

Android Hax



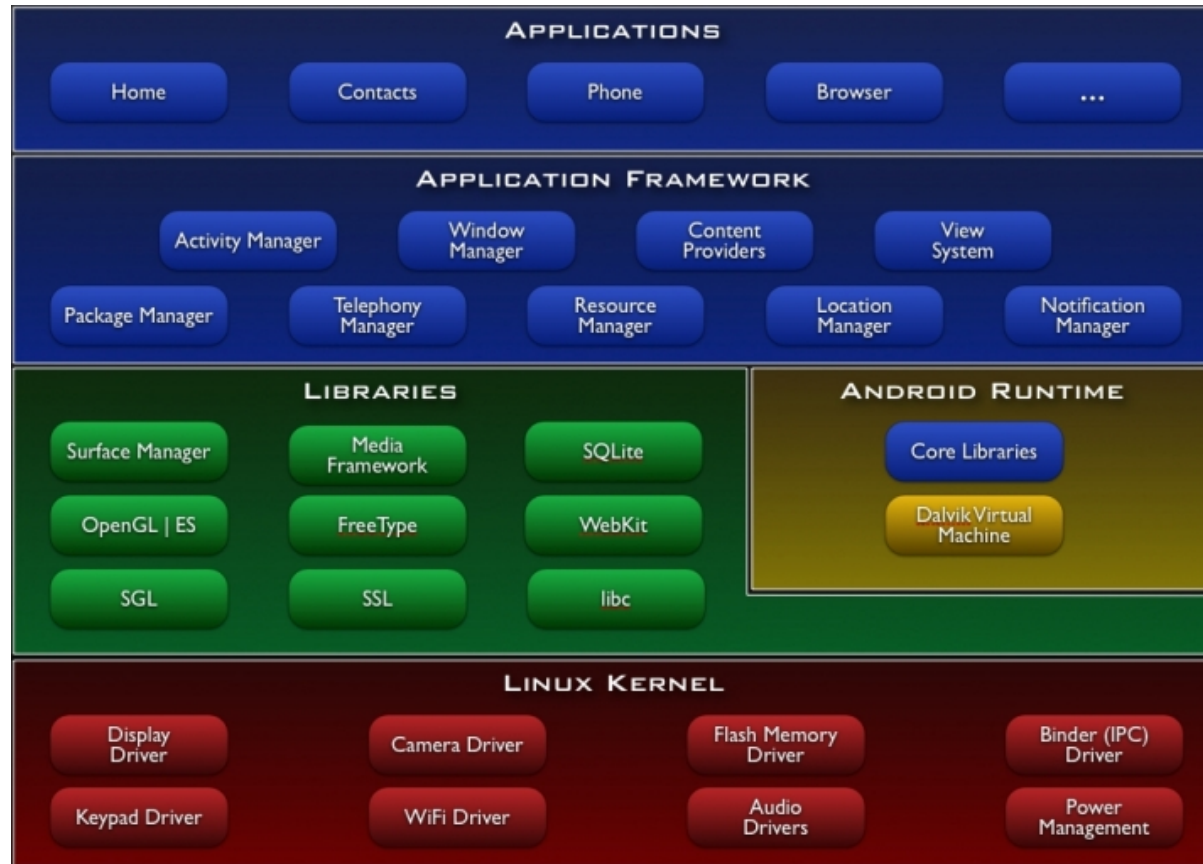
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Agenda

- **Android Security Overview**
- Market and the Mystical GTalkService
- The RootStrap PDP
- Wrap-Up / Q&A

Android Overview

- Base platform
 - ARM core
 - Linux 2.6.3x kernel
- Native Libraries
 - libc, WebKit, etc
- Dalvik VM
 - Register-based VM
 - Runs dex bytecode
- Applications
 - Developed in Java
 - Runs on Dalvik VM
 - Linux process 1-1



Hardware Features

- ARM11 TrustZone?
 - Unused!
- ARM11 Jazelle JVM?
 - Unused!
- ARMv6 eXecute-Never (XN)?
 - Unused!



Linux Environment

```
afd01000-afd02000 rw-p 00001000 1f:03 607 /system/lib/libstdc++.so
afe00000-afe39000 r-xp 00000000 1f:03 487 /system/lib/libc.so
afe39000-afe3c000 rw-p 00039000 1f:03 487 /system/lib/libc.so
afe3c000-afe47000 rw-p afe3c000 00:00 0
b0000000-b0013000 r-xp 00000000 1f:03 382 /system/bin/linker
b0013000-b0014000 rw-p 00013000 1f:03 382 /system/bin/linker
b0014000-b001a000 rwxp b0014000 00:00 0
bed29000-bed3e000 rwxp befefb000 00:00 0
[stack]
#
```

```
afd01000-afd02000 rw-p 00001000 1f:03 607 /system/lib/libstdc++.so
afe00000-afe39000 r-xp 00000000 1f:03 487 /system/lib/libc.so
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b0014000-b001a000 rwxp b0014000 00:00 0
be8ab000-be8c0000 rwxp befefb000 00:00 0
[stack]
#
```

Executable
stack/heap!

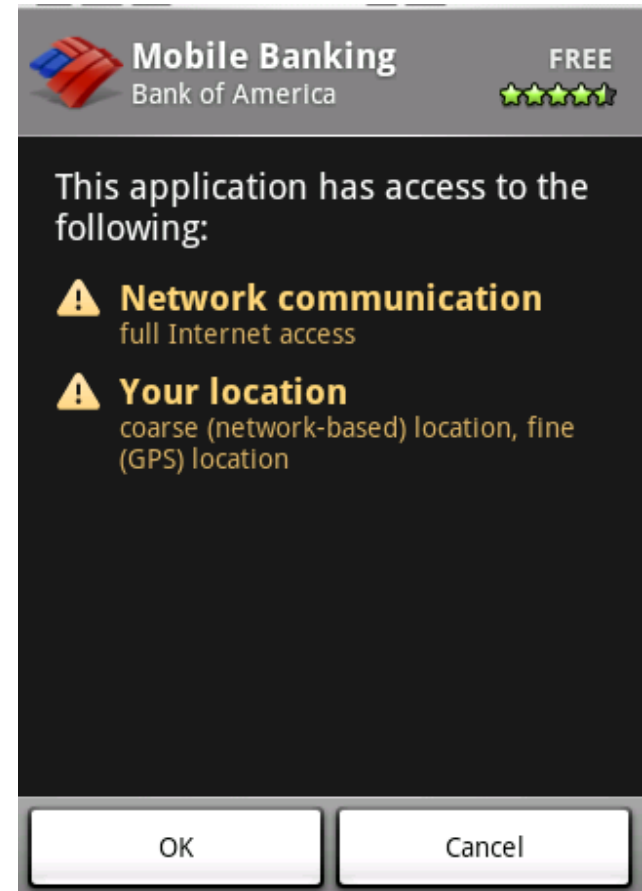
```
# cat /proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space
1
#
```

Mobile ASLR sucks.

Non-
randomized
mmap/brk!

Permission-Based Model

- Apps explicitly request pre-defined permissions
- Examples:
 - Cellular: calls, SMS, MMS
 - Network, bluetooth, wifi
 - Hardware settings: vibrate, backlight, etc
 - Location: coarse/fine
 - App data: contacts, calendar



App Sandboxing

- “Sandboxed” by standard UNIX uid/gid
 - generated unique per app at install

```
drwxr-xr-x    1 10027    10027    2048 Nov
9 01:59 org.dyndns.devesh.flashlight
drwxr-xr-x    1 10046    10046    2048 Dec
8 07:18 org.freedictionary
drwxr-xr-x    1 10054    10054    2048 Feb
5 14:19 org.inodes.gus.scummvm
drwxr-xr-x    1 10039    10039    2048 Mar
8 12:32 org.oberheide.org.brickdroid
```

- High-level permissions restricted by Android runtime framework

App Distribution

- Application signing
 - No CAs
 - Self-signed by developers
- Android Market
 - \$25 signup, anyone can publish
 - Anonymous sign-up possible



App Piracy

- Trivial copy protection provided by market

Off?

- Apps stored in /data/app/
- Accessible to users

```
# uname -a
Linux localhost 2.6.25-01843-gfea26b0 #1 PREEMPT
Sat Jan 24 21:06:15 CST 2009 armv6l unknown
# ls /data/app-private
com.larvalabs.retrodefence.apk
# ls /data/app | head -n 5
com.aevumobscurum.android.apk
com.android.bartender.apk
com.android.stopwatch.apk
com.android.term.apk
com.biggu.shopsavvy.apk
# █
```

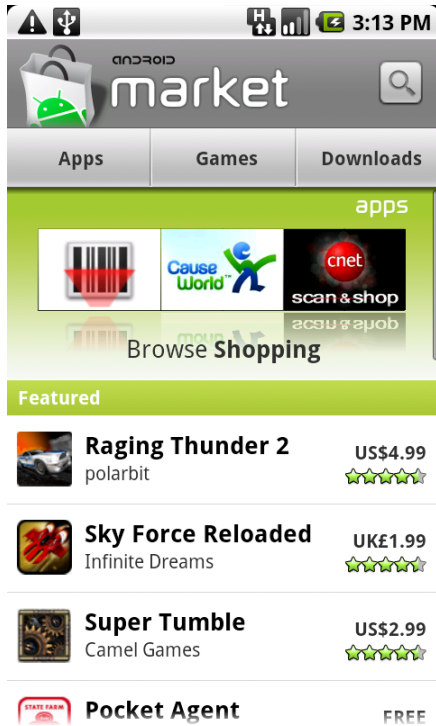
On?

- Apps stored in /data/app-private/
- Only accessible if rooted phone

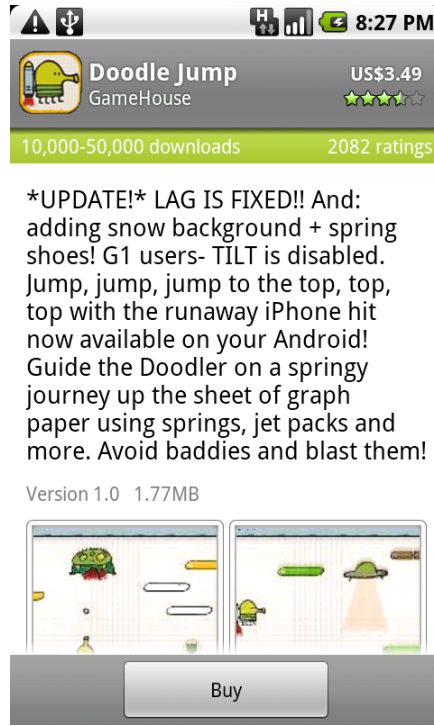
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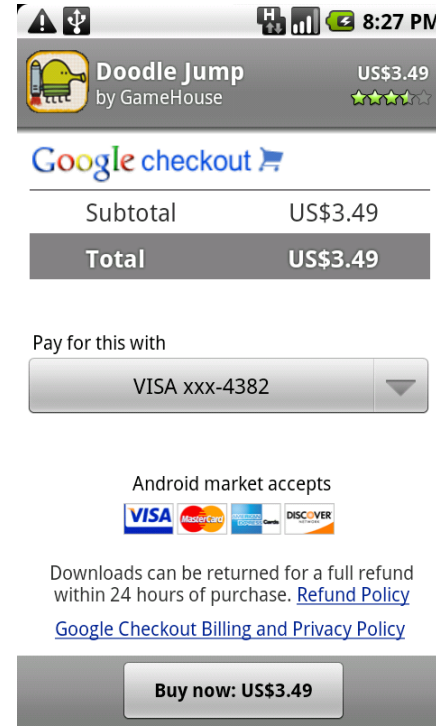
Perceived Market Flow



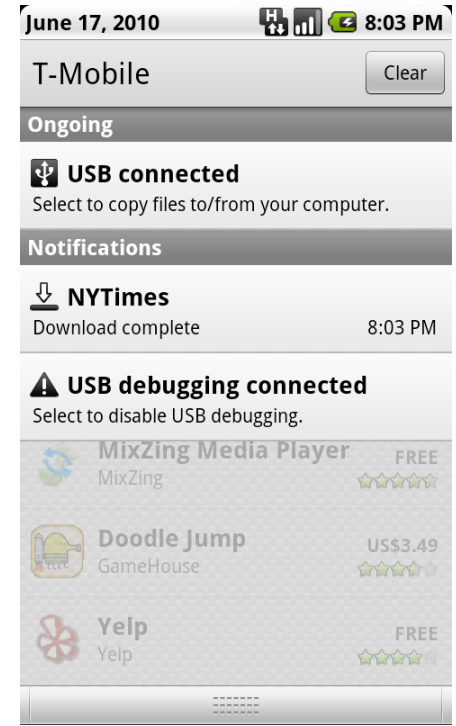
BROWSE



INSTALL



PAY



INSTALLED!

ACTUAL Market Flow

- Google is a sneaky panda!
 - You don't actually download / install the app through the market application
- When you click install in market app
 - Google servers push an out-of-band message down to you via persistent data connection
 - Triggers `INSTALL_ASSET` intent to start install
 - Intent handler fetches APK and installs

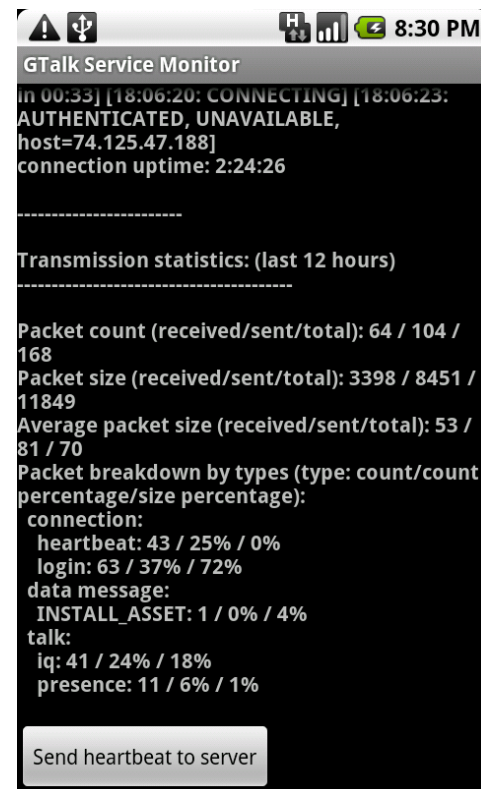
Dex Bytecode RE

```
#1      : (in Lcom/android/vending/InstallAssetReceiver;)
  name  : 'isIntentForMe'
  type  : '(Landroid/content/Intent;)Z'
  access : 0x0001 (PUBLIC)
  code  : -
  registers : 5
  ins   : 2
  outs  : 3
  insns size : 37 16-bit code units
```

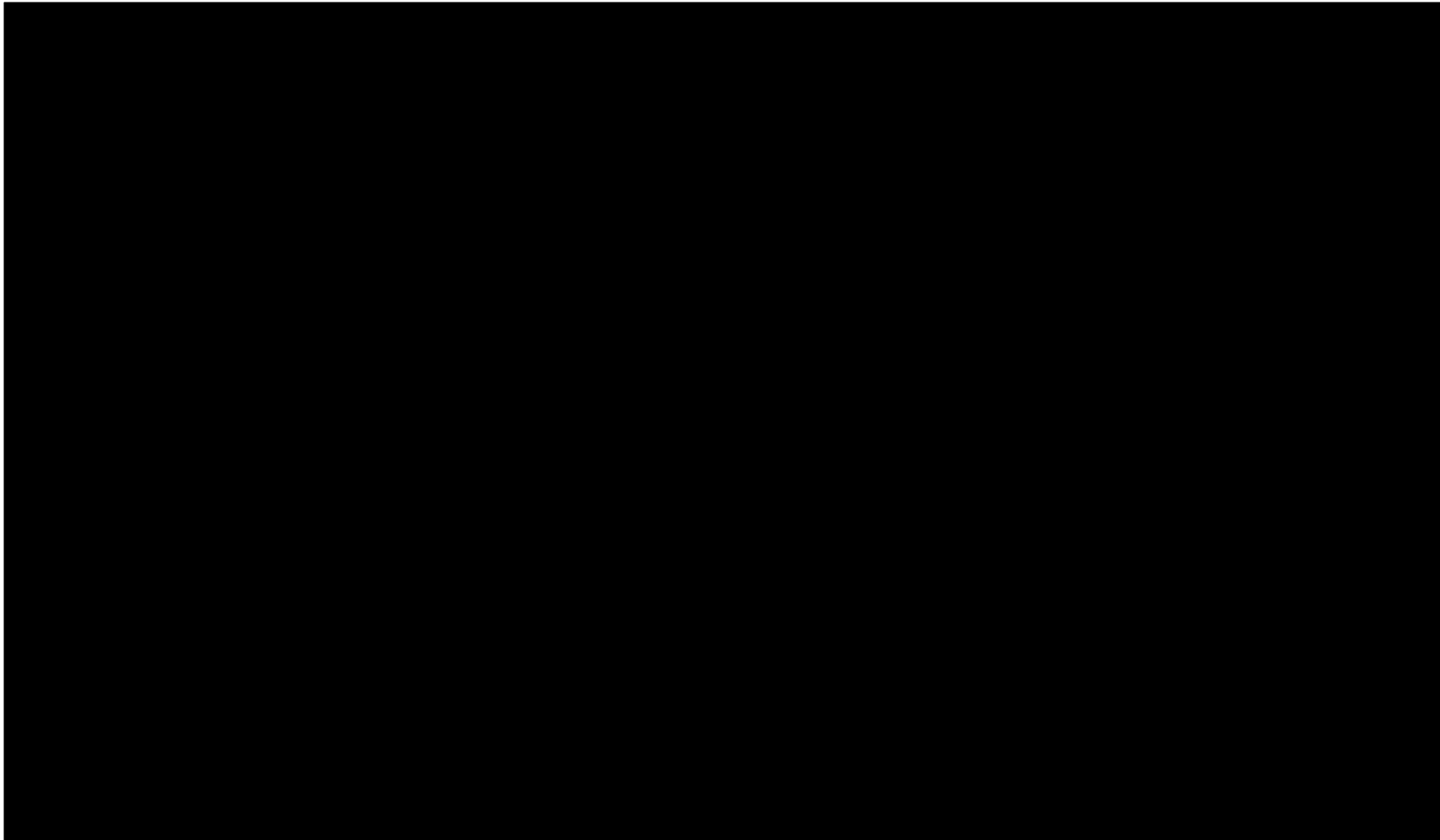
```
0442f4:      |[[0442f4] com.android.vending.InstallAssetReceiver.isIntentForMe:(Land
044304: 1202      |0000: const/4 v2, #int 0 // #0
044306: 6e10 7d00 0400 |0001: invoke-virtual {v4}, Landroid/content/Intent;.getAction:()Ljava
04430c: 0c00      |0004: move-result-object v0
04430e: 1a01 d20d   |0005: const-string v1, "android.intent.action.REMOTE_INTENT" // strin
044312: 6e20 a012 1000 |0007: invoke-virtual {v0, v1}, Ljava/lang/String;.equals:(Ljava/lang/
044318: 0a00      |000a: move-result v0
04431a: 3800 1800   |000b: if-eqz v0, 0023 // +0018
04431e: 1a00 da0d   |000d: const-string v0, "android.intent.extra.from_trusted_server" //
044322: 6e30 7e00 0402 |000f: invoke-virtual {v4, v0, v2}, Landroid/content/Intent;.getBoolea
044328: 0a00      |0012: move-result v0
04432a: 3800 1000   |0013: if-eqz v0, 0023 // +0010
04432e: 6e10 7f00 0400 |0015: invoke-virtual {v4}, Landroid/content/Intent;.getCategories:()L
044334: 0c00      |0018: move-result-object v0
044336: 1a01 6504   |0019: const-string v1, "INSTALL_ASSET" // string@0465
04433a: 7220 3713 1000 |001b: invoke-interface {v0, v1}, Ljava/util/Set;.contains:(Ljava/lang
044340: 0a00      |001e: move-result v0
044342: 3800 0400   |001f: if-eqz v0, 0023 // +0004
044346: 1210      |0021: const/4 v0, #int 1 // #1
044348: 0f00      |0022: return v0
04434a: 0120      |0023: move v0, v2
04434c: 28fe      |0024: goto 0022 // -0002
```

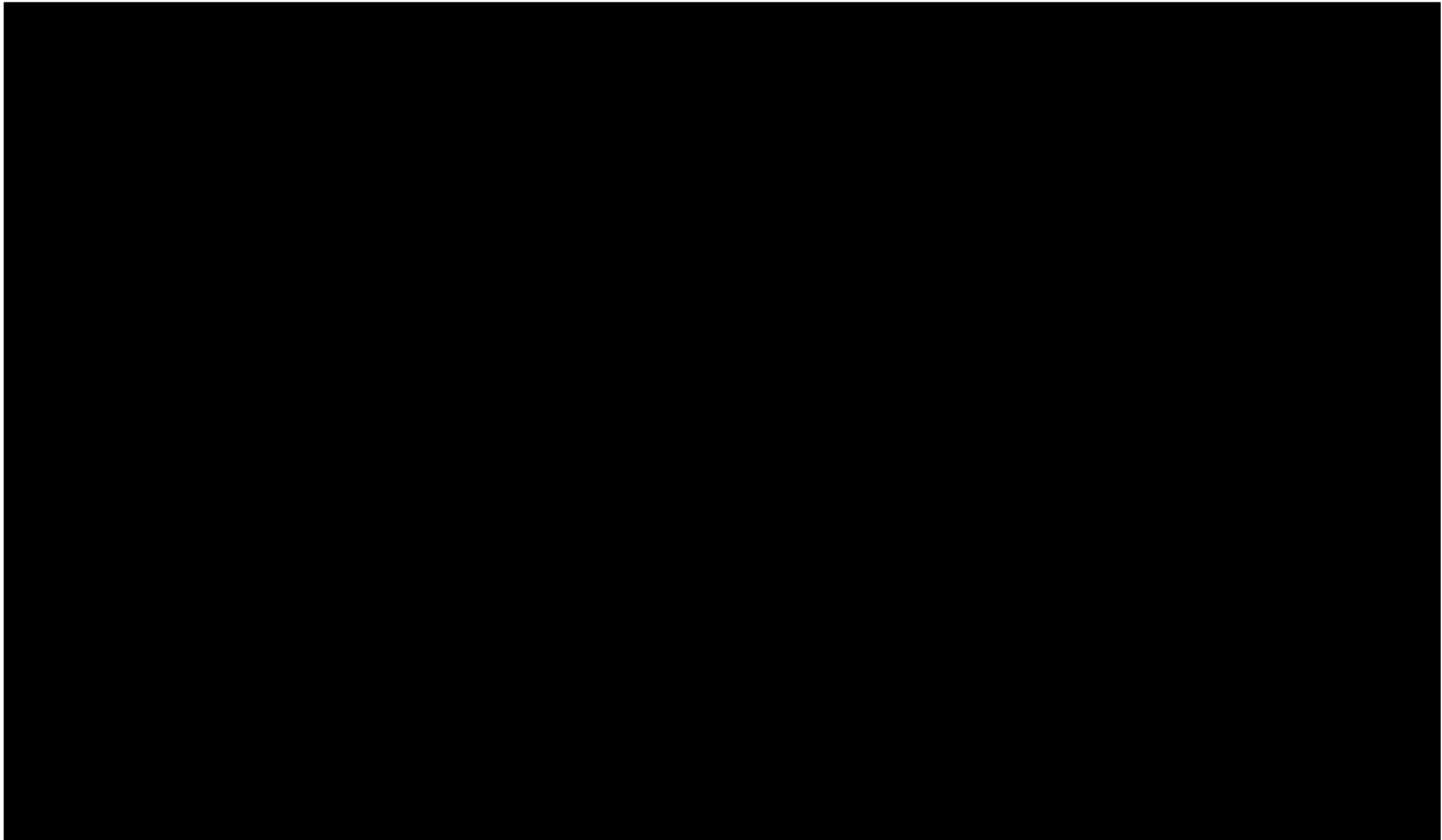
GTalkService Connection

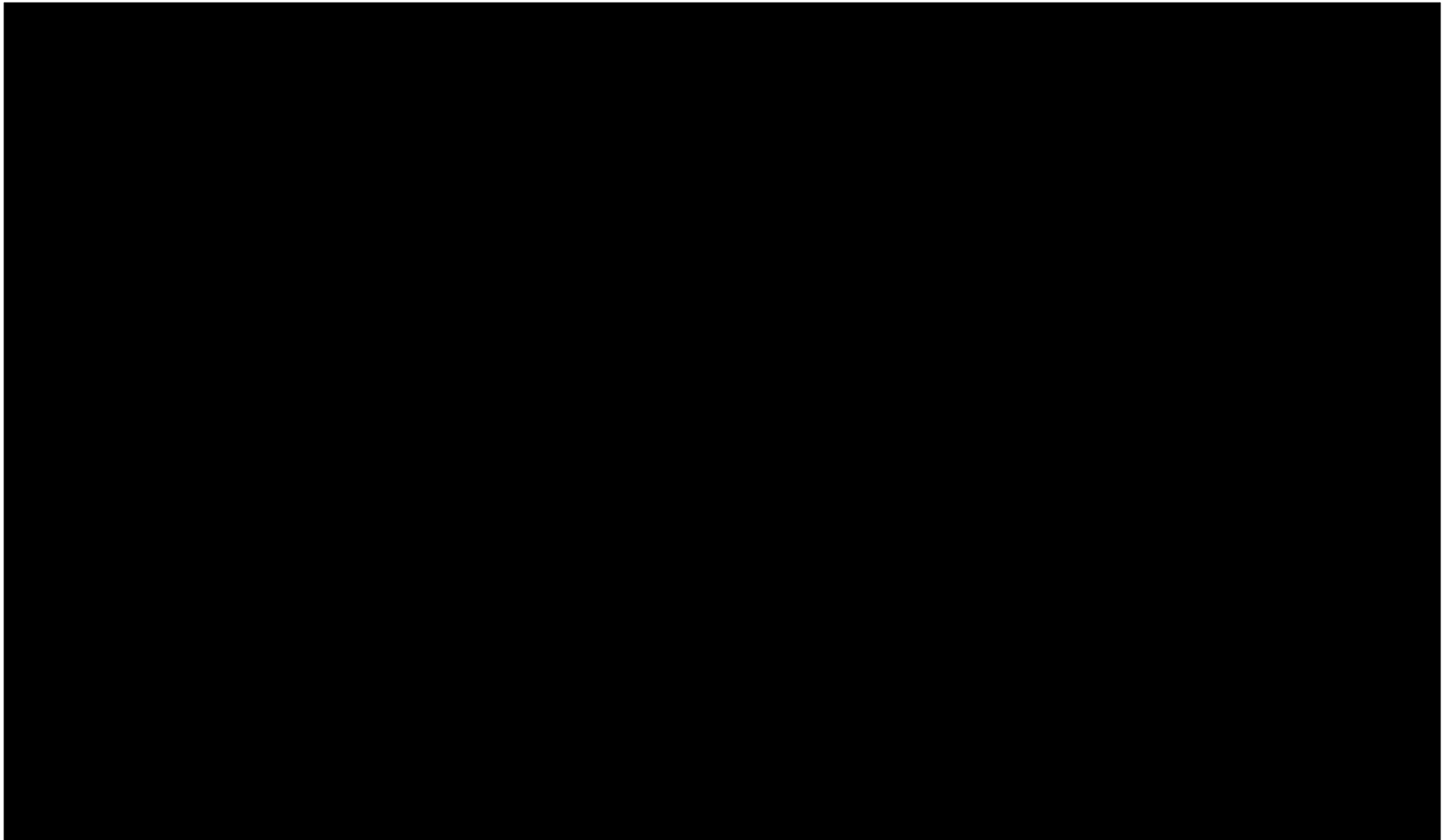
- Persistent data connection
 - Speaks XMPP
 - Same connection now used for C2DM push service
- It's SSL, but...
- If you MITM or C2DM spoof
 - Remote intent / app install
- If you pop GTalkService servers
 - Push down code to all Android phones in the world?

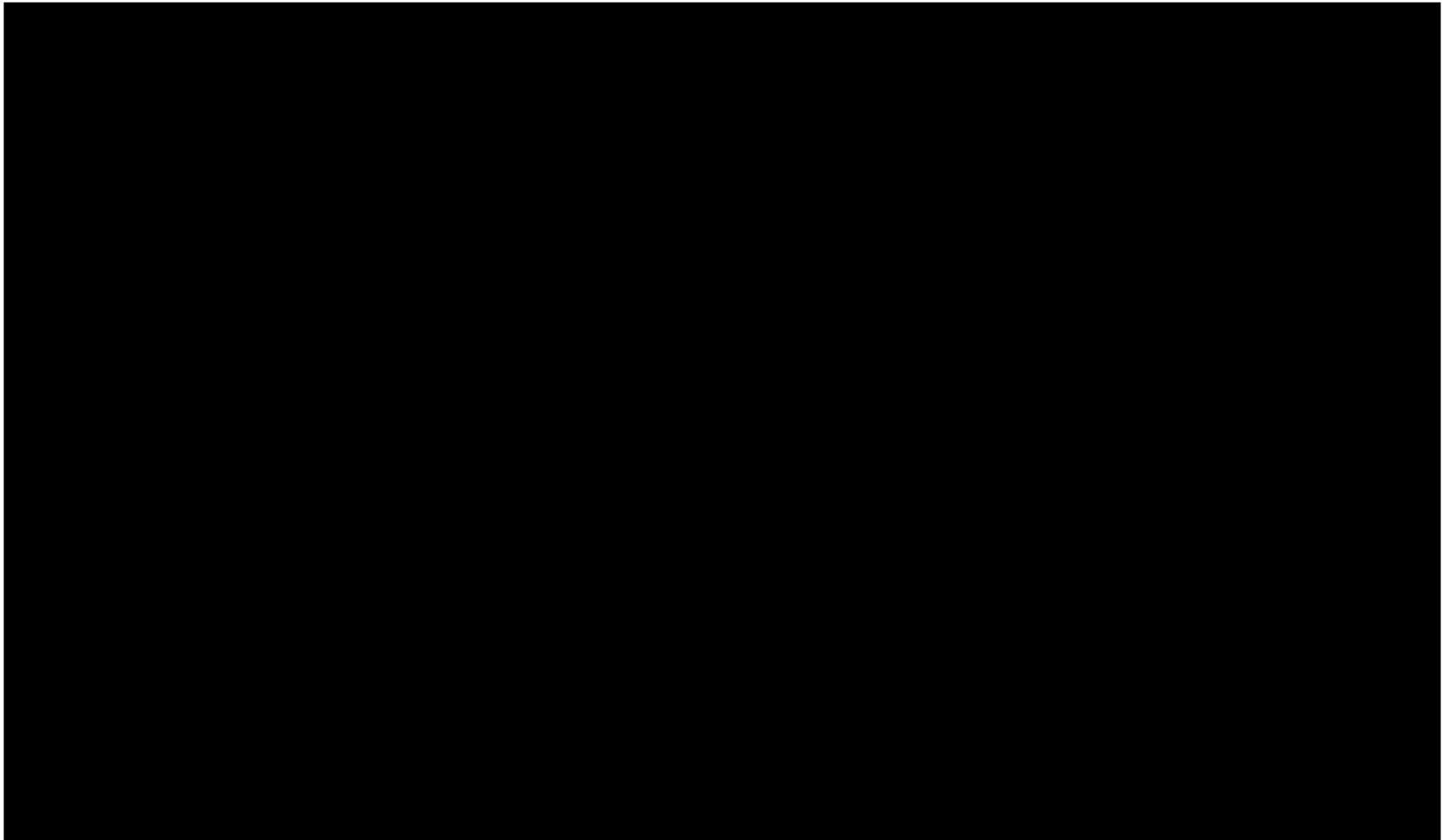


The screenshot shows the GTalk Service Monitor application. The status bar at the top indicates the time is 8:30 PM. The application title is "GTalk Service Monitor". The main text displays connection status: "in 00:33] [18:06:20: CONNECTING] [18:06:23: AUTHENTICATED, UNAVAILABLE, host=74.125.47.188] connection uptime: 2:24:26". Below this, there is a section for "Transmission statistics: (last 12 hours)". The statistics include: Packet count (received/sent/total): 64 / 104 / 168; Packet size (received/sent/total): 3398 / 8451 / 11849; Average packet size (received/sent/total): 53 / 81 / 70. A "Packet breakdown by types" section follows, listing: connection: heartbeat: 43 / 25% / 0%, login: 63 / 37% / 72%, data message: INSTALL_ASSET: 1 / 0% / 4%, talk: iq: 41 / 24% / 18%, presence: 11 / 6% / 1%. At the bottom, there is a button labeled "Send heartbeat to server".









Disclaimer



- Useful though if you want to fetch a large amount of apps and do some fuzzing, analysis, whatever
 - I've got a repo of ~10k apps

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Android Native Code

- Dalvik VM != sandbox
 - Not limited to executing dex bytecode
 - Can pop out of the VM to execute native code
- Linux kernel = swiss cheese
 - Wonderful attack surface
 - Any 3rd party app can root your phone by exploiting a kernel vulnerability via native code
- Native code packaged within APKs
 - But why limit execution of native code to build-time packaged modules?

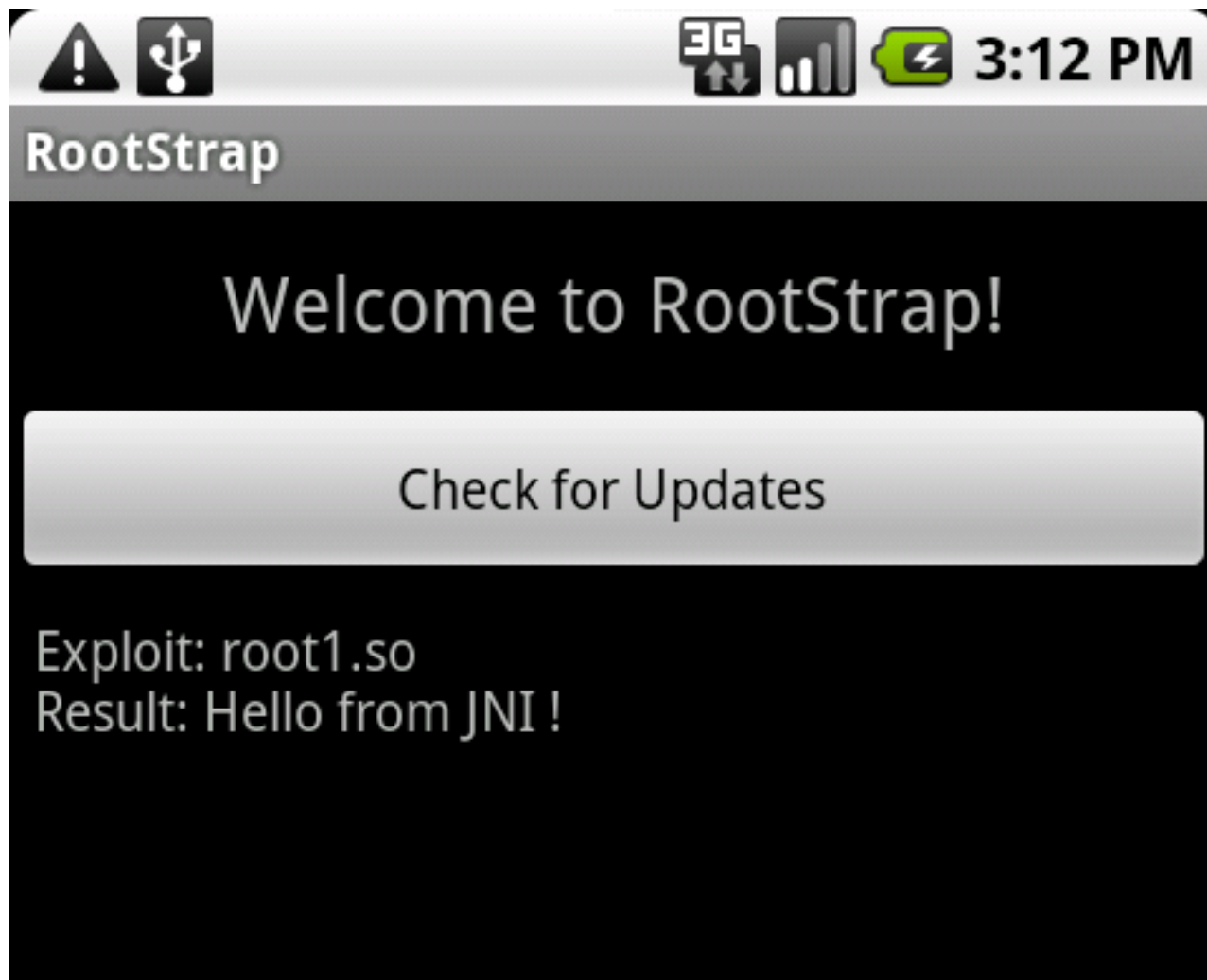
RootStrap

- Enter, RootStrap
 - Silent runtime fetching and execution of remote ARM payloads
 - Not really a bot..more of a general purpose distributed computing platform ;-)

- Currently available in Android market



RootStrap Example



Native ARM Code Delivery

- Fetch index file
 - Lists available exploits and module names
 - <http://jon.oberheide.org/rootstrap/index>
- Yank down ARM modules
 - Dumped to Android app private storage
 - eg. /data/data/org.rootstrap/files, not ./libs
- Load via JNI and execute each payload
 - `System.load("../files/root1.so");`
 - `result = root1();`

```
jonoslice rootstrap # cat index
root1.so
root2.so
jonoslice rootstrap # file root*.so
root1.so: ELF 32-bit LSB shared object, ARM, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, not stripped
root2.so: ELF 32-bit LSB shared object, ARM, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, not stripped
jonoslice rootstrap #
```

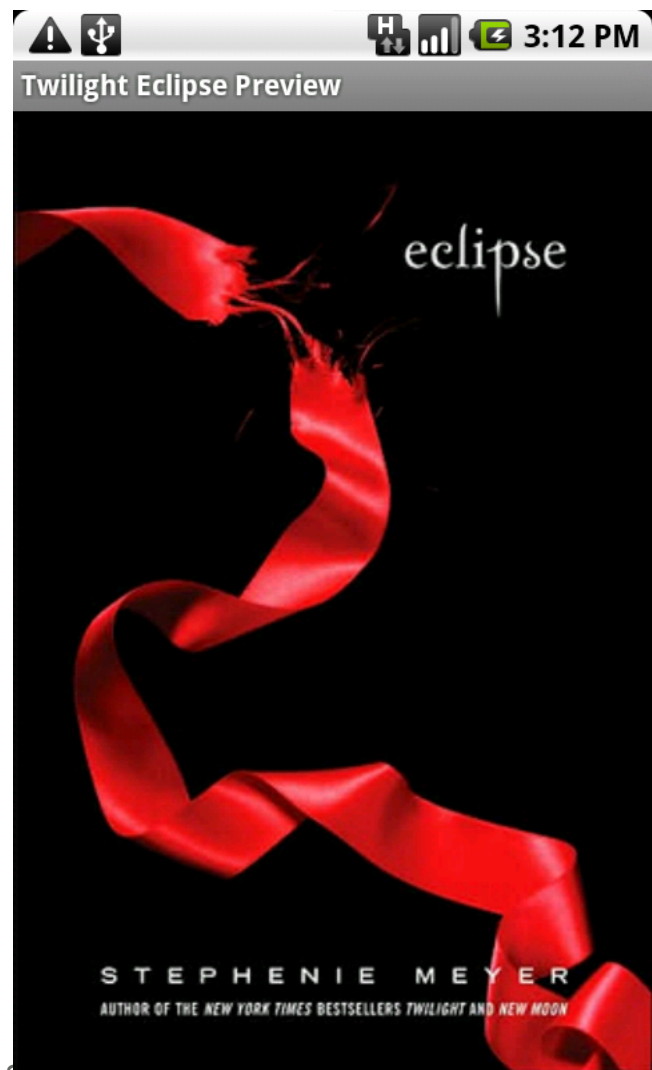
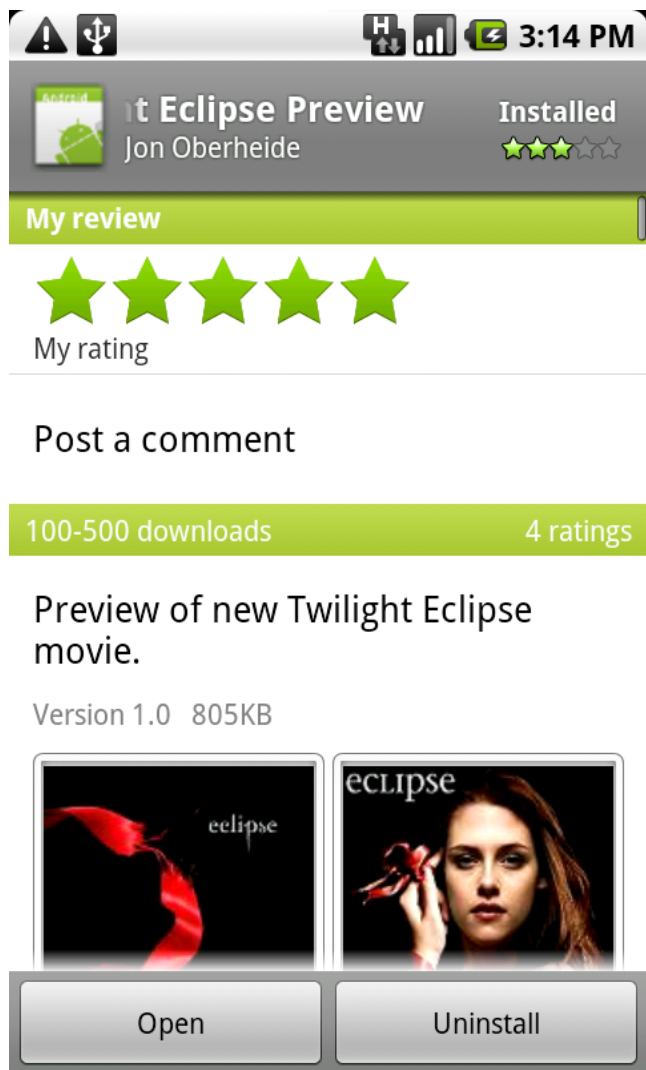

How to Build a Mobile Botnet

- Build some fun legit-looking games / apps
 - Include RootStrap functionality
 - Periodically phone home to check for new payloads
- As soon as new kernel vuln discovered, push out exploit payload
 - Before providers push out OTA patch
 - Trivial to win that race, slow OTA updates
- Rootkit a bunch of phones!

A Wolf in Vampire's Clothing?



- RootStrap app is boring and not sneaky
 - No one would intentionally download it
 - Need something legit looking to get a significant install base
- How about an RootStrap-enabled app claiming to be a preview for the upcoming Twilight Eclipse movie?!?



Fake Twilight Eclipse App



Andy and Jaime Don't Like It :-)

Comments

Andy 6/16/2010 
Defective 

Jaime 6/16/2010 
Loads but you can't see any other photos 

[Read all comments](#)

[Open](#) [Uninstall](#)

- Still, 200+ downloads in under 24 hours
- With a legit-looking app/game, you could collect quite an install base for RootStrap

RootStrap Payloads

- `sock_sendpage` NULL deref
 - Old, but still works on some phones
 - `fork/execve` from JNI is a bit wacky
- Supervisor App vulns?
 - `su` without approval
 - “jailbroken” phone is less safe
- Meterpreterux?

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Wrap-Up

- Native code support sucks.
 - Not so easy to take away
 - Build-time signing / loader verification?
- Android homework
 - Poke at the GTalkService code paths
 - Write some RootStrap payloads
 - Port to other platforms?
 - Fuzz the new Android Acrobat app!

QUESTIONS?

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