

A network diagram consisting of white circles of varying sizes connected by white dotted lines, set against a light green background. The circles are arranged in a non-uniform, interconnected pattern, representing a network or data flow.

Energy Infrastructure Cyber Security: The Challenges and Opportunities ahead for the R&D Community

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Challenges and Opportunities

(and how they can collide...)

The near-term future of security is in intrusion detection / reaction

- No matter what preventative technology is deployed, some breach will be possible

The near-term future of intrusion detection reaction is in

- Deeper analysis of data carried
- Correlations between data and physical system state
- Correlations between data and control state

And naturally, this must be done in real-time, with minimum footprint

But...

What should/can be done when an anomaly is detected?

- Should a command be ignored if a model predicts its implementation will cause harm?
 - What level of confidence can we have in a command, and how can we obtain it
 - “deep provenance?”
- Should a packet be dropped if out of context with the protocol
 - Real-time grammars can check....but what to do when an error is detected

Industry will not adopt technology solutions if seen as possibly interfering with legitimate system operations

- What incentivization is possible to study tradeoffs, possibly alter operations?