The Internet and environmental sustainability: (r)evolutionary?

(July 2020)

Leandro Navarro UPC.EDU leandro.navarro@upc.edu

Situation

- More than 6 billion new ICT goods are sold annually worldwide, and beyond 28 billion are expected in 2025
- Can we afford the growth of ICT devices for more people (*everyone*), more devices per person (*mobiles, laptops, desktops, servers, cloud providers, the internet, mobile networks*), more IoT (*everything*)
- ... and the energy spent in all we do on the Internet?
- Climate change and environmental degradation are an existential threat to the world
- Decarbonisation: reduction of green-house gas (GHG) emissions: (r)evolution!

Goals?



- Reduction of environmental impact of about 50% by 2030 to align with the IPCC 1.5°C trajectory, [ITU-T L.1470] or severe effects for 2°C or ...
- Keep warming at 1.5°C implies global emissions must peak by **2025** \rightarrow in 9-10 IETF meetings

https://theconversation.com/ipcc-report-global-emissions-must-peak-by-2025-to-keep-warming-at-1-5-c-we-need-deeds-not-words-165598

- Contribution of ICT in electricity usage is a major green-house gases factor:
 - By **2030** it could use up to 51% of global electricity, and contribute up to 23% of globally released GHG emissions

A. Andrae, T. Edler. *On Global Electricity Usage of Communication Technology: Trends to 2030.* Challenges 2015



The global warming potential for a mobile phone with two year usage life-cycle A. Andrae, *Life-Cycle Assessment of Consumer Electronics: A review of methodological approaches*, IEEE Consumer Electronics Magazine, 2016



Questions

- What to do now to prepare for the 2025, 2030 deadline? Can we?
- How to achieve a desirable scenario?
 - Evolutionary: reduce energy & materials in protocols
 - R-ev: FidoNetv6? IPv7, SCION, etc?
- Need for changes on how the Internet works?
 - Architecture: caching, replication, locality, asynchrony, slower
 - Protocols: format, overhead reduction, slowdown
 - Formats: less verbose, compression, binary
 - Parameters: timers, negotiation

Environmental protocol considerations: energy

RFC 6464	PDF, HTML	A Real-time Transport Protocol (RTP) Header Extension for Client-to-Mixer Audio Level Indication	J. Lennox, Ed., E. Ivov, E. Marocco	December 2011	Pi	roposed itandard
<u>RFC 6465</u>	ASCII, PDF, HTML	A Real-time Transport Protocol (RTP) Header Extension for Mixer-to-Client Audio Level Indication	E. Ivov, Ed., E. Marocco, Ed., J. Lennox	December 2011	Pi S	roposed Standard
<u>RFC 6988</u>	ASCII, PDF, HTML	Requirements for Energy Management	J. Quittek, Ed., M. Chandramouli, R. Winter, T. Dietz, B. Claise	September 2013	Ir	nformational
<u>RFC 7228</u>	<u>ASCII</u> , PDF, <u>HTML</u>	Terminology for Constrained-Node Networks	C. Bormann, M. Ersue, A. Keranen	May 2014	Ir	nformational
<u>RFC 7326</u>	<u>ASCII</u> , PDF, <u>HTML</u>	Energy Management Framework	J. Parello, B. Claise, B. Schoening, J. Quittek	September 2014	Ir	nformational
<u>RFC 7460</u>	<u>ASCII</u> , <u>PDF</u> , <u>HTML</u>	Monitoring and Control MIB for Power and Energy	M. Chandramouli, B. Claise, B. Schoening, J. Quittek, T. Dietz	March 2015	Pi	roposed itandard
<u>RFC 7461</u>	<u>ASCII</u> , <u>PDF</u> , <u>HTML</u>	Energy Object Context MIB	J. Parello, B. Claise, M. Chandramouli	March 2015	PI	roposed itandard
RFC 7577	ASCII, PDF, HTML	Definition of Managed Objects for Battery Monitoring	J. Quittek, R. Winter, T. Dietz	July 2015	Pi S	roposed itandard
RFC 7603	ASCII, PDF, HTML	Energy Management (EMAN) Applicability Statement	B. Schoening, M. Chandramouli, B. Nordman	August 2015	PI	roposed itandard
<u>RFC 7668</u>	<u>ASCII</u> , PDF, <u>HTML</u>	IPv6 over BLUETOOTH(R) Low Energy	J. Nieminen, T. Savolainen, M. Isomaki, B. Patil, Z. Shelby, C. Gomez	October 2015	Pi	roposed Standard
<u>RFC 7772</u> a.k.a. <u>BCP 202</u>	ASCII, PDF, HTML	Reducing Energy Consumption of Router Advertisements	A. Yourtchenko, L. Colitti	February 2016	B	est Current ractice
RFC 8036	<u>ASCII</u> , <u>PDF</u> , <u>HTML</u>	Applicability Statement for the Routing Protocol for Low-Power and Lossy Networks (RPL) in Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Networks	N. Cam-Winget, Ed., J. Hui, D. Popa	January 2017	Pi	roposed Standard
<u>RFC 8105</u>	<u>ASCII</u> , <u>PDF</u> , <u>HTML</u>	Transmission of IPv6 Packets over Digital Enhanced Cordless Telecommunications (DECT) Ultra Low Energy (ULE)	P. Mariager, J. Petersen, Ed., Z. Shelby, M. Van de Logt, D. Barthel	May 2017	Pi S	roposed Standard
RFC 8352	ASCII, PDF,	Energy-Efficient Features of Internet of Things Protocols	C. Gomez, M. Kovatsch, H. Tian, Z. Cao, Ed.	April 2018	Ir	nformational

Even more ...

- Locality of edge/fog computing?
- Servitised user-devices: light clients (xterminal like)
- Env accountability:
 - An impact assessment of the Internet and protocols
 - GHG metering, reporting: per device, per org
 - Environmental limits, env budget? tokens Environmental congestion control, caching, rate/update limits?

https://ideaboardz.com/for/GAIA%20environmental%20ideas/4393518 https://tinyurl.com/gaia113 You can: add new ideas, +1 to ideas you like Ideas can either be +this or -that



- GAIA! Network + end-hosts + things + environmental limits: an internet for the people and the planet
- Sustainability: the Internet adds or subtracts on GHG? Better materials, better energy, more durable, less usage, more connections, more base stations, more people ...
 - Frugality vs bloat, efficiency vs rebound effects
- Evolution: Locality of data and computation, caching, replication, slower (asynchrony), limits ...
- Shall we give up on this? or revolt? Avoid or plan future IETF meetings in coast areas ...
- The IRTF way: research, discussion, documents