

State-of-the-art in robot security

Bernhard Dieber JOANNEUM RESEARCH Institute for Robotics and Mechatronics Klagenfurt, Austria



This work has been supported by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency in the program "ICT of the Future" (grant no. 861264) and the Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (bmvit).

Bundesministerium Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie



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Cyber threats in robotics

- Classically, robots have worked in isolation
- Modern robots work in highly interconnected environments
- Industry-grade robots are not harmless machines
- Robots pose risks to property and life
- Insecure robots may be manipulated remotely
- Industrial security is breached frequently [Byres et al., 2004, Cheminod et al., 2013, Stouffer et al., 2015, Karnouskos, 2011, Nelson, 2016, Fairley, 2016]



Security in ROS

- ROS has no built-in security [McClean et al., 2013]
- Missing authentication, authorization and confidentiality functions
- ROS is an easy target
 - Exploit XMLRPC-API used to interact with ROS master
 - Use stealth publisher attack to inject data or isolate subscribers
 - Use service isolation for DoS
 - Parameter manipulation



Attacks on ROS [Dieber et al. 2019]

- Stealth publisher attack
 - Isolate a node within the ROS application, feed with fake data
- Service isolation attack
 - Make the rest of the application think that a service is no longer available
- Malicious parameter attack
 - Modify rosparam server
- Tools

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- roschaos
 - https://github.com/ruffsl/roschaos
- RosPenTo
 - https://github.com/jr-robotics/RosPenTo



Countermeasures

- Application-level security [Dieber et al. 2016]
 - Use dedicated authentication server
- SROS1 [White et al. 2016]
 - Using TLS and AppArmor
 - Python only, TCP only
- Secure ROS core [Breiling et al. 2017]
 - Using TLS
 - C++, TCP and UDP
- SRI secure ROS [http://secure-ros.csl.sri.com/]
 - Uses IPSec



Security is more than applied cryptography

- Workflows for accessing secured devices [Dieber et al. 2017]
- Security architecture for mobile manipulators [Dieber and Breiling 2019]
- Secure deployment (work in progress)







Security in ROS2

ROS2 builds on DDS

- DDS has security mechanisms based on proven techniques
 - https://www.omg.org/spec/DDS-SECURITY/1.1/
- SROS2 project makes DDS security accessible to ROS2
 - https://github.com/ros2/sros2
- Access provisioning for SROS2 integrated in build process [White et al. 2018]



If everything else fails

- Storing forensically usable evidence on robot incidents
- Robot black box [Taurer et al. 2018]
 - Account for elevated security risks in autonomous systems
 - Separate device or dedicated software module
 - Cryptographic scheme to ensure CIA
- Work in progress of White et al.
 - Blockchain-based



Literature

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JOANNEUM RESEARCH Forschungsgesellschaft mbH ROBOTICS – Institute for Robotics & Mechatronics

> Lakeside B08a, EG 9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee Austria

> > Tel.: +43 316 876-2000 Fax.: +43 316 876-2010

robotics-office@joanneum.at www.joanneum.at/robotics



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