

Cyber-Physical Smart Grid Security

Dr Neetesh Saxena

Associate Professor

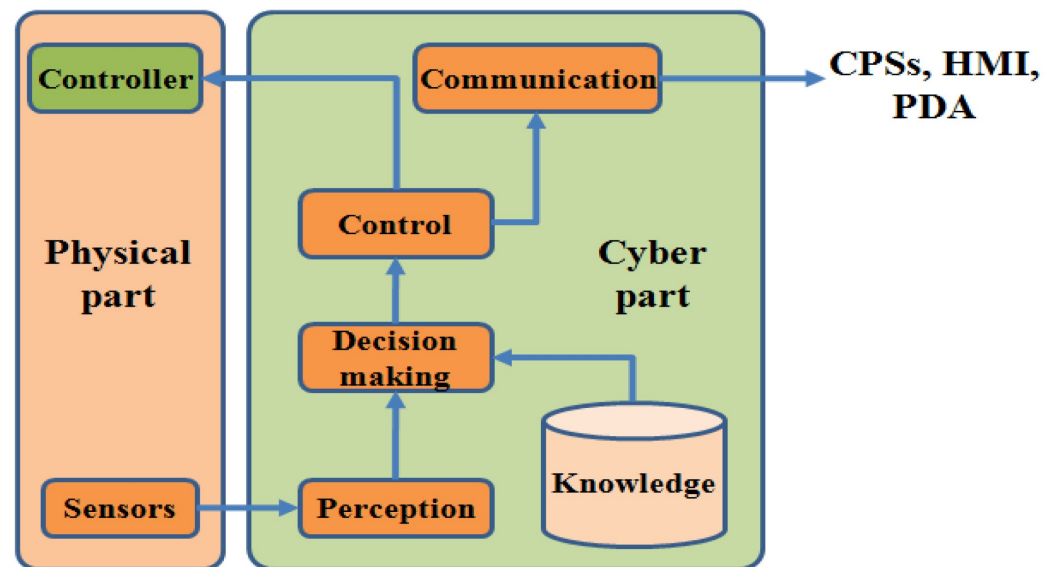
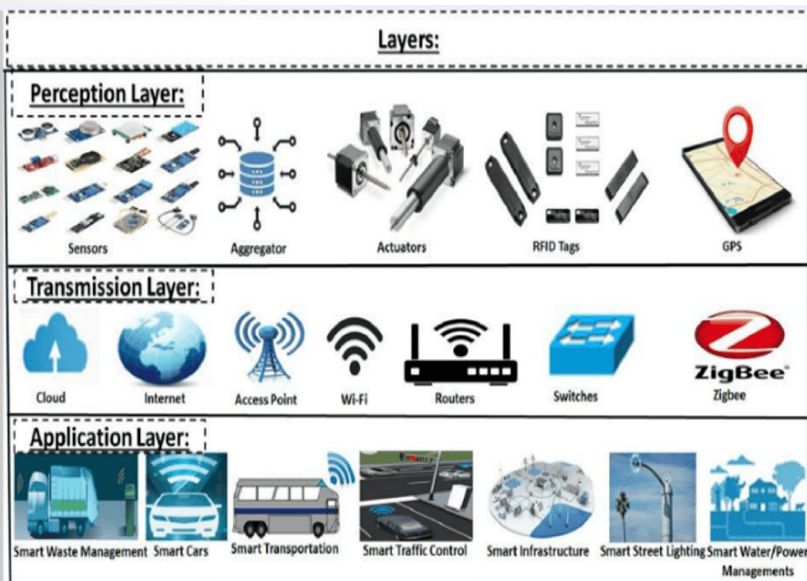
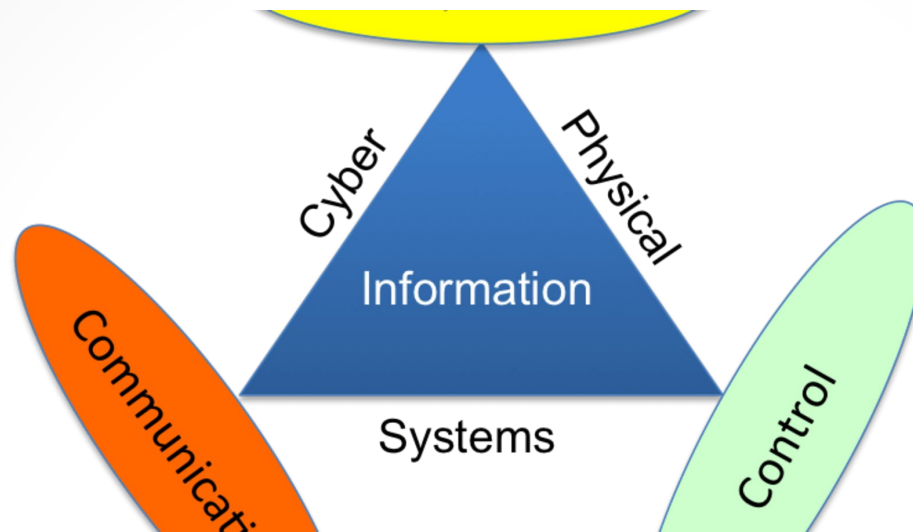
IEEE Senior Member

DAAD and TCS Fellow Alumni

Vice Chair, DASIG – IEEE UK and Ireland Systems Council

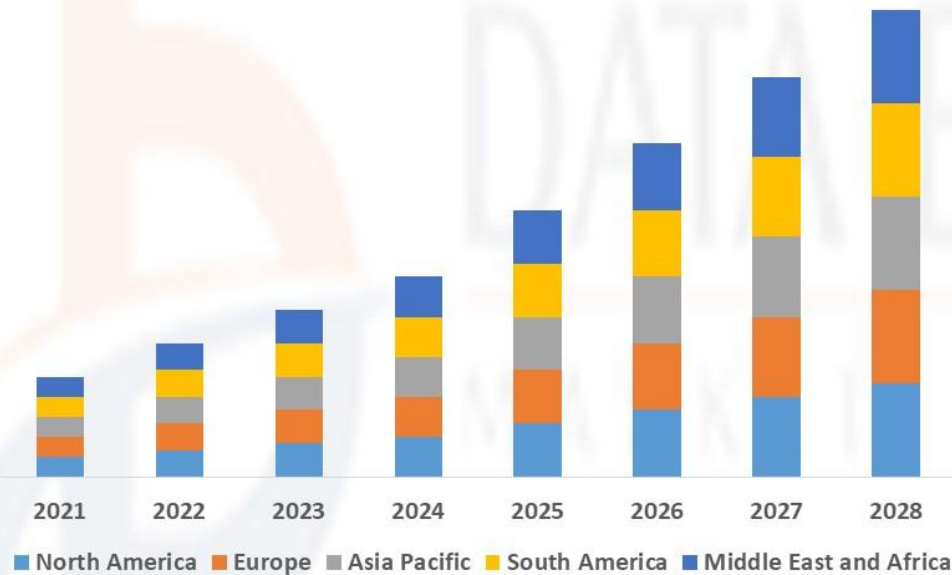
Cardiff University, United Kingdom

Cyber-Physical Systems



CPS Industry Market

Global Cyber-Physical Systems Market is Expected to Account for USD 12,356.23 Million by 2028



Global Cyber-Physical Systems Market, By Regions, 2021 to 2028



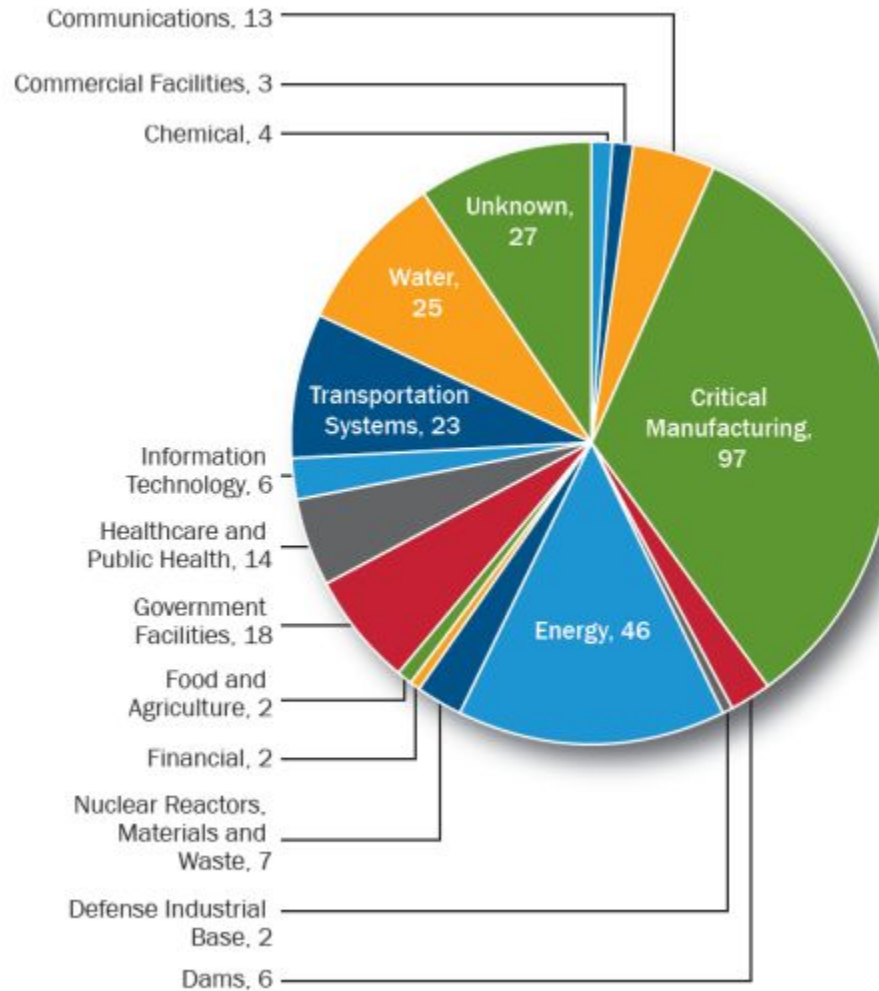
DATA BRIDGE MARKET RESEARCH



Cyber-physical systems market will reach at an estimated value of USD 12,356.23 million by 2028 and grow at a CAGR of 10.55% in the forecast period of 2021 to 2028.

Increase in the penetration of internet acts as an essential factor driving the cyber-physical systems market.

Incidents by Sectors



Research Interests

Critical Infrastructure Protection, Cyber Security, and Cyber-Physical System Security

Critical Systems Protection

Information Assurance

Authentication, identity and access management, availability, encryption, and non-repudiation.

Develop Strategies and Architectures

For SG

For V2G

For Cellular network and SMS

Securing Pub/Sub info

Secure wireless comm. info.

Information Privacy

Untraceability, anonymity, forward privacy.

Vulnerability Assessment

Vulnerability Identification and Detection

APT C&C malware - BlackEnergy, DoS attack, use of social engineering techniques (email).

Incident Responses

Response to cyber incidents and remediate attacks, host-based and log-based analysis.

Network Forensics

IDS, Wireshark with Jpcap, IP/TCP/UDP/ICMP/DNP3, traffic analysis.

System Simulation

Attack Modelling and Metrics Investigation

Cyber-attacks, component criticality matrix, trust matrix.

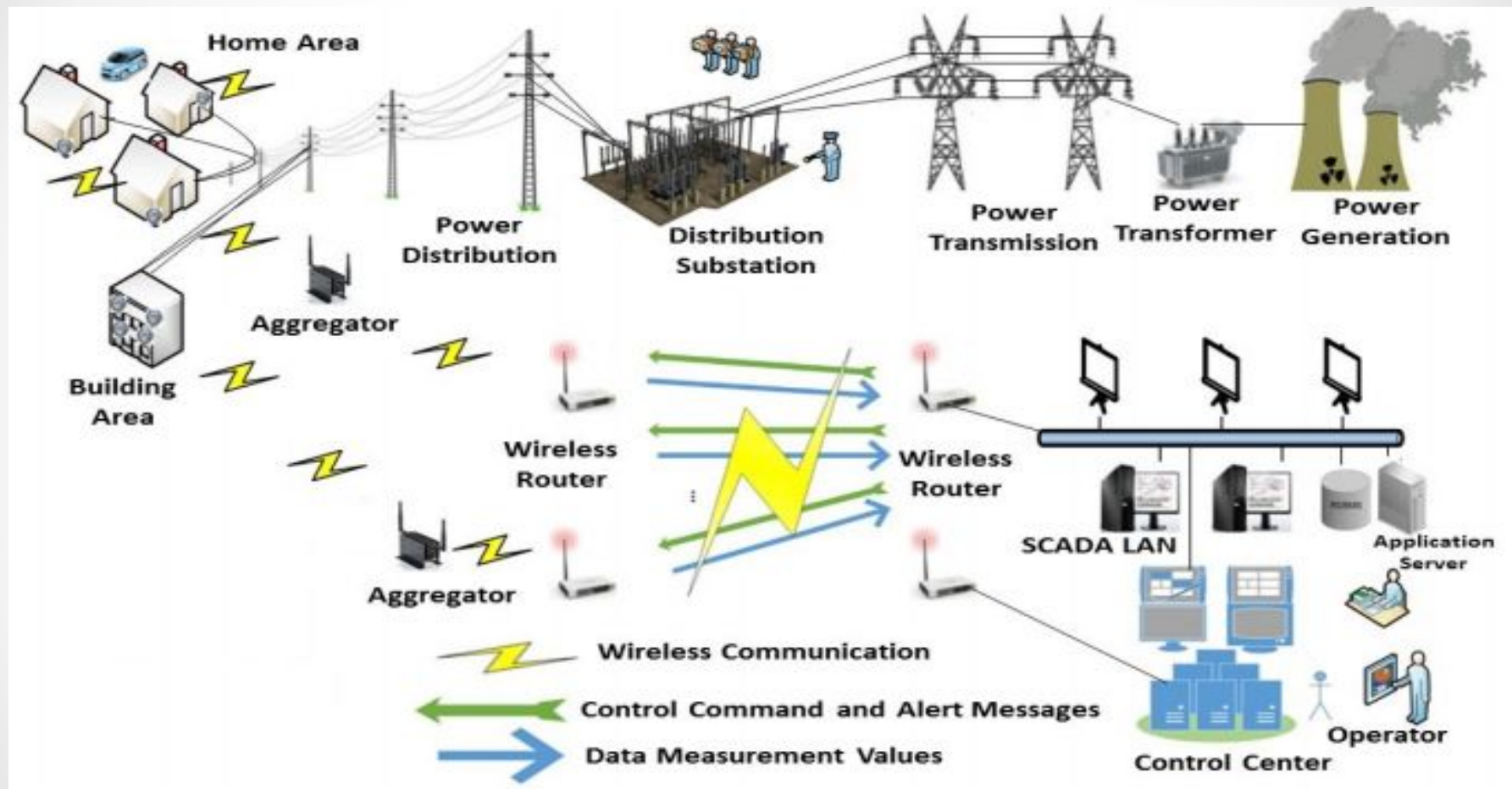
Accurate Reports and Result Analysis

CPS impact monitoring and analysis.

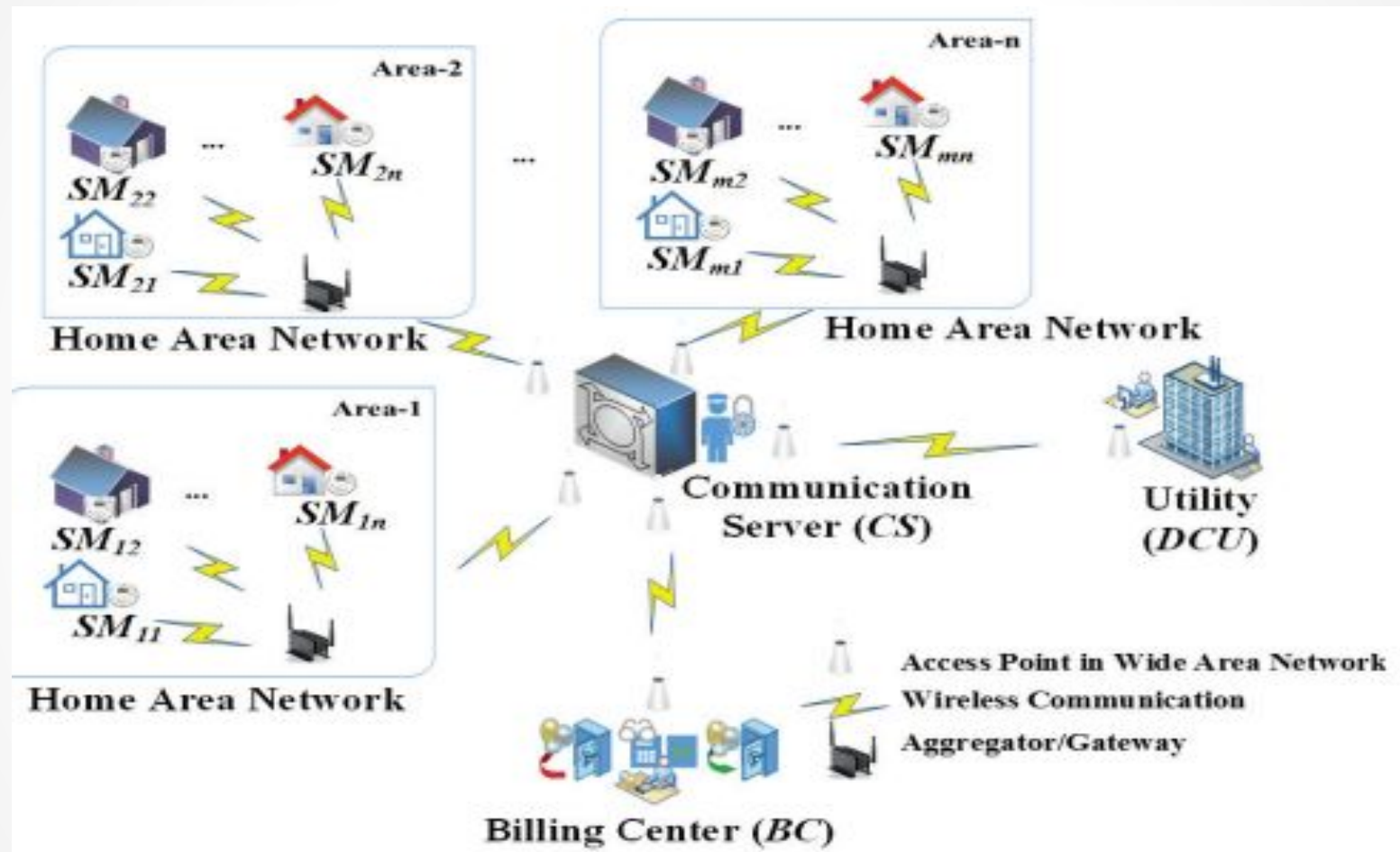
Analysis of Securing Last-Mile Communications

Measurements, control commands and alert messages.

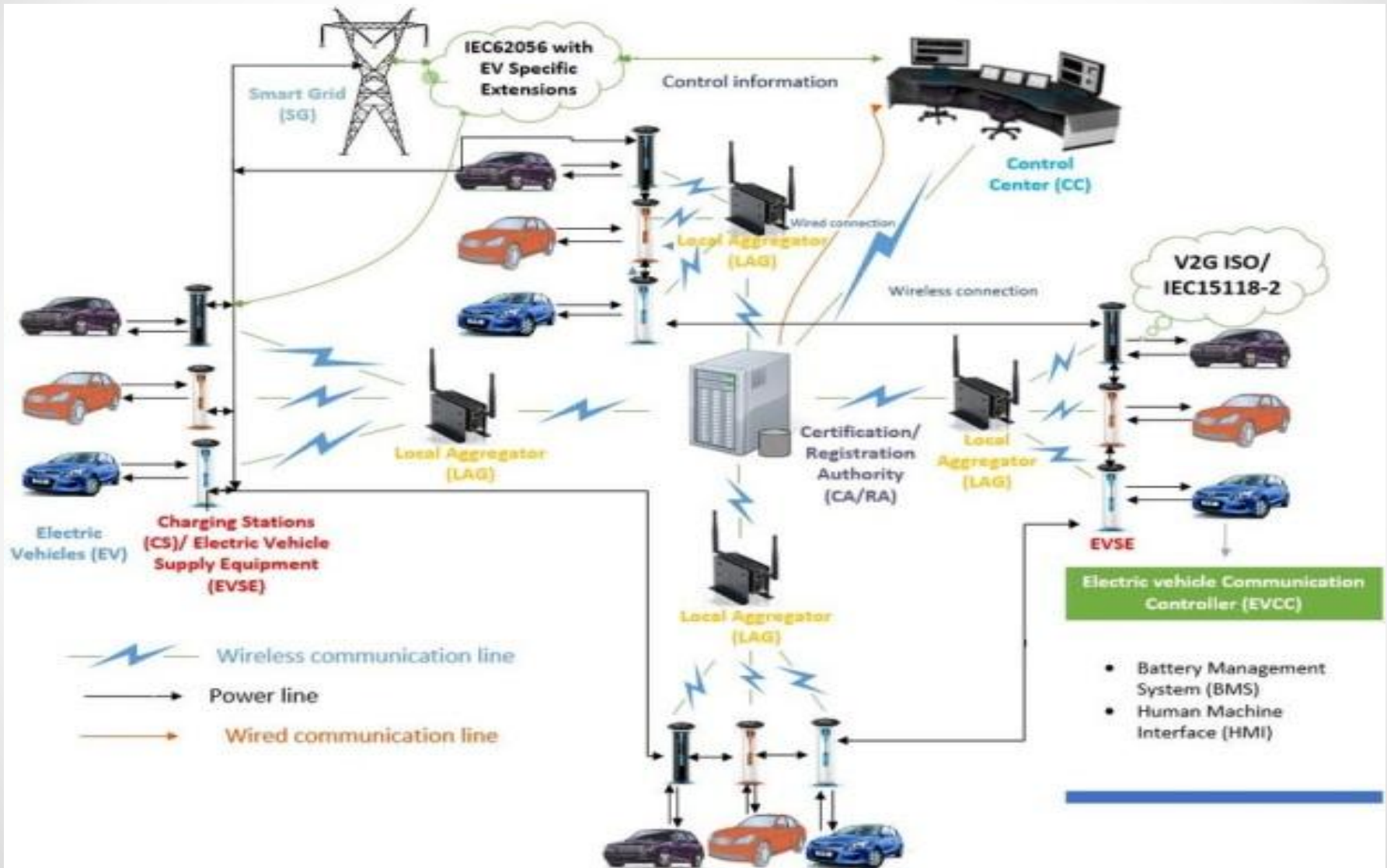
CPS Application 1



CPS Application 2



CPS Application 3



ICS – Situational Awareness

- ❑ **Last-Mile Resilient Communication** – solution for critical commands and data delivery & **Situational Awareness** – understanding impact of cyber attacks

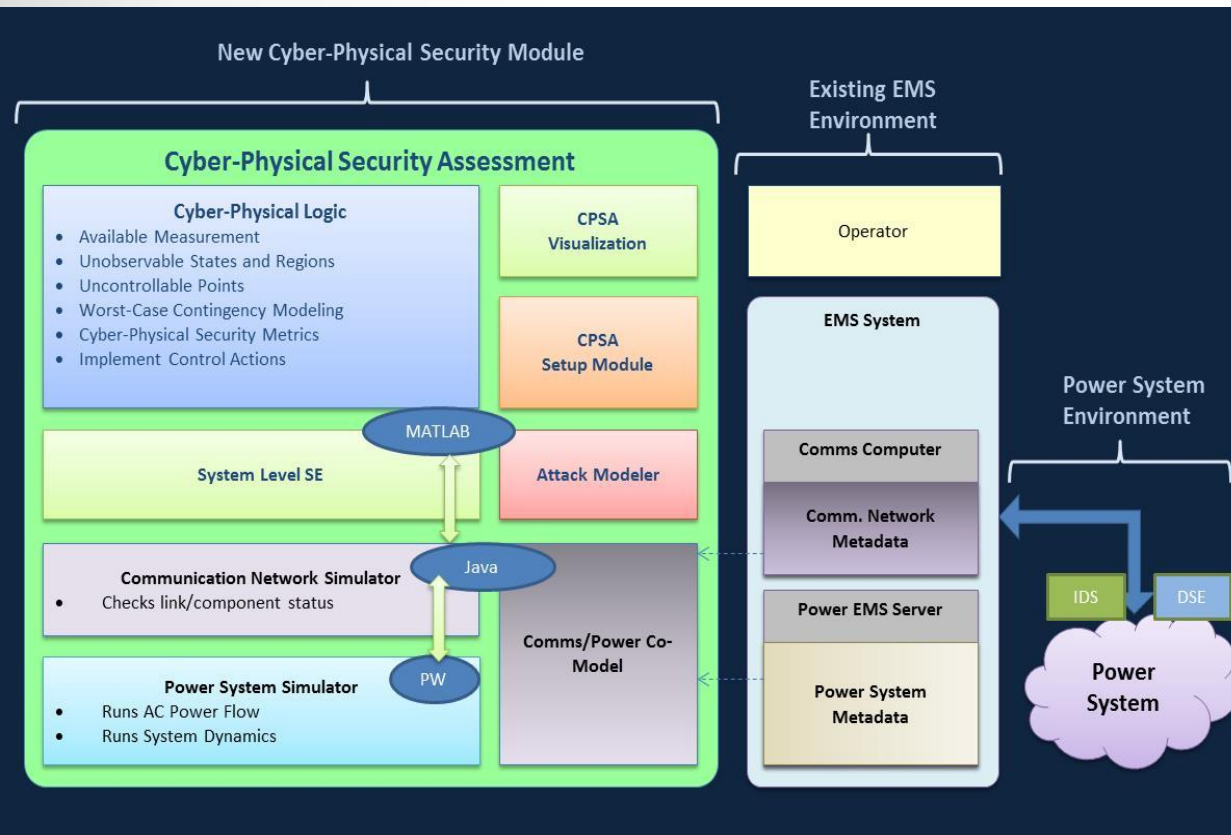
- ❑ **Situational Awareness – ICS**
 - Life safety, monitoring, security, mass notification
 - When is it too late? - track progress
 - Detect/recommend servicing before m/c /device breaks
 - reduce production/maintenance downtime.
 - Advance alerts - handled before emergency.
 - Receive an alert if a machine/device is overheating
 - Monitor when to change devices.
 - Informing the correct people
 - Sensors added to m/c /device send alert.
 - Incorporating existing systems into a situational alerting platform
 - multifaceted security control systems.

- ❑ **ICS/OT Resilience Techniques**
 - Effective analytics monitoring
 - Adaptive responses
 - Deception
 - Diversity techniques
 - Dynamic positioning & representation
 - Coordinated defence & segmentation

Power Grid Attack: Investigation & Solutions

- Targeting cyber-attacks on Ukraine power grid – one of the most critical issues worldwide.
 - Controlled a system, opened breakers, and took 30 substations, 2 power dist. centers offline.
- **How?**
 - Had gained access to user accounts for networks and devices.
 - Wrote malicious firmware to replace the legitimate firmware.
 - Launched telephone denial-of-service attack.
 - Phishing campaign - workers clicked on the phishing attachment - enable macros.
 - Ukraine utilities were forced to bear economic losses, down reputation, left consumers in dark.
- Word/Excel enables macros - triggers BlackEnergy
 - extracts the list of proxy servers in the networks.
- **Detection**
 - Designed a Tool - Event Logs and Host-Based Monitoring.
 - **Centralized Timeline analysis:** log files access, registry data, Internet history files.
 - **Communication network log files:** start/stop activity time, ACK status, comm. parameters.
 - **Other logs:** attempts of wrong password/change settings of the device, temporal anomalies.
 - Extract macros without running Excel/Word - *oledump* (object linking and embedding tool).
 - **Network Forensics and IPS/IDS Rules Formation – Suricata, DNP3 and Wireshark.**
 - **Block** - malicious URLs and masks, botnet C&C URLs + IP addresses and port#.
 - Compute and block - MD5/SHA **hashes of malicious objects/files database.**
 - OWASP – File Hash Repository

Cyber-Physical Situational Awareness



Component	Physical	Cyber	Other	Total	Last Time
Bus					
Generator					
Load					
Transformer					
Other					

Component Trust Matrix

Component	V. Low	Low	Moderate	High	Critical
Bus					
Generator					
Load					
Transformer					
Other					

Component Criticality Matrix

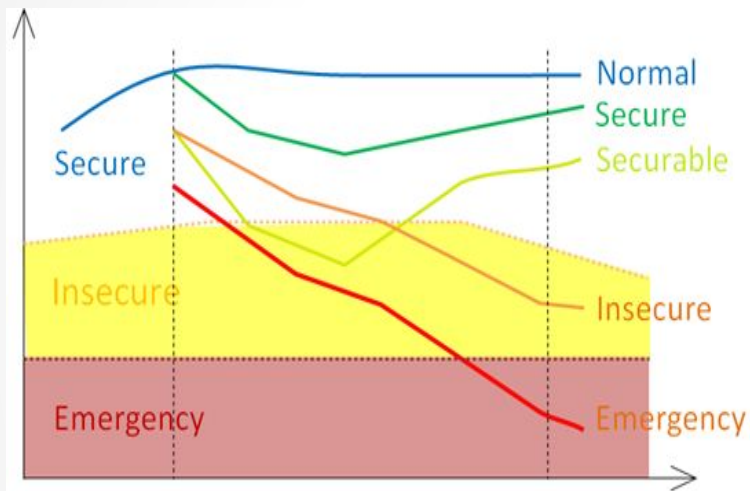
Co-simulator with modelling of cyber attacks

Objectives

- System-level cyber-security assessment.
- Steady-state cyber-attack impact assessment.
- Cyber-security state estimator with system-level comm. topology.

Situational Awareness: Effects of Cyber Attacks

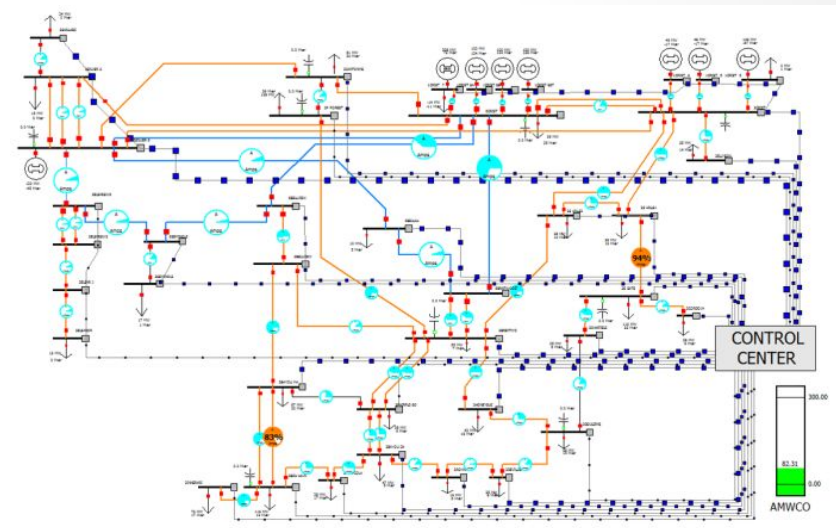
Evaluate system behavior with cyber-attacks scenarios.
 Evaluate system behavior with future demands scenarios.
 30 iterations- next half an hour with varying load.



Understanding cyber-physical effects.

“Under Attack” Scenario:

- System recovery from a critical security issue
 - frequent generation of dynamic secrets and secret keys recover the system.
- Situational awareness



Effects of Cyber and Physical Events

Event	Type
Altered Measurement	Cyber
RTU stream blocked	Cyber
Unexpected load increase	Physical
Altered control command	Cyber

Simulation CC <-> RTU

Baud Rate

1572864

Propagation Delay

300

of Packets

1

Command: CC -> RTU

Command: Send Measurement Values-

CC: Packet Size

80

RTU: Packet Size

1500

Operation ☐ Normal ☐ Single Attack ☐ Multiple Attacks

Duration

2

Single Attack

Single RTU Delay Attack

Timestep

0

Command Type

Duration

Multiple Attacks

Timestep

Delay Attack

2

Single RTU Delay Attack

0

DoS Attack

Single RTU DoS Attack

0

Bad Measurement Injection

Bad Data Injection

0

Bad Command Injection

Bad Command Injection

0

Run



Output

Simulation starts...

Iteration 1 starts...
Bad Data Injection Flag: 0
Bad Command Flag: 0
Network Delay Flag: 0
Disabled RTU Flag: 0
Command Message: Send Measurement Values...

Iteration 2 starts...
Bad Data Injection Flag: 0
Bad Command Flag: 0
Network Delay Flag: 0
Disabled RTU Flag: 0
Command Message: Send Measurement Values...

Starting network ...

Initialising...

Starting GridSim version 5.0

Entities started.

CC_port1: Sending Command: Send Measurement Values-1, at time = 5.0

RTU_1: Receive Command: Send Measurement Values-1, at time = 5.900406901041666

CC_port2: Sending Command: Send Measurement Values-1, at time = 10.0

RTU_2: Receive Command: Send Measurement Values-1, at time = 10.900406901041668

CC_port3: Sending Command: Send Measurement Values-1, at time = 15.0

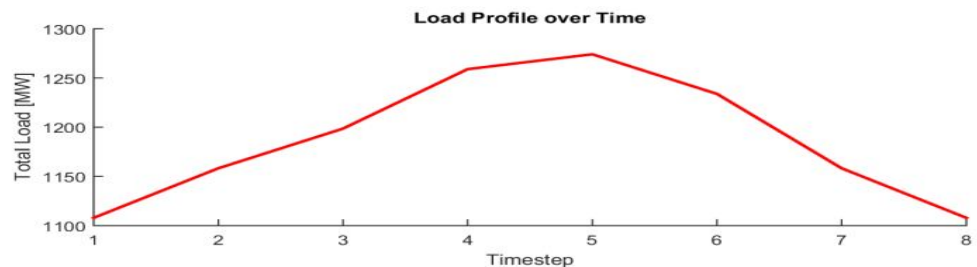
RTU_1: Sending: All Files to CC_port1, at time = 15.900406901041666

RTU_3: Receive Command: Send Measurement Values-1, at time = 15.900406901041668

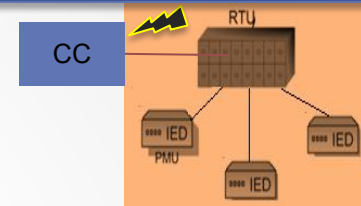
CC_port1: Receives Ack for RTU_1

CC_port4: Sending Command: Send Measurement Values-1, at time = 20.0

RTU_2: Sending: All Files to CC_port2, at time = 20.90040690104167



Bad Measurement Injection & Malicious Command Injection

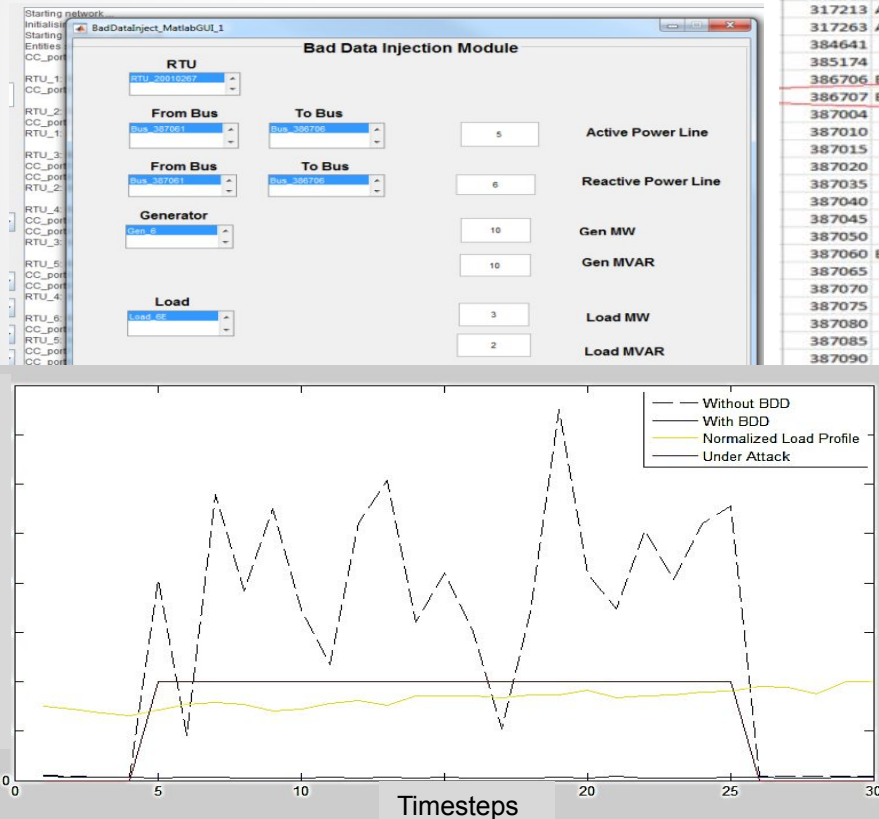


Scenario: Case 1

- Attacker manipulates raw measurements at RTU.
- RTU sends bad measurements to the CC.
- IDS/DSE provides an alert of suspicious data.

Scenario: Case 2

- Attacker intercepts a legitimate command, alters it.
- IDS identifies bad command based on its rules.
- IDS notifies to the CC and asks for confirmation.
- Operator simulates - confirms or rejects command.



LOAD					
BusNum	LoadID	LoadStatus	LoadMW	LoadMVAR	
317213	A1	Closed	11.64435	0.20	
317263	A1	Closed	7.596843	0.08	
384641	1	Closed	4.961255	0.	
385174	1	Closed	4.745897	0.18	
386706	E6	Closed	2.024603	1.29	
386707	EC	Open	0	0	
387004	1	Closed	9.539241	4.05	
387010	1	Closed	45.11557	14.5	
387015	1	Closed	150.0504	23.9	
387020	1	Closed	35.73277	8.32	
387035	1	Closed	11.68927	3.83	
387040	1	Closed	285.2414	80.0	
387045	1	Closed	55.70441	18.3	
387050	1	Closed	39.63095	4.19	
387060	EC	Closed	22.5808	14.8	
387065	1	Closed	9.355327	5.62	
387070	1	Closed	36.33285	3.70	
387075	1	Closed	380.5447	159.	
387080	1	Closed	49.85665	12.0	
387085	1	Closed	52.44671	12.9	
387090	1	Closed	9.239212	3.26	
387095	1	Closed	33.00498	9.32	
387100	1	Closed	74.60045	29.8	
387105	1	Closed	61.41096	18.1	
387110	1	Closed	7.658389	2.60	
387115	1	Closed	9.992132	2.51	

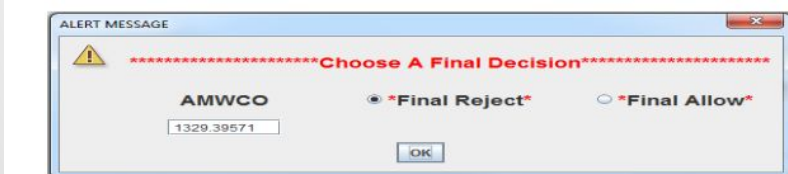
The figure shows the 'Action: CC <-> RTU' configuration window. It includes fields for Baud Rate, Propagation Delay, CC: Packet Size, and RTU: Packet Size. It also shows the Sender (CC_port1) and Recipient (RTU_1) configuration. The Command field is set to 'Command: Change Breaker/Line Status-'. The window also displays the # of Packets, Branch, Bus, Generator, and LineCircuit configuration.

The figure shows an 'ALERT MESSAGE' dialog box. The message states: 'IDS Suspects It's a Bad Command! Command: Change Generator Status'. The dialog box has buttons for 'Reject', 'Simulate', and 'Allow - Execute on Real System'. The 'Simulate' button is selected. The dialog box also displays a JSON File and a 'Final Reject' button.

Malicious Command Injection



An alert message sent from the RTU to the CC.



Final decision to accept or reject the command.

Action: CC <-> RTU

Baud Rate	Propogation Delay	CC: Packet Size	RTU: Packet Size
1572864	300	80	1500
Default: 1572864 ...	Default: 300 ...	Default: 80 bytes.	Default: 1500 byte...

Sender	Recipient	Station#
CC_port1	RTU_1	1
Default: CC_port1	Default: RTU...	Default: 1

of Packets: 1 (Default: 1)

Command: CC -> RTU
Command: Change Generator Status- (Default Command: Send Measurement V...)

Branch	BusNum1	BusNum2	LineCircuit	LineStatus
	39	41	1	Closed

Bus	BusNum	BusPUVolt	BusRad
	39	0.98	0.5

Generator	BusNum	GenID	GenStatus	GenMW	GenMVR	GenVoltSet
	10	4	Open	49.35	-21.77	1.0

Load	BusNum	LoadID	LoadStatus	LoadMW	LoadMVR
	1	A1	Closed	21.04	0.37

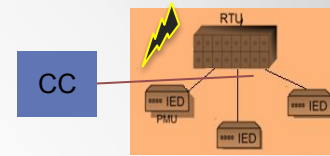
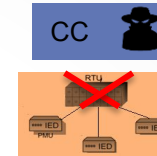
Transformer	BusNum1	BusNum2	LineCircuit	LineStatus	LineTap
	5	2	1	Closed	1.00

Shunt	BusNum	ShuntID	ShuntStatus
	6	1	Open

Run

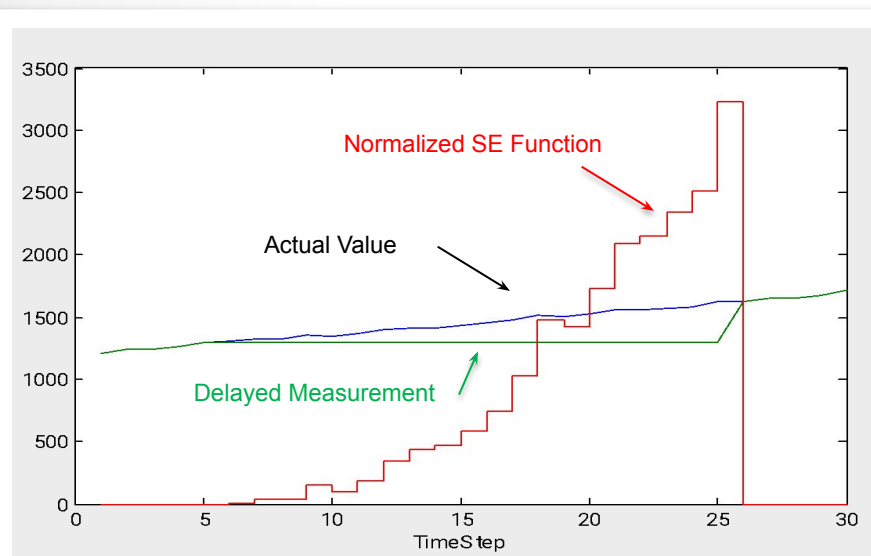
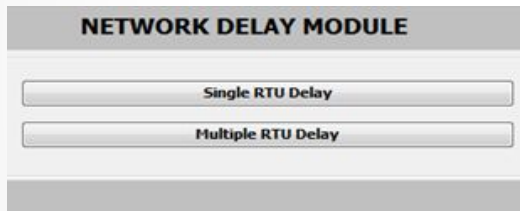
A command simulation GUI at the CC.

Communication Network Delay & Disabled RTU



Scenario: Case 3

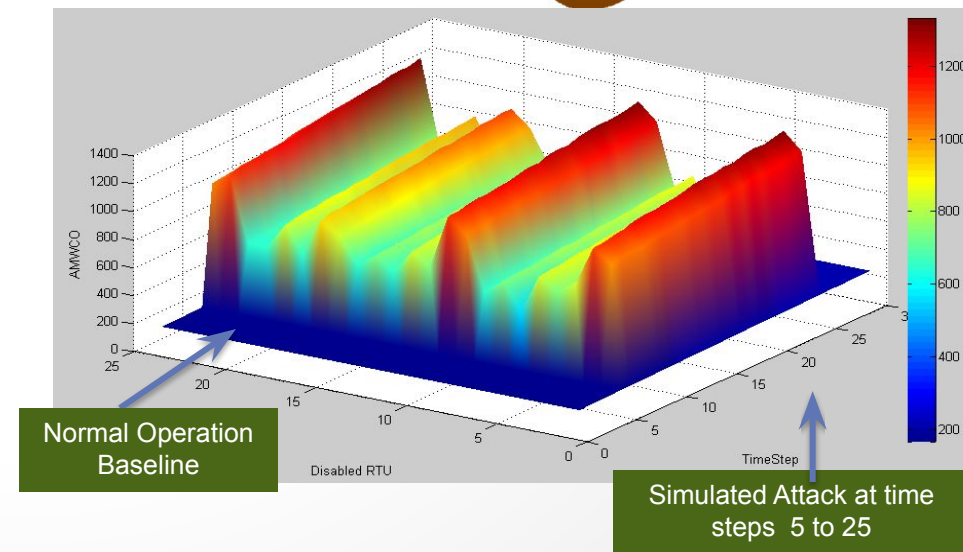
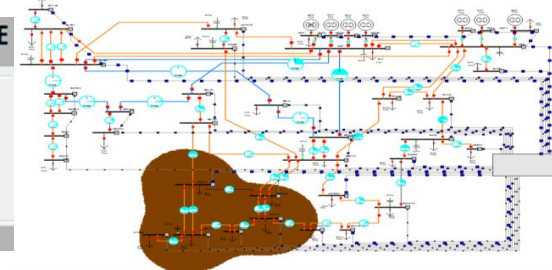
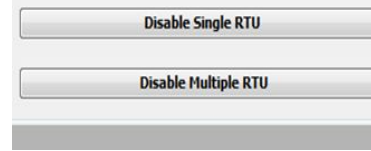
- Attacker floods network with useless packets delaying measurements from RTU to CC.
- Delay is detectable by the SE, which sees increase in measurement residuals.
- If delay persists, SE function increases beyond a threshold and CPSA logic is invoked.



Scenario: Case 4

- Attacker disables CC-RTU link.
- CC cannot receive data from RTU or execute commands.
- Observability analysis identifies unobservable parts.
- Uncontrollable points are identified.
- CPSA simulates attacker worst-case actions.

DOS ATTACK (DISABLE RTUs) MODULE



Results Monitoring

BRANCH

BusNum	BusNum:1	LineCircui	LineStatus	LineMW	LineMVR	BusNum	GenID	GenStatus	GenMW	GenMVR	GenVoltSet
1	7	1	Closed	-21.04	-0.37	10	4	Closed	49.35	-22.3874	1
2	3	1	Closed	10.20337	-0.14802	11	5	Closed	48.2	-22.3874	1
5	2	1	Closed	5.13083	-0.05707	12	6	Closed	149.43	-86.7907	1
5	2	2	Closed	5.0733	-0.05522	13	7	Closed	207.021	24.43159	1.0348
3	4	1	Closed	10.20168	-0.00341	14	8	Closed	100	138.7	1.0348
5	6	1	Closed	8.832336	2.949891	15	8A	Closed	100	123.5	1.0348

BUS

BusNum	BusName	BusPUVol	BusRad	BusNum	BusNum:1	LineCircui	LineStatus	LineTap
1	3SHILLAEC	1.014889	0.538019	5	2	1	Closed	1
2	3ELSNRSV	1.016529	0.542856	5	2	2	Closed	1
3	3ELSNR J	1.016344	0.541792	6	7	1	Closed	1
4	3ELSANOF	1.016179	0.540943	6	7	2	Closed	1
5	6ELSNRSV	1.016559	0.546357	8	9	1	Closed	1
6	6SILVER 6	1.015285	0.544642	28	10	1	Closed	1

TRANSFORMER

LOAD

BusNum	LoadID	LoadStatus	LoadMW	LoadMVR	BusNum	ShuntID	SSStatus
1	A1	Closed	21.04	0.37	6	1	Open
4	A1	Closed	10.19974	0.112085	21	1	Open
7	1	Closed	15.15717	0.402403	23	1	Open
9	1	Closed	13.34872	0.513412	24	1	Open
12	E6	Closed	1.856063	1.187481	27	1	Open
13	EC	Closed	-12.1796	-9.14255	28	1	Open

SHUNT

A sample meta-data of the power system components.

normal_start - Excel

GEN					
Fri 2016.08.19 at 04:13:40 PM EDT					
BusNum	GenID	GenStatus	GenMW	GenMVR	GenVoltSet
10	4	Closed	49.35	-22.3867	1
11	5	Closed	48.2	-22.3867	1
12	6	Closed	149.43	-86.7881	1
13	7	Closed	207.021	24.43131	1.0348
14	8	Closed	100	138.7	1.0348
15	2	Closed	100	123.5	1.0348
16	3	Closed	100	123.5	1.0348
36	1	Closed	200	73.03659	1

BC-attack - Excel

GEN					
2016-08-19-16-13-58					
BusNum	GenID	GenStatus	GenMW	GenMVR	GenVoltSet
10	4	Closed	49.35	-22.3867	1
11	5	Closed	48.2	-22.3867	1
12	6	Closed	149.43	-86.7881	1
13	7	Closed	207.021	24.43131	1.0348
14	8	Closed	100	138.7	1.0348
15	2	Closed	100	123.5	1.0348
16	3	Closed	100	123.5	1.0348
36	1	Open	0	0	1

Legitimate vs. malicious command to open a generator breaker (Bus number 36, generator ID 1).

Results Monitoring

System Susceptibility Metric

Components	Low	Moderate	High	Critical
Bus	1-12, 18, 35	17, 13-16, 37-42	20-23, 25-34	19, 24, 36
Generator	2-4	5	7-8	1, 6
Load	3-10, 26	1-2, 22-24	11-20	21, 25, 27
Transformer	2-5	1	-	6
Shunt	1-3	5-9	-	4

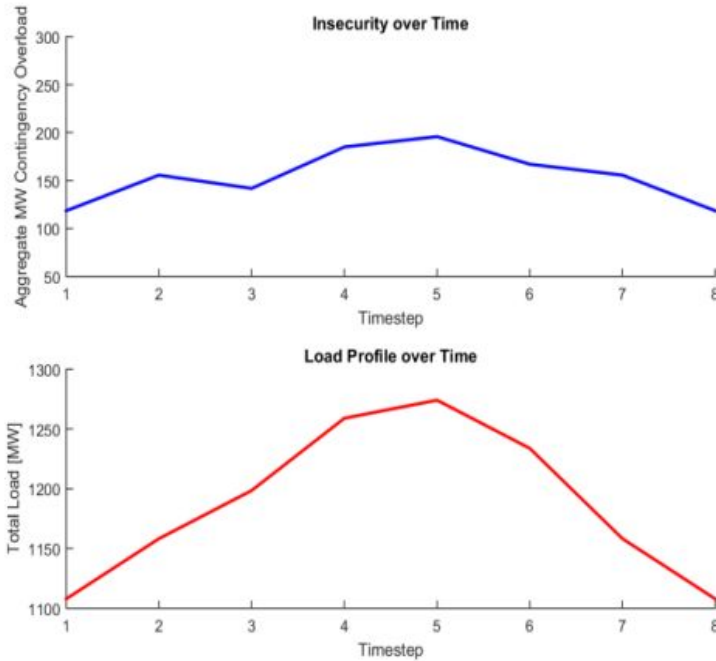
Access Points Metric

Components	Low	Moderate	High	Critical
Substation RTU	1-4	5, 7-14	16-23	6, 15, 24
CC Port	1-9, 11-18	19-24	10	-
Router	1	-	2	-

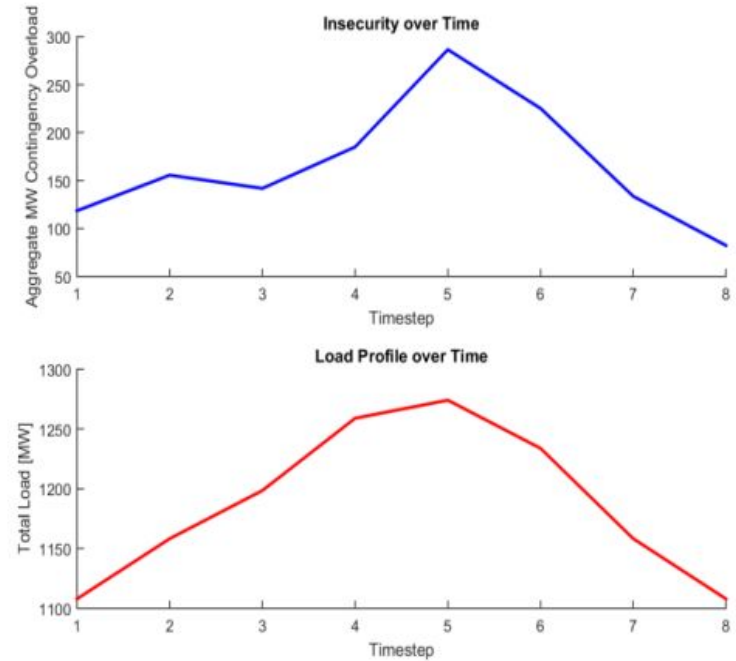
Threat Capability Metric

Threat Suspect	Source IP	Destination IP	Timestamp	Data Type	Packet Size (Octets)
CC Port-10	192.168.0. 3	192.168.0.7	23-Oct 10:15:27	substation data	255
RTU-6	192.168.0.7	192.168.0.13	31-Oct 21:32:11	command "open Gen 6"	125
RTU-16	192.168.0.7	192.168.0.23	5-Nov 11:45:37	command "open Load 21"	127
RTU-24	192.168.0.7	192.168.0.31	10-Nov 18:10:23	command "open Trans 6"	122

Malicious Command Impact Monitoring



(a) Normal operation.



(b) Malicious command injection operation.

Detecting malicious operation at timestep 5 by comparing the SysAMWCO

[illegible]

Event logs maintained at the intermediate routers.

Thank You

