



**EVEREST: AC and DC electric vehicle charging  
with open source software and hardware**

me

**Kai-Uwe Hermann**

@hikinggrass

background in computer science and robotics

working @ PIONIX on EVerest since 2021



# How to charge a car?

- Basic AC charging
  - at home: portable charger, wall mounted charging station up to 11/22kW
  - or in public with RFID/App authentication
- “smart” AC charging (not a lot of cars support that yet)
  - ISO 15118-(2/20), Plug&Charge
  - upcoming: bi-directional AC charging
- DC charging
  - DIN SPEC 70121, ISO 15118
  - highway fast chargers
  - smaller units at home, think DC-DC solar etc.
  - upcoming: bi-directional DC charging

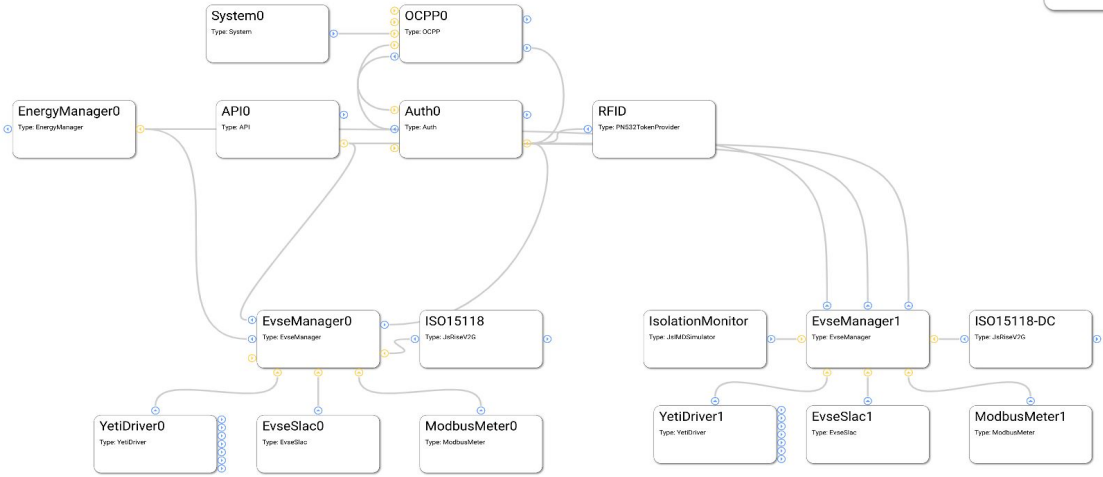
# What is EVerest?

- A complete software stack for EV chargers
- Runs on embedded Linux
- **Apache 2.0 License**
- Aims to support many different HW platforms
  - **and you can build your own!**

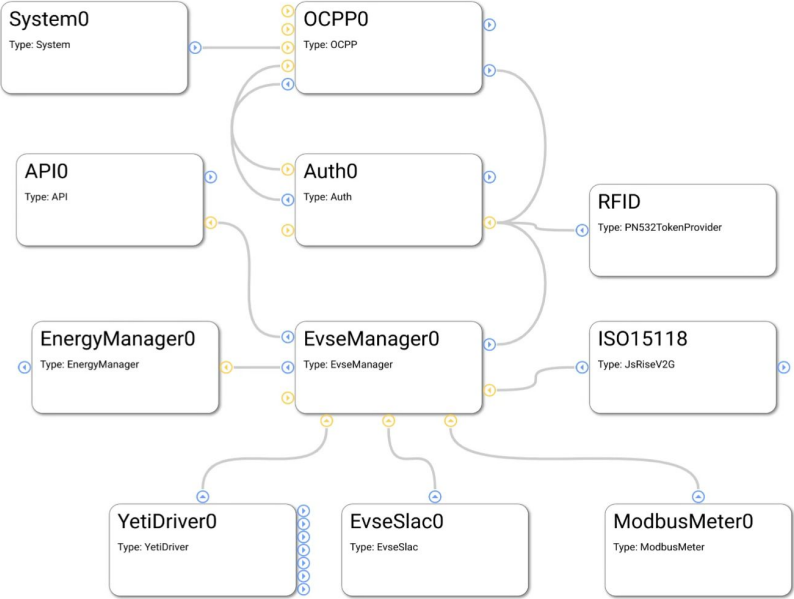


# EVERest features

- Modular architecture
- Graphical setup web interface
- Energy management



AC+DC Hybrid Charger



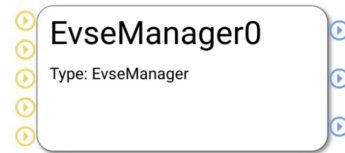
Simple AC or DC Charger

# Everest features - Build a simple AC Charger

## Step 1 of 6

### EvseManager

- One charging connector
- Charging logic and session
- Orchestrates all other modules access to this one connector



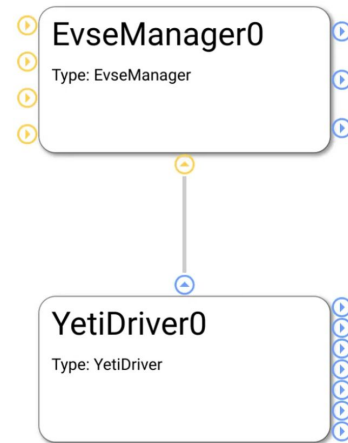
# EVerest features - Build a simple AC Charger

## Step 2 of 6

### Board support

Hardware driver:

- CP, Relais, RCD

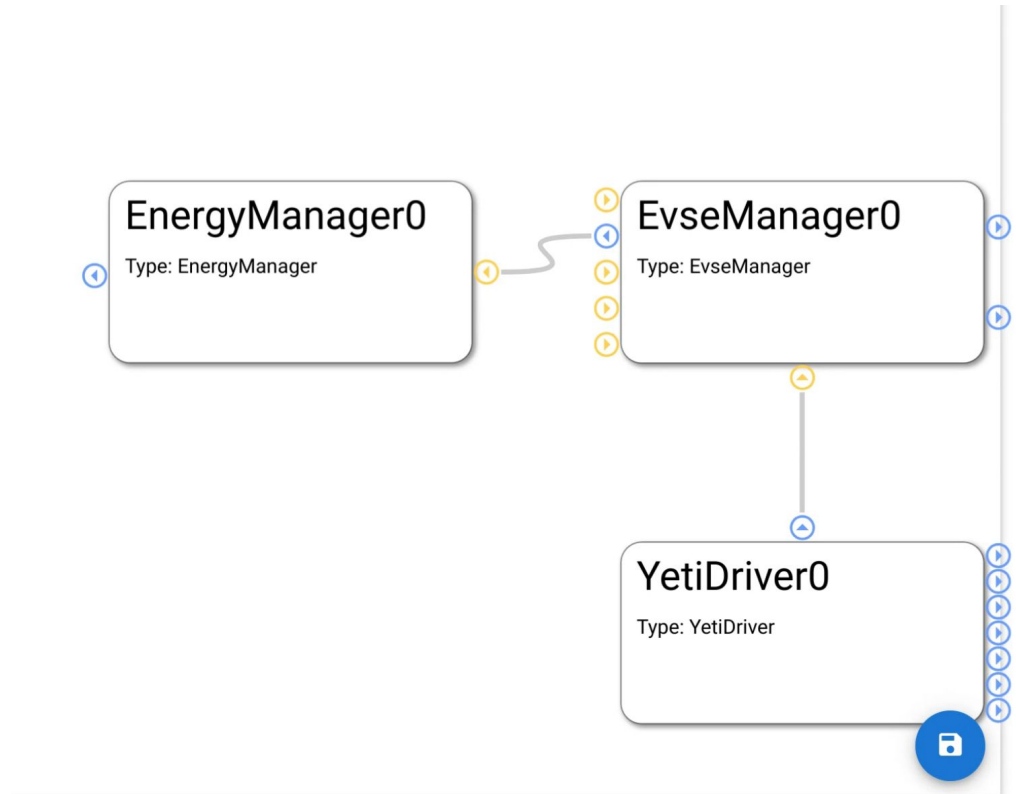


# EVerest features - Build a simple AC Charger

## Step 3 of 6

### Energy manager

- Minimal configuration, more advanced later



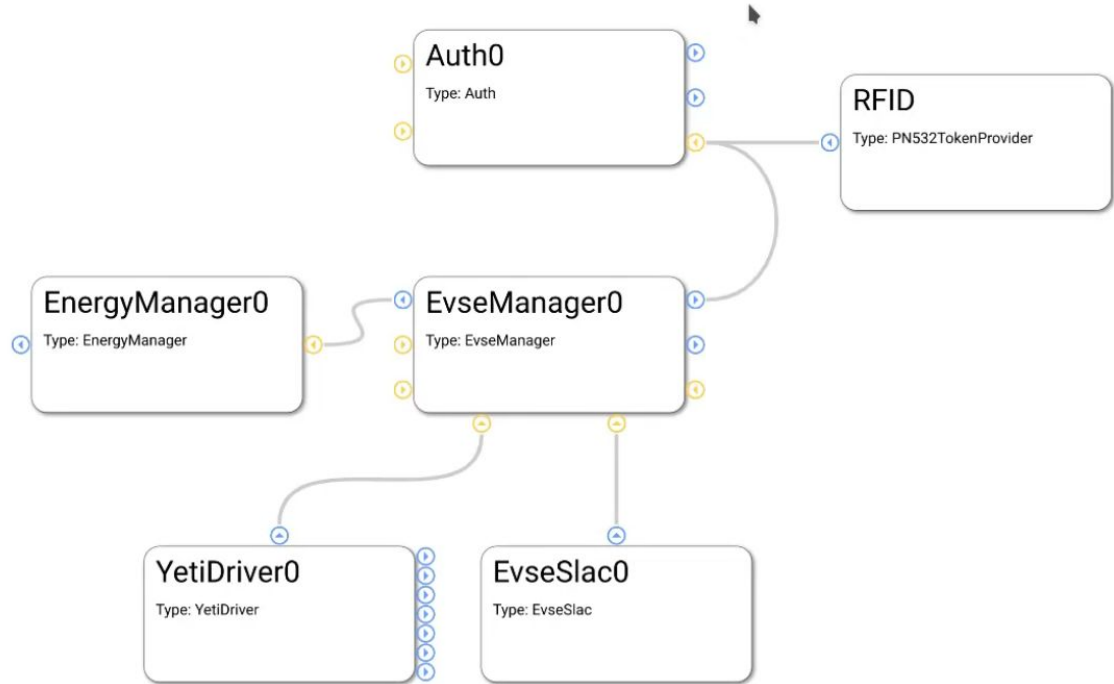


# EVERest features - Build a simple AC Charger

## Step 4 of 6

### Auth manager needs

- Token providers (output tokens) and token validators (can check if token is valid)
- We add two token providers:
- RFID (new module)
- Autocharge (EvseManager also has a token provider interface for EVCCID)

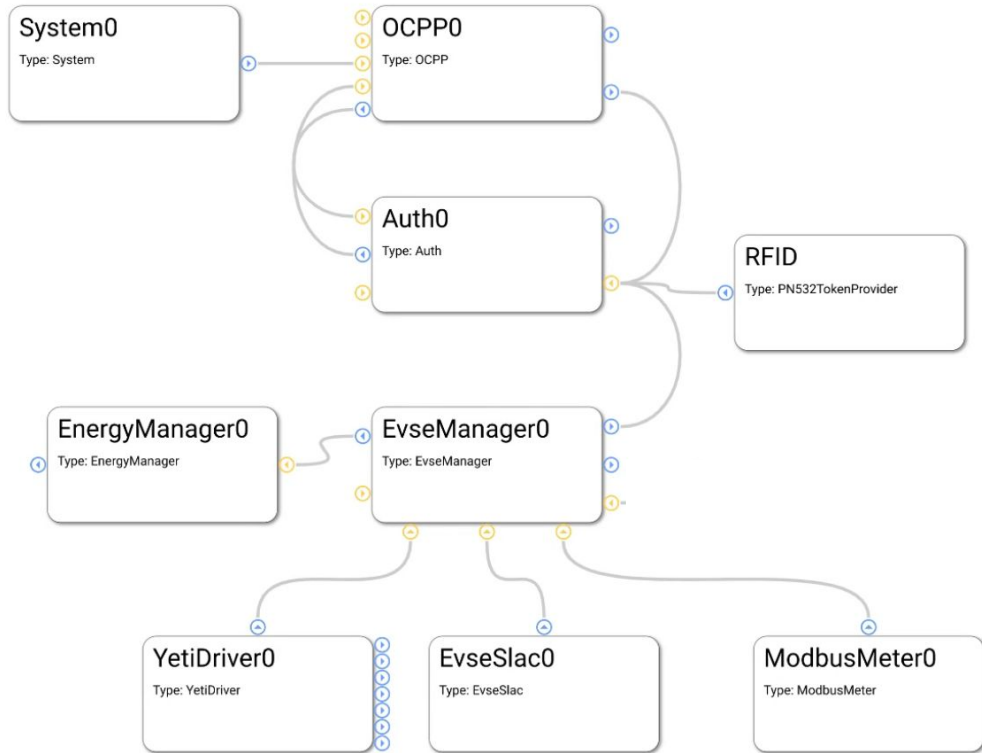


# Everest features - Build a simple AC Charger

## Step 5 of 6

### Add Cloud backend

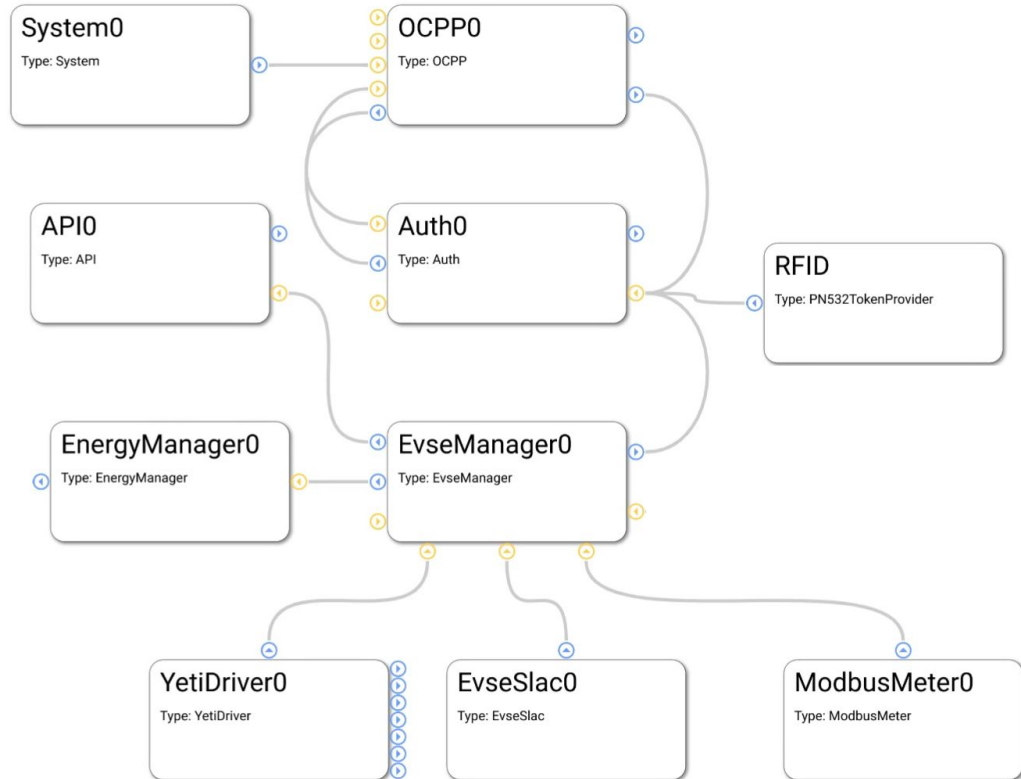
- OCPP 1.6J module
- Powermeter
- System module supports reboot/firmware update etc via OCPP



# Everest features - Build a simple AC Charger

## Step 6 of 6

Add API for ext. applications

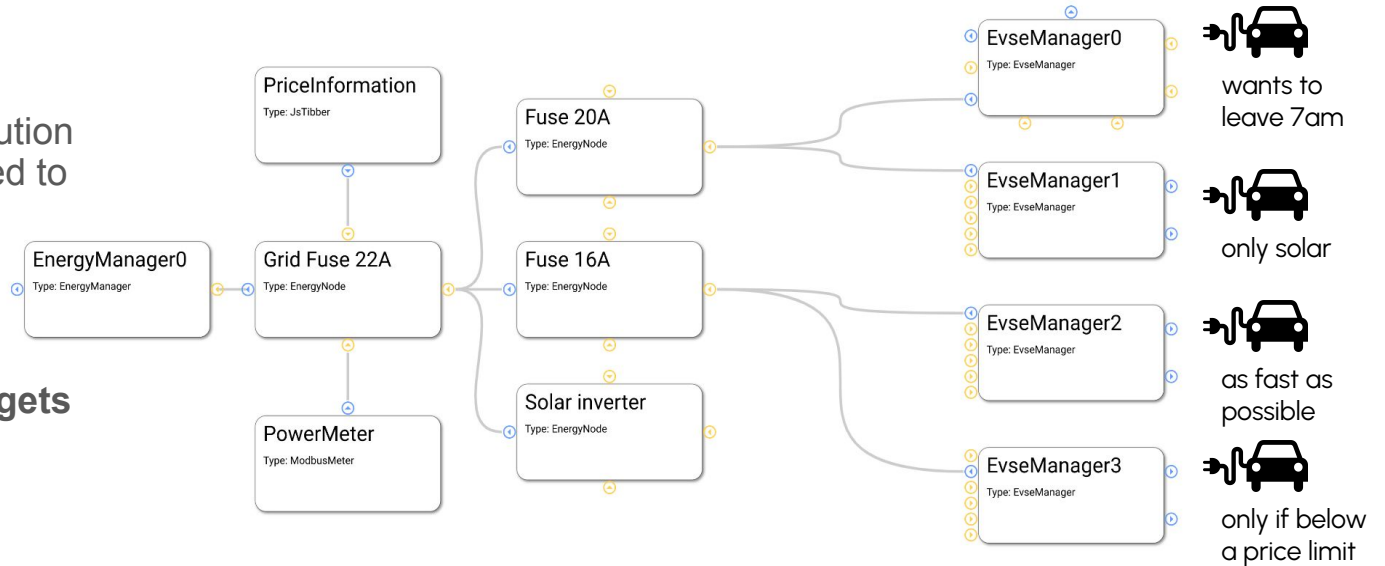


# Everest features - Configure energy management

## Energy manager

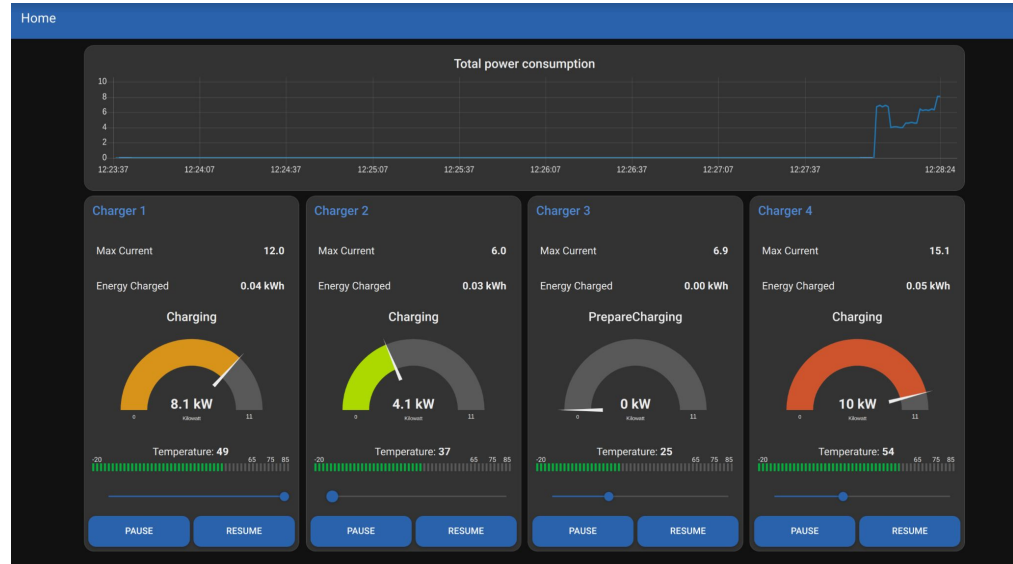
Complex energy distribution trees can be represented to **load balance multiple charging stations.**

Load sharing will work across the tree with **different optimizer targets** for each car.

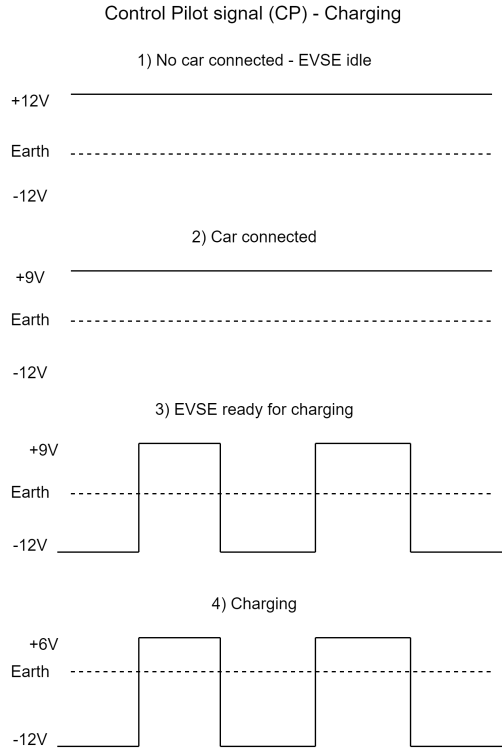


# Everest features

- Software- and hardware in the loop simulation (IEC61851, ISO15118)
- Lots of protocols:
  - OCPP 1.6 (2.0.1 coming soon)
  - ISO 15118 (AC+DC)
  - DIN SPEC 70121
  - IEC 61851 / SAE J1772
  - ModBus
  - Sunspec
  - MQTT
- Multiple language bindings:  
C++17, Python, JavaScript



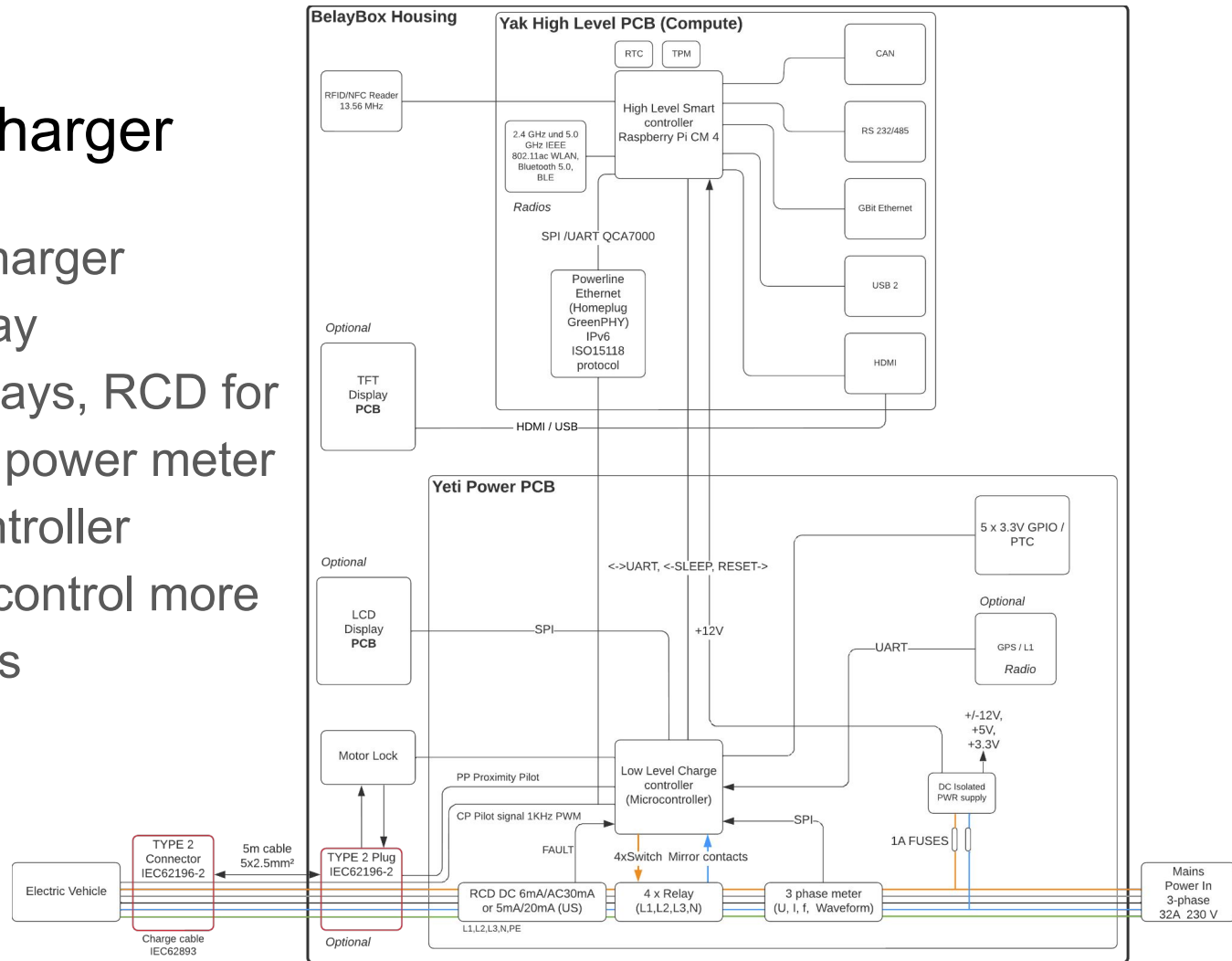
# Basic PWM Charging



- CP signal:  $\pm 12V$  signal, 1 kOhm impedance
- Car can lower positive part by adding load resistors and a diode to
  - 9V (connected)
  - 6V (wants to charge)
  - 3V (charge with ventilation)
- 0V: Car fault or no power
- -12V: EVSE fault
- Duty cycle encodes available current (typically 6A to 32A)

# Building a AC charger

- Not a battery charger just a smart relay
- Powerpath: Relays, RCD for safety, optional power meter plus a microcontroller
- Linux board to control more advanced things



# Open Hardware: Yeti & Yak

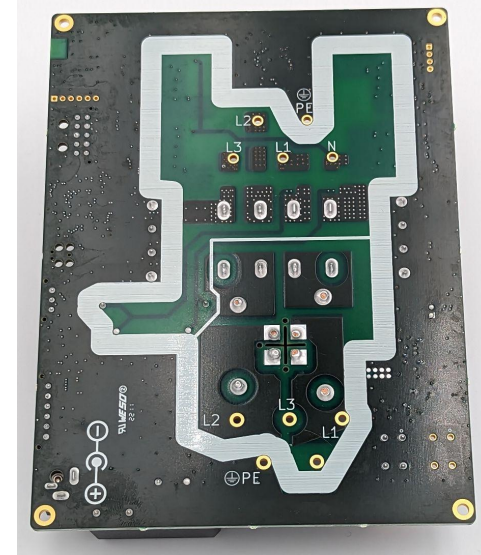
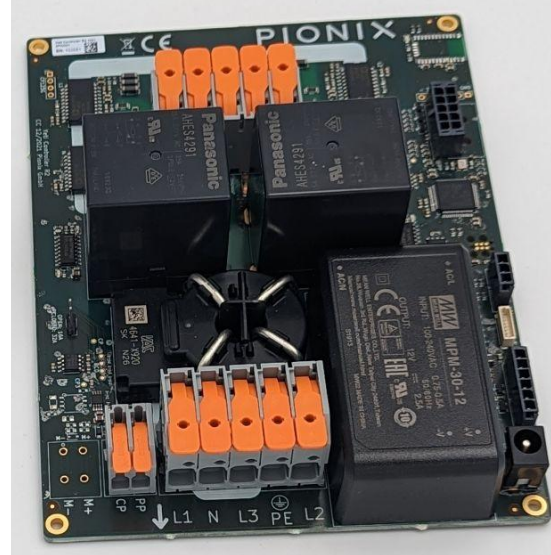
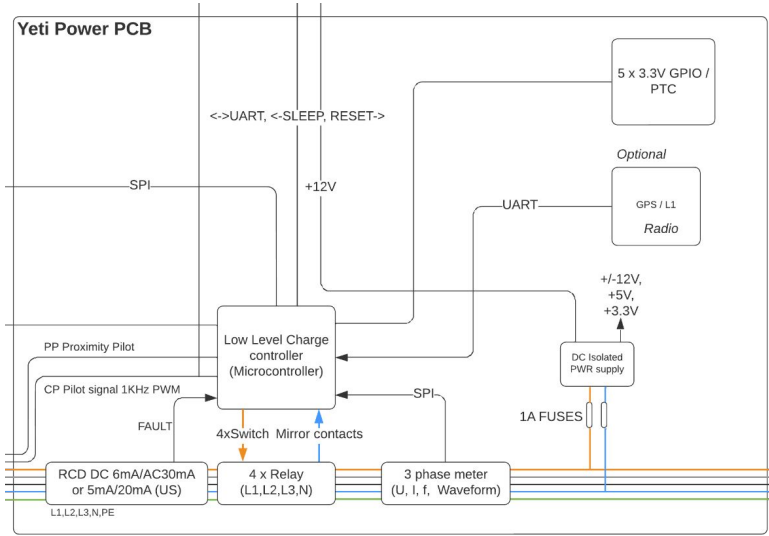
You wouldn't download a car (charger) - or would you?

- <https://github.com/PionixPublic/reference-hardware>
- **CERN Open Hardware Licence Version 2 - Permissive**
- Developer friendly
- Designed with KiCAD 6 <https://www.kicad.org>
- Case design files for 3D printing available



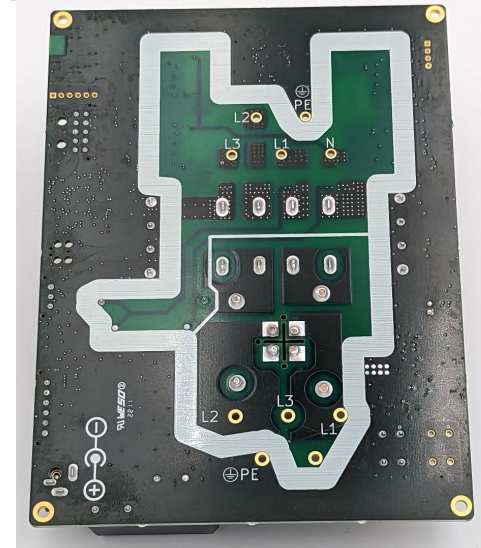
# Yeti

- 22kW AC 3 phase power board



# Yeti features

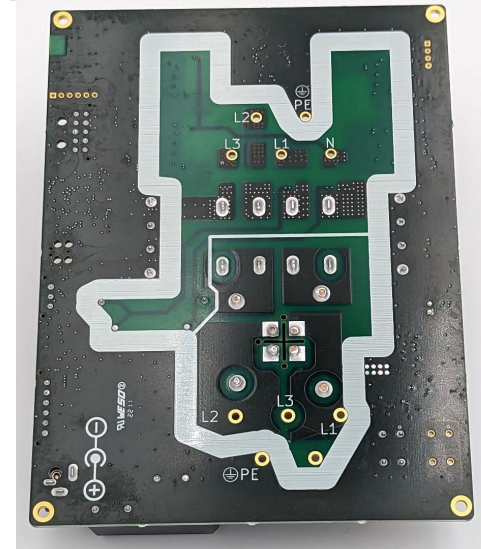
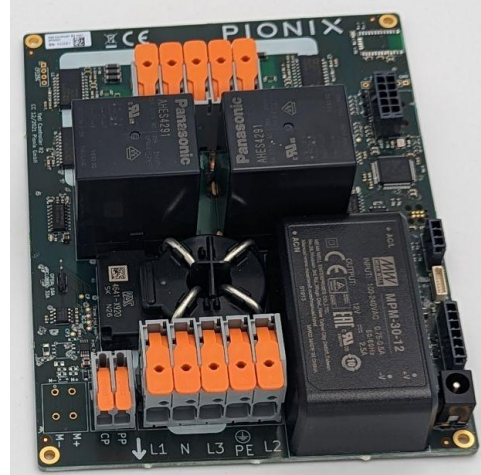
- Control Pilot (CP) signal generation in compliance with IEC61851-1/SAE J1772
- CP signal sampling in sync with PWM
- Onboard 35A relay for three phase power switching
  - with mirror contacts for welding detection
- Onboard 3ph power metering
  - Supports up to 8 Khz sampling
  - Measures voltages, currents, power and frequency of all phases plus neutral
- RCD module
  - For 5/6mA DC ground faults and 20/30mA AC faults
  - Outputs measured leakage current for telemetry



# Yeti features (continued)

- 10 pin connector for high level board with control UART
  - Connection to the Yak board
- External connector for a small SPI LCD
  - Useful if used as a standalone charger
- External RS485/ModBus
  - For external power meters etc.
- External GPIOs
- Power input:
  - Onboard 110V/230V -> 12V supply (or external)
  - Onboard ACDC can supply high level Yak board too!
- ... and much more!

<https://github.com/PionixPublic/reference-hardware#yeti-features>



# Yeti micro controller firmware

- STM32 firmware for Yeti power board
- <https://github.com/PionixPublic/yeti-firmware>
- **Apache 2.0 License**
- Controls all devices on Yeti board
- All electrical safety relevant code encapsulated here
- Communicates via UART/Protobuf with EVerest

# How to use Yeti

- **As a standalone charger**
- **As a power path for a smart charger**
- Automatic switching can be implemented to fall back to emergency free charging in case the higher level linux board fails

# How to use Yeti - As a standalone charger

- Yeti is a complete AC charger for electric vehicles supporting IEC-61851-1 / SAE J1772 basic charging
- Contains the full charging logic, car charges immediately when connected
- UART to observe status with limited control over the charging session
- This mode is called "high level control" mode in the yeti firmware

# How to use Yeti - As a power path for a smart charger

- Yeti firmware can be switched to "low level control" mode with a UART command
- Here the charging logic must be external, only the basic state machine for states A-F remains in the microcontroller
  - This basic state machine is essential for electrical safety
- An external board sets the PWM duty cycle and reads back the control pilot events
- This is the mode used by EVerest to also enable HLC (high level charging, ISO 15118-(2/20) / DIN SPEC 70121)

# HLC High Level Charging

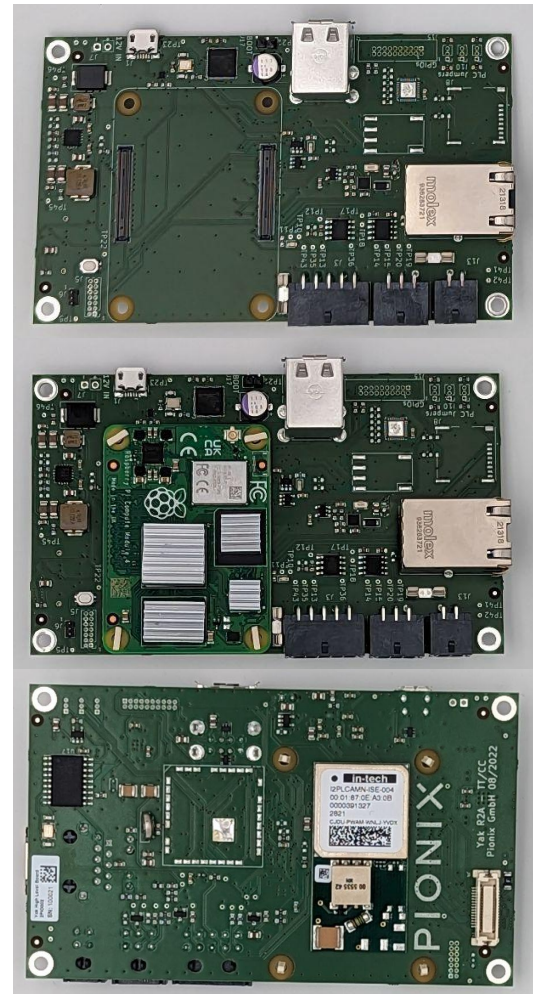
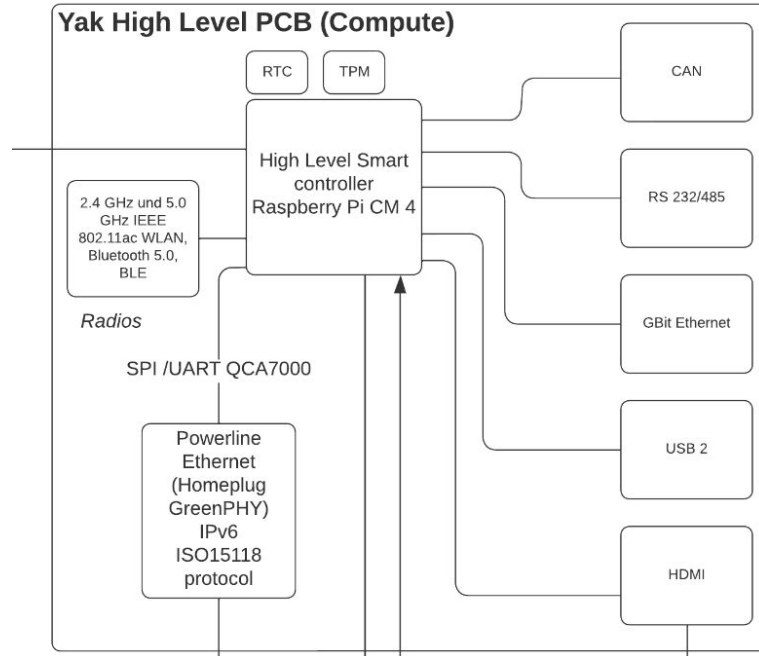
Uses Powerline communication on top of CP PWM signal  
(on the same wire, Homeplug GreenPHY standard)

- 1) Setup logical network between EVSE and car using SLAC
- 2) Assign IPv6 link local addresses on both sides
- 3) Car sends UDP broadcasts to find EVSE  
EVSE replies with its IP and port number
- 4) TCP/TLS connection from car to EVSE
- 5) ISO 15118 protocol through that TCP connection  
(XML data encoded with EXI)



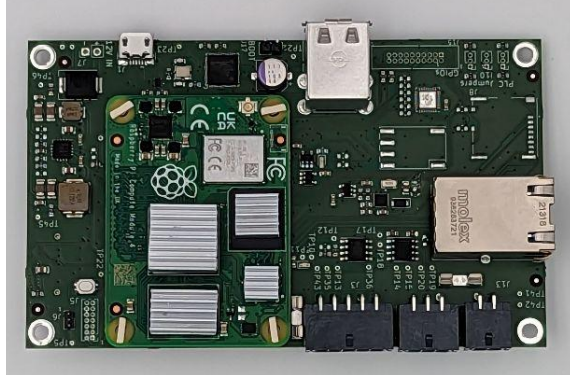
# Yak

- High level control board
- Runs EVerest on (embedded) Linux



# Yak features

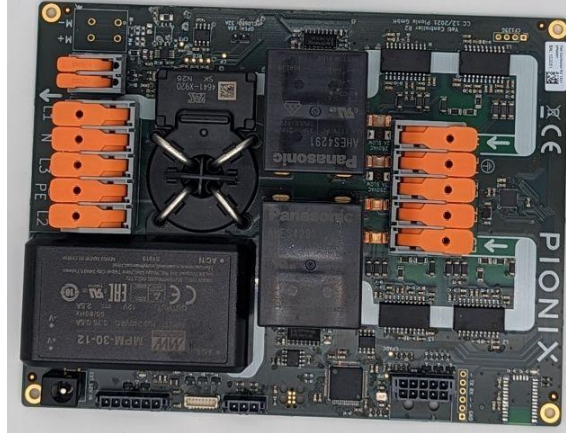
- Raspberry Pi Compute Module 4 (CM4)
- 10 pin connector for direct connection to Yeti board
- RTC with backup battery
- PLC GreenPhy modem for HLC communication with car
- UART/power connector for popular PN532 based RFID modules
- RS485/ModBus
- CAN bus
- Ethernet, Wireless LAN 2.4Ghz/5Ghz and Bluetooth 5
- USB ports
- USB client port to flash the EMMC of CM4
- External GPIOs
- <https://github.com/PionixPublic/reference-hardware#yak>



# Putting everything together



Yak high level control board

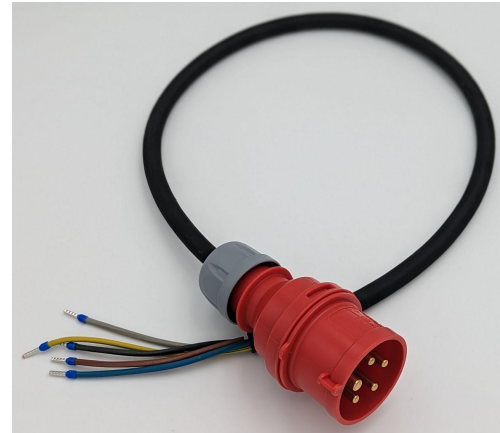


Yeti power board

IEC 62196-2  
Type 2 connector

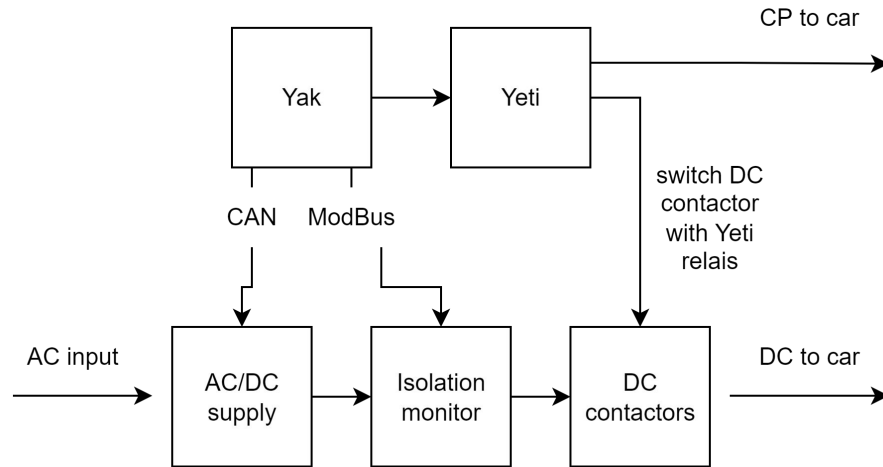


Mains 3 Phase Power In



# Coming Soon: DIY Bidirectional DC

Yak board already prepared for everything that you need for DC communication  
“just” needs some DC power electronics, isolation monitor



**stay tuned for more this summer!**

# How to get involved



Check out the code: <https://github.com/EVerest>

Hardware designs and microcontroller firmware: <https://github.com/orgs/PionixPublic/repositories>

EVERest Mailing list: <https://lists.lfenergy.org/g/everest>

EVERest project page on Linux Foundation Energy: <https://www.lfenergy.org/projects/everest>

Quick start guide: [https://everest.github.io/general/quick\\_start\\_guide.html](https://everest.github.io/general/quick_start_guide.html)

Technical Steering Committee (TSC): Follow the evolution of EVERest, get involved, open to all!

Every 4th thursday of the month, announced via mailing list

Recordings available on YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/@lfe\\_everest](https://www.youtube.com/@lfe_everest)

Weekly Tech Sync - Join the developers and start contributing

Every Tuesday 10am -11am CET, meeting link via mailing list