

Ten thousand security pitfalls: The ZIP file format.

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@ Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt, 2018



About your presenter



(among other things)

All opinions expressed during this presentation are mine and mine alone, and not those of my barber, my accountant or my employer.

What's on the menu

1. What's ZIP used for again?
2. What can be stored in a ZIP?
 - a. Also, file names
3. ZIP format 101 and format repair
4. Legacy ZIP encryption
5. ZIP format and multiple personalities
6. ZIP encryption and CRC32
7. Miscellaneous, i.e. all the things not mentioned so far.

Or actually, hacking a "secure cloud disk" website.

Also featuring:
Steganography
y

EDITORIAL NOTE

Everything in this color is a quote from the official ZIP specification by PKWARE Inc.

The specification is commonly known as
APPNOTE.TXT

<https://pkware.cachefly.net/webdocs/casestudies/APPNOTE.TXT>

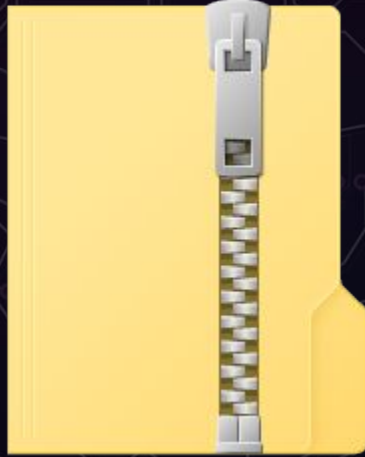


Cyber Secure CloudDisk



Where is ZIP used?

.zip files, obviously



Default ZIP file icon from
Microsoft Windows 10's Explorer

And also...



.odt, .odp, .ods, ...
(OpenDocument)

Open Packaging Conventions:

.3mf, .dwfx, .cddx, .familyx,
.fdix, .appv, .semblio, .vsix,
.vsdx, .appx, .appxbundle, .cspkg,
.xps, .nupkg, .oxps, .jtx, .slx, .smpk,
.scdoc,

and Office Open XML formats:

.docx, .pptx, .xlsx

And also...

.jar
(Java Archive)

.war
(Web application archive)

.rar (not THAT .rar)
(resource adapter archive)

.ear
(enterprise archive)

.sar
(service archive)

.par
(Plan Archive)

.kar
(Karaf ARchive)

And also...

.apk
(Android Application
Package)



Icon from Android SDK

.epub
(Electronic Publication)



calibre

And also... (script to scan drives)

```
import os
import sys

IGNORE_LIST = {
    ".zip", ".docx", ".odt", ".epub", ".jar", ".xlsx",
    ".pyz",
    ".pptx", ".odp",
}

def process_file(fname):
    try:
        with open(fname, "rb") as f:
            d = f.read(4)
    except WindowsError:
        return False # No access probably, don't care.
    except IOError:
        return False # No access probably, don't care.
    if d.startswith("PK\3\4"):
        return True
    return False

def scan_dir(path):
    try:
        entries = os.listdir(path)
    except WindowsError:
        return # No access probably, don't care.
    for fname in entries:
        name, ext = os.path.splitext(fname)
```

```
        if ext.lower() in IGNORE_LIST:
            continue

        if ext == '':
            ext = '_'

        full_path = path + "\\" + fname

        if os.path.isfile(full_path):
            ret = process_file(full_path)

            if not ret:
                continue

            print "%s: %s" % (ext, full_path)

            with open("scan_res/%s" % ext, "a") as f:
                f.write("%s\n" % full_path)
            continue

        if os.path.isdir(full_path):
            scan_dir(full_path)
            continue

if len(sys.argv) != 2:
    sys.exit("usage: scan_disk.py <start_dir>")

scan_dir(sys.argv[1])
```

And also...



.whl
(Python Wheels)

.egg
(Python Egg)

zipimport

.npz
(Python NumPy)



And also...



(backup-*.apkg)

Camtasia®

(.cmmbtn, .cmmtpl, .libzip)



(*.hashdb)



(*.fla, *.swc)



(avrdbg/bundles/*.bndl)

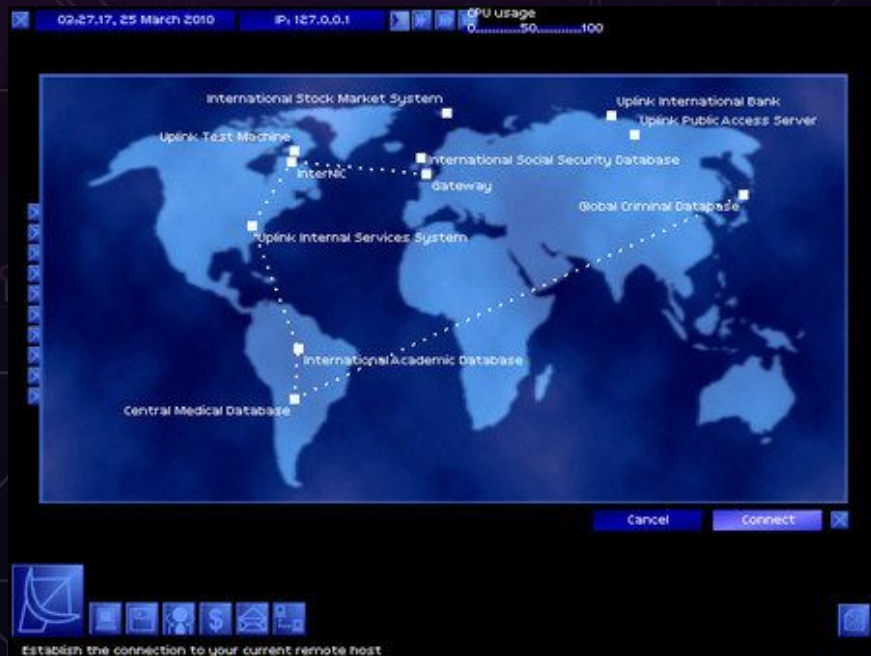


(*.btapp, *.lng)

And also...



Quake 3 (*.pkg)



Uplink (*.dat files)

And also...



Torment (*.ttn savegame files)



Pillars of Eternity (*.savegame)

And also...

- .aar (Axis Archive / Android Archive Library)
- .appx (Microsoft General MIDI DLS)
- .bau (OpenOffice's... something?)
- .cache (Microsoft extension*. *.cache?)
- .dat (Intel VTune Amplifier resources)
- .dpk (YAMAHA... something?)
- .dsf (DeDe Symbol Files)
- .eftx (Microsoft Office Document Themes Effects)
- .fcstd (KiCad 3D shapes)
- .hdf, .ise (now really sure, sth hardware related)
- .htb (wx wxHTML help format)

And also...

- .jisp (Psi icon set)
- .little (Thunderbird/Firefox startup cache)
- .lsz (LiteStep themes/configuration)
- .mshc (Microsoft Help Container File)
- .mwb (MySQL Workbench Model)
- .nupkg (NuGet packages for .NET)
- .ora (OpenRaster, used e.g. by MyPaint)
- .otp (OpenOffice templates)
- .otx (OpenOffice dictionary)
- .pez (Prezi Presentation)
- .phar (PHP application package)

And also...

- .raz, .saz (Fiddler request history)
- .rjt (RealPlayer template?)
- .sbsx (PowerPoint shapes)
- .snagacc (SnagIt plugin)
- .sob (OpenOffice something...)
- .sublime-package (Sublime Package, obviously)
- .sxw (SUN XML Writer)
- .thmx (Microsoft Office document themes)
- .vs (RealPlayer UI files?)
- .vsb (AIDA64 sidebar gadget)
- .wmz (Windows Media Player skins)

And also...

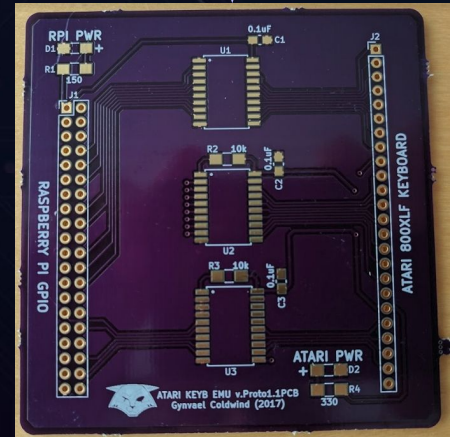
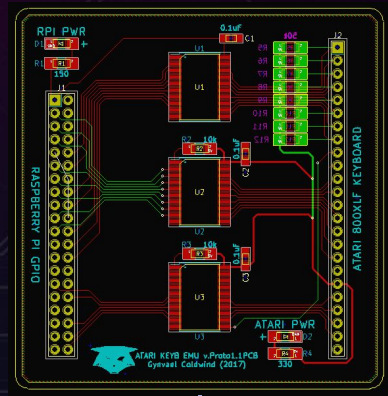
- .wsz (LiteStep themes?)**
- .xmind (xmind documents)**
- .xmt (xmind template)**
- .xpi (Firefox Cross-Platform Installer Module)**
- .xps (XML Paper Specification)**
- .zxp (PalletteApp extension)**

The list is not exhaustive.

Furthermore

It's used when:

- Uploading GERBER files to your PCB manufacturer
 - Or more general: uploading a bundle of files somewhere
 - Or downloading a bundle of files
- Don't forget about combining ZIPs with other file formats, e.g. EXE (SFX)
- And well, sending files to your friends too.





What can a ZIP store?

What can be stored inside a ZIP archive?

Files

Directories

What can be stored inside a ZIP archive?

Files Directories

Technically identical with one minor difference

4.4.15 external file attributes: (4 bytes)

The mapping of the external attributes is host-system dependent (see 'version made by'). For MS-DOS, the low order byte is the **MS-DOS directory attribute byte**. If input came from standard input, this field is set to zero.

What can be stored inside a ZIP archive?

Steganography

Files ^y Directories

Name	Compressed size	Size	Type
abc			File folder

Windows Explorer

Name	Size	Packed ...
abc	0	0

7-zip

```
d:\code\gynvael\zip\abc.zip\*.*
```

Name	Ext	Size
[..]	<DIR>	
[abc]		12

Total Commander

```
zipinfo (InfoZIP)
compressed size: 14 bytes
uncompressed size: 12 bytes
filename: 3 characters
extra field: 0 bytes
file comment: 0 characters
on which file begins: disk 1
file type: text
external file attributes: 000000 hex
MS-DOS file attributes (10 hex): dir
```

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What can be stored inside a ZIP archive?

Files

Directories

Symlinks



Cyber Secure CloudDisk


File names in ZIP

Stored in several locations per entry:

- Local File Header
- Central Directory Header
- Extra: Info-ZIP Unicode Path Extra Field

Which one to use (trust)?

Technically it's possible to create any number of separate Extra entries per file in both LFH and CDH



File names in ZIP

Unreal Commander exploit for bug reported in 2007

```
41 41 41 41 3AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
41 41 41 41 AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
41 41 41 41 AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
41 41 41 41 AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
70 69 33 32 AAAAA/netapi32
B6 27 C9 2D .dll.  mtSU.'.-
80 38 C0 CB U 8
```

```
E 2F 2E 2E ../.../.../.../.../.../...
E 2E 2F 55 /.../.../.../.../.../.../.../.../...
5 72 2F 66 nreal Commander/f
C 6C 50 4B ocia.jpg  32.dllPK
```

nul byte



File names in ZIP

Other problems with names (just enumerating ideas):

- Files with the same name

File names in ZIP

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- lower-upper case (i.e. Windows/Unix)

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- Network Share names (\\127.0.0.1\C\$\...)

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- Very Long file names (not well known?)

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- XSS in the `<script>filename</script>`

Or SQL Injection, in the end the file name is just a text field.

File names in ZIP

Other problems with names (just enumerating ideas):

- Files with the same name
- lower-upper case (i.e. Windows/Unix)
- NTFS ADS :\$data
- Network Share names (\\127.0.0.1\C\$\...)
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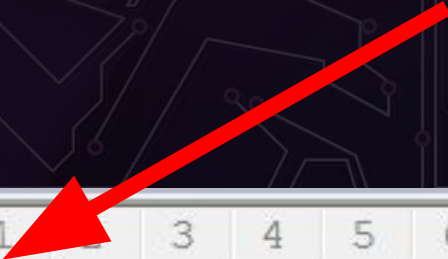
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ZIP Format 101 & Recovering ZIPs

ZIP Magic: PK

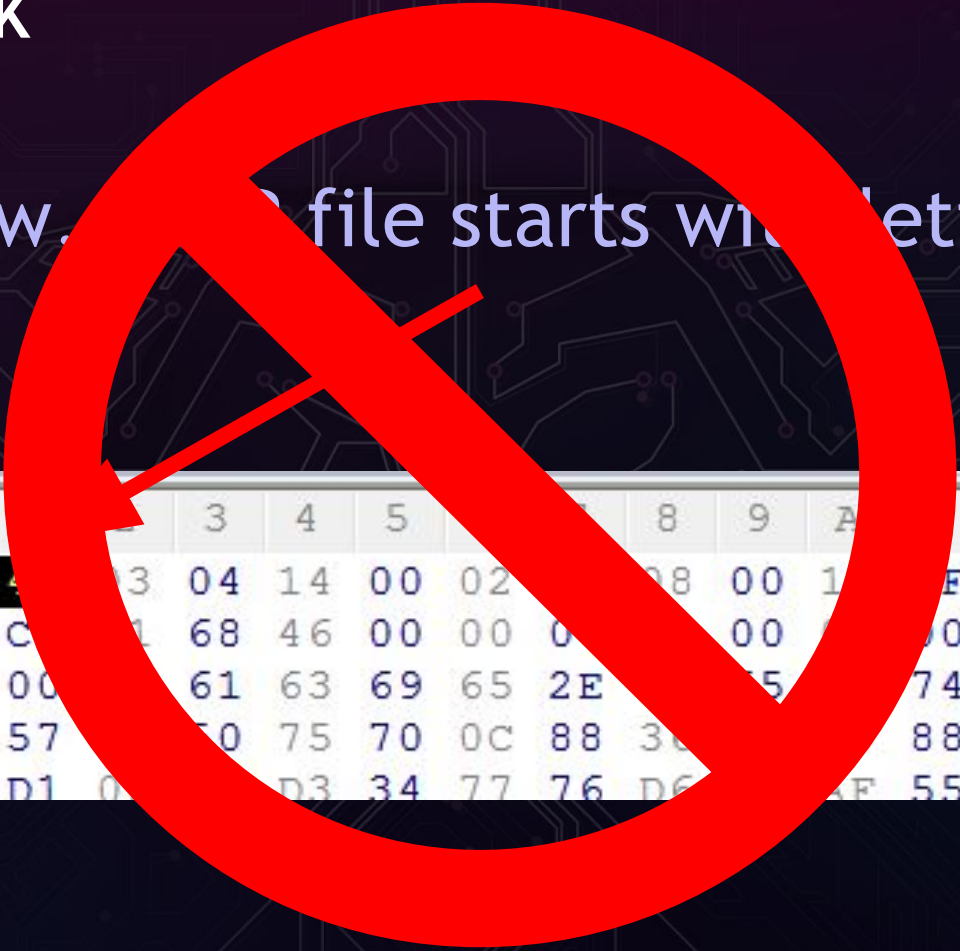
As you know, a ZIP file starts with letters "PK".



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	01234
00000000	50	4B	03	04	14	00	02	00	08	00	15	4F	AA	42	PK...
0000000E	3C	CF	51	68	46	00	00	00	44	00	00	00	0A	00	<.QhF
0000001C	00	00	72	61	63	69	65	2E	74	65	73	74	8B	30	..rac
0000002A	F5	57	0C	50	75	70	0C	88	36	89	09	88	8A	30	.W.Pu
00000038	35	D1	08	88	D3	34	77	76	D6	34	AF	55	71	F5	5.....

ZIP Magic: PK

As you know, a ZIP file starts with letters "PK".



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	01234
00000000	50 4D 5A 4D	13 04	14 00	02 00	08 00	10 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	PK...
0000000E	3C C0	01 00	68 46	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	<.QhF
0000001C	00 00	00 00	61 63	69 65	2E 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	74 8B	30 00	00 00	..rac
0000002A	F5 57	00 00	50 75	70 0C	88 30	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	88 8A	30 00	00 00	.W.Pu
00000038	35 D1	00 00	03 34	77 76	D6 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	00 00	AF 55	71 F5	00 00	5.....

Proper parsing must start from the end

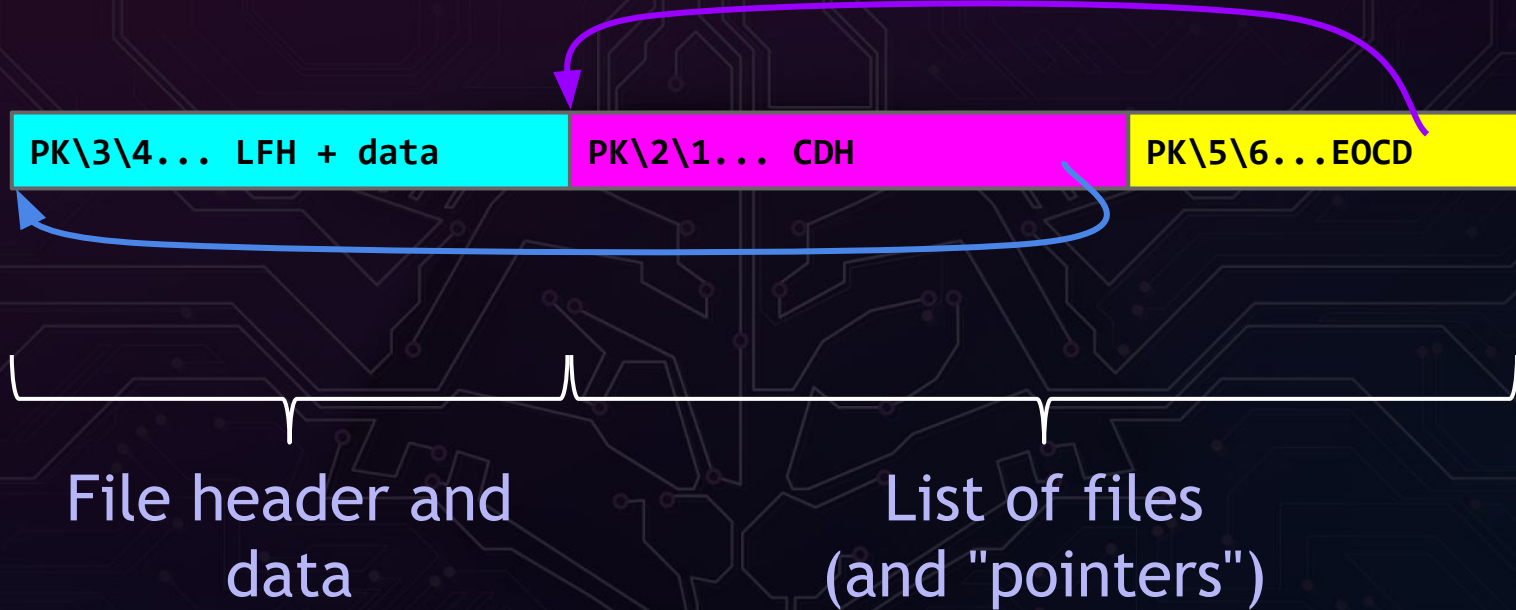
4.3.16 End of central directory record:

22 bytes	end of central dir signature	4 bytes	(0x06054b50)
	[...]		
	total number of entries in the central directory	2 bytes	
	size of the central directory	4 bytes	
	offset of start of central		
	[...]		
	.ZIP file comment length	2 bytes	← \$0000-\$FFFF
.ZIP file comment	<u>(variable size)</u>	0-65535	

In total: from 22 to 65557 bytes

(so, the PK\5\6 sig will be "somewhere" between EOF-65557 do EOF-22)

An overview of a single-file ZIP

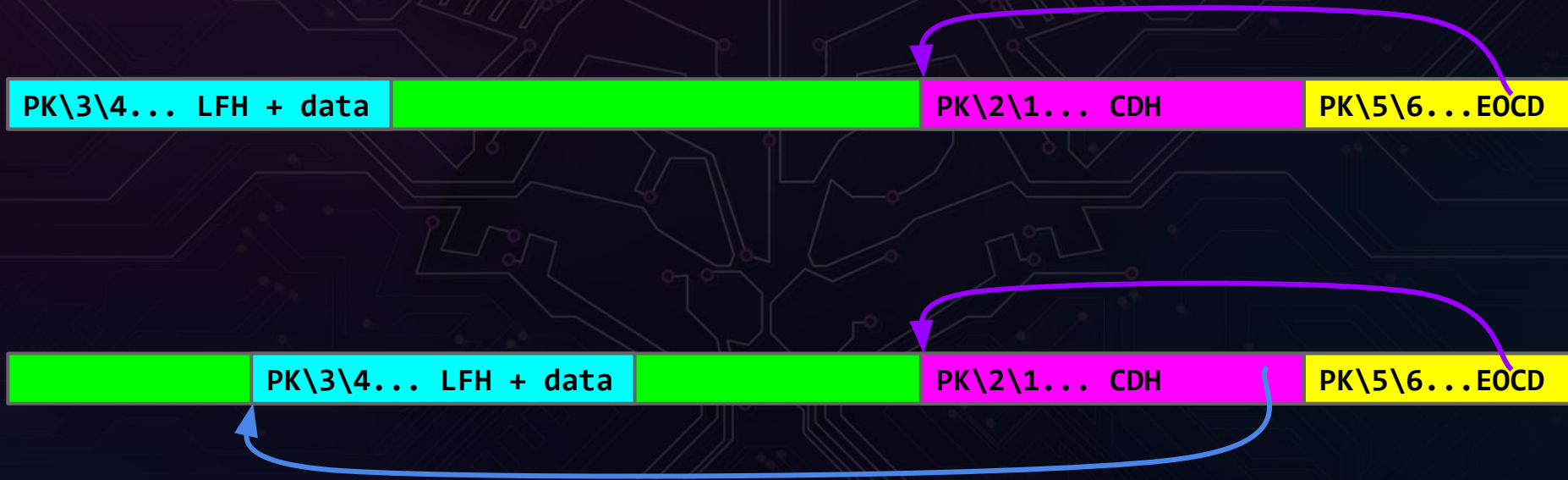


Each file has two "headers":

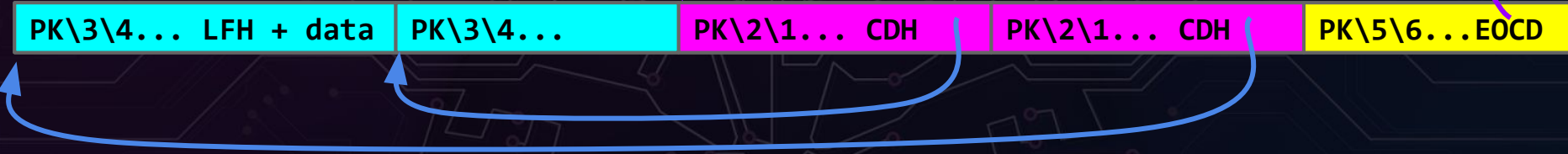
Local one, right next to data - **Local File Header**

And the more verbose entry in the list of files - **Central Directory Header**

Please note that it's a "pointer"-based format



More files in a ZIP



Central Directory Header (CDH)

PK\2\1... CDH

central file header signature	4 bytes	(0x02014b50)
version made by	2 bytes	
version needed to extract	2 bytes	
general purpose bit flag	2 bytes	
compression method	2 bytes	
last mod file time	2 bytes	
last mod file date	2 bytes	
crc-32	4 bytes	
compressed size	4 bytes	
uncompressed size	4 bytes	
file name length	2 bytes	
extra field length	2 bytes	
file comment length	2 bytes	
disk number start	2 bytes	
internal file attributes	2 bytes	
external file attributes	4 bytes	
relative offset of local header	4 bytes	

these are
redundant between
LFH and CDH
(xlsx)

What if more CDHs
point to the same
LFH?

file name (variable size)
extra field (variable size)
file comment (variable size)

PK\3\4... LFH + data

Local File Header (LFH)

PK\3\4... LFH + data


local file header signature	4 bytes	(0x04034b50)
version needed to extract	2 bytes	
general purpose bit flag	2 bytes	
compression method	2 bytes	
last mod file time	2 bytes	
last mod file date	2 bytes	
crc-32	4 bytes	
compressed size	4 bytes	
uncompressed size	4 bytes	
file name length	2 bytes	
extra field length	2 bytes	
file name (variable size)		
extra field (variable size)		
file data (variable size)		

How to repair a ZIP?

- Try some programs like Info-ZIP's `zip -F` and `-FF`
- Manually - copy correct-looking data between LFH and CDH
- There is also the "CTF brute force approach"



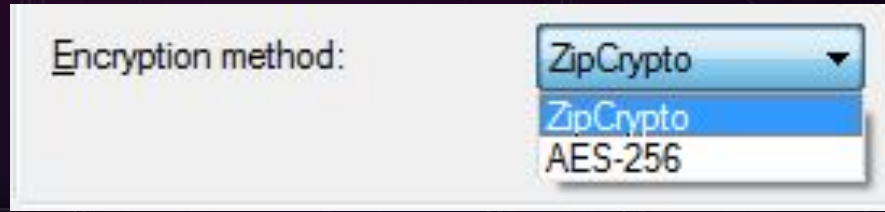
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Legacy ZIP encryption

Legacy ZipCrypto

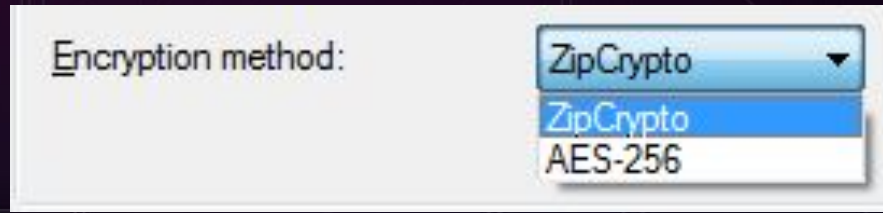
- Still used by some tools by default
- Really good backward compatibility
- Technically a byte-based stream cipher



7-zip

Also other methods may be available (e.g. RC4)

Legacy ZipCrypto



- Still used by some tools by default
- Really good backward compatibility
- Technically a byte-based stream cipher
- A "known plaintext" attack known from 1994
 - With further improvements in 2002

7-zip

Also other methods may be available (e.g. RC4)

Legacy ZipCrypto - papers to read

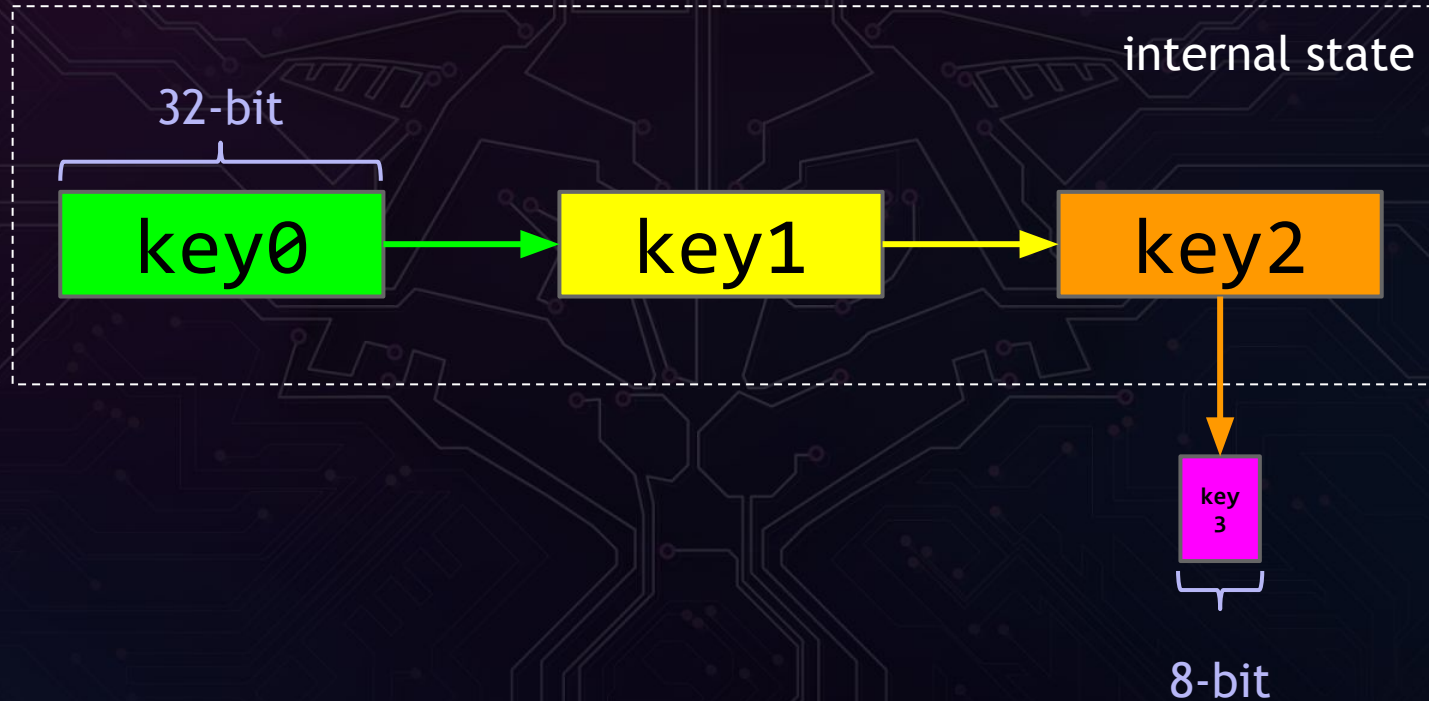
"A Known Plaintext Attack on the PKZIP
Stream Cipher" (1994)

by Eli Biham and Paul C. Kocher

"ZIP Attacks with Reduced Known Plaintext" (2002)

by Michael Stay

Legacy ZipCrypto - a 96-bit byte-oriented stream cipher



Legacy ZipCrypto - updating the key after each byte enc



(from the first paper)

$$\text{key}_0 = \text{crc32}(\text{key}_0, \text{chr})$$

Legacy ZipCrypto - updating the key after each byte enc



(from the first paper)

$$\text{key0} = \text{crc32}(\text{key0}, \text{chr})$$

$$\text{key1} = (\text{key1} + \text{LSB}(\text{key0})) * 134775813 + 1$$

Legacy ZipCrypto - updating the key after each byte enc



(from the first paper)

$$\text{key0} = \text{crc32}(\text{key0}, \text{chr})$$

$$\text{key1} = (\text{key1} + \text{LSB}(\text{key0})) * 134775813 + 1$$

$$\text{key2} = \text{crc32}(\text{key2}, \text{MSB}(\text{key1}))$$

Legacy ZipCrypto - updating the key after each byte enc



(from the first paper)

$$\text{key0} = \text{crc32}(\text{key0}, \text{chr})$$

$$\text{key1} = (\text{key1} + \text{LSB}(\text{key0})) * 134775813 + 1$$

$$\text{key2} = \text{crc32}(\text{key2}, \text{MSB}(\text{key1}))$$

$$\text{temp} = \text{key2} \mid 3 \quad (\text{16 bottom bits})$$

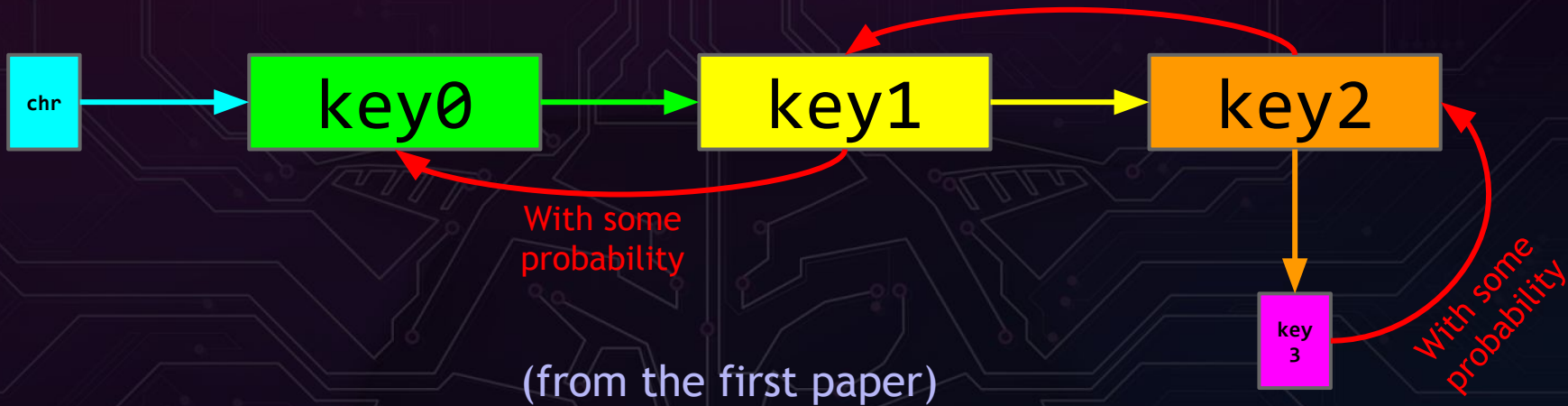
$$\text{key3} = \text{LSB}((\text{temp} * (\text{temp} \wedge 1)) \gg 8)$$

Legacy ZipCrypto - encryption



$$C \leftarrow chr \oplus key3$$

Legacy ZipCrypto - attack (simplified) With some probability



(from the first paper)

$$C \leftarrow chr \oplus key3$$

(if we know plaintext, then...)

$$key3 == C \oplus chr$$

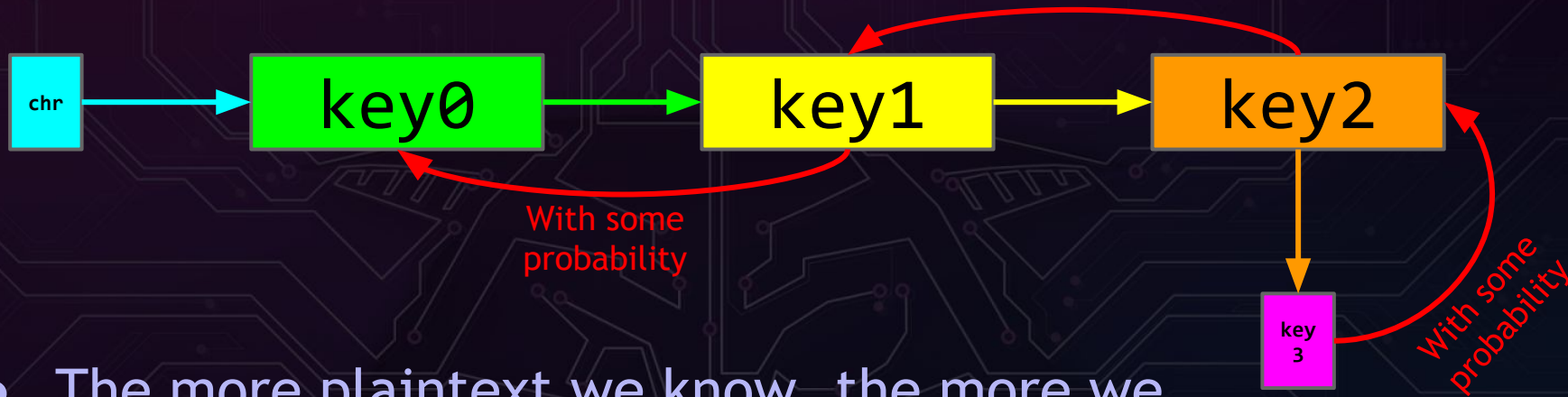
Legacy ZipCrypto - attack (simplified)



key0 - key2 lifecycle:

1. Init with constants (0x12345678, ...)
2. Update with password (discard output, keep state)
3. Update with 12 bytes of "random data"
4. Update with data to encrypt

Legacy ZipCrypto - attack (simplified)



- The more plaintext we know, the more we can reason about the state of key0 - key2.
- If we unroll to initial state (after password & "random" data is fed), we can decrypt everything.
- Bonus: In some cases we can even get the password.

Legacy ZipCrypto - attack (simplified)



Important notes on the attack:

- Minimum of 13 bytes of known compressed plaintext
- "compressed" is the keyword here (different apps generate different output when compressing)
- It takes a few minutes to run

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<https://www.unix-ag.uni-kl.de/~conrad/krypto/pkcrack.html>



ZIP format and multiple personalities

Proper parsing must start from the end

Let's look
at this slide
again

4.3.16 End of central directory record:

22 bytes

end of central dir signature 4 bytes (0x06054b50)

[...]

total number of entries in
the central directory 2 bytes

size of the central directory 4 bytes

offset of start of central

[...]

.ZIP file comment length 2 bytes

.ZIP file comment (variable size)

\$0000-\$FFFF
0-65535

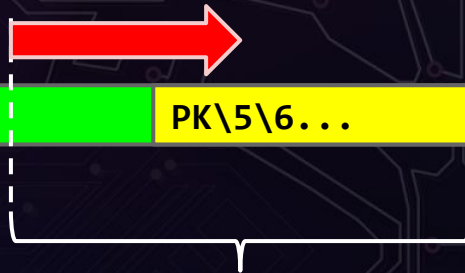
In total: from 22 to 65557 bytes

(so, the PK\5\6 sig will be "somewhere" between EOF-65557 do EOF-22)

So... how do we search for the right comment size?

"Start First"

Start left most at `EOF-65557`,
and then decrease the comment
size one by one.



range of
possibilities

"End First"

(well, usually there are no comments)
Start at the end at `EOF-22`,
and then increase comment
size one by one.



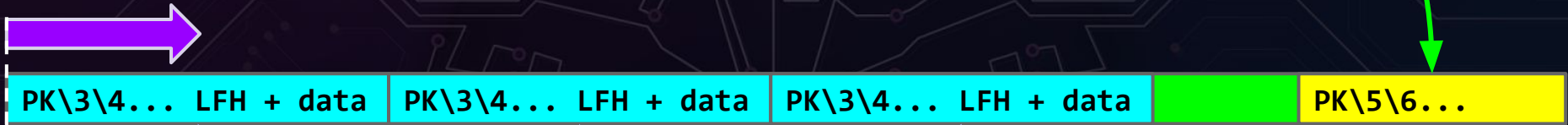
range of
possibilities

Why do we care about EOCDH at all?

(who needs this anyway)

"stream"

EOCDH is redundant, let's ignore it and parse only Local File Headers going from offset 0 in the file
(usually this is faster)
(99.9% of ZIPs can be successfully parsed like this)



(individual files in the archive)

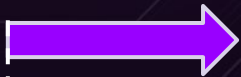
Why do we care about EOCDH at all?

(who needs this anyway)

"aggressive stream"

Just ignore the 'garbage' bytes between LFHs.

(forensics / stegano?)

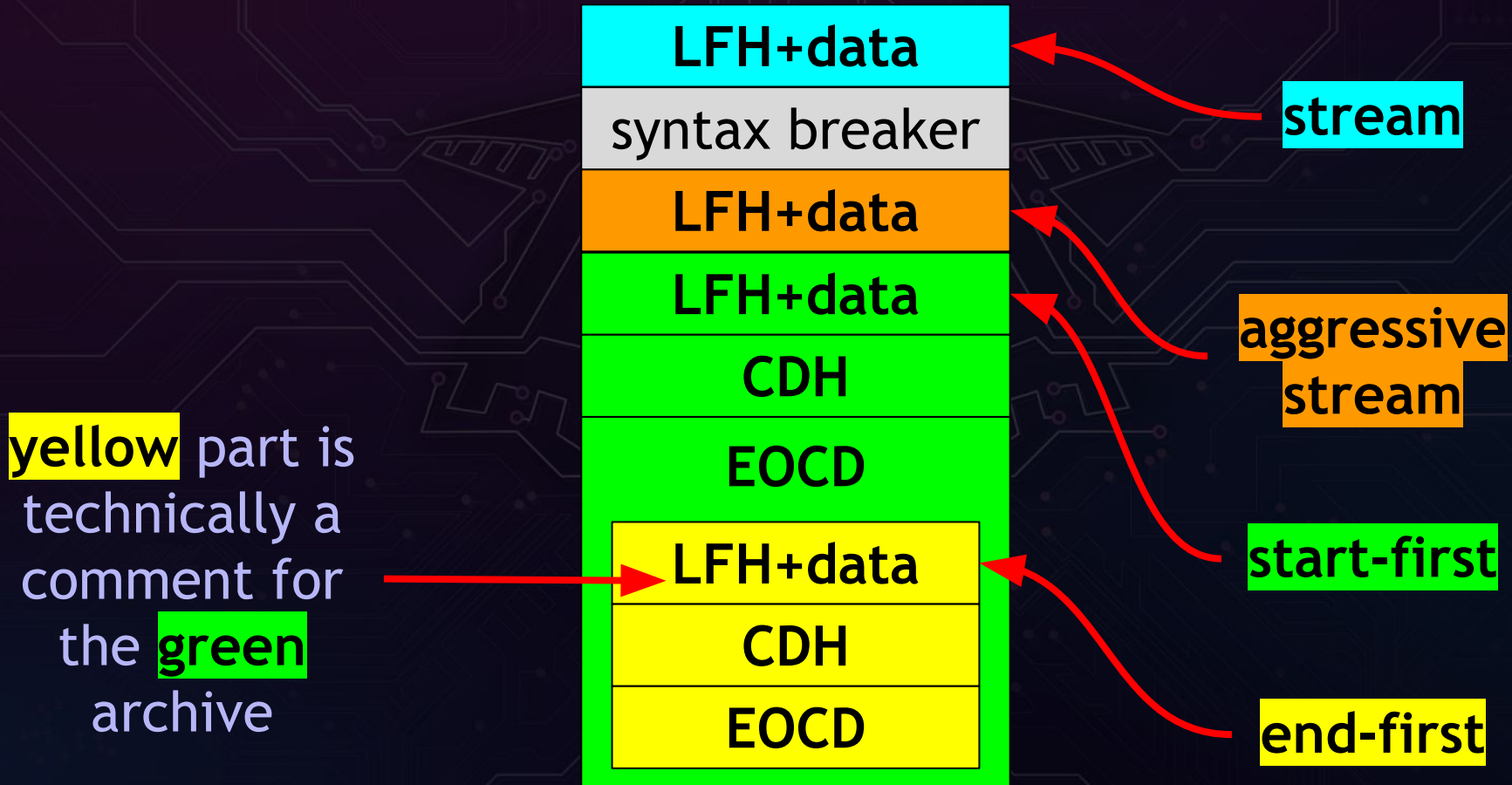


(individual files in the archive)

Let's see how this works in practice - abstract.zip



Architecture of abstract.zip



Testing abstract.zip

LFH+data
syntax breaker
LFH+data
LFH+data
CDH
EOCD
LFH+data
CDH
EOCD

Kudos for help in testing this:

- Mulander
- Felix Groebert
- Salvation
- j00ru

Note: data might be a little stale (2013)

EndFirst style

LFH+data

syntax breaker

LFH+data

LFH+data

CDH

EOCD

LFH+data

CDH

EOCD

Total Commander 8.01

UnZip 6.00 (Debian)

Midnight Commander

Windows 7 Explorer

ALZip

KGB Archiver

7-zip

b1.org

Python zipfile

JSZip

C# DotNetZip

perl Archive::Zip

Jeffrey's Exif Viewer

WOBZIP

GNOME File Roller

WinRAR

OSX UnZip

zip.vim v25

Emacs Zip-Archive mode

Ada Zip-Ada v45

Go archive/zip

Pharo smalltalk 2.0 ZipArchive

Ubuntu less

Java ZipFile

All of these

StartFirst style

LFH+data

syntax breaker

LFH+data

LFH+data

CDH

EOCD

LFH+data

CDH

EOCD

```
PHP ZipArchive  
PHP zip_open ...  
PHP zip:// wrapper  
tcl + tclvfs + tclunzip
```

Only these

Stream style

LFH+data

syntax breaker

LFH+data

LFH+data

CDH

EOCD

LFH+data

CDH

EOCD

Only these
Note that Java
is both here and
in the 'EndFirst' list

```
Ruby rubyzip2  
Java ZipArchiveInputStream  
java.util.zip.ZipInputStream
```

Aggressive Stream style

LFH+data

syntax breaker

LFH+data

LFH+data

CDH

EOCD

LFH+data

CDH

EOCD

binwalk

All files
should be found

Is this a problem?

- Usually no.
- However, if multiple libraries/apps are used, consistency is key.

Think:

1. Content verification done using one approach
2. Actual unpack done using another approach

Is this a problem?

- Usually no.
- However, if multiple libraries/apps are used, consistency is key.

Warning:
There might be other parsing
inconsistencies between
libraries!
Ideally use a single library.

- Think:**
1. Content verification done using one approach
 2. Actual unpack done using another approach

Also, AV (warning: stale data, 2013)

EICAR test results (using VT):

- Most use End-First approach
- Some use the Aggressive Stream way
- These use the Stream method:
 - VBA32
 - NANO-Antivirus
 - Norman
 - F-Prot
 - Agnitum
 - Commtouch



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ZIP encryption and CRC32

CRC-32 is a fun one!

Some facts:

- ZIP uses the 0xEDB88320 polynomial
- CRC-32 is not a cryptographic hash
- Reversible to some extent
 - Actually there is quite a lot of fun stuff you can do with CRC

Example reading: "Reversing CRC - Theory and Practice"
by M. Stigge, H. Plotz, W. Muller, J-P. Redlich

CRC-32 is a fun one!

Definitely **MUST NOT** be in the clear!

In some versions, metadata is in the clear

LFH

local file header signature	4 bytes	(0x04034b50)
version needed to extract	2 bytes	
general purpose bit flag	2 bytes	
compression method	2 bytes	
last mod file time	2 bytes	
last mod file date	2 bytes	
crc-32	4 bytes	
compressed size	4 bytes	
uncompressed size	4 bytes	
file name length	2 bytes	
extra field length	2 bytes	
file name (variable size)		
extra field (variable size)		
file data (variable size)		

CRC-32 is a fun one!

Definitely **MUST NOT** be in the clear!

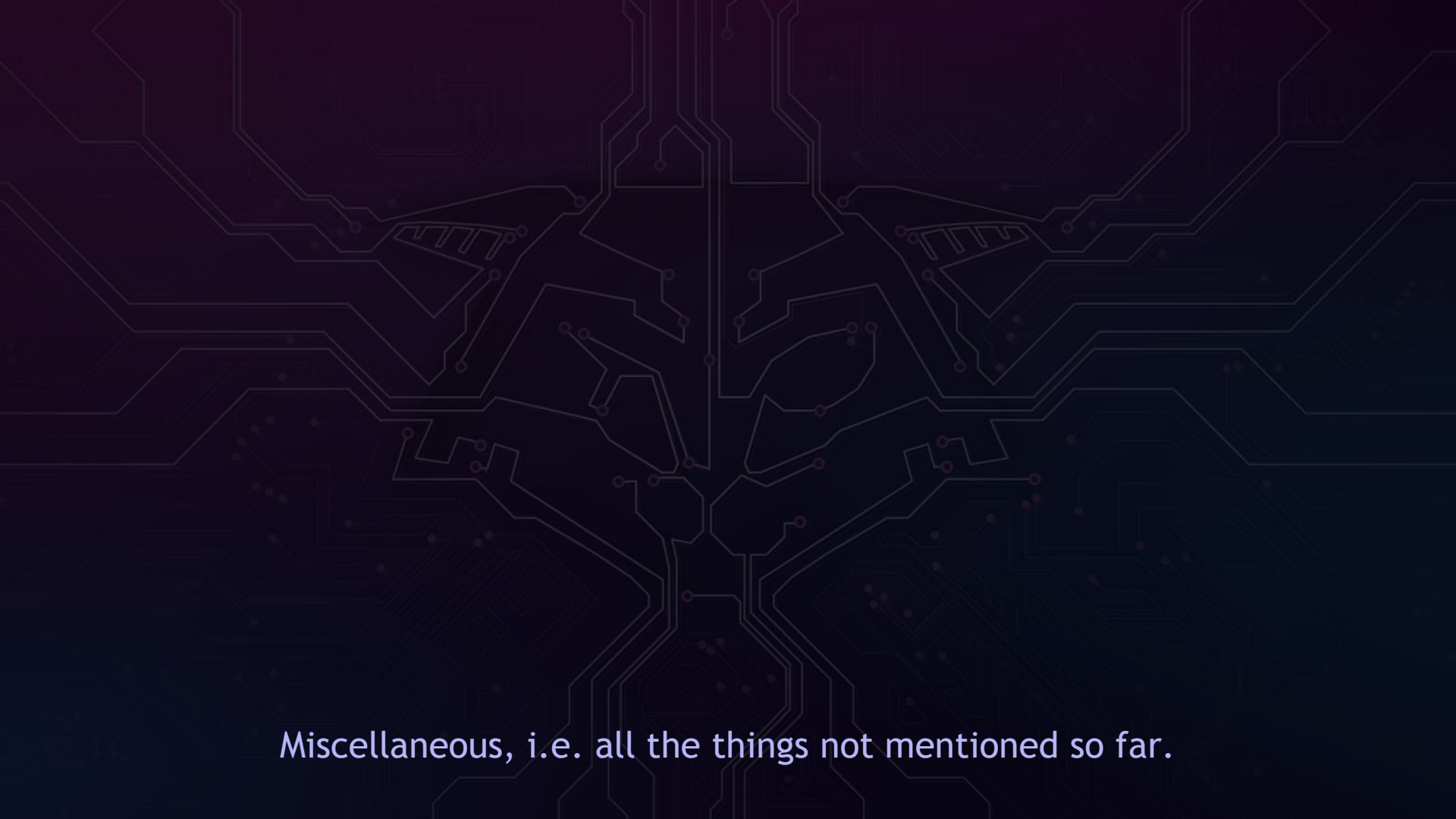
... but it sometimes is.

See also:

- "ZIP file encryption weakness"
by K. Matusiewicz, N. Wochtman
- Also on CTFs!
Task: "A hopeless case" (CONFidence CTF 2015)

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<https://github.com/theonlypwner/crc32>



Miscellaneous, i.e. all the things not mentioned so far.

ZIP vs low-level

Just enumerating ideas:

- **Known and well loved Buffer Overflow**
 - compressed size < after-unpack(data)
 - long file names
- **Memory disclosure**
 - uncompressed size > after-unpack(data)
 - uncompressed size > compressed size for 'STORED'
- **Signed/Unsigned issues in various fields**
 - size, offsets

GIFAR / Ange CorkaMIX / etc (binary polyglots)

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gifar>

<https://code.google.com/p/corkami/wiki/mix>

CorkaMIX is a Windows executable, and also a working PDF document, Jar (Zip + Class + manifest), and HTML + JavaScript files.

PHP LFI, ZIP polyglot upload, zip:// or phar://

More ZIP steganography

Steganography
y

Mostly useful on CTFs / in forensics.

- Office XML Steganography Tool (extra field)
- "Empty" space between files
- More data than "uncompressed size" field claims there is. Or data after the DEFLATE "end tag".
- Extra fields, comments.
- Files of the same name, or with \0 in the name
- Well, abstract.zip ;)
- Stegano using the compression protocol/layer

Bonus - ZIP download!

It's a "list + offsets" type format, so...

HTTP Range: parameter can be used to download individual files from a ZIP archive hosted online.

```
> python zipdl.py http://example.com/example.zip
File Name      ...      Size
readme_EndFirst.txt  ...      231
> python zipdl.py http://example.com/example.zip readme_EndFirst.txt
> ls -la readme_EndFirst.txt
-rw-r----- 1 gynvael gynvael 231 May 13 14:45 readme_EndFirst.txt
>
```

http://gynvael.coldwind.pl/n/python_zipdl

Bonus - ZIP download! Pretty easy in Python...

```
class MyFileWrapper:
    def __init__(self, url):
        --> HEAD ...

    def seek(self, offset, whence):

    def tell(self):

    def read(self, amount=-1):
        --> GET ...
        Range: bytes=%u,%u

z = zipfile.ZipFile( MyFileWrapper_object)
```

Bonus - ZIP DoS aka pack bombs

Three types:

1. small ZIP --> super large file
(unreal cmd uncomp size)
2. small ZIP --> multiple ZIPs --> multiple ZIPs from each --> ...
--> very large files
3. Infinite recursion (ZIP quine)
<http://research.swtch.com/zip>
(by Russ Cox)

EPIC!



Bonus - ZIP compression

Usually DEFLATE (zlib), but also:

- Uncompressed (STORED)
- BZ2
- XZ
- WavPack
- (several others)

THE END



Are there any easy questions?

(If there are only hard ones then I'm sorry, but we run out of time ;>)

P.S. We're hiring at Google - reach out to me if you're interested!

E-mail: gynvael@coldwind.pl Twitter: [@gynvael](https://twitter.com/gynvael) YT: [GynvaelEN](https://www.youtube.com/GynvaelEN)
Blog: <http://gynvael.coldwind.pl/> (Soon also: <http://gynvael.live>)