Document: Setup mitmproxy with Real Device for Mobile App Traffic Inspection

1. Prerequisites

- PC/Laptop (Windows/Mac/Linux)
- Real Android or iOS device
- Both PC and device connected to the same Wi-Fi network
- Admin rights on PC (needed for installation & firewall rules)

2. Install mitmproxy

On Windows

- 1. Download installer from: https://mitmproxy.org
- 2. Install by running the .exe.
- 3. Add installation folder to **System PATH** (if not auto-added).

On Mac (brew)

brew install mitmproxy

On Linux (Ubuntu/Debian)

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install mitmproxy
```

mitmproxy --version

• 3. Run mitmproxy

Start mitmproxy on your machine:

```
mitmproxy --listen-port 8080
```

- Default port: 8080
- This terminal will show all intercepted traffic.

4. Configure Proxy on Device

On Android (real device)

- 1. Open **Settings** → **Wi-Fi**.
- 2. Long press on your connected Wi-Fi \rightarrow **Modify Network**.
- 3. Tap **Advanced Options**.
- 4. Change **Proxy** → **Manual**.
 - **Hostname** = your PC's local IP (e.g., 192.168.1.25).
 - o Port = 8080.
- 5. Save.

On iOS

1. Go to **Settings** → **Wi-Fi**.

- 2. Tap the info icon next to your network.
- 3. Scroll to HTTP Proxy \rightarrow set to Manual.
 - Server = your PC's IP.
 - o Port = 8080.

⚠ Use your **PC's local IP address**, not localhost. To find it:

• Windows: ipconfig

• Mac/Linux: ifconfig

5. Test Proxy Connection

On the phone's browser, open:

http://<your-pc-ip>:8080

- If successful → mitmproxy should respond.
- If fails → check:
 - o Both devices are on same Wi-Fi network.
 - Firewall allows inbound traffic on port 8080.
 - o Mobile Data/VPN is disabled.

6. Install mitmproxy Certificate

To inspect HTTPS traffic, install the mitmproxy root certificate.

On the phone's browser, visit:

```
http://mitm.it
```

- 1.
- 2. Choose your platform (Android/iOS).
- 3. Download and install the certificate.
- 4. (Android 11+ only) → Go to Settings → Security → Install certificates and install as VPN & Apps certificate.
- 5. (iOS) \rightarrow Install profile in **Settings** \rightarrow **General** \rightarrow **Profiles** and trust the certificate.

7. Inspect App Traffic

- Launch your mobile app.
- mitmproxy will show requests/responses in terminal UI.
- Look for API calls that return snackbar/toast messages.

You can filter by keyword:

```
mitmproxy -q | grep "Invalid"
```

• (or use built-in search /keyword inside mitmproxy UI)

8. Capture Toast/Snackbar Text

- Identify whether the toast/snackbar is coming from:
 - Backend API response (JSON payload, error message field).
 - Or hard-coded UI (not in network traffic).

 \leftarrow If it's in API response \rightarrow you can reliably capture it using mitmproxy or by hooking API calls in your test automation.

9. Cleanup

When done testing:

- Remove proxy settings from device Wi-Fi.
- (Optional) Remove mitmproxy certificate if not needed anymore.