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RF Exploitation: IoT/OT Hacking with SDR

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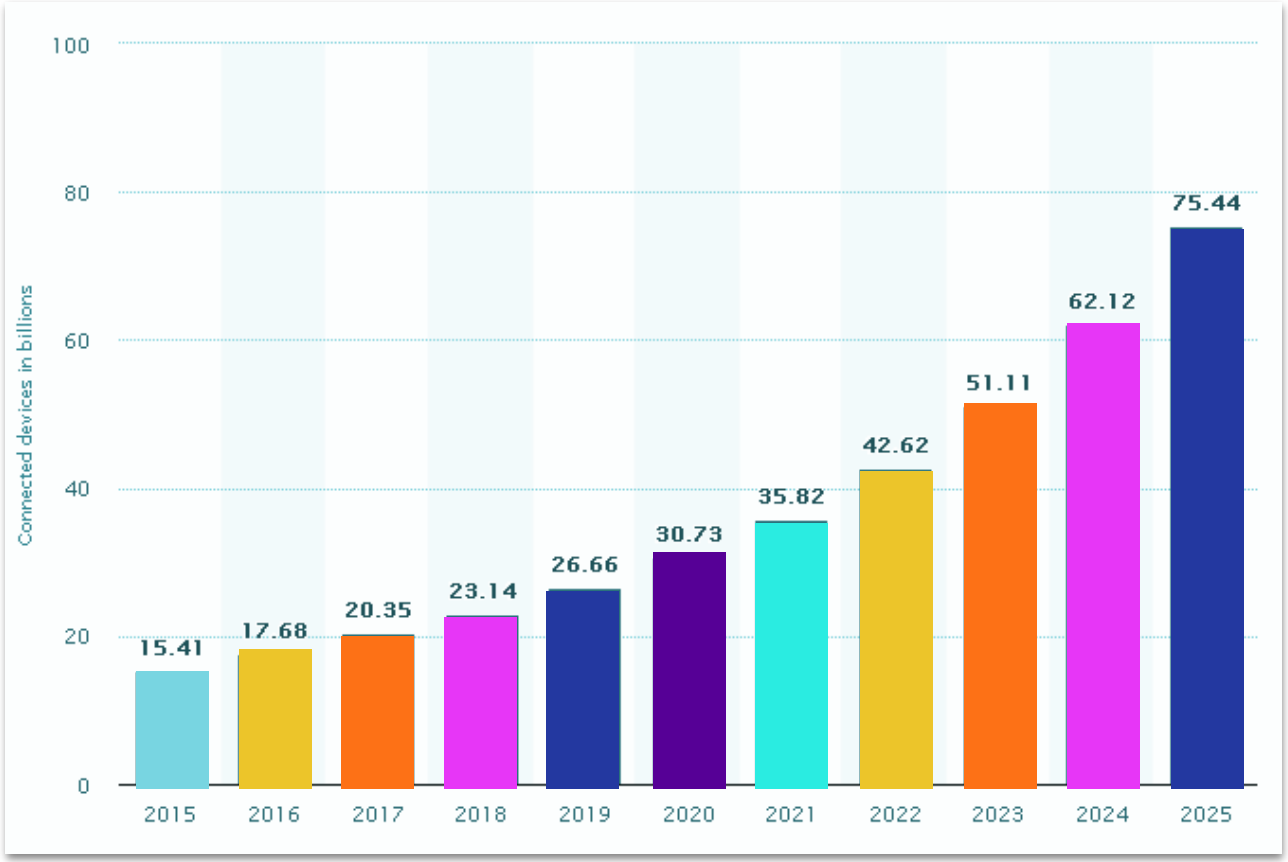
Agenda:

- Evolving radio technology landscape
- Security applications of Software Defined Radio
- What makes securing RF communications unique
- Case studies: Car RKE, Dallas Siren Hack
- Top wireless Vulnerabilities
- Privacy, Rules and Regulations for RF

IoT :

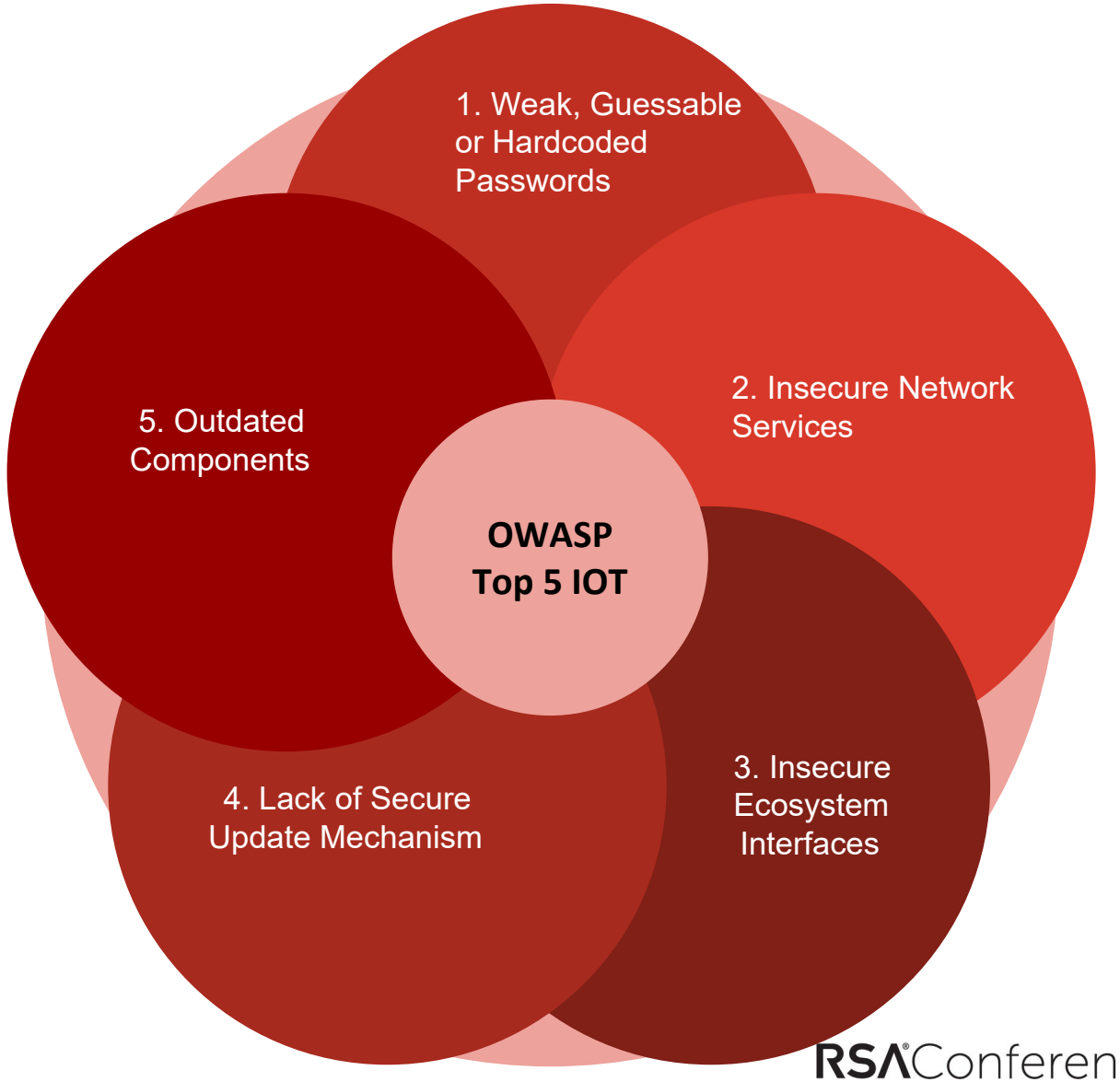
- This statistic shows the number of connected devices (Internet of Things; IoT) worldwide from 2015 to 2025.

- For 2020, the installed base of Internet of Things devices is forecast to grow to almost 31 billion worldwide.



Evolving IoT/OT landscape:

The combined markets of the Internet of Things (IoT) will grow to about $520B in 2021, more than double the $235B spent in 2017.



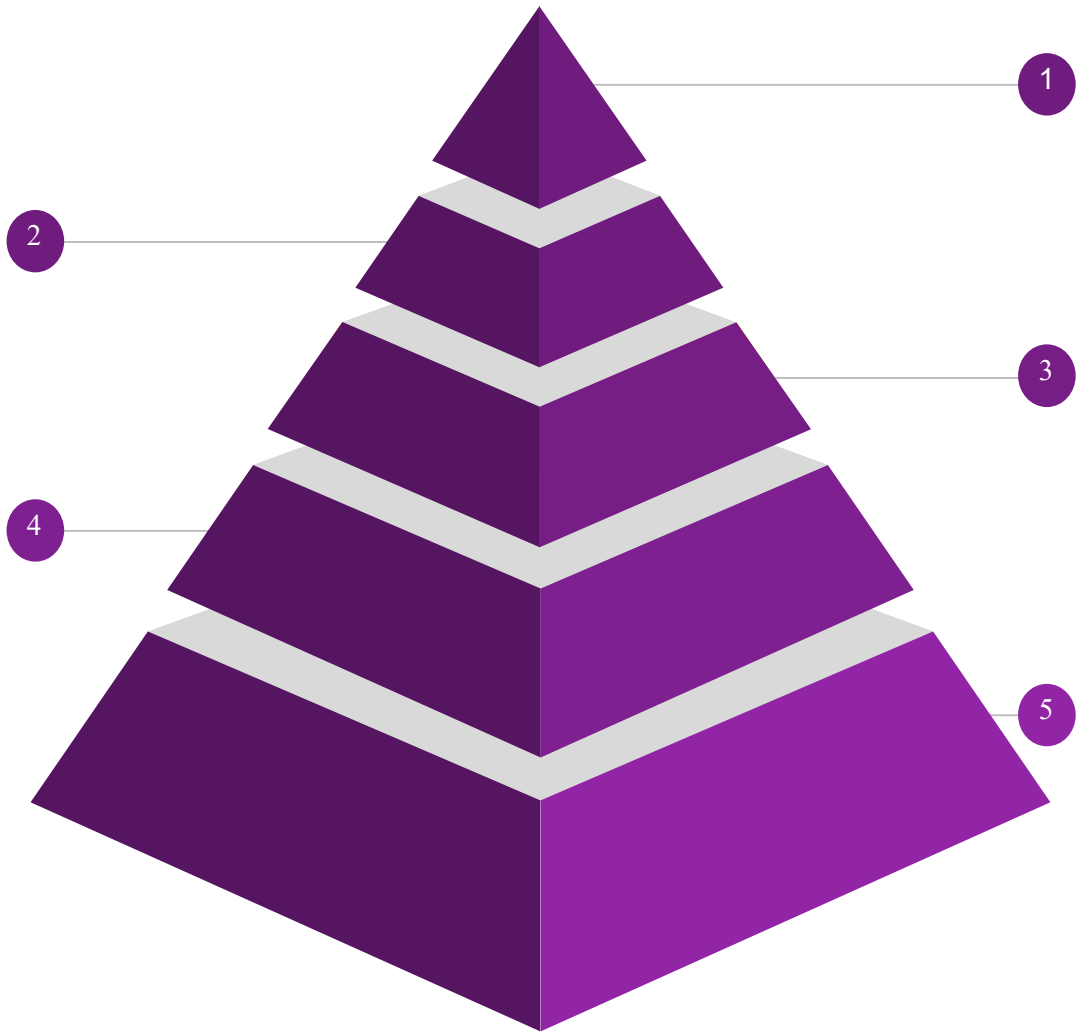
Internet of things threat model

Controlling Device

1 Smartphone, tablets and other smart devices can control all types of "things"

Cloud Service

2 Cloud services provide the repository and access control between the "things" and its controller.



Global Network

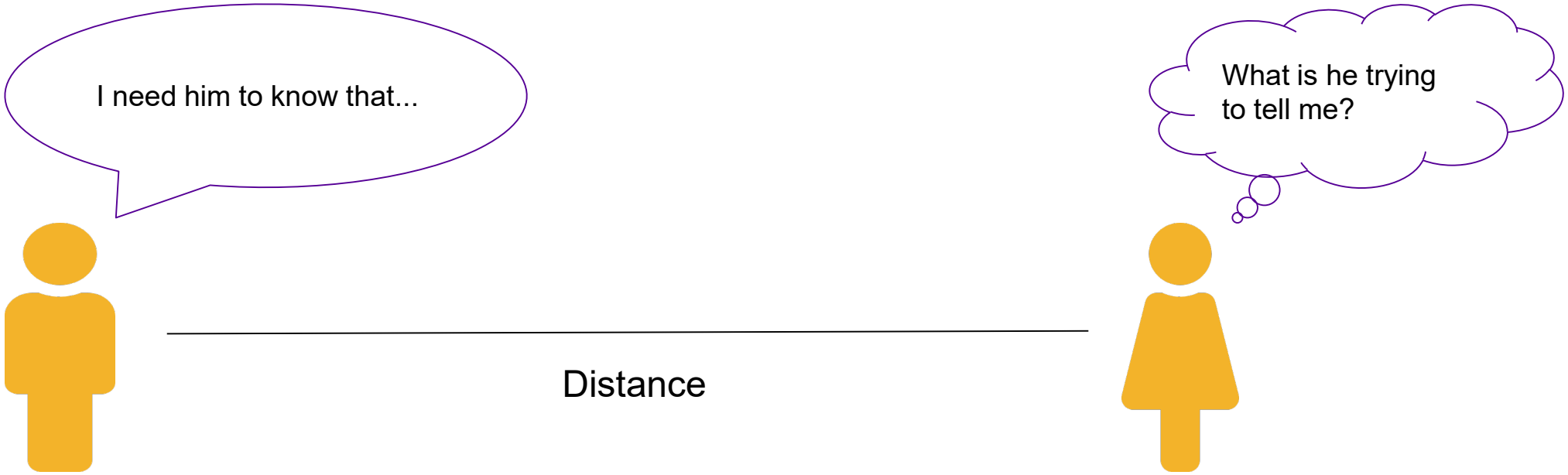
3 Most "things" connected to the Internet, except for power grids or classified government systems

Local Network

4 This may be a controller area network (CAN) in connected cars, a local network in homes, etc

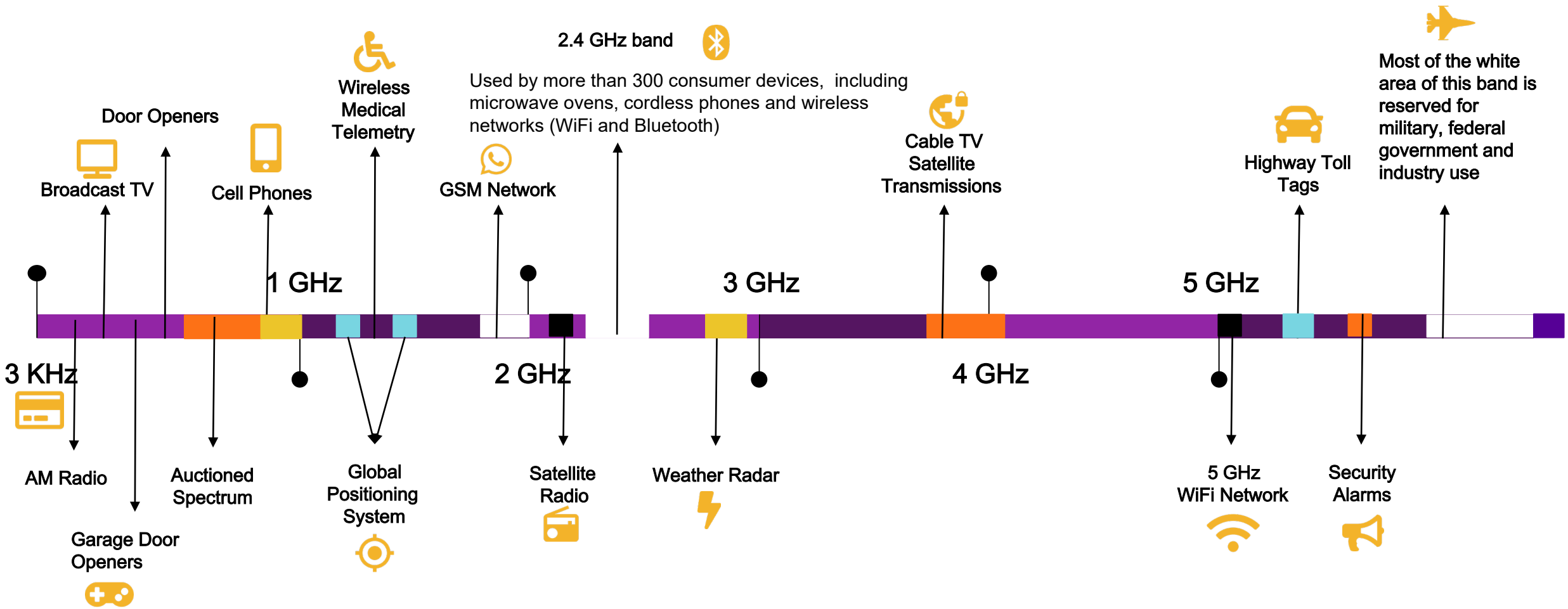
Things

5 "Things" can be remotely controlled or viewed, and they can send telemetry for analysis.


I need him to know that...
What is he trying to tell me?
Distance


Idea Sent
Encoding
Medium
Decoding
Idea Received

Inside the radio wave spectrum?

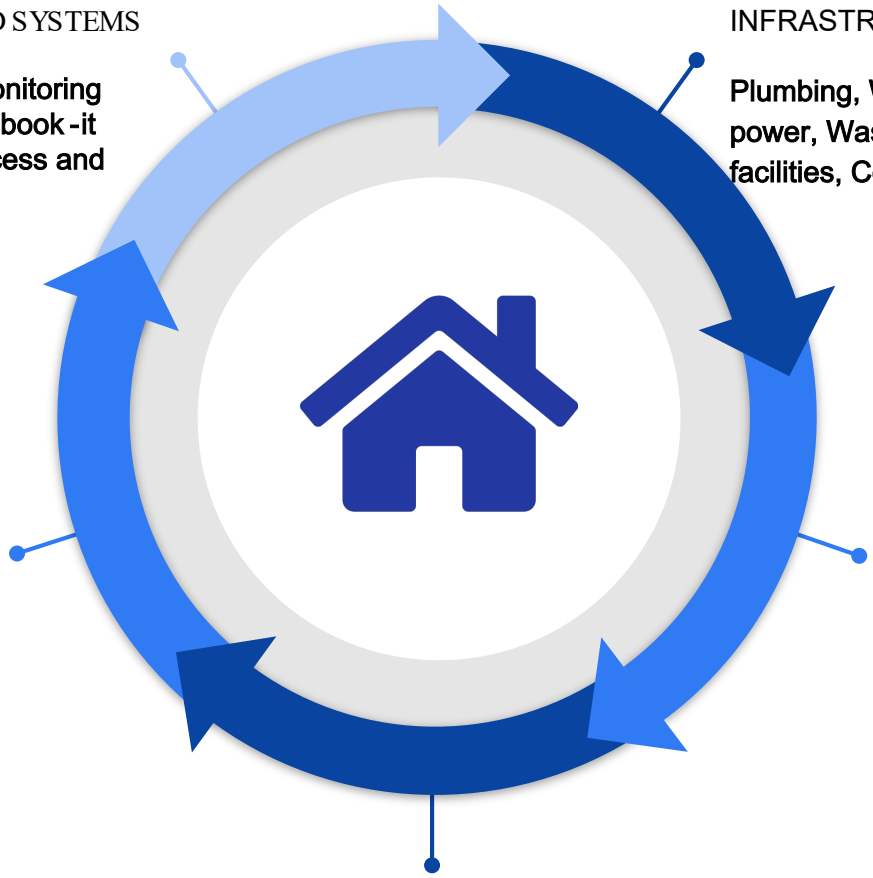


Why Focus on RF Security?

- Current Scenario of RF and IoT Security is same as Web Security back in 90s.

Why Focus on RF Security?

IoT Components for Smart Building



COMBINED SYSTEMS

Energy usage monitoring system, Hoteling book-it system Card access and security system

INFRASTRUCTURE

Plumbing, Windows, Back-up power, Waste control, Parking facilities, Communication

COMPUTING

Processors/data stores: - Databases, Servers, Cloud services, Edge devices

SENSING

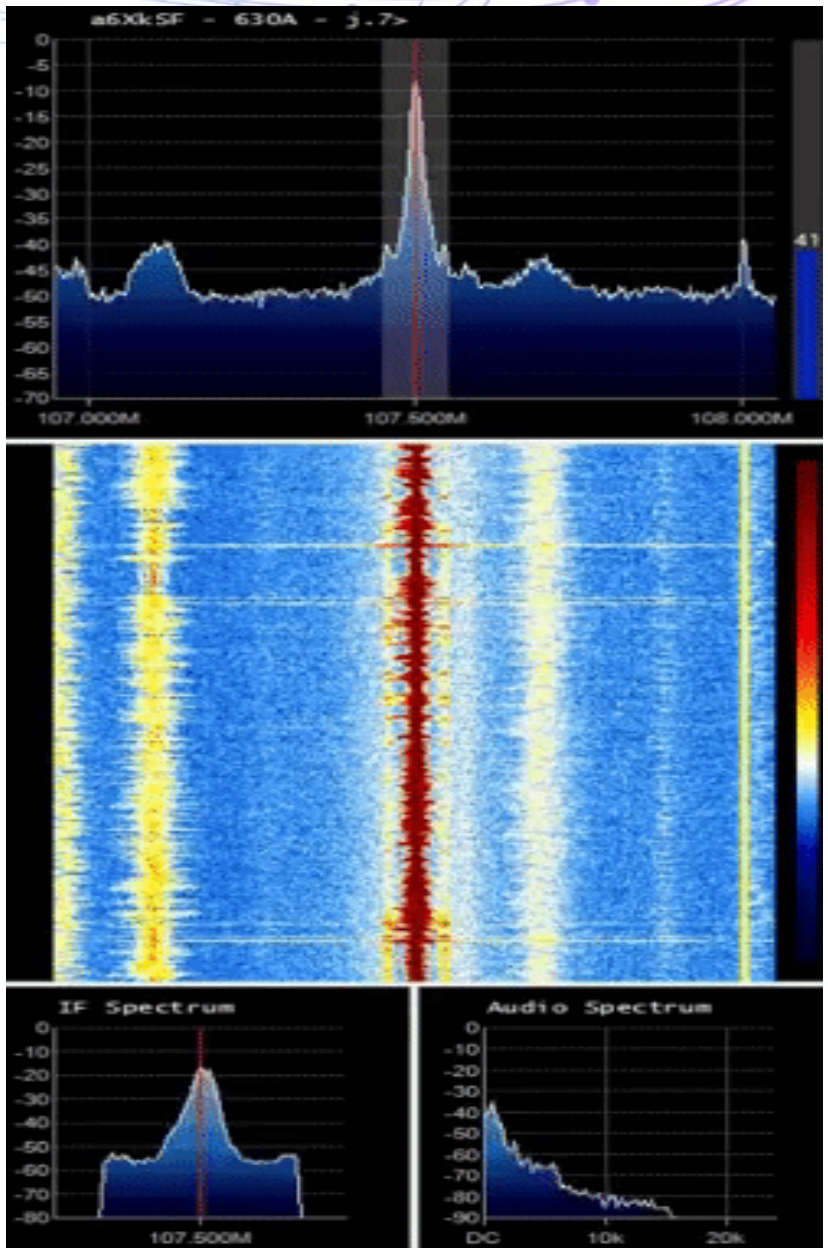
CCTV, IP video, Air quality, Water flow, Air temp, Light, Door, Smoke/fire

ACTUATING

Door access, Elevator, Heater/AC, Fire alarms, Irrigation system

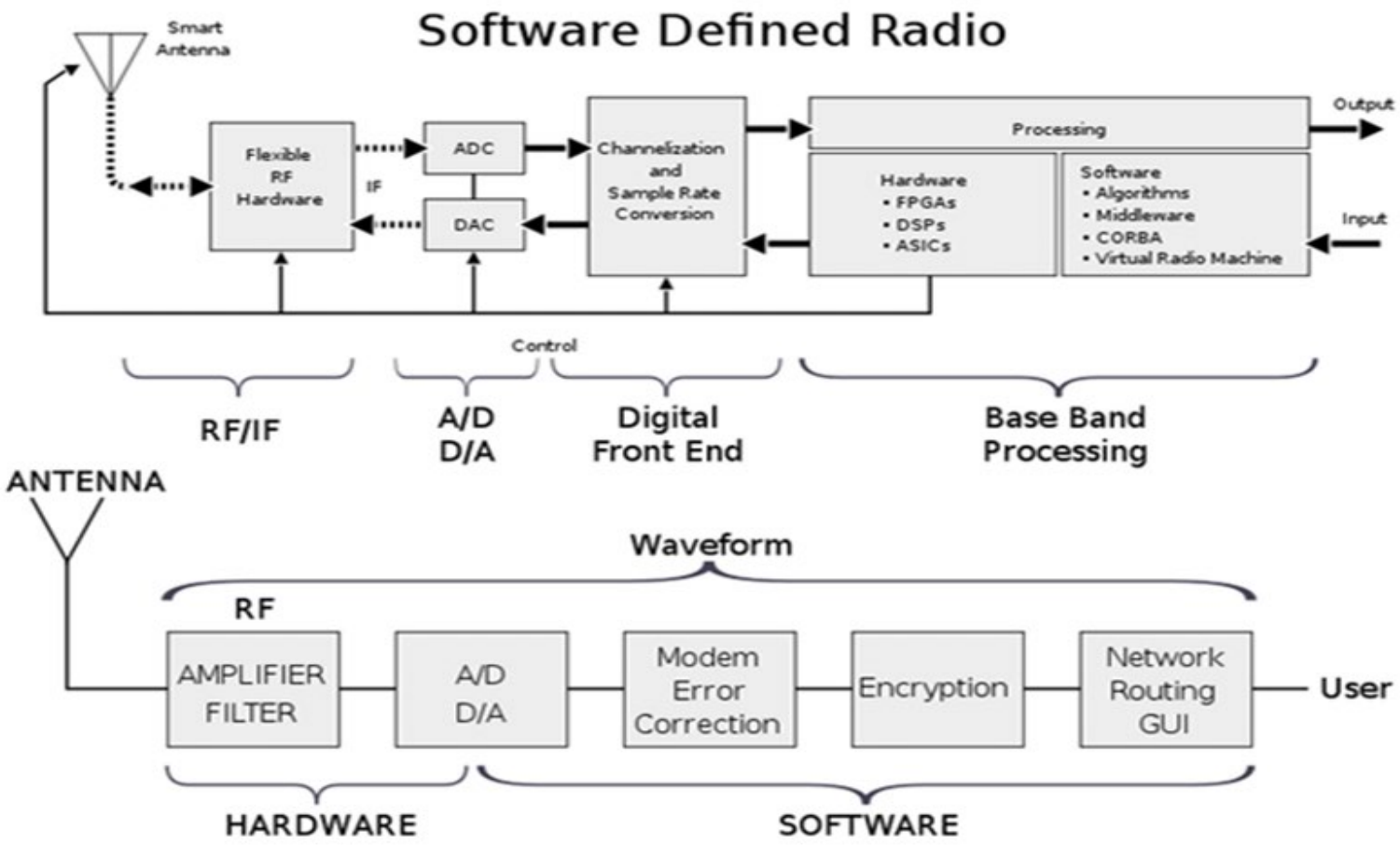
PHY LAYER

- Lowest layer in communication stack
- In wired protocols: voltage, timing, and wiring defining 1s and 0s
- In wireless: patterns of energy being sent over RF medium



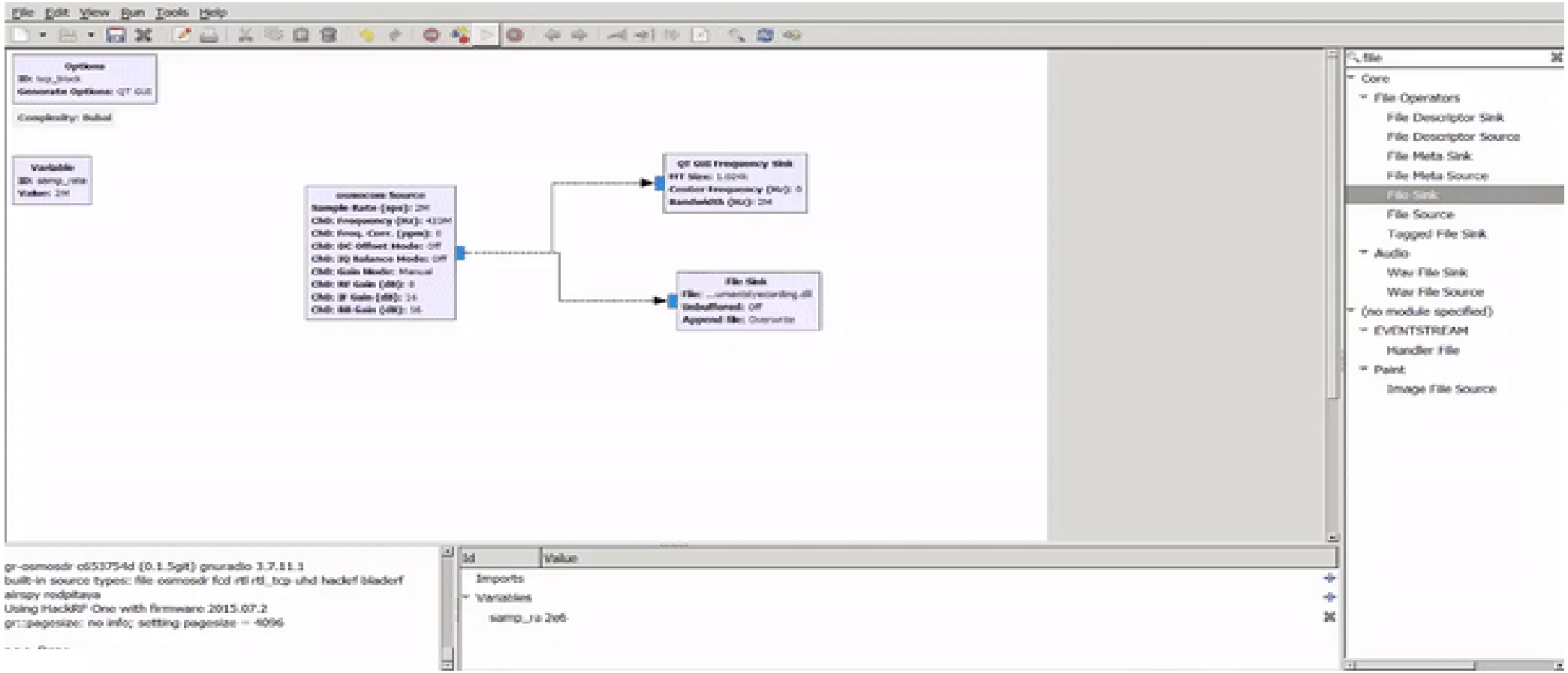
So what is SDR?

- Using Software to replace most of Hardware for implementation of Radio Networking
- Shuttles RF I/Q samples to DSP or host
- Captures raw radio spectrum



GNU Radio

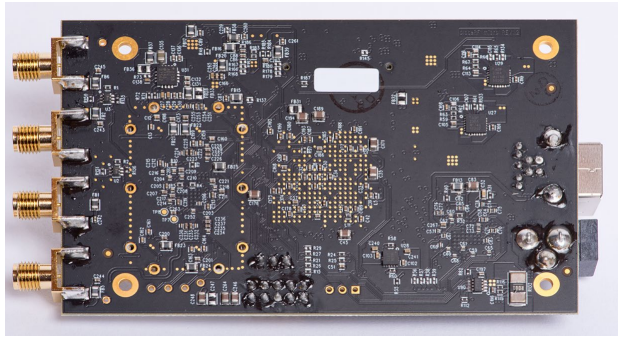
- GNU Radio is a framework that enables users to design, simulate, and deploy highly capable real-world radio systems.

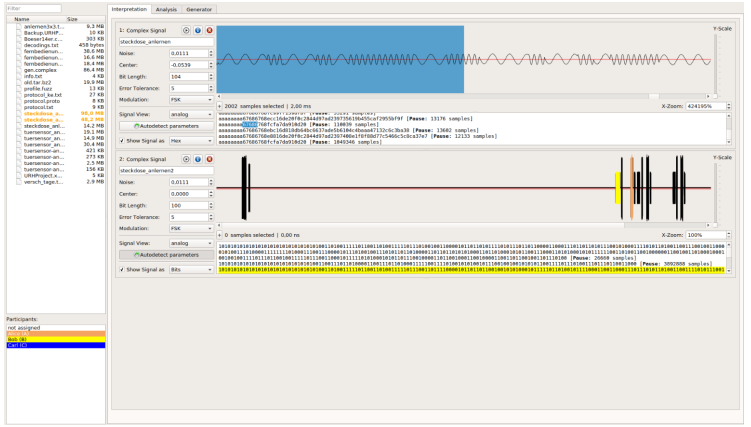


Hardwares and Softwares:

GNURadio

Audacity®

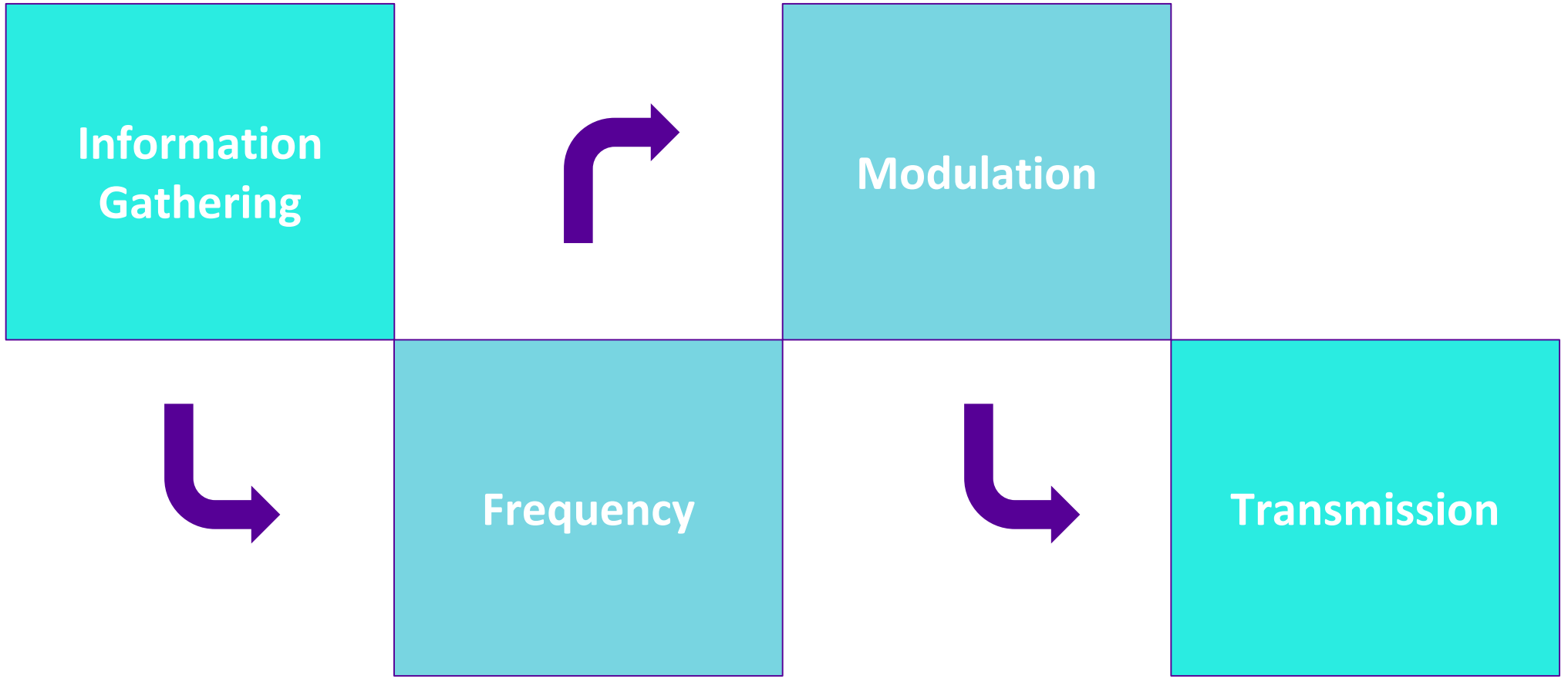




Initial Profiling of our device

- What does our device do in normal operation?
- How do they connect?
- Determining the frequency?

Phases of RF Attacks:



Information Gathering:

- A good starting point – if you have some luck –search for the FCC ID:
- https://www.fcc.gov/general/fcc-id-search-page
- Demo: https://fccid.io/Y8PFJ17-1

Information Extracted from FCC

- FCC also publishes internal images, external images, user manuals, and test results for wireless devices.

FCC IDENTIFIER:	Y8PFJ17-1
Name of Grantee:	Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd.
Equipment Class:	**Communications Receiver used w/Pt 15 Transmitter**
Notes:	**Keyless Access with Push-Button Start System**

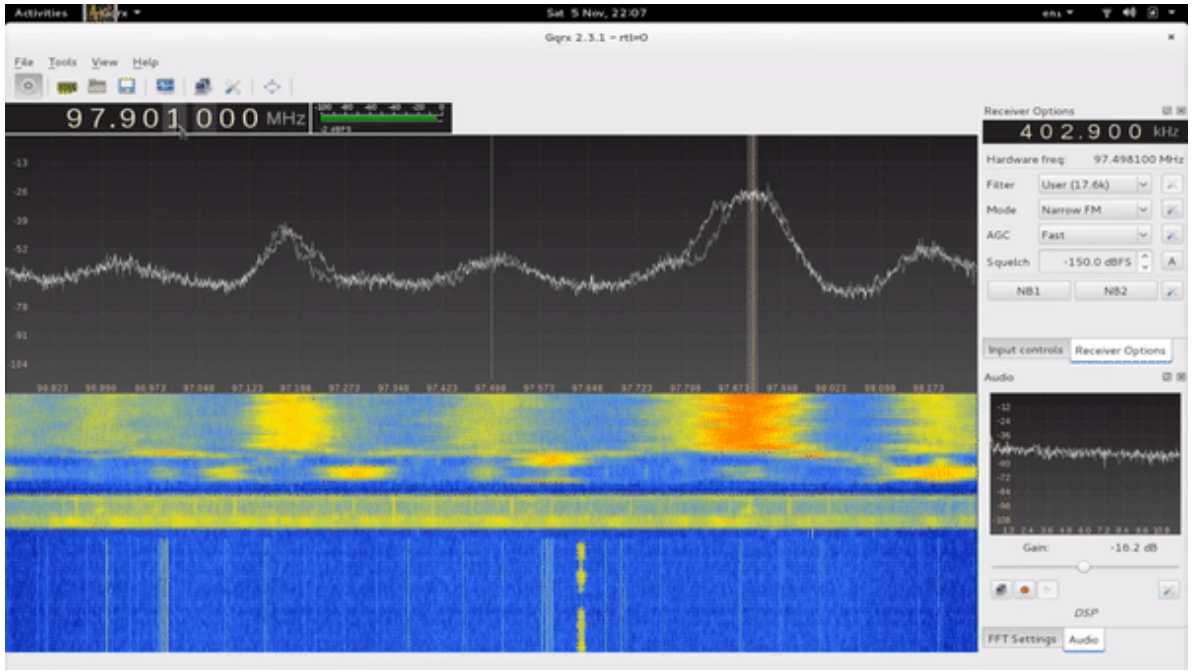
FCC Rule Parts	Frequency Range (MHZ)
15B	**433.92 - 433.92**

	Adobe Acrobat PDF (131 kB)
Antenna spec	Operational Description Adobe Acrobat PDF (2693 kB)
RF Test Report	Test Report Adobe Acrobat PDF (1248 kB)
LTC Letter	Cover Letter(s) Adobe Acrobat PDF (89 kB)
label and Label location	ID Label/Location Info Adobe Acrobat PDF (540 kB)
Block Diagram	Block Diagram Adobe Acrobat PDF (434 kB)
RF Test Set-up Photos	Test Setup Photos Adobe Acrobat PDF (331 kB)
POA	Cover Letter(s) Adobe Acrobat PDF (99 kB)
Internal photos	Internal Photos Adobe Acrobat PDF (1222 kB)

Frequency:

Use a Spectrum Analyzer (GQRX)

- FFT plot and waterfall
- Record and Playback
- Special FM mode for NOAA APT
- Basic Remote Control through TCP



Modulation:

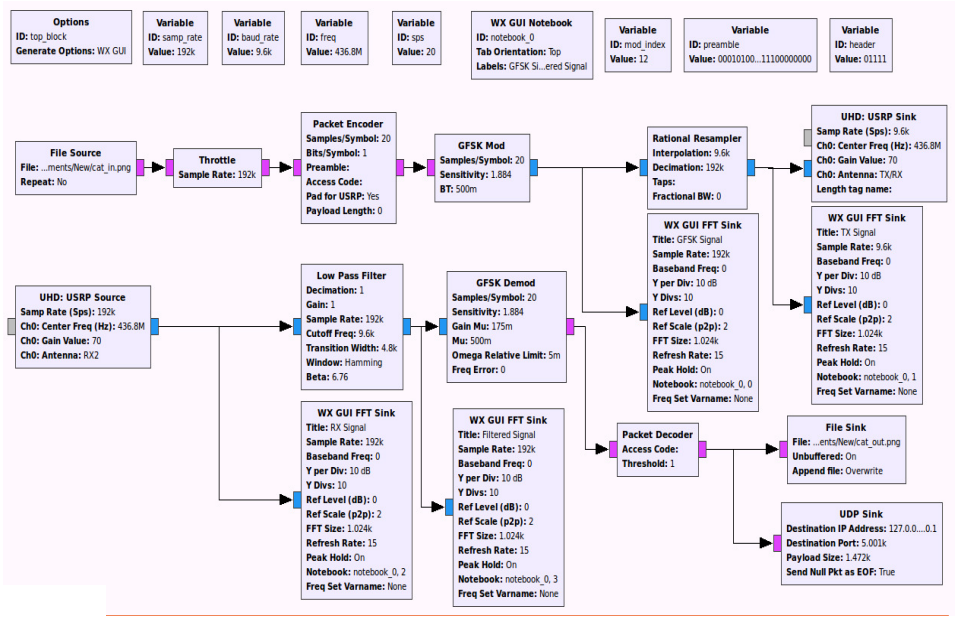
- Modulation is like hiding a code inside a carrier wave
- Representing digital data as variations in the carrier wave.

Source:Attify Inc

Transmission:

- Generate the message from above extracted details (Frequency, Modulation, Bitrate, Sync word, Preamble...)

Option 1:- Use a flow graph



Option 2: Command Line RF tool

Replay Attack

Replay Attack against PKE system of Cars

- RECORD

  hackrf_transfer -r 43378000.raw -f 43378000

- TRANSMIT

  hackrf_transmit -t 43378000.raw -f 43378000

Case study: Dallas Siren Hack

- Network Types
  1. Single Frequency Network
  2. Radio Repeater Network
- Command Transmission
  1. Analog RF Network
  2. Digital Repeater Network

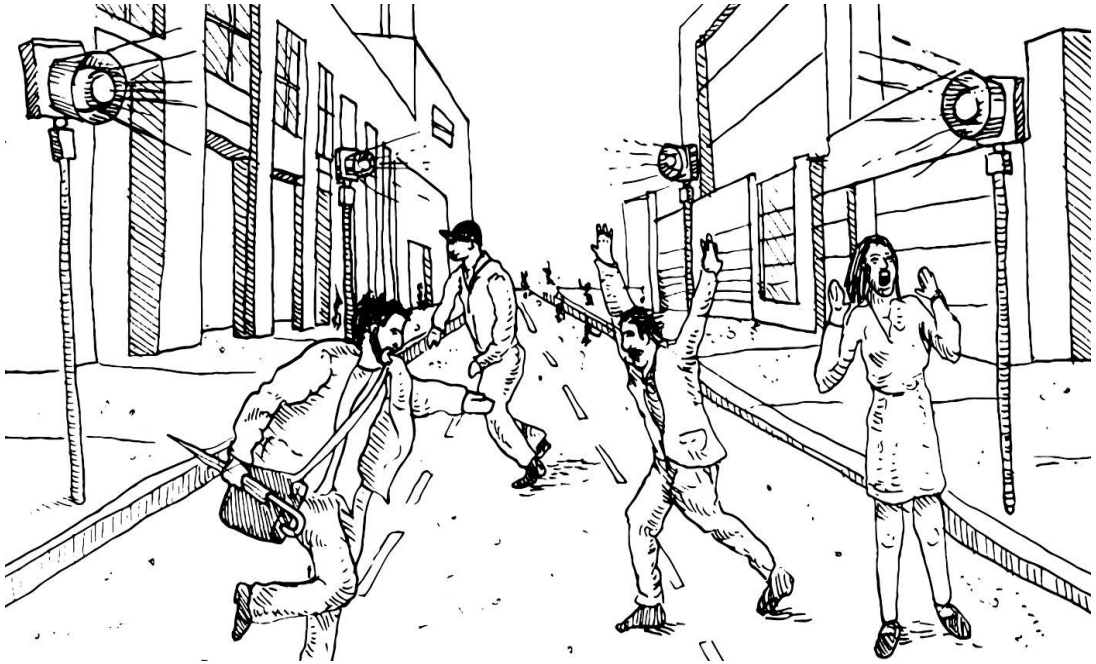


Illustration by D. Thomas Magee

Replay Attack (Disadvantages)

- Zero knowledge
- Effective even if the message is encrypted

- Cannot create a valid message from scratch
- Cannot “play” with messages - many times you’d like to modify a message based on the original one
- Tamper with ID and Command
- Perform input validation attacks

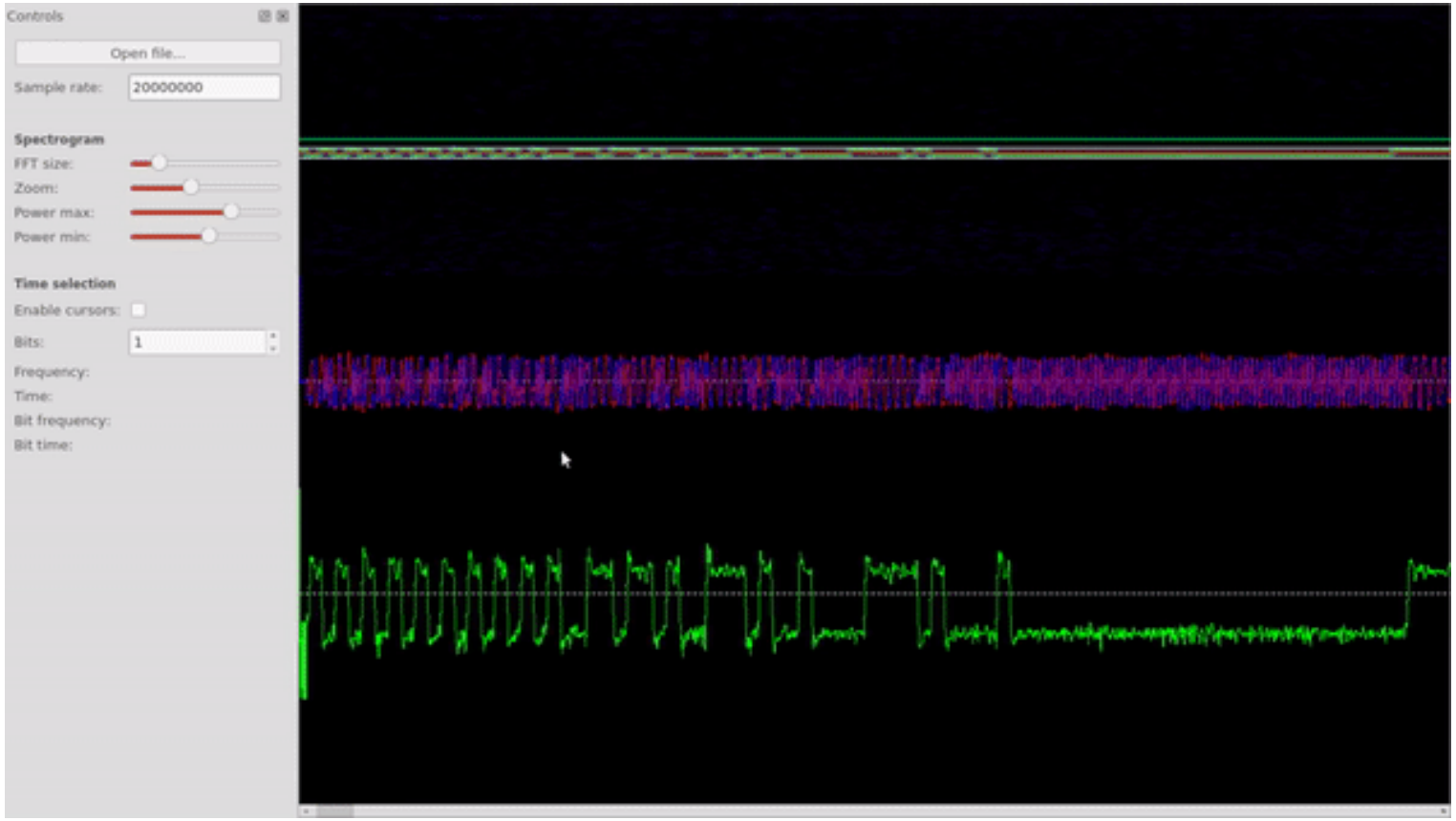
How is it done?

Documented Process:-

1. Record the signal with the SDR dongle and GQRX
2. Demodulate and Decode with Audacity in binary (1s & 0s)
3. Convert the Binary to Hex (0x)
4. Replay with RFcat libraries

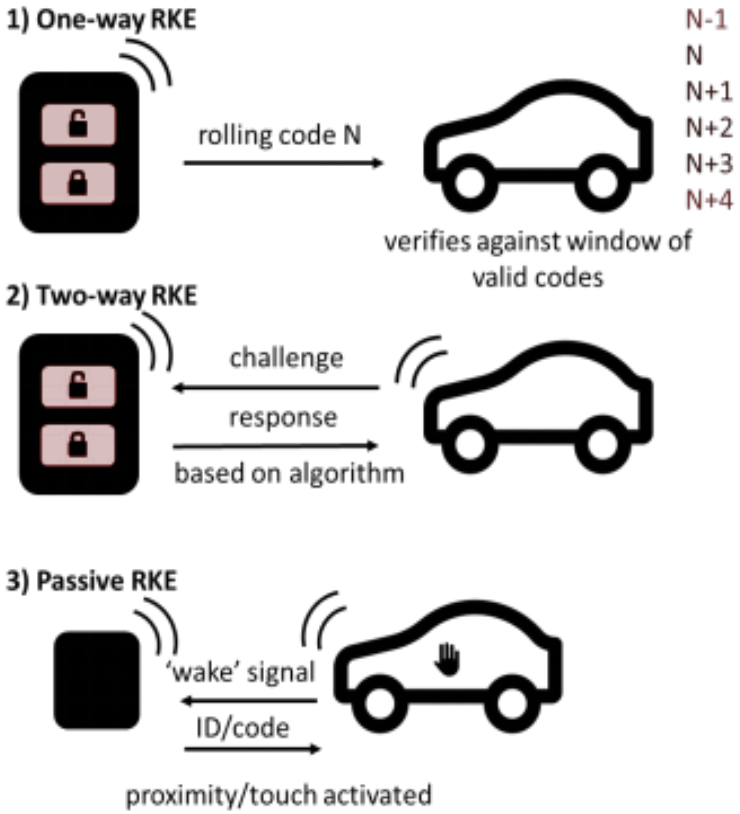
Signal Hunting

1. Capture & Record
2. Analyze
3. Demodulate
4. Decode
5. Informational Packets



Case study: Car RKE

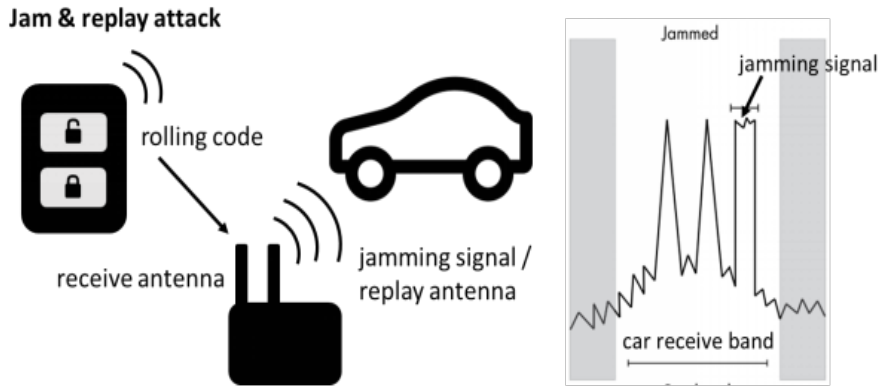
- Relay Hack by Qihoo 360, with a pair of gadget for just $22. (Passive RKE)
- RollJam device by Samy kamkar, to steal secret codes from key. (Two-way RKE)



Case study: Car RKE

Possible Prevention:

- Requiring timing constraint in the call-and-response communication of car and key.
- Keep your keys in faraday bag that blocks radio transmissions.



RF Protocols

Types of RF Attacks

Sniffing

The passive observation of wireless network traffic, noteworthy as wireless domain enables truly promiscuous sniffing with no direct physical access.

Wardriving

Wardriving is type of sniffing that refers to discovering of non-802.11 RF networks. Example: killerbee 802.15.4 framework

Evil-twins Attack

Standing up a decoy device or rogue access point that mimics trusted infrastructure, such that it tricks victims into connecting into it.

Replay Attacks

Involve retransmitting a previously captured raw PHY-layer payload or the synthesis of a new frame based on decoded data

Jamming

Can be conducted by transmitting noise within the target network's RF channel with sufficient bandwidth and power.

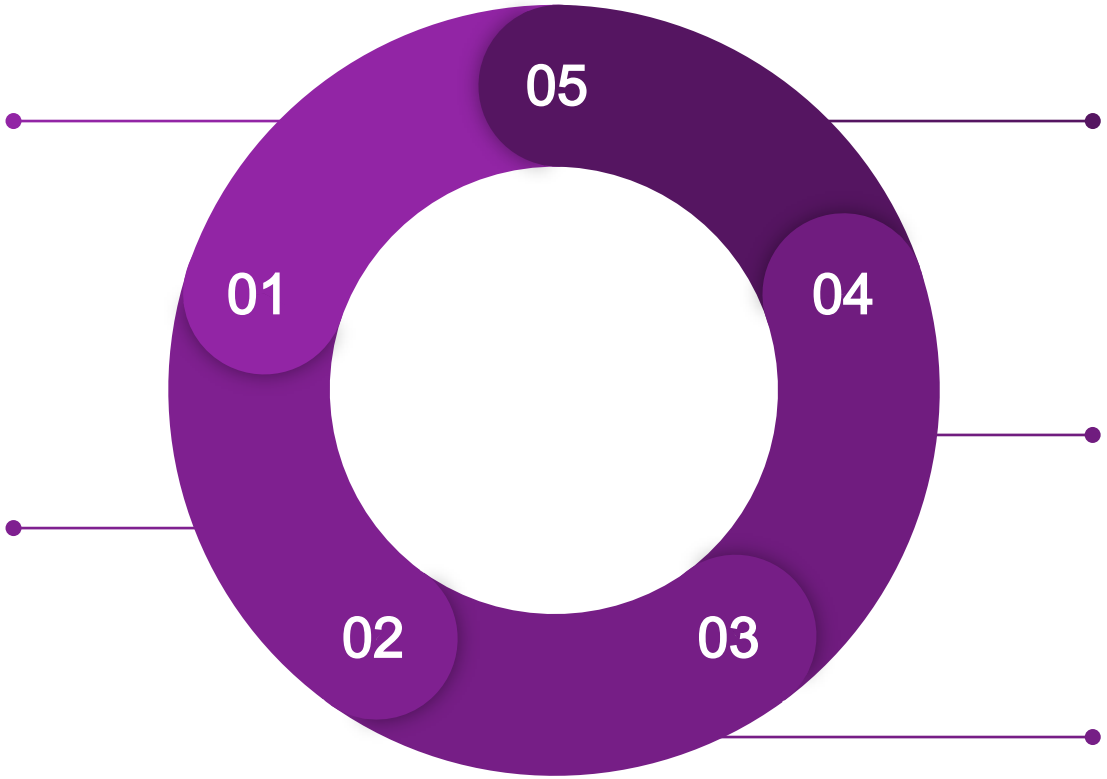
Internet of Radio Vulnerability

Rogue Cell Towers

Used to hijack cellphone connections, and to break 2-factor authentication to listen to calls and read texts.

Rogue Wi-Fi Hotspots

Impersonate legitimate Wi-Fi networks, and might be used for MITM attacks to sniff network traffic and steal credentials.



Vulnerable Wireless Devices

Low-end keyboard/mouse dongle can expose to RF attack through keystroke injection, which may expose the larger network to insider attacks.

Eavesdropping/ Surveillance Devices

Voice activated FM & GSM, or other radio bugs

Unapproved IoT Emitters

Sensors often have multiple data radios, 802.11 is known, but what if also transmitting on other frequencies like Zigbee, or LORA.

Privacy, Rules, and Regulations:

- Check FCC and ARRL Regulations:
  - FCC 97.313 An amateur station must use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications.
  - No station may transmit with a transmitter power exceeding 1.5 kW PEP.
- Steps for Compliance for IoT Organisations
  - Be aware of the data collected and processed.
  - Understand the functionality & implement consent.
  - Record everything to meet the requirements of privacy act.
  - Be aware of the privacy by design, and default.

Walk through of what we covered

- RF security requires you to look beyond the server side and mobile app security
- For simple replay, a good SDR device will just do
- It is advised to analyze the transmissions and reverse engineer them
- “security by obscurity” is often encountered
- Now let’s secure the RF world.. 😊

"APPLY"

- Attend related RSAC Sessions:

Connected Cars: A Security and Privacy by Design Study 10 Years in the Making PRV-W03

Wednesday, Mar 06 | 09:20 A.M. - 10:10 A.M.

Shadow IoT Hacking the Corporate Environment: Office as the New Smart Home SBX1-W2

Wednesday, Mar 06 | 09:00 A.M. - 09:30 A.M.

Wireless Offense and Defense, Explained and Demonstrated! SBX3-R1

Thursday, Mar 07 | 08:00 A.M. - 09:00 A.M.

Cryptojacking Meets IoT HTA-R02

Thursday, Mar 07 | 08:00 A.M. - 09:00 A.M.

- Get Started with SDR from greatscottgadgets.com

Thank You..!

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