



**EVERYTHING IS A  
TARGET -  
YOUR HEALTH DATA  
IS NEXT**

# THE AV-TEST INSTITUTE

- MORE THAN 30 IT-SPECIALISTS
- MORE THAN 15 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN ANTI-MALWARE-RESEARCH
- **ONE OF THE LARGEST MALWARE REPOSITORIES WORLDWIDE**
- **STATIC AND DYNAMIC MALWARE ANALYSIS WITH IN-HOUSE TOOLS**
- **400 CLIENT- AND SERVERSYSTEMS**
- **1.000 TERABYTE TESTDATA**
- **MORE THAN 5.000 INDIVIDUAL AND COMPARATIVE TESTS PER YEAR**
- ANALYSIS, TESTING, DEVELOPMENT, CONSULTING & SERVICES FOR VENDORS, MAGAZINES, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES & COMPANIES



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# AGENDA



## Who

... wants access to the data?

## Why

... would they want access to the data?

... should you care?

## How

... can they get access to the data?

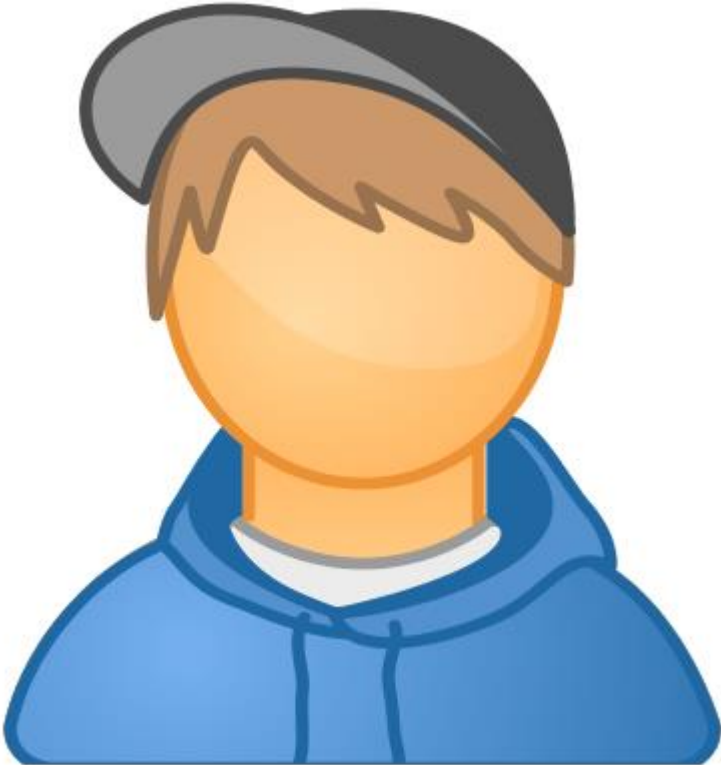
# WHO WANTS ACCESS?

## (Cyber) Criminals



# WHO WANTS ACCESS?

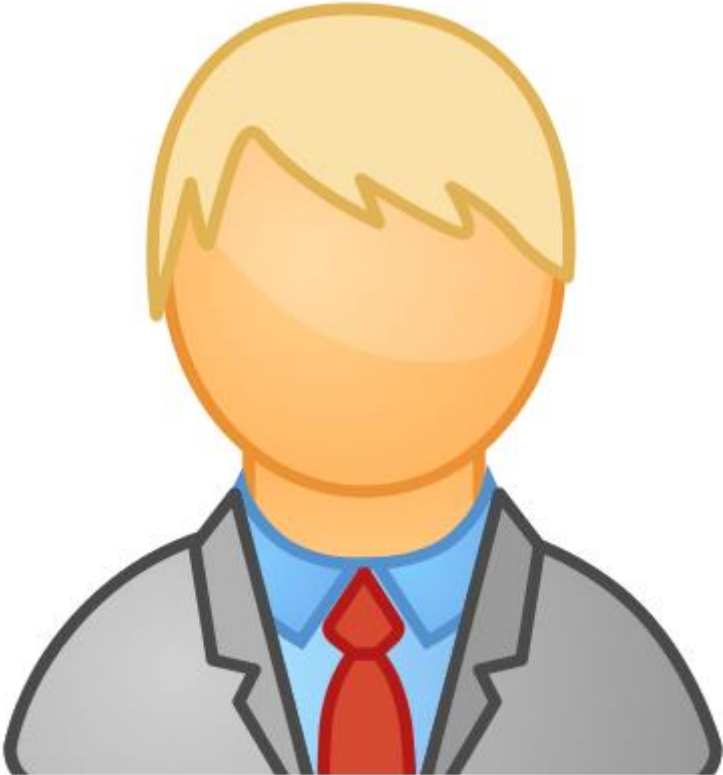
## Users





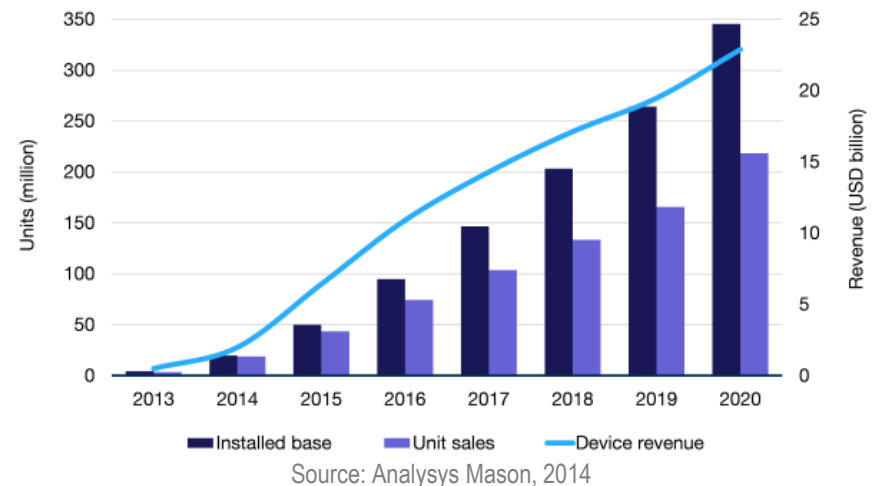
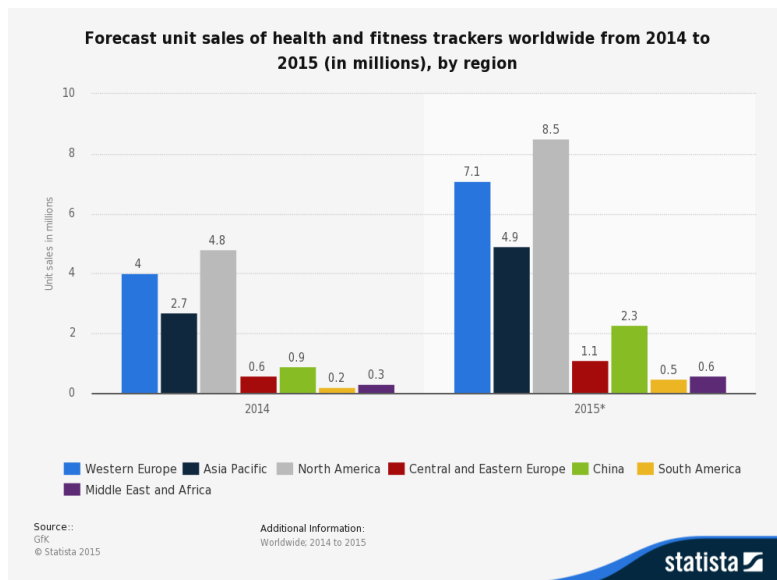
# WHO WANTS ACCESS?

## Multi Billion Dollar Companies



# WHY WOULD THEY WANT ACCESS?

- Fitness Trackers may be the next big thing with **millions of users**
- None or **weak security** concepts
- Lots of interesting and **sensitive data**





# WHY WOULD THEY WANT ACCESS?

- What kind of **raw data** is there anyway?
  - Accelerometer
  - Pedometer
  - Heart Rate/Pulse
  - Blood Oxygen
  - GPS
  - UV Exposure
  - Ambient Light
  - Skin Temperature
  - Galvanic Skin Response
  - Notifications from the Smartphone (SMS, eMail, WhatsApp,... App Permissions!)
- What kind of **data** is **derived** from raw data?
  - Stress Level
  - Feeling
  - Sleep Tracking
  - Activity Form and Level (Walking, Running, Biking, Driving – Indoor / Outdoor)
  - Distance / Locations traveled to



# WHY WOULD THEY WANT ACCESS?



- Merkel mahnt, es mit dem **Datenschutz nicht zu übertreiben** (Don't overdo data privacy)  
<http://heise.de/-2812931>
- **German Chancellor Angela Merkel: „Daten sind der Rohstoff der Zukunft“ (Data: The Resource of the Future)**

Von Flickr\_-\_Πρωθυπουργός\_της\_Ελλάδας\_-\_Angela\_Merkel\_-\_Αντώνης\_Σαμαράς\_(2).jpg: Αντώνης Σαμαράς Πρωθυπουργός της Ελλάδας from Greece derivative work: César - Diese Datei wurde von diesem Werk abgeleitet Flickr - Πρωθυπουργός της Ελλάδας - Angela Merkel - Αντώνης Σαμαράς (2).jpg., CC BY-SA 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=22908697>

# WHY WOULD THEY WANT ACCESS?

- Personal Data is worth a lot of money

Company name	Facebook	LinkedIn	Yahoo	Google
Market cap (in billions)	\$100.56	\$31.31	\$27.67	\$282.20
Number of users (in millions)	1,110	225	627	1,300
Revenue (in billions)	\$1.813	\$0.366	\$1.135	\$13.110
<b>Per user valuation</b>	<b>\$90.59</b>	<b>\$131.55</b>	<b>\$44.13</b>	<b>\$217.08</b>
Average Revenue per User (ARPU)	\$1.63	\$1.53	\$1.81	\$10.09



# WHY WOULD THEY WANT ACCESS?

- **Insurance** Companies provide **Discounts**
  - Vitality (Insurance Company, UK): „The healthier you get, the more we're able to offer you. It's a virtuous circle that's good for you, good for us, and good for society.“
- **German Insurance Companies** will pay subsidies:
  - „Nach der AOK Nordost hat inzwischen auch die Techniker Krankenkasse Wearables und Fitnessstracker offiziell in ihr Bonusprogramm aufgenommen – darunter auch die Apple Watch.“ <http://heise.de/-2817046>
  - They claim they are not interested in the data (yet)
- **Users** may want to **manipulate** the data for better discounts
- **Attackers** may **hold the data to ransom** and threaten the user with loss of their discounted rates

# WHY WOULD THEY WANT ACCESS?

- **Tracking of users** becomes even easier
  - “Security Expert Warns of Criminals Using Facebook to Plan Home Burglaries”
  - You don’t even need to actively post, attackers will read the GPS of your fitness tracker
  - „**Health-Schufa**“ (consumer reporting agency) may prevent you from getting the job, the bank loan or the wife you wanted
- “**Wearable tech** will transform sport – but will it also **ruin athletes' personal lives?**”
  - By faking data you could manipulate careers or even destroy them
- **Use** of fitness trackers **as evidence at court**

## **Fitbit Data to Be Submitted as Court Evidence**

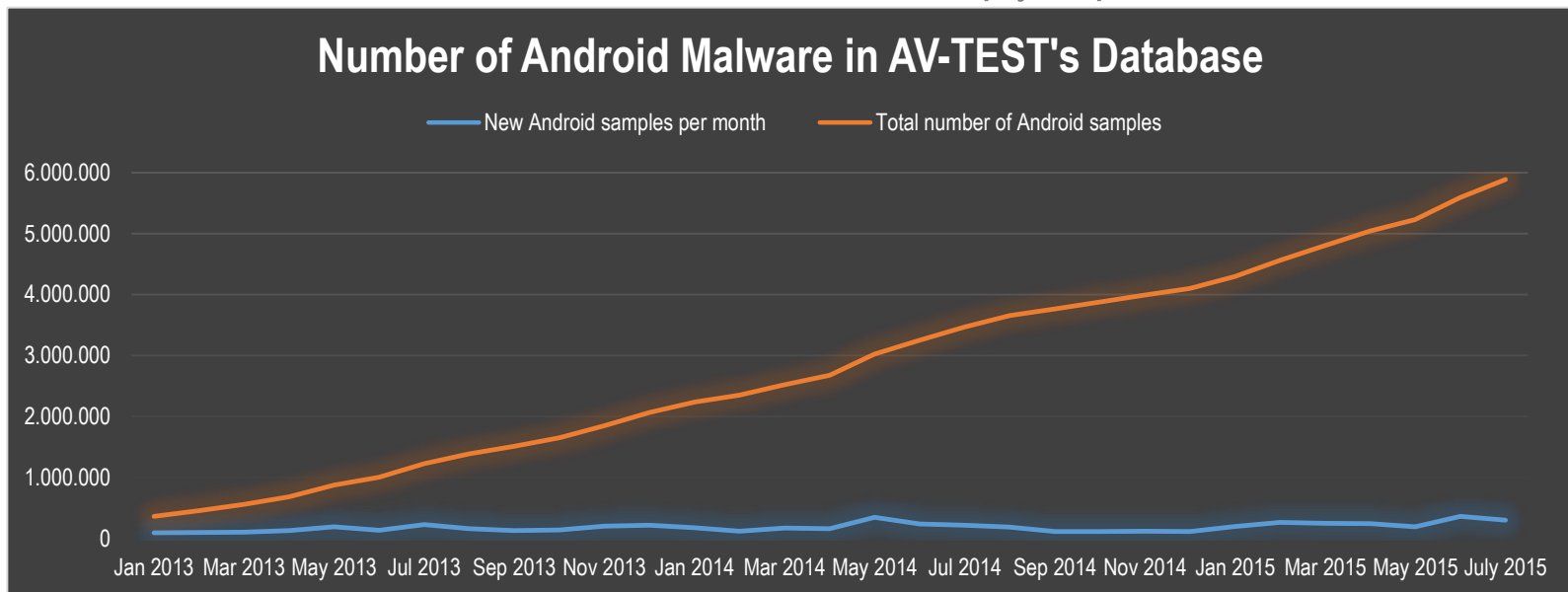
*Wearable tech numbers used for personal injury claim*

## **Fitbit data increasingly used as court evidence**

Police: Woman’s fitness watch disproved rape report

# WHY WOULD THEY WANT ACCESS?

- University of Illinois: Using a **homegrown app** on a Samsung Gear Live smartwatch, the researchers were able to **guess what a user was typing** through data "leaks" produced by the watches' motion sensors. <https://www.ece.illinois.edu/newsroom/article/11762>
  - Researchers were essentially able to **guess passwords**
  - **Android malware** is on the rise. It could simply implement this as well





# HOW CAN THEY GET ACCESS?

- **AV-TEST evaluated** the security of **9 popular fitness trackers**, results are available at
  - <https://www.av-test.org/en/news/news-single-view/test-fitness-wristbands-reveal-data/>
  - [https://www.av-test.org/fileadmin/pdf/avtest\\_2015-06\\_fitness\\_tracker\\_english.pdf](https://www.av-test.org/fileadmin/pdf/avtest_2015-06_fitness_tracker_english.pdf)
- **Majority of devices had security issues** that allowed unauthorized local or remote access to the data or even the manipulation of data
- **Security issues were reported** to several vendors
  - Fitbit released a firmware update fixing two critical security issues after working on this with us for a few weeks
  - Others did not reply at all and devices are **still vulnerable**

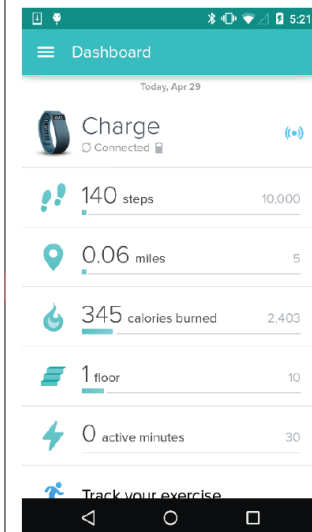
# HOW CAN THEY GET ACCESS? (Example 1)

- **Live-Data**, provides Fitness Data without authentication
- Notifications can be enabled to share the data in (near) real time
- Fixed!

```

1 // ... Initialize Bluetooth LE scanning via standard Bluetooth LE protocol
2 // ... Establish connection to "Charge" via standard Bluetooth LE protocol
3 // ... Discover services running on tracker via standard Bluetooth LE protocol
4
5 public void onServicesDiscovered(BluetoothGatt gatt, int status) {
6     //Fitness data service; UUID from service discovery
7     BluetoothGattService service = gatt.getService(UUID.fromString("558dfa00-4fa8-4105-9f02-4eaa93e62980"));
8
9     //Enable notifications to retrieve fitness data whenever it has changed;
10    BluetoothGattCharacteristic serviceCharacteristic = service.getCharacteristic(UUID.fromString("558dfa01-4fa8-4105-9f02-4eaa93e62980"));
11
12    setCharacteristicNotification(gatt, serviceCharacteristic, true);
13    // ... Be notified whenever updated fitness data is available
14 }
15
16 public void onCharacteristicChanged(BluetoothGatt gatt, BluetoothGattCharacteristic characteristic) {
17     //Fetch the data
18     byte[] data = characteristic.getValue();
19 }

```



12 A3 40 55 8C 00  
steps

00 00 F0 8B 01 00  
floor

59 01 0A 00 00 00  
calories

# HOW CAN THEY GET ACCESS? (Example 1)

- **Replay Attack** to manipulate data
  - Device Time and Alarm clock can be changed
  - Fitness Data can be erased
- Fixed!

```

2D020000 00000100 00002D02 00000000 51100000
00000000 000099A8 02702852 09002911 00D402A6
03000000 00000000 20011000 00000020 20202020
20202020 20535445 50474545 4B202048 49205448
45524520 20484F57 44592020 20202000 00000000
00000000 00000000 00000000 000045B2 4C550000
00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
04000000 14820000 1C020110 0DFC0FC0 FC0FC0FF
FFC0FC0F C0FC0000 BC7F0000 1C020110 0DFC0FC0
FC0FC0FF FFC0FC0F C0FC0001 907E0000 1C020110
0DFC0FC0 FC0FC0FF FFC0FC0F C0FC0002 E8800000
1C020110 0DFC0FC0 FC0FC0FF FFC0FC0F C0FC0003
04000000 0545B24C 550238B2 4C550124 B24C5504
38B24C55 04000000 01102700 80000000 000AFFF0
3F03F03F 03F0381C 00000000 02000000 00E71400
000AFFF0 3F03F03F 03F0381C 00000000 03000000
00000000 000AFFF0 3F03F03F 03F0381C 00000000
04000000 00000000 000AFFF0 3F03F03F 03F0381C
00000000 02007924 A8060000 00000900 01234798
06000000 0009006D 37000000 00000000 00000087
E4000000 00000000 0000002A 20000000 00000091
0100
C002
    
```

Welcome Text  
„STEPGEEK HI THERE  
HOWDY“

UNIX Epoch → Tracker  
Systemtime

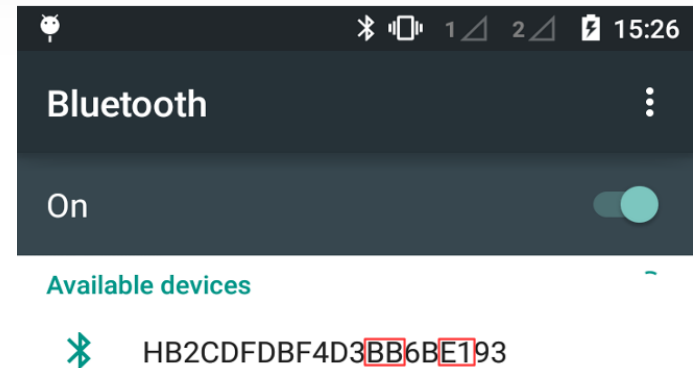
UNIX Epoch → Alarm  
Clock time

# HOW CAN THEY GET ACCESS? (Example 2)

- Rebranded and distributed by several vendors (e.g. Acer)

- Pairing

- **Requires a PIN**
- 4-digit Hex-Code
- Problem: „**Code**“ can be extracted from the **device name**



- Manipulation

- Original App uses a library to communicate with the tracker, this **library can be (ab)used by anyone, no obfuscation, no other security measures**
- It was possible to write **a fake App** that has **full access to the tracker** and is able to manipulate the data
  - New World Record 5000m Run: 8min with 1000 steps!

# HOW CAN THEY GET ACCESS? (Example 3)

- Authentication
  - Original-App checks **Characteristics** and **MAC-Address** (first few bytes) to verify **authenticity of the device**
  - Tracker does not perform any checks of **Smartphone** or **App** → **Anyone can connect**
- After successful connection (and without authentication) **data / tracker functions can be manipulated**
  - User information (height, weight, etc.)
  - Factory reset

# HOW CAN THEY GET ACCESS?

- Why is that so?
  - **Vendors don't think about security** at all. One reply we got from a vendor: „Why would anyone hack a fitness tracker?“
  - Vendors have **no experience or knowledge** in the IT Security field
    - Even if they try to implement security, they fail
    - Old mistakes are repeated over and over again:
      - No authentication, broken authentication implementation
      - No encryption, bad encryption implementation
      - Mistakes we have seen 10 or 15 years ago in the traditional IT
  - **Tight deadlines**, market demands, **features** always come first
    - Fixing security after something happened is always more work and more expensive



## Final Remarks

- Should **users** completely **abandon these devices**?
  - **No**, but they should **be aware** that a lot of devices will give away more information than they expect
  - There are **devices** that have a **robust security** implementation
  - Right now there are **no known real-world attacks** to fitness trackers. The possibility is there, but attacks will only be carried out on a larger scale when someone gains benefit from this.
- Should **insurance companies** really give **discounts based on fitness tracker** data? Should fitness data be used as **court evidence**?
- There is much more to come. Criminals (and companies) are way more creative and better in finding ways to monetarize this data
- Even legitimate ways to get (more or less) unauthorized access to your data are imaginable (**The resource of the future!**)



Thank you very much for your attention!