A Survey of Apps and Gadgets in the Year 2015

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Abstract - Searching Google for Apps and Gadgets trend 2015, 17.8 million entries were found. This paper discusses the numbers of Apps and Gadgets available in the year 2015. From Statista.com, the latest data of July 2014 indicated that the total number of Apps was 3.17 millions. At CES 2015 (International Consumer Electronics Show), over 20,000 products were launched. For apps, this paper discusses uCiC (You See I See) which is the apps awarded Best App 2015 at Mobile Apps Showdown at CES 2015, Lvve to manage videos and photos, and breathometer to measure blood alcohol content. For gadgets, this paper discusses Mercedes-Benz F015, 3D printed copy of skull to show patient's tumor, and Internet of Things gadgets.

Keywords - Apps and Gadgets 2015, uCiC, Lvve, Breathometer, Mercedes-Benz F015, 3D Skull, IoT

I. INTRODUCTION

Apps and gadgets are getting more and more popular everyday. Searching "Apps and Gadgets trend 2015" from Google, over 17 million entries were found. The senior author of this paper has also written many papers about Apps [1-10]. From Statista.com [11], the latest data of July 2014 indicated that the total number of Apps was 3.17 millions. On the gadget side, over 20,000 products were launched at the International Consumer Electronics Show 2015 (CES 2015). This paper presents sample Apps and Gadgets, starting with three uCiC (You See I See) to reach out to others, followed by Lvve to manage videos and photos, and breathometer to measure blood alcohol content. On the gadgets side, this paper discusses Mercedes-Benz F015, 3D printed copy of skull to show patient's tumor, and Internet of Things gadgets.

II. YOU SEE I SEE APPS

From the web "Play.google.com" [14], uCiC was awarded Best App 2015 at Mobile Apps Showdown at CES 2015. The web gives an example of how to use uCiC as follows:

1. Select a point of interest on the map
2. View all the active users within the chosen radius anonymously
3. Type in your request and it gets sent to all active users there as a push notification
4. Users can choose to respond to the push notification by taking a picture and sending it
5. Earn points for helping others with their photo requests
6. Use the points to create new requests
7. Share on Facebook, Twitter and G+

From the web "ucic.vc" [15] "uCiC is a human network, a local guide of sorts, which facilitates the transparent sharing of queries and snaps, without swamping you with information you don't require. So you receive precise visual answers to your questions, get to see only what you want to, and enjoy a relevant and focused experience. iCuC can help you make quick decisions, make comparisons and receive the latest information and updates, and learn more about whatever
you want to. uCiC gives you full control over your privacy. Establish location-based connections with people anywhere across the globe while remaining anonymous, without having to “friend” them or opt for private messaging. Help fellow users visually explore your neighbourhood by answering their queries and earn Karma points in return! Your Karma points will come handy when you have queries of your own. uCiC’s location-based photo assistance network is driven by a community that’s extremely passionate about helping others find the visual content they are looking for. You’ll never have to “hunt” for information again because whatever you need to know, help is just around the corner! uCiC has applied for patent but the final decision has not been announced.

An example of using uCiC is shown in Fig. 1. When you wish to know the scene at a club in town, you can use uCiC to see the real scene at the club right from wherever you are.

![Check the scene at the club before you head out](image)

Fig 1. See the Actual Scene at a Club.

1. Scanner Pro App will turn your iPhone into a high quality scanner.
2. Invoive2Go App will allow you to use your iPhone for fast and easy invoicing.
3. Gmail App will allow you to get up to 5 Gmail accounts on your iPhone.
4. Dropbox App will allow you to store and share files and documents between team members directly from cloud.
5. Adobe Acrobat DC App will allow you to use your iPhone to read and edit PDF documents and files.
6. iTranslate Voice App will allow you to translate voice input into 42 languages.
7. Microsoft Word App will allow you to use Microsoft word on your iphone.
8. Call Recorder App will allow you to record phone call easily without using an external device.
9. CamCard App will allow you to organize your business contacts by storing cards on your iPhone.
10. 1Password App will allow you to create passwords for each site you visited and allow you to log on more easily.

IV. MERCEDES-BENZ F015

For Gadgets, the first to be discussed in this paper is Mercedes-Benz F015 [17]. Shared space in tomorrow's world.

In order to provide a foundation for the new autonomous F015 Luxury in Motion research vehicle, an interdisciplinary team of experts from Mercedes-Benz has devised a future scenario that incorporates many different aspects of day-to-day mobility. Above and beyond its mobility function, this scenario perceives the motor car as a private retreat that additionally offers an important added value for society at large.

III. TEN BEST IPHONE APPS 2015 FROM ITPRO

ITPRO magazine presented 10 best iPhone Apps for 2015 [16]. They will be briefly presented here.
The visionary research vehicle was born, a vehicle which raises comfort and luxury to a new level by offering a maximum of space and a lounge character on the inside. Every facet of the F015 Luxury in Motion is the utmost reflection of the Mercedes way of interpreting the terms “modern luxury”, emotion and intelligence.

This innovative four-seater is a forerunner of a mobility revolution, and this is immediately apparent from its futuristic appearance. Sensuousness and clarity, the core elements of the Mercedes-Benz design philosophy, combine to create a unique, progressive aesthetic appeal.

The passengers in Mercedes-Benz F015 self-driving car can use their newly gained free time in relaxing or working as they like. The transition between the vehicle floor and the door panels also echoes the outer body shape in a characterful way. The pivotal feature of the innovative interior concept is the variable seating system, with four rotating lounge chairs that allow a face-to-face seat configuration.

The F015 Luxury in Motion communicates with its surroundings both visually and acoustically. Large LED displays at the front and rear as well as a laser projection system directed toward the front are responsible for the visual part, while the acoustic communication repertoire includes both sounds and specific spoken instructions.

V. 3D PRINTED COPY OF SKULL TO SHOW PATIENT’S TUMOR

From Magazine.com [18], a man saved the life of his wife by using 3D Printed Copy of Skull to show his wife’s Tumor as shown in Fig. 4.

A few years earlier, he’d struggled with a long illness that had cost him his job. As he recovered, he built an independent career creating 3D graphics and helping his wife, a psychotherapist named Pamela Shavaun Scott, develop treatments for video game addiction. Balzer’s passion is technology, not medicine, but themes of malady and recovery have often surfaced during his digital pursuits. But Balzer didn’t feel the full impact of that connection until that summer, shortly after he launched his own business in 3D design, scanning, and printing. In August 2013, just as the new
venture was getting off the ground, Scott started getting headaches.

It might have been nothing, but Scott had gotten her thyroid removed a few months earlier, so the pair had been keeping an especially close eye on anything that might have indicated a complication. Balzer pestered his wife to get an MRI, and when she finally agreed, the scan revealed a mass inside her skull, a three-centimeter tumor lodged behind her left eye. They were understandably terrified, but neurologists who read the radiology report seemed unconcerned, explaining that such masses were common among women, and suggested Scott have it checked again in a year.

That didn’t sit well with Balzer. Scott’s recent thyroid surgery had taught them that getting the best care requires being proactive and extremely well informed. A typical thyroid removal is performed via a large incision across the throat that requires a long, uncomfortable recovery and leaves a big scar, but when he and Scott began looking for alternatives, they discovered that she could avoid all that if they traveled from their home in California to the Center for Robotic Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. There, surgeons perform delicate procedures with a robotic arm that scales down their movements, making them smaller and more precise than what the human hand is capable of alone. The experience familiarized Balzer and Scott with both the cutting edge of medical technology and the importance of doing their own research. So although the first doctors told them to wait, Balzer and Scott sent the MRI results to a handful of neurologists around the country. Nearly all of them agreed that Scott needed surgery.

At this point, Balzer requested Scott’s DICOM files (the standard digital format for medical imaging data) so he could work with them at home. It was a crucial step. A few months later, Scott had another MRI, and the radiologist came back with a horrifying report: The tumor had grown substantially, which indicated a far more grave condition than was initially diagnosed. But back at home, Balzer used Photoshop to layer the new DICOM files on top of the old images, and realized that the tumor hadn’t grown at all - the radiologist had just measured from a different point on the image. Once his relief subsided, Balzer was furious and more determined than ever to stay in control of Scott’s treatment. “I thought, ‘why don’t we take it to the next level?’” Balzer says. “Let’s see what kind of tools are available so that I can take the DICOMs, which are 2D slices, and convert them into a 3D model.” That decision changed everything.

VI. INTERNET OF THINGS GADGETS

1) Your Phone Made of Lego Like Bricks

What if your phone was made of bricks that could be replaced as needed? The possibilities are endless with such design. You could change your screen to an HD one by simply removing the current one and plugging in an HD screen. You could upgrade your phone to a better processor without rendering the old phone useless. Same applies to almost all of the hardware that is in your phone. Interestingly, it’s not a new mobile operating system or any software that does this. It’s all about the tangible parts (hardware)! This is the age of modular Smartphone blocks. Just like Lego bricks, but only for Smartphones. This cool idea was recently presented by Phonebooks project initiative.

2) Roads that Operate to Save Energy

This is no Harry Potter stuff. We’re talking about things happening right here on planet Earth. Internet of Things researchers are working with roads that can “mind their surroundings” (Batman anyone?). These smart roads will host cheap sensors arrays that can proactively and/or reactively turn the road lights ON only when cars are passing by. Think of the energy savings! But that’s not all! These roads will also have the technical ability to have lights powered by vehicle wind drafts and induction based on-the-go charging of electric cars, among other ambitious features.
3) **Apps for PCs to Control Appliances**  
This is not about simple apps for PCs that could simply play games meant for smartphones. While it is cool to have Temple Run for your PC, Internet of Things goes beyond that by controlling the appliances in your home via the Internet. Think of a cold winter evening and having the ability to turn the heater on in your car or home before you step out so it can be nice and toasty when you get there. What if a device heated the milk for your baby every time your baby felt hungry? This is all possible with a combination of technologies.

4) **Ice Cubes that Text Your Friends, that You are too Drunk to Drive**  
Those who tends to lose control of how many drinks they had, need a way to alert their friends (or a service) when they are too drunk to drive back home. No worries though as there are now ice-cubes that will text your friends when that happens. Thanks to this neat technology by Dhairya Dand, a student at MIT media lab. The ice cubes change colors based on how much have you been drinking to give you a visual indicator of your consumption. However, if you do not pay heed to this indicator, it will eventually text your friends (or whoever you have suggested) that you are too drunk to drive.

5) **What Song to Play?**  
Shazam’s technology that told me what song was playing in the background. I never had to remember each and every song just because I wanted to hear it. Now, put that technology on steroids and you don’t need Shazam anymore. Microsoft is working on ear buds that will play music based on your mood, health and situation. The project is called Musical Heart and is undertaken by University of Virginia’s center for wireless health. It is part of the Septimu project of Microsoft.

**VII. CONCLUDING REMARKS**  
Apps and gadgets are getting more and more popular every day. There are over three million Apps as of the end of the year 2014. There were over 20,000 new gadgets announced at the International consumer Electronic Show 2015. So, all parties concerned should search Google to find information on Apps and Gadgets to study and use for the benefits of himself, his organization, his country, and the world.

**REFERENCES**  
(Arranged in the order of citation in the same fashion as the case of Footnotes.)


