

# FROM PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS TO EXPLOITS

(PWINING IOT DEVICES LIKE A BOSS)

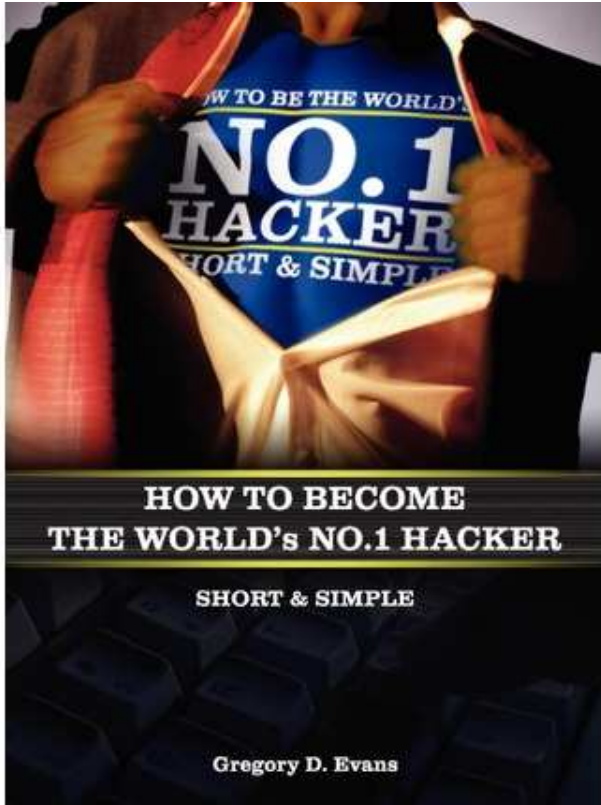
 [@virtualabs](https://twitter.com/virtualabs) | Hack in Paris '18  
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# ABOUT ME

- Head of Research @ **Econocom Digital Security**
- **Hardware hacker** (or at least pretending to be one)
- **Speaker** @ various conferences
- Special interest in **Bluetooth Low Energy** since 2 years

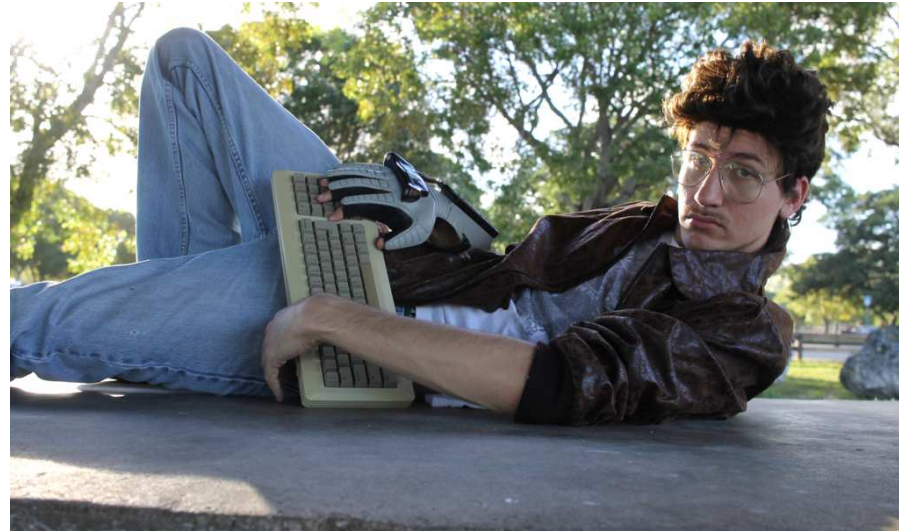
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# WHAT THIS TALK IS NOT



- A detailed reference guide on how to p0wn IoT devices
- A list of tools you may use to test devices

# IT IS ALL ABOUT HOW TO THINK AND ANALYZE AND EXPLOIT



**LET'S DO IT THE HACKER WAY !**

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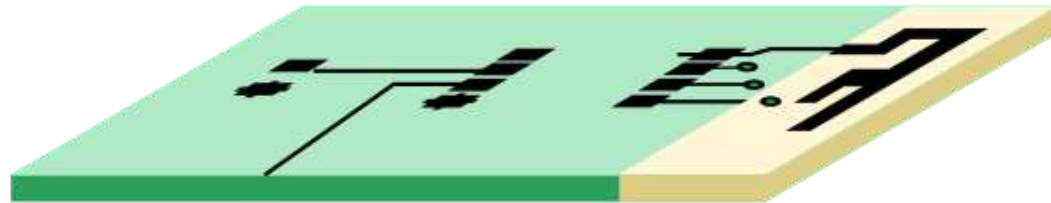
# METHODOLOGY

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# EXISTING METHODOLOGIES

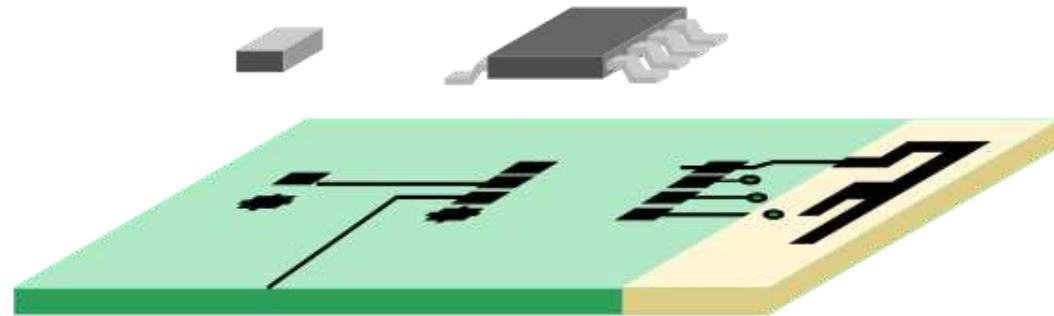
- **Rapid7's methodology** (7 basic steps)
- **OWASP IoT Project** (not really mature yet)

# PCB REVERSE-ENGINEERING



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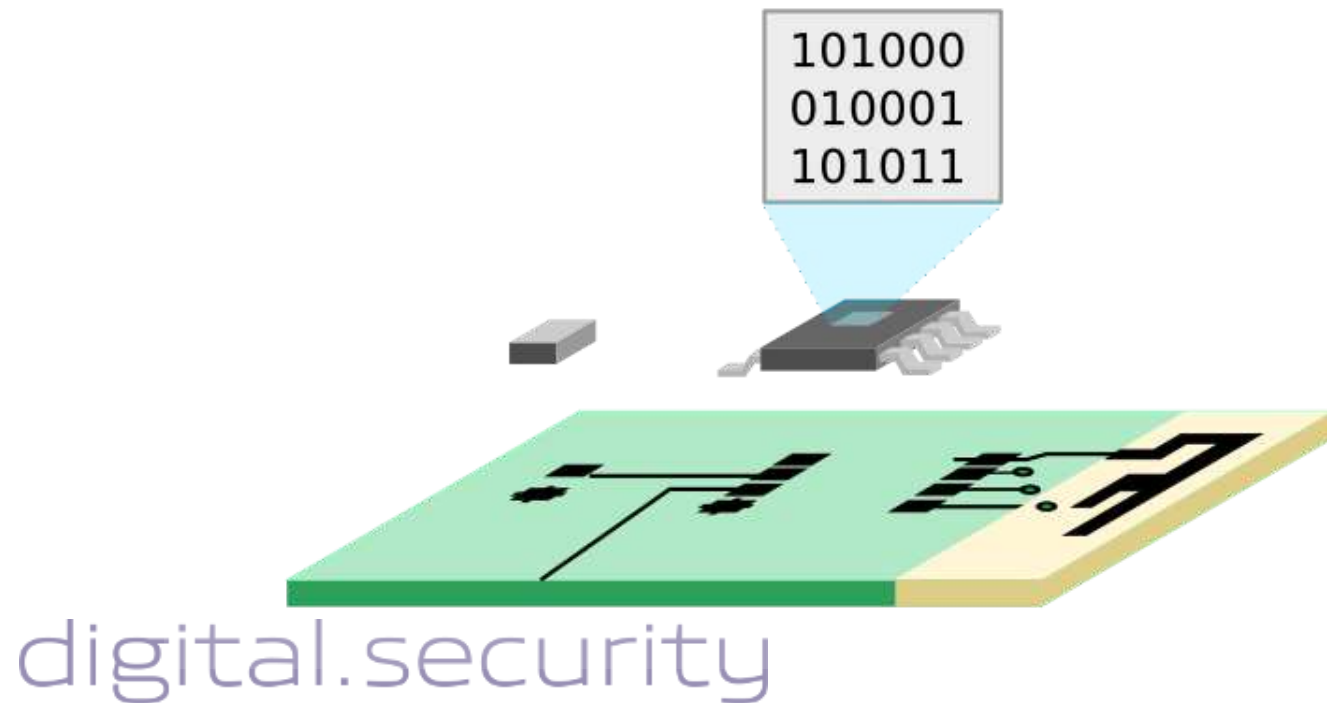
# COMPONENTS IDENTIFICATION



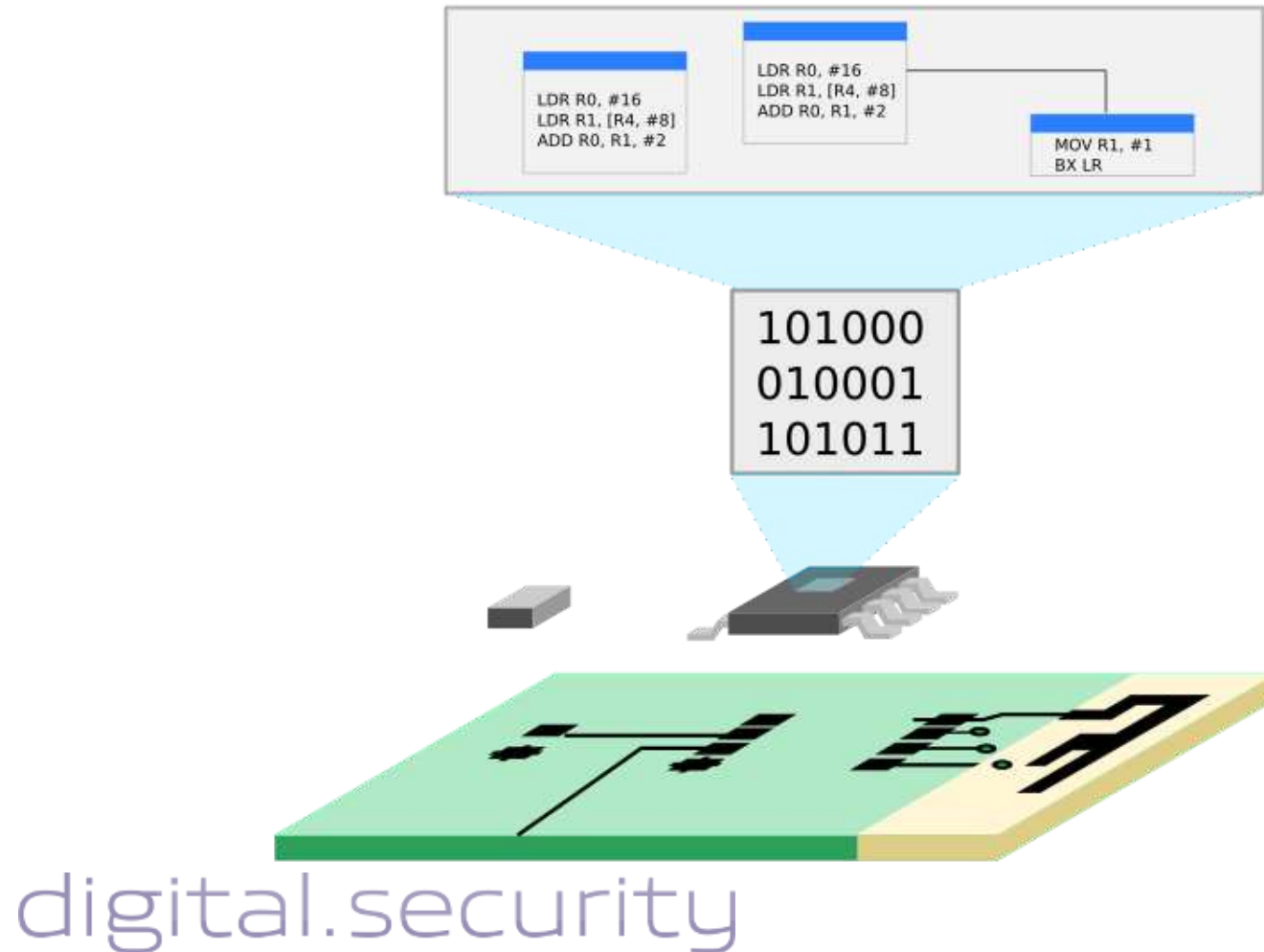
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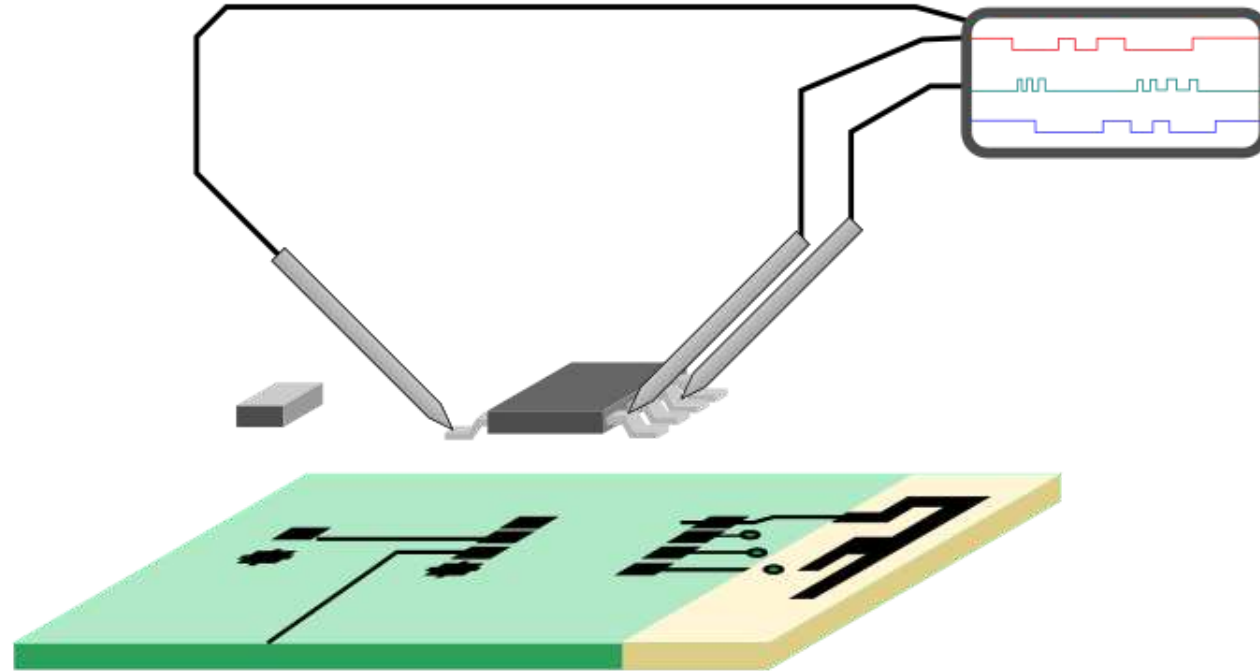
# MEMORY EXTRACTION



# SOFTWARE REVERSE-ENGINEERING

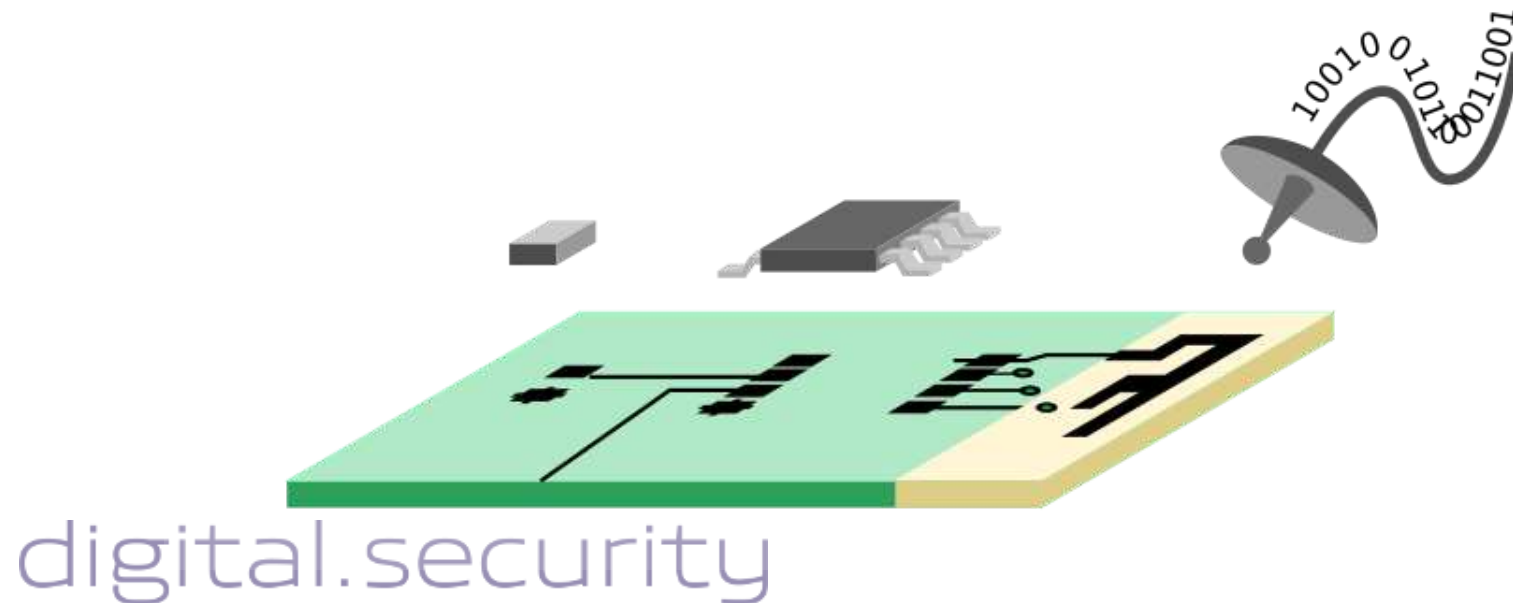


# SNIFFING WIRED COMMS.



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# SNIFFING WIRELESS COMMS.



# FIND VULNS & ATTACK !



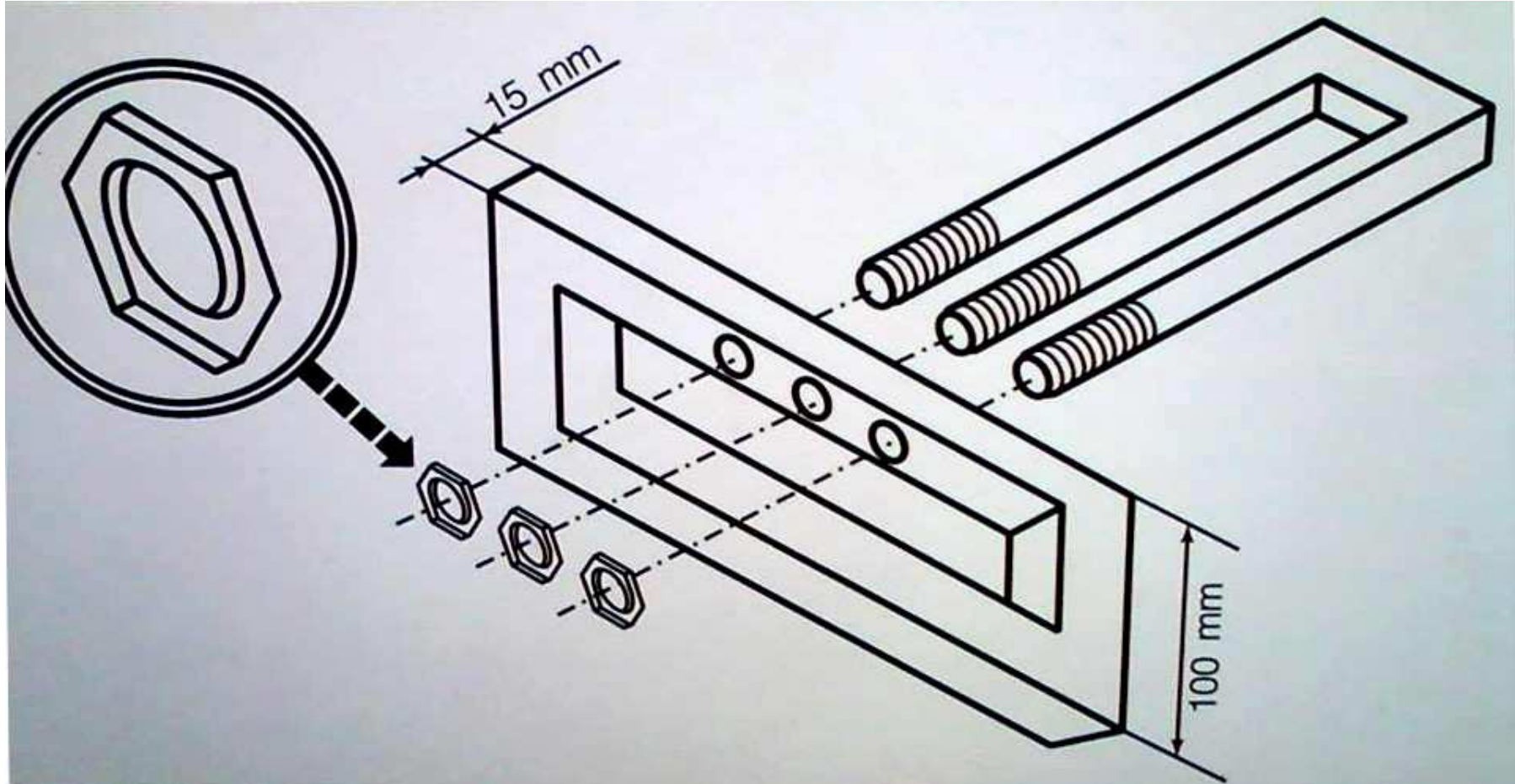
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# OUR VICTIM SMARTLOCK



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# STEP #1: TEARDOWN

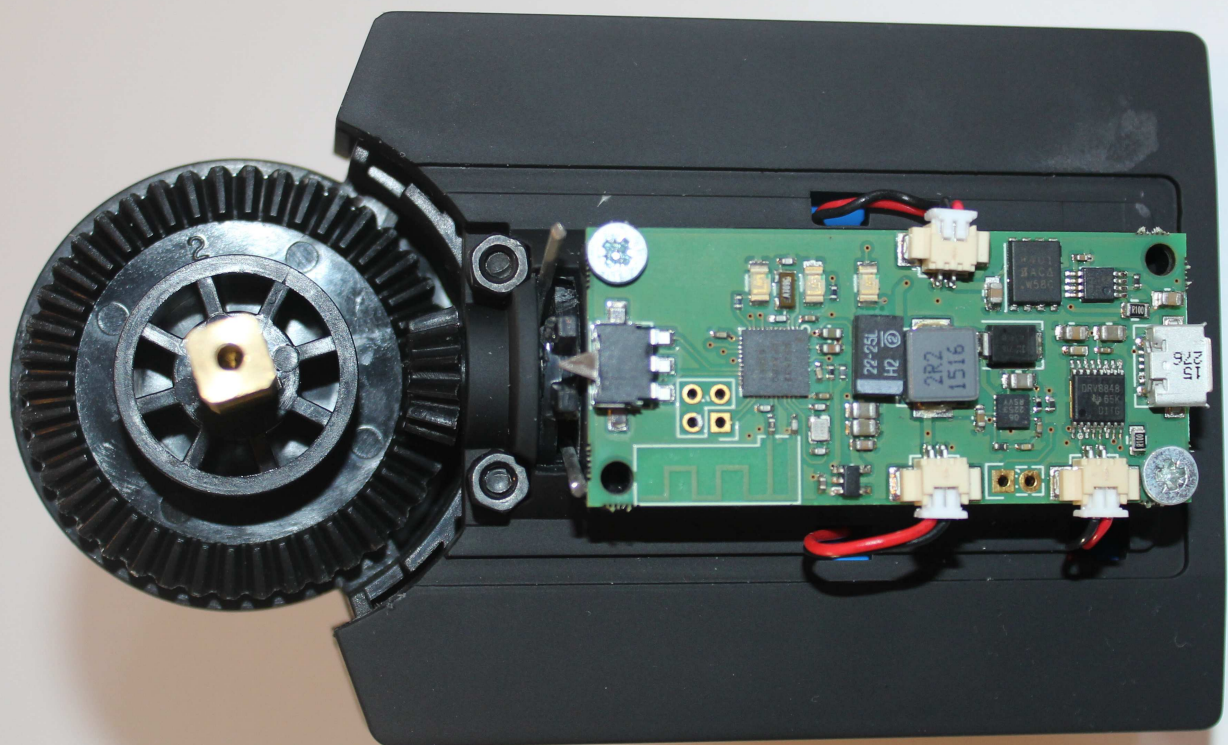


# USE THE RIGHT TOOLS



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# KEEP CALM !



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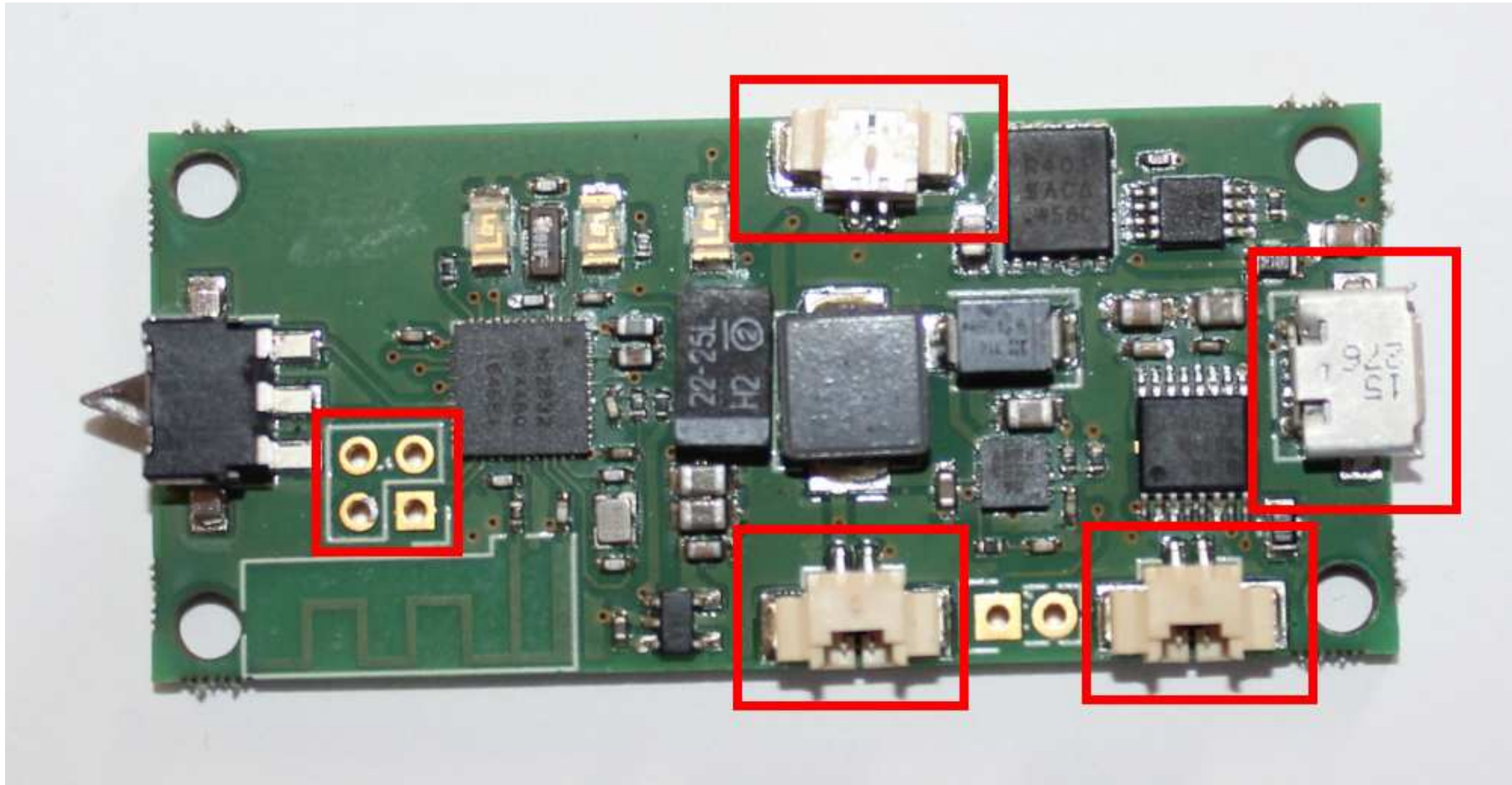
# STEP #2: GLOBAL ANALYSIS



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# ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS ARE HUMANS TOO

- Components **position** based on their **global role**
- Connectors and components **producing heat** placed near the **edges**



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# COMPONENTS IDENTIFICATION



**nRF52832**

2.4 GHz Bluetooth

Low Energy capable System-on-Chip

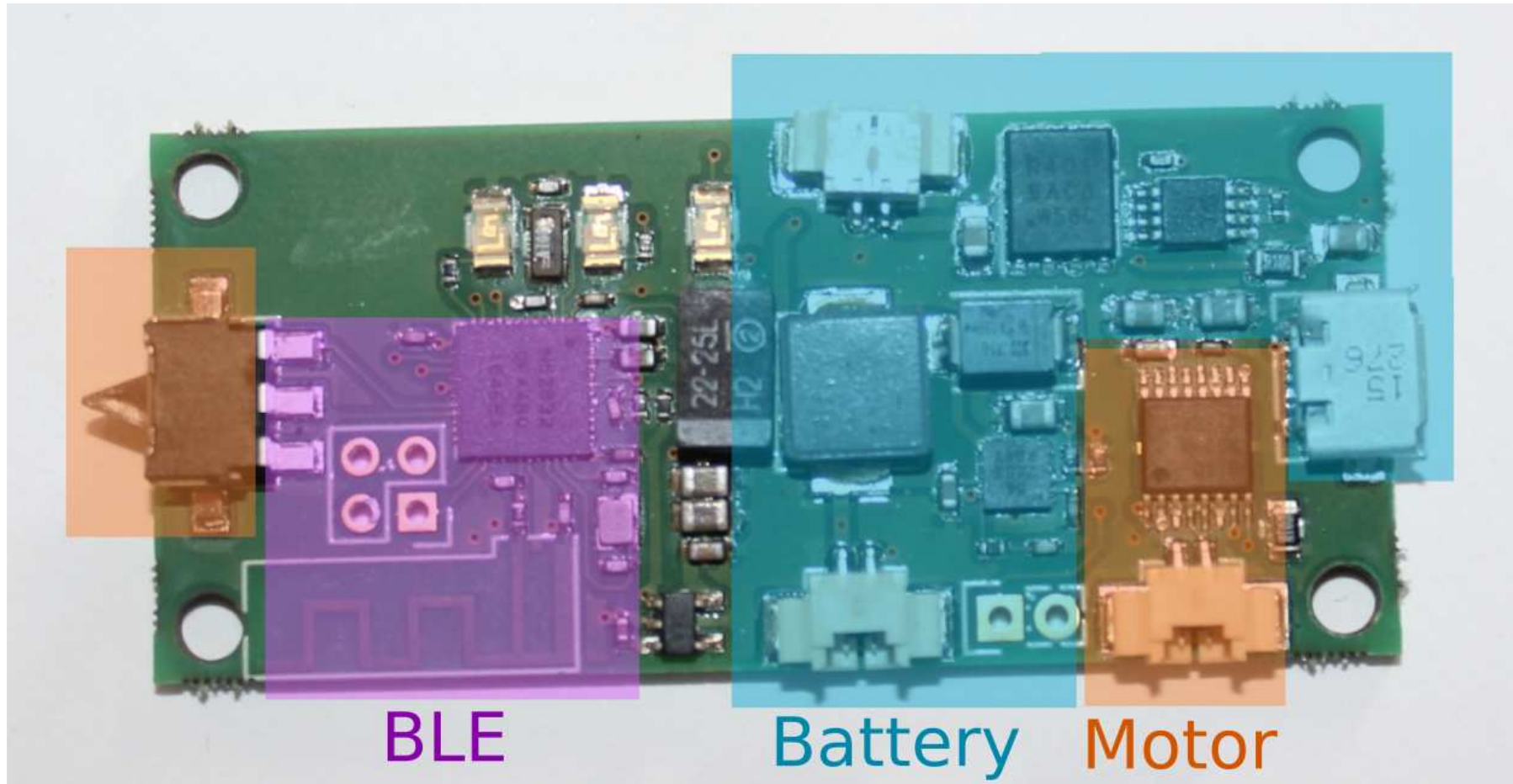


**DRV8848**

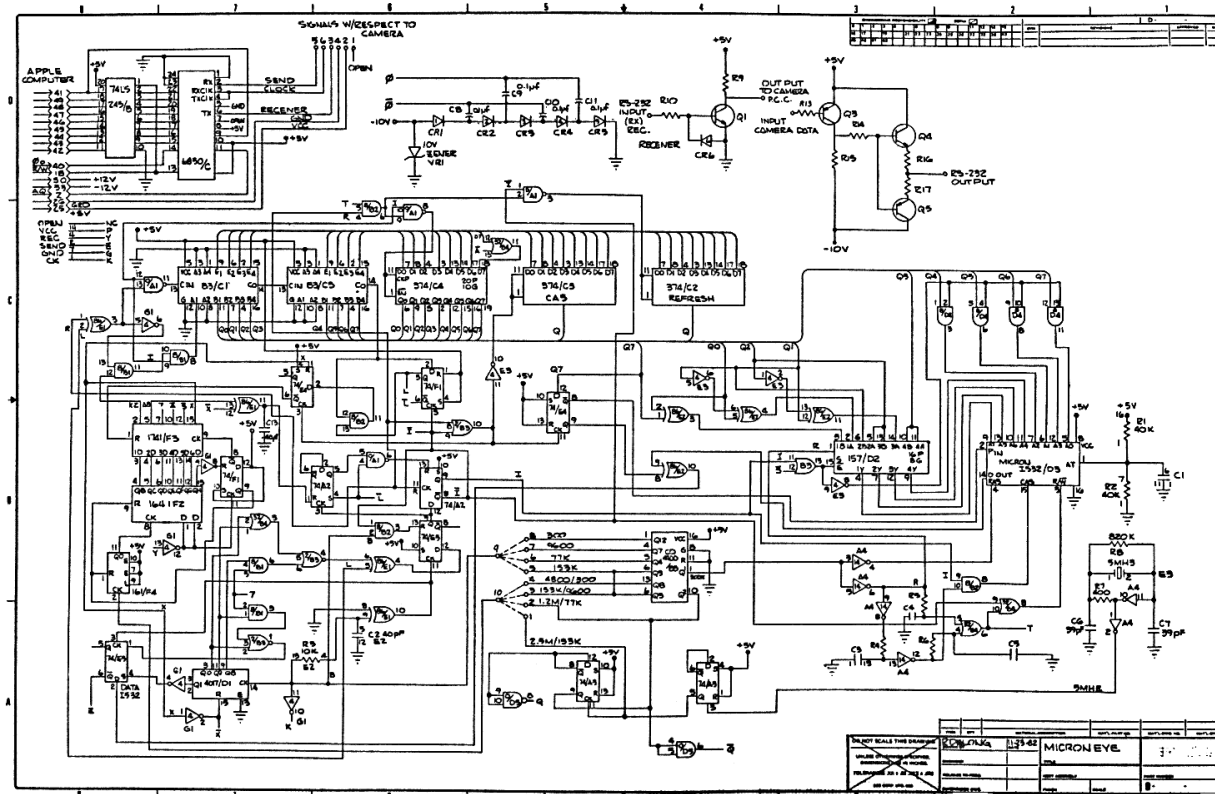
Dual H-Bridge Motor driver



# FUNCTIONS VS. COMPONENTS



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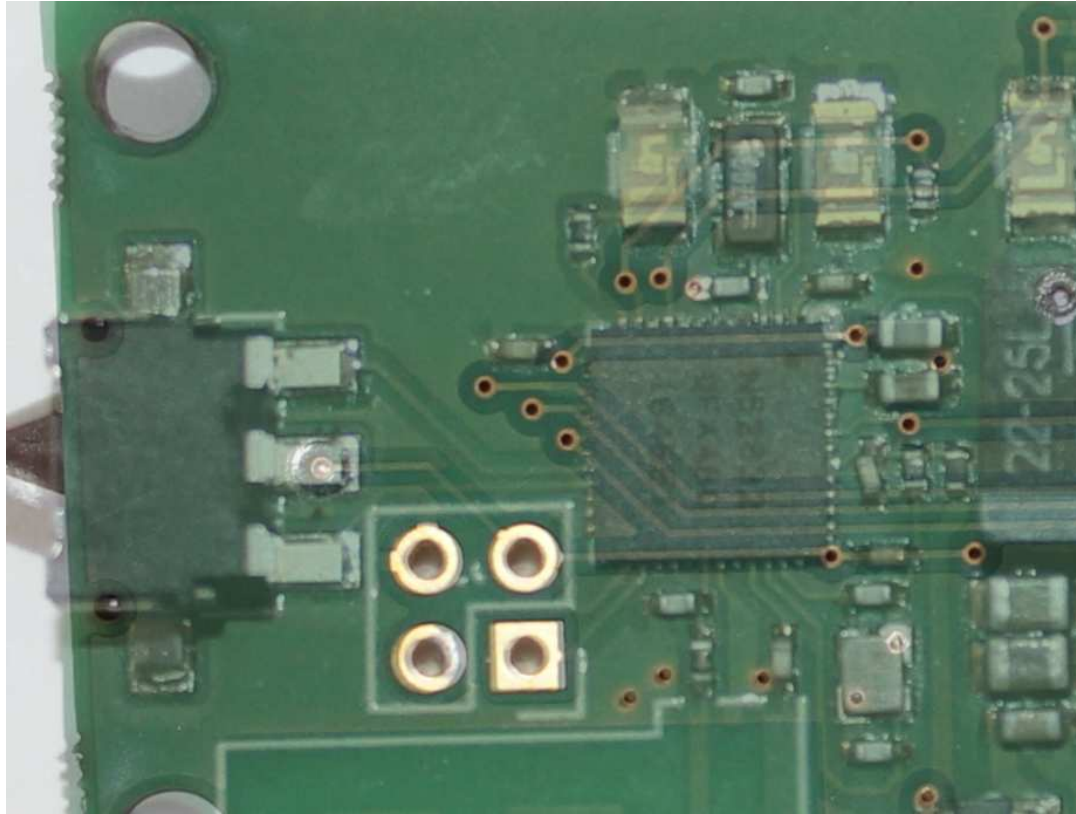




# PICTURES + SOFTWARE FTW

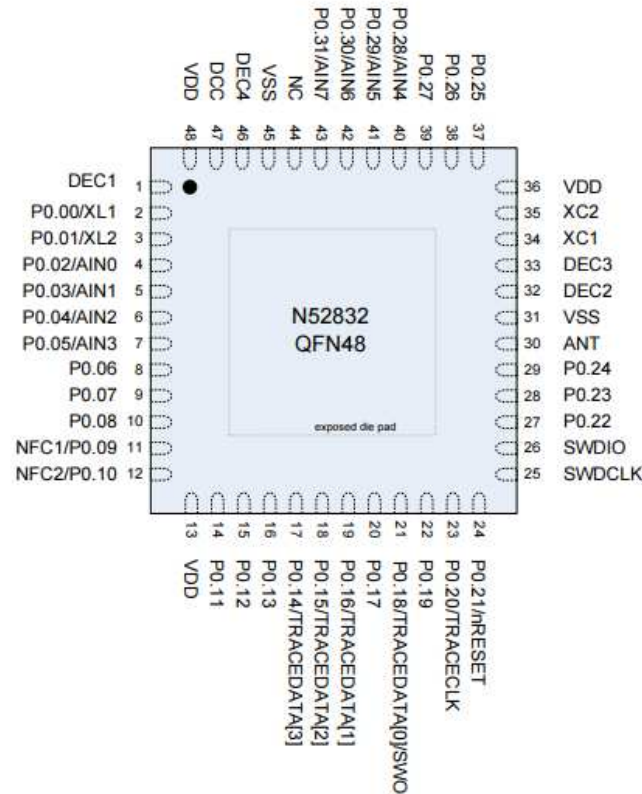
- Using high-res pictures (or multimeter), **follow tracks and vias**
- Determine **protocols used** for Inter-IC communication
- Draw a **simplified schematics**

# FOLLOW TRACKS AND VIAS



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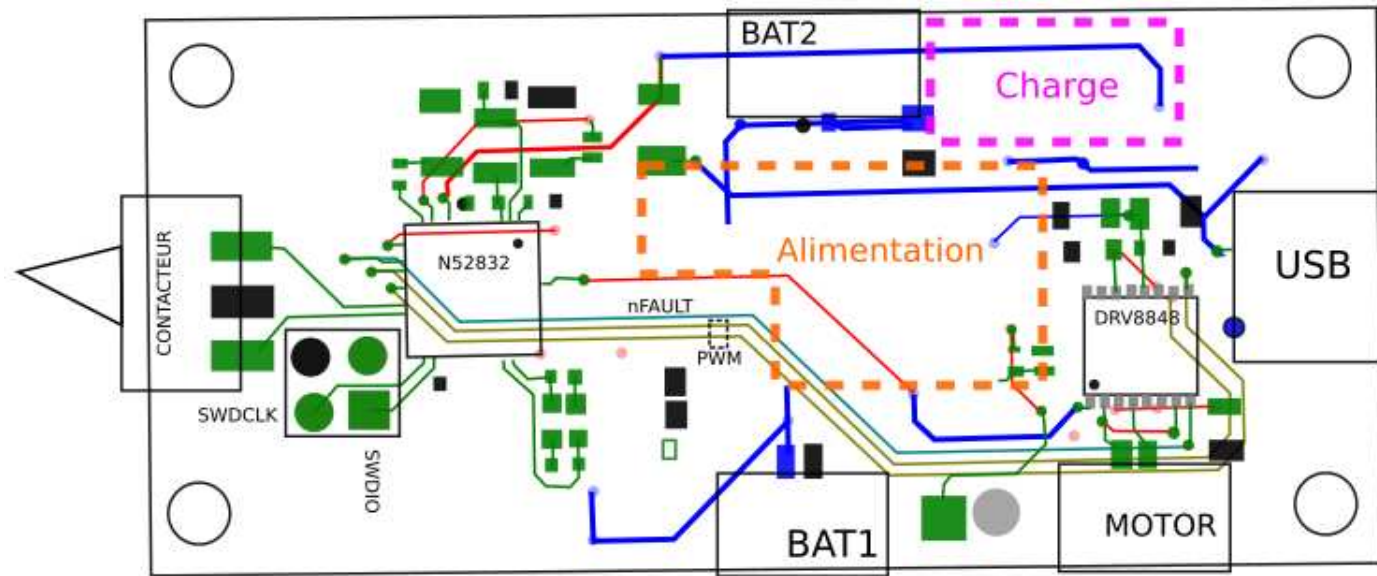
# DETERMINE PROTOCOLS USED



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# SIMPLIFIED SCHEMATICS

- Use Inkscape, Adobe Illustrator, MS Visio, or whatever
- Draw only the interesting stuff, we do not want to counterfeit



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# STEP #4: GET FIRMWARE



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# USE DEBUGGING INTERFACES !

- Offers a **proper way** to access Flash memory
- Found in > 50% of devices we have tested
- Requires the **right adapter** to connect to



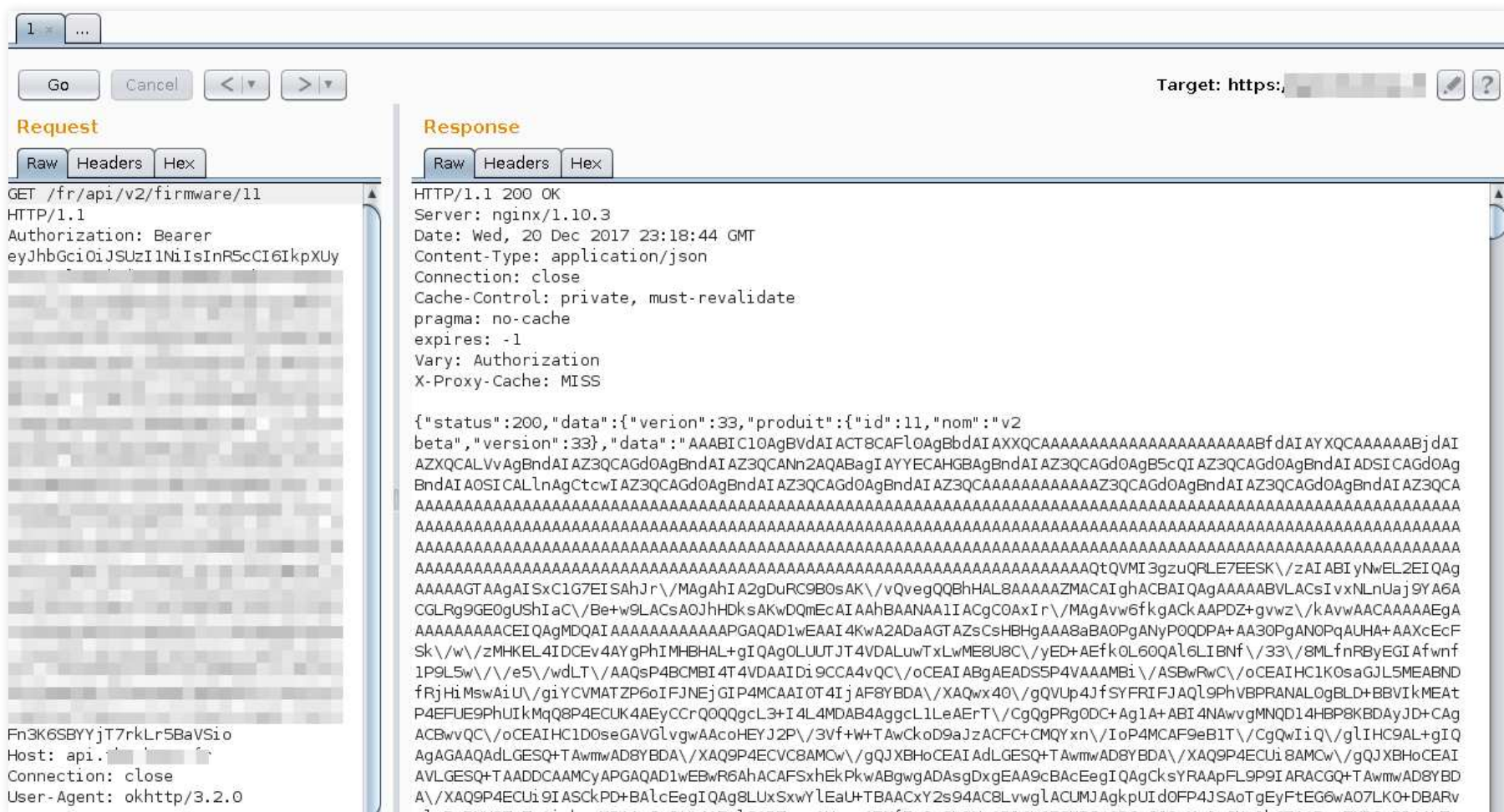
# DUMPING FIRMWARE WITH OPENOCD

```
$ openocd -f interface/stlink-v2.cfg  
-f target/nrf5x.cfg -c init -c halt  
-c "dump_image /tmp/firmware.bin 0x0 0x80000"
```

**WHEN DEBUGGING IS NOT  
ENABLED, ABUSE *OTA* !**

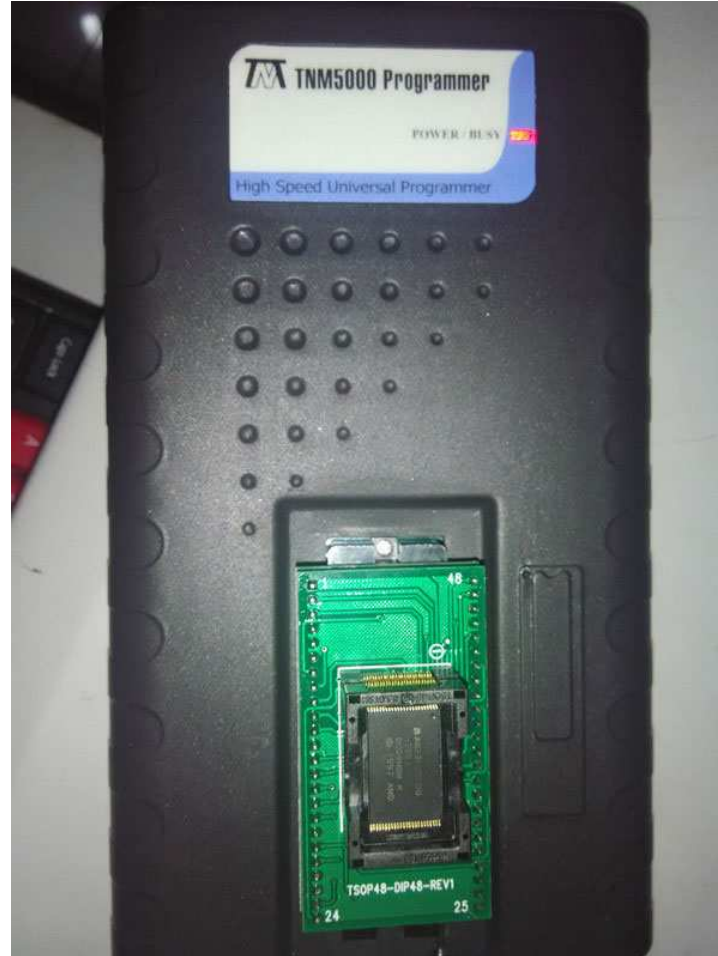
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# OVER-THE-AIR UPDATES



**OR DUMP EVERY AVAILABLE  
STORAGE DEVICE 😎**

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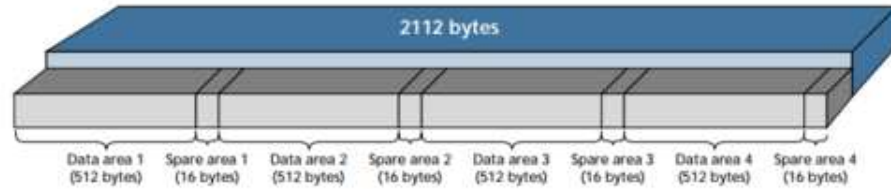
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# FIRMWARE DUMPED !

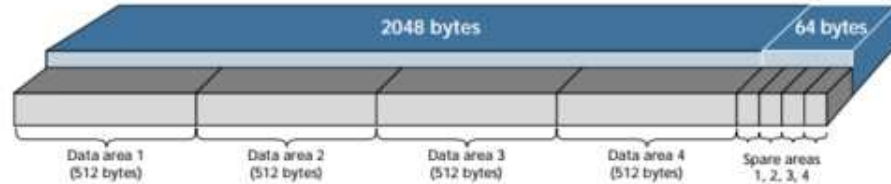
0002c3de	61	72	74	20	66	69	72	6D	77	61	72	65	20	75	70	6C	6F	61	64	0A	00	1B	art firmware upload...
0002c3f4	5B	31	3B	33	32	6D	3A	44	45	42	55	47	3A	65	6E	64	20	66	69	72	6D	77	[1;32m:DEBUG:end firmw
0002c40a	61	72	65	20	75	70	6C	6F	61	64	0A	00	1B	5B	31	3B	33	32	6D	3A	44	45	are upload... [1;32m:DE
0002c420	42	55	47	3A	53	74	61	72	74	20	73	69	67	6E	61	74	75	72	65	20	75	70	BUG:Start signature up
0002c436	6C	6F	61	64	0A	00	1B	5B	31	3B	33	32	6D	3A	44	45	42	55	47	3A	45	6E	load... [1;32m:DEBUG:En
0002c44c	64	20	73	69	67	6E	61	74	75	72	65	20	75	70	6C	6F	61	64	0A	00	1B	5B	d signature upload... [
0002c462	31	3B	33	32	6D	3A	44	45	42	55	47	3A	72	65	61	64	20	70	6B	0A	00	1B	1;32m:DEBUG:read pk...
0002c478	5B	31	3B	33	32	6D	3A	49	4E	46	4F	3A	69	6E	76	61	6C	69	64	20	63	74	[1;32m:INFO:invalid ct
0002c48e	72	6C	20	76	61	6C	75	65	3A	20	25	64	0A	00	1B	5B	31	3B	33	32	6D	3A	rl value: %d... [1;32m:
0002c4a4	44	45	42	55	47	3A	61	63	74	69	6F	6E	20	73	74	61	74	65	20	69	73	20	DEBUG:action state is
0002c4ba	6E	75	6C	6C	0A	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	29	03	02	00	01	06	02	00	null.....).....	

# SPARE AREA IS EVIL

Adjacent Data and Spare Areas



Separate Data and Spare Areas



Credit: Micron

**REMOVE OOB DATA !**

**(AND USE ECC TO FIX ERRORS)**

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# STEP #5: DETERMINE TARGET ARCHITECTURE



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# ANSWER THE BASIC QUESTIONS

- What **architecture** is this ?
- Does it run an **OS** ?
- Does it use a **FS** ?

# WHAT ARCHITECTURE IS IT ?

- TX Power -30 dBm Whisper mode
- 13 mA peak RX, 10.5 mA peak TX (0 dBm)
- 9.7 mA peak RX, 8 mA peak TX (0 dBm) with DC/DC
- RSSI (1 dB resolution)
- ARM® Cortex™-M0 32 bit processor (ARMv7-M)
  - 275 µA/MHz running from flash memory
  - 150 µA/MHz running from RAM
  - Serial Wire Debug (SWD)

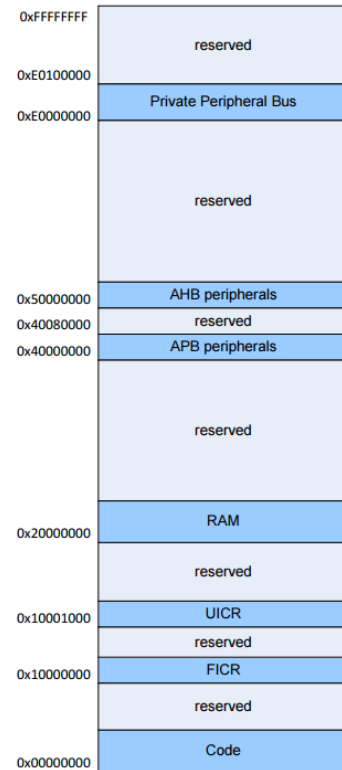
**ARM CORTEX-M0 (ARMV7-M)**

**DOES IT RUN AN OS ?**

**NOPE.**

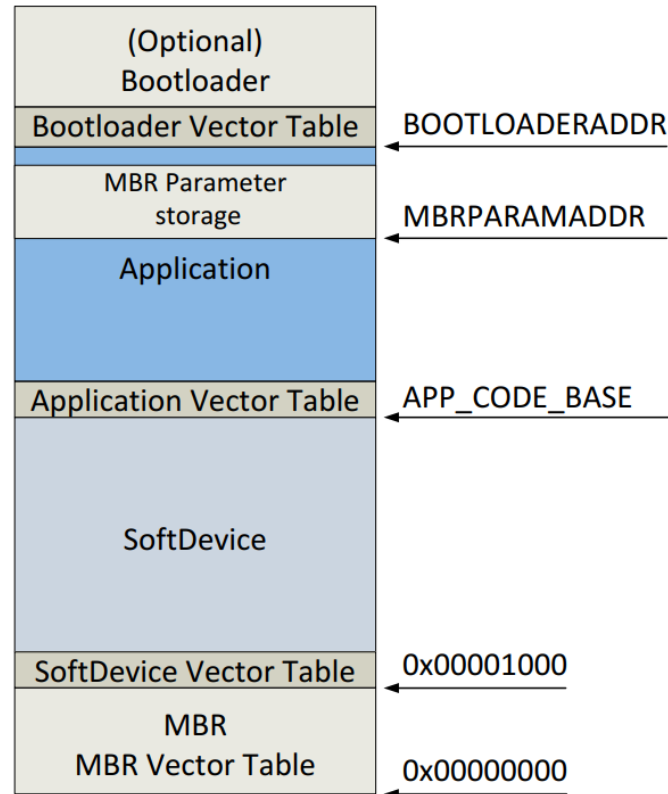
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# DOES IT USE A FS ?



**NOPE.**

# NRF51 SOFTDEVICE



# SOFTDEVICE VERSION ?

## *EASY-PEASY !*

```
$ strings firmware-original.bin | grep sdk  
/home/benoit/workspace/nrf51/firmware/sdk/sdk13.0/components/s  
/home/benoit/workspace/nrf51/firmware/sdk/sdk13.0/components/s  
/home/benoit/workspace/nrf51/firmware/sdk/sdk13.0/components/s  
/home/benoit/workspace/nrf51/firmware/sdk/sdk13.0/components/s  
/home/benoit/workspace/nrf51/firmware/sdk/sdk13.0/components/s  
/home/benoit/workspace/nrf51/firmware/sdk/sdk13.0/components/s  
/home/benoit/workspace/nrf51/firmware/sdk/sdk13.0/components/s
```

# QUICK REMINDER

**It runs an OS or use a known FS:**

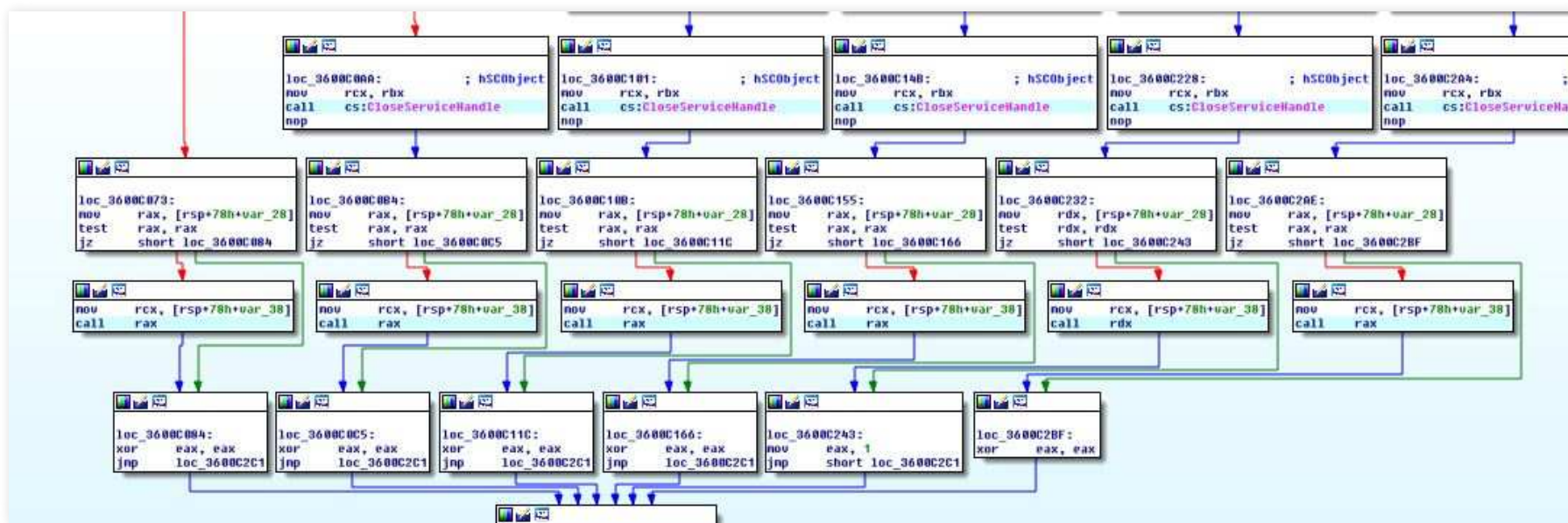
You'd better drop binaries in IDA Pro

**It uses no FS and looks like a crappy blob of data:**

You'd better figure out the architecture and memory layout.

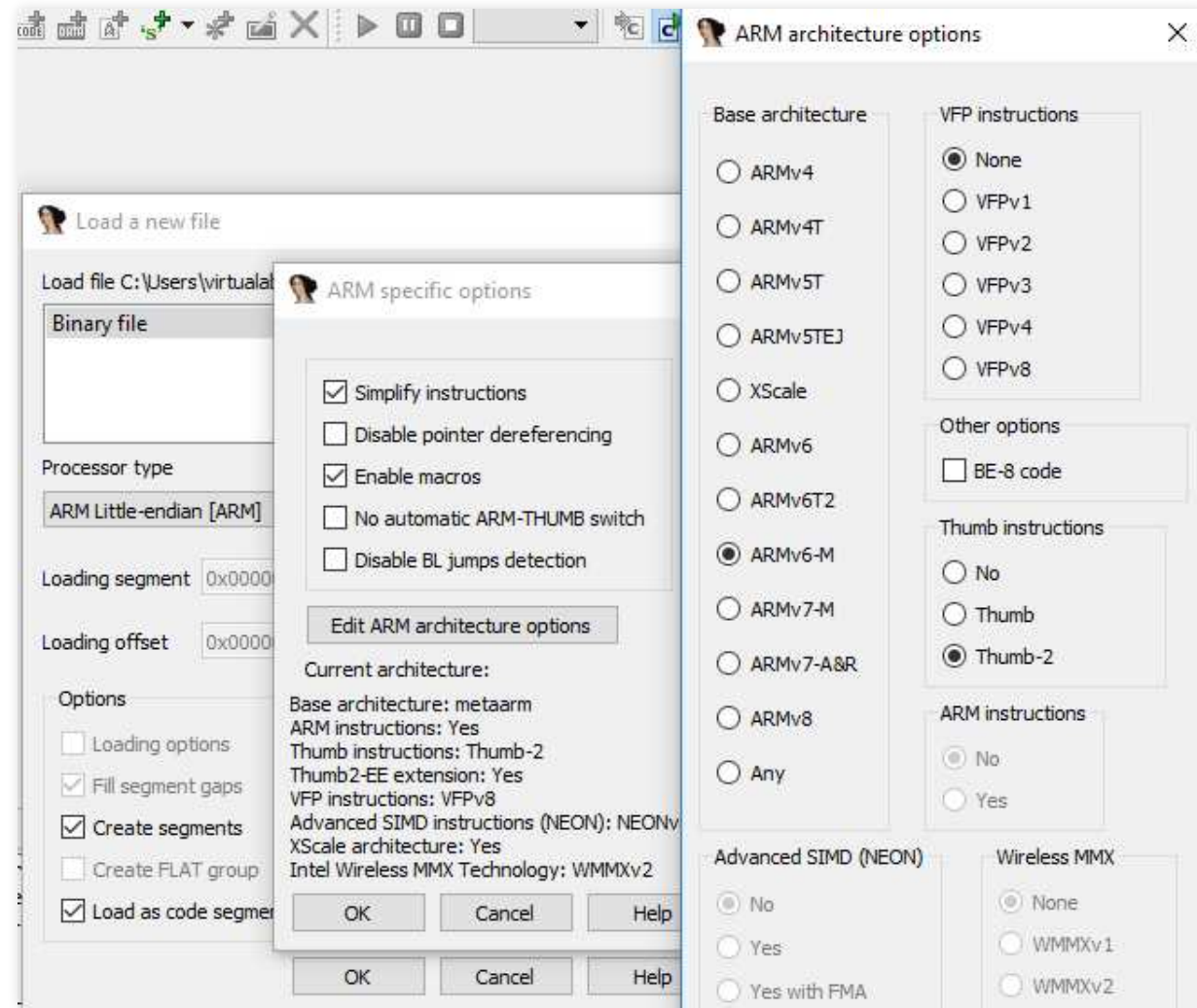


# STEP #6: DISASSEMBLE !



# SPECIFY TARGET ARCHITECTURE AND LAYOUT

- **Configure CPU** accordingly
- Configure **memory layout** if required
- Perform a **quick sanity check** (strings xrefs, ...)



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```
IDA Vi... Occurrences of: ... Strings win... Hex Vi... Occurrences of: ... Struct...
ROM:0002924C ; -----
ROM:00029250 dword_29250 DCD 0x2EC03 ; DATA XREF: sub_29228+A↑r
ROM:00029254 dword_29254 DCD 0x2EC22 ; DATA XREF: sub_29228+1E↑r
ROM:00029258
ROM:00029258 ; ===== S U B R O U T I N E =====
ROM:00029258
ROM:00029258 sub_29258 ; CODE XREF: sub_1F930+12↑p
ROM:00029258 ; sub_2927C+3C↓p ...
ROM:00029258 PUSH {R4, LR}
ROM:0002925A MOV R4, R0
ROM:0002925C MOV R2, R1
ROM:0002925E STRB.W R1, [R4, #0xFC]
ROM:00029262 MOVS R0, #4
ROM:00029264 LDR R1, =a132mDebugNewSt ; "\x1B[1;32m:DEBUG:new status: %d\n"
ROM:00029266 BL sub_24974
ROM:0002926A ADD.W R0, R4, #0xD0
ROM:0002926E POP.W {R4, LR}
ROM:00029272 B.W sub_29F8C
ROM:00029272 ; End of function sub_29258
ROM:00029272 ; -----
ROM:00029276 ALIGN 4
ROM:00029278 off_29278 DCD a132mDebugNewSt ; DATA XREF: sub_29258+C↑r
ROM:00029278 ; "\x1B[1;32m:DEBUG:new status: %d\n"
ROM:0002927C
```

# AUTOMATED SDK FUNCTIONS DETECTION AND RENAMING

- We developed our own tool to ease SoftDevice-based firmware reverse-engineering
- It helps detecting SoftDevice version and automatically rename SDK exported functions



# **NRF5X-TOOLS AVAILABLE ON GITHUB**

<https://github.com/DigitalSecurity/nrf5x-tools>

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# MOBILE APPS TOO

```
if (j == 0)
{
    Crashlytics.log(3, "FirmwareUpdateBleClient", "End upload.");
    if (this.key.getVersion().intValue() <= 19)
    {
        Crashlytics.log(3, "FirmwareUpdateBleClient", "Start signature upload");
        localObject = paramBluetoothGatt.getService(UUID_ADMIN_SERVICE).getCharacteristic(UUID_ADMIN_SERVICE_SIGNATURE_CHARACTERISTIC)
        ((BluetoothGattCharacteristic)localObject).setValue(6, 17, 0);
        paramBluetoothGatt.writeCharacteristic((BluetoothGattCharacteristic)localObject);
        this.eventBus.post(new FirmwareUploadValidationEvent(this.key));
        return;
    }
    Crashlytics.log(3, "FirmwareUpdateBleClient", "Send end firmware cmd");
    localObject = paramBluetoothGatt.getService(UUID_ADMIN_SERVICE).getCharacteristic(UUID_ADMIN_SERVICE_END_FIRMWARE_CMD_CHARACTERISTIC)
    ((BluetoothGattCharacteristic)localObject).setValue(13, 17, 0);
    paramBluetoothGatt.writeCharacteristic((BluetoothGattCharacteristic)localObject);
    this.eventBus.post(new FirmwareUploadValidationEvent(this.key));
    return;
}
```



# STEP #7: SNIFF ALL THE THINGS



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# SNIFF/INTERCEPT COMMUNICATIONS

- May require **various hardware**: SPI, I<sup>2</sup>C, WiFi, BLE, nRF24, Sigfox, LoRa, ...
- **PCAP** compatible tools are great
- Beware the **cost** (a lot of \$\$\$) !

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# BLUETOOTH LOW ENERGY MITM

BtleJuice			
Action	Service	Characteristic	Data
Connected			
read	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b503-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	01 00 00 00
write	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b501-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	00 00 02 eb 01 40 51 32 84 af 25 37 66 4d d9 6a ca 7e 1a f4
write	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b501-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	4a c7 ef 1f 97 94 99 9b e1 b3 e5 88 19 1e dd e7 d9 96 79 b9
write	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b501-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	7b 71 59 cf 13 76 40 7a 94 62 50 69 31 a4 66 46 31 66 b4 18
write	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b501-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	29 67 5c fd 9b cb cb 2e 7e 6f 4e 4d 41 a5 8a 41 9b be 71 71
write	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b501-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	f2 a3 f7 6c 45 11 1d 47 78 c8 2c a1 a6 05 c8 c9 75 64 5a 91
write	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b501-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	12 0a
write	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b504-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	07
notification	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b504-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	03
notification	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b504-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	04
notification	6e44b500-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	6e44b504-b5a3-f393-e0a9-e50e24dcca9e	04
Disconnected			

<https://github.com/DigitalSecurity/btlejuice>

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# HOW OUR SMARTLOCK WORKS

(BASED ON A MITM ATTACK)

1. **App** retrieves a **Nonce** from the lock
2. **App** encrypts a token and send it to the lock
3. **Lock** decrypts token and **react accordingly**

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# BY THE WAY ...

The mobile app authenticates the smartlock only by its exposed service UUID:

```
private void startScan(int paramInt)
{
    this.lastScanStartTime = System.currentTimeMillis();
    Crashlytics.log(3, "BluetoothLeService", "startScan: scanning in low latency mode ...");
    Object localObject = new ScanSettings.Builder().setScanMode(paramInt).setReportDelay(0L);
    if (Build.VERSION.SDK_INT > 23) {
        ((ScanSettings.Builder)localObject).setCallbackType(1);
    }
    localObject = ((ScanSettings.Builder)localObject).build();
    ScanFilter localScanFilter = new ScanFilter.Builder().setServiceData(ParcelUuid.fromString("0000B7A6-0000-1000-8000-00805F9B34FB"),
    if (this.scanner == null)
    {
        BluetoothAdapter localBluetoothAdapter = ((BluetoothManager)getApplicationContext().getSystemService("bluetooth")).getAdapter();
        if (!localBluetoothAdapter.isEnabled()) {
            return;
        }
        this.scanner = localBluetoothAdapter.getBluetoothLeScanner();
    }
    this.scanner.startScan(Arrays.asList(new ScanFilter[] { localScanFilter }), (ScanSettings)localObject, this.scanCallback);
    isScanning = true;
}
```

# STEP #8: FIND BUGS & VULNS



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# SEARCH BUGS & VULNS

- Default password/key
- Escape shell
- Buffer overflow
- Misconfiguration
- ...

# SMARTLOCK SECURITY FEATURES

- Relies on a **Nonce** generated by the smartlock to avoid **replay attacks**
- True **AES-based encryption** used, cannot break it
- Resisted to **fuzzing**, we did not managed to force open the lock



**BUT ...**

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# ... IS IT «RANDOM»?



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# I'VE ALREADY SEEN THAT ...

```
int getRandomNumber()  
{  
    return 4; // chosen by fair dice roll.  
              // guaranteed to be random.  
}
```

(SOURCE: XKCD)

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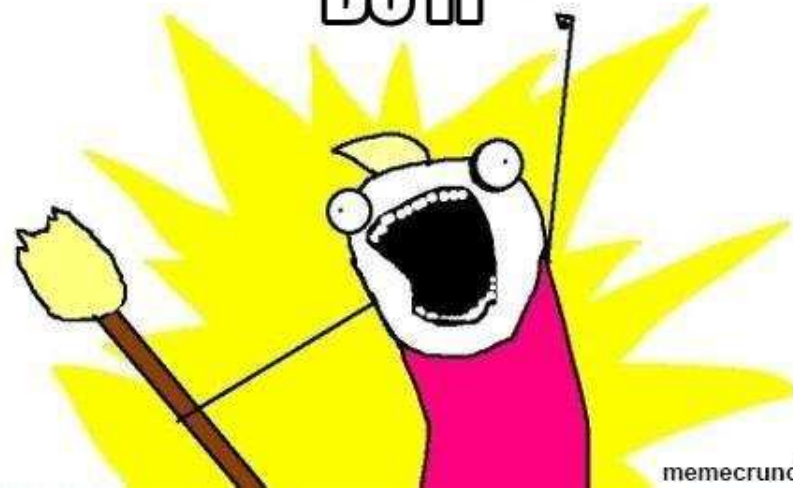
# SECURITY ISSUES

- **Spoofing:** App does not authenticate the smartlock it connects to
- Random Nonce is not random at all !

# SO WHAT ?

- An attacker may **spoof the smartlock** to force the App to send an encrypted token
- He/she may be able to **replay a valid token** as the nonce is always the same

**CHALLENGE ACCEPTED, LET'S  
DO IT**



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# STEP #9: EXPLOIT !



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# SPOOF SMARTLOCK

- Use *NodeJS* with *Bleno* FTW
- Exploit based on our *Mockle* library

<https://github.com/DigitalSecurity/mockle>

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# SPOOFING SMARTLOCK

```
$ sudo node capture-token.js
[setup] creating mock for device XXXXXXXX (xx:xx:xx:6b:fc:88)
[setup] services registered
[ mock] accepted connection from address: 5e:74:79:1e:5f:a9
> Register callback for service 6e4...ca9e:6e4...ca9e
> Read Random, provide default value 1.
> End of transmission
[i] Token written to `token.json`
```

# REPLAY TOKEN

```
$ sudo node replay-token.js  
BTLE interface up and running, starting scanning ...  
  
[i] Target found, replaying token ...  
done
```

```
virtualabs@virtubox:~/hip$
```



▶ 0:00 / 1:23

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# BUG IS NOW FIXED

```
sub_284C4
PUSH    {R4,LR}
MOV     R4, R0
BL      get_rand_value
STR.W   R0, [R4,#0xF8]
ADD.W   R0, R4, #0xBC
POP.W   {R4,LR}
B.W     sd_ble_gatts_value_set_
; End of function sub_284C4
```



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# CONCLUSION

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# TO BE IMPROVED

- We have been using this methodology **intensively** since the last two years
- There is **space for improvements**, obviously
- Vendor fixed (some) of the vulnerabilities we demonstrated

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# PRO TIPS

- Take your time and **document all the things**
- Read datasheets **carefully**
- Learn how to **master Inkscape**, it helps a lot
- Start from the bottom (PCB) and go up !

## PRO TIPS (CONT'D)

- As usual, **know your tools** and how to use them
- **Share and learn** from others (many cool tricks to discover)





aka cybergibbons

@cybergibbons

Abonné

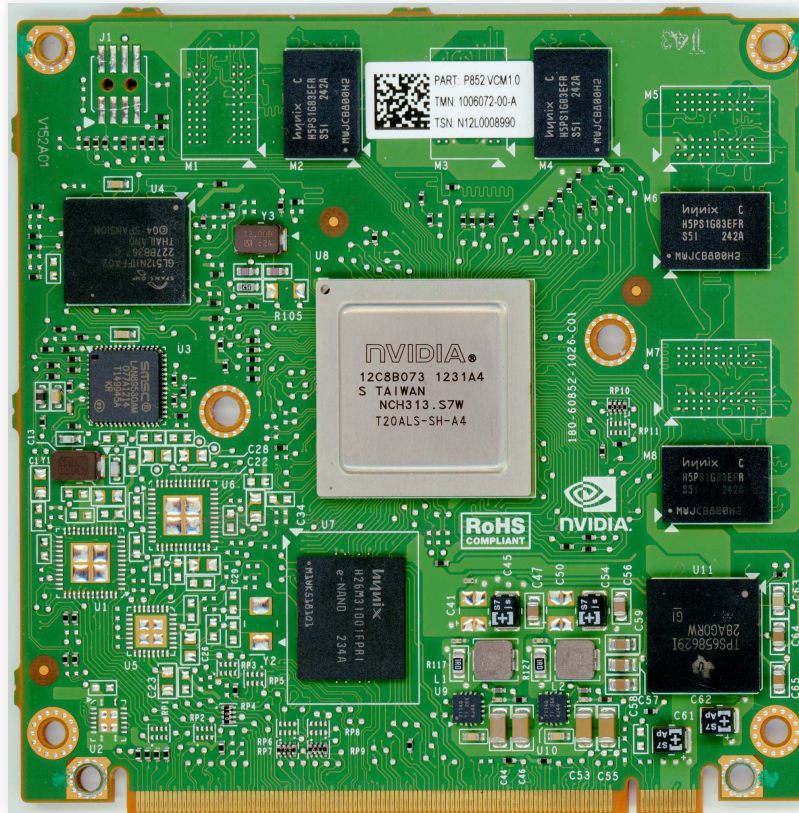


For those asking how I do these - it is an Epson V600 scanner:

[amazon.co.uk/Epson-Perfecti ...](https://amazon.co.uk/Epson-Perfecti...)

The V850 has much higher depth-of-field but cost is prohibitive.

You need a scanner with a CCD not CMOS, Anything with LED lighting is rubbish.



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# PRACTICE !

- Soldering (tiny wires)
- Desoldering with hot air gun
- Use the *scope*
- Use the *scope* again
- Code on embedded devices
- ...

# QUESTIONS ?

**CONTACT**



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