Demonstration Overview

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Goals

Resiliency

- Detect problem and return to safe state.
- Develop and deploy recovery plan.
- Complete mission (possibly with modified functionality).

Trustworthiness

- Continuous assessment throughout mission.
- Deeper offline analysis after mission (future work).

Demo Scenario

- Intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance mission.
- Observe targets then return to base.



Surveillance Missions

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More images for drone environment monitoring

Drone Environmental Monitoring - YouTube



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Hardware and Software

- Commodity HW
 - o 3DR Iris+ PixHawk
 - Radios & controllers
- Real-time OS
 - NuttX (UNIX-like OS)
- Open-source autopilot
 - o ArduPilot















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Hijacking drones with a MAVLink exploit

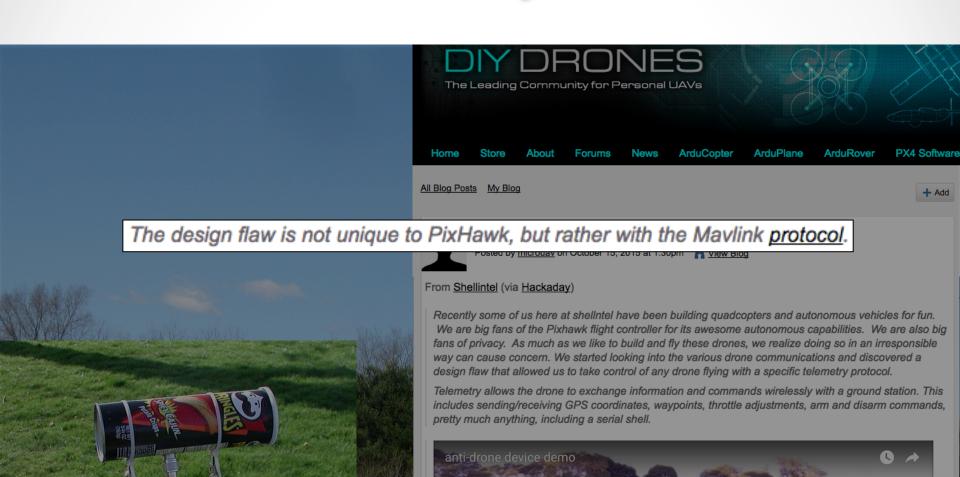
Posted by microuav on October 15, 2015 at 1:30pm | Niew Blog

From Shellintel (via Hackaday)

Recently some of us here at shellntel have been building quadcopters and autonomous vehicles for fun. We are big fans of the Pixhawk flight controller for its awesome autonomous capabilities. We are also big fans of privacy. As much as we like to build and fly these drones, we realize doing so in an irresponsible way can cause concern. We started looking into the various drone communications and discovered a design flaw that allowed us to take control of any drone flying with a specific telemetry protocol.

Telemetry allows the drone to exchange information and commands wirelessly with a ground station. This includes sending/receiving GPS coordinates, waypoints, throttle adjustments, arm and disarm commands, pretty much anything, including a serial shell.

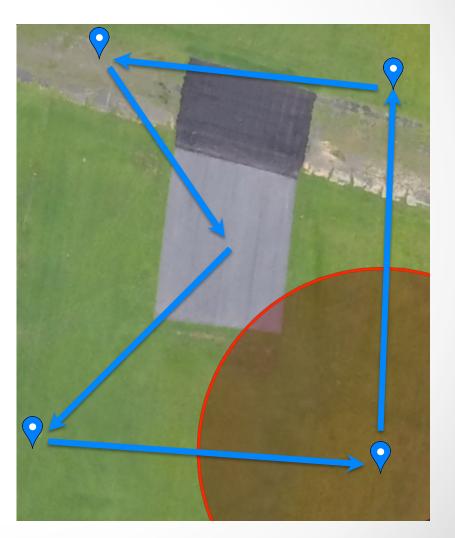




Attack Scenario

Assumptions:

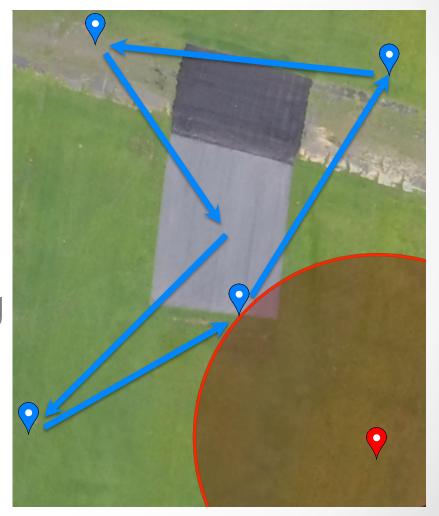
- Stealthy attack.
 - Skip target, but don't crash.
 - o "Wind blew it off course."
 - Relax assumption in later work.
- Limited geographic scope.
 - Affects one target, not all.



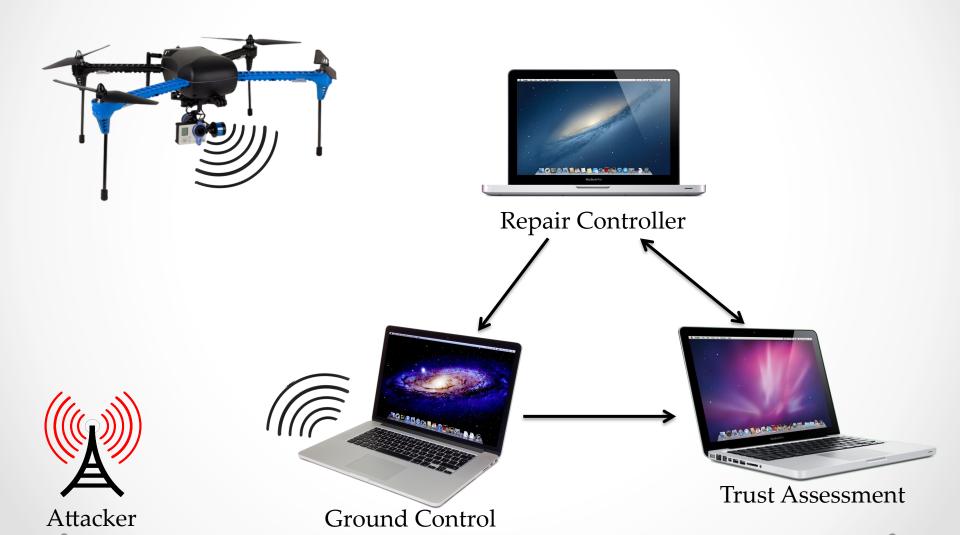


Resilience and Trust

- 1. Recognize attack.
- 2. Leave "zone of influence".
- 3. Generate new flight plan avoiding attack.
- 4. Complete mission.



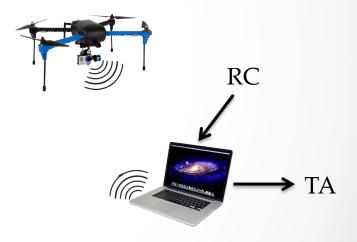
Demo Components



Ground Control

Radio communication with UAV.





Trust Assessment

- Compares telemetry to mission parameters.
- Detects attack.
- Validates new mission.

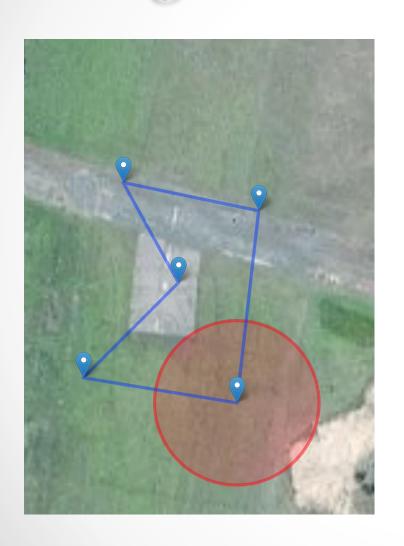


Repair Controller

- Sends out initial mission.
- Develops new mission in response to attack.
- Orchestrates mission deployment.



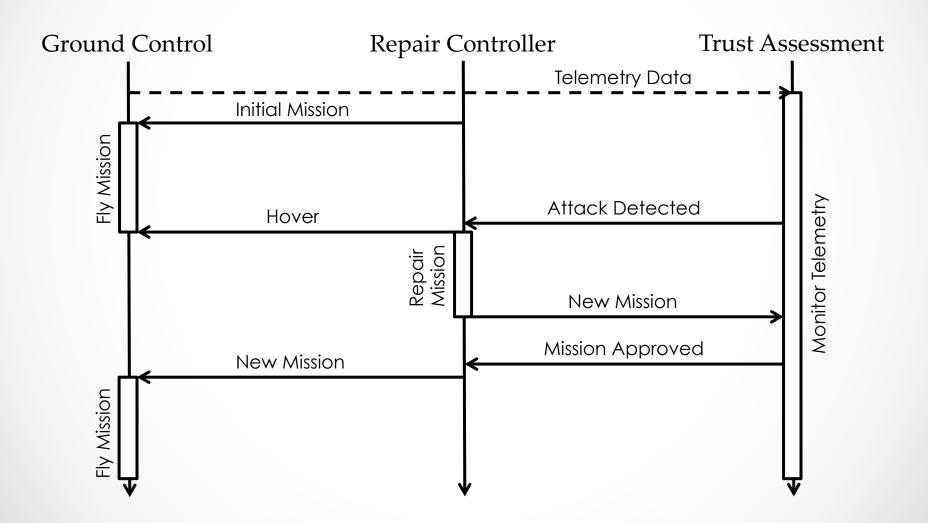
Flight Path Construction



Genetic algorithm

- 1. Avoid attack zone.
- 2. Prefer fewer extra waypoints.
- 3. Retain order of targets.
- 4. Get close to targets.
- 5. Prefer shorter paths.

Sequence of Events



Evaluation of Success

Resiliency

- Detect problem, recover, and return to safe state.
- Develop and deploy recovery plan.
 - Minimal modification to mission while avoiding attack.
 - Under 60 seconds from detection to deployment.
 - No need to land!
- Complete mission (possibly with modified functionality).
 - View target from outside attack zone if necessary.

Trustworthiness

- Continuous assessment throughout mission.
- Emphasis on unchanged mission components.

Future Scenarios

Repairing flight software.

- Detect software-based failure.
- o Enter safe mode.
- Generate and deploy patch.
 - May be more expensive: leverage parallel repair.
- o Resume mission.

Post-mission trust assessment.

- Evaluate mission logs and repair offline.
- More thorough evaluation of trustworthiness.