

# Vigilia: Securing Smart Home Edge Computing

Symposium on Edge Computing 2018

Oct 25-26, 2018 – Bellevue, WA

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# Vulnerable Smart Home IoT Devices



**CVE-2016-5053**

Access via TCP port 4000



**CVE-2018-3911**

HTTP header injection



**CVE-2012-3002**

Bypassed authentication



**CVE-2017-6520**

Access via UDP port 5353

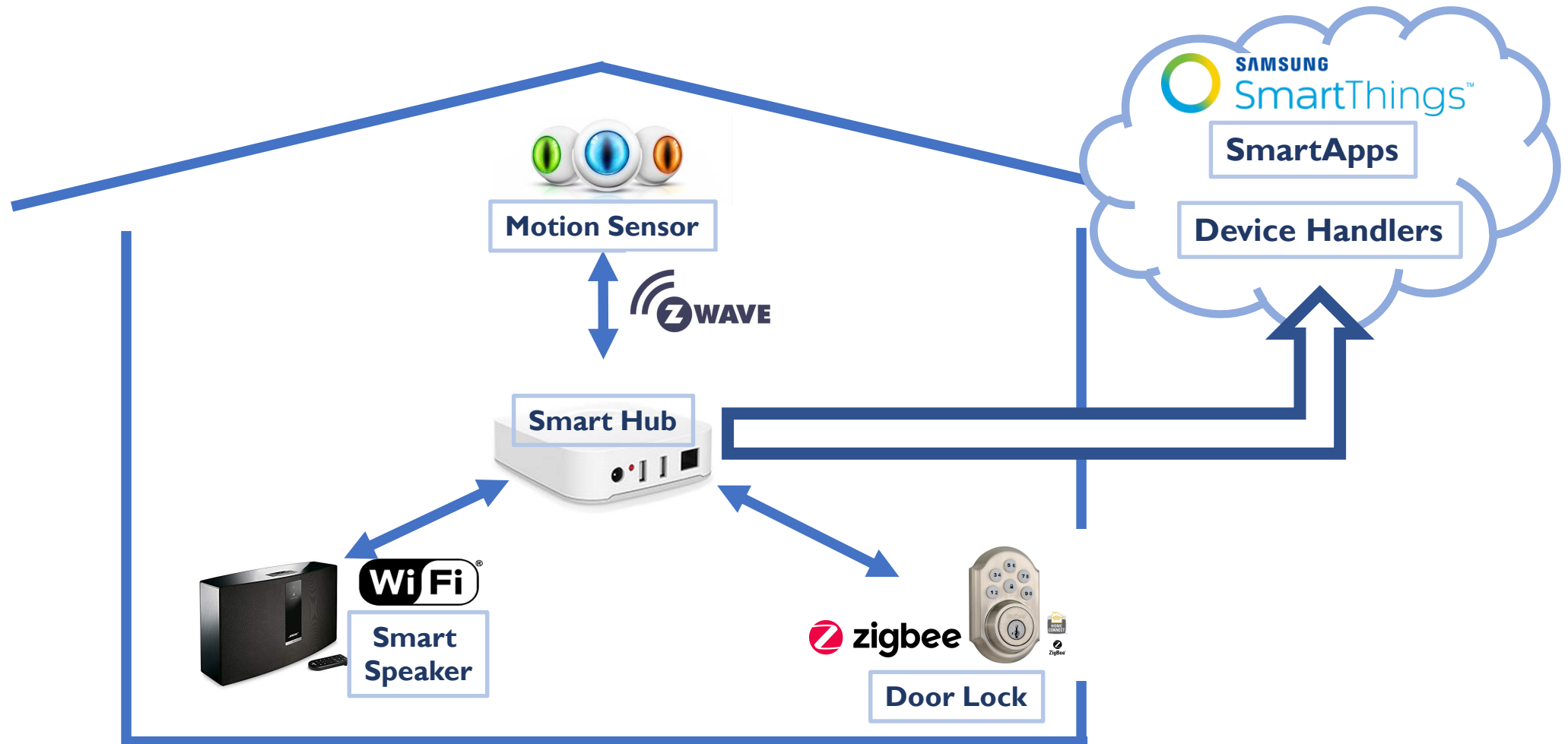


**CVE-2013-6949**

Improper STUN/TURN

# SmartThings

## Platform for Smart Home IoT Devices



# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example

< Marketplace Safety & Security

Enhanced Auto Lock Door

by Arnaud

Automatically locks a specific door after X minutes when closed and unlocks it when open after X seconds.

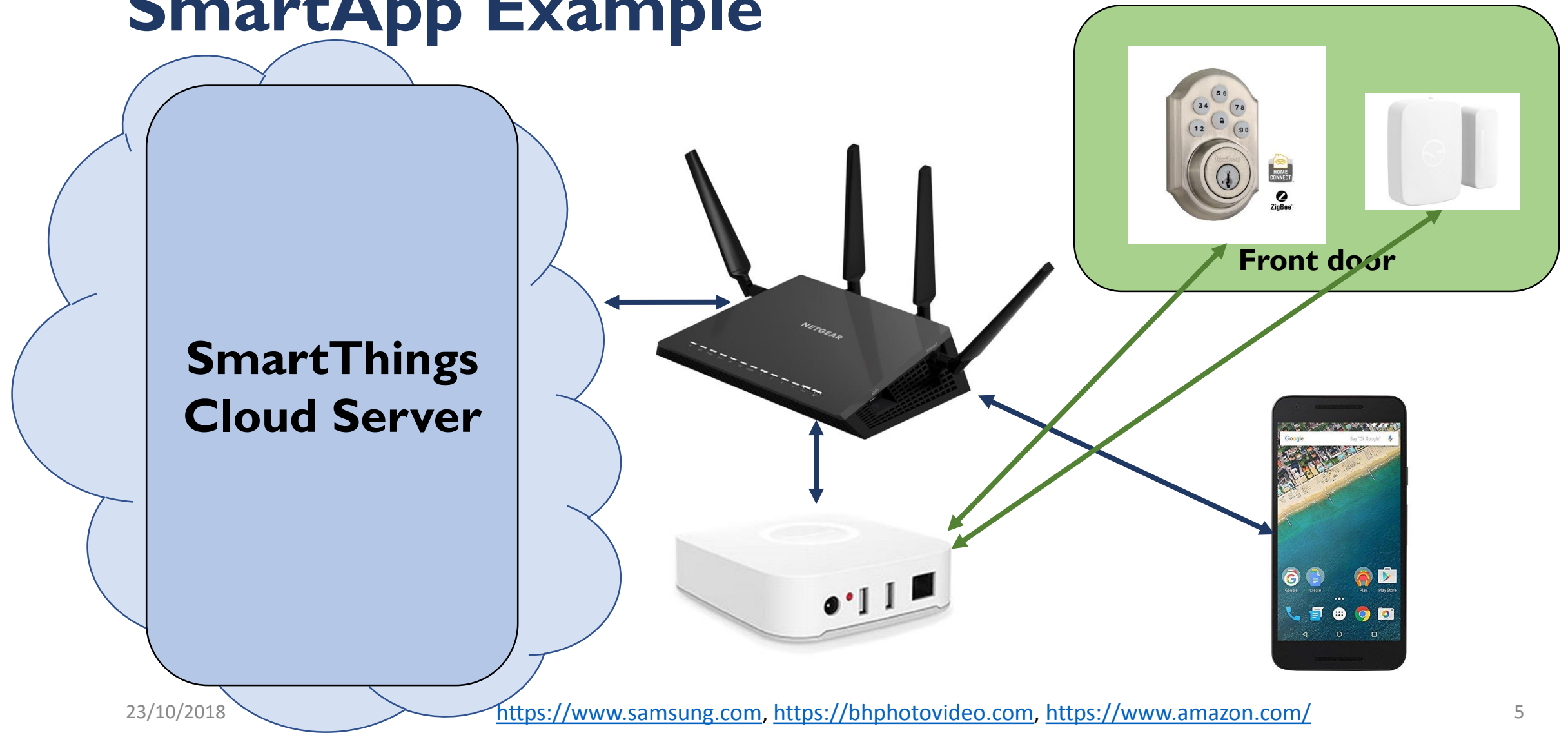


**Kwikset SmartCode 910**  
ZigBee

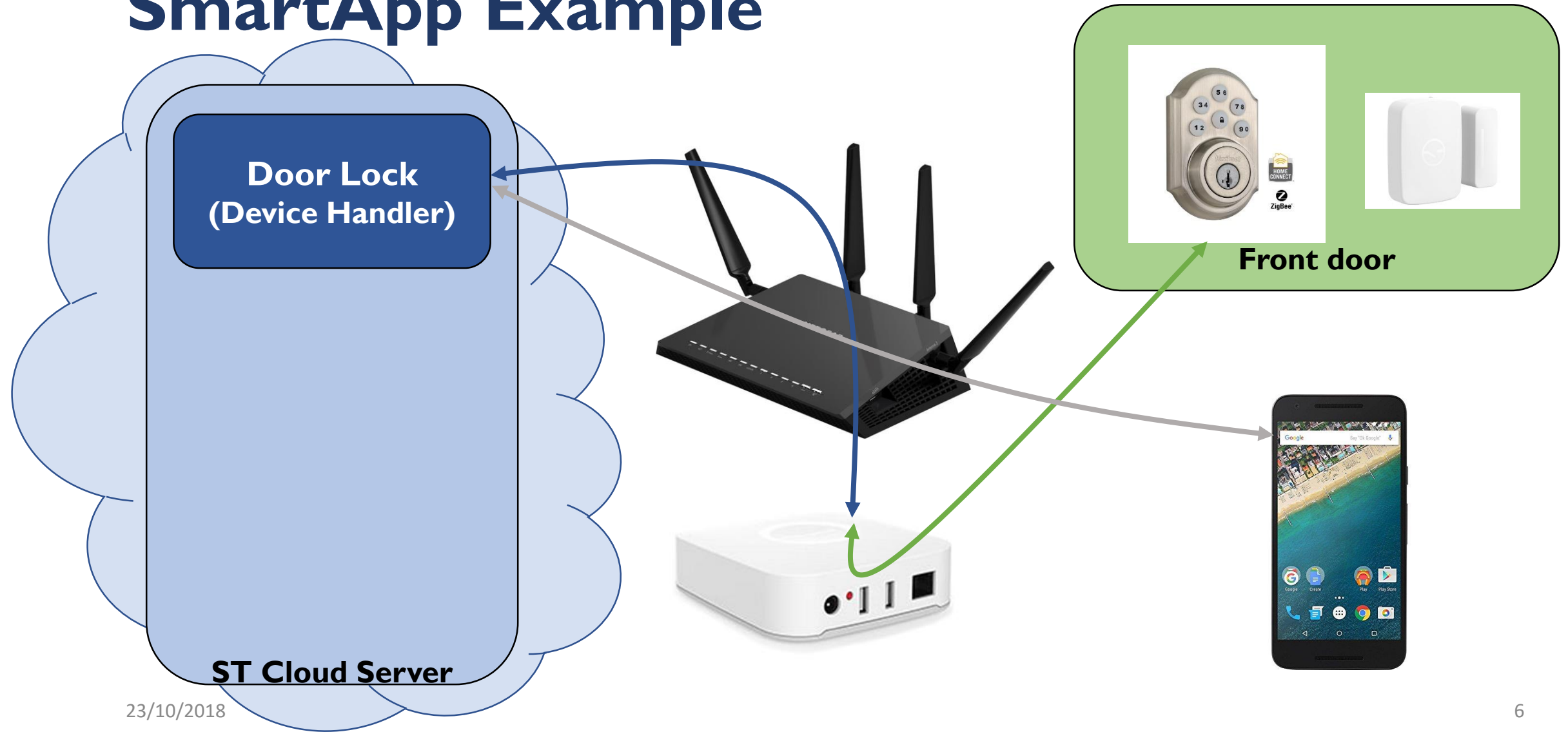


**SmartThings  
Multipurpose Sensor**  
ZigBee

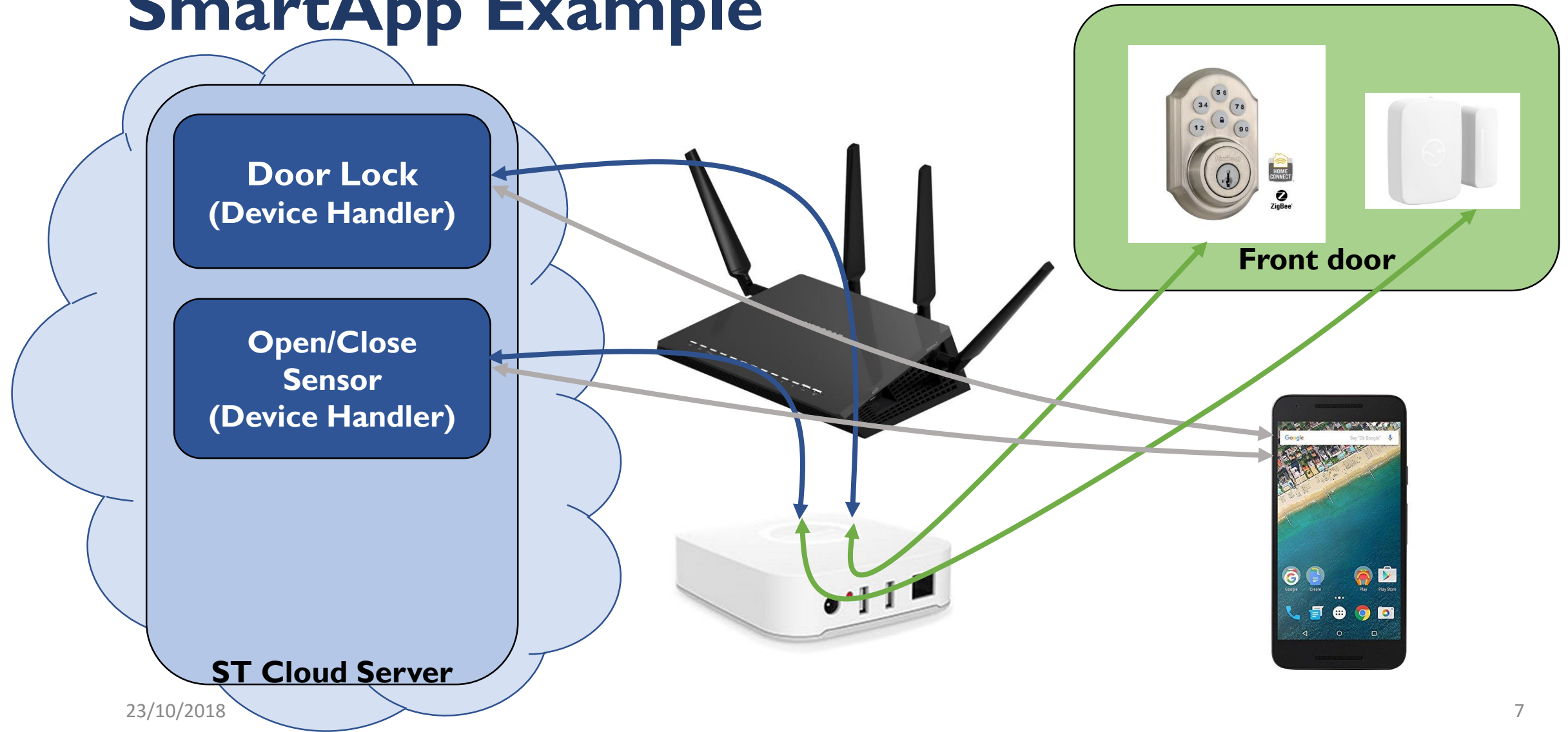
# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example



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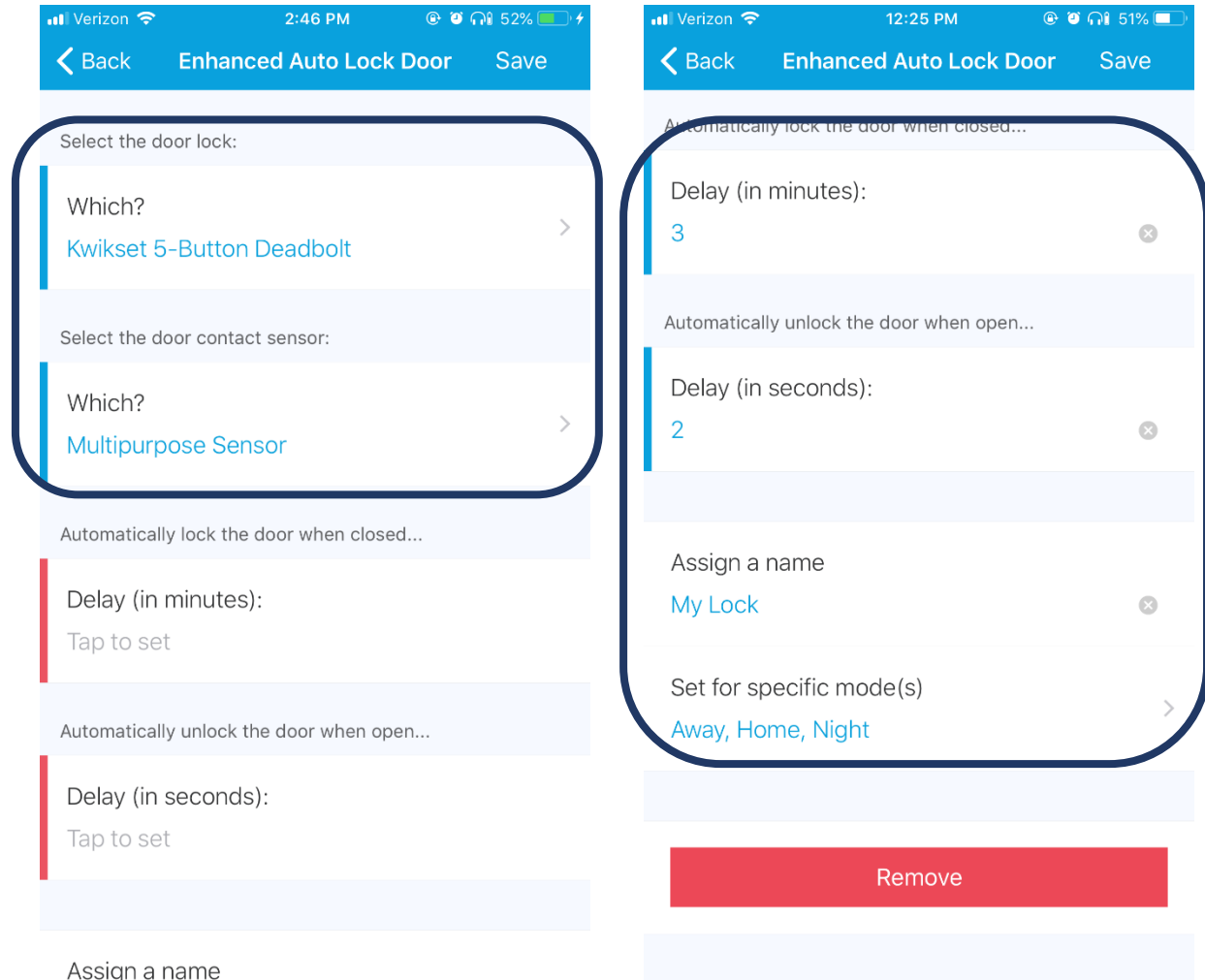
# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example





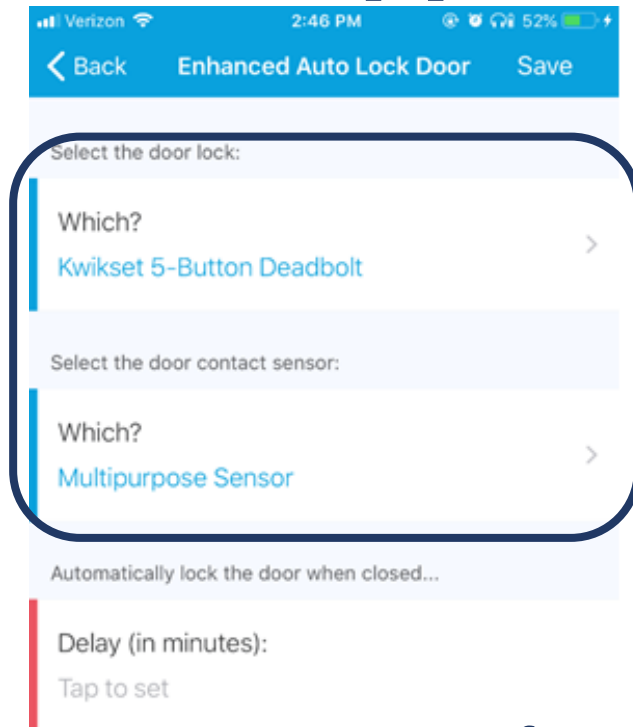
# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example

- Install SmartApp
  - Enhanced Auto Lock Door
- Choose door lock and sensor





# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example

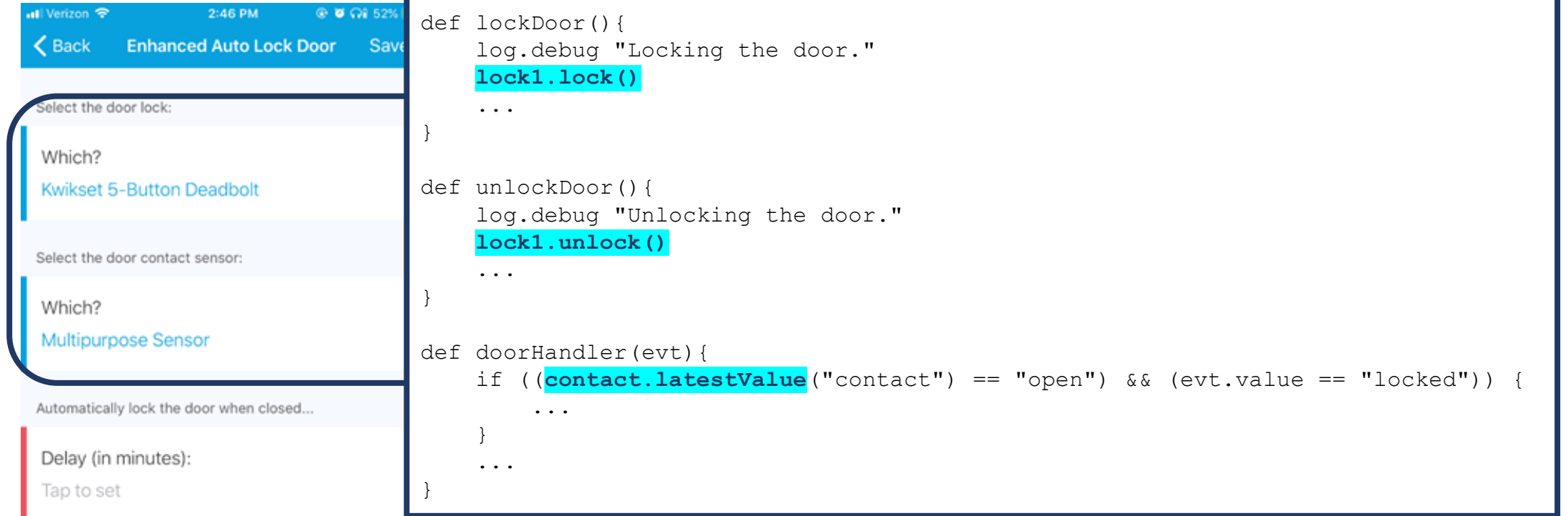


```
preferences{
    page name: "mainPage", install: true, uninstall: true
}

def mainPage() {
    dynamicPage(name: "mainPage") {
        section("Select the door lock:") {
            input "lock1", "capability.lock", required: true
        }
        section("Select the door contact sensor:") {
            input "contact", "capability.contactSensor",
            required: true
        }
        section("Automatically lock the door when closed...") {
            input "minutesLater", "number", title: "Delay (in
minutes):", required: true
        }
    }
    ...
}
```

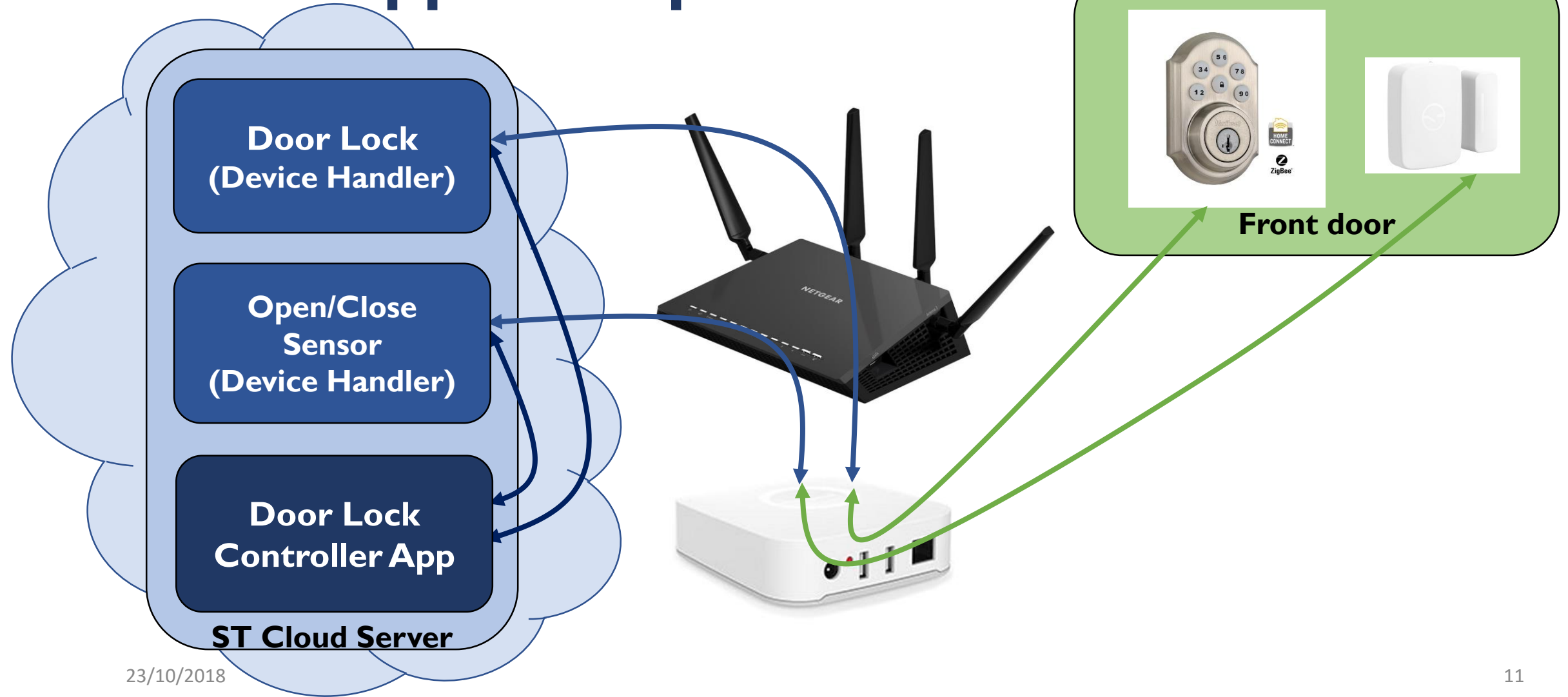
- capability for security
  - SmartApp can only bind with and control certain devices, e.g., capability.lock

# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example



- capability for security
  - SmartApp can only control certain device features, e.g.,  
`lock1.lock()`

# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example

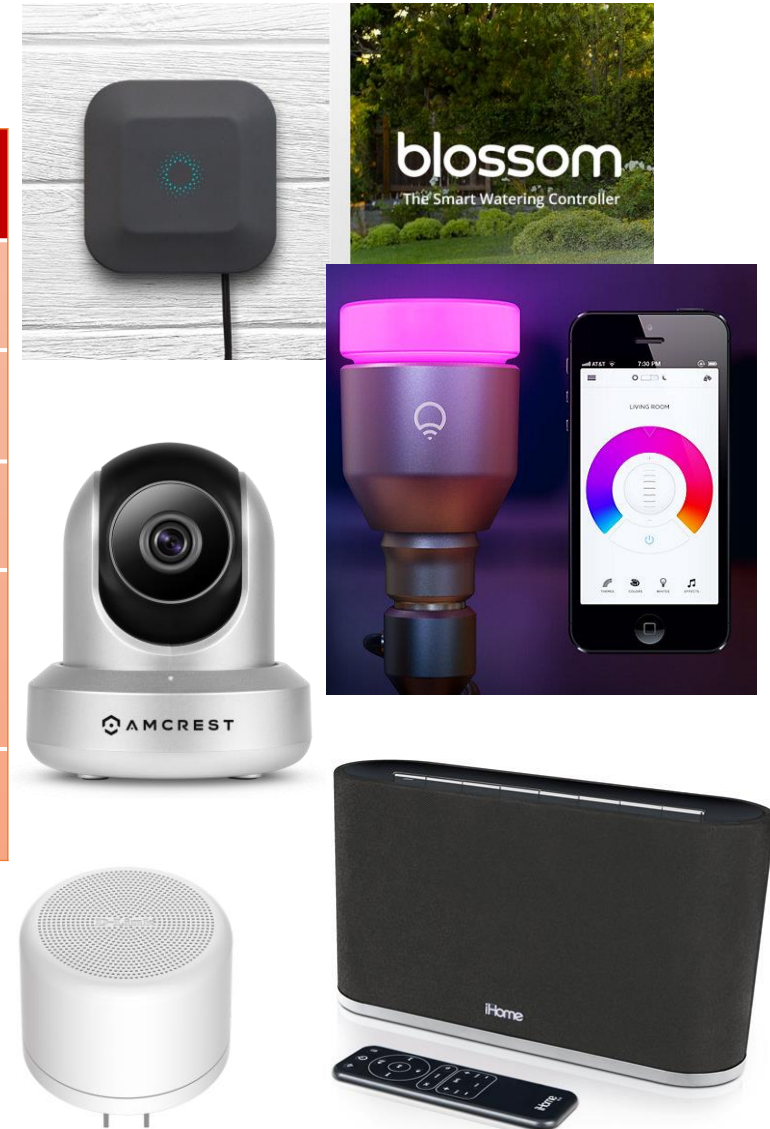


# SmartThings Is **Not Secure!**

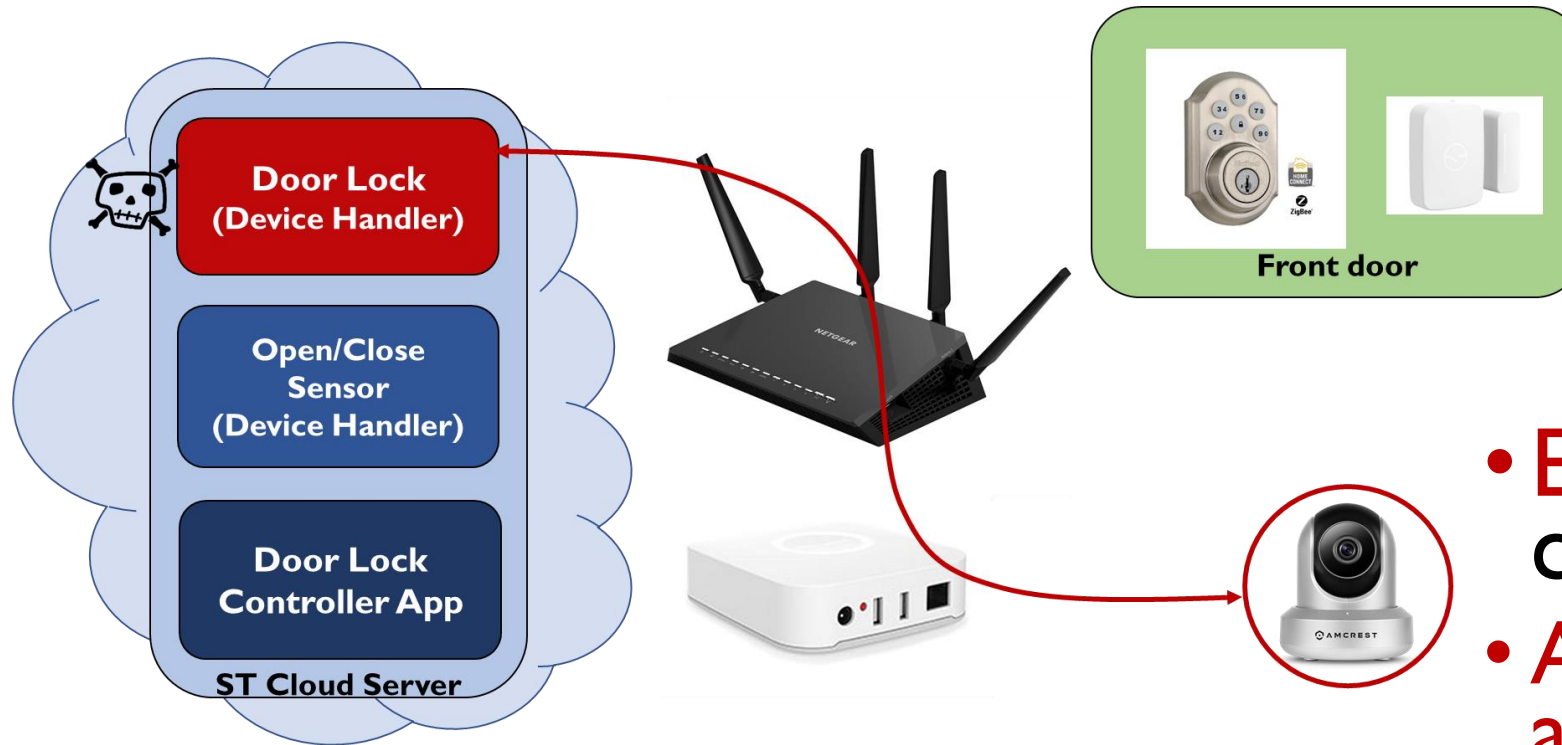
- Capability model **breaks down**
  - It is **easily** subverted!
- SmartThings prone to **attacks**
  - WiFi device **attack**
  - Cloud server **attack**
  - Bad SmartThings code **attack**

# WiFi Device Attack

Device	Attack
Blossom sprinkler	Unauthenticated API access via port 80
LIFX light bulb	Unauthenticated access via port 56700
iHome speaker	Unauthenticated access via port 80
Amcrest camera	Weak authentication for video stream via port 80
D-Link siren	Brute-force-able PIN guessing via port 80



# Cloud Server **Attack**



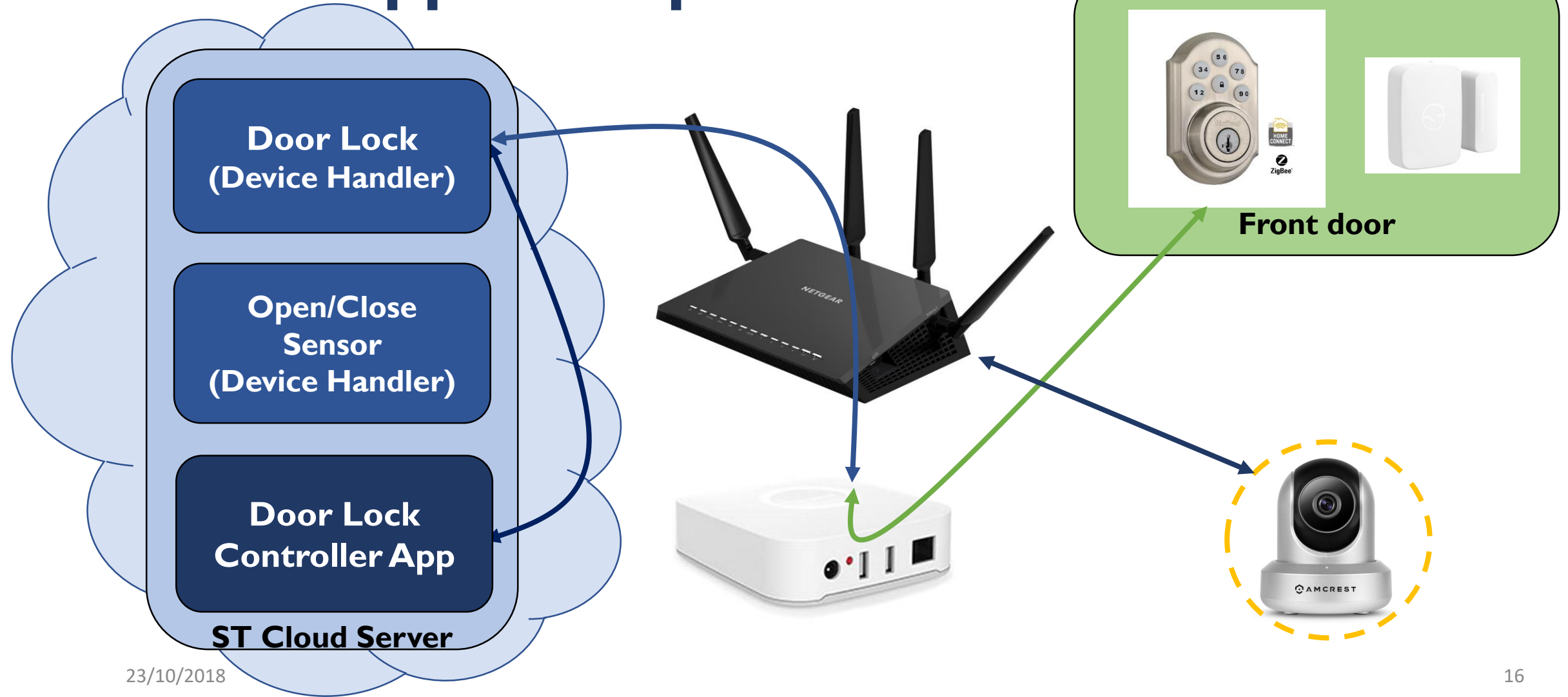
- **Excessive access** to cloud servers
- **Arbitrary** network access
- Smart hubs **bypass router firewall** “legally”!

# Bad SmartThings Code **Attack**

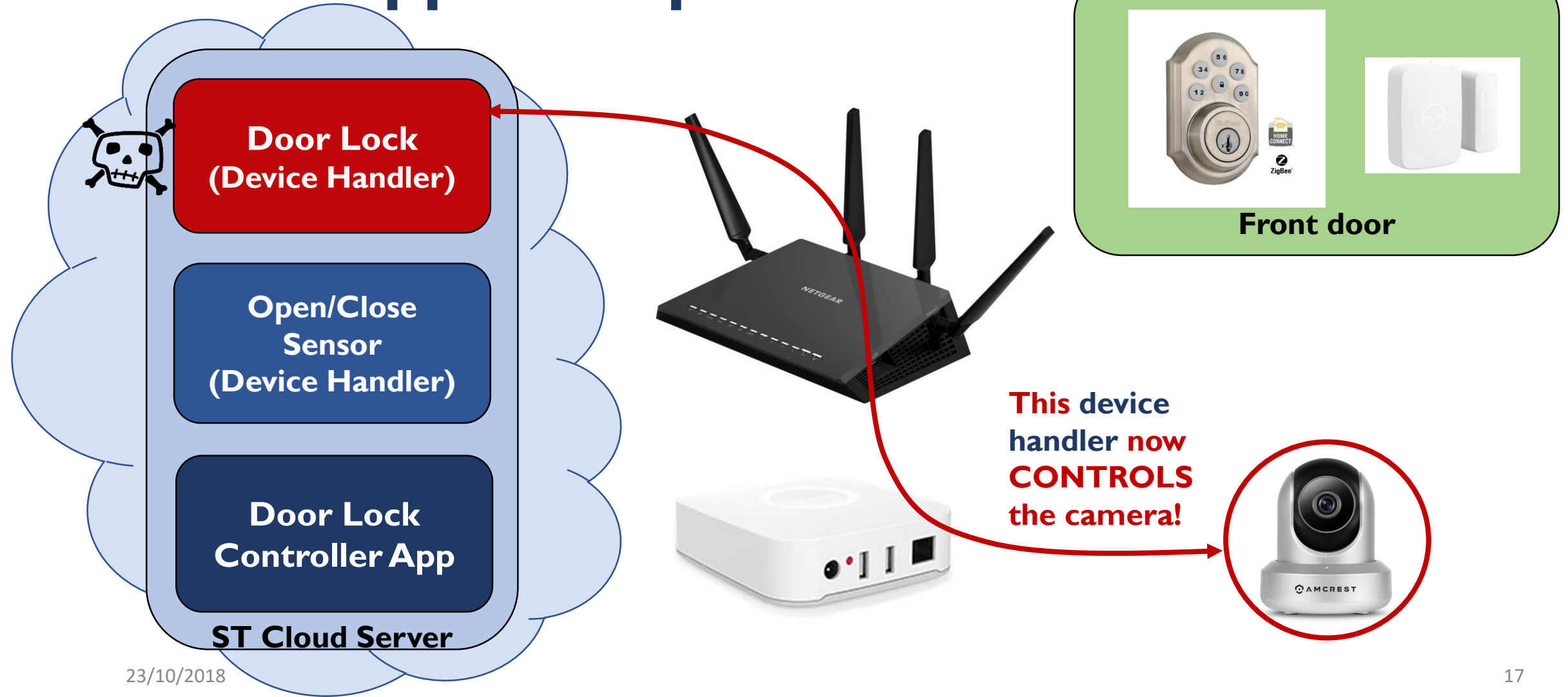
- Device capability has security in mind, **but flawed!**
  - It restricts access based on capabilities
  - **But, not enforced** at network level
- Device handler code could be made to **conspire with SmartApp**
  - **Spy** on SSDP traffic of other devices
  - Communicate with **arbitrary IP** and **ports**
  - Send commands to **arbitrary devices**



# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example



# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example



# Enhanced Auto Door Lock SmartApp Example



**Security Problem!**

Door Lock  
Controller App

ST Cloud Server



# Threat Model

- Devices have **vulnerabilities**
- Attackers have **full knowledge** of the system
- Attackers have **access** to the home network via **compromised device**
  - **Not** physical access

# Vigilia

- Why **not** just fix SmartThings?
  - SmartThings is a **closed solution**
  - **None** of its **source code is available**
  - SmartApps run on SmartThings cloud
- Vigilia is an **open-source** implementation of SmartThings
  - Improved security aspect of SmartThings
  - Managed communication through cross-layer techniques

# Vigilia Handles Excessive Access

SmartThings has

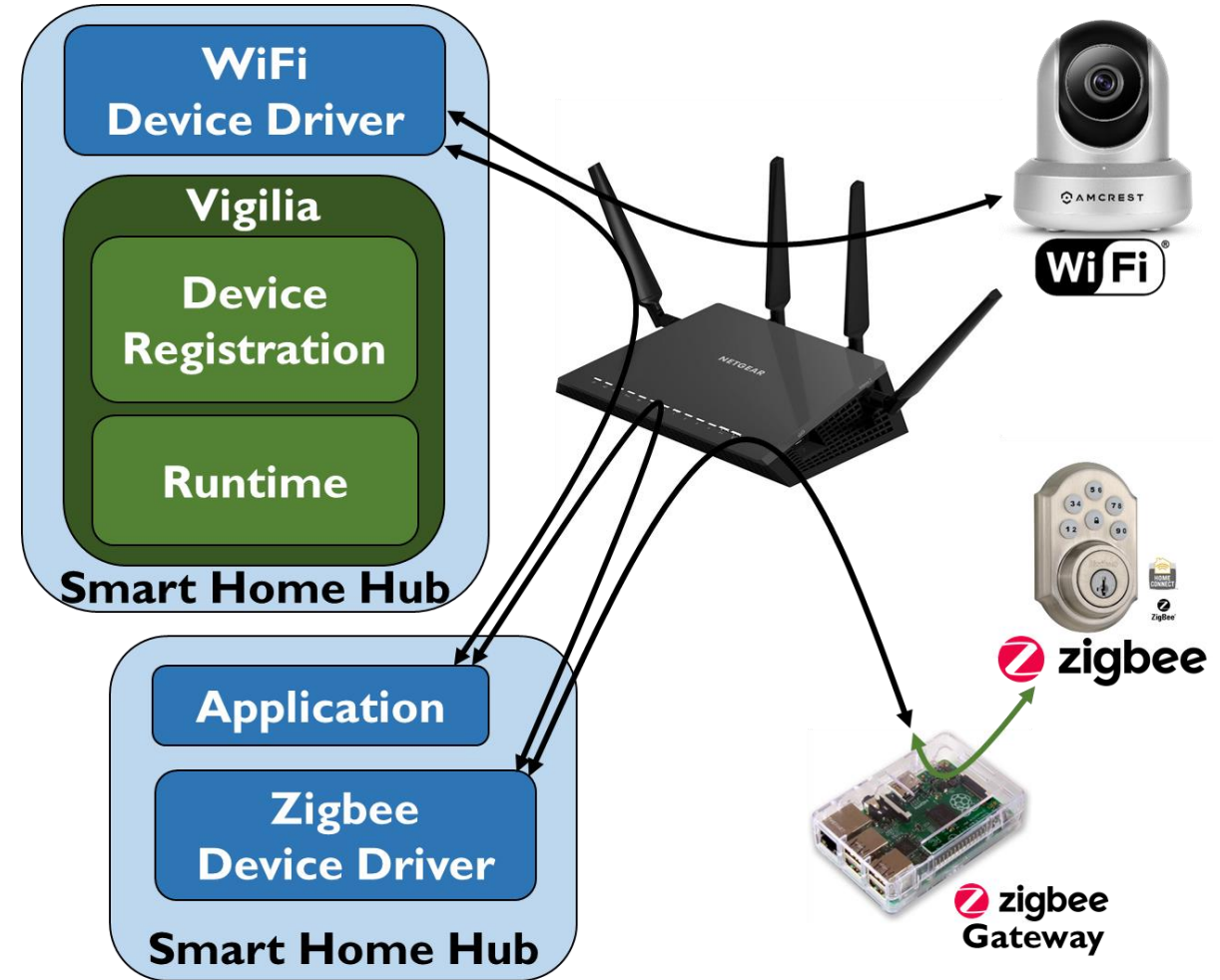
- **Configuration**

- Install/register device
- Binding with device handler

- **Capabilities**

- Which specific device handler?
- Which specific feature?
- Binding with app

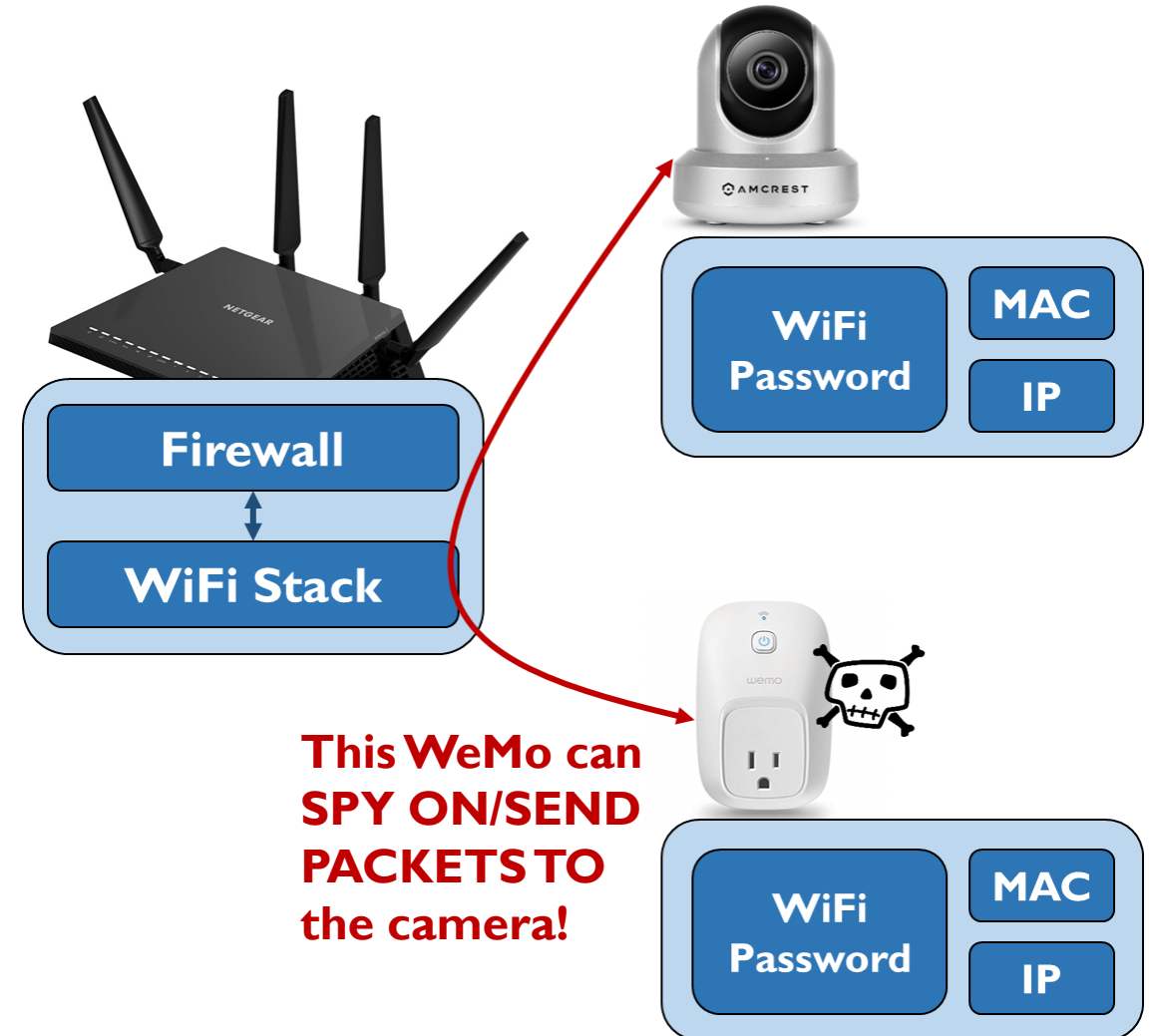
- **Restrict communication at network level!**



# Typical Home Network

## Problems

- Devices have **no unique secrets**
  - Can **spy on packets** sent to other devices
  - Can **masquerade** as other devices or even router
  - Can **lie** about **MAC** or **IP**
- Devices **send packets directly** to other devices
  - **without** going through the firewall





# Vigilia Network

- Assigns
  - a **unique WiFi password**
  - to each WiFi device

## Result

- Devices **can't spy** on traffic **between devices!**

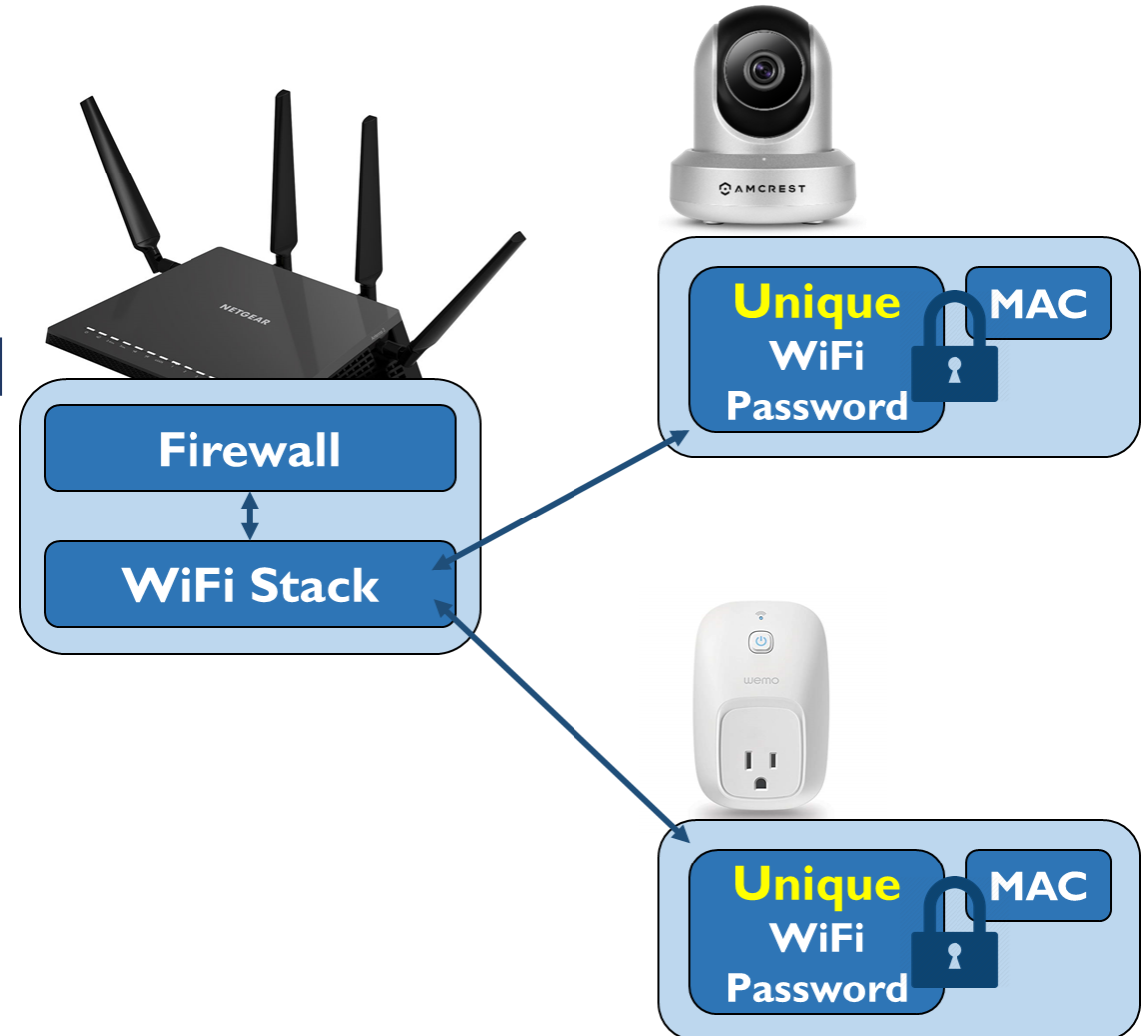


# Vigilia Network

- Vigilia uses `hostapd`
  - to **lock MAC** address
  - to **specific** WiFi password

## Result

- Devices **can't lie** about **MAC** addresses!

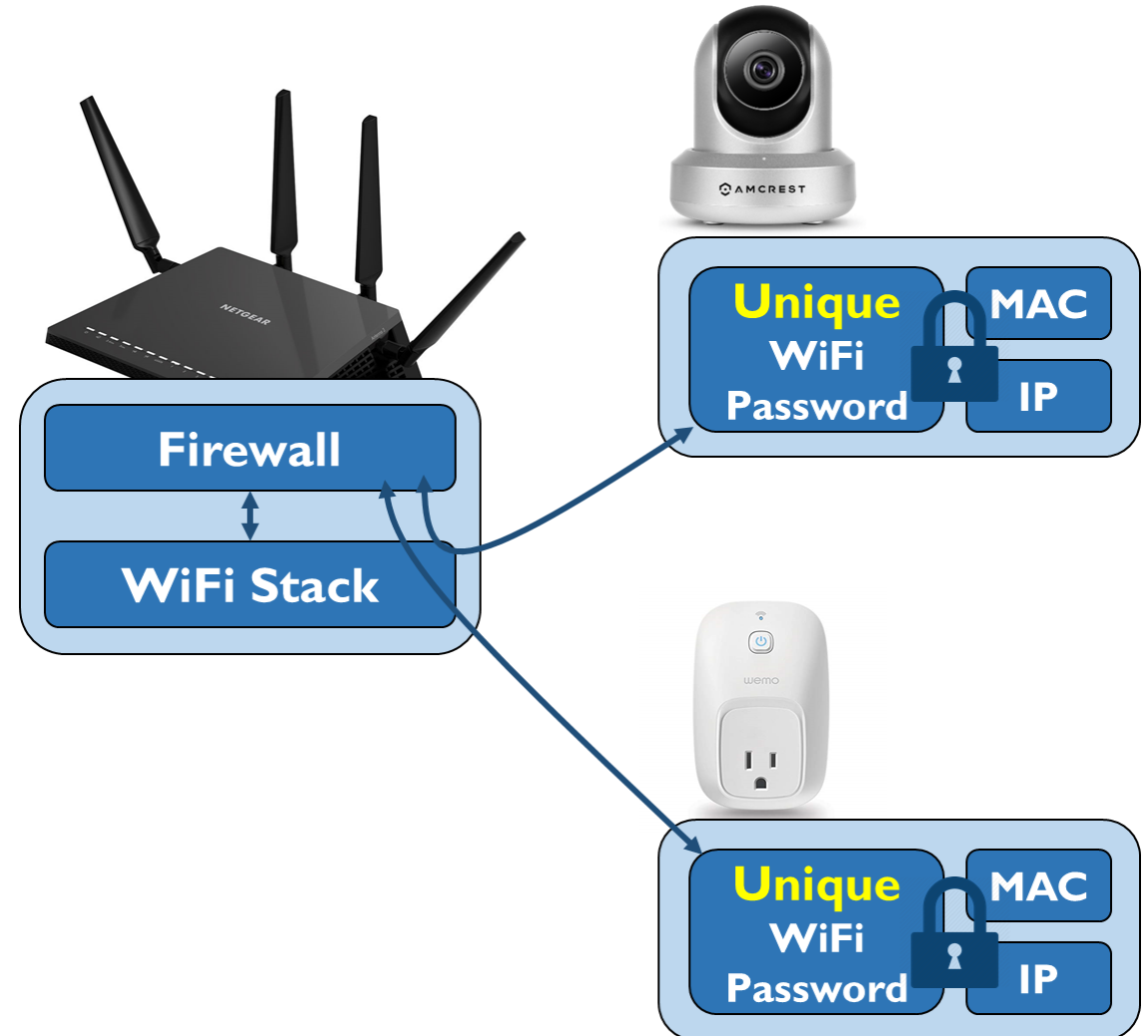


# Vigilia Network

- Vigilia **isolation + hairpin**
  - **force** all communications to go through **firewall**
  - firewall **locks IP to MAC**

## Result

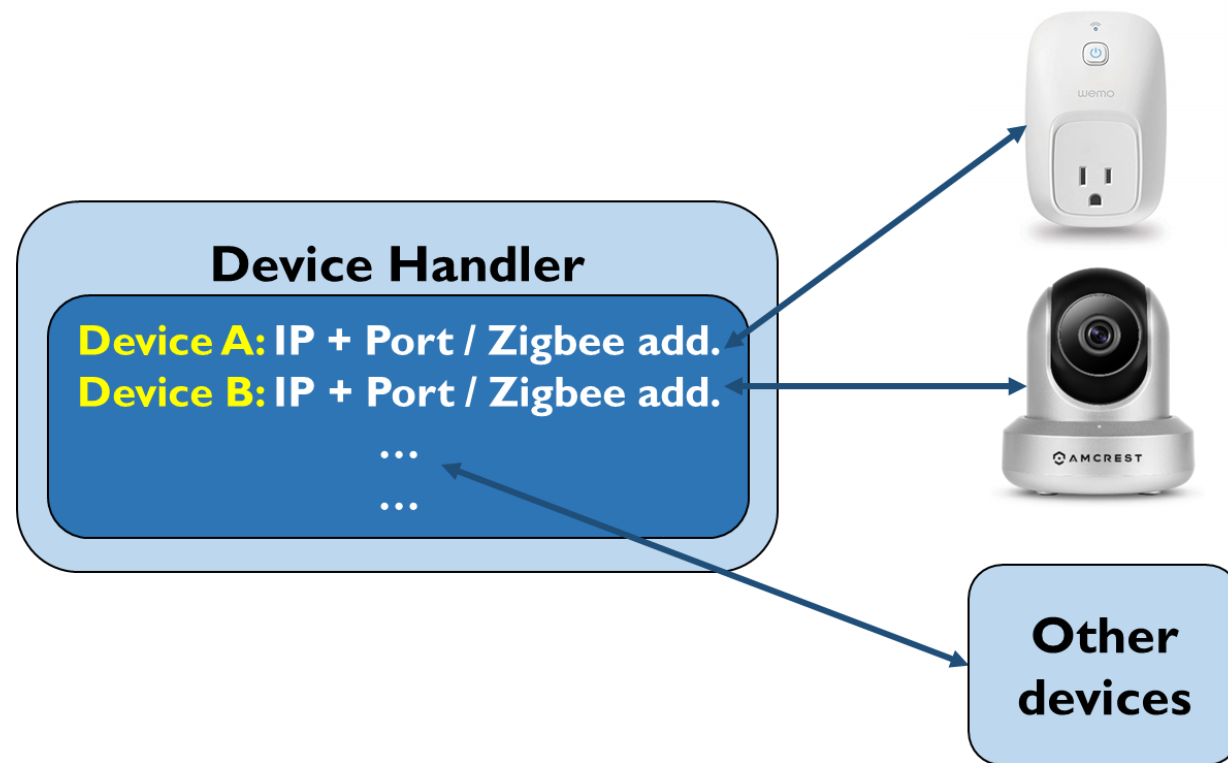
- Devices **can't communicate** unless firewall **allows**
- Devices **can't lie** about **IP addresses**



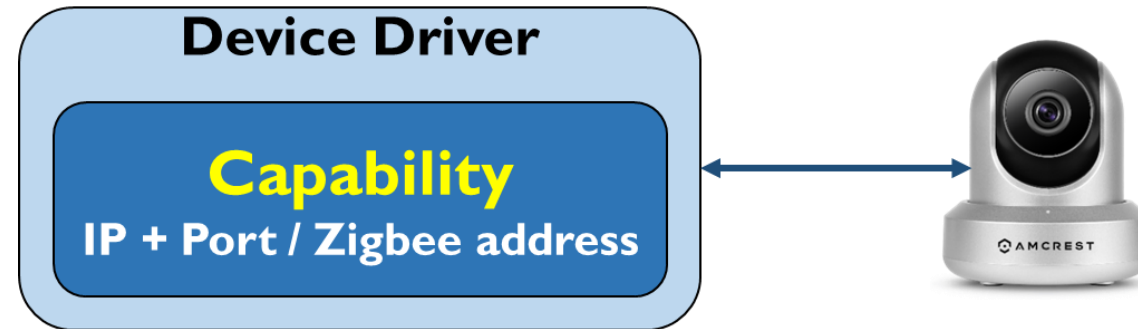
# SmartThings Device Model

## Problem

- Device handlers have **excessive network access**
  - TCP/IP handlers can **specify and connect to any IP + port**
  - Zigbee handlers can **specify and connect to any Zigbee device address**
  - All handlers can **see SSDP traffic**



# Vigilia Device Model



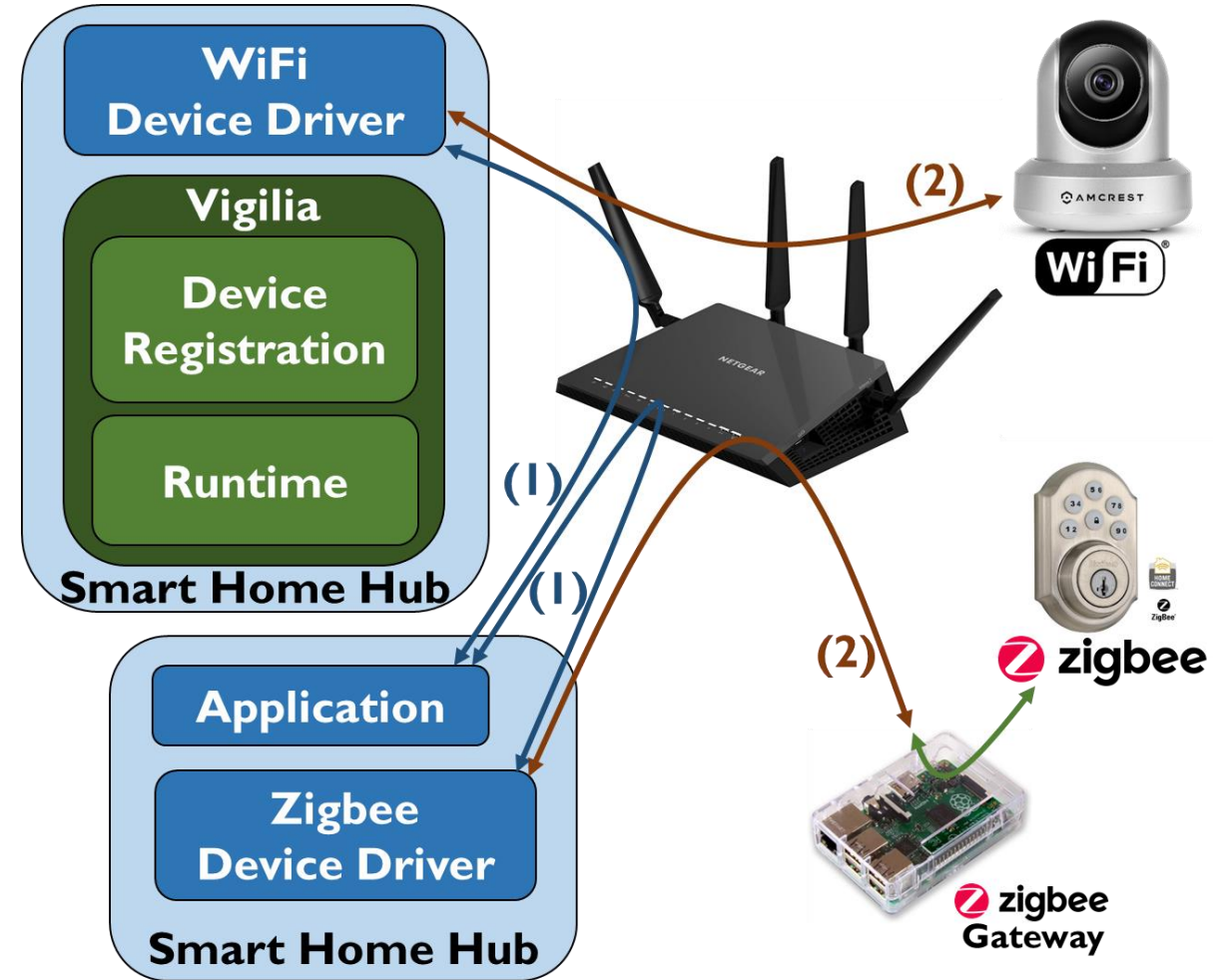
- Vigilia tracks local devices' IP addresses
- Vigilia gives drivers access to devices via capability
- Capabilities only allow communication with specific devices
  - Drivers only specify which devices
  - Runtime assigns driver IP + port / Zigbee address
  - Runtime can confidently enforce firewall rules without breaking

# Vigilia Configuration

- Configuration contains two types of binding

(1) App to device handler/driver

(2) Device handler/driver to device

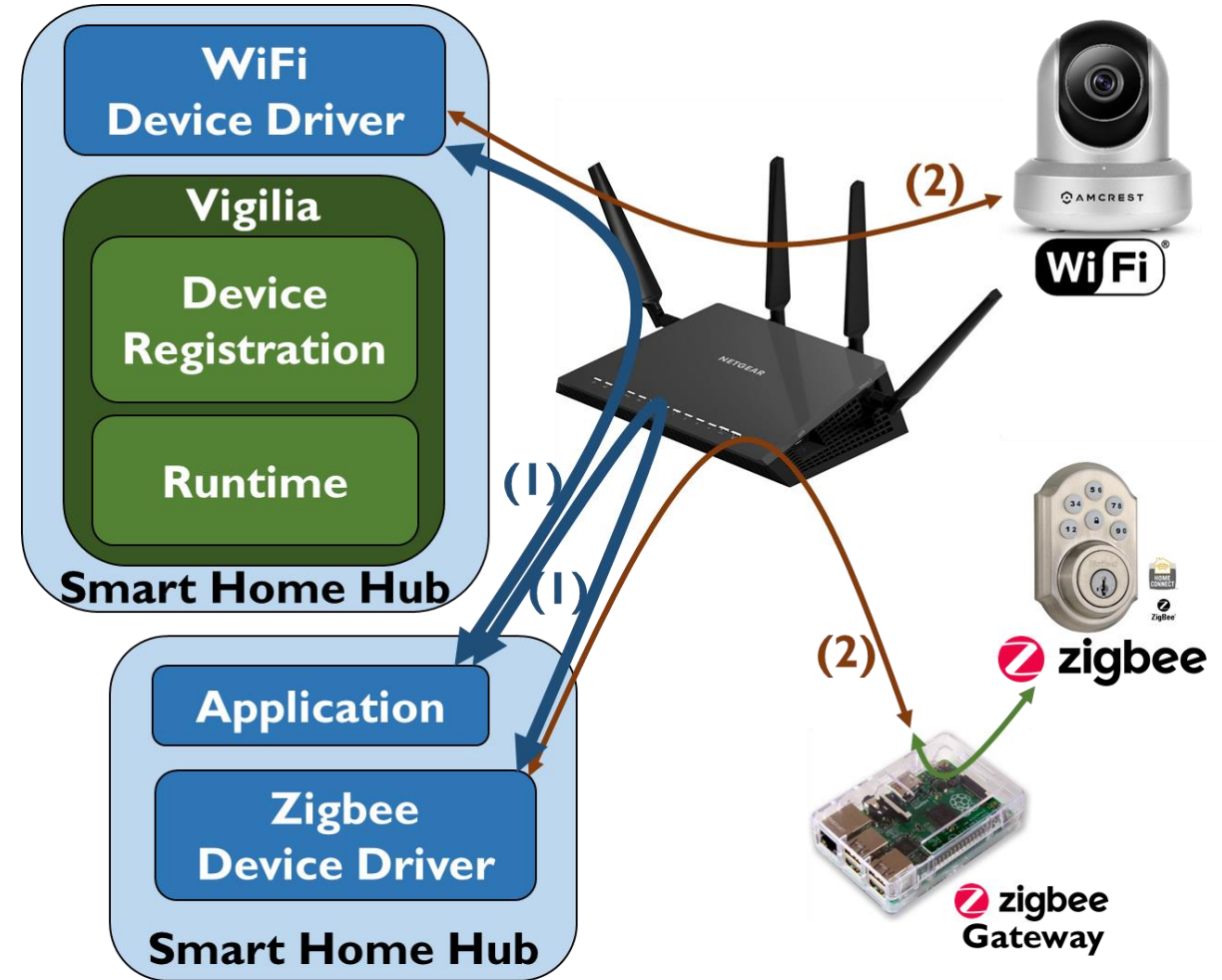


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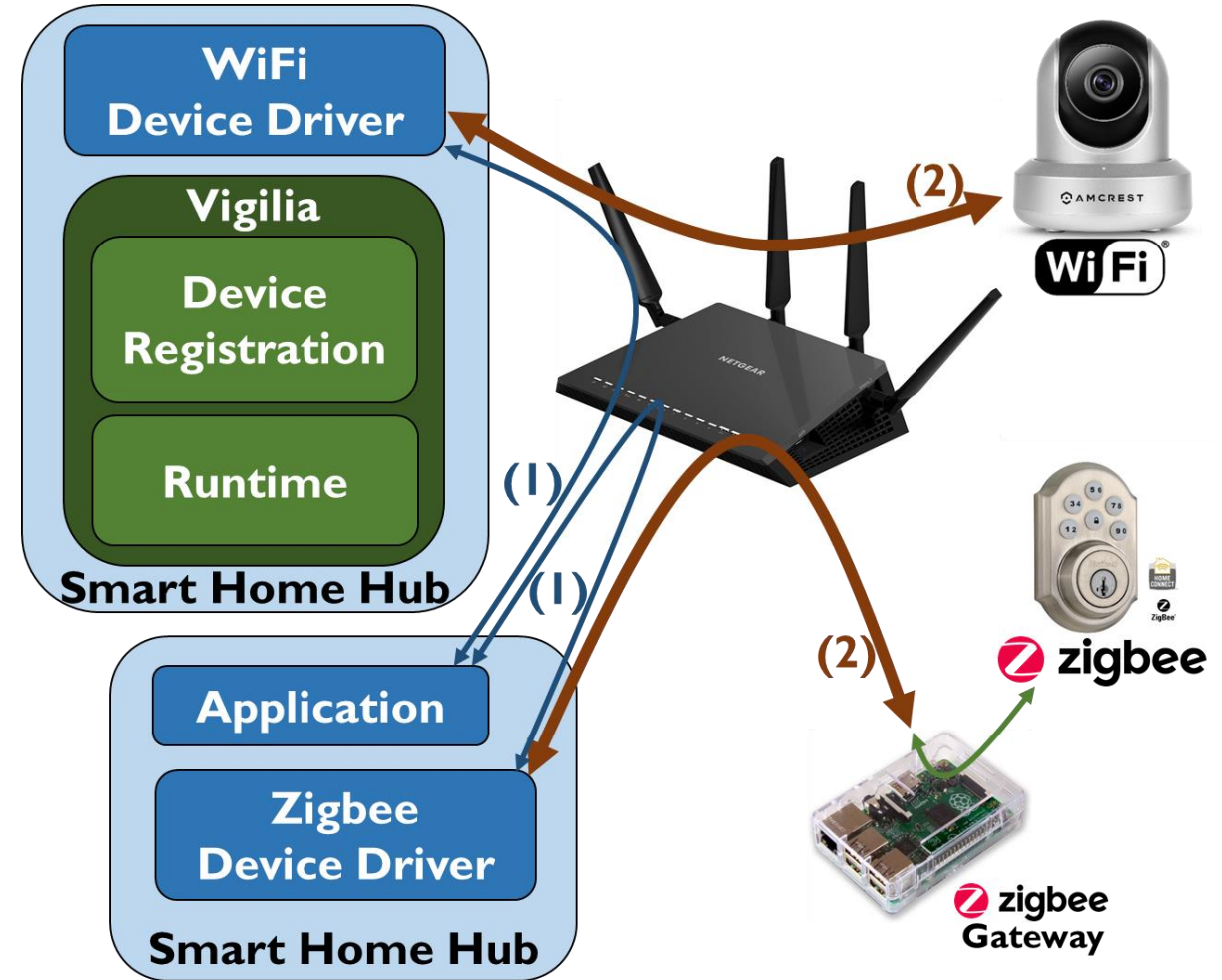


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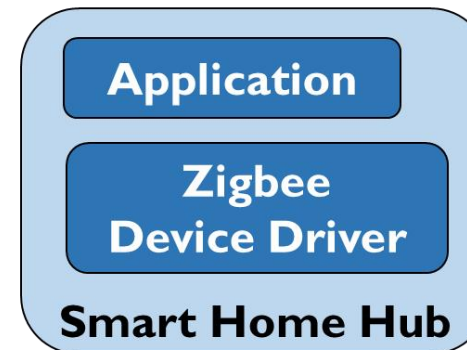
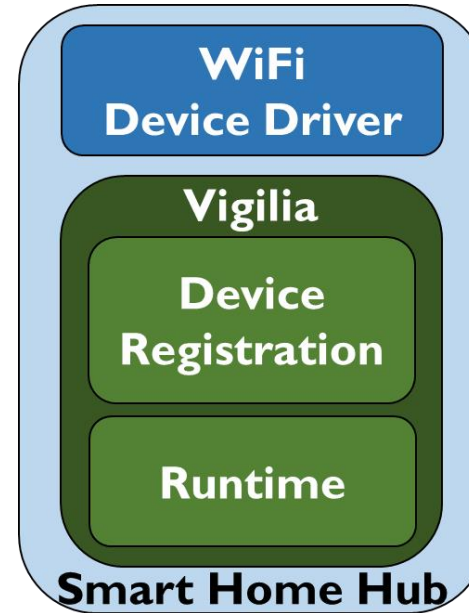
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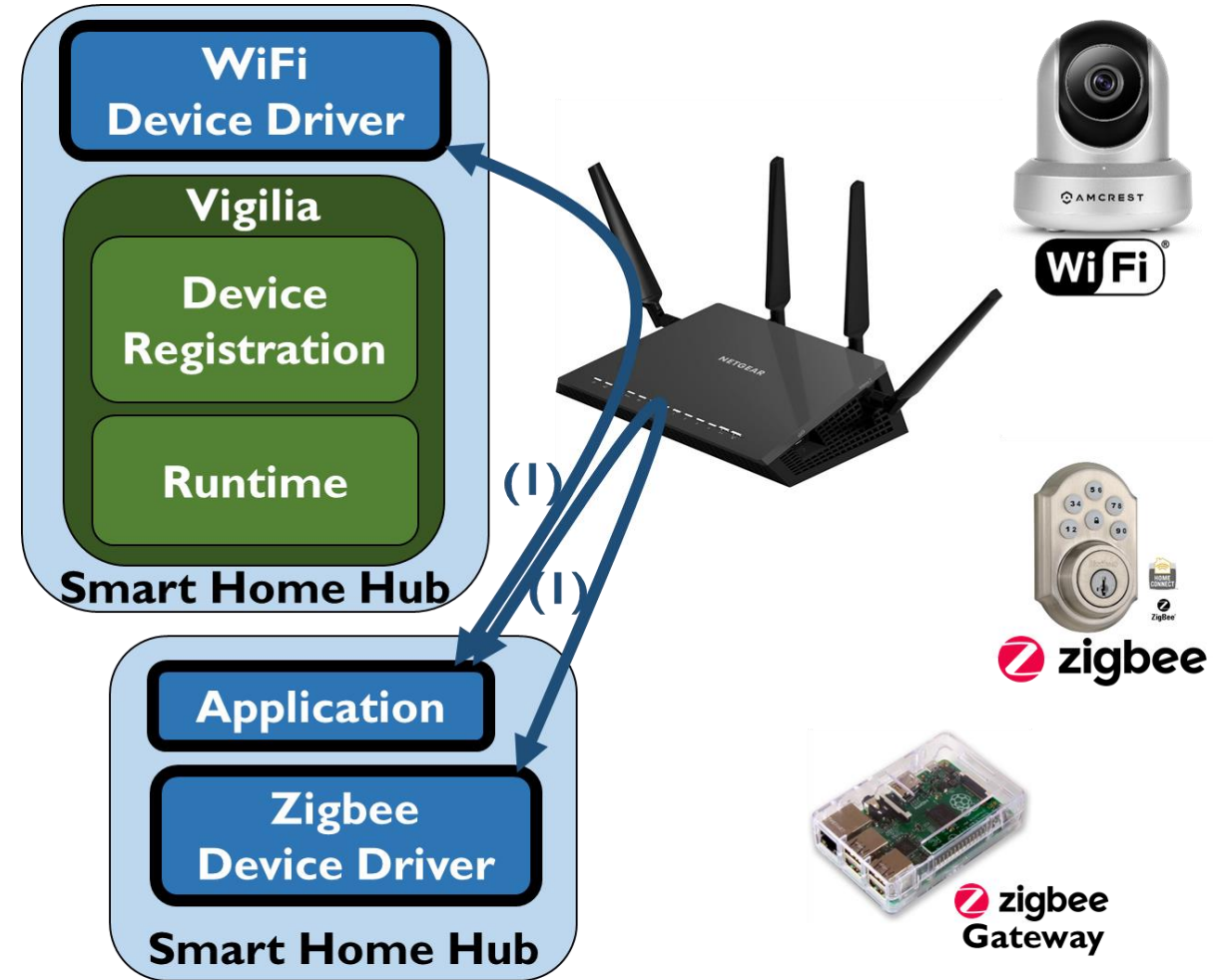
# Securing App to Device Driver Binding

- **Isolate components in sandbox**
  - Lock to files + IP + port
- **Filter request**
  - At destination for capability access
- **Use firewall rules**
  - **Allow** specified communications
  - **Block** everything else



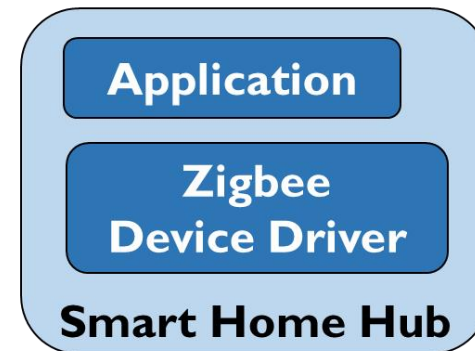
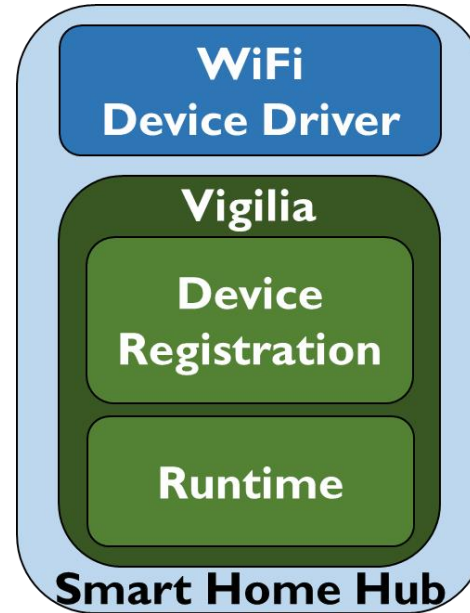
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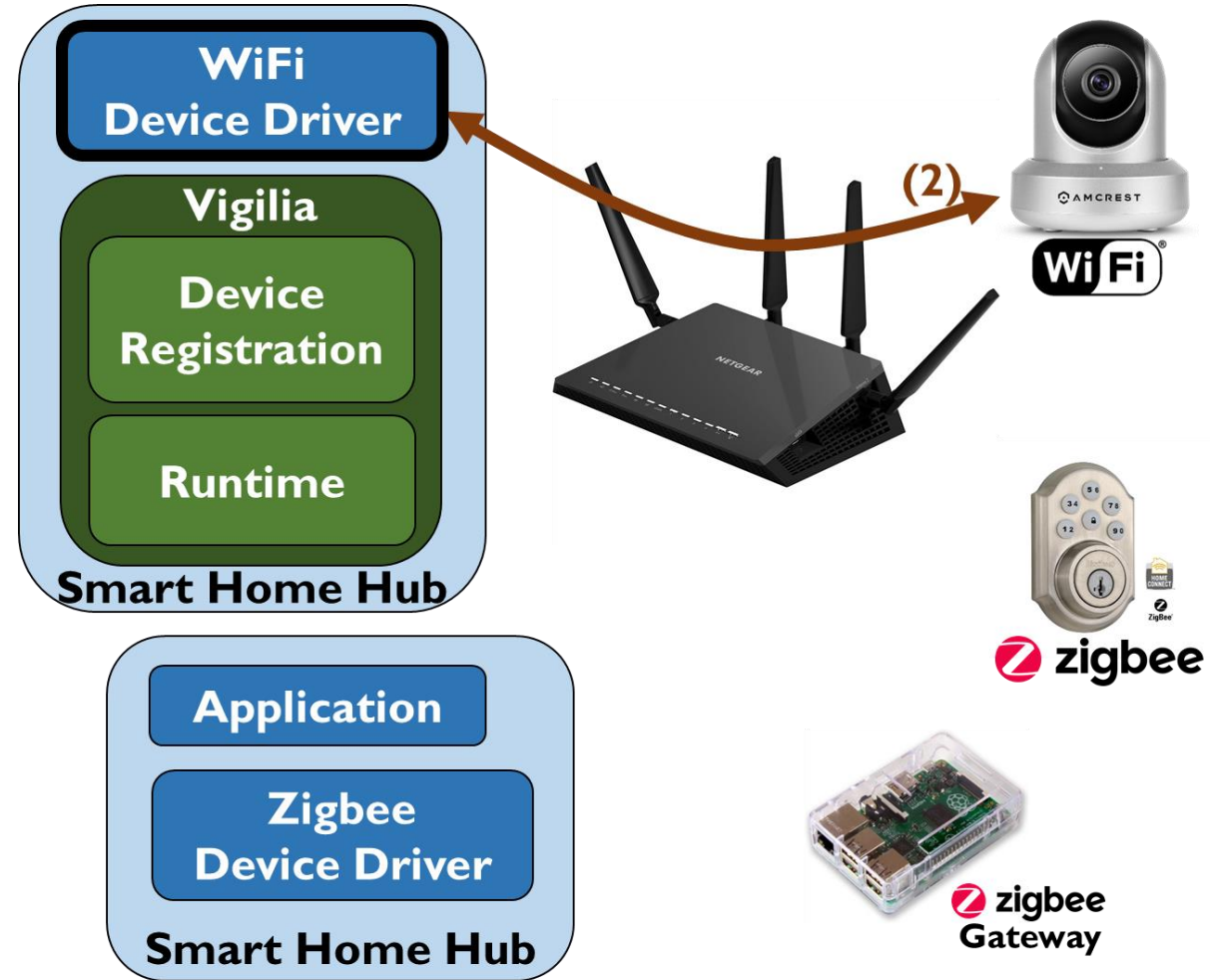
# Securing TCP/IP Devices

- Device driver capability
  - Use **firewall** rules
  - **Allow** specified **TCP/IP** communications
  - **Block** everything else



# Securing TCP/IP Devices

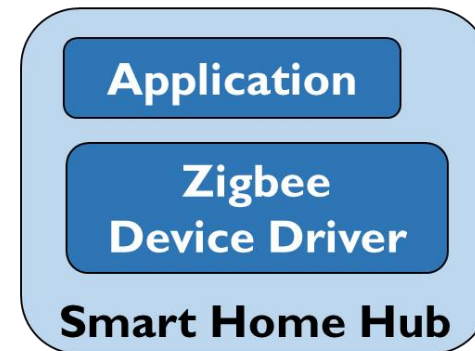
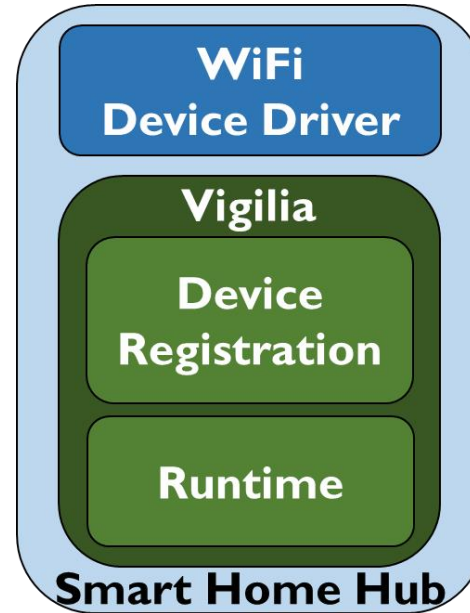
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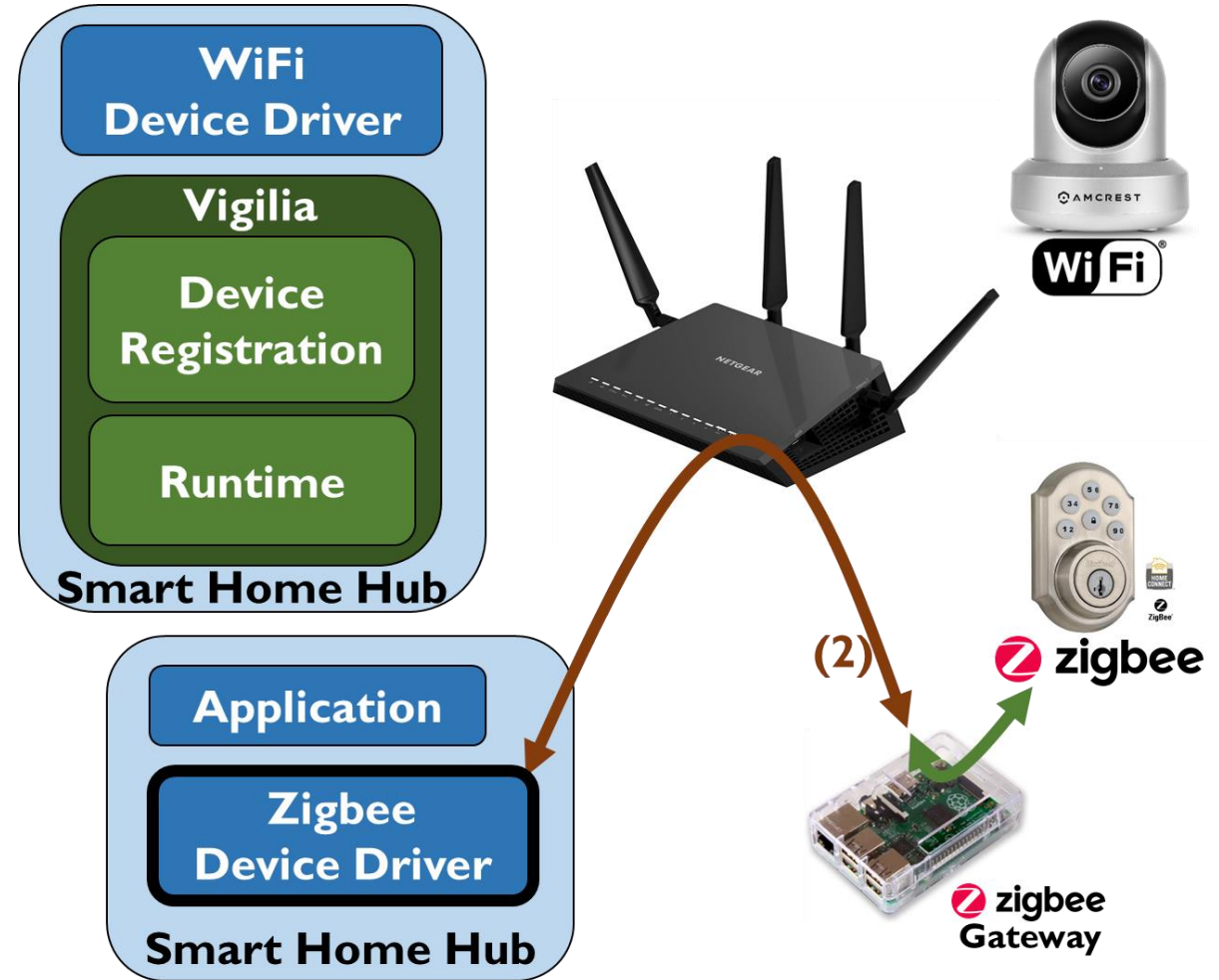
# Securing Zigbee Devices

- Device driver **capability**
  - Zigbee packet filter on Zigbee gateway
  - Multiple Zigbee drivers can talk to gateway
  - Only **the right one** can send packets to device



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# Vigilia Guarantees

- All communications from **non-malicious apps** will be **allowed**
- All communications **not explicitly configured** are **blocked**

# Experience

Vigilia App	Devices	
	Input	Output
Irrigation	Soil moisture sensor (Zigbee) Weather report website <a href="https://openweathermap.org/">https://openweathermap.org/</a>	Sprinkler
Lights	Cameras	Light bulbs
Music	GPS (smartphone)	Speakers
Home security	Motion, water-leak, multipurpose sensors (Zigbee) Camera	Siren/Alarm Door lock

# Attacks

Attack	Application	Details
Sprinkler	Sprinkler	Run API via port 80 (HTTP)
Light bulb	Lights	Turn on/off via port 56700
Speaker	Music	Play music via port 80 (HTTP)
Camera	Home Security	View camera via port 80 (HTTP)
Siren/Alarm	Home Security	Brute-force PIN & access via port 80 (HTTP)
Deauthentication	All	Jam WiFi access & let device join a malicious WLAN router

# Attacks

Attack	Normal*	IoTSec	Vigilia
Sprinkler	✓	✓	✗
Light bulb	✓	✓	✗
Speaker	✓	✗	✗
Camera	✓	✓	✗
Siren/Alarm	✓	✗	✗
Deauth. + Sprinkler	N/A	N/A	✗
Deauth. + Light bulb	N/A	N/A	✗
Deauth. + Speaker	N/A	✓	✗
Deauth. + Camera	N/A	N/A	✗
Deauth. + Siren/Alarm	N/A	✓	✗

✓ = attack success  
✗ = attack thwarted

\***Normal** = standard router, including **Norton Core** and **Bitdefender Box 2**

# Public IP Experiment

- 16 smart home devices
  - Exposed to the Internet – public IP
  - Duration of 10 days
- Total of 38,296 access attempts
  - TCP (e.g., TCP SYN/ACK)
  - UDP
  - ICMP

# Public IP Experiment – Cameras

- Four Amcrest cameras – 14 hours of **exposure**
- With Vigilia – **only** 551 attempts
- With password only – **31,230** attempts
- No protection
  - All 4 **disabled** in **15 minutes!**
  - 172 – 362 packets per camera
  - **XML-RPC attack** via HTTP (port 80)

# Conclusions

- Smart home IoT devices have **vulnerabilities**
- **Cannot** manage security for individual (**simplistic**) devices
- Manage the communications!
- Download: **<http://plrg.eecs.uci.edu/vigilia/>**

**Please find more details in the paper!**



Thank you! 😊

