



**KB4-CON**

# 12 Ways to Hack 2FA

by Roger A. Grimes, Data-Driven Defense Evangelist

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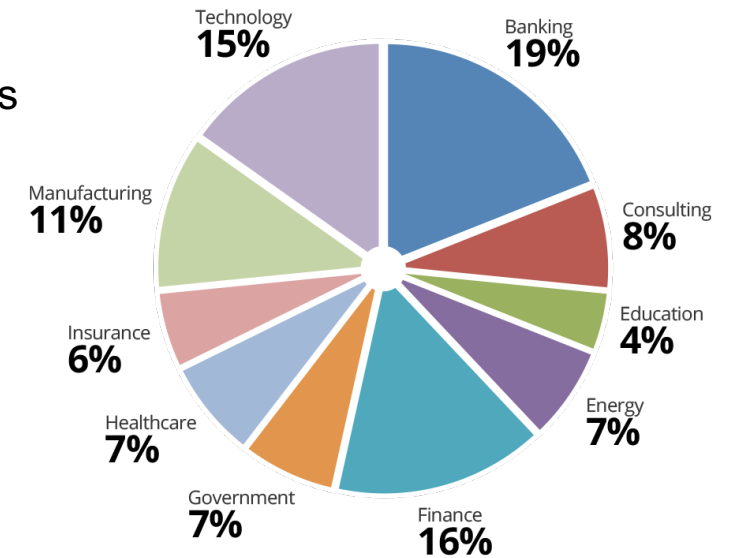
KnowBe4

KnowBe4



# KnowBe4, Inc.

- The world's most popular integrated Security Awareness Training and Simulated Phishing platform
- Based in Tampa Bay, Florida, founded in 2010
- CEO & employees are ex-antivirus, IT Security pros
- 200% growth year over year
- We help tens of thousands of organizations manage the problem of social engineering





# About Roger

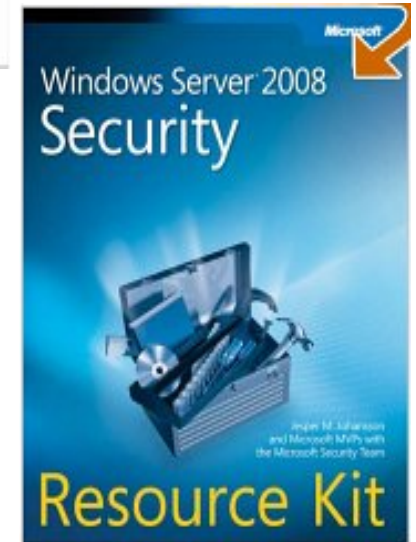
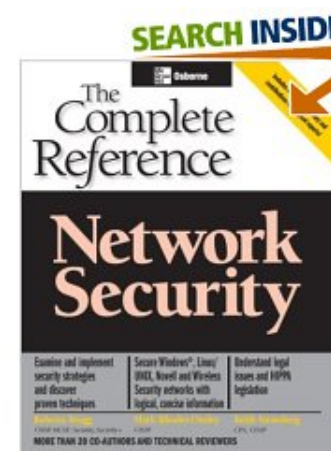
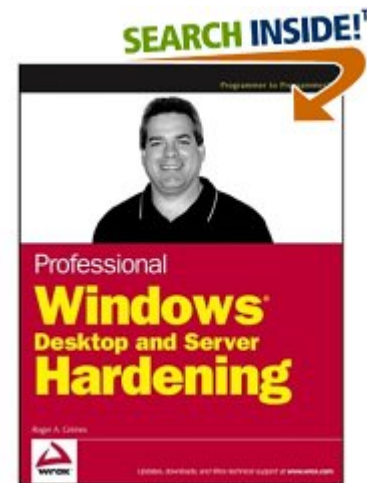
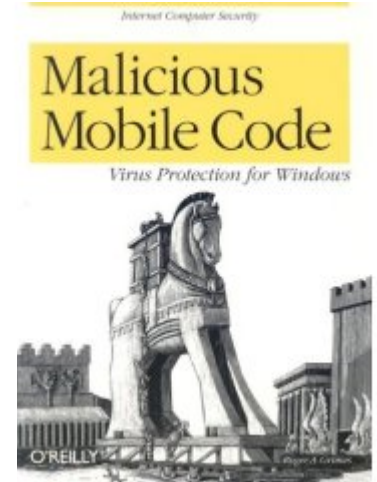
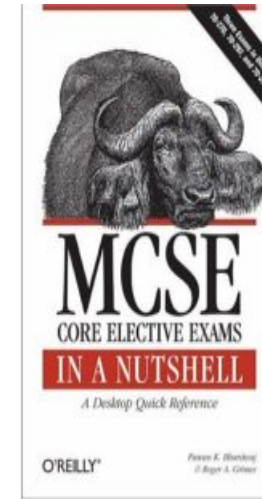
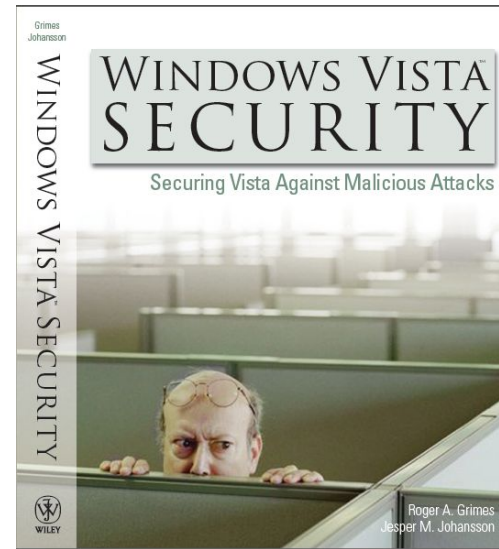
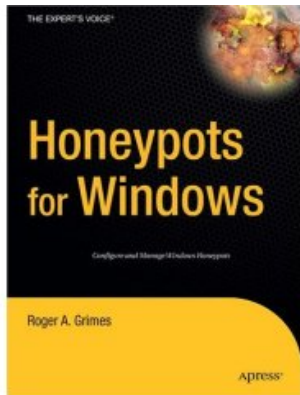
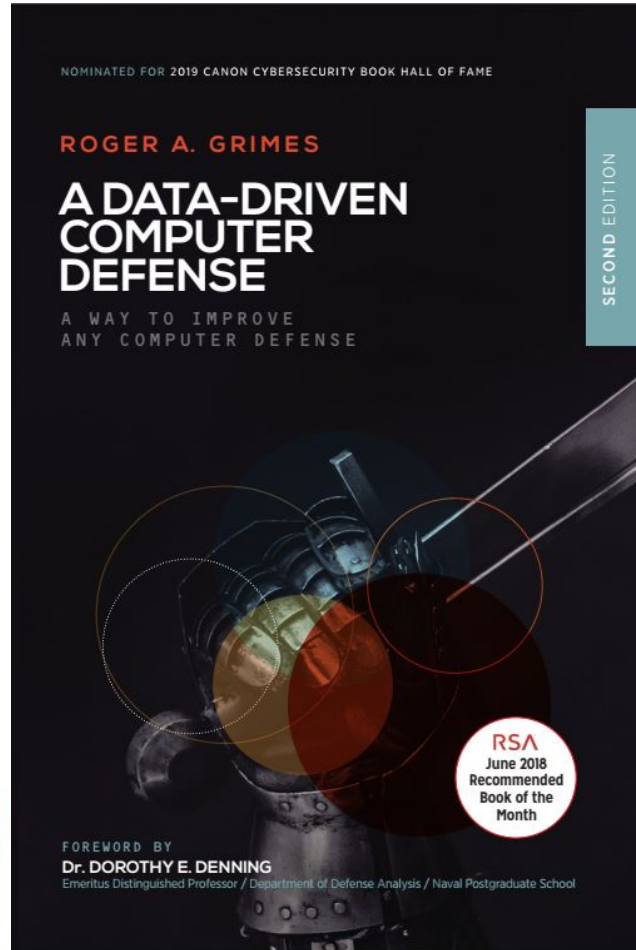
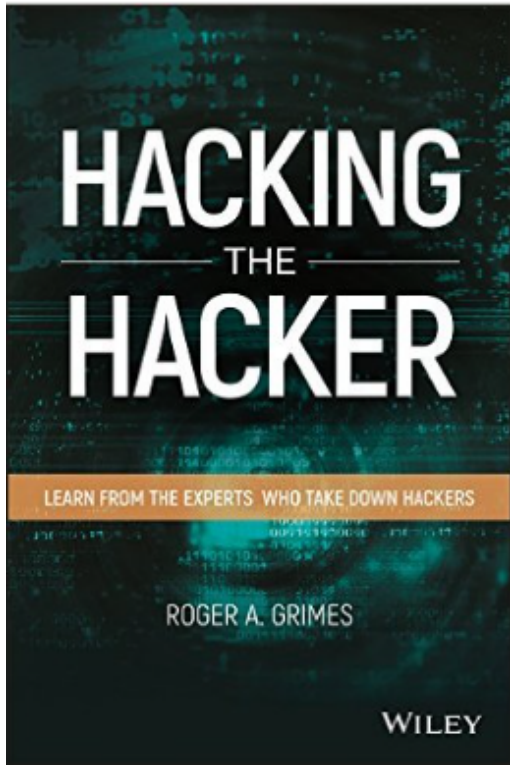


- 30-years plus in computer security
- Expertise in host and network security, IdM, crypto, PKI, APT, honeypot, cloud security
- PKI, smartcards, MFA, biometrics, since 1998
- Consultant to world's largest and smallest companies and militaries for decades
- Previous worked for Foundstone, McAfee, Microsoft
- Written 10 books and over 1000 magazine articles
- InfoWorld and CSO weekly security columnist since 2005
- Frequently interviewed by magazines (e.g. Newsweek) and radio shows (e.g. NPR's All Things Considered)

## **Certifications passed include:**

- CPA
- CISSP
- CISM, CISA
- MCSE: Security, MCP, MVP
- CEH, TISCA, Security+, CHFI
- yada, yada

# Roger's Books



RSA June 2018 Book of the Month  
Harvard Business Review  
2019 Canon Cybersecurity Book Hall of Fame nominee



# What is a Data-Driven Defense Evangelist?

Using data-driven, risk analytics, I want to help companies put:

- The right defenses,
- In the right places,
- In the right amounts,
- Against the right threats

# Today's Presentation

- Multi-Factor Authentication Intro
- Hacking MFA
- Defending Against MFA Attacks



# Multi-Factor Authentication Intro

## Factors

# Introduction to Multi-Factor Authentication

- Something You Know
  - Password, PIN, Connect the Dots, etc.
- Something You Have
  - USB token, smartcard, RFID transmitter, dongle, etc.
- Something You Are
  - Biometrics, fingerprints, retina scan, smell
- Behavioral analytics, actions, location, etc.



# Introduction to Multi-Factor Authentication

## Factors

- Single Factor
- Two Factor (2FA)
- Multi-Factor (MFA)
  - 2-3 factors
- Two or more of the same factor isn't as strong as different types of factors

# Introduction to Multi-Factor Authentication

## Main MFA Types

Implementation in:

- **“In-Band”**
  - Factor sent/validated using same channel as your authentication access check/app
- **“Out-of-Band”**
  - Factor sent/validated using separate communication channel



# Introduction to Multi-Factor Authentication

## Auth vs. Auth

### 1-way vs. 2-way

Authentication can be:

- **One-way**
  - server-only or client-only
  - Most common type
  - Vast majority of web sites use one-way authentication, where server has to prove its identity to client before client will conduct business with it
- **Two-way (mutual)**
  - Both server and client must authenticate to each other
  - Not as common, but more secure
  - Two-way may use different auth methods and/or factors for each side

# Introduction to Multi-Factor Authentication

## Factors

- All things considered, MFA is usually better than 1FA
- We all should strive to use MFA wherever it makes sense and then whenever possible
- But MFA isn't unhackable

First, we need to understand some basic concepts to better understand hacking MFA

# Introduction to Multi-Factor Authentication

## Auth vs. Auth

- **Identifier/Identity**
  - Unique label within a common namespace
    - indicates a specific account/subject/user/device/group/service/daemon, etc.
- **Authentication**
  - Process of providing one or more factors that only the subject knows, thus proving ownership and control of the identity
- **Authorization**
  - Process of comparing the now authenticated subject's **access (token)** against previously permissioned/secured resources to determine subject access



# Introduction to Multi-Factor Authentication

## Auth vs. Auth

### Hugely Important Point to Understand

- No matter how I authenticate (e.g. one-factor, multi-Factor, biometrics, etc.), rarely does the authorization use the same authentication token
  - They are completely different processes, often not linked at all to each other
  - Many MFA hacks are based on this delineation

### For example

- Even if I authenticate to Microsoft Windows using biometrics or a smartcard, after I successfully authenticate, an LM, NTLM, or Kerberos token is used for authorization/access control
- No matter how I authenticate to a web site, the authorization token is likely to be a text-based cookie (e.g. session token)

# Hacking MFA

# MFA Hacks

## Main Hacking Methods

- **Social Engineering**
  - **Technical Attack** against underlying technology
  - **Physical** (biometric theft, etc.)
- 
- Some of the attacks involve two or all methods
  - Often insecure transitioning between linked steps (e.g. identity, authentication, and authorization)

Some MFA solutions are better than others, but there is no such thing as “unhackable”

General

# MFA Hacks

## Three Major Session Hijacking Methods

Session hijacking can be accomplished using a variety of different methods, including session token:

- Reproduction/Guessing
  - Often through prediction of the session's unique identifier
- Theft of session access token at the end-point
- Theft of session access token in the network communication channel

## Session Hijacking



## MFA Hacks

### Network Session Hijacking

- Usually requires Man-in-the-Middle (MitM) attacker
- Attacker puts themselves inside of the communication stream between legitimate sender and receiver
- Doesn't usually care about authentication that much
- Just wants to steal resulting, legitimate access session token after successful authentication
- On web sites, session tokens are usually represented by a "cookie" (a simple text file containing information unique for the user/device and that unique session)
- Session token usually just good for session

# MFA Hacks

## Network Session Hijacking

### Session Hijacking Proxy Theft

Use Rogue Proxy/Server to:

- Replay and Steal Credentials
- Steal Session Cookie

# MFA Hacks

## Network Session Hijacking

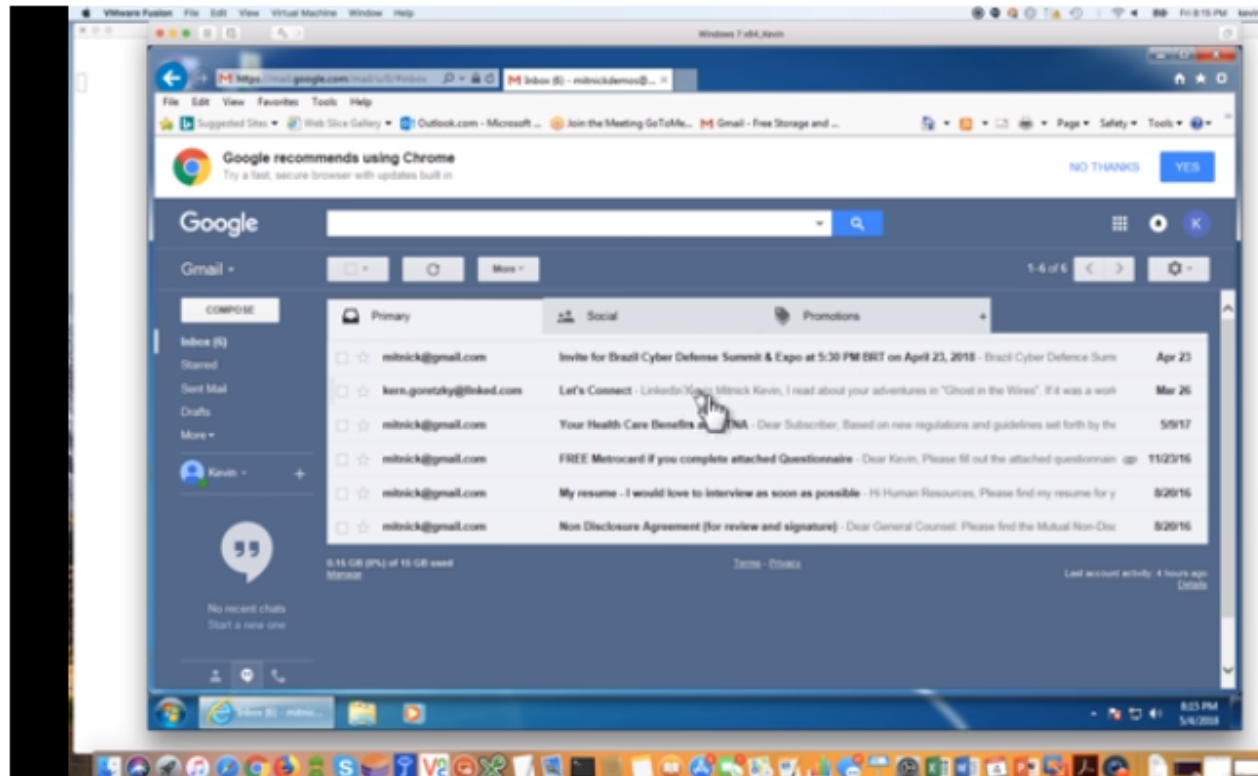
### Network Session Hijacking Proxy Theft

1. Bad guy convinces person to visit rogue (usually name-alike) web site, which proxies input to real web site
2. Prompts user to put in MFA credentials
3. User puts in credentials, which bad guy relays to real web site
4. Bad guy logs into real site, and drops legitimate user
5. Takes control over user's account
6. Changes anything user could use to take back control

# MFA Hacks

## Kevin Mitnick Hack Demo

### Network Session Hijacking



<https://blog.knowbe4.com/heads-up-new-exploit-hacks-linkedin-2-factor-auth.-see-this-kevin-mitnick-video>



# MFA Hacks

## Network Session Hijacking

### Kevin Mitnick Hack Demo

1. Kevin set up fake look-alike/sound-alike web site that was really an evil proxy
  2. Tricked user into visiting evil proxy web site
  3. User typed in credentials, which proxy, now pretending to be the legitimate customer, presented to legitimate web site
  4. Legitimate web site sent back legitimate session token, which Kevin then stole and replayed to take over user's session
- Kevin used Evilginx (<https://breakdev.org/evilginx-advanced-phishing-with-two-factor-authentication-bypass/>)
  - One example hack out of the dozens, if not hundreds of ways to do session hijacking, even if MFA is involved

# MFA Hacks

## Real-World Example

### Is Google To Blame For The Binance Exchange API “Hack”?

March 12, 2018 by Paul Costas — Leave a Comment

This is a follow up to the article on the **Binance exchange API “hack”** based on what we now know.

Binance was quick to stress their exchange was **not hacked**, but to be honest, you would expect that to be their first reaction, to prevent a meltdown. I use the term “hack” as a very general term for any **nefarious computer activities**, which on this occasion appears to be a **very elaborate phishing scam**.

It appears that the **fake Binance site that stole the login credentials** also hacked the 2FA security. The **fake site requested 2FA via the Google Authenticator**, and then, during the 60-second timeout for this security feature, it surreptitiously logged into the real Binance site and activated API control on the affected account.

# MFA Hacks

## Real-World Example

### Network Session Hijacking



<https://newsroom.mastercard.com/2018/01/17/dispelling-the-myths-the-reality-about-contactless-security-2>

# MFA Hacks

## Man-in-the-Endpoint Attacks

If endpoint gets compromised, MFA isn't going to help you

- Attacker can just do everything they want that the user is allowed to do after successful authentication
- Start a second hidden browser session
- Directly steal session cookies
- Insert backdoors
- Invalidate protection all together

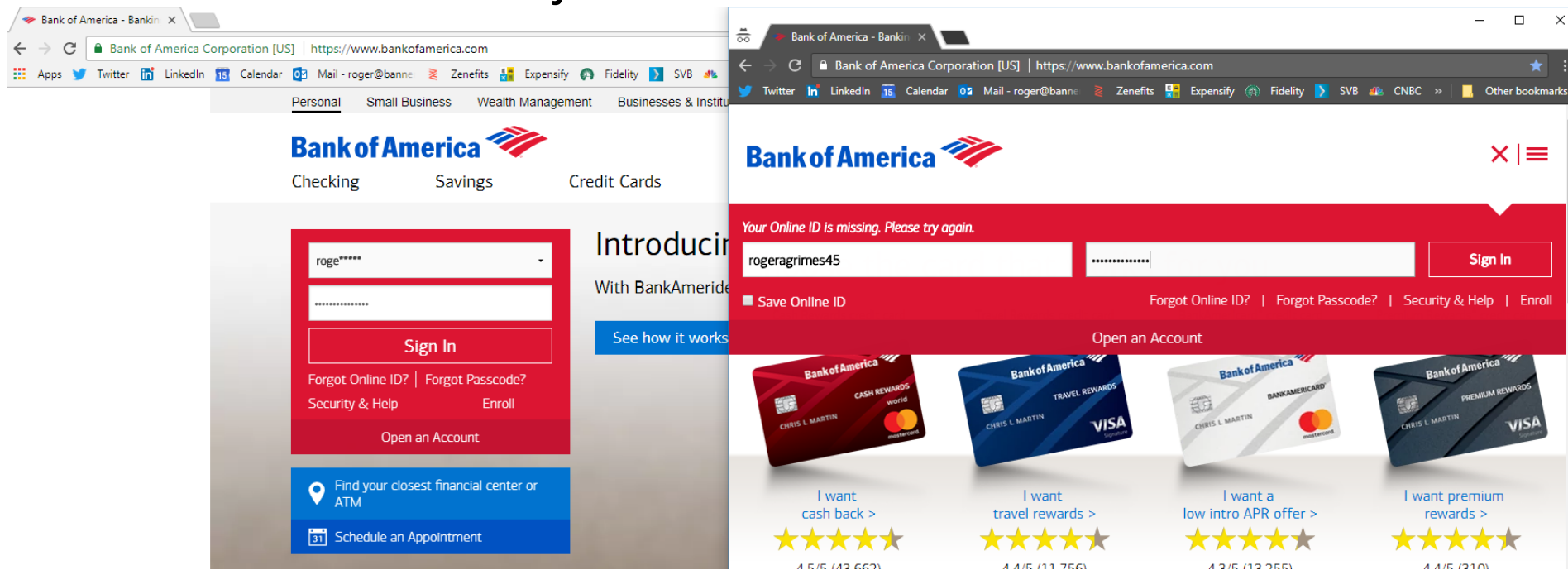
## Endpoint Attacks



# MFA Hacks

## Man-in-the-Endpoint Attacks

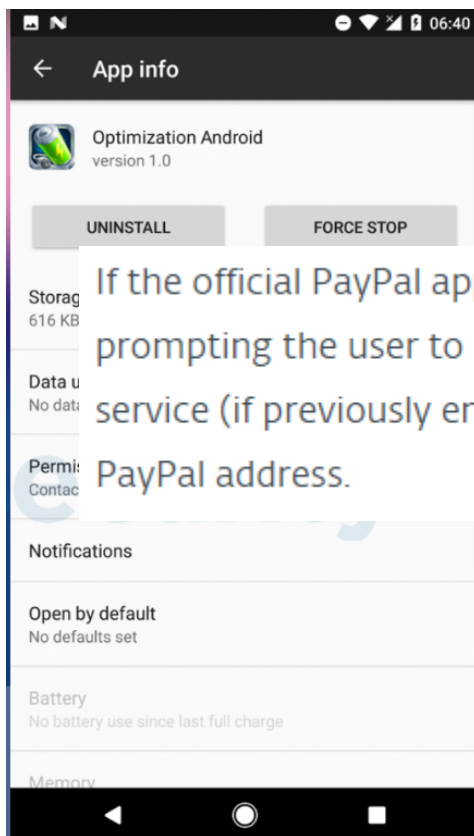
- Start up a second session that the user isn't even aware
  - Ex. Bancos trojans



# MFA Hacks

## Man-in-the-Endpoint Attacks

- Start up a second session that the user isn't even aware



If the official PayPal app is installed on the compromised device, the malware displays a notification alert prompting the user to launch it. Once the user opens the PayPal app and logs in, the malicious accessibility service (if previously enabled by the user) steps in and mimics the user's clicks to send money to the attacker's PayPal address.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yn04eLoivX8>

Endpoint  
Attacks

# MFA Hacks

## Subject Hijack

- Every MFA token or product is uniquely tied to a subject that is supposed to be using the MFA device/software
- If the hacker can take over the subject's identity within the same namespace, they may be able to reuse the stolen identity with another MFA token/software
- And system will allow a completely unrelated MFA token/software to authenticate and track the fake user as the real user across the system
- Examples:
  - Email hijacking
  - Active Directory/smartcard identity hijacking

# MFA Hacks

## Subject Hijack Example Summary

### Example Attack – Microsoft Smartcard Identity Hijack Scenario Summary

Active Directory integrated smartcards are linked to UPNs

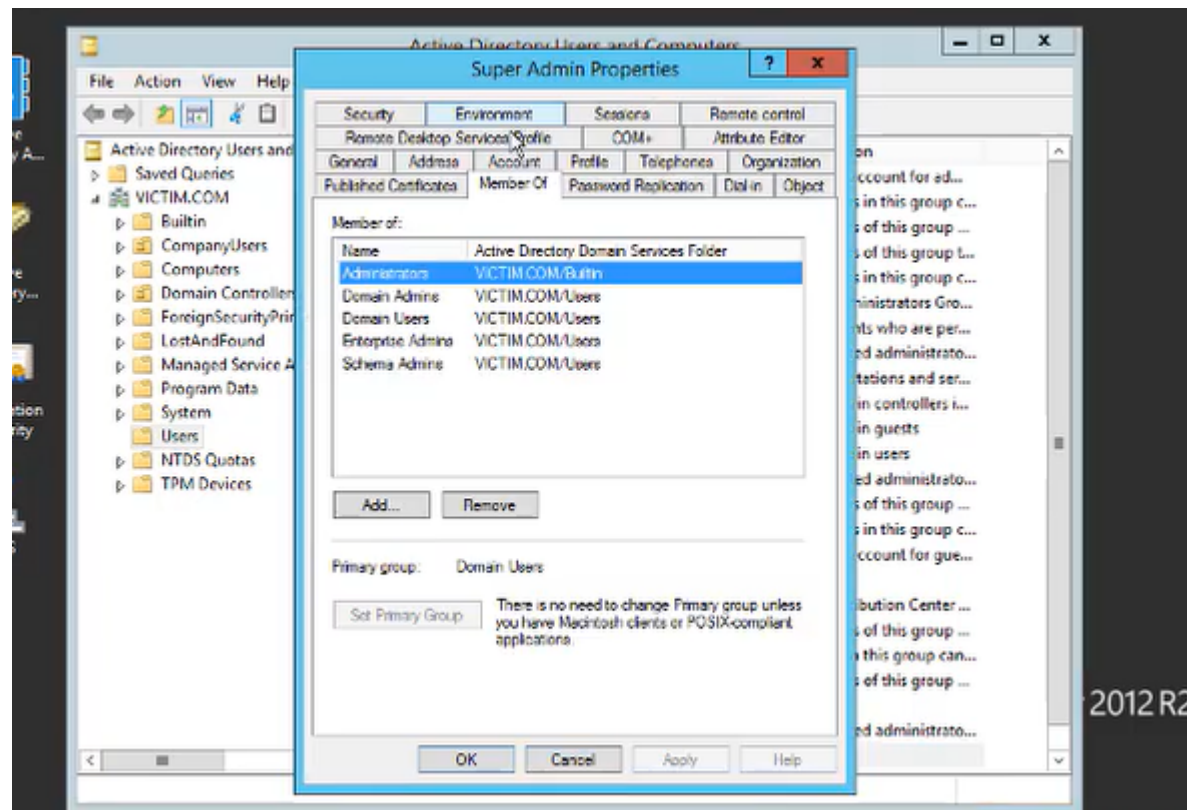
1. Low-privileged HelpDesk admin switches UPNs with SuperAdmin
2. HelpDesk admin logs in using their own HelpDesk smartcard and PIN
3. Viola! HelpDesk admin becomes SuperAdmin, including all group memberships
4. HelpDesk performs malicious actions
5. System tracks all actions as SuperAdmin
6. When HelpDesk is finished, they logout, and switch UPNs back. No one knows the difference

**Does your log mgmt. system track and alert on UPN updates?**

# MFA Hacks

## Subject Hijack Example Demo Video

### Example Attack – Microsoft Smartcard Identity Hijacking



<https://youtu.be/OLQ3IAMuokI>



# Subject Hacks

## Subject Hijack

### Defenses

- Realize that any critical attribute (like subject) involved with authentication can be abused
- Review and least privilege permissions on critical attributes
  - For example, UPN in AD allow to change is given to: Enterprise Admins, Domain Admins, Administrators, System, and anyone with Full Control, Write, or Write Public-Information in AD
- Audit and alert on critical attribute changes
- Use MFA systems with 1:1 mappings

# MFA Hacks

## SIM Swapping



### SIM Basics

- SIM stands for **S**ubscriber **I**dentify **M**odule
- SIM storage contains the cell phone vendors network's information, device ID, and the subscriber's (user/owner) phone number and other info, plus can store app data
- Traditionally was stored on micro-SD card
- Today, often stored and moved digitally
- An activated phone with your SIM info will act as your phone, accept and receive phone calls and SMS messages

# MFA Hacks

- Many MFA methods included sending additional authentication code via a user's cell phone short message service (SMS)

## SMS-based MFA

Your ID Experts MyIDCare  
Verification Passcode is 113497.  
This code will expire in 15 minutes.

From Marriott: To authorize your  
Rewards transaction, enter 003452.  
If you did not request this message,  
please contact Guest Services at  
[\(801\) 468-4000](tel:8014684000).

Your Bank of America SafePass  
code is "575085". This code will  
expire in 10 minutes. Please do not  
reply to this message.

4/22/18 11:00 AM

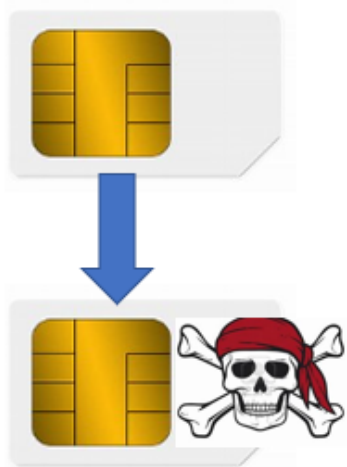
871610  
Use this code for Microsoft  
verification

Use 802912 to log into Facebook.

Your Bank of America SafePass  
code is "425217". This code will  
expire in 10 minutes. Please do not  
reply to this message.

# MFA Hacks

## SIM Swapping Attacks



- In a SIM swapping attack, the attacker transfers the victim's SIM information to another phone, allowing the attacker to get the any sent codes used by SMS-based MFA solutions
  - Old phone “silently” stops working
- Usually done by hack social engineering cell phone vendor's support techs; or using a compromised insider
- Often is done using cell phone network logon information the attacker has previously phished out of the victim using another precursor phishing attack
- Some mobile phone trojans steal SIM information
- NIST (in SP 800-63) does not accept SMS codes as valid authentication because of how easy it is to hack

# MFA Hacks

## SIM Swapping Attacks

- Has been successfully used in many of the world's biggest personal attacks

### Smartphone Crypto Hack: The \$24 Million AT&T 'Sim Swapping' Mistake

#### 07 Florida Man Arrested in SIM Swap Conspiracy

AUG 18

Police in Florida have arrested a 25-year-old man accused of being part of a multi-state cyber fraud ring that hijacked mobile phone numbers in online attacks that siphoned hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies from victims.

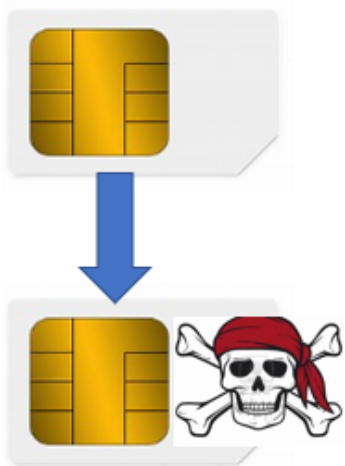
#### 'TELL YOUR DAD TO GIVE US BITCOIN:' How a Hacker Allegedly Stole Millions by Hijacking Phone Numbers

California authorities say a 20-year-old college student hijacked more than 40 phone numbers and stole \$5 million, including some from cryptocurrency investors at a blockchain conference Consensus.

#### 01 Reddit Breach Highlights Limits of SMS-Based Authentication

AUG 18

This Binance User's Account With \$50k In Crypto Was Hacked Through A SIM Swap



# MFA Hacks

## SIM Swapping

### SIM Swapping Attack (con't)

- Defense: Use non-SMS-based apps
  - App travels with authenticated user, not phone number or SIM
  - Can't be as easily transferred by 3<sup>rd</sup> party without your knowledge or participation
  - Not perfect, but stops easy SIM-swapping attacks



# Rogue Recoveries

## Hacking Into Your Email Using Recovery Methods

### SMS Rogue Recovery

#### SMS Rogue Recovery Hack

- There is an inherent problem in that SMS message origination cannot be easily authenticated within SMS itself
- Anyone can claim to be anyone

To pull off hacker must have:

- You email address and associated phone number

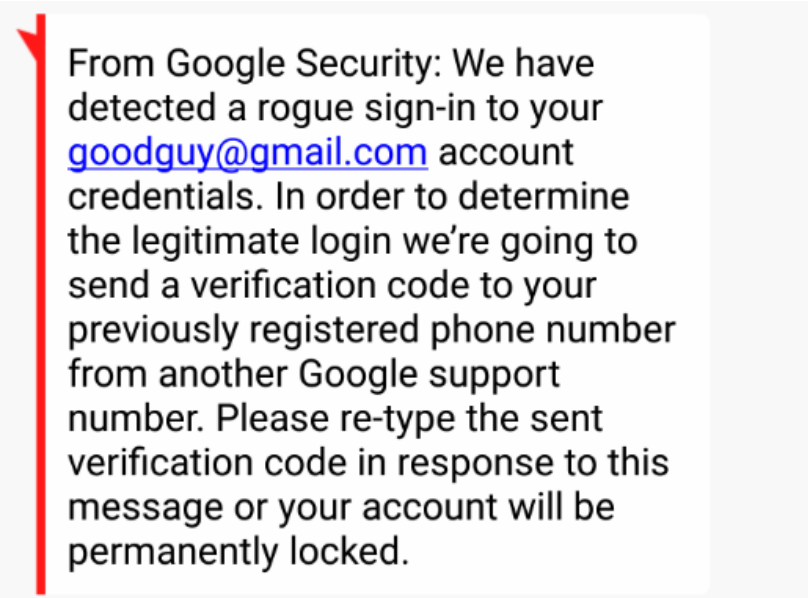
# Rogue Recoveries

## SMS Rogue Recovery

### Hacking Into Your Email Using Recovery Methods

#### Steps

1. Hacker sends you a text pretending to be from your email provider asking for your forthcoming SMS PIN reset code



From Google Security: We have detected a rogue sign-in to your [goodguy@gmail.com](mailto:goodguy@gmail.com) account credentials. In order to determine the legitimate login we're going to send a verification code to your previously registered phone number from another Google support number. Please re-type the sent verification code in response to this message or your account will be permanently locked.

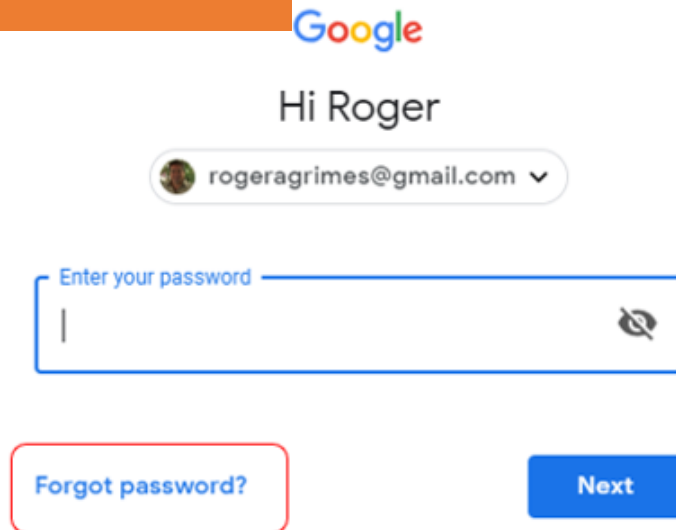
# Rogue Recoveries

## Hacking Into Your Email Using Recovery Methods

Steps

2. Hacker forces your email account into SMS PIN recovery

SMS  
Rogue  
Recovery



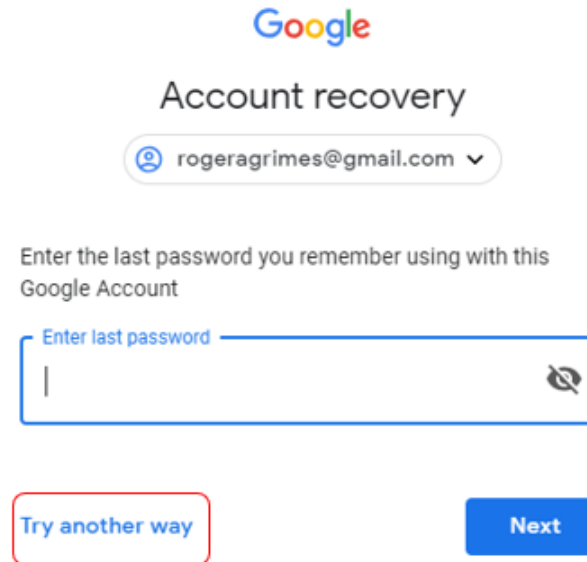
Google

Hi Roger

rogeragrimes@gmail.com

Enter your password

Forgot password? Next



Google

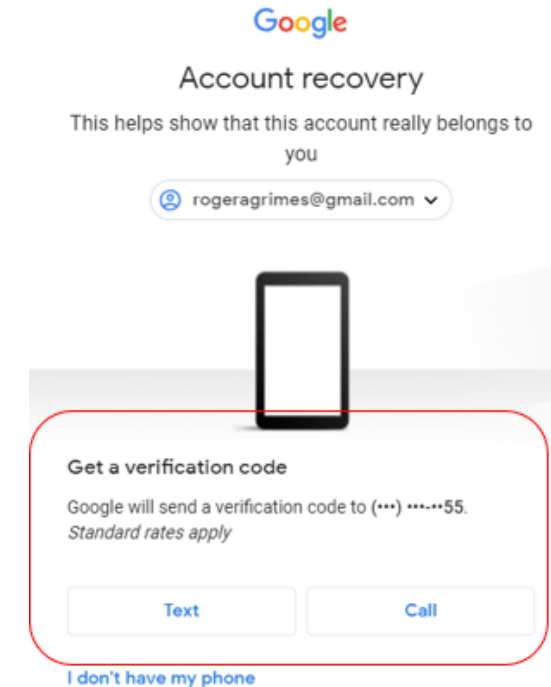
Account recovery

rogeragrimes@gmail.com

Enter the last password you remember using with this Google Account

Enter last password

Try another way Next



Google

Account recovery

This helps show that this account really belongs to you

rogeragrimes@gmail.com

Get a verification code

Google will send a verification code to (...) .....55. Standard rates apply

Text Call

I don't have my phone

# Rogue Recoveries

## SMS Rogue Recovery

### Hacking Into Your Email Using Recovery Methods

#### Steps

3. You get text from vendor with your reset code, which you then send to other number

Your Google verification code is [954327](#)

From Google Security: We have detected a rogue sign-in to your [goodguy@gmail.com](mailto:goodguy@gmail.com) account credentials. In order to determine the legitimate login we're going to send a verification code to your previously registered phone number from another Google support number. Please re-type the sent verification code in response to this message or your account will be permanently locked.

[954327](#)

Sent

# Rogue Recoveries

## SMS Rogue Recovery

### Hacking Into Your Email Using Recovery Methods

#### Steps

4. Hacker uses your SMS PIN code to login to your email account and take it over

Note: To be fair, Google has some of the best recovery options of any email provider, including that it can send a non-SMS message to your phone before the hacker can even get to the SMS code screen to get Google to send an SMS message

# Rogue Recoveries

## SMS Rogue Recovery

### Defenses

- Be aware of rogue recovery messages
- Recognize when SMS recovery PINs should be typed into browsers, not (usually) back into SMS
- Use MFA when possible
- Try to avoid alternate email-based recovery methods
- Try to avoid SMS-based recovery based methods
- Try to minimize public posting of phone numbers related to your recovery account methods



## MFA Hacks

### Social Engineer Tech Support

- There have been many real-world instances where the user had MFA to a particular web site or service, maybe even required that it be used;
- And hackers socially engineered tech support into disabling it and resetting password, using other information they had learned
- Hackers like to use “stressor” events to achieve their goals
- Humans just want to help, and will bypass policy and controls to do so

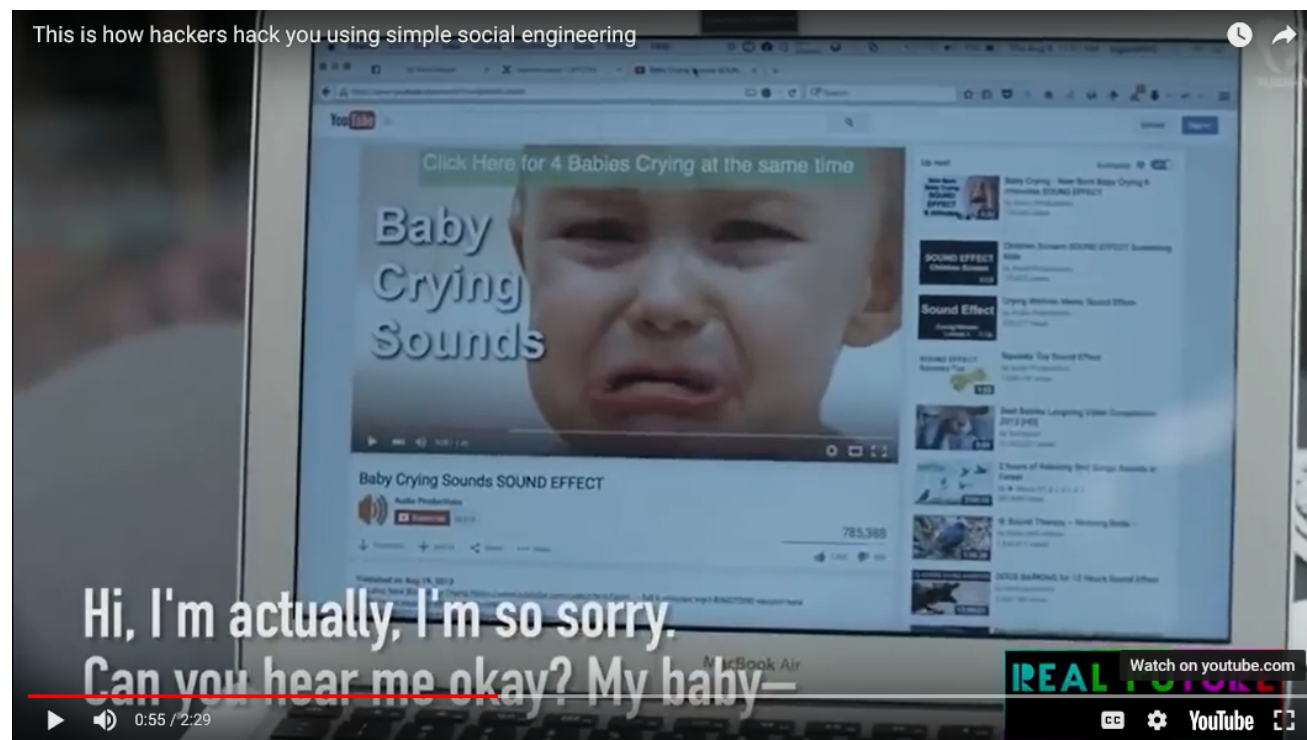
# MFA Hacks

## Social Engineer Tech Support

### Great Example

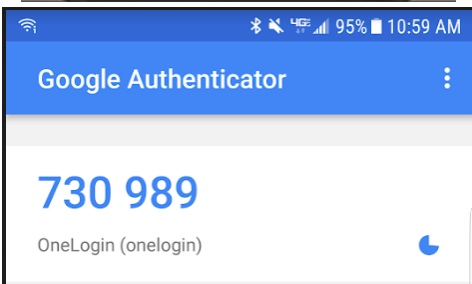
Check out the “Crying baby” social engineering live demo video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lc7scxvKQOo>



# MFA Hacks

## Duplicate Code Generator

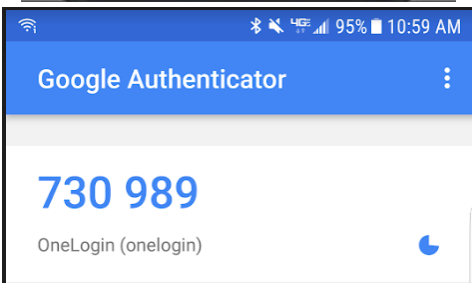


- Most MFA code-generating tokens start with a (randomly) generated (permanently) stored “seed” or “shared secret” value, which is then incremented by some sort of counter/algorithm which generates all subsequent values
  - Known as **one-time passwords** (OTP)
  - “Will never be repeated again”
- Unique user/device identifier usually involved
- May also use current time/date to “randomly” generated code good only for a particular time interval
  - Known as **time-based one-time passwords** (TOTP)

# MFA Hacks

- Shared secret will always be present in at least two places (e.g. source database/verifier and device itself)
- Attackers that learn seed/shared secret and algorithm can generate duplicate/identical code generators that match the victim's code generator

## Duplicate Code Generator

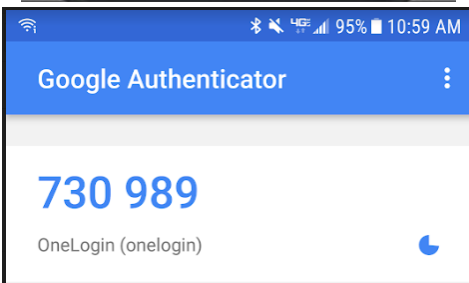


Real-Life Example: Chinese APT, RSA, and Lockheed Martin attack

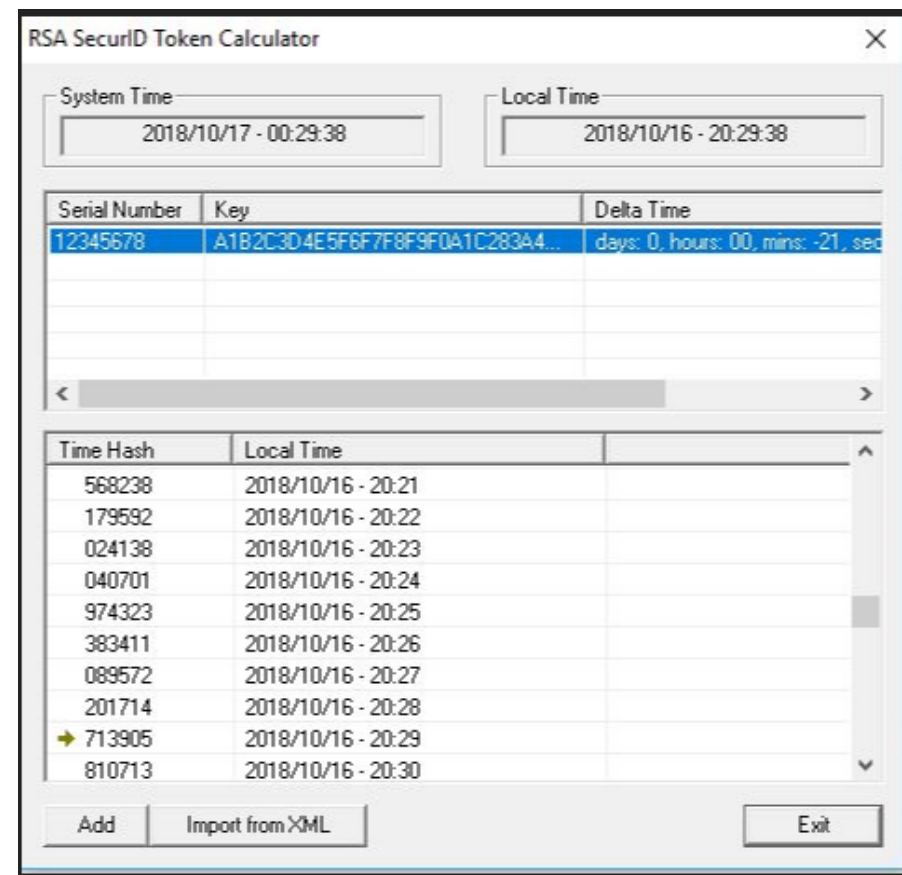
# MFA Hacks

- Shared secret will always be present in at least two places (e.g. source database/verifier and device itself)
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## Duplicate Code Generator



Taken from Cain & Abel hacking tool





## MFA Hacks

### Not Required/ Downgrade Attacks

- If you still have a 1FA solution for a site or service, and it can still be used, then it's like you don't really have MFA
- Many sites and services that allow MFA, don't require it
- If your MFA comes with a non-MFA "master key" or code, then that code can be stolen
- Which means attacker can use non-MFA credential to access
- May allow both more secure and less secure MFA methods, but you likely can't force only one method



# MFA Hacks

## Not Required/ Recovery Attacks

- ALL logon recovery methods are far less secure than MFA
- Can bypass many MFA requirements by answering much less secure password reset answers
- Attackers can spoof your registered recovery phone number and automatically be authenticate to some services/voicemail systems

Account recovery options

If you forget your password or cannot access your account, we will use this information to help you get back in.

Recovery email	roger@██████████	>
Recovery phone	(████) ████████	>

Microsoft account

## Security code

Please use the following security code for the Microsoft account [ro\\*\\*\\*\\*\\*@hotmail.com](#).

Security code: **0152772**

If you don't recognize the Microsoft account [ro\\*\\*\\*\\*\\*@hotmail.com](#), you can [click here](#) to remove your email address from that account.

Thanks,  
The Microsoft account team

# MFA Hacks

## Not Required/ Recovery Questions

The worst recovery method on the planet is password recovery questions

- Usually REQUIRED by many web sites, you can't create a new account without them

### Your Security Questions

Question:

Answer:

Repeat Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Repeat Answer:

Question:

Answer:  Special characters, such as / and -, are not allowed

Repeat Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Repeat Answer:

# MFA Hacks

## Not Required/ Recovery Questions

Problem: Answers can often be easily guessed by hackers

- Great Google paper called *Secrets, Lies, and Account Recovery: Lessons from the Use of Personal Knowledge Questions at Google*
  - <http://www.a51.nl/sites/default/files/pdf/43783.pdf>
  - For example, some recovery questions can be guessed on first try 20% of the time
  - 40% of people were unable to successfully recall their own recovery answers
  - 16% of answers could be found in person's social media profile
- Attack has been involved in many well known attacks (e.g. Sarah Palin's compromised email)

# MFA Hacks

Solution: Never answer the questions with the real answers!

Question:

Answer:

Repeat Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Repeat Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Repeat Answer:

Unfortunate that means you have to record them somewhere else just like passwords (password managers help with this)

Not  
Required/  
Recovery  
Questions

## MFA Hacks

### Reuse Stolen Biometrics



- If your biometric identity is stolen, how do you stop a bad guy from re-using it?
- Once stolen, it's compromised for your life
- You can change a password or smartcard, you can't easily change your retina scan or fingerprint
- Known as non-repudiation attack in the crypto world
- Attacker might even steal your biometric attribute (e.g. finger/hand) to reuse
- But more likely to steal in digital form and replay

Example: June 2015 OPM attack stole biometrics of 5.6 million people

# MFA Hacks

## Hijacking Shared Auth & APIs

- It's very possible for shared authentication schemes, like oAuth, to have session tokens stolen and reused
- When you successfully authenticate to one web site that supports integrate auth, you are essentially allowing hacker into any other web site that supports the same integrated auth method for your identity
- So even if the next web site requires MFA, the integrated auth will usually seamlessly authenticate the person, bypassing the MFA, using the previous shared master session token
- Has been used by many APT attacks in the past
  - <https://www.securityweek.com/google-tightens-oauth-rules-combat-phishing>



# MFA Hacks

## Brute Force

- If the MFA auth screen doesn't include account lockouts for x number of bad attempts, hackers can brute force their way into it
- Happens all the time

**Takashi (kamikaze)** Reputation: 338, Rank: -, Signal: 1.63 (73rd Percentile), Impact: 10.36 (76th Percentile)

**#121696 Bypass two-factor authentication** State: Resolved (Closed) Severity: No Rating (---)

Disclosed publicly: November 18, 2017 7:00am -0500

Reported To: Slack

Weakness: Improper Authentication - Generic

Bounty: \$500

**TIMELINE**

**kamikaze** submitted a report to **Slack**. Mar 9th (2 years ago)

If a user set 2FA, a user has to enter verification code when a user tries to reset password.

Under the "Password Reset" page, a user can enter wrong two-factor authentication code many times. I said "many times" because your bug bounty policy stated...

Exclusions

Issues found through automated testing

So, I may not be allowed to brute force in order to check how many times a user can enter wrong 2FA codes. I didn't use any automated tools and didn't brute force for my testing.

I tested that I could still reset my password after I entered wrong 2FA codes 20 times manually. It seems that a user can brute force 2FA codes.

-----step to reproduce-----

1. A user sends a password reset message to user's registered email.
2. Go to "Password Reset" page from #1's message.
3. Set a new password and Brute force two-factor auth code

## CVE-2018-11082: UAA MFA doesn't prevent brute force of MFA code

#202425

Two-factor authentication bypass on Grab Android App

# MFA Hacks

- Bugs are bugs, some bypass MFA

## After ignoring for months, Uber fixes two-factor bypass bug after all

"There is no need for a novelty 2FA if it doesn't actually serve a purpose."



By Zack Whittaker for Zero Day | January 21, 2018 -- 14:26 GMT (06:26 PST) | Topic: Security

### Bypass Code | Duo Security

<https://duo.com/product/trusted-users/two-factor-authentication/.../bypass-codes> ▼

The use of **bypass** codes is one of many **two-factor authentication** methods that Duo supports to ensure Trusted Users, part of a complete Trusted Access ...

### How to Bypass PayPal Two Factor Authentication - Ivanti

<https://www.ivanti.com/blog/bypass-paypal-two-factor-authentication/> ▼

Mar 8, 2018 - That's the concern raised by security researchers who uncovered a method of **bypassing** PayPal's **two-factor authentication (2FA)**, the ...

### Breaking Apple iCloud: Reset Password and Bypass Two-Factor ...

<https://blog.elcomsoft.com/.../breaking-apple-icloud-reset-password-and-bypass-two-f-...> ▼

Nov 28, 2017 - Who am I to tell you to use **two-factor authentication** on all accounts that support it? This recommendation coming from someone whose ...

### How to Bypass Two-Factor Authentication - One Step at a Time - Black ...

<https://www.blackhillsinfosec.com/bypass-two-factor-authentication-one-step-time/> ▼

Feb 21, 2017 - How to **Bypass Two-Factor Authentication** - One Step at a Time ... as you might have guessed, a time-sensitive token provided by **2FA**.

### Bypass 2FA, account lock and change password on staging.login.gov ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkWRjKhrGWM>

Nov 14, 2017 - Uploaded by Mustafa Kemal Can

Bypass **2FA**, **bypass** account lock and change password on staging.login.gov You can read more details on ...



3:17

# Buggy MFA

# MFA Hacks



## 2017 ROCA vulnerability

- Sometimes a single bug impacts hundreds of millions of otherwise unrelated MFA devices
- Huge bug making any MFA product (smartcards, TPM chips, Yubikeys, etc.) with Infineon-generated RSA key lengths of 2048 or smaller (which is most of them), easy to extract the PRIVATE key from public key.
- Still tens to hundreds of millions of devices impacted

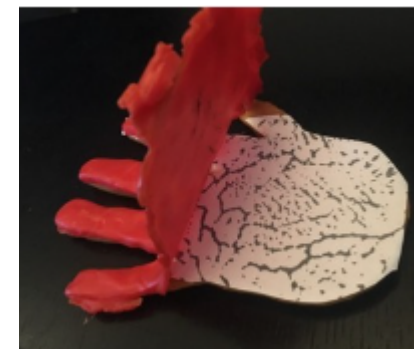
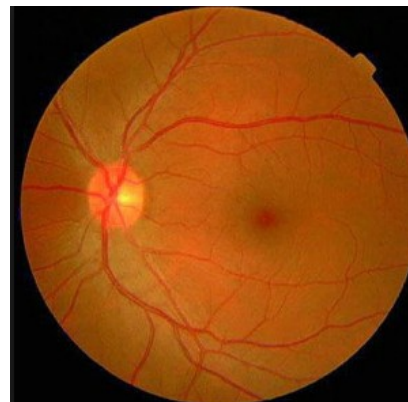
Buggy MFA

# MFA Hacks

## Physical Attacks

### Biometric

- Fake fingerprints, fake faces, etc.
  - Biometric vendors try to prevent fakes, but hackers just get around around
- Stolen and replayed

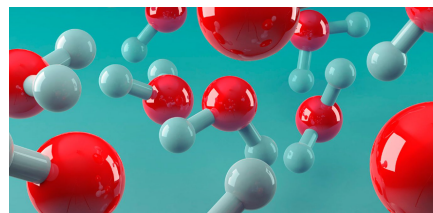


# MFA Hacks

## Physical Attacks

### TPM Attacks

- Electron microscope can find private key on TPM chips



- Regular, computer cleaning canned air can be used to “freeze” regular RAM memory chips, so that private keys can be extracted
- Bypasses all disk encryption products



# Defending Against MFA Attacks



# Defending Against MFA Attacks

## Defenses

### Social Defenses

- Education – for admins and end-users
- Realize nothing is unhackable
- Include MFA hacking awareness into your security awareness training
  - Share this slide deck with co-workers and mgmt.
- Don't get tricked into clicking on rogue links
- Block rogue links as much as possible
- Make sure URL is legitimate

# Defending Against MFA Attacks

## Technical Defenses

- Enable REQUIRED MFA whenever possible
- Don't use SMS-based MFA whenever possible
- Use "1:1" MFA solutions, which require client-side to be pre-registered with server
- Use/require 2-way, mutual, authentication whenever possible
  - Ex. FIDO U2F's Channel or Token Binding
- Does your MFA solution specifically fight session token theft and/or malicious replays (i.e. replay resistant)
- Can your MFA vendor's support help be socially engineered?
- Make sure MFA vendors use secure development lifecycle (SDL) in their programming
- Make sure MFA has "bad attempt throttling" or "account lockout" enabled

Defenses

# Defending Against MFA Attacks

## Technical Defenses (con't)

- Spread factors across different “channels” or “bands” (in-band/out-band)
- Protect and audit identity attributes used by MFA for unique identification of MFA logons
- Don't answer password reset questions using the honest answers.
- Encourage and use sites and services to use dynamic authentication, where additional factors are requested for higher risk circumstances
- Understand the risks of “shared secret” systems
- For transaction-based authentication, need to send user all critical details out-of-band before confirmation is transmitted/required

Defenses

## Key Takeaways

- MFA isn't unhackable
- MFA does not prevent phishing or social engineering from being successful
- MFA is good. Everyone should use it when they can, but it isn't unbreakable
- If you use or consider going to MFA, security awareness training has still got to be a big part of your overall security defense

## Lessons

# For More Information

Read  
More

- Applied Cryptography Group
  - <https://crypto.stanford.edu/>
- Quest to Replace Passwords whitepaper
  - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/QuestToReplacePasswords.pdf>
- Joseph Bonneau
  - <http://jbonneau.com/>
- NIST Digital Identity Guides
  - <https://pages.nist.gov/800-63-3/>
- Check to see if a web site supports MFA
  - <https://twofactorauth.org/>
- FIDO Alliance
  - <https://fidoalliance.org/>

# Resources

## Free IT Security Tools



Domain Doppelgänger



Awareness Program Builder



Domain Spoof Tool



Mailserver Security Assessment



Phish Alert



Ransomware Simulator



Weak Password Test



Phishing Security Test



Second Chance



Email Exposure Check Pro



Training Preview

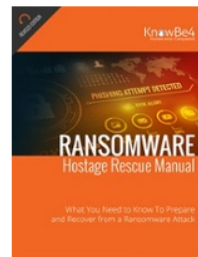


Breached Password Test



### 12+ Ways to Hack Two-Factor

All multi-factor authentication (MFA) mechanisms can know how to defend against MFA hacks? This whitepa those attacks.



### Ransomware Hostage Rescue Manual

Get the most complete Ransomware Manual packed with actionable info that you need to have to prevent infections, and what to do when you are hit with ransomware.

## Whitepapers



### CEO Fraud Prevention Manual

CEO fraud is responsible for over \$3 billion in losses. Don't be next. The CEO Fraud Prevention Manual provides a thorough overview of how executives are compromised, how to prevent such an attack and what to do if you become a victim.

» Learn More at [www.KnowBe4.com/Resources](http://www.KnowBe4.com/Resources) «



# Questions?

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