

Re: Authorship Issue - Request for Manuscript Withdrawal

Dear Joe Calandrino and Carmela Troncoso,

Thank you for your attention to my previous appeal and the detailed response regarding the authorship policies at USENIX Security 2023.

After much consideration, and due to ongoing conflicts regarding authorship and my inability to communicate effectively with the primary author, Yu Chen, I have decided to completely disassociate myself from the manuscript "InfinityGauntlet: Expose Smartphone Fingerprint Authentication to Brute-force Attack". As such, I kindly request that the manuscript be withdrawn from the USENIX Security 2023 program.

To provide transparency, I wish to emphasize the breadth and depth of my contributions to this work. During my internship, I was instrumental in the development and writing of the paper. This includes designing and implementing image processing experiments related to the exploitation of the vulnerability, as well as writing the initial draft of the paper. In particular, I would like to highlight my involvement in the creation of Figure 3, which illustrates the principle of the CAMF vulnerability, and Figure 8(b), which outlines its exploitation process. These figures are central to the paper's arguments and were a direct result of my extensive involvement in the research. Beyond the figures, I was also responsible for key parts of the narrative, such as describing the vulnerability, which was based on my review of relevant Android source code (evidence can be found in my post-internship blog post: [AndroidBio](#)) and internal VIVO interface documentation (which I cannot provide due to confidentiality reasons). My definition of the Man-in-the-Middle attack was also derived from my discussions with Yu Chen regarding his attack board.

Evidence of my contributions can also be found in the project records on Overleaf (Project A in the appeal letter). These records clearly demonstrate my substantial involvement in drafting and refining the paper. To facilitate your review and assessment, I am more than willing to provide a share link to the Overleaf project, allowing you to access the full history of the document, including the specifics of each commit. This will enable you to see the progression of the paper and the corresponding content modifications made in each commit. Additionally, I can provide WeChat screenshots documenting our discussions and my thinking process during the drafting stage. Unfortunately, I don't have access to most discussions that took place on WeChat Work after my departure from the company. However, it is important to note that Yu Chen, the first author, had acknowledged my contributions and had promised me co-authorship. Given the significant overlap between the two versions of the paper, I believe it is unjust to remove my name from the author list.

Despite my significant contributions, my name was removed from the list of authors in the final version of the paper, which I believe to be a gross misrepresentation of the work done. While I understand that authorship disputes are complex, I believe this situation clearly contradicts the ethical standards of academic publishing, as my work has been used without proper attribution.

Given the gravity of this ethical violation, my primary request is for the paper to be withdrawn from consideration for publication. As a secondary measure, should the paper proceed to publication, I request that my name be reinstated in the list of authors to accurately reflect the work done.

I hope you understand the gravity of this situation and will take the appropriate actions to uphold the integrity of academic publishing.

Best Regards,

Yiling He

Re: Re: Request for Manuscript Withdrawal - Clarification and Additional Evidence

Dear Joe Calandrino and Carmela Troncoso,

Following my previous communication, I recognized a mistake in my email that I would like to correct concerning the manuscript, "InfinityGauntlet: Expose Smartphone Fingerprint Authentication to Brute-force Attack." I should have referred to Figure 8(b) – not Figure 8(a) – as the figure illustrating the exploitation process of the CAMF vulnerability.

Further to this correction, I would like to provide additional context and evidence to support my significant contributions to the creation of Figure 8(b). This figure is a Swimlane Flowchart that I developed based on raw vendor logs from the Android HAL and my comprehensive understanding of the Android Biometric Framework. Please note that Yu Chen was not familiar with this type of chart and even sought clarification from a colleague, which substantiates my sole authorship of this figure.

I have attached drafts of the figure and WeChat exchanges where these drafts were shared and discussed. Please refer to the [ReadMe](#) for a more comprehensive description of these documents. These documents highlight the extent of my involvement in the development of this figure and are presented for your comprehensive evaluation.

I apologize for the oversight in my previous communication and thank you for your understanding. This correction is crucial for the clarity and accuracy of my appeal. I am confident that this additional evidence will strengthen the demonstration of my contributions to the research and the development of the paper.

I eagerly await your response and appreciate your continued attention to this matter.

Best Regards,

Yiling He

Attachment in [Additional Evidence - CAMF Bypassing Figure 8\(b\)](#)