

Overview of some automotive RKE systems

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November 24, 2016

Before we start

Slides at <http://r.rogdham.net/26>



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R



Lock It and Still Lose It—On the (In)Security of Automotive Remote Keyless Entry Systems

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<https://www.usenix.org/conference/usenixsecurity16/technical-sessions/presentation/garcia>

Before we start



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the BBC News website. It features the BBC logo on the left, followed by a search icon and a search input field containing the text "Search". Below the search bar is a horizontal menu with the following items: News, Sport, Weather, Shop, Earth, Travel, Capital, Culture, and More. A red banner with the word "NEWS" in white capital letters spans the width of the page below the navigation bar. Underneath the banner is another horizontal menu with items: Home, Video, World, UK, Business, Tech, Science, Magazine, Entertainment & Arts, Health, World News TV, and More.

Technology

'Millions' of Volkswagen cars can be unlocked via hack

By Chris Baraniuk
Technology reporter

🕒 12 August 2016 | [Technology](#)



WIRED

[ANDY GREENBERG](#) SECURITY 08.10.16 4:29 PM

A NEW WIRELESS HACK CAN UNLOCK 100 MILLION VOLKSWAGENS

Agenda

- 1 RKE from scratch
- 2 The VW systems
- 3 The Hitag2 system

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Car security mechanisms

Going inside the car:

- Mechanical lock
- RKE system
- Smart key

Starting the engine and drive away:

- Be inside the car first
- Immobiliser (transponder)
- Mechanical lock / ignition button

Once you are in the car, game over

- Attacks on transponder
- Access the onboard computer

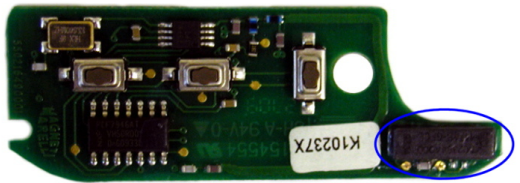
In this talk: attacks on RKE systems

NOT in this talk: newest car “features” such as acces over Internet

Remote overview



Remote overview



RKE systems use a very simple protocol:

- Owner pushes a button
- The remote sends a message to the car
- The car reacts accordingly

Only a single one-way message

→ Usual security protocols (e.g. challenge/response) don't work

Since it seems simple, let's create an RKE protocol from scratch

Action: open/close the doors, etc.

Tell the car if we want to close or open the doors:

< *btn* >

Issue

In a parking lot, we will open *all* cars at once!

Car or remote identifier

Add the car or remote identifier:

$$\langle UID || btn \rangle$$

Using the remote identifier allows to invalidate specific remotes

Attack scenario

1. Eavesdrop a close signal
2. Create an open signal

Crypto block	Key	Issue
Signature	Asymmetric	Costly battery-wise
MAC	Symmetric	Key management

Generate random shared key key_{UID} when the remote is linked with the car

$$\langle UID || \overbrace{btn}^M || MAC_{key_{UID}}(M) \rangle$$

Does not matter if M includes the UID

Attack scenario

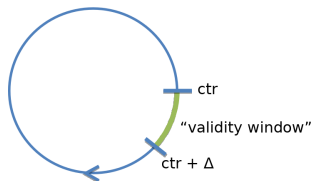
Replay attacks

Freshness

Token	Issue
Random ¹	Car needs to remember all used tokens
Time-based ²	Precise clock in remote (and car)
Counter	Overflow, desynchronisation

Use a counter with a validity window

$$\langle UID || \overbrace{btn, ctr}^M || MAC_{key_{UID}}(M) \rangle$$



Rolling code (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolling_code)

A rolling code [...] is used in keyless entry systems to prevent replay attacks

¹e.g. anti-CSRF (ESAPI...)

²e.g. Google Authenticator (RFC 6238)

Any remaining problems?

$$\langle UID || \overbrace{btn, ctr}^M || \text{MAC}_{key_{UID}}(M) \rangle$$

Confidentiality

→ Not sure we need it

Integrity: MAC

Availability

→ Repeat the rolling code several times, hope for the best

→ Worst case scenario: owner uses mechanical lock

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The VW systems



Amarok, (New) Beetle, Bora, Caddy, Crafter, e-Up, Eos, Fox, Golf 4, Golf 5, Golf 6, Golf Plus, Jetta, Lupo, Passat, Polo, T4, T5, Scirocco, Sharan, Tiguan, Touran, Up



AA1, Q3, R8, S3, TT, others



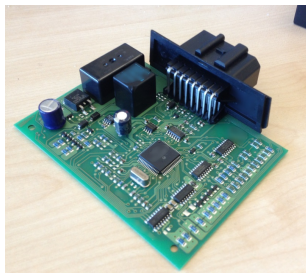
Alhambra, Altea, Arosa, Cordoba, Ibiza, Leon, MII, Toledo



ACity Go, Roomster, Fabia 1, Fabia 2, Octavia, Superb, Yeti

Analysis: reverse-engineering ECUs

Dump ECU firmware and start reverse engineer assembly



```
; ----- SUBROUTINE -----  
  
sub_F5C4:                                ; CODE XREF: sub_E31D+5C↑p  
    pshd  
    pshx  
    leas  -$C,sp  
    anda #3F ; '?'  
    clrx  
    add  #0000  
    bcc  loc_F5D2  
    inx  
  
loc_F5D2:                                ; CODE XREF: sub_F5C4+B↑j  
    std  4,sp  
    ldd  $14,sp  
    ldx  $12,sp  
    subd $E,sp  
    sbex $C,sp
```

VW-1 scheme

Used approx. until 2005

$$\langle f(UID) || g(ctr) || btn \rangle$$

f and g are deterministic functions

Issues

No shared secret, no integrity checks...

→ Security through obscurity (obfuscation)

VW-2 scheme

Used approx. since 2004 (VW-2)

$$\langle start_2 || \text{AUT64}_{key_2}(UID, ctr, btn) || btn \rangle$$

$start_2$ is a fixed prefix

AUT64 is a cipher

Issue

Use encryption for integrity

Issue

One worldwide unique key

VW-2, VW-3, VW-4 schemes

Used approx. since 2004 (VW-2) / 2006 (VW-3) / 2009 (VW-4)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{VW-2: } \langle \textit{start}_2 \parallel \text{AUT64}_{\textit{key}_2}(\textit{UID}, \textit{ctr}, \textit{btn}) \parallel \textit{btn} \rangle \\ \text{VW-3: } \langle \textit{start}_3 \parallel \text{AUT64}_{\textit{key}_3}(\textit{UID}, \textit{ctr}, \textit{btn}) \parallel \textit{btn} \rangle \\ \text{VW-4: } \langle \textit{start}_4 \parallel \text{XTEA}_{\textit{key}_4}(\textit{UID}, \textit{ctr}, \textit{btn}) \parallel \textit{btn} \rangle \end{array} \right.$$

Issue

Still worldwide unique key

The VW systems

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{VW-1: } \langle f(\text{UID}) \parallel g(\text{ctr}) \parallel \text{btn} \rangle \\ \text{VW-2: } \langle \text{start}_2 \parallel \text{AUT64}_{\text{key}_2}(\text{UID}, \text{ctr}, \text{btn}) \parallel \text{btn} \rangle \\ \text{VW-3: } \langle \text{start}_3 \parallel \text{AUT64}_{\text{key}_3}(\text{UID}, \text{ctr}, \text{btn}) \parallel \text{btn} \rangle \\ \text{VW-4: } \langle \text{start}_4 \parallel \text{XTEA}_{\text{key}_4}(\text{UID}, \text{ctr}, \text{btn}) \parallel \text{btn} \rangle \end{array} \right.$$

Attack scenario

Possible to clone a remote if we capture a single rolling code

Impact

Most VW group vehicles after 2000
Except the ones using Golf 7 (MQB) platform



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The Hitag2 system

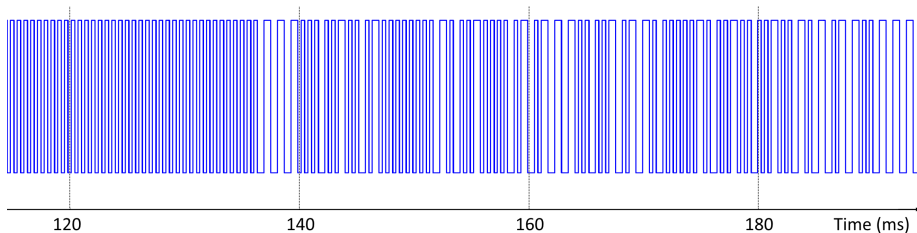
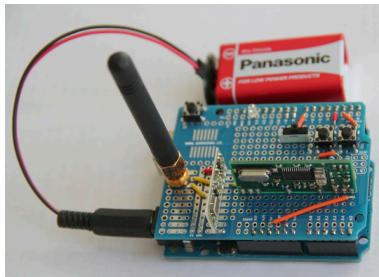
We verified our findings in practice by building a key emulator and then unlocking and locking the vehicles with newly generated rolling codes:



Manufacturer	Model	Year
Alfa Romeo	Giulietta	2010
Chevrolet	Cruze Hatchback	2012
Citroen	Nemo	2009
Dacia	Logan II	2012
Fiat	Punto	2016
Ford	Ka	2009, 2016
Lancia	Delta	2009
Mitsubishi	Colt	2004
Nissan	Micra	2006
Opel	Vectra	2008
Opel	Combo	2016
Peugeot	207	2010
Peugeot	Boxer	2016
Renault	Clio	2011
Renault	Master	2011

The vehicles in the above list are our own and also from colleagues and friends who volunteered.

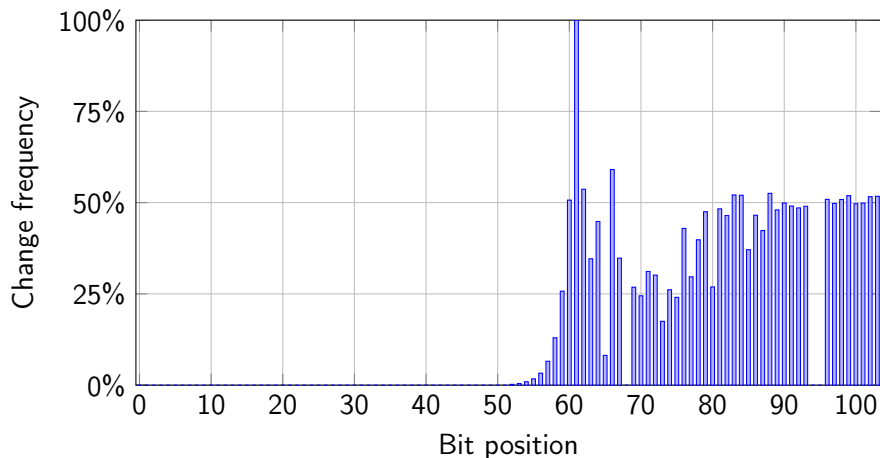
Analysis: black box reverse-engineering



Analysis: bitstreams

```
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 b1 d1 d2 3b e6 b7
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 b7 d1 df 62 16 15
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 bb f3 96 2d 8e a5
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 bd f2 9a 77 3a 40
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 c3 d5 c6 57 22 7d
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 c5 d5 ce 2b 22 0f
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 c9 f5 4b d5 ee 94
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 cf f5 c6 c5 0a eb
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 d3 75 ee 77 7e 99
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 d5 75 e7 15 92 18
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 d8 55 f3 fb 2a 77
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 de 55 f7 c1 de bb
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 e3 71 d8 6e 06 fa
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 e5 75 dd 3d ca 62
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 e8 55 5b 24 76 6c
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 ee 51 d4 76 fa 3f
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 f3 d1 d7 31 62 7e
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 f5 d1 d4 71 d6 8f
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 f9 f1 cf 86 9a 03
00 01 53 d0 11 6b 21 ff f0 ce ed 36 c2
```

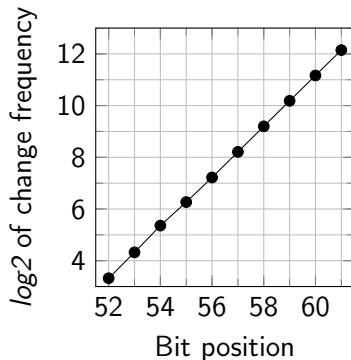
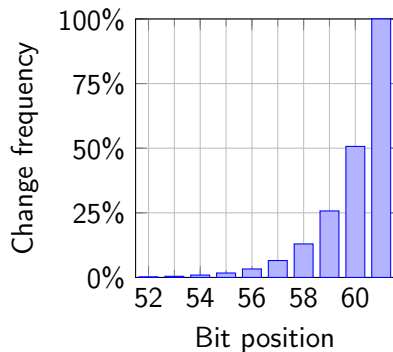
Frequency analysis: changes



Computed over $> 2^{12}$ rolling codes from the same remote

→ First 51 bits don't change on this remote

Frequency analysis: closer look



Exponential increase

→ Counter!

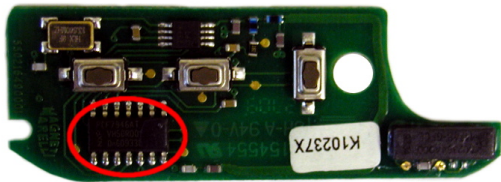
$\langle start || UID || btn || ctr || ks || chk \rangle$

Unknown keystream ks

Checksum chk : XOR all other bytes

We need some external information on how ks is computed

A closer look at the remote



Philips Semiconductors

Product Profile

PCF7946AT

Security Transponder plus Remote Keyless Entry, **HITAG2^{PLUS}**

Features

- Compatible with Security Transponder, PCF7936AS.
- Rolling Code Generator for keyless entry
- 14-pin SO package

Transponder

- 64/32 bit mutual authentication
- 32 bit unique device identification number
- Fast authentication, 39ms
- 40-bit Rolling Code

General Description

The HITAG2^{PLUS} is a high performance monolithic Security Transponder and Remote Keyless Entry Chip ideally suited for car immobiliser applications that incorporate keyless entry functions.

The HITAG2^{PLUS} transponder circuitry is compatible with the Security Transponder PCF7936AS to support mixed systems using a HITAG2^{PLUS} and a standard Security Transponder, PCF7936AS at the same time.

The Transponder circuitry meets the security and

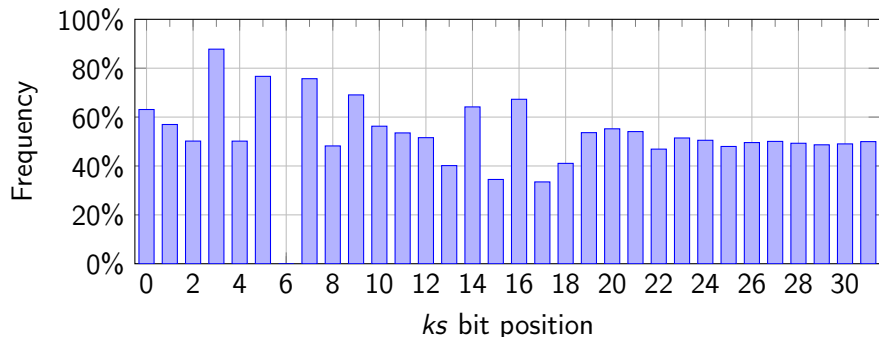
Hitag2

Stream cipher used in transponders

Hitag2(key = (48 bits), serial = (32 bits), iv = (32 bits))

Reverse engineered, several attacks to recover the key from outputs

Re: frequency analysis of remote outputs



$\langle start || UID || btn || ctr || ks || chk \rangle$

Hitag2 is used, so:

$ks = ???(\text{Hitag2}(\text{key} = ???, \text{serial} = ???, \text{iv} = ???))$

UID is 32 bits, just like the *serial*...

$ks = ???(\text{Hitag2}(\text{key} = ???, \text{serial} = UID, \text{iv} = ???))$

But what to use for the *key*?

Security Transponder plus Remote Keyless Entry, HITAG2^{PLUS}

Features

- Compatible with Security Transponder, PCF7936AS.
- Rolling Code Generator for keyless entry
- 14-pin SO package

Transponder

- 64/32 bit mutual authentication
- 32 bit unique device identification number
- Fast authentication, 39ms
- 48 Bit Remote Keyless Entry

General Description

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The Transponder circuitry meets the security and

Transponder reader



Transponder memory				
Identifier	P0	53D0116B	R	
PSW / ISK low	P1	4D494B52	R	W
NA / ISK high	P2	00004F4E	R	W
Configuration	P3	00AA4854	R	W
User page 0	P4	4D494B52	R	W
User page 1	P5	00004F4E	R	W
User page 2	P6	6515F2D5	R	W
User page 3	P7	00000000	R	W

Test case for Hitag2

Same value as in the test case of the Hitag2 code:

User page 0	P4	4D494B52
-------------	----	----------

User page 1	P5	00004F4E
-------------	----	----------

```
// "MIKRON"      = 0 N M I K R
// Key           = 4F 4E 4D 49 4B 52      - Secret 48-bit key
// Serial        = 49 43 57 69           - Serial number
// Random        = 65 6E 45 72           - Random IV
state = hitag2_init(rev64(0x524B494D4E4FUL), rev32(0x69574349),
                   rev32(0x72456E65));
```

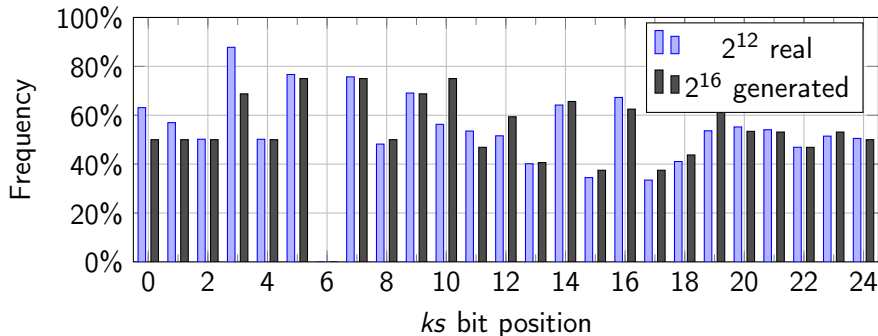
→ That was a blank remote

Progress so far

Assuming we have everything right:

$ks = ???(\text{Hitag2}(\text{key} = 0x4f4e4d494b52, \text{serial} = \text{UID}, \text{iv} = ???))$

Remember Hitag2 output is not random? → Generate random *ivs*



Confident that we are right:

$$ks = ???(\text{Hitag2}(\text{key} = 0x4f4e4d494b52, \text{serial} = UID, \text{iv} = ???))$$

Even better: no output mangling:

$$ks = \text{Hitag2}(\text{key} = 0x4f4e4d494b52, \text{serial} = UID, \text{iv} = ???)$$

→ All is left is the *iv*

Finding the IV

There is some function φ so that $iv = \varphi(key, UID, btn, ctr)$

Assume that $iv = \varphi(btn, ctr)$

Assume linear: $\varphi(btn, ctr) = \alpha \cdot btn + \beta \cdot ctr + \gamma$

Set $ctr = 0$ (4 of our 2^{12} rolling codes since ctr is 10 bits long)

$\Rightarrow \varphi(btn, 0) = \alpha \cdot btn + \gamma$

Bruteforce α and γ

We have hits for $btn = 2$, $\alpha = 1$, $\gamma \in \{0x4000, 0x8000, 0xc000, 0x10000\}$

\rightarrow Success \o/

Finding the IV

$$\varphi(btn, ctr) = btn + \beta \cdot ctr + \gamma, \gamma \in \{0x4000, 0x8000, 0xc000, 0x10000\}$$

Now use arbitrary ctr , bruteforcing β

Gives $\beta = 0x10$

Why $\gamma \in \{0x4000, 0x8000, 0xc000, 0x10000\}$?

→ ctr is in fact more than 10 bits!

$$\varphi(btn, ctr) = btn + 0x10 \cdot ctr$$

$$\varphi(btn, ctr) = ctr || btn$$

→ We know everything!

Hitag2 scheme

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \textit{start} || \textit{UID} || \textit{btn} || \overbrace{\textit{ctr} \& 0\textit{x}3\textit{ff}}^{10 \text{ bits}} || \textit{ks} || \textit{chk} \rangle \\ \textit{ks} &= \text{Hitag2}(\text{key} = \textit{key}_{\textit{UID}}, \text{serial} = \textit{UID}, \text{iv} = \textit{ctr} || \textit{btn})_{[0:31]} \\ \textit{chk} &= \text{xor}(\text{other bytes}) \end{aligned}$$

In our case: $\textit{key}_{\textit{UID}} = 0\text{x}4\text{f}4\text{e}4\text{d}494\text{b}52$ (default Hitag2 key)

But this is the shared secret key of that remote

→ Contrary to VW schemes, good key diversification

Hitag2 scheme: attacks

To clone the remote, we need the *UID*, *ctr* and the *key_{UID}*

Need 1 rolling code to get the *UID* and *ctr*

Cannot recover *key_{UID}* (48 bits) from less than 2 rolling codes (32 bits *ks*)

Attack in the paper:

- 4 to 8 rolling codes
- 10min on a laptop



How to get enough rolling codes

Wait enough time eavesdropping...

How to get rolling codes quicker?

$\langle start || UID || btn || ctr || ks || chk \rangle$

Send noise on *chk*, the car ignore that rolling code

→ Owner presses button again

→ Or not

Attacker wins in both cases!

Responsible disclosure:

- VW Group Dec 2015
- NXP Semiconductors Jan 2016

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Poor crypto is bad, poor key management is worse

Weak ciphers still used in new vehicles

Improvement in ciphers over time (VW-x)

This may explain several mysterious theft cases without signs of forced entry

Q&A