

Privacy in the Age of the Internet of Things

Norman Sadeh

Carnegie Mellon University

www.normsadeh.org

usableprivacy.org privacyassistant.org

explore.usableprivacy.org

Quick Show of Hands

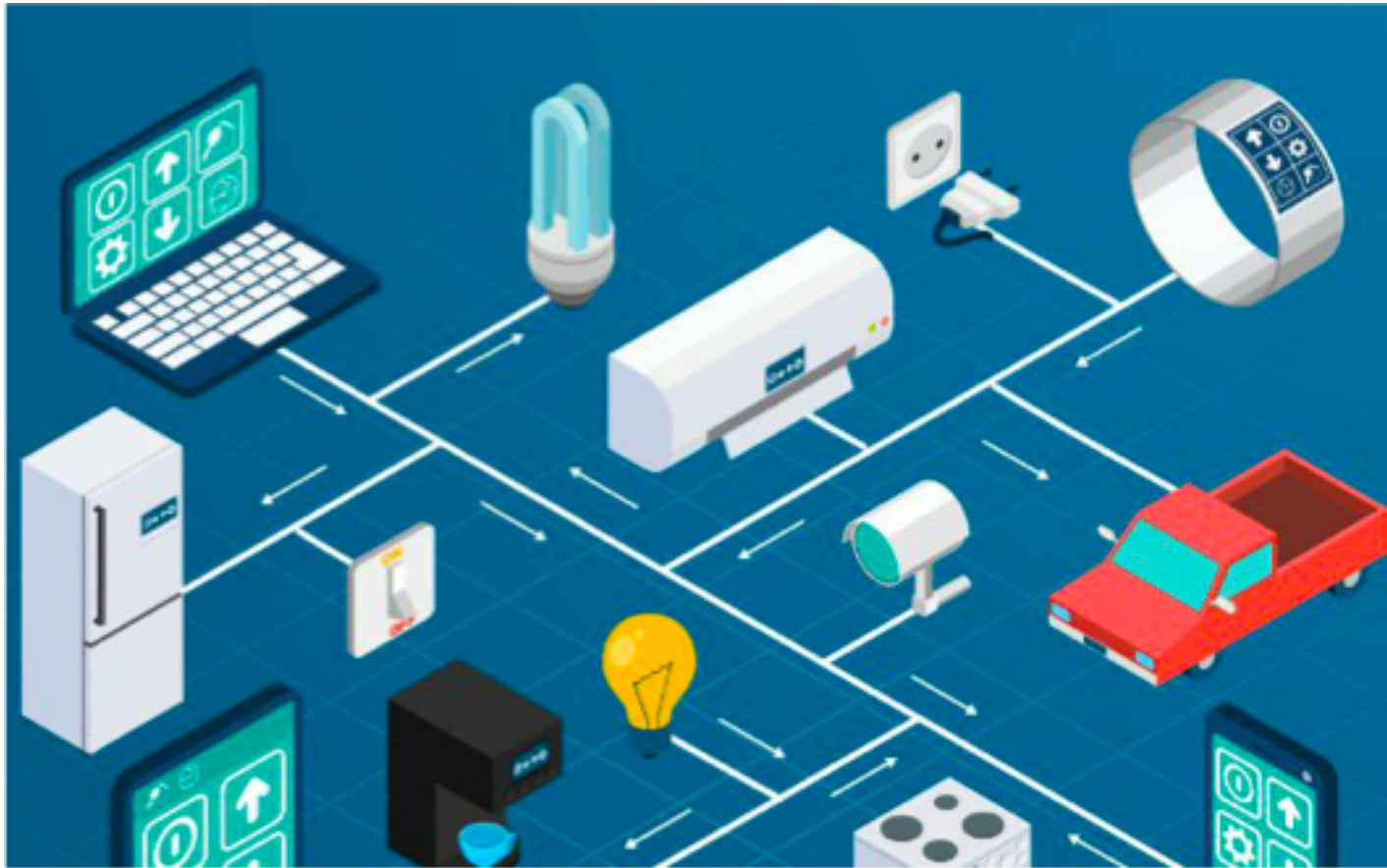
- Imagine that you are in the market to purchase a car insurance policy...

How Many of You Would Feel Comfortable Disclosing...

- How many miles you drive per year?
- How fast you drive...
 - Based on GPS...
- Where you go and when...
 - Based on GPS...
- Relevant health data...
 - Such as how many hours you sleep at night...
 - Based on data sensed by your wristwatch...

Internet of Things & Big Data

Increasingly diverse, complex and opaque dataflows



<http://www.iamwire.com/2017/01/iot-ai/148265>

Information Privacy

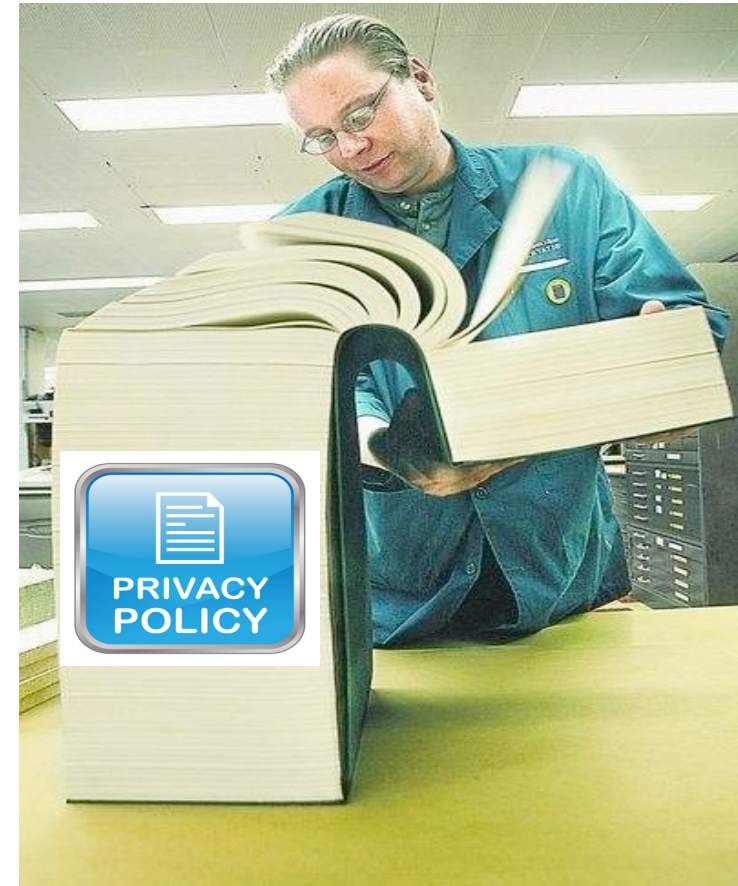
- The claim that ***certain information should not be collected by government or businesses – or possibly only under special circumstances*** and subject to various rules
 - individuals have some **control over the collection and use of information about them**

Legal Landscape

- **A number of privacy laws around the world:**
 - US: State, federal and local laws
 - Federal level: Patchwork of sectoral laws and laws that pertain to data collected by the government
 - EU: General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- All these laws share some **commonalities:**
They set minimum requirements to:
 - **Inform** users about data collection and use practices
 - Provide users with some type of **choice**

In practice...

- **Notice and choice is broken**
 - No time to read policies
 - Policies difficult to understand
 - No time or motivation to configure settings
- **91% of people report feeling they have lost control over their information**



Pew Survey 2014 <http://www.pewinternet.org/2014/11/12/public-privacy-perceptions/>

Mobile and IoT: A Number of Complicating Factors

- A typical mobile phone user with 50 mobile apps each requesting 3 permissions would have to **configure 150 settings**
- IoT: Technology is often **“invisible”**
- **Reading policies is even less practical**
- Explosion in the number of apps and devices
- Developers often **lack the necessary sophistication**

“Modeling Users’ Mobile App Privacy Preferences: Restoring Usability in a Sea of Permission Settings”, J. Lin, B. Liu, N. Sadeh, J. Hong, Proc. of the USENIX Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security, SOUPS 2014, Jul. 2014

What If.....

- **Computers understood privacy policies?**
 - Machine-readable policies have been proposed but have not gained traction
- **Computers understood what we care about and what we already know/expect**

Could We Teach Computers to Read Privacy Policies?

Annotation Tool

The screenshot displays the Annotation Tool interface. At the top, the current policy is identified as 'a 88_newreanonline.com'. A navigation bar shows various categories: 'First Party Collection/Use' (highlighted with a red box and labeled 'Select a category'), 'Third Party Sharing/Collection', 'User Choice/Control', 'User Access, Edit and Deletion', 'Data Retention', 'Data Security', 'Policy Change', 'Do Not Track', 'International and Specific Audiences', and 'Other'. Below this, a '7/41' indicator and 'Annotated Practices: 1' are visible. The main content area shows a paragraph titled 'Information We Collect' with a highlighted text span: 'Personal information, such as your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, user name and password'. A red box highlights this span, with an arrow pointing to the 'Personal Information Type' attribute in the right-hand panel. The right panel, titled 'First Party Collection/Use', lists attributes: 'Does/Does Not', 'Collection Mode', 'Action First-Party', 'Identifiability', 'Personal Information Type' (selected), 'Purpose', 'User Type', 'Choice Type', and 'Choice Scope'. Below these are dropdown menus for values: 'Does', 'Unspecified', 'Collect on website', 'Identifiable', 'Contact' (selected), 'Unspecified', 'Unspecified', 'Unspecified', and 'Unspecified'. A 'Save' button is at the bottom right. A label 'Select an attribute' points to the 'Personal Information Type' attribute, and 'Select a value' points to the 'Contact' value. At the bottom, a section titled 'Practices of this paragraph' lists 'First Party Collection/Use' and 'Third Party Sharing/Collection' with their respective attribute and value pairs. A label 'Highlight text span for an attribute, value pair' points to the highlighted text span.

Select a category

Select an attribute

Select a value

Highlight text span for an attribute, value pair

S. Wilson, F. Schaub, A. Dara, F. Liu, S. Cherivirala, P.G. Leon, M.S. Andersen, S. Zimmeck, K. Sathyendra, N.C. Russell, T.B. Norton, E. Hovy, J.R. Reidenberg, N. Sadeh, "The Creation and Analysis of a Website Privacy Policy Corpus", ACL '16: Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics, Aug 2016

Browse

by [Category](#) [Readability](#) [Popularity](#)

- Arts 68
- Business 53
- Computers 42
- Games 26
- Health 35
- Home 37
- Kids and Teens 46
- News 32
- Recreation 42
- Reference 31

Arts

68

E! Online

Privacy policy from Jan 14, 2015 with 256 practice statements.



FOX Sports

Privacy policy from Jun 11, 2015 with 215 practice statements.



Racked

Privacy policy from May 1, 2014 with 204 practice statements.



See more

Business

53

Blogger

Privacy policy from Jun 30, 2015 with 241 practice statements.



AOL

Privacy policy from Jun 23, 2015 with 232 practice statements.



Allstate

Privacy policy from May 29, 2015 with 226 practice statements.



See more

Privacy Practices

Click a category to filter practice statements.

- First Party Collection/Use 67
- Third Party Sharing/Collection 21
- User Choice/Control 6
- User Access, Edit and Deletion 8
- Data Retention 1**
 - Retention period ?
 - All
 - Indefinitely (1)
 - Purpose of retention ?
 - All
 - Unspecified (1)
 - more filters ▼
- Data Security 8
- Policy Change 6
- Do Not Track 0
- International and Specific Audiences 8

Privacy Policy

Yahoo News Privacy Policy from Sep 25, 2014. Reading Level: College (Grade 13)
 125 privacy practice statements in total
 This privacy policy also applies to [Flickr](#), [Yahoo Finance](#), [Yahoo News](#), [Yahoo Sports](#), and [Yahoo! Good Morning America](#).

We reserve the right to send you certain communications relating to the Yahoo service, such as service announcements, administrative messages and the Yahoo Newsletter, that are considered part of your Yahoo account, without offering you the opportunity to opt out of receiving them.

You can delete your [Yahoo account by visiting our Account Deletion page](#). **Please click here to read about information that might possibly remain in our archived records after your account has been deleted.**

CONFIDENTIALITY A user's user profile is retained indefinitely to fulfill an unspecified purpose. We limit access to personal information to those we believe reasonably need to come into contact with that information to provide products or services to you or in order to do their jobs.

We have physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal regulations to protect personal information about you.

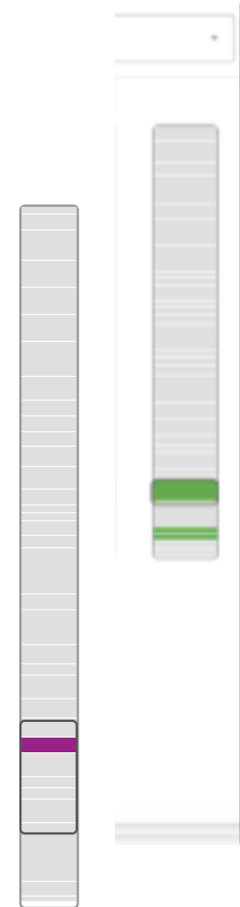
To learn more about security, including the security steps we have taken and security steps you can take, please read Security at Yahoo.

CHANGES TO THIS PRIVACY POLICY

Yahoo may update this policy. We will notify you about significant changes in the way we treat personal information by sending a notice to the primary email address specified in your Yahoo account or by placing a prominent notice on our site.

QUESTION AND SUGGESTIONS

If you have questions, suggestions, or wish to make a complaint, please complete a feedback



A First Task: Segment Annotation

Privacy Policy



Disclosure of Your Information Sci-News.com does not sell, trade or rent your personal information to third parties. If we choose to do so in the future, you will be notified by email of our intentions, and have the right to be removed prior to the disclosure.

Machine Learning Model

Predict



This policy segment discusses:

- **Third Party Sharing/Collection**

Another Task: User Choice Instance Extraction



Choice Instance !!!

If you do not want us to use personal information that we gather to allow third parties to personalize advertisements we display to you, please adjust your Advertising Preferences .

- User choices often buried deep in the text of long policies
- Is it possible to **automatically extract information** about such “choice instances” from privacy policies?
- Use Natural Language Toolkit tokenizer to subdivide segments into sentences & build classifiers

K.M. Sathyendra, F. Schaub, S. Wilson, N. Sadeh. *Automatic Extraction of Opt-Out Choices from Privacy Policies*. AAAI Fall Symposium on Privacy and Language Technologies. 2016.

K.M. Sathyendra, S. Wilson, F. Schaub, S. Zimmeck, N. Sadeh. *Identifying the Provision of Choices in Privacy Policies*, EMNLP Conference, 2017 (accepted for publication)

Annotated 7,000+ policies

The screenshot shows the Usable Privacy website interface. At the top, the logo 'USABLE PRIVACY.ORG' is displayed with the tagline 'EXPLORE'. Navigation links include 'About', 'Browse Privacy Policies', and 'Download the Data'. A search bar is present on the right. The main content area is for the 'New York Times nytimes.com' privacy policy. It indicates the policy was obtained on 7/8/2017 (1 version) and has a reading level of 'College Graduate (Grade 11)'. A sidebar on the left allows filtering by practice statements, with categories like 'First Party Collection/Use' (23), 'Third Party Sharing/Collection' (21), 'User Choice/Control' (7), 'User Access, Edit and Deletion' (2), 'Data Retention' (2), 'Data Security' (1), 'Policy Change' (1), and 'Do Not Track' (1). The main text of the policy is visible, including sections on sharing, contests, reader surveys, and device information. A 'Choices' section is highlighted with a blue circle, containing text about interest-based ad targeting and newsletter subscriptions. A vertical bar on the right side of the page shows a color-coded progress indicator for various policy sections.

<https://explore.usableprivacy.org/>

Press Coverage – Notice the Irony

MENU | NEWSLETTER | SUBSCRIBE

CO.DESIGN

f t i v in

UI & UX PRODUCTS CITIES & SPACES GRAPHICS INNOVATION BY DESIGN

**WE HAVE UPDATED OUR
PRIVACY POLICY.**

You can view the new version [here](#)

FASTCOMPANY

03.19.18

You're Never Going To Read That Privacy Policy. Could AI Help?

This AI trained on legalese acts like a personal translator of confusing, opaque privacy statements.



ADVERTISEMENT

An advertisement for ESRI. It features a night-time aerial view of a city with several yellow location pins overlaid on the map. The ESRI logo is visible in the top right corner.

PRESENTED BY ESRI

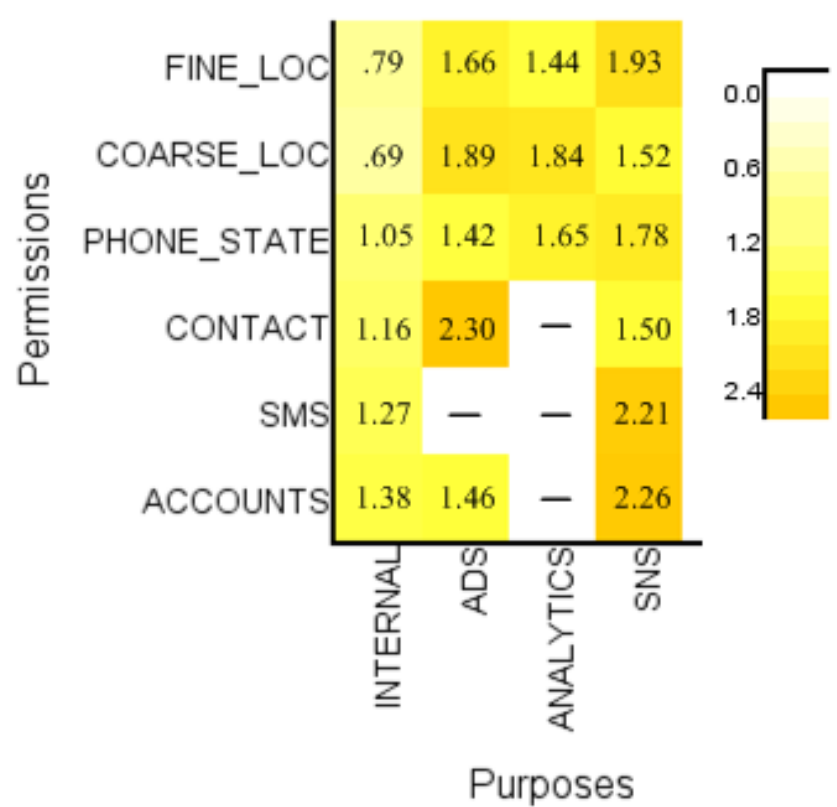
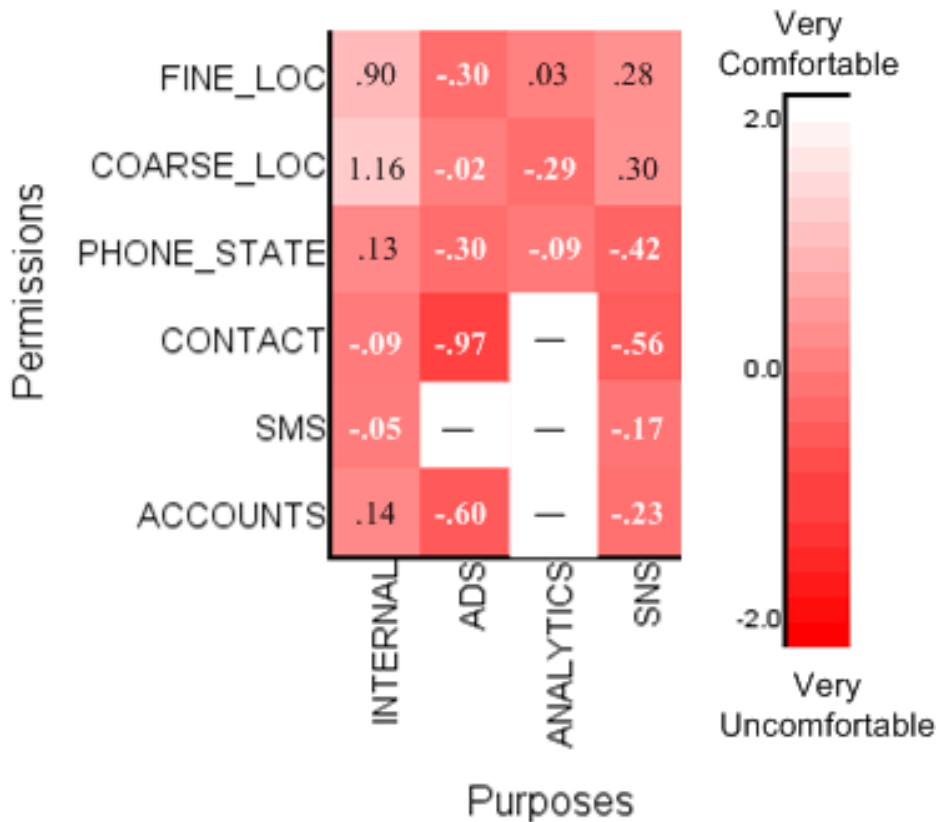
How Mapping Big Data Will Save
Cities Time, Money, And Lives

Screenshot taken on May 31, 2018

Question

- How about helping end users?
- **Could we learn people's privacy expectations and preferences?**
 - To selectively notify them about relevant privacy practices
 - To help them configure privacy settings

One Size-Fits-All Defaults Don't Work



Users' Average Preferences

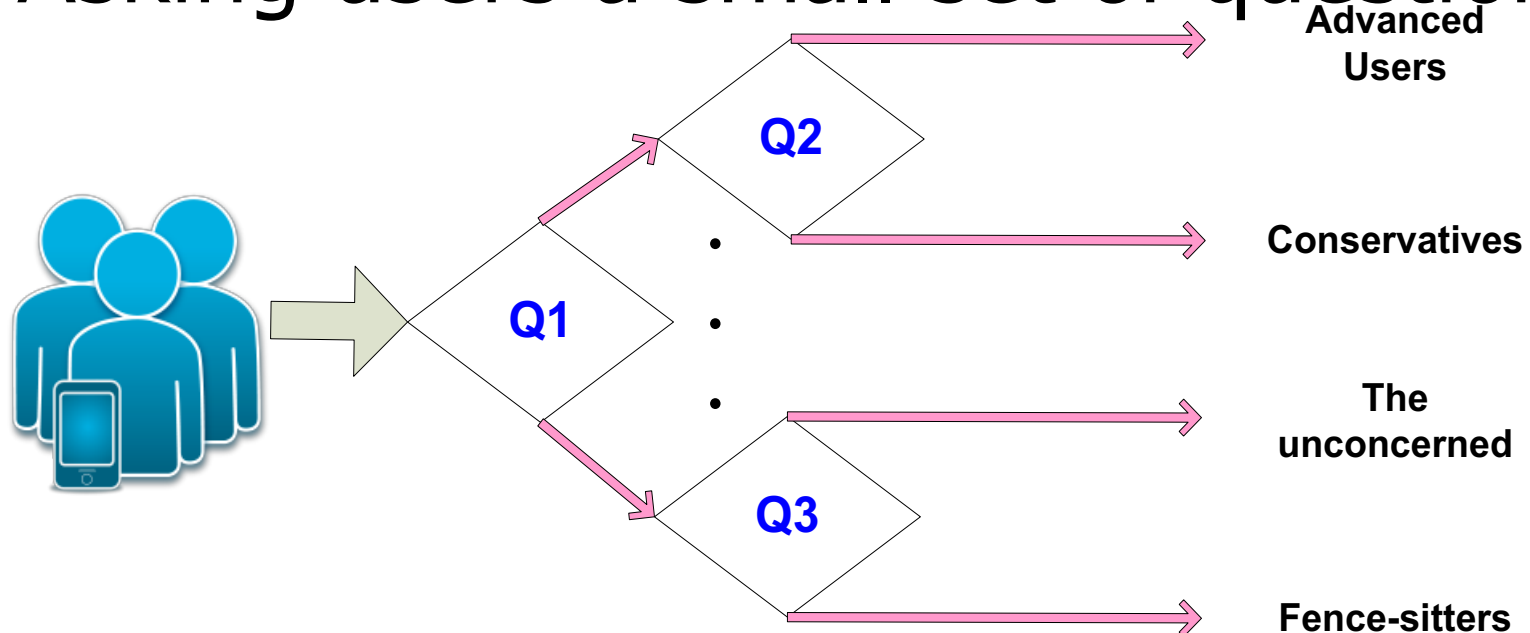
White → comfortable
Red → uncomfortable

Variances among Users

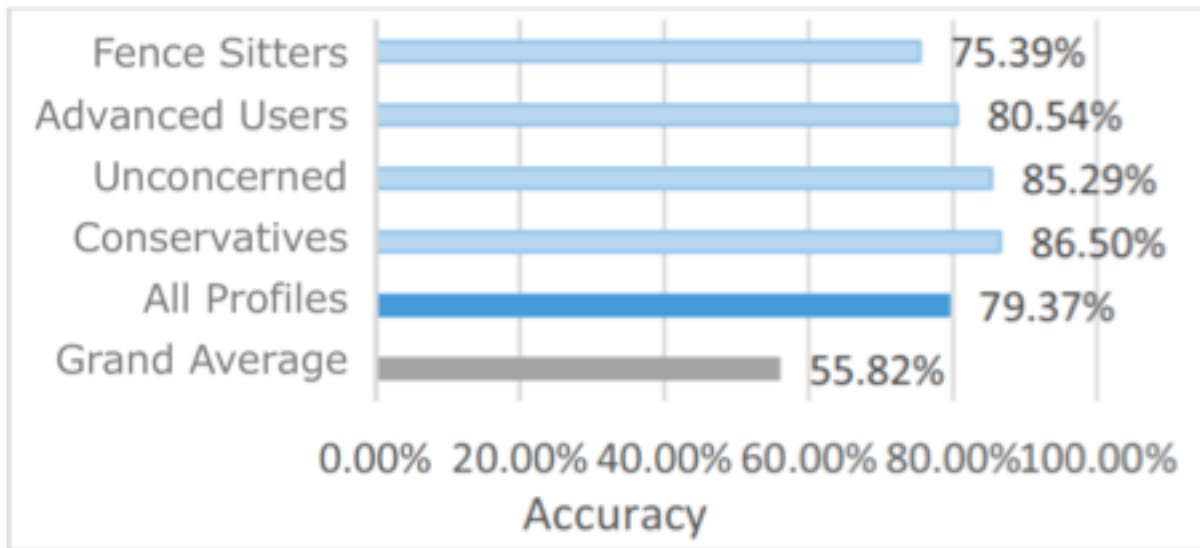
Darker yellow → larger variance

Identifying a User's Privacy Profile

- Using Clustering techniques
- Asking users a small set of questions



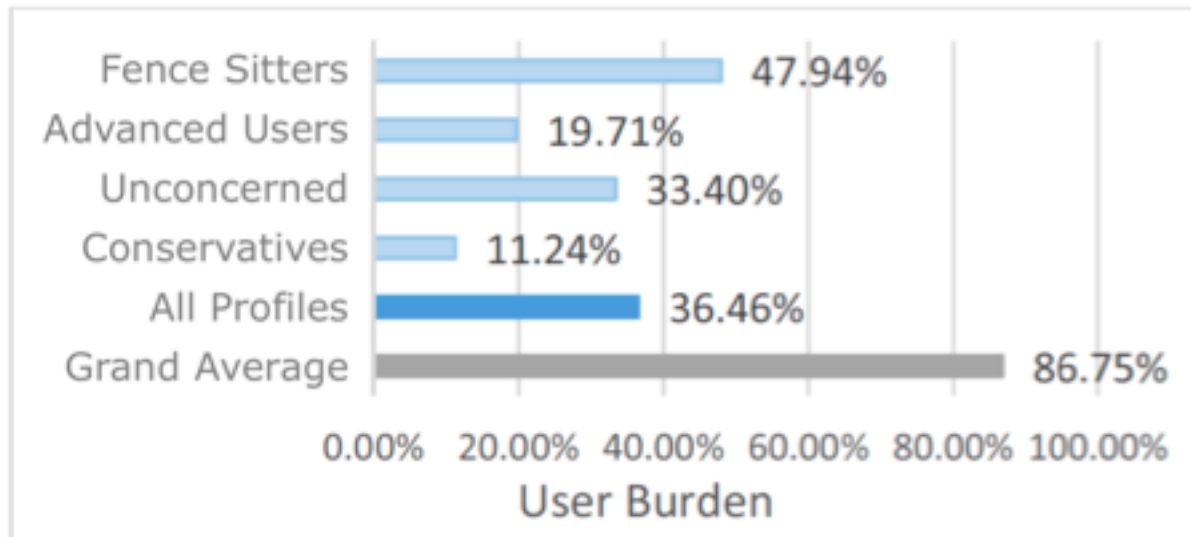
Results with Just 4 Clusters



Accuracy:

One size fits all: 55.8%

4 Profiles: 79.4%



User Burden:

One size fits all: 86.8%

4 Profiles: 36.5%

Now Available on Google Play (rooted Android Phones 5 and up)



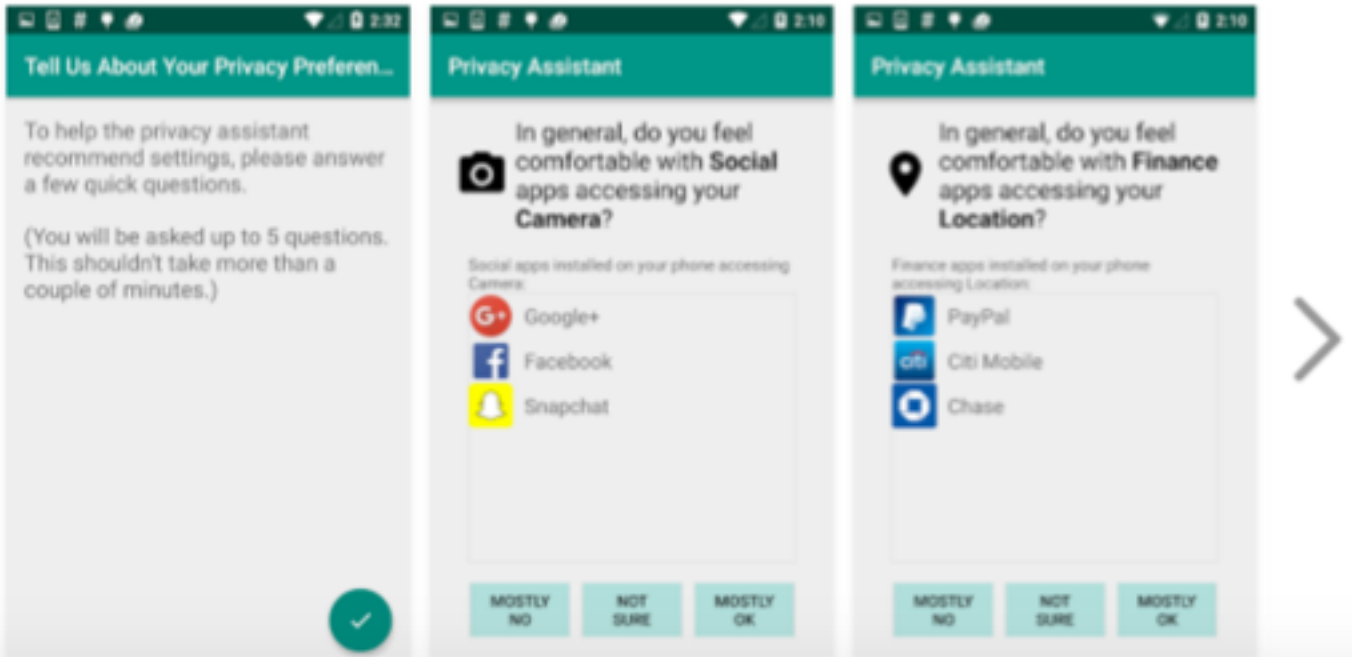
[ROOT] Privacy Assistant

Mobile Commerce Lab @ Carnegie Mellon University Tools ★★★★★ 4

Everyone

Add to Wishlist

Install



What About IoT?

Overall Vision: **Personalized Privacy Assistants**

- Learn models of what users already expect & what they want to be informed about, how to communicate with them (when, how often, how), how to configure their settings
 - Or just allow users to manually configure settings
- **Selectively enter into dialogues** with users and **nudge them** towards safer practices
- **Extend privacy profiles across many environments:** from your smartphone, to your browser, to your smart home to your social networking account, etc.

Privacy Infrastructure for IoT*

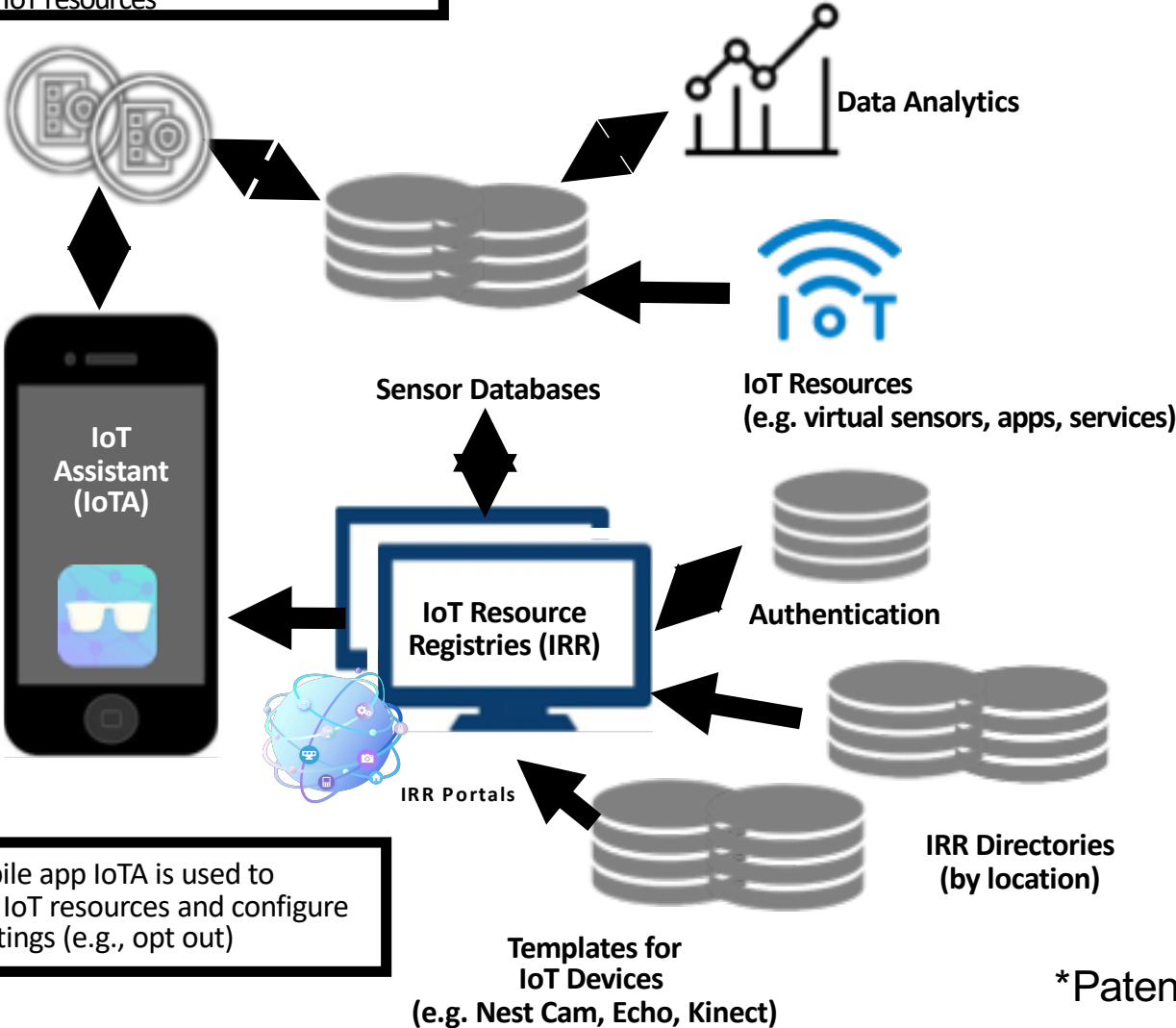
- **Registration of IoT resources and their privacy policies – IoT Resource Registry (IRR) & Portal**
 - Policies are in a machine readable format
 - Resources include: sensors (e.g., virtual sensors), applications, and services
 - Series of drop down menus, but also use of templates
- **Discovery of IoT resources and their policies**
- **User notification via IoT Assistant implemented as mobile app**
- **Protocols to securely read and configure privacy settings**

*Patent pending

Overall Architecture*

Policy Enforcement Points (PEP)

- Stores resource-specific and user-specific privacy policy settings
- Enforces settings for data collected by IoT resources

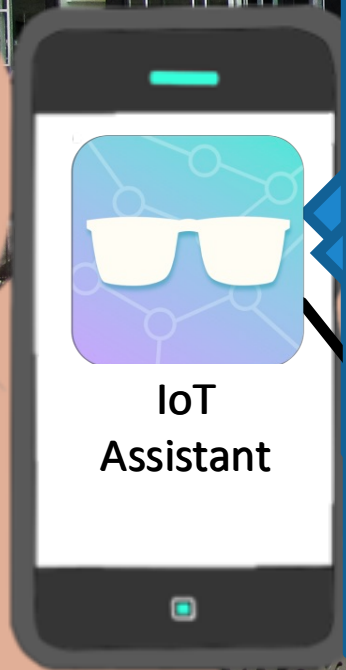


The mobile app IoTA is used to discover IoT resources and configure their settings (e.g., opt out)

*Patent pending

Deployment Example

Resources in this coverage area
 Resource
 Privacy not



Resource	User Preference
WiFi Location Tracking (Service)	Opt In
Bluetooth Beacon Location Tracking (Service)	Opt Out
CMU Friend Finder (App)	Opt In (Location Tracking)
Facial Recognition (Service)	Opt Out
Video Obfuscation Demo (App)	Opt Out (Facial Recognition)



nces
 received from IRRs

Register a new IoT Resource

- Basic Information
- Context
- Collected Data
- Granularity
- Purpose
- Times and Retention
- Shared With
- Control Options

SUBMIT

Control Options

Service ID	Subsystem ID	Response URL	
conciierge	wifi	https://tippersweb.uci.edu/api	add action
Opt in	Description ▼ WIFI Location Tracking is enabled	Link to additional information https://tippersweb.uci.edu/api/opt-in	
Opt out	Description ▼ WIFI Location Tracking is disabled	Link to additional information https://tippersweb.uci.edu/api/opt-out	

Sample Entries & IoT Device Templates

Below is a list of all the IoT resources that are registered to this IRR. Only those that are marked as "published" will be visible to IoT Assistants (the mobile client that resource users will use to discover and browse registered IoT resources). You can register new resources by either starting from scratch, or select a template corresponding to a specific type of IoT resource. Templates will fill in registration fields specific to that type of resource, allowing you to personalize the parameters specific to your deployment.

Select Template

New resources can be defined using pre-filled fields from templates

REGISTER A NEW RESOURCE

Existing Templates:

- Echo
- Honeywell thermostat
- Kinect
- Google Home
- Cujo
- Nest Cam
- Wink Relay
- Zensors



Air Quality Measurements

The Air Quality Lab contains a wide array of equipment and



Tennis Court Recording

During games video recording of each court may take place.



UC Activitiesboard

Activitiesboard shows news and contextual information.

Registered on Oct 6, 2017 by Martin Depping



Sorell Library Occupancy

See the occupancy of CMU libraries measured through

Registered on Oct 5, 2017 by Martin Depping

Is published

EDIT

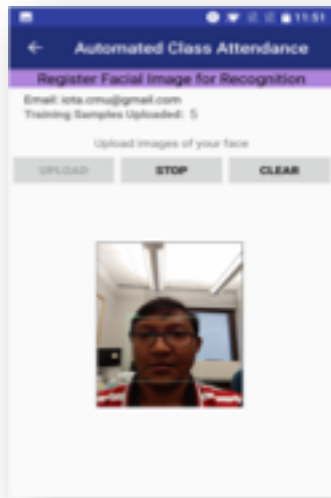
Administrators and resource owners control whether resources are published for others to discover

Where Do We Start?

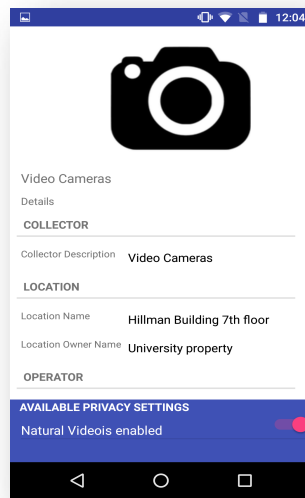
- Smart cities (e.g. cameras)
- Malls (e.g., cameras, location tracking)
- University campuses – all sorts of IoT technologies
- Smart buildings (e.g. cameras, location, presence, HVAC)
- Smart homes (e.g. smart speakers)

Privacy-aware Video Streaming

Train Facial Features



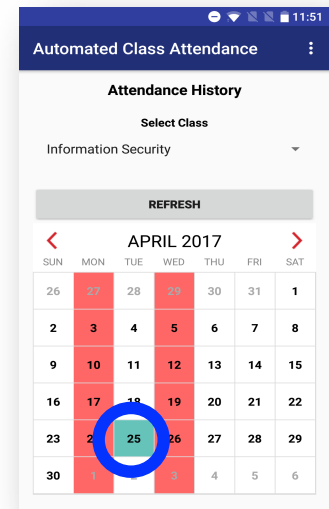
Control Opt-in



Live Video Stream



Monitor Class Attendance



[Demo: https://goo.gl/gtpbpK](https://goo.gl/gtpbpK)

Current Status

- Deployed at UC Irvine
- Deployed at CMU
- First public release coming out this summer
- Includes tools to facilitate adoption
 - Tool to help manage IoT Resource Registries (e.g., administrator portal), tool to enter resources, templates for commercial off-the-shelf IoT resources
 - IoT resource registries hosted at CMU
 - Secure protocols for communicating with user-configurable privacy settings (e.g., opt-in, opt-out)

Concluding Remarks

- Privacy is a fundamental human right and people care about privacy
 - Regulations like COPPA, HIPAA but also GDPR
- Fundamental tension between privacy and usability
- Many IoT data collection processes are invisible/obscure and unexpected
- Notice and Choice in the IoT will require deployment of a **Privacy Infrastructure** that supports the discovery of IoT resources & their data practices
- First release this summer – **subscribe to our mailing list** for updates: <https://www.privacyassistant.org/contact/>

Acknowledgements: Work funded by the National Science Foundation, DARPA and Google

The **Usable Privacy Policy Project** and the **Personalized Privacy Assistant Project** both involve a collaborations with a number of individuals. See **usableprivacy.org** and **privacyassistant.org** for additional details incl. lists of collaborators and publications

Q & A