



Comparison of Socio-Technical Threat Models for Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations

June 2023

Changing the World's Energy Future

Gabriel Arthur Weaver, Daniel A. Eisenberg



DISCLAIMER

This information was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the U.S. Government. Neither the U.S. Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, expressed or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness, of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. References herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trade mark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the U.S. Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government or any agency thereof.

Comparison of Socio-Technical Threat Models for Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations

Gabriel Arthur Weaver, Daniel A. Eisenberg

June 2023

**Idaho National Laboratory
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415**

<http://www.inl.gov>

**Prepared for the
U.S. Department of Energy
Under DOE Idaho Operations Office
Contract DE-AC07-05ID14517**

Comparison of Socio-Technical Threat Models

MORS

Battelle Energy Alliance manages INL for the
U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy



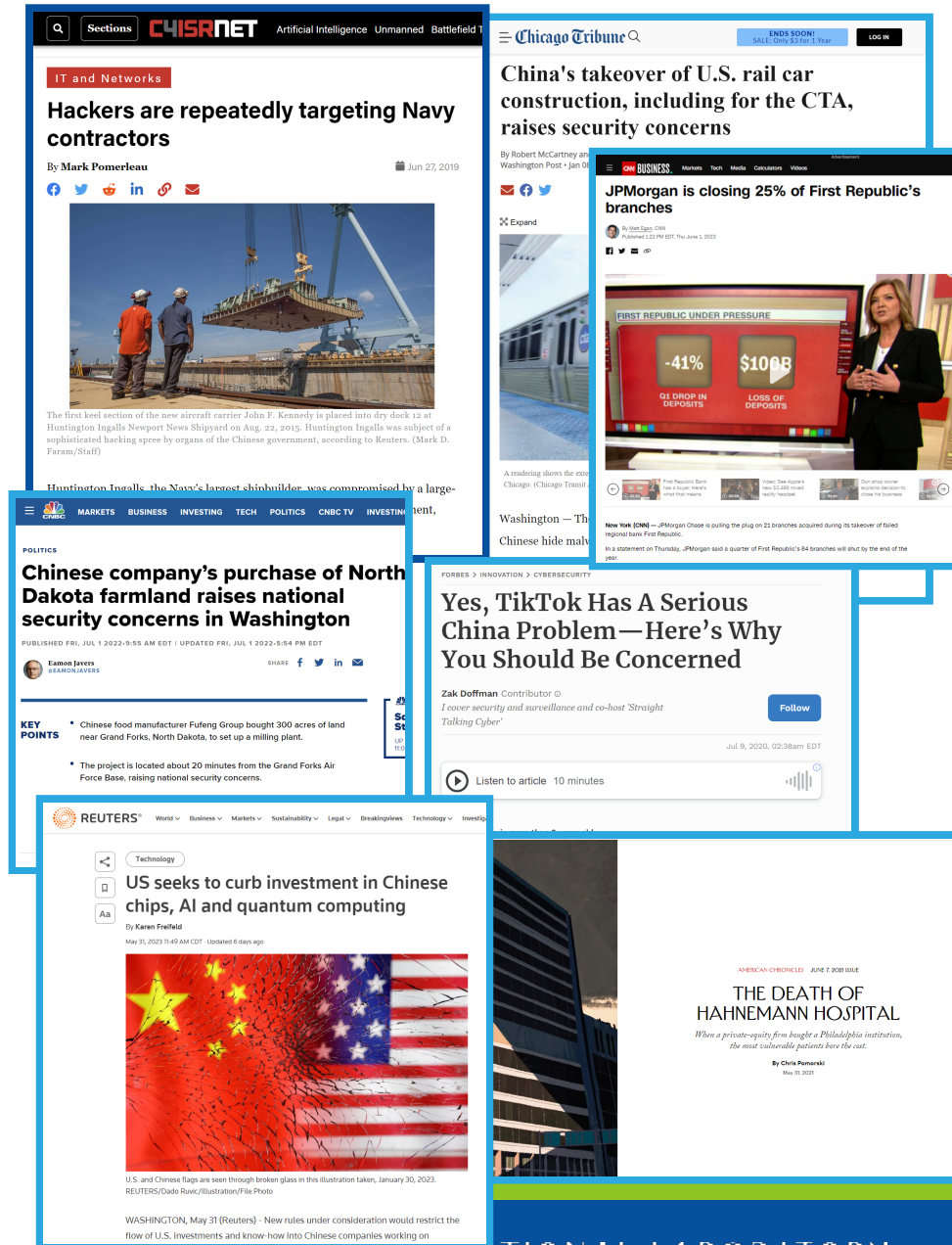
Idaho National Laboratory

Motivation

The Problem: There is a practical need to be able to analyze **sociotechnical dependencies** and their evolving **risks**.

Specialization of ‘cyber’ may lead to **blindspots** for **dependencies** that achieve **influence** but are **exogenous** to traditional system boundaries.

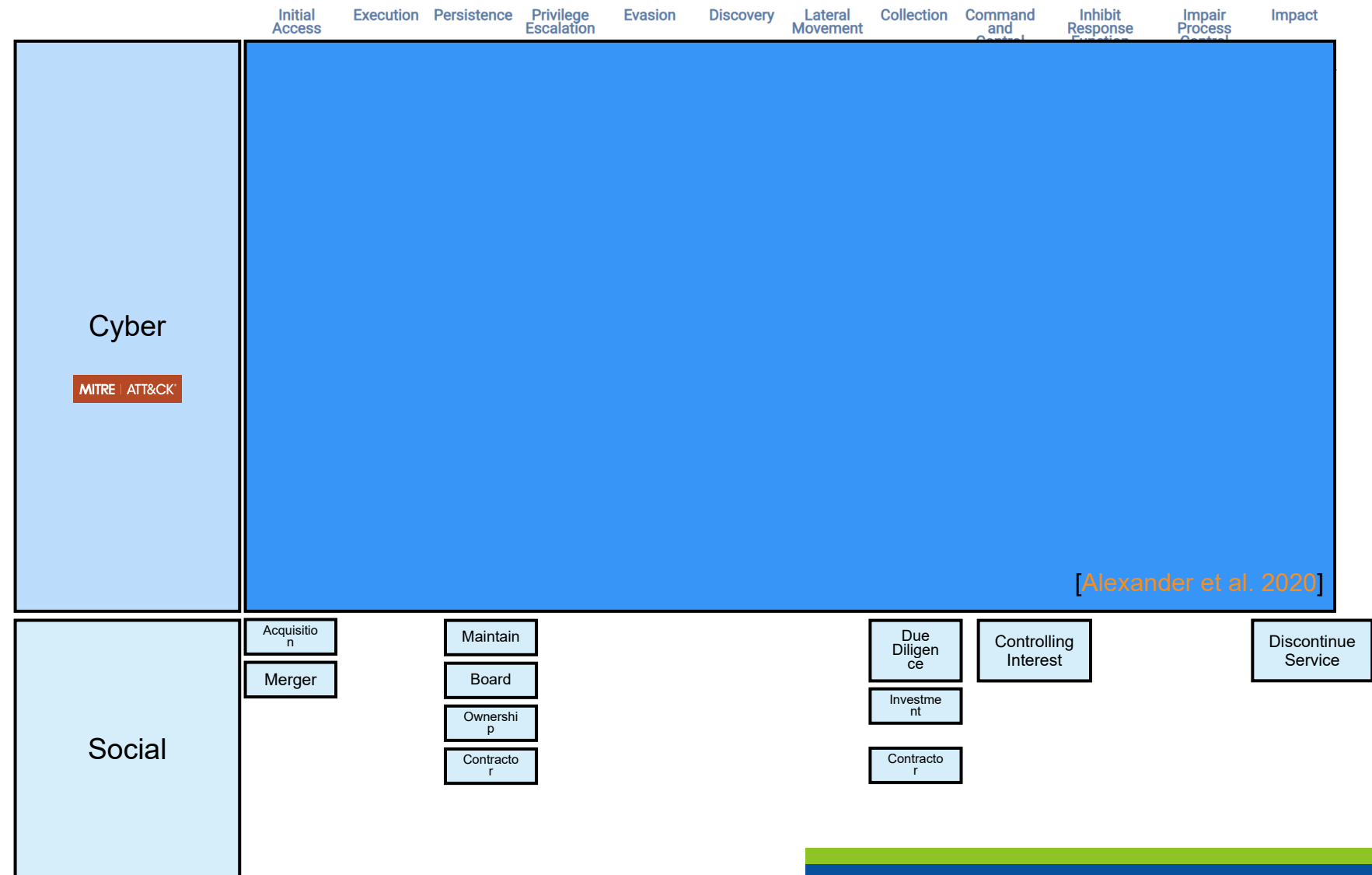
Socio-Technical Network Analysis (STNA) provides an approach to **consider interactions** between **social** and **cyber domains**.



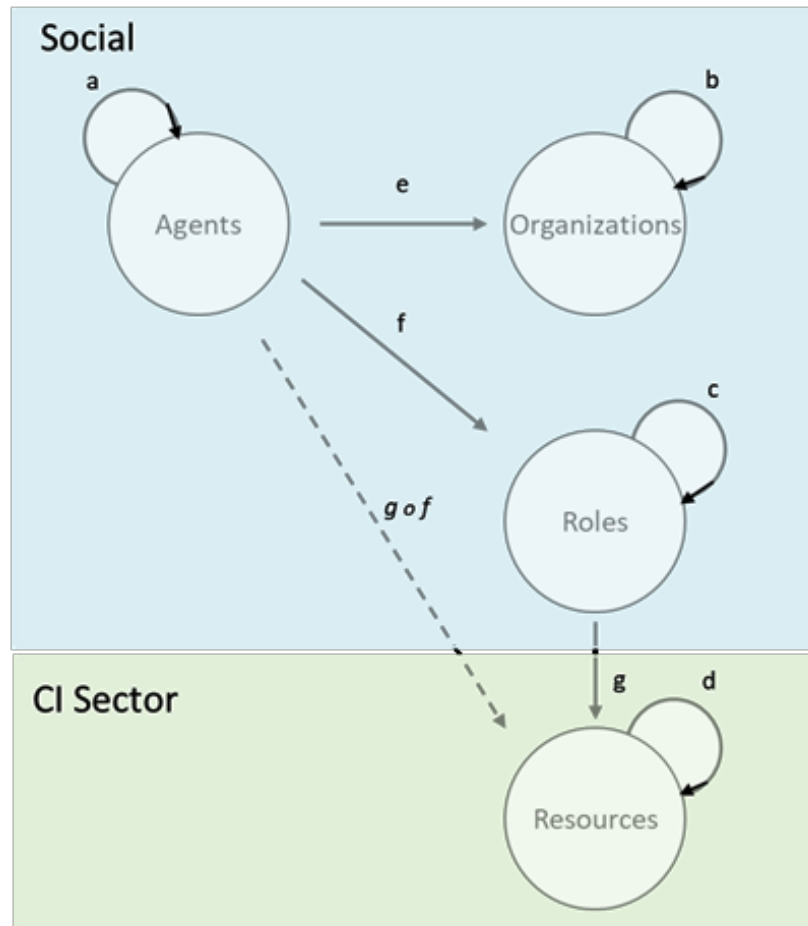
Tactics achieved through the cyber domain may also be achieved through social/business domains.

Our research focuses on adversarial techniques in the business domain that affect infrastructure.

- Want to think about how such techniques across domains can be composed by adversaries.
- Cross-domain 'kill-chains' (e.g. [Assante et al. 2015])



Socio-Technical Relations Considered





Data Sources			
Relation	Description	Data Sources	STNA Dynamics
a	Who knows who?	Emails, call logs	Communications
b	Which organizations work together?	Regional exercises	Information sharing
c	Who reports to whom?	Org chart	Information sharing
d	Which resources depend on each other?	Infrastructure schematics, RRAPs	Infrastructure workflows
e	Who works where?	LinkedIn, Email Address Workflow [32]	Start/end job
f	Who performs what function?	LinkedIn	Maintenance, patching, updates, installation
g	What functions use which resources?	RRAPs, org chart	Access, ownership, acquisition
g o f	Who uses which resources	Inferred	Access, ownership, acquisition

Outline

- Introduction
- Socio-Technical Adversarial Tactics
 - Loss of Availability (T0826) for Impact
 - Data Repositories (T0811) for Collection
- Initial Results
- Conclusion

Data from Information Repositories (T0811) for Collection

- **Definition:** “Adversaries may target and collect data from information repositories” [MITRE ATT&CK for ICS]

Social	 <p>The screenshot shows a news article from IEEE Spectrum. The headline is "Cops Tap Smart Streetlights Sparking Controversy and Legislation". The sub-headline reads: "San Diego's sensor-laden streetlights were supposed to save money and inspire entrepreneurs. Then the police started using their cameras and the pushback began". The article is by Terila S. Perry, dated 08 AUG 2020, and is 9 MIN READ. The image shows a modern streetlight with a camera mounted on it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approach: Unexpected access to data via social relation between Police and City.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Video• CityIQ platform• Impact:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inappropriate use of data• Reputation risk
Cyber	 <p>The screenshot shows a news article from C4ISRNET. The headline is "Hackers are repeatedly targeting Navy contractors". The sub-headline reads: "The first keel section of the new aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy is placed into dry dock 12 at Huntington Ingalls Newport News Shipyard on Aug. 22, 2013. Huntington Ingalls was subject of a sophisticated hacking spree by organs of the Chinese government, according to Reuters. (Mark D. Faram/Staff)". The article is by Mark Pomerleau, dated Jun 27, 2019. The image shows two workers in hard hats standing next to a large ship's keel section being lifted by a crane.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approach: Indirect data access via subsidiary or subcontractor• Impact:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of Data

Loss of Availability (T0826) for Impact

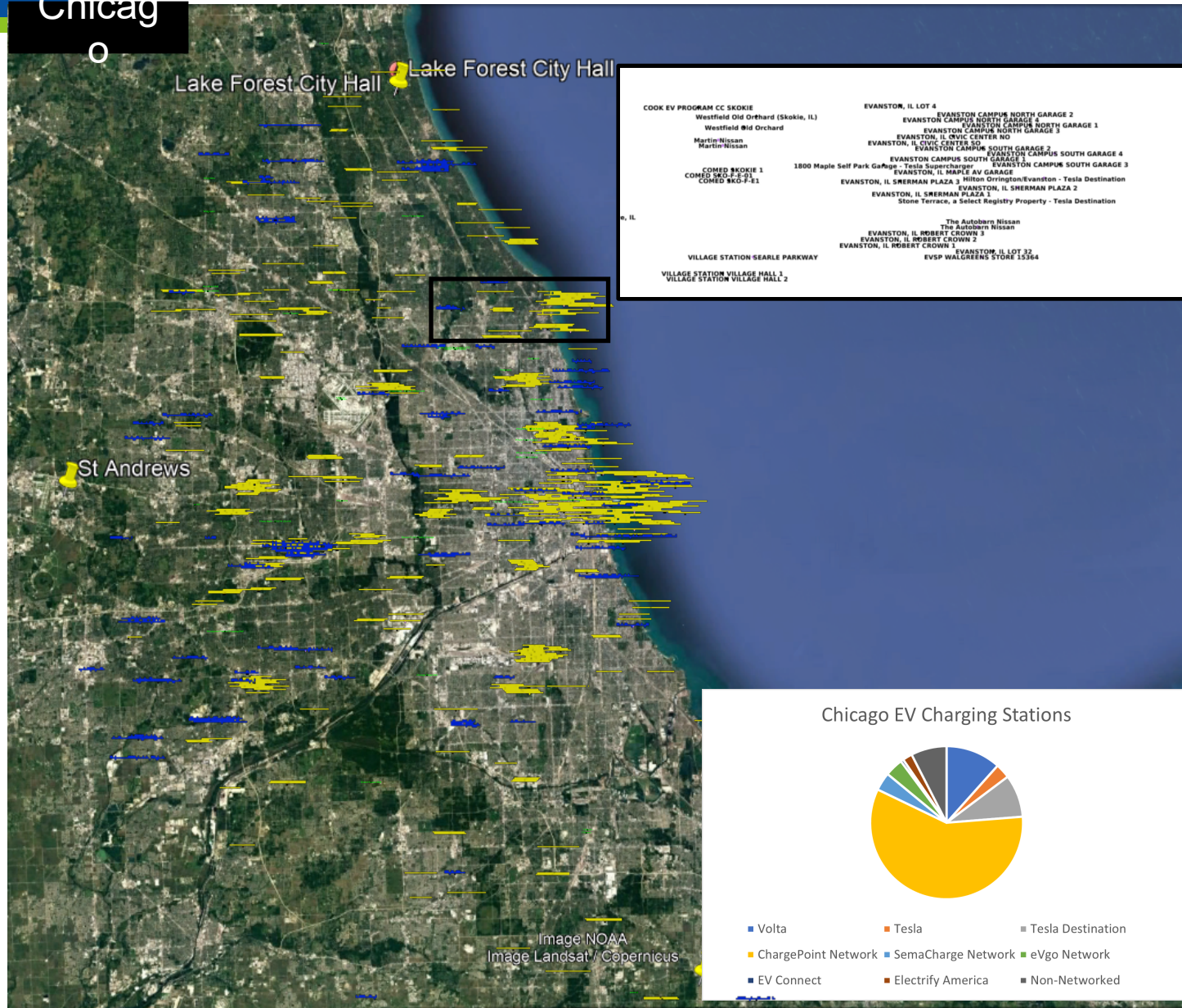
- *Definition:* “Adversaries may attempt to disrupt essential components or systems to prevent owner and operator from delivering products or services”
[MITRE ATT&CK for ICS]

Social		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Duration:</i> Permanent• <i>Impact:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of Data (patient records)• Loss of Education (residency)• Loss of Medical Care• Loss of Real Estate for Healthcare
Cyber		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Duration:</i> Four weeks to recover• <i>Impact:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of Availability• Re-routing of patients• Health outcomes (more cardiac events)• <i>Cost:</i> \$113M

Loss of Availability: Electric Vehicle Charging Station Networks

Chicago

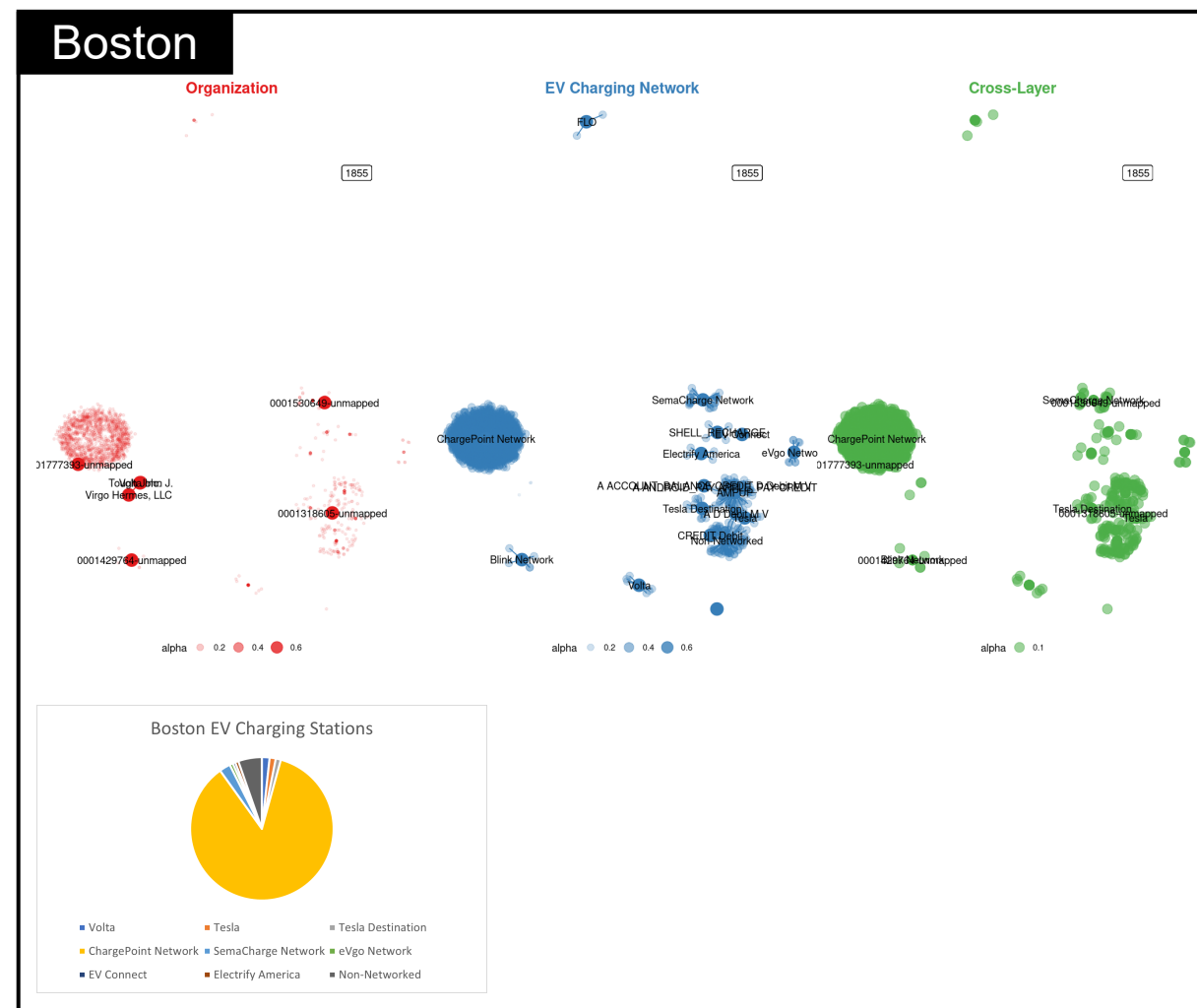
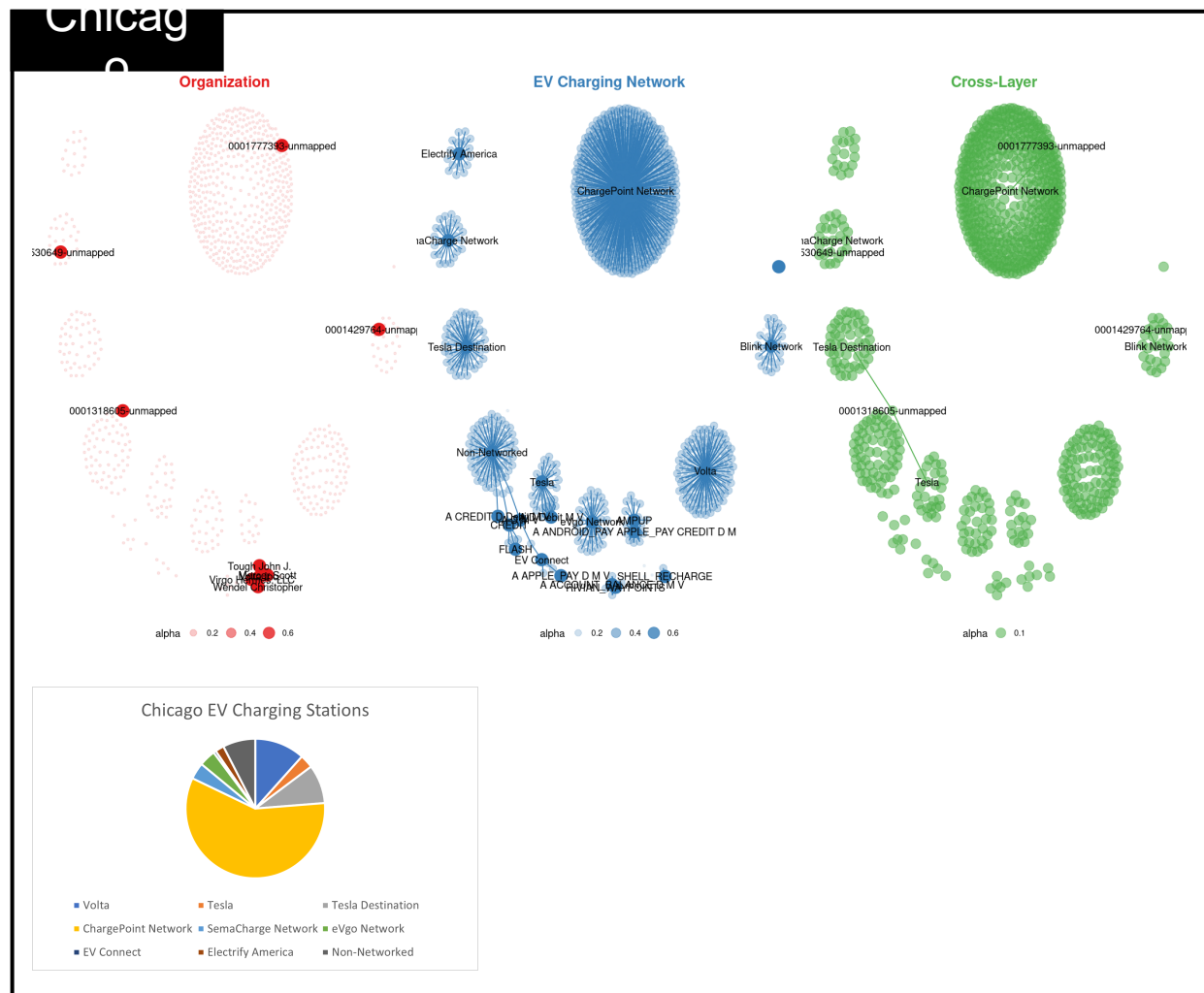
0



Geospatial Attributes

- Enables the ability to zoom in on a given region of interest and see who has influence and where
 - ChargePoint
 - Volta
 - eVgo
- Data Sources:
 - SEC EDGAR
 - DOE Alt. Fuels Database

Regional Comparison of EV Charging Station Vendors



Conclusions

The Problem: There is a practical need to be able to analyze sociotechnical dependencies and their evolving risks.

Specialization of ‘cyber’ may lead to blindspots for dependencies that achieve influence but are exogenous to traditional system boundaries.

Our Approach: Our research focuses on adversarial techniques in the business domain that affect critical infrastructure.

Time	Event	Relevance
August 13, 2018	Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act (FIRRMA)	<p>CFIUS has increased jurisdiction over investments in US businesses that afford a foreign person the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to material nonpublic technical information• Membership or observer rights on, or the right to nominate an individual to a position on a board• Involvement, other than through voting in decision making of US business for critical technology
May 31, 2023	US Treasury considering export controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New rules would restrict flow of U.S. investments into Chinese companies working in advanced semiconductors, AI, and quantum.



Idaho National Laboratory

Battelle Energy Alliance manages INL for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy. INL is the nation's center for nuclear energy research and development, and also performs research in each of DOE's strategic goal areas: energy, national security, science and the environment.

WWW.INL.GOV