

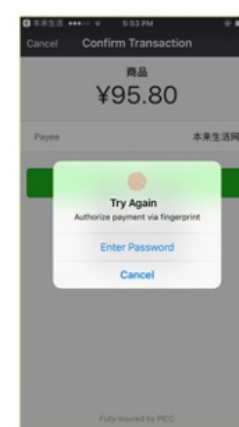
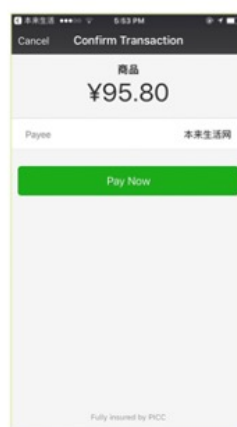
Progress

Week 4 of July

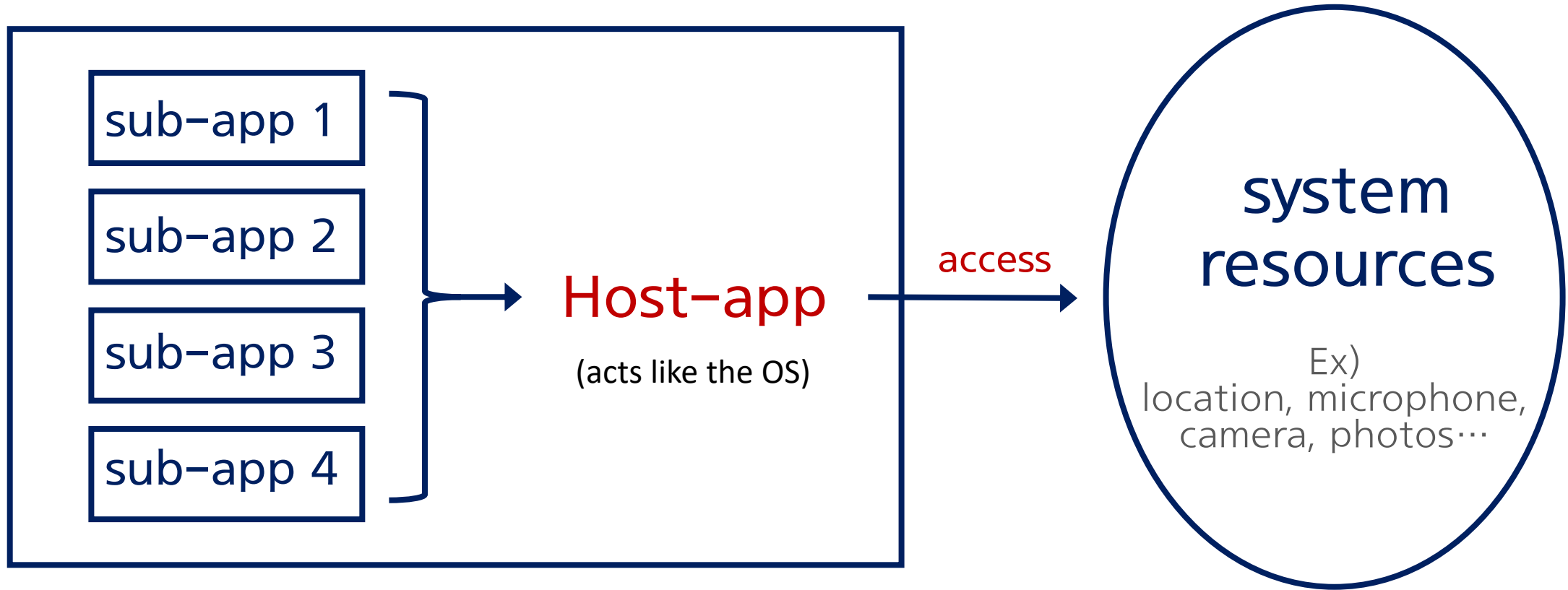
Demystifying **Resource Management Risks** in Emerging **Mobile App-in-App Ecosystems**

2020, CCS(Computer and Communications Security)

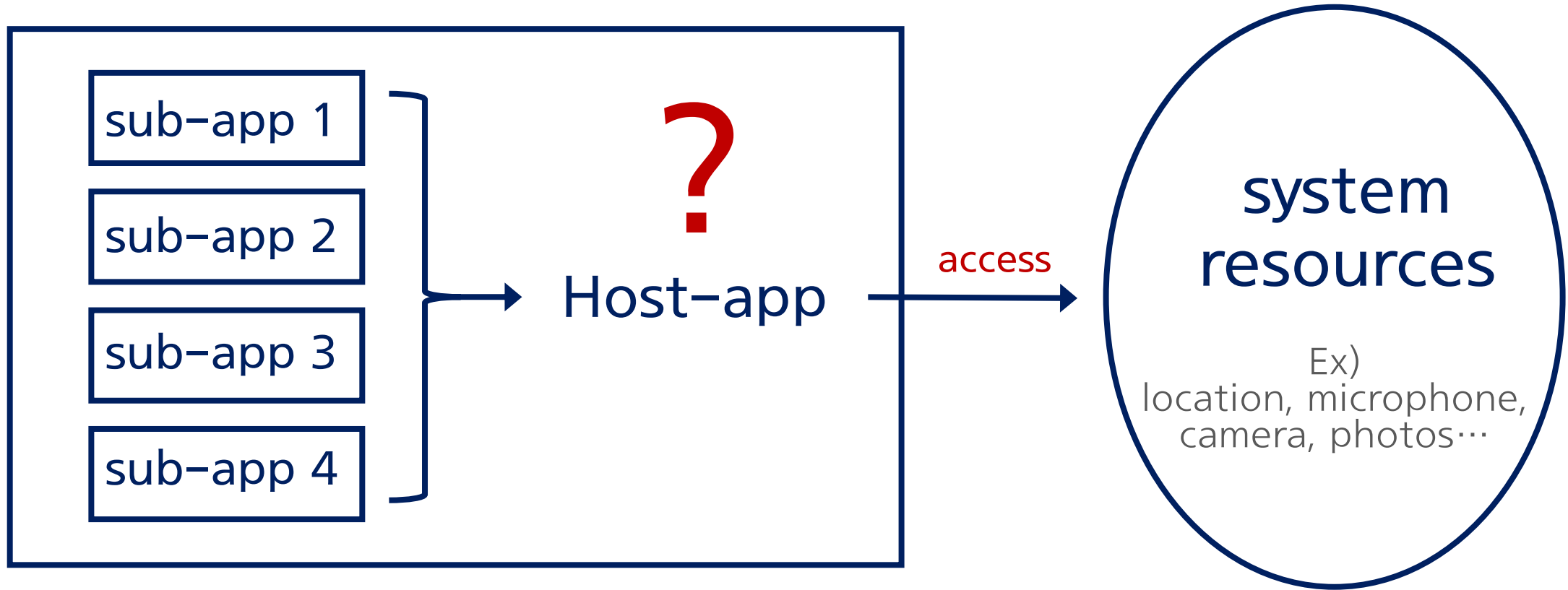
widely used “App-In-App” paradigm



App-In-App Ecosystems



App-In-App Ecosystems



Security analysis on resource management

1

System Resource
Exposure

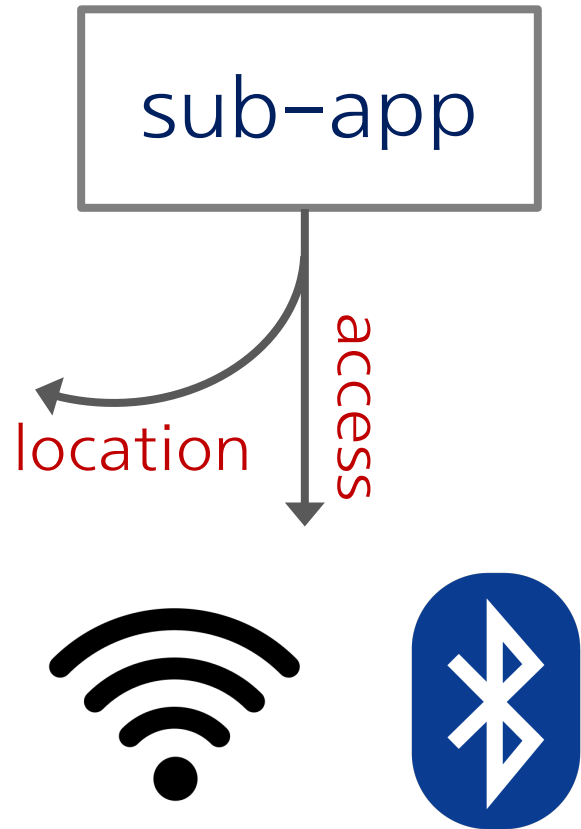
2

Sub-window
Deception

3

Sub-app Lifecycle
Hijacking

1. System Resource Exposure



Inconsistency!

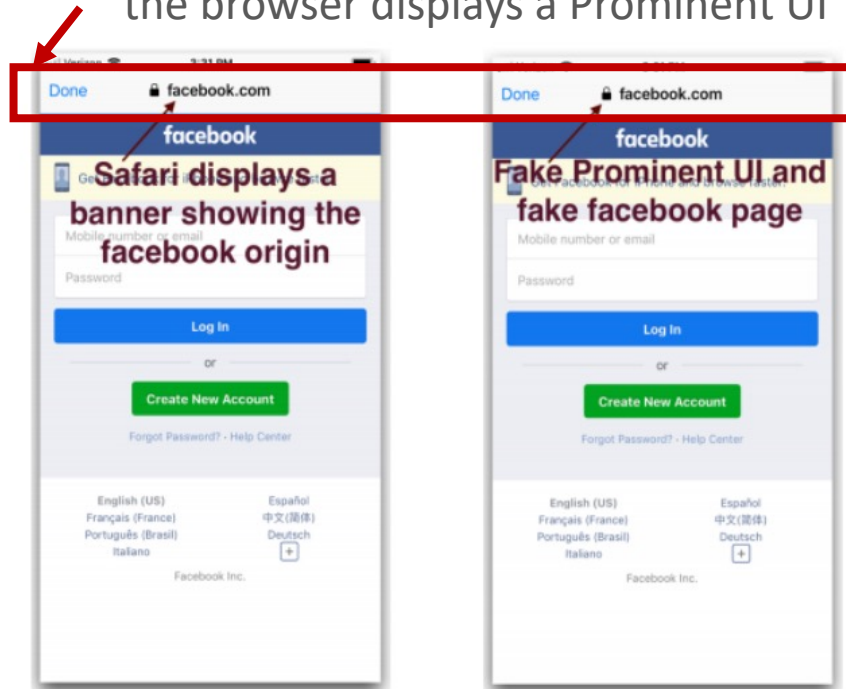
system API : protected

sub-app API : **unprotected**

(escaped sub-app API)

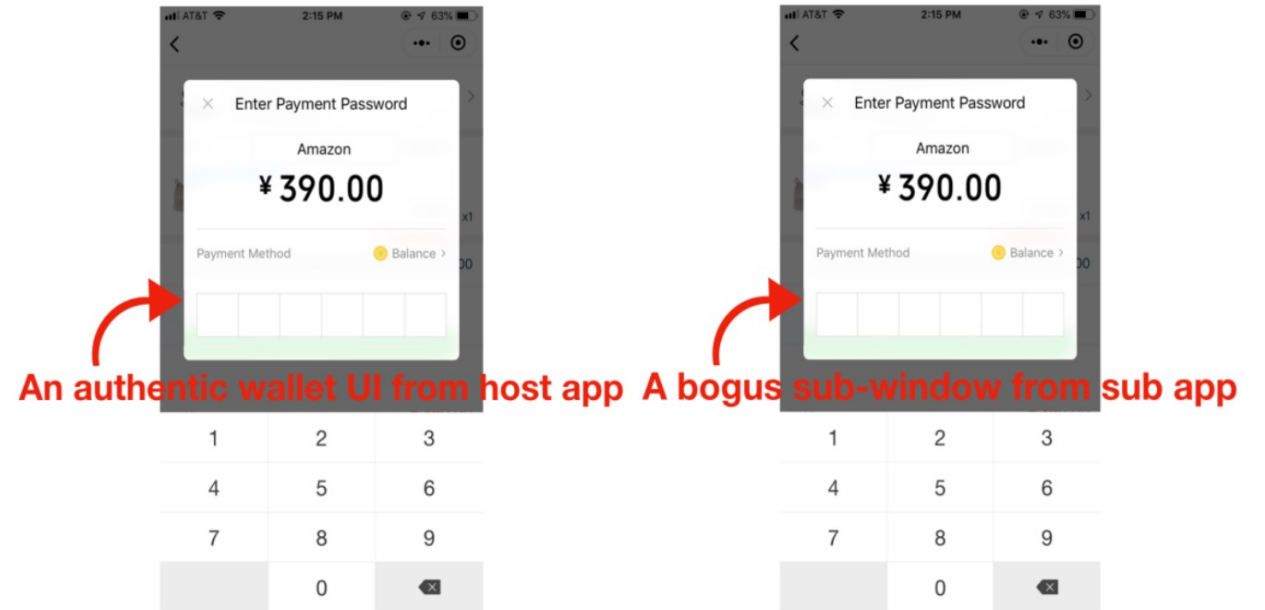
2. Sub-window Deception

When the user navigates to **out-of-scope URL** in a Web App the browser displays a Prominent UI



(a) Real Prominent UI

(b) Fake Prominent UI



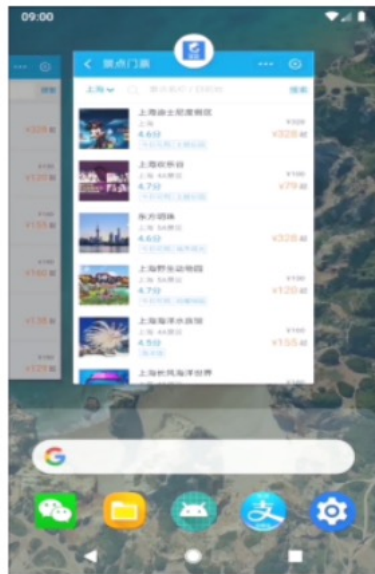
(a) Authentic wallet UI

(b) Bogus wallet UI

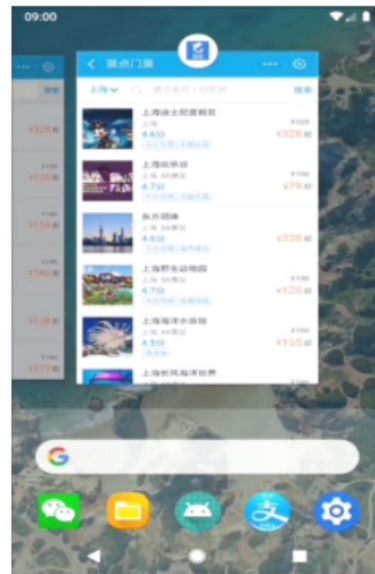
Browsers' Prominent UI confusion

Mobile Wallet UI confusion

3. Sub-app Lifecycle Hijacking



(a) Real sub-app task



(b) Bogus sub-app task

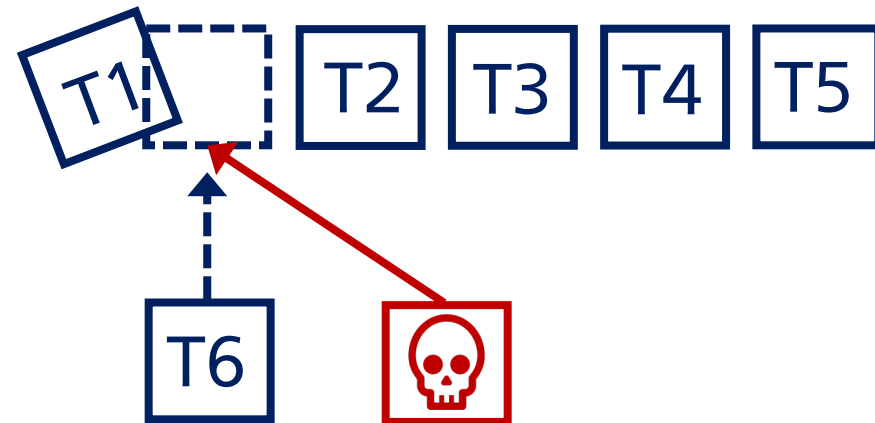
Recents screen takeover

Recents screen?

: system-owned UI to list recently accessed task

Ex)

Maximum: 5

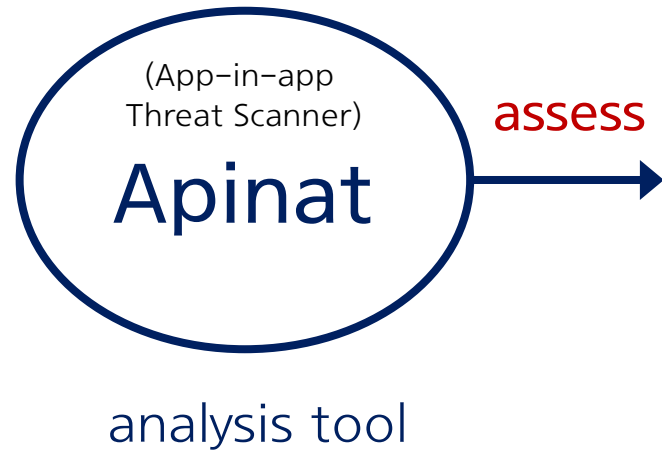


APINA flaws in the wild

by an automatic analysis tool, **Apinat**

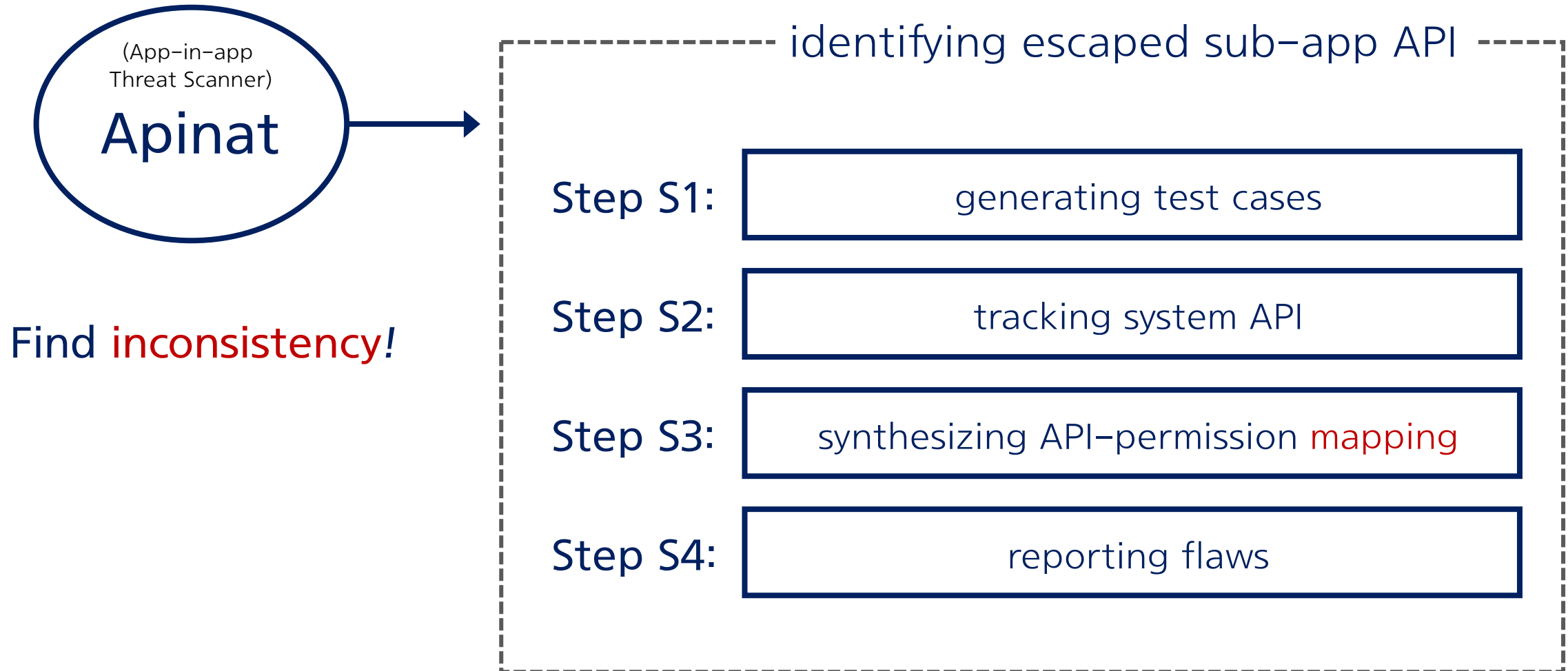
(short for App-in-app Threat Scanner)

APINA flaws in the wild



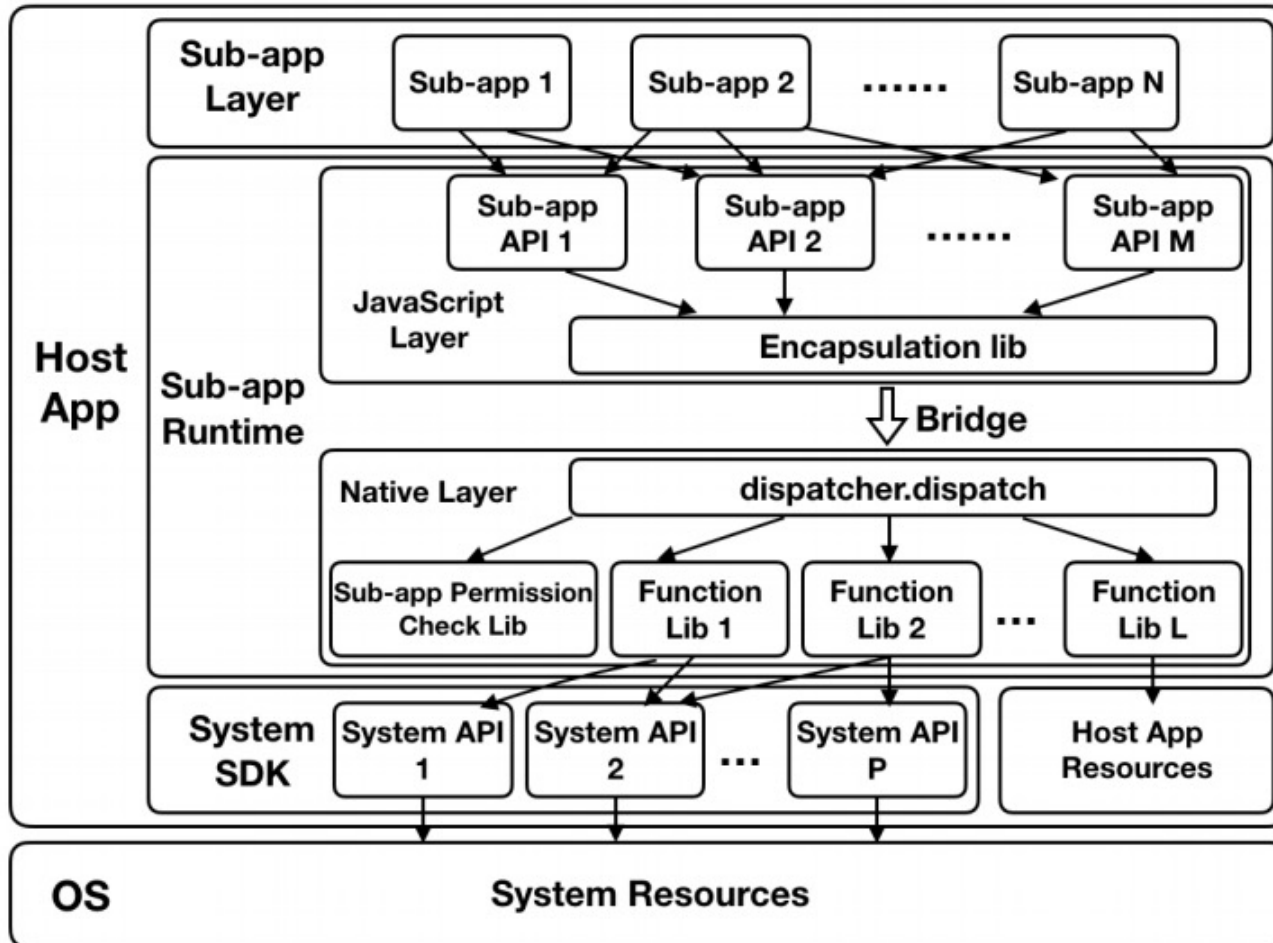
Host App	Functionality (of the host itself, except sub-apps)	Number of Sub-App	Number of Downloads
WeChat	Instant Messaging, Social Networking, Social Media, VoIP, Mobile Wallet	1M+	200M+
Alipay	Mobile Wallet, Finance/Investment Management, Shopping, News, Social Networking, Utility Bill Management, Travel	120,000+	1B+
Chrome	Web Browser	N/A†	1B+
Safari	Web Browser	N/A†	N/A†
TikTok	Video Sharing, Instant Messaging, Personal Blog, Game Center	N/A†	500M+
JinRiTouTiao	News Feeding, live streaming	N/A†	1M+
QQ	Instant Messaging, Video/Audio Chatting, File Transfer, Personal Blog, Game Center, Mobile payment	N/A†	10M+
Firefox	Web Browser	N/A†	100M+
Opera	Web Browser	N/A†	100M +
Baidu	Search engine, News, Short Videos, Voice Recognition, Readings	N/A†	230M+
DingTalk	Address Book, Mobile Office Tool Box, Video Conference	20,000	500K+
Total	-	1M+	2.6B+

Identifying System Resource Exposure



How to tracking system API

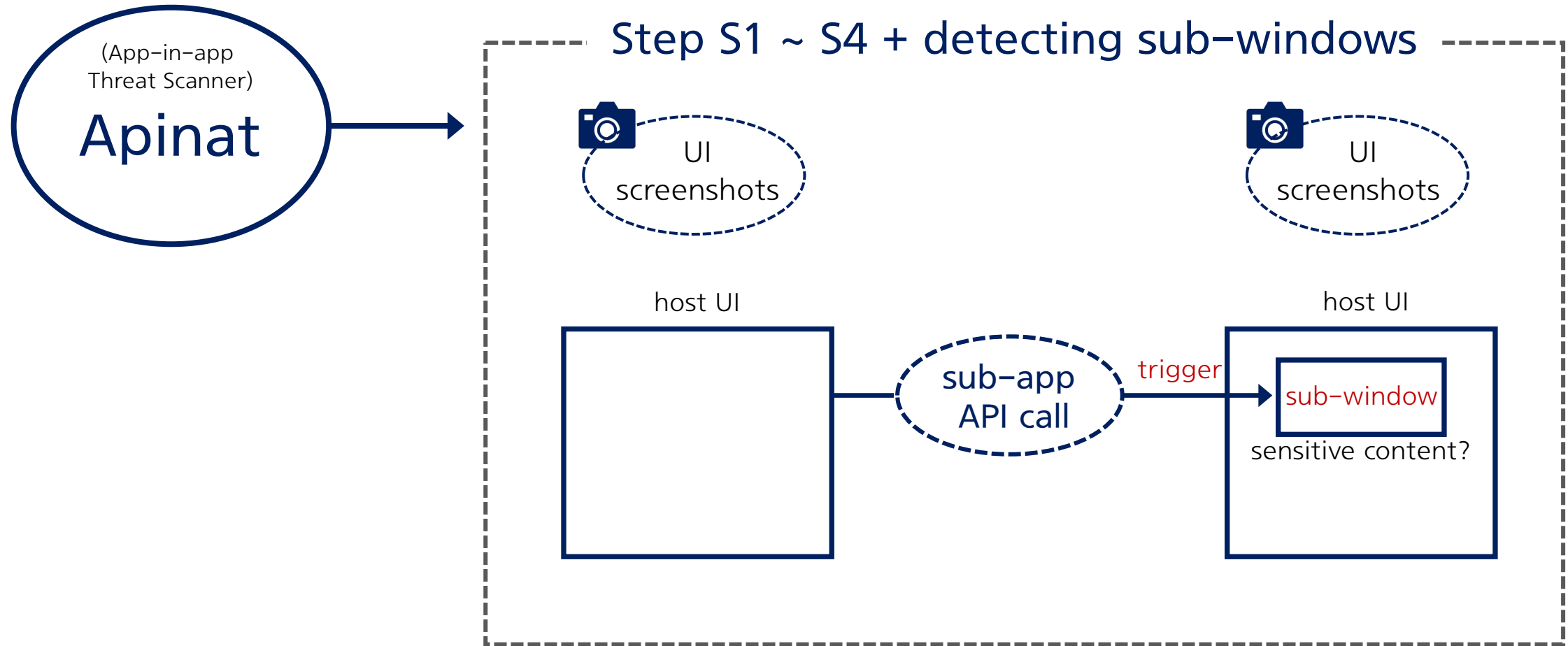
(1) Find the dispatcher.dispatch function in the native layer. (2) Track execution of the dispatcher.dispatch function



[WebView](#) & [React Native](#)

```
addJavascriptInterface(obj, 'dispatcher')
```

Finding UI Deception Flaws



Measurement of Impact

Type of APINA Flaw	iOS	Android
System Resource Exposure	A, D, J, Q, T, W	A, D, J, Q, T, W
Sub-window Deception	A, B, D, W, S, Q	A, B, C, D, F, W, O, Q
Sub-app Lifecycle Hijacking	N/A	A, W, Q

52 APINA flaws		
39	10	3
System Resource Exposure	Sub-window Deception	Sub-app Lifecycle Hijacking

In 11 highly popular host apps

APINA risks come from...

App-level

host app's limited capabilities in managing OS resources
→ lacks the full OS-level knowledge on system resource protection

OS-level

lack of OS-level support, missing of sub-app API standard
→ mobile OSes have confusing, conflicting security policies

Mitigation strategy

for Escaped Sub-app API



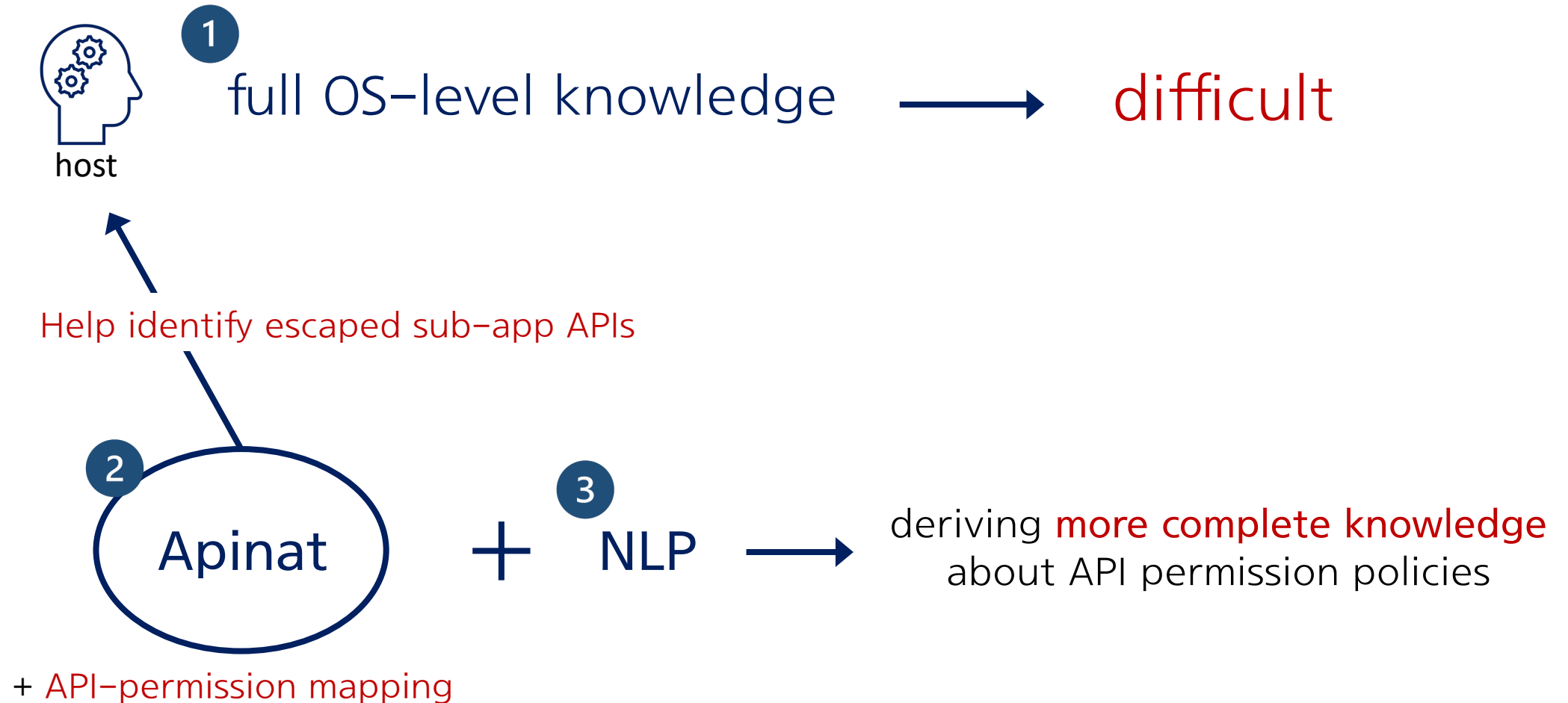
1

full OS-level knowledge



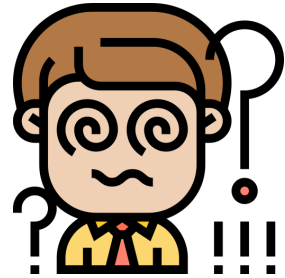
difficult

for Escaped Sub-app API

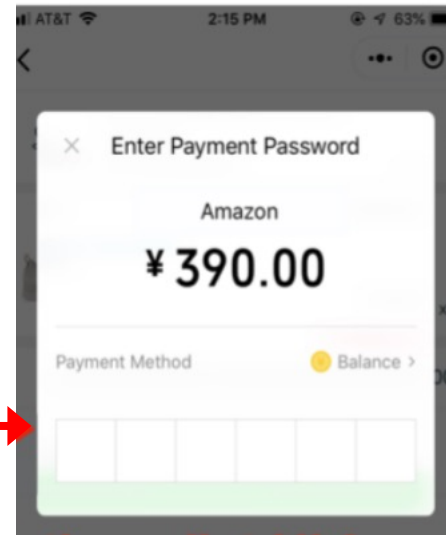


for Sub-window deception

: UI isolation between the sub-app and the host

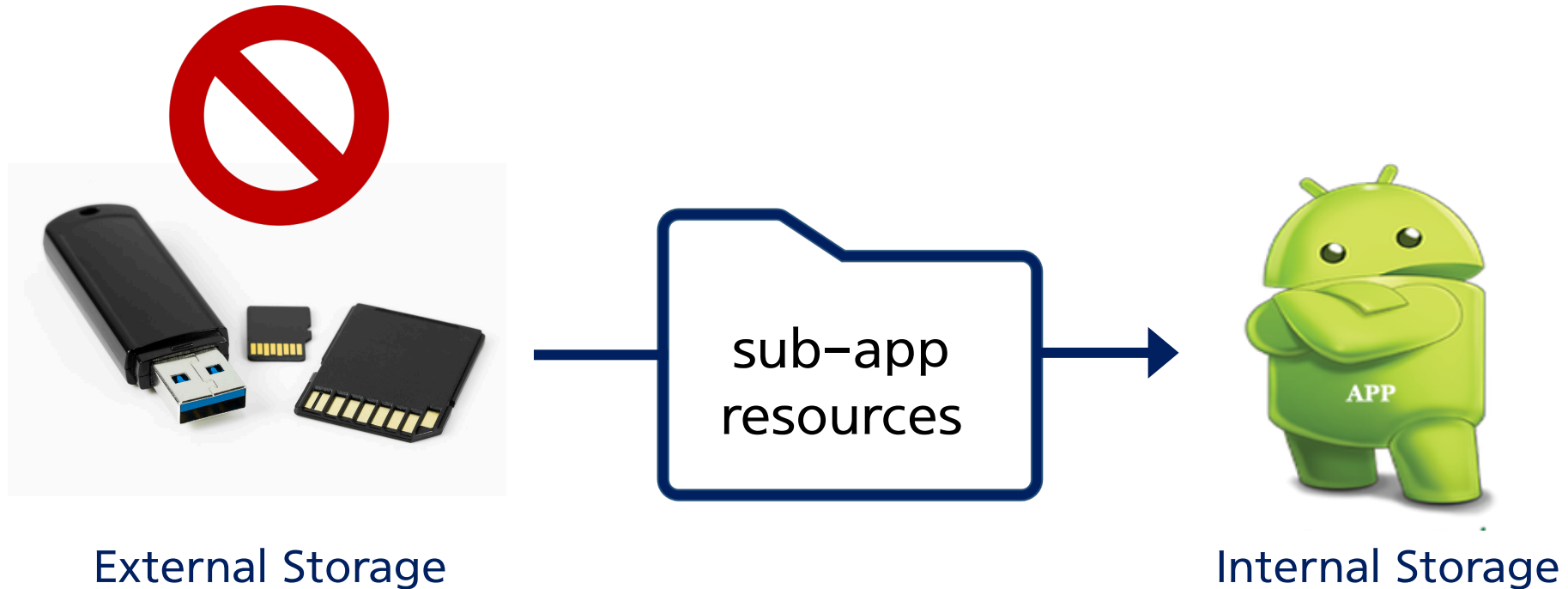


A wallet UI from host-app?
Or A bogus sub-window from sub-app?



for Sub-app lifecycle hijacking

: Placing **all sub-app resources** in the phone's **internal storage**



Study Status

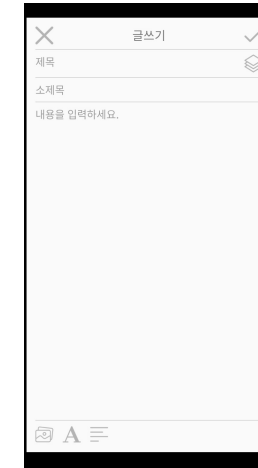
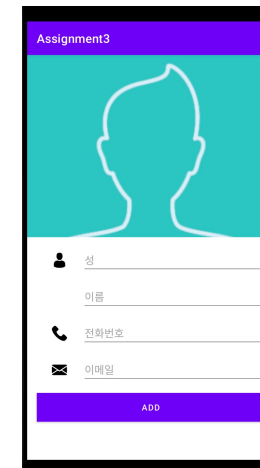
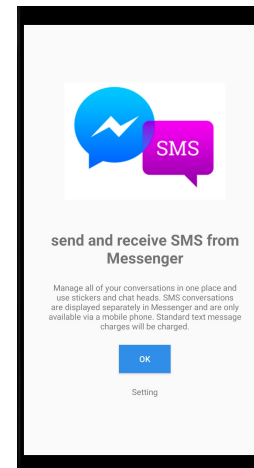
Android App Programming



Study process

1. studying individually,
2. performing the assignments and uploading the output to GitHub
3. sharing what we studied during regular meetings

Assignments



Android App Reverse Engineering

Android App Reverse Engineering 101



Table of Contents

What I've done

1. Introduction
2. Android Application Fundamentals
3. Getting Started with Reversing Android Apps
 - Exercise 1
4. Reverse Engineering Android Apps - DEX Bytecode
 - Exercise 2
 - Exercise 3
 - **Exercise 4**
5. Reverse Engineering Android Apps - Native Libraries
 - Exercise 5
 - Exercise 6
6. Reverse Engineering Android Apps - Obfuscation
 - Exercise 7
7. Conclusion

https://www.ragingrock.com/AndroidAppRE/app_fundamentals.html

2021년 8월

< 오늘 >

Weekly Plan

Mobile App programming

Reverse Engineering

* Reading Papers

App in the Middle:
Demystify Application
Virtualization in Android
and its Security Threats

일	월	화	수	목	금	토
18일	19일	20일	21일	22일	23일	24일
25일	26일	27일	28일	29일	30일	31일
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Read it all and finish all the assignments quickly						
8월 1일	2일	3일	4일	5일	6일	7일
<div> <div>Android App Reverse Engineering 101</div> </div>						
Finish tutorial quickly						
8일	9일	10일	11일	12일	13일	14일
<div>Study the small instruction set</div> <div> https://source.android.com/devices/tech/dalvik/dalvik-bytecode#instructions </div>						
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광복절			?			
22일	23일	24일	25일	26일	27일	28일
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