

Peer-to-peer (p2p) is not a new concept whatsoever, but in the past three years, we have heard much on the concept and the dramatic impact that it has made as a technology, particularly popularised by file sharing services. But p2p goes beyond just file sharing....

This talk will attempt at defining what p2p is and not, as well as defining the technical and social challenges for p2p and p2p-like frameworks and the relationship that these may have to other transformative and emerging technologies such as grid and web services. Finally, there will be a quick glimpse of how the research and education communities are reacting to "p2p", as well as a look into some of the creative and innovative applications that are emerging, driven by the transformative but often disruptive p2p-like frameworks.