
DeStroid - Fighting String Encryption in Android Malware

Fraunhofer Institute for Communication, Information
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String Encryption

Introduction

- Android is an attractive target for attackers (especially malware developers)
 - Security analysts are interested in the functionalities and goals of Android malware
 - Malware developers are hiding their malicious behavior with different obfuscation techniques



http://pctechmag.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/threat_android.jpg

String Encryption

Introduction

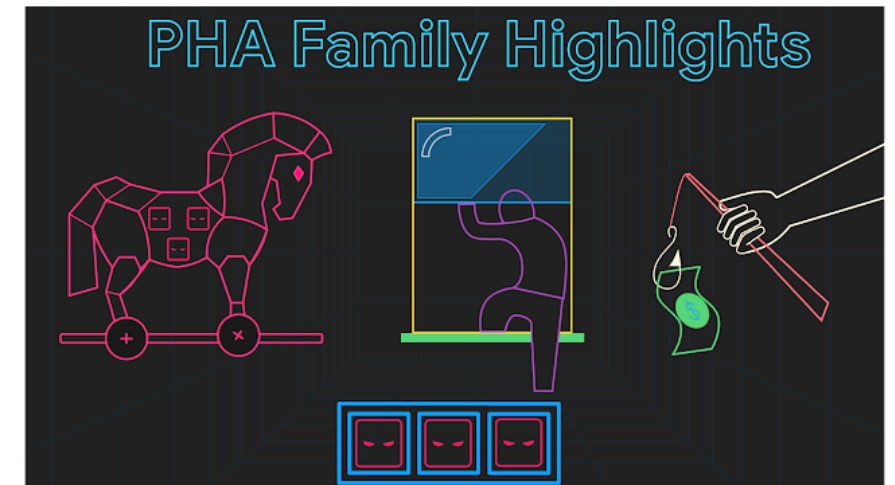
Google Security Blog

The latest news and insights from Google on security and safety on the Internet

PHA Family Highlights: Triada

June 6, 2019

Posted by Lukasz Siewierski, Android Security & Privacy Team

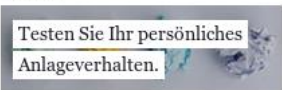


String Encryption

Introduction

Wirtschaft > Digitec > Malware befällt 25 Millionen Android-Smartphones

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Frankfurter Allgemeine
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E-Paper



ABONNEMENT

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VOR: DENKER

ANDROID-GERÄTE BETROFFEN

Malware befällt 25 Millionen Mobiltelefone

VON BASTIAN BENRATH - AKTUALISIERT AM 10.07.2019 - 15:43



Forbes

Billionaires

Innovation

Leadership

Money

Business

Small Business

EDITOR'S PICK | 278,103 views | Nov 2, 2019, 07:59am

Android Security Threat As 'Unremovable' Malware Infects 45,000 Phones So Far

Google Security Blog

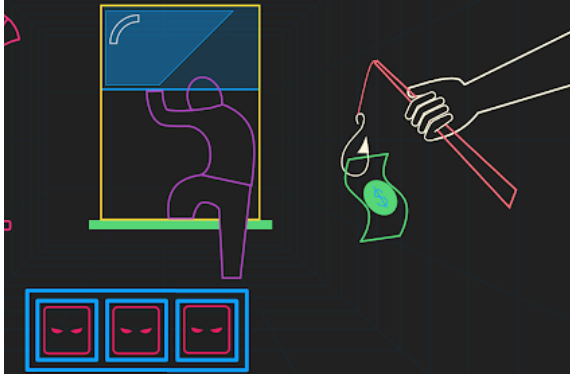
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Family Highlights



String Encryption

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Wirtschaft > Digitec > Malware befällt 25 Millionen Android-Smartphones

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Testen Sie Ihr persönliches
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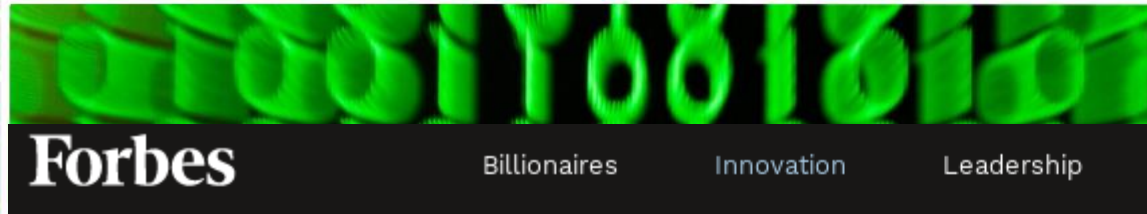
E-Paper

VOR:D

ANDROID-GERÄTE BETROFFEN

Malware befällt 25 Millionen Mobiltelefone

VON BASTIAN BENRATH - AKTUALISIERT AM 10.07.2019 - 15:43



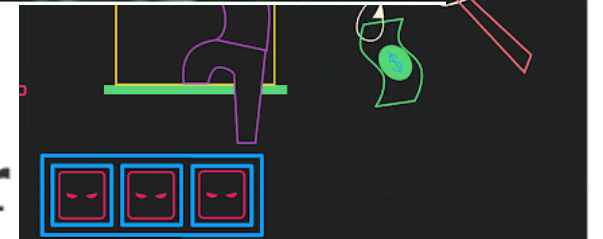
EDITOR'S PICK | 278,103 views | Nov 1

Android Security Threat AS 'Unremovable' Malware Infects 45,000 Phones So Far

Android banking botnet targets thousands

By Anthony Spadafora October 03, 2019 Computing

Researchers discover new botnet that has already infected over 800,000 Android devices



String Encryption

Introduction

Wirtschaft > Digitec > Malware befällt 25 Millionen Android-Smartphones

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ANDROID-GERÄTE BETROFFEN

Malware befällt Mobiltelefone

VON BASTIAN BENRATH - AKTUALISIER



Warnung des BSI

Schadsoftware auf Tablets und Smartphones

Stand: 26.02.2019 13:40 Uhr



Schadsoftware auf neu gekauften Geräten - davor warnt das Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik. Tausende Nutzer werden mutmaßlich von vorinstallierten Programmen ausgespäht.

Von Philipp Wundersee, WDR

"Der gesunde Menschenverstand ist durch nichts zu ersetzen", sagt Jörg Schwenk vom Lehrstuhl für Netz- und Datensicherheit der Universität Bochum. "Wenn das Gerät sehr günstig ist, wird der Hersteller ein verstecktes Geschäftsmodell eingepflegt haben. Da sollte man skeptisch sein."

Fachleute des Bundesamts für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik hatten im Internet bei Amazon drei Billiggeräte bestellt und getestet. Es geht um das Tablet Eagle 804 von Krüger&Matz, das Smartphone S8 Pro von Ulefone und das Smartphone A10 von Blackview. In allen drei Geräten fanden sie sofort ein Schadprogramm. Bei den zwei chinesischen Smartphones waren auch ältere Betriebssysteme betroffen, die man zur Nutzung des Handys über das Internet herunterladen muss.

"Wenn der Hersteller nicht zuverlässig ist, kann er beliebige Software auf dem Gerät installieren. Beim Kauf haben die Kunden erst einmal keinen Verdacht", sagt Schwenk. Inexpensive Handy oder Tablet sei leider manchmal die Privatsphäre. Nicht immer würden die Schadsoftware erkennen.



king botnet targets thousands

October 03, 2019 Computing

ever new botnet that has already infected over
evices



SOPHOS

PRODUCTS SOLUTIONS

Overview Investo

Sophos News

The price of a cheap mobile phone may include your privacy

[SophosLabs](#) • [SophosLabs Uncut](#) • [Android](#) • [Android malware](#) • [Pre-installed malware](#) • [Sophos Mobile](#) • [Supply chain](#)

Inexpensive mobile phones may be subject to "supply chain compromise," with Trojaned third party apps. We look at a phone that shipped with factory-installed malware

String Encryption

Motivation

What we expect:

```
public static JSONObject m64b(Context context) {
    JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();
    try {
        jsonObject.put("imei", C0012m.m68c(context));
        jsonObject.put("imsi", C0012m.m71d(context));
        jsonObject.put("uuid", C0012m.m49a());
        jsonObject.put("net", C0005f.m37b(context));
        jsonObject.put("channel",TextUtils.isEmpty(C0012m.m61b()))? "channn" : C0012m.m61b());
        jsonObject.put("existPackages", C0012m.m76f(context));
    } catch (Exception e) {}
    return jsonObject;
}
```

Decompiled excerpt of a sample of the backdoor *Android.OS.Triada2016* malware

String Encryption

Motivation

What we get:

```
public static JSONObject m64b(Context context) {  
    JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();  
    try {  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f17I), C0012m.m68c(context));  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f18J), C0012m.m71d(context));  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f20L), C0012m.m49a());  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f21M), C0005f.m37b(context));  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f19K),TextUtils.isEmpty(C0012m.m61b()) ? "channn" ...  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f22N), C0012m.m76f(context));  
    } catch (Exception e) {}  
    return jsonObject;  
}
```

Decompiled excerpt of a sample of the backdoor *Android.OS.Triada2016* malware

String Encryption

Motivation

What we get:

```
public static JSONObject m64b(Context context) {  
    JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();  
    try {  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f177),
```



```
(C001b.f185),  
(C001b.f20L), C0012m.m49a(  
(C001b.f21M), C0005f.m37b(co  
(C001b.f19K), TextUtils.isEmpty(C0012m.m61b()) ? "channn" ...  
(C001b.f22N), C0012m.m76f(context));
```

```
static {  
    f35a = new byte[] {C0001b.m47a(17)};  
    f36b = new byte[] {(byte) 43, (byte) 115, (byte) 120, C0001b.m47a(92), C0001b.m47a(91), C0001b.m47a(81), (b  
    f37c = new byte[] {(byte) 43, (byte) 115, (byte) 120, C0001b.m47a(92), C0001b.m47a(91), C0001b.m47a(81), (b  
    f38d = new byte[] {(byte) 99, (byte) 111, (byte) 110, (byte) 102, (byte) 105, C0001b.m47a(81), (byte) 111, (b  
    f39e = new byte[] {C0001b.m47a(81), (byte) 111, (byte) 111, C0001b.m47a(81), C0001b.m47a(86), (byte) 101, (b  
    f40f = new byte[] {(byte) 72, (byte) 68, (byte) 94, (byte) 77, (byte) 76, (byte) 64, (byte) 91, (byte) 84, (b  
    f41g = new byte[] {(byte) 116, (byte) 109, C0001b.m47a(11), (byte) 116, (byte) 107, (byte) 107, C0001b.m47a(1  
    f42h = new byte[] {(byte) 116, (byte) 109, C0001b.m47a(11), (byte) 104, (byte) 107, C0001b.m47a(91), (byte)  
    f43i = new byte[] {C0001b.m47a(96), (byte) 109, C0001b.m47a(11), (byte) 44, (byte) 119, (byte) 34};  
    f44j = new byte[] {(byte) 101, (byte) 109, C0001b.m47a(11), C0001b.m47a(92), C0001b.m47a(91), (byte) 99, (b  
    f45k = new byte[] {(byte) 101, (byte) 109, C0001b.m47a(11), C0001b.m47a(92), C0001b.m47a(91), (byte) 99, (b  
    f46l = new byte[] {C0001b.m47a(81), (byte) 111, (byte) 111, (byte) 99, C0001b.m47a(81), (byte) 34, (byte) 11  
    f47m = new byte[] {(byte) 97, (byte) 120, C0001b.m47a(82), (byte) 117};  
    f48n = new byte[] {C0001b.m47a(-8)};  
    f49o = new byte[] {C0001b.m47a(81), (byte) 104, C0001b.m47a(86), (byte) 110, (byte) 97, (byte) 34, (byte) 5;  
    f50p = new byte[] {C0001b.m47a(96), (byte) 119, (byte) 101};  
    f51q = new byte[] {(byte) 86, (byte) 97, (byte) 111, (byte) 102, C0001b.m47a(74)};  
    f52r = new byte[] {(byte) 102, (byte) 121, (byte) 117, (byte) 100, C0001b.m47a(96), (byte) 63, (byte) 44, (b  
    f53s = new byte[] {C0001b.m47a(91), (byte) 116, C0001b.m47a(81), (byte) 44, (byte) 61};  
    f54t = new byte[] {(byte) 105, (byte) 83, (byte) 100, (byte) 115, (byte) 115, (byte) 107, C0001b.m47a(84), (b  
    f55u = new byte[] {(byte) 101, (byte) 110, (byte) 101, (byte) 115, C0001b.m47a(84), (byte) 107, (byte) 109,  
    f56v = new byte[] {(byte) 119, (byte) 101, (byte) 117, (byte) 76, C0001b.m47a(84), (byte) 96, (byte) 96, (b  
    f57w = new byte[] {(byte) 115, (byte) 105, C0001b.m47a(81), (byte) 104};  
    f58x = new byte[] {(byte) 101, (byte) 110, (byte) 101, (byte) 115, C0001b.m47a(84), (byte) 107, (byte) 109,  
    f59y = new byte[] {(byte) 101, (byte) 110, (byte) 101, (byte) 115, C0001b.m47a(84), (byte) 107, (byte) 109,  
    f60z = new byte[] {(byte) 101, (byte) 110, (byte) 101, (byte) 115, C0001b.m47a(84), (byte) 107, (byte) 109,
```

String Encryption

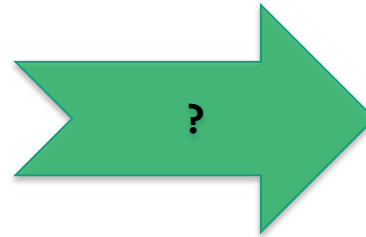
Motivation

```
public static JSONObject m64b(Context context) {  
    JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();  
    try {  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f17I), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f18J), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f20L), ...);  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f21M), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f19K), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f22N), ...;  
    } catch (Exception e) {}  
    return jsonObject;  
}
```

String Encryption

Motivation

```
public static JSONObject m64b(Context context) {  
    JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();  
    try {  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f17I), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f18J), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f20L), ...);  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f21M), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f19K), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f22N), ...;  
    } catch (Exception e) {}  
    return jsonObject;  
}
```



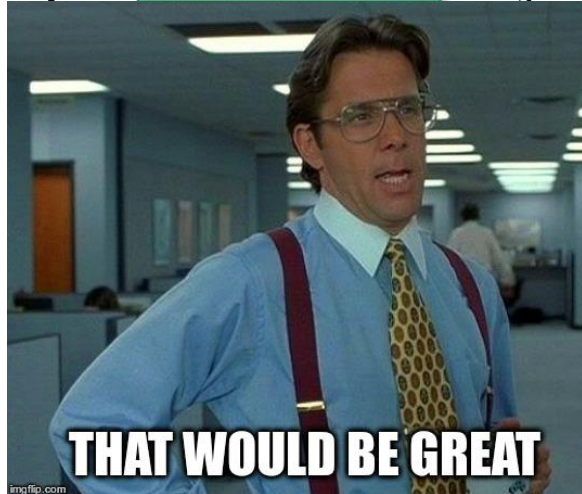
```
public static JSONObject m64b(Context context) {  
    JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();  
    try {  
        jsonObject.put("imei", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("imsi", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("uuid", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("net", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("channel", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("existPackages", ...;  
    } catch (Exception e) {}  
    return jsonObject;  
}
```

String Encryption

Motivation

```
public static JSONObject m64b(Context context) {  
    JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();  
    try {  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f17I), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f18J), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f20L), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f21M), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f19K), ...;  
        jsonObject.put(C0012m.m56a(C001b.f22N), ...;  
    } catch (Exception e) {}  
    return jsonObject;  
}
```

DeStroid



```
public static JSONObject m64b(Context context) {  
    JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();  
    try {  
        jsonObject.put("imei", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("imsi", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("uuid", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("net", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("channel", ...;  
        jsonObject.put("existPackages", ...;  
    } catch (Exception e) {}  
    return jsonObject;  
}
```

String Encryption

Roadmap to DeStroid

■ How?



String Encryption

Roadmap to DeStroid

- How?
 - ground truth?



String Encryption

Roadmap to DeStroid

- How?

- ground truth?

malpedia



String Encryption

Roadmap to DeStroid

- How?
 - analyze every sample by hand

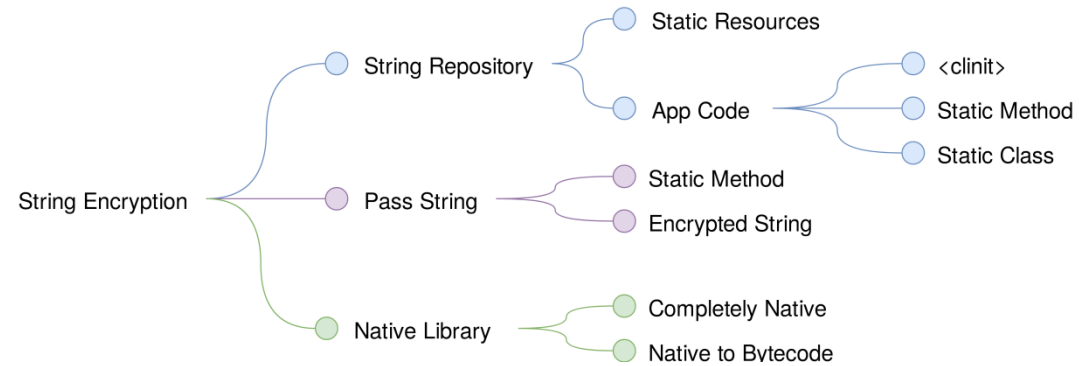


String Encryption

Roadmap to DeStroid

■ How?

- analyze every sample by hand



String Encryption

Roadmap to DeStroid

- How?
 - implement a tool to automatically decrypt the major String Encryption types

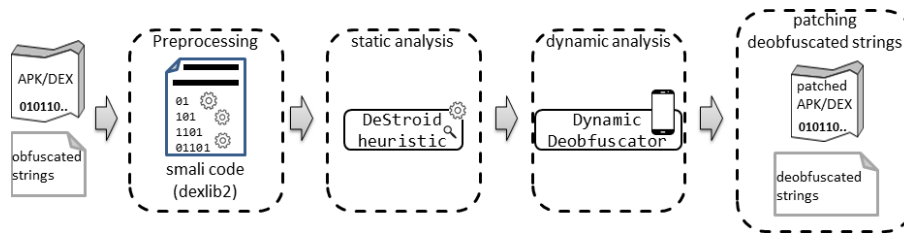


String Encryption

Roadmap to DeStroid

■ How?

- implement a tool to automatically decrypt the major String Encryption types



DeStroid



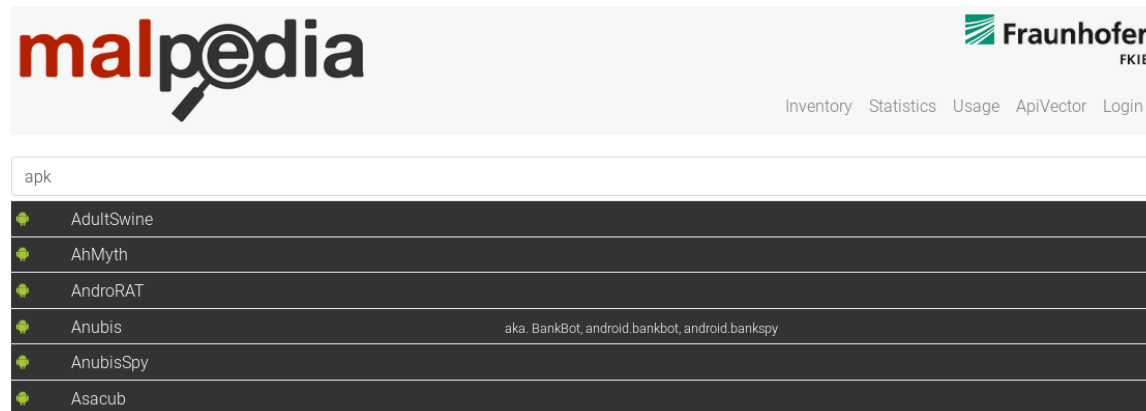
String Encryption

Dataset

- Malpedia APK dataset
 - Maintained and updated with new families as they occur
 - 96 Android malware families (as of October 2019)
 - 50/96 Android malware families using String Encryption



<https://malpedia.caad.fkie.fraunhofer.de/>



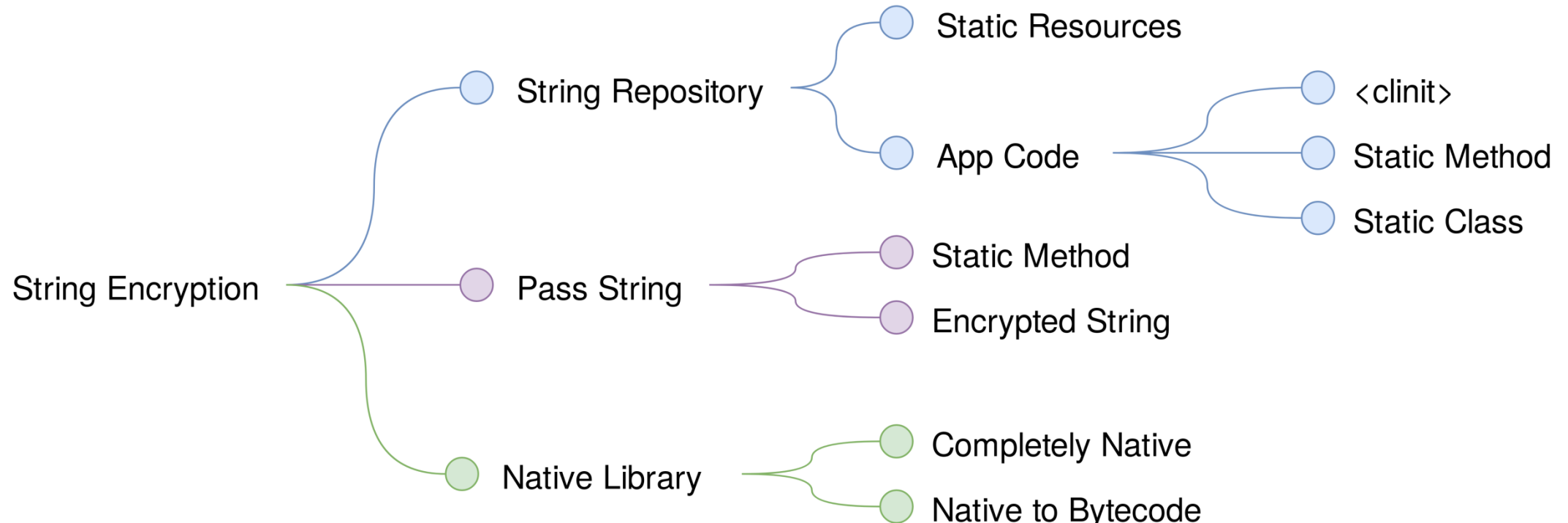
Want Access?

talk to Daniel Plohmann here at



String Encryption

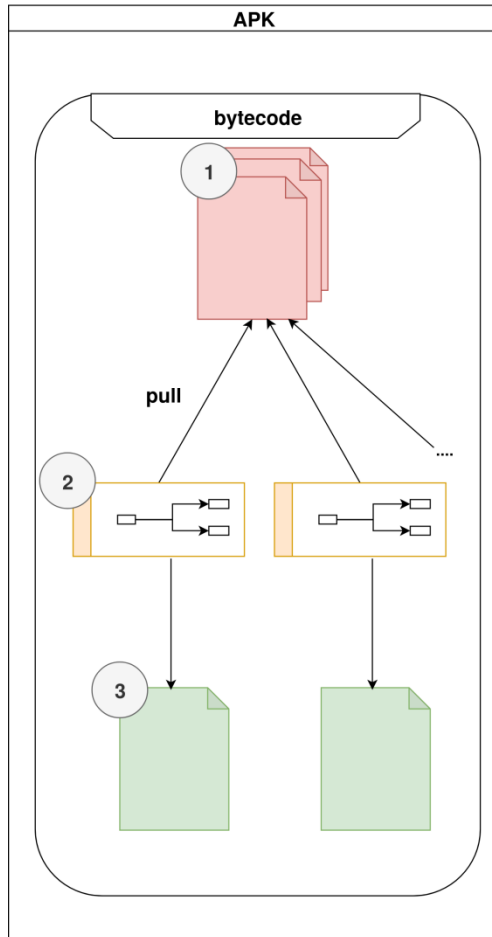
Taxonomy of String Encryption Techniques



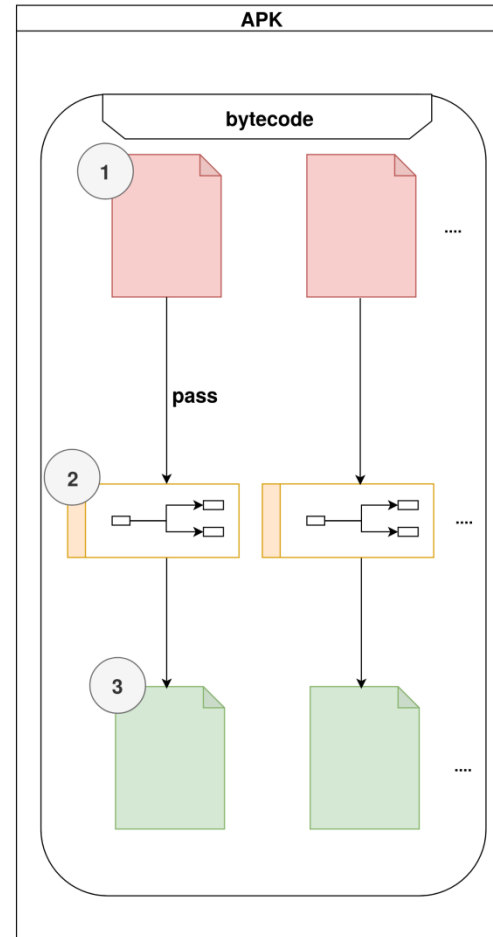
String Encryption

Taxonomy of String Encryption Techniques

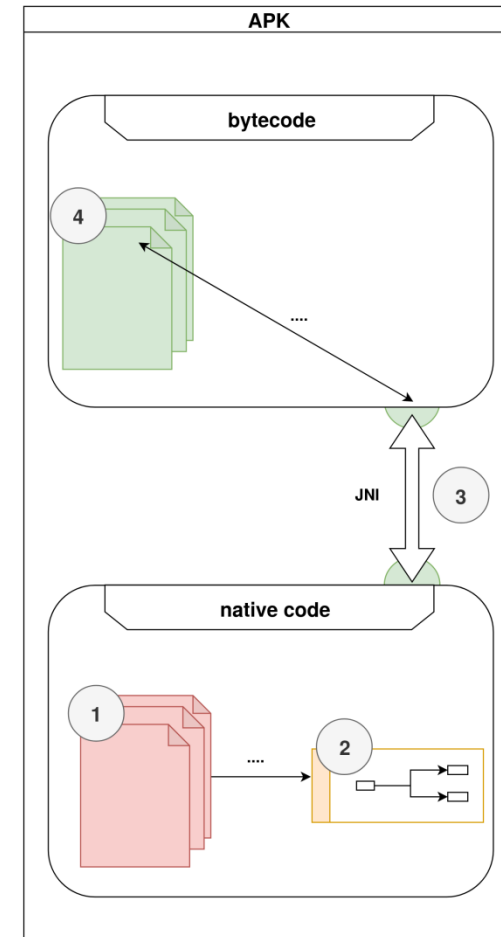
String Repository



Pass String



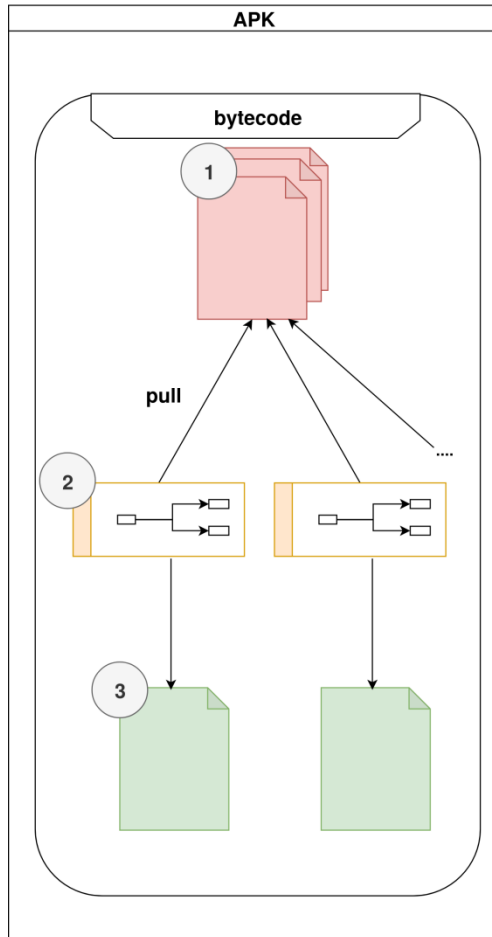
Native Library



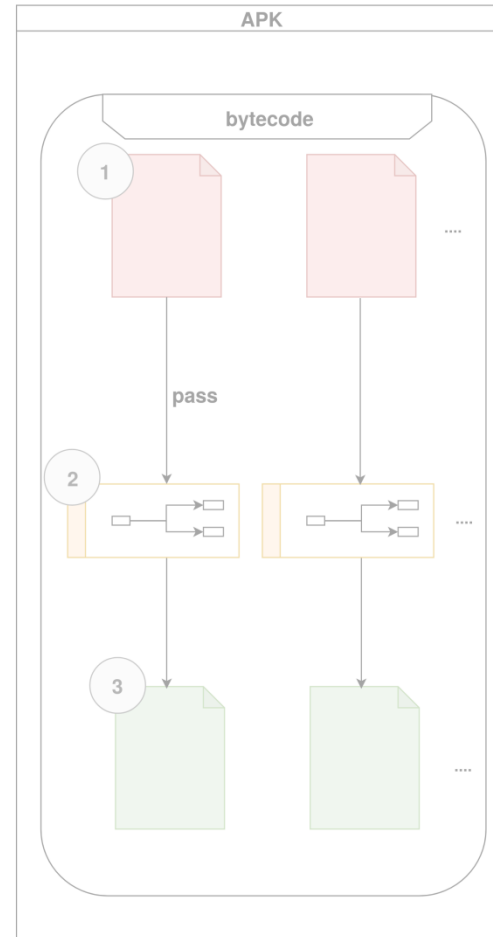
String Encryption

Taxonomy of String Encryption Techniques

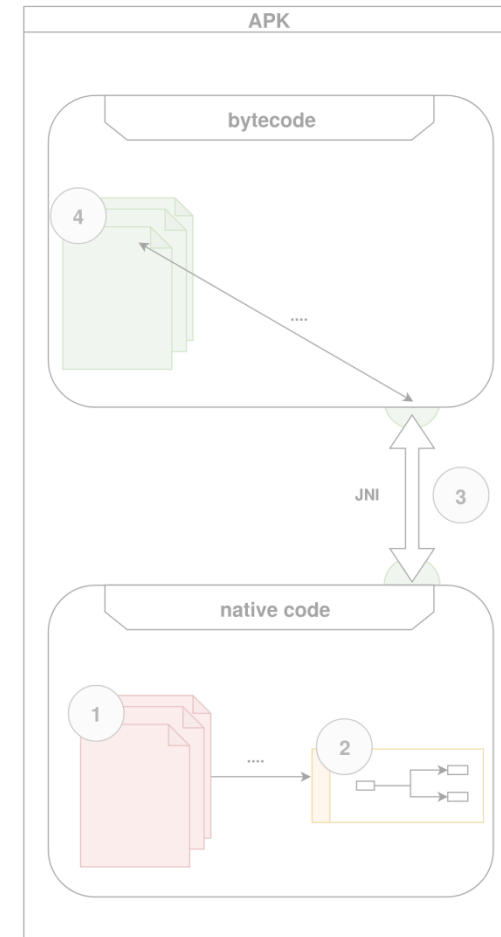
String Repository



Pass String



Native Library



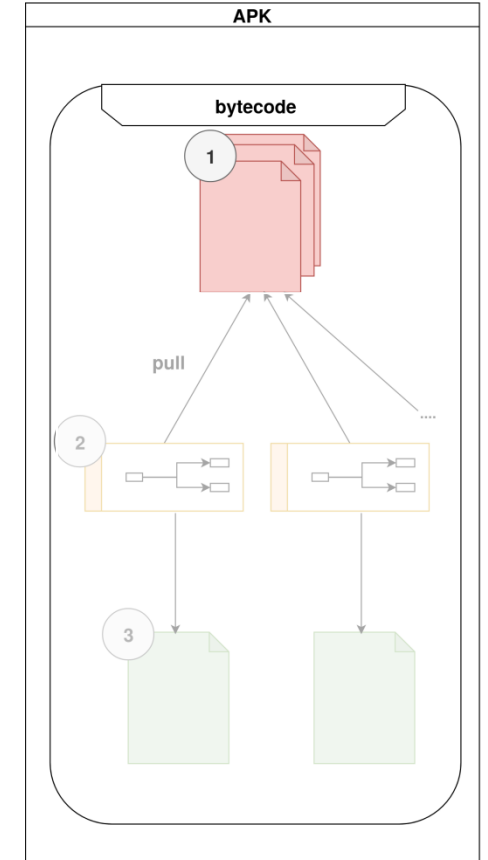
String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

```
1 field public static x:[B  
  .field public static y:[B  
  .field public static z:[B  
  
# direct methods  
.method static constructor <clinit>()V  
  .locals 8  
  
  ...  
  new-array v0, v0, [B  
  ...  
  const/4 v1, 0x5  
  const/16 v2, 0x22  
  aput-byte v2, v0, v1  
  sput-object v0, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/b;->y:[B
```

Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

String Repository



String Encryption

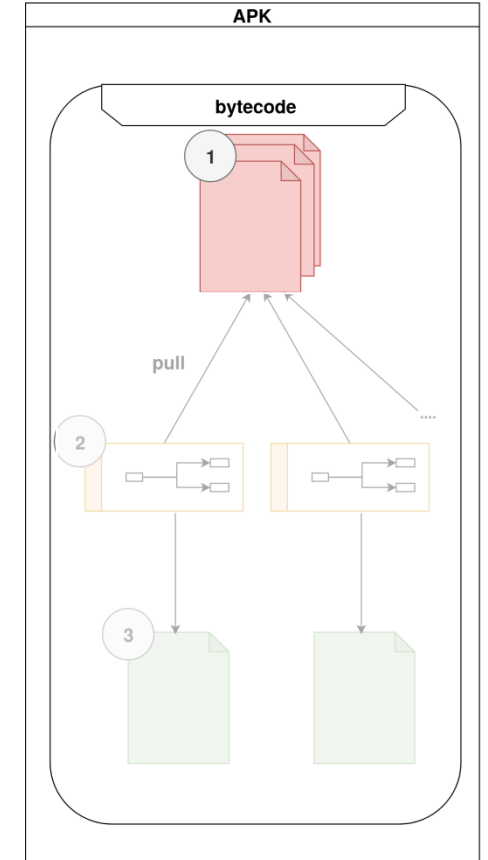
String Repository: <clinit>

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1 field public static x:[B
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# direct methods
.method static constructor <clinit>()V
    .locals 8
    ...
    new-array v0, v0, [B
    ...
    const/4 v1, 0x5
    const/16 v2, 0x22
    aput-byte v2, v0, v1
    sput-object v0, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/b;->y:[B
```

Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

String Repository



String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

1

```
field public static x:[B
.field public static y:[B
.field public static z:[B
```

direct methods

```
.method static constructor <clinit>()V
    .locals 8
```

...

```
new-array v0, v0, [B
```

...

```
const/4 v1, 0x5
```

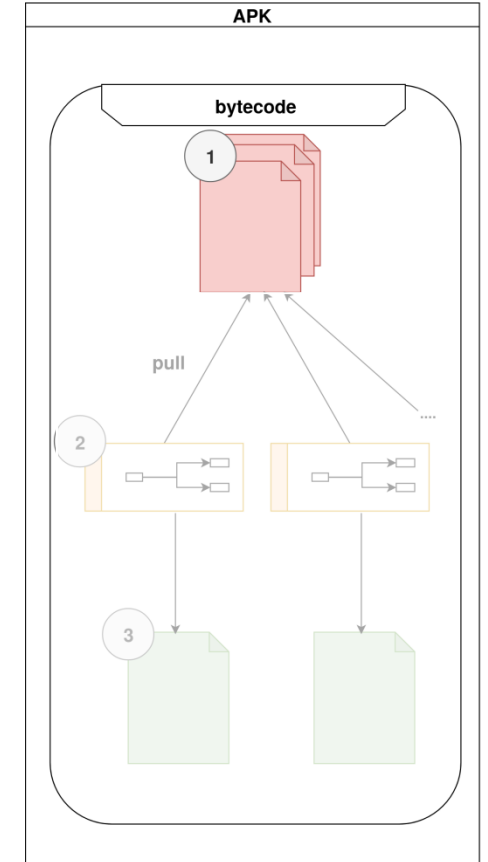
```
const/16 v2, 0x22
```

```
aput-byte v2, v0, v1
```

```
sput-object v0, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/b;->y:[B
```

Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

String Repository



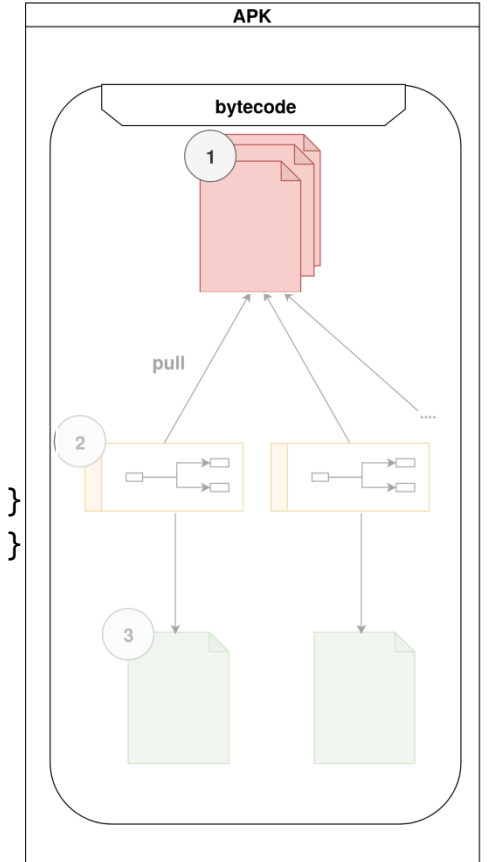
String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

1

```
static {  
    f35x = new byte[] {C0012m.m47a(17)};  
    f36y = new byte[] {(byte) 43, (byte) 115, (byte) 120, ...};  
    f38z = new byte[] {(byte) 99, (byte) 111, (byte) 110, (byte) 102, ...};  
    f39A = new byte[] {C0012m.m47a(81), (byte) 111, (byte) 111, C0012m.m47a(81), C0012m.m47a(86), ...};  
    f40B = new byte[] {(byte) 72, (byte) 68, (byte) 94, (byte) 77, (byte) 76, (byte) 64, (byte) 91, ...};  
    f41C = new byte[] {(byte) 116, (byte) 109, C0012m.m47a(11), (byte) 116, (byte) 107, (byte) 107, ...};  
    ...  
}
```

String Repository



Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

2

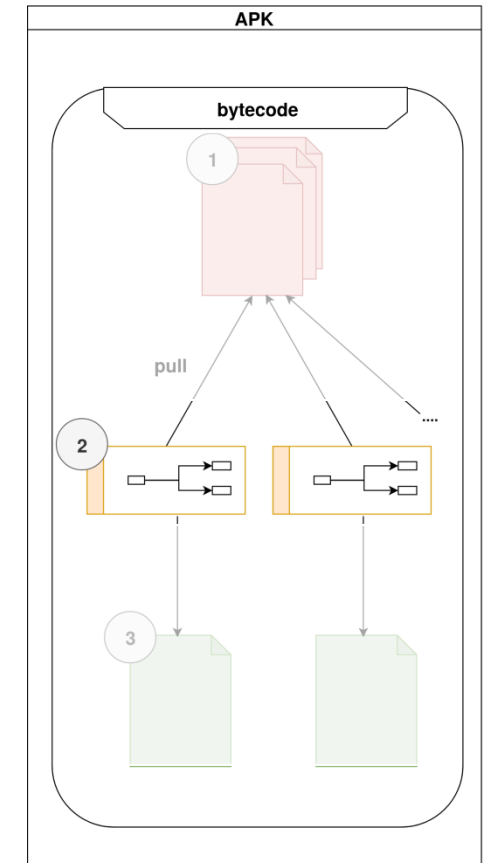
```
sget-object v0, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/b;->y:[B
```

```
invoke-static {v0}, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/m;->a([B)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
move-result-object v0
```

Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

String Repository



String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

2

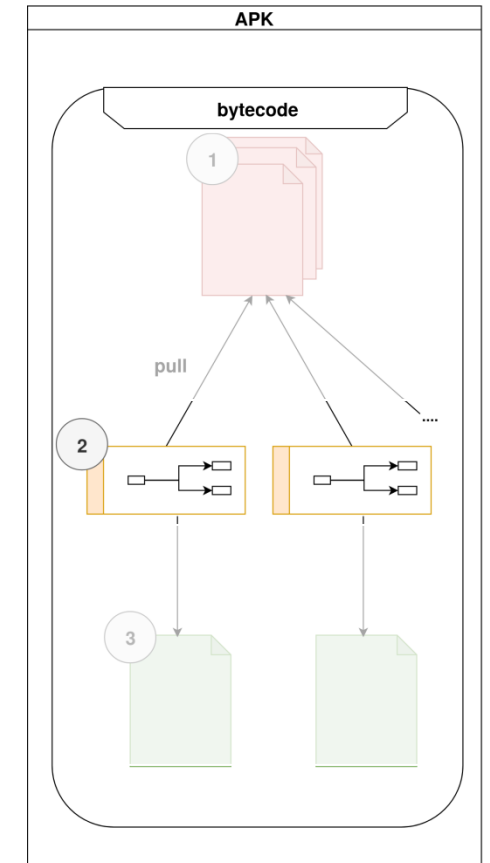
```
sget-object v0, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/b;->y:[B
```

```
invoke-static {v0}, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/m;->a([B)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
move-result-object v0
```

Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

String Repository



String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

2

```
sget-object v0, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/b;->y:[B
```

```
invoke-static {v0}, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/m;->a([B)Ljava/lang/String;
```

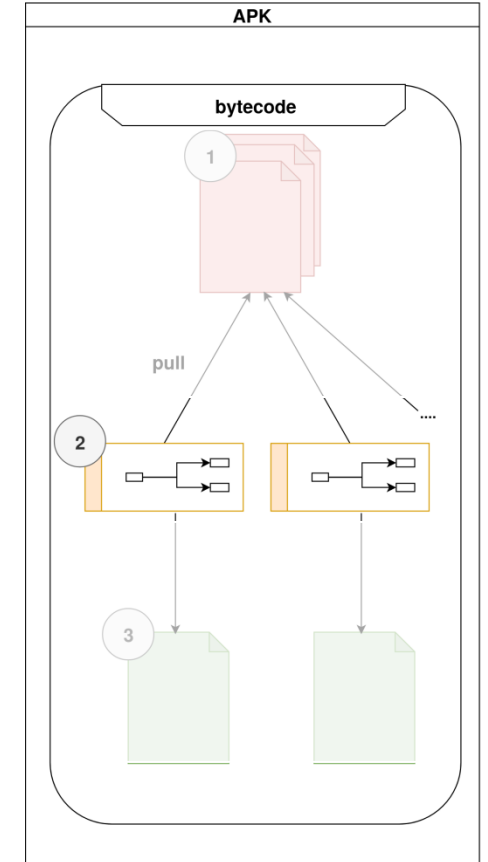
```
move-result-object v0
```

```
.method public static a([B)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
...
```

```
invoke-virtual {v0, p0}, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/j;->a([B)[B
```

String Repository



Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

2

```
sget-object v0, Lcom/android/system/connect/test/b;->y:[B
```

```
invoke-static {v0}, Lcom/android/system/connect/test/m;->a([B)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
move-result-object v0
```

```
.method public static a([B)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
...
```

```
invoke-virtual {v0, p0}, Lcom/android/system/connect/test/j;->a([B)[B
```

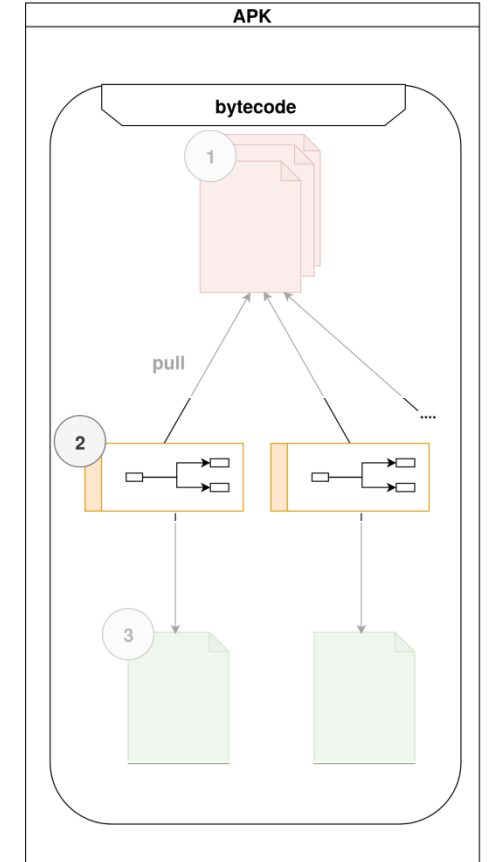
the actual decryption routine

```
aget-byte v5, v5, v6
```

```
xor-int/2addr v4, v5
```

```
...
```

String Repository



Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

2

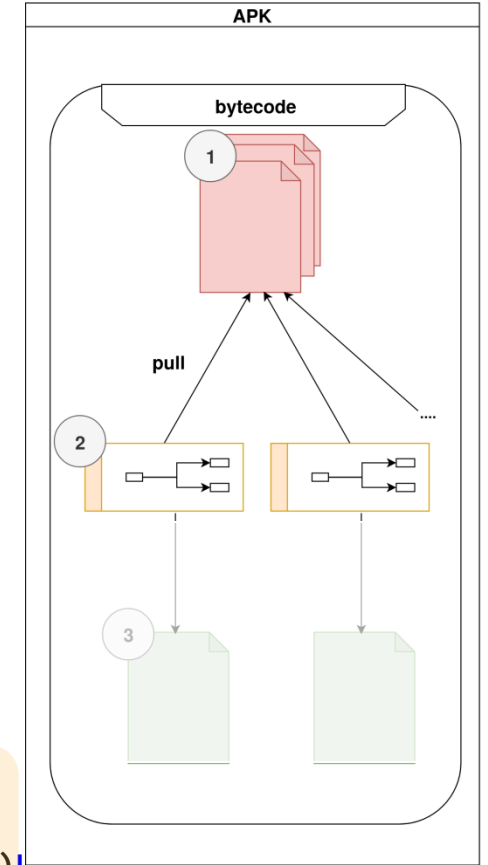
the used decryption algorithm differs between families and sometimes even between different versions of a family

```
const-string/jumbo v1, "DES/CBC/PKCS5Padding"
```

```
invoke-static {v1}, Ljavax/crypto/Cipher;->getInstance(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljavax/crypto/Cipher;
```

...

String Repository



String Encryption

String Repository: <clinit>

3

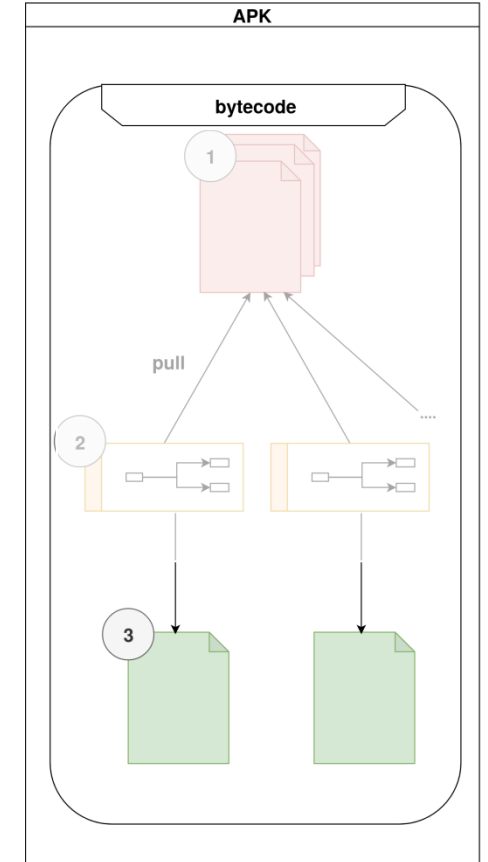
```
sget-object v0, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/b;->y:[B
```

```
invoke-static {v0}, Lcom/android/system/conect/test/m;->a([B)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
move-result-object v0
```

```
# const-string v0, "android.intent.action.SCREEN_OFF"
```

String Repository

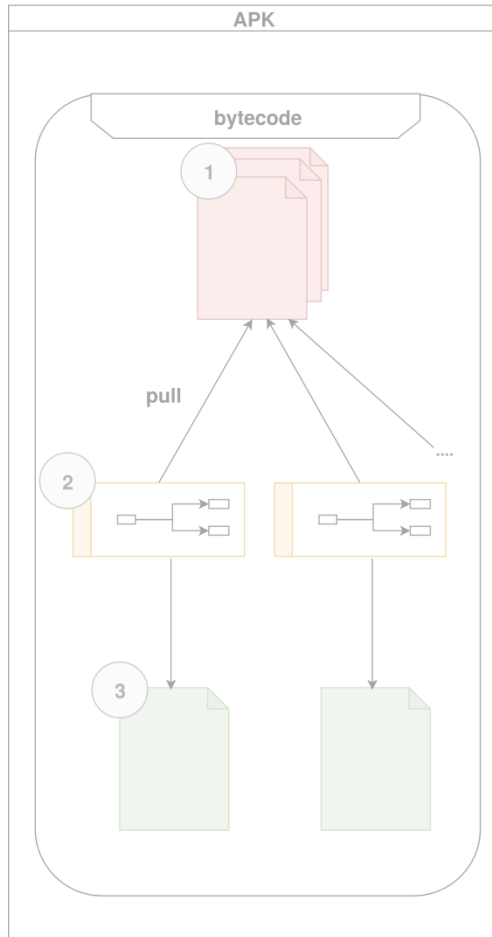


Android.OS.Triada2016 malware

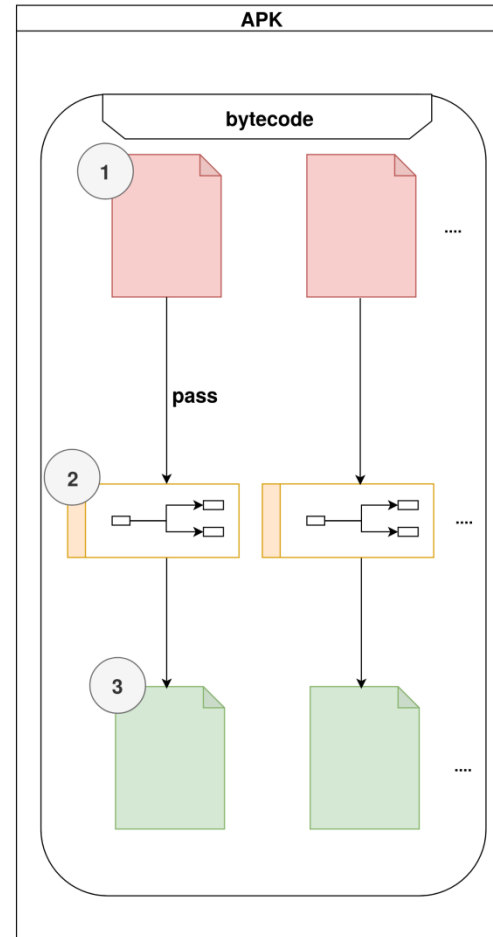
String Encryption

Taxonomy of String Encryption Techniques

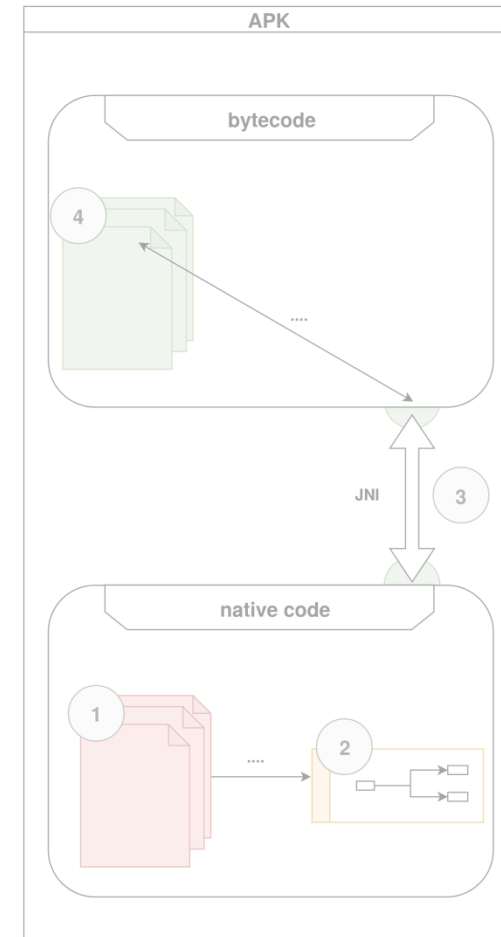
String Repository



Pass String



Native Library



String Encryption

Pass String: Encrypted String

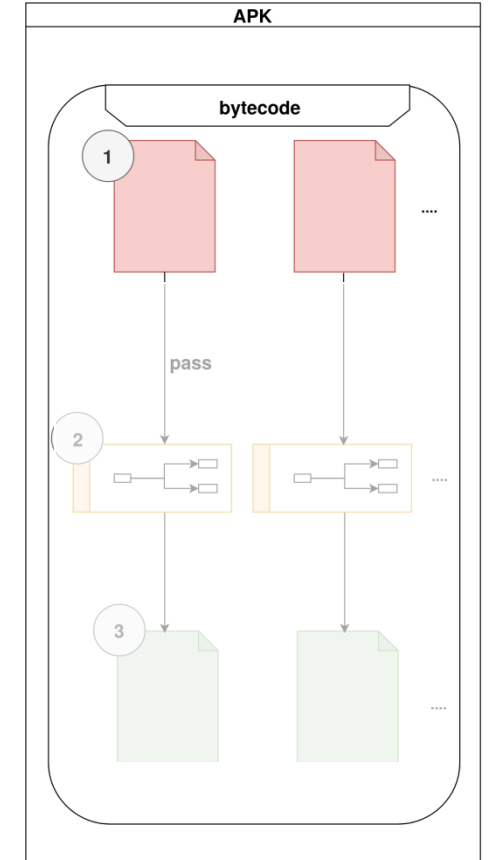
1

```
const-string v1, "709L5MxPf92ieYmDMGGpZiYAa0k3q/kQCI1amkd4uIrebFJy0bLs8Py0kJCdmu4L4U99b5FJ1d8="
```

```
invoke-static {v1}, Lcom/android/support/utils/g;->b(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
move-result-object v1
```

Pass String



Trojan-SMS.AndroidOS.Prizmes.a malware

String Encryption

Pass String: Encrypted String

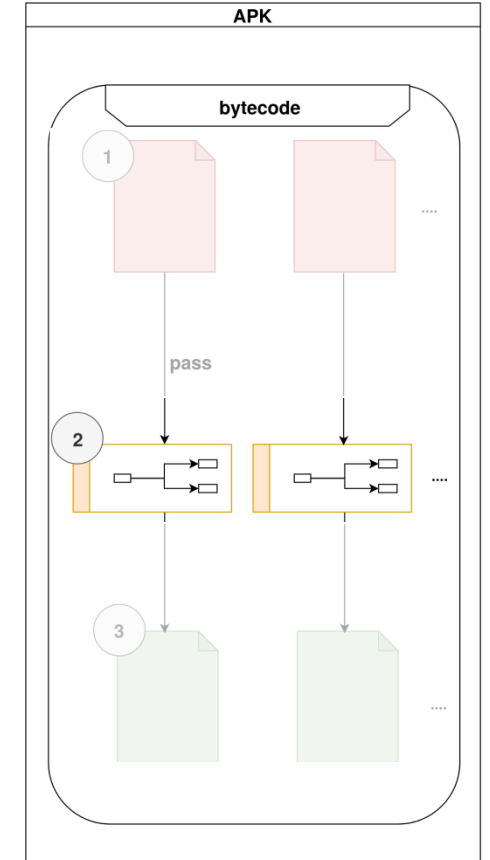
2

```
const-string v1, "709L5MxPf92ieYmDMGGpZIIYAa0k3q/kQCI1amkd4u1rebFJy0bLs8Py0kJCdmu4L4U99b5FJ1d8="
```

```
invoke-static {v1}, Lcom/android/support/utis/g;->b(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
move-result-object v1
```

Pass String



Trojan-SMS.AndroidOS.Prizmes.a malware

String Encryption

Pass String: Encrypted String

3

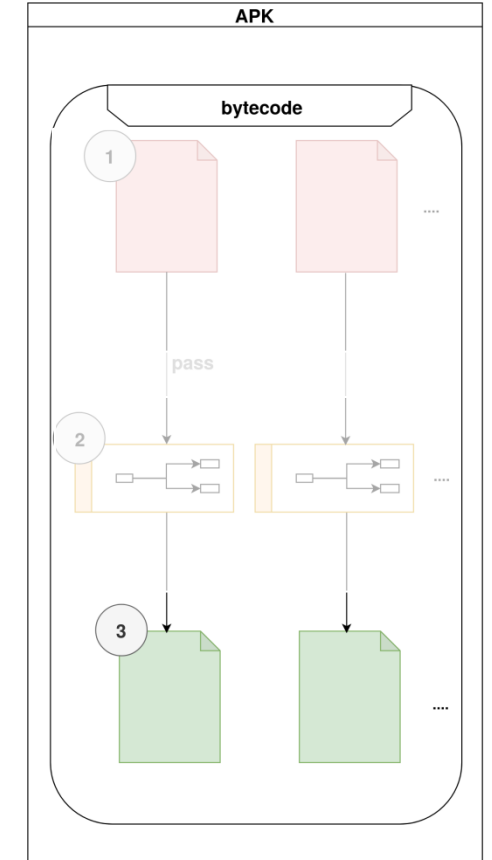
```
const-string v1, "709L5MxPf92ieYmDMGGpZIIYAa0k3q/kQCI1amkd4ulrebFJy0bLs8Py0kJCdmu4L4U99b5FJ1d8="
```

```
invoke-static {v1}, Lcom/android/support/utils/g;->b(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String;
```

```
move-result-object v1
```

```
#const-string v1, "http://play.xhxt2016.com/logcollect/log-information"
```

Pass String

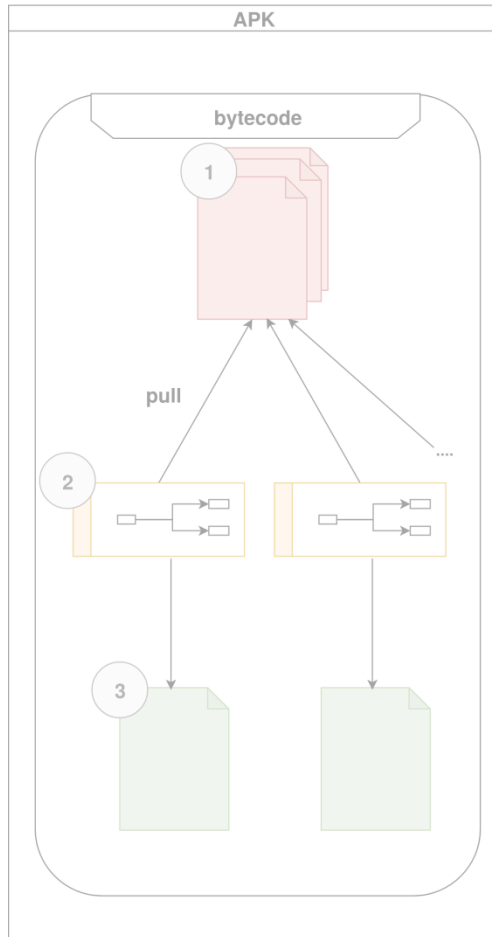


Trojan-SMS.AndroidOS.Prizmes.a malware

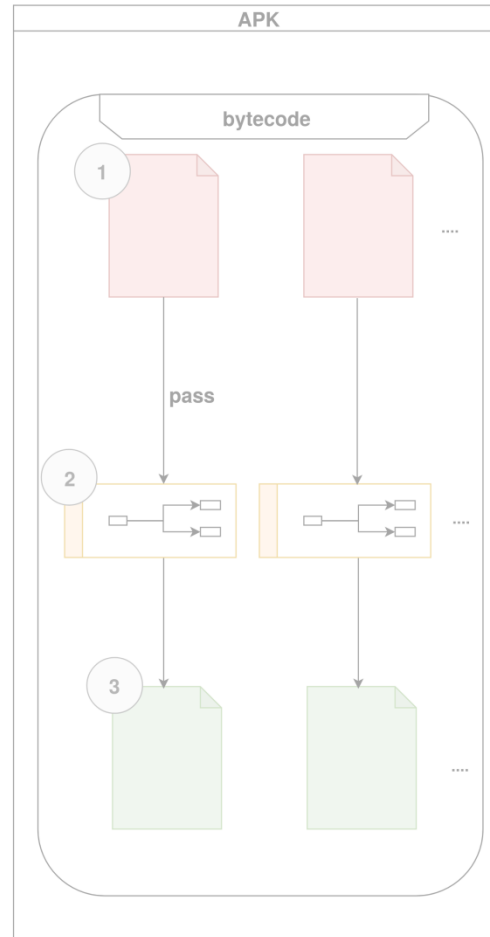
String Encryption

Taxonomy of String Encryption Techniques

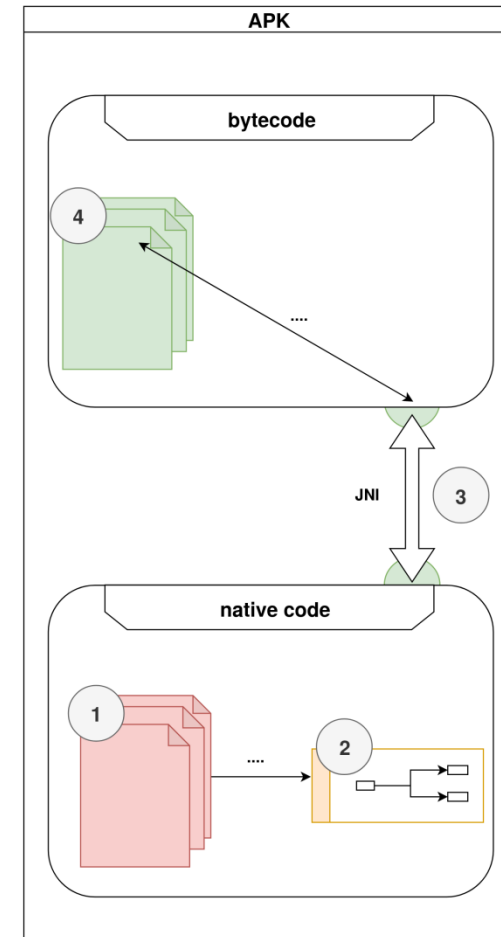
String Repository



Pass String



Native Library



String Encryption

Native Library: Native to Bytecode

1

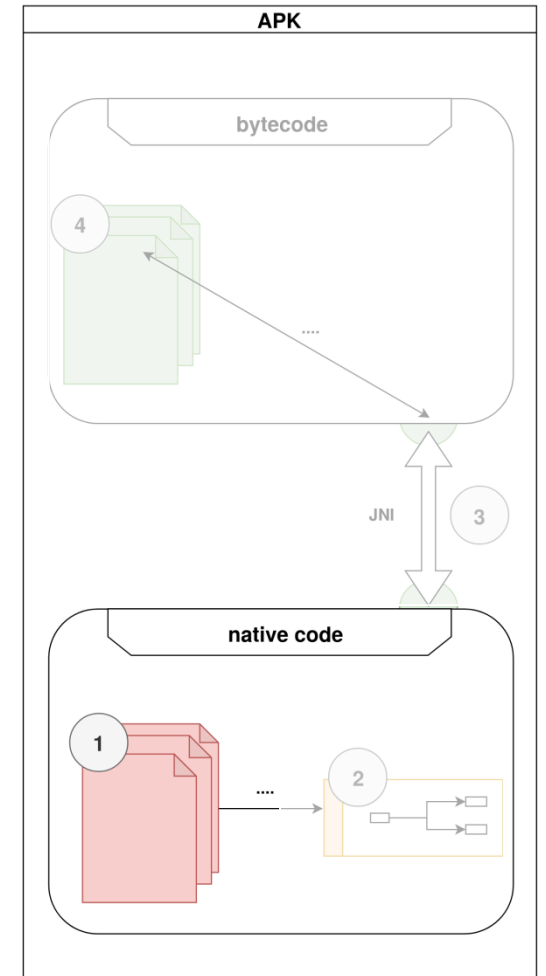
```
MOVS    R0, #0xA6
```

```
BX      LR
```

```
; End of function 0x11105561640
```

flexispy malware

Native Library



String Encryption

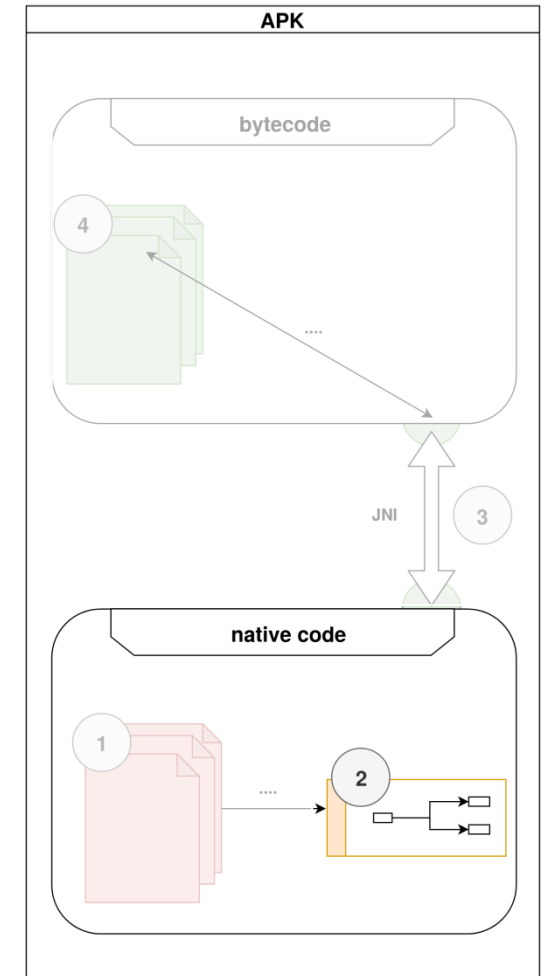
Native Library: Native to Bytecode

2

```
STRB.W  R0, [SP, #0x68+var_59]
BL      ox11105561640
ADDS    R0, #0x19
STRB.W  R0, [SP, #0x68+var_58]
BL      ox11163188672
ADDS    R0, #0x19
```

flexispy malware

Native Library



String Encryption

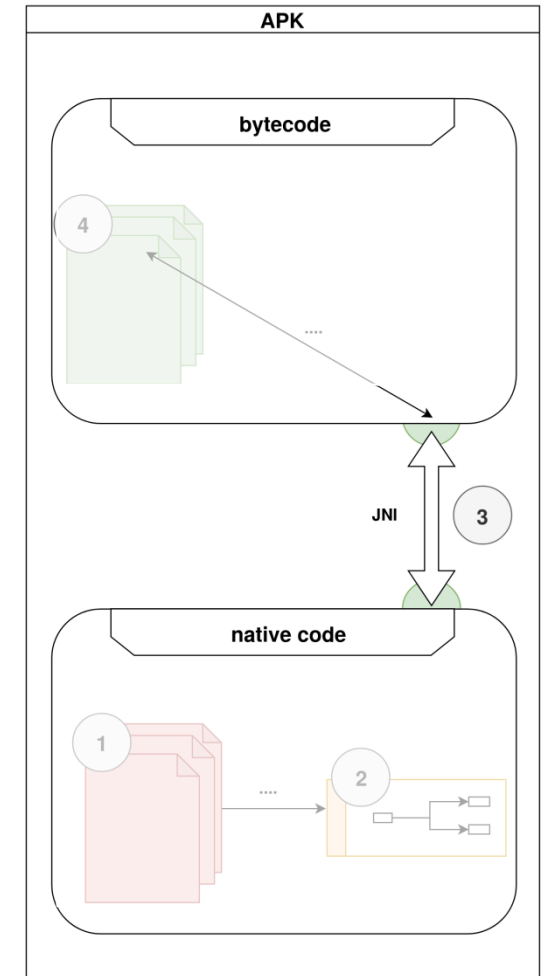
Native Library: Native to Bytecode

3

```
.class public Lk/v/F;  
...  
# virtual methods  
.method public native fpu()[B  
.end method
```

flexispy malware

Native Library



String Encryption

Native Library: Native to Bytecode

4

```
.method public static a()[B
```

```
    invoke-virtual {v0}, Lk/v/F;->fpu()[B
```

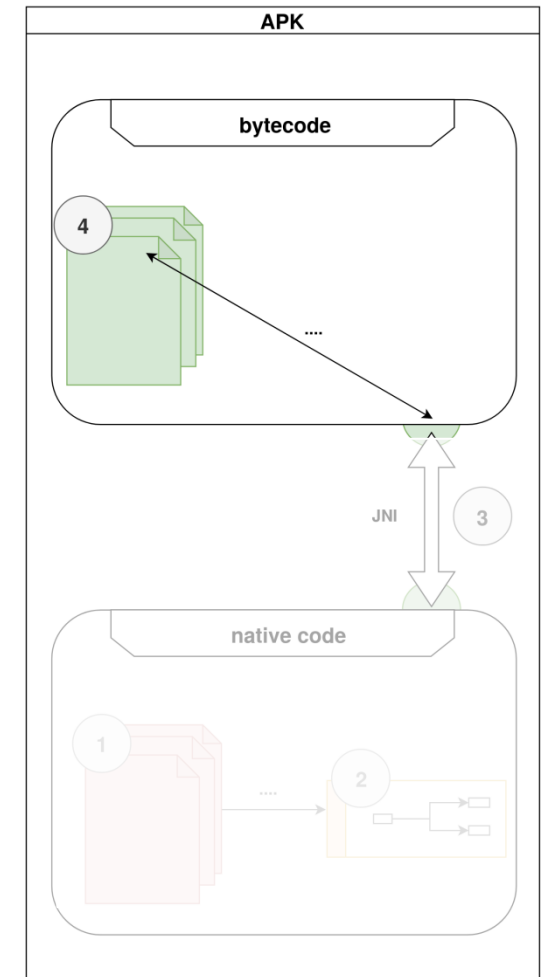
```
    move-result-object v0
```

```
    return-object v0
```

```
.end method
```

flexispy malware

Native Library



String Encryption

Ground truth

- Labelled dataset
 - APKs from **malpedia** with String Encryption
 - number of deobfuscated strings of each sample
 - location of the deobfuscation routine

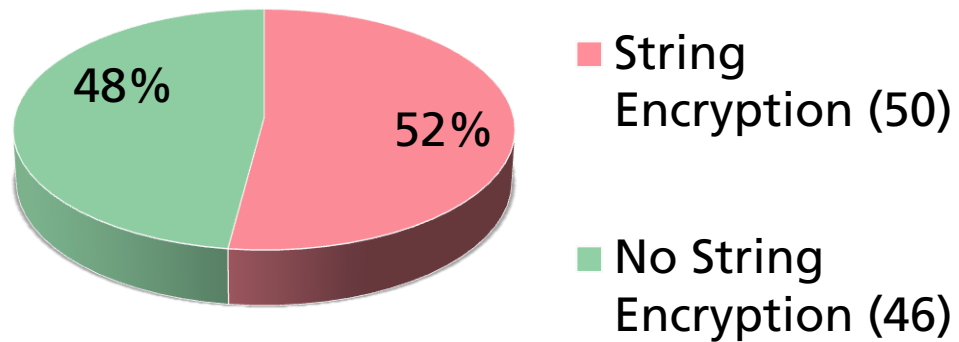
<https://github.com/fkie-cad/destroid>

```
{
  "family": "apk.anubis",
  "alt_names": "apk.bankbot",
  "state": "finished",
  "analyzed": true,
  "string encryption": {
    "is": true,
    "type": [
      "PS.encrypted string (2)",
      "PS.encrypted string (2)",
      "PS.encrypted string (4)"
    ],
    "deobfuscations": [
      "2dfde3d394b7eaf3a45693dc95f9c5540c9fd2b3bc7e89e9ebc9d12963c00bee bankbot_sample1.apk (426)",
      "aeaccdc3fb0ddb674770ff87007b4454b0a8d706ebd57ee7e75599ca7bda19d8 bankbot_sample2.apk (454)",
      "16cb502391b003ec9c8a4fc604f7939d8f9224eecb6d0f8a801f72069508943e bankbot_sample3.apk (98)"
    ],
    "deobfuscation routine": [
      "bankbot_sample1|Lturs/rickertsit/a;->a(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String;",
      "bankbot_sample1|Lturs/rickertsit/b;->a(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String;",
      "bankbot_sample2|Lcom/google/android/gms/common/zzc$zza;->zzcm(Ljava/lang/String;)[B",
      "bankbot_sample2|Lcom/google/android/gms/internal/zzal;->zzb([Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String;",
      "bankbot_sample3|Lorg/support/q;->M(Ljava.lang.Object;)Ljava.lang.String;",
      "bankbot_sample3|Lcom/google/android/gms/common/zzh;->zzgf(Ljava.lang.String)B",
      "bankbot_sample3|Lcom/wierdhammer/expenses/s;->d(Ljava.lang.Object;)Ljava.lang.String",
      "bankbot_sample3|Lcom/wierdhammer/expenses/h;->d(Ljava.lang.Object;)Ljava.lang.String"
    ]
  }
}
```

String Encryption

Ground truth

malpedia Android families

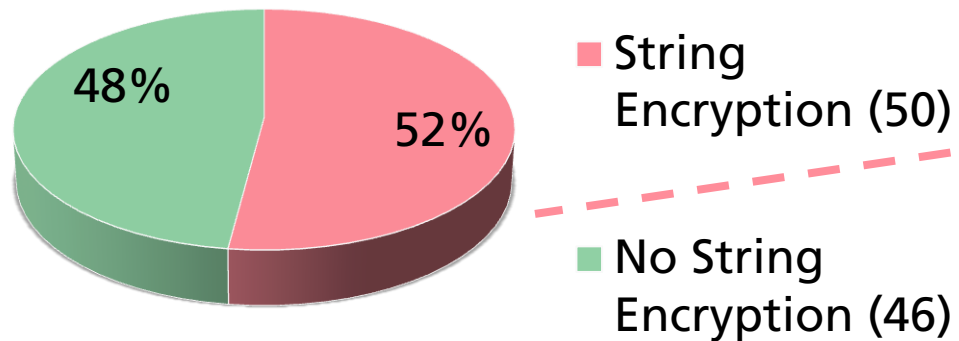


Details in paper

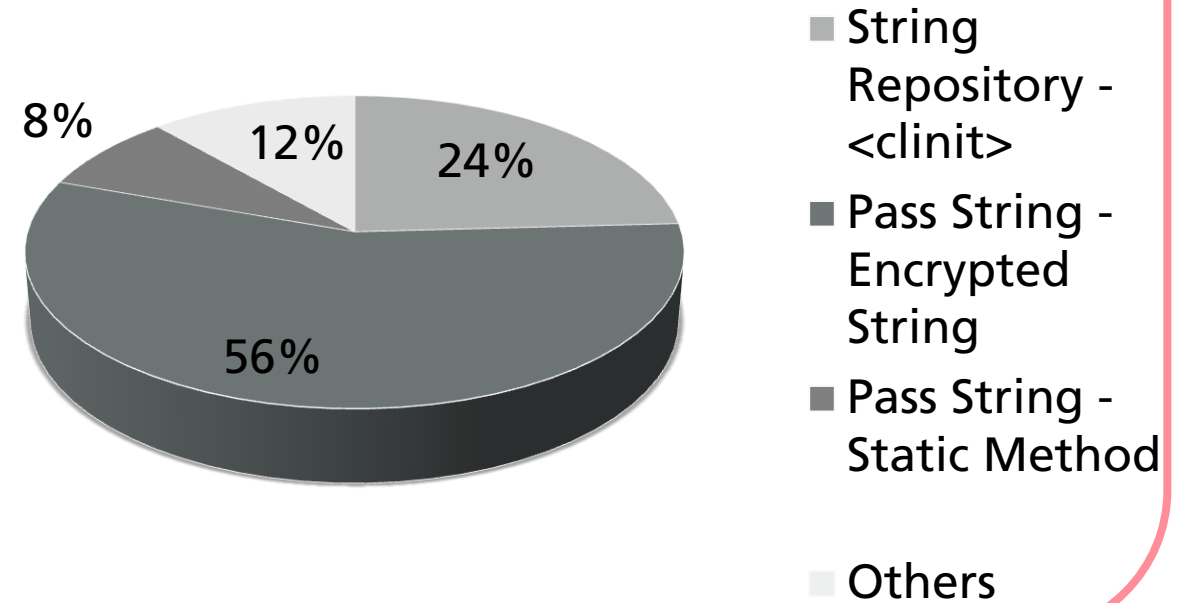
String Encryption

Ground truth

malpedia Android families



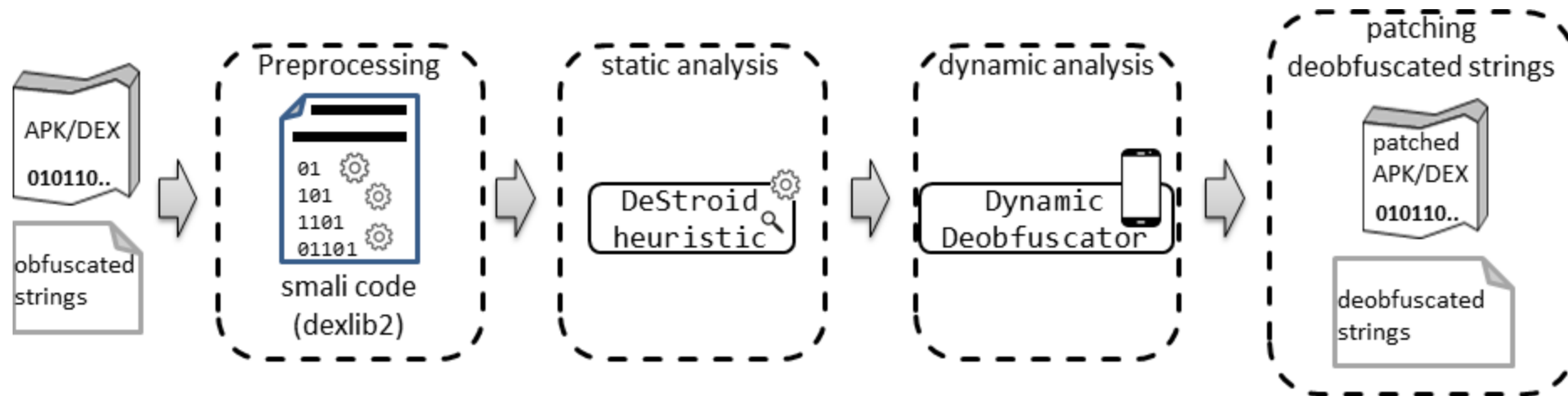
Distribution of String Encryption types



Details in paper

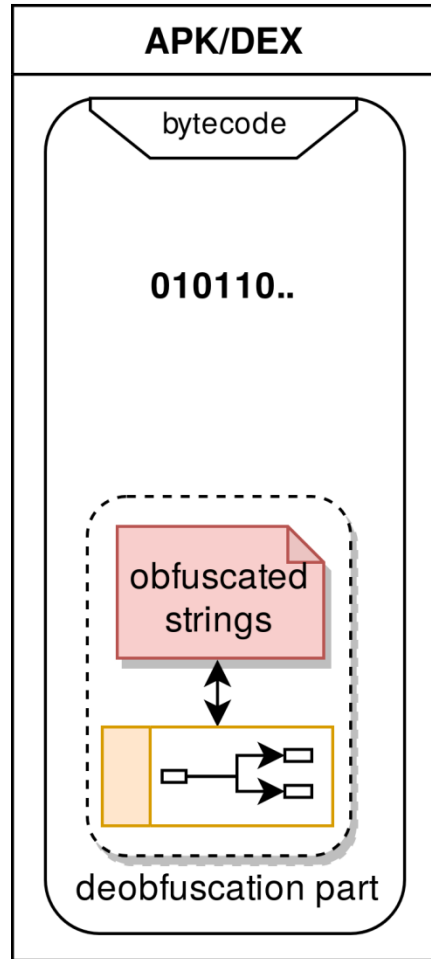
DeStroid

High-Level Workflow



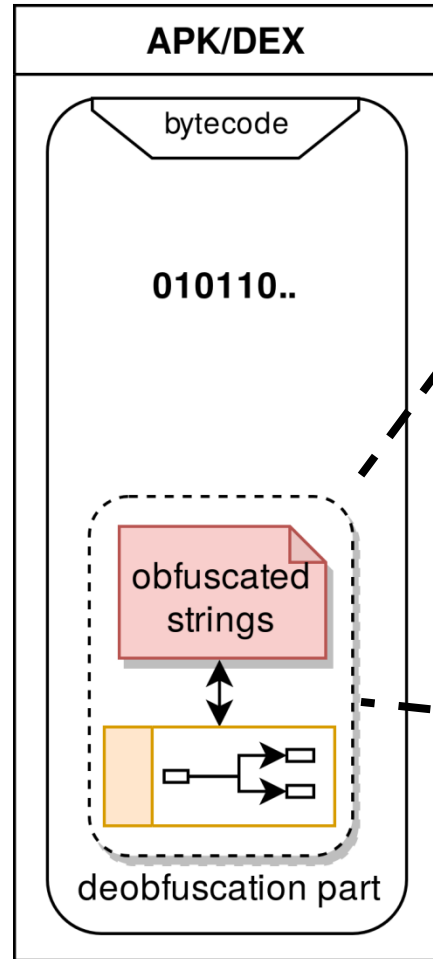
DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



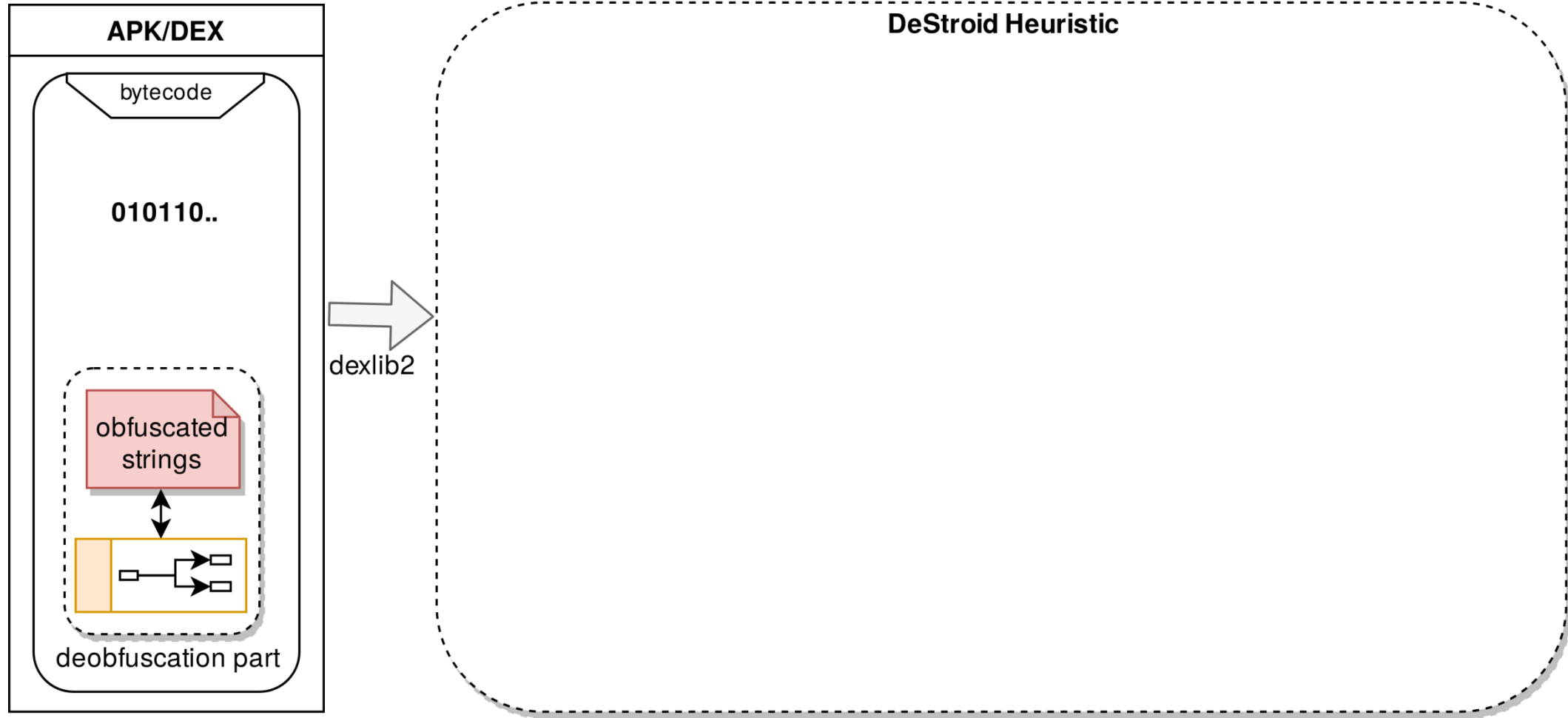
```
public class MortgagesApplication extends Application {
    private static final String a = Transfusion.a[20];
    private static final String b = Transfusion.a[5];
    private static final String c = Transfusion.a[8];
    private static final String d = Transfusion.a[25];
    private static Boolean e = Boolean.valueOf(false);
    private ClassLoader f;
    private File g;
    private File h;

    private String a(int i) {
        String name = getClass().getName();
        int lastIndexOf = name.lastIndexOf(i, name.length());
        return lastIndexOf == -1 ? name : name.substring(0, lastIndexOf) + Transfusion.a[24];
    }

    private static Field a(Object obj, String str) {
        Object obj2 = obj.getClass();
        while (obj2 != null) {
            try {
                Field field = (Field) obj2.getClass().getDeclaredMethod(Transfusion.a[13], new Class[]{String.class}).invoke(obj2, new Object[]{});
                if (((Boolean) field.getClass().getMethod(Transfusion.a[28], new Class[0]).invoke(field, new Object[0])).booleanValue()) {
                    return field;
                }
                field.getClass().getMethod(Transfusion.a[12], new Class[]{Boolean.TYPE}).invoke(field, new Object[]{Boolean.valueOf(true)});
                return field;
            } catch (Exception e) {
                Class obj22 = obj22.getSuperclass();
            }
        }
        return null;
    }
}
```

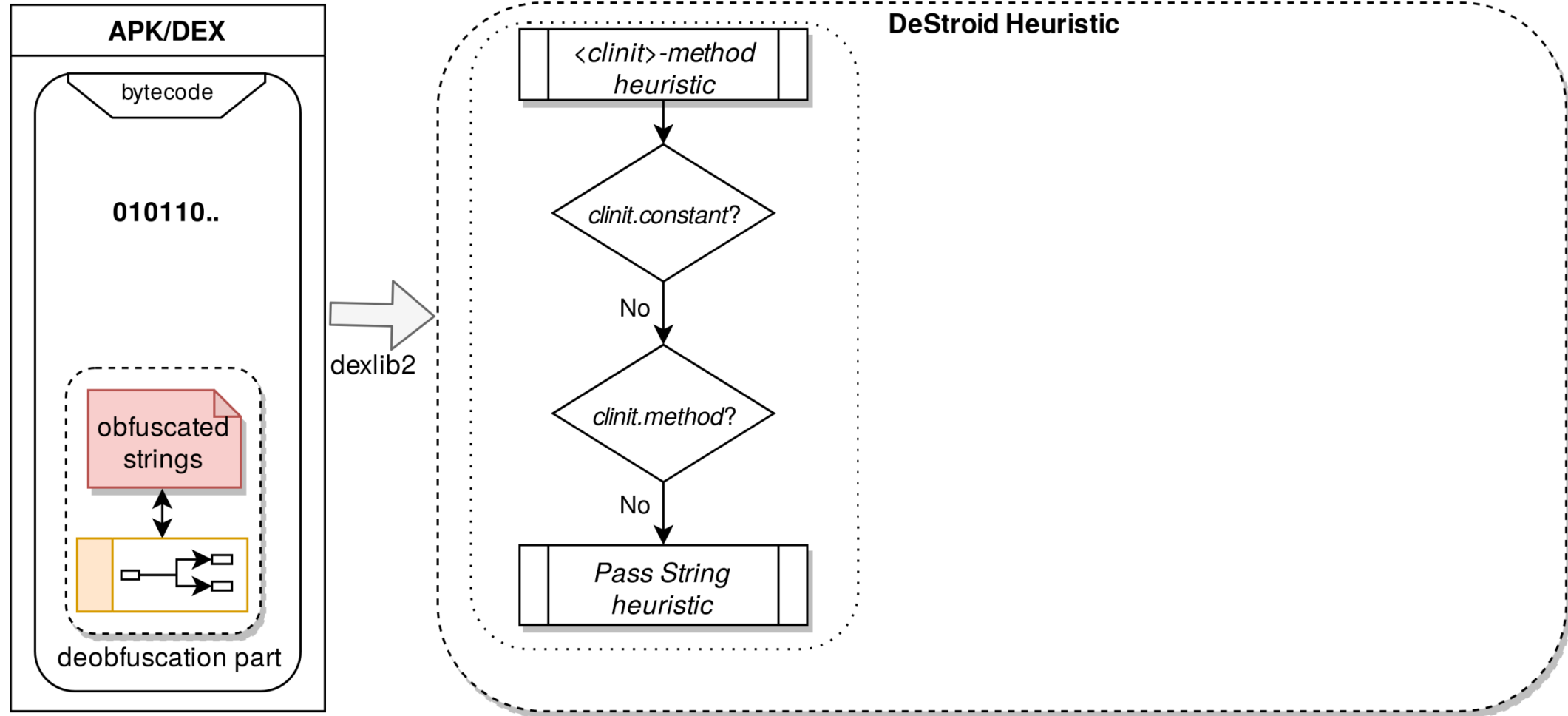

DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



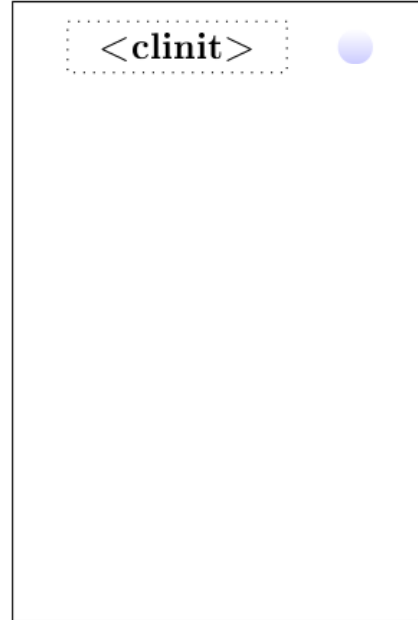
DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



DeStroid

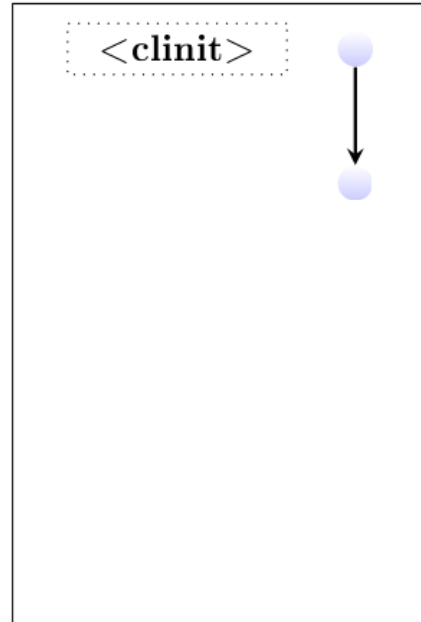
Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



static backward slicing outlined
for the <clinit>-method

DeStroid

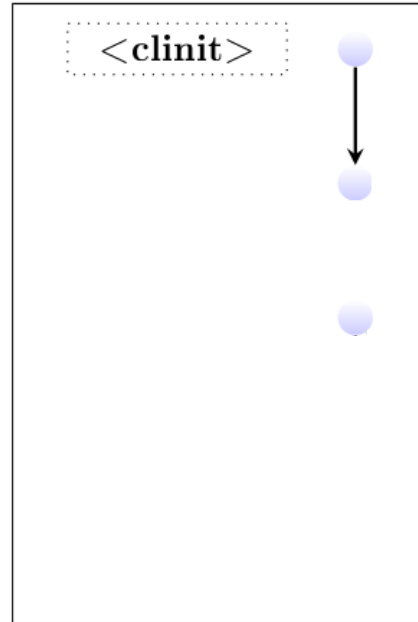
Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



static backward slicing outlined
for the `<clinit>`-method

DeStroid

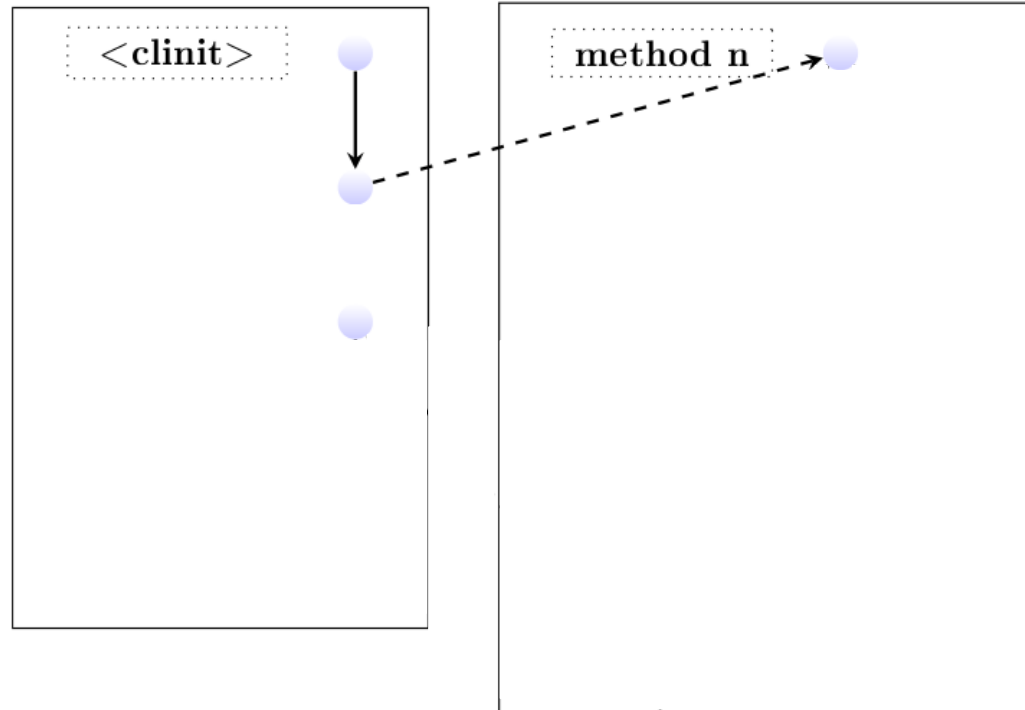
Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



static backward slicing outlined
for the <clinit>-method

DeStroid

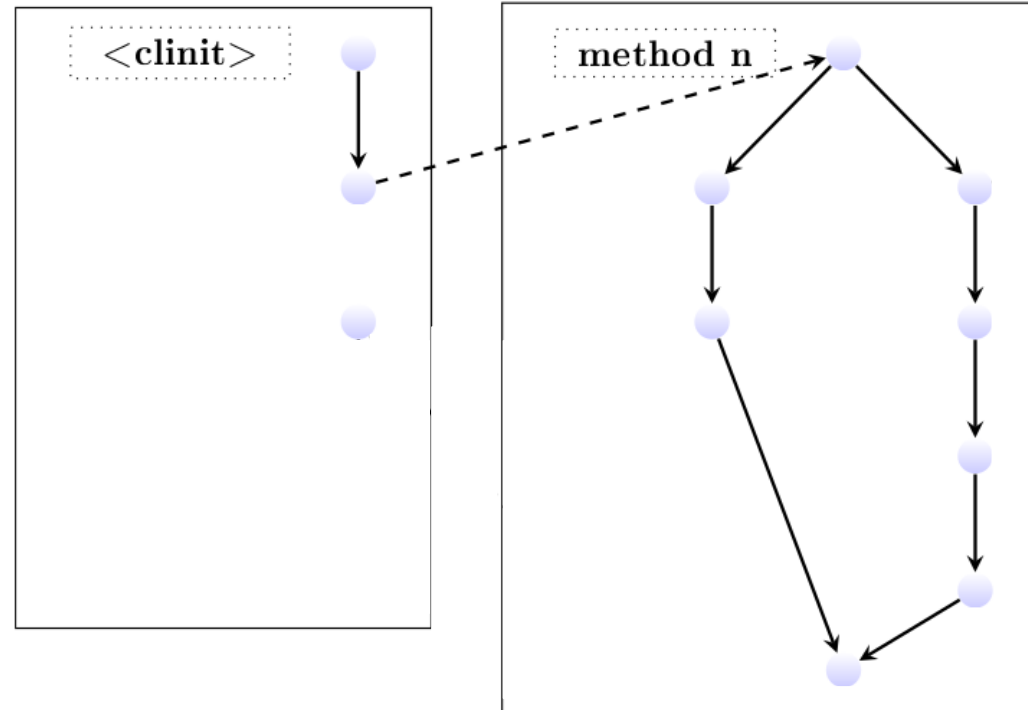
Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



static backward slicing outlined
for the `<clinit>`-method

DeStroid

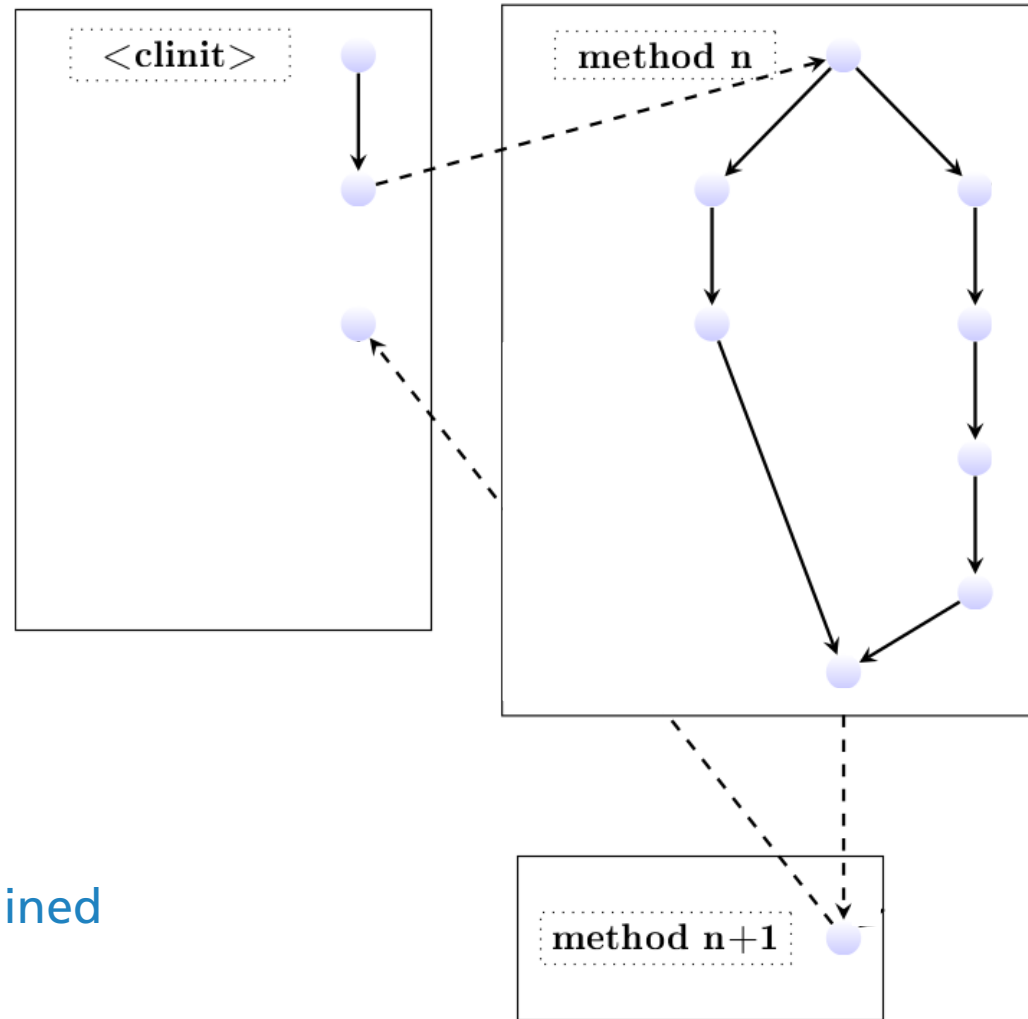
Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



static backward slicing outlined
for the `<clinit>`-method

DeStroid

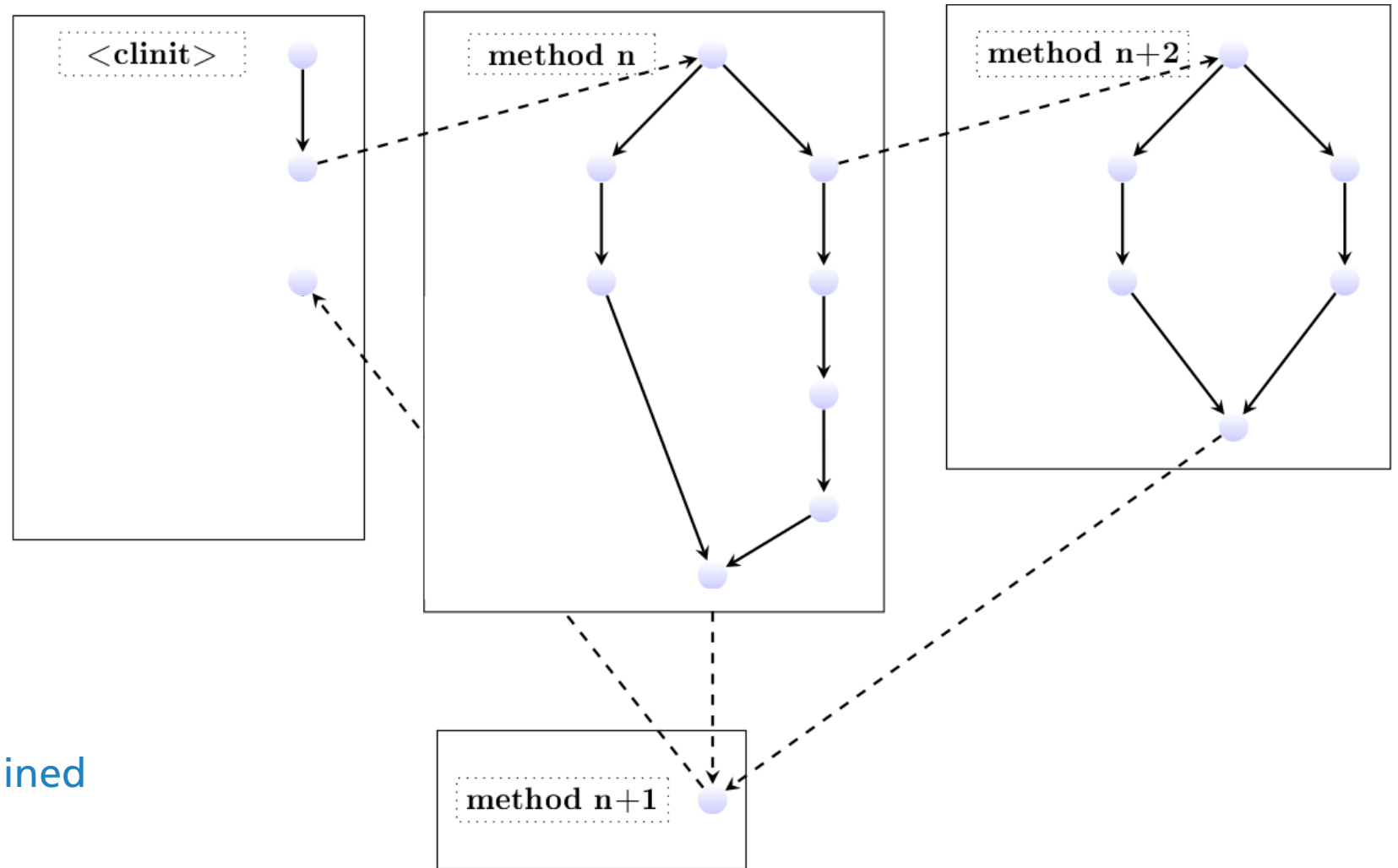
Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



static backward slicing outlined
for the `<clinit>`-method

DeStroid

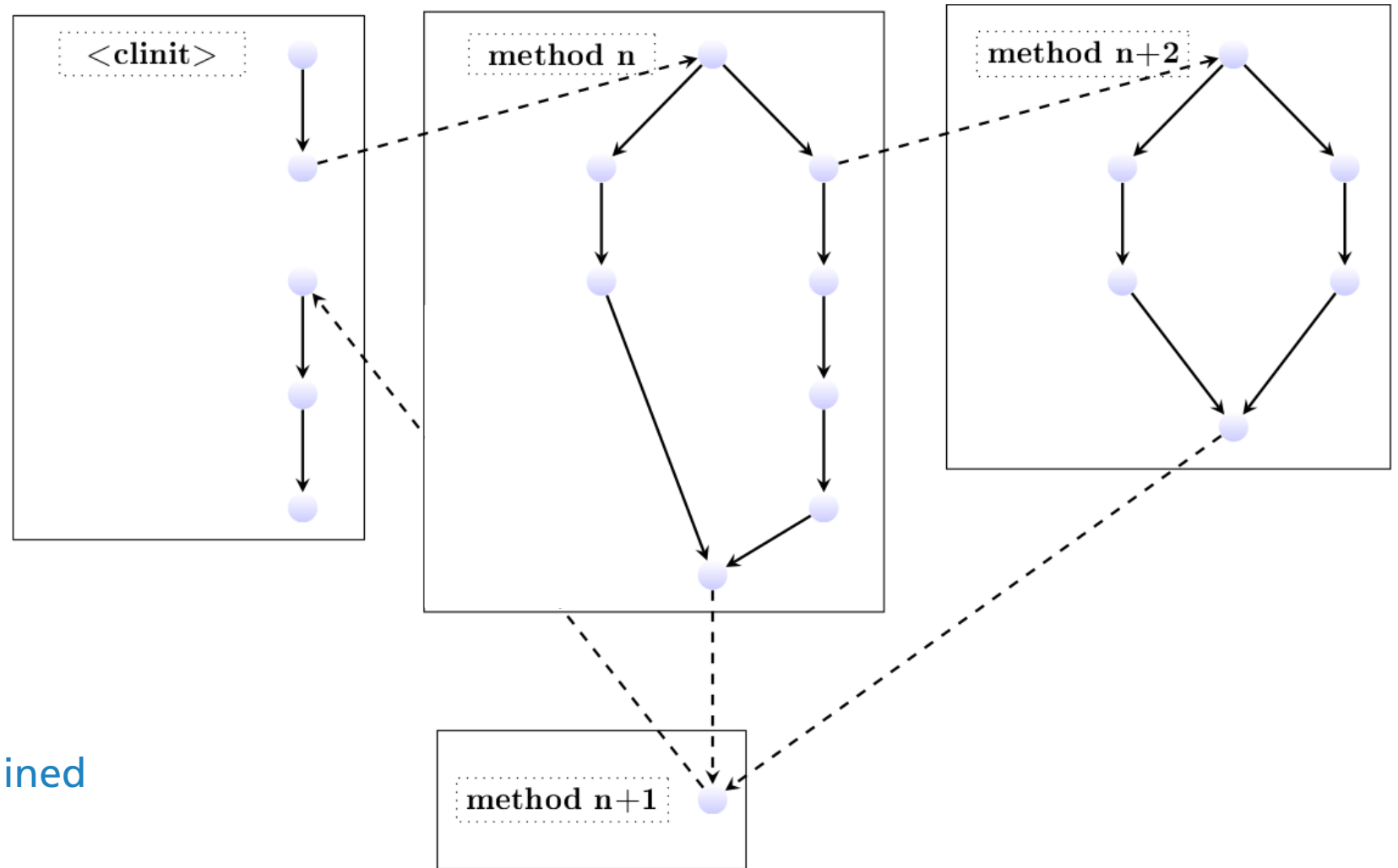
Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



static backward slicing outlined
for the `<clinit>`-method

DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



static backward slicing outlined
for the `<clinit>`-method

DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic

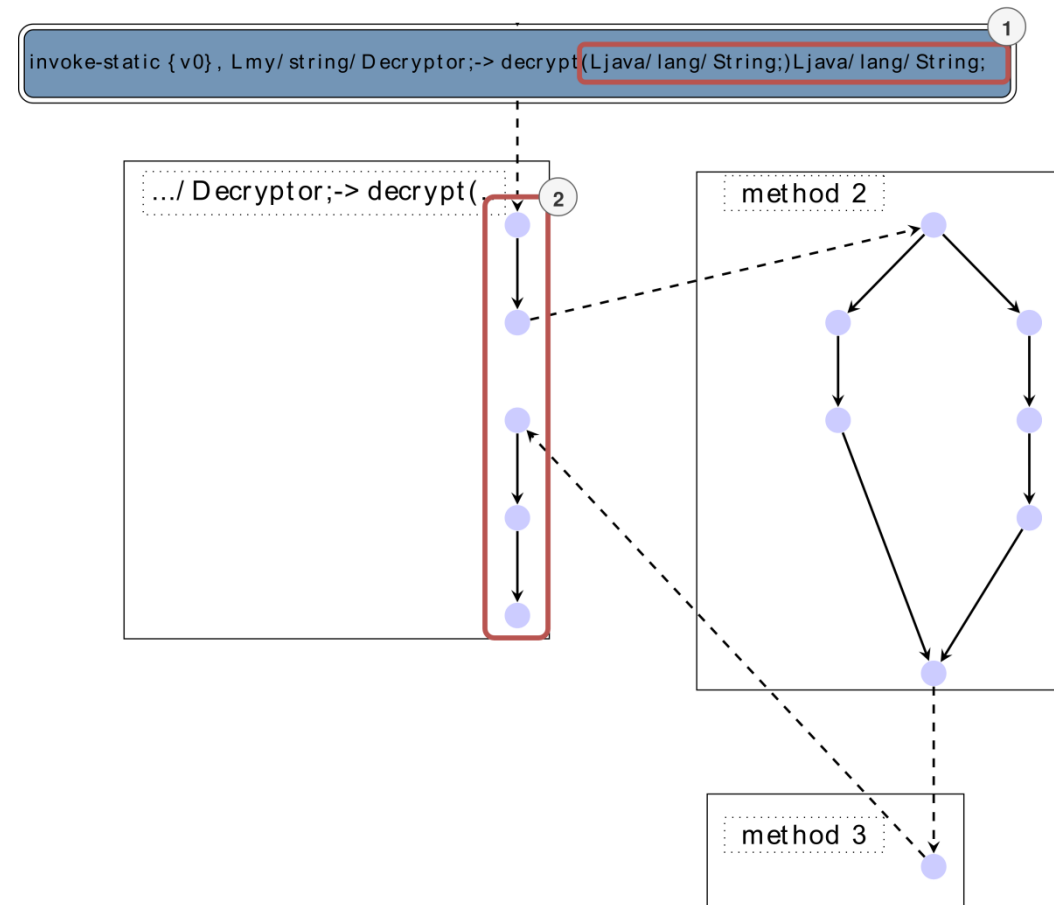
1
invoke-static {v0}, Lmy/string/Decryptor;-> decrypt(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String;

static backward slicing of a
decryption routine and
their input

DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic

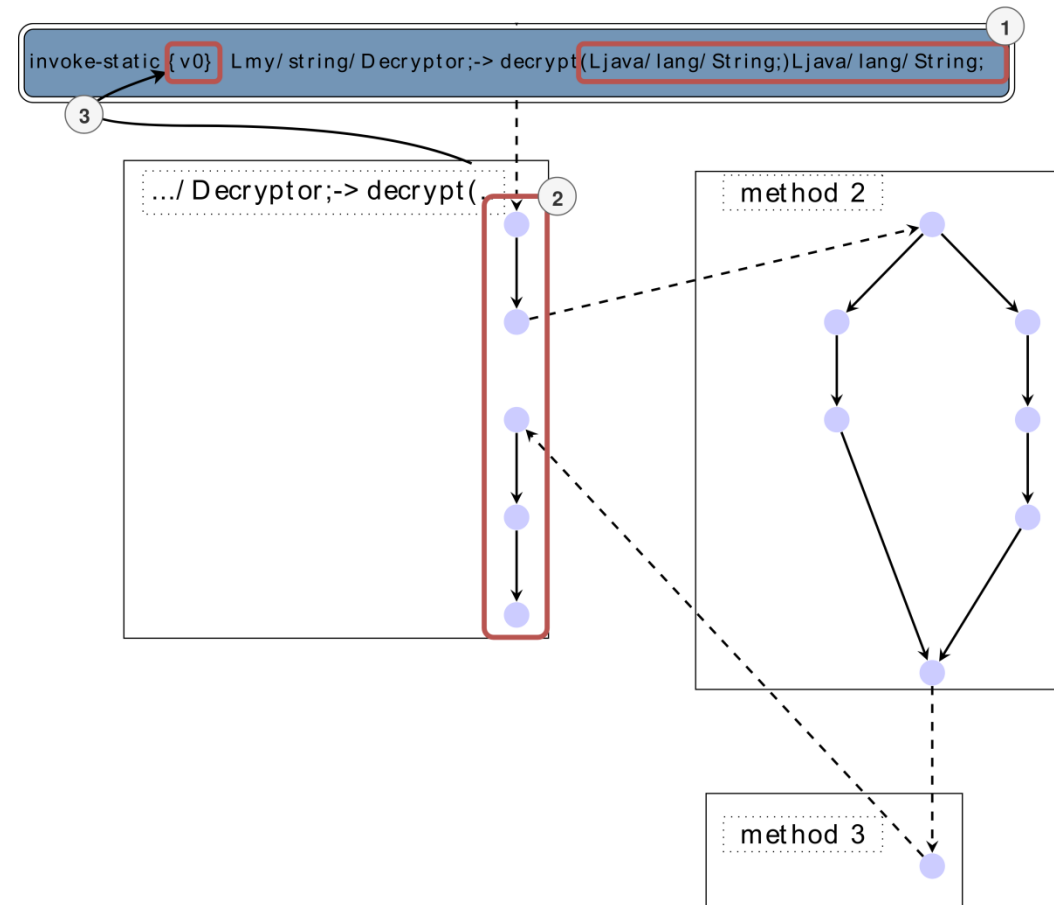
static backward slicing of a decryption routine and their input



DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic

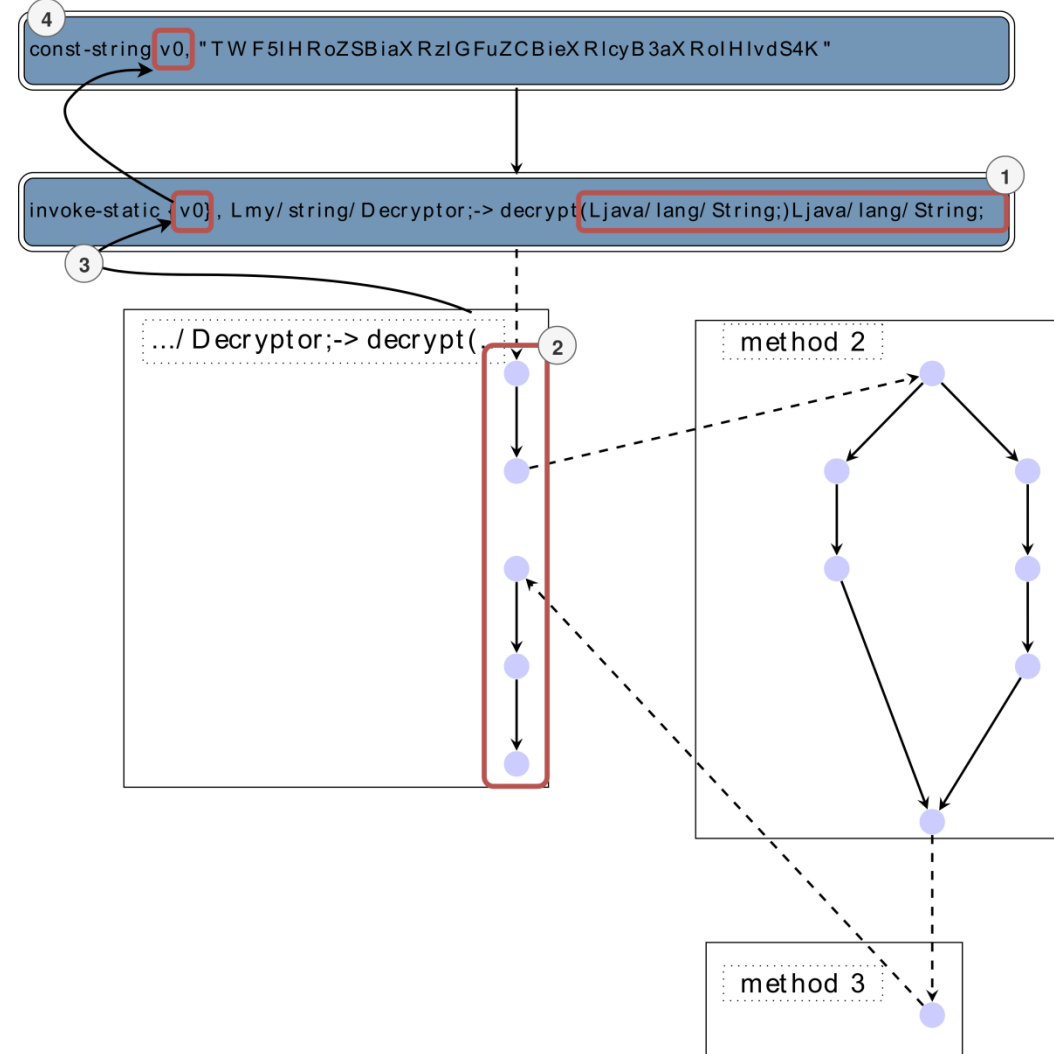
static backward slicing of a decryption routine and their input



DeStroid

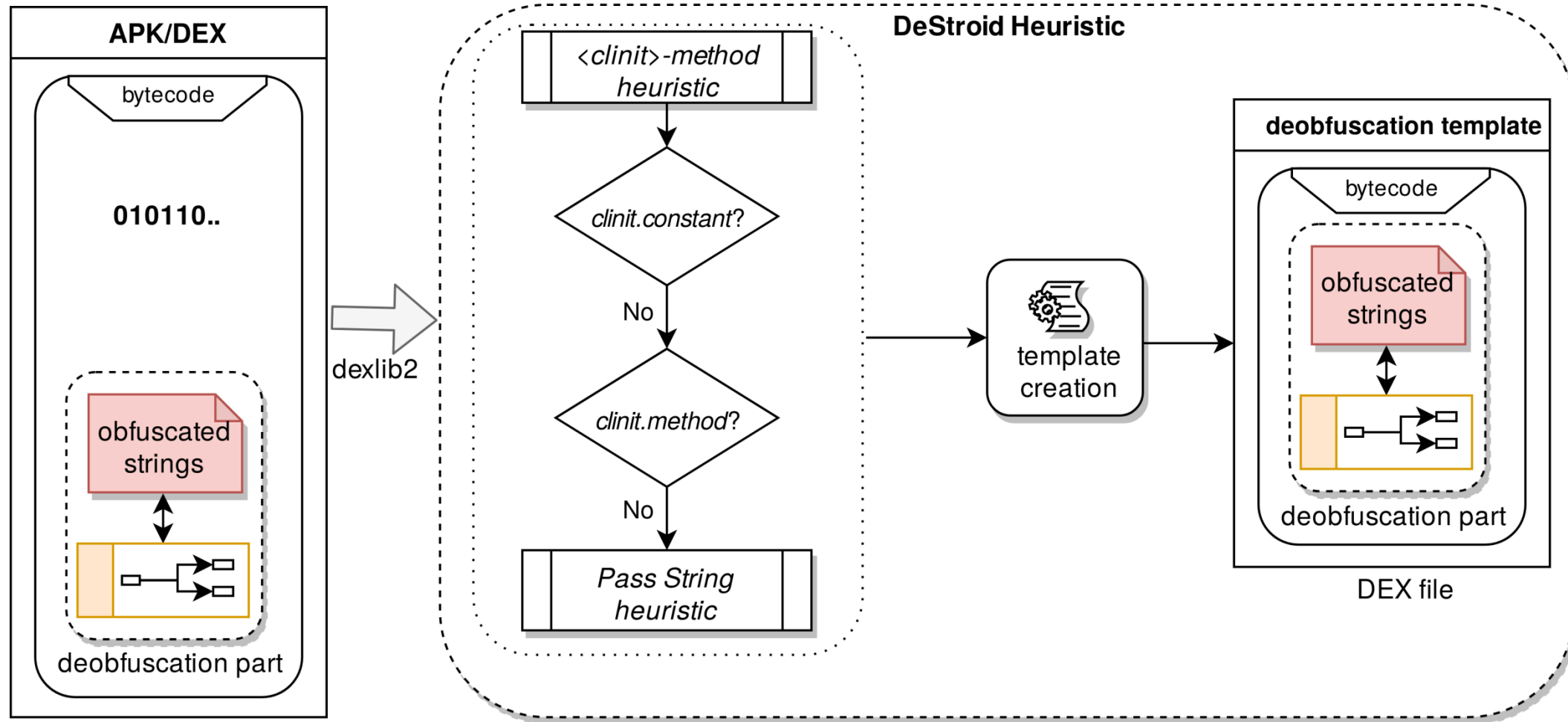
Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic

static backward slicing of a decryption routine and their input



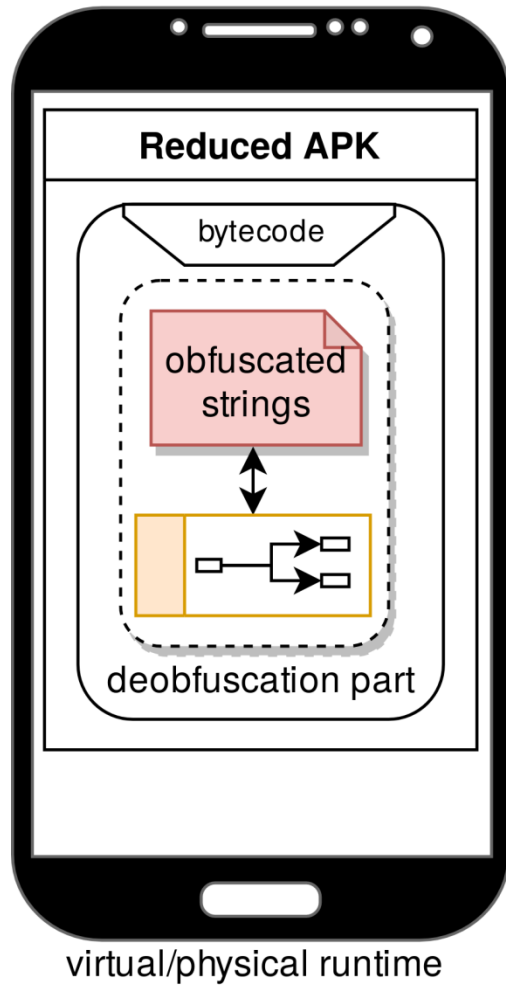
DeStroid

Static Analysis: DeStroid-Heuristic



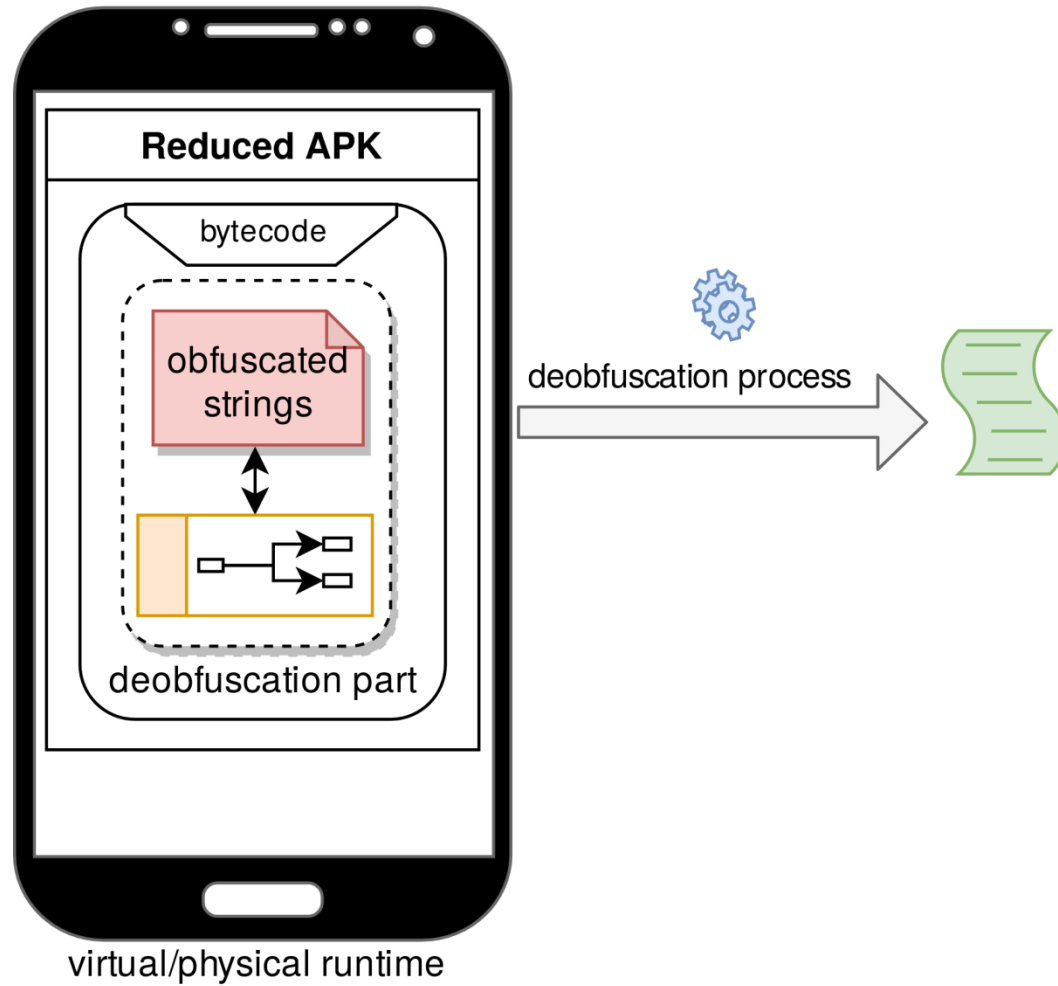
DeStroid

Dynamic analysis: Dynamic Deobfuscation



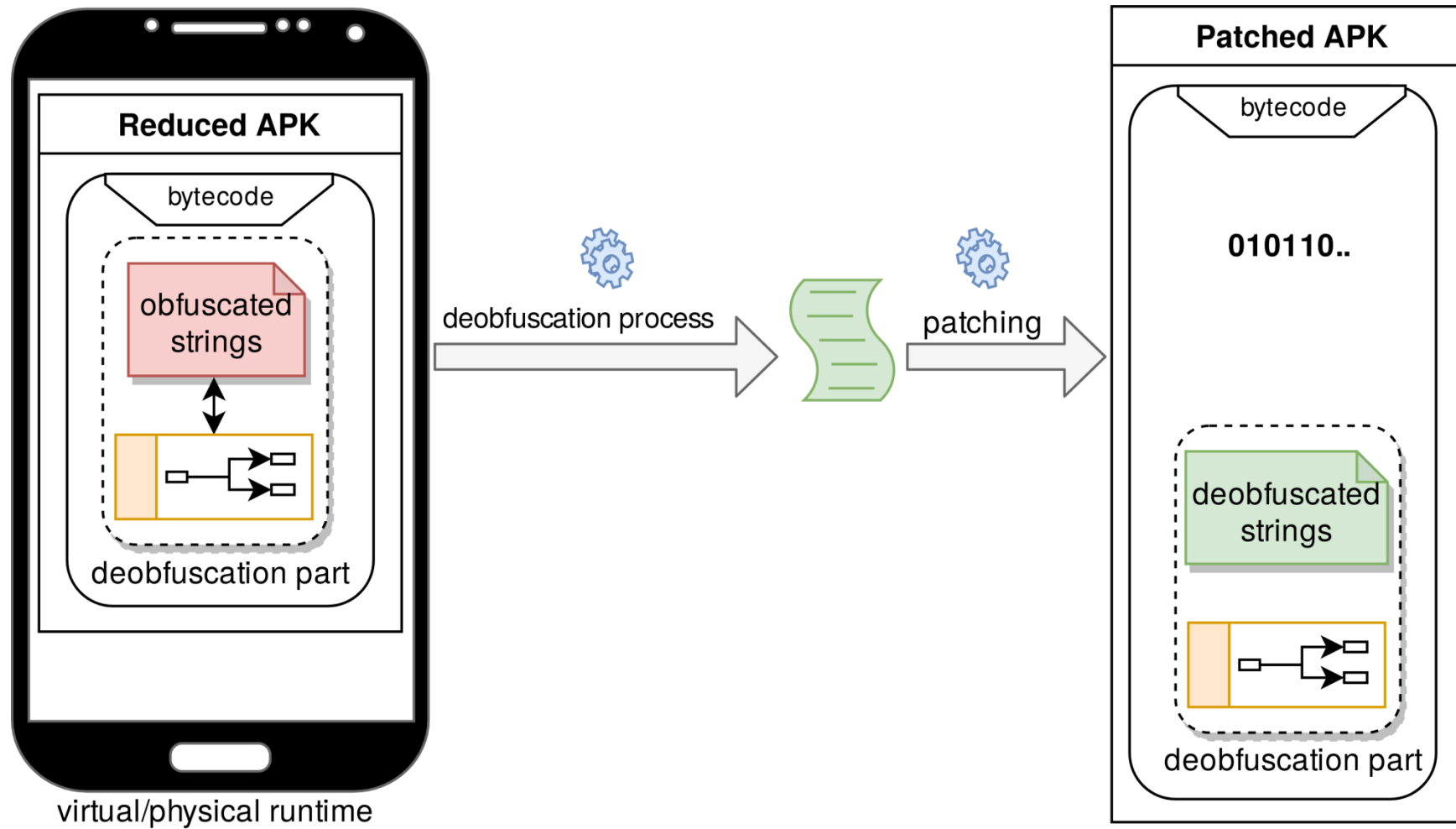
DeStroid

Dynamic analysis: Dynamic Deobfuscation



DeStroid

Dynamic Deobfuscation



DeStroid

Patching



Evaluation

Setup

- ground truth used as dataset for evaluation



Evaluation

Setup

- ground truth used as dataset for evaluation



- investigate performance of different string encryption deobfuscation approaches

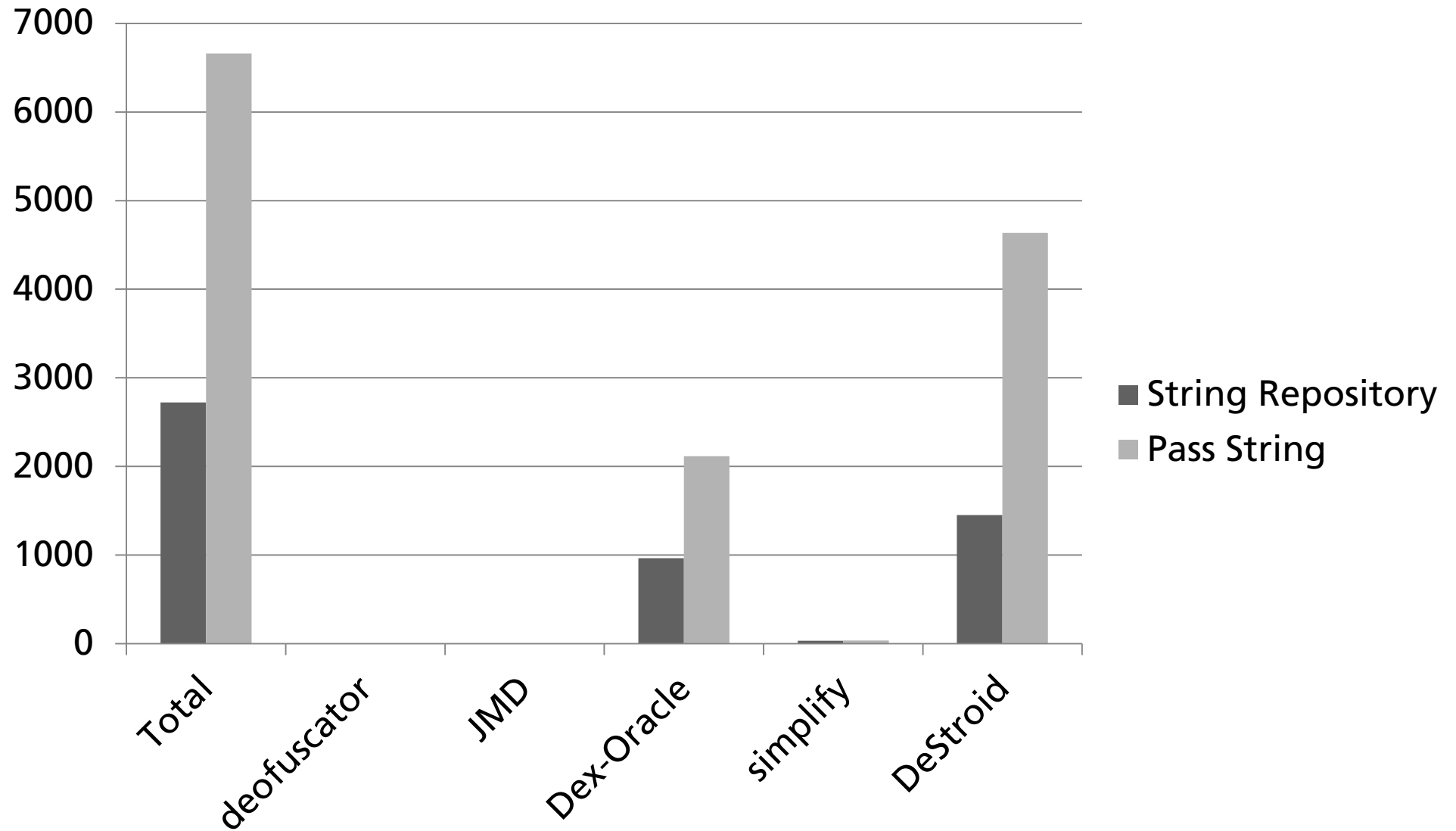
- deobfuscator
- JMD
- Dex-Oracle
- simplify
- DeStroid



- deobfuscation details (in paper)

Evaluation

Results



[Details in paper](#)

Summary

- A **taxonomy of String Encryption** implementations
 - usage in current Android malware
 - identification of their major String Encryption types
- A labelled dataset of Android malware samples
 - **number** of expected **deobfuscated strings**
 - **location** of the **deobfuscation part**
- DeStroid
 - our solution on automatically deobfuscate decrypted Strings
 - works best for **String Repository** and **Pass String**
 - soon online at <https://github.com/fkie-cad/destroid>

Thanks for your attention!

<https://github.com/fkie-cad/destroid>