Hands-on Mac lab Wireless Basics

What you need to know to setup and use your wireless networks with safety and reliability

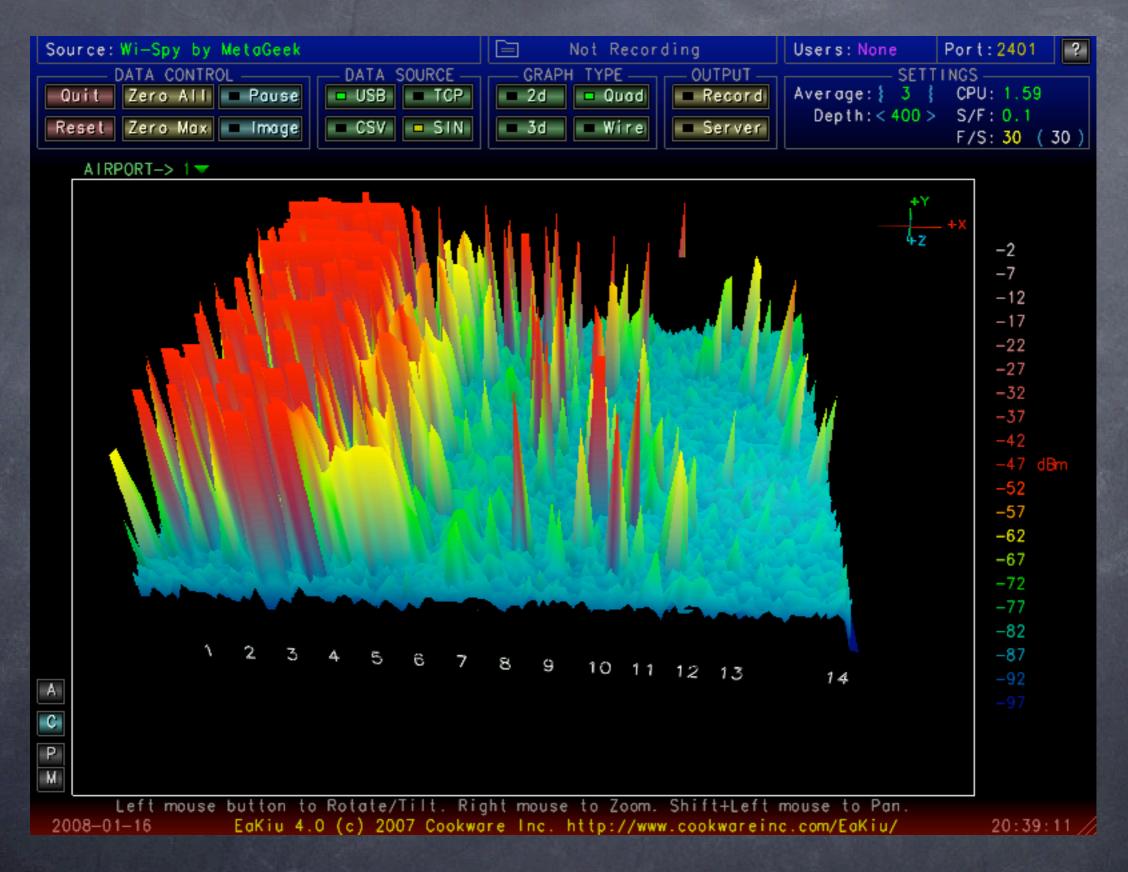
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Apple Distinguished Educator
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Wireless-what does it look like?

@Goal: to understand what wireless channels look like

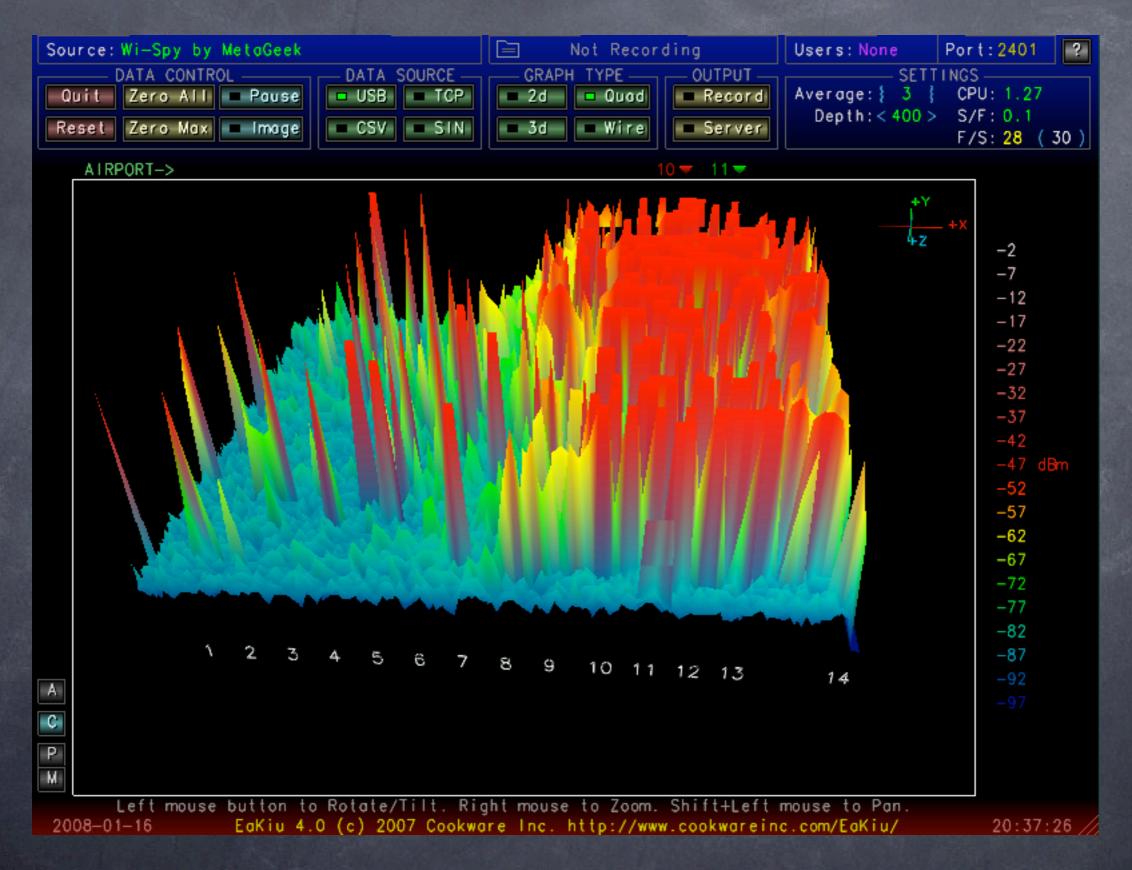
Tools: Eakiu and wi-spy

Wireless-what does it look like?



On which channel is this access point broadcasting?

Wireless-what does it look like?

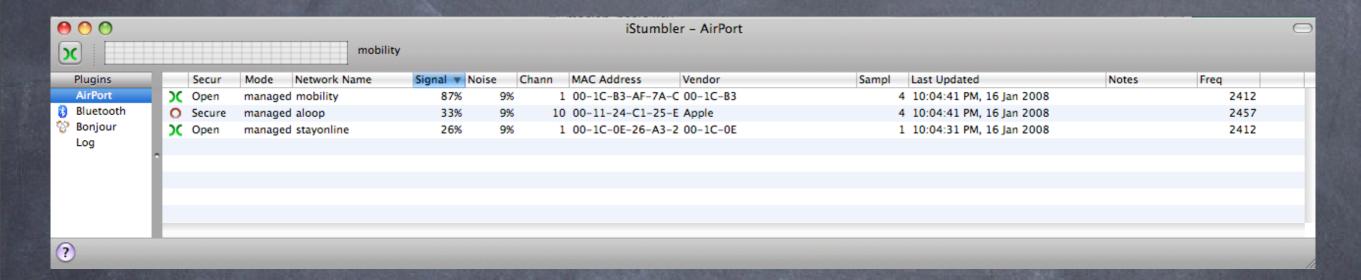


On which channel is this access point broadcasting?

iStumbler: now you try

- Goal: Using a software stumbler, have a look at the local active wireless neighborhood

iStumbler: now you try

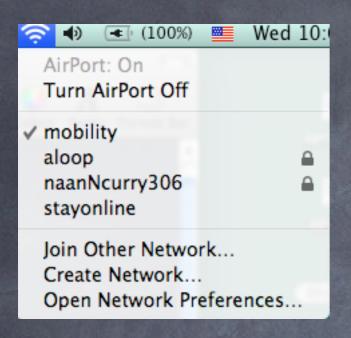


- Notice:
 - @ security
 - @ modes
 - signal/noise
 - MAC address
 - signal graph
 - war chalking signs

Basic Wireless client setup

- Goal: Learn how to configure Leopard or Tiger to join open and closed networks
- Tools: Tiger or Leopard client

Basic Wireless client setup

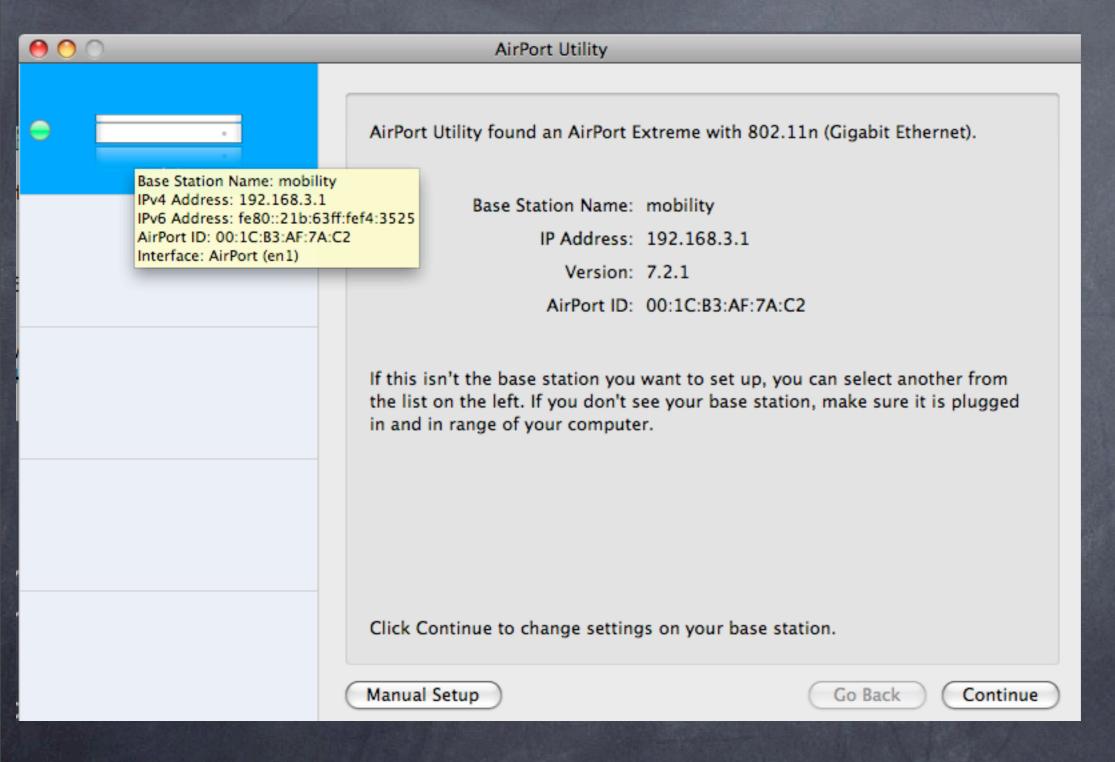




Notice:

- Open networks show as names
- © Closed networks must be added
- If secure, this is where you add the options
- More on security in a bit

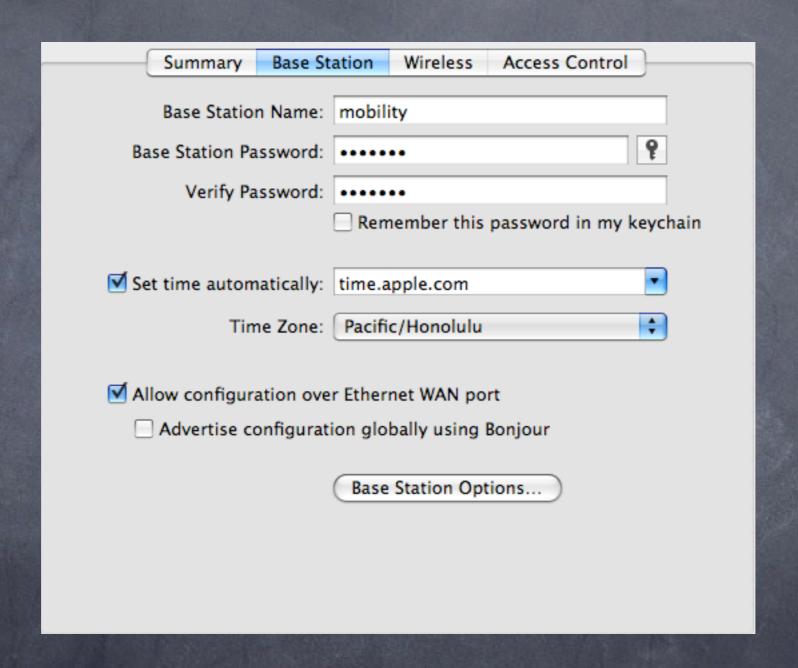




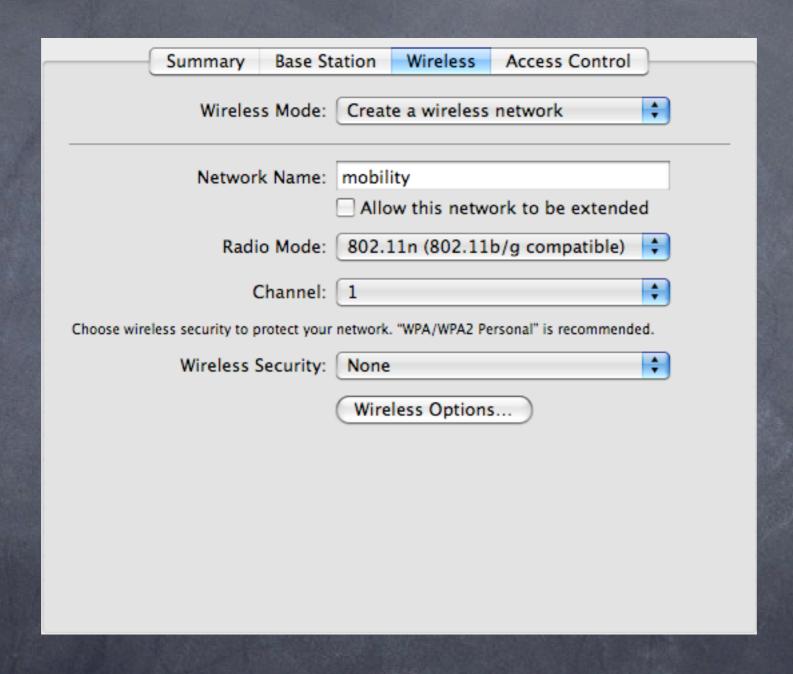
- Basic access screen, let's start here
- Go to manual setup

Summary Base Station Wireless Access Control Base Station Name: mobility Base Station Status: Normal Version: 7.2.1 Serial Number: 6F7405NFYCP AirPort ID: 00:1C:B3:AF:7A:C2 Ethernet ID: 00:18:63:F4:35:25 Wireless Mode: Create a wireless network Network Name: mobility Wireless Security: None Channel: 1 Wireless Clients: 3 Connect Using: Ethernet IP Address: 67.99.198.133

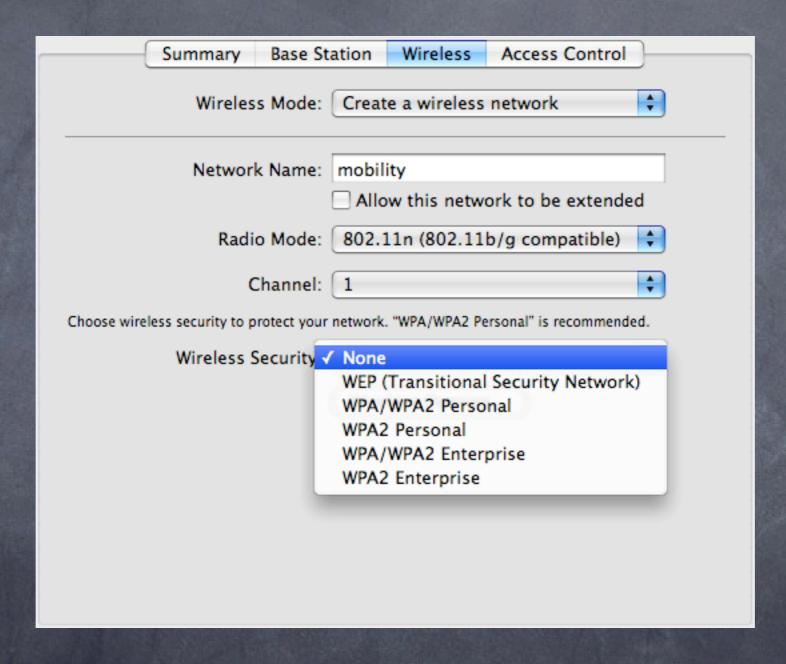
- Access Point identification information
- A good idea is to take a screen shot (apple-shift-4) for later reference



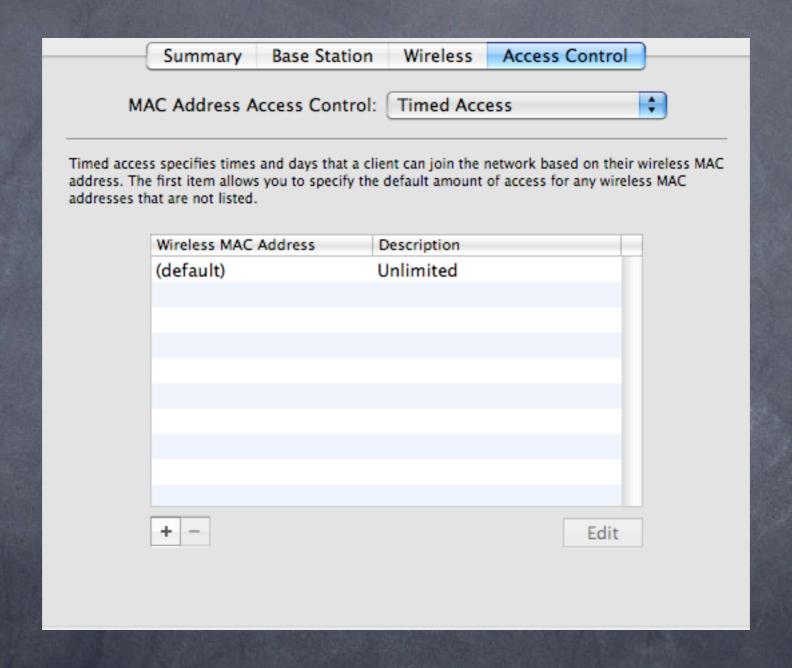
- © Change the name and always change the password
- If you forget it, you can always reset it with a pencil in the back



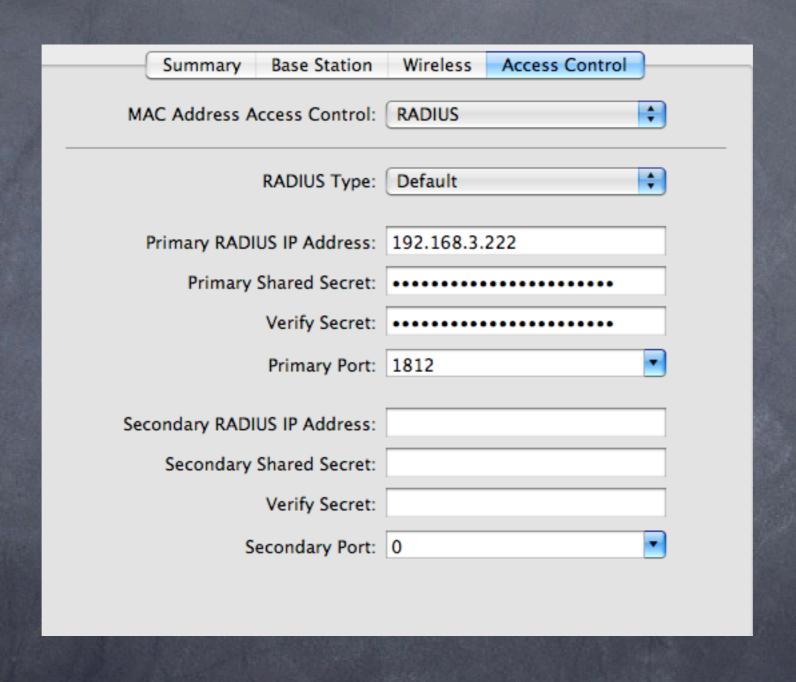
- Metwork name may be unique, or for roaming, make it the same as the others
- Note no security here



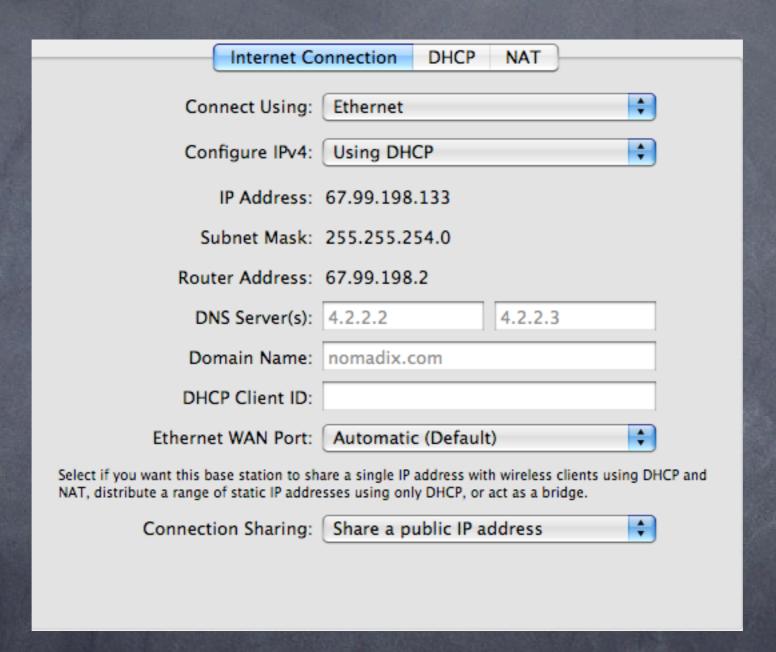
- Security options
- WEP is old school, not secure
- WPA2 is best
- Personal is between the client and the AP
- Enterprise uses a separateRADIUS server



- Alternate security screen, based on MAC address of client radio
- Note default is all clients, all on



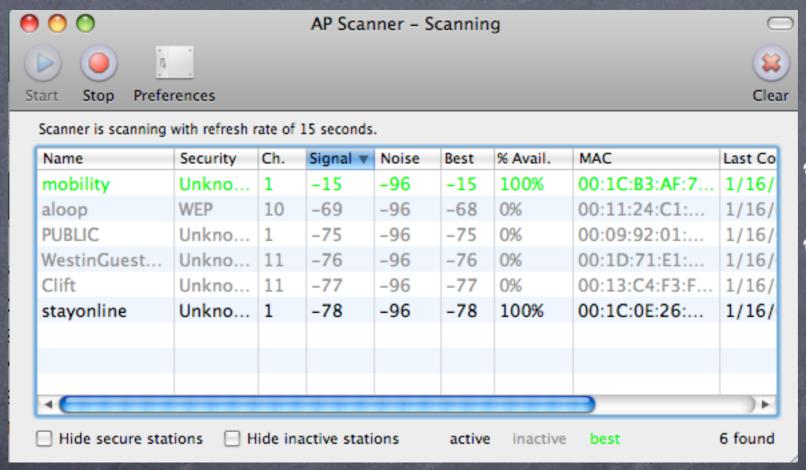
- Central adminthrough aRADIUS server
- Much more elegant, and easier to manage multiple APs



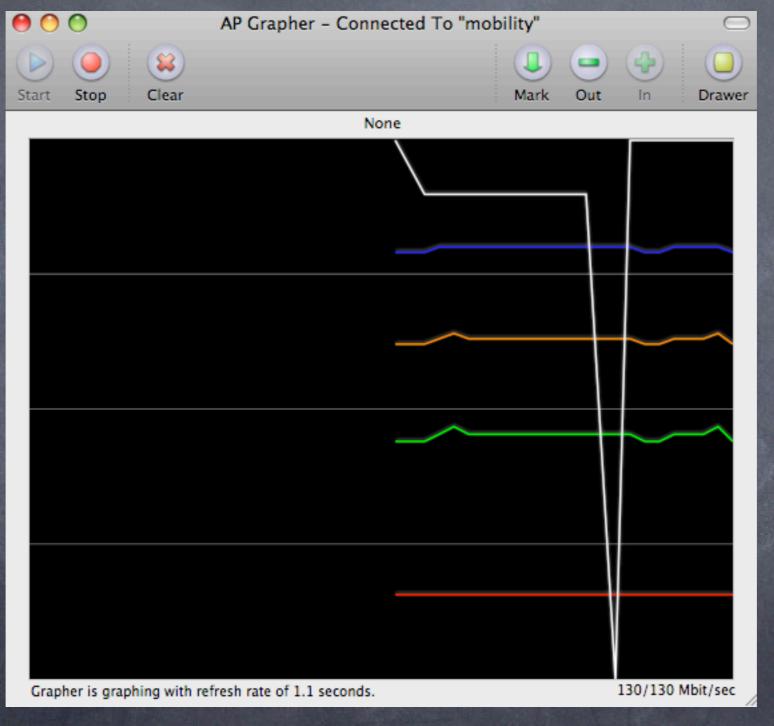
- Internet
 Connection info
- Most common is share
- Bridge is fine, always connect the outside to the circular icon, even if you plan on bridging local devices (e.g. printers)

Access Point testing: how good is my connection?

- Goal: Learn how to evaluate the signal and noise from an Access point using a client based application
- Tools: AP Grapher

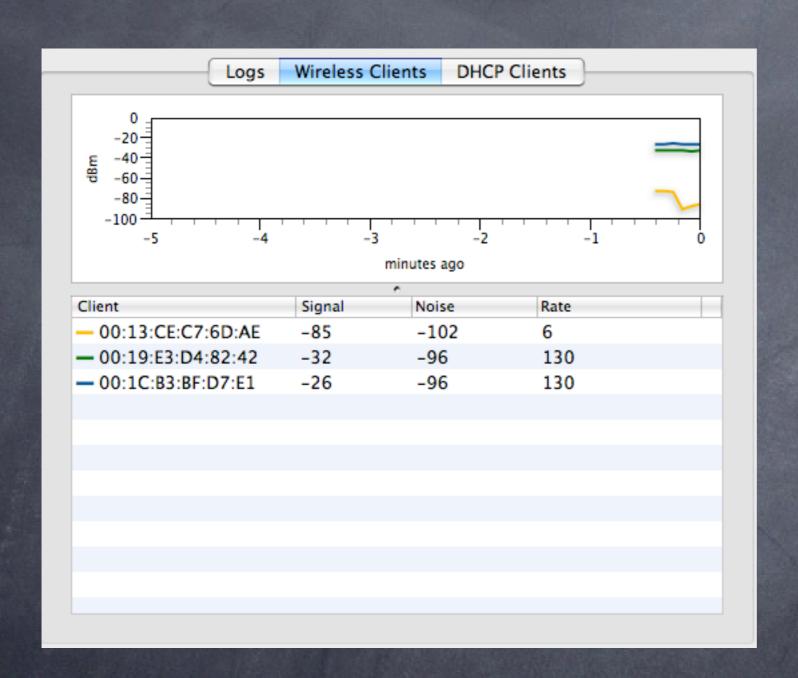


- Access point list
- Note all stats at once for comparison



- Access point graph
- note speed and other stats

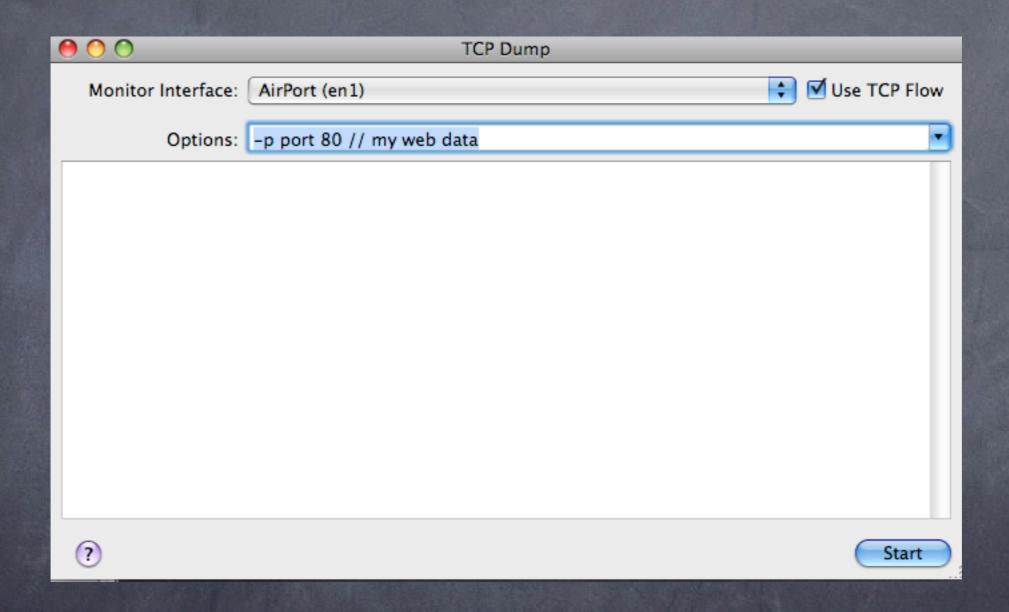
Basic Wireless Access point monitoring: take two



- Pretty graphs show client signals from the Access point perspective
- Very useful for AP placement

@Goal: Learn how insecure network are once joined

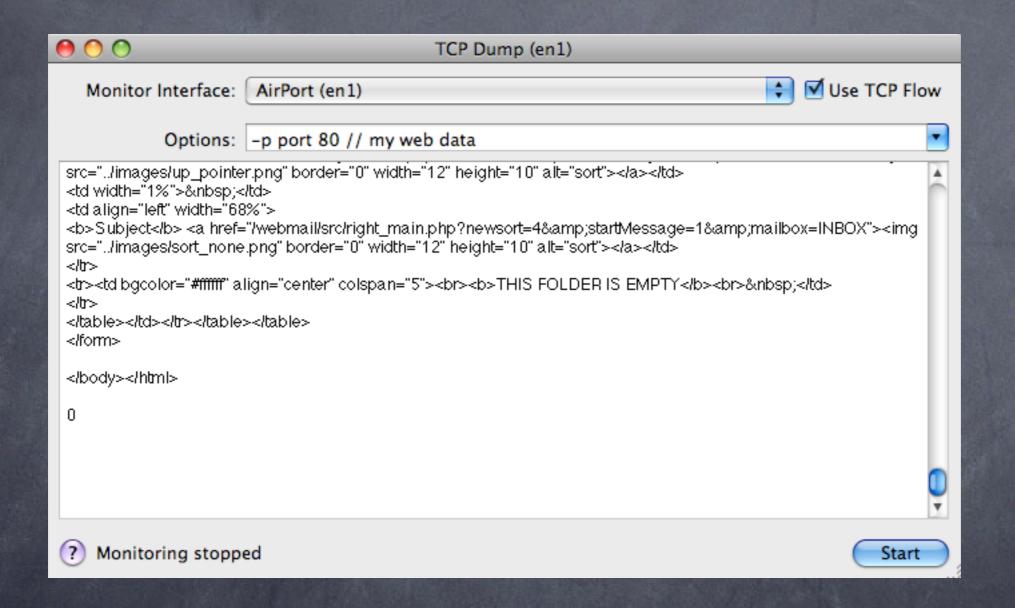
Tools: IP Net Monitor (sustworks.com)



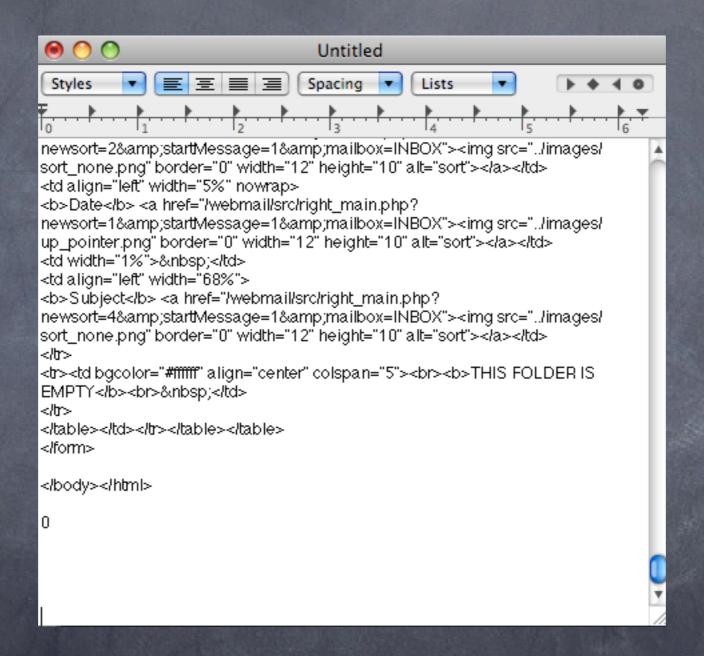
IP Net Monitor TCPdump console

Damien School email Login
Name: mwsf
Password:
Login

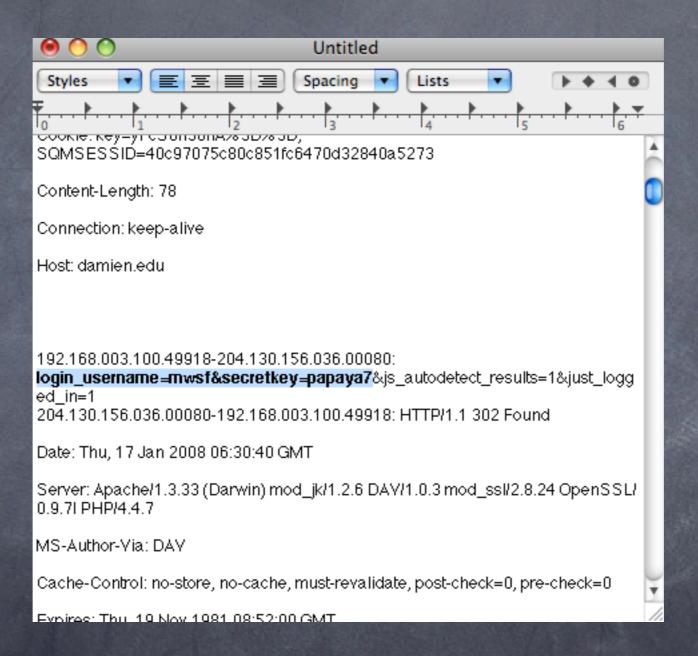
Login to webmail or other app



start, then check email



copy all from window into textedit



do a find for USER or PASS

Yikes!
...but it gets worse...
Imagine you could do this without joining the network...
from 12 miles away...
enter **Kismac**

Security 102: Kismac

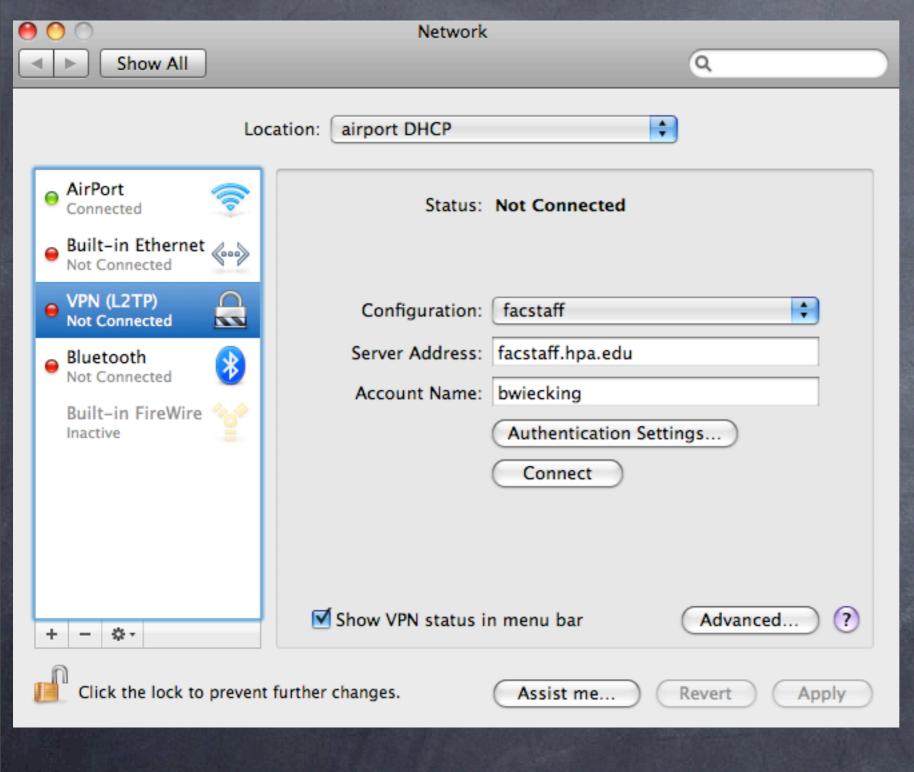
- @Goal: Learn how to monitor even secured networks using Kismac
- Tools: Kismac, USB wireless adapters (Prism2 chipset, passive mode)
- What to do:
 - Start Kismac on your computer
 - Under preferences (apple-,) select airport extreme, active mode
 - Start, notice active networks
 - Now go back to prefs, and unload the active mode, and repeat with a USB adapter in passive mode (see above)
 - Note data gathered (dumped) and even closed networks show up

Security 103: VPN and WPA2 to the rescue

- Two main concerns:
 - o integrity/security of the data passing on the network
 - @ access to the network

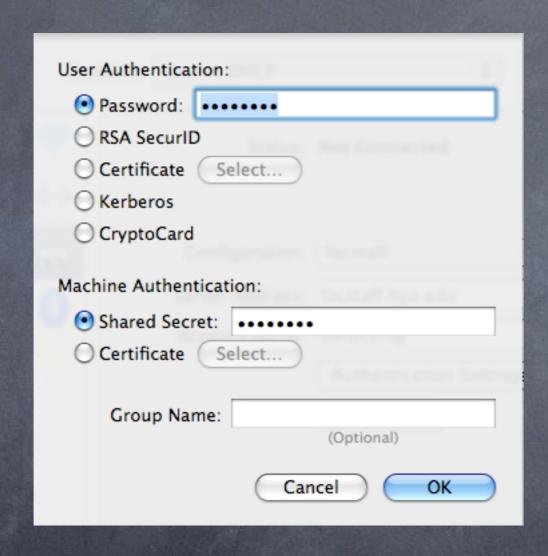
- Solutions
 - VPN for secure tunnel
 - 802.1x/WPA2 for encrypted authentication

Security 103: VPN setup



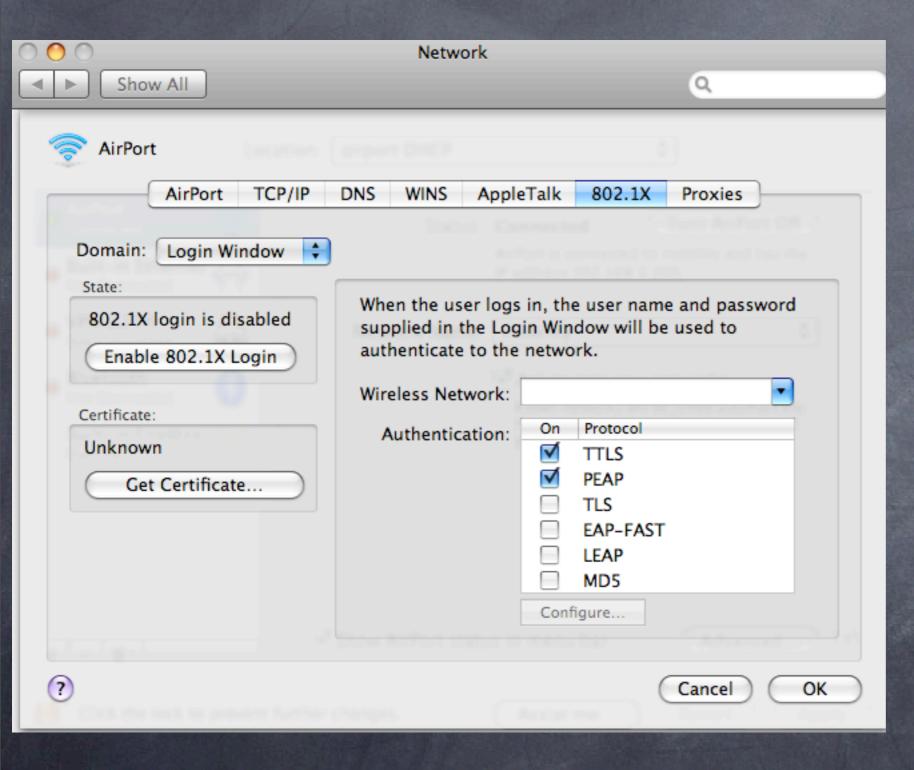
- Requires a VPN server or endpoint
- © Can be Panther, Tiger or Leopard Server
- Free with the server

Security 103: VPN setup



- password can be any number of characters
- shared secret must be 8 or more characters

Security 103: WPA2 setup



- Found under system prefs, network settings, and advanced settings
- Provides excellent user authentication to the network

What we've learned

- Wireless networks are made up of channels 1-11, but there is considerable overlap
- Simple stumbler applications can locate active named networks, but not passive ones
- Basic Access point setups are straightforward when done with care
- Access Point stats can be derived locally on the client, or on the Access Point if you are the admin
- Packet sniffing can be done easily if access to the network is gained
- Even without access, Kismac can intercept traffic
- Solutions: VPN makes traffic encrypted, WPA2 keeps bad folks off your network

Helpful References

Wireless Networking Starter Kit

The practical guide to Wi-Fi networks for Windows and Macintosh



Adam Engst and Glenn Fleishman





by Glenn Fleishman and Adam C. Engst

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