

# idb - iOS Blackbox Pentesting

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Boston, MA



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Website: <http://cysec.org>

# Who we are...

## ► Me: Daniel A. Mayer

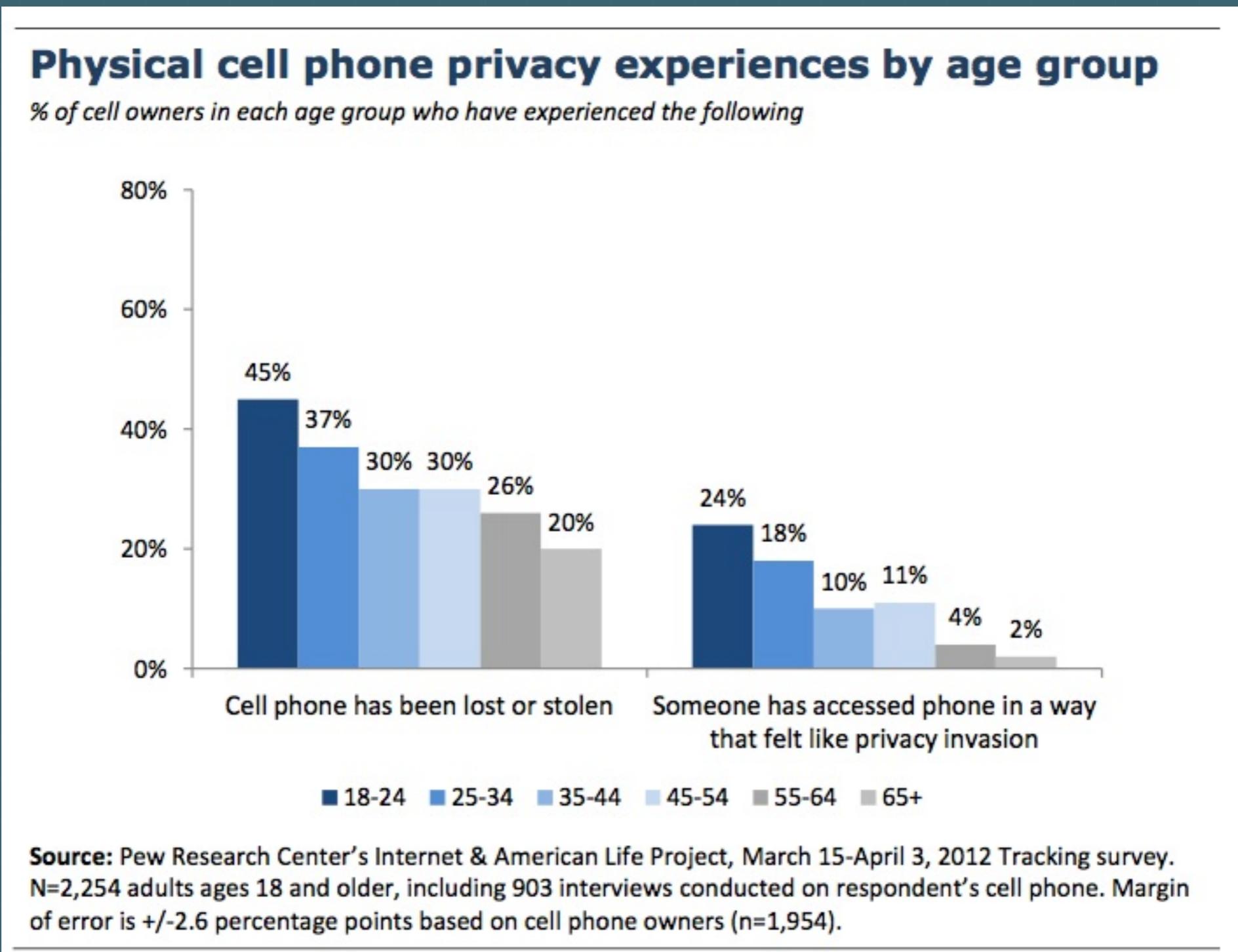
- Appsec consultant with Matasano Security.
- Ph.D. in Computer Science (Security and Privacy).
- Twitter: @DanlAMayer
- Website: <http://cysec.org>

## ► Matasano Security

- Application Security Consultancy.
- Offices in New York, Chicago, Mountain View.
- We are hiring! :-)
- Part of  nccgroup  
freedom from doubt

# Anyone Lost or Got Their Phone Stolen?

# Well, you are not alone...



# Agenda

1. Introduction
2. New Tool: idb
3. Common iOS Vulnerabilities
  1. Binary
  2. Local Storage
  3. Information Disclosure
  4. Inter-Process Communication
  5. Network Communication
4. Conclusion

# Introduction

# iOS Platform Security

- ▶ Apps are sandboxed ('seatbelt')
  - All apps share same UNIX user 'mobile'
- ▶ App code has to be signed
  - Bypassed when jailbroken
- ▶ Raising the bar
  - Data Execution Prevention (DEP)
  - Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR)
- ▶ Passcode



# iOS Apps

## 1. Native applications

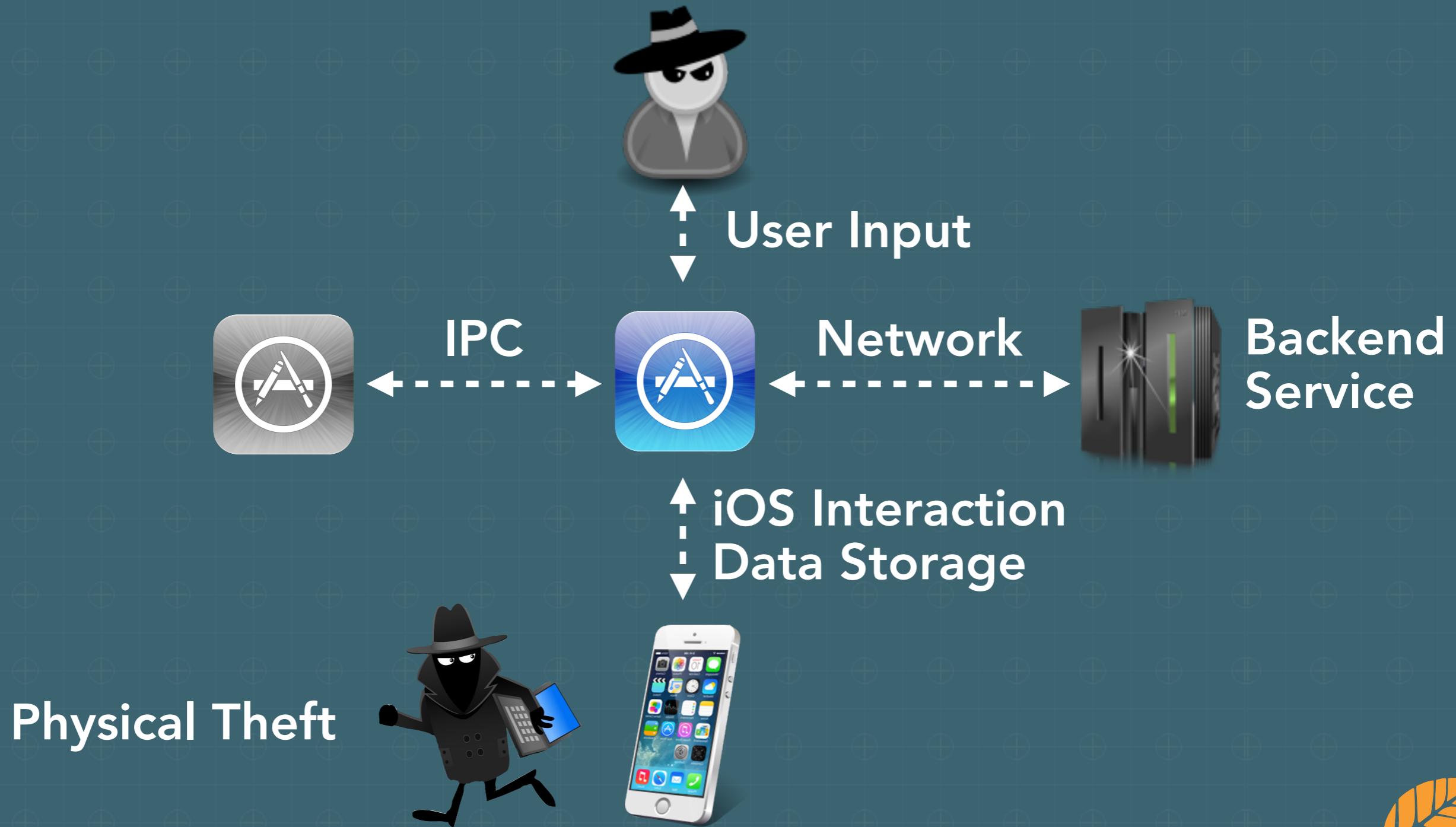
- Objective-C(++)<sup>+</sup>, superset of C(++)
- Cocoa touch for GUI

## 2. Web view applications

- Display mobile websites in a `UIWebView`

# iOS App Attack Surface

- ▶ Vulnerabilities typical arise at trust boundaries



# Pentest Setup

## ► Jail-broken iDevice

- SSH access!
  - Full UNIX-like environment
  - Full file system access
- Mobile (Cydia) Substrate
  - Patch system functions at runtime
  - <http://www.cydiasubstrate.com/>

Unauthorized modification of iOS can cause security vulnerabilities, instability, shortened battery life, and other issues

--Apple

## ► Intercepting Proxy

- Monitor app communication

# Introducing idb

# Existing Tool Landscape

- ▶ Many great tools [1]
  - Scattered
  - Static and dynamic
- ▶ Fully understand app's behavior in assessment
- ▶ My background is in dynamic testing
  - No “click and done” solution
  - Tool that automates analyses

[1] [https://www.owasp.org/index.php/IOS\\_Application\\_Security\\_Testing\\_Cheat\\_Sheet](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/IOS_Application_Security_Testing_Cheat_Sheet)

# Introducing idb



- ▶ Ruby and Qt (4,500 loc)
- ▶ New tools
- ▶ Integrates existing tools
- ▶ Goal:
  - Easier setup and access
- ▶ Work in progress

The screenshot shows the idb application interface. On the left, the 'App Details' window displays metadata for an app named 'com.highaltitudehacks.dvia'. It includes fields for Bundle ID, Name, UUID, URL Handlers, Platform Version, SDK Version, and Minimum OS, all set to version 7.0. Below this are buttons for 'Launch App' and 'Open Local Temp Folder'. Under 'App Binary', there's a button to 'Analyze Binary...'. A section for 'Selected Device' shows a message: 'USB device: Manually connect via SSH as root@localhost:2222' and the Darwin kernel information: 'Darwin Daniel-Mayers-iPad 14.0.0 Darwin Kernel Version 14.0.0: Fri Sep 27 23:08:32 PDT 2013; root:xnu-2423.3.12~1/RELEASE\_ARM64\_S5L8960X iPad4,4 arm64 J85AP Darwin'. On the right, the 'gidb' window is open, showing a list of file paths under the 'Storage' tab, specifically under the 'plists' tab. The paths listed include '/DamnVulnerableIOSApp.app/Info.plist => NSFileProtectionNone', '/DamnVulnerableIOSApp.app/ResourceRules.plist => NSFileProtectionNone', '/DamnVulnerableIOSApp.app/Model.momd/VersionInfo.plist => NSFileProtectionNone', '/Library/Preferences/com.apple.PeoplePicker.plist => (null)', and '/DamnVulnerableIOSApp.app/Base.lproj/Main.storyboardc/Info.plist => NSFileProtectionNone'. The 'gidb' window also has tabs for URL Handlers, Binary, Filesystem, Tools, Log, Keychain, and Pasteboard, and a 'Refresh' button at the bottom.



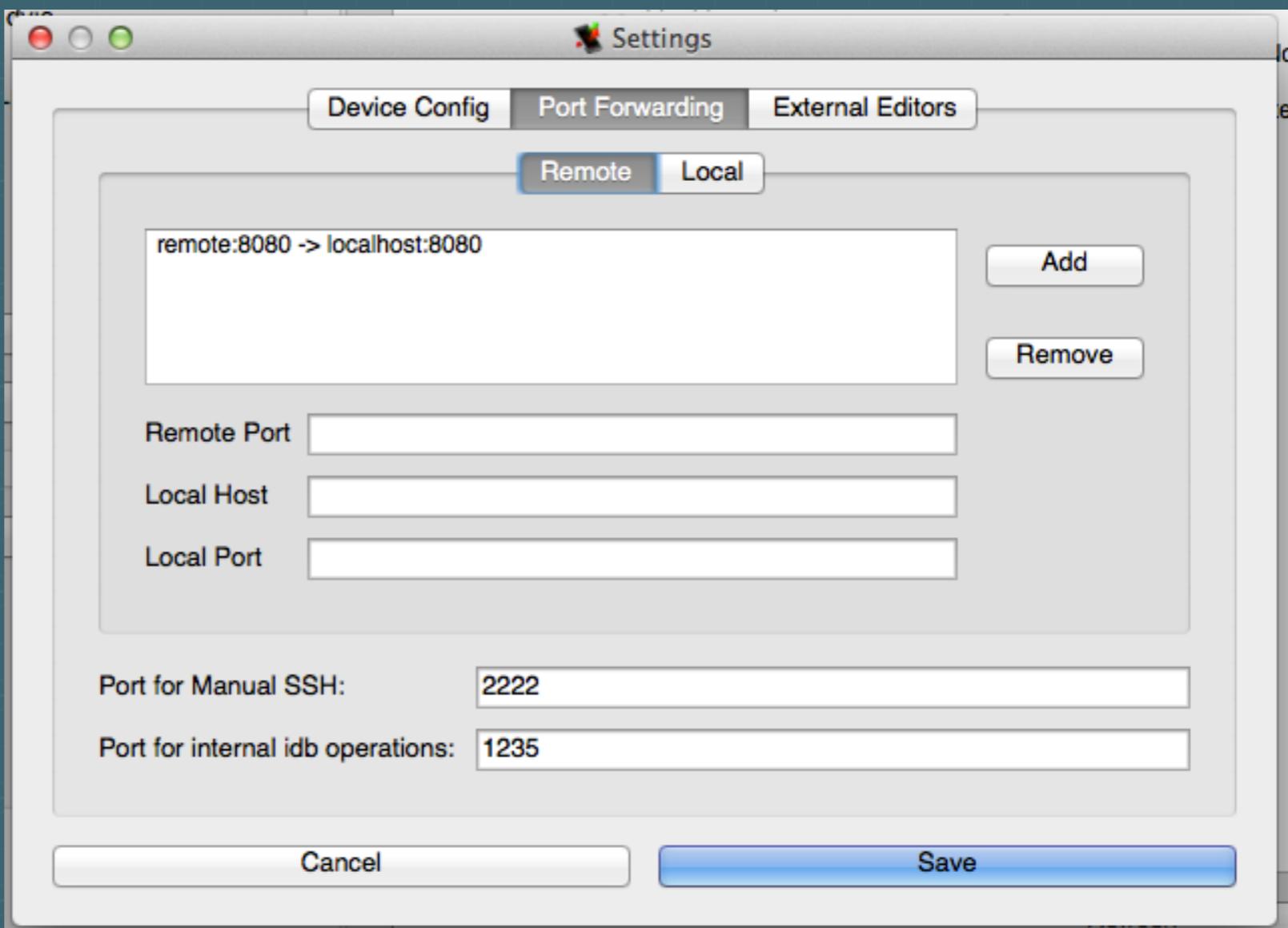
# Demo: Pentesting Setup

## ▶ Connecting to device

- SSH directly
- SSH via USB

## ▶ Port forwarding

- Remote
- Local



# Common iOS App Vulnerabilities

# The OWASP Mobile Top 10 - 2014!

1. Weak Server Side Controls

2. Insecure Data Storage

3. Insufficient Transport Layer Security

4. Unintended Data Leakage

5. Poor Authentication and Authorization

6. Broken Cryptography

7. Client Side Injection

8. Security Decision via Untrusted Input

9. Improper Session Handling

10. Lack of Binary Protections

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP\\_Mobile\\_Security\\_Project](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP_Mobile_Security_Project)

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# The OWASP Mobile Top 10 - Client-Side

1. Weak Server Side Controls

2. Insecure Data Storage

3. Insufficient Transport Layer Security

4. Unintended Data Leakage

5. Poor Authentication and Authorization

6. Broken Cryptography

7. Client Side Injection

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[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP\\_Mobile\\_Security\\_Project](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP_Mobile_Security_Project)

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# The App Binary

## ► Native Code!

- Buffer overflows
- Format string flaws
  - `WithFormat` - don't let user specify the format! [1]
- User after frees

## ► Used as storage space:

- API keys
- Credentials
- Crypto Keys

Square + Matasano CTF

<https://microcorruption.com>

### SECURITY

**Amazon is decompiling our apps in security gaffe hunt, says dev**

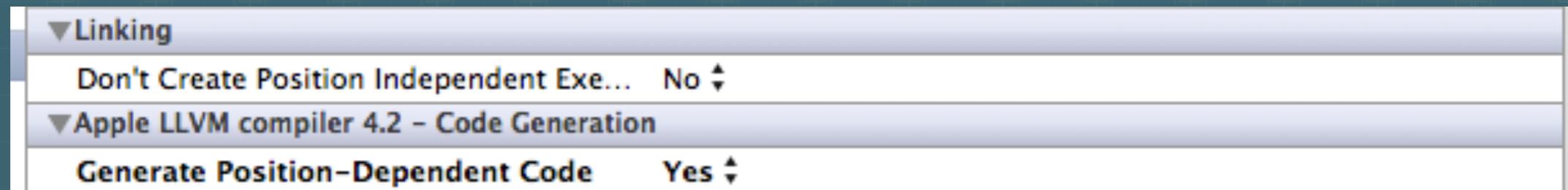
**Putting secret AWS keys in software is a big no-no**

[1] <http://sebug.net/paper/Meeting-Documents/Ruxcon2011/iPhone%20and%20iPad%20Hacking%20-%20van%20Sprundel.ppt>

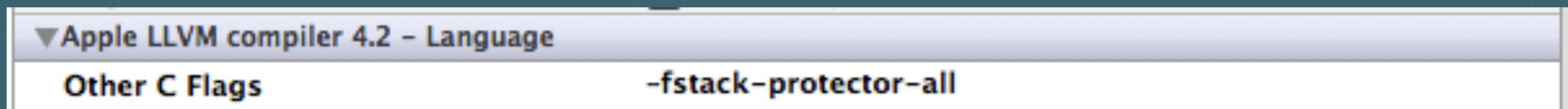
# Exploit Mitigation



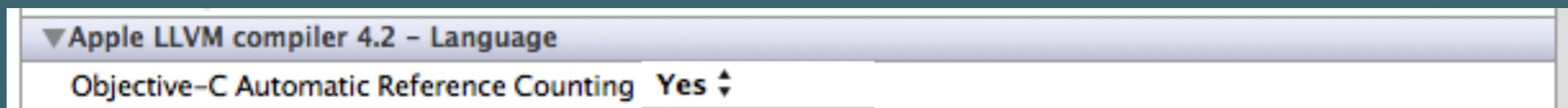
- ▶ Take advantage of OS protections:
  - Compile as Position Independent Executable (PIE).



- Enable stack canaries



- Use Automatic Reference Counting



- ▶ Do not store credentials in the binary.

# Demo: Poor-Man's Reversing

## ► Basic binary information using otool

```
▶ RunKeeper.app git:(gui) ✘ otool -Vh RunKeeper  
flags  
NOUNDEFs DYLDLINK TWOLEVEL WEAK_DEFINES BINDS_TO_WEAK PIE  
➔ RunKeeper.app git:(gui) ✘ otool -I -v RunKeeper | grep 'stack_chk_(fail|guard)'  
0x003d3dc8 748 __stack_chk_fail  
0x004e0044 749 __stack_chk_guard  
0x004e22e4 748 __stack_chk_fail  
➔ LumosityiPad.app git:(gui) ✘ otool -I -v LumosityiPad | grep _objc_release  
0x006f7aa8 9934 _objc_release  
0x0085aaef 9934 _objc_release
```

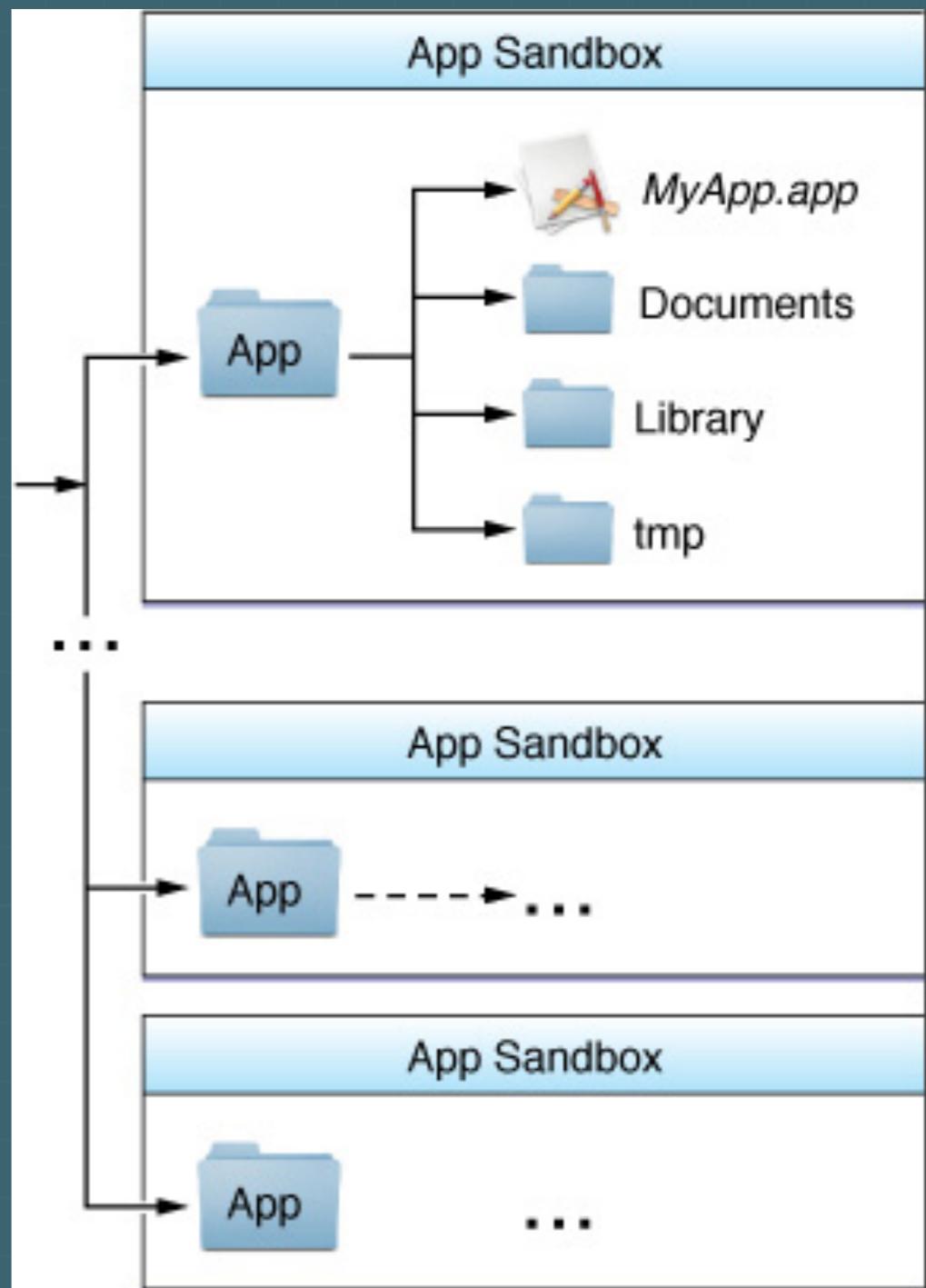
## ► Strings

## ► Weak Class Dump

- [https://github.com/limneos/weak\\_classdump](https://github.com/limneos/weak_classdump)
- Uses cyscript (<http://www.crypt.org/>)

# Local Storage

- ▶ Apps are sandboxed to
  - /private/var/mobile/Applications/[guid]/
- ▶ Sandbox accessible to app.
- ▶ Stored in backups.
- ▶ If stolen:
  - Jailbreak
  - File system access



# File System Encryption

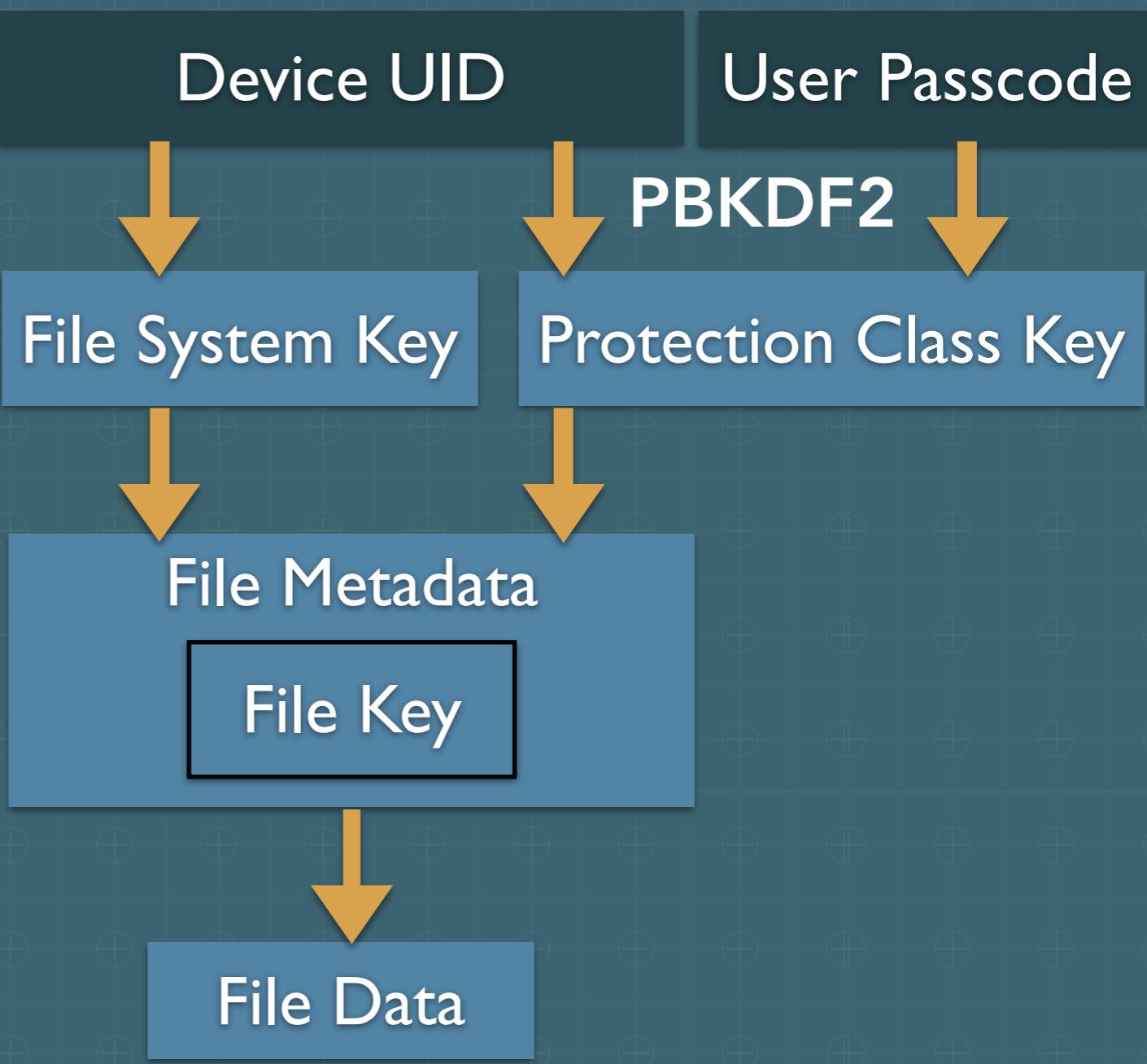
- ▶ All files encrypted

- ▶ One key per File

- ▶ Passcode!

- ▶ Attacks:

- PIN cracking
- Backups
- Jail-break not enough!



# Using the Data Protection API

- ▶ Enforce a strong passcode
- ▶ Set a NSFileProtection when storing files

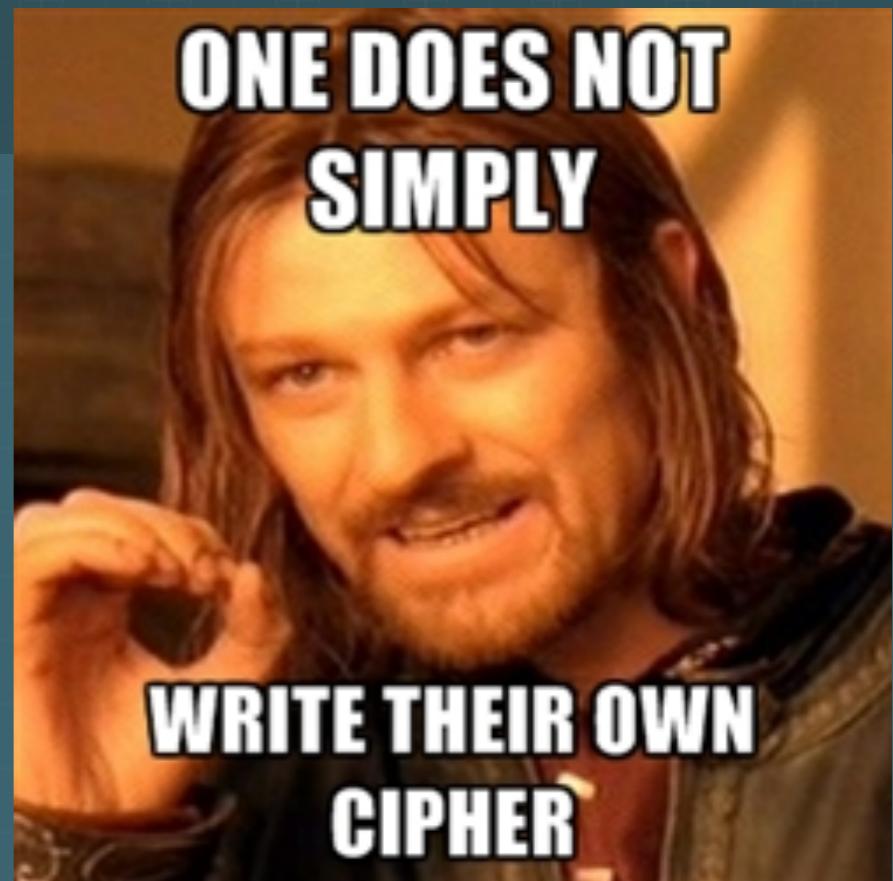
NSFileProtection	Meaning
Complete	Protected when device is locked.
CompleteUnlessOpen	If open, file can be read when locked.
CompleteUntilFirstUserAuthentication	Protected from boot until user unlocks.
<b>None (Default!)</b>	<b>No protection.</b>

- ▶ Example:

```
[[[NSFileManager defaultManager] createFileAtPath:@"filename"
    contents:[@"super_secret" dataUsingEncoding:NSUTF8StringEncoding]
    attributes:[NSDictionary
dictionaryWithObject NSFileProtectionComplete forKey:NSFileProtectionKey]]];
```

# Don't do your own crypto

- ▶ Existing frameworks make it hard to get crypto right!
- ▶ General problem on mobile:
  - Where does the key come from?
  - Have to use some Key Derivation Function (KDF)
- ▶ Shameless plug:
  - Do the Matasano crypto challenges!
  - Email: [cryptopals@matasano.com](mailto:cryptopals@matasano.com)



# SQLite

- ▶ SQLite: a small relational database API
- ▶ Popular to persist data
- ▶ Data stored unencrypted in a file



```
Matasano-iPad-4:/var/mobile/Applications/2D326DB2-2BBE-4612-B45B-17D72A86BE40/Documents root# sqlite
3 keyring.sql
sqlite> .tab
cards          program_migrations  programs          users
sqlite> select * from cards;
1|881|Qdoba Rewards|Qdoba Rewards|132967000138877|https://d1njjmh7h4p8yt.cloudfront.net/program/881/
logo_original_1361998489.jpg?1361998489|CODE128|0|0|139488607|1|2000|
```

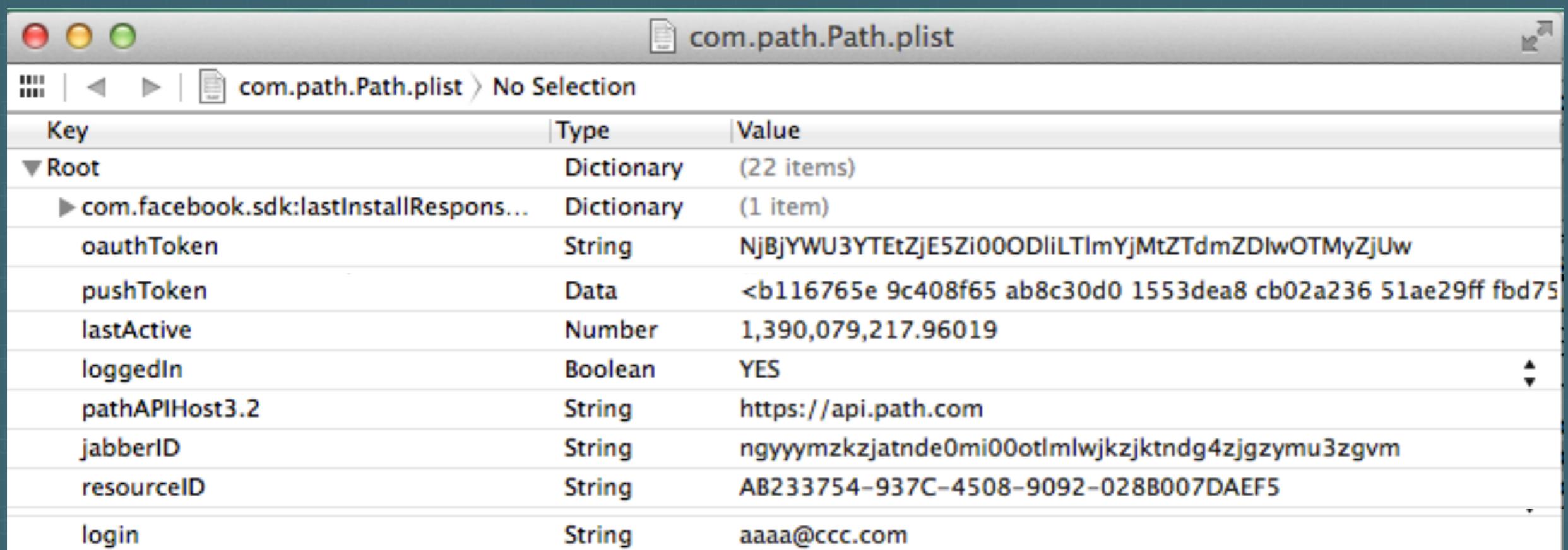
# SQLite Mitigation



- ▶ Use Data Protection to encrypt sqlite file.
- ▶ Third-Party solutions
  - e.g., <http://sqlcipher.net/>
- ▶ Journal may leak deleted data.
  - Use VACUUM to rebuild DB.

# Property List Files

- ▶ Structured storage (NSUserDefaults).
- ▶ Stored unencrypted in XML files or binary plist.
  - `plutil -convert xml1`
- ▶ Often used for crypto keys, credentials, etc.



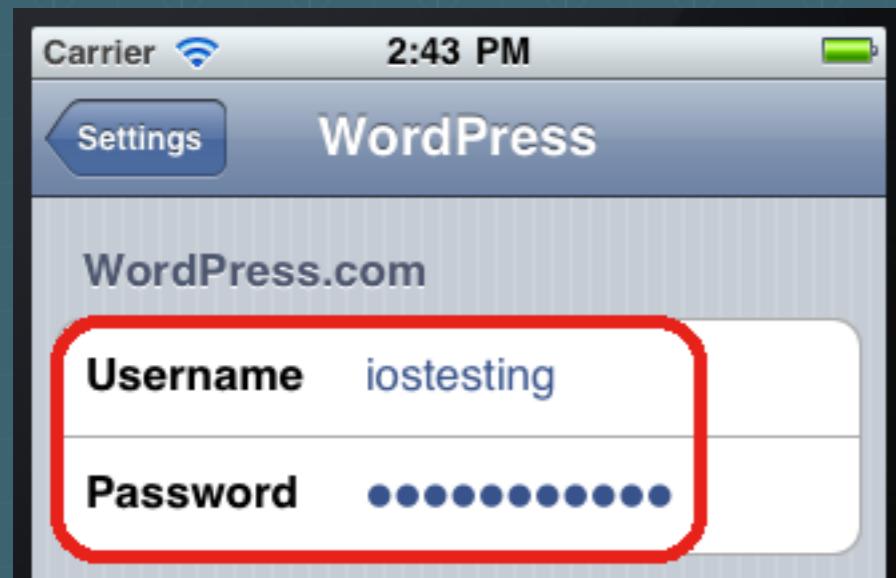
The screenshot shows a Mac OS X property list editor window titled "com.path.Path.plist". The window displays a hierarchical list of key-value pairs. The root key "Root" is a dictionary containing several entries, some of which are further dictionaries. The "Value" column contains various types of data, including strings, numbers, and binary data represented as hex strings. The "Value" for the "oauthToken" key is a long string of characters, and the "pushToken" value is a large hex string.

Key	Type	Value
Root	Dictionary	(22 items)
com.facebook.sdk:lastInstallRespons...	Dictionary	(1 item)
oAuthToken	String	NjBjYWU3YTEtZjE5Zi00ODliLTImYjMtZTdmZDIwOTMyZjUw
pushToken	Data	<b116765e 9c408f65 ab8c30d0 1553dea8 cb02a236 51ae29ff fbd75
lastActive	Number	1,390,079,217.96019
loggedIn	Boolean	YES
pathAPIHost3.2	String	https://api.path.com
jabberID	String	ngyyymzkzjatnde0mi00otlmlwjkzjkndg4zjgzymu3zgvm
resourceID	String	AB233754-937C-4508-9092-028B007DAEF5
login	String	aaaa@ccc.com

# Property List Files: Mitigation



- ▶ Don't use for sensitive data!



Name	Type	Value
wpcom_authenticated_flag	String	1
wpcom_password_preference	String	princess123
wpcom_username_preference	String	iostesting

<http://software-security.sans.org/blog/2011/01/05/using-keychain-to-store-passwords-ios-iphone-ipad/>

- ▶ File storage for binary data.
  - `NSProtectionComplete!`
- ▶ Use keychain for structured data.

# Keychain

- ▶ Key-Value store
- ▶ /private/var/Keychains/keychain-2.db
- ▶ Encryption similar to Data Protection



Protection Class	Meaning
kSecAttrAccessibleWhenUnlocked	Protected when device is locked.
kSecAttrAccessibleAfterFirstUnlock	Protected from boot until user unlocks.
<b>kSecAttrAccessibleAlways (default)</b>	<b>No protection.</b>

- ▶ ThisDeviceOnly variants: no migration

# Share Data Securely Between Your Apps



## ▶ Keychain Access Group

- `app_id = [bundle_seed] || [bundle_id]`  
`BEEF1337 || com.corp.myapp`
- `[bundle_seed]` generated by Apple.
- Apps with same `[bundle_seed]` can share access.
- `kSecAttrAccessGroup`

## ▶ Access through search dictionary.

```
[searchDictionary setObject:@"BEEF1337.com.app.family"
forKey:(id)kSecAttrAccessGroup];
```

# Demo: idb Local Storage Functions

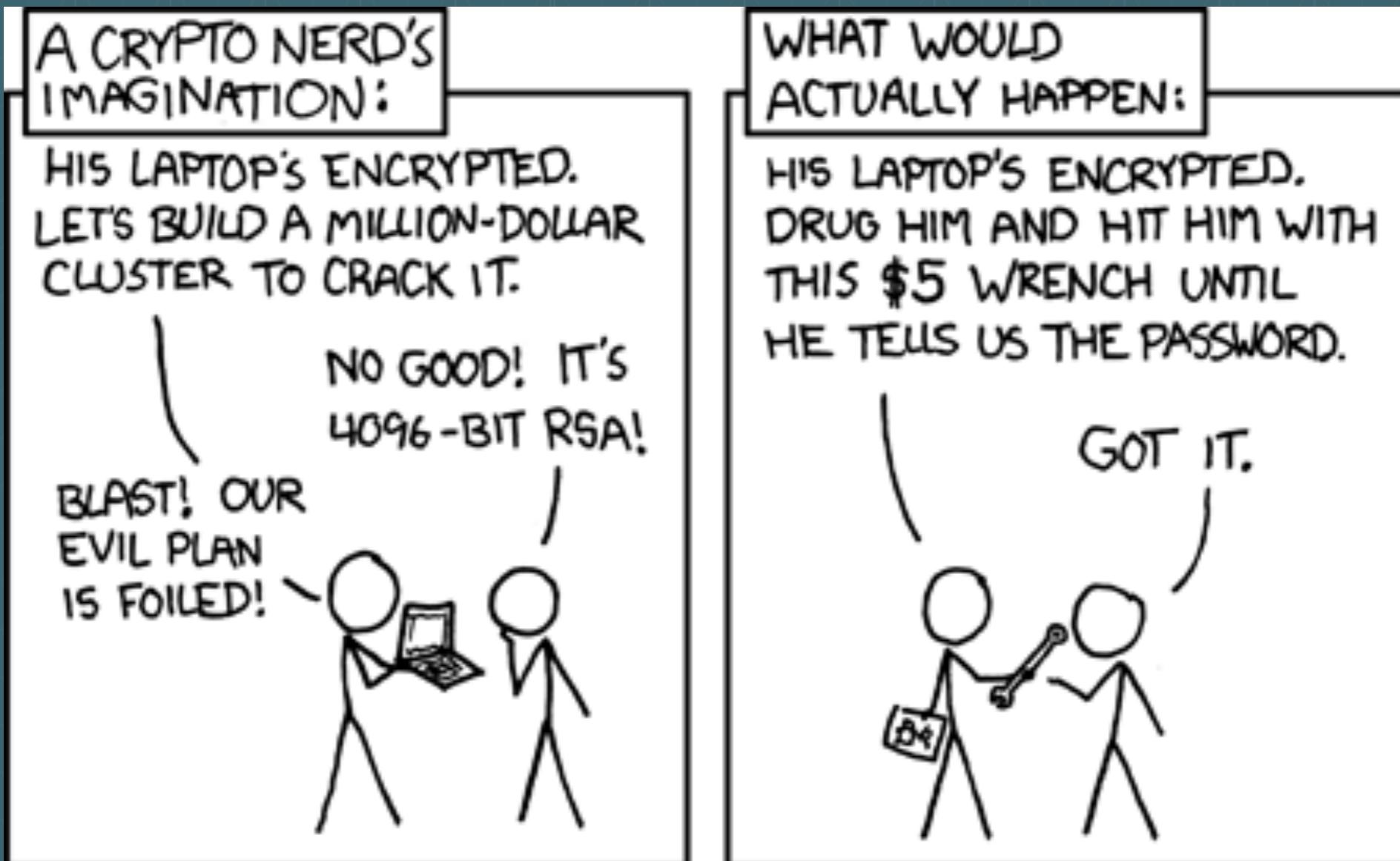


- ▶ Use SSH connection to analyze sandbox
- ▶ Determine FileProtection using NSFileManager
  - <https://github.com/dmayer/protectionclassviewer>

```
NSString *fileProtectionValue = [[[NSFileManager defaultManager]
                                  attributesOfItemAtPath:@“filename”
error:NULL] valueForKey:NSUTFFileProtectionKey];
```

- ▶ Keychain viewer using keychain\_dump
  - <https://code.google.com/p/iphone-dataprotectionn>

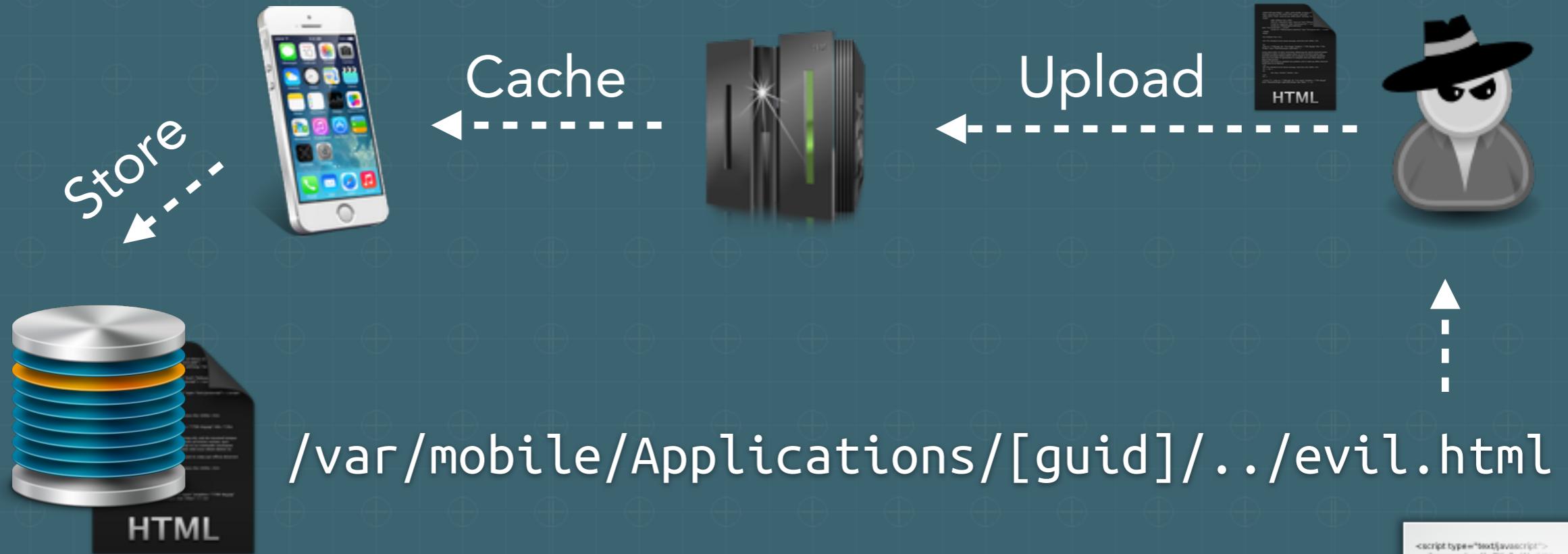
# Use Crypto and done, right?



<http://xkcd.com/538/>

# Example: Remote File Read

- App locally caches documents (inc. HTML)



```
var xhttp = new XMLHttpRequest();
xhttp.open("GET", "file:///var/mobile/Applications/[..]/
file.pdf", false);
xhttp.send();
alert(xhttp.responseText);
// Dont' use alert unless you want entire PDF in alert box :)
```



# Information Disclosure: Screenshot

- ▶ iOS takes screenshot when app backgrounds.
- ▶ Stored unencrypted at
  - `/var/mobile/Applications/[guid]/Library/Caches/Snapshots/[bundle_id]/`



`./Main subfolder`



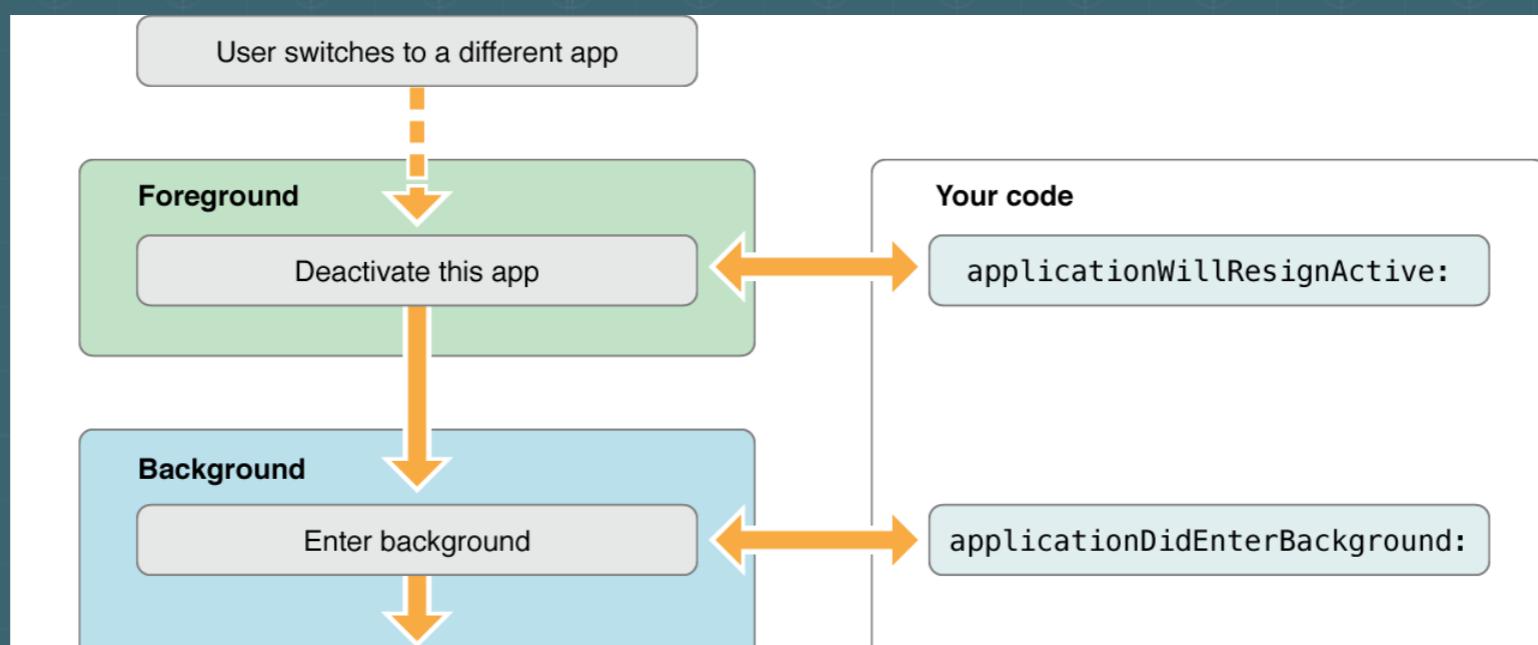
Image by Placeit.net

```
Matasano-iPad-4:/var/mobile/Applications/D3900CBF-6988-45D9-B58A-E4CB041C4CB8/Library/Caches/Snapshots/com.google.chrome.ios root$ls -l
total 492
-rw-r--r-- 1 mobile mobile 500529 Jan 11 14:31 UIApplicationAutomaticSnapshotDefault-Portrait@2x.png
```

# Mitigation: Screenshot



- ▶ Hide sensitive information from screen
- ▶ Implement applicationWillEnterBackground
- ▶ Popular: Place launch image in foreground



- ▶ `ignoreSnapshotOnNextApplicationLaunch`
- ▶ Does NOT prevent screenshot from being taken



# Data Leakage: Cache.db

- ▶ iOS caches requests and responses

```
sqlite> select * from cfurl_cache_response where request_key like '%password%';
8101259328918101https://api.[REDACTED].com/v3/register/email/?client_id=1431599&timestamp=1389571536&
oauth_signature=b34f5da48330c58cc7cc59b0e33662cba1c35db27ee9dd223a0d5ff2b2f29f7fem[REDACTED]&il=xxx%40ccc.com&
first_name=A&gender=male&last_name=B&locale=en_US&password=testtest&username=l2014-01-13 00:05:37
```

- ▶ Disable caching
  - Send no store headers from server

```
- (NSCachedURLResponse *)connection:(NSURLConnection *)connection
willCacheResponse:(NSCachedURLResponse *)cachedResponse
{ return nil; }
```



# Information Disclosure: Log Files

- ▶ 40 % of 40 tested banking apps disclose data [1]
- ▶ Log files accessible by other apps.

```
<v:Body>
<n0:loginWithRole id="o0" c:root="1" xmlns:n0="http://mobile.services.xxxxxxxxxx.com/">
<in0 i:type="d:string">USER-ID</in1>
<in1 i:type="d:string">XRS</in2>
<in2 i:type="d:string">PASSWORD</in3>
<in3 i:type="d:string">xxxxxxxx</in4>
</n0:loginWithRole>
</v:Body>
```

- ▶ Wrap your NSLog statements, e.g.:

```
#ifdef DEBUG
    NSLog(@"password");
#endif
```



[1] <http://blog.ioactive.com/2014/01/personal-banking-apps-leak-info-through.html>

# Demo: idb Information Disclosure



- ▶ Screenshot Tool
  - Walks through steps that create screenshot.
  - Displays screenshot in idb.
- ▶ iOS console available in
  - Xcode or iPhone Configuration Utility.
- ▶ idb uses `idevicesyslog` [1].

[1] <http://www.libimobiledevice.org/>

# Inter-Process Communication

- ▶ There is no proper IPC
- ▶ Poor-man's IPC
  - UIPasteboard
- ▶ Custom URL schemes
  - Apple's approved solution
- ▶ Consider using the keychain with access group



# Pasteboard

- ▶ Any app can read it.
- ▶ Private Pasteboards are not private.
  - There seems to be no API to find all Pasteboards.

```
[UIPasteboard generalPasteboard];  
[UIPasteboard pasteboardWithName:@"super_secret" create:NO];
```



- ▶ Don't use the Pasteboard for IPC.
- ▶ Delete content with items = nil.
- ▶ To prevent Copy/Paste, subclass UITextView.
  - canPerformAction should return “NO” for copy:



# URL Schemes

- ▶ Register in Info.plist
- ▶ Handle in:

URL types	Array	(1 item)
Item 0	Dictionary	(2 items)
URL identifier	String	com.matasano
URL Schemes	Array	(1 item)
Item 0	String	matasano

```
-(BOOL) application:(UIApplication *)application openURL:(NSURL *)url sourceApplication:(NSString *)sourceApplication annotation:(id)annotation
{ // Handle request }
```

- ▶ Security Considerations

- Malicious input
- Trust
- Hijacking

**Note:** If more than one third-party app registers to handle the same URL scheme, there is currently no process for determining which app will be given that scheme.

<https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/iPhone/Conceptual/iPhoneOSProgrammingGuide/AdvancedAppTricks/AdvancedAppTricks.html>



# URL Schemes

- ▶ Exploiting Trust:
- ▶ my\_app://configure?server=..&port=..
  - Inject attacker controlled server.
- ▶ bank://redirect?page=http%3A%2F%2Fphish.me
  - Phishing → Credentials.
- ▶ More details: Guillaume Ross's talk!



- ▶ Verify the caller of the URL handler
  - `sourceApplication` parameter.
- ▶ Perform strict input validation.

# Demo: idb IPC Functions



## ▶ Pasteboard monitor

- Runs binary on device which pulls content
- Supports custom pasteboards
- <https://github.com/dmayer/pbwatcher>

## ▶ URL Schemes

- List
- Invoke
- Basic fuzzer

# Network Communication

- ▶ Communication with Network Services
  - HTTP/S
  - Socket connections
  - Push Notifications
- ▶ Challenge similar to browsers
  - Protect data in transit
- ▶ Typically done through SSL/TLS

# iOS Certificate Validation

- ▶ Default: Accept if signed by CA in trust store
  - Check when using 3rd party libs
- ▶ iOS offers great flexibility in cert. validation
  - the good: can make cert. validation stronger
  - the bad: cert. check often overridden in dev
  - the ugly: easy to accept any cert

```
- (void)connection:(NSURLConnection *)connection  
willSendRequestForAuthenticationChallenge:(NSURLAuthenticationChallenge *)challenge {  
    NSURLProtectionSpace * pSpace = challenge.protectionSpace;  
    NSURLCredential * cred = [NSURLCredential credentialWithProtectionSpace:pSpace];  
    [[challenge sender] useCredential:cred forAuthenticationChallenge:challenge];  
}
```



```
authenticationChallenge *)challenge {  
    NSURLProtectionSpace * pSpace = challenge.protectionSpace;  
    [[challenge sender] setHandlerForTrust:[pSpace serverTrust]];  
    [[challenge sender] cancelAuthenticationChallenge:challenge];  
}
```

# Certificate Validation



- ▶ Don't bypass certificate validation
  - In dev, use free certificates (e.g. [startssl.com](https://startssl.com))
  - Install server cert explicitly on device.
- ▶ Implement certificate pinning!
  - <https://github.com/iSECPartners/ssl-conservatory>
  - [https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Certificate\\_and\\_Public\\_Key\\_Pinning#iOS](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Certificate_and_Public_Key_Pinning#iOS)



# iOS CA Cert Management

- ▶ Simulator: [sim]/Library/Keychains/TrustStore.sqlite3
  - Fiddly: ASN.1 anyone?
- ▶ Device: /private/var/Keychains/TrustStore.sqlite3
  - Adding entry not sufficient
  - Fell back to 'MDM'-based install.
- ▶ Pentest Pinning bypass:
  - <https://github.com/iSECPartners/ios-ssl-kill-switch>

# Planned idb Features

- ▶ Hosts file editor
- ▶ Improvements
  - Grep for the log view
  - Search for the FS Browser
  - Robustness improvements
- ▶ Integration of more awesome tools.
  - iOS SSL Kill Switch



**Send me bug reports, feature / pull requests!**

# Thanks!

## Questions?

- ▶ Email+XMPP: [mayer@cysec.org](mailto:mayer@cysec.org)
- ▶  Twitter: @DanlAMayer
- ▶  Github: <https://github.com/dmayer/idb>
- ▶ Thanks to
  - Jeff Jarmoc, Mike Tracy, Andy Schmitz, David Goldsmith



# Image Attributions

- ▶ iPhone icon, unchanged:
  - By Adrian Dediu, <https://www.iconfinder.com/iphone5cunlock>
  - License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/us/>
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- ▶ Slide 21, cropped:
  - <https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/iphone/conceptual/iphoneosprogrammingguide/ManagingYourApplicationsFlow/ManagingYourApplicationsFlow.html>
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  - <https://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/FileManagement/Conceptual/FileSystemProgrammingGuide/FileSystemOverview/FileSystemOverview.html>