

EXPLORING THE INTIMATE IOT

background - physicality of data

Certain objects have a significant place in our lives, in how we relate to each other and certain events. Such objects often act as triggers for places, people and experiences that can transfer us in time and space and connect us with significant others. Over a period of time, some of the objects we gather and share find their way into our homes, in more open spaces like the living room, or other more personal spaces kept in a drawer. While still others are discarded and lost. Printed pictures often occupy space in our mum's and grandmother's homes. Pictures from my high school and university graduations, my brother's picture from the military, picture from my mum's wedding. Even though over the years the medium of creating, storing and accessing data have changed, most of us share an intrinsic need of connectivity with each other and things we love or wish to remember.

We take and share pictures via our smart phones and use social media to post our thoughts. We are all storing data in hard drives with a high capacity of storage. But with the new ways of taking pictures, video and audio files via our smart phones we store an abundance of data that might stay in hard drives for ever.

In the digital era working with IoT technologies it is interesting to explore how can we combine the physicality of objects and digital capabilities to explore new ways of sharing and storing data and and enhance the emotional connectivity with each other through objects.

new ways of sharing and storing

Sharing and Storing Data

Google Drive, Dropbox lets us store and share files online and access them from anywhere. A group of friends create a shared folder on the Cloud and share the pictures they have taken during their trip. Internet offers an **Immediate, Easy, Accessible** way to store and share data.

How can the IoT helps us curate our personal archives in different ways?

How can the IoT potentially open new avenues for personal meaningfulness in storing and accessing our personal archive?

Can IoT respond to "togetherness", the sense of community?

Exploring Intimacy and IoT

A scenario that could be explored is the communication between family members that live apart. When someone wants to keep a thought, a recipe, take a picture that links him with the rest family can send it to an object/ a server where the information can be stored. The object could be a physical object in the house where the family members meet, a personalised object for each member of the family or a just server on the internet.

"togetherness" - unlocks data



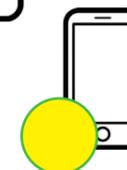
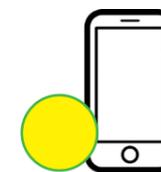
blurred data



pixelated data



"hidden" data in a different object



"Togetherness" unlocks the data

When family members are apart and they send data to each other different interactions with data could occur. For example:

- only a part of the information can be revealed,
- the information is blurred and cannot be fully understandable
- or not accessible at all for a certain time.

Only when the family gets together, all the members can access all the context.

"Togetherness" is the way unlock the encrypted information.

IoT encourages for nuanced ways of sharing stories, pictures and the anticipating the "being together".