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Understanding the Attack Surface and Attack Resilience of Project Spartan's (Edge) New EdgeHTML Rendering Engine

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[v2]

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Agenda

- Overview
- Attack Surface
- Exploit Mitigations
- Conclusion

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Notes

- Detailed whitepaper is available
- All information is based on Microsoft Edge running on 64-bit Windows 10 build 10240 (edgehtml.dll version 11.0.10240.16384)

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Overview

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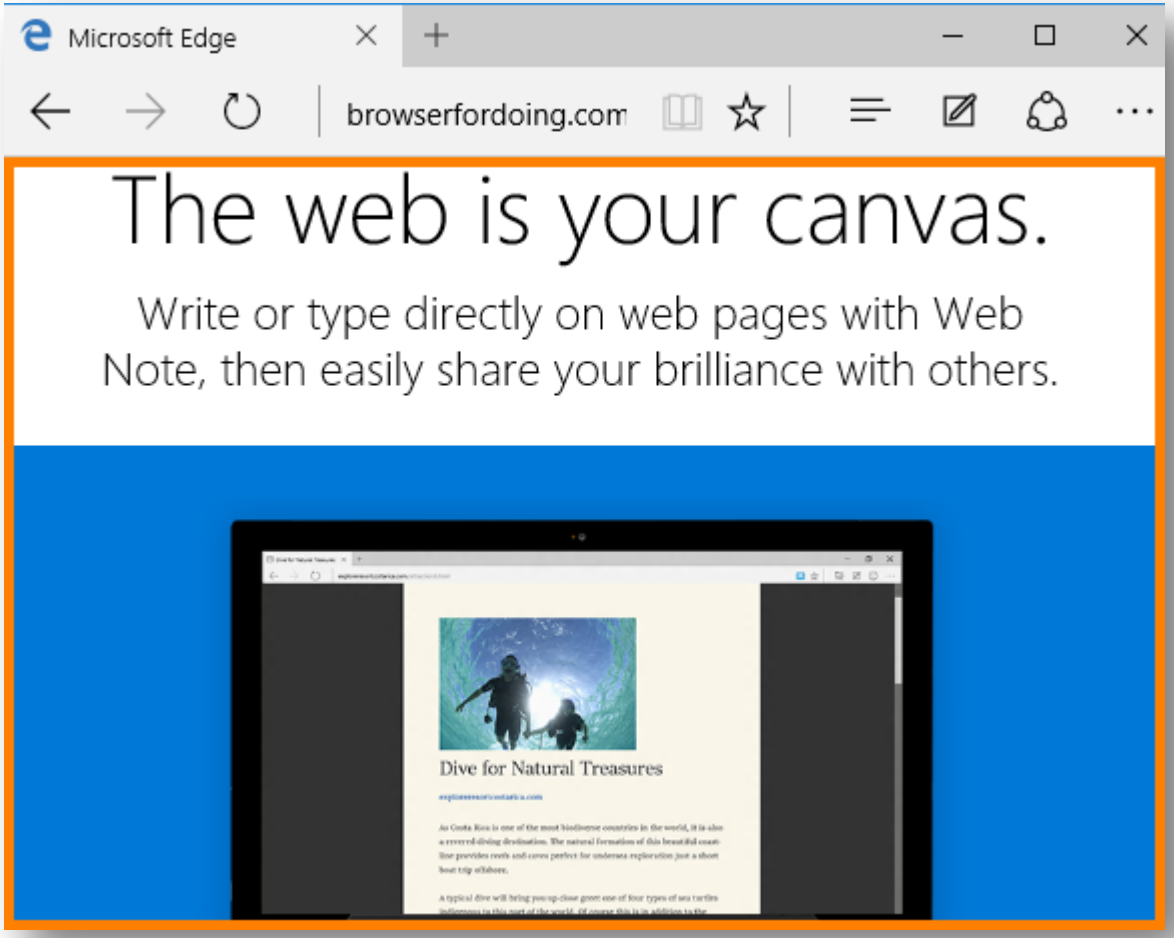
Overview > EdgeHTML Rendering Engine



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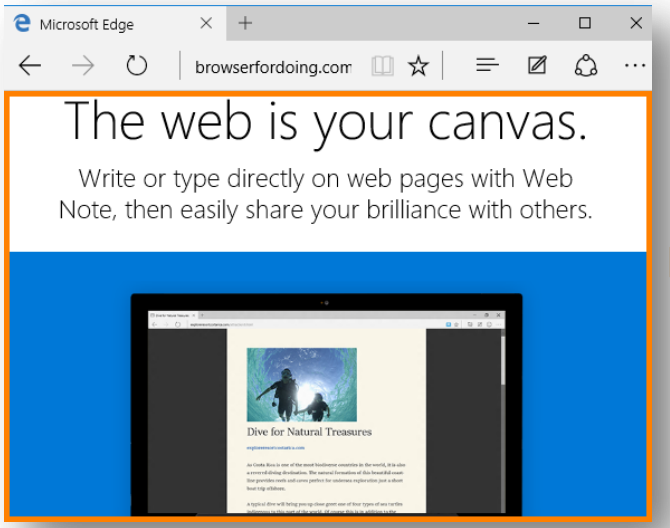
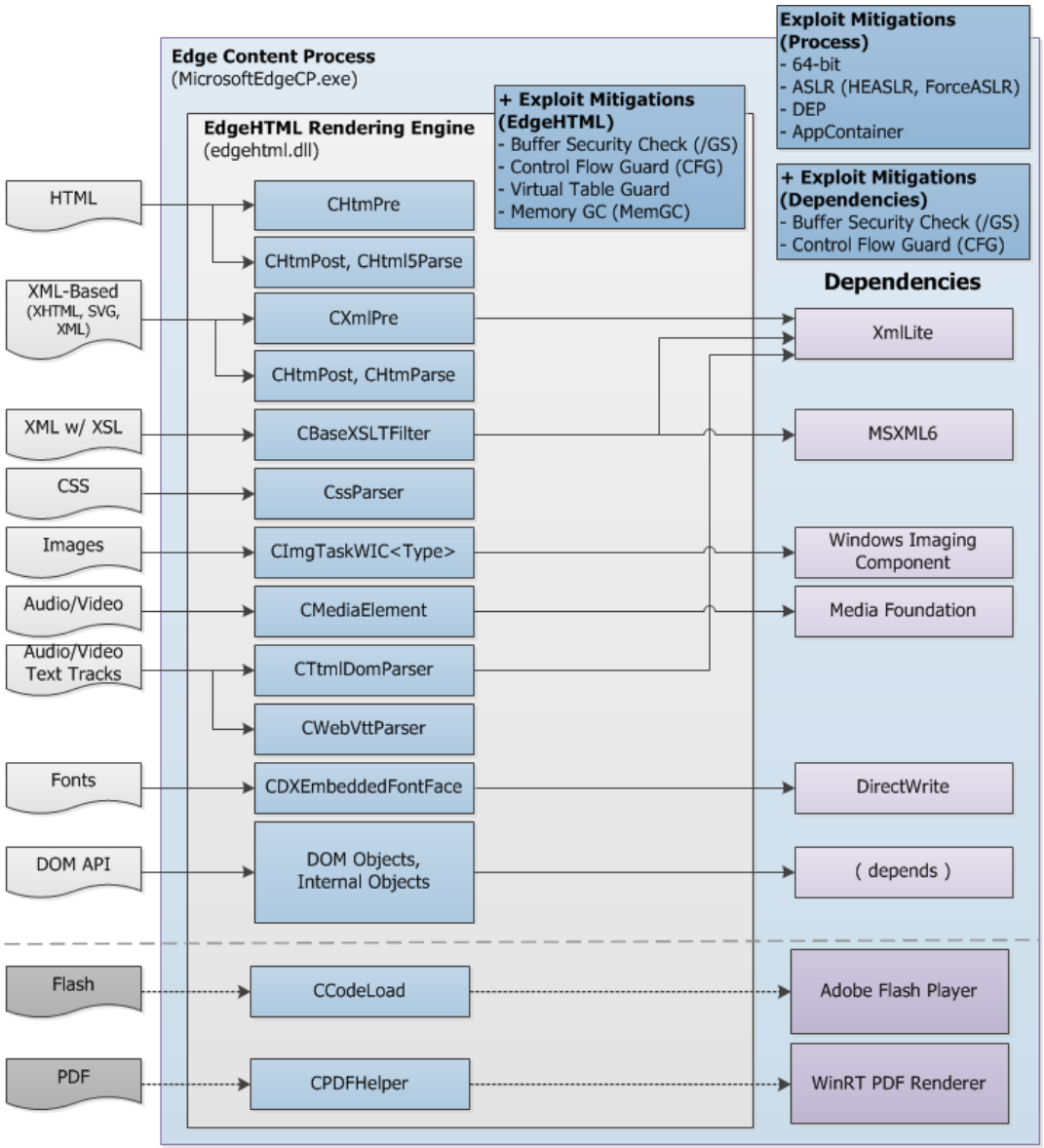
Overview > EdgeHTML Attack Surface Map & Exploit Mitigations





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Overview > Initial Recon: MSHTML and EdgeHTML

- EdgeHTML is forked from Trident (MSHTML)
- Problem: Quickly identify major code changes (features/functionalities) from MSHTML to EdgeHTML
- One option: Diff class names and namespaces

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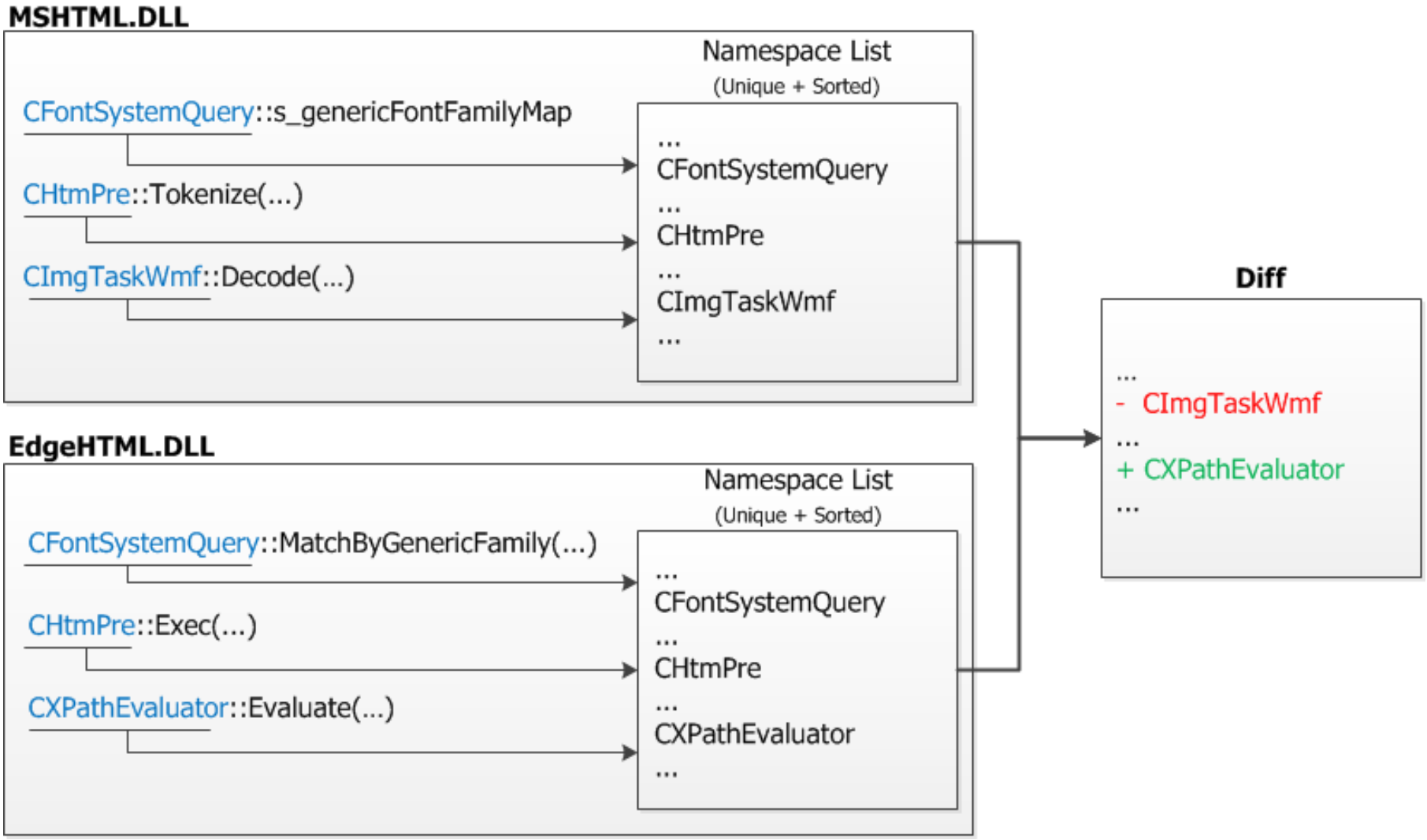
Overview > Initial Recon: Diffing MSHTML and EdgeHTML (Method)



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Overview > Initial Recon: Diffing MSHTML and EdgeHTML (Examples)

- Suggests change in image support:

```
-CImgTaskEmf
-CImgTaskWmf
```

- Suggests new DOM object types:

```
+CFastDOM::{…more…}
+CFastDOM::CXPathEvaluator
+CFastDOM::CXPathExpression
+CFastDOM::CXPathNSResolver
+CFastDOM::CXPathResult
+CFastDOM::CXSLTProcessor
```


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Overview > Initial Recon: Diffing MSHTML and EdgeHTML (Examples)

- Suggests ported code from another rendering engine (Blink) for Web Audio support:

```
+blink::WebThread
+WebCore::AnalyserNode
+WebCore::AudioArray<float>
+WebCore::AudioBasicInspectorNode
+WebCore::Audio{…more…}
```


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Overview > Initial Recon: Diffing MSHTML and EdgeHTML (Notes)

- Further analysis needed
  - Renamed class/namespace results into a new namespace plus a deleted namespace
- Requires availability of symbols
  - Bindiffing is another option
- Same rudimentary diffing method can be applied to:
  - Function and Method names
  - Strings
  - Imports and Exports

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Attack Surface

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Attack Surface

- Legend for the next slides

- EdgeHTML class is the entry point for parsing/processing
  - Most use other EdgeHTML classes
  - Analysis can start by setting a breakpoint on the listed EdgeHTML class methods, i.e.:
    - (WinDbg)> bm edgehtml!CXmlPre::*

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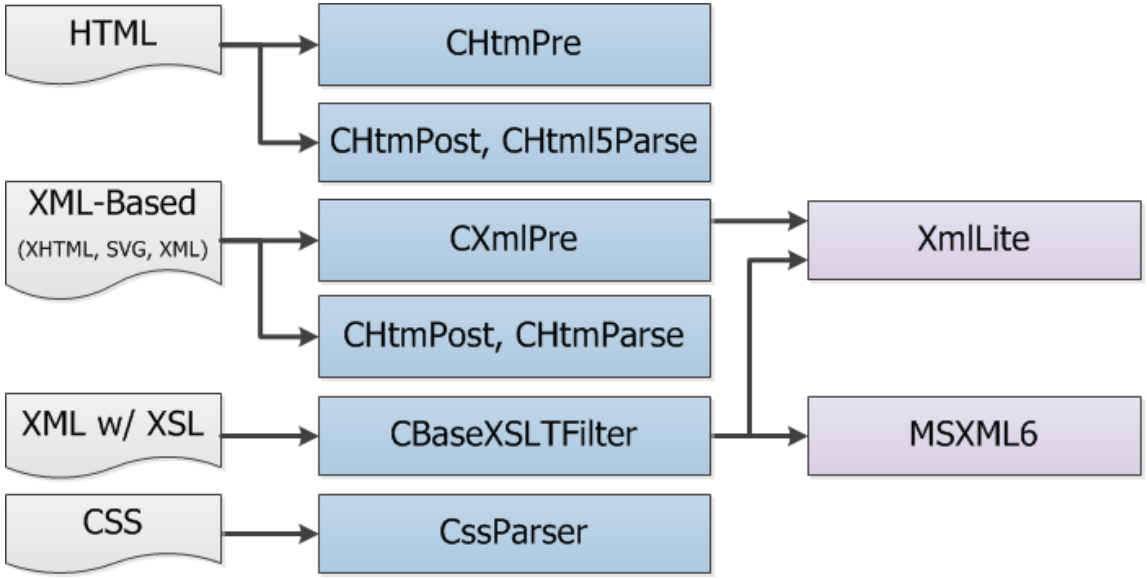
Attack Surface > Markup/Style Parsing



- HTML & CSS parsing are done by EdgeHTML classes
- XmlLite is used for parsing XML-based markups
- MSXML6 is used for XML transformation
- VML support (binary behaviors) was removed in EdgeHTML

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Attack Surface > Markup/Style Parsing > XmlLite

- Lightweight XML parser
- Built-in Windows component
- IXmlReader interface is used by EdgeHTML for reading nodes from XML-based markups

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Attack Surface > Markup/Style Parsing > MSXML6

- Comprehensive XML parser
- Built-in Windows component
- IXMLDOMDocument interface is used by EdgeHTML for transforming XML that references an XSL stylesheet

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Attack Surface > Image Decoding

- Reachable via: direct link, <img>, <embed>
- Supported image formats: g_rgMimeInfoImg
- PNG, JPG, GIF, DDS, TIFF, BMP, HDP, ICO decoding via Windows Imaging Component (WIC)
- WMF and EMF support via GDI was removed in EdgeHTML

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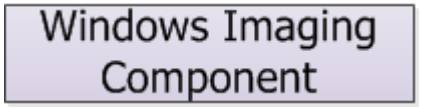
Attack Surface > Image Decoding > Windows Imaging Component (WIC)



- Image decoder/encoder for multiple image formats
- Built-in Windows component
- IWICImagingFactory::CreateDecoder() is used by EdgeHTML to instantiate the decoder for a particular image format

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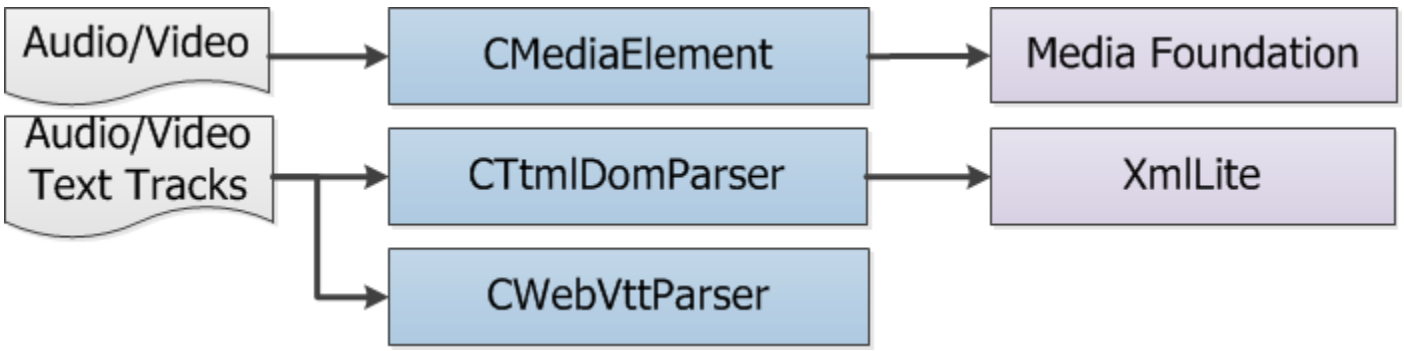
Attack Surface > Audio/Video Decoding



- Reachable via: direct link, <audio>, <video>
- Supported audio/video containers: g_rgMimeInfoAudio and g_rgMimeInfoVideo
- MP4, MP3, WAV support via Media Foundation (MF)
- TTML & WebVTT support for timed text tracks (captioning) via <track>

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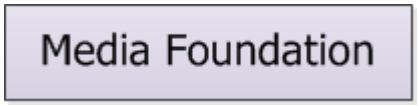
Attack Surface > Audio/Video Decoding > Media Foundation (MF)



- Framework for audio/video processing
- Built-in Windows component
- IMFMediaEngine is used by EdgeHTML to setup the media source and control playback

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Attack Surface > Font Rendering

- Reachable via: @font-face CSS rule
- TTF, OTF and WOFF (after TTF/OTF extraction) font support via DirectWrite
- EOT font support was removed in EdgeHTML
  - Removed dependence to T2EMBED and GDI for EOT font parsing

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Attack Surface > Font Rendering > DirectWrite

- DirectX Text Rendering API
- Built-in Windows component
- Parses the font in the user-mode process where it (DWrite.dll) is hosted
- IDWriteFactory::CreateCustomFontFileReference() is used by EdgeHTML to register a custom private font
- DirectWrite is discussed in the “One font vulnerability to rule them all” presentation [1]

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Attack Surface > DOM API

- Reachable via: JavaScript
- Large attack surface that:
  - Interacts directly with EdgeHTML DOM objects
  - Interacts indirectly with internal EdgeHTML objects and libraries (depends)

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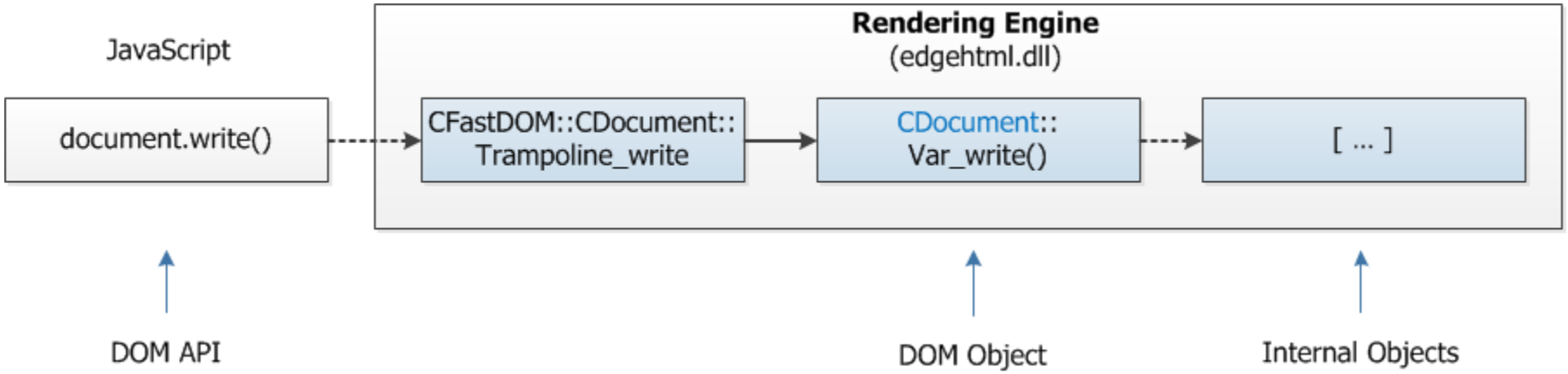
Attack Surface > DOM API



- DOM API calls can change the state of the DOM tree, DOM objects and other internal EdgeHTML objects

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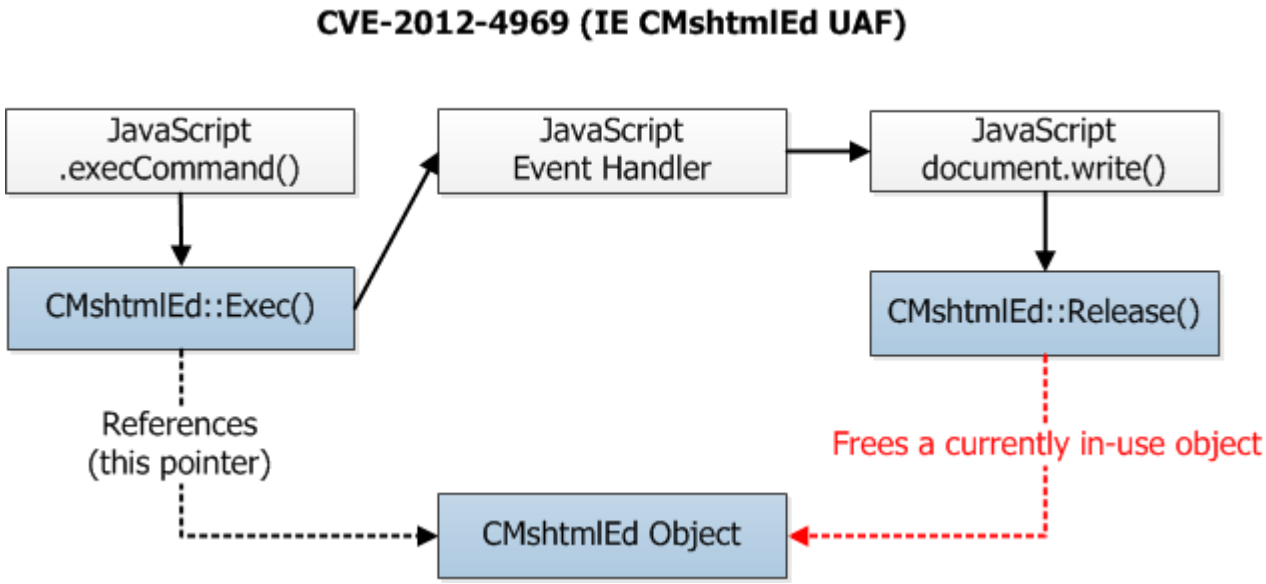
Attack Surface > DOM API



- Unexpected input, unexpected state changes or incorrect state when a DOM API is called can result to memory corruption such as: use-after-frees (above), heap overflows, invalid pointer access, etc.

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Attack Surface > DOM API > New DOM Object Types

```
+CFastDOM::{…more…}
+CFastDOM::CVideoTrack
+CFastDOM::CVideoTrackList
+CFastDOM::CWaveShaperNode
+CFastDOM::CXMLHttpRequestUpload
+CFastDOM::CXPathEvaluator
+CFastDOM::CXPathExpression
+CFastDOM::CXPathNSResolver
+CFastDOM::CXPathResult
+CFastDOM::CXSLTProcessor
```

- 80 new DOM object types were found in EdgeHTML
  - New code or new code paths that are reachable

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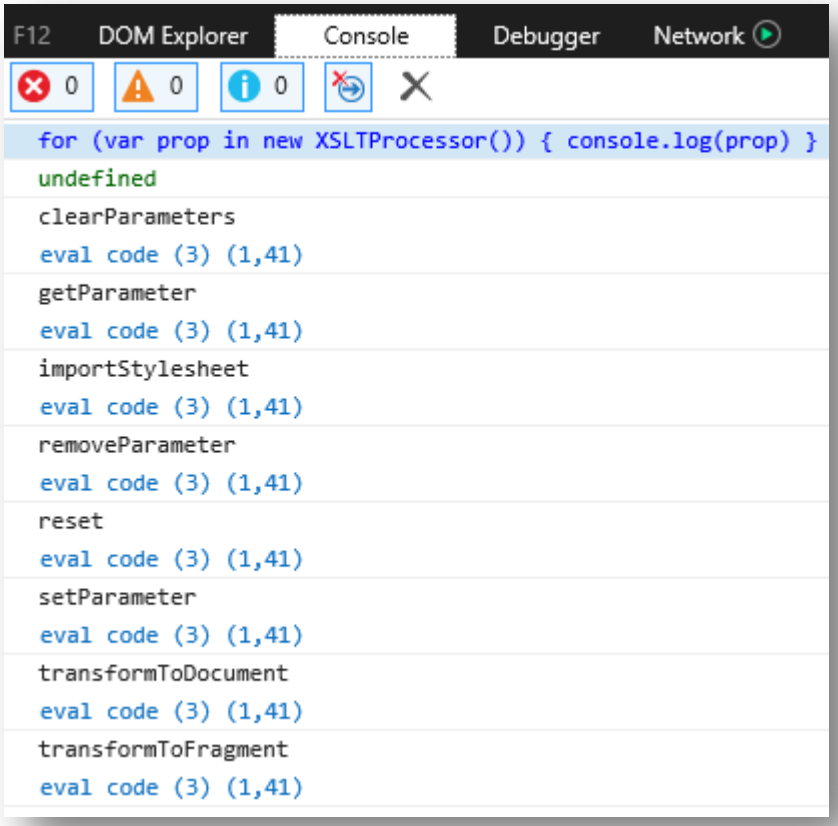
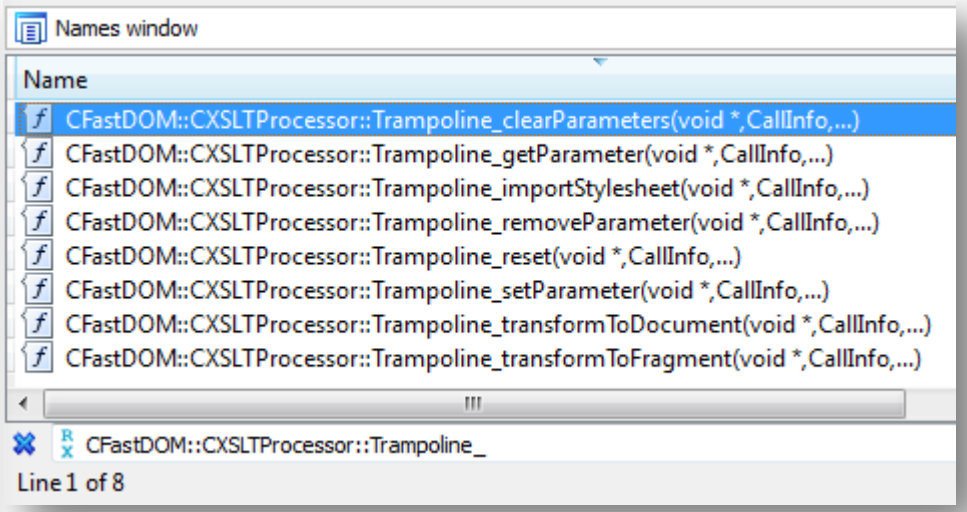
Attack Surface > DOM API > DOM Object Properties/Methods Enumeration





- Enumerating DOM object properties/methods via JavaScript and IDA…

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Attack Surface > DOM API > DOM Object Properties/Methods Diffing

```
 {…more…}
+document.evaluate
 document.execCommand
 document.execCommandShowHelp
+document.exitFullscreen
 document.fgColor
-document.fileCreatedDate
 {…more…}
```

- … and then diffing them to find out new properties / methods in already-existing DOM object types
  - New code or new code paths that are reachable

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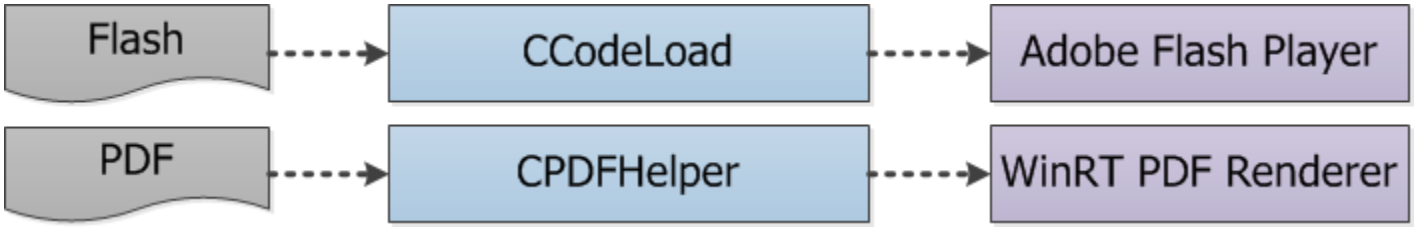
Attack Surface > PDF and Flash Renderers



- Built-in/pre-installed complex renderers that can be instantiated by default
  - Additional set of attack surface
  - Functionalities can be repurposed for exploitation
    - CFG Bypass (via Flash JIT -now mitigated) [2]
    - ASLR Bypass (via Flash Vector -now mitigated) [3]

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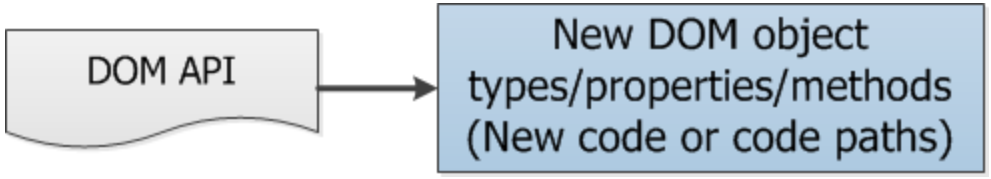
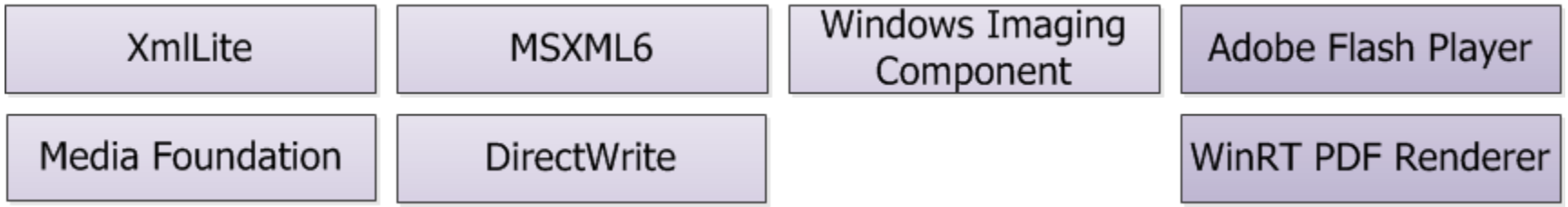
Attack Surface > Summary

- Well-known attack vectors were removed

- New attack vectors were found in the DOM API



- Remotely-reachable libraries via EdgeHTML



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Exploit Mitigations

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Exploit Mitigations

- Discussion of exploit mitigations applied to:
  - Content process that hosts EdgeHTML
  - EdgeHTML and its dependencies
  - Specific to EdgeHTML
- Known/published bypass or weakness researched/discovered by various security researchers are discussed and [referenced]

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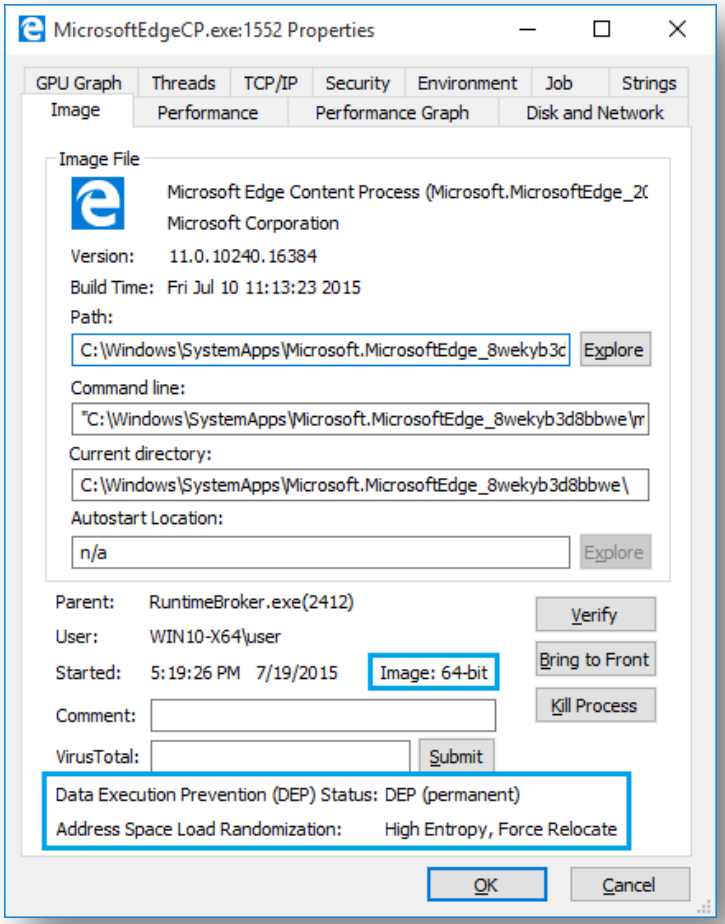
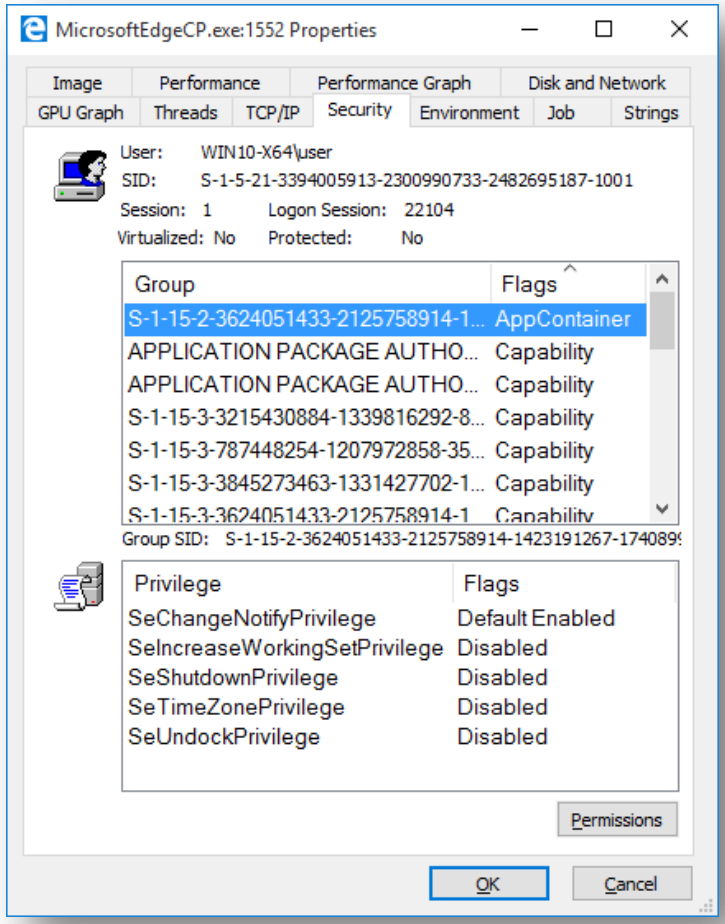
Exploit Mitigations > Edge Content Process





- MicrosoftEdgeCP.exe: 64-bit, ASLR (HEASLR, ForceASLR), DEP, and AppContainer

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Exploit Mitigations > Content Process > Mitigations Comparison

	Win10/ Edge	Win10/ IE11/	Win8/ ImmersiveIE	Win8/ IE11	Win7/ IE11
64-bit	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	**No**	**No**
ASLR	**Yes** (HEASLR, ForceASLR)	**Yes** (ForceASLR)	**Yes** (HEASLR, ForceASLR)	**Yes** (ForceASLR)	**Yes** (ForceASLR)
DEP	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**
Process Isolation	**AppContainer**	**Low Integrity**	**AppContainer**	**Low Integrity**	**Low Integrity**

- Comprehensive exploit mitigations are applied to the Edge content process (MicrosoftEdgeCP.exe) that hosts EdgeHTML (edgehtml.dll)

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Exploit Mitigations > Content Process > Known Mitigation Bypass/Weakness

- 64-bit
  - Relative heap spraying (depends) [4,5]
- ASLR+DEP
  - Memory content disclosure (via vulnerabilities) [3,6]
- AppContainer
  - Kernel vulnerabilities [7,8]
  - Vulnerabilities in the broker or higher-privileged processes [9,10,11]
  - Leveraging writable resources [9]

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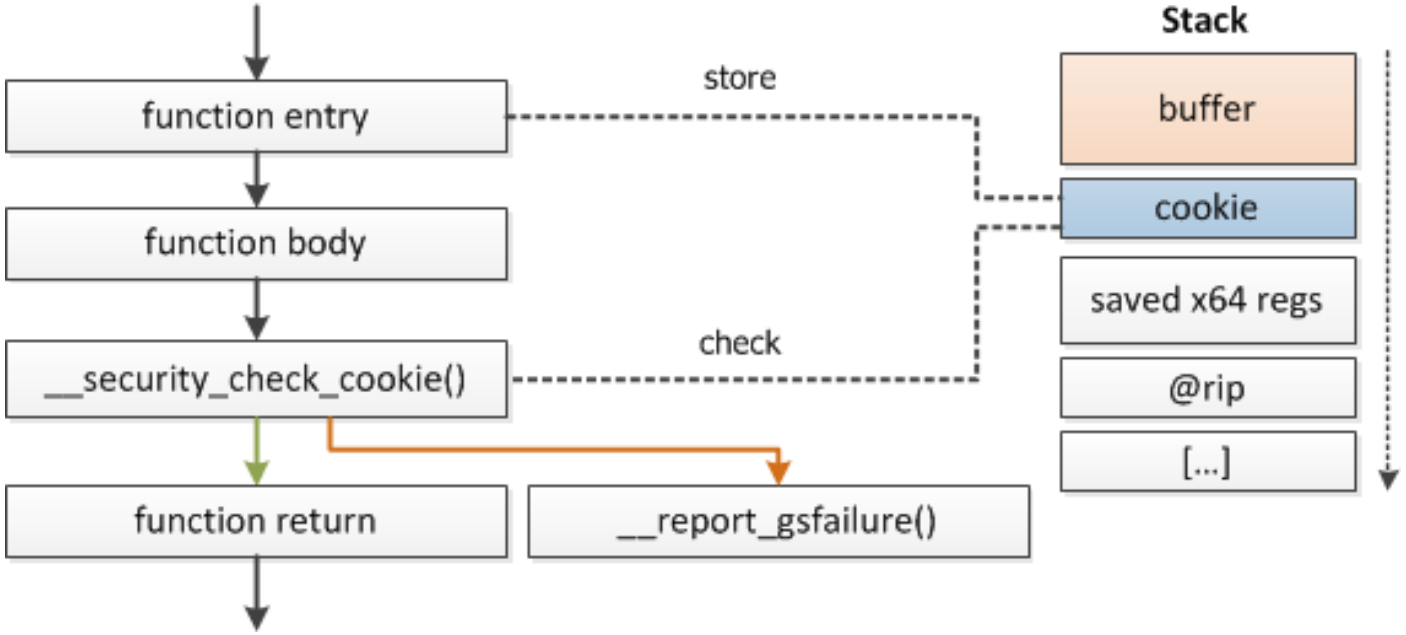
Exploit Mitigations > EdgeHTML & Dependencies > Buffer Security Check (/GS)



- Purpose: Detect stack buffer overflows
- Known Bypass/Weakness: Controllable stack buffer pointer/index [1,12]

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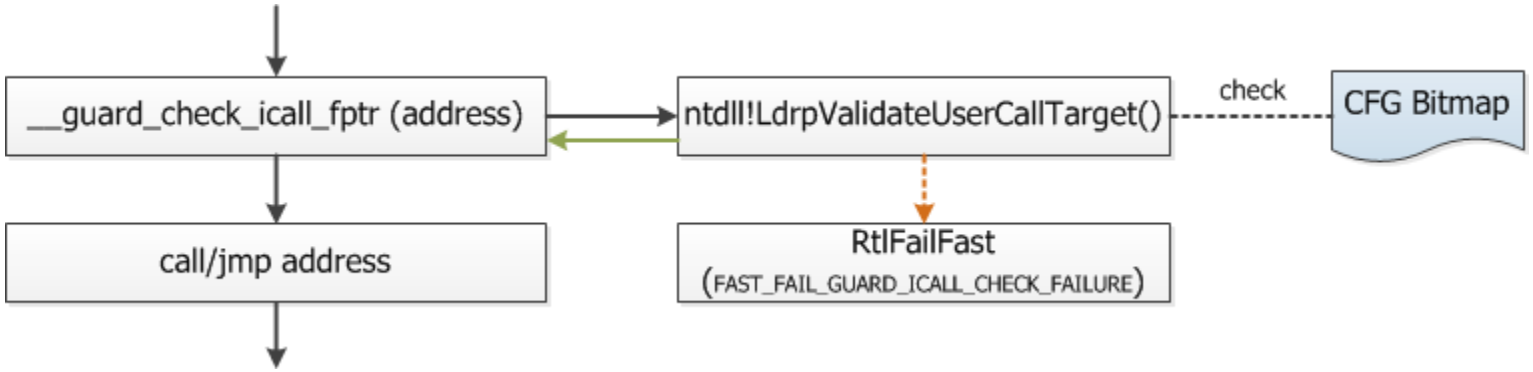
Exploit Mitigations > EdgeHTML & Dependencies > Control Flow Guard (CFG)



- Purpose: Detect and prevent abnormal control flow
- Recently introduced and well-researched [13,14]
- Known Bypass/Weakness:
  - Flash JIT-generated code [2] (now mitigated by JIT-generating a CFG check when generating CALLs)
  - Jumping to a valid API address [5], stack data overwrite [13,5], more [5]…

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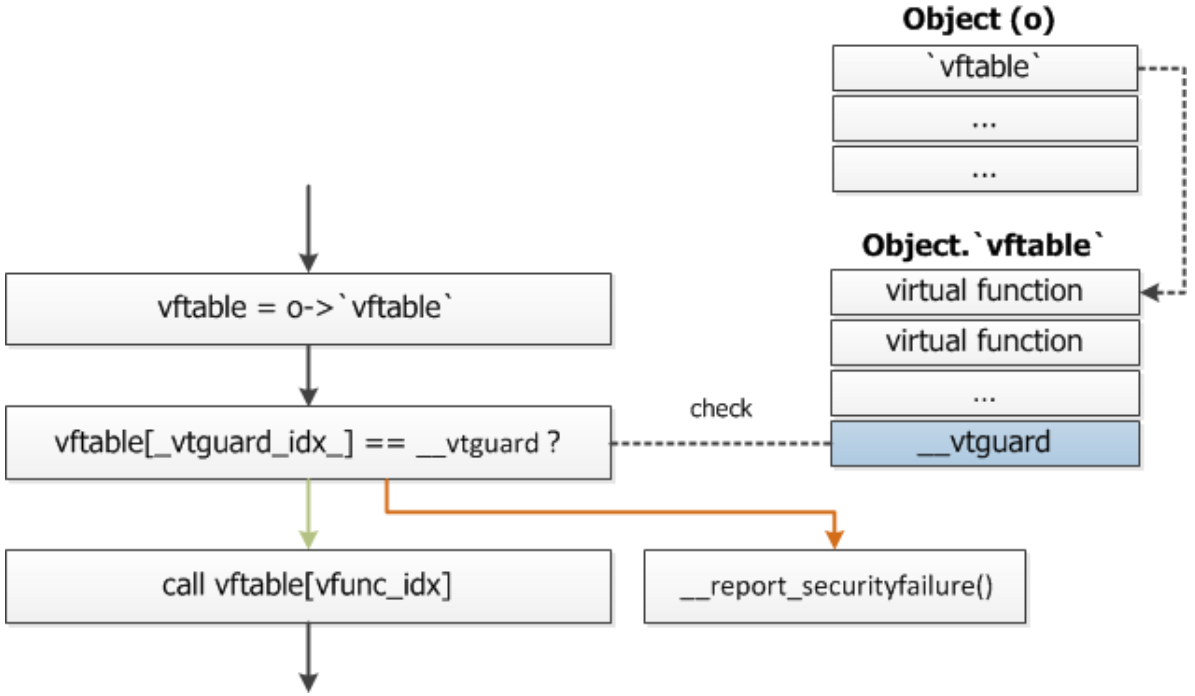
Exploit Mitigations > EdgeHTML > Virtual Table Guard (VTGuard)



- Purpose: Detect an invalid virtual function table
- Known Bypass/Weakness:
  - Applied only to select EdgeHTML classes
  - Bypassed if address of __vtguard is leaked

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Exploit Mitigations > EdgeHTML > Memory GC (MemGC)

- Purpose: Mitigate exploitation of use-after-frees
  - Prevent freeing of still-referenced memory chunks
- Introduced in EdgeHTML and MSHTML on Win10
- Improvement and successor to Memory Protector
  - Checks MemGC chunks, registers and the stack for references
- Uses a separate managed heap (MemGC heap) and a concurrent mark-and-sweep garbage collector
- Uses the Chakra JS engine memory management routines for most of its functionality

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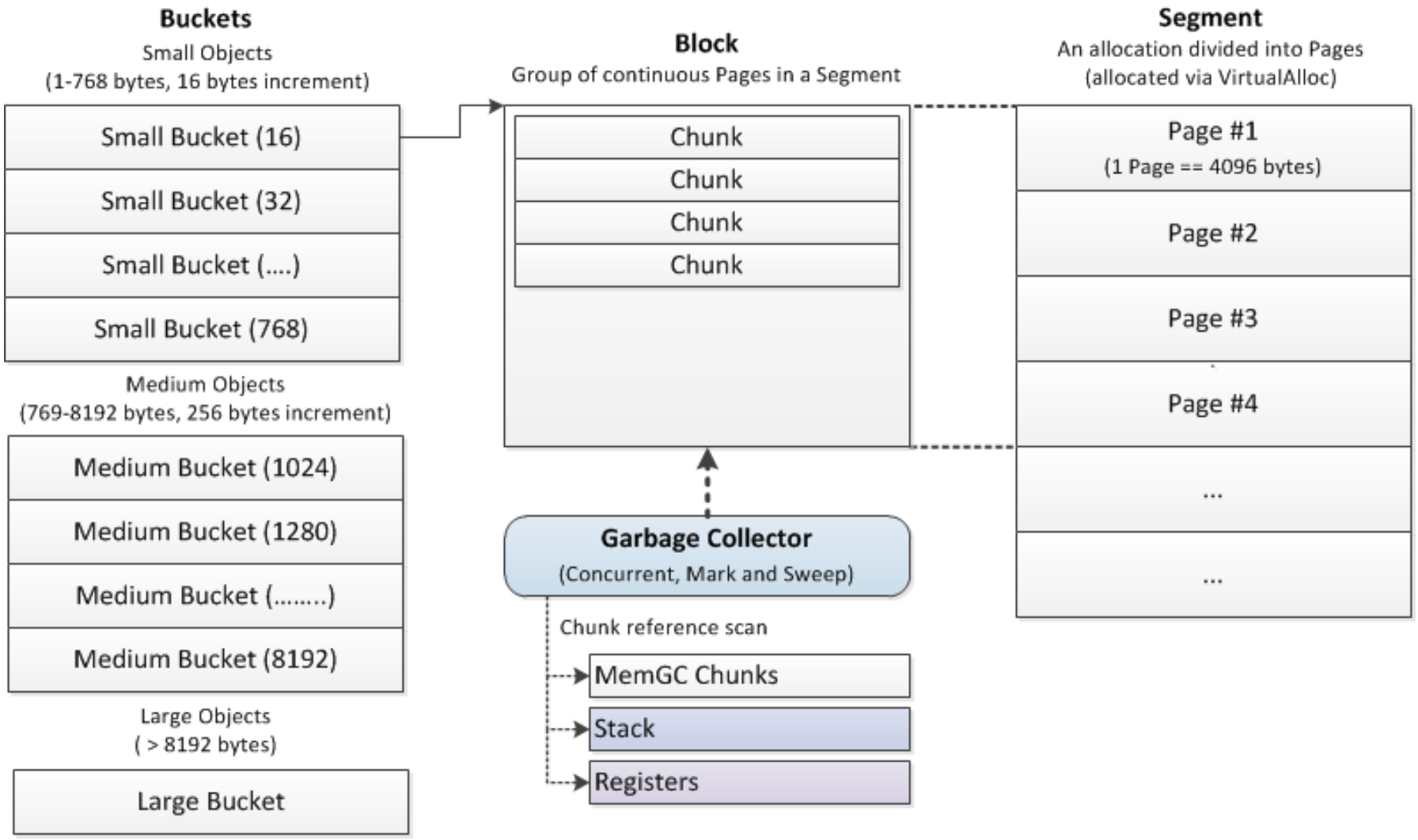
Exploit Mitigations > EdgeHTML > MemGC > MemGC Heap (Edge x64)



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Exploit Mitigations > EdgeHTML > MemGC > MemGC and Memory Protector Configuration

- Can be configured in Edge and IE via:
  - HKEY_CURRENT_USER\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\Main OverrideMemoryProtectionSetting=%Value%

Value (DWORD)	Meaning
3	MemGC is enabled (default)
2	Memory Protector is enabled (Force mark-and-reclaim)
1	Memory Protector is enabled
0	MemGC and Memory Protector are disabled

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Exploit Mitigations > EdgeHTML > MemGC > Bypass and Related Research

- No known bypass for covered cases as of writing (both MemGC and Memory Protector)
  - Exploits were demonstrated for UAF cases not covered by Memory Protector [15]
  - Memory Protector was leveraged to bypass ASLR on 32-bit IE [15] and approximating the bottom-up allocation address range on 64-bit IE [16]

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Exploit Mitigations > Summary

- Comprehensive exploit mitigations are applied to the content process: Time-consuming/costly exploit development

Exploit Mitigations (Process)
- 64-bit
- ASLR (HEASLR, ForceASLR)
- DEP
- AppContainer

- Additional exploit mitigations applied to EdgeHTML and its dependencies: A number of vulnerabilities will be unexploitable or very difficult to exploit

+ Exploit Mitigations (EdgeHTML)
- Buffer Security Check (/GS)
- Control Flow Guard (CFG)
- Virtual Table Guard (VTGuard)
- Memory GC (MemGC)

+ Exploit Mitigations (Dependencies)
- Buffer Security Check (/GS)
- Control Flow Guard (CFG)

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Conclusion

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Conclusion

- New attack vectors in rendering engines will be introduced in the parsing of new markup/style specs and in the DOM API to support new web standards
- New attack vectors in EdgeHTML are balanced by comprehensive exploit mitigations in place
- Interesting research topics related to EdgeHTML (internals, audit, fuzzing, bypass):

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References (More are in the whitepaper)

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