

# Dagstuhl Seminar 22171: Digital Twins for Cyber-Physical Systems Security

April 24 – 29, 2022

Version 1.4

## Organizers:

Mohammad Al Faruque (University of California, US)  
Alvaro Cárdenas Mora (University of California – Santa Cruz, US)  
Simin Nadjm-Tehrani (Linköping University, SE)  
Edgar Weippl (University of Vienna & SBA Research, AT)

alfaruqu@uci.edu  
alacarde@ucsc.edu  
simin.nadjm-tehrani@liu.se  
edgar.weippl@univie.ac.at

## Collector:

Matthias Eckhart (University of Vienna & SBA Research, AT)

meckhart@sba-research.org

## 1 Objectives and Topics of the Seminar

The aim of this Dagstuhl seminar is to investigate the benefits and challenges of implementing the digital-twin concept and other emerging technologies for the purpose of improving the security of cyber-physical systems (CPSs). Toward this end, we address pressing problems of creating, operating, and maintaining digital twins, and explore attractive security applications, such as intrusion detection. The developed concepts and methods will be a result of interdisciplinary work conducted by academics and industry professionals from the fields of computer science, automation engineering, and data science.

**Expected Output** The seminar is intended to serve as an interdisciplinary, open knowledge-sharing platform that connects researchers and facilitates scientific exchange. During the seminar, the participants will have the opportunity to work in groups on one of the seminar’s topics. Ideally, the ideas generated during the breakout sessions will be refined by the group members after the seminar and published as a joint research work.

**Research Topics** To set the frame for this seminar, we identified three topics that will be covered in plenary sessions and breakout sessions. In each plenary session, lightning talks will be held that should motivate the collaborative work in the breakout sessions.

The main topics and motivating ideas are:

### 1. *Security-focused Digital Twins:*

- Definition of the term *digital twin* in the security context and differences to other concepts, such as cyber ranges and information models
- Emulations, simulations, and testbeds as key technologies and methods for digital-twin implementation
- Relation between the concept of digital twins and smart manufacturing plants
- Knowledge retrieval for digital-twin generation (in greenfield and brownfield settings)
- State replication and synchronization (digital twin and physical counterpart)
- Security applications

### 2. *Intrusion Detection:*

- Physics-based IDSs
- Behavior-based and anomaly-based IDSs

- Integrating process semantics into IDSs

### 3. *Proactive and Reactive Attack Response Mechanisms:*

- Response strategies for control systems
- Attack-resilient CPS architectures
- Identification and assessment of countermeasures
- Reconfiguration of CPSs

## 2 General Information

**SARS-CoV-2 Prevention Measures** The seminar takes place under strict hygiene and preventive measures. We expect that all participants have read and adhere to the protection and hygiene concept of Schloss Dagstuhl.<sup>1</sup> If you have additional questions regarding this concept, please send an e-mail to [service@dagstuhl.de](mailto:service@dagstuhl.de).

**Collaborative Work** Please follow the Dagstuhl Wiki<sup>2</sup> for further information, which can be accessed using your personal DOOR credentials. The findings of breakout sessions and other key results should be documented in our shared Google Drive directory.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, note that we have setup a group on Signal<sup>4</sup> to facilitate communication among participants. You can join this group via the link<sup>5</sup> or by using the QR code shown in Figure 1.

**Lightning Talks** Please avoid conference-style talks, do not (only) propose solutions but allow your talk to raise open research questions. Leave enough time at the end of your talk for an open discussion. Furthermore, take the highly interdisciplinary setting of this seminar into account; try to avoid acronyms and technical jargon. We kindly ask you to upload your slides to the seminar materials website<sup>6</sup>, which can be accessed using your personal DOOR credentials.



Figure 1: QR code to join the Signal group.

---

<sup>1</sup><https://www.dagstuhl.de/program/planning-your-visit/sars-cov-2-prevention>

<sup>2</sup><https://angelina.dagstuhl.de/guestWiki/index.php/22171>

<sup>3</sup>The link to the Google Drive directory can be found at the Dagstuhl Wiki.

<sup>4</sup><https://signal.org/>

<sup>5</sup><https://signal.group/#CjQKIICv8ylCTKZAequdR7IY12ZMLDklr5stGesCt10z0yPEhCYA48EAKSuAGajBQmryvsd>

<sup>6</sup><https://materials.dagstuhl.de/index.php?semnr=22171>

### 3 Schedule

**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

- 09:00 Welcome Session**  
*Alvaro Cárdenas Mora, Simin Nadjm-Tehrani, Edgar Weippl*
- 10:15 Coffee Break**
- 10:30 Session: Bridging the disciplinary gap**  
A roadmap toward a digital-twin framework for cyber-physical systems security  
*Matthias Eckhart, Edgar Weippl*  
RICSel21: Attacks in a virtual power network  
*Simin Nadjm-Tehrani*  
Digital twins for CPS security  
*Alvaro Cárdenas Mora*  
Detection of cyber-physical attacks with IIoT data  
*Marina Krotofil*
- 12:15 Lunch**
- 13:30 Breakout Session I: Brainstorming and discussion of open problems**  
*All participants*
- 14:30 Break**
- 14:45 Breakout Session I: Brainstorming and formation of working groups**  
*All participants*
- 15:30 Short Coffee Break (Breakout Session I continues afterwards until 17:00)**
- 17:00 Group discussion on the research topics of the working groups**  
*All participants*
- 18:00 Dinner**

## Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022

- 09:00 Lightning Talks I**  
High-fidelity cyber and physical simulations of water distribution systems with DHALSIM  
*Nils Ole Tippenhauer*  
Building high fidelity replicas for CPS security research — Lessons from a testbeds program  
*Awais Rashid*
- 10:00 Coffee Break**
- 10:30 Lightning Talks I**  
Attack-resilient control using model- and data-based intrusion detection  
*Henrik Sandberg*  
Control-theoretical analysis of systems under CPU starvation attacks  
*Martina Maggio*
- 12:15 Lunch**
- 14:15 Breakout Session II: Working groups**  
*All participants*
- 15:30 Short Coffee Break**
- 15:45 Breakout Session II: Working groups**  
*All participants*
- 17:00 Reports from working groups**  
Short presentation of initial ideas and general discussion  
*Group chairs*
- 18:00 Dinner**

## Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

- 09:00**    **Lightning Talks II**  
Securing cyber-physical systems with varying levels of autonomy  
*Miroslav Pajic*
- 10:00**    **Coffee Break**
- 10:30**    **Lightning Talks II**  
Integrated distributed SCADA security in power grids  
*Anne Remke*  
Towards semantically enhanced digital twins  
*Helge Janicke*
- 12:15**    **Lunch**
- 13:30**    **Breakout Session V: Working groups**  
*All participants*
- 15:30**    **Break**
- 16:15**    **Breakout Session V: Working groups**  
*All participants*
- 18:00**    **Dinner**

## Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

- 09:00**    **Session: Lightning Talks III**  
Reverse engineering Siemens PLCs: Lessons learned for today and tomorrow  
*Ali Abbasi*
- 10:00**    **Coffee Break**
- 10:30**    **Session: Lightning Talks III**  
Modeling in the safety lifecycle of radiation monitoring systems at CERN  
*Katharina Ceesay-Seitz*  
Dataset availability and requirements for CPS security research  
*Magnus Almgren*
- 12:15**    **Lunch**
- 14:00**    **Hiking trip or free time**
- 18:00**    **Departing Reception**

**Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**09:00**    **Presentations of results**  
*Group chairs*

**10:45**    **Coffee Break**

**11:00**    **Closing Session**  
Wrap-up, next steps, and feedback  
*Organizers*

**12:15**    **Lunch**

**14:00**    **Departure**