

VoLTE Sec + LTEFuzz + 2G/4G Location Tracking

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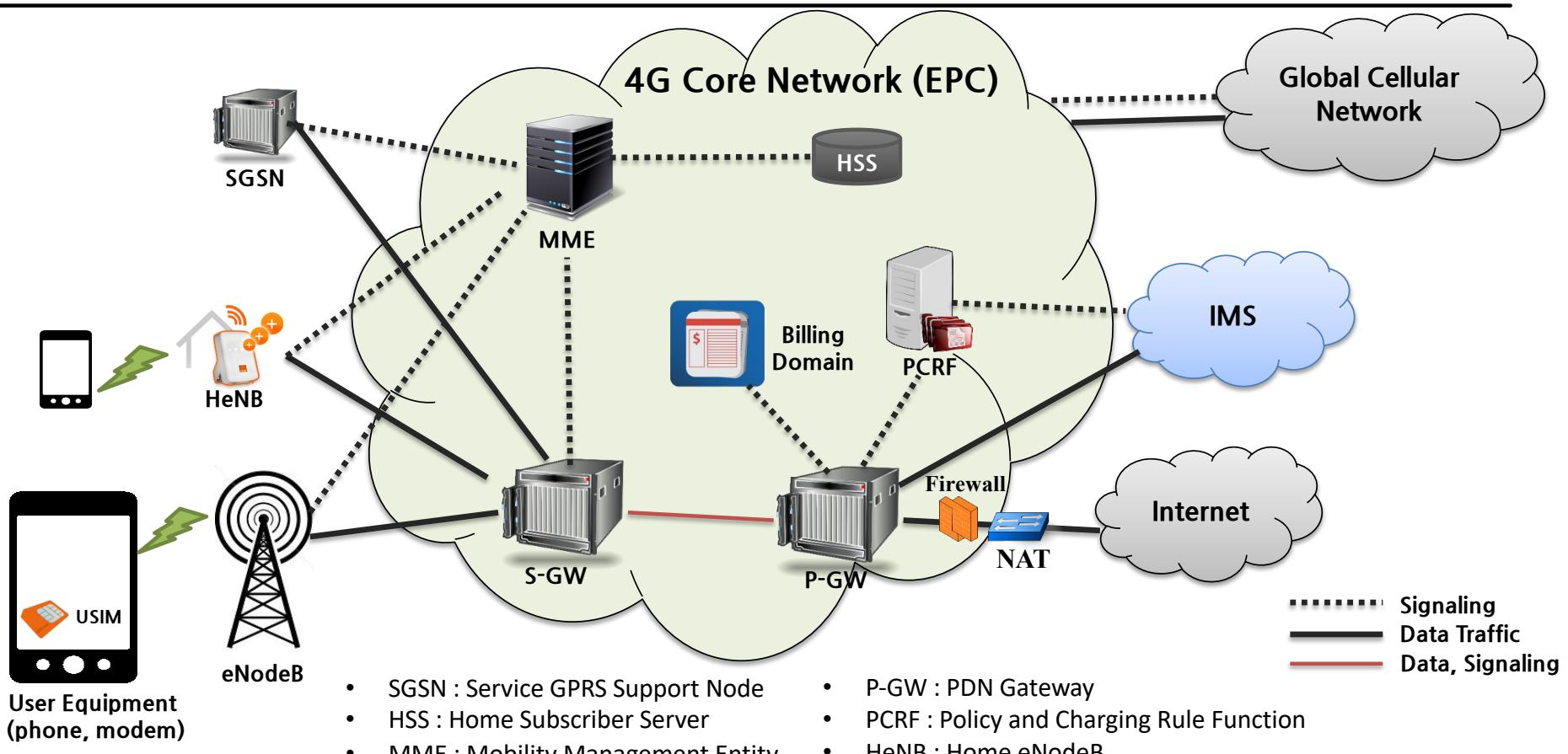
Cellular Security Publications (Selected)

- ❖ Location leaks on the GSM Air Interface, NDSS'12
- ❖ Gaining Control of Cellular Traffic Accounting by Spurious TCP Retransmission, NDSS' 14
- ❖ Breaking and Fixing VoLTE: Exploiting Hidden Data Channels and Mis-implementations, CCS'15
- ❖ When Cellular Networks Met IPv6: Security Problems of Middleboxes in IPv6 Cellular Networks, EuroS&P'17
- ❖ GUTI Reallocation Demystified: Cellular Location Tracking with Changing Temporary Identifier, NDSS'18
- ❖ Peeking over the Cellular Walled Gardens - A Method for Closed Network Diagnosis - , IEEE TMC'18
- ❖ Touching the Untouchables: Dynamic Security Analysis of the LTE Control Plane, S&P'19
- ❖ Hidden Figures: Comparative Latency Analysis of Cellular Networks with Fine-grained State Machine Models, HotMobile'19
- ❖ Hiding in Plain Signal: Physical Signal Overshadowing Attack on LTE, Usenix Security'19
- ❖ BaseSpec: Comparative Analysis of Baseband Software and Cellular Specifications for L3 Protocols, NDSS'21
- ❖ Watching the Watchers: Practical Video Identification Attack in LTE Networks, USENIX Security'22
- ❖ DoLTEst: In-depth Downlink Negative Testing Framework for LTE Devices, USENIX Security'22

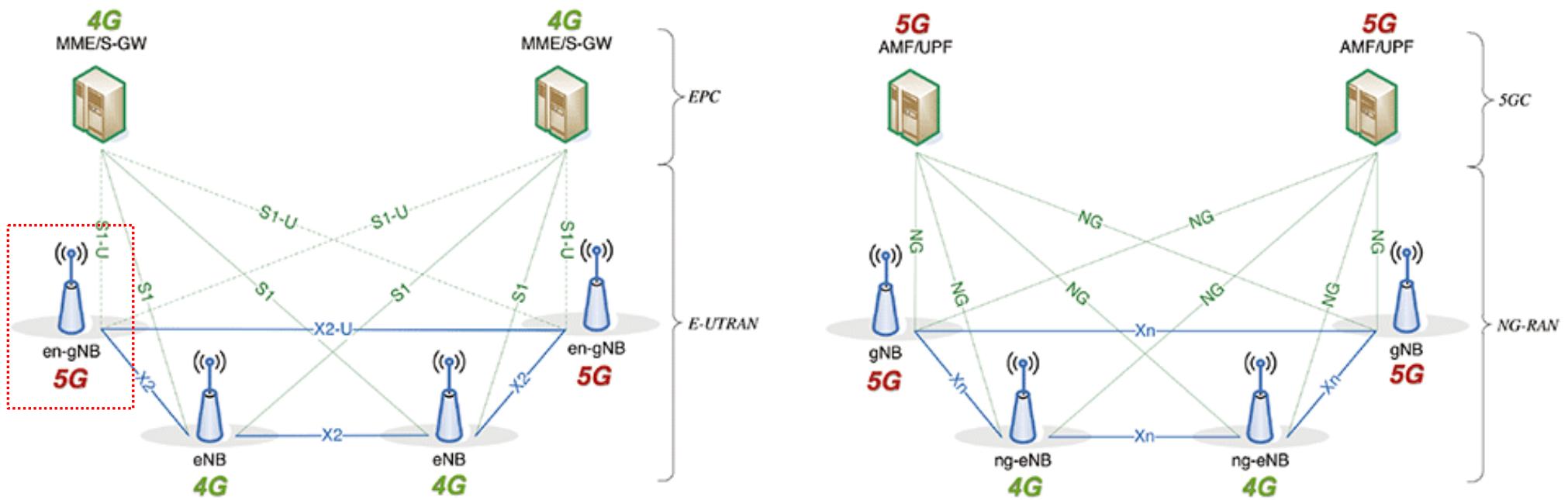
Cellular Security US Patents

- ❖ Apparatus and method for diagnosing anomaly in mobile communication network, US10111120B2
- ❖ Physical signal overshadowing attack method for LTE broadcast message and the system thereof, US11405787B2
- ❖ Dynamic security analysis method for control plane and system therefore, US11463880B2
- ❖ Apparatus and method for diagnosing abnormality of mobile communication network using operational logic modeling and comparative analysis, US11082866B2
- ❖ ...

4G LTE Cellular Network Overview



5G NSA vs. 5G SA

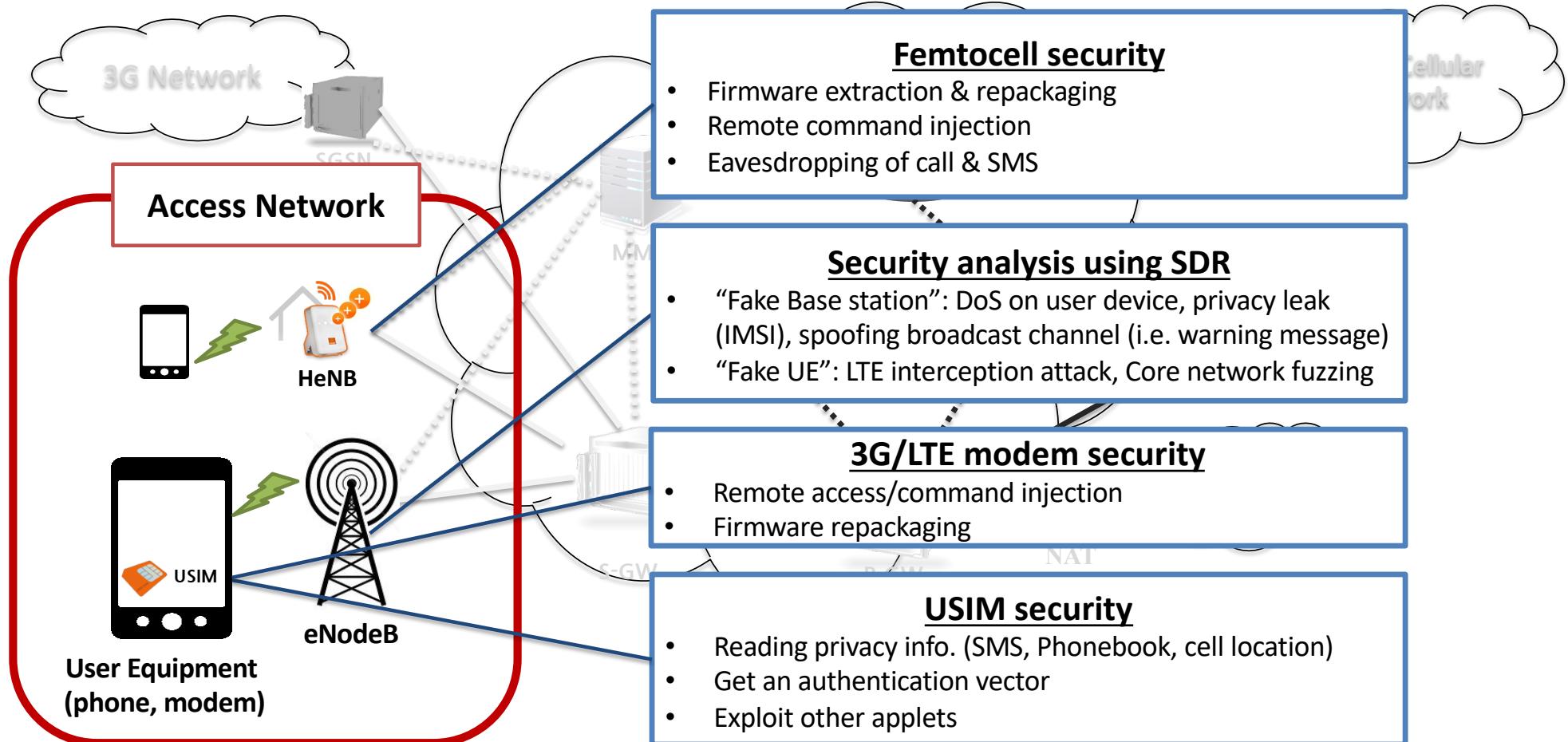


gNB (Next generation NodeB), eNB (Evolved Node B), MME (Mobility Management Entity), SPGW (Serving/Packet data network Gateway), HSS (Home Subscriber Server), IMS (IP Multimedia Subsystem)

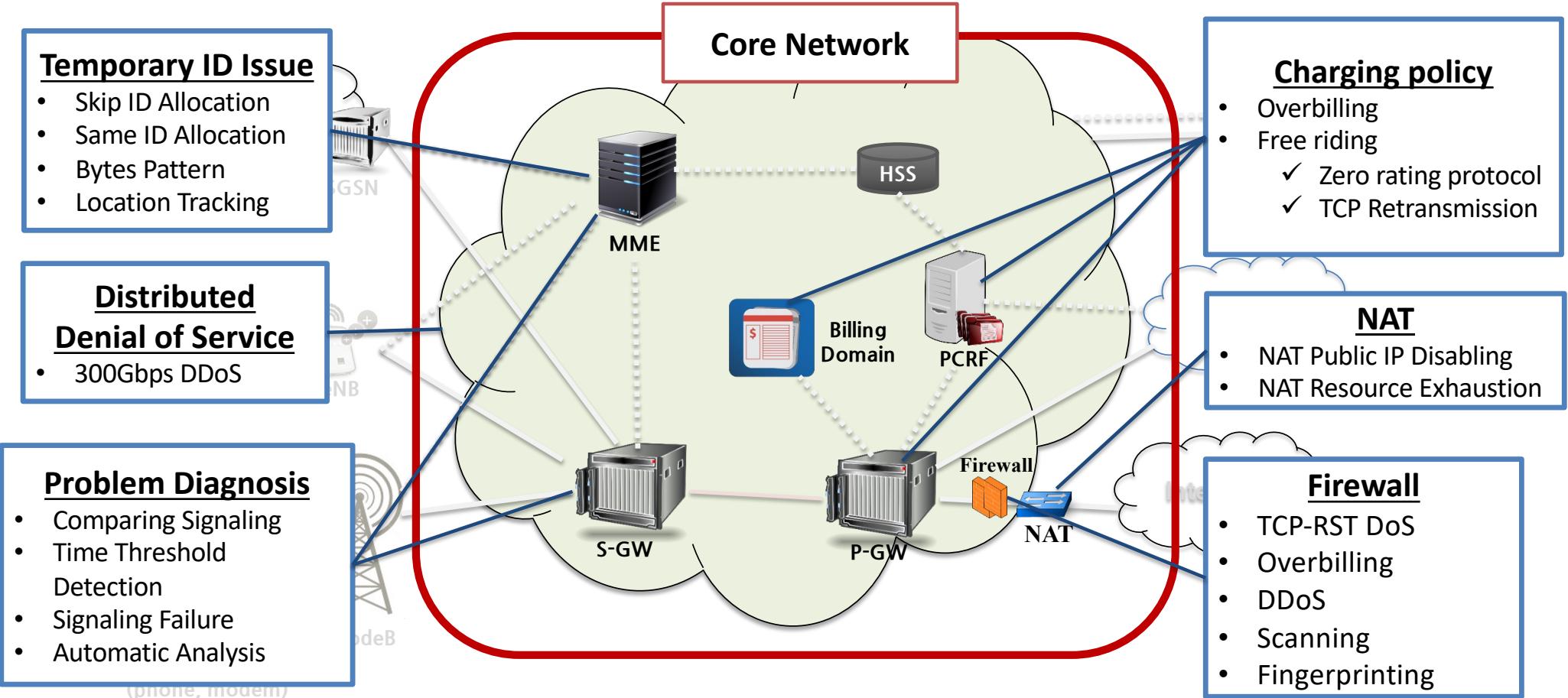
5G Security, 6G Security?

- ❖ From control plane security point of view, 5G NSA = 4G LTE!
 - ❖ There are not many devices supporting 5G SA. => No research.
 - ❖ 6G Security: Too far or design issues
-
- ❖ In LTE alone, there are more than 200 vulnerabilities reported.
 - Still increasing ☹

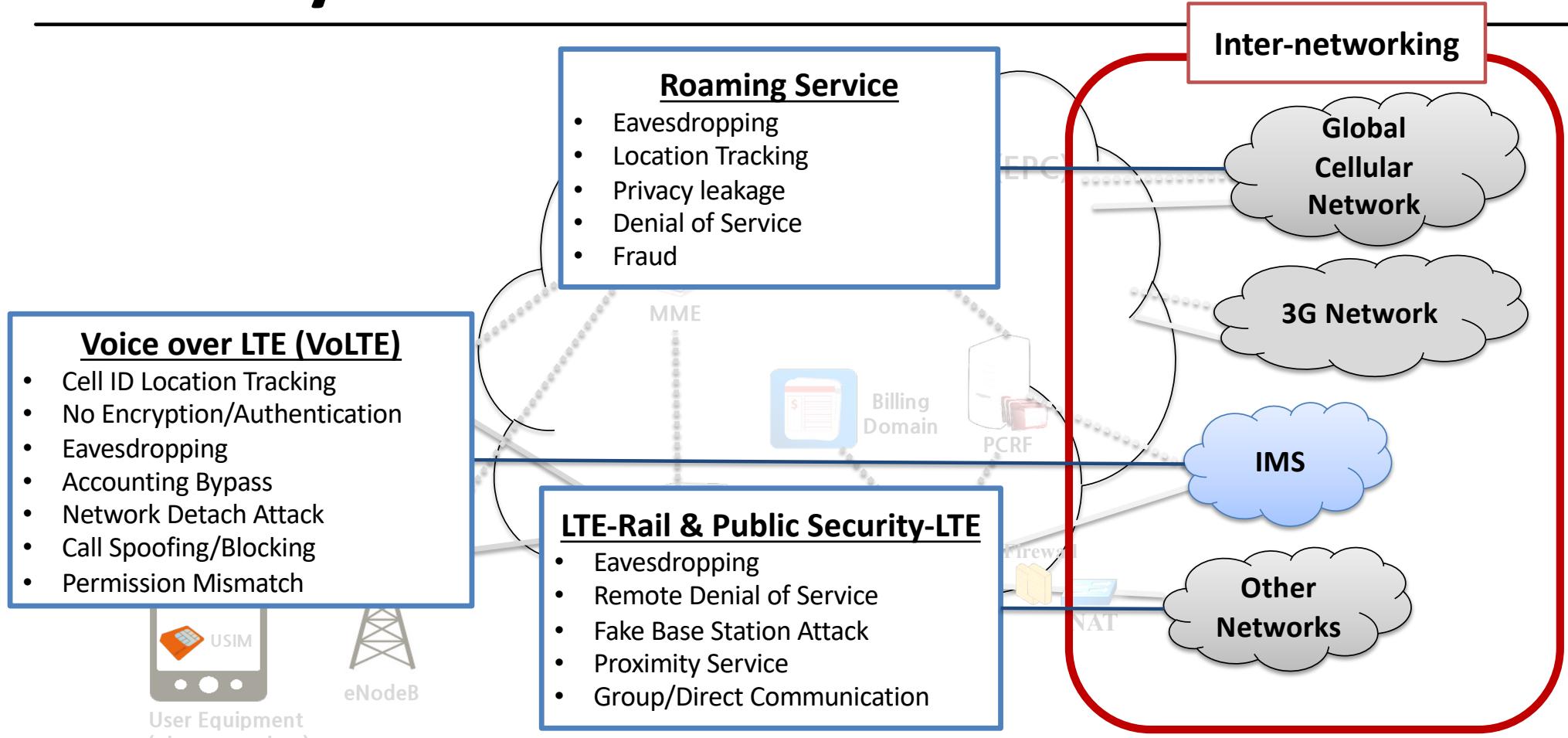
Security Issues in Device & Access Network



Security Issues in Core Network



Security Issues in Services



Cellular vs. Network Security: Why Difficult?

- ❖ New Generation (Technology) every 10 year
 - New Standards, Implementation, and Deployment → New vulnerabilities
- ❖ Generation Overlap, e.g. LTE CSFB, 5G NSA
 - CSFB: 3G, LTE and CSFB vulnerabilities
- ❖ Cellular networks are different from each carrier, manufacturer, operator in terms of implementations and configurations
 - Therefore, vulnerabilities are different → Need for global measurement
- ❖ Walled Garden
 - Carriers (smartphone vendors) don't talk to each other.
 - One vulnerability from a carrier will appear in other carriers.

Cellular Security: Special Circumstances

- ❖ Governance: 3GPP, GSMA, Government
 - Device manufacturers tend to follow carrier's requirement.
- ❖ Very few experts who know Cellular Technology and Security
- ❖ Complicated and huge standards → Hard to find bugs, need large group
- ❖ Standards are not written in formal languages → Hard for formal analysis
- ❖ Leave many implementation details for vendors → Bugs
- ❖ Most of the cellular security analyses have been manual.
- ❖ New HW/SW tools are needed for each generation.
 - Slow/imperfect open-source development. Thank you, SRS!

Security Problems in Standard

Signaling System No. 7 (SS7) for roaming service

❖ SS7

- Protocol suite used by most cellular operators throughout the world to talk to each other
- When it was designed, there were only few operators
- Closed and trusted, no authentication built in

❖ Getting an access to SS7 is easier than ever

- Bought from operators or roaming hubs for a few hundred euros a month
- Some operators are reselling roaming agreements
- Unsecured equipment on the Internet

❖ Diameter for 4G LTE

Results of Security Measurement

| <i>MAP message</i> | <i>Threat Category</i> | <i>Target</i> | <i>Prerequisites</i> |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>updateLocation</i> | <i>DoS, Interception</i> | <i>All the subscriber</i> | <i>IMSI</i> |
| <i>cancelLocation</i> | <i>DoS</i> | <i>Roaming subscriber</i> | <i>IMSI</i> |
| <i>purgeMS</i> | <i>DoS</i> | <i>Roaming subscriber</i> | <i>IMSI</i> |
| <i>insertSubscriberData</i> <i>deleteSubscriberData</i> | <i>DoS</i> | <i>Roaming subscriber</i> | <i>IMSI and MSISDN</i> |
| <i>restoreData</i> | <i>Leak, DoS</i> | <i>Roaming subscriber</i> | <i>IMSI</i> |
| <i>sendIMSI</i> | <i>Leak</i> | <i>Roaming subscriber</i> | <i>MSISDN</i> |
| <i>provideSubscriberInfo</i> | <i>Tracking</i> | <i>Roaming subscriber</i> | <i>IMSI</i> |

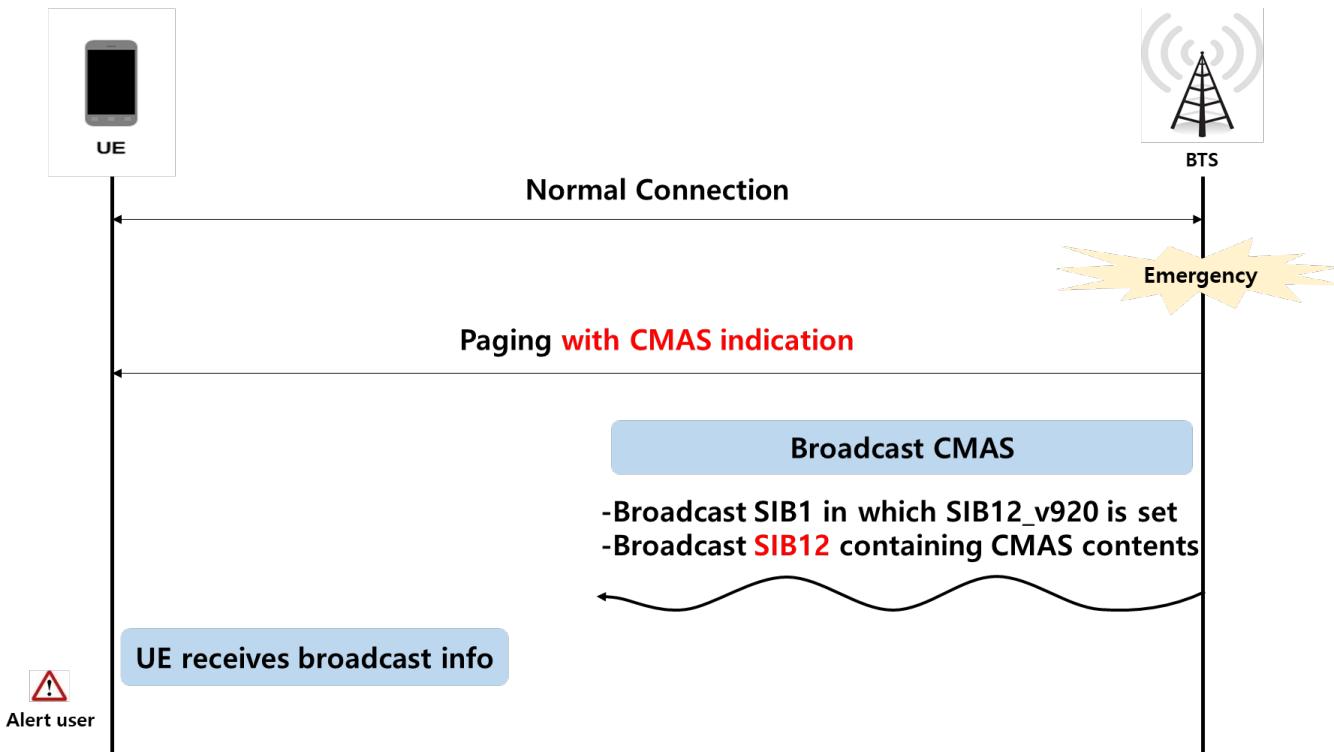
Eavesdropping Phone Calls



Unprotected Broadcast Channel

- ❖ eNB broadcasts System Information (SI) periodically
 - Master Information Block (MIB)
 - SIB scheduling information, most frequently used
 - System Information Block (SIB)
 - Various system info (e.g. information needed for UE's cell selection)
 - Might include emergency alert
 - Paging Message
 - Tell Idle/Inactive UE about existing downlink data
- ❖ No authentication whatsoever

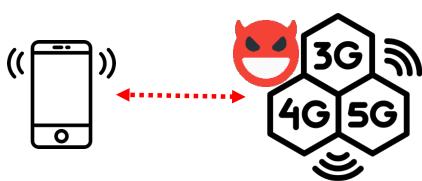
CMAS Protocol



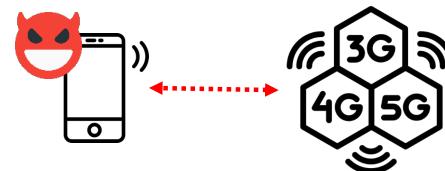
Fake CMAS broadcast attack



Threat Model



Fake base station



Fake UE



Sniffer



Man-in-the-Middle (MitM)



SigOver (Overshadowing)

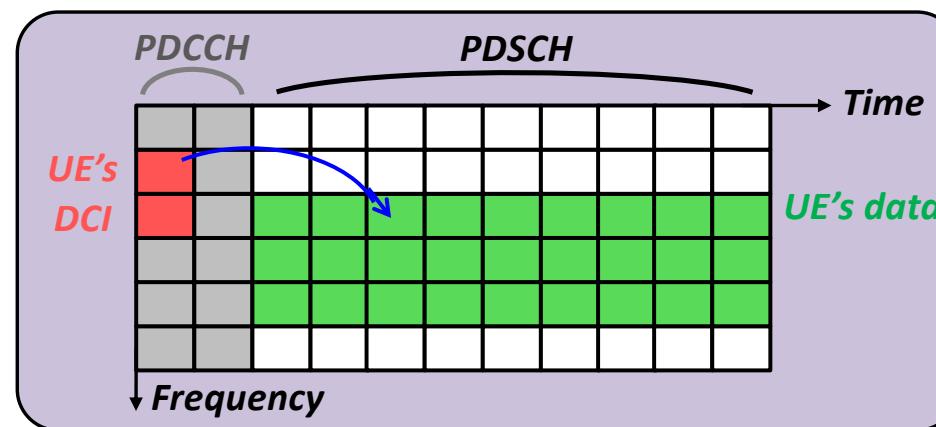
Downlink Data Transmission Information is Leaked

- ❖ eNB (base station) controls DL data transmission by broadcasting DCI
- ❖ Downlink Control Indicator (DCI)

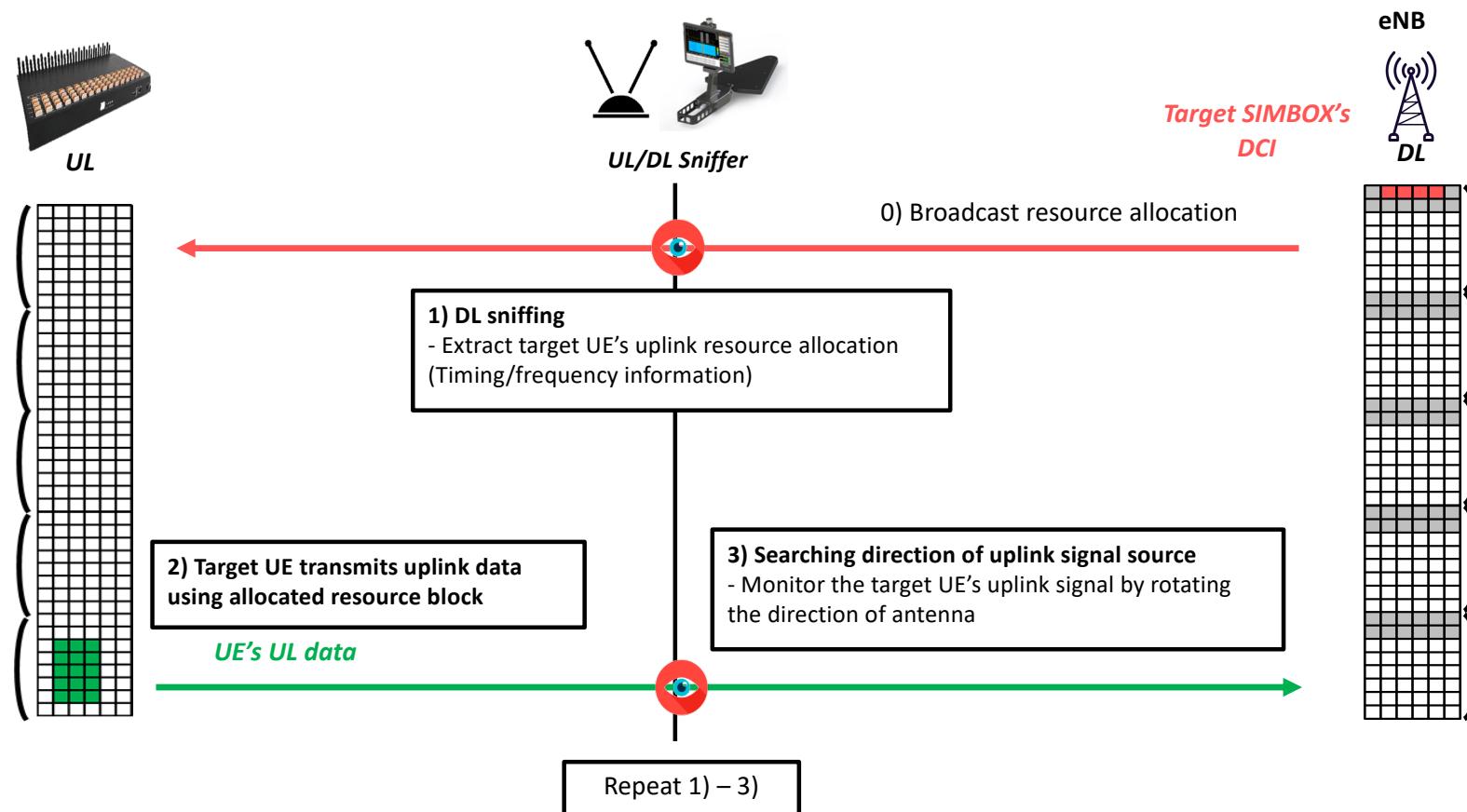
- Descriptions about DL data transmitted to the UE
 - Data volume, modulation scheme, allocated resource blocks (RB)
- Distinguished by RNTI



This information is broadcast in plain text



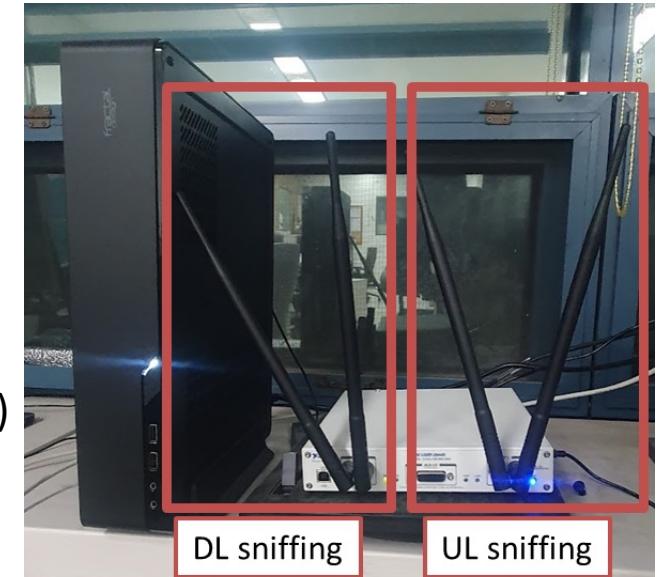
Localization



Implementation

❖ UL Sniffer

- Operate with Single USRP X310
 - Capture uplink/downlink signal simultaneously
 - Octoclock is not needed
 - Sync with DL signal from eNB
- Operate in real time
 - Modify/Add ~1K LoC of C++ FALCON (open-source DL sniffer)
 - Match with monitored UL
 - Compute signal strength
 - Optimize to UL resource allocation extraction

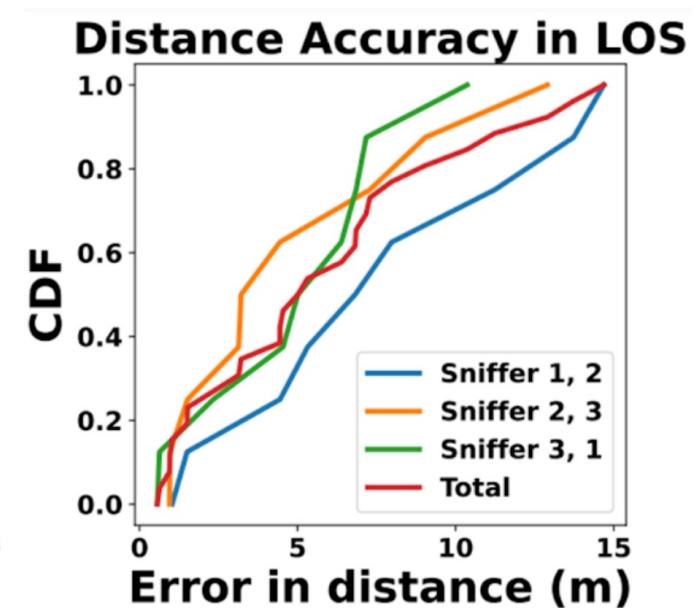
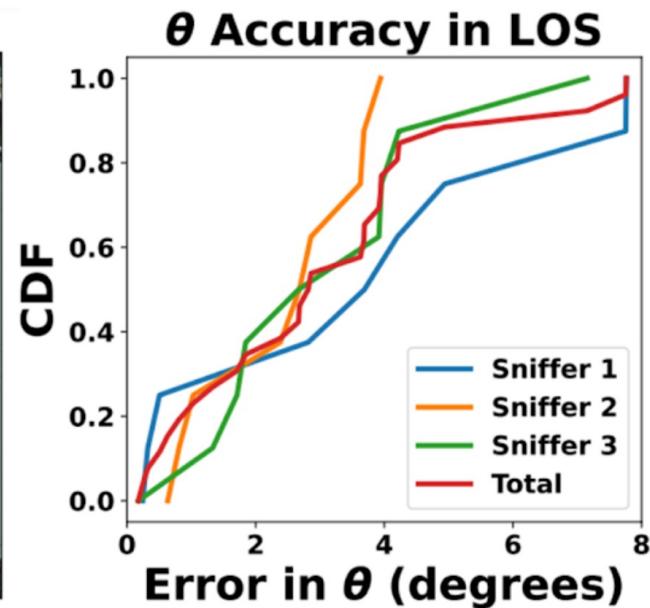
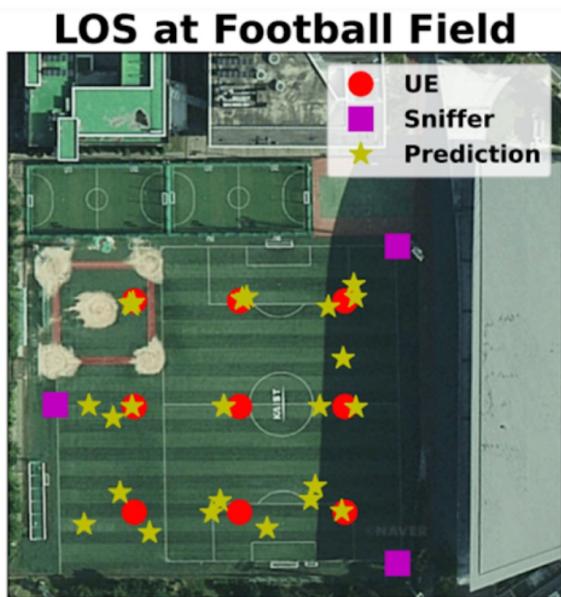


❖ RF frontend

- Directional antenna (Various gain/beam width)



LoS Experiment



Unencrypted DCI + Unprotected Unicast

Demonstration of the End-to-End Attack

- Targeted UE gets the presidential alerts -

Cellular Insecurity in Standard

- ❖ Roaming Network such as SS7 and Diameter
 - ❖ Unprotected Broadcast/Unicast Channel
 - ❖ Unprotected Control Channel
 - ❖ Trackable Temporary Identities
 - ❖ No voice encryption
 - ❖ Lawful Interception
 - ❖ Still symmetric key-based key management
-
- ❖ These need to be fixed in 6G

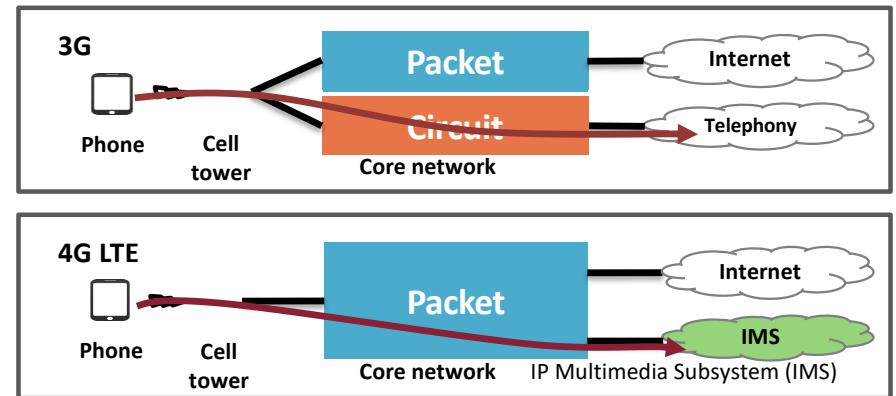
Security of New Systems

VoLTE = Voice over LTE

- ❖ Implementation of VoIP on LTE

- ❖ 3G network

- Data and voice are separated



- ❖ 4G LTE network : All-IP based Network

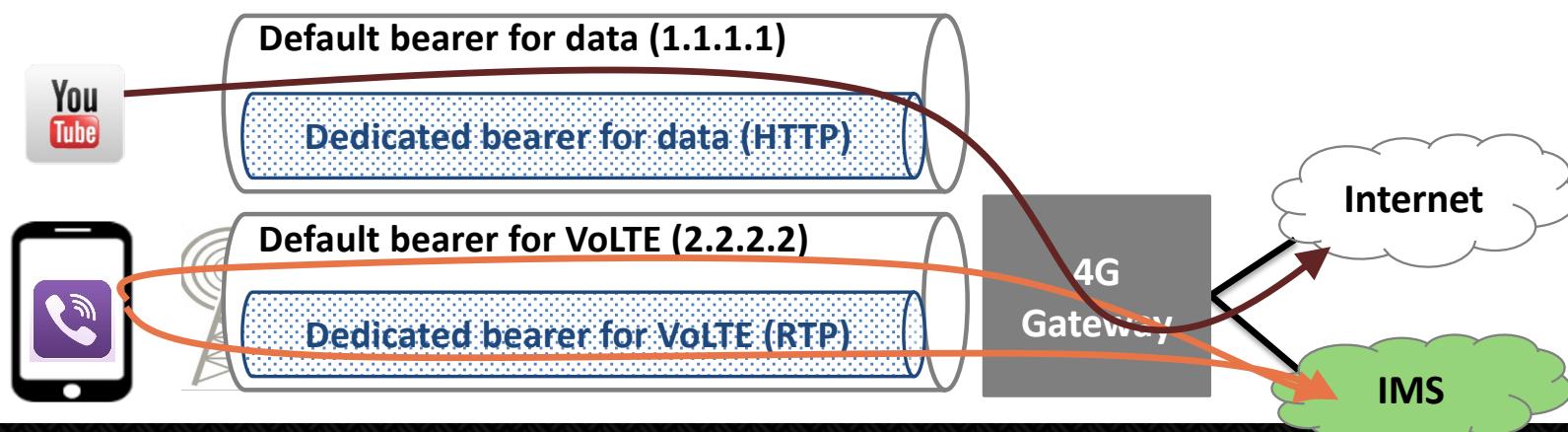
- Both data and voice are delivered as data-flow

- ❖ Advantages on VoLTE

- **For users:** high voice quality, faster call setup, better battery life.
 - **For operators:** increase usability, reduce cost, rich multimedia services

Each service is delivered by bearer

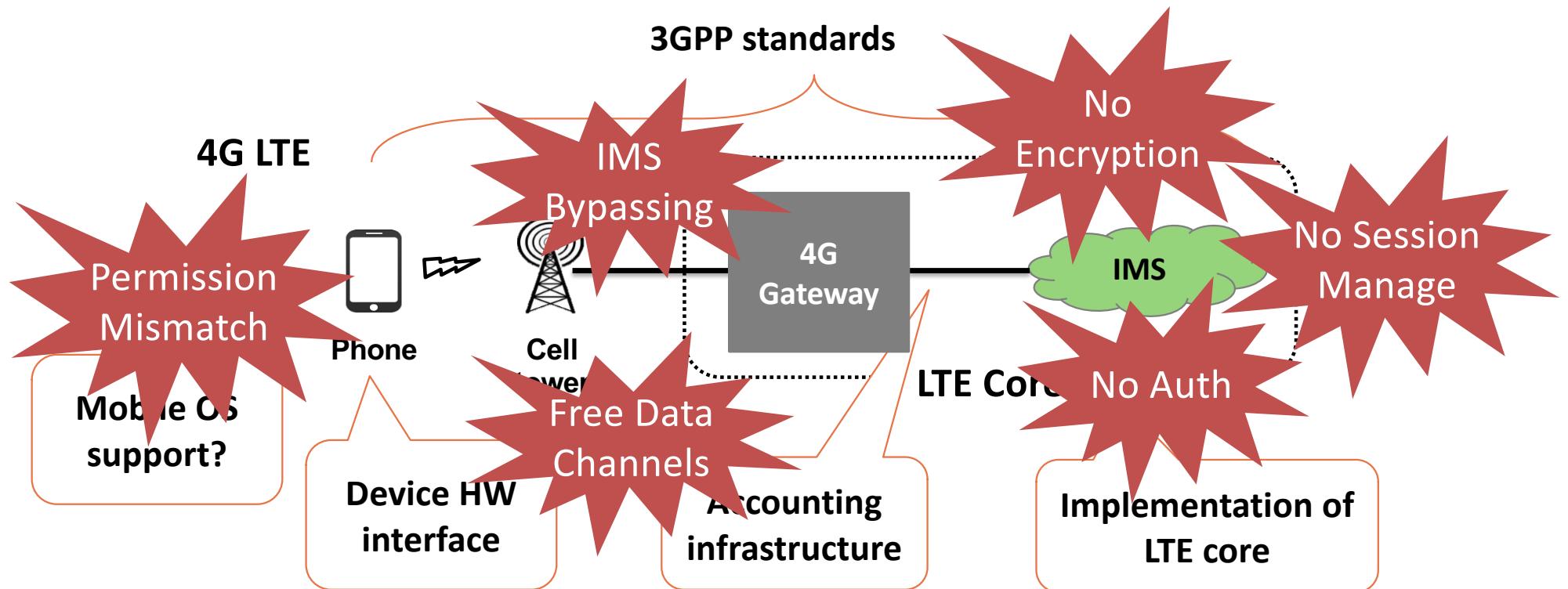
- ❖ In LTE, all services are delivered data channels, called “bearers”
 - Data, Voice, Video, ...
- ❖ **Bearer:** a virtual channel with below properties
 - Based on **QCI*** value, it determines bandwidth, loss rate, latency (QoS)
 - **Default bearer:** Non Guaranteed Bit rate
 - **Dedicated bearer:** Guaranteed Bit rate



*QCI: QoS Class Identifier

VoLTE makes cellular network more complex

- ❖ Let's check potential attack vectors newly introduced in VoLTE

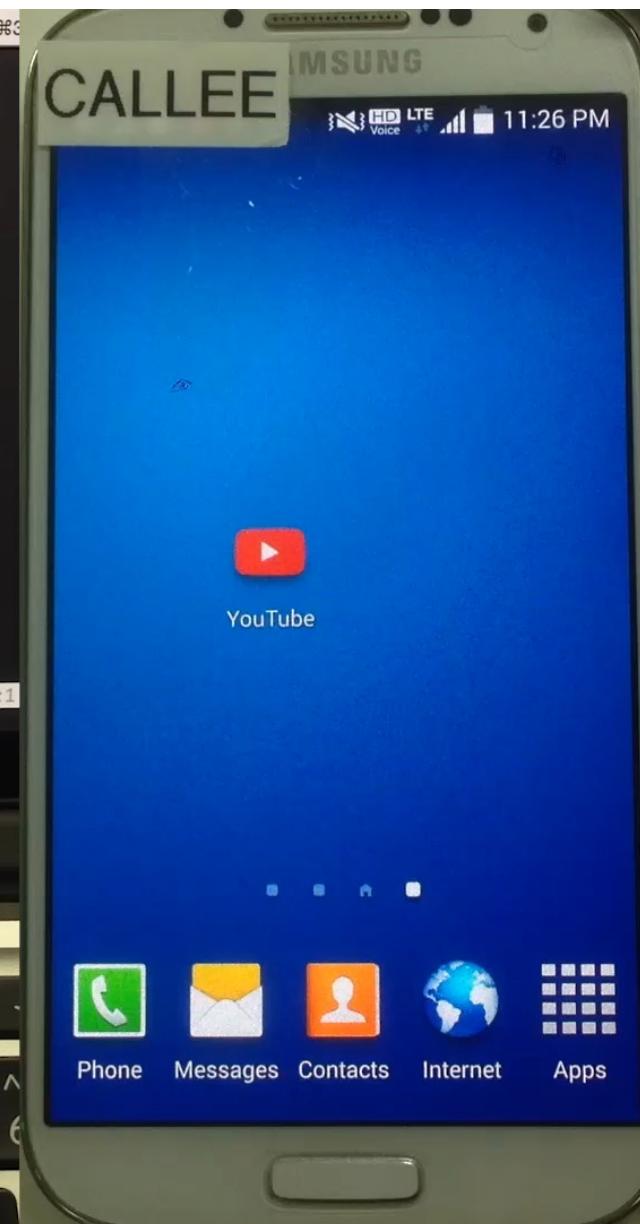
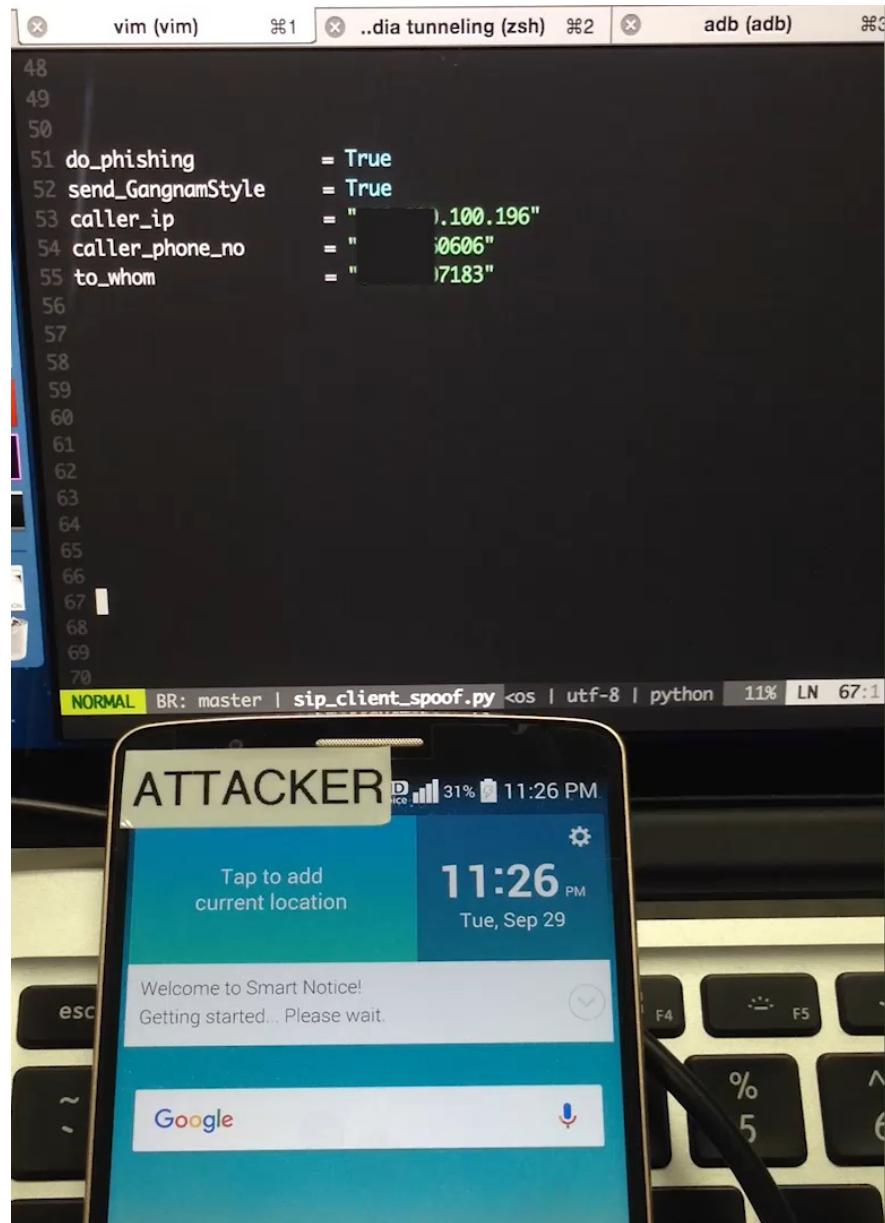


| Free Data Channels | Free Channel | US-1 | US-2 | KR-1 | KR-2 | KR-3 |
|----------------------|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Using VoLTE Protocol | SIP Tunneling | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Media Tunneling | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Direct Communication | Phone to Phone | ✓ | X | ✓ | X | X |
| | Phone to Internet | X | ✓ | ✓ | X | X |

| Weak Point | Vulnerability | US-1 | US-2 | KR-1 | KR-2 | KR-3 | Possible Attack |
|------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--|-----------------------------------|
| IMS | No SIP Encryption | devil | smile | devil | devil | devil | Message manipulation |
| | No Voice Data Encryption | devil | devil | devil | devil | devil | Wiretapping |
| | No Authentication | smile | smile | devil | devil | smile | Caller Spoofing |
| | No Session Management | devil | devil | devil | smile | devil | Denial of Service on Core Network |
| 4G-GW | IMS Bypassing | devil | smile | devil | smile | smile | Caller Spoofing |
| Phone | Permission Mismatch | Vulnerable for all Android | | | | Denial of Service on Call, Overbilling | |

devil: Vulnerable

smile: Secure



Dimension

www.kb.cert.org/vuln/id/042167

Elevation Of Privilege Vulnerability in Telephony

CERT | Software Engineering

Vulnerability Note

Advisory

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank these researchers for their contributions:

- Abhishek Arya, Oliver Chang and Martin Barbella, Google Chrome Security Team: CVE-2015-6608
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- Dongkwan Kim of System Security Lab, KAIST (dkay@kaist.ac.kr): CVE-2015-6614
- Hongil Kim of System Security Lab, KAIST (hongilk@kaist.ac.kr): CVE-2015-6614
- Jack Tang of Trend Micro (@jacktang310): CVE-2015-6611
- Peter Pi of Trend Micro: CVE-2015-6611
- Natalie Silvanovich of Google Project Zero: CVE-2015-6608
- Qidan He (@flanker_hqd) and Wen Xu (@antlr7) from KeenTeam (@K33nTeam, <http://k33nteam.org/>): CVE-2015-6612
- Seven Shen of Trend Micro: CVE-2015-6610

Vulnerability Note

Original Research

CWE-732

CWE-284

CWE-287

CWE-384

Conclusion

- ❖ Newly adopted VoLTE has
 - A complex (legacy time-based) accounting
 - Delegated voice signal (previously done by CP) to AP
- ❖ We analyzed the security of VoLTE for 5 operators, and found
 - Four free data channels
 - Five security problems
- ❖ All related parties have problems
 - 3GPP, telcos, IMS providers, mobile OSes, and device vendors
- ❖ More and more reliance on cellular technology
 - Automobiles, power grid, traffic signal, ...

Holistic re-evaluation of security for VoLTE?

ISPs don't talk to each other!

Worldwide Data Collection

| Country | # of OP. | # of signalings | Country | # of OP. | # of signalings |
|-------------|----------|-----------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|
| U.S.A | 3 | 763K | U.K. | 1 | 41K |
| Austria | 3 | 807K | Spain | 2 | 51K |
| Belgium | 3 | 372K | Netherlands | 3 | 946K |
| Switzerland | 3 | 559K | Japan | 1 | 37K |
| Germany | 4 | 841K | South Korea | 3 | 1.7M |
| France | 2 | 305K | | | |

Data summary

of countries: **11**

of operators: **28**

of USIMs: **95**

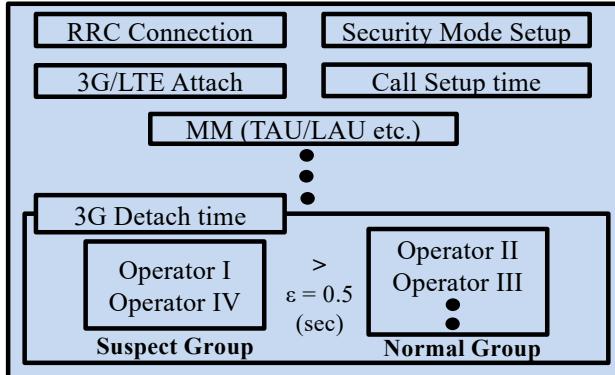
of voice calls: **52K**

of signalings (control-plane message): **6.4M**

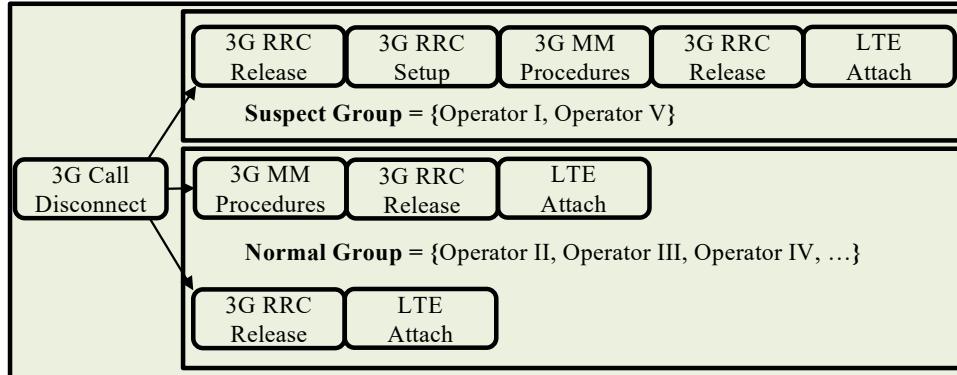


Problem Diagnosis Overview

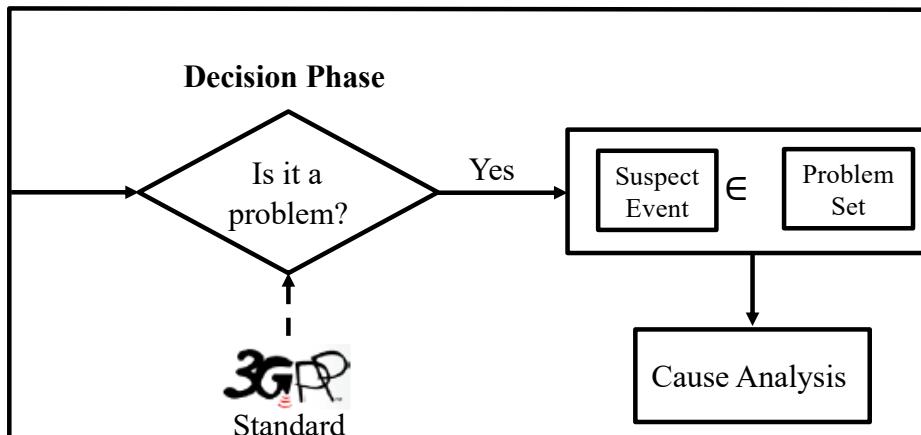
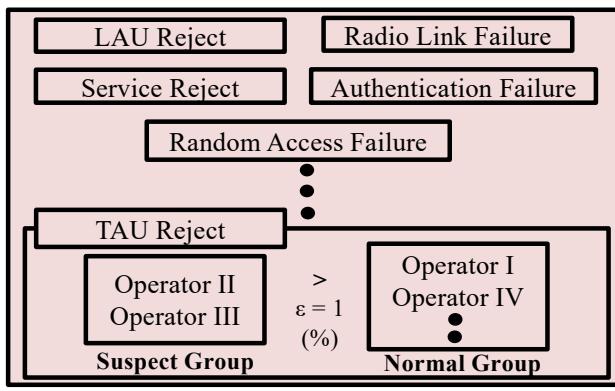
Phase 1. Time threshold



Phase 2. Control flow sequence



Phase 3. Signaling failure



Phase 1
Time comparison by procedure

Phase 2
Comparison of signaling procedure sequence

Phase 3
Comparison of signaling failure occurrence probability

Identified Problems

| Problem | Observation | Operator |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| LTE location update collision | Out-of-service about 11 sec. | US-II |
| Mismatch procedures | Delay of 3G detach. Worst case: 10.5 sec. | US-I, DE-I, DE-II, FR-I, FR-II |
| Allocation of incorrect frequency | Out-of-service 30 sec. and stuck in 3G for 100 sec. | DE-I |
| Redundant location update | Delay of LTE attach or call setup. Worst case: 6.5 sec. | US-I, DE-I, DE-III, FR-II |
| Redundant authentication | Delay of CSFB procedures for 0.4 sec. | FR-I, FR-II, DE-I, DE-III, FR-II |
| Security context sharing error | Out-of-service 1.5 sec. | ES-I |
| Core node handover misconfiguration | Delay of LTE attach (0.4 sec.) | US-II |

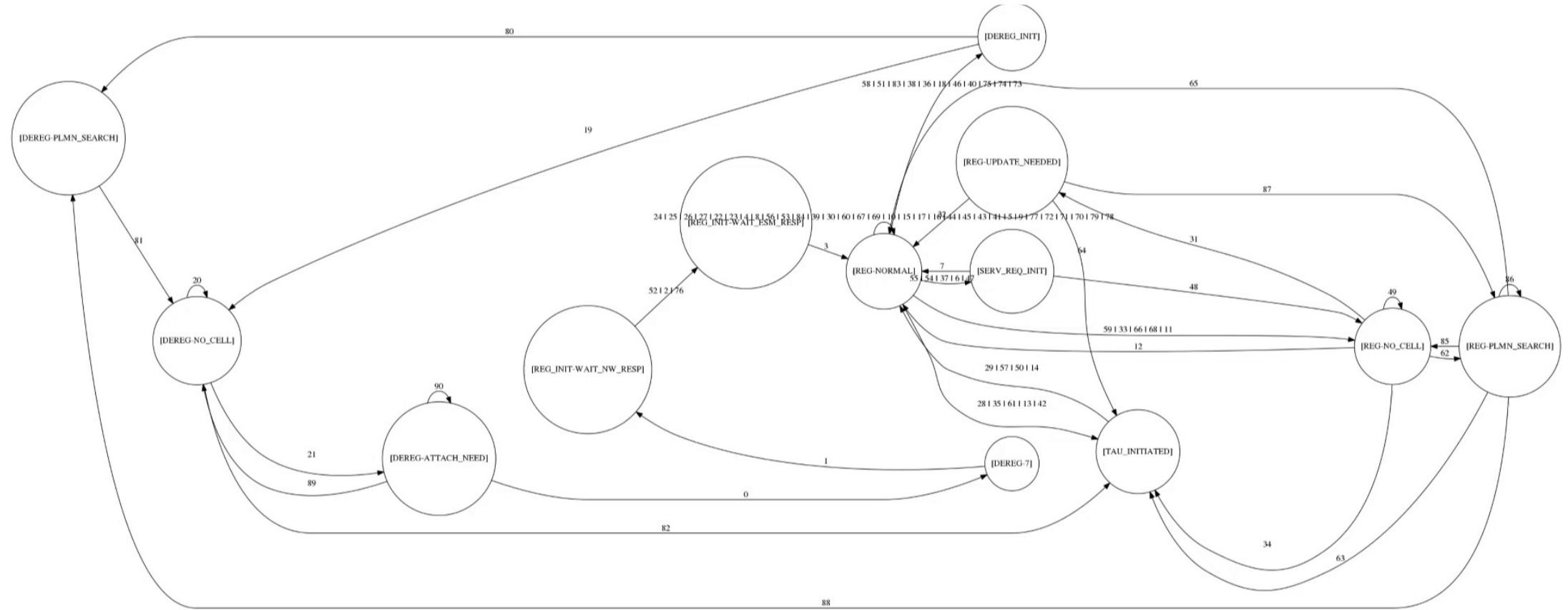
Automated Protocol/System Analysis

❖ Our solution: analysis with state machine

- Generate *analyzable/comparable state machine*
 - Manipulate the state machine described in 3GPP standards
 - But, represent the interactions between RRC, EMM, and ESM layer
 - Analyze the transmitted control plane messages during state transition
 - Include sufficient information such as timing, detailed values in each signaling msg
- Inferring & Comparing state machines between multiple carriers

❖ Possible Usages

- Protocol optimization: Find relatively slow procedures and root causes
- Discover misconfigurations: Find undesired/suspicious operations
- Find vendor specific implementation or procedure
- Find security holes



Fuzzing LTE Core and Baseband

Touching the Untouchables - Dynamic Security Analysis of the LTE Control Plane -

H Kim, J Lee, E Lee, Y Kim

2019 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP)

Fundamental Problems in cellular network

- ❖ Description of standard (3GPP) is ambiguous
 - The 3GPP specifications are based on natural language
 - Standard leave implementation (exact behavior) details to the vendors
 - There are conformance test specs...
 - But, no security testing specs
- ❖ Mobile network operators & vendors rarely communicate with each other
 - Different carriers with different device vendors suffer from different vulnerabilities

Goal of this paper

- ❖ **Goal:** Investigate potential problems of the control plane procedures
 - **Rooted from either**
 - Design flaws
 - Implementation mistakes
 - Configurations issues
 - **How?** Comprehensive dynamic testing against LTE components
- ❖ **Challenges in dynamic network testing**
 1. Hard to control the behaviors of commercial baseband
 2. Carrier networks are closed system
 3. Transmitting radio signals to an operational network might not be allowed

Approach

- ❖ To overcome the challenges,

- 1. Utilized open source LTE stack called srsLTE**

- Provides fully controllable baseband and core network functions
- Transmit LTE signals using SDR (Software Defined Radio) device

- 2. Detect problematic behaviors by only monitoring the UE side logs**

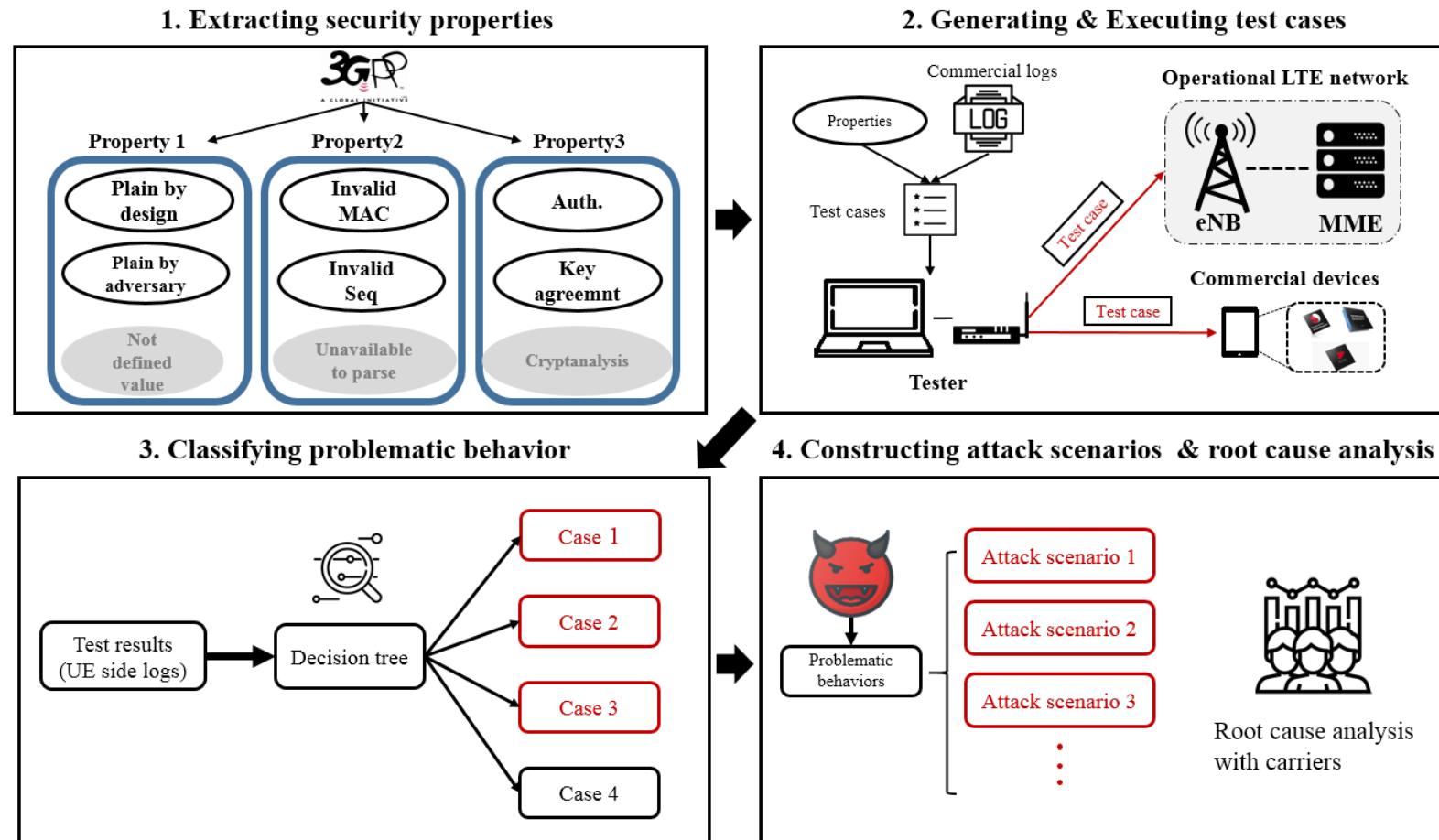
- LTEFuzz (details in the next slide)

- 3. Cooperate with the carriers**

- Confirmation of the results
- Detailed root cause analysis



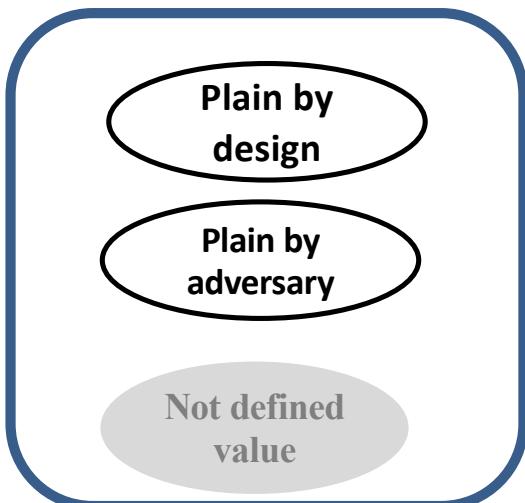
Overview of our approach



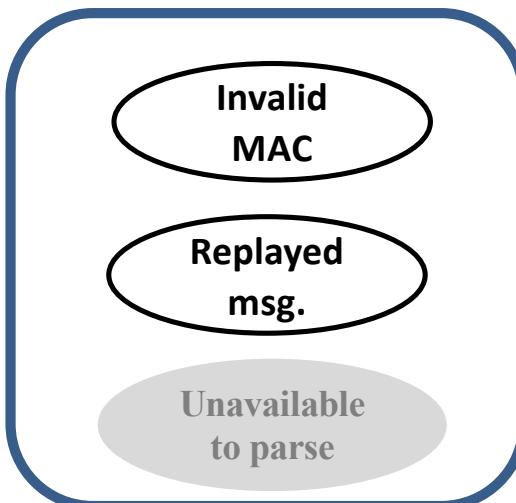
Generating test cases

- ❖ Target protocol: *RRC and NAS*

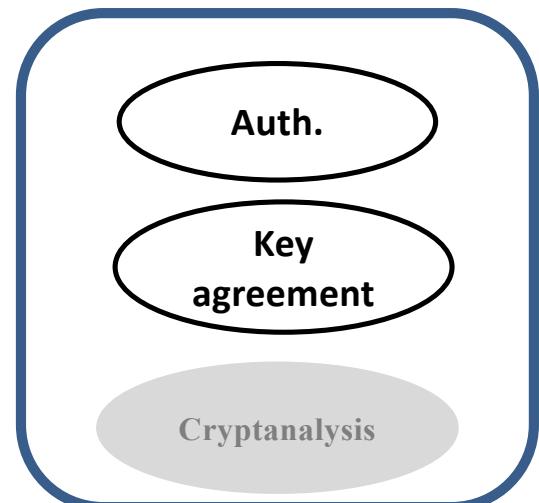
P1. Invalid plain message



P2. Invalid security protected message



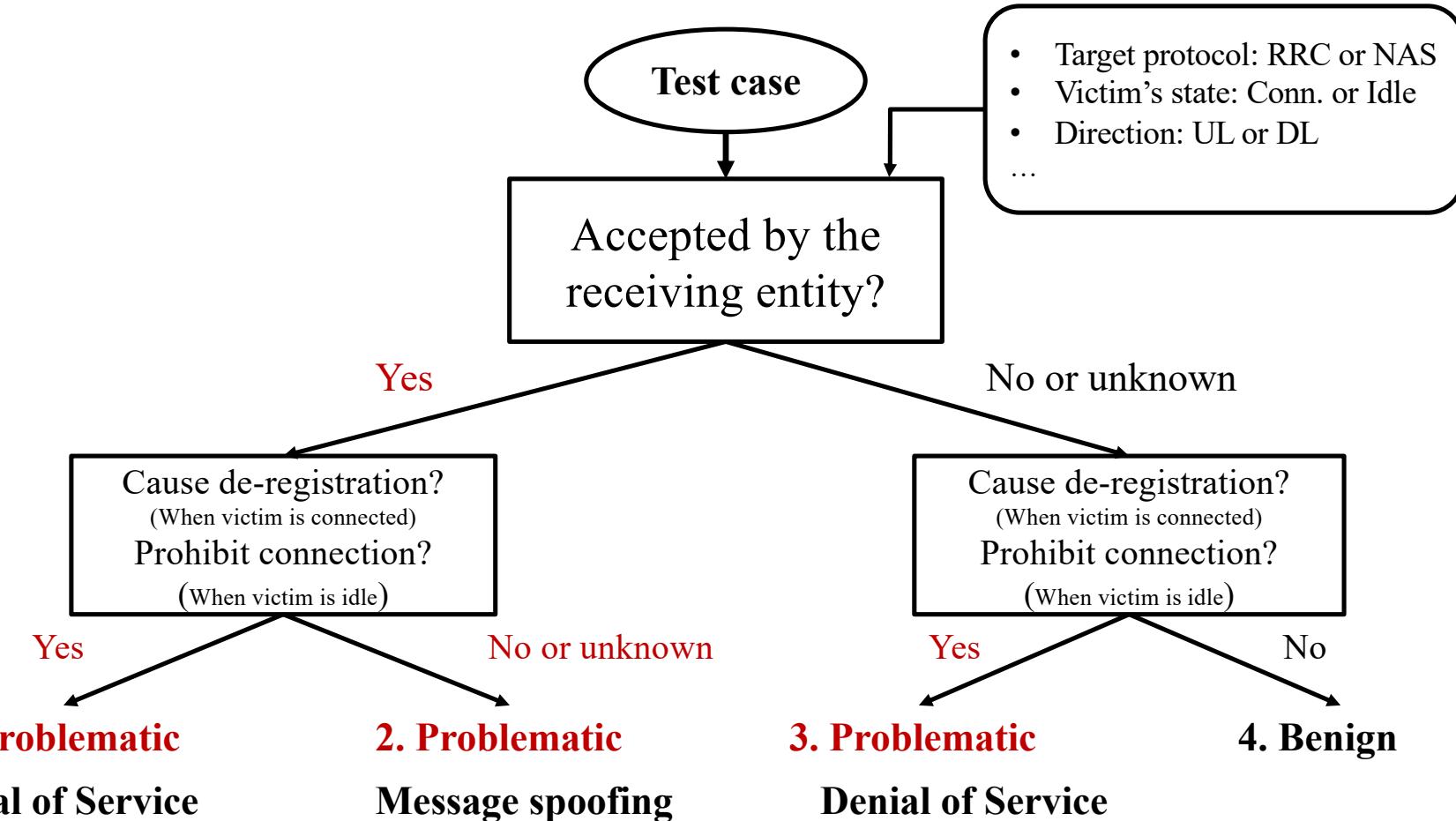
P3. Security procedure bypass



- ❖ For P1 and P2

- Mandatory fields are mutated from the collected commercial logs

Classifying the problematic behavior



Attacks exploiting MME

- ❖ Result of dynamic testing against different MME types
 - Carrier 1: MME1, MME2, Carrier2: MME3 (MME1 & MME3: the same vendor)

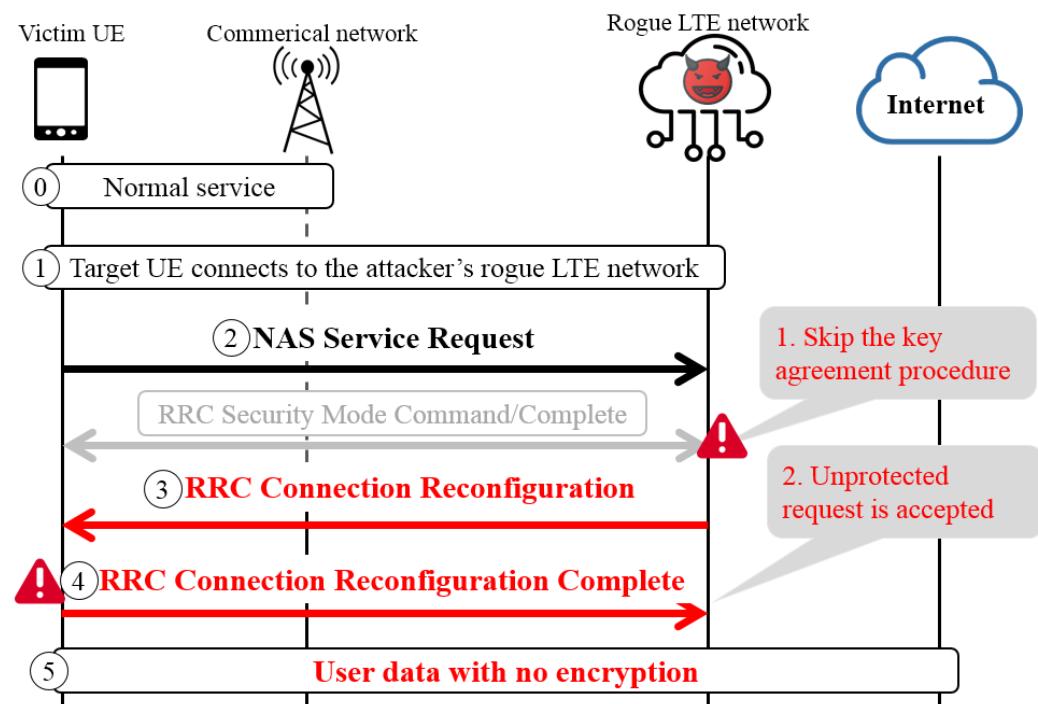
| Exploited NAS Messages | Implications | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | MME ₁ | MME ₂ | MME ₃ |
| Attach Request | DoS (P, I, R) | × | DoS (P, I, R) |
| TAU Request | DoS (P, I, R) | × | DoS (I), False location update (R) |
| Uplink NAS Transport | DoS (P, I), SMS phishing (R) | SMS phishing (P, I, R) | - |
| PDN Connectivity Request | DoS (I) | × | DoS, DosS (R) |
| PDN Disconnect Request | DoS (I), DosS (R) | × | DosS (R) |
| Detach Request | DoS (P, R) | DoS (P, I, R) | DoS (P, I, R) |

DosS: Denial of selective Service, **P:** Plain, **I:** Invalid MAC, **R:** Replay

| Test messages | Direction | Property 1-1 | Vendor issues | | | | Affected component |
|--|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------|--------------------|
| NAS | | Specification issues | DoS | DoS | DoS | - | Core network (MME) |
| Attach request (IMSI/GUTI) | UL | - | DoS [1] | DoS | DoS | - | Core network (MME) |
| Detach request (UE originating detach) | UL | - | - | B | Spoofing | - | Core network (MME) |
| Service request | UL | - | DoS | DoS | FLU and DoS | - | Core network (MME) |
| Tracking area update request | UL | - | SMS phishing and DoS | SMS phishing and DoS | SMS replay | - | Core network (MME) |
| Uplink NAS transport | UL | - | B | DoS | DoS | - | Core network (MME) |
| PDN connectivity request | UL | B | B | DoS | DoS | - | Core network (MME) |
| PDN disconnect request | UL | - | B | DoS | selective DoS | - | Core network (MME) |
| Attach reject | DL | DoS [2] | DoS [3] | - | - | - | Baseband |
| Authentication reject | DL | DoS [4] | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| Detach request (UE terminated detach) | DL | - | DoS [4] | - | - | - | Baseband |
| EMM information | DL | - | Spoofing [5] | - | | - | Baseband |
| GUTI reallocation command | DL | - | B | B | ID Spoofing | - | Baseband |
| Identity request | DL | Info. leak [6] | B | B | Info. leak | - | Baseband |
| Security mode command | DL | - | B | B | Location tracking [4] | - | Baseband |
| Service reject | DL | - | DoS [3] | - | - | - | Baseband |
| Tracking area update reject | DL | - | DoS [3] | - | - | - | Baseband |
| RRC | | | | | | | |
| RRConnectionRequest | UL | DoS and con. spoofing | - | - | - | - | Core network (eNB) |
| RRConnectionSetupComplete | UL | Con. spoofing | - | - | - | - | Core network (eNB) |
| MasterInformationBlock | DL | Spoofing | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| Paging | DL | DoS [4] and Spoofing | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| RRConnectionReconfiguration | DL | - | MitM | DoS | B | - | Baseband |
| RRConnectionReestablishment | DL | - | Con. spoofing | - | - | - | Baseband |
| RRConnectionReestablishmentReject | DL | - | DoS | | | - | Baseband |
| RRConnectionReject | DL | DoS | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| RRConnectionRelease | DL | DoS [2] | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| RRConnectionSetup | DL | Con. spoofing | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| SecurityModeCommand | DL | - | B | B | B | MitM | Baseband |
| SystemInformationBlockType1 | DL | Spoofing [4] | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| SystemInformationBlockType 10/11 | DL | Spoofing [4] | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| SystemInformationBlockType12 | DL | Spoofing [4] | - | - | - | - | Baseband |
| UECapabilityEnquiry | DL | Info. leak | - | Info. leak | Info. leak | - | Baseband |

AKA Bypass attack

- ❖ Exploits 2 vulnerabilities
 - RRC SMC can be bypassed
 - RRC Connection Reconfiguration is not security protected.
- ❖ Implications
 - Eavesdropping user data traffic
 - Steal user credentials by Phishing
 - Redirecting to fake online payment websites
- ❖ Validation
 - LG G2, Samsung Galaxy S4, S5
 - Baseband: Qualcomm chipsets



Conclusion

- ❖ We have implemented LTEFuzz
 - A semi-automated dynamic testing tool for both network equipments and devices
- ❖ LTEFuzz uncovered 51 vulnerabilities
 - New: 36, Previously known: 15
 - Specification problem: 16, Implementation & configuration problem: 35
 - two network devices from a single manufacturer (but in two carriers) has different vulnerabilities.
- ❖ Responsible disclosure
 - Carriers, Network vendors, Qualcomm, Huawei, Apple

Best Questions

- ❖ Kyungmook Kim
 - What are needed to test the LTE network?
- ❖ DAVY Guillaume
 - How can we make the FBS has higher signal strength than the commercial?
- ❖ Sumin Cho
 - How to reduce the errors that complex deployments make?

Interesting questions

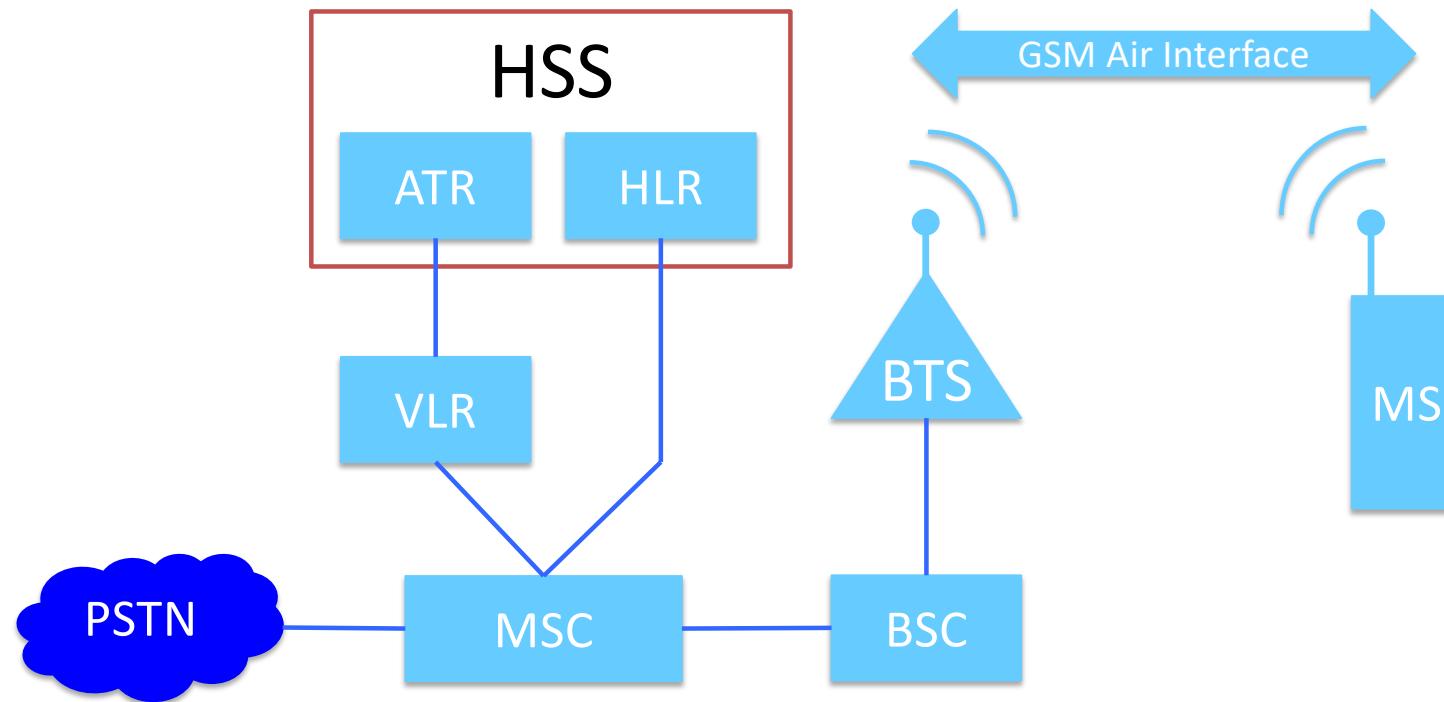
- ❖ Sangmin Woo
 - Test LTEFuzz in other carriers and vendors?
 - Successfully extended to stateful fuzzing?
- ❖ Kyungmook Kim
 - Commercial mobile devices capable of generating arbitrary messages?
 - How was the set of control plane log data from commercial networks collected worldwide?
 - A reason to simplify the decision tree?
 - Can unprotected control plane message be handled by software?
- ❖ DAVY Guillaume
 - Why do companies not apply these mandatory security procedures?
- ❖ Sumin Cho
 - What did you focus on when setting up the test cases?
- ❖ Junyoung Park
 - Would it be possible to target other parts of the LTE network?
 - Which technical challenges exist for stateful fuzzing?
- ❖ Hyung Chan Kim, WonYoung Jung
 - Testing in 5G?

Location Tracking

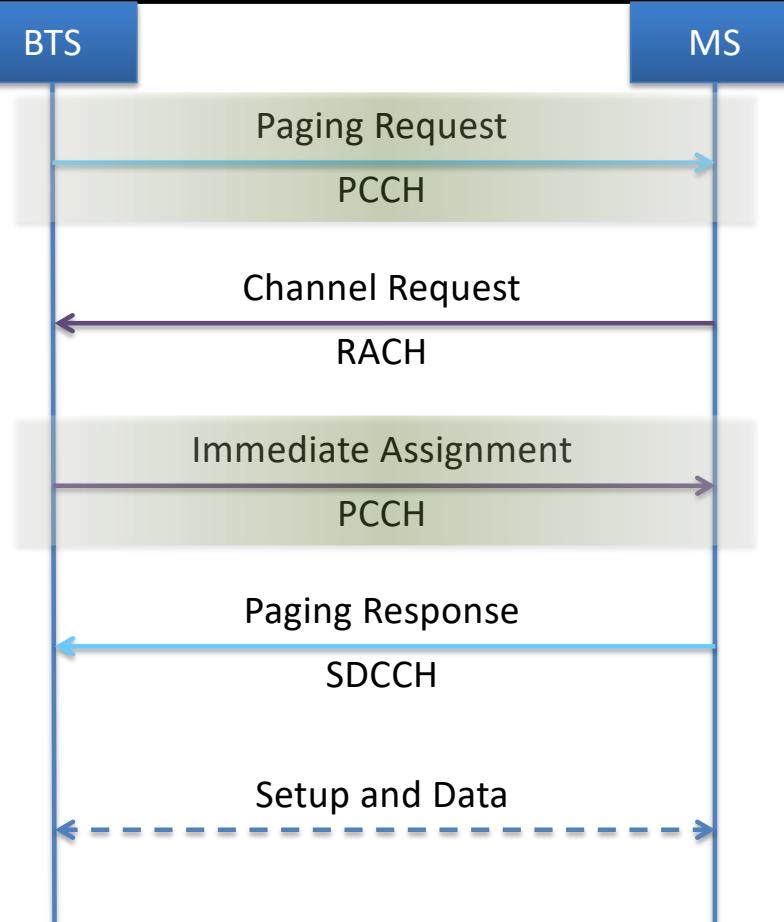
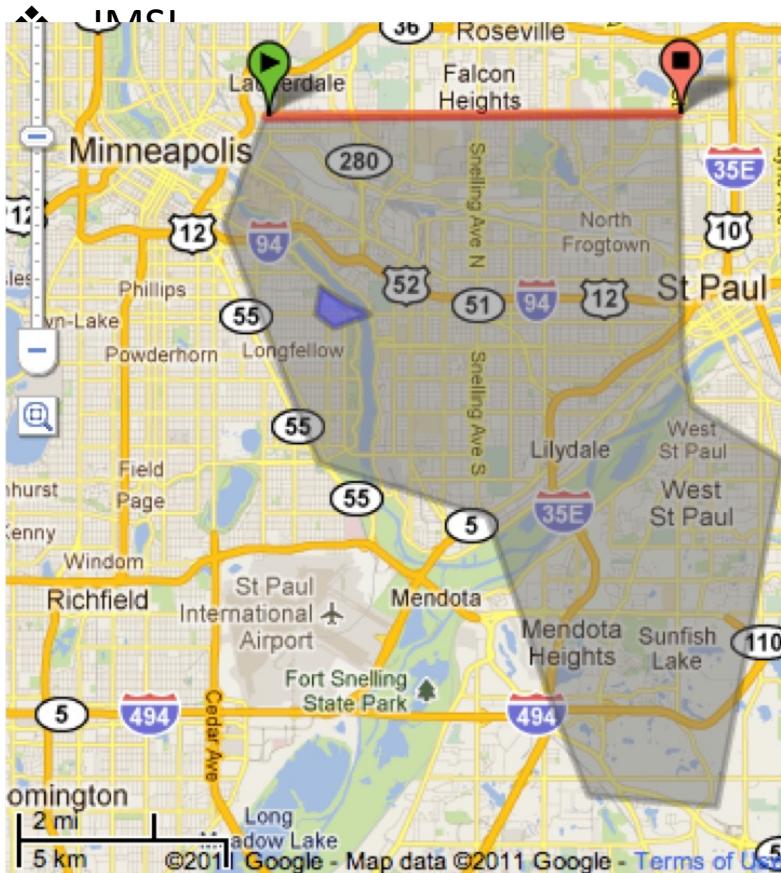
Location Privacy Leaks on GSM

- ❖ We have the victim's mobile phone number
- ❖ Can we detect if the victim is in/out of an area of interest?
 - Granularity? 100 km²? 1km²? Next door?
- ❖ No collaboration from service provider
 - i.e. How much information leaks from the HLR over broadcast messages?
- ❖ Attacks by passively listening
 - Paging channel
 - Random access channel

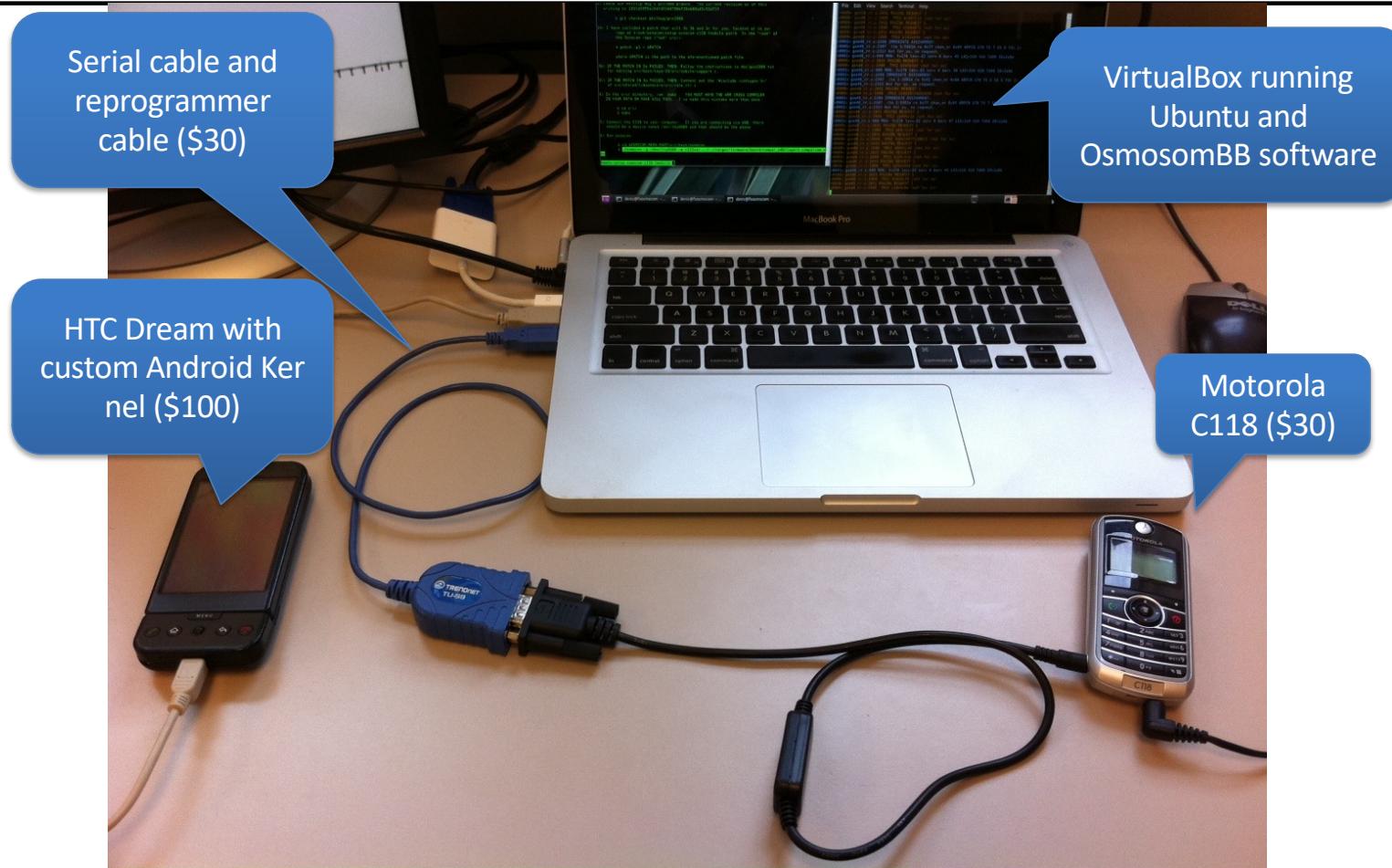
Cellular Network



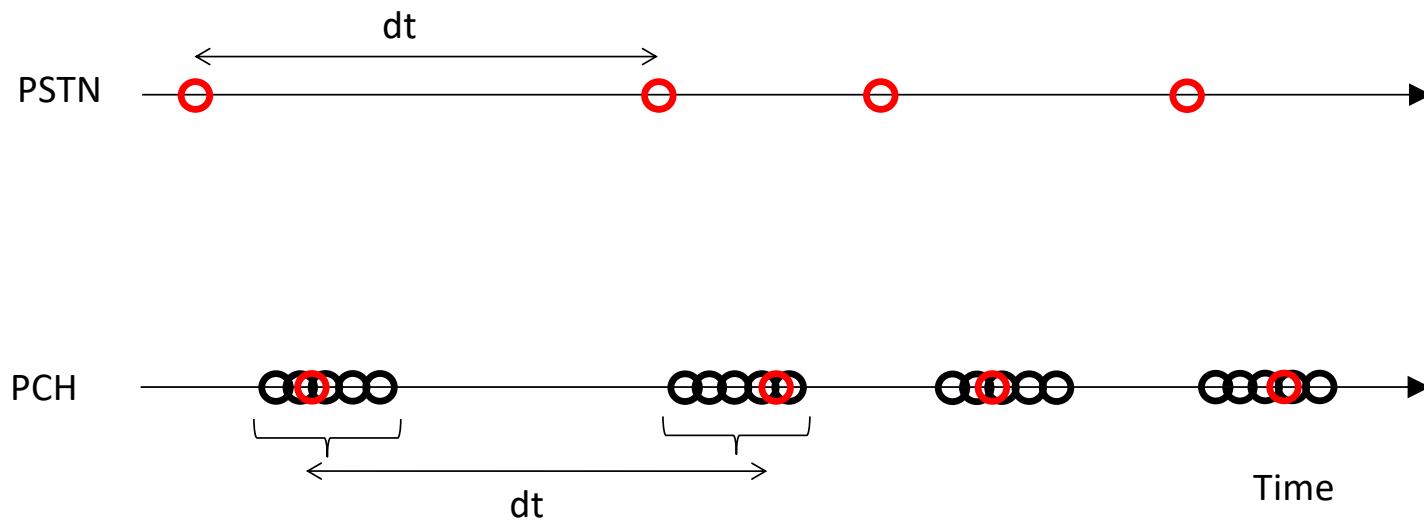
Location Leaks on Cellular Network



Platform

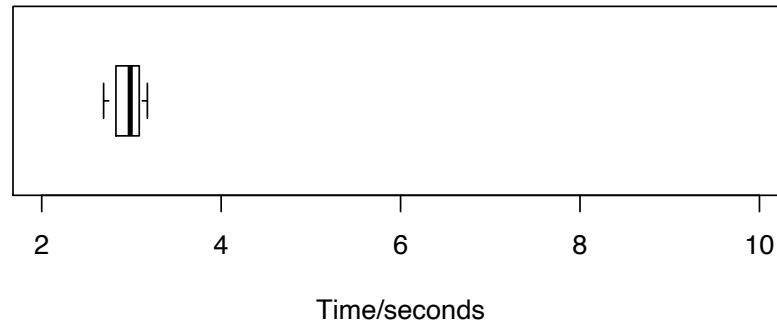


Phone number-TMSI mapping

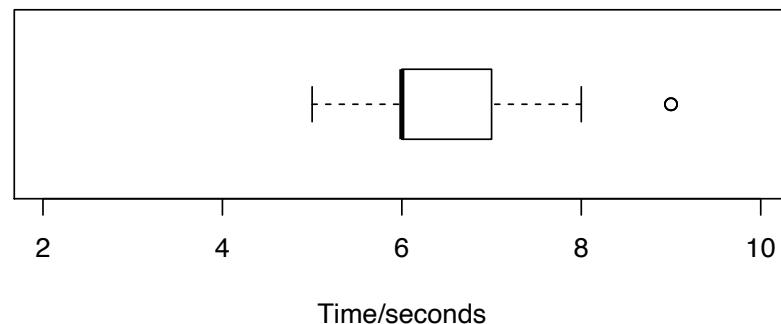


Silent Paging

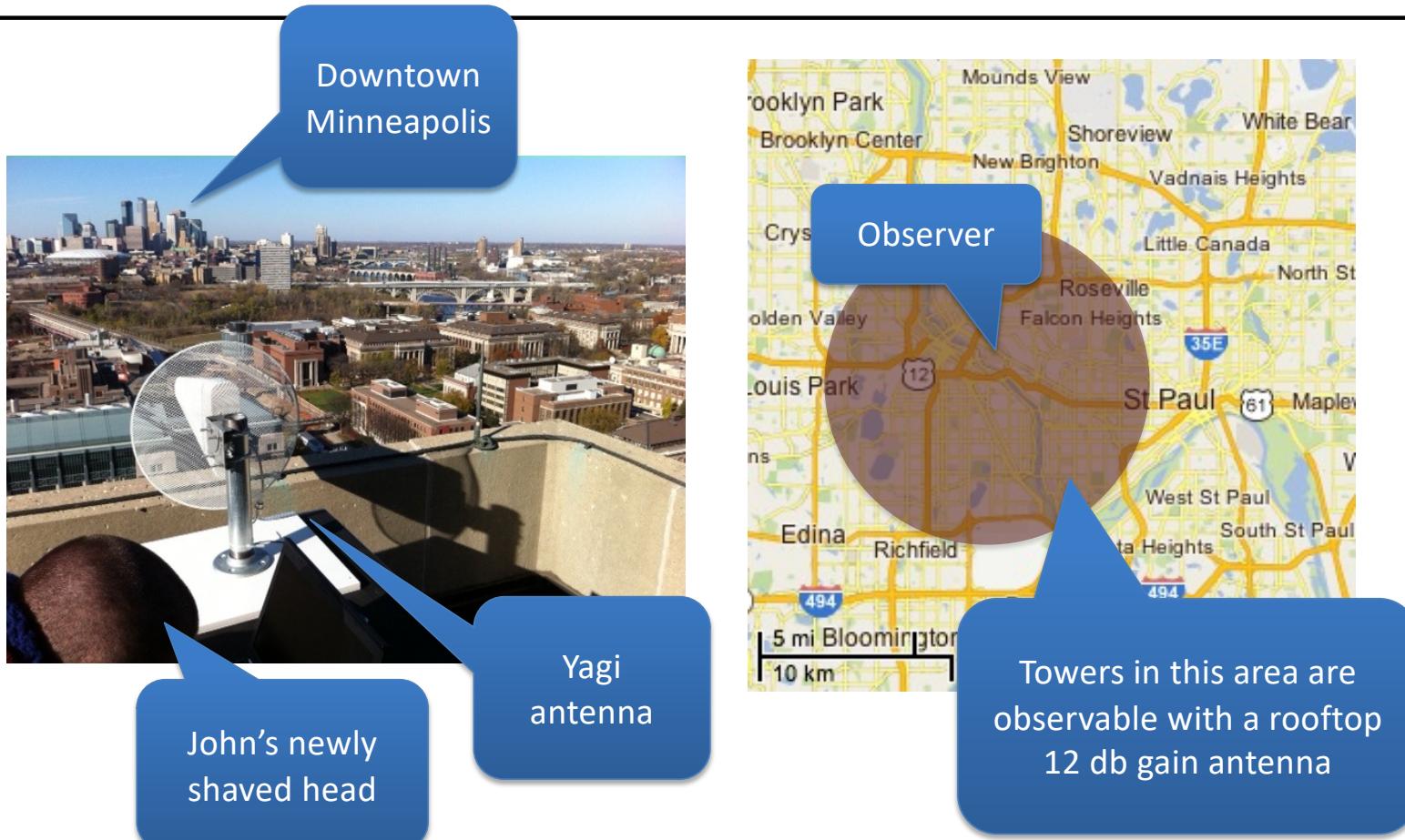
- ❖ Delay between the call initiation and the paging request: 3 sec



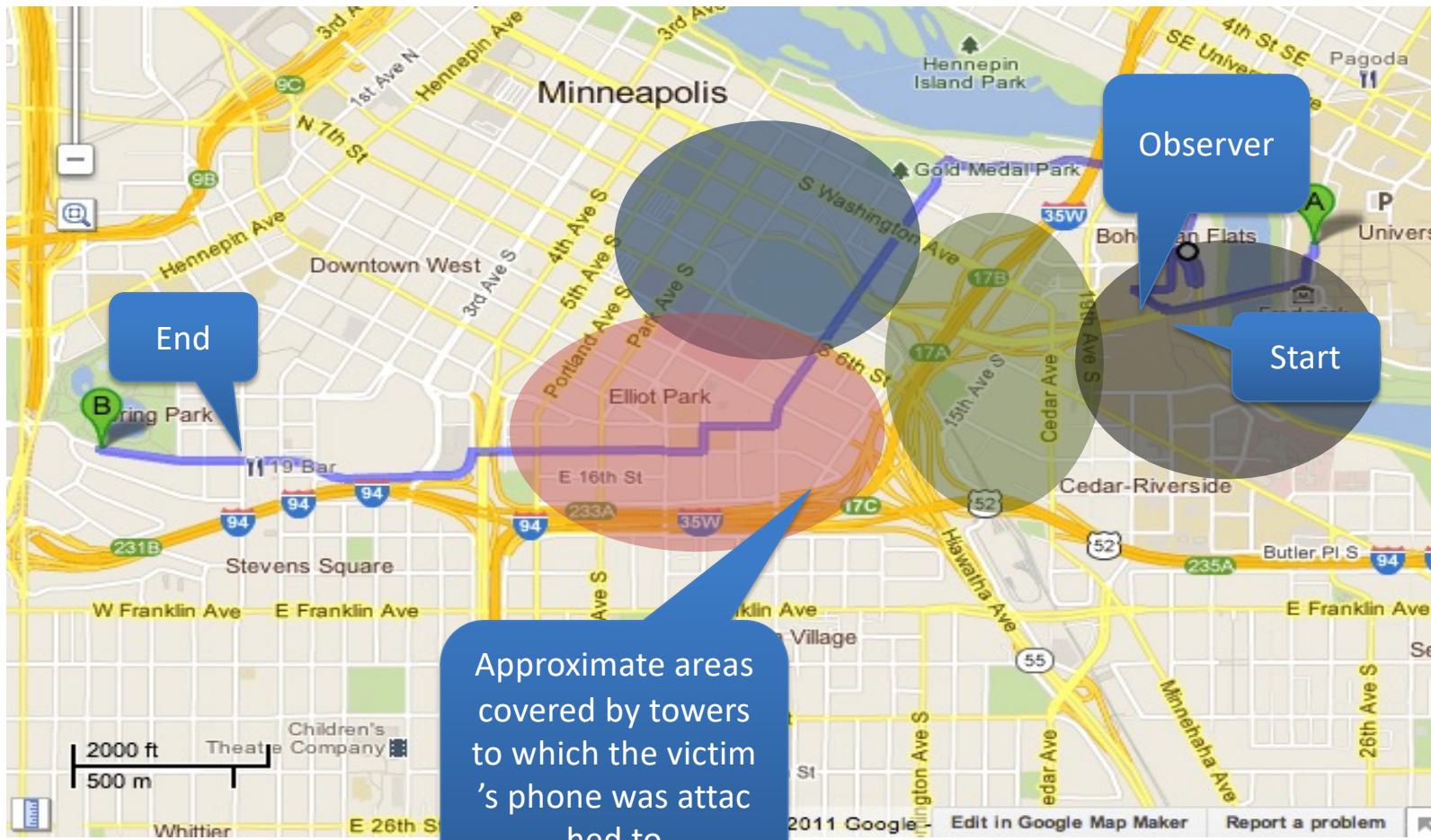
- ❖ Median delay between call initiation and ring: 6 sec



Coverage area with 1 antenna



Following a walking person



Identifiers in Cellular Networks

- ❖ Permanent/Unique identifier
 - IMSI (International Mobile Subscriber Identity)
 - Provisioned in the SIM card
- ❖ Temporary identifier
 - Used to **hide** subscriber
 - **TMSI** (Temporary Mobile Subscriber Identity)
 - Used in 2G/3G
 - **GUTI** (Globally Unique Temporary Identity)
 - Used in LTE

Worldwide Data Collection

| Country | # of OP. | # of USIM | # of signalings | Country | # of OP. | # of USIM | # of signalings |
|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| U.S.A | 3 | 22 | 763K | U.K. | 1 | 1 | 41K |
| Austria | 3 | 3 | 807K | Spain | 2 | 2 | 51K |
| Belgium | 3 | 3 | 372K | Netherlands | 3 | 3 | 946K |
| Switzerland | 3 | 3 | 559K | Japan | 1 | 2 | 37K |
| Germany | 4 | 19 | 841K | South Korea | 3 | 14 | 1.7M |
| France | 2 | 6 | 305K | | | | |

Data summary

Collection Period: **2014. 11. ~ 2017. 7.**

of countries: **11** # of operators: **28** # of USIMs: **78** # of voice calls: **58K** # of signalings: **6.4M**

※ OP: operator, USIM: Universal Subscriber Identity Module, Signaling: control plane message

Same vs. Fingerprintable IDs

NDSS'12, '16: Same ID → Location Tracking!!

This work: ID Fingerprinting → Location Tracking!!

Fixed Bytes in *GUTI Reallocation*

- ❖ 19 operators have fixed bytes

| Allocation Pattern | Operators |
|-------------------------|---|
| Assigning the same GUTI | BE-III, DE-II, FR-II, JP-I |
| Three bytes fixed | CH-II, DE-III, NL-I, NL-II |
| Two bytes fixed | BE-II, CH-I, CH-III, ES-I, FR-I, NL-III |
| One bytes fixed | AT-I, AT-II, AT-III, BE-I, DE-I |

AT: Austria, BE: Belgium, CH: Switzerland, DE: Germany, ES: Spain, FR: France, JP: Japan, NL: Netherlands

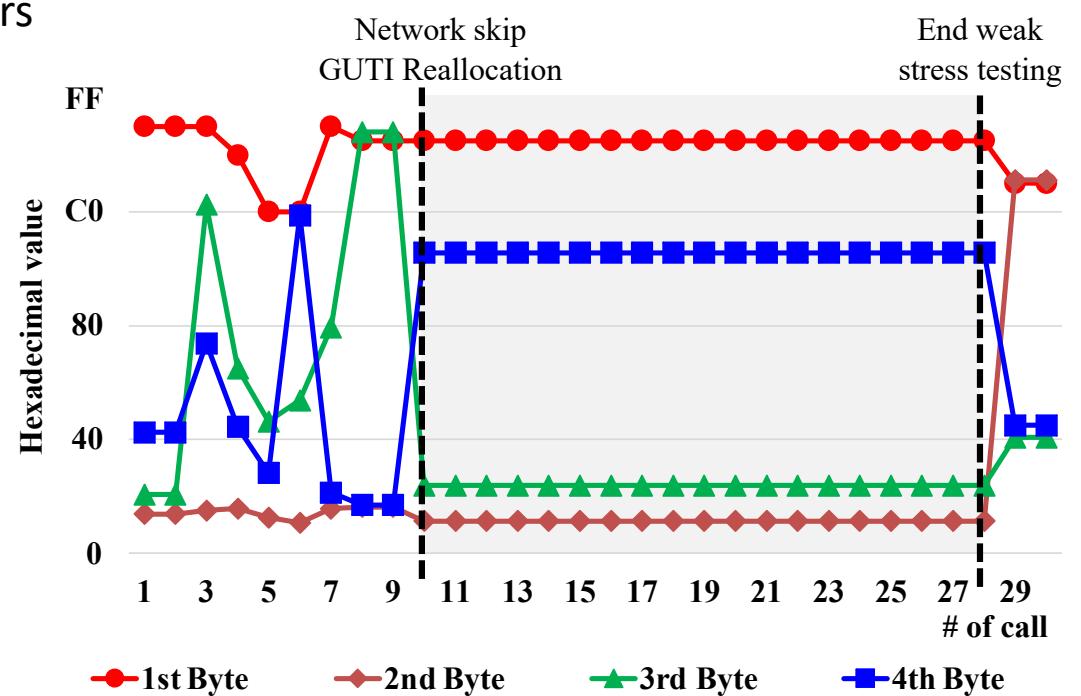
Stress Testing Result

- ❖ Force the network to skip the *GUTI reallocation*
 - Perform experiments on US and Korean operators
 - Two US and two Korean operators

| Operator | Weak Stress Testing | Hard Stress Testing |
|----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| KR-I | O | O |
| KR-II | X | O |
| US-I | X | O |
| US-II | O | O |

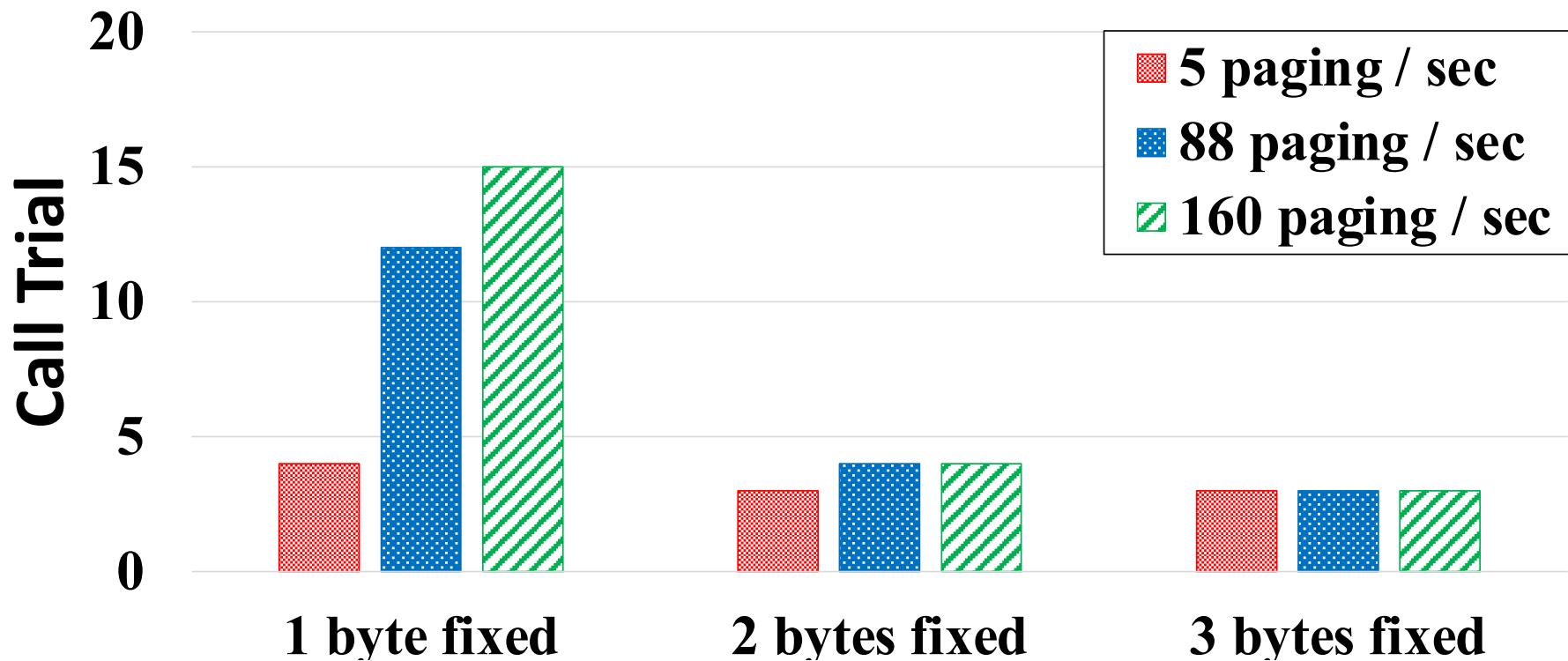
O: Reuse GUTI

X: No noticeable change



Success Rate of our Attack

- ❖ Required number of calls covering 99% success rate



Location Tracking with GUTI

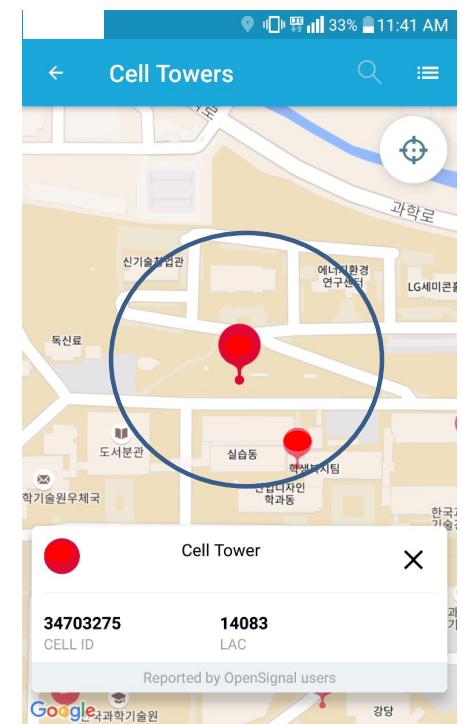
- ❖ Observation of broadcast channels after call invocation
 - Pattern matching (fixed bytes, assigning same GUTI)
 - Location tracking (Tracking Area, Cell)

```
EXTENDED_SERVICE_REQUEST:  
SecurityHeaderType: 0  
ServiceType: 1 (mobile terminating CS fallback or  
1xCS fallback)  
NASKeySetIdentifier:  
    TSC: 0 (native security context)  
    NASKeySetId: 2  
MTMSI: Identity:  
    IdentityDigit:  
        01: 200 = 0xC8  
        02: 22 = 0x16  
        03: 66 = 0x42  
        04: 93 = 0x5D
```

(a) M-TMSI monitored by Device

```
6027 106.479617   LTE RRC PCCH  22 Paging (1 PagingRecords)  
6028 106.489716   LTE RRC PCCH  22 Paging  
6029 106.500101   LTE RRC PCCH  33 Paging (3 PagingRecords)  
    ▾ LTE Radio Resource Control (RRC) protocol  
    ▾ PCCH-Message  
    ▾ message: c1 (0)  
    ▾ c1: paging (0)  
    ▾ paging  
    ▾ pagingRecordList: 3 items  
    ▾ Item 0  
    ▾ PagingRecord  
    ▾ ue-Identity: s-TMSI (0)  
    ▾ s-TMSI  
        mmec: 07 [bit length 8, 0000 0111 dec]  
        m-TMSI: c816425d [bit length 32, 1100]
```

(b) Paging Message in Broadcast Channel (USRP)



OpenSignal (at KAIST)

Best Questions

- ❖ Haein Lee
 - After leaking temporal ID, are there any attacks with the information
- ❖ Olav Lamberts
 - Any explicit standardization changes?
- ❖ Sujin Han
 - Why can't we encrypt paging messaging packets?

Interesting Questions

- ❖ Haein Lee
 - the impact of this paper?
- ❖ Olav Lamberts
 - A time-delta based side-channel? ??
 - Detection of Silent calls?
 - VoIP takeover?
 - A constant internet connection affects the ability to track?
 - Any attack against Hash_DRBG?
- ❖ Sujin Han
 - How to compute the probability that a UE receive the same number of calls as the attacks?
 - How low-cost should the GUTI reallocation algorithm be?
- ❖ Weonji Choi
 - 5G solved all privacy problems?
 - Can one enforce the standard compliance?
 - SKT? KT? LG U+?
 - How big are the cells and TAs?
 - The emergency message determines the recipient based on the ‘cell’?
 - Receivers alerted for silent calls?
- ❖ TaiSic Yun
 - The attack range seems a little wide?
 - Any standard for GUTI reallocation?
- ❖ Min Woo Baek
 - Side-channel leaks for GUTI?

Lessons Learned from 4G/5G Security

- ❖ A lot of systematic problems from cellular industry
- ❖ Standard has a lot of security problem itself.
- ❖ Device vendors are making a lot of mistakes.
- ❖ Cellular ISPs are making a lot of mistakes.
- ❖ New generation deployment for every 10 years
 - New system deployment for every 3-4 years.
- ❖ ISPs don't talk to each other. They don't respond to public scrutiny.
 - Vendors don't talk to each other.

Questions?

❖ Yongdae Kim

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