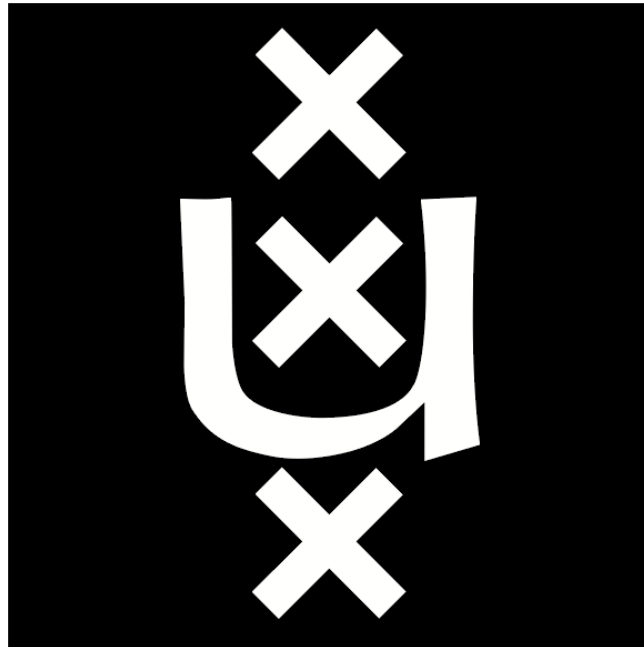# Research Project I

PROTECTING AGAINST RELAY ATTACKS FORGING INCREASED DISTANCE REPORTS
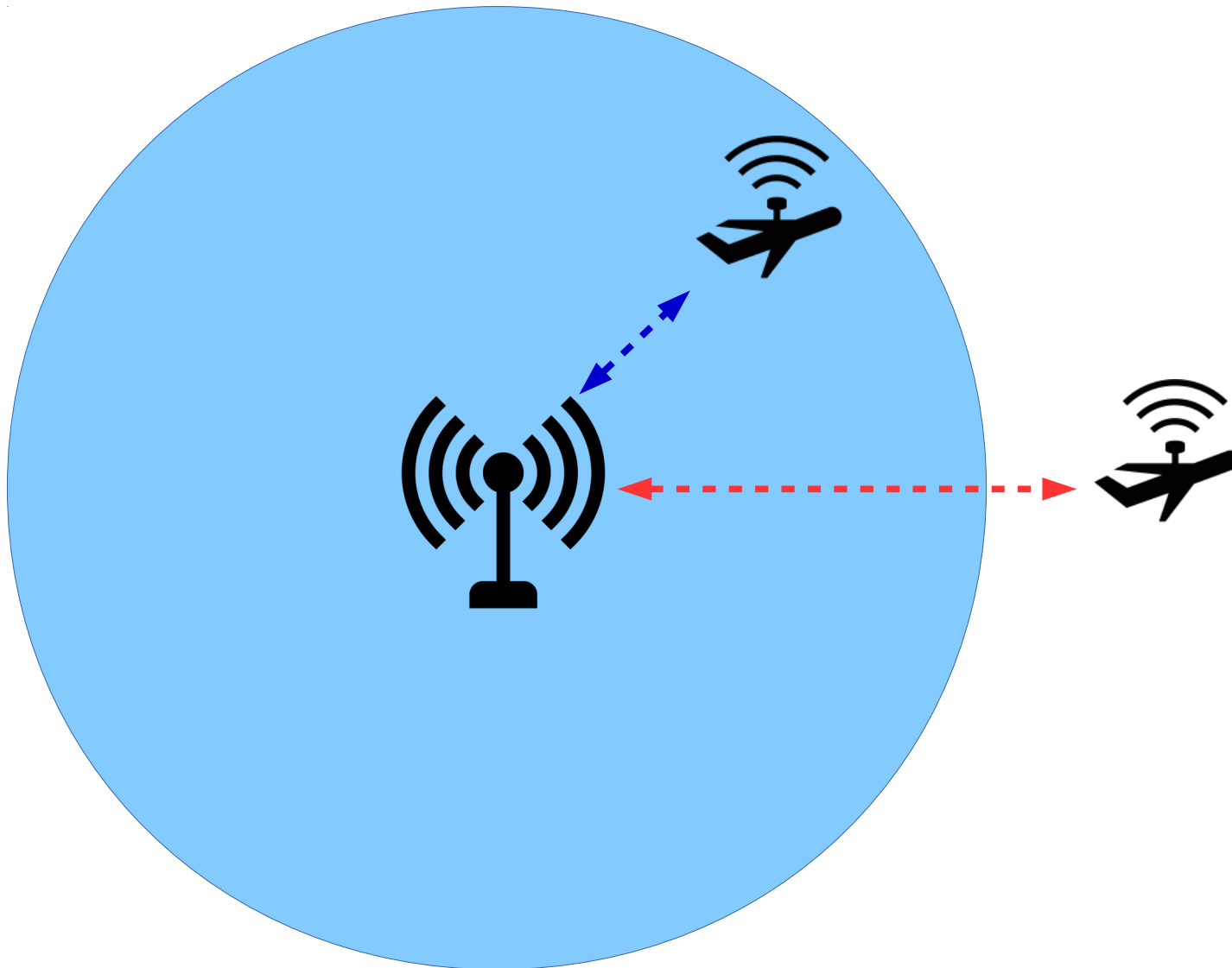

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Summary

- Distance-bounding protocols

- Why other systems can't be used?

- Feasibility of the attack: study cases

  - Autonomous Cars

  - Drone MANETs

- Preventing increased distance reports

  - Behavior verification

  - Multiple distance-bounding signals

  - Distributed knowledge

- Conclusions

Distance-bounding protocols

Distance-bounding protocols

- With the current implementations, closer distances cannot be faked.

  – Proof through physical limitations: cannot go faster than speed of light.

- However, there are no systems to prevent increased distance reports.

  – Physical limitations cannot be used.

  – These attacks may have no use for Access Control Systems, but could be dangerous on other contexts.

Why other systems can't be used?

- It could be argued that distance-bounding protocols were not made for this purpose.

- However, other location systems present difficulties as well.

Why other systems can't be used?

- GPS location

- Radar detection

- Inertial Navigation System

Why other systems can't be used?

- GPS location
  - Can be disrupted
  - Sometimes not reliable even in non-dangerous environments (underground, inside buildings...)

Why other systems can't be used?

- Radar detection
  - Systems could attempt to physically detect attackers
  - Problem: stealth technology surpasses anti-stealth technology in the current state of the art

Why other systems can't be used?

- Inertial navigation system
  - Fits perfectly our purpose, but it cannot be reliably used as a stand-alone positioning system due its accuracy. This may change in the future.
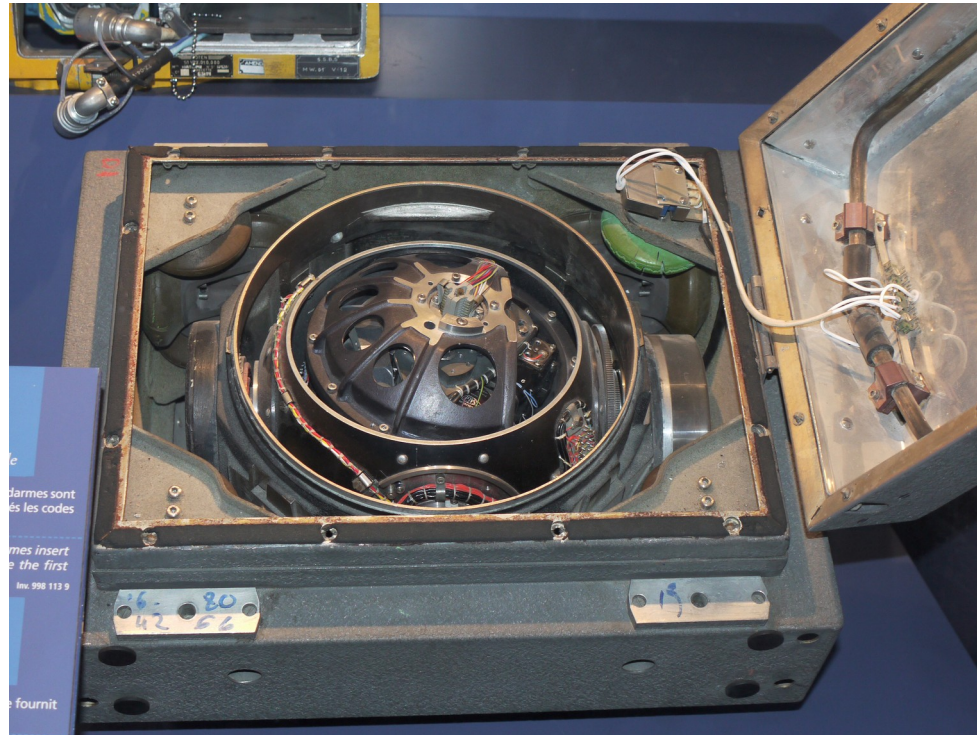
Feasibility of the attack: study cases

- Autonomous Cars

Feasibility of the attack: study cases

- Drone MANETs

Image source: www.usatoday.com

Preventing increased distance reports

- Behavior verification

  - Similar idea to Intruder Detection System on networking environments.

  - Attempt to detect sudden changes in the received data, such as signal strength or large changes on the reported locations.

Preventing increased distance reports

- Multiple distance-bounding signals
  - Original distance-bounding only attempts to check if a reporter is inside or outside a certain range.
  - Use multiple distance-bounding signals to obtain approximate location, not only distance.
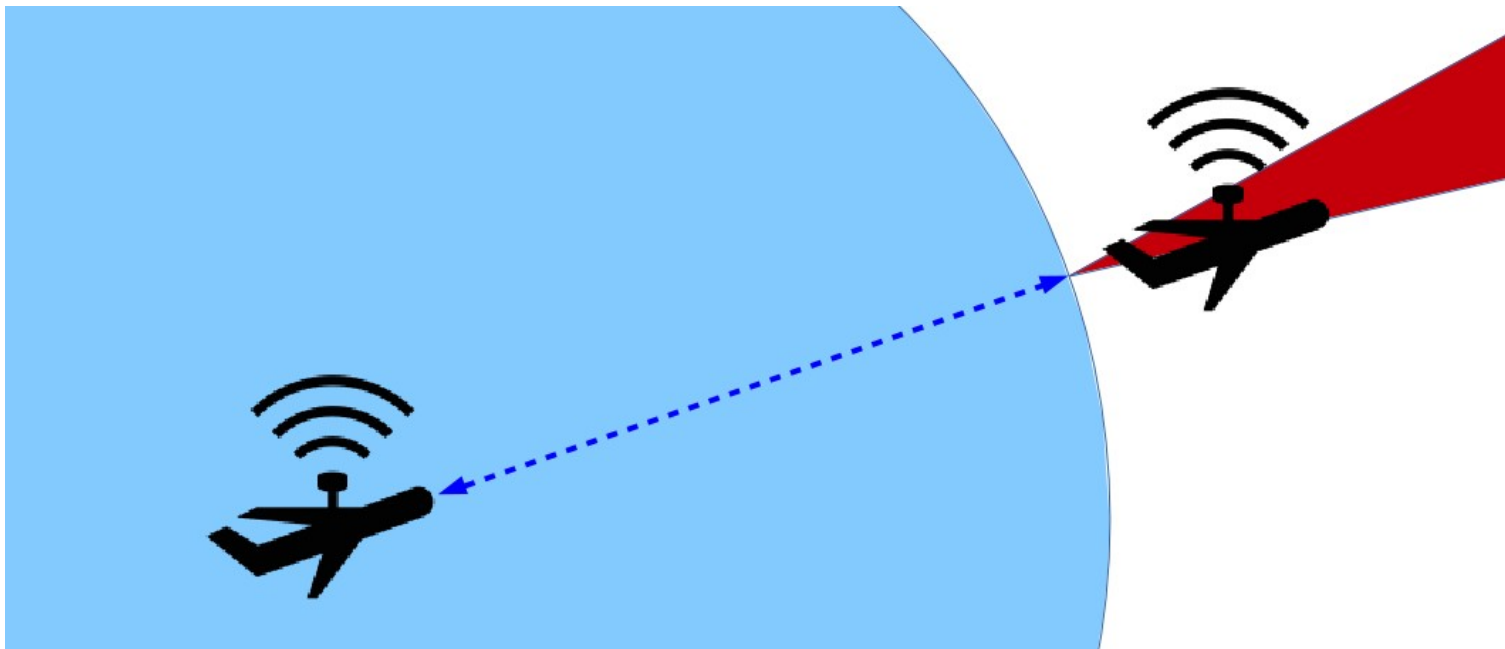
Preventing increased distance reports

- Distributed knowledge

  – Instead of relying only on its own measurement, a node could also ask for the measurements of other nodes.

  – It would be extremely difficult for an attacker to fake multiple different distances at the same time.

Conclusions

- Most of the systems discussed are not employed nowadays but they are a latent problem.

- Lower-distance bound cannot rely on physical limitations for its security: difficult to achieve perfect security.

- Proposed solutions -specially a combination of them- offer a reasonable decrease in the vulnerability of these systems.

Questions?

Final notes

- All images used come from wikipedia or are personal work, unless stated otherwise. All of them are licensed under CC or GNU licenses that allow to use them freely.

- All this project research has been done using free software programs and tools.