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Theoretical perspectives on governance of information infrastructures, inter-organisational systems and platform eco-systems IN 5430 - April 17th 2018





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### **Platform technical view**

### A core, its interfaces, and the applications



## **Brief recapitulation of previous lecture**

- Governance
  - Within organizations managerial authority
  - Supply chains contractual relations
  - Ecosystems 'governance through architecture'
- Platforms a socio-technical «arrangement» of interorganizational/wider collaboration
  - Core (platform), modules and interfaces
- Platform governance (Tiwana, 2013)
  - Decision rights
    - Centralized/decentralized, strategy/implementation
  - Control mechanisms
    - Gate keeping, metrics, process control, norms/values
  - Pricing

### **Today: Theoretical perspectives on governance**

- Between «the market» and «the organization»
  - The market: self-organizing, price as signalling mechanism which ensures coordination
  - The organization: hierarchy, authority/power ensures coordination
- Examples: e-prescription and Wikipedia
  - Vassilakopoulou et al. (2017) "Collective action in national e-health initiatives: findings from a cross-analysis of the Norwegian and Greek e-prescription initiatives." Proceedings from the 15th Scandinavian Conference on Health Informatics
  - Aaltonen, Aleksi, and Giovan Francesco Lanzara (2015). "Building governance capability in online social production: insights from Wikipedia." Organization Studies 36.12 (2015): 1649-1673.
- Concepts for today:
  - Collective action dilemmas and mechanisms for resolution
  - The notion of commons, governance of commons (polycentric governance)





## **Example: e-prescription (Norway)**

- Infrastructure for digital capture, transmission and dispensing of prescription for medical drugs
- Planned since 2003, rolled out 2012-13 to GPs and pharmacies
- Ongoing developments
  - Hospitals, multidose, online pharmacies, MyPrescriptions
- Organised as joint program w/public and private actors



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Period	Description	
Norwegian e-prescription		
2003-2004	Decision to initiate e-Prescription	
2005-2006	Starting e-Prescription program	
2007-2008	Tender First Pilot (stopped after significant problems)	
2009-2012	Re-planning Successful pilot and rollout Prescribing Module developed	
2013-2016	Extensions including: multidose dispensing, online-pharmacies and new projects for further extensions	
Greek e-prescription		
2010	Decision to initiate e-Prescription	
2011	Pilot and rollout	
2013	Coverage 98%	
2013-2015	Extensions including: therapeutic protocols, caps for prescribing doctors, diagnostic test ordering	

Table 2. Temporal evolution of the e-prescription cases

The paper compares Norway and Greece:

- N: tight integration with EPRs
- G: non-integrated web application
- N: voluntary collaboration («dugnad») of relatively few vendors
- G: «too many vendors» to expect collaboration
- Both countries: required regulatory and legal interventions

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Phase	Period	Key Actors	Description
Initiations	2003-2004	National Social Security Administration, Health Ministry, Health Directorate	Social Security Reform Decision to initiate e-Prescription
Pl anni ng & Initi al Development	2005-2006	Health Ministry, Health Directorate, SLV, Phar macists Association, Doctors Association, Bandagists, EPR vendors and other software development companies	Starting e-Prescription program Merging NHN on a national level Cooperation-agreement
Uns uccessf ul De pl oy ment Attempt	2007-2008	Health Ministry, Health Directorate, SLX, Pharmacists Association, Doctors Association, Bandagists, EPR vendors and other software development companies	Tender First Pilot Count y stops pilot after significant problems emerge
Successful Deployment	2009-2012	Health Ministry, Health Directorate, SLV, Pharmacists Association, Doctors Association, Bandagist, EPR vendors and other software development companies, HELFO	Re-planning Prescription mediator launched Successful pilot and rollout M gration Factory developed for pharmacy systems Prescribing Module developed My Prescription service
Ma nage ment, Operations & further Upgrades	2013–2016	Health Ministry, Health Directorate, Directorate of e-Health, Pharmacists Association, Doctors Association, Bandagists, EPR vendors and other soft ware development companies, HELFQ, PLO (Minicipal Care institutions), Norwegian Institute of Public Health	Multidose Dispensing Online-pharmacy Transfer to directorate of e-Health Initiatives for comprehensive overview of patient's medications and for connecting with the Norwegian Institute of Public Health

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«Belling the Cat» - example of a collective action dilemma

### **Collective action**

- "The age-old problem of how to induce collaborative problem solving and other forms of collective action among self-interested individuals, groups, or organizations, assuming, of course, that they share at least some common goals"
  - (Fulk and DeSanctis, 1995, p. 60).
- Collective Action dilemma:
  - If each group member acts according to their own's best interest, the outcome will not be in anybody's interest
  - Example: Environmental destruction
- A fundamental aspect of societal organizing

## Game theory: «Prisoner's dilemma»

Two members of a criminal gang are arrested and imprisoned. Each prisoner is in solitary confinement with no means of communicating with the other. The prosecutors lack sufficient evidence to convict the pair on the principal charge. They hope to get both sentenced to a year in prison on a lesser charge. Simultaneously, the prosecutors offer each prisoner a bargain. Each prisoner is given the opportunity either to: betray the other by testifying that the other committed the crime, or to cooperate with the other by remaining silent. The offer is: If A and B each betray the other, each of them serves 2 years in prison

- If A betrays B but B remains silent, A will be set free and B will serve 3 years in prison (and vice versa)
- If A and B both remain silent, both of them will only serve 1 year in prison (on the lesser charge)
- (assume no reward or punishment afterwards)

**Point:** it is rational for each to betray the other – but this (pursuing individual reward) leaves each one worse off than if they cooperated

## Mechanisms

- A typology we draw on in the paper, from (Heckathorn, 1996), who analysed collective action based on three underlying mechanisms (ways to resolve collective action dilemmas):
  - voluntary cooperation: actors choose between two strategies (cooperate or not) forgoing any attempts to influence others
  - strategic interaction: actors make their choices conditional on others' choices according to principles of reciprocity
  - selective incentives: laws or social norms that punish defectors or reward cooperators are employed to facilitate collective action

## Propositions

- The technological architectures chosen will influence the nature of the collective action dilemma associated with building and implementing them
  - Ex: Role of prescription module to resolve the dilemma
- «Governance through architecture»

## **Sucessful collective action**

- Open source software
- More general:
  - Commons-based peer production a different form than firm-based production
  - Inputs and outputs are freely shared
    - knowledge is not proprietary, but shared
  - Governed by licences, norms etc.
  - http://www.benkler.org/wonchapters.html





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## **Commons-based Peer Production**



Delimitation and typification criteria of CBPP



Source: https://p2pvalue.eu/delimiting-commons-based-peer-production/

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## **Readings: Aaltonen and Lanzara 2015**

- How can distributed knowledge be harnessed, integrated and steered towards a coherent collective input?
- Wikipedia (Wikimedia) 2001-2009 the emergence and evolution of governance capabilities
  - i.e. capability to design and implement mechanisms to control and coordinate joint production
- Governance mechanisms need to evolve to adapt

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# The early years: attracting and integrating distributed knowledge resources: (table 1)

Governance problem	How to attract and integrate distributed knowledge resources?
Example of routines	<ul> <li>Writing routine</li> <li>Version control routines</li> <li>Reverting routine</li> <li>Discussion routine</li> </ul>
Capabilities	Capabilities are focused to the production of encyclopedia articles: - Individual skills and knowledge in writing on topic -Technological ordering of edits from multiple contributors - Collaborative assessment of edit quality - Discussion focused on article content and its development
Learning	Contributors learn from each other in talk page discussions and by observing reactions to edits
Social structure of capabilities	Capabilities are anchored to small and fluid groupings of contributors and to the technological platform <sup>22</sup>

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# The growth of complexity: the emergence of a collective governance capability (table 2)

Governance problem	How to control and coordinate a distributed and rapidly growing production system?
Example of routines	<ul> <li>Three-Revert Rule (3RR) routines</li> <li>Featured Article Review (FAR) routines</li> </ul>
Capabilities	New capabilities are anchored to the online social production system rather than to individual contributors or small groupings. Examples: - Capability to control behaviour instantiated by the writing and reverting routines in a radically open system - Capability to improve the quality of articles against a common criteria
Learning	Contributors develop new routines by discussing problems on talk pages and writing metatext; they also learn through the enactment of the new routines
Social structure of capabilities	The enactment of production routines remain widely distributed, but some editorial and administrative agency become more centralized and attached to emerging roles

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# The age of maturity: maintaining and enhancing the common value (table 3)

Governance problem	How to protect and maintain the online social production system?
Example of routines	<ul> <li>Bot deployment routines</li> <li>Flagged revisions routines</li> </ul>
Capabilities	New capabilities target the collective governance capability itself. Examples: - Capability to stabilize capabilities by automating routines - Capability to balance participation and quality in the production of articles
Learning	Contributors are socialized to a regime of principles, rules, procedures, policies, etc.; learning increasingly happens through norms and rules
Social structure of capabilities	The enactment of production routines remain mostly distributed despite some selective restrictions, while a concentrated and structured system of administrative capabilities is established

## **Governing the Commons**

- «Commons» common resources, e.g. for common land for hunting, grazing
  - Enclosure of the commons (privatization): England 18th century, the «clearings» in Scotland
  - Hardin (1968): «Tragedy of the Commons»: They are susceptible to over-exploitation if users don't restrain themsleves
  - Heller (1998): «Tragedy of the Anti-commons»: a single resource has numerous rightsholders who prevent others from using it, frustrating what would be a socially desirable outcome.
- Information Commons similarities and differences from natural/physical resource commons

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## Design principles for Common Pool Resource (CPR) institutions

- 1. Clearly defined (clear definition of the contents of the common pool resource and effective exclusion of external un-entitled parties);
- 2. The appropriation and provision of common resources that are adapted to local conditions;
- 3. Collective-choice arrangements that allow most resource appropriators to participate in the decision-making process;
- 4. Effective monitoring by monitors who are part of or accountable to the appropriators;
- 5. A scale of graduated sanctions for resource appropriators who violate community rules;
- 6. Mechanisms of conflict resolution that are cheap and of easy access;
- 7. Self-determination of the community recognized by higher-level authorities; and
- 8. In the case of larger common-pool resources, organization in the form of multiple layers of nested enterprises, with small local CPRs at the base level.

Elinor Ostrom (1990): "Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action"

UiO : Department of How Platform Coops Can Beat Death Stars Like Uber to Create a Real... http://www.shareable.net/blog/how-platform-coop University of Oslo





platforms, and the time to decide is now. It might be the most important economic decisize we ever make, bet most of as don't even know we have a choice.

And just what is a Douth Star platform? Still Johnson of StreetureC3 referred to Uppr and

Examples of cooperative platforms

**RESONATE** – an alternative to Spotify



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### **Oakland's Open Insulin Project Aims to Disrupt Diabetes**





Medical patents typically last 20 years, but because of minor yet regular advancements to the insulin production process, these patents have been maintained for nearly a century. Biohackers working on the Open Insulin Project are now working to come up with their own protocol to create the compound that diabetics have relied on since 1922. They plan to make their process to produce a low-cost version of the drug







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#### Se hva du kan bidra med



Aiswarya Ria 24 minutter siden

Kan noen kjøre meg til legen nå på Onsdag?

Følgevenn Frivilligby frivilligsentral



Erik Melbye 28 minutter siden

Jeg trenger hjelp til å handle i butikken



Se hva du kan ønske deg

#### Ærend

Diverse praktisk bistand i og utenfor hjemmet.

Hirkens Bymisjon



( 104 personer er godkjent for dette

#### Følgevenn

Med følgevenn kan du bli fulgt til lege eller sykehus.





(a) 93 personer er godkjent for dette

Volunteer matching

Service swapping

### Utilize idle resources

### ALDER.NO



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### Discover and utilize underused resources

Grow Gothenburg

Discover Academy



https://growgbg.com/en



### https://diwala.org/

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## Additional readings:

- Vassilakopoulou, P., Skorve, E. Aanestad, M. (2016). A Commons Perspective on Genetic Data Governance: the Case of BRCA Data." ECIS.
- Markus, M. Lynne. "The governance of free/open source software projects: monolithic, multidimensional, or configurational?." Journal of Management & Governance 11.2 (2007): 151-163.
- Hess, Charlotte, and Elinor Ostrom. Understanding knowledge as a commons. The MIT Press, 2007.
- McGinnis, M. (2016): Polycentric Governance in Theory and Practice: Dimensions of Aspiration and Practical Limitations.
- Barrett, Oborn, Orlikowski (2016): Creating Value in Online Communities: The Sociomaterial Configuring of Strategy, Platform and Stakeholder Engagement. Information Systems Research, 27(4)