A view from an AllJoyn analyzer/participant

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The industry isn't staying still

- Getting smart object engineers to become aware of research is an issue...
 - Often they only become aware of standards (IF they even do that)
 - And maybe learnings from competing ecosystems (but often not)
- Research & standards both take a while
 - but people will do stuff in the meantime
- Need research around things that have immediate practical impact:
 - How are things working and not working?
 - What are the limits?
 - How might issues be addressed?
 - How do you do deal with heterogeneity of competing ecosystems?
 - Economic/RFC5218 analysis of protocols & ecosystems

AllSeen Alliance is a consortium AllJoyn is the open-source project

• AllJoyn:

- Cross-platform (Linux/Android, Windows, iOS, etc.), multiple languages (C, C++, Java, etc.)
- Predominantly IP-based (mostly IPv4) but non-IP lower layers allowed
 - Stack is: app/AllJoyn/D-Bus'/TCP-or-UDP/IP + app/AllJoyn/DNS-SD/mDNS'/IP
- RPC-like communication with Properties, Methods, and Signals
 - "RPC-like" since async message based underneath
- Has devices in market (LG TVs, Panasonic speakers, water heaters, etc.)
 - https://allseenalliance.org/showcase
- Focuses on proximal network only, requires ALG to get out

AllSeen Alliance:

- has two types of technical WGs...
 - A) protocol, security model, etc. but no (yet) formal protocol specs per se, just overviews and code
 - E.g. using "application manifests"
 - B) formal device-specific schemas (in D-Bus introspection XML format)
- Does certification
- Discussion happens on public mailing lists and conf calls

Some practical examples

- Security & privacy:
 - Security/trust models, esp. when have heterogeneous protocols
 - Usability research would also be very useful here
 - Privacy e.g. ownership changes, watching airwaves, etc.
 - How do you secure class 0 devices effectively?
 - Physical security? Uses of asymmetric-work crypto? Etc.
 - How safe is 8-byte authentication tag length?
- Data model taxonomy, esp. when have heterogeneous protocols
 - How can you efficiently map between them?
- Auto election of "best" router/relay to pick (based on powered-ness, version, load, internet-connected or not, L2 media type, etc.)
- What would convince consumers to want smart objects?
- How securely get a description you can trust of what a device will do?