

# **METHODOLOGIES FOR ADDRESSING RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES ENGENDERED BY BIG DATA: THE BYTE PROJECT**

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# Big data in Europe

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- A Google search for “big data” generates more than 1.5 billion hits.
- Neelie Kroes, VP for Digital Agenda-  
“Data is the new gold”
- European governments could save more than €100 billion in efficiency improvements using big data.
- Europe has been relatively slow to adapt to the changes and opportunities posed by big data.
- All the big players are US-based
- Policy push to “maximise the social and economic potential of ICT” (Digital Agenda for Europe)



# European big data research

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- Horizon 2020
  - Security
    - Forensics – prosecuting cyber-crime and identifying trends
    - Privacy – big data, cloud services, internet of things, etc.
  - ICT
    - Big data and open data innovation
    - Advancing big data analytical tools
  - Excellent Science
    - E-infrastructures for big data
- Focus on innovation, capacities and competitiveness

# BYTE project



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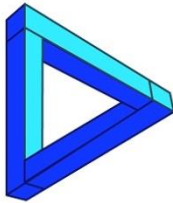
- Big data roadmap and cross-disciplinary community for addressing societal externalities (BYTE) project
- Define research efforts and policy measures necessary for responsible participation in the big data economy
  1. Consider positive and negative societal externalities associated with big data
  2. Generate a big data vision for 2020
  3. Design a research and policy roadmap
  4. Build the big data community to monitor progress

# Project details

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- Jan 2014 – Dec 2016; 36 months
- €2.25 million
- 11 Partners

Trilateral  
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Consulting



# What are externalities?

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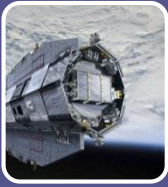
- The effects of a decision by stakeholders (e.g., governments, industry, scientists, policy-makers) that have an impact on a third party (especially members of the public).
- May be positive or negative

Economic	Legal	Social & Ethical	Political
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Boost to the economy</li><li>• Innovation</li><li>• Smaller actors left behind</li><li>• Shrink economies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Privacy</li><li>• Data protection</li><li>• Data ownership</li><li>• Copyright</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transparency</li><li>• Discrimination</li><li>• Methodological difficulties</li><li>• Spurious relationships</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reliance on US services</li><li>• Services have become utilities</li><li>• Legal issues become trade issues</li></ul>

- Public opinion surveys reveal that citizens are concerned about many of these issues, especially privacy and data protection.

# Case studies

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## Environmental data

- European Space Agency
- Global Monitoring for Environment and Security



## Commercial data

- Google



## Utilities / Smart Cities

- Siemens



## Cultural Data

- The European Library



## Energy

- Statoil



## Health

- GOSgene Initiative,  
University College London



## Transport

- SNCF

# BYTE Vision

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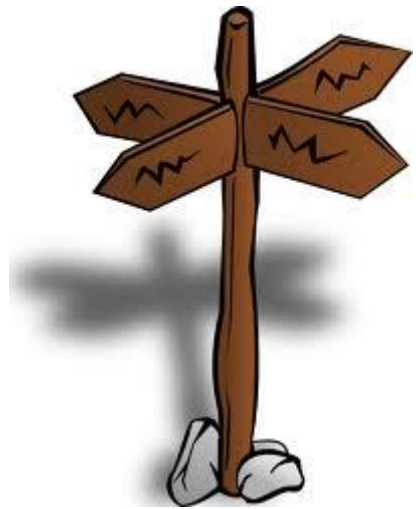
- Foresighting exercises to create a broadly based vision of big data and its impacts
- Involve key stakeholders
  - Representatives from government, industry, academia, political advocacy groups and the media
- Eye towards the short term (5 years) and the 2020 goals of the Digital Agenda for Europe
- Current externalities as well as potential externalities



# BYTE Roadmap & community

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- Research and policy roadmap
- Involve the same key stakeholders
- Series of incremental steps to achieve the vision
- Steered, monitored and updated by the big data community (Please join!)



# Responsible big data?

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- Big data is here to stay!
- Industry, government and education cannot ignore these new capabilities if they wish to remain competitive in the global market.
- BYTE focus on commercial activities
  - ▣ Precedent setting for government surveillance
- Externalities already in evidence can harm the inter-relationships between industry, the government and citizen-consumers.

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Thank you

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