



Security & Privacy in a World of Safety: Analysing Avionic Data Links and NextGen ATC Networks

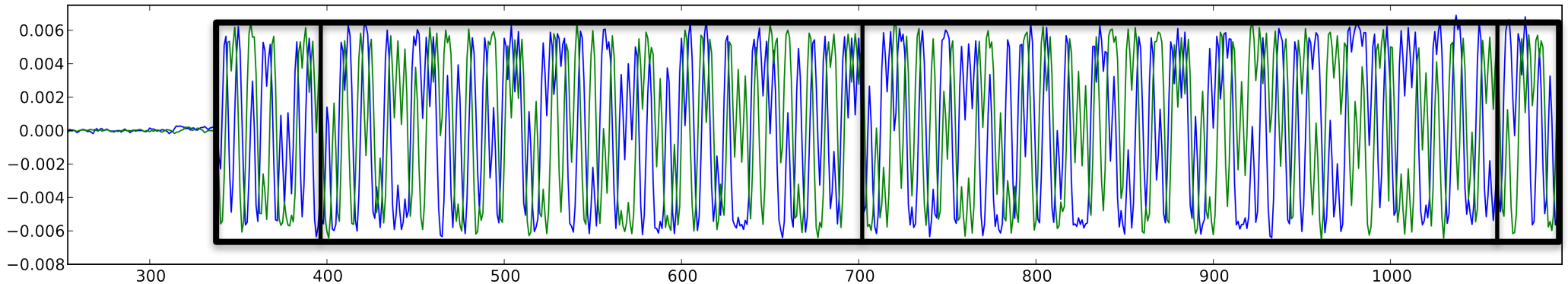
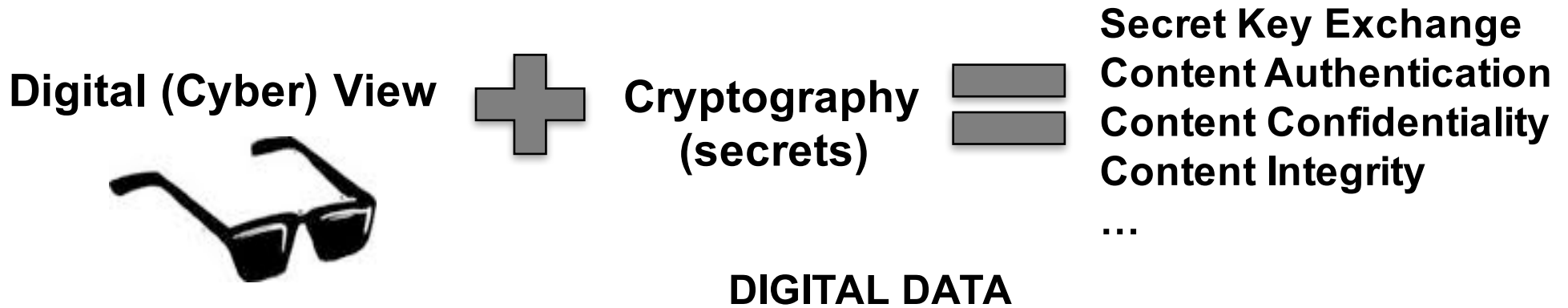
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Cyber-physical System Security



Physical signal (frequency-, time-, and position-dependent)



Physical View



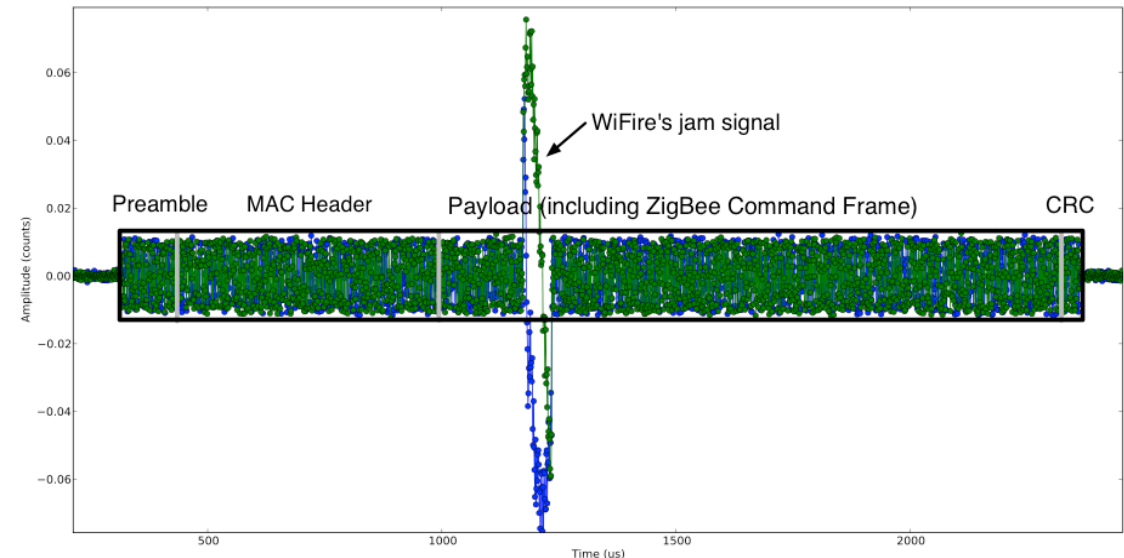
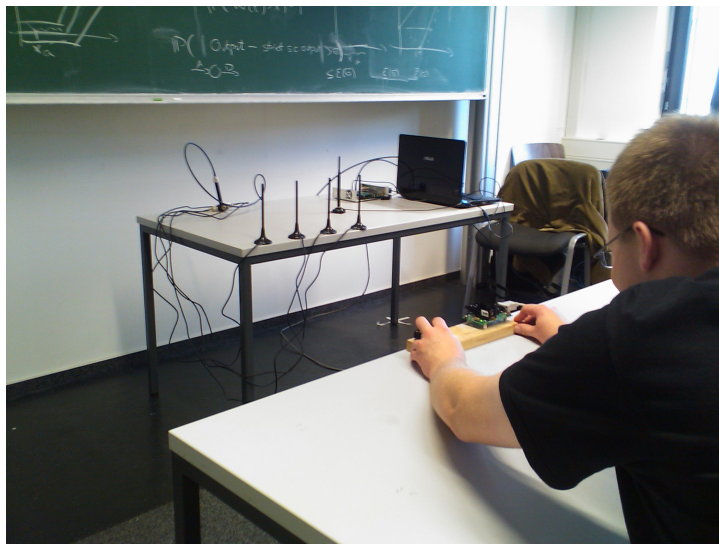
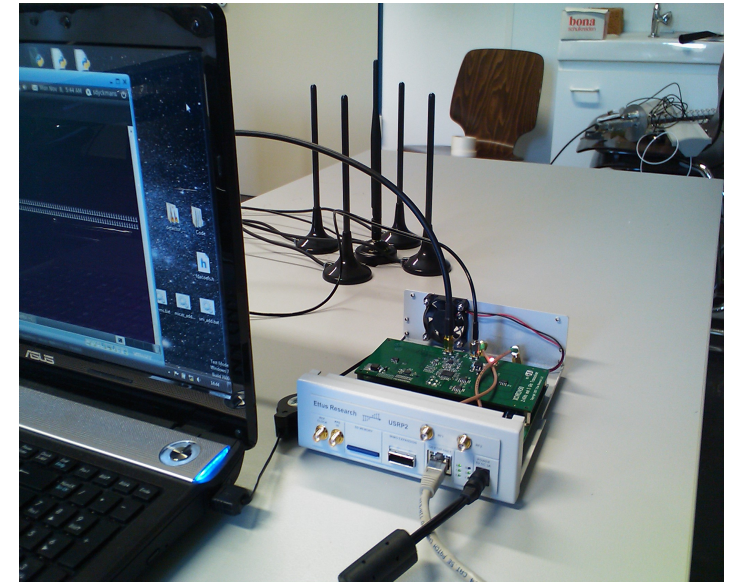
Nature (physical laws)



Location verification
PHY-Fingerprinting
Randomness for secrets
Behavioral authentication

Firewalling IoT Device

- Generating a precise jamming signal
- Firewalling IoT devices
 - Applying security policies in real-time
 - Policies: only indoor comms, dedicated channels, no unencrypted comm.
- USRP2 (Software-Defined Radio)
 - Prototype implementation using SDRs



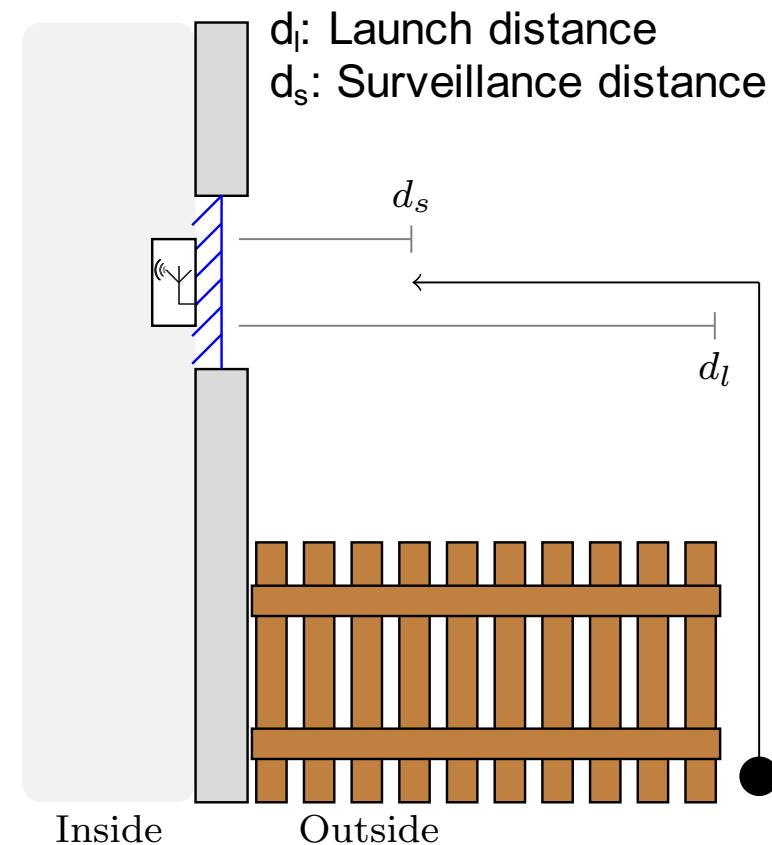
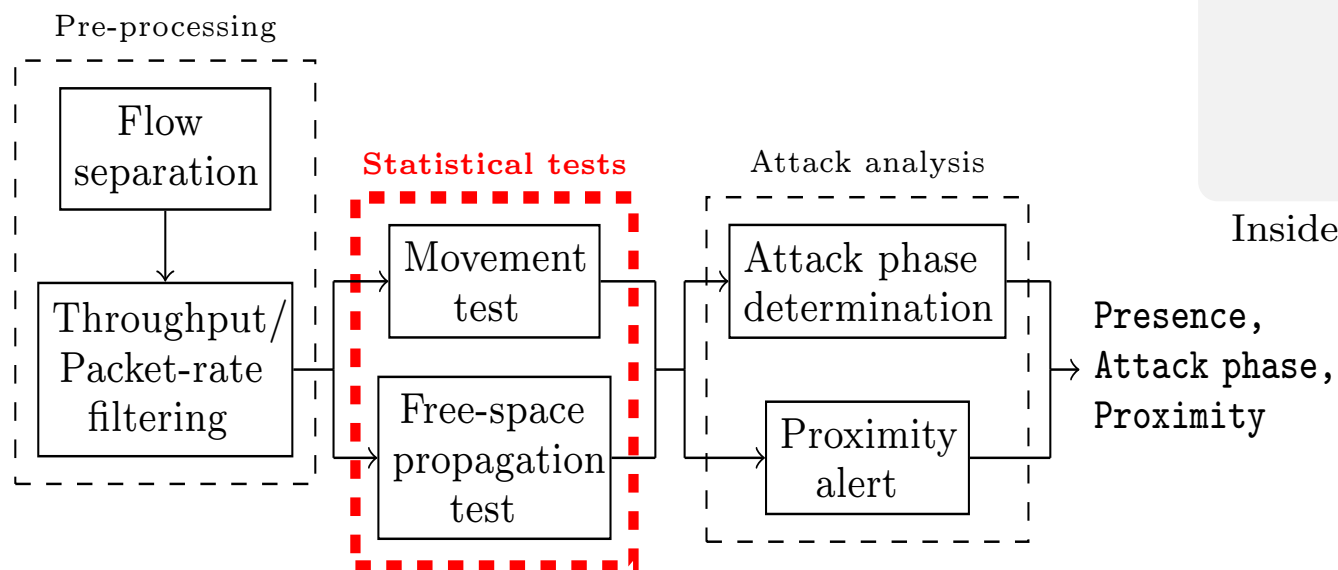
Using RF signals for drone detection

- Detecting drones by analyzing radio environment
- Detection of different phases: approach, surveillance, departure



Drone detection

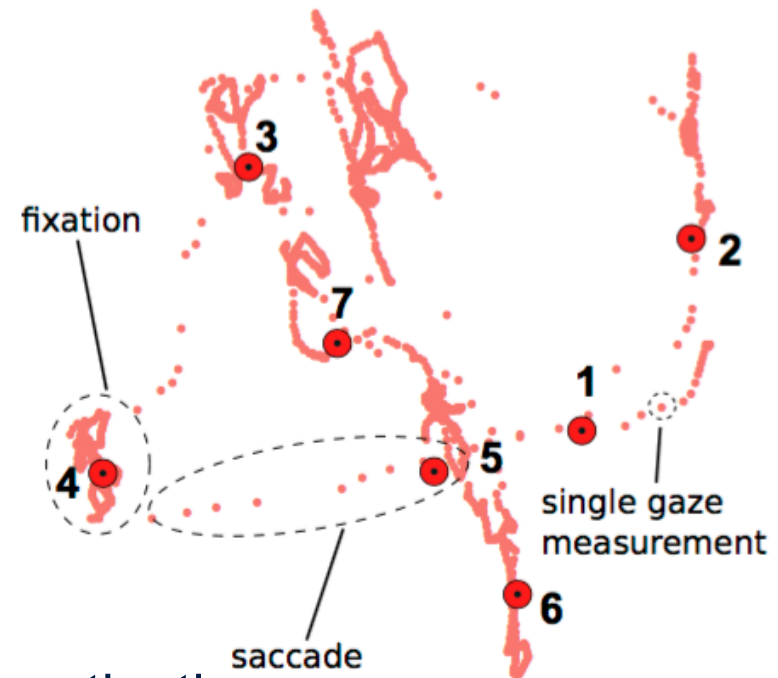
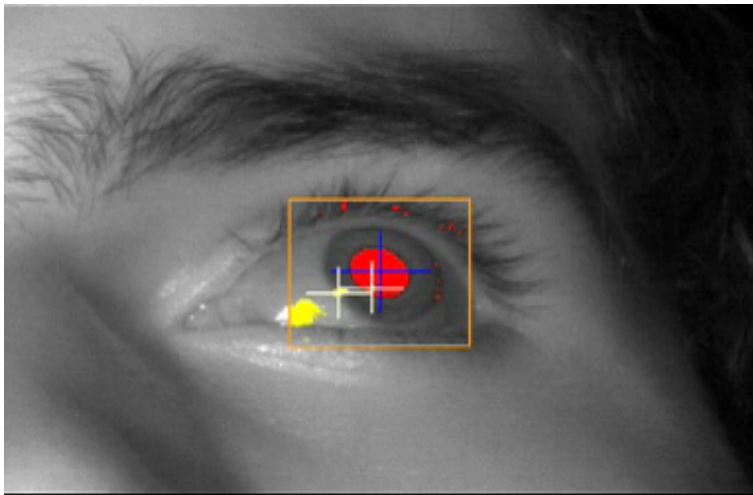
- Developed statistical methods to detect drone invasions
- Computationally lightweight
- Implementable on a smartphone



Wi-Fly: Detecting Privacy Invasion Attacks by Consumer Drones. S. Birnbach, R. Baker and I. Martinovic. NDSS 2017.

Continuous Authentication using Eye Movements

Eye movements are used to design a *challenge-response authentication protocol with freshness guarantees*.

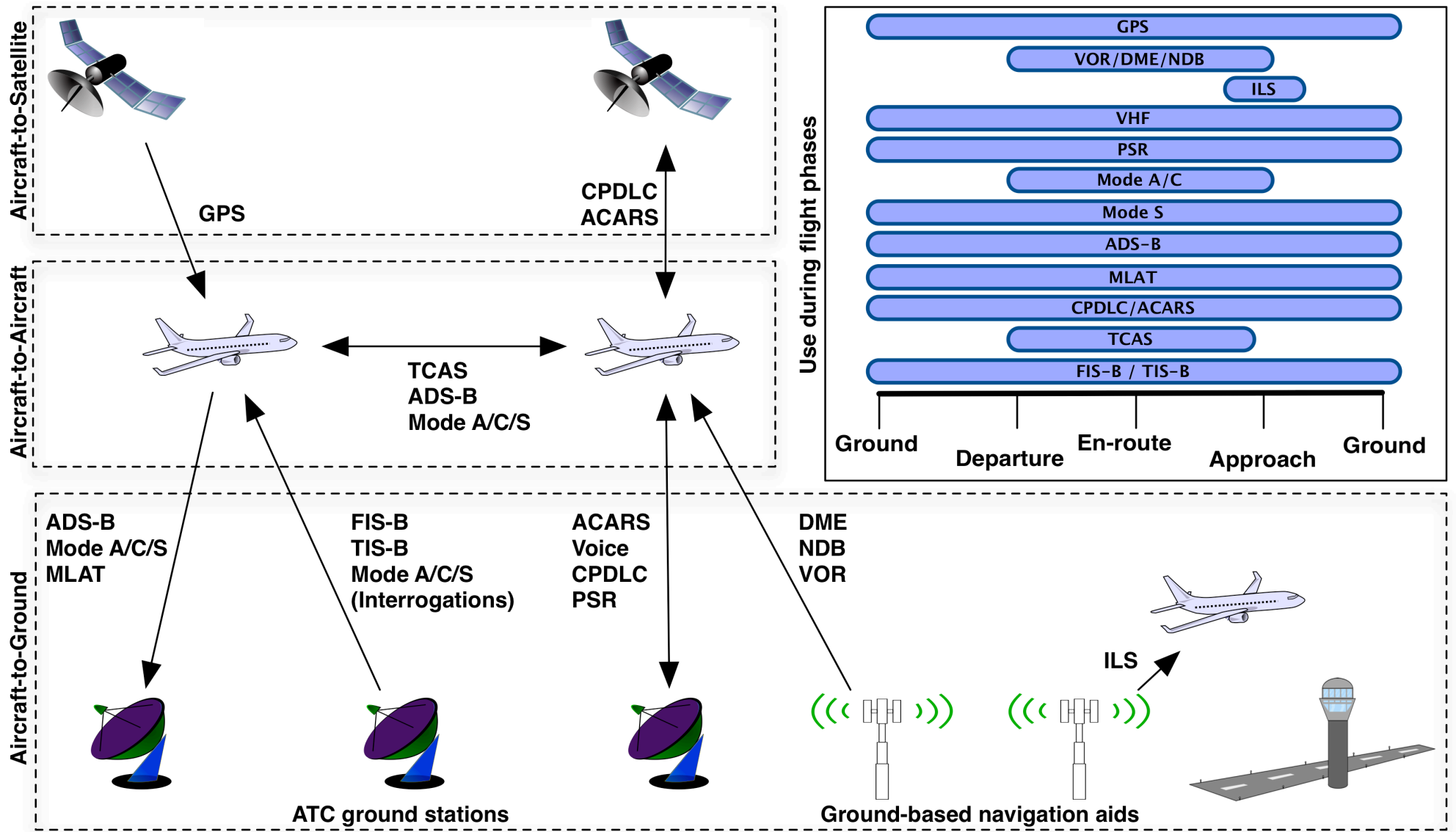


Microsecond response → fast user authentication

Using Reflexive Eye Movements For Fast Challenge–Response Authentication.
I. Sluganovic, M. Roeschlin, K.B. Rasmussen, I. Martinovic. ACM CCS 2016.

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

The Big Picture of Air Traffic Communication



Air Traffic Control – PSR

■ Primary Surveillance Radar (PSR)

- Ground based radar
- Measures the time difference between the signal transmission and reflection (12.36 microseconds is known as a radar-mile)



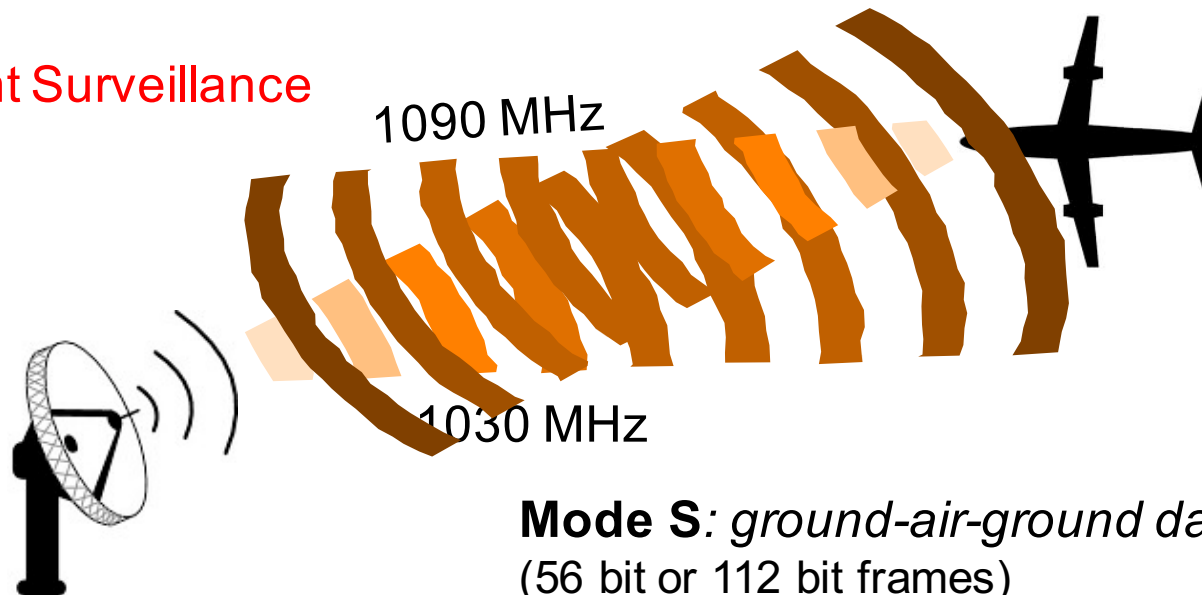
→ Independent Surveillance

Air Traffic Control – SSR

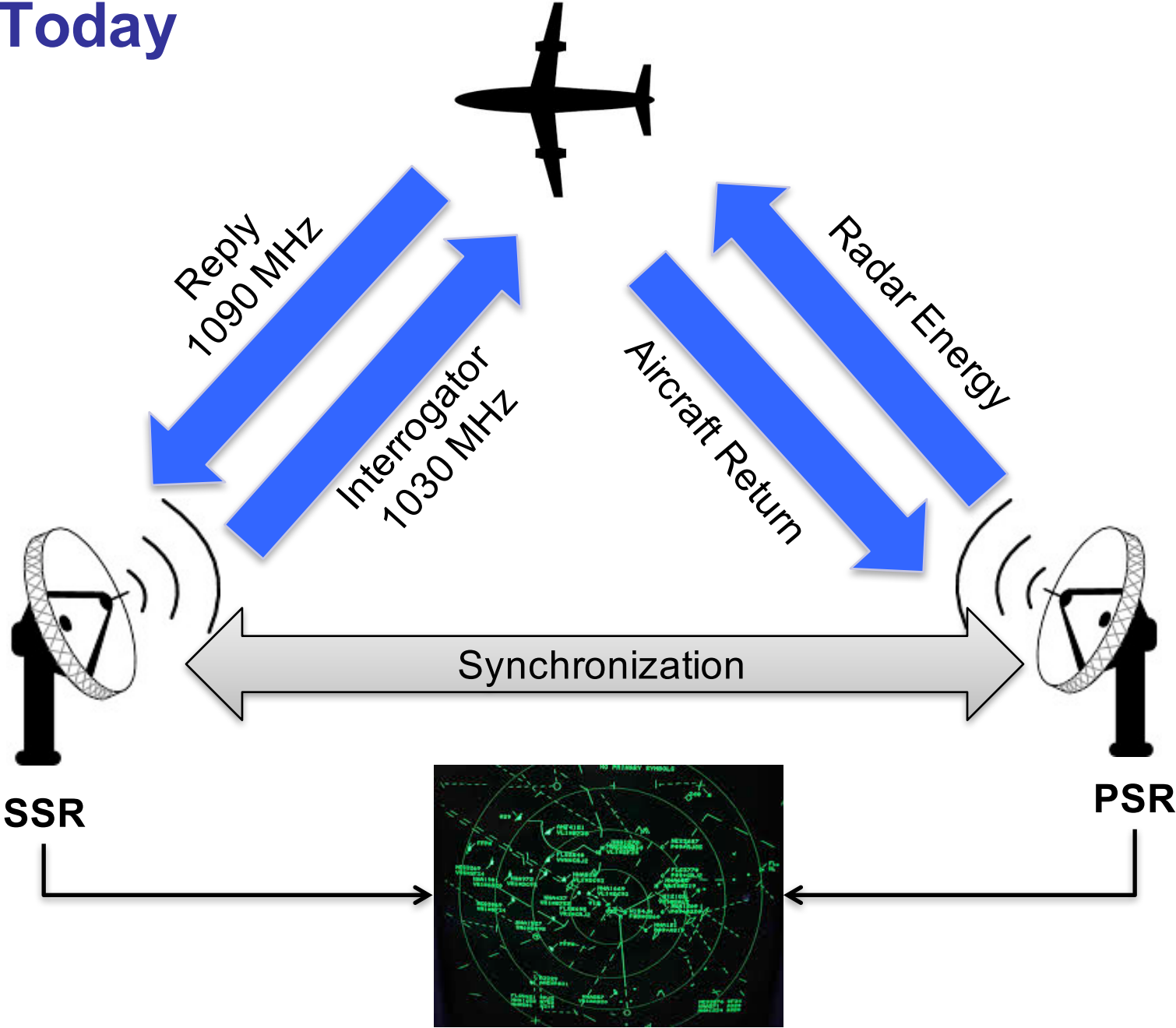
■ Secondary Surveillance Radar (SSR)

- Inspired by Identify Friend or Foe (IFF) during WWII
- Transponder-based interrogation
- Mode A: identification code only
- Mode C: identification code and barometric altitude
- Mode S: *selective* addressing to interrogate just one aircraft
- Mode S is used in **Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System**

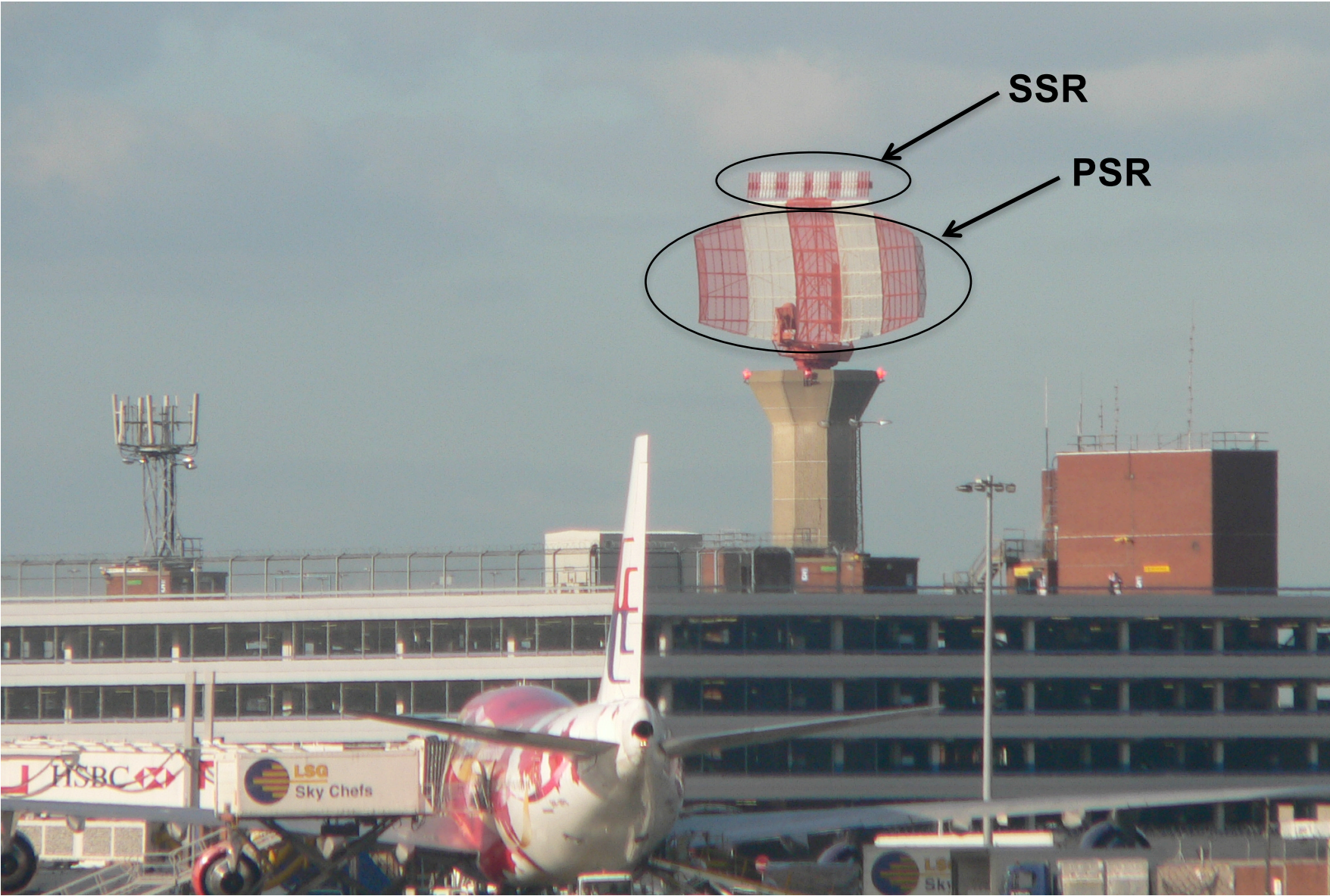
→ **Dependent Surveillance**



ATC Today



PSR and SSR (London Heathrow)

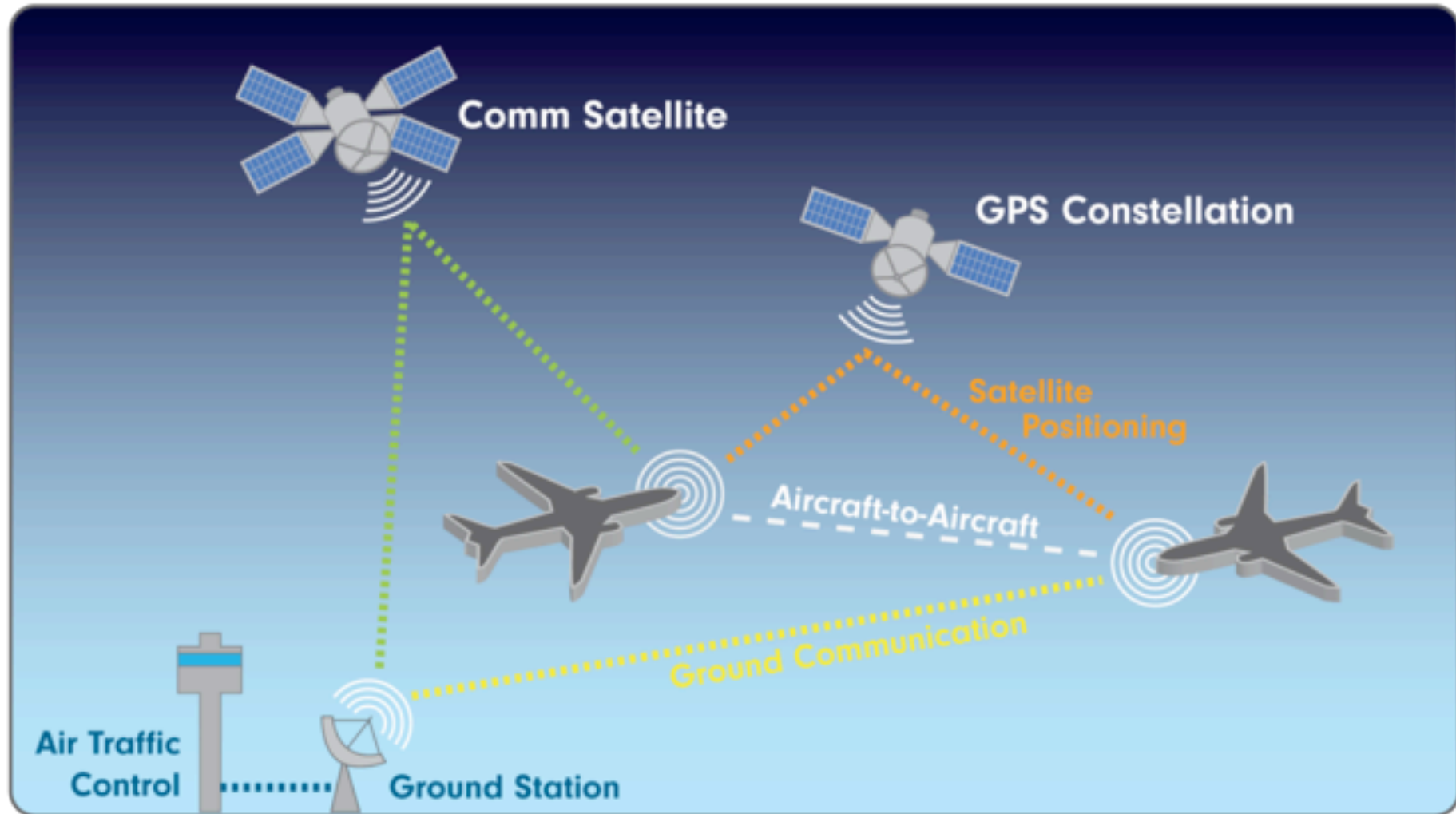


Problems of Today's ATC

- Enormous cost of operation; insufficient accuracy
- PSR
 - Does not provide identity
 - Often reports false targets
 - High transmission power required for long-range performance
 - Expensive to install and maintain
- SSR
 - Can sometimes report false targets or position (reflections, multipath)
 - Systems are expensive to install and maintain
 - Systems require optimum site with unobstructed view to aircraft
 - **Large separation minima is required**
 - **Complex collision avoidance**

Air Traffic Management of Tomorrow

- Main objectives: higher accuracy and cost-efficiency



Source: www.airfactsjournal.com

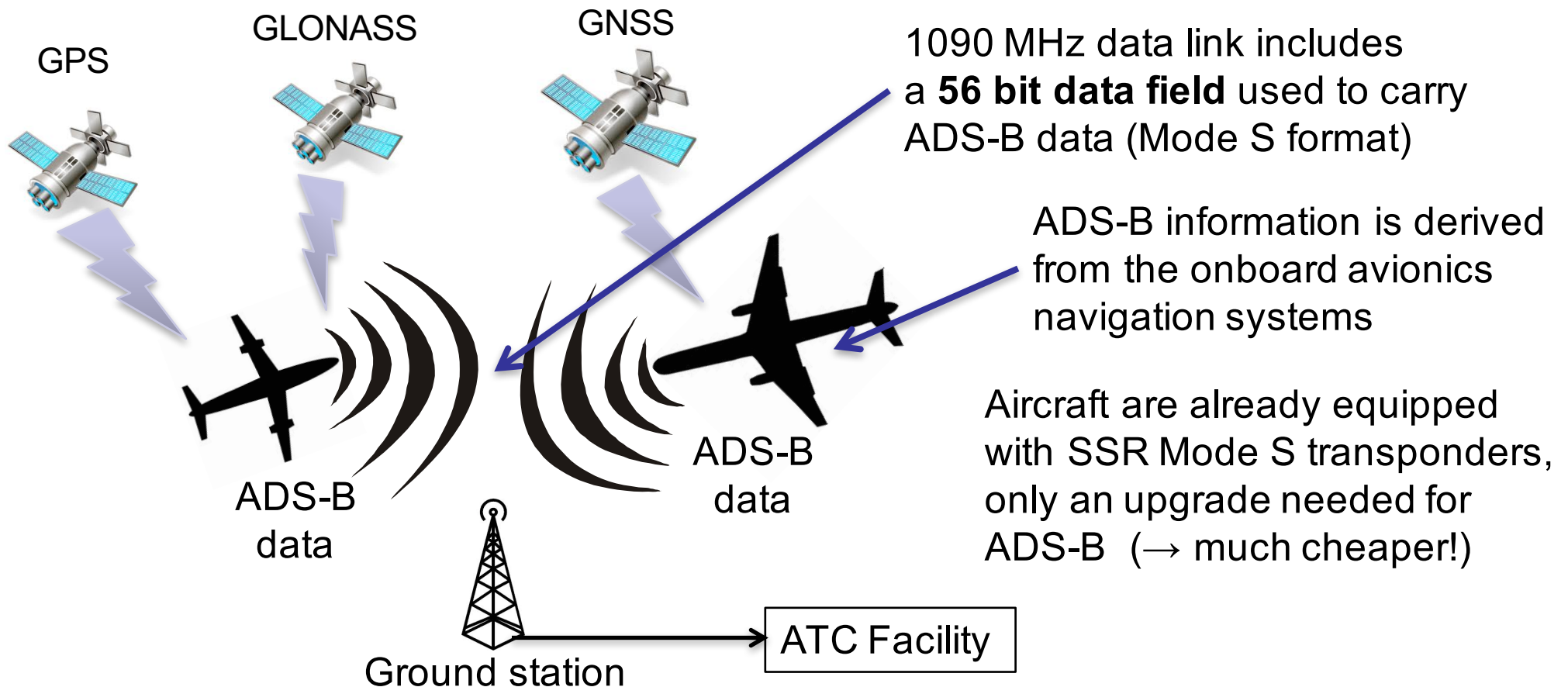
ADS-B

Automatic: Always on (no explicit interrogation necessary)

Dependent: On-board system provides surveillance information to other parties

Surveillance: Provides precise position, altitude, speed, heading, identification,...

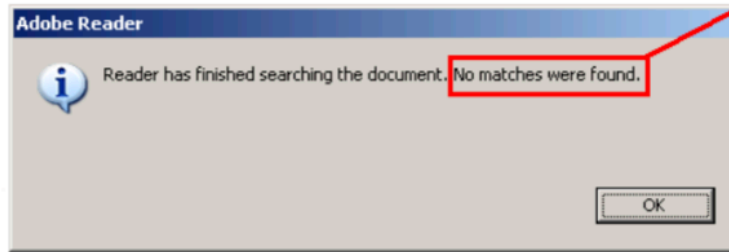
Broadcast: Sent to any aircraft or ground station equipped to receive the data



SECURITY OF ATC

Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Universal Access Transceiver (UAT) Automatic Dependent Surveillance - Broadcast (ADS-B)

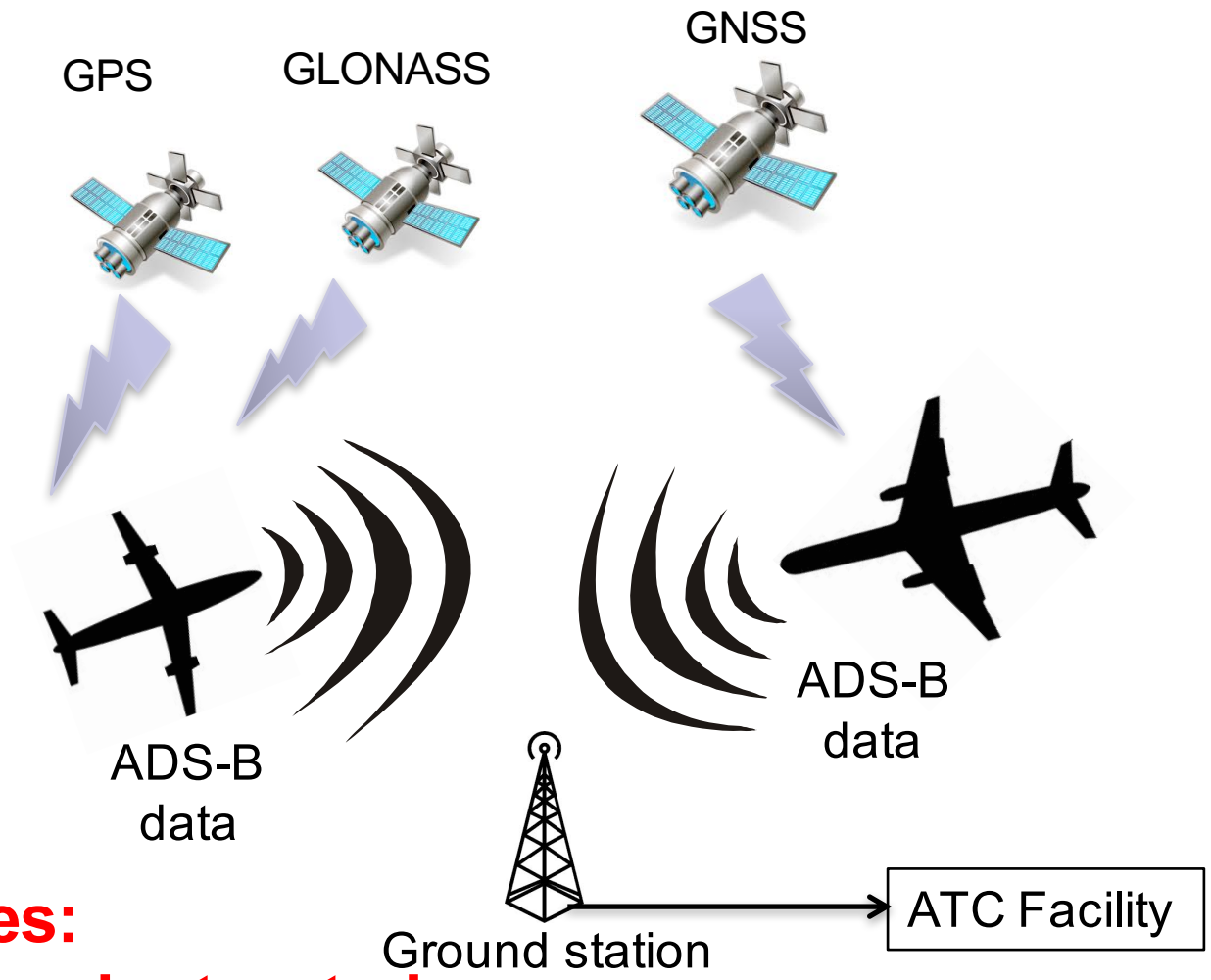
security



Credit: A. Costin

Adversary meets ADS-B

**No authentication.
No authorization.
No confidentiality.
No integrity.**



ADS-B system assumes:

- Received GPS data can be trusted**
- Data broadcast over 1090ES data link can be trusted**

PASSIVE THREATS?

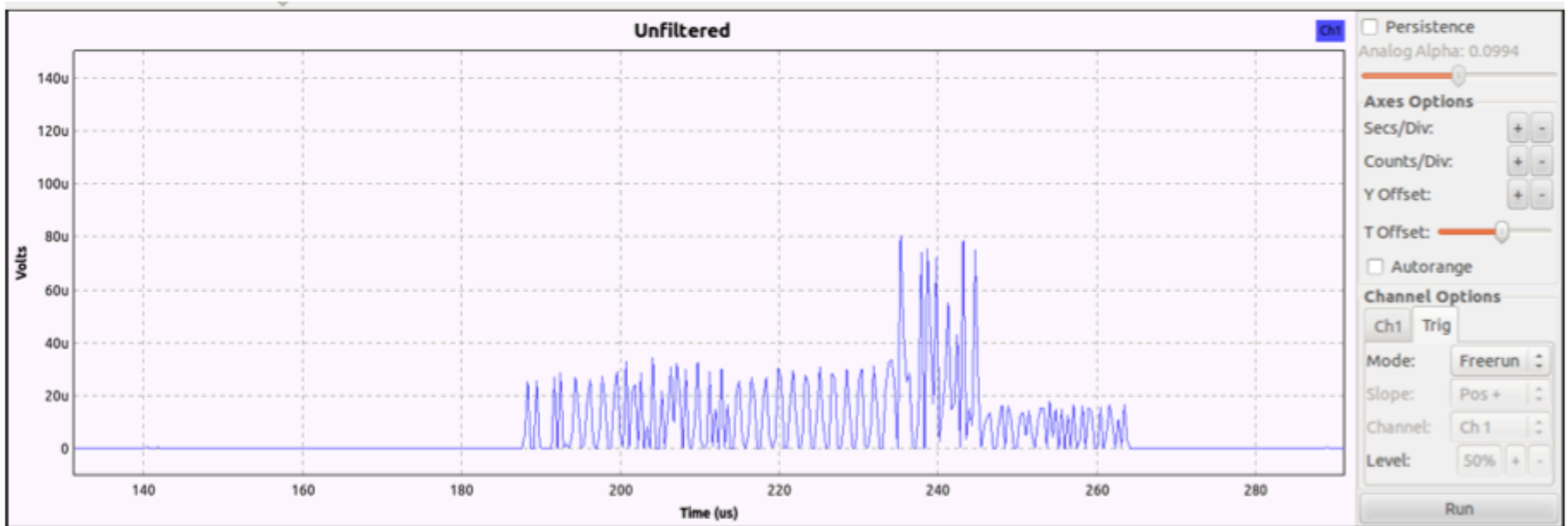
Eavesdropping on ADS-B Data

- Receiving **raw** ADS-B data is easy

- ADS-B uses Mode S
- Mode S: Pulse Position Modulation
- Software Defined Radio (GNU Radio) implementation of Mode S receiver exists (credit: Nick Foster)

- <https://github.com/bistromath/gr-air-modes>

GNU Radio)))



Receiving ADS-B Data using COTS Hardware

- Many cheap Mode-S/ADS-B receivers available
(btw, DVB-T USB stick for 30\$ works, too!)



Receiving ADS-B data using USRP/GNURadio

■ *Home-made Receiver*

- USRP N210
- SBX daughterboard
- Kinetic Avionic MD1105 antenna (1090 MHz)

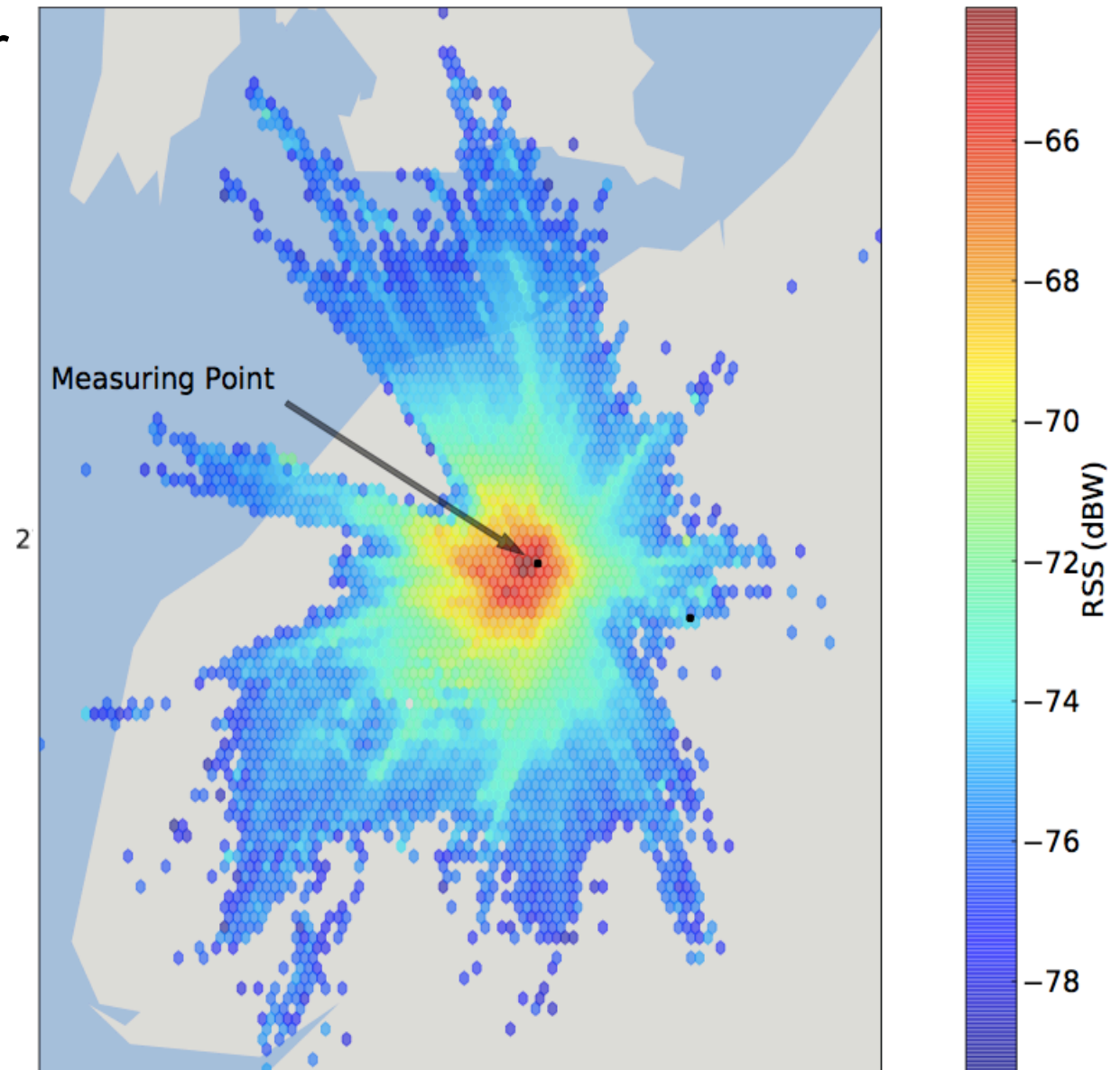
■ Bit-error detection

■ Preamble

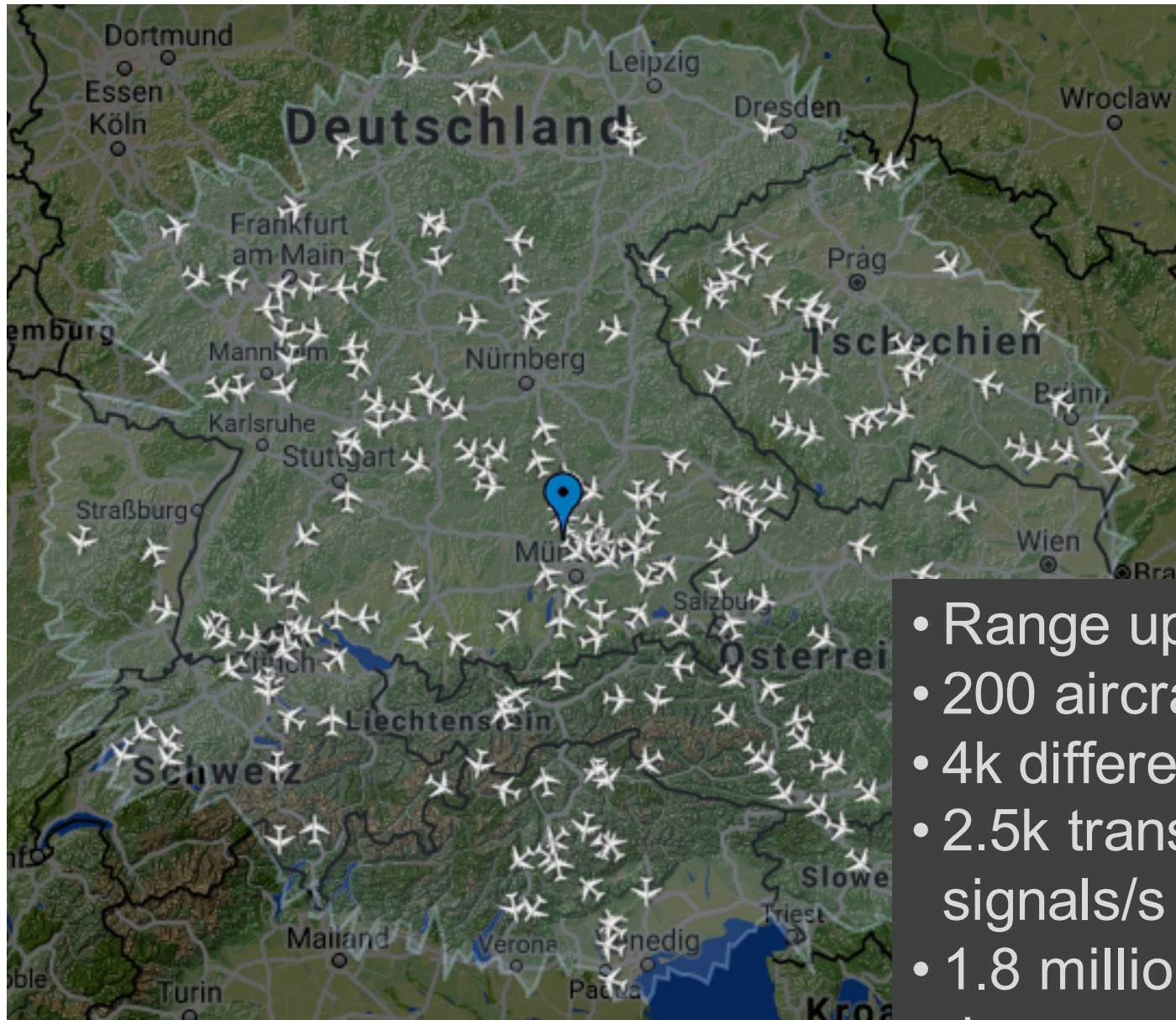
■ RSS

■ SNR

■ other PHY-data



OpenSky: Receiver View



- Range up to 600 km
- 200 aircraft at a time
- 4k different aircraft/day
- 2.5k transponder signals/s
- 1.8 million signals per day

Eavesdropping on ADS-B transmissions



Raw ADS-B data (real-time):

- Call sign
- ICAO ID
- Position
- Altitude
- Heading
- Speed
- Climbing rate

Publicly available data:

- Flight No.
- Owner
- Start position
- Destination
- Scheduled arrival
- Aircraft Model
- Engine



Receiving ADS-B Data: Feature or Flaw?

The image displays a flight tracking interface. On the left, a sidebar provides flight details for ACA847 (Air Canada) on the route MUC (Munich) to YYZ (Toronto). The aircraft is a Boeing 777-233LR with registration C-FNNH. It is currently at an altitude of 32,000 ft, traveling at 446 kt on a track of 302°. The cockpit view window shows a 3D perspective of the aircraft from the rear, with various instrument panels including a heading indicator, altimeter, and airspeed indicator. The background is a satellite map of the North Sea region, showing the United Kingdom, Denmark, and the Netherlands. A small inset map in the bottom right corner provides a broader geographical context.

AC847 / ACA847	
Air Canada	
MUC Munich	YYZ Toronto
STD 11:50 CET ATD 11:54 CET	STA 15:40 EDT ETA 15:46 EDT
Aircraft (B77L) Boeing 777-233LR	Registration (C023AE) C-FNNH
Altitude 32,000 ft	Vertical Speed 0 fpm
Speed 446 kt	Track 302°
Latitude 54.5254	Longitude 2.1452
Radar F-EGXH1	Squawk 3422

Cockpit View - ACA847
<http://www.flightradar24.com/ACA847/view>

Image Landsat
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

© 2013 Google

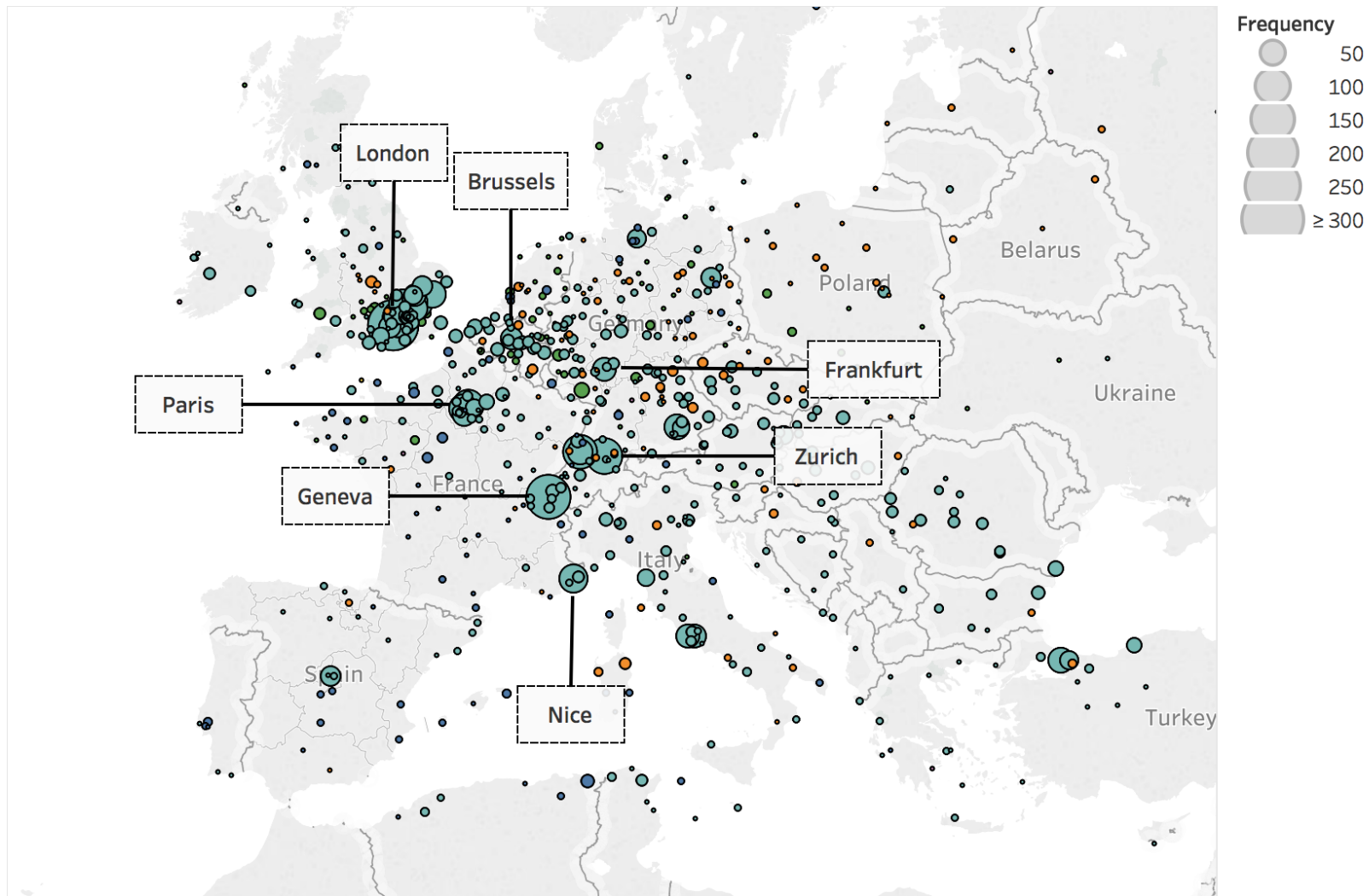
Map
North Sea
United Kingdom
Denmark
Netherlands
Germany

Google
Map Data
Terms of Use

Google earth

ON PANEL MAP AIRCRAFT BUBBLES INFO ROTATE VIEW FULL SCREEN
OFF OFF OFF OFF OFF

Privacy leakage from air-traffic?



The Real First Class? Inferring Confidential Corporate Mergers and Government Relations from Air Traffic Communication. Martin Strohmeier, Matthew Smith, Vincent Lenders and Ivan Martinovic. *In IEEE European Symposium on Security and Privacy (EuroS&P) 2018.* IEEE. April, 2018.

ACARS Messages (encrypted)

	Txt	Registration
1	06cE5gC7M) g.9DgggC)f7. .7L??D7os437g(`7g:).7...C7hhhhh	D-AERO
2	09 \L46c+BhhNBo444BZ4ch8hcGeeocPr!(c4shZc41B,c888Bcbbbb	D-AERO
3	09 \L46c+BhB41o448hN6c644cGeeocPr!(c4shZc4Z48c888,cbbbb	D-AERO
4	05JO4jd)]C9jo9Xjjj`B)joe)w)w)j`9B)jBu`)jBCu)jjd7C	D-AFUN
5	03m0>xJqLDt-J9fxxxDx(qx9xq#q#qxP(VqttDPqtJJ(qxxP\$-	D-AFUN
6	08msWL}ZqvY`KY~LLL}KcZLacZ=yy~Z=yP\ZLK}LZYLeeZYLvLZLYL[K	D-AJET
7	08,suL}ZqvY``}~LLL`t}ZLKLZ=yy~Z=yP\ZLK}LZYLe`ZYLvLZLYL[]	D-AJET
8	09 \L46c+B4B1so444N,4c4ZNcGe-Wc-GrPc4s64c8hhNc8N8Zc44Z5h	D-AJET
9	08,suL}ZqvL}`c~LLLeYvZYc`Z=yP\ZP= OZLK}LZYeetZY`YtZLLc[K	D-AJET
10	06cE5gC7M9`9(:Dggg)C97C9g7aLso7L??D7g(Cg7.`g:7.`C:7gg),C	D-AJET
11	09 \L46c+B4hs6o444BBhchBNc-GrPcGeeoc4s64c8Z86c8Z61c44B58	D-AJET
12	03m0>xJqL-VJt-fxx(t9-q-txq.T+lq!1mlqxPJtqxetDqxe-Pqxx9\$9	N415QS
13	03m0>xJqLDt-DVfxxxxDeqtJPq!Odbq+oofqxPJtqxV-DqxVDeq#####	D-AERO
14	03m0>xJqLDtJee+xxxJD-qt9Jq#q#qxPJtqtt-tqtJJxq#####	D-AERO
15	02N;E,0lrQ---9/,3-])l,lvE<hlXO:;l,A,3l30-]l300ml,,mT3	CS-DKF
16	02Xe ,0lrQ3m99/,0-]l]m0,lvk1ilXkrri,A,3l3Q,)l3QQml((((N719SH
17	03m0>xJqLDtDJ(fxx-xPtq-Jxq!Odbq+OLLqx9xtqtDtJqtDDDq#####	N719SH
18	021244 EGLL KMSP6 112701 853350	N827MH

Bad crypto in aviation systems

Key identifier

```
07 ?X.0)Emk.;M].;4;Dm)m..) Y(*)]s($).M4U).U;;).MmD)..D+0
07 ?X.0)EmUmkm]..D00M)4k.)]rr6)Y-\).k.<);4<k);000)..;;+U
07 ?X.0)EmUmUU]..D0Mk)m;.)]E{-)6-r).k.;);;;;);4;;).U+.
```

- ACARS encryption using a weak substitution cipher broken in minutes.
- Used by a wide range of private, military and government aircraft.



Economy Class Crypto: Exploring Weak Cipher Usage in Avionic Communications via ACARS, in *Financial Cryptography and Data Security 2017*.

Eavesdropping on Data Links: Medical Issues

Passenger

Status of unwell passengers reported to the ground to request assistance

RE **PAX** **SALLY** SHE
IT
FEELING A LITTLE
BETTER
NO FURTHER
ASSISTANCE
NEEDED.THANKS

PAX SALLY
HAS COLLAPSED
AGAIN
HAVE DECLARED
MEDICAL
EMERGENCY

Departure & arrival airports

Detailed treatment information passed on to medical staff on the ground

/ **EGKK KHOU** 21 104017
NO MEDLINK.
PAX TOM 27A HAS LEUKEMIA. GIVEN 2
PUFFS OF INHALER. 325MG ASPIRIN. ON
DRIP FOR REHYDRATION. APPEARS TO
HAVE CHEST INFECTION. BP STAB

Eavesdropping on Data Links: Possessions at Risk

Forgotten belongings, including hotel name, room number and specific items

DEAR CCO COULD U PLS
ADVSE **CAPT PAUL**
TO RECOVER **PASSPORT AND PERSONL**
BELONGING LEFT
THAT **CAPT JOHN** LEFT IN **ROOM 522**
HOTEL WESTIN WASHINGTON DULLES
AIRPORT

Credit card details, sufficient to make a card-not-present transaction

FR2200
PLS VERIFY CREDIT
CARD:
MASTERCARD
1234 5678 1234 5678 EXP
10/20
USD 552

Card type

Card number & expiry date

Our work on privacy in ATC

Undermining Privacy in the Aircraft Communications Addressing and Reporting System (ACARS). Accepted for publication at PETS. Feb. 1 2018. Matthew Smith, Daniel Moser, Martin Strohmeier, Vincent Lenders and Ivan Martinovic.

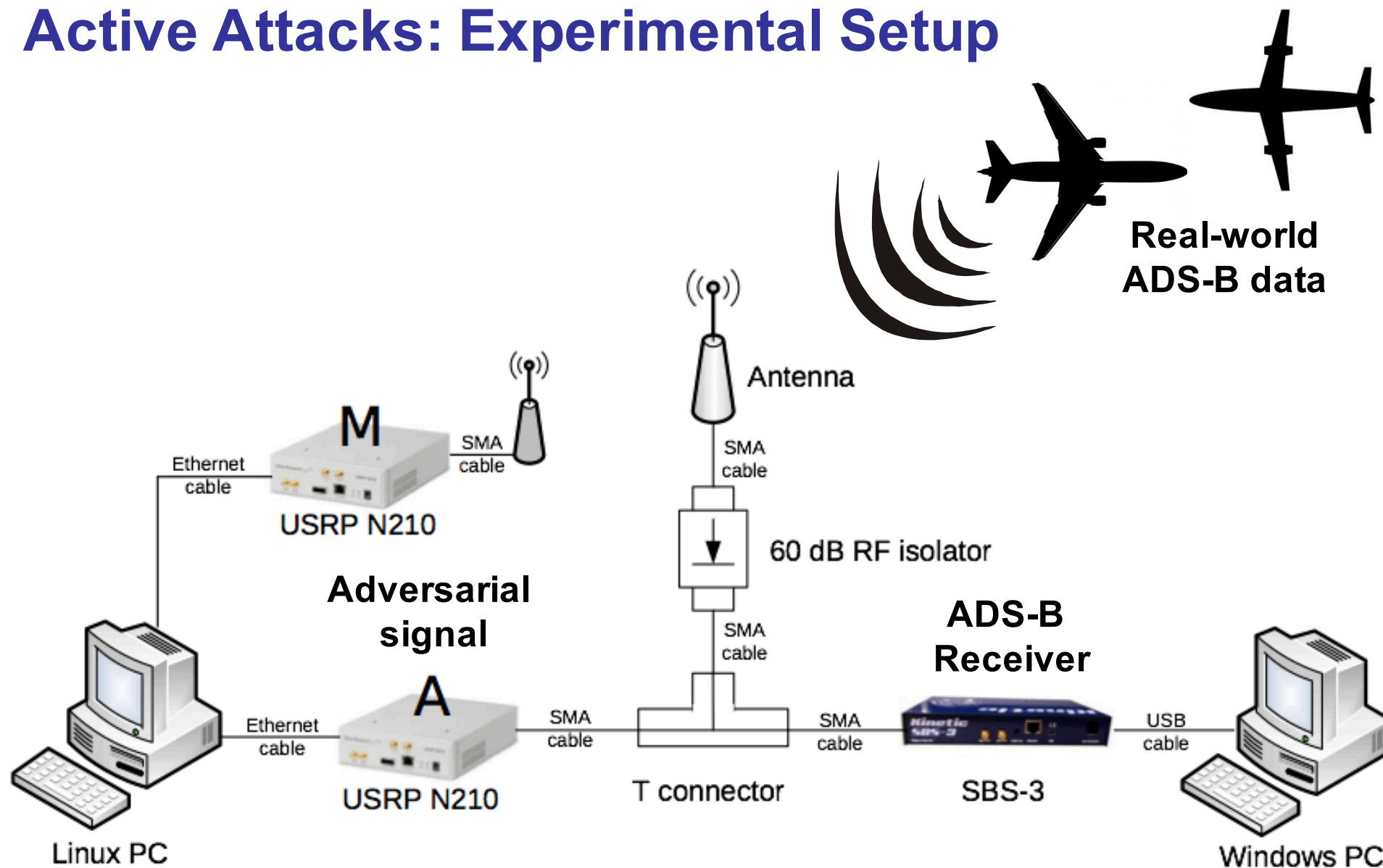
Economy Class Crypto: Exploring Weak Cipher Usage in Avionic Communications via ACARS, Matthew Smith, Daniel Moser, Martin Strohmeier, Vincent Lenders and Ivan Martinovic. *International Conference on Financial Cryptography and Data Security 2017.* April, 2017.

On Perception and Reality in Wireless Air Traffic Communications Security, Martin Strohmeier, Matthias Schäfer, Rui Pinheiro, Vincent Lenders, and Ivan Martinovic. In *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems.* June, 2017.

On the Security and Privacy of ACARS. Matt Smith, Martin Strohmeier, Vincent Lenders, and Ivan Martinovic. *Integrated Communications Navigation and Surveillance (ICNS).* 2016.

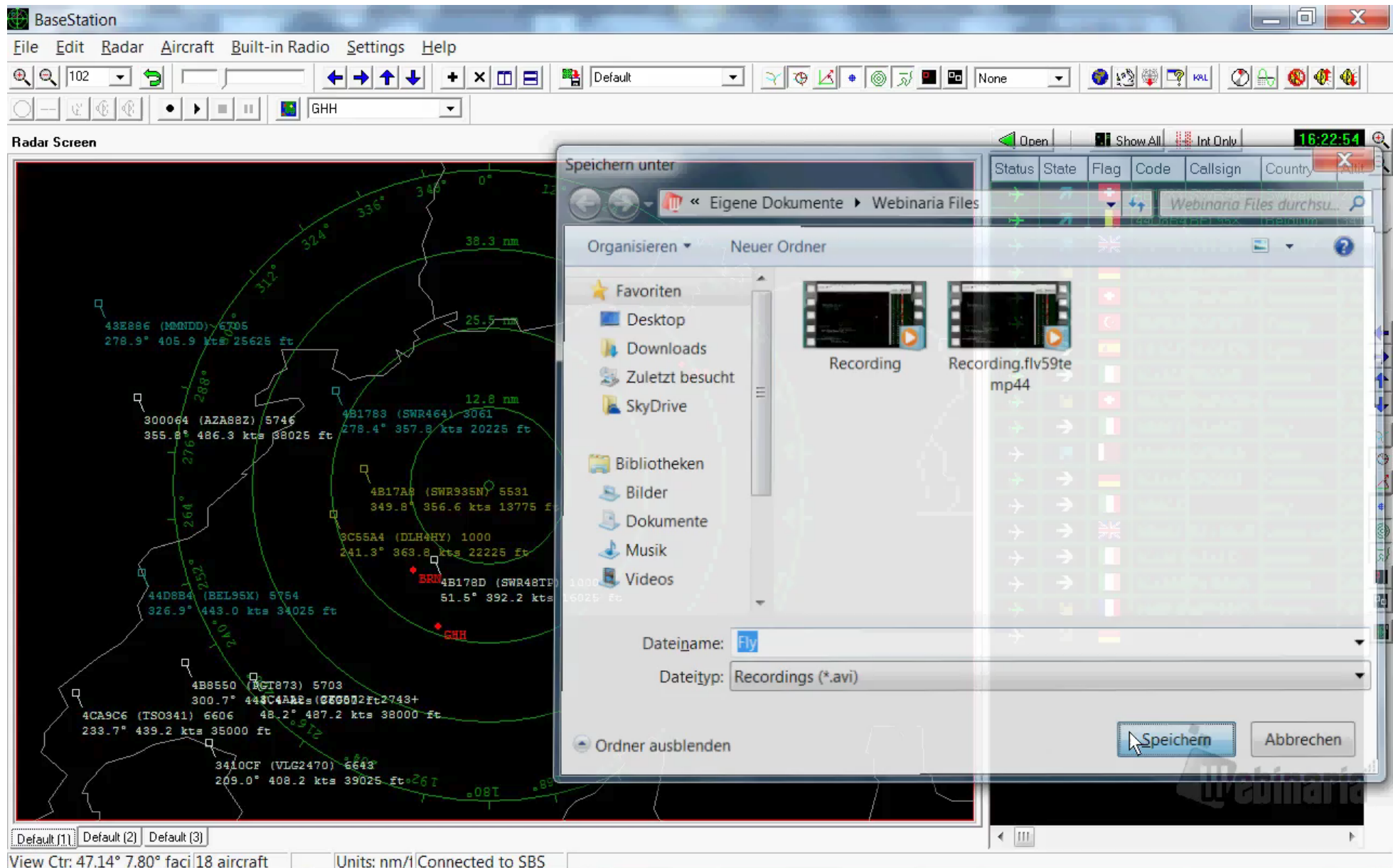
ACTIVE THREATS?

Active Attacks: Experimental Setup



Experimental Analysis of Attacks on Next Generation Air Traffic Communication.
M. Schaefer, V. Lenders and I. Martinovic. ACNS 2013.

Demo – Ghost Aircraft Injection Attack

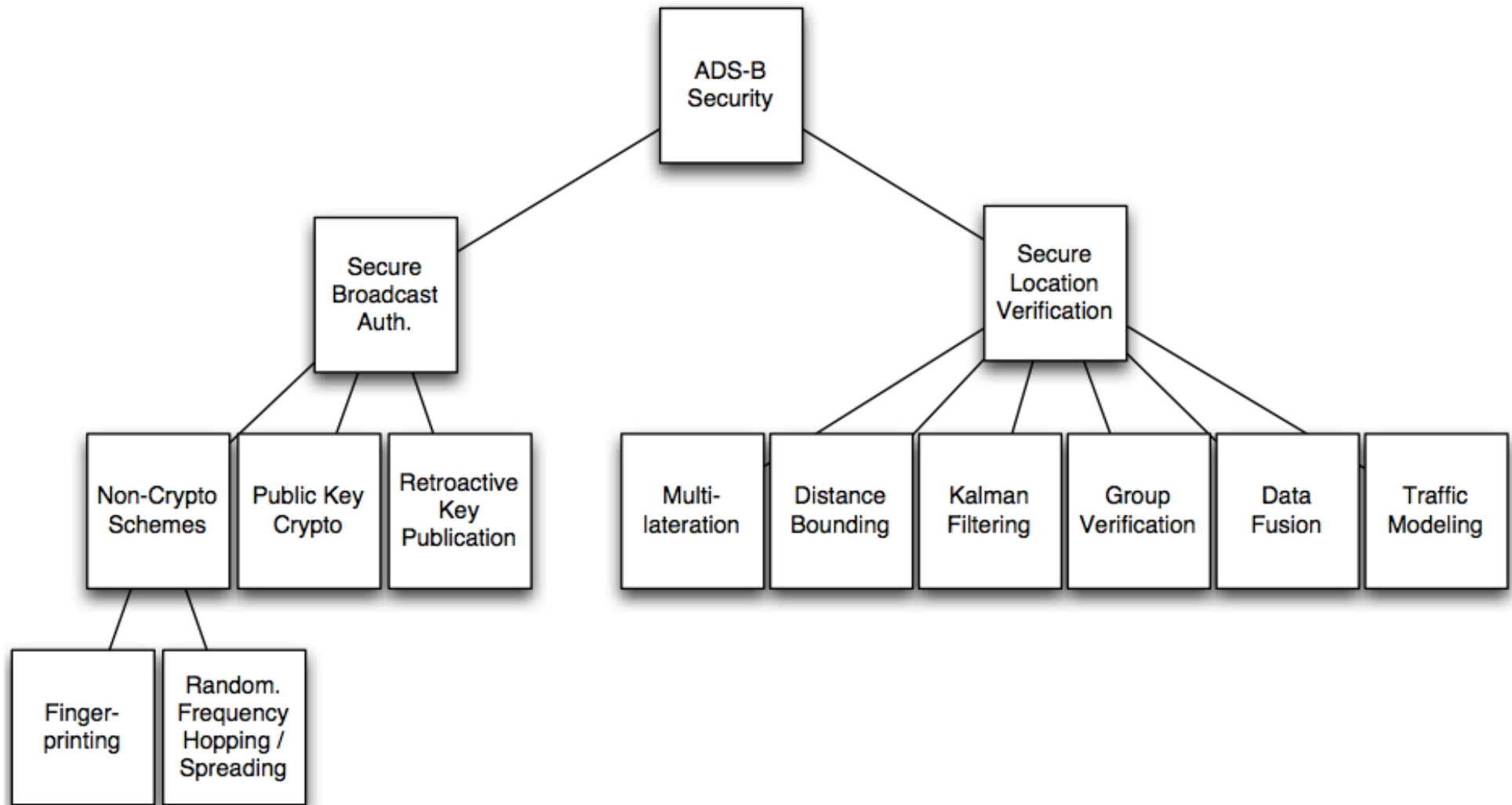


Demo – Ghost Aircraft Flooding Attack

The screenshot displays the BaseStation software interface. The main window is titled "BaseStation" and has a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "Radar", "Aircraft", "Built-in Radio", "Settings", and "Help". Below the menu bar is a toolbar with various icons for navigation and settings. The "Radar Screen" is the central focus, showing a map with concentric green circles representing range (50.0 nm, 75.0 nm, 100.0 nm) and radial lines for bearing. Several aircraft are tracked, with their call signs, altitudes, and speeds displayed. A file explorer window is open over the radar screen, showing a folder named "Webinaria Files" with a subfolder "confusion". A dialog box is also open, asking "confusion.avi ist bereits vorhanden. Möchten Sie sie ersetzen?" (confusion.avi already exists. Do you want to replace it?). The dialog box has "Ja" (Yes) and "Nein" (No) buttons. The file explorer window shows a list of files and folders, including "Fly", "Fly.flv59temp44", and "Recording". The status bar at the bottom of the BaseStation window shows "View Ctr: 47.35° 8.52° faci 7 aircraft" and "Units: nm/I Connected to SBS".

Status	State	Flag	Code	Callsign	Country	Altitude
→	→	DE	3C4842	BER12R	Germany	31500
→	→	DE	3C8658		Germany	37000
→	→	GB	40666C		United Kingdom	36000
→	→	AT	44024E	AUA81GP	Austria	20000
→	→	CH	4B1783	SWR464	Switzerland	27000
→	→	TR	4B8550	PGT873	Turkey	34000
→	→	IE	4CA2A7	R4R4VY	Ireland	38000

Solutions?



- ***On the Security of the Automatic Dependent Surveillance – Broadcast Protocol.*** M. Strohmeier, V. Lenders and I. Martinovic. *IEEE Communications Surveys & Tutorials.* 2016.

Security (research/hacker) community

News

Hackers say coming air traffic control system lets them hijack planes

FAA says it can spot hacking attempts, but won't allow independent 'stress tests'

By Taylor Armerding, CSO
January 11, 2013 08:12 AM ET

Add a comment Print

Share 23 Like 143 More

CSO - An ongoing multibillion-dollar overhaul of the national air traffic control system is designed to make commercial aviation more efficient and safer by 2025.

[Sleeping air traffic controllers get federal wakeup](#)

But some white-hat hackers are questioning the safety of the NextGen Transportation System (NextGen) will rely on Global Positioning System (GPS) instead of radar. And so far, several hackers have said they were able to hijack aircraft by spoofing their GPS components.

Researcher: New air traffic control system is hackable



By Heather Kelly, CNN

July 26, 2012 -- Updated 2249 GMT (0649 HKT) | Filed under: [Web](#)

Air Traffic Control of the Future Is (Still) Incredibly Hackable

Defcon Researchers Build Tool To Track the Planes of the Rich and Famous

WIRED

5. Researcher demonstrates how new air traffic control system

In another Black Hat presentation, Andrei Costin

Hacker Shows Air Traffic Control Danger With 'Ghost Planes'

Posted 09.26.2012 | Travel

[Read More: Air Force One, Air Traffic Control, Faa, Travel News, Air Travel, Airlines, Hacking, Black Hat, Travel News](#)

Andrei Costin, a Cypriat hacker, gave an unnerving demonstration outlining the weaknesses of air traffic control systems today at the Black Hat hackin...

[Read Whole Story](#)



Air Traffic Controllers Pick the Wrong Week to Quit Using Radar



SECURITY | 7/25/2012 @ 1:54PM | 17,036 views

Next-Gen Air Traffic Control Vulnerable To Hackers Spoofing Planes Out Of Thin Air

4 comments, 3 called-out + Comment Now + Follow Comments

Aviation Community Responses

THE SKY IS CALLING, NOT FALLING

Tim Taylor talks about the disturbance as if the ongoing roll-out of ADS-B is a peril. He recommends:

Indeed, the FAA expounded on a larger concern—the number of functions that prudently should be contained in one box of avionics. Just as the value of real estate is based on the cliché, "location, location, location," air safety is built on the trinity of "redundancy, redundancy, redundancy." If TCAS

1) Relax, the situation is OK, bordering on "normal." – The FAA says it has procedures in place to prevent that, and that system security is integral to ADS-B technical specifications. At minimum the subject is discussed in engineering circles – by people who are who have had more than a decade to cover over this.

AINonline

BIZAV

AIR TRANSPORT

DEFENSE

AIR TRANSPORT

- tons of redundancy

The FAA said that the ADS-B system is secure

displays. "An FAA ADS-B security action plan identified and mitigated risks and monitors the progress of corrective action," an FAA spokesman said.

Hackers, FAA Disagree Over ADS-B Vulnerability

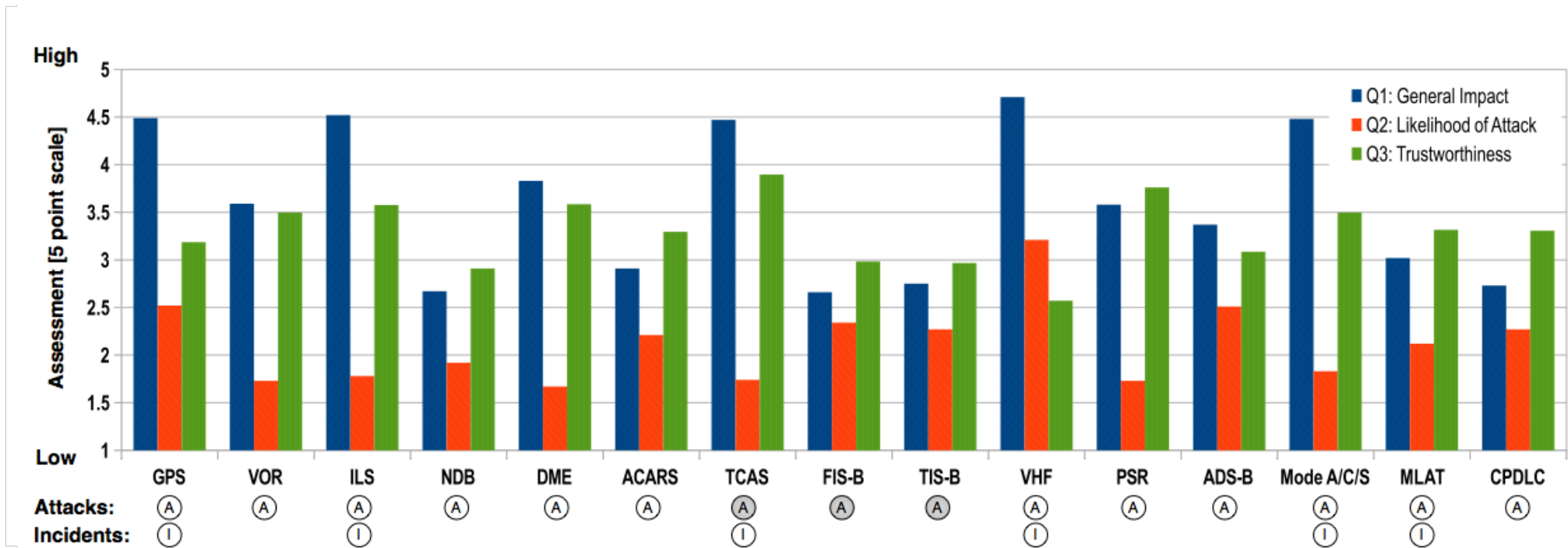
by Matt Thurber - August 21, 2012, 4:15 PM

FAA Denies Vulnerabilities In New Air Traffic Control System

A spokeswoman for key ADS-B security certification and accreditation. The accreditation recognizes that the system has substantial information security features built in, including features to protect against...spoofing attacks. [This] is provided through

multiple means of independent validation that a target is where it is reported to be."

Aviation Expert Opinions – Survey, n=253



On Perception and Reality in Wireless Air Traffic Communications Security, by Strohmeier, Martin; Schäfer, Matthias; Pinheiro, Rui; Lenders, Vincent; Martinovic, Ivan. In IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems. 2016.

Attack Simulator: Cockpit Systems

- X-Plane Flight Simulator
- Goal: Extending the simulator to include various attack





×1000 messages collected so far:

1,284,160,585

currently tracked:

2,402

Messages / s:

124,681

of known aircraft:

171,776

Open Air Traffic Tracking Data

The OpenSky Network is a community-based receiver network which continuously collects air traffic surveillance data. Unlike other networks, OpenSky keeps the collected data forever and makes it available to researchers. With more than 1 trillion ADS-B and Mode S messages collected so far, the OpenSky Network exhibits the largest air traffic surveillance dataset of its kind.



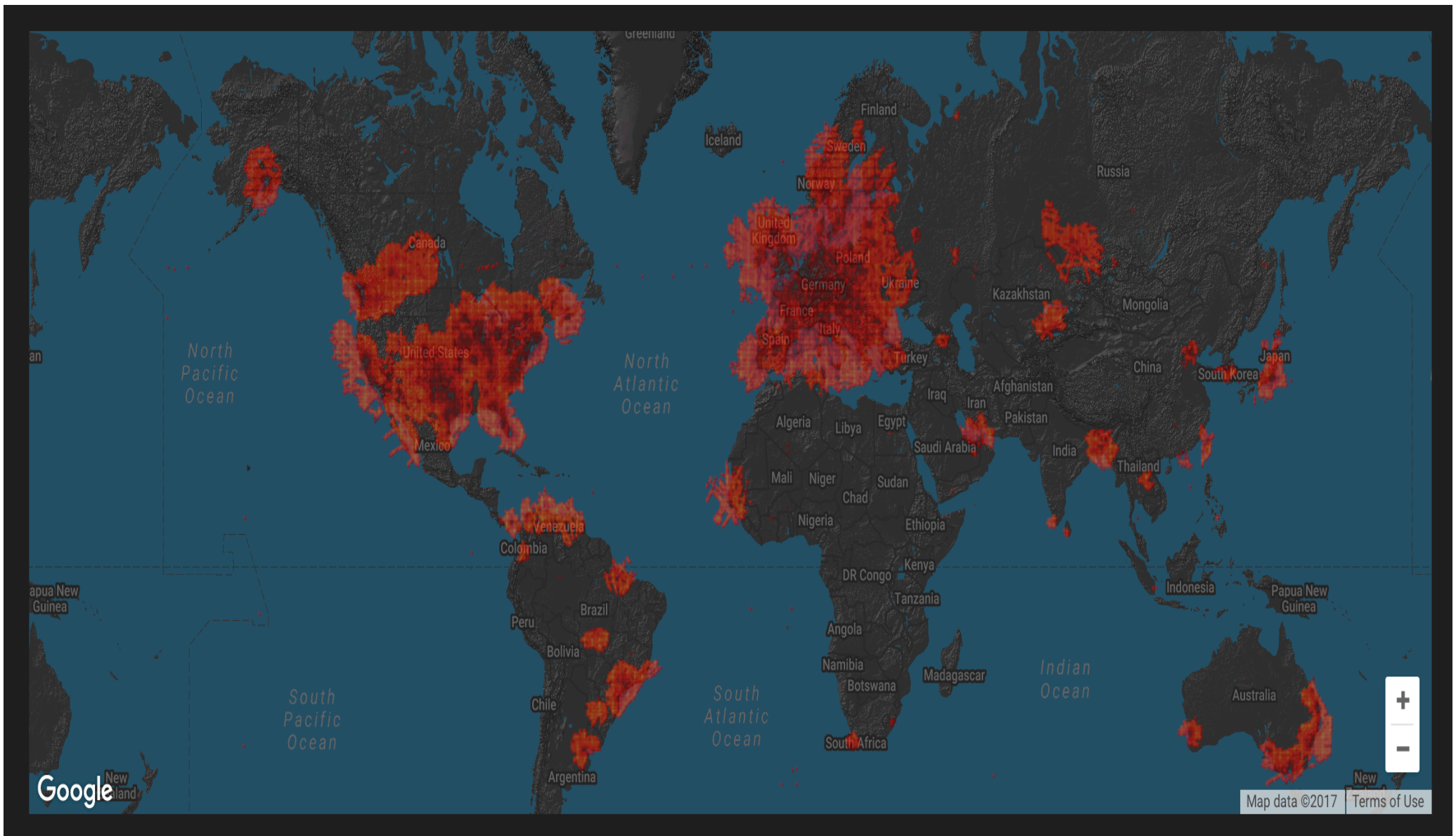
Tweets by @OpenSkyNetwork

OpenSky Network Retweeted

Luis Gasco Sanchez

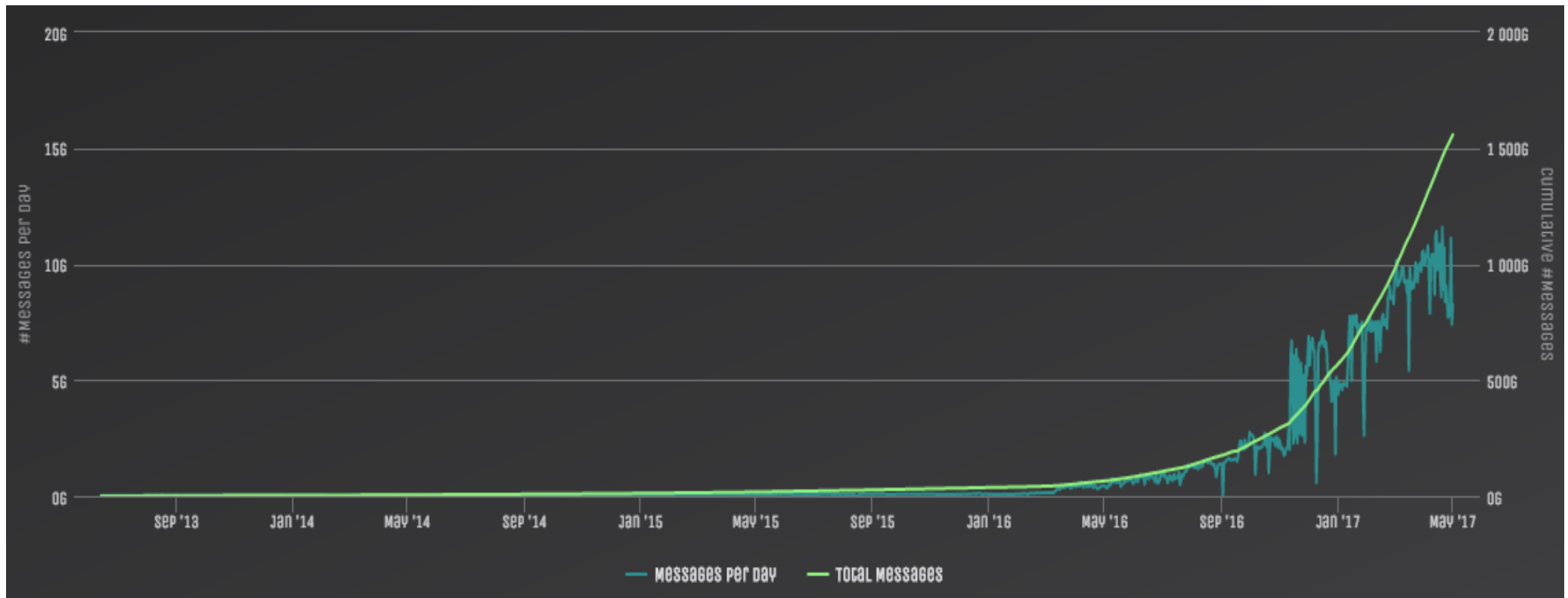
Ivan Martinovic, Workshop on Aeronautics and Space Security, Toulouse, June 7, 2018.

OPENSKY 2017



Ivan Martinovic, Workshop on Aeronautics and Space Security, Toulouse, June 7, 2018.

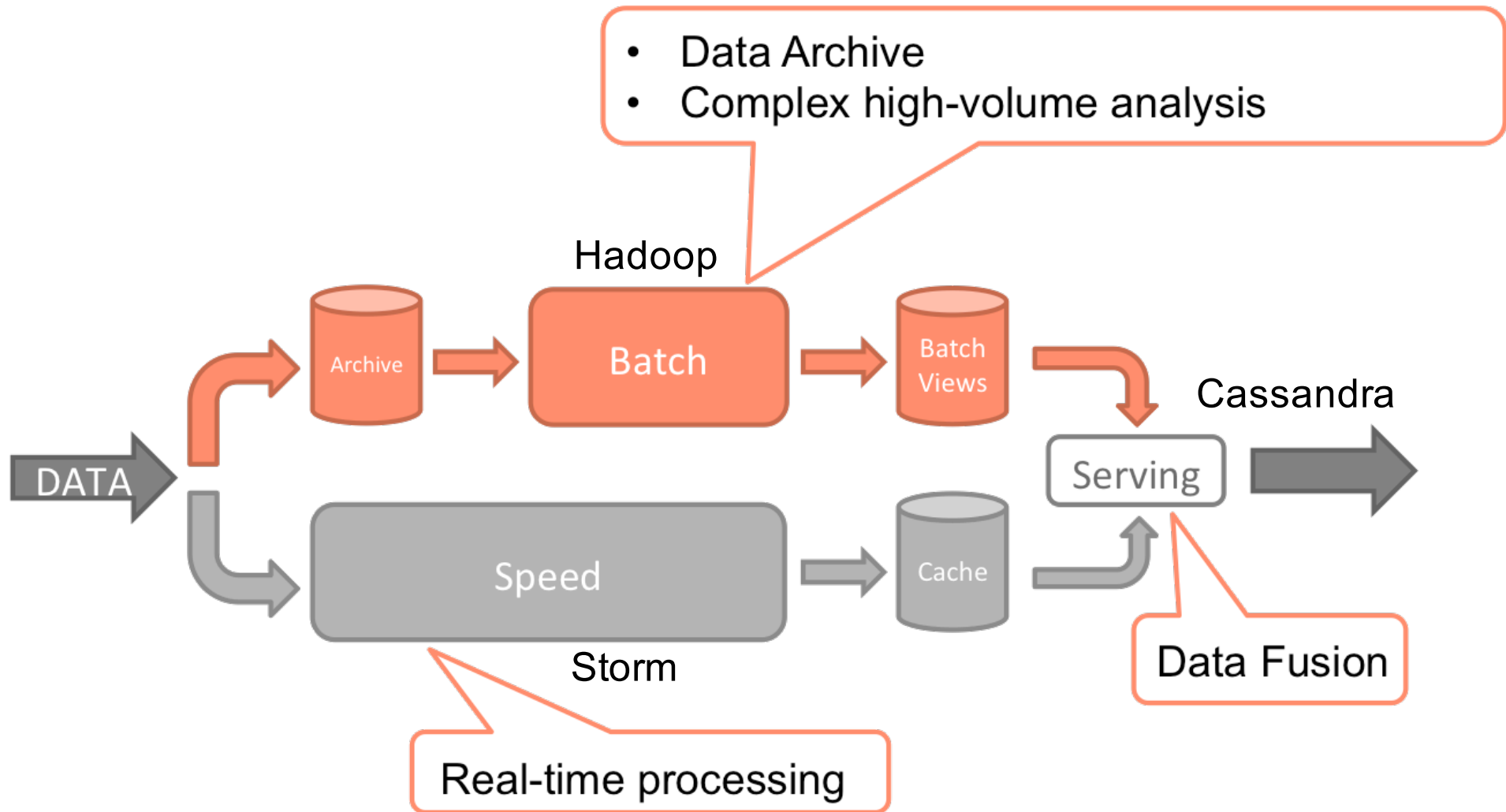
OpenSky's View (1)



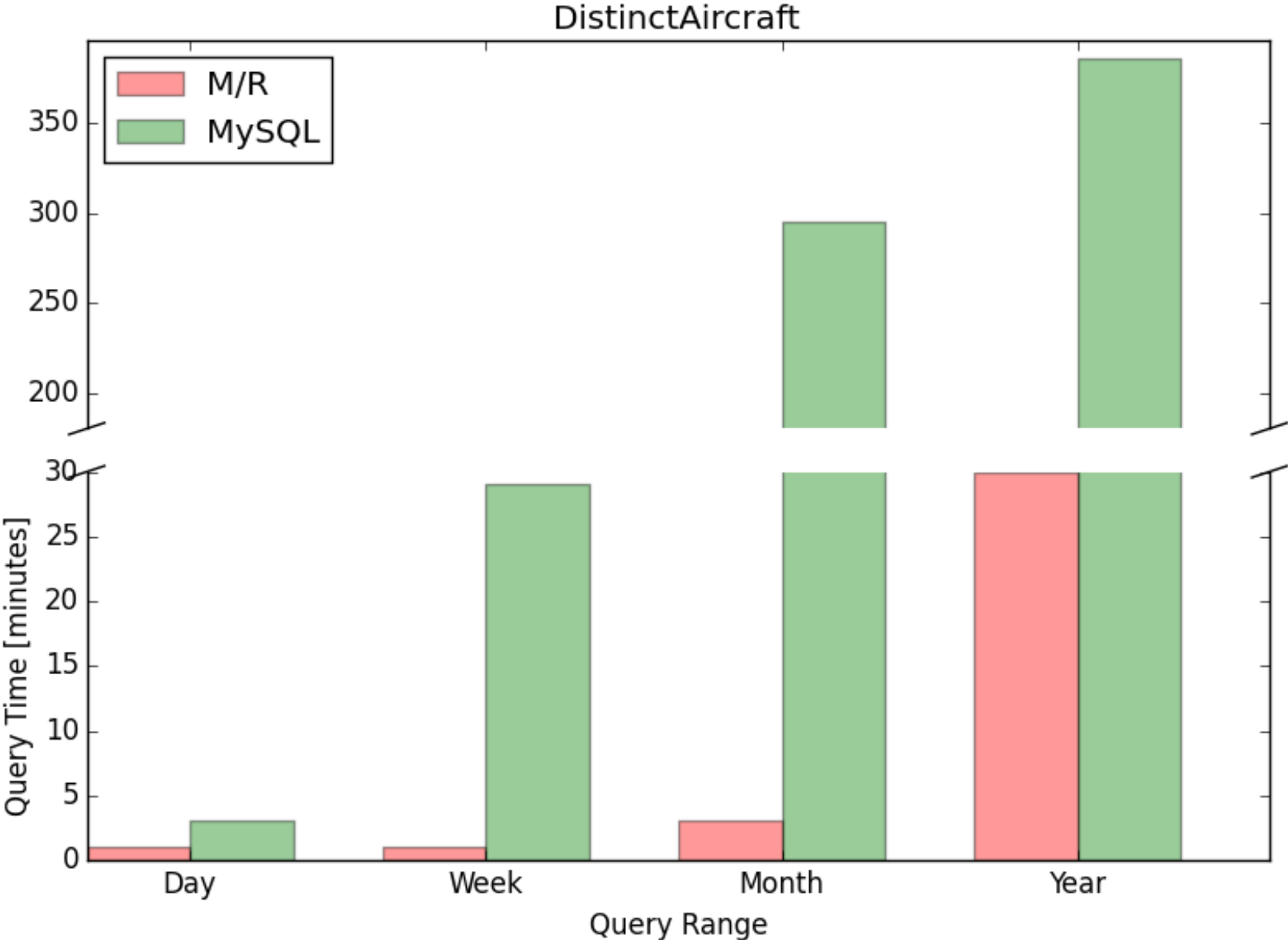
- 1.6 trillion messages since June 2013
- Currently ~10 billion signals per day
- Up to 4k aircraft at a time
- 200k transponder signals per second (peak)

OpenSky 2.0: The λ -Architecture

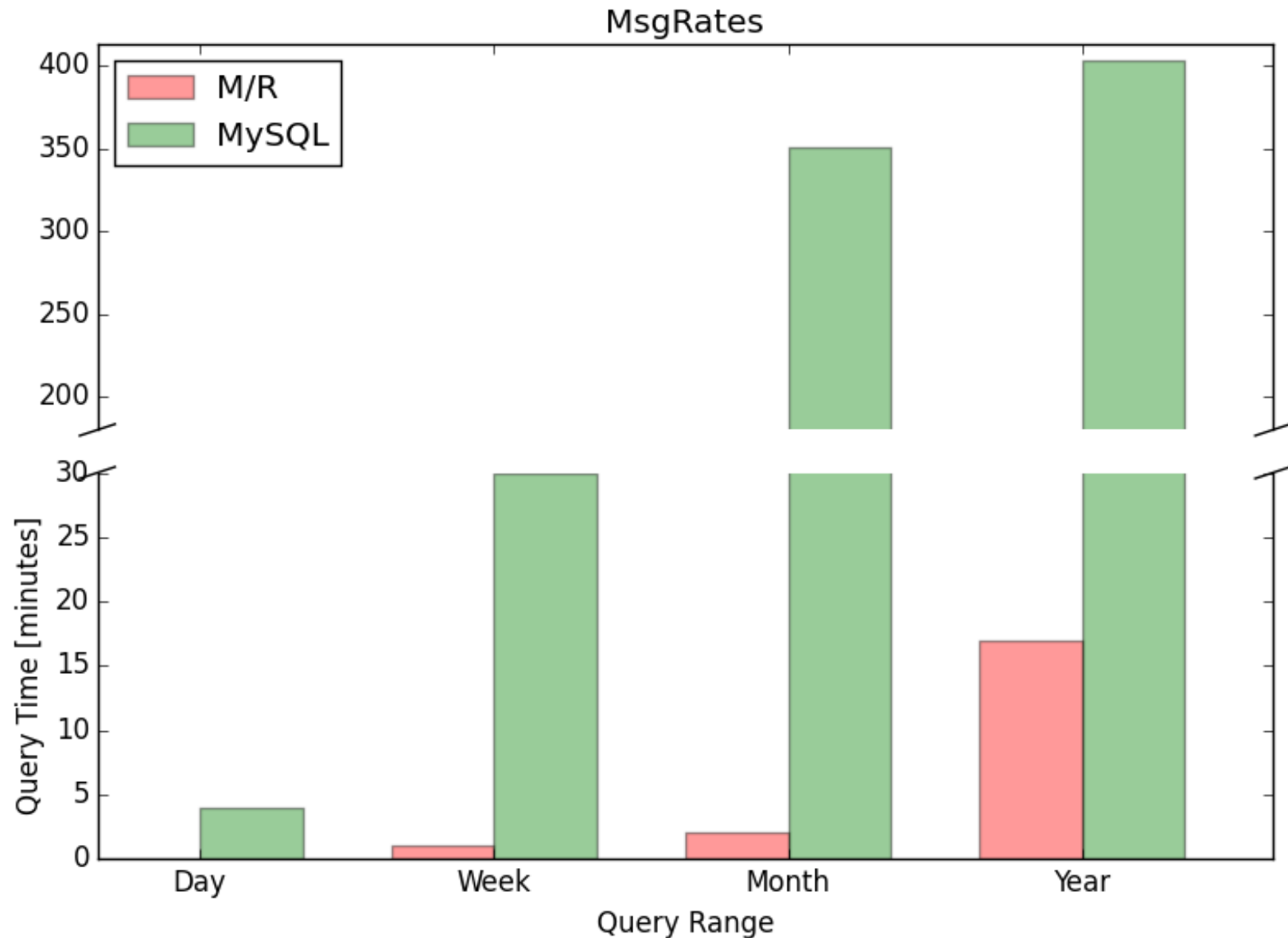
Proposed by Nathan Marz (2013))



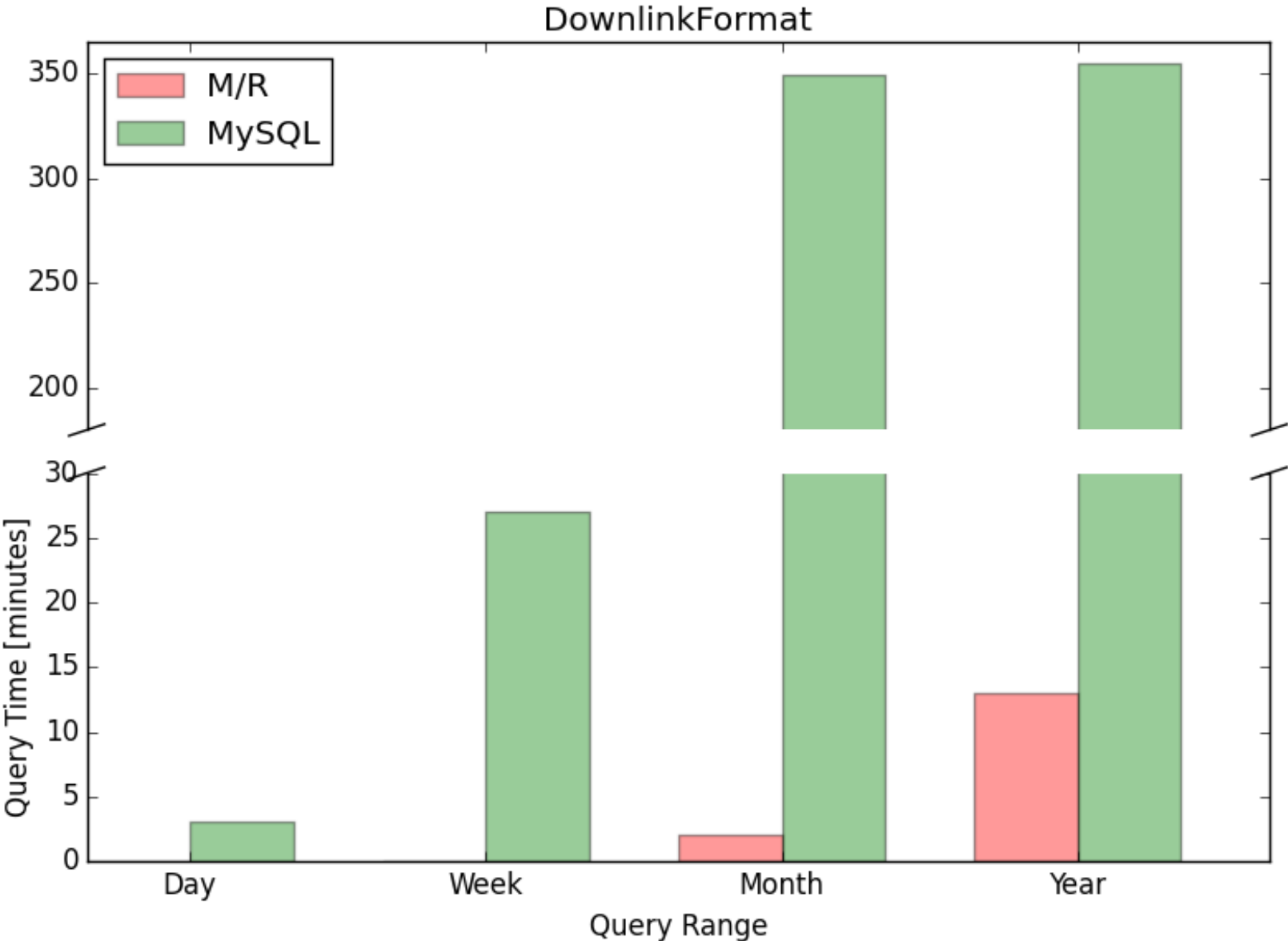
OpenSky: Query Performance (1)



OpenSky: Query Performance (2)

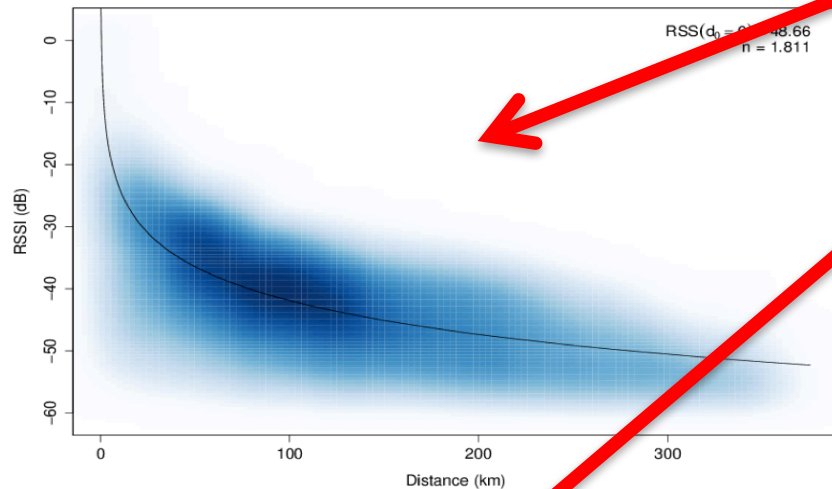


OpenSky: Query Performance (3)



OpenSky: Channel Analysis

Propagation Model

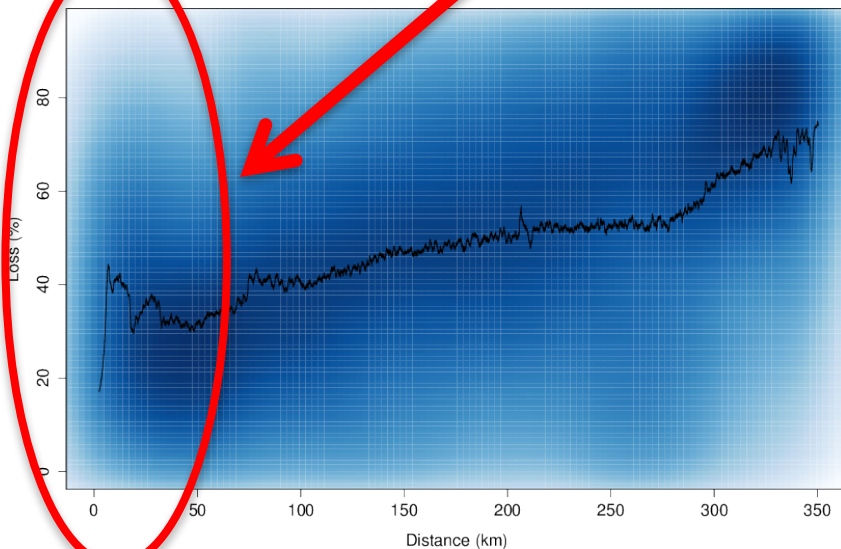


Log-distance Path Loss Model (LDPL)

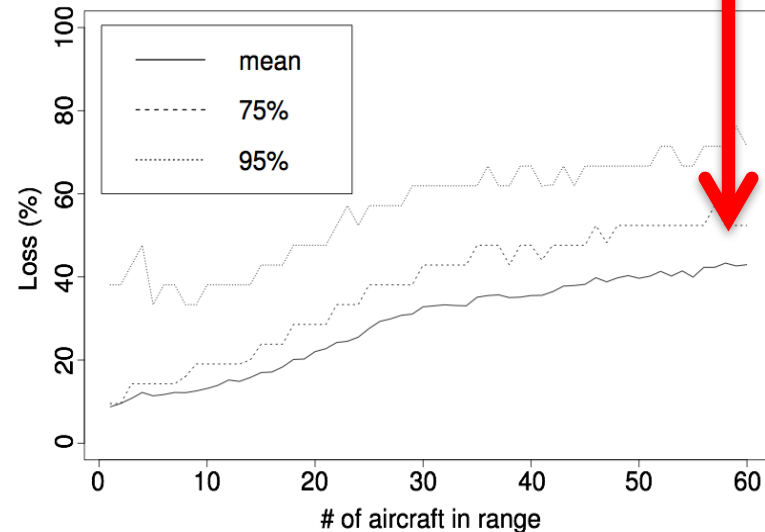
Doughnut effect: noticeable drop in reception quality of messages sent in close proximity to a receiver.

1090 MHz channel utilization is very high
60 aircraft → 40% message loss

Loss vs. Distance

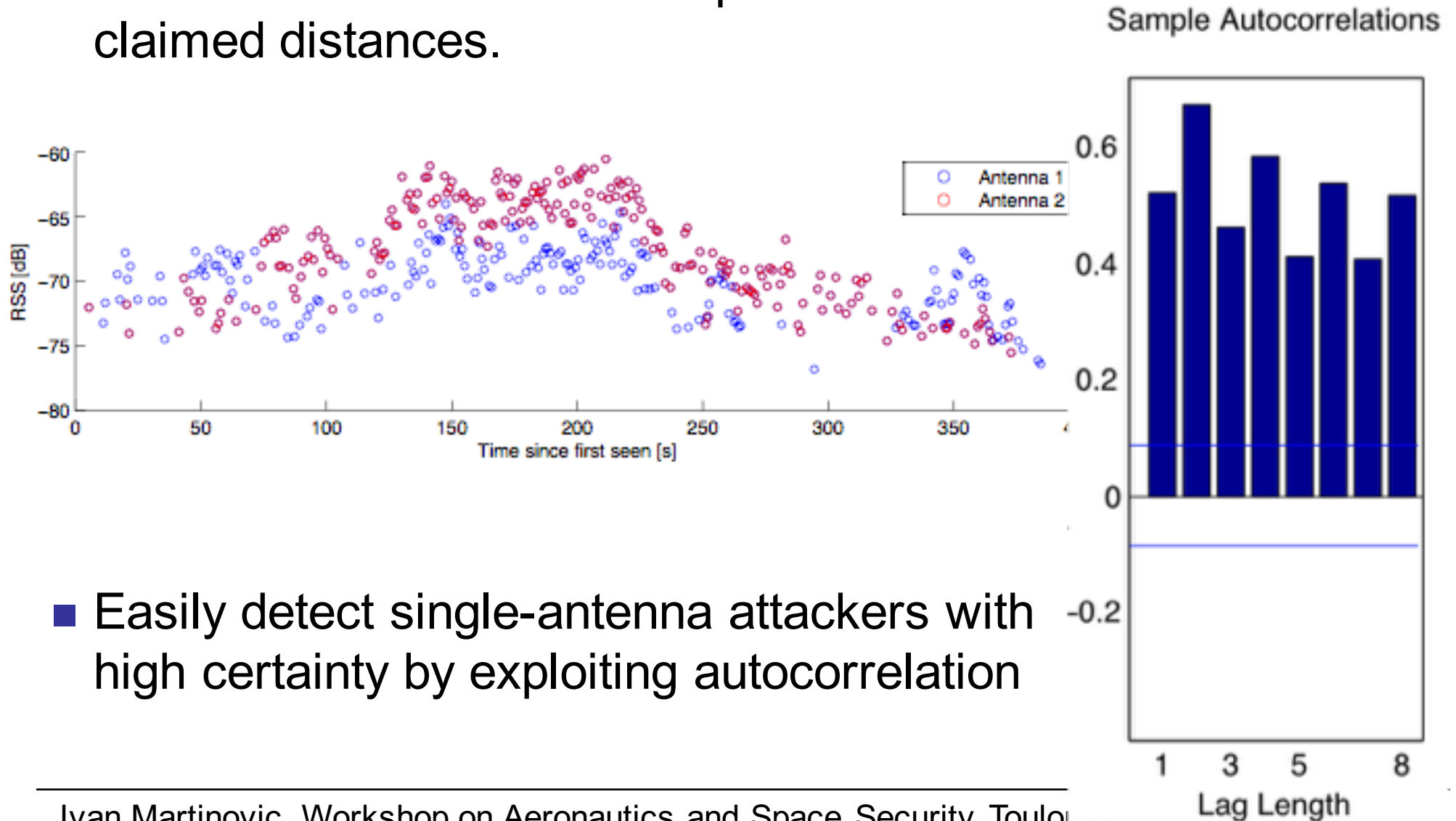


Loss vs. Traffic



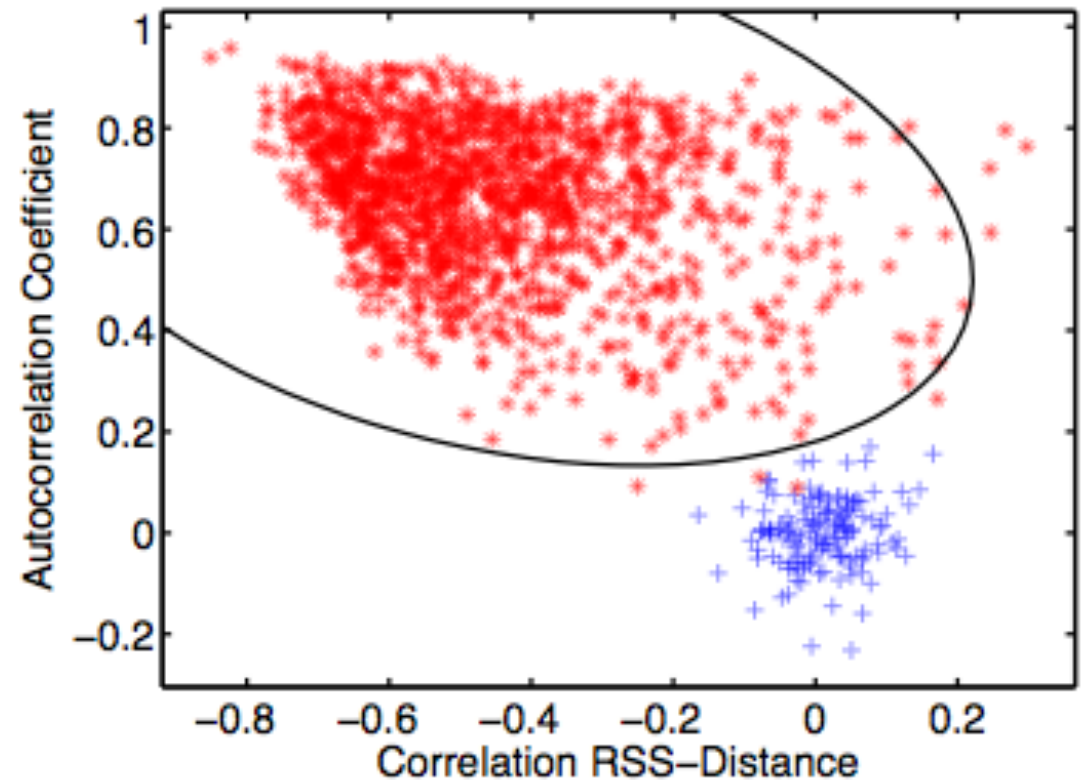
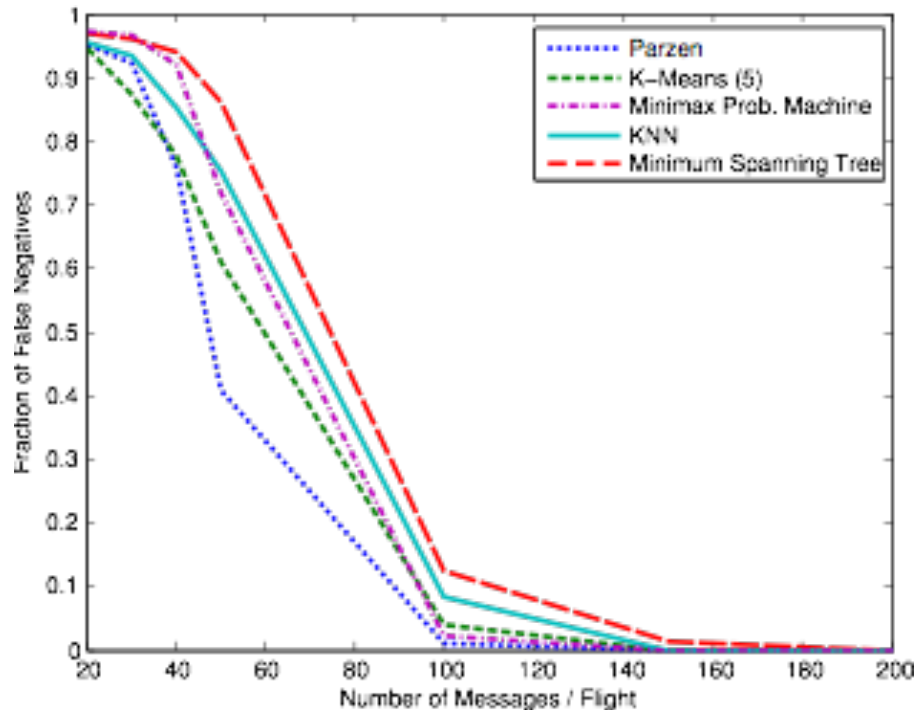
Solutions: PHY-based Anomaly Detection

- Detect non-adjusting (constant/random sending power) attackers based on their TX patterns and correlation with claimed distances.



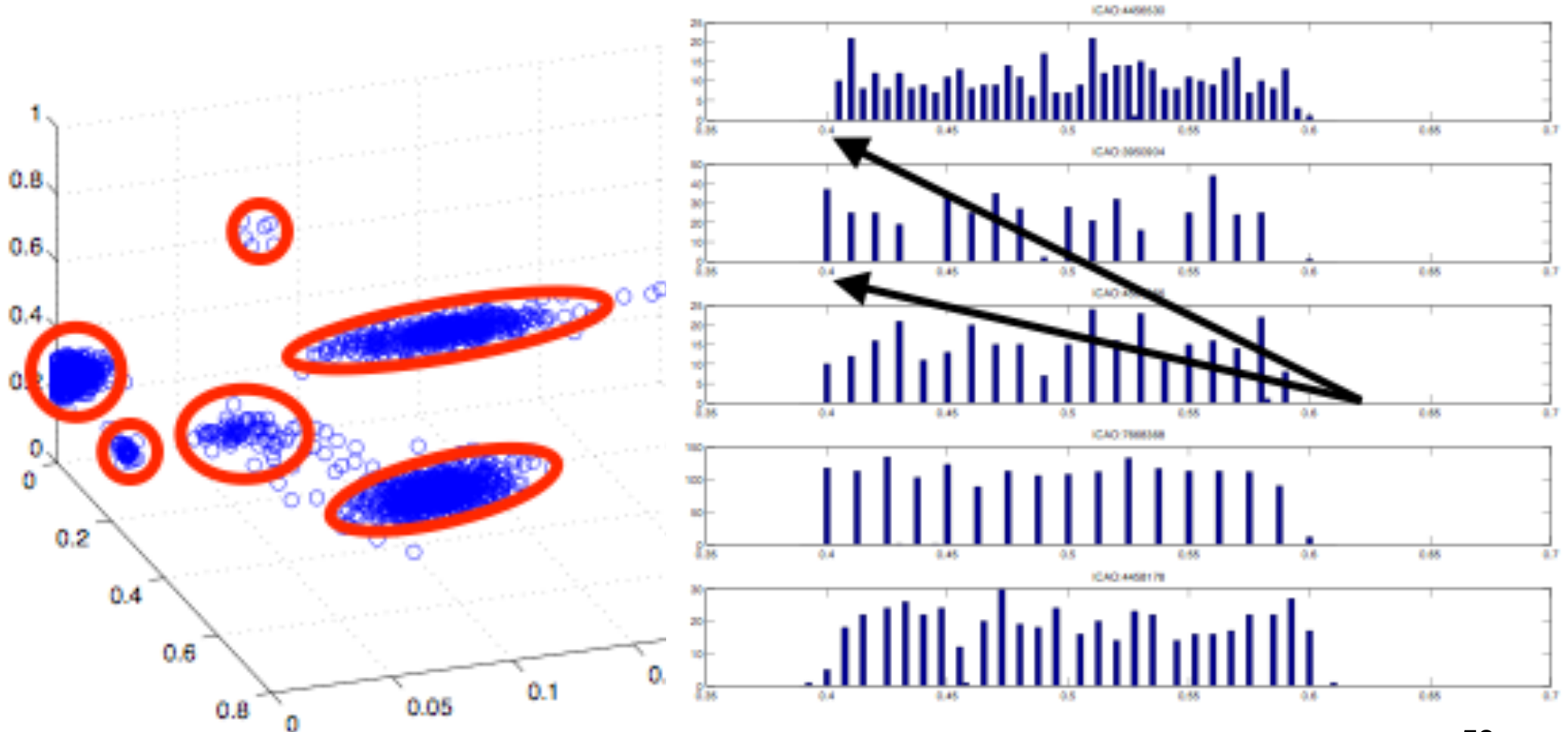
Solutions: PHY-based Anomaly Detection

- Learn normal state of various features.
- Detect attackers that don't conform to the expected behaviour.



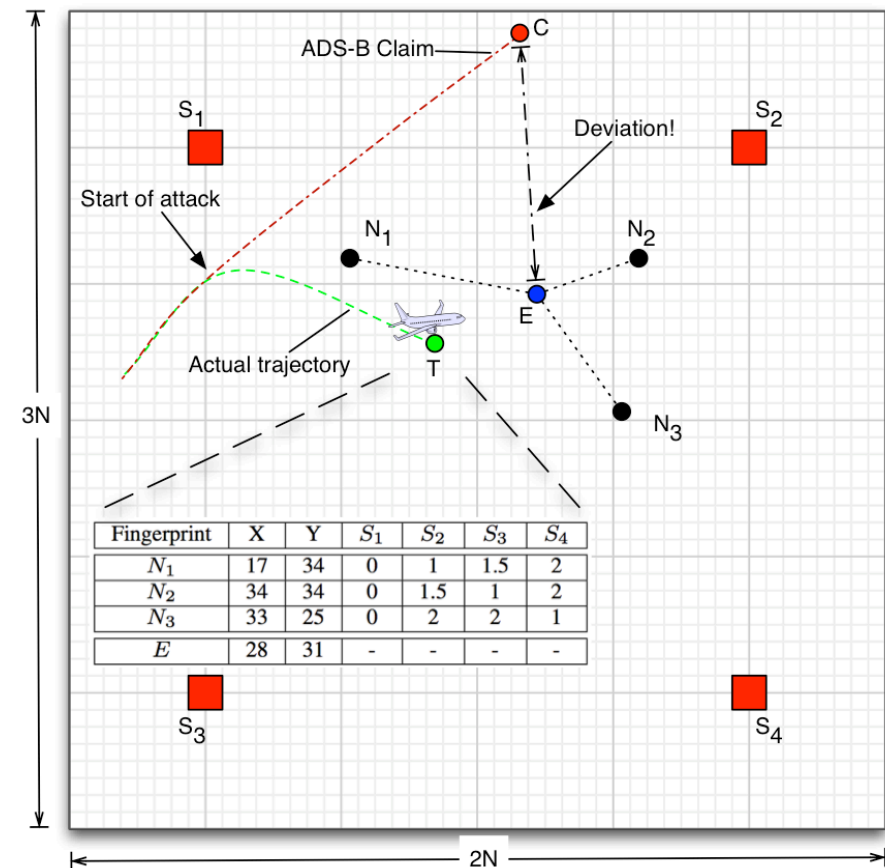
Solutions: Transponder Fingerprinting

- Different ADS-B transponder types / implementations used in the commercial aviation market.
- Features based on random backoff behaviour deduced from message interarrival times



Solutions: Aircraft Location Verification

- Goal: Improve multilateration coverage (less than 4% utilization) by using simple statistical and machine learning algorithms on time differences of arrival
- Massively improved detection range and speed (up to 20 times more messages used);
- Much cheaper than multilateration



Research Impact



United States Government Accountability Office

A Report to Congressional Committees

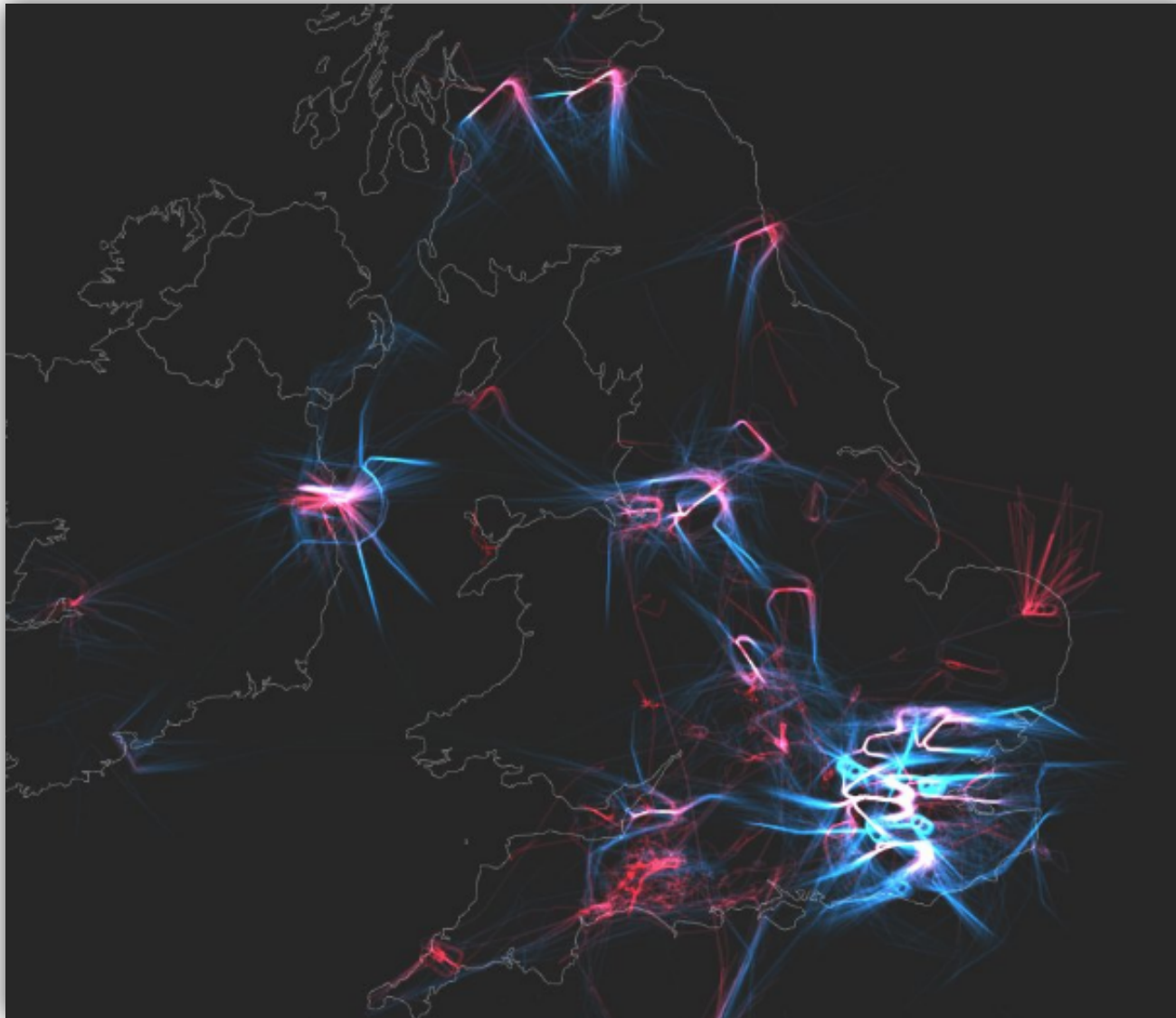
January 2018

HOMELAND DEFENSE

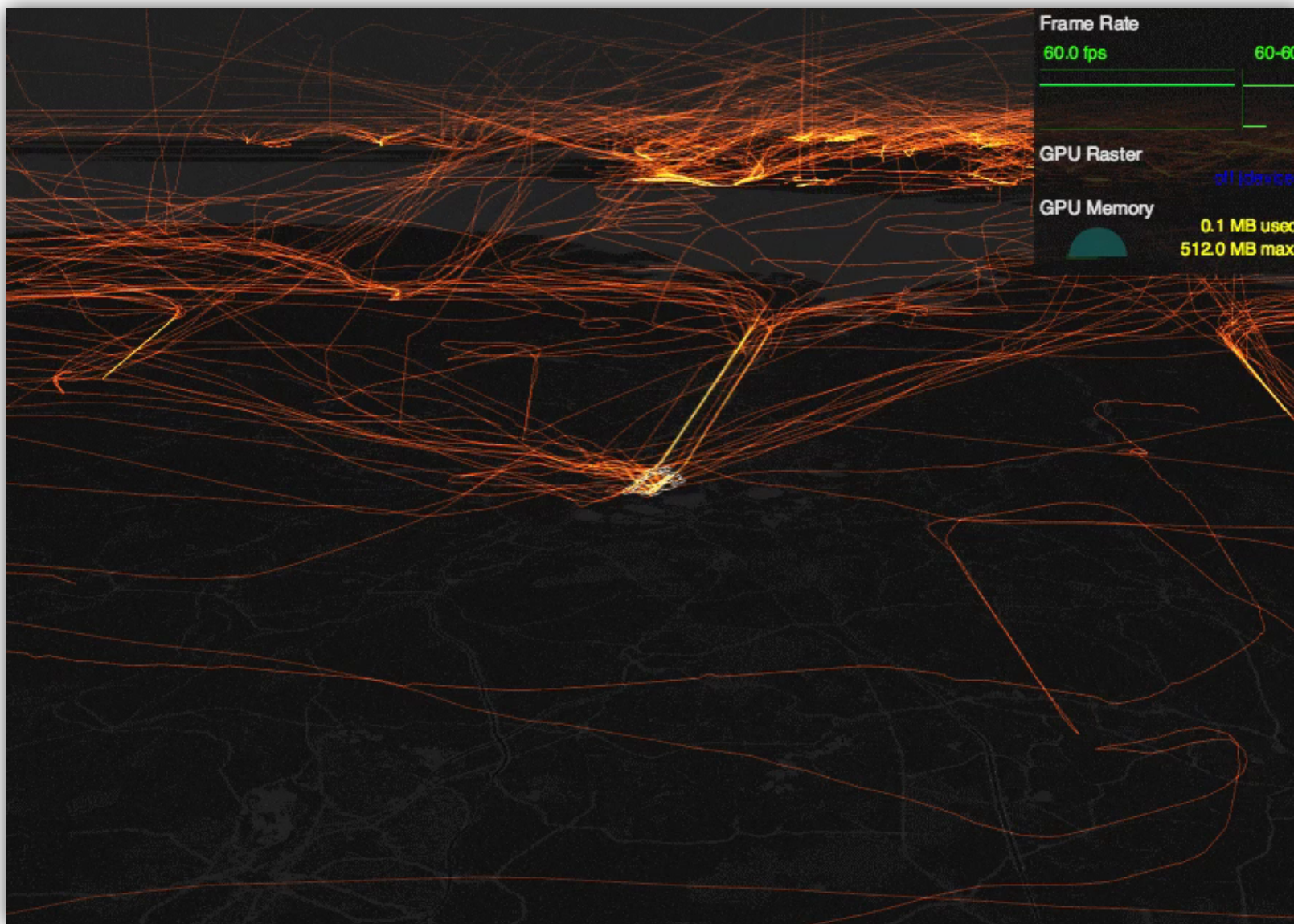
Urgent Need for DOD
and FAA to Address
Risks and Improve
Planning for
Technology That
Tracks Military Aircraft

#dataviz

UK's air traffic density



#dataviz



© <https://twitter.com/robhawkes>

Ivan Martinovic, Workshop on Aeronautics and Space Security, Toulouse, June 7, 2018.

Conclusions

- Security awareness is still very low in aviation at large. [Defensiveness on security issues and belief in traditional safety mechanisms such as redundancy is prevalent.]
- But: Safety is not security and both cannot be solved the same way.
- Many issues will only be fully solved with new technologies/protocols that include security by design.
 - Introducing new technologies takes in this sector takes decades!
- Can crowdsourcing in ATC help mitigate future attacks and improve security efficiently?

Conclusions

- Next generation of air-traffic surveillance systems is coming
 - Worlds of safety and security
 - Trends towards digital datalinks
 - Two different worlds meet: safety and security

- At the moment, no really good solution in sight
 - However, PSR/SSR & MLAT will still be used for some time

- Enough time to think about threats based on unprotected ADS-B data
 - Inspiration from VANETS, MANETS, etc.