

Telecom Signaling attacks on 3G and LTE networks from SS7 to all-IP, all open

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Telecom security intro

- ∎ SIP, PBX, ...
- Periphery, customer side.
- Long gone world of Blue Box.
- Sometime hear about "Roaming frauds".
- Rarely hear the Core Network horror stories.

Fugitive VOIP hacker cuffed in Mexico More than 10 million minutes hijacked By Dan Goodin in San Francisco • Get more from this author Posted in Security, 11th February 2009 22:33 GMT

> Two charged with VoIP fraud Hacking returns to phreaking roots By John Oates • Get more from this author Posted in Enterprise Security, 8th June 2006 09:51 GMT

Romanian Police Arrest 42 VoIP Hackers

December 20, 2010 By eSecurityPlanet Staff	Police in Romania recently busted a hacking ring that was focused on stealing VoIP data from hacked servers.
Submit Feedback »	"Agence France Presse reported on Tuesday that 42 people were arrested in the
More by Author »	sting, breaking up a network that was headed by two Romanians and that had
	caused more than \$13.5 million in losses to firms in the U.S., Britain, South Africa,
Italy and Romania,"	writes threatpost's Paul Roberts.



Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak in 1975 with a bluebox

Telecom frauds and attacks

UID	Issue	Risk	Cost
	Reverse Charge SMS Fraud	Medium	High
	Prepaid Abuse	High	High
	SS7 Entry Point Abuse	Medium	High
	Hostile SS7 Location Requests	High	Low
	Country-Wide Denial of Service	High	High
	User-Targeted Denial of Service	Medium	Medium

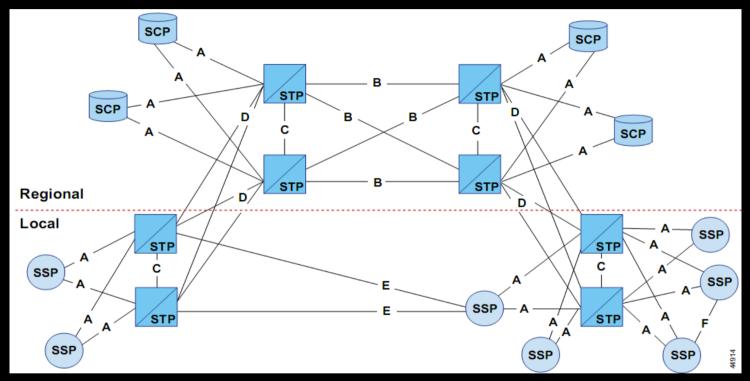
Telecom frauds and attacks

UID	Issue	Risk	Cost
	Femto-Cell Based Signaling Attacks	High	Medium
	Billing System Flooding for Prepaid Abuse	Medium	High
	SMSC Scanning, Discovery and Abuse	High	Medium
	SS7 MSU Bill Artificial Inflation	Medium	Medium
	VoIP Originated SS7 Injection	Medium	High
	Location Based Services Unauthorized Usage	Medium	Medium

Telecom frauds and attacks

UID	Issue	Risk	Cost
	HLR Authentication Flooding	High	High
	VLR Stuffing	High	High
	Illegal Call Redirection	Medium	High
	Fixed Lines Capacity Denial of Service	High	High
	SMS to MSC Direct Addressing	High	Medium
	Region or Country Network Instability	High	High

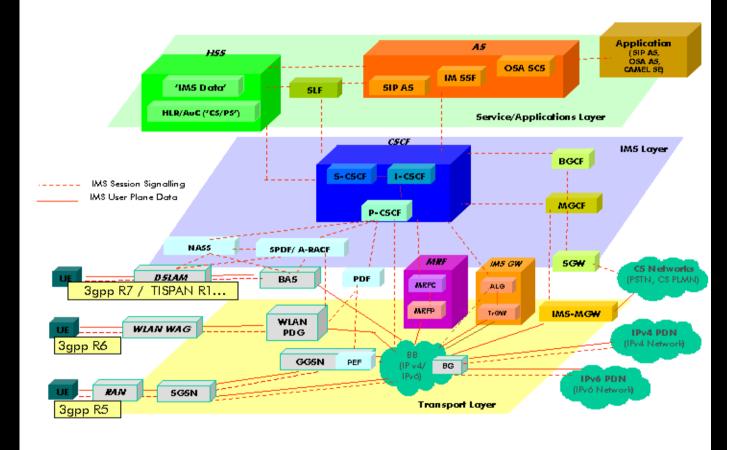
Structure of operators: SS7



- SS7 basis for international interconnection & transit
- Called "Legacy": Why it is not going away?
- "Walled garden" approach to security.

NGN, IMS, 3G

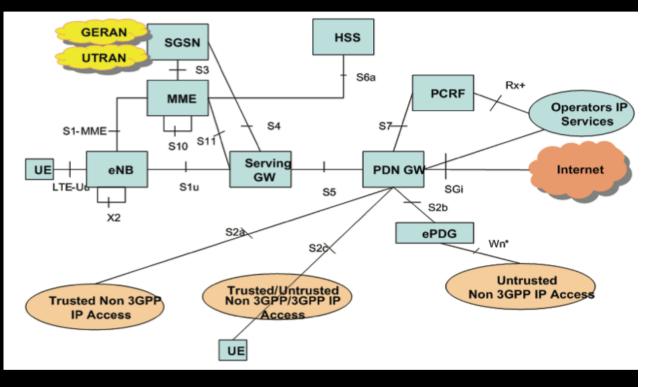
- IP friendly.
- More "IETF"
- Diameter
- Partly SIP-based
- SCTP appears
- Encapsulates
 SS7 over IP



SIGTRAN

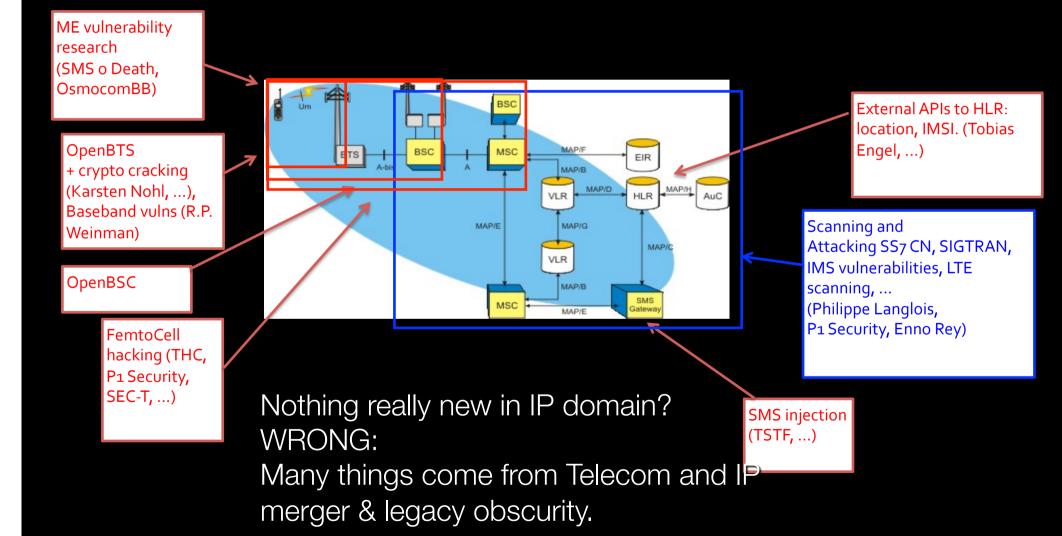
LTE, LTE Advanced

- More "P2P"
- Even more IP
- SIGTRAN is simplified
- Simpler protocols (S1)
- eNB handover & communications



- Deeper integration, less layering & segmentation
- Addresses performances issues & bottlenecks

Current state of security research



Attacking Telecom Networks

- Newbie question "How do you get access?"
- Steps
 - 1.Footprint
 - 2.Scan
 - 3.Exploit
 - 4. Detect & Protect
- No "recipe" as in IP world, each telecom environment is quite different (legacy sandwich)

1. Footprint (demo)

Demo

2. Scan: PS entry points

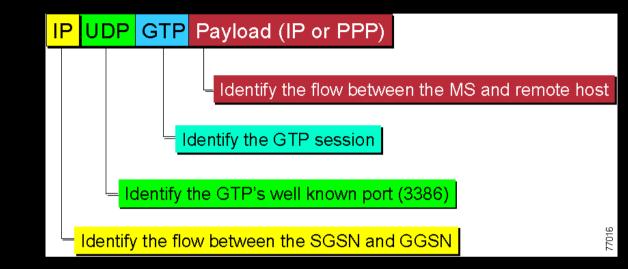
- PS Domain is huge now
- Many common mistakes:
 - IP overlaps,
 - APN misconfiguration,
 - firewall issues,
 - IPv6 control
 - M2M specifics.

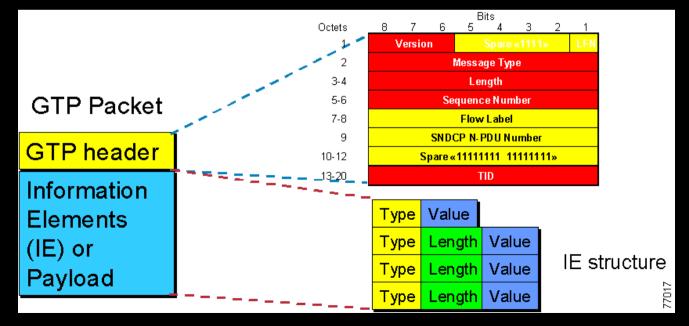
GTP entry points

- GTP', GTP-C, GTP-U, v1 or v2
- UDP or SCTP based
- Many APNs (from 100-200 to 5000), many configurations, many networks with their corresponding GGSN.
- packet "slips" in M2M or public APNs
- GTP tunnel manipulation means traffic insertion at various point of the network (Core or Internet)

First, GTP basics

- From SGSN (client)
- To GGSN (server)
- Many "commands" possible in Message Type
- Extended a lot
 - GTP v0
 - GTP v1
 - GTP v2





GTP scanning in 3G/LTE

Table 6.1-1: Messages in GTP-U

Message Type value (Decimal)	Message	Reference	GTP-C	GTP-U	GTP'
1	Echo Request		Х	X	x
2	Echo Response		X	х	x

- Way too many open GTP service on the Internet
- Higher ratio on LTE/GRX of course
- Easily scanned with GTP Echo Request
- UDP ports 2123, 2152, 3386, Super fast positive scanning
- LTE new protocols (from eNodeB S1/X2 to MME/PGW/...)



GTP Tunnel disconnection DoS attack

TEID bruteforce



- Disconnect Message Type (Delete Session Request. Delete PDP, ...) + spoof SGSN (really?)
- 2^32 would be a problem... if TEID were not sequential :-)

[•]							
00	00	17	04	Delete	PDP	Context:	Request	Accepted
00	00	17	44	Delete	PDP	Context:	Request	Accepted
00	00	17	A1	Delete	PDP	Context:	Request	Accepted
00	00	17	BF	Delete	PDP	Context:	Request	Accepted
00	00	17	D8	Delete	PDP	Context:	Request	Accepted
00	00	17	E8	Delete	PDP	Context:	Request	Accepted
[••	•]							

Fake charging attacks

94 <mark>Cha</mark>	arging ID	Extendable / 8.29
95 Cha	arging Characteristics	Extendable / 8.30

Normal GTP 2 traffic

- GRX MNO
- But with Charging ID and Charging GW (CGF) address specified
- Creates fake CDRs (Call Detail Records or Charging Data Records) for any customer
- Not necessary to get free connection anyway :-)

GRX Subscriber Information Leak

- GRX is GPRS/3G/LTE paradise (soon IPX)
- SGSN and GGSN need to communicate with many Network Elements in 3G and 4G networks

GRX

ITE

- GTP v2 enables many requests to these equipment directly over GTP.
- Think "HLR Request" over UDP
 - No authentication
 - Much more available than an SS7 interconnection :-)
- And you're GLOBAL ! Thanks GRX. That is, any operator in the world that is connected to any GRX.

Relocation Cancel attack

- Basically tell one SGSN that the user it is serving should come back to you
- User is effectively disconnected (or hangs), no more pace
- Targer user by IMSI
 - But you already got that by the Info leak of previous attack

uest	able 32: Information El	Tal
	Information element	[
	IMSI	[
	Private Extension	[
	IMSI	-

Shoule be Intra-operator, but does work over GRX!

GGSN DoS attack

GRX LTE

- Another magic packet
- "Oh, I'm a bit congested and about to crash, it would be good for you to relocate to another GGSN to continue your service"
- Result: GGSN deserted, users don't get any other GGSN, users loose service.
- Per APN impact (i.e. "internet" or "*.corp")
- Exercise to the ****er

SGSN DoS attack - Ouch



- More rare because by their nature (client), SGSN are rarely reachable through IP
- Same attack as previous (Hey, you should really switch to another node, this one is going down)
- Much more impact:
 - Targets a region rather than a network,
 - Repeat on GRX == Disconnect many countries
- Both these are caused by "evolved GTP" i.e. GTP on LTE Advanced networks.

Scan Femto Cells entry points

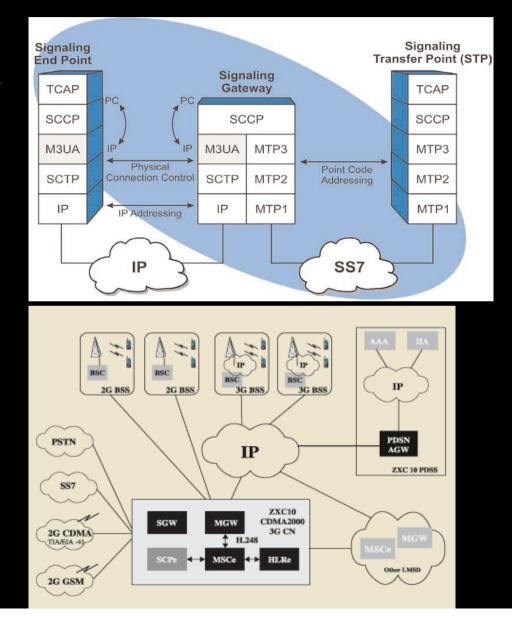
- Femto Cell security is improving
 - Better boot harden
 - IPsec tunnels
 - EAP-SIM protected



- But many compromise vectors still.
- Exposes directly signaling network (HNBAP), HLR/HSS (Diameter, ...), infrastructure network (routing, NTP, ...) to the user.

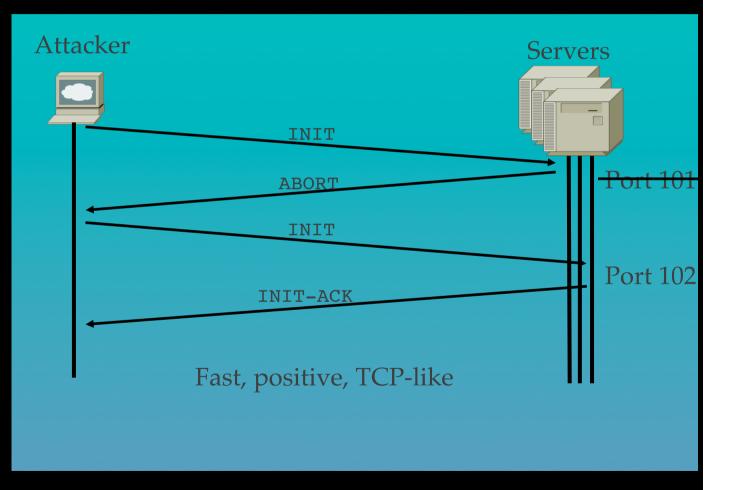
Core Network (CN) scan

- Some Core Network start of migration since 2008 to IPv6
- SCTP based (RFC4960, Stream Control Transmission Protocol)
- Still SS7 encapsulated
- Implementations make scanning easy...



SCTP scan

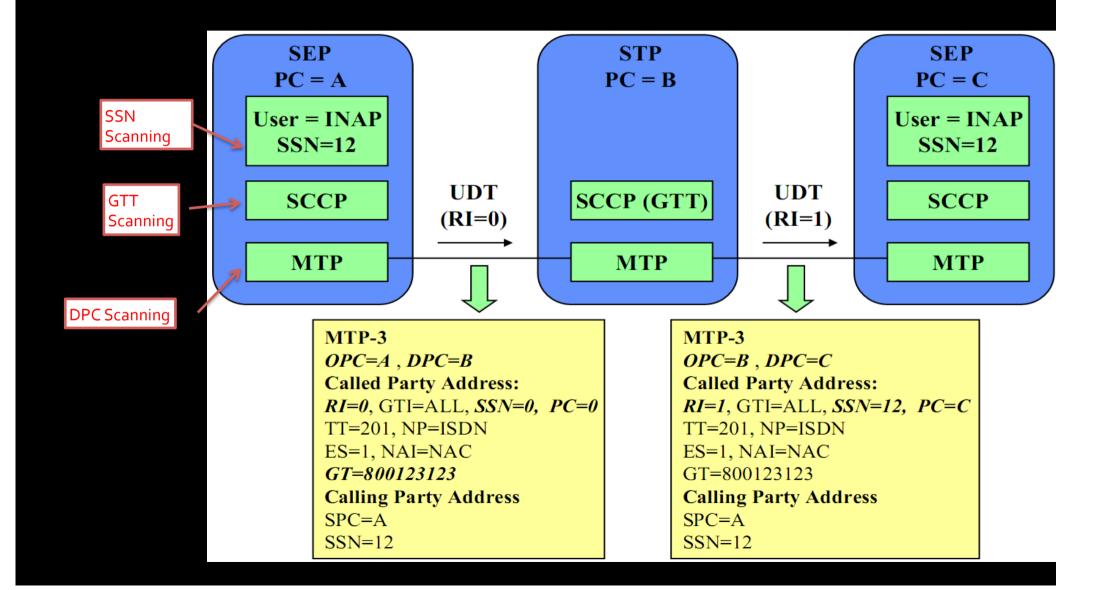
- Pioneered in SCTPscan, ported into nmap.
- Both don't work anymore (SCTP protocol evolved).
- Now inSCTPscan NG



CN Scan specificities

- SCTP changed a lot, public tools don't work anymore. (Difficulty)
- IPv6 starts to be deployed, scan is completely possible but "regular consultants" don't know how to. (Size)
- CN Protocols are very complex (ASN.1 madness, Difficulty) cannot be tested by hand
- Signaling protocols address ranges makes then hard to assess by hand (Size)
- Size + Difficulty increase requires automation

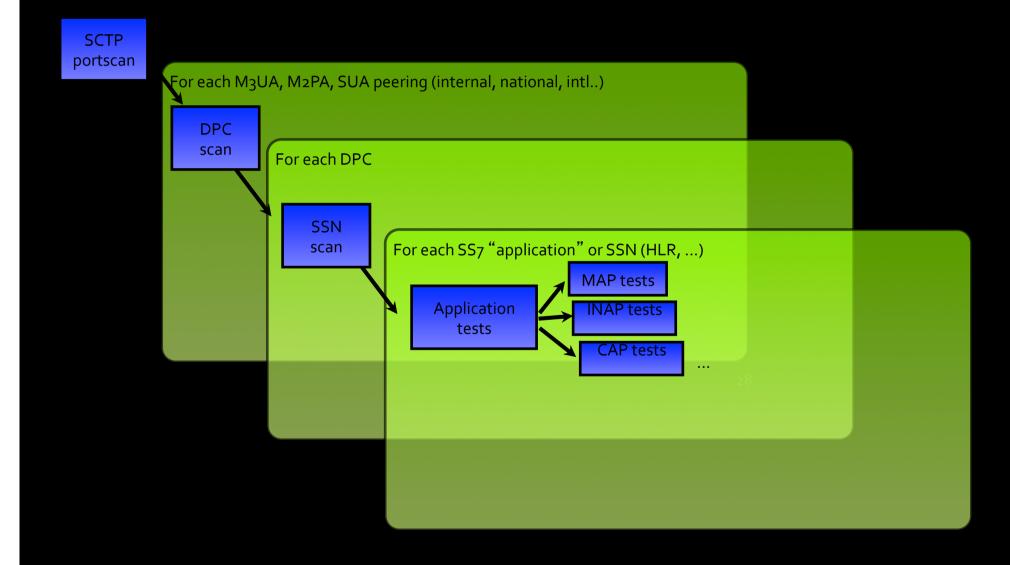
Scan & Address spaces



Scan IP vs. Telecom Signaling

TCP/IP	SS7
IPsec endpoint scan, MPLS label scan, VLAN tag scan	SCTP endpoint scan
Arp or Ping scan	MTP3 or M3UA scanning
Ping scan using TCP SYN	SCCP DPC scanning
TCP SYN or UDP port/service scanning	SCCP SSN (SubSystem Number) scanning
Service-specific attacks and abuses (e.g. attacks over HTTP, SMB, RPC,)	Application (*AP) traffic injection (e.g. MAP, INAP, CAP, OMAP)

SIGTRAN Audit Strategies



National and International SPCs

	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	н	I	J	к	L	М	Ν
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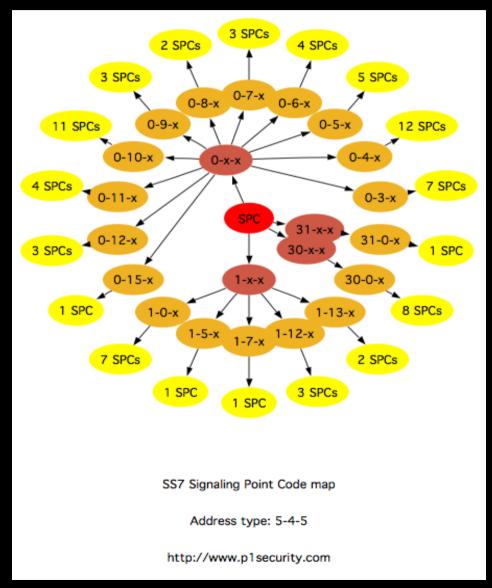
- SANC and ISPCs
- SANC
 assigned by
 ITU

N M L K	JI	H G F	E D C B A
Network /Operator identification	Exchange type (hierarchical layer) identification	Geographical area identification	Signalling Point (exchange) identification
4 bits	2 bits	3 bits	5 bits
	National Signalling	Point Code (4-2-3-5))

■ 4-2-3-5 SPCs

Scan to network maps

- Multiple formats for Point Code representation (3-8-3, NIPC, 5-4-5, Hex, Decimal)
- One Point Code "1-2-1" can represent many different addresses.
- Helps target "good" part of the network (SMSC, Testbed, HLR cluster or BSCs?)



LTE scanning strategies

- Mix between SIGTRAN scan and IP scan
- Target protocols: S1, X2
- Inter- eNodeB communications (X2)
- Communication between eNodeBs and Core Network
- Tools: SCTP connect scan, SCTPscan NG or PTA

3. Exploit

- Standard vulnerabilities:
 - Known vulnerabilities are present, but scarce: proprietary tools, network elements, ...
 - Misconfiguration is present often: once working, people don't touch (fix) the network.
 - Simple architecture problems: HLR without SSL on OAM, logs exposed, vulnerable VLAN setup
- And unstandard / Telecom specific vulnerabilities:

HLR heap overflow

- One single SS7 MAP packet
 - HLR crash! ... consequences for operator.
 - DoS at first, then exploitable
 - Solaris (sometime old, sometime exotic architecture)
- Reverse engineering after
 - Hardcoded crypto keys!!
 - Many vulnerabilities
- Works on HSS too

ASN.1 paradise or hell

- ITU is ASN.1 addicted
- Plenty of TLV, tons of complex protocols
- Encodings:
 - Old protocols: BER, DER
 - Newer: PER, Aligned, Unaligned
- Encoding bombs, Decompression bombs
- e.g. LTE S1 protocol between eHNB and SGW, MME

SCTP Fuzz Target

Protocol Specification is huge

RFC 5062, RFC 5061, RFC 5043, RFC 4960, RFC 4895, RFC 4820, RFC 4460, RFC 3873, RFC 3758, RFC 3554, RFC 3436, RFC 3309, RFC 3286, RFC 3257, RFC 2960

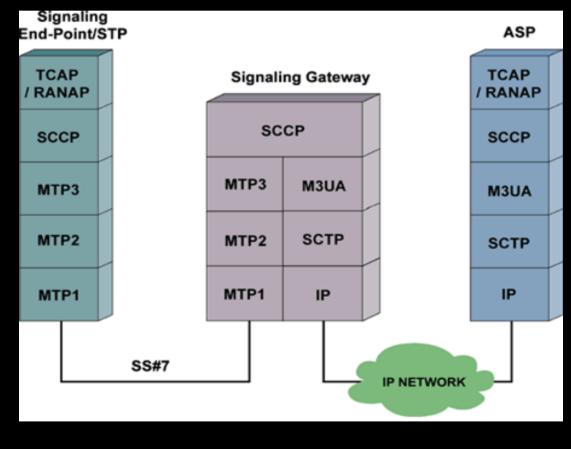
Good target for vulnerabilities

CVE-2010-1173 CVSS Severity: 7.1 (HIGH), CVE-2010-0008 CVSS Severity: 7.8 (HIGH), CVSS Severity: 7.8 (HIGH), CVE-2009-0065 CVSS Severity: 10.0 (HIGH), CVE-2008-4618 CVSS Severity: 7.8 (HIGH), CVE-2008-3831, CVE-2008-4576, CVE-2008-4445, CVE-2008-4113, CVE-2008-3792, CVE-2008-3526, CVE-2008-2826, CVE-2008-2089, CVE-2008-2090, CVE-2008-1070, CVE-2007-6631, CVE-2007-5726, CVE-2007-2876, CVE-2006-4535 ...
 <u>CVE-2004-2013</u> (33 vulnerabilities)

Scapy and SCTP

- send(IP(dst="10.0.0.1")/SCTP(sport=2600,dport=2500)/ SCTPChunkInit(type=1))
- send(IP(dst="10.37.129.140")/SCTP(sport=2600,dport=2500)/ SCTPChunkInit(type=1)/SCTPChunkParamCookiePreservative()/ SCTPChunkParamFwdTSN()/SCTPChunkParamIPv4Addr())
- send(IP(dst="10.37.129.140")/SCTP(sport=2600,dport=2500)/ SCTPChunkInit(type=1)/SCTPChunkParamAdaptationLayer()/ SCTPChunkParamCookiePreservative()/SCTPChunkParamFwdTSN ()/SCTPChunkParamIPv4Addr()/ SCTPChunkParamUnrocognizedParam()/ SCTPChunkParamECNCapable()/SCTPChunkParamHearbeatInfo()/ SCTPChunkParamHostname()/SCTPChunkParamStateCookie())
- It can get ugly... and i'm not even fuzzing here. Use better solution.

SIGTRAN Stack de-synchronization: more exposure & attacks



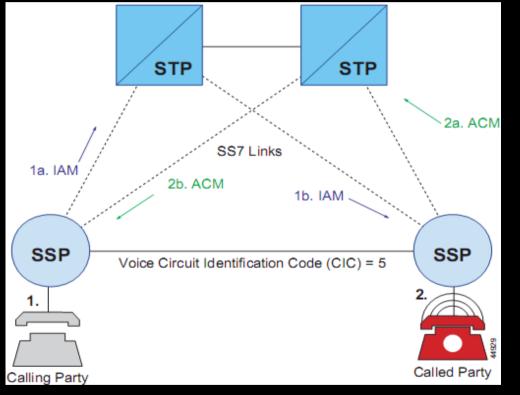
 IP/SCTP/M3UA std by IETF

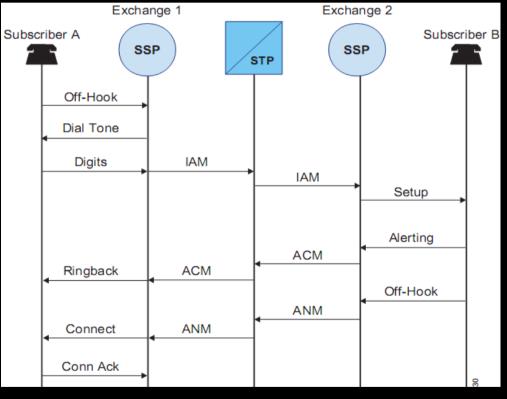
 MTP3/SCCP/TCAP std by ITU

- Finite State Machine in M3UA can be tricked into believing you're a peer.
- Once you're signaling peer you can...

SS7 ISUP Call Initiation Flow

IAM attack: Capacity DoS

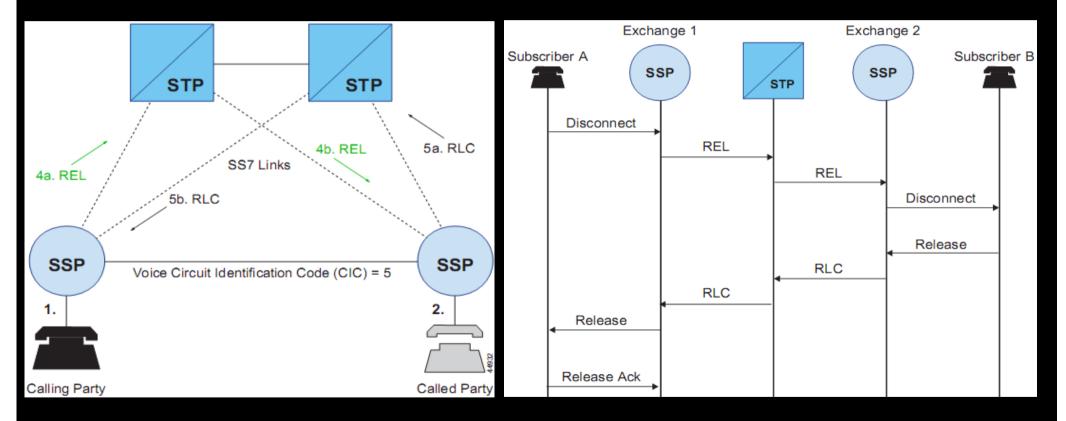




Attack Quiz!

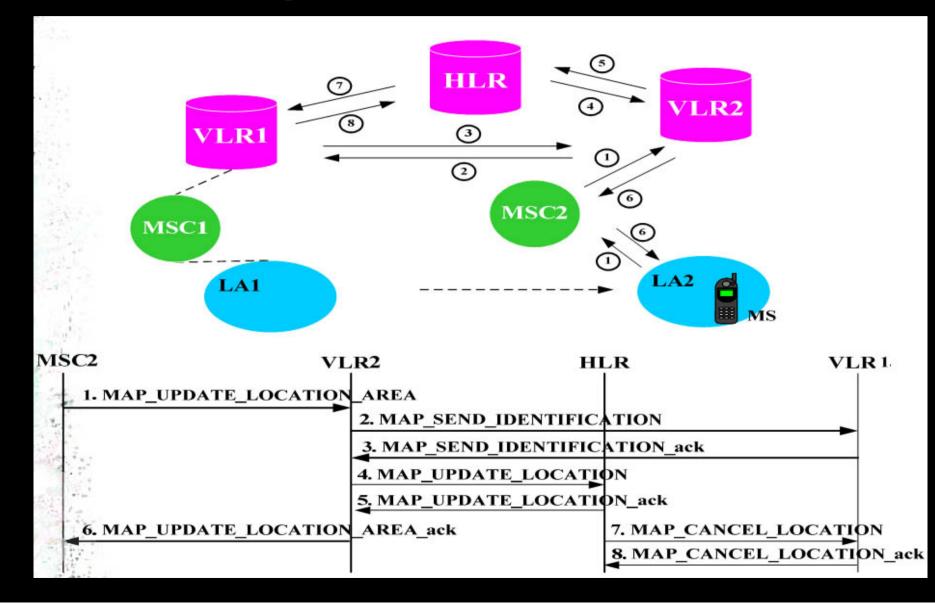
SS7 ISUP Call Release Flow

REL attack: Selective DoS



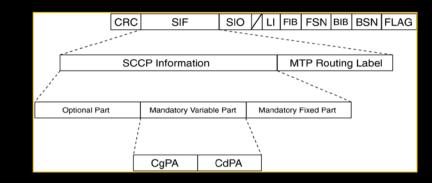
Attack Quiz!

User targeted DoS

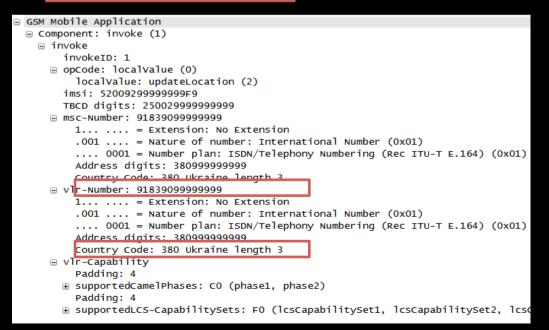


Sending hostile MSU (MAP)

- Sent from any network (in the world)
- to any target mobile phone
- HLR Lookup may be used to prepare attack (IMSI gathered through SRI_for_SM)
- Phone is registered on network, can make call, cannot receive calls or SMS.



IMSI scanning / querying needed !



Attack success

```
□ G5M Mobile Application
 Component: invoke (1)
   invoke
       invokeTD: 1
     opCode: localvalue (0)
        localValue: insertSubscriberData (7)
     msisdn: 919799999999999
        1... .... = Extension: No Extension
        .001 .... = Nature of number: International Number (0x01)
        .... 0001 = Number plan: ISDN/Telephony Numbering (Rec ITU-T E.164) (0x01)
        Address digits: 79999999999
        Country Code: 7 Russian Federation, Kazakstan length 1
      category: OA
       subscriberStatus: serviceGranted (0)

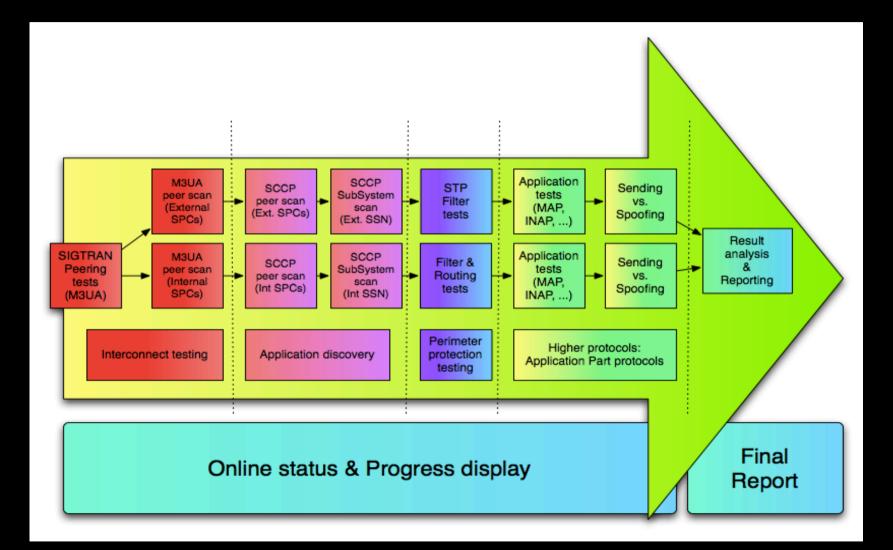
teleserviceList: 4 items

        TeleserviceList: shortMessageMO-PP (34)
        TeleserviceList: shortMessageMT-PP (33)
        TeleserviceList: emergencyCalls (18)
        TeleserviceList: telephony (17)
     provisionedss: 3 items
```

Fuzzing, research and DoS

- Fuzzing only in testbed environment
- Because it's easy to DoS equipments
- Telecom developer obviously don't think like hackers
 - MGW: hardcoded Backdoor found in OAM terminal
 - eNodeB: protocol flaw leads to DoS
 - HLR/HSS: DB/Directory protocol leads to DoS + Diameter flaw
- Equipments are rarely tested before integration/production

Complete audit process



4. Detect & Protect

- IP IDS don't detect these problems
- Previous Lack of IDS for telecom networks
- Fraud Management Systems target only CDR: bills, statistical analysis
- DShield.org don't log SCTP attempts
- "netstat -anp" doesn't list SCTP associations
- hard to track! We're building tools to help.

Tales of Telecom Honeypots

- Fraud and attacks in telecom is mostly stealth
 - But the impact is massive (100k to 3 million Euro per incident is typical)
- Telecom engineers mindset is not as open for proactive security as in IP crowds
 - Prefer not to do anything and suffer from attacks
 - "If nothing is there to detect attacks, there are no attacks"
- Lack of threat intelligence in the telecom domain

SS7 Honeypot Deployment (standalone)

Attacker who tries to conduct fraud on the target system

Attacker

SS7 Provider who manages SS7 links (like ISP)

SS7

Provider

SS7 Honeypot with SS7 link and address (pointcode or SPC)

P1 Telecom

Honeypot

SS7 Honeypot Deployment (integrated)

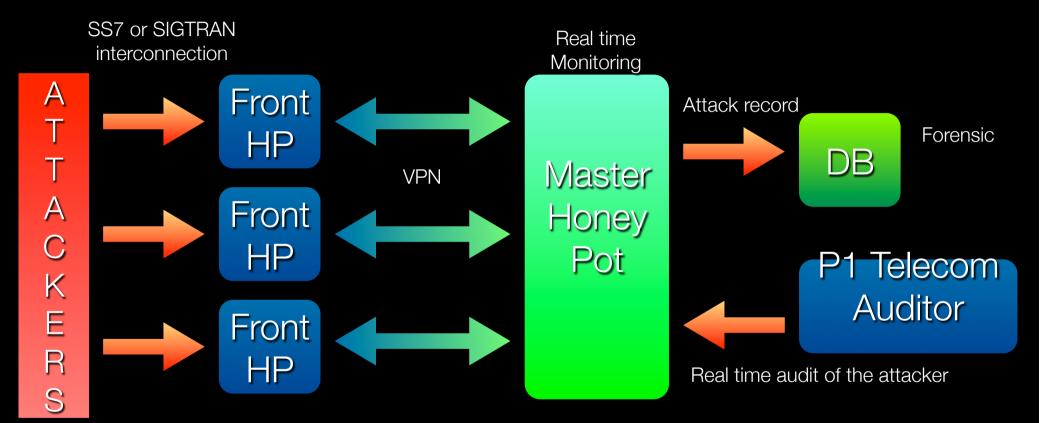
Attacker

Attacker who tries to conduct fraud on the operator's system P1 Telecom Honeypot

Other operator's equipment Existing Operator

SS7 Honeypot within operator SS7 network

Architecture



- Interconnection is like a VPN, always two-way
- If attackers does requests (interco), we can request too
- We conduct scan with P1 Telecom Auditor through interco.

Detection results

- Realtime detection of scans (IDS)
 - SIGTRAN scans
 - SS7 scans
- Detection of telecom specifics
 - SIM Boxes (subscription fraud),
 - traffic steering and anti-steering packets/techniques
 - Illegal traffic routing (mostly SMS, never seen before by operator, "lost in traffic")

Honeypot results

- Threat intelligence!
- Nice attacker fingerprints:
 - Single node attackers (stack on one system)
 - Whole carrier infrastructure attacking (insider? relay? approved?)
- Helps the blacklisting of IDs, Phone numbers, ...
- And identification of the fraudsters

Conclusions

- End of walled garden era, more exposed:
- High Exposure in term of IP-reachability (starting in 3G/IMS) and reachability of the IP-equipment (specifically in LTE networks)
- Network complexity (planes/layers) and protocol diversity make it very hard to get right from the beginning.
- Few "dare" to audit / test their telecom environment.
- Tools and services are now mature and efficient.
- First need to visualize the problem: discovery, awareness.

Credits

- Everybody from Telecom Security Task Force
- Fyodor Yarochkin
- Emmanuel Gadaix
- Raoul Chiesa
- Daniel Mende, Rene Graf, Enno Rey
- Everyone at P1 Security and P1 Labs

Thank you!

Questions? Ask: <u>Philippe.Langlois@p1sec.com</u>

Hackito Ergo Sum, Paris, France 12-14 April 2012

Russia is the country of honor for Hackito 2012! Submit a talk!

Backup slides

P1 Security http://www.p1sec.com

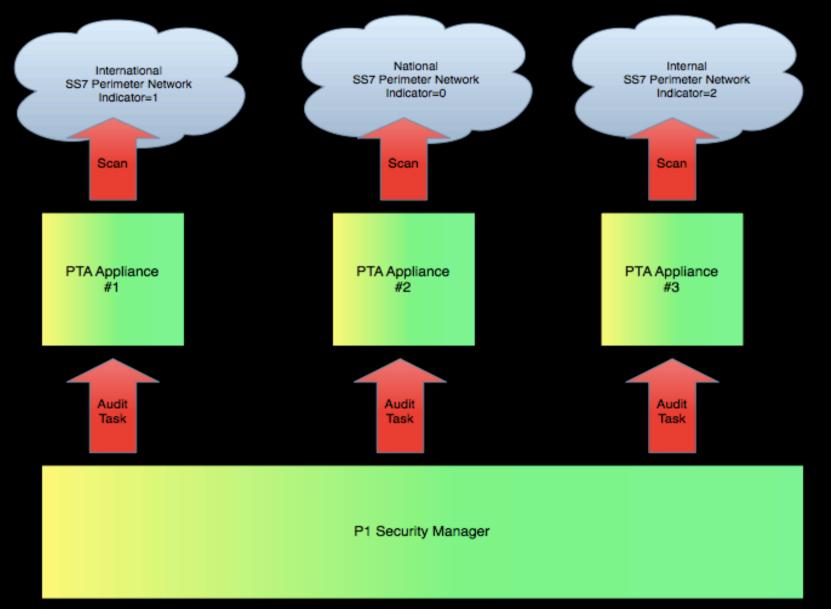
Problem

- Mobile Network Operators and other Telecom Operators
 - use Fraud Management System that are reactive only, only see fraud when it has stolen money from the operator,
 - have no way to tell if their network weaknesses are,
 - must wait for fraud, network downtime, crashes, spam, intrusions to happen in order to see how it happened.
- Governments, safety agencies and telecom regulators
 - have no way to assess the security, resiliency and vulnerability of their Telecom Critical Infrastructure

P1 Security Solution

- PTA gives vision on Telecom signaling networks (SS7, SIGTRAN, LTE sig), a security perimeter previously without technical audit.
- Telecom and Mobile Operator can scan and monitor their signaling perimeter as they do for their Internet and IP perimeter, detecting vulnerabilities before hackers, fraudsters and intruders do.
- Delivers metric for management, reports and fixes for experts.
- Right now, all the following problems go undetected (next pages) and could be detected with PTA:

PTA Deployment



PTA Audits

- PTA Audits simulate human analysis of a SS7 signaling network.
 - It is composed of a set of signaling tests each representing one category of attack scenario or one specific attack or fraud attempt.
 - The Test Knowledge Base is constantly updated with new attack scenarios.
- The behavior, strategy and analysis of the Audit results is driven by a Machine Learning engine using SVM methods to mimic the intelligence of a human expert.

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Tree View ruin audit P1 Telecom Security Auditor Nothing to List running tasks Tasks > Run Audit Name of the audit: [Audit #12] Source Auditor Source Point Code: [999 Auditor Source Point Code: [999 Description: SS7 source address (auditor address of the running probe) Target Target Target (Destination Point Code, Name): Comment: Type of scan Safe Complete (Vulnerability, Confidentiality, Availability and Integrity security tests) Run Audit Mun Audit Mun Audit	Help 2 This panel offers you access to Telecom Security Auditor help topics, knowledge base resources and user guides. Telecom Security Auditor User Guide Telecom Security Auditor Features Telecom Security Basics Yulnerability Knowledgebase Search Search			
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	2	National scan	National	17	2010-06-23	Telecom Security Auditor Features
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P1 Telecom Auditor • Run audit • List reports	P1 Security	This panel offers you access to Telecom Security Auditor help topics, knowledge base resources and user guides.
Manage scanners	Audit Report Date: 11 January 2010	Telecom Security Auditor User Guide Telecom Security Auditor Features
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Status: Ready. All probes running and online.

Who?

- Established management team
 - Avg of 15 year of industry background, both Security and Telecom.
 - Successful Entrepreneurs (Qualys, INTRINsec, TSTF)
- Start-up launched in January 2009
 - Already established references in Europe and Asia
 - Financial backing from private investors