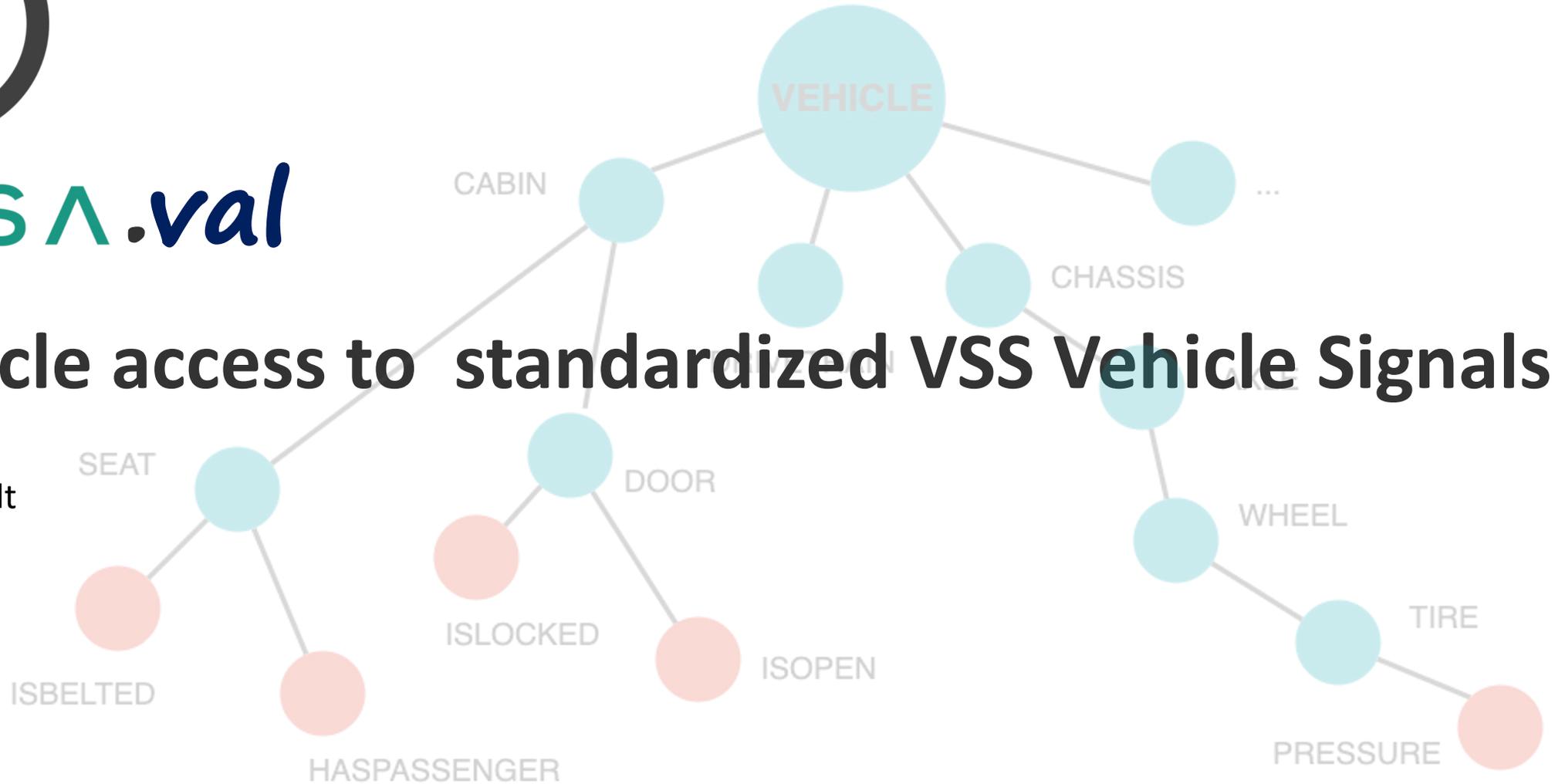




KUKSA.val

# In-vehicle access to standardized VSS Vehicle Signals

FOSDEM 2023  
Sebastian Schildt

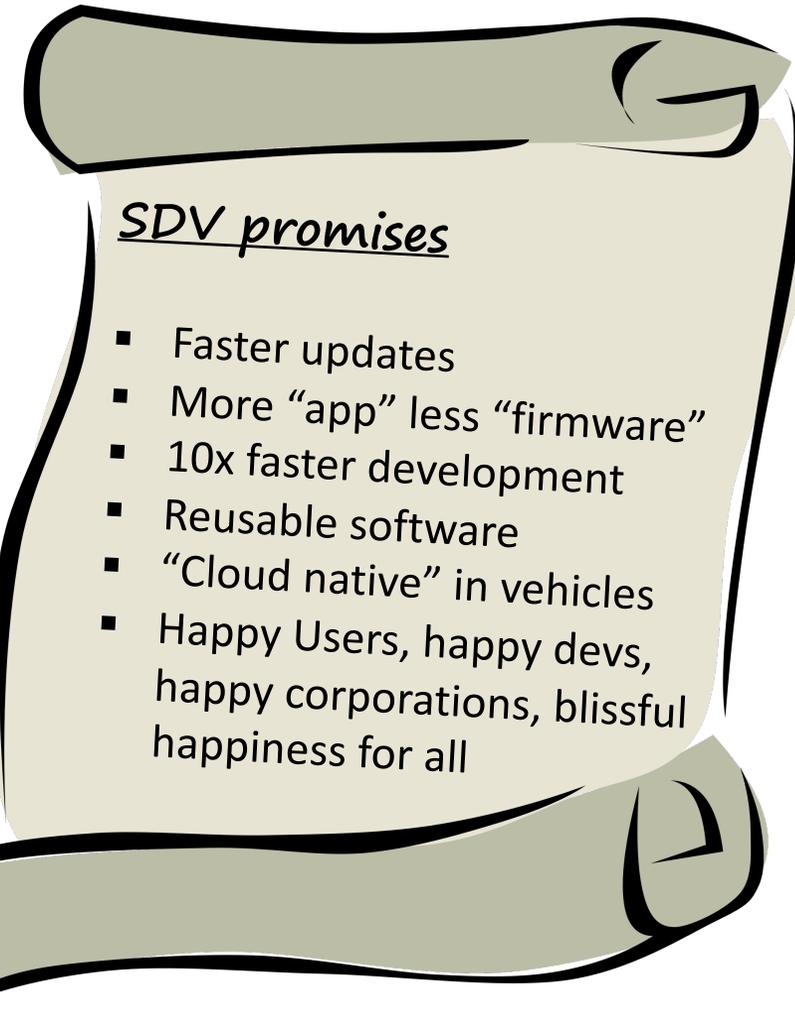




**KUKSA**

Is an OSS software project

is part of



SDV promises

- Faster updates
- More “app” less “firmware”
- 10x faster development
- Reusable software
- “Cloud native” in vehicles
- Happy Users, happy devs, happy corporations, blissful happiness for all



**SDV**

**Eclipse Software Defined Vehicle**

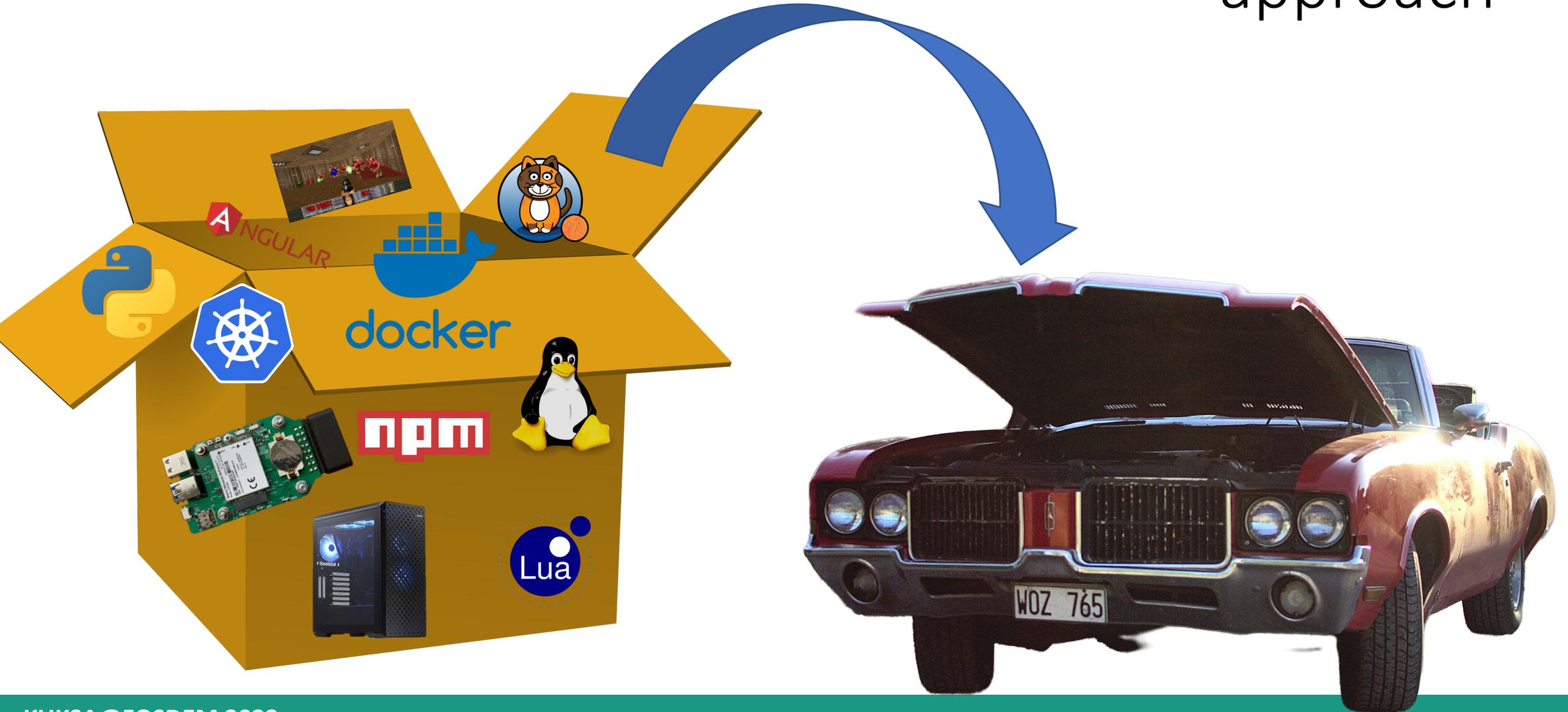
Is an Eclipse Working group  
comprised of several automotive  
centered OSS software projects

shares

**Software Defined Vehicle Mindset**

Latest and greatest hype in  
the automotive industry

# The SDV approach



Hanna Sörensson "Open Hood" <https://www.flickr.com/photos/hasor/48372469486>

# What did we achieve?

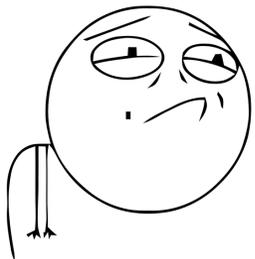
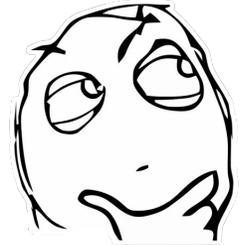


## The good

- I can easily deploy Wordpress in my vehicle
- Probably runs Doom

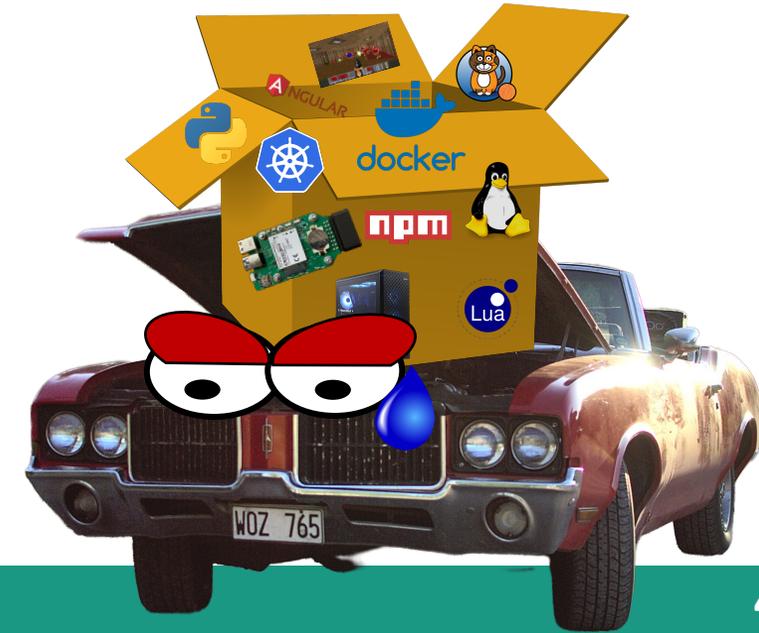
## The bad

- Probably should get security and safety right



## The ugly

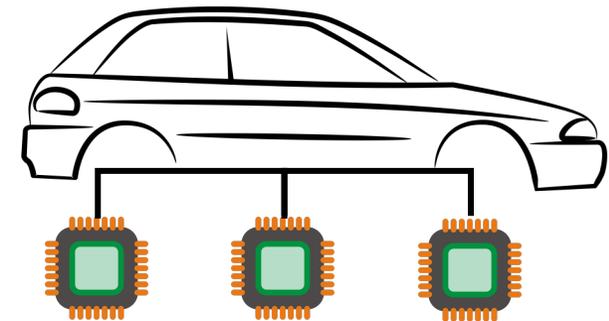
- Without any access to a vehicle's hardware, deploying Wordpress and running Doom is likely *all* I can do



# Access to Vehicle Hardware

We have **sensors** (what is our current speed?) and **actuators** (e.g open the trunk!)

- Accesible over Vehicle busses (e.g. CAN, Ethernet), originating in some embedded, often safety critical ECUs ( $\mu$ Cs, AUTOSAR, ...)
  - **Challenge: Accessing those systems directly from our fancy IT stacks would be insane for safety reasons alone**
- How to represent a Vehicle Speed (serialisation, identifiers, units) is not standardised. Varies from OEM to OEM, from model to model, model year, variant
  - **Challenge: Semantics of Signals very much not standardised. Similar things are not represented in the same way**

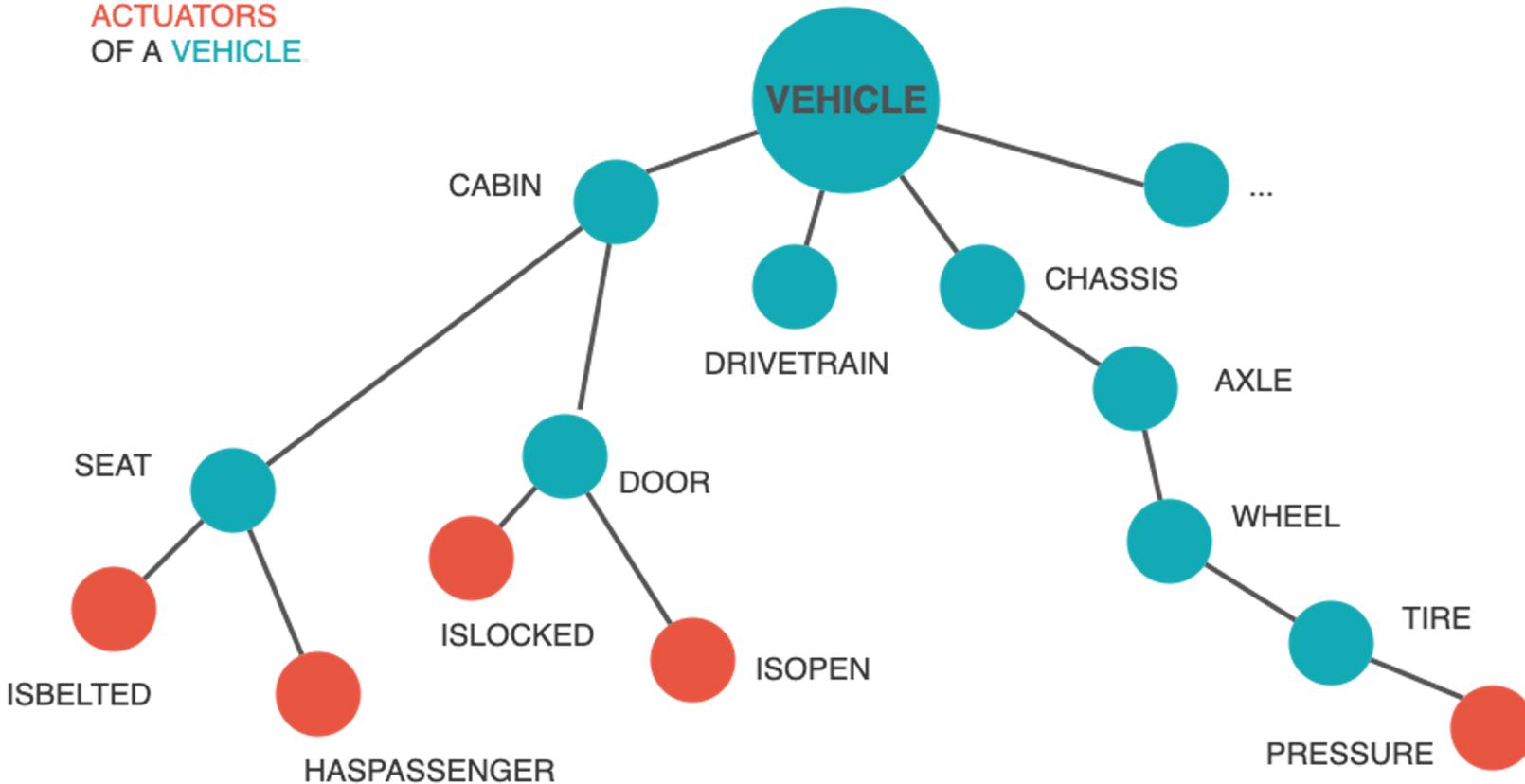


# Challenge: No standardized signals

## Solution: COVESA Vehicle Signal Specification (VSS)



TAXONOMY  
FOR  
ATTRIBUTES,  
SENSORS AND  
ACTUATORS  
OF A VEHICLE



```
Vehicle.Drivetrain.Transmission.Speed
type: sensor
datatype: float
unit: km/h
description: The vehicle speed as measured by the drivetrain
```

### YAML SPECIFICATION

- A simple, flexible and protocol agnostic common approach for describing vehicle data
- Extensible data model & catalog with industry supported tooling.
- Enables improved interoperability and integration, saving time and cost.



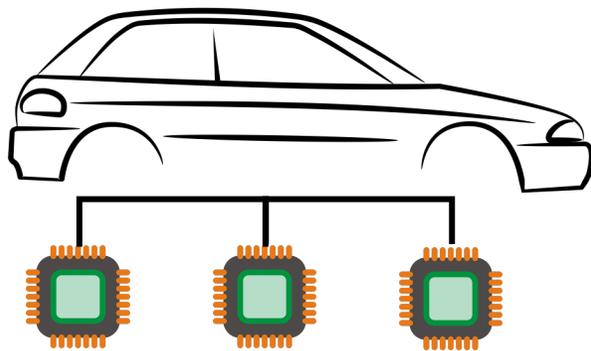
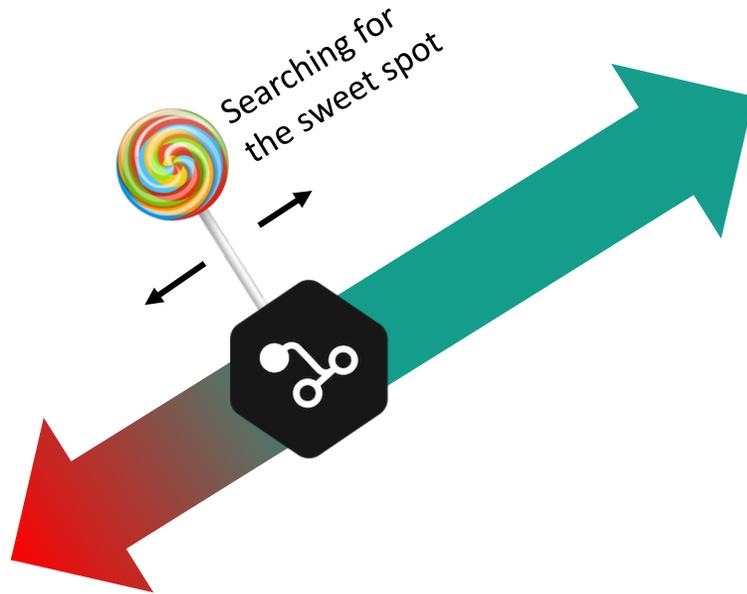
# Question: Where to best leverage VSS?



## Backend

- Aggregating data of many vehicles
- Link data to other domains

**Good for VSS. Systems already in production**



## Deeply-Embedded Layer

- Small  $\mu$ Cs
- CAN/LIN
- Very proprietary
- Very limited compute resources

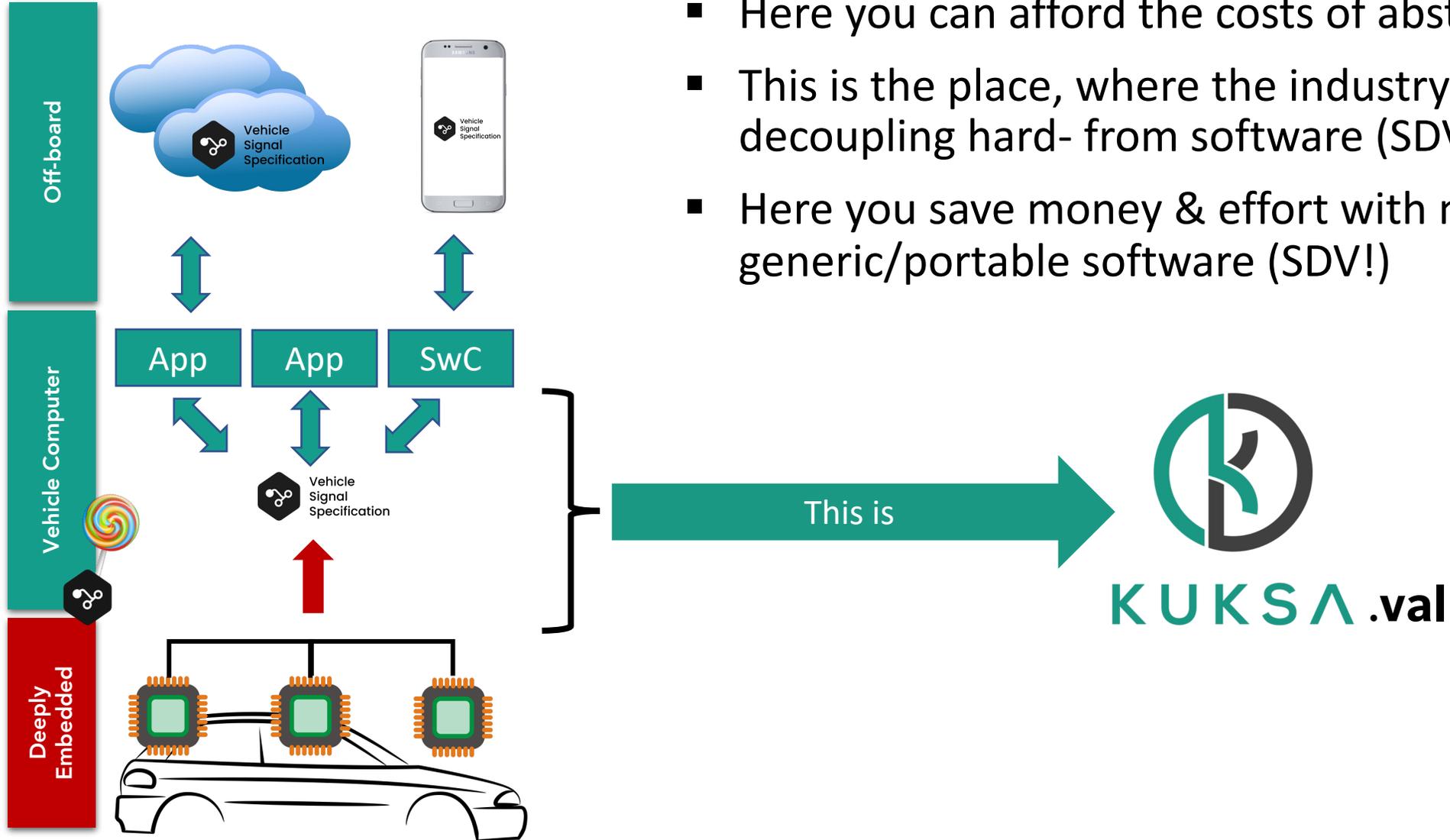
**Not a happy place for VSS**



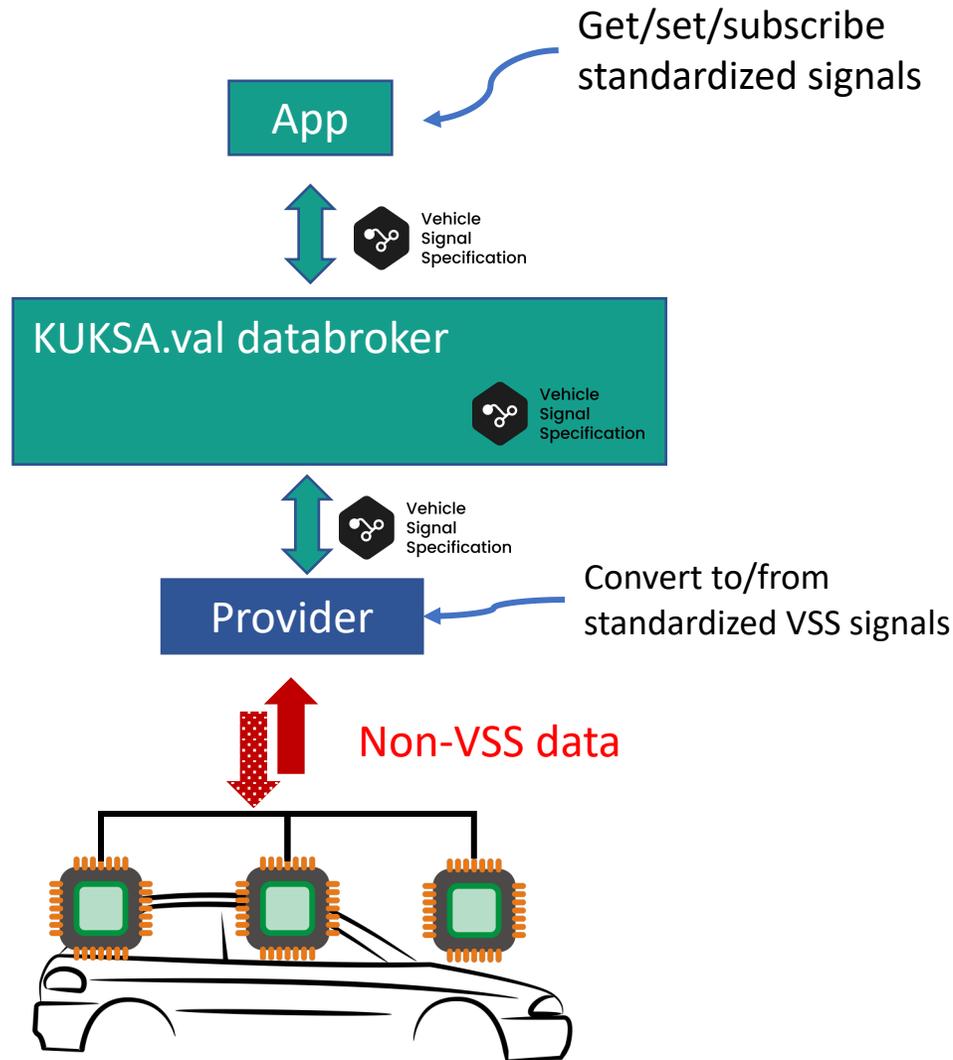
# Answer: Convert in a Vehicle Computer\*

- Here you can afford the costs of abstraction
- This is the place, where the industry is working on decoupling hard- from software (SDV!)
- Here you save money & effort with more generic/portable software (SDV!)

\* Something with a processor and a full blown (POSIX) OS

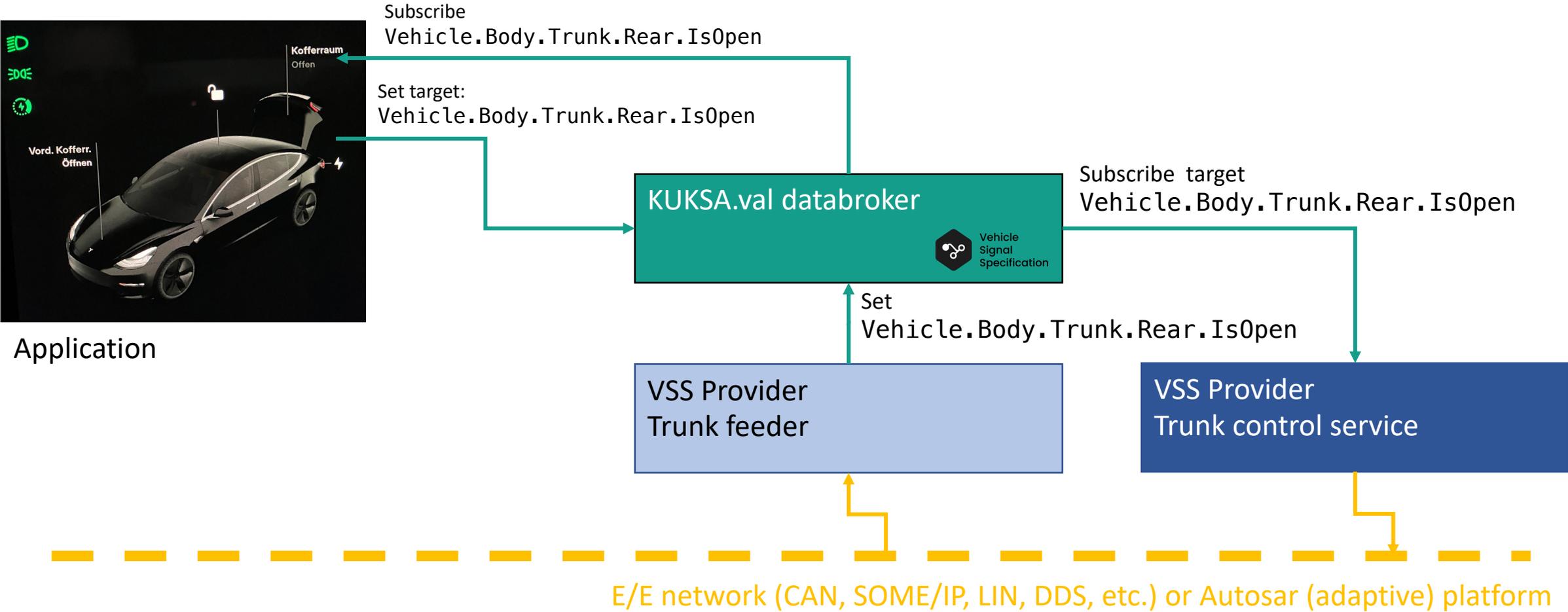


# KUKSA.val Scope and Design Choices



- 100% Open Source Eclipse Project (Apache 2.0 license)
- "In-vehicle digital twin" based on VSS
- Lightweight (core written in RUST)
- Only providing "current" view (no historic data)
- Easy to use language-agnostic interface (GRPC)
- VSS Providers/Feeders to transform data to VSS

# Sensors & Actuators in KUKSA.val



# (How)does this work?

Is this written in Powerpoint, or what?

```
example — sebastian@sebastian-ThinkPad-S1-Yoga-12: ~ — ssh sebastian@192.168.178.46 — 123x16
sebastian@sebastian-ThinkPad-S1-Yoga-12:~$ docker run -it --rm --net=host ghcr.io/eclipse/kuksa.val/databroker:latest
2023-01-31T17:24:24.451817Z INFO databroker: Init logging from RUST_LOG (environment variable not found)
2023-01-31T17:24:24.451842Z INFO databroker: Starting Kuksa Data Broker 0.3.0
2023-01-31T17:24:24.451882Z INFO databroker: Populating metadata from file 'vss_release_3.0.json'
2023-01-31T17:24:24.458142Z INFO databroker: Listening on 0.0.0.0:55555
2023-01-31T17:24:24.458158Z INFO databroker::broker: Starting housekeeping task
```

KUKSA.val databroker



Vehicle  
Signal  
Specification

```
scs2rng — sebastian@sebastian-ThinkPad-S1-Yoga-12: ~ — ssh sebastian@192.168.178.46 — 123x15
sebastian@sebastian-ThinkPad-S1-Yoga-12:~$ docker run -it --rm --net=host ghcr.io/eclipse/kuksa.val/databroker-cli:latest
client> get Vehicle.Speed
-> Vehicle.Speed: ( NotAvailable )
client> feed Vehicle.Speed 200
-> Ok
client> get Vehicle.Speed
-> Vehicle.Speed: 200.00
client>
```

Application

# VSS Provider: Trunk feeder

```
example — vim feeder.py — 75x19
from kuksa_client.grpc import VSSClient
from kuksa_client.grpc import Datapoint
from os.path import exists

import time

with VSSClient('127.0.0.1', 55555) as client:
    while True:
        isOpen=exists("/tmp/trunkopen") #access vehicle (bus) systems
        client.set_current_values({
            'Vehicle.Body.Trunk.Rear.IsOpen': Datapoint(isOpen),
        })
        print(f"Trunk feeder: trunk open {isOpen}")
        time.sleep(1)

~
~
~
```

If we detect the trunk is currently open,

Update the current value in KUKSA.val

VSS Provider:  
Trunk feeder

# VSS Provider: Trunk control service

```
example — vim service.py — 75x19
from kuksa_client.grpc import VSSClient
from os import remove
from os.path import exists

with VSSClient('127.0.0.1', 55555) as client:

    for updates in client.subscribe_target_values([
        'Vehicle.Body.Trunk.Rear.IsOpen',
    ]):
        if updates['Vehicle.Body.Trunk.Rear.IsOpen'] == None: continue
        desired_state = updates['Vehicle.Body.Trunk.Rear.IsOpen'].value
        if desired_state == True:
            print(f"Trunk control service: OPEN SESAME!")
            with open('/tmp/trunkopen', 'w'): pass
        else:
            print(f"Trunk control service: CLOSING!")
            if exists("/tmp/trunkopen"): remove('/tmp/trunkopen')
```

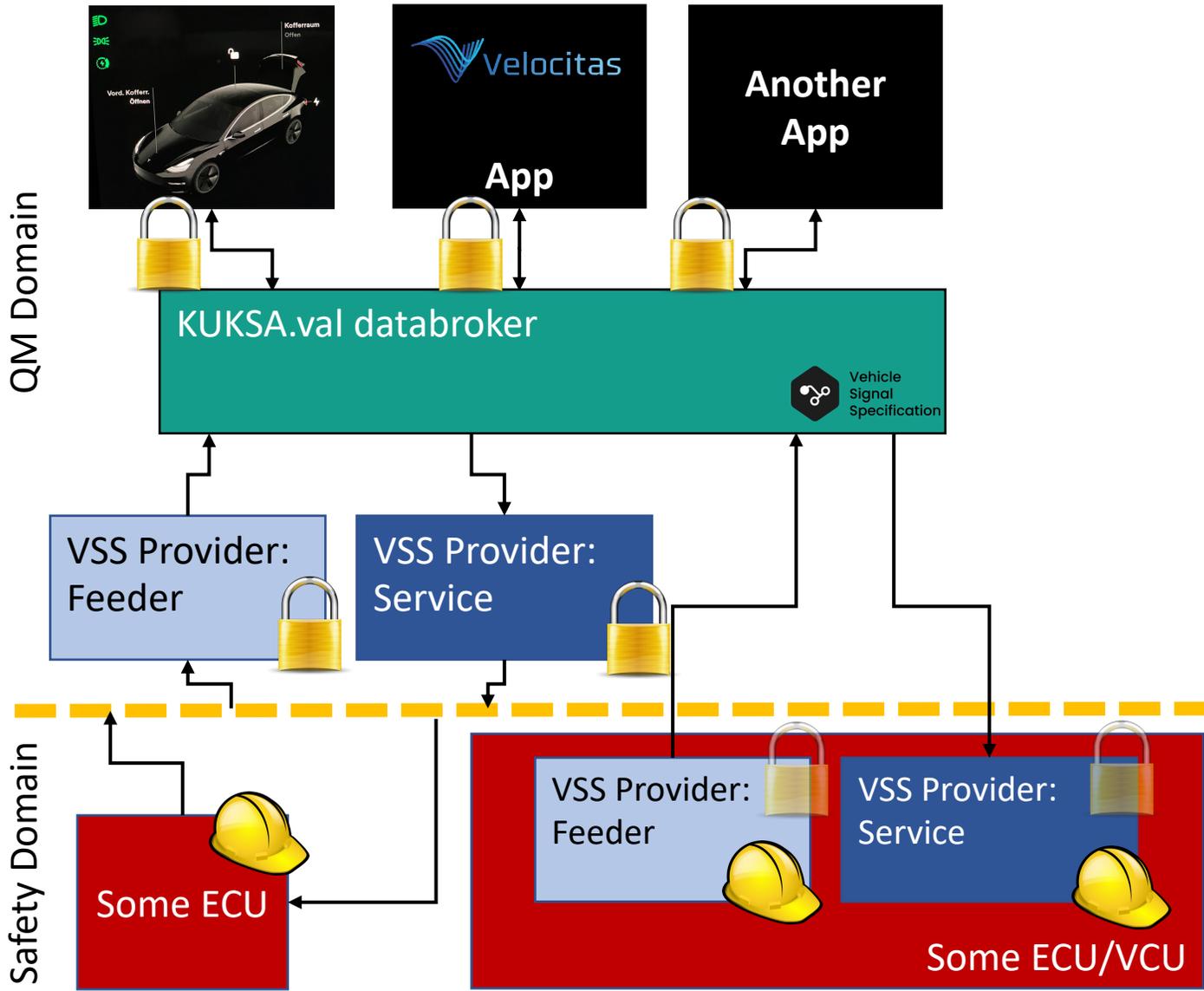
If KUKSA.val pushes a new target state,

Interact with vehicle systems to let it happen

VSS Provider:  
Trunk control service



# Safety and Security Control points



Where Safety and Security come into play depends largely on on your application.

It is safe to assume, they *will* play a role.

KUKSA.val architecture and seperation of concerns gives you several control points.

**Vehicle Bus /  
Hypervisor Border /  
Bus Gateways**

# Enabling SDV

**Challenge:** Letting any application access lower level vehicle systems is **insane**.

- ✓ KUKSA.val gives you a control point
- ✓ Architecture allows integration of safety controls on different levels depending on your requirements

**Challenge:** Semantics of Signals very much not standardised. Representation of similar signals in different vehicles are **not the same**.

- ✓ KUKSA.val leverages standard COVESA VSS signals enabling portable applications



**KUKSA**

Sa(m|n)e interfaces, faster development.

# Stay in contact

Github



<https://github.com/eclipse/kuksa.val>

Me



<http://sdv.expert>

Eclipse SDV



<https://sdv.eclipse.org>

COVESA VSS



[https://covesa.github.io/vehicle\\_signal\\_specification/](https://covesa.github.io/vehicle_signal_specification/)

Eclipse Velocitas



<https://websites.eclipseprojects.io/velocitas/>

## Thank you



# KUKSA

Sa(m|n)e interfaces, faster development.