#### Are Security And Low Energy Incompatible?

# **BLE Security Triangle**



#### First a diversion...

# Meet KeySweeper, the \$10 USB charger that steals MS keyboard strokes

Always-on sniffer remotely uploads all input typed into Microsoft Wireless keyboards.



Samy Kamkar





# MS Fail 2010

- Proprietary 2.4Ghz wireless protocol
- Broadcasts HID commands to anyone listenning
- Luckily it's encrypted!
  - By XOR'ing packet with 5-byte keyboard mac address
  - How nice of MS to broadcast that too!





С	0A	78	06	01	C2	98	76	0A	CO	C8	98	35	0A	CO	CD	5B
K					CD	98	35	OA	C0	CD	98	35	0A	CO	CD	
P	0A	78	06	01	OF	00	43	00	00	05	00	00	00	00	00	
	Dev ice typ e	Pac ket typ e	Mod el	?	Seq	uen ID	Fla Me	gs/ ta		HID Cod e						Che cks um

(Key-Down) Packet with device address CD 98 35 0A C0



digital v00d00 - 8th of December 2010 Thorsten Schröder, Max Moser

- All MS keyboard MAC address start with 0xCD
- In HID, the keycode always aligns to that byte

#### OK, but this is not BLE

## **Bluetooth Low Energy**

- Single-hop protocol
- Physical, Link and Application layers
- Optimized for small exchanges and low energy:
  - ~24 byte exchanges; infrequently
  - $\mu A$  power consumtpion
  - Can run for years on coin battery

### Who the heck cares...

- Personal devices (fitness bands)
- Mobile payments





• Door locks, bike locks

• Medical devices



#### **Bluetooth Low Energy**



### Terms

- "Piconet" star topology
- Peripheral (fitness band, watch, dead-bolt, etc)
  - Advertises and responds to connection requests
  - One central at a time
- Central (smart phone, laptop, gateway, etc)
  - Scans for advertisements and initiates connections
  - Many peripherals

Confidentiality/Authenticity

## Advertisements in the Clear

- Advertiser's MAC address
- Optionally:
  - Available services
  - Human readable name
  - Security preferences
  - Connection preferences
  - Etc...

### Establishing a Connection



### Establishing a Connection



## "Security Features"

- Pairing
  - Generating/exchanging shared secrets in a connection
- Device authentication
  - Verifying that two devices have the same shared key
- Bonding
  - Storing long term keys for use in future connections
  - "Trusted Device Pair"

# Pairing – Two Phases

- Phase 1 Selecting a key generation method
  - "Just Works"
  - "Passkey Entry"
  - "Numeric Comparison"
  - "Out of band"
- Phase 2 Establishing a session key

# Pairing Protocols

- LE Legacy Pairing
  - Obsolete as of December
  - No protection against passive eavesdropping
  - What everything uses
- LE Secure Connections
  - ECDH key generation (protects against passive eavesdropper)
- No pairing
  - What everything *actually* uses

# LE Legacy Pairing

- Just Works
  - Temporary key = 0
- Passkey Entry
  - Temporary key = 6 digit passkey (< 20 bits of entropy)</li>
- "...none of the pairing methods provide protection against a passive eavesdropper during the pairing process as predictable or easily established values for TK are used."
- "If the pairing information is distributed without an eavesdropper being present then all the pairing methods provide confidentiality."

# LE Legacy Pairing

"If the pairing information is distributed without an eavesdropper being present then all the pairing methods provide confidentiality."



Faraday cage

## **LE Secure Connections**

- ECDH to derive a shared key
- Separate authentication step:
  - Just Works
  - Passkey Entry
    - User inputs passkey into both devices
    - Confirmation values generated independently (AES-CMAC)
  - Numeric Comparison
    - derive 6 digit independently from random commitements (AES-CMAC)

# Pairing: I/O Capabilities

		Local output capacity						
		No output	Numeric output					
but ty	No input	NoInputNoOutput	DisplayOnly					
al in pacit	Yes/No	NoInputNoOutput <sup>1</sup>	DisplayYesNo					
° C C	Keyboard	KeyboardOnly	KeyboardDisplay					

Table 2.5: I/O Capabilities Mapping

# Minimum I/O Requirements

- Numeric comparison
  - Display + DisplayYesNo
- Passkey Entry
  - Keyboard + Keyboard or Keyboard + Display
- Just Works
  - Everything else
  - Unauthenticated

# Bonding

- Exchange a long term key once paired
- In future connections, use LTK immediately



### Establishing a Connection



# **Bonding Pro**

- LE Legacy Pairing:
  - Connection only insecure the first time
  - Market for farady cages (\$\$\$)
- LE Secure Connections
  - ECDH expensive
  - Faster subsequent connections
  - Lower power for both peripherals and cetnrals

Bonding Con: Everything can track you!

# Tracking/Privacy: 3 Advertising Addresses

- Public:
  - Based on manufacturer, baked into device
  - Totally trackable
- Random "Static":
  - Change as frequently as you want
  - Untrackable but can't bond
- Random "Private"
  - Change as frequently as you want
  - Bonded devices can recognize you, but no one else

### Random Private Addresses

- Peripheral generates an IRK (Identity Resolving Key)
  - Provides to all bonded centrals
- Composed of:
  - Random part
  - "Hash" of Random Part:
    - AES(key, random part) mod 24



Figure 1.5: Format of resolvable private address

#### Random Private Addresses

When central sees Random Private address
1) Iterates through all stored IRKs
2) AES(key<sub>i</sub>, random part) mod 24 == hash part



Figure 1.5: Format of resolvable private address

# Summary

- Tradeoffs between
  - Confidentiality/Authenticity
  - Privacy
  - Low Energy
- Feasible in new spec, but is it realistic?
- What do actual systems do?