





# My App is My Password!

#### Huiping Sun, Ke Wang, Xu Li, Nan Qin, Zhong Chen



**Peking University** 

## Backgrounds

- Graphical Password
  - \* more applicable on mobile devices than text passwords
  - \* vulnerable to shoulder surfing attacks
  - \* most existing graphical password schemes require users to actively memorize passwords



Graphical passwords based on existing memory

- Authentication based on existing memory
  - \* weak passwords
  - \* security questions
  - \* dynamic security questions
  - \* autobiographical authentication

### **PassApp Concept**

# PassApp is a novel recognition-based graphical password which utilizes users' installed apps on their mobile devices as passwords



## **PassApp Mechanisms**

key : decoy = 1:3, same category, similar rankings, etc

install a new app: add this app to key app library, add 3 decoy apps to the decoy app library

uninstall an app: delete this app from key app lib and move it into a blacklist, remove corresponding decoy apps from the decoy app library.

rule out the apps preinstalled by device and OS manufactures



## **User Study**

#### Day I

User Study 1: How well can users correctly recognize the apps they have installed?



#### Day 2

#### User Study 2: How well can PassApp perform on usability?



42 participants

## unlock I 0 times 42 \*10

Login Time Success Rate

#### Memory about Installed Apps



 $P(precision) = \frac{\sum picked \ installed \ apps}{\sum all \ apps \ picked}$ 

$$R(recall) = \frac{\sum picked installed apps}{\sum all installed apps}$$

#### Login Time and Success Rate

Scheme	PassApp	Cognitive Auth [35]	Convex Hull Click [37]	Déjà vu [14]	Passfaces [10]	UYI [23]
Login Time	7s (5s-10s)	90-180s	72s	32-36s	14-88s	12-26s
Success Rate	>95%	>95%	90%	90-100%	72-100%	89-100%



## **Security Analysis**



#### Session I: Guessing Attacks

#### know nothing about the victims

#### Session 2: Acquaintance Attacks #1

Observe: 10seconds/screen; break: 3 minutes; 5 login attempts

#### Session 3: Acquaintance Attacks #2

Observe: 10seconds/screen; break: 3 minutes; 5 login attempts

#### Session 4: Acquaintance Attacks #3

Observe: 10seconds/screen; break: 3 minutes; 5 login attempts

8 victims X 10 attackers X 5 login attempts = 400 attempts (each session)

Session	1	2	3	4
Successful Logins	3	68	127	186
Percentage	0.75%	17.00%	31.75%	46.50%

0.055% (theoretical)

## **Limitations of PassApp**

- Key app selection
  - \* popular apps, communication apps
- Decoy app selection
  - \* app market, device manufacture, OS, language, etc
- Login time (challenge)

## Conclusion

- PassApp is the first graphical password that utilizes user's existing memory about installed apps as passwords
  - \* without a password registration stage
  - \* no extra memory burden
- PassApp performs better on login time and success rate than most graphical passwords
  - \* reasonable login time: 7.27s (6.51s when OK button is removed)
  - \* high success rate: >95%
- PassApp has sufficient security against common attacks
  - \* brute-force attacks (0.055%) and dictionary attacks (0.75%)
  - \* shoulder surfing attacks: average 30 times
  - \* acquaintance attacks: to some extent, it can withstand such attacks



Download PassApp for Android: <a href="sunhp.org/passapp/passapp.apk">sunhp.org/passapp/passapp.apk</a> or scan the QR Code and Download

- Web: <u>sunhp.org/passapp</u>
- Email: pass\_app@yahoo.com



Information Security Lab of Peking University