KMB API REVERSE ENGINEERING

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INTRODUCTION

In the traffic visualizer playground project, one of the data source is KMB. To make a proof of concept before we get a deal with KMB, we try to find a way to make use of its publicly accessible api. However these api is non-trivial as it has some form of encapsulation which we will reverse engineer so that we can call those api from our own platform.

KMB Portal

http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/

We start with the web portal. The portal provide a way to select route and can list all stations and estimated arrival time. We found that the site operated with ajax model with the following endpoints:

- List bus stops for a particular route
- Get schedule for a particular route
- Get a list of route for a particular stop
- Get arrival estimation for a particular route and stop
- Announcement and other informative service

1. Bus Stops

To retrieve a list of bus stop for a particular route, make a GET on

 $\frac{\text{http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/Function/FunctionRequest.ashx?action=getstops\&route=12A\&bound=1\&service}{\text{\underline{Type=1}}}$

Cookies does not matter.

It returns a list of bus stop. One important field is BSICode, e.g. *WH01-T-1000-0*, which will be used on *Arrival Estimation API*.

```
"data": {
 "basicInfo": {
   "Racecourse": "N",
   "DestEName": "CHEUNG SHA WAN (SHAM MONG ROAD)",
    "OriCName": "黃埔花園",
   "ServiceTypeENG": "",
    "DestCName": "長沙灣(深旺道)",
   "BusType": null,
   "Airport": "N",
    "ServiceTypeTC": "",
    "Overnight": "N",
    "ServiceTypeSC": "",
   "OriSCName": "黄埔花园",
   "DestSCName": "长沙湾(深旺道)",
    "Special": "N",
    "OriEName": "WHAMPOA GARDEN"
  },
  "routeStops": [
      "CName": "黃埔花園總站",
      "Y": "818438.31250000",
      "ELocation": "WHAMPOA GARDEN B\/T",
      "X": "837691.56250000",
      "AirFare": "5.10000000",
     "EName": "WHAMPOA GARDEN B\/T",
      "SCName": "黄埔花园总站",
      "ServiceType": "1",
      "CLocation": "黃埔花園巴士總站",
      "BSICode": "WH01-T-1000-0",
     "Seq": "0",
      "SCLocation": "黄埔花园巴士总站",
      "Direction": "F
     "Bound": "1",
      "Route": "12A"
   },
      "CName": "紅樂道",
```

2. Bus Schedule

To retrieve the bus schedule for a particular route, make a GET on

http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/Function/FunctionRequest.ashx?action=getschedule&route=12A&bound=1

Cookies does not matter.

It returns a list of bus schedule.

```
"data": {
  "01": [
   {
      "DayType": "MF
     "BoundTime1": "12",
      "ServiceType_Eng": "",
     "BoundText1": "06:10 - 06:58",
      "Origin_Eng": "WHAMPOA GARDEN",
      "ServiceType": "01 ",
      "Destination_Chi": "長沙灣(深旺道)",
      "OrderSeq": "1",
      "Route": "12A",
      "Destination_Eng": "CHEUNG SHA WAN (SHAM MONG ROAD)",
     "BoundTime2": "12",
      "Origin_Chi": "黃埔花園",
      "BoundText2": "05:40 - 07:04",
      "ServiceType_Chi": ""
   },
      "DayType": "MF
```

3. List route passing on particular stop

To retrieve the bus route passing a particular route, make a GET on

 $\underline{\text{http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/Function/FunctionRequest.ashx?action=getRoutesInStop\&bsiCode=WH01-T-100}\\ \underline{\text{0-0}}$

Cookies does not matter.

It returns a list of bus route.

```
{
    "data": [
        "5D       ",
        "8A       ",
        "8P      ",
        "115      ",
        "12A      ",
        "30X      ",
        "115P      ",
        "230X     "
],
    "result": true
}
```

4. Announcement and Traffic News

This api return a list of traffic news and announcement

http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/Function/FunctionRequest.ashx?action=getAnnounce&route=1&bound=1

Cookies does not matter.

It returns a list of announcement.

```
"data": [
   "kpi_title": "@ 15:32 Broken Vehicle at Ferry Street Flyover",
   "kpi_referenceno": "PEQ17080409",
    "kpi_title_chi_s": "@ 15:32 渡船街天桥坏车阻路",
    "krbpiid_routeno": "1",
    "kpi_noticeimageurl": "1501833265.html",
    "krbpiid_boundno": "1",
   "krbpiid": "1520867",
    "kpi_title_chi": "@ 15:32 渡船街天橋壞車阻路"
 },
    "kpi_title": "La Salle Primary School Bus Stop Temporary Relocation",
   "kpi_referenceno": "BS1708-037",
    "kpi_title_chi_s": "喇沙小学巴士站暂时迁移",
    "krbpiid_routeno": "1",
    "kpi_noticeimageurl": "1501833287_4551_0.jpg",
    "krbpiid_boundno": "1",
   "krbpiid": "1520721",
    "kpi_title_chi": "喇沙小學巴士站暫時遷移"
 }
],
"result": true
```

5. Arrival Estimation

Arrival estimation API is a bit tricky, you need a POST on

http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/Function/FunctionRequest.ashx/?action=get ETA&lang=1

Cookies does not matter, but with form data (application/x-www-form-urlencoded; charset=UTF-8)

```
token: TOKEN
t: TIMESTAMP
```

It returns arrival estimations on next few buses.

```
"data": {
  "updated": 1501822984000,
 "generated": 1501823015644,
 "responsecode": 0,
  "response": [
      "w": "Y",
     "ex": "2017-08-04 13:24:32",
      "eot": "E",
      "t": "13:14",
      "ei": "N",
      "bus_service_type": 1,
      "wifi": null,
      "ol": "N"
    },
      "w": "Y",
     "ex": "2017-08-04 13:44:46",
      "eot": "E",
      "t": "13:34",
      "ei": "N",
      "bus_service_type": 1,
      "wifi": null,
      "ol": "N"
    },
      "w": "Y",
      "ex": "2017-08-04 13:55:43",
      "eot": "E",
      "t": "13:45",
```

Parameters

Tricky part is the token is encapsulated. We have to reverse engineer and produce our own token to make meaningful request.

The *TIMESTAMP* is obvious, for example 2017-08-04 04:07:02.50. Is just the current time as of the request, note the last full stop.

The *TOKEN* part is encapsulated with a obfuscated javascript function. A sample looks like this:

EAMTJBLS0zMTIwMTctMDgtMDQgMDQ6MDc6MDIuNTAuMTMtLTEtLTMxMjAxNy0w0C0wNCAwNDowNzowMi41MC4xMy0tMS0tMzE yMDE3LTA4LTA0IDA00jA30jAyLjUwLjEzLS1XSDAxVDEwMDAwLS0zMTIwMTctMDgtMDQgMDQ6MDc6MDIuNTAuMTMtLTAtLTMx MjAxNy0w0C0wNCAwNDowNzowMi41MC4xMy0tMTUwMTgx0TYyMjM1MA==

We found the token is generated with getETA() function from

http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/function.js?r=2017050102

Put the code to deobfuscator gives a hint on the token format:

```
var pY = against[_0x1c1a("0x2")]() + "-" + ("00" + (against["getUTCMonth"]() +
1))[_0x1c1a("0x3")](-2) + "-" + ("00" + against[_0x1c1a("0x4")]())[_0x1c1a("0x3")](-2) + " " +
("00" + against[_0x1c1a("0x5")]())["slice"](-2) + ":" + ("00" +
against["getUTCMinutes"]())[_0x1c1a("0x3")](-2) + ":" + ("00" +
against[_0x1c1a("0x6")]())[_0x1c1a("0x3")](-2) + "." + ("00" +
against[_0x1c1a("0x7")]())["slice"](-2) + ".";
sep = _0x1c1a("0x8") + pY + _0x1c1a("0x9");
var oauth_token = "EA" + Base64[_0x1c1a("0x9")](arr[_0x1c1a("0xb")][_0x1c1a("0xc")]() + sep + val +
sep + arr[_0x1c1a("0xd")] + sep + arr[_0x1c1a("0xe")][_0x1c1a("0xc")]()[_0x1c1a("0xf")](/-/gi,
"") + sep + arr["Seq"] + sep + (new Date)[_0x1c1a("0x10")]());
```

pY is the timestamp field we see on form data T, oauth token is the form data Token.

Token looks like EA + base64(something), we decode the above token and bingo, we got:

```
12A--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--WH01T10000--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--0--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1501819622350
```

Next we need to figure out the components of the above string. One obvious repeat pattern is the *sep*, which is [something][pY][something], or --312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--

Let's break down the token:

```
12A--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--WH01T10000--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--0--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1-01819622350
```

There are a few components we don't know, we make a few more request on:

- 1. Same route to see any time-dependent field
- 2. Different route
- 3. Different stop

Two requests on 12A first bus stop:

```
12A--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1-312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--WH01T10000--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--0--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1501819622350

12A--312017-08-04 04:07:11.02.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:11.02.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:11.02.13--WH01T10000--312017-08-04 04:07:11.02.13--0--312017-08-04 04:07:11.02.13--1501819631702
```

The only changing factor is the highlighted part, which look very like a unix timestamp in ms.

Next, we make request on the first 4 bus stops of 12A

```
12A--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--WH01T10000--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--0--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--1501819622350

12A--312017-08-04 04:07:25.82.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:25.82.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:25.82.13--HU06N10000--312017-08-04 04:07:25.82.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:25.82.13--1501819645182

12A--312017-08-04 04:07:54.98.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:54.98.13--1--312017-08-04 04:07:54.98.13--1501819674398

12A--312017-08-04 04:57:18.68.13--1--312017-08-04 04:57:18.68.13--1--312017-08-04 04:57:18.68.13--1501819674398
```

The red part looks like the *BSIcode* we got in (1), blue part look like the bus stop index.

Next, we make request on the reverse direction of bus stops of 12A

```
12A--312017-08-04 05:01:56.35.13--2--312017-08-04 05:01:56.35.13--1--312017-08-04 05:01:56.35.13--SH37W11800--312017-08-04 05:01:56.35.13--0--312017-08-04 05:01:56.35.13--1501822916436
```

We notice the highlight number 2 means the reverse direction.

Let's summarize what we found

```
12A--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13-1-312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13-1-312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13-1-312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--WH01T10000-312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13-0-312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13-1501819622350

[Route]--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--[Direction]--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13-1-312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--[BSICode]--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--[StopIndex]--312017-08-04 04:07:02.50.13--[UTC]
```

We still don't know what the remaining 1 mean, but look at other API endpoint suggest it is bound

Put it to the test

Now we have completely reverse engineered the token encapsulation, let craft a request with 2nd stop on route 12A.

First we make a request to get the BSIcode:

http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/Function/FunctionRequest.ashx?action=getstops&route=12A&bound=1&s
erviceType=1

The code for 2nd bus stop (index=1) is HU06-N-1000-0

We craft the token with current timestamp 2017-08-04 07:02:21.00. and UTC 1501830161000

```
12A--312017-08-04 07:02:21.00.13--1--312017-08-04 07:02:21.00.13--1--312017-08-04 07:02:21.00.13--1--312017-08-04 07:02:21.00.13--1--312017-08-04 07:02:21.00.13--1--312017-08-04
```

token:

EAMTJBLS0zMTIwMTctMDgtMDQgMDc6MDI6MjEuMDAuMTMtLTEtLTMxMjAxNy0wOC0wNCAwNzowMjoyMS4wMC4xMy0tMS0tMzE yMDE3LTA4LTA0IDA30jAy0jIxLjAwLjEzLS1IVTA2TjEwMDAwLS0zMTIwMTctMDgtMDQgMDc6MDI6MjEuMDAuMTMtLTEtLTMx MjAxNy0wOC0wNCAwNzowMjoyMS4wMC4xMy0tMTUwMTgzMDE2MTAwMA==

```
t: 2017-08-04 07:02:21.00.
```

We got it

Let's try another one, 3rd stop on route 30X.

http://search.kmb.hk/KMBWebSite/Function/FunctionRequest.ashx?action=getstops&route=30X&bound=1&serviceType=1

The code for 3rd bus stop (index=2) is TS11-S-1200-0

We craft the token with current timestamp 2017-08-04 07:19:55.00. and UTC 1501831195000

```
30X--312017-08-04 07:19:55.00.13--1--312017-08-04 07:19:55.00.13--1--312017-08-04 07:19:55.00.13--TS11S12000--312017-08-04 07:19:55.00.13--2--312017-08-04 07:19:55.00.13--1501831195000
```

token:

EAMzBYLS0zMTIwMTctMDgtMDQgMDc6MTk6NTUuMDAuMTMtLTEtLTMxMjAxNy0w0C0wNCAwNzox0To1NS4wMC4xMy0tMS0tMzE yMDE3LTA4LTA0IDA30jE50jU1LjAwLjEzLS1UUzExUzEyMDAwLS0zMTIwMTctMDgtMDQgMDc6MTk6NTUuMDAuMTMtLTItLTMx MjAxNy0w0C0wNCAwNzox0To1NS4wMC4xMy0tMTUwMTgzMTE5NTAwMA==

```
t: 2017-08-04 07:19:55.00.
```

We got it too. This pretty much reveal the whole logic. Let's start coding:)