



Is the Pen mightier than the Sword?

A First Look Into The Security of The Apple Pencil and the Apple Smart Keyboard

August, 2018



Who am I?

Stefan Esser

- working in IT Security since 1998
- started with runtime encryption / decryption
- moved on to linux daemon security
- then did a lot of work in PHP and Web Application Security
- in 2010 moved into the field of iOS security



Motivation

- Apple Pencil and Apple Smart Keyboard are popular accessories for iPads
- lot of people analyse the security of iOS itself
- but no public research on security of these accessories
- in theory these devices can be easily replaced by malicious ones without user noticing
- users might even borrow these devices to their seat neighbour in a coffee shop.
- the best place for a key logger is likely in the firmware of the keyboard
- can a malicious accessory take over the iPad?



Disclaimer

- this is meant as the first introductory talk on this topic
- we want to get the research in these accessory started
- more talks will follow
- so far no devices were harmed during this research - that means no hardware attack, yet



Open Source ?!?

- Resources for this talk will be shared on:
 - https://github.com/AntidOteCom/ipad_accessory_research
- Few things are already available - other stuff will be uploaded during the next days

Accessory Teardowns





Apple Smart Keyboard

- connected via the Smart Connector
- three different form factors
 - 12.9" - A1636
 - 10.5" - A1829
 - 9.7" - A1772
- IFIXIT teardown of A1636 says it uses:

STM32F103VB microcontroller



source: <https://www.ifixit.com/Teardown/Smart+Keyboard+Teardown/53052>

<https://www.ifixit.com/Guide/Image/meta/ZfFJCjwWC1DKCQTQ>

photo by: Sam Lionheart

license: [Creative Commons BY-NC-SA](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/)

ATTENTION: for A1772 we assume the same microcontroller is used - for A1829 no firmware/teardown is available



STM32F103VB

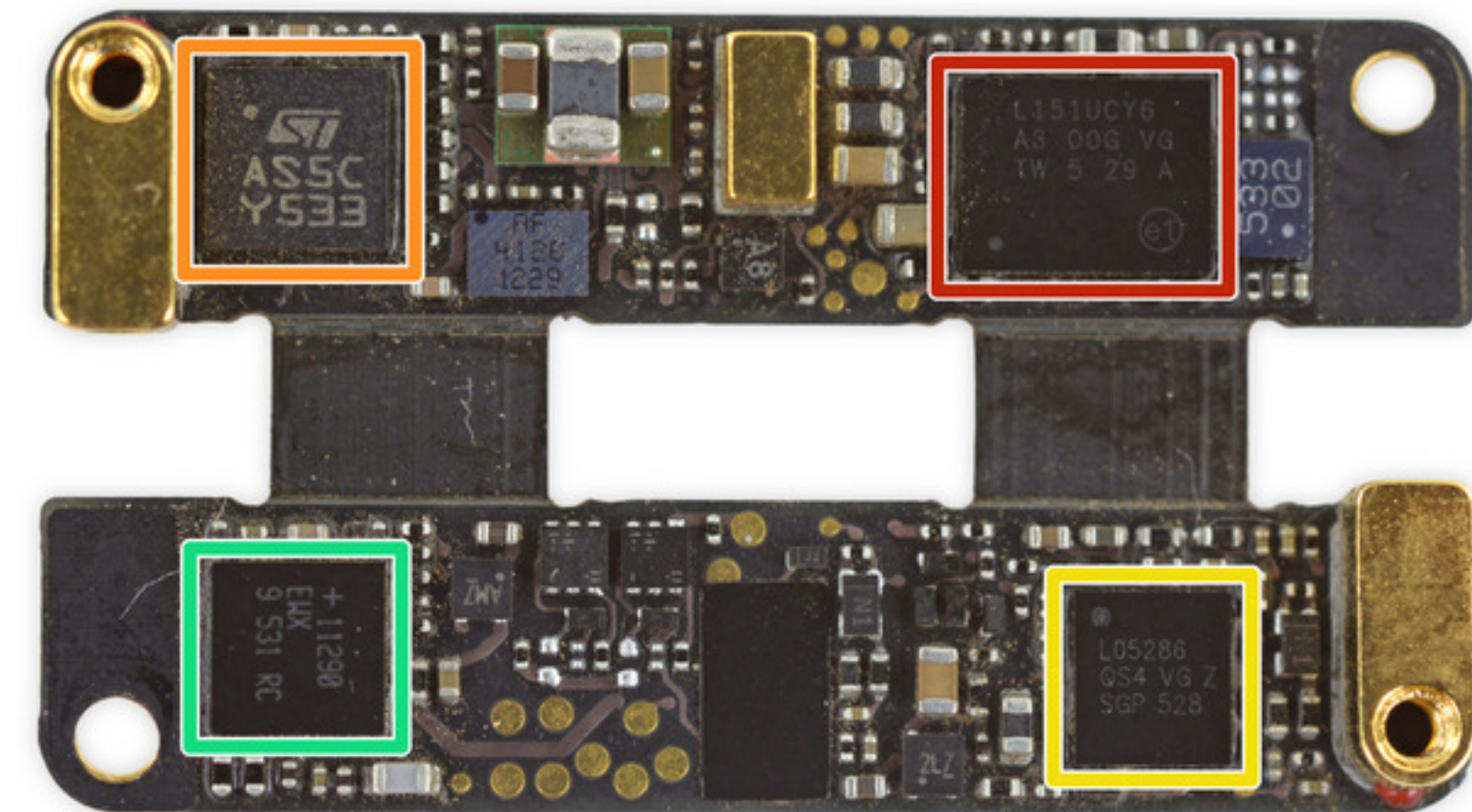
- Product URL: <https://www.st.com/en/microcontrollers/stm32f103vb.html>
- Datasheet: <https://www.st.com/resource/en/datasheet/stm32f103vb.pdf>

- Mainstream Performance line
- ARM Cortex-M3 MCU
- 128 Kbytes Flash
- 20 Kbytes SRAM
- Memory Protection Unit: **NO**



Apple Pencil

- connected via Lightning / Bluetooth
- IFIXIT teardown says it uses:
STML151UCY6 microcontroller



source: <https://www.ifixit.com/Teardown/Apple+Pencil+Teardown/52955>
<https://www.ifixit.com/Guide/Image/meta/5ibhix6pIRvgpqfU>
photo by: Sam Lionheart
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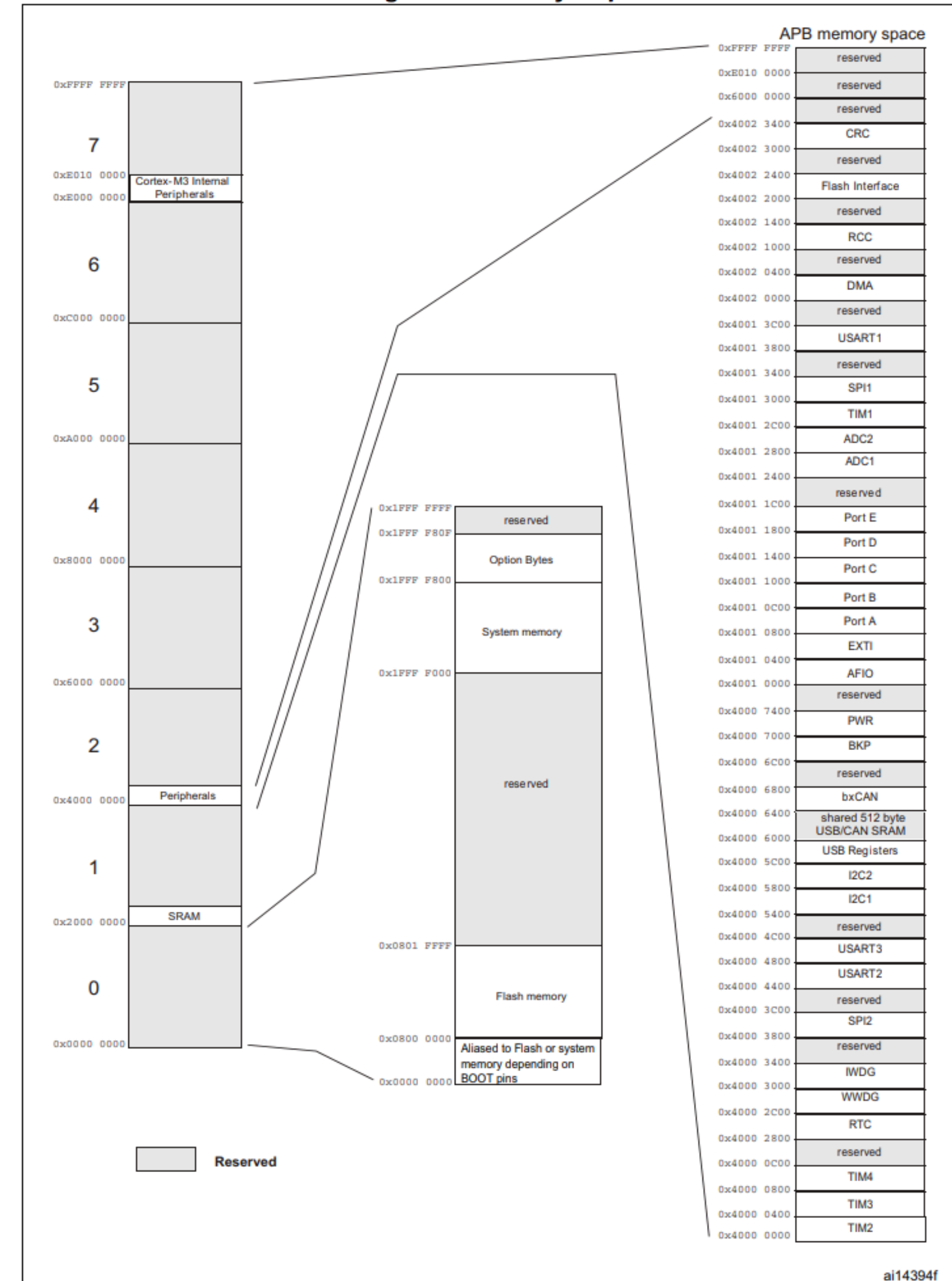
STM151UCY6

- Product URL: <https://www.st.com/en/microcontrollers/stm32l151cc.html>
- Datasheet: <https://www.st.com/resource/en/datasheet/stm32l151cc.pdf>
- Ultra-low-power
- ARM Cortex-M3 MCU
- 256 Kbytes Flash
- 32 Kbytes SRAM
- 8 Kbytes Data EEPROM
- Memory Protection Unit: **YES**
- Memory Option Bytes: for memory read-out protection

STM Microcontrollers

- very well documented
- product URL leads to a website with full documentation
- even programming guides
- everything one needs to know to understand low level programming

Figure 11. Memory map





Memory Protection Unit (MPU)

- allows to have memory with different protection levels R / W / X
- Apple Smart Keyboard doesn't have it according to data sheet
 - no protection on memory
- Apple Pencil has support for MPU but we did not see the firmware configuring it
 - no protection on memory (unless unknown bootrom configures MPU)

Accessory Firmware Updates





Accessory Firmware

- both Apple Pencil and Apple Smart Keyboard allow firmware upgrades
- firmware is automatically upgraded when connected to iPad
- upgrade seems to be silent without user notification
- user not involved in OTA update process
- to get copy of firmware we need to follow the upgrade discovery path



Accessory Firmware - Who?

- Launch Daemon:
 - `com.apple.MobileAccessoryUpdater`
- starts **fud** daemon:
 - `/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/MobileAccessoryUpdater.framework/Support/fud`
 - runs as root
 - **without a sandbox (!!!)**



Accessory Firmware - Who? (II)

- the **fud** daemon uses the private **MobileAccessoryUpdater.framework**
- it will load plugin bundles from `/System/Library/AccessoryUpdaterBundles/`
 - `AppleEAAccessoryUpdater.bundle`
 - `AppleEmbeddedAccessoryUpdater.bundle`
 - `FUDGenericKextUpdater.bundle`
 - `StandaloneHIDFudPlugins.bundle`
- **StandaloneHIDFudPlugins** is responsible for Apple Pencil / Apple Smart Keyboard
- by reversing this plugin we can learn the HIDDevice connections are used for the upgrade



Accessory Firmware Upgrade Discovery (I)

- in order to discover firmware upgrades a firmware upgrade manifest must be downloaded
- Apple Pencil
https://mesu.apple.com/assets/com_apple_MobileAsset_MobileAccessoryUpdate_WirelessStylusFirmware/com_apple_MobileAsset_MobileAccessoryUpdate_WirelessStylusFirmware.xml
- Apple Smart Keyboard 12.9“
https://mesu.apple.com/assets/com_apple_MobileAsset_MobileAccessoryUpdate_KeyboardCoverFirmware/com_apple_MobileAsset_MobileAccessoryUpdate_KeyboardCoverFirmware.xml



Accessory Firmware Upgrade Discovery (II)

- Reversing revealed the following manifest URLs that are currently either empty or access is denied - **NO FIRMWARE BINARY AVAILABLE**
 - Apple Smart Keyboard 9.7”
https://mesu.apple.com/assets/com_apple_MobileAsset_MobileAccessoryUpdate_MiniKeyboardCoverFirmware/com_apple_MobileAsset_MobileAccessoryUpdate_MiniKeyboardCoverFirmware.xml
 - Apple Smart Keyboard 10.5”
https://mesu.apple.com/assets/com_apple_MobileAsset_MobileAccessoryUpdate_KeyboardCoverFirmware_3/com_apple_MobileAsset_MobileAccessoryUpdate_KeyboardCoverFirmware_3.xml



Accessory Firmware Upgrade Manifest (I)

- AFU Manifest in XML plist format
- defines what version is available
- and how it is packaged
- usually in ZIP format
- ...

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<plist version="1.0">
  <dict>
    <key>AssetType</key>
    <string>com.apple.MobileAsset.MobileAccessoryUpdate.WirelessStylusFirmware</string>
    <key>Assets</key>
    <array>
      <dict>
        <key>FirmwareVersions</key>
        <dict>
          <key>14</key>
          <dict>
            <key>1</key>
            <integer>584</integer>
          </dict>
          <key>15</key>
          <dict>
            <key>1</key>
            <integer>584</integer>
          </dict>
        </dict>
      </dict>
      <key>_CompatibilityVersion</key>
      <integer>2</integer>
      <key>_CompressionAlgorithm</key>
      <string>zip</string>
      <key>_ContentVersion</key>
      <integer>248</integer>
      <key>_DownloadSize</key>
      <integer>244355</integer>
      <key>_IsZipStreamable</key>
      <true/>
    </array>
  </dict>
</plist>
```




Accessory Firmware Upgrade Manifest (I)

- ...
- contains download URL
- SHA-1 hash of firmware file
- manifest is signed with AssetManifestSigning certificate

```
<key>_MasteredVersion</key>
  <string>1611</string>
  <key>_Measurement</key>
  <data> tRitODC6Kg8+IhT+VA5Rh5celjE= </data>
  <key>_MeasurementAlgorithm</key>
  <string>SHA-1</string>
  <key>_UnarchivedSize</key>
  <integer>387072</integer>
  <key>__BaseURL</key>
  <string>http://appldnld.apple.com/ios10.0/.../</string>
  <key>__CanUseLocalCacheServer</key>
  <true/>
  <key>__InstallWithOS</key>
  <true/>
  <key>__RelativePath</key>
  <string>com_..._MobileAccessoryUpdate_WirelessStylusFirmware/xxx.zip</string>
</dict>
</array>
<key>Certificate</key>
<data>...</data>
<key>FormatVersion</key>
<integer>1</integer>
<key>Signature</key>
<data>...</data>
<key>SigningKey</key>
<string>AssetManifestSigning</string>
</dict>
</plist>
```



Accessory Firmware Upgrade Manifest Certificate

- AssetManifestSigning certificate **expired in July 2018**
- impact of expiry on firmware signing process is unknown
- firmware seems to continue to upgrade on existing devices
- **UNANSWERED QUESTION:**
does it stop firmware upgrades on devices restored after that date?

```
Certificate:
Data:
  Version: 3 (0x2)
  Serial Number: 45 (0x2d)
  Signature Algorithm: sha1WithRSAEncryption
  Issuer: C=US, O=Apple Inc., OU=Apple Certification Authority, CN=Apple iPhone Certification Authority
  Validity
    Not Before: Jul 14 22:32:48 2011 GMT
    Not After : Jul 14 22:32:48 2018 GMT
  Subject: C=US, O=Apple Inc., OU=Apple iOS Asset Manifest, CN=Asset Manifest Signing
  Subject Public Key Info:
    Public Key Algorithm: rsaEncryption
    Public-Key: (2048 bit)
    Modulus:
      00:b5:cb:80:f8:55:80:4f:1c:bc:27:1e:4d:6a:7e:
      2d:45:e3:d1:37:32:5e:bb:e4:49:58:60:01:60:86:
      aa:40:88:a3:aa:79:a8:0b:55:95:3c:cc:ab:8f:c3:
      ae:74:34:70:02:bc:d2:5b:8c:a0:63:32:c5:9d:59:
      a1:4c:8f:fe:dc:d9:30:79:22:42:70:8b:ad:58:e8:
      1f:ae:54:ae:fc:5b:db:bd:23:f8:45:00:ad:29:59:
      c3:3d:63:92:9b:28:cb:f3:e3:01:30:b7:ae:04:5d:
      f4:bc:79:50:51:9a:a8:7f:db:dc:a0:c4:df:4d:b4:
      16:c7:12:21:a2:19:0f:2f:c4:85:77:53:a1:68:98:
      d7:66:c4:a3:cc:ed:56:66:b3:21:48:c5:0e:47:b3:
      18:07:6f:4b:24:c6:50:c8:75:e3:ed:62:c1:cb:9a:
      92:bd:3d:7e:37:2b:7b:01:4f:79:47:37:45:31:b6:
      2b:7c:1d:3a:dd:c2:23:6a:d7:77:08:d1:32:0d:4f:
      e9:6c:6d:72:8b:a7:7f:e0:3c:95:69:7f:19:10:dc:
      c4:ed:e3:42:86:fc:34:cc:b2:a2:8e:ca:00:e8:99:
      bb:05:4a:a0:3e:44:f4:af:eb:c6:2d:27:f9:00:68:
      66:a8:1f:a8:19:7d:1a:f0:5f:b1:89:a3:3c:d0:f0:
      a4:d9
    Exponent: 65537 (0x10001)
  X509v3 extensions:
    X509v3 Key Usage: critical
      Digital Signature
    X509v3 Basic Constraints:
      CA:FALSE
    X509v3 Subject Key Identifier:
      63:50:C4:FE:B2:D4:0A:38:1E:B8:62:77:A0:5C:30:BC:1C:AC:1D:C1
    X509v3 CRL Distribution Points:
      ...
```

Accessory Firmware





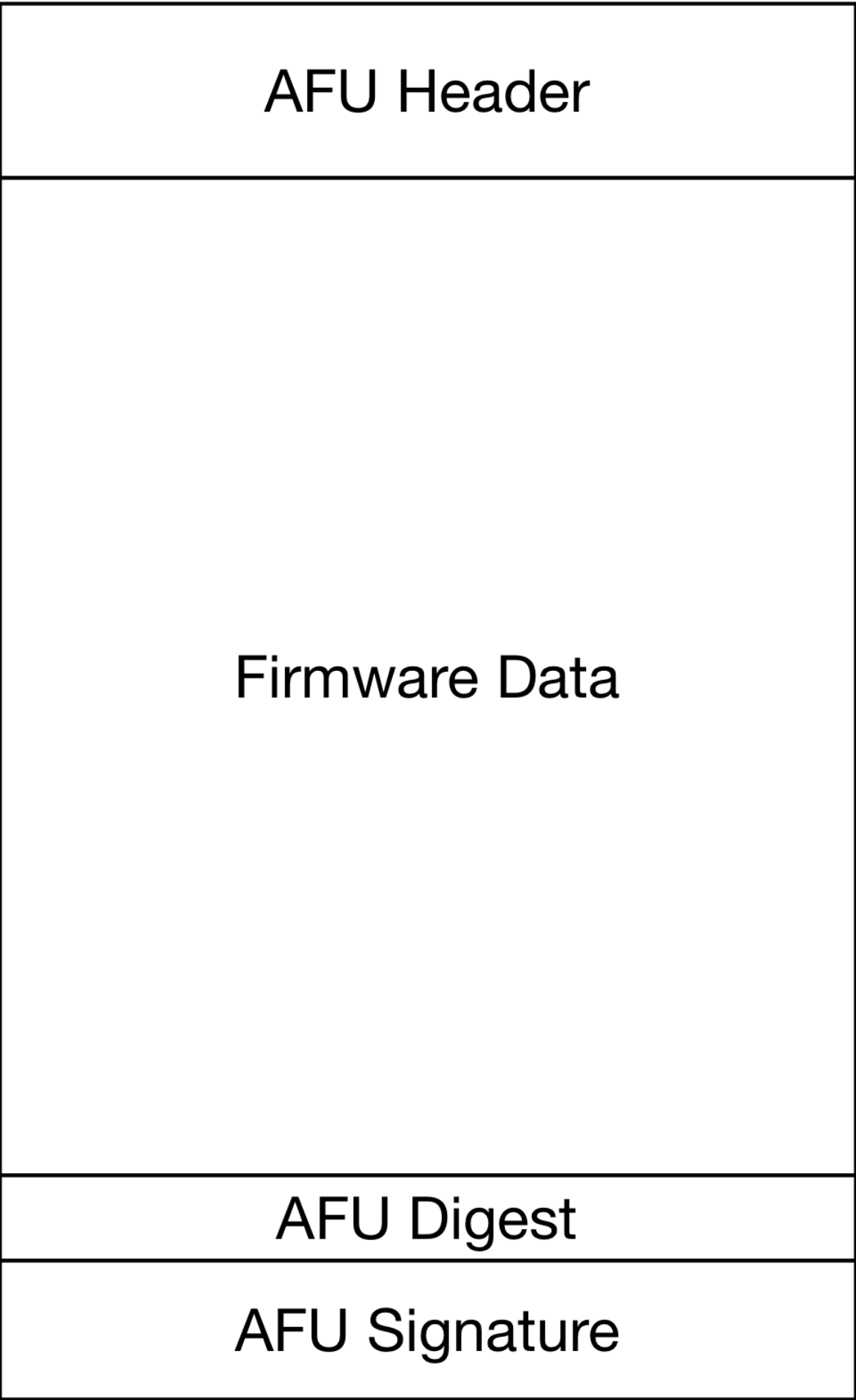
Accessory Firmware

- accessory firmware for Apple Pencil and Smart Keyboard comes in AFU files
- file extension is not necessarily .afu
- other accessories like Smart Remote use it too
- but e.g. AirPods use a different format



AFU File Format

- AFU files have a 128 byte header
- followed by the firmware data
- followed by a SHA256 hash of header plus data
- at the end there is a RSA2048 signature





AFU File Header

- main header
 - firmware type, firmware version
 - product / hw revision
 - data length and CRC
 - CRC algorithm is either standard CRC32 or STM32 depending on accessory type
- signature header
 - theoretically optional
 - defines and locates digest and RSA signature
- personalization header
 - optional
 - hardcodes accessory unique id

magic		fw type	fw version	fw data length		fw data CRC
product id	hw revision					
sig magic		0x100	0x120	digest type	digest len	digest offset
sig type	sig len	signature offset				
pers magic		0x100	unique id			
unique id						flags
						header CRC



AFU File Tools

- AFU_check.py
 - python script that verifies the CRCs, the digest and the RSA signature of an AFU file
- AFU_loader.py
 - IDAPython File Format Loader Plugin that adds AFU file format support to IDA Pro



Apple Pencil Firmware

- current version: 2.48
- available as OTA Update
- 183kb in size
- firmware data loaded at 0x8006080
- around 1200 functions
- around 210 strings



Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware

- different form factors have different current firmware:
 - 12.9" - 0x855
 - 9.7" - 0x858
 - 10.5" - 0x12d
- OTA Update only available for 12,9" and only old firmware 0x850
- 45.8kb in size
- firmware data loaded at 0x08002600
- around 590 functions
- 6 strings



Accessory Bootloader

- firmware of Pencil and Smart Keyboard is not loaded at start of memory map
- it is unknown what is loaded before the firmware
- likely a small boot loader that cannot be upgraded by AFU
- so far it has not been extracted (, yet)

Apple Pencil





Apple Pencil

- Firmware for Apple Pencil has way more strings
- allows to understand parts a bit easier
- contains a RTX C by unknown vendor
- heap implementation with forward and backward coalescence
- has named tasks which again makes understanding easier



Apple Pencil Task List

- PowerMgr
- radio_interface
- idbus
- idbus_ea_radioDiags
- Force
- Inertia
- battery
- iap_idbus
- BTSync
- FWU_Deferred

```
TEXT:08032284 ; struct _task_list_entry list_of_tasks_maybe
TEXT:08032284 _list_of_tasks_maybe _task_list_entry <_powermgr_main+1, aPowermgr, 0x44C, 0x28, 1>
TEXT:08032284 ; DATA XREF: sub_80203A0+6A7o
TEXT:08032284 ; sub_80203A0+927o ...
TEXT:08032284 ; "PowerMgr"
TEXT:08032298 _task_list_entry <_radio_interface_main+1, aRadioInterface, 0x4B0, 0, \ ; "radio_interface"
TEXT:08032298 0>
TEXT:080322AC _task_list_entry <_idbus_main+1, aIdbus, 0x6A4, 0, 0> ; "idbus"
TEXT:080322C0 _task_list_entry <_idbus_ea_radioDiags_main+1, aIdbusEaRadiodi, 0x258,\ ; "idbus_ea_radioDiags"
TEXT:080322C0 0, 0>
TEXT:080322D4 _task_list_entry <_Force_main+1, aForce, 0x4B0, 0, 0> ; "Force"
TEXT:080322E8 _task_list_entry <_Inertia_main+1, aInertia, 0x708, 0, 0> ; "Inertia"
TEXT:080322FC _task_list_entry <_battery_main+1, aBattery, 0x3DE, 0, 0> ; "battery"
TEXT:08032310 _task_list_entry <_iap_idbus_main+1, aIapIdbus, 0x370, 0, 0> ; "iap_idbus"
TEXT:08032324 _task_list_entry <_BTSync_main+1, aBtsync, 0x400, 0, 0> ; "BTSync"
TEXT:08032338 _task_list_entry <_fwu_deferred_main+1, aFwuDeferred, 0x1800, 0x3C, 1> ; "FWU_Deferred"
TEXT:0803234C
```



Apple Pencil

- we already know that firmware upgrade uses HID so we need to find HID parsers
- command line tool **ioreg** reveals 4 HID devices with different primary usage

```
+--o Apple Pencil <class IOAccessoryIDBusBulkData>
  +--o IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint@0 <class IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint>
    | +--o IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice <class IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice>
    |   +--o IOHIDInterface <class IOHIDInterface>
  +--o IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint@1 <class IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint>
    | +--o IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice <class IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice>
    |   +--o IOHIDInterface <class IOHIDInterface>
  +--o IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint@2 <class IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint>
    | +--o IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice <class IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice>
    |   +--o IOHIDInterface <class IOHIDInterface>
  +--o IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint@3 <class IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint>
    | +--o IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice <class IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice>
    |   +--o IOHIDInterface <class IOHIDInterface>
  +--o IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint@4 <class IOAccessoryIDBusBulkDataEndpoint>
    +--o IOAccessoryPortIDBus@6 <class IOAccessoryPortIDBus>
      +--o IOAccessoryPortUserClient <class IOAccessoryPortUserClient>
```




- [illegible]

- ```

TEXT:0802F778 _device_240 DCD 0xAFF0006, 0x1A1000B, 0x85000B0A, 0x68076FF, 0x2B20195
TEXT:0802F778 ; DATA XREF: __TEXT:0802F68C↑o
TEXT:0802F778 ; __TEXT:0802F704↑o
TEXT:0802F778 DCD 0xC001, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
TEXT:0802F7B8 _device_243 DCD 0xAFF0006, 0x1A1000E, 0x85000E0A, 0x68076FF, 0x2B20195
TEXT:0802F7B8 ; DATA XREF: __TEXT:0802F6A4↑o
TEXT:0802F7B8 ; __TEXT:0802F71C↑o
TEXT:0802F7B8 DCD 0xC001, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
TEXT:0802F7F8 _device_248 DCD 0xAFF0006, 0x1A10011, 0x8500110A, 0x68076FF, 0x2B20195
TEXT:0802F7F8 ; DATA XREF: __TEXT:0802F6BC↑o
TEXT:0802F7F8 ; __TEXT:0802F734↑o
TEXT:0802F7F8 DCD 0xC001, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
TEXT:0802F838 _device_245 DCD 0xAFF0006, 0x1A10012, 0x8500120A, 0x68076FF, 0x2B20195
TEXT:0802F838 ; DATA XREF: __TEXT:0802F6D4↑o
TEXT:0802F838 ; __TEXT:0802F74C↑o
TEXT:0802F838 DCD 0xC001, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
TEXT:0802F878 aComAppleDevdev DCB "com.apple.devDevice.radioDiags",0
TEXT:0802F878 ; DATA XREF: __TEXT:0802F764↑o
TEXT:0802F897 DCB 0

```



# Apple Pencil - Sub Devices

- from the HID report descriptors we can distinguish internal sub devices
- from tasks registering callbacks we get idea what sub device it is
  - primary usage 11 - code 240 - main
  - primary usage 14 - code 243 - inertia
  - primary usage 17 - code 248 - force
  - primary usage 18 - code 245 - radio
- Inertia\_main:  
set\_hid\_feature\_report\_callback(243,  
device\_243\_get\_feature\_report\_INERTIA, ← parser for HID Get Feature Report  
device\_243\_set\_feature\_report\_INERTIA); ← parser for HID Set Feature Report



# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol





# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- the iOS Device opens a connection to the accessory's HID Device with primary usage 11
- **this can be done even from a sandboxed iOS process**

```
CFMutableDictionaryRef matching_dict = IOServiceMatching("IOAccessoryIDBusHIDDevice");
int32_t primary_usage = 11;
int32_t product_id = 0x268;
CFDictionaryAddValue(matching_dict, CFSTR("PrimaryUsage"), CFNumberCreate(kCFAllocatorDefault, kCFNumberSInt32Type, &primary_usage));
CFDictionaryAddValue(matching_dict, CFSTR("ProductID"), CFNumberCreate(kCFAllocatorDefault, kCFNumberSInt32Type, &product_id));

kr = IOServiceGetMatchingServices(0, matching_dict, &iter);

service = IOIteratorNext(iter);
while (service) {

 hiddevice = IOHIDDeviceCreate(kCFAllocatorDefault, service);

 if (hiddevice) {
 fprintf(f, "HID Device Created\n");
 kr = IOHIDDeviceOpen(hiddevice, 0);
 if (kr == 0) {
 fprintf(f, "HID Device Opened\n");
 ...
 }
 }
}
```



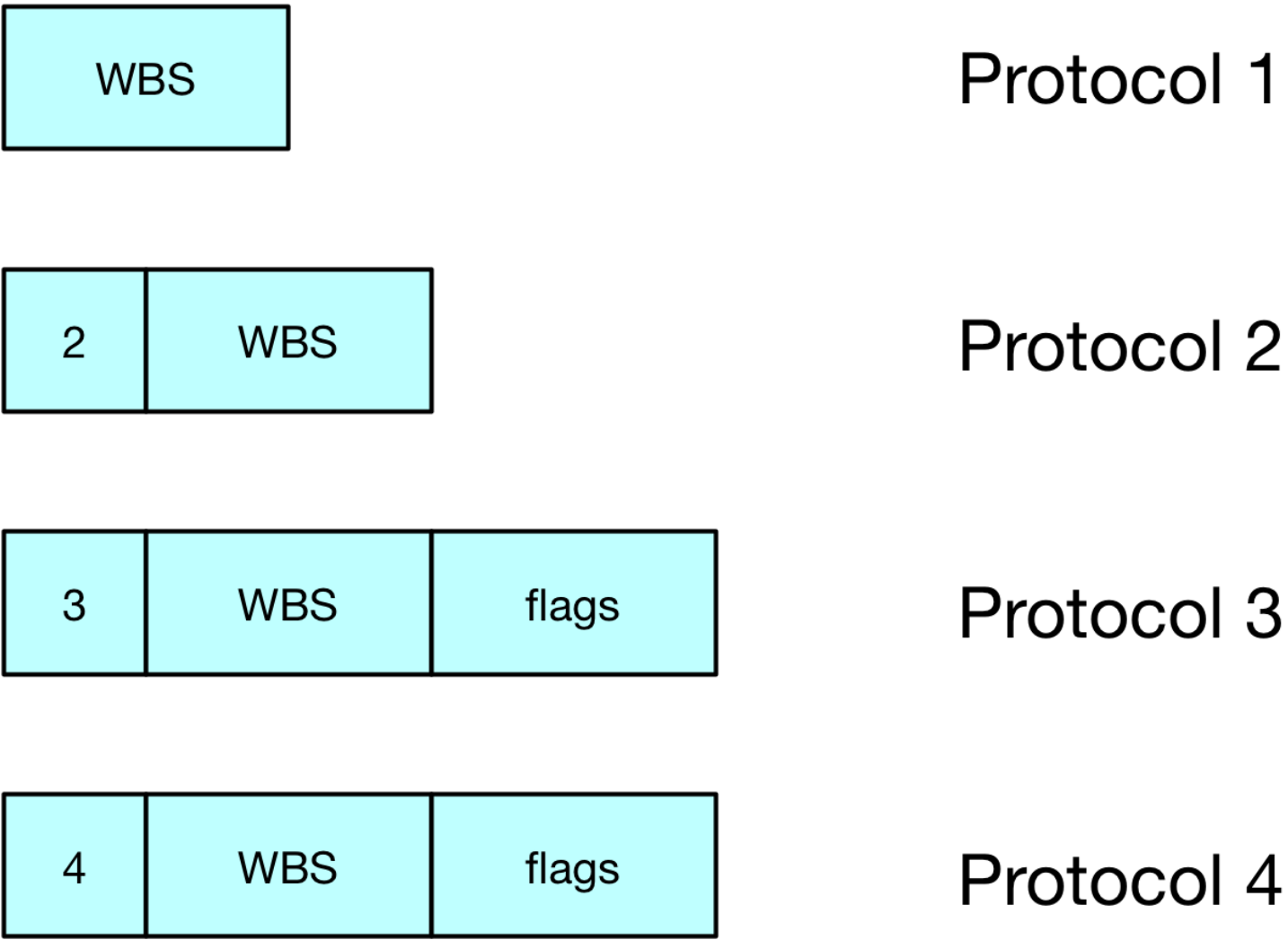
# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- a HID Get Feature Report 0xB8 is sent to find out which of the 4 AFU protocols is spoken and how big the writebuffer (WBS) is

```
fprintf(f, "getting report: 0xb8\n");
rlen = sizeof(buffer);
memset(rbuffer, 0, sizeof(rbuffer));
kr = IOHIDDeviceGetReport(hiddevice, kIOHIDReportTypeFeature, 0xb8, &rbuffer, &rlen);

if (kr != 0) { _exit(1); }
```

- protocol 1 and 2 always send offsets
- protocol 3 and 4 send offsets if flags bit 1 is not set
- protocol 3 and 4 use extended setup if flags bit 0 is set
- protocol 1 and 4 use different HID reports than 2 and 3





# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- a HID Set Feature Report 0xB0 with the magic code 0xc3 0xbc is sent if extended setup is required by protocol

```
if (CONFIG_need_extended_setup) {
```

```
 printf("setting report: 0xb0\n");
 rlen = sizeof(buffer);
 memset(rbuffer, 0, sizeof(rbuffer));
```

```
 rlen = 3;
 rbuffer[0] = 0xb0;
 rbuffer[1] = 0xc3;
 rbuffer[2] = 0xbc;
```

```
 kr = IOHIDDeviceSetReport(hiddevice, kIOHIDReportTypeFeature, 0xb0, &rbuffer, rlen);
```

```
}
```





# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- a HID Set Feature Report 0xB0 with the magic code 0x62 0x72 is sent to start the firmware upload

```
fprintf(f, "setting report: 0xb0\n");
rlen = sizeof(buffer);
memset(rbuffer, 0, sizeof(rbuffer));
```

```
rlen = 3;
rbuffer[0] = 0xb0;
rbuffer[1] = 0x62;
rbuffer[2] = 0x72;
```

```
kr = IOHIDDeviceSetReport(hiddevice, kIOHIDReportTypeFeature, 0xb0, &rbuffer, rlen);
```



# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- the firmware is sent piece by piece by sending HID Set Feature Report 0xB1
- if the protocol allows (requires) offsets to be sent the first 3 bytes of the buffer are the big endian offset

```
fprintf(f, "setting report: 0xb1\n");
rlen = sizeof(buffer);
memset(rbuffer, 0, sizeof(rbuffer));
```

```
int datalen = AFU_writebuffersize-1-3;
int datapos = 1;
```

```
rbuffer[0] = 0xb1;
if (CONFIG_send_offsets) {
 rbuffer[3] = offset & 0xFF;
 rbuffer[2] = (offset >> 8) & 0xFF;
 rbuffer[1] = (offset >> 16) & 0xFF;
 datapos += 3;
}
memcpy(&rbuffer[datapos], DATA+offset, datalen);
rlen = datapos + datalen;
offset += datalen;
```

```
kr = IOHIDDeviceSetReport(hiddevice, kIOHIDReportTypeFeature, 0xb1, &rbuffer, rlen);
```



# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- the firmware is committed by sending HID Set Feature Report 0xB2 with code 0x00

```
fprintf(f, "setting report: 0xb2\n");
rlen = sizeof(buffer);
memset(rbuffer, 0, sizeof(rbuffer));
```

```
rlen = 2;
rbuffer[0] = 0xb2;
rbuffer[1] = 0;
```

```
kr = IOHIDDeviceSetReport(hiddevice, kIOHIDReportTypeFeature, 0xb2, &rbuffer, rlen);
```



# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- a HID Get Feature Report 0xB2 is sent to retrieve information about success of AFU upload
- error code 0xA1 says success other error codes might reveal a broken signature

```
fprintf(f, "getting report: 0xb2\n");
rlen = sizeof(buffer);
memset(rbuffer, 0, sizeof(rbuffer));
kr = IOHIDDeviceGetReport(hiddevice, kIOHIDReportTypeFeature, 0xb2, &rbuffer, &rlen);
```





# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- if extended setup is required by the protocol an advanced commit is required by sending HID Set Feature Report 0xB2 with code 0xc3 0xbc

```
fprintf(f, "setting report: 0xb2\n");
rlen = sizeof(buffer);
memset(rbuffer, 0, sizeof(rbuffer));
```

```
rlen = 3;
rbuffer[0] = 0xb2;
rbuffer[1] = 0xc3;
rbuffer[2] = 0xbc;
```

```
kr = IOHIDDeviceSetReport(hiddevice, kIOHIDReportTypeFeature, 0xb2, &rbuffer, rlen);
```



# AFU Firmware Upgrade Protocol

- the firmware upgrade is finished by resetting the device by sending a HID Set Feature Report 0xB3

```
fprintf(f, "setting report: 0xb3\n");
rlen = sizeof(buffer);
memset(rbuffer, 0, sizeof(rbuffer));
```

```
rlen = 1;
rbuffer[0] = 0xb3;
```

```
kr = IOHIDDeviceSetReport(hiddevice, kIOHIDReportTypeFeature, 0xb3, &rbuffer, rlen);
```



# DEMO

---

- Downgrade of Apple Pencil from 2.48 to 2.40  
(Apple forgot a downgrade protection in the Pencil)
- could be useful to downgrade to a firmware with a vulnerability
- then exploit the vulnerability and takeover the pencil

# Apple Smart Keyboard SPI Storage/Retrieval







# Apple Smart Keyboard SPI Storage

---

- when firmware is uploaded via HID Set Feature Report 0xB1 it is written via SPI
- unknown where it is actually written - but non volatile storage
- write access is forced to be within 0x20000 and 0x3b000
- depending on firmware type this data copied via SPI after commit and verification
  - firmware type 0xd0 is copied to 0x1e000
  - firmware type 0xc0 is copied to 0x3b000



# Apple Smart Keyboard SPI Retrieval

- Apple Smart Keyboard supports HID Feature Report 0xB6 for SPI retrieval
  - HID Get Feature Report 0xB6 reads from current offset via SPI
  - HID Set Feature Report 0xB6 allows to set current offset
- storage seems to be non volatile
- whatever was previously written can be read back
- **ATTENTION:**  
on Apple Smart Keyboard 10.5“ this feature is broken and **returns uninitialised data**



# Apple Smart Keyboard SPI Infoblock

- at offset 0x1e000 there is an info block that contains information about the keyboard
- serial numbers of attached keyboard, product id, vendor id, hardware revision, ...

|          |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                  |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------------|
| 0001e000 | f0 | 9f | 92 | b0 | 00 | 01 | ac | 05 | 6a | 02 | 00 | 00 | 37 | f5 | 55 | 59 | .....j...7.UY    |
| 0001e010 | 00 | 00 | 11 | 0c | 46 | 54 | 50 | 54 | 57 | 31 | 43 | 43 | 48 | 43 | 35 | 31 | ....FTPTW1CCHC51 |
| 0001e020 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | .....            |
| 0001e030 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 46 | 50 | 57 | 37 | 32 | 30 | 37 | 30 | 44 | 37 | 48 | 48 | ....FPW72070D7HH |
| 0001e040 | 50 | 4c | 48 | 41 | 59 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | PLHAY.....       |
| 0001e050 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | .....            |
| 0001e060 | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | ff | .....            |



# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Dumping (I)

---

- we can use HID Feature Request 0xB6 to read whatever firmware was last uploaded
- let's assume that Apple uses the same feature to upload the final firmware of a device
- what if we buy a new keyboard and try to read what was last uploaded
- between 0x20000 and 0x3b000 there should be the firmware



# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Dumping (II)

- unfortunately Apple does first upload the firmware and then the infoblock
- this means the first 4kb of the firmware is destroyed when extracted this way

```
00020000 c7 a2 00 01 d0 00 00 00 54 00 00 00 c3 c7 52 25 |.....T.....R%|
00020010 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
*
00020070 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 a4 26 58 a3 |.....&X.|
00020080 f0 9f 92 b0 00 01 ac 05 6a 02 00 00 37 f5 55 59 |.....j...7.UY|
00020090 00 00 11 0c 46 54 50 54 57 31 43 43 48 43 35 31 |....FTPTW1CCHC51|
000200a0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
000200b0 00 00 00 00 46 50 57 37 32 30 37 30 44 37 48 48 |....FPW72070D7HH|
000200c0 50 4c 48 41 59 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |PLHAY.....|
000200d0 00 00 00 00 ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff |.....|
000200e0 ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff |.....|
*
00021000 05 05 b1 f8 00 c0 1c f0 ff 0f 35 d0 14 68 4f f0 |.....5..h0.|
```





# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Reconstruction

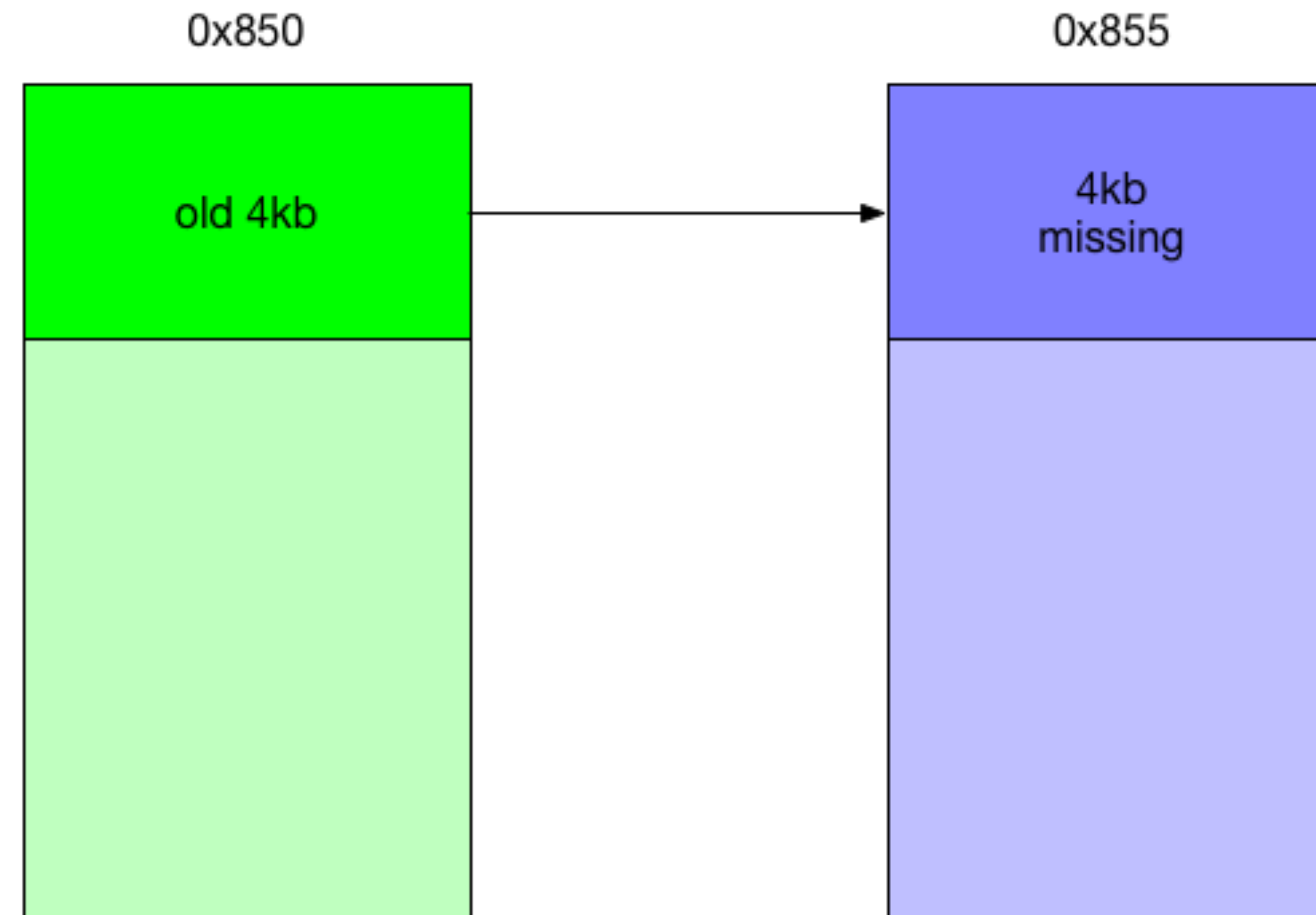
---

- for testing we dumped the firmware of a fresh
  - Apple Smart Keyboard 12.9" - version 0x855
  - Apple Smart Keyboard 9.7" - version 0x858
- we only have Apple Smart Keyboard 12.9" - version 0x850 available for reconstruction



# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Reconstruction (II)

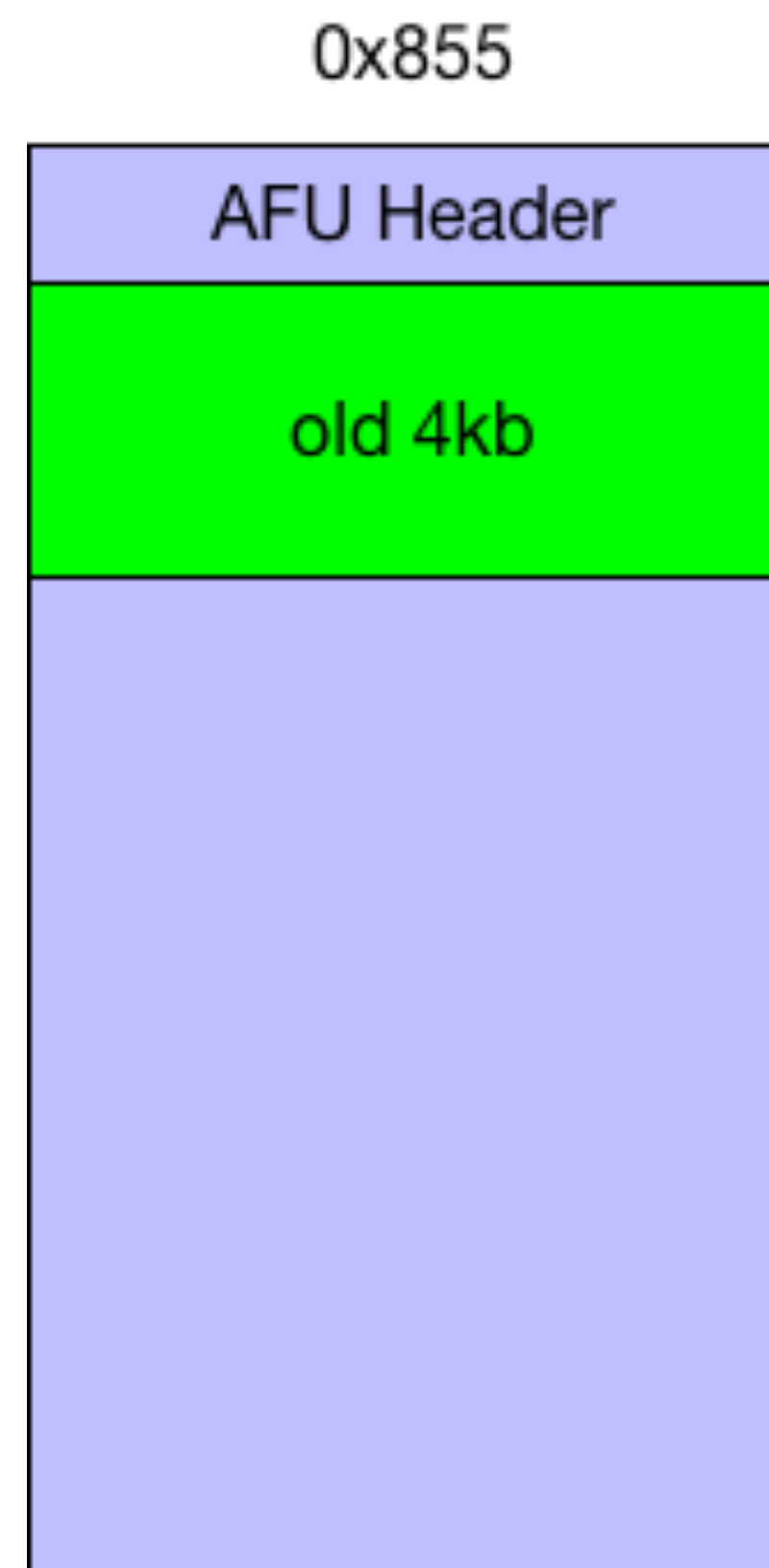
- we can copy the first 4kb from 0x850 to 0x855 because we can see that around 4kb firmwares are identical





# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Reconstruction (III)

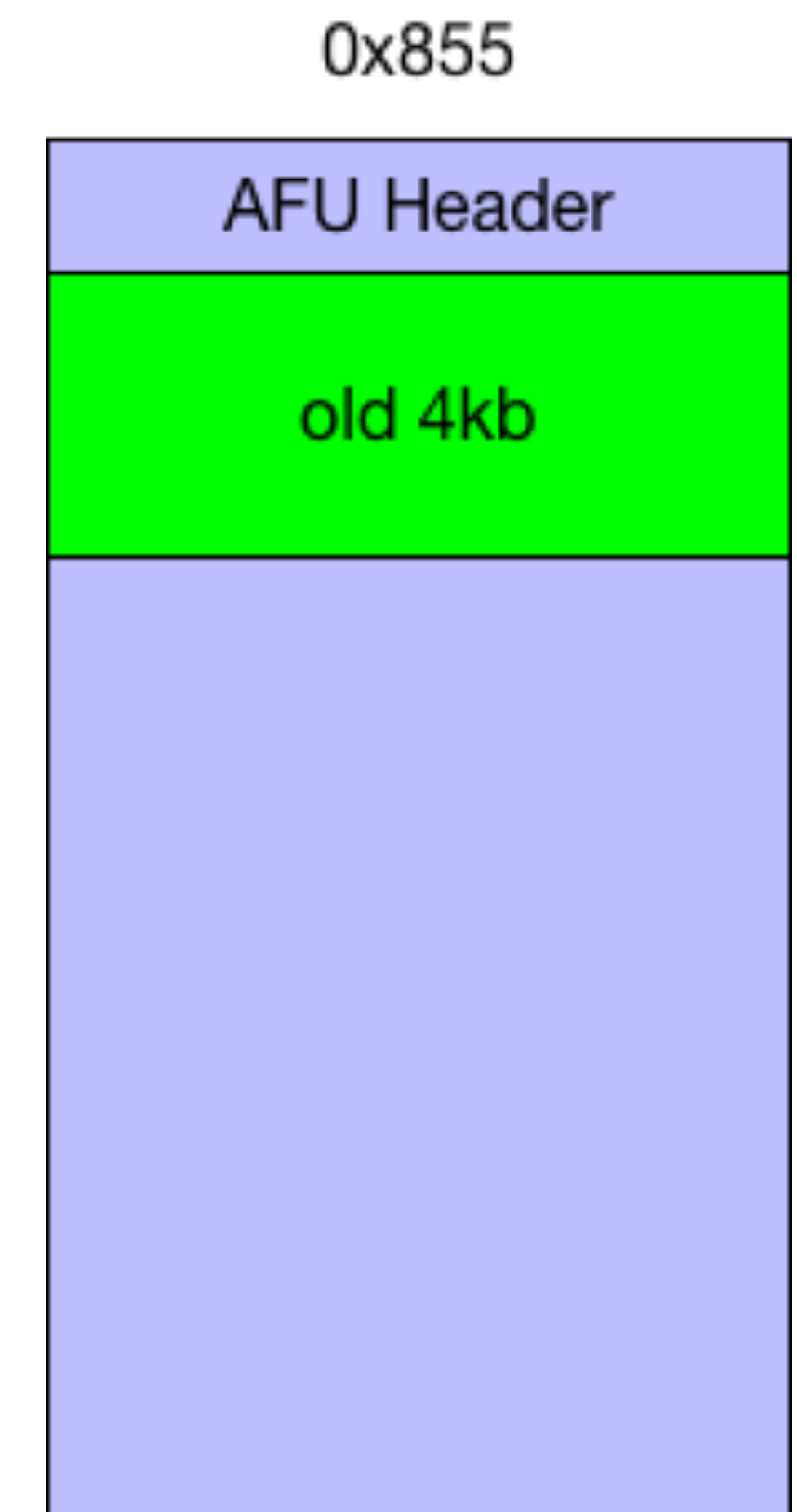
- we can always reconstruct a valid AFU header because purpose of all fields is determined





# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Reconstruction (IV)

- at this point we assumed that there were no actual code changes !!!
- this means most of the 4kb should be the same
- except for:
  - version number inside green
  - 2 label relative pointers from green to blue
  - pointer to blue inside green
  - relative jump from green to blue with changed target address
- **pointer to SRAM from green (and SRAM addressed changed)**  
(luckily this did not occur)





# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Reconstruction (V)

- luckily there were not that many changes needed
- it was possible to fully reconstruct the firmware
- even the RSA2048 signature matches

```
$ python ../AFU_check.py B249-STFW-0x0855-prod-signed.bin
```

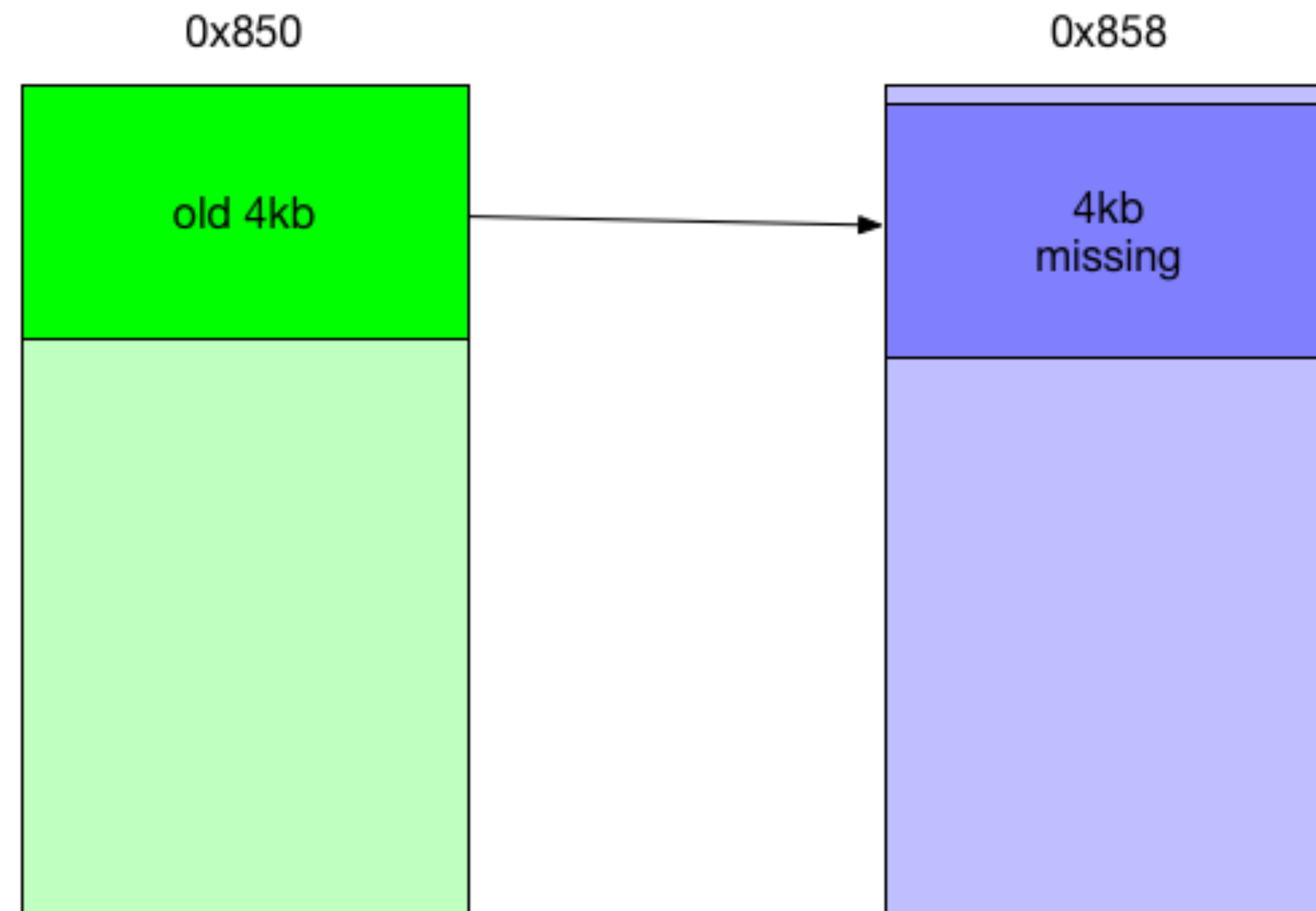
```
[+] Checking AFU file B249-STFW-0x0855-prod-signed.bin
[+] AFU magic matches
[+] AFU for Smart Keyboard 12.9"
[!] CRC algorithm: standard
[+] AFU header CRC matches
[+] AFU data CRC matches
[+] AFU sha256 digest matches
[+] AFU RSA2048 signature matches
```





# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Reconstruction (VI)

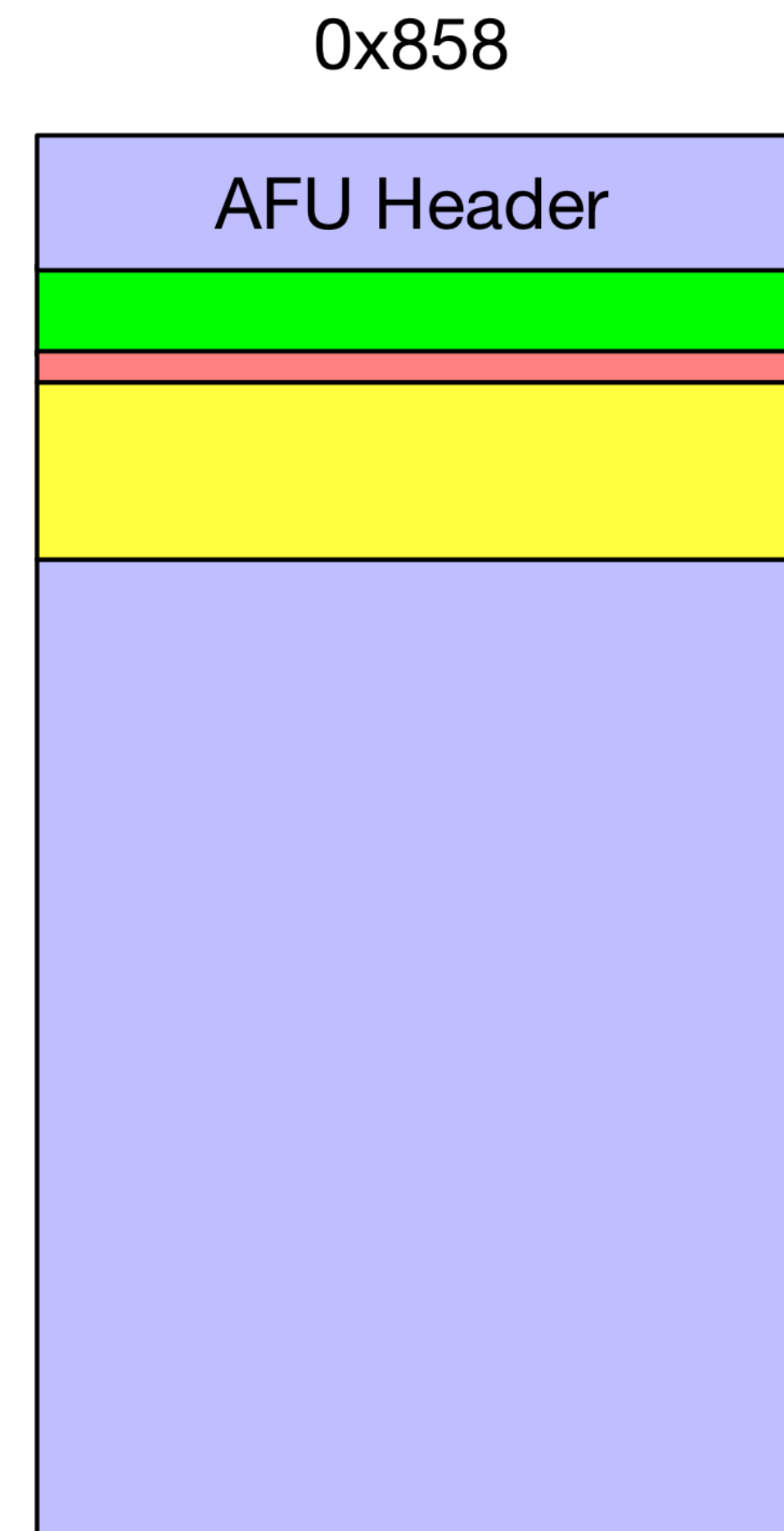
- the 0x858 firmware from the Apple Smart Keyboard 9.7“ was a different beast
- we realized that around 4 kb the code was very much the same but it was shifted by 16 bytes





# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Reconstruction (VII)

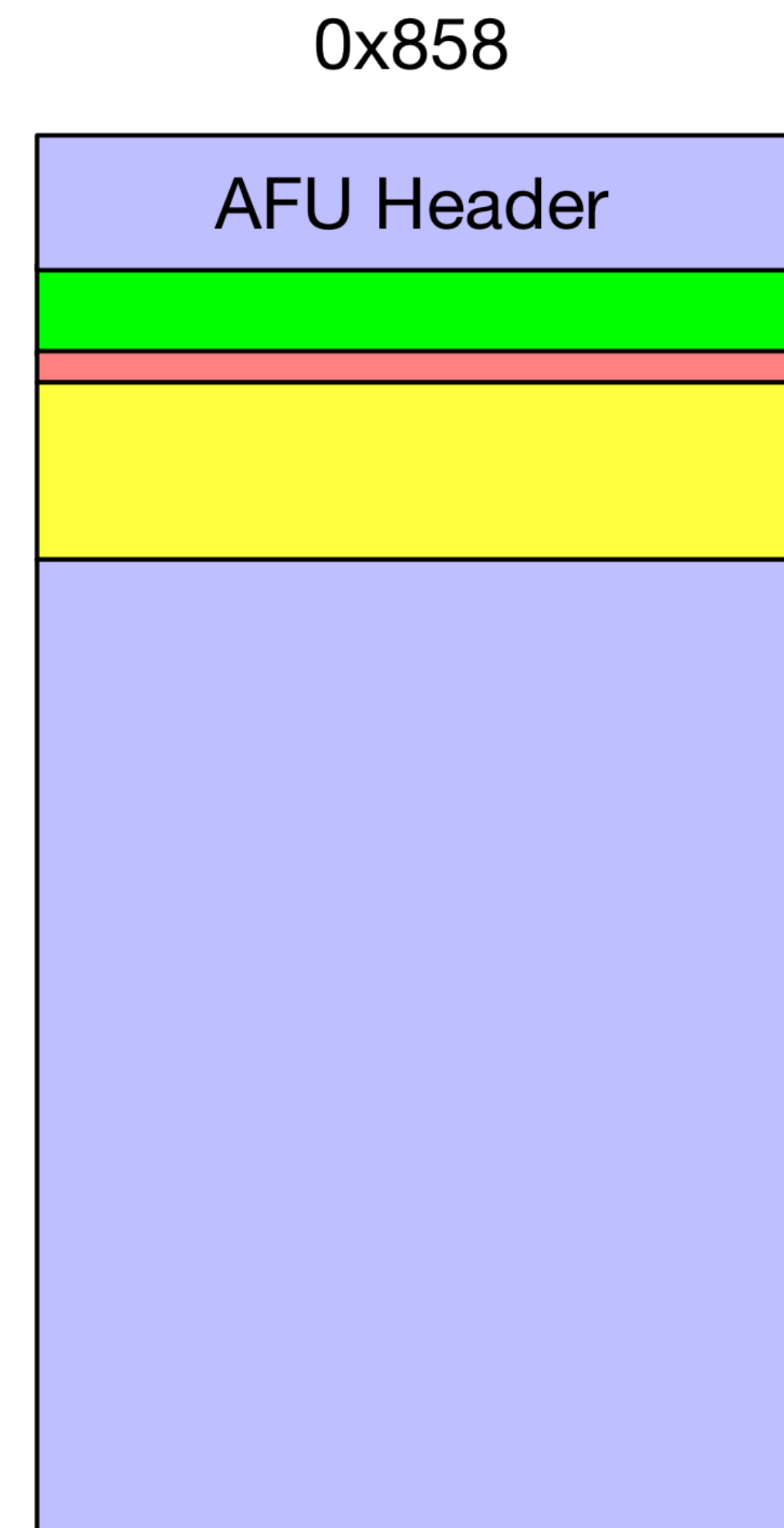
- it was easy to pinpoint where the shifted 16 bytes occurred
- it seems one 16 byte function was introduced within the first 4kb
- we have no idea what these 16 bytes are
- but if we ignore these 16 bytes we can reconstruct everything else
- of course we cannot make the hash/signature match
- but it is good enough to analyse





# Apple Smart Keyboard Firmware Reconstruction (VIII)

- we now have to deal with:
    - version number inside green
    - 2 label relative pointers from green to blue
    - pointer to SRAM from green (and SRAM addressed changed)
    - pointer to blue inside green or yellow
    - relative jump from green to blue with changed target address
    - relative jump from blue to green because of 16 byte shift
    - relative jump from yellow to green because of 16 byte shift
- ➡ we have something reconstructed that works great in IDA



# Apple Pencil Crashlog





# Apple Pencil Crashlog

---

- Apple Pencil contains debugging tool the Crashlog
- panics will be written there
- might be useful during exploitation of vulnerabilities
- access to crashlog via HID Feature Report 0xE1





# HID Set Feature Report 0xE1

---

- crashlog can be controlled with HID Set Feature Report 0xE1
- first data byte selects sub function
  - 0x05 – set internal crashlog read offset (followed by 2 bytes little endian offset)
  - 0xee – erase the crashlog content
  - 0xcc – create a test crashlog entry



# HID Get Feature Report 0xE1

---

- crashlog can be read with HID Get Feature Report 0xE1
- reads from current crashlog read offset
- offset is automatically increased



# Apple Pencil Crashlog

```
Crash log for exception 0x10
Crash log test!@src/target/b222/target_hid.c:996
taskID 6
numTasks 11
freeHeap 1248
 0 Idle task P127 St:0 Stk:0/0(0%)
 1 <task(1)> P60 St:80 Stk:160/376(43%)
 3 <task(3)> P126 St:1 Stk:88/256(34%)
 4 PowerMgr P24 St:40 Stk:648/1096(59%)
 5 radio_interface P64 St:40 Stk:696/1200(58%)
*6 idbus P50 St:0 Stk:1272/1696(75%)
 8 Force P31 St:40 Stk:688/1200(57%)
 9 Inertia P63 St:40 Stk:1072/1800(60%)
10 battery P123 St:40 Stk:632/984(64%)
11 iap_idbus P100 St:40 Stk:680/880(77%)
12 BTSync P20 St:40 Stk:448/1024(44%)
bt, size 84 taskId 6**, err 0x0, depth 14, idx 0
=>0x20006a50
 0x20000e14
 0x8031302
 0x8021bdd
 0x0
 0xf0
 0x0
 0x9f
 0x0
 0x20001710
 0x200016c0
 0x200016c0
 0x88888806
 0x0
FW_v248...2017/07/26...22:19:06 on 323151.A0 - protocol: 1.0.0
```

# Results and Conclusion





# Results - Firmware Upgrade Process

---

- PRO
  - firmware upgrades use RSA2048
  - it seems the validation cannot be tricked
  - Apple Smart Keyboard is protected against firmware downgrades
- CON
  - Apple forgot firmware downgrade protection in Apple Pencil
  - old firmware stays in Apple Smart Keyboard storage and can be read back
- QUESTION
  - does the bootloader check sig too? Or does ONE TIME CODE EXEC defeat the system?





# Results - Security Architecture

---

- CON
  - we did not see any exploit mitigations (e.g. ASLR, Canaries, NX)
  - Apple Smart Keyboard does not seem to even have MPU support
  - Apple Pencil does not seem to use MPU
  - sandboxed iOS Applications can talk to accessory and even downgrade firmware
  - why is **fud** not sandboxed?



# Conclusion

---

- we found a number of smaller problems
- but no dramatic problem like code execution(, yet)
- but we have only looked at a part
- especially the Apple Pencil has parsers we haven't fully understood and checked, yet (bluetooth, IAP, ...)
- we also want to do some hardware attacks
- and try to get the firmware running in a QEMU STM32 port





# Questions?

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