**Problem Statement**

As IBM consultants, PowerPoint is one of the main tools we use to convey information. Creating presentations that reflect the professionalism and excellence clients expect from IBM is a painstaking process. Engagement teams spend thousands of dollars on resources whose sole purpose is to ensure that presentations are up to IBM standards. This time and money could be more efficiently used focusing on the content of presentations if the tedious and repetitive tasks involved in building them could be automated.

**Opportunity**

Microsoft recently released a developer preview to the Microsoft Office suite that extended UI customization capabilities to Mac OS; previously this was only available on PCs. Now Mac users can code add-ins for Word, PowerPoint, and Excel to customize their experience with specially designed functionalities. These functionalities can range from simple macros to integrating cognitive API’s. The add-ins can provide access to web apps, data visualization capabilities, and Watson features including the tone analyzer and language translator. Microsoft expects a general release to be available sometime in the first half of 2017 providing us a window to develop, deploy and test an internal release before potentially bringing a product to market.

**Solution**

**Our Plan**

1. Deploy add-in skeleton to demonstrate newly available features (completed)
2. Identify list of potential functionalities
   1. Conduct market evaluation of products available on PC
   2. Interview IBM PowerPoint super-users
3. Select and build functionality subset for Minimum Viable Product
4. Evaluate MVP and potentially begin next iteration

**Costs**