Sustainable security – an Internet of durable goods?

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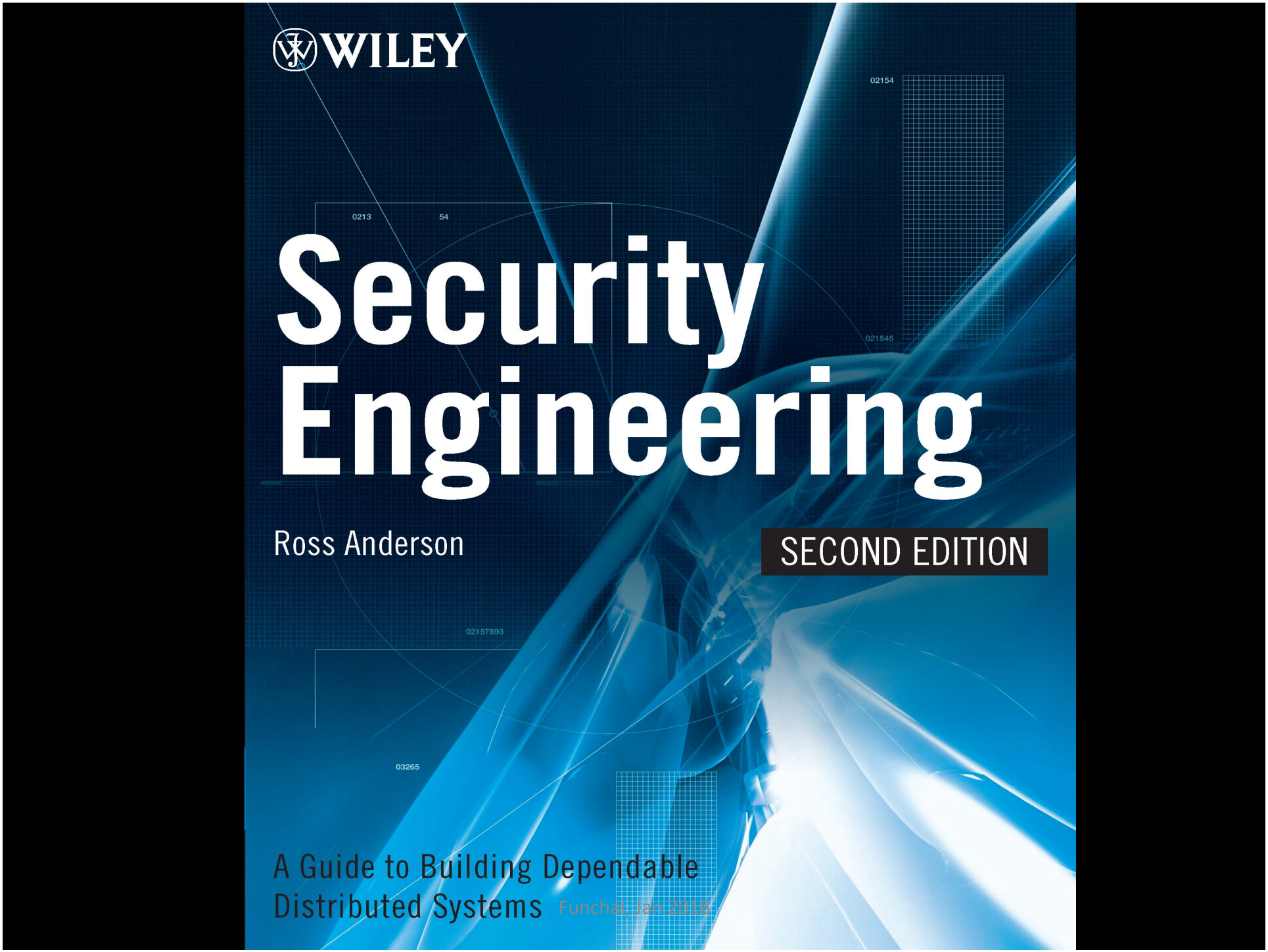
Funchal, Jan 2018


WILEY
Security Engineering
Ross Anderson
SECOND EDITION
A Guide to Building Dependable Distributed Systems
Funchal, Jan 2018

How does IoT change safety?

- The EU regulates safety of all sorts of devices
- They asked Éireann Leverett, Richard Clayton and me to examine what IoT means for this
- Once there's software everywhere, safety and security get entangled
- (The two are the same in the languages spoken by most EU citizens – segurança, sicurezza, sûreté, Sicherheit, trygghet…)
- How will we have to update safety regulation (and safety regulators) to cope?

Background

- Markets do safety in some industries (aviation) way better than others (medicine)
- Cars were dreadful until Nader's 'Unsafe at Any Speed' led to the NHTSA
- In the EU, we have broad frameworks such as the Product Liability Directive 85/374/EES, Framework Directive 2007/43/EC on type approval, plus many detailed rules
- Over 20 EU agencies (plus UNECE) in play

When cars get hacked

When cars get hacked (2)

- 2011: Carshark needed physical access
- 2015: Charlie Miller and Chris Valasek hacked a jeep Cherokee via Chrysler's Uconnect
- So now we just need your IP address!
- Suddenly people cared…
- Chrysler recalled 1.4m vehicles for software fix

When cars get hacked (3)

Scaling…

- Traditional car makers moving to autonomy in steps (adaptive cruise control, automatic emergency braking, automatic lane keeping…)
- Challengers like Google, Tesla moving faster
- Tesla has already moved to regular upgrades and the others are racing to follow
- One problem: the test rig (the ‘lab car’) is big, expensive, and gets recycled for new models
- So how will we patch a 2017 car in 2037?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Background (2)

- The Medical Device Directives (90/385 EEC, 93/42/EEC, 98/79/EU) are now being revised
- Research by Harold Thimbleby: in the UK, hospital safety usability failures kill about 2000 p.a. (about the same as road accidents)
- Priority: get regulators to do post-approval studies and adverse event reporting
- At present devices are typically approved on paperwork alone

Background (3)

- Usability failures that kill are typically blamed on the nurse (if noticed at all)
- But attacks are very much harder to ignore – a wifi tampering demo in 2015 led the FDA to blacklist the Hospira Symbiq infusion pump
- 2017: recall of 450,000 St Jude pacemakers
- Software upgrades can break certification!
- Proper safety / security lifecycle is needed

Background (4)

- Electricity substations: 40-year lifecycle, protocols (DNP3) don't support authentication
- IP networking: suddenly anyone who knows a sensor's IP address can read from it, and with an actuator's IP address you can activate it
- Only practical fix: re-perimeterise!
- Have one component that connects you to the network and replace it every 5 years (harder for cars which have multiple RF interfaces)

The Big Challenge

- Established non-IT industries usually have a static approach – pre-market testing with standards that change slowly if at all
- The time constant is typically a decade
- When malicious adversaries can scale bugs into attacks, industries need a dynamic approach with patching, as in IT
- The time constant is then typically a month

Broad questions include…

- Who will investigate incidents, and to whom will they be reported?
- How do we embed responsible disclosure?
- How do we bring safety engineers and security engineers together?
- Will regulators all need security engineers?
- How do we prevent abusive lock-in? Note the US DMCA exemption to repair tractors …

Policy recommendations included

- Requiring vendors to self-certify, for their CE mark, that products can be patched if need be
- Requiring a secure development lifecycle with vulnerability management (ISO 29174, 30111)
- Creating a European Security Engineering Agency to support policymakers (now: ENISA)
- Extending the Product Liability Directive to services
- Updating NIS Directive to report breaches and vulnerabilities to safety regulators and users

The punch line

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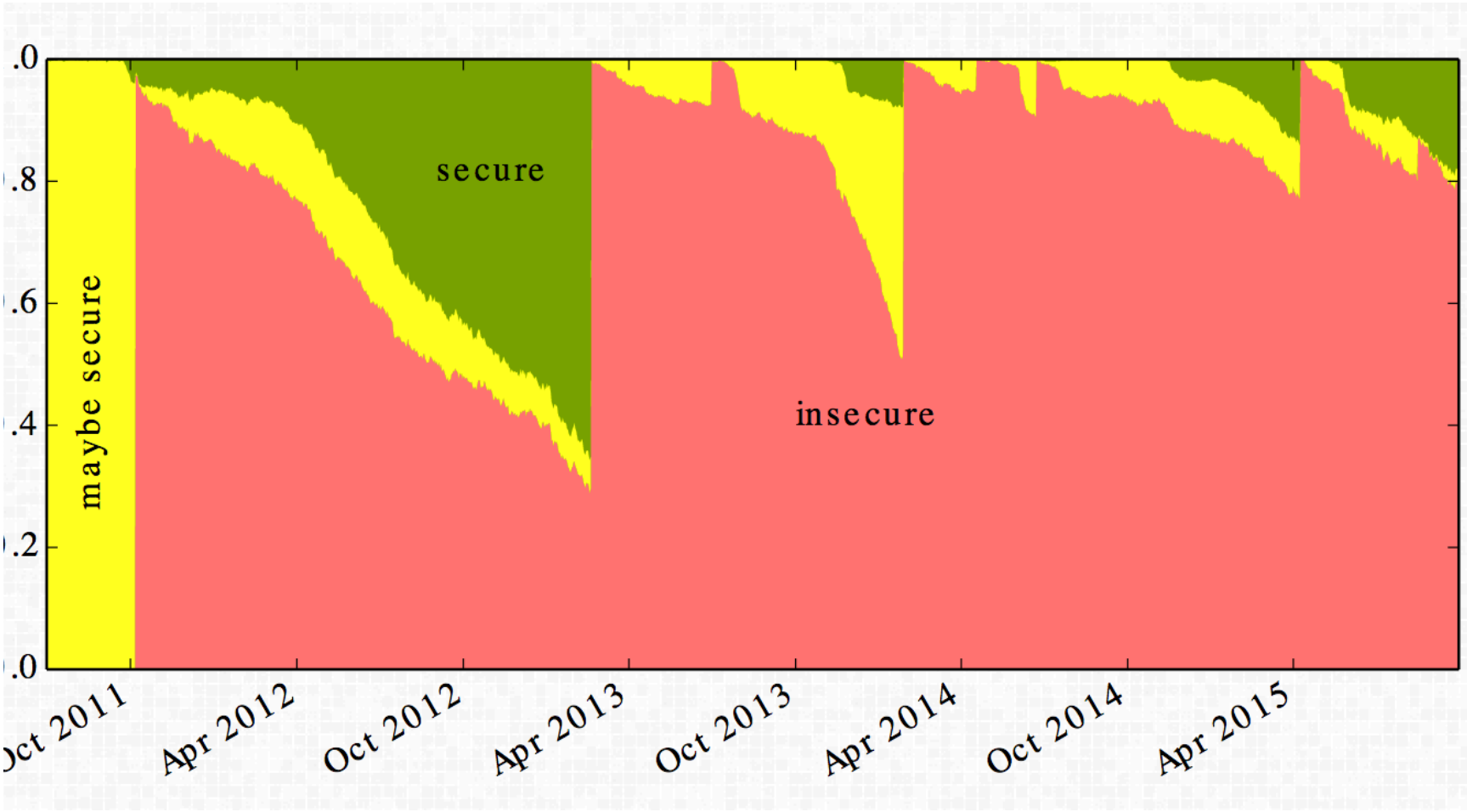
- Phones, laptops: patch them monthly, but make them obsolete quickly so you don't have to support 100 different models
- Cars, medical devices: we test them to death before release, but don't connect them to the Internet, and almost never patch
- So what happens to support costs now we're starting to patch cars?

Security support costs

- Big problem in Android: patching old versions
- The typical OEM's engineers only work on the current model and the next
- Google started Android OEM incentive program in 2010, with little effect
- So its own brand Nexus phones were next
- But my Nexus 5X – bought last year – will get patches only till 9/2018. I am not happy!

Is Android secure?



Vehicle lifecycle economics

- Vehicle lifetimes in Europe have about doubled in 40 years
- Average age at scrappage in UK now 14.8y
- Vehicle makers might like to say “scrap it after 7 years and buy a new one!”
- But the embedded CO_2 cost of a car often exceeds its lifetime fuel burn
- And what about Africa, where most vehicles are imported second-hand?

Implications for R&D

- Research topics to support 20-year patching
  Include a more stable and powerful toolchain
- Crypto teaches how complex this can be
- Cars teach: how do we sustain all the test environments?
- Control systems teach: can small changes to the architecture limit what you have to patch?
- Android teaches: how do we motivate OEMs to patch products they no longer sell?

Implications for research and teaching

- Since this year I'm teaching safety and security together in the same course to first-year undergraduates
- We're starting to look at what we can do to make the tool chain more sustainable
- For example, can we stop the compiler writers being a subversive fifth column?
- Better ways for programmers to communicate and document intent might help…

Example of sustainable security

- Laurent Simon and David Chisnall are working with me on compiler support for crypto
  - Easy problem 1: zeroising sensitive variables
  - Easy problem 2: constant time loops
- Can we do these properly, with compiler annotations that make intent explicit?
- Answer: yes, but doing it right is nontrivial!
- See paper coming at EuroS&P this April…

Who will pay for it all?

- There will be talk of “new business models”
- Vendors would love to sell more cars – but society won’t accept halving car lifetimes
- The main direct beneficiaries of maintenance are garages and component suppliers
- Example: what does a wing mirror cost?
- Can you sell upgrades with new hardware (as in aviation) or software alone (Tesla)?

The grand challenge for research

- If the durable goods we're designing today are still working in 2037 then things must change
- Computer science = managing complexity
- The history goes through high-level languages, then types, then objects, and tools like git, Jenkins, Coverity …
- What else will be needed for sustainable computing once we have software in just about everything?

More …

- Our paper “Standardisation and Certification in the Internet of Things” is on my web page

  http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/~rja14/

- Or see “When Safety and Security Become One” on our blog

  https://www.lightbluetouchpaper.org

  which also has a couple of videos