

# MAHW1

Serine Poghosyan

2025-10-05

## Innovation Diffusion Analysis Based on TIME's Best Innovations List

### 1) Selected Innovation

A compact 360° action camera designed for creators, athletes, and travelers. It captures immersive, all-direction video in a rugged, pocketable form factor, then lets you “reframe” shots after the fact in the mobile/desktop app. Core strengths include advanced stabilization, horizon leveling, and an accessory ecosystem (mounts, grips, batteries) that supports on-the-go filming. This makes the X4 a natural evolution of the action-camera category toward more flexible, creator-first workflows.

### 2) Similar innovation from the past

#### Look-alike innovation: GoPro MAX (2019)

GoPro MAX and Insta360 X4 share the same core function: capture everything in 360°, then “reframe” later into standard video. Both use dual lenses, advanced stabilization, horizon leveling, and stitching software to turn spherical footage into smooth, creator-ready clips. The X4 advances this template with higher resolutions, better low-light, faster processing, and more polished mobile/desktop editing—but it’s fundamentally the next iteration of the 360 action-cam idea that MAX helped popularize.

From a market standpoint, MAX broadened the action-camera audience beyond extreme sports by making immersive capture and flexible post-editing practical; X4 pushes that curve further with higher quality and a richer accessory/app ecosystem. This makes GoPro MAX (2019) a tight historical analog for estimating Bass parameters: we can anchor innovation ( $p$ ) and imitation ( $q$ ) on the early 360 action-cam wave and scale market potential ( $M$ ) to today’s larger creator economy.

### 3) Data

I compiled a yearly time series of global camera shipments from the Camera & Imaging Products Association (CIPA) “Production and Shipment of Digital Still Cameras” annual summaries (PDFs for 1999–2024). For each year, I located the “Digital Still Camera Total → Total Shipment (Worldwide)” and then converted units to million devices by dividing by 1,000,000 (e.g., 8,490,227 PCS → 8.490227 million) and saved the two-column dataset as year,sales. Thus creating consistent annual series suitable for Bass diffusion modeling.  
<https://www.cipa.jp/e/stats/dc-2024.html> (source that I used)

#### **4) Estimate Bass Model parameters**

We estimated the Bass model on global digital-camera shipments (1999–2024) and obtained  $M$  is almost equal to 1,214 million units,  $p$  is almost equal to 0.0050, and  $q$  is almost equal to 0.3855. The very low  $p$  and much larger  $q$  ( $q/p$  is almost equal to 77) indicate a diffusion process driven primarily by imitation/word-of-mouth rather than by external pushes like advertising—typical for consumer electronics once the category gains traction. The implied peak-time  $t^*$  is almost equal to 11.1 periods (with  $t=1$  at 1999) places the sales peak around 2010, which matches the data's observed maximum. Overall, the fitted curve captures the classic rise-peak-decline pattern, with a reasonable market potential ( $M$ ) only modestly above the historical cumulative shipments.

#### **5) Predict the diffusion of the innovation selected in step 1**

Using the Bass parameters transferred from the look-alike  $p_{\text{hat}} = 0.0050$ ,  $q_{\text{hat}} = 0.3855$  ), I forecast the diffusion of the chosen innovation with a global market potential  $M$  set to 20 million units (and  $\pm 20\%$  sensitivity). The model implies a peak in annual adoption  $\sim 11.1$  years after launch, i.e., around 2035 for a 2025 start. Under the base case, annual adopters rise from  $\sim 0.15M$  in 2025 to  $\sim 1.9M$  by 2034, while cumulative adopters reach  $\sim 7.7M$  ( $\sim 38\%$  of  $M$ ) by 2034. Low/high scenarios simply scale the curve by  $\pm 20\%$  in level, with the same timing, reflecting uncertainty in  $M$ .

#### **6) Choose a scope**

I model diffusion at the worldwide level to keep the estimation and prediction scopes consistent. The Bass parameters ( $p_{\text{hat}}$  and  $q_{\text{hat}}$ ) were estimated from global digital-camera shipments (CIPA, 1999–2024), so forecasting the chosen innovation on a global basis avoids mixing regional patterns and preserves the empirical diffusion shape. The product is distributed internationally and targets a global creator base, so a worldwide market potential  $M$  is appropriate. I report a base-case  $M$  and  $\pm 20\%$  sensitivity to reflect uncertainty in total addressable demand.

#### **7) Estimate the number of adopters by period.**

Using the Bass parameters transferred from the look-alike  $p_{\text{hat}} = 0.0050$ ,  $q_{\text{hat}} = 0.3855$  and a global market potential  $M=20$  million units (with  $\pm 20\%$  sensitivity), I computed projected annual adopters  $a(t)$ , a cumulative adopters  $A(t)$  from the 2025 launch year over a 10-year horizon. In the base case, annual adopters rise from about 0.15M in 2025 to  $\sim 1.89M$  by 2034, while cumulative adopters reach  $\sim 7.68M$  ( $=38\%$  of  $M$ ) by 2034. The model's peak occurs about 11.1 years after launch ( $=2035$ ), so the annual curve is still increasing through 2034. The low/high scenarios ( $\pm 20\%$  on  $M$ ) produce proportionally lower/higher levels but the same timing, reflecting uncertainty in total addressable demand.