Some example UW security lab projects, related to emerging technologies

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Wireless Implantable Medical Devices

- Computation and wireless capabilities lead to improved healthcare.
- Question: Are there security and privacy risks with wireless medical devices? If so, how can we mitigate them?
- Approach: Experimentally analyze the security of a real artifact (implantable defibrillator introduced in 2003; short-range wireless).

Wireless Implantable Medical Devices

Findings

Ability to wirelessly (from close range, ~10cm):
• Change patient name, diagnosis, implanting hospital, ...
• Change / turn off therapies
• Cause an electrical shock

Big Picture

• Risk today to patients is small – no reason to be alarmed!
• These are life saving devices; the benefits far outweigh the risks
• Still important to improve security of future, more sophisticated and communicative devices

Modern Cars

- Engine
- Brakes
- Dash
- Steering
- Wheel speed sensor
- Telematics
- Satellite radio
- Remote door unlock / lock
- Diagnostics port

Example automotive computer network

What About Security?

Example automotive computer network

Engine
Brakes
Dash
Steering
Wheel speed sensor

Telematics
Satellite radio
Remote door unlock / lock
Diagnostics port

Approach

Bought two, 2009-edition modern sedans
  – UW team bought one, kept in Seattle
  – UC San Diego team bought one, kept in San Diego

Work published in 2010 and 2011
(Recently new works published by others)

Findings

Adversary able to communicate on car’s internal computer network can affect many components within the car, e.g., dash, lighting, engine, transmission, brakes, HVAC, ...

Adversary can gain ability to communicate on car’s internal computer network without every physically touching the car – through remote compromise
Road Test: Apply Brakes

Road Test: Disengaging Brakes

End-to-end Theft Example

Call car, exploit vulnerabilities to implant new software, car connects (over Internet) to UW server, then run theft program
End-to-end Surveillance Example

Call car, exploit vulnerabilities to implant new software, car connects (over Internet) to UW server, initiate surveillance
Automobile Sensors and Privacy

• Background:
  – Numerous sensors in modern cars
  – Sensor data may flow to various companies (car manufacturer, insurance company)

• Question: Can we identify drivers, even with access to the most “basic” sensors already installed in cars?

• Answer: Yes, with high degree of accuracy among a small set of drivers

Home Powerline Monitoring

• Background
  – Significant focus on powerline sensing for activity recognition
  – Prior works: Can determine when specific appliances are in use
• Privacy debate: does powerline sensing compromise privacy?
• Our work: Infer information about what TV show is being watched

Children’s Toys

- Increasing computation in children’s toys too
- Question: What are their security weaknesses?
- Finding: “Easy” for unauthorized party to remotely access and control these toys
- Lesson: Security not forefront in consumer / developer minds

• Background: Home automation systems allow remote control and monitoring of home appliances
• Well known issue: Once compromise controller, can compromise any connected device (e.g., door lock, window shades)
• Less well known: Can use devices as stepping stones to devices without traditional network connections (e.g., pop CFL light bulbs)
• Lesson: Must consider security implications of exploits to other devices

Stepping Back

• Goal: Improve security of future technologies
• This talk: Example known risks with IoT type devices
• Opportunities:
  – Domain-specific defenses
  – Generic defenses
• Key directions / issues:
  – Threat modeling and risk evaluation
    • including privacy (and information leakage), safety, and stepping stones
    • Including thinking of actors involved and non-traditional interactions (e.g., light bulbs)
  – Software updates and the Zombie problem
Thanks!

Automotive computer security (UW, UC San Diego)
- Karl Koscher, Alexei Czeskis, Franziska Roesner, Shwetak Patel, Stephen Checkoway, Damon McCoy, Brian Kantor, Danny Anderson, Hovav Shacham, Stefan Savage

Automotive driver fingerprinting (UW)
- Miro Enev, Alex Takakuwa, Karl Koscher

TV video fingerprinting (UW)
- Miro Enev, Sidhant Gupta, Shwetak Patel
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Toy computer security (UW)
- Tamara Denning, Cynthia Matuszek, Karl Koscher, Joshua R. Smith

Home automation security (UW)
- Temitope Oluwafemi, Sidhant Gupta, Shwetak Patel

Medical device computer security (UW, UMass Amherst (Michigan), BIDMC)
- Dan Halperin, Thomas S. Heydt-Benjamin, Benjamin Ransford, Shane S. Clark, Benessa Defend, Will Morgan, Kevin Fu, William H. Maisel