# GPS Spoofing/Mimicking Attacks on UAS: Detection Techniques Based on Machine and Deep Learning

Naima Kaabouch, University of North Dakota

https://github.com/ghilasaissou/GPS Spoofing on UAS



Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) rely primarily on the Global Positioning System (GPS) for navigation. Unencrypted civilian GPS signals, however, are vulnerable to a variety of threats, including jamming, injection, and GPS spoofing/mimicking attacks. This project aims at developing artificial intelligence models for detecting and mitigating several attacks targeting UAS, including GPS spoofing attacks.

## Challenge

- Sophisticated GPS spoofing/mimicking attacks are difficult to detect.
- Development of robust and real-time techniques to detect GPS spoofing attacks.
- Development of fast and light weight models to accommodate the Weight, Power, and Size (SWaP) constraints of UAS.
- Models must also introduce minor hardware and software adjustments to GPS receivers.

### **Solution**

- Collection of real GPS signals and different forms of GPS spoofing attacks with varying stealth and complexity are simulated.
- Multiple features are extracted to build a dataset and train models.
- Performance comparison of supervised and unsupervised machine learning models is investigated using several metrics consistent with the characteristics and constraints of UAS.

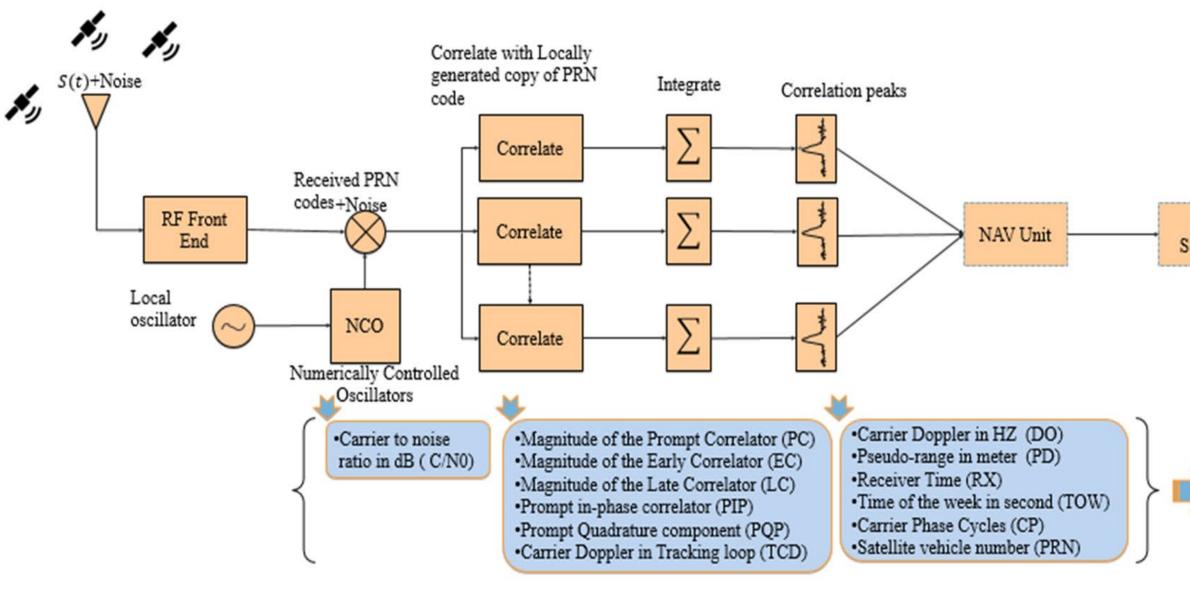


Figure 1: GPS spoofing attack detection model.

		DT	RF	Logistic regression	C-SVM	KNN	GaussianNB
Accuracy(%)		94.01	94.52	75.68	84.67	80.32	44.35
	PFA(%)		13.23	42.46	27.13	34.92	43.51
Precision (%)	Authentic signals	87.84	99.70	81.94	93.17	88.27	34.06
	Simplistic attack	90.79	89.98	76.54	75.77	72.73	52.45
	Intermediate attack	99.97	89.78	67.88	81.58	76.85	60.30
	Sophisticated attack	98.90	99.98	78.14	91.58	86.64	47.11
POD (%)	Simplistic attack	99.20	98.11	83.86	89.98	87.89	19.22
	Intermediate attack	90.13	93.25	70.90	81.38	77.15	38.87
	Sophisticated attack	99.61	99.96	86.63	94.48	90.90	63.19
PMD (%)	Simplistic attack	0.80	1.90	16.14	21.28	12.11	80.78
	Intermediate attack	9.86	6.75	29.1	18.62	22.85	61.13
	Sophisticated attack	0.29	0.04	10.37	5.53	9.10	36.81

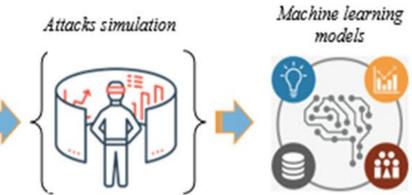
		DT	KNN	RF	C-SVM	LR	GaussianNB
Processing time (s)	Training	1.42	0.42	191.40	354.68	458.59	0.05
	Detection	0.01	13.30	5.72	131.61	0.04	0.02
Memory size (MiB)	Training	1.55	9.44	286.98	8.65	91.51	1.58
	Detection	0.38	1.15	0.02	0.94	0.60	3.77

Figure 2: Example of results.

# **Scientific Impacts**

- Seven (7) papers have been published/submitted in and to technical journals and conference proceedings.
  - o "Dynamic Selection Techniques for Detecting GPS Spoofing Attacks on UAVs." *Sensors* 22, no. 2 (2022): 662.
  - o "Instance-based Supervised Machine Learning Models for Detecting GPS Spoofing Attacks on UAS." Computing and Communication Workshop and Conference (CCWC), pp. 0208-0214. IEEE, 2022.
  - "A Comparative Analysis of the Ensemble Models for Detecting GPS Spoofing attacks on UAVs." IEEE Computing and Communication Workshop and Conference (CCWC), pp. 0310-0315. IEEE, 2022.
  - "Tree-Based Supervised Machine Learning Models for Detecting GPS Spoofing Attacks on UAS." IEEE Ubiquitous Computing, Electronics & Mobile Communication Conference (UEMCON), pp. 0649-0653. IEEE, 2021.
  - "A Comparative Analysis of the Ensemble Models for Detecting GPS Spoofing attacks on UAVs." *Computing and Communication Workshop and Conference (CCWC)*, pp. 0310-0315. IEEE, 2022.
  - "Simulation Testbeds and Frameworks for UAV Performance Evaluation." IEEE International Conference on Electro Information Technology (EIT), pp. 335-341. IEEE, 2021.
  - o "A Dataset for GPS spoofing detection on UAS," Elsevier Data in Brief Journal (Under review).
- A dataset paper is under review to share real GPS and attack samples with researchers to study and test their models.

Models and techniques resulting from this project can be used to detect attacks in other systems and networks.



## **Impact on Educational Outreach**

- Project provided research opportunities to seventeen (17) graduate and undergraduate students.
- Project outcomes shared with hundreds of K-12 and engineering students who attended the 2022 Collegiate Drone Racing Championship and the 2021 UAS Summit & Expo.

### **Impact on Society**

UAS applications are rising in civilian and military domains. However, they are prone to several cyberattacks that can lead to collisions and casualties. Therefore, robust detection and mitigation techniques are highly needed to preserve the safety of civilians and infrastructure.