

# How to Measure Business Impact

Leo Kluger, IBM October 29, 2020



## Objectives

- How do I make the business case for an analytic project
- How do you measure the improvement that business transformation initiatives can bring
- How do you estimate incremental:
  - -cost reduction
  - -revenue increases
  - -other business improvements

#### Why measure ROI?

What gets measured gets done – DuPont Corporation

If you can't put a number on it, you don't know very much about it - Francis Bacon

Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted - Albert Einstein

In G-d we trust; all others bring data - W. Edwards Deming

Ranges are for cattle... give me a number! - Lyndon Johnson

- Strategic factors/ forces:
  - -Globalization
  - -Constant change
- This presentation focuses on ROI estimates for <u>transformation</u> projects
- Projects are often first of a kind; breaking new ground.
- Benefits are often extrapolated; there's no precedent

ROI is not only about a number; it's about understanding a project's ongoing costs and benefits



What is ROI

To calculate ROI:

Actual or projected net benefits over a 3-year period

divided by project costs

expressed as a percentage

#### Initial project brainstorming

- To ensure success, all projects should have a business case
- Key question to ask at an early point: What business value are we are creating here?
- You'll usually need to creatively come up with your own estimates, then track and measure over time

- In the special case of analytic projects, business benefit is often to add a decision-making capability that leads to a better decision
- ROI challenges becomes: how to measure the <u>incremental</u> benefit of a better decision

## A quick win

- The best ROI calculations come from projects with clear goals and objectives
- Business challenges then need to be reframed into a quantitative format
- One way to do so is to fill in the blanks in the following statement:

[increase/decrease] the [target KPI] by [scope] [percent/value] in the next [timeframe]

#### Examples:

- Decrease time to resolve Severity 1 incident duration by 40% in the next 6 months
- Increase productivity (requests per staff-hour) within the delivery team by 15% in the next quarter

This approach can help clarify goals

Any project or initiative can be reduced to an ROI expression

#### It takes...

- ...a can-do mindset
- ...willingness to experiment
- ...attitude of extrapolation
- ...communication with stakeholders
- Initial requirement: Identify committed project stakeholders

Two kinds of ROI calculations:

- Explicit
  - Most facts are available and quantifiable
  - Often straight line projections
- Implicit
  - Based on assumptions and extrapolations

#### Common tangible and intangible value drivers



#### Case study -- intangible value driver example



How to translate Right-time data to right people into a tangible benefit - 1

Enterprise scenario:

Your cognitive project uses Watson Natural Language Understanding API to analyze various social media, to provide better insights for cash collection timing to your Delinquent Account Collection team

The team is tasked with reducing DSO, or Days Sales Outstanding. The system identifies when a target company might be flush with cash, and more willing to pay down their accounts payable (debt)

Every day, the average collector brings in approximately \$500,000 in delinquent, overdue accounts receivable

Analytic project premise: NLU insights make the collectors more efficient and save time

# How to translate Right-time data to right people into a tangible benefit - 2

- 1. Use your project's Journey map to identify the target beneficiary
- 2. Calculate the value of one minute of business time for your beneficiary
  - a. 40 hours/week x 52 weeks/year = 2080 hours/year
  - b. 2080 hours x 60 minutes/hour = 124,800 minutes/year
  - c. \$100K loaded salary per year
  - d. Cost per minute = \$0.80
- 3. Next, make an assumption about the value of information to your target role-model
  - a. Minutes per working day = 8 hours x 60 minutes / hour = 480
- 4. Value of one minute of Collector's time = \$500,000 day / 480 minutes / day = \$1042 per minute
- 5. Next, apply conservative reduction factors:
  - a. Conservative: 10% of \$1042 = \$104
  - b. Moderate: 30% of \$1042 = \$313
  - c. Aggressive: 50% of \$1042 = \$521
- 6. Make a series of informed assumptions: how much time-enhanced insights stemming from your project might save a single Collector, per day
  - a. Conservative: 1 minute per day
  - b. Moderate: 5 minutes per day
  - c. Aggressive: 10 minutes per day
- 7. Number of Collectors in your pilot = 10
- 8. Put all the factors together to approximate the benefit:
  - a. # Collectors in pilot
  - b. x minutes saved per day per collector
  - c. x dollar value of minutes saved
  - d. x # days per working year
- 9. Create a sensitivity matrix that crosses the two reduction factors: value of collections and minutes saved per day
- 10. Project to years two and three, and sum
- 11. Remember to also calculate project costs, to use as the denominator

	ROI estimation template								
		_							
	Fundamentals	_			Formula				
Α	Hours/week		40	A					
В	Weeks/year		52	В					
С	Hours/year		2080	С	A x B				
D	Minutes/hour		60	D					
E	Minutes/year	_	124,800	E	CxD				
F	Average loaded salary	\$	100,000	F					
G	Cost per minute	\$	0.80	G	F/E				
Η	Hours / work day		8	Н					
D	Minutes/hour		60	D					
Ι	Minutes per work day	-	480	Ι	D*H				
1	Work days per week	-	5	1					
ĸ	Work days per vear	-	260	ĸ	I*B				
n T	Vacation days per year	-	10	I.	, ,				
– M	Net work days per year	-	250	- M	K - I				
		-	250						
Ν	Average collections per day / Collector	\$	500,000	N					
0	Average collection value / minute	Ś	1.042	0	N/I				
		Ė	,-	-					
Ρ	Numbers of Collectors in pilot		10	Р					
	Assumptions								
Q	Conservative reduction factor		10%	Q					
R	Moderate reduction factor		30%	R					
S	Aggressive reduction factor		50%	S					
Т	Value of collections per minute - conservative reduction	\$	104	Т	QxO				
U	Value of collections per minute - moderate reduction	\$	313	U	R x O				
٧	Value of collections per minute - aggressive reduction	\$	521	۷	S x O				
	# minutes saved / day / Collector due to Cognitive-enhanced information								
w	Conservative		1	W					
Х	Moderate		5	Х					
Y	Aggressive		10	Y					
Ζ	Estimated benefit =			Ζ					
	# collectors in pilot	Ρ							
	x minutes saved per day per collector	W,	, X or Y		light				
	x dollar value of minutes saved	Тc	or U or V		[[lliŋ]				

How to translate Right-time data to right people into a tangible benefit - 3

- 1. Put all the factors together to approximate the benefit:
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  - b. x minutes saved per day per collector
  - c. x dollar value of minutes saved
  - d. x # days per working year
- 2. Create a sensitivity matrix that crosses the two reduction factors: value of collections and minutes saved per day
- 3. Project to years two and three, and sum
- 4. Remember to also calculate project costs, to use as the denominator
  - a. Initial costs
  - b. Ongoing costs which may reduce over time

	Year 1 value o					
		_	Re	eduction facto	rs	
		Co	nservative	Moderate	Aggressive	
Minutes	Conservative	Ş	260,417	\$ 781,250	\$ 1,302,083	
saved /	Moderate	\$	1,302,083	\$ 3,906,250	\$ 6,510,417	
day	Aggressive	\$	2,604,167	\$ 7,812,500	\$13,020,833	
	Year 2 value o	of Co	ognitive ins	ights - sensitiv	vity analysis	
			R	eduction facto	rs	
		Со	nservative	Moderate	Aggressive	
Minutes	Conservative	\$	260,417	\$ 781,250	\$ 1,302,083	
saved /	Moderate	\$	1,302,083	\$ 3,906,250	\$ 6,510,417	
day	Aggressive	\$	2,604,167	\$ 7,812,500	\$13,020,833	
	Voor 3 voluo o	fr	ognitivo inc	ights - consitiv	vity analysis	
			ogintive ins		ity analysis	
			Re	eduction facto	rs	
		Со	nservative	Moderate	Aggressive	
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saved /	Moderate	\$	1,302,083	\$ 3,906,250	\$ 6,510,417	
day	Aggressive	\$	2,604,167	\$ 7,812,500	\$13,020,833	
	Three-year pr	oje	cted value (	of Cognitive in	sights	
		_	R	eduction facto	rs	
		Со	nservative	Moderate	Aggressive	
Minutes	Conservative	\$	781,250	\$ 2,343,750	\$ 3,906,250	
saved /	Moderate	\$	3,906,250	\$11,718,750	\$19,531,250	
day	Aggressive	\$	7,812,500	\$23,437,500	\$39,062,500	
Initial project costs		\$	1,000,000			
Ongoing costs - year 1		Ş	25,000			
Ungoing (	costs - year 2	Ş	20,000			
Ungoing (	costs - year 3	Ş	15,000			
Total proj	ect costs	\$	1,060,000			
ROI:				aluation for		
		<u> </u>	Re	eduction facto	15	
Minute	Concorretion	LO	nservative	ivioderate	Aggressive	
ivinutes	Mederate	┼──	74%	221%	309%	020 IBM Corpor
saved /	Aggrossivo		309%	22110/	1843%	
udv	INSSIGZZING	1	13/70	ZZ11%	3003%	

## **ROI** notes

#### **Deliverables**

- Projection and benefit statements need to be validated and approved by the business manager expected to receive the benefits
- This approval likely needs to be in the form of a confirmatory email from the specific executive

#### **Timeframe**

 Project managers may need to add target dates to their project timelines showing when benefits will be realized and can be measured

#### The Scientific method

- Set up a pilot. Embed metrics into the pilot design
- Use the scientific method to establish test and control scenarios
- Measure pilot results
  - Run retrospective evaluations to identify areas for improvement, to prepare for a rollout



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