

Topic: Security of In-vehicle Communication

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Abstract—

While IoT devices get more and more widely used, embedded boards are already a central part of every car for several years now. Sensors and embedded boards for car control are connected via a multitude of networks. The most widely used of these networks, the Controller Area Network (CAN), was designed in the eighties with no security in mind because these networks were closed off. But nowadays vehicles have a multitude of interfaces to outside networks, so there is a dire need to modernise the in-vehicle networks with appropriate security measures....tbd

I. INTRODUCTION

The Internet of things (IoT) is a continuously growing network of commonplace devices. They can be physical like wireless sensors and smart phones or virtual like services. The IoT transforms how we interact with our environment. Today almost any electronic device can be bought as a smart version like microwaves, washing machines, light bulbs, door locks and many other "things". All these belong to the IoT network. The IoT has several application domains. It can be used personally or in enterprises [7]. The personal and social application domain is for connecting people to their environment and to other people. The industries and enterprises domain enables different activities in and between organizations of for example the finance and banking sector. Also IoT can be used in for example breeding or energy management where it is used for service and utility monitoring. The last application domain is transportation. Which encompasses smart cars and infrastructure like traffic lights.

Ever since there were the first electronic systems to assist drivers in control of their cars there were Electronic Control Units (ECUs) included in these vehicles. ECUs consist of micro-controllers and sensors. Nowadays cars have not only normal Driver Assistance Systems like antilock breaking systems. They also have Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) which help people with safety-critical functionality like parking or emergency breaking. To realize all these functions a multitude of in-vehicle networks (IVNs) is needed to connect all the ECUs and the sensors. These IVNs were originally closed off and had no connection to other networks. So they were designed with no security in mind whatsoever. Recently, cars have been connected to a multitude of networks like 3G/4G mobile phone networks, Bluetooth and vehicular ad hoc networks (IEEE 802.11p). So the IVNs have become vulnerable to different types of attacks while joining the IoT. The most used type of IVN today is still the Controller Area Network (CAN). It was introduced in 1983 by the Robert Bosch GmbH. Because in these days IVNs were closed off there were no security features included in the CAN protocol like encryption or message authentication [1]. This absence of inherent security features in the protocol led to successful demonstrations of security breaches [5]. It was possible to

reprogram ECUs via physical and wireless connections. The car could even be monitored and controlled remotely. Since then there have been many automotive attack demonstrations [2]–[4].

This report focuses on recent CAN authentication research. Two initially proposed authentication protocols named LeiA and vatiCAN secure the CAN network against adversaries that do not control code execution on ECUs in the network [10], [11]. Later these protocols were improved by VulCAN which is an efficient approach to implement secure distributed automotive control software on lightweight trusted computing platforms [12]. VulCAN adds another layer of security by relying on trusted hardware and a minimal software Trusted Computing Base (TCB). Additionally it was shown that VulCAN provides sufficient performance to be used in automotive real-time applications.

In the following chapter II I will provide an overview of different IVNs like CAN, Time-Triggered Networks, Low-Cost Automotive Networks and more. Also I will introduce the general types of security measures in IVNs. Afterwards chapters III and IV will explain LeiA and vatiCAN and how each of them work in general. Chapter V will talk in depth about VulCAN. I will explain how it achieves improvements over LeiA and vatiCAN using Sancus 2.0. Finally there will be a discussion in chapter VI connecting security in IVNs to security in the general IoT sector and the world wide web.

II. IN-VEHICLE COMMUNICATION NETWORKS AND SECURITY

The different functions of a vehicle has very different requirements in performance and safety needs. Therefore the quality of service needed from the communication system varies (e.g. response time or bandwidth). Normally there are different functional domains which divide the in-car embedded systems [8]. There are the safety-critical domains "powertrain" (e.g. engine control) and "chassis" (e.g. steering) that need a deterministic real-time behavior. The functions of the "body" domain that controls for example dashboard, wipers, lights and windows need to exchange many informations of small size between each other. Other domains like "telematics" and "multimedia" have increased requirements in for example bandwidth and confidentiality.

TODO: Different networks for different requirements

TODO: Event-triggered versus Time-triggered

- A. CAN Network
- B. Time-Triggered Networks
- C. Low-Cost Automotive Networks
- D. Multimedia and Infotainment Networks
- E. Automotive Ethernet
- F. Security Measures

Controller Authentication, Encrypted Communication, Gateway Firewalls [6]

III. LEIA: LIGHTWEIGHT AUTHENTICATION PROTOCOL FOR CAN

Overview of LeiA [11]

IV. VATICAN: VETTED, AUTHENTICATED CAN BUS

Overview of vatiCAN [10]

V. VULCAN: VEHICULAR COMPONENT AUTHENTICATION AND SOFTWARE ISOLATION

In depth description/analysis of VulCAN [12] based on Sancus 2.0 [9]. Van Bulck et. al. "vulcanized" the LeiA and VatiCAN protocols to improve the protocol-level security guarantees and add several system-level security guarantees.

VI. DISCUSSION

Key trade-offs & considerations on the presented technologies for in-vehicle communication security: VulCAN vs VatiCAN vs LeiA

maybe comparison to the internet world with tls etc. to set everything into context

VII. CONCLUSIONS

Wrapping up the presented technologies for in vehicle communication, especially VulCAN.

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APPENDIX