

Introduction to the HICSS-47 Open Data and Cloud Services Minitrack

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Public organizations are opening their data to the public, developing, sharing and sourcing their services and taking advantage of the cloud. These initiatives are often started as technology projects, but ultimately have an impact at the organizational level. Public systems are more and more interconnected, decisions concerning interoperability, quality, sharing and sourcing, development, operation and hosting of the services in a cloud should be made from this view. Yet it is unclear what should be done and what the impact of these developments is.

Open data is recent phenomenon in which data is made available and can be used by everybody for what it seems an unlimited amount of purposes. *Infrastructures* are generic facilities supporting organizational collaborating, service provisioning and business processes. Nowadays apps and generic platforms are developed to enable interoperability on top of which others can develop comprehensive services. *Interoperability* is the ability of diverse systems and organizations to work together. Cloud services are a new way of providing and using ICT based on virtualized resources meeting security, privacy and scalability requirements. Clouds provide the opportunity to share resources and provide shared services over the Internet, so that administrations, enterprises and citizens can benefit from open data and shared services. All these developments are changing the government.

This minitrack is aimed at discussing theories, methodologies, experience reports, literature and case studies in the field of open data, interoperability, information infrastructures and cloud services. The minitrack covers a variety of topics related to cloud infrastructures and interoperability. This year five papers were accepted in this minitrack,

The first paper in this minitrack is entitled “Applying Design Patterns in URI Strategies-Naming in Linked Geospatial Data Infrastructure” and is authored by Sonya Abbas and Adegboyega Ojo. The paper addresses the challenge of checking

internal consistencies and coverage when developing URI strategies.

The paper “Dynamic Capabilities for Information Sharing: XBRL enabling business-to-government information exchange” by Marijn Janssen and Yao-hua Tan investigates the dynamic capabilities necessary to realize public sector information sharing. They found that companies and public organizations need to create a different set of capabilities to enable business-to-government information sharing.

The paper “Evaluating Second Generation Open Government Data e-Infrastructures Using Value Models” authored by Euripides Loukis, Yannis Charalabidis and Charalabos Alexopoulos presents and validates a methodology for evaluating open information infrastructures. The approach is based on the estimation of value models and it enables an assessment of the various types of values and its interrelationships.

The paper “Having the Mind in the Cloud: Organizational Mindfulness and the Successful Use of Desktop as a Service” by Sabine Dernbecher is informed by DeLone and McLean’s IS Success Model. A questionnaire is developed and data is collected in a German State Ministry of Justice to analyze the differences between rather mindful and less mindful Desktop as a Service (DaaS) users.

The last paper “From the Ground to the Cloud – A Structured Literature Analysis of the Cloud Service Landscape around the Public and Private Sector” by Steffi Haag, Andreas Eckhardt and Julia Krönung contains a comprehensive literature review of clouds. They found that clouds for public sector are given scant research attention.

Open data, information infrastructures and public sector cloud use are still ill-researched and will likely remain important topics in the coming years. In particular theory development in these areas is necessary. Also there is a need for developing design methodologies.