

Contextual Callbacks for Resource Discovery and Trust Negotiation on the Internet of Things

EMSOFT '17, Seoul.

Marten Lohstroh, Hokeun Kim, Edward A. Lee

University of California, Berkeley



Sponsored by the TerraSwarm Research Center, one of six centers administered by the STARnet phase of the Focus Center Research Program (FCRP) a Semiconductor Research Corporation program sponsored by MARCO and DARPA.



Problem: Bootstrapping

I) What Things are available?How can I use them?

II) What Things can I trust?Who controls them?



Example: Smart Shopping List





LAN Discovery

- Single network
- Wired power

LAN Trust

- Predetermined
- Static

IoT Discovery

- Many networks
- Battery-operated

IoT Trust

- Opportunistic
- Dynamic



ER-diagram

- Entities: Things
- Relations: Trust

Challenges

- Rapid Expansion
- Fluid Context (Mobility)
- Scale





Secure Swarm Toolkit

(Previous work by Hokeun Kim.)

What has worked for the Web will not work for the IoT:

- A certificate for each and every Thing?
- Decentralization is a must for robustness.
- Some Things do not have the energy budget for public-key crypto, SSL in particular.



Solution: A federated design of **local authentication and authorization** entities that broker secure connections between Things.

Locally Centralized, Globally Distributed



Stake in the ground: Every physical space has an edge device with a **local authorization entity: Auth**.

Logically Centralized, Physically Distributed



No Scanning: Local Auth Listens for Announcements





- Callbacks are tied to a physical context; provide resource information exactly when/where needed.
 - The limited range of radio ensures locality (unlike e.g., (W)LAN discovery).
- The user can **verify the origin** of a callback using a certificate tied to the owner.
- Advertisements are cheaper than scanning.
 Traditional network/service discovery is outsourced to the edge.



Please come talk to us during the poster session in the Crystal Foyer.

Thank you!