

# Digital Innovation & Transformation to Business Ecosystems

Keynote, Digital Innovation and Transformation to Business Ecosystems, the 222h International Conference on Enterprise Information Systems (ICEIS 2020), 5 –7 May 2020, Online Steaming, organised by INSTICC Portugal

Professor Kecheng Liu
Informatics Research Centre
Henley Business School
University of Reading
United Kingdom

#### **Contents**



Digital Innovation

Digital Business Ecosystems

Digital Transformation

Conclusions and Moving Forward



# PART ONE: DIGITAL INNOVATION

### Overview of Digital Innovation





An effort to re-imagine familiar products and services using unique capabilities of digital technology



Involves carrying out new combinations of digital and physical components to produce novel products, e.g. through servitisation



Focuses on creating radically different user experiences and new business models



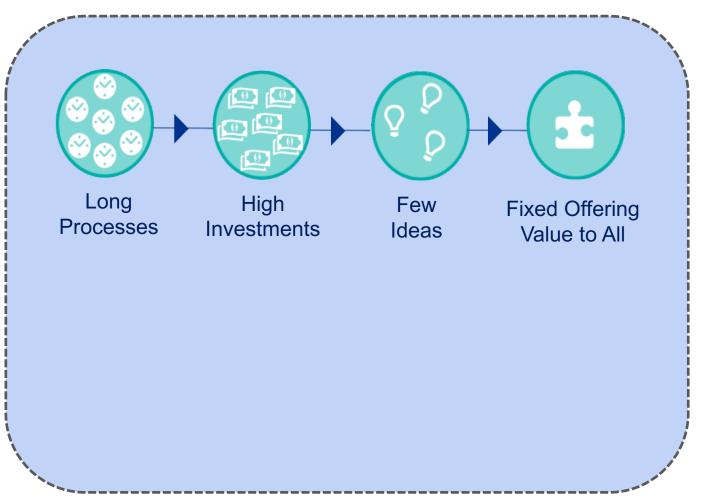
Aims at creating new types/forms of business previously not existed

(Yoo et al. 2010)

#### **Traditional Innovation Process**



#### Innovation Model (Linear)



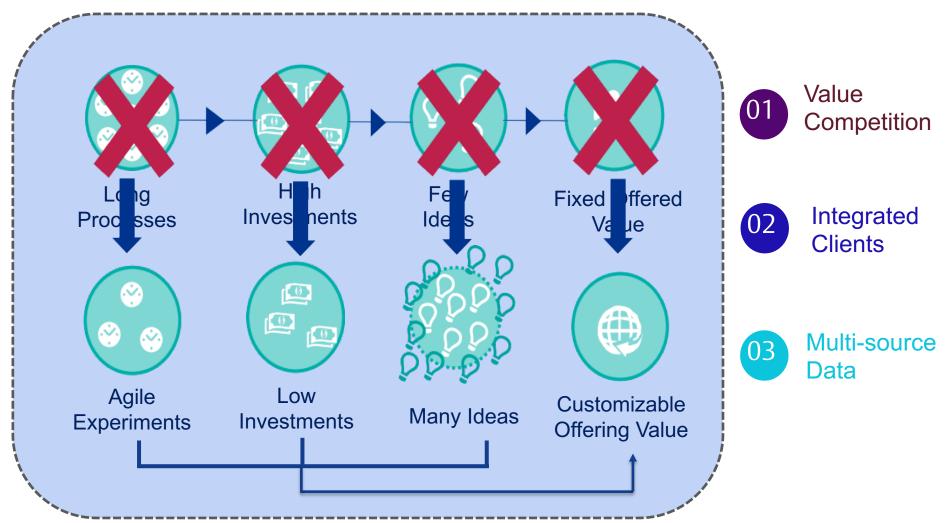
- Product/Price Competition
- 02 Passive Customers

O3 Single Source Data

#### **Enhanced Innovation Process**



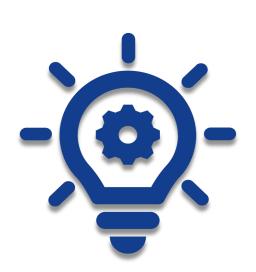
#### Innovation Model (Exponential)



#### Sustaining Innovations



 Refers to an innovation that happens on an incremental basis, often in response to customer and market demands or improvements in technology



 E.g. Adding more cameras to smart phones

(Christensen et al., 2015)

#### Disruptive Innovation



- Creates a new market and value network
- Disrupts an existing market and value network
- Displacing established market-leading firms, products, and alliances

Tend to be produced by outsiders and entrepreneurs in start-ups, rather than existing market-leaders

#### **Examples:**

Wikipedia on Encyclopaedias;

Internet on traditional commerce and business;

Netflix

## Evidence of Digital Innovation



2007	2017	
1. ExonMobil	1. <b>É</b> Apple	
2.	2. Alphabet	
3. ICBC (B)	3. Microsoft	
4. Microsoft	4. Berkshire Hathaway inc.	
5. citigroup	<sub>5.</sub> amazon	
6. GAZPROM	6. ExonMobil	
7. TOYOTA	7. facebook	
8. Bank of America	8. Johnson-Johnson	
9. JPMorgan Chase & C		
10.	10.	
4 oil companies 1 auto maker	5 digital 2 conglomerates	
3 banks 1 software 1 conglomerate company	companies 1 oil company 1 bank 1 pharma	

(Source: KPMG, 2017)

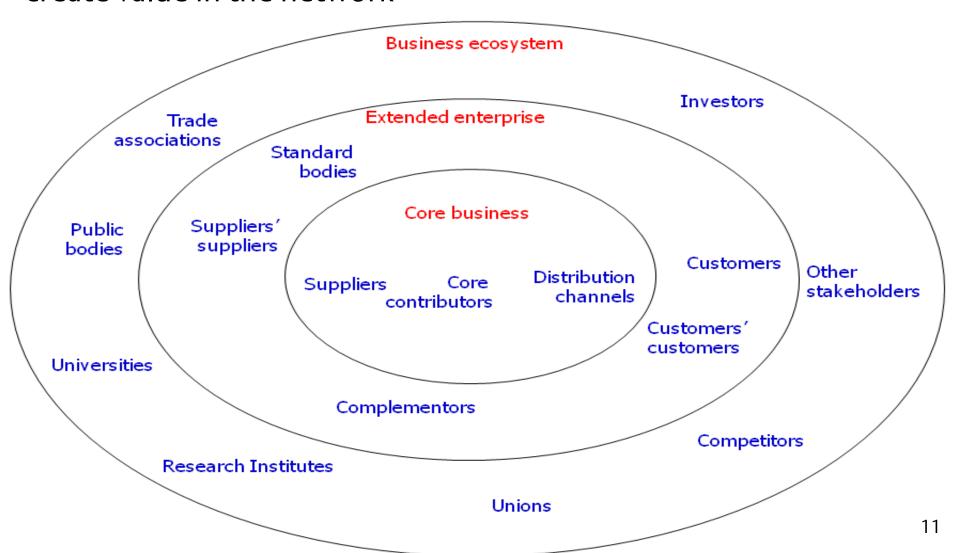


# PART TWO: DIGITAL BUSINESS ECOSYSTEMS

#### **Evolution of Business Ecosystems**



Business ecosystem allows members to cocreate value in the network



#### **Business Ecosystem Features**



- Emphasising on interactions between organisations across traditionally demarcated industry boundaries
- An economic community of win-win for all members
  - Supported by interacting organisations & individuals
  - Deliver valuable goods+services for customers
  - customers & partners themselves as members of the ecosystem

#### Digital Business Ecosystem







- Interconnections among business participants by digital means
- Real-time information sharing
- Growing Interdependency
- Outcomes
  - Connection & collaboration
  - Co-value creation
  - Industrial disruption

## Characteristics of Digital Business Ecosystem





#### Platform

refers to a collection of tools that partners in DBEs use for their individual innovations and business operations (Selander et al., 2013)



#### **Symbiosis**

refers to interdependencies between DBE entities such as partners, processes and technologies that support value co-creation (Senyo et al., 2019)



#### Co-evolution

refers to a situation where two or more entities reciprocally affect each other's development (Stanley and Briscoe, 2010)



#### Self-organising

is a process where a DBE learns from its context and accordingly evolves to maintain its balance (Senyo et al., 2019)

### Need for DBE (eg iPhone vs. Blackberry)

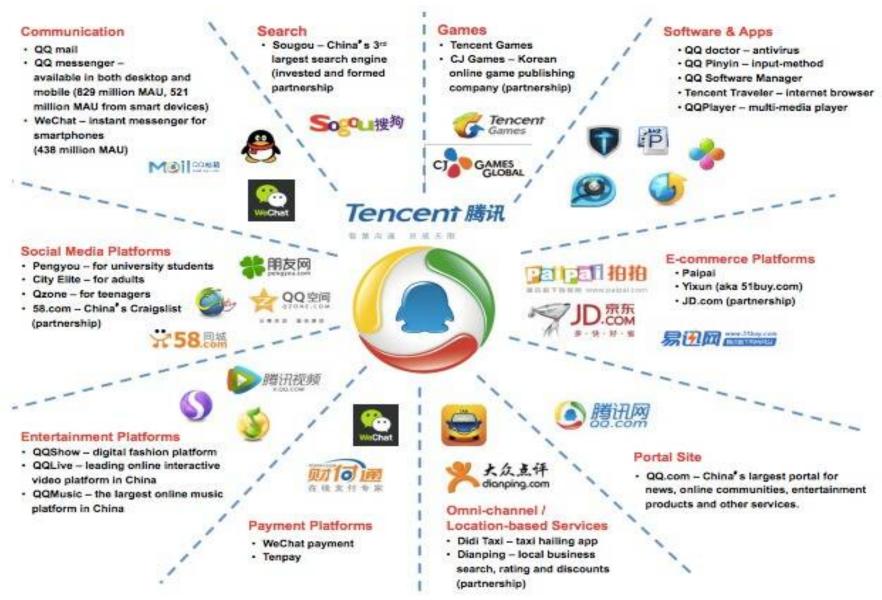




- BlackBerry (RIM) was competing alone and had little strategic partnership with other partners
- BlackBerry concentrated on its messenger app (BBM) without innovating quickly towards an ecosystem
- iPhone was successful because of strategic partnership in its ecosystem
- Apple had many partners who contributed value to its iPhone ecosystems

#### Example of DBE: Tencent

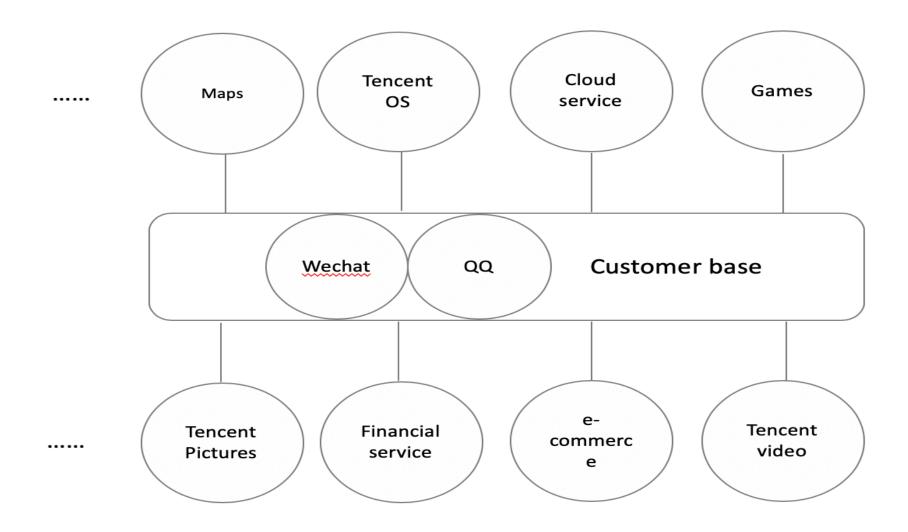




(Source: https://www.deraktionaer.de/artikel/aktien)

## Bus Topology of Tencent Ecosystem





#### Example of DBE: Amazon





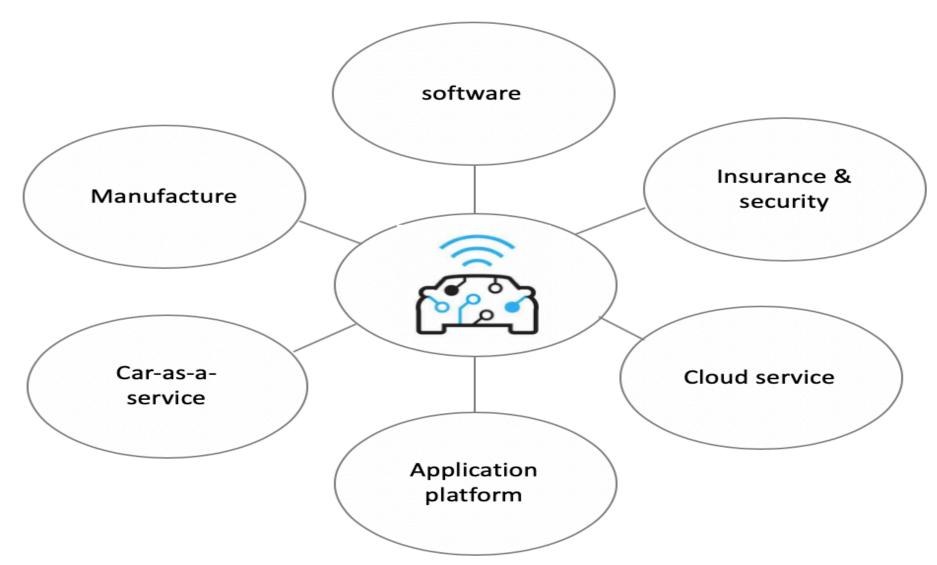
## Mesh Topology of Amazon Ecosystem





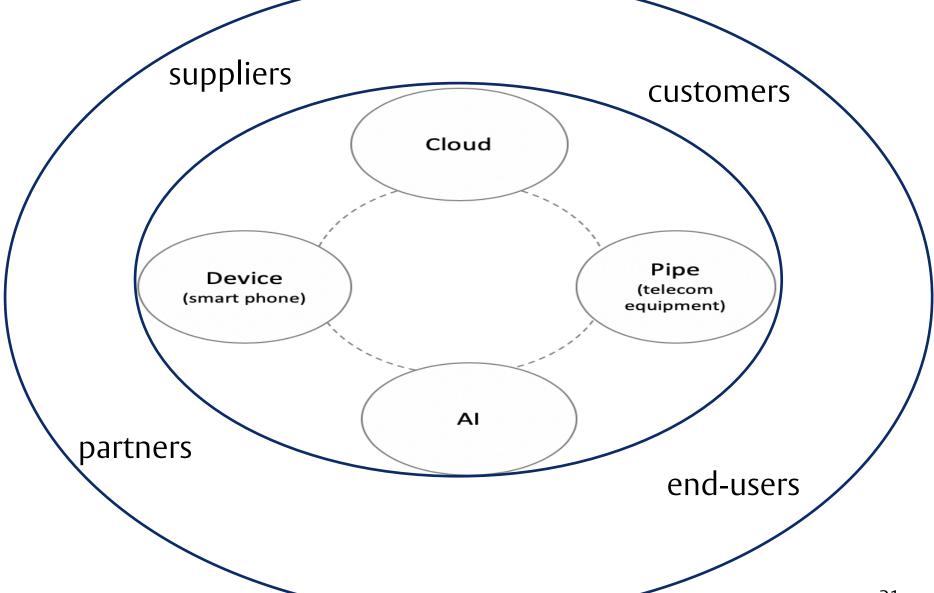


## Star Topology of Daimler Ecosystem



#### Ring Topology of Huawei Ecosystem





#### Varieties in DBE formations



Principal driver	Typical enterprise	Typical DBE typology	Operating philosophy
Financial flow	Amazon	Mesh topology	Discover profitable businesses
Informati on flow	Tencent	Bus topology	Traffic monetization
Physical goods flow	Mecedes	Star topology	Increase sales & expand scope
Financial flow	Huawei	Ring topology	Raise barriers, secure leadership



### PART THREE: DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

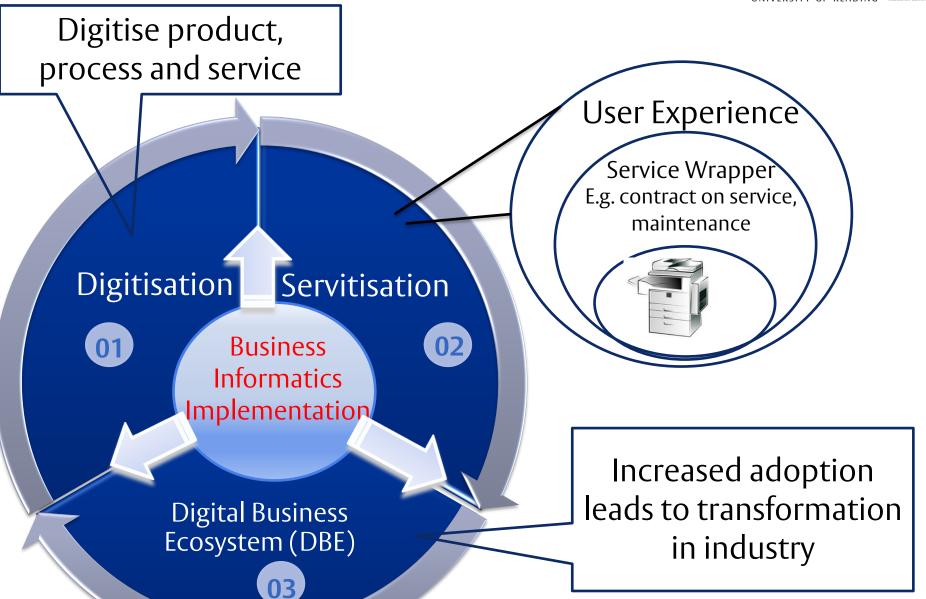
## The Nature of Digital Transformation



- Using signals, symbols, data and information
  - to perform business functions and processes
  - to extend functions and utility of physical goods
- Extended business affordances with virtual capabilities
- Digitisation-servitisation-transformation:
  - driven by effective use of signs
  - sign-based organised activities
  - implementing informatics in business

#### **Transformation Stages**





### Transform the Organisation



- understand the organisation

#### **Informal System**

Sub-culture where meanings are established, intentions understood, beliefs, commitments and responsibilities made, altered and discharged

#### **Formal System**

Bureaucracy where rules, processes and procedures replace meaning and intentions

#### **Technical System**

Automated part of the formal system,

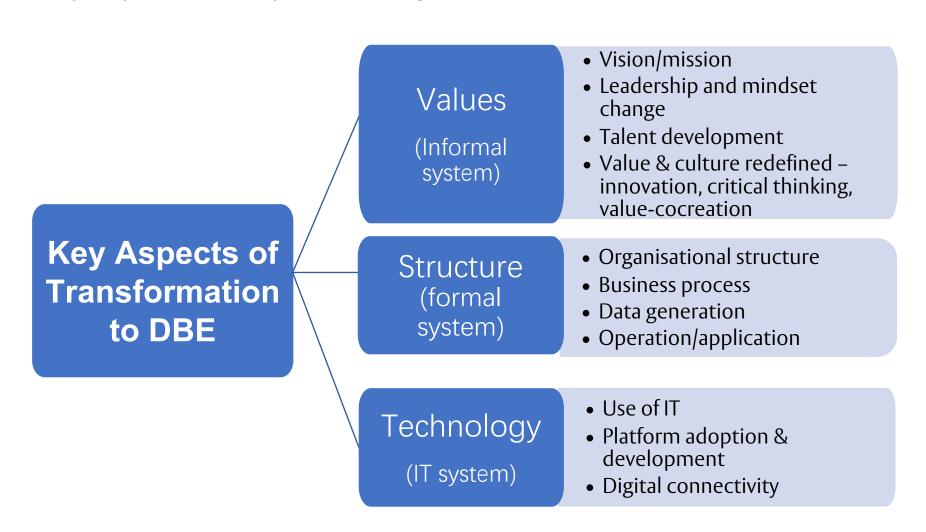
IT systems

(Stamper 1991; Liu 2000)

#### Transform the Organisation



key aspects of implementing the transformation



#### Digital Leadership in Transformation



- the key role of Chief Digital Officer



## Chief Digital Officer must work with other directors

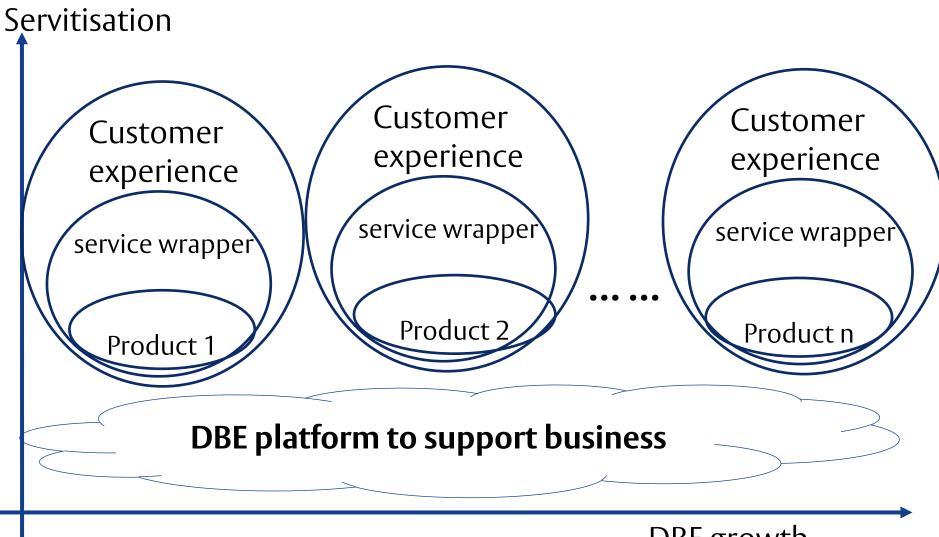
#### **Functional Domains:**

- **S** Strategy
- **C** Communication
- IT Information Technology
- O Operations
- M Marketing
- IN Innovation/R&D
- **HR Human Resources**
- **OD Organizational Development**

## Conclusion and Moving Forward



- transformation for value co-creation



DBE growth



### Moving Forward: Digital Transformation

- Transform from physical to socio-technically connected systems:
   digitisation servitisation digital business ecosystem
- Compete as an ecosystem instead of an individual firm
- Adopt co-petition business strategies
- Treat customers as contributing partners instead of end-users
- Embracing challenges in transformation involving whole organization:
  - Informal visions, leadership, mindset, values and culture
  - Formal structure and process
  - Technical adoption and development of technological platform



## Thank you!

k.liu@reading.ac.uk