

# Assessing the Security of OPC UA Deployments

Linus Roepert, Markus Dahlmanns, Ina Fink, Jan Pennekamp, Martin Henze  
dahlmanns@comsys.rwth-aachen.de

Contribution of our Research Focus Class on Cyber-Physical System Security  
(<https://www.comsys.rwth-aachen.de/teaching/ws-19/20/rfc-on-cyber-physical-system-security>)

<https://www.comsys.rwth-aachen.de/>

1<sup>st</sup> ITG IT Security Workshop, April 2020

# Industrial Networks Move Closer to the Internet

- **Industrial networks were isolated in past**

- ▶ No security requirements
- ▶ Rather simple protocols, e.g., Modbus

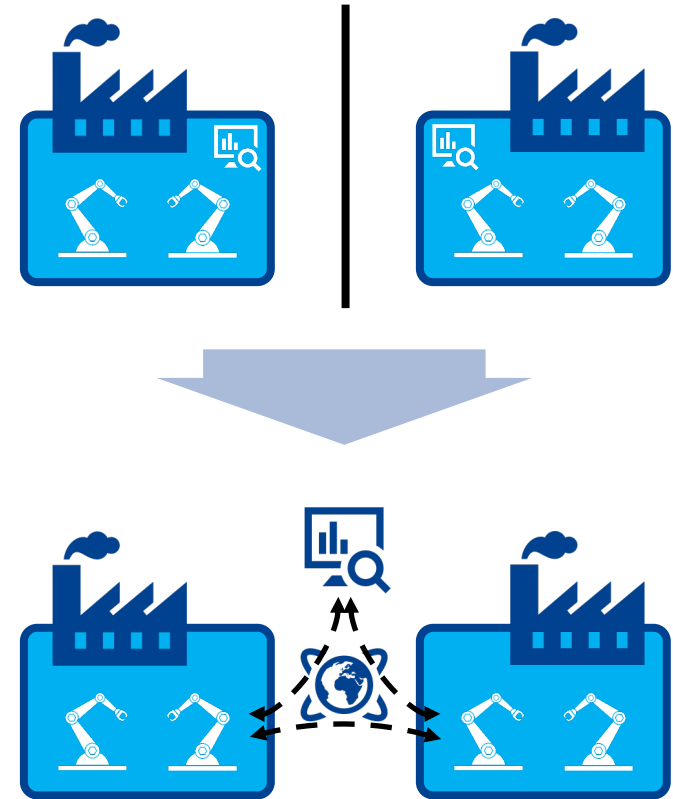
- **Convergence with IT networks**

- ▶ Introduction of attack vectors
  - Exploited in past, e.g., Stuxnet or NotPetya

- **Industry 4.0 and IIoT**

- ▶ Control of productions via the Internet
- ▶ Data exchange between production lines

Need for secure industrial communication



- **Enables communication from the field up to the cloud**
  - ▶ Representation of objects, functions, and relationships as a graph (address space)
  - ▶ Abstraction allows communication between devices of different manufacturers

- **Integrates security measures**

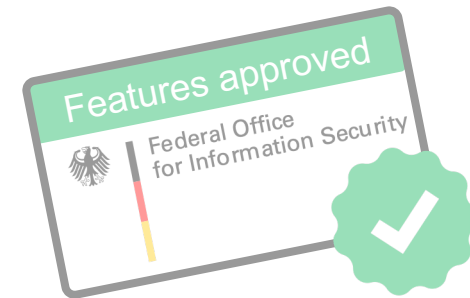
Checks for secure configurations necessary

- ▶ Authentication

- Anonymous access, username/password, certificate, or authentication token
    - Allows access control for every node in address space

- ▶ Integrity and confidentiality

- Three Security Modes: enable/disable integrity and confidentiality
    - Seven Security Policies: define algorithms and key lengths
      - One disables security; two are deprecated



- **Tools such as the Metasploit Framework have proven to be useful**
  - ▶ Modules available to test specific PLCs, ...
    - Schneider Modicon
    - Siemens SIMATIC
  - ▶ ... SCADA software, ...
    - Sielco Sistemi
    - Winlog
    - Measuresoft ScadaPro
  - ▶ ... and industrial protocols
    - Modbus
    - Profinet
    - IEC 60870-5-104



OPC UA support missing

- **How to detect configuration errors?**
  - ▶ Anonymous access to sensitive functions
  - ▶ Wrongly chosen security modes
  - ▶ Weak acceptance of security policies

## • Metasploit module to check configuration

### A. Detection of OPC UA servers

- Scan network for OPC UA appliances
- Generate set of proven OPC UA servers

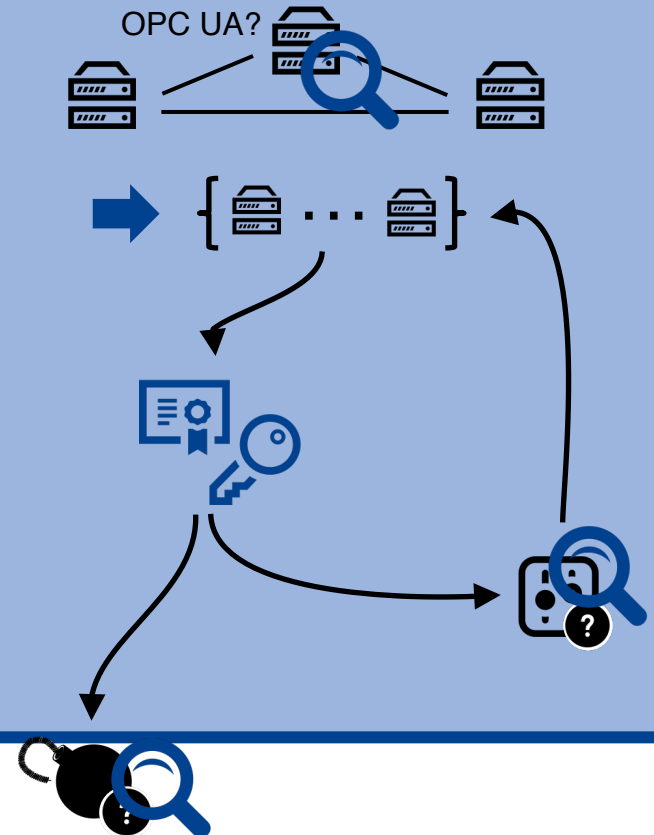
### B. Test authentication methods

- Try to log in to the found servers
  - Detect disabled authentication / weak credentials

### C. Derive further configuration

- Get general device information
- Evaluate security configuration

### D. Ability to check for vulnerabilities



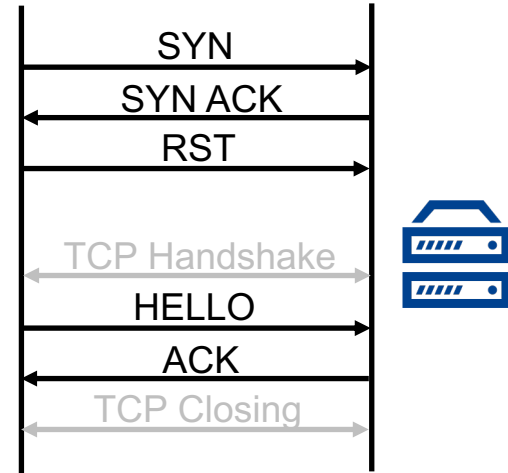


- **Metasploit Framework already includes nmap**

- ▶ TCP SYN scan on specified network
- ▶ Detect hosts offering a service on specified port

- **Module to prove for running OPC UA instance**

- ▶ Perform initial part of OPC UA handshake



IPs of hosts running OPC UA on specified port

```
[*] Running for 195.254.227.245...
[+] 195.254.227.245:4840 - Success
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```



- **Check for anonymous access**

- ▶ Empty username and password

- **Brute force for weak credentials**

- ▶ Gathered from user manuals, ...

- ▶ List available:  [/COMSYS/msf-opcua](#)



## List of accepted credentials

[Shortened]

```
[*] Running for 195.254.227.245...
[*] 195.254.227.245:4840 - Valid OPC UA response, starting analysis
[+] 195.254.227.245:4840 - [ 1/27] - : - Success
[*] 195.254.227.245:4840 - [ 9/27] - RD81OPC96:MITSUBISHI - Failure
[*] 195.254.227.245:4840 - [10/27] - simatic:100simatic - Failure
[+] 195.254.227.245:4840 - [20/27] - user1:password - Success
[+] 195.254.227.245:4840 - [21/27] - user2:password1 - Success
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```



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➔ List of accepted credentials [Shortened]

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[+] 195.254.227.245:4840 - user1:password - Success
[+] 195.254.227.245:4840 - user2:password1 - Success
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```

Anonymous Access

Vendor specific

Source code specific

: - Success

RD81OPC96:MITSUBISHI - Failure

simatic:100simatic - Failure

user1:password - Success

user2:password1 - Success





- **Get General OPC UA Deployment Information**

- ▶ `ServerName`: String for identification
- ▶ `ProductUri`: Product information, e.g., PLC model
- ▶ `ApplicationUri`: Application information, e.g., version

- **Get Security Parameters**

- ▶ Security Level: Manual security rating
- ▶ Message Security Mode: Integrity and confidentiality
- ▶ Security Policy: Specification of algorithms
- ▶ Authentication mechanism
- ▶ Access control per node

- **Get list of known OPC UA services (Endpoints)**

- ▶ Possibility to get addresses of other deployments



- **Get General OPC UA Deployment Information**

- ▶ `ServerName`: String for identification

- ▶ `ProductUri`:

- ▶ `ApplicationUri`:

Evaluate deployed products, patch level, update availability, ...

- **Get Security Parameters**

- ▶ `Security Level`: Reevaluate classification

- ▶ `Message Security Mode`: Security adherence

- ▶ `Security Policy`: Check selected algorithms

- ▶ Authentication mechanism

- ▶ Access control per node

- ▶ Check protection of data

- **Get list of known OPC UA services (Endpoints)**

- ▶ Possibility to get addresses of other deployments

- ▶ Restart assessment





## Configuration of all OPC UA Services (Endpoints)

[Shortened]

```
[*] Running for 127.0.0.1...
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Available Endpoints:
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - -----
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Endpoint: opc.tcp://127.0.0.1:4840/my/server/
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - ServerName: FreeOpcUa Example Server
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - ApplicationUri: urn:freeopcua:python:server
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - SecurityLevel: 0
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - MessageSecurityMode: SignAndEncrypt
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - PolicyUri: Basic256Sha256
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Token: 1
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - TokenType: UserTokenType.Certificate
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Nodes:
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Name: 2:MyVariable - Id: ns=2;i=13
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - ['CurrentRead', 'CurrentWrite']
```



## Configuration of all OPC UA Services (Endpoints)

[Shortened]

```
[*] Running for 127.0.0.1...
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Available Endpoints:
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - -----
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Endpoint: opc.tcp://127.0.0.1:4840/my/server/
- ServerName: FreeOpcUa Example Server
- ApplicationUri: urn:freeopcua:python:server
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - SecurityLevel: 0
- MessageSecurityMode: SignAndEncrypt
- PolicyUri: Basic256Sha256
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Token: 1
- TokenType: UserTokenType.Certificate
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - Nodes:
- Name: 2:MyVariable - Id: ns=2;i=13
[*] 127.0.0.1:4840 - ['CurrentRead', 'CurrentWrite']
```

Server details

Security settings

Authentication

Access rights

- **OPC UA prime candidate for secure industrial communication**

- ▶ Security attested by the Federal Office for Information Security in Germany
- ▶ Only secure if configured correctly
  - Large variety of security settings



- **Our work: Metasploit Framework module to assess OPC UA deployments**

- ▶ Find deployments
- ▶ Check for weak authentication parameters
  - Protect deployments from malicious access
- ▶ Get configuration for further inspection
  - Ensure secure communication to avoid eavesdropping, MitM attacks, ...



- ▶ Available on  [github.com/COMSYS/msf-opcua](https://github.com/COMSYS/msf-opcua)

**Thank you for your attention!**