

# DIY Hardware implant over I2C

Part of the NSA Playset

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DEF CON 2S

August 10, 2014

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
  - NSA Playset DEF CON Series
- 2 Deconstruction
  - I<sup>2</sup>C Attack Surfaces
- 3 Reconstruction
  - I<sup>2</sup>C Module
  - Controller Device
  - GSM Module
- 4 Improvements and Future Work
  - CHUCKWAGON Improvements
  - GSM Exfil Alternative: Audio
- 5 Wrapup
- 6 Demo

# NSA Playset Series



## What is the NSA Playset?

*We hope the NSA Playset will make cutting edge security tools more accessible, easier to understand, and harder to forget.*

### NSA Playset Talks

RF Retroreflector	Penn & Teller	Friday	12:00
<b>DIY Hardware Implant</b>	<b>Track 1</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11:00</b>
GSM Sniffing	Track 1	Sunday	12:00
PCIe	Track 2	Sunday	14:00

# Inspired by the NSA

The NSA apparently has a hardware hacking catalog.<sup>1</sup>

Flip... Flip... Flip...

*Oh look honey, there's an I<sup>2</sup>C controller board we can get. It attaches to a computer and it's modular, so you can add a GSM cell phone for exfil.*

That's nice dear.

*I wonder how that works...*

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<sup>1</sup>like SkyMall for spies and without the Bigfoot.



# Requirements for the implant

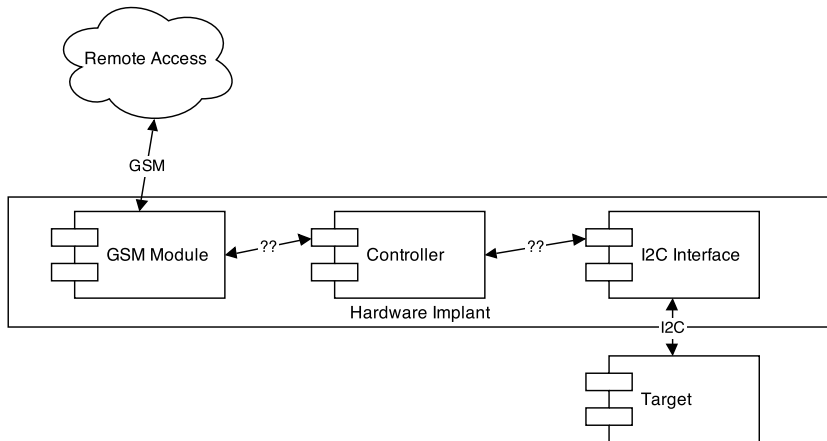
From the docs:

- Must attach over I<sup>2</sup>C to the target.
- Must include GSM reachback to the implant.

Our requirements:

- Easy to use.
- Open Source Hardware.
- Flexible: Allow for multiple communication and software protocols.
- Fun. Single chip solutions aren't as fun.

# Implant Control Diagram



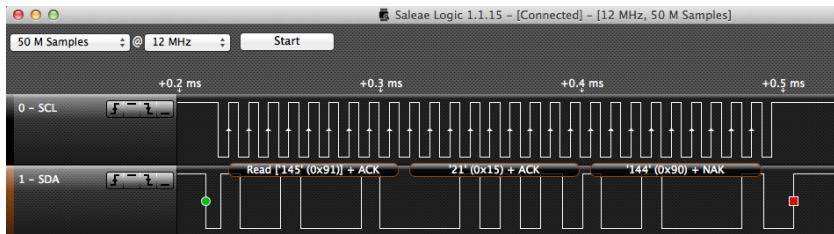
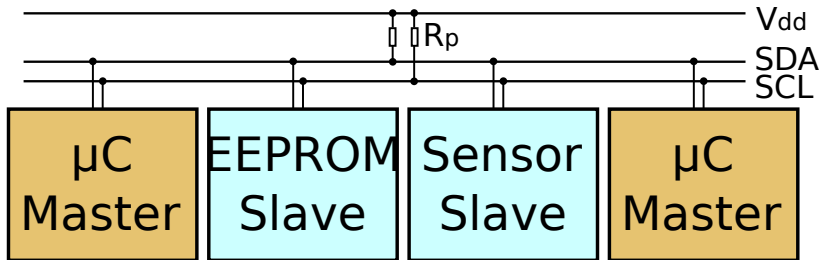
# Background: What is I<sup>2</sup>C

- Serial bus.
- Two-wires: (plus power and ground).<sup>2</sup>
  - ▶ Data: SDA
  - ▶ Clock: SCL
- Multi-master.
- Multi-slave.
- Addressable.
- Standard speed is 100kHz (100kbps). High Speed: 3.2Mbps theoretical max.

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<sup>2</sup>Typically 5 or 3.3V

# Background: I<sup>2</sup>C in visual form



# I<sup>2</sup>C attack surfaces

- RAM EEPROMs
- PCI and PCIe
- Battery controllers
- Video ...



# Video I<sup>2</sup>C

Why is there I<sup>2</sup>C on your monitor adapter?

How does your computer “automatically detect” monitor resolution?



**EDID**

| Extended Display Identification Data



**DDC**

| Data Display Channel, a.k.a. 5V I<sup>2</sup>C

# EDID

```
➔ ~ sudo get-edid
This is read-edid version 3.0.1. Prepare for some fun.
Attempting to use i2c interface
No EDID on bus 0
No EDID on bus 2
No EDID on bus 3
No EDID on bus 4
No EDID on bus 5
1 potential busses found: 1
128-byte EDID successfully retrieved from i2c bus 1
?????"??&h"???SE?$PT?☒0*?Q*@0pT?2MS
    ?HP L1710
    ?CNC822NZ8B
Looks like i2c was successful. Have a good day.
a
```

```
$ edid-decode
```

```
➔ card0-VGA-1 pwd
/sys/class/drm/card0-VGA-1
➔ card0-VGA-1 cat edid | edid-decode
Extracted contents:
header:      00 ff ff ff ff ff ff 00
serial number: 22 f0 eb 26 01 01 01 01 16 12
version:     01 03
basic params: 68 22 1b 8c ee
chroma info:  af c0 a7 53 45 9d 24 17 50 54
established:  ad ef 80
standard:    81 80 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01
descriptor 1: 30 2a 00 98 51 00 2a 40 30 70 13 00 54 0e 11 00 00 1e
descriptor 2:  00 00 00 fd 00 32 4d 18 53 0e 00 0a 20 20 20 20 20
descriptor 3:  00 00 00 fc 00 48 50 20 4c 31 37 31 30 0a 20 20 20
descriptor 4:  00 00 00 ff 00 43 4e 43 38 32 32 4e 5a 38 42 0a 20
extensions:   00
checksum:     61
```

```
ioreg -lw0 -r -c "IODisplayConnect"
```



# EDID Extension Blocks

Tag Number	Extension Block Description
00h	Timing Extension
02h	CEA-EXT: CEA 861 Series Extension
10h	VTB-EXT: Video Timing Block Extension
20h	EDID 2.0 Extension
40h	DI-EXT: Display Information Extension
<b>50h</b>	<b>LS-EXT: Localized String Extension</b>
60h	DPVL-EXT: Digital Packet Video Link Extension
A7h, AFh, BFh	DTCDB-EXT: Display Transfer Characteristics
F0h	EXTENSION Block Map
<b>FFh</b>	<b>EXTENSIONS defined by the OEM</b>

Parsing implemented by the OS-supplied VESA driver or GPU driver manufacturer.

# Exploiting EDID/EDID Extension parsing

Hacking Displays Made Interesting

Blackhat EU 2012

Andy Davis - NGS Secure

<https://github.com/nccgroup/EDIDFuzzer>

Simple adaptation for BeagleBone

Implemented in Python (BBIO)

<https://github.com/theopolis/bone-edidfuzzer>

Discover proprietary EDID extensions! Moar fuzzing!

Or assume a-priori software control...

# I<sup>2</sup>C everywhere IC<sup>3</sup>

A video card may have multiple I<sup>2</sup>C buses and devices. NVIDIA cards may have I<sup>2</sup>C for the following:

- EEPROM for encrypted HDCP keys
- Onboard voltage regulator
- Thermal sensor
- TV decoder chip (older cards)

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<sup>3</sup>C'mon, it's punny

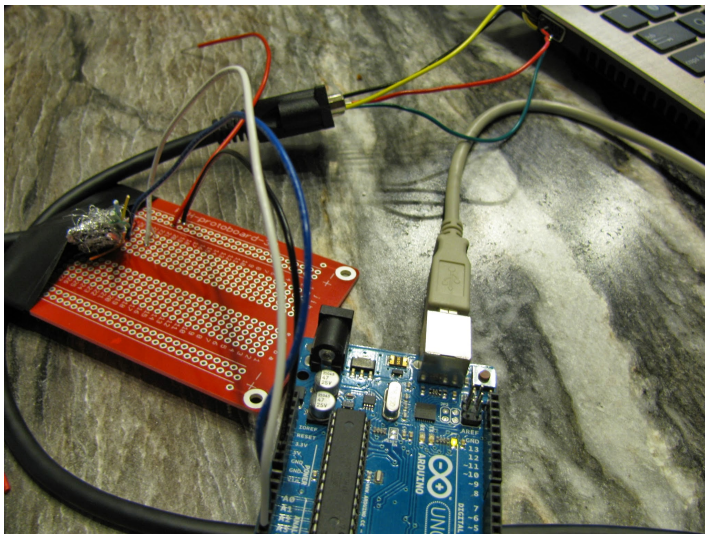
# Exploring VGA I<sup>2</sup>C

Let's start exploring our attack surface.

Pin	Name	Description
1	RED	Red Video
2	GREEN	Green Video
3	BLUE	Blue Video
⋮	⋮	⋮
5	<b>GND</b>	<b>Ground</b>
9	<b>KEY</b>	<b>Optional +5V output from graphics card</b>
12	<b>SDA</b>	<b>I2C data</b>
15	<b>SCL</b>	<b>I2C data clock</b>

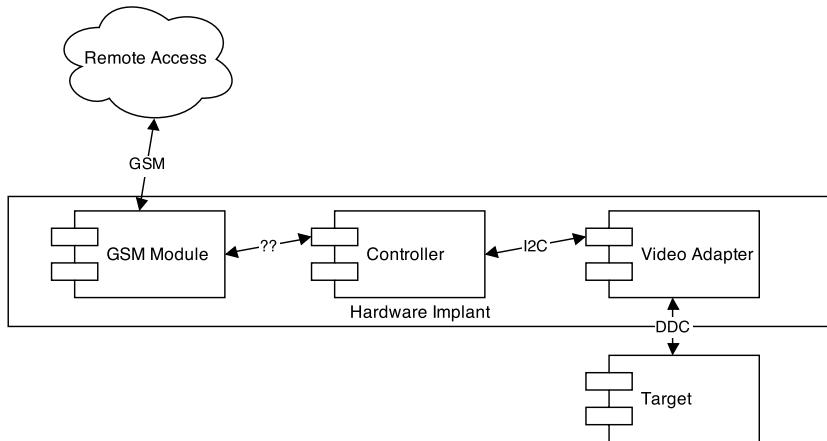
VGA Pinout

# I want my I<sup>2</sup>C <sup>4</sup>



<sup>4</sup>Dire Straights fans, anyone?

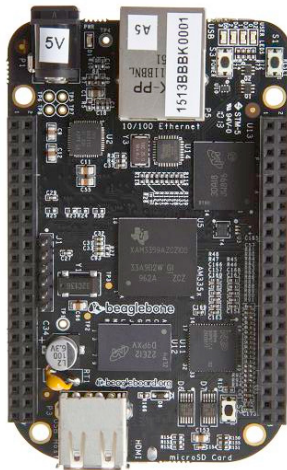
# Filling in the details



# Controller Selection

BeagleBone Black is the embedded hacker's friend:

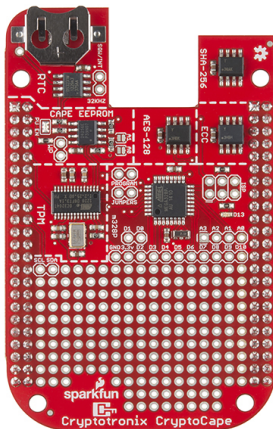
- 1GHz AM3358 ARM<sup>®</sup> Cortex-A8
- 512MB DDR3 RAM
- Two independent Programmable Real-Time Units (32bit)
- Crypto accelerators for AES, SHA, MD5
- UARTs, PWM, LCD, GPMC, SPI, ADC, CAN, Timers
- **Two I<sup>2</sup>C buses**



# CryptoCape

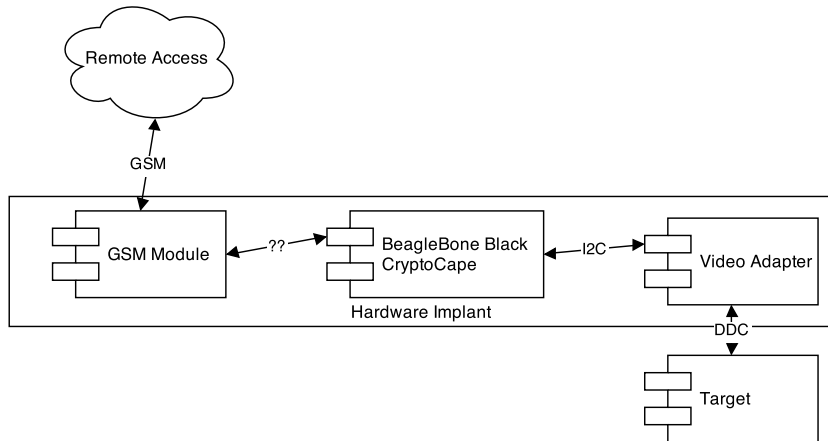
The BBB ecosystem enables easy hardware expansion with Capes.  
Let's add some hardware crypto and a micro:

- Authenticators: ECC & MAC (SHA256)
- Encrypted EEPROM (AES-128-CCM)
- Battery backed up Real-time clock
- **Trusted Platform Module**
- **ATmega328p**, all sorts of handy. Plus it's a programmable I<sup>2</sup>C slave.





# Add the controller



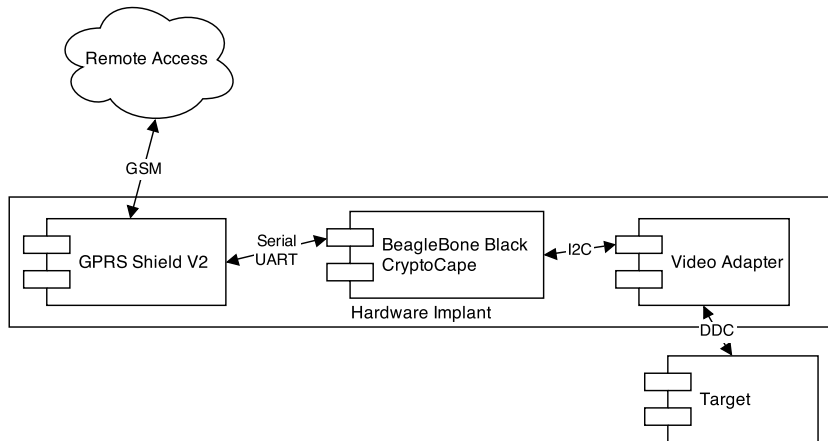
# GSM Module

## Seeed Studio GPRS Shield v2:

- Arduino form factor
- GSM Quad band support
- TCP support
- SIM card holder
- Works with Tmobile, AT&T
  - ▶ You can buy pre-paid SIMs with cash.
  - ▶ T-Mobile has unlimited talk & text for 35USD.

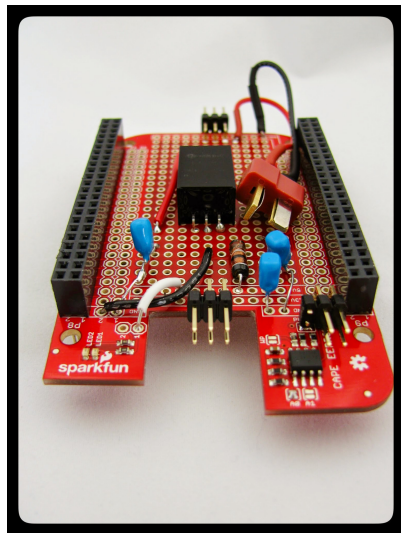


# Add the GSM module



# Moar Power?

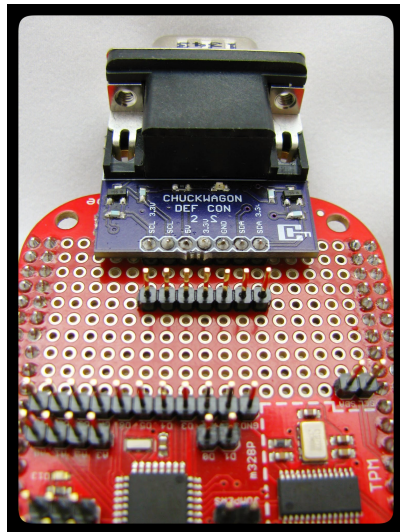
- BBB draws 460mA on boot
- CryptoCape
- GSM Shield draws 300mA on average for “talk”, but peak of 2.0 A!?
- Meet the *LiPoWerCape*
  - ▶ Switching voltage regulator with noise filtering
  - ▶ Dual cell LiPo input
  - ▶ Output to 5V Power Rail



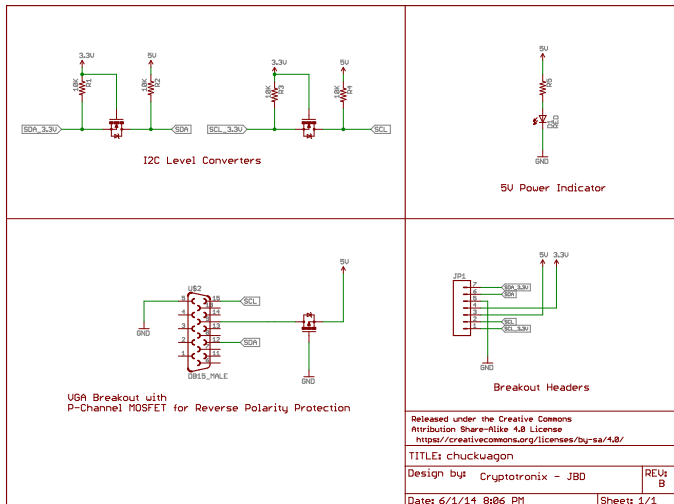
# CHUCKWAGON

We still need a way to easily connect to the video adapter.  
Meet CHUCKWAGON:

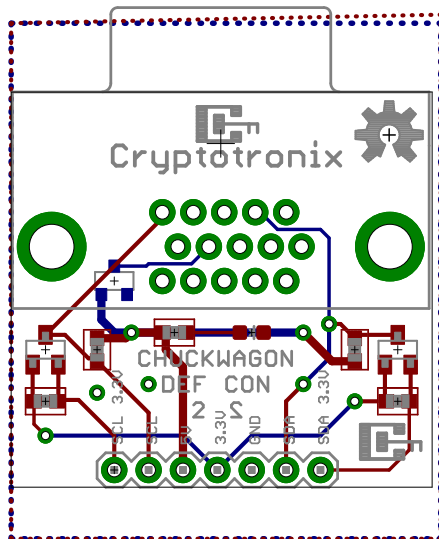
- DDC to I<sup>2</sup>C converter.
- Breadboard friendly.
- Logic level converters for I<sup>2</sup>C .
- Supplies 5V from target (not on all VGA connectors).
- Power indicator.



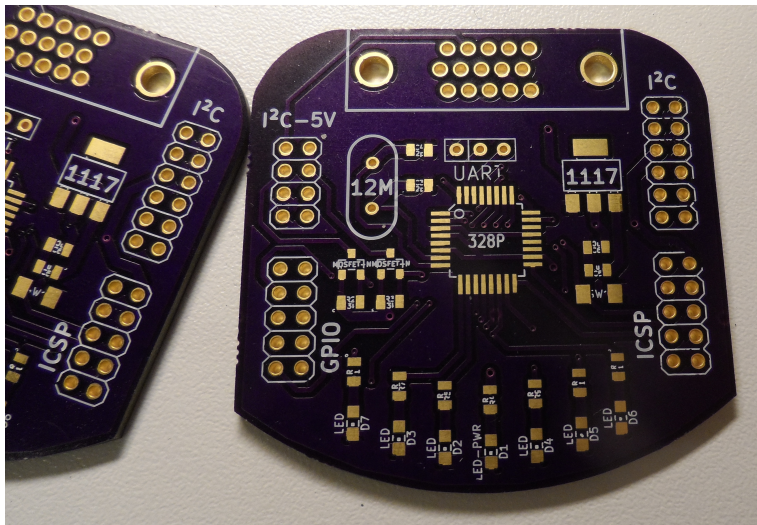
# CHUCKWAGON schematic



# CHUCKWAGON board



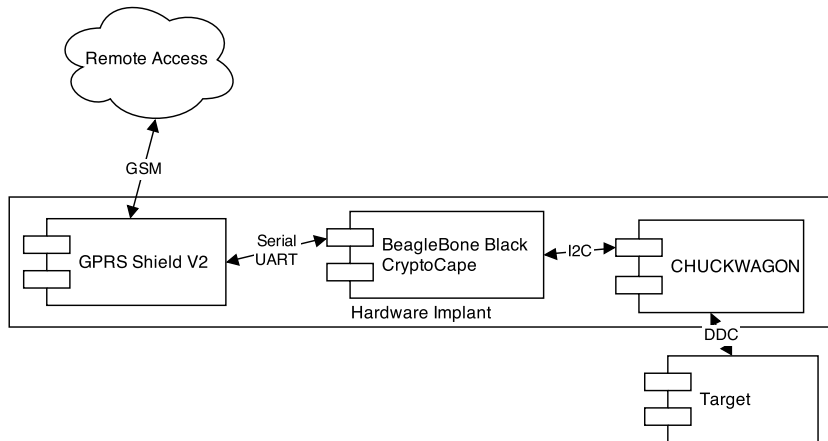
# I<sup>2</sup>C hack not that new...



As seen on Hackaday



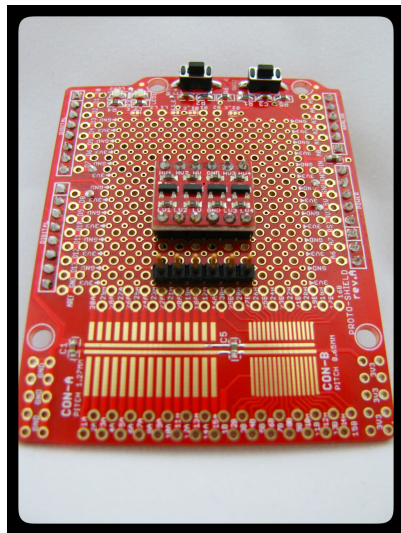
# Add the CHUCKWAGON



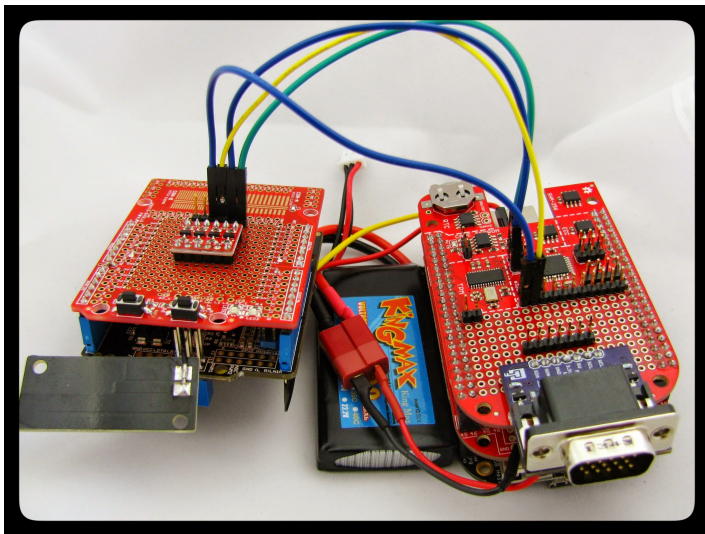
# Connect to GSM module

Ok, so let's connect to the GSM Shield from the Beagle!

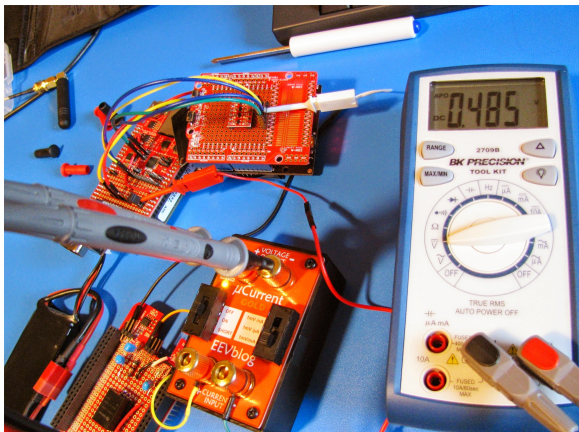
- BBB's UART4, broken-out by ATmega's program jumpers.
- GSM's shield software-serial, D7 and D8
- /me checks datasheet one last time...
- Needs logic level converters!



# Completed Hardware with Battery



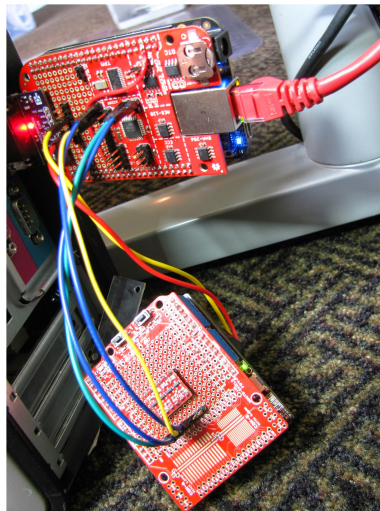
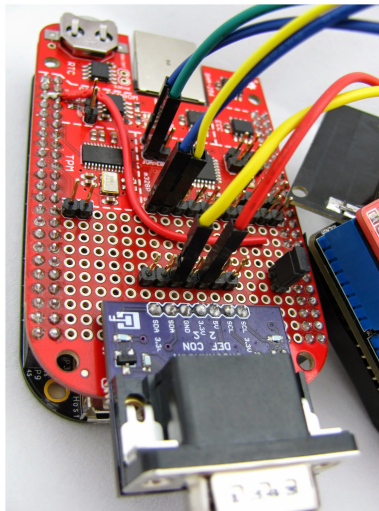
# Measuring current



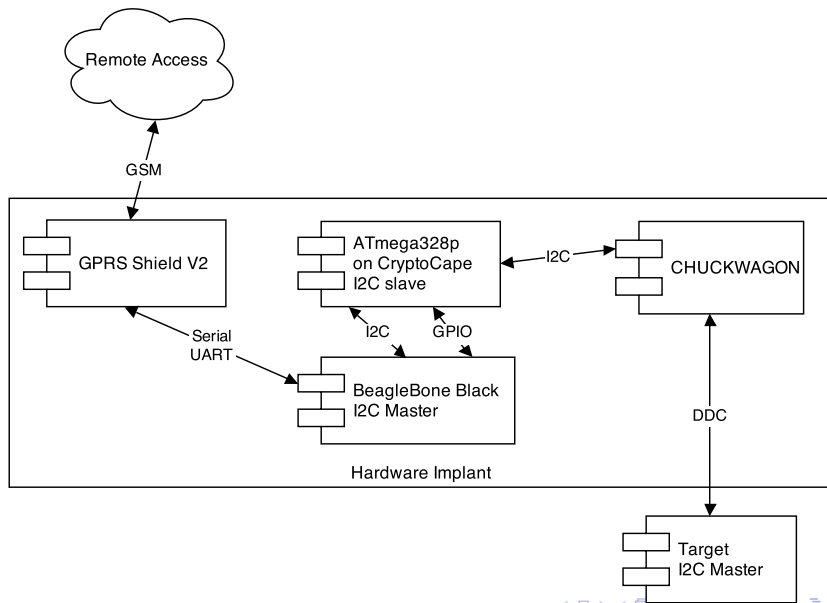
**Dave Jones'  $\mu$ Current Gold**

*Trusted by hardware implant designers.*

# Completed Hardware without Battery



# Software flow



# Usage

- 1 Get malware on target.
- 2 Attach CHUCWAGON for exfil or control.

If software on the target can communicate with the implant then:

- Target can exfil out to implant to GSM.
- Target can exfil out to implant for storage.
- Implant can provide code for target to run.
- Control the implant over GSM → control the target over GSM



## Why is this significant?

I<sup>2</sup>C via the video adapter is an always on, bi-directional bus on every laptop, PC, or server.

# Accessorize!



Prepared for anything or NSA hacking toolkit?



# How to improve the CHUCKWAGON

What does CHUCKWAGON rev. B look like?

- Consolidate into one board: *ImplantCape*
- HDMI footprint vs. VGA
- Could all be done from AVR (less power), but BBB is more fun and provides more options.
- **VGA Tap.**
  - ▶ Combine with SALSAFLOCK for a implant **plus** RF retroreflector.

# Using Crypto for Evil!

Long history of Cryptography and Malware!

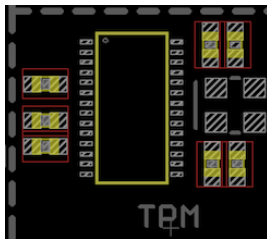
Cryptoviral Extortion:

- 1989 PC Cybord, Joseph Popp
- 1996 Macintosh SE/30 cryptovirus PoC, Young and Yung
- 2006 Gpcode.AG/AK, Cryzip
- 2013 CryptoLocker, CryptorBit

Reversing Anti-Analysis:

- Packers, Obfuscator, VM-based JIT
- 2011 TPM "cloaking" malware
- 2014 Uroburos, encrypted VFS
- **2014 TPM-enabled super-targeted malware**

# Using Crypto for Evil!



The CryptoCape includes a TPM...

- I<sup>2</sup>C friendly
- Protected RSA private key storage
- Windows 8 friendly
- More or less optional, as there is most likely an onboard TPM

# Cloaking Malware with the Trusted Platform Module

2011 USENIX Security

Alan M. Dunn, Owen S. Hofmann, Brent Waters, Emmett Witchel

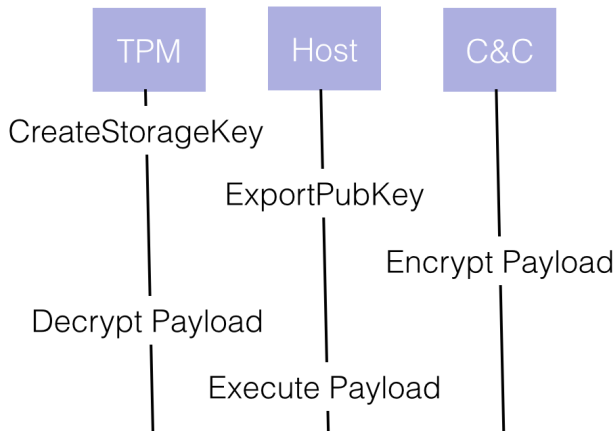
Summary: Use TPM-protected keys and an Intel TXT PAL to protect malicious code execution from observation, analysis, and tamperment.

Intel TXT and remote attestation are hard!

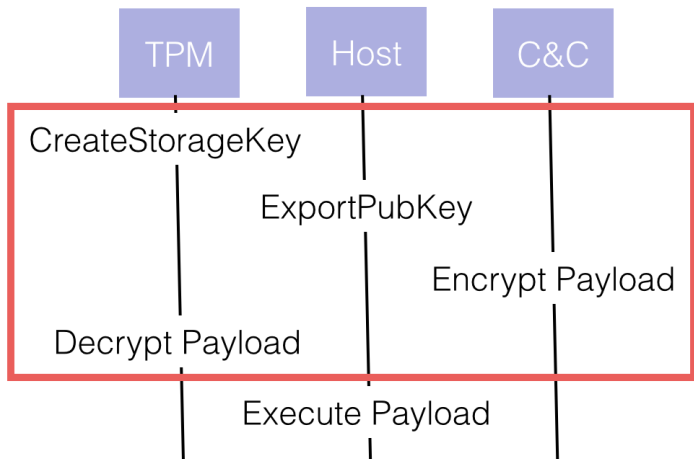
But generating a public key on a TPM and using that to encrypt additional payloads is easy...

Put a TPM on your implant and protect against nasty network interception. Also restrict analysis to the target machine upon discovery (or force memory analysis).

# TPM-enabled super-targeted Malware



# TPM-enabled super-targeted Malware



# TPM-enabled super-targeted Malware

Windows 8 automatically enables/initializes a TPM, then creates and manages your owner password. Access to TPM is abstracted through Microsoft CSP.

Windows PcpTool Kit:

NCryptOpenStorageProvider

NCryptCreatePersistedKey

NCryptExportKey

NCryptDecrypt

Python pefile to inject  
encrypted PE section into a  
decryption stub.

In memory process creation:

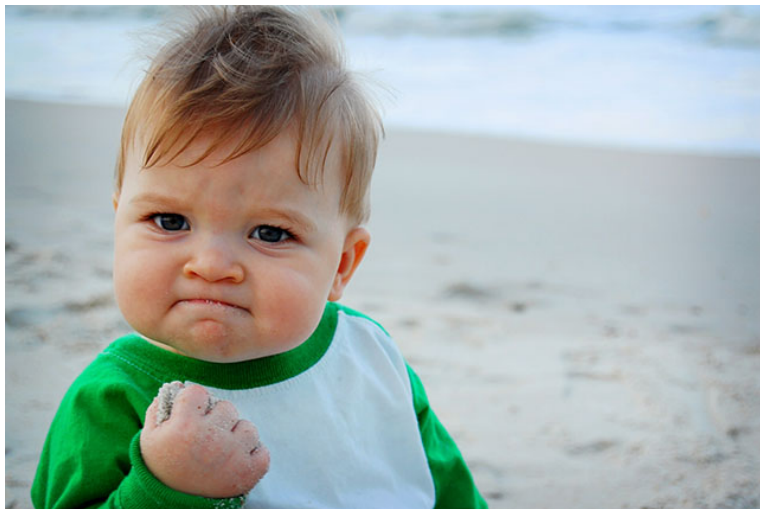
CreateProcess

ZwUnmapViewOfSection

VirtualAllocEx

WriteProcessMemory

# TPM-enabled super-targeted Malware





# tpm-malcrypt

fork tpm-malcrypt!
















<https://github.com/theopolis/tpm-malcrypt>

- tpm-keyextract, create and exfil a storage public key
- malcrypter, encrypt and inject into decryption stub
- malcrypt, decryption stub, process creation/injection

# Malicious Exfiltration via Audio

Backstory: **#badBIOS** thought to use Audio as an out-of-band exfiltration or C&C mechanism. Dismissed as infeasible by BIOS development SMEs.

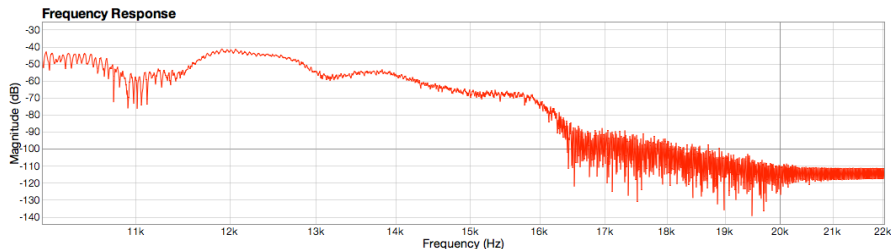
Subzero GUID: [ae24851d-e414-4062-9d95-5f43ea99363c](#)

ObjectID	Type	Info	Size	Stats	Actions
 <a href="#">d57b045d334aef62082c44047b594113</a> FirmwareID: <a href="#">a377629bfa3c6b3447c6ac83c8dae02a</a> DELL_AUDIO_DXE_GUID	(uefi_file)	AudioDxe <b>FileType</b> driver	7481	<b>Changed</b> 24 bytes, 0.32% <b>Children</b> 3 <b>Shared</b> 15 <b>Matches</b> 1	   
 <a href="#">08986366ac4731670bf55e0e1bf47c6f</a> FirmwareID: <a href="#">c3f4dd966602487d2546c983c5db85ce</a> DELL_AUDIO_DXE_GUID	(uefi_file)	AudioDxe <b>FileType</b> driver	7481	<b>Children</b> 3 <b>Shared</b> 15 <b>Matches</b> 1	   
 <a href="#">0b6eefa00e187afd03100471fff5b2e5</a> FirmwareID: <a href="#">a377629bfa3c6b3447c6ac83c8dae02a</a> DELL_AUDIO_DXE_GUID	MS-DOS executable	<b>SectionType</b> PE32 image (MS-DOS executable)	7296	<b>Changed</b> 24 bytes, 0.33%	   

# Malicious Exfiltration via Audio

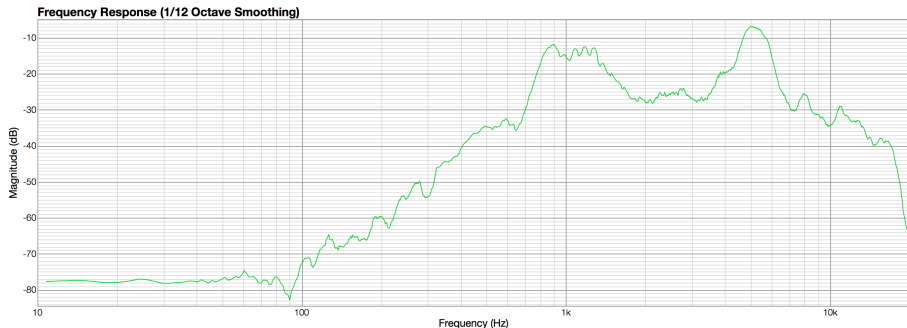
Data of Audio Protocols are very well defined and resilient.

**QPSK10** (10 baud), **QPSK05** (5 baud), quadrature phase shift keying modulation to provide forward error correction.



# Malicious Exfiltration via Audio

Possible to "pivot" through colluding machines. Local network exploitation creates a mesh of audio-capable relays such as idle headphones.



# Demos, Learning, and Fabulous Prizes

Join us in the HHV for CryptoCape and WAGONBED demos!

Challenge: Solve the puzzle here:

`theopolis.github.io/tpm-malcrypt/challenge.html`

The first 5 correct submissions win a DIY hardware implant kit  
(No hardware hacking experience required)

# Demos, Learning, and Fabulous Prizes

Thank you!

# Upcoming Book

Preorder with code: **BBSAeB**  
at [packtpub.com](http://packtpub.com).

- Setting up a Tor bridge and building custom front panel.
- Two factor authentication with a Fingerprint scanner and the CryptoCape
- Using the TPM to protect GPG keys
- Running an IRC gateway with BitlBee, ZNC, and using OTR for protected chat.



# POC Code

CHUCKWAGON sketch and scripts

<https://github.com/NSAPlayset/CHUCKWAGON>



# i2cdetect on BBB

```
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn
debian@zaphod ~ $ [ 24.163220] libphy: PHY 4a101000.mdio:01 not found
[ 24.168438] net eth0: phy 4a101000.mdio:01 not found on slave 1

debian@zaphod ~ $
debian@zaphod ~ $ i2cdetect -r -y 1
    0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  a  b  c  d  e  f
00:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
10:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
20:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  29  --  --  --  --  --  --
30:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
40:  --  --  42  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
50: 50  --  --  --  UU  UU  UU  UU  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
60: 60  --  --  --  64  --  --  --  UU  --  --  --  --  --  --
70:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
debian@zaphod ~ $
```

# i2cdetect on target

```
jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn x jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides x
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X sudo i2cdetect -r -y 1
[sudo] password for jbd:
  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  a  b  c  d  e  f
00:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
10:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
20:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
30:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
40:  --  --  42  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
50: 50  --  --  --  --  --  --  57  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
60: 60  --  --  --  64  --  --  --  68  --  --  --  --  --  --
70:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X
```

# chuckwagon util on BBB

```
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn x jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides x
debian@zaphod ~ $ [ 24.163220] libphy: PHY 4a101000.mdio:01 not found
[ 24.168438] net eth0: phy 4a101000.mdio:01 not found on slave 1

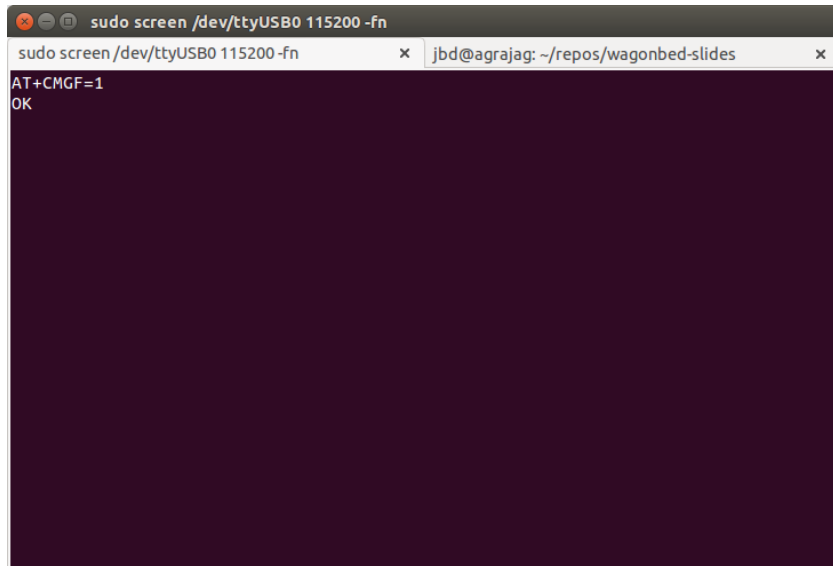
debian@zaphod ~ $
debian@zaphod ~ $ i2cdetect -r -y 1
    0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  a  b  c  d  e  f
00:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
10:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  29  --  --  --  --  --
20:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
30:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
40:  --  --  42  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
50:  50  --  --  --  UU  UU  UU  UU  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
60:  60  --  --  --  64  --  --  --  UU  --  --  --  --  --  --
70:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --

debian@zaphod ~ $ chuckwagon r
debian@zaphod ~ $ echo defcon | chuckwagon w
debian@zaphod ~ $ chuckwagon r
defcon
debian@zaphod ~ $
```

# chuckwagon util on target

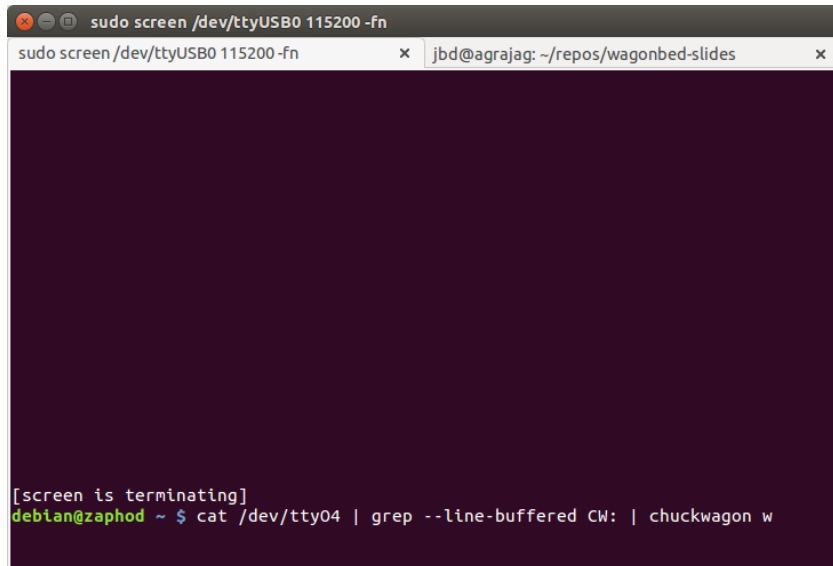
```
jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn x jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides x
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X sudo i2cdetect -r -y 1
[sudo] password for jbd:
  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  a  b  c  d  e  f
00:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
10:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
20:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
30:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
40:  --  --  42  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
50: 50  --  --  --  --  --  --  57  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
60: 60  --  --  --  64  --  --  --  68  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
70:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X chuckwagon r
defcon
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X
```

# BBB starting the GSM module



```
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn
jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides
AT+CMGF=1
OK
```

# BBB waiting on text message



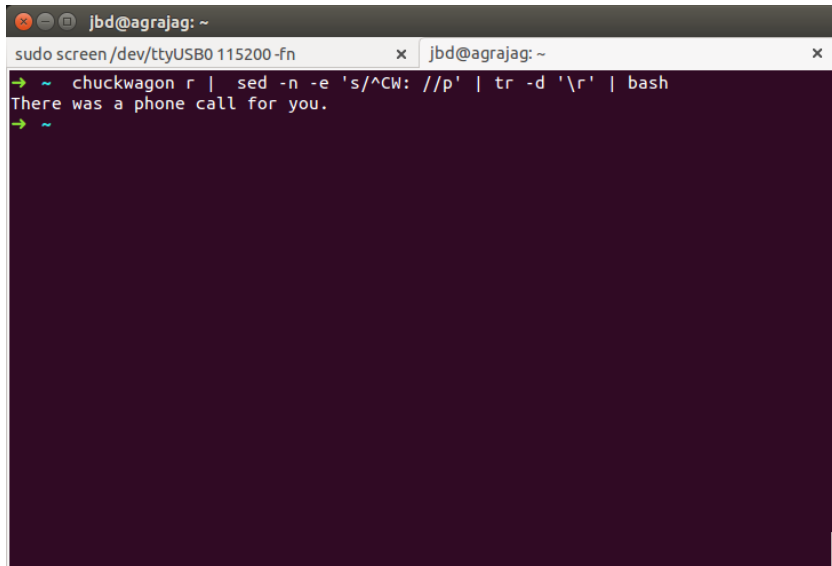
A terminal window titled "sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn" is shown. The window has two tabs: "sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn" and "jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides". The terminal content shows "[screen is terminating]" followed by a prompt "debian@zaphod ~ \$" and the command "cat /dev/tty04 | grep --line-buffered CW: | chuckwagon w".

```
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn
[screen is terminating]
debian@zaphod ~ $ cat /dev/tty04 | grep --line-buffered CW: | chuckwagon w
```

# Receiving the message on the target

```
jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn x jbd@agrajag: ~/repos/wagonbed-slides x
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X sudo i2cdetect -r -y 1
[sudo] password for jbd:
  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  a  b  c  d  e  f
00:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
10:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
20:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
30:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
40:  --  --  42  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
50: 50  --  --  --  --  --  --  57  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
60: 60  --  --  --  64  --  --  --  68  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
70:  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --  --
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X chuckwagon r
defcon
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X chuckwagon r
CW: fortune&
→ wagonbed-slides git:(master) X
```

# Executing the text message



A terminal window titled "jbd@agrajag: ~" is shown. The window has a dark background and a light-colored title bar. The command prompt is "jbd@agrajag: ~". The command being executed is "sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn". The output of the command is "There was a phone call for you." followed by a prompt "→ ~".

```
jbd@agrajag: ~  
sudo screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200 -fn  
→ ~ chuckwagon r | sed -n -e 's/^CW: //p' | tr -d '\r' | bash  
There was a phone call for you.  
→ ~
```