

Marina Krotofil

COINS summer school on Security Applications, Lesbos, Greece 26-27.07.2019

About myself

- Senior Automation Security Engineer at the large chemical company
- Specializing in offensive cyber-physical security in Critical Infrastructures
 - Focus: Physical damage or how to make something going bad, crash or blow up by means of cyber-attacks





About myself

- Ukrainian German who lived and worked in America
- Two engineering Masters and MBA, and almost PhD
- Previously worked as
 - Principal Analyst and Subject Matter Expert at FireEye (USA)
 - Lead Security Researcher at Honeywell (USA)
 - Senior Security Consultant at the European Network for Cyber Security (Netherlands)
 - Research assistant at Hamburg University of Technology (Germany) who had to teach







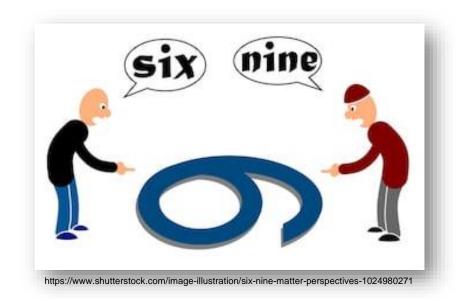
Introduction

Here is a Plant. What is your Plan?



Two common views on cyber-physical attacks

- "Trivial! Look at the state of ICS security!"
- "Borderline impossible! These processes are extremely complex & engineered for safety!"



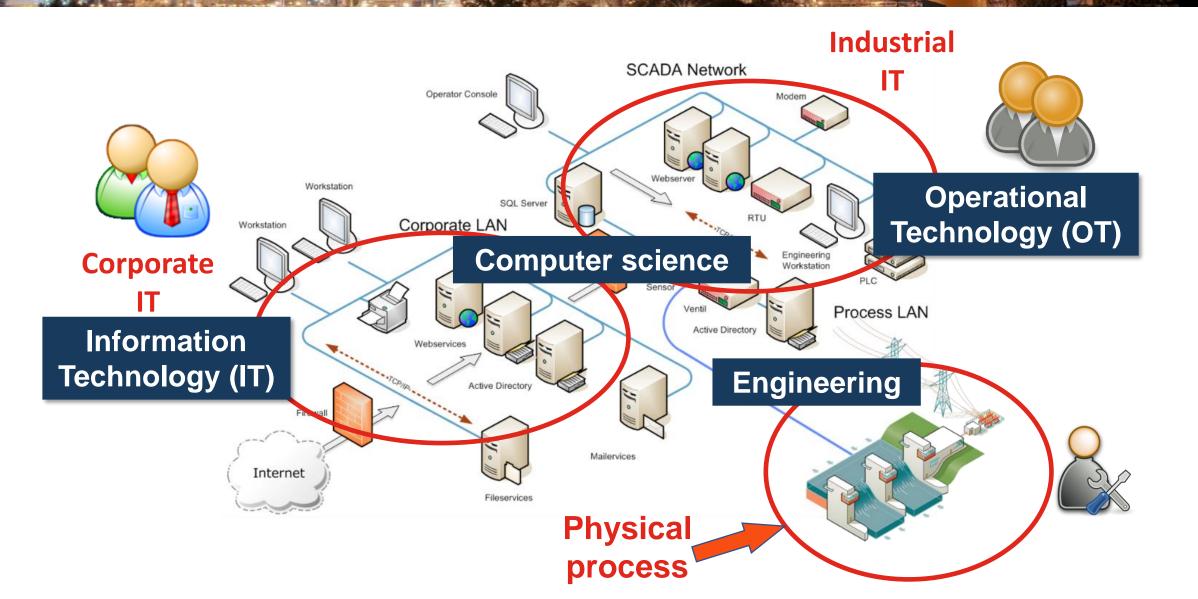


Attacks with strategic and long lasting effect

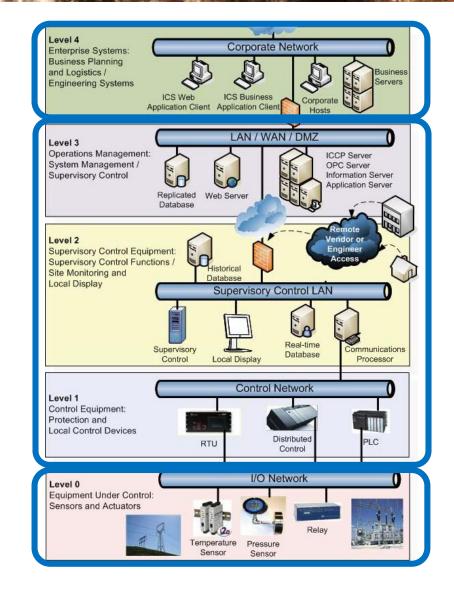
- Attacks with strategic, lasting damage will be <u>process specific</u> & require good <u>process comprehension</u>
- Wil require attacker to develop detailed 'damage scenario'
 - What causes a pipeline to explode?
 - What causes the *right* pipeline to explode?
 - What causes the *right* pipeline to explode at the *right* moment?



Typical ICS architecture



Purdue network reference architecture



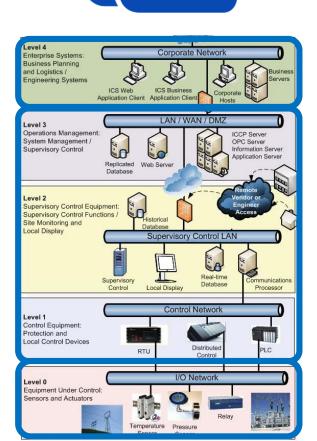
IT network

OT network

Physical process

Purdue reference architecture: recent trends

New trend: "Internet of Clouds"



Attacker goals

Traditionally:

- Espionage
- Persistence
- Reconnaisance

Alert (TA18-074A)

Russian Government Cyber Activity Targeting Energy and Other Critical Infrastructure Sectors

Original release date: March 15, 2018 | Last revised: March 16, 2018

This campaign comprises two distinct categories of victims: staging and intended targets. The initial victims are peripheral organizations such as trusted third-party suppliers with less secure networks, referred to as "staging targets" throughout this alert. The threat actors used the staging targets' networks as pivot points and malware repositories when targeting their final intended victims. NCCIC and FBI judge the ultimate objective of the actors is to compromise organizational networks, also referred to as the "intended target."

https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA18-074A

https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/news/hostilestate-actors-compromising-ukorganisations-focus-engineering-andindustrial-control



Advisory: Hostile state actors compromising UK organisations with focus on engineering and industrial control companies

The NCSC is aware of an ongoing attack campaign against multiple Turla malware found in a companies involved in the CNI supply chain. These attacks have been ongoing since at least March 2017. The targeting is focused on

German plant

Attacker goals

Emerging trends

- Physical damage
- Ransomware

TRITON Malware Targeting Critical Infrastructure Could Cause Physical

Damage

🛗 December 15, 2017 🙎 Wang Wei

https://thehackernews.com/2017/12/triton-ics-scada-malware.html

Threat Research

TRITON Attribution: Russian Government-Owned Lab Most Likely Built Custom Intrusion Tools for **TRITON Attackers**

October 23, 2018 | by FireEye Intelligence

RUSSIA CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

https://www.fireeye.com/blog/threat-research/2018/10/triton-attribution-russian-government-owned-lab-mostlikely-built-tools.html

Hexion, Momentive and Norsk Hydro all hit by ransomware cyber attacks



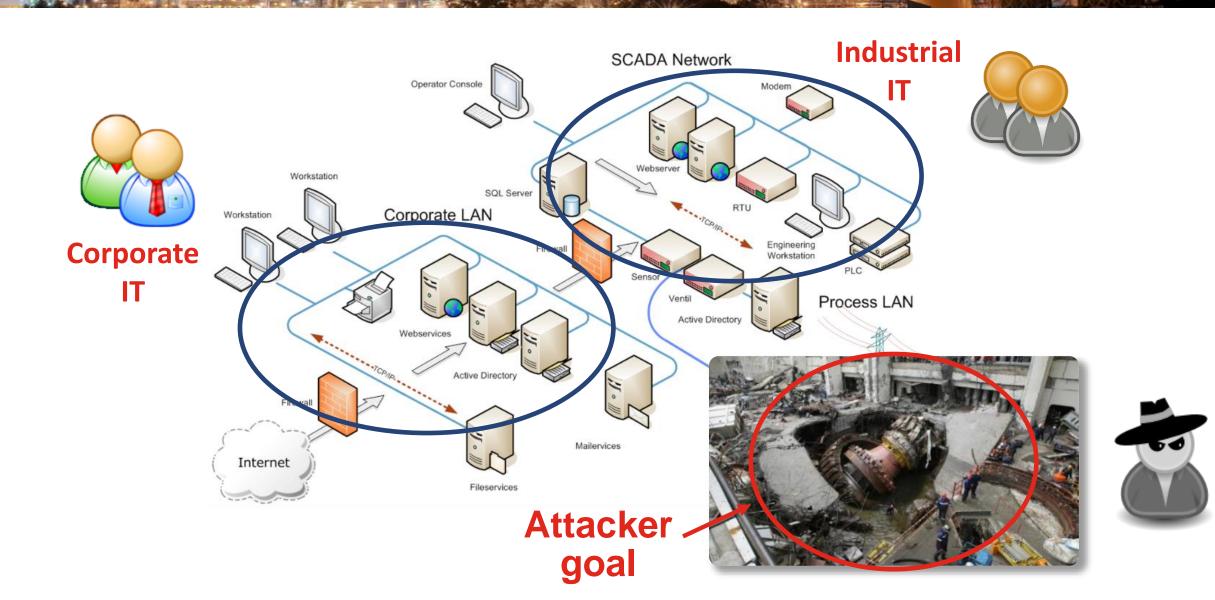
In the immediate aftermath of the incident Norsk was forced to switch to manual production at its plants. Staff at 40 offices and manufacturing facilities were told to disconnect devices from the network while security experts were brought in to fix the issue.

https://www.chemistryworld.com/news/hexion-momentive-and-norsk-hydro-all-hit-by-ransomware-cyber-attacks/3010328.article

Ransomware Forces Two Chemical **Companies to Order 'Hundreds of New Computers'**

It appears that LockerGoga, the same ransomware that hit aluminum manufacturing giant Norsk Hydro this week, also infected American chemicals companies Hexion and Momentive, leaving employees locked out of their computers.

Attack goal considered in this module



Embedded ICS systems



https://vecer.mk/files/article/2017/05/02/485749-saudiska-arabija-ja-kupi-najgolemata-naftena-rafinerija-vo-sad.jpg



http://www.jfwhite.com/Collateral/Images/English-US/Galleries/middleboro9115kvbreakers.jpg









Cyber-physical systems

Cyber-physical systems are IT systems "embedded" in an application in the physical world

Cyber-physical attack



ICS security

ICS security

IT security

(cyber-security ->
 taking over the
 infrastructure)

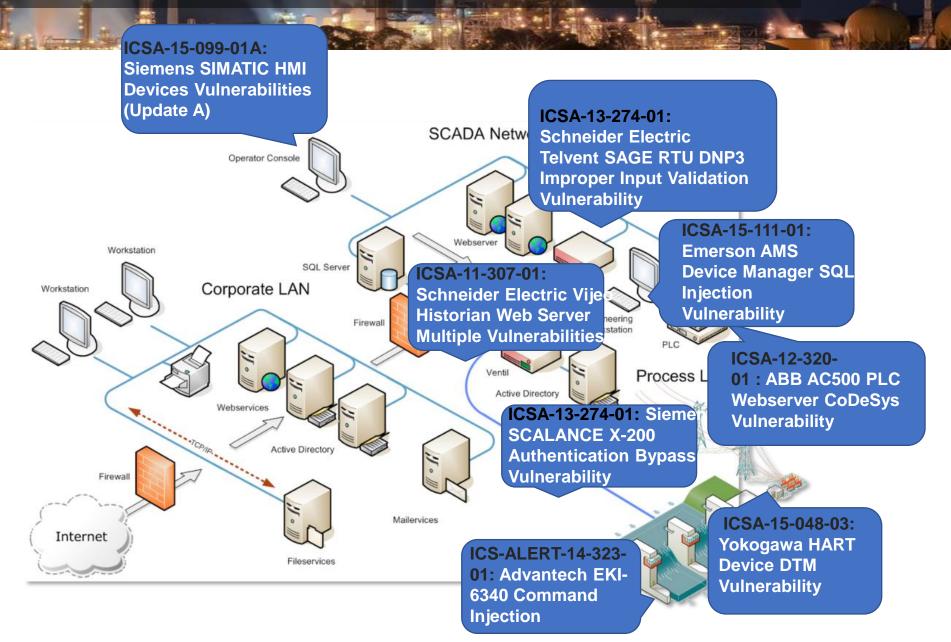


OT security

(causing impact on the operations -> process and equipment)

Focus of the session

Control equipment vulnerabilities



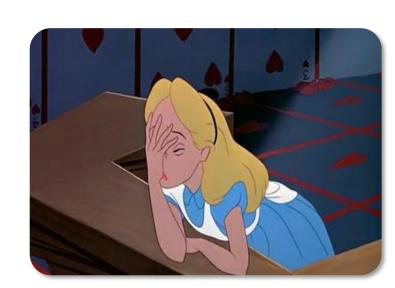
ICS-CERT advisory

ICSA-13-274-01: Siemens SCALANCE X-200 Authentication Bypass Vulnerability

IMPACT

Successful exploitation of this vulnerability may allow attackers to perform administrative operations over the network without authentication.

Impact to individual organizations depends on many factors that are unique to each organization. ICS-CERT recommends that organizations evaluate the impact of this vulnerability based on their operational environment, architecture, and product implementation.



Impact evaluation

- What exactly the attacker can do with the vulnerability?
- Any further necessary conditions required?
- How severe the potential physical impact?



Answering these questions requires understanding how the attacker interacts with the control system and the process

Control systems security

My research discoveries – how to attack cyber-physical systems even if the traditional IT security controls are in place

- Industrial systems can be controlled without modifying the contents of the messages
 - This can be effective even if the traffic is signed or even encrypted

Control system design flaw

- Process data can be spoofed to make it look like everything is normal
 - This can be done despite all traditional communication security put in place

Overlooked data security property

Stale data attack

Control system design flaw



M. Krotofil, A. Cardenas, J. Larsen, D. Gollmann, Vulnerabilities of cyber-physical systems to stale data—Determining the optimal time to launch attacks, International Journal of Critical Infrastructure Protection, 2015

Data trustworthiness (veracity)

Overlooked data security property

Process data originates in the physical world and can be made wrong on purpose, before being handed into communication protocol stack (and securely delivered to the intended application)

(Garbage in – garbage out)





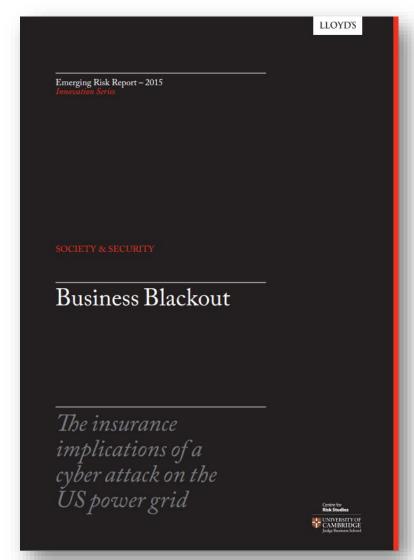
Data trustworthiness (veracity) 9.4 9.4 9.3 9.3 9.1 8.9^L 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 A and C feed A and C feed spoofed 20 Hours 40 Hours 40 60 Find X differences

M. Krotofil, J. Larsen, D. Gollmann. The Process Matters: Ensuring Data Veracity in Cyber-Physical Systems (ASIACCS, 2015)

Incident data inavailability

- Due to various schemes for reputation management and data sharing laws, the majority of Operational Technology attacks over the last 20 years have not been made public, making even a catalogue of recent reference events difficult to assemble.
- A key requirement for an insurance response to cyber risks will be to enhance the quality of data available and to continue the development of probabilistic modelling.

We can and should conduct own research on cyber-physical exploitation



Cyber-physical security

- After the attacker gets access to a control system/network, the attack still needs to be performed
 - This is where open literature falls short
 - Best attack strategies (?)
- Security standards & guidelines require "knowing your system" prior performing risk assessment and subsequent implementation of security controls
 - No guidance on HOW to understand the system in a away to best understand where all the risks lie
 - Who should participate in risk assessment

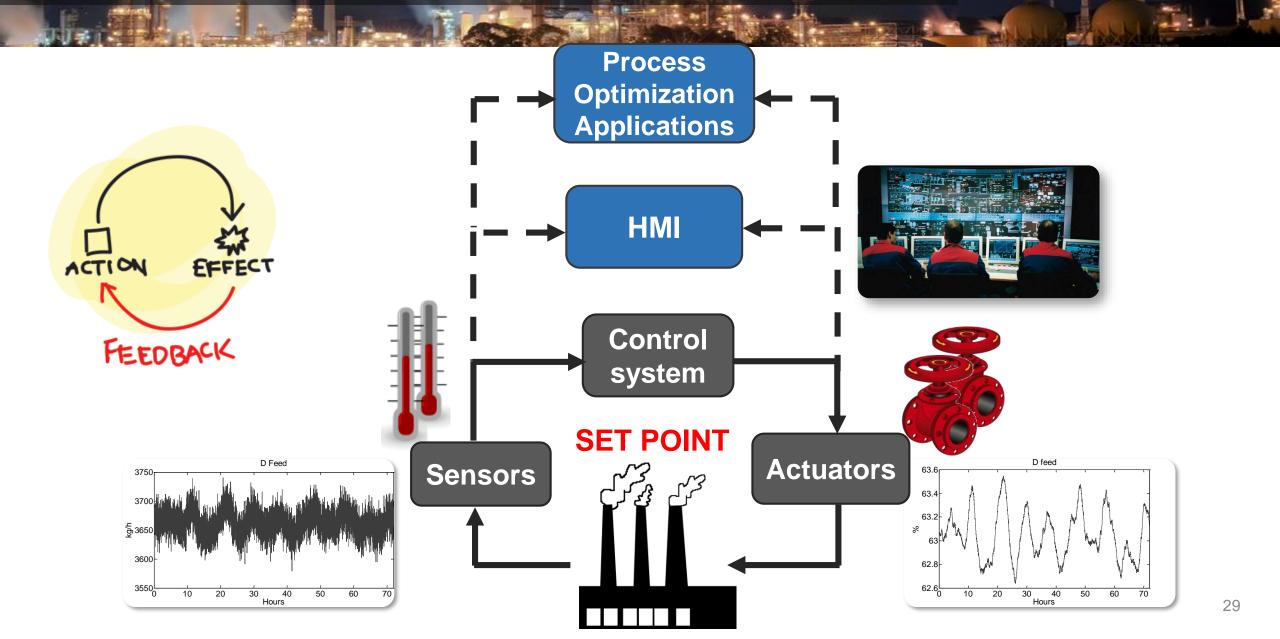




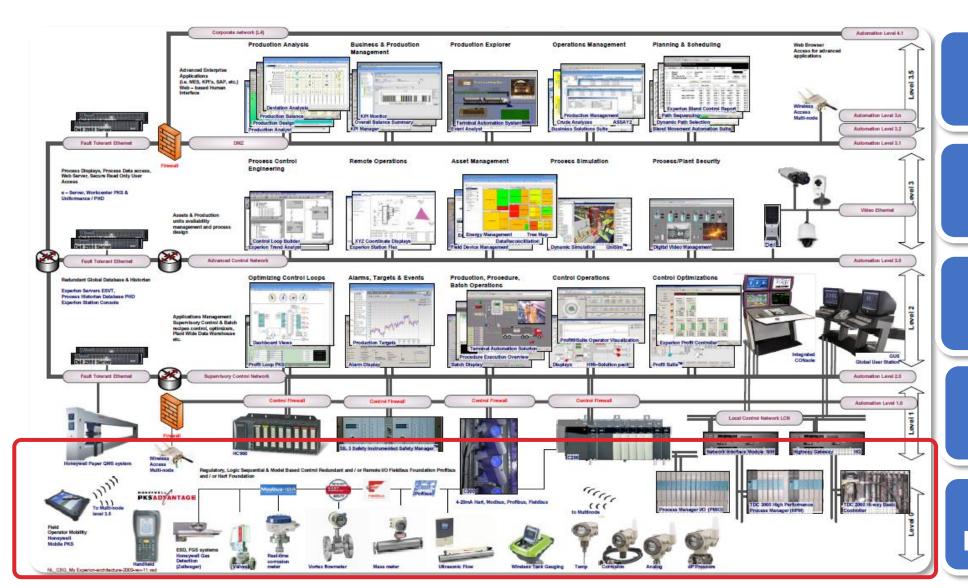


Fundamentals of cyber-physical exploitation

Industrial plants work on control loop concept



Industrial network architecture



Planning and management

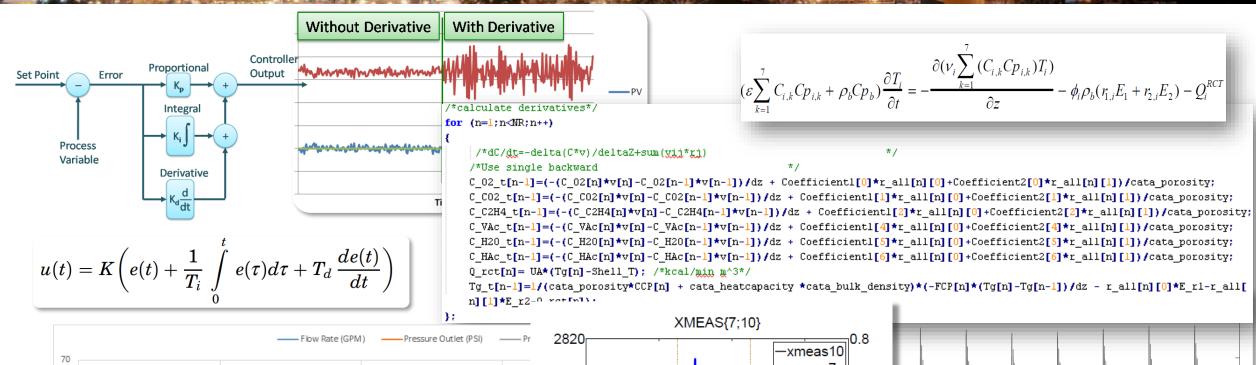
Optimization Applications

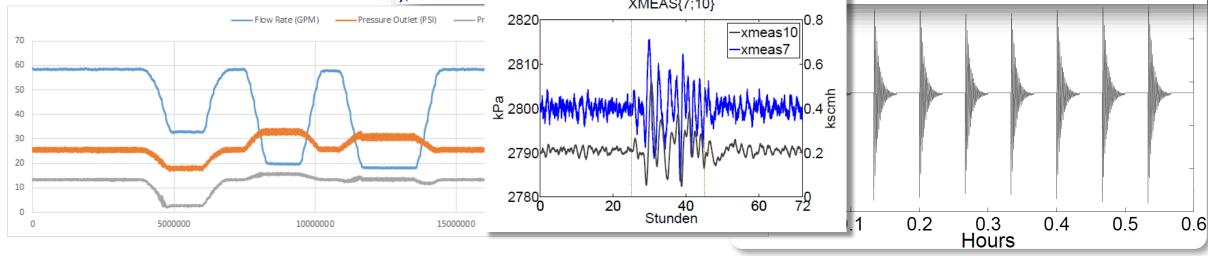
HMI (Supervisory control)

Controllers (Regulatory control)

Field Instrumentation

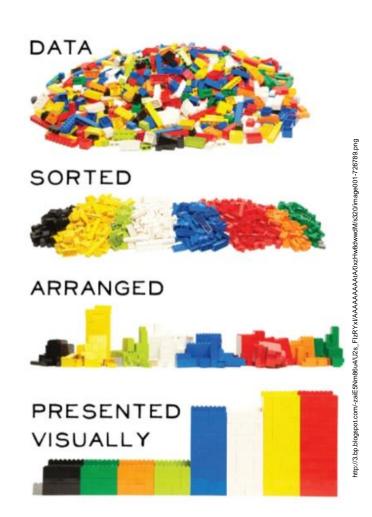
Process data



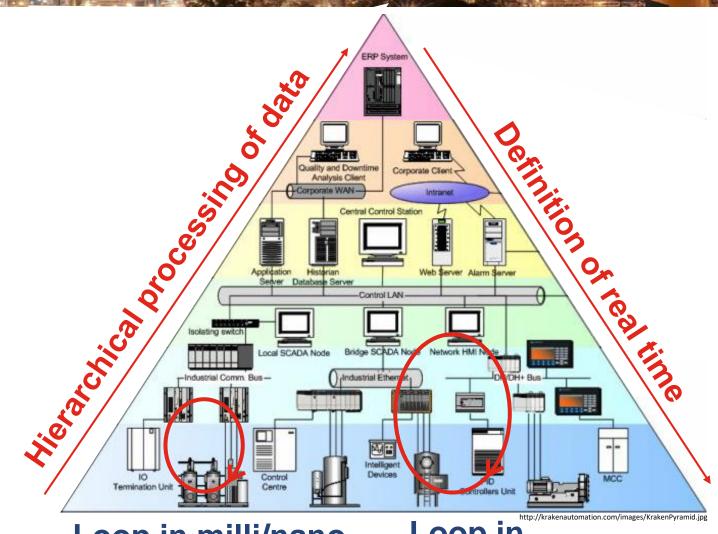


Information as an asset

- Computer-Integrated Manufacturing (CIM) concept in the 1970s
- The most essential constituent of modern automation is data, and processing this data into information is a substantial task in automation
- The key to handling information was the establishment of a transparent data flow inside an automation system with a strict subdivision of the data processing into a hierarchical model → automation pyramid



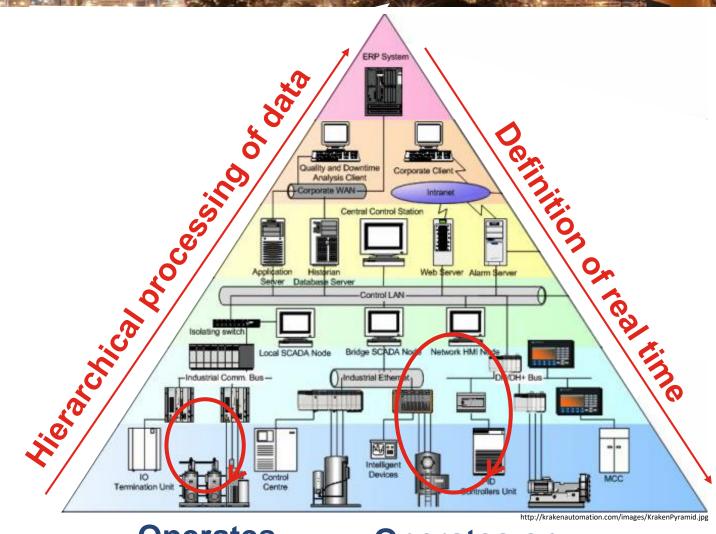
Automation pyramid



Loop in milli/nano seconds

Loop in seconds

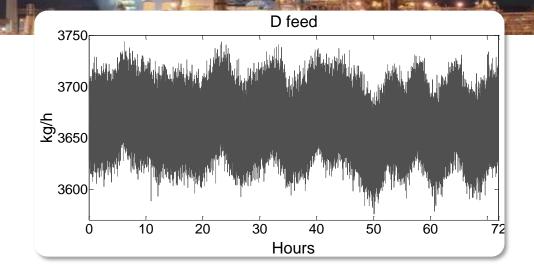
Automation pyramid



Operates on raw data

Operates on information

Data processing



- Raw sensory data rarely can be used directly. The electrical output of a sensing element is usually small in value and has non-idealities such as offset, sensitivity errors, nonlinearities, noise, etc.
- Sensor signal is manipulated (processed) in a specific way to meet the requirements of data consuming circuits/devices/applications to produce meaningful information
 - Data conditioning, conversion, aggregation, transformation, analysis.....

Impact of data processing

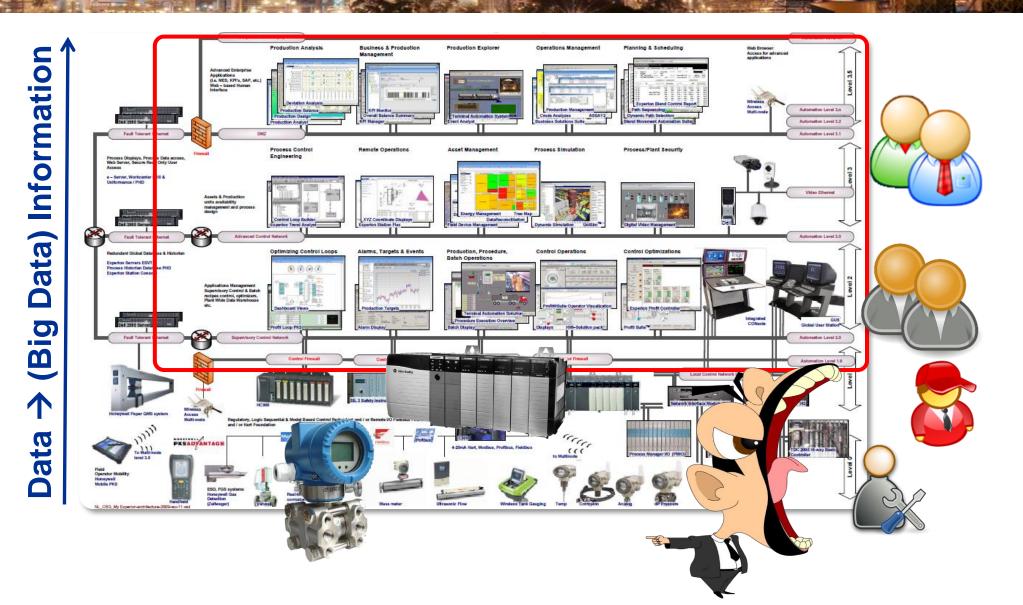
Equipment damage at nuclear plant





- Two identically built nuclear plants. One had flow induced vibration issue.
 And another did not.
- The vibrations indication showed itself as a resonance (high-frequency) "noise"
 - Field engineer has changed signal filtering parameter in the signal recorder to get rid of noise
 - Loss of view into vibration issue

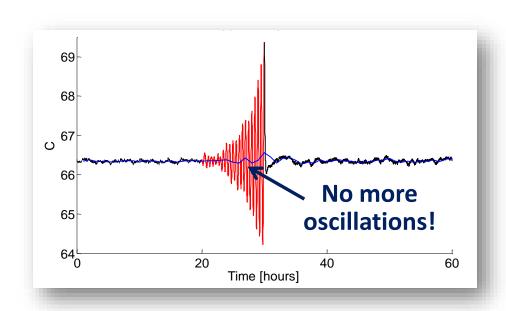
Process data reliability



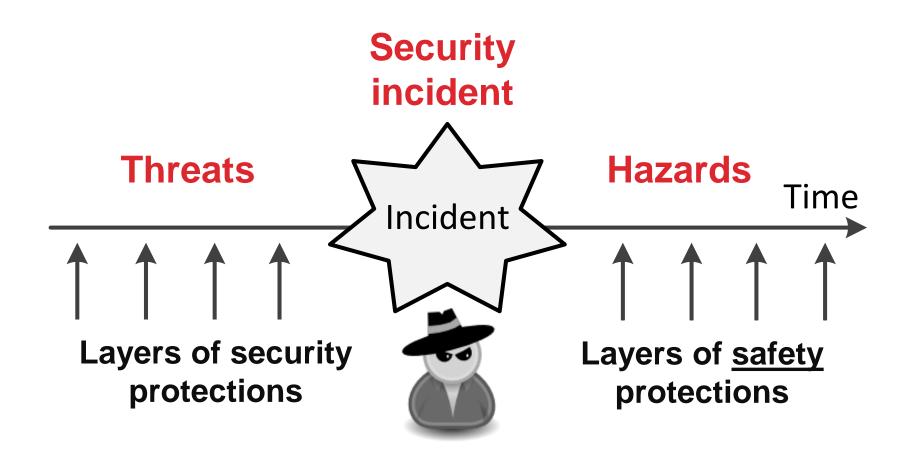
Signal/data processing points

Signal processing points is an attack vector in ICS / cyber-physical systems

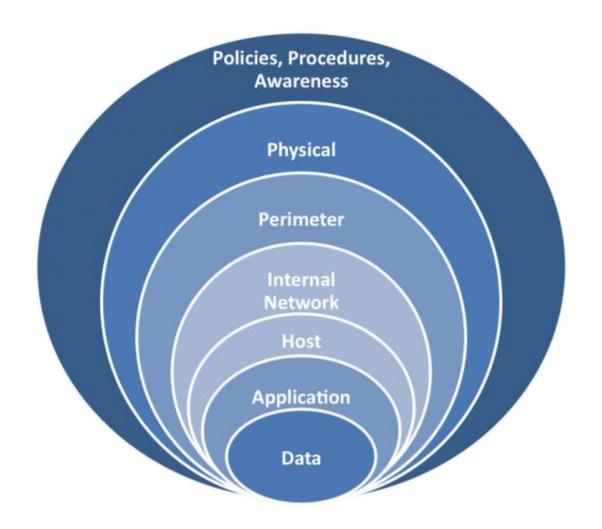
- Analyzing data processing points
 - Often "human friendly"
 - Tell you exactly how to make data out of spec
 - Allow for "educated guess" and granular manipulation
- Good for
 - Making data unusable; deceiving about process state
 - Removing attack traces (e.g. spikes, etc.)
 - Misleading forensics investigators
 - Etc., etc.



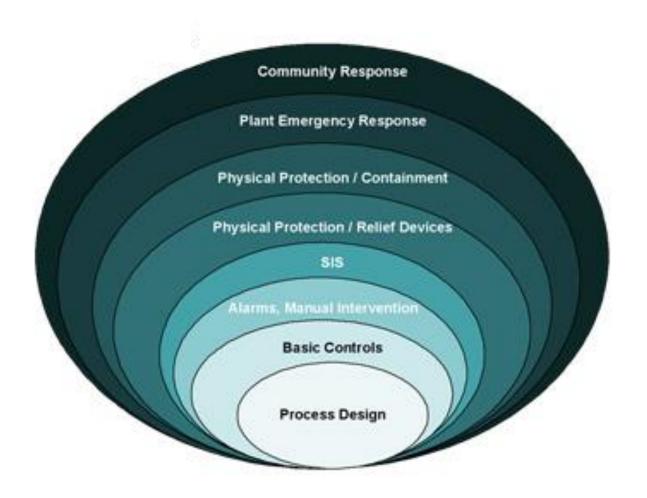
Security vs. Safety



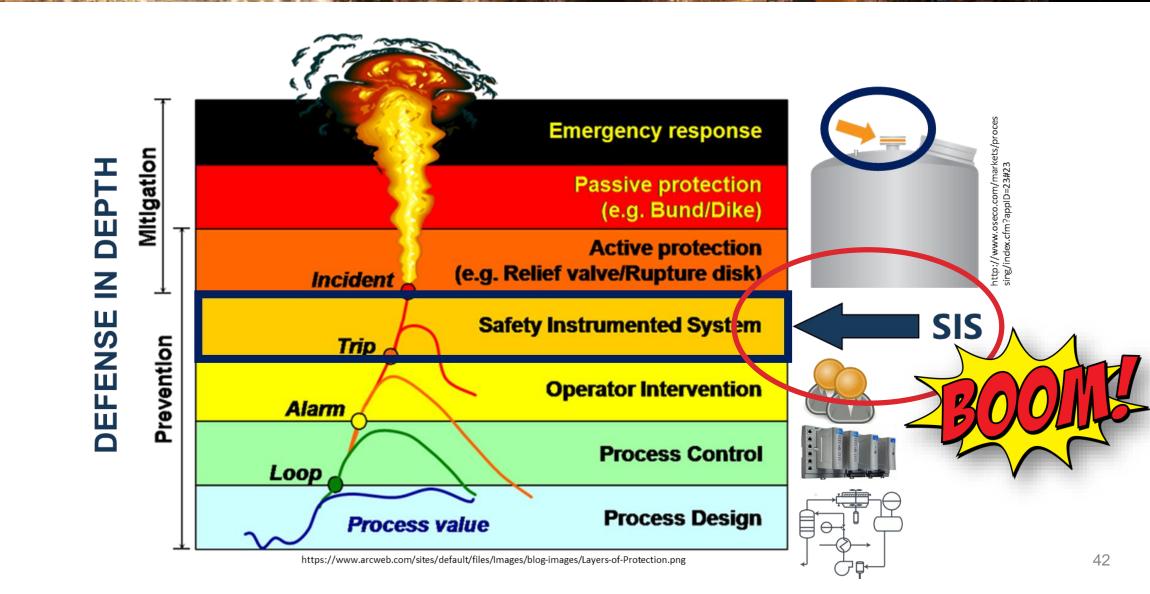
Security onion



Safety onion

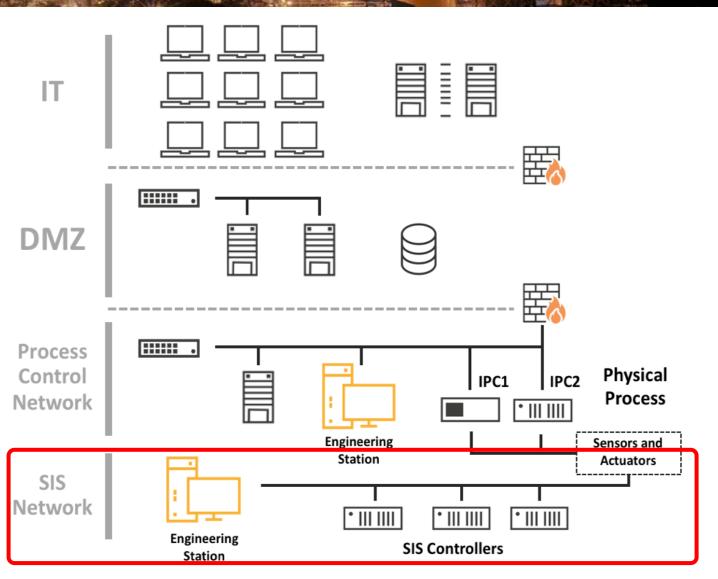


Hazards and layers of safety protections

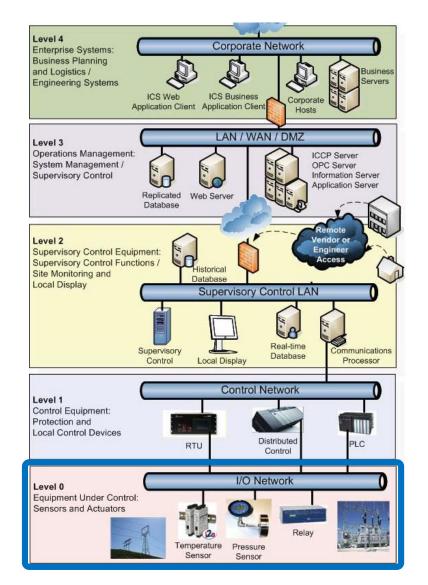


Worst case attack on ICS

An attack on a safety system can cause the MOST DAMAGING outcome of a cyber-physical attack



Process data as root of trust



- If process data is incorrect, control algorithms, human operator and safety systems may take wrong (harmful) control decisions
- Ensuring trustworthiness of process data (veracity of data) is the most crucial task in cyber-physical security
 - Failed/misconfigured sensors or data processing points, mistakes in calculations and similar
 - Malicious tampering with process data
 - Process data is <u>root of trust</u> in ICS/cyberphysical security



Race-to-the-Bottom in ICS

Attackers vs. defenders

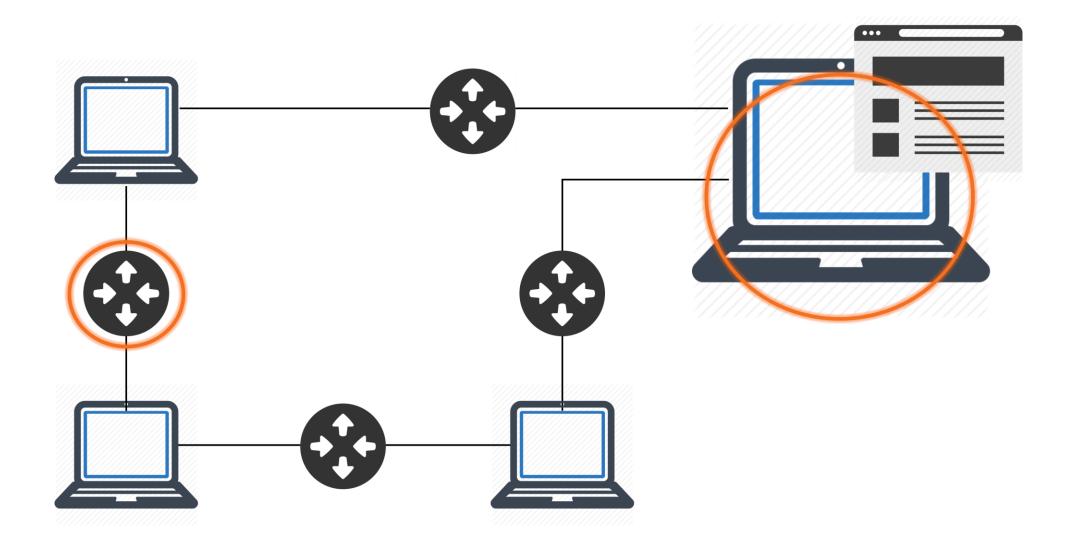


Attackers' vs. defenders skill sets





Security is a moving target



Your computer isn't a single computer

any more.....

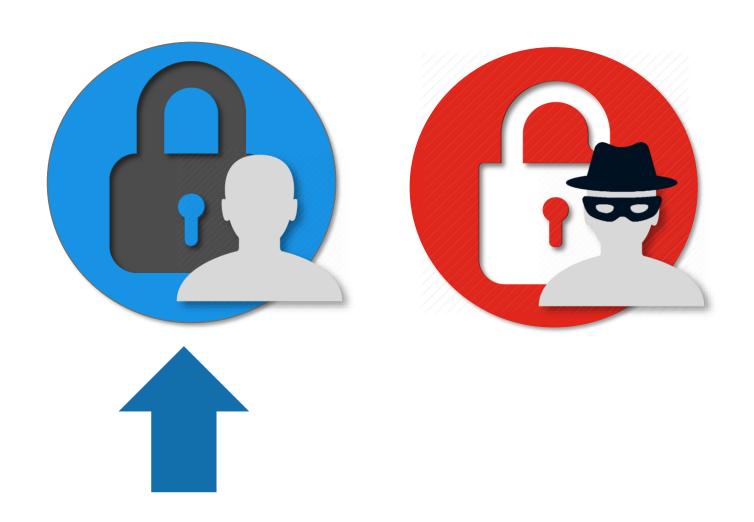




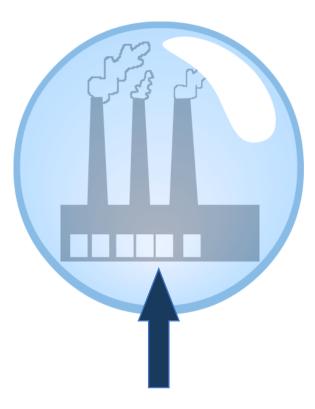


RACE TO THE BOTTOM

Advanced Persistent Threat (APT)



ICS landscape has changed



Nobody even knows about our existence



Crazy amount of hacking on a daily basis

Brief history of ICS attacks

Reconnaissance and weaponization of capabilities

It's happening: Publicly known cyber-physical attacks

1999

First active recon & initial intrusion attempts

Successful cyberphysical experiments

2010

Planned operation to hinder Iran's nuclear program (Stuxnet)



2013

First publicly known OT recon activities (HAVEX)

2015

Ukraine power grid attack (BlackEnergy)

2016

Ukraine power grid attack (Industroyer)

2017

TRITON



TRITON in the news

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

TEC

New Type of Cyberattack Targets Factory Safety Systems

Malicious software Triton was able to manipulate Schneider Electric devices' memory and run unauthorized programs by leveraging a previously unknown bug

Industrial safety systems targeted by Triton malware meant to cause 'physical consequences': Reports

WIRED

ANDY GREENBERG SECURITY 12.14.17 10:00 AM

UNPRECEDENTED MALWARE TARGETS INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SYSTEMS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

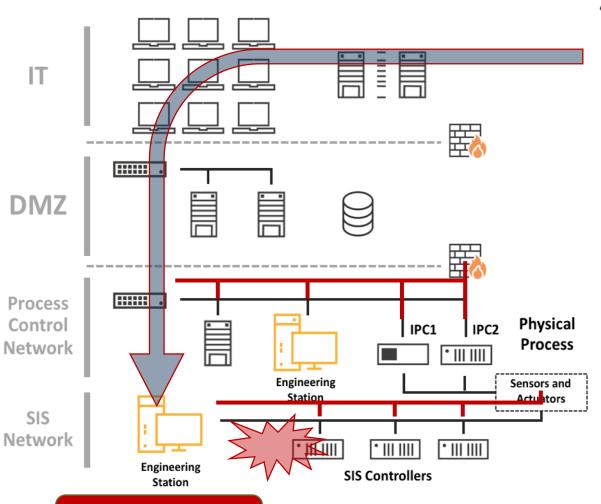
Hackers use Triton malware to shut down plant, industrial systems

The malware has been designed to target industrial systems and critical infrastructure.



By Charlie Osborne for Zero Day | December 15, 2017 -- 09:54 GMT (01:54 PST) | Topic: Security

TRITON incident description

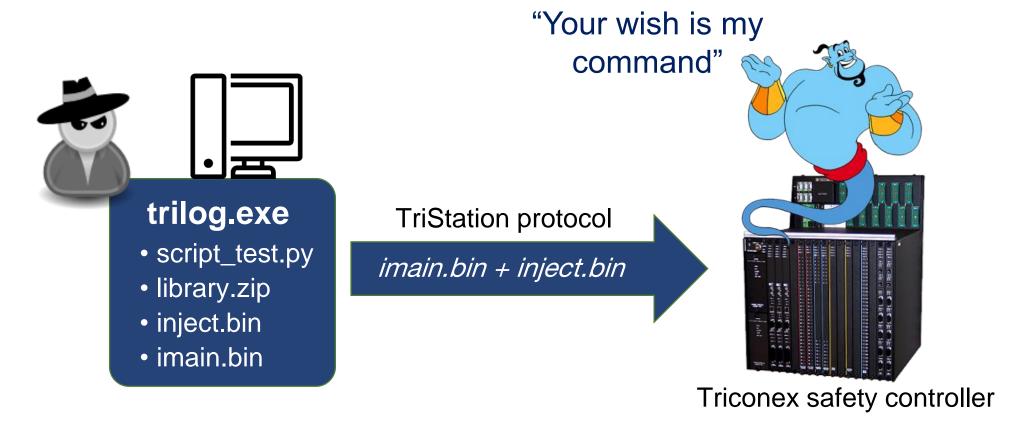


Attacker obtained remote access to SIS communication network

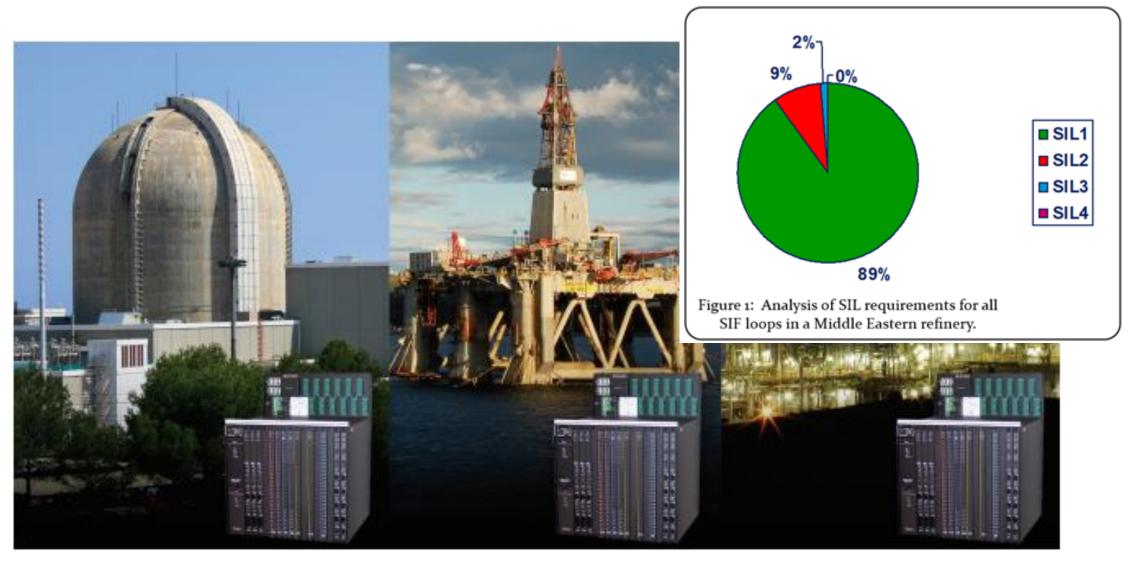
Dual-homed SIS Eng. Workstation

TRITON implant capability

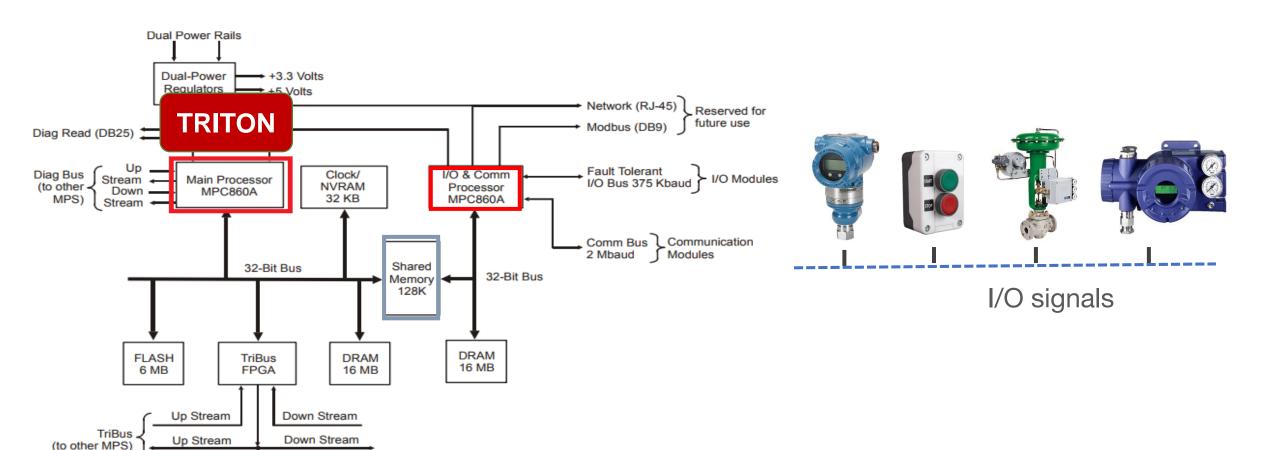
- Attacker attempted to inject <u>passive</u> implant into safety controller
 - Runs as user program on controller, activated by special network packet
 - Read / Write / Execute memory



TRICONEX: Safety Integrity Level (SIL3)

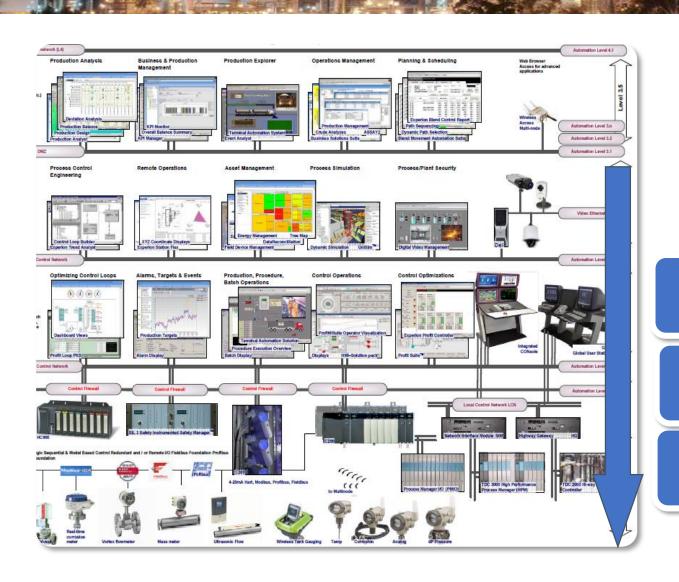


TRITON worst case scenario



Architecture of model 3008 Main Processor

Race-to-the-Bottom in ICS



HMI

Industrial protocols

Controllers

- Ukrainian power grid attack, 2015
- Ukrainian power grid attack, 2016 (Industroyer)
- TRITON, 2017

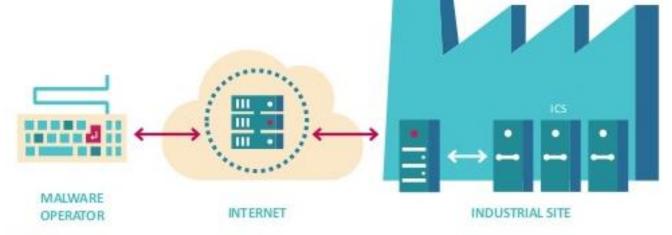


Application-driven nature of security science

Non-actionable threat intelligence

Industroyer: Biggest threat to industrial control systems since Stuxnet

ESET has analyzed a sophisticated and extremely dangerous malware, known as Industroyer, which is designed to disrupt critical industrial processes.



https://www.welivesecurity.com/2017/06/12/industroyer-biggest-threat-industrial-control-systems-since-stuxnet/

This is not a pragmatic threat intelligence

Pragmatic threat intelligence

Industroyer is substation configuration independent and can be seen as:

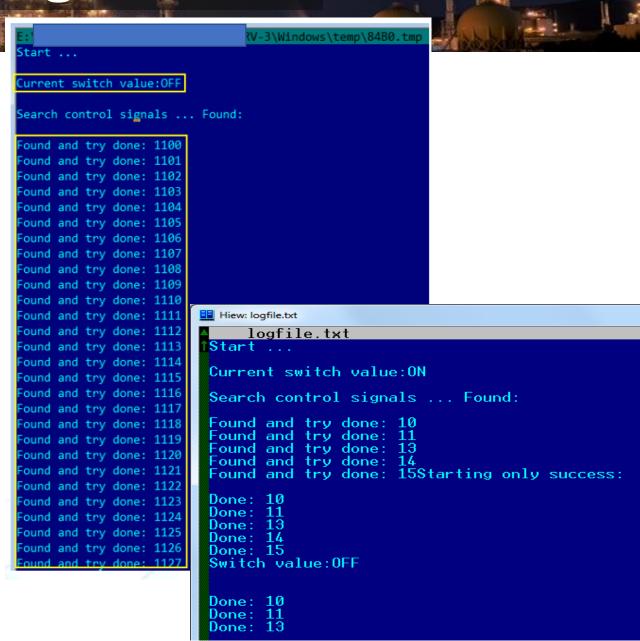
- Re-usable payload
- Lack or time/inability of attacker to conduct reconnaissance
- Lack of knowledge about electrical substations

We can only evaluate this fact by considering other attributes of the attack and malware code

```
RV-3\Windows\temp\84B0.tm
tart ...
urrent switch value:OFF
earch control signals ... Found:
ound and try done: 1100
ound and try done: 1101
ound and try done: 1102
ound and try done: 1103
ound and try done: 1104
ound and try done: 1105
ound and try done: 1106
ound and try done: 1107
ound and try done: 1108
ound and try done: 1109
ound and try done: 1110
                        Hiew: logfile.txt
ound and try done: 1111
ound and try done: 1112
                              logfile.txt
                        Start ...
ound and try done: 1113
ound and try done: 1114
                         Current switch value:ON
ound and try done: 1115
ound and try done: 1116
                         Search control signals ... Found:
ound and try done: 1117
ound and try done: 1118
                         Found and trv done: 10
ound and try done: 1119
ound and try done: 1120
                         Found and try done: 15Starting only success:
ound and try done: 1121
ound and try done: 1122
                         Done: 10
ound and try done: 1123
                         Done: 11
ound and try done: 1124
                         Done: 13
ound and try done: 1125
                         Done: 14
ound and try done: 1126
                         Done: 15
                         Switch value:OFF
 ind and try done: 1127
                         Done: 10
```

Pragmatic threat intelligence

While Industroyer was widely positioned as state-of-the-art destructive cyberweapon, it is a set of small utilities of limited capability and, seems like being not very valuable to the attacker



Pragmatic threat intelligence

While Industroyer was widely

positioned as state-of-the-art

set of small utilities of little

much value to the attacker

destructive cyberweapon, it is a

capability and, seems like, of not

Germany Develops Offensive Cyber Capabilities Without A Coherent Strategy of What to Do With Them



AA FONT SIZE + PRINT

BY MATTHIAS SCHULZE

RELATIONS

READ BIO .

SVEN HERPIG

DECEMBER 3, 2018







Germany has traditionally prioritized defense over offense in cyberspace. That's now beginning to change.

There is a reoccurring debate in German national security and foreign policy whether Germany suffers from

"Strategieunfähigkeit"—an inability to develop and implement strategy. The historic trauma of two lost World Wars created a





Security is not a fundamental science It is application driven

Security solutions exist in the context of the application

Early adopter: eCommerse

Security influences design decisions

- Attackers (mis)use functionality of web browsers
- Novel approaches to designing web applications
- Novel security controls in browsers

Application dictates security properties

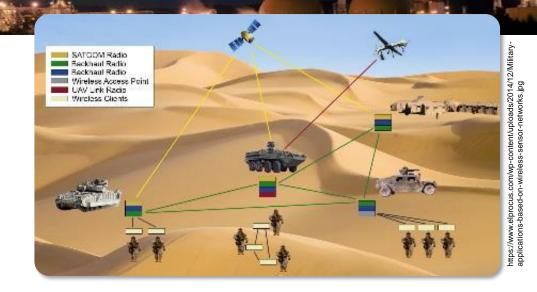
- Information-theoretic security properties
- CIA triad --> Parkerian hexad

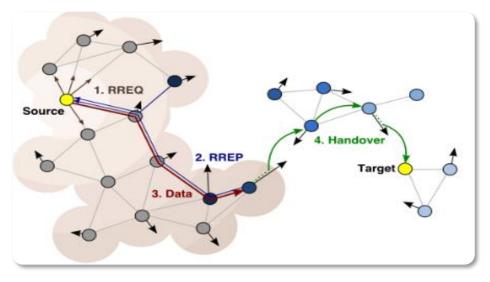


Failed to adopt

Wireless sensor networks: Big hope

- A big hype for about a decade
- Conferences, solutions, promising applications
- Remained a "promising" technology with limited deployment
- Wireless sensor networks: Big flop
 - Deficiencies in the attacker models and security requirements
 - Unrealistic assumptions about physics of wireless communication





Experiment vs. assumptions

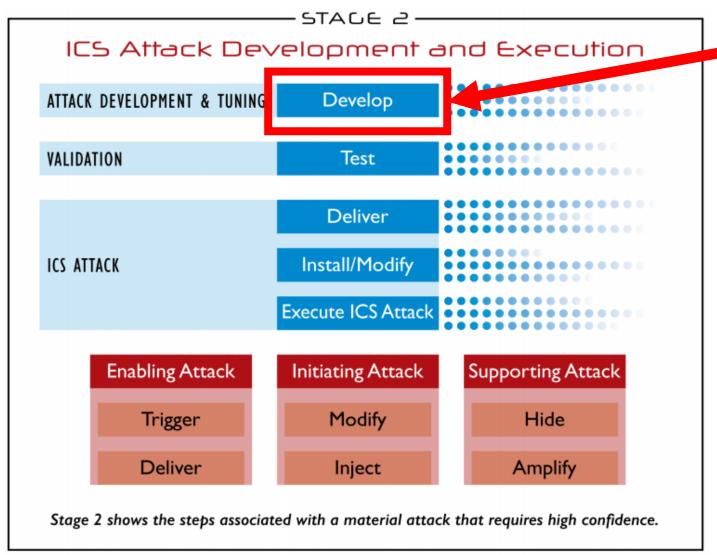
Tampering with Motes: Real-World Attacks on Wireless Sensor Networks

One of possible attacks on WSNs is called node capture where an adversary gains full control over sensor nodes through direct physical access. Many newer security mechanisms for WSNs take node capture into account. It is usually assumed that node capture is "easy". Some security mechanisms are verified with respect to being able to resist capture of 100 and more sensor nodes out of 10,000. However, to the best of our knowledge, nobody ever tried to determine the actual cost to attack currently available sensor nodes. Thus our project was set out to verify the assumption that node capture is easy.

A. Becher, Z. Benenson, M. Dornseif. Tampering with Motes: Real-World Physical Attacks on Wireless Sensor Networks, SPC 2006.

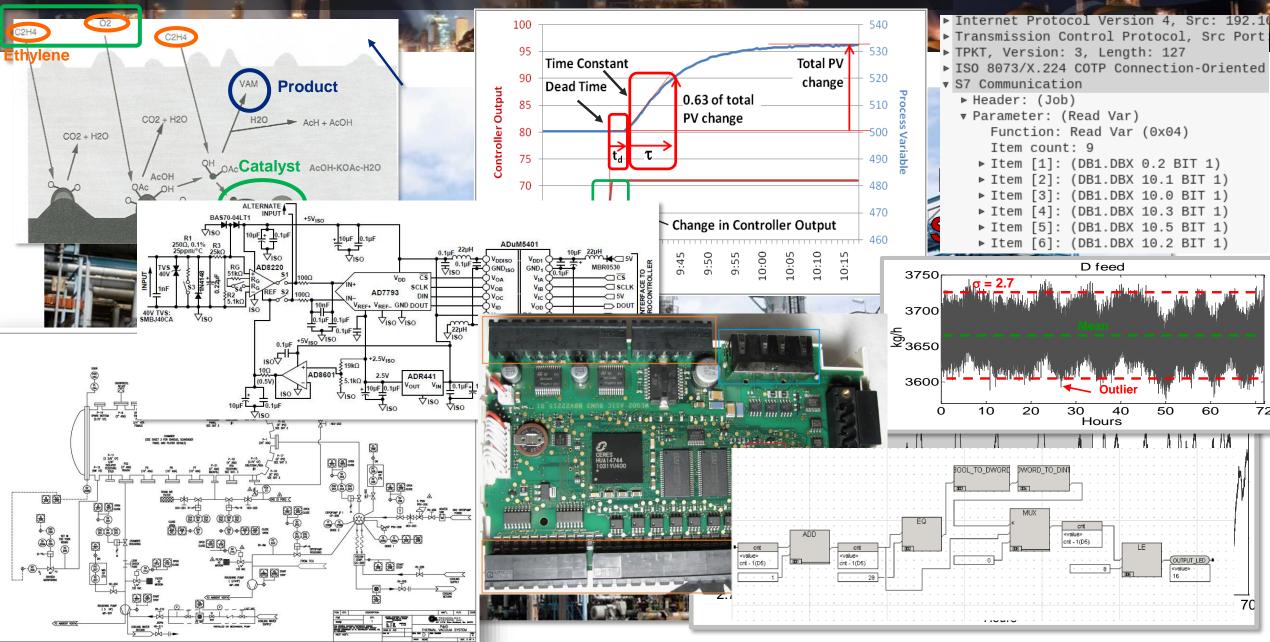


SANS: ICS cyber-kill chain

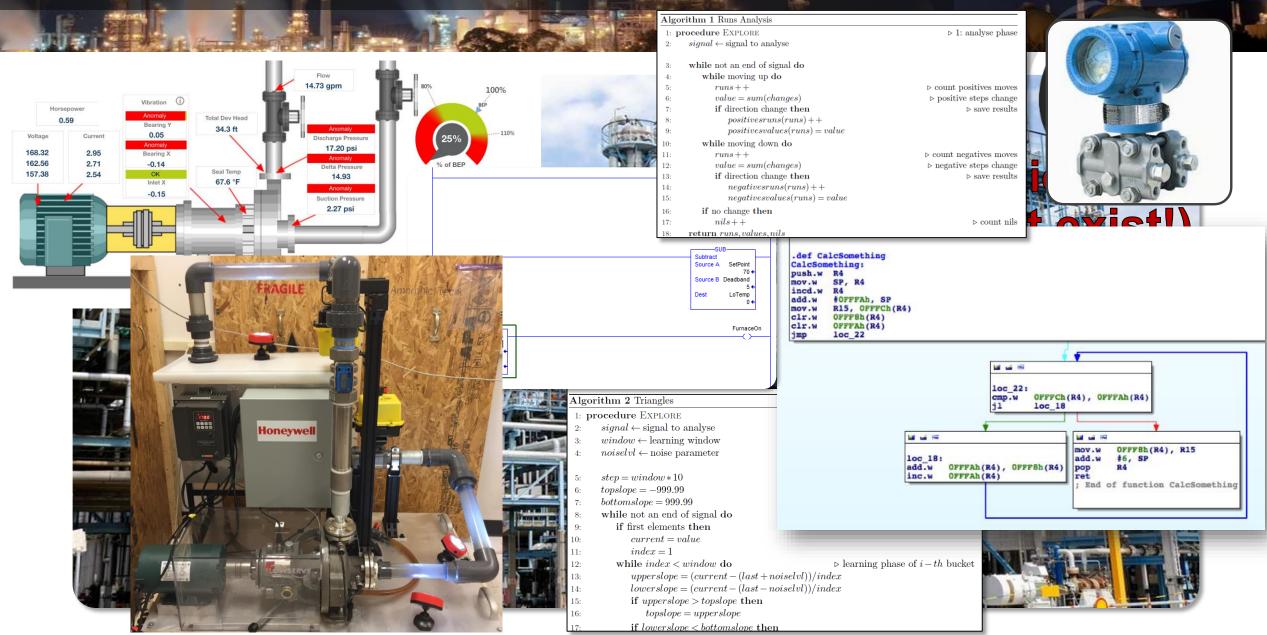


WHAT HAPPENS HERE??

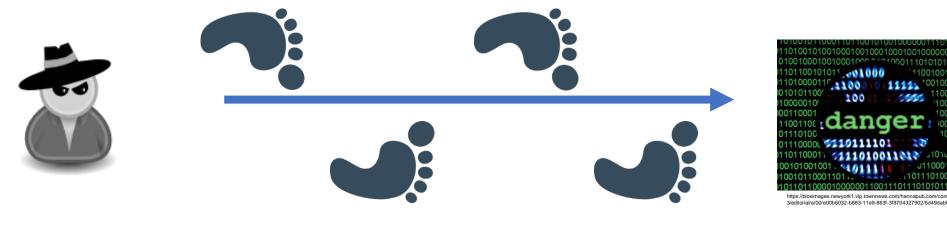
Knoweldge involved into exploit development



Knoweldge involved into exploit development



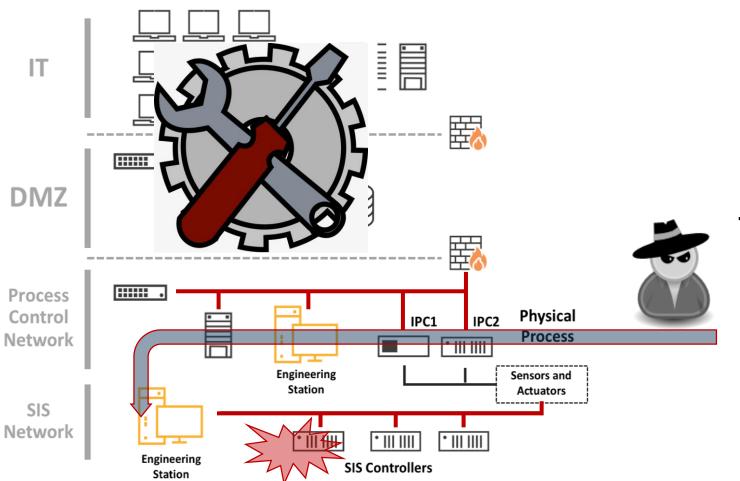
Designing cyber-physical payload



Evil Motivation

Cyber-physical Payload

Intrusion via trusted third-parties



Trusted third-party service providers





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