



# Router Hacking

## CHCon 2018





# Router Hacking





# \$ whoami

- Ben [zante]  @zantedotnz
- Security Consultant @ Insomnia Security
- Previously, Digital Forensic Analyst @ NZ Police
- Interested in hacking embedded devices. Pulling flash chips off. Finding crazy command injection bugs.





# Motivation

- Huawei HG659 for iptables access to redirect DNS for US Netflix goodness
- Find vulnerabilities in current generation routers
- Learn about hardware hacking





# Huawei HG659

- Well researched, decrypt/encrypt the configuration backup XML to enable telnet and recover root password

```
<X_ServiceManage TelnetEnable="1" TelnetPort="23" KeyEquipMode="0" ConsoleEnable="1" CircleTestDevice="" CircleTestResult=""/>
```

- Original research: <https://hg658c.wordpress.com>





# New Research

- Command injection vulnerabilities in three routers:
  - Huawei B618
  - Huawei B315
  - [REDACTED]
- Exploitation requires either web admin or physical access





[REDACTED]? 🙄

- Vendor told their customer the vulnerability had been patched ... it wasn't though, so it's still unpatched
- Interesting bug I really want to share
- Keep an eye on Twitter and I'll post the vulnerability report when I can do so publicly





# Vulnerability Disclosure

- I just want to talk about the bugs but it's more complicated than that
- Give yourself a long lead time if you want to talk about vulnerabilities publicly
- If you're unknown to an organisation, disclose through a trusted third-party
- If you receive vulnerability reports, be kind
- If you send vulnerability reports, be respectful







# Hardware Hacking

- Used to assist with vulnerability discovery
- UART for debug messages
- BOOT PIN for Huawei firmware reflashing without signature verification





# Hardware Hacking

- Chip-Off for firmware dump (encrypted firmware image)
- Huawei B618 uses an non-standard sized BGA flash chip





# Research Methodology

- Remove the casing and review the hardware
- Connect to UART, JTAG and any other debug ports
- Grab the firmware (download or chip-off dump)
- Enable all the services (SMB, DLNA, VPN, etc)
- Look for the low-hanging fruit vulnerabilities
- Functionality that gives you some feedback of success
- Monitor process execution, networking and file system events (strace, fsmon or UART)





# Huawei B618





```
root@p750:/etc/ppp/peers # cat vpn1234
```

```
# written by pptpsetup  
plugin "pptp.so"  
name vpn1234  
pptp_server 10.1.1.1  
file /etc/ppp/options.pptp  
noauth  
nobsdcomp  
nodeflate  
name zante  
plugin /online/firmware1.bin
```

← new line injection





# Exploitation Steps

1. Ensure WAN interface is active
2. Inject a new line into the PPTP VPN config to load a plugin
3. Compile a plugin to load
4. Upload plugin to spawn an ADB shell

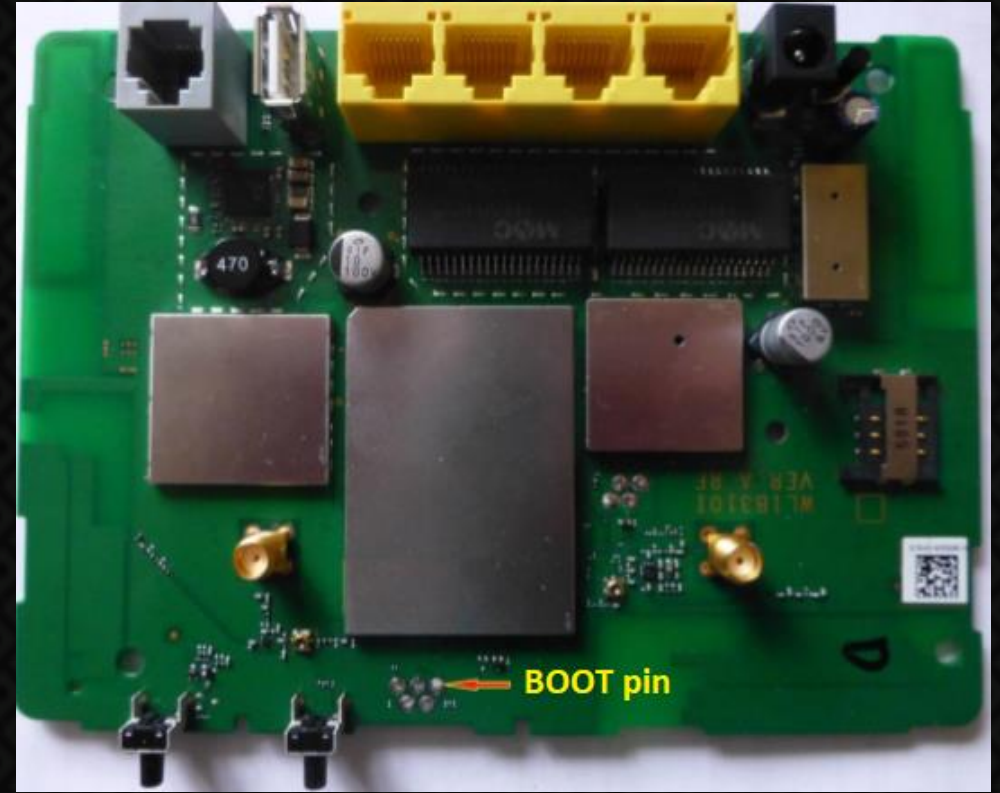
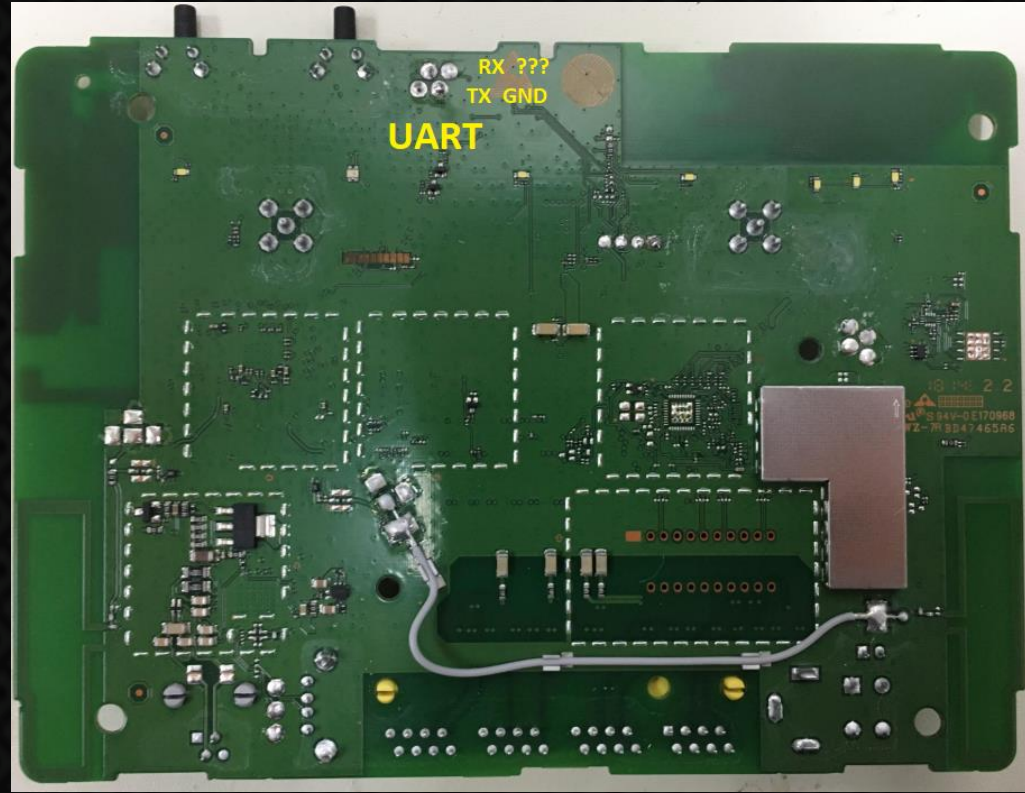


A man with short brown hair and glasses is sitting at a desk in a dimly lit room, focused on typing on a keyboard. He is wearing a dark, long-sleeved shirt. On the desk in front of him is a computer monitor, a bowl of food, and a silver funnel. The background is dark and out of focus, showing some indistinct shapes and colors. The overall atmosphere is quiet and concentrated.

**./demo.sh**



# Huawei B315







# root@router:/var/samba# cat smb.conf

```
[global]
```

```
workgroup = WORKGROUP  
netbios name = huawei.com  
server string = samba server
```

```
...
```

```
dfree command = /var/hax.sh ← 2 - execute shell script
```

```
[hax]
```

```
path = /mnt/sdcard/%m/%m/var ← 1 - directory path traversal
```

```
valid users = hax  
writeable = yes  
printable = no
```





# Exploitation Steps

1. Create a new SMB share
2. Inject the %m variable into the path
3. Connect to the share with a NETBIOS name of “..”
4. Edit smb.conf to run adbd





# HACK THE PLANET[1]

[1]demo



:q



**HACK THE  
PLANET**

