

Hands-on Mobile Apps

(Mostly iOS and (also) Android)

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Clear up some misconceptions

Apple's iOS has been a huge success for Apple

- Together with Android, they have re-defined mobile telephony

Apple has made great advances in security

- They are still far from *really good*
- Not even sure if they're *pretty good*



Hardware encryption

Each iOS device (as of 3g) has hardware crypto module

- Unique AES-256 key for every iOS device
- Sensitive data hardware encrypted

Sounds brilliant, right?

- Well...



Encryption on Android

Android 2.2 has software based encryption

- Standard Java classes
- Bouncy Castle works too

Android 3.0 and 4.0 include hardware based encryption

- But our apps can't rely on this



See <http://www.unwesen.de/2011/06/12/encryption-on-android-bouncycastle/>

iOS crypto keys

GID key - Group ID key

UID key - Unique per dev

Dkey - Default file key

EMF! - Encrypts entire
file system and HFS
journal

Class keys - One per
protection class

– Some derived from UID +
Passcode



iOS NAND (SSD) mapping

Block 0 - Low level boot loader

Block 1 - Effaceable storage

– Locker for crypto keys, including Dkey and EMF!

Blocks 2-7 - NVRAM parameters

Blocks 8-15 - Firmware

Blocks 8-(N-15) - File system

Blocks (N-15)-N - Last 15 blocks reserved by Apple



WHAT?!

Yes, these keys are stored
in plaintext

No, you *shouldn't* be able
to access them

– But in reality...



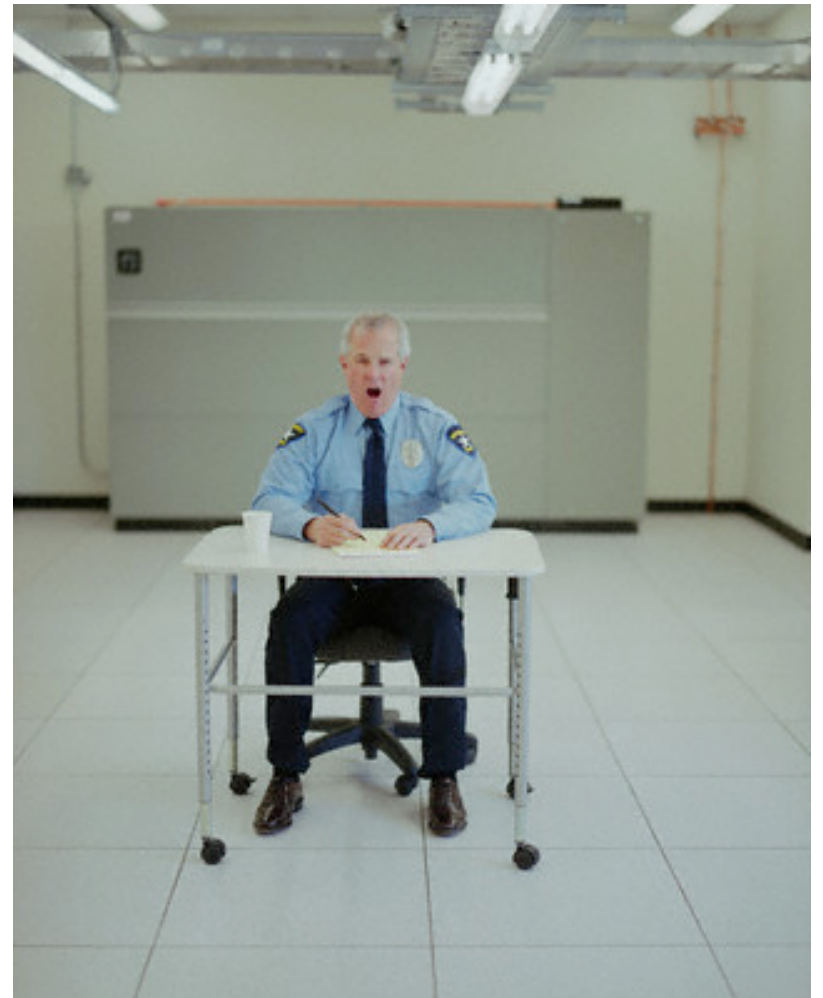
Jailbreaks

Apple's protection architecture is based on a massive digital signature hierarchy

- Starting from bootloader
- Through app loader

DFU mode allows USB vector for boot loader

- Jailbreaks exploit software weaknesses in boot loader protocol
- As of today, works on 6.1 to all except A5-based systems
- No ATV3, I5, etc.



Keychains

Keychain API provided for storage of small amounts of sensitive data

- Login credentials, passwords, etc.
- Encrypted using hardware AES

Also sounds wonderful

- Wait for it...



Built-in file protection limitations

Pros

- Easy to use, with key management done by iOS
- Powerful functionality
- Always available
- Zero performance hit

Cons

- For *Complete*, crypto key is UDID + Passcode
 - 4 digit PIN problem

Your verdict?



Built-in file protection classes

iOS (since 4) supports file protection class

- `NSFileProtectionComplete`
- `NSFileProtectionCompleteUnlessOpen`
- `NSFileProtectionCompleteUntilFirstUserAuthentication`
- `NSFileProtectionNone`





OWASP Mobile Top 10 Risks

M1- Insecure Data Storage

M6- Improper Session Handling

M2- Weak Server Side Controls

M7- Security Decisions Via Untrusted Inputs

M3- Insufficient Transport Layer Protection

M8- Side Channel Data Leakage

M4- Client Side Injection

M9- Broken Cryptography

M5- Poor Authorization and Authentication

M10- Sensitive Information Disclosure

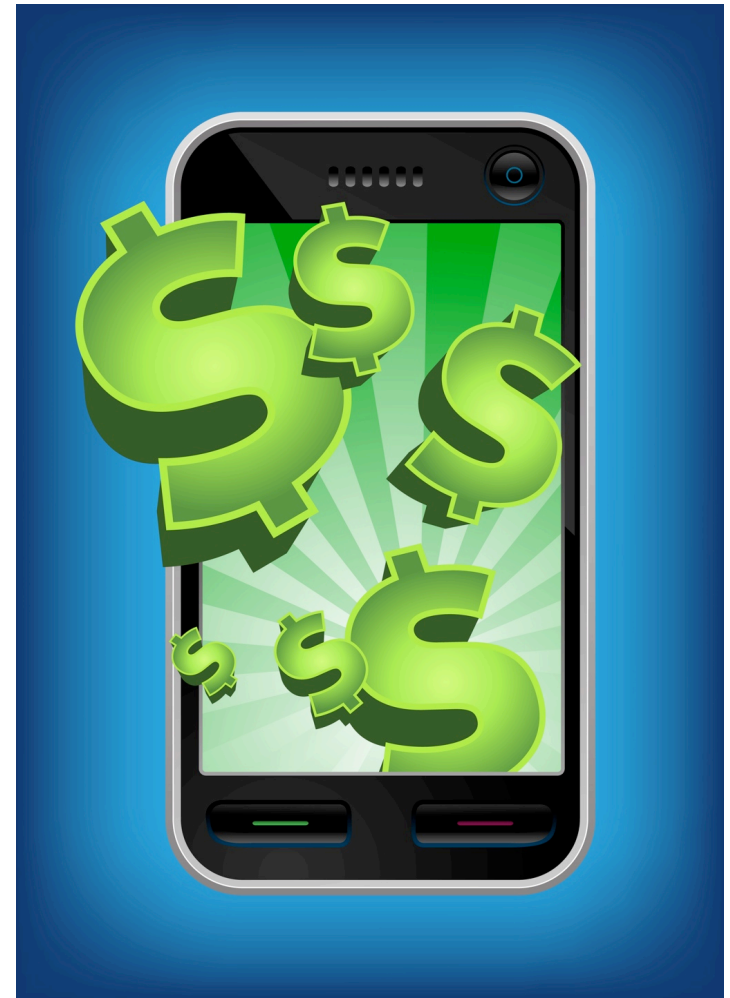
Biggest issue: lost/stolen device

Anyone with physical access to your device can get to a wealth of data

- PIN is not effective
- App data
- Keychains
- Properties

Disk encryption helps, but we can't count on users using it

See forensics results



Second biggest: insecure comms

Without additional protection, mobile devices are susceptible to the “coffee shop attack”

- Anyone on an open WiFi can eavesdrop on your data
- No different than any other WiFi device really

Your apps **MUST** protect your users’ data in transit



Let's consider the basics

We'll cover these (from the mobile top 10)

- Protecting secrets
 - At rest
 - In transit
- Input/output validation
- Authentication
- Session management
- Access control
- Privacy concerns



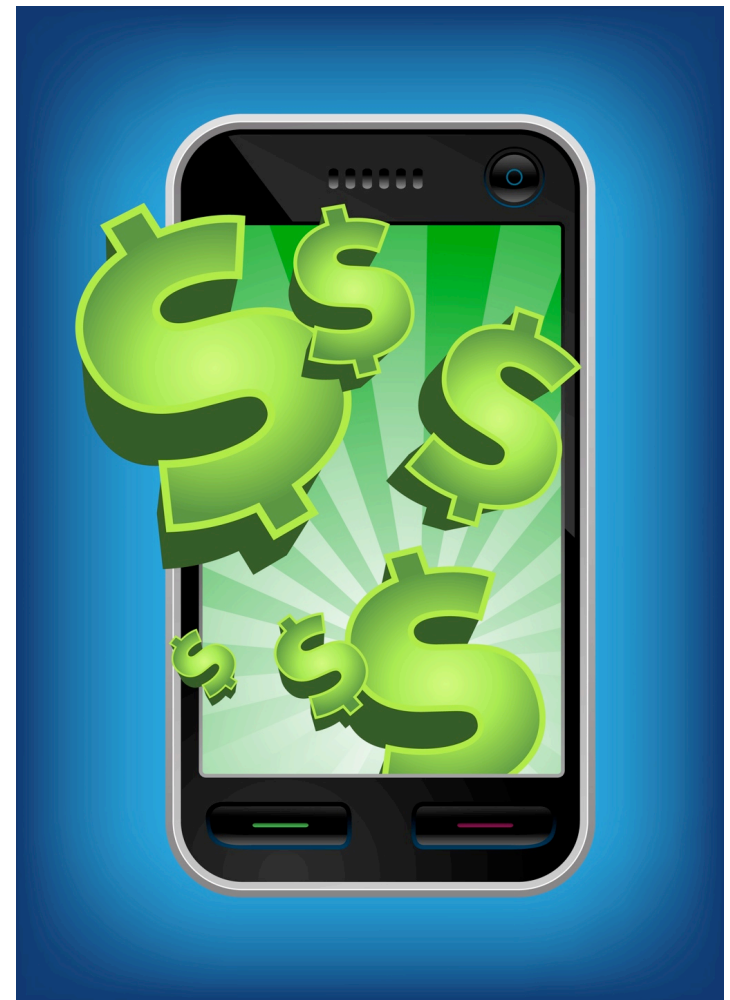
Attack vector: lost/stolen device

Anyone with physical access to your device can get to a wealth of data

- PIN is not effective
- App data
- Keychains
- Properties

See forensics studies

Your app must protect users' local data storage





M1- Insecure Data Storage

- Sensitive data left unprotected
- Applies to locally stored data + cloud synced
- Generally a result of:
 - Not encrypting data
 - Caching data not intended for long-term storage
 - Weak or global permissions
 - Not leveraging platform best-practices

Impact

- Confidentiality of data lost
- Credentials disclosed
- Privacy violations
- Non-compliance

M1- Insecure Data Storage



The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for a login form. At the top, the status bar displays '3G', signal strength, battery, and the time '9:42 AM'. The form has a title 'Login' and two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password'. Below the password field is a 'Remember Me' checkbox, which is checked and highlighted with a red box. At the bottom, there are two blue buttons labeled 'Login' and 'Register'. The OWASP logo is visible at the bottom left.

```
public void saveCredentials(String userName, String password) {  
    SharedPreferences credentials = this.getSharedPreferences(  
        "credentials", MODE_WORLD_READABLE); — Very Bad  
    SharedPreferences.Editor editor = credentials.edit();  
    editor.putString("username", userName); — Convenient!  
    editor.putString("password", password);  
    editor.putBoolean("remember", true);  
    editor.commit();  
}
```





M1- Insecure Data Storage

Prevention Tips

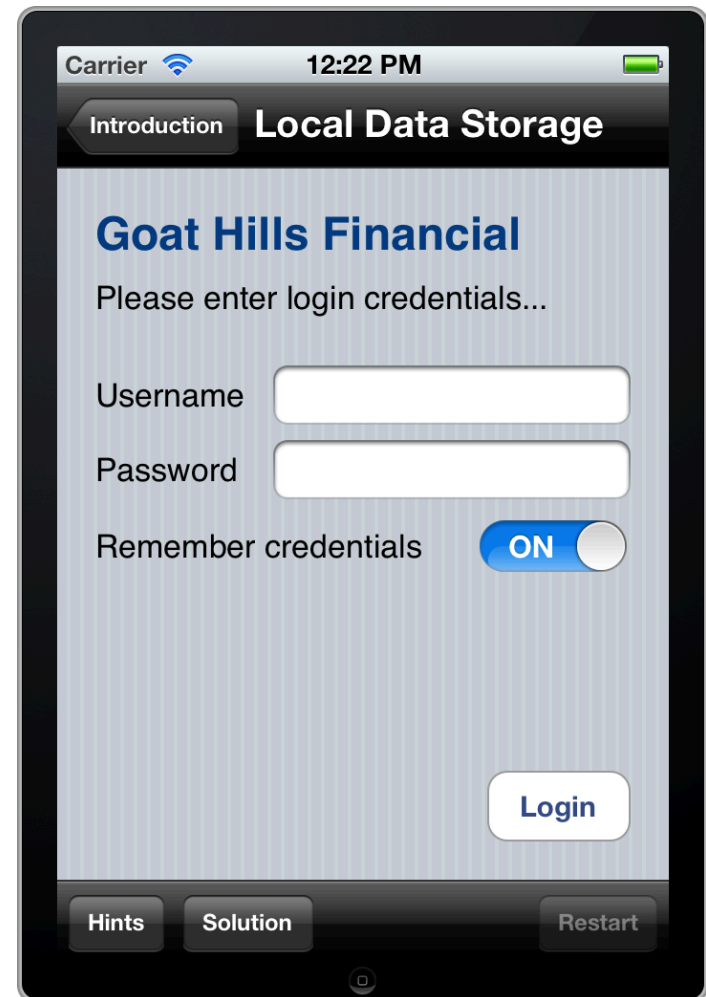
- Store ONLY what is absolutely required
- Never use public storage areas (ie- SD card)
- Leverage secure containers and platform provided file encryption APIs
- Do not grant files world readable or world writeable permissions

| Control # | Description |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.1-1.14 | Identify and protect sensitive data on the mobile device |
| 2.1, 2.2, 2.5 | Handle password credentials securely on the device |

SQLite example

Let's look at a database app that stores sensitive data into a SQLite db

- We'll recover it trivially by looking at the unencrypted database file



Protecting secrets at rest

Encryption is the answer,
but it's not quite so simple

- Where did you put that key?
- Surely you didn't hard code it into your app
- Surely you're not counting on the user to generate and remember a strong key

Key management is a non-trivially solved problem



How bad is it?

It's tough to get right

- Key management is everything

We've seen many examples of failures

- Citi and others

Consider lost/stolen device as worst case

- Would you be confident of your app/data in hands of biggest competitor?



Static analysis of an app

Explore folders

- ./Documents
- ./Library/Caches/*
- ./Library/Cookies
- ./Library/Preferences

App bundle

- Hexdump of binary
- plist files

What else?



Examples

Airline app

- Stores frequent flyer data in plaintext XML file

Healthcare app

- Stores patient data in plist file
 - But it's base64 encoded for protection...



Tools to use

Mac tools

- Finder
- iExplorer
- hexdump
- strings
- otool
- otx (otx.osxninja.com)
- class-dump
(iphone.freecoder.org/classdump_en.html)

- Emacs (editor)

Xcode additional tools

- Clang (build and analyze)
 - Finds memory leaks and others

What to examine?

See for yourself

- There is no shortage of sloppy applications in the app stores
- Start with some apps that you know store login credentials



Let's go further

Consider jailbreaking to further analyze things

- Get outside of app sandbox
- All OS files exposed
 - Keylog, SMS, email
- Tethered vs. untethered

Tools and notes

- Works up to 6.0 on iPhone 4S
 - 6.1 and iPhone 5 expected soon
- Redsn0w and others



Further still

Disassembly of binary

- Must get around app store encryption
 - Not so hard
- IDAPro is your friend



Resources

Hacking and Securing iOS Applications, Jonathan Zdziarski, O'Reilly, 2012

Redsn0w, popular jailbreaking tool, <http://blog.iphone-dev.org>

Sogeti tools, <http://code.google.com/p/iphone-dataprotection/>, including a PIN brute force tool

Attack vector: coffee shop attack

Exposing secrets through non-secure connections is rampant

- Firesheep description

Most likely attack targets

- Authentication credentials
- Session tokens
- Sensitive user data

At a bare minimum, your app needs to be able to withstand a coffee shop attack





M3- Insufficient Transport Layer Protection

- Complete lack of encryption for transmitted data
 - Yes, this unfortunately happens often
- Weakly encrypted data in transit
- Strong encryption, but ignoring security warnings
 - Ignoring certificate validation errors
 - Falling back to plain text after failures

Impact

- Man-in-the-middle attacks
- Tampering w/ data in transit
- Confidentiality of data lost



M3- Insufficient Transport Layer Protection

Prevention Tips

- Ensure that all sensitive data leaving the device is encrypted
- This includes data over carrier networks, WiFi, and even NFC
- When security exceptions are thrown, it's generally for a reason...DO NOT ignore them!

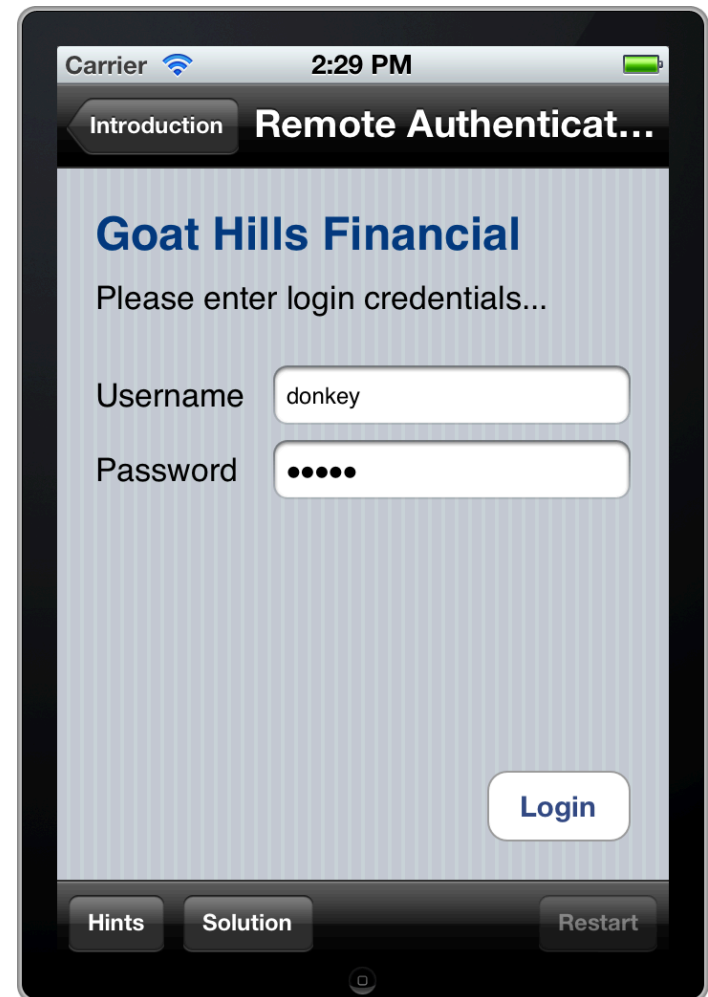
| Control # | Description |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 3.1.3.6 | Ensure sensitive data is protected in transit |

Exercise - coffee shop attack

This one is trivial, but let's take a look

In this iGoat exercise, the user's credentials are sent plaintext

- Simple web server running on Mac responds
- If this were on a public WiFi, a network sniffer would be painless to launch



Protecting users' secrets in transit

Always consider the coffee shop attack as lowest common denominator

We place a lot of faith in SSL

– But then, it's been subjected to scrutiny for years



Most common SSL mistake

We've all heard of CAs being attacked

- That's all important, but...
- (Certificate pinning can help.)

Failing to properly verify CA signature chain

- Biggest SSL problem by far
- Study showed 1/3 of *Android* apps fell to this

Cannot happen by accident



How bad is it?

Neglecting SSL on network comms is common

– Consider the exposures

- Login credentials
- Session credentials
- Sensitive user data

Will your app withstand a concerted coffee shop attacker?



Attack vector: web app weakness

Remember, modern mobile devices share a lot of weaknesses with web applications

- Many shared technologies
- A smart phone is *sort of* like a mobile web browser
 - Only worse in some regards



Input and output validation

Problems abound

- Data must be treated as dangerous until proven safe
- No matter where it comes from

Examples

- Data injection
- Cross-site scripting

Where do you think input validation should occur?



SQL Injection

Most common injection attack

- Attacker taints input data with SQL statement
- Application constructs SQL query via string concatenation
- SQL passes to SQL interpreter and runs on server

Consider the following input to an HTML form

- Form field fills in a variable called “CreditCardNum”
- Attacker enters
 - ‘
 - ‘ --
 - ‘ or 1=1 --
- What happens next?

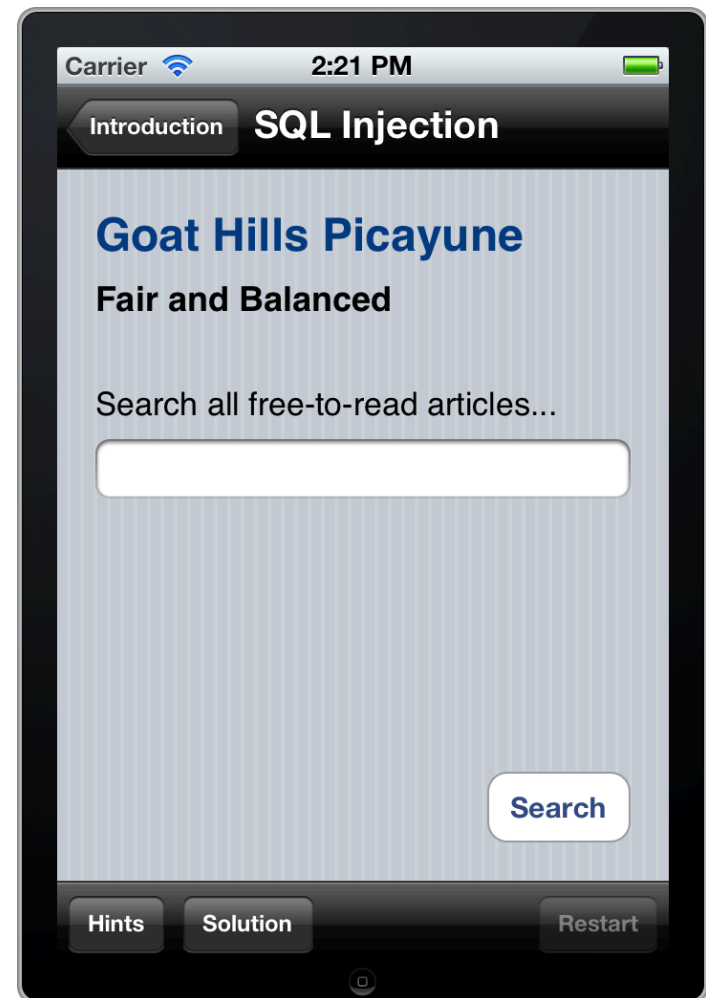
SQL injection exercise - client side

In this one, a local SQL db contains some restricted content

– Attacker can use “SQLi” to view restricted info

Not all SQLi weaknesses are on the server side!

Question: Would db encryption help?





M5- Poor Authorization and Authentication

- Part mobile, part architecture
- Some apps rely solely on immutable, potentially compromised values (IMEI, IMSI, UUID)
- Hardware identifiers persist across data wipes and factory resets
- Adding contextual information is useful, but not foolproof

Impact

- Privilege escalation
- Unauthorized access



M5- Poor Authorization and Authentication

```
if (dao.isDevicePermanentlyAuthorized(deviceID)) {  
    int newSessionToken = LoginUtils.generateSessionToken();  
    dao.openConnection();  
    dao.updateAuthorizedDeviceSession(deviceID,  
        sessionToken, LoginUtils.getTimeMilliseconds());  
    bean.setSessionToken(newSessionToken);  
    bean.setUserName(dao.getUserName(sessionToken));  
    bean.setAccountNumber(dao.getAccountNumber(sessionToken));  
    bean.setSuccess(true);  
    return bean;  
}
```



M5- Poor Authorization and Authentication Prevention Tips

- Contextual info can enhance things, but only as part of a multi-factor implementation
- Out-of-band doesn't work when it's all the same device
- Never use device ID or subscriber ID as sole authenticator

| Control # | Description |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4.1-4.6 | Implement user authentication/authorization and session management |
| 8.4 | Authenticate all API calls to paid resources |



M6- Improper Session Handling

- Mobile app sessions are generally MUCH longer
- Why? Convenience and usability
- Apps maintain sessions via
 - HTTP cookies
 - OAuth tokens
 - SSO authentication services
- Bad idea= using a device identifier as a session token

Impact

- Privilege escalation
- Unauthorized access
- Circumvent licensing and payments



M6- Improper Session Handling Prevention Tips

- Don't be afraid to make users re-authenticate every so often
- Ensure that tokens can be revoked quickly in the event of a lost/stolen device
- Utilize high entropy, tested token generation resources

| Control # | Description |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.13 | Use non-persistent identifiers |
| 4.1-4.6 | Implement user authentication/authorization and session management |

M4- Client Side Injection

Garden Variety XSS....

```
@Override
public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {

    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.demo);
    context = this.getApplicationContext();
    webView = (WebView) findViewById(R.id.demoWebView);
    webView.getSettings().setJavaScriptEnabled(true);
    webView.addJavascriptInterface(new SmsJSInterface(this),
        "smsJSInterface");
    GetSomeInfo getInfo = new GetSomeInfo();
    getInfo.execute(null, null);
}

public String generateHTML(String untrustedData) {
    return "<b>Check this out!</b><br>" + untrustedData;
}
```

With access to:

```
public class SmsJSInterface implements Cloneable {

    Context mContext;

    public SmsJSInterface(Context context) {

        mContext = context;
    }

    public void sendSMS(String phoneNumber, String message) {

        SmsManager sms = SmsManager.getDefault();
        sms.sendTextMessage(phoneNumber, null, message, null, null);
    }
}
```



M4- Client Side Injection

Prevention Tips

- Sanitize or escape untrusted data before rendering or executing it
- Use prepared statements for database calls...concatenation is still bad, and always will be bad
- Minimize the sensitive native capabilities tied to hybrid web functionality

| Control # | Description |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6.3 | Pay particular attention to validating all data received from and sent to non-trusted third party apps before |
| 10.1-10.5 | Carefully check any runtime interpretation of code for errors |



M7- Security Decisions Via Untrusted Inputs

- Can be leveraged to bypass permissions and security models
 - Similar but different depending on platform
 - iOS- Abusing URL Schemes
 - Android- Abusing Intents
 - Several attack vectors
 - Malicious apps
 - Client side injection
- ## Impact
- Consuming paid resources
 - Data exfiltration
 - Privilege escalation

M7- Security Decisions Via Untrusted Inputs

Skype iOS URL Scheme Handling Issue

**HTML or
Script
Injection via
app**

**Attacker
embeds
iframe**

```
<iframe  
src="skype:  
17031234567?  
call"></iframe>
```

**Skype app
handles this
URL Scheme**

**Phone call is
initiated
without user
consent**

- <http://software-security.sans.org/blog/2010/11/08/insecure-handling-url-schemes-apples-ios/>



M7- Security Decisions Via Untrusted Inputs

Prevention Tips

- Check caller's permissions at input boundaries
- Prompt the user for additional authorization before allowing
- Where permission checks cannot be performed, ensure additional steps required to launch sensitive actions

| Control # | Description |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------|
| 10.2 | Run interpreters at minimal privilege levels |



M8- Side Channel Data Leakage

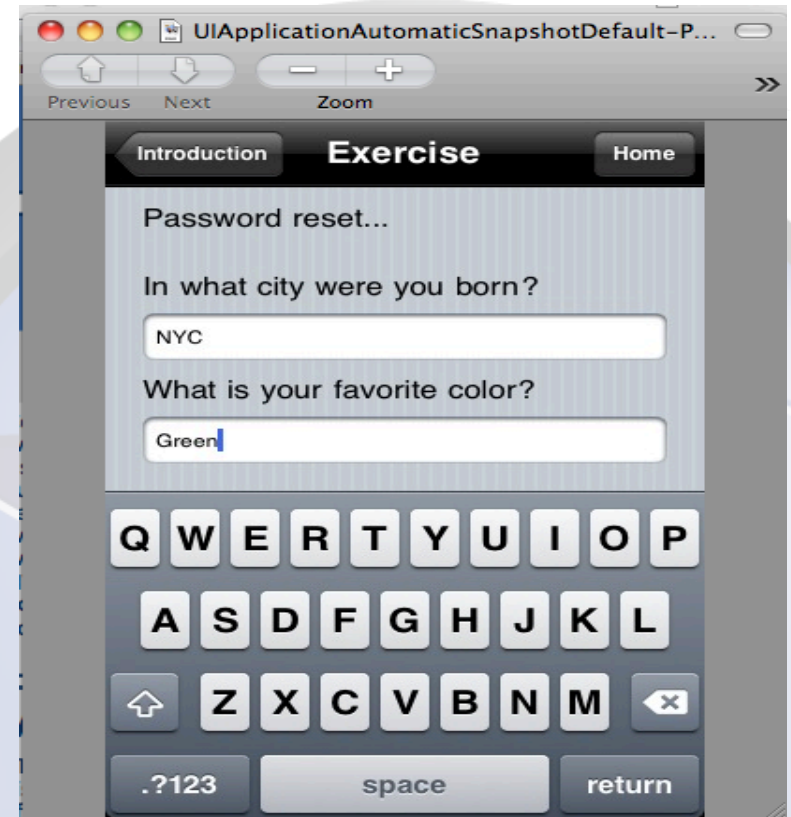
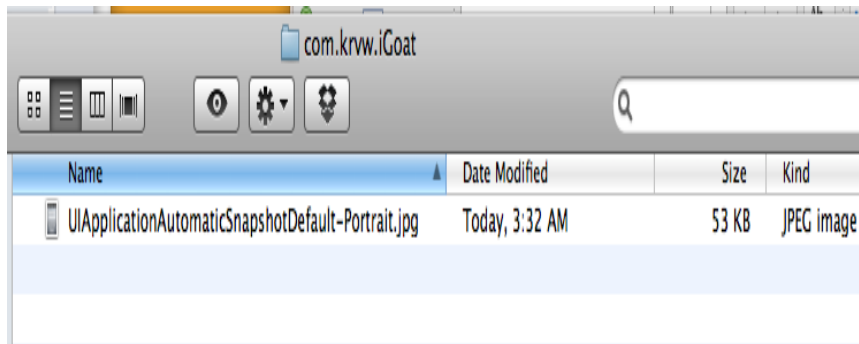
- Mix of not disabling platform features and programmatic flaws
- Sensitive data ends up in unintended places
 - Web caches
 - Keystroke logging
 - Screenshots (ie- iOS backgrounding)
 - Logs (system, crash)
 - Temp directories
- Understand what 3rd party libraries in your apps are doing with user data (ie- ad networks, analytics)

Impact

- Data retained indefinitely
- Privacy violations

M8- Side Channel Data Leakage

Screenshots



Logging

```
try {
    userInfo = client.validateCredentials(userName, password);
    if (userInfo.get("success").equals("true"))
        launchHome(v);
    else {
        Log.w("Failed login", userName + " " + password);
    }
} catch (Exception e) {
    Log.w("Failed login", userName + " " + password);
}
```



M8- Side Channel Data Leakage Prevention Tips

- Never log credentials, PII, or other sensitive data to system logs
- Remove sensitive data before screenshots are taken, disable keystroke logging per field, and utilize anti-caching directives for web content
- Debug your apps before releasing them to observe files created, written to, or modified in any way
- Carefully review any third party libraries you introduce and the data they consume
- Test your applications across as many platform versions as possible

| Control # | Description |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7.3 | Check whether you are collecting PII, it may not always be obvious |
| 7.4 | Audit communication mechanisms to check for unintended leaks (e.g. image |



M10- Sensitive Information Disclosure

- We differentiate by stored (M1) vs. embedded/hardcoded (M10)
- Apps can be reverse engineered with relative ease
- Code obfuscation raises the bar, but doesn't eliminate the risk
- Commonly found "treasures":
 - API keys
 - Passwords
 - Sensitive business logic

Impact

- Credentials disclosed
- Intellectual property exposed



M10- Sensitive Information Disclosure

```
if (rememberMe)
    saveCredentials(userName, password);
//our secret backdoor account
if (userName.equals("all_powerful")
    && password.equals("iamsosmart"))
    launchAdminHome(v);
```

```
public static final double SECRET_SAUCE_FORMULA = (1.2344 * 4.35 - 4 + 1.442) * 2.221;
```



M10- Sensitive Information Disclosure Prevention Tips

- Private API keys are called that for a reason...keep them off of the client
- Keep proprietary and sensitive business logic on the server
- Almost never a legitimate reason to hardcode a password (if there is, you have other problems)

| Control # | Description |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.10 | Do not store any passwords or secrets in the application binary |

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