

### Feasibility of Security in Micro-Controllers

Aaron Ardiri

Chief Technology Officer - Evothings AB

jFokus IoT, Stockholm

3rd February, 2015

### Overview

### **IoT Security**

- \* why is it such a hot topic?
- \* why has it become an issue in the first place?
- \* what is the feasibility on the Arduino platform
- \* what is happening in the IoT developer ecosystem?
- food for thought: are we approaching it correctly?

## **IoT Security** why is it such a hot topic?

### Hewlett Packard Report

HP's Fortify division recently tested a selection of IoT solutions currently available on the market by popular manufacturers including TVs, webcams, thermostats, power outlets, door locks and home control hubs.

- 250 vulnerabilities found
- ✤ 76% of devices used unencrypted network resources
- \* 80% failed to use strong passwords, many unchanged
- 60% failed to protect firmware downloads/integrity

# Sweden - National Security

### 3rd November 2014

http://www.dn.se/nyheter/sverige/it-expert-bristerna-ett-hot-mot-rikets-sakerhet/

It was revealed a number of important public properties in Sweden including but not limited to Police Stations, Transit Stations, Data Centers and Space Center in Kiruna are completely open on the Internet and hackable control of alarms, doors, heating, other sensitive systems

sites are password protected but have weak security

## **IoT Security** why has it become such an issue?

# Gartner Hype Cycle Special Report

http://www.gartner.com/newsroom/id/2819918



### **Explosion of micro-controllers**



postscapes.com/internet-of-things-hardware

## Products - what is happening

- companies making "land grab" in IoT space
  - focus is product-to-market, not deliver quality
  - a number of products are based on prototypes
  - failure to provide OTA and update mechanisms
- SSL/TLS implementations
  - \* many micro-controllers have limited CPU / RAM
  - existing libraries are not optimised for embedded

### Standards War



# 0-day exploits (security) in 2014

### Heartbleed

serious vulnerability in the popular OpenSSL cryptographic software library.



ShellShock



aka: Bashdoor group of bugs in the popular Bourne Again Shell (Bash).

### POODLE

serious vulnerability in the popular OpenSSL cryptographic software library.



# **Operating Systems**

What are the options for IoT product manufacturers?



# Security is not only encryption

A common mis-conception; it is more than Encryption



http://www.securerf.com/security-is-not-encrypting-data/

### **IoT Security** what is the feasibility on Arduino?

# Public Key Cryptography

#1 provide your public key to sender



#3 sender provides cyphertext to you

#2 sender uses your public key to encrypt message



#4 use your private key to decrypt cyphertext





### **RSA: Basic Overview**

- encryption
   c = m<sup>e</sup> mod n
- \* decryption  $m = c^d \mod n$

#### **ALGORITHM KEY**

- m = original message
- c = cyphertext
- e = public key exponent
- d = private key exponent
- n = modulus (primes multiplied)

the source text is to converted to an integer form that is then passed through the exponent modulus algorithm to create a second integer that can then be converted into a cyphertext string to be transmitted over the network.

# SSL: Market offering



SSL/TLS - implementations

- \* many micro-controllers have limited CPU / RAM
- existing libraries are simply too large for embedded

# SSL: Evothings investigation



feasibility study, specific to Arduino

- working prototype of end-to-end setup
  - encryption/decryption using RSA-1024

### RSA implementation on Arduino

implementation of RSA encrypt/decrypt algorithms:

- custom written mixture of C and assembly (avr only)
  - implemented specifically for RSA algorithms
  - keys are defined as (n,e) and (n,d) raw bit streams
  - designed to be portable with a small code footprint
- 128, 256, 512, 1024 and 2048 keys (if possible)
  - limited SRAM of micro controller restricts key sizes

### RSA implementation on Arduino

BigInt e, d, n, m, c;

// define our public(n,e), private(n,d) and message BigInt\_assignFromBuffer(&d, (unsigned char \*)key\_device\_prv); BigInt\_assignFromBuffer(&e, (unsigned char \*)key\_device\_pub); BigInt\_assignFromBuffer(&n, (unsigned char \*)key\_device\_mod); BigInt\_assignFromBuffer(&m, (unsigned char \*)rsa message);

// encrypt message 'm' into cypher text 'c'
BigInt\_exponent\_with\_modulus(&c, &m, &e, &n);

// decrypt cypher text 'c' into message 'm'
BigInt\_exponent\_with\_modulus(&m, &c, &d, &n);

## **IoT Security** feasibility - results on the Arduino

## RSA: Arduino UNO

- CPU
  - ATmega328
  - ✤ 16Mhz
- 32Kb program mem
- ✤ 2Kb SRAM



Performance Results (ms) - compiled with 8bit, pure C

algorithm	128 bit	256 bit	512 bit	1024 bit	2048 bit
encrypt: public key	288	1070	4103	16160	N/A*
decrypt: private key	3155	22365	175452	1383240	N/A*

\* insufficient SRAM to perform

## RSA: Arduino UNO

# **48%** performance boost

- CPU
  - ATmega328
  - ✤ 16Mhz
- 32Kb program mem
- ✤ 2Kb SRAM



Performance Results (ms) - compiled with 8bit, avr asm

algorithm	128 bit	256 bit	512 bit	1024 bit	2048 bit
encrypt: public key	178	609	2225	8504	N/A*
decrypt: private key	1951	12716	95079	727955	N/A*

\* insufficient SRAM to perform

### **RSA: Arduino Due**

- CPU
  - ✤ AT91SAMX8E
  - ✤ 84Mhz
- 512Kb program mem
- 96Kb SRAM



Performance Results (ms) - compiled with 32bit, 100% C

algorithm	128 bit	256 bit	512 bit	1024 bit	2048 bit
encrypt: public key	25	77	264	1032	4122
decrypt: private key	261	1586	11206	88216	701668

### RSA: Arduino Yún

- ✤ CPU
  - ATmega32U4 and AR9331
  - 16Mhz and 400Mhz
- 32Kb program mem
- ✤ 2.5Kb SRAM

\* use Bridge Library to execute RSA algorithms on Linux CPU

Performance Results (ms) - compiled with 32bit, 100% C

algorithm	128 bit	256 bit	512 bit	1024 bit	2048 bit
encrypt: public key	329	355	512	707	N/A*
decrypt: private key	437	562	1681	10799	N/A*

\* insufficient SRAM to perform

\* the Bridge implementation has a 100-200ms fluctuation in results depending on key size



### **RSA: Intel Galileo**

- CPU
  - Quark SoC X1000
  - \* 400Mhz
- 256Kb program mem
- ✤ 512Kb SRAM



Performance Results (ms) - compiled with 32bit, 100% C

algorithm	128 bit	256 bit	512 bit	1024 bit	2048 bit
encrypt: public key	4	20	57	192	706
decrypt: private key	95	397	2310	16055	119499

### **RSA: Intel Edison**

- CPU
  - dual core Atom SoC and Quark
  - ✤ 500Mhz and 100Mhz
- 10Mb program mem
- IGb SRAM

Performance Results (ms) - compiled with 32bit, 100% C

algorithm	128 bit	256 bit	512 bit	1024 bit	2048 bit
encrypt: public key	3	7	23	76	273
decrypt: private key	30	150	976	6548	46579

### RSA 1024: Resource Usage (avr)

#### empty sketch:

Sketch uses 450 bytes (1%) of program storage space.

Maximum is 32,256 bytes.

Global variables use 9 bytes (0%) of dynamic memory, leaving 2,039 bytes for local variables. Maximum is 2,048 bytes.

#### RSA 1024 with public key only

Sketch uses 4,116 bytes (12%) of program storage space. Maximum is 32,256 bytes.

Global variables use 981 bytes (47%) of dynamic memory, leaving 1,067 bytes for local variables. Maximum is 2,048 bytes.

#### resulting code size:

3,666 bytes of program storage space 972 bytes of dynamic memory  $\sim 3.5 \text{Kb}$  for code, < 1 Kb for RAM

### RSA 1024: Resource Usage (ARM)

#### empty sketch:

Sketch uses 10,492 bytes (2%) of program storage space. Maximum is 524,288 bytes. Global variables use 9 bytes (0%) of dynamic memory, leaving 98,295 bytes for local variables. Maximum is 98,304 bytes.

#### RSA 1024 with public key only

Sketch uses 12,836 bytes (2%) of program storage space. Maximum is 524,288 bytes.

Global variables use 981 bytes (0%) of dynamic memory, leaving 97,323 bytes for local variables. Maximum is 98,304 bytes.

#### resulting code size:

1,454 bytes of program storage space 972 bytes of dynamic memory  $\sim 1.4$ Kb for code, < 1Kb for RAM

### RSA 1024: Resource Usage (x86)

#### empty sketch:

Sketch uses 55,375 bytes (21%) of program storage space. Maximum is 262,144 bytes. Global variables use 9 bytes (0%) of dynamic memory, leaving 524,279 bytes for local variables. Maximum is 524,288 bytes.

#### RSA 1024 with public key only

Sketch uses 63,805 bytes (24%) of program storage space. Maximum is 262,144 bytes.

Global variables use 981 bytes (0%) of dynamic memory, leaving 523,307 bytes for local variables. Maximum is 524,288 bytes.

#### resulting code size:

8,430 bytes of program storage space 972 bytes of dynamic memory  $\sim 8.2 \text{Kb}$  for code, < 1 Kb for RAM



# **Configuration Analysis**

- Advantages
  - S\_PUB can be dynamic between sessions
  - only S\_PUB used for encryption, low CPU demands
- Disadvantages
  - S\_PUB is communicated over network
  - no good method to validate that the server the device is talking to is authentic (no CA validation)



#### NOTES:

UUID and D\_PRV is compiled into Arduino sketch S\_PUB and D\_PUB never communicated over network D\_PUB must be stored on server linked to UUID





create symmetric key, encrypt with D\_PRV

create packet with UUID and key, encrypt with S\_PUB

send encrypted packet as initial request

decrypt with S\_PRV

using UUID, decrypt key in packet with associated D\_PUB



secure communication channel has been established

# **Configuration** Analysis

- Advantages
  - S\_PUB, D\_PUB never communicated over network
  - D\_PUB is stored on server, associated to UUID
    - only Arduino's registered can communicate with server
    - can remove any "compromised" devices from server
- Disadvantages
  - D\_PRV is used to encryption on device = slower

### Secure Random Number Generator

- Arduino devices provide at least one analog pin that can be used to create secure random numbers critical for symmetric keys (AES).
- 2-pass von Neumann algorithm to remove "bias" from analog feed
- re-use the existing PRNG random(), seeding at random intervals

```
int secureRandomByte()
{
  static int count = 0;
  static int next = (randomByte() >> 2) + 1; // max 64 iterations
  if ((count++ % next) == 0)
      { randomSeed(randomWord()); next = (randomByte() >> 2) + 1; }
  return random(256);
```

### **IoT Security** what is the happening the IoT ecosystem?

### Arduino + Secure Wifi Shield

- WiFi shield with integrated WINC1500 processor
- TLS provided using:
  - ECC-256 (eq to RSA-3072)
  - ✤ AES-128
  - \* SHA-256



### mbed OS - ARM

### open source: code/framework designed for ARM CPU



### libCommas - avr

### https://saifeinc.com/news/?p=223

- open source: code/framework designed for avr
  ECC (ECDSA) and SHA-2 algorithms
- proprietary server for communication end-point



# AVR crypto-lib - avr

http://www.das-labor.org/wiki/AVR-Crypto-Lib/en

open source: code/framework designed for avr
various block, stream cyphers and hash functions



### **IoT Security** are we approaching it the right way?

### Security Foundations: Classic

Security in computing has been typically bound to the security of the real-world - by defining elements such as keys, trusted-zones (DMZ), firewalls et al.



# Security Foundations: Biology

Researchers have considered following nature's design and look at security from with a biological mindset where devices would be open to infection and evolve.

Immunological defence based on identification and isolation of a threat with backup nodes to spawn off to fulfil the function of compromised nodes.

http://www.eetindia.co.in/ART\_8800705403\_1800001\_NT\_a11862e6.HTM

# Importance of Diversity in Nature



## How many IoT devices by 2020?



Gartner:26 BillionCisco:50 BillionIntel:200 BillionIDC:220 Billion

It's time to act now and ensure Security exists within IoT

# **Evothings Studio**

![](_page_45_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **Contact Information**

### aaron.ardiri@evothings.com

twitter: @ardiri

www.evothings.com www.ardiri.com/blog