





What makes a successful product (contd)



- Seller beware! And designer even more
 - "ogni scarrafone è bello a mamma soa" (saying from Naples)
 - Every cockroach looks a beauty to its mother (more appropriate than the English "beauty is the eye of the beholder")
 - You need to balance cost/quality with features/functions for <u>your</u> intended customers, not for yourself
- What is
 - an "acceptable cost" for a "desired functionality" might vary
 - · Either minimum functionality or maximum cost might be different
 - a "better" product might be so for an "unintended" functionality bundled with the product

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Example "Unintended feature"



SMS intended life

- Designed to push configuration information to GSM Phone or pull information from the Network
 - "INFO GPRS" returns the remaining network traffic
 - "SET APN ibox.mycompany.com"
- 256 characters more than enough for this purpose
- SMS actual life
 - Used by phone users to send brief messages
 - A large source of revenues for the telecom operator
- MMS follow-up
 - Sending much richer data (photo, video, audio)
 - Why it never took over?

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Why Italians were so fond of SMS?



Omnitel

- In 1998 ha 6.1M customers
- My birthday present on October 1999 for my wife (Beatrice) was one of them
 - and she used a lot of SMS (now whatsapp)

Social explanation?

Now we collect them in class...

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Why Italian are so fond of SMS?



- Can send messages during work or class (when cannot talk)
- It is easy
- It is cheap
- · It is easier to memorize, can resend it
- Conveys more information and it is faster
- · May help if you have disabilities
- · Can write things that you can't tell
- · Provide same amount of information of a phone call
- · Cool technology at the time
- Make connections between people
- Asynchronous
- Explain idea briefly without talking alot, make lists etc
- Less intimate

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Why Italians are so fond of SMSs



- Answers in 2017
 - Easier Concentrate for some short period of time
 - Not real time communication doesn't require other guy to communicate
 - Doesn't attract attention
 - Used to be cheaper
 - Perceived as less intrusive
 - Deaf people cannot use phone call but blind people cannot send SMS
 - Can broadcast, time savings
 - Can be stored
 - Girls prefer messages than calling
 - Less affetcted by signal problems
 - Remains the proof that has been written
 - Can send a message while doing something else (cannot call when you cannot speak)
 - Can correct and weight the right word,
 - more respectuful you may not reply and not be so rude
 - More neutral from emotions
- Only one issue about costs, rest is about psychology or convenience

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Why Italians were so fond of SMS?



- 2016 Explanations
 - If you can't really talk on the phone, sms is better
 - for some people to talk it is hard (psychologically)
 - takes more time, writing messages is fast
 - It was new
 - There was internet messages but there was not really internet penetration in italy
 - It was cheaper than calling
 - Asynchronous communication
 - If what you need to say can fit in to 256 charcthers there is no need to talk
 - When you want to meet somewhere the sms can be stored and checked later
- Again only one answer is about costs the rest is psychological or convenience

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Price a family conversation



- 2000 Fabio and Beatrice have a baby
- The kindergarden closes at 16:00
 - Wed 15:15 Beatrice has an important meeting wants to make sure Fabio remembers to go and pick up the baby
 - Thu 19:15 This time Beatrice went to pick up the baby but Fabio has not shown up yet and she is hungry
- "Timing exercise" in Class
 - -15:15-9
 - -19:15-8
- Acceptable prices for each family conversation?
 - -15:15-0.1, 0.3, 0.01, 0.5
 - -19:15-0.3 or less than above

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What is an acceptable balance?



- What is an acceptable "meaningful cost" of for 1999's family?
 - "Do you remember I'm late by 1h." "Yes, I will pick the kid at school" Italian
- Let's take traditional middle class role in Italy:
 - High School Teacher with MA Degree
 - 42 working weeks out of 52 (4 days a week, 4-5 hours a day)
 - How many hours/days/weeks must work to pay phone bills?
- Calling for 15' a day, off-peak, for the year
 - 1999: teach for 5/6 days per year, 2days,
 - now: teach for less than 1h, 1day
- · Calling for 10' a day, normal hours, for the year
 - 1999: teach for 10 days, 4 days
 - now: teach for 1day, 1h

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Why Italians were so fond of SMS? Data



- Omnitel
 - In 1998 ha 6.1M customers
- Omintel Tariffs in 1999
 - From "La Repubblica" 29/January/1999
 - Peak times (8-16): 0.51€/minute (before were 1€/minute)
 - Off peak (22-8): 0.101€/minute
 - SMS costs: 0.086€/each
 - "Scatto alla risposta" Talk 1 minute or 30 second, still pay 1 minute
- Vodafone (who bought Omnitel) 2015
 - Basic: 0.125€/Minute
 - Unlimited Minutes: 34€/Month (actually 4 weeks)
- What does it mean?

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Balancing cost vs function



- Remember people must work to buy your product
 - Even the very rich must spend time of their servants, lawyers etc. to buy stuff
- Family cost of "Do you remember I'm late by 1h." "Yes, I will pick the kid at school" in 1999
 - Talking: 0.5-1€ vs SMS: 0.16€
- Starting salary of Italian High School Teacher with MArt Degree
 - 42 working weeks out of 52 (4 days a week, 4h/day, 4-5hours/day), 20% taxes.
 - 1999: 10.253,22€
- · Calling 10' once a day for every working day
 - off-peak, for the year → teach for two weeks
 - normal hours, for the year → teach for two months just to pay phone bills, don't eat, don't pay rent, don't buy clothes, just pay the phone bills
- · Texting once a day for every working day
 - off-peak, for the year → teach for 2 hours
 - normal hours, for the year → teach for 2 hours

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Exercise



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- Compute "Meaningful Cost" for same teacher today on using SMS vs MMS vs Whatsapp
 - Last one provides photos or audio as well as text but requires internet connection either flat or by byte
- High School Salary
 - 42 working weeks out of 52 (4 days a week, 4h/day), 20% taxes
 - 2015: 20.973,22€ (plus performance bonus but ignore that)
- Cost of doing for every (work)day
 - Calling 10'x2 vs 2 SMS vs 2 Whatsapping it
 - 1 baby picture to Granny with MMS vs Whatsapping it

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Second Exercise



- Winners and Losers
 - VHS vs Betamax
 - Phonogram vs Gramophone
 - Mac vs PC (but only for for Graphic Designers)
 - Mac vs PC (but only for Small Companies)
 - iPad vs Windows Tablet (Pen Tablet)
 - Qwerty vs Dvorak
 - 2+ Buttons Mouse vs 1 Button Mouse
- Each student will have to chose a case study and submit ONE slide per case study x Wed evening

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VHS vs Betamax Slides



- Common Characteristics
 - If any
- VHS Unique Characteristics
 - Key differentiating characteristics (Business, technical, usability, whatever)
 - Bla bla
- Betamax Unique Characteristics
 - Key differentiating characteristics (Business, technical, usability, whatever)
 - Bla bla
- Why VHS Won?
 - The reasons for you
- Evidence
 - Some links/paper etc.

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