



THE SEED

A Newsletter From Your...

DENVER APPLE PI

Macintosh User Group

September 2017

<http://www.denverapplepi.com>

Vol. 38, No. 9

Denver Apple Pi
Mac SIG & Help SIG Meetings are held at
Applewood Community Church
12930 W 32nd Avenue
Golden CO 80401
7 to 9 pm
SEE WEBSITE FOR MAP

2017 DAPi Calendar		
Mac SIG	Sep 19	3 rd Tues
Help SIG	Sep 28	4 th Thurs
Mac SIG	Oct 17	3 rd Tues
Help SIG	Oct 26	4 th Thurs
Mac SIG	Nov 21	3 rd Tues
Help SIG	Nov 30	5 th Thurs
Christmas Party	Dec 19	3 rd Tues
Help SIG	Dec 28	4 th Thurs

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**Watch online Apple Special Event on
Tuesday, September 12, 2017 — 11:00 a.m.**

<https://www.apple.com/apple-events/september-2017/>

Mac SIG
September 19, 2017: 7-9 pm

Presenter: Tammy Hanson

Topic: iCloud—What it can do for you. Do you need any or all of it?

We will cover all the pieces and parts that make up Apple's iCloud to help you figure out what you can use it for, both on your Mac, your iPhone or iPad.

Lastly, we will look at Photo-Streaming and iCloud Photo Library, a sometimes confusing iCloud service.

Membership dues for September 2017:

Paul & Isolde Carrier	Kate Kusack
Annette Rau	Marie Zimmerman

Membership dues for DAPi are \$15 per year and you will receive the monthly newsletter, *The Seed*, via email in PDF format. If you prefer, you can pay \$20 and receive a snail mail copy of the newsletter. You can bring your payment to the monthly meetings or you can mail your remittance to the club mailing address: Denver Apple Pi, 6501 Welch Court, Arvada, CO 80004.

COMING EVENTS:

TBA

REMINDERS

- **Help SIG**—Call Elissa to get your name/problem on the list so our DAPi Help people will be prepared. You will need to bring your computer, your own power cord, mouse, and keyboard. Elissa will keep a sign-up list for those asking for help at the Help SIG meetings so members can be helped in a prioritized way. Drop-ins are welcome. Contact Elissa at elis-samc@comcast.net or at 303.421.8714
- Tom King says if you have questions about Excel for Mac, the spreadsheet software program, bring your questions to the Help SIG meeting. Please call Elissa in advance.
- Need help with iPad, iPhone? If you would like assistance with navigating and synchronizing your iPad and iPhone, bring them to the Help SIG meeting. **Notify Elissa what help you need, and we will try to get the problems resolved.**
- Jim Awalt has CDs of old time radio programs for the club members to use/download. awaltjw@yahoo.com
- Jim Awalt has a list of DVDs showing previous DAPi programs. If you wish to obtain a copy (\$1 each), email Jim with DAPi in subject line and indicate which program you would like to purchase. awaltjw@yahoo.com



The DAPi Board is always interested in what topics members would like to hear about at meetings. Would you like to present at a meeting? Tell any officer of your interests.



DRYTEK FROM DENVER PROVIDED FREE SMARTPHONE DRY-OUT SERVICES AFTER HURRICANE HARVEY

On August 31, 2017, Denver-based company TekDry drove a truck 1,000 miles from Denver to Houston in an overnight 15-hour sprint to provide free smartphone drying services to those in need next to Houston's George R. Brown convention center. TekDry is nationwide, there were no facilities in Houston, but TekDry set up a make-shift drying station for smartphone owners to those who lined up outside the convention center.

Here are guidelines if your smartphone should inadvertently become drenched.

- Do not charge it.
- Do not plug it in to see if it works.
- Turn it off.
- Do not use a blow dryer: Heat from a blow dryer or an oven can warp and damage the sensitive electronics in your device.
- Get professional help as soon as possible.

If it's on, electricity will flow. Electricity will touch the water that's inside and that's when you fry the circuit board. This is also true even if your phone is still working after it was dropped in water. If it still works, water will still reach the sensitive connections inside the phone—and it will short out.

The sooner a phone is dried out, the better chance it has of surviving a dunking unscathed, said DryBox president David Naumann. In his experience, within 36 hours the chances for success are three out of four. After that it drops down to less than 50%. "But that's only if they didn't try to charge it or turn it on," he cautioned. Plain water, or even toilet or flood water, is bad enough. Salt water is another thing entirely, say experts. The salts in ocean water are strongly corrosive to electronics and can much more quickly damage a phone.

Here's how a drying device works: it basically creates a vacuum that lowers the boiling point of water so that the liquid all boils off. It won't cure a device that's already had a short from being charged or powered on after water contact, but it does do something towards bringing a device back.

Pricing from DryTek shown on internet:

- Small devices (key fobs, remote controls, flash drives) \$39.99
- Medium devices (Smartphones, tablets, cameras, camcorders) \$69.99
- Large devices (laptops, game systems, DVDe/Blu-ray players) \$99.99

<https://www.tekdry.com/>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2017/08/31/hurricane-harvey-cell-phone-drying-company-drove-1-000-miles-rescue-wet-phones/620445001/>

NB: Although we've been told to put water-soaked devices into a bag of dry rice, the professional dry-out services recommend against this because debris and dust can invade the case no matter how careful you might be.



DOLPHINATTACK

Now I know who done it. With Siri and Alexa present in our household, recent mysterious responses from Alexa responding to unasked questions and then our iPad and iPhone changing preferences unbeknownst to this owner and also responding, "I don't know the answer to the question," I can now place the blame: DolphinAttack (ultrasonic frequencies from ultrasonic transmitters). Jeff Gamet in his September 7, 2017 article in [The MacObserver](#) has explained that our voice assistants, Speech Recognition (SR) systems, can be hacked and we aren't able to hear the culprit giving the instructions. Jeff says bats and dolphins might be the culprits although I haven't noticed any nearby, much less 6 feet away (which one scientific treatise says is how close the hacker must be to initiate actions of my close friends, Siri and Alexa).

To read the scientific answer go to, "[DolphinAttack: Inaudible Voice Commands.](#)"

The threat works because the microphones in our smartphones, tablets, and voice assistant appliances can pick up ultrasonic sound even though we can't hear it.

This paper aims at examining the feasibility of the attacks that are difficult to detect, and the paper is driven by the following key questions: Can voice commands be inaudible to human[s] while still being audible to devices and intelligible to speech recognition systems? Can injecting a sequence of inaudible voice commands lead to unnoticed security breaches to the voice controllable systems?

To answer these questions, we designed DolphinAttack, an approach to inject inaudible voice commands at VCS (Voice Control Systems) by exploiting the ultrasound channel (i.e., $f > 20$ kHz) and the vulnerability of the underlying audio hardware.

CONCLUSION: *In this paper, we propose DolphinAttack, an inaudible attack to SR systems. DolphinAttack leverages the AM (amplitude modulation) technique to modulate audible voice commands on ultrasonic carriers by which the command signals can not be perceived by human[s]. With DolphinAttack, an adversary can attack major SR systems including Siri, Google Now, Alexa, and etc. To avoid the abuse of DolphinAttack in*

reality, we propose two defense solutions from the aspects of both hardware and software.

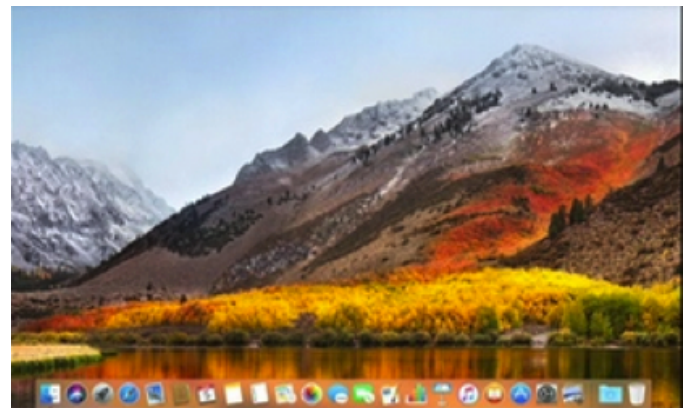
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1708.09537.pdf>

The above reference is from a 15-page study done by six authors at Zhejiang University, a national university in China. Another question asked in this study was whether autonomous cars might be affected. [66], pg. 15.



HIGH SIERRA UPGRADE TIPS

Upgrading to the soon-to-be-completed High Sierra 10.13 should be preceded by the usual guidelines: check the system requirements and back up your computer.



Steve Sande of Rocket Yard, [The Macsales.com Blog](#), gives Tech Tips you can review before you begin the upgrade. Not only should you keep your macOS up to date before upgrading, you need to check that your Mac Apps are also current. After 9 beta versions had been completed, Steve Sande says that he surmised that all the bugs should have been addressed and corrected so

he downloaded High Sierra and ran into some glitches.

Steve Sande says not only do you need to back up your computer, you need to have a bootable backup available. Make sure macOS 10.12.6 is the version on your computer before you upgrade to High Sierra 10.13.

Before you begin your upgrade, disable your login/startup items. See Steve's complete remarks with caveats before you upgrade.

https://blog.macsales.com/42206-tech-tips-a-few-pointers-on-things-to-do-before-upgrading-to-high-sier-ra?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+owc+%28Other+World+Computing+Blog%29

Additional articles on backing up your computer include using Time Machine, the built-in backup on our computers, but one that is **not** bootable. Another is to use a bootable bit-for-bit copy (a clone) of your drive using apps such as SuperDuper! or Carbon Copy Cloner. Or you might consider online or cloud backups. Go to [How to back up your Mac](#) by Rene Ritchie for these back-up guidelines.

https://www.imore.com/how-to-back-up-your-mac?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+TheIphoneBlog+%28iMore%29



OOPS - APPLE WATCH INVESTIGATION

September 5, 2017

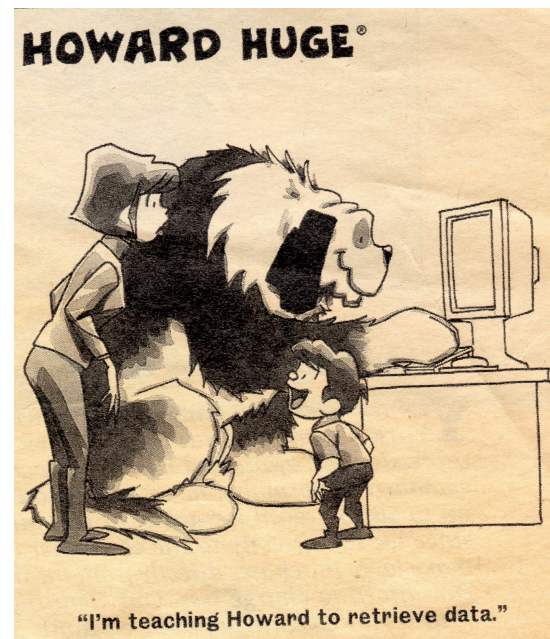
MacRumors says that investigators for Major League Baseball believe the Boston Red Sox, currently in first place in the American League East, have used the Apple Watch to

illicitly steal hand signals from opposing teams according to [The New York Times](#).

The Red Sox are believed to have stolen hand signals from opponents' catchers in games using video recording equipment and communicated the information with the Apple Watch.

Baseball investigators corroborated the claim using video for instant replay and broadcasts before confronting the Red Sox. The team admitted that trainers received signals from video replay personnel and then shared them with some players.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/05/sports/baseball/boston-red-sox-stealing-signs-yankees.html>



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MEMBERSHIP DUES are \$20.00 per year for a monthly hard copy of The Seed and \$15.00 per year for a monthly PDF copy. Fill in the form below or ask for an application to send with your check to the Club mailing address: DENVER APPLE Pi, 67501 Welch Ct, Arvada CO 80004. For information, call Elissa McAlear at 303.421.8714 about Apple II, GS and Mac. Email elissamc@comcast.net. Our web site is:

<http://www.denverapplepi.com>

Mac SIG meets the THIRD Tuesday of the month, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Troubleshooter Group Help SIG meets the FOURTH Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. unless a holiday necessitates a change. Seed articles should be mailed to jjetherton@comcast.net, subject: Seed article.

Membership Form

Date _____ ☐ Renewal ☐ New ☐ Change

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____

Kind of Computer: Apple II _____ GS _____ Mac _____ OS _____

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