

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Senior Design Team sdmay24-39

# Intrusion Detection System on Automotive CAN Bus

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# Our Team



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Client Liaison and Pi  
Testbed Lead



**Alec Cose**  
Testbed Design  
and IDS Rule  
Development



**Tiffanie Fix**  
Vulnerability  
Research and  
Development Lead



**Cole Burkle**  
Lead Vulnerability  
Tester and G6  
Testbed Design

# Outline

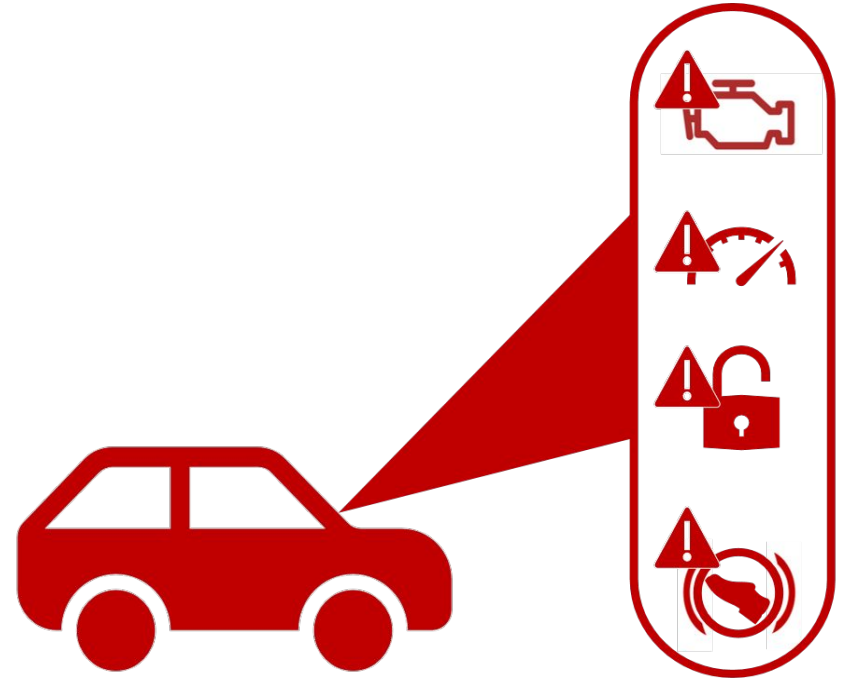
|   |                 |   |                     |
|---|-----------------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Introduction    | 3 | Testbed Development |
| 2 | Design Approach | 4 | IDS Implementation  |
|   |                 | 5 | Conclusion          |

# Introduction

CAN Bus and its Significance

# Problem

- Most modern vehicles are interconnected through CAN Bus
- CAN Bus networks often do not consider cyber security
- Vulnerable to attacks that manipulate vehicle operation and may result in unauthorized access.



# Real Life Cases

- 2016: Jeep Cherokee controlled wirelessly through entertainment system
- 2016: Tesla firmware vulnerability led to remote control
- 2024: Rav4 exploited through headlight connector

## Hackers Remotely Kill a Jeep on the Highway—With Me in It

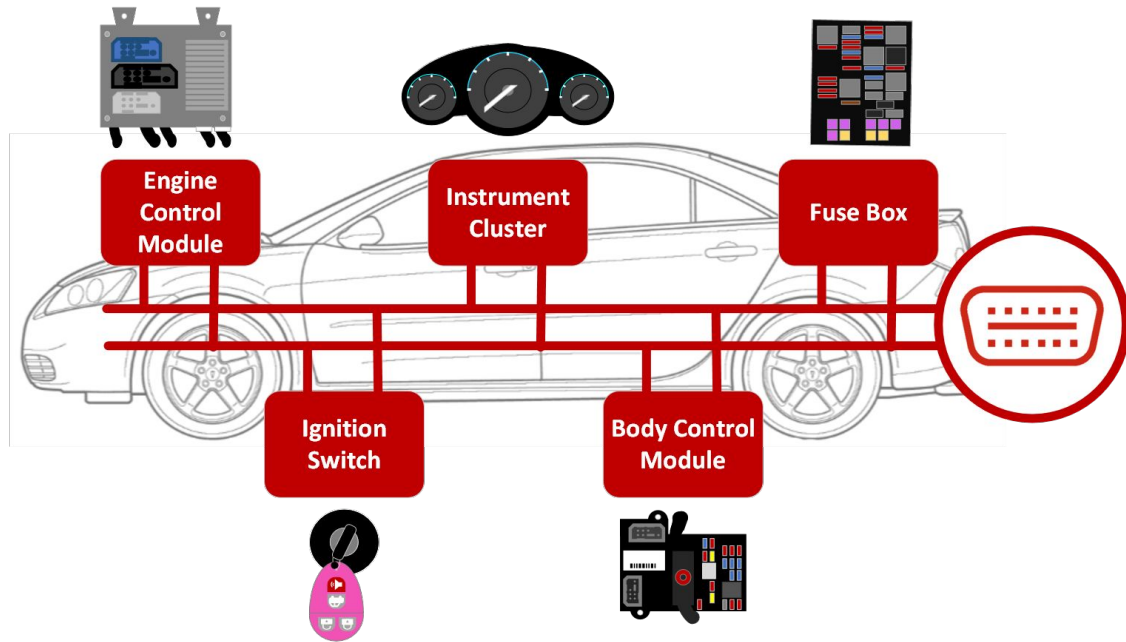
Hackers crack Tesla CAN Bus, DoT issues policy for securing connected car

## Thieves Steal Toyota RAV4 by Hacking Into Its Headlights



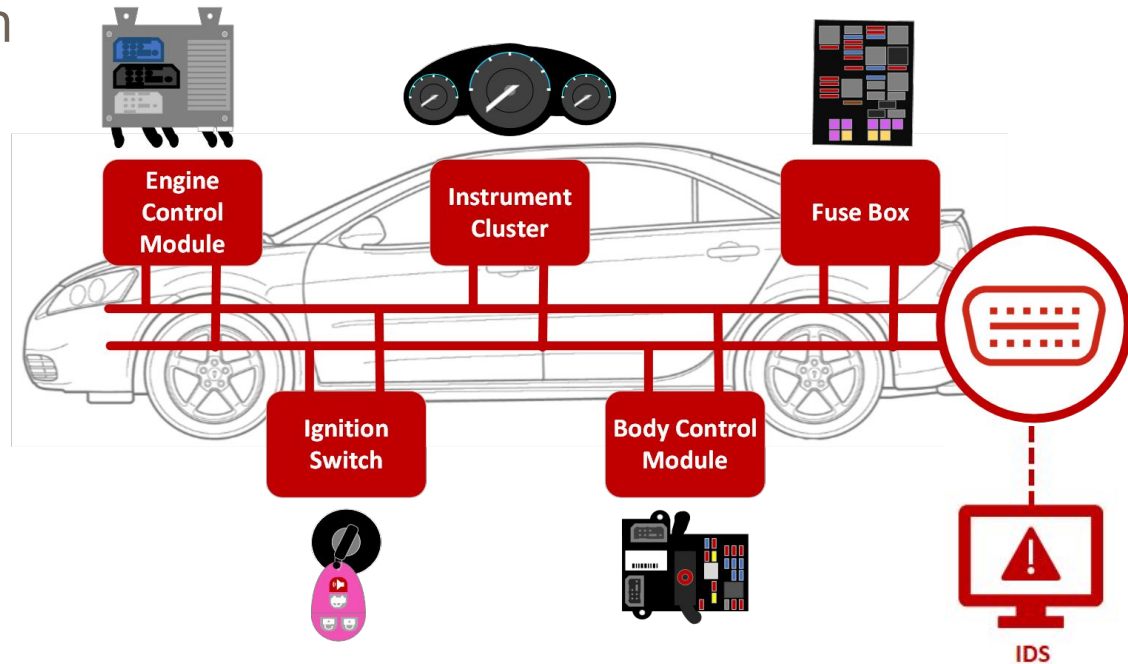
# CAN Bus Background

- CAN Bus is a protocol on the vehicle network that enables internal modules within the vehicle to communicate
  - Such as the engine, transmission, and brakes
- Essential for vehicle operation



# Intrusion Detection System Solution

- An Intrusion Detection System (IDS) is a software that monitors the network and reports any anomalies.
- Rules are set and when triggered, promptly alerts the user.



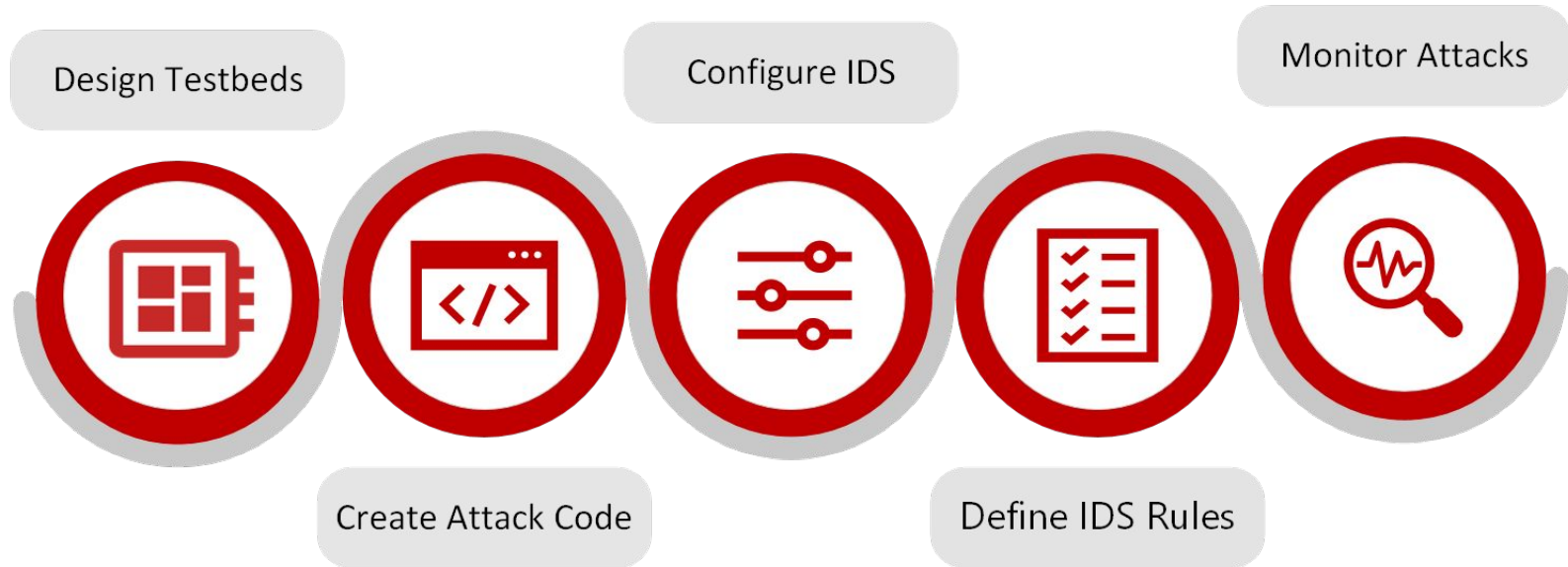


# Design Approach

Creating and Proposing an IDS and Testing Platform

# Design Overview

Implementing an Intrusion Detection System (IDS) on an automotive CAN Bus network:



# Design Requirements

## Testbed Design

### Pi Testbed

- Create multiple nodes
- Emulate vehicle ECU
- Adjust data values using potentiometers

### Car Testbed:

- Utilize vehicle CAN Network
- Send/Receive CAN Messages

## Attack Code

- Compromise integrity, availability, and confidentiality of data
- Manipulate or deceive ECUs or modules into unauthorized actions
- Congest or disrupt network traffic
- Timing control

## IDS

- Enable uploading of offline logs
- Configured to analyze traffic in real time
- Define rules to effectively detect attack code executed on testbeds

# Technical Details

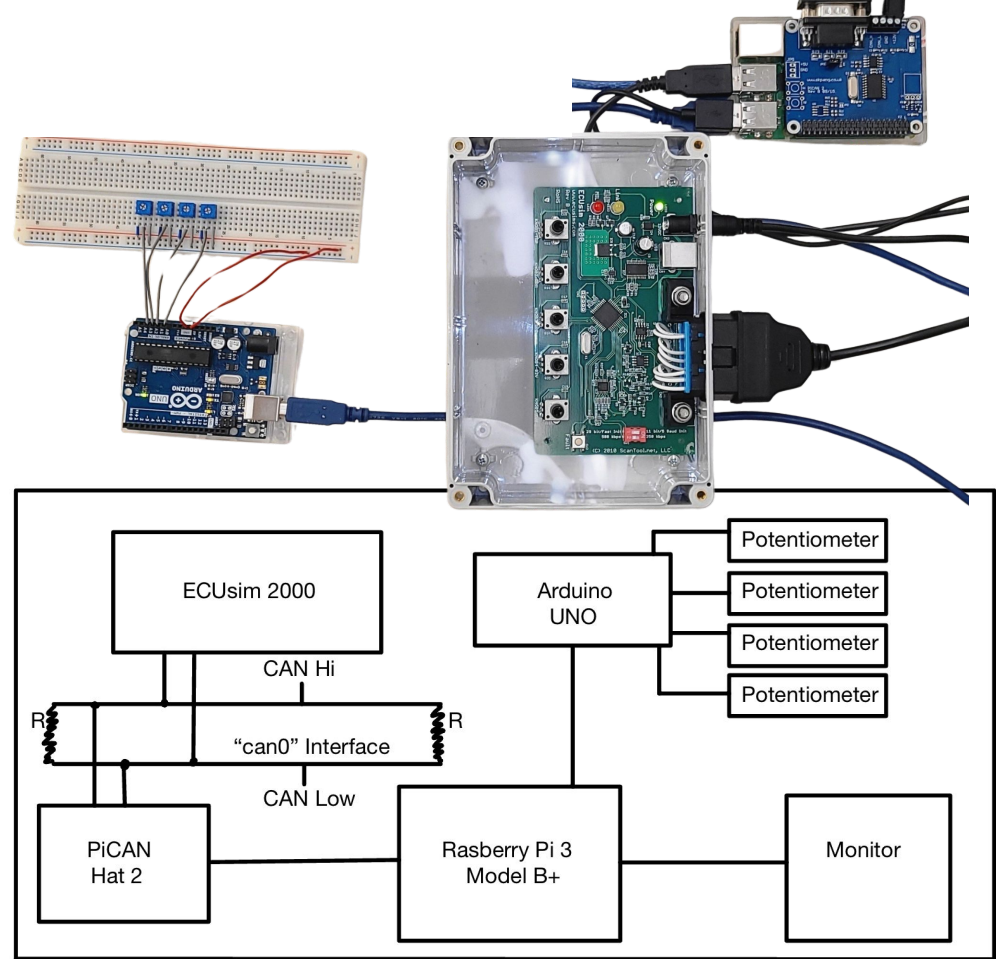
|          | Car Testbed  | Pi Testbed   | IDS   | Attack Code  |
|----------|--|--|---|--|
| Hardware | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2007 Pontiac G6</li><li>• Innomaker usb2can Adapter</li><li>• 13V power supply</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raspberry Pi 3 Model B+</li><li>• PiCAN Hat 2</li><li>• ECUsim 2000</li><li>• Arduino UNO</li><li>• potentiometers</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raspberry Pi 3 Model B+</li><li>• Monitor</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raspberry Pi 3 Model B+</li></ul>            |
| Software | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CAN-util</li><li>• usb2can program</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raspbian OS</li><li>• CAN-util</li><li>• Python code</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Snort v3</li></ul>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Python language</li><li>• CAN-util</li></ul> |

# Testbed Development

Constructing an effective testing platform

# Pi Testbed

- PiCAN Hat 2 and ECUsim 2000 create CAN channel
- Arduino sends to Pi, Pi puts on the CAN channel
- 4 sensors, ID 0-3



# Pi Testbed Evaluation

## Benefits:

- Emulates car network structure
- Values can be changed as the system is running
- Completely mutable

## Challenges:

- ECUsim 2000
- Size of the network
- Transmission speeds
- Not real CAN frames

# Car Testbed

- 2007 Pontiac G6
- Bought from a local junkyard
- Two CAN networks
- USB2CAN to read/capture data



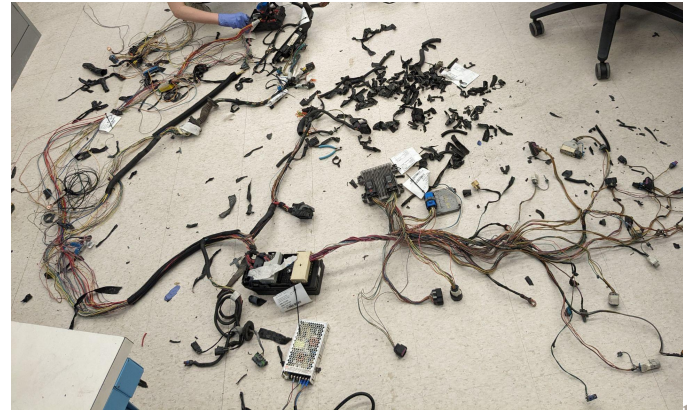


# Car Testbed Benefits

- Realistic testing environment
- Immediate physical feedback
- Access to genuine data
- Message Variety
- Two separate networks

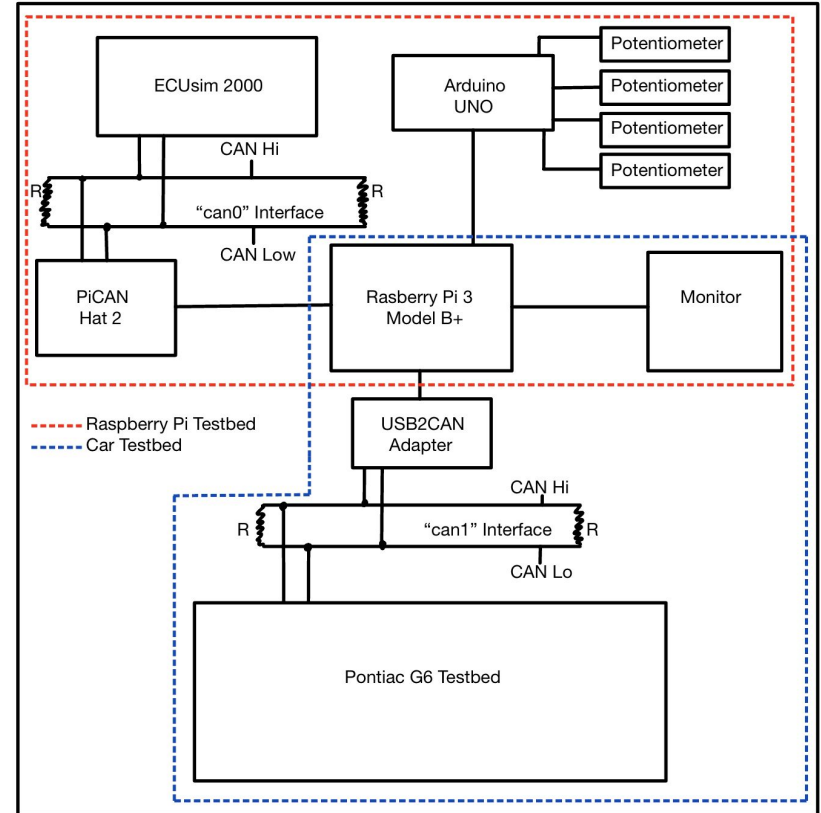
# Car Testbed Challenges

- Nothing connected
- Schematics are proprietary
- High speed network bus off
- No straightforward solution to power



# Final Testbed Design

- Car testbed
- Pi testbed
- IDS has access to both



# IDS Implementation

Curating rules to detect malicious anomalies

# Attacks and Detection



- Open Source IDS
- Allows for rule development
- Only functions on TCP/IP

# Ruleset Strategy

## Testing

### Denial of Service (DOS) Attack

- Send large amount of traffic such as low ID messages or remote requests

### Injection Attack

- Injecting messages at random (fuzzing) or targeting IDs

### Timing Attack

- Executed by sending more messages than expected within a given timeframe

## Results

| Attack    | Pi Bed Detection | Car Bed Detection |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------|
| DOS       | X                | X                 |
| Injection | X                | X                 |
| Timing    | X                | X                 |

# Pi Testbed Rules

```
alert tcp any any -> any 12345 (msg: "Injection Attack: ID out of range >4";
```

```
byte_test:8,>,4,8,string,dec; sid:10000006;)
```

- Denial of Service Attack - Low ID and Remote Requests
- Injection Attack - Mismatch ID and message
- Timing Attack - More messages than typical behavior

# Car Testbed Rules

alert any any -> any 12345 (msg: "Mismatching ID and message - 670:47";

content:"670"; content:!"47", distance 7, within 4; sid 30000006;)

- Rules for both high and low transmission
- Denial of Service Attack - Low ID and Remote Request
- Injection Attack - ID Ranges and Matching ID and Messages
- Timing Attack - Limited by speed of sending packets over TCP



# IDS Possibilities

|        |                           |
|--------|---------------------------|
| 100500 | VEHICLE_SPEED_INFORMATION |
|--------|---------------------------|

|      |
|------|
| 0x28 |
|------|

Second and third bytes

Formula  $x/10 = \text{Vehicle speed}$  (likely in KPH but unconfirmed)

```
alert tcp any any -> any any (msg: "Impossible Speed Detected";  
byte_test:3,=,28,6,string,dec; byte_test:2,>,1450,9,string,dec; sid:  
10000001;)
```

# Recap

- Testbed Design
- Testbed Testing
- Attack Simulation
- IDS Rule Development
- IDS Rule Testing

# Questions?