Privacy and Internet-of-Things (IoT) Research Exploration Workshop 2 June 20 - July 1, 2022 ISEB 1310 - University of California, Irvine

About the Event

The technical goal of our Privacy and IoT Research Exploration Workshop 2 was for students

to understand the privacy issues related to smart speakers and how voice assistants are used for ad tracking, targeting, and personalization. We offered hands-on tutorials on Raspberry Pi programming, network traffic monitoring, web crawling, and basic statistical analysis. Students first developed their own virtual assistant on Raspberry Pi microcomputers by installing the MyCroft operating system and installing unique skills similar to the skills Alexa has. In the second part of the program, we focused on privacy issues in commercial smart speakers. Exercises included leaking data with automated interactions, measuring the collection of leaked data, and inferring the usage of the data in the wild.

We aimed to engage and recruit undergraduates from underrepresented groups in privacy, security, and computer science research. Our 18 program students came from primarily computer science and engineering majors across our Frontier partner institutions and community colleges throughout Southern California. In addition to a technical curriculum, students also engaged in career development opportunities such as: graduate student and faculty + industry panels, graduate school admissions, undergrad research, and public speaking workshops, and networking opportunities which included a visit to a local company in Irvine.

Program Schedule

Week 1		
Monday, June 20	Welcome and Program Overview ProperData Frontier Introduction Lab 1: Project Orientation and Team Setups Cohort Building Activity	
Tuesday, June 21	Graduate Students + Recent Graduates Panel Lab 2: Raspberry Pi (RPi) Education Lab Student Wellness Workshop	Build Your Own IoT Device: MyCroft Voice Assistant
Wednesday, June 22	Graduate School Admissions Workshop Blackberry Data Science Presentation Faculty + Industry Panel Lab 3: Mycroft and Building the Device (Voice Assistant)	
Thursday, June 23	Lab 4: Mycroft Account and Skills "Data collection, usage, and sharing in the Alexa smart speaker ecosystem" Research Presentation Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Workshop	
Friday, June 24	Lab 5: Understanding Ads and Tracking (Part 1) E-Sports Arena Tour	Explore IoT Privacy









Week 2			
Monday, June 27	Lab 6: Understanding Ads and Tracking (Part 2) Crawling Session and Training Demo Student Poster Development	Understanding Ads and Tracking	
Tuesday, June 28	Lab 7: Understanding Personalization Alexa Symptom Checker User Study	Understanding Personalization	
Wednesday, June 29	Student Poster Development TinyML Workshop at Syntiant	Industry Visit	
Thursday, June 30	Presentation Development Activate to Captivate Presentation Fundamentals Workshop	Symposium and Presentations	
Friday, June 1	Symposium Posters and Presentations Closing Remarks & End of Program		



Workshop 2 Team:

Organizers: Athina Markopoulou, Marilyne Tamayo, and UCI Office of Access and Inclusion

Teaching Team: Ernest Garrison, Rahmadi Trimananda, Umar Iqbal, Janus Varmarken

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