



Secure OPen source softwarE and hardwaRe Adaptable framework

**Dr. George Hatzivasilis**  
**Technical University of Crete (TUC)**

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# Project Identity Card



Secure OPen source  
softwarE and  
hardwaRe Adaptable  
framework



**Project Consortium:** 13 partners



**Project Type:**  
Research & Innovation Action



**Duration:** 36 Months



**Start Date:** 1 January 2023



**Total Budget:** €4,581,135

# SecOPERA Consortium



1. POLYTECHNEIO KRITIS (**TUC**)
2. AEGIS IT RESEARCH GMBH (**AEGIS**)
3. ATHINA-EREVNITIKO KENTRO KAINOTOMIAS STIS TECHNOLOGIES TIS PLIROFORIAS, TON EPIKOINONION KAI TIS GNOSIS (**ISI**)
4. UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS (**UCY**)
5. SECURITY LABS CONSULTING LIMITED (**SLC**)
6. ATHENS UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS - RESEARCH CENTER (**AUEB**)
7. PIERER INNOVATION GMBH (**PINNO**)
8. THALES SIX GTS FRANCE SAS (**THALES**)
9. COMMISSARIAT A L ENERGIE ATOMIQUE ET AUX ENERGIES ALTERNATIVES (**CEA**)
10. IOTAM INTERNET OF THINGS APPLICATIONS AND MULTI LAYER DEVELOPMENT LTD (**ITML**)
11. VOGL SIMON (**VoXel**)
12. GREENCITYZEN (**GREEN**)
13. SPHYNX TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS AG (**STS**)



**13 Partners from 7 Countries: Greece, Germany, Cyprus, Ireland, Austria, France, Switzerland**



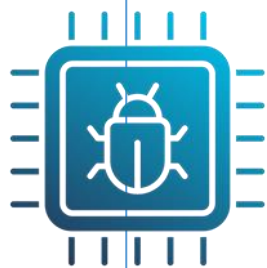
## Open-source code

Cannot be trusted out of the box and lacks appropriate security guarantees



## Open-source cognitive models

Already deployed without security assurance and guarantees against possible sensitive information leakage



## Non-verified hardware solutions

Similar to OSS open-source hardware lacks security guarantees and can be prone to vulnerabilities or even contain malware (e.g. Hardware Trojans)

# Challenges



**1**

**Third-party components need to be assessed in terms of security**

**2**

**Open-source solution security is hard to justify in the current business interconnected market**

**3**

**Static analysis tools often fail in the vastly diverse open-source landscape**

SecOPERA will provide a one-stop hub for complex open-source software and open-source hardware (OSS/OSH) solutions delivering to system designers and operators and OSS/OSH developers and testers the means to analyse, assess, secure/harden, and share open-source solutions.

The SecOPERA hub will offer an open-source framework supporting the DevSecOps lifecycle and generate solutions along with appropriate, verifiable security guarantees.

# Objectives



- Provide a complete **security auditing-testing toolbox**
- Research and develop **security hardening** and **enhancement** of open-source solutions
- Deliver **adaptable security** solutions for the open-source community
- Establish the **SecOPERA hub** with a **pool** open-source solutions & develop the **SecOPERA framework** with the tools to support the secure development lifecycle
- Validate SecOPERA solution in **two industrial pilots** across several **use cases**
- Provide a **viable, open-source** compliant **exploitation**

# SecOPERA pillars



**Decompose:** Decomposes open-source solutions in components and classifies them in the SecOPERA layers (device, application, network, cognitive).



**Audit/Assess:** Performs vulnerability scan on each component and its dependencies and forms a vulnerability graph.



**Secure:** Consists of several OSS/OSH security modules which aim to harden each component.



**Adapt:** Adapts security modules in the OS solution



**Update/Patch:** Formally verifies the final solution and repeats the audit process after each update



# SecOPERA functionalities



## Decompose

Open-source solution analysis

Component dependency graph generation



## Audit/Assess

Known vulnerability analysis based on CVEs/CWEs knowledge bases

Per layer security auditing and testing

Penetration testing based vulnerability discovery

Vulnerability graph generation

Formal verification of OSS services



## Secure

Design and development of secure pillar modules for mitigating discovered vulnerabilities

Release a secure module pool for per layer hardening to be used by OSS/OSH community



## Adapt

Code debloating

Secure module integration for hardening OSS/OSH



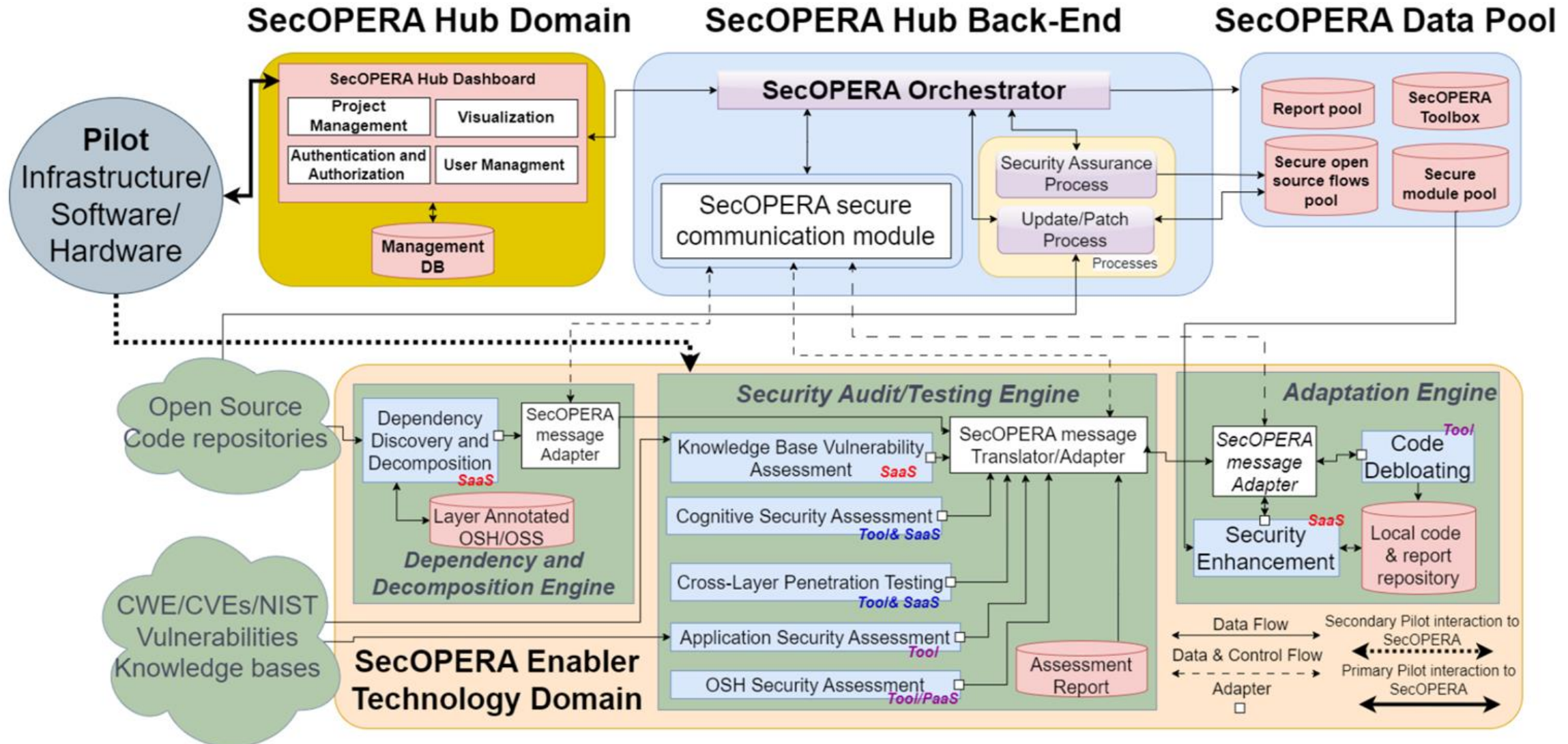
## Update/Patch

Monitor OSS/OSH repositories for updates

Control of Security Audits after each update

Generation of secure flow guarantees for OSS/OSH security assurance

# SecOPERA architecture



# Pilot 1

# Secure Supply Chain in Automotive Industry



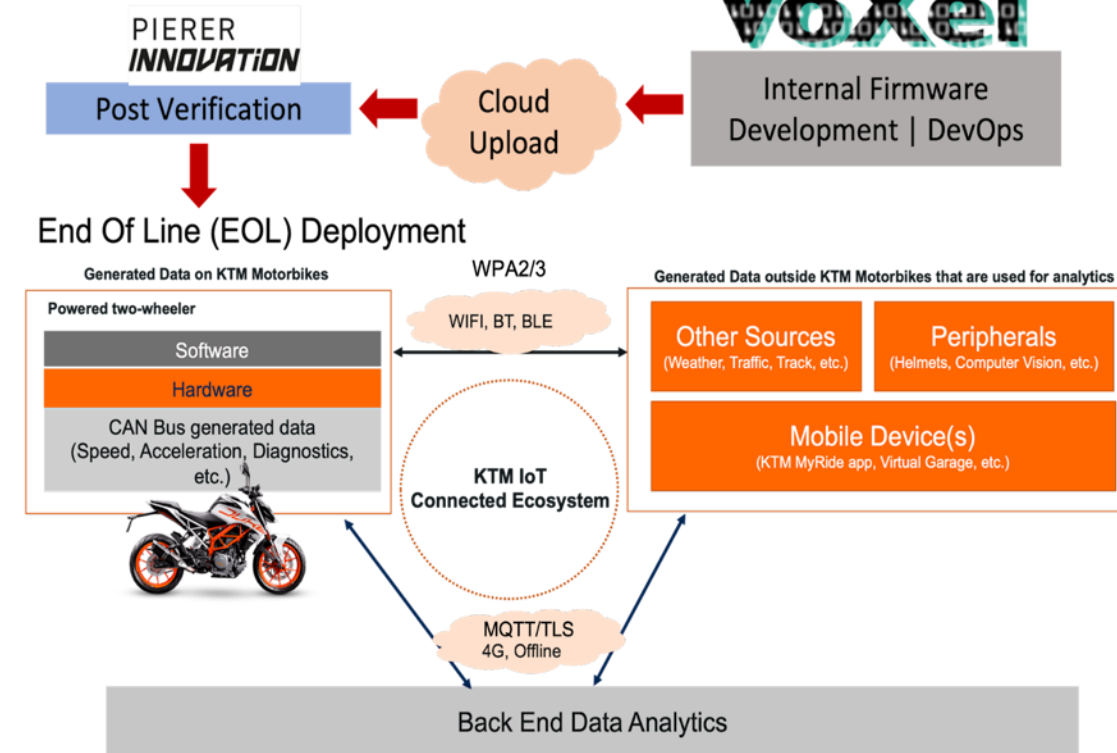
## E-bicycle communication unit

### Modules:

- Application processor
- RTOS
- Communication processor with LTE
- Various CAN-bus connected sensors

### SecOPERA goals:

- Harden each component and the end solution
  - Application debloating
  - Leverage architectural features for security
  - Formally verify the IoT dongle
- Secure communications and data sharing



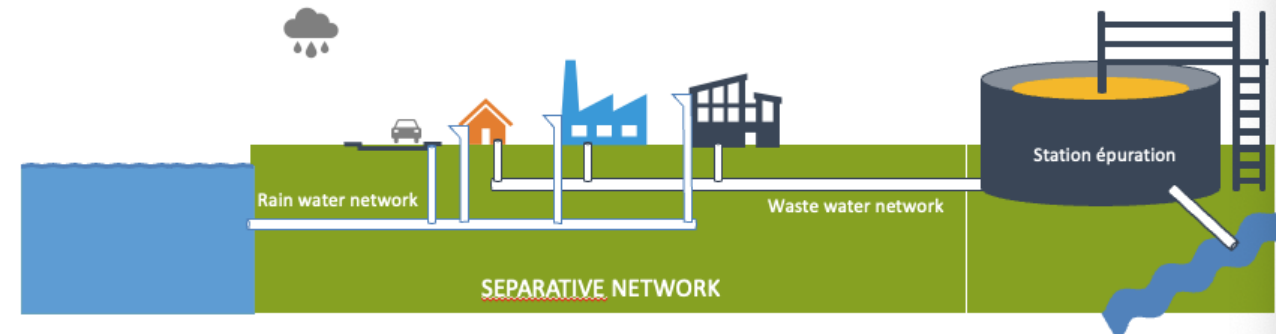
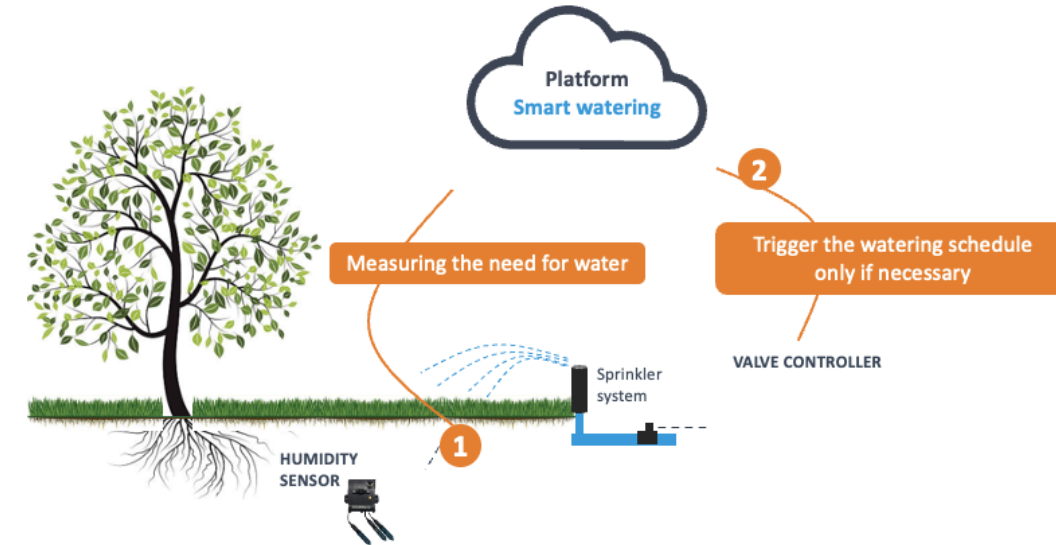
## IoT solutions for water infrastructure

### Ecosystem:

- IoT solutions for sewer, drinking irrigation
- Open-source
- Applied in smart cities

### SecOPERA goals:

- Guarantee secure authentication of ecosystem administrators
  - E.g. Gardeners to start irrigation
- Secure OTA firmware updates
- Secure communication between infrastructure server and IoT devices
- Security hardened IoT components
- Deploy in real-world scenarios



- Offer Adaptable security solutions for the open-source community (SW and HW) at cognitive, network, application and **device** layers that is securely updated/patched
  - Provide more than 2 contributions to the RISC-V community regarding security.
- Assess the OSH components (e.g. RISC-V) for implementation attacks i.e. side channel attacks and fault injection attacks enhancing TVLA techniques
- SecOPERA ecosystem open-source pools will include security related RISC-V specification implementations

- Dynamic hardware extended containers
  - RISC-V soft SoC with dynamic reconfigurable regions
  - Debian with docker support
  - Implementation of Trusted Execution Primitives to protect dockers
- IP Core Side Channel Assessment Platform
  - Typical targets of side channel attacks are cryptography IP cores
  - Based on the Sakura X board
  - Assessment for common SCAs
    - Simple, Differential, Correlation Power Analysis on symmetric and asymmetric crypto IP cores
    - ML/DL profiling based attacks focused on Asymmetric cryptography
    - SCAs on multitenant FPGA through the exploitation of the FPGA power distribution network
- Shadow Stack and Landing Pads CVA6
  - Protects applications from Code Reuse Attacks
  - Protected Shadow Stack to store copies of return addresses
    - Compared against the regular stack before function returns in order to detect corruption
  - (Labelled) Landing Pads
    - Mark valid targets of indirect branches

# Participation in RISC-V foundation

- Members of the security horizontal committee
- Participating in the Runtime Integrity Special Interest Group
- Contributing to Memory Tagging Task Group
- Chairing the Shadow Stack and Landing Pads Task Group
- Implementing the proof-of-concept SSLP extension in CVA6 processor

- As proposed in the previous CROSSCON
  - Consider the inclusion of CROSSCON project modules in SecOPERA pool
- Asses open-source hardware with SecOPERA assessment tools
- SecOPERA services are in a work in progress status (M18 - M30)
  - SecOPERA Security/Vulnerability Assessment and Assurance
  - Cross-layered Decomposition
  - SecOPERA Adaptation and Hardening
  - SecOPERA repositories (pools)
  - Secure Module integration



# Thank you!

**Learn more**



<https://secopera.eu/>



[info@secopera.eu](mailto:info@secopera.eu)



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