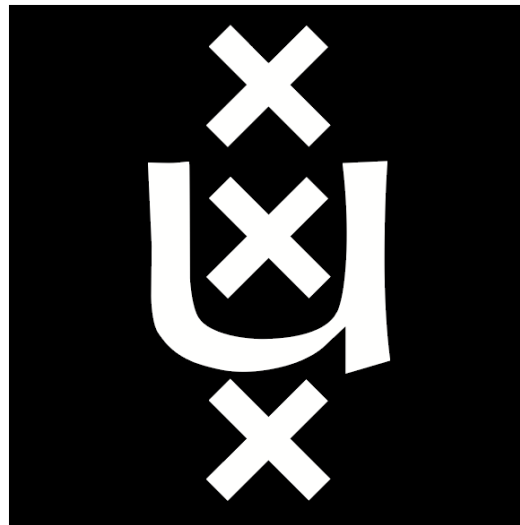


SYSTEM AND NETWORK ENGINEERING MSc

Research Project I

**PROTECTING AGAINST RELAY ATTACKS
FORGING INCREASED DISTANCE REPORTS**

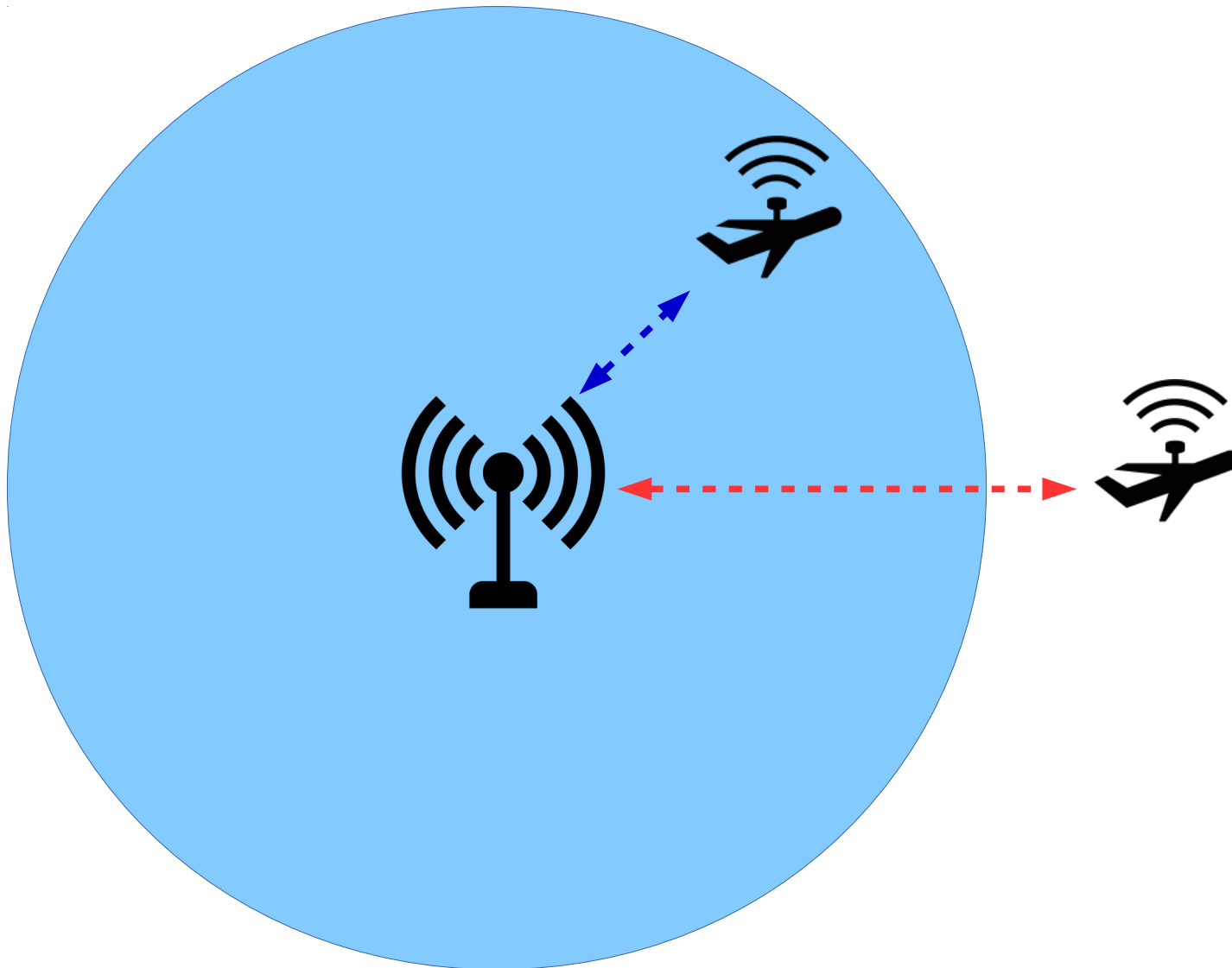


Xavier Torrent Gorjón
xavier.torrentgorjon@os3.nl

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...)



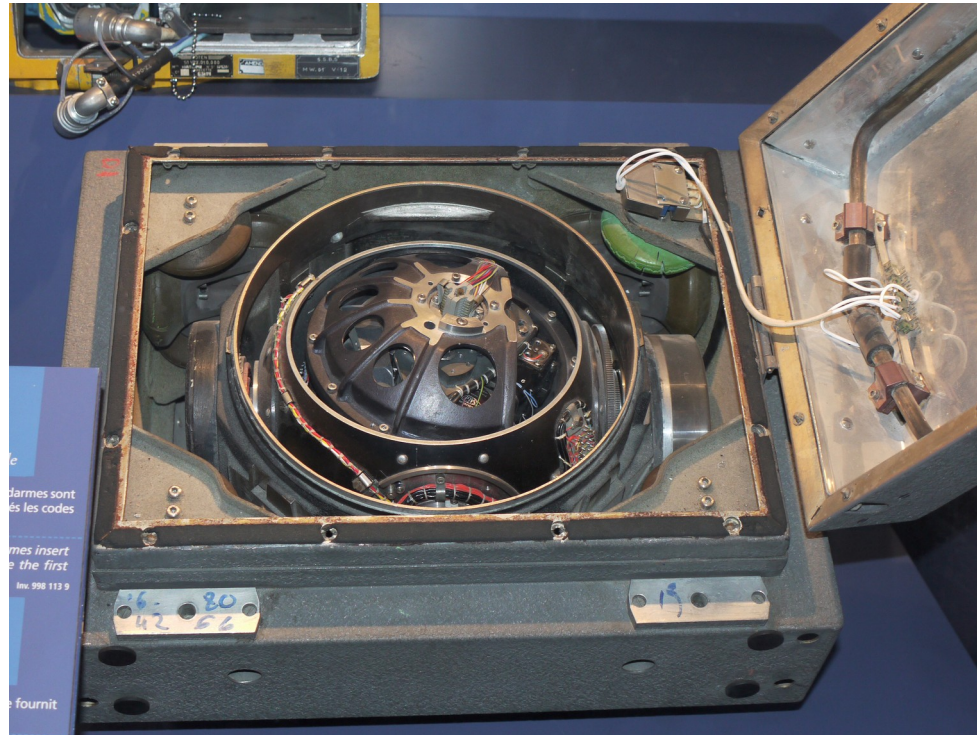
Why other systems can't be used?

- 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



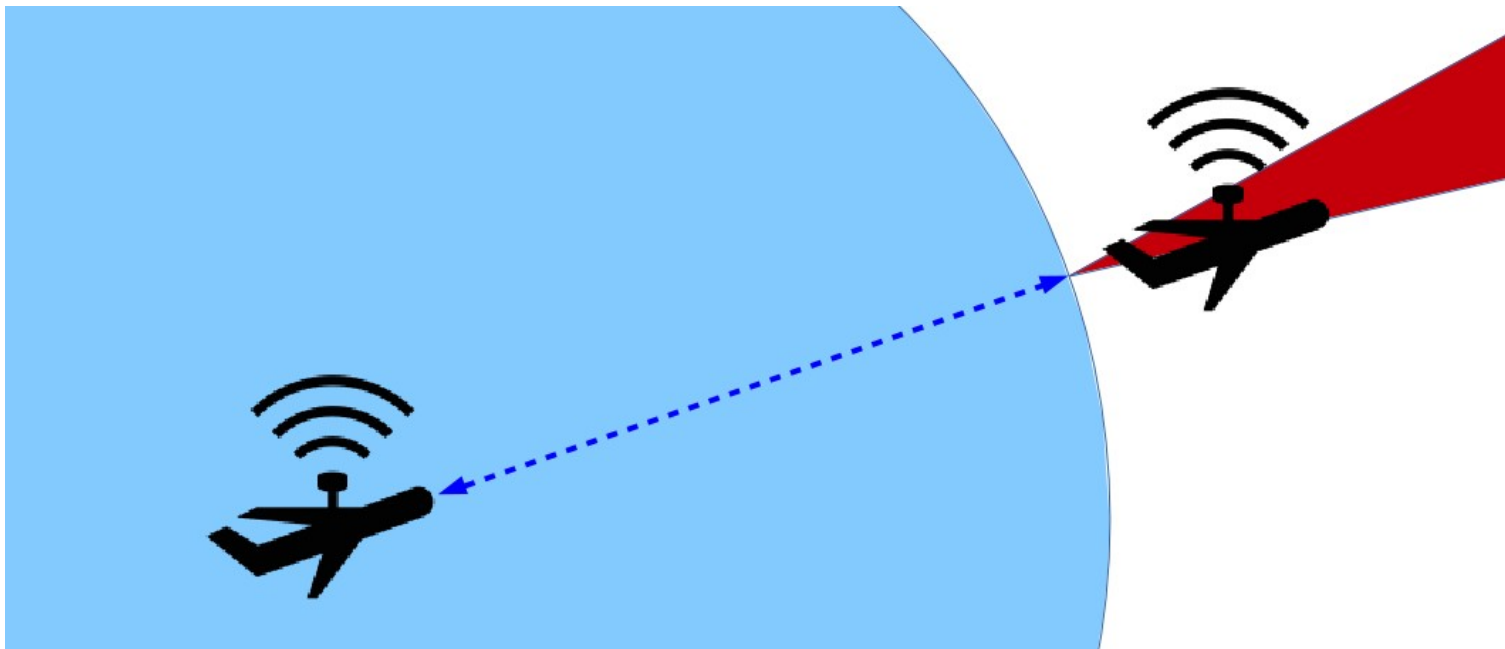
Image source: www.usatoday.com

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.