Formal Security Analysis of Widevine through the W3C EME Standard

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| Over-the-Top (OTT) Platforms

NETFLIX











| OTT Usage

NETFLIX

























| OTT Attacker Model

NETFLIX













- Legitimate User
- **Full Device Control**















| Digital Rights Management (DRM)



















| DRM Principle







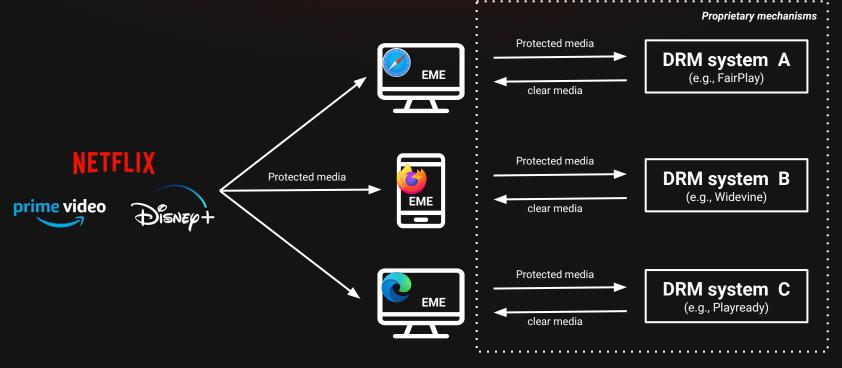








| DRMs in Browsers







| HTML5 Encrypted Media Extension (EME)



- API Extension to HTML5.
- Standard for DRM systems since 2013.
- Implemented in all major browsers (both mobile and desktop).





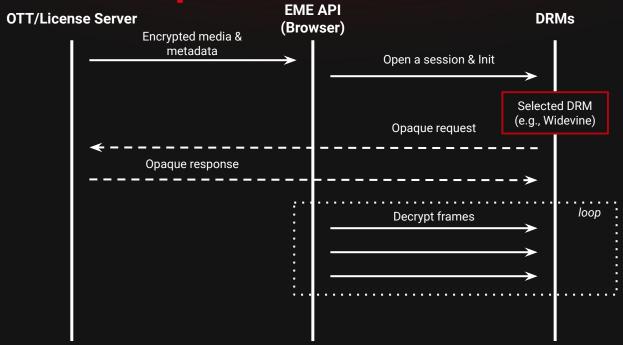








I EME License Acquisition







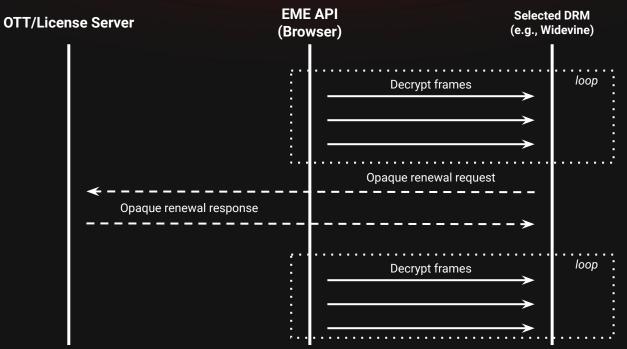








| EME License Renewal















| Widevine



- Owned by Google since 2011.
- One of the most deployed DRM.
- Closed-source \rightarrow Opaque.







What about the security of this opacity?

EME Security Concerns:

- Focused on users security and privacy as a web application. -> Nice.¹
- But nothing concerning protected media security.







Our Contributions

Generic Security Goals for Media consumption:

Applicable for all media DRM systems based on the EME API.

Formal Security Analysis of these goals on the Widevine DRM:

- Definition of goals and rules based on our observations.
- Found a vulnerability within the Widevine EME instance.
- Proposed a fixed to the EME standard.







| Our Generic Goals (1)

As an OTT, you want to **protect** your media, and **control** its distribution, and consumption.





| Our Generic Goals (2)

General:

• **Confidentiality** of the decryption key, therefore the media itself.

Acquisition:

- Integrity and authenticity of initial licenses.
- Freshness of initial licenses.
- Enforcing expiration time of initial licenses.

Renewal:

- Integrity and authenticity of renewal licenses.
- Freshness of renewal licenses.
- Enforcing expiration time of renewal licenses.







| TAMARIN Prover



- Symbolic Protocol Verification tool.¹
- Suitable to model stateful protocols such as APIs based on ordered events.

Needs rules to be verified.







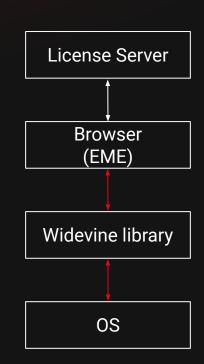
| Widevine RE Setup

Setup

- Using Widevine Test License Server for Vendor Integration.
- Instrumented Widevine library with custom EME hooks.

Capabilities:

- Observe and tamper with every API calls from EME to the Widevine DRM.
- Tamper with syscalls made by the Widevine library.







| Widevine Reverse Engineering <-> TAMARIN rules

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| Modeling Challenges

Widevine:

- Lot of cryptographic keys involved.
- Nonces and timestamps use for freshness and license expiration.

TAMARIN:

- No built-in support for modeling time; only event ordering.
- Timestamps are crucial for certain security goals, requiring a novel explicit time model in TAMARIN -> global clock within event.







| Goal Verification

Failed Goals:

- Integrity and authenticity of renewal licenses.
- Enforcing expiration time of renewal licenses.

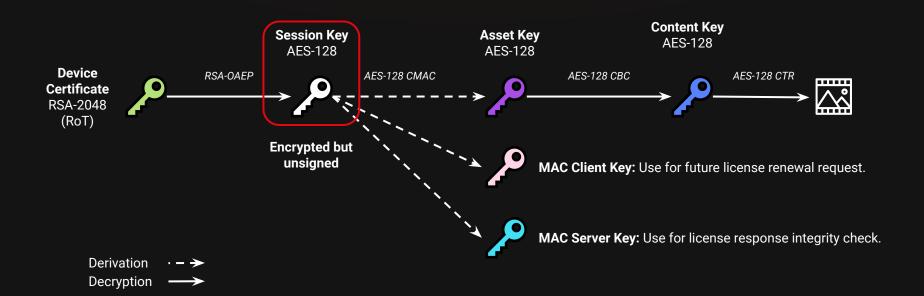
Goal 1	√
Goal 2	√
Goal 3	√
Goal 4	√
Goal 5	×
Goal 6	√
Goal 7	×







| Widevine Key Ladder





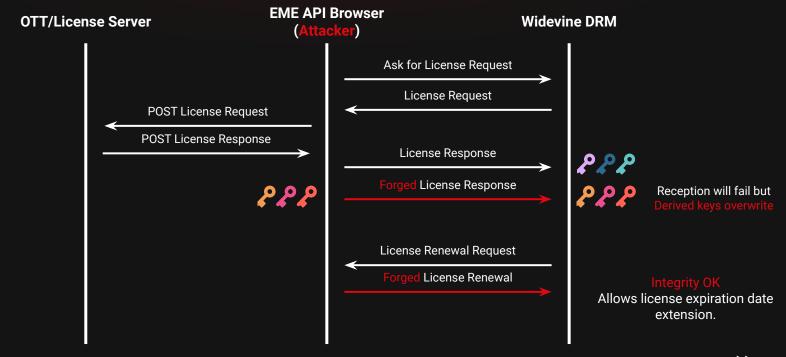


A problem due to Session Key processed before license authenticity check





| Widevine EME Key Derivation Attack







| Protocol Fixe

Modification 1: EME Specification

 Bind opened CDM session to a read-only OTT certificate with the setServerCertificate API call (originally define for privacy purposes).

Modification 2: Full License Signature

 Require the Session Key to be signed along side the request by the server certificate's private key.





| Takeaways

Security Impacts:

- Widevine EME protocol flaw allowing for infinite media consumption.
- Definition of DRM generic goals for media security.

PoC model:

 Our TAMARIN Model can be found on our github.¹







Responsible Disclosure:

- Widevine contacted on March 2024.
- EME contacted on February 2024, and discussed in the media WG meeting.²
 - o will follow on the suggested patch and modify the standard accordingly.





- 1. https://github.com/Avalonswanderer/eme_widevine_formal_verification
- 2. https://www.w3.org/2024/02/13-mediawg-minutes.html#t04









Thank you

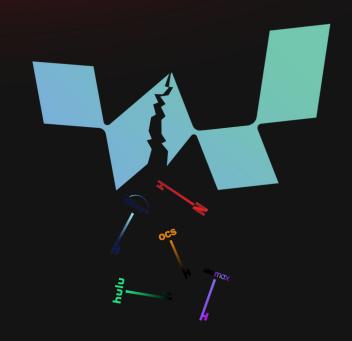
Do you have any questions?

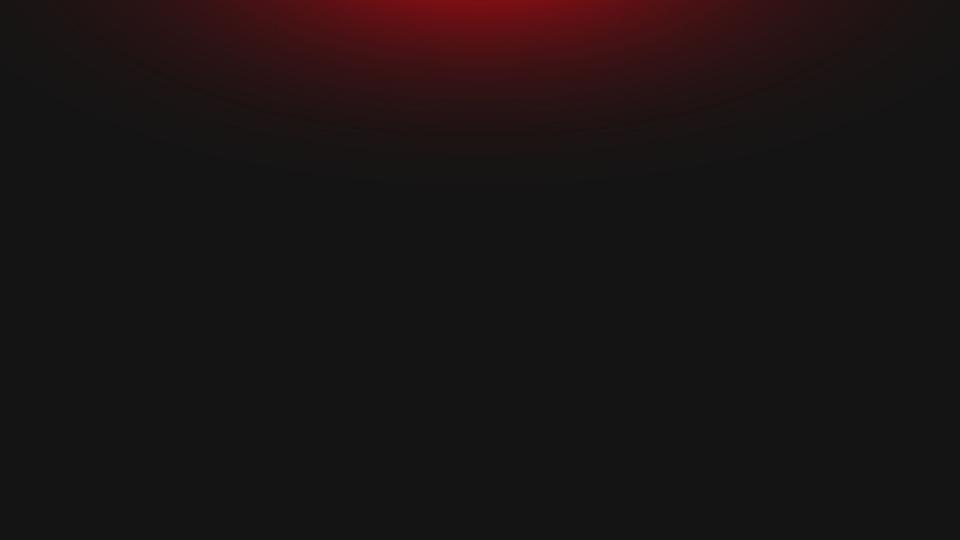


avalonswanderer.github.io

@avalonswanderer

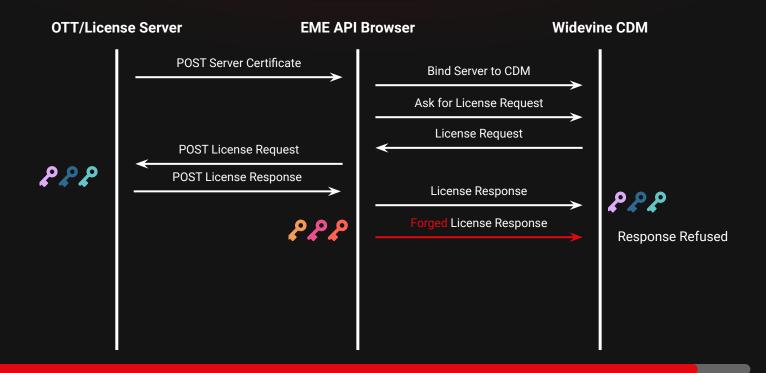
Avalonswanderer







| Protocol Fixe





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金三

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