



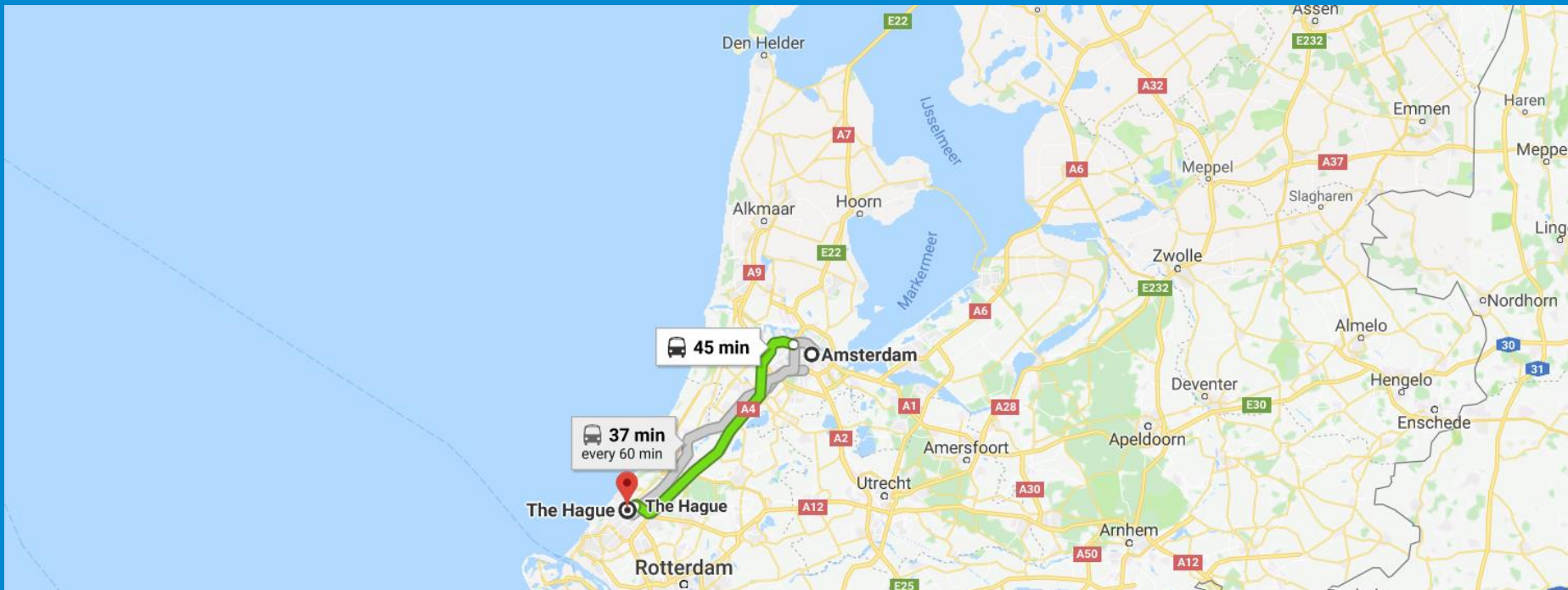
It WISN't me, attacking industrial wireless mesh networks

hardwear.io

Hardware Security Conference and Training

Introduction

- Erwin Paternotte
- Lead security consultant
- @stokedsecurity
- Mattijs van Ommeren
- Principal security consultant
- @alcyonsecurity



Industrial (r)evolution

A brief history of control systems:

- ~1940: Air: Pneumatic logic systems: 3 - 15 psi
- Mid 1950: Analog: Current loop: 4 - 20 mA
- Mid 1980: Digital: HART, Fieldbus, Profibus
- Late 2000: Wireless mesh networks
 - WirelessHART (09/2007)
 - ISA 100.11a (09/2009)



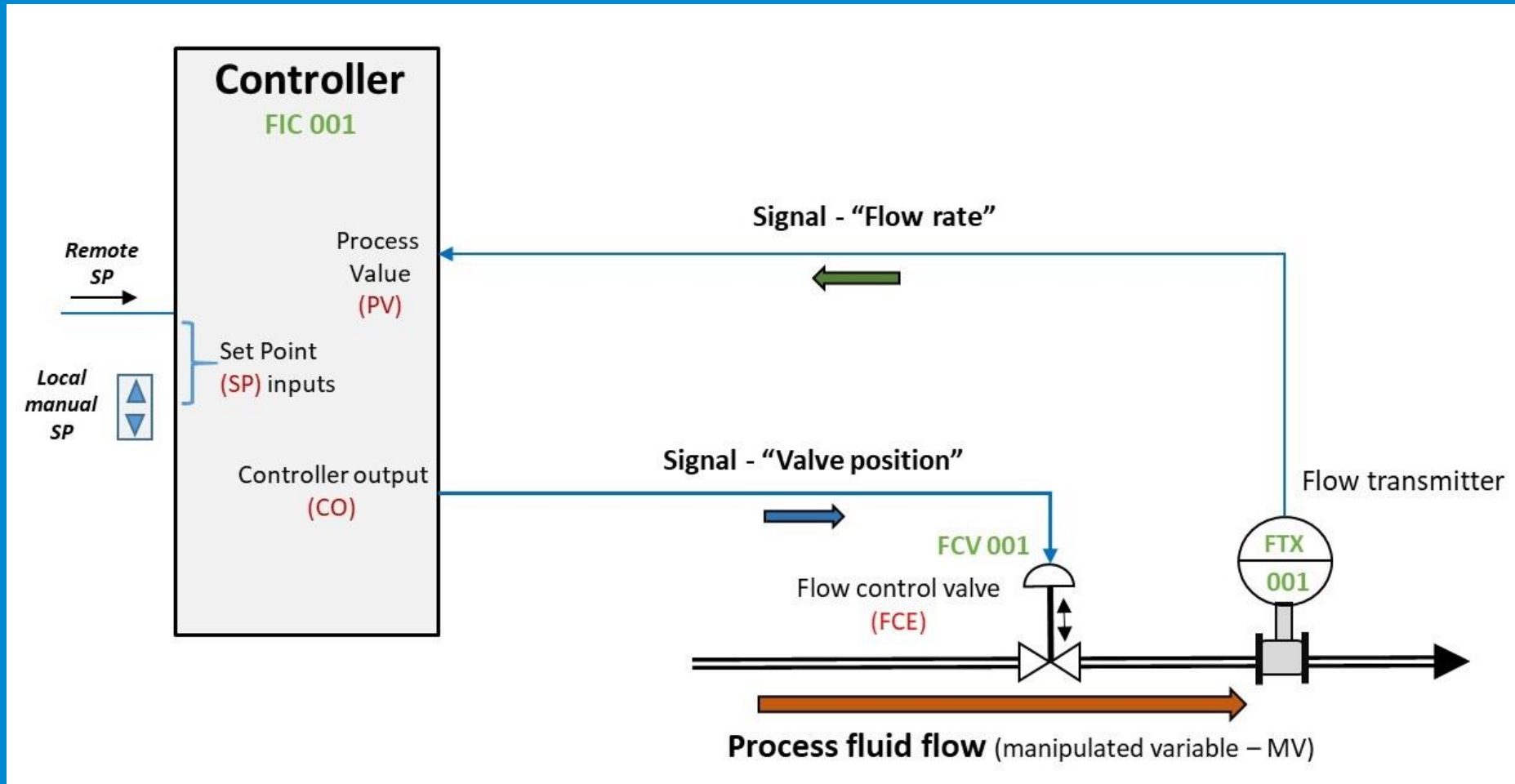
Previous research

- Security considerations for the WirelessHART protocol, Shahid Raza et al, 2009
 - <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/5347043/>
- WirelessHART A Security Analysis, Max Duijsens, Master (2015)
 - <https://pure.tue.nl/ws/files/47038470/800499-1.pdf>
- Attacking the plant through WirelessHART, Mattijs & Erwin, S4 Miami (2016)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlEpgutwZvc>
- Denial of service attacks on ICS wireless protocols, Blake Johnson, S4 Miami (2018)
 - <https://github.com/voteblake/DIWI/> (video no longer available)

Wright's principle: "Security does not improve until practical tools for exploration of the attack surface are made available."

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Industrial process control loop



Introduction to WirelessHART

- Supports HART application layer
- Single encryption cipher/key length (AES CCM*)
- Wireless technology based on Time Synced Mesh Protocol developed by Dust Networks (now part of Analog Devices)
- Radio SoC exclusively provided by Dust Networks



Introduction to ISA 100.11a

- Relies on several standards: 6LoWPAN (IPv6/UDP)
- Ability to tunnel other protocols
- Vendor neutral application layer
- Mainly developed by Nivis
- Generic 802.15.4 chips provided by multiple vendors: STM, NXP, Texas Instruments, OKI

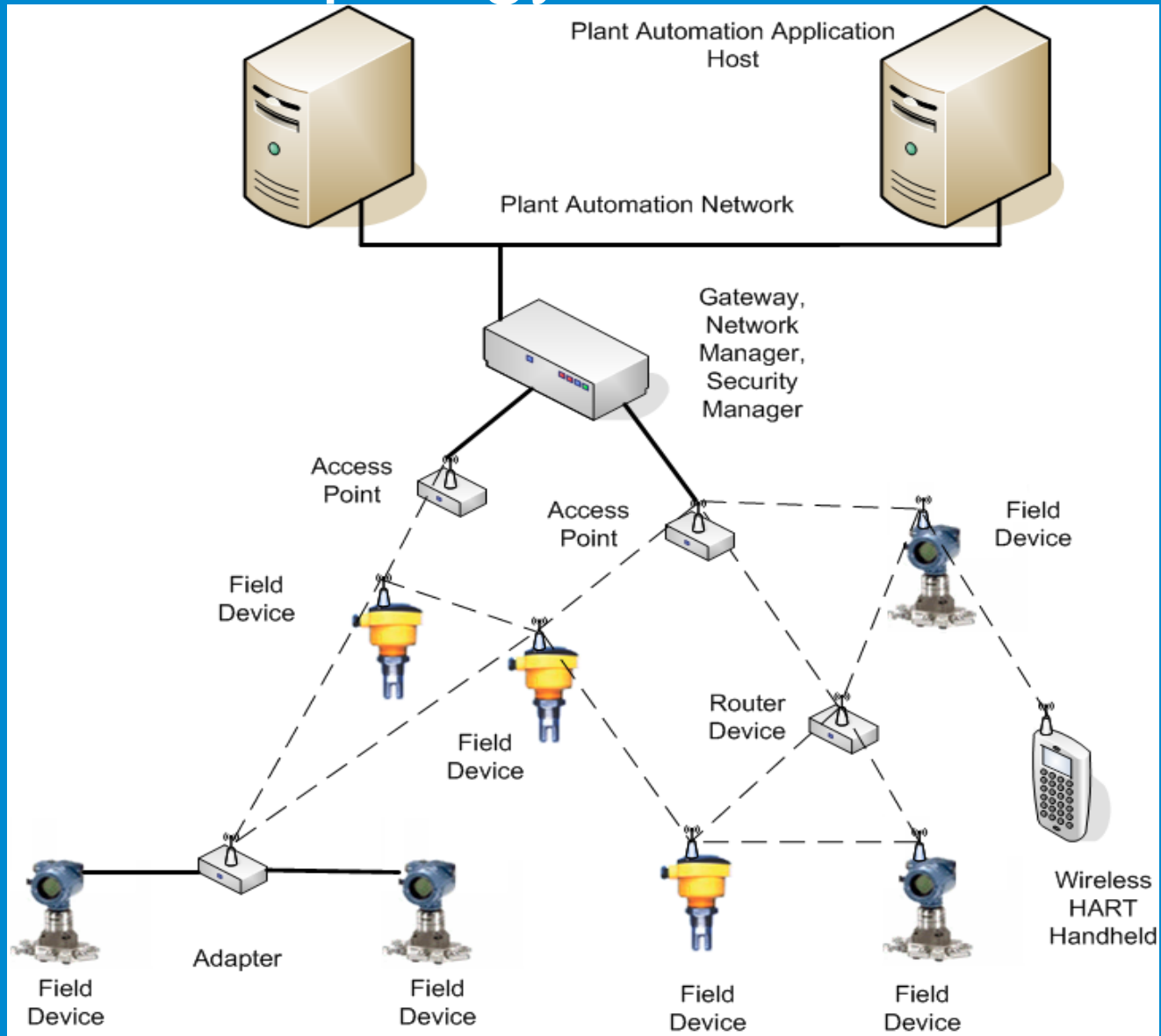


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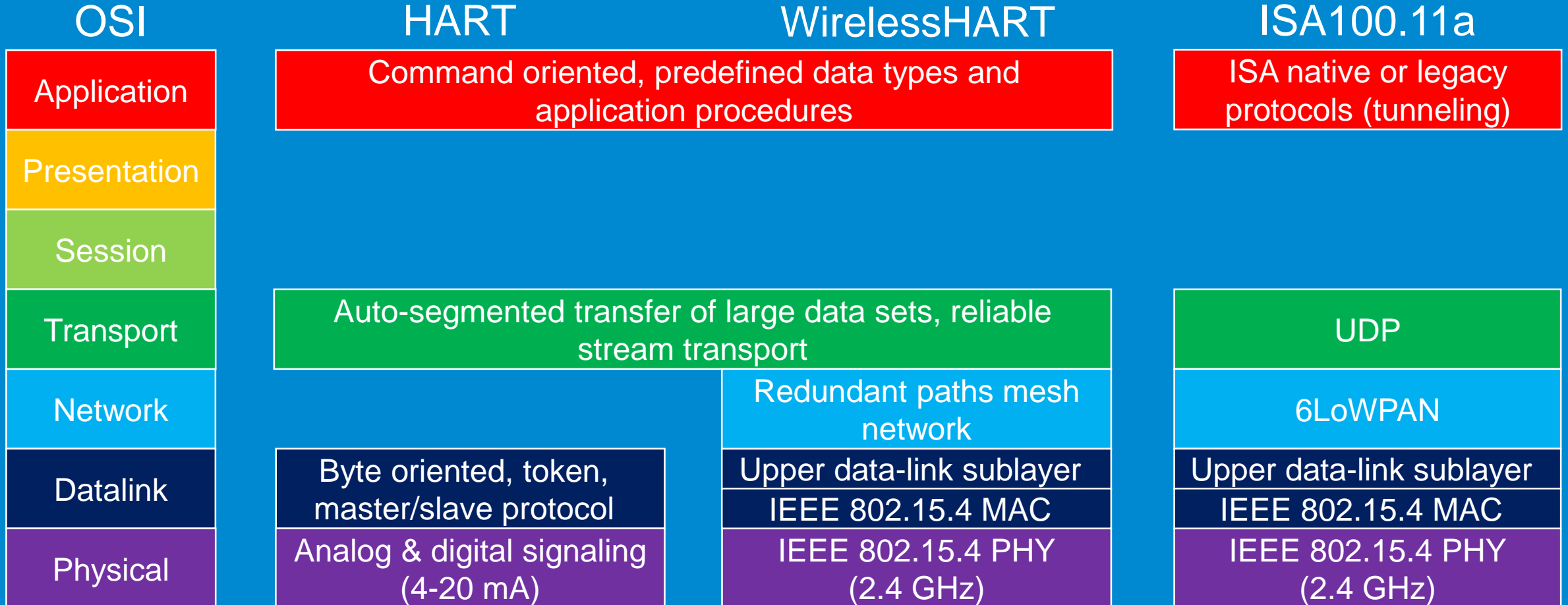


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WISN topology



Protocol stacks



Common denominators

- 802.15.4 MAC layer at 2.4 Ghz
- Time Slotted Channel Hopping in order to:
 - Minimize interference with other radio signals
 - Mitigate multipath fading
- Centralized network & security manager orchestrates communication between nodes
- Concluded that developing a common sniffer for both protocols should be possible

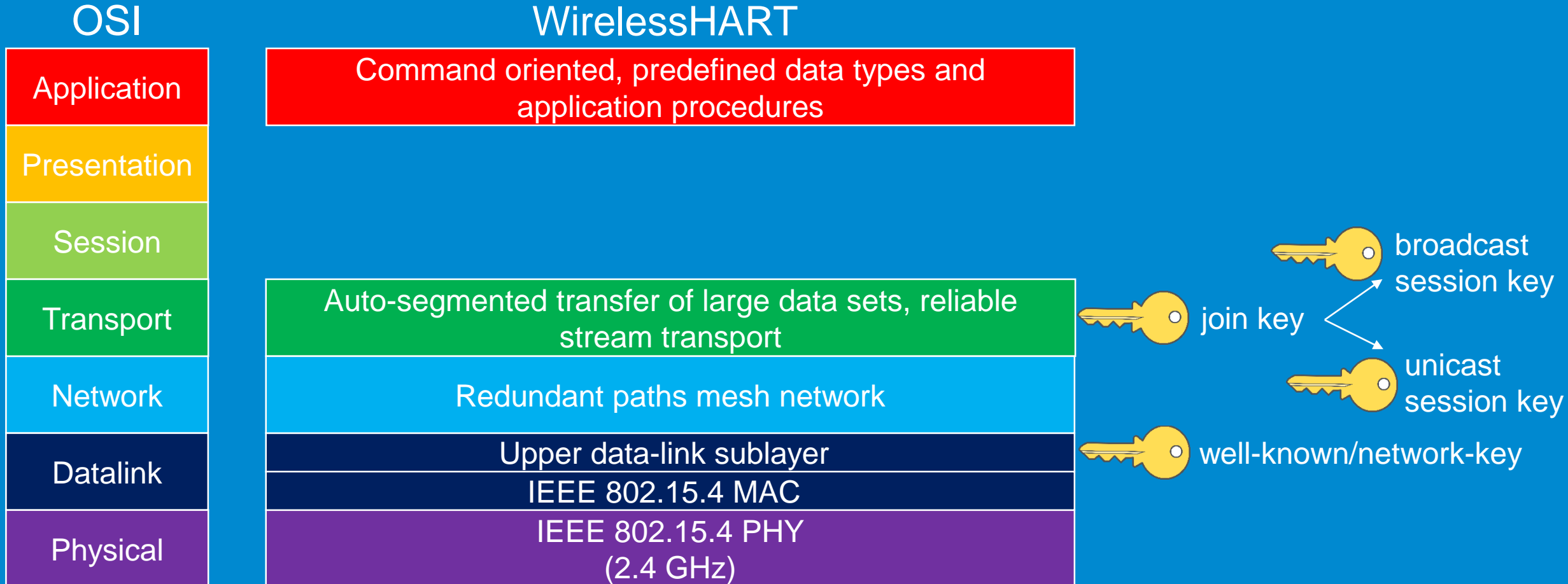
WirelessHART & ISA100.11a Security

- AES CCM* (CBC-MAC with counter mode)
 - Datalink Layer (integrity only)
 - Transport Layer (encryption)
- Join process
 - Handshake with Network Manager
 - Shared secrets
 - Certificates (ISA100.11.a only)

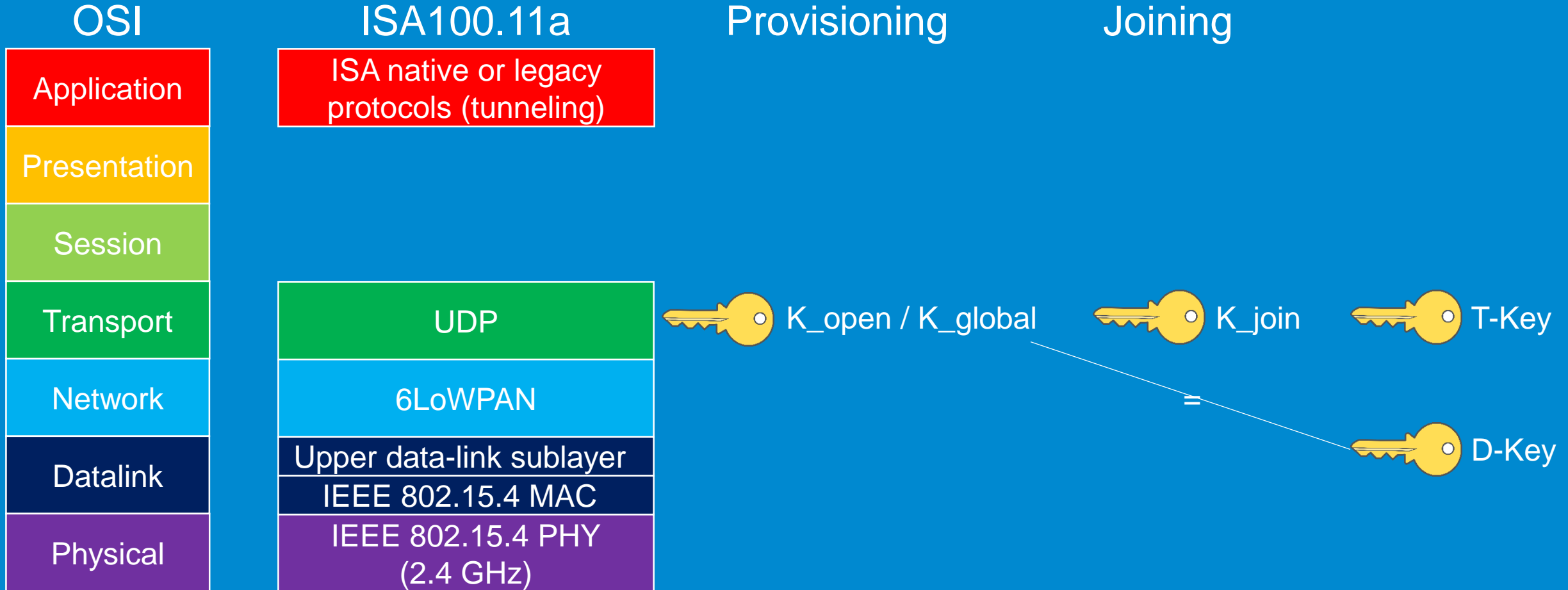
Keys galore

- ISA100.11a
 - **Global Key** – well-known
 - **K_open** – well-known
 - **K_global** – well-known
 - **Master Key** – derived during provisioning, used as KEK
 - **K_join** – Join process
 - **D-Key** – Hop-by-hop integrity
 - **T-KEY** – End-to-end encryption
- WirelessHART
 - **Well-known Key** – Advertisements
 - **Network Key** – Hop-by-hop integrity
 - **Join Key** – Join process
 - **Broadcast Session Key** – End-to-end
 - **Unicast Session Key** – End-to-end

WirelessHART encryption keys



ISA100.11a encryption keys



How to obtain key material

- Default keys
 - Documented, more or less
- Sniffing
 - During OTA provisioning (ISA100.11a)
- Keys stored in device NVRAM
 - Recoverable through JTAG/SPI (as demonstrated by our previous research)

WirelessHART default join keys

- **445553544E4554574F524B53524F434B** – Multiple vendors
 - DUSTNETWORKSROCK
- **E090D6E2DADACE94C7E9C8D1E781D5ED** – Pepperl+Fuchs
- **24924760000000000000000000000000** – Emerson
- **456E6472657373202B20486175736572** – Endress+Hauser
 - Endress + Hauser

Sniffer hardware selection

- BeamLogic 802.15.4 Site Analyzer
 - 16 channels simultaneously, no injection support, Basic Wireshark dissector, Expensive (~ \$1300)
- NXP BeeKit
 - Single channel 802.15.4 with standard firmware (not open source), reached EOL
- Atmel RZ Raven
 - Single channel 802.15.4 with standard firmware, no free IDE (Atmel Studio n/a), reached EOL









NXP USB-KW41Z

- Single channel 802.15.4 with standard firmware (not open source)
- Actively supported
- Free IDE available
- Powerful microcontroller (Cortex M0+)
- PCB ready for external antenna (Wardriving!)
- Easy firmware flashing via USB mass storage (OpenSDA)
- Documentation and examples, but with a few important omissions






Demo 1: Kinetix Protocol Analyzer Adapter (sniffer)

 Protocol Analyzer Adapter

Virtual PCAP IF: Local Area Connection 3 ▾ |    |  

802.15.4 2.4GHz channels: 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

BLE channels: 37 38 39 All ☐ Address Filter: Hopping Interval:    Security

Sniffer Devices:



Recycle Bin



PACTware 4.1



Documents
on erwin'...



Kinetis
Protoc...



Windows
Mobile Devi...



FlashBack
Express ...



FlashBack
Express ...

Protocol Analyzer Adapter Virtual PCAP IF: Local Area Connection 3

802.15.4 2.4GHz channels: 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

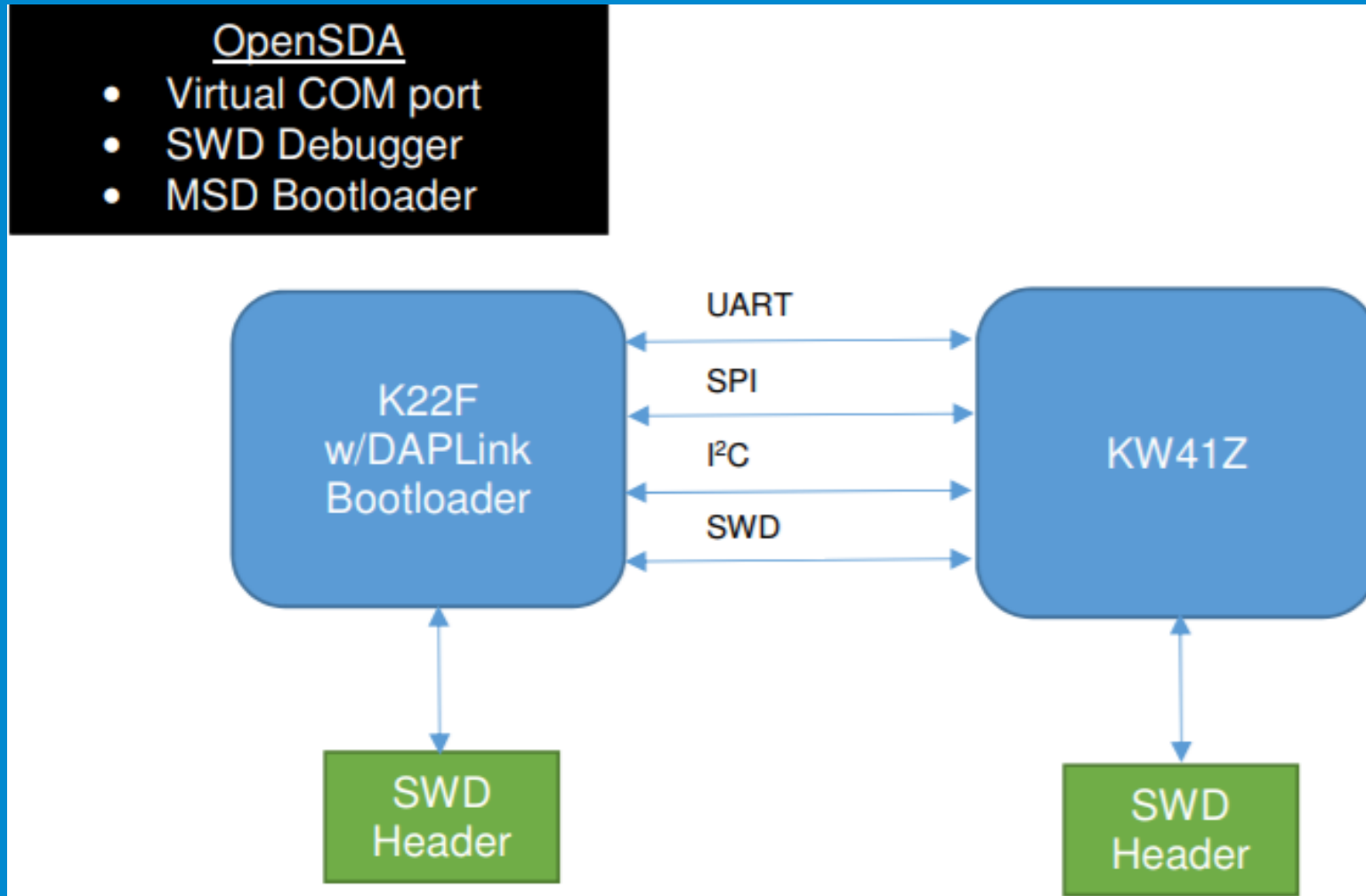
BLE channels: 37 38 39 All ☐ Address Filter: 0x001122334455 Hopping Interval: 100

Sniffer Devices: Detecting Sniffers.

USB-KW41Z <-> host communication

- Hardware is detected as virtual COM/UART port (Windows/Linux)
- Freescale Serial Communication Interface (FSCI) developed by NXP for communication between host and device firmware.
- Host SDK for FSCI is available (with Python bindings)
- FSCI protocol is fairly well documented
- Allowed us to communicate directly with the USB-KW41Z without requiring the SDK to be installed

USB-KW41Z block diagram



Building the toolset

- Extended the KillerBee framework with a driver for the USB-KW41Z
 - Allows us to comfortably capture 802.15.4 traffic into PCAP format
- Developed Scapy protocol support
 - Allows us to forge and inject packets
- Developed Wireshark dissectors for WirelessHART and ISA100.11a
 - Bringing WISN packet viewing to the masses
 - Live capture and dissecting of WISN traffic on a single channel at the time



Demo 2: Sniffing traffic with KillerBee and Wireshark

```
Resetting CPU...
Command:
0000: 02 a3 08 00 ab .....

Command:
0000: 02 85 09 12 52 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ....R.....
0010: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 cd .....

Response: Packet | group: 84, opcode: 0d, crc: d8 ok:True
0000: 00 52 00 .R.

Set channel: 19
Channel set to: 19
Command:
0000: 02 85 09 12 21 00 13 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ....!.....
0010: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ac .....

Response: Packet | group: 84, opcode: 0d, crc: ab ok:True
0000: 00 21 00 .!.

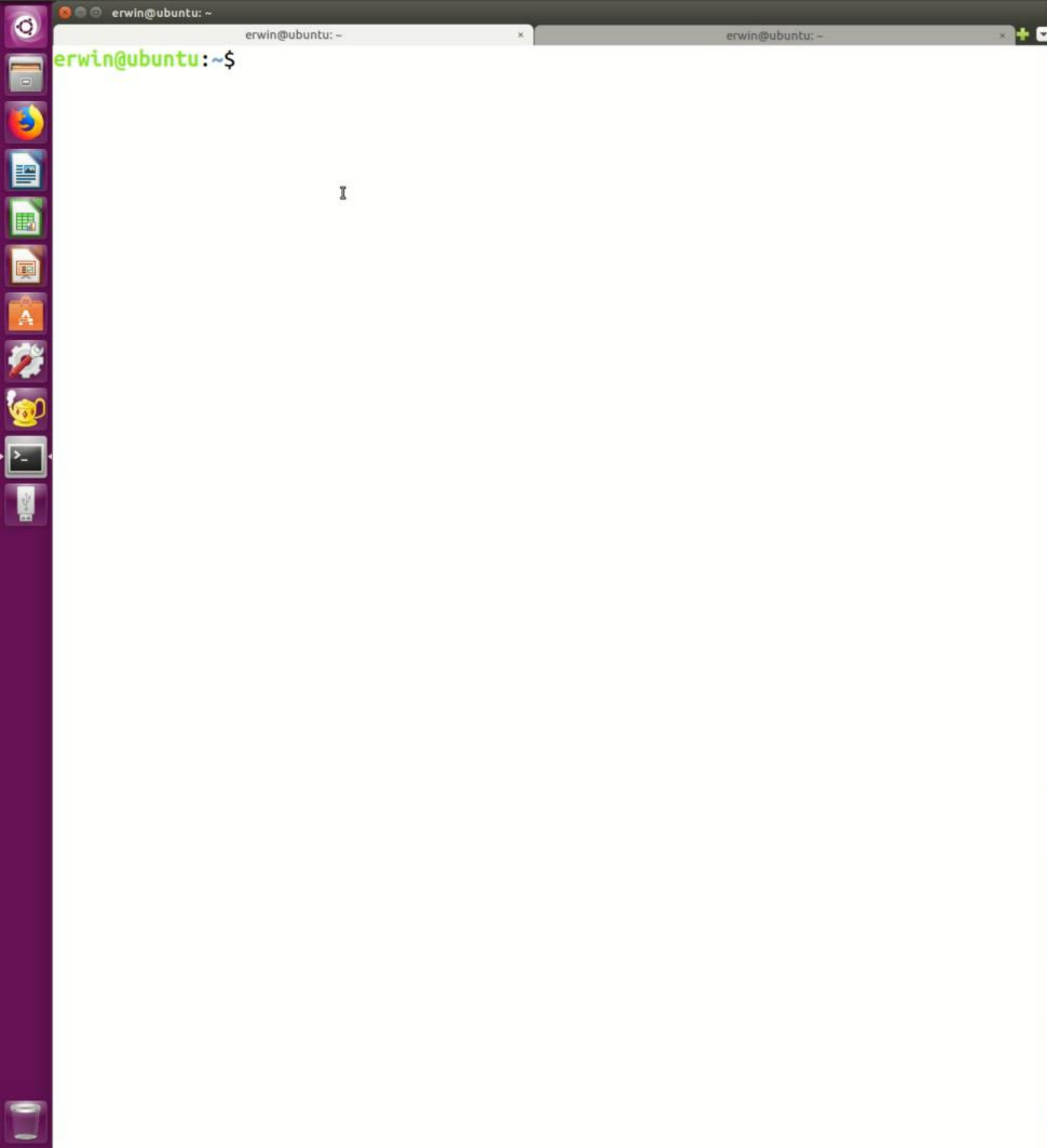
Command:
0000: 02 85 09 12 51 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ....Q.....
0010: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ce .....

Response: Packet | group: 84, opcode: 0d, crc: db ok:True
0000: 00 51 00 .Q.

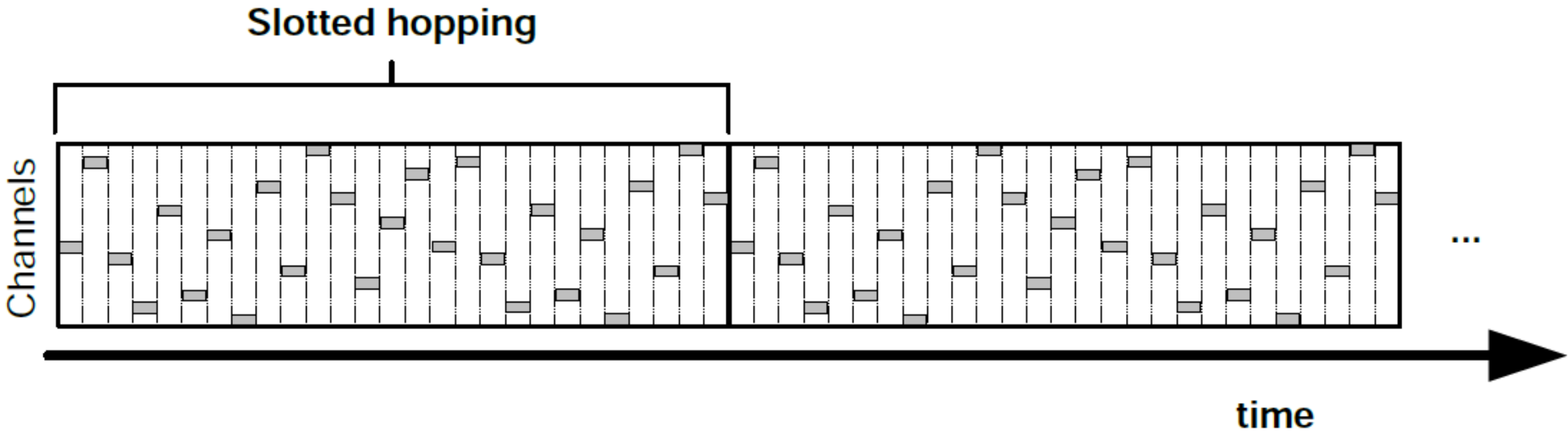
Command:
0000: 02 ba 01 00 bb .....

Response: Packet | group: a4, opcode: fe, crc: ac ok:True
0000: f7 .

zbireshark: listening on '/dev/ttyACM0'
```



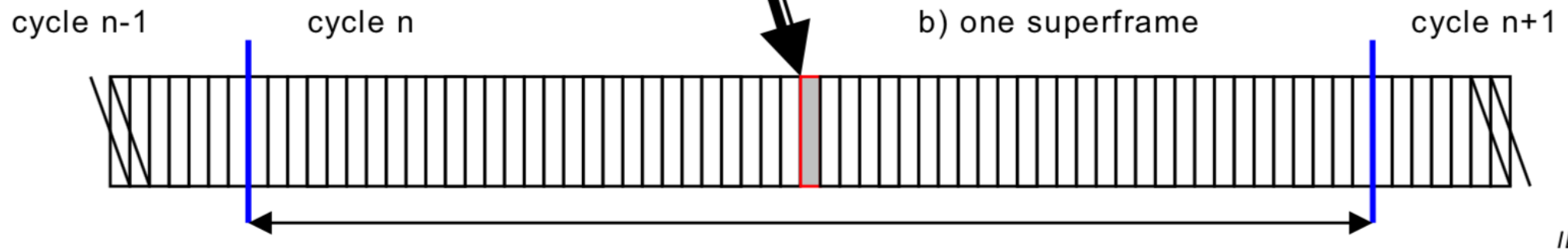
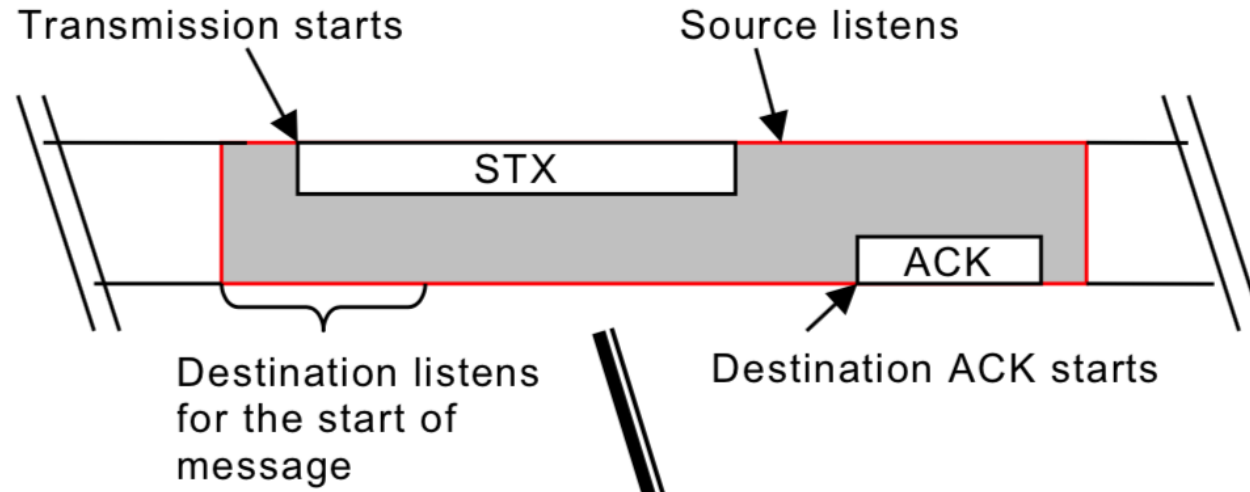
Time Slotted Channel Hopping



Superframe

- Sequence of repeating channel hopping patterns
- Period usually between 512-4096 time slots
- Time reference
 - WirelessHART: sequence number=0 (start of network manager)
 - ISA100: TAI=0 (Jan 1st 1958, 00:00:00)
- Timeslot within a superframe denotes a communication link, assigned by the Network Manager

a) one time slot



Implementing Time Slotted Channel Hopping

- Both protocols require high speed channel hopping via predefined, but different patterns.
- FSCI communication too slow to tune into time slots (10ms)
 - **Solution: implement channel hopping in firmware**
- Two layers of encryption/authentication
 - **Solution: Implement in host software (Killerbee)**
- Ability to inject traffic
 - FSCI supports injection of arbitrary frames
 - **Solution: Implement frame injection in Killerbee, add protocol support to Scapy for crafting packets**

Firmware

Bare metal task scheduler

- Task consisting of single (endless) loop
- Blocking function waiting for events
- Once a task is running, it has full control
- Cannot run longer than ~2 ms to prevent starvation of other tasks

```
void MyTask (uint32_t param) {  
    osaEventFlags_t ev;  
  
    while(1) {  
        OSA_EventWait(mAppEvent,  
            osaEventFlagsAll_c, FALSE,  
            osaWaitForever_c, &ev);  
        if( ev && gSomeEvent) {  
            /* do stuff */  
            break;  
        }  
        break;  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

Bare Metal vs. RTOS

- Most RTOS use pre-emptive task scheduling
 - Nice for hard real-time requirements but:
 - Relatively large overhead
 - Context switches
 - Deal with synchronization issues
- Simple but:
 - Dependent on other tasks behaving nicely
 - Can avoid most synchronization issues
 - Faster execution

Firmware

Tasks/components

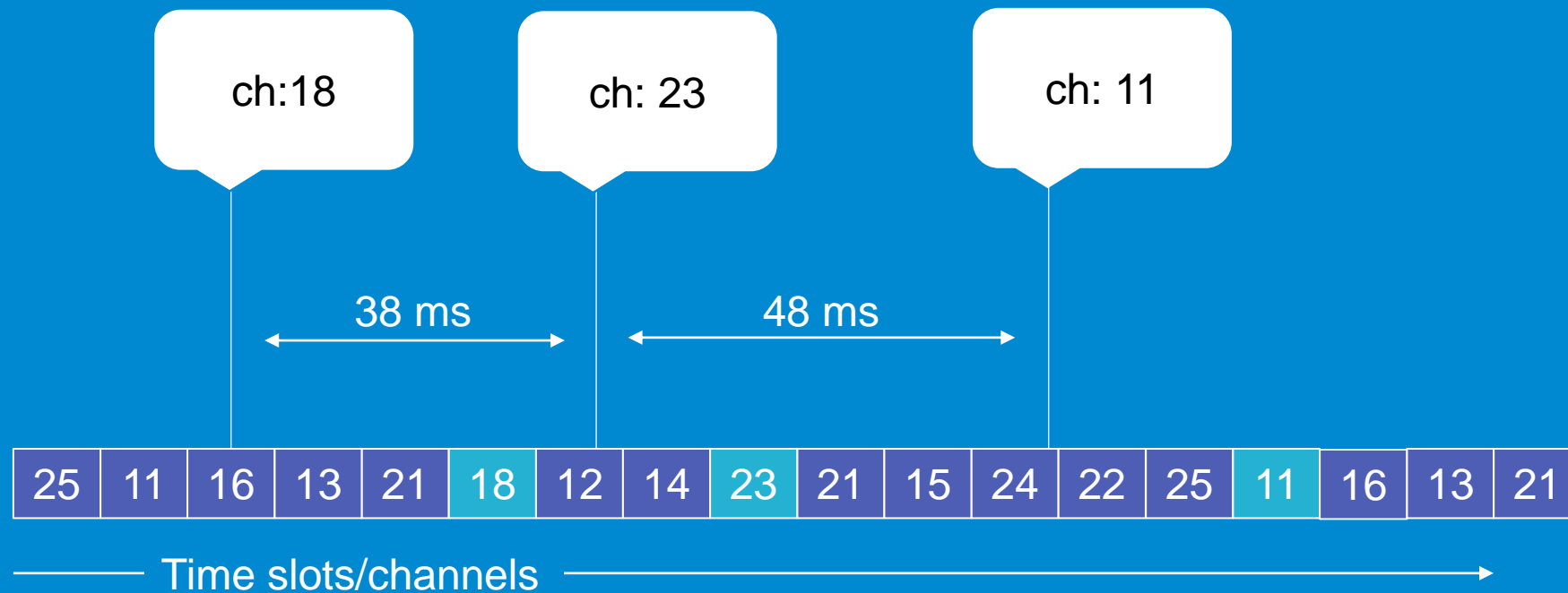
- Framework
 - Memory Manager
 - MAC/PHY
 - Serial Manager
 - Timers
 - LED driver
 - FSCI
- Application
 - 802.15.4 MAC extension layer
 - Source/destination/PAN info
 - ISA100/WirelessHART
 - Extract link information
 - Timeslots, channels
 - Timeslot synchronization
 - Channel hopping

How to synchronize?

- Both protocols support advertisement packets
- Broadcast by network manager
- Contains information about free join slots
- Timing information to synchronize on
- Hopping patterns are documented in protocol specifications

Channel hopping

Scheduling

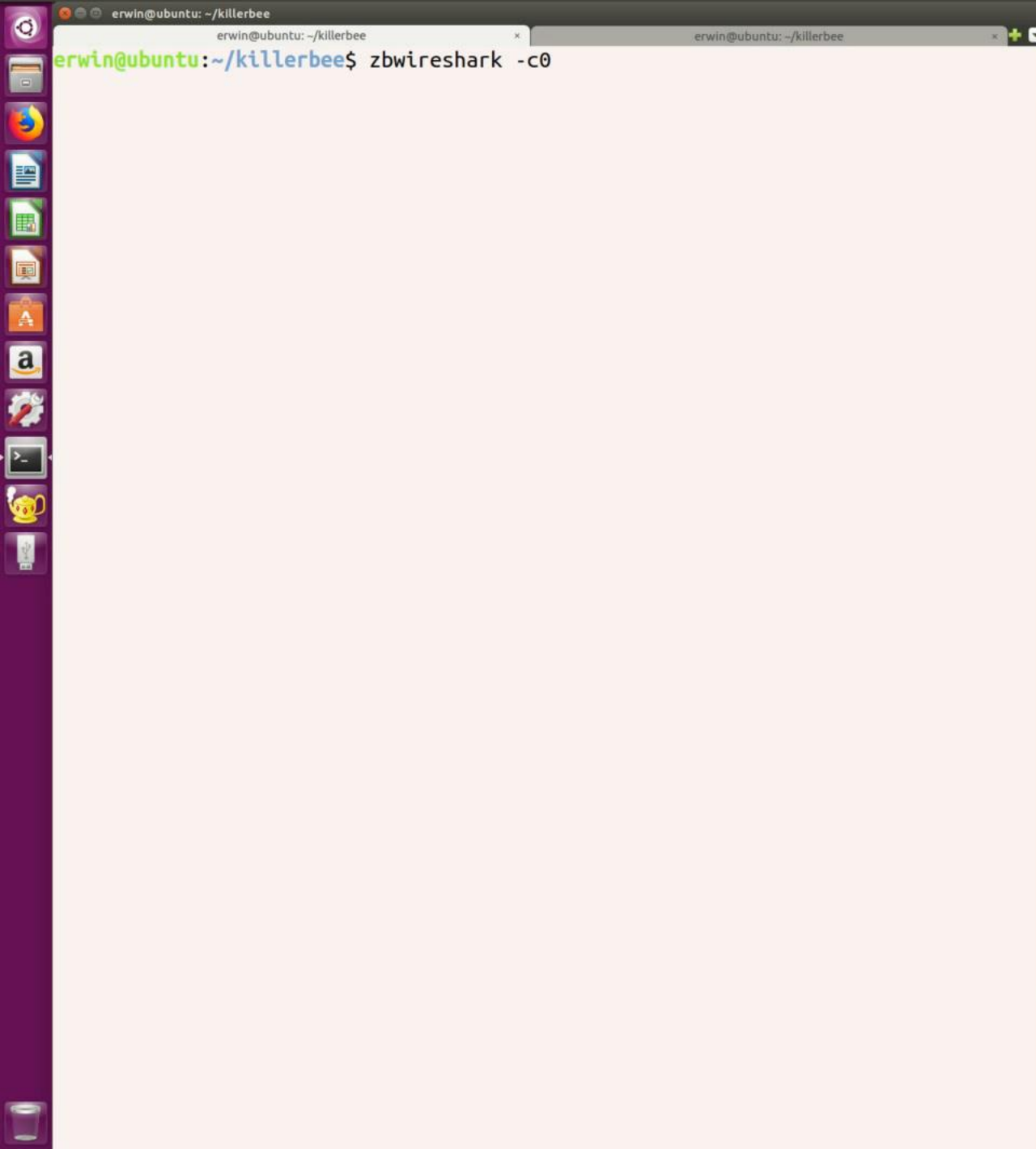


Demo 3: Sniffing with channel hopping

```
Debug: ***** WirelessHART - asn:626928 ch:12
Packet 15 | ch:0 rssi:111 time: 1388081 len: 62 crc:True
0000: 41 88 30 90 06 ff ff 01 00 31 00 00 09 91 30 11 A.0.....1....0.
0010: 0f ff 7f 00 00 03 01 01 00 01 00 aa 02 00 04 00 .....
0020: 01 01 e9 45 04 00 80 06 00 12 4d 00 15 4d 00 3c ...E.....M..M.<
0030: 4d 00 42 4d 00 61 4d 00 62 4d 78 35 2a d9 1b c0 M.BM.aM.bMx5*...

Debug: ***** WirelessHART - asn:626992 ch:16
Packet 16 | ch:0 rssi:121 time: 1508080 len: 62 crc:True
0000: 41 88 f0 90 06 ff ff 01 00 31 00 00 09 91 f0 11 A.....1.....
0010: 0f ff 7f 00 00 03 01 01 00 01 00 aa 02 00 04 00 .....
0020: 01 01 e9 45 04 00 80 06 00 12 4d 00 15 4d 00 3c ...E.....M..M.<
0030: 4d 00 42 4d 00 61 4d 00 62 4d 6a 97 dd a5 07 47 M.BM.aM.bMj....G

Debug: ***** WirelessHART - asn:627184 ch:13
Packet 17 | ch:0 rssi:106 time: 1548079 len: 62 crc:True
0000: 41 88 30 90 06 ff ff 01 00 31 00 00 09 92 30 11 A.0.....1....0.
0010: 0f ff 7f 00 00 03 01 01 00 01 00 aa 02 00 04 00 .....
0020: 01 01 e9 45 04 00 80 06 00 12 4d 00 15 4d 00 3c ...E.....M..M.<
0030: 4d 00 42 4d 00 61 4d 00 62 4d 77 ee 52 79 e4 22 M.BM.aM.bMw.Ry."
```

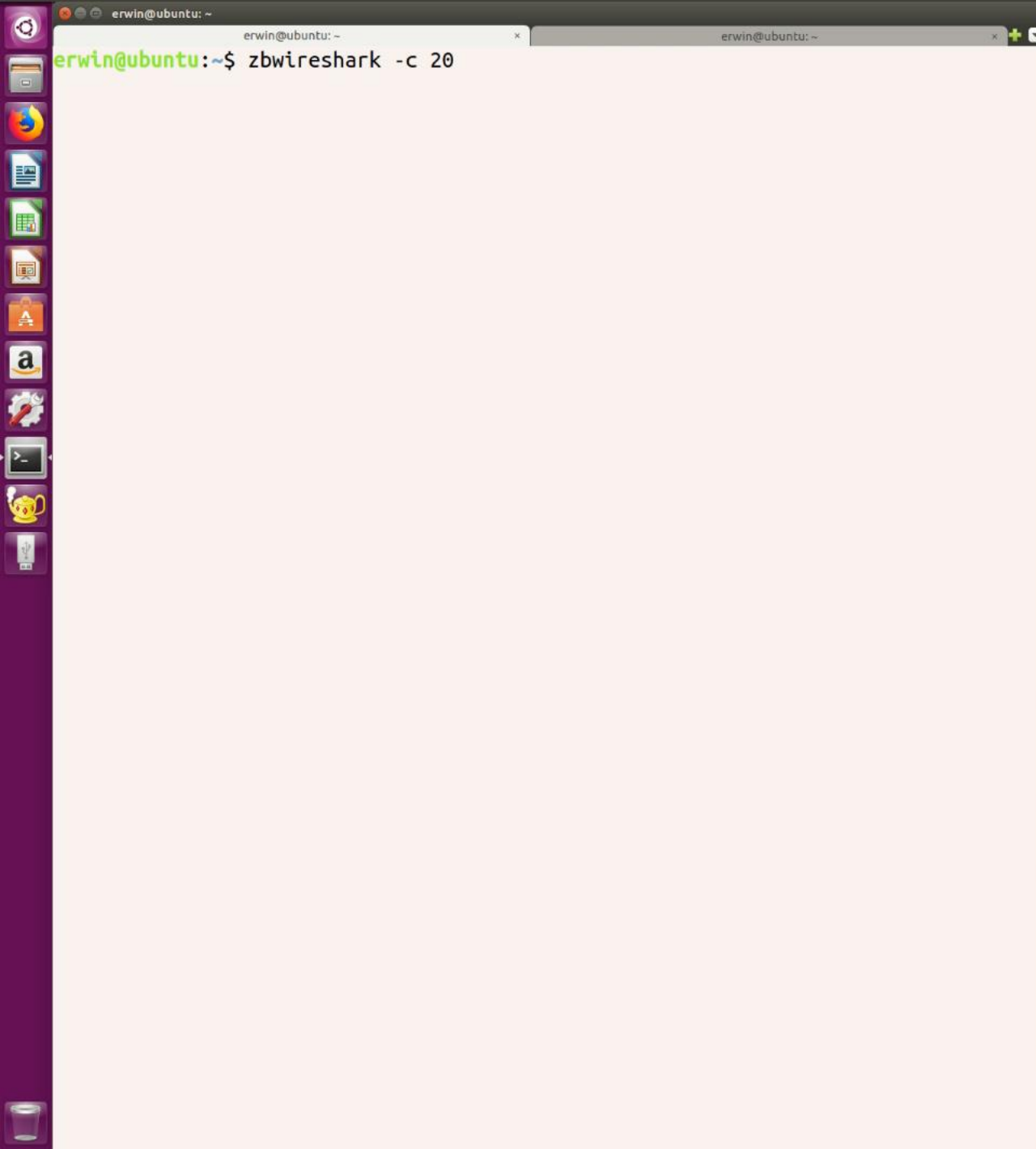


Unauthenticated attacks

- Signal jamming through continuous power emission
- Concurrent packet transmission
 - Join slot jamming
 - Selective jamming transmitter communication
 - Transmitting fake advertisements

Demo 4: Advertisement jamming

```
mvo@mvo-virtual-machine: ~  
mvo@mvo-virtual-machine:~$ whjammer -c 20  
Resetting CPU...  
Tuning to channel 20  
Start jamming channel 20  
Enabling jammer  
FSCIPacket | ch: 0 group: bb, opcode: 02, crc: b9 ok:True  
  
Packet 1 | ch:0 rssi:108 time: 385612 len: 62 crc:True  
0000:  41 88 90 90 06 ff ff 01 00 31 00 00 28 d9 90 11  
0010:  0f ff 7f 00 00 03 01 01 00 01 00 cc 08 00 04 00  
0020:  01 03 da 48 04 00 80 06 00 03 4d 00 05 4d 00 0e  
0030:  4d 00 25 4d 00 27 4d 00 51 4d 7d e4 76 71 67 ff  
  
Debug: Tracking network PAN ID: 1680
```



Authenticated attacks

- Nonce exhaustion
 - Both protocols use a semi-predictable nonce counter to feed the AES CCM* algorithm
 - A device will reject a packet if a nonce value is lower than a previously received one
 - Spoofing a packet with a maximum nonce value, causes legitimate packets to drop
- Sending spoofed measurements to influence the process

Conclusions

- Still a large unexplored attack surfaces due to complexity of the protocols
- The released tools and research will fill this gap and enable security researchers to move forward in the field of WISN research
- Using WISN technology for process control and especially functional safety applications is probably not a good idea, and should be reconsidered

Future research

- Expand tool with more theorized attacks
- Research forced rejoin triggers
- Mapping WISN locations (wardriving)
- Implementation specific vulnerabilities (transmitters, gateways)

Questions & thank you

- Our code is soon available at: <https://github.com/nixu-corp>
- Thanks to the following people for their help:
 - Alexander Bolshev (@dark_k3y)
 - Sake Blok (@SYNbit)