



Scientists: We Can Photograph People In 3D Through Walls Using Wi-Fi

Using radiation from your own home Wi-Fi router, devices outside your home can see what is inside. Leave it to German scientists to dream this one up. Technocrats invent only because they can, not because it is smart or useful. Only over-aggressive authorities will benefit from this technology and citizens will be stripped of their last corner of privacy in their shrinking world. □ TN Editor

Wi-Fi can pass through walls.

This fact is easy to take for granted, yet it's the reason we can surf the web using a wireless router located in another room.

But not all of that microwave radiation makes it to (or from) our phones, tablets, and laptops. Routers scatter and bounce their signal off objects,

illuminating our homes and offices like invisible light bulbs.

Now, German scientists have found a way to exploit this property to take holograms, or 3D photographs, of objects inside a room — from outside it.

“It can basically scan a room with someone’s Wi-Fi transmission,” Philipp Holl, a 23-year-old undergraduate physics student at the Technical University of Munich, told Business Insider.

Holl initially built the device as part of his bachelor thesis with the help of his academic supervisor, Friedemann Reinhard. The two later submitted a study about their technique to the journal Physical Review Letters, which [published their paper](#) in early May.

Holl says the technology is only in its prototype stage and has limited resolution, but he is excited about its promise.

“If there’s a cup of coffee on a table, you may see something is there, but you couldn’t see the shape,” Holl says. “But you could make out the shape of a person, or a dog on a couch. Really any object that’s more than 4 centimeters in size.”

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