

# THREAT MODELING

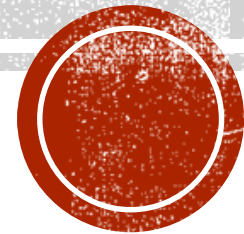
## MY WIFE

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IEEE Computer Society, Buenaventura, Nov 2014

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@DoYouQA



# ABOUT ME

- Director of Application Security, Belkin International (owners of WeMo & Linksys)
- Security researcher focused on IoT
- Previously Principal Test Architect, Office of the CTO at Rapid7
- 20+ years of experience in IT, QA, Development and Security
- Programming, disassembling and reverse engineering since age 5



# OUTLINE

- The Accident
- CRPS
- Why would you Threat Model your wife?
- Why is IoT security important?
- Anatomy of Neurostimulators
- The Threat Model
- Other Threat Models
- Conclusion



# THE ACCIDENT

- My wife was injured when a sign fell on her foot
- She suffered nerve damage, fractured bone, damaged tendons & ligaments, and...
- Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS)
- Uncommon form of chronic pain that usually affects an arm or a leg
- Typically develops after an injury, surgery, stroke or heart attack
- Pain is out of proportion to the severity of the initial injury



# CRPS SYMPTOMS

- Continuous burning or throbbing pain (arm, leg, hand or foot)
- Sensitivity to touch or cold
- Swelling of the painful area
- Changes in skin temperature — warm or cold
- Changes in skin color (range from white and mottled to red or blue)
- Changes in skin texture (tender, thin or shiny) in affected area
- Changes in hair and nail growth
- Joint stiffness, swelling and damage
- Muscle spasms, weakness and loss (atrophy)
- Decreased ability to move the affected body part

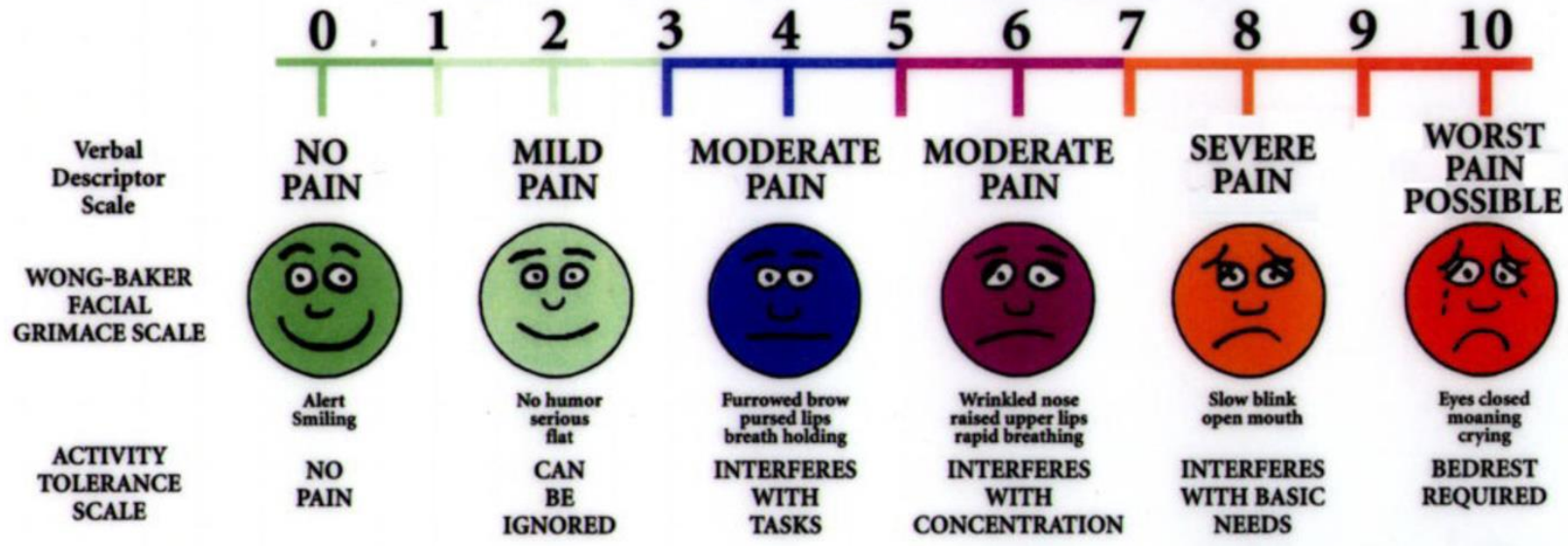
**SUCKS**



MODERATE

# UNIVERSAL PAIN ASSESSMENT TOOL

This pain assessment tool is intended to help patient care providers assess pain according to individual patient needs. Explain and use 0-10 Scale for patient self-assessment. Use the faces or behavioral observations to interpret expressed pain when patient cannot communicate his/her pain intensity.



## HOW MUCH PAIN?

Before implant – constant 8-10

After implant – 7 (spikes to 9 or 10)



# WHY THREAT MODEL YOUR WIFE?

- She needed a medical device implanted in her back
- All other treatment options exhausted
- No manual alternative
- My job is to assess products for security risks
- Paranoia based on previous medical device exploits
- Programmers still do not focus on securing code
- Specialize in IoT security



**“WE CAN IMPLANT A PAIN MANAGEMENT DEVICE IN YOUR  
BACK THAT YOU CONTROL AND CHARGE WIRELESSLY.”**

Doctor explaining options to my wife





# Small WONDER



the complete first season

## **FIRST THOUGHT**

Android or cyborg?





## SECOND THOUGHT

My wife, the bionic woman



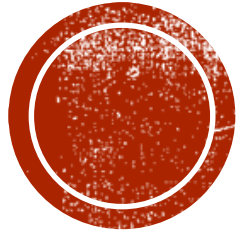


## **THIRD THOUGHT**

Pentesting this is a  
**BAD** idea.

Stick with the Threat  
Model





**The Internet of Things is the network of physical objects that contain embedded technology to communicate and sense or interact with their internal states or the external environment.**

Source: Gartner <http://www.gartner.com/newsroom/id/2636073>

# IoT Industry Growth

■ Asset Management



■ Entertainment



■ Banking



■ Medical

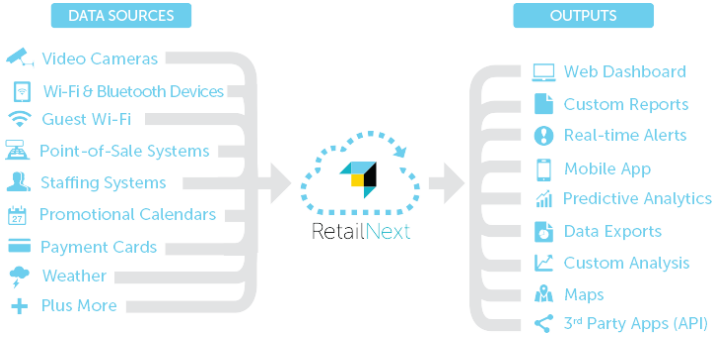


■ Health & Fitness



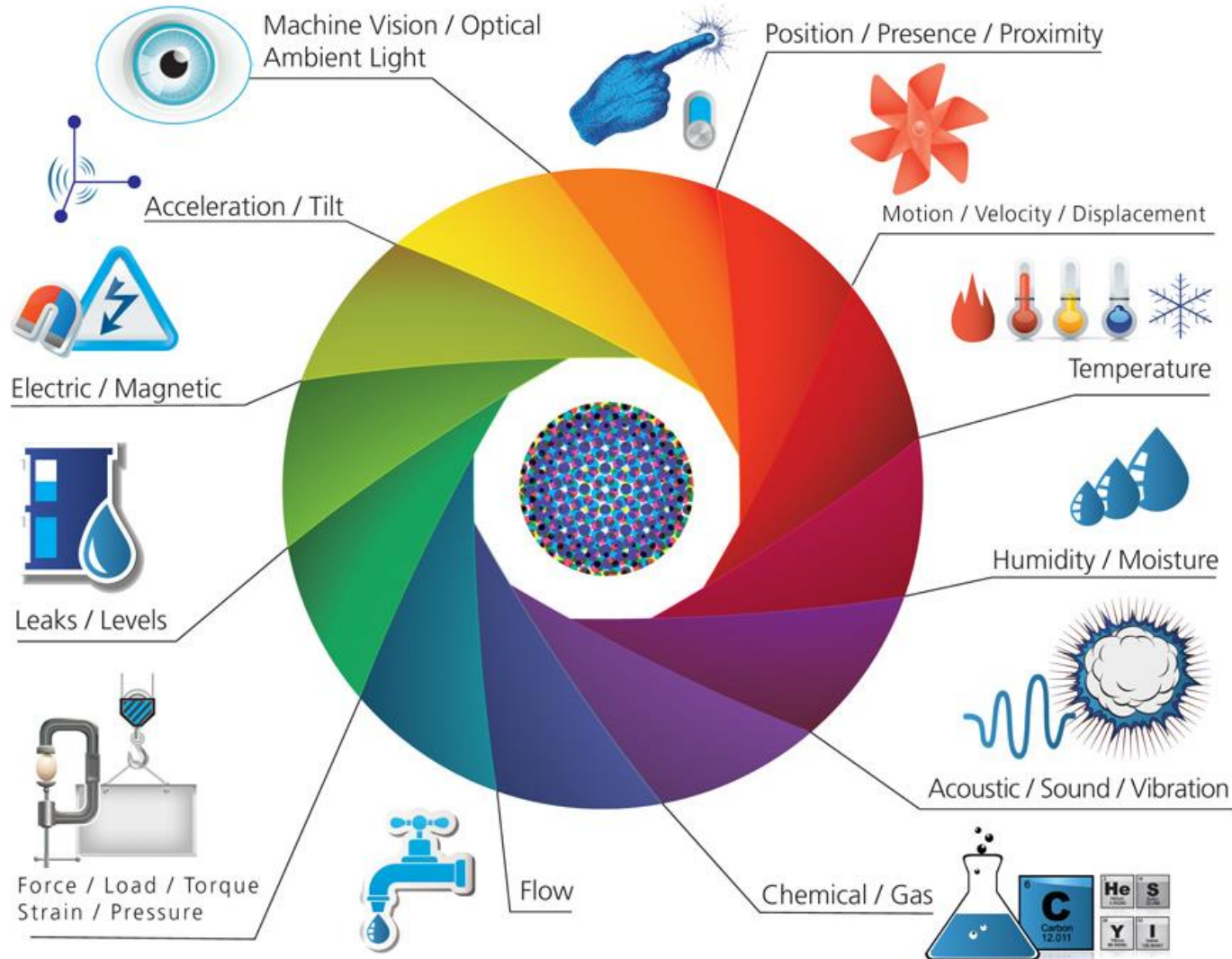
■ Insurance

■ Retail



# 1 SENSORS & ACTUATORS

We are giving our world a digital nervous system. Location data using GPS sensors. Eyes and ears using cameras and microphones, along with sensory organs that can measure everything from temperature to pressure changes.

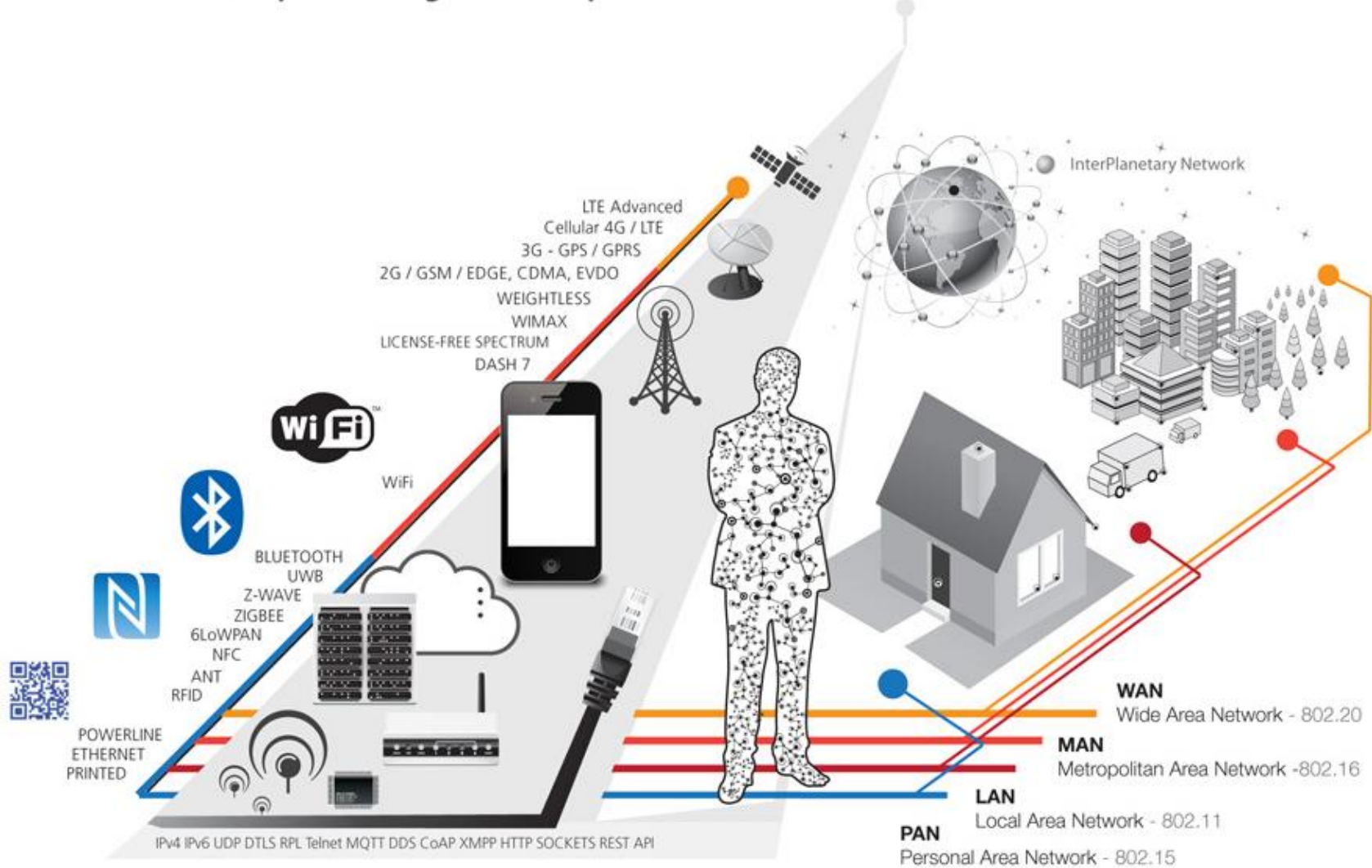


## COLLECT & MEASURE DATA



# 2 CONNECTIVITY

These inputs are digitized and placed onto networks.



## CONNECT & COMMUNICATE

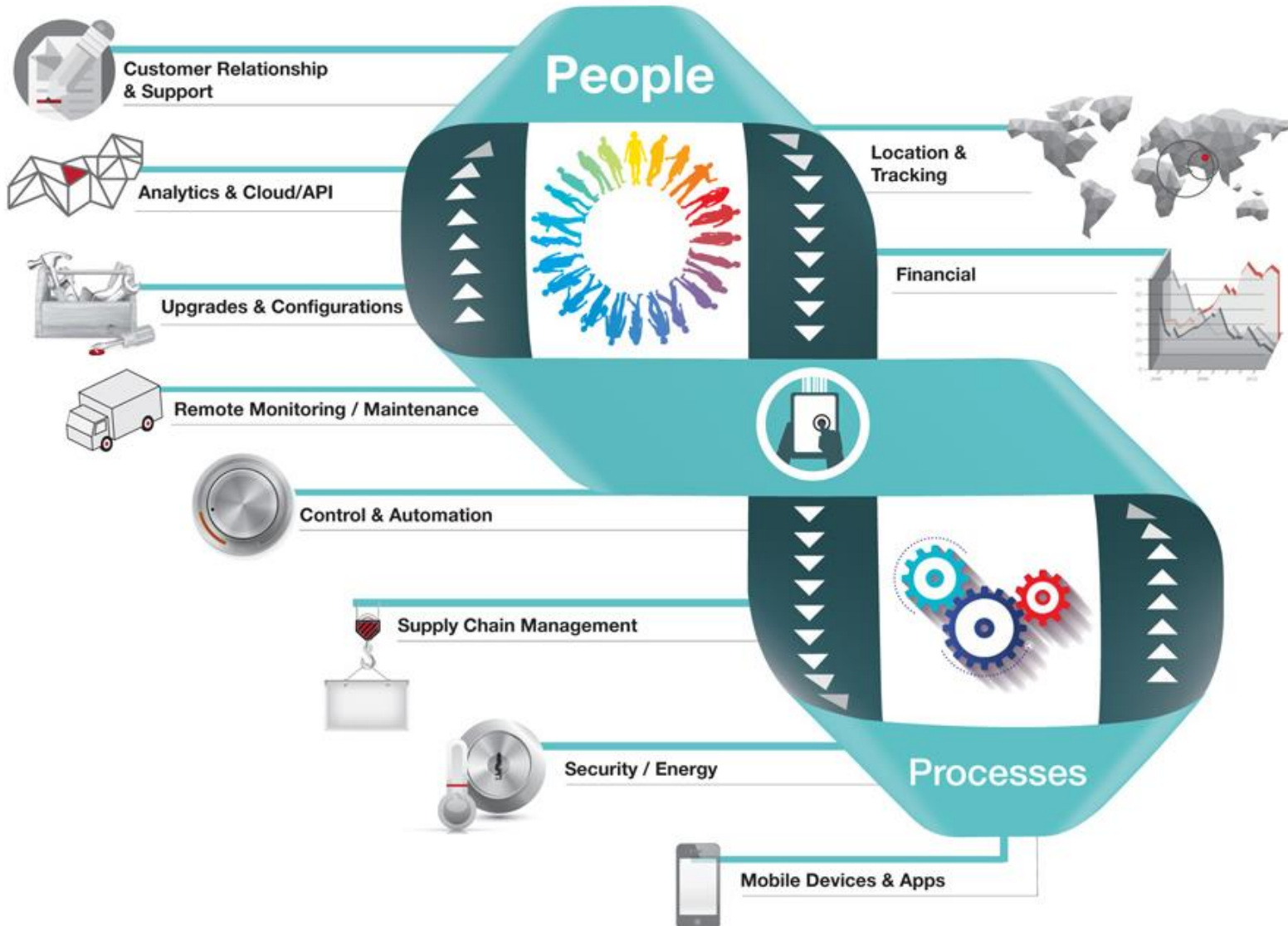
### Protocols

- ZigBee
- Z-Wave
- 6LoWPAN
- NFC
- RFID
- Bluetooth
- Bluetooth Low Energy
- INSTEON
- Lutron
- MQTT
- Thread



# 3 PEOPLE & PROCESSES

These networked inputs can then be combined into bi-directional systems that integrate data, people, processes and systems for better decision making.



## INTEGRATE & INNOVATE



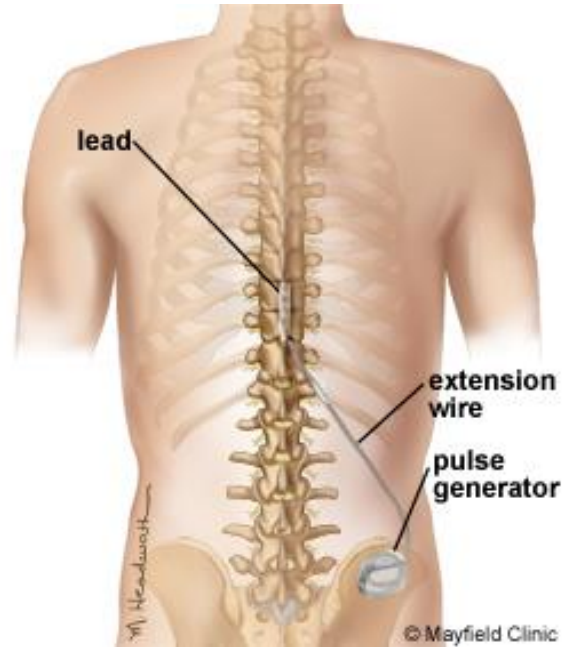


# IOT MAKES LIFE EASIER

## Pain Management 1970's



## Pain Management 2010's



# WHY IS IOT SECURITY IMPORTANT?

- Hundreds of IoT devices across every vertical
- Manufacturers lack control of entire stack
- Devices not easily updated
- Focus on features and usability, not security
- Exploit hardware easy to buy

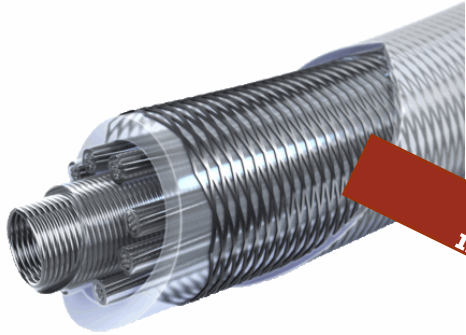


# WHY IS IOT DIFFERENT?

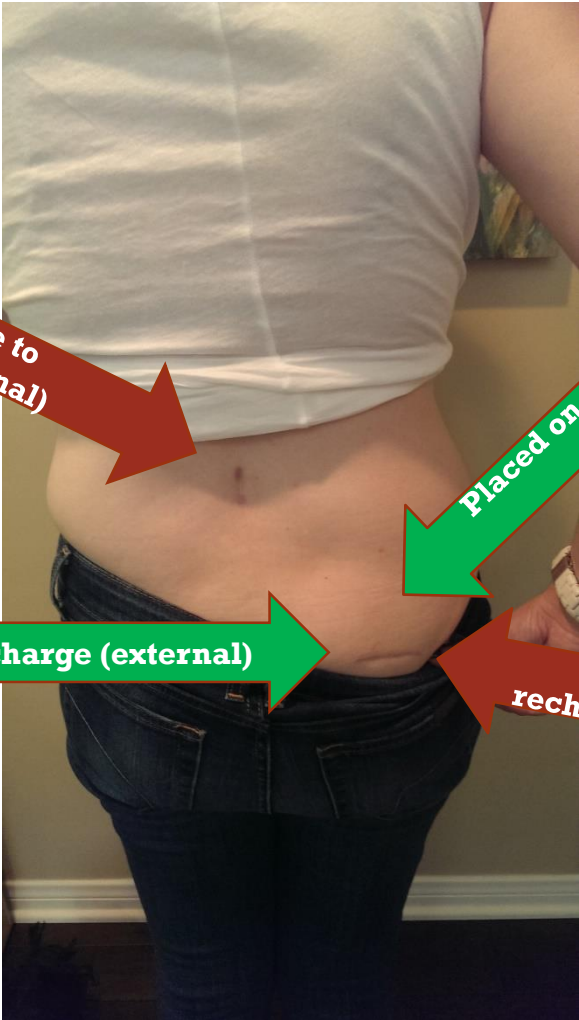
- Access to personal information
- Can be used to protect physical location
- Share some technology with traditional networked devices
- Updates are mostly manual if available
- Some endpoint devices are not updateable at all (ZigBee, Z-Wave)
- Consumers rarely think about patching
- Consumers are dependent on manufacture updates
- Many built on SDKs from chip vendors and manufactures with no security expertise
- Use 3<sup>rd</sup> Party libraries as black boxes



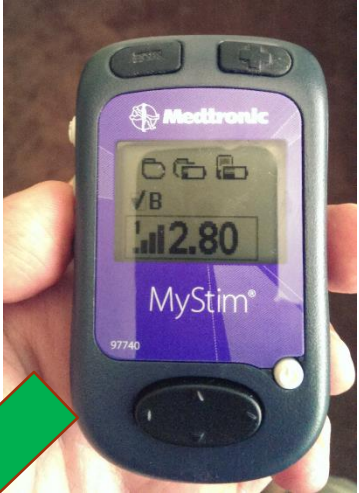
# ANATOMY OF NEUROSTIMULATORS



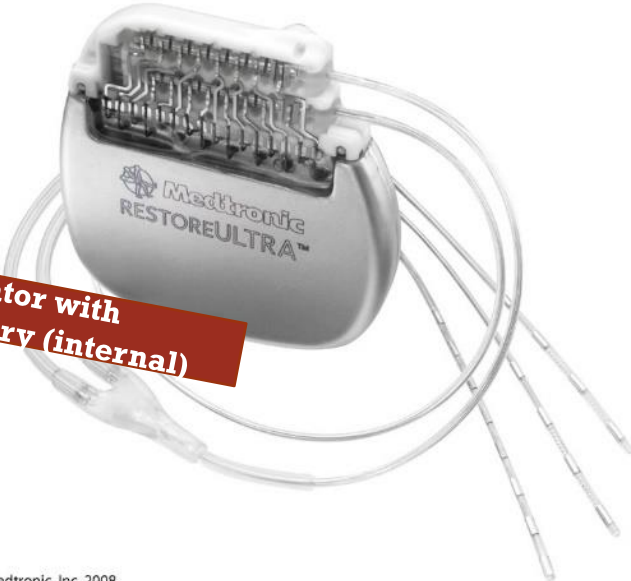
Leads connect spine to neurostimulator (internal)



Placed on neurostimulator to control (external)



Placed on neurostimulator to charge (external)



Neurostimulator with rechargeable battery (internal)

# NEUROSTIMULATOR SPECS

- **Programmable parameter: Operating range and resolution**
- Remotes communicate in 400 MHz range
- Amplitude: **0 to 10.5 V** with 0.05-V or 0.1-V resolution
- Amplitude – upper patient limit: Tracking limit: programmed value **+0 to +4 V** (0.5-V resolution)

Custom limit: programmed value **up to 10.5 V** (same resolution as amplitude)

- Amplitude – lower patient limit: Custom limit: 0 V to the programmed value (same resolution as amplitude)
- Pulse width: 60 to 1000  $\mu\text{s}$  (10- $\mu\text{s}$  resolution)
- Pulse width – upper patient limit: Tracking limit: programmed value +0 to +300  $\mu\text{s}$  (60- $\mu\text{s}$  resolution)

Custom limit: programmed value up to 1000  $\mu\text{s}$  (10- $\mu\text{s}$  resolution)

- Pulse width – lower patient limit: Custom limit: 60  $\mu\text{s}$  to the programmed value (10- $\mu\text{s}$  resolution)
- Rate: 2 to 1200 Hz (resolution: 1 Hz from 2 Hz to 10 Hz; 5 Hz from 10 Hz to 250 Hz; 10 Hz from 250 Hz to 500 Hz; 20 Hz from 500 Hz to 1000 Hz; 50 Hz from 1000 Hz to 1200 Hz)
- Rate – upper patient limit Tracking limit: programmed value +0, +10, +20, +50, +100 Hz
- Custom limit: programmed value to 1200 Hz (same resolution as rate)
- Rate – lower patient limit Custom limit: 2 Hz to the programmed value (same resolution as rate)
- SoftStart/Stop Off, On: 1, 2, 4, or 8 second ramp duration





## MANUFACTURES

- Medtronic
- St. Jude
- Boston Scientific



# BENEFITS OF THREAT MODELING

- Threat Model critical to identifying risks
- Focuses security audit effort correctly
- Documents risk assumptions made before audit
- Used to aid in estimation of audits
- Roadmap for mitigation
  - Microsoft 3S+C
  - Communication

## Secure by Design

Secure architecture and code

Threat analysis

Vulnerability reduction

## Secure by Default

Attack surface area reduced

Unused features turned off by default

Minimum privileges used

## Secure in Deployment

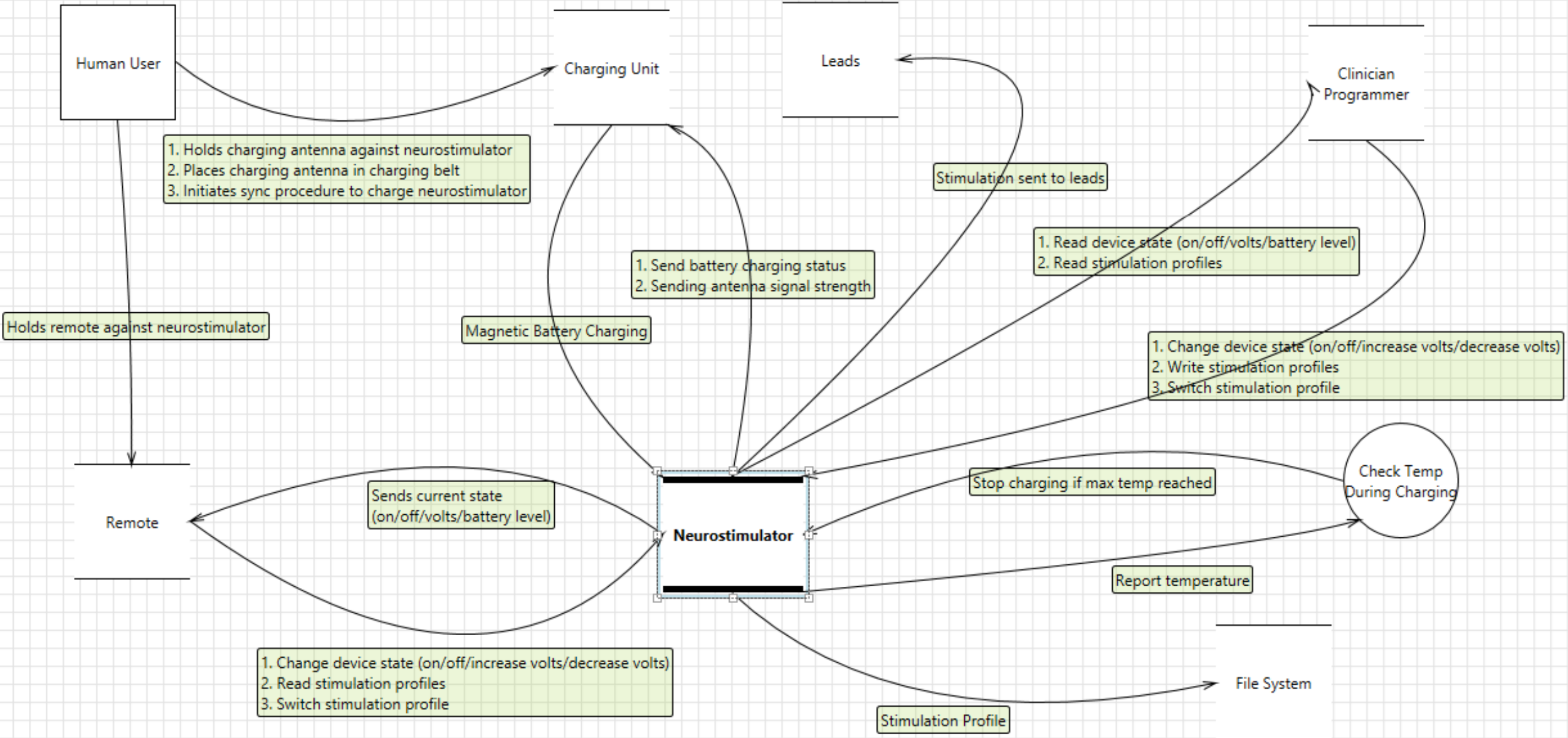
Protection: Detection, defense, recovery, and management

Process: How to guides, architecture guides

People: Training

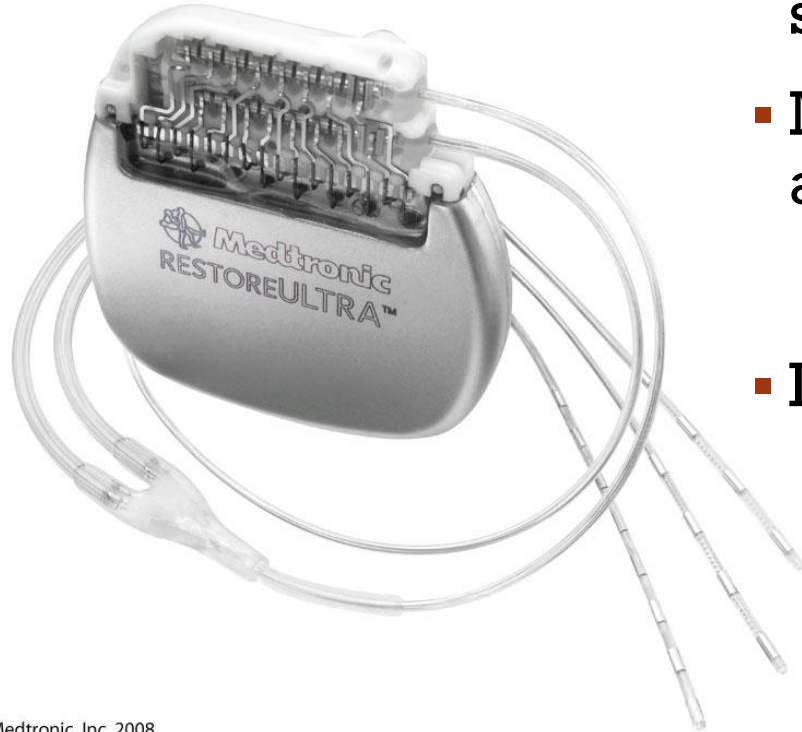


# THREAT MODEL





# POTENTIAL RISKS



- Risk: Damage to neurostimulator caused by strong EMI interference
- Mitigation: Neurostimulator has EMI shielding and is MRI safe under specific conditions
- Likelihood of attack: **highly unlikely**

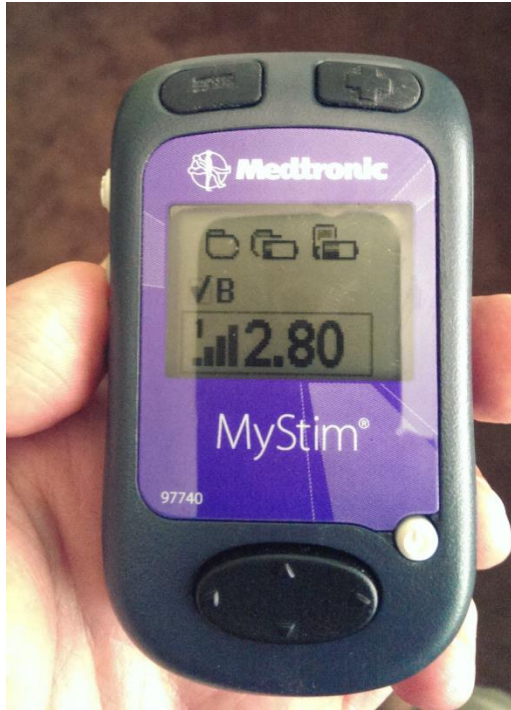


# POTENTIAL RISKS

- Risk: Changing programming on neurostimulator via wireless signal
- Mitigation: Remote only works when directly against skin or over very thin clothes.
- Remote does not work when going through jeans and a shirt
- External antennas do not change this
- Likelihood of attack: **highly unlikely**



# POTENTIAL RISKS



- Risk: Attacker turns on stimulation at high voltage
- Mitigation: Remote only works when directly against skin or over very thin clothes.
- Likelihood of attack: **highly unlikely**

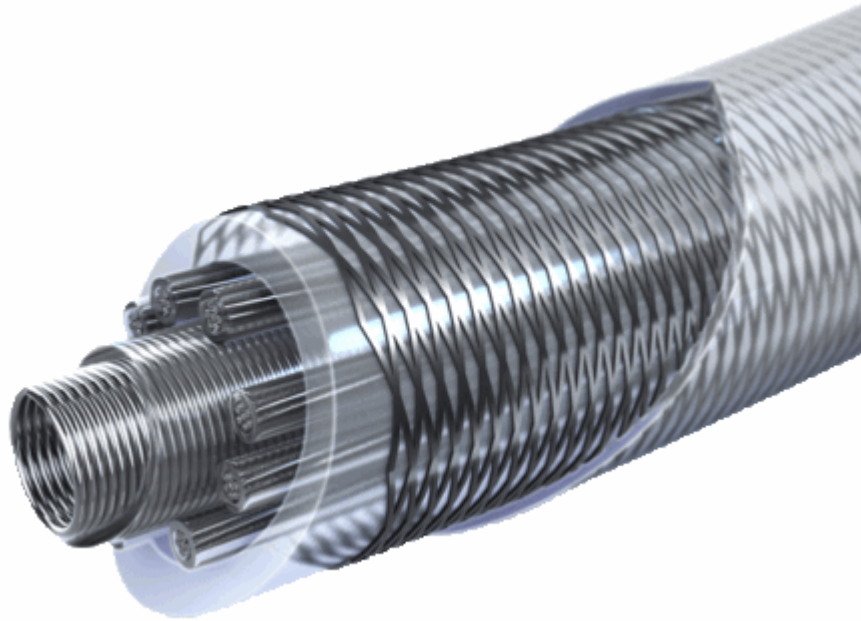


# POTENTIAL RISKS

- Risk: Overheating the skin during charging causing burns
- Mitigation: Neurostimulator monitors skin temperature and its temperature
- Stops charging if unit or skin overheat
- Likelihood of attack: **highly unlikely**



# POTENTIAL RISKS



- Risk: Damaging leads with high RF causing electrocution, shock, death
- Mitigation: New leads disperse RF across the entire length of the lead
- Likelihood of attack: **highly unlikely**



# WHY STOP THERE?

- Device cost was **\$30,000**
- Not willing perform penetration test on device inside my wife
- Willing to continue research if I receive enough donations to purchase another device



# HOW WOULD YOU TEST IT?

- HackRF
- 10 MHz to 6 GHz operating frequency
- Half-duplex transceiver
- Compatible with GNU Radio, and Software Defined Radio (SDR)
- Software-configurable RX and TX gain baseband filter
- Open source hardware
- Lots of applications already written to decode wireless using this
- Cost: \$330



# TARGET & HOME DEPOT

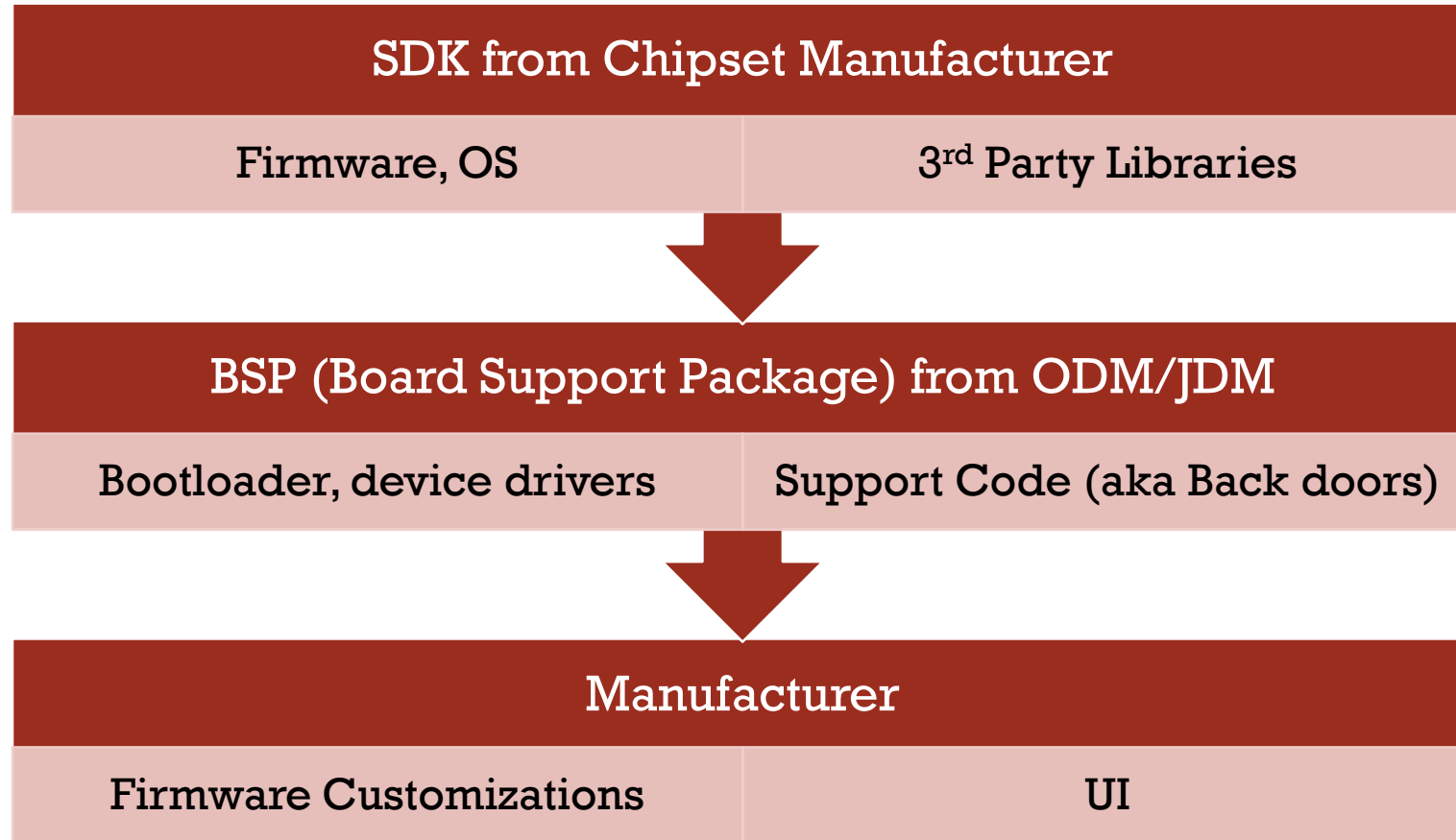


- POS systems compromised by Malware
- Attackers exfiltrated data using HVAC service accounts
- HVAC accounts captured by phishing attack on HVAC company
- Why would HVAC accounts have access to POS and financial systems?
- Variant of that malware then used on Home Depot 5 months later





# OTHER EMBEDDED DEVICES



# CONCLUSION

- Threat Modeling is critical to understanding risk
- Threat Models should be refreshed regularly
- Risk needs to be balanced with probability of being exploited
- **Most consumers could not do this – They deserve to know**
- Researchers scare people into not using devices that could improve quality of life
- I Am The Calvary – Working on rating system ([iamthecalvary.com](http://iamthecalvary.com))
- Build It Securely ([builditsecure.ly](http://builditsecure.ly)) focused on IoT security
- Every device should be tested and published publicly



# THANKS

- Huge thanks to my wife for putting up with this
- Thank you for attending
- Contact [brian@brksecurity.com](mailto:brian@brksecurity.com) for additional information on IoT & Security
- Questions?

