Hacking Toshiba Laptops

Or how to mess up your firmware security

•••

REcon Brussels 2018

whois

Serge Bazanski

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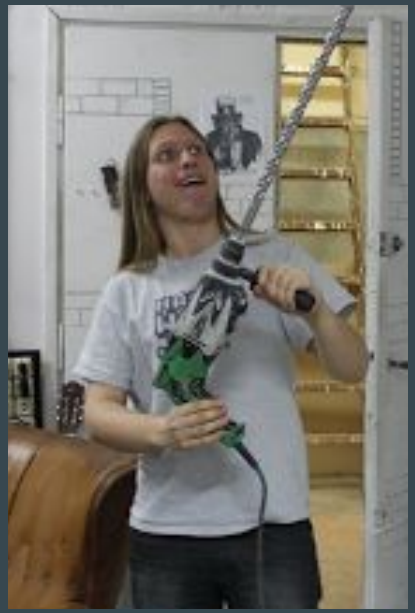

Michał Kowalczyk

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Researcher @ Invisible Things Lab
Reverse engineer, amateur cryptanalyst

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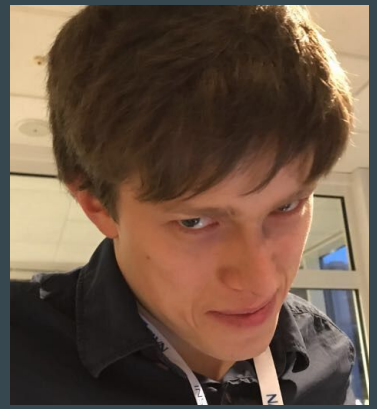
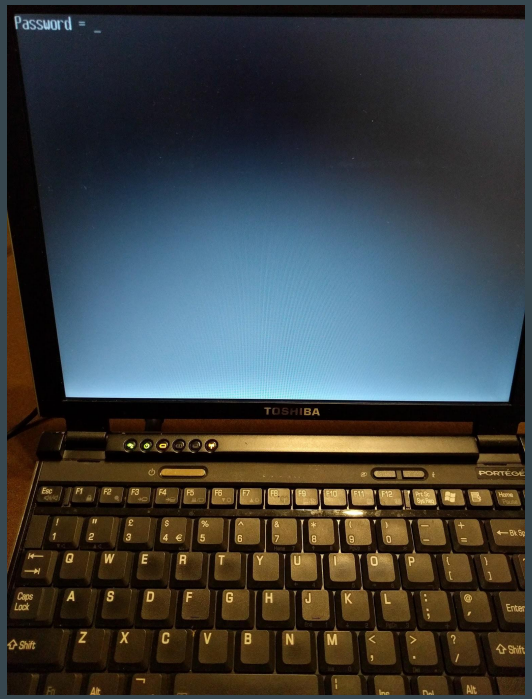
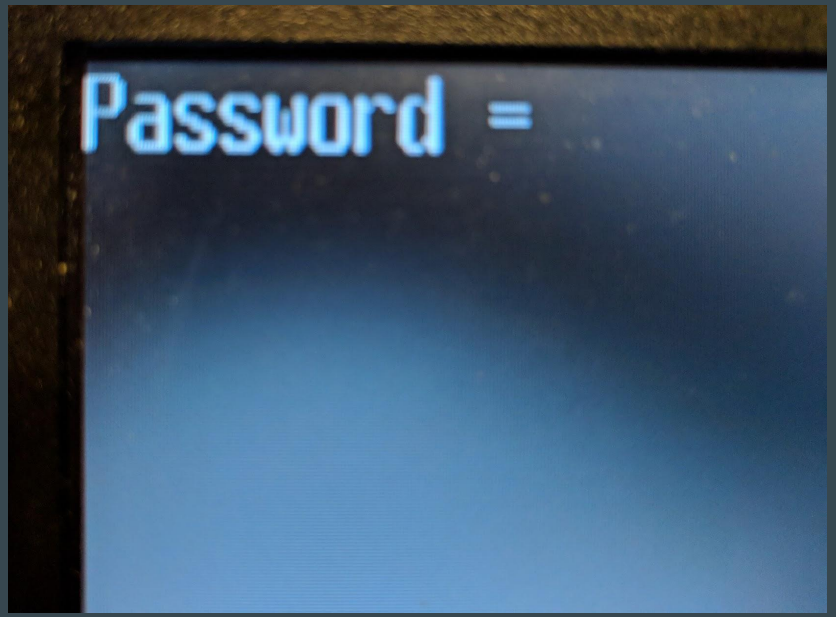


Toshiba Portégé R100

Intel Pentium M 1 GHz
256MB RAM

But there’s a catch...





Quite the catch, actually.

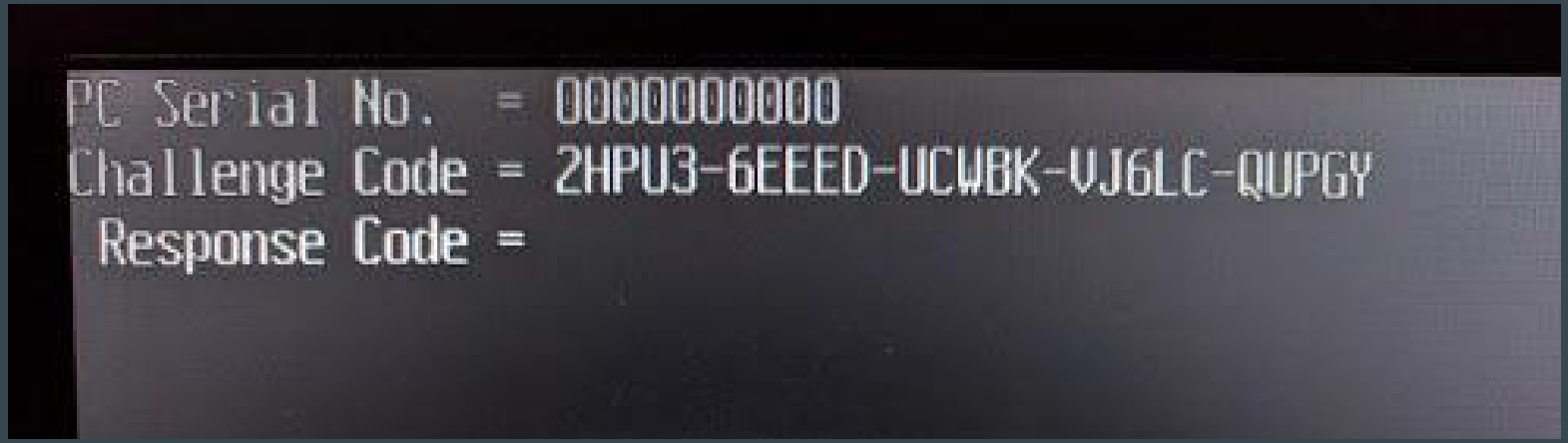
CMOS clear jumper? None to be found.

Yank out the battery? Password still there.

Take a door key and pass it over the pins of things that look like flash chips hopefully causing a checksum failure and resetting the password?

Nice try. No luck, though.

A-ha!


PC Serial No. = 0000000000
Challenge Code = 2HPU3-6EEED-UCWBK-VJ6LC-QUPGY
Response Code =

BIOS analysis

How to get the BIOS code?

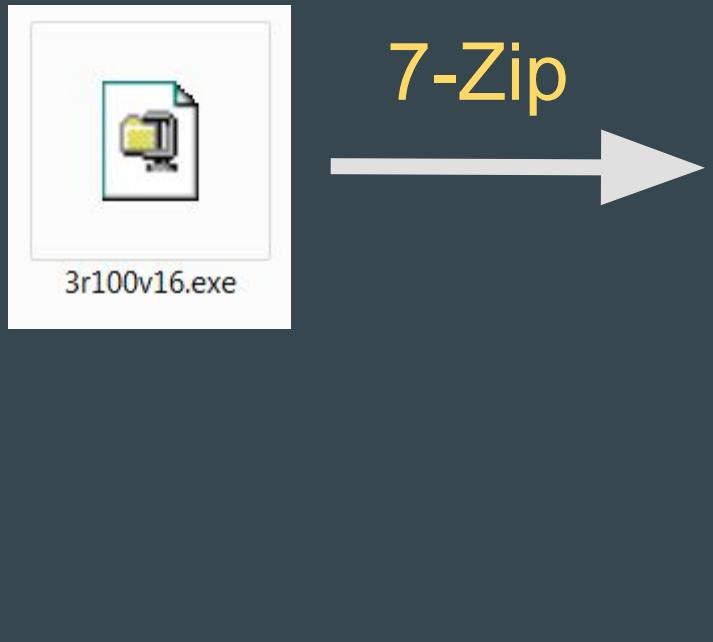
Physical memory? Not with a locked-down laptop.

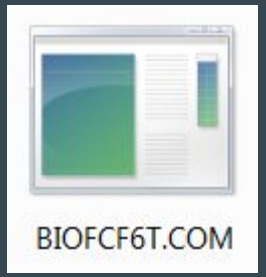
Dump of the flash chip? Ugh.

Unpack some updates? Let's see.

Unpacking the updates

https://support.toshiba.com/


3r100v16.exe
7-Zip
BIOFCF6T.COM 2004-06-14 13:14 MS-DOS Applicati... 250 KB
BIOSUPD2.INI 2003-12-18 09:31 INI File 1 KB
CHGBIOS2.VXD 2001-07-12 00:22 Virtual device driver 7 KB
CHGBIOSA.EXE 2003-11-11 04:34 Application 31 KB
CLEAN2.REG 2001-11-07 19:14 Registration Entries 1 KB
INSTALL2.EXE 2003-12-22 16:00 Application 336 KB
MESSAGE.EXE 2003-12-22 16:01 Application 103 KB
nchgbios2.exe 2003-04-25 09:31 Application 220 KB
nchgbios2.sys 2002-11-10 16:07 System file 4 KB
nchgbios2NT.sys 2002-12-25 18:02 System file 12 KB
nchgbios2svc.exe 2003-04-22 06:37 Application 48 KB
TBDECODE.DLL 2001-07-12 04:05 Application extens... 48 KB
TBIOSUP.DLL 2003-05-17 11:40 Application extens... 76 KB
TCHGBIOSInfo.dll 2003-04-22 06:38 Application extens... 52 KB
tosclean2.bat 2003-03-21 05:52 Windows Batch File 3 KB
tosclean2 2001-11-07 22:01 Shortcut to MS-D... 1 KB
toscleanAUTO2.bat 2003-03-21 05:53 Windows Batch File 3 KB
toscleanSMS2.bat 2003-03-21 05:54 Windows Batch File 3 KB
tosntclean2.bat 2003-03-21 05:54 Windows Batch File 3 KB
tosntcleanAUTO2.bat 2003-03-21 05:55 Windows Batch File 3 KB
tosntcleanSMS2.bat 2003-03-21 05:55 Windows Batch File 3 KB
TosPwChk.dll 2004-01-08 17:48 Application extens... 459 KB
TosPwChk.lng 2003-11-17 20:34 LNG File 6 KB




```
00 00 00 42 49 4f 53 ff ff 3d f2 76 31 2e 34 30   ...BIOS..=.v1.40
20 52 31 30 30 20 20 20 20 20 20 01 fc f6 00 00    R100      .....
0e 01 00 00 18 e3 03 00 48 01 46 57 34 5f 53 30   ........H.FW4_S0
bf 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00   ................
```

+

254 KB of compressed data

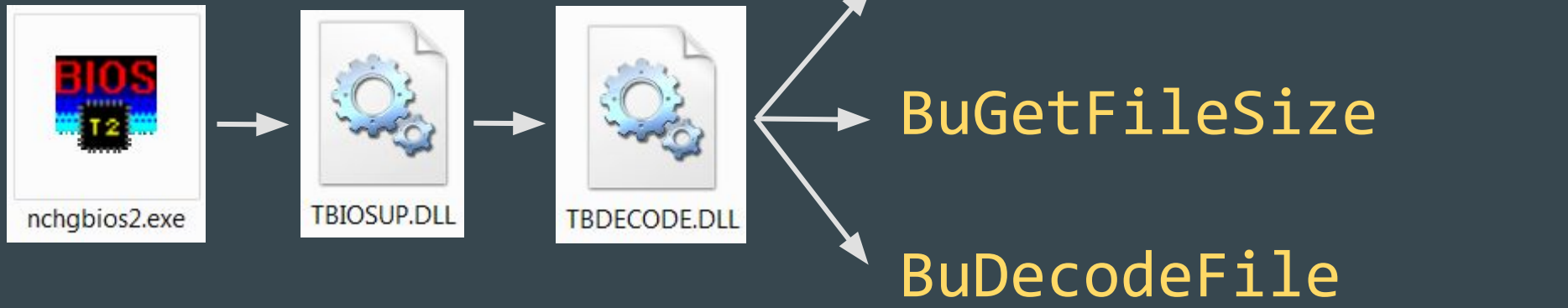
Decompression

Unknown format

Default unpacker is a 16-bit EXE

There’s an alternative one, 32-bit!

Decompression

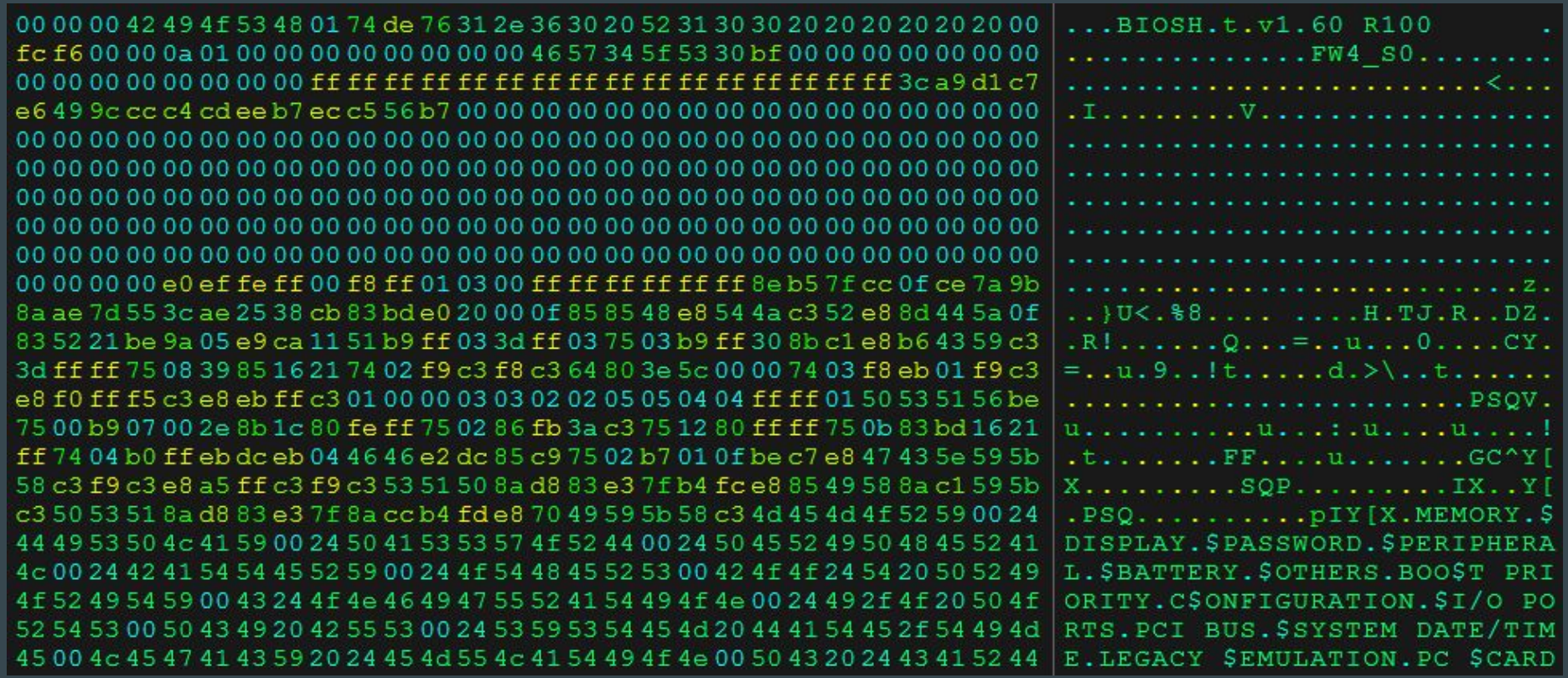


Decompression

Just ~50 lines of C!

```
...
BuIsFileCompressed(compressed, &is_compressed);
if (is_compressed) {
   BuDecodeFile(compressed, fsize, decompressed);
}
...
```

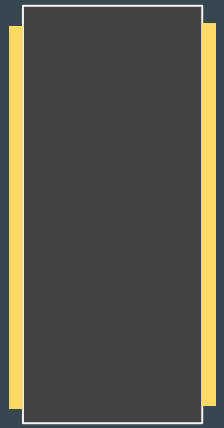
The result


00 00 00 42 49 4f 53 48 01 74 de 76 31 2e 36 30 20 52 31 30 30 20 20 20 20 20 20 00
fc f6 00 00 0a 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 46 57 34 5f 53 30 bf 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff 3c a9 d1 c7
e6 49 9c cc c4 cd ee b7 ec c5 56 b7 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 e0 ef fe ff 00 f8 ff 01 03 00 ff ff ff ff ff ff 8e b5 7f cc 0f ce 7a 9b
8a ae 7d 55 3c ae 25 38 cb 83 bd e0 20 00 0f 85 85 48 e8 54 4a c3 52 e8 8d 44 5a 0f
83 52 21 be 9a 05 e9 ca 11 51 b9 ff 03 3d ff 03 75 03 b9 ff 30 8b c1 e8 b6 43 59 c3
3d ff ff 75 08 39 85 16 21 74 02 f9 c3 f8 c3 64 80 3e 5c 00 00 74 03 f8 eb 01 f9 c3
e8 f0 ff f5 c3 e8 eb ff c3 01 00 00 03 03 02 02 05 05 04 04 ff ff 01 50 53 51 56 be
75 00 b9 07 00 2e 8b 1c 80 fe ff 75 02 86 fb 3a c3 75 12 80 ff ff 75 0b 83 bd 16 21
ff 74 04 b0 ff eb dc eb 04 46 46 e2 dc 85 c9 75 02 b7 01 0f be c7 e8 47 43 5e 59 5b
58 c3 f9 c3 e8 a5 ff c3 f9 c3 53 51 50 8a d8 83 e3 7f b4 fc e8 85 49 58 8a c1 59 5b
c3 50 53 51 8a d8 83 e3 7f 8a cc b4 fd e8 70 49 59 5b 58 c3 4d 45 4d 4f 52 59 00 24
44 49 53 50 4c 41 59 00 24 50 41 53 53 57 4f 52 44 00 24 50 45 52 49 50 48 45 52 41
4c 00 24 42 41 54 54 45 52 59 00 24 4f 54 48 45 52 53 00 42 4f 4f 24 54 20 50 52 49
4f 52 49 54 59 00 43 24 4f 4e 46 49 47 55 52 41 54 49 4f 4e 00 24 49 2f 4f 20 50 4f
52 54 53 00 50 43 49 20 42 55 53 00 24 53 59 53 54 45 4d 20 44 41 54 45 2f 54 49 4d
45 00 4c 45 47 41 43 59 20 24 45 4d 55 4c 41 54 49 4f 4e 00 50 43 20 24 43 41 52 44
...BIOSH.t.v1.60 R100 .
.............FW4_S0.....
.....................<...
.I.....V................
....
....
....
....
....
....
.....z.
..}U<.%8.... ....H.TJ.R..DZ.
.R!.....Q...=..u...0....CY.
=..u.9..!t.....d.>\..t.....
.....PSQV.
u.....u...:.u....u....!
.t.....FF....u.....GC^Y[
X.....SQP.....IX..Y[
.PSQ.....pIY[X.MEMORY.$
DISPLAY.$PASSWORD.$PERIPHERA
L.$BATTERY.$OTHERS.BOO$T PRI
ORITY.C$ONFIGURATION.$I/O PO
RTS.PCI BUS.$SYSTEM DATE/TIM
E.LEGACY $EMULATION.PC $CARD

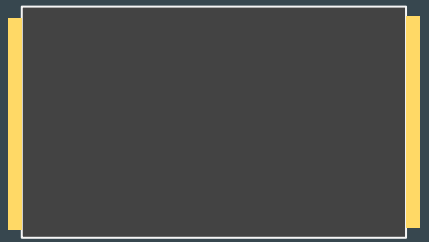
Dumping the BIOS flash

Where to start looking

Chip Safari



RAM



Flash

Google it

Interfacing to flash chips

In-circuit: test pads or protocol that permits multi-master access

Out-of-circuit (?): desolder, attach to breakout/clip, use main communication interface

Custom breakout board

KiCAD (or $whatever, really) PCB design.

Thermal transfer for DIY PCB manufacturing.

Hot air gun to desolder, soldering station to re-solder.

Tools you'll need

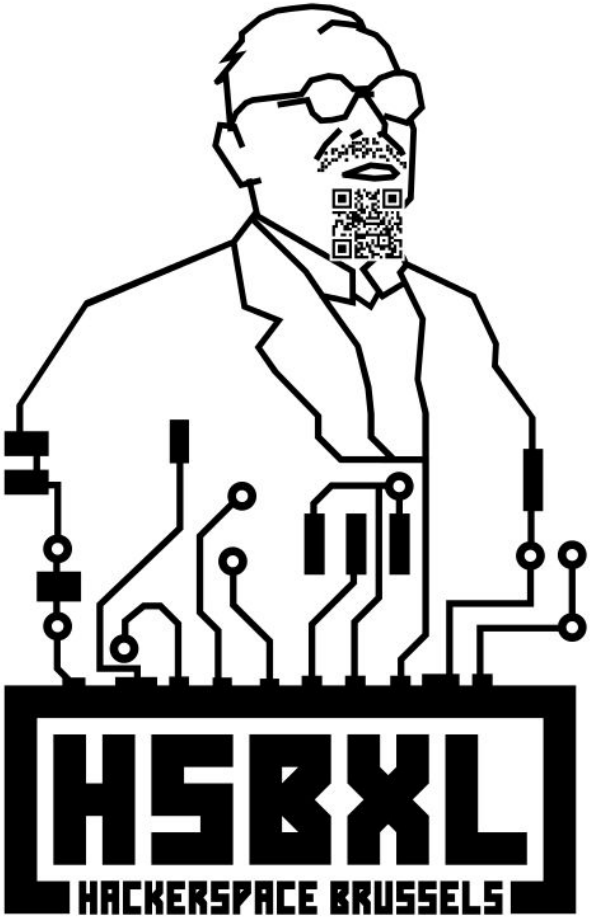
3eur

150eur

50eur

Hackerspace

25eur p/m + BYOB



Serge Bazanski
@q3k

When your etching rig breaks but you really need that PCB made today.

8:44 PM - 1 Jan 2017

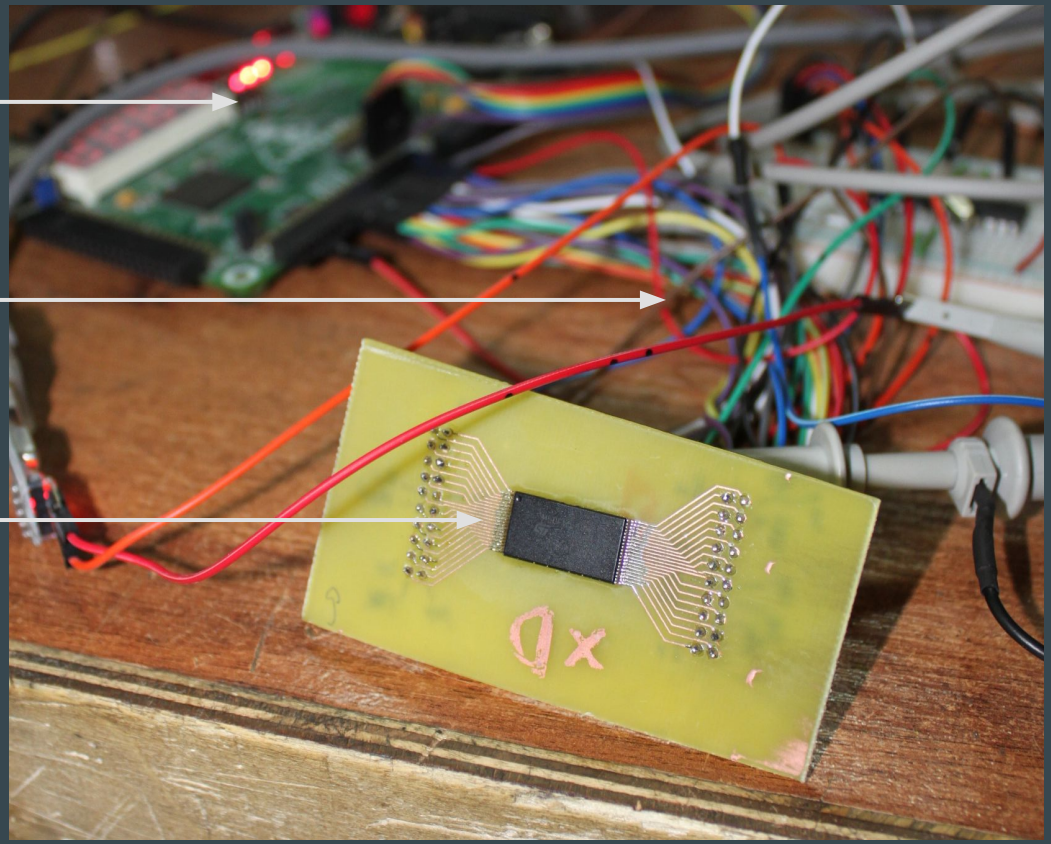
3 Likes

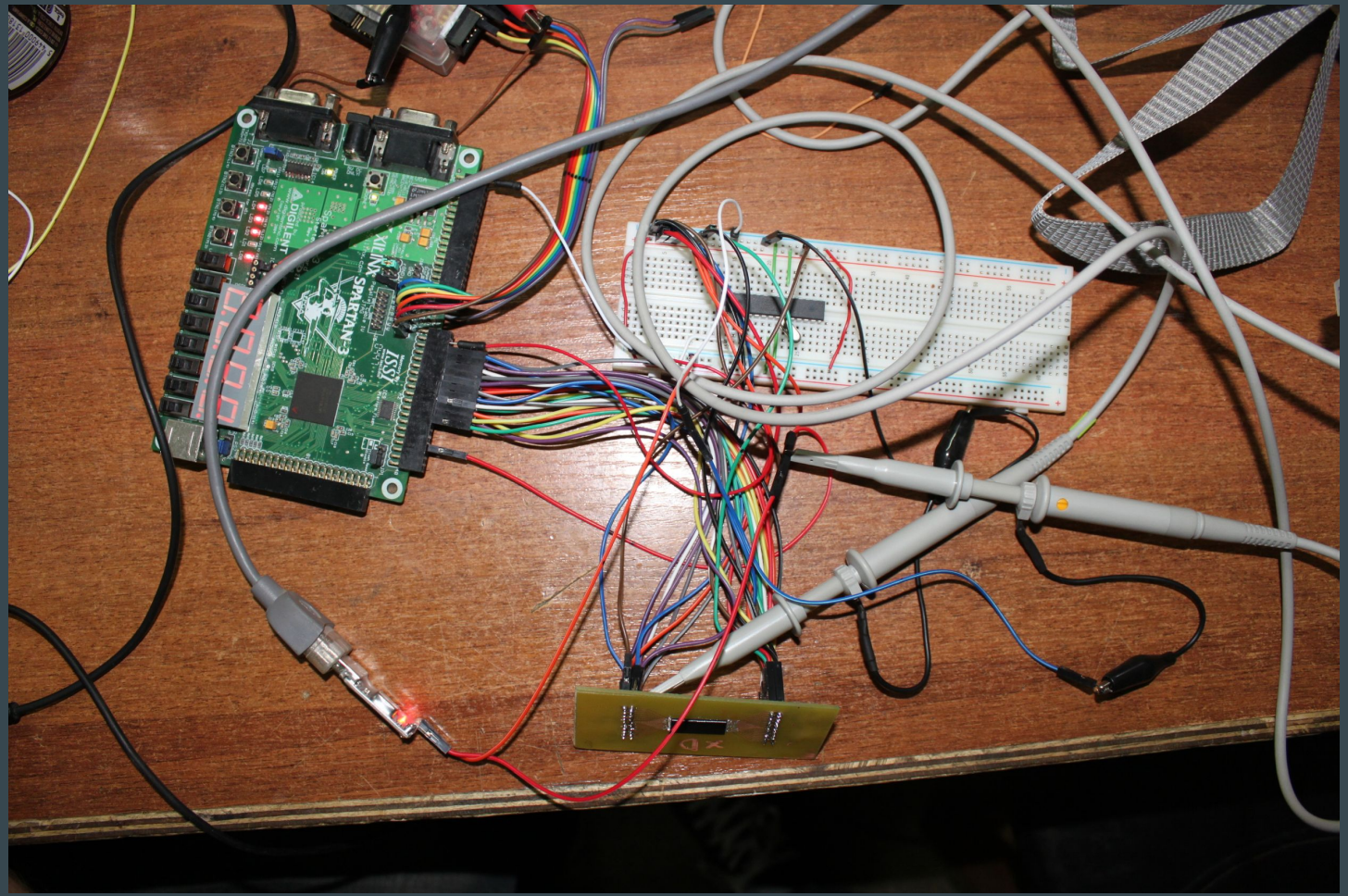
3

FPGA board
(Spartan 3E)

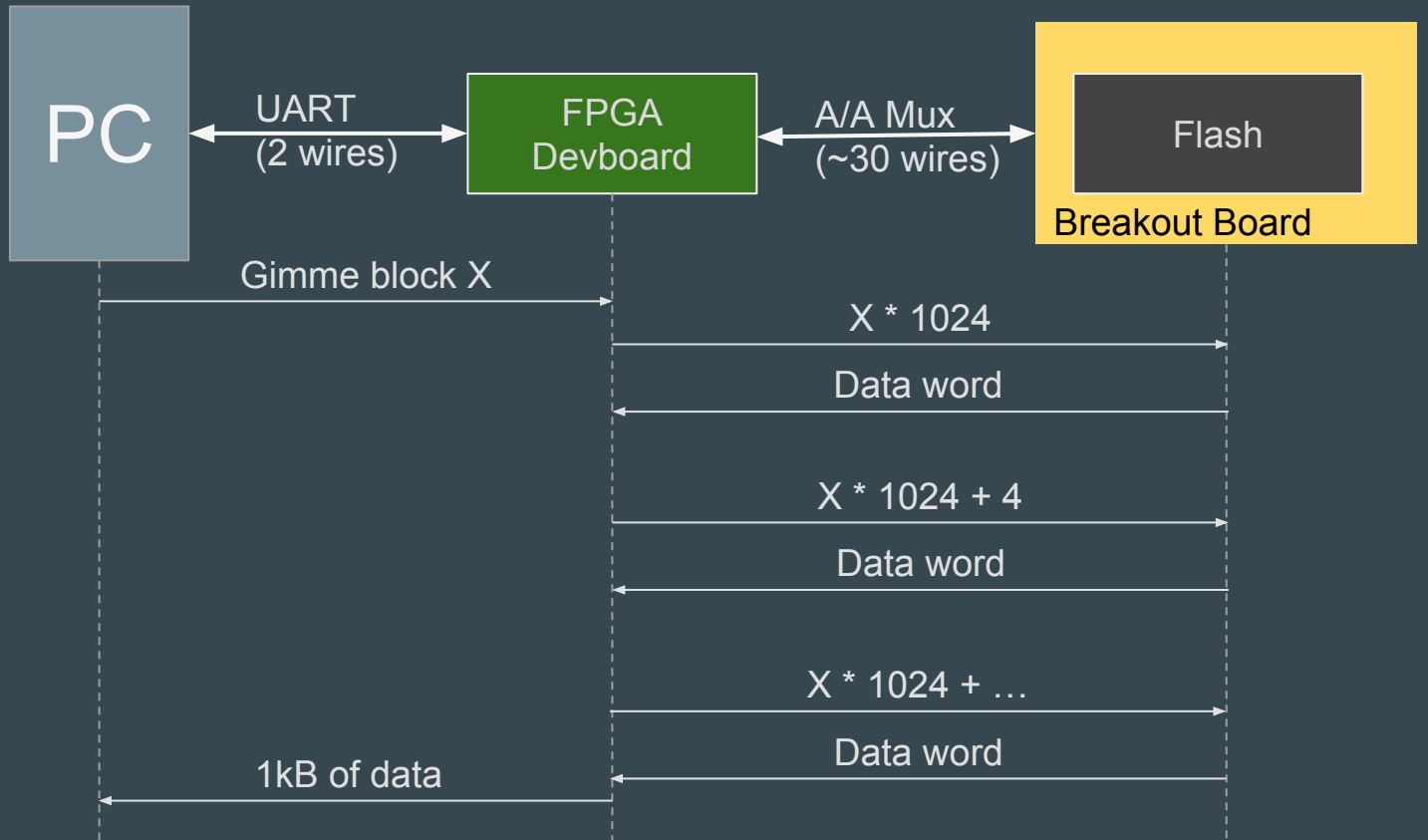
Kabelsalat

Flash

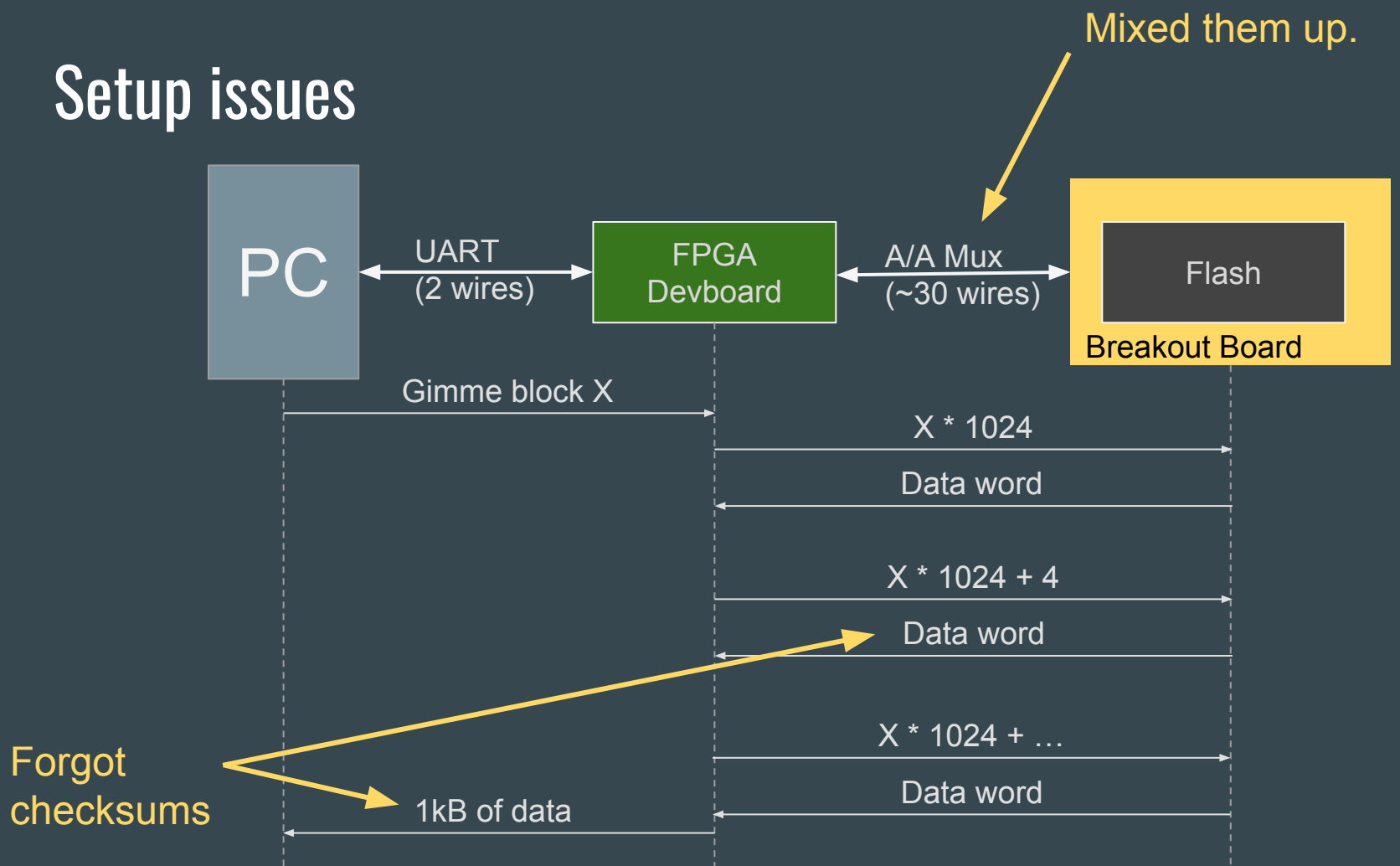



DIGILENT
XILINX
SPARTAN-3

Setup


PC
UART
(2 wires)
FPGA
Devboard
A/A Mux
(~30 wires)
Flash
Breakout Board
Gimme block X
X * 1024
Data word
X * 1024 + 4
Data word
X * 1024 + …
Data word
1kB of data

Setup issues



But why the FPGA?

Using an FPGA was unnecessary - just needed a bunch of I/O.

Comparatively difficult to develop for. And to debug.

Should've gone for a uC with a bunch of I/O or with a multiplexer.

But at least now we know ¯_(ツ)_/¯ .


q3k@amnesia ~ $ strings herpderp | grep -i respo
Response Code =
Response Code =
Response Code =
Response Code =
q3k@amnesia ~ $ stat herpderp
File: 'herpderp'
Size: 4260597
Blocks: 8328
Inode: 4198912
Device: fd03h/64771d
Access: (0644/-rw-r--r--) Uid: (1000/
Access: 2014-01-05 17:37:03.512170339 +0100
Modify: 2014-01-05 17:44:00.657100279 +0100
Change: 2014-01-05 17:44:00.657100279 +0100
Birth: -
q3k@amnesia ~ $
lenovo

BIOS code analysis

How to start?

CPU mode?

Entry point?

Memory map?

CPU start

"A hardware reset sets each processor's registers to a known state and places the processor in real-address mode."

Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures
Software Developer's Manual Volume 3

Table 9-1. IA-32 and Intel 64 Processor States Following Power-up, Reset, or INIT

Register	Power up	Reset	INIT
EFLAGS[1]	00000002H	00000002H	00000002H
EIP	0000FFF0H	0000FFF0H	0000FFF0H
CR0	60000010H[2]	60000010H[2]	60000010H[2]
CR2, CR3, CR4	00000000H	00000000H	00000000H
CS	Selector = F000H Base = FFFF0000H Limit = FFFFH AR = Present, R/W, Accessed	Selector = F000H Base = FFFF0000H Limit = FFFFH AR = Present, R/W, Accessed	Selector = F000H Base = FFFF0000H Limit = FFFFH AR = Present, R/W, Accessed
SS, DS, ES, FS, GS	Selector = 0000H Base = 00000000H Limit = FFFFH AR = Present, R/W, Accessed	Selector = 0000H Base = 00000000H Limit = FFFFH AR = Present, R/W, Accessed	Selector = 0000H Base = 00000000H Limit = FFFFH AR = Present, R/W, Accessed
EDX	000n06xxH[3]	000n06xxH[3]	000n06xxH[3]
EAX	0[4]	0[4]	0[4]
EBX, ECX, ESI, EDI, EBP, ESP	00000000H	00000000H	00000000H
ST0 through ST7[5]	+0.0	+0.0	FINIT/FNINIT: Unchanged

CPU start

We start at the address:

`CS:EIP = CS.Base + EIP = 0xFFFFFFF0`

Real Mode ⇒ physical address. A20 enabled.

So, what's there?

Memory mapping

Northbridge: Intel Odem MCH-M

No info about that region ⇒ let's check the southbridge

Memory mapping

Southbridge: Intel ICH4-M

FFF8 0000–FFFF FFFFh FFB8 0000–FFBF FFFFh	FWH	Always enabled. The top two 64 KB blocks of this range can be swapped, as described in Section 7.4.1.

FWH = Firmware Hub = BIOS flash

Out dump has exactly 0x80000 bytes!

Even more mappings...

FWH_F8_EN — R/W. Enables decoding two 512 KB FWH memory ranges, and one 128KB memory range.

0 = Disable

1 = Enable the following ranges for the FWH
FFF80000h–FFFFFFFFh
FFB80000h–FFBFFFFFh
000E0000h–000FFFFFh

FWH_F0_EN — R/W. Enables decoding two 512 KB FWH memory ranges.

0 = Disable.

1 = Enable the following ranges for the FWH:
FFF00000h–FFF7FFFFh
FFB00000h–FFB7FFFFh

FWH_E8_EN — R/W. Enables decoding two 512 KB FWH memory ranges.

0 = Disable.

1 = Enable the following ranges for the FWH:
FFE80000h–FFEFFFFFh
FFA80000h–FFAFFFFFh

• • •

Entry point

```
FFFFFFF0:  jmp far FC00:3FA0

000FFFA0:  jmp far FC00:00A2

000FC0A2:  cli
000FC0A3:  cld
000FC0A4:  mov al, 2
000FC0A6:  out 92h, al ; Enable A20
                    ...
```

BIOS RE: Initialization

No stack! (and also no RAM)

16-bit Protected Mode + Unreal Mode

Checksums

RAM initialization

Self-copying into RAM

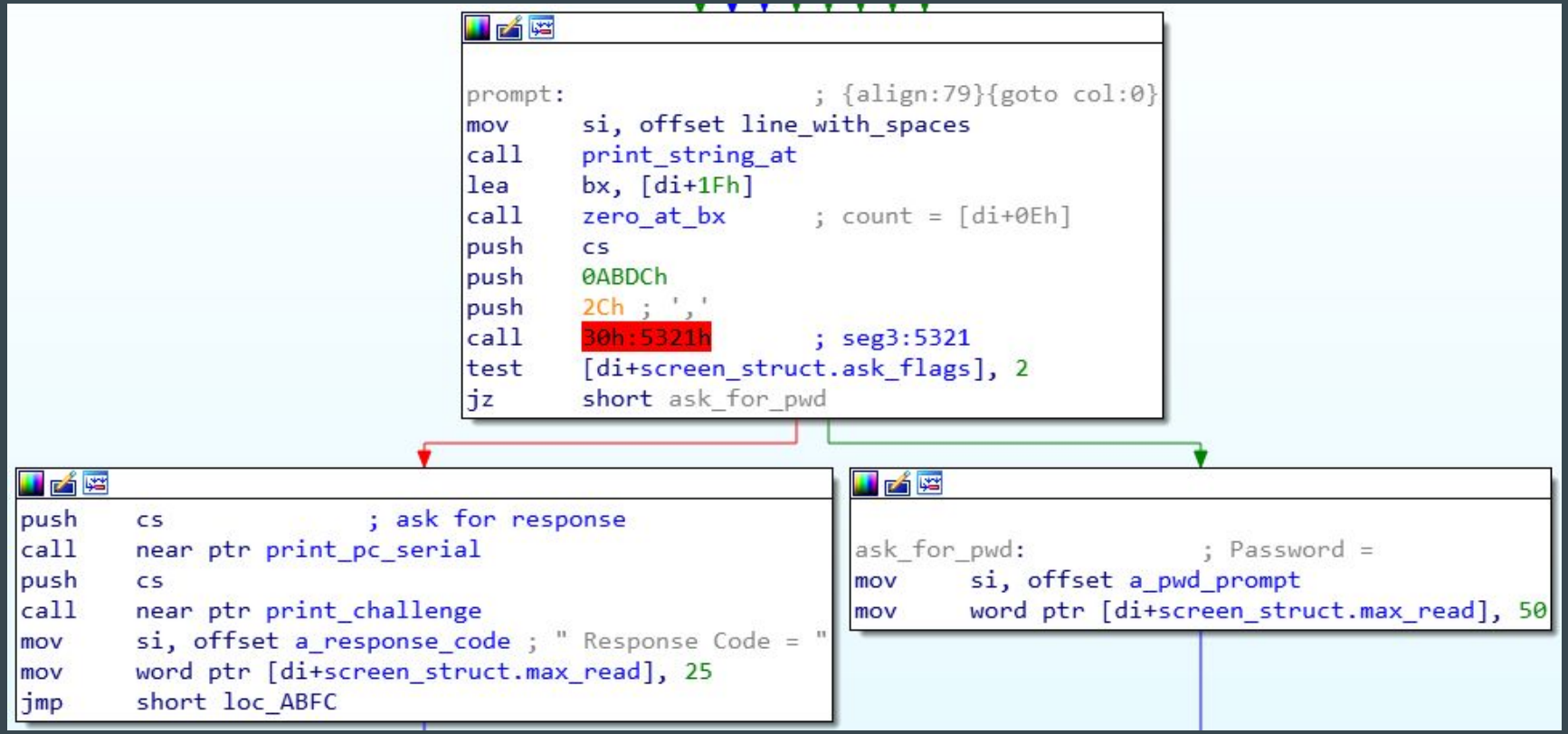
BIOS RE: Initialization

16-bit Protected Mode → segments!

We have to find and parse GDT

Only then we can analyze the code

BIOS RE: The password check



BIOS RE: The password check

Everything eventually lands up in one function

`f(in_buf)` → `out_buf`

After long analysis: all bytes are sent to I/O ports

62h and 66h

BIOS RE: The password check

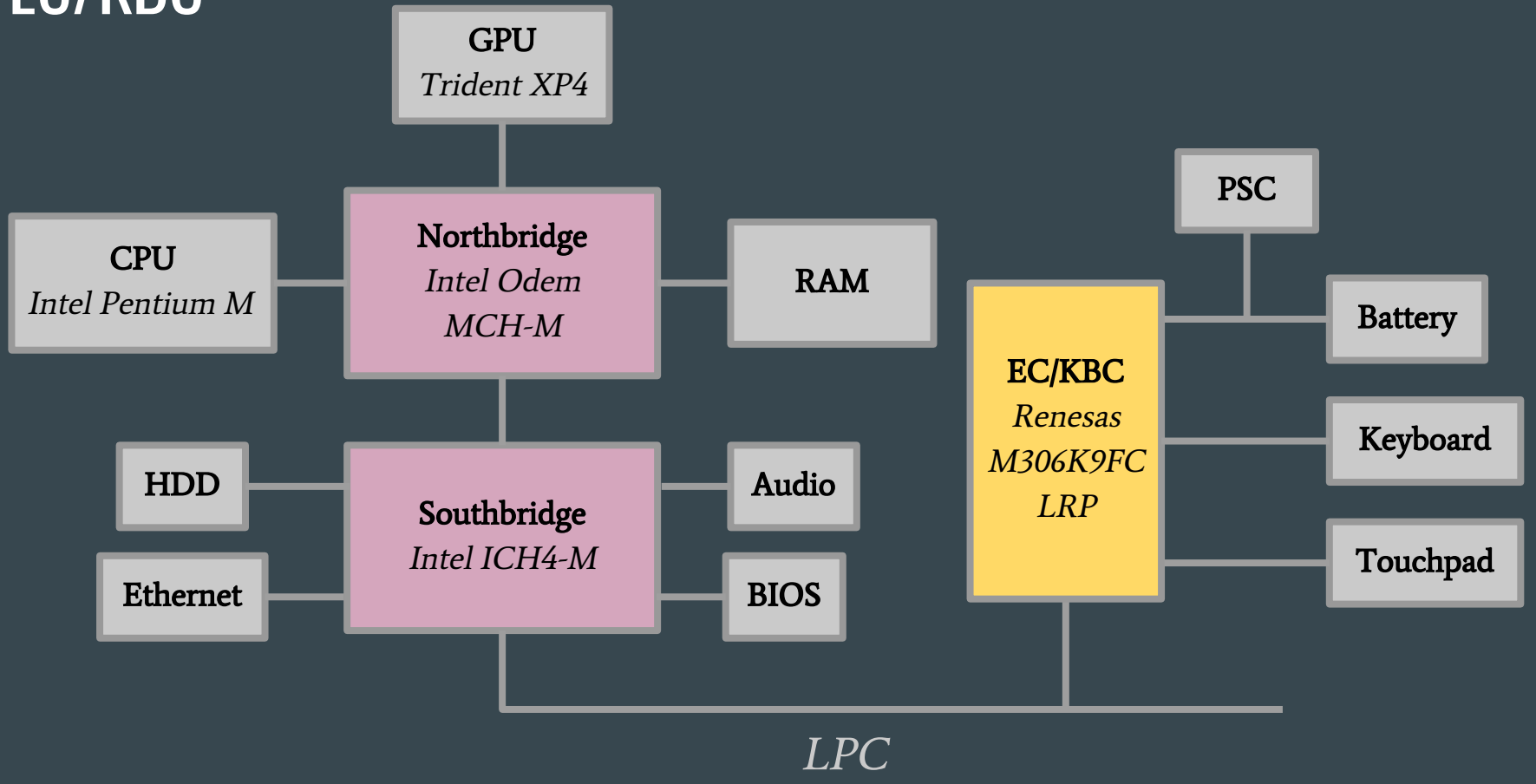
From the southbridge manual:

60h	Microcontroller	Microcontroller	Forwarded to LPC
61h	NMI Controller	NMI Controller	CPU I/F
62h	Microcontroller	Microcontroller	Forwarded to LPC
63h	NMI Controller	NMI Controller	CPU I/F
64h	Microcontroller	Microcontroller	Forwarded to LPC
65h	NMI Controller	NMI Controller	CPU I/F
66h	Microcontroller	Microcontroller	Forwarded to LPC

Table 6-2. Fixed I/O Ranges Decoded by Intel ICH4

“Microcontroller”???

EC/KBC


GPU
Trident XP4
CPU
Intel Pentium M
Northbridge
Intel Odem
MCH-M
RAM
PSC
Battery
EC/KBC
Renesas
M306K9FC
LRP
Keyboard
Touchpad
HDD
Southbridge
Intel ICH4-M
Audio
Ethernet
BIOS
LPC

EC: Dump

How to obtain the code?

Updates!

EC: Dump

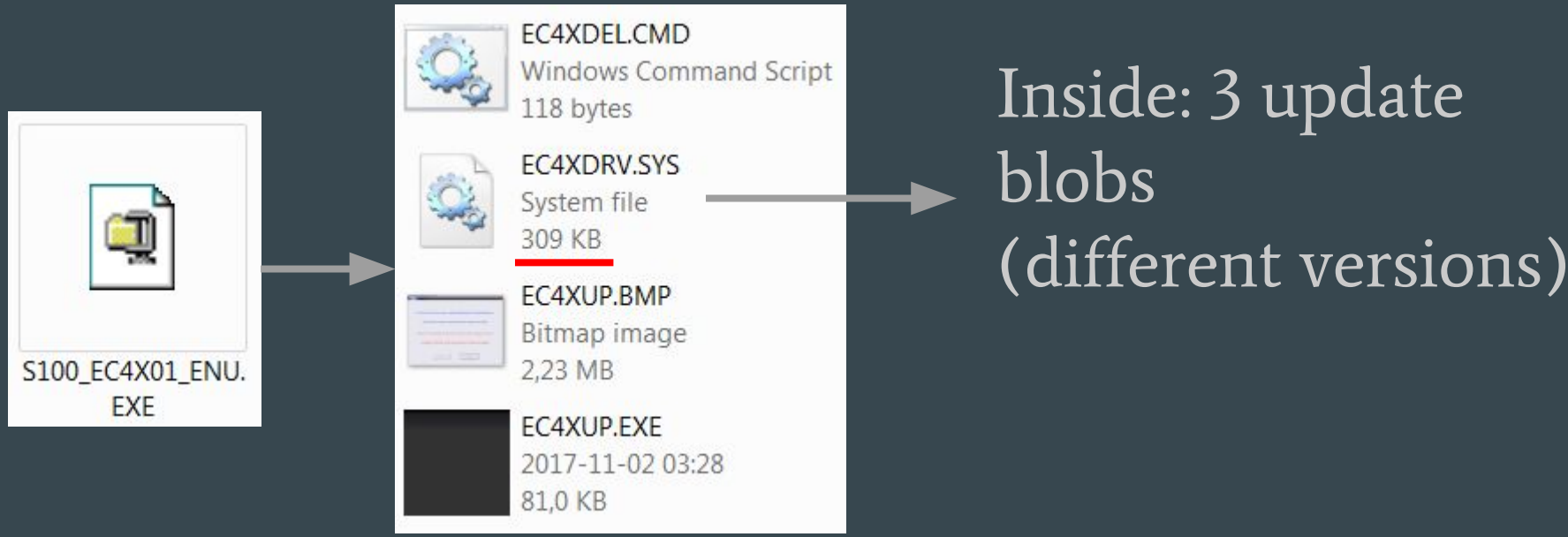
No updates available

BIOS changelog: nothing about the EC

Maybe a similar laptop model?

Portégé S100!

EC: Updates


S100_EC4X01_ENU.EXE
EC4XDEL.CMD
Windows Command Script
118 bytes
EC4XDRV.SYS
System file
309 KB
EC4XUP.BMP
Bitmap image
2,23 MB
EC4XUP.EXE
2017-11-02 03:28
81,0 KB
Inside: 3 update blobs (different versions)

EC: Update installer

Uses ports 62h & 66h

Sends the 1st part (~2,5KB)

Sends the 2nd part (~100KB)

EC: Update blob

It’s decoded inside EC - no code available :(

Let’s try some analysis!

EC: Update blob - analysis

High entropy ⇒ encryption or compression

No regularities in trigrams ⇒ encryption

Size always divisible by 8 ⇒ encryption

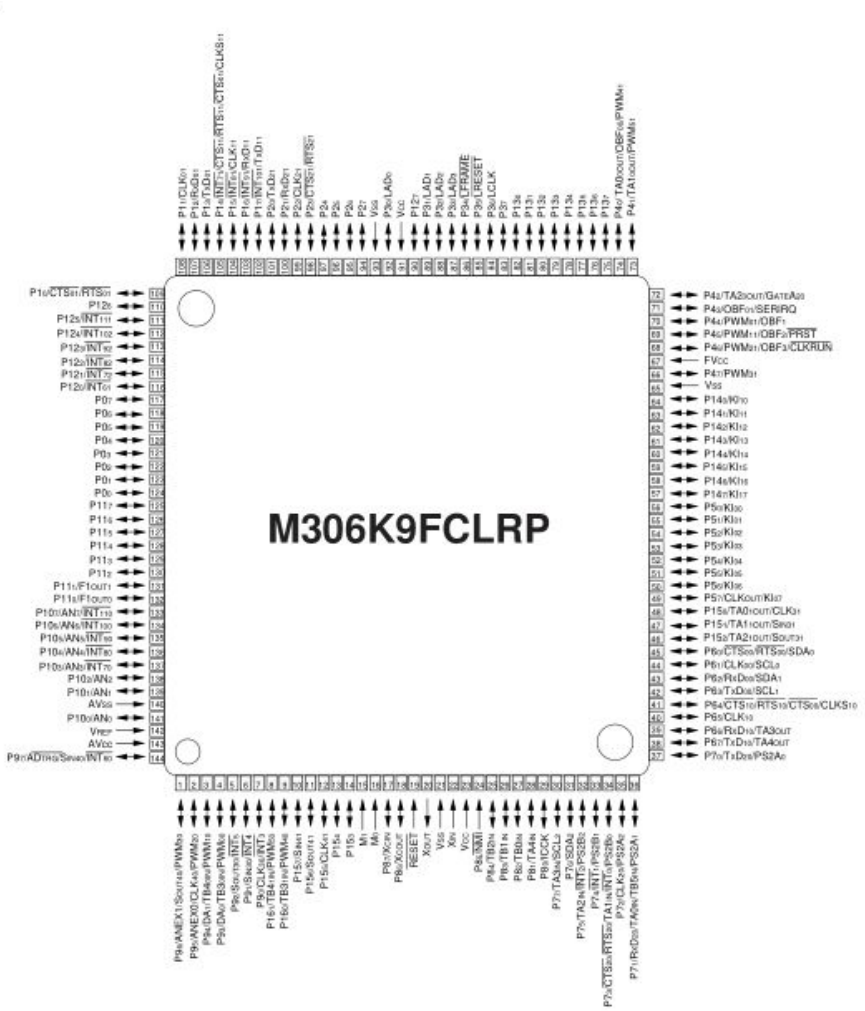
Longest repeated substring is short ⇒ if encryption, then not ECB

EC: Update blob - analysis

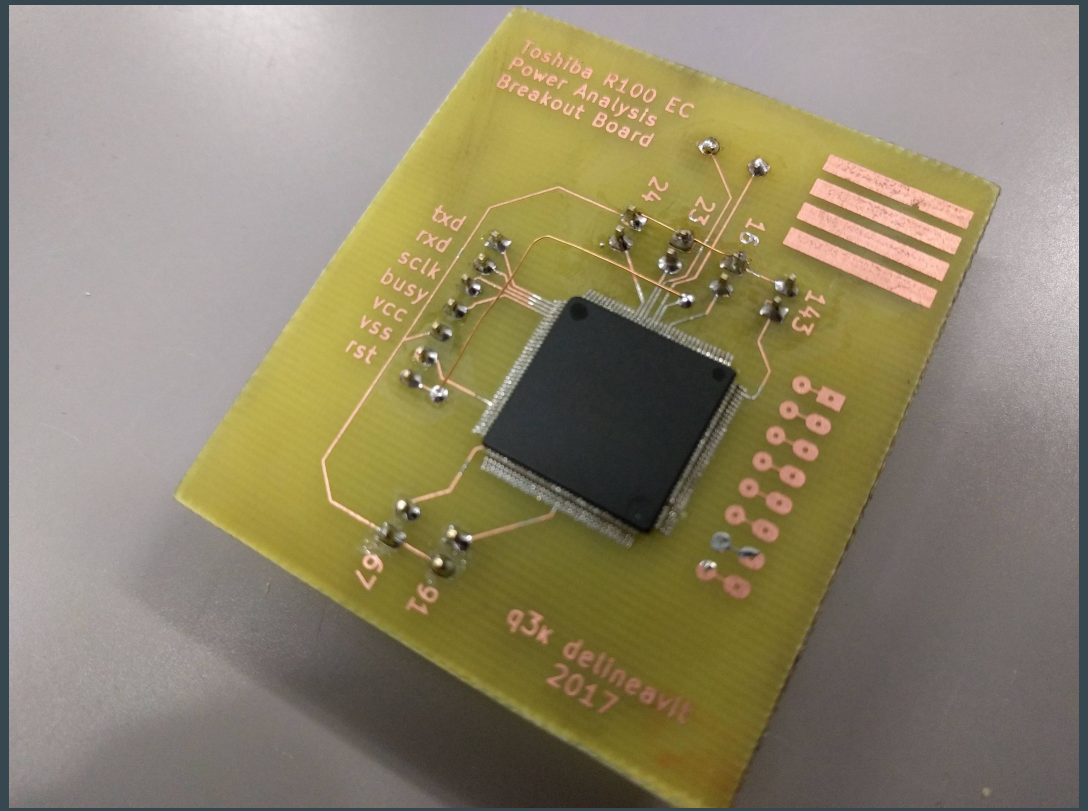
Looks like a dead-end...

Serge, could you please desolder something again...?

EC..?

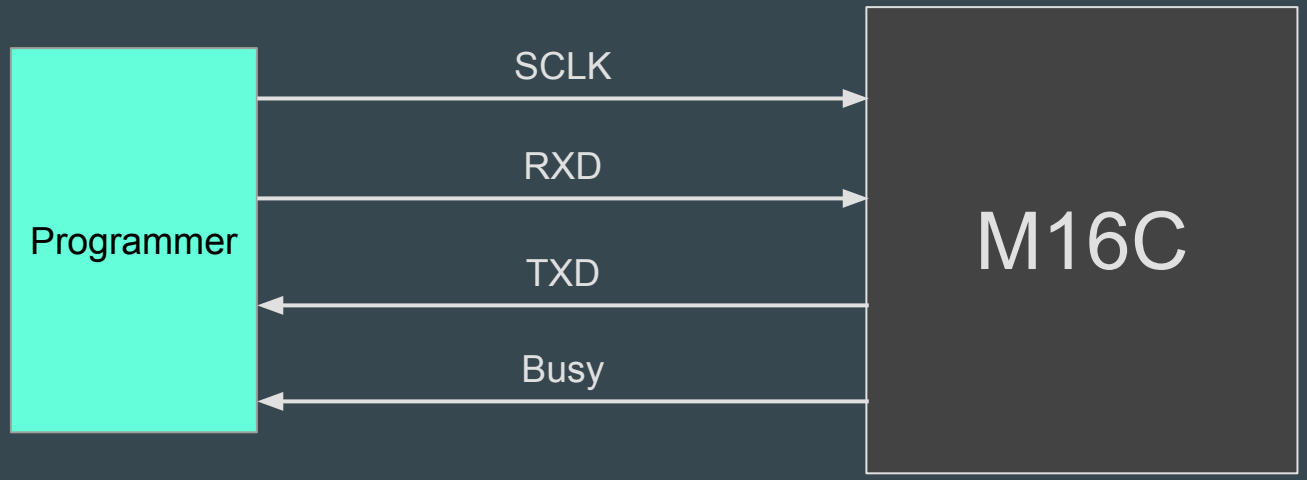


One last breakout later...

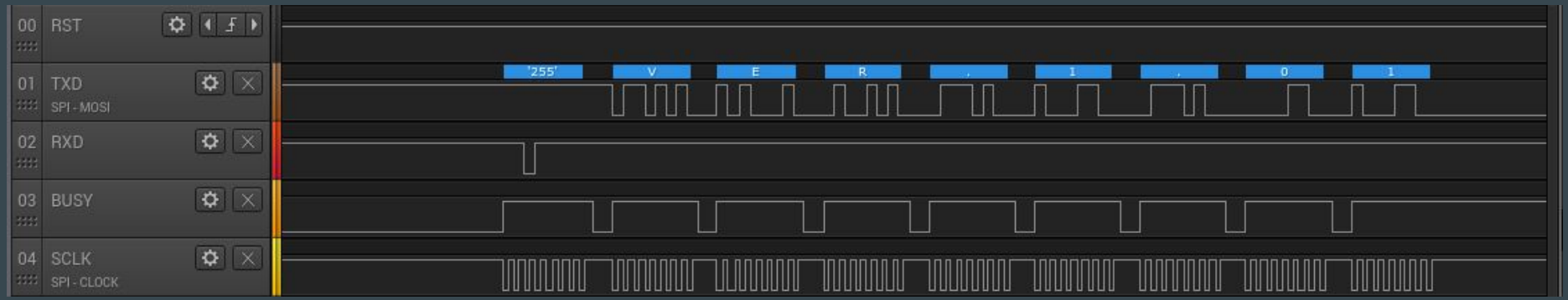


Let’s dump this thing.

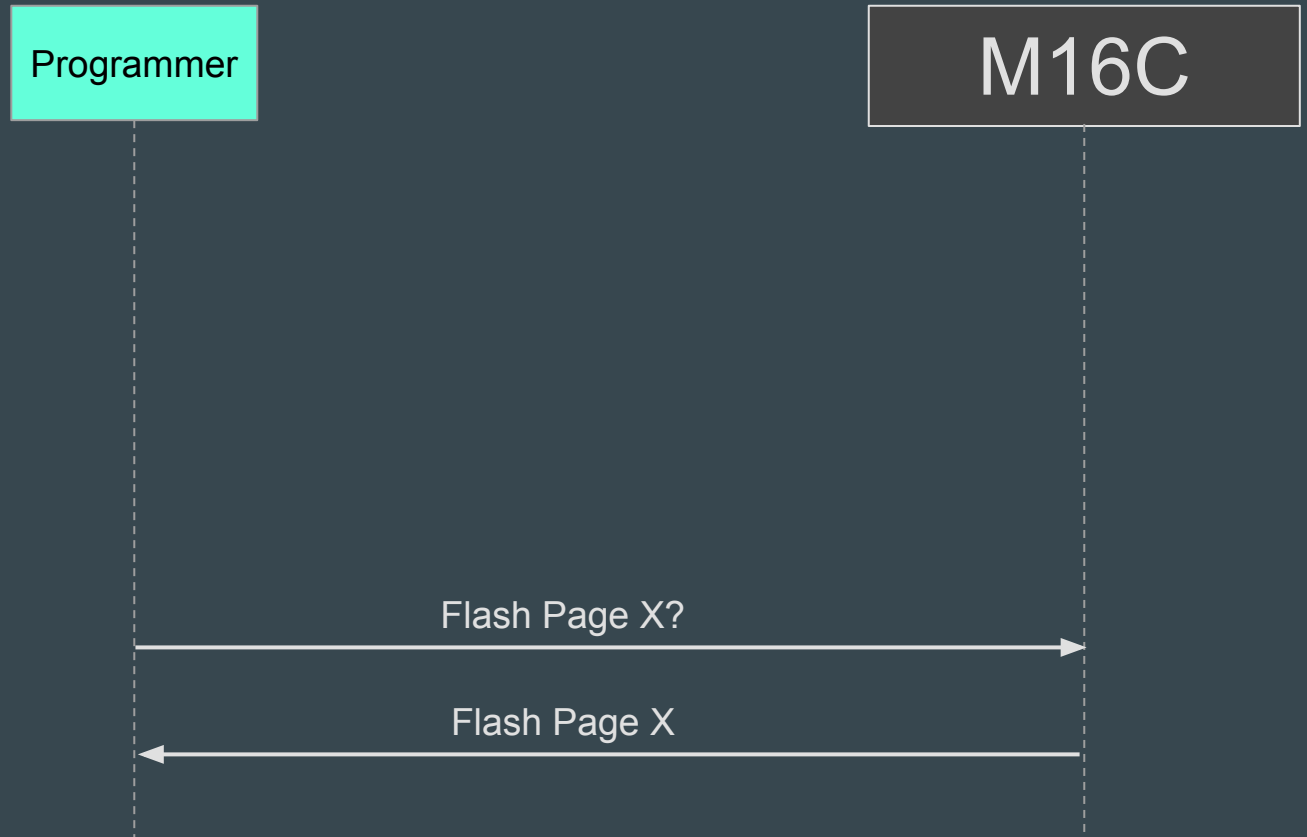
EC: Programming Protocol



EC: Programming Protocol



EC: Programming Protocol

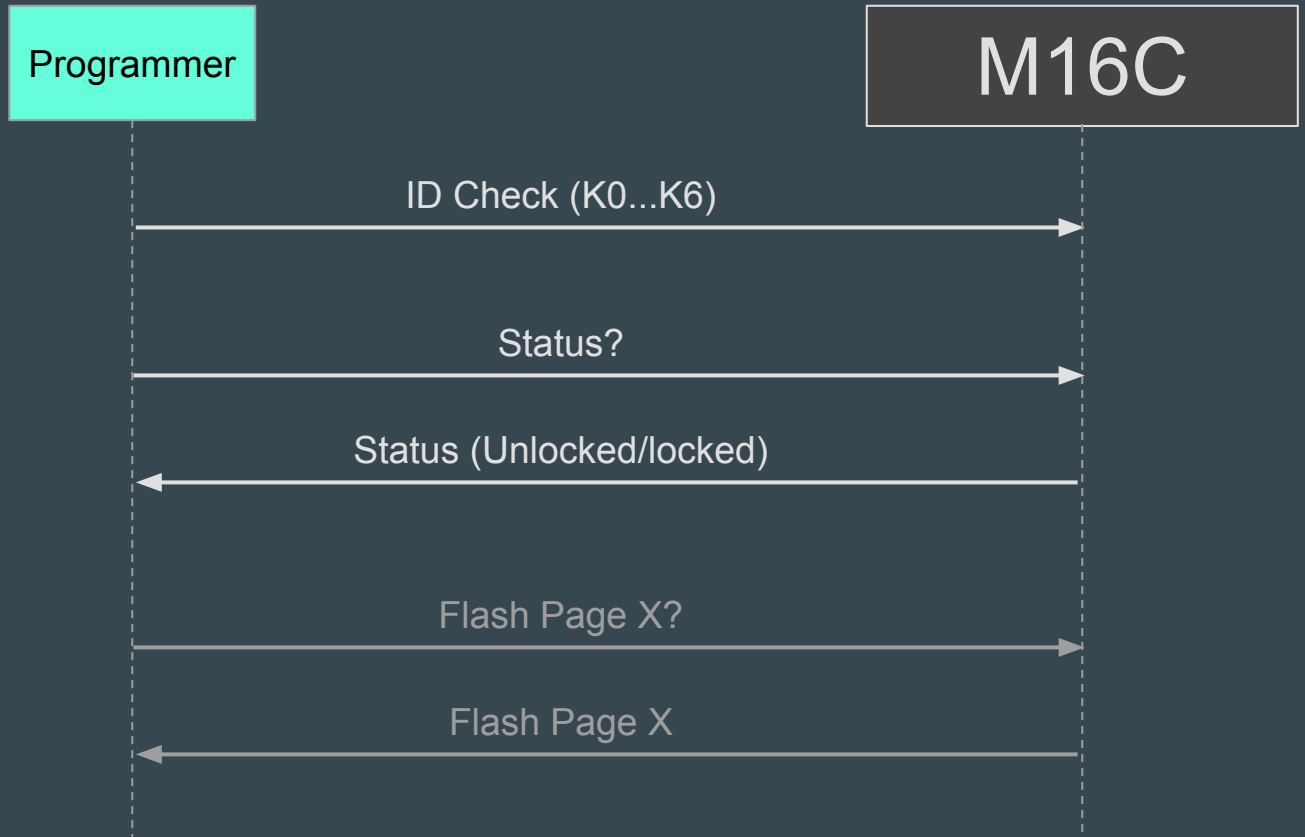


Not so fast

ID code check function

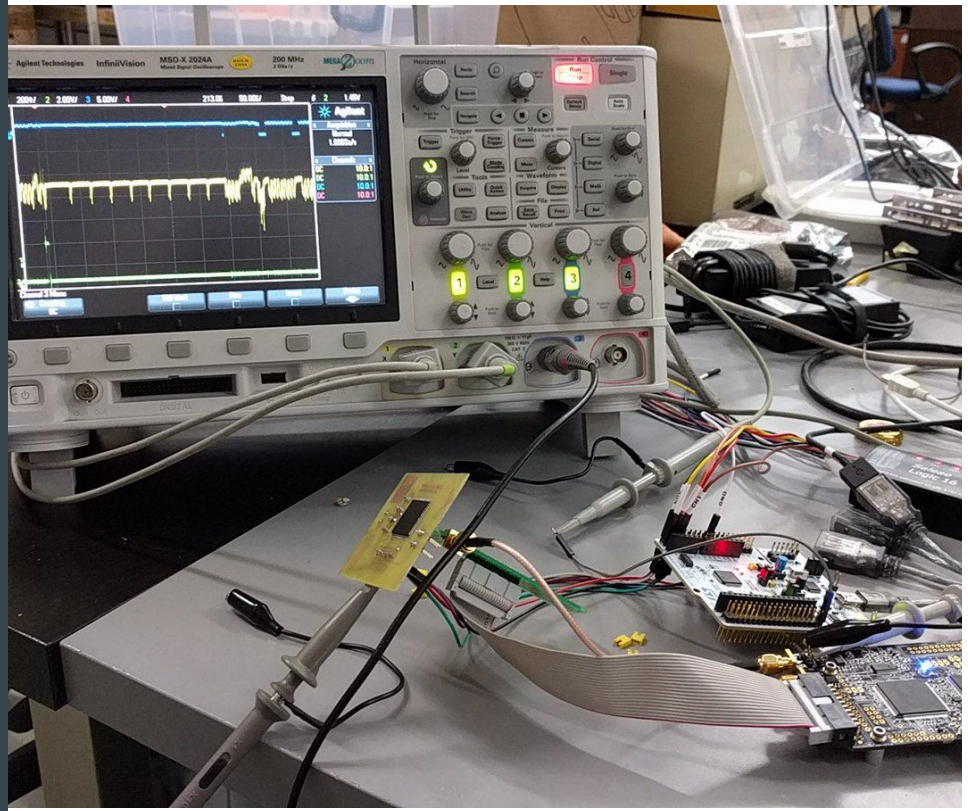
The function is used in standard serial I/O mode. If the flash memory is not blank, the ID code sent from serial burner is compared with that inside flash memory to check the agreement. It the ID codes do not match, the commands from serial burner are not accepted. Each ID code consists of 8-bit data, the areas of which, beginning from the 1st byte, are 0FFFDF16, 0FFFE316, 0FFFEB16, 0FFFEF16, 0FFFF316, 0FFFF716, 0FFFFB16. Write a program with the ID code at these addresses to the flash memory.

EC: Programming Protocol



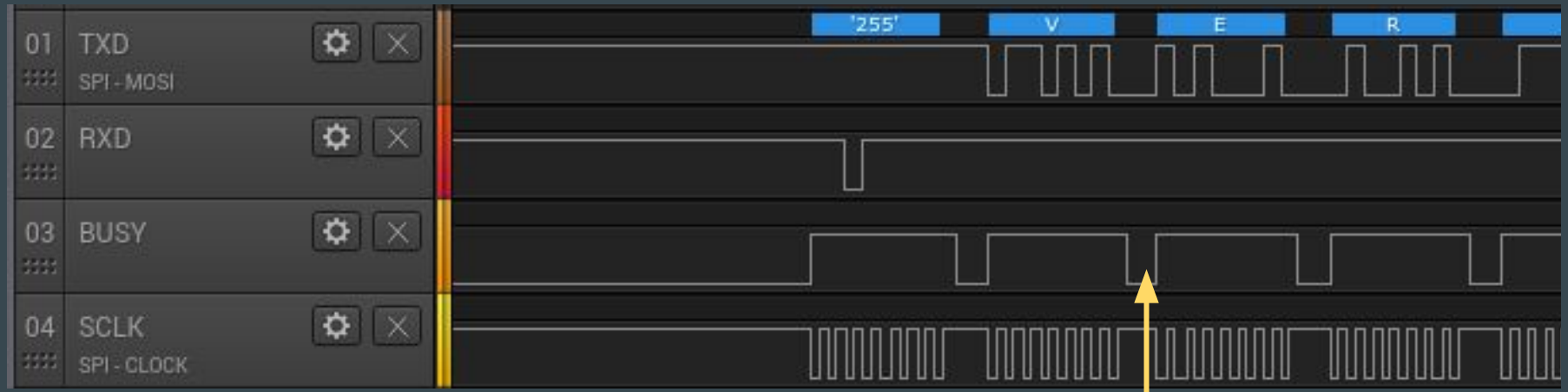
Side channel attacks?

Fault injection?



Not so fast.

Software level ‘side’ channels



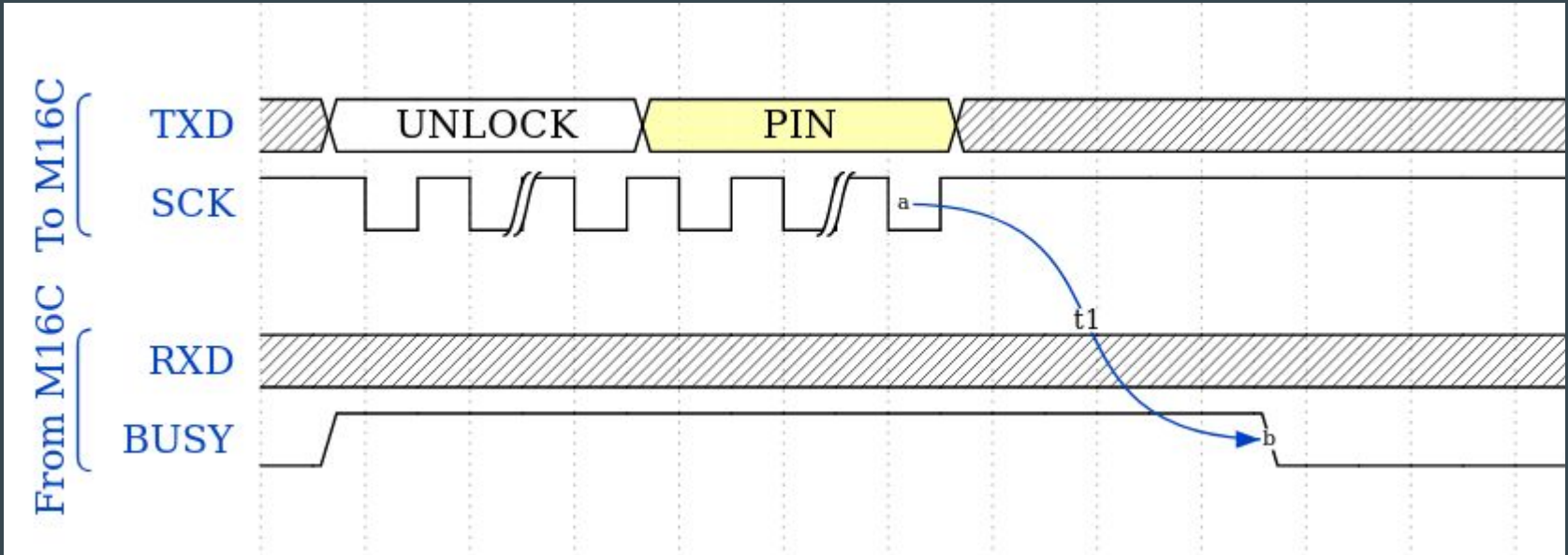
An PIN unlock request does not result in any immediate success/failure transmission, but...

Hmm.

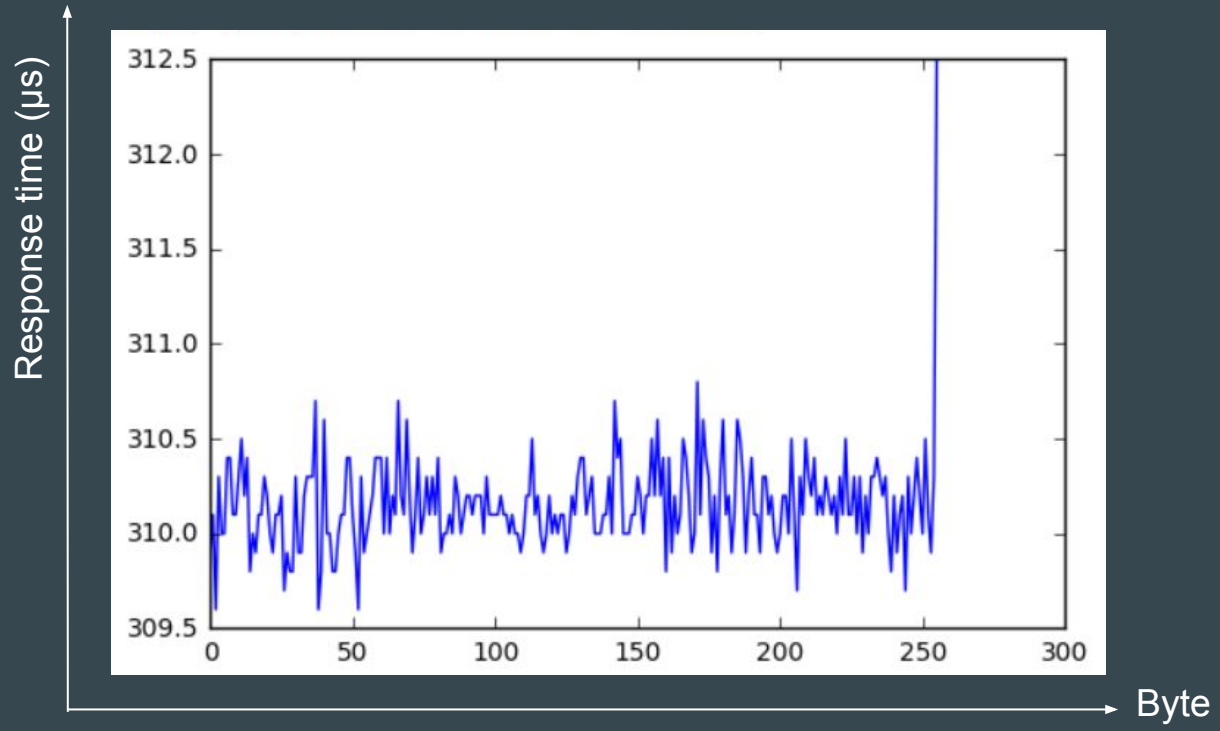
EC: M16C bootloader bug

Let’s run some quick tests.

EC: M16C bootloader bug

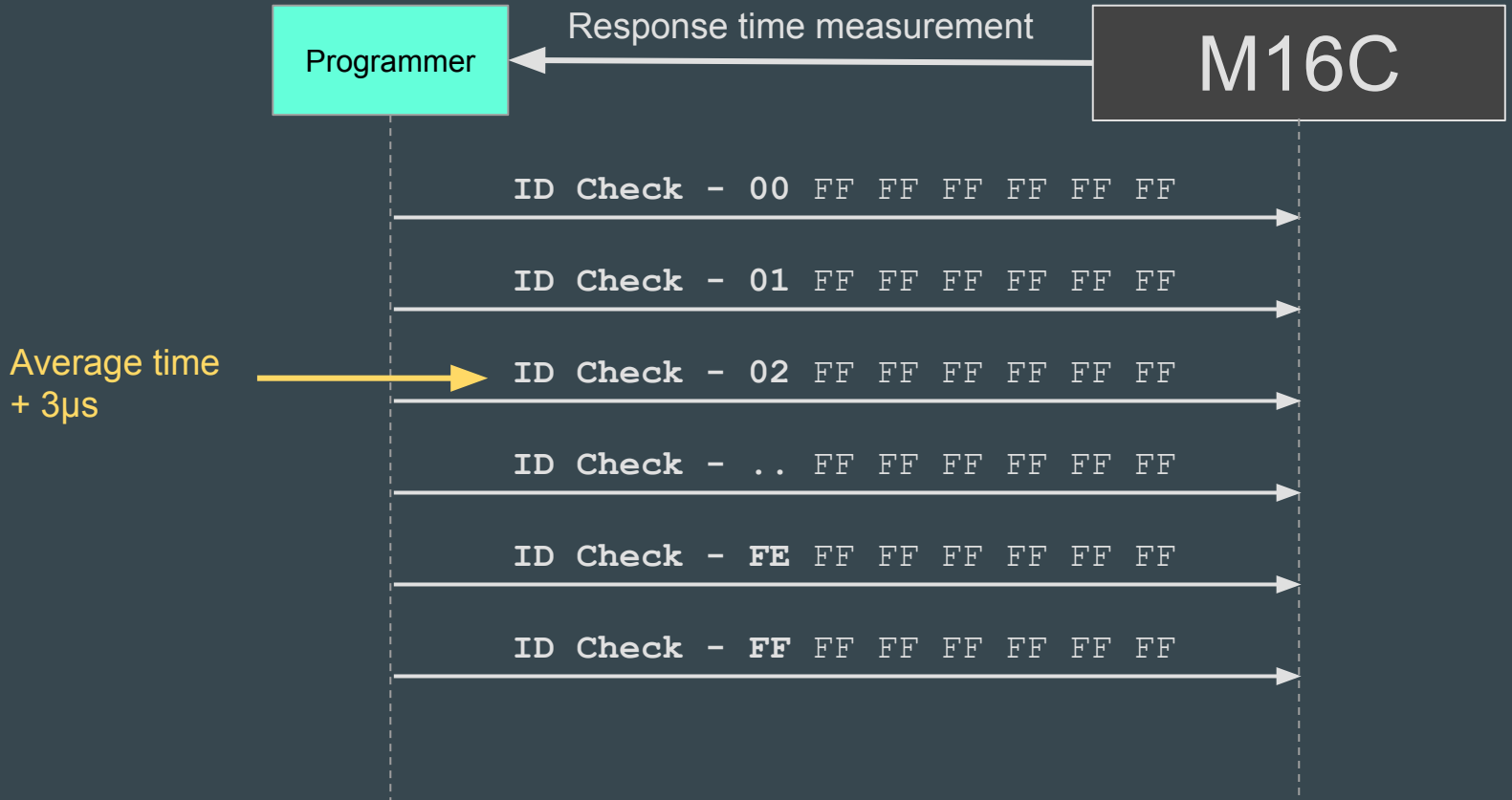


EC: M16C bootloader bug

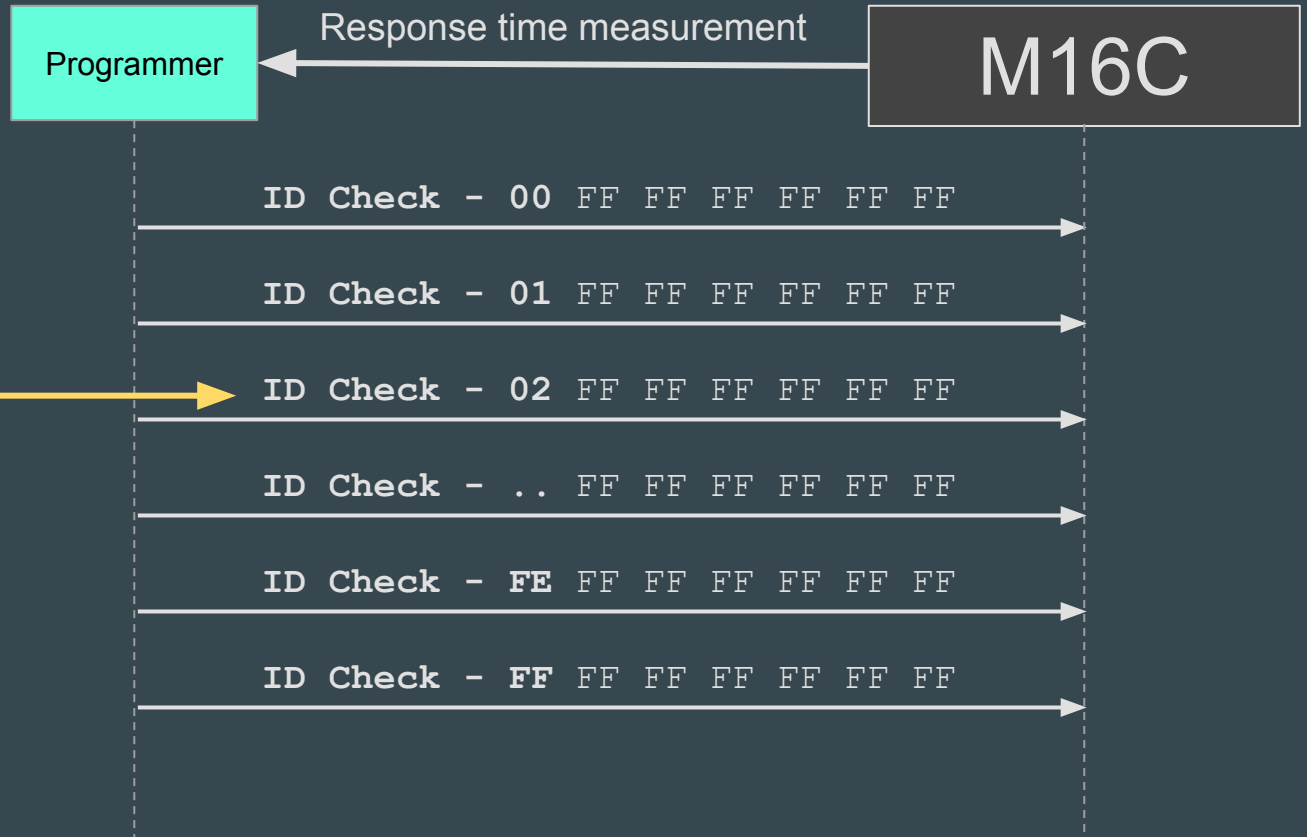


Well that’s not good.

EC: M16C Bootloader bug



EC: M16C Bootloader bug



Average time
+ 3µs

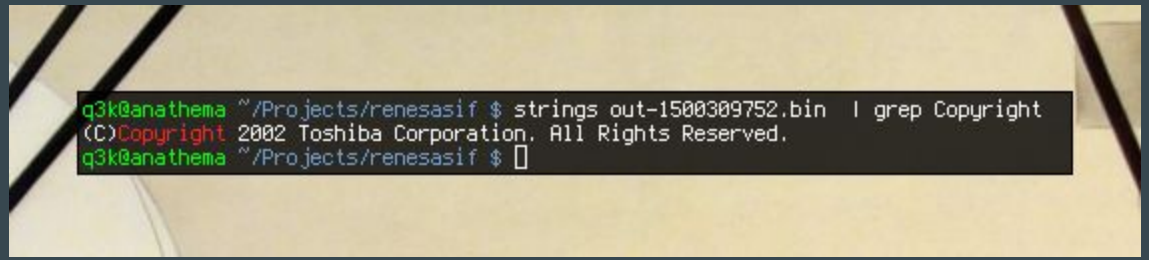
Ergo, the first byte of the key is 02.

EC: M16C Bootloader bug

Thus, we can enumerate all bytes of the key one by one, using the timing difference for each correct byte to reduce our search to just 0x100*7 checks.

And we get the key.

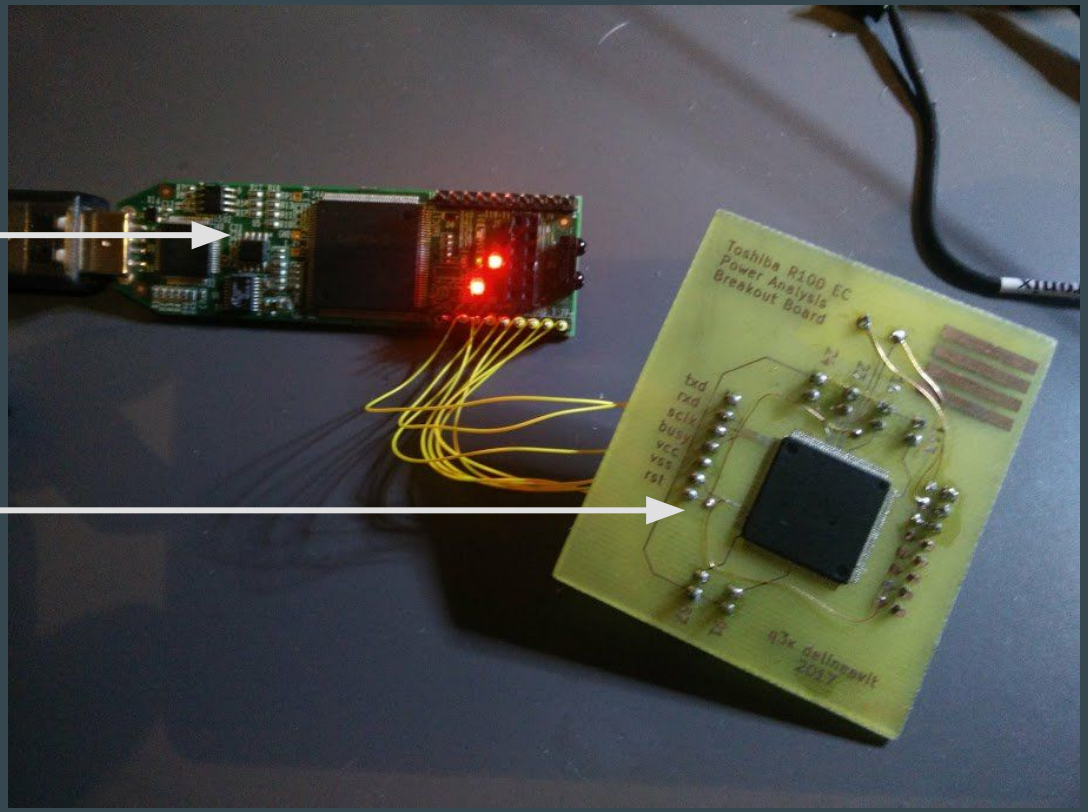
EC: M16C Bootloader bug



EC: M16C Bootloader bug

FPGA
(iCE40)

(EC)
M16C



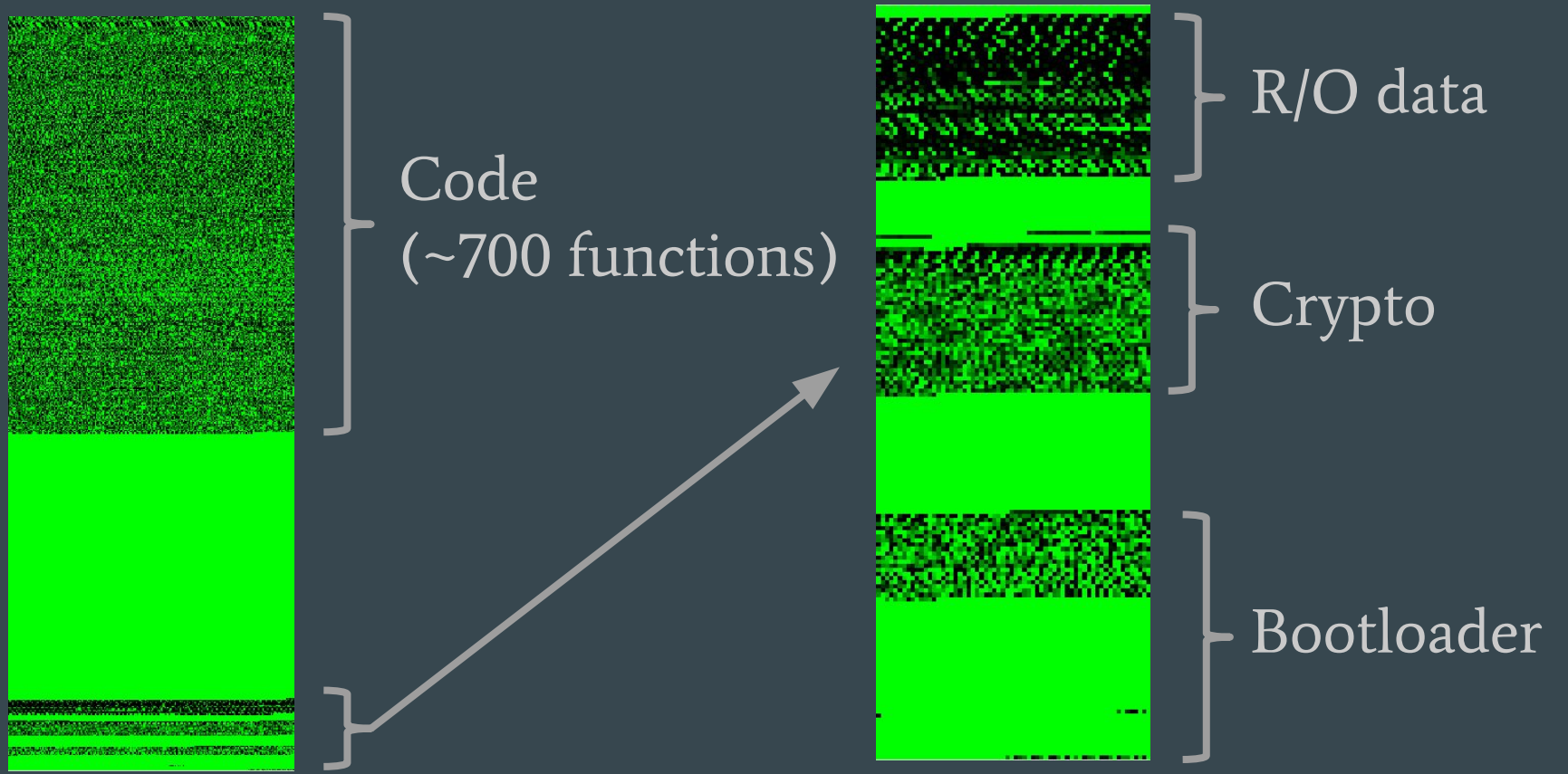
EC: M16C Bootloader bug

PoC || GTFO

https://github.com/q3k/m16c-interface/

(note: doesn't work for all M16Cs... yet)

EC: RE



EC: RE

Much simpler code than in the BIOS

No strings

We’re looking for LPC communication and BIOS-call table

EC: RE

Finding the table is easy

~100 different BIOS<->EC calls

We know the numbers of the interesting calls ⇒ let’s analyze the handlers!

Sounds easy...?

EC: RE of the handlers

Manual context-switching

No common call convention

Handlers aren’t split into functions

Jumps to the middle of other functions

Password check: BIOS

```
out_buf = call_EC(
    func=0x24,
    in_buf=MD5(input)[:8] + pwd_type
)
```

`out_buf[0] == 0` $\Rightarrow$ success

Password check: EC

Let's look at the handler on the EC side...

...6 levels down the call hierarchy:

```
BMGEU/C p6_4, p6
BSET    pd6_4, pd6
JSR.W   set_p6_5
JSR.W   clear_p6_5
```

I/O on pins 40 & 41

Password check: EC

Oh, come on... :(

Password check: EC

This time it’s only an EEPROM :)

EC reads one block, decrypts it and compares with the received MD5

Challenge/Response

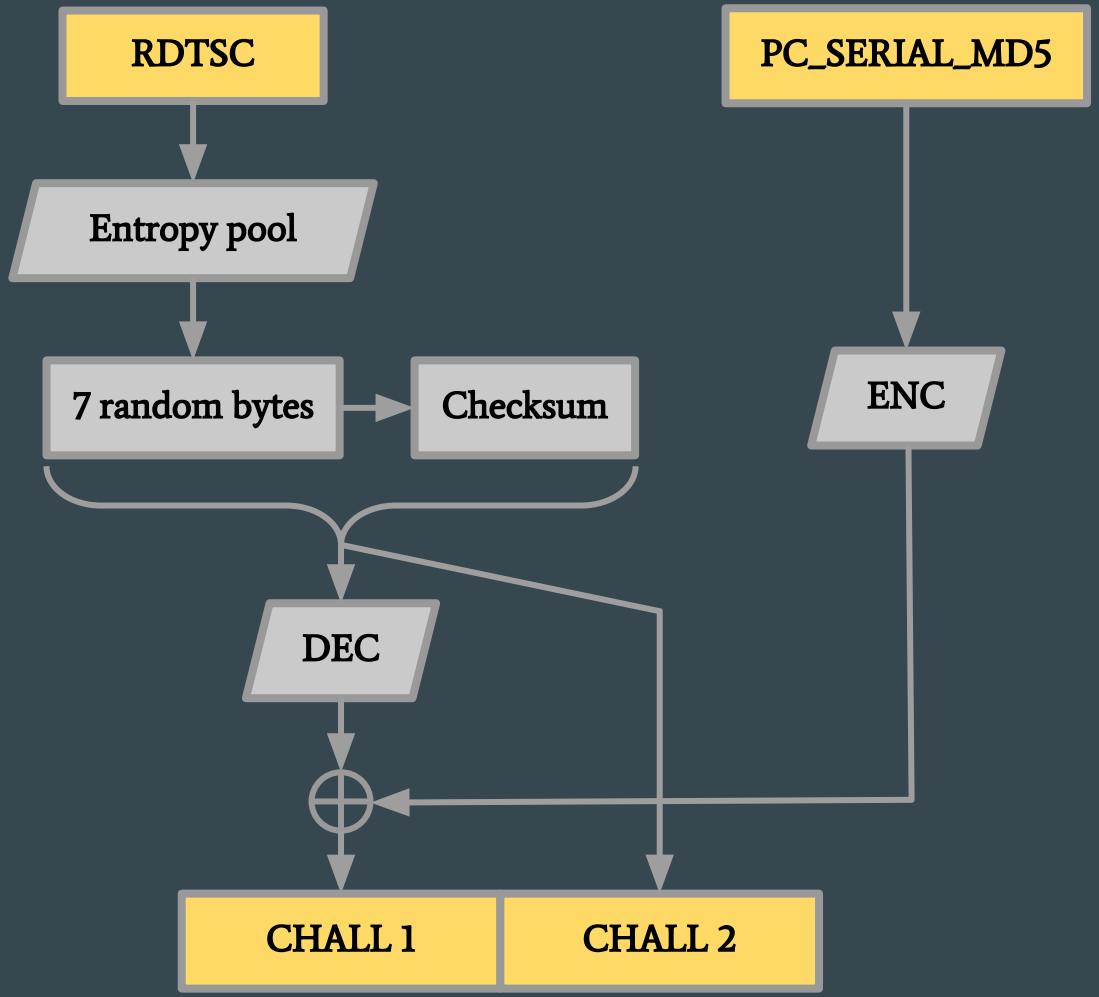
Screw it, we're looking for a universal attack

Let's look at the challenge/response!

Challenge: BIOS

```
out_buf = call_EC(
    func=0x1A,
    in_buf=rdtsc() + MD5(pc_serial)[:8]
)
challenge = bytes_to_string(out_buf)
```

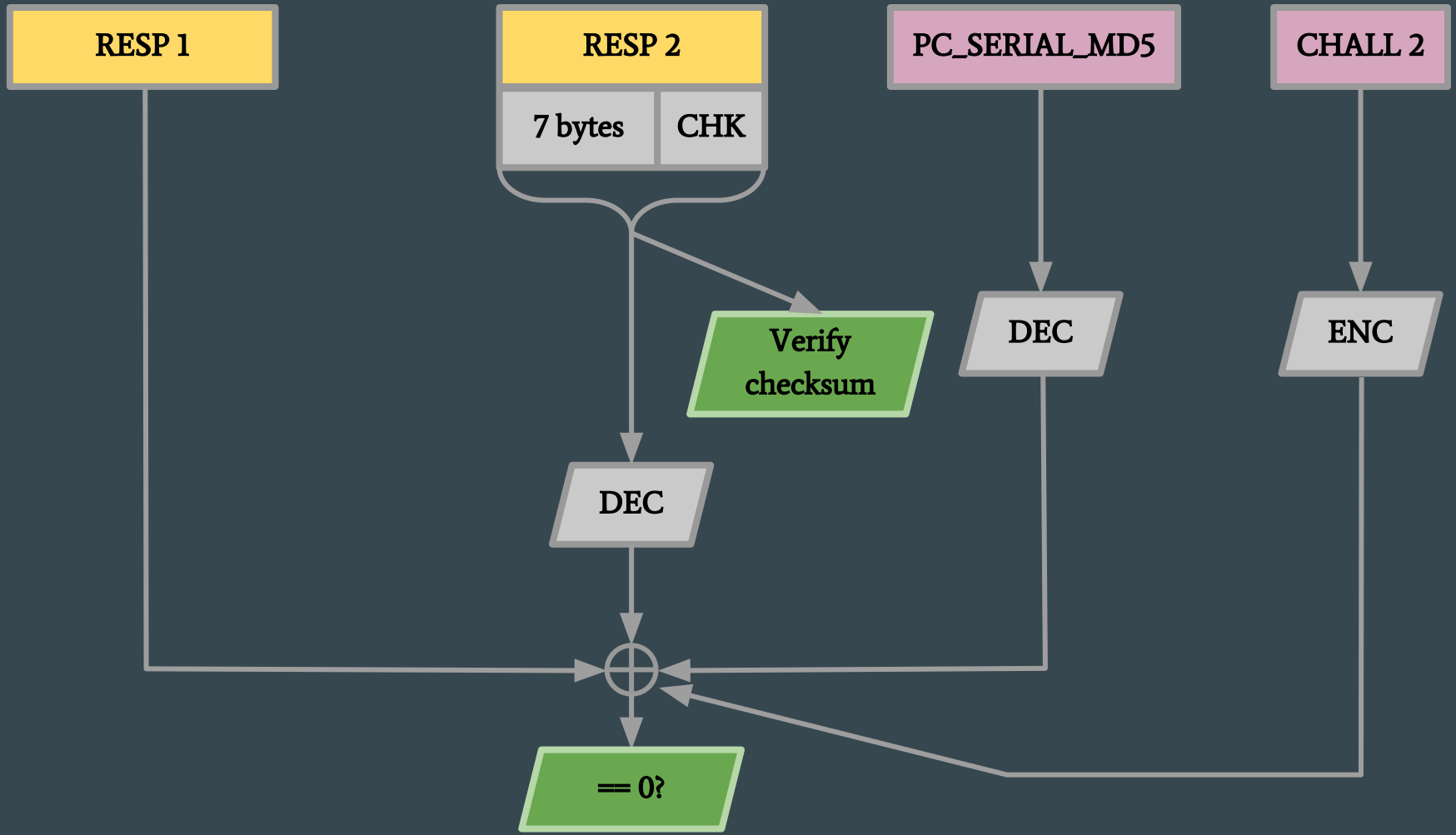
Challenge: EC



Response: BIOS

```
out_buf = call_EC(
    func=0x1B,
    in_buf=string_to_bytes(user_input)
)
```

`out_buf[0]` ⇒ success/fail

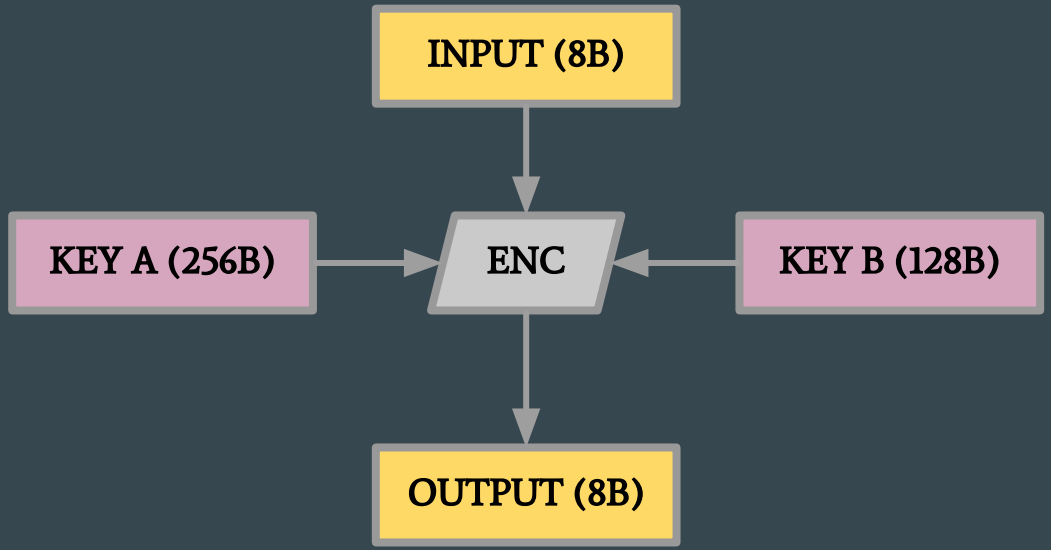

RESP 1
RESP 2
7 bytes
CHK
PC_SERIAL_MD5
CHALL 2
Verify checksum
DEC
ENC
DEC
== 0?

EC: Encryption

ENC? DEC?

EC: Encryption

A custom 64-bit block cipher



Challenge/Response

We just need to rewrite it in Python and ...

DEMO!

EC: Update system

Let’s decrypt the updates!

EC: Update system

Uh, symmetric signatures?

We can generate our own!

So, how's it like on their newer laptops?

If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it!

(that applies to keys, too)

Impact

Unlocking any (business) laptop.

Permanent rootkit in the EC.

We can attack the host from the EC.

Rootkit in EC?

DMA to the host via LPC (not supported by this particular EC) .

Keylogging & storage.

USB-Rubber-Ducky-like (key/mouse injection).

BIOS exploitation via the internal API.

Official Toshiba statement (from 2017-11-02)

Toshiba is working on a temporary BIOS update that can be used to prevent the security issue that has been raised and expects to release this update on its website within the next 2 weeks.

Toshiba plans to start the release of a permanent fix for some models from January, 2018 and will complete the releases of permanent fix for all applicable models by the end of March 2018.

Questions?

https://q3k.org/slides-recon-2018.pdf