Zidong Zhang

Research Interest

SAST (Static application security testing) on Mobile System/Web Applications; Security and Privacy of Mini-Program Ecosystem; BLE Security.

EDUCATION

Shandong University

Master of Cybersecurity and Information Security; GPA: 86/100 Advisor: Prof.Wenrui Diao

Hebei Universiity

Bachelor of Information Security; GPA: 3.91 GPA Ranking: 9/110 (Top 8%)

Boston Univeristy

Visiting Student;

PUBLICATIONS

- MiniCAT: Understanding and Detecting Cross-Page Request Forgery Vulnerabilities in Mini-Programs Zidong Zhang, Qinsheng Hou, Lingyun Ying, Yacong Gu, Rui Li, Wenrui Diao, Shanqing Guo, Haixin Duan The ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (ACM CCS 2024)
- MiniBLE: Exploring Insecure BLE Implementation in Mini-Programs Zidong Zhang, Jianqi Du, Wenrui Diao, Jianliang Wu. ACM Workshop on Secure and Trustworthy Superapps (SaTS 2024). Co-located with ACM CCS 2024. *: Under Submission
- Living in the Past: Analyzing BLE IoT Devices Based on Mobile Companion Apps in Old Versions Jianqi Du, Zidong Zhang, Fenghao Xu, Wenrui Diao The 19th International Conference on Mobility, Sensing and Networking (IEEE MSN 2023)
- Identifying the BLE Misconfigurations of IoT Devices through Companion Mobile Apps [Link] Jianqi Du, Fenghao Xu, Chennan Zhang, Zidong Zhang, Xiaoyin Liu, Pengcheng Ren, Wenrui Diao, Shanqing Guo, Kehuan Zhang.

The 19th Annual IEEE International Conference on Sensing, Communication, and Networking (IEEE SECON 2022)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

QI-ANXIN Research Institute

- Security Researcher Intern; Advisor: Dr.Lingyun Ying & Dr.Yacong Gu
 - **Mini-Program Analyzing:** Built a mini-programs crawler to crawl 130,000 apps and carried out a large-scale automated measurement for routing security vulnerabilities in mini-programs by using hybrid analysis.
 - **SAST for JavaScript:** Built the static automated vulnerability detection for JavaScript-based applications (e.g., mini-programs) using CodeQL.
 - **Smart IoT Device Security:** Analyzed the protocol and verification process of smart locks and implemented the takeover of any of its devices through its companion mini-programs.

Projects

• Automated Detection of Mini-Program Vulnerabilities with Hybrid Analysis

- Discovered a novel security vulnerability in mini-programs with their routing implementations for the first time.
- $\circ~$ Performed an automated large-scale static analysis of 130,000 mini-programs with CodeQL while using the Xposed Hook for dynamic verification.
- Accomplishments: One paper accpted(ACM CCS '24); One paper in submission (SaTS' 24); 3 vulnerabilities confirmed by CNVD.

• Analyzing BLE Devices with Older Versions of Companion Apps

- Analyzed BLE devices that could not be OTA upgraded via old version of their companion apps.
- Designed an automated tool to perform large-scale automatic measurements in IoT App datasets to measure the security risks from older versions of apps for devices that do not support OTA upgrades.
- Accomplishments: One paper accepted (IEEE MSN '23); 3 vulnerabilities under CVE review.

• Identifying the BLE Misconfigurations of IoT Devices through Companion Apps

- $\circ~$ Based on the static analysis, defined a set of strategies for detecting misconfiguration in the companion app of BLE devices.
- $\circ~$ Designed an automatic analysis tool to detect the BLE misconfigurations based on pre-defined checking strategies from 4,589 companion apps.
- Accomplishments: One paper published. (IEEE SECON '22)

Qingdao, China Sept 2021 - June 2024

Baoding, China Sept 2017 - June 2021

Boston, MA, USA Jan 2020 - Feb 2020

> Beijing, China Oct 2022 - Now

TEACHING

• Teaching Assistant

- Software Security: Instructor: Prof.Wenrui Diao (2021 Fall)
- $\circ~{\bf Reverse}$ Engineering: Instructor: Prof.Wenrui Dia
o $(2023~{\rm Spring})$

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (ACM CCS): External Reviewer,2024
- IEEE European Symposium on Security and Privacy (IEEE EuroS&P):External Reviewer,2024
- International Conference on Information Security and Cryptology (Inscrypt): Subreviewer, 2023
- CCF Chinasoft: Subreviewer,2023
- International Conference on Information and Communications Security (ICICS): Subreviewer, 2022
- European Symposium on Research in Computer Security (ESORICS): Subreviewer, 2022

HONORS AND AWARDS

- DataCon Security Analysis Competition, Vulnerability Analysis Track, Third Place (3/689 teams) Nov. 2023
- The Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM), Meritorious Winner April 2020
- National College Student Information Security Contest (CISCN), First Prize of North China Region Sept. 2020
- National College Student Information Security Contest (CISCN), Second Prize of North China Region June 2019
- College Student Information Security Contest in Hebei Province, First Prize October 2019

Vulnerabilities Disclosures

- WeChat Mini Program Privilege Escalation Vulnerability. (CNVD-2023-75836, CNVD-2023-75837)
- Nankai University Original Vulnerability Reporting Certificate. (EDUSRC-NKU-2019-0074)
- Shanghai Jiaotong University Original Vulnerability Reporting Certificate. (EDUSRC-2019-0217)
- Shanghai International Studies University Original Vulnerability Reporting Certificate. (SISUVD-2019074)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Development: Python, PHP, JavaScript, Lua, C++, BLE Development (for Android).
- Security tools: CodeQL, Xposed, Frida, Android Reverse(Jadx), IDA Pro, Burpsuite, Nmap, Metasploit.