Effective Product Planning approach for predictable outcomes

Build the right Product. Build the Product right.



SaiSatish Vedam

Ex-Snr. Director, Product Management, Oracle India.
23 years in Product Industry
Executive Coach. Faculty @ Institute of Product Leadership

Nov 2020

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

BUSINESS SCHOOL FOR PRODUCT INNOVATORS



GLOBAL CLIENTS































GLOBAL CAMPUSES



PES University Bangalore, India



CMR University Bangalore, India



SF State University San Francisco, USA



MIT ADT University, Pune, India

Topics

- 1. Productizing Process
 - Products vs. Services, Value Management, PM & PO Roles interlock
- 2. Lean and Agile Product Lifecycle
 - 3 Key Qs, Discovery & Validation, Iterative & Incremental, Problems & Persona, JTBD, Problem Statements
- 3. Effective Product Planning Live Exercise
- 4. Roadmaps



So, what's a Product?

What is a product?



A good or service offered by an organization which affords a bundle of benefits both <u>objective</u> (physical) and <u>subjective</u> (image) to a user

B2C: Samsung 3D Television



B2B Subjective Value: SAP Woos ClOs

















"Product" Buzzwords



Product v/s Service



Product v/s Service

Magnitudes of - Inseparability, Variability















Project → **Product Shifts**



#1. SHIFT IN RISK APPETITE



- Longer ROICycles
- Inadequate RoleModels
- Org Patience
- Investments in Market Insighting

#2. SHIFT IN MINDSET



Client Delight

Market Delight



#3. SHIFT IN SKILLSETS



Project Mgmt

Product Mgmt



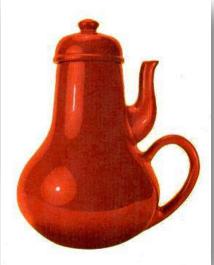
Productizing Process



When you don't have good Product Management Process



Quality Code on Time! No Customer Context



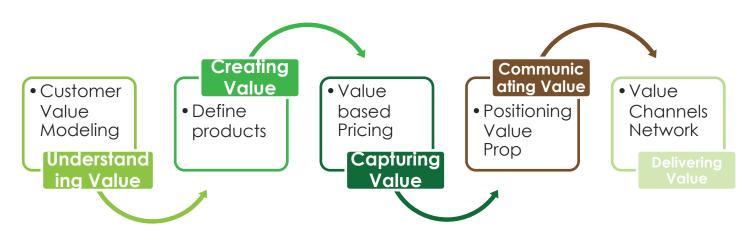
Structurally Correct but not Usable



Over Engineering, Lack of Prioritization



"Productizing" Process



Value Management = Product Management





PRODUCT LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

TECHNICAL PRODUCT MANAGEMENT (Product Owner)

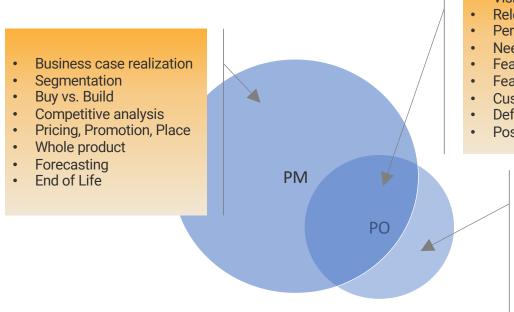
INBOUND PRODUCT MANAGEMENT (Product Management)

OUTBOUND PRODUCT MANAGEMENT (Product Marketing)

CUSTOMER CENTRIC ENGINEERING (Product Leader)

ADAPTIVE CONFIDENTIAL

PM and PO Roles



- Vision/Roadmap
- Release Planning
- Personas
- Needs definition
- Feature definition
- Feature Acceptance
- Customer advocate in dev.
- Defect management
- Positioning
 - Ensure user stories are 'Ready'
 - Backlog grooming
 - Close collaboration with dev. team
 - Release tracking
 - Sprint goals
 - Story Writing
 - Story Acceptance



Lean and Agile Product Lifecycle



Building the right Product - 3 Key Questions



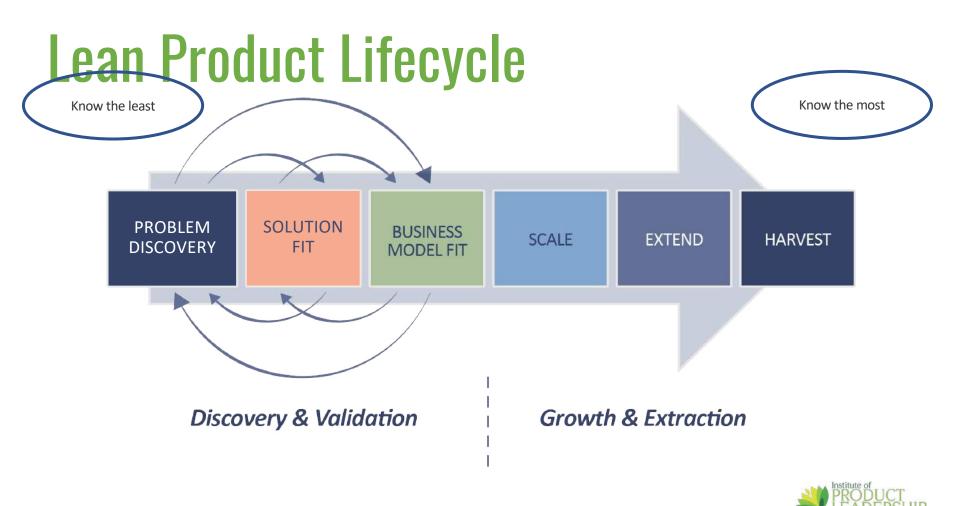
Who is this Product for?



Why do they need it?

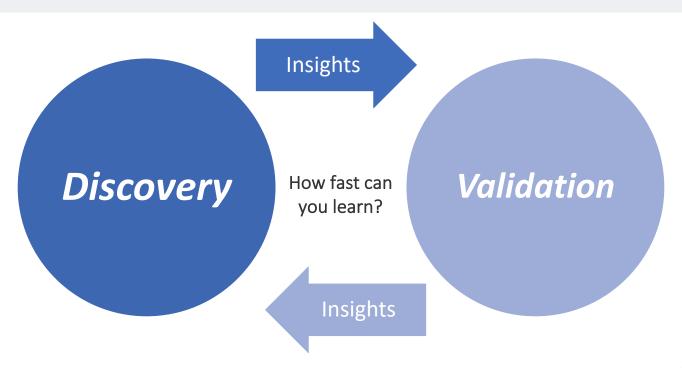


Why do they select us?



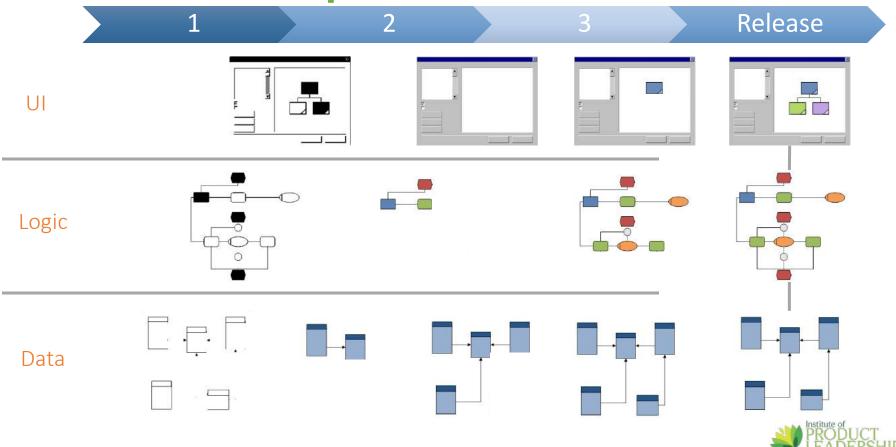
Basic Learning Loop

The higher our uncertainty, the greater the need to shorten the learning cycle

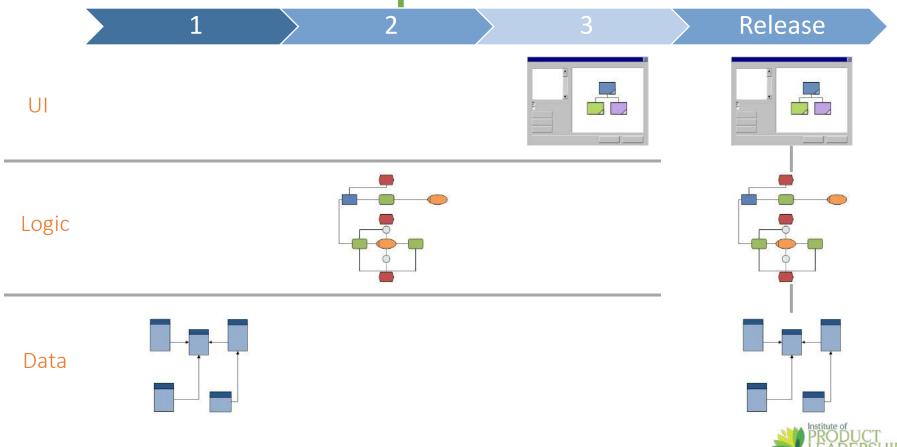




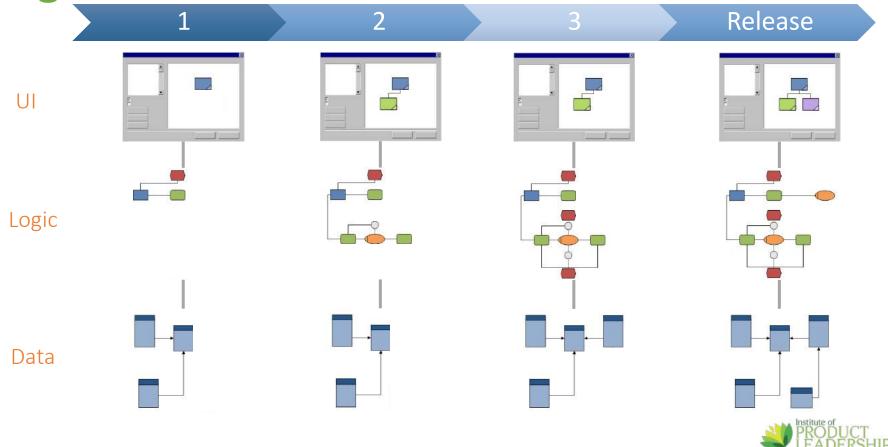
Iterative Development



Incremental Development



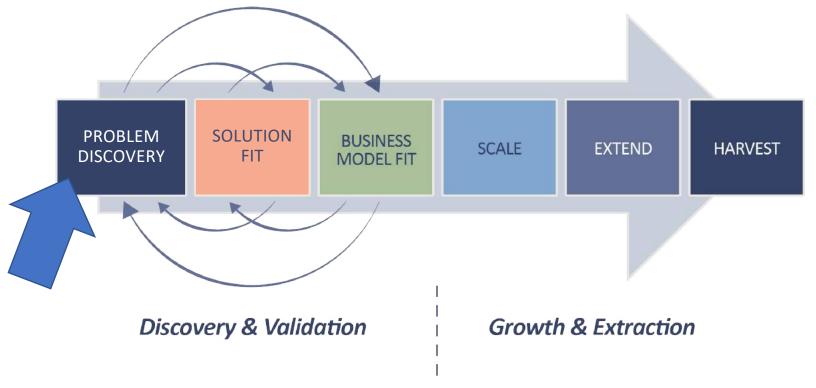
Agile is Iterative and Incremental



Problem Space

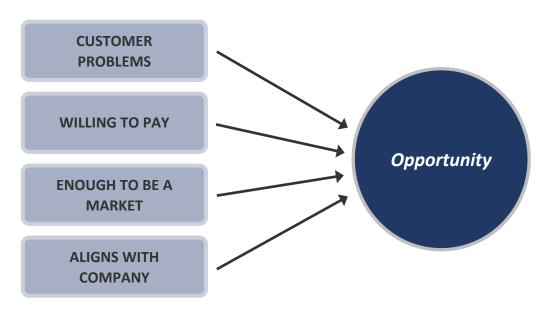


Lean Product Lifecycle





Is there a problem worth solving?



Problem Space



Why do people have Problems?











Users have different goals











They have different attitudes

"looks matter."

"I want my computer to standout."

"I want to brag to my friends about my new system."

"Uptime is everything. If my computer's not working, I'm not working."

"I hate waiting for large files to process."

"It better be under \$1000!"

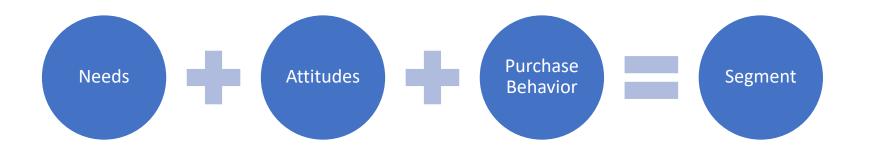


Whose Problems are we solving?

Persona

A representative icon for a segment of customers we want to serve







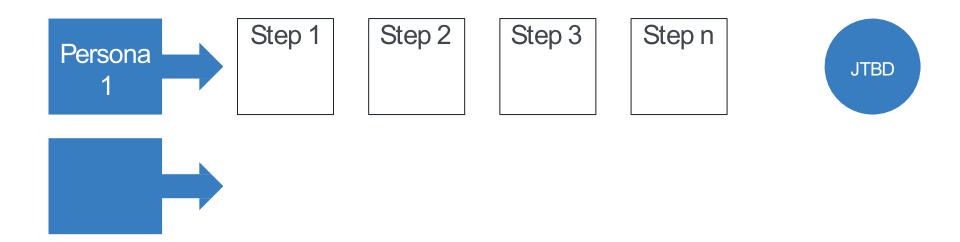
CUSTOMERS "HIRE" PRODUCTS

TO DO JOBS THEY NEED DONE





Problem Journey Map



Identify pain points & emotions in the journey



Example Problem Statements

People needs podcasts to learn how to be a product manager



Example Problem Statements

People needs podcasts to learn product management



Example Problem StatementsBad

People needs podcasts to learn product management

As a young professional looking to start a career in product management, I want a way to learn the skills needed to succeed in the role and feel prepared for a job interview



Example Problem StatementsBad

People needs podcasts to learn product management

As a young professional looking to start a career in product management, I want a way to learn the skills needed to succeed in the role and feel prepared for a job interview



Active Learning Exercise

KudozNOW

Real-time appraisal & feedback Build an engaged and motivated organization



Reward & Appreciation System

"Employee Engagement & Employee Recognition is a 60B\$ market

"Employee Turnover costs 40-60% of Salary

"Lack of Appreciation is in the Top#5 reasons for cited for people leaving

TapMyBack, YouEarnedIt etc. have raised ~10M in VC funding recently



KudozNow - Build an MVP Steps:

- Persona
- 2. Problems (Jobs to be Done)
- 3. Elements of Value (EOV)
- 4. Prioritization
- 5. Requirements Management
- 6. Story Mapping & MVP



MVP

Grand Idea, Vision



MVP





What is an MVP?

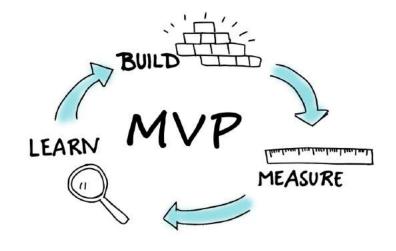
A team's effort

That brings <u>maximum validated</u> <u>learning</u>

At the minimum expense

BUT

Must be <u>minimally valuable</u> to customers





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WHOSE PROBLEMS ARE WE SOLVING?

Persona

 A representative icon for a segment of customers who one wants to focus on





AGE: 41 Network/Security Architect

MY GOALS

- Scoping the projects that make the network and our team more efficient
- Being locked down well ahead of compliance audits
- · Envision where we need to be in 2-3 years
- Make architectural decisions based on business priorities and drivers
- · Being the recognized expert in my field

MY FRUSTRATIONS

- Even small installations can mean big changes
- We've become burdened with process things used to get done faster
- No one ever says no to projects. There's not enough prioritization
- When projects are prioritized, the ones I'm championing aren't always high on the list
- No easy way to monitor multivendor product performance across a network

Network/Security Architect: The Knowledge-Hungry Planner

"Help me connect with my vendor peers so I can learn about stuff outside of my department."

MY WORK LIFE

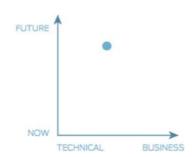
I'm responsible for developing network and security architectures that support my company's goals. This starts with translating requirements into a viable set of product options. I love eating up lots of networking knowledge and determining how security plays into it. At my company I am one of five subject matter experts who know a couple of vendors really well. My peers specialize in others and we collaborate more when bigger projects come along.

MY MOTIVATIONS

- Being the go-to expert in my company/recognized in the industry
- Knowing a lot outside of my immediate area and turning varied knowledge into creative solutions
- Collaborating with peers and building my reputation among them
- · Getting to touch a lot of cool technology

THE KINDS OF CONTENT I CONSUME

- · Solution Briefs/Brochures
- · Product Family Comparisons
- · Reference Architectures
- · Business Point of View





PERSONAS

- Persona
 - A representative icon for a segment of customers who one wants to focus on

Put life in these personas with vivid details!

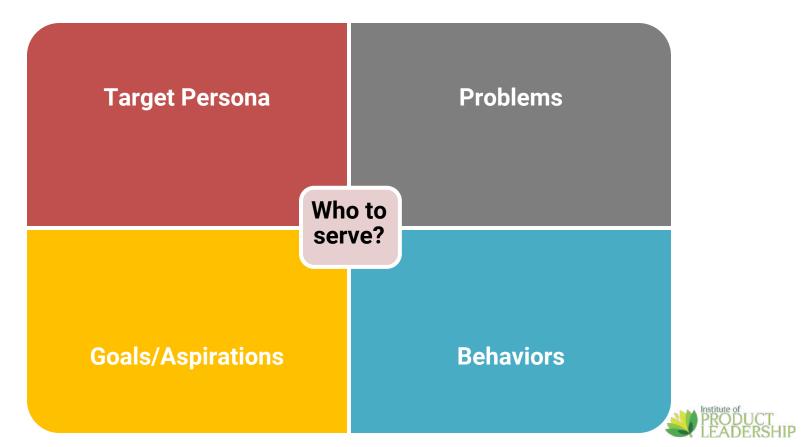
- Personas drive
 - Requirements Context
 - Quality Acceptance Context
 - Marketing Messages
 - Promotion/Advertisement Channels
 - Customer Acquisition Strategies





PERSONA BAG

Behaviors, Aspirations, Goals



PERSONA BUILDING

- Top 3 responsibilities & activities (JOBS)
- Top 3 obstacles and problems that interfere with success (PAINS)
- Top 3 metrics used by mgmt to measure persona's success
- Additional attributes to collect on Buyer Persona
 - What alternatives the persona believes in?
 - Where do they look for new information, ideas that will improve their job?



KudozNow: PEOPLE MANAGER



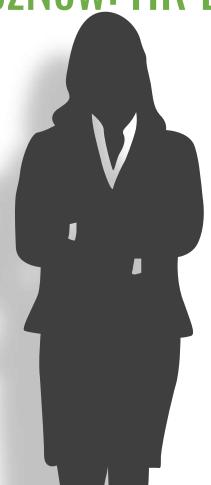


How do we characterize this persona?



KudozNow: HR LEADER





How do we characterize this persona?

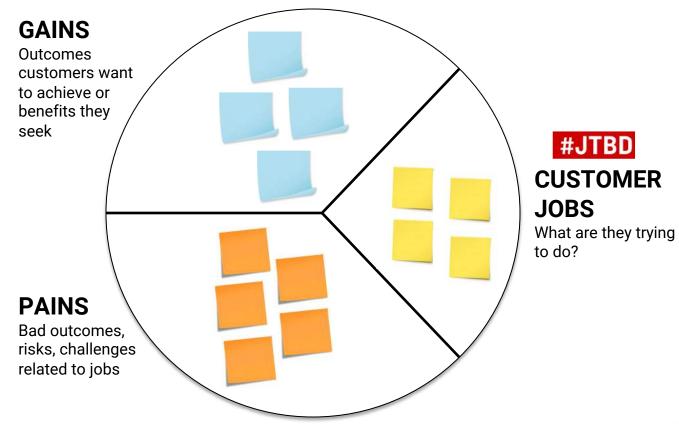


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Customer Profile Map: JTBD, PAINS & GAINS





PEOPLE MANAGER: JOBS TO BE DONE



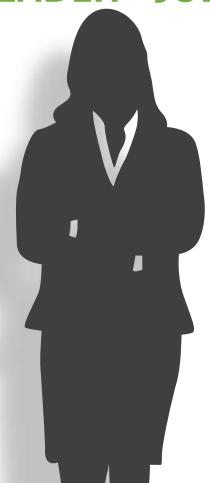


What is the people manager trying to get done?



HR LEADER: JOBS TO BE DONE





What is the HR leader trying to get done?



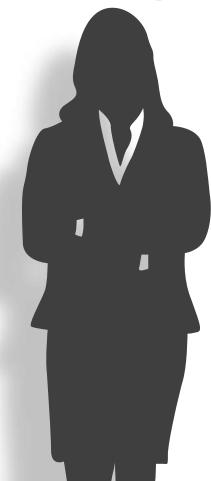
PEOPLE MANAGER: JOBS TO BE DONE



- 1. Improve Productivity by 15%
- 2. Appreciate (financially, verbally, recognitions) team members to keep motivations high
- Be "likeable" and be recognized as "good" people/project manager
- 4. .



HR LEADER : JOBS TO BE DONE



- 1. Reduce Attrition by 15%
- 2. Develop financial appreciation and motivation kickers that are highly effective for employees and efficient for budget
- 3. Foster an image and reputation of company as a "good employer", win the award in Top 10
- 4. .



KUDOZNOW CUSTOMER PROFILE MAP: MANAGER



Employees are motivated, engaged and productive, high morale
Can focus time on the actual project/business deliverables
Achieve more as a team creating promotion opportunities for everyone

GAINS

Easier to ask for resources and get more budget and funding for projects

Enhance stakeholder relationships



Too much time consumed during annual appraisals process

Stressful and rushed
Difficult conversations with team members
to explain appraisals feedback
Manual entries in multiple systems

Lot of time spent in ensuring fairness in increments based on some rating system

Employees feel like they don't have a good career path

Attrition

Risk of getting a reputation as "unfair" or not a "good manager"

JOBS TO BE DONE

Improve Productivity by 15%

Appreciate (financially, verbally, recognitions) team members to keep motivations high

Be "likeable" and be recognized as "good" people/project manager



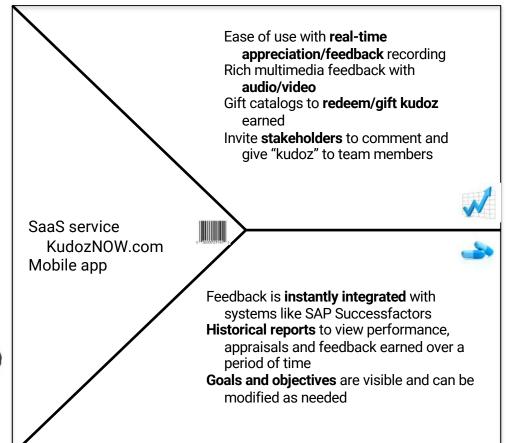
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VALUE MAP KUDOZNOW: MANAGER







ELEMENTS OF VALUE

- Pain relievers & Gain creators
- Attributes that in aggregate define a product or a service
- Attributes that different customers associate different "value" to
- Measurable
- Not just product features



Discovery of EOVs — Final Step



List 15-20 Elements of Value for KudozNOW

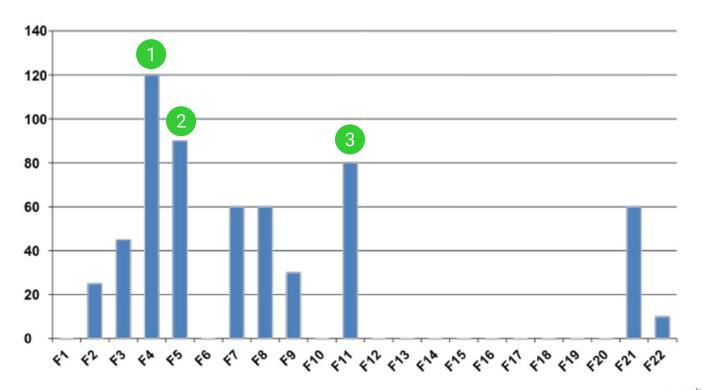
Example:

- a) Automatic Kudoz Mining from emails
- b) Reminder to give Kudoz
- c) Group Kudoz
- d) Leaderboard of Kudoz

• • •



Defining the MVP and Product Roadmap





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Prioritization Techniques

- 1. MoSCoW
- 2. Custom (Business Goals)
- 3. \$100 Test
- 4. Data Informed Prioritization (RICE, ...)
- 5. Kano
- 6. ...

PRIORITIZATION ON BUSINESS GOALS

		Theme/Epic				
	Weight	Theme/Epic	Theme/Epic	Theme/Epic	Theme/Epic	Theme/Epic
Part of Strategy	10	1				1
Competitiveness	5	1		1	1	
Generates revenue in next quarter	7	1	1		1	
Total		22	7	5	12	10



VALIDATION TECHNIQUE

\$100 Test - Forced Ranking



- Key objective is to prioritize the elements of value
- Fixed \$100 to spend
- Assign value to features
 - Not less than \$20 and
 - Not more than \$35
- Must add up to \$100

Make the customer think like a PM



100\$ TEST: KUDOZNOW

Name:	Email:
Role (circle one): Manager H	IR Leader Employee Other
Kudoz exchanged for bitcoins	Skill Publishing
Reminder to Appreciate	Kudoz Mining (ex. Email thanks,
Integration with Social Networks (ex	K. WhatsApp)
Facebook/Linkedin)	Audio Video Feedback
Integration with Internal Portal (ex. Sharepoint, Yammer)	Integration with Amazon for
Allowing Anonymous Feedback	gift/redeeming kudoz
Allowing External Feedback (ex. Vendors, customers)	Gamifications on Recommendations
	(ex. Kudozbuzz)
Negative Attributes Provisioning	App works Offline
Employee Directory Integration	Integration Enterprise Reporting
Portable Kudoz (across companies) Group Kudoz (ex. Project teams)	
	Other

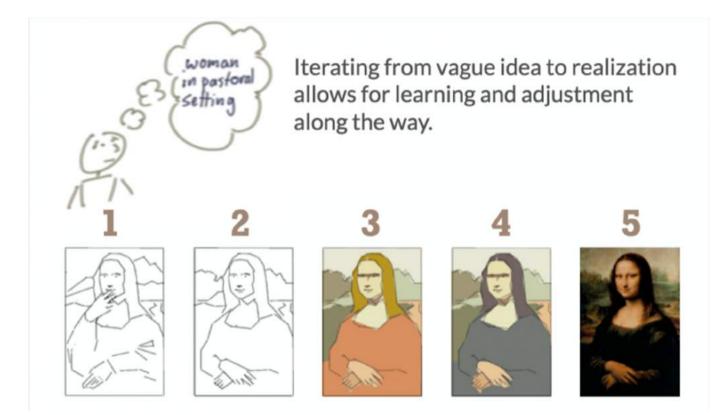


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MORE THAN ONE WAY TO GET TO MONA LISA





WATERFALL → AGILE

Requirements

→ User Stories

MRD/PRD

→ Product Backlog

Project Manager

→ Scrum Master

"Absent" Product Manager

"Continuously Available"

→ Product Owner



WHAT RESIDES IN THE PRODUCT BACKLOG

Anything that requires the team to spend time during the sprint

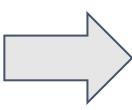
Functionality

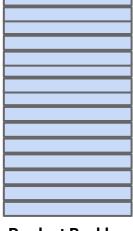
Defects

Technical Requirements

Infrastructure Requirements

Urgent/Big Deal from Sales





Product Backlog



AGILE USER STORIES

- Independent
- Negotiable
- Valuable
- Estimable
- Small
- Testable





USER STORIES

User Story Template
As a [user role]
I want to [desired feature]
so that [value/benefit]

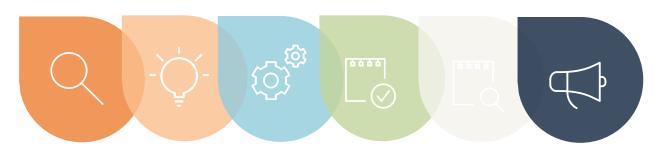
As a user i want to search for products by product name so that i can find the product that i am looking for

As a user i want to search for products by image so that i can find the product that i am looking for

As a user i want to have advanced search for products so that i can find the product that i am looking for



TYPICAL STORY LIFECYCLE – 6Cs



Card

User Story Unit that explains the task & goal for

a given persona

Conversation

Common Understanding of Requirements with Customer Context

Construction

UX Wireframing & Developments

Consequences

Business Impact, Change in Priorities.

Confirmation

End of Sprint Acceptance by Product Owners

Collection

Always ready to Release!

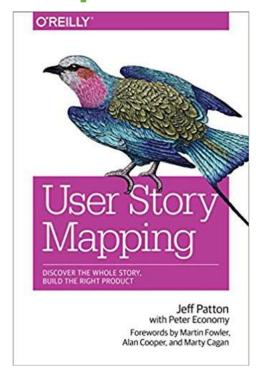


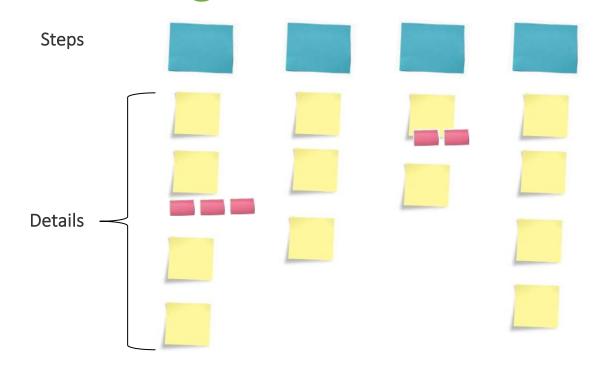
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Map features to user's goals

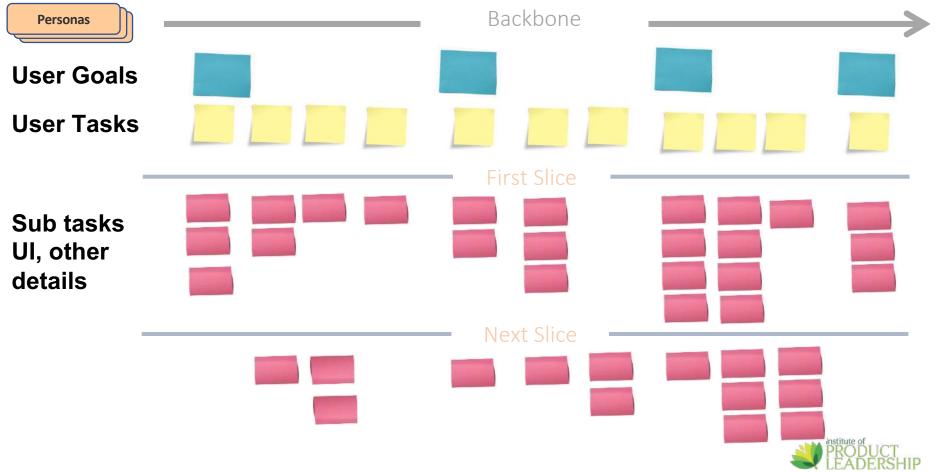




Learn more at http://jpattonassociates.com/



Story map elements and layout



JTBD/ User Goals:

Give Kudoz

Run Report

Redeem Kudoz

Activities/ Tasks:



JTBD/ User Goals:

Give Kudoz

Activities /Tasks:

Login

SSO with

AD

LinkedIn Login

Facebook Login

Google Login

Technical Story -Integrate with Active Directory

Search Select Target Attributes

Direct System

Group

Create New

Award Kudoz

Award Kudoz

Text Record Audio

Attach

Record

Feedback

Record Video

Technical Story - Integrate with Smartphone Audio/Video API





JTBD/ Run Report **User Goals:** Search Activities Login Report Filter /Tasks: Target SSO with **Direct** AD Date **Print** LinkedIn Group Туре Export Login Facebook Source Share Login Google Login Trend Comparison



Roadmaps



What is a Roadmap?

A visual tool to show how your vision and business + market objectives are realized over time

Roadmap Types



3 Pillars of a Roadmap



Strategic Goals



(Objective) Prioritization

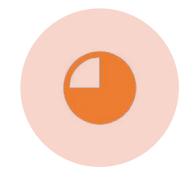


Diplomacy

My top 3 Roadmap Hazards



TRYING TO PLEASE EVERYONE – 'FEATURE SOUP'



ARBITRARY ESTIMATIONS OF SCOPE & TIME



REVENUE RECOGNITION PROBLEM

Different Types of Product Roadmap

- Strategic Roadmap
- Release Roadmap
- Capabilities Roadmap
- Objectives Based Roadmaps
- Theme based Roadmaps

Create alignment and secure resources



BUILD THE RIGHT PRODUCT. BUILD IT RIGHT



MANAGING PROJECTS TO EXPERIENCES
Deliver for Delight, Customer Centricity



MINDSET TO SEE BIG PICTURE Develop "end to end" understanding



SKILLSETS TO EXPERIMENT & LEARN Staying Relevant