



ANNUAL INDUSTRY WORKSHOP
NOVEMBER 12-13, 2014

SPECIFICATION-BASED IDS FOR THE DNP3 PROTOCOL

NOVEMBER, 12TH, 2014

HUI LIN

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

PROBLEM DEFINITION

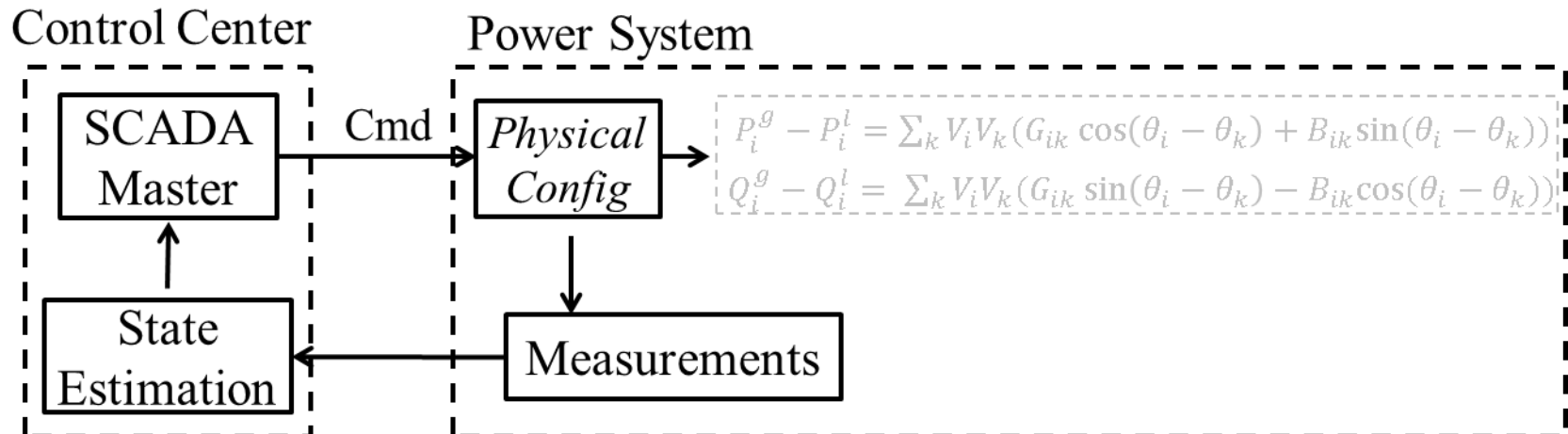
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- **Control-related attack:** a sophisticated attacker can exploit system vulnerabilities and use a few maliciously crafted commands to put the system into insecure electrical states

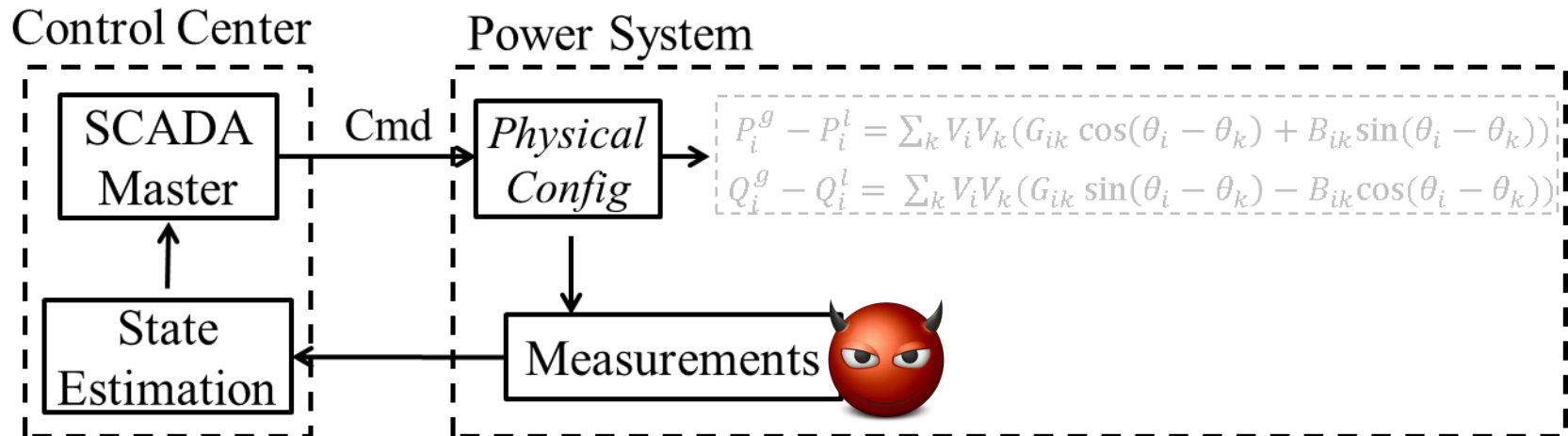
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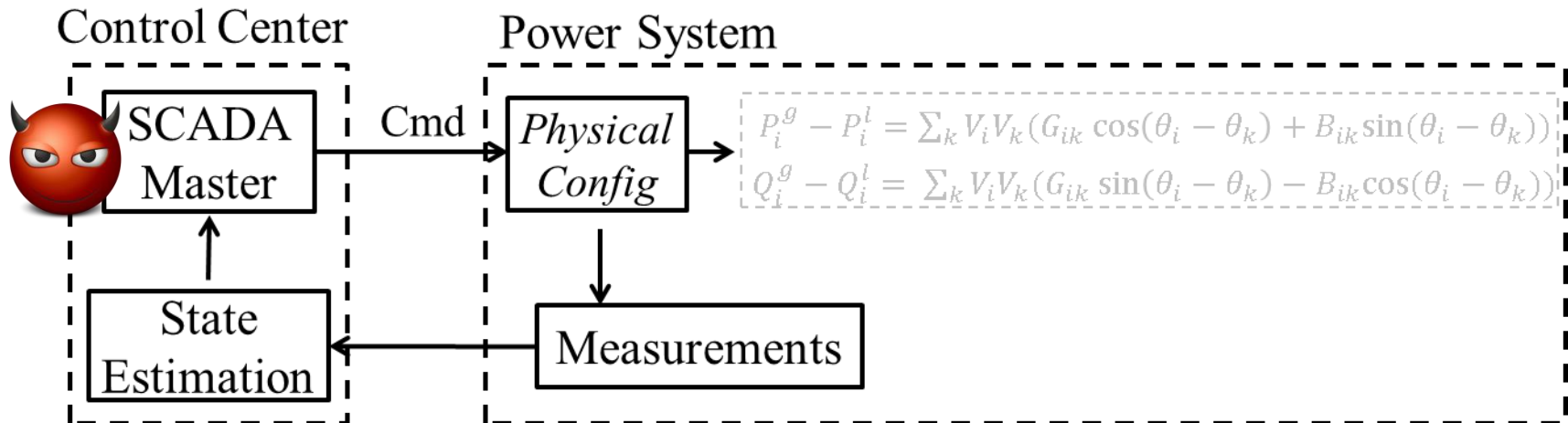
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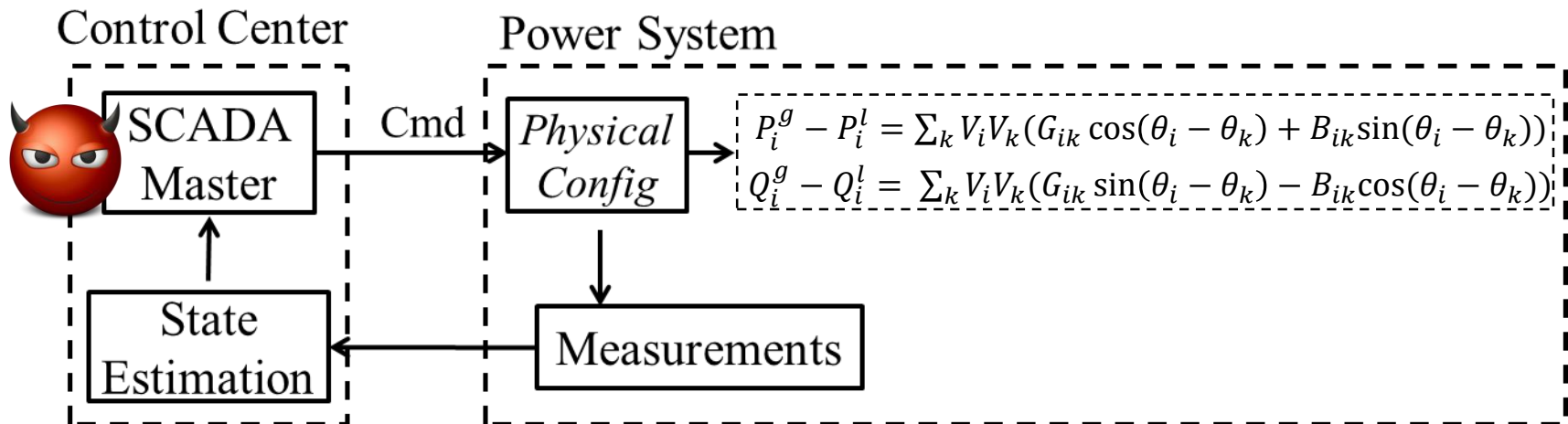
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WHY DETECTION IS A CHALLENGE?

- Hard to detect based solely on power systems' electrical states
 - Traditional contingency analysis considers low-order incidents, i.e., the “*N-1*” contingency
 - Traditional state estimation is performed periodically, detecting attacks after physical damage
 - Measurements may be compromised

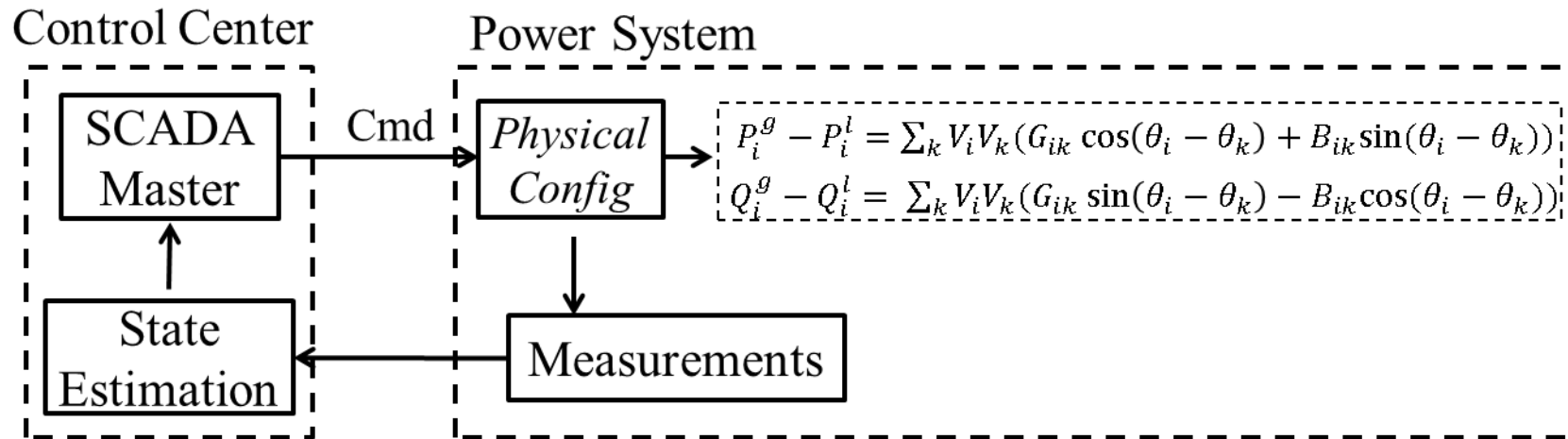
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- **Hard to detect based solely on the network intrusion detection systems**
 - Commands can be encoded in correct syntax
 - Not detectable by traditional network intrusion detection systems (IDS)

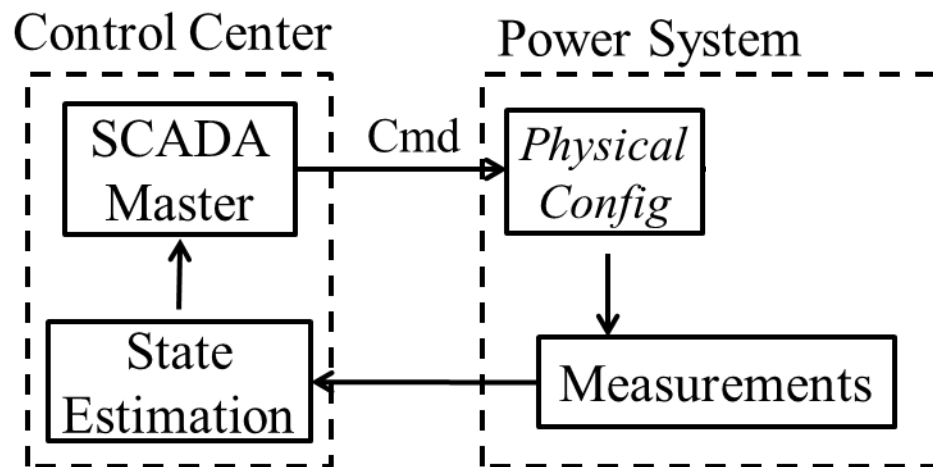
DETECTION DESIGN

- Combine system knowledge of both **cyber** and **physical** infrastructure in the power grid
 - Integrate network monitoring with look-ahead power flow analysis
- Detect malicious commands at their *first appearances*, instead of identifying power system's physical damage after the fact

APPROACH



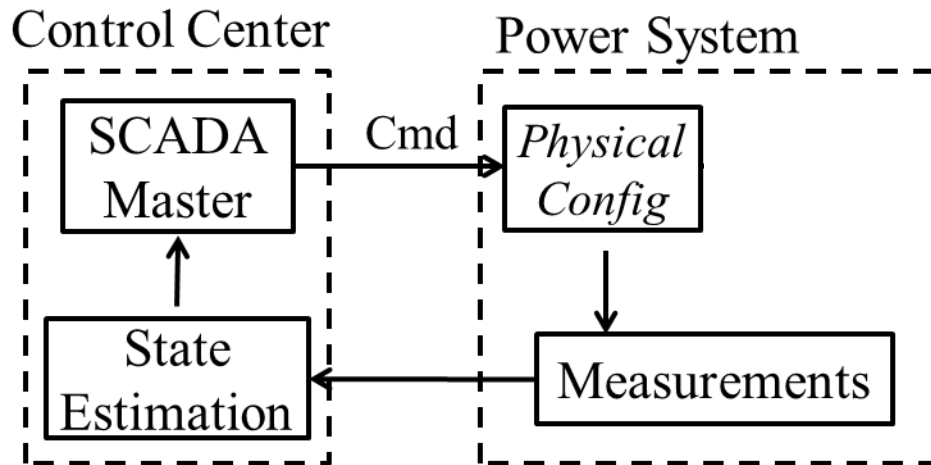
APPROACH



Cyber Infrastructure



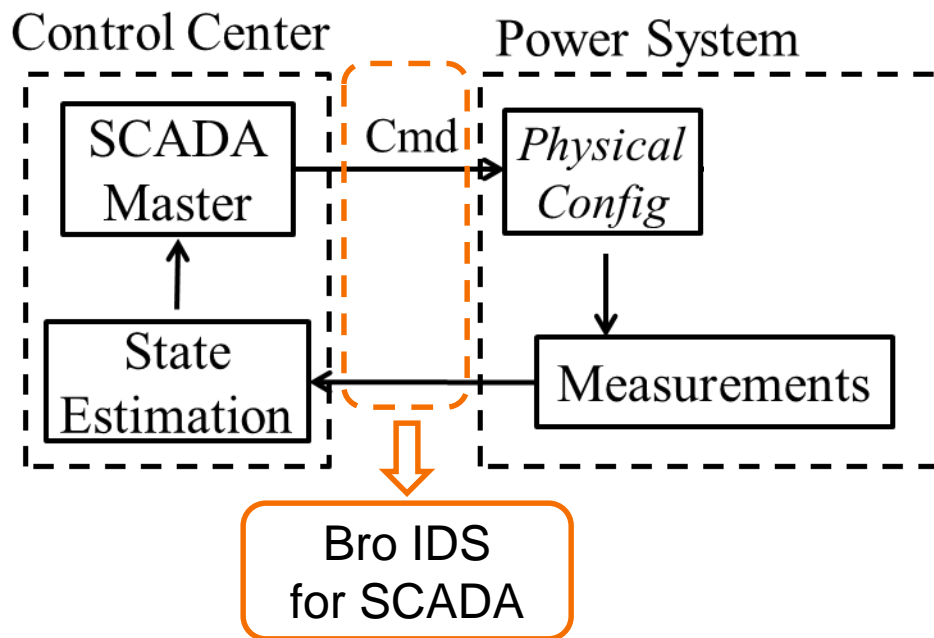
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Cyber Infrastructure

- Adapt **specification-based** IDS for SCADA systems
 - Detect unexpected network activities based on predefined **security specifications**

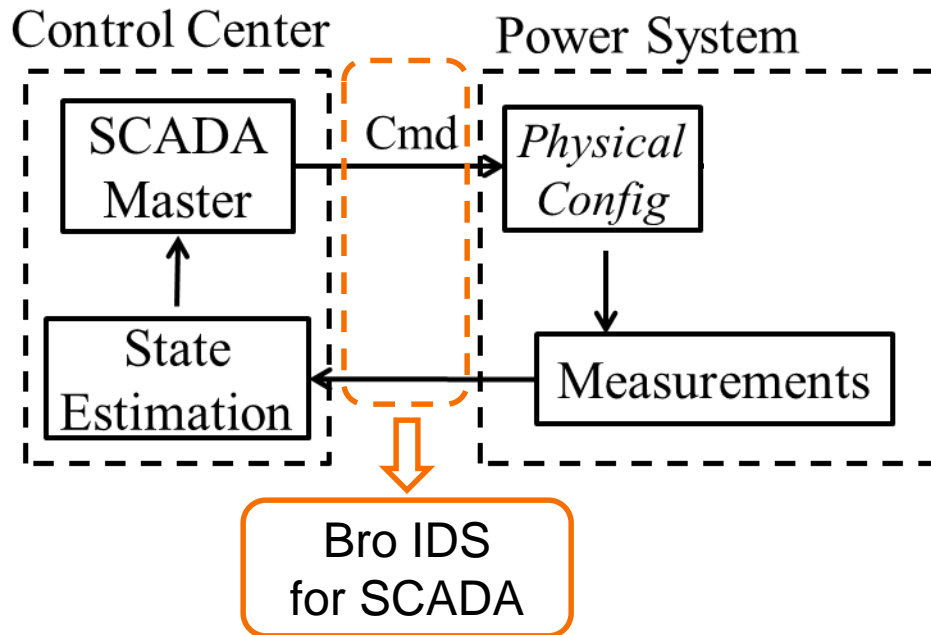
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Cyber Infrastructure

- Adapt **specification-based** IDS for SCADA systems
 - Detect unexpected network activities based on predefined **security specifications**
- Adapt **Bro** to support SCADA protocols
 - Develop **DNP3 & Modbus** analyzers in Bro's distribution
 - Collaborate with industry, i.e., **Ameren, Abbot Lab**
 - Use real network traffic from substations in Ameren to test the developed tools

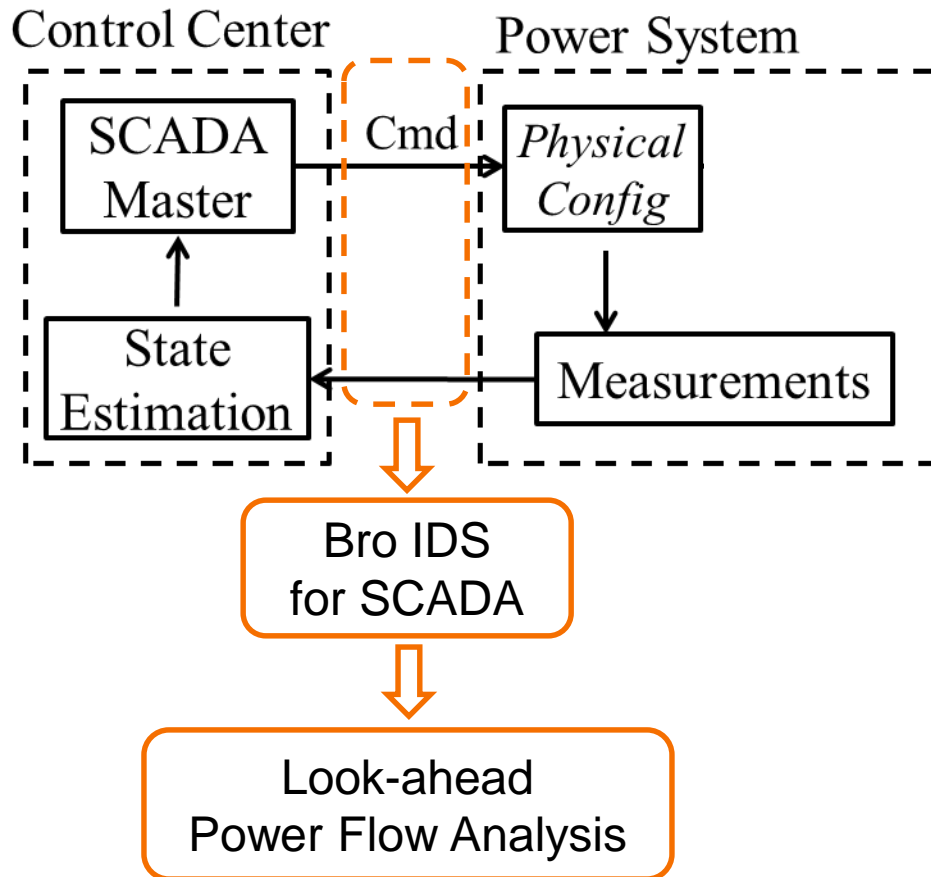
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Physical Infrastructure

- Develop **semantic analysis framework**
 - Augment network IDS with power flow analysis

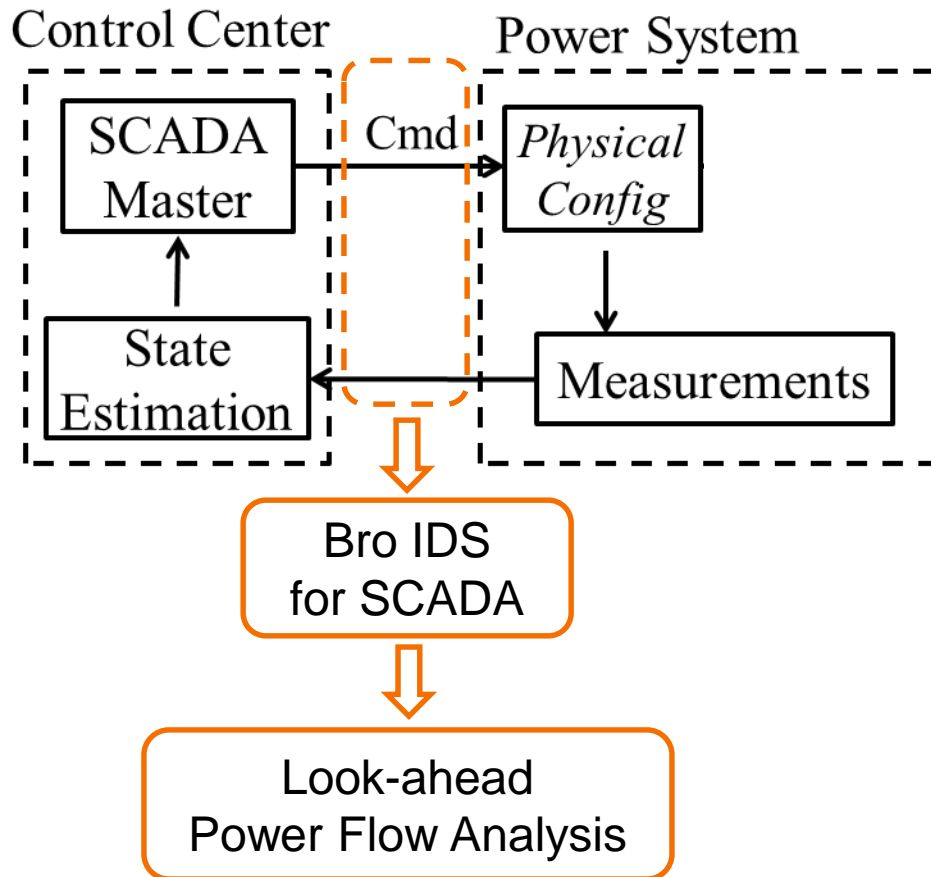
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 - Augment network IDS with power flow analysis
 - Monitor network payloads to identify control commands
 - Invoke look-ahead power flow analysis to evaluate the physical consequence of a command's execution

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Physical Infrastructure

- Develop **semantic analysis framework**
 - Augment network IDS with power flow analysis
 - Monitor network payloads to identify control commands
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 - Monitor sensor measurements to identify corruptions

LOW LATENCY DETECTION

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- Adapt AC power flow analysis to balance detection latency and accuracy
 - Allow timely responses before system-wide propagation of malicious damage
- Adapt Newton-Raphson algorithm
 - Intelligently reduce the *number of iteration* for different control commands
 - Meet the trade-off between detection accuracy and latency

EVALUATION: DETECTION ACCURACY

- The test-bed configuration
 - Use the case files of IEEE 24-bus, 30-bus, 39-bus, and a 2736-bus system in *Matpower* to evaluate the adapted power flow analysis algorithm
 - Malicious changes: line outage, generation and load modification

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- Compare the detection accuracy in terms of false positive (*FP*) and false negative (*FN*) detection
 - Adapted algorithm (“*Adapted*”) and DC power flow analysis (“*DC*”)

		24-bus	30-bus	39-bus	2736-bus
Adapted	FP	0.0005%	0.78%	0	0
	FN	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.0005%
DC	FP	7.6%	2.6%	6.7%	5.3%
	FN	1.3%	20%	0.3%	1.9%

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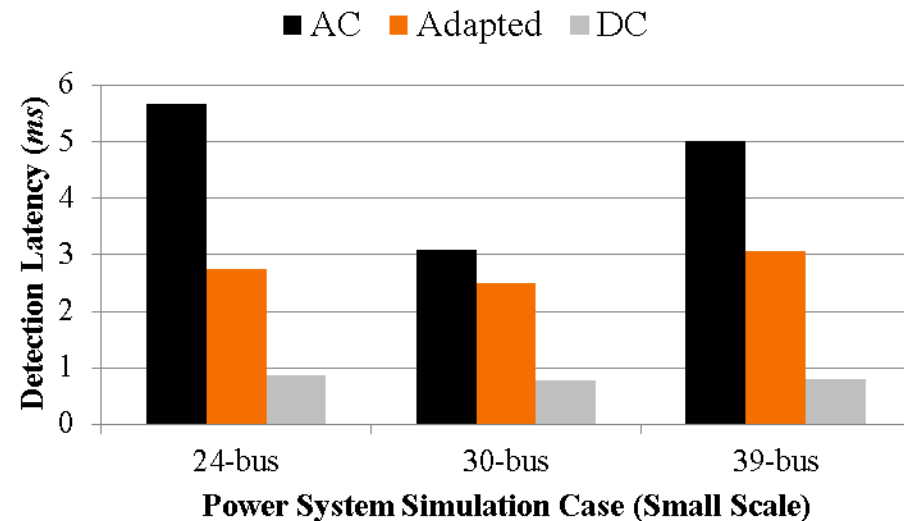
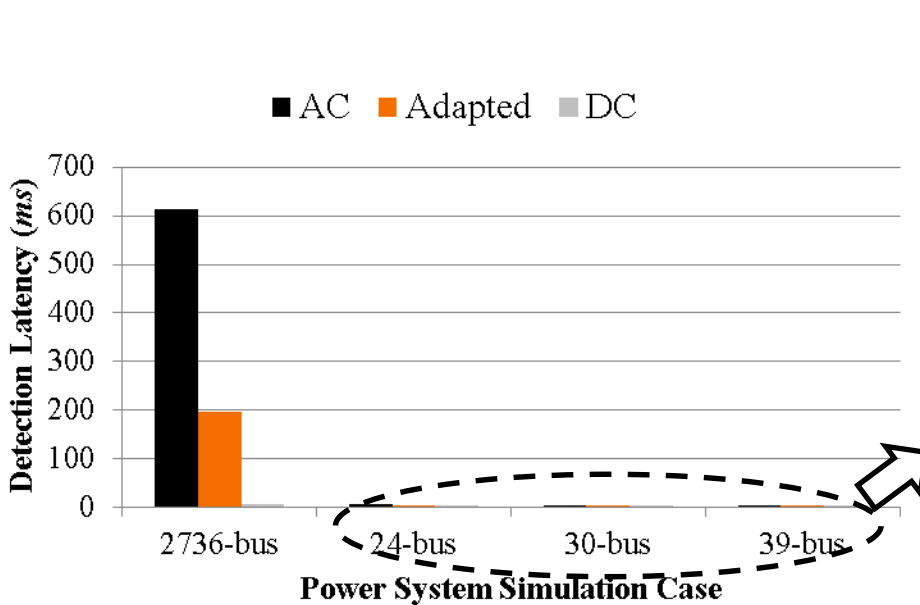
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EVALUATION: DETECTION LATENCY

- Compare detection latency
 - Classical AC power flow analysis (“AC”), the adapted algorithm (“Adapted”), and the DC power flow analysis (“DC”)
 - Reduce the detection latency by up to 60% as compared with AC power flow analysis



CONCLUSION

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- Develop network IDS for proprietary protocols used in power grid
- Augment network IDS with semantic analysis to estimate the physical consequence of command's execution
- Adapt AC power flow analysis algorithm specifically used for the semantic analysis
 - Balance the detection latency and accuracy

THANKS

- The DNP3 and Modbus analyzer are included in Bro's standard distribution (bro.org/download)
- Contacts:
 - Hui Lin: hlin33@illinois.edu
 - Zbigniew Kalbarczyk, kalbarcz@illinois.edu
 - Ravishankar Iyer, rkiyer@illinois.edu
 - Adam Slagell, slagell@illinois.edu
- For further discussion, please stop at our poster “Specification-based IDS for the DNP3 Protocol”