

Chapter 86

Multifaceted Applications of the Internet of Things

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ABSTRACT

This chapter determines the overview of the internet of things (IoT) and the multifaceted applications of the IoT. The IoT is made up of hardware and software technologies. The IoT describes a world in which everyday objects are connected to a network so that data can be shared. The IoT refers to the networking of physical objects through the use of embedded sensors, actuators, and other devices that can collect and transmit information about the objects. The data amassed from these devices can be analyzed to optimize products, services, and operations. For the IoT to flourish, interoperability must apply across all parts of the system, including the transmission networks and the data being transmitted. The IoT enables the multifaceted applications ranging from the micro to the macro, and from the trivial to the critical perspectives.

INTRODUCTION

The Internet of Things (IoT) is a new world for connecting every object of the real world with the virtual space in the computer world (Erguler, 2015). The vision of the IoT predicts a future Internet incorporating smart physical objects that offer the hosted functionality as the IoT services (Dar, Taherkordi, Baraki, Eliassen, & Geihs, 2015). IoT refers to the uniquely identified computing devices that are connected to the Internet and embedded into things (Salim & Haque, 2015). The IoT paradigm envisions the pervasive interconnection and cooperation of smart things over the current and future Internet infrastructure (Ziegeldorf, Morchon, & Wehrle, 2014).

The IoT is enabled through several technologies ranging from communication systems to distributed intelligence (Moschakis & Karatza, 2015). The IoT is a new stage of intelligentization and informatization development (Ning & Hu, 2012). The IoT is envisioned as a natural evolution of the Internet, promising to enable the ubiquitous connections for pervasive objects (Ren, 2011). The IoT envisions

some services that require both end-device mobility and high availability or high bandwidth (Sonntag & Suomi, 2015). The IoT envisions to connect many sensors to the Internet (Perera, Zaslavsky, Christen, & Georgakopoulos, 2014).

The IoT includes various kinds of devices (e.g., sensors, actuators, radio frequency identification (RFID) tags, smartphones, and backend servers), which are different in terms of size, capability, and functionality (Nguyen, Laurent, & Oualha, 2015). RFID solutions can be utilized to reduce the operating costs through decreasing labor costs, enhancing automation, improving tracking and tracing, and preventing the loss of materials (Kasemsap, 2015a). Smart objects are generally added to the Internet using IPv6 over Low-power Wireless Personal Area Networks (6LoWPAN), which defines IP communication for resource-constrained networks (Raza, Duquennoy, Höglund, Roedig, & Voigt, 2014).

This article aims to bridge the gap in the literature on the thorough literature consolidation of the IoT. The extensive literature of the IoT provides a contribution to practitioners and researchers by describing the multifaceted applications of the IoT in order to maximize the business impact of the IoT perspectives.

BACKGROUND

The IoT is a paradigm where everyday objects can be equipped with identifying, sensing, networking, and processing the capabilities that will allow them to communicate with one another and with other devices and services over the Internet to accomplish the strategic goals (Whitmore, Agarwal, & Xu, 2015). Mashal et al. (2015) indicated that different types of smart devices are interconnected and communicate via Internet Protocol that creates a worldwide ubiquitous and pervasive network called the IoT.

With the emergence of Internet Protocol-related IoT devices (Shelby & Bormann, 2009) and the concept of embedded Web services (Shelby, 2010), enterprise level applications (e.g., business processes) are extended (Caracas, 2012) to optimize their execution by collecting the real-time information provided by the IoT devices. Business process modeling (BPM) methodologies provide business users with the ability to model their business processes and to implement business models (Kasemsap, 2016a). Logistics efficiency (Guinard, Trifa, Karnouskos, Spiess, & Savio, 2010), safety processes for storing hazardous materials (Mahlknecht & Madani, 2007), and the remote patient monitoring (Yao, Chu, & Li, 2012) are the major IoT applications.

The IoT applications have been adopted in many different domains (Mashal et al., 2015). Several researches focus on the field of health care systems (Pang et al., 2015), rehabilitation systems (Fan, Yin, Xu, Zeng, & Wu, 2014), and systems assisting peoples with disabilities (Domingo, 2012). In order to improve the quality of human life, IoT technology is broadly utilized to create the smart environments, such as smart homes (Gao, Ling, & Yuan, 2011), smart buildings (Tao, Yajuan, Deyun, Junqi, & Hongke, 2010), and smart cities (Theodoridis, Mylonas, & Chatzigiannakis, 2013) which include intelligent transportation and logistics (Chen, Guo, & Hu, 2010), bus systems (Eberle, 2007), and smart parking management (Bechini, Marcelloni, & Segatori, 2014). The IoT paradigm promises to increase the visibility and awareness of energy consumption (Shrouf & Miragliotta, 2015).

CHALLENGES AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE INTERNET OF THINGS

This article highlights the overview of the IoT and the multifaceted applications of the IoT.

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