

# Help, I've got ANTs!!!



# whoami

- ❖ Tamas Szakaly (sghctoma)
- ❖ from Hungary, the land of Pipacs and gulash
- ❖ OSCP, OSCE
- ❖ pentester/developer @  PRAUDIT
- ❖ team Prauditors, European champion of Global Cyberlympics 2012
- ❖ regular speaker at Hacktivity
- ❖ gave a talk about insecure script engines in games @ DEF CON 23

# what are we doing with ANTs?!

- ❖ last year I targeted one of my hobbies, flight simulators
  - ❖ it was time to target the other: mountain biking
  - ❖ btw, all my hobbies involve crashes...



# what are we doing with ANTs?!

- ❖ lot's of gadgets involved in sports
- ❖ old-school speedometers replaced by computers
- ❖ computers that communicate with:
  - ❖ sensors (speed, power, heartrate)
  - ❖ mobile phones
  - ❖ PCs



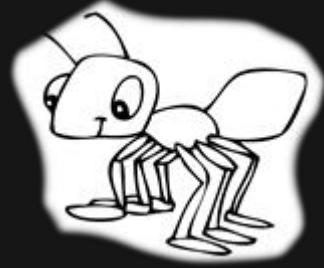
# what are we doing with ANTs?!

- ❖ one of the protocols these computers talk is ANT
- ❖ also used for other purposes:
  - ❖ weight scales
  - ❖ blood pressure monitors
  - ❖ heart rate monitors
  - ❖ lots of mobile phones has ANT chips!!
  - ❖ mesh networks – FireChat (<http://opengarden.com/firechat> )

# what are we doing with ANTs?!

- ❖ I'll talk about:
  - ❖ intro to ANT, ANT+ and ANT-FS
  - ❖ protocol-level design errors
  - ❖ implementation errors

# plain old ANT



- ❖ wireless network protocol by Dynastream
- ❖ 2.4 GHz ISM band
- ❖ designed for low-power devices
- ❖ participants in a network: nodes (slave and master)
- ❖ nodes communicate via mutually established channels

# plain old ANT (channel properties)

- ❖ channel type
  - ❖ bidirectional slave/master
  - ❖ shared bidirectional slave/master
  - ❖ slave receive/master transmit only
  - ❖ extended assignment
    - ❖ frequency agility
    - ❖ background scanning
    - ❖ fast channel initiation
    - ❖ asynchronous transmission

# plain old ANT (channel properties)

- ❖ RF frequency (8 bit field, 2400 MHz - 2524 MHz)
- ❖ channel ID
  - ❖ transmission type (8 bit field)
  - ❖ device type (8 bit field, includes pairing bit)
  - ❖ device number (16 bit field, unique for a given type)
- ❖ channel period (16 bit field, 0.5 Hz – 200 Hz)
- ❖ network
  - ❖ network number (8 bit field)
  - ❖ network key (8 byte number)

# plain old ANT (security measures)

- ❖ network key

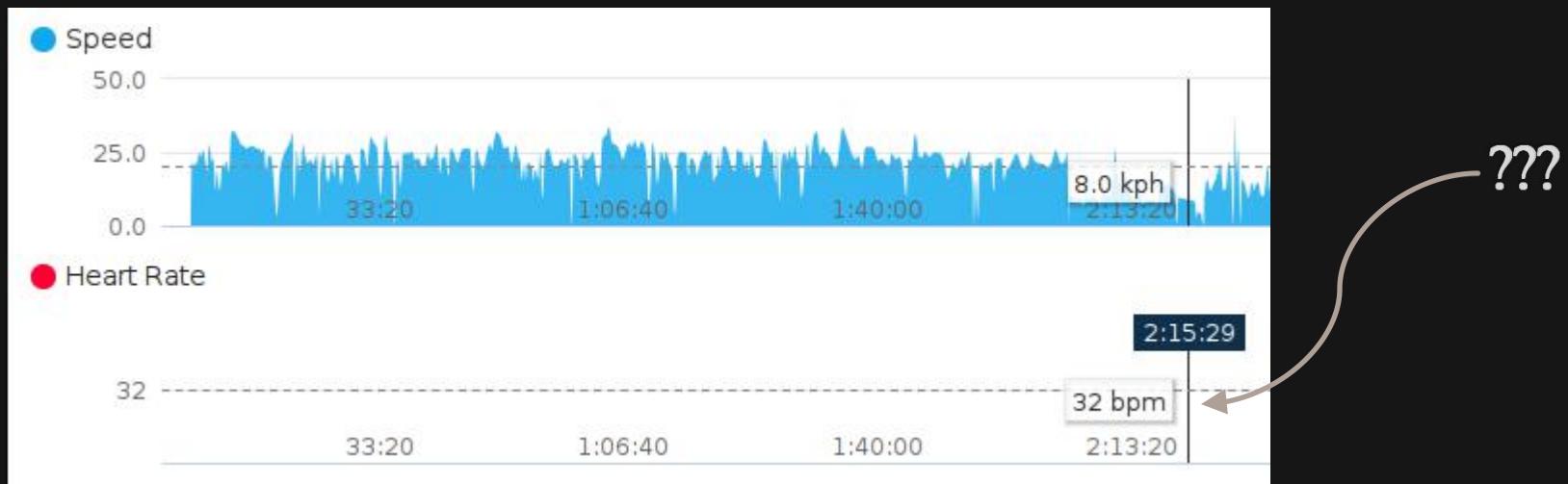
Managed network keys are intended for companies who wish to interoperate across an industry sector. An example of a managed network is the ANT+ network. Along with the use of a managed network key, devices in a managed network must conform to specifications of channel parameters and data format (device profiles), for interoperability. A managed network key provides an added level of security, since only devices within the managed network are able to receive data from other devices in the network.

- ❖ sounds good, but:

- ❖ there is a default key (how many implementations change it?)
- ❖ majority of gadgets use  
ANT+ or ANT-FS

# plain old ANT (security measures)

- ❖ pairing bit
- ❖ it has to be the same on master and slave
  - ❖ bypass: open two channels with different pairing bits



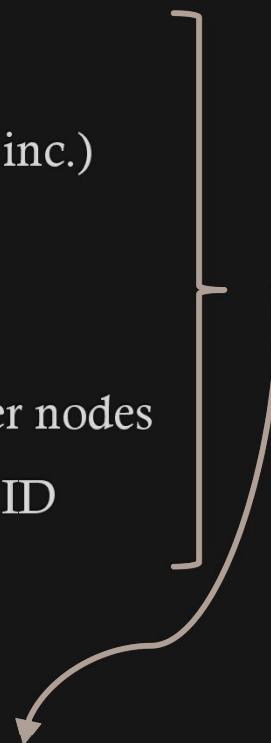


## fake sensor data

- ❖ ANT test software: SimulANT+
- ❖ ANT USB dongle
- ❖ Garmin Forerunner 310XT
- ❖ Send fake power data without pairing

# plain old ANT (security measures)

- ❖ inclusion/exclusion lists
  - ❖ up to 4 channel IDs on a slave node (exc. or inc.)
  - ❖ we can spoof channel ID
- ❖ white/blacklist
  - ❖ similar to inc./exc. lists, but applies to master nodes
  - ❖ so-called encryption IDs instead of channel ID



only available on recent ANT  
chips!!

# plain old ANT (security measures)

- ❖ 128 bit AES-CTR on the channel
- ❖ key exchange???
- ❖ can't use with shared channels
- ❖ requires advanced burst data (energy-inefficient)
- ❖ can't use with ANT+

It is true that ANT protocol can use a single encrypted channel - however this is not the case for ANT+. (See the differences between ANT/ANT+ here:  
<http://www.thisisant.com/developer/ant-plus/ant-antplus-defined>)

If you use encryption for your device it is no longer ANT+ compliant and therefore you are not allowed to use the ANT+ Network Key or frequency.

# atom ant (ANT+)



- ❖ built on top of ANT
- ❖ specifies so-called device profiles

## ANT+ DEVICE PROFILES

Each device profile is identified by its own icon(s), which can be used on the packaging of certified devices to help consumers understand which products will work together. You can find the device profile PDFs under the documents tab of the [Download page](#).

 <b>Bicycle Power</b>	 Controls	 Geocache	 Multi Sport Speed & Distance	 Stride Based Speed & Distance
 Bicycle Speed & Cadence	 Environment	 Heart Rate Monitor	 Muscle Oxygen Monitor	 Sync
 Blood Pressure	 Fitness Equipment Device	 Light Electric Vehicle	 Racquet	 Weight Scale
 Extended Display	 Suspension	 Dropper Seatpost	 Tracker	

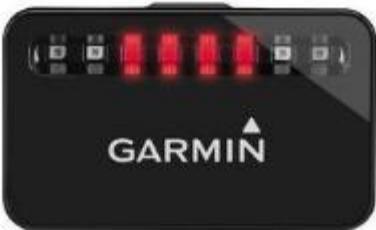
# atom ant (ANT+)



- ❖ profiles are managed by Dynastream
- ❖ govern characteristics of ANT connection
  - ❖ frequency
  - ❖ channel period
  - ❖ network key
  - ❖ data formats
  - ❖ etc.
- ❖ managed ANT network with **publicly known network key**

GARMIN.

## Varia™ Rearview Radar



[VISIT THE MANUFACTURER'S WEBSITE »](#)

- World's first cycling radar that warns of vehicles approaching from behind up to 153 yards (140 m)
- Tail light unit brightens and flashes to notify approaching traffic of a cyclist ahead
- Tail light is controllable using ANT+ bike lights control

\*This product is ANT+ Certified

ANT+  
CAPABILITIES

ACTIVITIES

CATEGORIES



Cycling

Bike Lights & Accessories

**MAGURA**  
**eLECT Dropper Seatpost**



[VISIT THE MANUFACTURER'S WEBSITE »](#)

The new Vyon eLECT adds significant extra functionality and user-friendliness with its MAGURA-exclusive wireless remote operation. With a quick button press on the handlebar remote you can drop the saddle height smoothly by up to 150 mm - then another button press returns it to its optimal position for pedalling.

The Vyon uses the MAGURA eLECT Remote with ANT+ wireless technology. The same remote is already used on MAGURA suspension forks and shocks - so it's technology which has been proven time and again over the toughest courses of the XC racing circuit.

\*This product is ANT+ Certified

ANT+  
CAPABILITIES

ACTIVITIES

CATEGORIES



Cycling

Other

**GARMIN**  
**Varia™ Head Light**



[VISIT THE MANUFACTURER'S WEBSITE »](#)

- Works independently and seamlessly integrates with compatible Edge® cycling computers
- As rider's speed increases, the headlight automatically projects further ahead or closer as a rider's speed decreases when paired with select Edge computers
- As light conditions change, the smart Varia headlights and tail light automatically get brighter or dimmer, when paired with a light-sensing Edge 1000
- Adjustments, including on/off, can be made manually with the use of an included remote
- With 2 tail lights you can indicate impending right or left turns

\*This product is ANT+ Certified

ANT+  
CAPABILITIES

ACTIVITIES

CATEGORIES



Cycling

Bike Lights & Accessories

# let those insects carry docs! (ANT-FS)

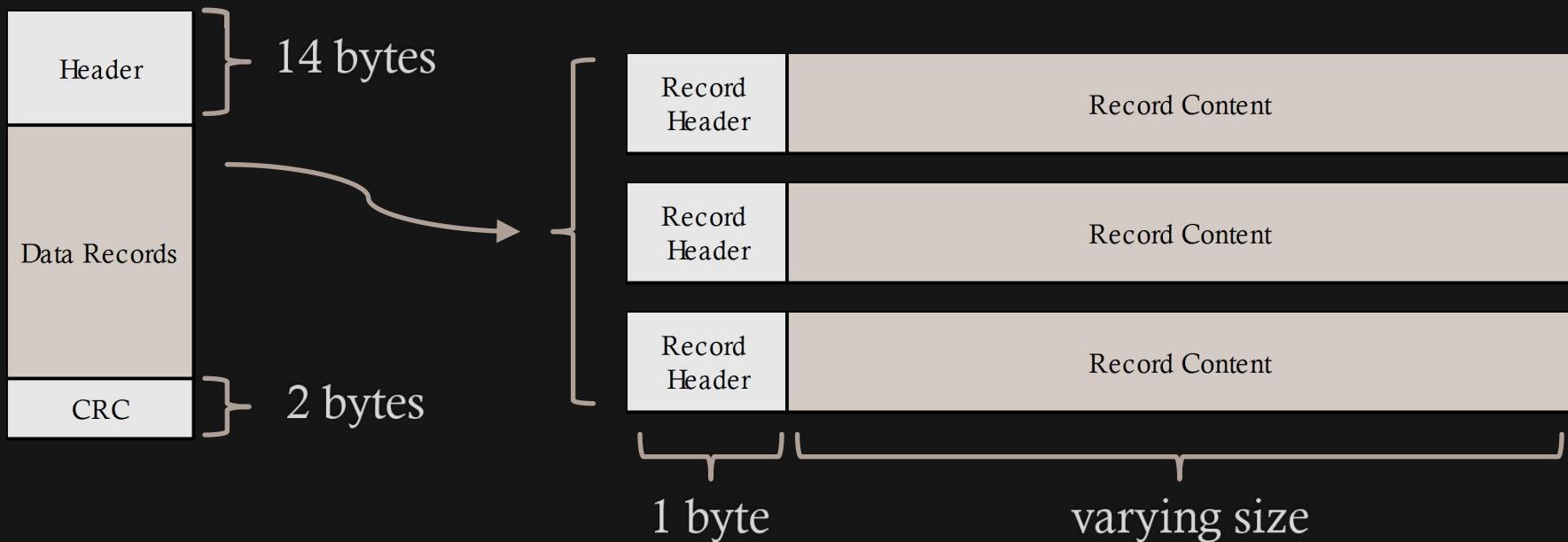
- ❖ SYNC device profile
- ❖ collect and transfer sensor data
- ❖ storage format: FIT protocol
- ❖ data transfer: ANT-FS



observe my mad Paint.NET skillz! :D

# Flexible and Interoperable Data Transfer

- ❖ basically the file format for ANT-FS
- ❖ header + multiple records:



# Flexible and Interoperable Data Transfer

- ❖ first attempt to hack my Garmin 310XT: FIT-fuzzing
- ❖ FIT SDK has some minimal samples
- ❖ gave the FIT decoder sample to everybody's favorite rabbit
- ❖ got some crashes :)
- ❖ sadly, seemingly non-exploitable ones

```
american fuzzy lop 1.83b (decode)

process timing
  run time : 0 days, 0 hrs, 10 min, 46 sec
  last new path : 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 6 sec
  last uniq crash : 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 17 sec
  last uniq hang : none seen yet
overall results
  cycles done : 0
  total paths : 360
  uniq crashes : 6
  uniq hangs : 0

cycle progress
  now processing : 0 (0.00%)
  paths timed out : 0 (0.00%)
map coverage
  map density : 399 (0.61%)
  count coverage : 5.47 bits/tuple
stage progress
  now trying : havoc
  stage execs : 23.8k/160k (14.88%)
  total execs : 141k
  exec speed : 231.5/sec
findings in depth
  favored paths : 1 (0.28%)
  new edges on : 39 (10.83%)
  total crashes : 12 (6 unique)
  total hangs : 0 (0 unique)
fuzzing strategy yields
  bit flips : 131/6680, 24/6679, 24/6677
  byte flips : 2/835, 2/516, 4/534
  arithmetics : 41/28.3k, 2/22.6k, 0/4186
  known ints : 1/2093, 13/12.2k, 24/22.3k
  dictionary : 0/0, 0/0, 0/533
  havoc : 0/0, 0/0
  trim : 0.00%/403, 39.05%
path geometry
  levels : 2
  pending : 360
  pend fav : 1
  own finds : 359
  imported : n/a
  variable : 0
[C] [cpu: 61%]
```

# Flexible and Interoperable Data Transfer

- ❖ uploaded the crashing FIT files to the watch
- ❖ hoped for some crash dumps/logs, got nothing
- ❖ but the ANT stack became unavailable for a few minutes
- ❖ maybe integrated profile?
  - ❖ ANT chip handles FIT
  - ❖ if so, run code on that, instead of MCU?
  - ❖ future work...

```
american fuzzy lop 1.83b (decode)

process timing
  run time : 0 days, 0 hrs, 10 min, 46 sec
  last new path : 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 6 sec
  last uniq crash : 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 17 sec
  last uniq hang : none seen yet
cycle progress
  now processing : 0 (0.00%)
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stage progress
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  stage execs : 23.8k/160K (14.88%)
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  havoc : 0/0, 0/0
  trim : 0.00%/403, 39.05%
map coverage
  map density : 399 (0.61%)
  count coverage : 5.47 bits/tuple
findings in depth
  favored paths : 1 (0.28%)
  new edges on : 39 (10.83%)
  total crashes : 12 (6 unique)
  total hangs : 0 (0 unique)
path geometry
  levels : 2
  pending : 360
  pend fav : 1
  own finds : 359
  imported : n/a
  variable : 0
overall results
  cycles done : 0
  total paths : 360
  uniq crashes : 6
  uniq hangs : 0
[cpu: 61%]
```

# ... back to ANT-FS

- ❖ the sales pitch: a secure, reliable file transfer protocol built on ANT
- ❖ some rants on various forums might question the reliability
- ❖ I question the security
- ❖ two major security feature according to Dynastream:
  - ❖ built-in encryption – that nobody uses
  - ❖ multiple authentication mechanisms – we will see about them...

# come on in, whoever you might be

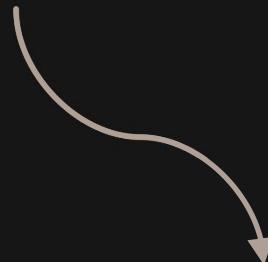
- ❖ a.k.a. the pass-through authentication mode
- ❖ not really authentication
- ❖ host asks nicely, client grants access
- ❖ the purpose?
  - ❖ testing stuff
  - ❖ maybe some legitimate uses
    - e.g. partial track upload at bike race checkpoints

# hey, do we let this guy in?

- ❖ a.k.a. pairing mode
- ❖ requires user interaction
- ❖ host sends serial number and friendly name
- ❖ client asks user about pairing
- ❖ if user accepts:
  - ❖ passkey is sent from client to host
  - ❖ host remembers passkey for future connections

# attacks against pairing mode

- ❖ possible social engineering: send familiar friendly name and/or serial number
- ❖ passkey is sent on successful pairing



**can be sniffed!!!**

# sniffing ANT

- ❖ nRF24AP1 and nRF24AP2 based on nRF24L01+
- ❖ 2.4 GHz ISM band
- ❖ 1 Mbps on-air data rate
- ❖ GFSK modulation
- ❖ actual packet format not clear – one of the documentations mentions Enhanced ShockBurst...



# sniffing ANT with RTL-SDR

- ❖ based on  
<http://blog.cyberexplorer.me/2014/01/sniffing-and-decoding-nrf24l01-and.html>
- ❖ RTL-SDR + MMDS downconverter
- ❖ decoded rtl\_fm output as Enhanced ShockBurst packets
- ❖ every byte was the double of the expected

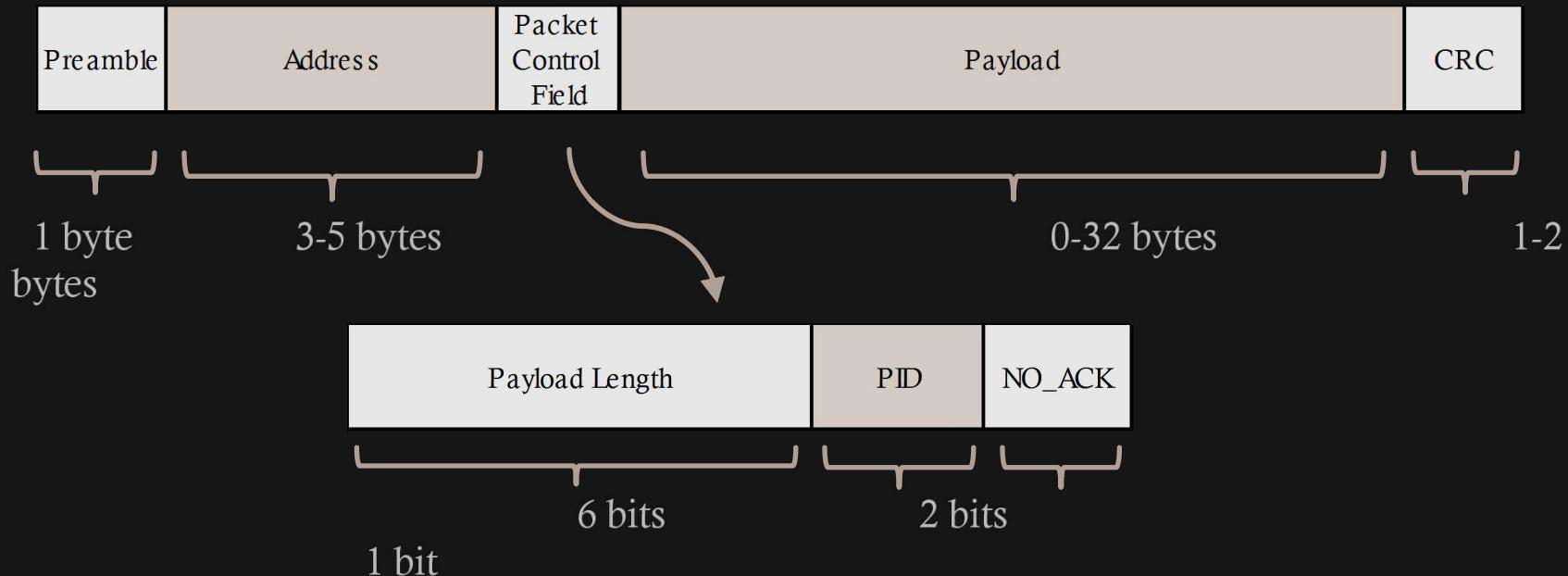


# the mystery of the doubled values

- ❖ they use a brand new, highly sophisticated encryption algo: **c = mul(m, k), where k = 2**
- ❖ would be a whole new level of dumb
- ❖ more possible reason: docs lied, packet format is not Enhanced ShockBurst

# ShockBurst vs. Enhanced ShockBurst

Enhanced ShockBurst:



ShockBurst:





## sniffing ANT-FS

- ❖ pairing Garmin 310XT with Garmin Express
- ❖ rtl\_fm + shockburst.c + anteater.py
- ❖ Pothosware blocks (automatic frequency change on Link Command)

yeah sure, I know you, you can come in

- ❖ a.k.a. passkey mode
- ❖ passkeys are up to 255 bytes long
  - ❖ brute-forcing is impractical
- ❖ after successful pairing, host remembers passkey
- ❖ passkeys are stored per client serial
- ❖ if client with known serial found, host sends the corresponding passkey
- ❖ remember: everything is plaintext!



man-in-the-middle

# man-in-the-middle

- ❖ using ANT-FS PC Tools to pose as host and client
- ❖ expected to find every info in debug logs
- ❖ passkey checking algo made it impossible:
  - ❖ passkey comes in 8-byte packets
  - ❖ the first packet contains the passkey length
  - ❖ if length is incorrect, authentication aborted
  - ❖ we don't know the length :(

# man-in-the-middle

- ❖ no problem, we can patch the tools
- ❖ specifically patch ANT\_WrappedLib.dll
- ❖ plus point for Dynastream: the source is available
- ❖ no need for binary patching



## man-in-the-middle

- ❖ attacker pose as an ANT-FS host, gets client's serial number
- ❖ attacker poses as client with obtained serial number, host sends her the passkey
- ❖ attacker connects to client with obtained passkey

# possible timing attack

- ❖ passkey can be up to 255 bytes long
- ❖ checked in 8-byte chunks
- ❖ bail out on length mismatch
- ❖ bail out when wrong chunk received

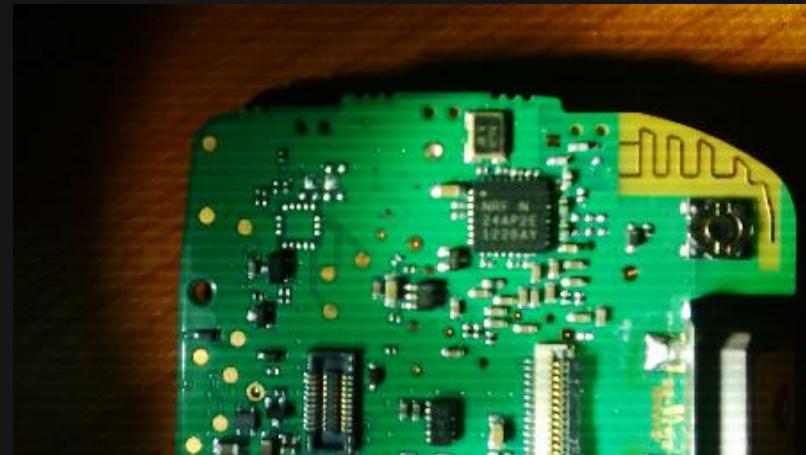
```
3511     }
3512     else
3513     {
3514         UCHAR ucCounter;
3515
3516         for (ucCounter = 0; ucCounter < 8; ucCounter++)
3517         {
3518             if (ucPassKeyIndex >= ucPassKeySize)
3519                 break;
3520             if (aucPassKey[ucPassKeyIndex++] != pucAuthCommand_[ucCounter])
3521             {
3522                 bAcceptRequest = FALSE; // Reject if passkeys are different
3523             }
3524         }
3525     }
3526     if (ucControlByte_ & SEQUENCE_LAST_MESSAGE) // last packet
3527     {
```

# so, it's all crap?

- ❖ pretty much, yeah
- ❖ is it possible to use ANT securely? maybe:
  - ❖ don't use ANT+
  - ❖ purchase a private network key
  - ❖ use ANT chips with black/whitelist,  
inclusion/exclusion list, and encryption support

# ANTs need no keys

- ❖ tried Garmin Forerunner 310XT with ANT-FS PC Host
- ❖ curiosity: what happens if I try pass-through auth?
- ❖ it worked. whose fault it is?
  - ❖ Garmin, or the ANT chip maker





## ANTs need no keys

- ❖ authenticate to 310XT using pass-through
- ❖ download directory listing
- ❖ hackant.py (demo tool based on openant)

# one key to ANT them all

- ❖ ANT-FS feature: OTA firmware updates
- ❖ some devices does not even have other means of data transfer
- ❖ the method is documented by Dynastream
- ❖ of course Garmin does not use that method
- ❖ reverse engineered the Garmin Express services to learn how it actually works

# one key to ANT them all

- ❖ two methods caught my eye
  - ❖ ComputeFactoryPairedDevicePasskey
  - ❖ HasFactoryPairedDevicePasskey
- ❖ realization:
  - ❖ e.g. bundled heartrate monitor and sport watch
  - ❖ it seems that it works for all Garmin gadgets
  - ❖ added it to hackant.py

```
91     def factory_passkey(self, device_id):  
92         n = ((device_id ^ 0x7d215abb) << 32) + (device_id ^ 0x42b93f06)  
93         passkey = [(n >> (8 * i) & 255) for i in range(8)]  
94         return passkey
```



one key to ANT them  
all

- ❖ try connect my Vivovit with a random key (it fails)
- ❖ try with the generated factory key (it succeeds)

# one key to ANT them all

- ❖ serial number can be obtained by posing as host
- ❖ or read from the device / packaging



# who signs firmware anyways?

- ❖ already mentioned OTA firmware updates
- ❖ it works like this with Garmin stuff:
  - ❖ updates are .rgn files, that have to be unwrapped
  - ❖ first file in ANT-FS directory is the firmware
  - ❖ update is a simple overwrite as “DEVICE” file type

# who signs firmware anyways?

- ❖ can't upload modified firmware. checksum?
- ❖ found two CRC16 tables, and two CRC16 functions

```
[0x00000000]> /x 000001cc
Searching 4 bytes in [0x0-0xf4f4]
hits: 2
0x0000efc0 hit0_0 000001cc
0x0000f010 hit0_1 000001cc
[0x00000000]> pf[16]w @hit0_0
0x0000efc0 = [ 0x0000, 0xcc01, 0xd801, 0x1400, 0xf001, 0x3c00, 0x2800, 0xe401, 0xa001, 0x6c00,
0x7800, 0xb401, 0x5000, 0x9c01, 0x8801, 0x4400 ]
[0x00000000]> pf[16]w @hit0_1
0x0000f010 = [ 0x0000, 0xcc01, 0xd801, 0x1400, 0xf001, 0x3c00, 0x2800, 0xe401, 0xa001, 0x6c00,
0x7800, 0xb401, 0x5000, 0x9c01, 0x8801, 0x4400 ]
[0x00000000]> █
```

# who signs firmware anyways?

- ◊ turned out they were not used for firmware check
- ◊ but they were useful!
  - ◊ functions used direct addresses to the tables
  - ◊ this made it possible to deduce fw load address



```
ROM:00020570 ; unsigned int __fastcall CRC16_35C(unsigned int crc, unsigned int a2)
ROM:00020570 CRC16_35C ; CODE XREF: sub_2059A+A↓p
ROM:00020570 ; sub_21790+16↓p ...
ROM:00020570 LSLS R2, R0, #0x1C
ROM:00020572 LSRS R3, R2, #0x1B
ROM:00020574 PUSH {R4,LR}
ROM:00020576 LDR R2, =CRC16_table1
ROM:00020578 LDRH R4, [R2,R3]
ROM:0002057A LSRS R3, R0, #4
```

a nice example of how a failed attempt can yield useful info

# who signs firmware anyways?

- ◊ actual CRC algorithm:
  - sum of all bytes have to be zero
- ◊ last byte = -1 \* sum(previous bytes)

```
1 pool IsFirmwareOK_sub_84A()
2 {
3     char v0; // r0@1
4
5     v0 = 1;
6     if ((unsigned int)v20002402 - 1 < 0xFBFF)
7         v0 = SumBytes_sub_82D8((BYTE *)0x2FC00, v20002402);
8     v20002402 = 0;
9     return v1char 0;
10 }
```

```
1 int __fastcall SumBytes_sub_82D8(_BYTE *bytes, unsigned int length)
2 {
3     _BYTE *_bytes; // r3@1
4     int result; // r0@1
5     unsigned int i; // r2@1
6
7     _bytes = bytes;
8     result = 0;
9     for (i = 0; i < length; ++i)
10         result += _bytes[i];
11     return result;
12 }
```



## who signs firmware?

- ❖ unwrap RGN using firmware.py
- ❖ modify firmware
- ❖ calculate CRC with fixcrc.py
- ❖ upload modified firmware using hackant.py

# really-really love XML

- ❖ XML string in Vivofit firmware
- ❖ two nodes with suspicious values: "XXXXXXXXXXXX" and "X"
- ❖ found a function that replaces these with
  - ❖ Device ID
  - ❖ a value based on whether HR monitor is used or not

some kind of device descriptor file

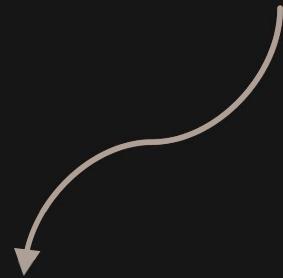
# really-really love XML

- ❖ ANT-FS deals with FIT files
- ❖ Vivofit also BTLE-capable – uses it to connect to Garmin Connect
- ❖ found functions in Garmin Connect that download this XML

```
2409     @Override
2410     public void readGarminDeviceXml(long l, RemoteFileTransferCallback remoteFileTransferCallback)
2411         throws RemoteException {
2412
2413         Parcel parcel = Parcel.obtain();
2414         Parcel parcel2 = Parcel.obtain();
2415         try {
2416             parcel.writeInterfaceToken("com.garmin.android.deviceinterface.RemoteGdiService");
2417             parcel.writeLong(l);
2418             IBinder iBinder = remoteFileTransferCallback != null ?
2419                 remoteFileTransferCallback.asBinder() : null;
2420             parcel.writeStrongBinder(iBinder);
2421             this.mRemote.transact(26, parcel, parcel2, 0);
2422             parcel2.readException();
2423             return;
2424         }
2425         finally {
2426             parcel2.recycle();
2427             parcel.recycle();
2428         }
2429     }
```

# really-really love XML

- ❖ ANT-FS deals with FIT files
- ❖ Vivofit also BTLE-capable – uses it to connect to Garmin Connect
- ❖ found functions in Garmin Connect that download this XML



- ❖ a few years ago reported some XXE to Garmin (no response, BTW)
- ❖ so maybe Connect is XXE-able too?



## XXE-ing Garmin

- ❖ replace Vivofit's XML with XXE stub ...
- ❖ wait for connection from my phone
- ❖ connection comes, just not from the phone, but from a Garmin server!!!
- ❖ not the most usual way to find these kind of bugs :)

# summary

- ❖ ANT is bad, m'kay?
- ❖ easy to sniff and MitM
- ❖ security measures are not really security measures
- ❖ it is possible to steal files,
- ❖ or even update firmware over the air, without user knowledge
- ❖ Garmin firmware are not signed – easy to modify

# contact

- ❖ name: Tamas Szakaly
- ❖ mail: [tamas.szakaly@praudit.hu](mailto:tamas.szakaly@praudit.hu)  
[sghctoma@gmail.com](mailto:sghctoma@gmail.com)
- ❖ PGP fingerprint:  
4E1F 5E17 7A73 2C29 229A CD0B 4F2D 6CD0 9039 2984
- ❖ GitHub: <https://github.com/sghctoma>
- ❖ twitter: @sghctoma

# links & credits

- ❖ ANT resources- <https://www.thisisant.com>
- ❖ FireChat - <http://opengarden.com/firechat>
- ❖ The Internet of Insecure Things -  
<https://courses.csail.mit.edu/6.857/2016/files/camelosa-greene-loving-otgonbaatar.pdf>
- ❖ Sniffing and decoding NRF24L01+ and Bluetooth LE packets for under \$30 - <http://blog.cyberexplorer.me/2014/01/sniffing-and-decoding-nrf24l01-and.html>
- ❖ Garmin Express - <http://software.garmin.com/en-US/express.html>
- ❖ Garmin Connect -  
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