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Malicious, Misbehaving or Misunderstood Making Bad USBs Good Again

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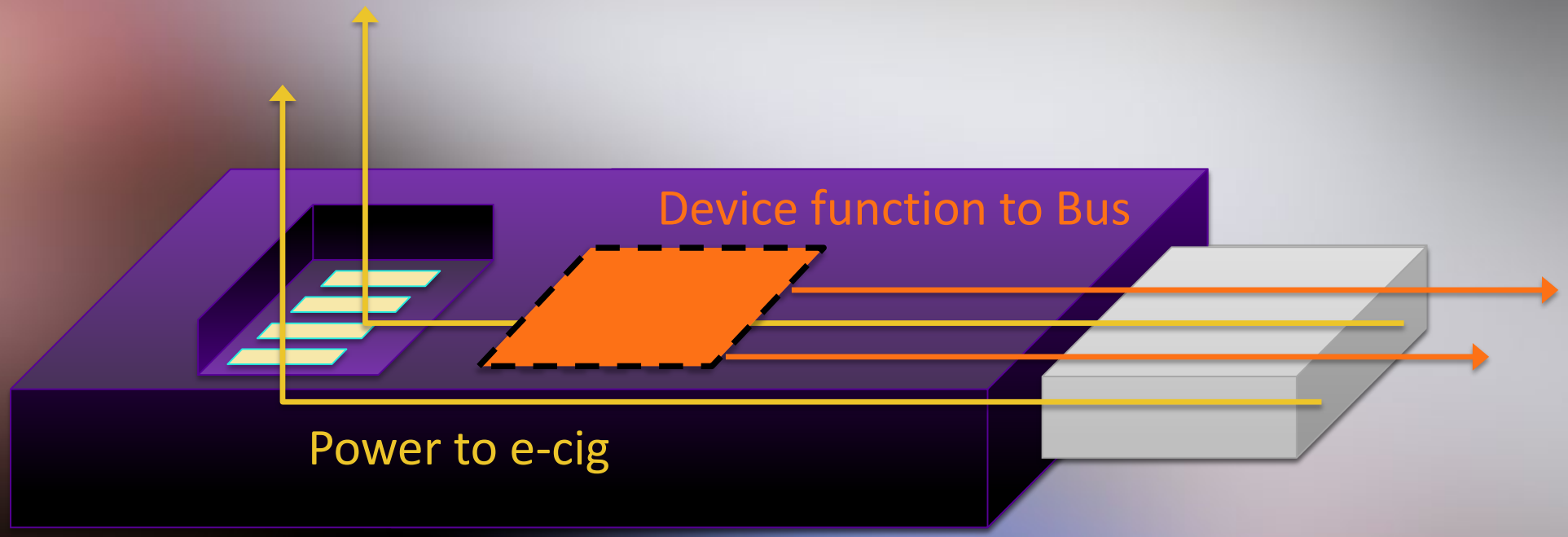
what just happened …?

“The Vape-inator”

what just happened …?



“The Vape-inator”

Why did that just happen …? (take-aways from this session)

- A broader understanding of the USB protocol as a threat vector
  - Think beyond malware and data theft
- (Some) knowledge of and respect for the USB protocol
  - 564 page standard
- A desire to re-evaluate USB security within your own organization
  - The most ubiquitous data flow in your infrastructure ***more prevalent than Ethernet***

Universal Serial Bus (USB) is a powerful protocol that has revolutionized computing. Reap it's benefits while minimizing risk.

Viva la revolucion!

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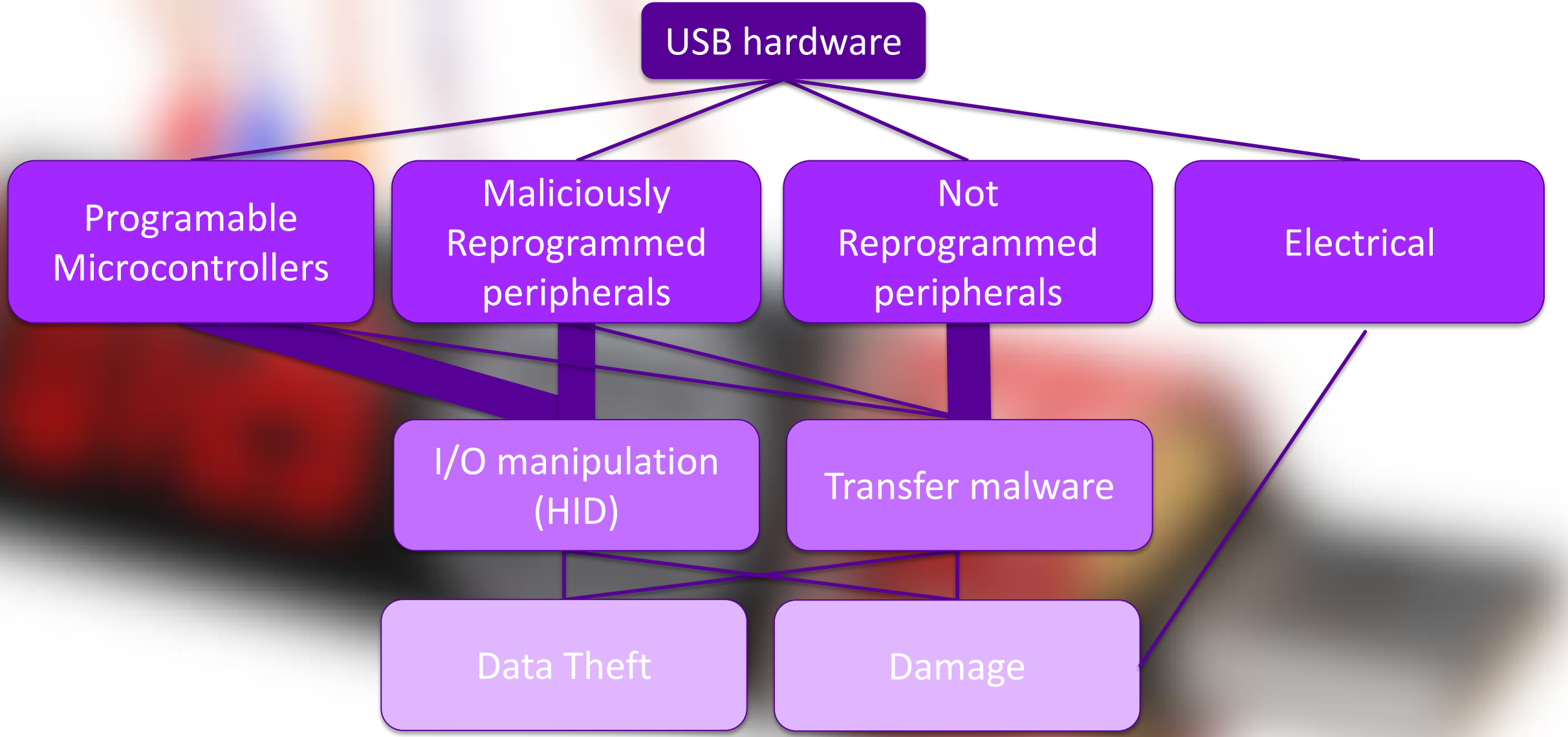
USB Threat Types

(more than malware)



Derived from “USB Based Attacks” by Nir Nissim, Ran Yahalom, and Yuval Elovici; Malware lab, Cyber Security Research Center, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Programable Microcontrollers

1. Rubber Ducky - 2010
2. PHUKD/URFUKED - 2010
3. USBdriveby - 2014
4. Evilduino - 2014
5. Unintended USB channels - 2011
6. TURNIPSCHOOL (COTTONMOUTH-1) - 2015
7. RIT attack via USB mass storage - 2012
8. Attacks on wireless USB dongles - 2015
9. Default gateway override - 2014
30. USB Harpoon
31. VAPE-inator
32. … What's next?

Maliciously Reprogrammed peripherals

10. Smartphone based HID attacks - 2010
11. DNS override by modified USB firmware - 2014
12. Keyboard emulation by modified USB firmware - 2014
13. Hidden partition patch - 2014
14. Password protection bypass patch - 2014
15. Virtual machine break-out - 2014
16. Boot sector virus - 2014
17. *iSeeYou*: Disabling the MacBook webcam indicator LED - 2014

Not Reprogrammed peripherals

18. .LNK Stuxnet/Fanny USB flash drive exploit (sh… extension exploits) - 2010
19. USB Backdoor into air-gapped hosts - 2014
20. Data hiding on USB mass storage - 2010
21. Autorun exploits - 2005
22. Cold boot - 2008
23. Buffer overflow - 2005
24. Driver update - 2011
25. Device firmware upgrade (DFU) - 2014
26. USB Thief - 2016
27. Attacks on smartphones via the USB port - 2010
28. USBee attack 2016

Electrical

29. USB Killer 2015

Source: "USB Based Attacks" by Nir Nissim, Ran Yahalom, and Yuval Elovici; Malware lab, Cyber Security Research Center, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

What USB Threats Really Look Like

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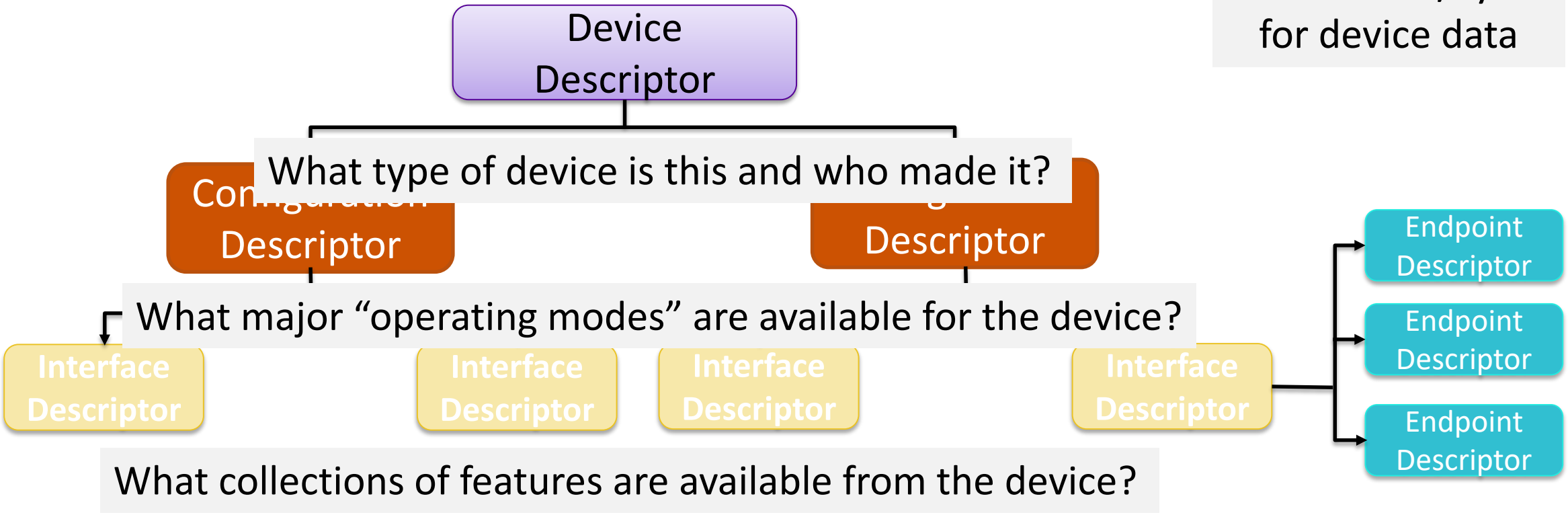
Universal Serial Bus

(the “S” doesn’t stand for “Simple”)

Identifying USB Devices

- During connection, each USB device identifies itself by sending a series of **descriptors** to the host

The Sources/Syncs for device data



This Was Designed to be "Simple"

Device descriptor

Name	Value	Dec	Hex	Bin
bLength	18	18	0x12	00010010
bDescriptorType	DEVICE	1	0x01	00000001
bcdUSB	1.1	272	0x0110	00000001 00010000
bDeviceClass	Class defined at interface level	0	0x00	00000000
bDeviceSubClass	Subclass defined at interface level	0	0x00	00000000
bDeviceProtocol	None	0	0x00	00000000
bMaxPacketSize0	8	8	0x08	00001000
idVendor	Microsoft Corporation	1,118	0x045E	00000100 01011110
idProduct	IntelliMouse Optical	57	0x0039	00000000 00111001
bcdDevice	3.0	768	0x0300	00000011 00000000
iManufacturer	1	1	0x01	00000001
iProduct	3 "Microsoft 5-Button Mouse with IntelliEye(TM)"	3	0x03	00000011
iSerialNumber	0	0	0x00	00000000
bNumConfigurations	1	1	0x01	00000001

No specific device type info here

Vendor ID = 0x045E = Microsoft

What could *possibly* go wrong?

Remember… This scheme dates to USB V1.0
Which was released in January 1996

Product Name is
"Microsoft 5-Button Mouse …"

Even Drilling Down Into Lower Levels … Question Remain

Interface descriptor

Name	Value	Dec	Hex	Bin
bLength	Valid	9	0x09	00001001
bDescriptorType	INTERFACE	4	0x04	00000100
bInterfaceNumber	0	0	0x00	00000000
bAlternateSetting	0	0	0x00	00000000
bNumEndpoints	1	1	0x01	00000001
bInterfaceClass	Human Interface Device (Find out more online)	3	0x03	00000011
bInterfaceSubClass	Boot Interface	1	0x01	00000001
bInterfaceProtocol	Mouse	2	0x02	00000010
iInterface	0	0	0x00	00000000

Class is “Human Interface Device”

Further described by HID Descriptor

Wonder what this is?

HID Report Descriptor

Item	Data
Usage Page *(Generic Desktop)*	05 01
Usage *(Mouse)*	09 02
Collection *(Application)*	A1 01
Usage *(Pointer)*	09 01
Collection *(Physical)*	A1 00
Usage Page *(Button)*	05 09
Usage Minimum *(Button 1)*	19 01
Usage Maximum *(Button 5)*	29 05
Logical minimum *(0)*	15 00
Logical maximum *(1)*	25 01
Report Size *(1)*	75 01
Report Count *(5)*	95 05
Input *(Data,Value,Absolute,Bit Field)*	81 02
Report Size *(3)*	75 03
Report Count *(1)*	95 01
Input *(Constant,Array,Absolute,Bit Field)*	81 01
Usage Page *(Generic Desktop)*	05 01
Usage *(X)*	09 30
Usage *(Y)*	09 31
Usage *(Wheel)*	09 38
Logical minimum *(-127)*	15 81
Logical maximum *(127)*	25 7F
Report Size *(8)*	75 08
Report Count *(3)*	95 03
Input *(Data,Value,Relative,Bit Field)*	81 06
End Collection	C0
Usage Page *(Unknown page 0x00FF)*	05 FF
Usage *(Unknown page 0x00FF)*	09 02
Logical minimum *(0)*	15 00
Logical maximum *(1)*	25 01
Report Size *(1)*	75 01
Report Count *(1)*	95 01
Feature *(Data,Value,Absolute,Non-volatile,Bit Field)*	B1 22
Report Size *(7)*	75 07
Report Count *(1)*	95 01
Feature *(Constant,Array,Absolute,Non-volatile,Bit Field)*	B1 01
End Collection	C0

There are plenty of devices like this one

Device descriptor

Name	Value	Dec	Hex	Bin
bLength	18	18	0x12	00010010
bDescriptorType	DEVICE	1	0x01	00000001
bcdUSB	1.1	272	0x0110	00000001 00010000
bDeviceClass	Class defined at interface level	0	0x00	00000000
bDeviceSubClass	Subclass defined at interface level	0	0x00	00000000
bDeviceProtocol	None	0	0x00	00000000
bMaxPacketSize0	64	64	0x40	01000000
idVendor	Silicon Laboratories, Inc.	4,292	0x10C4	00010000 11000100
idProduct	0xEA61	60,001	0xEA61	
bcdDevice	1.0	256	0x0100	
iManufacturer	1	1	0x01	
iProduct	2 "RW01116"	2	0x02	
iSerialNumber	3 "H99M999"	3	0x03	
bNumConfigurations	1	1	0x01	

Should we trust this device?

No specific device type info here

Vendor ID = Generic silicon mfg

Interface descriptor

Name	Value	Dec	Hex	Bin
bLength	Valid	9	0x09	00001001
bDescriptorType	INTERFACE	4	0x04	00000100
bInterfaceNumber	0	0	0x00	00000000
bAlternateSetting	0	0	0x00	00000000
bNumEndpoints	2	2	0x02	00000010
bInterfaceClass	Unknown (0x00) (Find out more online)	0	0x00	00000000
bInterfaceSubClass	Unknown (0x00)	0	0x00	00000000
bInterfaceProtocol	None	0	0x00	00000000
iInterface	0	0	0x00	00000000

No more specific info available

So… What Does This Tell Us?

- The USB spec for device identification was initially created in a "simpler time"
- The device is entirely responsible for presenting its descriptor information to the OS at runtime, with no other validation/checks
- Many devices are insufficiently transparent in their descriptions
- The hierarchy of descriptors has grown and gotten more complex… The OS has a big job, full of heuristics developed over time, to determine what a device is (and what it will do once connected)

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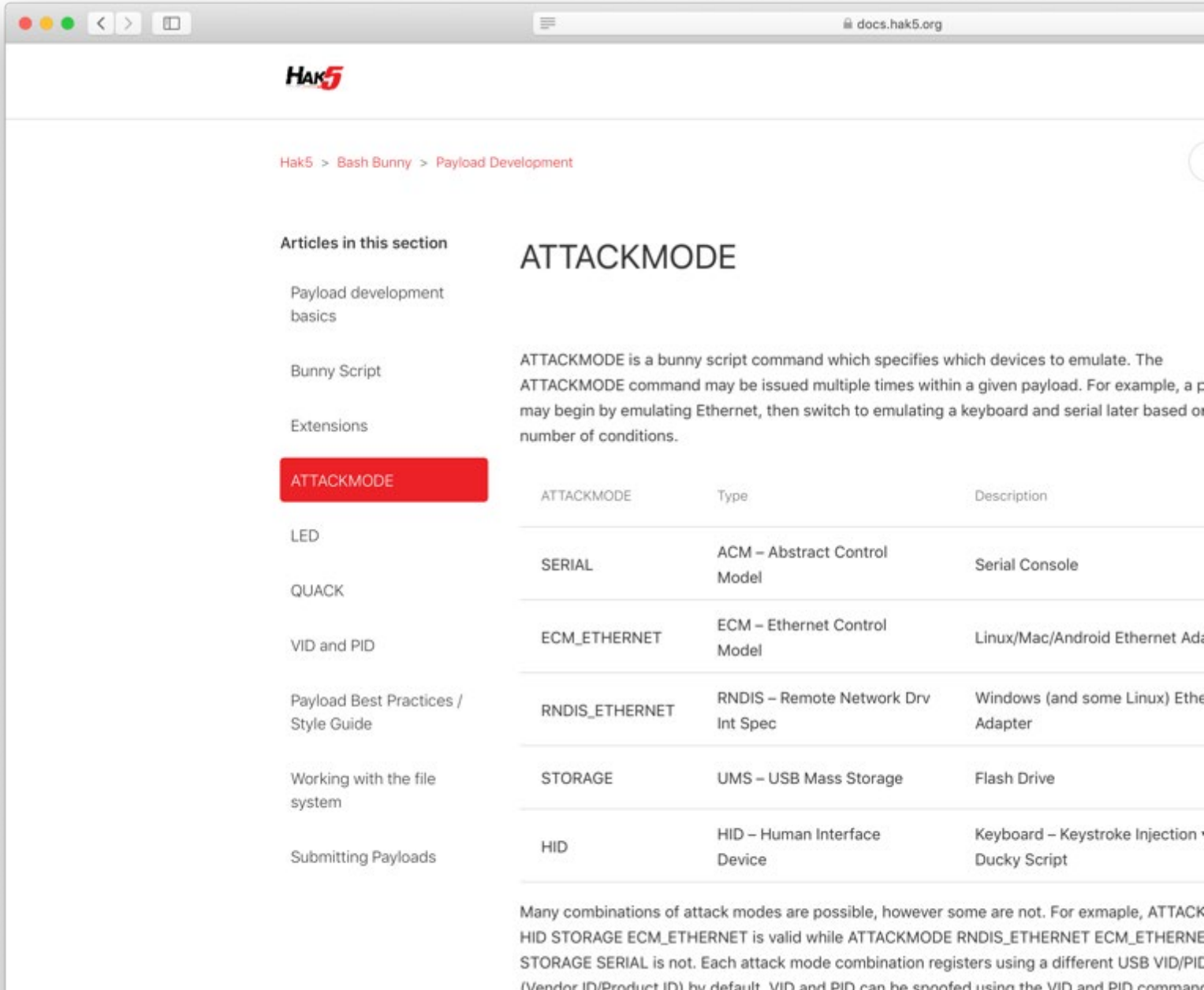
Hacking USB

(and why it works)

how to manipulate the standard

- Lie about what you are



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how to manipulate the standard

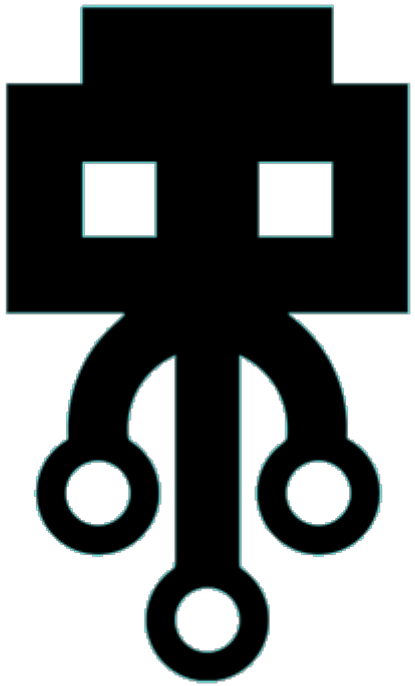
- Have multiple personalities

how to manipulate the standard

- Be something tempting and unknown

how to manipulate the standard

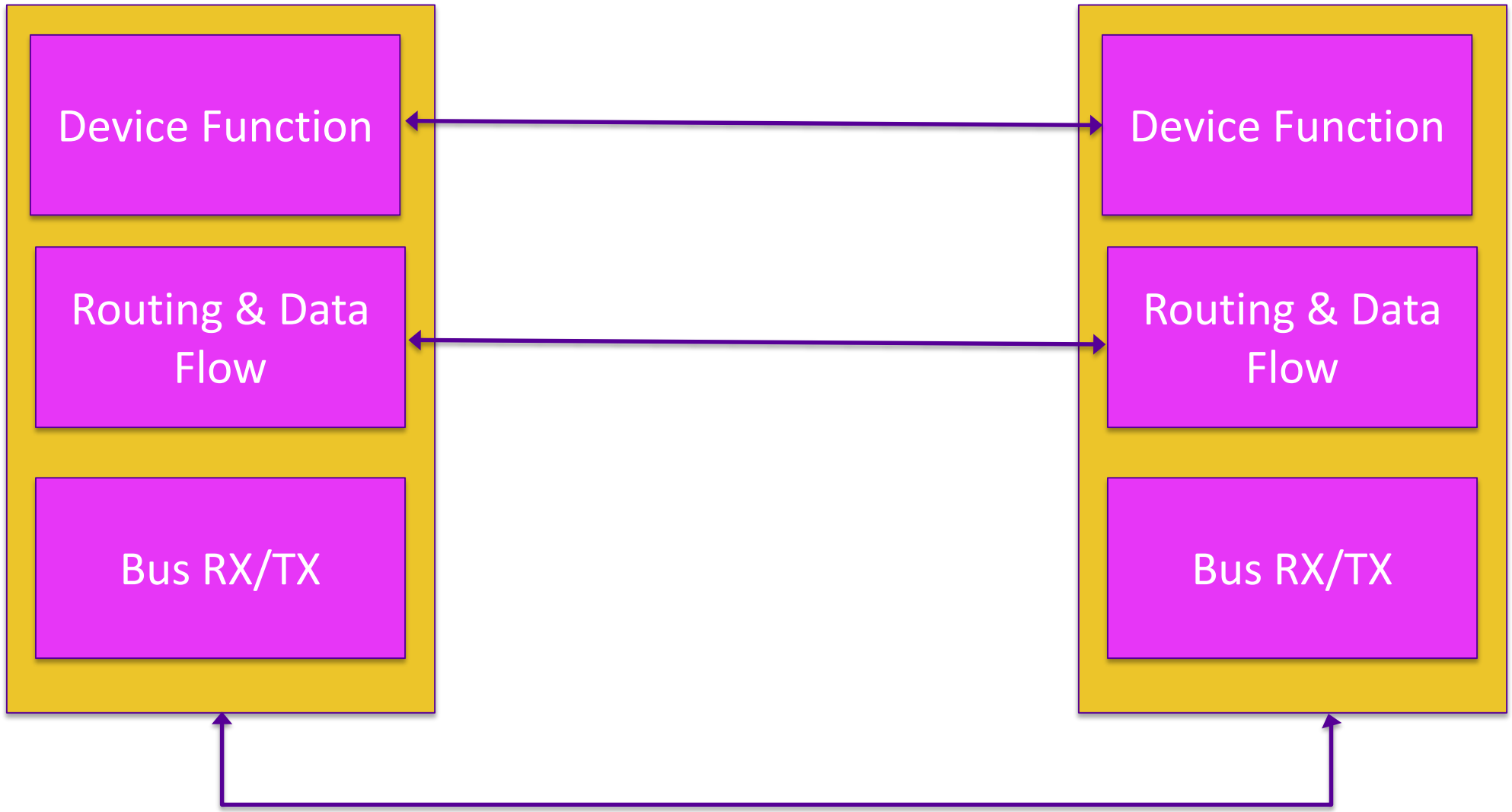
- Be electric



how to bypass the standard

- Be a vampire troll

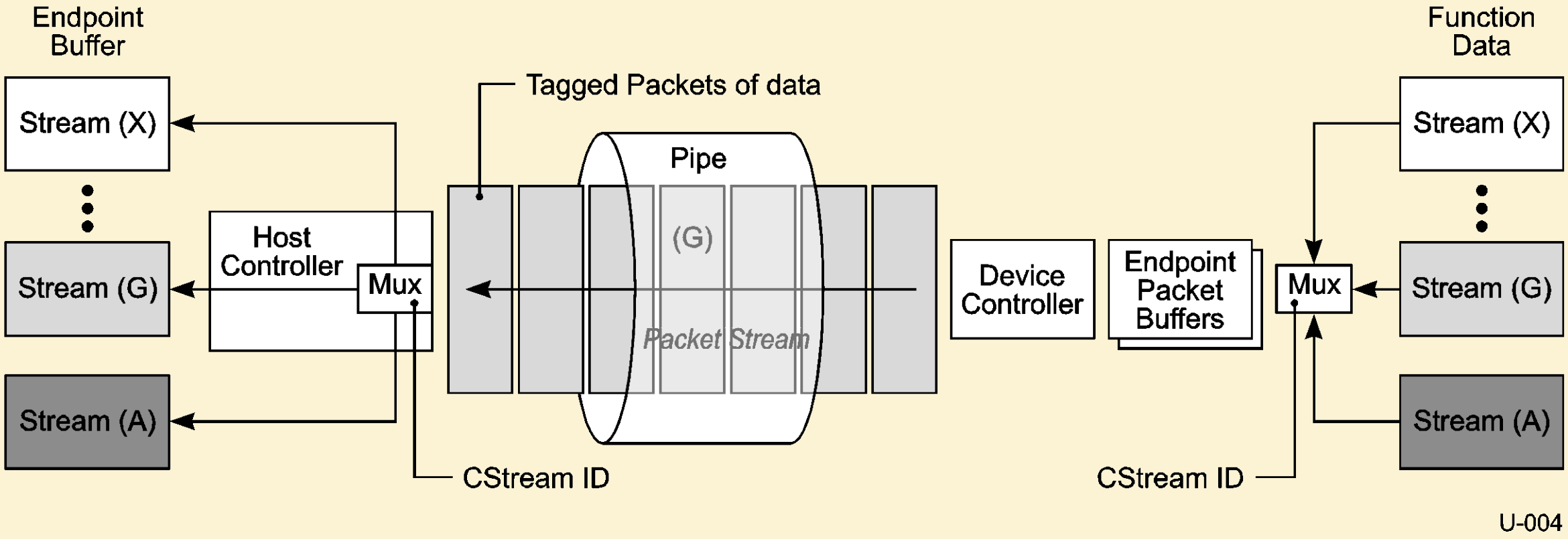
just the tip of the iceberg …



Source: USB.org, Universal Serial Bus 3.2 Specification

just the tip of the iceberg …

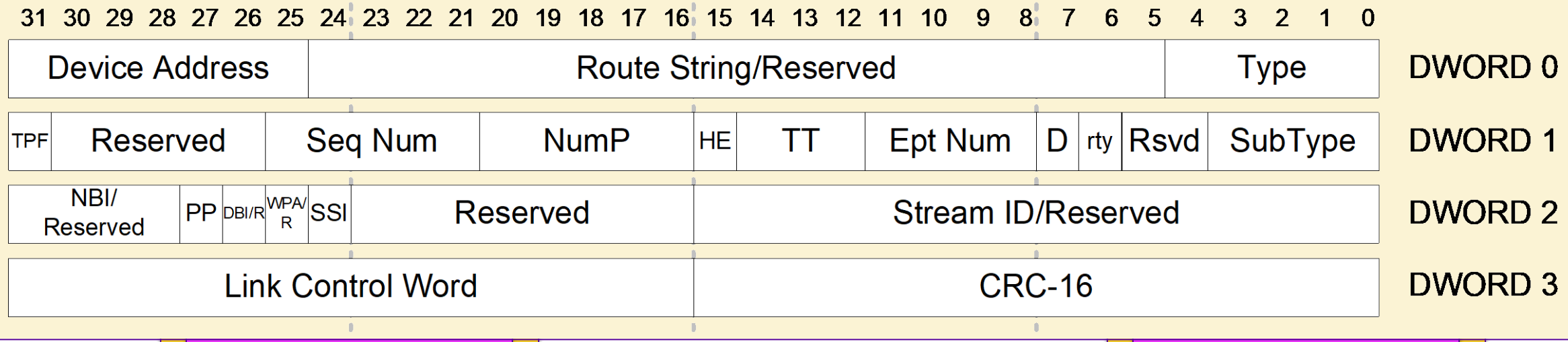
Figure 4-3. Enhanced SuperSpeed IN Stream Example



Source: USB.org, Universal Serial Bus 3.2 Specification

just the tip of the iceberg …

Figure 8-2. Example Transaction Packet



Source: USB.org, Universal Serial Bus 3.2 Specification

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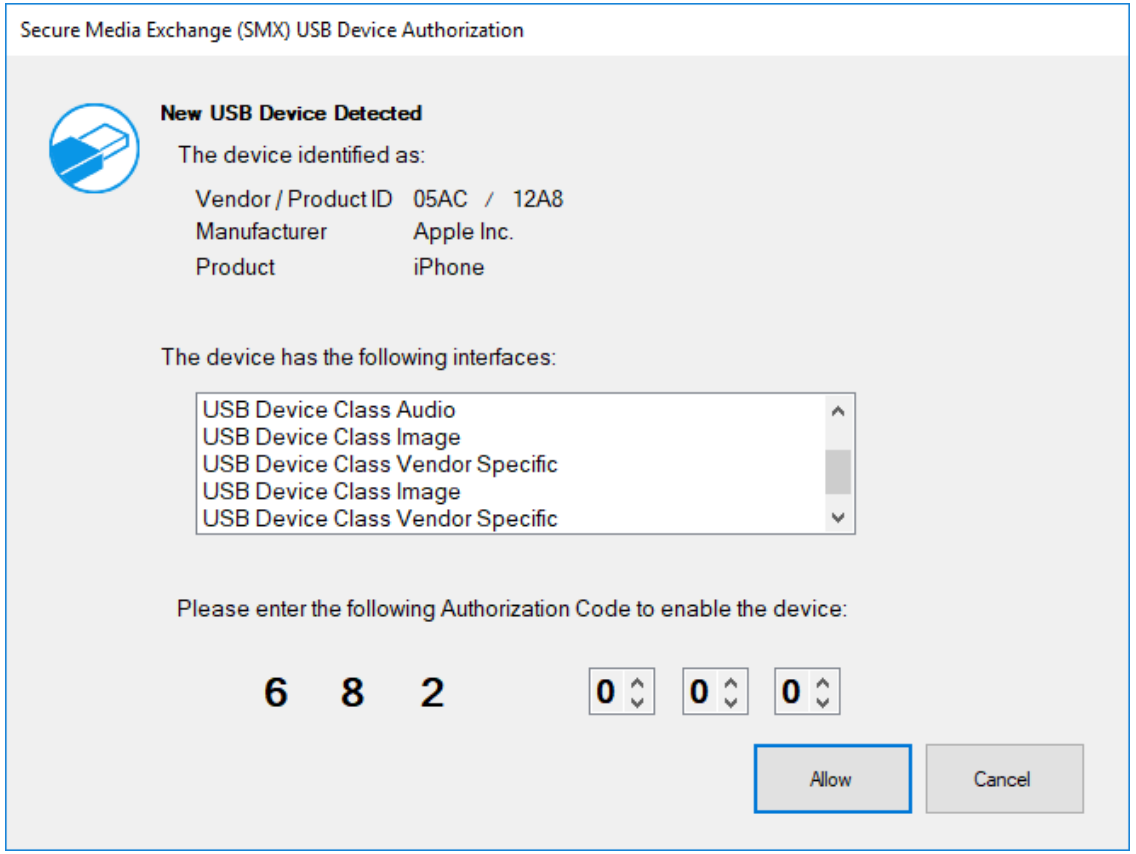
Don’t Worry USB Happy

(there’s some good news, too)

There’s Some Good News about Bad USB

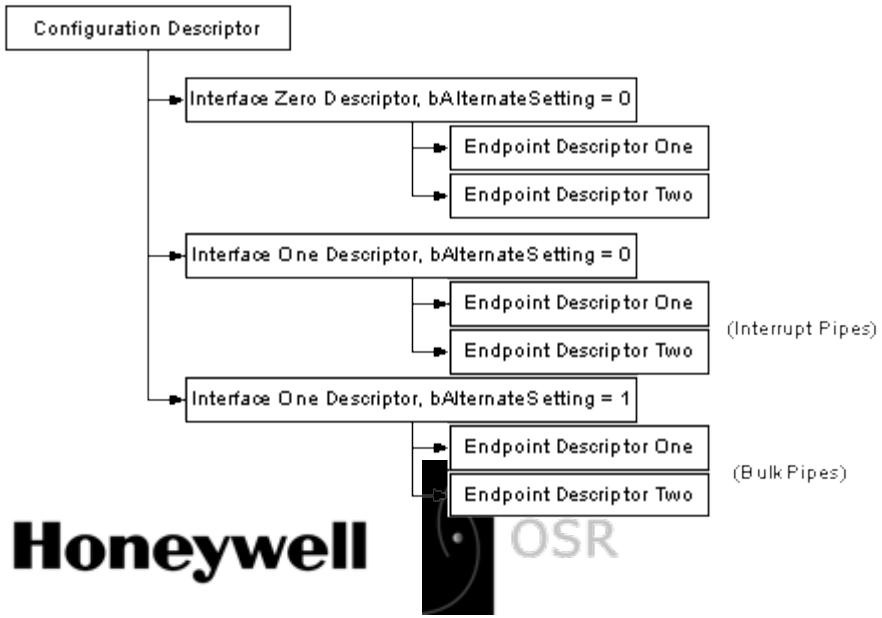
- A way to TRUST your USB devices
- New Authorization Specifications

TRUST (Trusted User Substantiation Technology)



TRUST Original Design Precepts

- Primary Design Principles:
  - Block device at the lowest level
  - Get information from the device, and make policy decision based solely on that info
  - Everything needs to be Consciously Authorized



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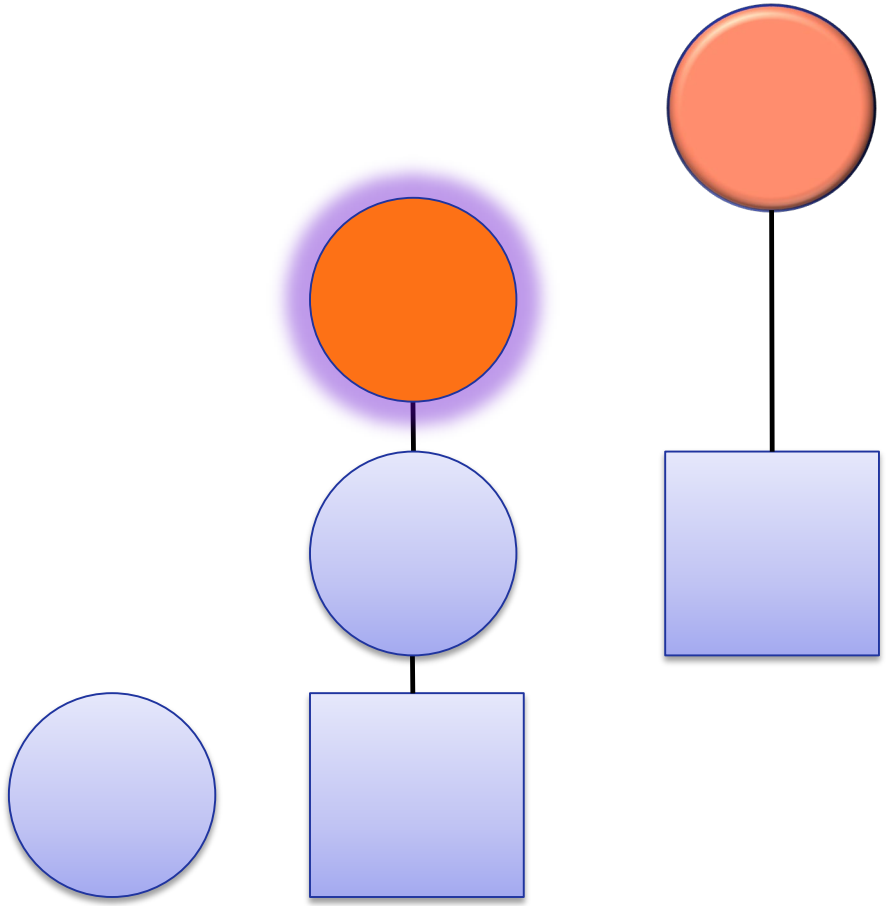
Blocking USB Devices at the Lowest Level

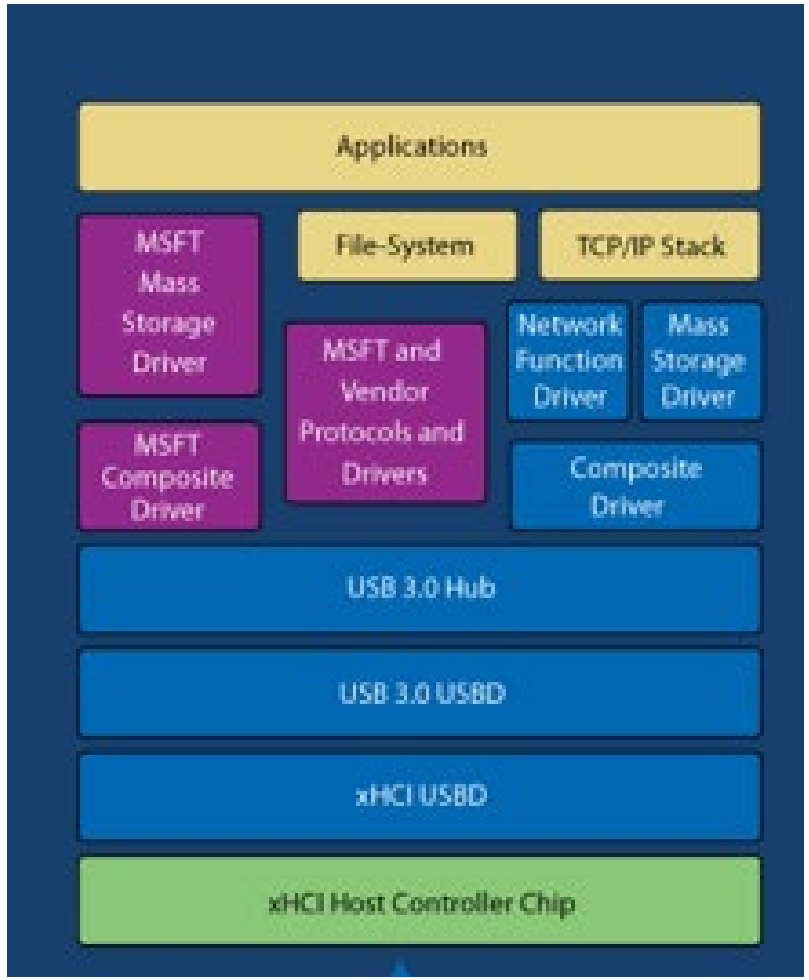
GoodUSB Authorization

GoodUSB Filter

USB Hub

USB Controller



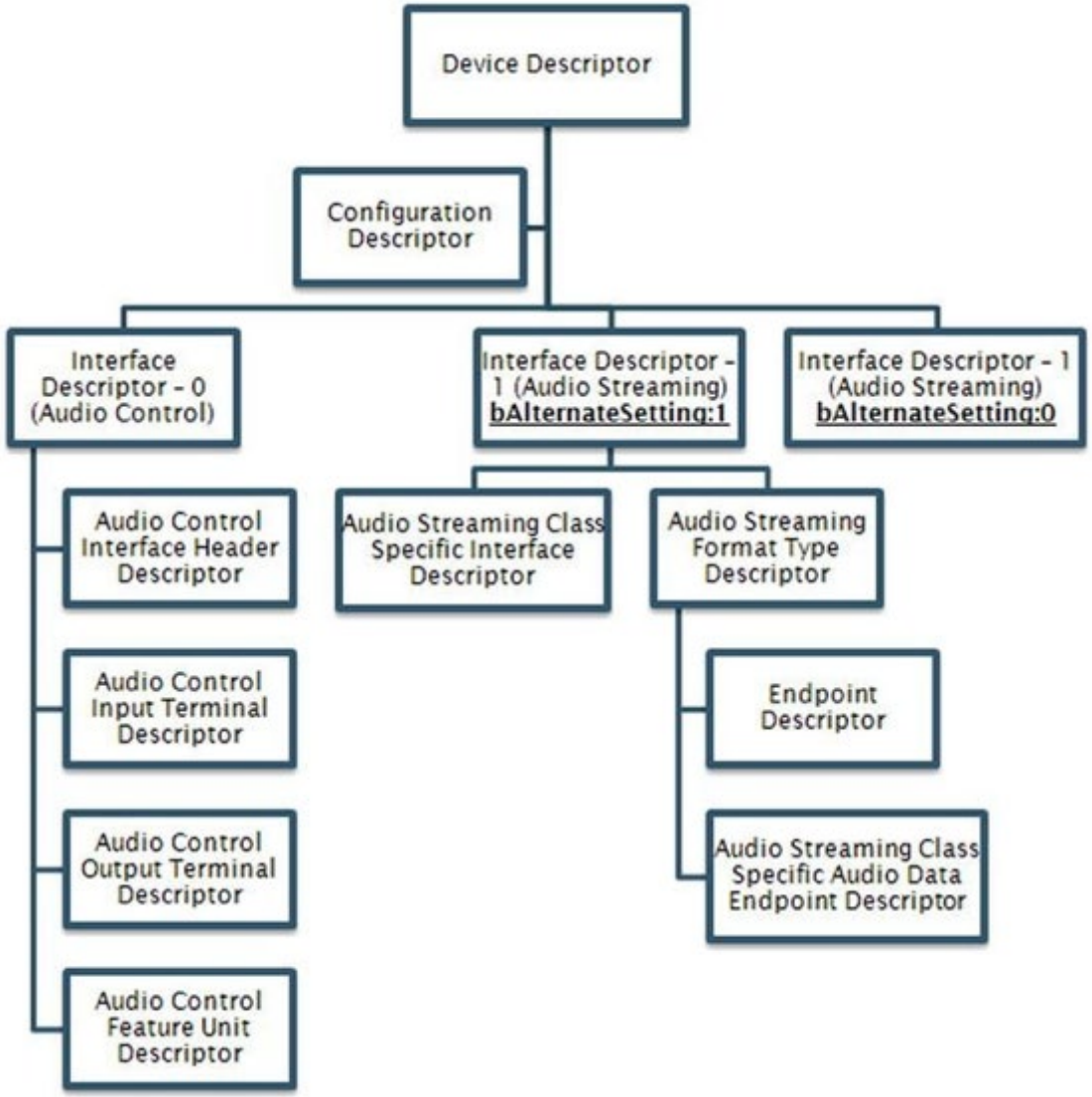


What We Learned (Part 1)

- Relying solely on the USB Device information is not good enough
- What's definitive is not what the USB Device says it is…
  it's how the OS treats the device
  - OS decision process is complex, taking into account many factors
  - The driver the OS chooses may be "OS Standard" or "Vendor Specific"… makes all the difference

What We Learned (Part 2)

- Presenting the user info solely from the USB Device isn't very helpful



what we learned (3)

- **Ask Windows** how it will treat the device once it's connected
  - Get information from the device
  - Use OS-provided SetupDiXxxx API to determine the INF/Driver that Windows would use

- For well-know classes where information from Windows isn't sufficient (e.g. HID and Mass Storage), **mimic higher-level Windows processing** to determine data on device use

- When Conscious Authorization is needed, **present clear info** from the Device the OS, and our device device use data

"Hey Windows… What'll you do with this device??"

USB-C authorization

usb.org

PRESS RELEASE

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USB 3.0 Promoter Group Defines Authentication Protocol for USB Type-C™

Specification defines policy for product OEMs to mitigate risks from non-compliant devices

Shenzhen, China and Beaverton, OR, USA – April 13, 2016 – The USB 3.0 Promoter Group today announced the USB Type-C™ Authentication specification, defining cryptographic-based authentication for USB Type-C™ chargers and devices. Using this protocol, host systems can confirm the authenticity of a USB device or USB charger, including such product aspects as the descriptors/capabilities and certification status. All of this happens right at the moment a wired connection is made – before inappropriate power or data can be transferred.

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Apply What You Have Learned Today

- Next week you should:
  - Assess existing USB defensive measures, considering all 3 attack types
- In the first three months following this presentation you should:
  - Complete an inventory of USB devices currently in use: what role do these devices play in the daily operations of your business?
  - Assess your supply chain: what USB devices are you using? Are they trusted?
- Within six months you should:
  - Adjust USB and removable media policies to account for your findings.
  - Consider technical controls to enforce these policies

Special thanks to:

- Honeywell Connected Cyber research teams
- The Honeywell legal and media teams
  (for keeping an open mind about security presentations like this)
- The valuable research of:
  - Karsten Nohl and Jakob Lell (BadUSB)
  - @SamyKamkar (PosionTap)
  - @hak5darren and all at Hak5 (Rubber Duckies, Bash Bunnies & more)
  - Everyone who helped put the Vape-inator together
- Our partners at Open Systems Resources

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Thank You (SB)

@EricDKnapp @osrdrivers