Generative Architectures

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Towards a Theory of Information Infrastructures

A Theories of Information Infrastructures (Evolution & Design)





Infrastructure evolution

- Evolution
 - Bootstrapping
 - Adoption
 - Scaling
 - Innovation
 - Restructuring/harmonization/consolidation
 - Crumbling/fragmentation

Innovation

• Of, in, on

- W. Brian Arthur
 - The nature of technology. What it is and how it evolves
 - Out of a material
 - (re-)combination
 - Structural deepening
 - Re-domaining

Generative Technology

- ".. A technology's overall capacity to produce unprompted change driven by large, varied, and uncoordinated audiences."
 - Capacity for leverage
 - Adaptability
 - Ease of mastery
 - Accessibility
 - Computers
 - PC & Internet
 - Opposite: Appliances
 - Telecom: intelligent network + appliances

Some research results

- Morris and Ferguson: "Architectures win technology wars!"
- Architectural control points
- Platform centric ecologies
- Mirroring
 - Product producer
 - Product users
- Innovation and generativity

Generative networks/communities

- Exaptive bootstrapping
- Generative relationships
 - aligned directedness
 - heterogeneity
 - mutual directedness.
 - permissions structures
 - action opportunities

- Design & user communities
- Generative fit

Generative infrastructure

- Enable the successful evolution of lis
 - Bootstrapping, adoption, scaling, innovation, restructuring
- Generative architecture
- Generative governance regime
- Generative process strategy
- Generative fit
- Generativity is configurational!!

The beginning

- 1987: Fürst's lab report transfer solution
- 1988: Telenor (Telemedicine in Northern Norway)
- Lab report transfer solutions
- Standardizing
- Statskonsult's Infrastructure programme: EDI
 - Physicians' invoices
- CEN TC/251, KITH
- Consensus: EDI

The continuation

- 90-ies:
 - Lab reports & orders, prescriptions, physicians and outpatient clinics' invoices, admission and discharge letters, ..
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 - ELIN projects
 - The message effort (meldingsløftet)
 - ePrescription
- Status: Modest successes, coordination problems, always someone not doing as promised

The EDI Paradigm



ePrescription



Drifting Architecture

- Delays
- => Generic module for Profdoc users
- => Pharmacies
- => DIPS users

• Disagreements!

A few other projects

- Fürst
 - Lab report transfer solution, 1987, 3 man weeks + 1 evening
 - Lab ordering solution
- Edimed, Northern Norwegian Health Network
- Well/Dips Interactor

Interactive admission letters

- BlueFox, Prescription register
- MyJournal

An alternative architecture



ICT architecture

Project organization

Two architectures



Two architectures

- 1. Application Centric/Institutional Interface Architecture (AC/INA)
- 2. Communication System Centric/Service Provider Architecture (CSC/SPA)

The CSCAParadigm



Generative architecture

Scaling, Adoption, Innovation "on"



Bootstrapping, Restructuring, Innovation "in" & "of"

Summary Care Record Systems

- Scotland:
 - 3 MGBP (4M Euros, 4 M USD)
- Denmark:
 - Official, top-down
 - 10 M Euros,
 - Faded out after about 4 years, officially cancelled after 8
 - Unofficial, bottom-up
 - Great success
- Norway (ePrescription)
 - 500 MNOK, currently piloted in one GP office
- UK
 - Started 2004, early adoption 2007, further deployment is frozen
 - Spent 240 MGBP