

Evaluating Global 'Thing' Security of Consumer Products

Authors : Achutha Raman

Abstract : Today's brave new world features a bonanza of digitally interconnected products, or 'things,' that improve convenience, possibilities, and in some cases efficiency for consumers. Nonetheless, even as the market accelerates, this Internet of 'things' is subject to substantial leakage of consumer personal data. First defining the fluid concept of 'things,' this paper subsequently uses case studies taken from the EU, Asia, and the US, to highlight large gaps and comprehensively evaluate the state of security for consumer 'things.' Ultimately, this paper offers several ways of improving the present status quo, and especially focuses on an evaluative approach that augments the standard mechanism of Firmware Over the Air Updates, and ought to be easily implementable.

Keywords : cybersecurity, FOTA, Internet of Things, transnational privacy

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