

What's on the Wireless?

Automating RF Signal Identification

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Black Hat USA 2017

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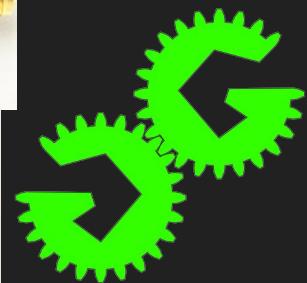
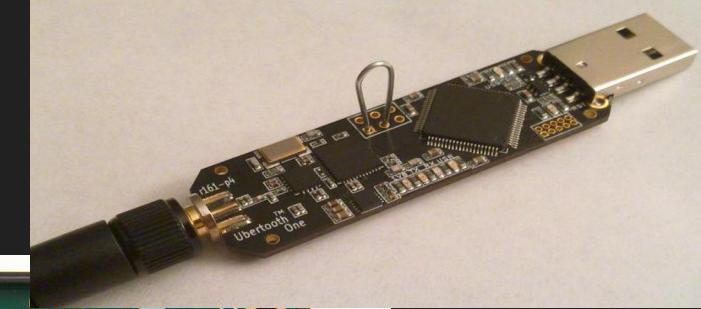
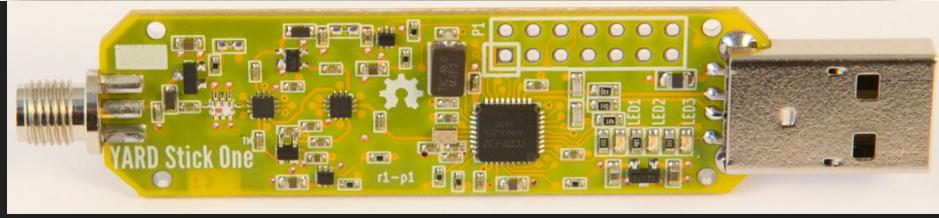
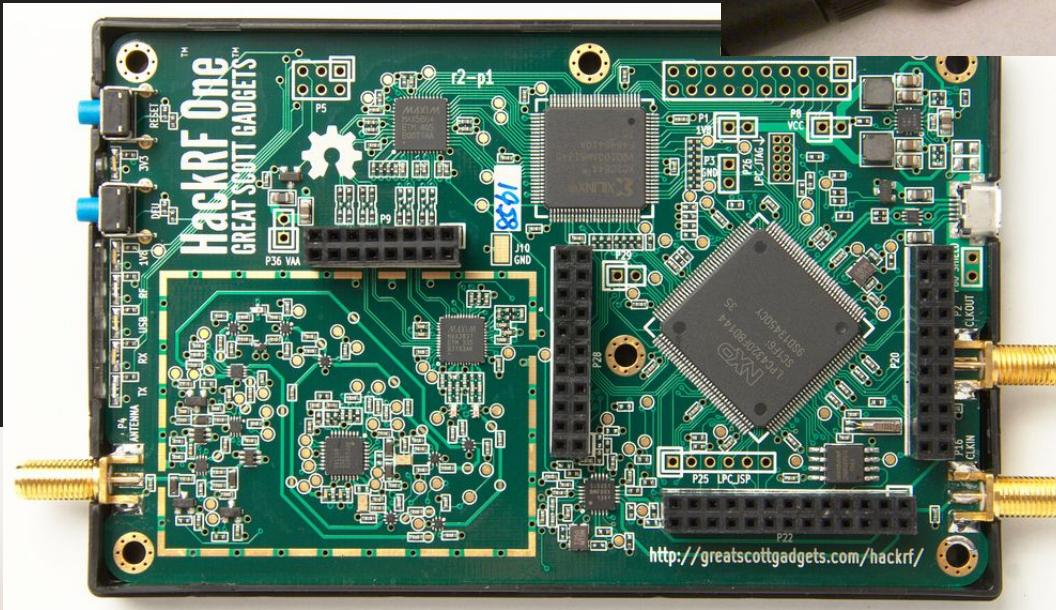
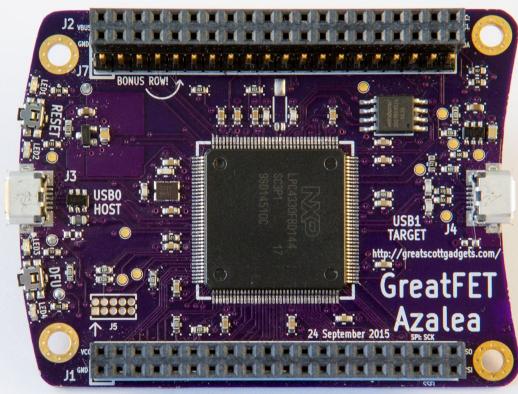
Great Scott Gadgets

HackRF One

Ubertooth

YARD Stick One

GreatFET



By Ben Ellery
and Simon Murphy

A GADGET that allows thieves to break into cars with electronic locks in minutes is being openly sold on Amazon and eBay.

Priced at £257, the device lets criminals intercept the radio signal from the key as a car owner unlocks the vehicle. It is downloaded to a laptop and the thieves then transmit the stolen signal to break in when the owner leaves it unattended.

Called 'HackRF One' the radio device works from up to 30ft away, allowing the crook to remain hidden. YouTube videos demonstrating how to use the gadget to break into a car have been watched tens of thousands of times online.

After watching the videos, The Mail on Sunday was able to use the HackRF One to break into a top-of-the-range £105,000 Range Rover Vogue SE in two minutes – with the permission of the vehicle's owner.

'This problem is only going to get worse'

Experts have responded to our investigation by calling for the Home Office to launch a probe into the availability of the HackRF One and similar devices.

Made by Great Scott Gadgets, the HackRF One is marketed for 'development of modern and next generation radio technologies'. The box displays the disclaimer: 'You are responsible for using your HackRF One legally'.

However, Andrew Miller, chief technical officer at the motor insurers' centre Thatcham Research,

... live in the wild in

the South-West.
But the population is shifting

we saw ...
sheep were rare,' he said. Last

For sale on Amazon, hacking gadget that is a car thief's dream

... and MoS team using it took just two minutes to break into this £100k Range Rover

the availability of these items.' Car manufacturers have introduced encryption on key fobs in an attempt to overcome 'signal grabbers', but the HackRF One features

month thieves were caught on camera using a laptop to break into a £35,000 Mercedes and driving off.

A Land Rover spokesman said:

these criminal gangs, who are continually attempting to devise new ways of hacking into vehicles.'

Ebay rules state it does not sell illegal items but using one of these devices without



OPEN SESAME: The HackRF One captures key's signal and downloads it to a laptop. We used a volunteer's car

of uses. We have not been advised of any restrictions on its sale.' Amazon declined to comment.

Founder of Great Scott Gadgets Michael Ossmann said: 'We encourage auto makers and automobile owners to use test equipment such as HackRF One to test their



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Explanation of terms

Software Defined Radio (SDR) -

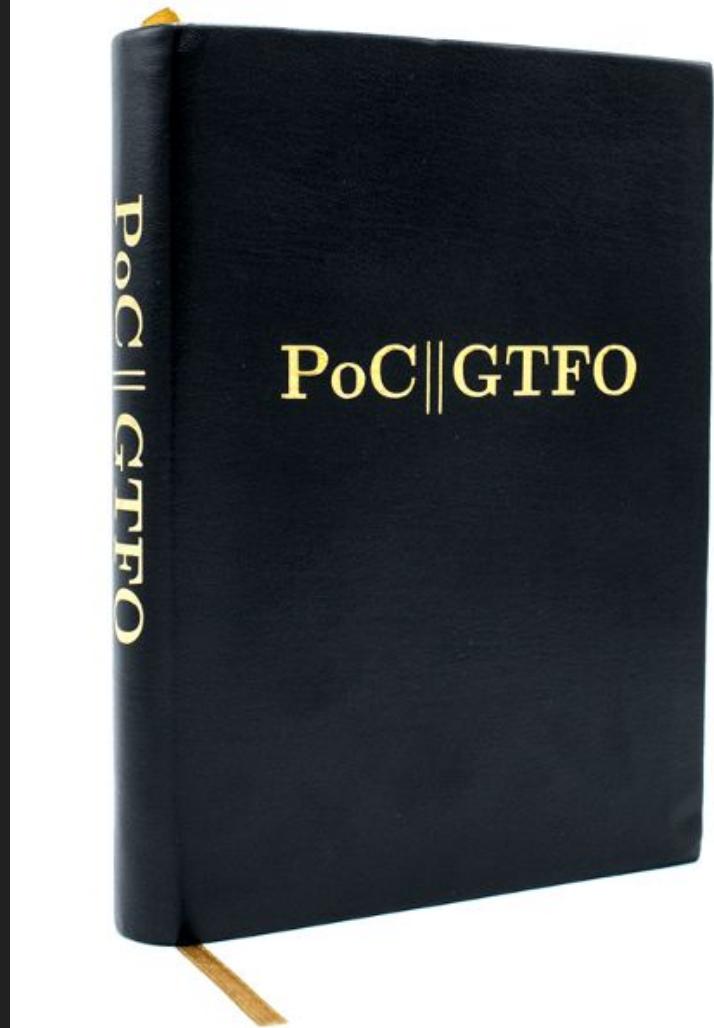
Digital Signal Processing of radio signals

Waterfall - moving spectrogram showing power vs. frequency vs. time

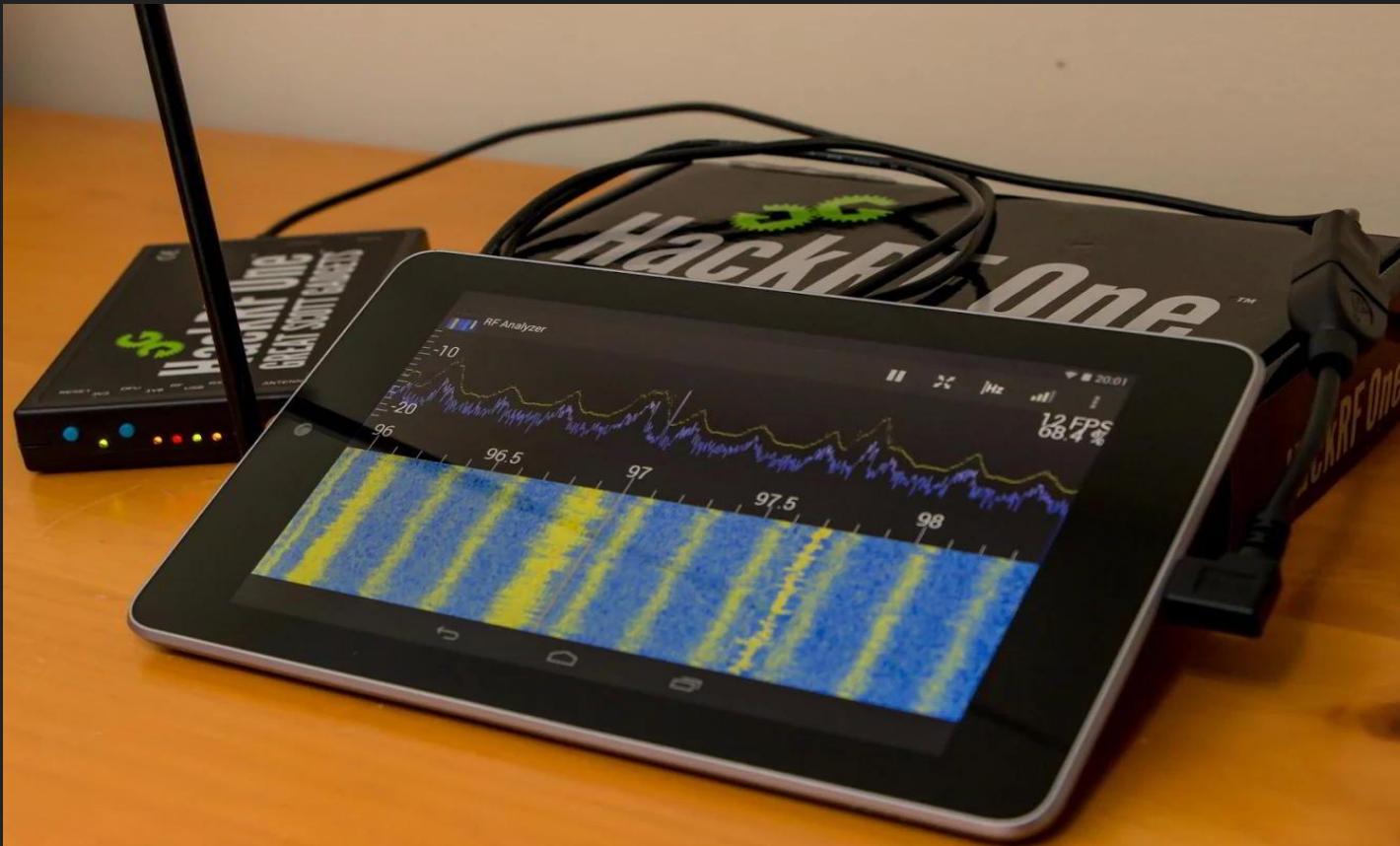
Signal Analysis - Extracting metadata about a given radio signal
frequency, modulation, bandwidth, duty cycle

Signal Identification - Determining protocol in use by signal analysis

AMC - Automatic Modulation Classification



Waterfall Plots



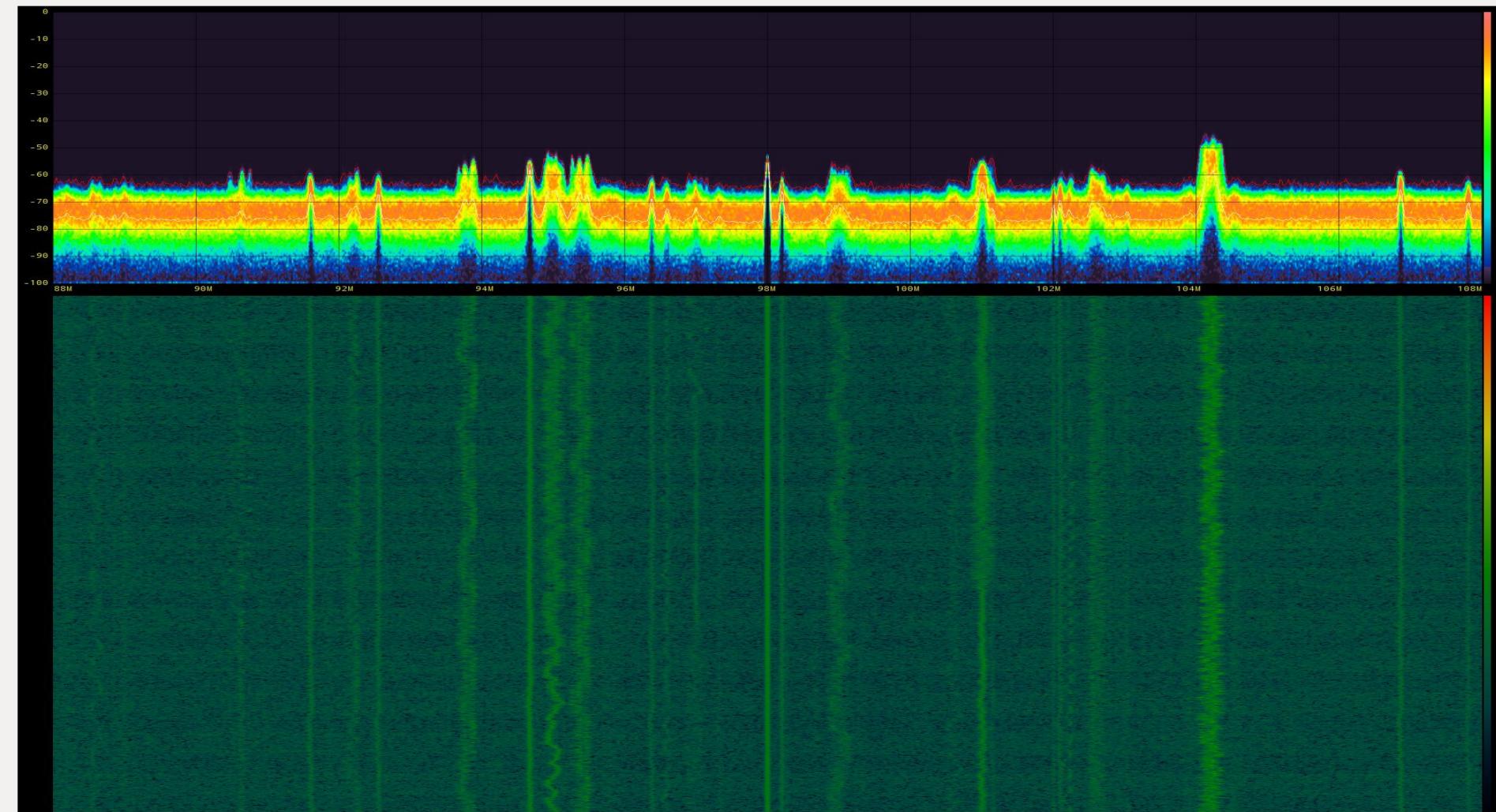
Waterfall Drawbacks

Missing transient events

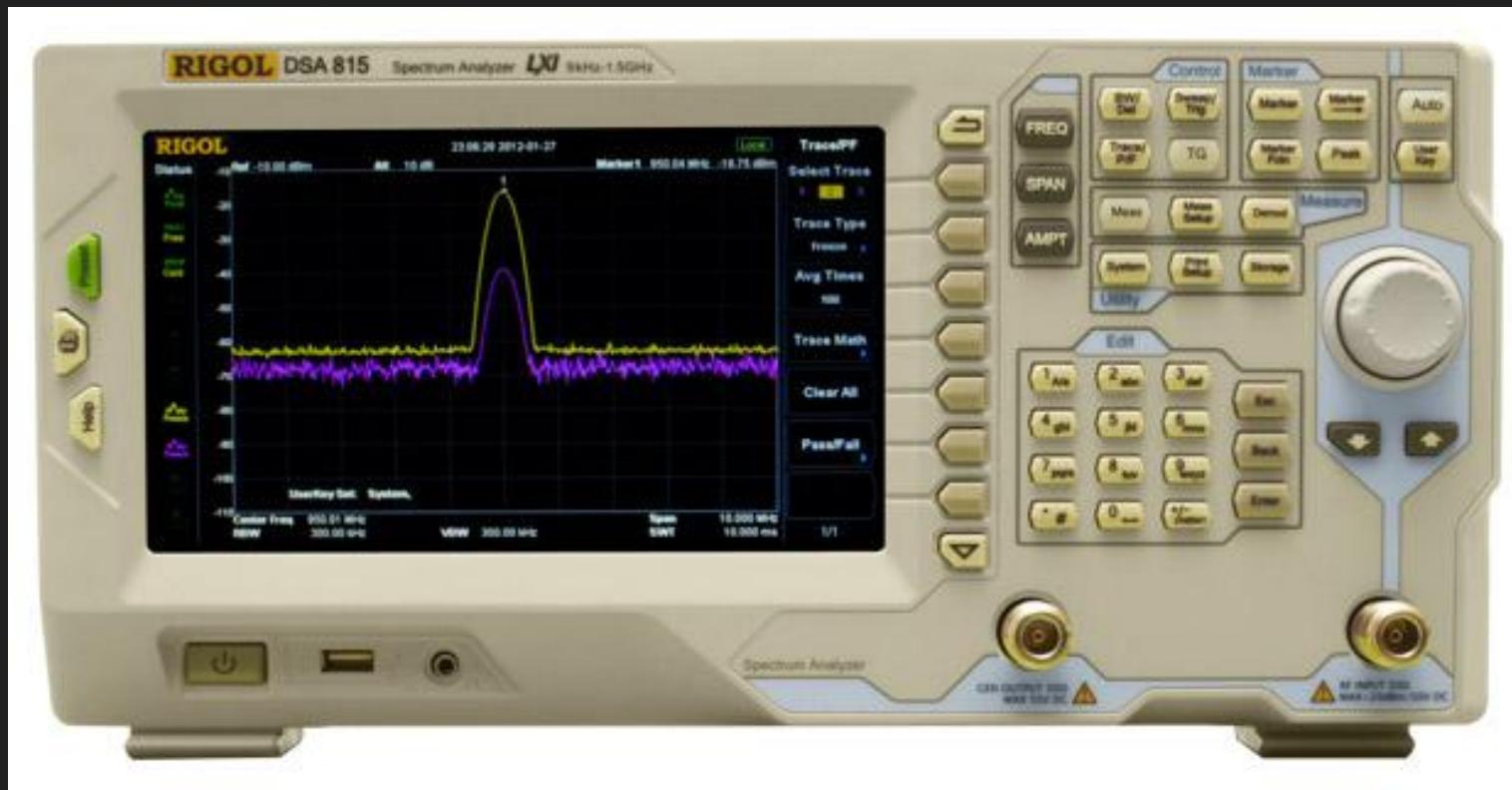
Limited time displayed

Limited bandwidth displayed

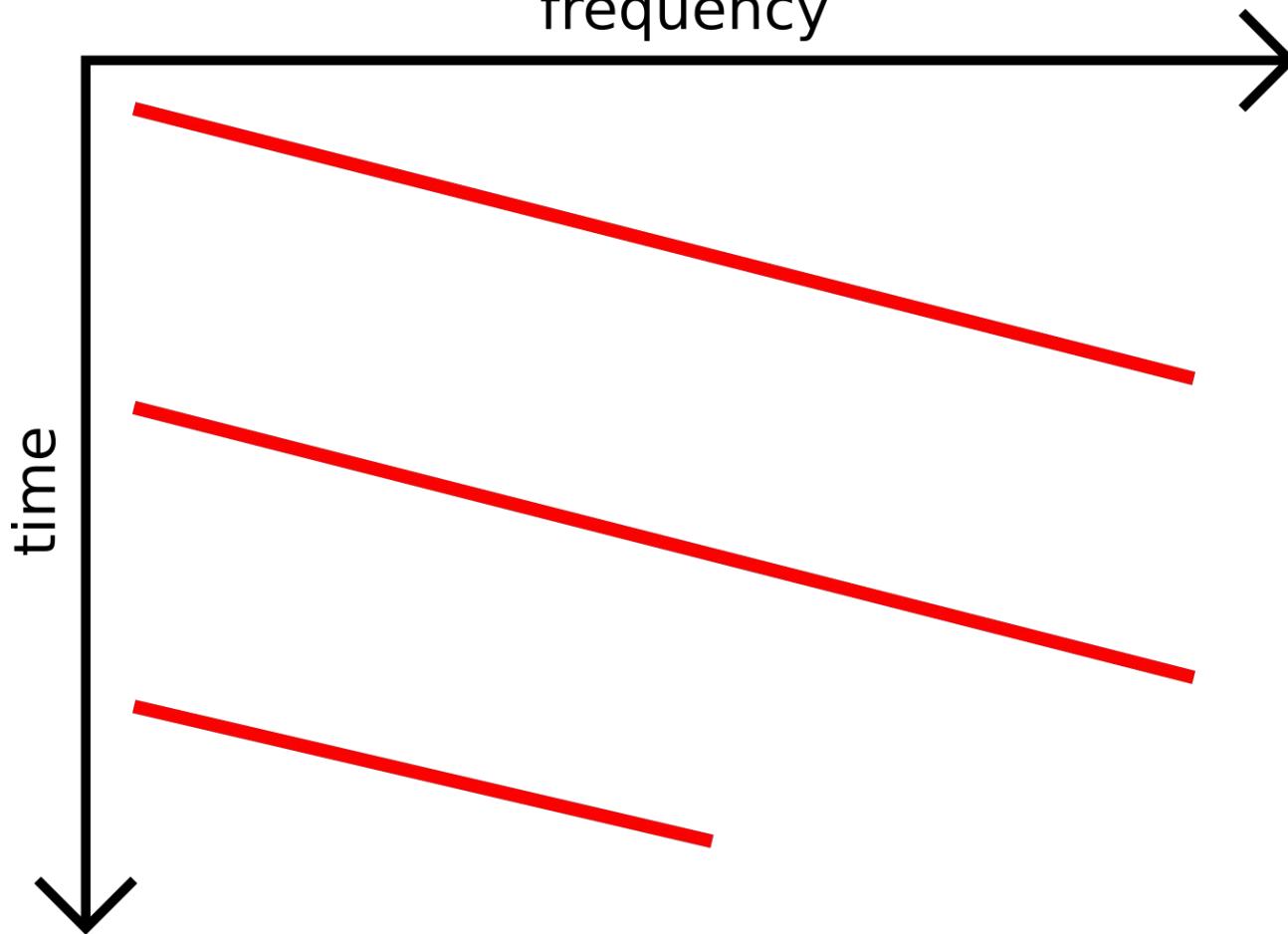
Top Block

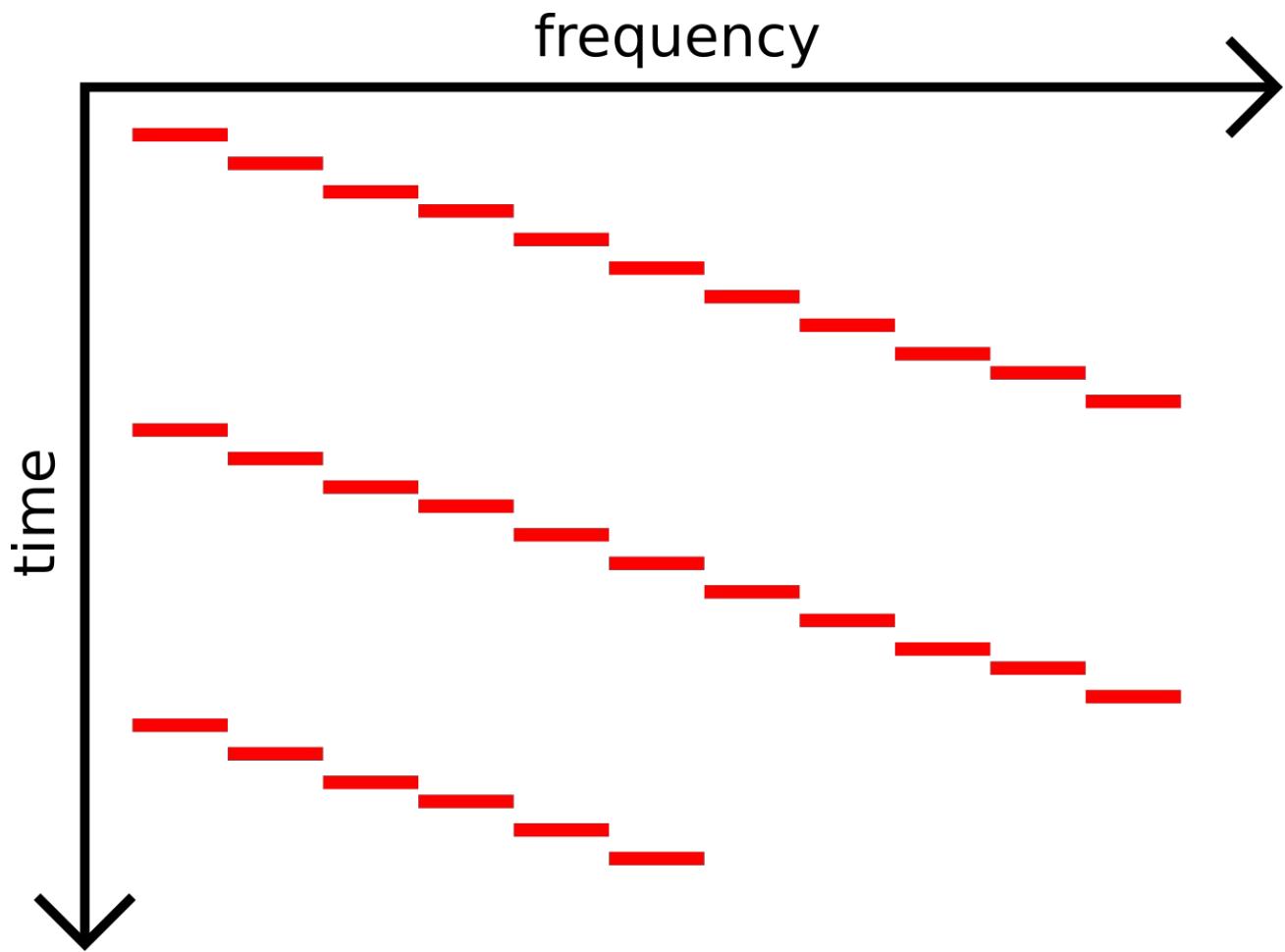


Spectrum Analyzer

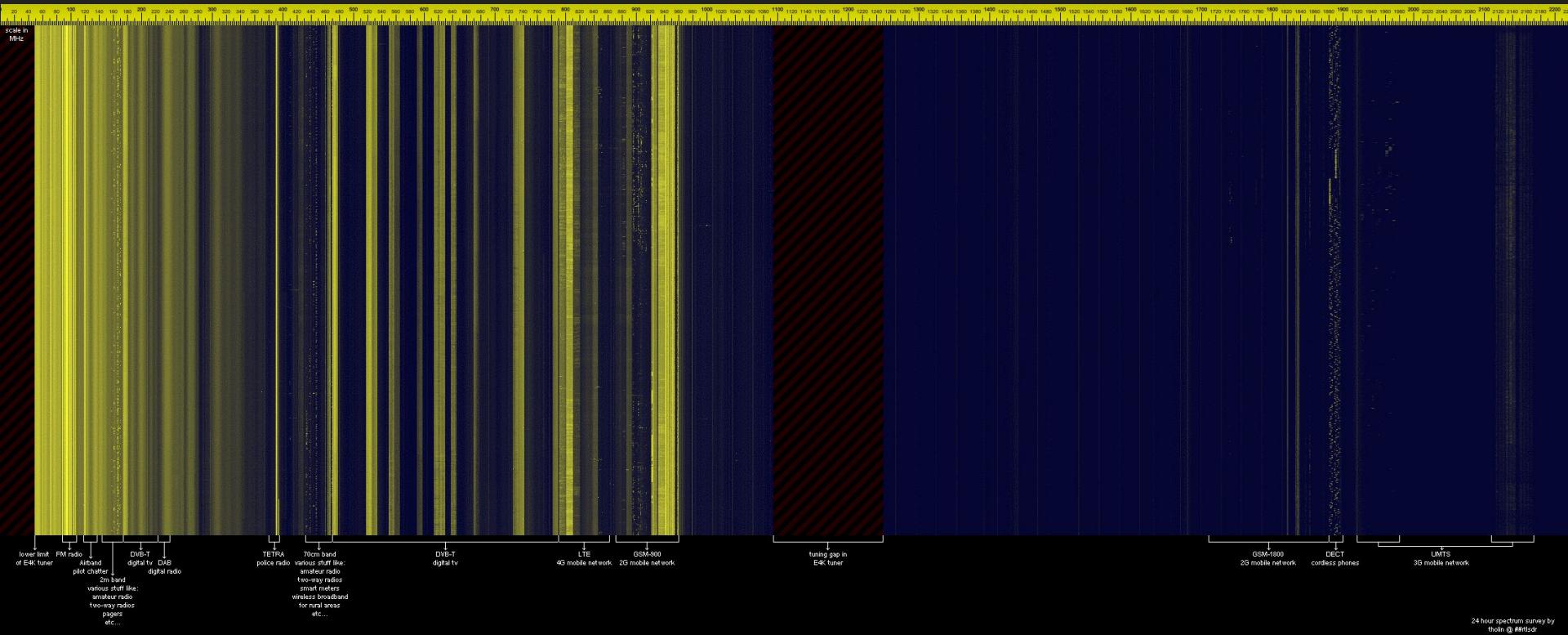


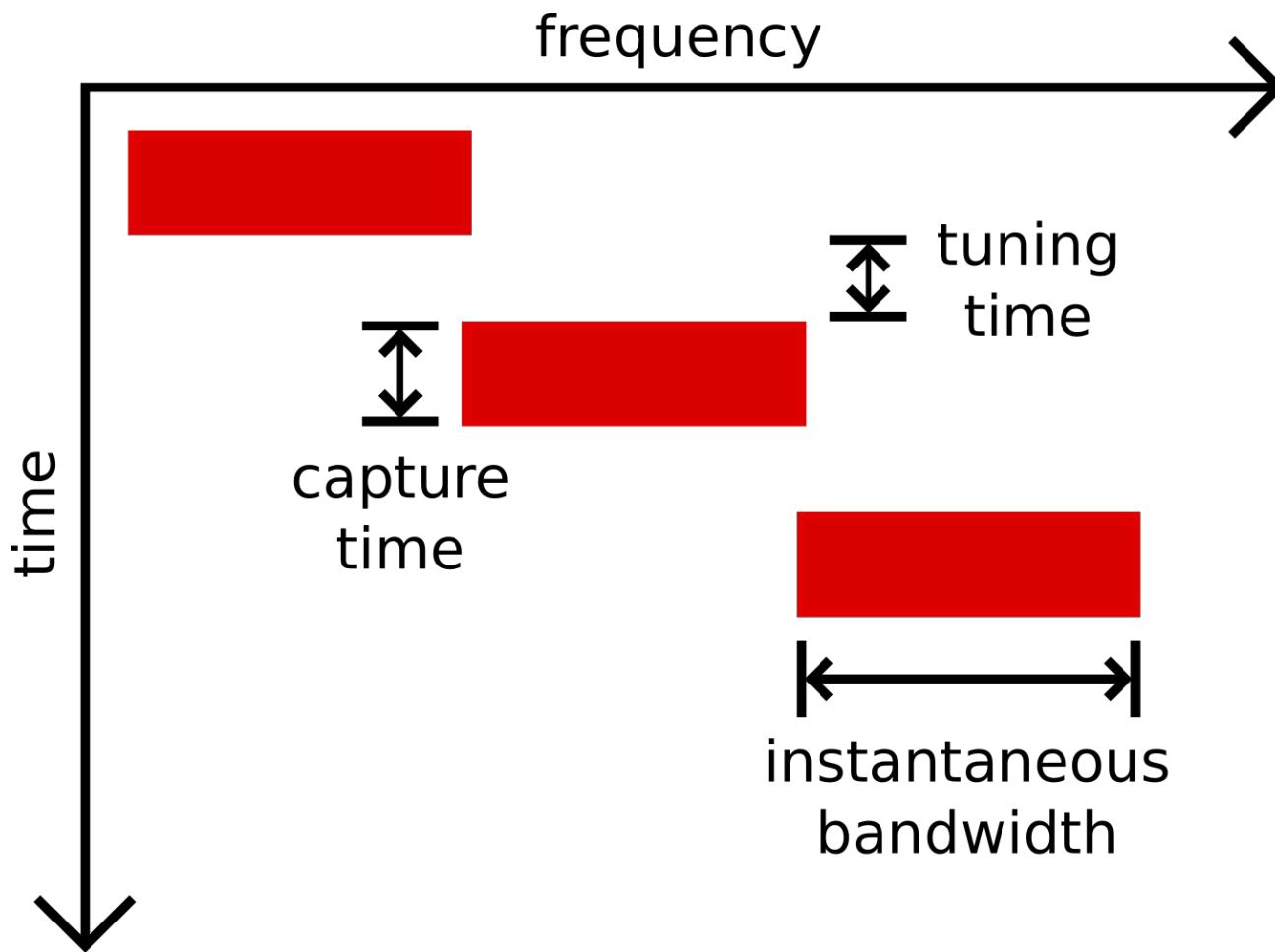
frequency



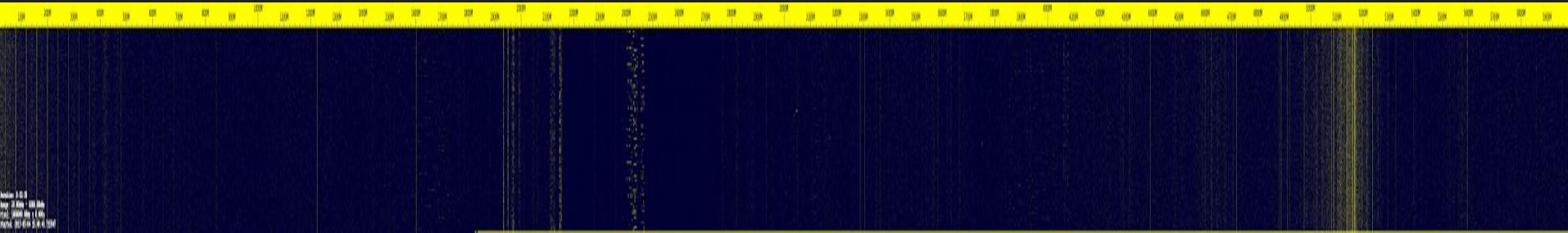


rtl_power + heatmap.py





hackrf_sweep + heatmap.py

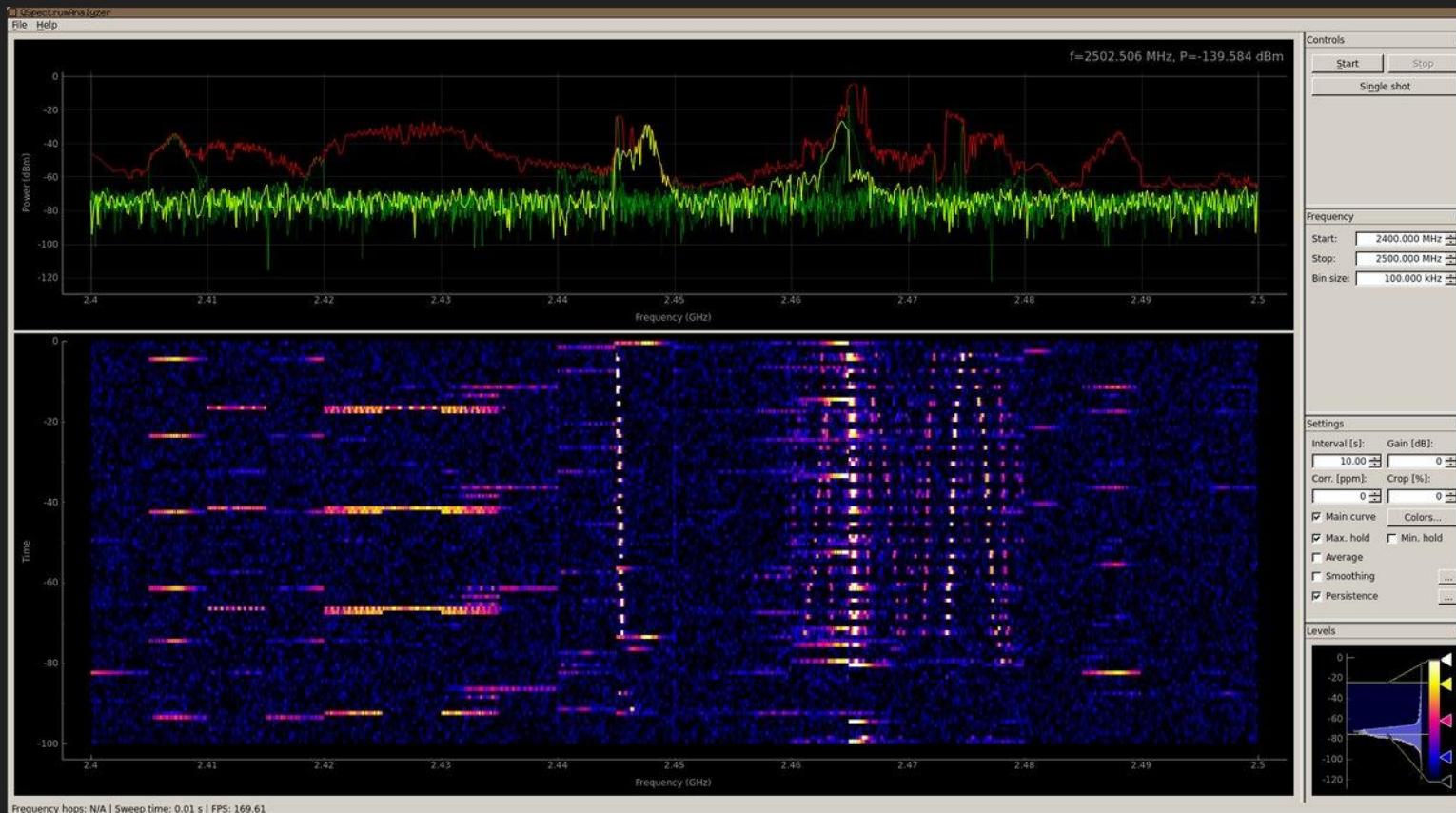


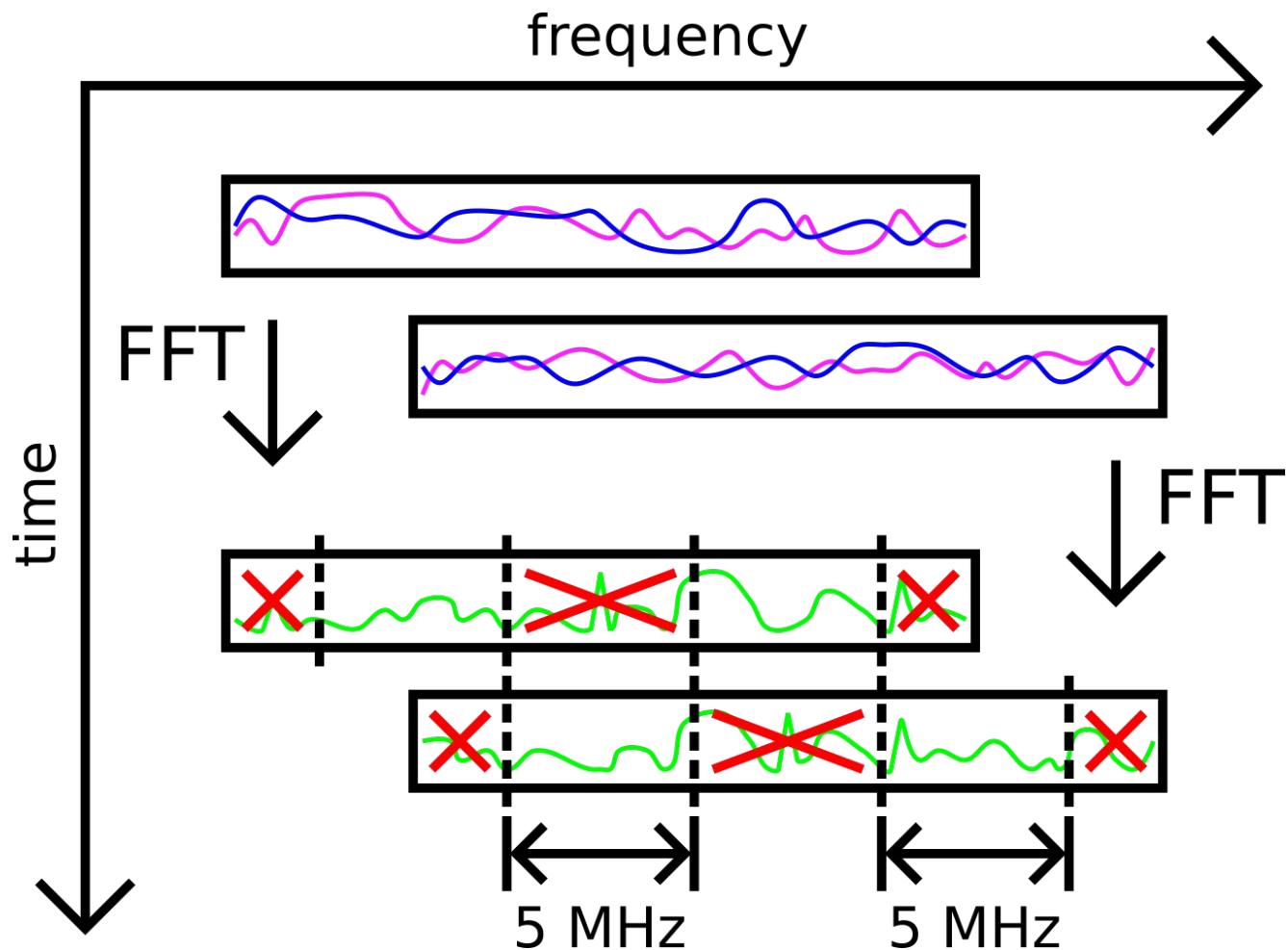
Real time visualization demo

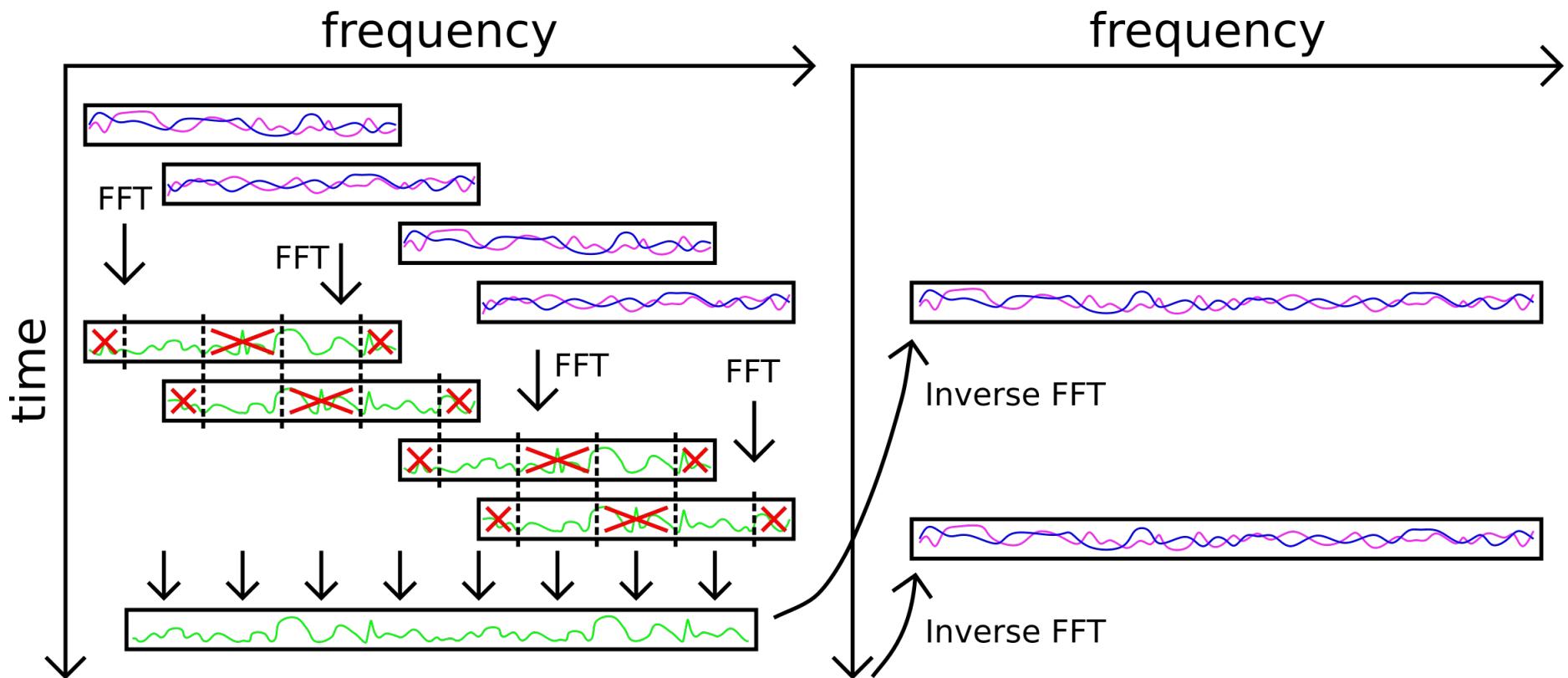
QSpectrumAnalyzer

github.com/xmikos/qspectrumanalyzer

QSpectrumAnalyzer







gr-fosphor + hackrf_sweep demo

ShinySDR

Web based tool by Kevin Reid

Waterfall plot, demodulators, band tagging

Can be extended

Automatic Modulation Classification in gr-inspector

8PSK

AM-DSB

AM-SSB

BPSK

CPFSK

GFSK

PAM4

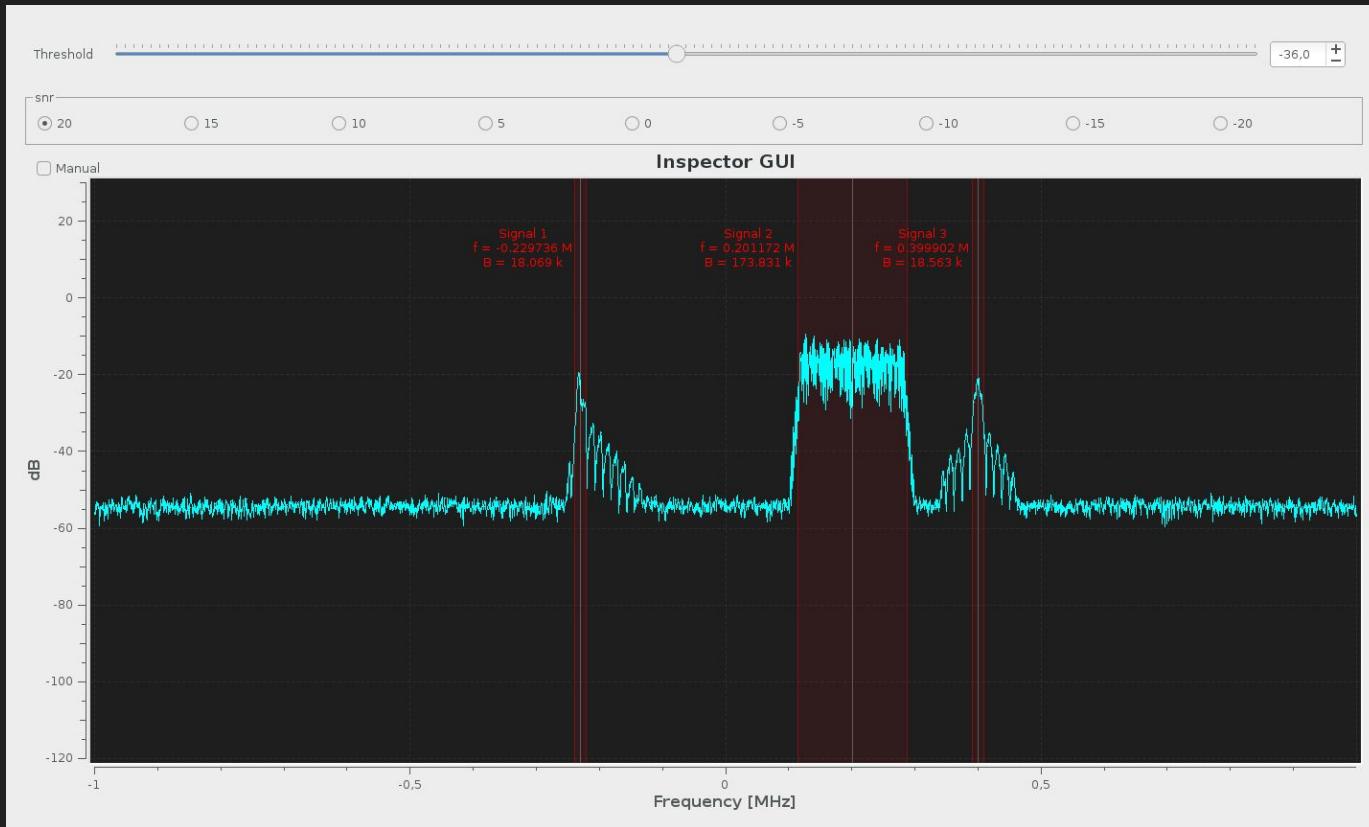
QAM16

QAM64

QPSK

WBFM

gr-inspector



Waterfall Drawbacks

Missing transient events

Limited time displayed

Limited bandwidth displayed

Antenna Selection

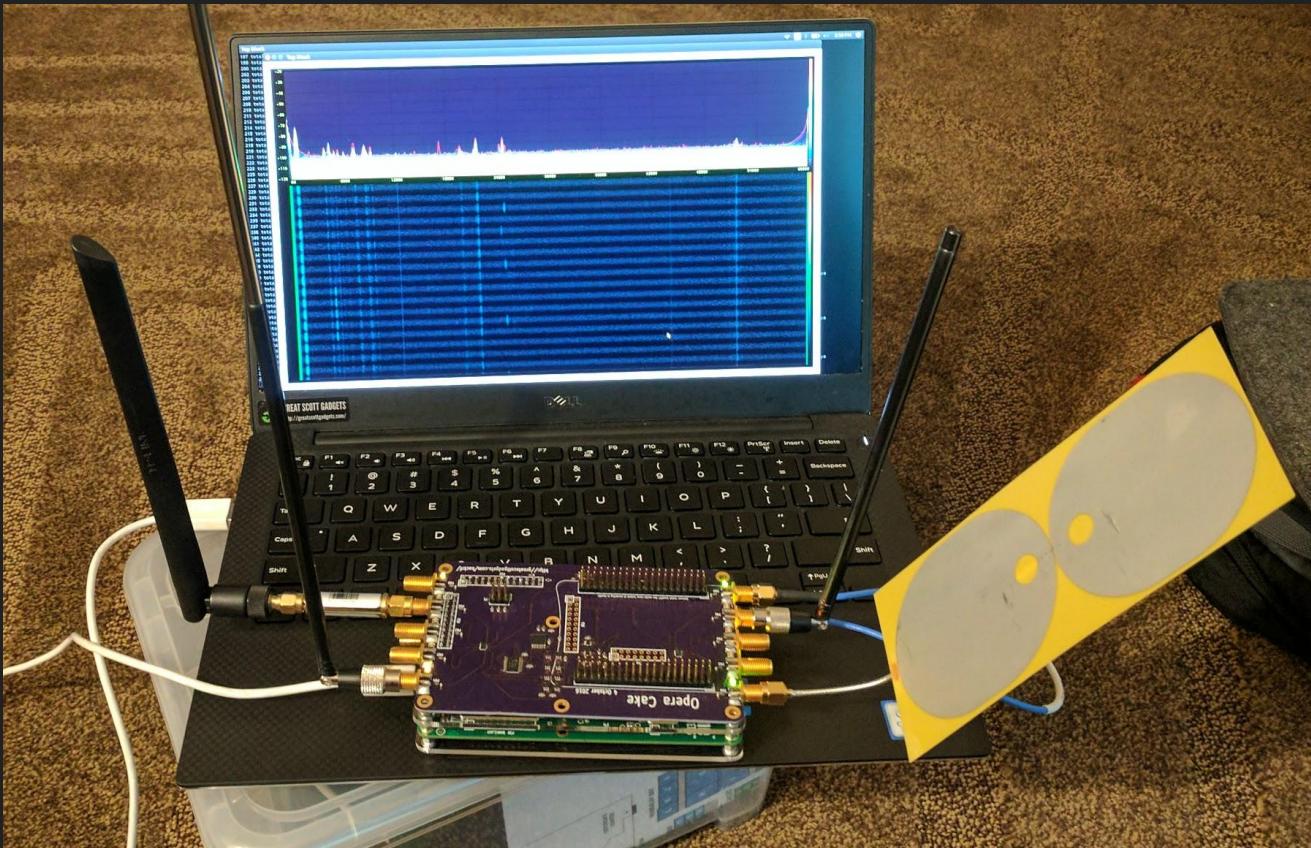
Sweeping a wide range of frequencies means a wide range of wavelengths

1 MHz / 300 m

6 GHz / 5 cm

Choosing an antenna to cover this range is complicated

Antenna Switching



Direction Finding

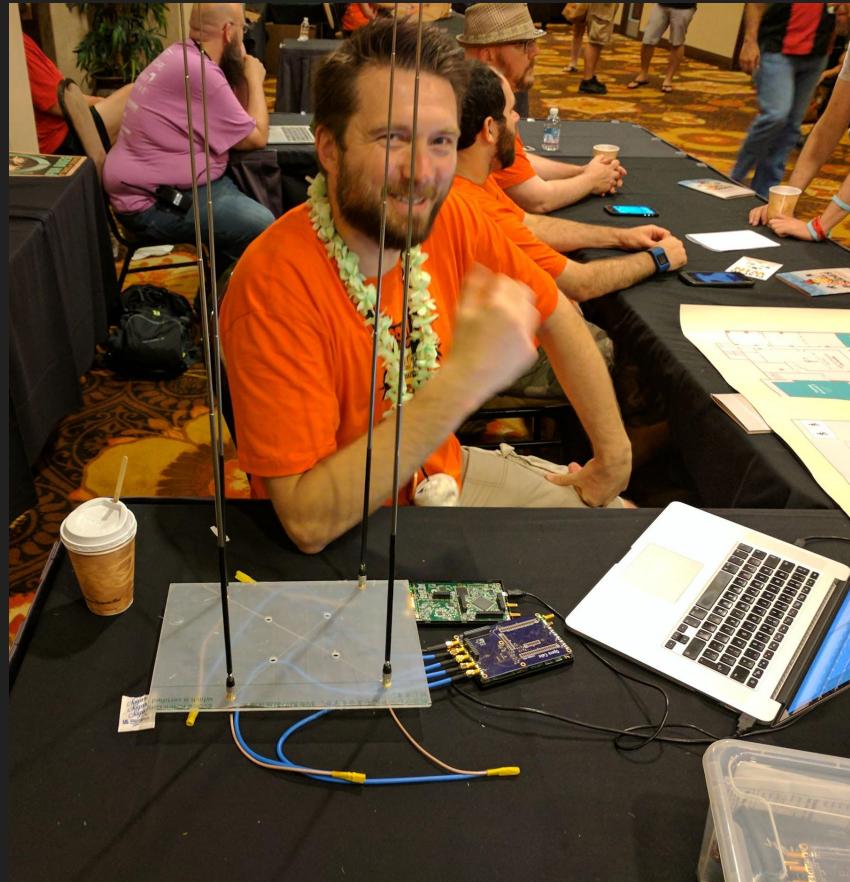
Doppler radar

Pseudo-Doppler

Directional antennas

Mike Davis - Cyberspectrum

6:30pm SYN Shop hackerspace



Thanks

Kevin Reid

Mike Walters

Michal Krenek

Great Scott Gadgets Interns:

Jacob Graves

Ellie Puls

Questions?

<http://greatscottgadgets.com/spectrummonitoring/>

<http://greatscottgadgets.com/hackrf/>

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