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Computer Science/SoC



DFII: Digital Forensics
Information Intelligence

Hardware-Based Exploitation and Forensics Evaluation of iOS Devices

RELEVANCE / OBJECTIVES

Relevance

- iOS (iPhone Operating System) devices provide best privacy preserving features
- iOS devices used for nefarious purposes create problems for forensic analysis
- Unlock scenarios are of particular relevance for incident response in industry and government sectors

Objectives

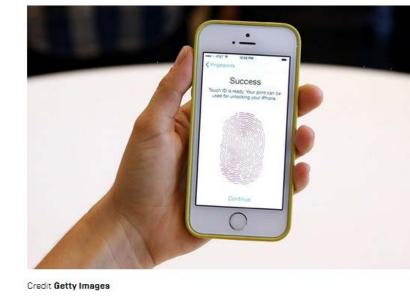
- Develop library of exploitation techniques
- Demonstrate breadboard functionality
- Data collection of iOS electromagnetic signals
- Control of iOS functions using specific

Apple vows to resist FBI demand to crack iPhone linked to San Bernardino attacks



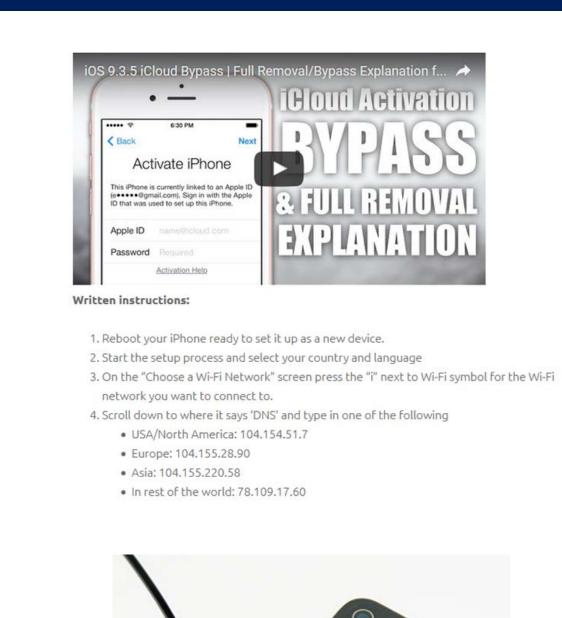
FBI unlocks shooter's iPhone without Apple's help





APPROACH / TECHNIQUES

- Purchase iPhone devices
- Experimentally demonstrate known vulnerabilities and techniques for unlock
- Set up breadboard environment
- Understand and demonstrate control and manipulation of devices using standard known techniques
- Explore effects of low-cost electromagnetic manipulation and power glitching
- Catalogue and demonstrate unlock capabilities for known iOS versions and device families







MILESTONES / DELIVERABLES

Deliverables

- Report of exploitation techniques for iOS based on version families
- Demonstration framework for breadboard iPhone setup
- Data results for initial studies using low-cost EM-based probing of an iPhone device

Milestones

- 4 m: Research / acquire tools and techniques for iOS exploitation based on version families
- 8 m: Setup breadboard functionality for EM analysis and input control of iPhone
- 12 m: Gather relative data and build expertise for hardware-based exploit demonstration on iOS devices relative to unlock scenarios

INDUSTRY BENEFITS

Economics

- Considerable market in law enforcement, government, and industry to assist forensic examiners faced with locked iOS devices.
- Identifying, categorizing, and realizing a demonstration framework for techniques that provide solutions for this unique iOS problem would provide great opportunity in these sectors.

Potential Member Benefits

- Provide a list of potential iPhone vulnerabilities by iOS version family to IAB members
- Provide prototype demonstration capability for forensic data recovery from locked iPhone devices