

Gone in 360 Seconds: Hijacking with Hitag2

Roel Verdult **Flavio D. Garcia**

*Radboud University Nijmegen,
The Netherlands*

Josep Balasch

*KU Leuven ESAT/COSIC
and IBBT, Belgium*

*Institute for Computing and Information Sciences
Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands*

✉ rverdult@cs.ru.nl 🌐 www.cs.ru.nl/~rverdult

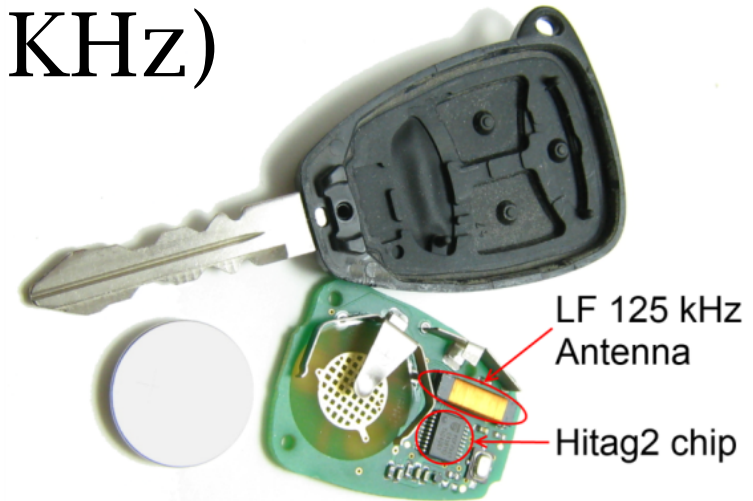


Contents

- Introduction
 - Vehicle Immobilizers
 - Hitag2 and its Usage
- Hitag2
 - Functionality
 - Cipher and Protocols Weaknesses
 - Attacks and Complexity
 - Practical Experiments
 - Mitigating Measures
- Conclusion

Vehicle Immobilizers

- Passive RFID Tag (125 KHz)
- Introduced in the '90s
- Prevents hot-wiring
- Mandatory
 - Europe (EU Directive 95/56/EC)
 - Australia (AS/NZS 4601:1999)
 - Canada (CAN/ULC S338- 98)
- Do **not** confuse it with remote controls that unlock the car doors (433 MHz)



Hitag2 Usage

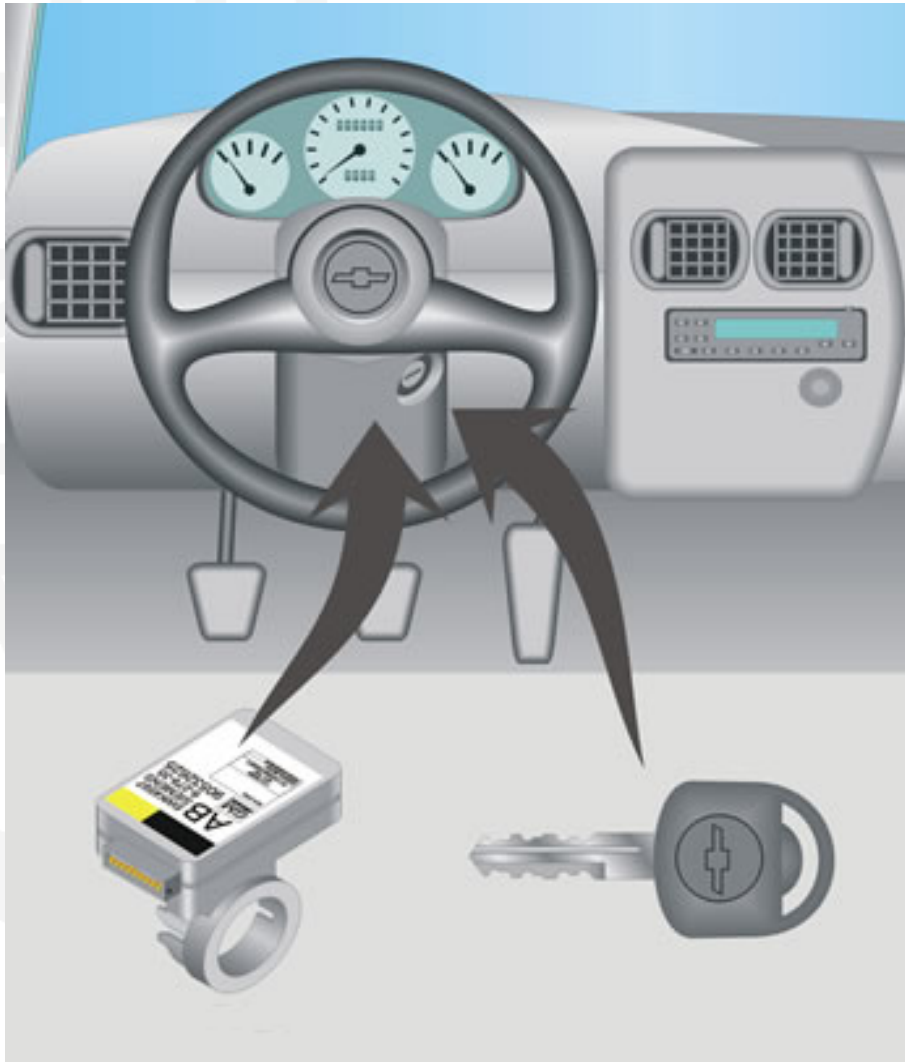


Makes & Models

Make	Models
Acura	CSX, MDX, RDX, TL, TSX
Alfa Romeo	156, 159, 166, Brera, Giulietta, Mito, Spider
Audi	A8
Bentley	Continental
BMW	Serie 1 , 5, 6, 7, all bikes
Buick	Enclave, Lucerne
Cadillac	BLS, DTS, Escalade, SRX, STS, XLR
Chevrolet	Avanlache, Caprice, Captiva, Cobalt, Equinox, Express, HHR Impala, Malibu, Montecarlo, Silverado, Suburban, Tahoe Trailblazer, Uplander
Chrysler	300C, Aspen, Grand Voyager, Pacifica, Pt Cruiser, Sebring Town Country, Voyager
Citroen	Berlingo , C-Crosser, C2, C3 , C4 , C4 Picasso, C5 , C6, C8 Nemo, Saxo, Xsara, Xsara Picasso
Dacia	Duster, Logan , Sandero
Daewoo	Captiva, Windstorm
Dodge	Avenger, Caliber, Caravan, Charger, Dakota, Durango Grand Caravan, Journey, Magnum, Nitro, Ram
Fiat	500, Bravo, Croma, Daily, Doblo, Fiorino, Grande Punto Panda, Phedra, Ulysse, Scudo
GMC	Acadia, Denali, Envoy, Savana, Siera, Terrain, Volt, Yukon
Honda	Accord, Civic , CR-V, Element, Fit, Insight, Stream, Jazz, Odyssey, Pilot, Ridgeline, most bikes
Hummer	H2, H3

Make	Models
	Grandeur, I30 , Matrix, Santafe, Sonata, Terracan, Tiburon Tucoson, Tuscanti
Isuzu	D-Max
Iveco	35C11, Eurostar, New Daily, S-2000
Jeep	Commander, Compass, Grand Cherokee, Liberty, Patriot Wrangler
Kia	Carens, Carnival, Ceed, Cerato, Magentis, Mentor, Optima Picanto, Rio, Sephia, Sorento, Spectra, Sportage
Lancia	Delta, Musa, Phedra
Mini	Cooper
Mitsubishi	380, Colt, Eclipse, Endeavor, Galant, Grandis, L200 Lancer, Magna, Outlander, Outlander, Pajero, Raider
Nissan	Almera, Juke , Micra , Pathfinder, Primera, Qashqai, Interstar Note, Xterra
Opel	Agila, Antara, Astra, Corsa, Movano, Signum, Vectra Vivaro, Zafira
Peugeot	106 , 206 , 207, 307 , 406, 407, 607, 807, 1007, 3008, 5008 Beeper, Partner, Boxer , RCZ
Pontiac	G5, G6, Pursuit, Solstice, Torrent
Porsche	Cayenne
Renault	Clio , Duster, Kangoo , Laguna II , Logan, Master Megane , Modus, Sandero, Trafic , Twingo
Saturn	Aura, Outlook, Sky, Vue
Suzuki	Alto, Grand Vitara, Splash, Swift, Vitara, XL-7
Volkswagen	Touareg, Phaeton

Vehicle Immobilizer



Hitag2 Functionality

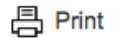
- “Quotes” from the datasheet
 - Ideally suited for vehicle immobilization
 - Proximity (20cm) and long range (1m)
 - Effective communication protocol with outstanding data integrity check
 - Secret Key and a random number in order to cipher any communication
 - Mutual authentication function
 - To achieve a main stream security, data may be transmitted enciphered



Find and Buy Products | Explore Applications | Get Support

Enter Keyword

Keyword Type number Cross reference



Other

- Car access & immobilizers
 - Immobilizer
 - Passive keyless entry
 - Remote keyless entry
- Controllers
- Demodulators / channel decoders
- Drivers
- Nexperia
- NTSC/PAL A/V decoders/encoder
 - Processors
- Set-top box ICs
- Storage/DVD
 - TPMS chipset

NXP leads the immobilizer market and continues to drive it

Overview | Description

With a range of security transponders, encryption and challenge/response systems as well as matching base station ICs, NXP leads the immobilizer market and continues to drive it, developing ICs for the next generation of remote keyless and passive entry systems.

Key features and benefits

- Easily embedded into car keys
- No batteries required
- Unbreakable security levels using mutual authentication, challenge-response and encrypted data communication
- Highly integrated base station ICs meet the strict quality standards required by the automotive industry, while keeping costs to a minimum

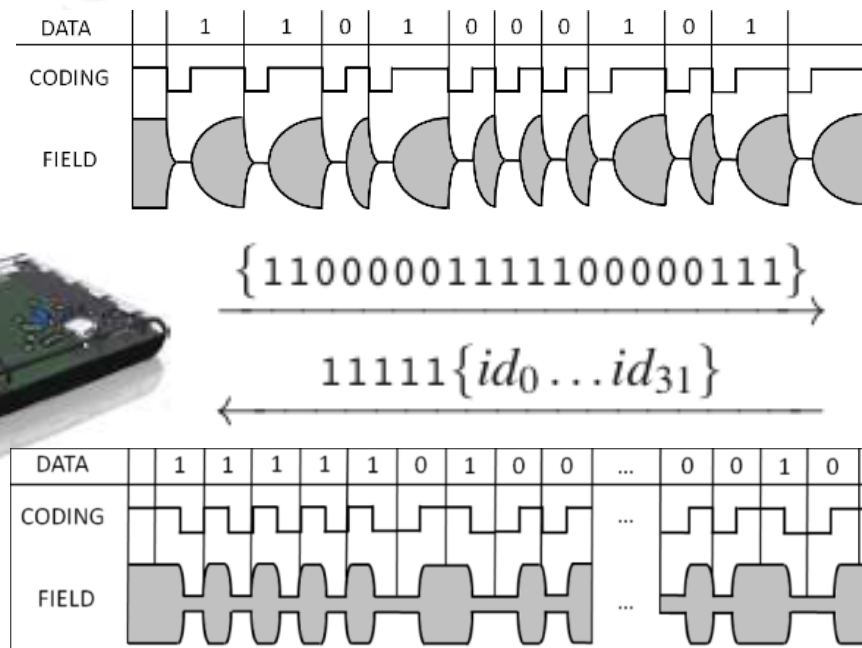
Unbreakable security levels using mutual authentication, challenge-response and encrypted data communication



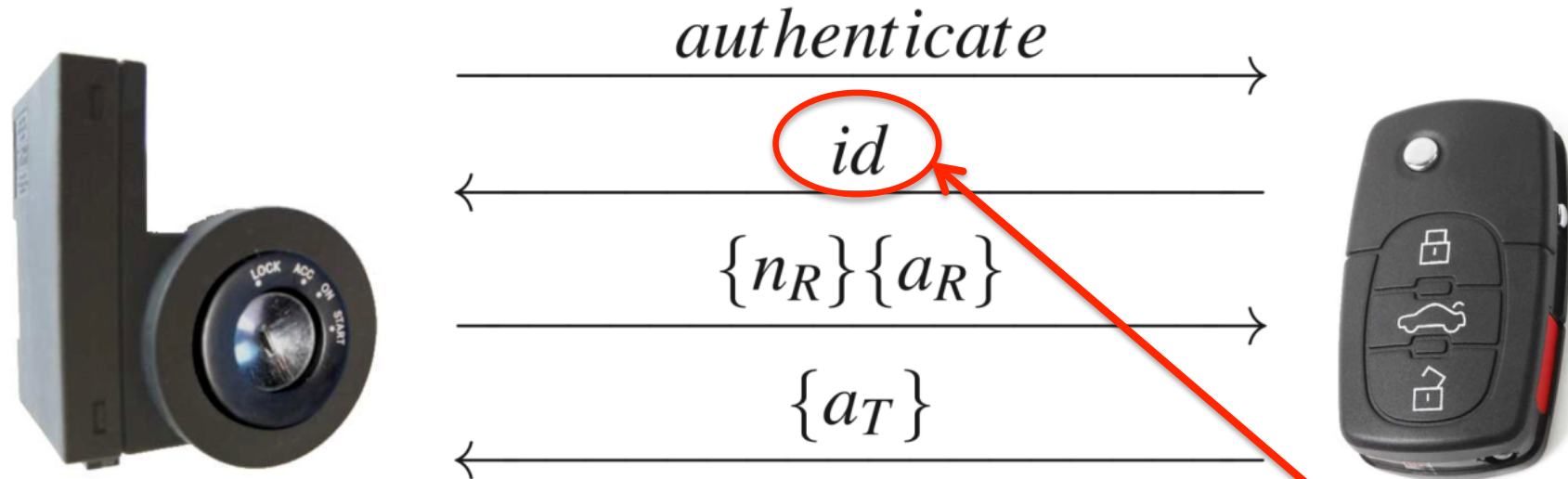
Hitag2 Functionality

Block	Contents
0	transponder identifier id
1	secret key low $k_0 \dots k_{31}$
2	secret key high $k_{32} \dots k_{47}$ — reserved
3	configuration — password
4 – 7	user defined memory

Command	Bits
<i>authenticate</i>	11000
<i>read</i>	$11n_0n_1n_200\overline{n_0n_1n_2} \dots$
<i>read</i>	$01n_0n_1n_210\overline{n_0n_1n_2} \dots$
<i>write</i>	$10n_0n_1n_201\overline{n_0n_1n_2} \dots$
<i>halt</i>	$00n_0n_1n_211\overline{n_0n_1n_2} \dots$



Authentication Protocol



id = 32-bit identifier

$\{n_R\}$ = Encrypted reader nonce

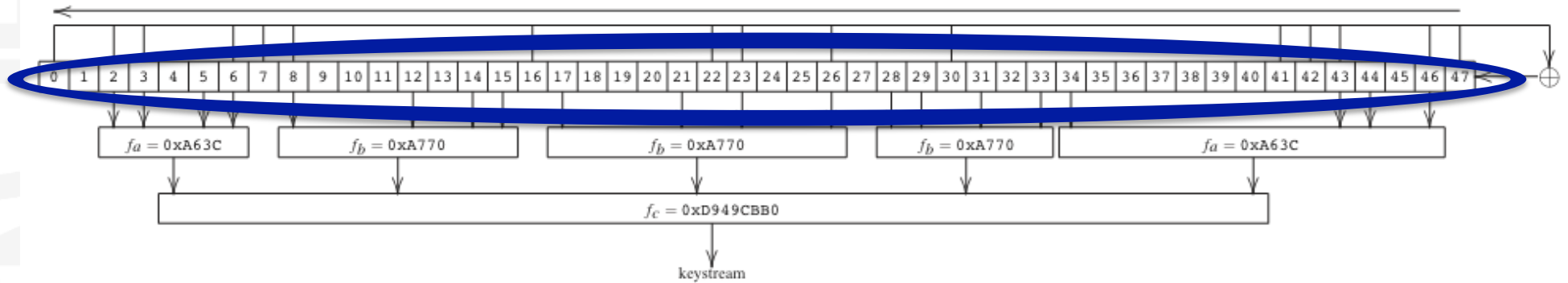
$\{a_R\}$ = Encrypted reader answer

$\{a_T\}$ = Encrypted tag answer

No tag nonce (n_T)

**Replay $\{n_R\}\{a_R\}$ results
in same keystream**

Hitag2 Cipher



- 48 bit internal state (LFSR stream $a_0a_1\dots$)

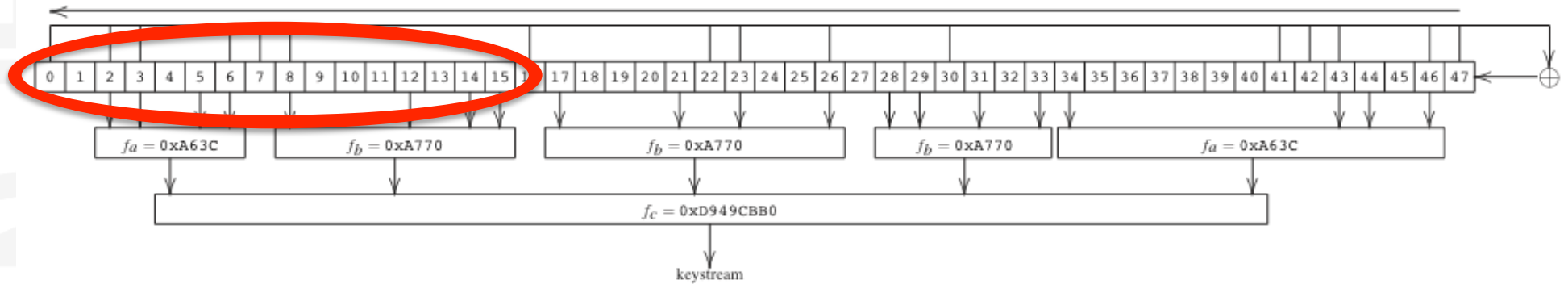
$$a_0\dots a_{31} = id_0\dots id_{31}$$

$$a_{32}\dots a_{47} = k_0\dots k_{15}$$

$$a_{48+i} = k_{16+i} \oplus \{nr\}_i \oplus f(a_i\dots a_{47+i})_i \quad \forall i \in [0,31]$$

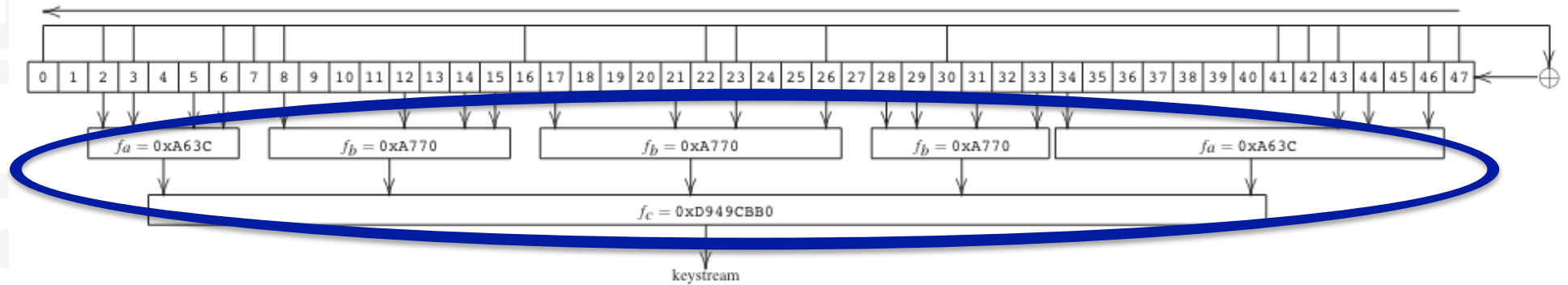
$$\text{Initialized LFSR} = a_{32}\dots a_{79}$$

Hitag2 Cipher



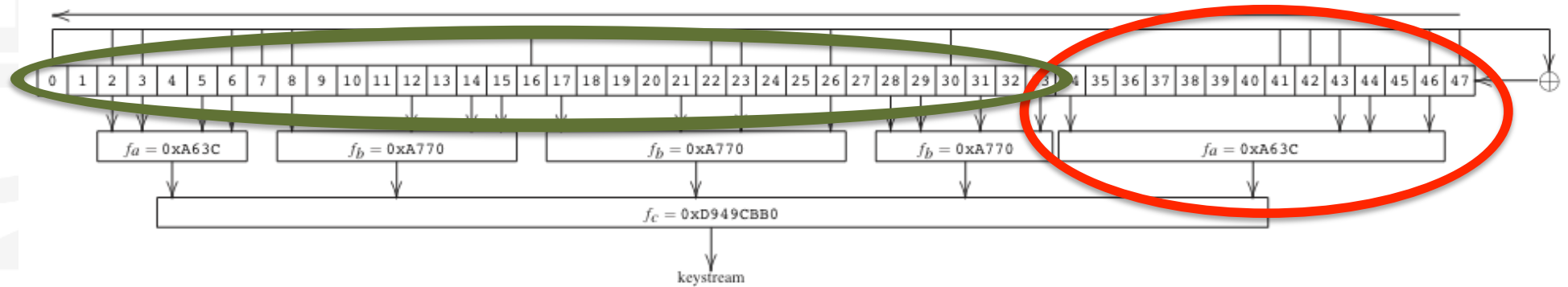
- Dependencies between sessions
 - Reader nonce (nr) is **only 32 bits**
 - Remember that $a_{32} \dots a_{47} = k_0 \dots k_{15}$ and initialized LFSR = $a_{32} \dots a_{79}$
 - **We can conclude that $LFSR_0 \dots LFSR_{15}$ are fixed for each session, regardless of nr**

Hitag2 Cipher



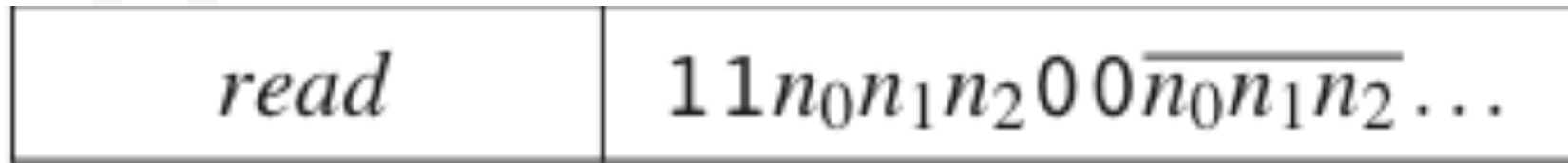
- **Non-linear filter function (20 \rightarrow 1 bit)**
 - Contains sub-functions with fewer inputs
 - Tree function with two layers
 - There are 5 sub-functions with 4-bit input
 - Each function delivers one input bit for second layer function f_c

Hitag2 Cipher



- Filter function weakness
 - **4 bits cover 14 bits of the internal state**
 - In 8 of the 32 configurations, the output of f_c is **not** influenced by the last bit
 - **Probability $\frac{1}{4}$ the output is determined by the first 34 bits of the filter function**

Hitag2 Protocol



- After authentication, it uses encrypted instructions of 5 bits which are sent (at least) twice
- The instruction is concatenated with its complement for integrity
- Extra redundancy can be achieved by adding complements multiple times

Hitag2 Protocol

<i>read</i>	$11n_0n_1n_200\overline{n_0n_1n_2}\dots$
-------------	--

- Instruction contains a 2-bit command and a 3-bit memory block
- Some examples of (equivalent) read instructions on memory block 3
 - *read* (block3) = 11011 00100
 - *read* (block3) = 11011 00100 11011
 - *read* (block3) = 11011 00100 11011 00100

Hitag2 Protocol

- **Replay** same $\{nR\}\{aR\}$ and use variable length to get a keystream oracle

$$\text{read (block3)} = 11011 \ 00100$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{keystream} = 01010 \ 01101 \oplus \\ \hline 10001 \ 01001 \end{array}$$

Try all 32 possibilities, only answers when correct

$$\text{read (block3)} = 11011 \ 00100 \ 11011$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{keystream} = 01010 \ 01101 \ \dots \oplus \\ \hline 10001 \ 01001 \ \dots \end{array}$$

Malleability attack

- Eavesdrop **only one** authentication attempt $\{nR\}\{aR\}$ from the car
- Use oracle to recover 42 of keystream bits, enough to read out the memory
- Recover all memory blocks except the secret key (could be read protected)
 - If not configured correctly, the secret key is still readable.
 - **In such a case the total attack time is less than one second**

Time/memory tradeoff attack

- Once, use a smart trick to build a table with 2^{37} cipher states
 - Sort table on 48 produced keystream bits
- Eavesdrop **only one** authentication attempt $\{nR\}\{aR\}$ from the car
- Use keystream oracle to recover 2^{11} bits
- Apply sliding window on contiguous keystream and find table entry
- **Total attack time is one minute**

Cryptanalytic Attack

- Gather only 134 authentication attempts from the car (**~1 minute**)
- Use first cipher weakness to combine different reader nonces
- Try for every 2^{34} cipher state (**~5 minutes**)
 - Which $\frac{1}{4}$ of the 134 are useful to eliminate
 - If first keystream bit of {ar} passes the test
 - Verify handful of candidate keys
- **Total attack time is 360 seconds**

Comparison and Complexity

Attack	Description	Practical	Computation	Traces	Time
[45]	brute-force	yes	2 102 400 min	2	4 years
[14]	sat-solver	yes	2 880 min	4	2 days
[42]	sat-solver	no ¹	386 min	N/A	N/A
[44]	cube	no ²	1 min	500	N/A
Our	cryptanalytic	yes	5 min	136	6 min

¹Soos et al. require 50 bits of contiguous keystream.

²Sun et al. require control over the encrypted reader nonce $\{n_R\}$



Roel Verdult

Radboud University Nijmegen



Practical Experiments

- Weak random number generators

Origin	Message	Description
CAR	18	authenticate
TAG	39 0F 20 10	<i>id</i>
CAR	0A 00 00 00 23 71 90 14	$\{\mathbf{n_R}\}\{a_R\}$
TAG	27 23 F8 AF	$\{a_T\}$
CAR	18	authenticate
TAG	39 0F 20 10	<i>id</i>
CAR	56 00 00 00 85 CA 95 BA	$\{\mathbf{n_R}\}\{a_R\}$
TAG	38 07 50 C5	$\{a_T\}$

Practical Experiments

- Weak authentication
 - Default password “MIKR”
 - Using key of the form 0xFFFF* * * * **FF

Origin	Message	Description
CAR	18	authenticate
TAG	E4 13 05 1A	<i>id</i>
CAR	4D 49 4B 52	password = MIKR
CAR	18	authenticate
TAG	E4 13 05 1A	<i>id</i>
CAR	DA 63 3D 24 A7 19 07 12	$\{n_R\}\{a_R\}$
TAG	EC 2A 4B 58	$\{a_T\}$

Practical Experiments

- Tested cars use identifier white-listing
 - Car stores a list of known keys (identifiers)
 - Only authenticates to known identifiers
- First wirelessly pickpocket this identifier
 - Low frequency 125 KHz
 - Few inches
 - Approach victim a few milliseconds
 - High frequency 433 MHz
 - Up to 300 feet
 - Eavesdrop when owner closes the doors

Antenna

Wirelessly Pickpocketing



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMPs1Zv8tDI>

Proxmark 3

<http://www.proxmark.org>



- Starting BMW-1 engine
- Look at tachometer
- Without original key
- Using empty key shell and Proxmark to bypass the immobilizer
- Car keeps running after successful authentication

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8z9mgIkqBA>



- Start and drive BMW-5
- Car costs \$100,000 USD
- Broadcasted on the Dutch national television



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QomCiTjqJgo>

NIEUWS er: enkele buien - Dinamo Kiev schakelt Feyenoord uit

Attack implications

- Cipher is broken beyond repair
- With tuned antenna larger pickpocket distances can be achieved
- Very serious when the attacker has a few seconds access to the car and key
 - While renting a car
 - Valet parking at hotel
 - Test drive at the dealer
 - Insurance fraud, car owner theft

Conclusion

- Security by obscurity often covers up negligent designs
- Immobilizer based on 3DES or AES cost only a few dollars more
- Notified the manufacturer NXP
 - Responsible disclosure (6 months ahead)
 - Verified and acknowledged our findings
 - Collaborated constructively by discussing mitigating measures