache )
    {
        msg = "cache loading failed: failed to find __xpcd_cache symbol in cache.";
        goto LABEL_6;
    }
    if ( !dladdr(__xpcd_cache, &dl_info) )
```



# Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing (III)

- big launch daemon plist is loaded from `/System/Library/Caches/com.apple.xpcd/xpcd_cache.dylib`
- this dynamic library is within the `dyld_shared_cache` and therefore **code signed**
- symbol `__xpcd_cache` must exist
- but binary plist is take from sectiondata of `__TEXT::__xpcd_cache`

```
if ( !LaunchDaemonCachePlist )
{
    length = 0;
    xpcd_cache = dlopen("/System/Library/Caches/com.apple.xpcd/xpcd_cache.dylib", 2);
    if ( !xpcd_cache )
    {
        dlerror_msg = dlerror();
        launchctl_log(3, "cache loading failed: dlopen returned %s.", dlerror_msg);
        goto error1;
    }
    __xpcd_cache = dlsym(xpcd_cache, "__xpcd_cache");
    if ( !__xpcd_cache )
    {
        msg = "cache loading failed: failed to find __xpcd_cache symbol in cache.";
        goto LABEL_6;
    }
    if ( !dladdr(__xpcd_cache, &dl_info) )
```

# XPCD\_CACHE.PLIST

```
<?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>CreationDate</key>
  <date>2013-13-13T13:13:13Z</date>
  <key>LaunchDaemons</key>
  <dict>
    <key>/System/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.apple.AOSNotification.plist</key>
    <dict>
      <key>JetsamProperties</key>
      <dict>
        <key>JetsamMemoryLimit</key>
        <integer>1024</integer>
        <key>JetsamPriority</key>
        <integer>-49</integer>
      </dict>
      <key>KeepAlive</key>
      <dict>
        <key>PathState</key>
        <dict>
          <key>/var/mobile/Library/Preferences/com.apple.AOSNotification.FMFAccounts.plist</key>
          <true/>
          <key>/var/mobile/Library/Preferences/com.apple.AOSNotification.launchd</key>
          <true/>
        </dict>
      </dict>
    </dict>
  </dict>
</plist>
```

# Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing Security

How secure Apple wanted Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing to be...



# Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing Security

How secure Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing is right now...



# Launch-Daemon-Code-Signing Security

- code signing itself seems to stop loading arbitrary launch daemons
- but Apple forgot / or ignored `/etc/launchd.conf`
- `/etc/launchd.conf` defines commands **launchctl** executes on start
- attacker can execute arbitrary existing commands

```
bsexec .. /sbin/mount -u -o rw,suid,dev /
setenv DYLD_INSERT_LIBRARIES /private/var/evasion/amfi.dylib
load /System/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.apple.MobileFileIntegrity.plist
bsexec .. /private/var/evasion/evasion
unsetenv DYLD_INSERT_LIBRARIES
bsexec .. /bin/rm -f /private/var/evasion/sock
bsexec .. /bin/ln -f /var/tmp/launchd/sock /private/var/evasion/sock
```

# FAQ: Why not put old launchctl binary on device?

Q: *“If only the newest iOS 6.1 **launchctl** binary implements this code signing. Why not put an iOS 6.0 **launchctl** binary on the device to bypass this protection?”*

A: *“System binaries like **launchctl** do not come with a valid code signing signature from Apple. Instead they come only with the table of memory page hashes and entitlements. When the kernel loads such a binary it hashes these tables and checks if the hash is in a whitelist inside the kernel (a.k.a. trust cache). The old **launchctl** binary will not be accepted because it is not in the trust cache of the new kernel.”*

# Final Words

- with iOS 6 Apple has tried to kill all public techniques
- finally kills some stuff that was previously known and ignored for 10 years
- the new mitigations make exploitation a lot harder
- when launch daemon code signing is hardened a bit more, persisting on iDevices will become incredibly hard
- however there are still weaknesses in most of the protections
- ... and tons of kernel information leaks

# Questions

