



The PM Role in Problem vs Solution Space

Mini 4 / Spring 2024

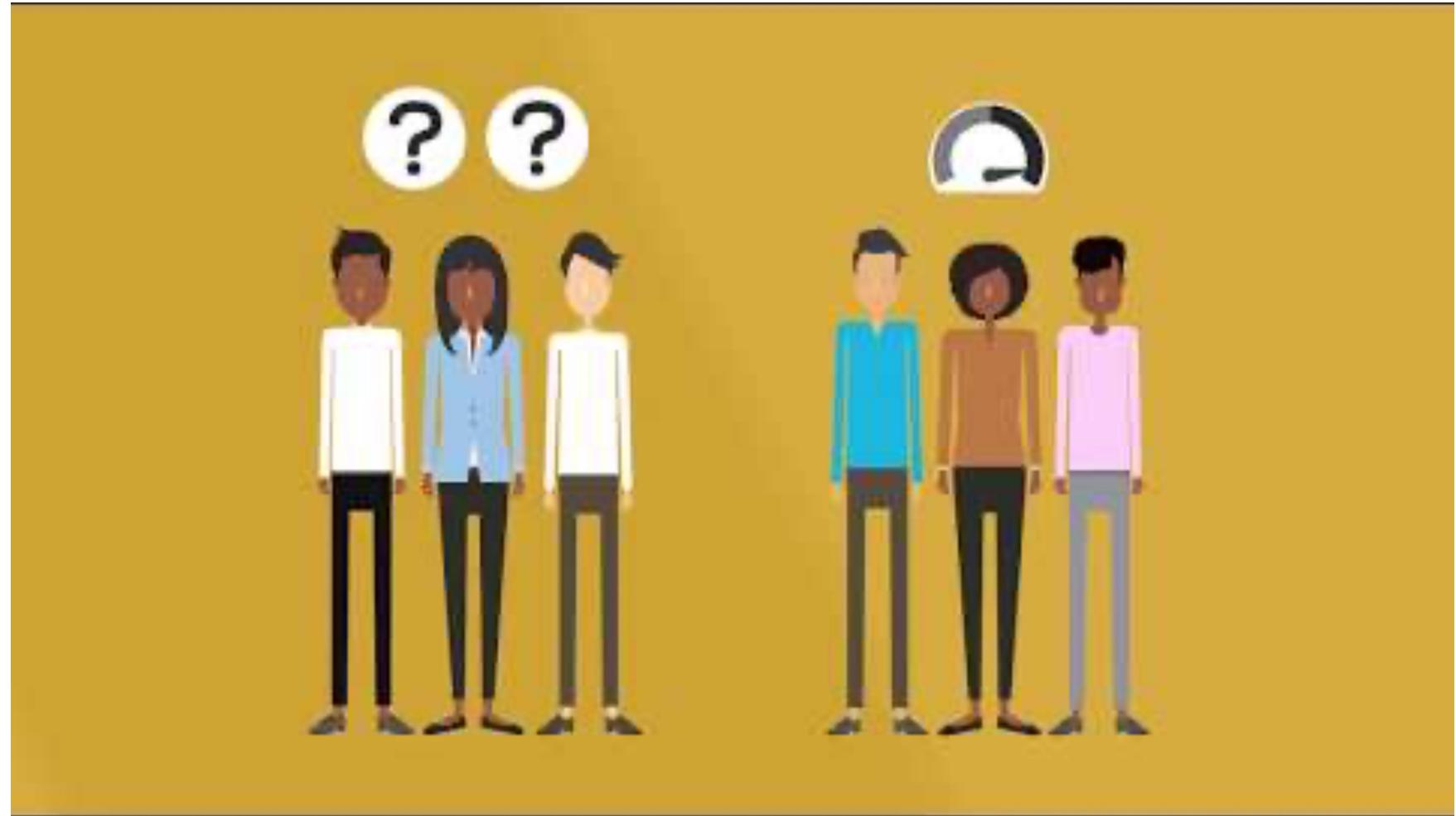
THE INTELLIGENT FUTURE

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TODAY'S LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Basic Definitions of Product Management Concepts
 - Product and Product Features
 - Customer and Customer Needs
- “Where are PMs in the company and who do they work with?”
 - The PM in the Product Organization
- Example: “Full Workflow: How a PM helps launch a new product feature”
 - “Problem Space”: Customer Discovery and Needs, Opportunity Sizing and Prioritization
 - “Solution Space”: “How a PM works with engineering and design to launch a new feature”
 - Post-Launch: Experimentation and Testing
- More definitions
 - Product-Market fit
 - Total Addressable Market (TAM)





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88ZfjnDOmp4>

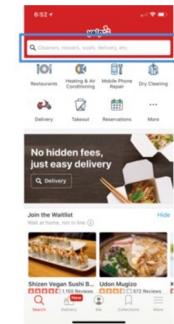
BASIC DEFINITIONS OF PRODUCT MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS



- Customer - A customer is a bundle of “customer needs” and how important those needs are to the customer.
- Customer Need - A customer need is a problem or desire the customer has that we (can) solve using a product feature(s).
 - Sidenote: Customer Needs go by many names... “Jobs to Be Done (JTBD),” “Customer Benefits” (Amazon), “User Problem”, “Pain Point”
- Product - product is a bundle of “Product Features” and how well those features satisfy corresponding customer needs.
- Product Feature - product feature is a sub-component of a product designed for satisfying a customer need(s).
 - Sidenote: A product feature is how a customer would describe what is satisfying their need

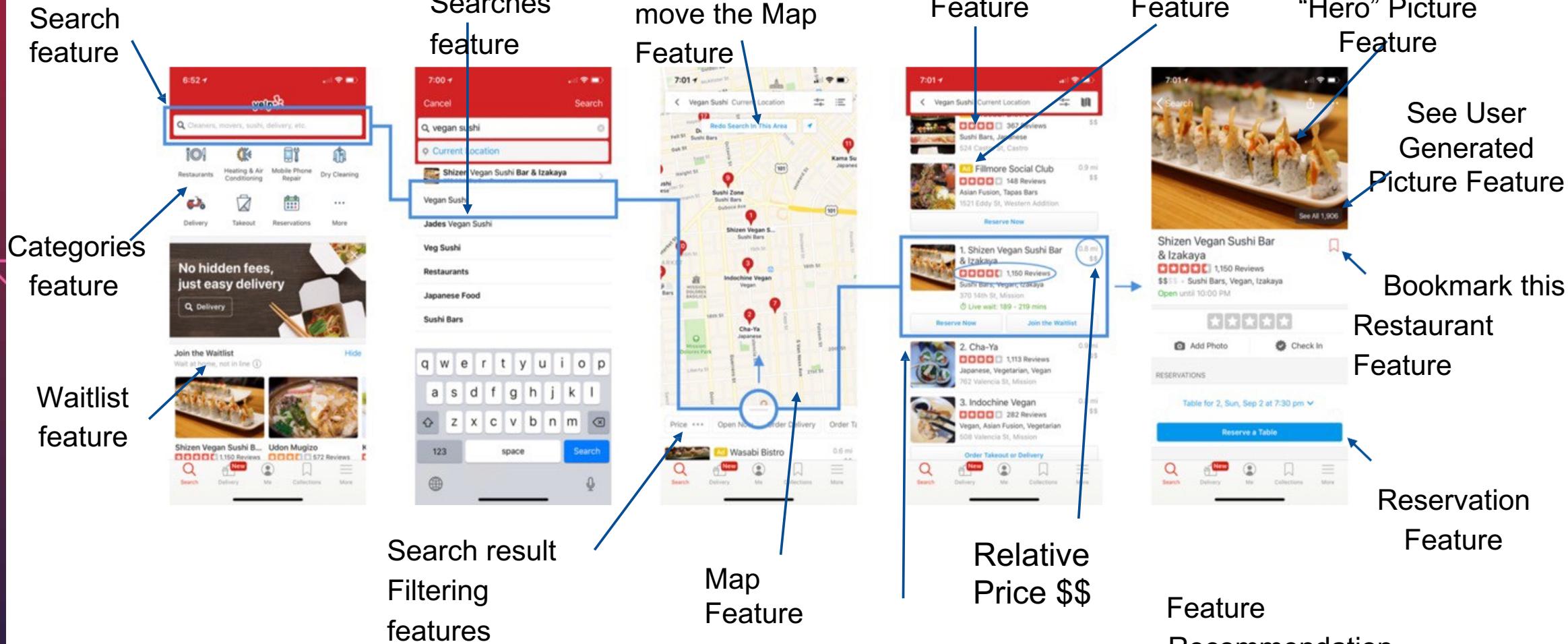


Customer



Yelp
Ford
Mustang

EXAMPLE: YELP (PRODUCT) AND ITS PRODUCT FEATURES



Yelp “Customer Journey” for reserving a table at a restaurant

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EXAMPLE: CAR (PRODUCT) AND ITS PRODUCT FEATURES



Customer Needs



Customer

Aggressive aesthetics

Good Fuel Economy

Can Carry Dog



Product

Product Features

Sharp Slanted Headlights

5.0L Powerful Engine

Separated Trunk Space

DEFINITION (AGAIN): PRODUCTS ARE BUNDLES OF “PRODUCT FEATURES” AND HOW WELL EACH FEATURE SATISFIES NEEDS TO THE CUSTOMER



Product 1

Product Features

Happy Round Headlights

1.2L Fuel Saving Engine

Combined Interior + Trunk



Product 2

Product Features

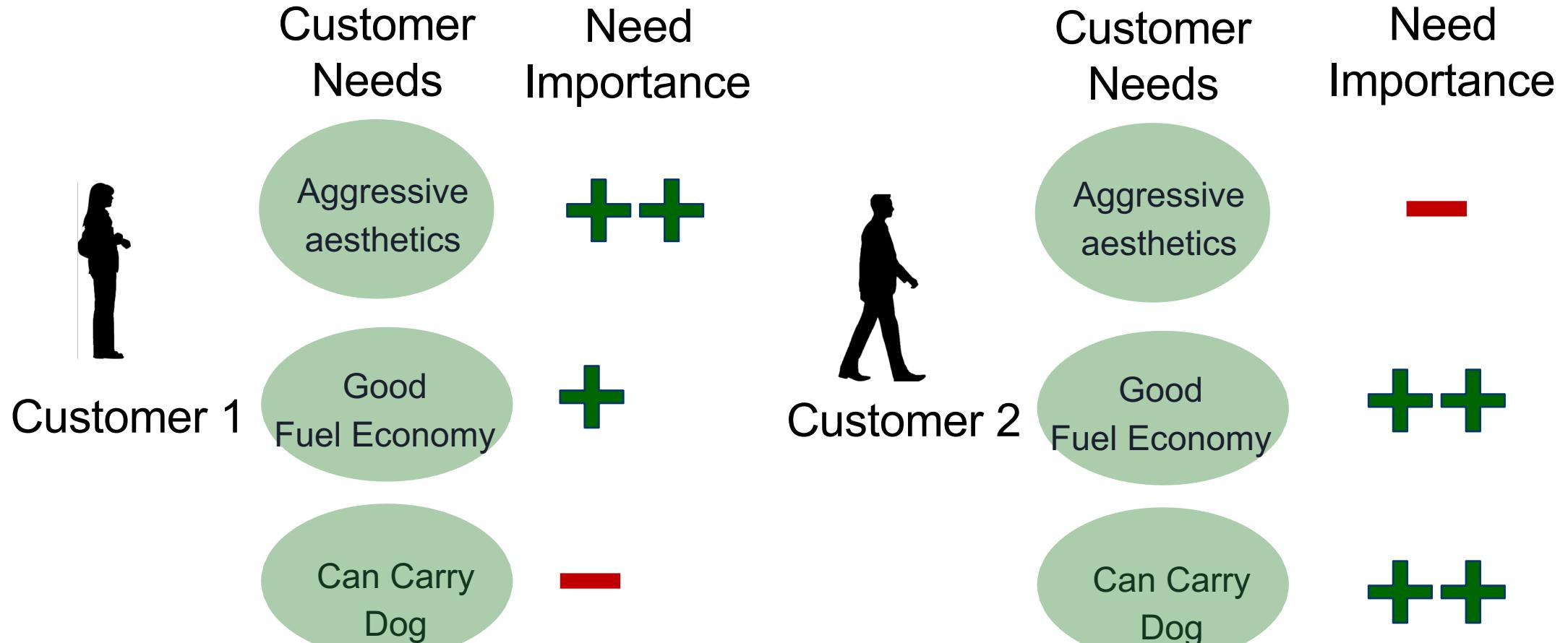
Sharp Slanted Headlights

5.0L Powerful Engine

Separated Trunk Space

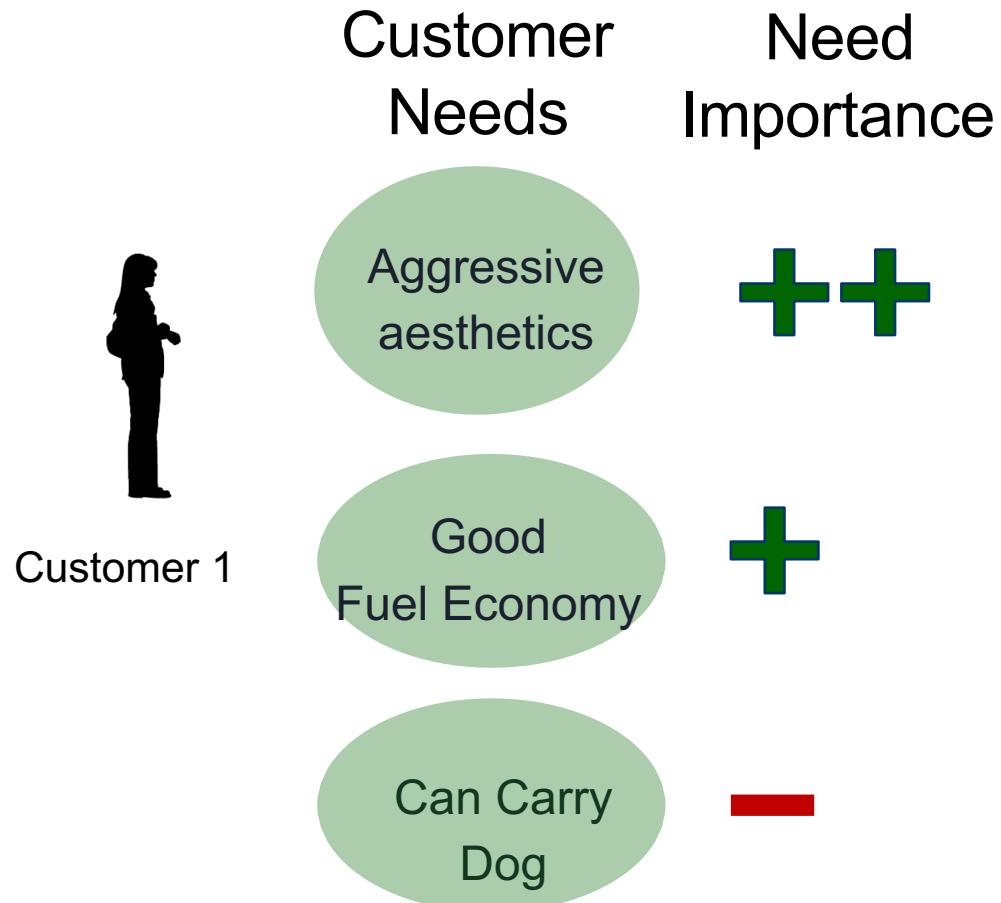
Why are we in a world with many products that differ in how well they satisfy customer needs...?

DEFINITION (AGAIN): CUSTOMERS ARE BUNDLES OF “CUSTOMER NEEDS” AND HOW “IMPORTANT” EACH NEED IS TO THE CUSTOMER



Because we live in a world of diverse people with diverse needs and how important they are to each individual customer.

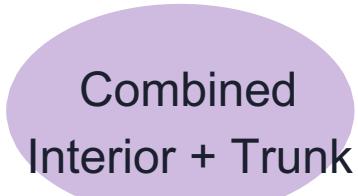
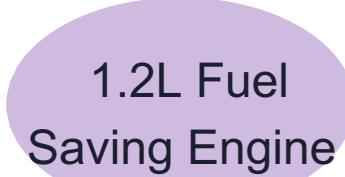
QUESTION: WHICH PRODUCT HAS FEATURES THAT BETTER SATISFY OUR EXAMPLE CUSTOMER'S NEEDS?



Product 1



Product Features



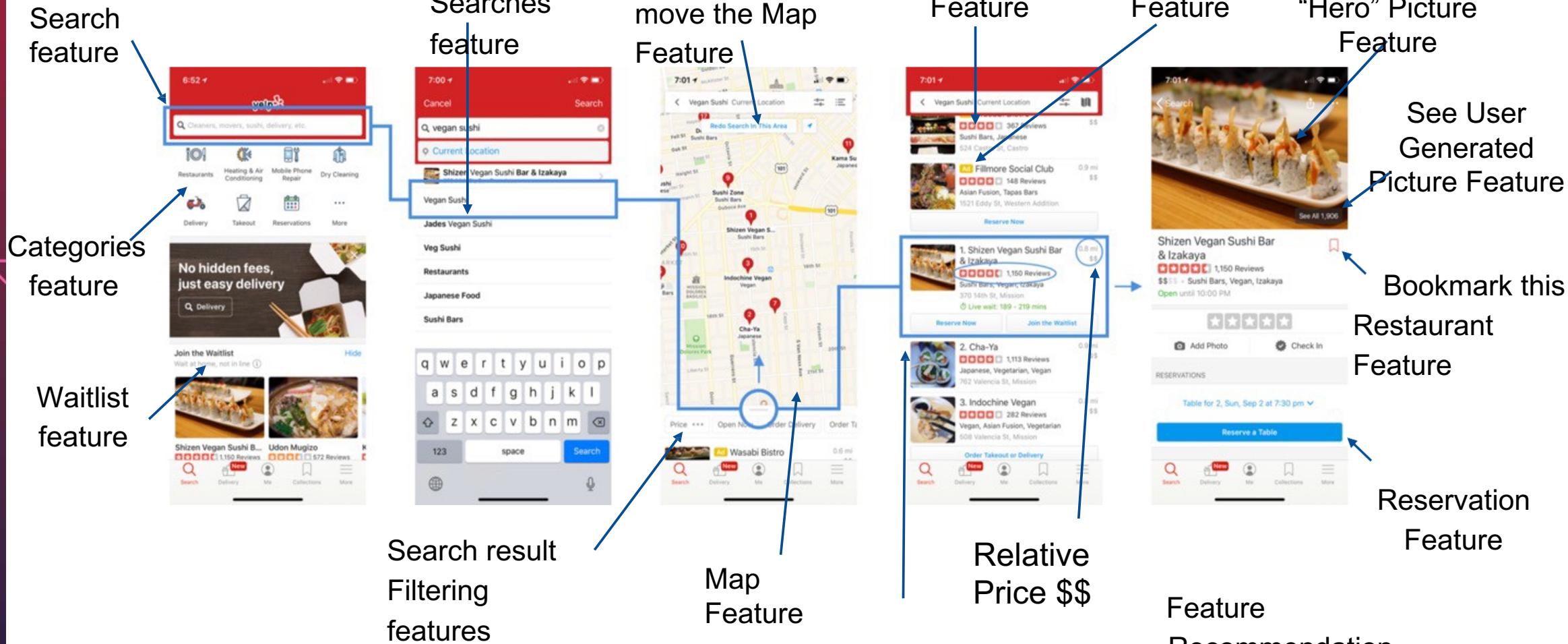
Product 2



Product Features



EXAMPLE: YELP (PRODUCT) AND ITS PRODUCT FEATURES



Yelp “Customer Journey” for reserving a table at a restaurant

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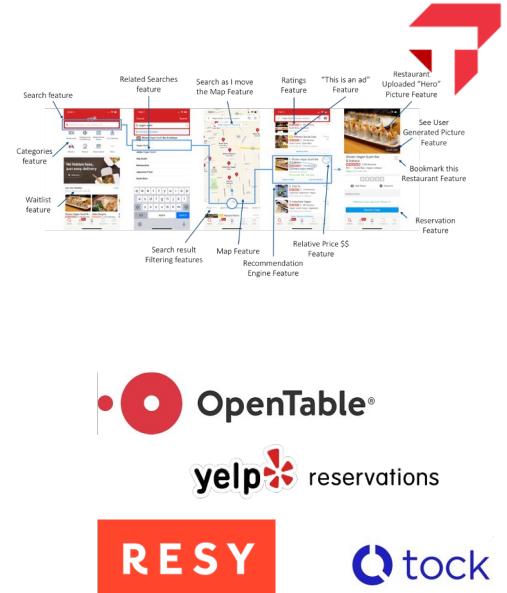
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**TAKEAWAY THROUGHOUT CLASS:
WHY CUSTOMER NEEDS?
BECAUSE CUSTOMER NEEDS DRIVE NEW
PRODUCT FEATURES**

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- Example: “Full Workflow: How a PM helps launch a new product feature”
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 - Total Addressable Market (TAM)

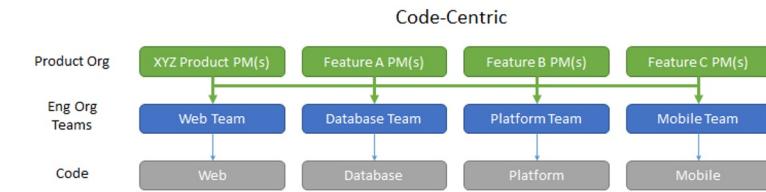
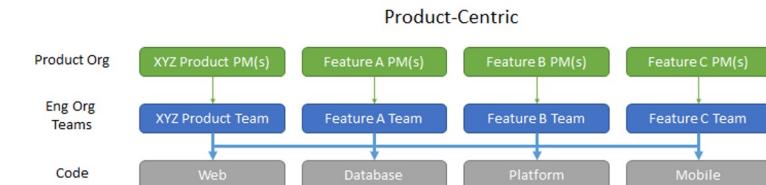


THE PRODUCT ORGANIZATION (WITHIN THE FIRM)

Question: “How is the product org structured?”

Split on Product Features? Split on Platform (iOS, web)?

- Cross-Functional
 - Engineers and Engineering Managers (EM)
 - Designers and Design Managers
 - Other Product Managers (PM)
- This varies due to many factors such as:
 - Company culture and organization
 - Firm stage (e.g., startup vs Fortune 500 firm)
 - Business-to-Business (B2B) vs Business-to-Customer (B2C)
 - Business model (e.g., e-commerce vs social media app)
 - PM role technical requirements (e.g., internal API product vs consumer-facing product)



Product Organization
Structure Split on Product
Features vs Function



Facebook /
Meta

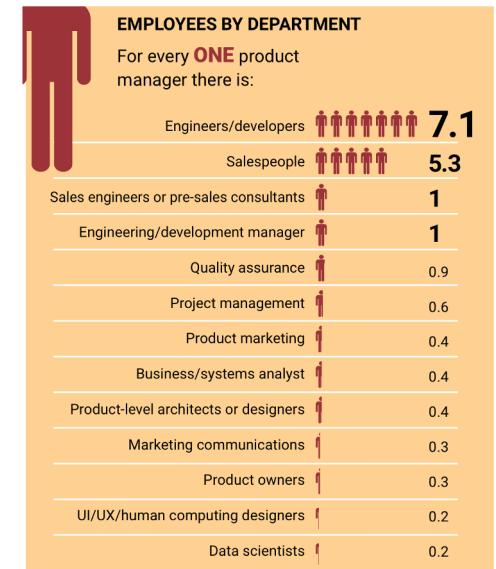
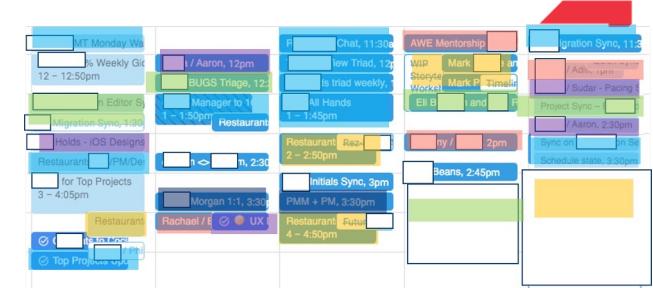
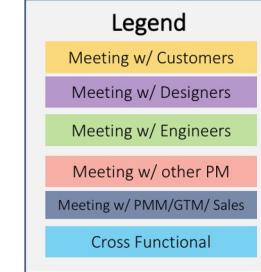
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THE PRODUCT TEAM

- Question: “Who do PMs work with?”
- Main stakeholders interfacing with PMs
 - Engineers and Engineering Managers (EM)
 - Designers and Design Managers
 - Marketing and Product Marketing Managers (PMM)
 - Other Product Managers (PM)
 - Other roles: Product Ops, Data Scientists, Business Analysis
- (Again) this varies due to many factors such as:
 - Company culture and organization
 - Firm stage (e.g., startup vs Fortune 500 firm)
 - Business-to-Business (B2B) vs Business-to-Customer (B2C)
 - Business model (e.g., e-commerce vs social media app)
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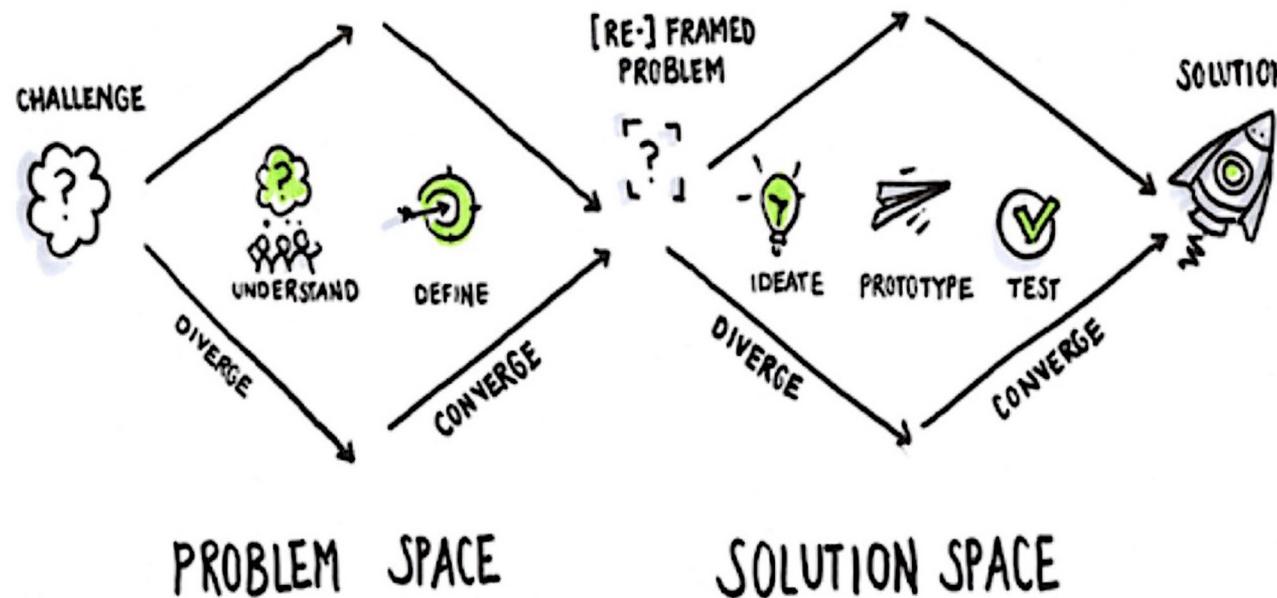
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Source: Pragmatic Institute Survey, N= 2474, from North America, Europe, Asia, Oceania

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PROBLEM SPACE VS SOLUTION SPACE: A KEY CONCEPT



- PM: What are customers actual needs? How “painful” are these needs?
- PM: What is the “reach” of these needs in TAM? What customer needs segments and how large?
- PM: How can we validate this is “real” problem? What metrics measure this or act as proxies?

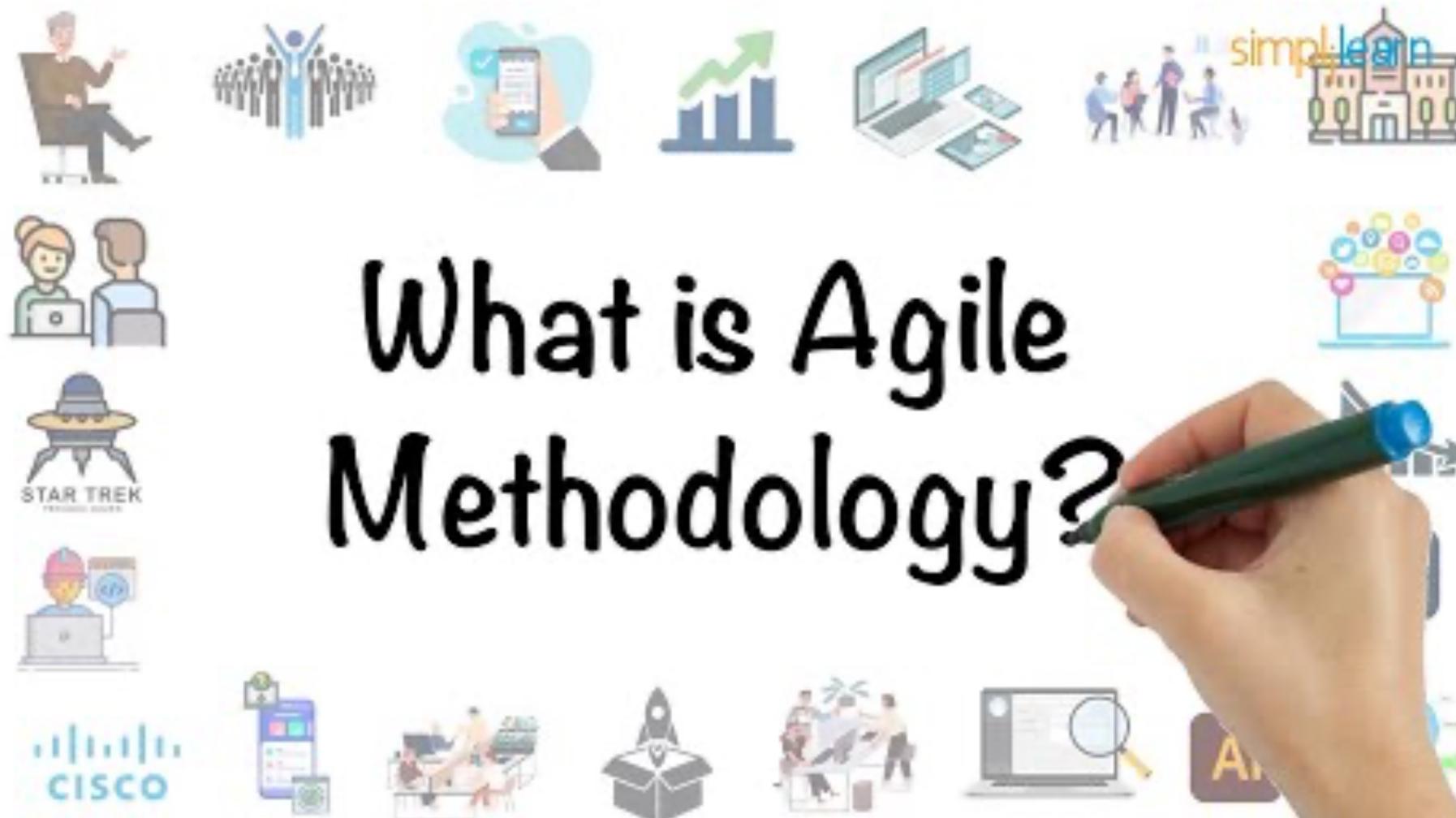
- PM: What is required to solve the problem? What is the definition of a successful product feature?
- Des: How do we integrate this feature into our UI/UX to give an uncluttered, pleasant experience to the user?
- Eng: How do we integrate this feature into our existing features?

PMs “own” the problem space and support the solution space.

PROCESSES: “WATERFALL” AND “AGILE”



What is Agile Methodology?



PROCESSES: “WATERFALL” AND “AGILE”

- 2 major “archetypes” of product development
 - Waterfall is “older” and agile is “newer”
 - But, most companies are some combination of the two
- Waterfall
 - Tends to be more linear.
 - Pros: can allow more time and verification (e.g., validating customer needs)
 - Cons: Slower iterations, easy to silo functions, risk of unvalidated needs pushed to end.
- Agile
 - Tends to be faster paced with smaller plans
 - Pros: faster iterations, less silos, more adaptive if customer needs not validated.
 - Cons: can be focused on shipping features rather than justifying customer needs

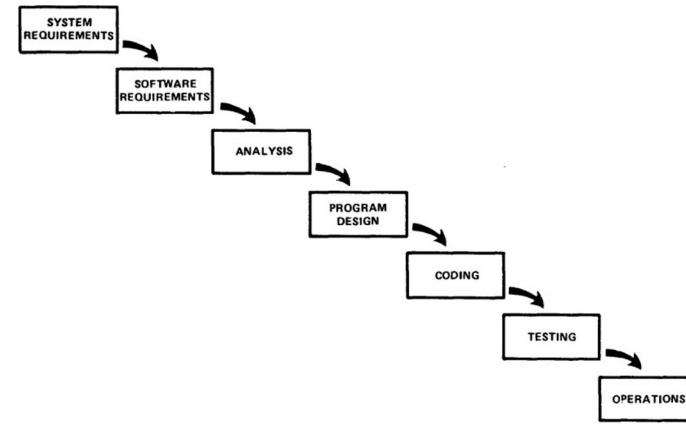


Figure 2. Implementation steps to develop a large computer program for delivery to a customer.

Managing the Development of Large Software Systems
(1970)



Other
Resources

- [More detailed breakdown of two archetypes](#)
- [Agile Manifesto](#); [Waterfall was never not iterative](#)

PRODUCT FEATURE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IN THIS CLASS



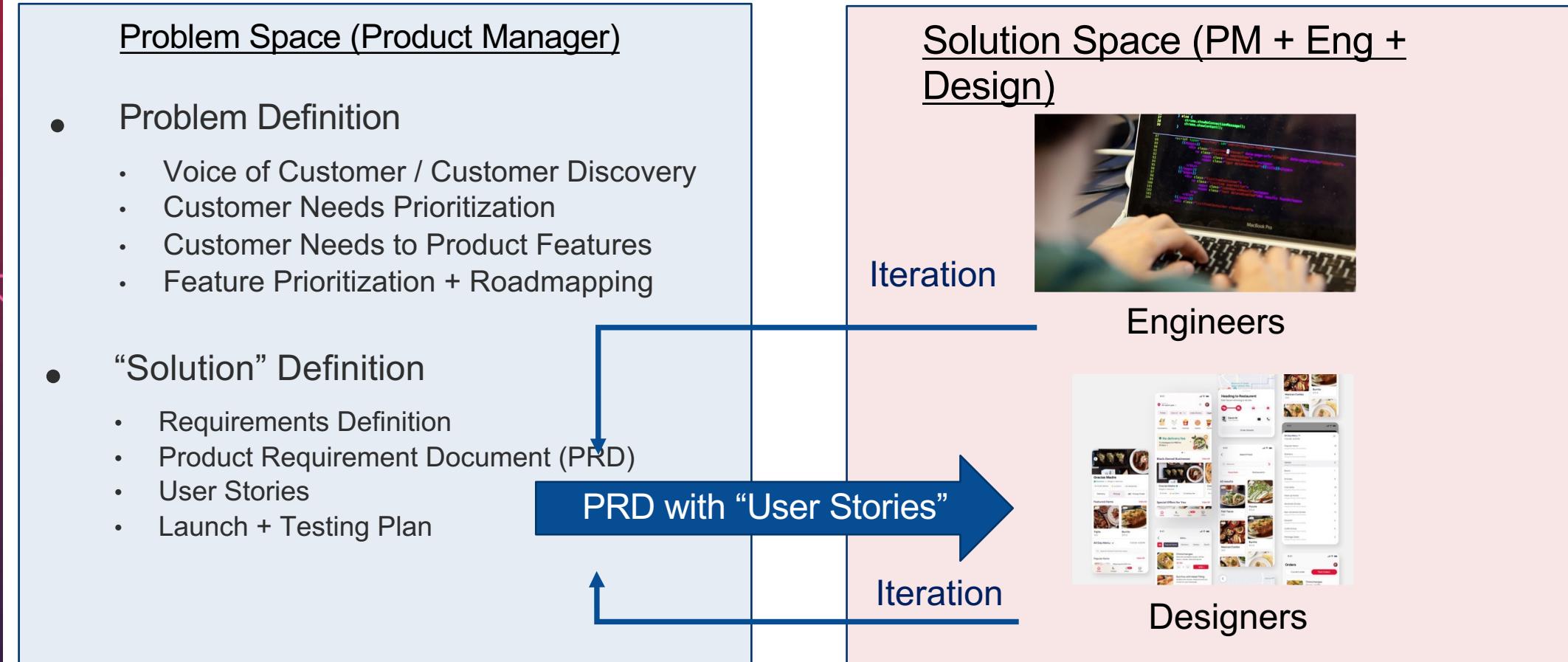
Pre-Launch of Product Feature: “Problem Space”

- Customer Needs Identification
- Customer Needs Downselection to Primary Needs
- Measuring “Importance” of Primary Needs (Conjoint analysis)
- Needs prioritization and segmentation
- Competitive analysis, total addressable market (TAM) estimation, opportunity sizing, and Targeting

• POST-Launch of Product Feature

- Product Metric Tracking
- Hypotheses Definition and Experiment Setup
- A/B Testing
- Go-to-Market (GTM) Rollout

EXAMPLE WORKFLOW: HOW A PM WORKS WITH ENGINEERS AND DESIGNERS TO DEVELOP AND LAUNCH A PRODUCT FEATURE



Key Point: Product development is highly iterative between problem and solution space, as the feature concept is iteratively refined. PMs own “problem space” and support “solution space.”

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EXAMPLE WORKFLOW CONTEXT: RESTAURANT RESERVATION PRODUCTS

“FOOD AND DRINK PICKUP” PRODUCT FEATURE IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Example Context: COVID-19 Restaurant Reservations

- Restaurant reservation products implemented “food pickup” shortly after COVID-19 shutdowns
- Resy converted reservations feature to pickup order reservation. Select a meal, choose pickup time, and pay all on platform.
- Tock To Go launched for existing and new Tock customers, allowing customers to reserve and purchase restaurant meals for pickup or delivery and charges the restaurant a fee of 3 percent per order
- Yelp Waitlist converted to a pickup order waitlist that was very popular in big cities like NYC.

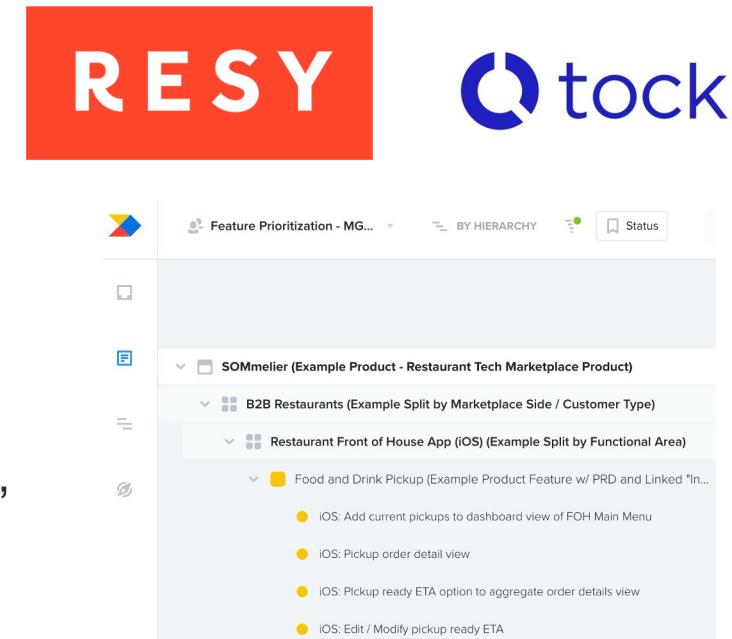
- Example Firm: OpenTable (we will be OpenTable)

- Example New Product Feature: “Food and Drink Pickup”

- Product Category: Restaurant Reservation Products
- Customer Need: “Want to eat out but can’t dine in”
- Product Feature: “Food and Drink Pickup”

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PROBLEM SPACE: CUSTOMER NEEDS IDENTIFICATION + DOWNSELECTION



Survey on Dining Out

Hi! We are students who are exploring ways to tr...
please take some time to fill out the survey form

When eating in a group, what meal do you usually go out for?

How old are you?

Who do you eat with?

How much do you usually spend on your...

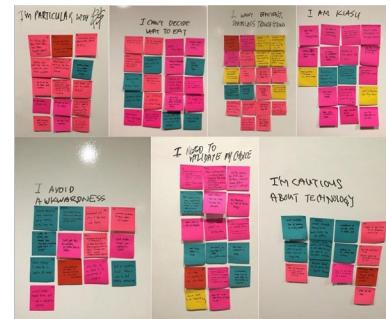
Do you split bills with your dining partner?

How do you usually split bills?

How do you make reservation?

How often do you eat out in gro...

Once a week



Customer Needs
Downselection and
Affinity Map



“Primary” Customer Needs

Customer Interviews & Qualitative Surveys

Corresponding Team Assignments

- Market Research Document (MRD) + Voice of the Customer (VOC)
 - Interview Guide
 - 5 Customer Interviews
 - Affinity Map

Team Assignment | Voice of Customer (VOC) + Market Research Document (MRD)
MGT 561 Product Management - Spring 2023

Team Name: MGT 561 Team Name: [REDACTED]
Team Member 1: [REDACTED] Team Member 2: [REDACTED] Team Member 3: [REDACTED]

Please put the last three team members chosen to be PMAs at [REDACTED].
Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about our PMAs at [REDACTED]

Executive Summary

This team assignment forms the basis of your understanding and definition of your customer and their needs, as well as opportunity of satisfying those needs as constructed in your initial market research document (MRD). This assignment will also help you define both quantitative and qualitative, what the customer and the needs are to solve are directly related to the product or service you are developing.

This assignment is broken into three conceptual sections and their approach:

- Market Research Document (MRD) - initial task research to understand your market, industry, and customer needs. This assignment will help you to complete your first qualitative market (VOC) and opportunity using other steps (2) and (3).
- Voice of Customer (VOC) - qualitative task research to understand the definition and enumeration of customer needs, needs prioritization, and needs segmentation. This assignment will help you to complete your second qualitative market (VOC) and opportunity using other steps (1) and (3).
- Market Research Document (MRD) - final task research to understand your market, industry, and customer needs. This assignment will help you to complete your final qualitative market (VOC) and opportunity using other steps (1) and (2).

a. Customer Interview Guide (Appendix A)

b. Quantitative Survey Structure and Response Criteria (Appendix B)

c. Identifying Customer Needs from “Scrabble” Transcripts (Appendix C)

d. Word and Sentence Clustering (Appendix D)

e. Downselecting Customer Needs (Appendix E)

f. Determining Primary Customer Needs (Appendix F)

For this assignment and your Course Project, we require you to:

- Conduct 5 customer interviews for customers in the market and product category.
- Collect 50+ responses from VOC surveys.
- Identify at least 50 total customer needs.
- Define at least 5 primary customer needs.
- Define at least 5 secondary customer needs.
- Define target segment with limited needs aligned with our strategic business context.

Your team is asked to append several Appendices to this document for your review and presentation. These Appendices include:

- Appendix A: Customer Interview Guide
- Appendix B: Quantitative Survey Structure and Response Criteria
- Appendix C: Identifying Customer Needs from “Scrabble” Transcripts
- Appendix D: Word and Sentence Clustering
- Appendix E: Downselecting Customer Needs
- Appendix F: Determining Primary Customer Needs

These data are required for assignment submission (see A4 and A5 for details).

Credit: Damian Hong2

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Control the rate of new pickup orders if kitchen is overwhelmed
Control the expectation of tipping food delivery drivers
Easily cancel and refund takeout orders
Seamless communication and experience for customer food orders at our restaurant

Ensure food orderers feel safe and protected against COVID-19 Personalized communication with food orderers

Ensure restaurant employees are and feel safe and protected against COVID-19 Minimize "no shows" for restaurant pickup orders and reservations

Demand forecasting of restaurant menu items

Know who and when repeat food diners/orderers sit or order from us

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20

PROBLEM SPACE: NEEDS PRIORITIZATION AND SEGMENTATION



Need Prioritization

- Input: 0 “Primary” Customer Needs
- Quantified importance of the 10 primary needs
- Direct Elicitation Survey

Segmentation on Primary Needs

- Segment customer needs, not demographics or other variables that don’t correlate with the problem we are solving.

Corresponding Team Assignments

- Market Research Document (MRD) + Voice of the Customer (VOC)
 - Voice of the Customer – Quantitative
 - “Direct Elicitation” Survey

Team Assignment | Voice of Customer (VOC) + Market Research Document (MRD)
MKTG 581 Product Management - Spring 2020
Team Name: #MKT DT Team Name _____ Last Name: First Name _____
Please list the names of your team members here. Last Name: First Name _____
Please list the names of the people you work closest with in the PMS application.
Executive Summary _____

This team assignment forms the basis of your understanding and definition of your customer and their needs, as well as a representation of satisfying those needs as communicated to your market. This assignment is designed to help you understand the needs of your target customer(s) both qualitatively and quantitatively, that is, the customer and the needs we are to solve are clearly defined. This assignment will also help you define the value proposition your business has to offer.
This assignment is broken into three conceptual sections with five appendices:

1. Market Research Document (MRD) - Initial "desk research" to understand your market and competitive environment, and to identify key segments and needs. This assignment covers your total addressable market (TAM) and opportunity using after steps (2) and (3).
2. Voice of the Customer (VOC) - Qualitative research methods to understand the needs, definition and enumeration of customer needs, needs classification, and needs prioritization. This assignment is designed to help you understand the needs of your target customer(s) both qualitatively and quantitatively, that is, the customer and the needs we are to solve are clearly defined. This assignment will also help you define the value proposition your business has to offer.
3. Quantitative Survey Structure and Requested Criteria (Appendix A) - Quantitative survey structure and requested criteria for the survey instrument.

For this assignment and your Course Project, we require you:

- Conduct 5 customer interviews for customers in the market and product category.
- Identify 10 primary needs from the qualitative research.
- Develop an Affinity Map to determine 5 “primary” customer needs.
- Develop a survey instrument to collect quantitative data on the 5 primary needs.
- Define a target segment with current needs aligned with our strategic business concern.

Your team is asked to appoint several Appendices to this document for your use and presentation purposes. These Appendices are not required to be included in your final report. Your Appendices should be separate documents upon assignment submission (see A4 and A5 for details).

Primary Customer Need

Control the rate of new pickup orders if kitchen is overwhelmed

Control the expectation of tipping food delivery drivers

Easily cancel and refund takeout orders

Seamless communication and experience for customer food orders at our restaurant Ensure food orderers feel safe and protected against COVID-19

Personalized communication with food orderers

Ensure restaurant employees are and feel safe and protected against COVID-19

Minimize "no shows" for restaurant pickup orders and reservations

Demand forecasting of restaurant menu items Know who and when repeat food diners/orderers sit or order from us

Need Importance

2.498

2.192166667

2.129833333

2.118166667

1.984166667

1.762

1.7395

1.622833333

1.617833333

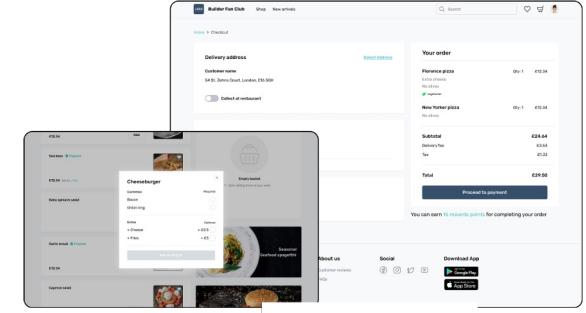
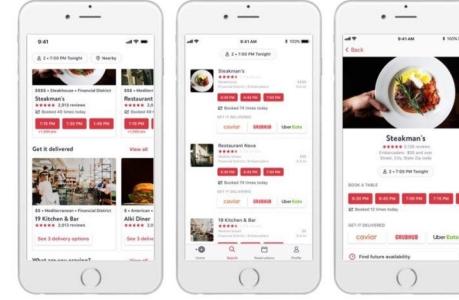
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PROBLEM SPACE: COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS



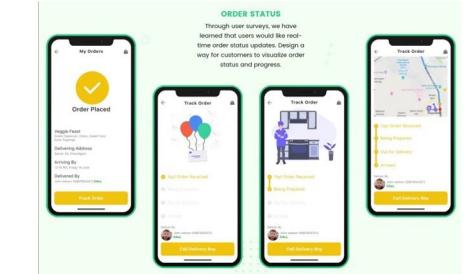
- Competitive Analysis

- Who are our competitors?
- What are they doing to address the primary need(s) we have identified?
- What product features satisfy the need?
- (Screenshots and Customer Journey)



yelp reservations

tock



RESY

Include these analyses in your final project!

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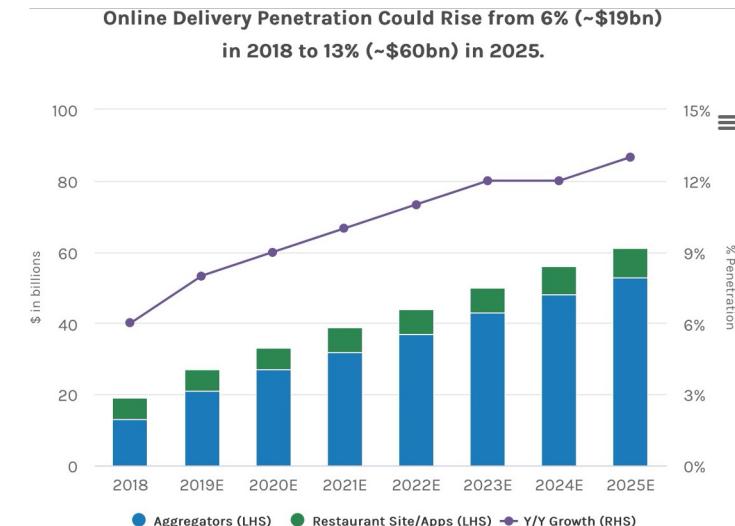
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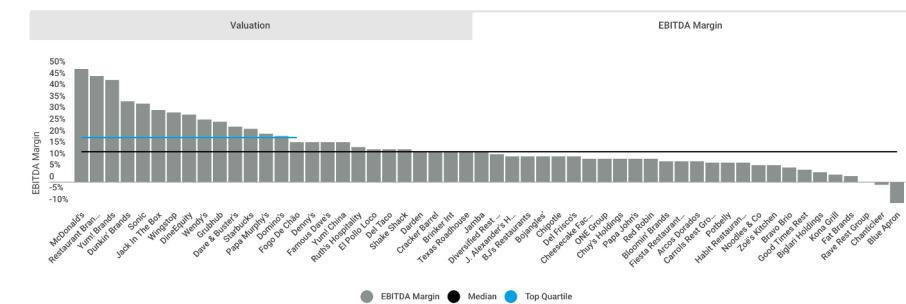
PROBLEM SPACE: TOTAL ADDRESSABLE MARKET (TAM) ESTIMATION, OPPORTUNITY SIZING, AND MARKET SEGMENT TARGETING



- Total Addressable Market (TAM) Estimation
 - What is the total size of the potential opportunity if we address this need(s).
- Opportunity Sizing
 - What is the opportunity size if we address this unmet primary need(s)?
 - What are our competitors doing, and how well are they satisfying the unmet primary need?



Source: Morgan Stanley Research

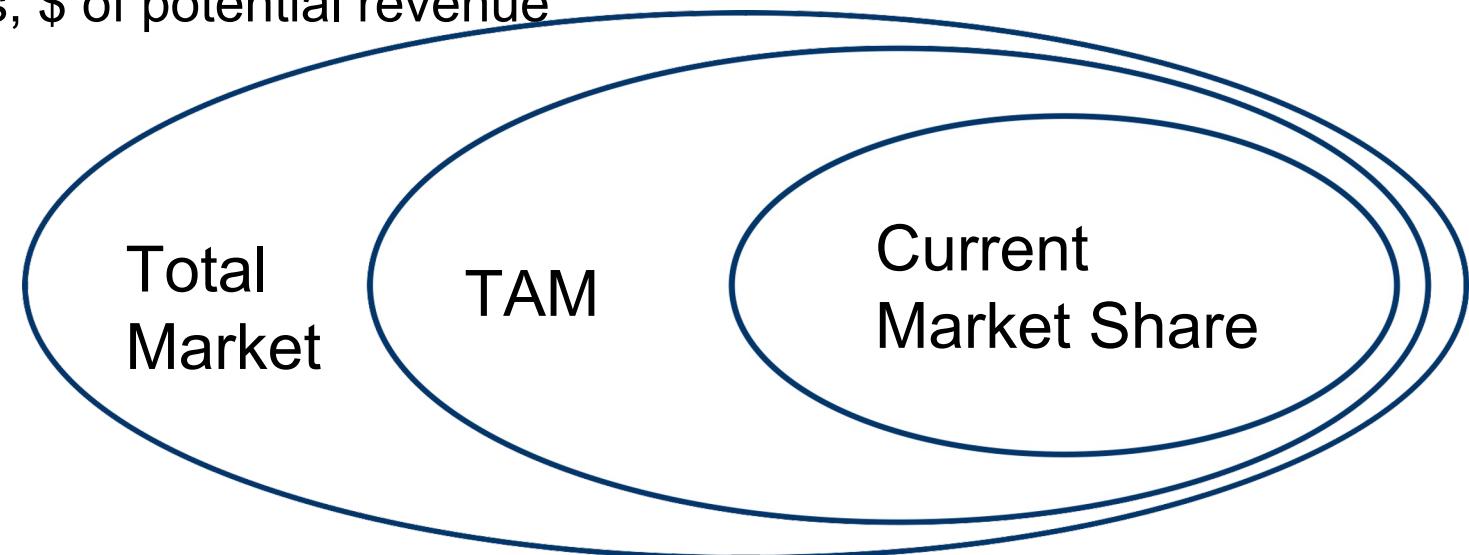


Source: Aaron Allen & Associates, public data
*Notes: Estimates for FY 2018

PROBLEM SPACE: TOTAL ADDRESSABLE MARKET (TAM) ESTIMATION, OPPORTUNITY SIZING, AND MARKET SEGMENT TARGETING



- Total Addressable Market (TAM)
Estimation
- The estimated size of the addressable market
- # of potential consumers, \$ of potential revenue





COMMON PROBLEM WITH TAM: UNREALISTIC SCOPING

- Common problem with TAM estimation (1/2): estimating TAM boundary beyond the “validated” segment of customer needs
Solution: scope down the TAM boundary to the customer needs segment we have validated using Voice of the Customer (next few classes)
- Common problem with TAM estimation (2/2): estimating TAM based on the size of platform or product category
Solution: estimate TAM based on the attainable customer need(s) segment



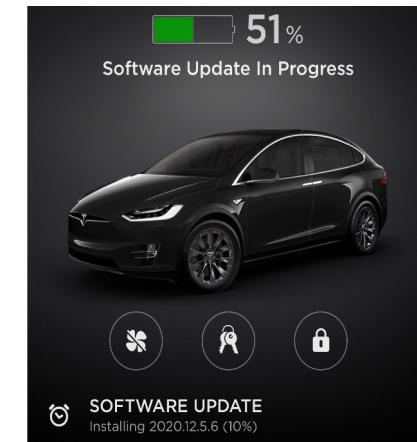
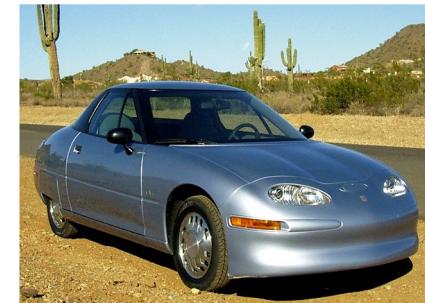
GRUBHUB

UBER
eats



MORE REALISTIC TAM SCOPING

- For a given target market segment and (validated) customers and their needs
- For a given timescale
(Long-term forecasts often very wrong due to product- market co-evolution)
- For a given product and its supply/demand constraints
(e.g., are we entering a supply-constrained marketplace? You will do this today in class.)



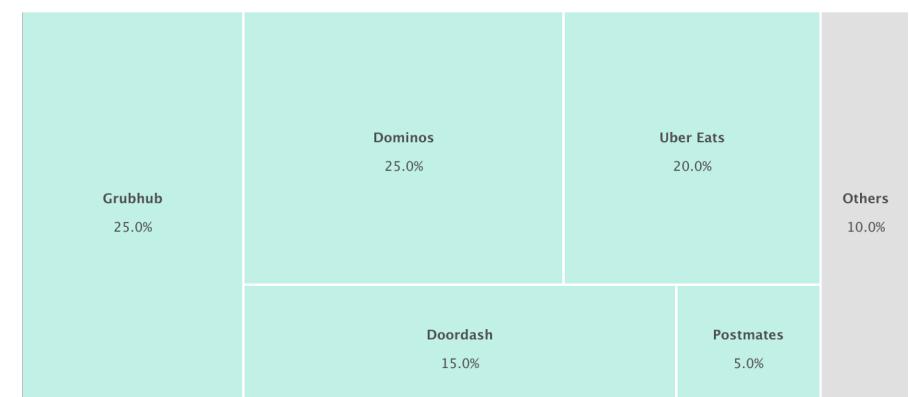
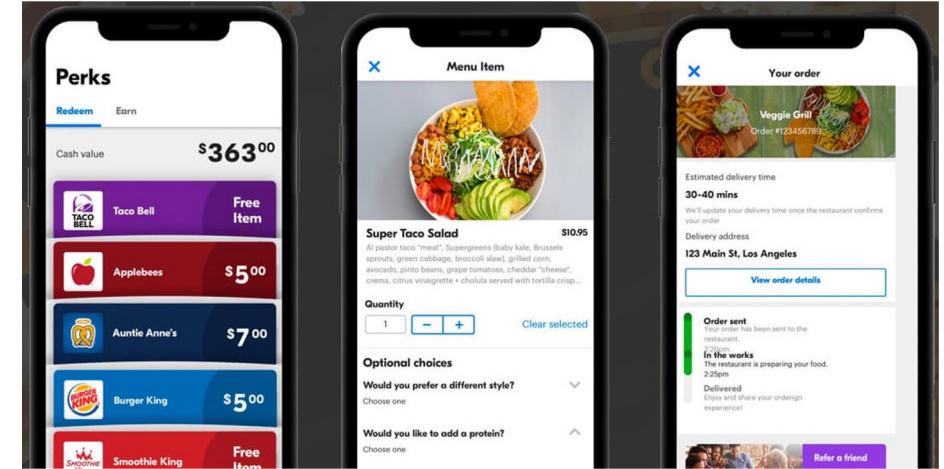
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IN-CLASS EXERCISE: FOOD DELIVERY APPS



- Your team will choose a food delivery platform.
 - GrubHub
 - Caviar
 - Uber Eats
- Today, over 50% of U.S. has used a food delivery app.
- But you will answer questions on TAM based on the early stages of each firm!



IN-CLASS DISCUSSION: GRUBHUB, CAVIAR, UBER EATS



Pick a (successful) food delivery product

- GrubHub
- Caviar
- Uber Eats



Context: Early-stage of each product
Who were the initial customers?

Question for team discussion

How would you estimate your initial TAM?

Note: Use the internet to search for any relevant facts and data.

GrubHub

Did not have own delivery drivers (initially) Initial customers needed existing delivery.

Caviar

Targeted most exclusive restaurants in San Francisco that did not deliver
Had own delivery bikers

Uber Eats

Late entrant to food delivery (2014)
Uber (parent firm) already in many major metros. Focused on big chains:
McDonalds, Starbucks

All:

Food delivery is geographically constrained.
Need ~100 restaurants in major metro to “tip the market” for consumers

SIDENOTE: HOW THINGS ARE TODAY? GRUBHUB, CAVIAR, UBER EATS



Restaurant industry in United States

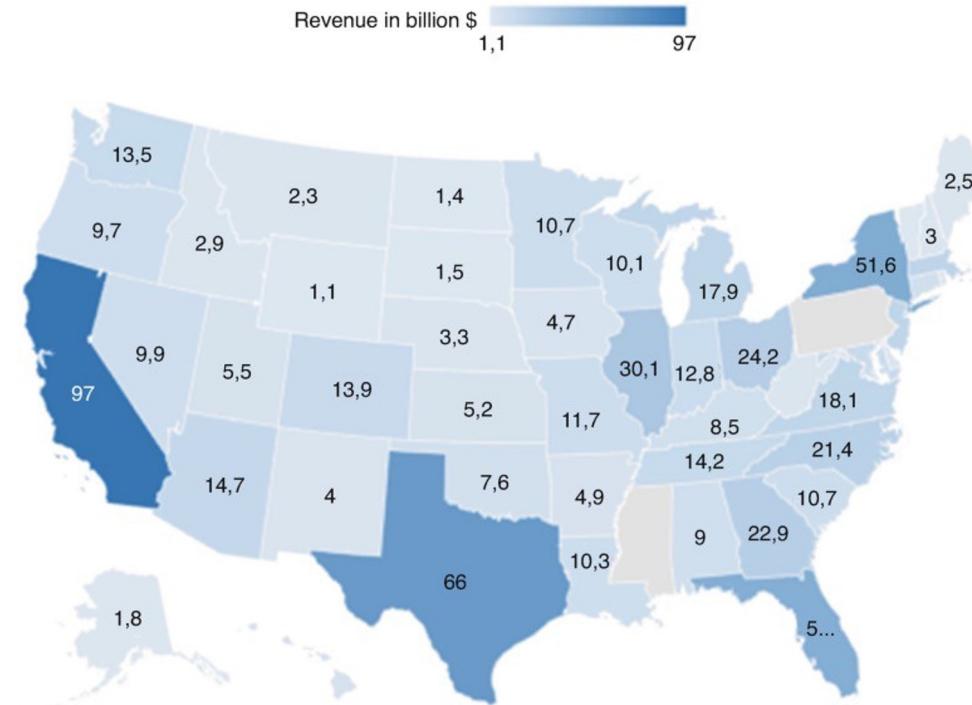
- 1 million+ Restaurants in U.S.
 - \$863 Billion revenue in 2019
 - ~4% GDP of United States
 - \$28 billion revenue from delivery
 - GrubHub had \$1.8 Billion in Revenue in 2020.
But net loss of \$155 Million.

Source of Jobs

- 1 in 10 adults work in restaurant industry
 - 6 in 10 adults have worked in restaurant industry at some point.

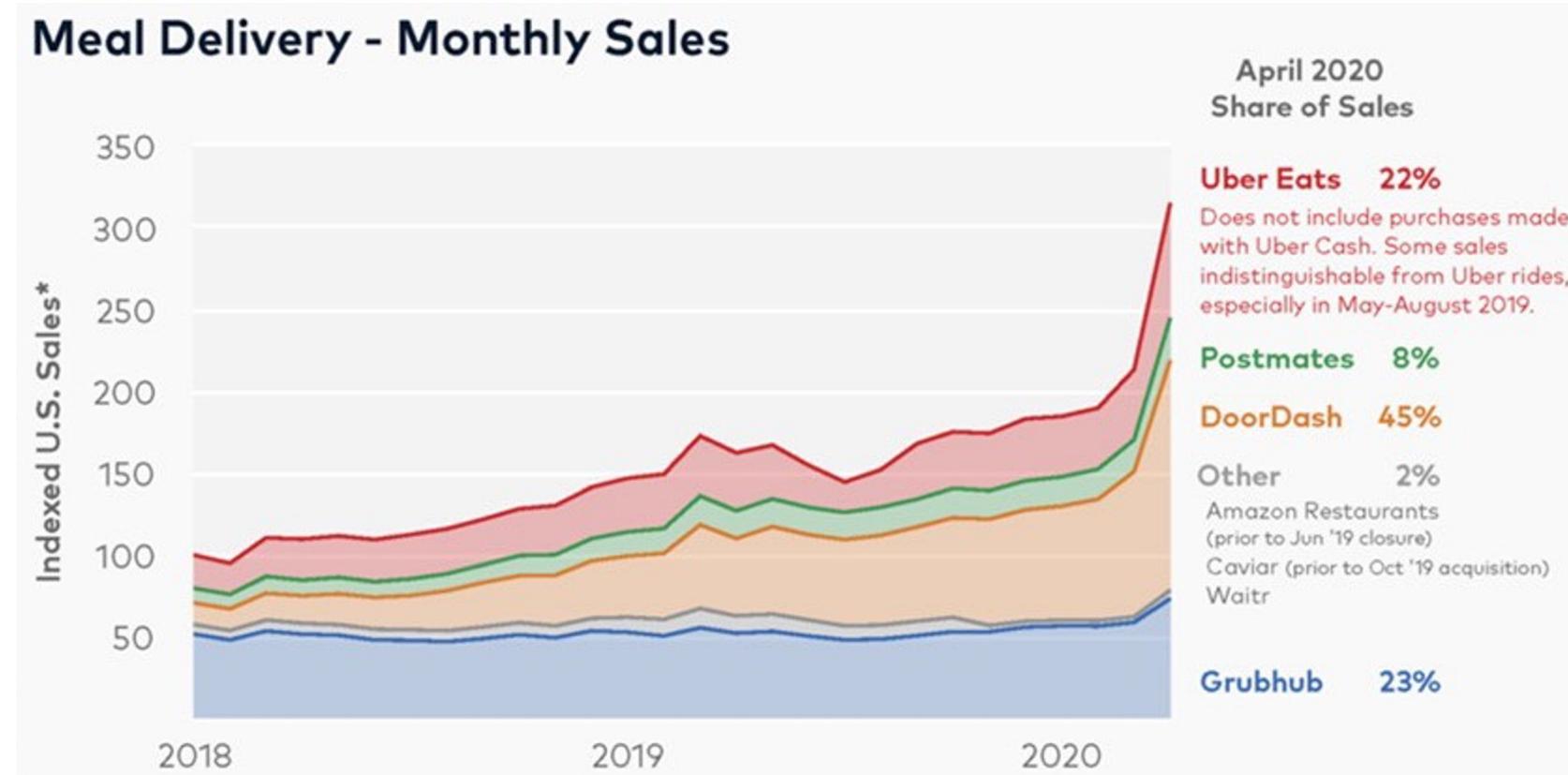
Source:

[https://www.restaurant.org/Downloads/PDFs/Research/SOI/restaurant industry fact sheet 2019.pdf](https://www.restaurant.org/Downloads/PDFs/Research/SOI/restaurant%20industry%20fact%20sheet%202019.pdf)





SIDENOTE: How THINGS ARE TODAY? GRUBHUB, CAVIAR, UBER EATS





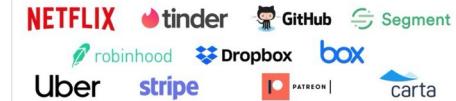
DEFINITION: PRODUCT-MARKET FIT (PMF)

Question: What is product-market fit (PMF)?

Question: How do you know when your product has product-market fit (PMF)?

Three signs you've found Product-Market Fit

🔥 Sudden and significant pull from the market



📈 Gradual but compounding pull from the market



🎉 Hitting a milestone that proves it's working



Product-Market fit (PMF) - Product is known by customers in TAM, product's features satisfy customer needs to give "value" to customers, and customers choose (or retain) our product versus competitors.

Company	Example "Value" Metric (to customer)	Frequency
Instagram	Check Feed	Day
Uber	Book Ride	Week / Month
Credit Karma	Check Credit Score	Quarter / Year
AirBnB	Book Room	Month / Quarter
Yelp	Search for Review	Week / Month

PRODUCT-MARKET FIT CAN BE MEASURED QUALITATIVELY



“How would you feel if you could no longer use this product?”

- “very disappointed” without your product
- “somewhat disappointed” without your product
- “not disappointed” without your product

“Predictive of Product Market Fit”

- Answering “somewhat disappointed” or “very disappointed” suggests you have PMF

Company	“Value” Metric (to customer)	Frequency
Instagram	Check Feed	Day
Uber	Book Ride	Week / Month
Credit Karma	Check Credit Score	Quarter / Year
AirBnB	Book Room	Month / Quarter
Yelp	Search for Review	Week / Month

PRODUCT-MARKET FIT CAN BE MEASURED QUANTITATIVELY



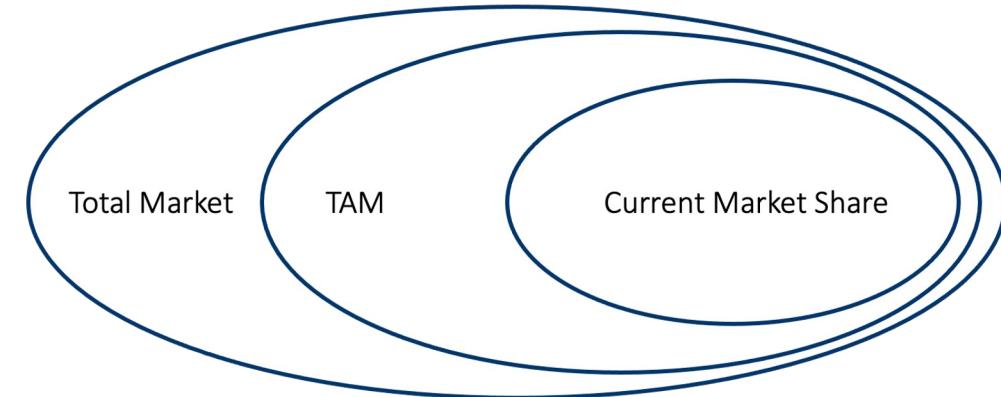
- PMF can be measured quantitatively by a product's "**value**" metric to customers
- "**Value**" metric depends on your product!
- However a general quantitative metric of PMF is the customer "**retention**" curve
- Retention curve is consumers' **retention metric over time**.
- Retention Metric is **Ratio** of: "Value" Metric and Frequency
- Your product has product market fit (PMF) if "**Retention Curve**" plateaus

Company	"Value" Metric (to customer)	Frequency
Instagram	Check Feed	Day
Uber	Book Ride	Week / Month
Credit Karma	Check Credit Score	Quarter / Year
AirBnB	Book Room	Month / Quarter
Yelp	Search for Review	Week / Month



PRODUCT-MARKET FIT IS A CONTINUOUS METRIC

“Product/market fit isn’t a one-time, discrete point in time that announces itself with trumpet fanfares. Competitors arrive, markets segment and evolve, and stuff happens—all of which often make it hard to know you’re headed in the right direction...” - Ben Horowitz (a16z)



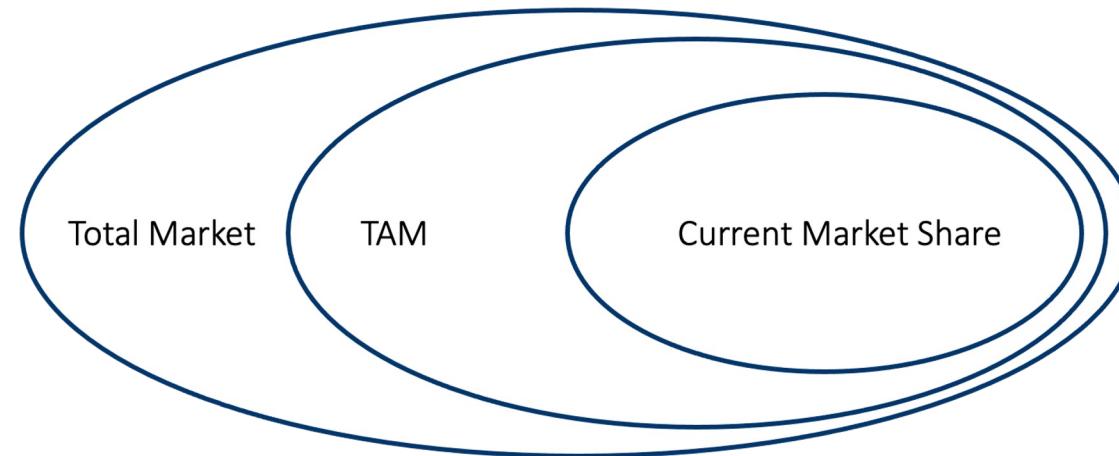
As a new PM, you will likely join a firm with existing PMF (and existing customers).

This is why we ask you to choose an existing firm in your Course Project.

Product-Market fit (PMF) - Product is known by customers in TAM, product's features satisfy customer needs to give “value” to customers, and customers choose (or retain) our product versus competitors.



FIRM STAGES GOALS FOR PMF: FOR NEW PRODUCTS / STARTUPS - ACHIEVING INITIAL PRODUCT-MARKET FIT IS THE GOAL FOR A GIVEN TAM



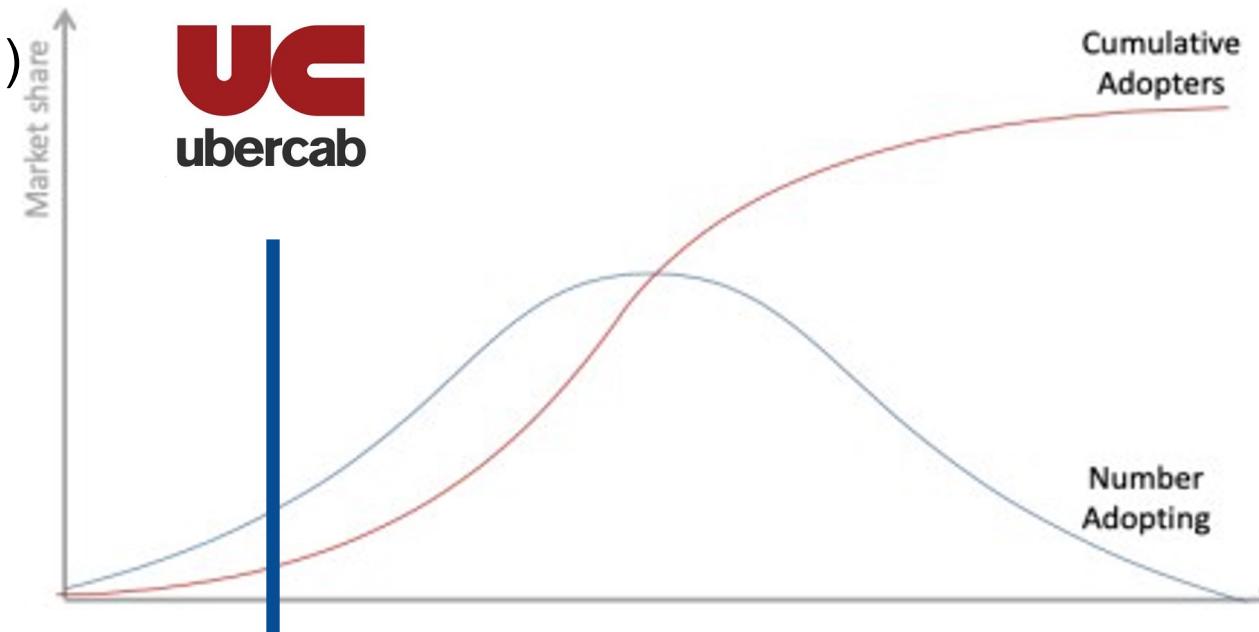
Product-market fit (PMF) - Product is known by customers in TAM, product's features satisfy customer needs to give “value” to customers, and product gives more “value” to customers in TAM than competitors so that customers choose (or retain) our product.

FIRM STAGES GOALS FOR PMF: INITIAL PRODUCT-MARKET FIT

EXAMPLE: UBER CAB



Total
Addressable
Market (TAM)



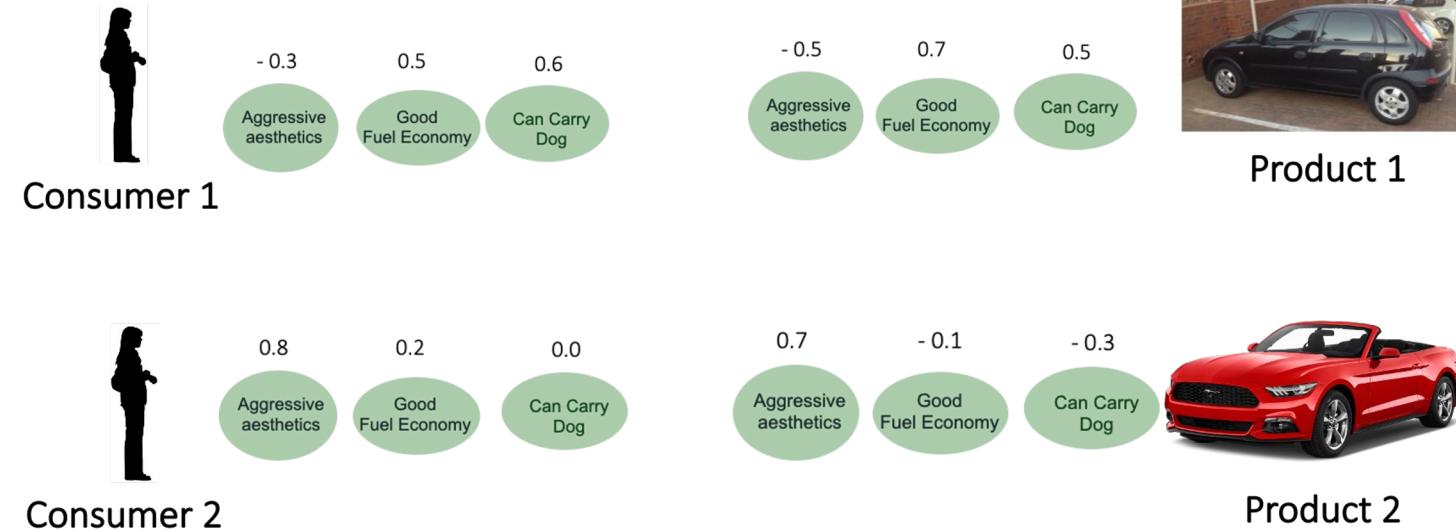
Source: Bass (1969) A new product growth model for customer durables.

Early product goal:
Achieve initial PMF via minimal set of product features.

Initial PMF does not mean we have the best product.



NEXT STAGE: IMPROVING PMF VIA BETTER PRODUCT FEATURES



- Customer is a bundle of needs importances.
- Product is a bundle of features and how they satisfy needs.
- Improving “value” to customer improves product-market fit (PMF).

EXAMPLE: UBER (2010-PRESENT)



UberCab (2009) Product Features

- Request a ride
- Maps
- Login/Registration
- Fare Calculator
- Automatic payment
- Driver GPS tracking
- Push Notifications and SMS

Uber (2010-Present) Product Features

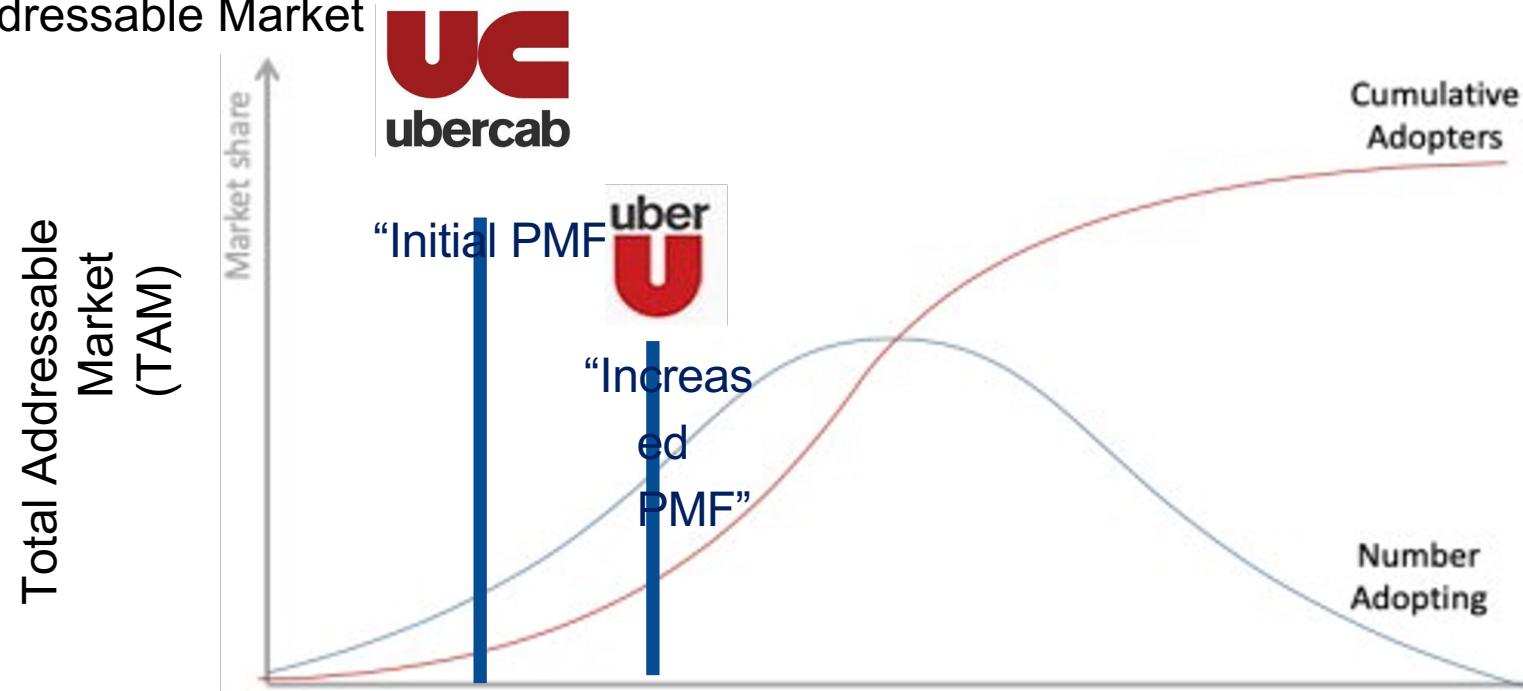
- Driver profile and ratings
- Surge pricing
- Split Fare
- Scheduled Rides

The screenshot shows the Uber website homepage. At the top right are links for "Sign Up", "Learn More", and "Sign In". The main content area has three main sections: "Request from Anywhere" (with an image of two phones), "Ride with Style and Convenience" (with an image of a black car), and "Hassle Free Payments" (with an image of a laptop and a coffee cup). Each section contains descriptive text and icons. At the bottom, there are links for "Info", "Phones", "Drivers", "Social", and "Legal", along with a "SIGN UP NOW" button.

UBER ACHIEVED INITIAL AND THEN INCREASED PRODUCT-MARKET FIT, LEADING THEM TO FOCUS ON “GROWTH” STAGE OF PRODUCT DIFFUSION



Total Addressable Market (TAM)

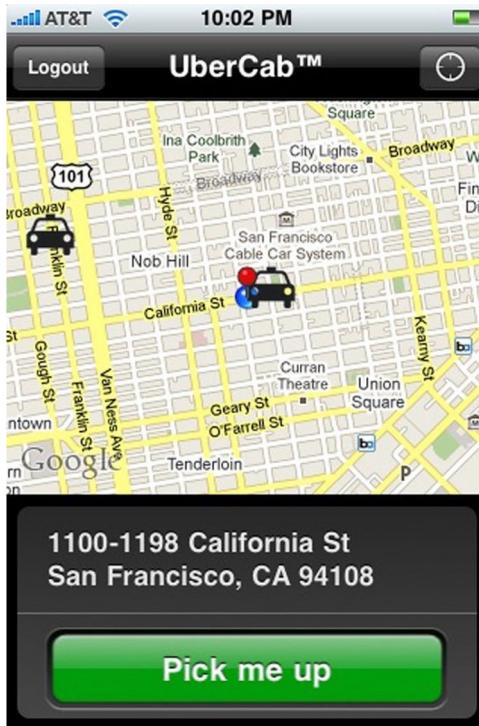


Source: Bass (1969) A new product growth model for customer durables.

Takeaway: Your product and company can not “grow” without sufficient initial product-market fit (PMF). (Yet companies do this all the time!)

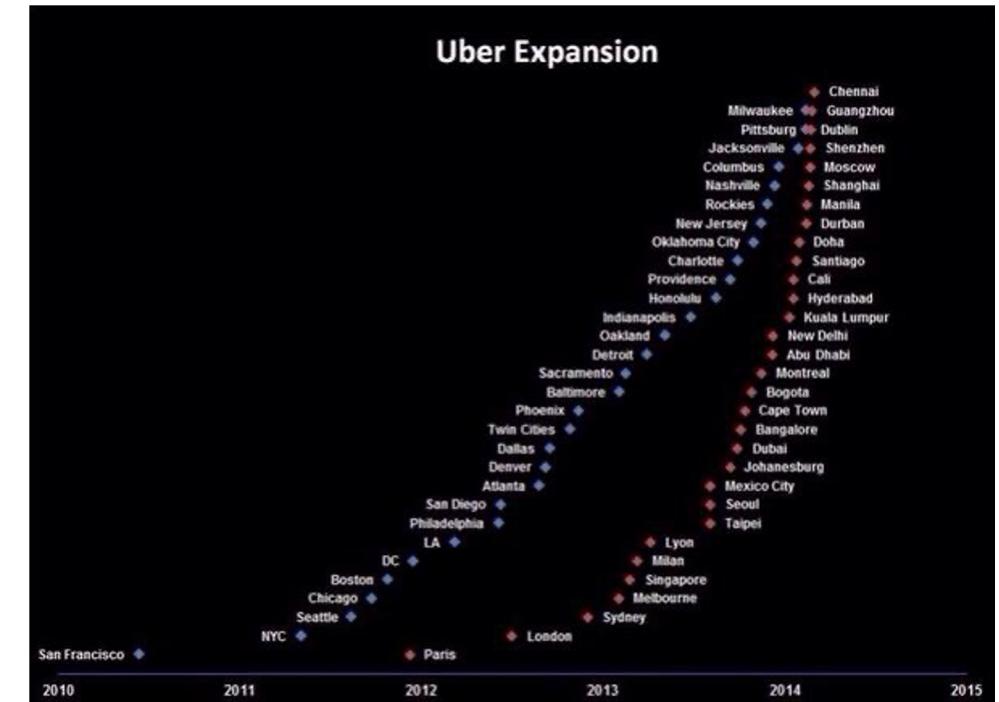


EXAMPLE: UBER



Initial PMF: Which product features achieve or increase value of product to customers?

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Growth: Which markets should we attack during growth? Which features will help supply-side growth to dominate the competition?

JOIN THE INTELLIGENT FUTURE

IN-CLASS DISCUSSION: GRUBHUB, CAVIAR, UBER EATS



Pick a (successful) food delivery product

- GrubHub
- Caviar
- Uber Eats



Context: Early-stage of each product
Who were the initial customers?

Question for team discussion

What is the PMF of the delivery app, at the early stage vs. now?

Note: Use the internet to search for any relevant facts and data.

Carnegie Mellon University

Tepper School of Business

GrubHub

Did not have own delivery drivers (initially) Initial customers needed existing delivery.

Caviar

Targeted most exclusive restaurants in San Francisco that did not deliver
Had own delivery bikers

Uber Eats

Late entrant to food delivery (2014)
Uber (parent firm) already in many major metros. Focused on big chains:
McDonalds, Starbucks

All:

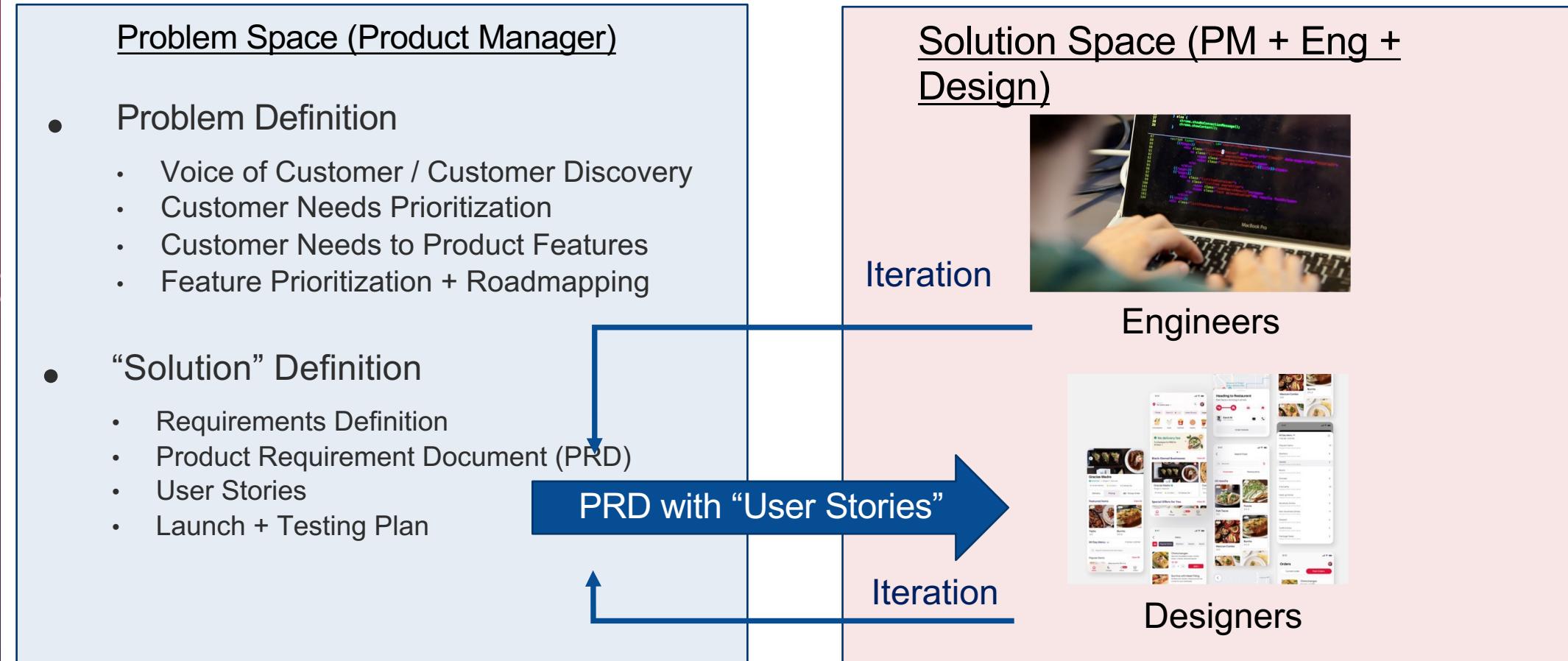
Food delivery is geographically constrained.
Need ~100 restaurants in major metro to “tip the market” for consumers

EXAMPLE WORKFLOW: PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS (IN THIS CLASS)



- “Problem Space” - Pre-Launch of Product Feature
 - Customer Needs Identification
 - Customer Needs Downselection to Primary Needs
 - Measuring “Importance” of Primary Needs
 - Needs prioritization and segmentation
 - Competitive analysis, total addressable market (TAM) estimation, opportunity sizing, and Targeting
 - **Product Requirements Document (PRD) and User Stories**

EXAMPLE WORKFLOW: HOW A PM WORKS WITH ENGINEERS AND DESIGNERS TO DEVELOP AND LAUNCH A PRODUCT FEATURE



Key Point: Product development is highly iterative between problem and solution space, as the feature concept is iteratively refined. PMs own “problem space” and support “solution space.”

Carnegie Mellon University

Tepper School of Business

JOIN THE INTELLIGENT FUTURE

PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT (PRD): TO COMMUNICATE PROBLEM SPACE TO ENGINEERING AND DESIGN AND ITERATE ON SOLUTION DEFINTION



- Product Requirement Document (include this in your final project!)
 - Document for a single product feature
 - Details the problem space, solution space, testing and launch plan.
 - Details the customers we are targeting, and evidence that this actually a real customer problem/need and business opportunity.
 - Document varies significantly across companies
- Goal
 - Cross-functional alignment across product, engineering, design, marketing/PMM/Go-to-Market (GTM)
 - Tool for communication and source of truth for why
 - Iterative, living document across functions
 - “Problem Space” justification with “Solution Space” scoping, not how to implement the feature itself
- Not the Goal
 - PM “handoff” to engineering/design/marketing/PMM
 - This is how PRDs sometimes get a bad name.

“USER STORIES” DEFINED IN THE PRODUCT REQUIREMENT DOCUMENT (PRD)

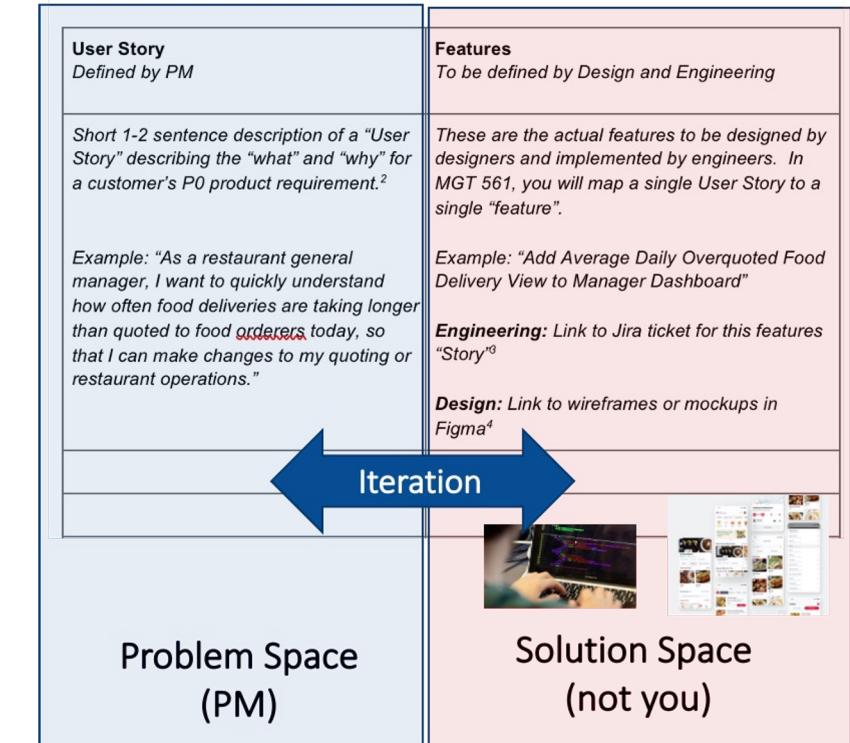


Example User Story:

Customer Need (in form of “User Story”)

“As a restaurant general manager, I want to quickly understand how often food pickups are taking longer than quoted to food orderers today, so that I can make changes to my quoting or restaurant operations.”

2.2 User Stories + Detailed Feature Definition



(Blue): “User Story” written by PM

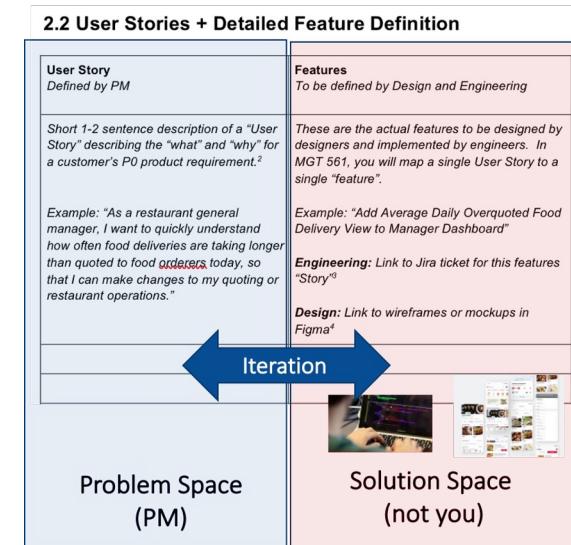
(Red) : Details solution by Design and Engineering

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“SOLUTION SPACE”: ITERATIVE PROCESS BETWEEN PM, DESIGN, AND ENGINEERING



- Moved to “Solution Space”
 - We have already identified customer needs, business opportunity, firm strategy, etc.
- “Solution Space” has multiple stakeholders
 - “Solution space” designers and engineers have primary role
 - PM is only one stakeholder, and often of a “clarification” role now.
- Engineering + Design Solutions “Syncs”
 - Participants: PM, Engineering Lead, Design Lead



RECAP: PROBLEM DEFINITION AND “SOLUTION” DEFINITION



- Problem Space

- **Primary responsibility of you as the PM**
- What are the customer's primary needs / problems? How "painful" or "important" or "impactful" are those needs?
- How did we validate it was a "real" customer need vs something we as the PM assumed is a real need? (e.g., Simplisafe vs BeOn)
- What is the reach? How many customers does the need affect in the total addressable market (TAM)?

- Solution Space

- **Responsibility of PM is to communicate “problem space” to “solution space” designers and engineers**
- “User Stories” for communicating problem space
- Pre-launch of product feature, the PM is often just a “clarification” role for development questions
- Post-launch of feature, the PM is often involved in tracking metrics and experimentation to measure feature “success”

1. Problem Definition

1.1 Customer Problem

In a short paragraph, describe the problem you are trying to solve for the customer(s). Why does this matter to your customers and business? This is the first paragraph stakeholders see and should be able to read this alone and grasp the consumer needs/value proposition/risks.

1.1.1 Customer(s) Journey

Share the current customer journey for a customer in each of your defined cohorts to paint a picture of what life looks like for customers today as it relates to the overall customer problem. Describe the use case(s) (and any workarounds).¹

1.1.2 Problem Impact / Customer Need Importances

How badly does this problem impact each of your customers (need importance)? Do different cohorts have different use cases affected by the problem, time scales, or need importance?

Important: Please relate your justification of problem impact in part to the customer needs from your Voice of the Customer (VOC) analysis (detailed in **Appendix A1**), their relative importances, and how this varies across cohorts.

¹ While the Customer Journey may include interaction with your existing product (or competitors), it should not include your solution; only the problem context (who, what, when, how often) of your customer.

2.2 User Stories + Detailed Feature Definition

User Story Defined by PM	Features To be defined by Design and Engineering
Short 1-2 sentence description of a “User Story” describing the “what” and “why” for a customer’s P0 product requirement. ²	These are the actual features to be designed by designers and implemented by engineers. In MGT 561, you will map a single User Story to a single “feature”.
Example: “As a restaurant general manager, I want to quickly understand how often food deliveries are taking longer than quoted to food <u>orderers</u> today, so that I can make changes to my quoting or restaurant operations.”	Example: “Add Average Daily Overquoted Food Delivery View to Manager Dashboard”
	Engineering: Link to Jira ticket for this features “Story” ³
	Design: Link to wireframes or mockups in Figma ⁴

EXAMPLE WORKFLOW: PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

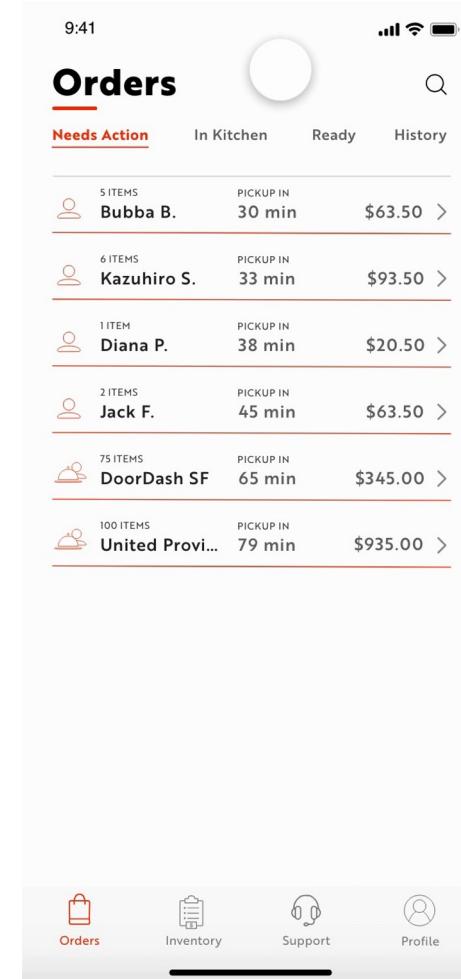


- POST-Launch of Product Feature
 - Product Metric Tracking
 - Hypotheses Definition and Experiment Setup
 - A/B Testing
 - Go-to-Market (GTM) Rollout

POST-LAUNCH: TRACKING PRODUCT METRICS



- What are the key metrics of “success” for the feature?
 - Primary metrics?
 - Secondary metrics?
- Example Metrics
 - Average Number of Food Pickups per Week
 - Average Delivery Time
 - Average Quoted Delivery Time
 - Avg. Number of “Order Tab Clicked On” (event) per session.



POST-LAUNCH: EXPERIMENTATION AND A/B TESTING

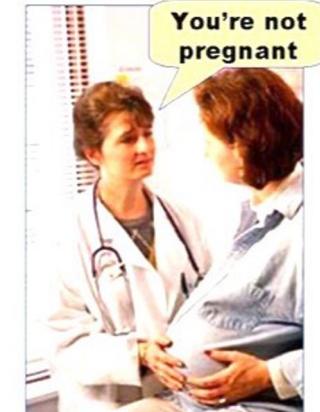
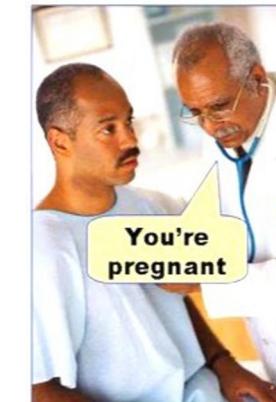
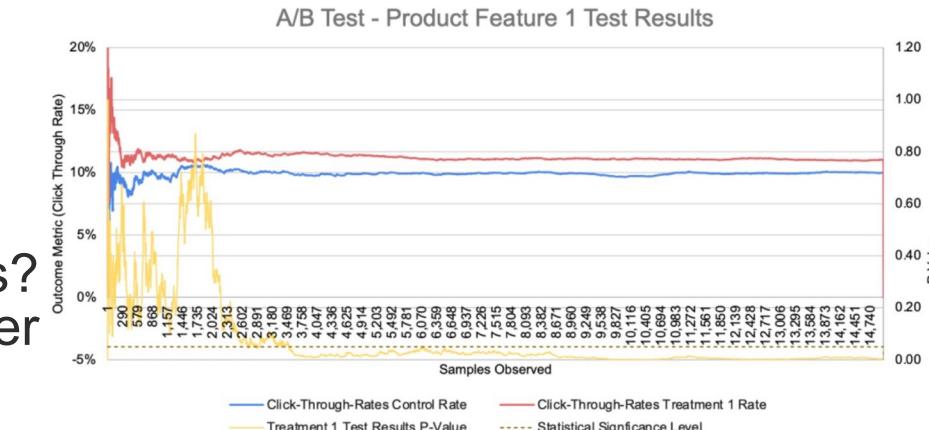


● Experimentation

- What is the correct way to “randomize” amongst our customers?
- Which markets are we launching in?
- Do we need to consider “marketplace” effects? (e.g., increased food pickups decreases number of food deliveries)

● A/B Testing

- How many samples do we need?
- How long should we run our A/B test?
- What is considered “success”? What is considered “statistically significant”?

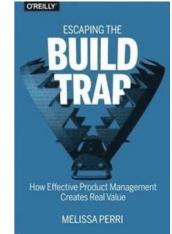
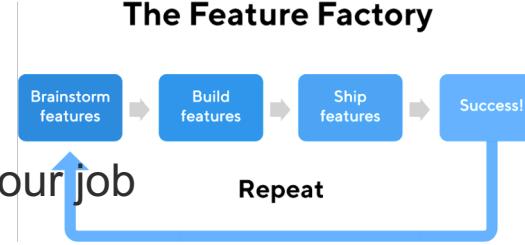


False Positive

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False Negative

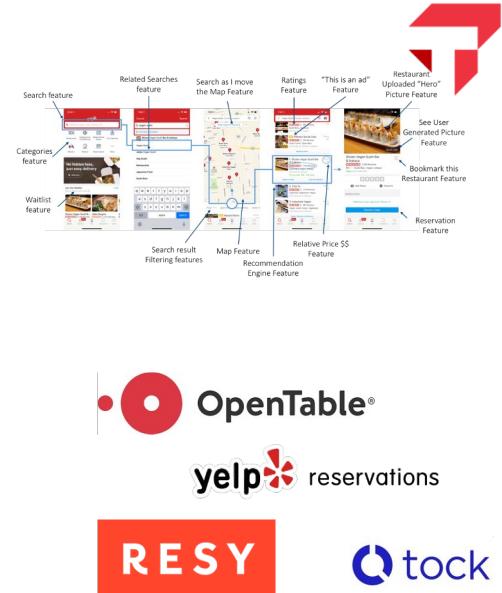
NOTE: COURSE PROJECT IS GRADED PRIMARILY ON “PROBLEM SPACE”

- Course Project
 - We will work primarily on the “problem space”
 - Today’s class (hopefully) convinced you “solution space” not your job
- PM “brainstorming” what is “needed” is #1 company killer.
 - Are these actual customer needs, or did we “think them up”?
 - How did we validate they were true customer needs across our TAM?
 - How “painful” or important is the need? Did we measure this?
 - Did we try testing that they were not customer needs?
- Be a GOOBer (Get Out Of the Building₁). Ask your customer why? why? why?
 - It is natural for us as human beings to begin thinking with solutions in mind (see “Analogical reasoning”²).
 - Blank, Steve (2020). *The four steps to the epiphany: successful strategies for products that win.*
 - Vosniadou, Stella, and Andrew Ortony, eds. (1989) *Similarity and analogical reasoning*.



TODAY'S LEARNING OBJECTIVES

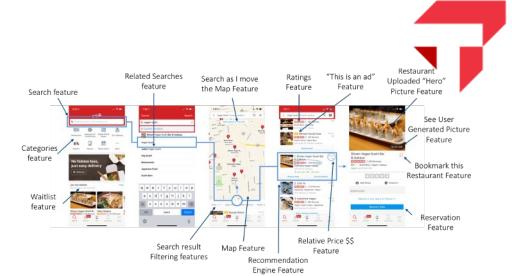
- Basic Definitions of Product Management Concepts
 - Product and Product Features
 - Customer and Customer Needs
- “Where are PMs in the company and who do they work with?”
 - The PM in the Product Organization
- Example: “Full Workflow: How a PM helps launch a new product feature”
 - “Problem Space”: Customer Discovery and Needs, Opportunity Sizing and Prioritization
 - “Solution Space”: “How a PM works with engineering and design to launch a new feature”
 - Post-Launch: Experimentation and Testing
- More definitions
 - Product-Market fit
 - Total Addressable Market (TAM)



NEXT WEEK

Guest Lectures: PM Roles

- Section A: **Smitha Murthy**, CEO, Beagle Security
- Section E: **Achuth Rao**, Chief Product Owner and Vice President of Product Management, ADP Data Cloud



Topic: Customer Needs 1

- Case Assignment 1 due: Uber
- Pre-class reading: R2 (See Canvas or syllabus)
- Topic presentation: Team 1 (See Canvas)

All the teams should watch the videos before coming to the class!

