

# SoK: Security Evaluation of **Home-based IoT** Deployments

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**Alexa, unlock the front door.**

# Extinguishing the IoT Insecurity Dumpster Fire



≡ **Know**  
**IoT sec**  
**here's v**



SCRIBE





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# Prior Work

- Security Analysis of Emerging Smart Home Applications
- DolphinAttack: Inaudible Voice Commands
- Soteria: Automated IoT Safety and Security Analysis
- Skill Squatting Attacks on Amazon Alexa
- Rethinking Access Control and Authentication for the Home Internet of Things



SmartThing



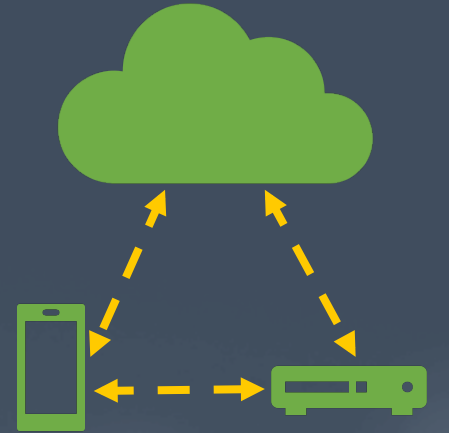


**Wouldn't  
be nice to  
know**

- Cloud endpoints
- Exposed services
- Mobile App
- Network
- Consumer report evaluation?

**CR** Consumer  
Reports

# Overview of Prior Work



## Studied Components

Devices  
Cloud integration services  
Network (by association)

## Mitigations

Patching bugs  
Vendor responsibility

## Unexplored Directions

Mobile app  
Cloud services  
Network discovery protocols  
User control and visibility



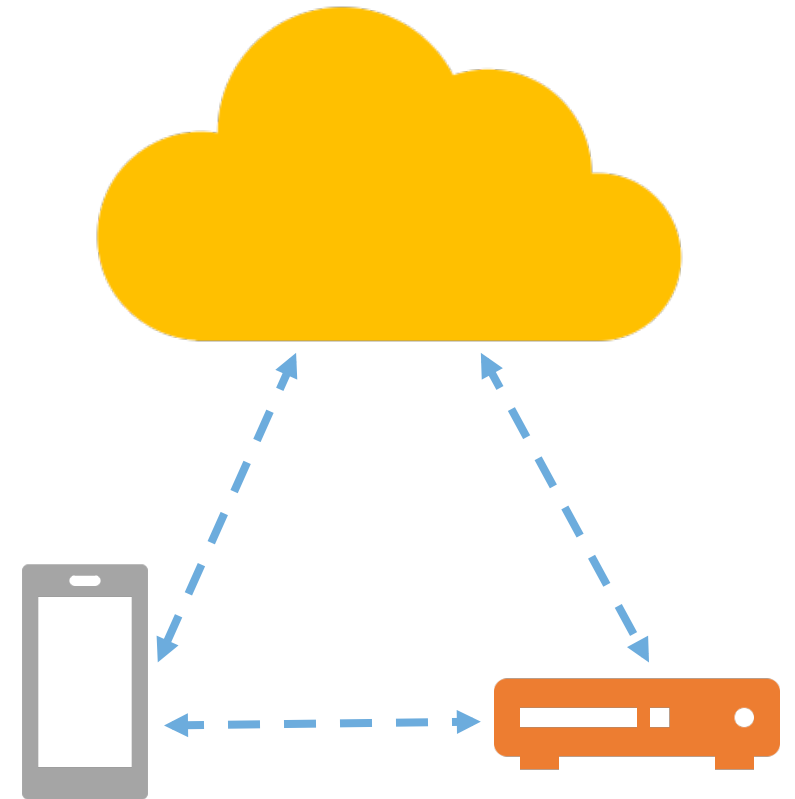
# IoT Components

Device

Mobile  
App

Cloud  
Endpoints

Network



# Evaluating Off The Shelf Devices

- Evaluation of IoT devices should be:
  - Objective
  - Transparent
  - Measurable
  - Reproducible
- Device Representation
  - Media devices vs appliances
- Easy to understand
  - Consumer oriented





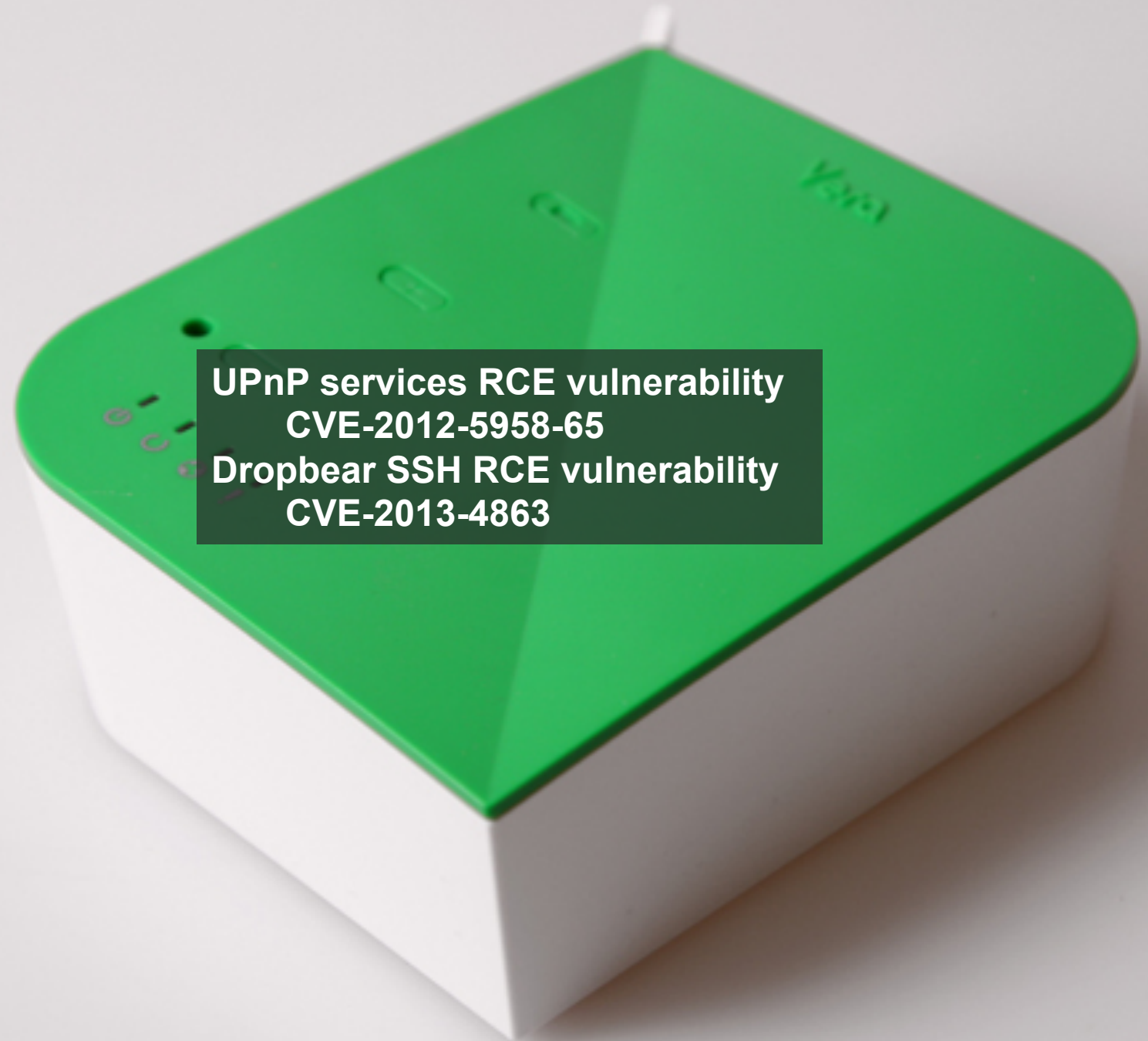
# Lab Setup





# IoT Lab Evaluation Device

- Internet pairing
- Configuration
- Updateable
- Exposed services
  - Vulnerable Services





# IoT Lab Evaluation Cloud Backends

- Types of cloud backends
  - 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or hybrid
- TLS/SSL
  - Self-signed
  - Name mismatch
  - Vulnerable TLS/SSL version
- Insecure protocols
- Vulnerable software
  - Services

- 12 different backends, 1<sup>st</sup> Party
- Supports SSL v2/v3
- CVE-2013-4810 – RCE JBoss Server



**NetCam**



**Wherever  
you are**

# IoT Lab Evaluation Mobile App

- Permissions
  - Requested unused
- Programming errors
  - Incorrect use of crypto
- Hardcoded secrets
  - API keys for cloud services

- **Hardcoded Crypto key**
  - **uLi4/f4+Pb39.T19**
- **UMENG\_MESSAGE\_SECRET: ...**

## Simple Setup

Connect to a 2.4 GHz Wi-Fi network. No hub or bridge required.



# IoT Lab Evaluation Network

- Protocols in use
  - Insecure Protocols
  - Custom Protocols
- Encryption between
  - Device to Cloud
  - Device to Mobile App
  - Mobile App to Cloud
- MITM Attack on
  - Device to Cloud
  - Device to Mobile App
  - Mobile App to Cloud



- **Partial Encryption Across the Internet**
- **No Encryption on the LAN**



# Scoring The Components



Scorecard  
system



Rating  
components



Independent  
scoring

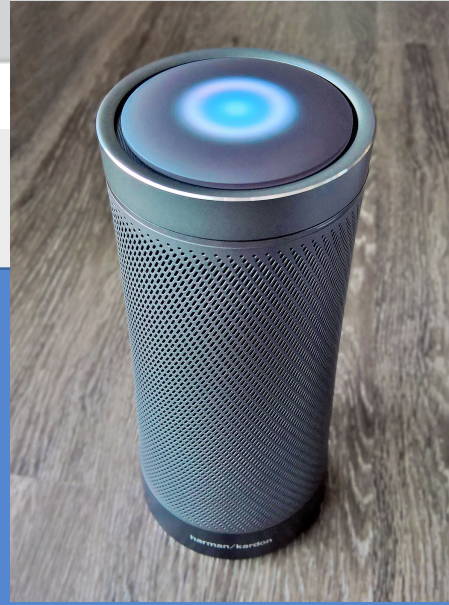


Modular



Documented





**Device Grade**

**80.95% (B)**

**Mobile Grade**

**69.23% (D)**

**Network Grade**

**89.29% (B)**




**Cloud Grade**

**57.61% (F)**

**Device**




**Harmon Kardon Invoke**

Device	Device Grade	Mobile Grade	Cloud Grade	Network Grade
 Belkin Netcam	85.71% (B)	53.85% (F)	39.13% (F)	60.71% (D)
 Belkin WeMo Link	78.57% (C)	61.54% (D)	66.3% (D)	53.57% (F)
 Belkin WeMo Motion Sensor	80.95% (B)	61.54% (D)	93.48% (A)	53.57% (F)

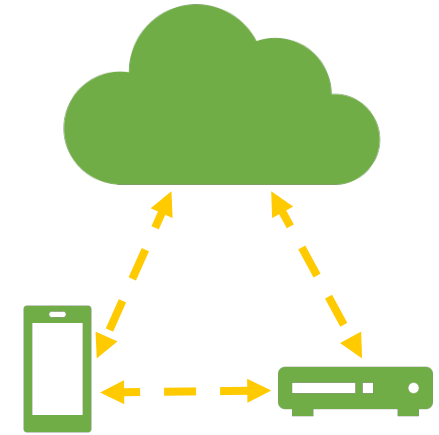






Device	Device Grade	Mobile Grade	Cloud Grade	Network Grade
 Canary	92.86% (A)	100% (A)	83.7% (B)	100% (A)

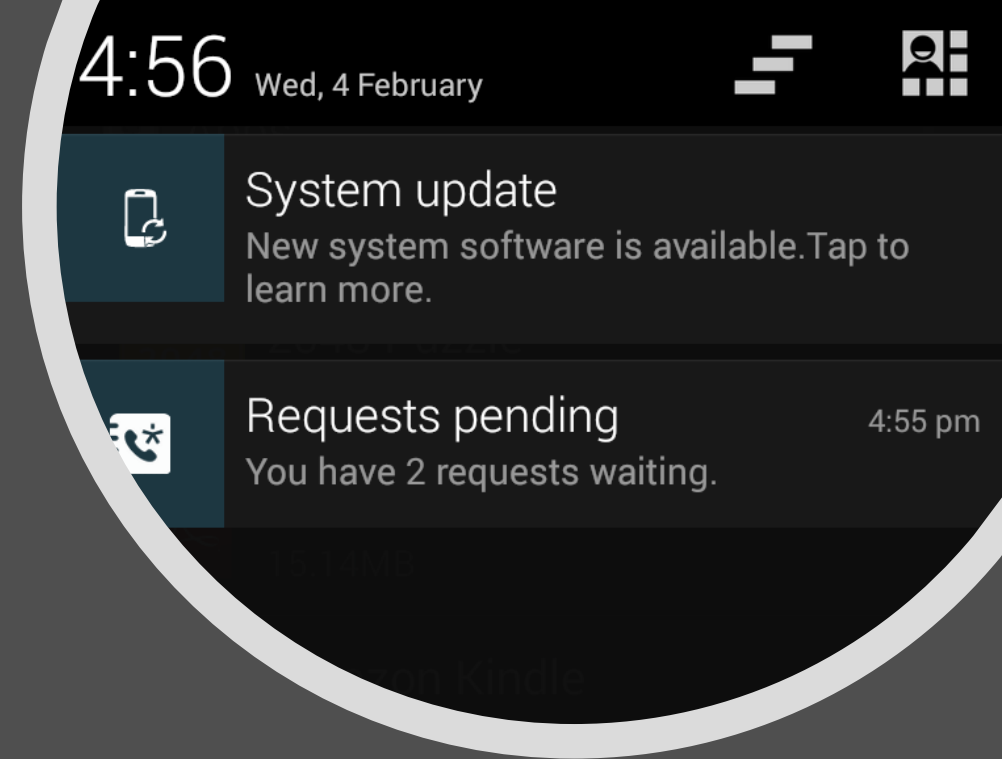
# Evaluation Takeaways



- Cloud managed
- Auto update
- Encrypted local traffic with authenticated services

# What's Next?

- Longitudinal analysis
  - Do updates improve the Things?
- Accurate representation
  - Inducing device activities





# How Can You Access/Contribute?

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- Evaluation data is public
- Feel free to reach out:
  - Request specific device evaluation
  - Sponsor devices for evaluation
  - Additional questions
- Download our data
  - <https://YourThings.info>
- Contact email:
  - [contact@YourThings.info](mailto:contact@YourThings.info)

