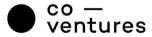


# Introduction to Product Management

Lecture 1: What is Product Management?



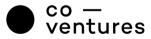
#### AGENDA

What is a Product?

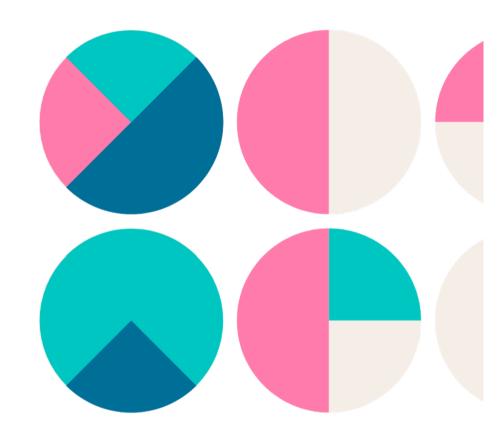
**BREAK** 

What is Product Management?

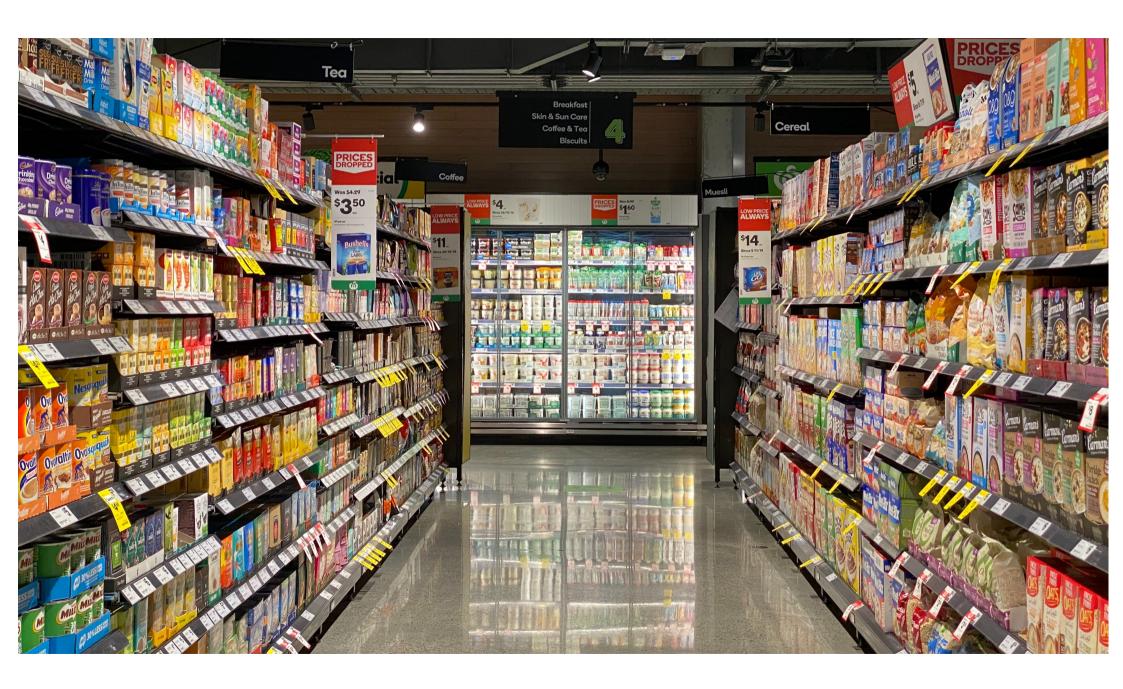
Discussion, Q&A



# What is the product?



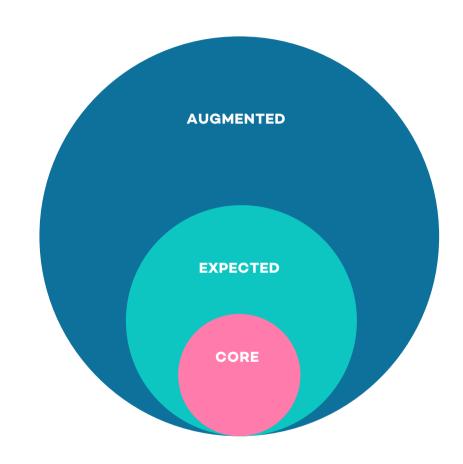




# A "Product" is what you pay for



A "Whole Product"
encapsulates all the
value in a product



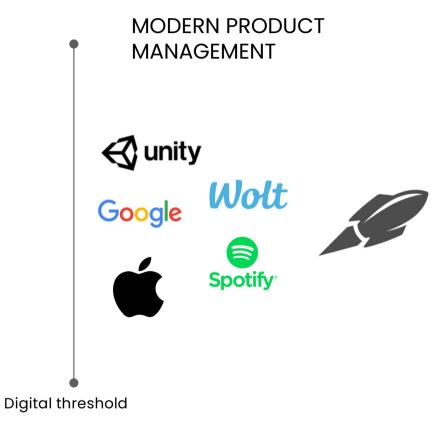


#### WHAT IS THE PRODUCT?

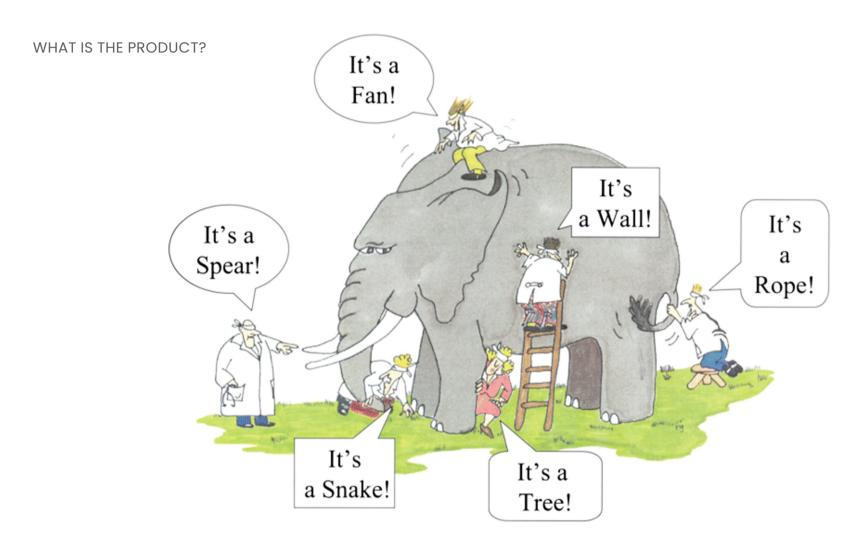








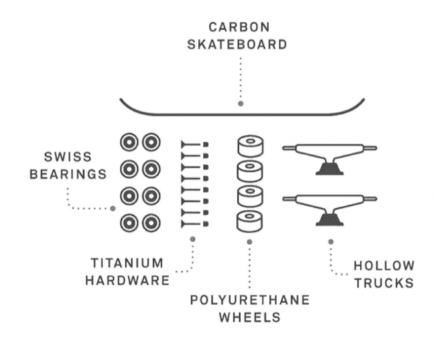






Even though customers buy this...

...they really want this.





Designers at intercom (intercom.com)



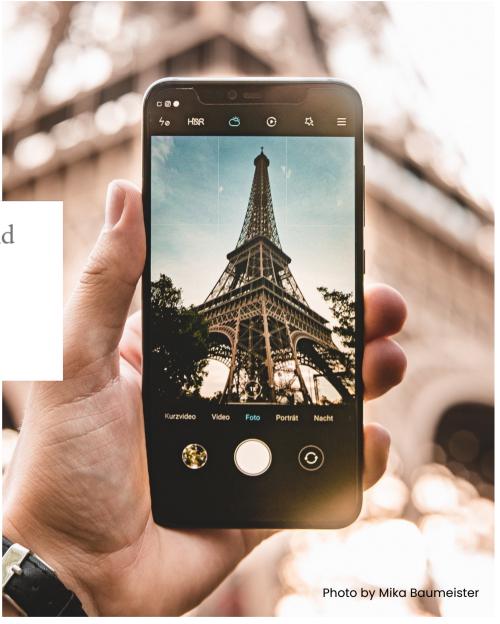
Upgrade your user, not your product. Don't build better cameras — build better photographers.

— Kathy Sierra

## We Don't Sell Saddles Here







# Summary of What is a product

- The product is a complex combination of physical and digital features that give value to the user.
   It's something that you buy and pay for as you perceive value
- Part of the value of the product lies in things that might not be obvious, but are definitely part of the whole product. This is especially true for modern complex, digital products.
- Stakeholders seldom see the "whole product", but rather have a subjective views of what constitutes the product, thus coordination is always required.
- Your customers hold the ultimate truth to where the value lies.
- Integrating the customer perspective to how you see your product is crucial for understanding your opportunities for growth. Limited views, limit the potential of your business.



# **BREAK!**





## Definitions of Product Management

An organizational function

Deals within the interaction of Products and Markets

Responsible for maximizing business results



Product Management = build the right product = maximize its cost / value / impact in the long run.



- 1. The domain of Product Management what happens in this function?
- 2. How product managers think? How to do the right decisions on what to build?
- 3. The structure of Product Management as a function

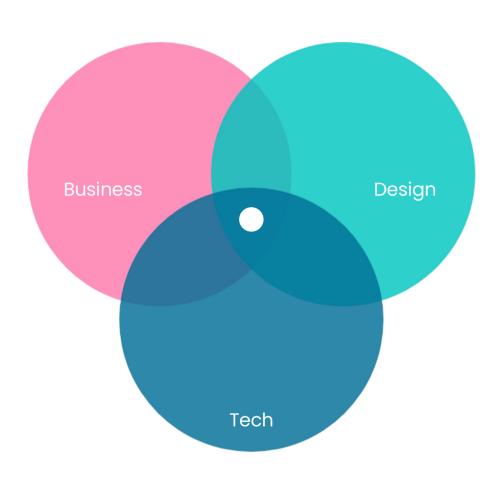


#1

The domain of Product Management - what happens in this function?

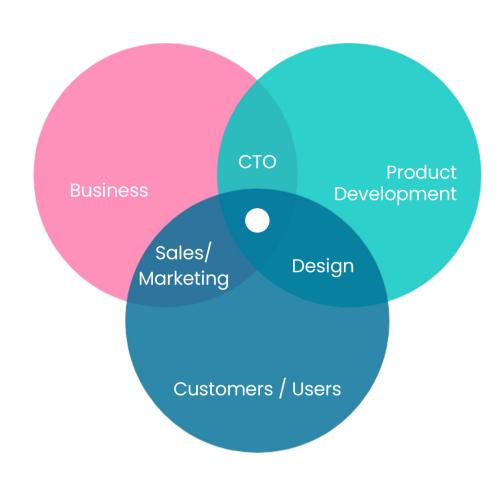


This perspective is useful for understanding the related domains and the larger body of knowledge required in the job.





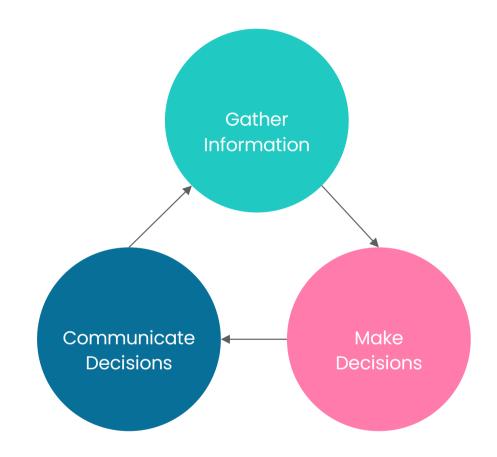
This perspective explains who product managers interact with and the related organizational functions.



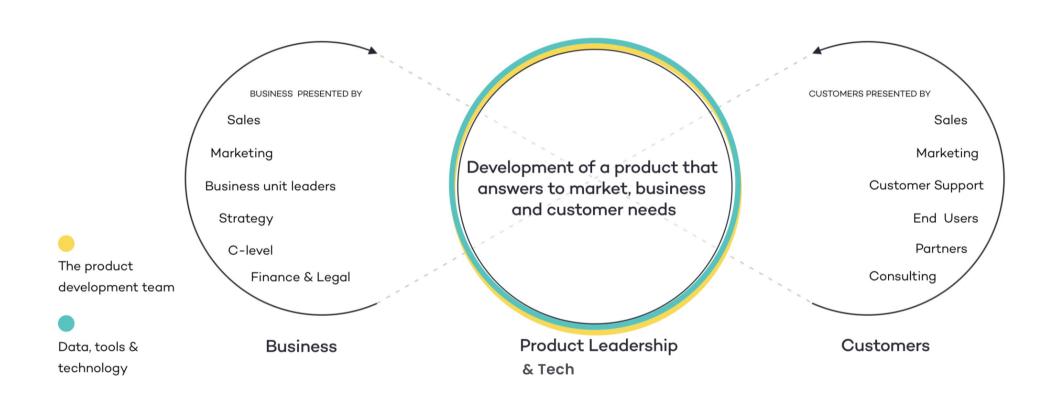


# THREE THINGS THAT NEED TO HAPPEN WITHIN PRODUCT LEADERSHIP

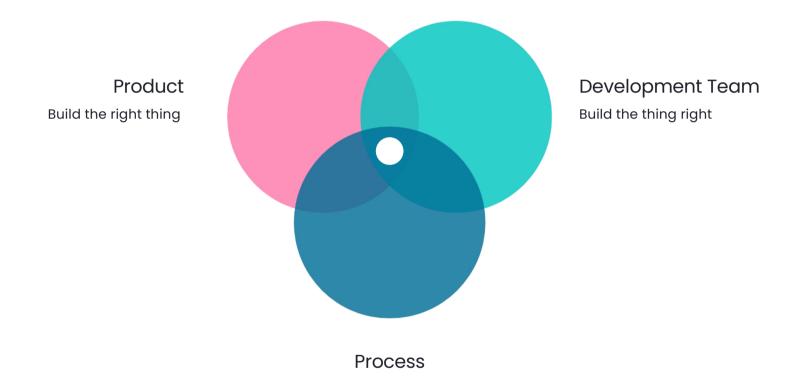
- Collect the required information for decision making
- 2. Do the right decisions and plans based on information
- Communicate the decisions in a clear and concise way to lead the development efforts.







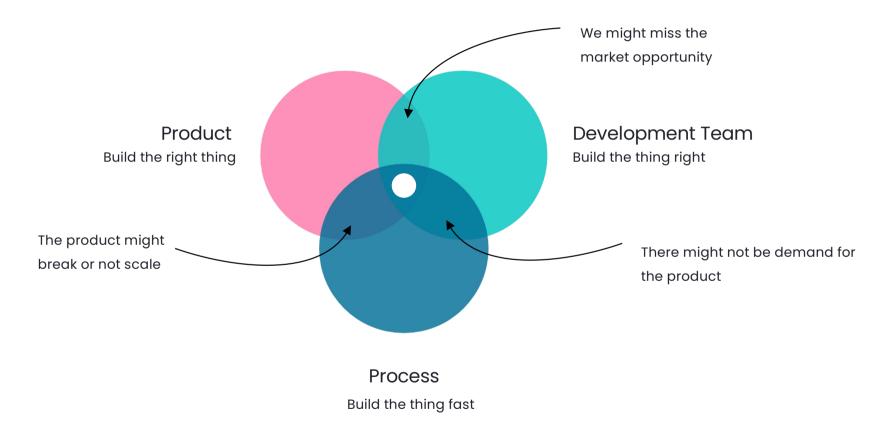




Build the thing fast









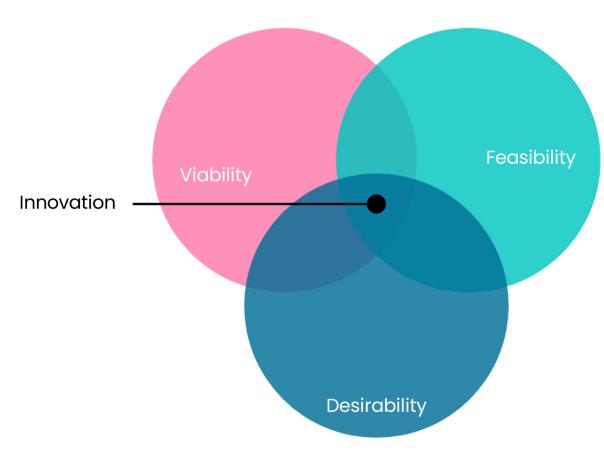
#2

How product managers think? How to do the right decisions on what to build?



Building the right product means you need to answer three questions as well as possible:

- 1. Do people want the product?
- 2. Can we build a sustainable business?
- 3. Does it work?

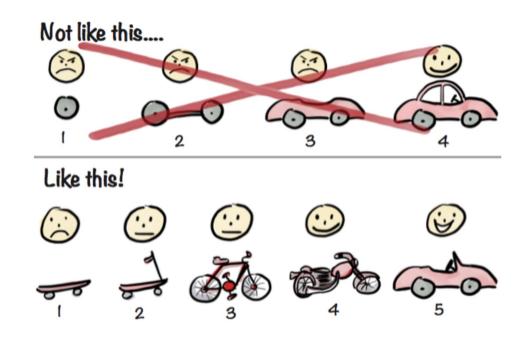




Source; IDEO

#### The Discovery Process

When discovering what to build you need to think like an entrepreneur and control the risks with well planned MVPs.



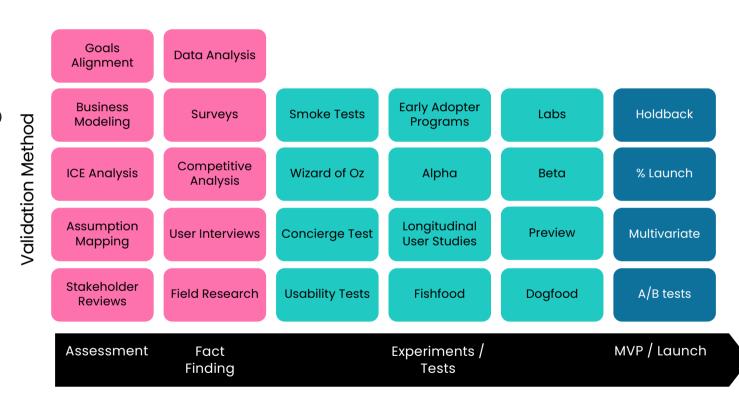
Crisp: https://blog.crisp.se/2016/01/25/henrikkniberg/making-sense-of-myp



# Build-measure-learn Think-Do-Reflect

Don't rush into building. A popular and costly misinterpretation of Lean Startup is that an MVP always comes first and leads to valuable revelations. If you haven't defined what you need to learn, you probably won't.

Using the right tools for the job at the right point.

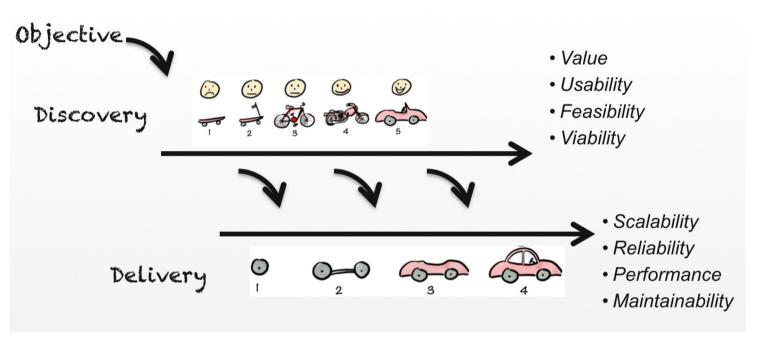


Source: itamargilad.com



# Working backwards

In reality the
Discovery process
is partly separated
from the delivery
process, but plays
a key role in



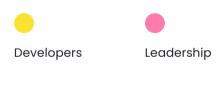
Marty Cagan, adapted from Henrik Kniberg



#3
Structure of Product Management
as a function



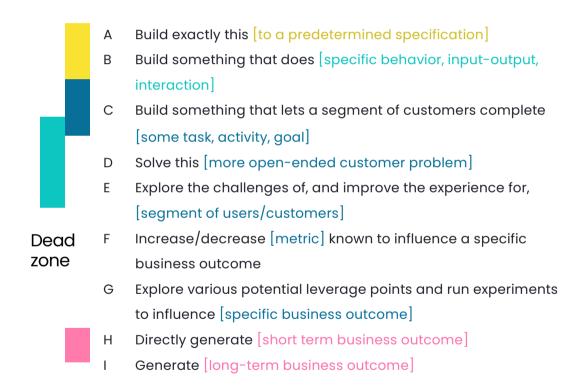
# Typical situation in organizations





Leadership / Management





Source: John Cutler mandate maps

How to structure the responsibilities within an organization interaction] [some task, activity, goal] "Agility" Development Leadership team business outcome "Leadership" **Product Leadership** / Management



- Build something that does [specific behavior, input-output,
- Build something that lets a segment of customers complete
- Solve this [more open-ended customer problem]
- Explore the challenges of, and improve the experience for, [segment of users/customers]
- Increase/decrease [metric] known to influence a specific
- Explore various potential leverage points and run experiments to influence [specific business outcome]
- Directly generate [short term business outcome]
- Generate [long-term business outcome]



Source: John Cutler mandate maps

#### **Product Management**

- Works with development team
- Manages a certain product or part of a product.
- Does product discovery related to the product area





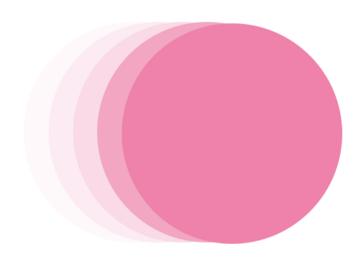


- Works with management on the company strategy and strategic decisions
- Coordinates the strategic work within the different product teams
- Responsible of the overall product strategy
- Support / coach / train / hire / fire product managers





A Product Leader is the person who product managers report to.





### Different roles in product management





Source: https://productschool.com/blog/product-management-2/types-product-management-roles/

### Different roles in product management





## Scaling Digital Product Teams

When managing digital products product teams can be split in variety of different ways however ensuring enough autonomy in making decisions on feasibility, desirability and viability.





https://blog.crisp.se/wpcontent/uploads/2012/11/Spotif yScaling.pdf

# Summary of the perspectives

- Product Management is related to the domains of Business, Technology and Design. Knowledge and interest within these domains make a good start for your career in product.
- The domain of Product Management is about enabling efficient communication within the organization's stakeholders. This is crucial for building the right product no matter who is involved in the process.
- To build the right product you need to think as an entrepreneur and control the risks within the product. In product as in entrepreneurship there is a well-known playbook on how to do this.
- Product Management doesn't work in a vacuum, but is a crucial part of the leadership systems of the company in general. In product-led companies product leaders and product managers collaborate in building the right product.



