Quantified Cars: Digital services and business implications based on vehicle data

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A modern vehicle is a 'computer on four wheels' equipped with many different types of sensors. The continuous collection of vehicle data facilitates the generation of innovative digital services for drivers and other stakeholders. In recent years, the ongoing digitalization of the automotive industry has emerged a number of new players. In analogy to the Quantified-Self-movement, the IT industry in the USA has evolved a number of Quantified Car¹ startups, which are backed by enormous amounts of risk capital, reaching far more than 20 million USD in some cases. These developments demonstrate that investors perceive a high market value of digital services based on vehicle data.

The proposed talk dives into one important aspect of digitalization, the Quantified-Car-phenomenon, and analyses the most prominent Quantified-Car startups, Automatic, Mojio, Vinly, Zendrive, and Dash. The potentials and challenges of data-driven digital services are further explained by showcasing a demonstrator developed at Virtual Vehicle Research Center (an "IoT-enabled car2cloud data logger"), which has been applied in a series of ongoing European Research projects including SCOTT² and AEGIS³. Outlining the impact of quantified cars for business stakeholders, this talk continues with a short discussion on the increasing competition between players from the ICT and the automotive domain on the supremacy in the development of a digital vehicle services.

Linking to the challenge of vehicle development and production, this talk introduces another impact of digitalization in the automotive industry: The shift from traditional business models (e.g. vehicle as a product) to new, data-driven business models (e.g. transportation as a service, digital services based on vehicle operation data) is a strong driver for innovation and automotive market re-organization. Hence, this talk will further enhance the known concept of industry 4.0 as "digitalization over the entire product lifecycle", and highlight opportunities of data and information to build the bridge between technologies, application domains, and product lifecycle.⁴



Figure 1: Showcasing three different GUIs of Smartphone Apps developed by quantified car startups

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¹ Source: Alexander Stocker, Christian Kaiser, Michael Fellmann (2017): Quantified Vehicles - Novel Services for Vehicle Lifecycle Data, Business & Information Systems Engineering, April 2017, Volume 59, Issue 2.

² SCOTT – Secure Connected Trustable Things: https://scottproject.eu

³ AEGIS - Advanced Big Data Value Chain for Public Safety and Personal Security: http://www.aegis-bigdata.eu

⁴ Source: Eric Armengaud, Christoph Sams, Georg von Falck, Georg List, Christian Kreiner, and Andreas Riel: Industry 4.0 as Digitalization over the Entire Product Lifecycle: Opportunities in the Automotive Domain, EuroSPI 2017: Systems, Software and Services Process Improvement pp 334-351.

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