



The Risk you carry in
your Pocket

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Black Hat
Abu Dhabi 2010

MWR InfoSecurity



Who Am I?

- Head of Research @ MWR
- Exploiting stuff before...
 - Microsoft, Google, Adobe, IBM, Mozilla, Sun, Linux, Apple ...
- Pwn2Own Winner 2009
 - Safari, IE and Firefox
- Pwn2Own Winner 2010
 - Firefox on Windows 7



- Demo
- Introduction
- Android Sandbox
- Android IPC
- Vulnerabilities
- Demo
- Conclusion
- Q&A



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Introduction

- Prerequisites:
 - I have got a WebKit vulnerability
- Can own:
 - iPhone
 - Palm Web OS
 - Android
- In Android I am limited to the Sandbox
 - Access to Passwords, Cookies, etc...



Introduction

- I want more Privileges
 - Record Audio





Introduction

- Research on Android Phone
 - Not emulator
 - HTC Legend
 - Android 2.1
- Some apps





What will you see?

- How to:
 - Audit a Android Handset
 - Additions by Vendors
 - And Carriers
 - Audit Android Applications
- And how to exploit the findings





Android – Previous Research

- Kernel vulnerabilities:
 - E.g. sock_sendpage()
- Local vulnerabilities:
 - E.g. adb root vulnerability
 - Fork bomb
 - Setuid return value not checked



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Android – Sandbox

- Applications are Sandboxed
- Using Linux User/Group model
- Every Application == 1 User
 - In theory ...
- Communication through IPC
- Permissions



Android – Permissions

- Applications request Permissions
 - AndroidManifest.xml
- Pre-installed apps
 - Set-up by default in phone
- User installed apps
 - Granted by User during installation
 - Limited



Android – Permissions

- Examples:
 - **android.permission.CALL_PHONE**
 - android.permission.RECORD_AUDIO
 - android.permission.INSTALL_PACKAGE



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Android – IPC

- Inter-Process Communication
 - Used by all of the Apps
 - Core feature on Android
 - Protected using Permissions
- Mechanism:
 - Services
 - Content-Providers
 - Broadcasts
 - Activities



Android – IPC

- Supported by /dev/binder
 - Kernel
 - Message routing
 - Permission enforcement
- Messages in “Parcels”
 - Intents special Parcels



Android – Intent

- Serialised Data Structure
- Sent to IPC endpoints
- Contain Extras
 - Strings
 - Primitive Data Types
 - Arrays thereof
 - Serializable Java Objects (!)



Android – Service

- Similar to RPC
- Class extends Service.class
 - Public methods are exported
 - Called through Intents
- Defined in AndroidManifest.xml:

```
<service android:name="BluetoothHeadsetService">
    <intent-filter>
        <action
    android:name="android.bluetooth.IBluetoothHeadset" />
    </intent-filter>
</service>
```



Android – Activity

- Visual Components of Applications
- Application can instantiate them
 - Sometimes
 - Take arguments in Intents
 - Will run in Implementing Process
 - Permissions!



Android – Content-Providers

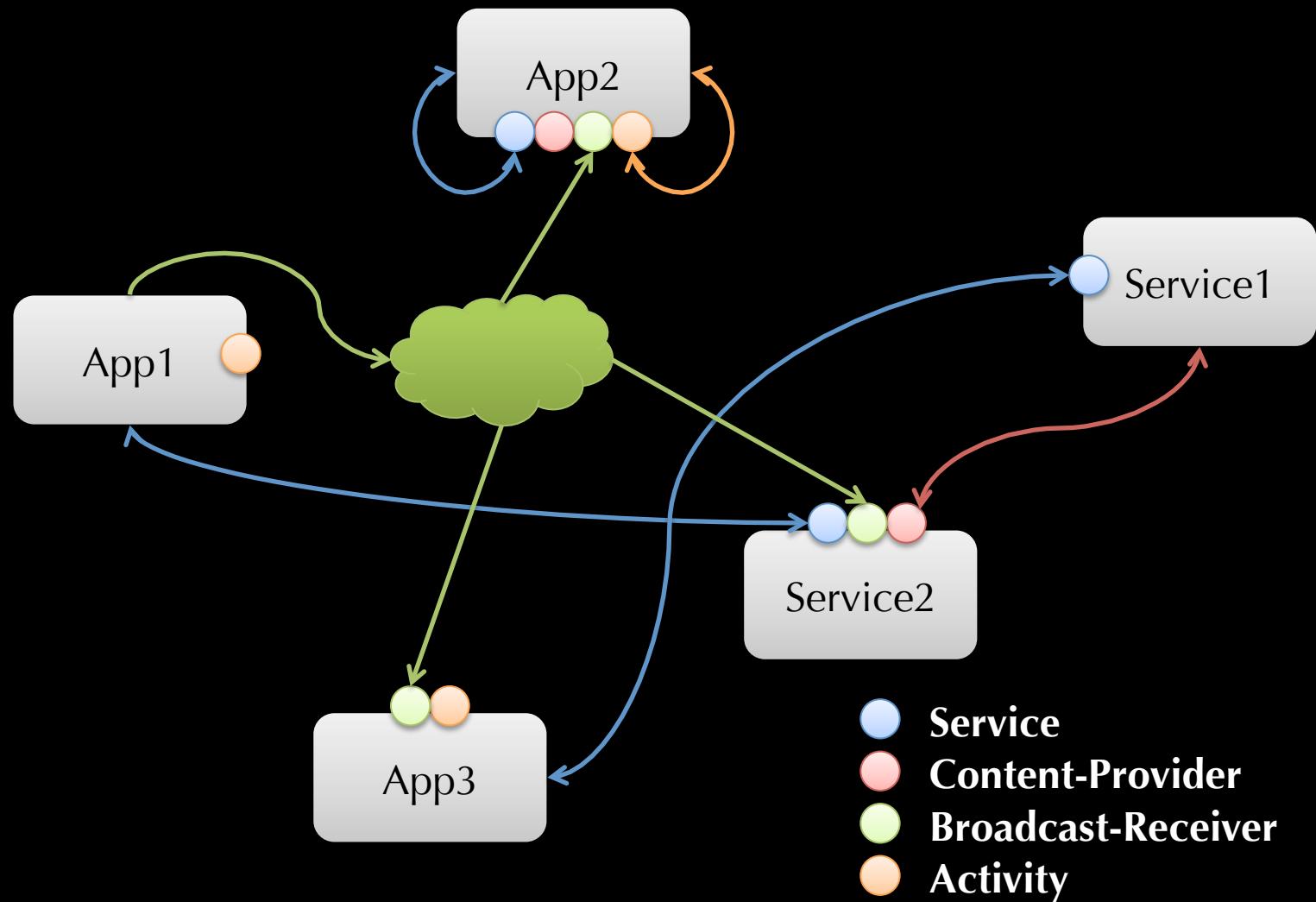
- Provide Access to any Data
 - Emails
 - Pictures
- Often backed by SQLite Databases
- Content-Resolver
- URI: content://browser/bookmarks
- Standard Interface using Cursors
- Write and Read Permissions
- Not using Intents



Android – Broadcast Receivers

- Register to Broadcast Messages
 - System and Custom
- Some Messages are protected
 - Others can be forged by anyone
- Arguments in Broadcasts
 - Intents
- AndroidManifest.xml
 - Can register dynamically as well

Android – Idea





Android – IPC Exports

- Default IPC exports
- Exported by default
 - Content-Providers
- Export depends on set Filters
 - Services
 - Broadcast Receivers
 - Activities
- Developers aware of that?



Android – Privilege Escalation

- Any vulnerability in any exported:-
 - Service, Content-Provider
 - Broadcast Receiver or Activity
- Can lead to privilege Escalation
 - Gaining privileges of vulnerable App



Android - Applications

- Many Apps on the phone
 - All in different Processes (Theoretically)
- Default Android apps
 - ~ 70 apps
- Vendor apps
 - HTC: ~ 60 apps
 - Plus carrier apps!
- User installed apps
 - Many more



Android – Processes

- 1 User \Leftrightarrow 1 App
- Multiple processes per App
- Not on real phones though
 - Shared User Id's
 - Across apps
 - Shared processes
 - Across apps
- => Shared Permissions and Access-rights



Android – Shared UIDs

- Applications can Share UserIds
- If signed by same Developer Key
 - Or Pre-installed
- Pro:
 - Performance
- Contra:
 - Security



Android – Shared UIDs

- Example:
 - com.htc.WeatherWidget
- Permissions:

android.permissions.GET_ACCOUNTS, android.permission.READ_SYNC_SETTINGS



Android – Shared UIDs

- Example:
 - com.htc.WeatherWidget
- Shares “com.htc.rosie.uid.shared” with:

com.htc.FriendStreamWidget, com.htc.TwitterWidget,
com.htc.htcmailwidgets, com.htc.NewsReaderWidget,
com.htc.StockWidget, com.htc.widget.clockwidget,
com.htc.htccalendarwidgets, com.htc.footprints.widgets,
com.htc.htccontactwidgets, com.htc.htcmsgwidgets,
com.htc.htcsyncwidget, com.htc.launcher, com.htc.WeatherWidget,
com.htc.htcsettingwidgets, com.htc.photo.widgets,
com.htc.htcbookmarkwidget, com.htc.MusicWidget,
com.htc.htcsearchwidgets



Android – Shared UIDs

- Example:
 - com.htc.WeatherWidget
- Permissions:

android.permissions.GET_ACCOUNTS, android.permission.READ_SYNC_SETTINGS



Android – Shared UIDs

- Example:
 - com.htc.WeatherWidget
- Shared Permissions:

```
android.permission.INTERNET, com.htc.htctwitter.permission.useprovider, android.permission.ACCESS_FINE_LOCATION,  
android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE, android.permission.ACCESS_WIFI_STATE, android.permission.GET_ACCOUNTS,  
android.permission.READ_SYNC_SETTINGS, android.permission.READ_CALENDAR, android.permission.WRITE_CALENDAR,  
com.google.android.googleapps.permission.GOOGLE_AUTH.mail, android.permission.READ_CONTACTS,  
android.permission.CALL_PHONE, android.permission.CALL_PRIVILEGED, android.permission.READ_SMS,  
com.htc.socialnetwork.permission.useprovider, android.permission.RECEIVE_BOOT_COMPLETED, android.permission.WRITE_CONTACTS,  
android.permission.RECEIVE_SMS, android.permission.RECEIVE_MMS, android.permission.SEND_SMS, android.permission.VIBRATE,  
android.permission.WRITE_SMS, android.permission.CHANGE_NETWORK_STATE, android.permission.READ_PHONE_STATE,  
android.permission.WAKE_LOCK, android.permission.EXPAND_STATUS_BAR, android.permission.GET_TASKS, android.permission.SET_WALLPAPER,  
android.permission.SET_WALLPAPER_HINTS, android.permission.WRITE_SETTINGS, com.htc.launcher.permission.READ_SETTINGS,  
com.htc.launcher.permission.WRITE_SETTINGS, android.permission.SET_TIME_ZONE, android.permission.READ_SYNC_STATS,  
android.permission.WRITE_EXTERNAL_STORAGE, android.permission.BROADCAST_STICKY,  
android.permission.WRITE_SECURE_SETTINGS, android.permission.CHANGE_WIFI_STATE,  
android.permission.CLEAR_APP_USER_DATA, android.permission.MODIFY_PHONE_STATE, android.permission.ACCESS_COARSE_LOCATION,  
android.permission.WRITE_APN_SETTINGS, android.permission.ACCESS_CHECKIN_PROPERTIES, android.permission.BLUETOOTH,  
android.permission.BLUETOOTH_ADMIN, android.permission.ACCESS_WIMAX_STATE, android.permission.CHANGE_WIMAX_STATE,  
android.permission.ACCESS_LOCATION_EXTRA_COMMANDS, android.permission.ACCESS_LOCATION, android.permission.ACCESS_ASSISTED_GPS,  
android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_LOCATION, android.permission.ACCESS_GPS,  
com.android.browser.permission.READ_HISTORY_BOOKMARKS, com.android.browser.permission.WRITE_HISTORY_BOOKMARKS
```



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Android – Vulnerabilities

- SQL injection in Content Providers
 - When backed by SQLite
- Allows for arbitrary reads in databases
 - Across processes
- Can be filtered by Developer
 - Usually is not
 - Not encouraged by Dev Docs
- Have not found instances of writes to DB
- No useful functions (`load_extension()`...)



Android – SQL Injection

```
final Cursor query(  
    Uri uri,  
    String[] projection,  
    String selection,  
    String[] selectionArgs,  
    String sortOrder);
```



Android – SQL Injection

```
final Cursor query(  
    "content://settings/system",  
    null,  
    null,  
    null,  
    null);
```

```
SELECT * FROM system;
```



Android – SQL Injection

```
final Cursor query(  
    "content://settings/system",  
    null,  
    "_id=1",  
    null,  
    null);
```

```
SELECT * FROM system WHERE _id=1;
```



Android – SQL Injection

```
final Cursor query(  
    "content://settings/system",  
    null,  
    "(select count(*) from secure where \  
name='adb_enabled' and value='0')=0",  
    null,  
    null);
```

```
SELECT * FROM system WHERE "(select count(*) from  
secure where name='adb_enabled' and value='0')=0;
```



Android – SQL Injection

```
final Cursor query(  
    "content://settings/system",  
    {"_id"},  
    null,  
    null,  
    null);
```

```
SELECT _id FROM system;
```



Android – SQL Injection

```
final Cursor query(  
    "content://settings/system",  
    {" * FROM bluetooth_devices;"},  
    null,  
    null,  
    null);
```

```
SELECT * FROM bluetooth_devices; FROM system;
```



Android – SQL Injection

```
final Cursor query(  
    "content://settings/system",  
    {" * FROM sqlite_master;"},  
    null,  
    null,  
    null);
```

```
SELECT * FROM sqlite_master; FROM system;
```



Android – Vulnerabilities

- Unprotected services
- Example:
 - Introduced by HTC
 - com.htc.soundrecorder.RecordingService
 - Not protected
 - Explicitly exported
 - android.permission.RECORD_AUDIO
 - Now useless
 - Every HTC Android phone I checked



Android – Native APIs

- Java less prone to Memory Corruptions
- Native APIs more promising for Review
- Services
 - Directly exporting native API's
- Keep a look out for:
 - `loadLibrary("")`
 - And “native” keyword



Android – Native APIs

```
I/DEBUG ( 31): pid: 1257, tid: 1258 >>> com.example.test1 <<<
I/DEBUG ( 31): signal 11 (SIGSEGV), fault addr 00000000
I/DEBUG ( 31): r0 ffffffff r1 41413000 r2 00000004 r3 fffff0ff0
I/DEBUG ( 31): r4 00000000 r5 41413000 r6 afd40328 r7 00000000
I/DEBUG ( 31): r8 00100000 r9 80848121 10 10000000 fp 00117808
I/DEBUG ( 31): ip afd20209 sp 100ffe20 lr afd20201 pc 80849aa4 cpsr 80000030
I/DEBUG ( 31): #00 pc 00049aa4 /system/lib/libdvm.so
I/DEBUG ( 31): #01 lr afd20201 /system/lib/libc.so
```

```
char mJetFilePath[256];

int JetPlayer::loadFromFile(const char* path) {
    ...
    strncpy(mJetFilePath, path, strlen(path));
```

```
public boolean loadJetFile(String path) {
    return native_loadJetFromFile(path);
}
```



Android – Others

- Let's be creative
- Applications do all kinds of stuff
 - Some of which is stupid :P
- Example: Skype - App

```
# ls -al /data/data/com.skype.raider/files/skypekit
-rwxrwxrwx 1 0 2000 43 /data/data/com.skype.raider/files/skypekit
```



Android – Others

- Permissions:

```
android.permission.DISABLE_KEYGUARD  
android.permission.WAKE_LOCK  
android.permission.INTERNET  
android.permission.GET_ACCOUNTS  
android.permission.READ_CONTACTS  
android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE  
android.permission.VIBRATE  
android.permission.MODIFY_AUDIO_SETTINGS  
android.permission.RECORD_AUDIO  
android.permission.READ_PHONE_STATE  
android.permission.ACCESS_COARSE_LOCATION  
android.permission.GET_TASKS  
android.permission.AUTHENTICATE_ACCOUNTS  
android.permission.MANAGE_ACCOUNTS  
android.permission.READ_SYNC_SETTINGS  
android.permission.WRITE_SYNC_SETTINGS  
android.permission.GET_ACCOUNTS  
android.permission.USE_CREDENTIALS  
android.permission.WRITE_SETTINGS  
android.permission.WRITE_SECURE_SETTINGS  
android.permission.READ_CONTACTS  
android.permission.WRITE_CONTACTS  
android.permission.READ_SYNC_STATS  
android.permission.WRITE_EXTERNAL_STORAGE
```



Android – Deserialisation

- Intents contain Extras
 - Can be Serializable
- Object type is checked after deserialisation
- Arbitrary objects can be deserialised
 - In other Processes
 - Across trust boundaries
 - With other permissions
- Is this exploitable?
 - Sami?

**THE FOLLOWING SLIDE HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR
ALL SECURITY PROFESSIONALS**

THE PRESENTATION HAS BEEN RATED

PG-18

VENDORS STRONGLY CAUTIONED

Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 18

COARSE PROGRAMMING PRACTICE



Android – Permissions

- Most useful Permission:
`INSTALL_PACKAGES`
- On HTC phones granted to the Browser
 - That's True!
- Why
 - Flashlite Flash player
 - Installs updates using PackageManager
 - Needs Permissions for that ...



Android – Permissions

- INSTALL_PACKAGES in Browser
- Impact
 - Malicious Code in Browser
 - Installs arbitrary Applications
 - Without prompting the User
 - Gains arbitrary Permissions
 - For malicious applications
 - No restricted permissions



Android – Demo

- That should be enough...

Demo Time!





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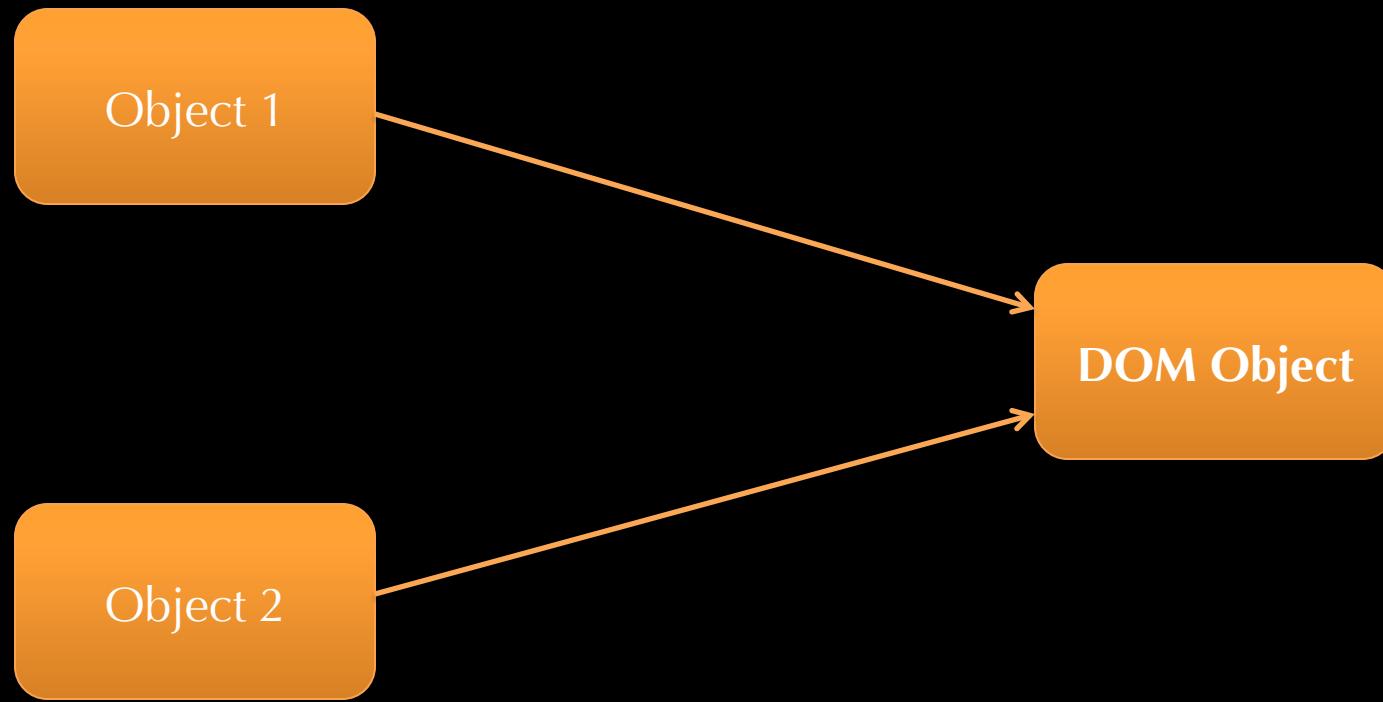


Android Demo - Vulnerability

- Use-after-free in Browser
- WebKit
 - Android, Chrome, Safari, iPhone, Symbian, Palm Pre and more
- Allows for arbitrary code execution
- HTML5
 - Introduced in Android 2.0
 - 1.5 and 1.6 not vulnerable
- JavaScript
- Patched in 2.2
- No NX , No ASLR

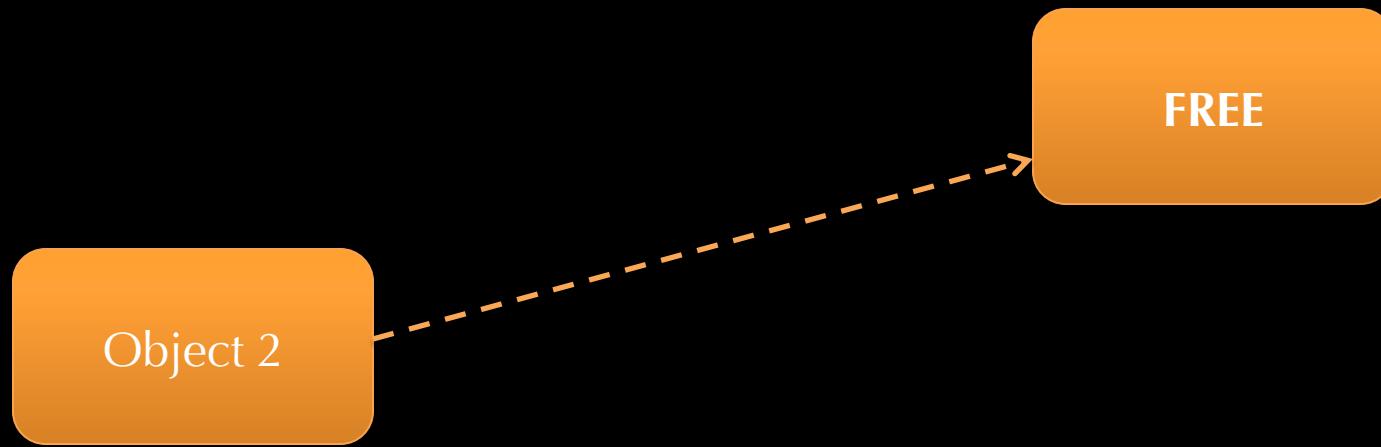


Android - Use-after-free in Browser



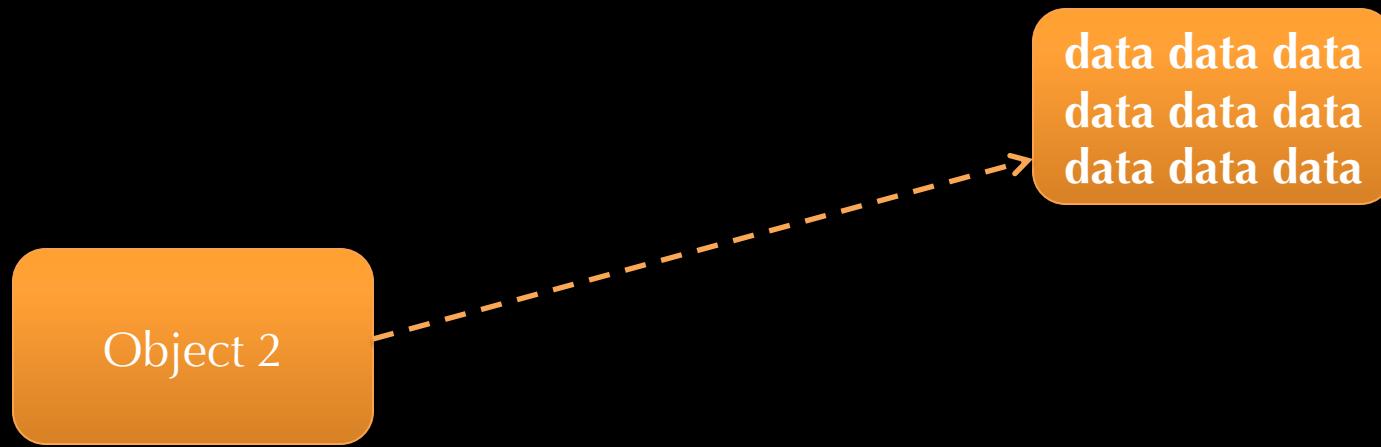


Android - Use-after-free in Browser



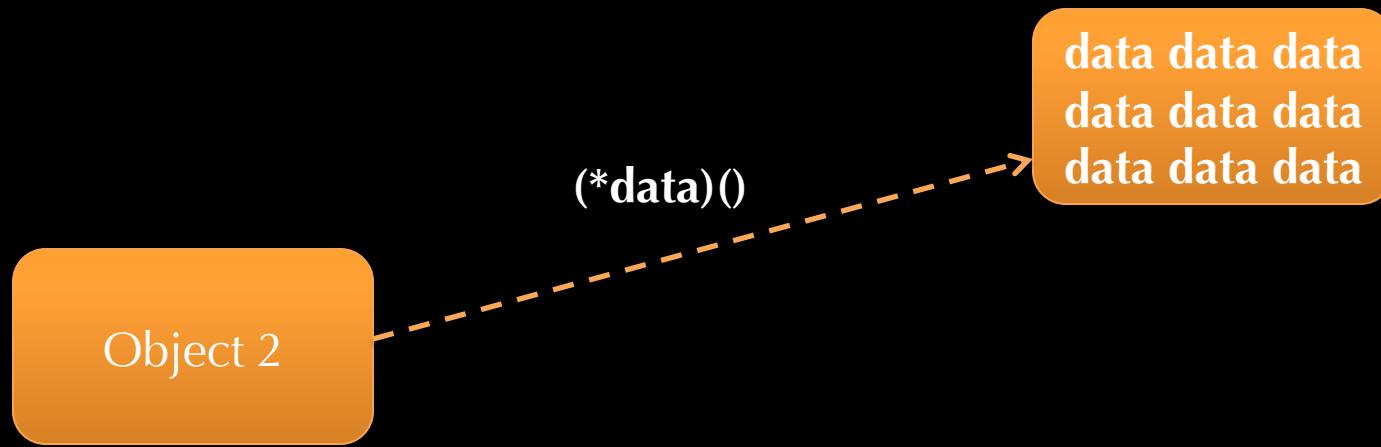


Android - Use-after-free in Browser





Android - Use-after-free in Browser





Android - Shellcode

- Steps:
 - 1. Connect back to Attacker
 - 2. Upload malicious APK
 - 3. Install from Browser
 - 4. Pwnage!



Android - Demo

THE FOLLOWING **DEMO** HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR
ALL SECURITY PROFESSIONALS

THE PRESENTATION HAS BEEN RATED

PG-18

VENDORS STRONGLY CAUTIONED

Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 18

0-DAY, SHELLCODE and MOBILE ROOTKIT



Android Proof-of-Concept

- Reported the vulnerability to vendors
 - Patched in 2.2
- However
 - Any WebKit vulnerability will do
- Not patched in most Phones



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Conclusion

- Understand the Threats
- Android Sandbox
 - Fairly Reasonable
- Many bugs introduced by:
 - Vendors, Carriers
 - 3rd Party Apps
- Testing and Assurance
 - For Phones
 - Not just OS



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Questions?