

### ETH

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## Bits to Energy Lab

## Persuasive Computing im Dienste der Energieeffizienz: Wie neue IT helfen kann, das Konsumentenverhalten zu beeinflussen

Prof. Dr. Elgar Fleisch ETH Zürich, Department of Management, Technology and Economics & University St. Gallen (HSG), Institute for Technology Management

St. Galler Forum f
ür Management Erneuerbarer Energien
 März 2010, Einstein, St. Gallen



- Predictably irrational consumers
- Technology development
- Some consumer apps
- Resource efficiency apps
- Summary

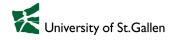






Predictably irrational consumers

Lessons from behavioral economics

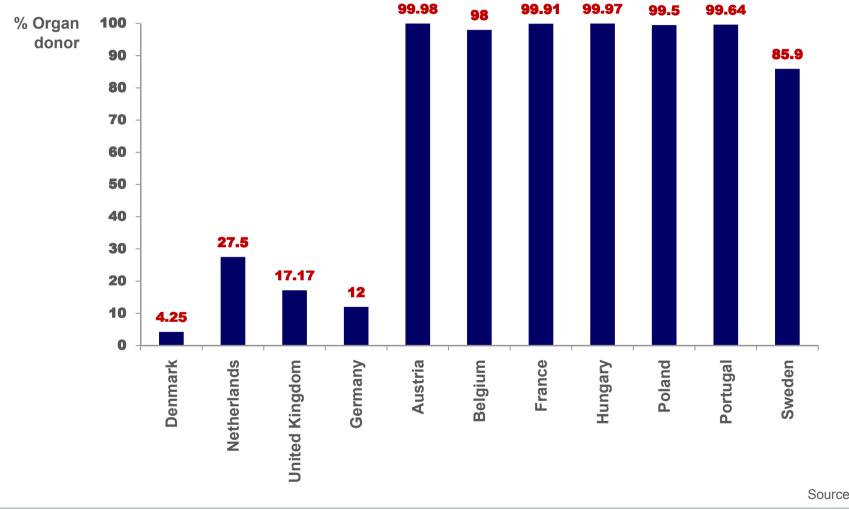


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# The power of defaults

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Prof. E. Fleisch March 2010

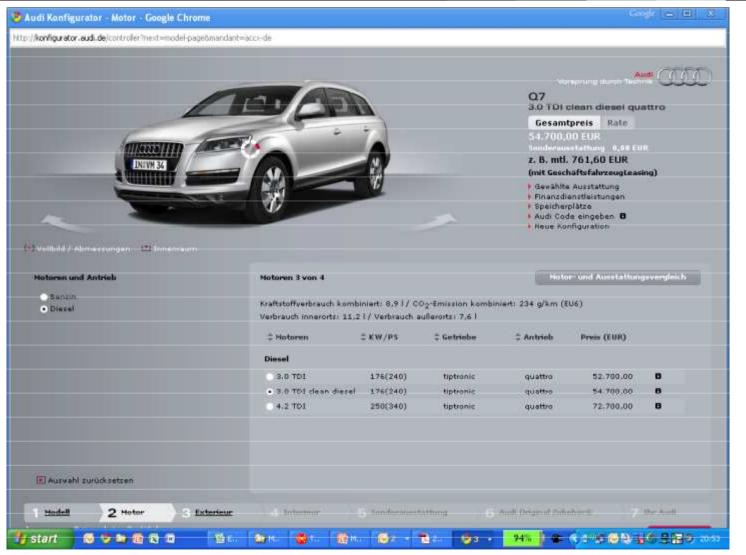


Source: Prof. A. Herrmann

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## The power of defaults



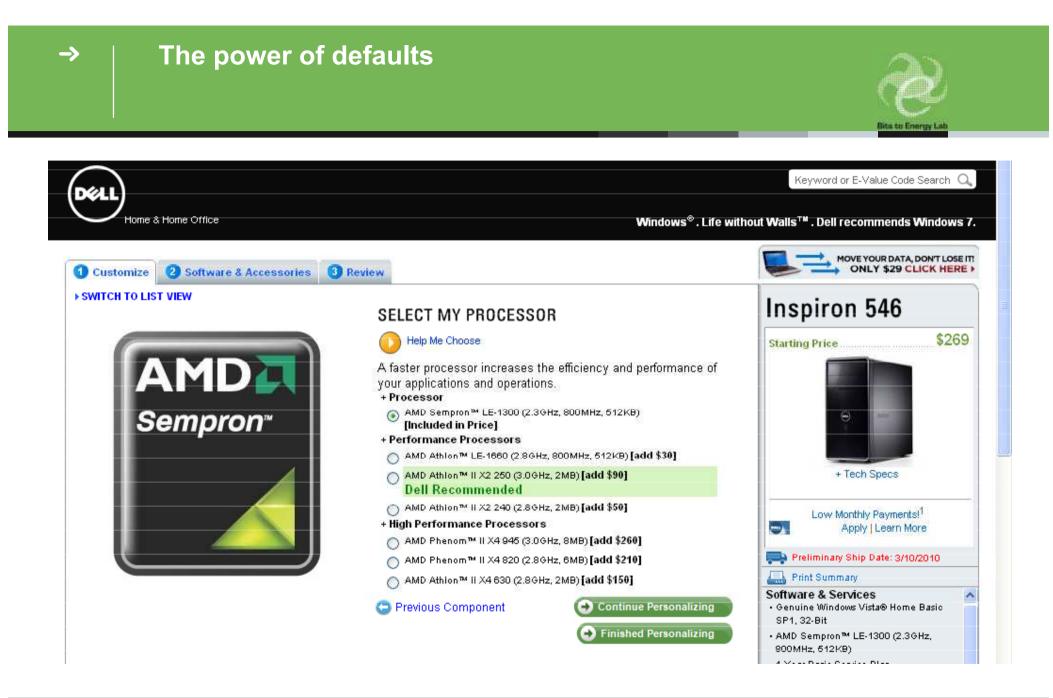


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## **Focus on profit**

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If you reduce the temperature by 1 °C you save X Euro per year



Focus on loss

If you do not reduce the temperature by 1 °C you waste X Euro per year to much







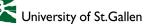
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# The power of framing



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Source: Prof. Dan Ariely

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Source: Prof. Dan Ariely

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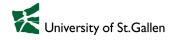
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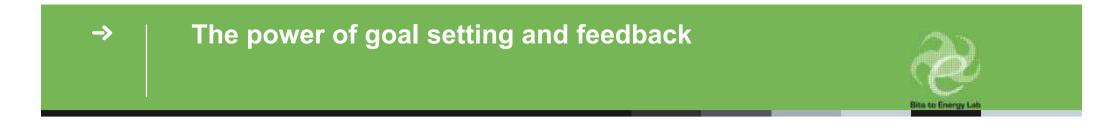


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- Goals should be high but realistic, specific, and set by oneself
- The Washing machine experiment
  - 100 participants do 20 washing runs each
  - Up to 21% more economical when goals are set by oneself and feedback given

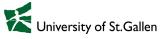


Source: Prof. A. Herrmann

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# The power of the physical world





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**Technology development** 

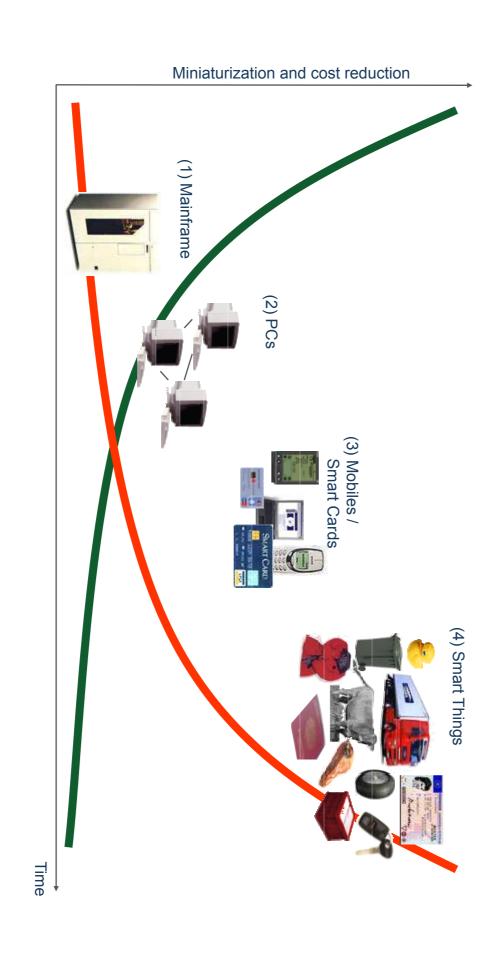


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Megatrend miniaturization

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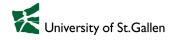
# ... link real world objects automatically with the Internet



#### Virtual world



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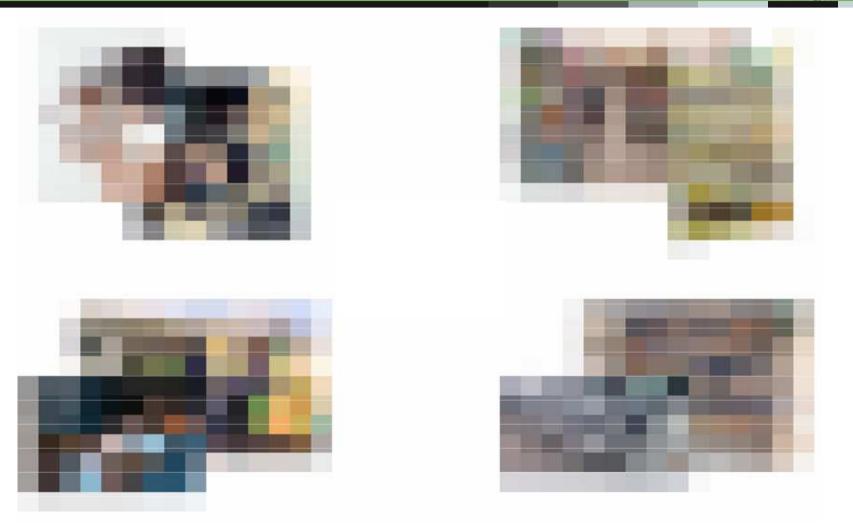




**Consumer apps** 



EIGEN Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich Today's computers have no eyes and ears and thus a rather blurred, low resolution mapping of the physical world they are supposed to manage



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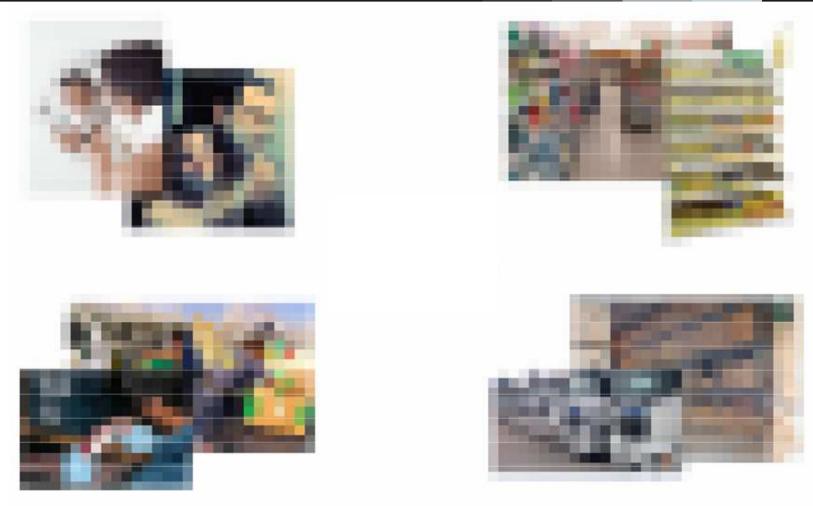


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its to Energy I

Better measuring instruments change the way we see, understand and influence the world





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Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich Just as X-Rays and ultrasound advanced medicine, and as microscopes changed physics, biology, material sciences etc ...











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## ... machine sensing advances the way ...











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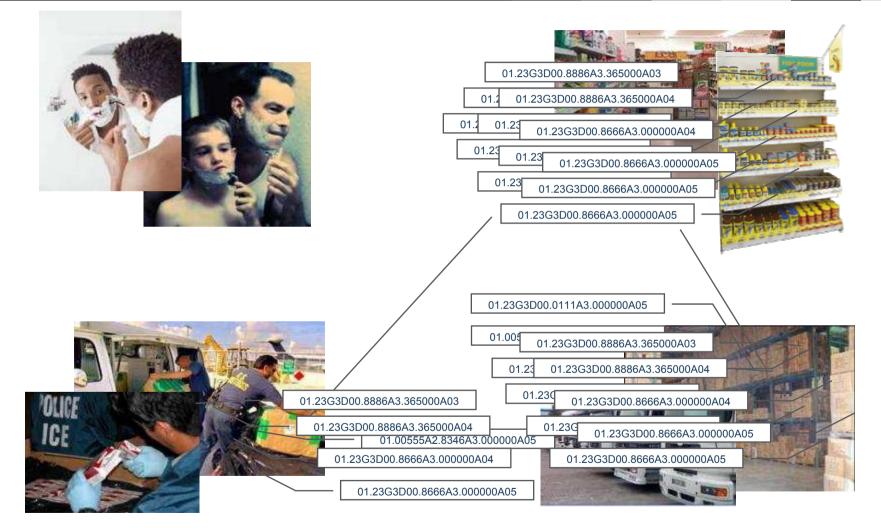


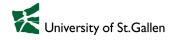


## ... we do business

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# Who helps us explaining this world? The new role of the mobile phone

Allergy Assistant

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- Political Shopping
- Product Rating
- Price Comparison







#### Source: Courtesy of Robert Adelmann, ETH Zurich







**Resource efficiency apps** 



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- Deregulation / unbundling
- Energy efficiency mandate
- Smart meter mandate
- Growing demand for "green" products and services
- Making money from new services
- New market players
- Brand value becomes crucial!
- New technologies



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Static!







## However, most smart metering installations lack behind the expectations on savings and customer satisfaction.

- Saving potential often below 3%
- Web applications with marginal user base
- Expensive equipment only used by a small consumer segment
- Hardly any psychological cues to make engagement worthwhile
- Poor motivational approaches
- ...but some players have proven that efficiency gains and user satisfaction can be achieved



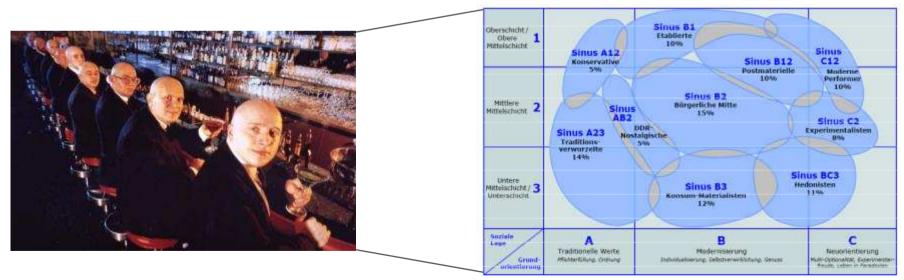
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# A solid customer segmentation and thorough customer insights is essential...

- How to get users involved?
- How to help them understand?
- How to induce changes in behavior?
- Or, to start with, who is my customer?



Source: Sinus Sociovision

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## ... when all the little details are thought of.



- Counting up or down?
- A day or a year?

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- What's my goal again?
- Do it in public?

- Virtual budgets can lead to considerable savings over normal data representations
- Suitable projections (Hochrechnungen) can much better motivate changes in behavior
- → Goal selection can turn saving into a game
- Social pressure & rewards can be powerful, and even fun to deal with if done right





## And there are many details to consider!



• Choice is painful!

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- Many techniques exist to convince users to set themselves ambiguous saving targets
- How to say it?

Metaphors lead to different conclusions among consumers













## aWattgarde – Portal & CRM tool

### Users

- Receive rewards for self reading
- Get personalized feedback
- Compete with others, show effort in social networks, collect bonus points, etc.

### Utilities

- Gear up for SM
- Generate user base
- Market energy services
- Use the CRM toolbox





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## Towards the most suitable energy feedback

- MeasureIT combines the most promising features of energy feedback:
  - Convenient & timely
  - Integrated in the user's daily live
  - At hand when needed
  - With a low usage barrier
  - Ready for a further break-down of the energy consumption to single devices







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Handy energy feedback - connecting smart meters with mobile phones





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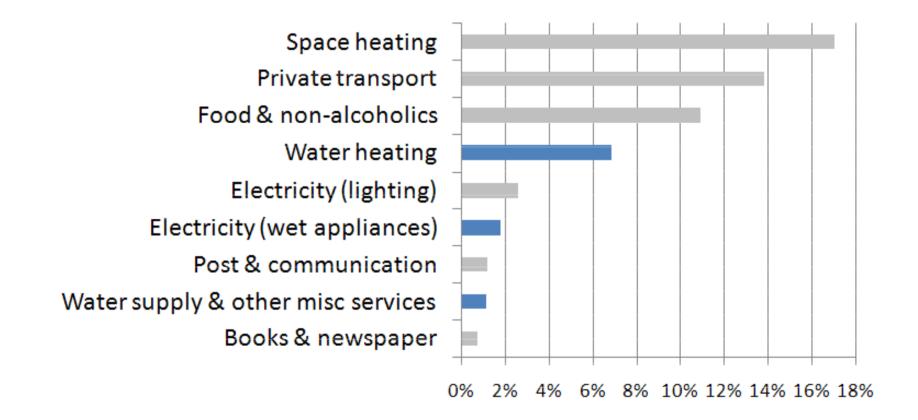
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## The carbon footprint of warm water is larger than expected (10% of CO2 emissions)



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Source: UK Carbon Attribution Model, Centre for Environmental Strategy, University of Surrey, 2005







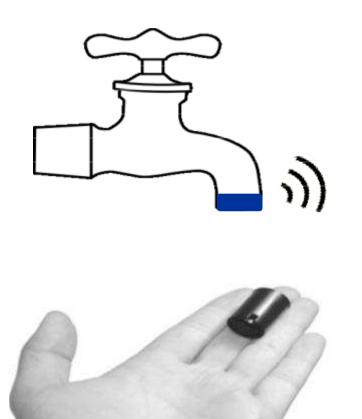
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## With Amphiro, your tap becomes smart.











Source: Amphiro

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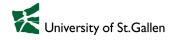
















## Summary



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- Try to understand what drives the behaviour of your consumers
- Use technology to leverage behavioral phenomenas around defaults, framing, goal setting, and social norms etc.
- The technology is there. Do not start with technology, but with emotional engineering
- First learn what your consumers like to know and do, only then automate via technology
- At the same time increase your customer-knowledge

