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# Decrypted: How a teenager hacked Twitter, Garmin's ransomware aftermath

Zack Whittaker @zackwhittaker / 7:03 pm CEST • August 4, 2020

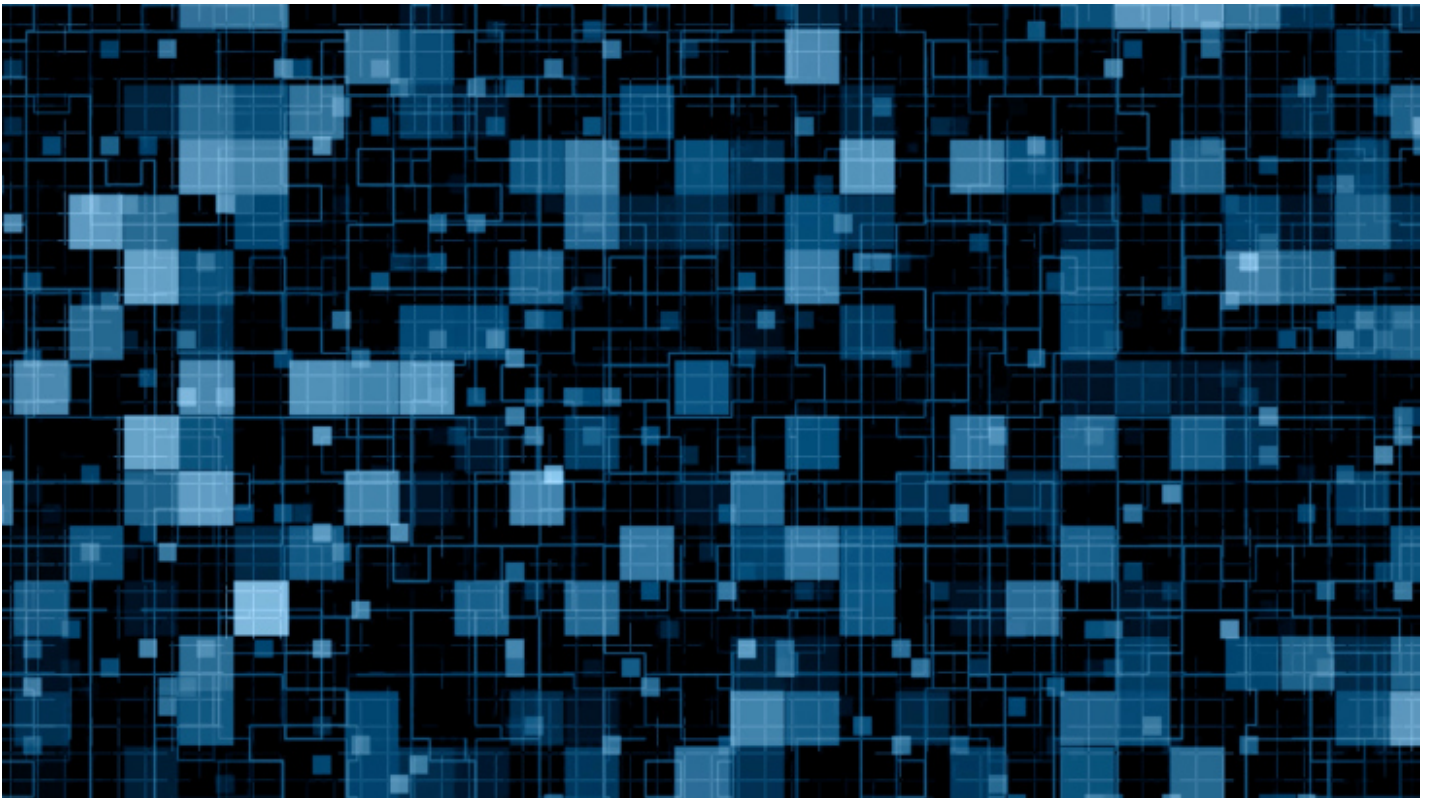


 Image Credits: Treedeeo / Getty Images



**17-year-old Florida** teenager is accused of perpetrating one of the year's biggest and most high-profile hacks: Twitter.

A federal 30-count indictment filed in Tampa said Graham Ivan Clark used a phone spearphishing attack to pivot through multiple layers of passed its two-factor authentication to gain



hours.

It was, by all accounts, a sophisticated attack that required technical skills and an ability to trick and deceive to pull off the scam. Some security professionals were impressed, [comparing](#) the attack to one that had the finesse and professionalism of a well-resourced nation-state attacker.

But [a profile in The New York Times](#) describes Clark as an “adept scammer with an explosive temper.”

In the teenager’s defense, the attack could have been much worse. Instead of pushing a scam that promised to “double your money,” Clark and his compatriots could have wreaked havoc. In 2013, hackers [hijacked](#) the Associated Press’ Twitter account and tweeted a fake bomb attack on the White House, sending the markets plummeting — only to quickly recover after the all-clear was given.

But with control of some of the world’s most popular **Twitter** <sup>i</sup> accounts, Clark was for a few hours in July one of the most powerful people in the world. If found guilty, the teenager could spend his better years behind bars.

Here’s more from the past week.





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## Original Content podcast: Netflix's 'High Score' is a selective tour through video game history

Anthony Ha, Jordan Crook, Darrell Etherington

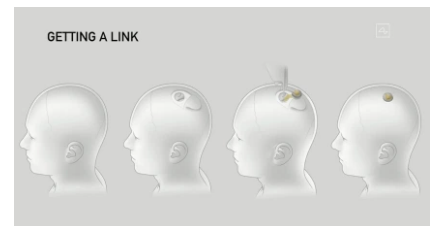
3:00 pm CEST • August 29, 2020



## Elon Musk demonstrates Neuralink's tech live using pigs with surgically implanted brain-monitoring devices

Darrell Etherington

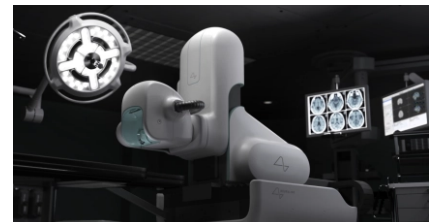
1:23 am CEST • August 29, 2020



## Take a closer look at Elon Musk's Neuralink surgical robot

Darrell Etherington

1:00 am CEST • August 29, 2020



## Daily Crunch: Tesla targeted in ransomware attack

Anthony Ha

12:14 am CEST • August 29, 2020





11:39 pm CEST • August 28, 2020



10:51 pm CEST • August 28, 2020

## Sorted by First Round to





## Human Capital: 'People were afraid of being critical with me'

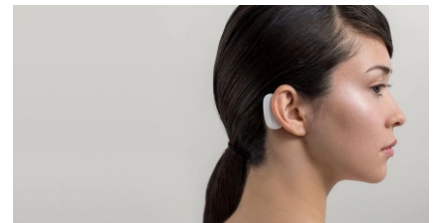
Megan Rose Dickey

10:00 pm CEST • August 28, 2020

## Watch Elon Musk's Neuralink brain computer interface progress update live

Darrell Etherington

9:53 pm CEST • August 28, 2020



## Banks aren't as stupid as enterprise AI and fintech entrepreneurs think

Simon Moss

9:30 pm CEST • August 28, 2020



## Boeing and NASA target December for second try at uncrewed orbital demonstration flight

Darrell Etherington

8:38 pm CEST • August 28, 2020



G...ering team to its



## Podcast is social: How China's Lizhi makes audio interactive

Rita Liao

7:50 pm CEST • August 28, 2020



## Hear from Lyft, Cruise, Nuro and Aurora about the road ahead for driverless vehicles

Megan Rose Dickey

7:20 pm CEST • August 28, 2020



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## What does GPT-3 mean for the future of the legal profession?

Rudy DeFelice

7:02 pm CEST • August 28, 2020

## Laura Deming, Frederik Groce, Amish Jani, Jessica Verrilli and Vanessa Larco are coming to Disrupt

Connie Loizos

5:07 pm CEST • August 28, 2020







## its smartphones next year

Brian Heater

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## SaaS stocks survive earnings, keeping the market warm for software startups, exits

Alex Wilhelm

4:08 pm CEST • August 28, 2020



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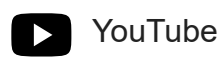
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