

# Building Threat Models for the Mobile Ecosystem

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- ▶ Security Engineer – National Institute of Standards and Technology
- ▶ MS Information Security and Assurance from George Mason University
- ▶ Focus on electronic voting, enterprise mobile security, and cellular security in the context of public safety

## Michael Peck

- ▶ Security Engineer – The MITRE Corporation
- ▶ MS Security Informatics from Johns Hopkins University, BS Computer Science from the University of Virginia
- ▶ Focus on mobile application security, mobile device security, and network security protocols



## VISION

### ADVANCE CYBERSECURITY

A secure cyber infrastructure that inspires technological innovation and fosters economic growth

## MISSION

### ACCELERATE ADOPTION OF SECURE TECHNOLOGIES

Collaborate with innovators to provide real-world, standards-based cybersecurity capabilities that address business needs



## GOAL 1

### PROVIDE PRACTICAL CYBERSECURITY

Help people secure their data and digital infrastructure by equipping them with practical ways to implement standards-based cybersecurity solutions that are modular, repeatable and scalable



## GOAL 2

### INCREASE RATE OF ADOPTION

Enable companies to rapidly deploy commercially available cybersecurity technologies by reducing technological, educational and economic barriers to adoption



## GOAL 3

### ACCELERATE INNOVATION

Empower innovators to creatively address businesses' most pressing cybersecurity challenges in a state-of-the-art, collaborative environment

## SPONSORS

Advise, assist, and facilitate the Center's strategic initiatives



The White House



National Institute of Standards and Technology



U.S. Department of Commerce



U.S. Congress



Montgomery County



Maryland State

## TEAM

Collaborate with innovators to provide real-world cybersecurity capabilities that address business needs



NCCoE



National Cybersecurity Federally Funded Research & Development Center (FFRDC)\*



Tech Firms



Industry



Academia



Government



Project Specialists



Project-Specific Collaborators



National Cybersecurity Excellence Partnership (NCEP) Partners

\*Sponsored by NIST, the National Cybersecurity Federally Funded Research & Development Center (FFRDC) is operated by the MITRE Corporation

## CUSTOMERS

Collaborate with center on project-specific use cases that help our customer's manage their cybersecurity priorities



Business Sectors



Individuals



Academia



Government

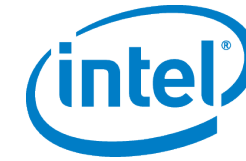


Cybersecurity IT Community



Systems Integrators



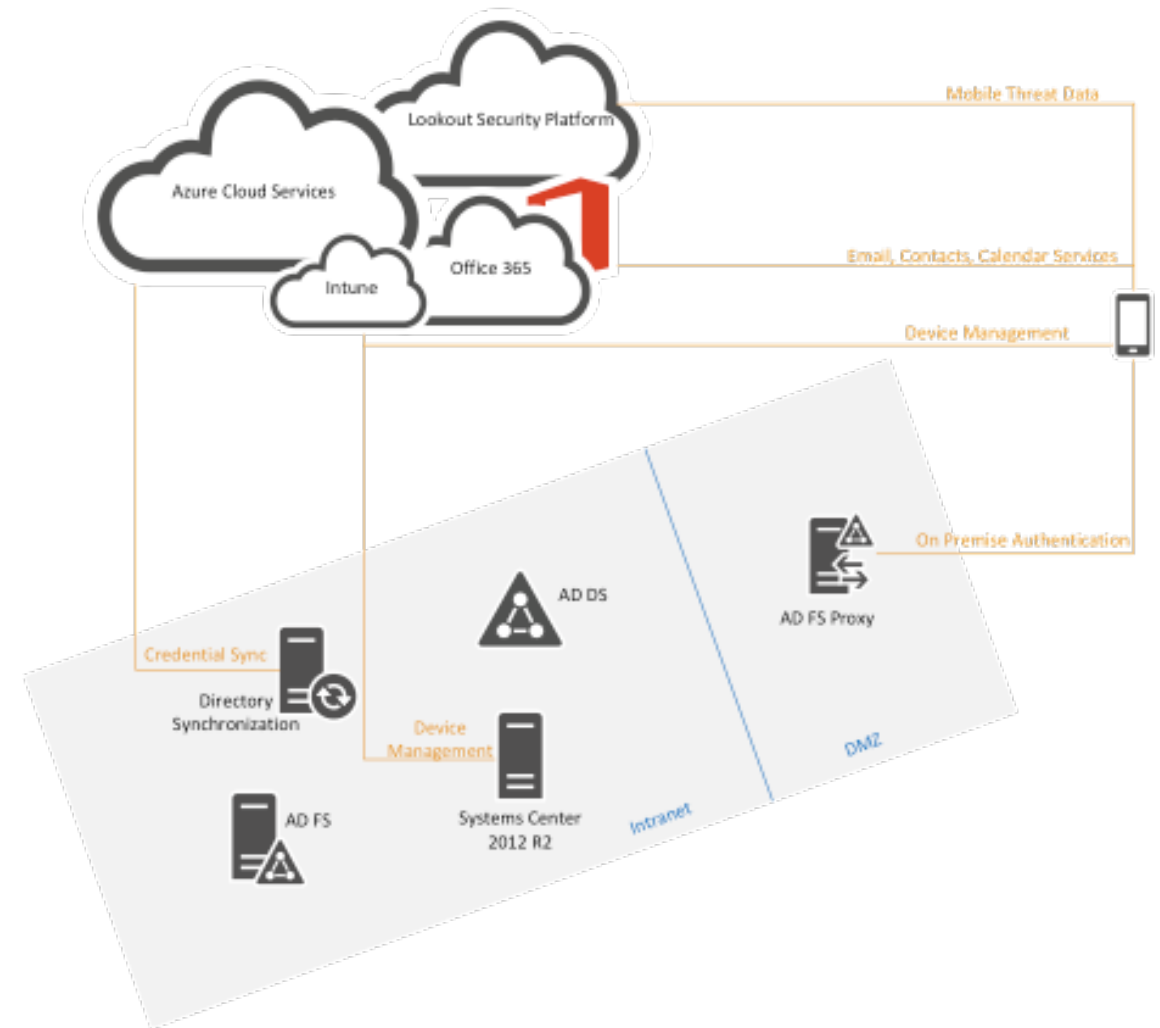


# NCCOE MOBILE SECURITY EFFORTS



# NIST SP 1800-4

- ▶ Broadly applicable across much of a sector, or across sectors
- ▶ Addressable through reference designs built in our labs
- ▶ Complex enough that our reference designs will need to be based on the combination of multiple commercially available technologies
- ▶ Primary goal:
  - ▶ Enable email, contacts, and calendar



# MOBILE THREAT CATALOGUE



# Mobile Threat Catalogue Purpose

- ▶ Identify threats to devices, applications, networks, & infrastructure
- ▶ Collect countermeasures that IT security engineers can deploy to mitigate threats
- ▶ Inform risk assessments
- ▶ Build threat models
- ▶ Enumerate attack surface for enterprise mobile systems
- ▶ Assist in standards mapping activities

## Perform a Baseline Review of:

- ▶ threat landscape
- ▶ mobile security literature
- ▶ industry practices
- ▶ enterprise protections provided by industry

## Information Collected Per Threat

- ▶ Identified the following information for each threat:
  - ▶ **Threat Category:** The major topic area pertaining to this threat. Topic areas are further divided when necessary.
  - ▶ **Threat Origin:** Reference to the source material used to initially identify the threat.
  - ▶ **Exploit Example:** A reference to examples of specific instances of this threat.
  - ▶ **Common Vulnerability and Exposure (CVE) Reference:** A specific vulnerability located within the National Vulnerability Database (NVD).
  - ▶ **Countermeasure:** Security controls or mitigations identified to reduce the impact of a particular threat.
- ▶ Links to reference materials (talks, publications, academic papers) included



**APPLICATION**  
Mobile applications



**AUTHENTICATION**  
Something you know, have, or are



**CELLULAR**  
Telecommunications networks



**ECOSYSTEM**  
Vendor infrastructure, application  
stores

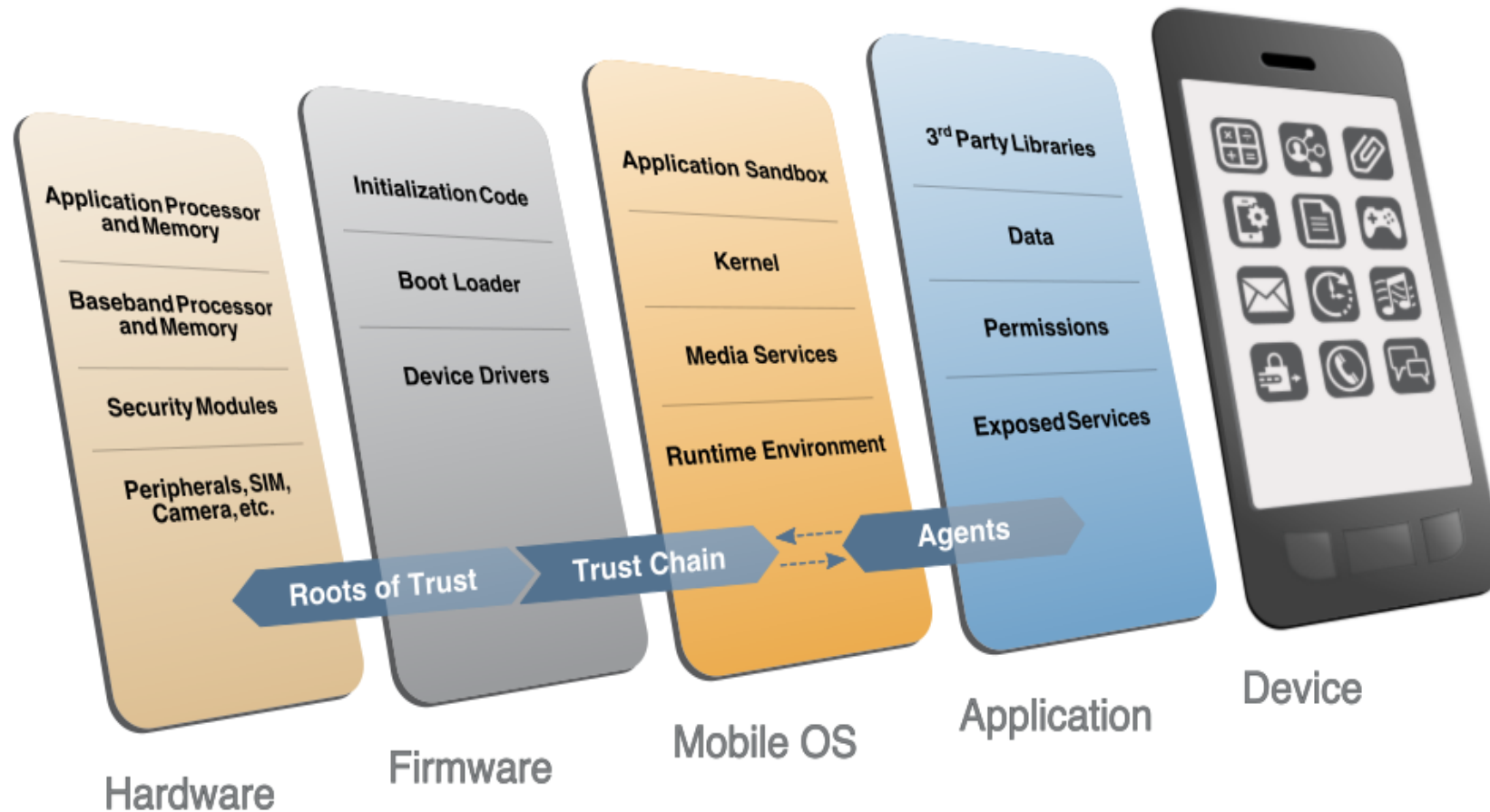


**MOBILE DEVICE**  
Hardware, firmware, OS



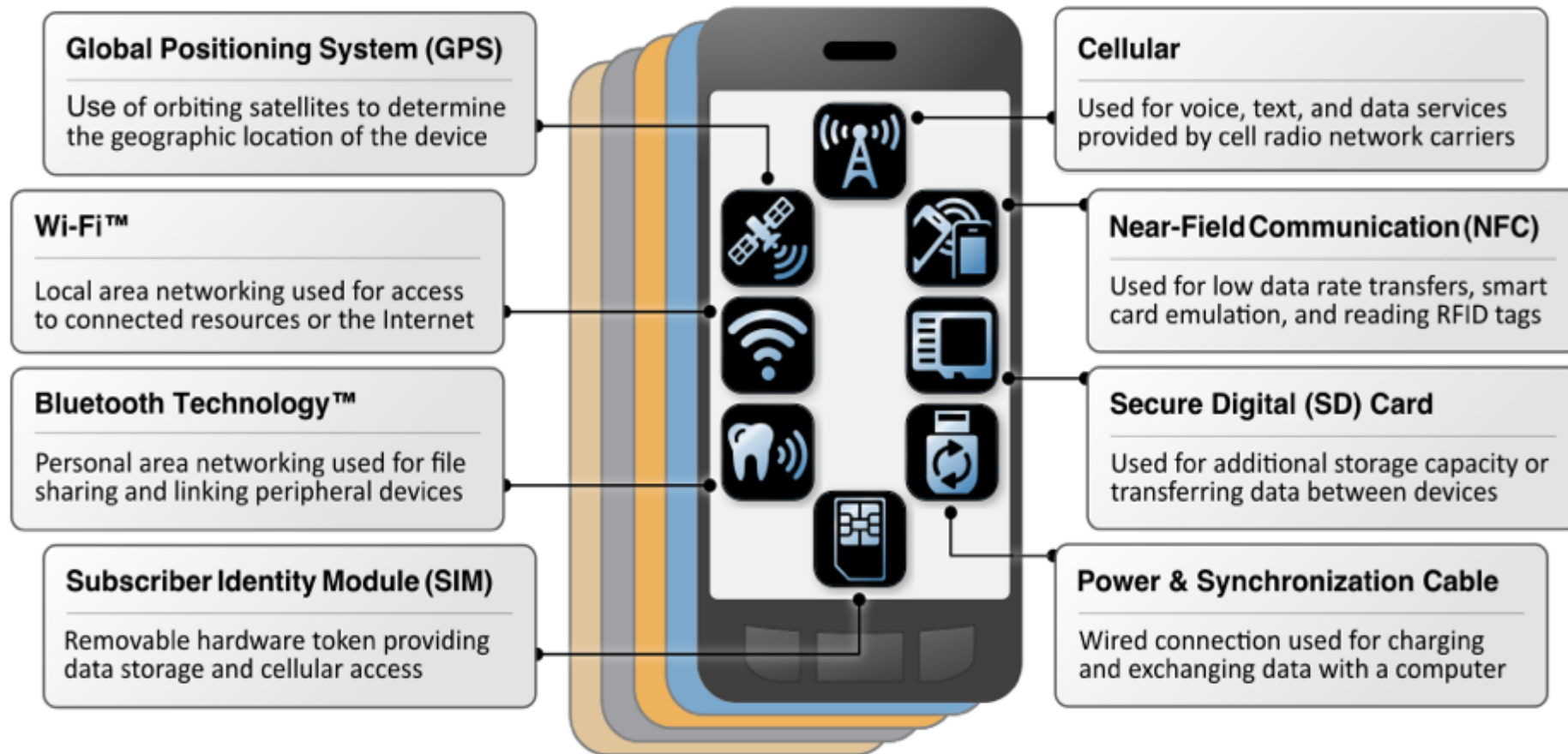
**NETWORK INTERFACES**  
Wifi, NFC, bluetooth

# Mobile Device Stack

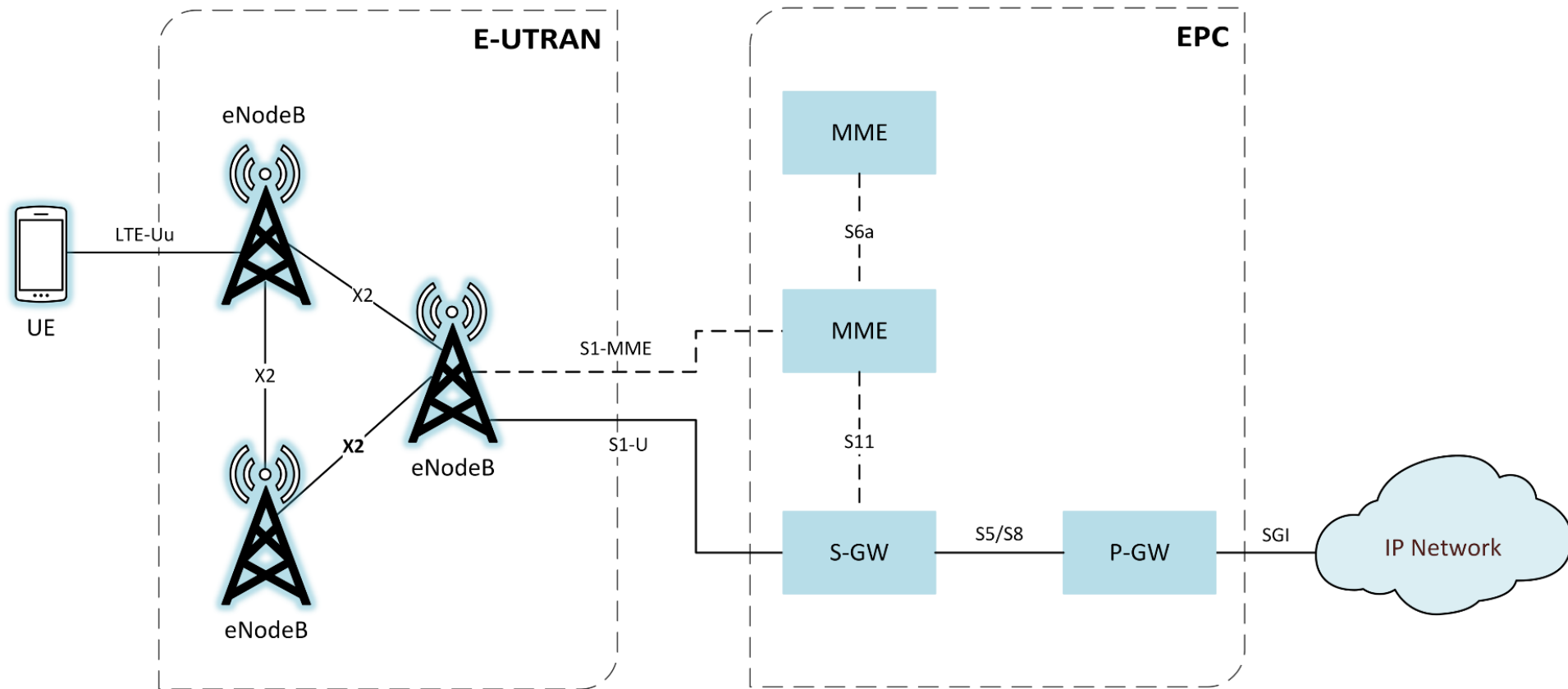




# Network Interfaces



# Mobile Network Infrastructure



# Air Interface Eavesdropping

## Contribute

- **Threat Category:** Cellular Air Interface
- **ID:** CEL-0
- **Threat Origin:**
  - 3G Security: Security Threats and Requirements (Release 4) <sup>1</sup>
  - LTE Architecture Overview and Security Analysis (Draft NISTIR 8071) <sup>2</sup>
- **Exploit Examples:**
  - Attacking phone privacy <sup>3</sup>
  - A man-in-the-middle attack on UMTS <sup>4</sup>
- **CVE Examples:**
- **Possible Countermeasures:**
  - **Original Equipment Manufacturer and Mobile OS Developer:** Use of a ciphering indicator in the interface of the mobile device to inform the user as to whether or not user data (e.g. voice calls, SMS/MMS messages, data) are being encrypted.

- **Mobile Network Operator:** Network level air interface encryption for user-plane traffic.
- **Mobile Device User and Enterprise:** To prevent an attacker who intercepts traffic on the unencrypted channel between a mobile device and a base station, use a mobile VPN or another third-party over-the-top encryption solution to encrypt data prior to transmission over the air interface.

## References

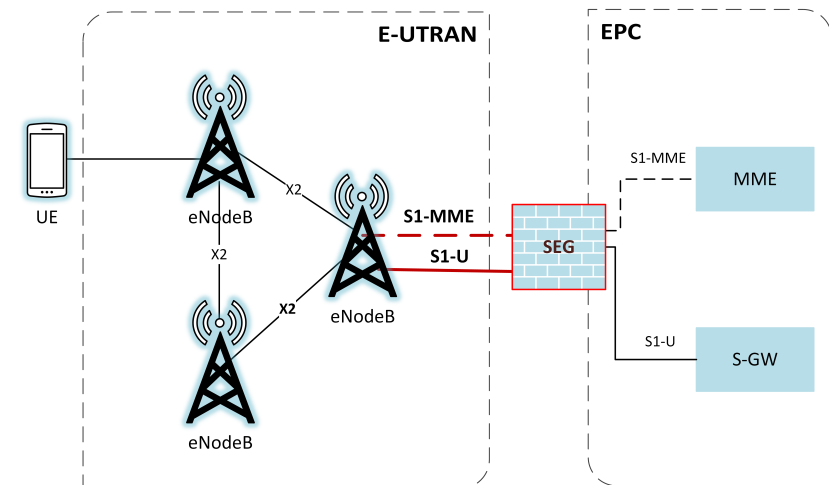
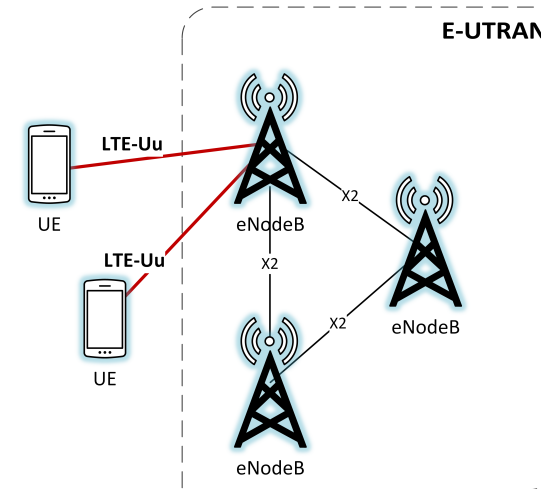
1. 3G Security; Security Threats and Requirements (Release 4), 3GPP TS 21.133 V4.0.0, 3rd Generation Partnership Project, 2003; [www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg\\_sa/wg3\\_security/\\_specs/Old\\_Vsns/21133-400.pdf](http://www.3gpp.org/ftp/tsg_sa/wg3_security/_specs/Old_Vsns/21133-400.pdf) [Accessed 8/23/2016] ↩
2. J. Cichonski, J.M. Franklin, and M. Bartock, LTE Architecture Overview and Security Analysis, Draft NISTIR 8071, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 2016; [http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/drafts/nistir-8071/nistir\\_8071\\_draft.pdf](http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/drafts/nistir-8071/nistir_8071_draft.pdf) [Accessed 8/23/2016] ↩
3. K. Nohl, Attacking Phone Privacy, presented at Blackhat, 29 July 2010; <https://media.blackhat.com/bh-ad-10/Nohl/BlackHat-AD-2010-Nohl-Attacking-Phone-Privacy-wp.pdf> [accessed 8/23/2016] ↩
4. U. Meyer and S. Wetzel, "A Man-in-the-Middle Attack on UMTS", Proceedings of the 3rd ACM workshop on Wireless security, 2004, pp. 90-97; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1145/1023646.1023662> [accessed 8/23/2016] ↩

# Additional Mitigations

- ▶ The connection between a phone and the base station is the air interface
- ▶ 3 algorithms exist to protect the LTE air interface: Inform risk assessments
  - ▶ SNOW 3G = stream cipher designed by Lund University (Sweden)
  - ▶ AES = Block cipher standardized by NIST (USA)
  - ▶ ZUC = stream cipher designed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (China)

▼ UE security capability - Replayed UE security capabilities  
Length: 2

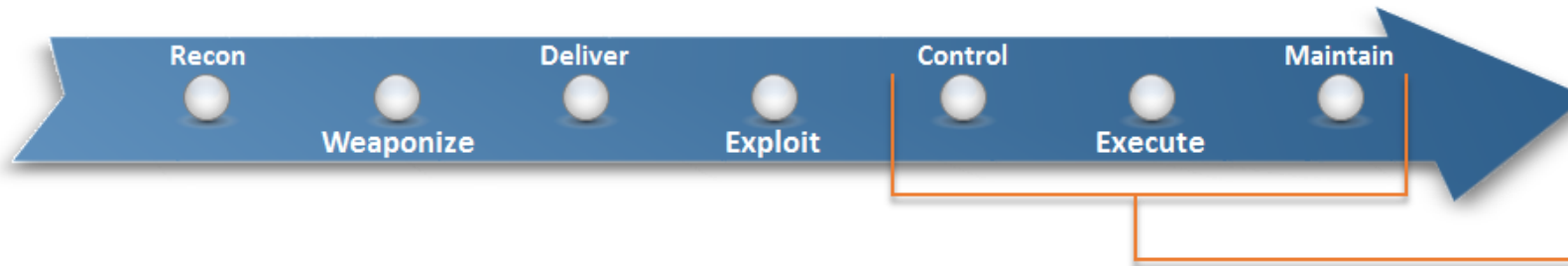
1... ..	= EEA0: Supported
.1... ..	= 128-EEA1: Supported
..1. ....	= 128-EEA2: Supported
...0 ....	= 128-EEA3: Not Supported
.... 0...	= EEA4: Not Supported
.... .0..	= EEA5: Not Supported
.... ..0.	= EEA6: Not Supported
.... ...0	= EEA7: Not Supported
1... ..	= EIA0: Supported
.1... ..	= 128-EIA1: Supported
..1. ....	= 128-EIA2: Supported
...0 ....	= 128-EIA3: Not Supported



# THE ATT&CK™ MODEL



# Adversarial Tactics, Techniques, and Common Knowledge (ATT&CK™) Model



Threat data informed adversary model, focused on right-of-exploit, post-access phases

Initially focused on enterprise Windows PC environment

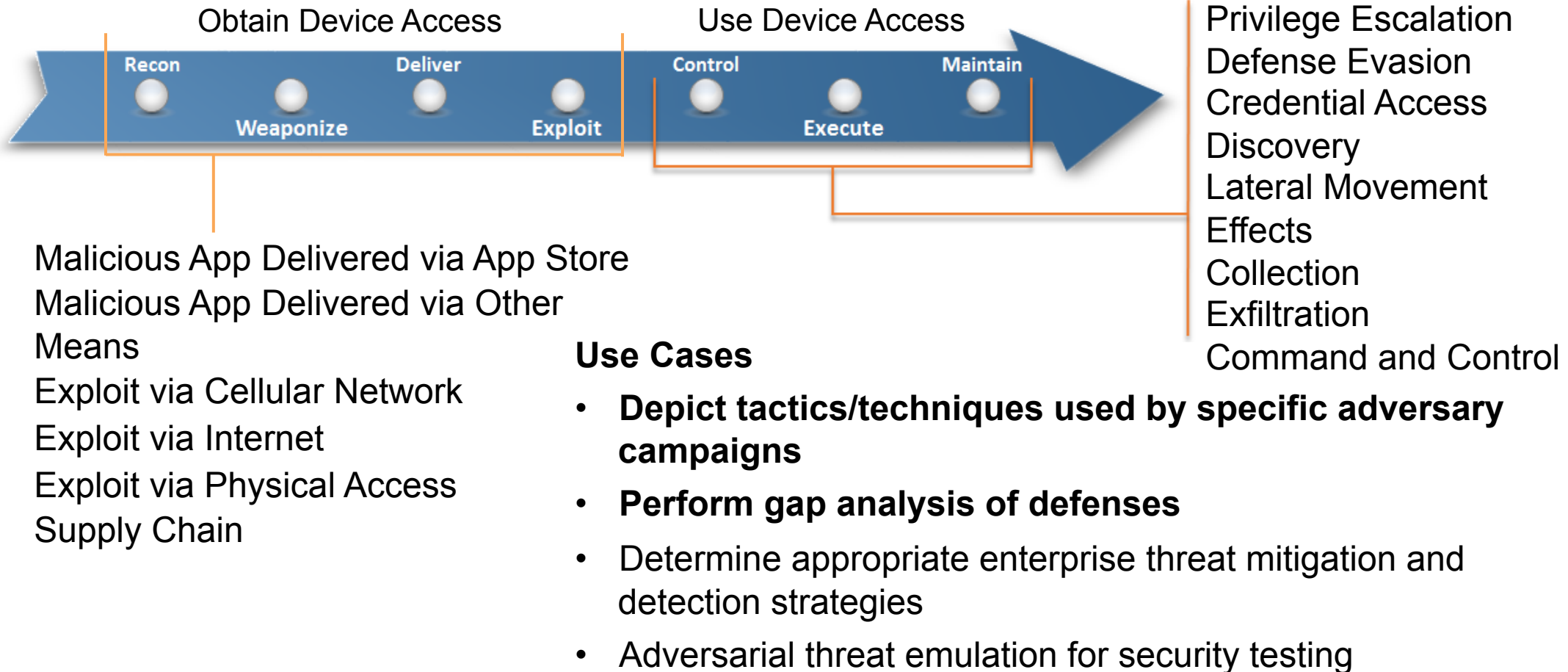
Persistence  
Privilege Escalation  
Defense Evasion  
Credential Access  
Discovery  
Lateral Movement  
Execution  
Collection  
Exfiltration  
Command and Control

- ▶ Tactics derived from Cyber Attack Lifecycle
- ▶ Techniques available to adversaries for each tactic
- ▶ Possible methods of detection and mitigation
- ▶ Documented adversary use of techniques and software

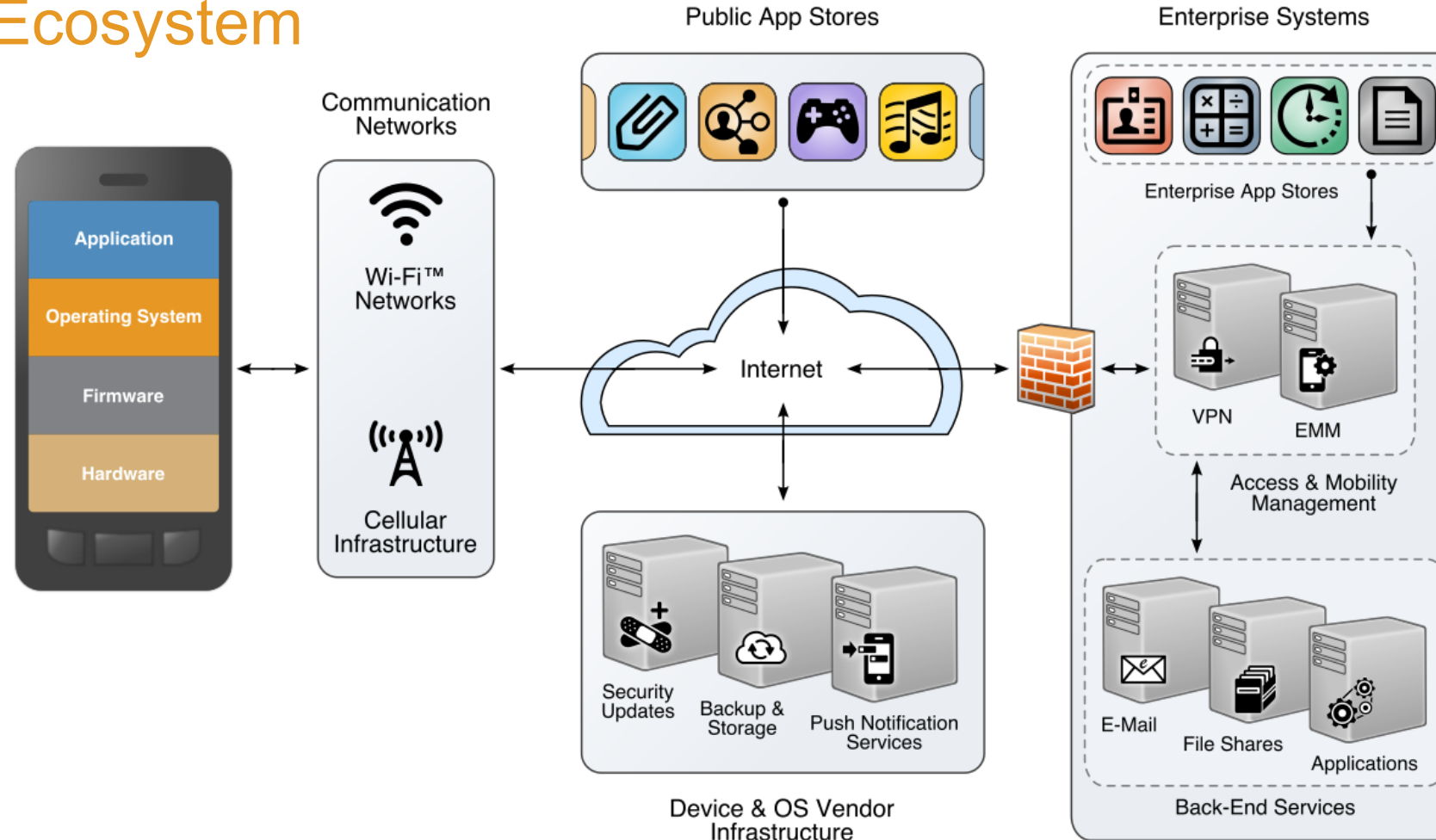
**ATT&CK™ Web Site: <https://attack.mitre.org/>**

# The ATT&CK™ Mobile Profile

- ▶ Tactics and techniques used by adversaries to obtain access to mobile device and to then make use of that access



# Mobile Ecosystem



Mobile devices have security dependencies on the broader mobile ecosystem  
The ATT&CK Mobile Profile reflects this by also describing Network-Based Effects



# ATT&CK Matrix Example – Pegasus iOS Spyware

Depict Adversary Use of Techniques: **Obtain Device Access**

App Delivery via Authorized App Store	App Delivery via Other Means	Exploit via Cellular Network	Exploit via Internet	Exploit via Physical Access	Supply Chain
Evade Analysis	Abuse iOS Enterprise App Signing Key	Exploit Baseband Vulnerability	Malicious Media Content	PIN/Password Guessing or Brute Force	Malicious Compiler or Other SW Dev Tools
Fake Developer Accounts	App Delivered via Email Attachment	Malicious SMS Message	Malicious Web Content	From Compromised PC or Charging Station	
Remotely Install App				Lockscreen Bypass Attack	Malicious or Exploitable 3rd Party SW Libraries
Stolen Developer Credentials	App Delivered via Web Download			Biometric Spoofing	
Repackaged Application					

Based on Lookout and Citizen Lab analysis

Indicates Techniques Used

# ATT&CK Matrix Example – Pegasus iOS Spyware

Depict Adversary Use of Techniques: **Use Device Access**

Persistence	Privilege Escalation	Defense Evasion	Credential Access	Discovery	Lateral Movement	Effects	Collection	Exfiltration/Cmd and Ctrl
Abuse Android Device Admin Access to Prevent Removal	Exploit OS Vulnerability	Disguise Root/Jailbreak Indicators	Abuse Accessibility Features	Application Discovery	Attack PC via USB	Encrypt Files for Ransom	Access Contact List, Call Log, or Calendar	Alternate Network Medium/Protocol (e.g. Cellular Data, SMS, NFC, Bluetooth)
	Exploit TEE Vulnerability		Access Credentials in Device Logs	Device Type Discovery	Exploit Enterprise Resources	Generate Fraudulent Advertising Revenue	Access Sensitive Data in Device Logs	
App Auto-Start at Device Boot		Download New Code at Runtime	Access Credentials in Files	File and Directory Discovery			Access Sensitive Data in Files	
Modify OS Kernel or Boot Partition		Obfuscated or Encrypted Payload	Android Intent or iOS URL Scheme Hijacking	Local Network Configuration Discovery		Lock User Out of Device	Capture Clipboard Data	Commonly Used Port
Modify System Partition			Capture Clipboard Data	Local Network Connection Discovery		Manipulate App Store Rankings or Ratings	Keypress Capture	Standard App Layer Protocol
Modify TEE			Capture SMS Messages	Network Service Scanning			Location Tracking	
Modify Android Cached Executable Code			Exploit TEE Vulnerability	Process Discovery		Premium SMS Fraud	Microphone or Camera Recordings	
			Keypress Capture	System Information Discovery		Wipe Device Data	Network Traffic Redirection	
			Network Traffic Capture					
			User Interface Spoofing					

Based on Lookout and Citizen Lab analysis

Indicates Techniques Used

# ATT&CK Matrix: Network-Based Effects

Techniques adversaries may be able to use without access to the mobile device itself

General Network-Based	Cellular Network-Based	Cloud-Based
Downgrade to Insecure Protocols		Obtain Device Cloud Backups
Jamming or Denial of Service		Remotely Track Device Without Authorization
Eavesdrop on Insecure Network Communication		
Rogue Wi-Fi Access Point	Rogue Base Station	Remotely Wipe Device Without Authorization
Manipulate Communication	Exploit SS7 to Redirect Calls/SMS	
	Exploit SS7 to Track Location	
	SIM Card Swap	

# Example Technique Entry

## Microphone or Camera Recordings

An adversary could use a malicious or exploited application to surreptitiously record activities using the device microphone and/or camera through use of standard operating system APIs.

### Contents [\[hide\]](#)

- 1 Examples
- 2 Detection
- 3 Mitigation
- 4 References

Microphone or Camera Recordings	
Technique	
ID	T1032
Tactic type	Post-Adversary Device Access
Tactic	Collection
Platform	Android, iOS
MTC ID	APP-19 <a href="#">[link]</a>

## Examples

- [Pegasus](#) has the ability to record audio<sup>[1]</sup>.
- [AndroRAT](#) gathers "audio from the microphone."<sup>[2]</sup>
- As described by Trend Micro<sup>[3]</sup>, [RCSAndroid](#) can "[r]ecord using the microphone" and can "[c]apture photos using the front and back cameras".
- [Dendroid](#) "can take pictures using the phone's camera, record audio and video"<sup>[4]</sup>.
- [SpyNote RAT](#) can activate "the device's microphone" and listen "to live conversations"<sup>[5]</sup>.
- [DroidJack RAT](#) performs "call recording" and "video capturing"<sup>[6]</sup>.

## Detection

On both Android (6.0 and up) and iOS, the user can view which applications have permission to use the microphone or the camera through the device settings screen, and the user can choose to revoke the permissions.

## Mitigation

- [Application Vetting](#) - On Android, applications must request the RECORD\_AUDIO permission to access the microphone and the CAMERA permission to access the camera. Extra scrutiny could be given to applications that request these permissions. On iOS, calls to the relevant APIs could be detected during the vetting process.

# Example Mitigation Entry

## Application Vetting

Enterprises can vet applications for exploitable vulnerabilities or unwanted (privacy-invasive or malicious) behaviors.

Enterprises can inspect applications themselves or use a third-party service.

Enterprises may impose policies to only allow pre-approved applications to be installed on their devices or may impose policies to block use of specific applications known to have issues. In Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) environments, enterprises may only be able to impose these policies over an enterprise-managed portion of the device.

Application Vetting is not a complete mitigation. Techniques such as [Detect App Analysis Environment](#) exist that can enable adversaries to bypass vetting.

Application Vetting	
Mitigation	
ID	M1005

### Techniques Addressed by Mitigation

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abuse Device Administrator Access to Prevent Removal</li> <li>• App Auto-Start at Device Boot</li> <li>• Exploit OS Vulnerability</li> <li>• Exploit TEE Vulnerability</li> <li>• Obfuscated or Encrypted Payload</li> <li>• Download New Code at Runtime</li> <li>• Access Sensitive Data or Credentials in Files</li> <li>• Network Traffic Capture or Redirection</li> <li>• User Interface Spoofing</li> <li>• Capture SMS Messages</li> <li>• Access Sensitive Data in Device Logs</li> <li>• Capture Clipboard Data</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• URL Scheme Hijacking</li> <li>• Android Intent Hijacking</li> <li>• Malicious Third Party Keyboard App</li> <li>• Application Discovery</li> <li>• Device Type Discovery</li> <li>• Local Network Connections Discovery</li> <li>• Local Network Configuration Discovery</li> <li>• Process Discovery</li> <li>• Insecure Third-Party Libraries</li> <li>• Microphone or Camera Recordings</li> <li>• Location Tracking</li> <li>• Access Contact List</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Access Call Log</a></li> <li>• Access Calendar Entries</li> <li>• Fake Developer Accounts</li> <li>• Lock User Out of Device</li> <li>• Wipe Device Data</li> <li>• Premium SMS Toll Fraud</li> <li>• Abuse Accessibility Features</li> <li>• Manipulate Device Communication</li> <li>• Encrypt Files for Ransom</li> <li>• Generate Fraudulent Advertising Revenue</li> </ul> |
|---|--|--|

Technique/T1036

# Example Software Entry

## Software: Pegasus

Discovered by Lookout<sup>[1]</sup> and Citizen Lab<sup>[2]</sup>, Pegasus escalates privileges on iOS devices and uses its privileged access to collect a variety of sensitive information.

### Techniques Used

- **Local Network Configuration Discovery** - **Pegasus** "monitors the current connection state and tracks which types of networks the phone is connected to, potentially in order to determine the bandwidth and ability to send full data across the network"<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **Alternate Network Mediums** - **Pegasus** uses SMS for command and control<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **Microphone or Camera Recordings** - **Pegasus** has the ability to record audio<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **Modify System Partition** - **Pegasus** modifies the system partition to maintain persistence<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **Location Tracking** - **Pegasus** "constantly updates and sends the location of the phone"<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **Exploit OS Vulnerability** - **Pegasus** exploits iOS vulnerabilities to escalate privileges<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **Capture SMS Messages** - **Pegasus** captures "SMS messages the victim sends or receives"<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **Access Call Log** - **Pegasus** captures call logs<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **System Information Discovery** - "Pegasus...constantly monitors the phone for status and disables any other access to the phone by previous/other jailbreaking software."<sup>[1]</sup>
- **Access Contact List** - **Pegasus** "gathers contacts from the system, dumping the victim's entire address book."<sup>[1]</sup>
- **Access Sensitive Data or Credentials in Files** - **Pegasus** accesses sensitive data in files, for example it "saves any calls that Skype has previously recorded by reading them out of the Skype database files."<sup>[1]</sup>
- **Malicious SMS Message** - **Pegasus** was delivered via an SMS message containing a link to a web site with malicious code<sup>[2]</sup>.
- **Malicious Web Content** - **Pegasus** was distributed through a web site and exploits vulnerabilities in the Safari web browser on iOS devices<sup>[1]</sup>.

Pegasus	
Software	
ID	S0005
Aliases	Pegasus
Type	Malware

### References

1. [a b c d e f g h i j k l m](#) ↑ Lookout. (2016). Technical Analysis of Pegasus Spyware. Retrieved December 12, 2016. 
2. [a b](#) ↑ Bill Marczak and John Scott-Railton. (2016, August 24). The Million Dollar Dissident: NSO Group's iPhone Zero-Days used against a UAE Human Rights Defender. Retrieved December 12, 2016. 



# Using ATT&CK for Defensive Gap Analysis

## Obtaining Device Access

App Delivery via Authorized App Store	App Delivery via Other Means	Exploit via Cellular Network	Exploit via Internet	Exploit via Physical Access	Supply Chain
Evade Analysis	Abuse iOS Enterprise App Signing Key	Exploit Baseband Vulnerability	Malicious Media Content	PIN/Password Guessing or Brute Force	Malicious Software Development Tools
Fake Developer Accounts	Email Attachment	Malicious SMS Message	Malicious Web Content	From Compromised PC or Charging Station	
Remotely Install App		Notional analysis		Lockscreen Bypass	Malicious or Exploitable 3rd Party SW Libraries
Stolen Developer Credentials	Web Download			Biometric Spoofing	
Repackaged Application					

Full Ability to Mitigate or Detect

Partial Ability to Mitigate or Detect

No/Minimal Ability to Mitigate or Detect

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## Use Device Access

Persistence	Privilege Escalation	Defense Evasion	Credential Access	Discovery	Lateral Movement	Effects	Collection	Exfiltration/Cmd and Ctrl
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Partial Ability to Mitigate or Detect								
No/Minimal Ability to Mitigate or Detect								



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## Network-Based Effects

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Manipulate Communication	Exploit SS7 to Redirect Calls/SMS	
Notional Analysis	Exploit SS7 to Track Location	
	SIM Card Swap	Full Ability to Mitigate or Detect
		Partial Ability to Mitigate or Detect
		No/Minimal Ability to Mitigate or Detect

## Bringing It All Together

- ▶ NIST / NCCoE is using ATT&CK and the MTC to perform risk assessments
  - ▶ And create NIST Cybersecurity Framework Profiles

## Next Steps

- ▶ Update the MTC and ATT&CK
- ▶ Soliciting Participation from this community
  - ▶ NCCoE Mobile Device Security Project
  - ▶ Mobile Threat Catalogue
  - ▶ ATT&CK Model

