

# Brokenwire: Wireless Disruption of CCS Electric Vehicle Charging

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<sup>†</sup>University of Oxford, <sup>\*</sup>armasuisse Science + Technology



<sup>†</sup> Both authors contributed equally to this paper.



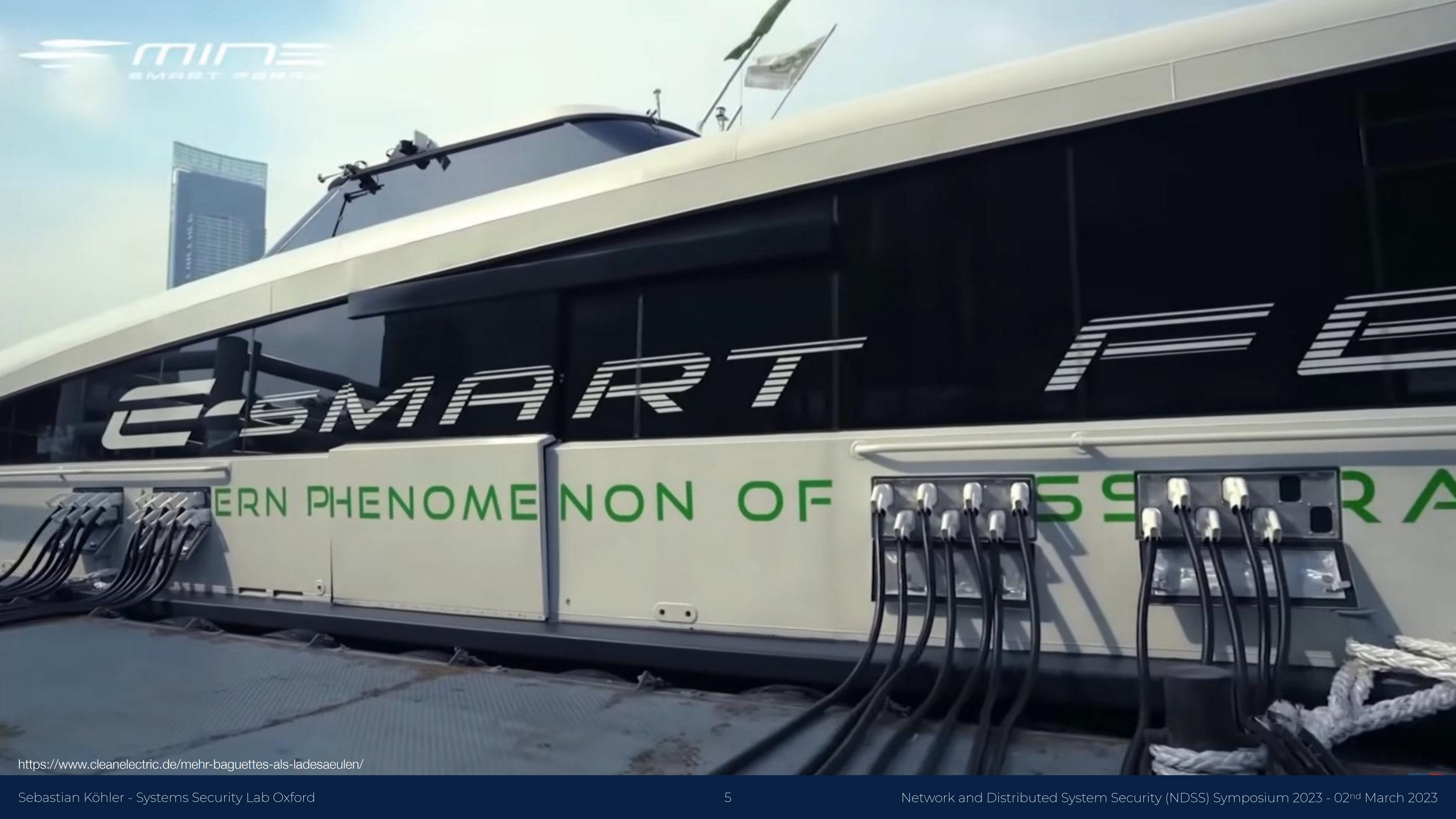
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<https://www.ingenieur.de/technik/fachbereiche/e-mobilitaet/neue-initiative-fuer-den-aufbau-einer-ladeinfrastruktur-fuer-e-lkw/>



Credit: Hamburger Hochbahn AG



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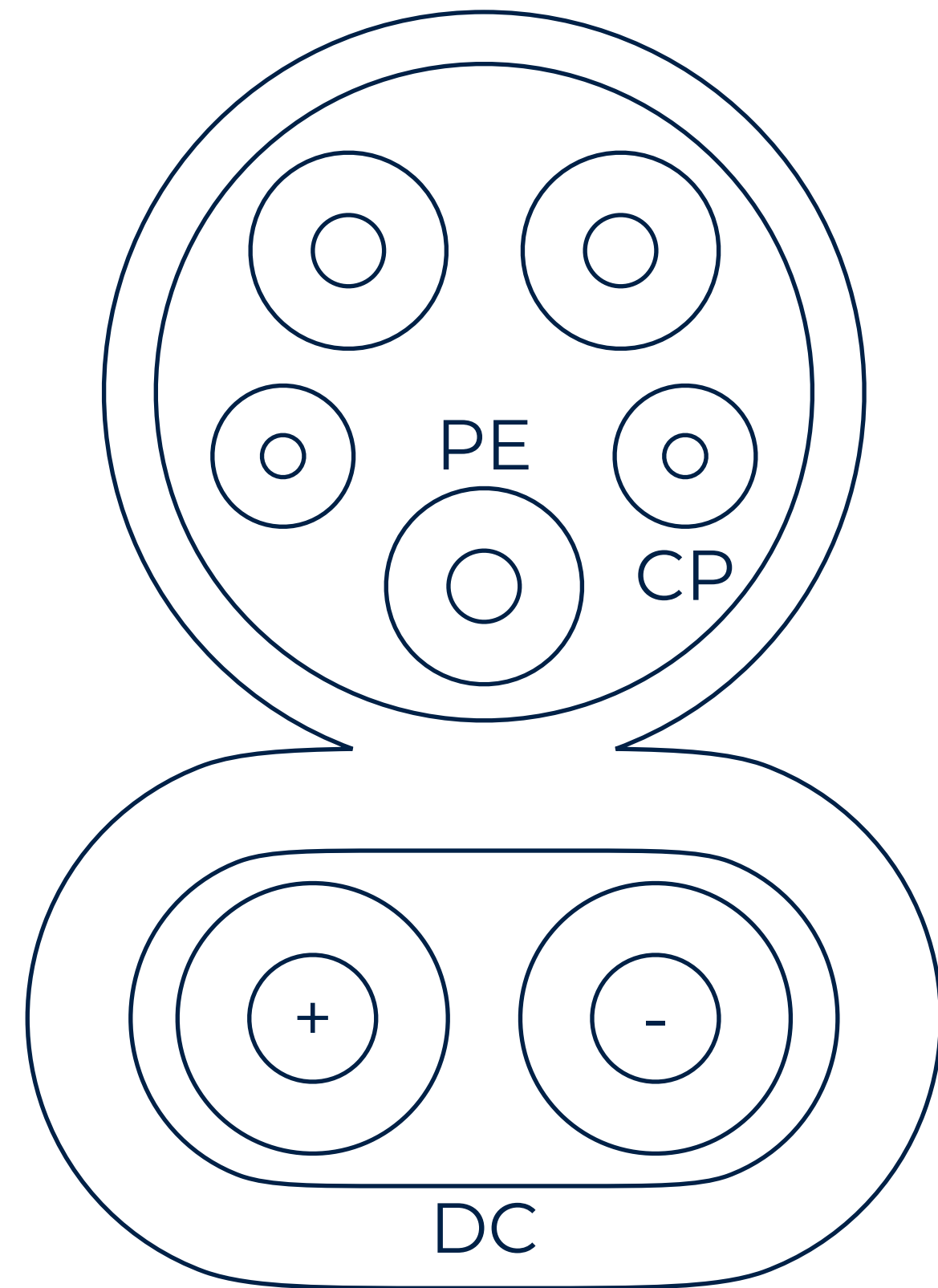


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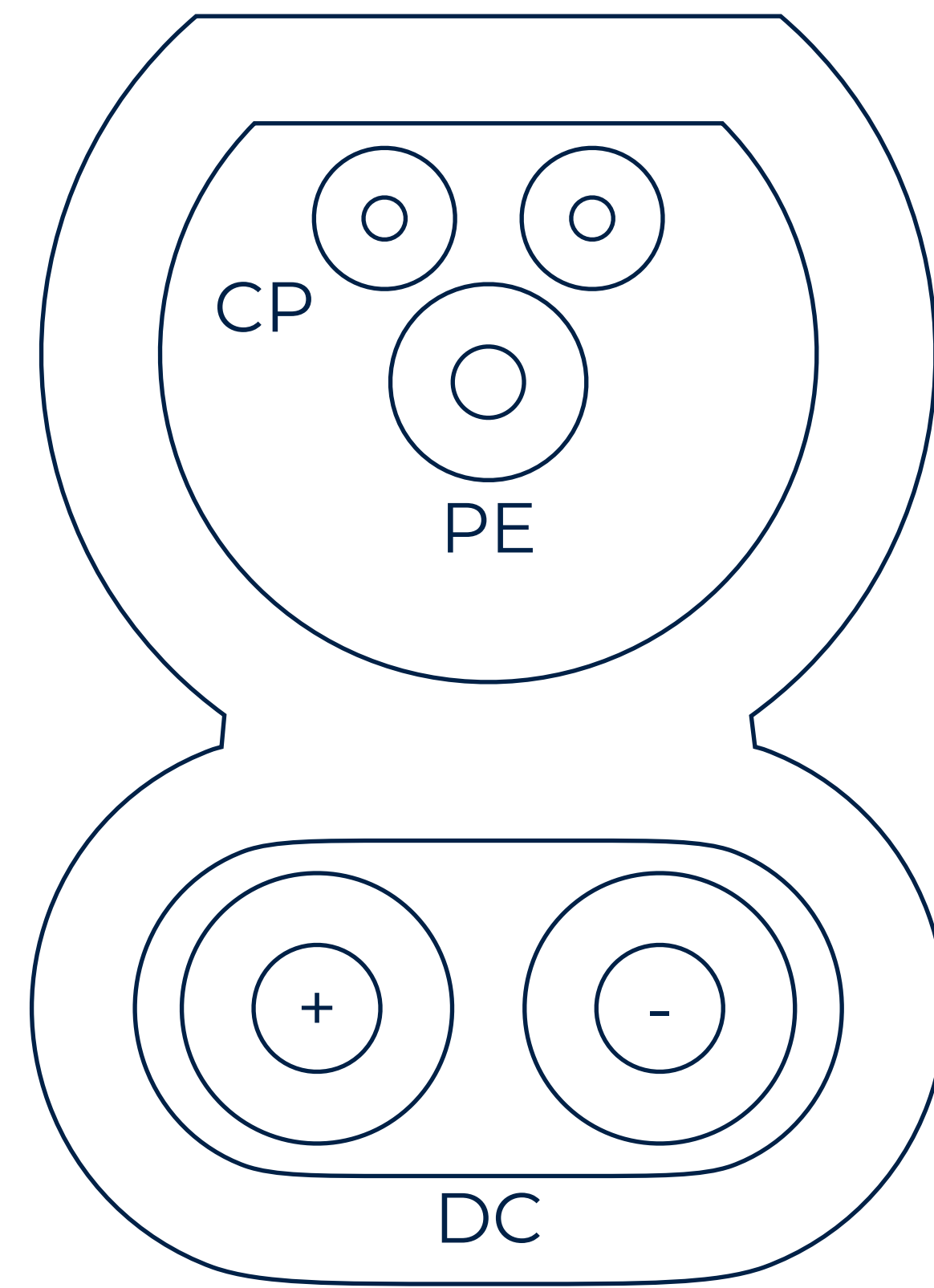


<https://cdn.motor1.com/images/mgl/g3WJm/s2/efacec-s-first-350-kw-ccs-combo-dc-fast-chargers-already-up-and-running.jpg>

# Combined Charging System (CCS)



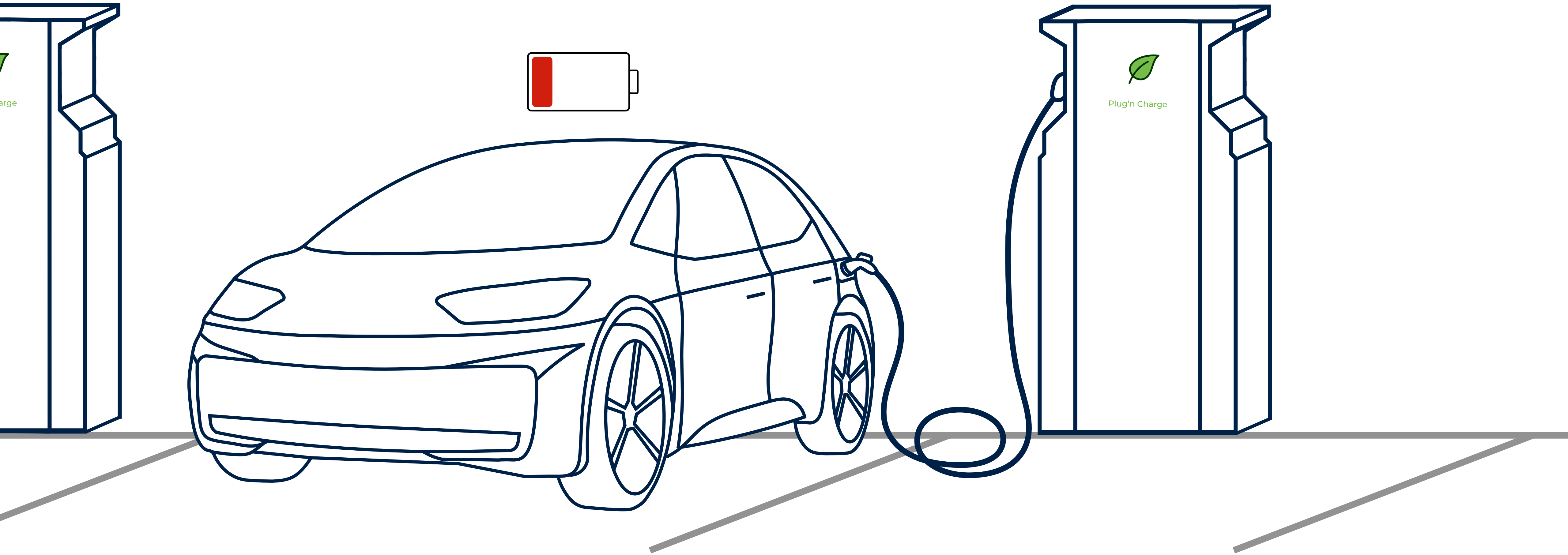
CCS Combo 1 (US)



CCS Combo 2 (EU)



# CCS Power-Line Communication



# Previous Work on EV Security

[1] Baker R. and Martinovic I. Losing the Car Keys: Wireless PHY-Layer Insecurity in EV Charging. In 28th USENIX Security Symposium, Santa Clara, CA, 2019.

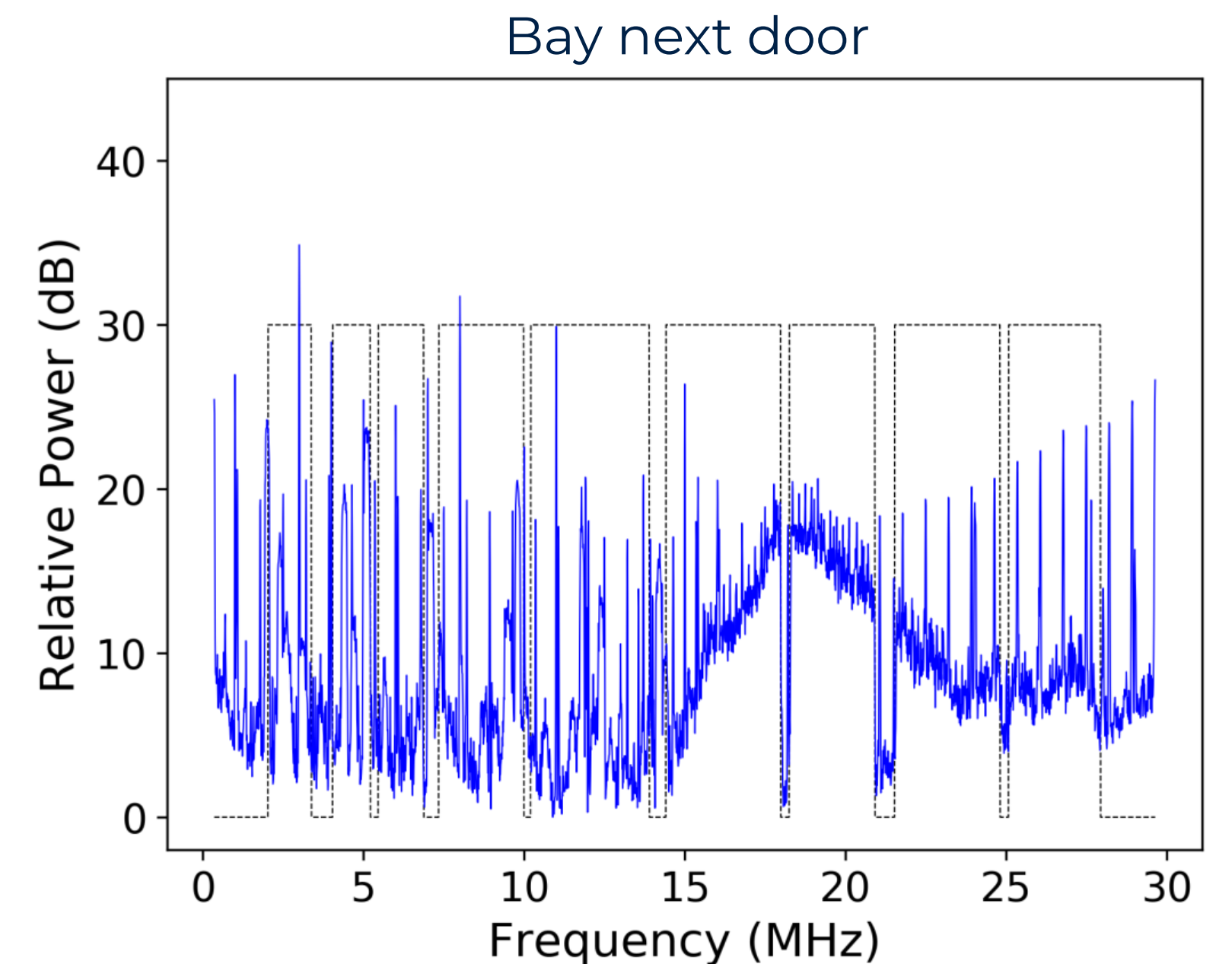
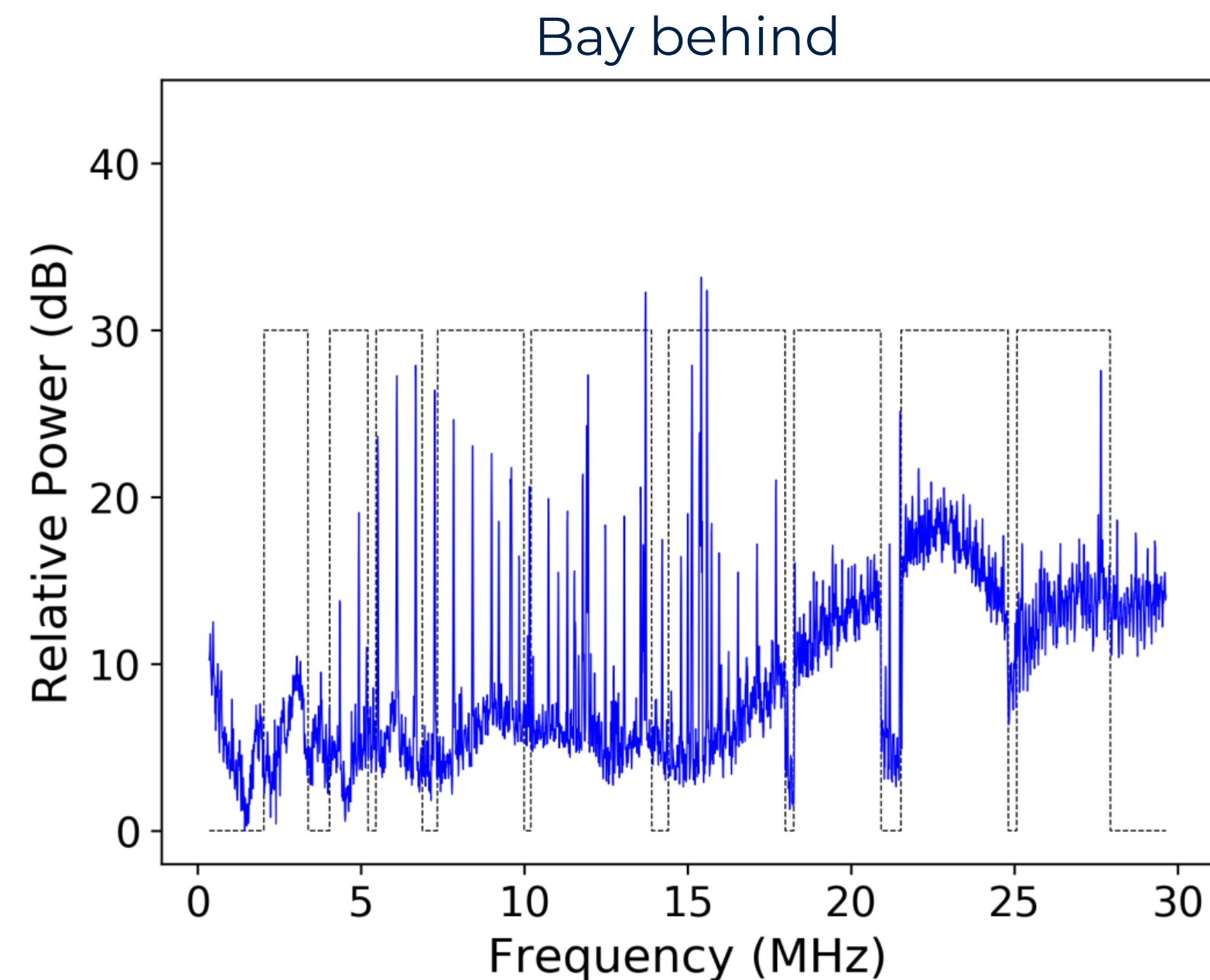
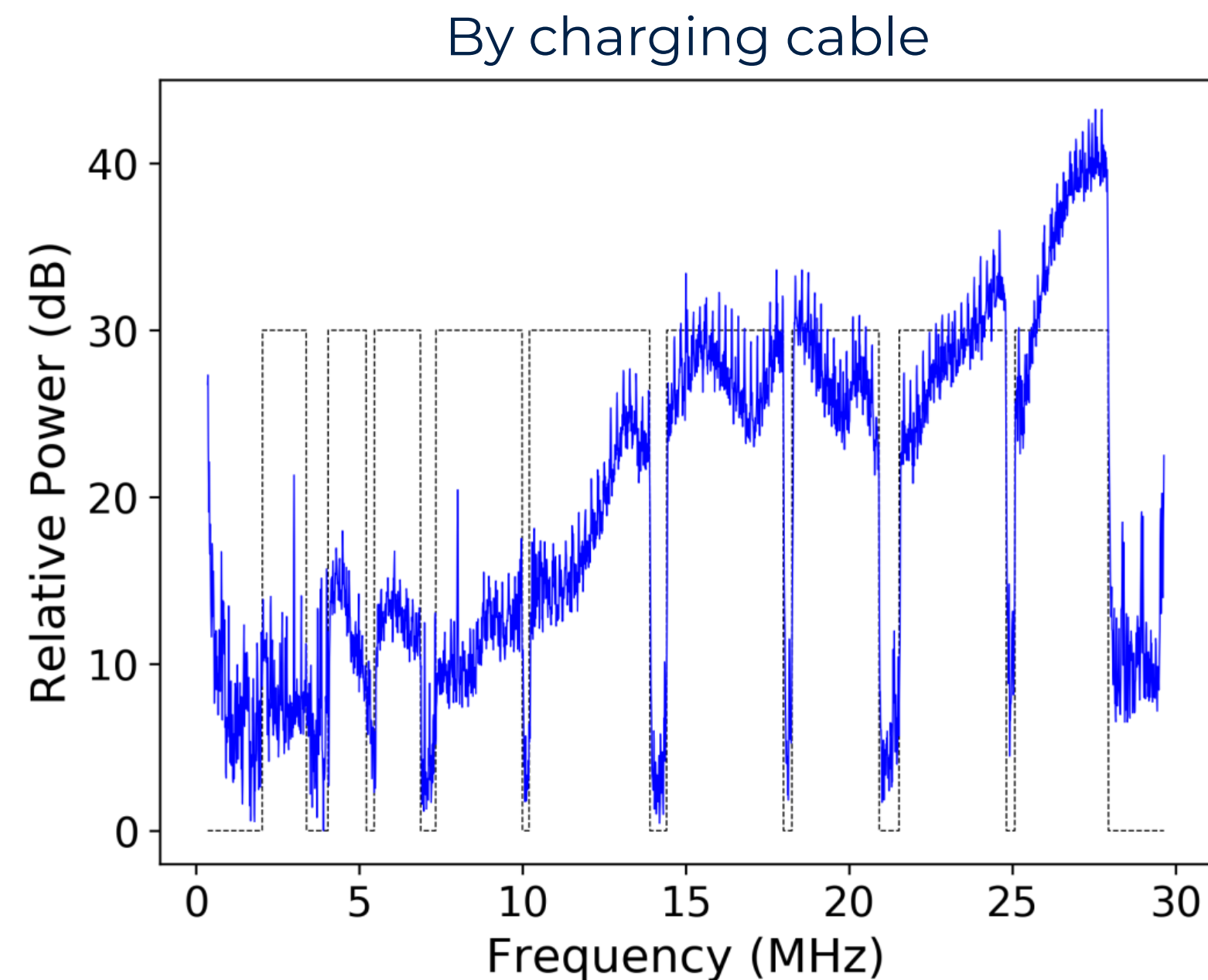
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*“[The] use of PLC in EV charging and the design of the CCS standard lead to a uniquely high-quality, **unintentional wireless channel.**” [1]*

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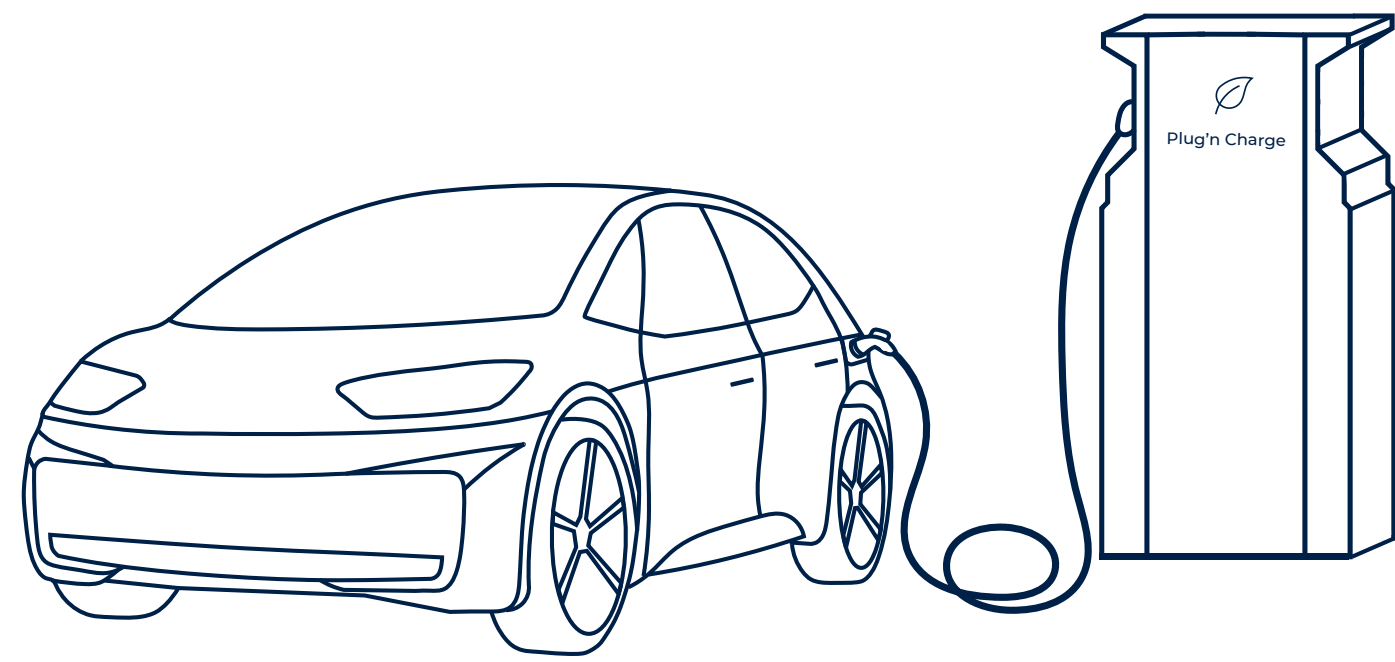
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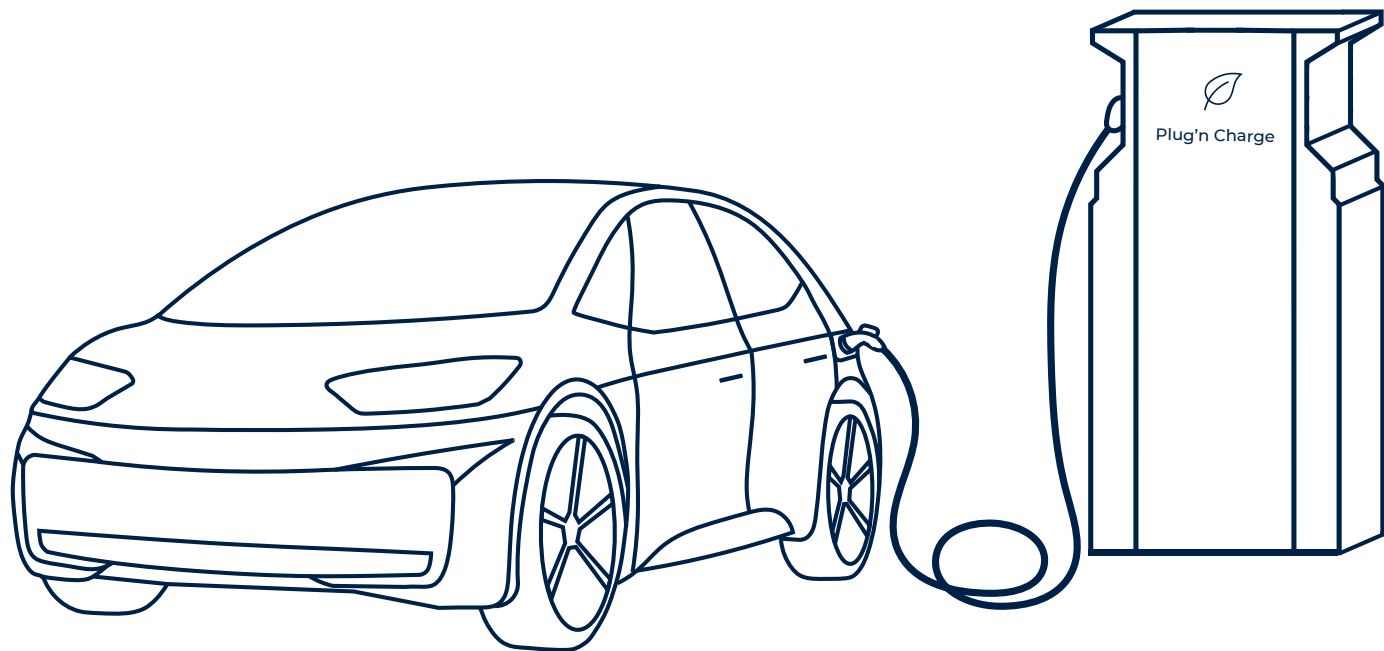
# Threat Model: Goals

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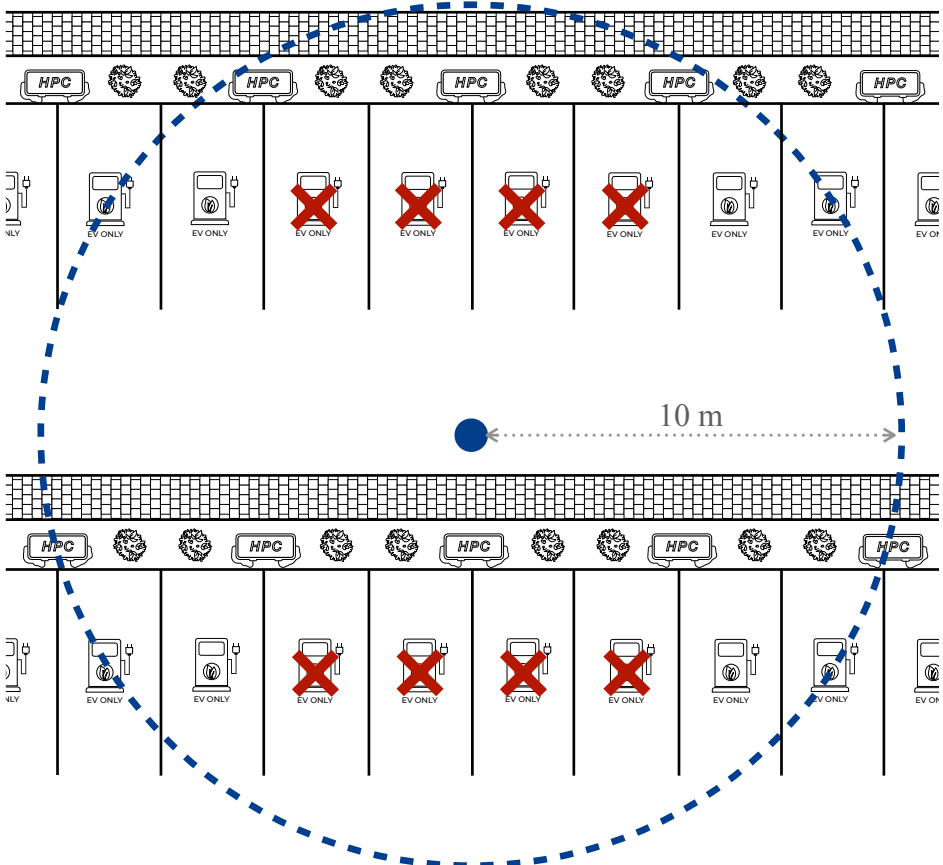


Individual Vehicle

# Threat Model: Goals

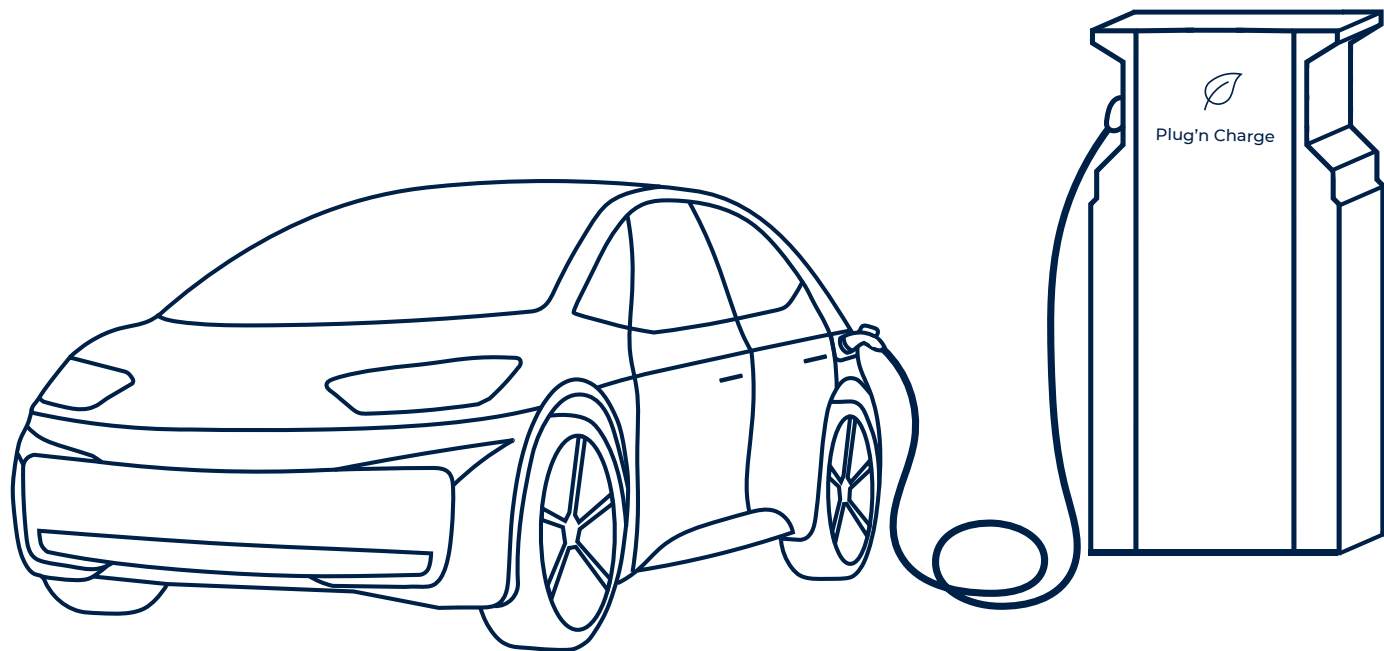


Individual Vehicle

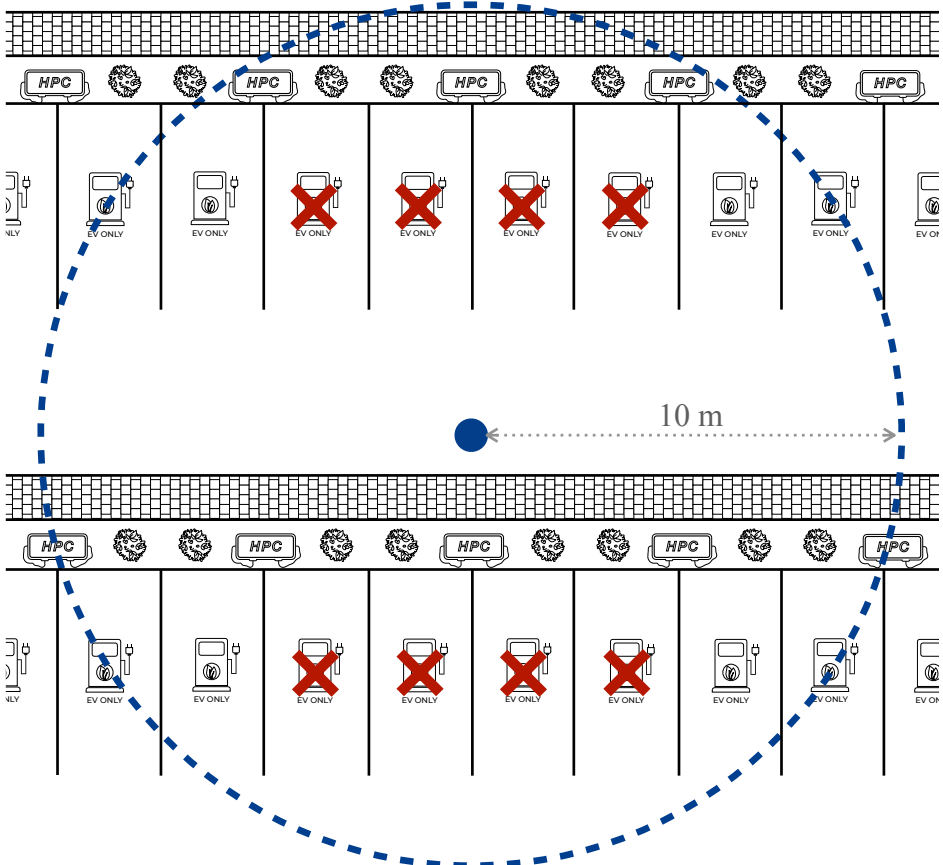


Fleet Denial

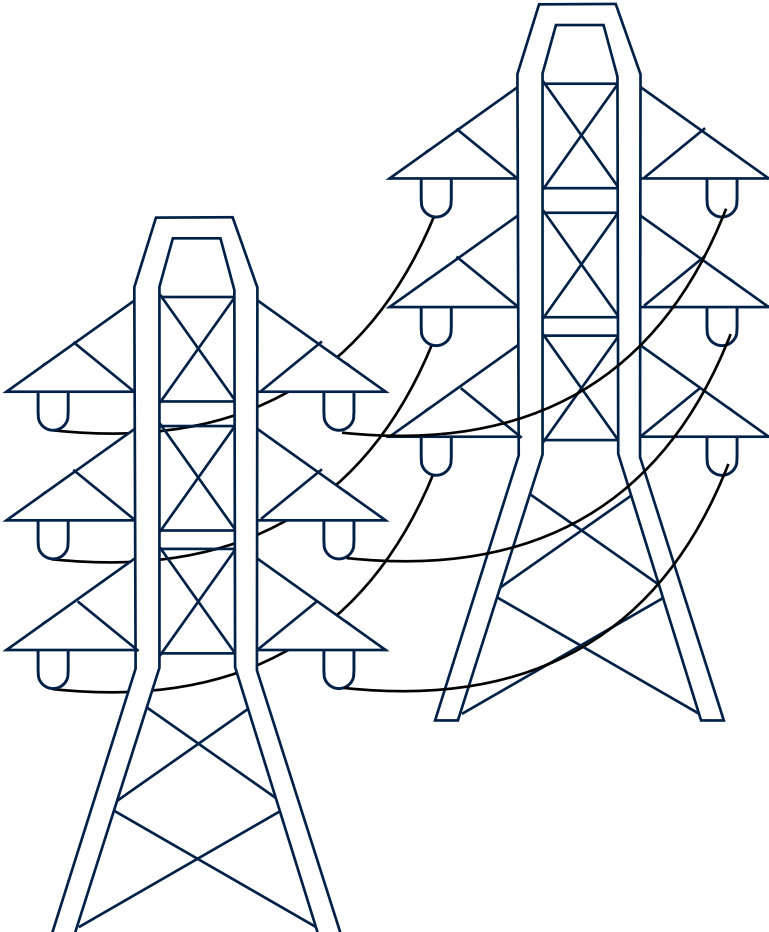
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Individual Vehicle



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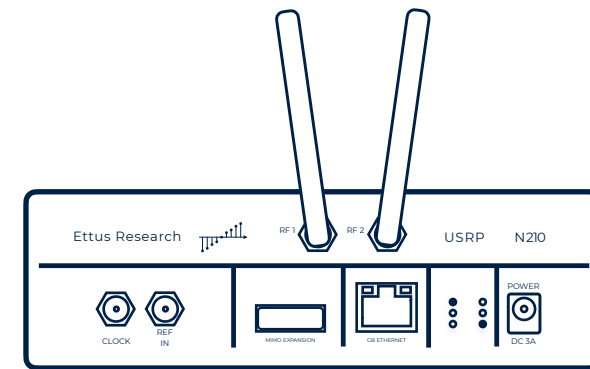


Unspecific Disruption



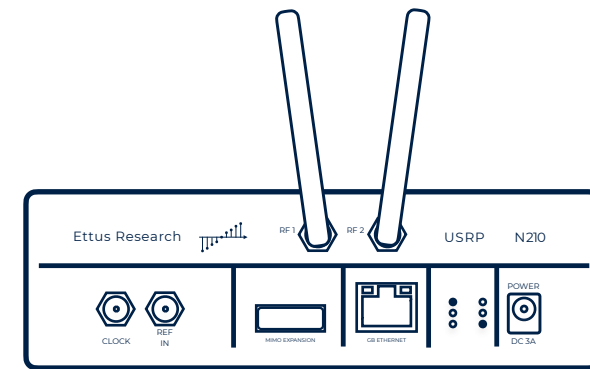
# Threat Model: Capabilities

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Access to off-the-shelf equipment

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Access to off-the-shelf equipment



Little to no DSP knowledge

# Brokenwire Attack: Wireless Exploitation of CSMA/CA

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# Brokenwire Attack: Wireless Exploitation of CSMA/CA

*“The receiver shall be able to **detect the presence** of Preamble Symbols [...]: When the desired Preamble Symbol waveform present at the receiver has a signal power of -35 dBm and is corrupted by Gaussian noise producing a **total SNR of 2 dB** at the receiver terminal.” [2]*

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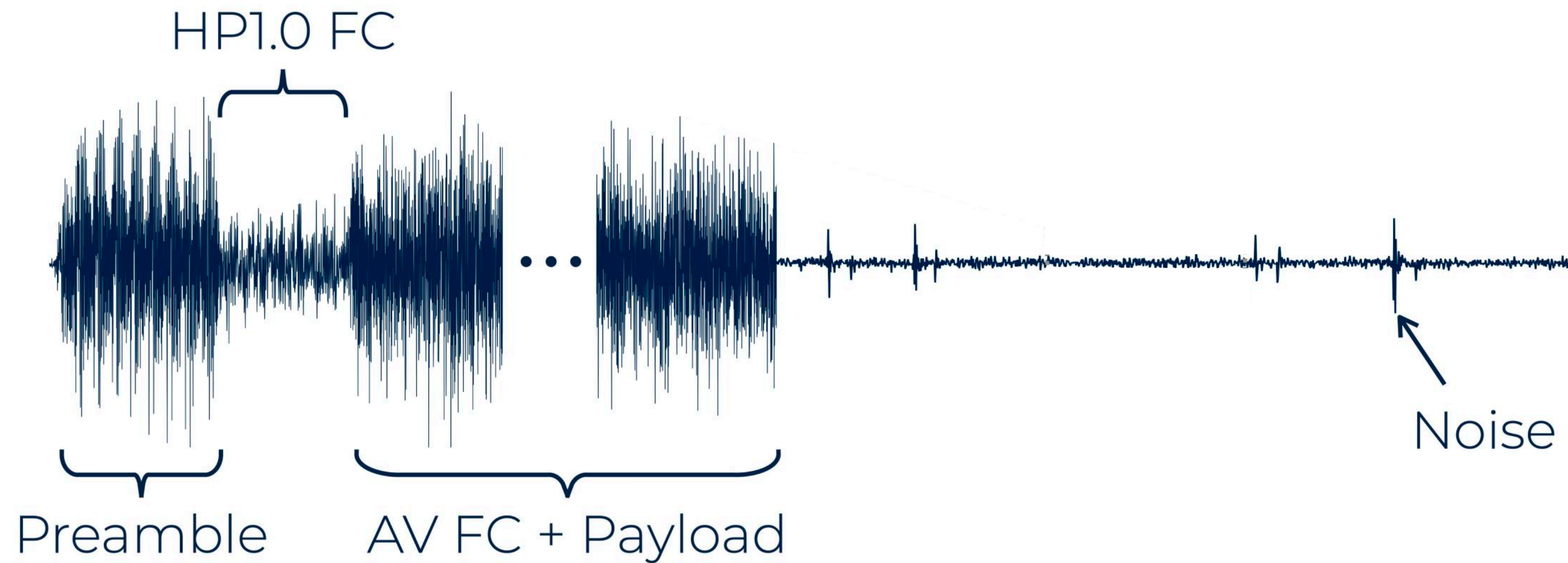
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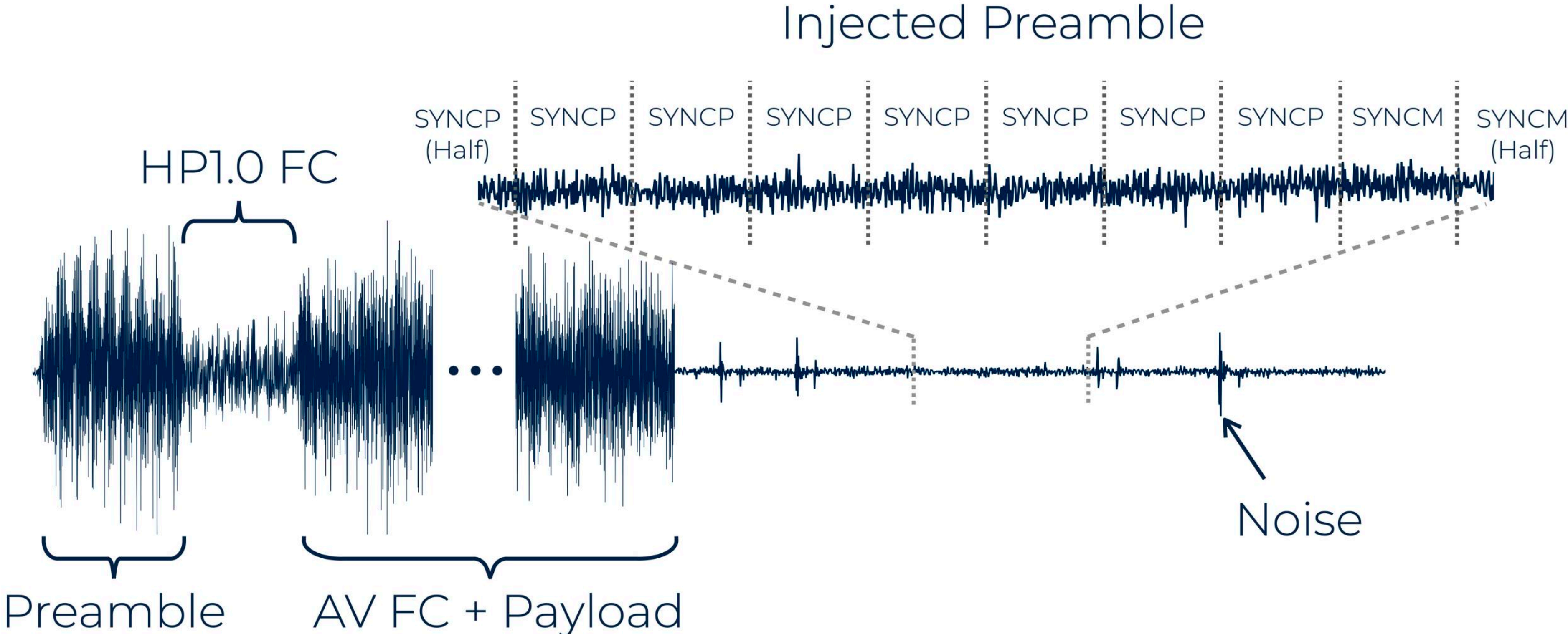
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# Brokenwire Attack: A closer look

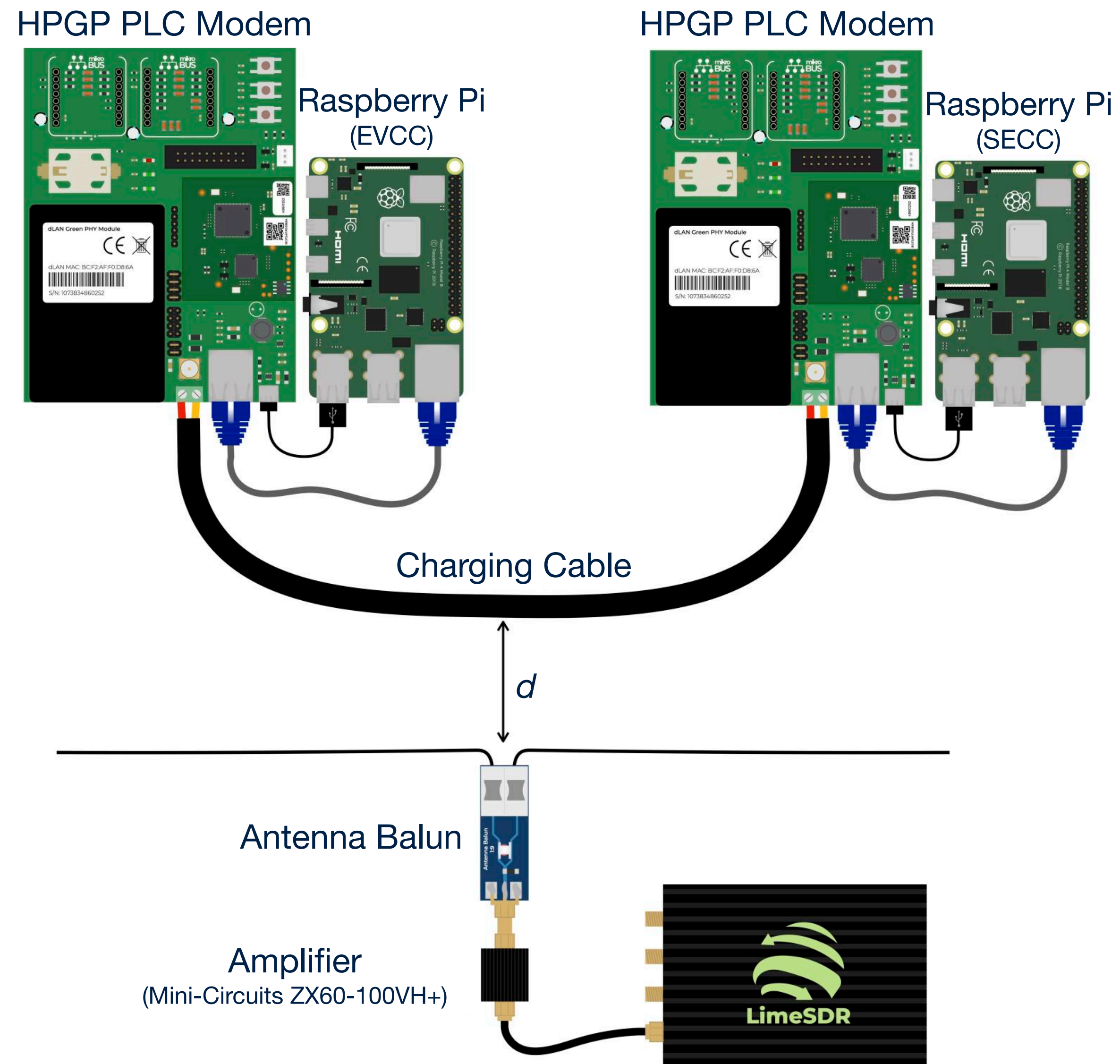




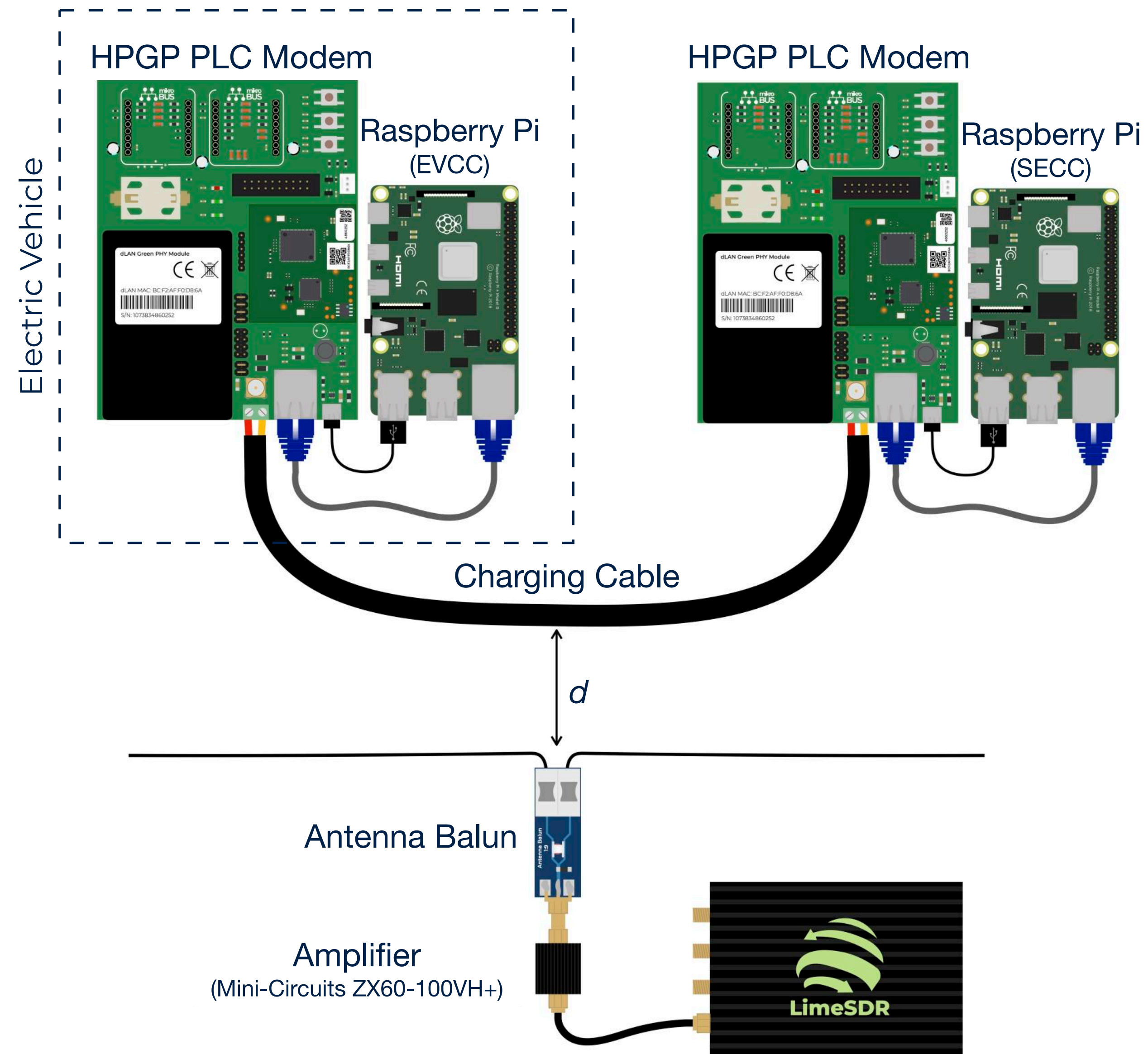
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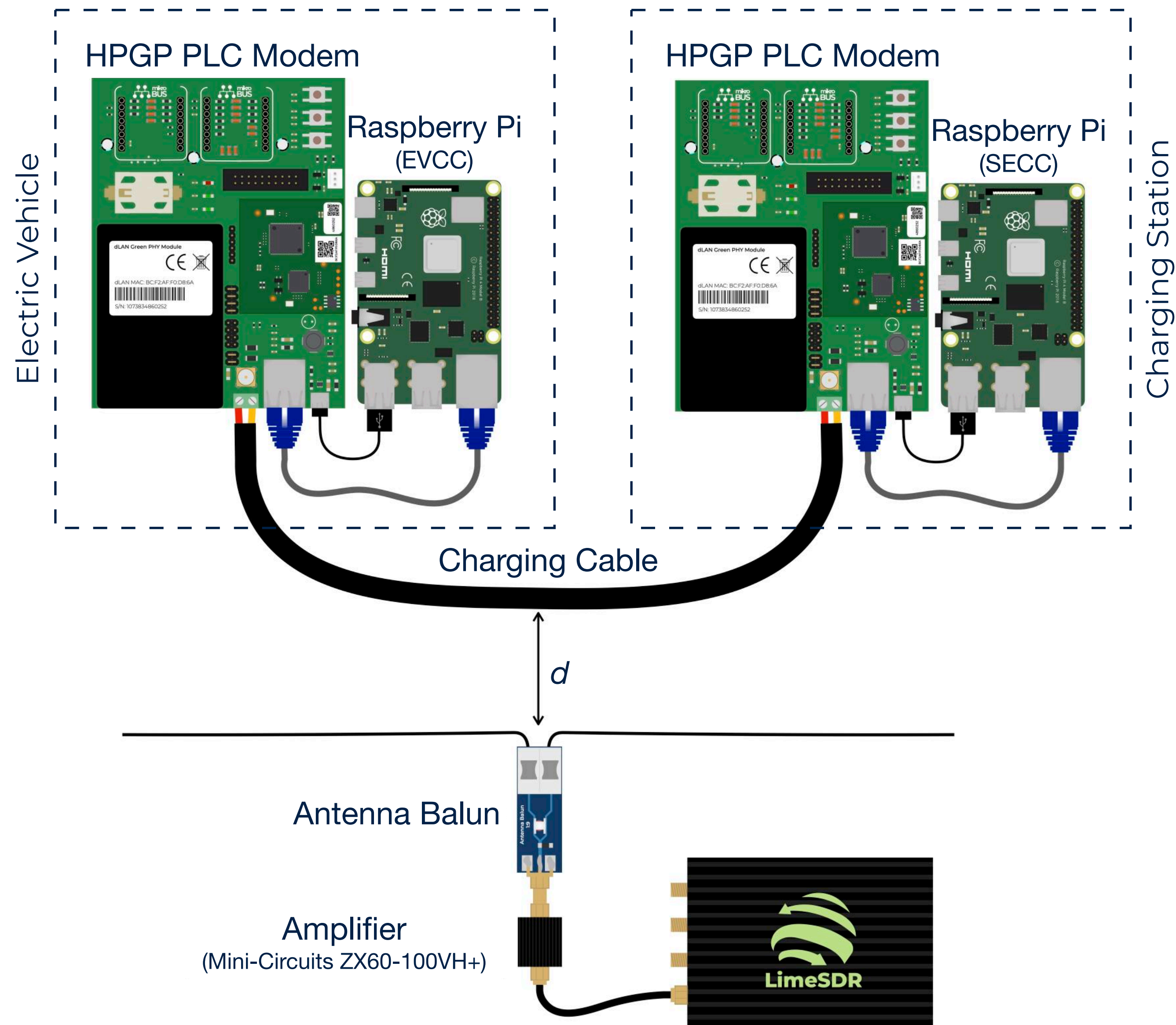
# Lab Testing: Experimental Setup



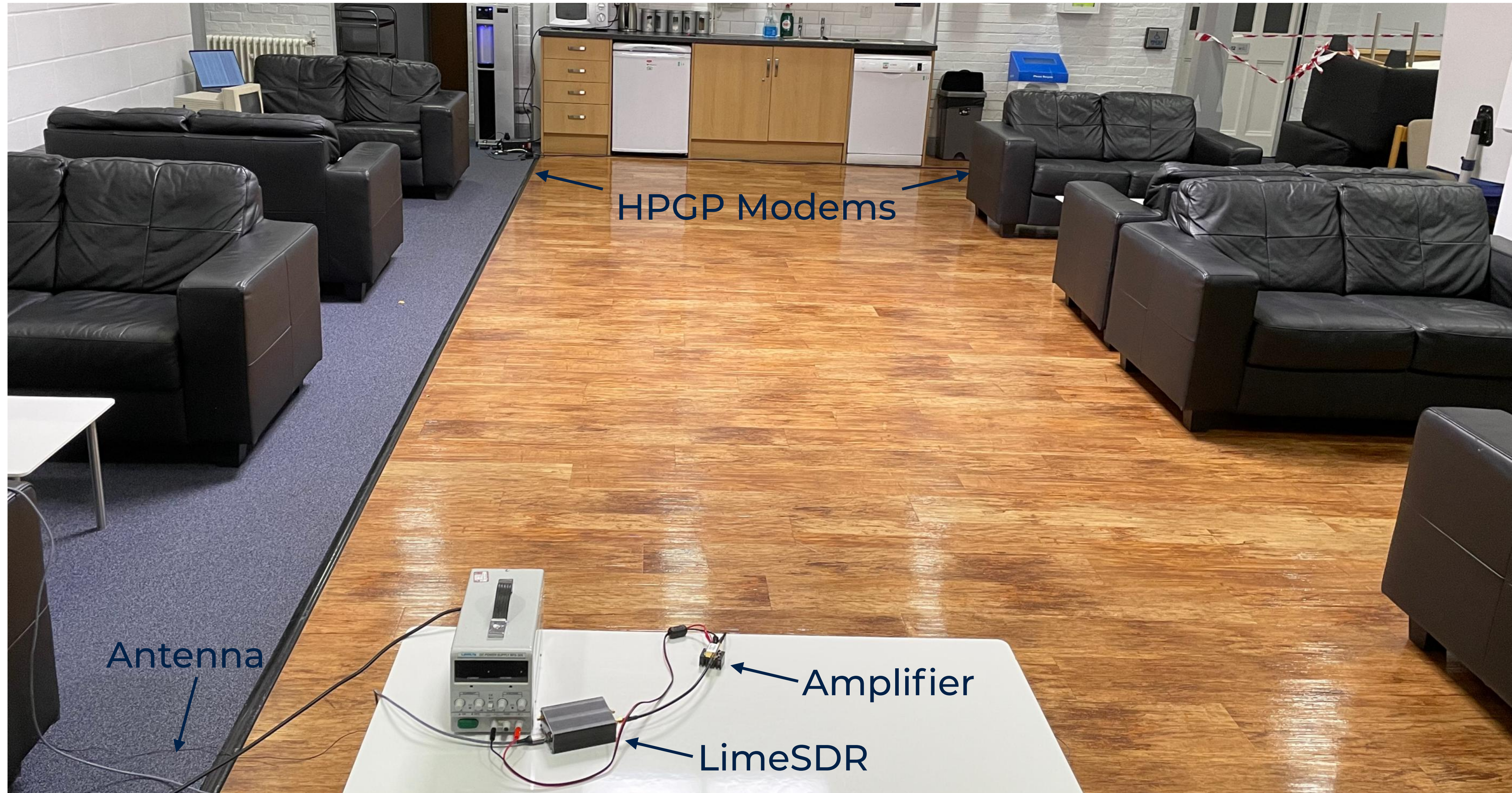
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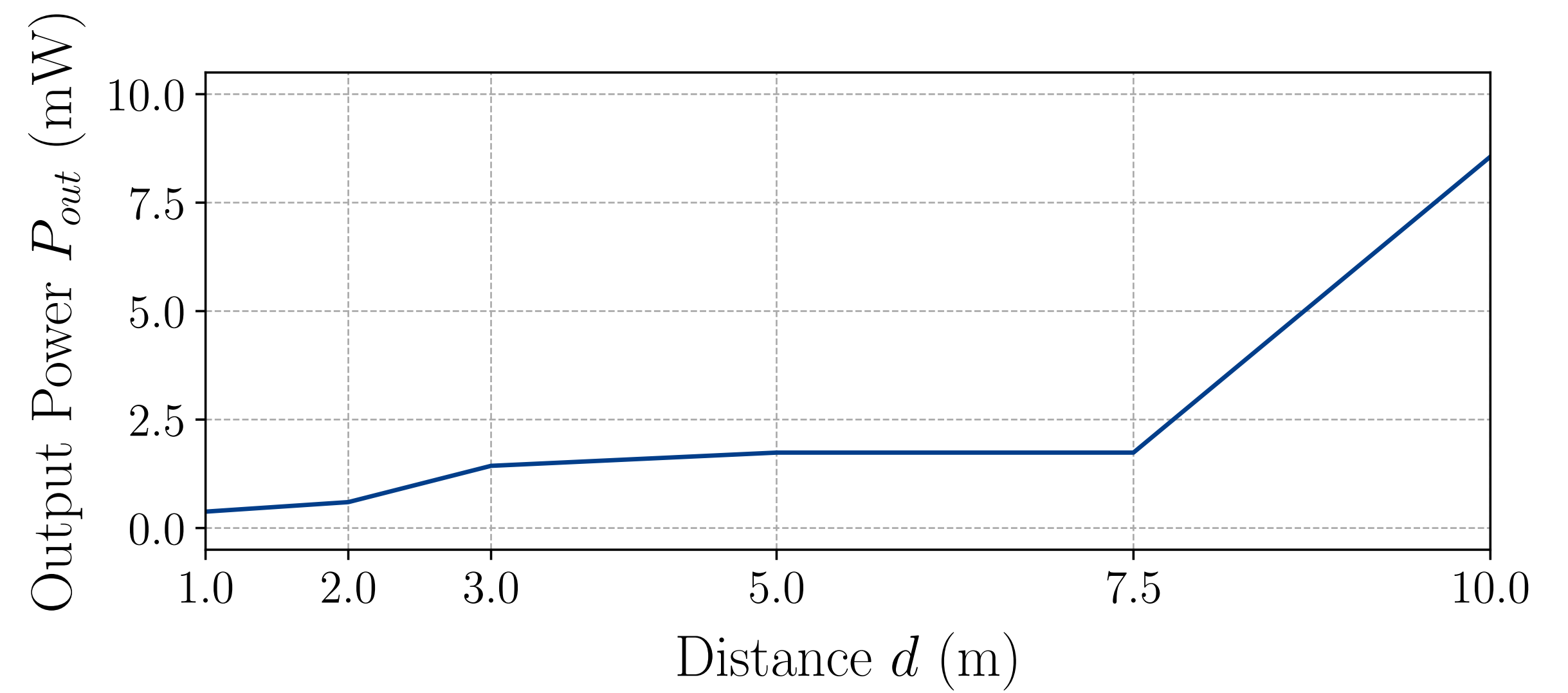
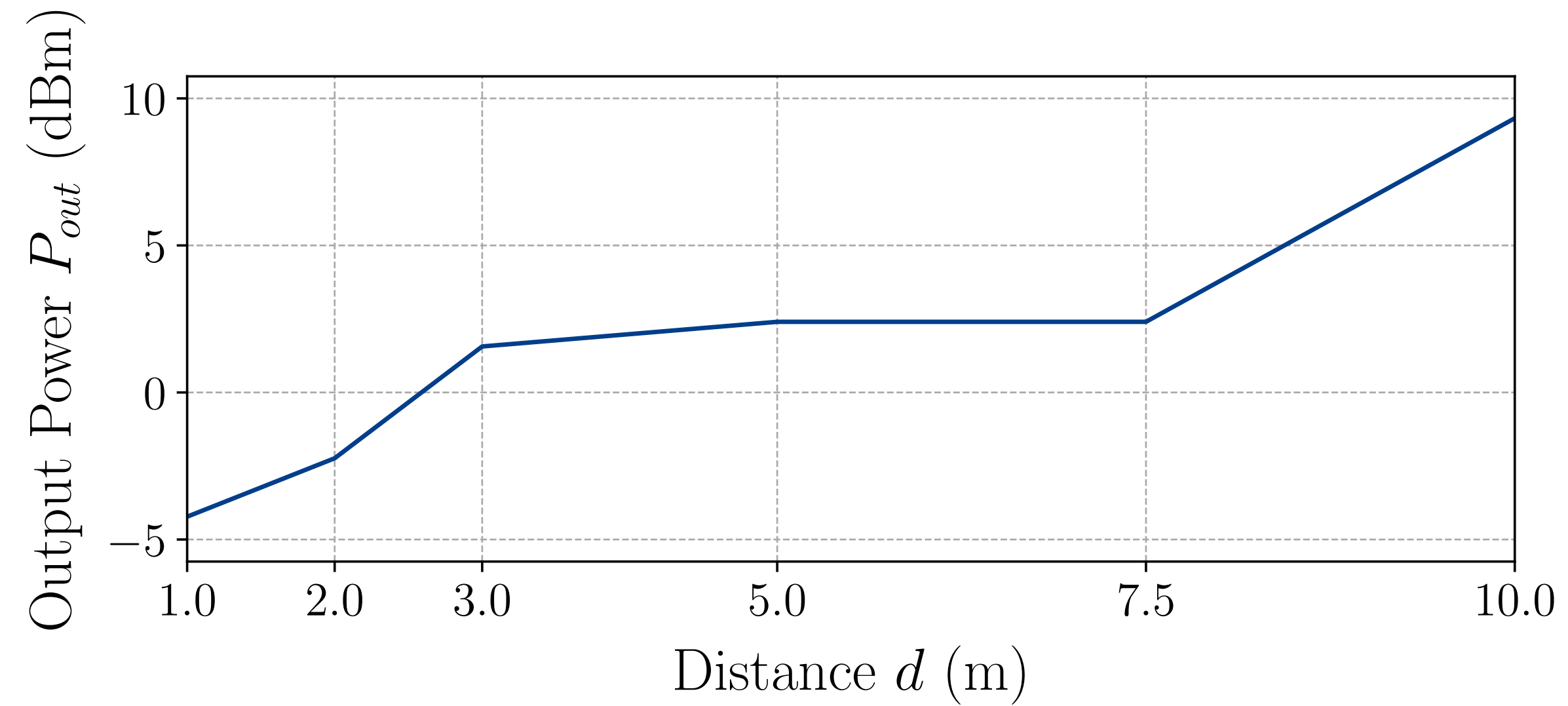
# Lab Testing: Experimental Setup



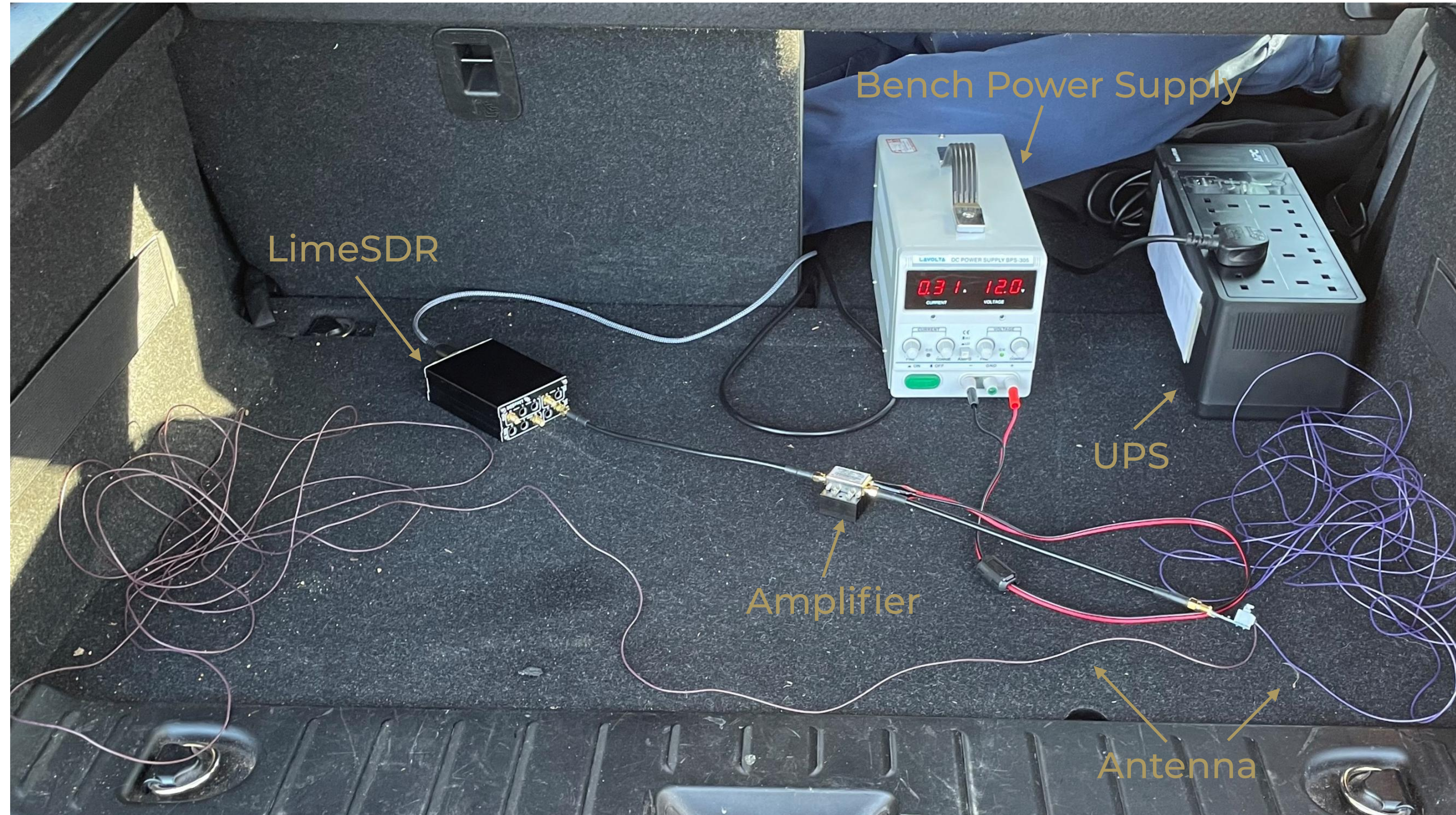
# Lab Testing: Power vs. Distance



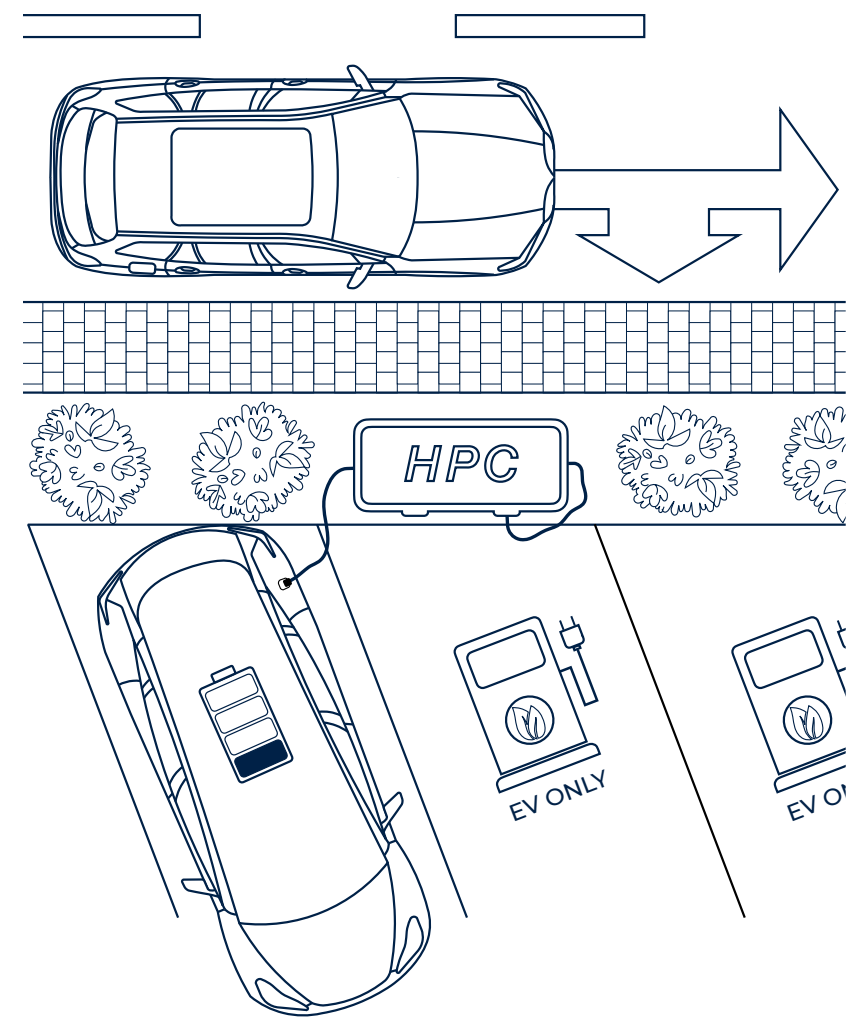
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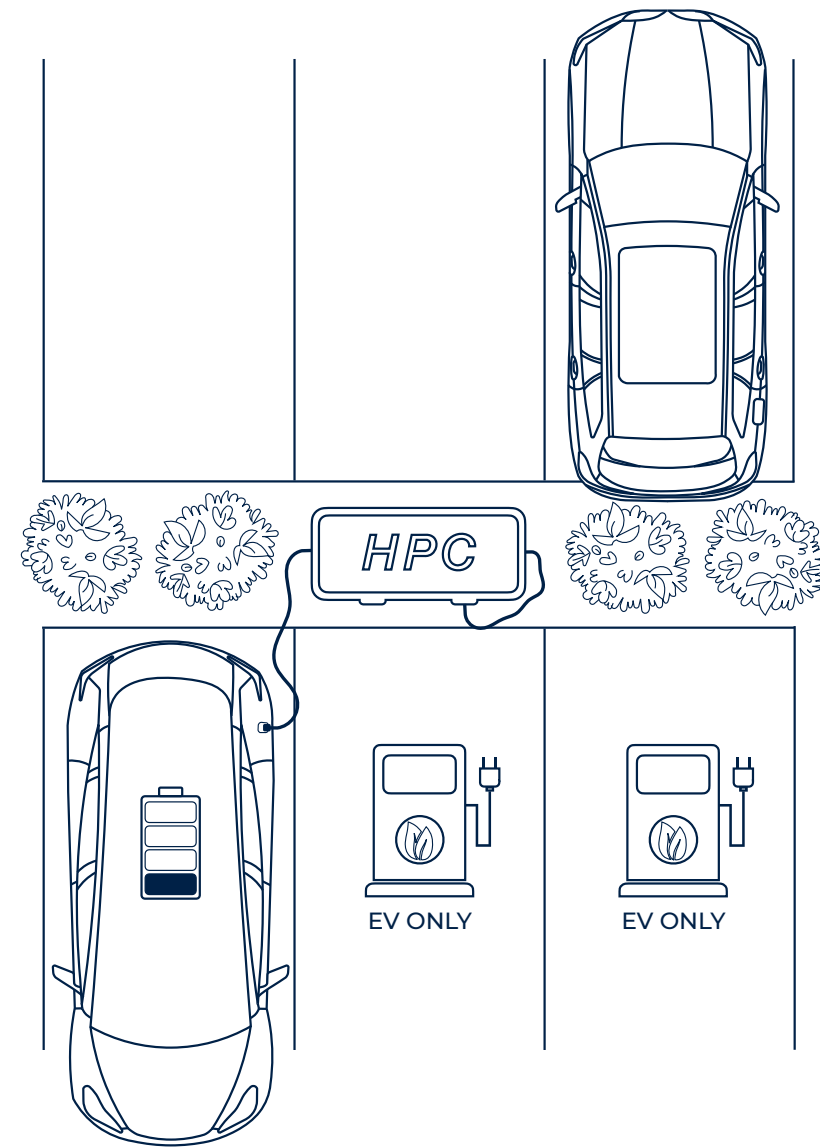
# Real-World Testing: Equipment



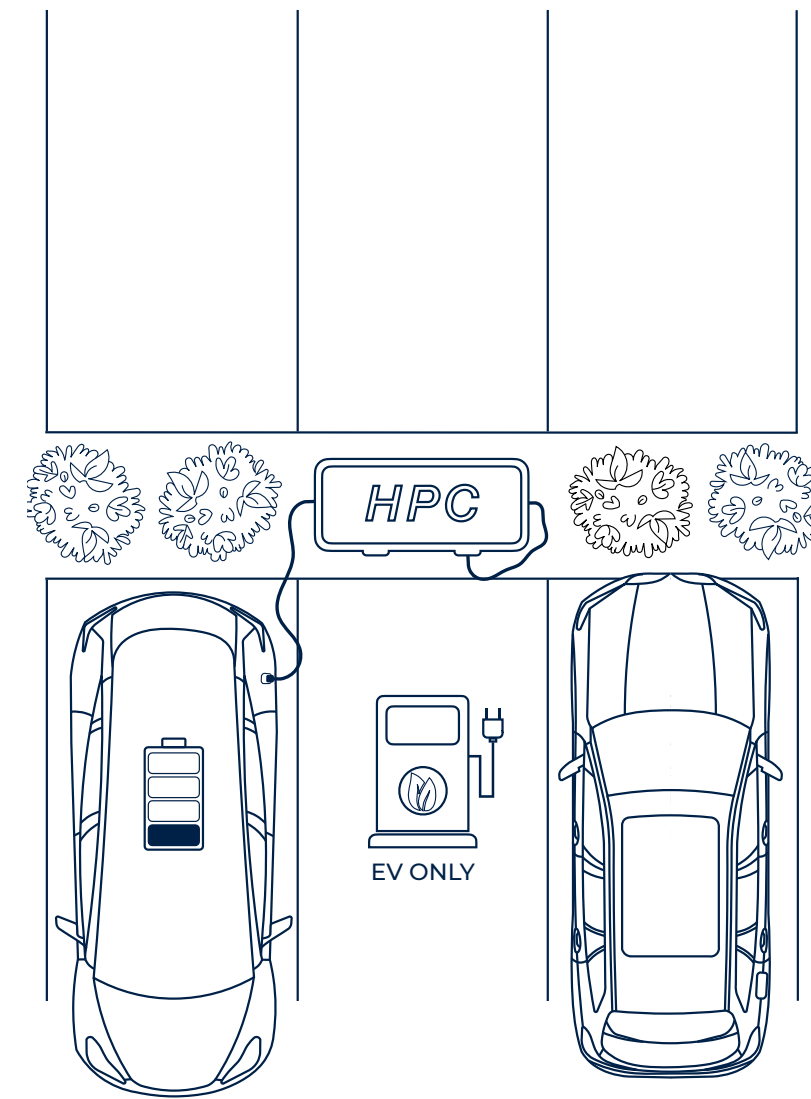
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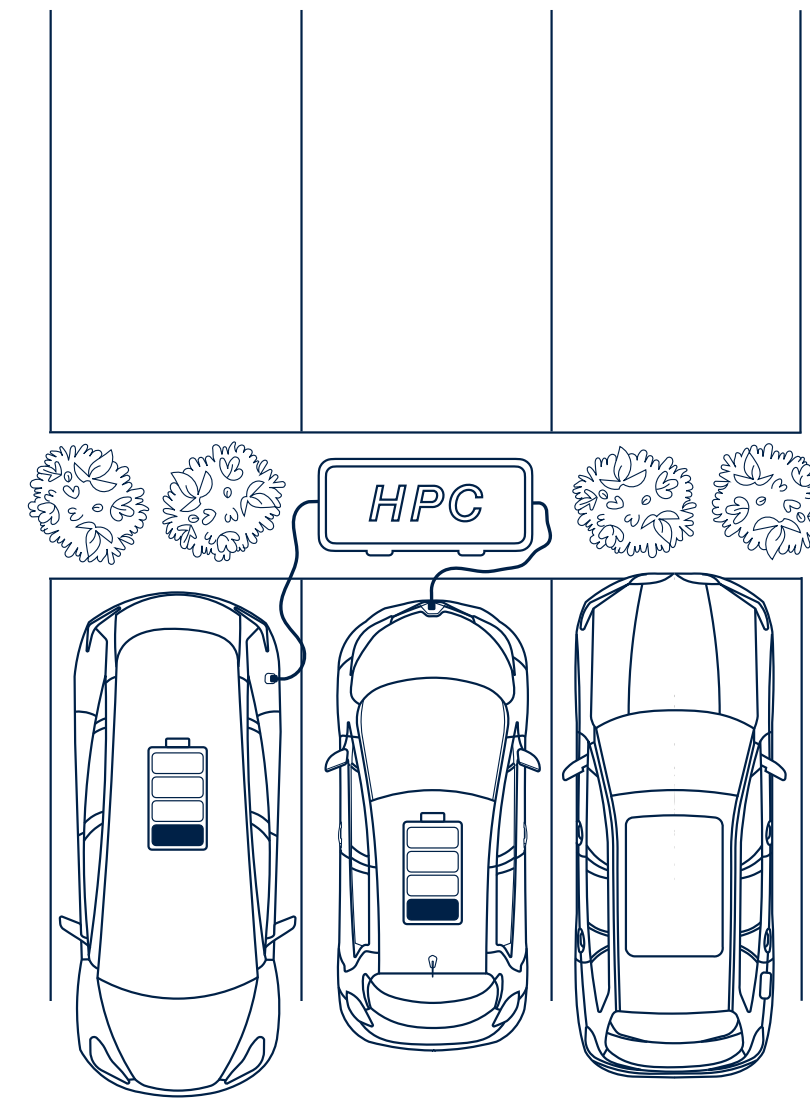
Scenario 1



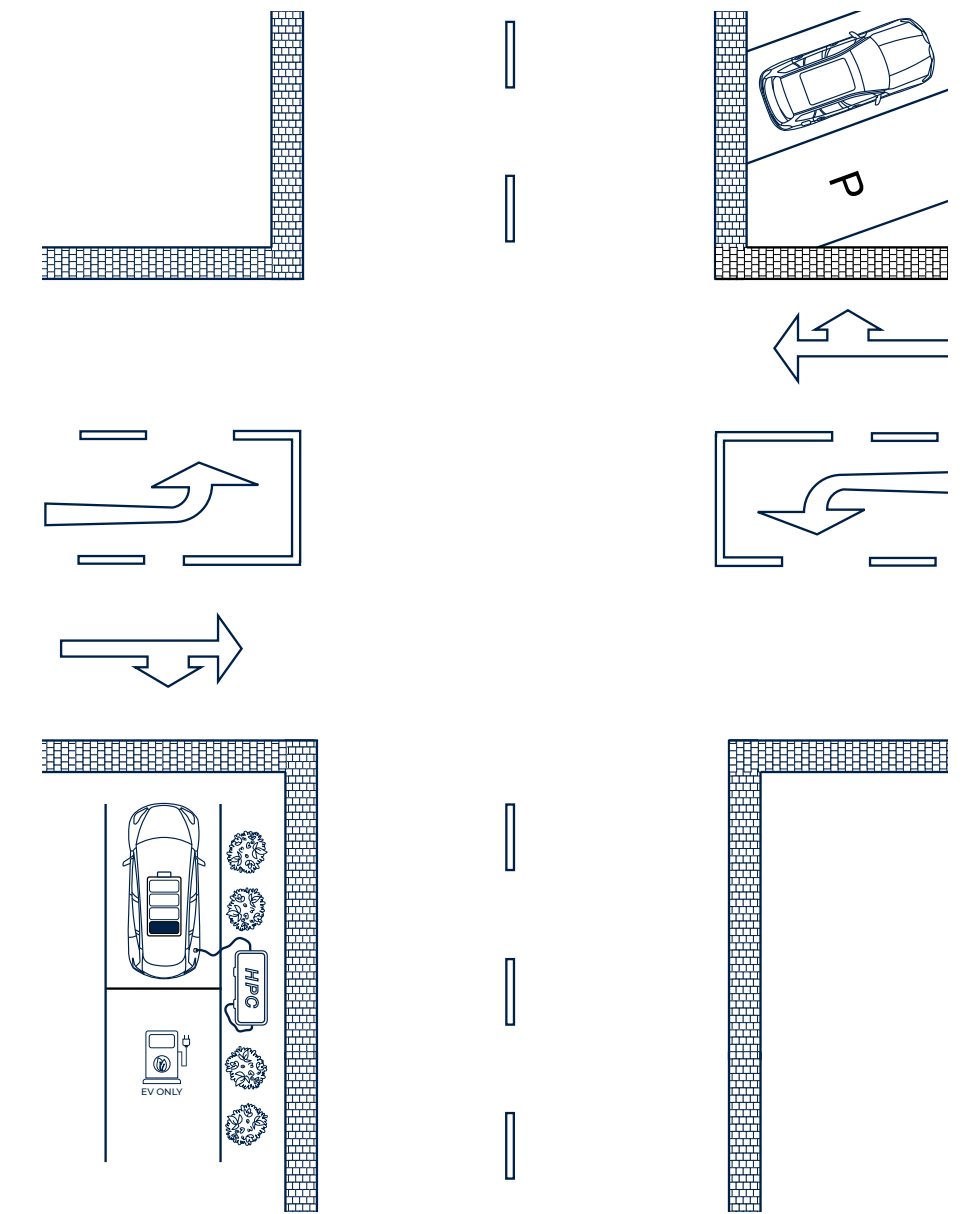
Scenario 2



Scenario 3



Scenario 4



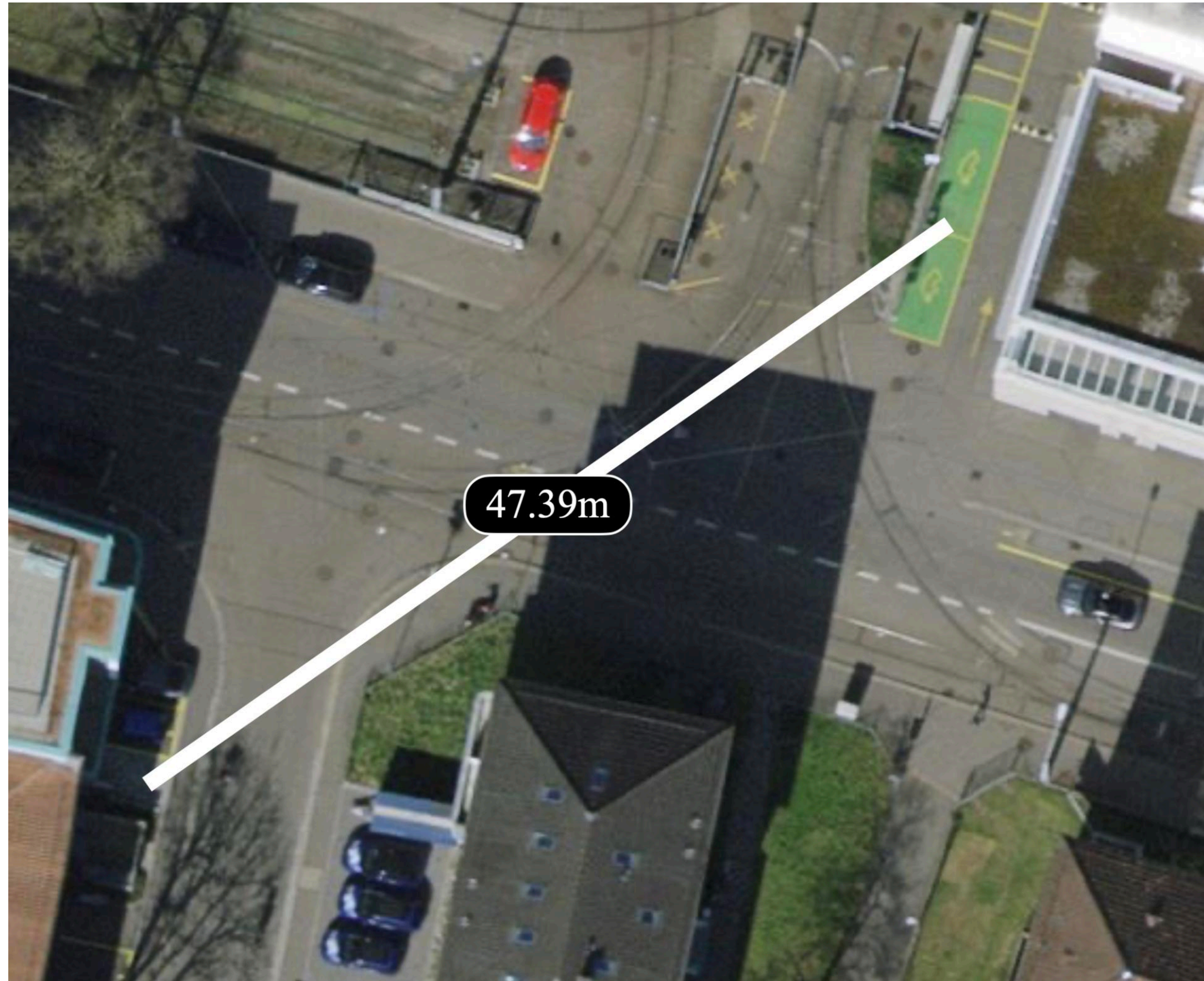
Scenario 5



# Real-World Testing: Vehicle Overview

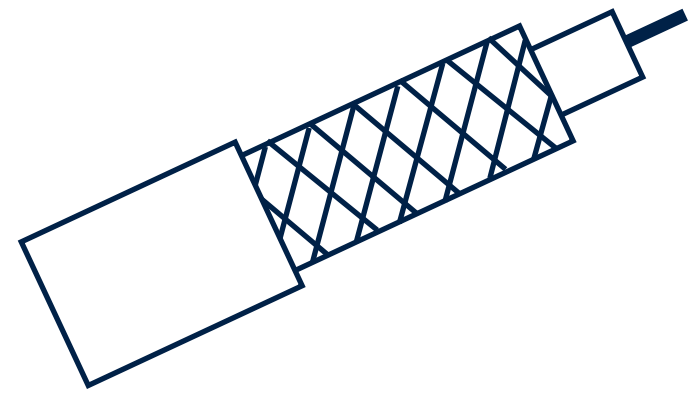
Vehicle	Class	Price (\$)	Charging Capacity
A	Subcompact	50,000	50 kW
B	Compact SUV	85,000	150 kW
C	Shooting Brake	150,000	270 kW
D	Subcompact	20,000	50 kW
E	Mid-size Sedan	50,000	120 kW
F	Mid-size SUV	70,000	150 kW
G	Compact	45,000	125 kW
H	Compact	32,000	50 kW

# Real-World Testing: Distance



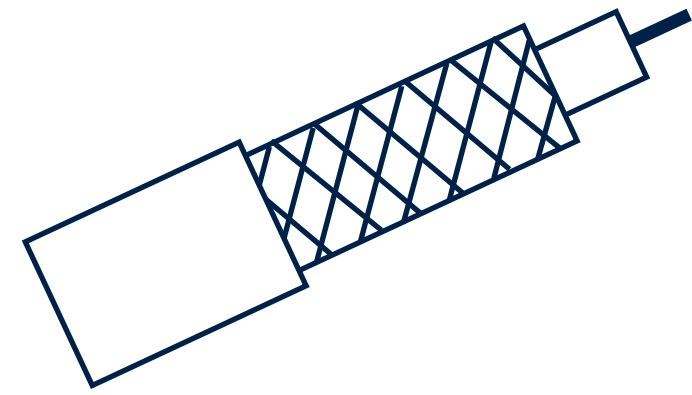
# Countermeasures

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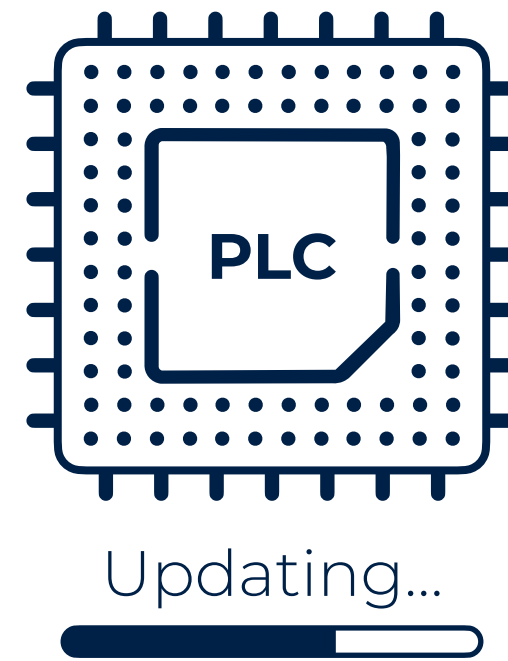


Shielding

# Countermeasures

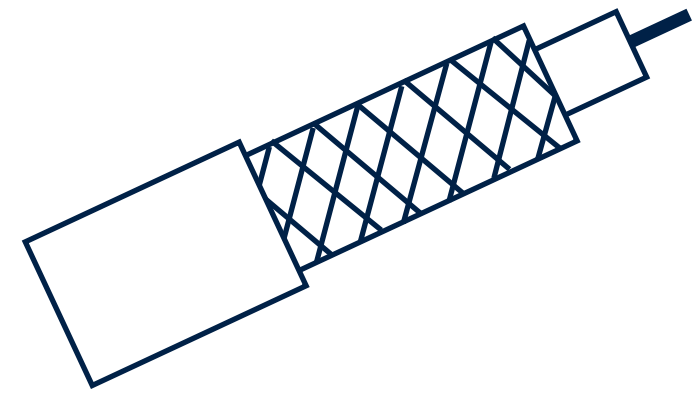


Shielding

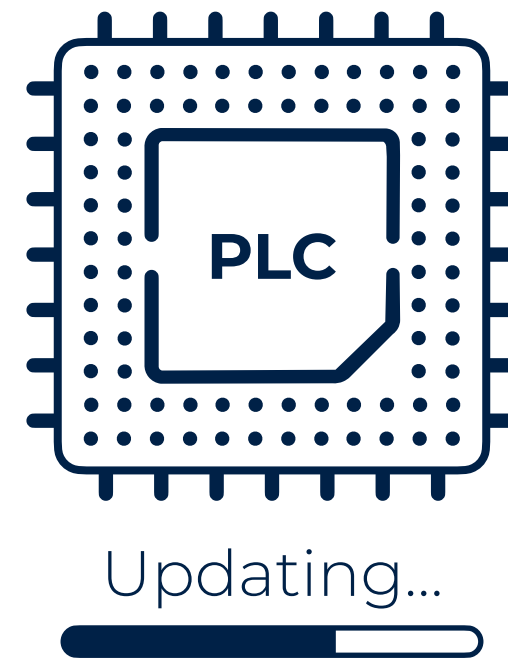


Firmware Upgrade

# Countermeasures



Shielding



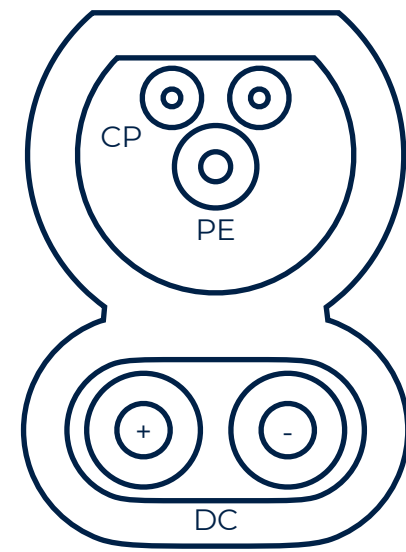
Firmware Upgrade



Re-authentication

# Conclusion

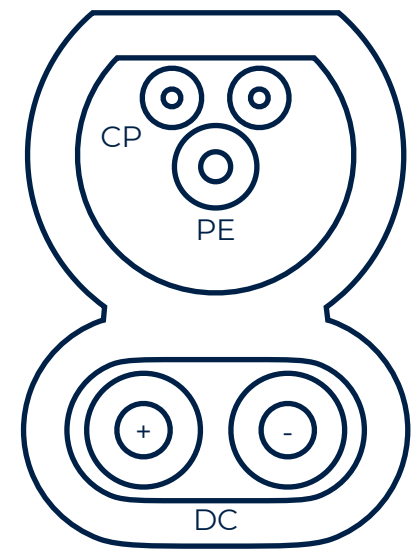
# Conclusion



CCS is vulnerable to wireless attacks



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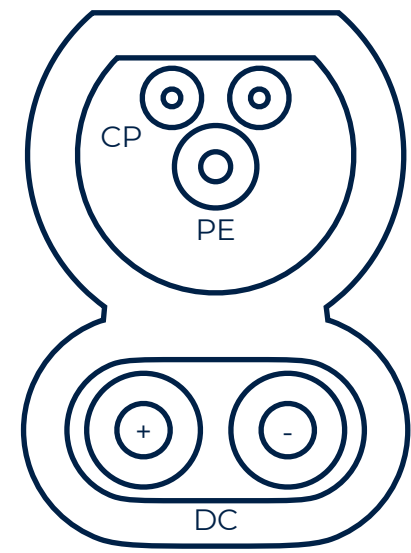


CCS is vulnerable to wireless attacks

~12M

Large number of vehicles is affected

# Conclusion



CCS is vulnerable to wireless attacks

~12M

Large number of vehicles is affected



PLC is not suitable for the charging loop

# Questions?

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 [info@brokenwire.fail](mailto:info@brokenwire.fail) or [sebastian.kohler@cs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sebastian.kohler@cs.ox.ac.uk)

 <https://brokenwire.fail>

 <https://github.com/ssloxford/brokenwire>

 <https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CVE-2022-0878>