REVERSE ENGINEERING

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APK tool:

APKTool is a powerful tool for reverse engineering Android APK files. Its primary functions include:

- Disassembly: APKTool can disassemble an APK file into its constituent resources and small code, which is a human-readable representation of the compiled Dalvik bytecode.
- 2. **Reassembly**: After making modifications to the small code or resources, APKTool can reassemble the APK file, allowing the modified app to be packaged and installed again.
- 3. **Resource Decoding**: It can decode the resources of an APK file, such as XML files, images, and other assets, into nearly original form, which can then be edited and recompiled.
- 4. **Rebuilding**: It can rebuild the APK file from the modified resources and small code, ensuring the changes are reflected in the newly created APK.

APKTool is commonly used for tasks such as modifying app behavior, localizing applications, or studying the internal structure of an app.

Decompile:

C:\Users\nannu\OneDrive\Desktop\APKTOOL>apktool d calculator.apk

Recompile:

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.22631.3672]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\nannu\OneDrive\Desktop\APKTOOL>apktool b "C:\Users\nannu\OneDrive\Desktop\APKTOOL\calculator" -o modified.apk

I: Using Apktool 2.9.3

I: Checking whether sources has changed...

I: Checking whether sources has changed...

I: Smaling smali_classes3 folder into classes3.dex...

I: Checking whether sources has changed...

I: Checking whether resources has changed...

I: Building resources...

I: Building apk file...

I: Copying unknown files/dir...

I: Built apk into: modified.apk

C:\Users\nannu\OneDrive\Desktop\APKTOOL>
```

Zipalign: used to optimize APK files by aligning their data

```
Microsoft Windows[Version 10.0.22631.3672]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\nannu\AppData\Local\Android\Sdk\build-tools\34.0.0>zipalign -p -f -v 4 "C:\Users\nannu\OneDrive\Desktop\APKTOOL\modified.apk" "C:\
```

To align infile.apk and save it as outfile.apk:

zipalign -p -f -v 4 infile.apk outfile.apk

To confirm the alignment of existing apk, use the following command.

zipalign -c -v 4 existing.apk

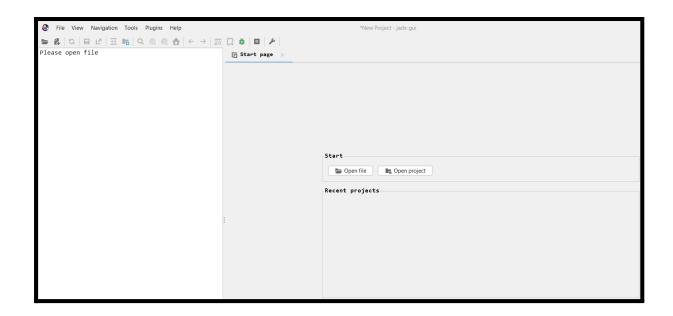
JADX:

JADX is a decompiler for Android applications. Its primary functions include:

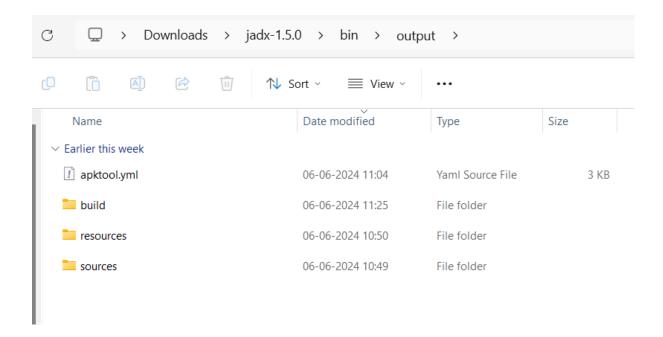
- Decompiling APKs: JADX converts Dalvik bytecode (contained in the APK files) into readable Java source code, making it easier to understand the logic and flow of an application.
- 2. **GUI and Command Line**: It offers both a graphical user interface (GUI) and command-line interface (CLI) for browsing and analyzing the decompiled code.
- 3. **Code Navigation**: The GUI version provides features for easy navigation through the decompiled code, such as jumping to definitions, searching for usages, and viewing the overall project structure.
- 4. **Smali Support**: While JADX focuses on producing readable Java code, it also integrates well with smali code for lower-level bytecode analysis.

C:\Users\nannu\Downloads\jadx-1.5.0\bin>.\jadx-gui.bat

The above command opens the jadax GUI.



Then we can choose a file to open and analyse.



Name	Date modified	Туре	Size
∨ Earlier this week			
kotlin	06-06-2024 10:49	File folder	
android	06-06-2024 10:49	File folder	
androidx	06-06-2024 10:49	File folder	
com	06-06-2024 10:49	File folder	
kotlinx	06-06-2024 10:49	File folder	
org org	06-06-2024 10:49	File folder	

JADX is useful for understanding how an app works, identifying potential security issues, or simply learning from existing applications.