e-Commerce Security, Challenges in Secure Element Security Part I Smart Card & Java Card

Challenges in Cyber Security - from paradigms to implementations

Bucharest, Romania, 17-25 Aug. 2012

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e-commerce

- Development of e-commerce relies on the confidence customers have on the service,
- Increasing demand on mobile e-commerce implies the a confidence into the mobile device,
- The seed of trust of a mobile device is the secure element,
- Can we trust the Secure Element ?





Presentation Goal

Learn how smart cards are vulnerable to Trojan.



Agenda

- Saturday, Bucharest
 - Part I Java Card Security
 - Virtual Machine architecture
 - Hardware attacks
 - References
- Monday, Busteni
 - Part II Logical Attacks
 - Type confusion, Control flow deviation
 - Executing arbitrary code, and countermeasures
 - Laser beam as an enabling technology for combined attacks



Agenda

- Part I Java Card Security
 - Introduction to Smart Card
 - Virtual Machine architecture
 - Hardware attacks
 - Assets



What is a Smart Card?

A piece of silicon on a plastic body



A very secure way of storing a small amount of sensitive data



Microcontroller of the card





Different Types of Memory ...

- ROM : CPU only NO ACCESS !
 - used for embedded Operating System
- EPROM : Write once, read FOR EVER !
 - Used for initialization area (e. g. Lock bytes)
- EEPROM : Write, erase, read FLEXIBLE !
 - used to store applicative data or added functionalities
- RAM : Write, read **TEMPORARY** !
 - used during power on sessions only



OS: Open cards vs. Native cards

- From a developer point of view:
 - Until now, writing an application required a specific knowledge,
 - No need of smart card specialists,
 - Solution: use general purpose programming language (C, Java, ...)
 - Much more easier to integrate applications,
 - More tools to test applications,
- From an end-user point of view
 - Several application on a single card,
 - Possibility to load/unload application when required.



Smart cards of the present days

- Java Card
 - Embedded virtual machine, post issuance,
 - Open standard (Java Card 3.0),
 - Wide support of the industry and customers,
 - Reduction of development time,
 - Flavor of security
 - Interoperability and multi applicative cards.
- Multos
 - Based on the MEL (Multos Executable Language) interpreter.
 - Operating system and memory firewalls, virtual Machine layer to provide abstraction
 - Application management including secure loading and deleting methods





Java Card Applet development

- Write your Java code
- Compile it
- Debug it (simulator)
- Verify and Convert it (specific byte code)
- Load it
 - Personalization center
 - Point of sale
 - Over the Internet



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Java Card Architecture





Two specific file formats

- The CAP (Converted Applet) file format
 - Contains all the classes from one package
 - Semantically, is equivalent to a set of class (.class) files
 - Syntactically, differs a lot from class (.class) files
 - All "string names" are replaced by "token identifiers",
 - Byte codes are different
- The EXP (Export) file format
 - Maintains the consistency between the originated class (.class) files and the resulting CAP file
 - Not loaded into the card



The CAP file

- Contains an executable representation of package classes
- Contains a set of components (11)
- Each component describes an aspect of CAP file
 - Class info
 - Executable byte code
 - Linking info,...
- Optimized for small footprint by compact data structure
- Loaded on card



Java Card Memory Model

- By default, all objects are *implicitly* persistent
 - Because we have few RAM
 - Objects must survive between two sessions
- Some arrays can be *transient*
 - For efficiency and security reasons
- Transactional mechanisms are provided
 - All write operations on persistent memory are atomic
 - At the programming level a mechanism to handle transactions is also available



Java Card Memory





Execution environment (JCRE)

- Define how a Java Card manages its resources
- Define constraints on the Java Card operating system
 - Applet lifetime (installation, register and deletion)
 - Logical channels and applet selection,
 - Transient objects,
 - Applet isolation (firewall) and sharing based on security context,
 - Transaction and atomicity,
- The JCRE is at the heart of a Java Card







BC interpretation

- It is the execution engine for the byte code loaded into the card,
- It controls byte code execution, memory allocation and participate to the security through the firewall,
- If the interpreter is a defensive one (run time type verification) it cost too much memory and CPU,
- If the interpreter is the one defined by Sun ...
- Often it includes more tests than the firewall due to the absence of BC verifier...



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Target

- Hardware attacks aim at recovering assets with some physical means.
 - Invasive attacks,
 - Non invasive attacks,
- Invasive attacks need a lot of costly equipment, training,...
 - For institutional labs, destruction of the samples
- Non invasive attacks
 - Affordable for public labs.



Invasive attacks

- Chip is physically and irreversibly modified (remove the glue, can be visually detected later)
 - Passive attacks :
 - off line : reverse engineering of ROM code, but the chip structure $(0.35\mu m)$ reduce it, the ROM is on deep level to avoid optical reading, dummy structure
 - in line : information reading (bus, memory, etc...) by probing or analysis of electrical potential. Counter measure scrambling, protective metallic layers see below with an electron beam tester
 - Active attacks :
 - off line : modification of the component,
 - in line : injection of information.





Irreversible switching from test mode to user mode !!!

• All chip have a test mode and use poly silicon fuse on the chip to switch to user mode.





Non invasive attacks

- Simple Power Analysis,
 - Khokar et al., June 1998: Measure instantaneous power consumption of a device while it runs a cryptographic algorithm
 - Measurable variation in current consumption depending on instruction and data processed,
 - Different power consumption when operating on logical ones vs. logical zeroes.
- Differential Power Analysis (same but statistical...).
- Glitch attack & Fault induction.
- Random number generator attack.



RSA attack - private key





SSD Team-Xlim





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Assets

- Products can only be attacked with hardware means,
 - Allows to retrieves keys, retro-engineering of the code, modification of the control flow,
 - Needs specific knowledge, often heavy investment,
- Software attacks (upload of hostile code) can only be done on development cards,
 - Allows to retrieves keys, retro-engineering of the code, modification of the control flow,
 - Needs good knowledge on Java, affordable for students (hacker kit 20€),
 - Warning :
 - development card == a product card upload;



Assets

- What you discover on a development card can help to attack products,
 - Banking cards share the same OS-VM that dev. cards,
- Reverse the operating system of a card then you obtain all the algorithms used in a product:
 - Discover the embedded countermeasures,
 - Attack with a white box approach a product,



Software attacks

- Two different approaches:
 - Type confusion
 - Modification of the control flow
- Two main hypotheses :
 - The attacker has the right to upload code, he has the keys to authenticate and to sign the code,
 - The byte code verifier is not embedded: pure software attack,
 - There is a byte code verifier, a physical mean can be used.



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Virtual machine paradigm brings security...

Its implementation in a constrained device brings insecurity !!!





University of Limoges is interested as an output of this summer school:

- To motivate skilled student to apply for an internship, second year of the master in security: Cryptis, fo apply for a PhD or a post doc,
- To establish links with Romanian University either for research or teaching in the smart card domain,
- To join a proposal of an European Project dedicated to security



