

# Evasion attack against Multivariate Singular Spectrum Analysis based IDS

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- Industrial Control System
- Process-level IDS
- Attack Model
- MSSA based IDS
- Evasion attack
- Experiment and Result
- Conclusion

# Industrial Control System (ICS)

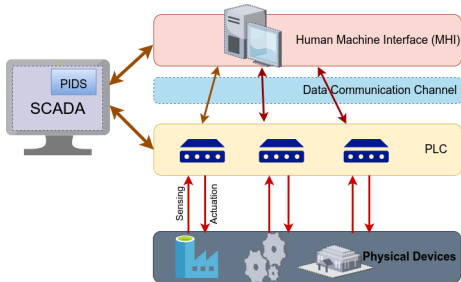


Figure 1: High level architecture of system model.

- CIs are mostly maintained by ICS
- Consists of various workstations
- Some past incidents are:
  - Iranian nuclear plant in 2009
  - German steel mill in 2014
  - Saudi petroleum refinery in 2017
  - Indian nuclear plant (NPCIL) in 2019
  - Israel water treatment plant in 2020

# Process level IDS

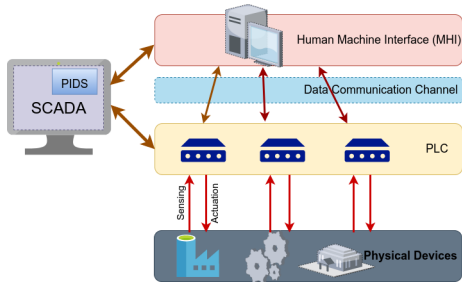


Figure 2: High level architecture of system model.

- An ICS is protected by various layers of protection
- But an attacker can evade such protection
- The ultimate attacker's aim gets reflected in physical process
- A process level IDS monitors the sensor measurements to detect attack induced abnormalities

# Attack Model

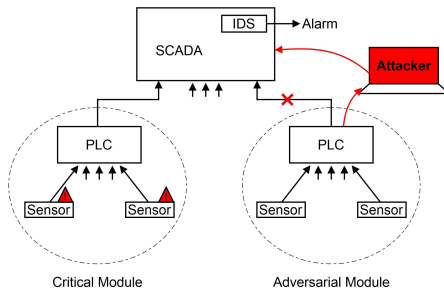


Figure 3: High level architecture of attack model.

- Attacker targets to the most critical component
- But the critical components are more protected
- Attacker finds some easy manipulable components
- A MITM attacker manipulate sensor measurements [1, 2, 3]
- Proposed perturbation method to craft adversarial measurements

- A multivariate IDS
- MSSA based IDS [4] is:
  - Computationally efficient
  - Captures temporal information
  - Captures mutual correlation
  - Supports noise cancellation property
  - Capable to detect even a stealthy attack
  - Suitable for large scale ICS/IIoT networks

# Working of MSSA based IDS

- It works by projecting the recent sensor measurements on noise free signal subspace
- Attack is detected based on departure of projected measurement

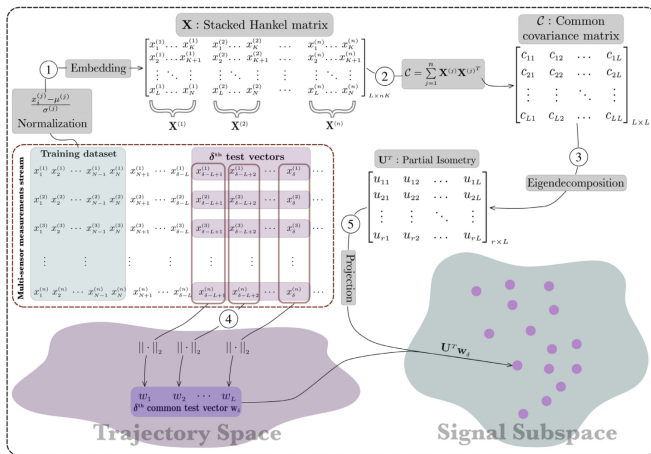


Figure 4: Working of MSSA Based IDS [4]

- Parameters after training:
  - Projection Matrix:  $U^T \in \mathbb{R}^{R \times L}$
  - Centroid Vector:  $\hat{c} \in \mathbb{R}^R$
  - Classifier Threshold:  $\theta$
  - Lag Parameter  $L$
  - $\mu^{(n)}, \sigma^{(n)}$



Consider an ICS consisting of  $N$  sensors where  $n^{\text{th}}$  sensor generates measurement  $X_t^{(n)}$  at time  $t$ . The IDS performs following steps at timestamp  $t$ :

- 1 Normalization:

$$(X_t^{(n)} - \mu^{(n)})/\sigma^{(n)}$$

- 2 Compute aggregated measurement

$$m_t = ||X_t||$$

- It forms an aggregated time series over time

$$\mathcal{T} = [\dots, m_t, \dots]$$

- 3 Compute L length lag vector:

$$w_t = [m_{t-L+1}, \dots, m_{t-1}, m_t]^T$$

- 4 Compute the departure score:

$$D_t = ||\hat{c} - U^T w_t||^2$$

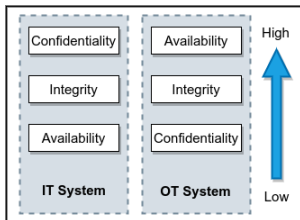
- 5 If  $D_t > \theta$ , then raise an attack alarm

- The current evasion attack methods [6, 7] are against deep-learning based IDS
- Do not consider time-series based models
- Deep-learning based IDS suffers from various limitations:
  - High computation cost
  - Noise cancellation property

The low computation cost and noise cancellation property of MSSA-based IDS make it one of the most suitable in large-scale ICS/IIoT networks, which motivates us to analyse it against evasion attacks.

# Evasion Attack: Capabilities

## ■ Accessibility



- High availability supports non-encrypted communication [3, 5]
- An attacker already present in the network can eavesdrop
- Manipulation capability
  - A rootkit can be deployed to PLC to manipulate the sensor measurements [1]
  - A victimized employee can be used for exploitation [2]
  - Various vulnerabilities are reported in OT networks,  $\approx 83\%$  violates communication [3]

# Evasion Attack: Greedy Approach

- Objective Function:

$$\hat{m}_{t+1} = \arg \min_{m'_{t+1}} (D'_{t+1})$$

- Simplify  $D'_{t+1}$  for unknown:

$$\begin{aligned} D'_{t+1} &= \|\hat{c} - U^T \cdot w'_{t+1}\|^2 \\ &= \|\hat{c} - (U[1:L-1])^T \cdot w'_{t+1}[1:L-1] + U[L] * w'_{t+1}[L]\|^2 \\ &= \|y - U[L] * m'_{t+1}\|^2 \\ &= \|U[L]\|^2 m'^2_{t+1} - 2(y^T \cdot U[L])m'_{t+1} + \|y\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

where,

$$y = \hat{c} - U[1:L-1]^T \cdot w'_{t+1}[1:L-1]$$

- Minima:

$$\hat{m}_{t+1} = \frac{y^T \cdot U[L]}{\|U[L]\|^2}$$

- Estimate the adversarial measurements

- Break  $\hat{m}_{t+1} = \|X_{t+1}\|$  into adversarial and non-adversarial:

$$\|X_{t+1}[\overline{adv}]\|^2 + \|X_{t+1}[adv]\|^2 = \hat{m}_{t+1}^2$$

- Assumption  $X_{t+1} \approx X_t$ :

$$\|X_{t+1}[adv]\|^2 = \hat{m}_{t+1}^2 - \|X_t[\overline{adv}]\|^2$$

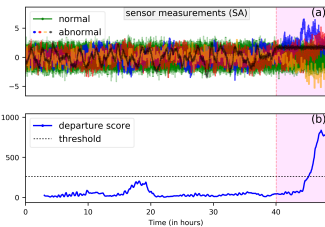
- Manipulation is performed only if departure score is above an estimated threshold

# Evasion Attack: Constraints

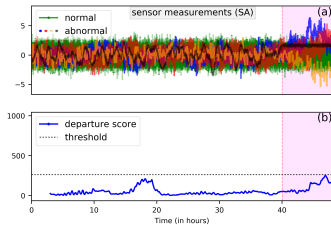
- Accessibility constraints
  - White Box attacker:  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{X}, f, \phi)$
  - Gray Box attacker:  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{X}, f, \phi)$
- Manipulation constraints
  - Manipulated measurement must be within the normal range

- TE-process simulator [8] is used
- Generated normal measurements
- Generated stealthy attack dataset
- Generated Direct damage attack dataset
- Ensure main sensors impacted by attack

# Stealthy attack scenarios



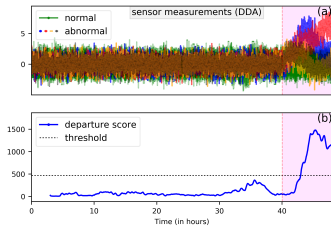
Before Manipulation



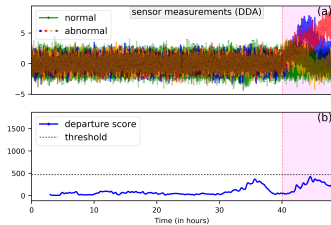
After Manipulation



# Direct damage attack scenarios

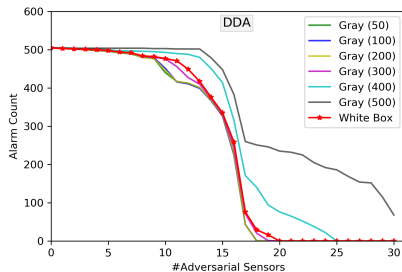
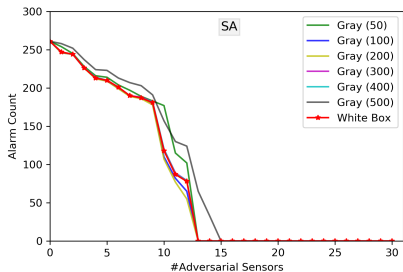


Before Manipulation



After Manipulation

# White box and Gray box



# Complexity Analysis

- Time Complexity:  $O(RL)$
- Space Complexity:  $O(RL)$
- Which is equal to the IDS
- Experimental: 53.7  $\mu$ -Sec

# Conclusion

- We discussed vulnerability of MSSA based IDS
- A practicality of attack model
- Evasion attack against a time-series based IDS
- A novel perturbation method
- Demonstrated on SA and DDA attack scenarios



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Thank You!!