

Intro & Mechanics



Welcome



Let's Meet



Emrah Yalaz

@emrahyalaz emrahyalaz@stringventures.com



Can Saracoglu

@JohnTurk73 cansaracoglu@stringventures.com





Principles



Entrepreneurship is neither a science nor art. It is a practice.





The purpose of a business is to create a customer.





Business has only two basic functions: innovation and marketing. All the rest are costs.





The aim of marketing is to know and understand the customer so well that the product sells itself.





Entrepreneur sees major task in society as doing something different.





Entrepreneur = Practicing Business Experimentalist



Startup = Special case of Entrepreneurship





Approach



Start a Startup



Why do a Startup?



Startup is NOT the fastest way to make money

chance, speculation, prospecting, marriage, inheritance, theft, extortion, fraud, graft, counterfeiting



Startup = the fastest and most reliable way to make wealth and get paid for it



Because it gives you measurement and leverage



Startup Outcome = Skill x Determination x Luck

Determination = unexpected factor
Double your persistence expectation



Why to Not Not Do a Startup?

http://paulgraham.com/notnot.html



1. Too young

10. No cofounder

2. Too inexperienced

11. No idea

- 3. Not determined enough
- 12. Clueless about business

- 4. Not smart enough
- 5. Independently wealthy

13. Job is the default

6. Family to support

14. Fears uncertainty

- 7. Not ready for commitment 15. Needs structure

8. Parents' pressure

- 16. Ignorant of OppCost
- 9. No room for more startups



Your Opportunity Cost is far too high



Opportunity Cost =

Price you pay by deciding not to do something



The price of anything is the amount of life you exchange for it



Henry David Thoreau

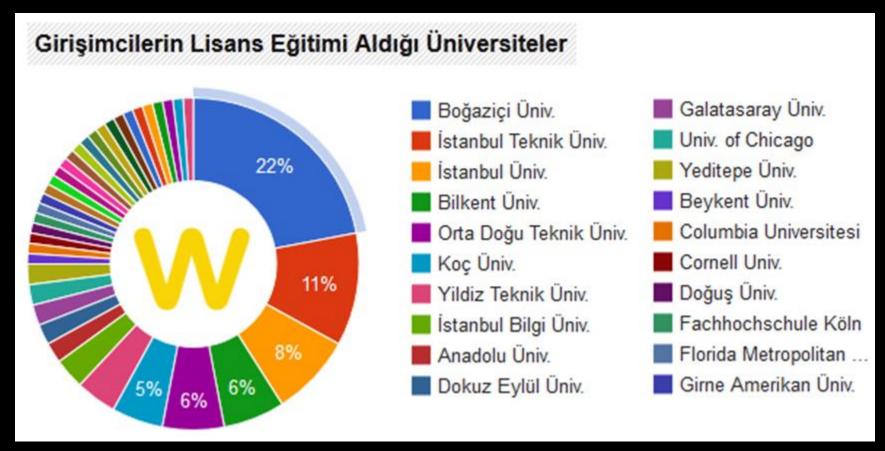


Opportunity Cost =

marginal value gained by somebody who did something that you could've but didn't



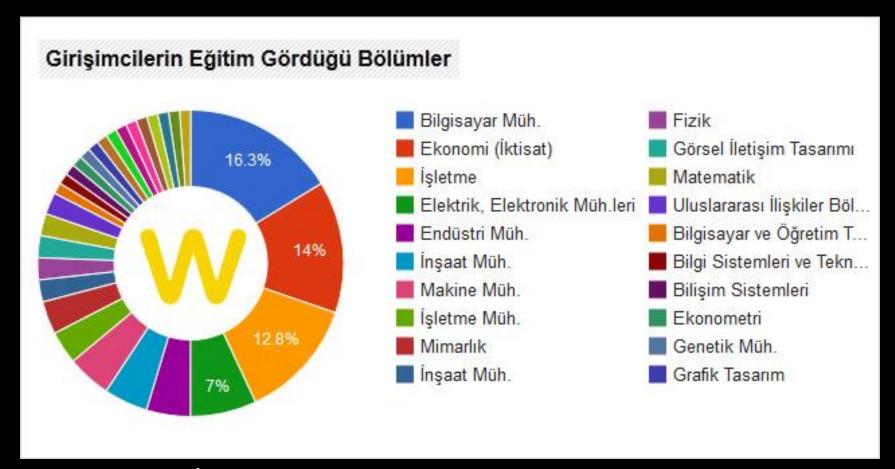
If You don't, Someone Else in Bogazici will do it



Source: Webrazzi



If You don't, Someone Else in CMPE will do it



Source: Webrazzi



A startup is a small company that takes on a hard technical problem



Paul Graham



Startup = harder the problem, the better

When you meet a decision point, pick the harder problem



Startup = Gaming the system stops working

Athletics vs. man and nature



Startup = Grind > Glamor

Get lots of little things right. No 'one magic bullet'



A Startup is a small company formed to search for a repeatable business model



Steve Blank



Formed to search = Your hypothesis is false You just don't know where



dating site

=>



cryptology firm

=>



location based pics

=>



hot or not clone

=>





Startup is the largest group of people you can convince of a plan to build a different future



Peter Thiel

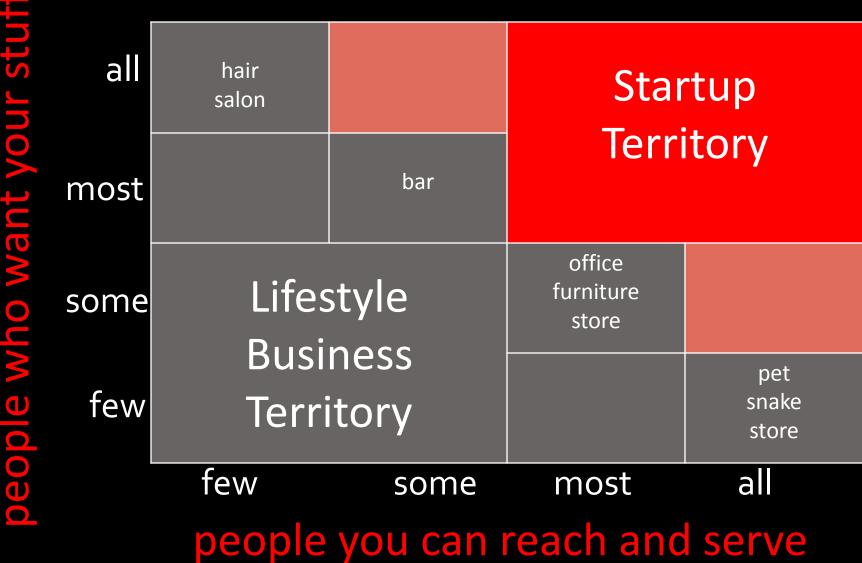


Startup ≠ new venture
Startup ≠ technology
Startup ≠ angel/VC funding
Startup ≠ some exit event



Startup = Growth







How much growth then?

Less than 1% per week = hair salon

5-7% per week sustainable = startup

More than 10%+ per week = superstar (facebook, twitter, dropbox, instagram)





Method



The core startup problem is how to create wealth, not how to convert that wealth into money



Paul Graham



Make something people want



Paul Graham



Purpose of the entrepreneur is to create a customer



Peter Drucker



How does one create a customer?



Find (a) simple solutions

- (b) to overlooked problems
- (c) that actually need to be solved, and
- (d) deliver them as informally as possible,
- (e) starting with a crude version 1, then
- (f) iterating rapidly.

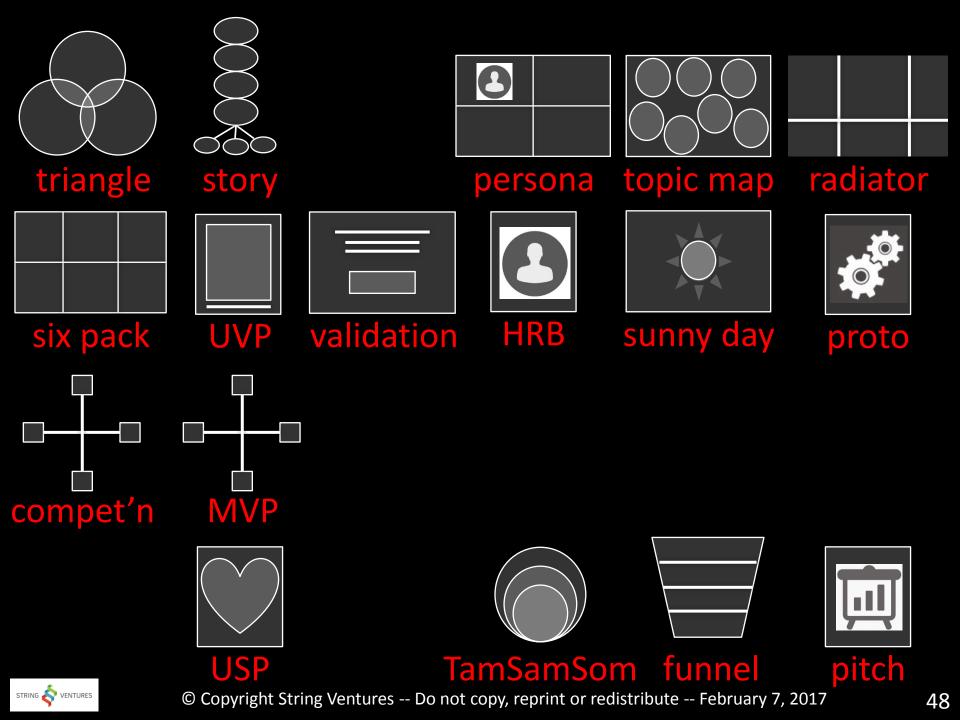


Paul Graham



Enter String Ventures Method





String Ventures Blend

Peter Drucker knowledge work theory Paul Graham invented the modern accelerator Peter Thiel contrarian long-term tech startup McKinsey&Co disciplined design factory thinking Mary Poppendieck lean software Kent Beck/Ken Schwaber agile and scrum LUXr pioneered CusDev = UX design thinking Plus 20 others... and some secret sauce



Bootcamp Parts

- 1. Launch
- 2. Validate
- 3. Iterate
- 4. Grow
- 5. Present





Tools



Use Post-its

1 post-it = 1 thought, idea, feature Easy to add, replace, reorganize Cheap: tore up and throw away Fast to reorder/connect ideas



Write with Sharpies

Increases legibility
Readable at arm's length
Curbs lengthy prose
Sharpie+Post-it = concise



Use A4 White Paper

Cheap and plenty
Reproduce artifacts/templates easily
Great for sketching
(yes, we will draw stuff)



Use Painter's Tape

Doesn't harm paint
Sticks artifacts on the radiator
Makes Lines
Makes 2x2 Matrices





Techniques



TimeBox

Controls for Parkinson's Law Working fast prevents over-thinking Short deadline unblocks creativity Speed kills the censor



Dump

Write 1 item per sticky, aim at 7
Get past top of mind ideas
Exhaust creative thinking fast
When stuck, write faster
Best ideas typically come last



Sort

Rapidly pile items

Items = ideas, options, priorities,
dependencies etc.

Identify more vs. less useful piles
Order by *Time, Class, Structure*



Sketch

Sketching activates more brain parts
Hand is smarter than rational mind
Pictures = whole + parts + coherence
Pictures = extra unspoken content
Get better ideas, faster prototypes



Quick Share

Show half-done work to team
Short feedback loop = rapid
course-correction

Do everyday = get over embarassment No embarassment = more creative



Quite Read

First, read what team members wrote
Avoid biasing others
Avoid premature debate mode
Ask questions only to clarify and
understand



Read Out Loud

When prompted Speaker reads out
Fresh eyes make new sense of work
Hearing back activates new brain parts
(reading = audio, hearing = visual)
Extra useful to "tell the product story"



Dot Vote

Select few items from many
Avoid biasing others (vote privately)
Show the energized potential
Express group's interest
Make rapid good-enough decisions



Map 2x2 Matrix

Extremely useful mapping technique

Make a big plus, label axis clearly

Pick orthogonal dimensions

Map items (Postits) on quadrants

Nothing on the lines



The best way to predict your future is to create it



Peter Drucker





Intro & Mechanics

