



REVERSING MCU WITH FIRMWARE EMULATION

15 – 17 NOVEMBER 2022

RIYADH FRONT EXHIBITION CENTRE
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KaiJern Lau

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Zheng YU

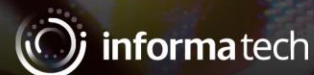
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GOLD SPONSORS



CO-ORGANISED BY





Qiling Framework

Cross platform and multi architecture advanced binary emulation framework

- > <https://qiling.io>
- > Lead Developer
- > Founder



Badge Maker

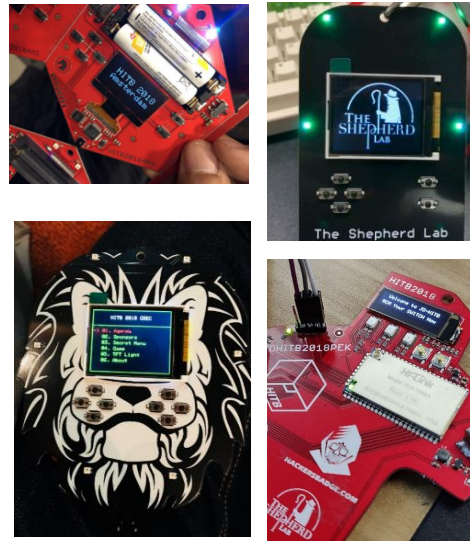
Electronic fan boy, making toys from hacker to hacker

- > Reversing Binary
- > Reversing IoT Devices
- > Part Time Ctf player

Some Recent Talk (Partial)

- > 2019, DEFCON USA, Qiling Framework Preview
- > 2019, Zeronights, Qiling Framework to Public
- > 2020, Nullcon GOA, Building Reversing Tools with Qiling
- > 2020, HITB AMS, Building Reversing Tools with Qiling
- > 2020, HITB Singapore, Training, How to Hack IoT with Qiling
- > 2020, HITB UAE, Training, Lightweight Binary Analyzer
- > 2020, Blackhat USA, Building IoT Fuzzer with Qiing
- > 2020, Blackhat Singapore, Lightweight Binary Analyzer
- > 2020, Blackhat Europe, Deep Dive Into Obfuscated Binary

Badge Designer for Hacking Conferences



Dr. NGUYEN Anh Quynh



Founder:

- Capstone Engine
- Unicorn Engine
- Keystone Engine

Co-Founder:

- Qiling Framework

Papers:

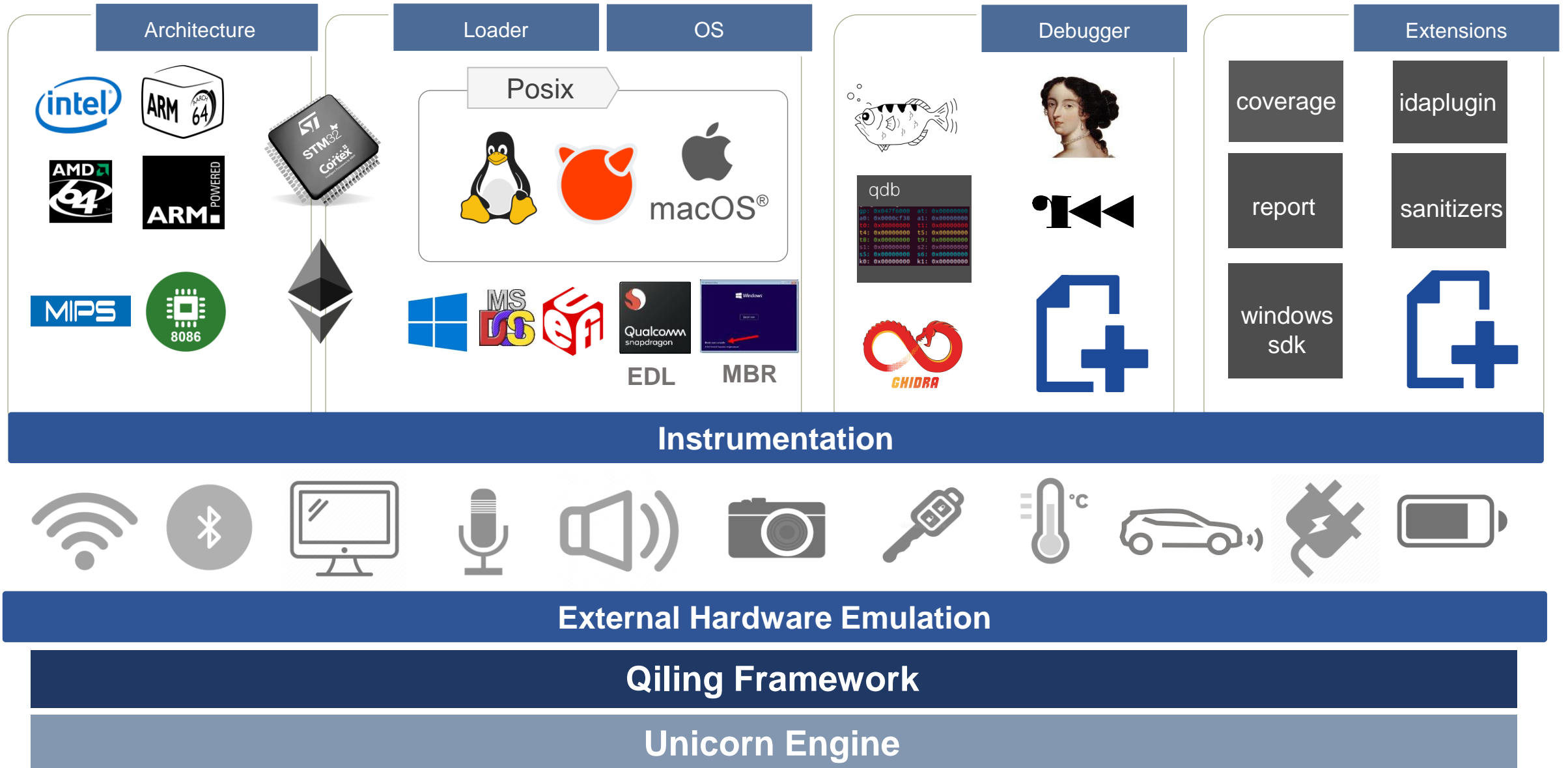
- Usenix LISA, 12/2007
- Usenix LISA, 12/2006
- Usenix Annual Technical Conference 2007 (Usenix), 12/2007
- ACM Press, 03/2007
- IEEE CS Press, 07/2006

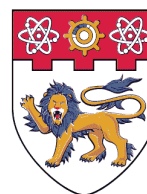
Conferences:

- Blackhat/Defcon: 2007, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2020
- etc.

What Is Qiling Framework

Open-source Security Frameworks Since 2013





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IBM Watson
IBM 华生实验室

TALOS
CISCO



accenture
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Internet Initiative Japan



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vmware

VMware Security Blog

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THREAT RESEARCH

Hunting IcedID and unpacking automation with Giling

Quentin Fois, Pavankumar Chaudhari

Posted July 26, 2021

0 Comments

In our previous blog post “Detecting IcedID” we provided a global overview of the IcedID threat, its multiple stages and capabilities.

This new blog post is focused on how to be proactive and hunt for IcedID DLL components to extract network IOCs. It will involve a combination of Yara rules, the [Giling framework](#), and Python scripting.

Being a highly active threat, IcedID updates its packing technique regularly. This article focuses on what has been observed during the April – May 2021 timeframe. While the Yara introduced in this blog post may not be up to date for the latest samples at the time of publication, the overall hunting pipeline stays valid and can easily be tuned to tackle the latest threats.

This article is articulated in 4 parts:

- Building a Yara rule to find packed DLL samples
- Overview of the collected samples
- Automatic unpacking with Giling
- IOC extraction

Hunting for packed samples with Yara

```

graph LR
    A[Malicious email] --> B[Packed/protected ZIP]
    B --> C[DOC]
    C --> D[Exec with VM-mouse]
    D --> E[Sample with malware]
    E --> F[Analyzed]
    F --> G[Delivery]
    G --> H[Unpacked]
    H --> I[Analyzed]
    I --> J[IOCs]
    J --> K[Download New C2D]
    J --> L[1st stage loader]
    L --> M[Download 2nd stage loader]
    L --> N[2nd stage loader]
  
```

[illegible]

URL:
<https://blogs.vmware.com/security/2021/07/hunting-icedid-and-unpacking-automation-with-qiling.html>

Similarity



qemu-usermode

- › The TOOL
- › Limited OS Support, Very Limited
- › No Multi OS Support
- › No Instrumentation
- › **Syscall Forwarding**



usercorn

- › Very good project !
- › It's a Framework !
- › Mostly *nix based only
- › Limited OS Support (No Windows)
- › Go and Lua is not hacker's friendly
- › **Syscall Forwarding**



Binee

- › Very good project too
- › Only X86 (32 and 64)
- › Limited OS Support
- › Only PE Files
- › Just a tool, we don't need a tool
- › Again, is GO



WINE

- › Limited ARCH Support
- › Limited OS Support, only Windows
- › Not Sandbox Designed
- › No Instrumentation



Speakeasy

- › Very good project too
- › X86 32 and 64
- › PE files and Driver
- › Limited OS Support
- › Only Windows



Zelos

- › Very good project !
- › It's a Framework !
- › Linux based only (No Windows)
- › Incomplete support for Linux multi arch

You became victim of the PETYA RANSOMWARE!

The haddisks of your computer have been encrypted with an military grade encryption algorithm. There is no way to restore your data without a special key. You can purchase this key on the darknet page shown in step 2.

To purchase your key and restore your data, please follow these three easy steps:

1. Download the Tor Browser at "https://www.torproject.org/". If you need help, please google for "access onion page".
2. Visit one of the following pages with the Tor Browser:

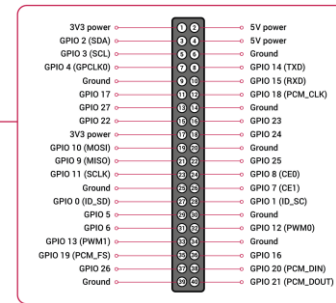
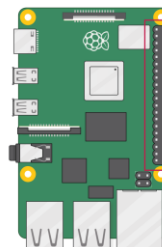
<http://petya37h5tbhgvki.onion/MvnHqz>
<http://petya5koahsf7sv.onion/MvnHqz>

3. Enter your personal decryption code there:

afMf5Z-CB3M2q-Nu9uR1-g9GZXY-a4iU47-c5R4it-xR1WZk-nX4HmW-rnc1Kg-HMekdy-W8WDRr-rXz6TZ-jo69HJ-pre5Ry-Myg9rt

If you already purchased your key, please enter it below.

Key: _____



The Framework

EFI Fuzzer

Sentinel-One / efi_fuzz

<> Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights

master 2 branches 0 tags

Go to file Add file Code

liba2k Adding docker support, (#5)			8841c5 24 days ago 15 commits
NotMyUefiFault	Add STACK_UNINITIALIZED_MEMORY_LEAK case to generate stack infole...	27 days ago	
images	Initial public commit	last month	
samples	Initial public commit	last month	
scripts	Adding docker support, (#5)	24 days ago	
taint	Add taint propagation for uninitialized memory	27 days ago	
tests	Adding docker support, (#5)	24 days ago	
.gitignore	Update .gitignore	27 days ago	
Dockerfile	Adding docker support, (#5)	24 days ago	
README.md	Adding docker support, (#5)	24 days ago	
efi_fuzz.py	Use functools.partial for auto_int	27 days ago	
requirements.txt	Update requirements.txt	27 days ago	
sanitizer.py	Add taint propagation for uninitialized memory	27 days ago	

README.md

efi_fuzz

A simple, coverage-guided fuzzer for UEFI NVRAM variables. Based on Qiling and AFL+ +. Written by Itai Liba (@liba2k) and Assaf Carlsbad (@assaf_carlsbad).

Decoder

nmantani / FileInsight-plugins

<> Code Issues Pull requests Actions

master 1 branch 16 tags

Go to file Add file Code

nmantani Use "py.exe --list" instead of hard-coded paths to check Python 3 ins... 63be4e5 2 days ago 214 commits

docs - Add description of the "Parse file structure" plugin. 2 months ago

McAfee

FileInsight-plugins: a decoding toolbox of McAfee FileInsight hex editor for malware analysis

FileInsight-plugins is a collection of plugins for McAfee FileInsight hex editor. It adds many capabilities such as decryption, decompression, searching XOR-ed text strings, scanning with a YARA rule, and more! It is useful for various kind of decoding tasks in malware analysis (e.g. extracting malware executables and decoy documents from malicious document files).

VAC3 Emulator

ioncodes / vacation3-emu

<> Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights

master 1 branch 0 tags

Go to file Add file Code

ioncodes added link 8bb1447 on Sep 29 3 commits

images	added images and readme	last month
.gitignore	init	last month
README.md	added link	last month
emu.py	init	last month
typedefs.h	init	last month

README.md

vacation3

An emulator powered by Qiling to deobfuscate/decrypt VAC3 modules.

- Binary Fuzzer
- IoT Fuzzer
- Malware Sandbox
- CTF Solver
- IoT Emulator
- MacOS Emulator
- IOS Emulator
- Binary Decrypt

Instrumentation (Qiling’s API)

Qiling Framework

CPU
Architecture

Loader

OS

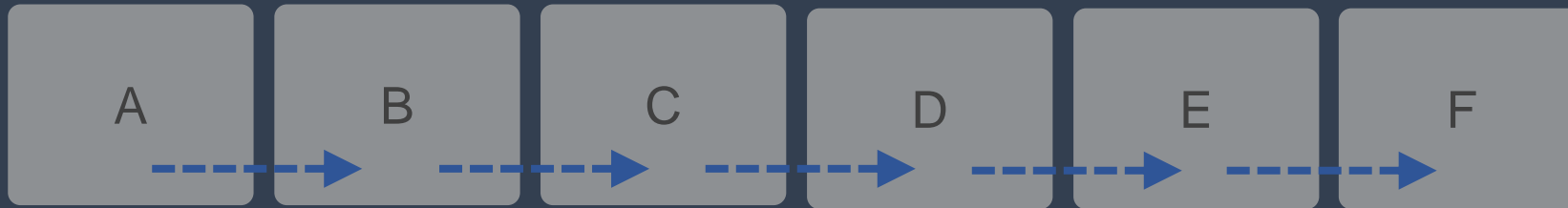
Debugger

Extensions

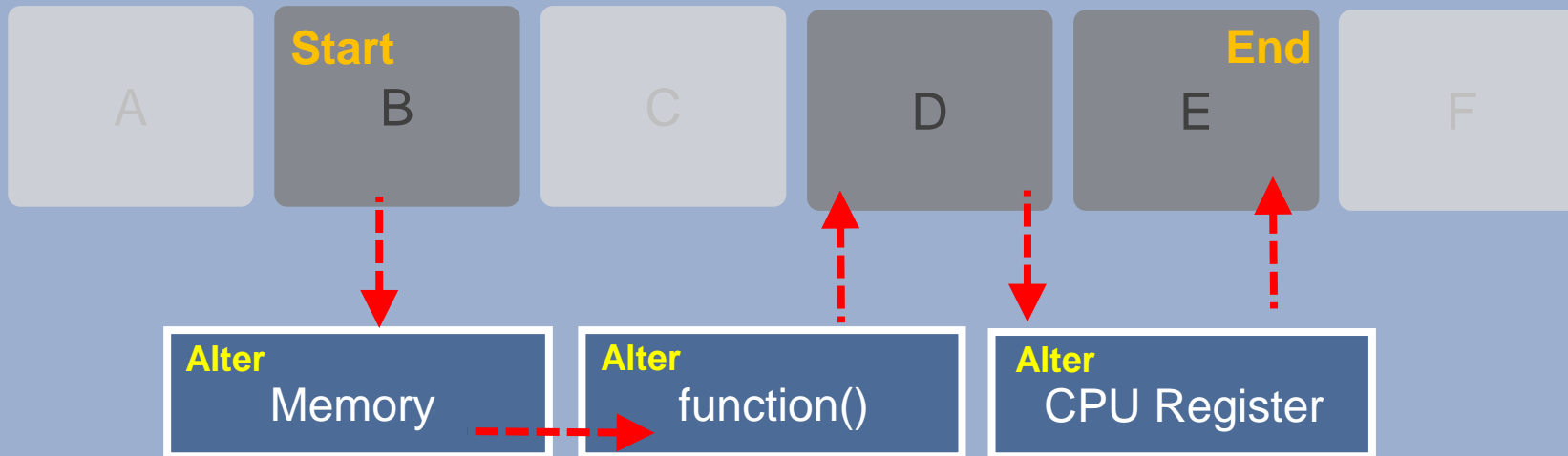
Tools built on top of Qiling Framework

Instrumentation

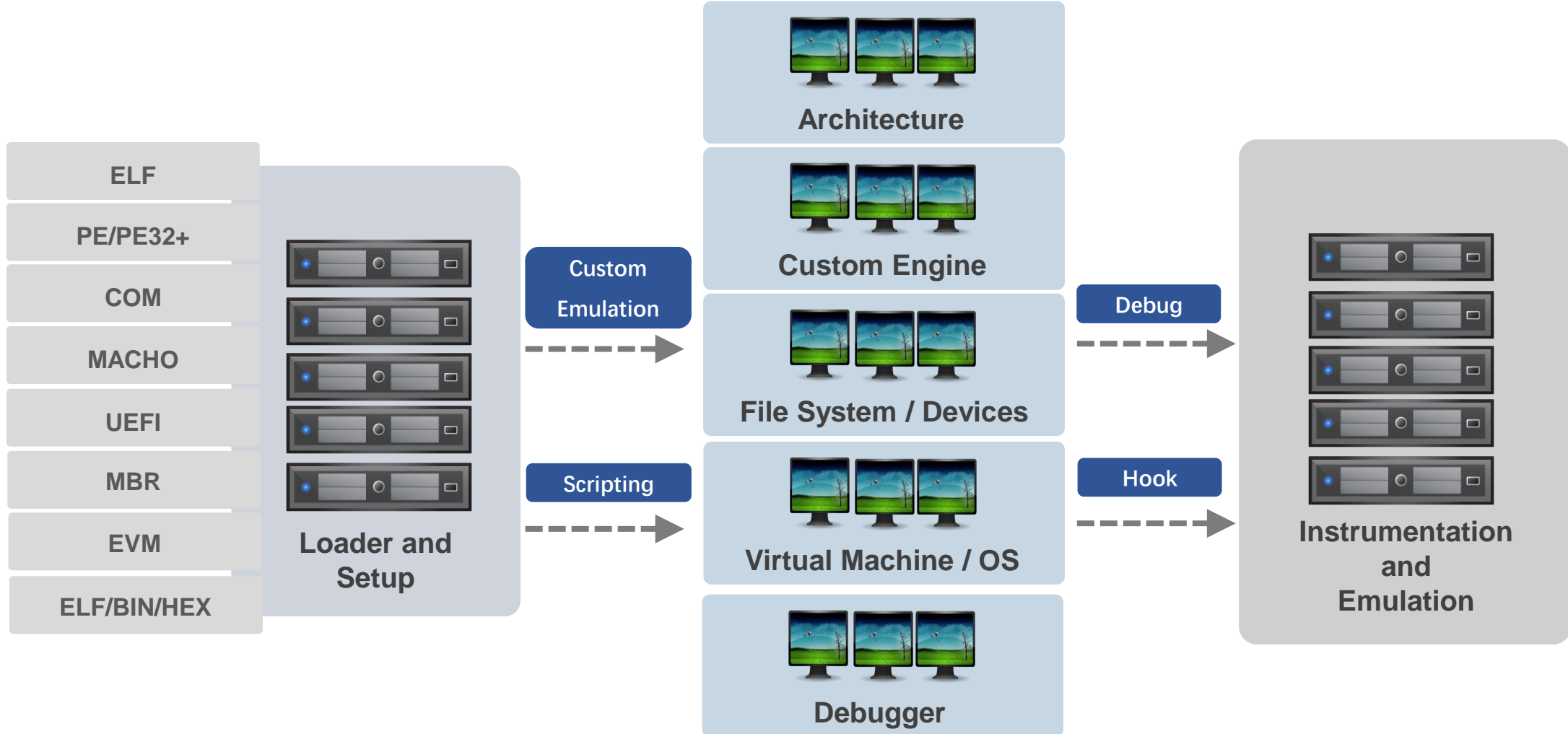
Binary Execution Flow



Qiling's Instrumentation



Qiling Framework and its Mode



Hardware Mode



EVM Mode

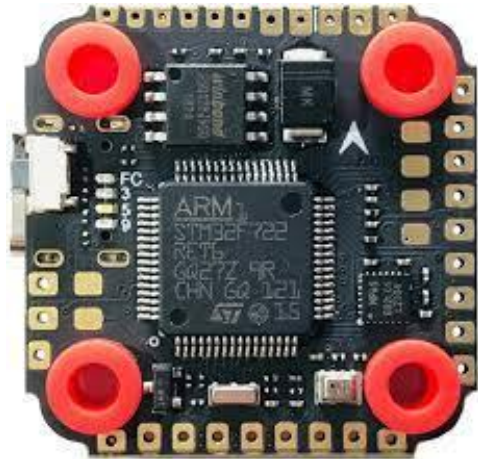


Software Mode



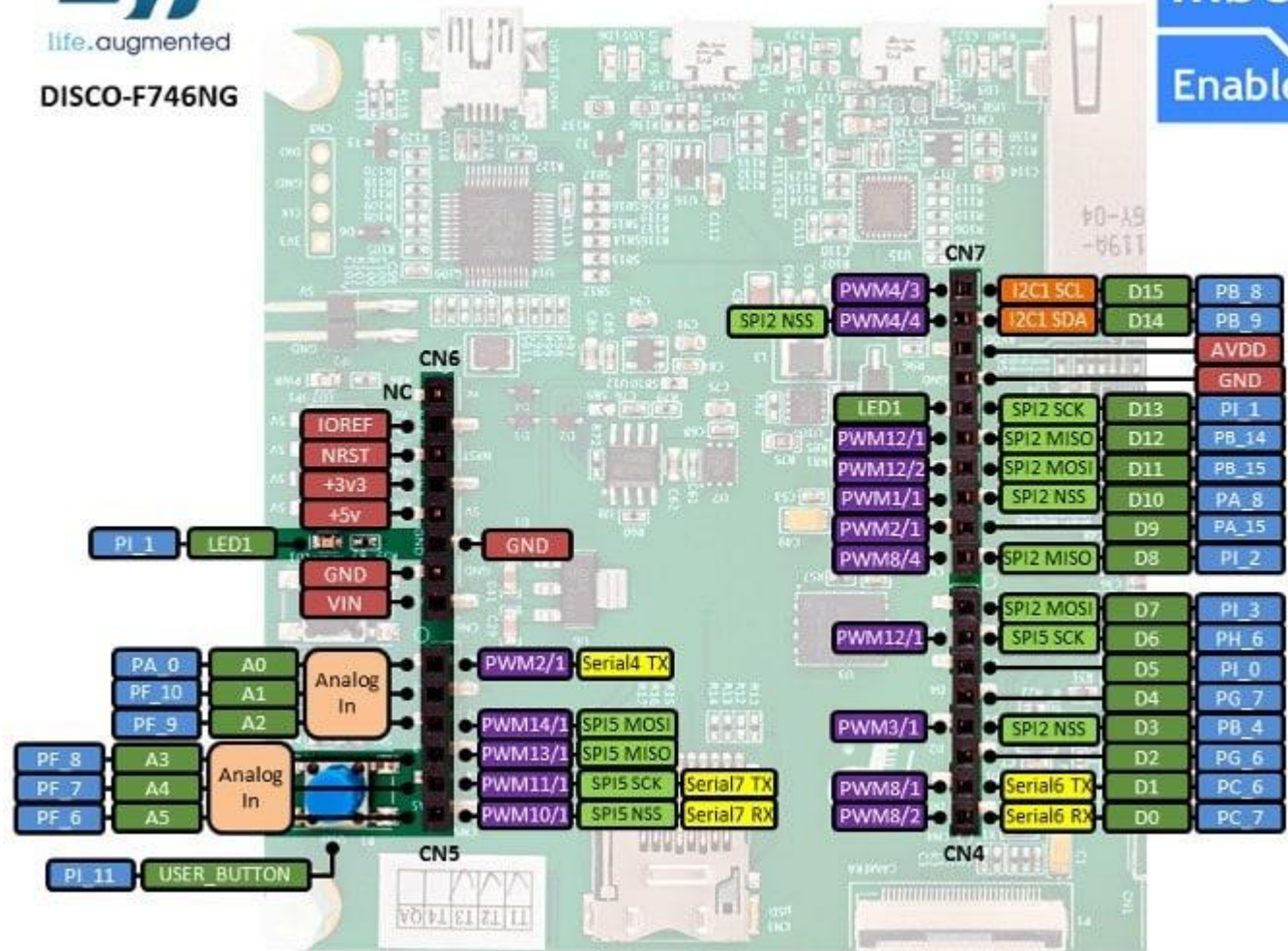
Hardware Mode

Why MCU and Why STM32

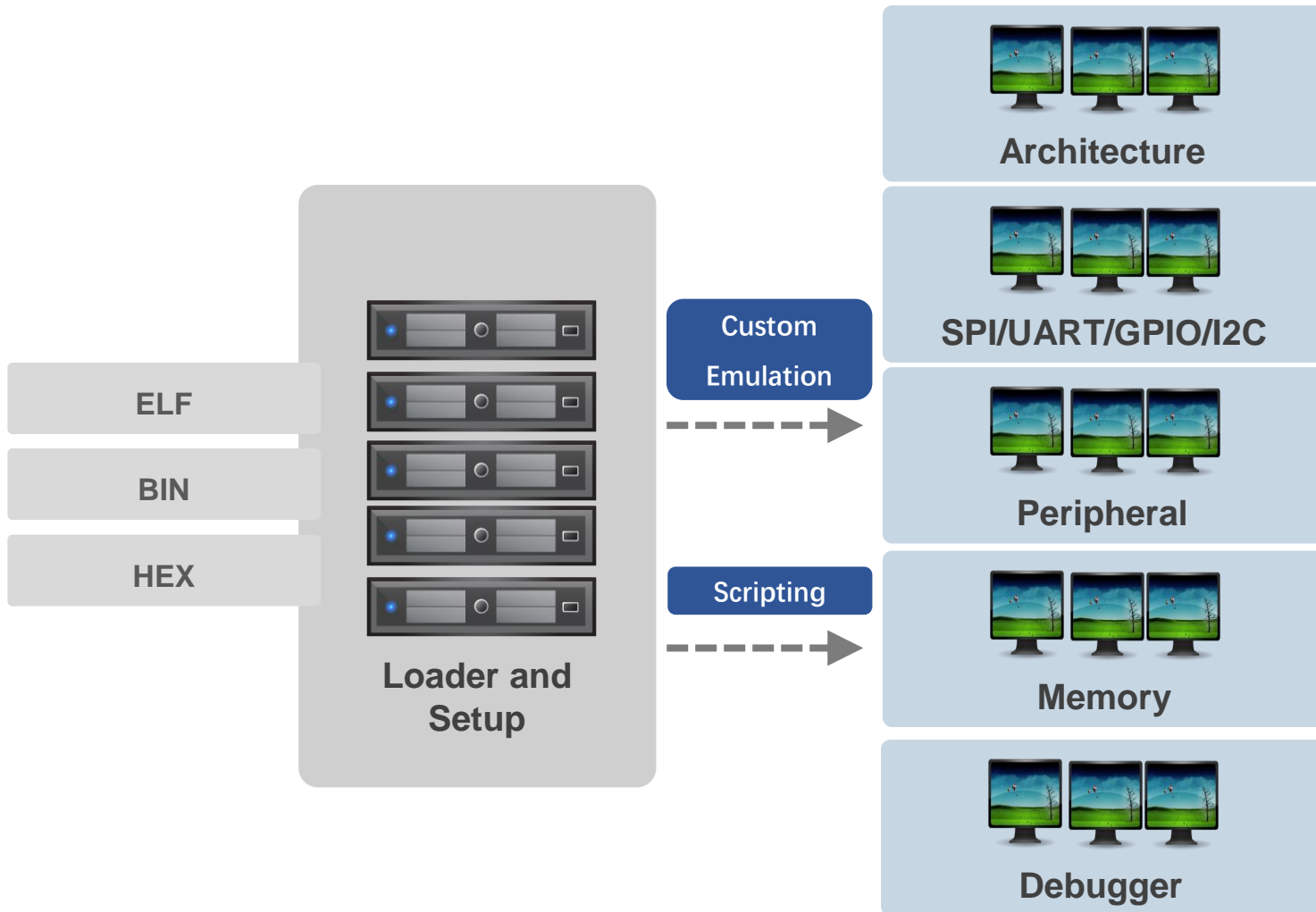


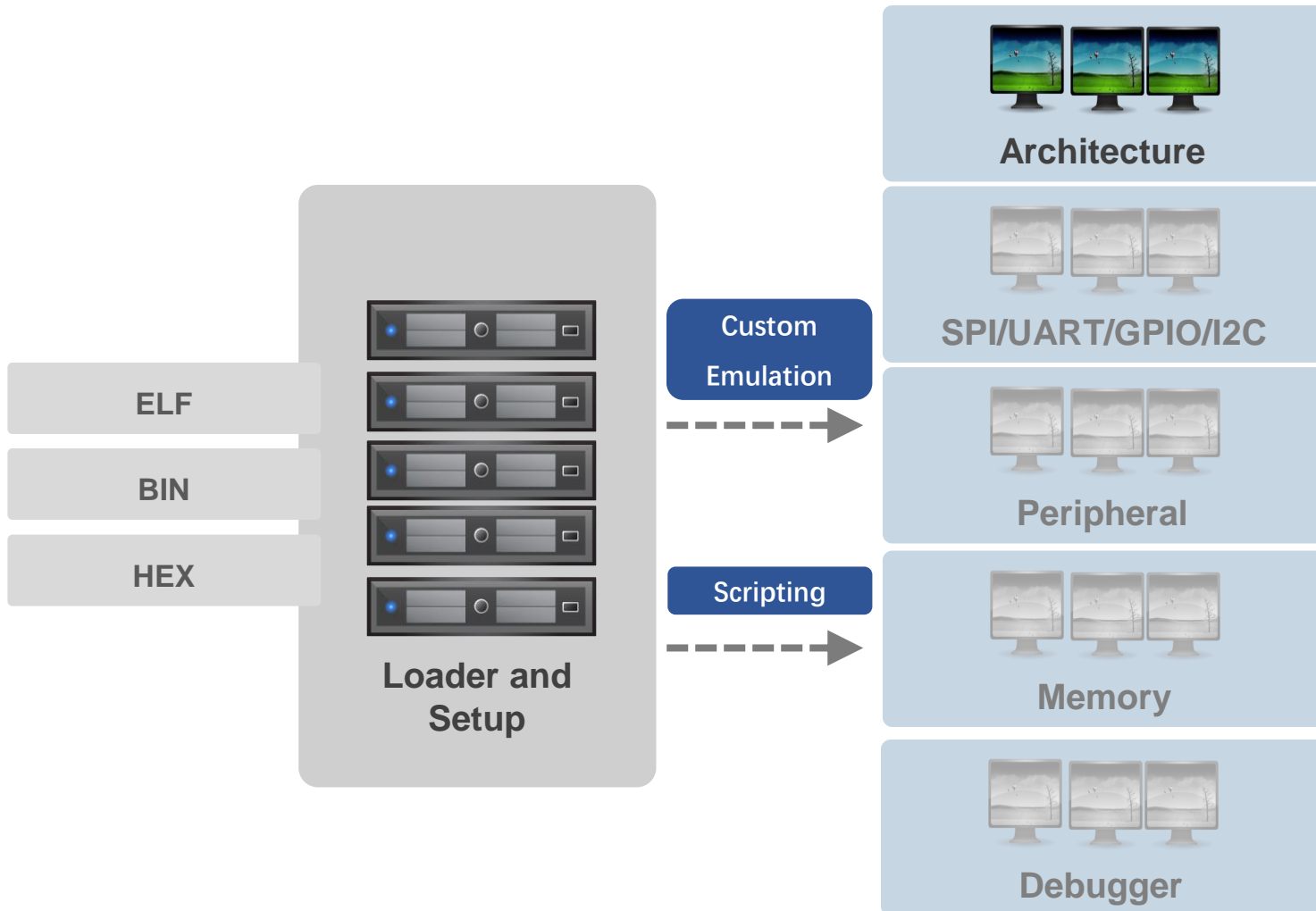

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DISCO-F746NG





Hardware Mode and APIs





- Access to Register
- Reading register
 - `ql.arch.regs.r0`
- Writing to register
 - `ql.arch.regs.r0 = 0x41`
- Different Hooks
 - `ql.hook_code()`
 - `ql.hook_address()`
- Interrupt Handle
 - `soft_interrupt_handler()`
 - `hard_interrupt_handler()`

```
ql = Qiling(['../rootfs/mcu/gd32vf103/blink.hex'], archtype="riscv64",
            env=gd32vf103, verbose=QL_VERBOSE.DEBUG)
```

```
ql.hw.create('rcu')
ql.hw.create('gpioa').watch()
ql.hw.create('gpioc').watch()
```

```
delay_cycles_begin = 0x800015c
delay_cycles_end = 0x800018c
```

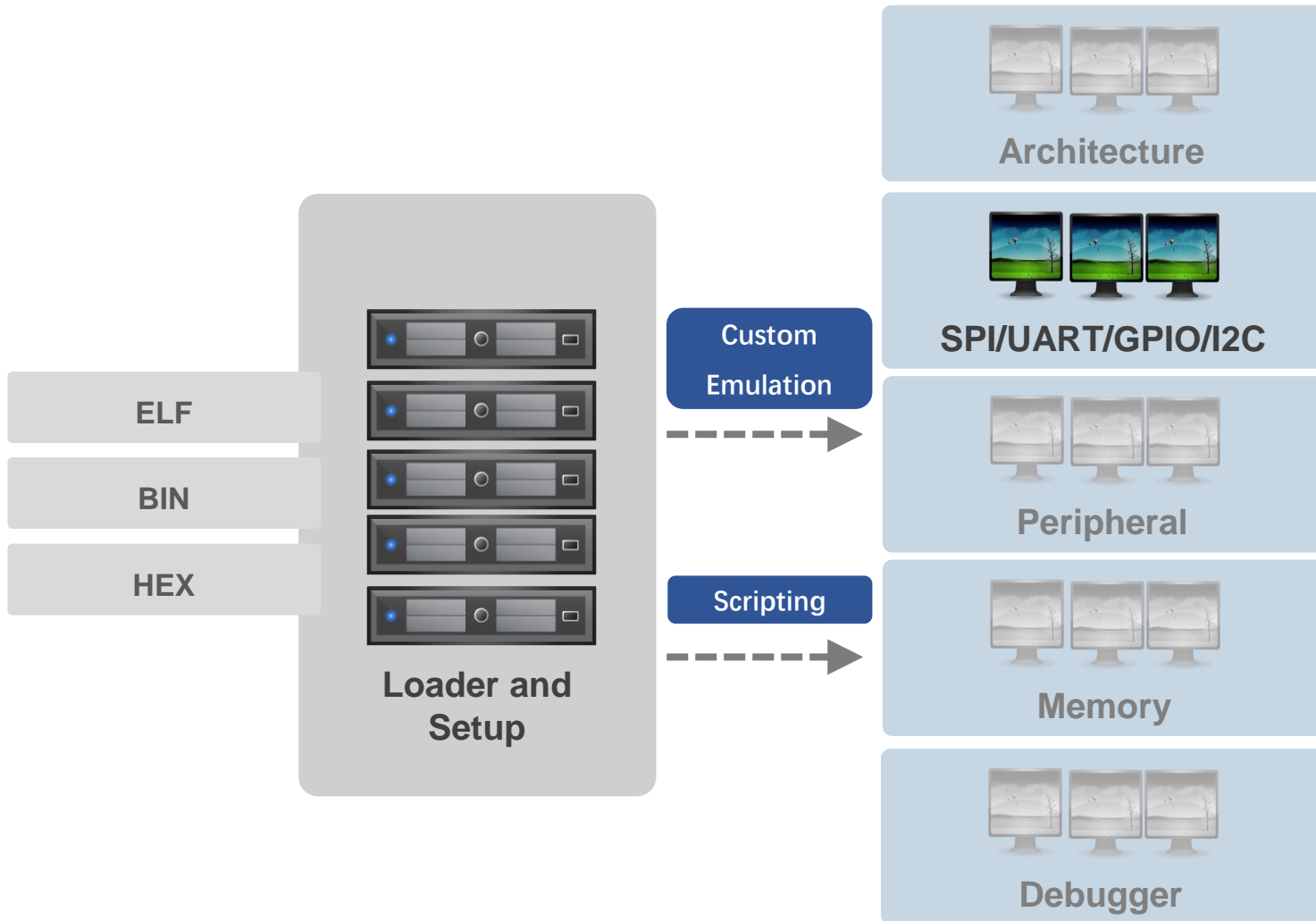
```
def skip_delay(ql):
    ql.reg.pc = delay_cycles_end
```

```
ql.hook_address(skip_delay, delay_cycles_begin)
ql.hw.gpioc.hook_set(13, lambda : print('Set PC13'))
```

```
ql.run(count=20000)
```

```
[+] [gpioa] Set PA1
[=] [GPIOC] [0x8000250] [R] OCTL = 0x0
[=] [GPIOC] [0x8000258] [W] OCTL = 0x2000
[+] [gpioc] Set PC13
Set PC13
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000268] [R] OCTL = 0x2
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000270] [W] OCTL = 0x6
[+] [gpioa] Set PA2
[=] [GPIOA] [0x80001f0] [R] OCTL = 0x6
[=] [GPIOA] [0x80001f6] [W] OCTL = 0x4
[+] [gpioa] Reset PA1
[=] [GPIOC] [0x8000208] [R] OCTL = 0x2000
[=] [GPIOC] [0x8000212] [W] OCTL = 0x0
[+] [gpioc] Reset PC13
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000222] [R] OCTL = 0x4
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000228] [W] OCTL = 0x0
[+] [gpioa] Reset PA2
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000238] [R] OCTL = 0x0
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000240] [W] OCTL = 0x2
[+] [gpioa] Set PA1
[=] [GPIOC] [0x8000250] [R] OCTL = 0x0
[=] [GPIOC] [0x8000258] [W] OCTL = 0x2000
[+] [gpioc] Set PC13
Set PC13
```

- Access to Register
- Reading register
 - ql.arch.regs.r0
- Writing to register
 - ql.arch.regs.r0 = 0x41
- Different Hooks
 - ql.hook_code()
 - ql.hook_address()
- Interrupt Handle
 - soft_interrupt_handler()
 - hard_interrupt_handler()



- SPI
 - connect()
- UART
 - read()
 - write()
 - transfer()
 - step()
- GPIO
 - read()
 - write()
 - pin()
- I2C
 - read()
 - write()
 - send_address()
 - send_data()

```
ql = Qiling(['../rootfs/mcu/stm32f411/oled12864.hex'],  
           archtype="cortex_m", env=stm32f411, verbose=QL_VERBOSE.DEFAULT)
```

```
ql.hw.create('rcc')  
ql.hw.create('gpioa')  
ql.hw.create('gpiob')  
ql.hw.create('gpior')  
ql.hw.create('spi1')
```

```
oled = PyGameSSD1306Spi(dc=(ql.hw.gpioc, 7))
```

```
ql.hw.systick.ratio = 2000
```

```
ql.hw.spi1.connect(oled)  
ql.run(count=1000000)
```

```
[!] [PERIP] Read non-mapped hardware [0x40023c00]  
[!] [PERIP] Write non-mapped hardware [0x40023c00] = 0x00000600  
[!] [PERIP] Read non-mapped hardware [0x40023c00]  
[!] [PERIP] Write non-mapped hardware [0x4004410] = 0x00000000  
[!] [PERIP] Read non-mapped hardware [0x4004414] = 0x00000000  
[!] [PERIP] Write non-mapped hardware [0x4004414] = 0x00000000  
[!] [PERIP] Read non-mapped hardware [0x400440c]
```

横滚方向: 53
俯仰方向: 19
偏航方向: 79

› SPI

- › connect()

› UART

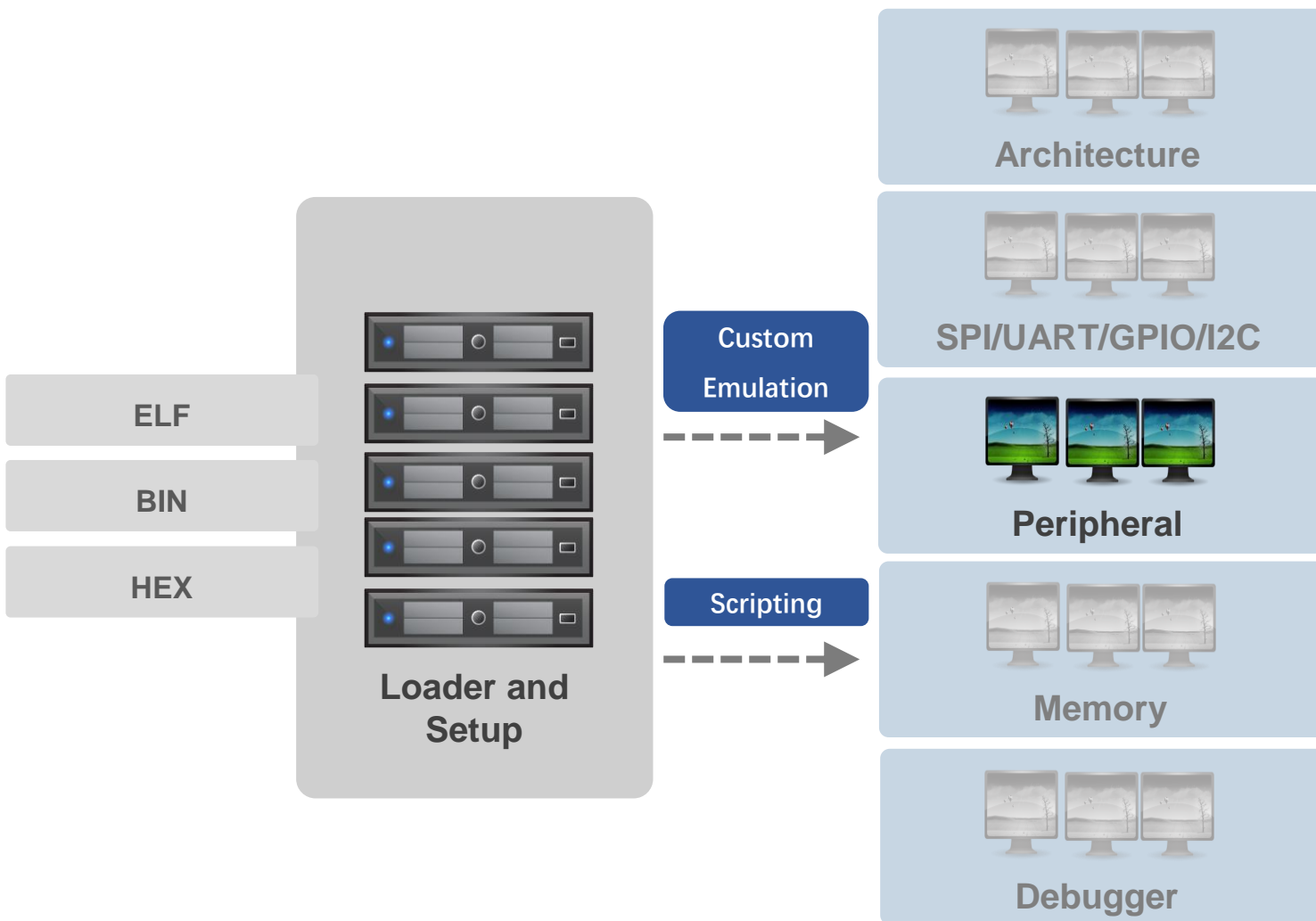
- › read()
- › write()
- › transfer()
- › step()

› GPIO

- › read()
- › write()
- › pin()

› I2C

- › read()
- › write()
- › send_address()
- › send_data()



➤ Peripheral Management

- step()
- watch()
- monitor()
- recorder()

➤ Hardware Management

- create()
- delete()
- load_env()
- find()

➤ Supported Peripherals

- UART
- DMA
- Power
- Timer

```
def create(path, lcd):
    ql = Qiling([path], archtype="cortex_m", env=stm32f411, verbose=QL_VERBOSE.DEBUG)

    ql.hw.create('i2c1')
    ql.hw.create('rcc')
    ql.hw.create('gpioa')
    ql.hw.create('gpiob')

    ql.hw.i2c1.watch()
    ql.hw.i2c1.connect(lcd)

    ql.hw.systick.set_ratio(100)

    return ql

if __name__ == "__main__":
    lcd = PyGameLCD1602()

    ## Example 1
    create("../rootfs/mcu/stm32f411/i2c-lcd.hex", lcd).run(count=50000)

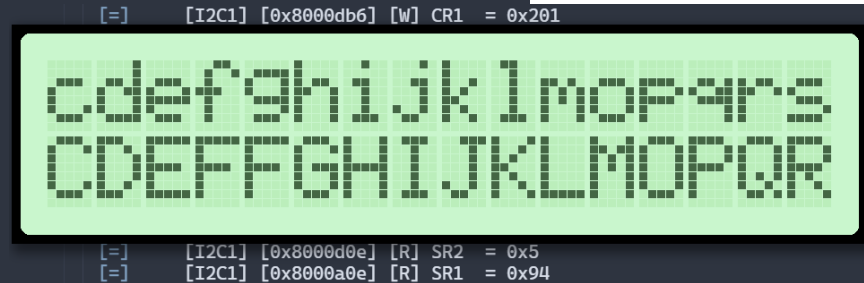
    ## Example 2
    create("../rootfs/mcu/stm32f411/lcd-plus.hex", lcd).run(count=100000)

    ## Example 3
    ql = create("../rootfs/mcu/stm32f411/i2cit-lcd.hex", lcd)

    delay_start = 0x8002936
    delay_end = 0x8002955
    def skip_delay(ql):
        ql.reg.pc = delay_end

    ql.hook_address(skip_delay, delay_start)
    ql.run(count=100000)

    lcd.quit()
```



➤ Peripheral Management

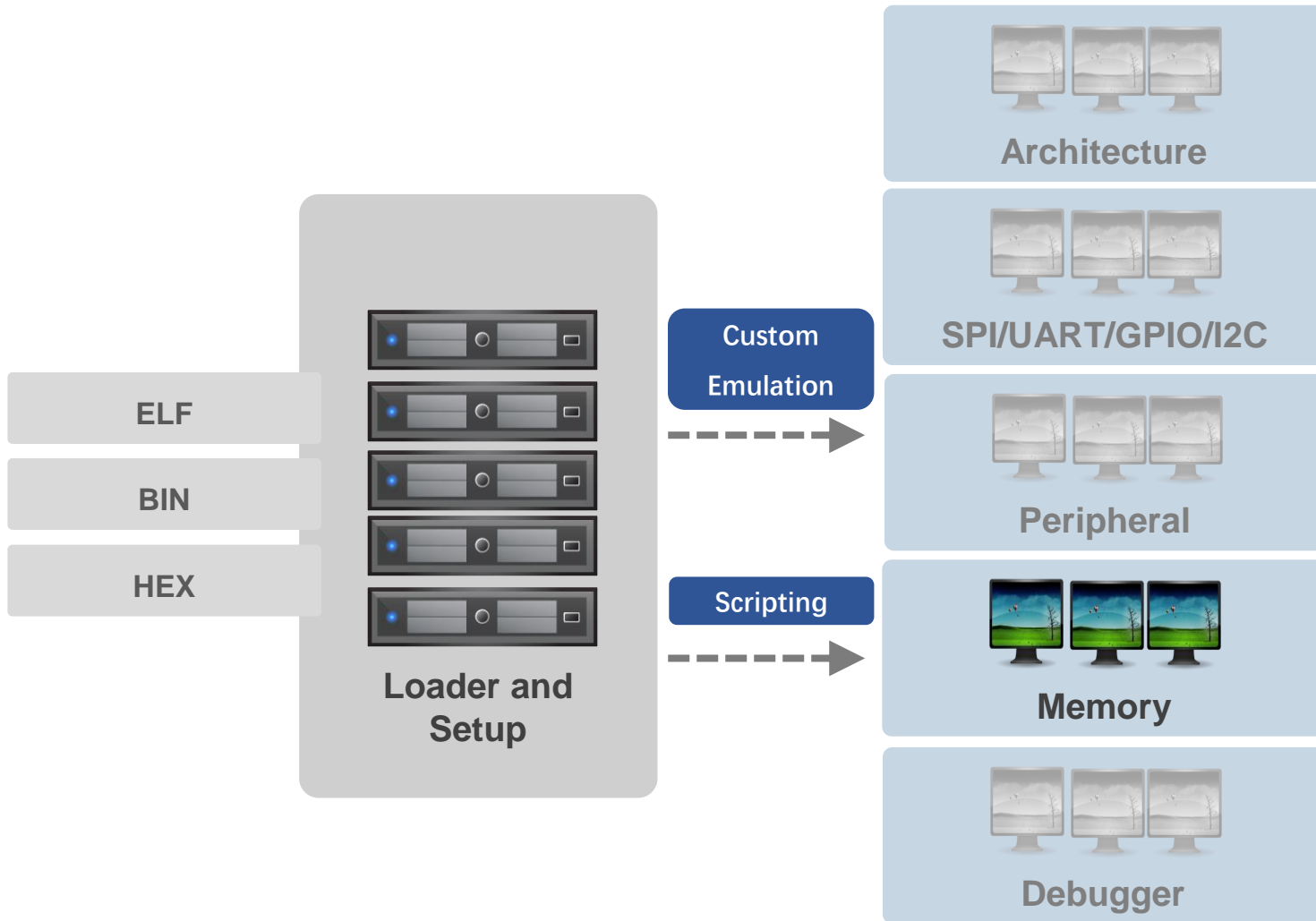
- step()
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- monitor()
- recorder()

➤ Hardware Management

- create()
- delete()
- load_env()
- find()

➤ Supported Peripherals

- UART
- DMA
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- Timer



› Memory Management

- › read()
- › write()
- › align()
- › save()
- › restore()
- › search()
- › map()
- › unmap()
- › protect()

› MMIO

- › map_mmio()

› Hijack

- › patch()

```
ql = Qiling(["../examples/rootfs/mcu/stm32f407/backdoorlock.hex"],
           archtype="cortex_m", env=stm32f407, verbose=QL_VERBOSE.OFF)

ql.hw.create('spi2')
ql.hw.create('gpioe')
ql.hw.create('gpiof')
ql.hw.create('usart1')
ql.hw.create('rcc')

ql.hw.show_info()

print('Testing passwd', passwd)

ql.patch(0x8000238, b'\x00\xBF' * 4)
ql.patch(0x80031e4, b'\x00\xBF' * 11)
ql.patch(0x80032f8, b'\x00\xBF' * 13)
ql.patch(0x80013b8, b'\x00\xBF' * 10)

ql.hw.usart1.send(passwd.encode() + b'\r')

ql.hw.systick.set_ratio(100)
ql.run(count=1000000, end=0x8003225)
if ql.arch.get_pc() == 0x8003225:
    print('Success, the passwd is', passwd)
else:
    print('Fail, the passwd is not', passwd)
```

➤ Memory Management

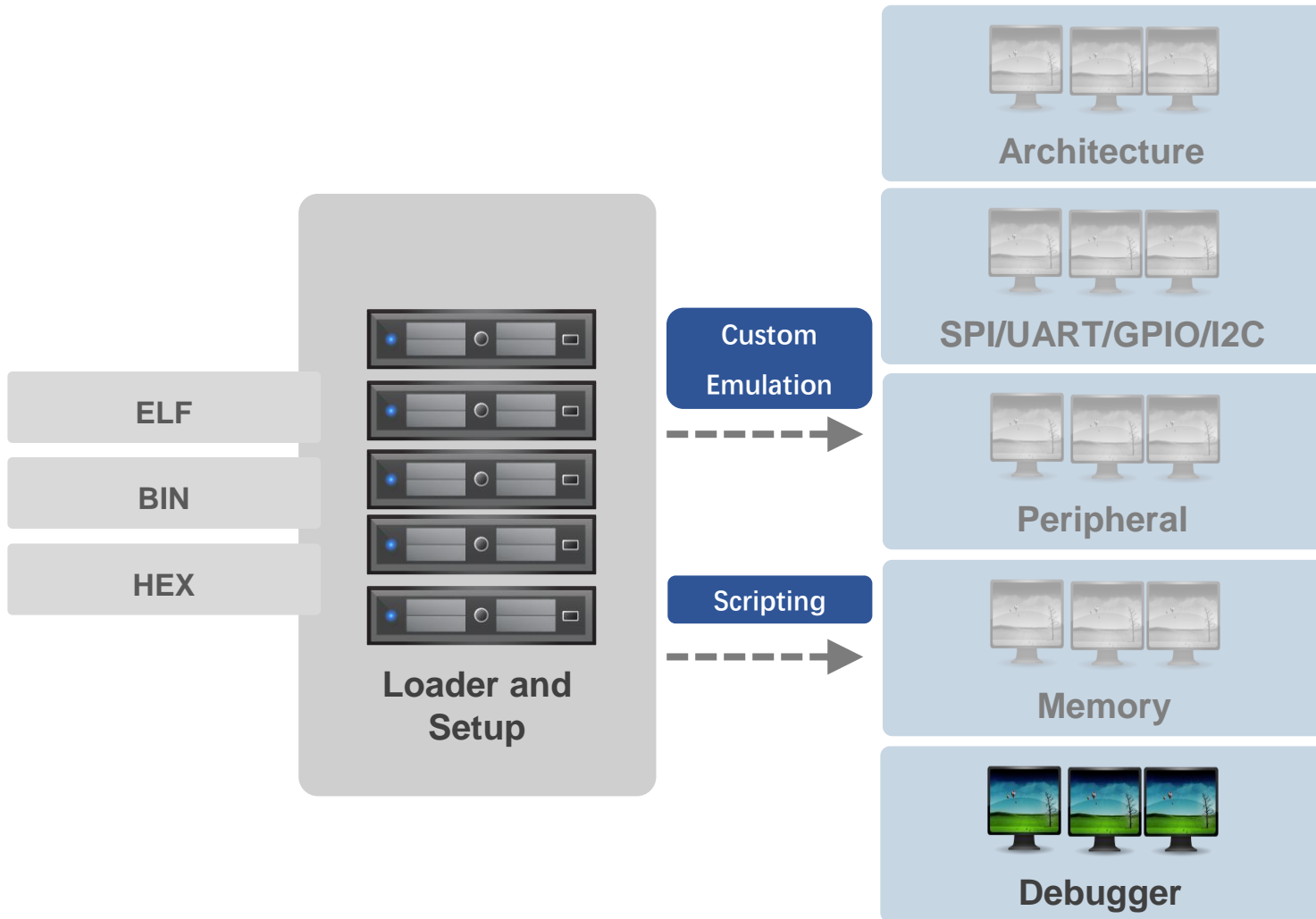
- read()
- write()
- align()
- save()
- restore()
- search()
- map()
- unmap()
- protect()

➤ MMIO

- map_mmio()

➤ Hijack

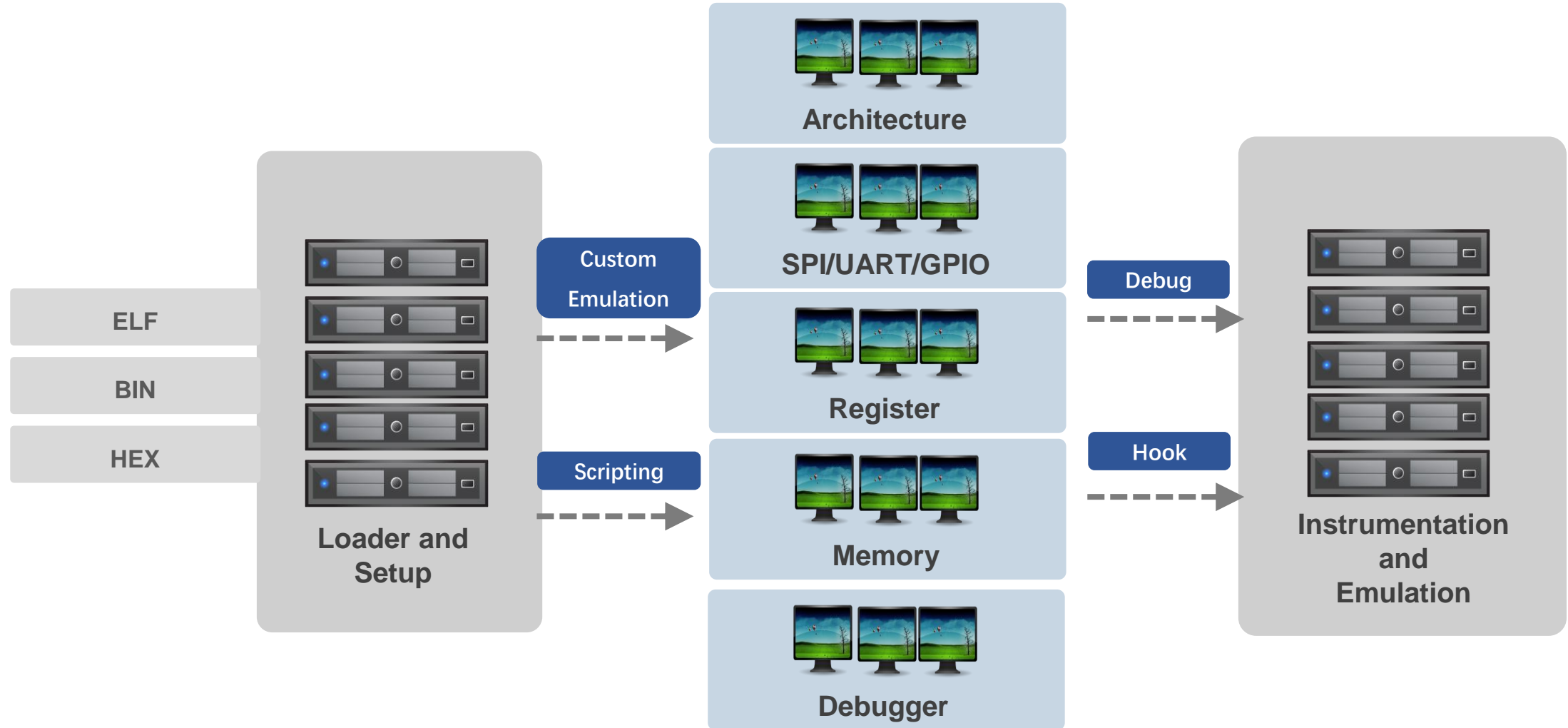
- patch()



- Disassembly
 - `create_disassembler()`
- Debug
 - `step()`
 - `stop()`
 - `run()`

```
[=] 0800193a [[FLASH] + 0x00193a] 00 d1 bne #0x800193e
[=] 0800193e [[FLASH] + 0x00193e] 03 f8 01 1b strb r1, [r3], #1
[=] 08001942 [[FLASH] + 0x001942] f9 e7 b #0x8001938
[=] 08001938 [[FLASH] + 0x001938] 93 42 cmp r3, r2
[=] 0800193a [[FLASH] + 0x00193a] 00 d1 bne #0x800193e
[=] 0800193e [[FLASH] + 0x00193e] 03 f8 01 1b strb r1, [r3], #1
[=] 08001942 [[FLASH] + 0x001942] f9 e7 b #0x8001938
[=] 08001938 [[FLASH] + 0x001938] 93 42 cmp r3, r2
[=] 0800193a [[FLASH] + 0x00193a] 00 d1 bne #0x800193e
[=] 0800193e [[FLASH] + 0x00193e] 03 f8 01 1b strb r1, [r3], #1
[=] 08001942 [[FLASH] + 0x001942] f9 e7 b #0x8001938
[=] 08001938 [[FLASH] + 0x001938] 93 42 cmp r3, r2
[=] 0800193a [[FLASH] + 0x00193a] 00 d1 bne #0x800193e
[=] 0800193e [[FLASH] + 0x00193e] 03 f8 01 1b strb r1, [r3], #1
[=] 08001942 [[FLASH] + 0x001942] f9 e7 b #0x8001938
[=] 08001938 [[FLASH] + 0x001938] 93 42 cmp r3, r2
[=] 0800193a [[FLASH] + 0x00193a] 00 d1 bne #0x800193e
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[=] 08001942 [[FLASH] + 0x001942] f9 e7 b #0x8001938
[=] 08001938 [[FLASH] + 0x001938] 93 42 cmp r3, r2
[=] 0800193a [[FLASH] + 0x00193a] 00 d1 bne #0x800193e
[=] 0800193e [[FLASH] + 0x00193e] 03 f8 01 1b strb r1, [r3], #1
[=] 08001942 [[FLASH] + 0x001942] f9 e7 b #0x8001938
[=] 08001938 [[FLASH] + 0x001938] 93 42 cmp r3, r2
[=] 0800193a [[FLASH] + 0x00193a] 00 d1 bne #0x800193e
```

- Disassembly
 - create_disassembler()
- Debug
 - step()
 - stop()
 - run()



DEMO

```
import sys
sys.path.append("../..")

from qiling.core import Qiling
from qiling.const import QL_VERBOSE
from qiling.extensions.mcu.stm32f4 import stm32f411

def stm32f411_freertos():
    ql = Qiling(["../rootfs/mcu/stm32f411/os-demo.hex"],
               archtype="cortex_m", env=stm32f411, verbose=QL_VERBOSE.DEBUG)

    ql.hw.create('usart2').watch()
    ql.hw.create('gpioa').watch()
    ql.hw.create('rcc')

    ql.hw.systick.set_ratio(100)
    ql.run(count=200000)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    stm32f411_freertos()
```

```
[!] [PPB] Write non-mapped hardware [0xe000ef34] = 0xc0000000
[+] Received interrupt: 0x2
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x46 ('F')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x72 ('r')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000f5e] [W] BSRR = 0x20
[+] [gpioa] Set PA5
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000f64] [W] BSRR = 0x200000
[+] [gpioa] Reset PA5
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x65 ('e')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x65 ('e')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x20 (' ')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x52 ('R')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x54 ('T')
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x4f ('O')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0x53 ('S')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[=] [USART2] [0x8001372] [W] DR = 0xa ('\n')
[=] [USART2] [0x800121e] [R] SR = 0xc0
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[+] Received interrupt: 0x8
[=] [GPIOA] [0x8000f5e] [W] BSRR = 0x20
```

Next

- Android Java bytecode layer instrumentation
- Forward to host implementation
- iPhoneOS/MacOS/M1 emulation support
- More robust Windows emulation
 - Introduce wine && Cygwin or something
- ~~Smart Contract emulation (EVM)~~
- ~~MCU emulation~~
- **To move on further, We are looking for VC / Investors**



Opensource Security Framework Since 2013

➤ About Qiling Framework

- <https://qiling.io>
- <https://github.com/qilingframework/qiling>
- <https://docs.qiling.io>
- <http://t.me/qilingframework>
- @qiling_io



Star us

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository for qilingframework/qiling. The repository is public and has 6,288 commits, 126 watchers, and 585 forks. The repository is categorized as a framework for binary emulation, analysis, and reverse engineering. The repository includes a README, a Dockerfile, and a setup.py file. The repository is also linked to the qiling.io website and has a 3.6k star rating.

File	Description	Time
.github	Run giteesync only on main repository	4 months ago
docs	sync logo	5 months ago
examples	Remove the obsolete "authorize output" option	3 months ago
qiling	Add missing x86-64 regs	3 months ago
tests	Reduce tests suite side effects	3 months ago
.gitignore	update gitignore to ignore temp test file	10 months ago
.gitmodules	read roots	7 months ago
COPYING	import	3 years ago
CREDITS.md	Add to credits	4 months ago
ChangeLog	Update ChangeLog	3 months ago
Dockerfile	Compile profile from source	4 months ago
README.md	Implement some syscalls to support Android Runtime	4 months ago
TODO	Update TODO	8 months ago
qitool	Better handling of roots default	3 months ago
setup.py	get ready for release	3 months ago

Questions