

# ON PRIVACY AND SECURITY IN SMART CONNECTED HOMES

Ph.D. Thesis Award Lecture (Årets avhandling)  
Faculty of Technology and Society,  
Malmö University

15th September 2021

Academic Supervisors: Andreas  
Jacobsson and Paul Davidsson



# THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

STUDIES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE NO. 14, DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

JOSEPH BUGEJA

ON PRIVACY AND SECURITY  
IN SMART CONNECTED  
HOMES



## 10 peer-reviewed publications

- On Privacy and Security Challenges in Smart Connected Homes
- An Analysis of Malicious Threat Agents for the Smart Connected Home
- Smart Connected Homes
- An Investigation of Vulnerabilities in Smart Connected Cameras
- Functional Classification and Quantitative Analysis of Smart Connected Home Devices
- An Empirical Analysis of Smart Connected Home Data
- On the Design of a Privacy-Centered Data Lifecycle for Smart Living Spaces
- Is Your Home Becoming a Spy? A Data-Centered Analysis and Classification of Smart Connected Home Systems
- A Privacy-Centered System Model for Smart Connected Homes
- PRASH: A Framework for Privacy Risk Analysis of Smart Homes

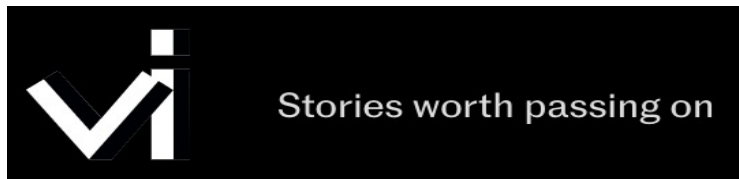
# MEDIA ATTENTION

dagens **arena**



**NYHETER**  
**24**

**EPOCH TIMES**



KRÖNIKA

## Är ditt smarta hem säkert?

2021-04-29



Under det senaste decenniet har sakernas internet, eller Internet of Things (IoT), förändrat vår värld på många sätt, inte minst våra hem och fastigheter. Enligt den senaste prognosen kommer det att år 2025 finnas över 482 miljoner så kallade "smarta hem" världen över och antalet uppkopplade enheter kommer att överstiga 200 miljarder år 2030.

Detta beror delvis på de många fördelar som dessa tekniker erbjuder sina användare, som till exempel ökad bekvämlighet, energieffektivitet, trygghet och säkerhet.

Source: <https://forvaltarforum.se>

# THE HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

The home is *the most powerful sign of the self of the inhabitant who dwells within!*



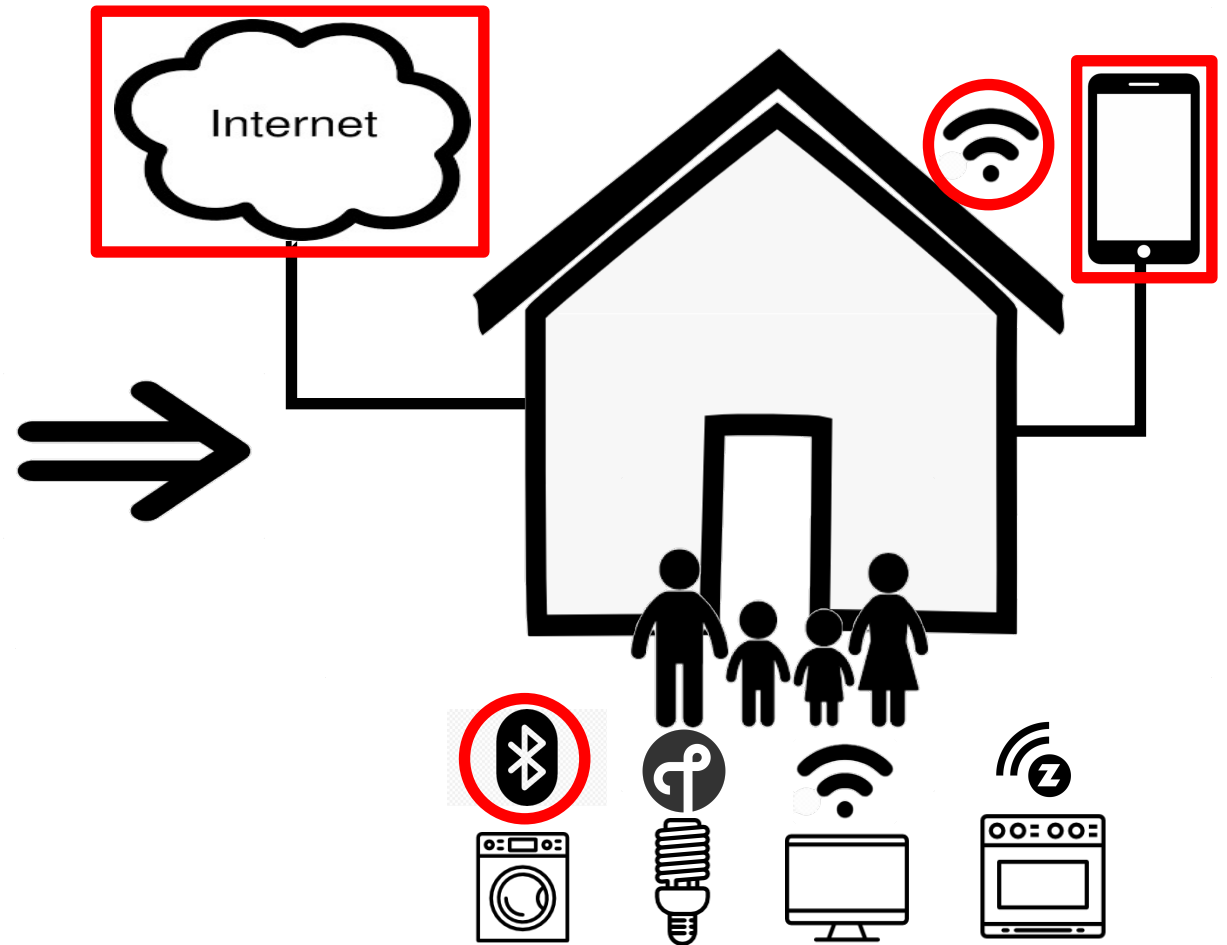
<sup>1</sup> Csikszentmihalyi M. & Halton, E., 1981. *The Meaning of Things: Domestic Symbols and the Self.*

# EVOLUTION OF THE HOME

## Traditional Home



## Smart Connected Home

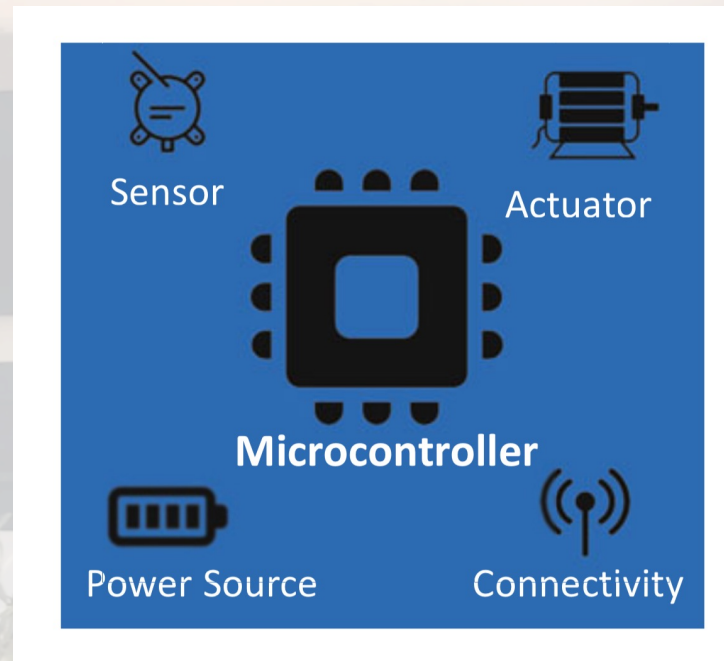


# THE SMART CONNECTED HOME



# THE SMART CONNECTED HOME

The home appliances and hardware have become computers



# PRIVACY AND SECURITY THREATS

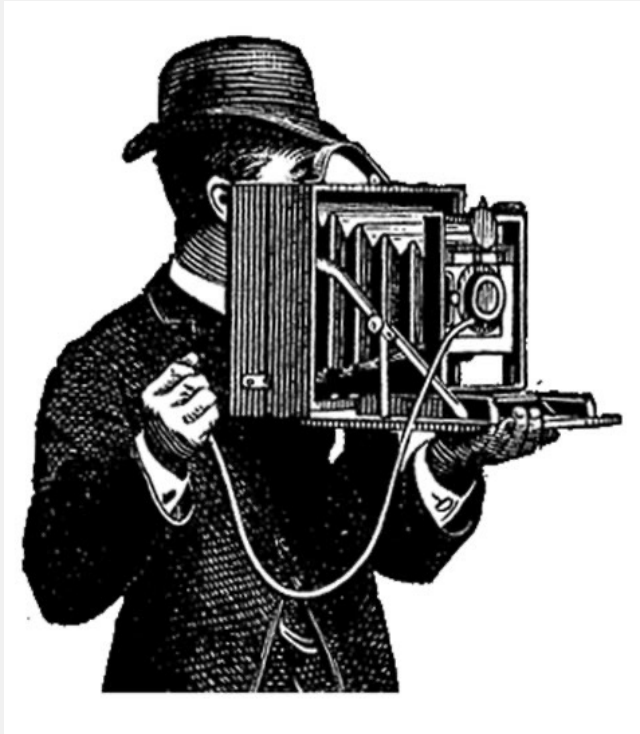
- A smart TV might watch us back
- A smart speaker might listen to our intimate and sensitive conversations
- A smart thermostat might detect our behaviors and activities



European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen delivers 'State of the European Union' speech at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France, 15 Sep 2021



# PRIVACY




# PRIVACY



# PRIVACY AND SECURITY




# PRIVACY AND SECURITY



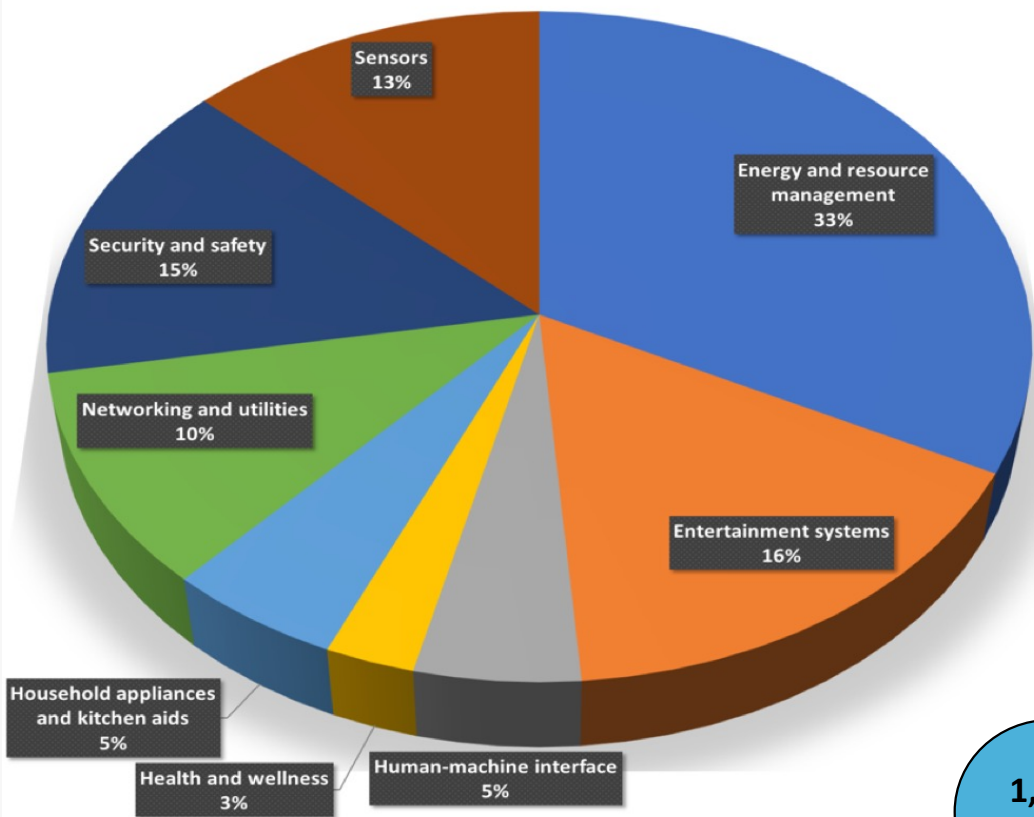
Art. 32 GDPR “Security of processing.” This requires that personal data must be processed securely using appropriate technical and organisational measures.

# OVERARCHING RESEARCH QUESTION

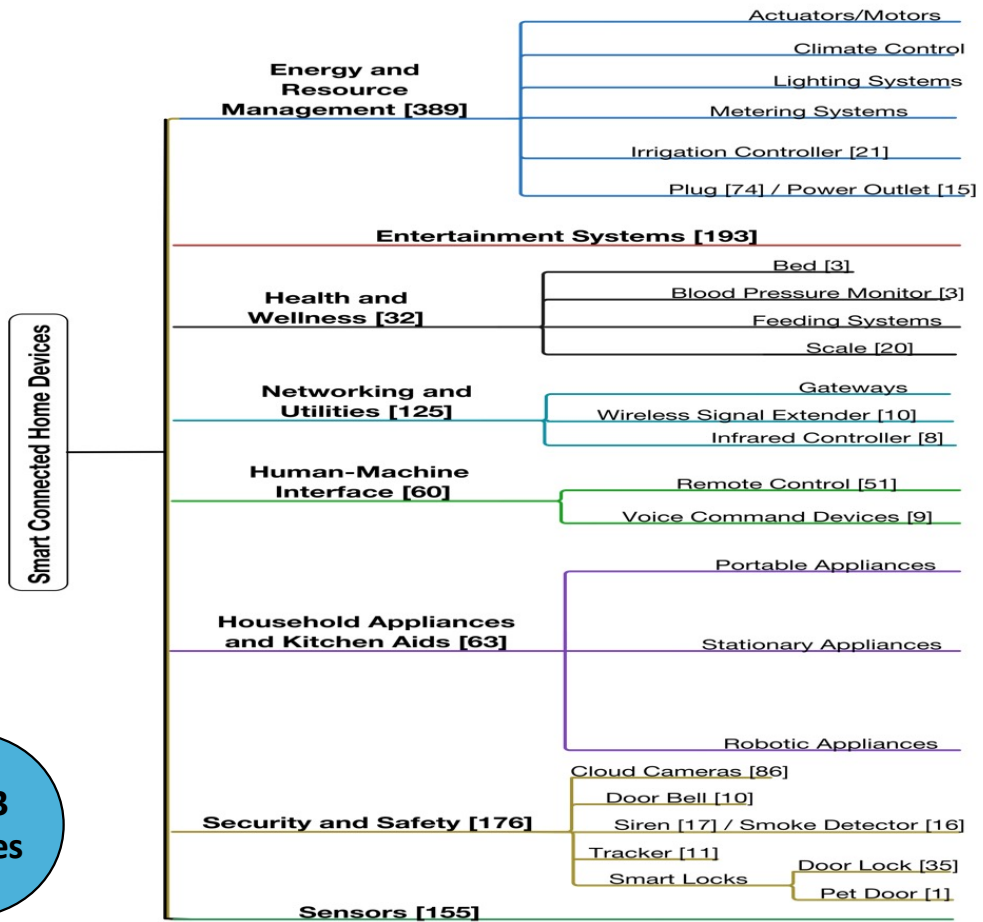


**How has the nature of privacy and security been transformed as the home got connected to the Internet?**

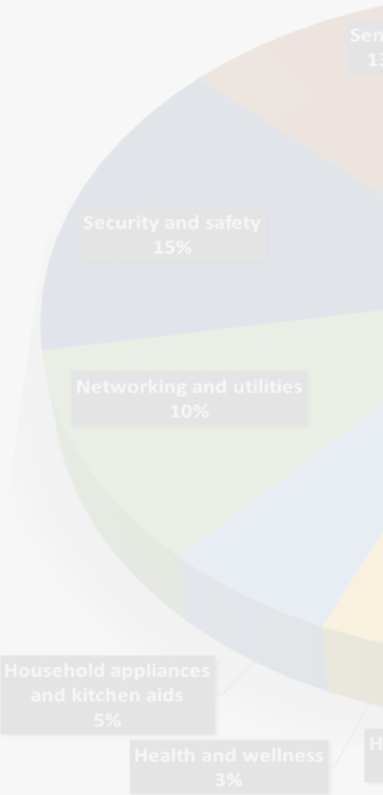
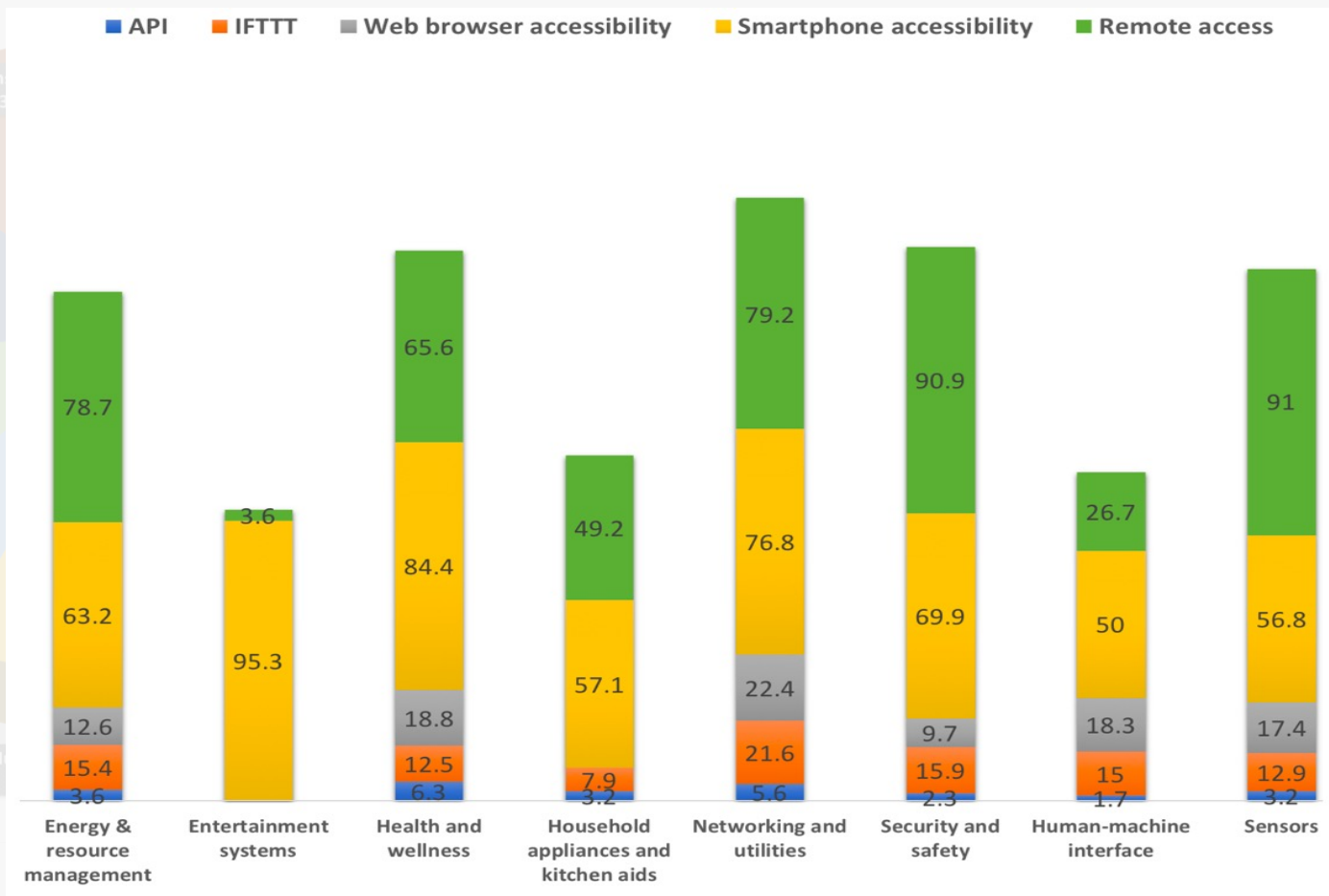
# TAXONOMY AND ANALYSIS



1,193 devices



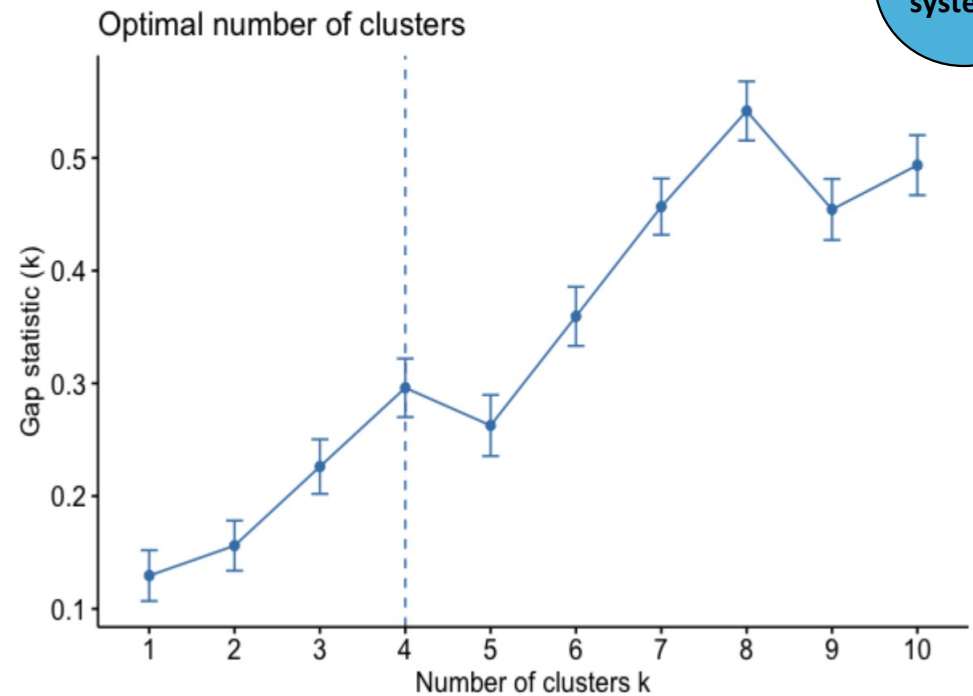
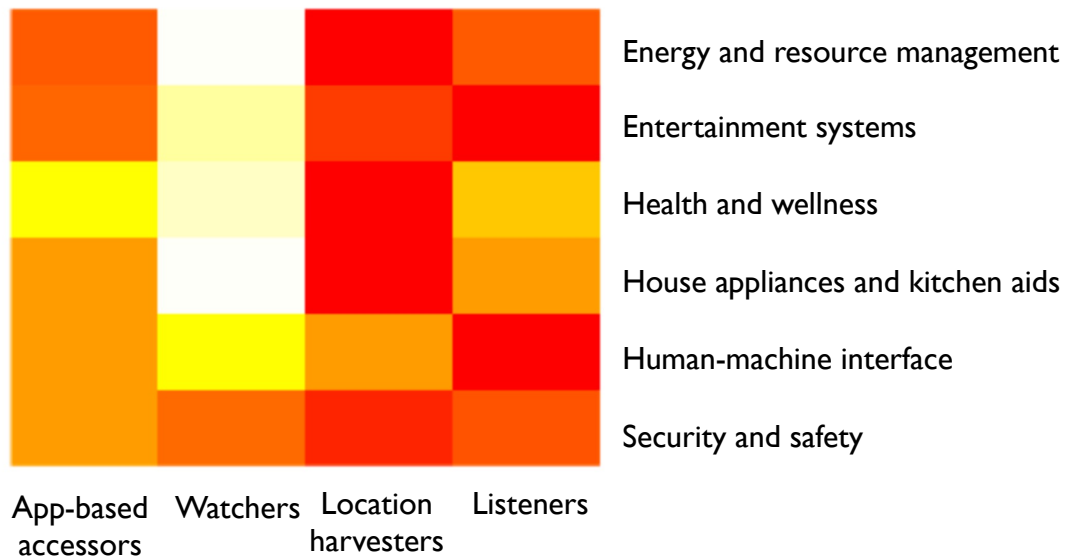
# TAXONOMY AND ANALYSIS



- Actuators/Motors
- Climate Control
- Lighting Systems
- Metering Systems
- on Controller [21]
- ig [74] / Power Outlet [15]
- [193]
- Bed [3]
- ood Pressure Monitor [3]
- Feeding Systems
- Scale [20]
- Gateways
- Signal Extender [10]
- Infrared Controller [8]
- remote Control [51]
- Command Devices [9]
- Portable Appliances
- Stationary Appliances
- Robotic Appliances
- eras [86]
- [10]
- 7] / Smoke Detector [16]
- 1]
- locks
- Door Lock [35]
- Pet Door [1]



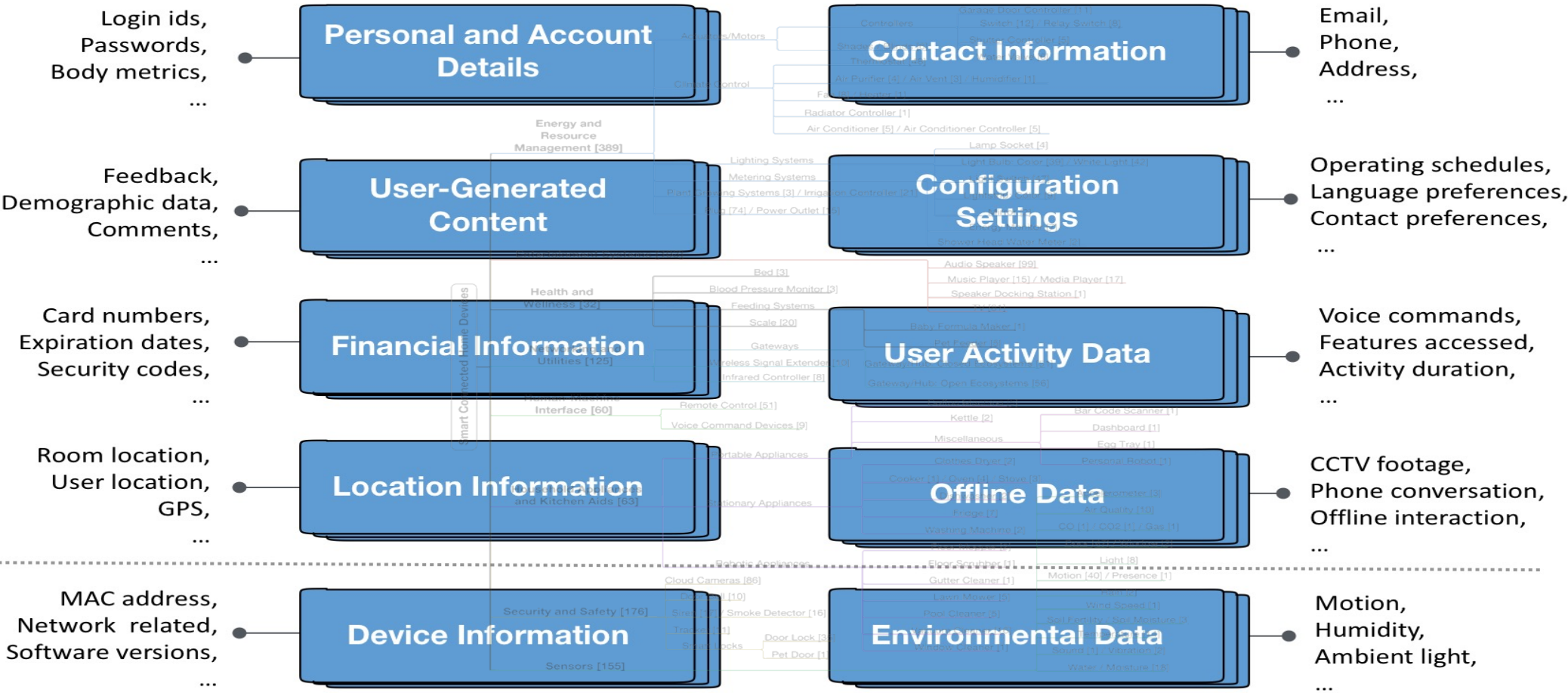
# CLASSIFICATION OF SYSTEMS



81  
systems

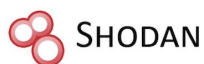


# DATA CATEGORIZATION



Bugeja, J., Jacobsson, A., Davidsson, P. (2018). An Empirical Analysis of Smart Connected Home Data (pp. 134–149). In: *Proceedings of the Internet of Things (ICIOT 2018). Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, vol 10972. Springer.

# VULNERABILITIES IN CONNECTED CAMERAS



{Threat Agent :: Hacker}

62. [REDACTED]

Property Name	Value
area_code	null
asn	AS6830
city	Gelsenkirchen
country_code	DE
country_code3	DEU
country_name	Germany
data.0._shodan.crawler	264b5a9d15a64f96a4768e9d8081t
data.0._shodan.id	null
data.0._shodan.module	rtsp-tcp
data.0.data	RTSP/1.0 200 OK CSeq: 1 Server: Hipcam RealServer/V1.0 Public: OPTIONS,DESCRIBE,SETUP,TEARDOWN,PLAY,SET_PARAMETER,GET_PARAMETER
data.0.domains	['unitymediagroup.de']

ip	104 [REDACTED]
ip_str	62. [REDACTED]
isp	Unitymedia
last_update	2018-03-20T19:29:37.676273
latitude	51.5221
longitude	7.0575
org	Unitymedia
os	null
ports	[554]
postal_code	[REDACTED]
region_code	07

**High**  
CVE-2007-5213

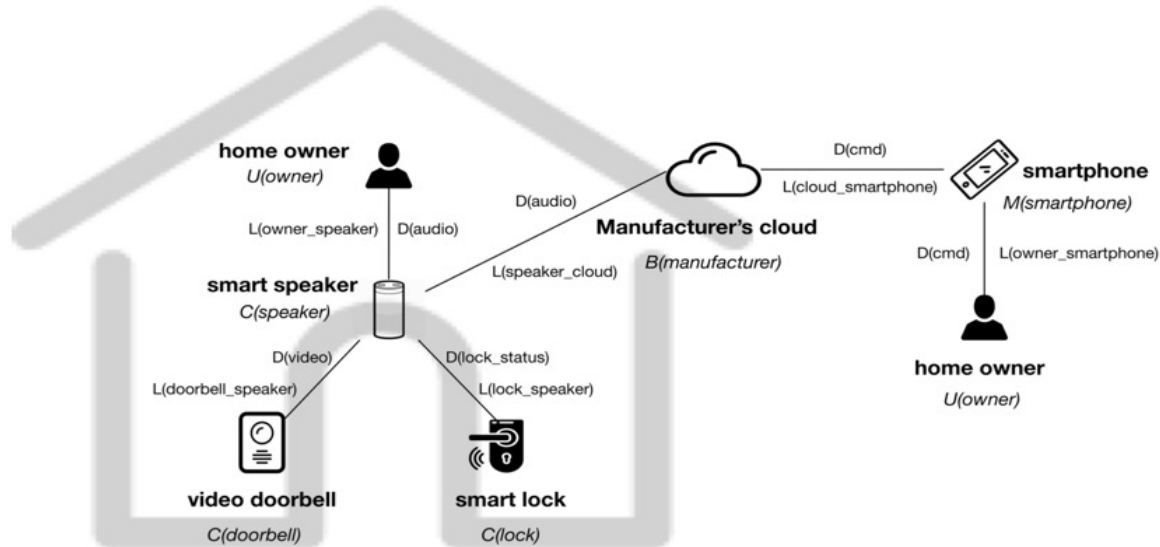
**Medium**  
CVE-2011-5261

**Critical**  
CVE-2015-2887

National  
Interests  
  
Terrorism  
  
Personal  
Gain  
  
Curiosity

Hackers Thieves Hacktivists Competitors and Organized Crime Terrorists Nation States

# PRIVACY-CENTERED SYSTEM MODEL



Nodes,  $N = \{\text{doorbell}, \text{lock}, \text{speaker}, \text{manufacturer}, \text{smartphone}\}$   
 $C(\text{speaker}).\text{capabilities} = \{\text{gateway}, \text{storage}, \text{processing}, \text{interaction}\}$   
 $B(\text{manufacturer}) = \text{cloud}$

Policy,  $P =$   
 $\{(\text{doorbell\_speaker}, \{(\text{video}, \{\text{read}\})\}), \text{doorbell}, \text{speaker}, \emptyset\},$   
 $(\text{lock\_speaker}, \{(\text{lock\_status}, \{\text{read}\})\}), \text{lock}, \text{speaker}, \emptyset\},$   
 $(\text{speaker\_cloud}, \{(\text{audio}, \{\text{read}\})\}), \text{speaker}, \text{manufacturer},$   
 $\text{Time} = \{8 : 00 - 24 : 00\} \wedge \text{Location} = \{\text{house}\},$   
 $(\text{cloud\_smartphone}, \{(\text{cmd}, \{\text{read}\})\}), \text{smartphone},$   
 $\text{manufacturer}, \emptyset\},$   
 $(\text{owner\_smartphone}, \{(\text{cmd}, \{\text{read}\})\}), \text{owner}, \text{smartphone}, \emptyset\},$   
 $(\text{owner\_speaker}, \{(\text{audio}, \{\text{read}\})\}), \text{owner}, \text{speaker}, \emptyset\}$

## Identification



## Localization and Tracking

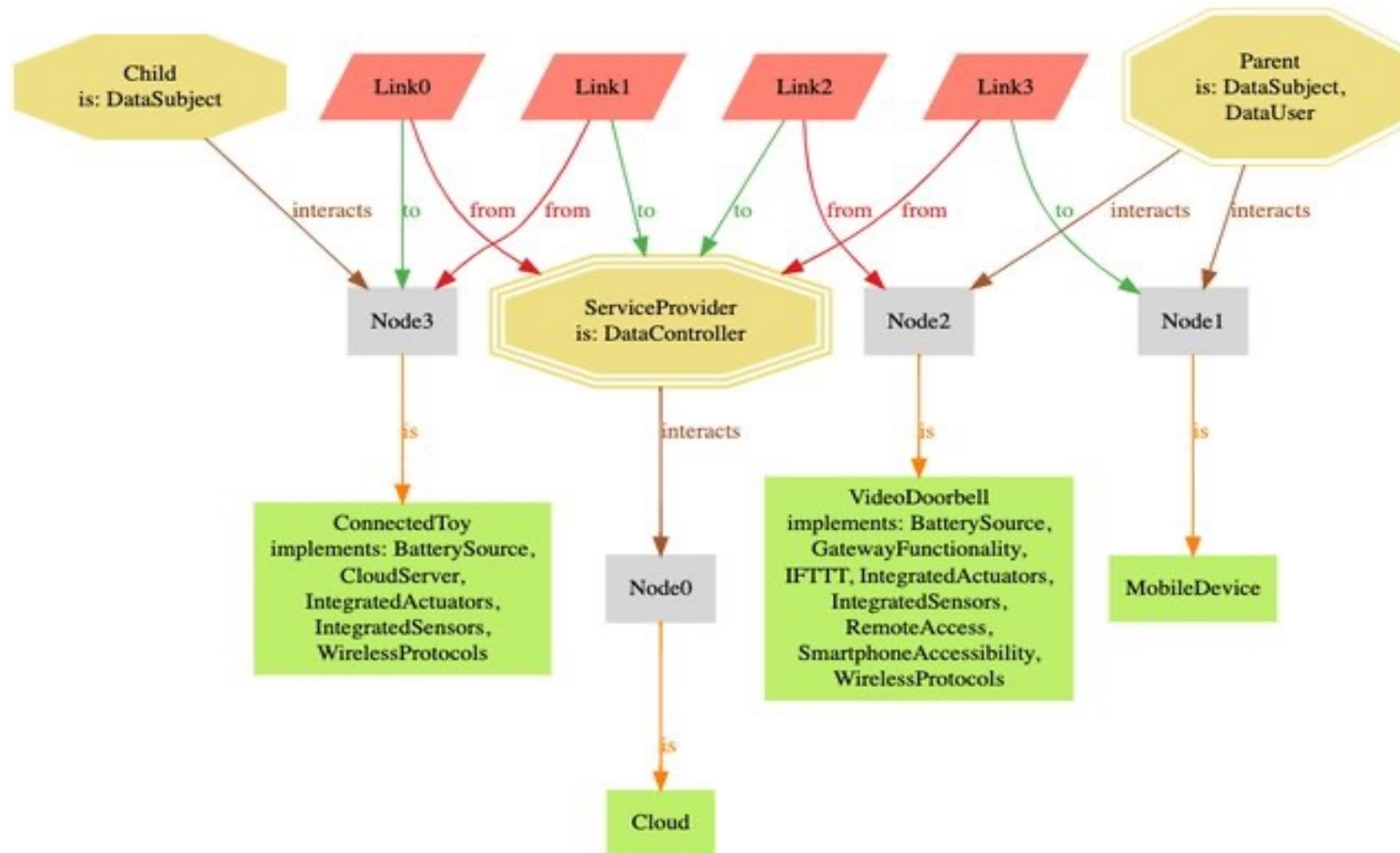


## Profiling

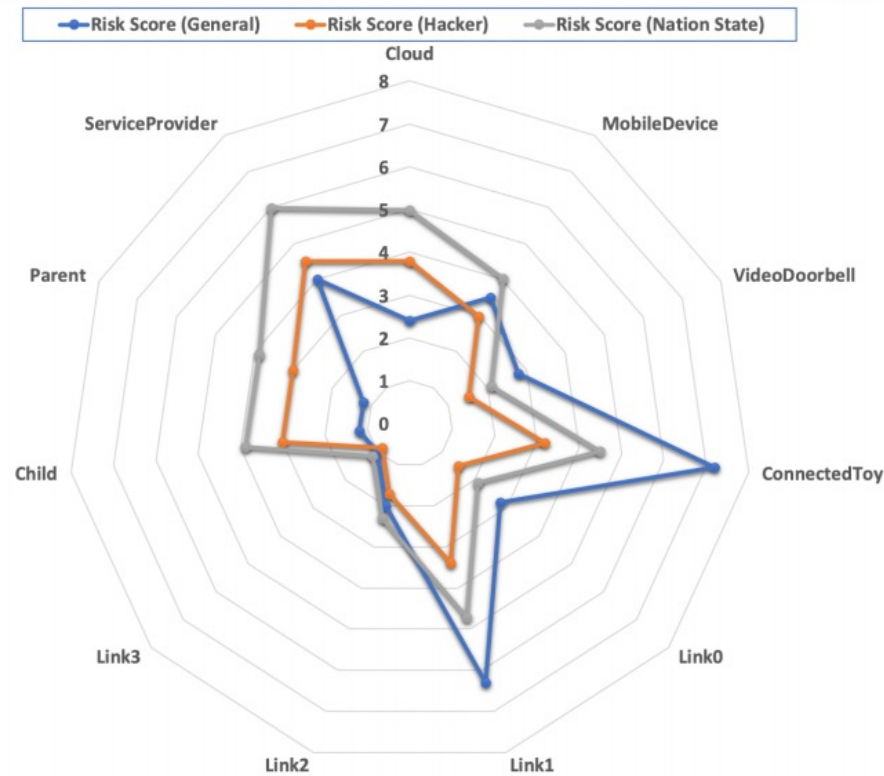


- Threat does not exist
- Threat is a potential future threat
- Threat is present

# PRIVACY RISK ANALYSIS OF SMART HOMES



# PRIVACY RISK ANALYSIS OF SMART HOMES



$$\alpha_l = \begin{cases} \prod_{i=1}^n \alpha_{l,i}, & \text{if AND node} \\ \max(\alpha_{l,i}), i = 1 \dots n, & \text{if OR node} \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha_{l.ta} = \frac{e^{ta_p - \alpha_l}}{1 + e^{ta_p - \alpha_l}}$$

$$\alpha_i = \max(\alpha_{i,i}), i = 1 \dots n, \text{ for both AND or OR node}$$

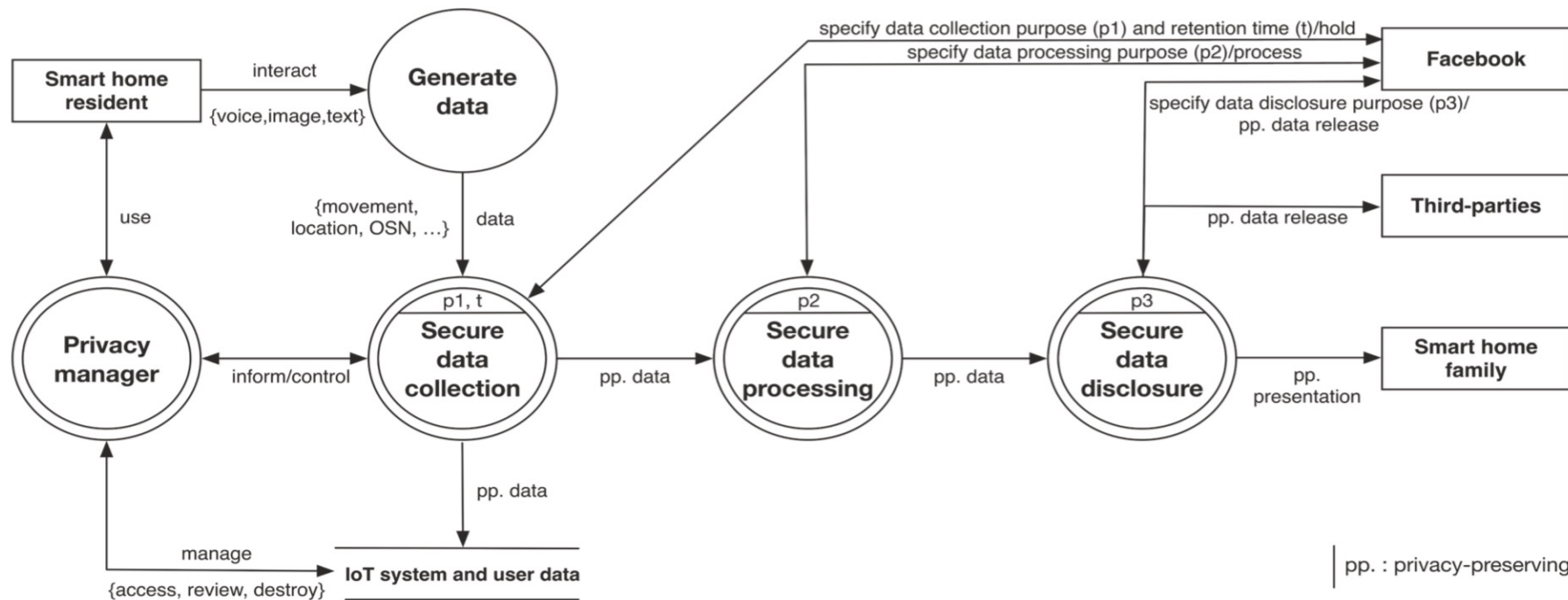
$$r_\mu = \alpha_{l,\mu} \times \alpha_{i,\mu}, \mu = 1 \dots n$$

# PRIVACY-CENTERED DATA LIFECYCLE

Information privacy threats	Protection goals	Data generation	Data collection	Data processing	Data disclosure
Identification	Unlinkability	●	●	●	○
Localization and tracking	Unlinkability	●	●	●	○
Profiling	Unlinkability	○	●	●	●
Linkage	Unlinkability	○	●	●	●
Privacy-violating interaction and presentation	Confidentiality	●	○	○	●
Inventory attacks	Detectability	○	●	○	○
Lifecycle transitions	Transparency	○	●	○	○

Bugeja, J., Jacobsson A. (2020). On the Design of a Privacy-Centered Data Lifecycle for Smart Living Spaces (pp. 126-141). In: Friedewald M., Önen M., Lievens E., Krenn S., Fricker S. (eds) *Privacy and Identity Management. Data for Better Living: AI and Privacy. Privacy and Identity 2019. IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology*, vol 576. Springer.

# PRIVACY-CENTERED DATA LIFECYCLE



# CONCLUSIONS

- Threat agents are finding ways to learn how to tap into the smart connected home and looking for new ways to attack in-home technologies
- In the dissertation, we presented contributions that enable early identification of threats, better planning for risks, and enable informed decisions about mitigations of potential impacts
- The presented contributions provide a foundation that helps deepen the understanding of privacy and security in smart connected homes





# NEXT STEPS

- Using Machine Learning techniques to automatically detect attacks on smart homes
- Creation of tools and mechanisms to support the implementation of more secure and privacy-preserving smart home technologies
- Offering guidelines for developers and policy makers to build smart home technologies that prioritize human values



# Thanks!



**MALMÖ UNIVERSITY**  
INTERNET OF THINGS AND PEOPLE