

# Trust Dies in Darkness: Shedding Light on Samsung's TrustZone Cryptographic Design

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 @eyalr0

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# WHO WOULD WIN?

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The leading Android Vendor

SAMSUNG

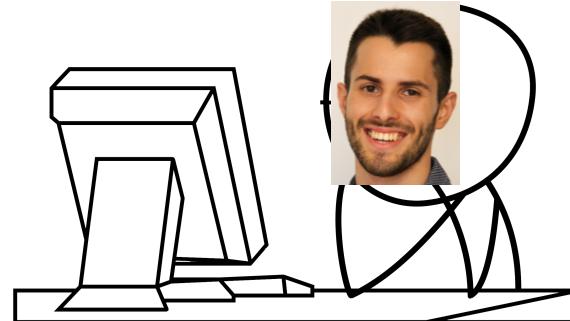


Common Criteria



FIPS

3 academic researchers



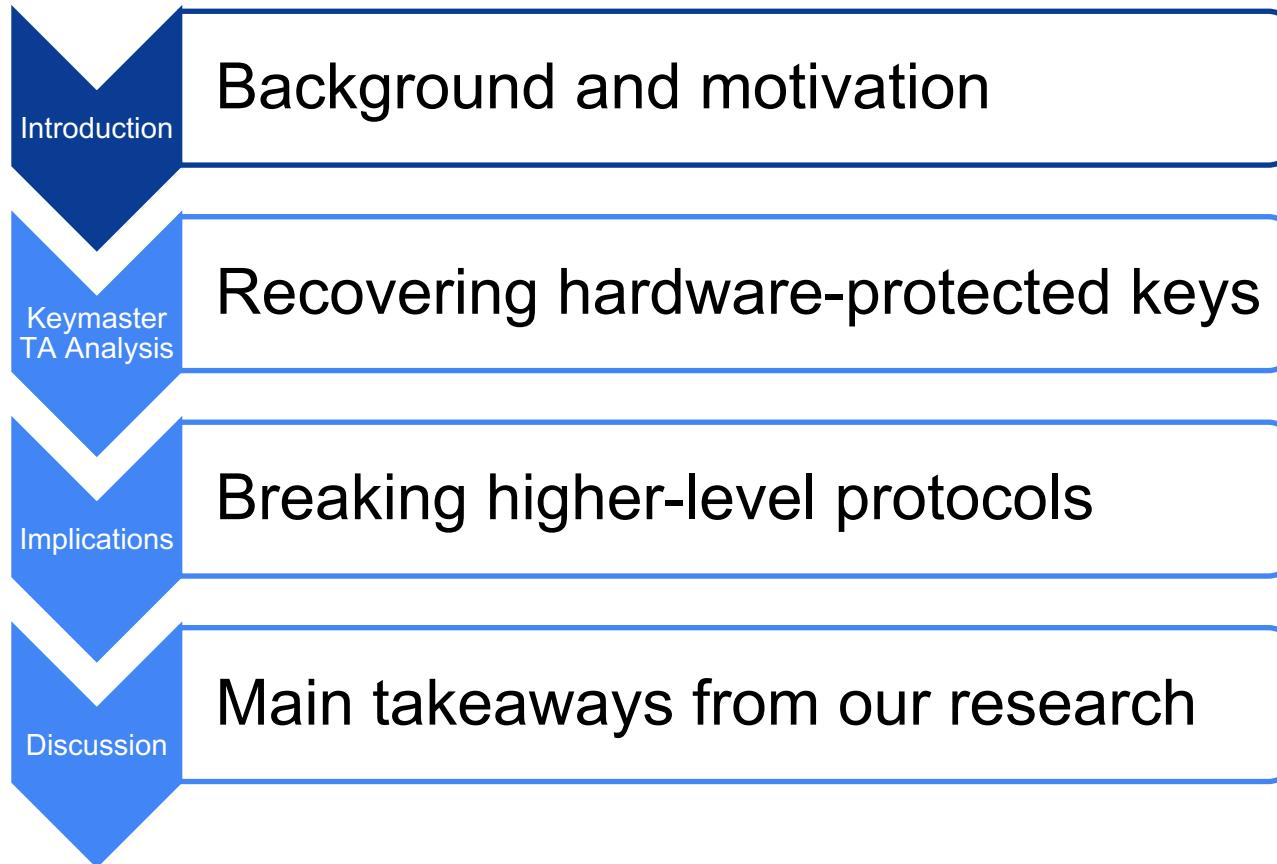
# What did we find?

2 High severity CVEs that affect over 100 million devices

Recover keys that were encrypted by trusted hardware



# Agenda



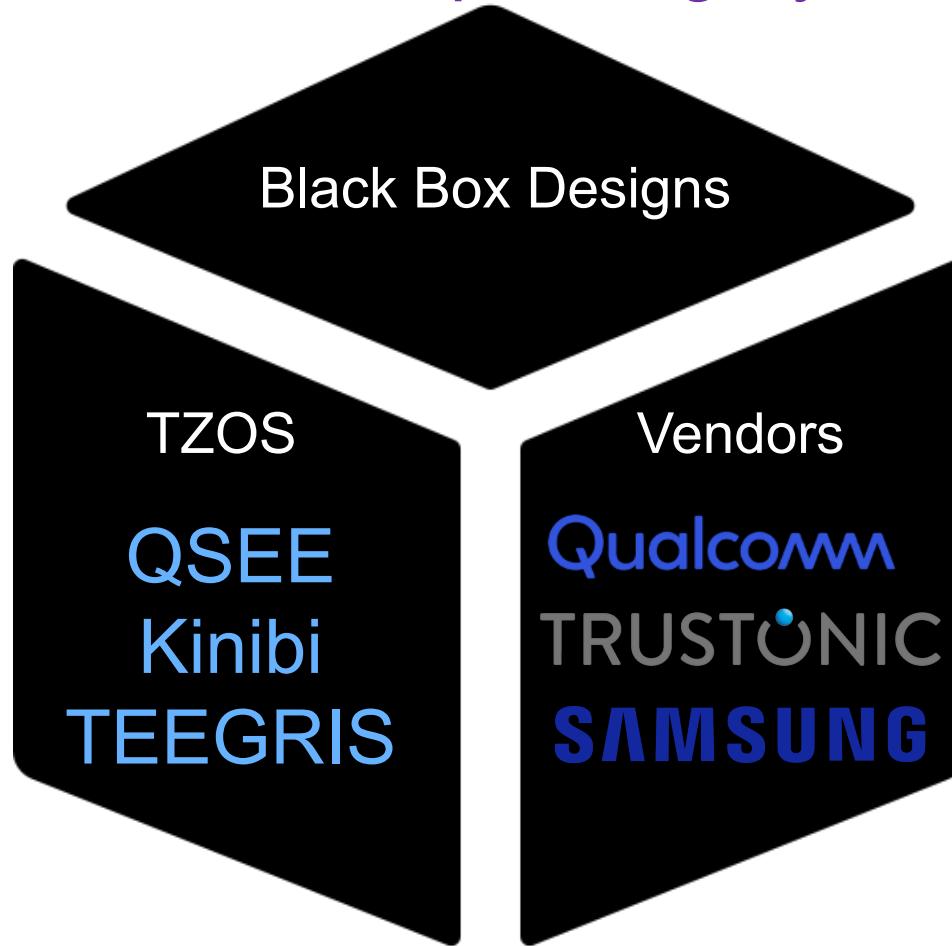
# The need for Trusted Execution Environments (TEEs)



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# Proprietary TrustZone Operating Systems (TZOS)



# Research questions

1. Do hardware-protected cryptographic keys remain secure even when the Normal World (Android) is compromised?

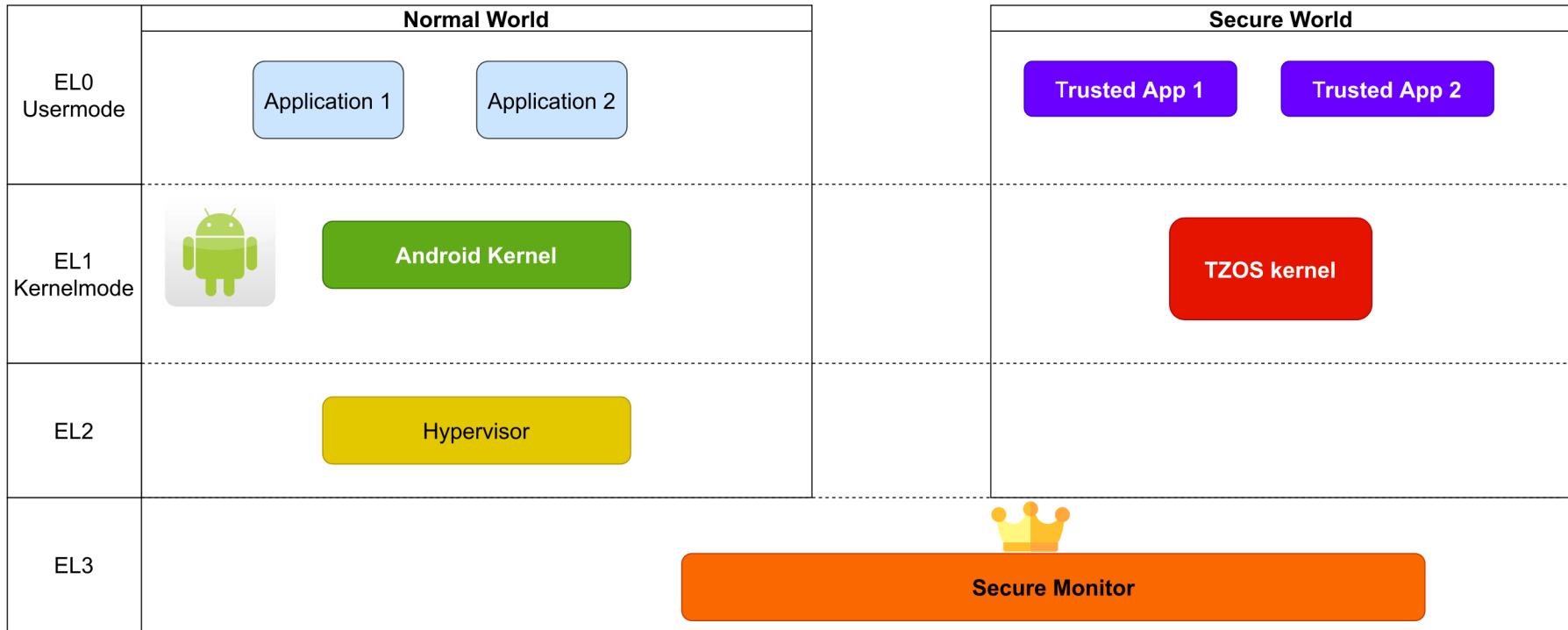


# Research questions

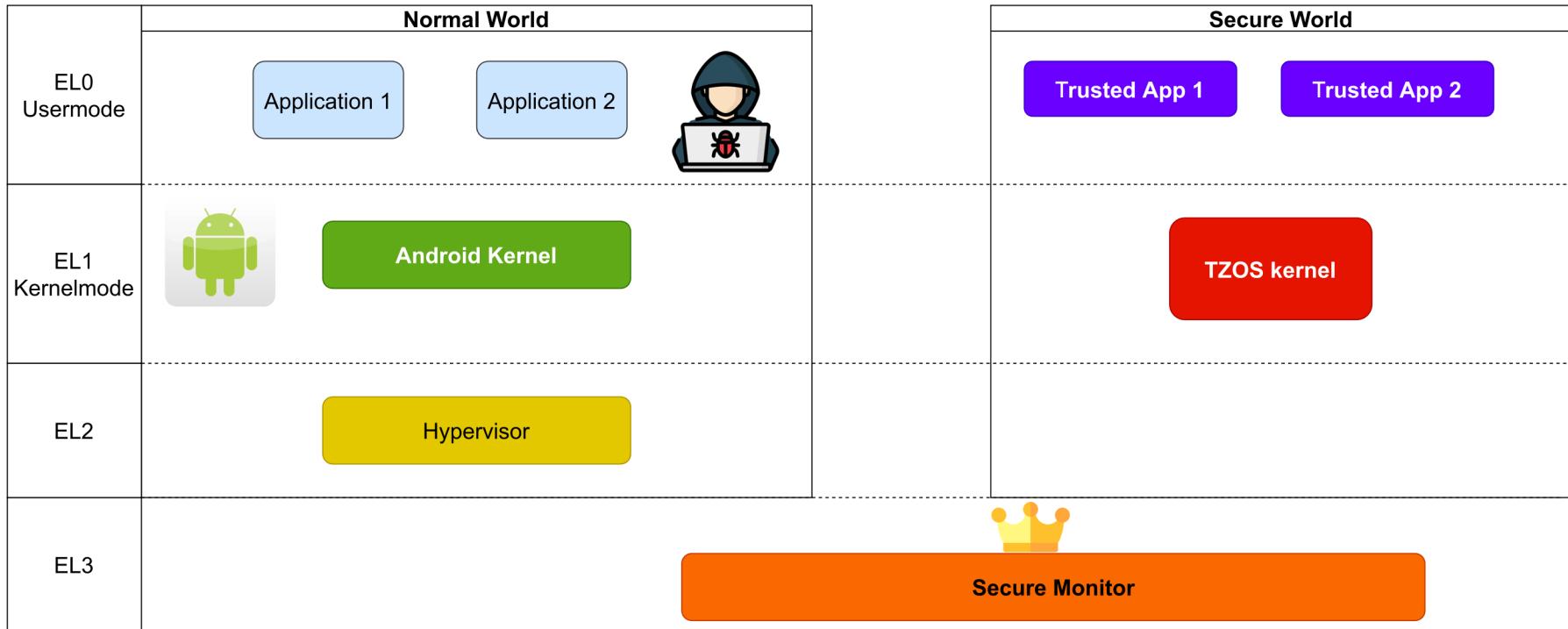
1. Do hardware-protected cryptographic keys remain secure even when the Normal World (Android) is compromised?
2. Do compromised hardware-protected keys break the security of various protocols that rely on them?



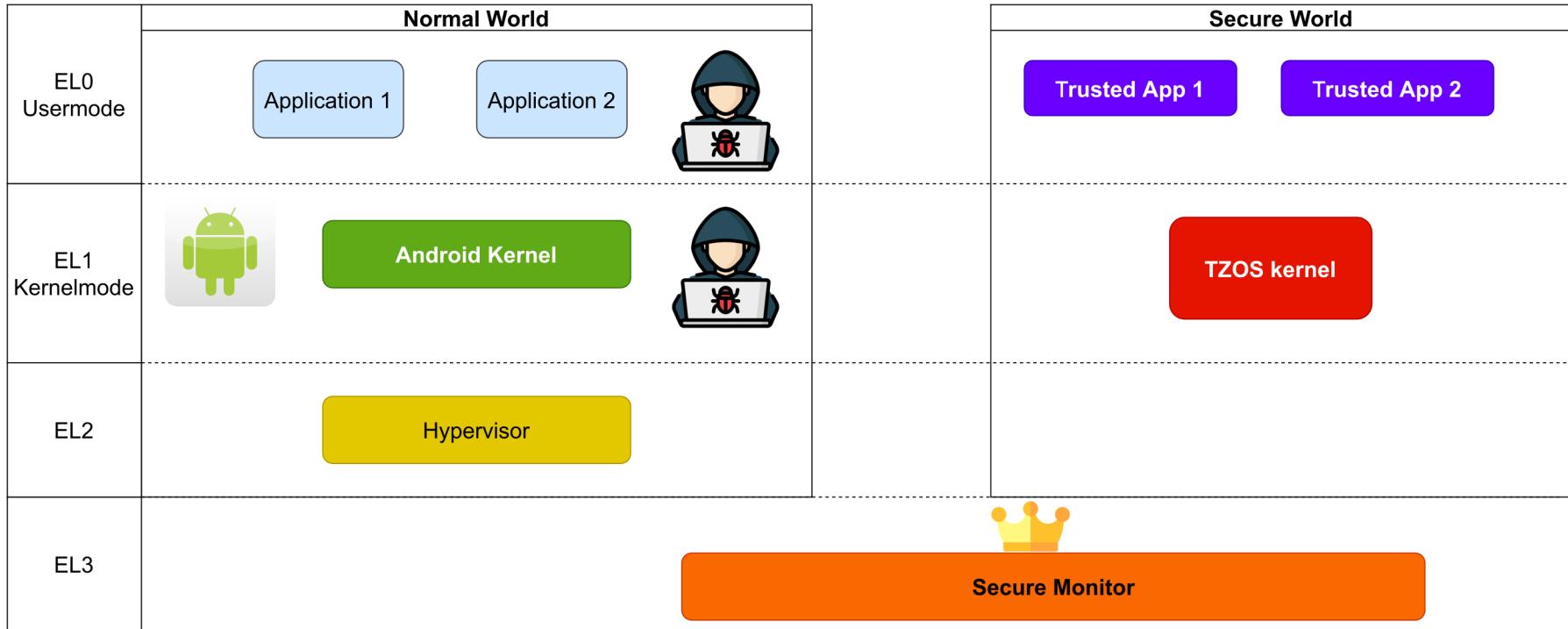
# ARM TrustZone - Attack Model



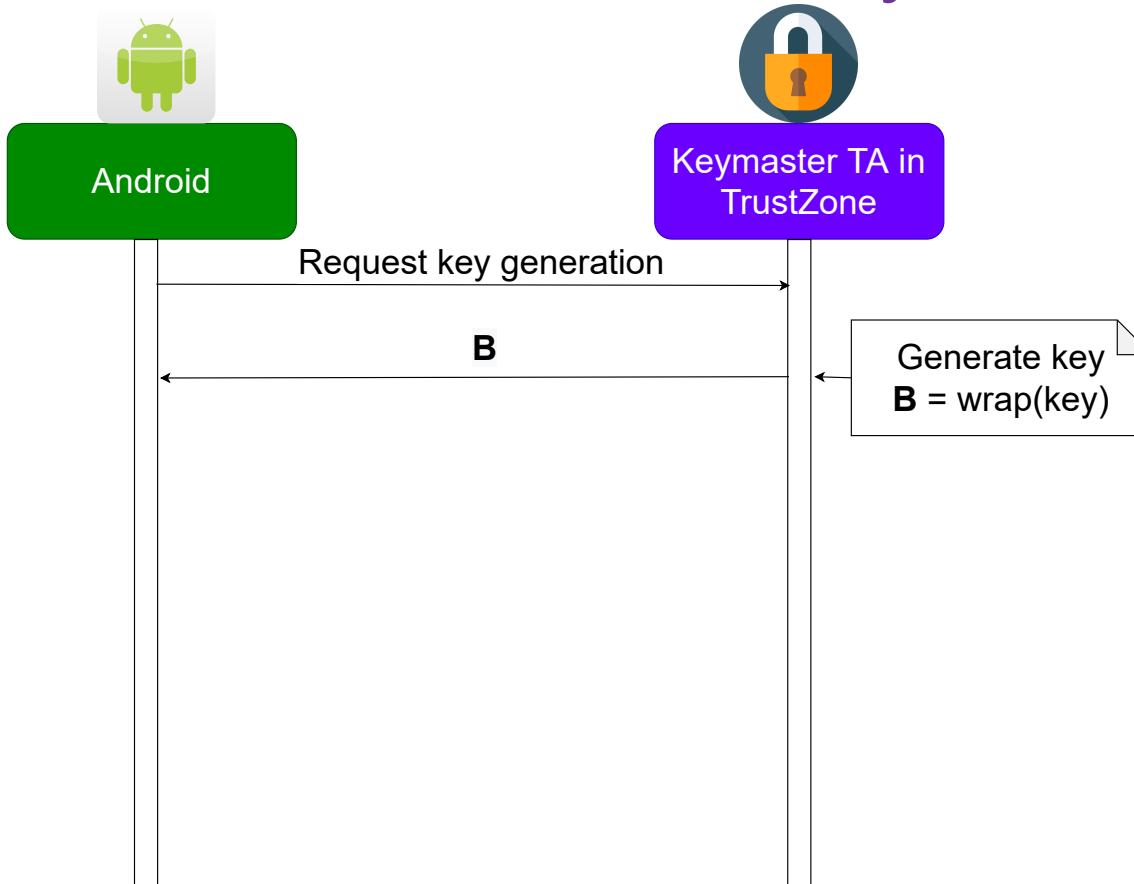
# ARM TrustZone - Attack Model



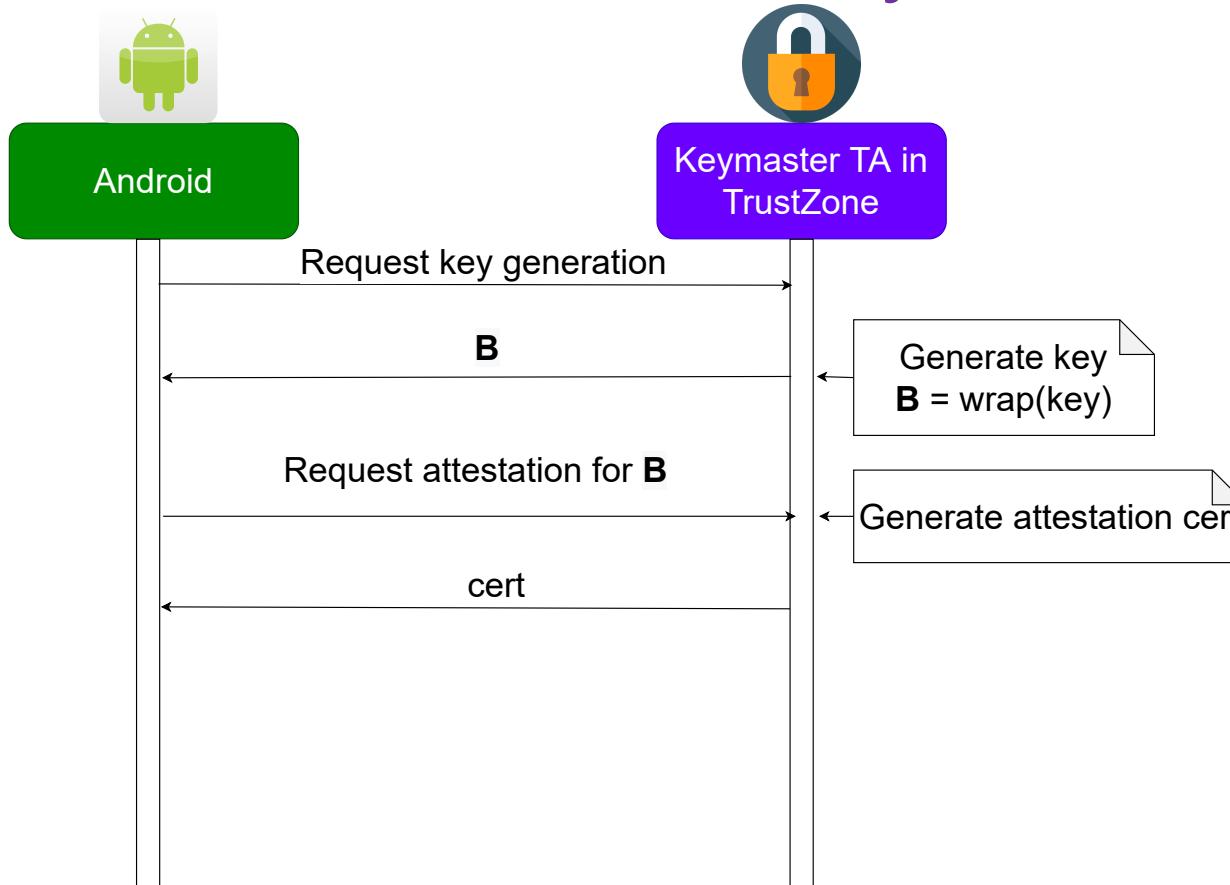
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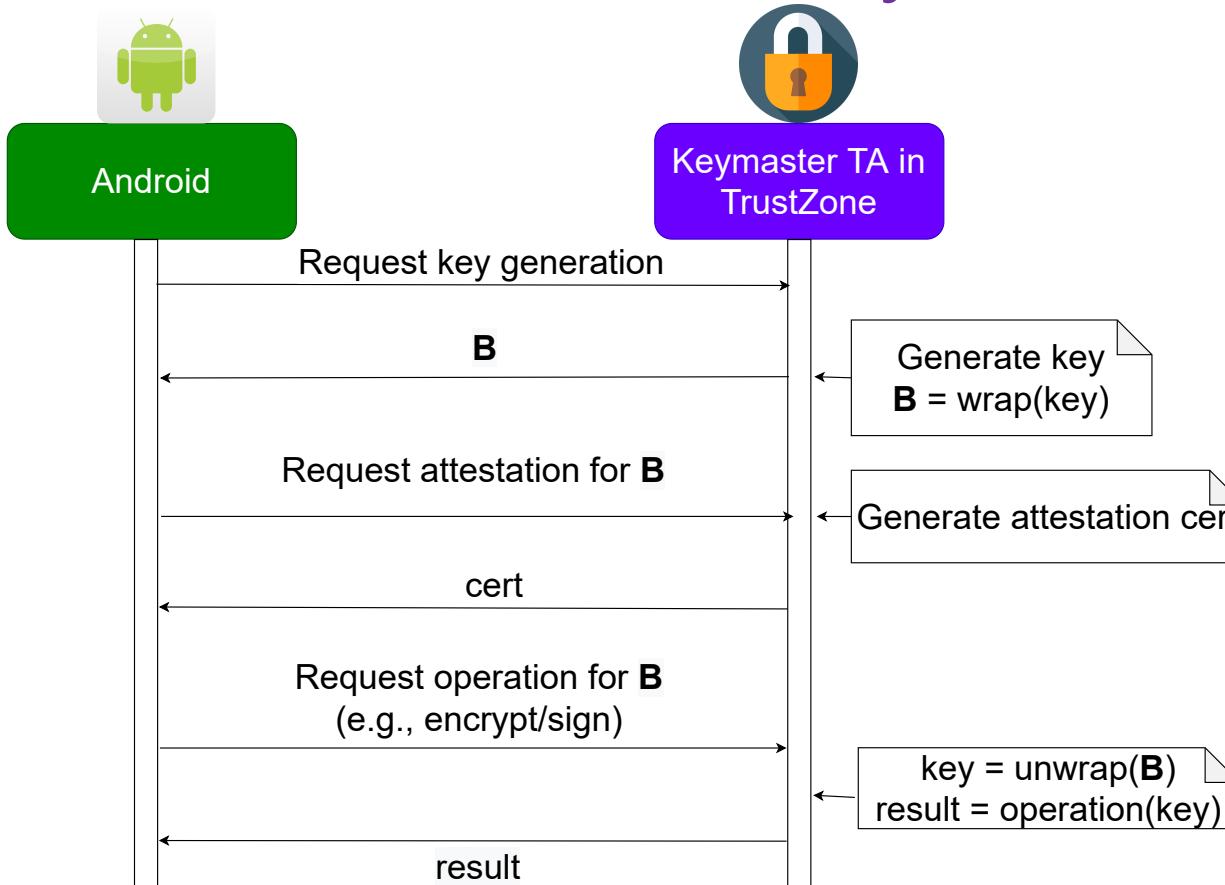
# Android Hardware-Backed Keystore Flow



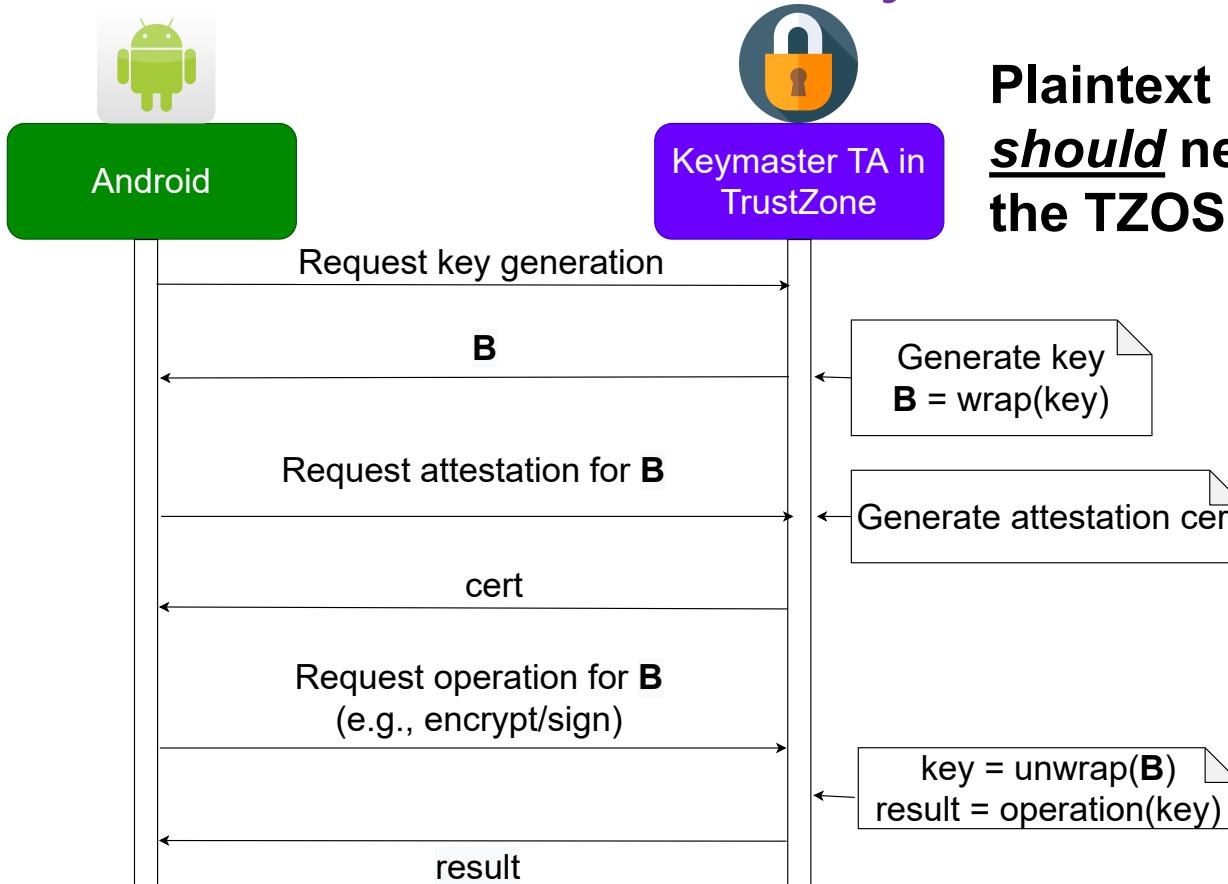
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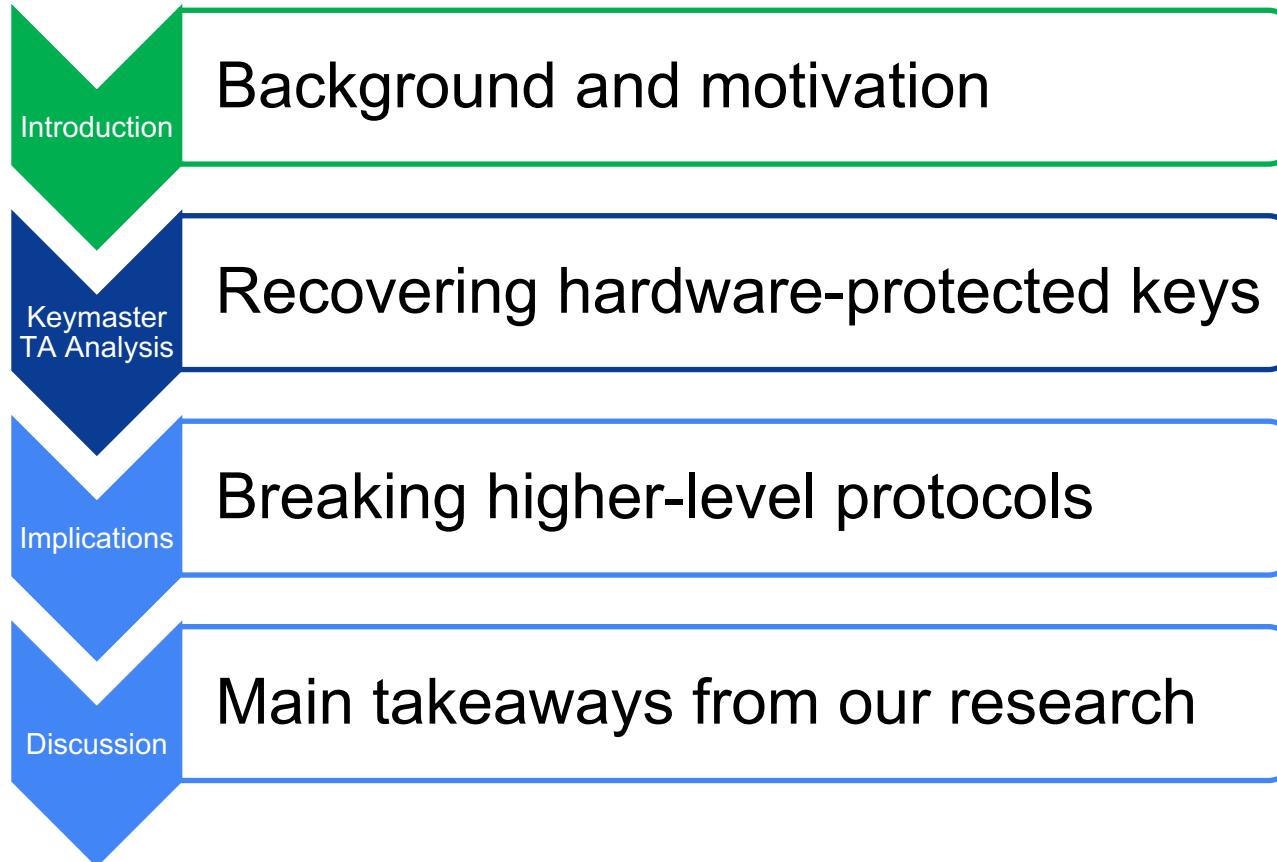
# What's the context?

We need to protect cryptographic keys of applications

Only the Keymaster should access key material

But is it guaranteed?

# Agenda



# Disclaimer

# Where do you start?

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Download the firmware of the specific model

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Reverse-engineer using Ghidra

Repeat for 26 firmwares

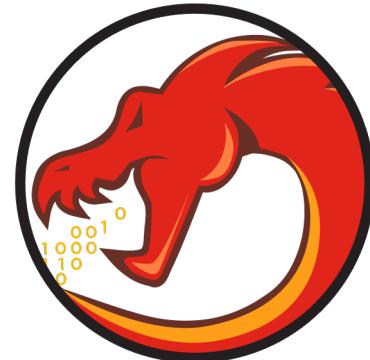
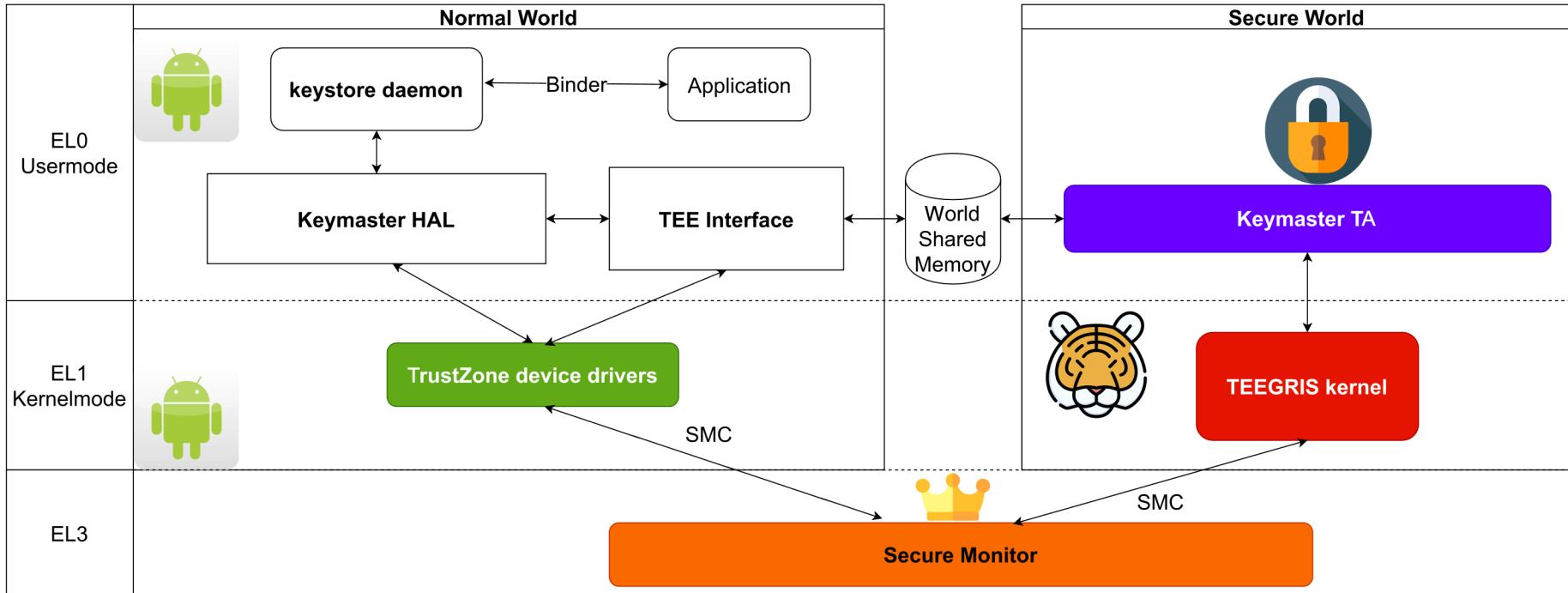
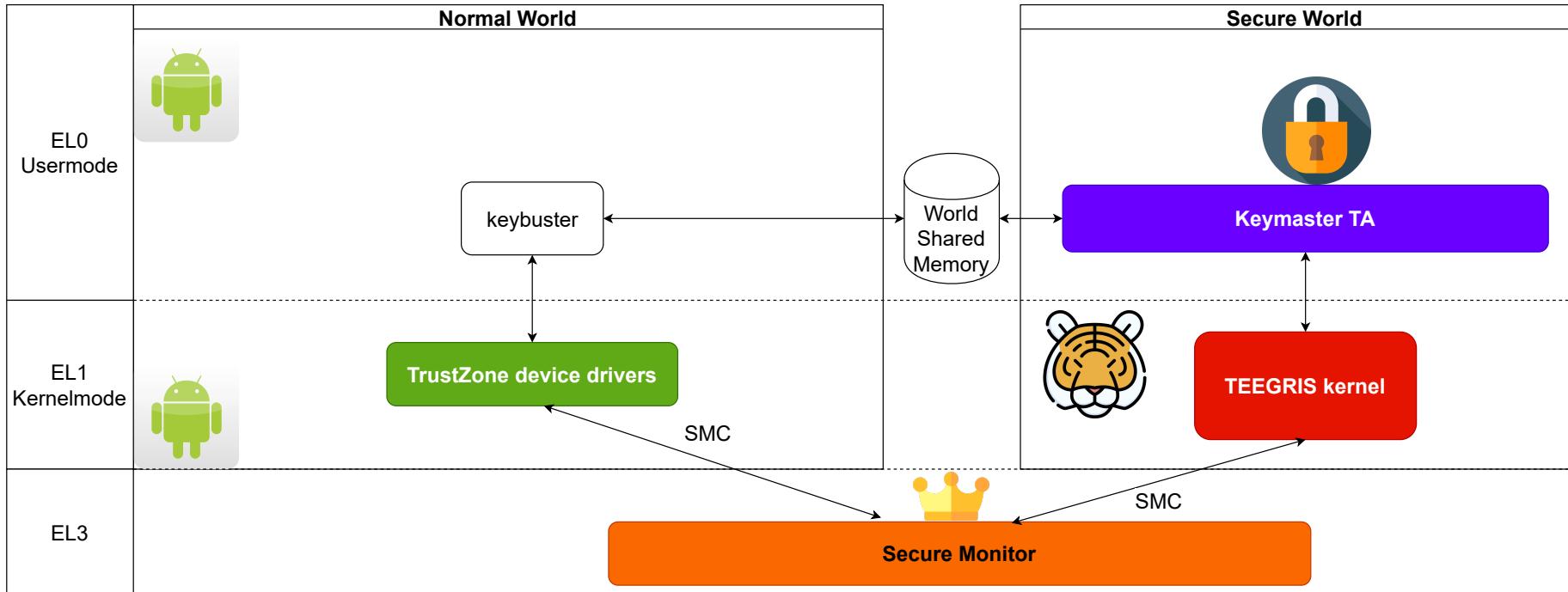


Image: Ryan Kurtz, Apache License 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons

# How to interact with the Keystream?

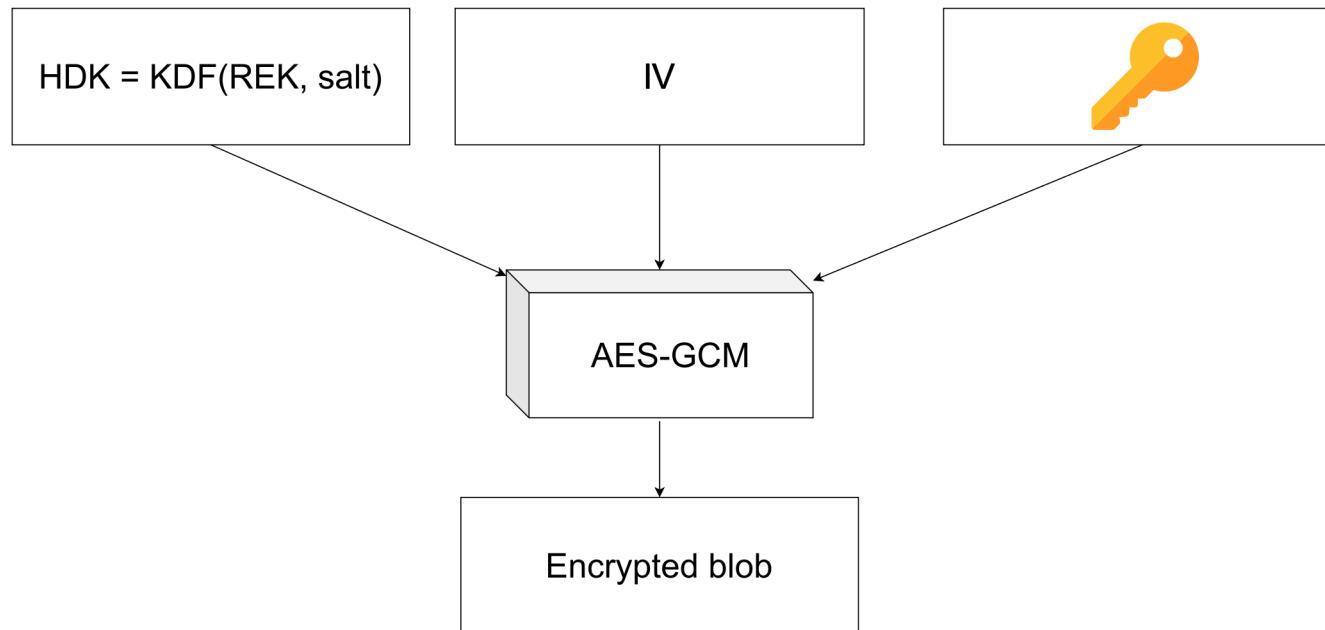


# Keybuster: tool to interact with the Keystmaster



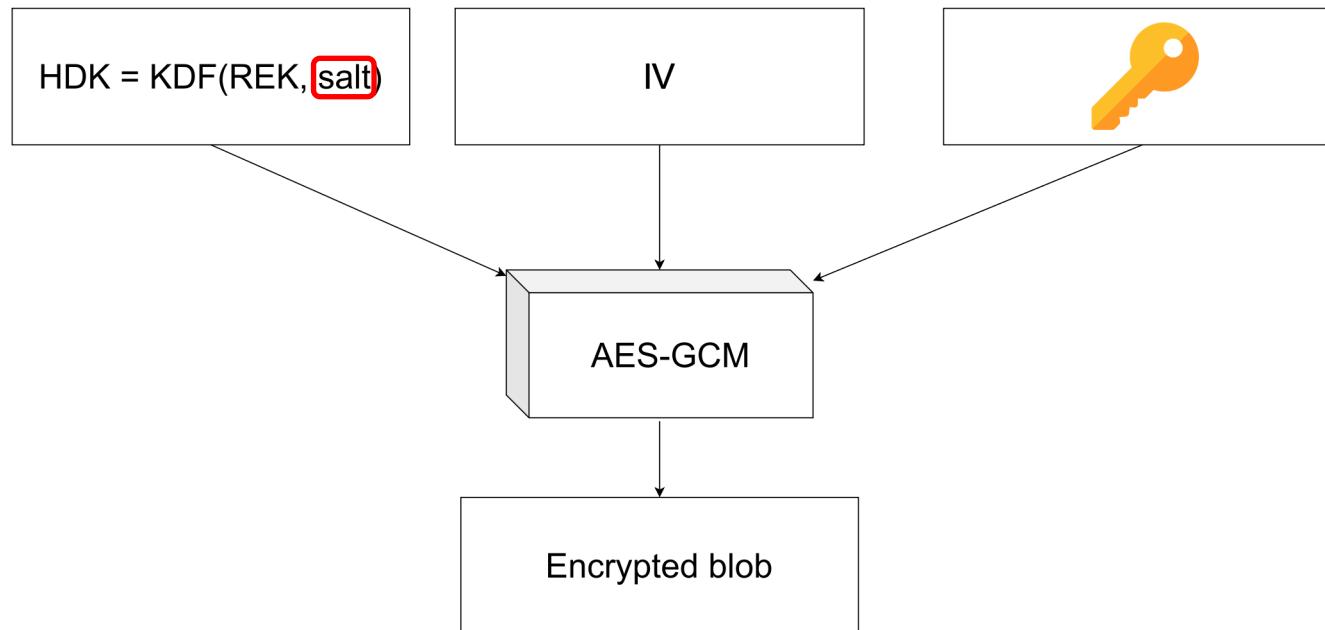
# Key Blob Encryption

The Keystream TA encrypts key material inside blobs.



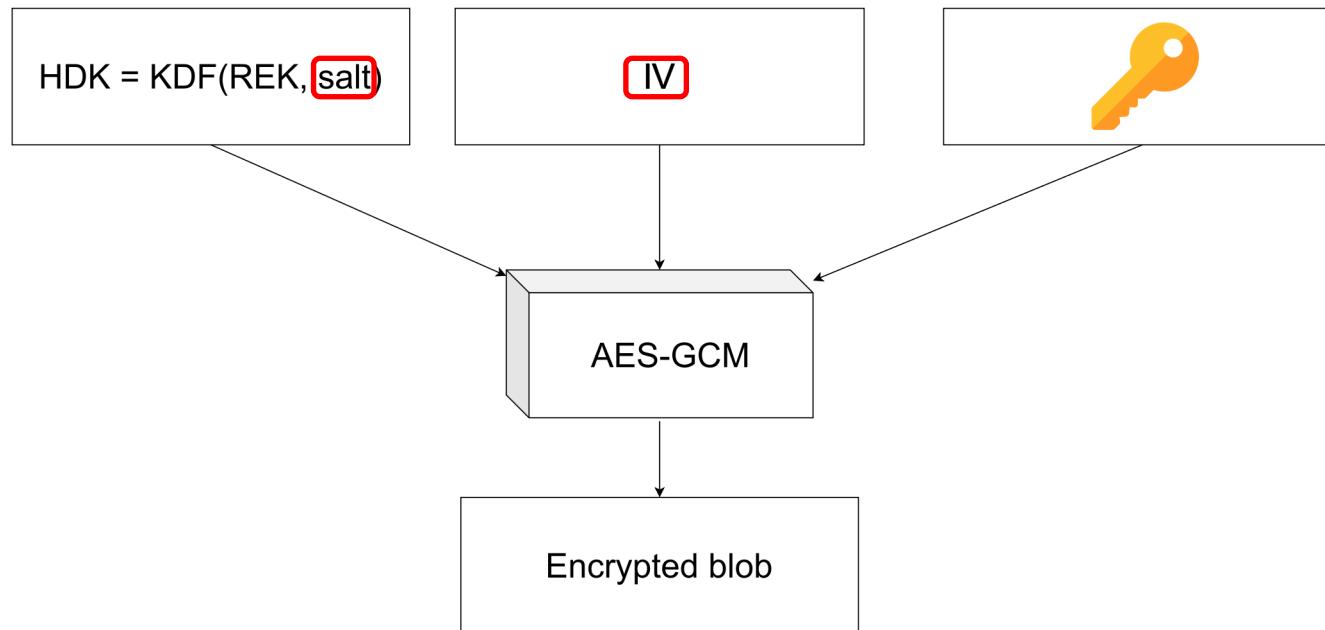
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# KDF versions of key blobs

salt = SHA-256(salt\_seq)

Where salt\_seq is one of the following sequences:

v15 blob
"MDFPP HW Keymaster HEK v15\x00"
"ID"
"\x02\x00\x00\x00"
"id"
"DATA"
"\x04\x00\x00\x00"
"data"

v20-s9 blob
"MDFPP HW Keymaster HEK v20\x00"
root_of_trust
"ID"
"\x02\x00\x00\x00"
"id"
"DATA"
"\x04\x00\x00\x00"
"data"
integrity_flags

v20-s10 blob
"MDFPP HW Keymaster HEK v20\x00"
root_of_trust
"ID"
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# MDFPP can explain the variations



**Common Criteria  
and FIPS-validated  
devices for the  
security conscious.**

**Common Criteria-Certified Devices,  
MDFPP v3**

## **Supported on Android 10**

- Samsung Galaxy Note20 5G | Note20 Ultra 5G
- Samsung Galaxy Tab S7 | Tab S7+
- Samsung Galaxy S20 FE 5G
- Samsung Galaxy S20 5G | S20+ 5G | S20 Ultra 5G
- Samsung Galaxy S20 Tactical Edition
- Samsung Galaxy Z Flip | Z Flip 5G
- Samsung Galaxy XCover Pro
- Samsung Galaxy XCover FieldPro
- Samsung Galaxy A71 5G
- Samsung Galaxy A51 | A51 5G
- Samsung Galaxy S10e | S10 | S10+ | S10 5G
- Samsung Galaxy Note10 | Note10+ | Note10+ 5G
- Samsung Galaxy Fold | Fold 5G
- Samsung Galaxy Z Fold2
- Samsung Galaxy S9 | S9+
- Samsung Galaxy Note9
- Samsung Galaxy Tab S6 | Tab S6 5G
- Samsung Galaxy Tab Active3
- Samsung Galaxy Tab S4

# IV Reuse Attack (v15/v20-s9)

- The Android client can control the salt -> key reuse

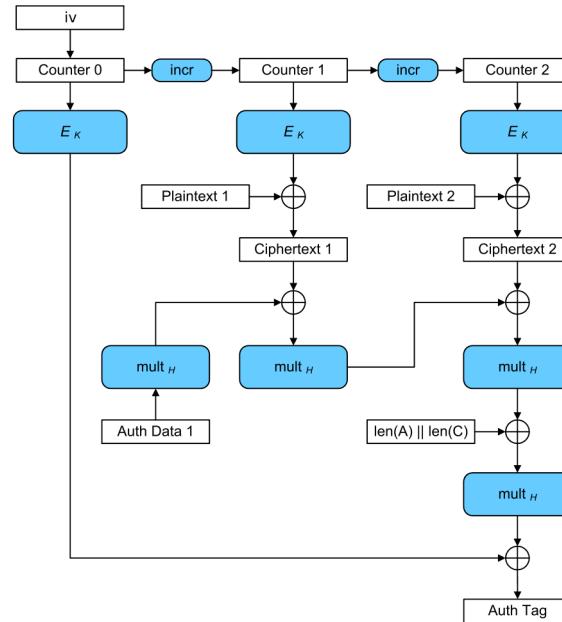
# IV Reuse Attack (v15/v20-s9)

- The Android client can control the salt -> key reuse
- The Android client can control the IV -> IV reuse



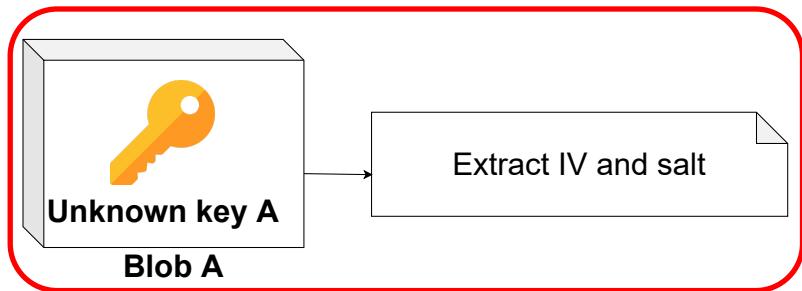
# IV Reuse Attack (v15/v20-s9)

- The Android client can control the salt -> key reuse
- The Android client can control the IV -> IV reuse
- AES-GCM + key reuse + iv reuse -> decryption



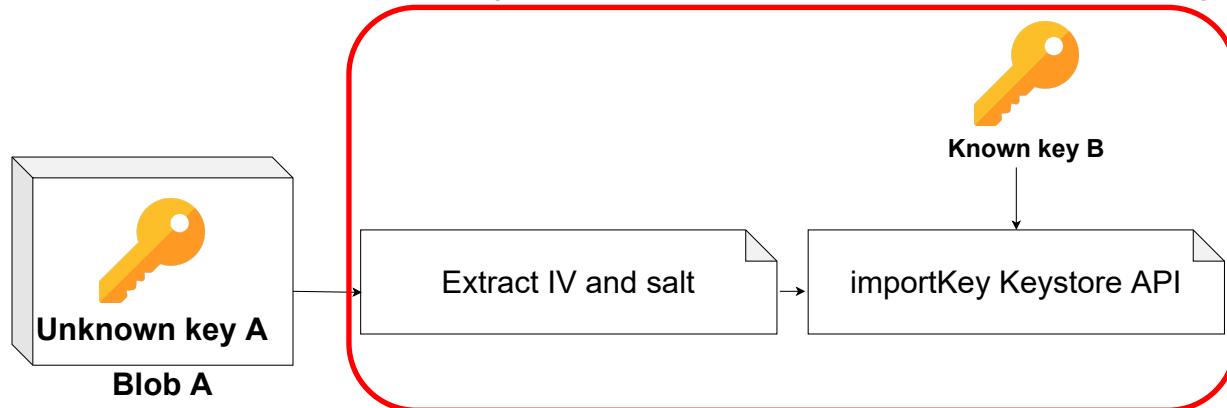
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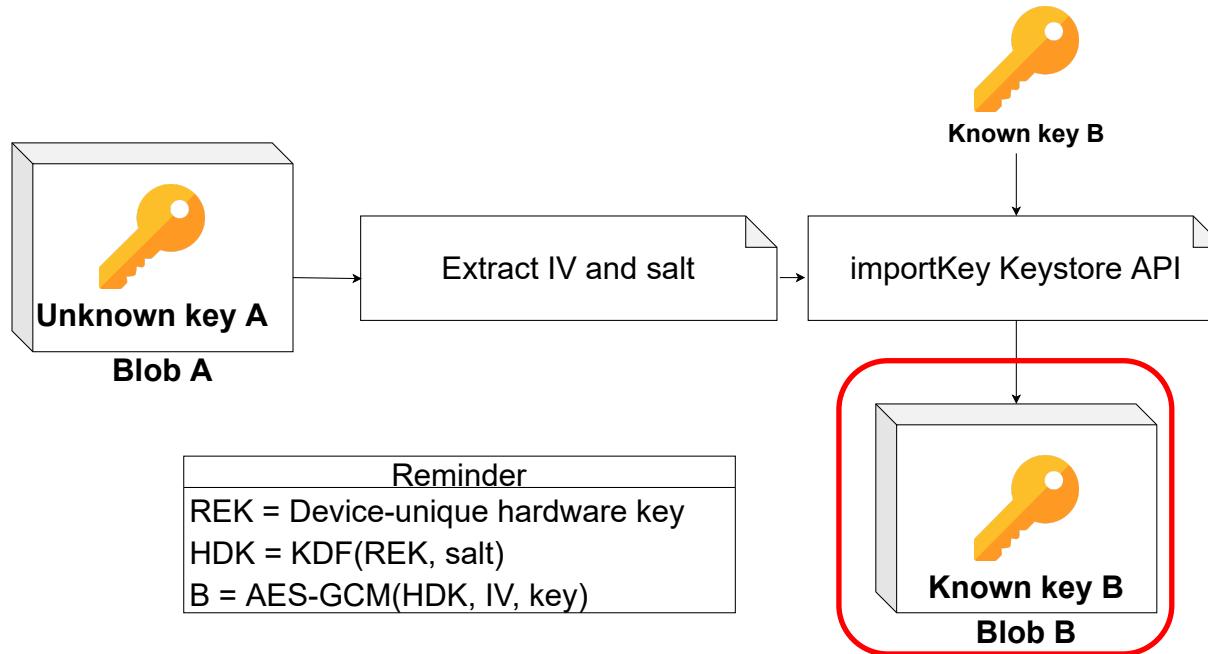
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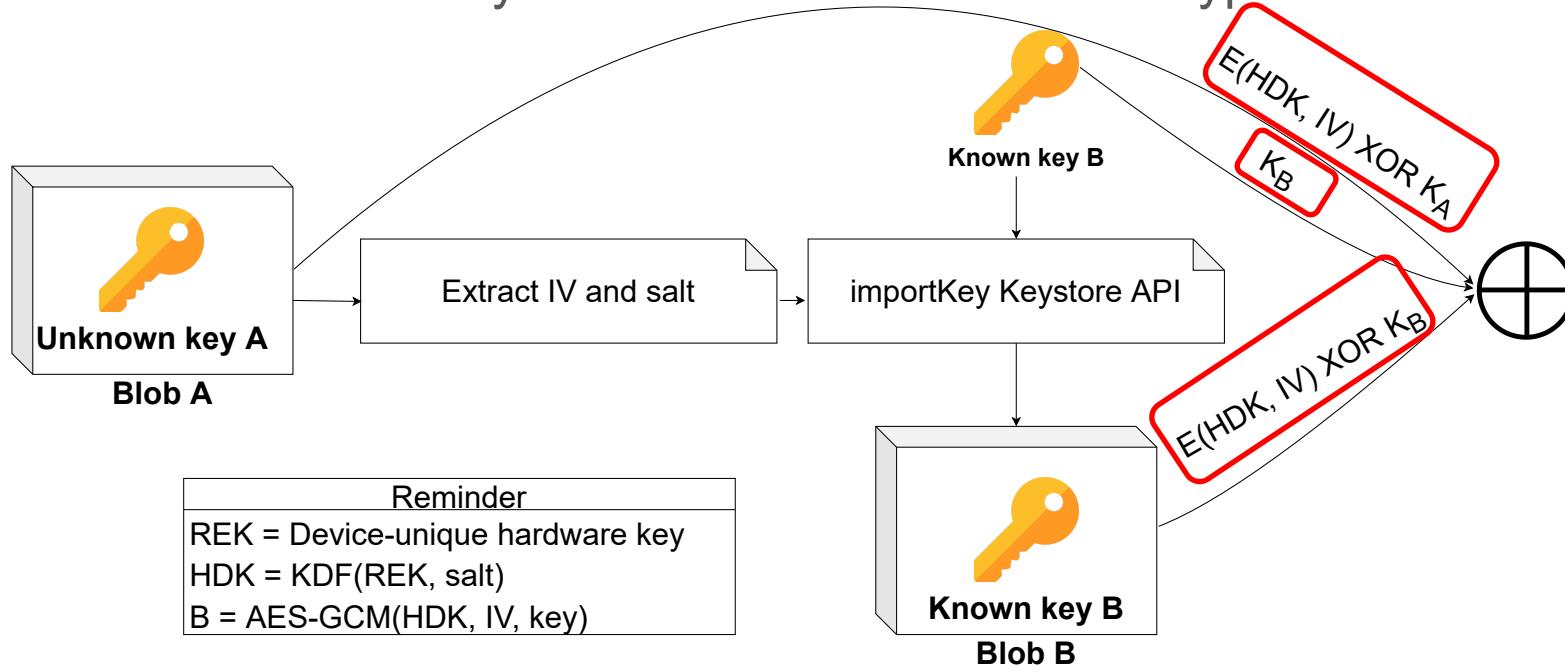
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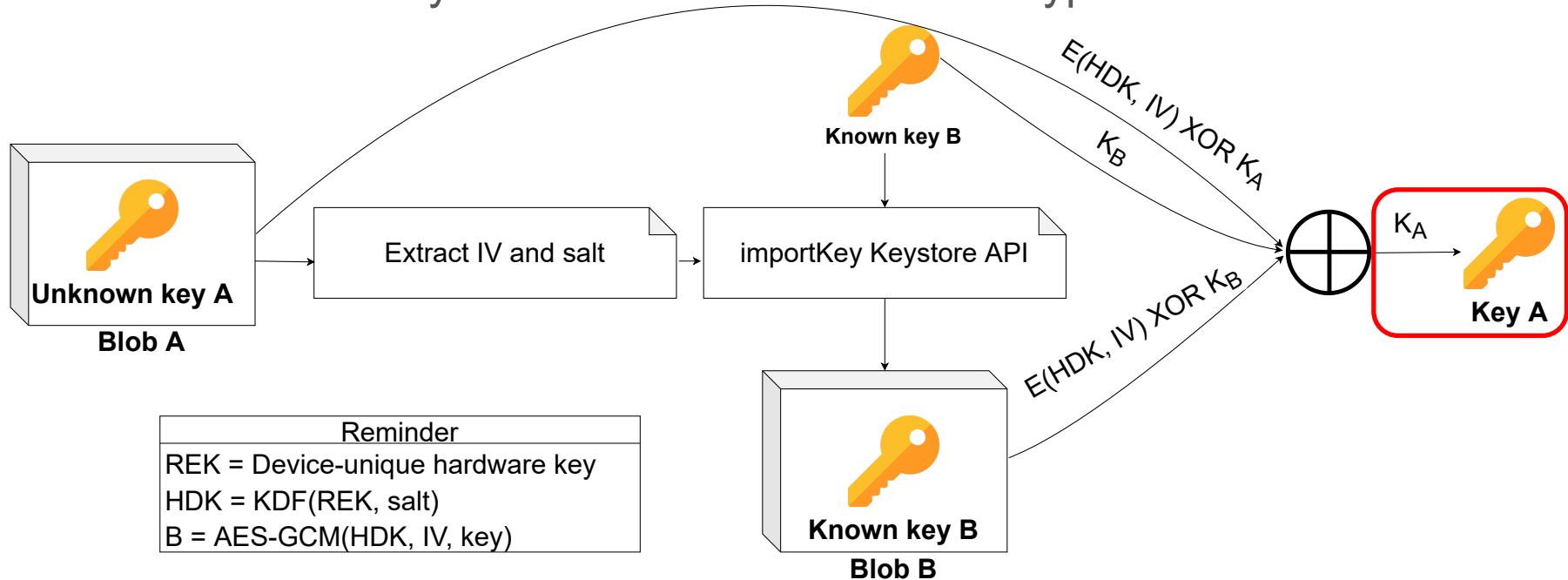
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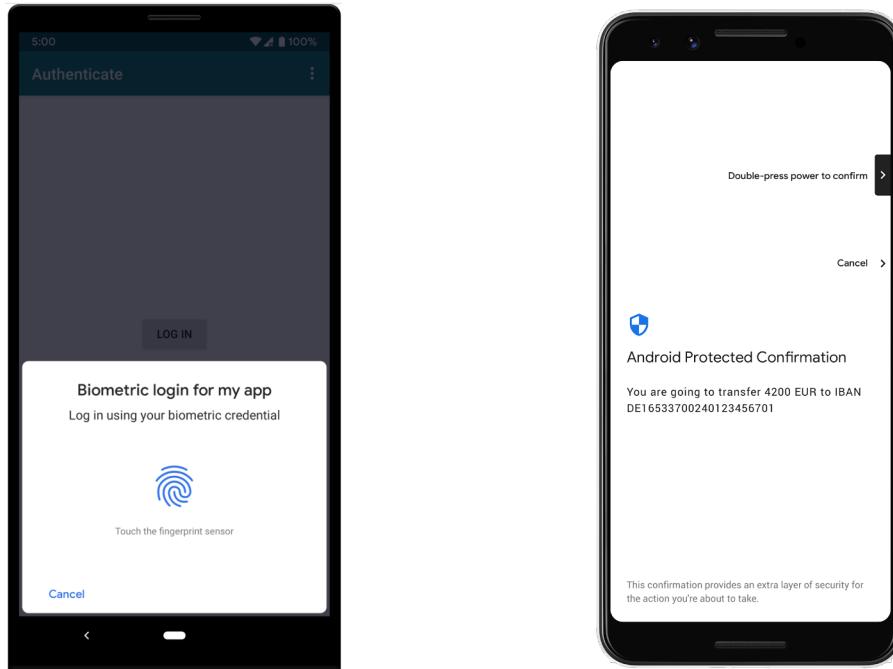
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# Bypassing Authentication and Confirmation

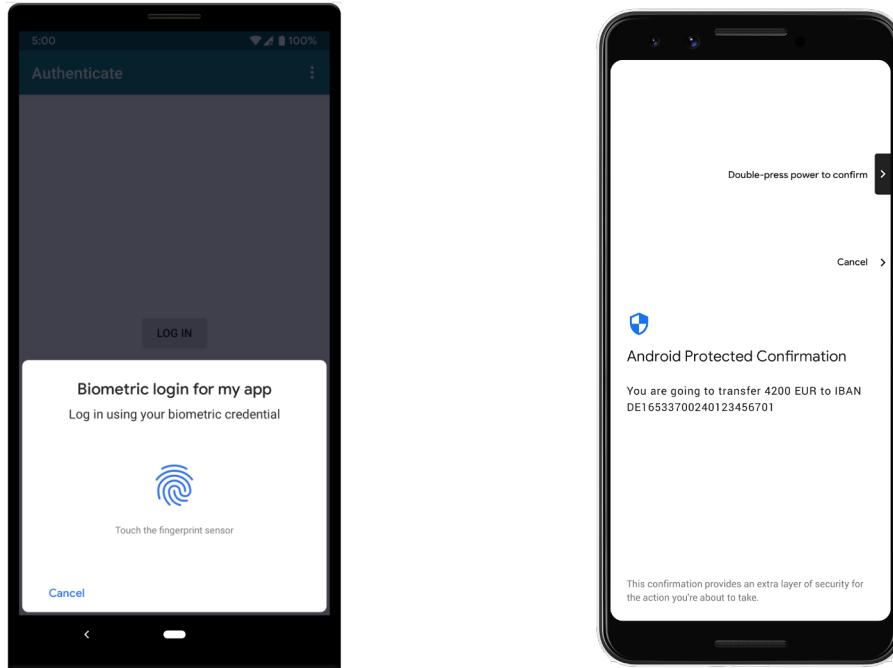
We can bypass any key usage restriction without user presence/consent



Images from Android Developers Blog

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# Downgrade Attack

- V20-s10 has randomized salt → no trivial key reuse

v20-s10 blob
"MDFPP HW Keymaster HEK v20\x00"
root_of_trust
"ID"
"\x02\x00\x00\x00"
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integrity_flags
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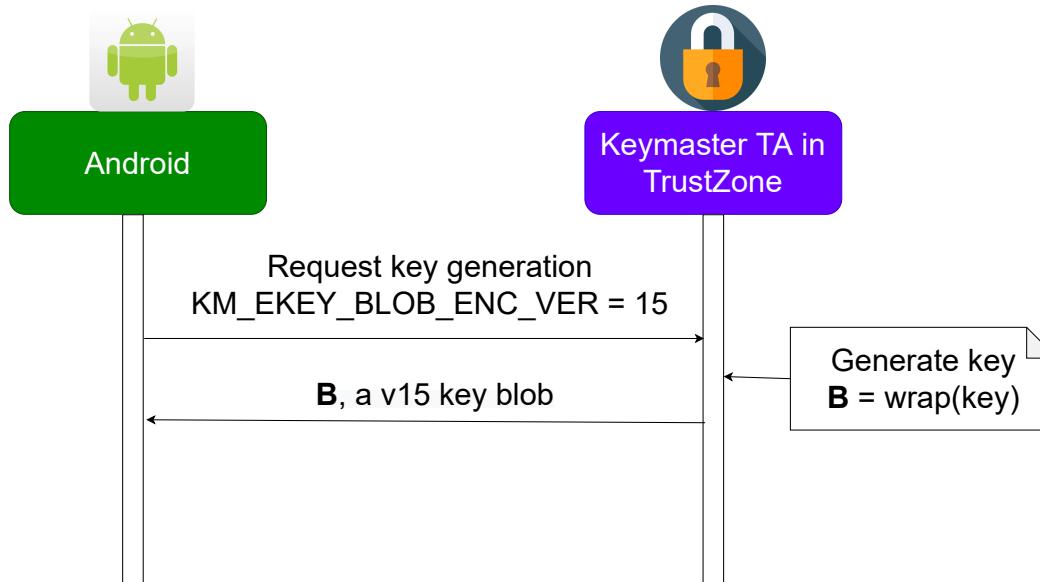
- V20-s10 has randomized salt → no trivial key reuse
- **Latent code** allows creation of v15 blobs



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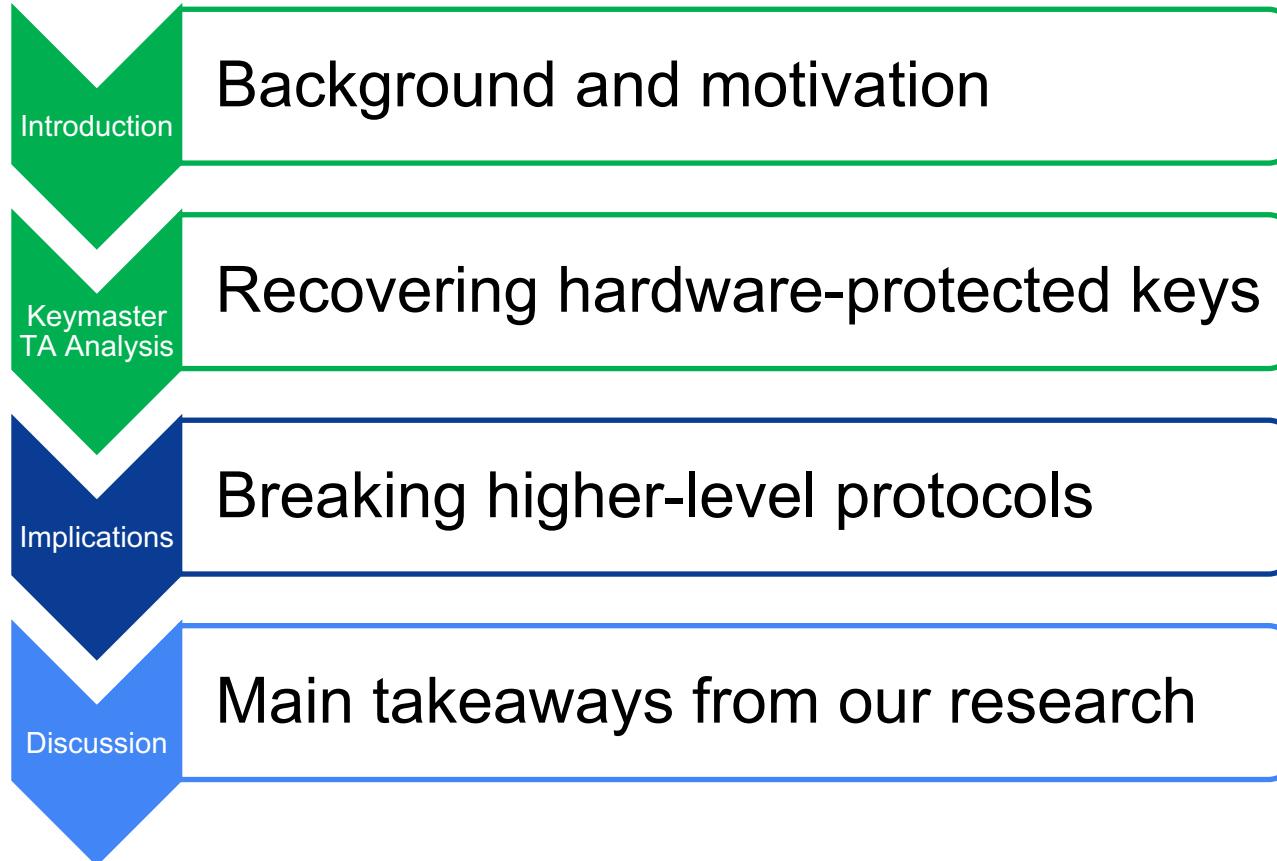
# Downgrade Attack

- V20-s10 has randomized salt → no trivial key reuse
- **Latent code** allows creation of v15 blobs
- A privileged attacker can exploit this to force all new blobs to version v15



v20-s10 blob
"MDFPP HW Keypoint HEK v20\x00"
root_of_trust
"ID"
"\x02\x00\x00\x00"
"id"
"DATA"
"\x04\x00\x00\x00"
"data"
integrity_flags
hek_randomness

# Agenda



# FIDO2 WebAuthn

Allows passwordless authentication



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Authentication keys live inside a “platform authenticator”



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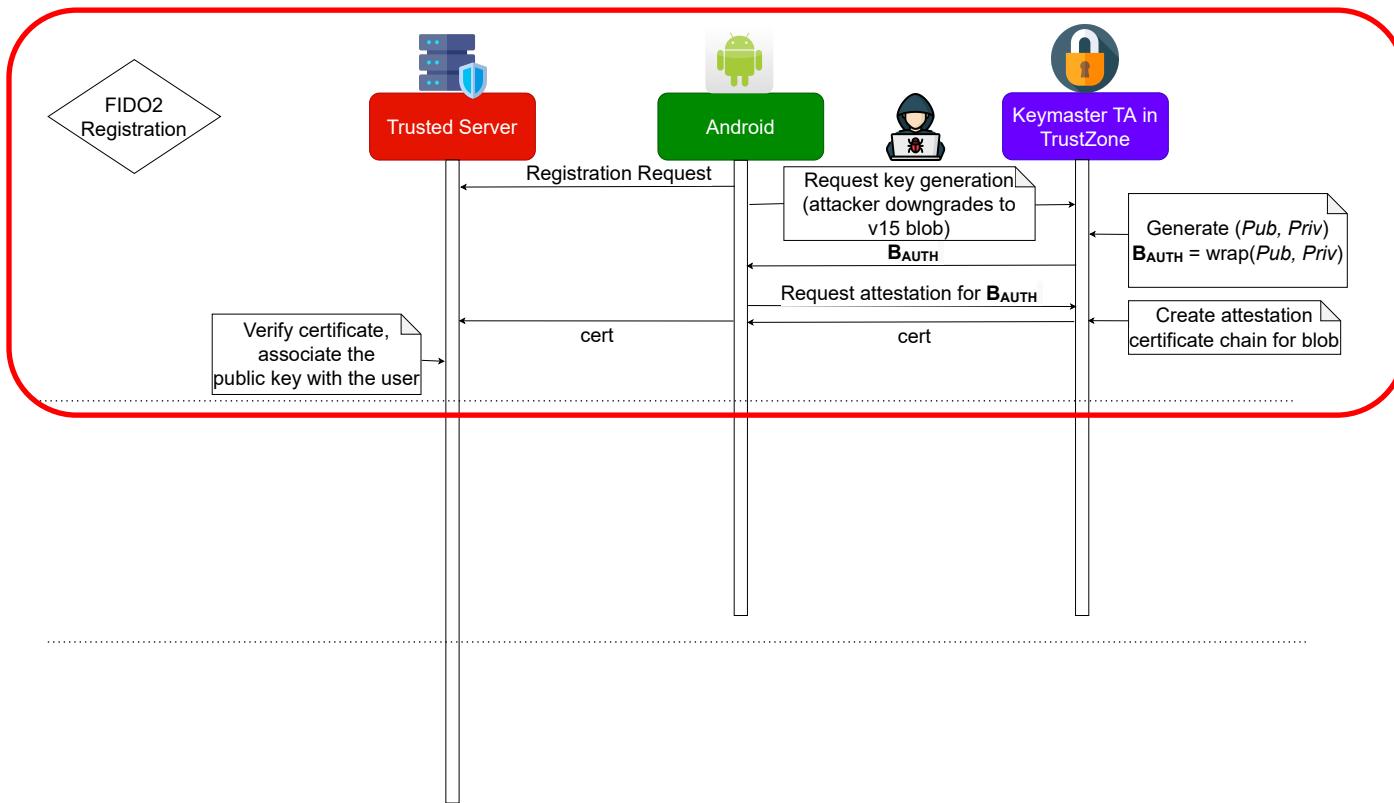
Authentication keys live inside a “platform authenticator”

Hard to extract the keys from the secure element

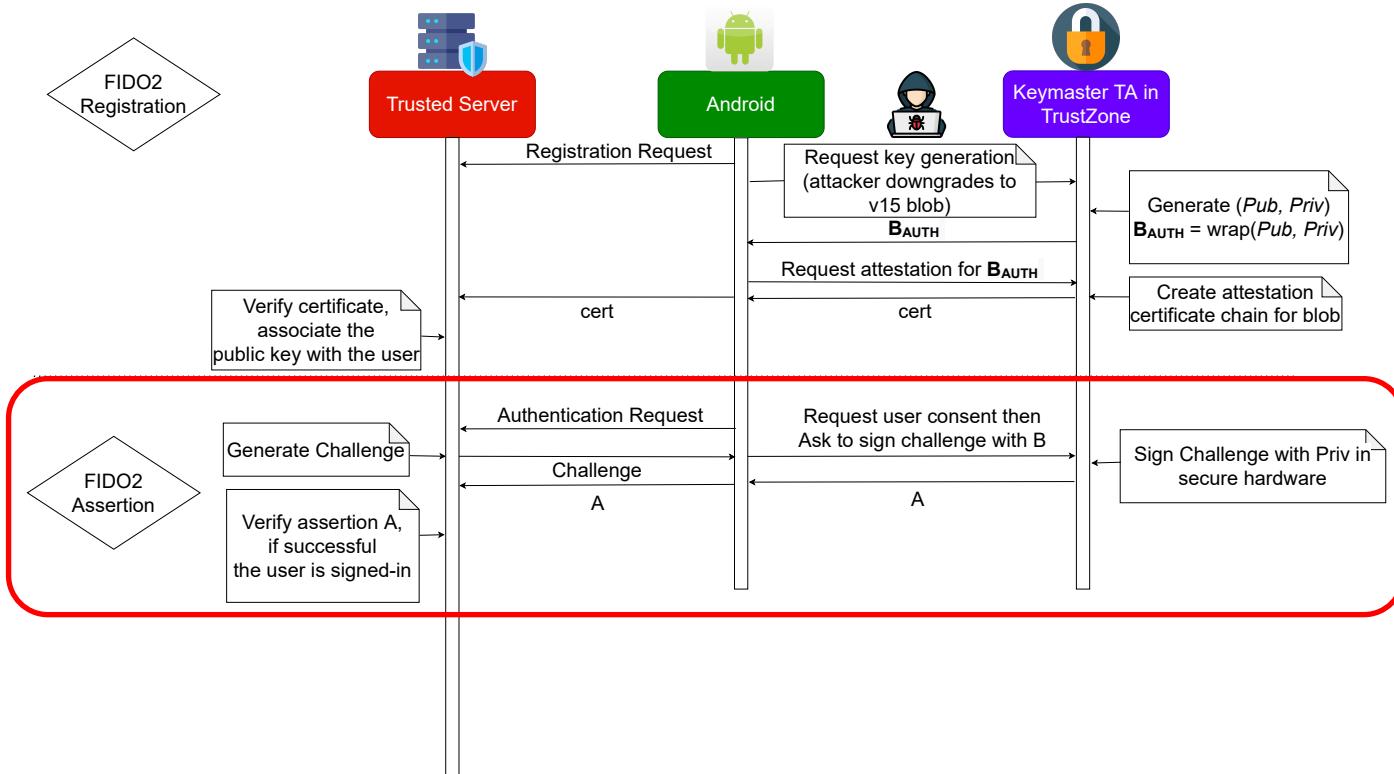
Or to clone the platform authenticator



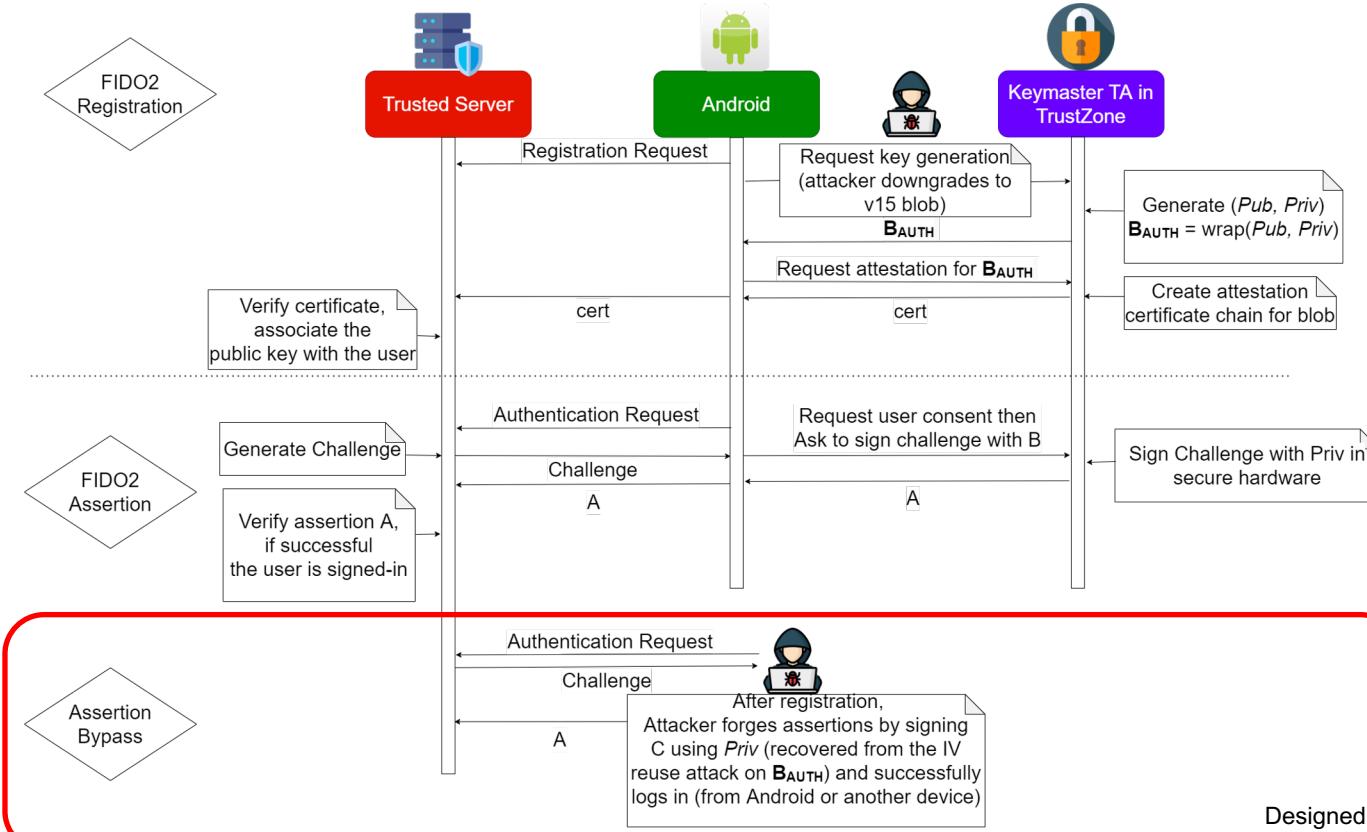
# Bypassing FIDO2 WebAuthn



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# Bypassing FIDO2 WebAuthn Demo #1

```
beyond1:/data/local/tmp # ./gdbserver --attach :1337 $(pidof android.hardware.keymaster@4.0-service)
Attached; pid = 5190
Listening on port 1337
```

(a) Attaching a GDB debugger to the Keystream HAL process

```
Breakpoint 2, 0x00000077dae6e514 in nwd_generate_key () from target:/vendor/lib64/libkeymaster_helper_vendor.so
intercepted request to nwd_generate_key
copy old key parameters to new buffer
$1 = 0x7759c24000
$2 = 0x7759c24000
add new parameter (KM_EKEY_BLOB_ENC_VER, 15)
switch to new parameters - this forces the generation of a v15 blob
Breakpoint 4, 0x00000077dae6e544 in nwd_generate_key () from target:/vendor/lib64/libkeymaster_helper_vendor.so
dump the key blob that the keystream returned
start 0x7759c3b280, end 0x7759c3b4d2, len 252
dumped to result.bin
```

(b) During registration, the GDB script performs the downgrade attack

# Bypassing FIDO2 WebAuthn Demo #2

The image displays four screenshots of a web-based FIDO2 authentication application, labeled (c) through (f), illustrating the process from registration to re-authentication.

**(c) Registration success:** Shows the "Registered FIDO Key" screen. It includes "User Information" (did: 1, sid: 1, uid: 187, username: fido, email: demo@test, userMobileNumber: 123454321) and "FIDO Registration Information" (did: 1, uid: 187, displayName: Demo Demo, rpId: strongkey.com, credentialId: D6A6808656EF7118-46C1436FCB4BB050-939FB0C7FB4F23B4-68627EB3E7DB4CCA, createdDate: Mon Aug 16 22:39:42 GMT+03:00 2021, counter: 1, seModule: true, [TRUSTED\_EXECUTION\_ENVIRONMENT]). Buttons include "PUBLIC KEY DETAILS...", "CLIENT DATA JSON DETAILS...", "AUTHENTICATOR DATA DETAILS...", "CBOR ATTESTATION DETAILS...", and "JSON ATTESTATION DETAILS...". A large "AUTHENTICATE" button is at the bottom.

**(d) Authentication success:** Shows the "FIDO Authentication" screen. It includes "User Information" (did: 1, sid: 1, uid: 187, username: fido, email: demo@test, userMobileNumber: 123454321) and "FIDO Authentication Information" (did: 1, uid: 187, rpId: strongkey.com, credentialId: D6A6808656EF7118-46C1436FCB4BB050-939FB0C7FB4F23B4-68627EB3E7DB4CCA, createdDate: Mon Aug 16 22:39:52 GMT+03:00 2021). Buttons include "DIGITAL SIGNATURE DETAILS...", "AUTHENTICATOR DATA DETAILS...", "CLIENT DATA JSON DETAILS...", "SEND SECURITY KEY REGISTRATION E-MAIL...", and "GALLERY". A "Submit Transaction" button is at the bottom.

**(e) Checkout example:** Shows the "Checkout" screen. It features a sidebar with a user icon and "STRONGKEY" logo. It lists products: "Tellaro T100" (9,995), "Tellaro E1000" (19,995), "FIDO Cloud" (995/year, Quantity: 1), and "Tellaro Cloud" (11,940/year). A "Total Price: \$995" summary is shown. A "Submit Transaction" button is at the bottom.

**(f) Re-authentication success:** Shows the "Checkout" screen, similar to (e), but with updated user information: did: 1, uid: 187, username: fido, givenName: familyName: Demo Demo. It also shows transaction details: txid: SFAEC0-40, tdate: Mon Aug 16 22:40:31 GMT+03:00 2021, nonce: eJ0vAq4EjJvuAzaqk92BMw, challenge: 9tqlvUuRvY\_NGlYyvFNa7djH1bpclONrx4snMXSRKdjl. Buttons include "SEE TXPAYLOAD DETAIL...", "FIDO Authenticator References", "ID DETAIL...", "RAW ID DETAIL...", "USER HANDLE DETAIL...", "AUTHENTICATOR DATA DETAILS...", "CLIENT DATA JSON DETAILS...", and "ACQUIRER DETAIL".

(c) Registration success

(d) Authentication success

(e) Checkout example

(f) Re-authentication success

# What did we find?

Attackers could steal cryptographic keys of applications

Attackers could steal your identity

# Responsible Disclosure #1

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  - S9, J3 Top, J7 Top, J7 Duo, TabS4, Tab-A-S-Lite, A6 Plus, A9S
  - CVE-2021-25444 with High severity
  - Removed the option to add a custom IV from the API

## SVE-2021-21948 (CVE-2021-25444): IV reuse in Keystream TA

Severity: High

Affected versions: O(8.1), P(9.0), Q(10.0)

Reported on: May 25, 2021

Disclosure status: Privately disclosed.

An IV reuse vulnerability in keystream prior to SMR AUG-2021 Release 1 allows decryption of custom keyblob with privileged process. The patch prevents reusing IV by blocking addition of custom IV.

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# Responsible Disclosure #2

- Jun '21: Samsung rejected the downgrade attack
  - “There is no application created with the key blob version as v15. And any of the applications cannot change its key blob version for it to be exploitable.”

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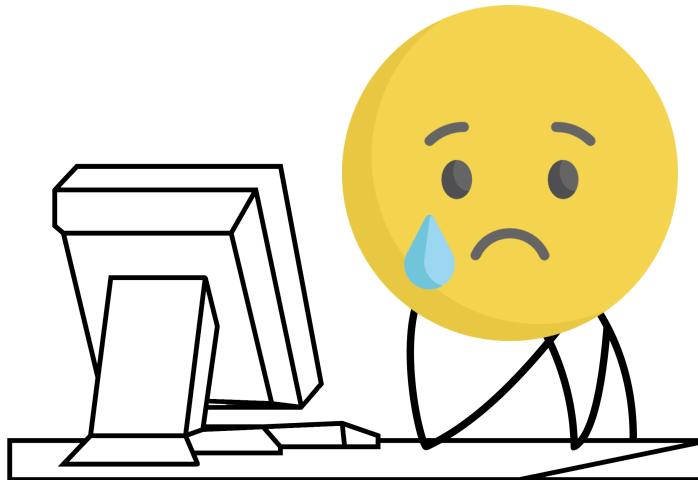
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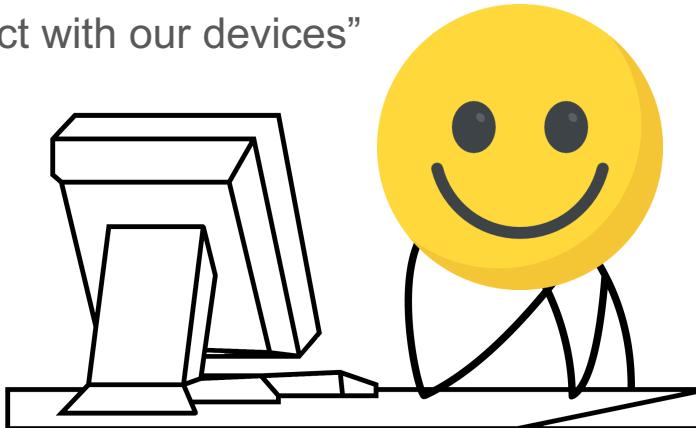
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- Oct '21: Samsung patched Android P or later, including S10/S20/S21
  - CVE-2021-25490 with High severity
  - Released a patch that completely removes the legacy key blob implementation

**SVE-2021-22658 (CVE-2021-25490): Downgrade attack in Keymaster TA**

Severity: High

Affected versions: P(9.0), Q(10.0), R(11.0)

Reported on: July 16, 2021

Disclosure status: Privately disclosed.

A keyblob downgrade attack in keymaster prior to SMR Oct-2021 Release 1 allows attacker to trigger IV reuse vulnerability with privileged process.

The patch removes the legacy implementation for minor keyblob.

# No Security By Obscurity

 **BleepingComputer** ✓  
@BleepinComputer

Samsung confirms hackers stole Galaxy devices source code - [@Ionut\\_llascu](#)



[bleepingcomputer.com](http://bleepingcomputer.com)

**Samsung confirms hackers stole Galaxy devices source code**

Samsung Electronics confirmed on Monday that its network was breached and the hackers stole confidential information, including source code present in ...

6:29 pm · 7 Mar 2022 · BleepingComputer

# Return of the IV Reuse Attack

Graham Steel (@graham\_stee) Replying to @matthew\_d\_green

We found the exact same attack on the original Yubikey HSM - in 2012.  
[citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.454.1032&rep=rep1&type=pdf](https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.454.1032&rep=rep1&type=pdf)... Maybe chosen-IV key-wrap attacks are on a decade cycle.

3:50 pm · 23 Feb 2022 · Twitter Web App

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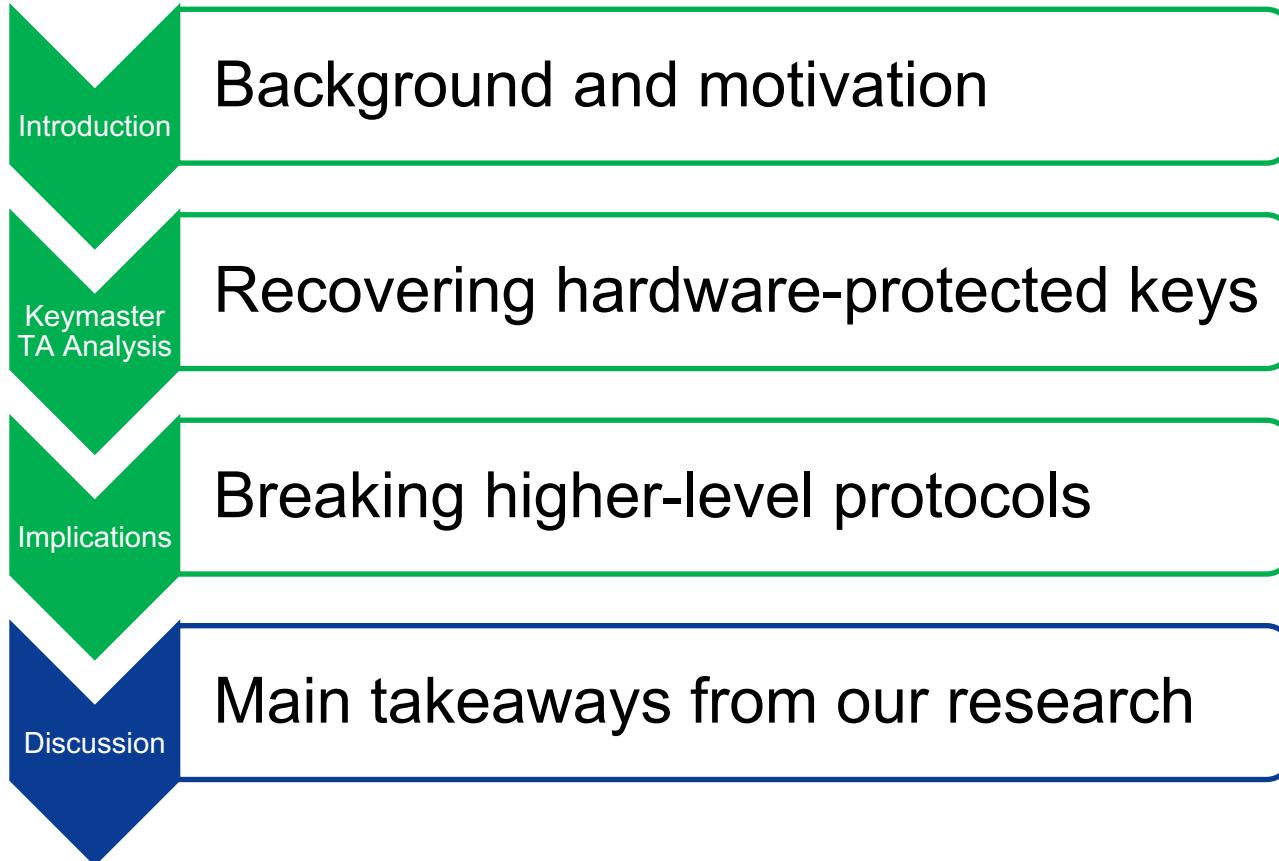
6 Retweets 18 Likes

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Matthew Green (@matthew\_d\_green) · 23 Feb  
Replying to @graham\_stee

I think people just don't understand IVs.

# Agenda



# Low-Level Cryptographic Issues

- ✗ Allowing client to set IV
- ✗ Allowing client to set encryption version
- ✗ Latent code in security-critical application
- ✗ Encryption version persists across “upgrades”

# Low-Level Cryptographic Issues

-  Allowing client to set IV
-  Allowing client to set encryption version
-  Latent code in security-critical application
-  Encryption version persists across “upgrades”
  
-  Use a unique IV / misuse resistant AEAD (AES-GCM-SIV) / [Tink](#)
-  Disallow choice of encryption version
-  Reduce attack surface in security-critical application
-  Always use the latest encryption version

# The Gap in Composability

- ✗ Key attestation does not commit to the cryptographic method
- ✗ Closed vendor-specific implementation

# The Gap in Composability

- ✗ Key attestation does not commit to the cryptographic method
- ✗ Closed vendor-specific implementation

- ✓ Include encryption version in attestation certificate
- ✓ Uniform open-standard by Google for the Keystream HAL and TA

# Upgrading Android Attestation: Remote Provisioning

25 March 2022

Posted by Max Bires, Software Engineer



## Why Change?

The two primary motivating factors for changing the way we provision attestation certificates to devices are to allow devices to be recovered post-compromise and to tighten up the attestation supply chain. In today's attestation scheme, if a device model is found to be compromised in a way that affects the trust signal of an attestation, or if a key is leaked through some mechanism, the key must be revoked. Due to the increasing number of services that rely on the attestation key signal, this can have a large impact on the consumer whose device is affected.

This change allows us to stop provisioning to devices that are on known-compromised software, and remove the potential for unintentional key leakage. This will go a long way in reducing the potential for service disruption to the user.

Image from [Android Developers Blog](#)

# Conclusions

**Fragmented blackbox designs -> dangerous pitfalls**

Open standard design

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**Fragmented blackbox designs -> dangerous pitfalls**

Open standard design

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Formal analysis by independent researchers

**Decades of IV reuse in AES-GCM**

Misuse-resistant AEAD / cryptography library

# Any questions?

- Extended paper: <https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/208.pdf>
- Tool + PoC: <https://github.com/shakevsky/keybuster>



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