

Mobile Security Attacks

A Glimpse From the Trenches

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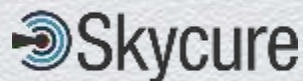
About the Presenters

Yair Amit

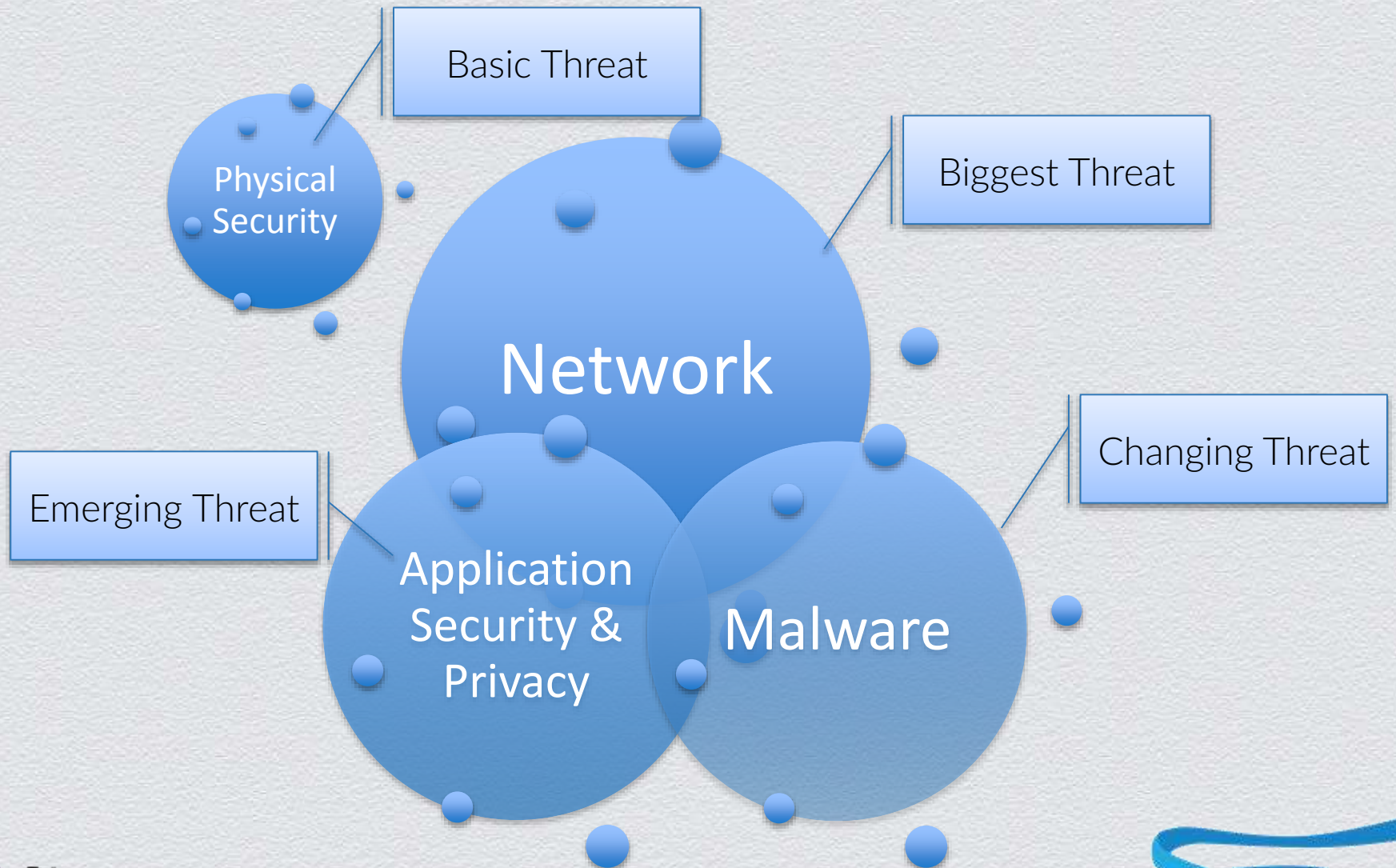
- ◆ CTO & co-founder of Skycure
- ◆ Web, network and mobile researcher
- ◆ Filed over 15 security patents
- ◆ Former manager of the Application Security & Research group at IBM

Adi Sharabani

- ◆ CEO & co-founder of Skycure
- ◆ Watchfire's research and security group [Acquired by IBM]
- ◆ Led the security of much of IBM software
- ◆ Fellow at Yuval Ne'eman's workshop
- ◆ Teacher at Ohel Shem high-school



A Holistic Outlook on Mobile Security





The Physical Layer

The Physical Layer

- ◆ Threat vector
 - ◆ Device lost / Device stolen / Temporary physical access
- ◆ Basic physical security needs:
 - ◆ Remote wipe
 - ◆ Locate device
 - ◆ Backup
 - ◆ Local storage
 - ◆ Passcode protection
- ◆ The above becomes OS responsibility
- ◆ MDM provides the above OS features together with management and policy enforcement



Network Based Attacks

Insights from Skycure's database

- ◆ Real-world statistics (Skycure's database)
 - ◆ 10763 scanned networks

7.5%

of scanned
networks
pose a threat



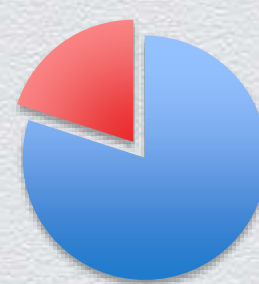
12%

of all devices
**connected to such
networks
every week**



20%

of all devices
**connected to such
networks
every month**

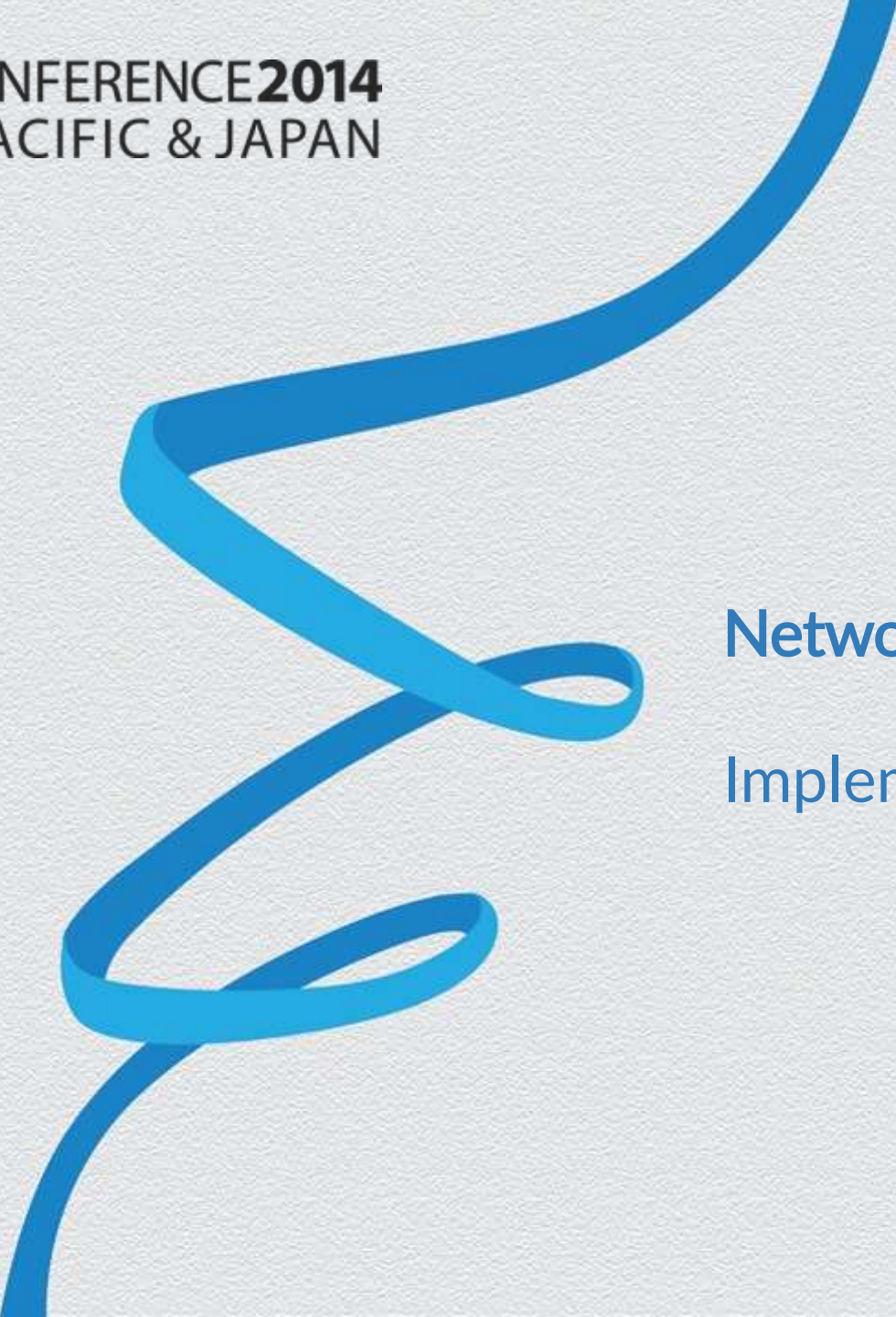


Network Based Attacks

Implementation-Based Vulnerabilities

Vs.

Design-Based Vulnerabilities



Network Based Attacks

Implementation issues

Implementation-Based Vulnerabilities

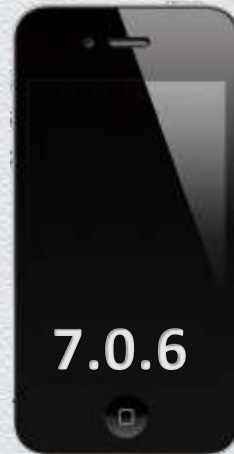
iOS vs. Android

Implementation-Based Vulnerabilities

>> [Read more](#)

- ◆ Example I:

gotofail



Gotofail – The Code

```
static OSStatus
SSLVerifySignedServerKeyExchange(SSLContext *ctx, bool isRsa, SSLBuffer signedParams,
                                uint8_t *signature, UInt16 signatureLen) {
    ...
    if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &clientRandom)) != 0)
        goto fail;
    if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &serverRandom)) != 0)
        goto fail;
    if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &signedParams)) != 0)
        goto fail;
    goto fail;
    if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.final(&hashCtx, &hashOut)) != 0)
        goto fail;
    err = sslRawVerify(ctx,
                      ctx->peerPubKey,
                      dataToSign,
                      dataToSignLen,
                      signature,
                      signatureLen);
    /* plaintext */
    /* plaintext length */
    ...
fail:
    SSLFreeBuffer(&signedHashes);
    SSLFreeBuffer(&hashCtx);
    return err;
}
```

Always goto
"fail", even if
err==0

Code is skipped
(even though err == 0)

Function returns 0 (i.e. verified),
even though sslRawVerify was
not called

Implementation-Based Vulnerabilities

>> [Read more](#)

- ◆ Example II:

Heartbleed





Network Based Attacks

Design issues

Design-Based Vulnerabilities

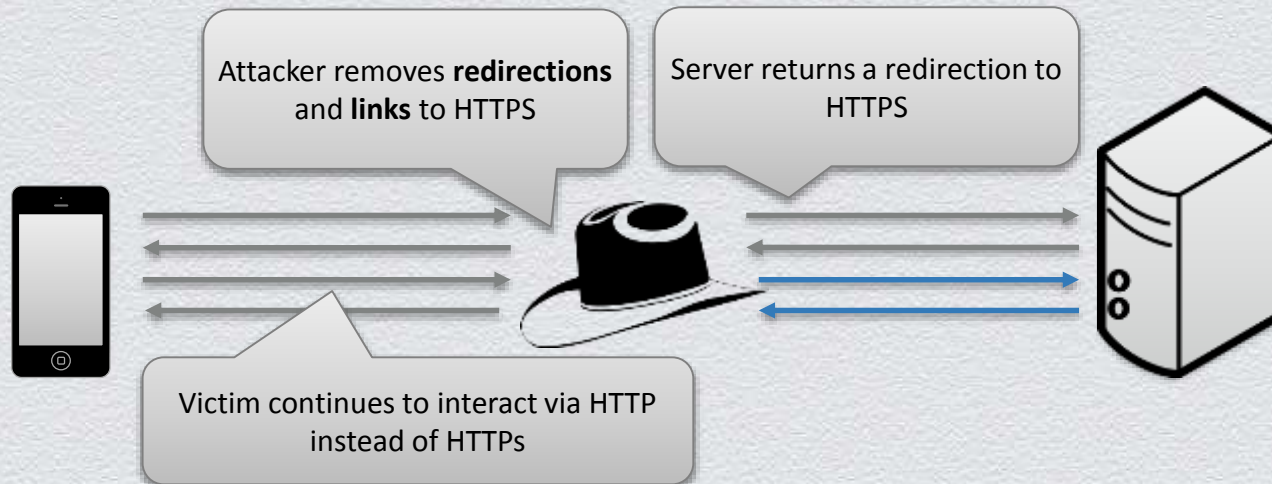
- ◆ Design issues are much more interesting
 - ◆ ... and much harder to fix
- ◆ These are divided into two types:
 - ◆ General “protocol” vulnerabilities
 - ◆ Design issues affecting mobile OS
- ◆ Mobile devices are more susceptible:
 - ◆ Lack of adequate security solutions
 - ◆ Excessive use of untrusted networks

Design-Based Vulnerabilities (Generic)

>> [Read more](#)

◆ Example I:

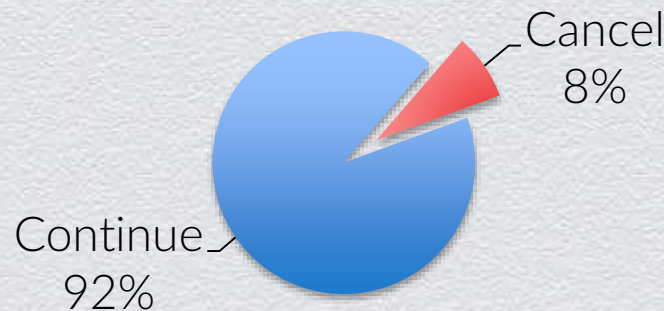
sslstrip



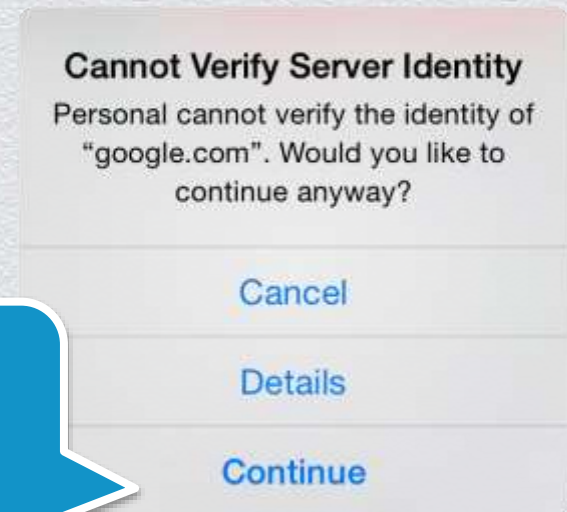
Design-Based Vulnerabilities (Generic)

- ◆ Example II:

SSL decryption



92% of users click on “Continue” compromising their Exchange identity (username and password)



Design-Based Vulnerabilities (Generic)

>> [Read more](#)

- ◆ Example III:

Karma



Hak5's WiFi Pineapple



Network Based Attacks

Mobile-specific
design issues

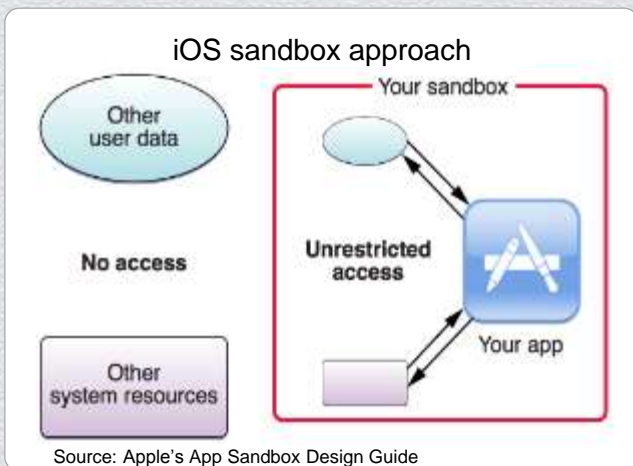
iOS Security Model

App Characteristics

- One Store
- Heavy Screening
- App Sandboxing

Profile Characteristics

- No Store
- No Screening
- No Sandboxing

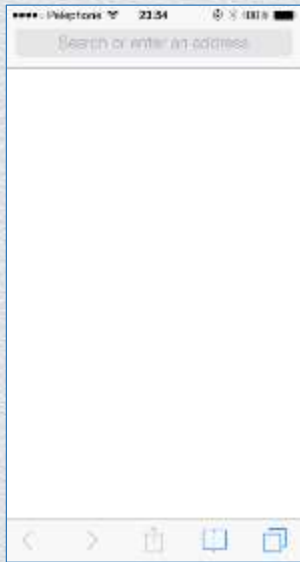


Configuration Profiles

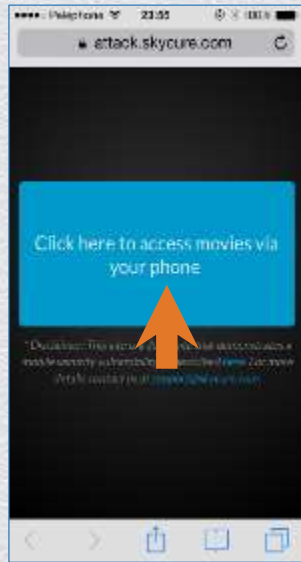
Where Do We Find Them?

- ◆ Mobile Device Management (MDM)
- ◆ Cellular carriers
 - ◆ Usually used for APN settings
- ◆ Mobile applications
- ◆ Service providers

Demo: Participation Instructions



1. Open your Safari



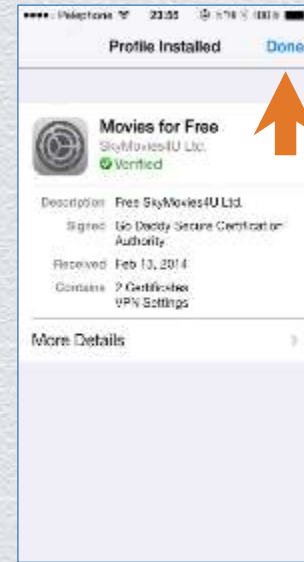
2. Tap the blue button



3. Click on 'Install'



4. Click on 'Install Now'



5. Click on 'Done'

Start demo by opening Safari and browsing to:
attack.skycure.com

Malicious Profiles

>> [Read more](#)

Where Do We Find Them?

- ◆ Malicious “service providers” (apps/services/Wi-Fis/etc.)
- ◆ Vulnerable services
- ◆ Privacy violating services



Hacker gains access to your mail, business apps, cloud services, bank accounts and more, even if traffic is encrypted

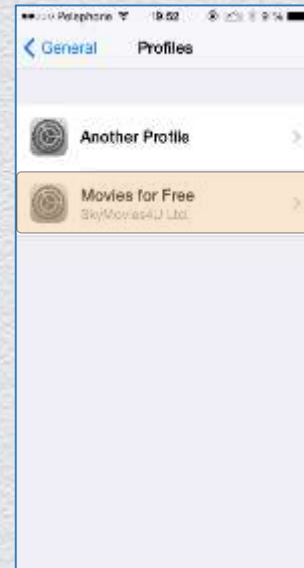
Malicious Profiles

Going Viral

- ◆ Attacker hijacks victim's key identities
 - ◆ Corporate Exchange
 - ◆ Facebook
 - ◆ LinkedIn
- ◆ Attacker sends mass messages to victim's contacts, luring them to install the malicious profile
- ◆ Attack propagates

Am I Safe?

- ◆ Profile listing could indicate suspicious profiles
- ◆ Cat-and-mouse game: attackers can name their profile to look benign



Design-Based Vulnerabilities (Mobile)

>> [Read more](#)

- ◆ Example II:

WiFiGate

```
adish -- ssh -- 72x14
Sakin:/System/Library/Carrier Bundles/iPhone root# ls -d [A-
ATS_th.bundle          CW_tt.bundle          Claro_gt.bundle
ATT_US.bundle          CW_wi.bundle          Claro_hn.bundle
AVEA_tr.bundle         CarrierLab.bundle    Claro_jm.bundle
Aircel_in.bundle       Celcom_my.bundle     Claro_ni.bundle
Bell_ca.bundle         CellC_za.bundle      Claro_pa.bundle
BhartiAirtel_in.bundle Cellcom_il.bundle    Claro_pe.bundle
Bouygues_fr.bundle     Chunghwa_tw.bundle  Claro_pr.bundle
CMCC_cn.bundle         Claro_ar.bundle      Claro_py.bundle
CSI_hk.bundle          Claro_br.bundle      Claro_sv.bundle
CTM_mo.bundle          Claro_cl.bundle      Claro_uy.bundle
CW_bs.bundle           Claro_cr.bundle      Comcel_co.bundle
CW_pa.bundle           Claro_do.bundle      Comviq_se.bundle
Sakin:/System/Library/Carrier Bundles/iPhone root#
```



App Level Security

App Level Security & Privacy

- ◆ Mobile OS enforce additional security models
 - ◆ Sandbox
 - ◆ Better updates
 - ◆ Controlled application stores

- ◆ App-level issues are now on the rise



App Vulnerabilities

App Level Vulnerabilities

- ◆ Example I:

Plain HTTP

Daaa!

- ◆ Example II:

Certificate Pinning



Certificate Pinning

A Long Way to Go

- ◆ Almost all major apps today lack SSL Pinning
 - ◆ Susceptible to attacks such as malicious profiles by design
 - ◆ Also exploited when attacker gains access to a trusted CA
- ◆ Slow adoption should not come as a surprise
 - ◆ Implementation challenges
 - ◆ Less flexibility
 - ◆ Can become a nightmare if done wrong...

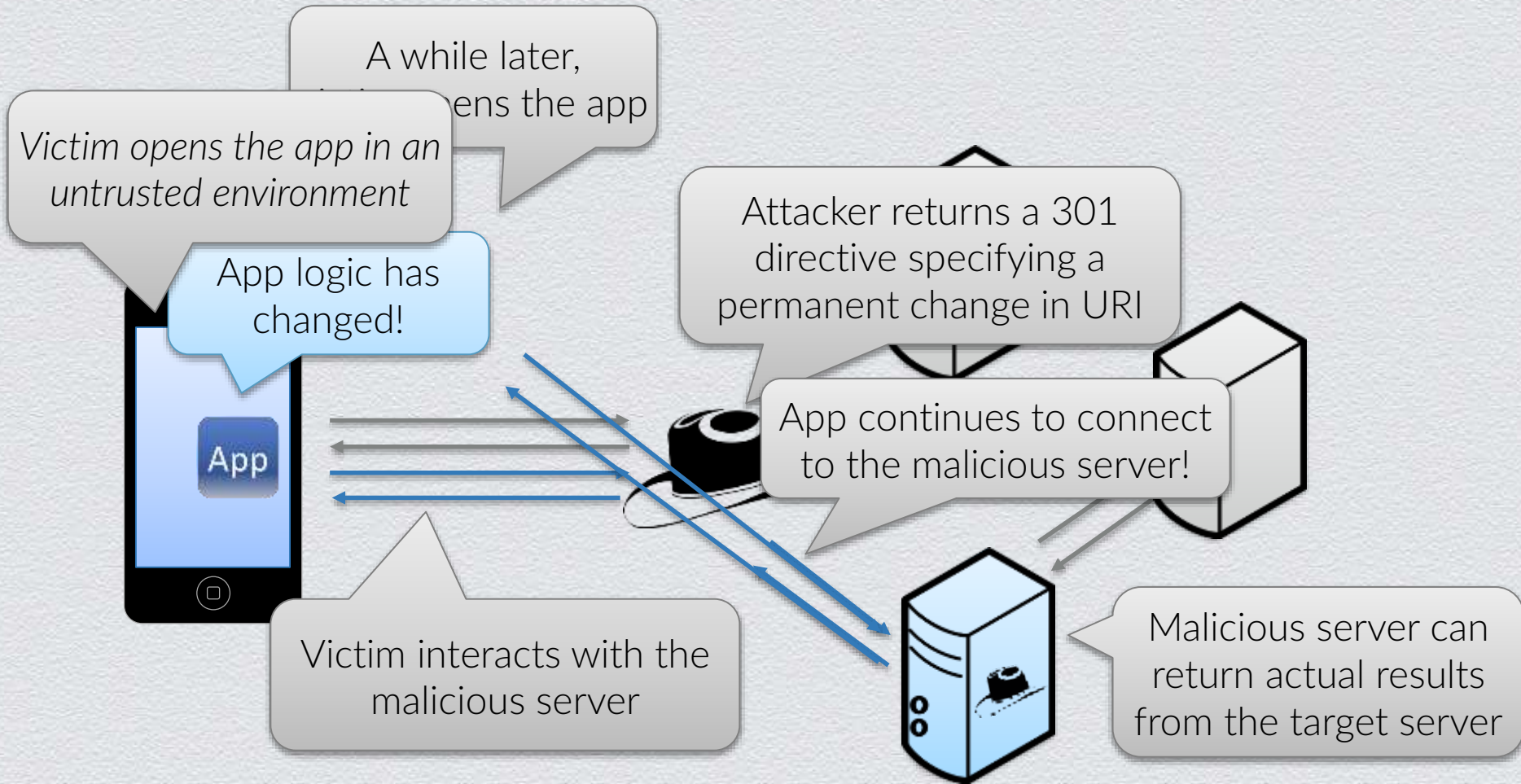
App Level Vulnerabilities

- ◆ Example III:

HTTP Request Hijacking

HRH - Attack Flow

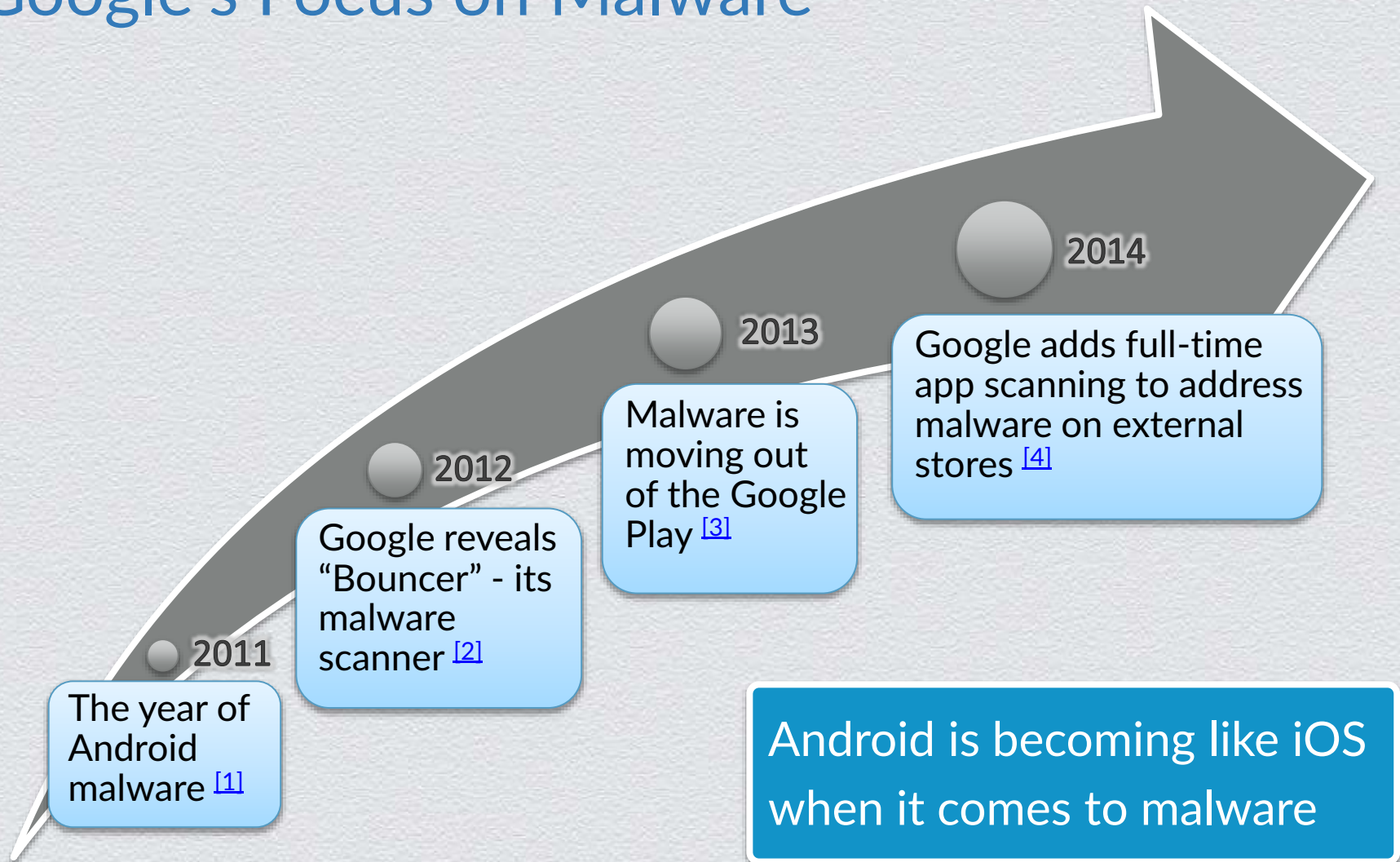
>> [Read more](#)





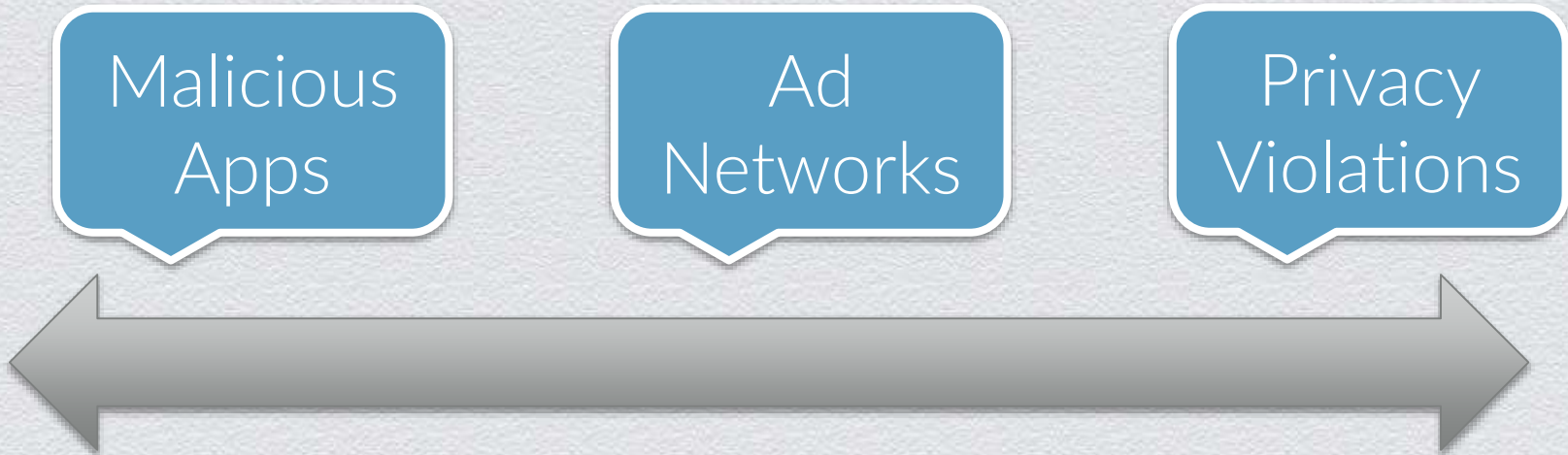
Malicious Apps

Google's Focus on Malware



The Maliciousness Axis

- ◆ While OS anti-malware techniques advance, there are other similar problems (harder to address)



The Maliciously Vulnerable App

- ◆ Malicious services sometimes try to justify their actions
 - ◆ “I need all your key-strokes to provide you with a better service”
- ◆ We are concerned about the Maliciously-Vulnerable app:
 - ◆ App with semi-naive service is created
 - ◆ App does not pose a privacy/security issue
 - ◆ App is approved to go on AppStore/Google Play.
 - ◆ App has a special crafted carefully thought vulnerability
 - ◆ Vulnerability used as a backdoor to escalate app for malicious activity



Summary

Summary

- ◆ The physical layer
 - ◆ Becomes the OS responsibility
- ◆ Network based attacks
 - ◆ Implementation vulnerabilities
 - ◆ Design vulnerabilities
 - ◆ Generic vs. mobile specific
- ◆ App level
 - ◆ Vulnerabilities
 - ◆ HTTP/S, Certificate Pinning, HTTP Request Hijacking
 - ◆ The “maliciousness” axis
 - ◆ Malware ↔ Ad Networks ↔ Privacy Violations

Thank you!

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