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\*\*\*\*\* Presented by Joe Grand (@joegrant // grandideastudio.com) \*\*\*\*\*

[ ] Press Any Key to Begin

# Sneaky Circuits

- Not all devices follow the rules
  - Operate in ways unintended by the original designer
  - Provide unexpected/alternate behavior
- Explore fun, annoying, malicious, and/or useful projects

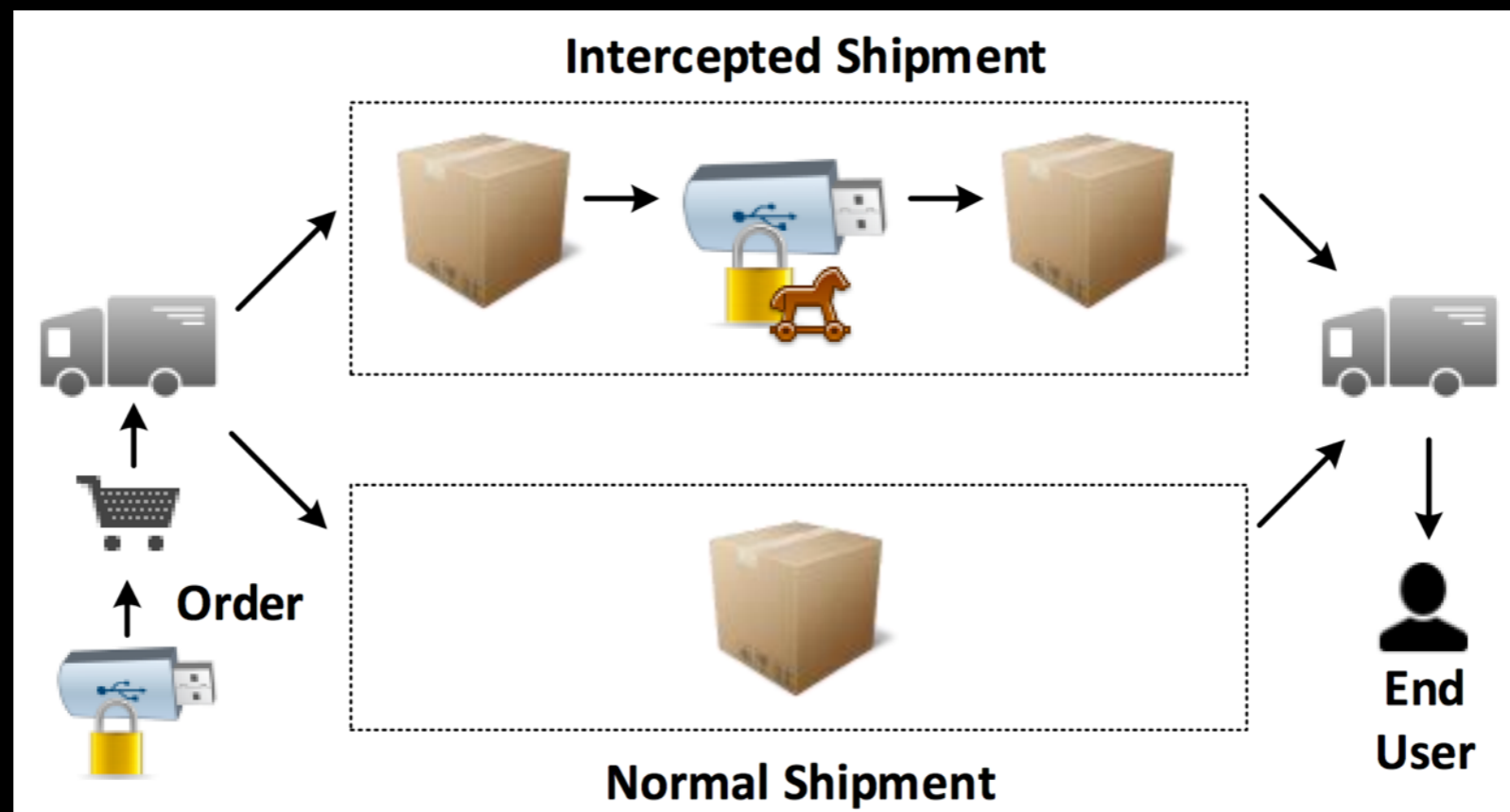
# Sneaky Circuits

- Hardware injection
- Audio generation
- Video signal interception
- Covert data exfiltration
- An IC that functions in either orientation

# Hardware Injection

# Hardware Injection

- Adding custom and/or malicious circuitry in tandem w/ normal functioning system
- Use HW access to give SW control
  - Ex.: Privilege escalation, patch memory, insert backdoor, exfiltrate data



# Hardware Injection

- Achieved at any layer of the product
  - Component, silicon/chip, PCB
- Added at any part of the lifecycle
  - Design, fabrication, distribution, integration, in-the-field

# USB Rubber Ducky

- Hak5, 2010
- Human Interface Device (HID) keyboard emulation
- Injection/spoofing/scripting
- Payload storage on internal microSD card
- <https://hakshop.com/products/usb-rubber-ducky-deluxe>



```
simple ducky payload.txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
REM My First Payload
WINDOWS r
DELAY 100
STRING notepad.exe
ENTER
DELAY 200
STRING Hello world! I'm in your PC!
```



# Mr. Self Destruct

- \_MG\_, 2017
- USB keystroke injector with software-triggered 5V payloads
- <https://mg.lol/blog/mr-self-destruct/>

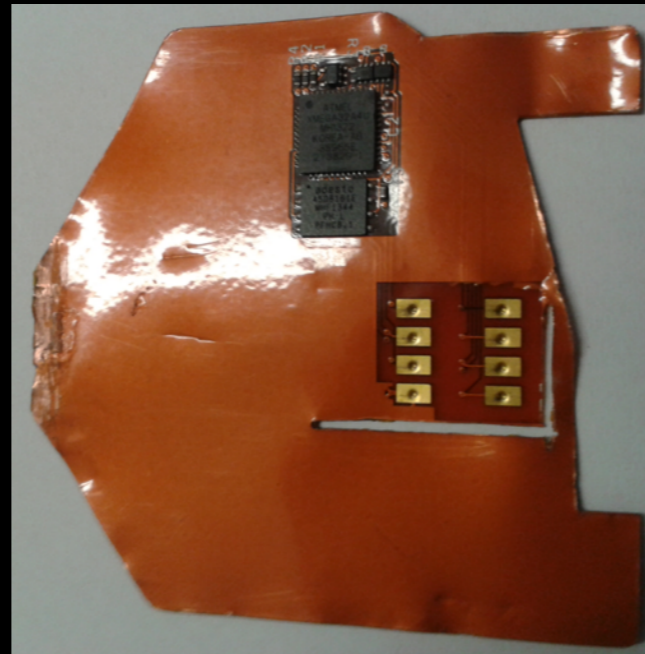


# KeySweeper

- Samy Kamkar, 2015
- Arduino-based implant camouflaged as USB wall charger
- Sniffs/decrypts/logs/reports/[injects] keystrokes from certain Microsoft wireless keyboards
- Exploits weakness in proprietary 2.4GHz transmission
- <http://samy.pl/keysweeper/>

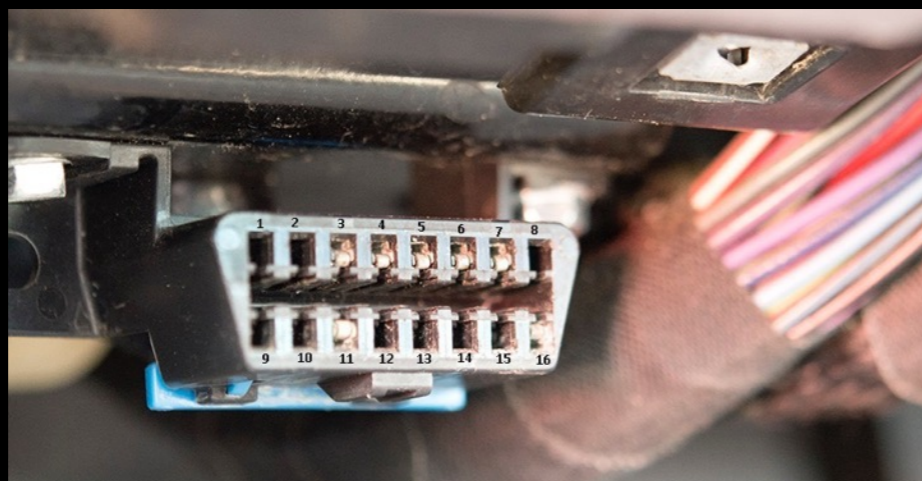


# Credit Card Skimmers



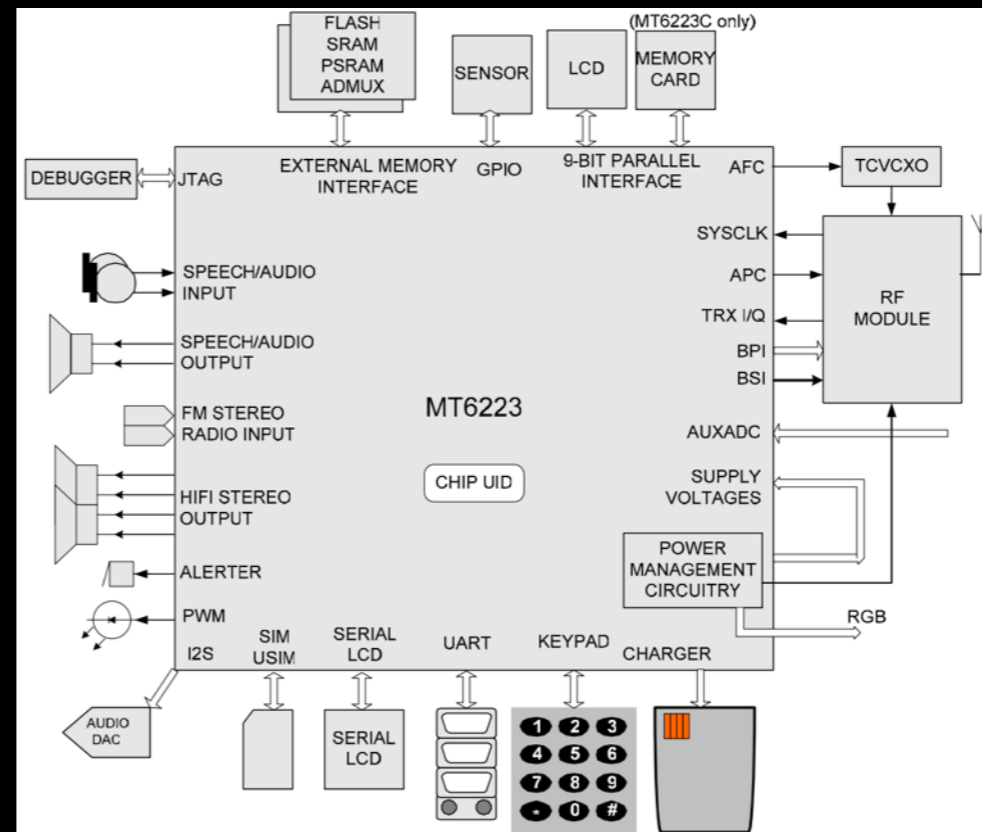
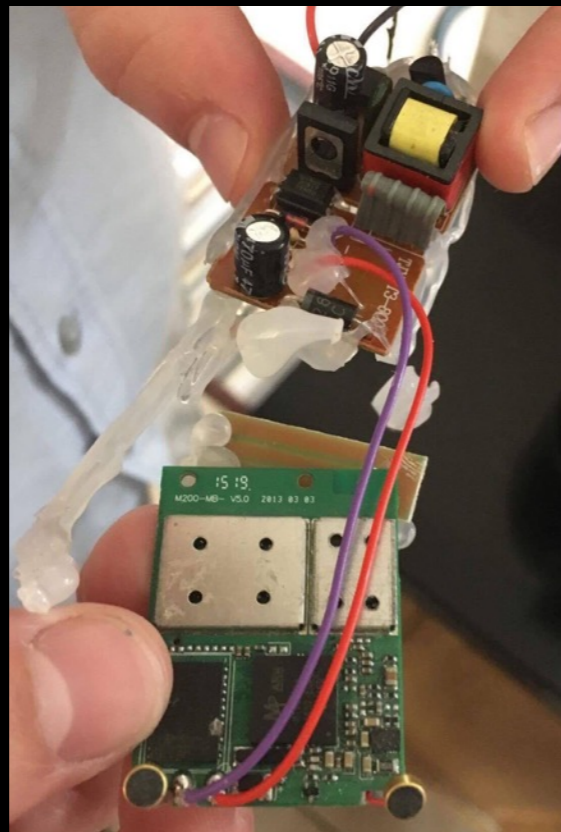
# Automotive OBD

- OBD (On-Board Diagnostic System)
- Available in all cars > January 1, 1996
- Designed to monitor engine and emissions performance
- Provides direct access to ECU communication bus(es)
- Passive monitoring, data injection/manipulation
- [www.carhackingvillage.com](http://www.carhackingvillage.com)
- <http://illmatics.com/carhacking.html>



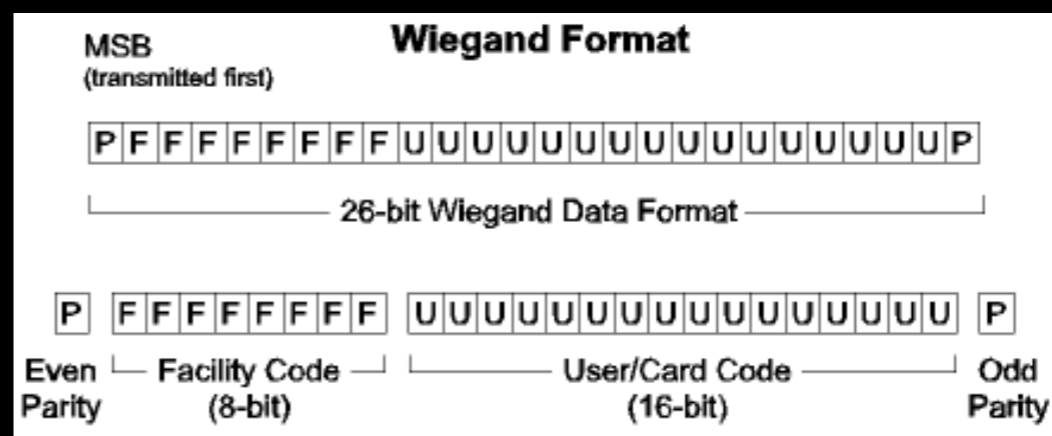
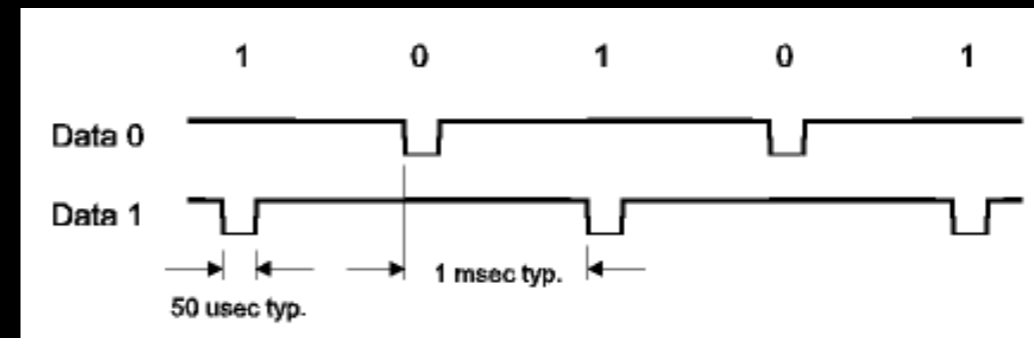
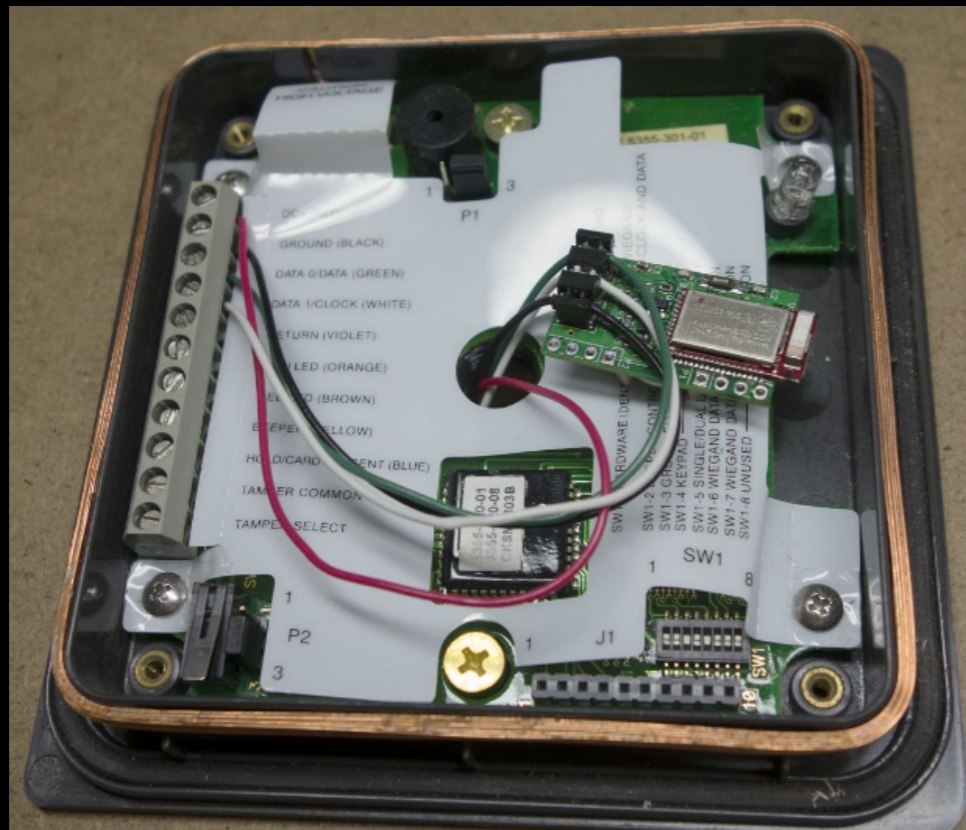
# GSM Audio Surveillance Bugs

- Detected at a B&B in Wales, UK, buzzing noise coming from the socket, 2017
- [www.reddit.com/r/whatisthething/comments/6ktlqn/listening\\_device\\_found\\_behind\\_power\\_socket\\_at/](http://www.reddit.com/r/whatisthething/comments/6ktlqn/listening_device_found_behind_power_socket_at/)
- Many units available on eBay/Amazon already built into wall wart, mains plug, mouse, power strip, cables, etc.



# BLEKey

- Eric Evenchick, Mark Baseggio, BH USA 2015
- HW implant into access control systems
- Read/clone/replay Wiegand data
- <http://github.com/LinkLayer/BLEKey>
- Also, see ESPKey from Kenny McElroy, ShmooCon 2017

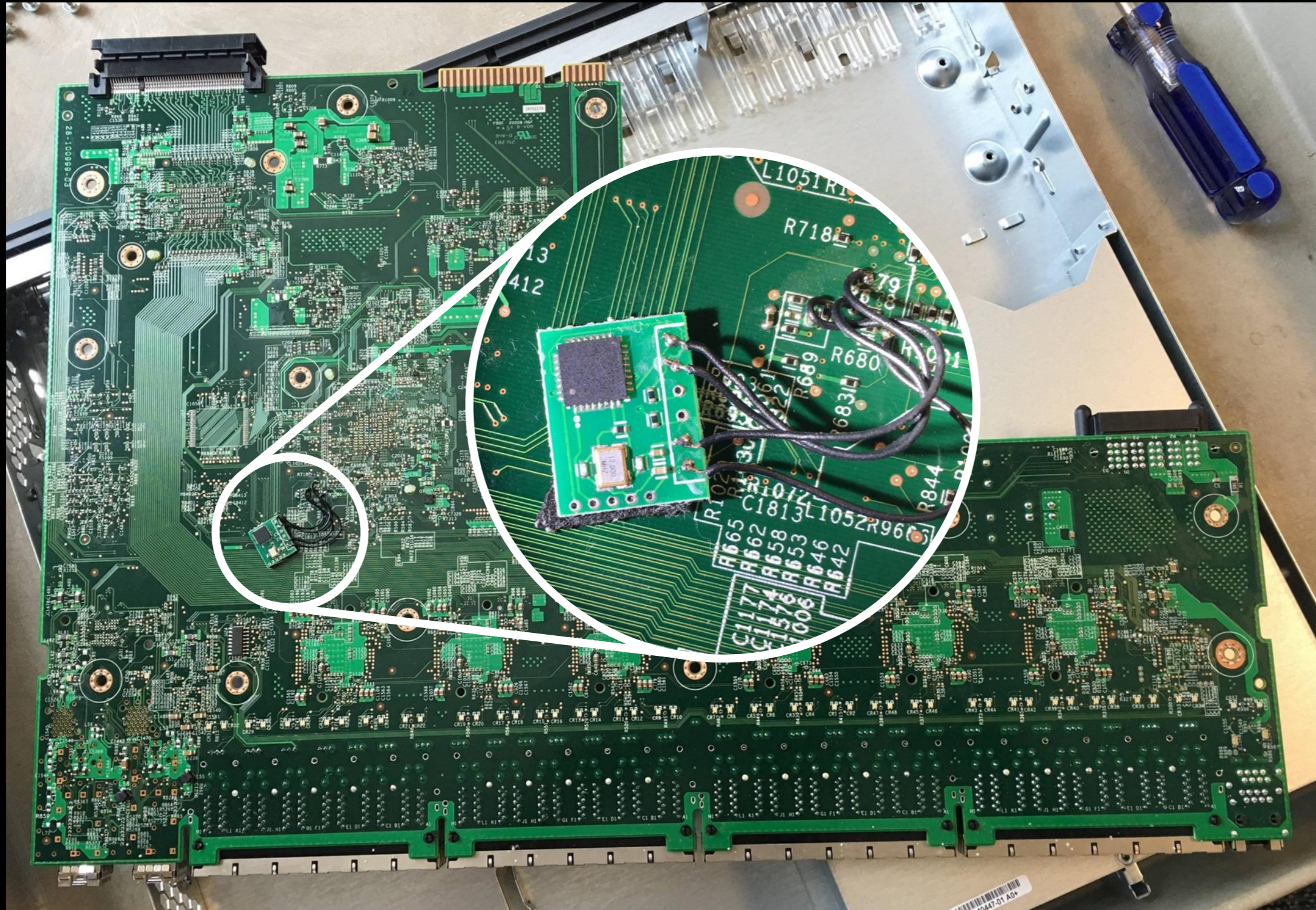


# Cisco Catalyst 2960XR Switch

- Purchased on eBay
- Noticed slight physical exterior differences
- Identified small daughterboard on back of PCB
- Possible counterfeit, post-production fix, or malicious implant?
  - Authentication/serial # bypass, reflash BIOS on power-up, software persistence ala FLUXBABBITT
- [www.reddit.com/r/networking/comments/4iwa5f/possible\\_counterfeit\\_cisco\\_equipment\\_wphotos/](http://www.reddit.com/r/networking/comments/4iwa5f/possible_counterfeit_cisco_equipment_wphotos/)



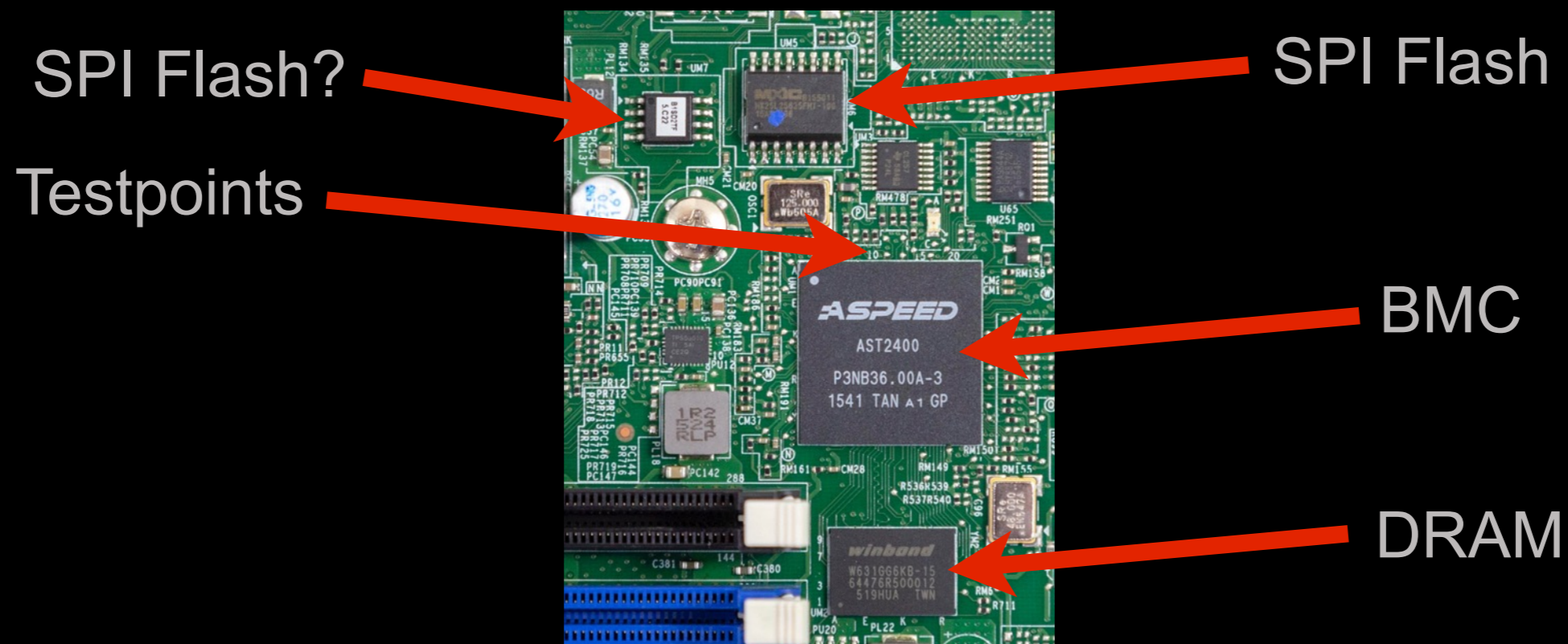
# Cisco Catalyst 2960XR Switch





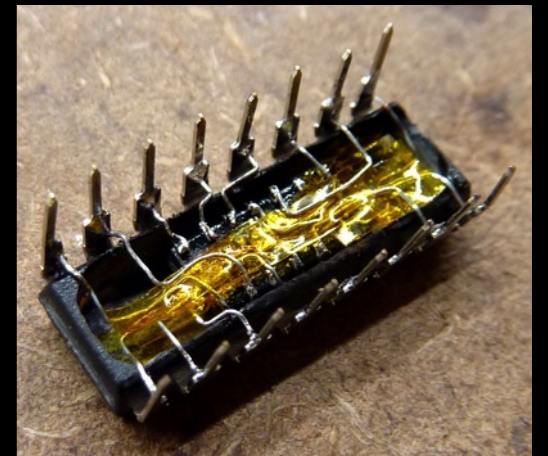
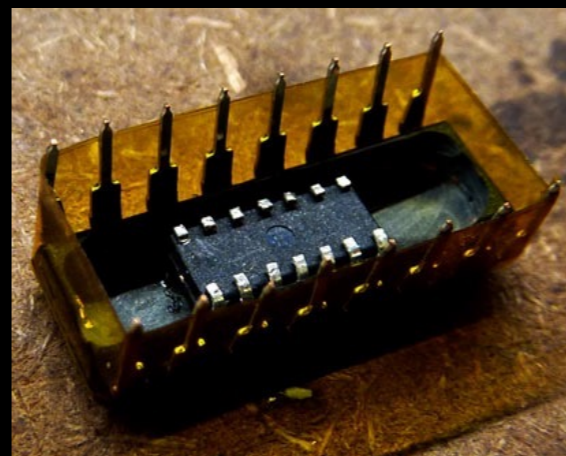
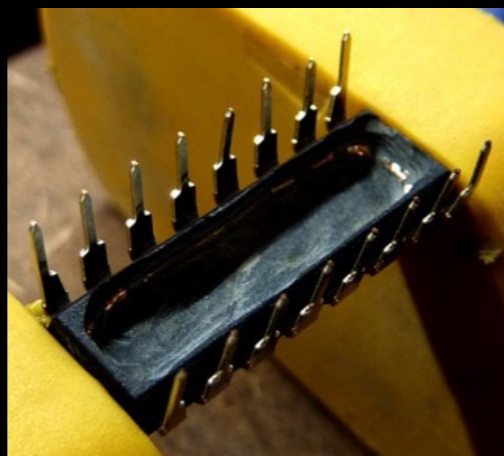
# Supermicro (Unconfirmed)

- The Big Hack: How China Used a Tiny Chip to Infiltrate U.S. Companies, Bloomberg 2018
- Man-in-the-middle between external memory and BMC (Baseboard Management Controller)
- Hardware added into actual design at subcontracted manufacturing facilities via bribes/threats



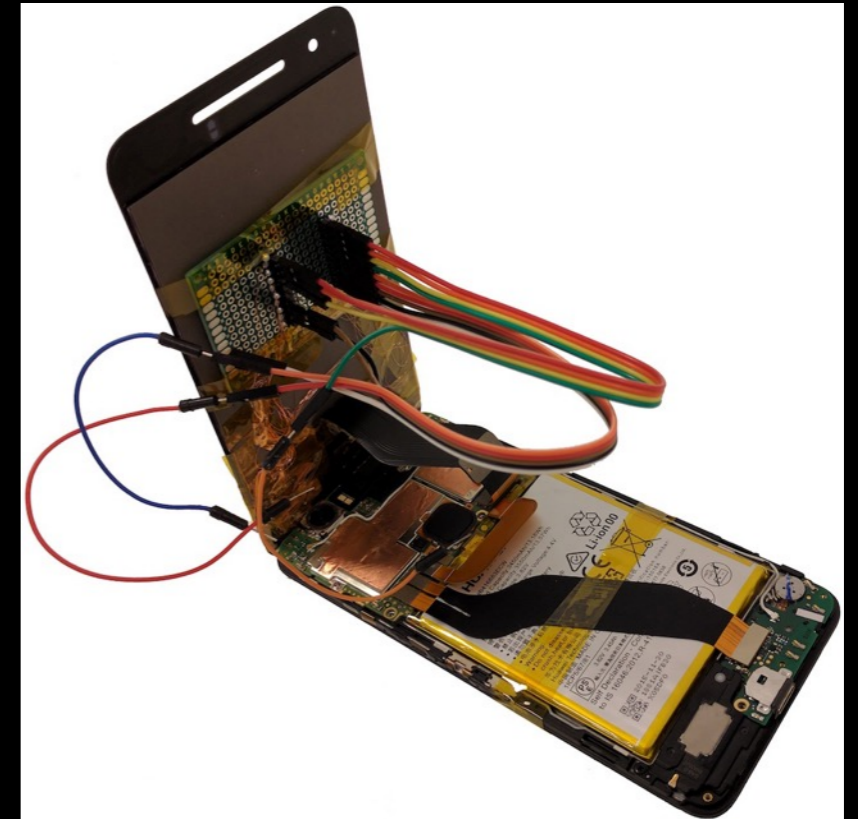
# Microcontrollers Not Allowed

- Benign example of component-level injection
- MCU inserted into a modified off-the-shelf logic IC
- Simulates original device, occasionally displays preset messages
- <http://ultrakeet.com.au/write-ups/microcontrollers-not-allowed>



# Third Party/Aftermarket Repairs

- Shattered Trust: When Replacement Smartphone Components Attack
  - Shwartz, Cohen, Shabtai, Oren, USENIX WOOT '17
- Chip-in-the-middle implant between touchscreen & CPU
- Capture/emulate touchscreen actions via I2C bus
- Disable touchscreen while malicious activity is happening
- Ex.: Malicious software installation, taking a picture & sending via e-mail, logging/exfiltration of screen unlock pattern



# Audio Generation

# Audio Generation

- Built March 1989 (13 years old)
- High-frequency single tone generator
- Simple mischievous device annoys anyone within range



# Audio Generation: Inspiration

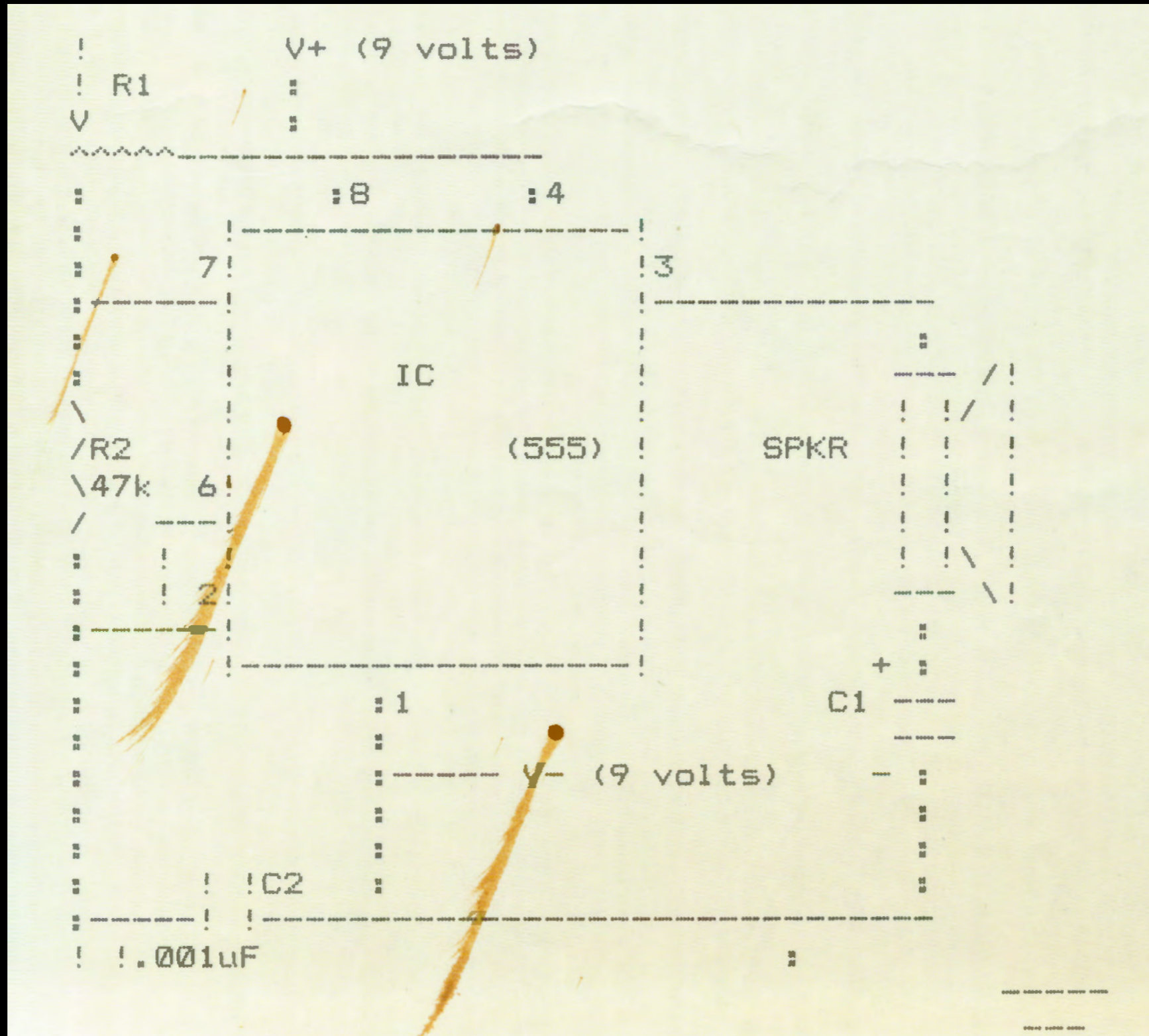
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-
-           Variable-pitched frequency generator
-                   or
-           How to annoy your techers!
-
-                   Written By
-
-                   ::: Captain Quiieg :::
-
--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--
```

In the fast paced world of education one often finds oneself with a burning hatred towards one or more teachers or fellow students. This article will describe how to build a little device that will emit a very high frequency that is -extrememly- annoying to most people and it will wreck concentration and can cause some nasty headaches.

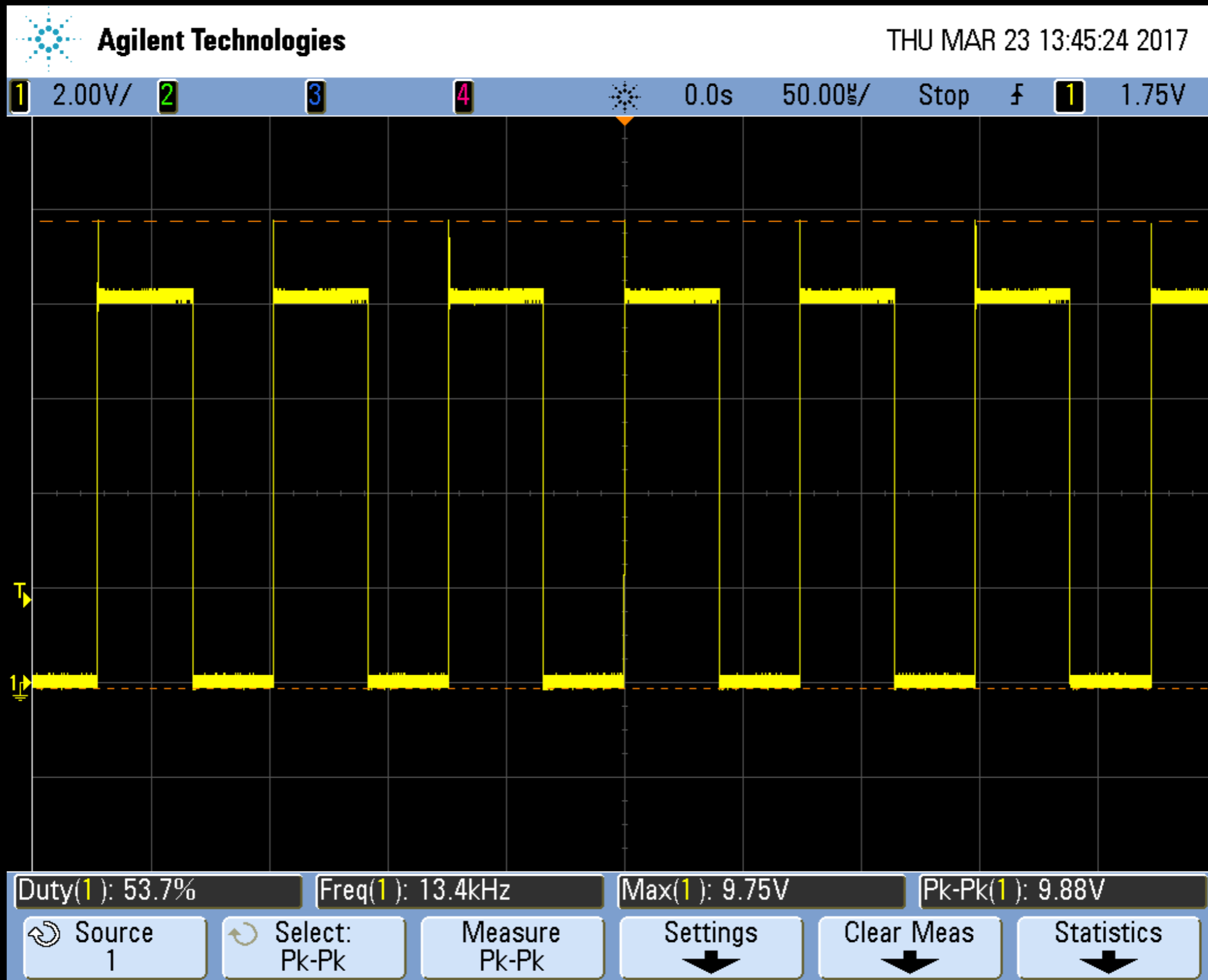
```
--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--[]--
```

[www.textfiles.com/anarchy/MISCHIEF/noise.ana](http://www.textfiles.com/anarchy/MISCHIEF/noise.ana)

# Audio Generation: Schematic



# Audio Generation: Output

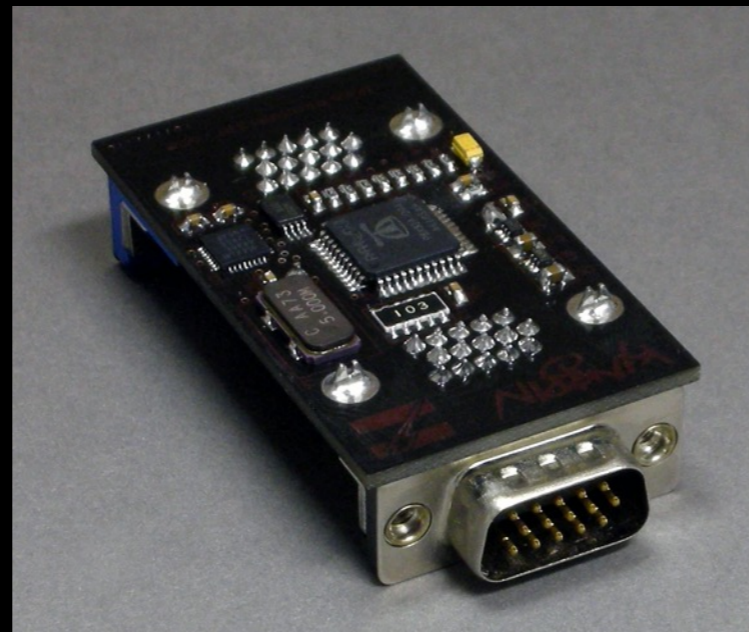
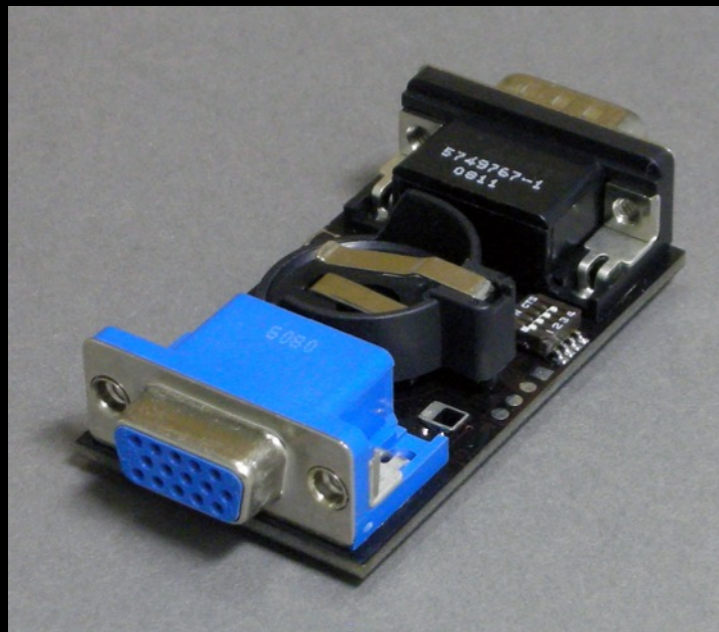




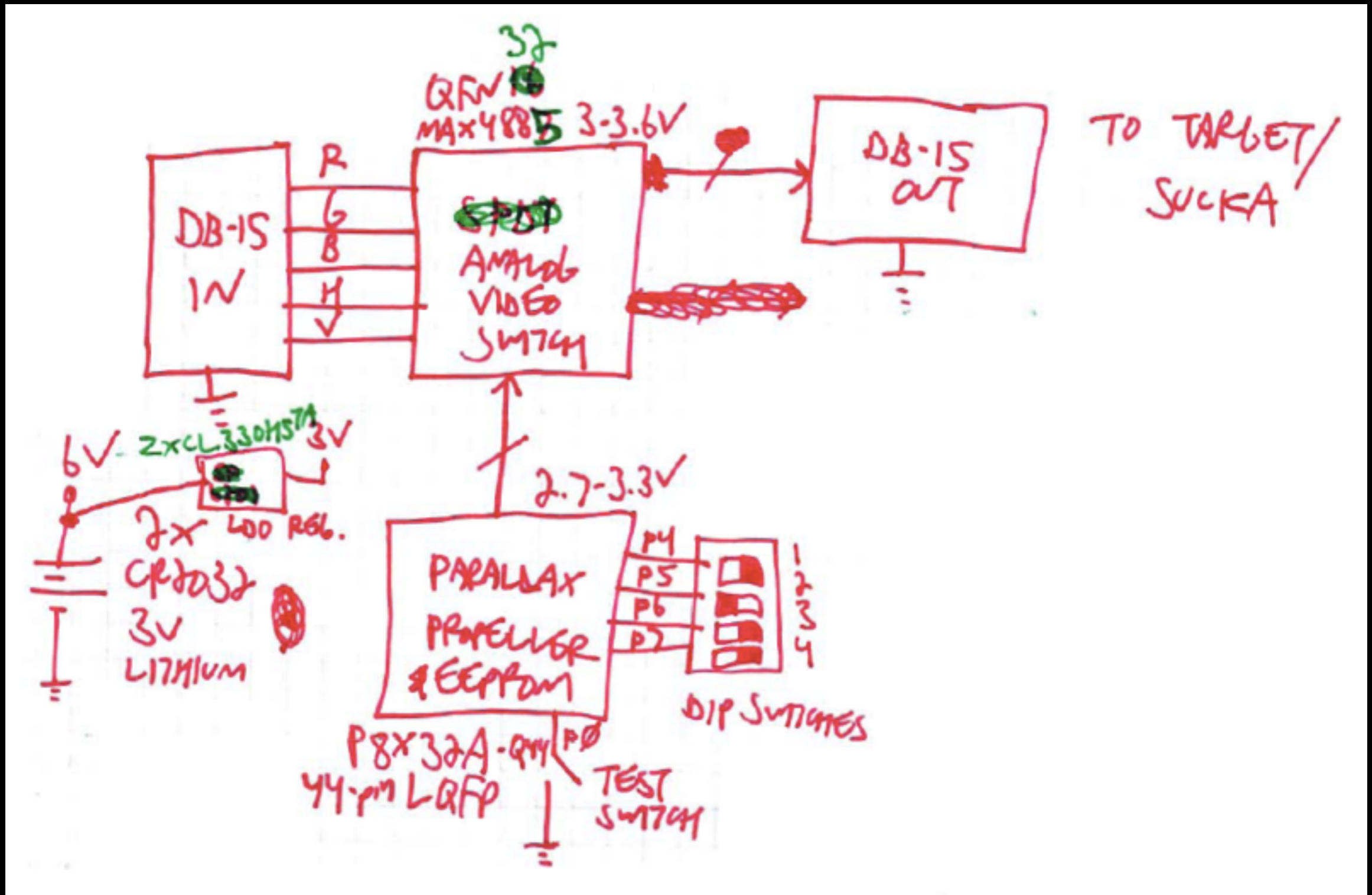
# Video Signal Interception

# BSODomizer

- Released at DEFCON 16 (2008)
- Video pass-through w/ interception/injection
- XGA (1024 x 768) w/ text only
- Parallax Propeller, reprogrammable w/ PropClip
- [www.grandideastudio.com/portfolio/bsodomizer](http://www.grandideastudio.com/portfolio/bsodomizer)



# BSODomizer: Block Diagram

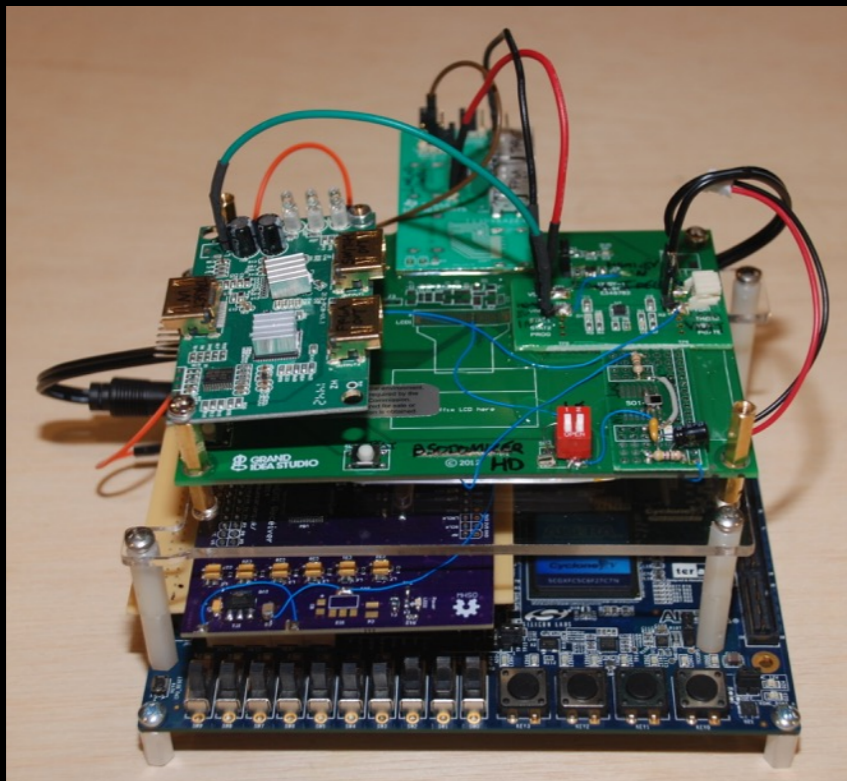


# BSODomizer: Action Shot



# BSODomizer HD

- Released at DEFCON 24 (2016)
- Video pass-through w/ interception/injection @ 1080p
- Internally generated display modes, user-loadable images from microSD card, frame capture
- Open source FPGA reference design (Cyclone 5CGXFC5C6F27C7N)



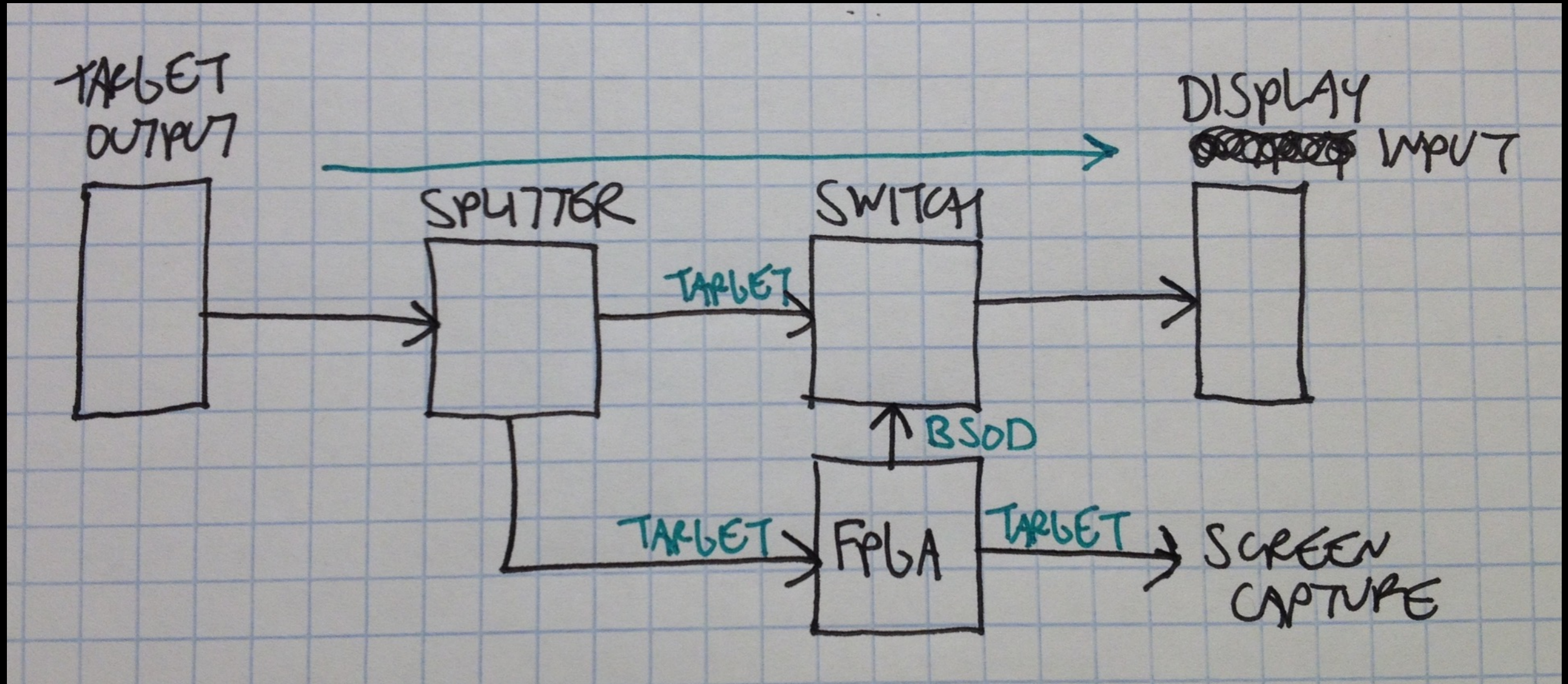
Your PC ran into a problem and needs to restart. I've already captured your screen contents, so there's nothing to worry about. Trust me. I'm the BSODomizer HD, a mischievous FPGA and HDMI platform for the (m)asses!



For more information about this issue and possible fixes, visit <http://bsodomizer.com/hd>

If you call a support person, give them this info:  
Stop code: IVE\_BEEN\_BSODOMIZED

# BSODomizer HD: Signal Path



# Covert Data Exfiltration

# Covert Data Exfiltration

- Hidden methods to intentionally exfiltrate/transfer data from a normally functioning system
  - Typically non-conventional, out-of-band methods
- Requires collusion between transmitter & receiver
  - Software pre-loaded onto target
  - Hardware modification of target not usually needed
  - Knowledge of compromised target & expected results
- Leakage based on electromagnetic/RF, electric, magnetic, acoustic, thermal, or optical

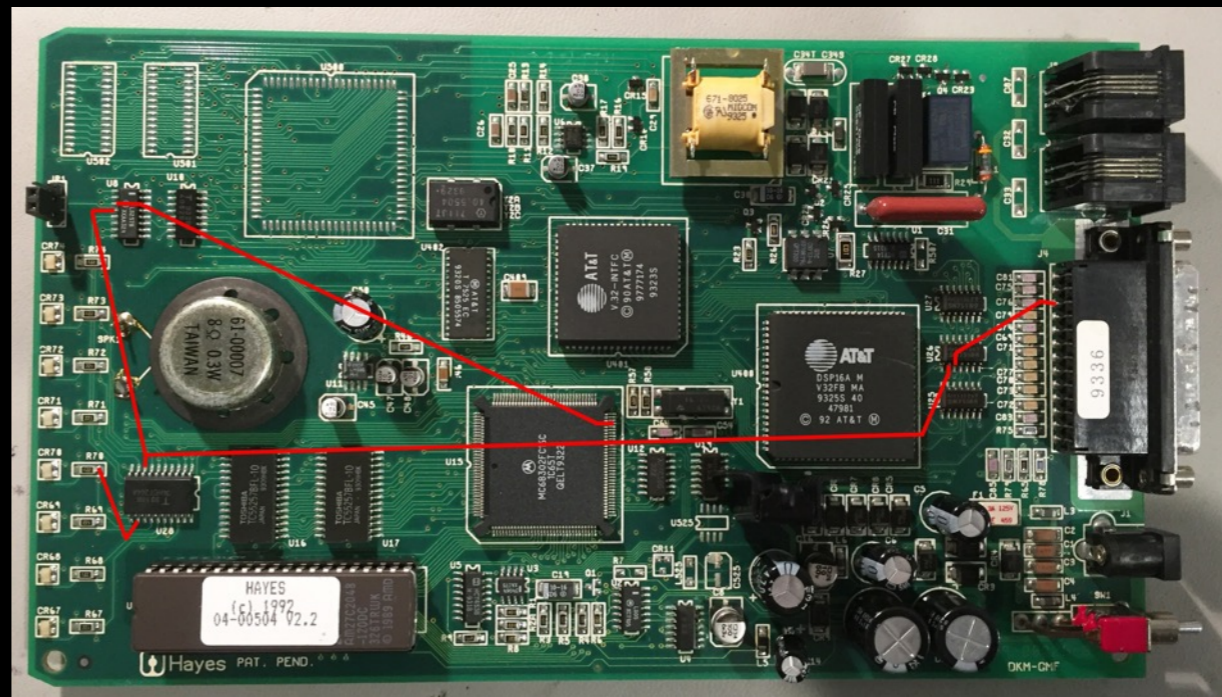


# Optical Covert Channel

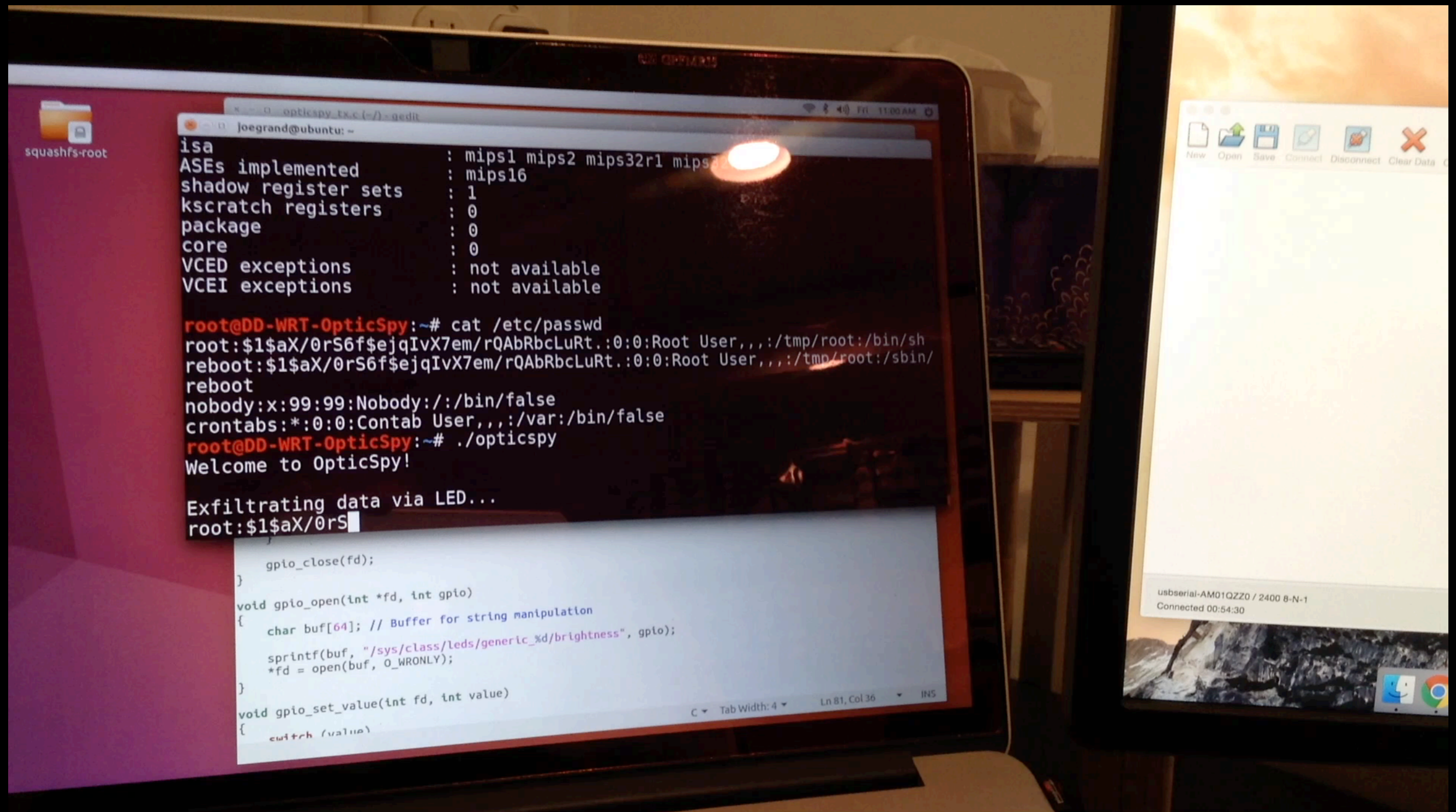
- Using LEDs to exfiltrate/send data
  - Mis-design leading to unintentional leakage
  - Modification of HW/FW to redirect data output to LED
  - Modulation faster than the human eye can detect
- Requires optical receiver to convert light into voltage
  - [www.grandideastudio.com/portfolio/opticspy](http://www.grandideastudio.com/portfolio/opticspy)

# Hayes Smartmodem Optima

- Indicator LEDs tied to serial port data lines
  - Data leakage through SD (Send Data) and RD (Receive Data) LEDs
- Information Leakage from Optical Emanations (Loughry and Umphress, 2002)
- [www.applied-math.org/optical\\_tempest.pdf](http://www.applied-math.org/optical_tempest.pdf)



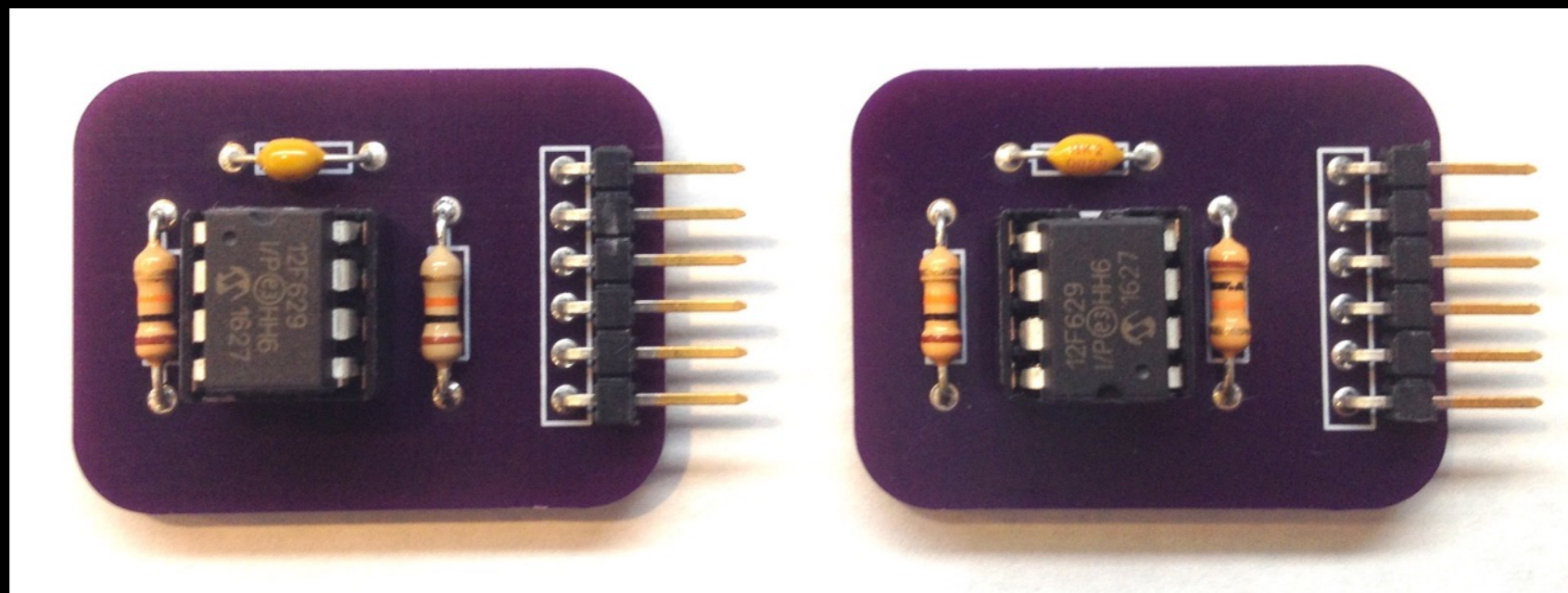
# TP-Link TL-WR841N



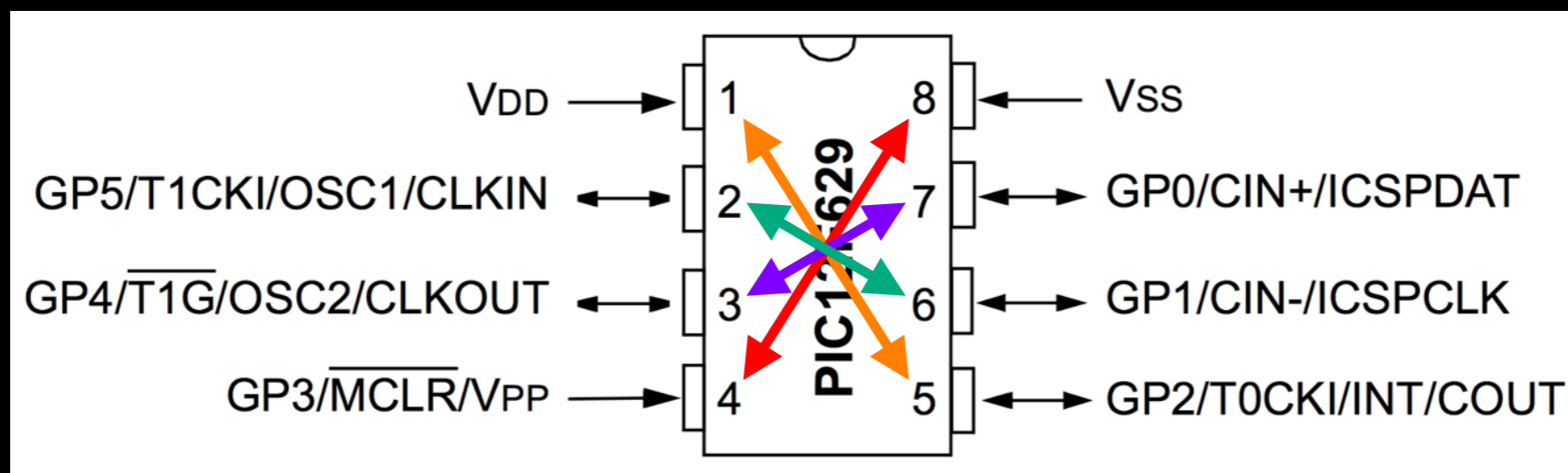
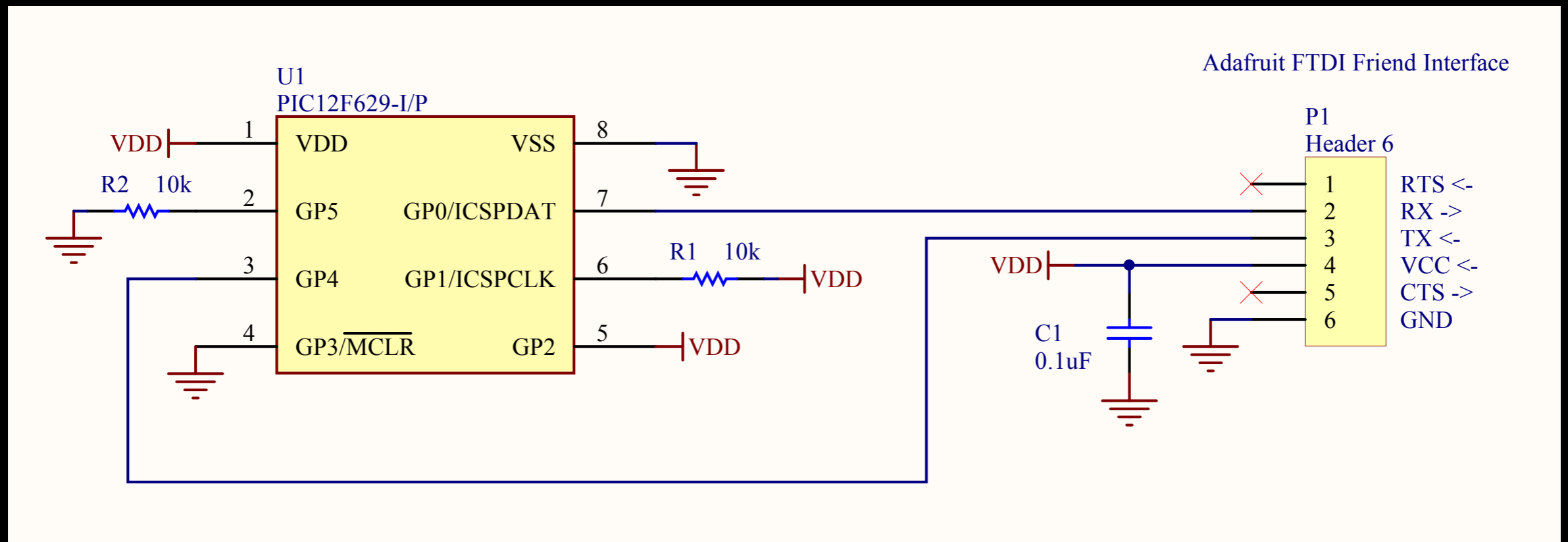
# DIP Flip Whixr Trick

# DIP Flip Whixr Trick

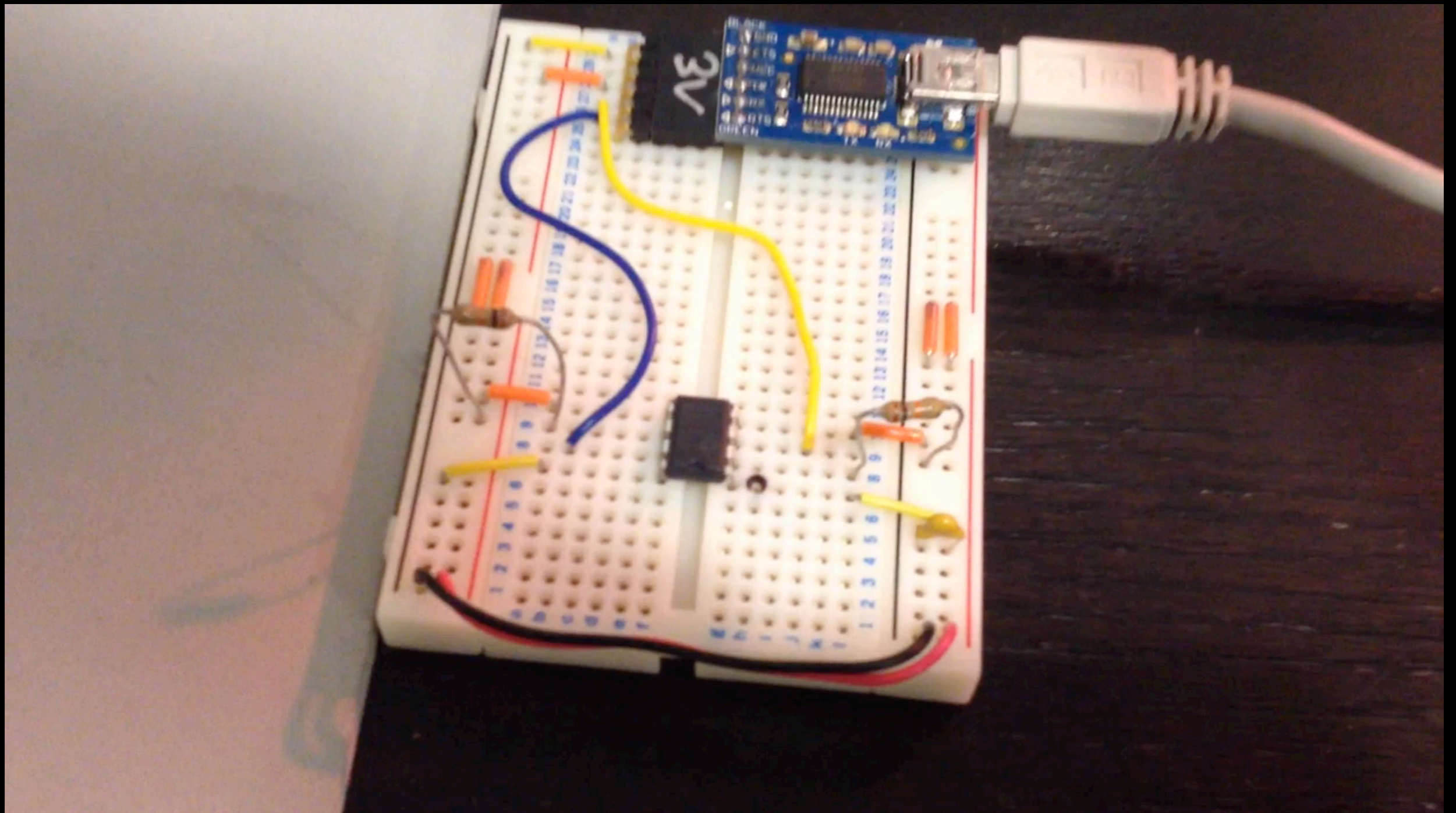
- Sneaky circuit that defies common convention
- MCU can operate in either orientation
  - Normal v. alternate functionality
- Example of intentional corruption during chip fabrication/assembly/manufacturing process
- [www.grandideastudio.com/portfolio/sneaky-circuits](http://www.grandideastudio.com/portfolio/sneaky-circuits)



# DIP Flip Whixr Trick: Schematic



# DIP Flip Whixr Trick: Action Shot



# Setec Astronomy

- HW should not be inherently trusted
  - Defined functionality is not guaranteed
  - Lots of trickery, lots of ways to go undetected
- Electronic circuits are a new canvas for many
  - Don't delay! Create your own sneaky circuit today!



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