

# Network Security (NetSec)



TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DARMSTADT

**Summer 2015**  
**Physical Layer Security**



# Learning Objectives



- Get a basic idea about the physical layer
- Get to know some approaches how the physical layer can be used to enhance security of a system
- Understand attacks against physical layer security

# Motivation

# Security in the ISO-OSI Model



Application Layer	SSH, HTTPS, FTPS, PGP	}	End-to-End
Transport Layer	SSL, TLS		Machine-to-Machine
Network Layer	IPSec		Device-to-Device
Data Link Layer	WEP, WPA(2), 802.1X		
Physical Layer	?		

# Security in a wired setup



- Attacker needs physical access to network equipment



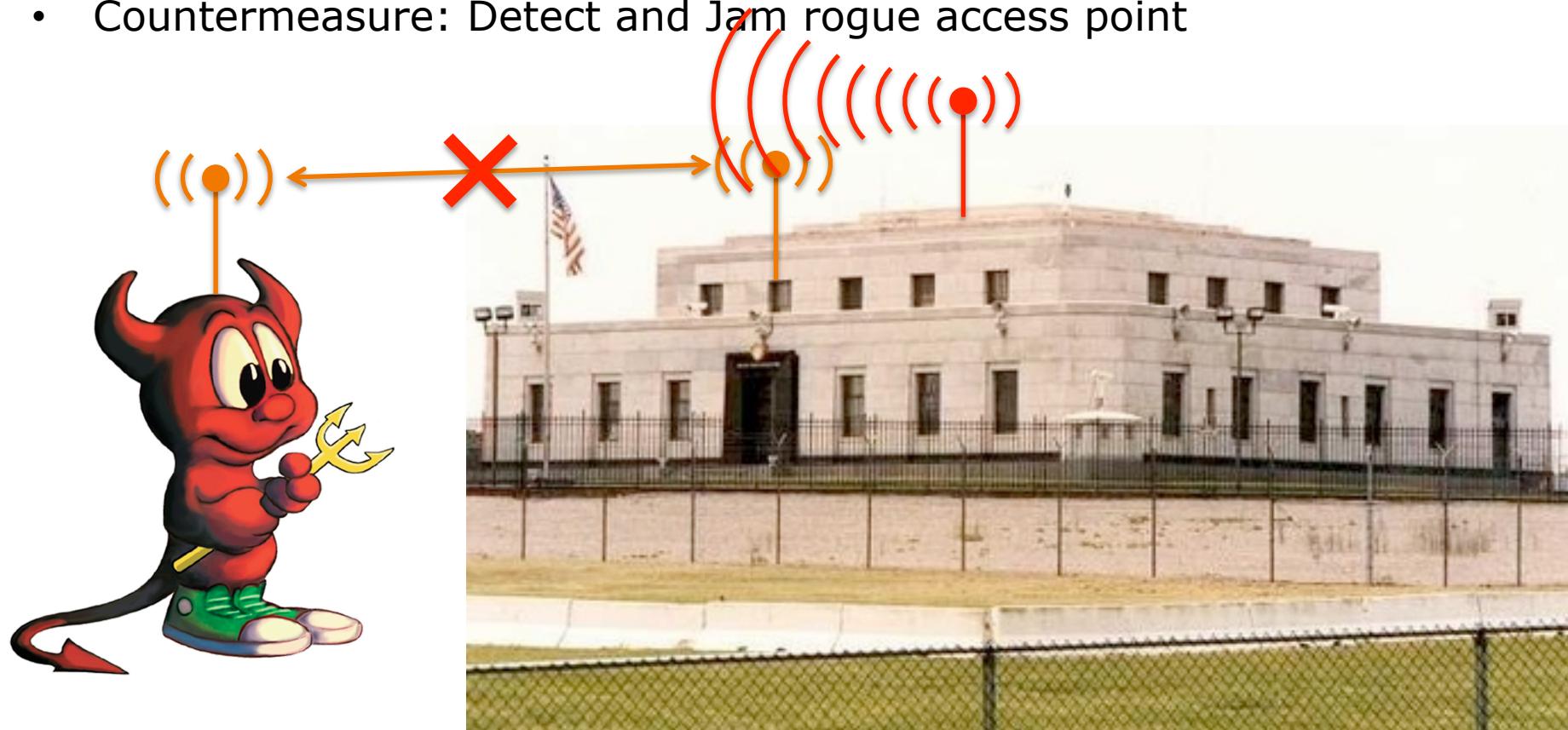
# Security in a wired setup

- Attacker needs physical access to network equipment
- Rogue Access Points attached to the network are a security threat



# Security in a wired setup

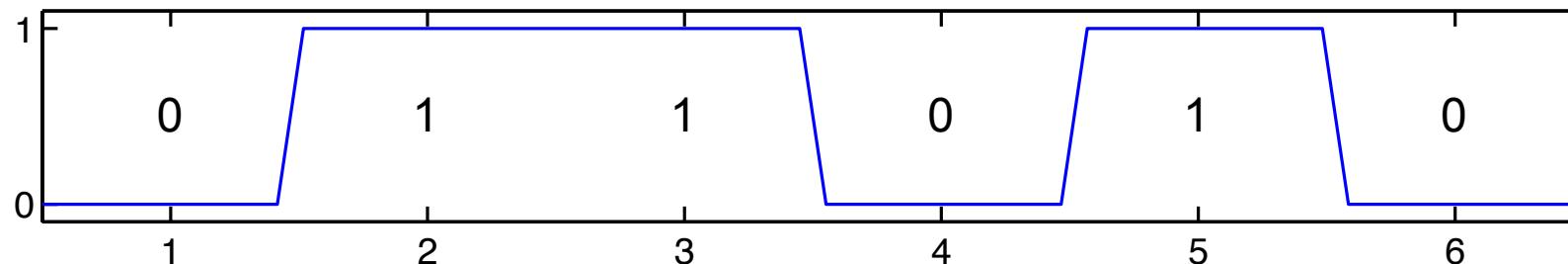
- Attacker needs physical access to network equipment
- Rogue access points attached to the network are a security threat
- Countermeasure: Detect and Jam rogue access point



# Physical Layer 101

# How signals get transmitted

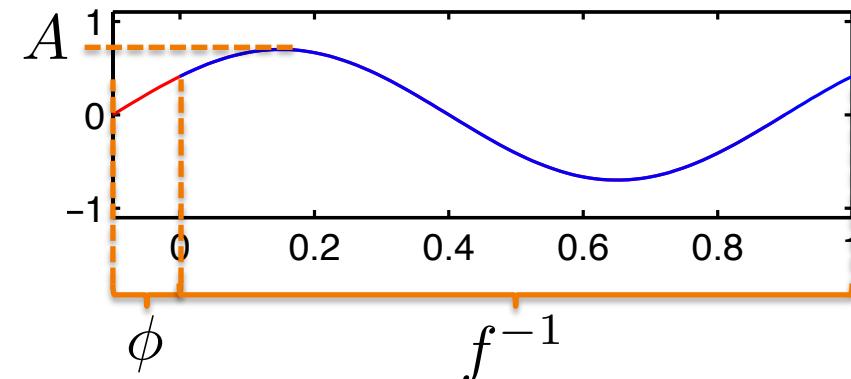
- In a computer, data is represented as bits (0 or 1)



- In the physical layer data is mapped to analog signals, represented as a sum of sine waves

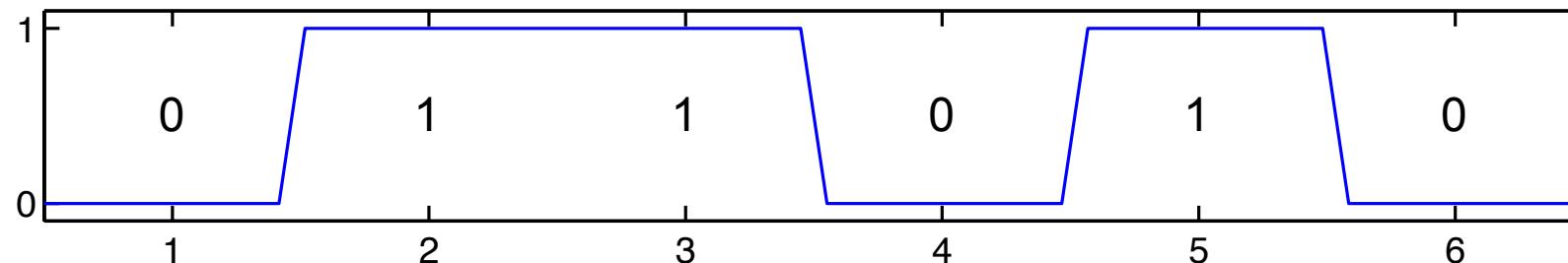
$$A \cdot \sin(2\pi ft + \phi)$$

Amplitude      Frequency      Phase

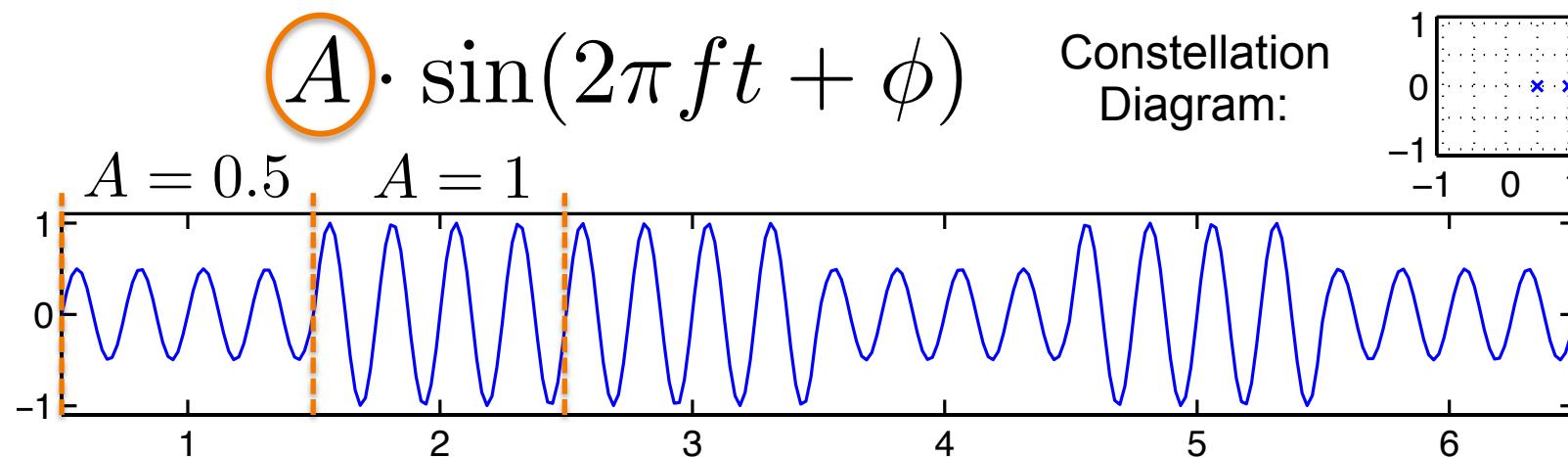


# How signals get transmitted

- In a computer, data is represented as bits (0 or 1)

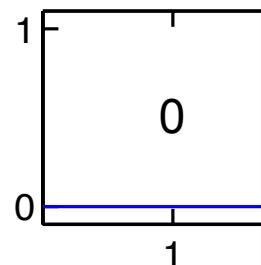


- Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK) modifies the signal's amplitude

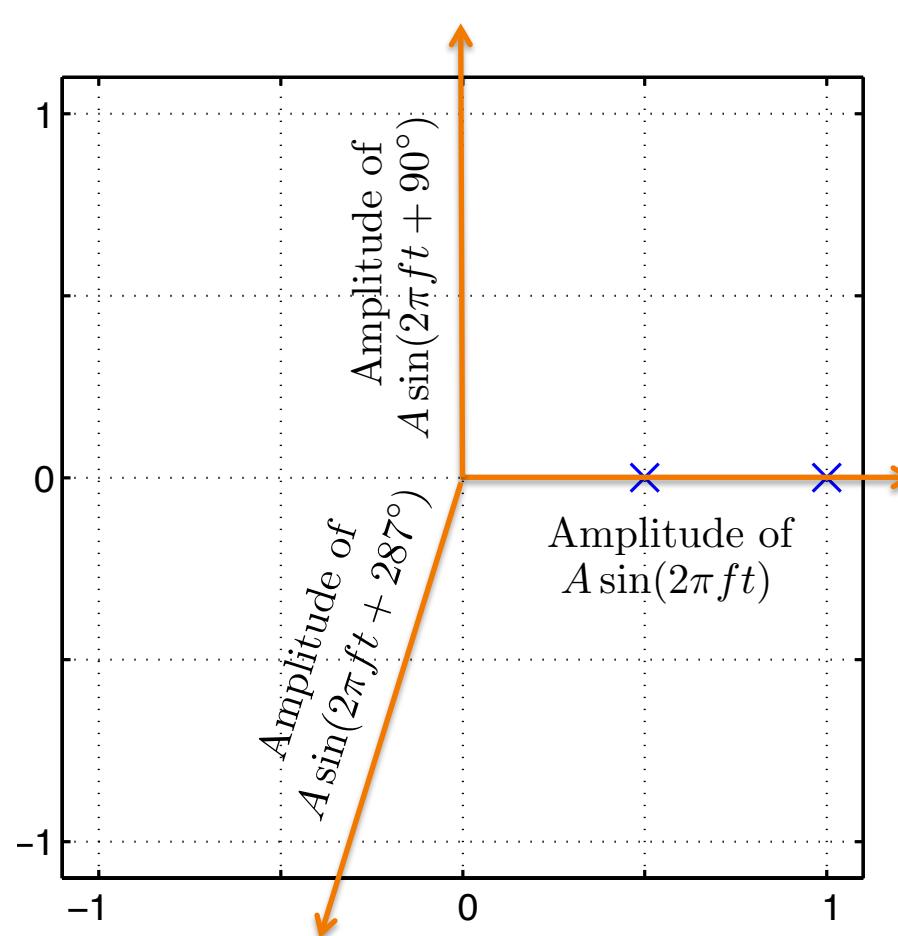
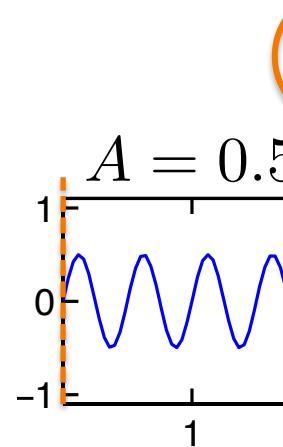


# How signals get transmitted

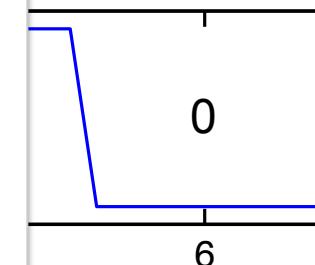
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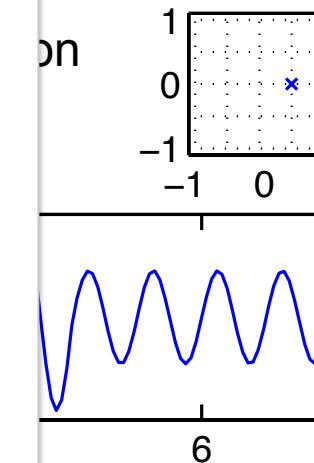
- Amplitud



- 1)

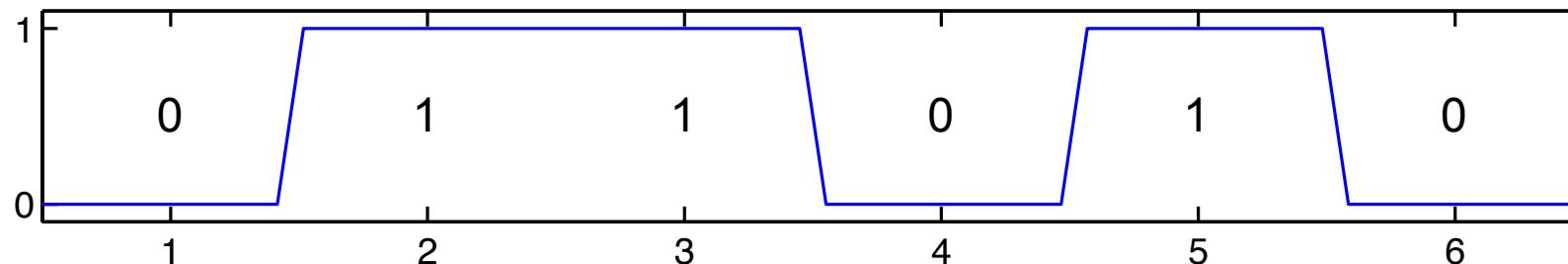


- al's amplitude

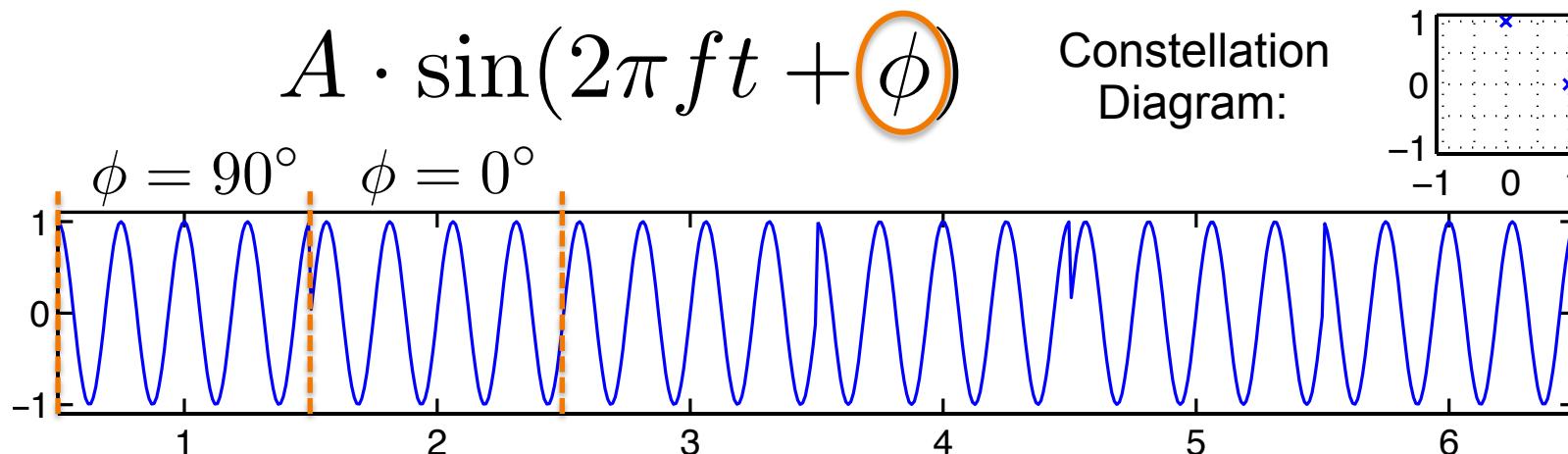


# How signals get transmitted

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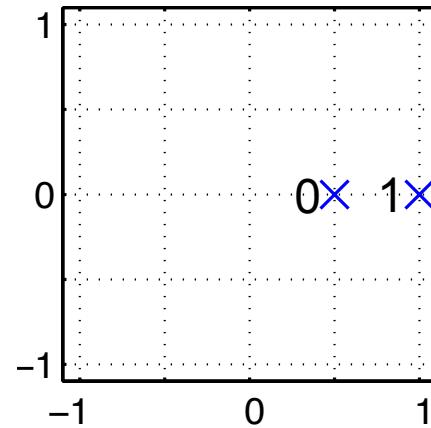


- Phase Shift Keying (PSK) modifies the signal's phase

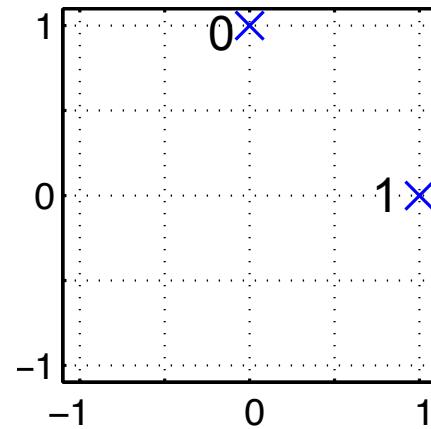


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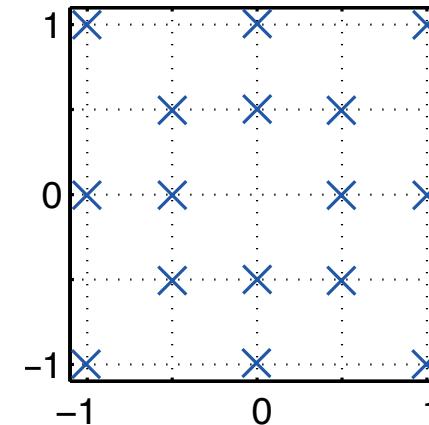
ASK



PSK



Quadrature  
Amplitude  
Modulation

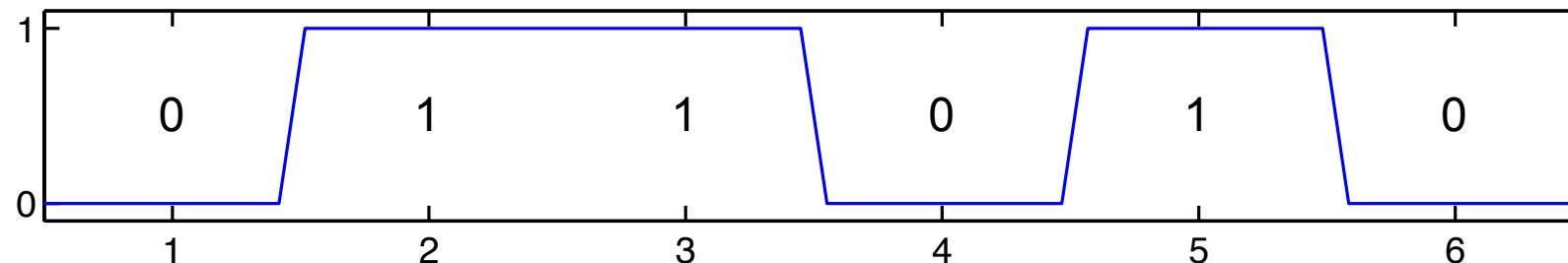


16 QAM

$$A \cdot \sin(2\pi ft + \phi)$$

# How signals get transmitted

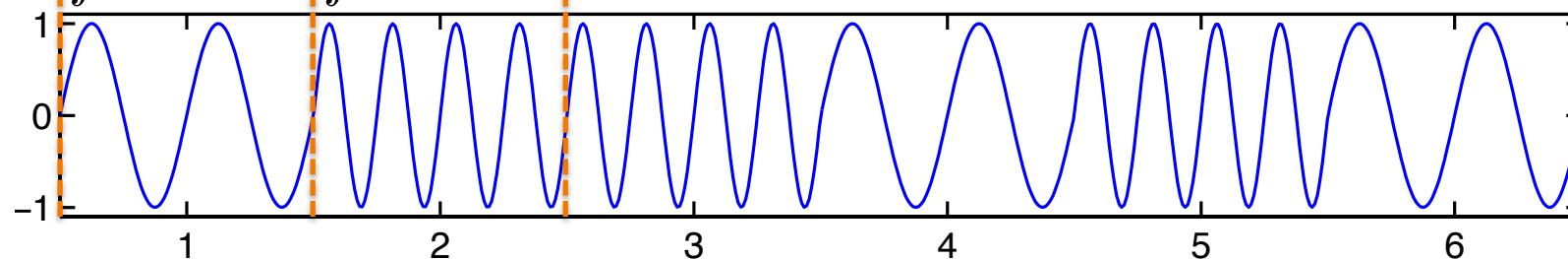
- In a computer, data is represented as bits (0 or 1)



- Frequency Shift Keying (FSK) modifies the signal's frequency

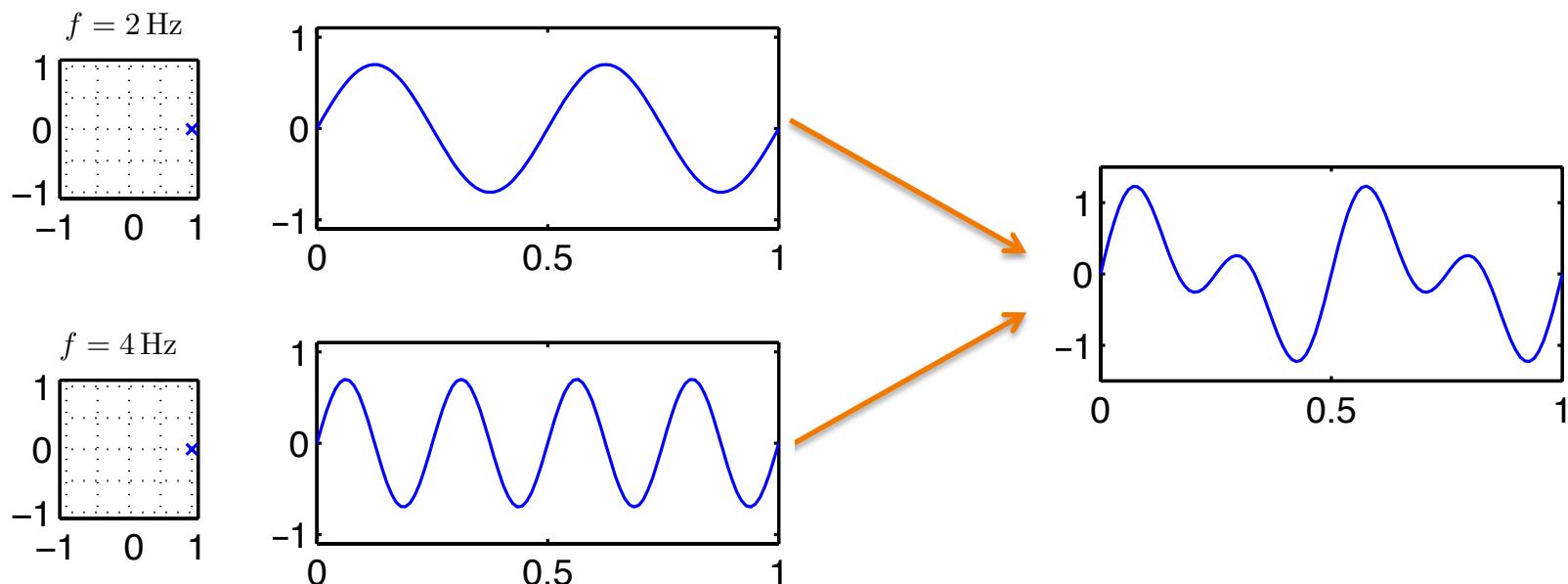
$$A \cdot \sin(2\pi f t + \phi)$$

$f = 2 \text{ Hz}$     $f = 4 \text{ Hz}$

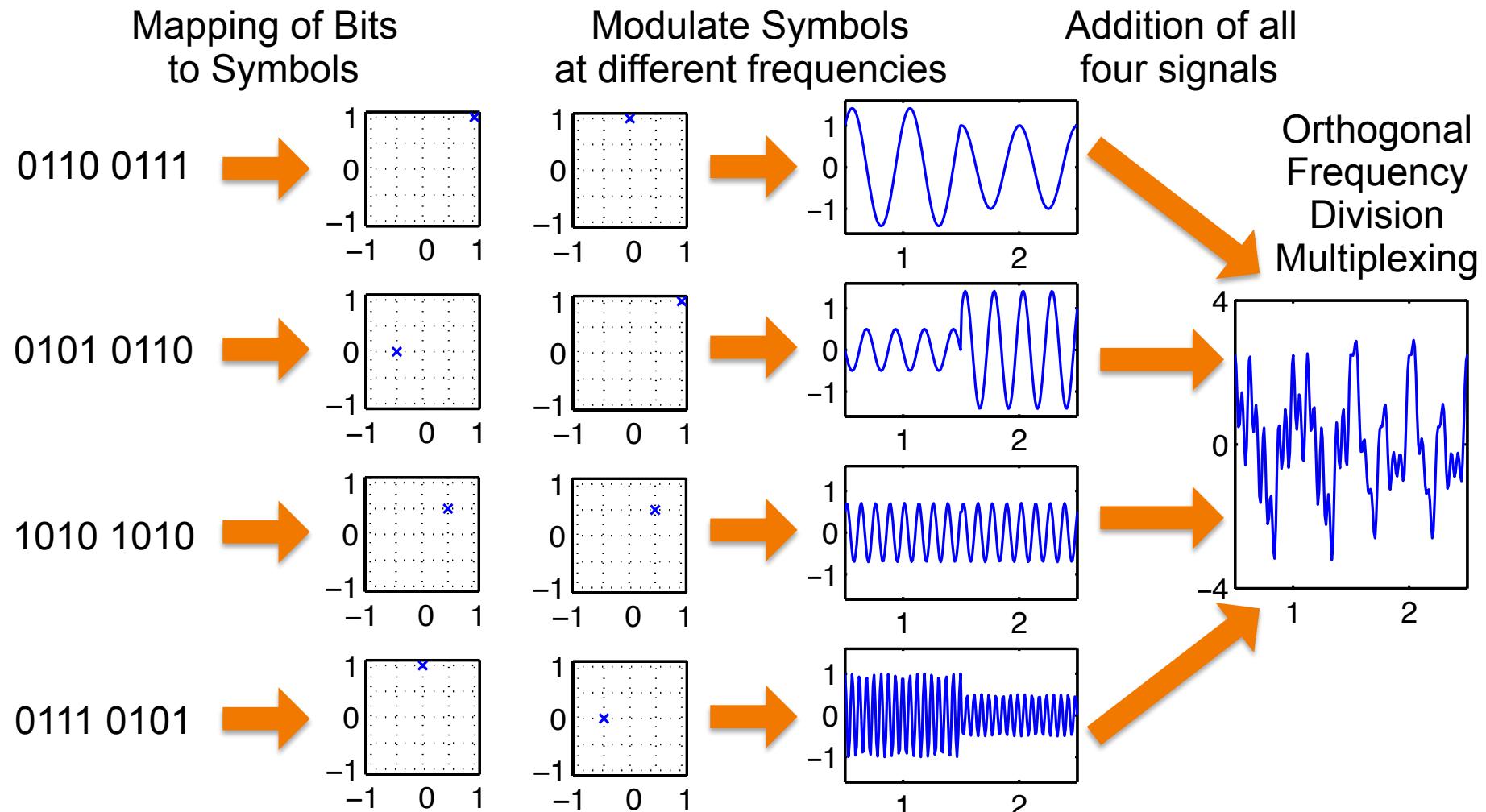


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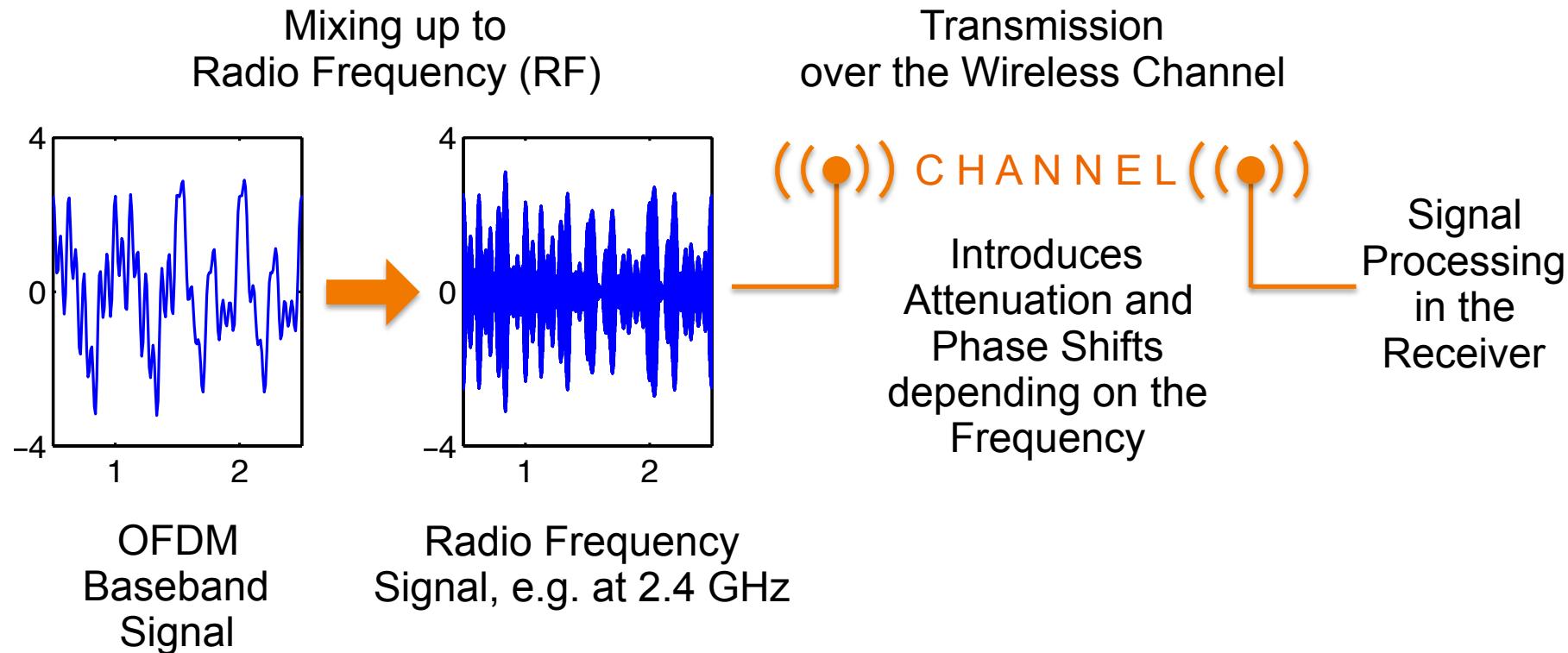
- Sine functions at different frequencies are independent (orthogonal) → we can transmit them at the same time and separate them at the receiver again



# How signals get transmitted

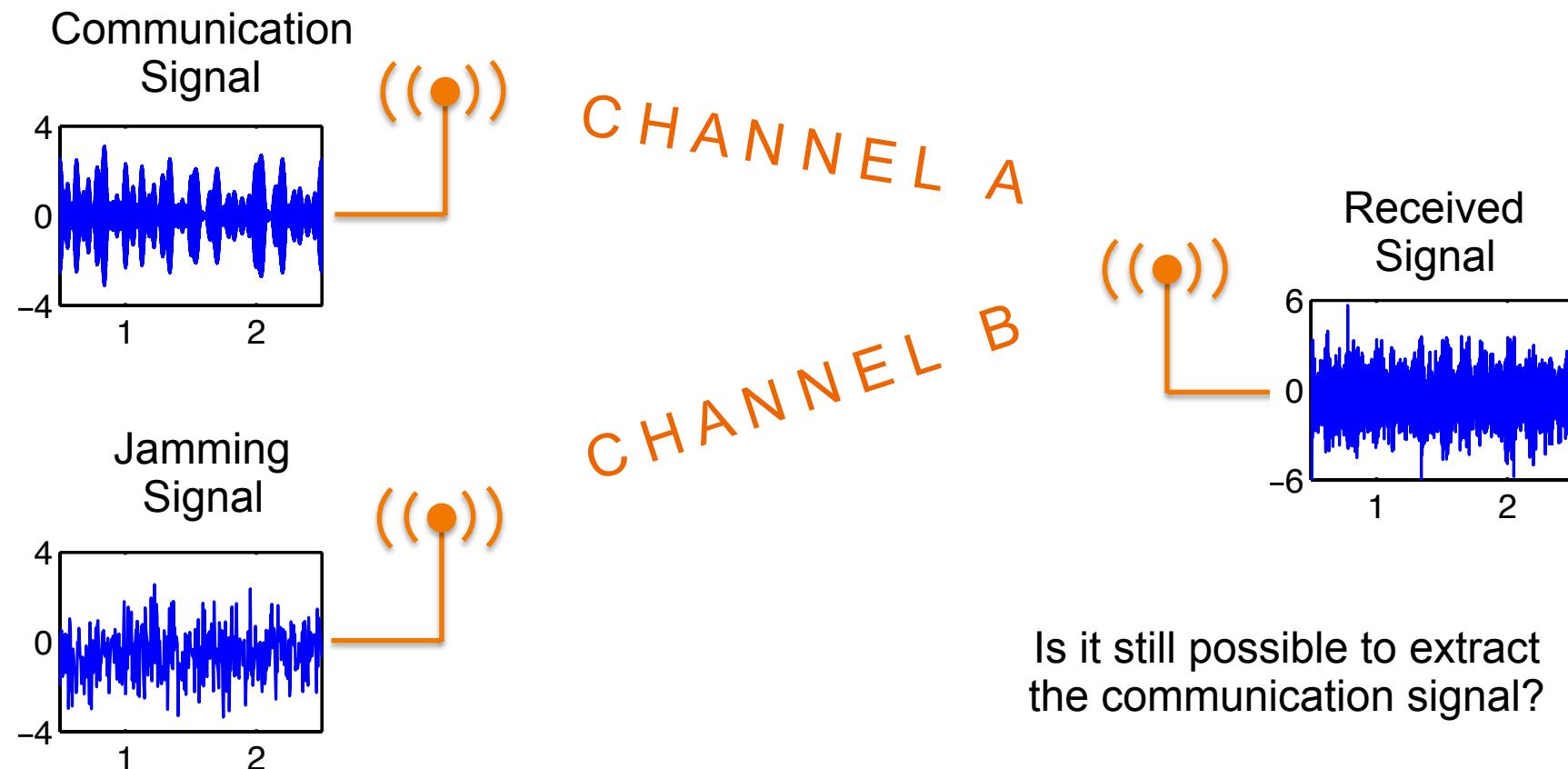


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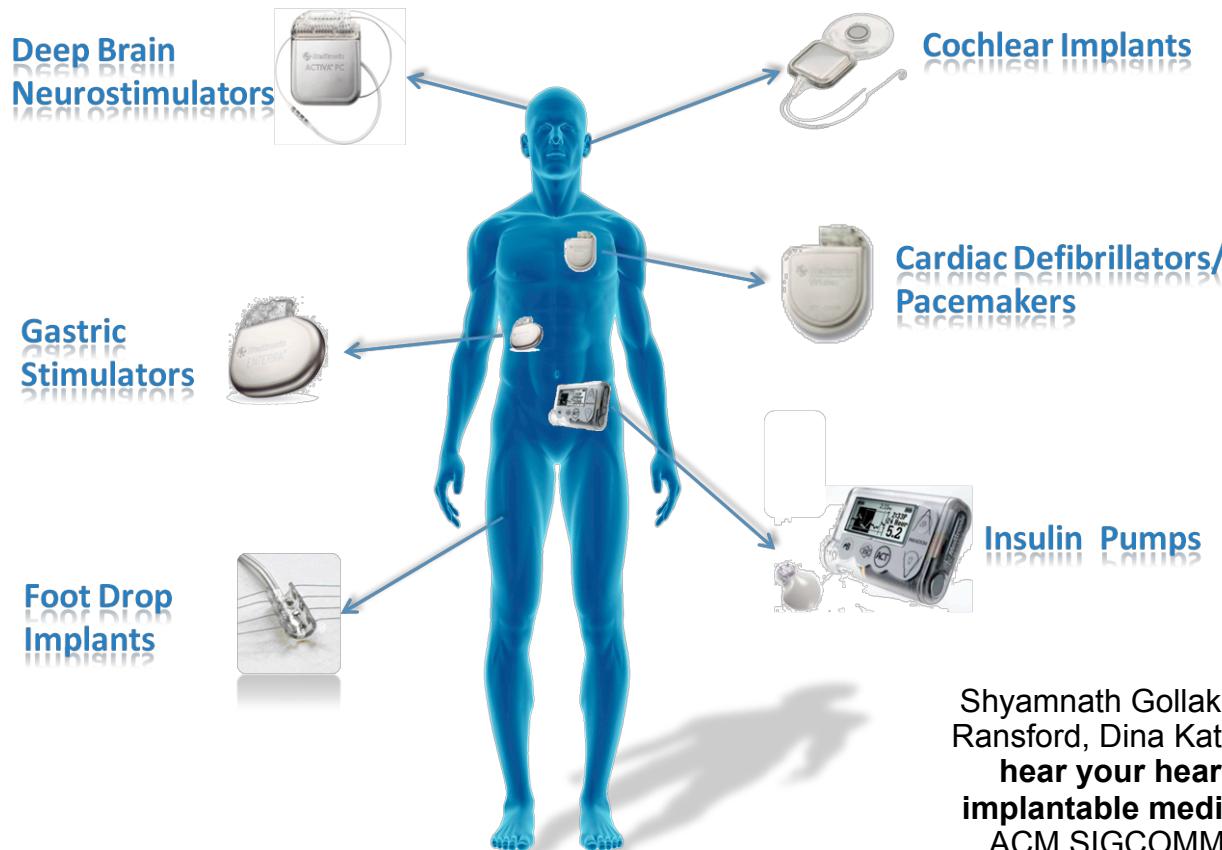
# Jamming

# Jamming



# IMD Shield: Securing Implantable Medical Devices

## WIRELESS IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICES



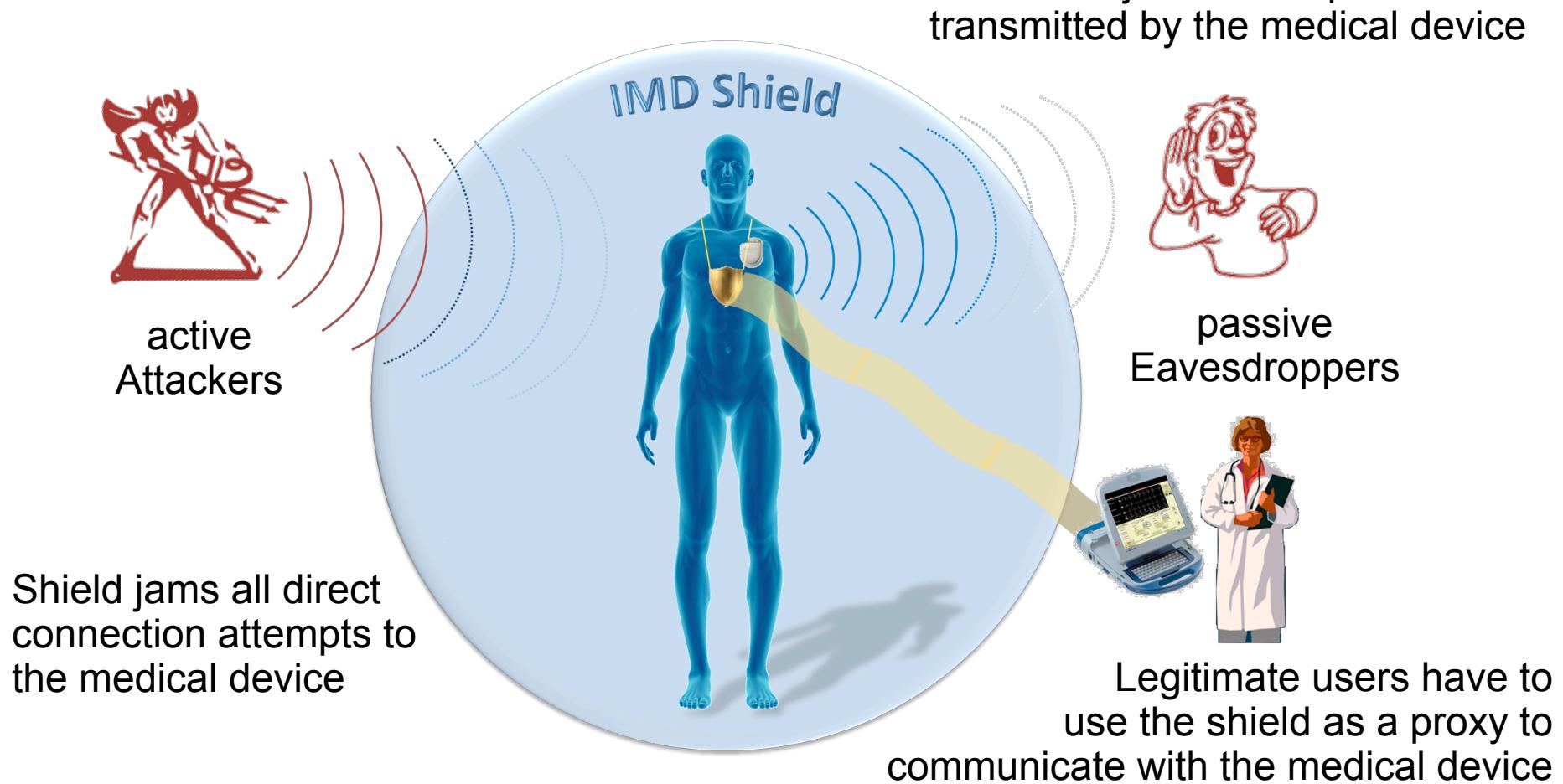
Communication is often not encrypted:

Eavesdropping and malicious reprogramming is possible

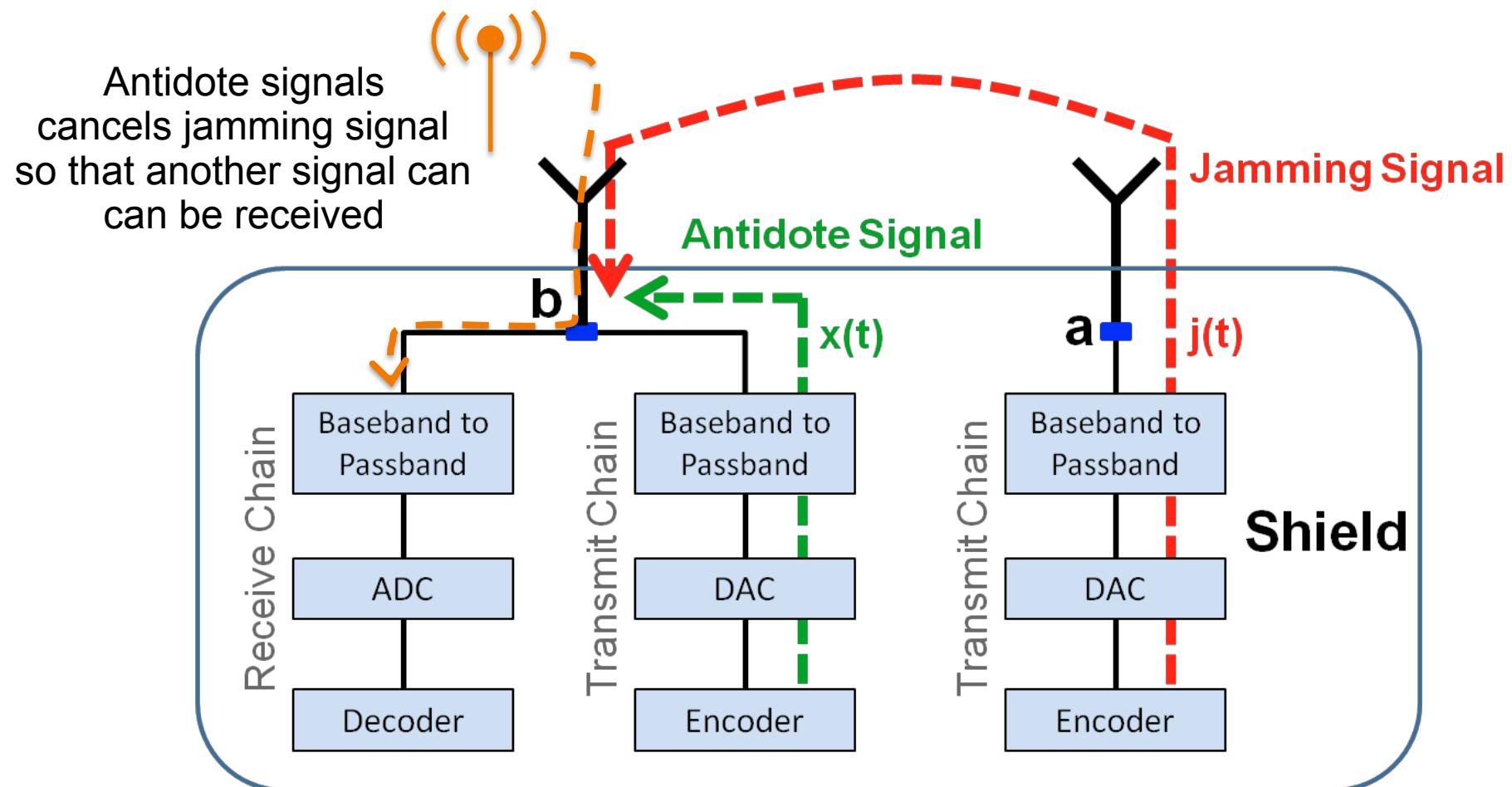
Updates for implanted are not feasible

Shyamnath Gollakota, Haitham Hassanieh, Benjamin Ransford, Dina Katabi, and Kevin Fu. 2011. **They can hear your heartbeats: non-invasive security for implantable medical devices.** In Proceedings of the ACM SIGCOMM 2011 conference (SIGCOMM '11).

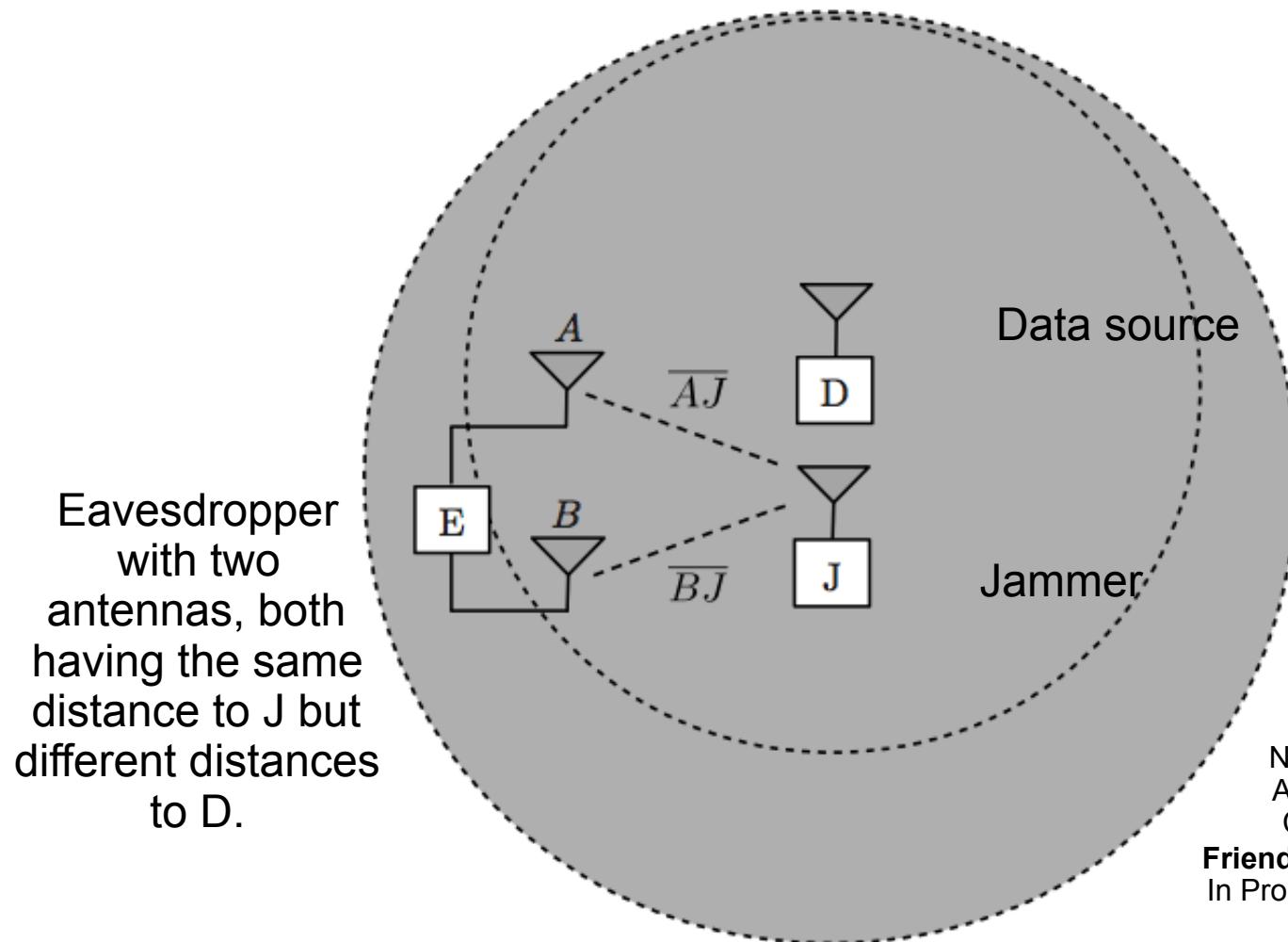
# IMD Shield: Securing Implantable Medical Devices



# Jammer-cum-Receiver

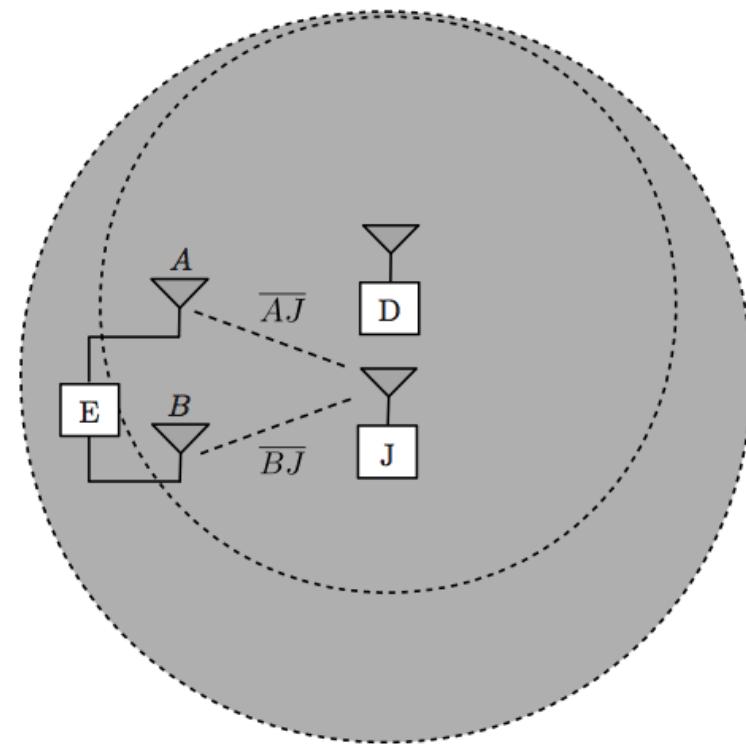
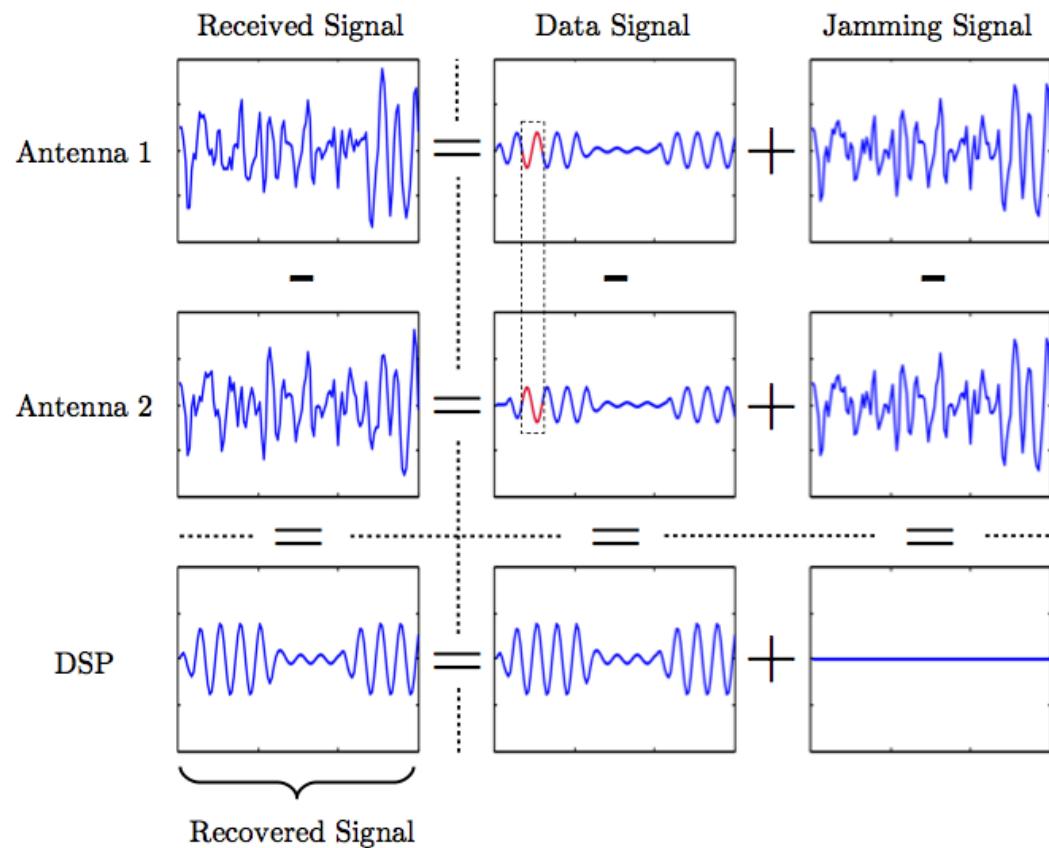


# On Limitations of Friendly Jamming for Confidentiality

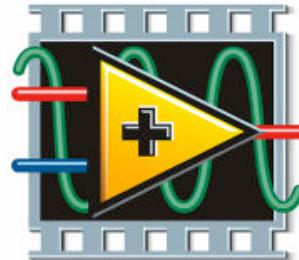


Nils Ole Tippenhauer, Luka Malisa, Aanjan Ranganathan, and Srdjan Capkun. 2013. **On Limitations of Friendly Jamming for Confidentiality.** In Proceedings of the IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (S&P'13)

# On Limitations of Friendly Jamming for Confidentiality

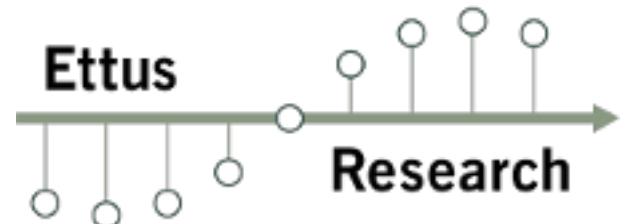


# Interested in Physical Layer Experiments?



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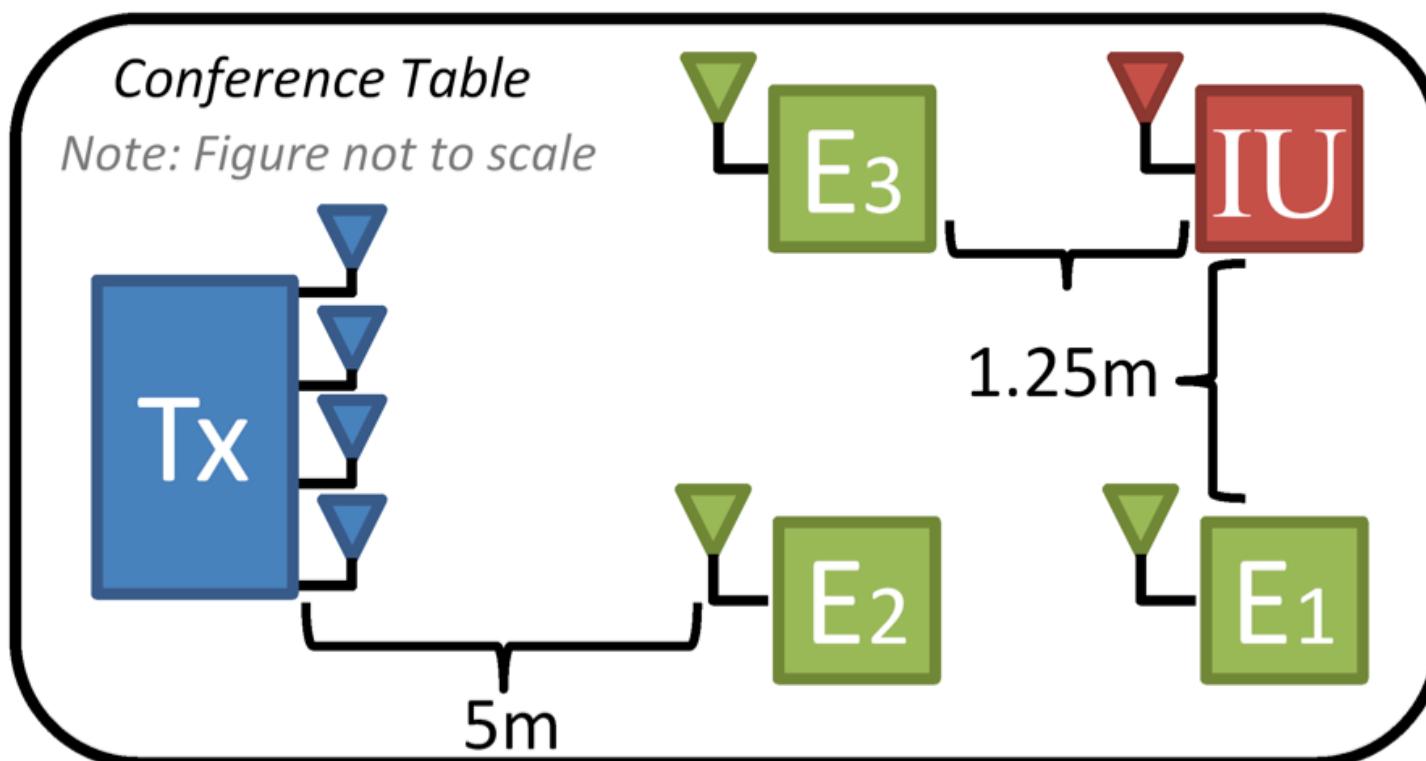
Our Software Defined Radio  
Lab is equipped with eight  
USRPs to transmit and receive  
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# STROBE: Actively Securing Wireless Communications using Zero-Forcing Beamforming



Transmitter with four antennas (MIMO)  
can send signals into four  
spatial dimensions

Three eavesdroppers and  
one intended receiver  
each equipped with one antenna



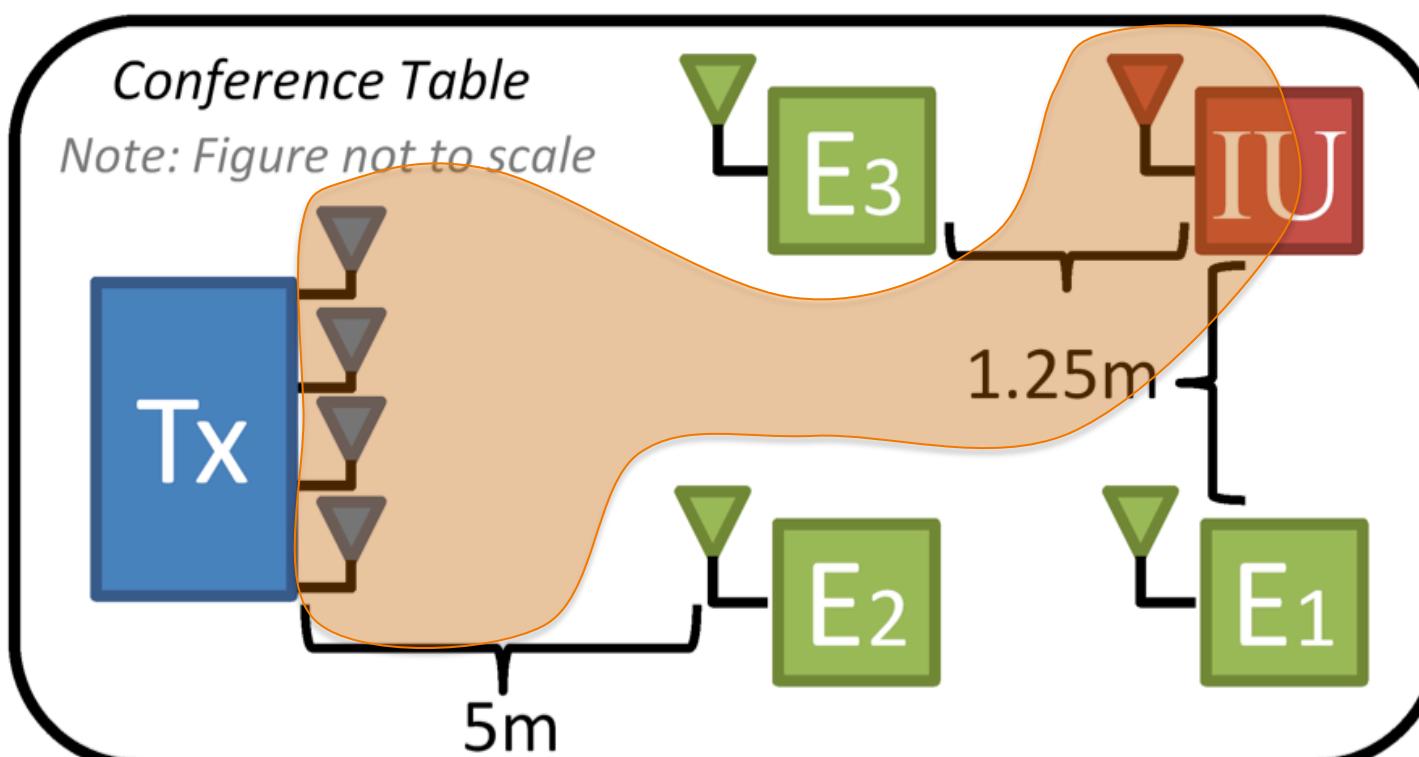
N. Anand, Sung-Ju Lee, E.W. Knightly. 2012. **STROBE: Actively securing wireless communications using Zero-Forcing Beamforming**. In Proceedings of the INFOCOM 2012

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Transmitter with four antennas can send signals into four spatial dimensions

Three eavesdroppers and one intended receiver each equipped with one antenna



If channels from transmitter to eavesdroppers are known at the transmitter, it can be avoided to transmit to the eavesdroppers.

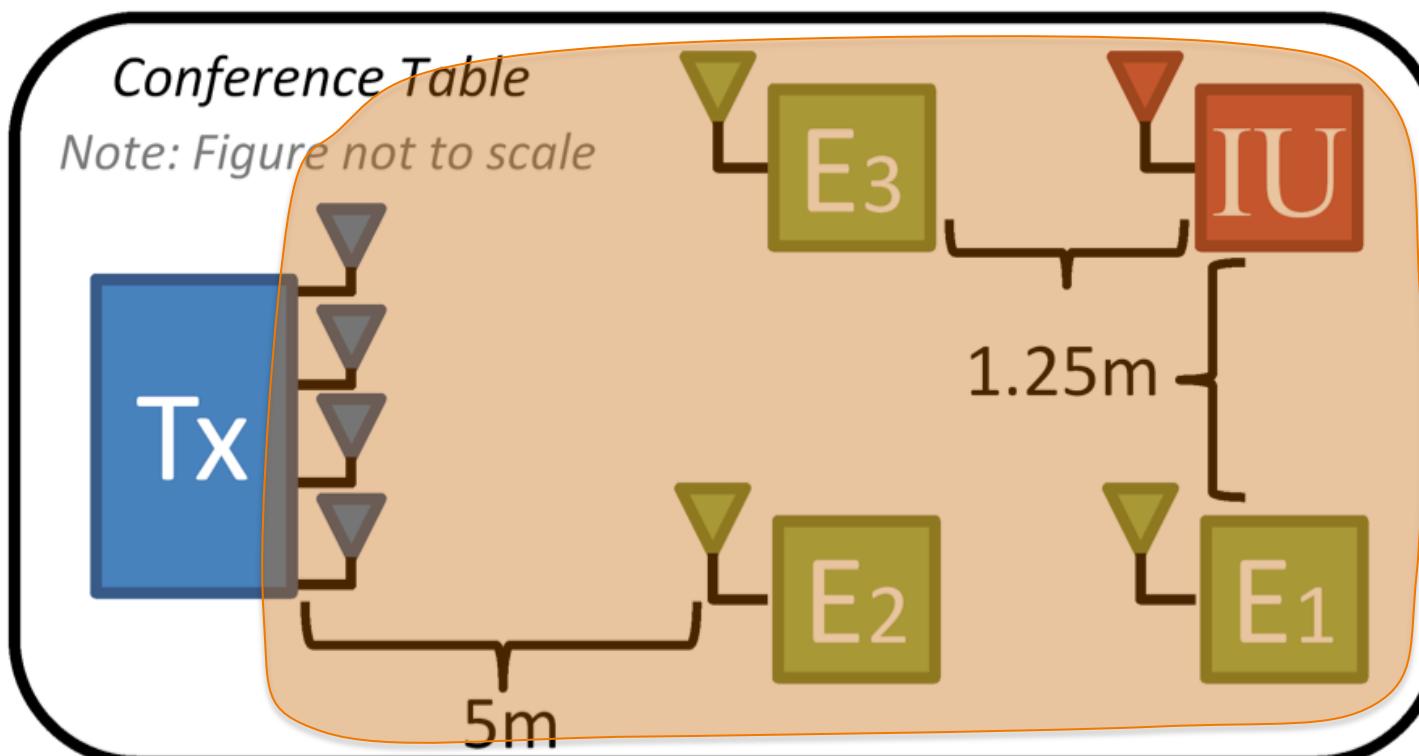
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# STROBE: Actively Securing Wireless Communications using Zero-Forcing Beamforming



Transmitter with four antennas can send signals into four spatial dimensions

Three eavesdroppers and one intended receiver each equipped with one antenna



If channels from transmitter to eavesdroppers are NOT known at the transmitter, the signal can be received by the eavesdroppers.

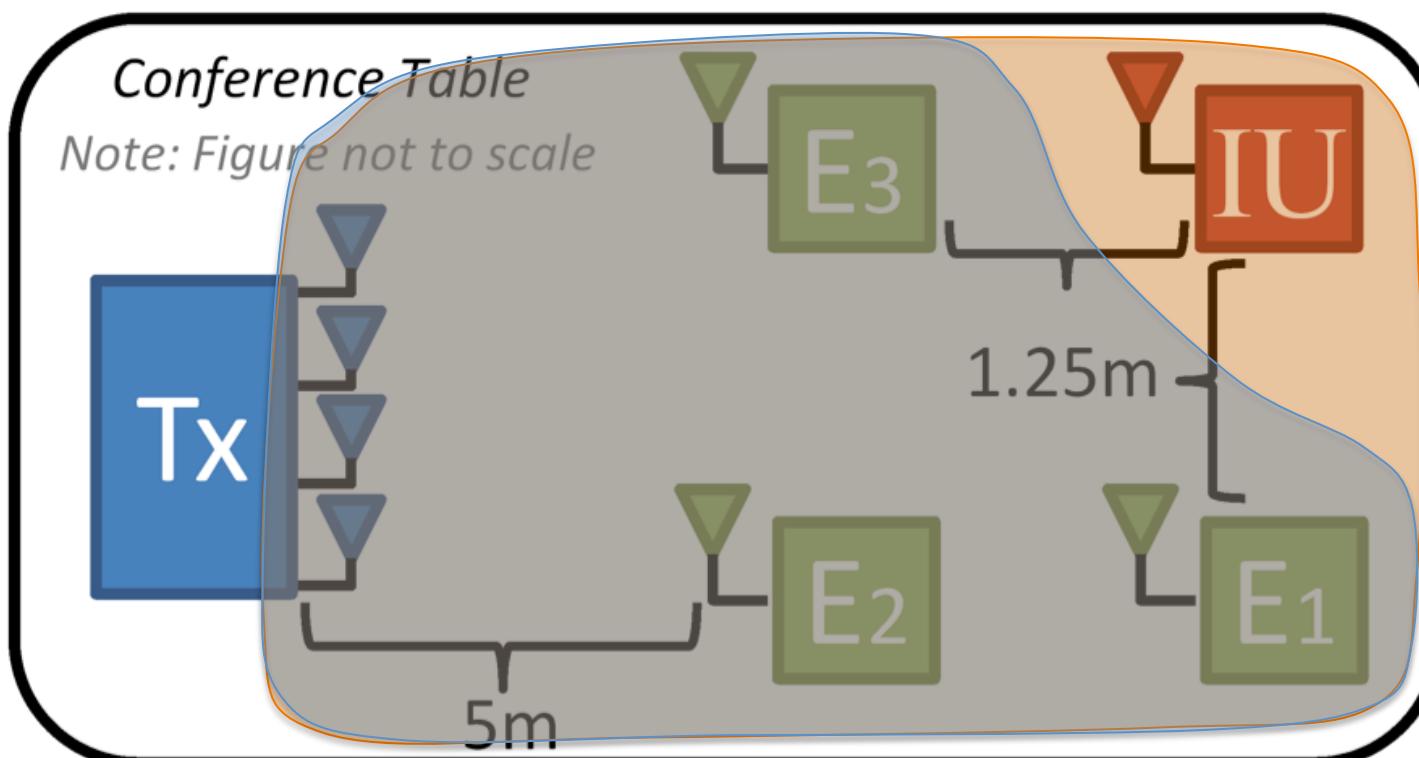
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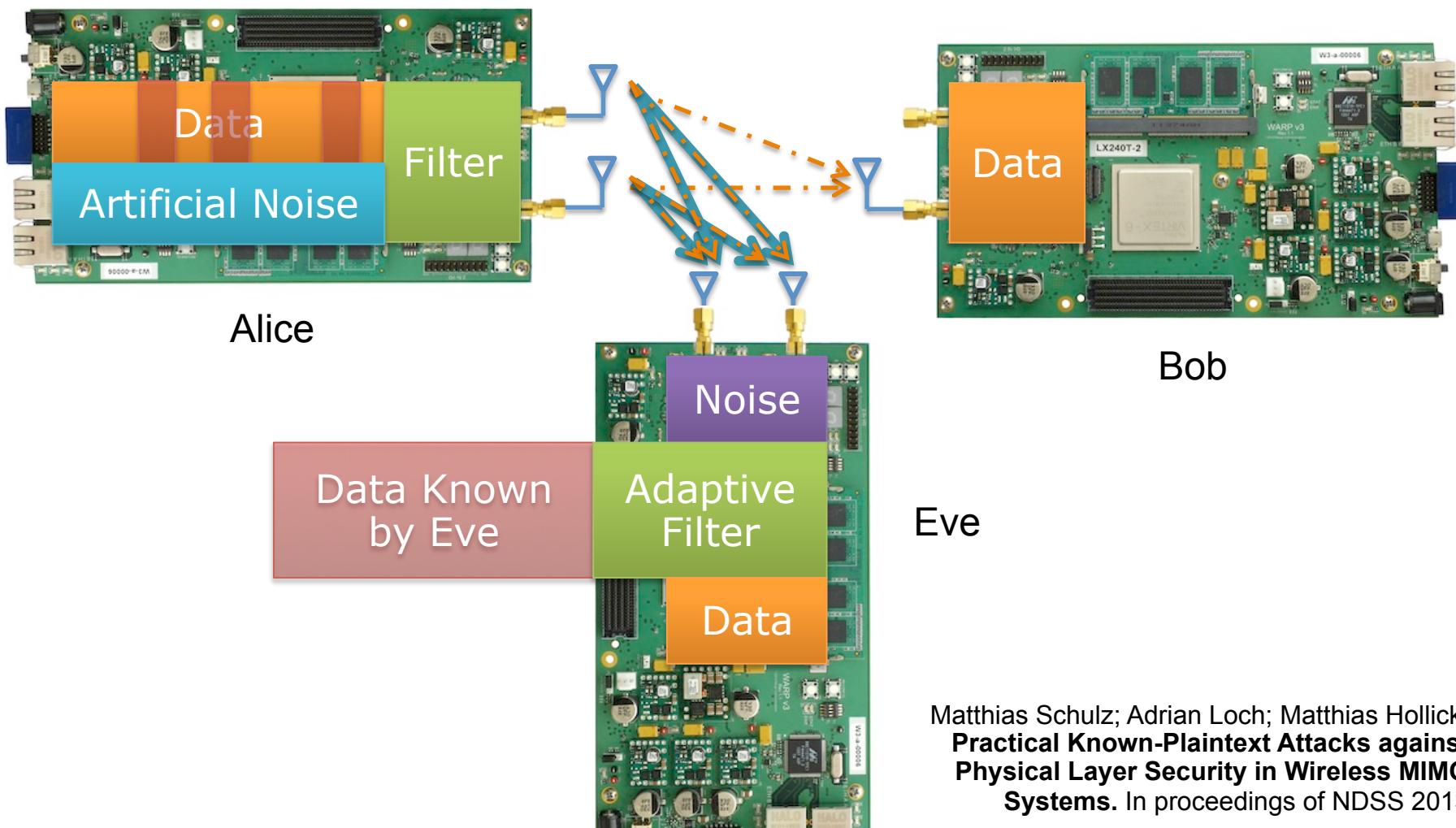
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As only one spatial dimension is required to transmit to the receiver, the transmitter can use its additional three spatial dimensions to transmit artificial noise orthogonal to the receivers channel

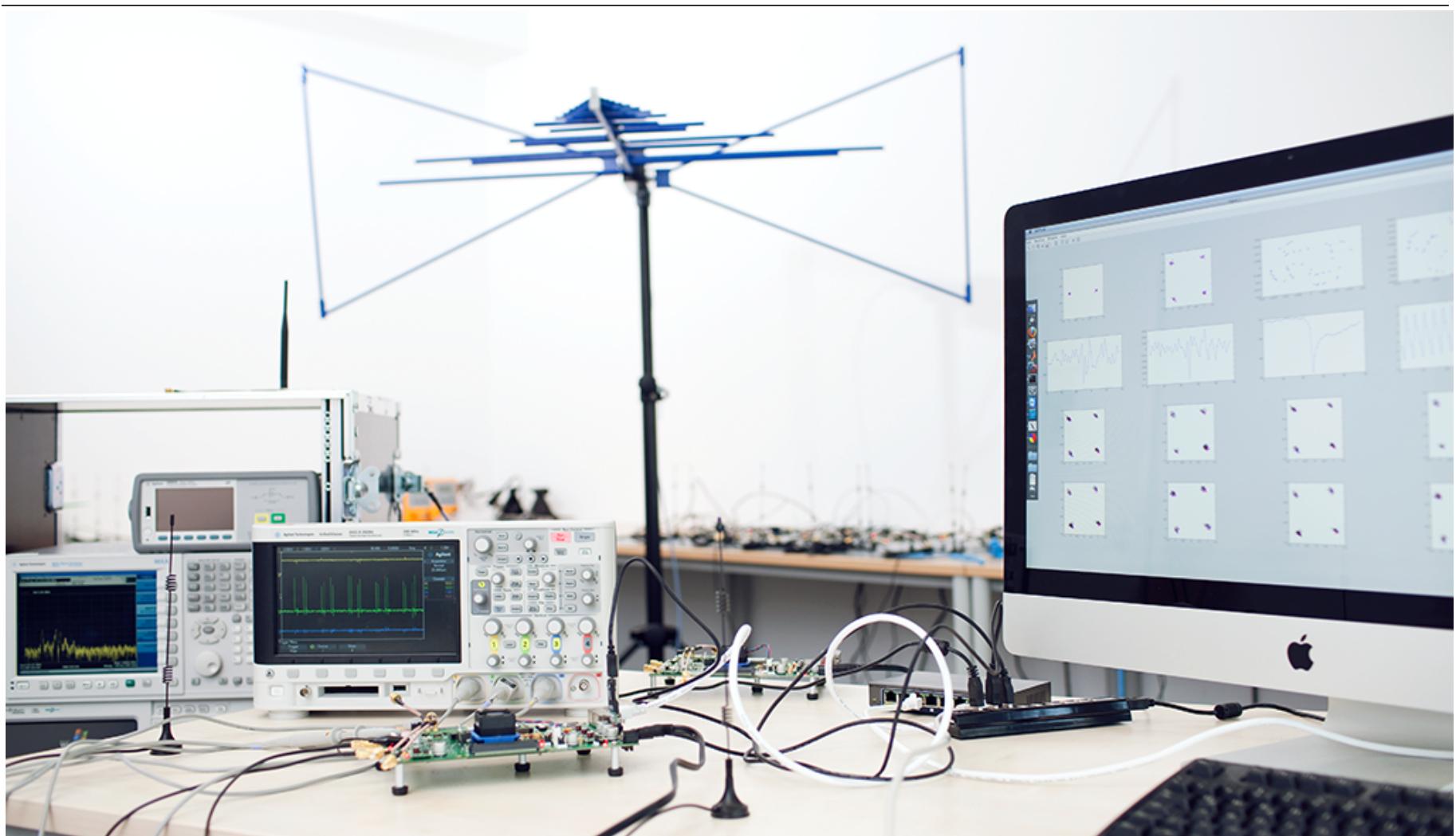
N. Anand, Sung-Ju Lee, E.W. Knightly. 2012. **STROBE: Actively securing wireless communications using Zero-Forcing Beamforming**. In Proceedings of the INFOCOM 2012

# Known Plaintext Attacks against Physical Layer Security in Wireless MIMO Systems

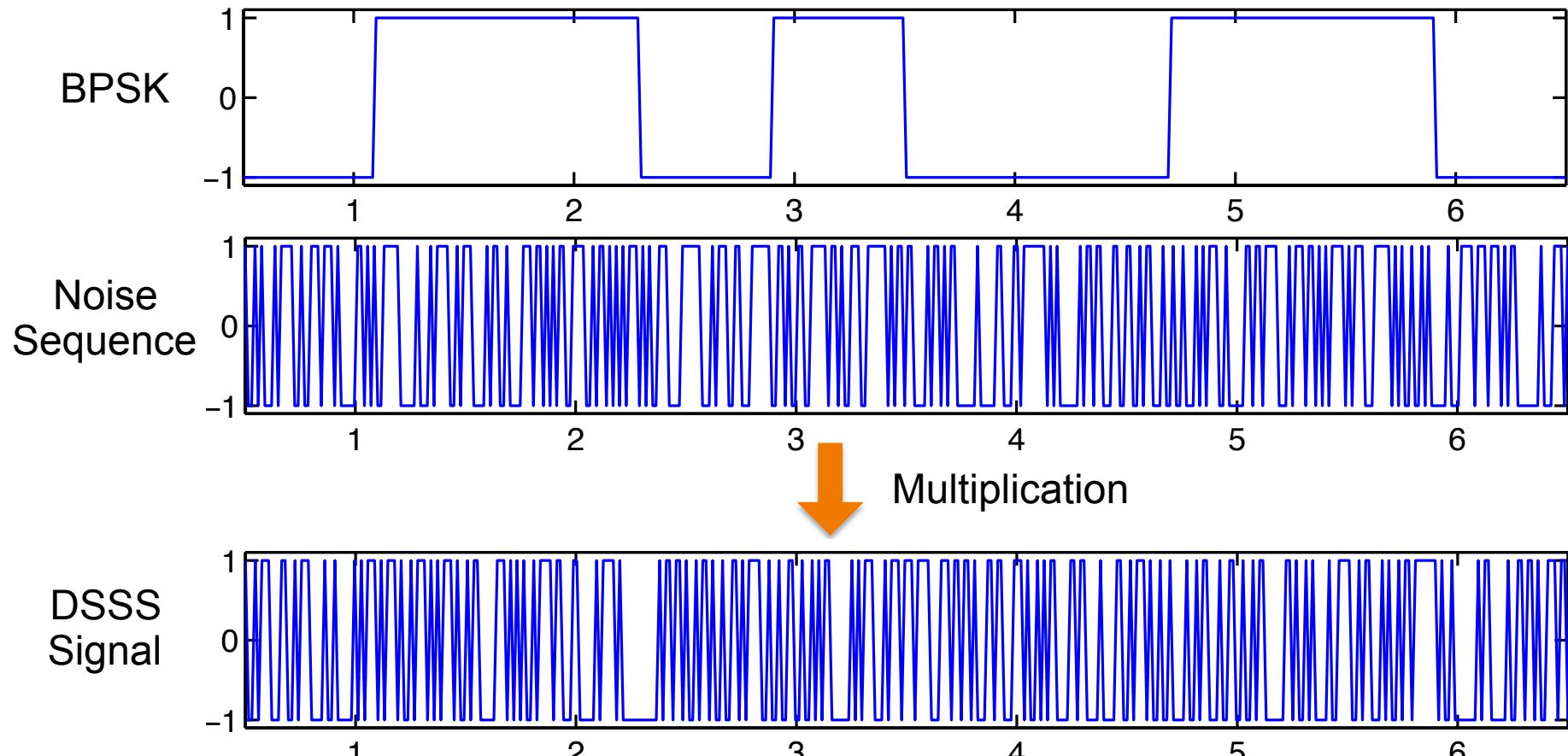


Matthias Schulz; Adrian Loch; Matthias Hollick.  
**Practical Known-Plaintext Attacks against Physical Layer Security in Wireless MIMO Systems.** In proceedings of NDSS 2013

# Interested in Advanced Physical Layer Experiments with MIMO Systems?

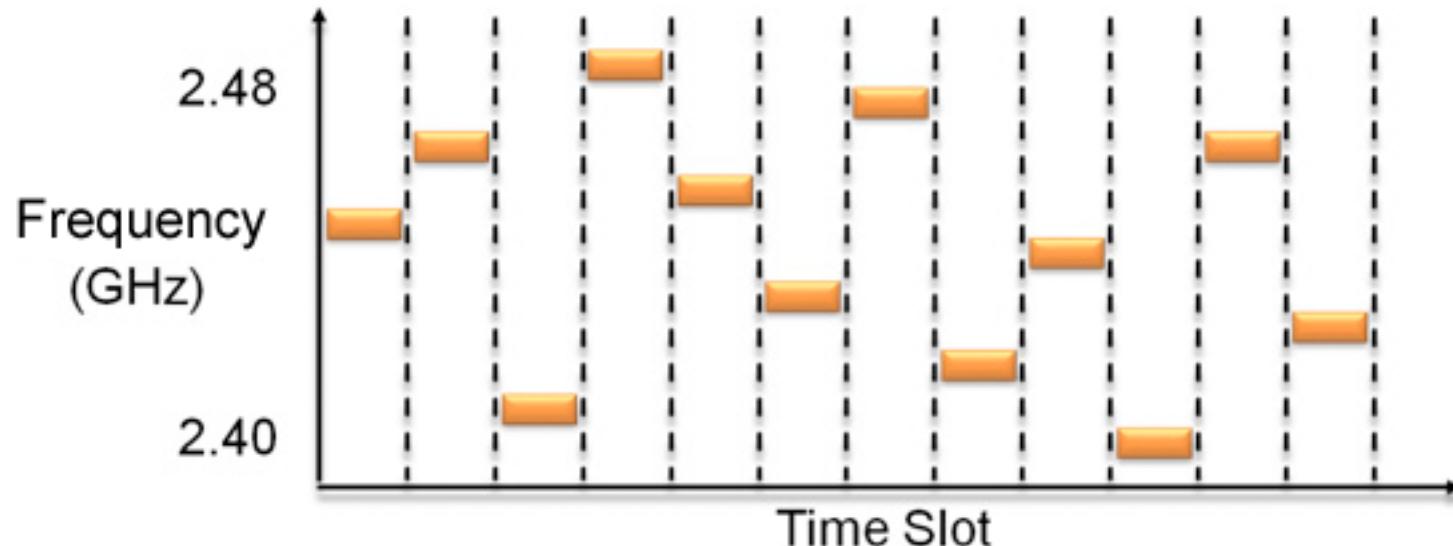


# Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum (DSSS)



The noise sequence is required to extract the information signal, this can be used like a one-time pad.

# Frequency Hopping



The Radio Frequency is constantly changing. Only if the hopping sequence is known the transmitted information can be reconstructed.

Downside: If there is only one transmitter an eavesdropper can observe the whole frequency spectrum and record the complete transmission to reconstruct the hopping sequence.

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