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Months to Minutes — Command and Control (C2) of Control Systems

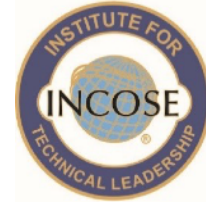
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January 25, 2022



About Me



INCOSE
Technical Leadership
Institute (TLI)
Seventh Cohort

*INCOSE Critical Infrastructure Protection
(CIPWG) Working Group Co-Chair*

*INCOSE Resilient Systems Working
Group Member*



*Previously briefed the
Chesapeake Chapter in 2021...*

Virtual LIVE On-Line Lecture

The Case for Control Systems Cybersecurity Capability

Aleksandra Scalco

- SE Table talk: 6:00 – 6:45 pm
- Member Meeting: 6:45 pm
- Lecture: 7:00 – 8:00 pm

FREE & ONLINE

Watch on **Webcast Link will be sent to Registrants.**

Oct 20th




INCOSE Agenda



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- Control Systems Cybersecurity — Background
- Research Objectives — Remediation of Vulnerability
- Measuring Disagreement as a Means of Identifying Vulnerabilities
- Case Study — Water Treatment Facility & Use Case Protect
- Future Work

UNCERTAINTY



Disagreement → Misalignment → Vulnerability
The vulnerability induced by misalignment may be greater than innate system design vulnerability.



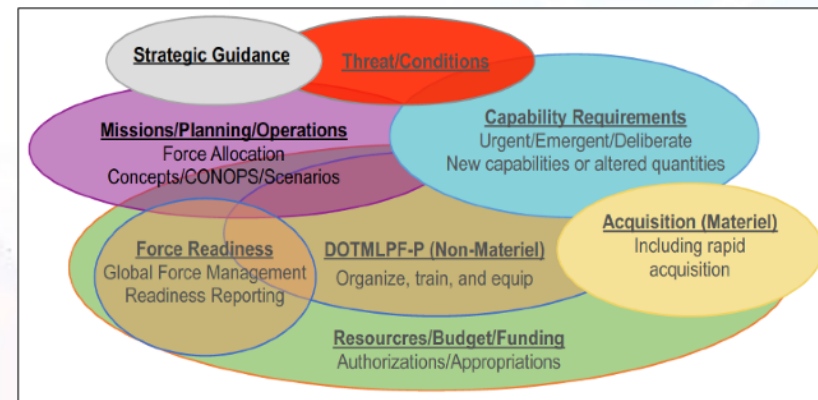
Uncertainty and Lack of Agreement



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- Eight (8) domains are used to assess and solve warfighting gaps (DOD, 2021)
 - DOTMLPF-P. Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education, Personnel, Facilities, and Policy
- Uncertainty and lack of professional agreement about how Control Systems (CS) are defended from cyber events across DOTMLPF-P lead to a misalignment resulting in deficient C2.
- Measurement of uncertainty and agreement can be used to remediate vulnerability.

- Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction (CJCSI) 3170.01 establishes policies for the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS).
- JCIDS supports the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) in identifying and assessing joint military capability needs.



[1] Department of Defense (DOD), Acquisition Notes, “JCIDS Process,” 2021. URL: <https://acqnotes.com/acqnote/acquisitions/cjcsi-3170> [retrieved March 2021].



Top Gun

“On March 3, 1969, the United States Navy established an elite school for the top one percent of its pilots. Its purpose was to teach the lost art of aerial combat and to ensure that the handful of men who graduated were the best fighter pilots in the world. They succeeded. Today, the Navy calls it Fighter Weapons School. The flyers call it: TOP GUN.”
(Top Gun, 1986)

**Table 1. Enemy Aircraft to US Aircraft
Est. Loss Ratio**

World War II	14:1
Korean Conflict	12:1
Vietnam War (Pre-Top Gun)	2.5:1
Vietnam War with Top Gun Training & Other Measures	13:1

Table 1. [2] BARANEK, D. Origins of Topgun. HistoryNet.

The Best of the Best.

Image: Shutterstock, Shutterstock.com, 2021.
[3] PEDERSEN, D. 2019. Topgun An American Story, New York, Hachette Books.

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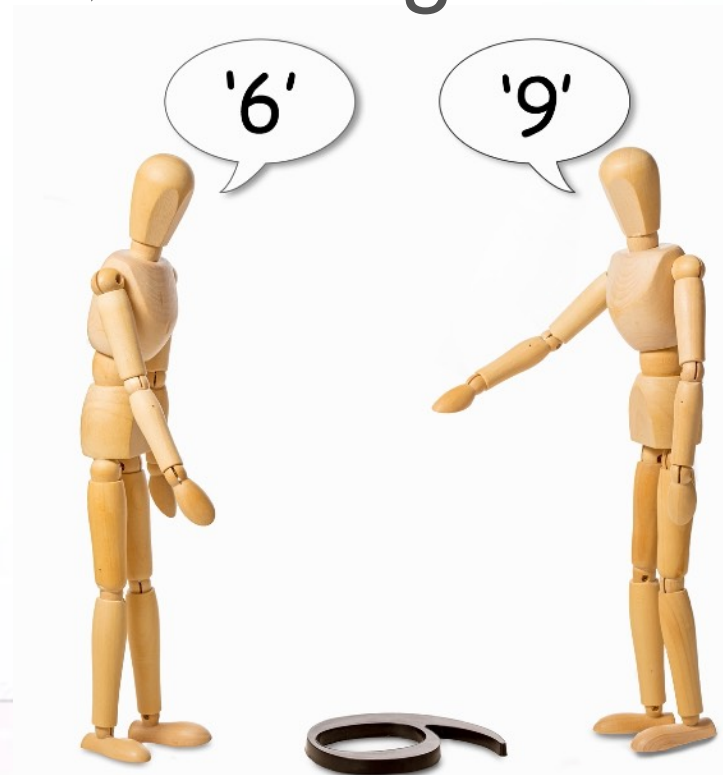


Measuring Disagreement as a Means of Identifying Vulnerabilities



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Disagreement ➡ Misalignment ➡ Vulnerability



The vulnerability induced by misalignment may be greater than innate system design vulnerability.

Vulnerability ➡ Alignment ➡ Agreement



Control System Cybersecurity and Emerging Policy



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- **Control physical world processes**
- **Safety**
- **Lifecycle of 30+ years**
- **Purpose-built**
- **Near-real time**
- **Zero downtime**

- U.S. House Resolution 1833 (H.R. 1833) "Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Industrial Control Systems Capabilities Enhancement Act" introduced in March 2021 (Ref. [4])
- Presidential Action — Executive Order (E.O.) 14028 on Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity, May 12, 2021 [5]
- S. 1605 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022, SEC. 1505. Operational Technology and Mission-Relevant Terrain in Cyberspace, December 21, 2021. [6]
- Presidential Action — National Security Memorandum (NSM) to improve cybersecurity of National Security, Department of Defense (DOD), and Intelligence Community Systems, January 19, 2022. [7]

[4] U.S. House, House Resolution 1833 (H.R. 1833) "DHS Industrial Control Systems Capabilities Enhancement Act of 2021," 2021.

[5] BIDEN, P. J. 2022a. Executive Order on Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity. *In*: OFFICE, E. (ed.). Washington, D.C.: Executive Office.

[6] 117th Congress, Congressional Bill, National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022

[7] BIDEN, P. J. 2022b. National Security Memorandum to Improve the Cybersecurity of National Security, Department of Defense, and Intelligence Community Systems. *In*: OFFICE, E. (ed.). Washington, D.C.: Executive Office.



INCOSE 2020 Global Pandemic > Remote Workers



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- Essential critical infrastructure workers increased remote access operations.
- Lack of cybersecurity training, plans, or tools to ensure cybersecurity rules were followed. (Tasheva, 2021).
- Businesses extend remote control access to operations from 9 percent to 60 percent in three months. (Ribeiro, 2021).
- During the same period, cybercrime ransomware attacks were estimated to have increased by 116% between January and May 2020. (Networks, 2021).



[8] TASHEVA, I. 2021. Cybersecurity post-COVID-19: Lessons learned and policy recommendations. *European View*.

[9] RIBEIRO, A. 2021. Ransomware strikes rise sharply, fueled by profit potential. *Industrial Cyber*.

[10] NETWORKS, N. 2021. What You Need to Know to Fight Ransomware and IoT Vulnerabilities Including Recommendations for Enhancing Cyber Resilience. *OT/IoT Security Report*. nozominetworks.com: Nozomi Networks, Inc.



Misalignment Impacts of Command & Control (C2) Loss of Control System Cybersecurity



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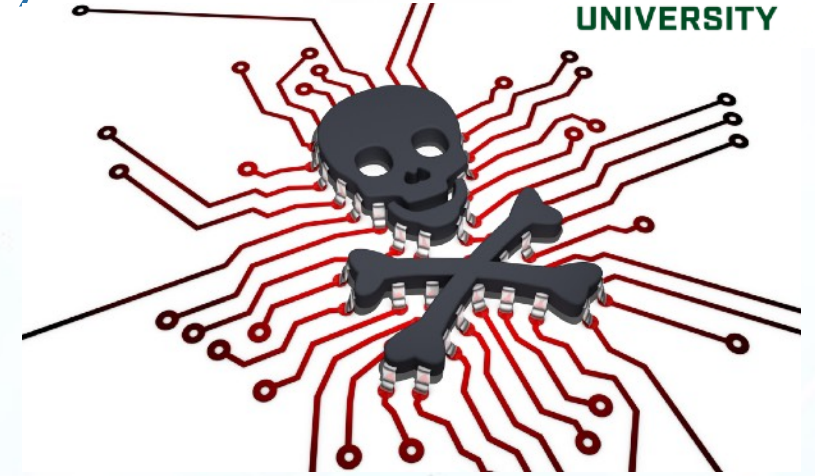
- **Mission.** Loss of command and control of mission functions.
- **Physical.** Personnel injury or loss of life, loss of assets, environmental damage.
- **Economic.** Unavailability of critical infrastructure (i.e., electrical power, fuel, water, etc.) beyond the systems sustaining direct and physical damage.
- **Social.** Potential loss of public confidence.



INCOSE Potential Consequences of Cyber Event

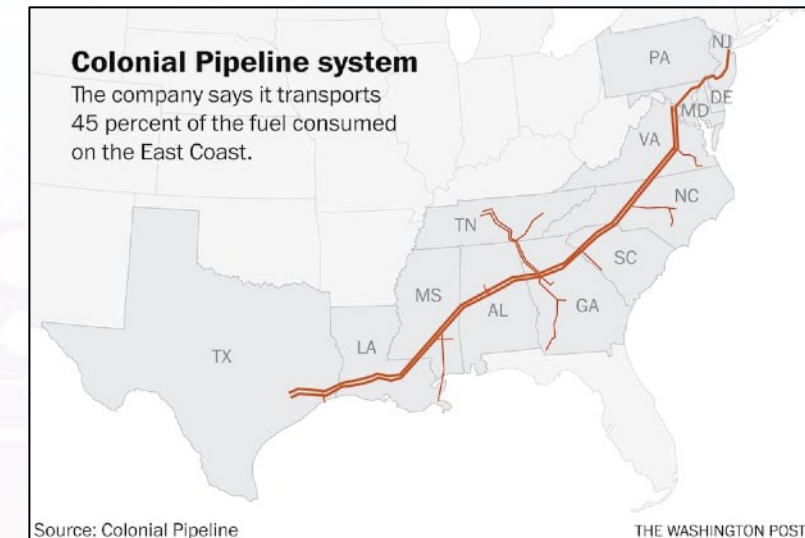


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Images: Shutterstock, Shutterstock.com, 2021.

- Impact on national security — facilitate an act of terrorism
- Reduction or loss of ability to conduct mission (one or multiple sites simultaneously)
- Injury or death of operators and other persons
- Damage to expensive equipment and systems
- Release, diversion, or loss of hazardous materials
- Contamination of product and physical plant
- Loss of proprietary or confidential information
- Loss of organizational image or customer/public confidence
- Long term Environmental damage
- Violation of regulatory requirements
- Criminal or civil legal liabilities



[11] TURTON, W. & MEHROTRA, K. 2021. Hackers Breached Colonial Pipeline Using Compromised Password. *Bloomberg*.



System Variables



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Context-sensitive Dynamic Classes

- View of the system designer/operator
- Critical infrastructure sector
- System layer in a reference architecture
- System governance
- System mission
- Set of classes dynamically classified at the time of operation rather than as a static set of classes



[12] A. Scalco, S. Simske (Ph.D.), "Engineering and Development of a Critical Infrastructure Cyber Defense Capability for Highly Context-Sensitive Dynamic Classes — Part 1, Engineering and Part 2, Development," Journal of the Homeland Defense & Security Information Analysis Center (HDIAC), Volume 7, Number 1, June 15, 2020. Link: <https://www.hdiac.org/journal-article/more-situational-awareness-for-industrial-control-systems-mosaics-engineering-and-development-of-a-critical-infrastructure-cyber-defense-capability-for-highly-context-sensitive-dynamic-class>



Nature Review Vulnerability — Alignment — Agreement



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- *In Nature, schooling behavior, fish appear to synchronize swimming in coordination as a single organism*

- *Coordinated Movement
Alignment at Impressive Speed*



- *Vulnerability*

- *Protection*

- *Shared Situational Awareness*

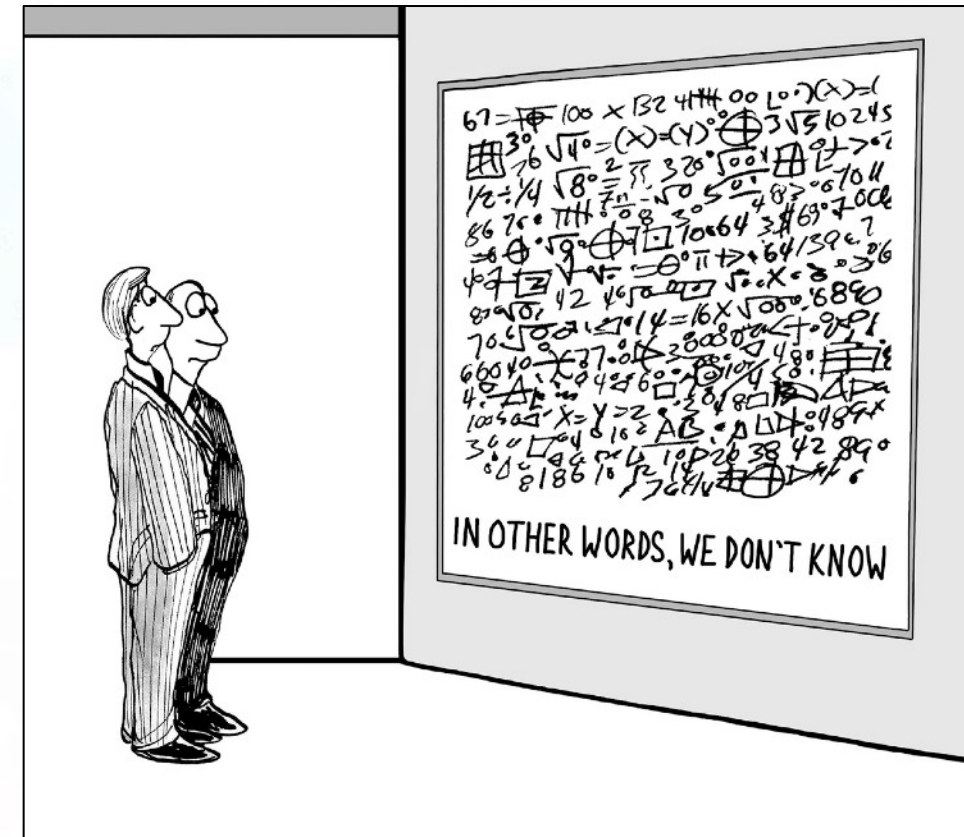


Literature Review



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- Most companies state cybersecurity for OT/ICS as a significant priority (Schwab and Poujol, 2018).
- IT and OT professionals possess varying goals, processes, tools, and language. (Schwab and Poujol, 2018).
- The term "cybersecurity" is one of the least understood within the DoD. (Span et al., 2018).
- No reinforcement of complementary safety and cybersecurity measures (i.e., activity logging for attack detection and accident anticipation); friction where safety and cybersecurity requirements are conflicting. (Kavallieratos et al.).
- Confusion as new terms emerge to describe new technologies and capabilities without clearly distinguishing the relationships of terms (e.g., IIoT, SCADA, ICS). (Kayan et al., 2021).





Research Hypothesis



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- Hypothesis — Test whether there is agreement by professionals on how to achieve cybersecurity for control systems
- Null hypothesis (H_0) — There is consistent agreement on how to achieve cybersecurity for control systems is by all professionals
- Alternate hypothesis (H_a)— The degree of agreement by professionals on how to achieve cyber security for control systems varies (examples)
 - By occupation (e.g., engineer, computer scientist, technician),
 - By topic (e.g., network system, incident response, cyber security),
 - By the amount of experience (i.e., number of years of experience in the field),
 - By type of experience (i.e., roles performed and at what level in the architecture),
 - By governance of the asset-owning organization they support (e.g., tools, methods, policies, processes, and procedures).



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- Empirical, Quantitative Research Data
- 203 multiple-choice questions + 1 open response
- Data Collection Method
 - Website
 - Word-of-mouth recruiting
 - SurveyMonkey platform
- No Incentives
- No time limit to responding
- Confidentiality and Risks
- Timeline and Limitations
 - August 2020 — February 2021
- Sampling Bias and Size
 - Total estimated CPS/CS population 5,000
 - Objective +/- 10% margin of error
 - Objective response of 100 participants
 - Expected 25% informed or invited would respond
 - # of respondents needed/expected % of response rate
 - 400 people needed to learn about the survey opportunity based on the expected response rate

Colorado State University (CSU) Institutional Review Board (IRB) Protocol Number: 20-10209H.

Research Director Steve Simske, steve.simske@colostate.edu, Aleksandra Scalco, ascalo@colostate.edu, or RICRO_IRB@mail.colostate.edu.



Analysis Plan and Hypothesis Test



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- Analysis Plan
 - Data collection to test the hypothesis (August 2020 — February 2021)
 - Performed statistical test
 - Analyzed results
 - Present findings and future work
- Hypothesis Test
 - Measure responses by professionals to questions about cyber security
 - Likert Scale — Examine how strongly participants are in agreement or disagreement with statements along with a neutral option on a 3 - 5 point scale with anchors
 - Measure R^2 values to show sensitivity in the workforce



Nine (9) Sections of Questions



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- 1. Participant Demographics** — Participant data (e.g., Occupational Field, role, employment sector, education, age, gender)
- 2. Network Systems** — Knowledge of network systems in the organization
- 3. Infrastructure** — Knowledge of facilities and infrastructure used in operations
- 4. Incident Response** — How the participant's organization handles a data breach or cyberattack, including the way consequences of the attack or breach (the "incident") are managed
- 5. Resources** — Process by which materials, energy, services, staff, knowledge, or other assets are made available
- 6. Training** — Representative training and certification courses related to cyber-physical systems/control systems
- 7. Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSA)** — attributes that represent is a body of information applied directly to the performance of a function
- 8. Red Team** — Ability to evaluate Computer Network Defense Service Providers (CNDSPs) before live play on networks
- 9. Security Considerations** — Knowledge of cyber security practices (e.g., penetration testing, encryption)

[14] Simske, S. and Scalco, A., "Cyber-physical Systems/Control System (CPS/CS) Workforce Questionnaire," 2019. Colorado State University (CSU) Institutional Review Board (IRB), Protocol Number 20-102009H.



Questionnaire Mean *



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Mean
126

Mean
145

Mean
170

- Total Number of Participants: 187
- Total Who Completed All 203 Questions: 100
- For all responses, the Mean = 126
- * Remove responses of those who stopped by question 2 (i.e., consent and occupational field), then the Mean = 145
- * Remove responses of those who stopped by question 24 (i.e., profile questions), then the Mean = 170

Question	Responses	Total
203	100	20300
180	1	180
166	2	332
110	6	660
88	2	176
76	3	228
68	2	136
47	18	846
32	1	32
24	27	648
2	25	50
		23588
23588 / 187	126.139037	

Table 13: All Responses Mean = 126

Question	Responses	Total
203	100	20300
180	1	180
166	2	332
110	6	660
88	2	176
76	3	228
68	2	136
47	18	846
32	1	32
24	27	648
		23538
23538/162	145.296296	

Table 14: Responses without those who stopped at 2 (only opened questionnaire)
Mean = 145

Question	Responses	Total
203	100	20300
180	1	180
166	2	332
110	6	660
88	2	176
76	3	228
68	2	136
47	18	846
32	1	32
		22890
22890/135	169.555556	

Table 15: Responses without those who stopped at 2 and those who stopped at 24 (only responded to profile questions)
Mean = 170



The Analytic Process



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Disagreement ➡ Misalignment ➡ Vulnerability

VULNERABILITY

$$LE = - \sum_{i=1}^{n_{bins}} p(i) \cdot \log_2(p(i))$$

(Eq. 1)

$$COV(LE) = \sigma(LE)/\mu(LE)$$

(Eq. 2)





R² values to show sensitivity in the workforce



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- If R² value is < 0.3 , this is considered as non or very weak effect size
- If R² value is $0.3 < r < 0.5$, this value is considered as moderate effect size
- If R² value is $r < 0.7$, this value is considered as strong effect size

R² value < 0.3
Weak

R² value $0.3 < r < 0.5$
Moderate

R² value $r < 0.7$
Strong



Vulnerability Induced by Misalignment



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Where correlation is poor, these professionals will be at odds.

**R² value < 0.7
Strong**

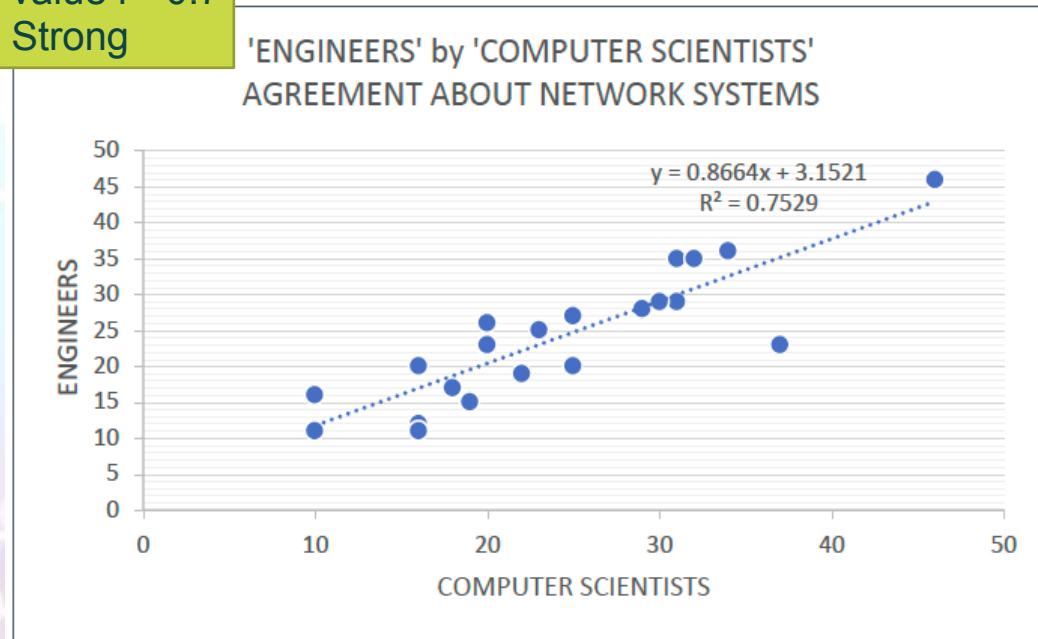


Figure 1 Correlation between Engineers and Computer Scientists for Network Systems Questions

**R² value < 0.3
Weak**

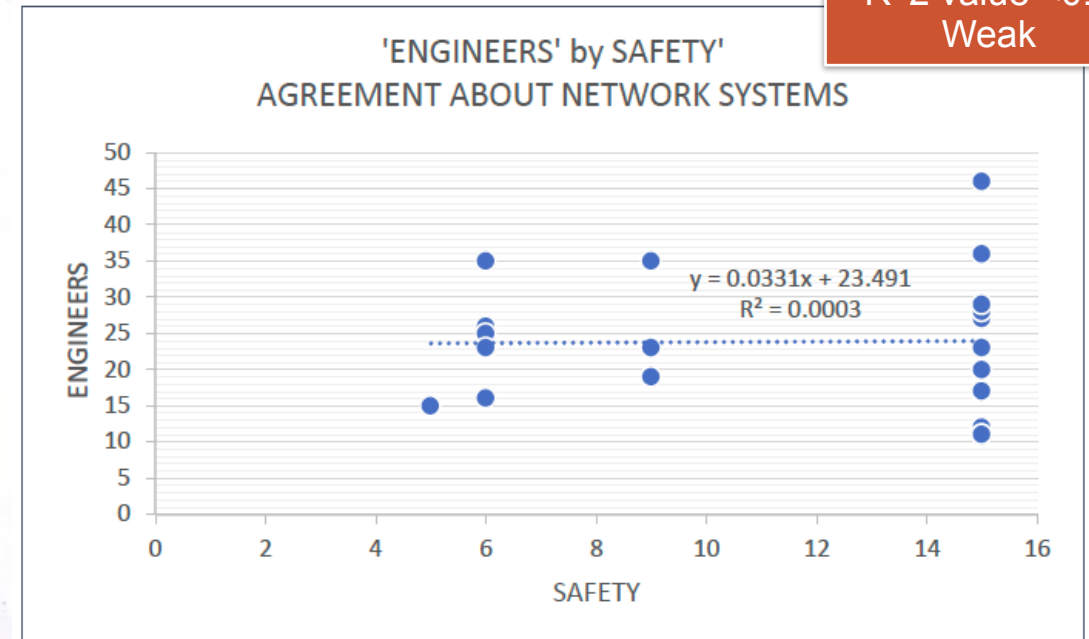
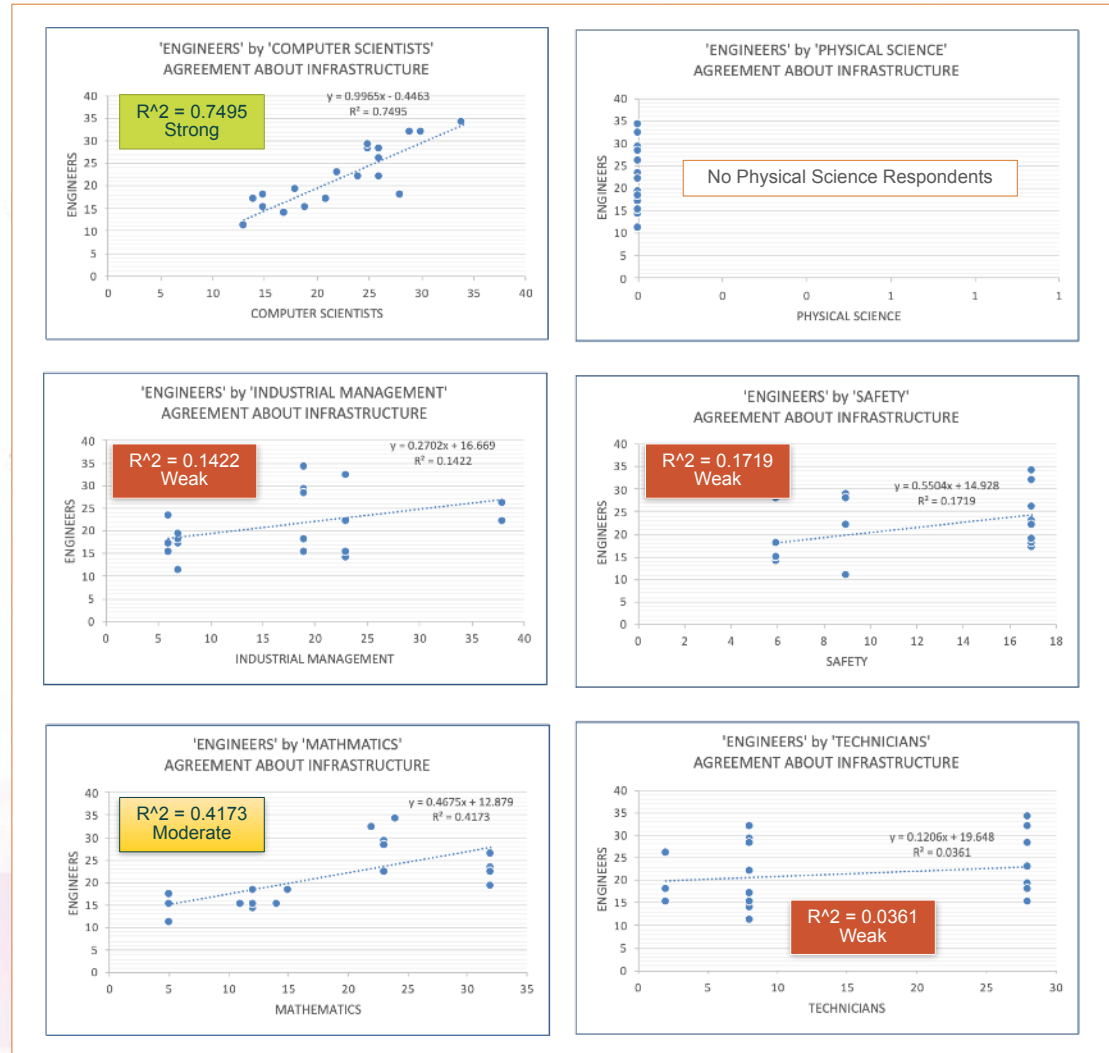
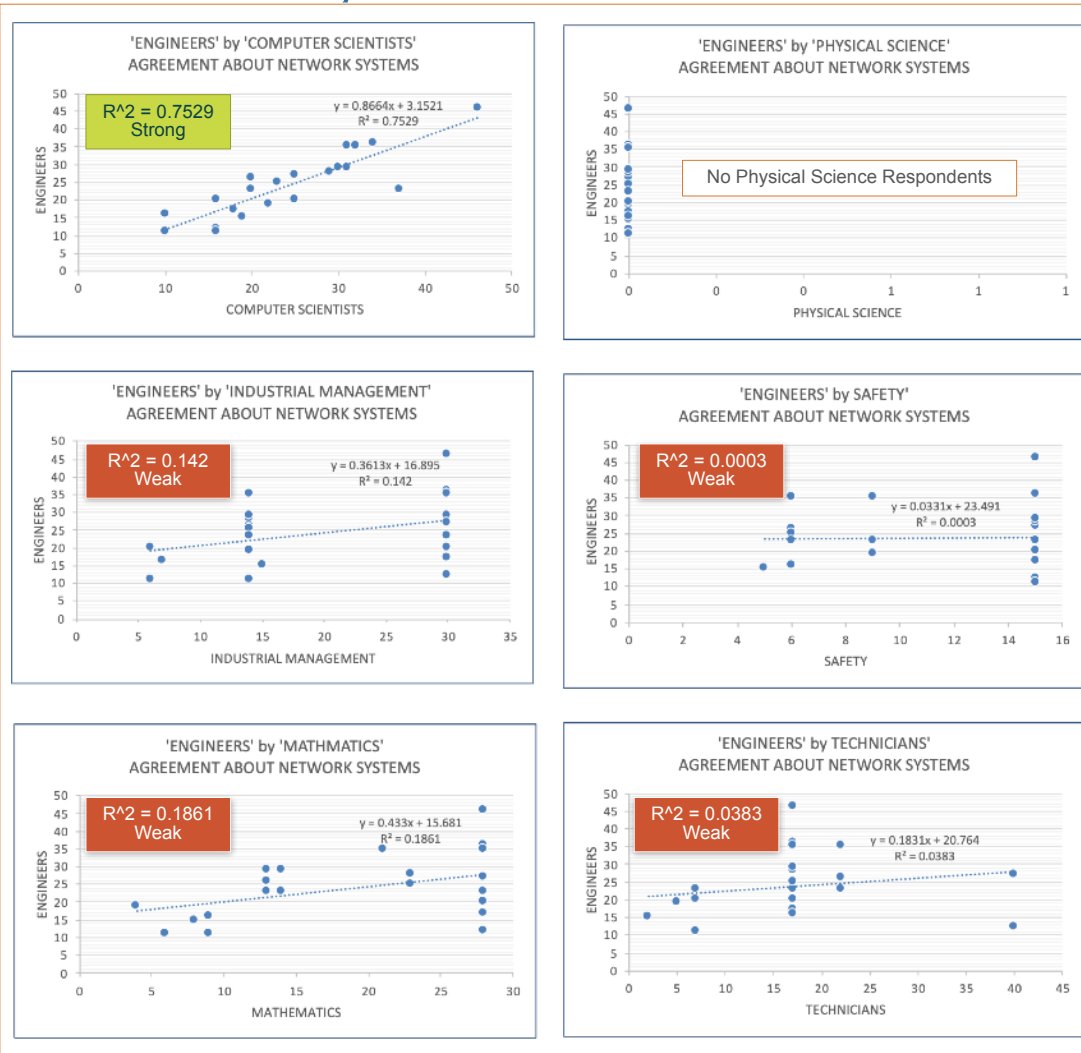


Figure 2 Correlation between Engineers and Safety Personnel for Network Systems Questions



Engineers Agreement About Network Systems

Engineers Agreement About Infrastructure



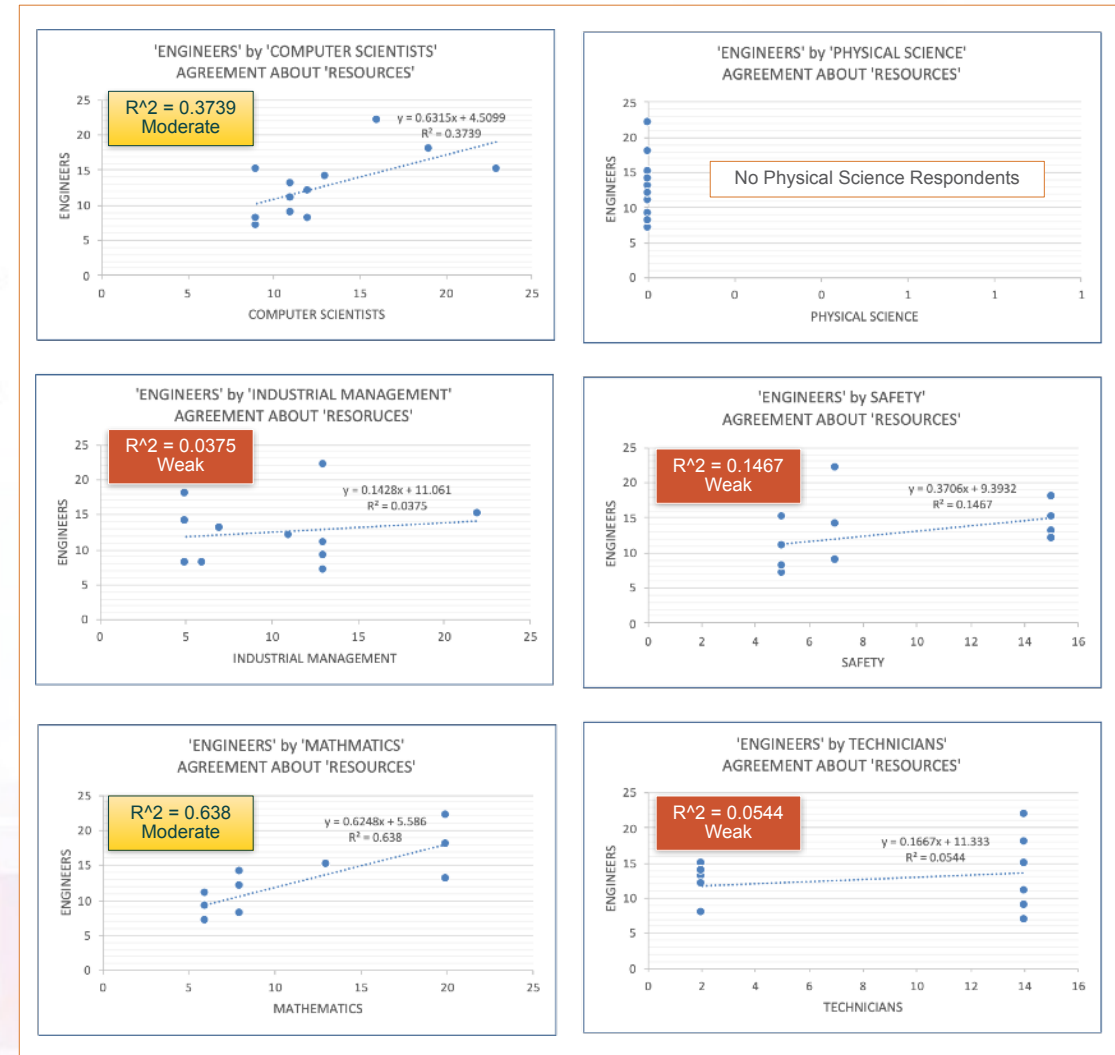
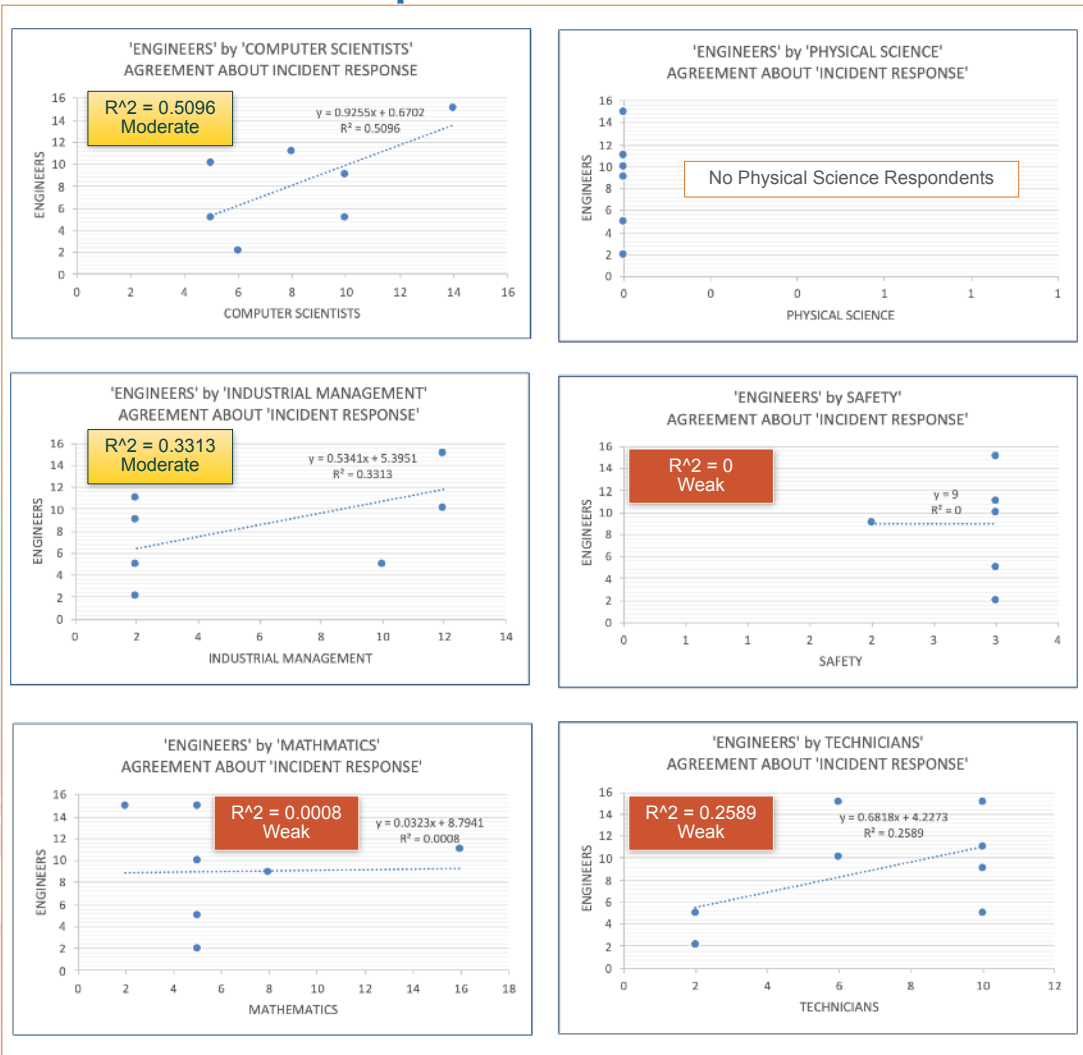
• Figure 4: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Network Systems, Questions 25 — 47 (Scalco, 2021)

• Figure 5: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Infrastructure, Questions 48 — 68 (Scalco, 2021)



Engineers Agreement About Incident Response

Engineers Agreement About Resources

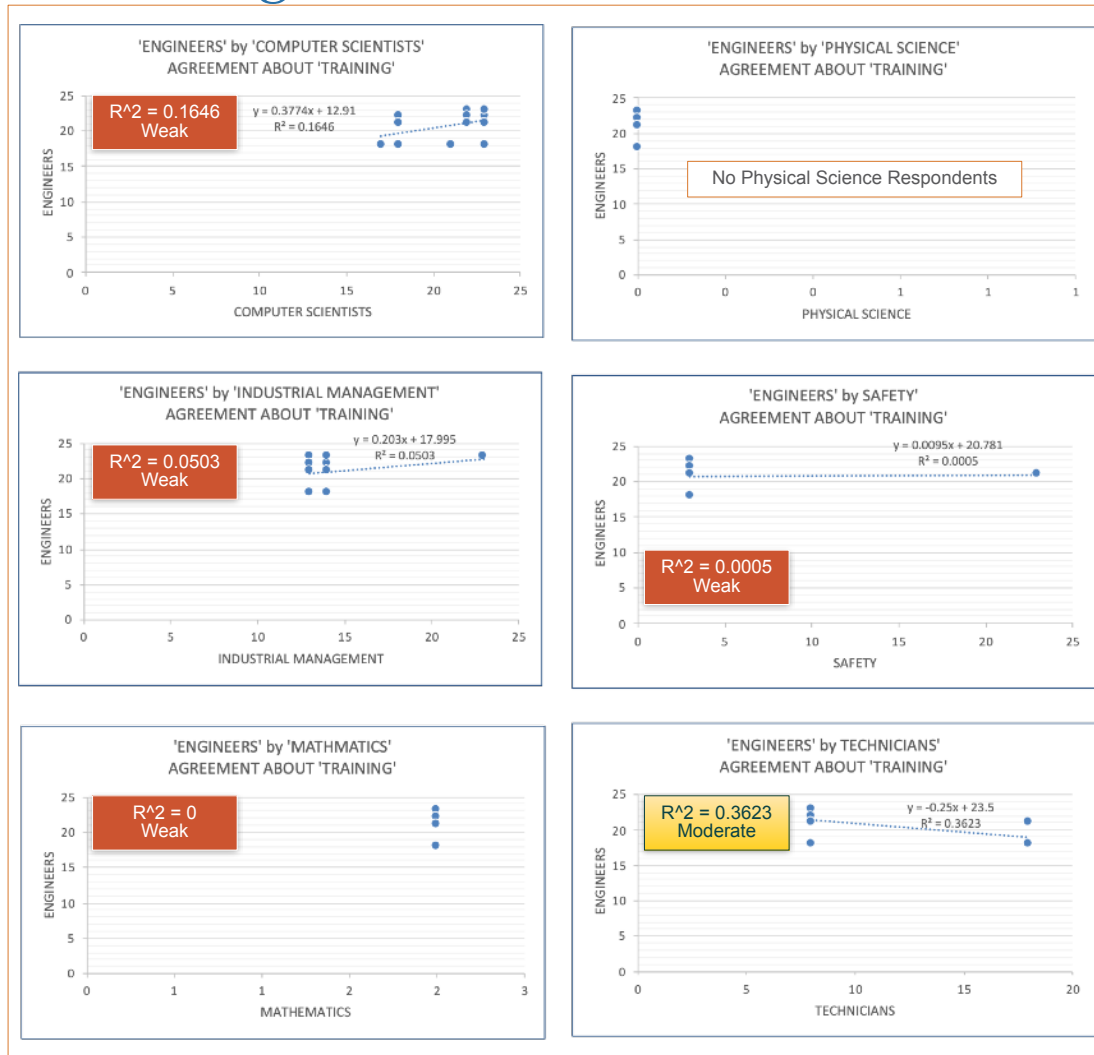


• Figure 6: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Incident Response, Questions 69 — 76 (Scalco, 2021)

• Figure 7: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Resources, Questions 77 — 88 (Scalco, 2021)



Engineers Agreement About Training



Engineers Agreement About KSAs



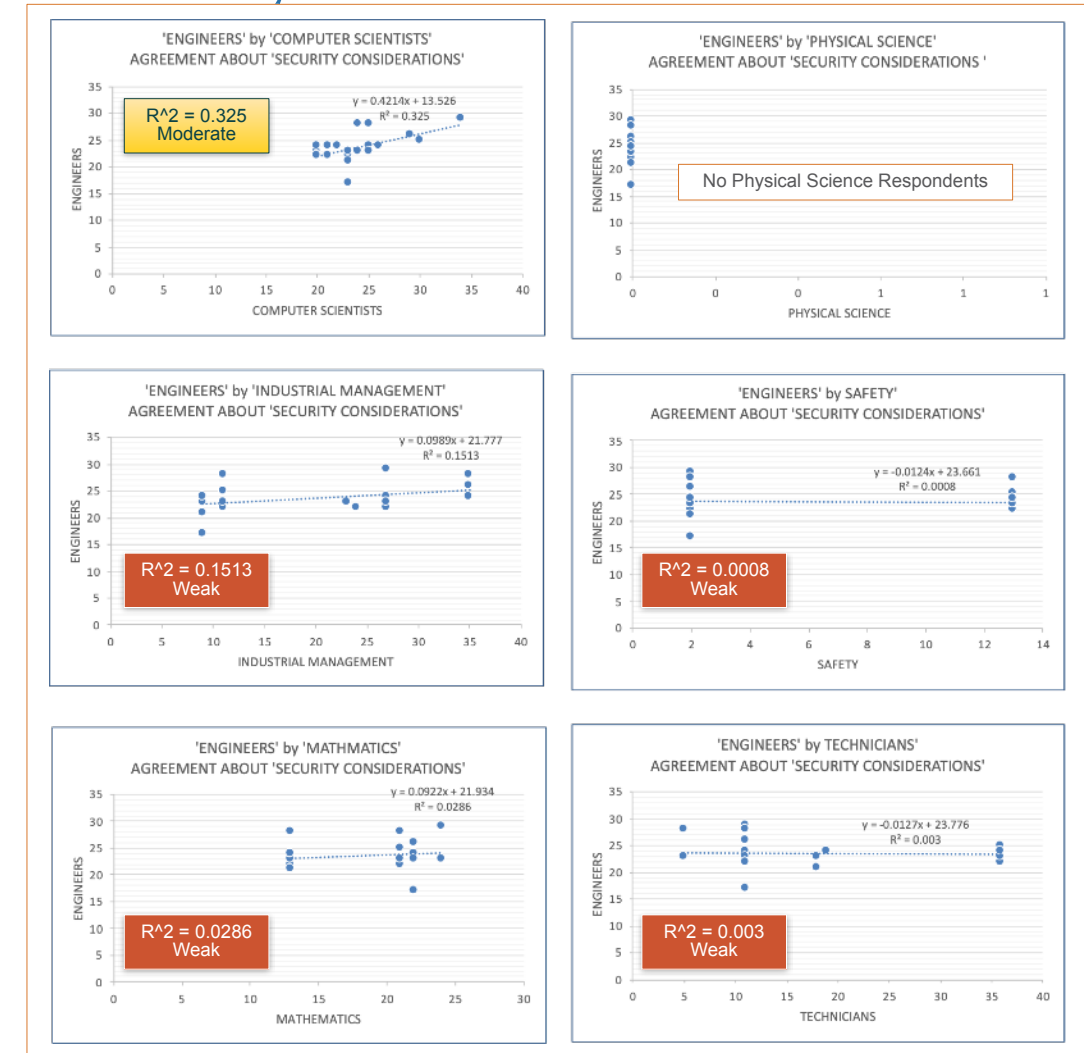
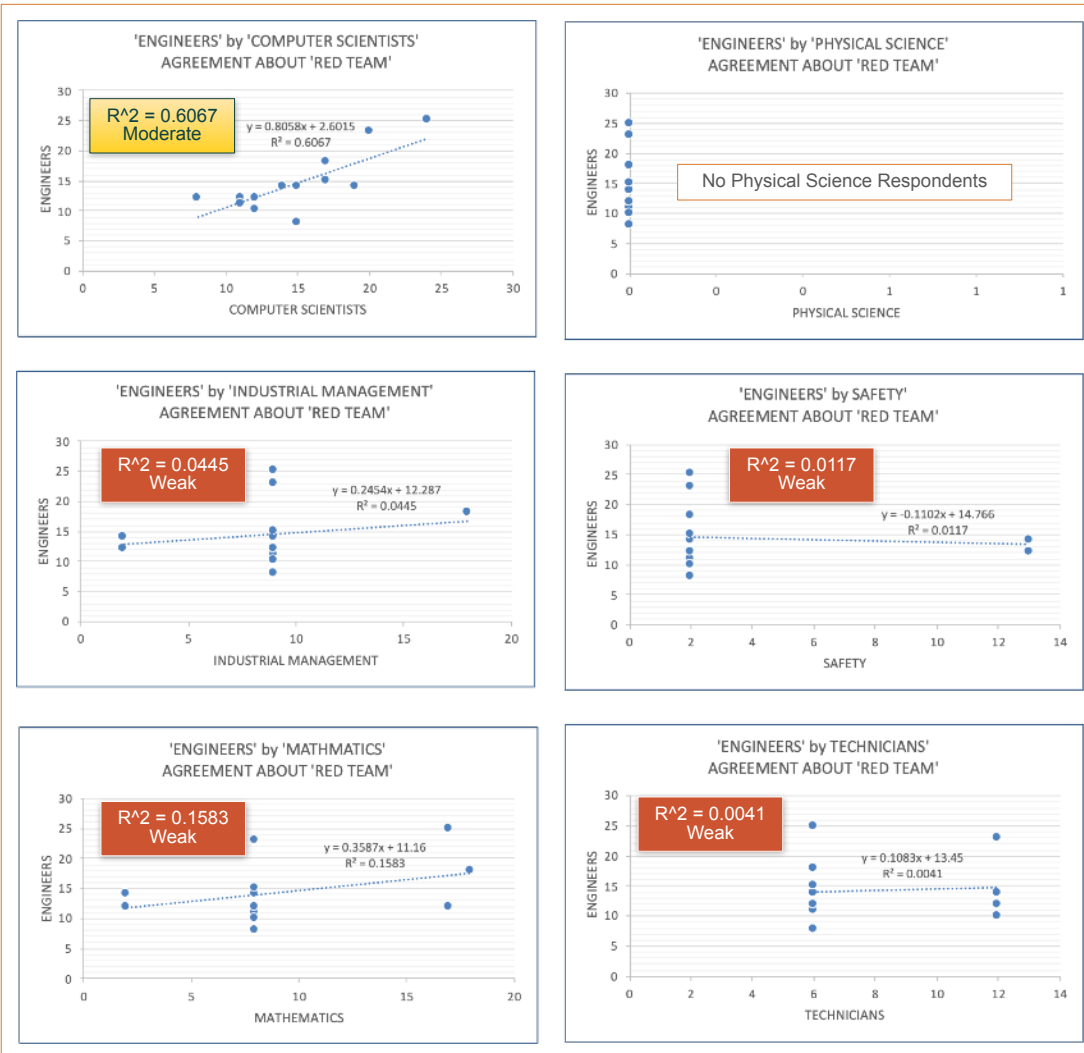
• Figure 8: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Training, Questions 89 — 110 (Scalco, 2021)

• Figure 9: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About KSA, Questions 111 — 166 (Scalco, 2021)



Engineers Agreement About Red Team

Engineers Agreement About Security Considerations

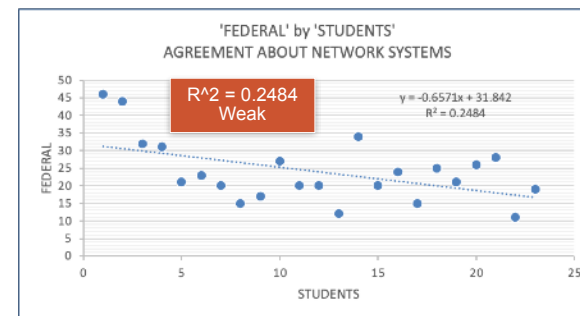
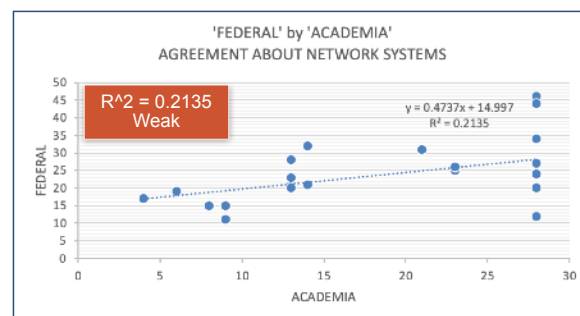
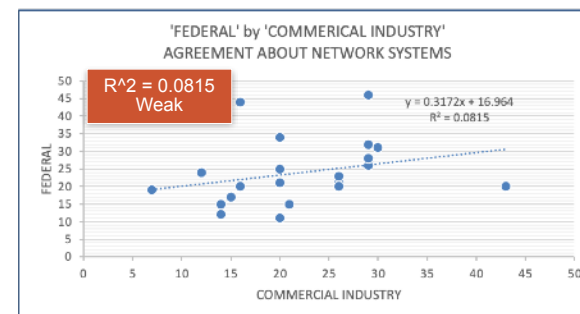
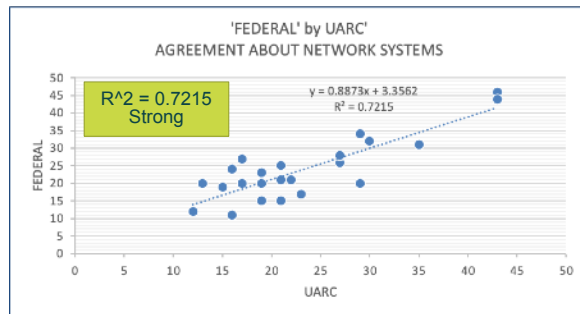
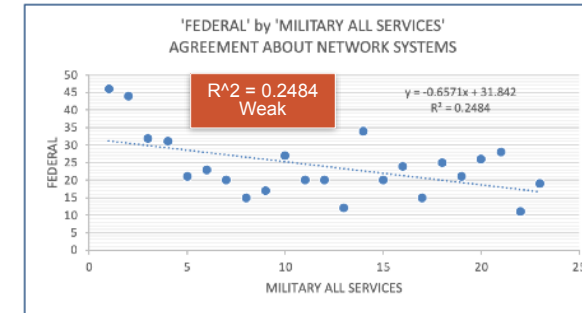
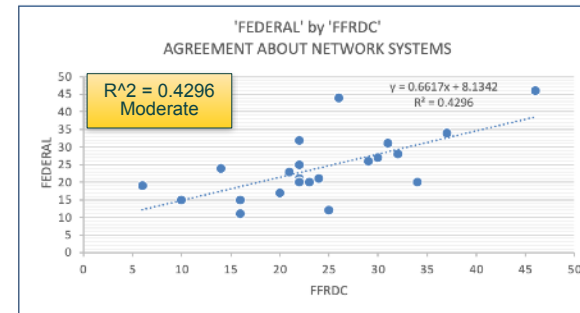
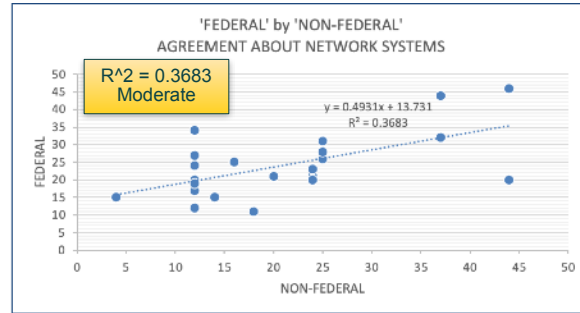


• Figure 10: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Red Team, Questions 167 — 180 (Scalco, 2021)

• Figure 11: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Security Considerations, Questions 181 — 203 (Scalco, 2021)



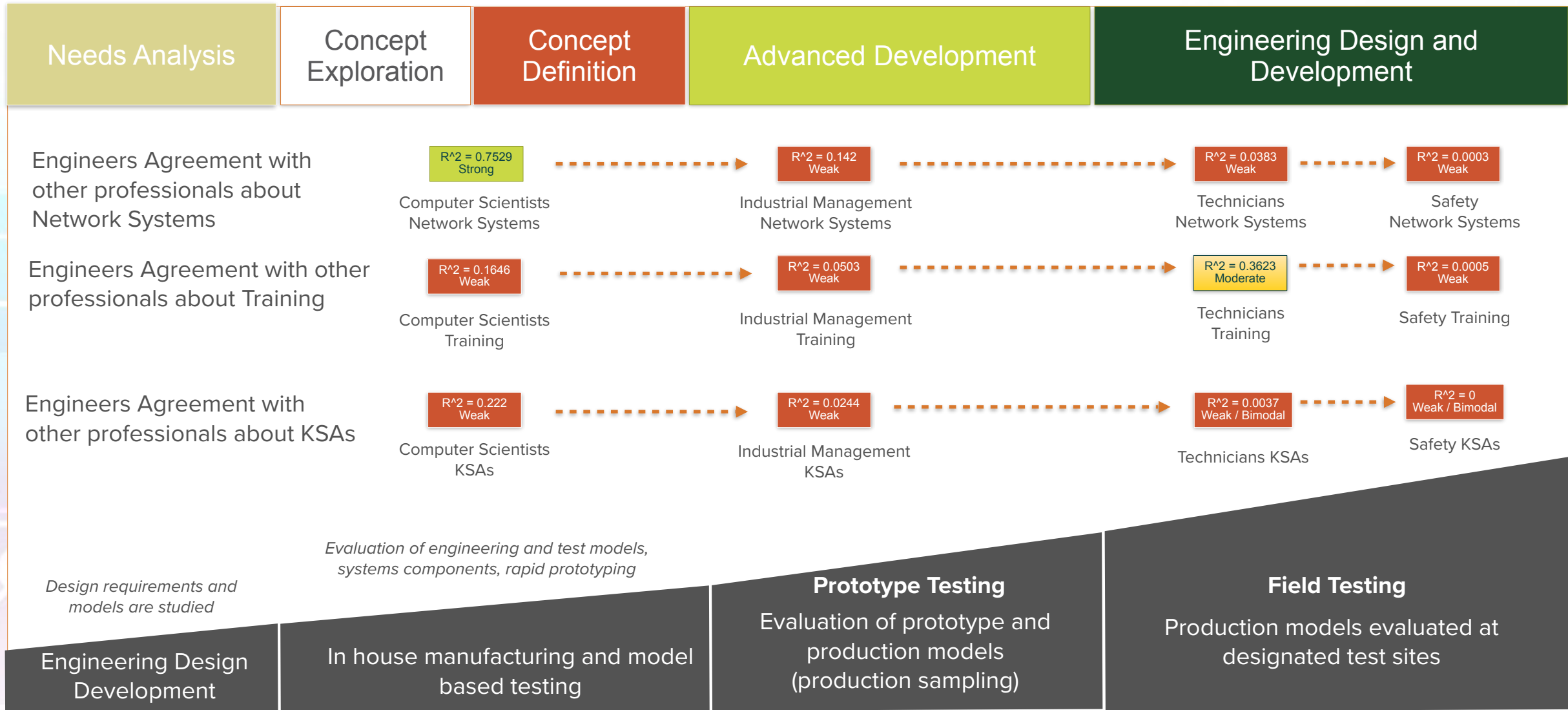
Federal Agreement About Network Systems



- Federal (e.g., non-elected and non-military public sector employees)
- Non-federal (e.g., state, municipality, local, tribal)
- Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC)
- University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC)
- Commercial Industry
- Academia (e.g., professor, academic researcher)
- Student
- Military Service (e.g., Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Military Reserves)

• Figure 12: Federal Agreement About Network Systems, Questions 25 — 47 (Scalco, 2021)

Engineers Agreement Through System Lifecycle





OV-1 Operational Concept Network Systems (r2)



Where correlation is poor, these professionals will be at odds.

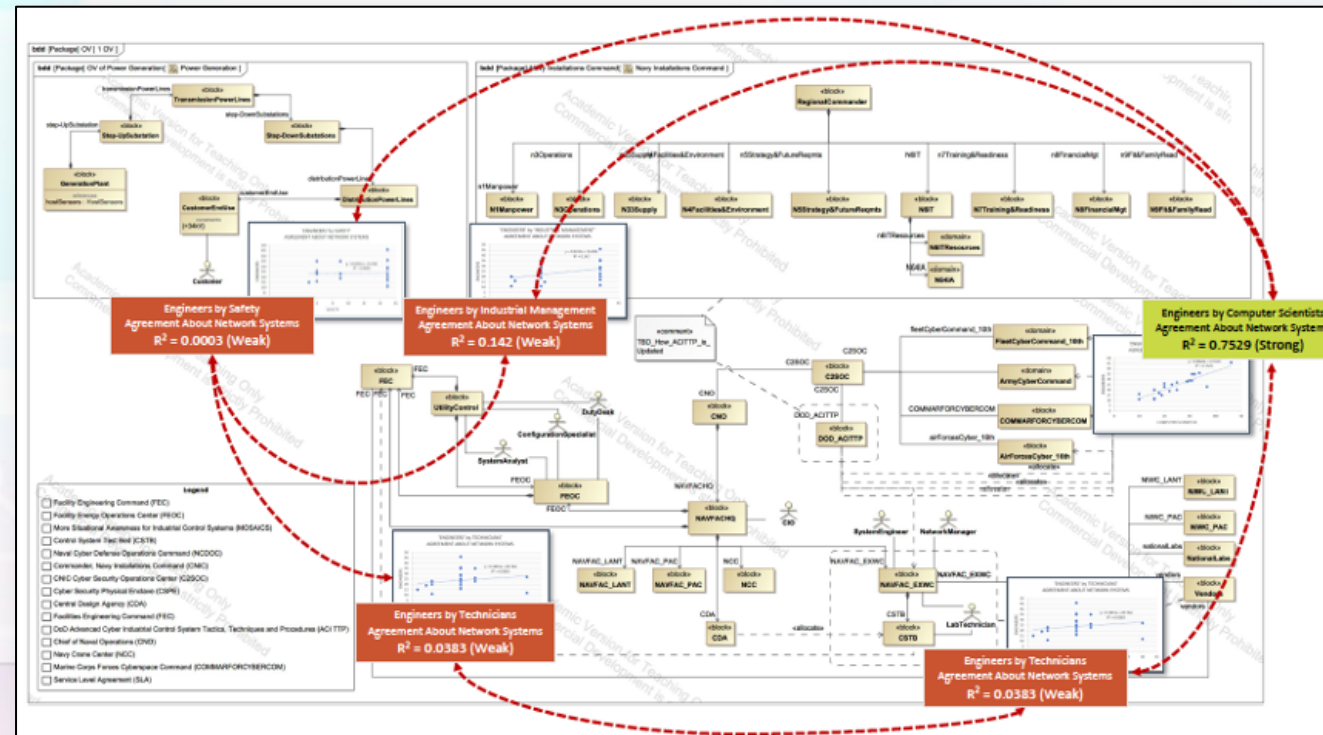


Figure 13: BDD Prototype OV-1 High-Level Operational Concept Showing R^2 About Network Systems



Water Treatment Facility



- 2018 Legislation, funds never appropriated
- Water Utility “self-assessments.”
- Yet not required to submit any report.
- Systems >3,300 customers exempt

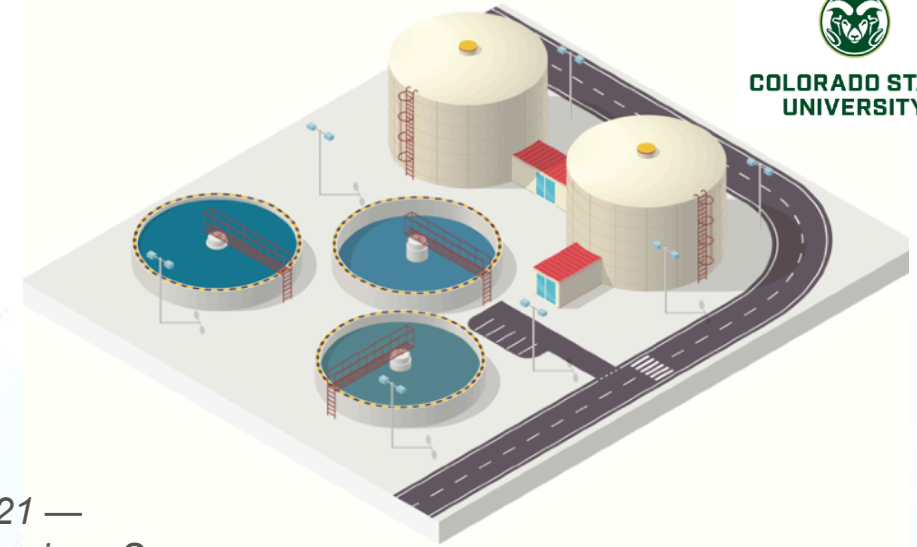


Image: Shutterstock, Shutterstock.com, 2021.

- 2019 — Former employee attempted to shut down water treatment cleaning and disinfecting operations.
- 2020 — Camrosa Water District, California, infected with ransomware.
- January 15, 2021 — Hacker tried to poison San Francisco Bay Area water treatment plant.
- February 9, 2021 — Hacker tried to poison the Tampa area water treatment plant in Oldsmar, Florida.

If there is disagreement among professions, self-assessment might not solve the problem.



[15] Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), "Joint Cybersecurity Advisory: Compromise of U.S. Water Treatment Facility," 2021.

[16] COLLIER, K. 2021. 50,000 security disasters waiting to happen: The problem of America's water supplies. *NBC News*. NBC News.



Use Case — Protect



Table 11 Use Case Protect Capability Mapped to Operational Requirement and Sample Survey Questions

Requirement Number	Operational Requirement Text	Capability	Sample Cybersecurity Survey Question(s) (Response Options)
O2.1	Enable and support access control mechanisms within the environment.	Protect	Q47. User accounts and credentials are managed in our organization by the following authentication approach. (Modern Authentication; Cloud Identity Authentication; Federated Authentication; I do not know.)
O2.2	Authenticate authorized devices, users, and processes.	Protect	Q120. I [can] to identify if an individual device is being tampered with within a complex system. (Yes; No; Not currently, but I have previously performed this function; Not currently, I would need training to perform this function.)
O2.3	Implement controls to limit access to physical and logical assets.	Protect	Q136. I [can] identify cyber connections to critical physical systems. (Yes; No; Not currently, but I have previously performed this function; Not currently, I would need training to perform this function.)
O2.4	Protect data in transit and data at rest.	Protect	Q58. In our organization, timestamp data is used to reference persistent time-based trends. (Yes; No; I do not know.)
O2.5	Manage maintenance activities for system components.	Protect	Q130. I ensure that maintenance procedures or workarounds do not void anomaly detection in control systems. (Yes; No; Not currently, but I have previously performed this function; Not currently, I would need training to perform this function.)
O2.6	Create and manage audit logs.	Protect	Q140. In my current job function, I use data collected from a variety of cyber defense tools (e.g., Intrusion Detection System (IDS) alerts, firewalls, network traffic logs) to analyze events that occur within their environments for the purposes of mitigating threats. (Yes; No; Not currently, but I have previously performed this function; Not currently, I would need training to perform this function.)
O2.7	Enable facility operations to maintain a mission capable state.	Protect	Q. 186. Traditional statistical forecasting strategies (e.g., dynamic regression) are used in our organization as a baseline for prediction of network performance. (Yes; No; I do not know.)

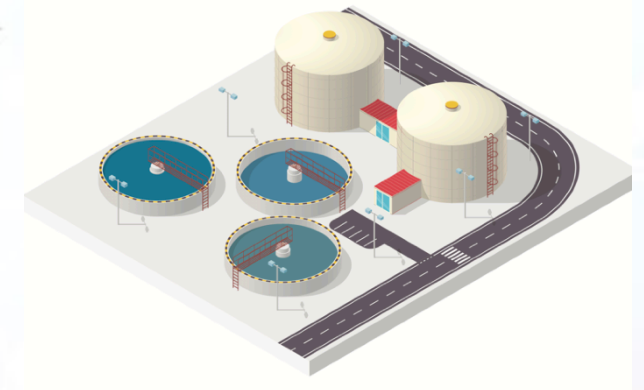
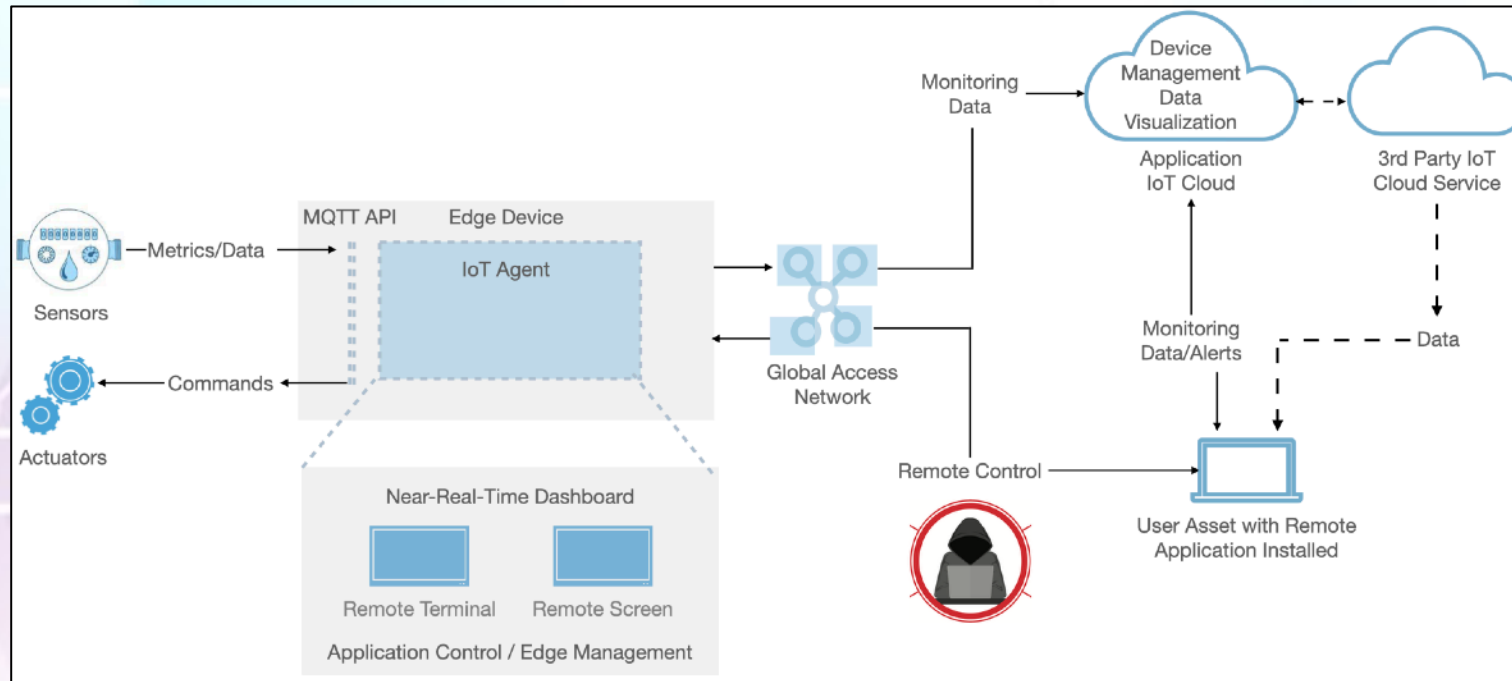


Remote Operations, Assistance, Alarms



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Requirement Number	Operational Requirement Text	Capability	Sample Cybersecurity Survey Question(s) (Response Options)
O2.1	Enable and support access control mechanisms within the environment.	Protect	Q47. User accounts and credentials are managed in our organization by the following authentication approach. (Modern Authentication; Cloud Identity Authentication; Federated Authentication; I do not know.)



Water Utility Intrusion Commonality:
 Remote Access
 Compromised Passwords
 Outdated, end-of-life Operating System (OS)

Figure 14: Remote Operations Network Architecture for Water Utility



Control System Cybersecurity Priorities

Disagreement ➡ Misalignment ➡ Vulnerability

Administrative Password
Used on Multiple Systems

VPN Account Allows Remote Access / Threat
Actor Obtains Credentials

Compromised Credentials Enable
Unauthorized Access

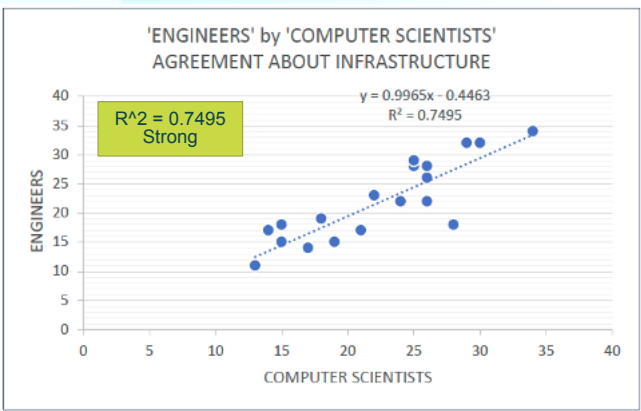


Figure 15: Correlation between Engineers and Computer Scientists about Infrastructure Questions

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

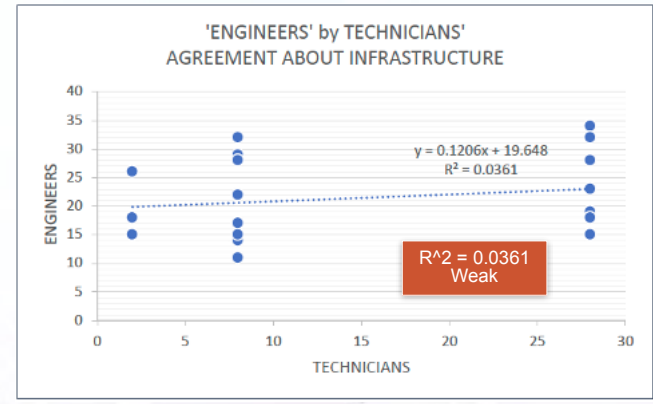


Figure 16: Correlation between Engineers and Technicians about Infrastructure Questions

Software Flaws

Purchase Updated Operating System (OS)
Update Software

Perform Regular Software Updates
Credential Mangement

Vulnerability ➡ Alignment ➡ Agreement



Red Team (r2) by Infrastructure Sector

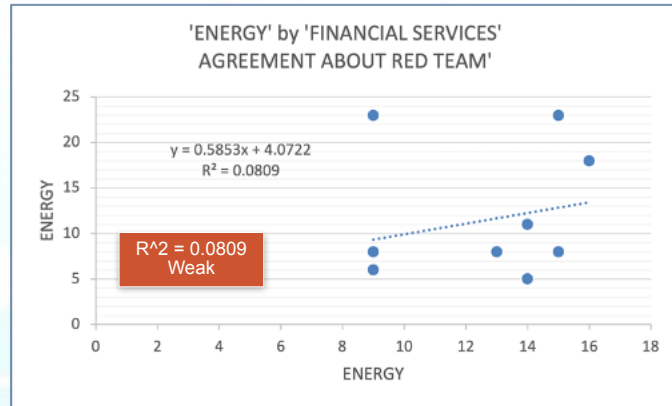


Figure 17: Correlation between Energy and Financial Services for Red Team Questions

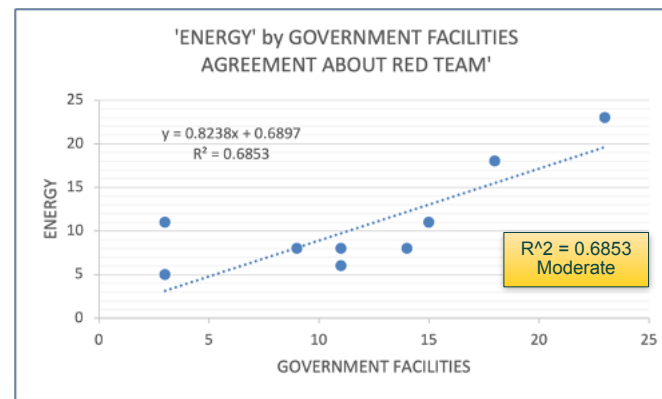


Figure 18: Correlation between Energy and Government Facilities for Red Team Questions

- If someone is trying to defend something that someone else is not attacking, using the Red Team/Blue Team analog, we do not have alignment.
- We know that people are throwing money at these things and not fixing them.





Competing Professions

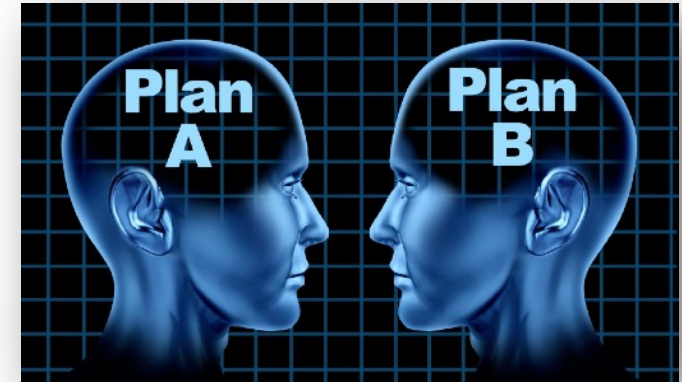
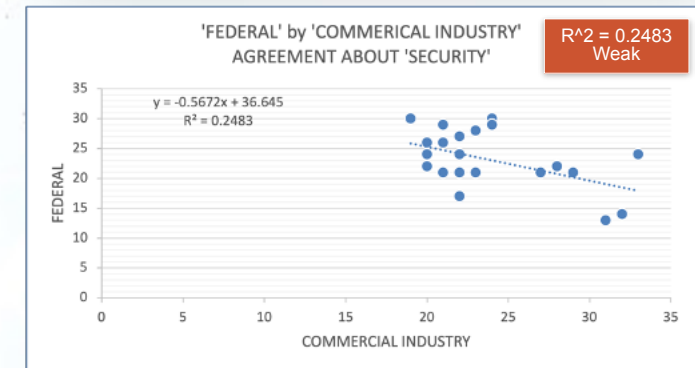


Image: Shutterstock, Shutterstock.com, 2022.

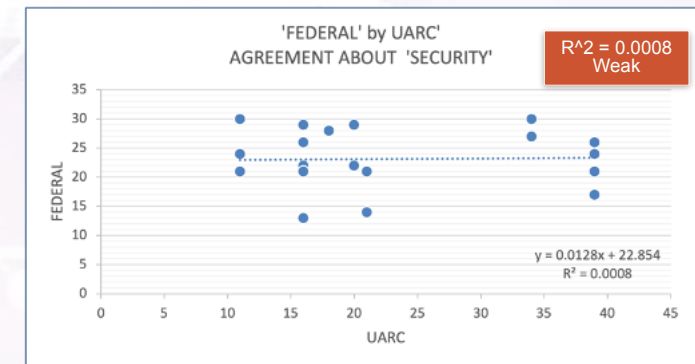
- If two agents disagree entirely on where the system is most vulnerable or uncertain, there is an overall vulnerability.

Requirement Number	Operational Requirement Text	Capability	Sample Cybersecurity Survey Question(s) (Response Options)
O1.1	Inventory IT and OT system devices and system components in the targeted environment.	Identify	Q48. I have access to the physical network topology. (Yes; No; I do not, but I know who does have the physical network topology.)
O1.2	Identify internal and external data flows and connections relative to the target environment.	Identify	Q191. Sensitive network connections between traffic sources and points of encryption are monitored on our organization's network systems. (Yes; No; I do not know.)
O1.3	Enable prioritization of components and system devices.	Identify	Q111. I maintain configuration management of a Control System(s). (Yes; No; Not currently, but I have previously performed this function; Not currently, I would need training to perform this function.)

Disagreement → Misalignment → Vulnerability
 The vulnerability induced by misalignment may be greater than innate system design vulnerability.



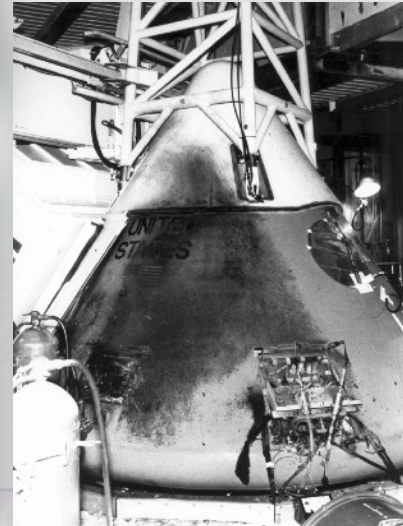
• Figure 19: Federal Agreement by Commercial Industry About Security Considerations (Scalco, 2021)



• Figure 20: Federal Agreement by UARC About Security Considerations (Scalco, 2021)



Engineering Value in Disagreement



- Human Life and Safety



Disagreement — Misalignment — Vulnerability



The vulnerability induced by misalignment may be greater than innate system design vulnerability.



Measuring disagreement in segments of the cybersecurity profession is a means of identifying vulnerabilities.



Vulnerability — Alignment — Agreement

The vulnerability induced by misalignment may be greater than innate system design vulnerability.



Measuring disagreement in segments of the cybersecurity profession is a means of identifying vulnerabilities.



Command and Control (C2) of Control Systems.

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Thank you!
Questions?



References

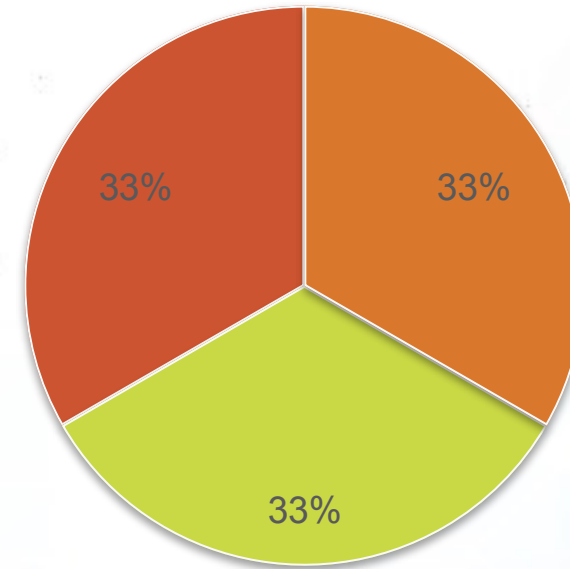
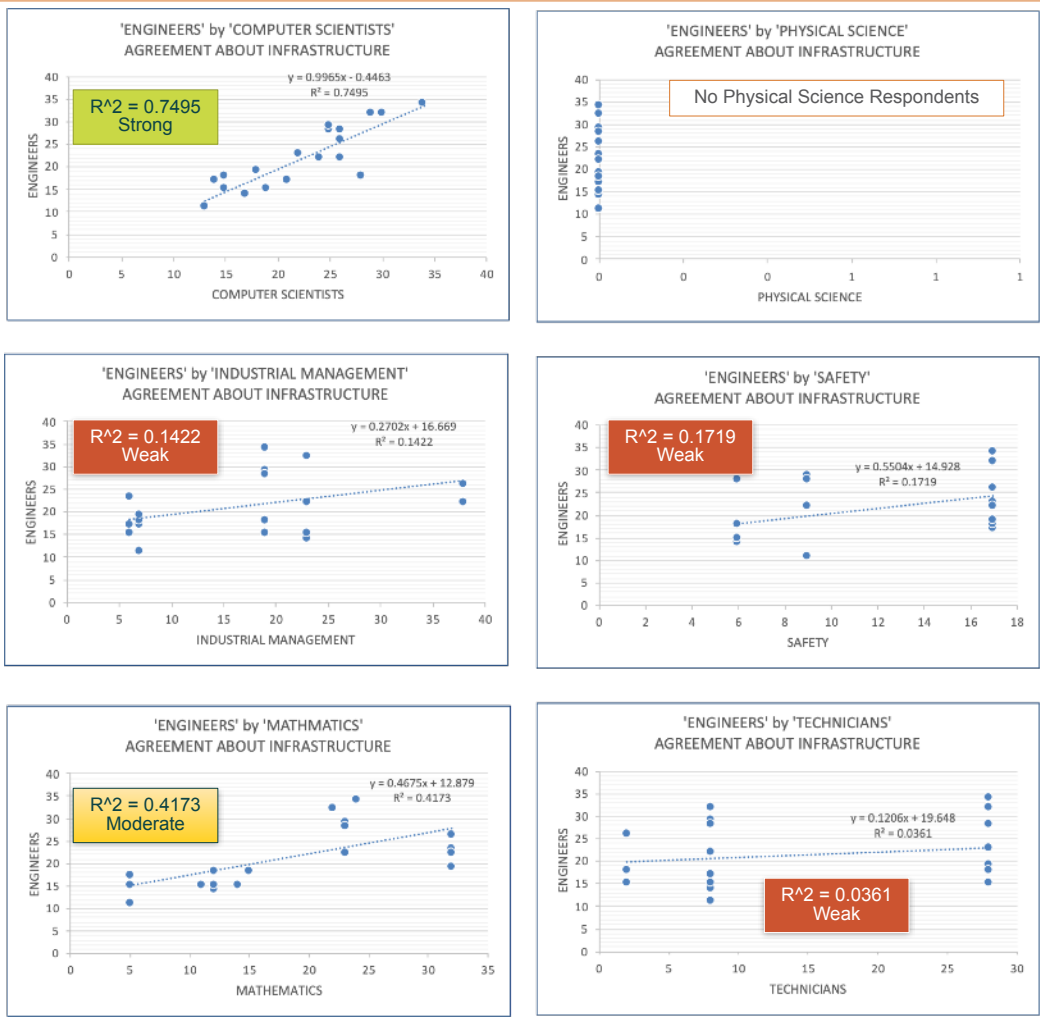


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Q182 Timestamp Data



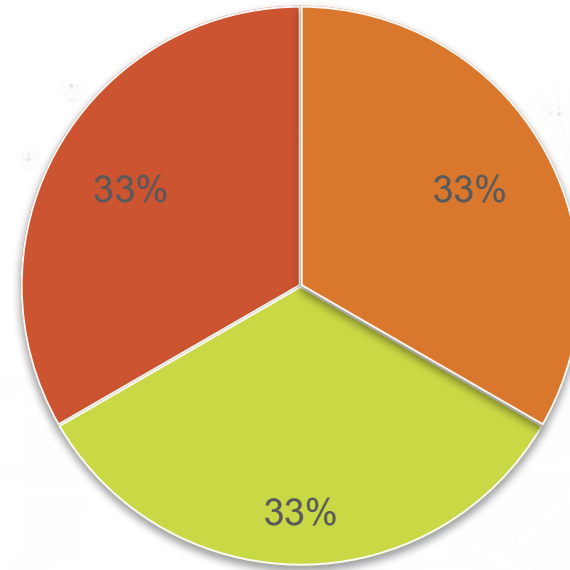
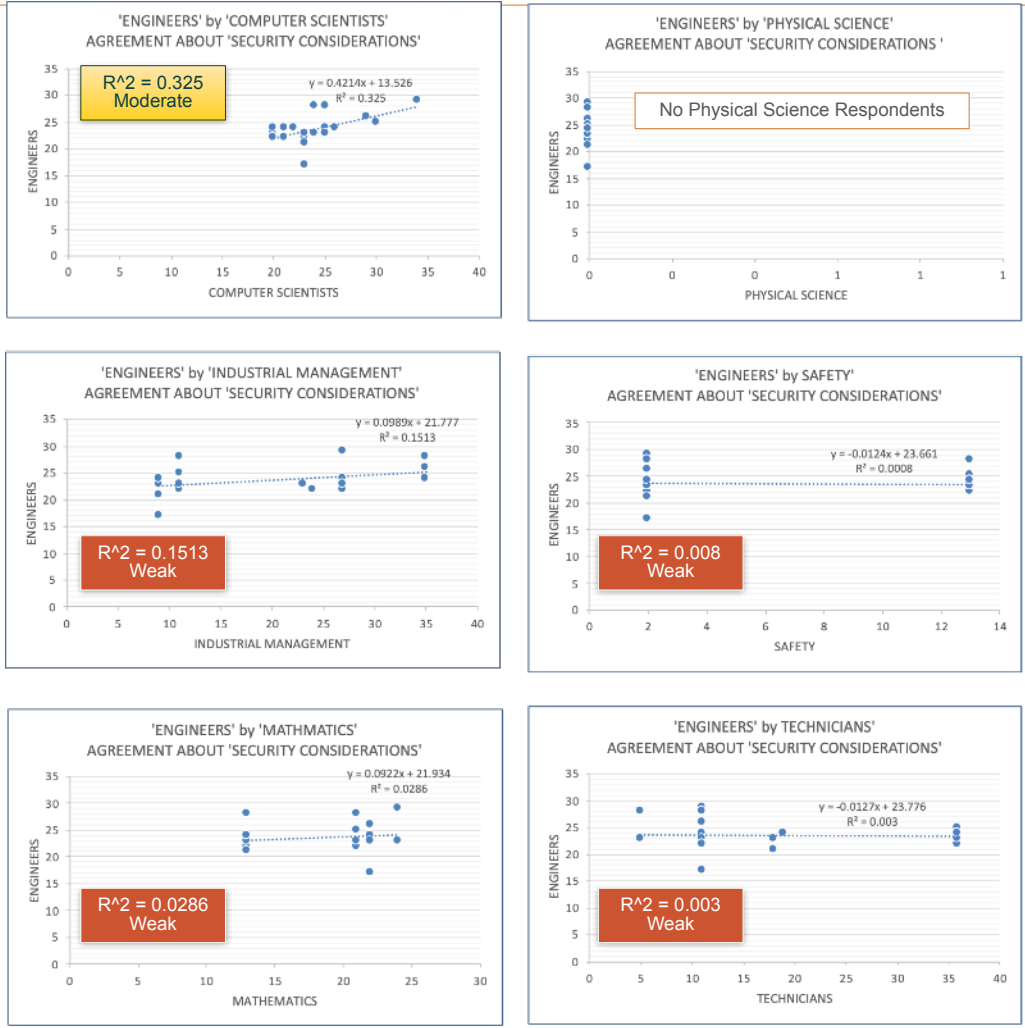
● Yes ● No ● I do not know

Q182 In my current job function, timestamp data is used to reference persistent time-based trends for OT systems (e.g., cyber-physical systems and control systems).

• Figure 13: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Infrastructure, Questions 48 — 68 (Scalco, 2021)



Q202 Software-Defined Networking (SDN)



● Yes ● No ● I do not know

Q202 Software-Defined Networking (SDN) is implemented in our organization.

• Figure 14: Engineers by Other Occupation Agreement About Security Considerations, Questions 181 — 203 (Scalco, 2021)