



IoT Security

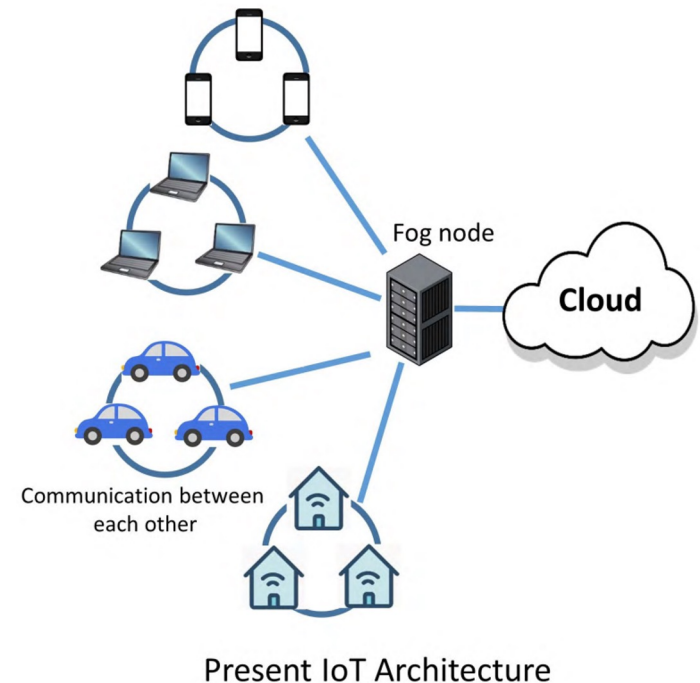
Nov 9, 2022

Aaron Bergen, Xinglei Liu



IoT Security

- Internet of Thing (IoT) devices are internet-connected or network-based physical objects
- IoT security is a collection of security measures to secure IoT devices

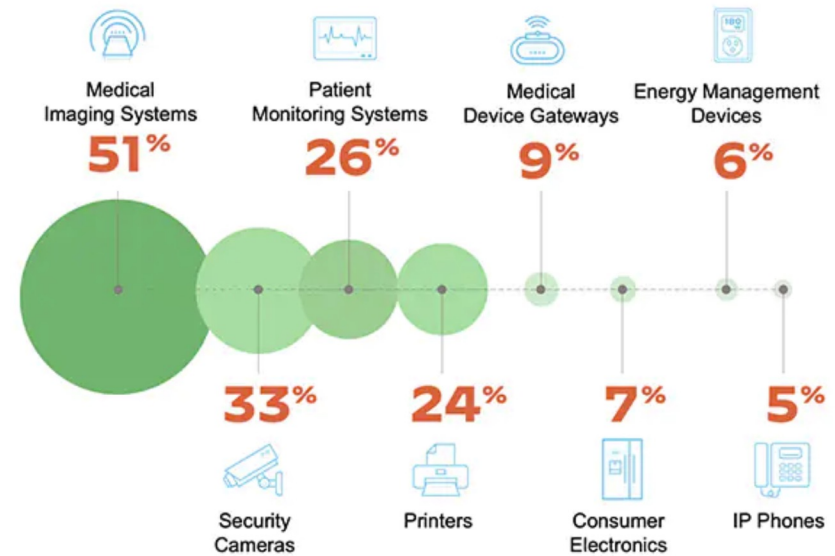




Challenges

- Inventory
- Threats
- Data volume
- Ownership
- Diversity
- Operations

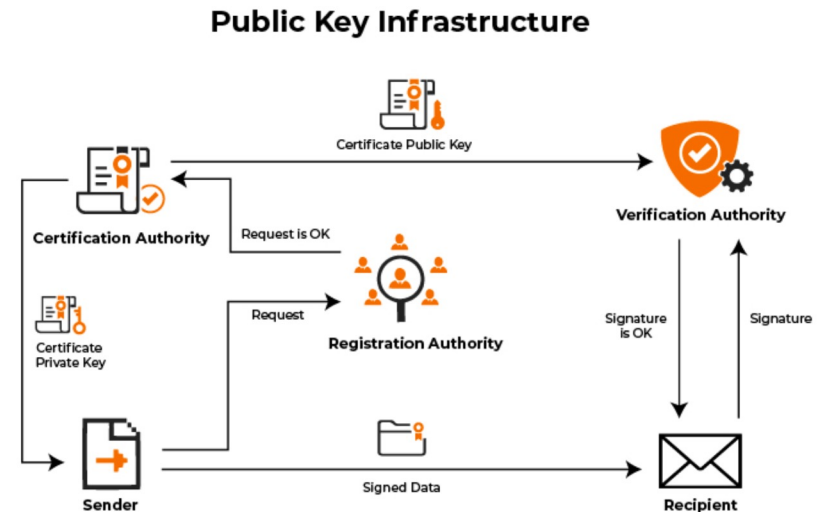
IoT Devices with Highest Share of Security Issues





IoT Security Measures

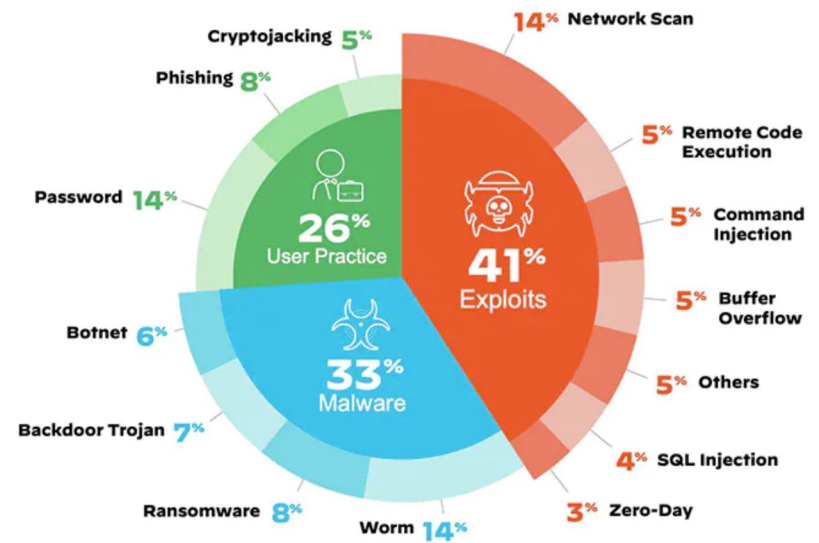
- Enable security in design phase
- Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Digital Certificates
 - Protect the client-server connections between multiple networked devices
- Network Security
 - Port security, Firewall, IDS...
- API security
 - Protect data sent from IoT devices to backend





Potential Threats

- Sensing Layer
 - Node Capture Attack
 - Malicious Code Injection
- Network Layer
 - Phishing Site Attack
 - Access Attack
 - DDOS Attack
- Data Processing Layer
 - Flooding Attack
 - SQL Injection
- Application Layer
 - Data Theft Attack
 - Access Control Attack



Current Weaknesses



Source: Juniper Research

IoT Characteristics

- | Closed / open platforms
- | Variable policies
- | High data volume handling

- | Public / private / hybrid cloud deployment

- | 2G, 3G, LTE, 5G
- | DSL, Fibre, LPWAN
- | Wi-Fi, Bluetooth
- | MQTT, IP, ZigBee, Mesh RF, Wi-Fi etc

- | Variable communications protocols
- | Time-sensitive data analysis

- | Limited power
- | Low bandwidth
- | Constrained capabilities

- | Sensitive data: video, audio, location, personal information
- | Technical data: environmental measurement, uptime reports

Potential Security Weakness & Targets

- | Code
- | Lack of penetration testing
- | Weak User / Third Party Authentication

- | Code
- | Policy management

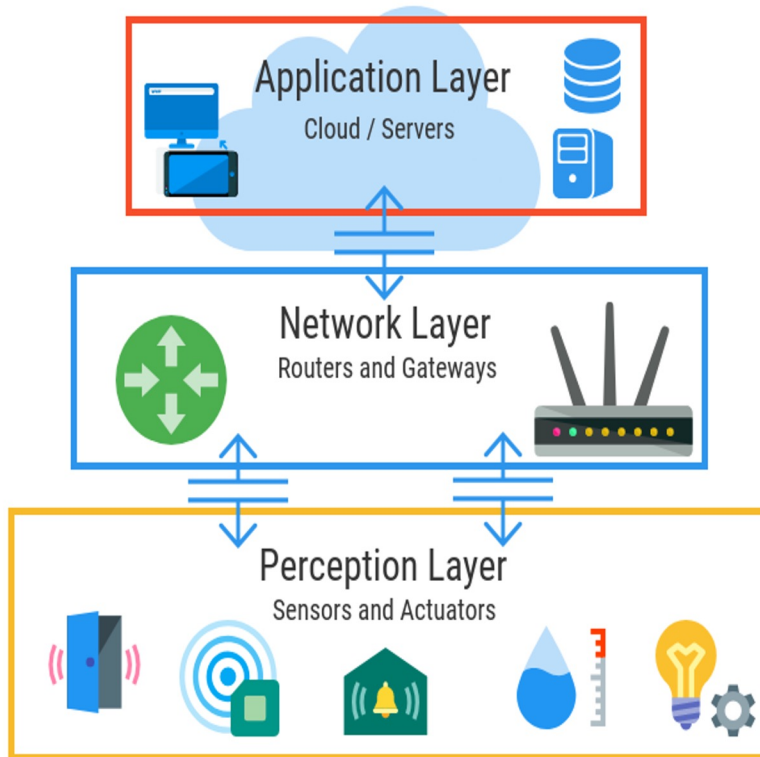
- | Insecure communications

- | Policy management
- | Denial-of-service
- | No / insecure updates
- | Poor hardware design

- | Design faults
- | Software / firmware implementation faults
- | Inability to update

- | Users
- | Policy management
- | Data storage

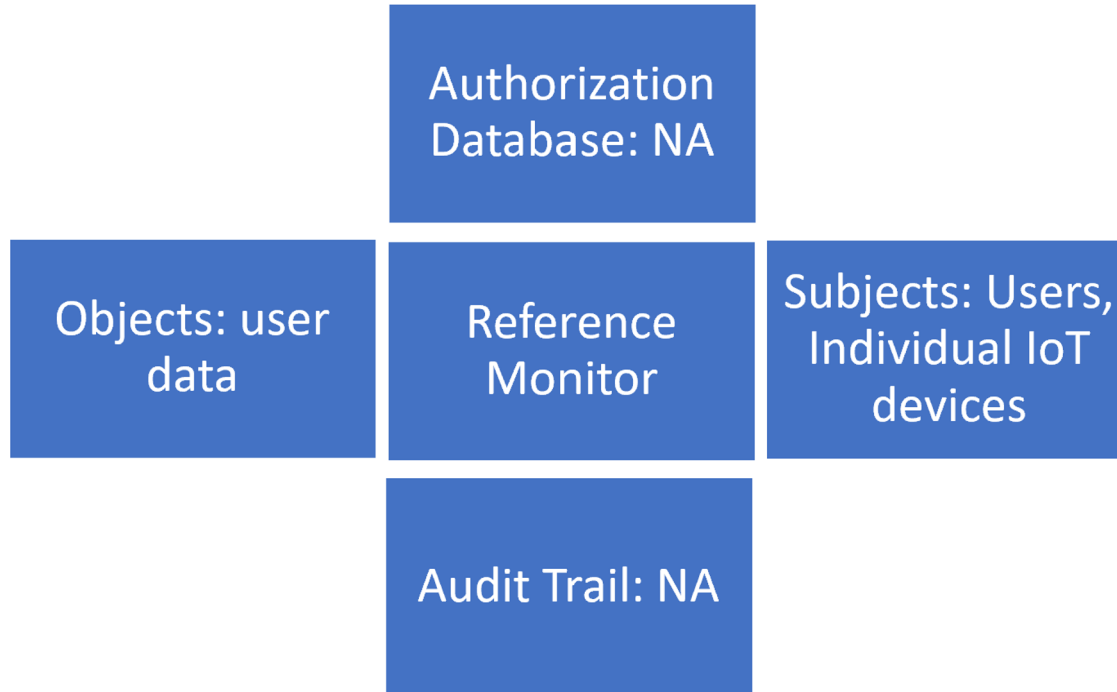
IoT Architecture



- **Sensing Layer:** The “Things” of the Internet of Things.
 - sensors, actuators, things that can represent the physical environment
- **Network Layer:** The “Edge”
 - Internet/Network gateways, Data Acquisition systems
 - Filtering data, aggregating data.
- **Data processing Layer:** “Edge analytics”
 - Data is analyzed and pre-processed before sending to the cloud or other data centers.
- **Application Layer:** end usage
 - Data is then used by end user applications like farming, agriculture, health care, defense, ect.

Note: There is no IoT architecture that is agreed on.

RM Comparison



Current Security Efforts:

- Password Protection
- Encryption
- Restrictive network communication policies
- Note, none of these efforts focus on creating an audit trail to track security violations or an authorization database to list the access attributes of subjects or objects

80% of IoT devices on the market do not have either a repository of subject object attributes or any record of security-related events.

RM 3 Principle Shortcomings



Tamperproof



Non bypassable



Verifiable



Not tamper proof because while some IoT devices more concerned with security use encrypted communication or mandate strong passwords, the hardware or software production chain is often across multiple companies, all with differing, if any, regard to user security. Many opportunities to install malicious code and backdoors.

Not non-bypassable because not every access is mediated. If one IoT device is compromised, it can infect the entire network so that future accesses to the network are not mediated or authorized.

Not verifiable because there is little to no assurance that it can implement policy. Little to no IoT hardware devices are made with security in mind, and security is only added later at the data processing or application layer. Ad-hoc solution.



References

<https://www.techtarget.com/iotagenda/definition/loT-security-Internet-of-Things-security>

<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/abstract/document/8742551>

<https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/security/glossary/iot-security/>

<https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/cyberpedia/what-is-iot-security>

<https://www.hpe.com/us/en/insights/articles/9-ways-to-make-iot-devices-more-secure-1701.html>

<https://www.netburner.com/learn/architectural-frameworks-in-the-iot-civilization/>

<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/architecture-of-internet-of-things-iot/>