



# How to Train Your RFID Tools

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Security Researcher @ Tripwire VERT

**DEF CON**  
LAS VEGAS **23**

# About Craig

- 🌐 Security Researcher in Tripwire VERT
  - 🌐 Author of IP360 content and original research
  - 🌐 Identified 100+ CVEs over 2013 & 2014
  - 🌐 Won 1<sup>st</sup> SOHOpelessly Broken @ DC22 using 10 0-days

# Motivation/Goals

- Shed light on available RFID hacking tools
  - Document hardware/software layouts, use cases, etc.
  - Release new features for an open source tool
  - Experiment with paired embedded systems
- Explore practical attacks on RFID systems
  - LF (125-134kHz): access control badges, pet IDs, etc
  - HF (13.56MHz): passports, payment systems, phones

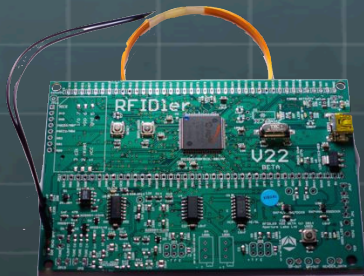
# Tools



Proxmark3



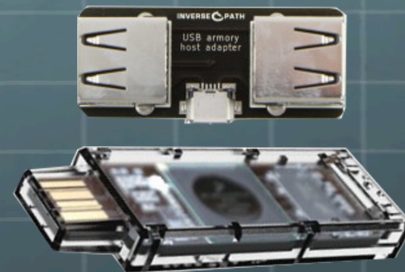
NFC USB (PN533)



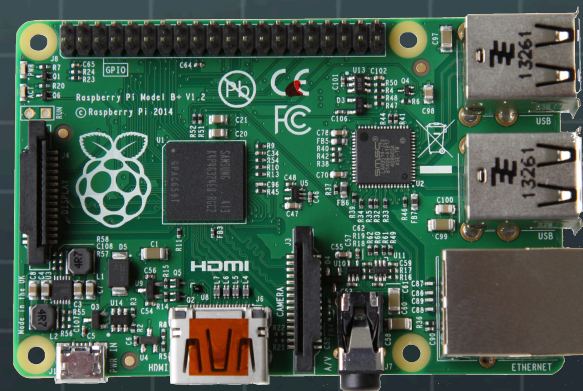
RFIDler v22



CubePro 3D Printer



USB Armory



Raspberry Pi

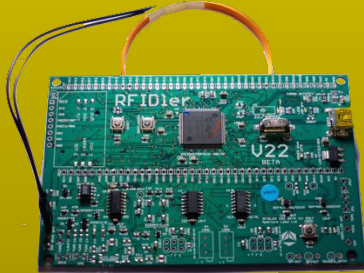
# RFID



Proxmark3

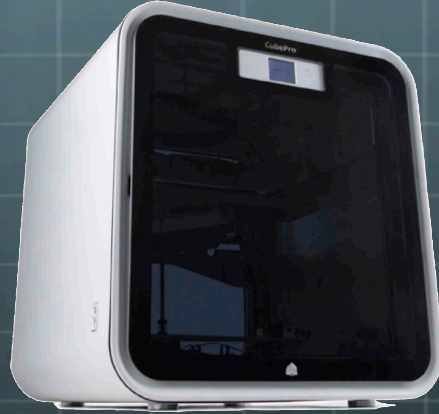


NFC USB (PN533)

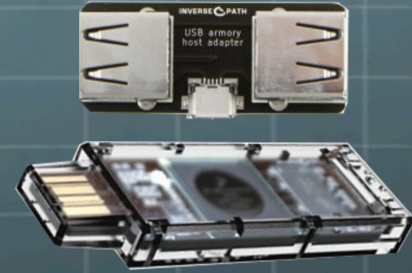


RFIDler v22

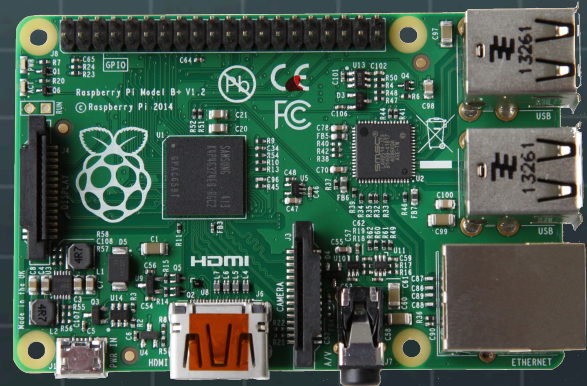
# Tools



CubePro 3D Printer



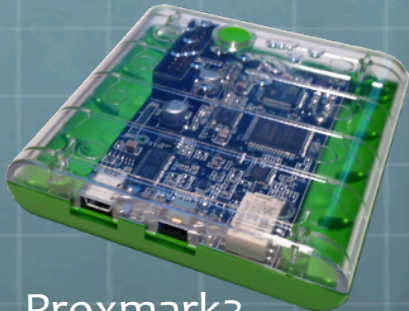
USB Armory



Raspberry Pi

# Tools

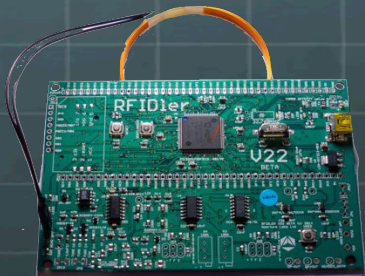
## Fabrication



Proxmark3



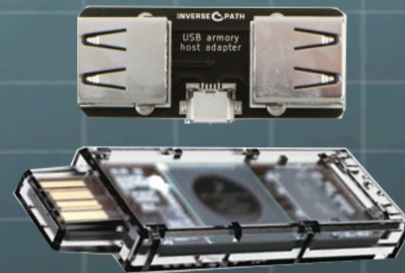
NFC USB (PN533)



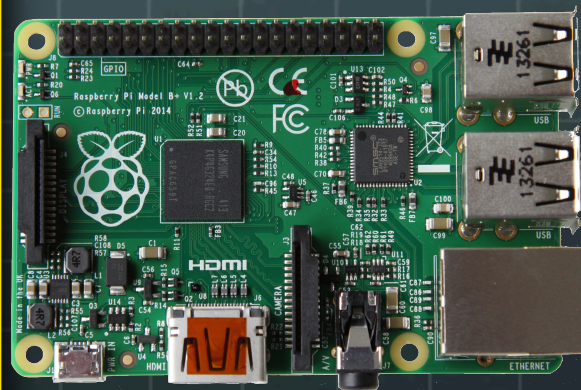
RFIDler v22



CubePro 3D Printer



USB Armory



Raspberry Pi

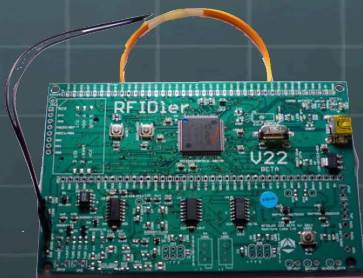
# Tools



Proxmark3



NFC USB (PN533)

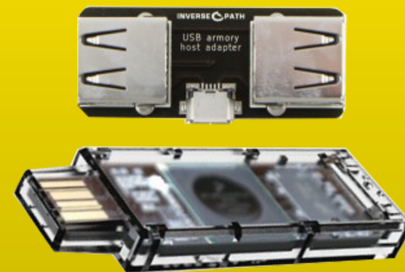


RFIDler v22

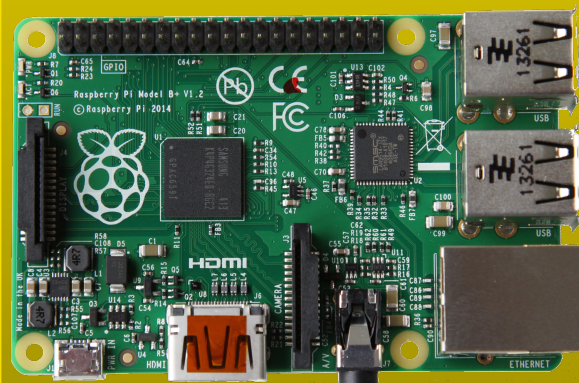


CubePro 3D Printer

## Computing



USB Armory



Raspberry Pi

# Objectives

- Decipher RFID hacking hardware for others
  - Understanding the hardware
  - Making and documenting firmware patches
- Investigate practical RFID attacks
  - Tag basics: reading, cloning, and emulation
  - Using 3D printing to assist in attacks
  - Hiding host devices for complex actions



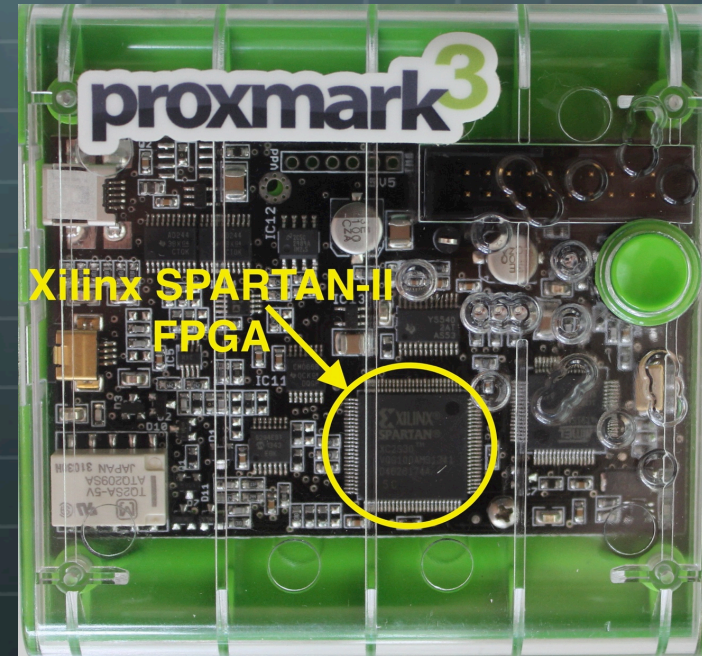
# Proxmark3 Intro

- Adopted from Gerhard de Koning Gans' thesis
- Koning Gans was analyzing Mifare transit cards
- This system combines cheap FPGA and ARM CPU
- Completely open source HW and SW
- Low & High Frequency support



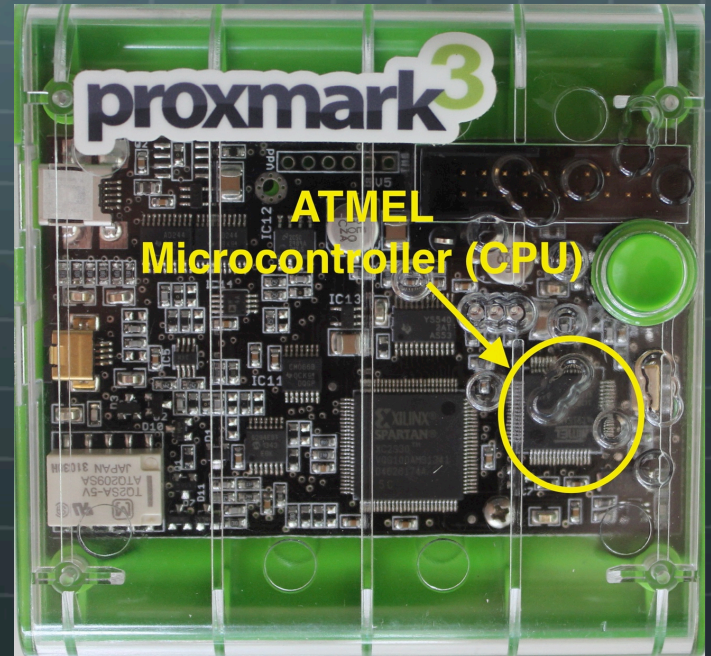
# The Proxmark3 FPGA

- Xilinx Spartan-II Field-Programmable Gate Array
  - Written in Verilog for ISE WebPACK
  - Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI)
    - Coil driver
    - Analogue/Digital Converters
  - Synchronous Serial Port to CPU
  - Module based design
  - Modes specify module connections



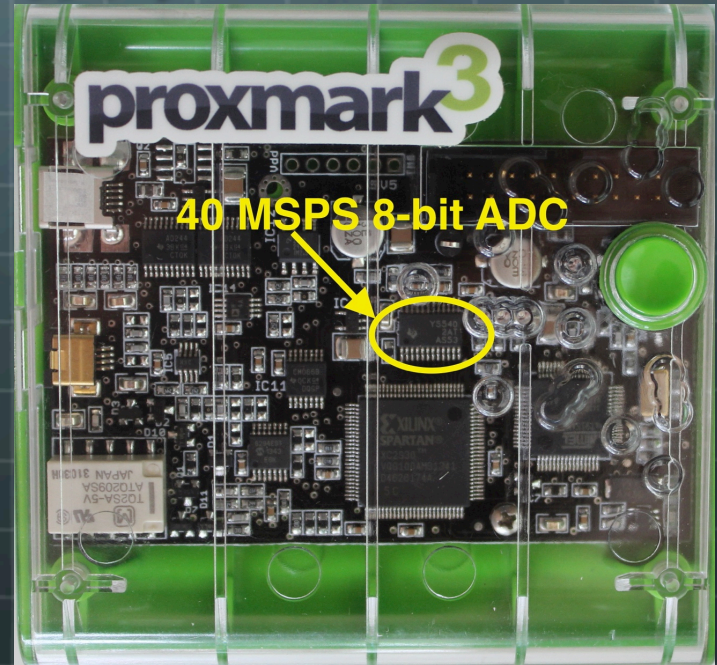
# Proxmark3 CPU

- ATMEL 32-bit RISC Processor (AT91SAM7Sxx Series)
- Coded in C
- Receives data from FPGA
- Encoding/decoding of bitstream
- Handle USB data link
- All high level functions run here



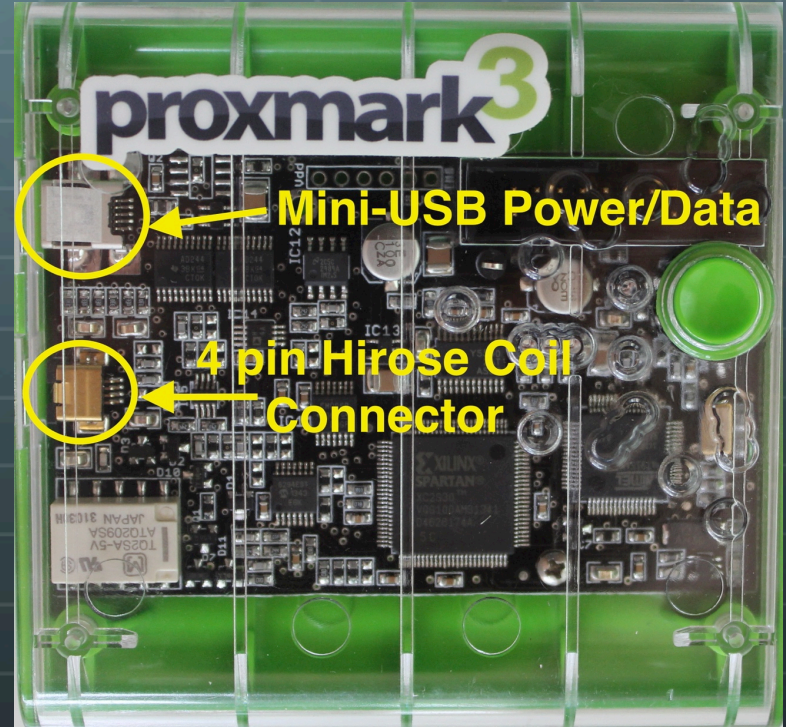
# Proxmark3 ADC

- TI analog-to-digital converter (TLC5540)
- 8-bit resolution
- 40 Megasamples/sec (MSPS)
- Analog input from coil
- 8-pin output to FPGA
- Control via SPI



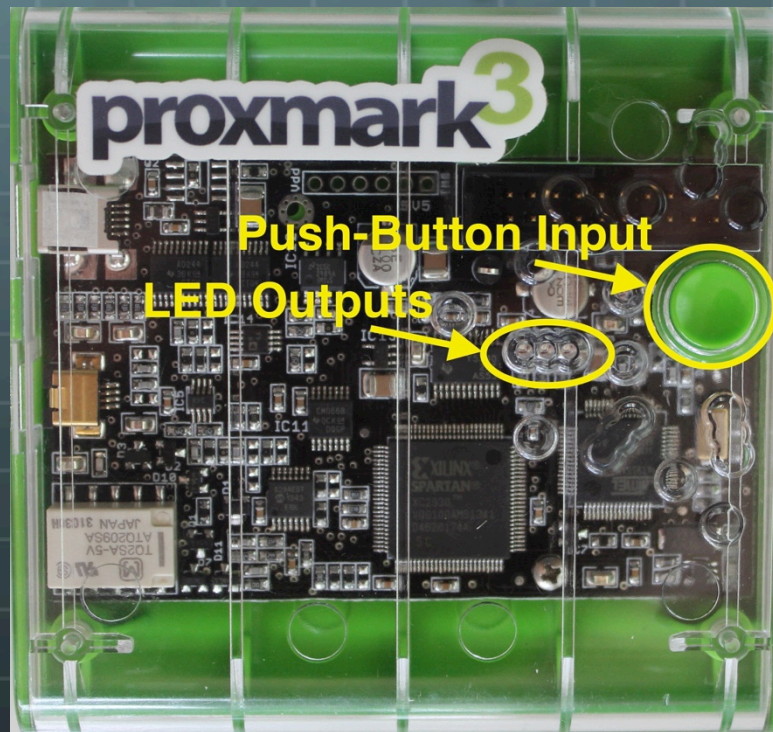
# Proxmark3 Connectors

- Mini-USB
  - Provides Power
  - Data connection via USB-Serial
- Hirose Connector
  - Connection to antenna coil(s)
  - 2 wires for LF and 2 for HF



# Proxmark3 Human I/O

- Single push button
- Control PM3 without serial
- Terminate active operations
- Initiate firmware update
- Triple LED color coded display
- Indicate boot mode
- Stand-alone status lights



# PN533 NFC USB

- NXP Chipset for Near Field Communications
- Hardware implementation of ISO 14443 standards
  - MIFARE Family (ISO/IEC 14443A)
  - NFC Forum Type 4 Tag 2.0 (ISO/IEC 14443B)
  - Sony Felicity Tags (FeliCa reader/writer)
  - Peer-to-Peer Data Transfer (ISO/IEC 18092)
- libNFC Compatible

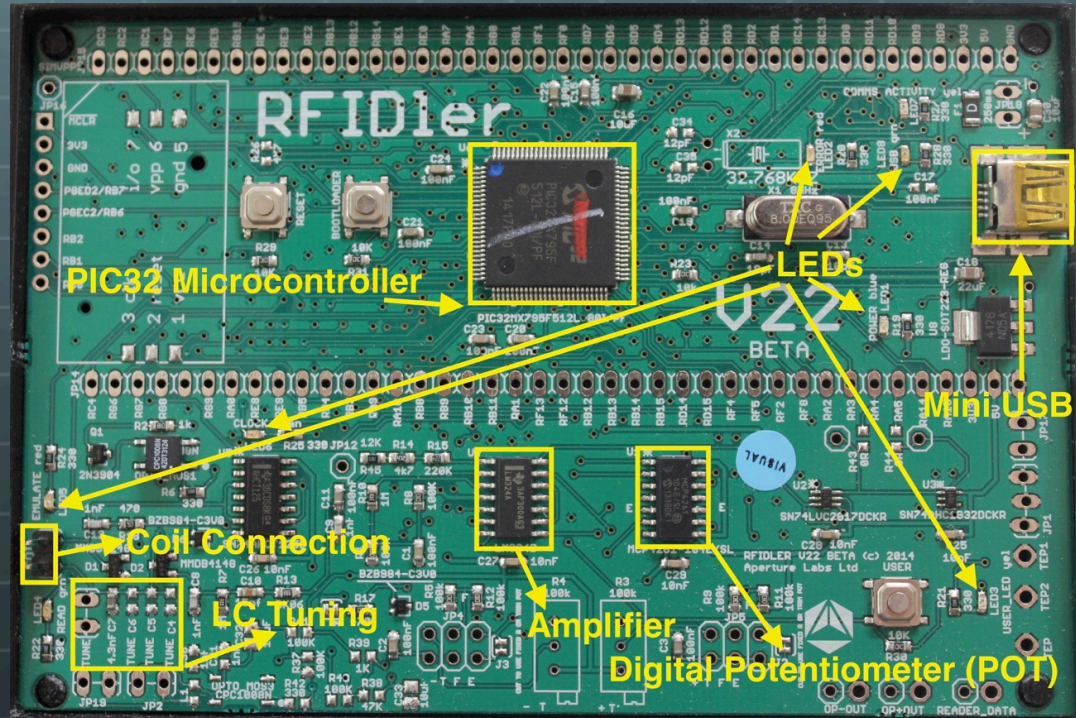






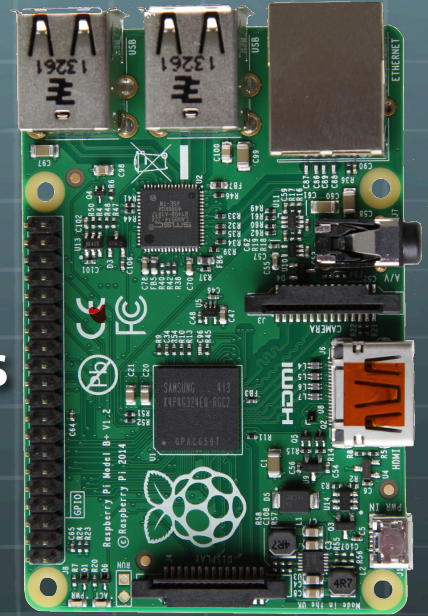
# Annotated RFIDler

- Digital POTs for threshold tuning
- USB Serial Interface
- LED indicators
- PIC32 for main guts
- USB Powered



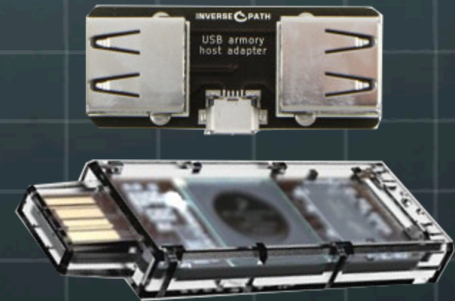
# Raspberry Pi

- 🌐 Popular embedded ARM dev kit
- 🌐 Ready to go for Linux with available distros
- 🌐 USB Support
  - 🌐 Power
  - 🌐 Data: 2 Ports, enough for RFID tool and WiFi dongle
- 🌐 Close to 1" clearance in case



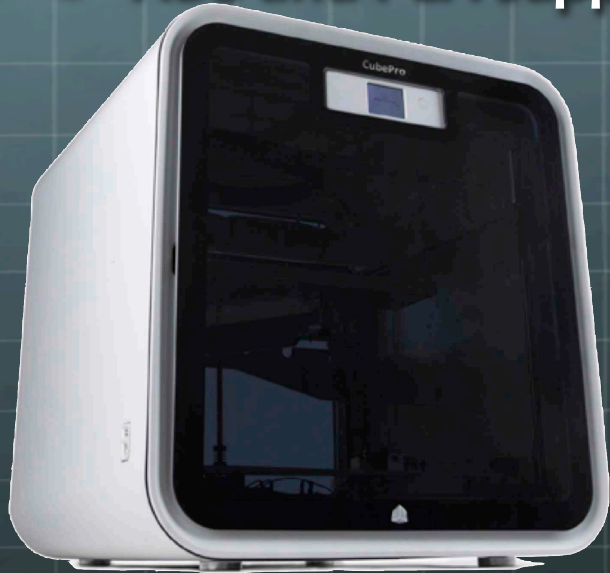
# USB Armory

- USB based computer with security in mind
- ARM chipset ready to go for Linux
- Possibly smallest in class form factor
- USB
  - Power
  - Data



# CubePro 3D Printer

- 70, 200, or 300 micron layer options
- ABS and PLA support with Nylon 'coming soon'



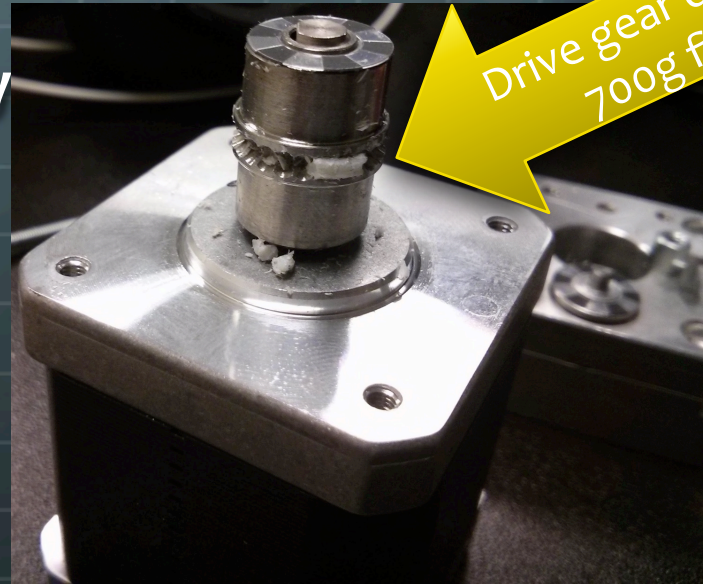
- 11.2" x 10.6" x 9.06" build volume
- Up to 3 print jets for complex builds

# Cube Printing Process

- 🌐 Drawings created using basic CAD tools
- 🌐 CubePro software slices model into 2D layers
- 🌐 Build plate receives a coating of water-soluble glue
- 🌐 Gears feed filament into heated print jet
- 🌐 Extruder moves on X and Y, plate moves on Z-axis
- 🌐 Glue is dissolved in water and model scraped off

# Printing Pitfalls

- 🌐 Calibration can be time consuming and wasteful
- 🌐 Extruders prone to jams/clogs clogged
- 🌐 Industrial design is tricky
  - 🌐 Physical limitations
  - 🌐 Materials science



# RFID Basics

- **Low-Frequency: 125kHz – 134 kHz**
  - Access Control Proximity Cards: HID, Indala, AWID, etc
  - Pet chips / implantable: AVID, Fecava, ISO 11784/11785
- **High-Frequency: 13.56MHz**
  - Access control: HID iCLASS, NXP Mifare family
  - NFC: Contactless payment, bluetooth pairing, etc.
  - IDs: ePA (German ID card), passports, etc

# Passive RFID Tags

Tuned coil + IC = RFID Tag



- Coil tuned to carrier frequency (e.g. 125kHz)
- Reader energizes coil to power chip
- Chip modulates signal by adjusting damping
  - Damping controls how the circuit resonates



# Common Modulations

## FSK

- Frequency Shift Keying

## PSK

- Phase Shift Keying

## ASK

- Amplitude Shift Keying

## OOK

- On/Off Keying

# T55xx Cards

- Low-Frequency tag with configurable properties
  - Modulation: FSK/PSK/ASK
  - Encoding: Manchester/Biphase
  - 8 4-byte storage blocks
    - 1 Config Block (0)
    - 7 Bitstream Blocks (1-7)



# T5557 Block 0 Config

L	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32		
	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0								0							0	0			
Lock Bit	<b>Master Key</b> Note 1), 2)												<b>Data Bit Rate</b>				<b>Modulation</b>				<b>PSK CF</b>		<b>AOR</b>		<b>Max Block</b>				<b>PWD</b>		<b>ST-sequence Terminator</b>		<b>POR delay</b>	
					RF/8 0 0 0												0 0		RF/2															
					RF/16 0 0 1												0 1		RF/4															
					RF/32 0 1 0												1 0		RF/8															
	0 Unlocked				RF/40 0 1 1												1 1		Res															
	1 Locked				RF/50 1 0 0								0 0 0 0 0				Direct																	
					RF/64 1 0 1								0 0 0 0 1				PSK1																	
					RF/100 1 1 0								0 0 0 1 0				PSK2																	
					RF/128 1 1 1								0 0 0 1 1				PSK3																	
													0 0 1 0 0				FSK1																	
												0 0 1 0 1				FSK2																		
												0 0 1 1 0				FSK1a																		
												0 0 1 1 1				FSK2a																		
												0 1 0 0 0				Manchester																		
												1 0 0 0 0				Bi-phase ('50)																		
												1 1 0 0 0				Reserved																		

1) If Master Key = 6 then test mode write commands are ignored  
 2) If Master Key < > 6 or 9 then extended function mode is disabled

T5557 Block 0 (from datasheet)

# T55xx Clone with PM3

Identify unknown tag

```
proxmark3> lf search  
Reading 30000 bytes from device memory
```

- 🌐 If search : Automated Tag Detection by marshmellow
  - 🌐 Step 1: lf read s
  - 🌐 Step 2: data samples 30000
  - 🌐 Step 3..n: Test each data \*demod command until success

# T55xx Clone with PM3

## Identify unknown tag

```
proxmark3> lf search
Reading 30000 bytes from device memory

Data fetched
Samples @ 8 bits/smpl, decimation 1:1
NOTE: some demods output possible binary
      if it finds something that looks like a tag
False Positives ARE possible

Checking for known tags:

HID Prox TAG ID: 0deadbeef (57207) - Format Len: 37bit - FC: 3562 - Card: 450423

Valid HID Prox ID Found!
```

# T55xx Clone with PM3

## Extract Tag Bitstream

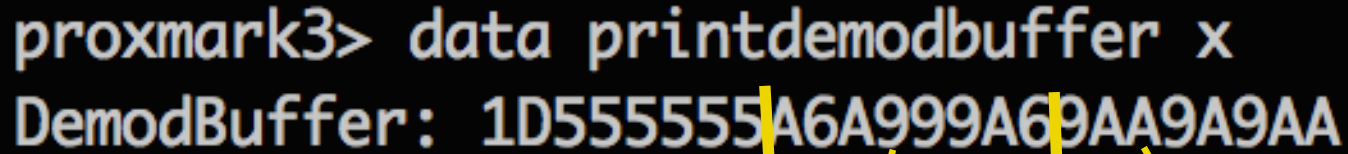
```
proxmark3> data printdemodbuffer x  
DemodBuffer: 1D555555A6A999A69AA9A9AA
```

- 🌐 DemodBuffer is the raw demodulated tag data
- 🌐 Data can be split into 4-byte blocks for T55xx
- 🌐 Bitstream starts with block 1

# T55xx Clone with PM3

Print Tag's Demodulated Bitstream

```
proxmark3> data printdemodbuffer x  
DemodBuffer: 1D555555A6A999A69AA9A9AA
```



**Block 1**  
**0x1D555555**

**Block 2**  
**0xA6A999A6**

**Block 3**  
**0x9AA9A9AA**

If search & printdemodbuffer brought to you by Marshmellow

# T55xx Block 0 Values

- Option 1: Determine block 0 manually via datasheets
- Option 2: Refer to excellent thread at proxmark.org
  - <http://www.proxmark.org/forum/viewtopic.php?id=1767>
- HID Tag uses: 0x00107060
  - 3 Blocks
  - FSK 2a Modulation
  - RF/50 Data Rate



# T55xx Clone with PM3

Programming a T5557 Card with HID 37 deadbeef

```
proxmark3> lf t55xx write 0 0x00107060
Writing to block: 0 data : 0x00107060
proxmark3> lf t55xx write 1 0x1D555555
Writing to block: 1 data : 0x1D555555
proxmark3> lf t55xx write 2 0xA6A999A6
Writing to block: 2 data : 0xA6A999A6
proxmark3> lf t55xx write 3 0x9AA9A9AA
Writing to block: 3 data : 0x9AA9A9AA
```

# T55xx Clone with PM3

Trust But Verify (with lf hid fskdemod)

```
proxmark3> lf hid fskdemod
```

```
#db# TAG ID: 0deadbeef (57207) - Format Len: 37bit - FC: 3562 - Card: 450423
```

```
#db# TAG ID: 0deadbeef (57207) - Format Len: 37bit - FC: 3562 - Card: 450423
```

```
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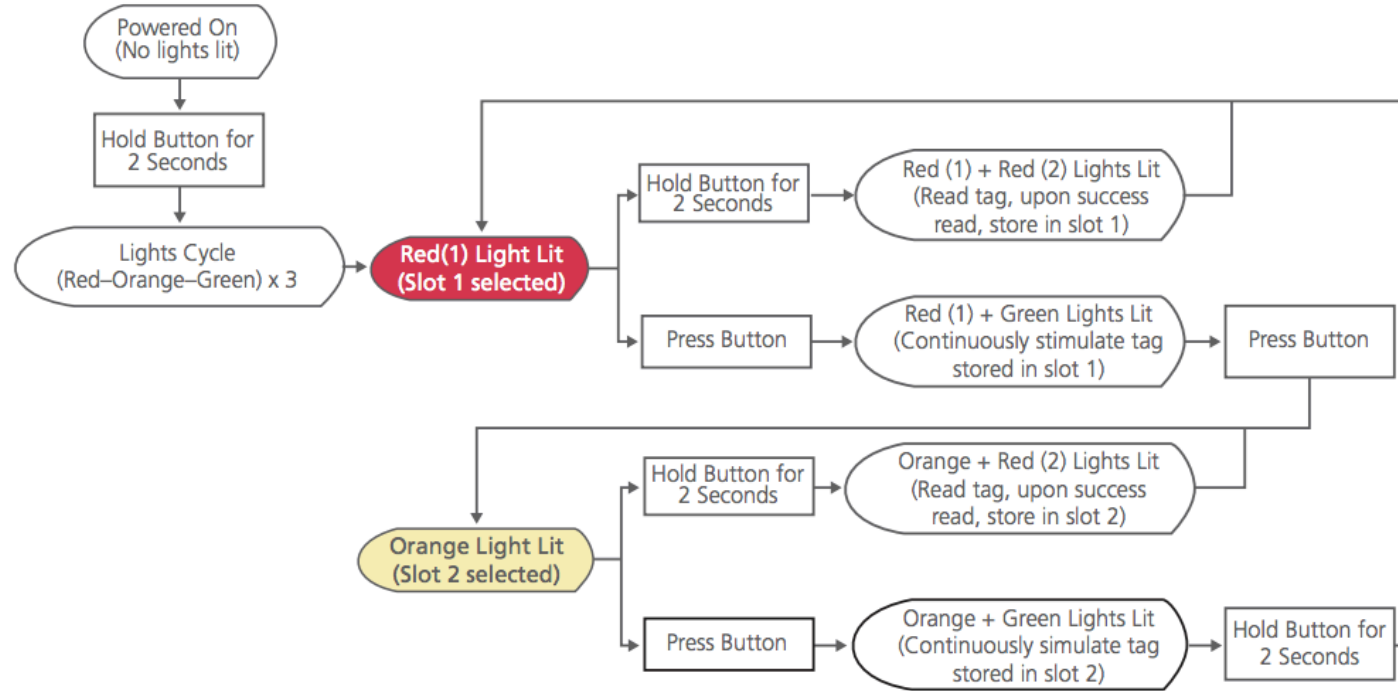
```
#db# TAG ID: 0deadbeef (57207) - Format Len: 37bit - FC: 3562 - Card: 450423
```

```
#db# TAG ID: 0deadbeef (57207) - Format Len: 37bit - FC: 3562 - Card: 450423
```

```
#db# TAG ID: 0deadbeef (57207) - Format Len: 37bit - FC: 3562 - Card: 450423
```

```
#db# Stopped
```

# Proxmark3 Stand-Alone



Default PM3 standalone operation flow from ProxBute whitepaper

# Stand-Alone Design

## Using ARM CPU for independent operation

- armsrc/appmain.c runs after init
- SamyRun() is invoked based on BUTTON\_HELD(1000)

## CmdHIDdemodFSK and related functions used

- Capture/Replay/T55x7 Clone toggle with button
- Visual indication through LED changes

# Offline HF Reading

```
iso14443a_setup(FPGA_HF_ISO14443A_READER_MOD)
```



```
iso14443a_select_card(uid, NULL, &cuid)
```



Return true means that a card select succeeded

# Offline HF Simulation

UID is split into 2 4 byte values with valid byte order



```
SimulateIso14443aTag(1,uid_1st,uid_2nd,NULL)
```



UID only simulation (i.e. data support later?)

# Offline HF Cloning

Goal is to just set recorded UID on new tag

MiFare Classic support only initially

- `hf mf csetuid <UID>`

Useful for systems relying on UID for auth

- Samsung NFC locks, Smartphone unlock tags, etc.

# HF Stand-Alone Demo!



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
FINGERS  
CROSSED**



# Adding PM3 Commands

- Target: 'If awid' Proxmark3 context
  - fskdemod – Real-time demodulation for AWID tag
  - clone – Prepare T55xx card based on specified ID
  - sim – Tag emulation based on ID
- PM3 had no AWID26 code until this year
  - fskawiddemod added 2015
  - No If awid context was added
  - Looked like a good place to contribute



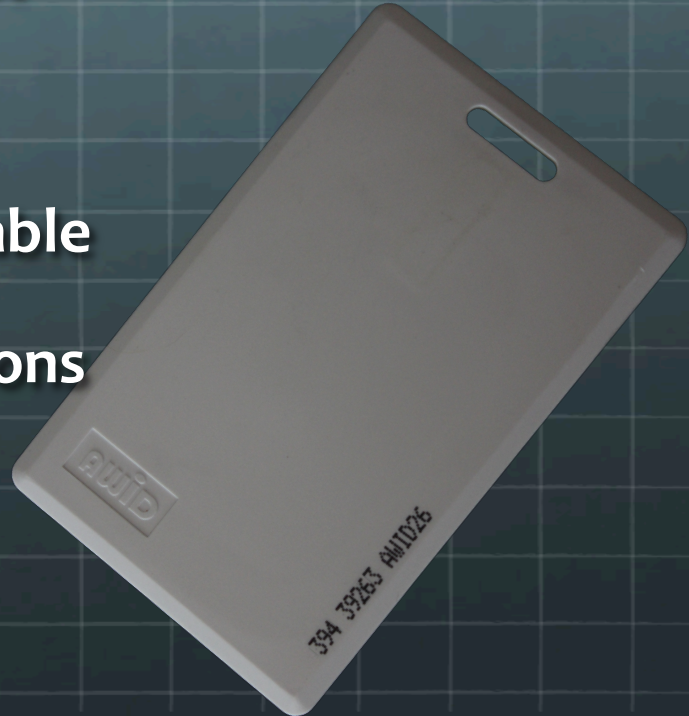
# AWID26

- 8-bit Facility & 16-bit card number printed on tag
- 125kHz FSK2a (RF/50 data rate)
  - FSK Logic 0: 8 cycles, FSK Logic 1: 10 cycles
  - [www.proxclone.com/pdfs/AWID\\_FSK\\_Format.pdf](http://www.proxclone.com/pdfs/AWID_FSK_Format.pdf)
- 96-bit transmission
  - Every 4<sup>th</sup> bit is a parity bit
  - 2 more parity bits for wiegand validation



# Adding Commands

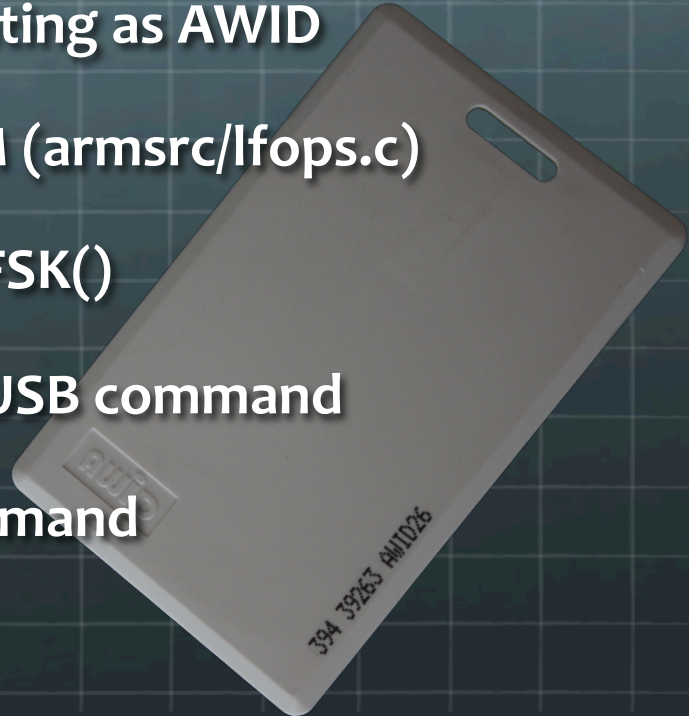
- Commands live in the proxmark3 client
- `client/cmdlf.c` for LF commands
- New commands added to `CommandTable`
- `client/cmdlfawid.c` created for definitions
  - Prepare & send `UsbCommand` to PM3



# If awid fskdemod

```
proxmark3> lf awid fskdemod  
#db# AWID Found - BitLength: 26, FC: 1, Card: 31337 - Wiegand: 2f4d3, Raw: 011d8114eb2b281111111111
```

- Loop collecting samples and demodulating as AWID
- Runs as CmdAWIDdemodFSK() on ARM (armsrc/lfops.c)
- Structure copied from CmdHIDdemodFSK()
- CMD\_AWID\_DEMOD\_FSK defined for USB command
- Logic in cmdlfawid.c exposes new command



# AWID26 BitStream

- Added getAWIDBits() utility function on client side
  - Translate facility-code and card number into bits
  - Card data stored as array of 12 uint8\_t
  - Logic via AWID PDF
  - parityTest() via lfdemod.h
  - Hardcoded for 26-bit Wiegand



# If awid clone

- Programs T55x7 as specified AWID26
- Uses getAWIDBits() to determine BitStream
- Block 0 is static rate/modulation config
- Bitstream split into blocks 1-3
  - Cmd = CMD\_T55XX\_WRITE\_BLOCK
  - Args: (data, block num, password)



# If awid clone

```
proxmark3> lf awid clone 123 45678
```

```
Preparing to clone AWID26 to T55x7 with FC: 123, CN: 45678 (Raw: 011db7de722bd81111111111)
```

```
Block 0: 0x00107060
```

```
Block 1: 0x011db7de
```

```
Block 2: 0x722bd811
```

```
Block 3: 0x11111111
```

```
proxmark3> lf search
```

```
Reading 30000 bytes from device memory
```

```
Data fetched
```

```
Samples @ 8 bits/smpl, decimation 1:1
```

```
NOTE: some demods output possible binary
```

```
if it finds something that looks like a tag
```

```
False Positives ARE possible
```

```
Checking for known tags:
```

```
AWID Found - BitLength: 26, FC: 123, Card: 45678 - Wiegand: 2f764dd, Raw: 011db7de722bd81111111111
```

```
Valid AWID ID Found!
```

# If awid sim

Calculates/displays 'lf simfsk' parameters for AWID26

- 🌐 `cmd = CMD_FSK_SIM_TAG`
- 🌐 `arg[0] = fcHigh<<8 + fcLow = (10<<8)+8`
- 🌐 `arg[1] = CLK & Invert = 50`
- 🌐 `arg[2] = Length = 96 (bits)`
- 🌐 `d.asBytes = BitStream (1 bit per byte)`

```
proxmark3> lf awid sim 23 1337
Emulating AWID26 -- FC: 23; CN: 1337
```

```
Press pm3-button to abort simulation or run another command
Running 'lf simfsk c 50 H 10 L 8 d 011d81bd148e281111111111'
#db# Simulating with fcHigh: 10, fcLow: 8, clk: 50, invert: 0, n: 4798
```



# Antenna Construction

- The Problem
  - Traditional DIY involves a lot of trial and error
  - The outcome is not always ideal for practical attacks
- My Solution: 3D Printing
  - Create forms with precise measurements easily
  - Make coils that blend in

# Supplies

- 🌐 High AWG magnet wire (e.g. 40AWG)
- 🌐 Utility knife (to remove enamel from wire ends)
- 🌐 Soldering iron
- 🌐 Heat shrink tubing (optional)
- 🌐 Inductance meter (optional)

# The Math of Tuning

- 🌐 The antenna coil is an inductor (L)
- 🌐 An LC circuit is formed by pairing it with a capacitor
- 🌐 Goal is to match the coil's L with the capacitor @ F

$$F = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{CL}}$$

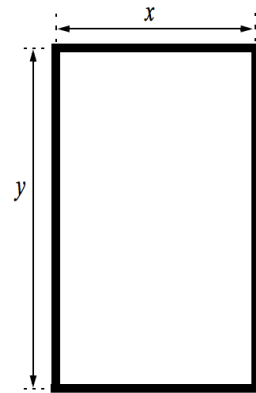
# The Math of Tuning

- Microchip AN170
  - Coil induction equations
- Organized by coil shape
- For my 'multilayer rectangular loop coil':

$$L = \frac{0.0276(CN)^2}{1.908C + 9b + 10h} (\mu H)$$

WHERE →

FIGURE 11: N-TURN SQUARE LOOP COIL WITH MULTILAYER



(a) Top View



(b) Cross Sectional View

# Making a Fake Badge

- 🌐 Started with D18c7db's LF design
  - 🌐 Constructed with CD jewel cases cut to size
- 🌐 Rectangular “badge-like” 70x40mm coil is perfect
  - 🌐 Drew with CAD and exported for printing
  - 🌐 Add an ID sticker for an extra convincing look
  - 🌐 Lanyard clip allows route for discrete wiring

# Winding the Coil

- Coil inductance is matched to capacitor for resonance

- First calculate L based on F and C

$$L = \frac{1}{4\pi^2 CF^2}$$

- Calculate turns required for L based on shape

- For my Proxmark3: ~87 turns

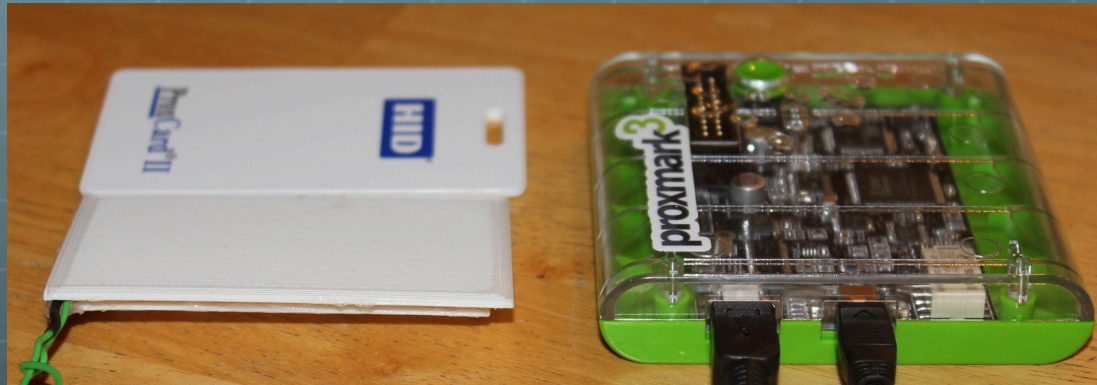
- For my RFIDler: ~57 turns

- Calculations only give guideline due to natural variance

# Winding the Coil

- 🌐 Wind more turns than you expect to need
- 🌐 Removing extra turns is easy
  - 🌐 Making up for not enough turns – NOT SO EASY
- 🌐 Count and watch for wire getting caught on edges

# First Antenna Attempt



```
proxmark3> hw tune
```

```
Measuring antenna characteristics, please wait...
```

```
# LF antenna: 31.21 V @ 125.00 kHz
```

```
# LF antenna: 18.29 V @ 134.00 kHz
```

```
# LF optimal: 31.21 V @ 125.00 kHz
```

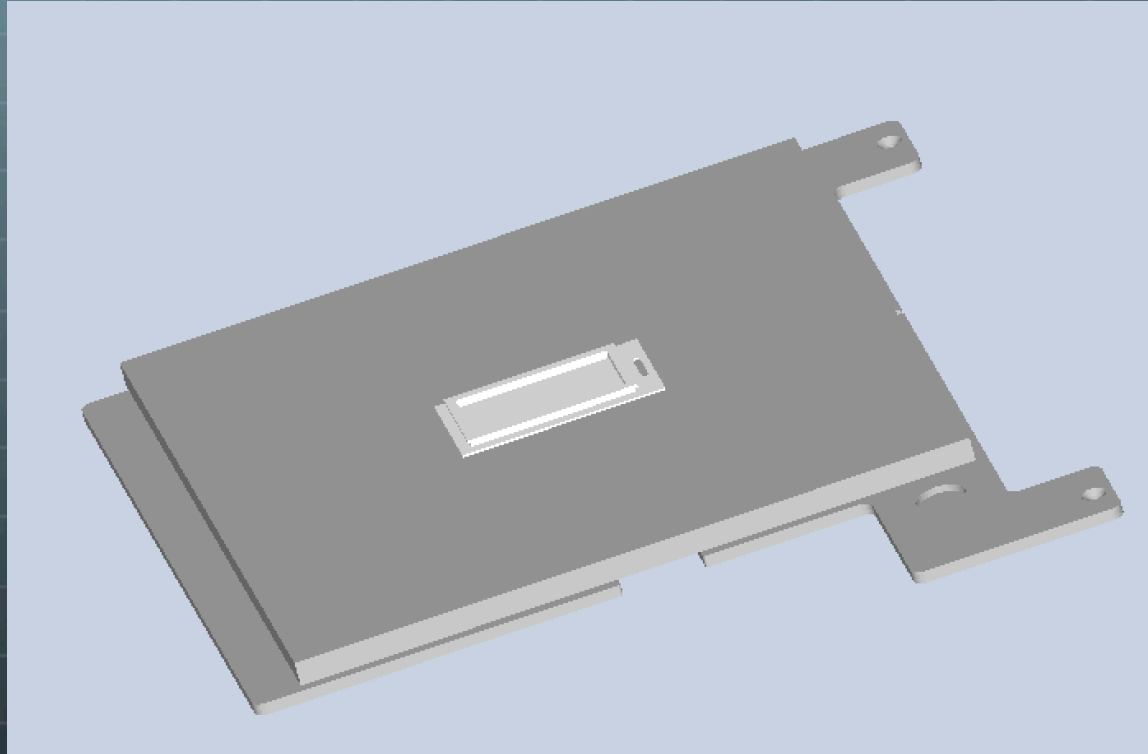
```
# HF antenna: 2.23 V @ 13.56 MHz
```

```
# Your HF antenna is unusable.
```

```
Displaying LF tuning graph. Divisor 89 is 134khz, 95 is 125khz.
```



# Badge Revision



# BADge-tenna

- 🌐 \$7.68 + \$4.99 shipping for flexible white plastic
- 🌐 Suitable alternative for those without a 3d printer
- 🌐 With CubePro: about \$4 filament
- 🌐 Cable hidden in black lanyard
- 🌐 Scavanged RCA for length



# Clipwned



Storage clipboards are great cover!

They blend well with room for toys!

Printed spacers hold the gear tight.

An official sticker seals the deal...



Clipboards lend authority, it's up to you to take it!

# What is Clipwned

Clipwned is a custom tool to grab RFID access control data quietly.



My Clippwned contains a proxmark connected to a USB armory for compact storage of all encountered tags.

The idea is to act official as if a survey taker – corporate stickers can help sell the story.

“Your name is spelled how?”

“Could I just grab that badge one second to make sure I’ve got your name right?”

# Clipwned Supplies

Amazon is full of “Storage Clipboards”

Step 1 is finding one with the depth needed (3/4” minimum, 1” is great)

- Check dimensions of tools going into clipwned

3D printed parts provide guides to keep components in place

- Tape, wood, and other materials work as well

# Making Clipwned

Attach battery to embedded computer for power

- Proxmark client compiles easily on many platforms
- libNFC supports major distros
- The RFIDler USB serial is almost universally supported

Connect embedded computer to RFID tool of choice via USB

Cover stash with legitimate forms or blank pages

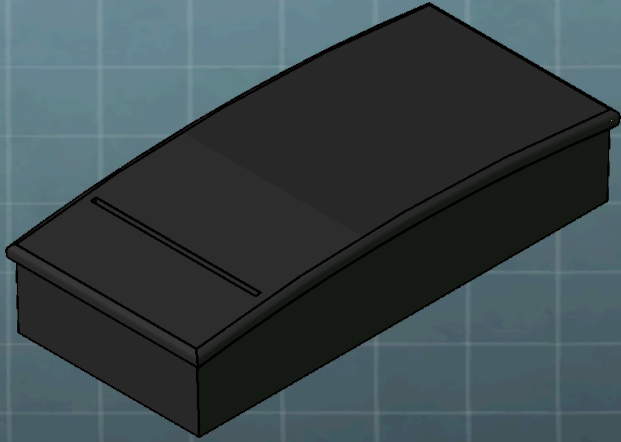
Make clipwned look like something a pro uses (notes, pens, etc.)

# Making Fake Readers

- 🌐 Building Information Modeling
  - 🌐 Models available for common building components
  - 🌐 This includes access control readers
  - 🌐 Models are suited for modification and printing



# Fake Readers



- Models via BIM make 3D printed readers possible
- Add an antenna inside for a hostile reader

- Place it over an existing reader and relay/record badge scans for a day
- Install rogue readers in unexpected places and see who scans
  - “Badge for the elevator? Cool upgrade!!!”



# Phone Case Snooper

- 🌐 Phone based NFC payment is being hailed for security
  - 🌐 What is possible by having a coil hidden in a case?
    - 🌐 Snooping on transactions for research?
    - 🌐 Stealthy relay attacks?
    - 🌐 Android Beam/NDEF attacks?
- 🌐 Phone case models readily available on web
  - 🌐 Cube even includes an iPhone case as a test file

# Cloning MiFare

- MiFare is a family of tags not just a single tag type
  - MiFare Classic
  - MiFare Ultralight (and variations)
  - MiFare DESFire
  - MiFare DESFire EC2
  - Others?
- Tags support encryption in various capacities
  - All tags have a UID and sometimes that's all that matters

# “Magic” Cards

- Normally read-only UID is read-write instead
  - [www.CloneMyKey.com](http://www.CloneMyKey.com) (fast and reliable)
  - eBay “UID Changeable” (one vendor took 6+ weeks)
- Allows complete duplication of some card types
- This is why UID must not be used as a secure token

# Ultralight Cloning

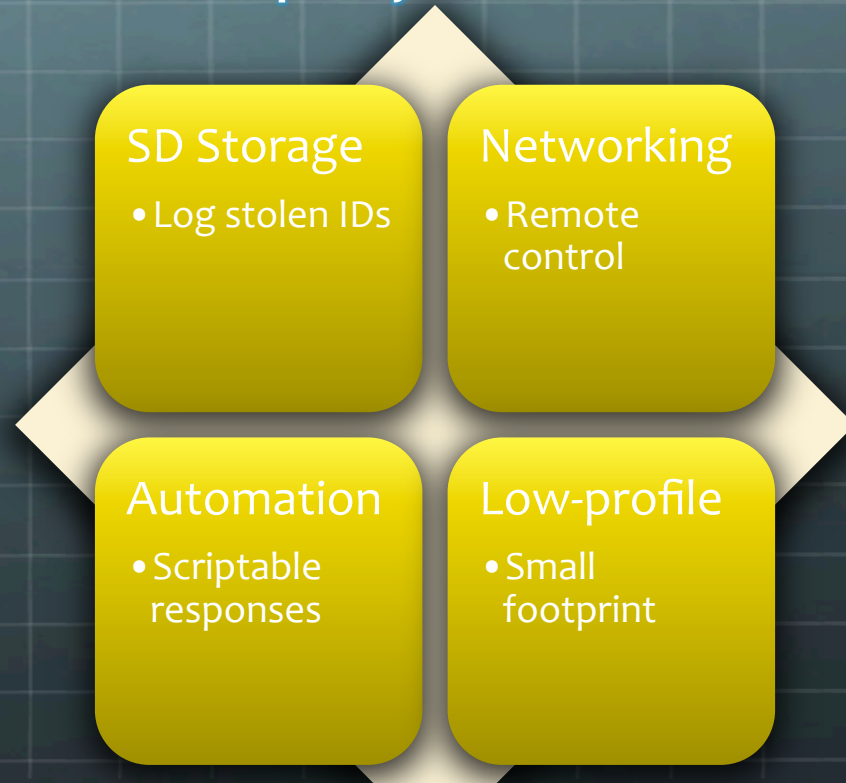
- 🌐 NXP PN533 w/ libNFC and “Magic” MiFare Ultralight
- 🌐 `nfc-mfultralight r dump.mfd`
  - 🌐 Create MiFare dump of target card
- 🌐 `nfc-mfultralight w source.mfd`
  - 🌐 Write contents of source.mfd to changeable tag
- 🌐 Ultralight doesn't employ crypto

# Working With RFIDler

- 🌐 My RFIDler is not particularly reliable
- 🌐 Printed case helps but card reads inconsistent
- 🌐 POTSET commands have been most helpful
  - 🌐 POTSET adjusts the digital threshold potentiometers
- 🌐 Serial driven control best with embedded helper

# Embedded Helpers

Pairing the RFIDler with a Raspberry Pi enables stealth & advanced attacks.



# PM<sub>3</sub> Stand-Alone Pt. 2

- 🌐 Wouldn't it be great if PM<sub>3</sub> was wireless?
- 🌐 Hooking up to an embedded PC does this for us.
- 🌐 No need to expose pm<sub>3</sub> if its hooked into WiFi
- 🌐 Partner knows when read succeeded, sets modes, etc.
- 🌐 All PM<sub>3</sub> functionality is on the table without being seen!

# Work In Progress (Thanks for Reading!)

Please join me Friday, Track 1 @ 18:00 for the rest!

Watch DEFCON and Triwire sites for full slides & whitepaper..

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