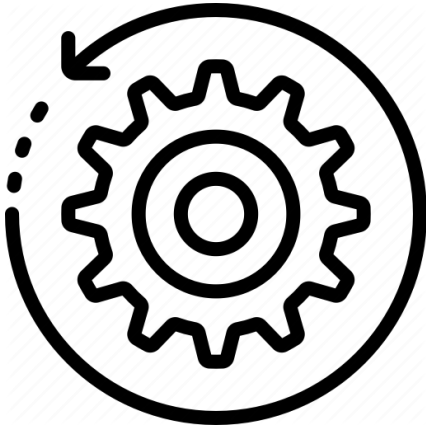
!gnireenignE

A Reverse Engineering Primer by

Chris Davisson & Joe Grassl

Fundamentals



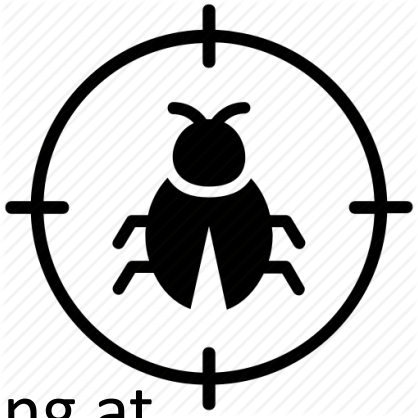
Reverse engineering is very useful for:

- Finding hardcoded or dynamically generated credentials (passwords)
- Vulnerability discovery and exploit development
- Modding, patching, and otherwise reading/modifying things that the creator of a program thinks or hopes you won't be able to
- Keeping China's economy afloat

Terminology

- **Crack** – To defeat a security mechanism
- **Patch** – To modify a program without changing the actual source code
- **Block** – A unit of linear code that ends in a conditional fork (true/false), a jump to another block, or a simple exit.
- **Obfuscation** – Hiding the true nature of the code through clever code mangling. Looks like gibberish. Not the same as encryption (but may include it).

Terminology – Part 2



- **Static Analysis** – The program is tested “at rest”. Involves looking at disassembled code and mentally modeling what the program should do.
- **Dynamic Analysis** – The program is tested live. Inputs are given to the running program and breakpoints are set to look at values in memory.
- **Debugger** – Allows you to do dynamic analysis. GDB, for example.
- **Disassembler** – Produces low-level output from a compiled program.
- **Decompiler** – Produces high-level output from a compiled program. Sometimes very close to the true source code itself!

Reverse Engineering in C/C++

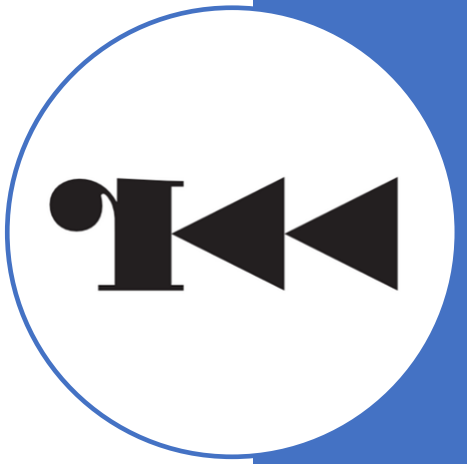
radare2 & ghidra

Ghidra

- An open-source reverse engineering tool
- Developed by the NSA in 2019
- First revealed in WikiLeaks in 2017
- Looks like it was made in the 90's but has some cool functionality.
  - Estimates the C code
  - Decompiles the header file

Radare2

- A Free framework for reverse-engineering and analyzing binaries
- Created in 2006 as an interface for editing hexadecimal an hard drive recovery.
- Created by Sergi Alvarez aka. pancake



Example Run

- Runs using the r2 keyword after compiling in command line
- S main seeks to the main
- Aaa is to tell it what to analyze

```
chris@chris-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/hackthis$ r2 ./impossible_password.bin
 -- How about a nice game of chess?
[0x004006a0]> s main
[0x0040085d]> aaa
[x] Analyze all flags starting with sym. and entry0 (aa)
[x] Analyze function calls (aac)
[x] Analyze len bytes of instructions for references (aar)
[x] Check for vtables
[x] Type matching analysis for all functions (aaft)
[x] Propagate noreturn information
[x] Use -AA or aaaa to perform additional experimental analysis.
[0x0040085d]> pdf
```

- Using the command: pdf
- Displays what the code is doing.

- Though it looks complex, we can see that a string is easily visible.
- "SuperSeKretKey"

```
[0x0040085d]> pdf
            ; DATA XREF from entry0 @ 0x4006bd
┌ 283: int main (int argc, char **argv);
            ; var char **var_50h @ rbp-0x50
            ; var int64_t var_44h @ rbp-0x44
            ; var int64_t var_40h @ rbp-0x40
            ; var int64_t var_3fh @ rbp-0x3f
            ; var int64_t var_3eh @ rbp-0x3e
            ; var int64_t var_3dh @ rbp-0x3d
            ; var int64_t var_3ch @ rbp-0x3c
            ; var int64_t var_3bh @ rbp-0x3b
            ; var int64_t var_3ah @ rbp-0x3a
            ; var int64_t var_39h @ rbp-0x39
            ; var int64_t var_38h @ rbp-0x38
            ; var int64_t var_37h @ rbp-0x37
            ; var int64_t var_36h @ rbp-0x36
            ; var int64_t var_35h @ rbp-0x35
            ; var int64_t var_34h @ rbp-0x34
            ; var int64_t var_33h @ rbp-0x33
            ; var int64_t var_32h @ rbp-0x32
            ; var int64_t var_31h @ rbp-0x31
            ; var int64_t var_30h @ rbp-0x30
            ; var int64_t var_2fh @ rbp-0x2f
            ; var int64_t var_2eh @ rbp-0x2e
            ; var int64_t var_2dh @ rbp-0x2d
            ; var char *s1 @ rbp-0x20
            ; var uint32_t var_ch @ rbp-0xc
            ; var char *s2 @ rbp-0x8
            ; arg int argc @ rdi
            ; arg char **argv @ rsi
            0x0040085d      55             push rbp
            0x0040085e      4889e5         mov rbp, rsp
            0x00400861      4883ec50       sub rsp, 0x50
            0x00400865      897dbc         mov dword [var_44h], edi    ; argc
            0x00400868      488975b0       mov qword [var_50h], rsi    ; argv
            0x0040086c      48c745f8700a.  mov qword [s2], str.SuperSeKretKey ; 0x400a70 ; "SuperSeKretKey"
            0x00400874      c645c041       mov byte [var_40h], 0x41    ; 'A' ; 65
            0x00400878      c645c15d       mov byte [var_3fh], 0x5d    ; ']' ; 93
            0x0040087c      c645c24b       mov byte [var_3eh], 0x4b    ; 'K' ; 75
            0x00400880      c645c372       mov byte [var_3dh], 0x72    ; 'r' ; 114
            0x00400884      c645c43d       mov byte [var_3ch], 0x3d    ; '=' ; 61
            0x00400888      c645c539       mov byte [var_3bh], 0x39    ; '9' ; 57
            0x0040088c      c645c66b       mov byte [var_3ah], 0x6b    ; 'k' ; 107
            0x00400890      c645c730       mov byte [var_39h], 0x30    ; '0' ; 48
```

This String is the first password that was required. Though after, it called a function that would always give false.

```
0x00400961      e8cafcffff      call sym.imp.strcmp          ; int
0x00400966      85c0            test eax, eax
0x00400968      750c            jne 0x400976
```

The method is the line with jne 0x400976
And if we seek into that method, all we see is that it will always return false, forcing the user out of the program.
To combat this we can simply set the method to "nop" or no operation.

```
0x00400966      85c0            test eax, eax
0x00400968      90              nop
0x00400969      90              nop
0x0040096a      488d45c0        lea rax, [var_40h]
```

Explanation

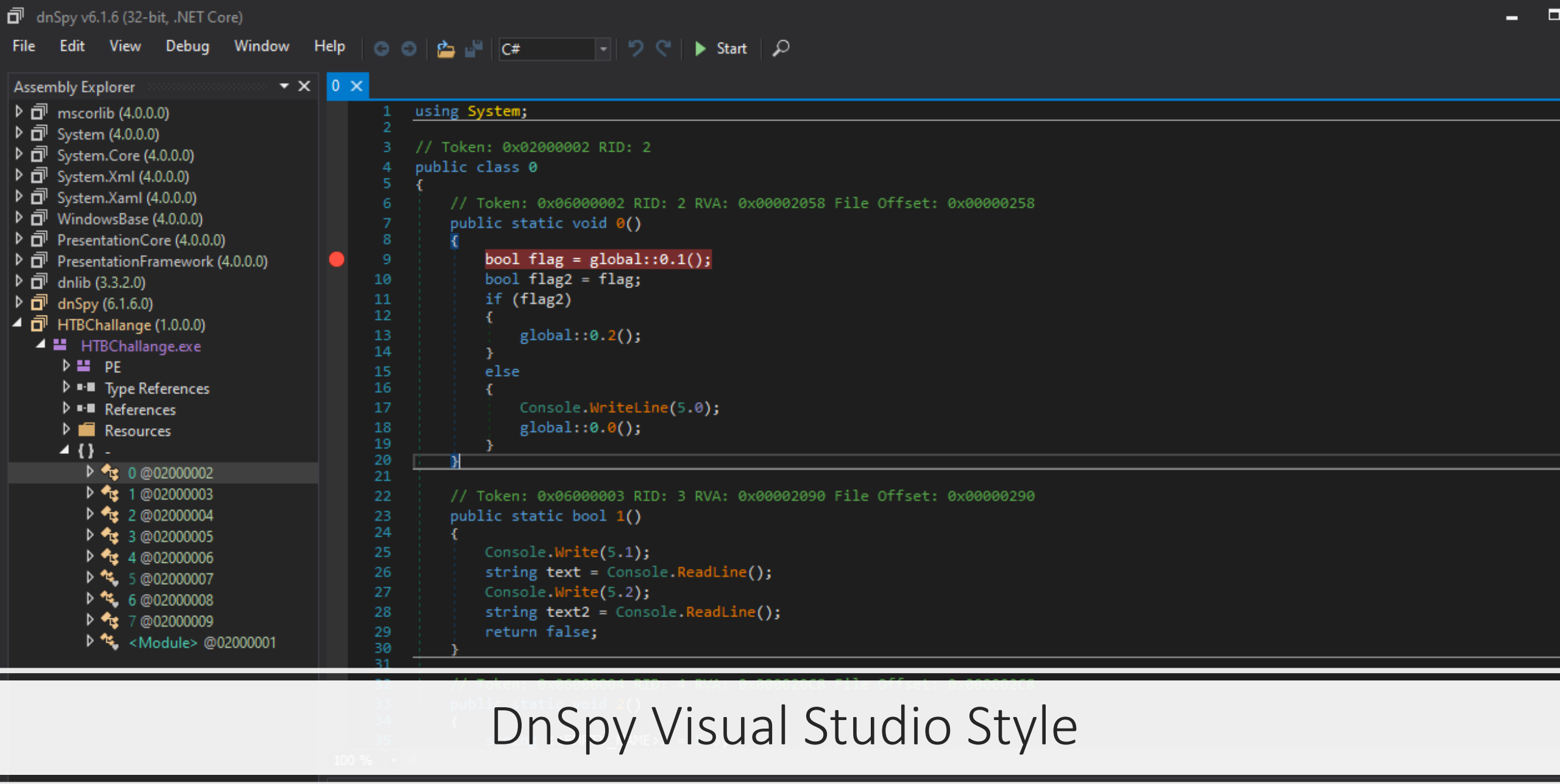
- The Radare2 software allows us to analyze what is happening inside the software. So if you have user input being compared to a string, it can see the string.
- If you have a gatekeeper method that is just changing a Boolean, it can alter the compiled code to just bypass it.
- I'm not a good hacker, and I was able to crack the security provided this program quickly. (Just think what someone good at it could do)

Reverse Engineering in C#

dnSpy & de4dot

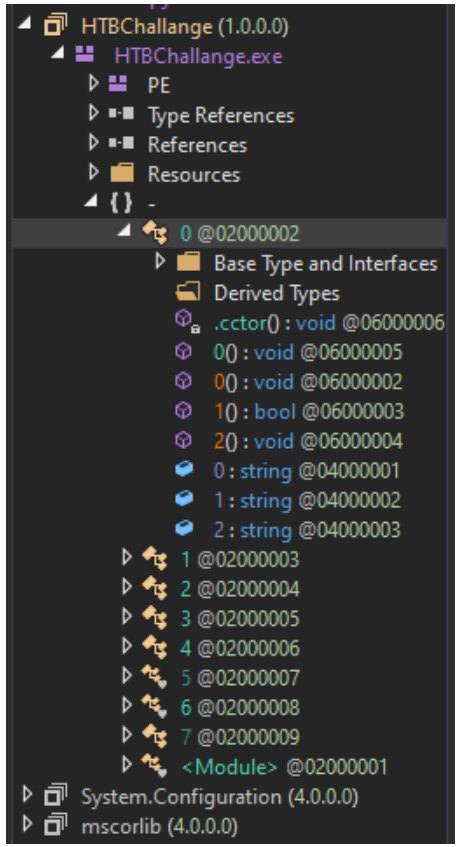
dnSpy & de4dot

- Similar look and feel to Visual Studio
- Cool functionality
  - Allows you to alter values during runtime
- Some programs are obfuscated and very hard to read and edit
- de4dot can be used to remove well known obfuscation schemes in about three clicks



DnSpy Visual Studio Style

Lists of methods and variables




```
using System;

// Token: 0x02000002 RID: 2
public class 0
{
    // Token: 0x06000002 RID: 2 RVA: 0x00002058 File Offset: 0x00000258
    public static void 0()
    {
        bool flag = global::0.1();
        bool flag2 = flag;
        if (flag2)
        {
            global::0.2();
        }
        else
        {
            Console.WriteLine(5.0);
            global::0.0();
        }
    }

    // Token: 0x06000003 RID: 3 RVA: 0x00002090 File Offset: 0x00000290
    public static bool 1()
    {
        Console.Write(5.1);
        string text = Console.ReadLine();
        Console.Write(5.2);
        string text2 = Console.ReadLine();
        return false;
    }
```

```
using System;

// Token: 0x02000002 RID: 2
public class 0
{
    // Token: 0x06000002 RID: 2 RVA: 0x00002058 File Offset: 0x00000258
    public static void 0()
    {
        bool flag = global::0.1();
        bool flag2 = flag;
        if (flag2)
        {
            global::0.2();
        }
        else
        {
            Console.WriteLine(5.0);
            global::0.0();
        }
    }

    // Token: 0x06000003 RID: 3 RVA: 0x00002090 File Offset: 0x00000290
    public static bool 1()
    {
        Console.Write(5.1);
        string text = Console.ReadLine();
        Console.Write(5.2);
        string text2 = Console.ReadLine();
        return false;
    }
```

We can see that the main aka "0" method first creates a bool called flag, then assigns flag2 to it too.

If flag2 is false, then it just repeats.

The method it calls to is method 1, that always returns a false. User entry doesn't even matter.

You could enter anything or nothing, it don't care. All answers are wrong

Bool values before changing

Locals

Name	Value	Type
0.1 returned	false	bool
flag	false	bool
flag2	false	bool

Bool values after changing

Locals

Name	Value	Type
0.1 returned	false	bool
flag	true	bool
flag2	true	bool

After passing that check, it takes you to method 2.

This accepts user input and compares it against a string. Unlike java, the == is a valid way to compare strings

So we have two options, change the flag variable or find the value or <<Empty_Name>>

```
31
32      // Token: 0x06000004 RID: 4 RVA: 0x000020C8 File Offset: 0x000002C8
33      public static void 2()
34      {
35          string <<EMPTY_NAME>> = 5.3;
36          Console.Write(5.4);
37          string b = Console.ReadLine();
38          bool flag = <<EMPTY_NAME>> == b;
39          if (flag)
40          {
41              Console.Write(5.5 + global::0.2 + 5.6);
42          }
43          else
44          {
45              Console.WriteLine(5.7);
46              global::0.2();
47          }
48      }
49
50      // Token: 0x04000001 RID: 1
51      public static string 0;
52
53      // Token: 0x04000002 RID: 2
54      public static string 1;
55
56      // Token: 0x04000003 RID: 3
57      public static string 2 = 5.8;
58  }
59
```

Using breakpoints we can see the value of <<Empty_Name>>

Name	Value	Type
	"ThisIsAReallyReallySecureKeyButYouCanReadItFromSourceSoItSucks"	string
b	null	string
flag	false	bool

Final run after changing bool value and finding secret Key

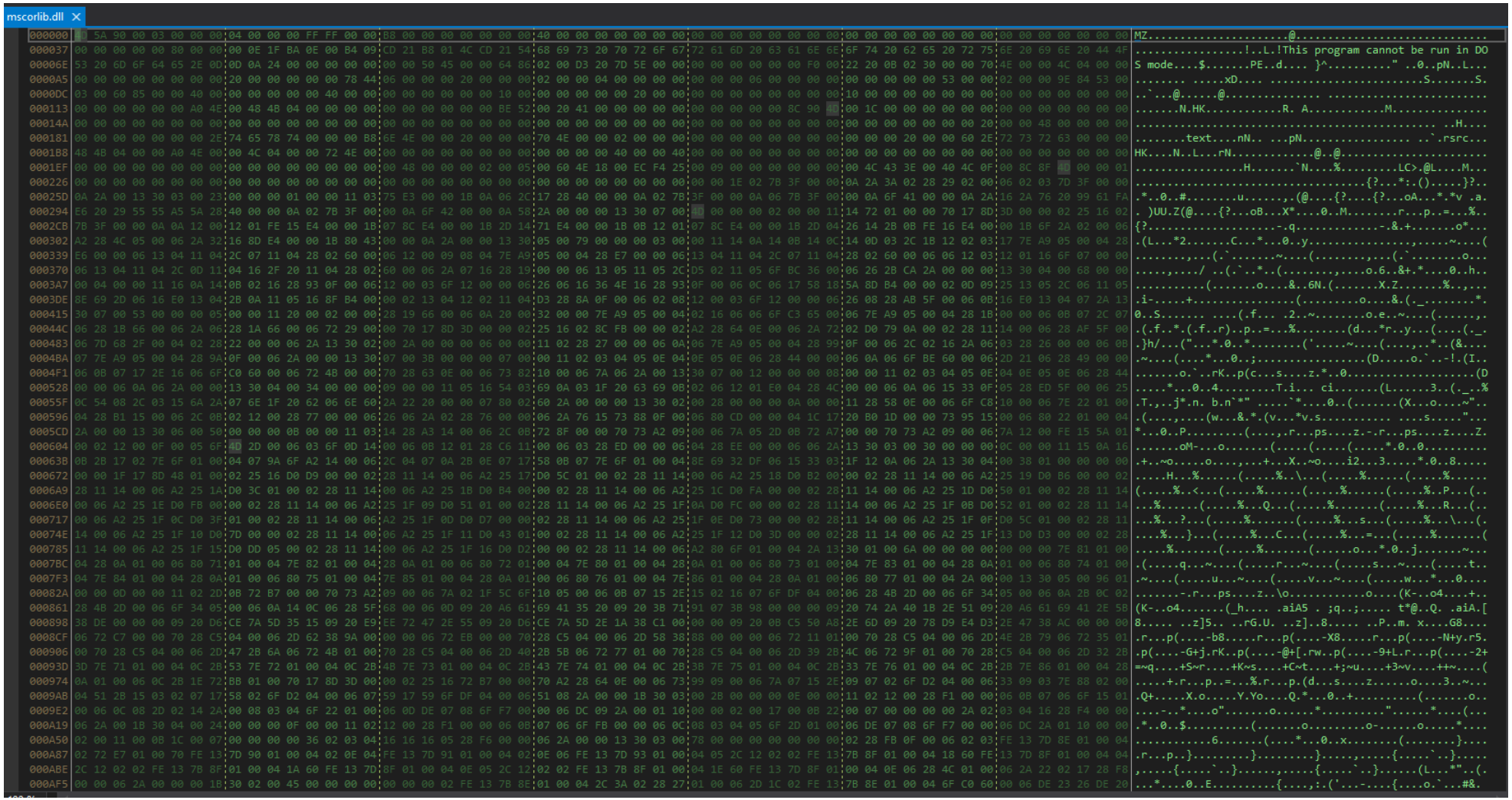
```
Enter a username: asdf
Enter a password: adsf
Please Enter the secret Key: ThisIsAReallyReallySecureKeyButYouCanReadItFromSourceSoItSucks
Nice here is the Flag:HTB{SuP3rC00lFL4g}
```

Hacked!

Final Thoughts

- The dnSpy software provides many tools that make looking at decompiled code a lot less daunting
  - The gui makes all the information easy to see and understand
- Changing the value of variables is too powerful

Also… I found the matrix source code in the Hex Editor



Reverse Engineering in Android

apktool, jadx, & mitmproxy

Android Debug Bridge

ADB is the Android hacker's bread and butter.

- Powerful command shell
- Connects your laptop to the Android file system
- Lots of special features

Let's install an app and take a copy of it off the phone!

```
delta@host:wac0$ adb devices
List of devices attached
9887bc435150523458      device

delta@host:wac0$ adb install crackme0.apk
Success
delta@host:wac0$
```

```
delta@host:wac0$ adb shell
dreamqltesq:/ $ pm list packages | grep crackme
package:com.lohan.crackme0
dreamqltesq:/ $ pm path com.lohan.crackme0
package:/data/app/com.lohan.crackme0-zcS6MCuXAxHJ5hxXzGxS5A==/base.apk
dreamqltesq:/ $ exit
delta@host:wac0$ adb pull /data/app/com.lohan.crackme0-zcS6MCuXAxHJ5hxXzGxS5A==/base.apk
/data/app/com.lohan.crackme0-zcS6MCuXAxHJ5hxXzGxS5A==/base.apk: 1 file pulled. 2.4 MB/s (21372 bytes in 0.009s)
delta@host:wac0$ diff base.apk crackme0.apk
delta@host:wac0$
```

apktool

apktool is a disassembler. It lets you read, edit, and repack Android apps. Here's how it works:

- Android apps are packaged as .apk (Android Package) files.
- These are basically just zip archives.
- Most of the code is stored in a file called classes.dex.
- Dex (Dalvik Executable) is a format similar to .class but made to run more efficiently on mobile platforms.
- apktool converts the .dex code into .smali files.
- Smali is basically the Android version of assembly language. It's human-readable bytecode.

apktool in action!

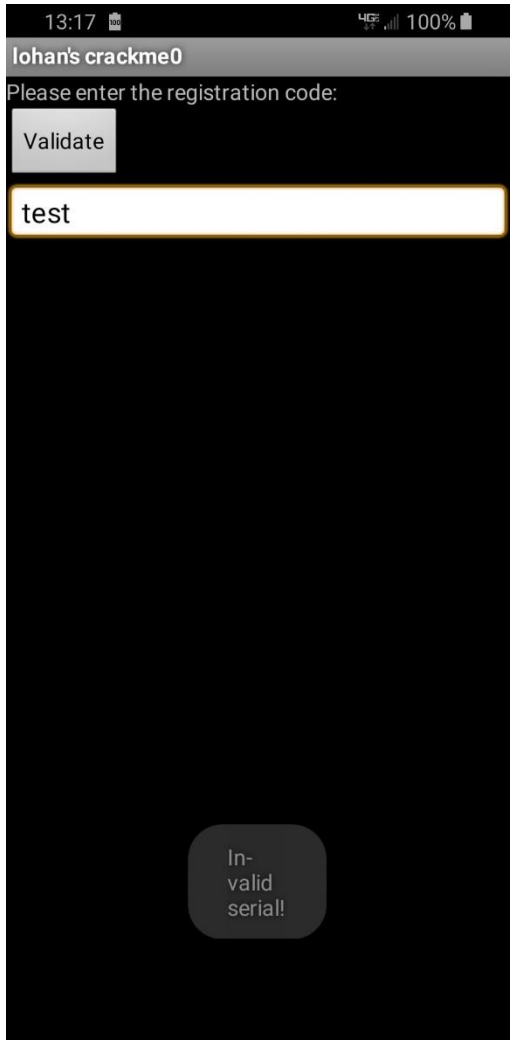
```
delta@host:final$ apktool d base.apk -o dump
I: Using Apktool 2.4.1-dirty on base.apk
I: Loading resource table...
I: Decoding AndroidManifest.xml with resources...
I: Loading resource table from file: /home/delta/.local/share/apktool/framework/1.apk
I: Regular manifest package...
I: Decoding file-resources...
I: Decoding values */* XMLs...
I: Baksmaling classes.dex...
I: Copying assets and libs...
I: Copying unknown files...
I: Copying original files...
delta@host:final$ ls dump
AndroidManifest.xml  apktool.yml  original  res  smali
delta@host:final$
```

```
delta@host:dump$ cd smali/*/*/*
delta@host:crackme0$ ls
 Main.smali  'R$attr.smali'  'R$drawable.smali'  'R$id.smali'  'R$layout.smali'  'R$string.smali'   R.smali
delta@host:crackme0$
```

The App

Here’s the example app being run.

Note the “Invalid serial!” message.



It’s a Smali world after all!

In Main.smali, you can see the serial check by searching for the error message. Note the validateSerial(String) function and the “if-nez”.

```
.line 49
.local v2, "serial":Ljava/lang/String;
invoke-virtual {p0, v2}, Lcom/lohan/crackme0/Main;->validateSerial(Ljava/lang/String;)I

move-result v4

if-nez v4, :cond_0

.line 50
const-string v4, "Invalid serial!"

invoke-static {p0, v4, v5}, Landroid/widget/Toast;->makeText(Landroid/content/Context;Ljava/lang/CharSequence;I)Landroid/widget/Toast;

move-result-object v4

invoke-virtual {v4}, Landroid/widget/Toast;->show()V

goto :goto_0

.line 53
:cond_0
const-string v4, "Thanks for purchasing!"
```

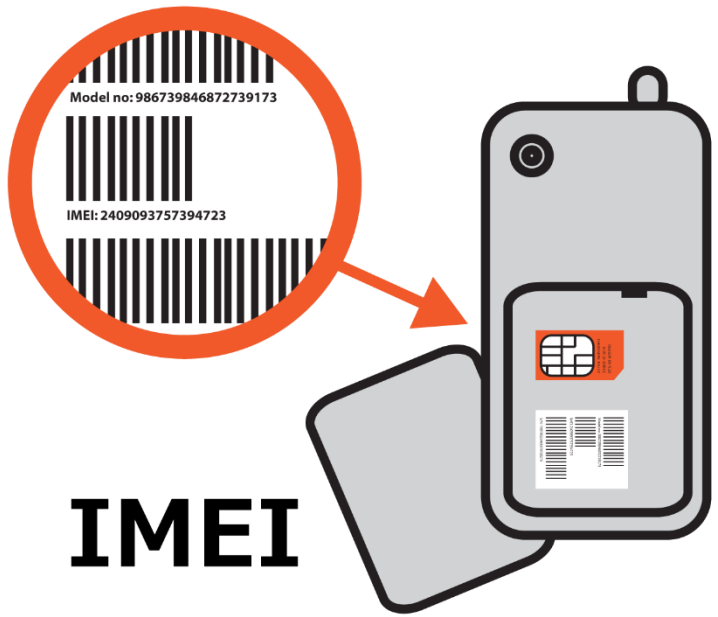
Making Smali talk

validateSerial() is very simple. It just gets the phone's IMEI number performs a message digest on it.

```
.method public validateSerial(Ljava/lang/String;)I
    .locals 2
    .param p1, "serial"    # Ljava/lang/String;

    .prologue
    .line 67
    :try_start_0
    invoke-virtual {p0}, Lcom/lohan/crackme0/Main;->getMobileID()Ljava/lang/String;

    move-result-object v1

    invoke-static {v1}, Lcom/lohan/crackme0/Main;->generateHash(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String;

    move-result-object v1

    invoke-virtual {v1, p1}, Ljava/lang/String;->equals(Ljava/lang/Object;)Z
    :try_end_0
    .catch Ljava/lang/Exception; {:try_start_0 .. :try_end_0} :catch_0

    move-result v1
```

Side note: IMEI

- International Mobile Equipment Identity
- Uniquely identifies a mobile device at the hardware level regardless of the assigned phone number or SIM card
- Used by ISPs to track stolen phones (or just phones the government is interested in)



Getting the IMEI via ADB

```
delta@host:wac0$ adb shell
dreamqltesq:/ $ service call iphonesubinfo 1
Result: Parcel(
  0x00000000: 00000000 0000000f 00350033 00390035 '........3.5.5.9.'
  0x00000010: 00320038 00380030 00390031 00390030 '8.2.0.8.1.9.0.9.'
  0x00000020: 00350030 00000033                   '0.5.3...        ')
dreamqltesq:/ $
```

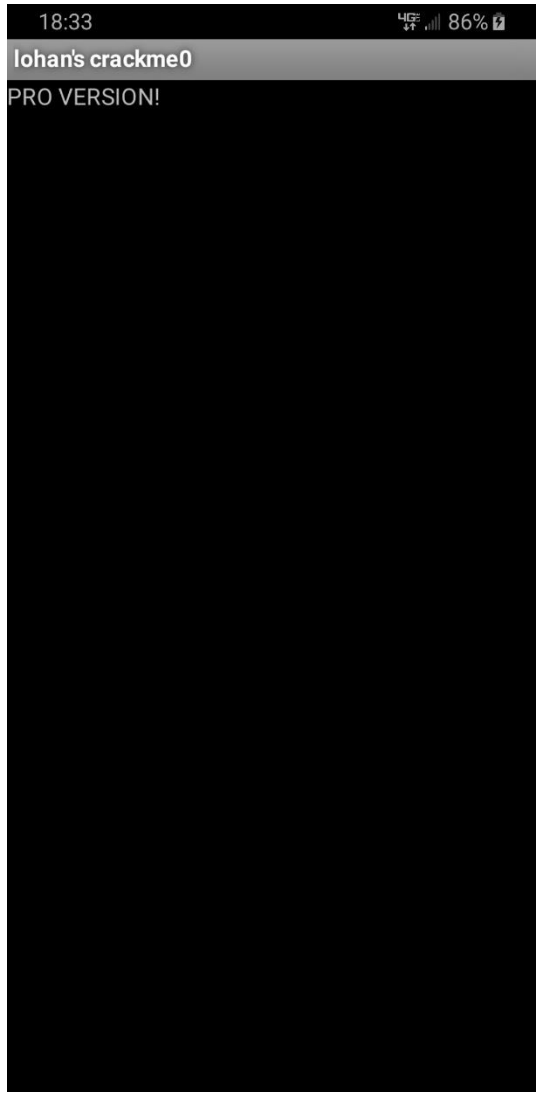
Doing a Keygen the jshell Way

This is basically the same code seen in the Smali.

```
delta@host:~$ jshell
|  Welcome to JShell -- Version 14.0.1
|  For an introduction type: /help intro

jshell> import java.security.MessageDigest;

jshell> MessageDigest md = MessageDigest.getInstance("MD5");
md ==> MD5 Message Digest from SUN, <initialized>


jshell> byte[] sum = md.digest("355982081909053".getBytes());
sum ==> byte[16] { 32, -87, -11, 120, -92, 47, 76, -18, - ... 102, -97, -124, -10, -95 }

jshell> BigInteger bigint = new BigInteger(1, sum);
bigint ==> 43417772782754814602573599209867769505

jshell> bigint.toString(16);
$5 ==> "20a9f578a42f4ceed0efca669f84f6a1"

jshell>
```

Success!

Houston, we have pwnage!




BUT WAIT
THERE'S MORE

Additional Techniques

- Patching
- Decompilation
- Traffic capture (man-in-the-middle)

Patching Android Apps

Remember that “if-nez” line back in the Smali code? Let’s reverse it – literally!

```
    invoke-virtual {p0, v2}, Lcom/lohan/crackme0/Main;->validateSerial(Ljava/lang/String;)I

    move-result v4

    if-eqz v4, :cond_0
```

Patching Android Apps

Now we just need to repack, resign, and zip-align.

```
delta@host:final$ apktool b dump -o cracked.apk
I: Using Apktool 2.4.1-dirty
I: Checking whether sources has changed...
I: Checking whether resources has changed...
I: Building apk file...
I: Copying unknown files/dir...
I: Built apk...
delta@host:final$ jarsigner -keystore ~/.android/debug.keystore -storepass android cracked.apk debug
Command line args: [-keystore, /home/delta/.android/debug.keystore, -storepass, android, cracked.apk, debug]
jar signed.

Warning:
The signer's certificate is self-signed.
delta@host:final$ zipalign -f 4 cracked.apk final.apk
delta@host:final$ adb install final.apk
Success
delta@host:final$
```

Works just as well as the previous technique. There are often many paths to a successful crack.

Decompiling Android Apps

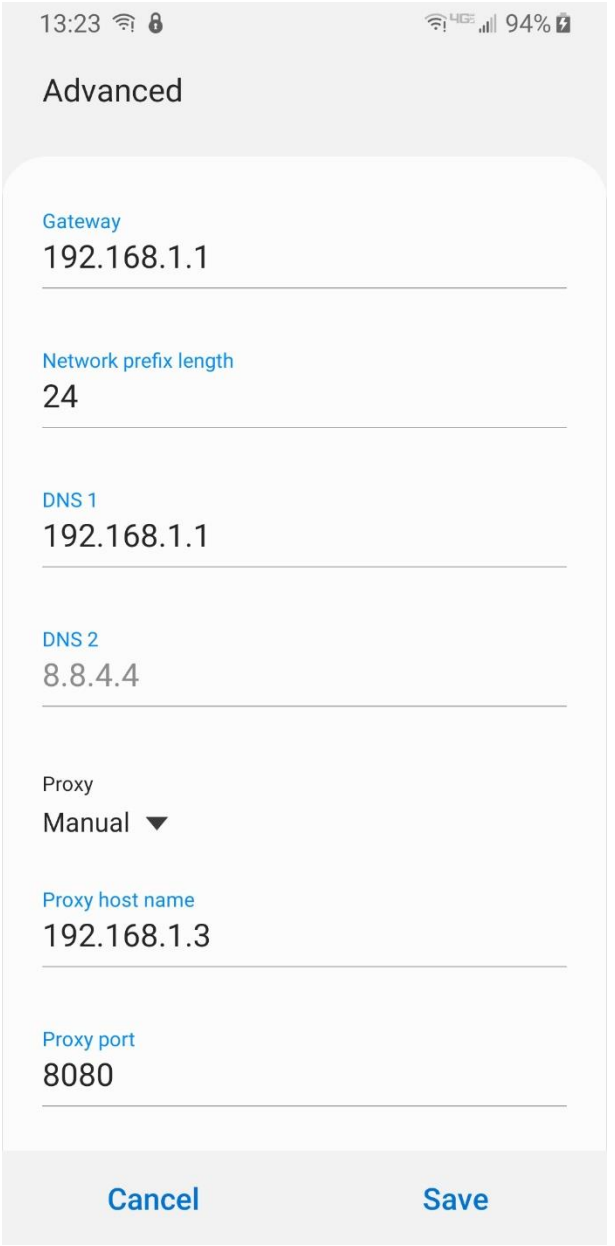
Smali is fairly readable but wouldn't plain Java be even nicer? Well, with jadx you can have both!

Note: jadx's output can't actually be recompiled, so use it as a reference.

```
delta@host:wac0$ jadx -d src classes.dex
INFO  - loading ...
INFO  - processing ...
WARNING: An illegal reflective access operation has occurred
WARNING: Illegal reflective access by com.rits.cloning.Cloner (file:/usr/share/jadx/lib/cloning-1.9.12.jar) to field java.util.TreeSet.m
WARNING: Please consider reporting this to the maintainers of com.rits.cloning.Cloner
WARNING: Use --illegal-access=warn to enable warnings of further illegal reflective access operations
WARNING: All illegal access operations will be denied in a future release
INFO  - done
delta@host:wac0$ cat src/sources/*/*/*/Main.java | grep -A 15 Main
public class Main extends Activity implements OnClickListener {
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.main);
        ((Button) findViewById(R.id.btn_validate)).setOnClickListener(this);
    }

    public static String generateHash(String id) throws Exception {
        MessageDigest m = MessageDigest.getInstance("MD5");
        m.update(id.getBytes(), 0, id.length());
        return new BigInteger(1, m.digest()).toString(16);
    }

    public String getMobileID() throws Exception {
        return ((TelephonyManager) getSystemService("phone")).getDeviceId();
    }
delta@host:wac0$
```

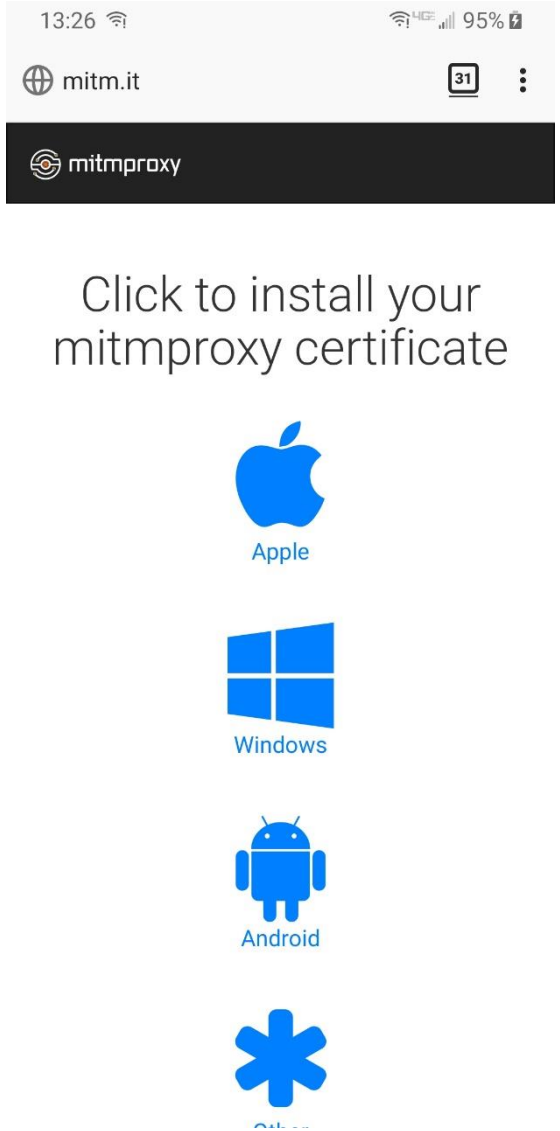
Capturing Android Traffic

Step one is to set up a proxy on the WiFi network of your choice. The proxy config will connect to your laptop running mitmproxy.



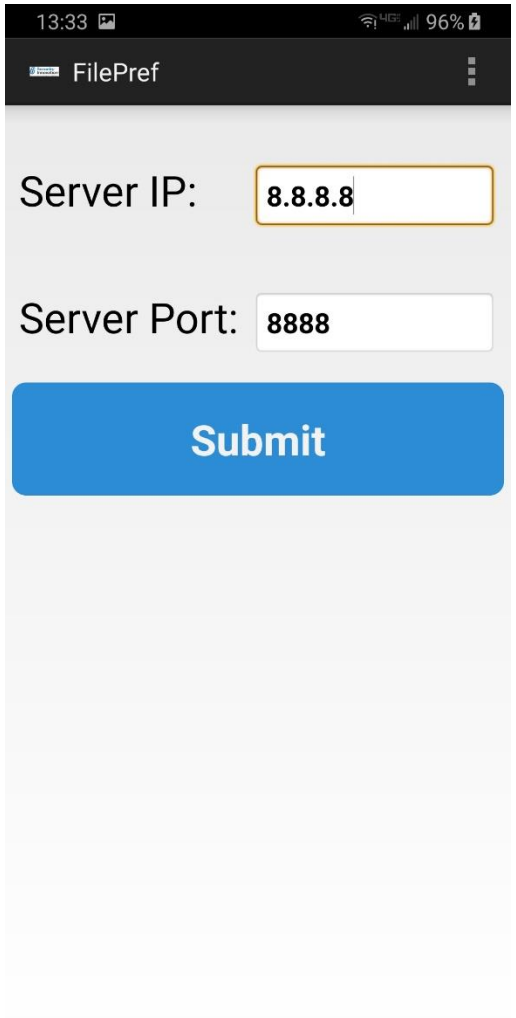
Capturing Android Traffic

Next, fire up mitmproxy and browse (on Android) to mitm.it. Install the certificate.



Capturing Traffic on Android

I’m using InsecureBankv2 for the demo. I’ve set it to try and send the login request to Google’s famous 8.8.8.8 DNS server.



Security Innovation®
THE APPLICATION SECURITY COMPANY

Capturing Traffic on Android

Boom! Plaintext creds in full view!

```
Flows
> 13:31:03 POST HTTP  …droid.bugly.qq.com /rqd/async?aid=d8616e82-4653-44aa-be44-d3f6049e3387                    200                  131b 670ms
  13:31:08 GET  HTTPS …ing.googleapis.com /v4/threatListUpdates:fetch?$ct=application/x-protobuf&key=AIzaSyC7jsptDS… 200 …ion/x-protobuf  1.8k 217ms
  13:31:10 POST HTTP              8.8.8.8 /login
```

```
Flow Details
  http://8.8.8.8:8888/login
   2020-08-07 13:31:10 POST HTTP/1.1
          Request                Response                Detail
Content-Length:  35
Content-Type:    application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Host:            8.8.8.8:8888
Connection:      Keep-Alive
User-Agent:      Apache-HttpClient/UNAVAILABLE (java 1.4)
URLEncoded form                                                [m:auto]
username: testuser
password: testpass
```

Reverse Engineering with Angr

What the heck is it?

- A tool for “concolic analysis” and “symbolic execution”.

What the heck does that mean?

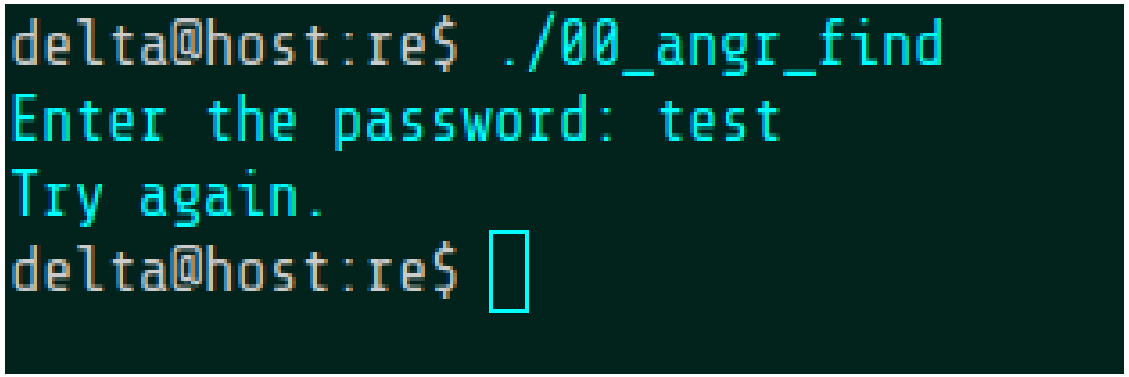
- Breaks the program into a set of logical symbols
- Uses the dark sorceries of discrete mathematics to find the input that satisfies a set of constraints
- Simulates various execution paths without actually running the program

What the heck is it?

- Invented by legendary CTF team Shellphish.
- Can be further automated to hack complex, unknown binaries in seconds with zero user input.
- I'm not joking. This has literally already been done. Shellphish won a DARPA challenge that way.

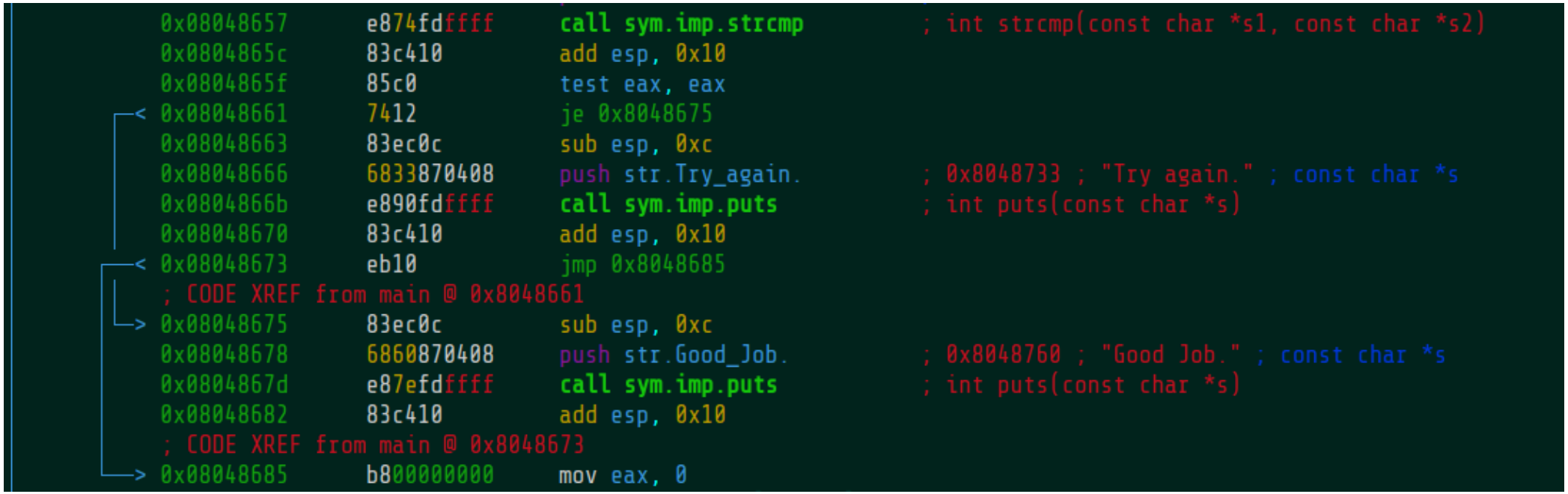
Angr Management

This is program that will be attacked.



Angr Management

The first step is to find the memory addresses you want to hit and those you want to miss. Note the “Try again.” and “Good Job.” messages with associated control flow arrows.



Angr Management

Now you just need a script like this. Nothing too crazy, right?

```
#!/home/angr/.virtualenvs/angr/bin/python3

import angr

# Load target binary
p = angr.Project('./00_angr_find')

# Create simulation manager with veritesting
# Veritesting merges certain similar paths to increase speed
sm = p.factory.simgr(veritesting=True)

# Try to get to the line that prints "Good Job.".
# Try to stay away from the line that prints "Try again.".
sm.explore(find=0x08048678, avoid=0x08048666)

for s in sm.deadended:
  # The first line of output by the program is "Enter password: ". Get the second line of output: the response.
  response = s.posix.stdout.concretize()[1]

  if response == b'Good Job.':
    print(s.posix.stdin.concretize())
~
```

Angr Management

And behold! The program is defeated by the sheer power of that black magic known as discrete math!

```
(angr) angr@angr:re$ ./solver
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:18,009 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | The program is accessing memory or registers with an unspecified value. Thi
s could indicate unwanted behavior.
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:18,009 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | angr will cope with this by generating an unconstrained symbolic variable a
nd continuing. You can resolve this by:
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:18,009 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | 1) setting a value to the initial state
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:18,009 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | 2) adding the state option ZERO_FILL_UNCONSTRAINED_{MEMORY,REGISTERS}, to m
ake unknown regions hold null
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:18,009 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | 3) adding the state option SYMBOL_FILL_UNCONSTRAINED_{MEMORY_REGISTERS}, to
 suppress these messages.
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:18,010 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | Filling register edi with 4 unconstrained bytes referenced from 0x80486b1 (
__libc_csu_init+0x1 in 00_angr_find (0x80486b1))
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:18,014 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | Filling register ebx with 4 unconstrained bytes referenced from 0x80486b3 (
__libc_csu_init+0x3 in 00_angr_find (0x80486b3))
Deprecation warning: Use self.model.get_any_node() instead of get_any_node
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:22,401 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | Filling memory at 0x7fefffc with 87 unconstrained bytes referenced from 0x
818ac20 (strcmp+0x0 in libc.so.6 (0x8ac20))
WARNING | 2020-08-09 02:48:22,402 | angr.state_plugins.symbolic_memory | Filling memory at 0x7feff60 with 4 unconstrained bytes referenced from 0x8
18ac20 (strcmp+0x0 in libc.so.6 (0x8ac20))
[b'JXWVXRKX']
(angr) angr@angr:re$ ./00_angr_find
Enter the password: JXWVXRKX
Good Job.
(angr) angr@angr:re$
```

Thank you

for coming to ~~my~~ our

~~TED talk.~~

final presentation!