DHS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A Cybersecurity-based Vision for NextGen Resilient PNT

Civil GPS Service Interface Committee

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

September 21, 2021

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Agenda

- Re-Framing the Problem
- Initial Efforts: Resilient PNT Conformance Framework
- Going Further: Resilient PNT Reference Architecture
- Related S&T Products
  - GPS Whitelist Development Guide
  - PNT Integrity Library + enhancement
- Links & Resources

Acronyms
- PNT: Positioning, Navigation, and Timing
- GPS: Global Positioning System
- GNSS: Global Navigation Satellite System
- IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

Re-Framing the Problem to Cybersecurity

- PNT receivers are always listening, ingesting, and processing PNT signals.
- This is equivalent to an “open port” in cybersecurity, which is a major vulnerability in computer systems.

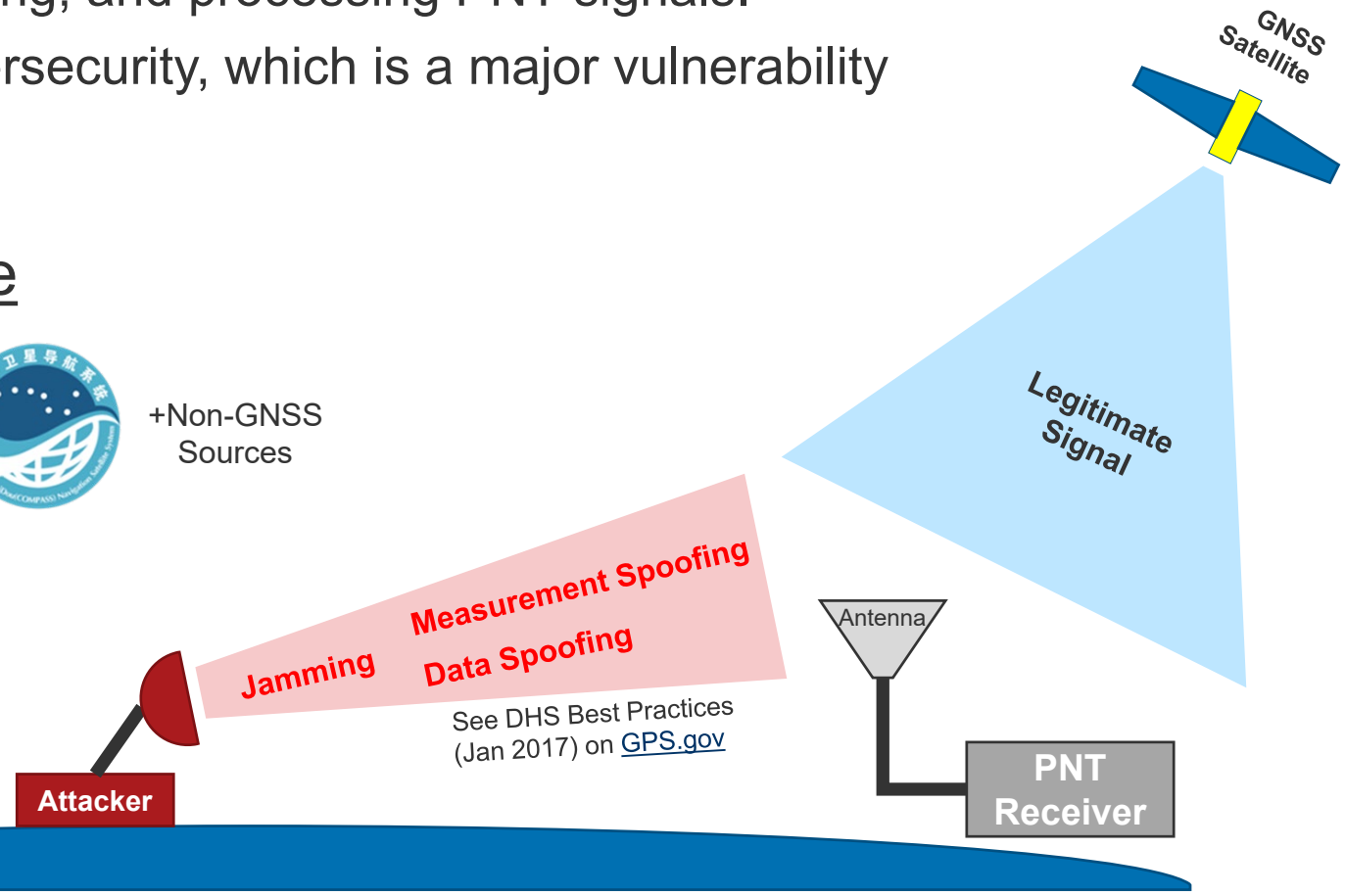
Past

1 Attack Surface

Present & Future

+Non-GNSS Sources

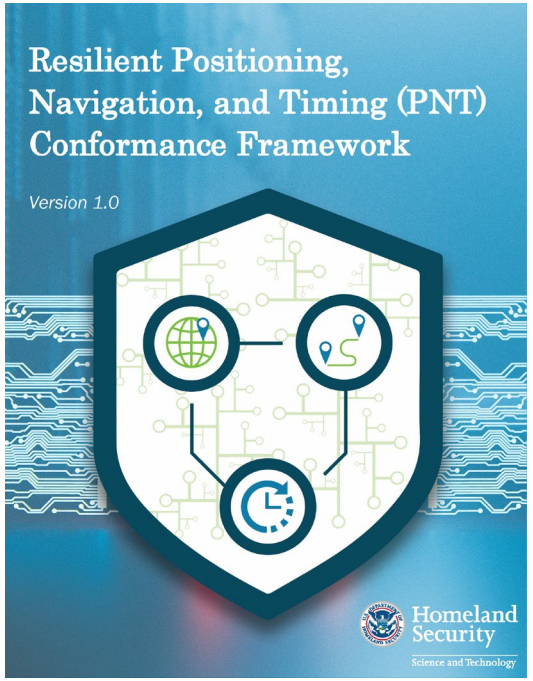
Many Attack Surfaces



Resilient PNT Conformance Framework

Background

- Outcome-based and solution agnostic framework for defining expected behaviors from resilient PNT equipment across four levels of resilience. Published Dec 2020.
- Developed in collaboration with industry and federal interagency partners.



Initial Cybersecurity Steps

- Initial step for introducing cybersecurity concepts to PNT resilience.
- Concepts limited by the outcome-based and agnostic nature of the framework.

IEEE P1952

- Transitioned to IEEE in May 2021 for standards development (P1952).
- https://sagroups.ieee.org/p1952/

Resilient PNT Reference Architecture

- **Holistic Cybersecurity-based Approach to Resilient PNT Architectures**
  - Focuses on future paradigm of multi-PNT ecosystems and complex threat environments.
  - Fully embraces cybersecurity principles for a holistic approach for dealing with present and future PNT threats.

- **Resilient PNT Reference Architecture**
  - Beyond the scope of the Conformance Framework
  - More concrete application of cybersecurity concepts

- **Status**
  - Document planned for publication by January 2022.

Embracing Cybersecurity Concepts

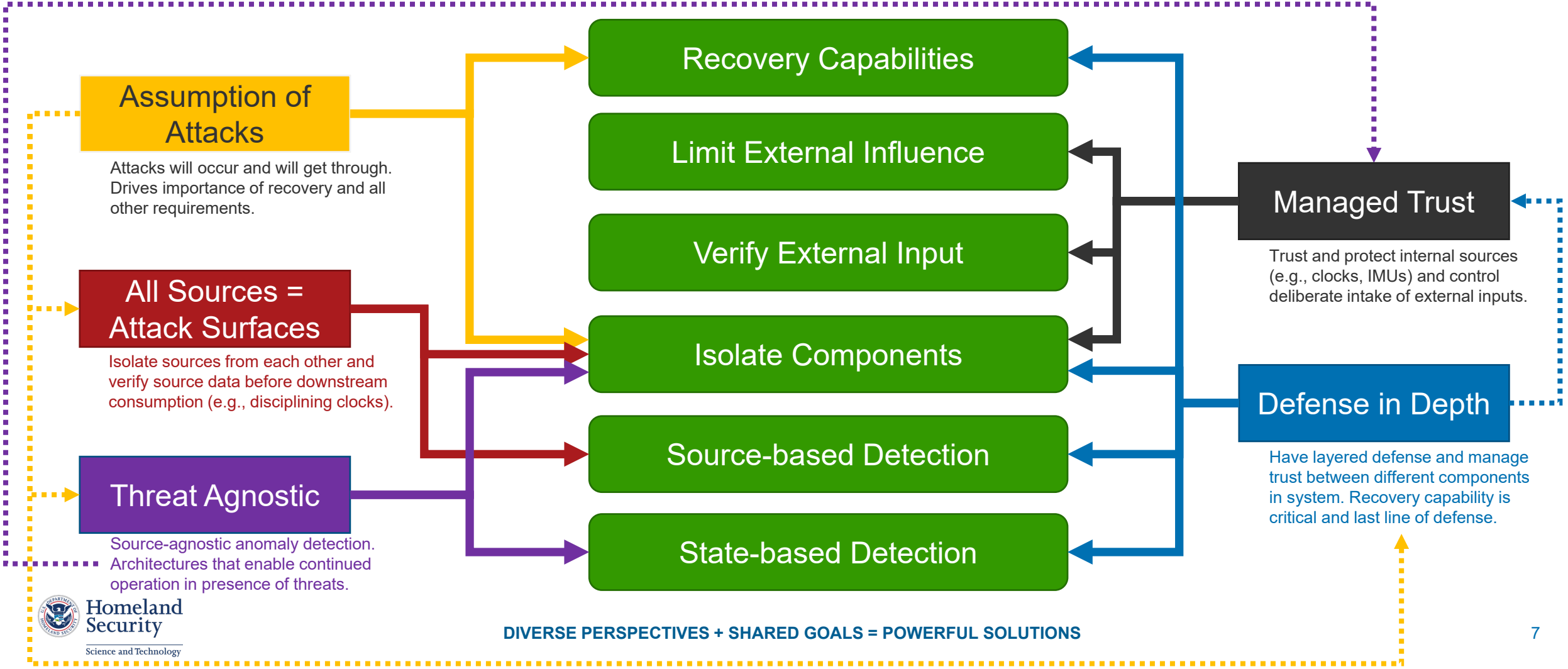
Current (Initial) Generation of Resilient PNT

- Emphasis on detection and validation.
- Automated responses to threat detection.

Additional Concepts for NextGen Resilient PNT

- Assuming attacks will occur and get through
- Recognizing every external PNT sources as an attack surface
- Adapting “Zero Trust Architecture” concepts → Managed Trust of PNT Components
- Defense in Depth
- Proactive and Agnostic Approach to Threats (signature-based detection difficult to scale)

Holistic Approach to Resilient Architectures



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Related S&T Products

- **GPS Whitelist Development Guide**
  - Software assurance approach to addressing potential vulnerabilities & increasing GPS receiver reliability
  - Can help with implementation of data-related requirements in the Resilient PNT Conformance Framework
  - https://www.dhs.gov/publication/gps-receiver-whitelist-development-guide

- **PNT Integrity Library**
  - Modular solution providing end-to-end spoofing detection capability
  - Recent v1.1 release adds GPS data message whitelist checks
  - DIY Demonstration Toolkit release planned for October
  - https://github.com/cisagov/PNT-Integrity

Resource Links

- GPS.gov Resilience Repository
  - https://www.gps.gov/resilience/
- DHS Resilient PNT Conformance Framework
  - https://www.dhs.gov/publication/st-resilient-pnt-conformance-framework
- GPS Whitelist Development Guide
  - https://www.dhs.gov/publication/gps-receiver-whitelist-development-guide
- PNT Integrity Library
  - https://github.com/cisagov/PNT-Integrity
- IEEE P1952 Page
  - https://sagroups.ieee.org/p1952/
- DHS S&T PNT Program
  - https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/pnt-program

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