## Arming IDS Researchers with a Robotic Arm Dataset

Arpan Gujarati, Zainab Saeed Wattoo, Maryam Raiyat Aliabadi, Sean Clark, Xiaoman Liu, Parisa Shiri, Amee Trivedi, Ruizhe Zhu, Jason Hein, and Margo Seltzer

University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, Canada



# Self-driving laboratories are at the core of Industry 4.0

### What are self-driving laboratories?

- Fully automated labs without humans in the loop
- Goal: Reduce the cost and time for autonomous discoveries
- Tools & Technologies: Robotic arms, smart devices, and AI

### Problem

- Networked components are vulnerable to security attacks
- Security attacks can lead to catastrophic outcomes
  - Robot arms can be misconfigured to break expensive equipment
  - Hazardous materials in the vicinity can be misused to cause explosions





• Real-world scenarios are more complex, use heterogeneous devices, and consisting of long procedures

### Requirements



Large Datasets and High-Quality, Domain-Specific Benchmarks

#### **This Work**

Generating and understanding **datasets** from real-world workloads

In collaboration with Hein Lab, a state-of-the-art lab that blends advanced robotics with synthetic organic chemistry

**IEIN LAB** 

### Securing Self-Driving Laboratories



Design and Develop Intrusion Detection System (IDS)

# Hein Lab: A self-driving laboratory at UBC Chemistry









### **Design Goals**

Intercept and trace all communication between CPS devices and experiment scripts

- 1. **Non-Intrusive:** Not interfering with the workflow
- 2. **Extensible:** Seamless extension to accommodate other devices
- 3. **Programmer Friendly:** Minimal modification in the experiment code
- 4. **Minimal Performance Overhead:** Response time of the tracer to be minimal



1. Non-Intrusive



### 2. Extensible

#### Takeaways:

- Generic class that is used by many different devices
- Easy to reproduce the device commands



#### Hein Lab Software Architecture

### 3. Programmer Friendly



### 4. Minimal Performance Overhead



Results: Middlebox increases latency by ~2ms



# Robotic Arm Dataset (RAD)

- 1. **Command Dataset:** Data collected from intercepting the Hein Lab's software stack
- 2. **Power Dataset:** Power monitoring data collected directly from UR3e Robot Arm



# Robotic Arm Dataset (RAD)

### 1. Command Dataset

Commands	Arguments	Responses	Exceptions	
move_arm	Location: 1,2,3,4,5,6	None	None	
run_centrifuge	Duration: 300s	None	None	
read_temperature	None	20	None	
dispense_liquid	Volume: 10	None	None	A CAR
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Joystick Experiment (0-11) Automated Solubility with UR3e and N9 (17-20) Automated Solubility With UR3e Automated Solubility With UR

25 Supervised Experiments

**Time Period:** Three Months **Number of Command Instances:** 128,785 **Number of Command Types:** 52

# Robotic Arm Dataset (RAD)

### 2. Power Dataset

Joint_Current_1	Joint_Current_2	Joint_Current_3	Joint_Current_4
10	11	54	23
20	33	12	43
30	12	31	11
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UR3e's real-time monitoring API

**Collected after Time Duration:** 40ms **Number of Entries:** More than 40 million **Number of Physical Properties:** 122







### **Objectives**

**Goal:** find underlying patterns in the dataset that can help design domain-specific IDS

- 1. Can we identify the experiment being run?
- 2. Can we identify unexpected variations within the experiment?
- 3. Can power dataset substitute command dataset?



1. Can we identify the experiment being run?



### 2. Can we identify the unexpected variations within experiment?



**High Recall** (true positives/ (true positives + false negatives))

Model accurately identifies all anomalies

Metrics	Bigram	Trigram	Four-gram
True positives (negatives)	3 (13)	3 (18)	3 (17)
False positives (negatives)	9 (0)	4 (0)	5 (0)

False positives decreases from bigram to trigram but moving to four-gram does not help

- Choosing an ideal model size is nontrivial
- Larger and varied supervised dataset might help

3. Can power dataset substitute command dataset?







#### **Results:**

- Traces are similar in shape
- 100mm/s line is stretched compared to others

#### Takeaway:

• Power dataset can be used to derive parameters such as velocity without the need for tracing

3. Can power dataset substitute command dataset?

UR3e Movements with Different Payload Weights





#### **Results:**

- Traces are similar in shape
- 1000g draws more current compared to 20g

#### Takeaway:

 Power dataset can be used to collect information that is not captured as part of the command dataset such as payloads

# Key Takeaways

- RATracer is **easily extensible** to python-based frameworks
- Tracing commands reveal important information about the experiment being run
  which can help develop an effective domain-specific IDS
- In the absence of command data, side channels like power can be used instead

# Summary



Dataset and code: https://github.com/ubc-systopia/dsn-2022-rad-artifact/