

Hacking the Wireless World: Software Defined Radio Exploits Balint Seeber Director of Vulnerability Research



Overview

• INMARSAT

Un-selective AM

FMCW RADAR



INMARSAT

Hacking the Wireless World with #sdr

@spenchdotnet



INMARSAT-3



INMARSAT Geostationary Birds

Satellite Fleet (end of 2016)

Geostationary orbit: 35,786km





http://members.optusnet.com.au/~cjr/introduction.htm



Bandpass Filter 1560MHz, 120MHz BW

VA - Gain 14.8dB, NF 0.46dB

LHCP Helical Feed

INMARSAT Aero

- **P Channel** coordination and timing begins here!
 - Packet mode Time Division Multiplex (TDM)
 - Sent to aircraft, carries signalling & user data
- R Channel: random access signalling & user data, from aircraft
- T Channel: Reservation TDMA, *from* aircraft, for data transmission
- C Channel: Circuit-mode, to & from aircraft, carries voice and user data

The P Channel Flowgraph so far...





Channel Selection



Modulation Type

• Gaussian Minimum Shift Keying (GMSK): FFT of squared complex samples results in two peaks equidistant from 0



Symbol (Baud) Rate

• Cyclostationary Analysis: rate is first peak in plot (600 bps, also distance between cyclo peaks)



Clock Recovery

• Enough information to begin tracking symbols in channel (and output them to enable operation on bits)



Clock Recovery Quality

Increased separation between symbols about 0



Frame Structure

- Search for repeating patterns in raster plot
 - 1200 bits wide (line up pattern vertically): unique word (sync), frame header, payload



Payload Encoding

- Appears 'random'
- Generally data has gone through:
 - 1. Interleaving (protects against burst errors)
 - 2. Forward Error Correction (data redundancy)
 - 3. Scrambling (energy dispersal & clock recovery)
- Complex process difficult to test each step individually

Payload Details

- RTFM
- Frame payload consists of multiple fixed-length Signal Units (number of SUs depends on data rate of channel, here 6 of 96 bits each)
- For transmission, the entire SU group is:
 - 1. scrambled
 - 2. 1/2-rate convolutionally encoded
 - 3. fed through an interleaver

Frame Details



#1: De-interleaving

An example interleaver



https://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/~jac22/otalks/rtpi/sld004.htm

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#2: Convolutional (Viterbi) Decoding

- A convolutional code adds additional bits to a stream so that a receiver can correct errors
- Given received error-prone symbols, a Viterbi decoder will output the bits that represent the most likely path through a trellis matching the convolutional code



#2: Viterbi Decoder

 The NASA Voyager K=7 convolutional code is popular, and used here (gr-fec)



#3: De-scrambling



- Implemented as a Linear Feedback Shift Register
- Reset (sync'd) at the beginning of a new frame



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scrambler

Validation

 Inspect raster plot of output to check if there is more structure:



 Compute CRC checksum to confirm correct decode: CRC-16-CCITT should yield **f0b8**

Decoding

71780a5b82751e60*fff*1c75 ISU f0b8 (User Data) 62ae146182748e0000000eee f0b8 ACK **d6**76*d35420706167e520*01a8 f0b8 User Data begins f0b8 **d5**762fae0d8a2fd33231cbfb **d4**76*2f4ab0b031b52fc2*5cab f0b8 **d3**76*b0322f46b0342f4f*8c67 f0b8 **d2**7631b5b0b00d8a2f437024 f0b8 f0b8 **d1**76*c*1*c*4*c*44954494*fc*e4775 **d0**76*c*14*c*2049*c*e464f526db5 f0b8 11a9322582df000a84526d98 f0b8 Log on 40a9322582d831663856f222 f0b8 Channel control c0d83781384a00000005331 f0b8 41a9322582d941063787551e f0b8 Channel control c0d936c336b836c51101af14 f0b8 6271c274827d8e00000d259 f0b8 ACK

Decoding

cf76cdc154494fce2fae332f f0b8 **ce**760d8a2fc4b0324c2f7f34 f0b8 **cd**76ae2f542fae0d8a2f3719 f0b8 **cc**76c8b032b3b32fae2f10bd f0b8 **cb**764f31b6b0b02faec1be14 f0b8 **ca**76f2f2e97661ec20678197 f0b8 **c9**7661f4e5206e756d624cd8 f0b8 **c8**76e5f2ba0d8a2f4f31f556 f0b8 **c7**76b6b0b02f5831b92f7d65 f0b8 **c6**76450d8a2fd332b62f0091 f0b8 **c5**764f31b6b0b02fae0d2599 f0b8 **c4**768ac26167676167e576ea f0b8 **c3**7620e3ec61e96d20e68b9d f0b8 **c2**76eff220c8cbc720610933 f0b8 **c1**76f2f2e97661ecba0db0a2 f0b8 **c0**768a2f9762917f0000f199 f0b8 User Data ends

User Data: ACARS Message

`2..B-KQKH1F- #T101600/X26/E

/S22/B02/01600

/.Please arrive at the boarding gate at least/.

/01500/X02/E/01500

/S23/B02/X05/F04/01500

minutes

/01600/X12/ before departure./.

Late passengers may not be accepted for/. travel.

Other Types of Messages: Notices

`2.N610FEA9YG,

- AND H CLSD. TWY K CLSD,
- BTWN RWY 33, AND TWY J.
- TWY J CLSD, BTWN RWY
- 28R, AND TWY C. RWY 28L
- ARRIVALS, EXPECT BACK
- TAXI RWY 28R. CTN, PSNL
- AND EQPT WORKING, EDGE
- OF CLSD RWY 28R.
- CAUTION, BIRDS NEAR
- AIRPORT.

Other Types of Messages: Weather

METAR PACD 192153Z 36012KT 10SM SCT012 OVC060 08/08 A2931 RMK A02

RAE29 SLP924 P0001 T00830083

Other Types of Messages: AFN / CPDLC / ADS-C

@2.JA838JA0Y/ANCATYA.AFN/FMHJAL3,.JA838J, 86DA1E,212225/FAK0,PAZN/FARADS,0/FARATC, 004F0

P2.N620FEH1X- #MD/A6 OAKODYA.ADS.N620FE07030B000C010D010E0110010F 01799A

02.B-6535A6W/ UPGCAYA.ADS.B-6535080F13264825E41

2B-16705RAZQUTPEOCBR~1RA101192156 SA 19/21:54

Other Types of Messages: Scheduling

`2B-16708H1V- #T1:)DM01171719

/M99

/Q01

BR395/,/3SGN/,07:20/,T2/,C4/,On Time/./. BR211/,/3BKK/,08:15/,T2/,C7/,On Time/./. BR255/,/3DPS/,10:15/,T2/,C8/,On Time/./. BR271/,/3MNL/,09:30/,T2/,C3/,On Time/./. BR265/,/3PNH/,09:10/,

Other Types of Messages

//ATTN CREW MEMBER //

MOLIT (MINISTRY OF LAND, INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT)

RECOMMENDED ALL PAX SHALL TURN OFF

THE POWER OF SAMSUNG GALAXY NOTE 7

AND FORBIDDEN CHARGING DEVICES

AND NOT ACCEPTED CHKD BAGGAGE.

JNA

Other Types of Messages

START OF PART 1 OF1 - HDA623ZSHCVHHH10SEP169A200602FLIGHTFROMTODATEACFTREGCAPTAINHDA623ZSHCVHHH10SEP16A330-300BHLKCOLMAN GC

CRUISE SCHEDULE - CI65

MET OBS 091800

AIRPATH ROUTE 001

FMS ROUTE HGHHKG1

SPECIAL NAVIGATION NOTES

- ZGGG AND ZGSZ ARE NOT A COMMERCIALLY PREFERRED ALTERNATE

~~~~CFP DUE ALTN ZGSZ~~~~

#### Other Types of Messages

- FDX73 YOUR ROUTE GOES
- THROUGH THE SIGMET AREA
- FROM ABOUT 110 MILES
- NORTHEAST OF GITON TO
- ABOUT 200 MILES
- SOUTHWEST OF GITON. IT
- LOOKS LIKE THE WORST WX
- WILL BE
- 1 PUSH LWR SW ON THE DSP
- 2 PUSH MENU ON THE FMC CDU
- 3 PUSH MAINTENANCE INFO LSK
- 4 SELECT ATA 31 MAINTENACE PAGE ON THE LWR DISPLAY UNIT
- 5 PUSH ERASE
- 6 CONFIRM WXR MSG DISAPPEARD
- IF NO HELP,
- WE WILL BE FIXED A

| ZFW           | 147122                          |                                        |
|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| REV ZFV       | J                               | -                                      |
| MACTOW        | 25.3%                           | CG SEL                                 |
| * * * * * * * | * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * | *************************************  |
| FLIGHT        | PREPARATION REI                 | EASE                                   |
| I HEREE       | BY CERTIFY THAT                 | THE CONDITIONS OF FLIGHT, AS STATED IN |
| THE AUS       | STRALIAN CIVIL A                | VIATION REGULATION (CAR 1988) 233 HAVE |
| BEEN CC       | MPLIED WITH.                    |                                        |

PILOT-IN-COMMAND

END

| FWD AND AFT INDEX LIMITS | UNDERFLOOR                                                   |         |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| TO: II                   | -11L/N                                                       | -11R/N  |
| ZF: II                   | _12T /N                                                      | _120/N  |
| GALLEY CODE Full Cater   |                                                              |         |
| PAX WEIGHT SET           | -13L/N                                                       | -13R/N  |
| MEL-DPS-J:Business Std   | -14L/N                                                       | -14R/N  |
| MEL-DPS-Y:Economy Std    | -21L/N                                                       | -21R/N  |
| POB (INCL CREW) 348      | _ 2 2 T / NI                                                 | _220/NI |
| TTL                      |                                                              | -22N/N  |
| Zonel 21                 | -23L/ <b>AKE91536QF</b> /40PC/B<br><b>AKE926630F</b> /40PC/B | -23R/   |
| Zone2 28                 |                                                              |         |
| Zone3 179                | -24L/ <b>AKE91580QF</b> /40PC/B<br><b>AKE92356QF</b> /40PC/B | -24R/   |
| Zone4 108                |                                                              |         |
| TOTAL 336                | -31L/AKE25/36QE/40PC/B<br>AKE92498QE/40PC/                   | -31K/   |

#### REMARKS

- ALERT GTOW EXCEEDS
- PTOW BY 400 LB
- MEL 28-24-1-2
- ----- RWY 33 -----
- ENSURE T/O FOB  $\leq 121.4$

QUDOHEOQR~1DIS01010101

Freetext Test

HI CAPTAIN,

REQ BEST ETA PLEASE TO REDUCE DELAY ON NEXT SECTOR

RGDS, PHIL, IOC

AK000607

UPS 77/10

T/O FUEL 215401

ADD MEL 36-12-2-1

0.3% INCREASE T/OFF FUEL

I UPDATED AERODATA WITH THE MEL.

I ALSO CALLED GATEWAY AND HAD THEM BRING FUEL UP TO 219.4 TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE 0.3% FUEL BURN INCREASE

BALANCE RLSE SAME

ACK REQUIRED

KELLE DELANEY, 102209

| RKSI:ICN 33R EDNO 4UU  | VREF20+5 172             |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| LDA : 12303FT / 3749M  | DVREF 0                  |
| -1C 1022HPA OHEAD      | SPD INCR 0               |
| MAN LAND FLAP F20      | VAPP 172                 |
| 1 REVERSER DRY         | SETTINGS (FT/M) BTMS     |
|                        | MAX MAN 4794/1461>6.3    |
| NNC : EO2              | MAX AUTO 6497/1980>6.3   |
| ENG SHUTDOWN F20       | AUTOBRK 4 NO DATA        |
| 777-300ER GE90-115     | AUTOBRK 3 NO DATA        |
| ADVISORY LANDING DATA: | AUTOBRK 2 11154/3399 >4  |
| ALW 245.0              | AUTOBRK 1 NO DATA        |
| LANDING FLAPS: F20     | INCL 1500FT AIR DIST AND |
|                        | 15 PCT SAFETY MARGIN     |

DEAR CAPT,

LAST OFF **CHOCKS** WITHOUT **DISCRETION** WAS 19:20 UTC. NOW YOU ARE UNDER DISCRETION

AND THE LAST OFF CHOCKS WILL BE 22:10 UTC. PLS CONFIRM IF BOTH OF YOU ARE AGREE.

THANKS AND BRGDS/IO

THANKS FOR AGREEING TO **DISCRETION** CAPTIAN. PLEASE KEEP US UP TO DATE WITH ANY INFO

RGDS, PHIL, IOC

#### What about the other eight channels?

- Multi-channel Decoder
  - Flow graph composition with hierarchical blocks
  - Running live



### Flight Plans

Waypoint parsing



# **Un-selective** AM

Hacking the Wireless World with #sdr

@spenchdotnet

#### A Wideband Un-selective AM Receiver

- Originally conceived by Kevin Reid
- Demonstrated in ShinySDR at Cyberspectrum #15
- 'Spatial audio'
- @switchborg
- kpreid.livejournal.com



A further refinement is to display in the graph not just the most recent data but average or overlay many 3x the above image, the blas fill outer in the upper section is an overlay floods color and buight correspond to amplitude), the green line is the average, and the ref line is the peak amplitude over the same time interval.

We can see signals across an immensely wide spectrum (subject to hardware limitations), but is there a way to har them meaningfully? Yes, there is, with covering

What's pirtured dover is a small portion of the band anigoed to ariseison use — they are used primarily for communication between aircraft in flight and air traffic control ground stations. The more significant thing about these communications is that there are a lie of different frequencies for different prepares, or if you're trying to heir "what's in the area", you have to monitor all of down.

The conventional volution to this polition is a scanner, which is a radio receiver programmed to repidly step through a stage of frequencies and step if a signal is detected. Scanners have disadvantages they will not the beginning of a signal, and they require a threshold set to trade of between mining weak signal, and their regarding on state.

An adversaries, specific to AM modulation beliefs is used by already, in to make a review with very poor adjustry to review only a specific channel and ignore other signals. Historically, when RF electronic design was less well understood and components had werse characteristics, selectivity was a specification one would care about, has only if one lived in an area with closely specification — today, every receiver has good adjectivity).

The going to explain how to build as unselective receiver in software, and then refuse this to create partial and/or -- that is, the frequency of the signal shall correspond to the moreo parsing of the suppart and/or. This is the analogue of the spectrum display is audio.

Of course, this is an AM moview and so it will only make intellights scould for amplitude-modulated signal. However, many signals will produce new scould in an AM moview. The exception is that a clean frequency-modulated WM or phase-modulated signal will produce shows, because its amplitude is theoretically constant, but this slines is still addley distant from background usine G the signal is intermittenes), and transmitted signals of the signal is intermittenes), and transmittened signals often do not have perfect constant amplitude.

#### Implementation

A neural software AM demodulance has a structure like the following block diagram isome indocute details smired: The HF signal is low-pass filtered to adore the desired signal, then demodulance by taking the magnitude block produces as and/o signal with a DC offset corresponding to the



In order to produce an unselective receiver, we omit the RJ filter step, and therefore due the downnampling -- therefore denodularing at the RJ sample rate. The resulting and signal must be low-pass Blazed and downnampled to produce a sould and source the high theopency content is not interesting are below, so we have now "part" empression of the sectors.



This simple change works-quite well. Two-or more simultaneous AM signals can be received with clear mores separation.

One intervening entrome in thes, utilite the normal AM receives, the and/one/or a weight is gainer lawaning MSC is present before the demodulator block in both canol — this conveniently means that no sepach function is assolved.

The reason for this is shrines in bindight boody speaking, most of the axis power will be at RF frequencies and outside of the axis pashand. In order to have a strong surput signal, the input signal must contain a significant amount of power in a survey lowd to surve as the XM carrier and aideband. The series pashand. The series pashand. The series pash to the input signal, the input signal must contain a significant amount of power in a survey lowd to surve as the XM carrier and aideband. The series pashand. The series pash to the input signal must contain a significant amount of power in a survey lowd to survey as the XM carrier and aideband. The series power in a survey lowd to survey as the XM carrier and aideband.

#### Adding stores

In order to produce the spatial andio, we want the audio signal amplitude, in a single moreo-channel, to vary with frequency. And that is simply a filter with a surrooch frequency suppose. The signal path is uplit for the two-moreo-channels, with opposite slope filters. UGC must be applied before the



#### Mono 'Un-selective' Flow



#### Stereo 'Spatial' Flow





#### How about those taps?

```
numpy.fft.fftshift(
```

```
numpy.fft.ifft(
```

```
numpy.fft.fftshift(
```

```
numpy.linspace(0, 1, tap_count)
```

## FNCW RADAR

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### Primary Surveillance RADAR (PSR)

| Scope Plot Est See Est                                                                                           | Persistence         | Scope Plot                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Aref of Alor Inc. 9 (2994              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                  |                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                        |
| and the second | Axes Options 0.7    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Axes Options<br>Secs/Div: +            |
|                                                                                                                  | Counts/Div: + - 0.6 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Counts/Div: +                          |
|                                                                                                                  | Y Offset: + -       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Y Offset: +                            |
|                                                                                                                  | T Offset            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | T Offset: ()                           |
|                                                                                                                  | Autorange           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Autorange                              |
|                                                                                                                  | Channel Options     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Channel Options                        |
| مفتيل ويتحصر المستعقبين ومتحد والمروم وتبال مترجعها                                                              | 4 Ch2 Ch3 TH9 0.3   | مراجعين مراجعيت والمتحدثين أحيينا بالمحاجب تسراحهما                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Ch1 Ch2 Trig XY                        |
|                                                                                                                  | Mode: Normal \$     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                        |
|                                                                                                                  | Slope Pos + +       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Coupling: DC                           |
|                                                                                                                  | Channel: Ch 1 : 0.1 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                        |
|                                                                                                                  | Level: 50% + -      | man Manun man                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Marker: Line Link                      |
| 130 140 150 160 170                                                                                              |                     | 10 15 20 25 30 35                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 40                                     |
| Time (us)                                                                                                        | Stop                | Time (ms)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Stop                                   |
|                                                                                                                  | Scope Piot          | Scope Piot    Axes Options      Axes Options    Secs/Dive      Counts/Dive    +      Y Offset:    -      Y Offset:    - </td <td>Scope Piot  Scope Piot    Area Options </td> | Scope Piot  Scope Piot    Area Options |



#### Raw RADAR Return Plot

Each scanline is synchronised to an emitted pulse



Scanline is amplitude of samples over time (also range of the return)

## Virtual RADAR Scope

Bridge

O

Lots of clutter

Map

Traffic

Bridges & pipeline

0

Power line pylons crossing the bay

Palo Alto

RADAR

San Jose,

More clutter

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#### FMCW

- Transmit a 'chirp' (strong self-correlation)
- Can be full TX duty cycle
- Think about chirp as a matched filter (not a VCO)
  Filtered result is range information
  like normal CW pulsed echos



Example (simple impulsion): transmitted signal in red (carrier 10 hertz, amplitude 1, duration 1 second) and two echoes (in blue).



...echoes can be distinguished.





5

After matched filtering









#### CODAR

Mapping ocean currents with HF RADAR •





http://gyre.umeoce.maine.edu/gomoos/codar/

## Mixing (Nulling) or Gating (Switching)

- TX & RX same site (monostatic)
- Remove TX signal at receiver before digitising (avoid saturation)
- Discontinuous TX (gating TX signal)
- Gating produces AM sidebands in frequency domain







What does it sound like?

#### Doppler Effect

- Moving target will cause slight shift in received frequency
- Think about wavefront being received after reflection off target: phase change due to motion



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doppler\_effect

### Range-Doppler Processing

- Calculate range to target (discretised)
- How fast target is moving within that range bin
- Assuming phase coherent TX, Doppler effect causes phase change within same range bin over integration time
- FFT across each range bin!





Range Samples

#### Let's make one!

#### Inspiration

- Pieter Ibelings & Moe Wheatley
- RFSpace & Spectravue (moetronix.com)
- Beautiful pictures of ionosphere range plots



# E noetronix.co





#### Ionosonde (inspiration from Juha Vierinen)


























## ATSC Live Passive RADAR

Use known 511 PN synchronisation sequence



http://www.tek.com/document/primer/fundamentals-8vsb

















## Next time...



## Thank you!



You can't protect what you can't see.

@spenchdotnet

balint@bastille.net

GitHub: balint256

GitHub: BastilleResearch

