

# Securing Legacy Mobile Medical Devices

Vahab Pournaghshband  
Majid Sarrafzadeh  
Peter Reiher

Laboratory for Advanced Systems Research  
Computer Science Department  
University of California, Los Angeles

- ◆ **How Mobile Medical Devices Work?**
- ◆ **MITM Attack**
  - ◆ **Position the Man-in-the-Middle**
  - ◆ **Threat Model**
  - ◆ **Reverse-engineering the Protocol**
- ◆ **Defense**
  - ◆ **Defense Mechanism Characteristics**
  - ◆ **Personal Security Device**
  - ◆ **Discussion**
- ◆ **Summary**

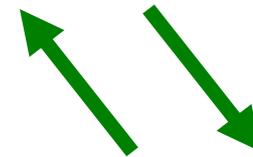
# How Do They Work?



Connection Establishment

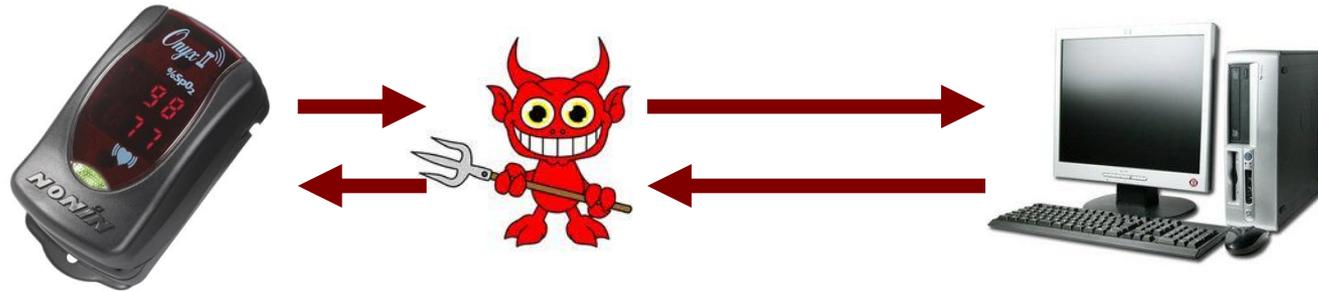


# How Do They Work?



# MITM Attack

*Nonin Pulse Oximeter*



- ◆ **Confidentiality**

- ◆ *Eavesdropping*
- ◆ *Retrieve private information*

- ◆ **Integrity**

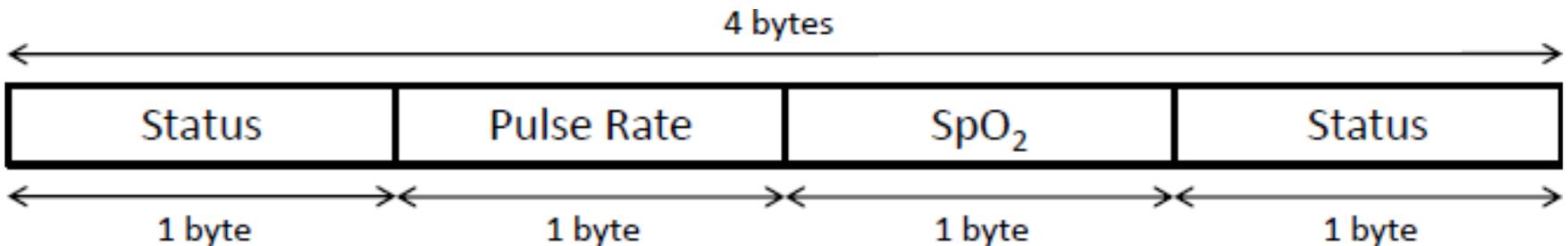
- ◆ *Altering data*
- ◆ *Replay attack*
- ◆ *Generating fake data or unauthorized commands*

- ◆ **Availability**

# MITM Attack

## Reverse-engineering the protocol:

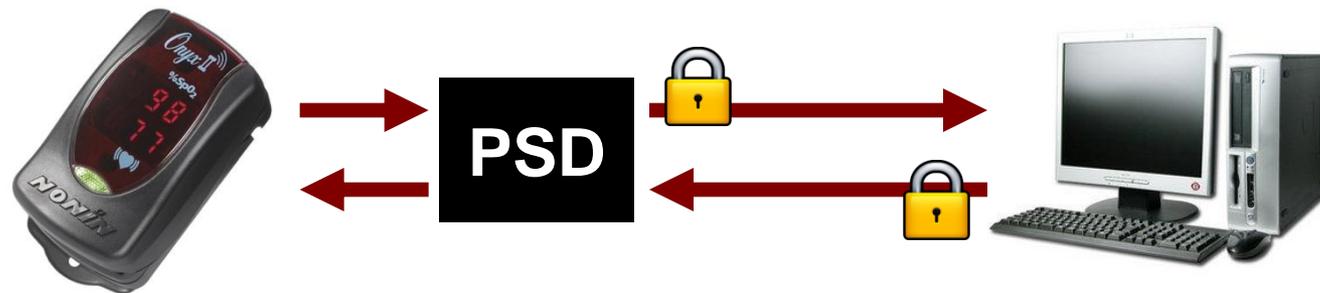
| Transmitted Data | Pulse Rate (in Hex) | SpO <sub>2</sub> (in Hex) |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 10 44 63 04      | 68 (44)             | 99 (63)                   |
| 10 46 63 04      | 70 (46)             | 99 (63)                   |
| 10 45 62 04      | 69 (45)             | 98 (62)                   |
| 10 46 63 04      | 70 (46)             | 99 (63)                   |



## Desirable Characteristics of a Mechanism:

- ◆ Security vs. Responsiveness
- ◆ Security vs. Availability
- ◆ No Changes to the Medical Device
- ◆ No Changes to the Monitoring Software

## Personal Security Device (PSD):



# Discussion

- ◆ **Fail-open property**
- ◆ **Less burden on medical device's resources**
- ◆ **Little understanding of the protocol**
- ◆ **Any radio technology for PSD-AP link**
- ◆ **Extended to other radio technologies**

# Summary

- ◆ Existing devices are vulnerable to MITM attacks
- ◆ MITM attacks threaten safety and privacy of patients
- ◆ PSD improves security of the existing systems