

Discussing Ethical Impacts in Research and Innovation: The Ethics Canvas

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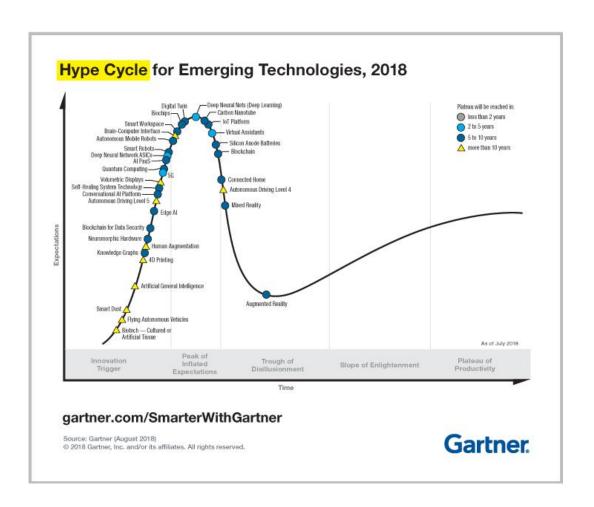
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- 1. Ethics in Research & Innovation (R&I)
 - a. R&I in Academia and Industry
 - b. Involvement of Non-Experts
- 2. Tools for Practising Ethics
 - a. Requirements of tool
 - b. Business Model Canvas
- 3. Ethics Canvas
 - a. Design & Philosophy
 - b. Evaluation



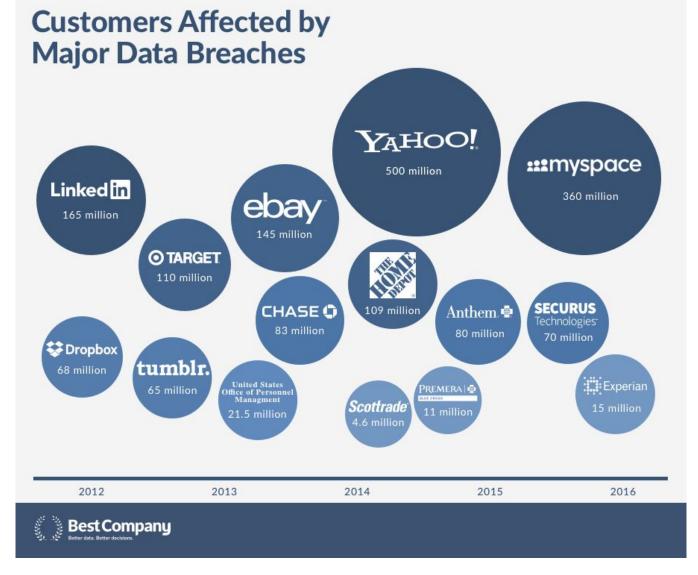
Pervasive Technologies - The Ethical Cycle

- 1. Rapid technological developments give new pervasive technologies
- 2. Adoption is faster than practising concern
- 3. Someone misuses the technology





Pervasive Technologies - Ethical Impacts





- Academia
 - professional codes of conduct
 - 'ethical' clearance procedures
- Industry / Commercial ← Reactive; Not Proactive or Reflexive
 - lumped together with legal concerns often
 - not 'systemised' or 'formalised'













formation

formation of
 (scientific)
 knowledge and
 concepts that can
 be operationalised
 for technical
 applications

translation

translation of knowledge into a technology design

prototyping

prototyping and testing of design

incorporation

introduction of R&I outcomes into society



- 1. Integrate ethics in day-to-day work
- 2. Tools/Methods are targeted at Ethicists
- 3. Require special expertise

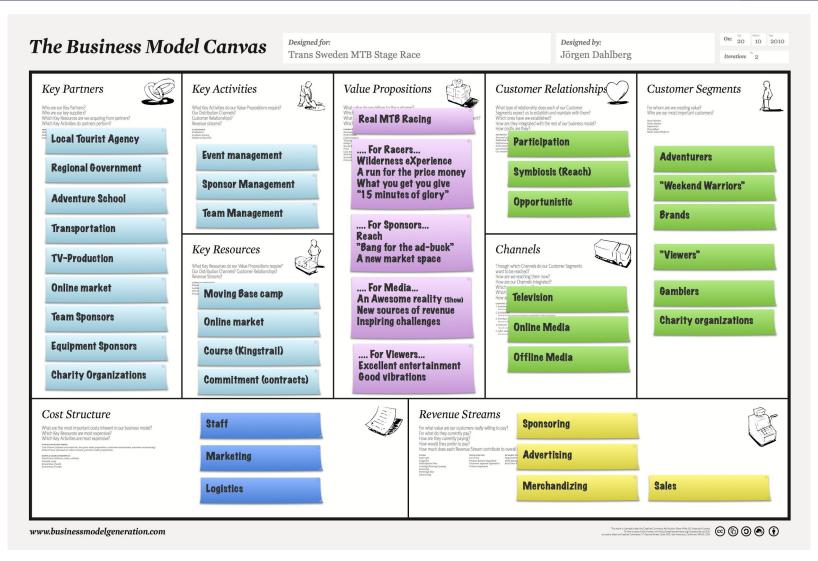


Requirements to satisfy:

- 1. accessible to non-ethicists
 - a. or people without a background in ethics
 - b. argument supported by Council for Big Data, Ethics and Society [14]
- 2. enable collaboration in identifying ethical impacts
 - a. people can be from different backgrounds, roles
 - b. multiple people can contribute using 'narratives'
 - c. fits theories in Science and Technology Studies (STS) [15]



Business Model Canvas





Designing the Ethics Canvas

BMC Literature Trial & Error

- * Enable users to discuss how technology might bring about ethical impacts for different stakeholders.
- * Building blocks for holistic analysis of technological applications being discussed
- * Impacts of technology on individuals, groups, and society as a whole
 * Gathering different vantage points to consider ethical impacts of technology
 * Use writing in Philosophy and Technology
- * Ensure design is user-friendly and intuitive
- * Iterate through series analysis exercises
- * Trial in teaching and training settings with >260 students

10



Conceptual framework

Table 1. Overview of (1) the central questions of the Ethics Canvas, (2) authors consulted to address these, (3) the approaches used by these authors, (4) the changes in wordings applied during the trial-and-error sessions and (5) the final boxes for the Ethics Canvas.

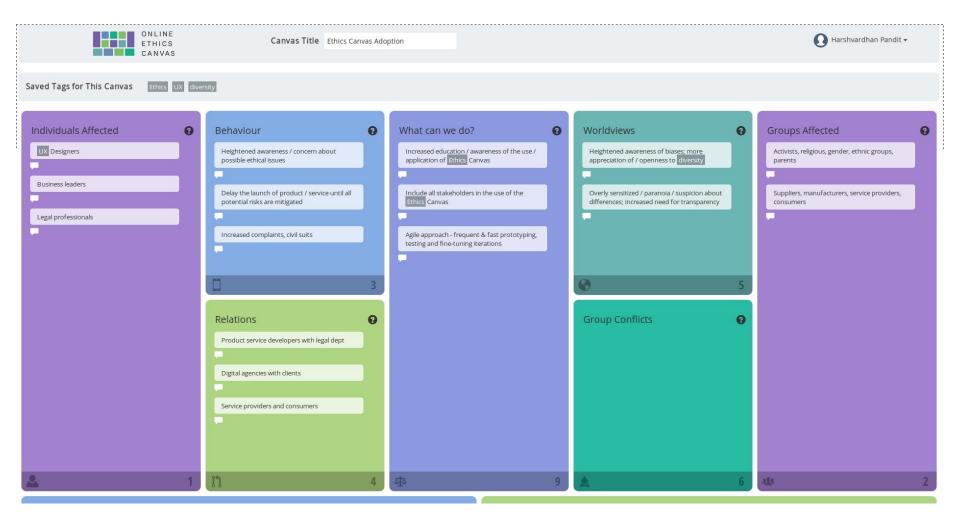
Central question	Literature consulted	Approach	Change in wording	Boxes
Who are affected?	Pinch and Bijker [15], Akrich [26]	Actor Network Theory	Relevant social group/actor/actant => individual/group	(1) Individuals affected
				(2) Groups affected
How are stakeholders affected?	Ihde [27], Verbeek [28]	Postphenomenology	"Human-technology-world" relation => behaviour/relations	(3) Behaviour
				(4) Relations
	Feenberg [29]	Critical Theory of Technology	Ideology => worldviews Struggles => social conflicts	(5) Worldviews
				(6) Social Conflicts
	Schot and Rip [30]	Constructive Technology Assessment	Risks of products and processes => product or service failure Environmental aspects => Problematic use of resources	(7) Product or service failure
				(8) Problematic use of resources
What can be done?	Friedman, Kahn, and Borning [10]	Value Sensitive Design	Technical choices driven by value- considerations => What can we do?	(9) What can we do?

Ethics Canvas www.adaptcentre.ie

The ADAPT Centre for Digital Content Technology is funded under the SFI Research Centres Programme (Grant 13/RC/2106) and is co-funded under the European Regional Development Fund. Ethics Canvas v1.8 - ethicscanvas.org @ ADAPT Centre & Trinity College **Ethics Canvas** Project Title: Date: Dublin & Dublin City University, 2017 Individuals affected Worldviews Groups affected Behaviour What can we do? Identify the types or categories of Discuss problematic changes to indi-Select the four most important Discuss how the general perception Identify the collectives or communiindividuals affected by the product vidual behaviour that may be prompt-Ethical impacts you discussed. of somebody's role in society can be ties, e.g. groups or organisations, or service, such as men/women, ed by the application e.g. differences in that can be affected by your product Identify ways of solving these affected by the project, user/non- user, age-category, etc. habits, time-schedules, choice of Impacts by changing your project's or service, such as environmental product/service design, organisaand religious groups, unions, profesactivities, people behaving more individualistic or collectivist, people tion.Or by providing recommendasional bodies, competing companies behaving more or less materialistic. tions for its use or spelling out more and government agencies, considerclearly to users the values driving ing any interest they might have in the design the effects of the product or service. **Group Conflicts** Relations Discuss problematic differences in Discuss the impact on the relationships between the groups identified, individual behaviour such as differe.g. employers and unions ences in habits, time-schedules. choice of activities, etc Product or Service Failure Problematic Use of Resources Discuss possible negative impacts of the consumption of Discuss the potential negative impact of your product or service failing to operate as intended, eg technical or human resources of your project, e.g. climate impacts, privacy error, financial failure/ receivership/acquisition, security impacts, employment impacts etc. breach, data loss, etc. The Ethics Canvas is adapted from Alex Osterwalder's Business Model Canvas. The Business Model Canvas is designed by: Business Model Foundry AG. This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribu Θ tion-Share Alike 3.0 unported license. To view a copy of this license, visit https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/. To view the original Business Model Carwas, visit https://strategyzer.com/carwas.



Online Ethics Canvas





- Evaluate perceived usefulness amongst users
- Pilot: students creating an ICT application as part of coursework
- Students attend a 1-hour lecture presenting the Ethics Canvas
- Use (online) Ethics Canvas in groups for ~1-hour
- Free to collaborate physically or virtually
- Questionnaire (voluntary) after completing Ethics Canvas



- 109 students participated in the exercise
- Organised into groups of 3 to 4 students (on average)
- Feedback given by 31 students (28% to total students)
- Questionnaire followed 5-point Likert scale to ask:
 - perceived usefulness of the Ethics Canvas
 - anticipated effect of the Ethics Canvas



56%+28%

(strongly agreed / agreed)

Exercise improved their understanding of potential ethical impacts

44%+29%

(strongly agreed / agreed)
Ethics Canvas widened
their understanding of
groups and individuals
affected

42%+35%

(strongly agreed / agreed)
Helped to create a broad
overview of potential
ethical impacts of their
projects

40%+21%

(strongly agreed / agreed)

Ethical impacts discussed fitted the structure of the Ethics Canvas

21%

(disagreed/disagreed strongly)
Ethical impacts discussed
fitted the structure of the
Ethics Canvas

52%+5%

(strongly agreed / agreed)
Ethics Canvas led them to reconsider their business models for the project



Conclusions www.adaptcentre.ie

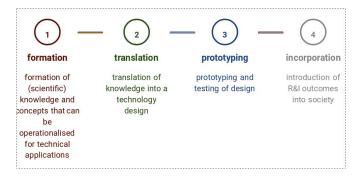
01	Ethics Canvas is perceived as an useful tool to guide participants in discussing a broad range of ethical impacts as well as identification of relevant stakeholders
02	Ethics Canvas can lead to intention of participants to reconsider their business model or technology designs
03	Structure of Ethics Canvas needs to be improved to be more inclusive of potential ethical impacts

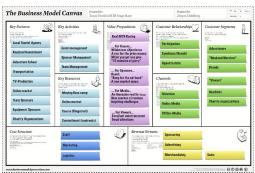


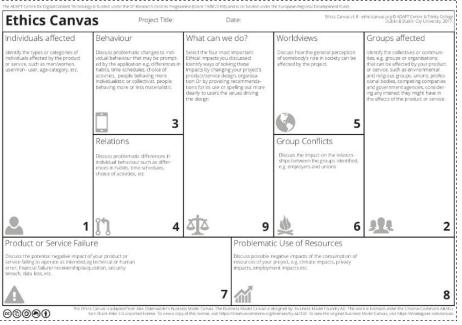
- 1. Evaluation of impacts
 - a. whether the impact is positive or negative
 - b. whether it is severe or non-severe
- 2. Translate engagement with Canvas in practice
 - a. back to conceptual roots in literature
 - transition outcomes into changes in conceptual frameworks



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End of Presentation

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