Nexa Center for Internet & Society
Politecnico di Torino

Studying the Internet, exploring its potential & experimenting new ideas

Introduction to Discussion

CPS Week – International Workshop on Consumers and the Internet of Things

Vienna, 11th April 2016

Suggested Topics

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1. IoT Data Ownership

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Consumers' *de iure* and *de facto* ability

to **control** and **use**

the data

generated by the IoT products they purchased.

"Right now we have the worst of both worlds,

in which people not only cannot control their data,

but also can't really use it."

Tim Berners-Lee

Proposed solutions:

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- Etc.

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2. The "Revolv use case"

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Revolv home hubs – which were sold at a price of 300 $ each – will soon become **completely useless**, as Revolv will shut down (as it announced) the service necessary in order for the devices to work.

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3. Internet of Things for a Circular Economy

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Circular economy = economic development decoupled from resource consumption

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- Collaboration and transparency along the value chain
- Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures adopted

→ Internet of Things

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Given that today we can still observe a tendential predominance of closed ecosystems in the IoT world, the employment of the IoT for purposes of circularity wouldn't for the moment be able to realize a shift from a linear economy to a circular economy;
rather, it would realize a shift towards a series of siloed circular economIES,
not able to leverage the full potential of the IoT, and therefore not able to reach the same results a unique circular economy would have achieved.

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Thank you.

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Discussion Session: Suggested Topics

1. IoT Data Ownership

Consumers' de iure *and* de facto *ability to control and/or use IoT data (through, e.g., data portability principle, data markets, etc.).*

→ Arguments for (e.g., consumer empowerment?) and against (e.g., harms for firms, less privacy, limited effects on competition in an IoT world).

2. The "Revolv use case"

Revolv home hubs – which were sold at a price of 300 $ each – will soon become completely useless, as Revolv will shut down (as it announced) the service necessary in order for the devices to work.

→ What is your personal opinion about the case? Is the traditional concept of ownership becoming obsolescent? Will usability become a major consumer concern (like, e.g., privacy and security)?

3. Internet of Things for a Circular Economy

A proper employment of the IoT could be helpful in implementing the enabling factors of a circular economy (repair, upgrading, reuse, recycling, more sustainable business models, collaboration and transparency along the value chain, monitoring, etc.).

→ What is your personal opinion about the employment of the IoT for purposes of circularity? Can a siloed IoT be actually effective in fostering the circular economy?