# Background

The market for smart objects is gaining more and more popularity. More and more people are buying into these objects because they promise to make your life easier. We all know about the smartwatch that helps you stay healthy by keeping track of pulse, breathing, fluid balance, it plans your next training goal and reminds you to get going if you did not reach your that goal.

The Samsung smart TV where you can control all your devices connected to the tv with only one remote. The Sonos speakers allows you to control all speakers in your home with just our phone. You can buy a smart thermostat to make sure your house is only heated when you are home and the Philips Hue lamp that control the brightness of your lights to make sure you can set the right mood. Also, both controlled from an app on your phone.

When you are not home you can make sure everything is as you left it with the Nest home security camera that can tell the difference between you and strangers. Even the smoke detector is so smart it can detect if the smoke is from a fire in your house or if it is just burned popcorn and then alarm your neighbour with a text if it is something serious.

The reason why most of these objects are so smart is because you can control and monitor them from your phone. They collect data that allows you to customize them, so they automatically become a background device that you do not have to worry about or that you can check form everywhere.

The internet of things is one of the newer fields and still has a lot of questions to research and answer. These questions are first and foremost technical questions, but within this lies also the questions about security. As mentioned before, these devices will be able to collect a lot of information about you and therefore, puts you in a potentially vulnerable position. How can we make sure that the user of these devices is protected from hacking or malware? There are also a lot of ethnical questions to be answered. The data you generate through these devices has a big value to the market of for example advertisement. The more they know about you, the easier it is for them to direct know how and what to sell you through an advertisement. We already know this concept form cookies provided by the webpages you visit. These collect data about what you have been looking at, how long you stayed on a certain part of the page, your settings and much more. This data collector is the reason why advertisement for beds pop up on your Facebook after you have been browsing the internet for the very same thing.

While this might seem harmless, consider how you would feel about your personal home security camera providing these kinds of data for the companies to resell. I think most people would not like the idea of their most personal behaviour to be exposed. Though, this is not the case today, we still need to have a clear boundary of what kind of data is being sold and shared and sanctions for those who do not respect these.

# Question to ask:

* How do we define what data can be sold and shared and what cannot?
  + And how do we make sure people respect these?
* To whom is this data sold and how is it used?
* How do we make sure the data is safe (from hackers)?
* What are the users responsibilities?

# Sources

David Berry, “Real-time Streams”, in Berry, op. cit., pp. 142-171.

Pold, Søren. "Button." *Software Studies\ a lexicon*. Eds. Matthew Fuller. MIT Press, 2008. 31-36. (can access via e-library)

I think this text would be really interesting to use in this assignment, because it also addresses how data is not only something you receive, but also something you provide and contribute with. Also, his perspective on the data as an extension of the mind (memory) will be a good way to look into the users motivation to provide these data.

Gerlitz, Carolin, and Helmond, Anne. “The like Economy: Social Buttons and the Data-Intensive Web.” New Media & Society 15, no. 8 (December 1, 2013): 1348–65. (can access via e-library)

This text has its focus on how Facebook users provide data through the ‘like’-button and thereby create a base for more personalized advertisement.

Winnie Soon,” Executing Unpredictable Querries” in *Executing Liveness. An examination of the live dimension of code inter-actions in software (art) practice* (PhD thesis), 2016, pp. 117-139 (excerpt)

# Disposition of the assignment

* Presentation of what the internet of things is
  + Development
  + Where are we today?
  + Advantages of the internet of things
* How data is collected today through for example cookies
  + Ethnical boundaries
  + (The Facebook case?)
* Discussion about the dilemma of data sharing.
  + China camera surveillance.