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How to control Ovi-bovi tags via NFC on your smartphone

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Ovi-bovi activity detection tags have exceptionally rich and flexible functionality. They can work in basically two distinct regimes: normal cow activity aggregation for further detection of heat and rumination on server's level, and datalogger regime for raw acceleration data collection and its immediate on-air transmission for further processing and research. You can switch between normal (default) and datalogging regimes via NFC on your smartphone; and you can tweak many subtler things within each of these regimes.

Data processing algorithm on tag's level is coded in C and has a bunch of user-editable parameters:

uint32 t sensorId;	// json: sid
uint32 t cyclePeriod;	// json: rate
uint32 t rumSamplesPerSquare;	// json: rsps
uint32 t rumSquaresPerMetric:	// ison: rspm
uint32 t rumThreshold:	// ison: rth
uint32 t rumFinalShift:	// ison: rshift
uint32 t actSamplesPerMetric:	// ison: aspm
uint32 t actMetricsPerGroup:	// ison: ampg
uint32 + actFinalShift.	// ison: ashift
uint32 + nadioPLLEnac:	// ison: nll
bool datal ogModo:	// json: dlog
bool dataLogHode,	// json. ulog
bool ruminationMode;	// JSON: Pumi
Their default settings are something like:	
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<pre>#define CYCLE_PERIOD_MS</pre>	500 // 500 msec between measurements
<pre>#define RUM_SAMPLES_PER_SQUARE</pre>	30 // 15 seconds correlation length
<pre>#define RUM_SQUARES_PER_METRIC</pre>	40 // 10 minutes aggregation length
#define RUM_THRESHOLD	1 // lower dX dY dZ limit
#define RUM_FINAL_SHIFT	2 // right-shift accumulated value by
#define ACT_SAMPLES_PER_METRIC	RUM_SAMPLES_PER_SQUARE * RUM_SQUARES_PER_METRIC
#define ACT_GROUP_SIZE	2 // packet per 20 minutes
#define ACT_FINAL_SHIFT	12 // right-shift accumulated value by
#define RADIO_PLL_FRAC	0 // in PLL units
#define DATALOG_MODE	false
#define RUMINATION_MODE	true

If we want to use tags as dataloggers, we should set dlog to 1 (1 means logical true). It is also highly recommended to modify tag's number sid as ABCOXYZ -> ABC1XYZ (ABC stands for your client's numerical code, XYZ is your tag's number which is laser-engraved on its casing) not to mix new accelerometer data with regular activity data obtained in normal regime with this same tag.

To change sid and dlog, use a mobile phone with NFC functionality. You can download any of the freely available NFC editors – this can be ST25 from STMicroelectonics, or NFC Tools, or whatever else. Assume you have NFC Tools installed, and your tag's full ID is 9990666 (of which you would see 666 on the casing).

In *NFC Tools*, tap on **Write** -> **Add a record**:



You will see a long list of options; choose **Data** at the end of. Your **Content-type** is application/json, so type this in. Then type your actual **Data** as {"sid":9991666,"dlog":1} and confirm it by clicking **OK**:

Emergency calls 🛛 … 🛛 0K/s 🜃 穼 🖬 💷 10:35 pm	Emergency calls 🗹 … 69B/s 🖼 🛜 ቤ 💷 10:36 pm
← Add a record	← Add a record
Start the navigation to a location on Google Maps	Enter your data
Proximity search > Search for points of interest near a location >	Content-type :
Open the street view at coordinates	application / json
Emergency >	Data :
Bitcoin Add a Bitcoin address	{"sid":9991666,"dlog":1}
Bluetooth > Add a bluetooth connection >	
Configure a WIFI network	
Add a custom record	Cancel OK

Click Write on the page you will see next moment, and approach your phone to the tag:



Done!



Now suppose you are to switch your tag back to normal, energy sparing regime. This is achieved by setting tag's sid from 9991666 to 9990666 and dlog from 1 to 0; in *NFC Tools* this is done through not typing the data from scratch, but editing the data still stored in app's memory:



Alternatively, you may edit the data with ST25. First open it, read your tag, and tap NDEF:



Now tap **Edit this MIME NDEF record**, and then the *P* button on the top-right to start editing:



Now you are able to change 1's to 0's in sid and dlog; after that, approach the tag with the phone until it beeps and press the **I** button on the top-right:



Success!



Note that after writing MIME NDEF record to Ovi-bovi tag (no matter which tool on your phone you use), it takes up to **one minute** until this record is read and executed by microcontroller.