



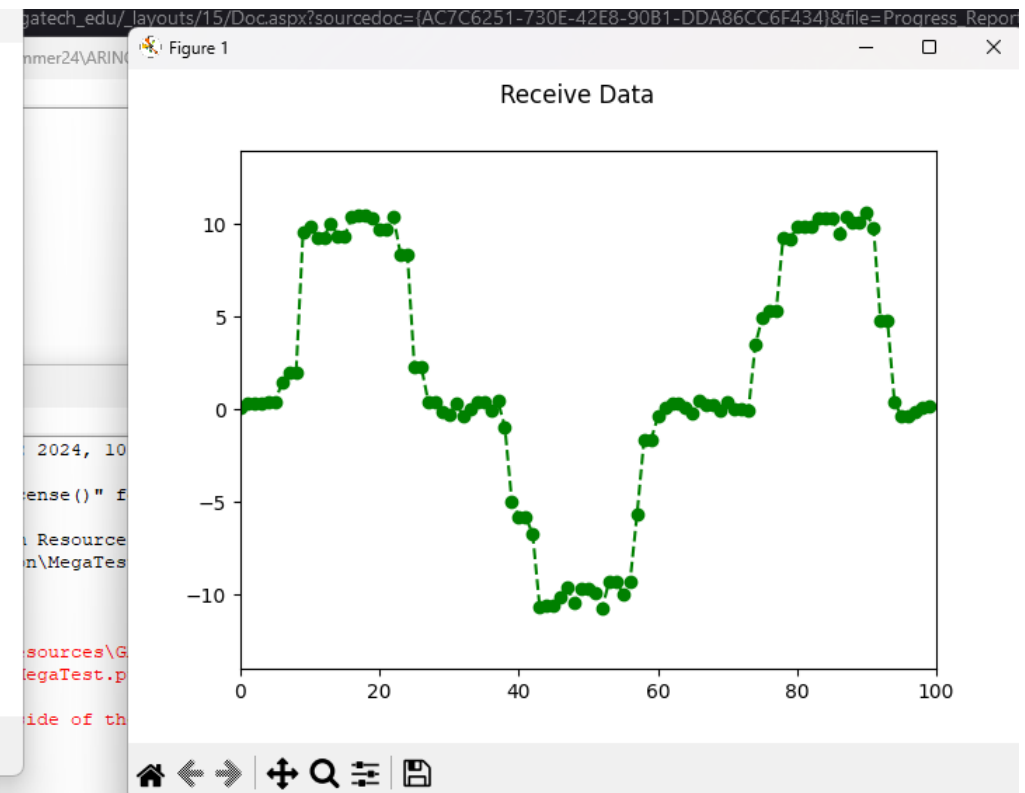
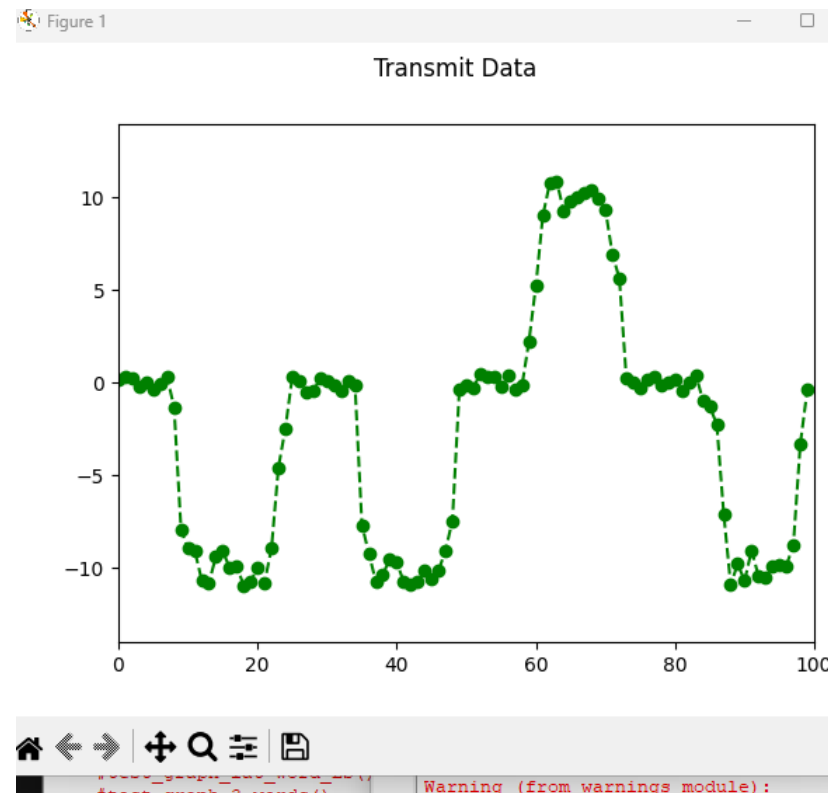
# **Lowering Avionics Bus Trust: Moving ARINC 429 Bus Architecture Towards Zero Trust.**

**Matthew Preston Final Presentation**

# Overview



- Problem Description
- Solution
- Demo
- Evaluations
- Limitations
- Possible Next Steps / Future Work



# Problem Description



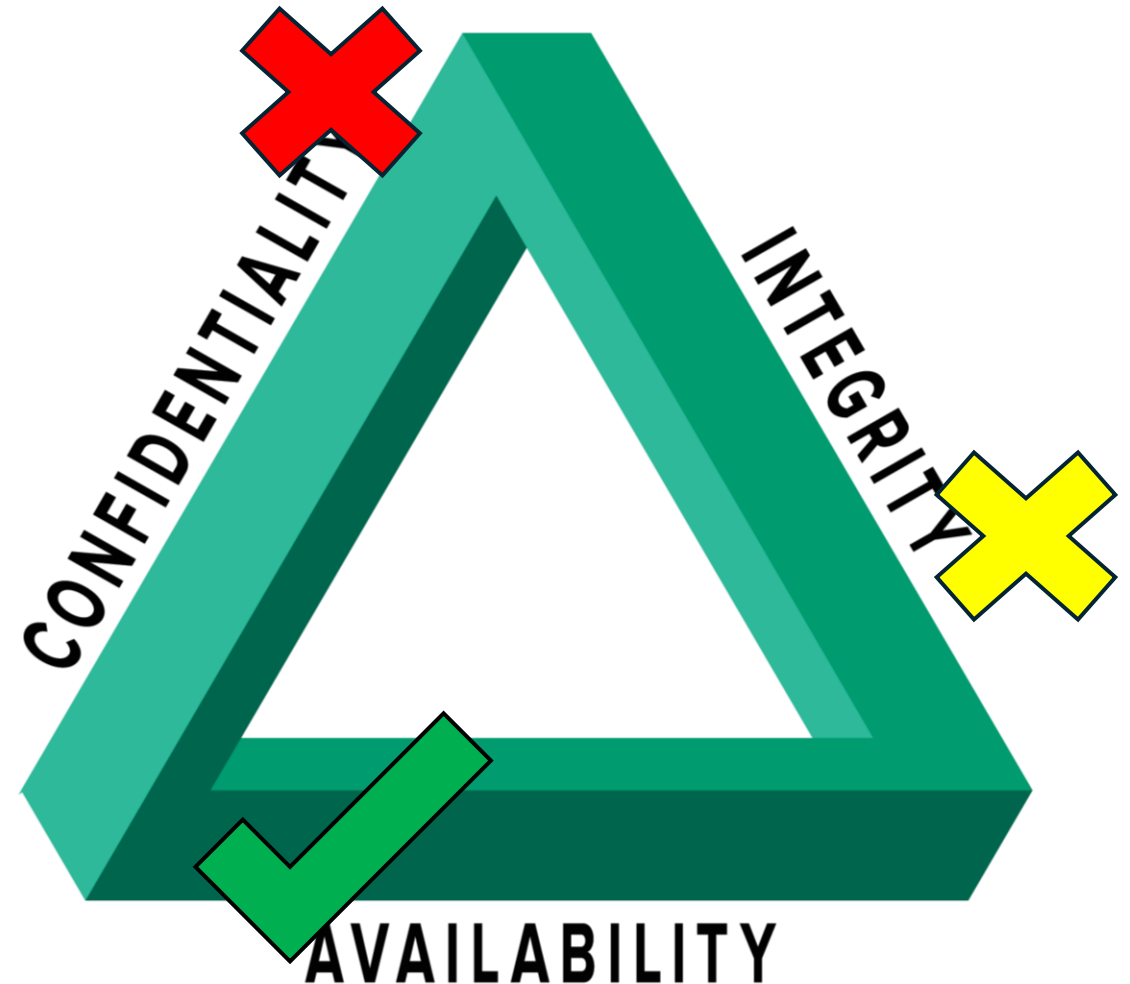
- ARINC 429 bus architecture is insecure
- Any command is trusted and executed by receiver LRUs
- Compromising legacy systems and software can be catastrophic



# Problem Description



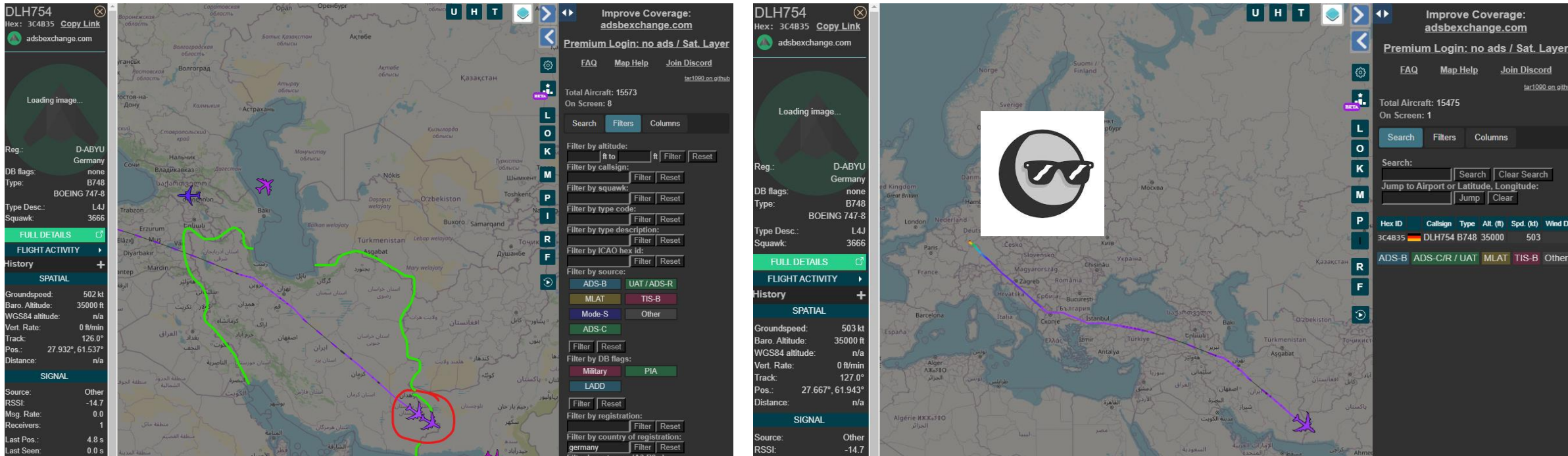
- ARINC 429 bus architecture is insecure
- Any command is trusted and executed by receiver LRUs
- Compromising legacy systems and software can be catastrophic





# Problem Description

## Attack Narrative – Person of Interest Capture



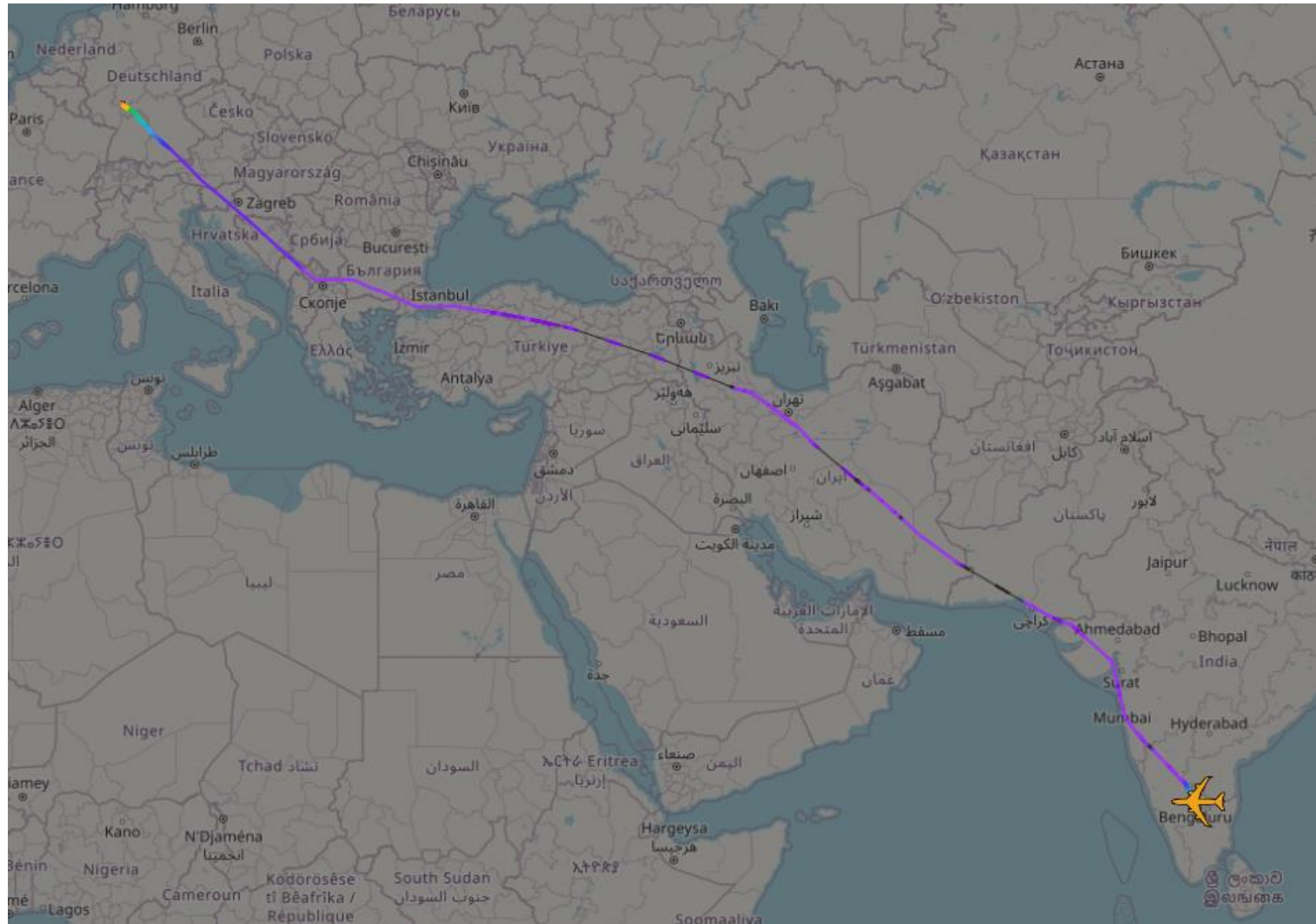
Source: ADS-B Exchange, Flight DLH754 (<https://globe.adsbexchange.com/?icao=3c4b35>) 1429 EST 2 July 2024  
Flight from Frankfurt Germany to India.

Passenger of Interest outspoken against & refugee from Iranian Govt living in Germany.

***Can the Iranian regime force the plane to land while over their airspace?***

# Problem Description

## Attack Narrative – Full Flight



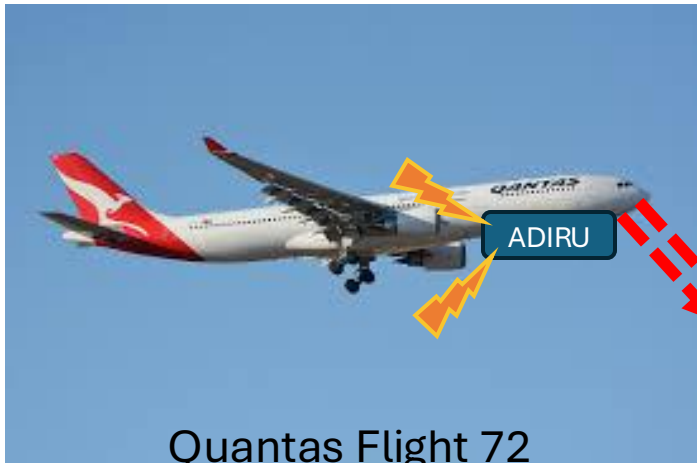
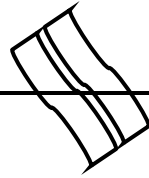
# Problem Description

## Attack Path



Pseudocode Idea:

```
if(lat, long in Friendly Airspace):  
    for x in range(2):  
        sleep(15 min)  
        send(FMC.dive_word)
```



Mayday issued





# Solution



- ARINC429 Simulator/LRUs
- Attack PoC
- IDS

```
def alert_or_log(self, word: str):
    flag_this_tuple = False
    this_word_alerted_or_logged = False
    a_o_r = "None"
    with open(self.log_filepath, "a") as log_fd:
        with open(self.alert_filepath, "a") as alert_fd:
            for _tuple in self.rules:
                parity = _tuple[3]
                time_notate = _tuple[4]
                flag_this_tuple = False
                # Part 1: Check if you should flag this word.
                if(_tuple[2] == "0"*31 and parity == None):
                    flag_this_tuple = True
                if (_tuple[0].__contains__("alert") or _tuple[0].__contains__("log")):
                    #Check channel? -> done by caller
                    pseudo_word = word[:-1]
                    parity_calc = lru_txr()
                    correct_parity_bit = parity_calc.calc_parity(pseudo_word)
                    #p_bitmask = _tuple[2] + correct_parity_bit
                    bitmask = _tuple[2] #+ lru_txr.calc_parity(_tuple[0])

                    if (bitmask[0:10] == pseudo_word[0:10] and (int(bitmask[10:20]) == 1 or (parity == True and word[-1] == correct_parity_bit)
                        or (parity == False and word[-1] != correct_parity_bit)):
                        # alert
                        flag_this_tuple = True
                    elif (parity == None):
                        # alert
                        flag_this_tuple = True
                # Part 2: If the word is flagged, the log it appropriately.
                if (flag_this_tuple and time_notate):
                    a_o_r = _tuple[0]
                    this_word_alerted_or_logged = True
                    if (_tuple[0].__contains__("alert")):
                        alert_fd.write(f"{ctime()}: Alert! {_tuple[5]}\n")
                    if (_tuple[0].__contains__("log")):
                        #input(_tuple)
                        log_fd.write(f"{ctime()}: {word} {_tuple[5]}\n")
                    elif (flag_this_tuple and time_notate == False):
                        a_o_r = _tuple[0]
                        this_word_alerted_or_logged = True
                        if (_tuple[0].__contains__("alert")):
                            alert_fd.write(f"Alert! {_tuple[5]}\n")
                        if (_tuple[0].__contains__("log")):
                            #input(_tuple)
                            log_fd.write(f"Logged word #{self.n}: {word} {_tuple[5]}\n")
                alert_fd.close()
            log_fd.close()
    return((this_word_alerted_or_logged, a_o_r))
```

```
!Outfiles
alerts = C:/Users/mspre/Desktop/Practicum Resources/GATech_MS_Cybersecurity_Practicum_InfoSec_Summer24/ARINC429_Simulation/IDS_Rules_test_files/IDS_EVAL3_RULES_FILES/Alerts_Logs/Alerts_Logs_EV
logs = C:/Users/mspre/Desktop/Practicum Resources/GATech_MS_Cybersecurity_Practicum_InfoSec_Summer24/ARINC429_Simulation/IDS_Rules_test_files/IDS_EVAL3_RULES_FILES/Alerts_Logs/Alerts_Logs_EV

!Channels
Channel1: Global_Positioning_System -> ADIRS
Channel2: ADIRS -> Flight_Control_Computer

!SDI
# Do not identify any TX LRUs SDI here.
Channel2: ADIRS -> 00
Channel1: Flight_Control_Computer -> 11

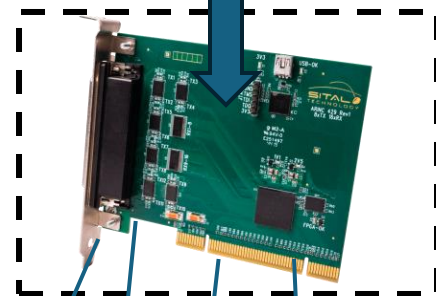
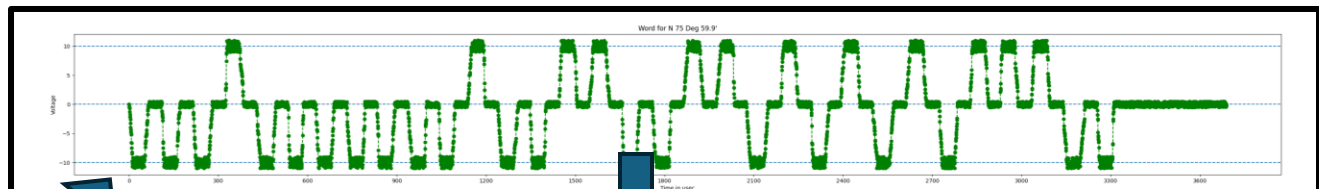
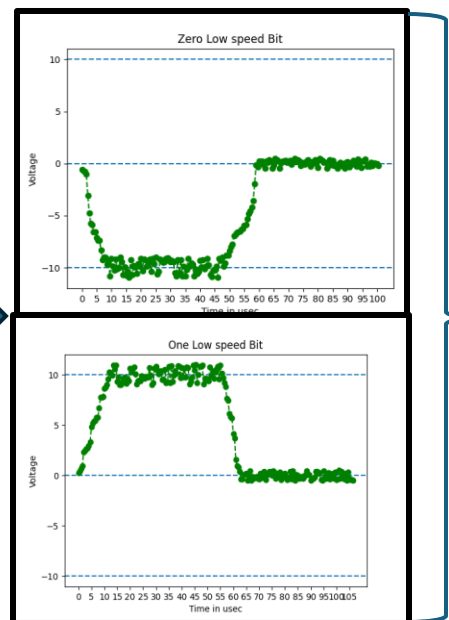
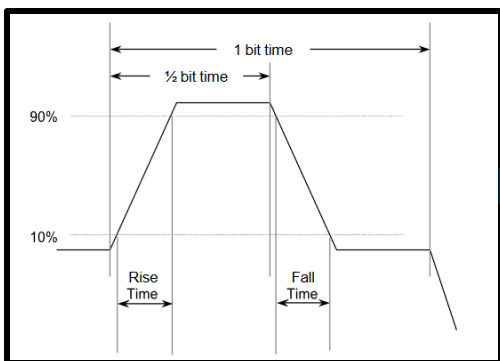
!Rules
alert/log Channel2 00310 ADIRS data:41.88331858083409 C "Longitude is 41.88331858083409 Degrees"
alert Channel1 00311 ADIRS "GPS Longitude word sent."
log Channel2 00015 ADIRS data:123 00 C "Wind Speed is 123 Knots"
alert Channel2 00221 ADIRS data:70.45 "WARNING!!! ANGLE OF ATTACK DANGEROUS!"
# Should not pop there are no dangerous Indicated AoAs.
log Channel2 00221 ADIRS data:1.010735034942627 time "Indicated Angle of Attack signals the plane is climbing in elevation."
log Channel2 ADIRS I "ADIRS is sending incorrect parity words."
alert Channel2 00230 Encoding:BCD "BCD Words for label 00230"
alert Channel1 00066 Flight_Control_Computer bits[15:20]=1111 time "FMC Sending Spurious downward dive words!!!"
```

Example of  
IDS Rules

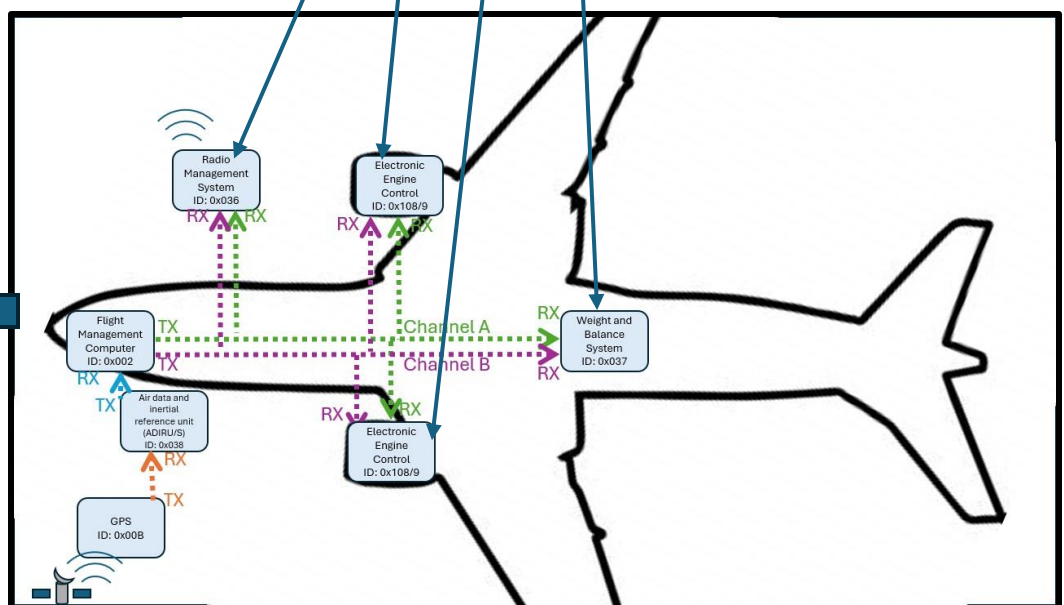
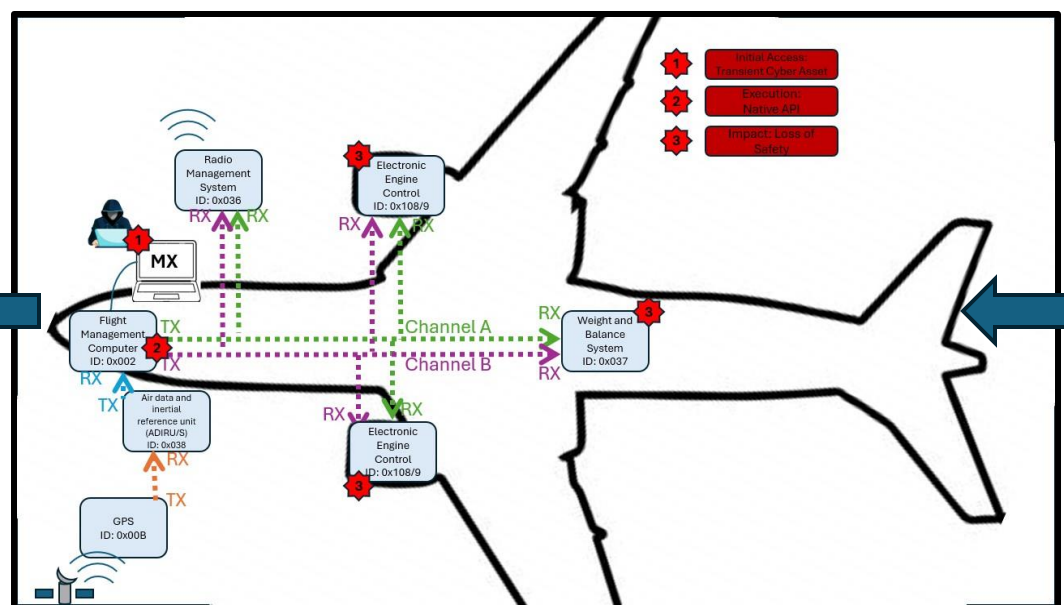
Snapshot  
from IDS



# Demo



+IDS



# Evaluations



1. MegaTest.py → Simulation Correctness
2. IDS\_EVAL1.py → IDS Robustness
3. IDS\_EVAL2.py → IDS Correctness
4. IDS\_EVAL3.py → IDS Detection of Attackers
5. IDS\_EVAL4.py → Time added by IDS

# Evaluation 1:

## MegaTest.py → Simulation Correctness



```
def test_rules_AllDataTypes():
    current_dir = getcwd()
    filename = current_dir + "\\IDS_Rules_test_files\\" + "rules_data_stress_test.txt"
    IDS_test_default = IDS(rules_file=filename)
    sdi = IDS_test_default.sdi
    print(sdi)
    rulez = IDS_test_default.rules
    assert(rulez == [('alert/log','Channel1','0001000011000000000010000000000',True,False,'Longitude is -40.0 Degrees'),
                    ('alert/log','Channel1','0101000011000000000000011000000',True,False,'Plane's speed is 6000 Knots'),
                    ('alert/log','Channel1','1101000011100110011010010000000',None,False,'Plane's Track Angle is 259.9 Degrees'),
                    ('alert/log','Channel1','0011000011110000011001000000000',None,False,'Plane's Magnetic Heading is 98.3 Degrees'),
                    ('alert/log','Channel1','1011000011110001001000000000000',True,False,'Wind Speed is 98.3 Knots'),
                    ('alert/log','Channel1','1111100111110001001000101001000',True,False,'Baro Correction (ins. Hg)'),
                    ('alert','Channel2','0000001000000010111100000000000',None,False,'Selected Course '),
                    ('alert','Channel2','0010001000010110100000000000000',None,False,'Selected Vertical Speed is 1432 Ft/Min upwards'),
                    ('log','Channel1','0101011011000000010101101100000',None,False,'Cabin Pressure is 1748 mB'),
                    ('log','Channel1','111001010110001001101111000000',False,False,'Horizontal Figure of Merit just under 2 nautical miles.'),
                    ('log/alert','Channel1','1000100111100111101010000000011',None,False,'Indicated Angle of Attack is -70 WARNING!!'),
                    ('log','Channel2','1000001100000011110000111100000',None,False,'Application Dependant Data 1 for FMC'),
                    ('log','Channel2','1111111100000000000000000000100',None,False,'Identification required for FMC'),
                    ('log','Channel2','0110001100110011011011001011000',None,False,'Application Dependant Data 2 for FMC'),
                    ('alert','Channel1','0001110111100100101011011001000',None,False,'ADIRU Discrete Data '),
                    ('alert/log','Channel1','000101111100100101011011001000',None,False,'ADIRU MX Data '),
                    ('alert','Channel2','0000111100000001110000000000000',None,False,'Aircraft Condition and Event Surveillance System (ACCESS)'),
                    ('alert','Channel2','1011111000010111110000000000000',None,False,'HGA/IGA HPA'),
                    ('alert','Channel2','0101111000010111110000000000000',None,False,'CABIN TERMINAL 3'),
                    ('alert','Channel2','0001001100000010011000000000000',None,False,'GPWS'),
                    ('alert','Channel2','1000111000100011110000000000000',None,False,'Electronic Flight Instrument System (EFIS)')])])
```

# Evaluation 2:

IDS\_EVAL1.py → IDS Robustness



Bus Speed (% slowed down)	Voltage Sample Rate	Words Correct (of 5) averaged over 0-10 rules	Bits Correct per word averaged over 0-10 rules
-1,000,000%	0.5 sec (1/2 second)	5/5	32, 32, 32, 32, 32
-100,000%	0.05 sec (1/20th of a second)	5/5	32, 32, 32, 32, 32
-10,000%	0.005 sec (5 milliseconds)	5/5	32, 32, 32, 32, 32
-1,000%	0.0005 sec (1/2 millisecond)	5/5	32, 32, 32, 32, 32
-100%	0.00005 sec (1/20th of a millisecond)	5/5	32, 32, 32, 32, 32
-10%	0.000005 sec (5 microseconds)	4/5	32, 32, 32, 32, 31
-0%	0.0000005 sec (1/2 microsecond)	1/5	32, 31, 30, 29, 28



# Evaluation 3:

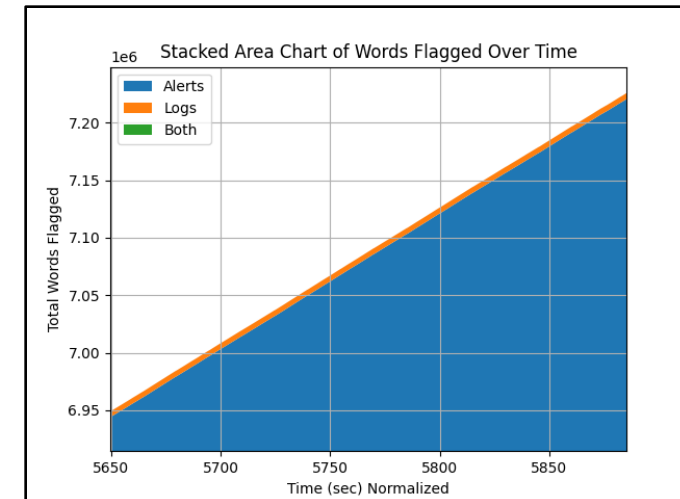
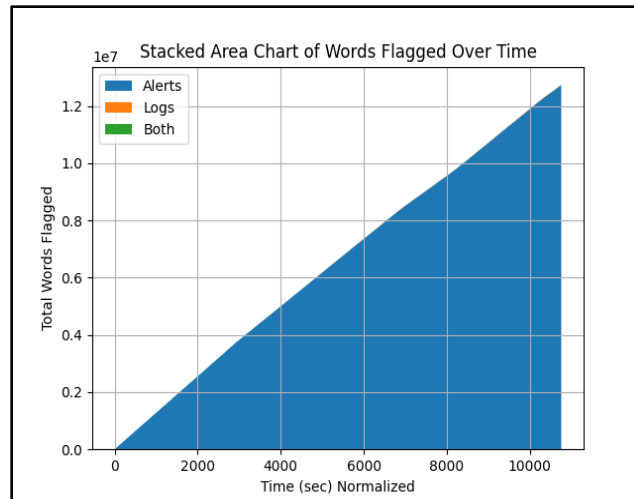
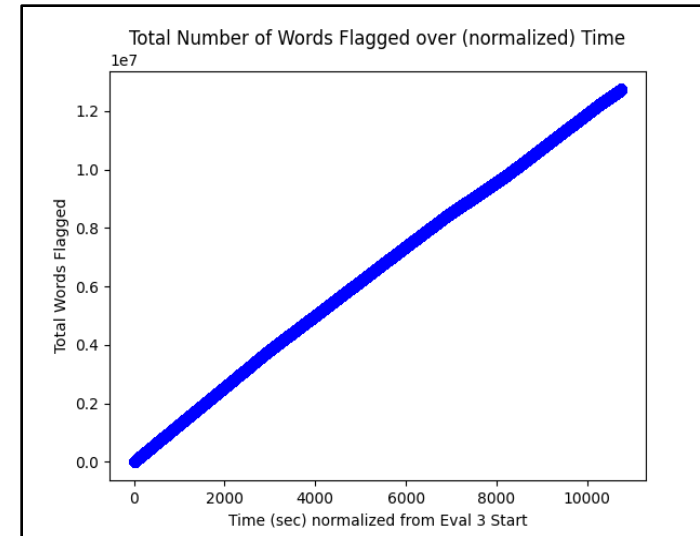
## IDS\_EVAL2.py → IDS Correctness



```
Sending words:
Airspeed BCD:      0b00011001000000000000000000000001,
Airspeed BNR:      0b00010001000000000000000000000000,
Corrected Angle of Attack: 0b10000101000000000000000000000001,
Indicated Angle of Attack: 0b100010010000111001000000000000111,

This concludes Eval 2. It took 10164.366 seconds.
Number of alerts: 12726074
Number of logs: 9623

Process finished with exit code 0
```



# Evaluation 3:

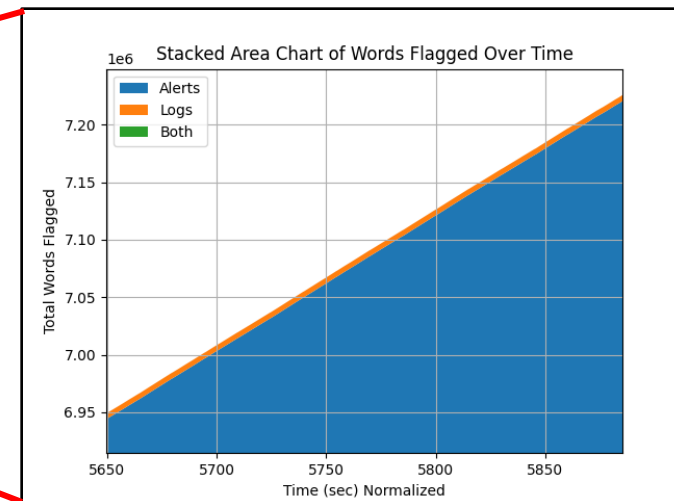
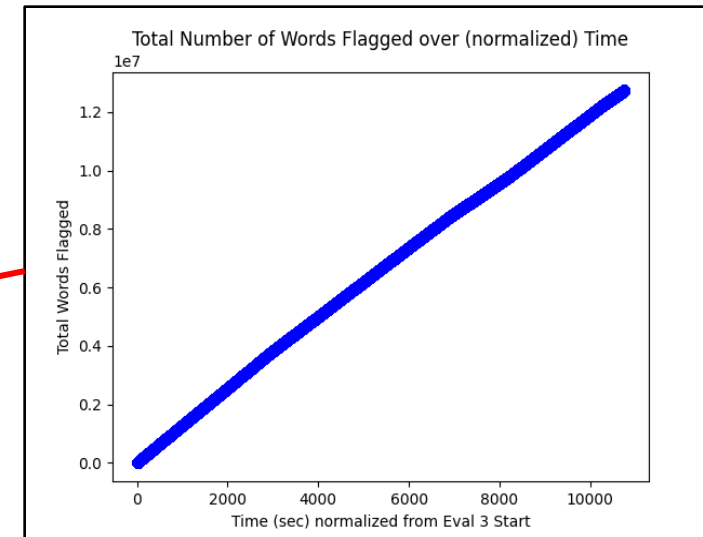
## IDS\_EVAL2.py → IDS Correctness



```
Sending words:
Airspeed BCD:      0b00011001000000000000000000000001,
Airspeed BNR:      0b00010001000000000000000000000000,
Corrected Angle of Attack: 0b10001010000000000000000000000001,
Indicated Angle of Attack: 0b100010010000111001000000000000111,

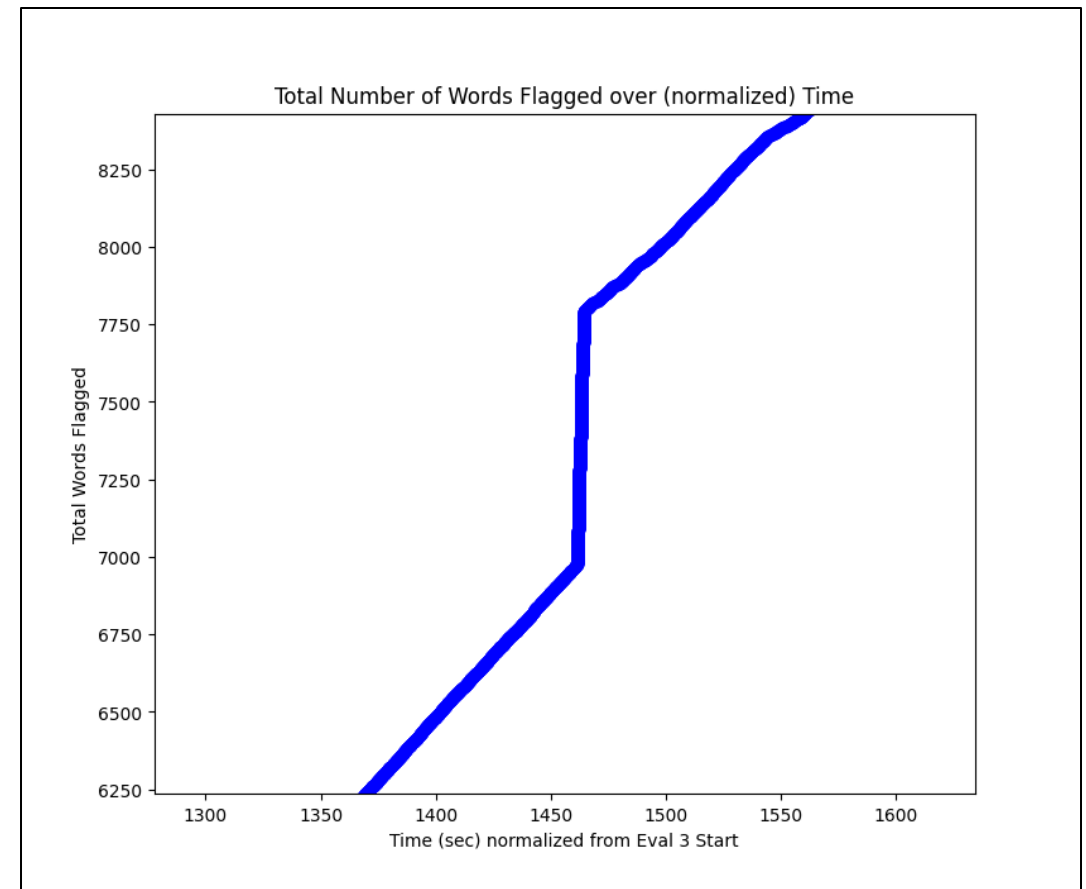
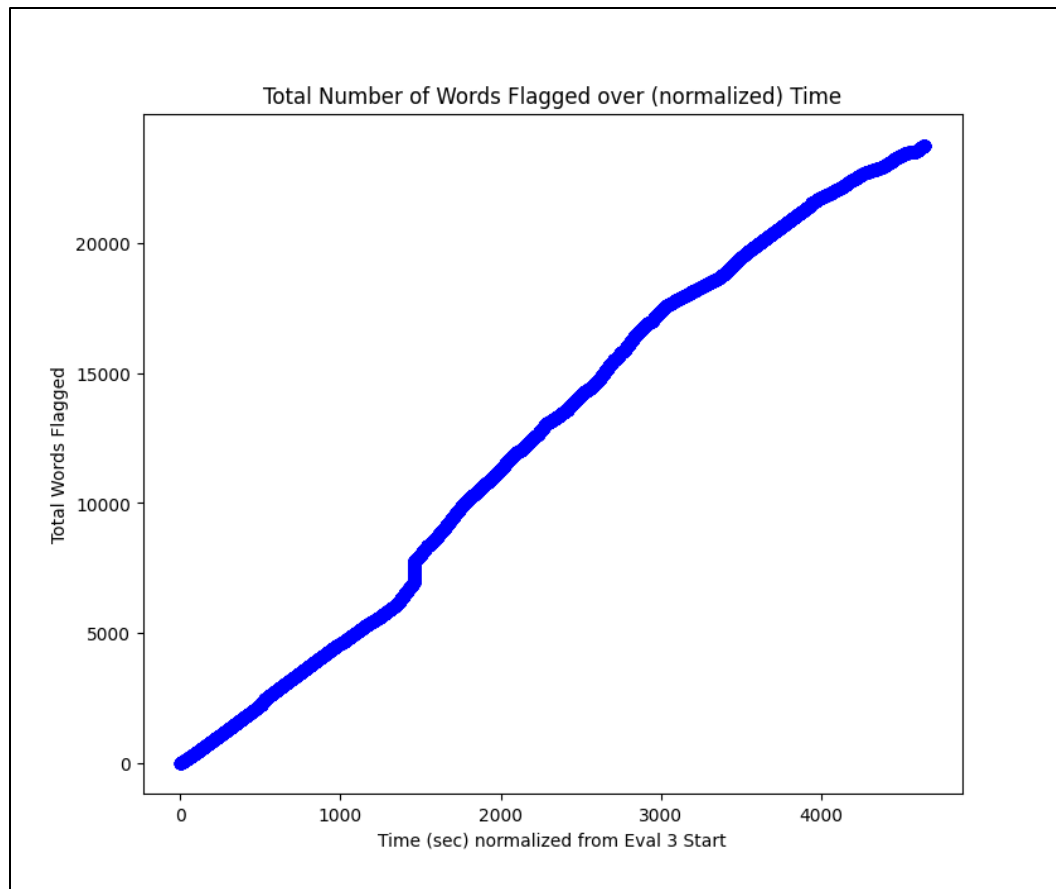
This concludes Eval 2. It took 10164.366 seconds.
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Process finished with exit code 0
```



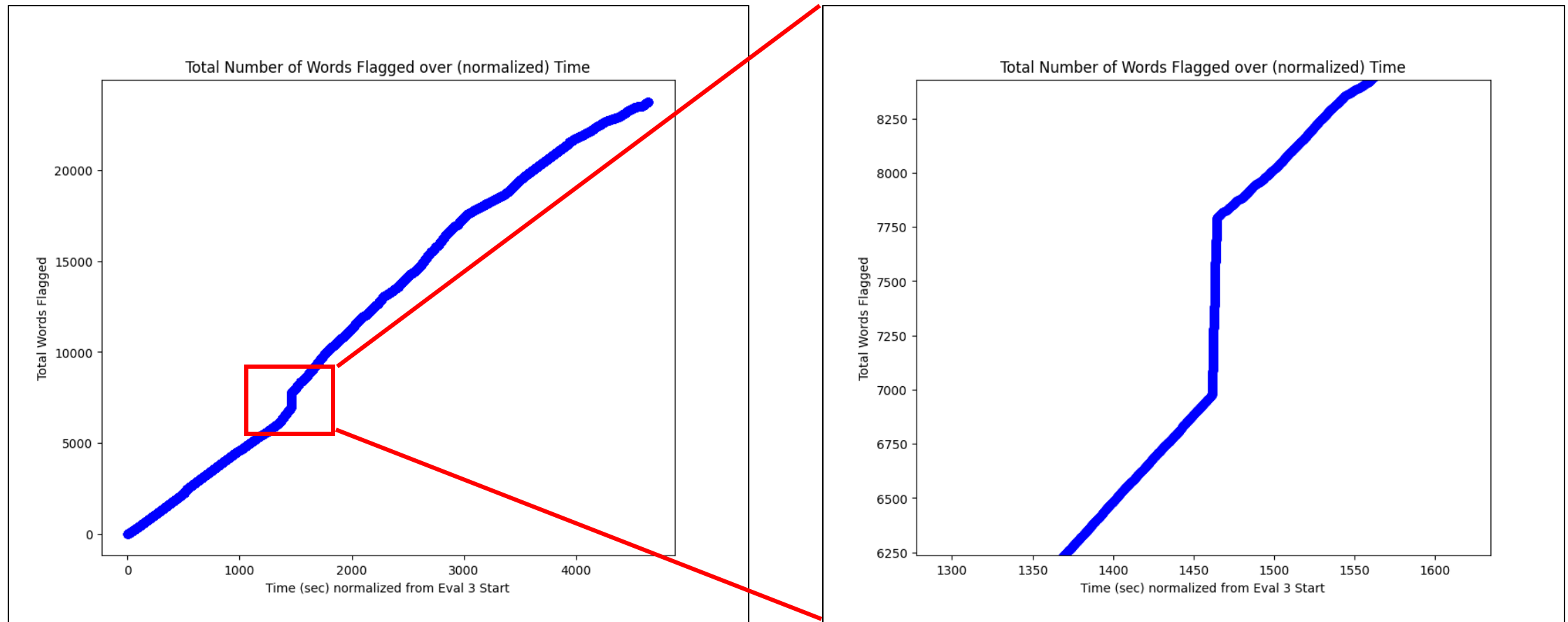
# Evaluation 4:

IDS\_EVAL3.py → IDS Detection of Attackers



# Evaluation 4:

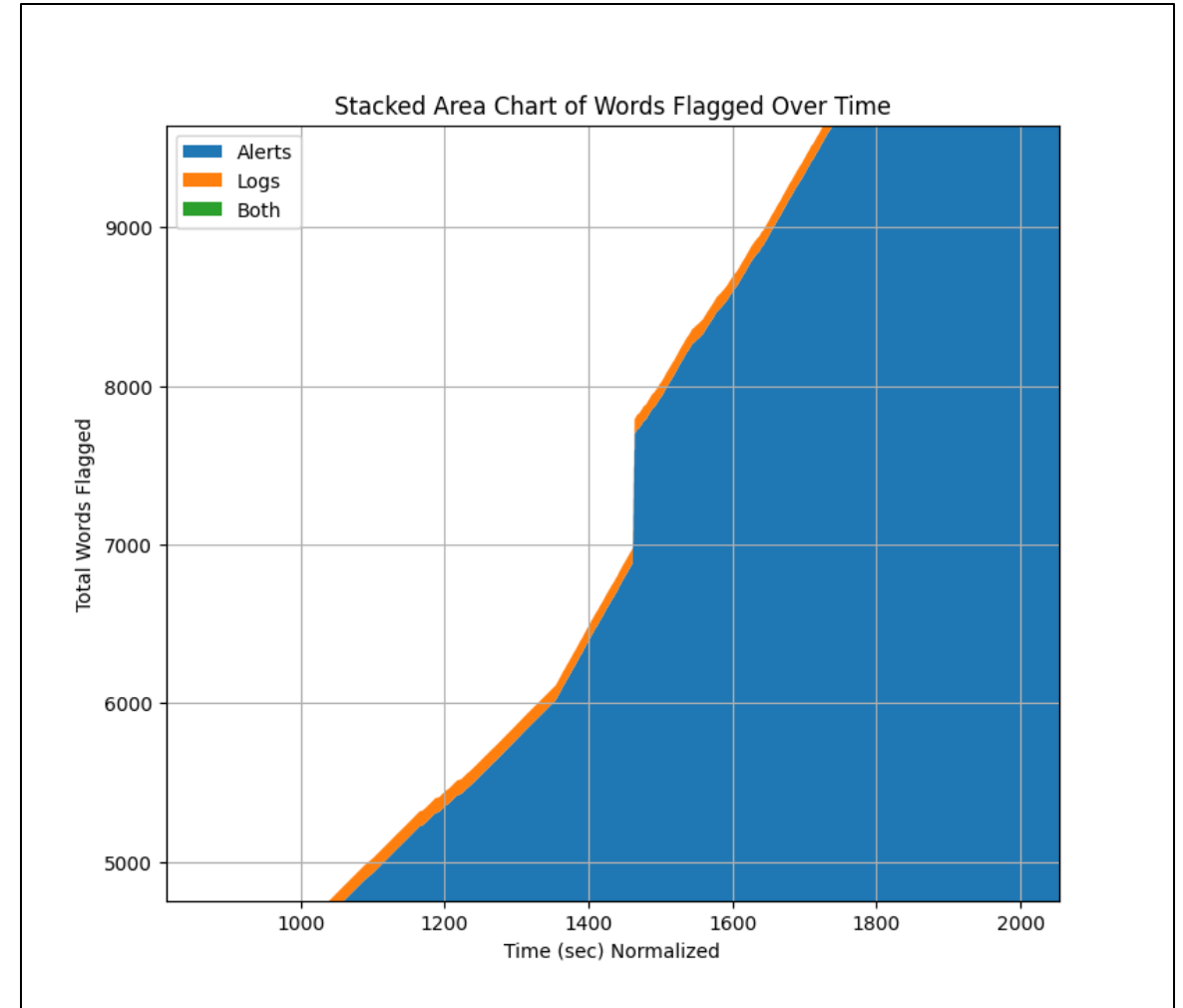
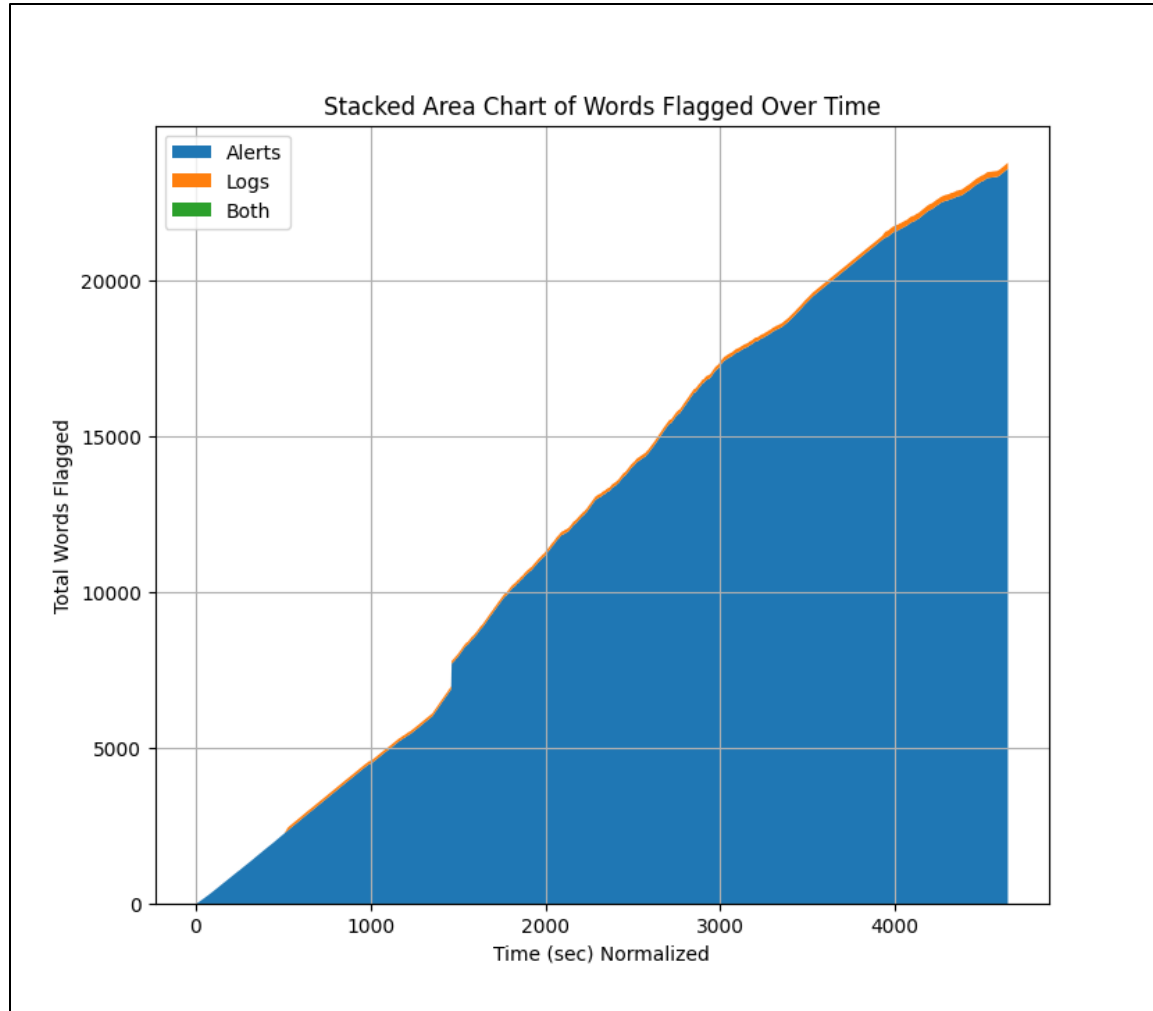
IDS\_EVAL3.py → IDS Detection of Attackers





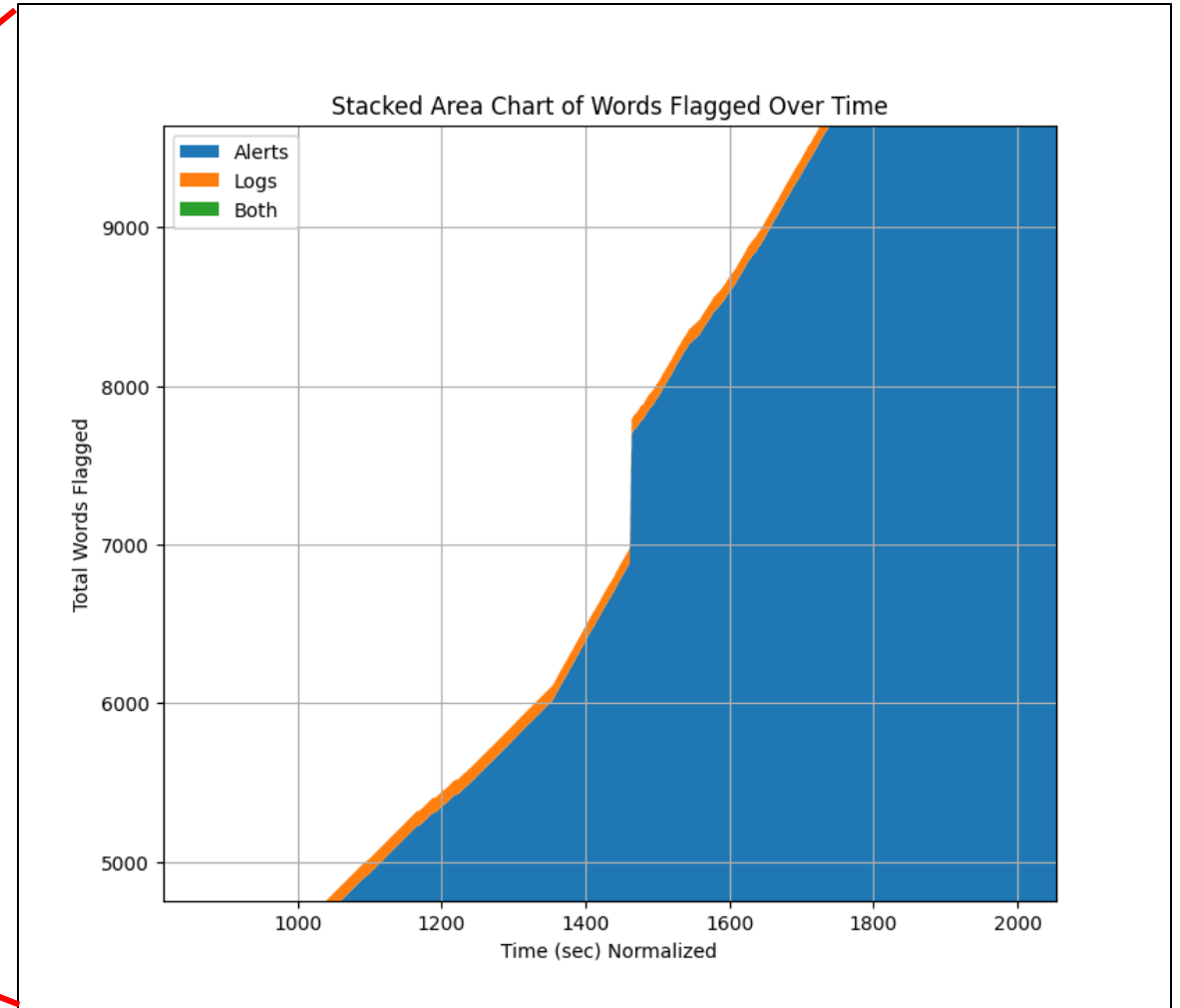
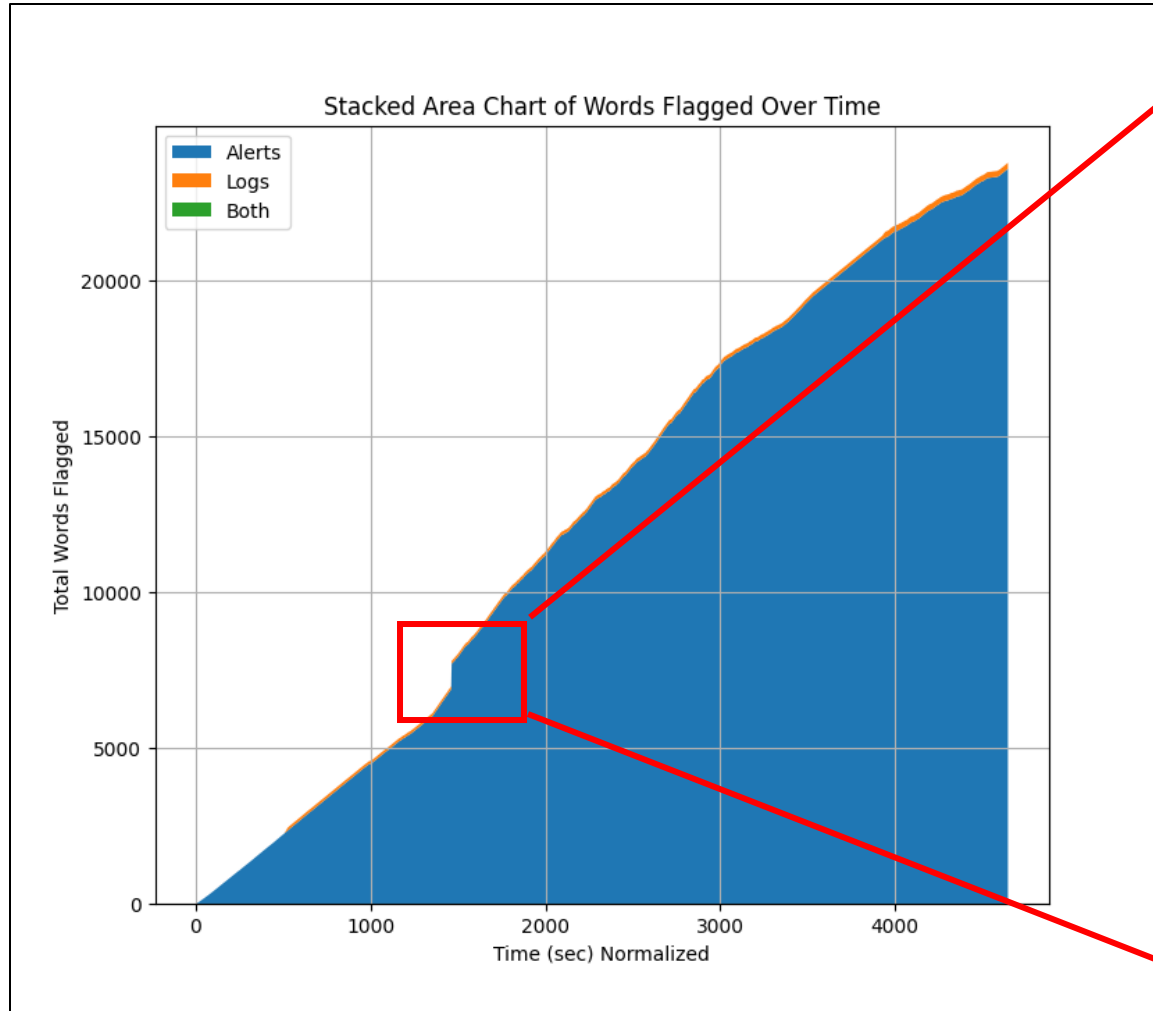
# Evaluation 4:

IDS\_EVAL3.py → IDS Detection of Attackers



# Evaluation 4:

IDS\_EVAL3.py → IDS Detection of Attackers



# Evaluation 5:

## IDS\_EVAL4.py → Time Added by IDS

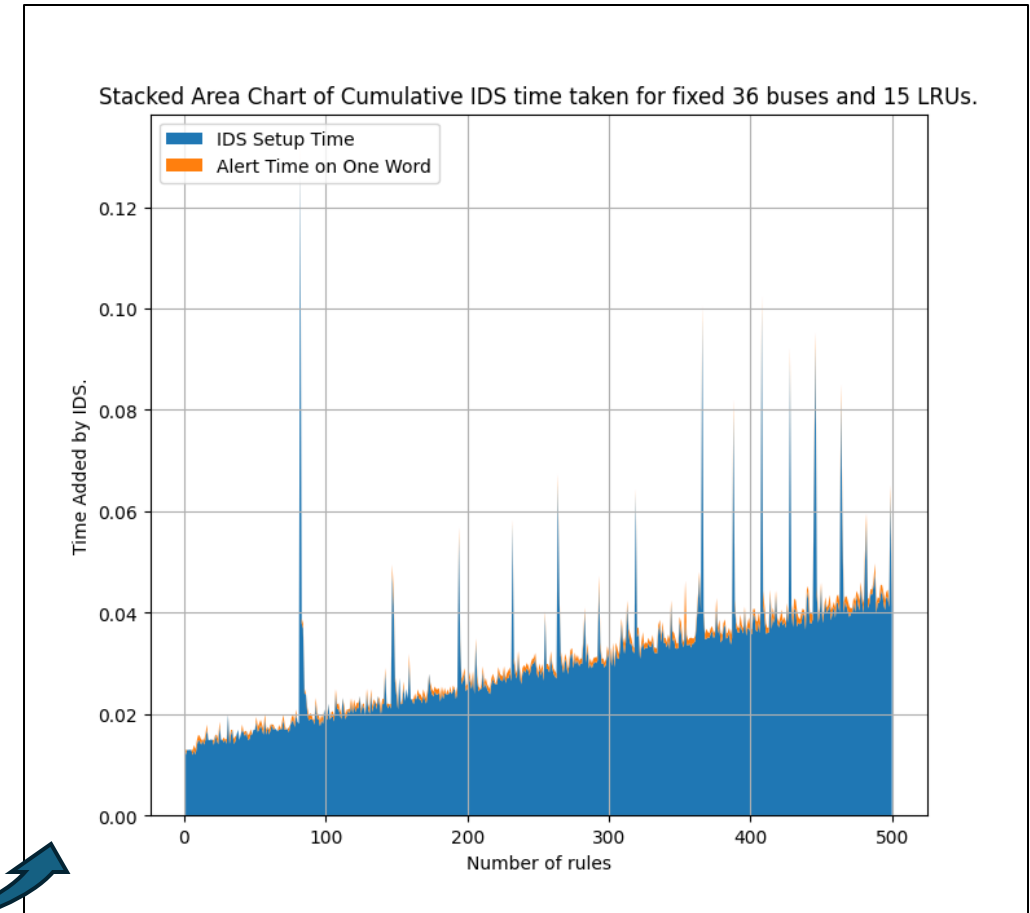
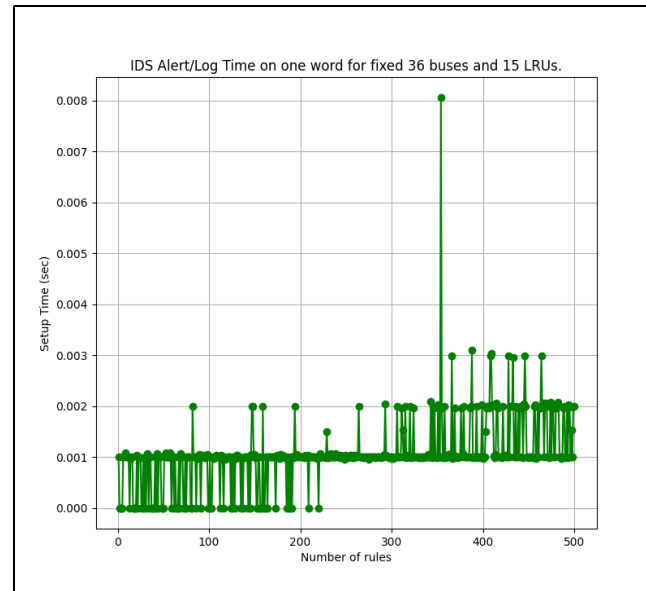
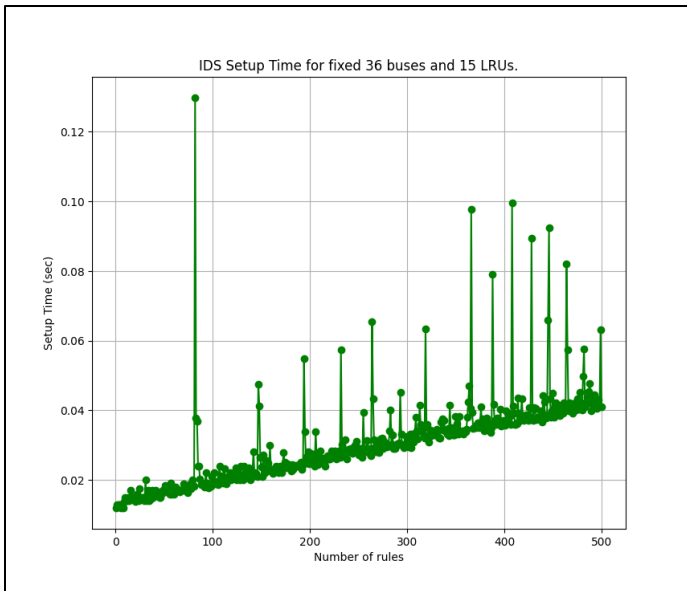


Parameters:

- **36 Channels**
- **15 LRUs per Channel**
- *1 to 500 rules*

Outputs:

- Time to set up IDS
- Time to Alert/Log on one word



# Evaluation 5:

## IDS\_EVAL4.py → Time Added by IDS

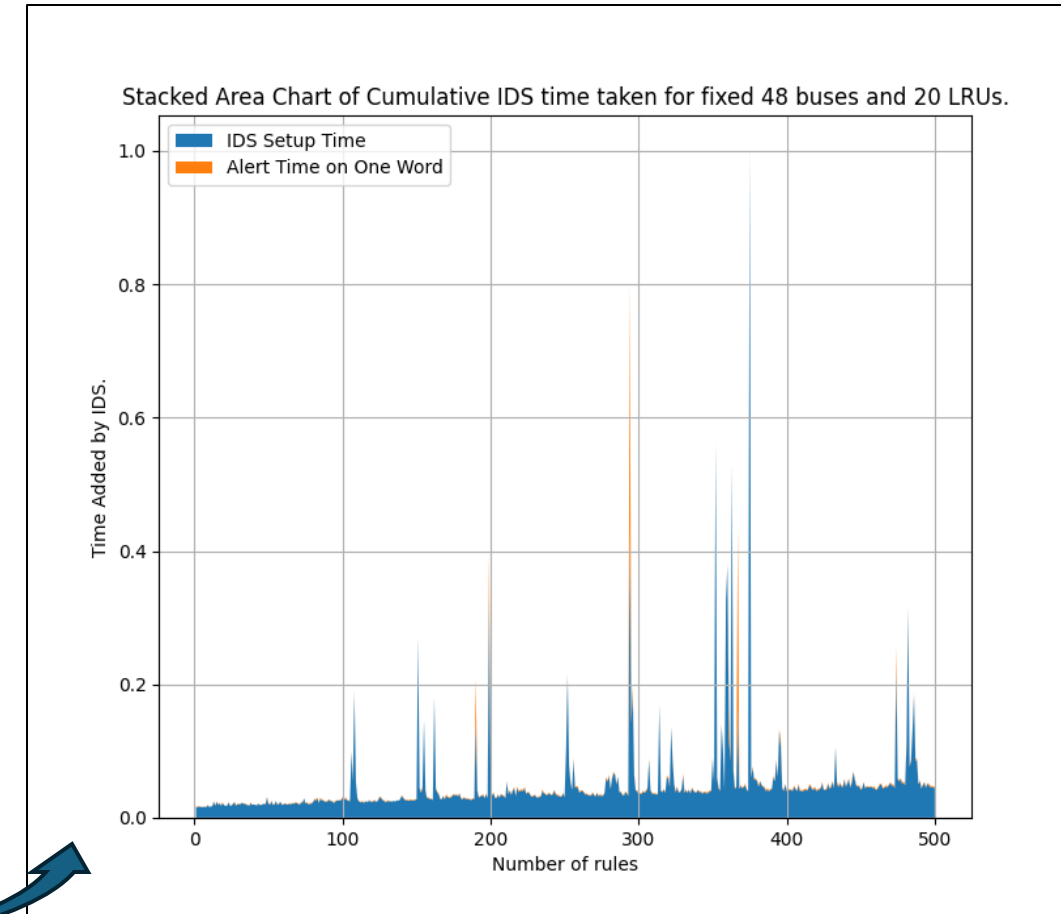
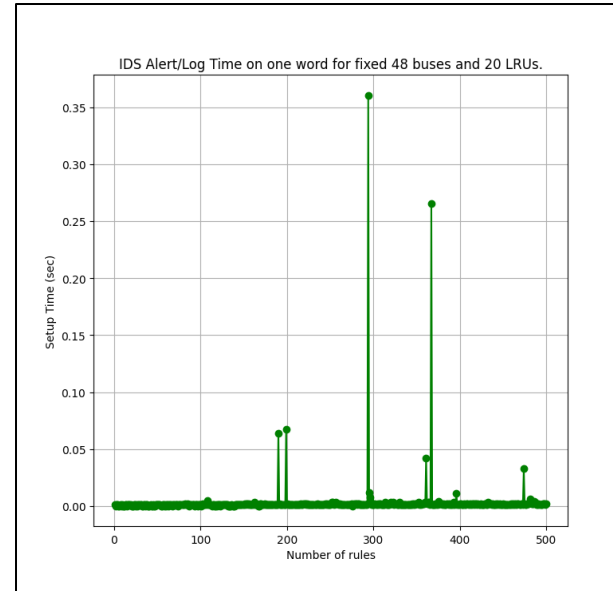
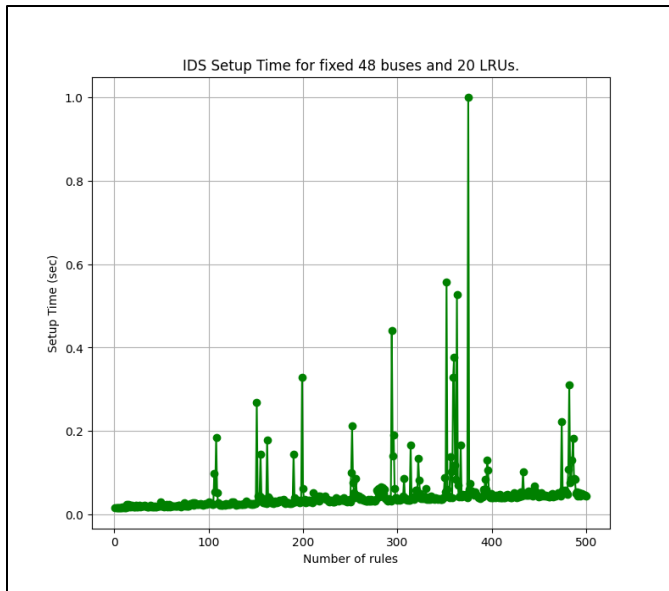


Parameters:

- **48 Channels**
- **20 LRUs per Channel**
- *1 to 500 rules*

Outputs:

- Time to set up IDS
- Time to Alert/Log on one word





# Evaluation 5:

## IDS\_EVAL4.py → Time Added by IDS

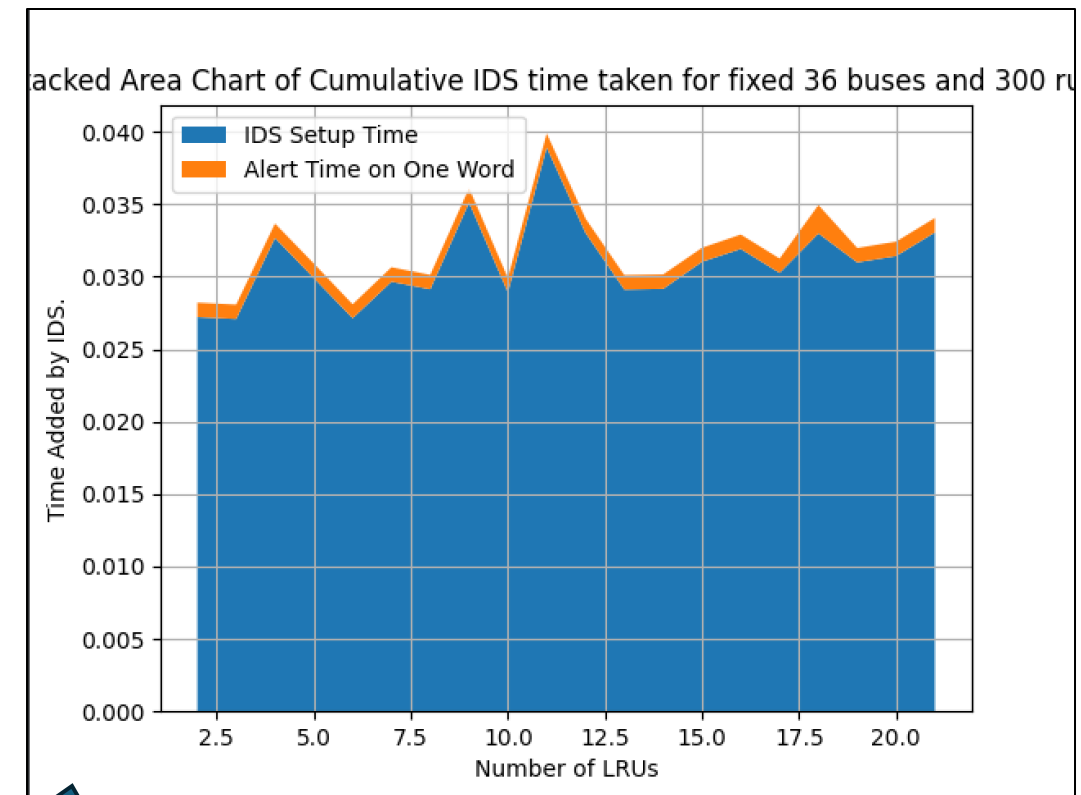
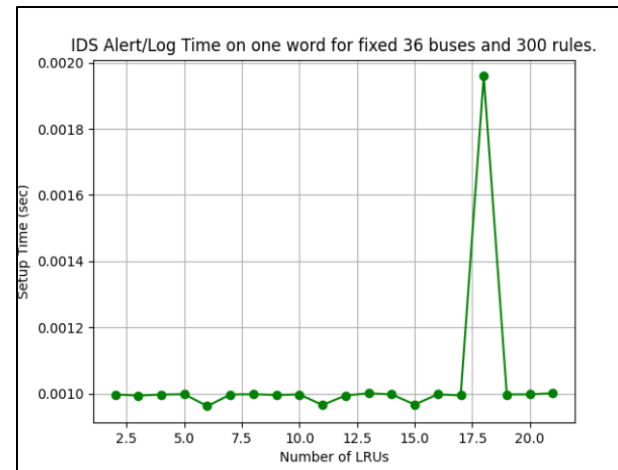


Parameters:

- **36 Channels**
- *1 to 21 LRUs/Channel*
- **300 rules**

Outputs:

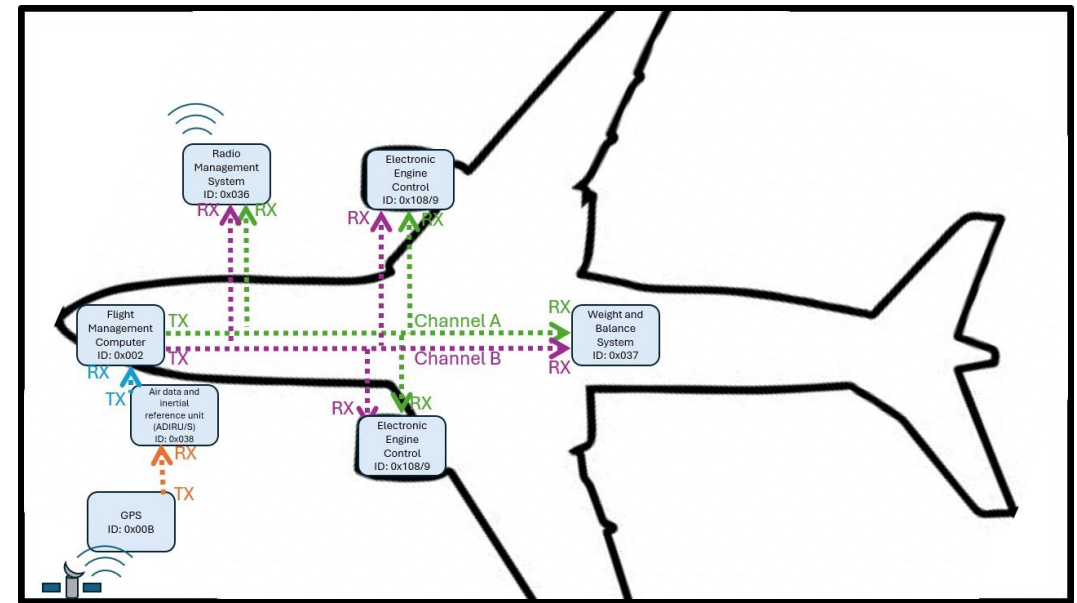
- Time to set up IDS
- Time to Alert/Log on one word



# Limitations



1. Simplicity of Model
2. Python Multithreading
3. Operator Training/Know-how
4. Stoppage
5. Fulfilling All Zero Trust Tenets
6. Untested on hardware

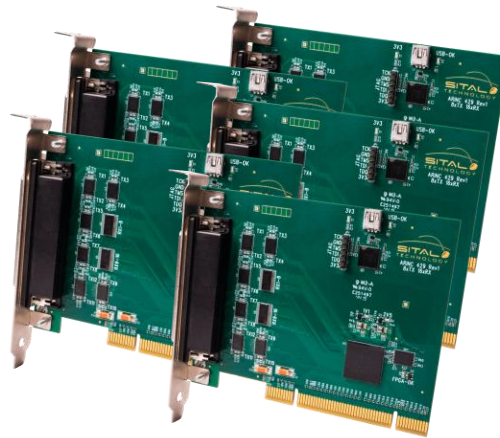


# Future Work / Possible Next Steps



1. Expanding the simulation model (make more LRUs)
2. Recode Sim in more thread friendly language (e.g. C, rust, etc.)
3. Expand IDS functionality (condition chain)

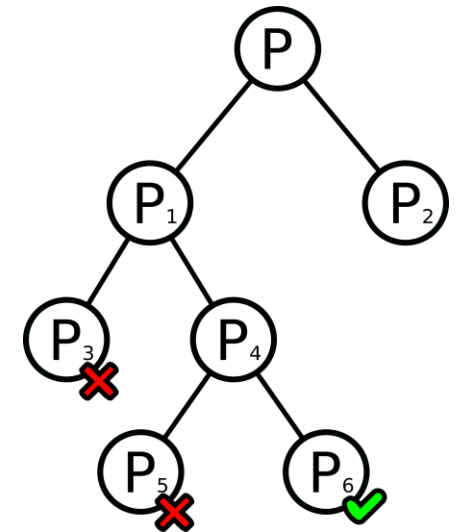
**1.**



**2.**



**3.**

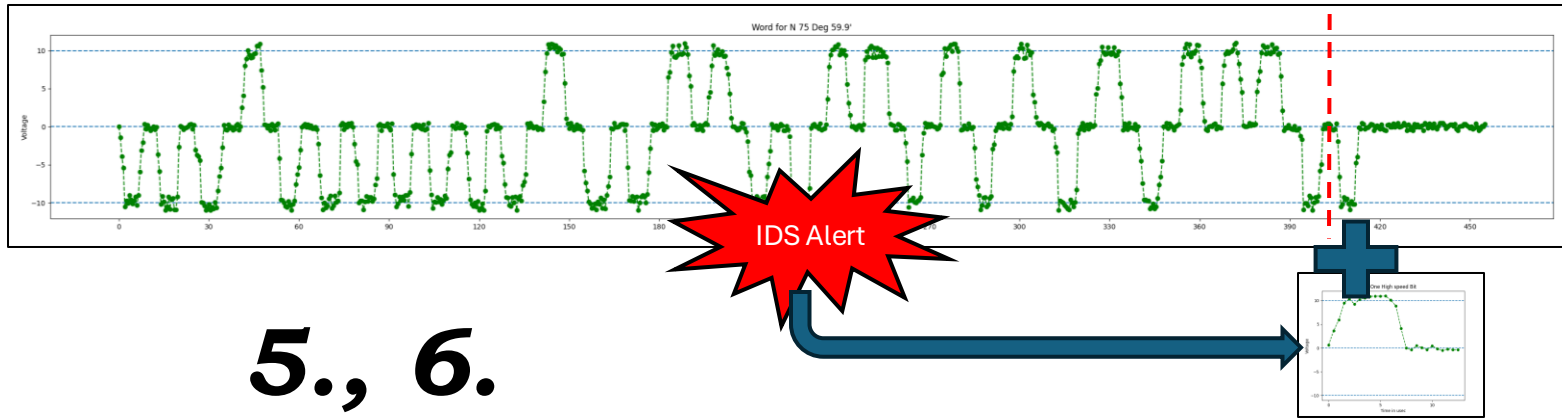


# Future Work / Possible Next Steps



4. Create an IPS
5. Implement and test IDS on real hardware
6. Collect real world 'word' data (for further testing / maybe ML IDS creation?)
7. Diversify Threat Model and attack set(s)

4.



5., 6.



7.





# Summary



- Problem
- Description
- Solution
- Demo
- Evaluations
- Limitations
- Possible Next Steps / Future Work

**GATech\_MS\_Cybersecurity\_Practicum\_InfoSec\_Summer24** Private Unwatch 1 Fork 0 Star 0

main 2 Branches 0 Tags  + Code

<b>PrestonMatt</b> Finished graphixs for Eval 2 3f4de49 · 15 hours ago 180 Commits
ARINC429 Simulation Finished the data visualization tool for eval 4. yesterday
Documentation Finished graphixs for Eval 2 15 hours ago
Flight Simulation tweaked flight sim 2 months ago
README.md Added link to FAA detail of Engine Anti-Ice problem 2 weeks ago

**README**

## GATech\_MS\_Cybersecurity\_Practicum\_InfoSec\_Summer24

The working repository for my OMSCY Practicum Summer semester 2024 (13 May - 25 July).

### Initial Idea:

The problem I would like to try to solve will be implementing zero trust for (a) bus architecture. This is probably a mixture of CS/CE problem. This is something I've given a lot of thought to but have never had the chance to

[https://github.com/PrestonMatt/GATech\\_MS\\_Cybersecurity\\_Practicum\\_InfoSec\\_Summer24](https://github.com/PrestonMatt/GATech_MS_Cybersecurity_Practicum_InfoSec_Summer24)

**About**

The working repository for my OMSCY Practicum Summer semester 2024 (13 May - 25 July).

Readme

Activity

0 stars

1 watching

0 forks

**Releases**

No releases published  
[Create a new release](#)

**Packages**

No packages published  
[Publish your first package](#)

**Languages**

Python 99.9% C 0.1%

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