HCI and Design

Admin

Assignment 3 is DONE! (Phew!)

Assignment 4 is posted, due April 13th

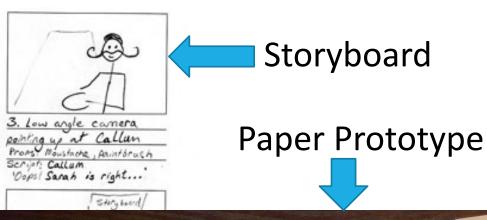
- Solo or in pairs (your choice)
- I am giving you three weeks for a reason ©
- Do NOT start late, you will run out of time

In-class activities

• A few people have submitted files with no NetID 🕾

Paper prototype vs. Storyboard







Today

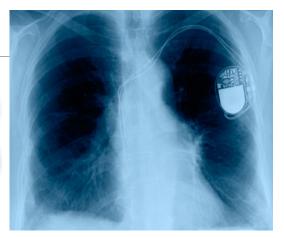
Design for Marginalized Communities

Practice with InVision

New technologies provide new benefits

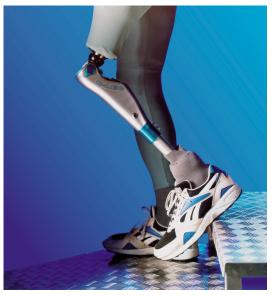




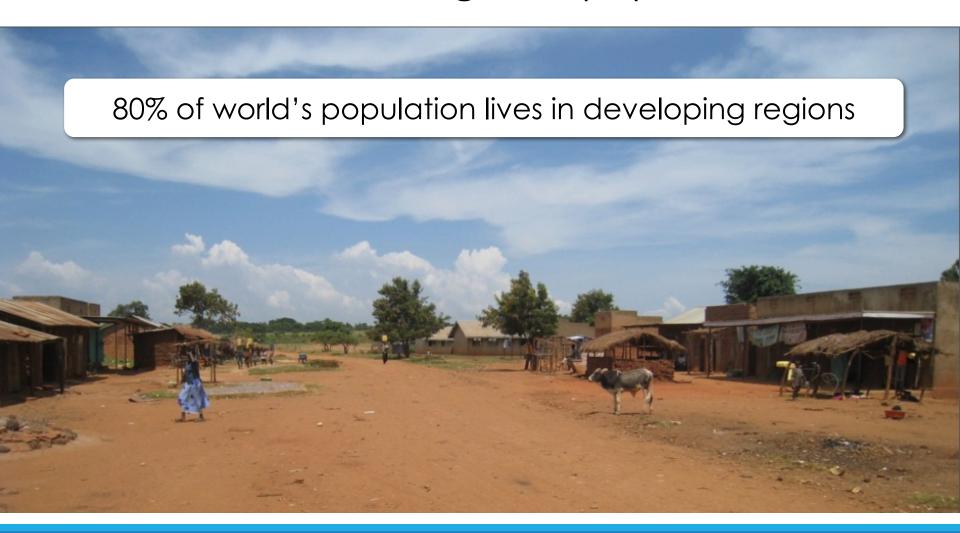




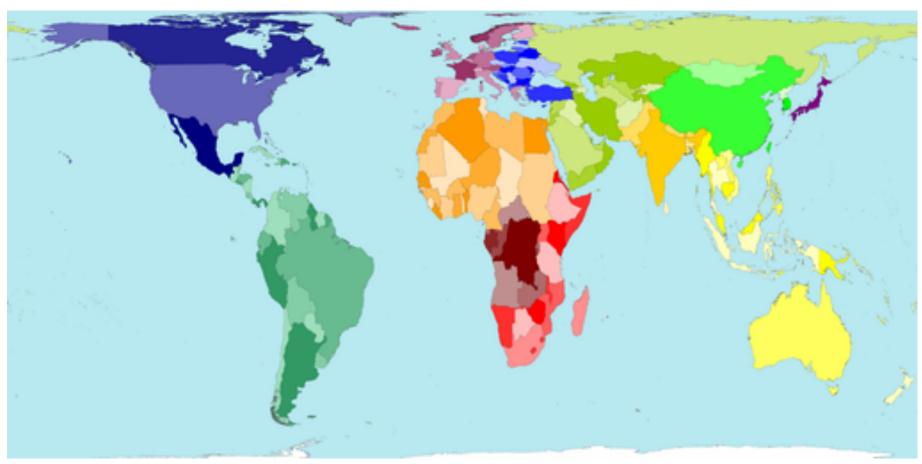




Most new technologies benefit a small fraction of the global population

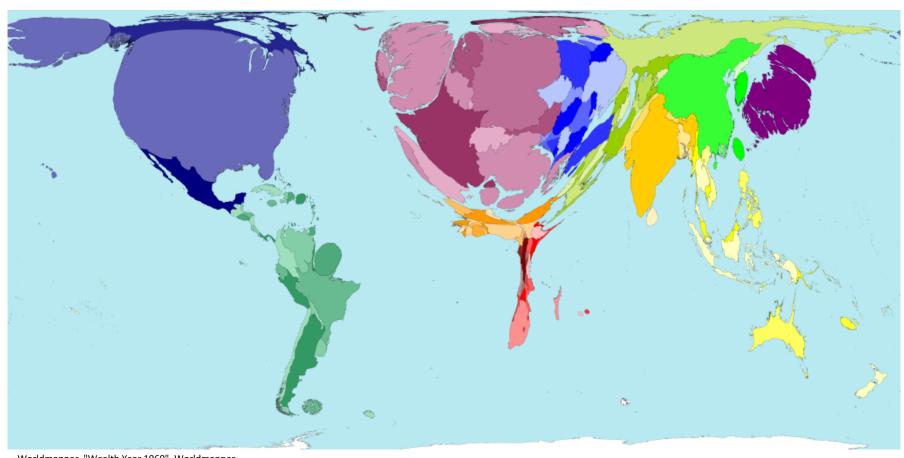


A Map of the World



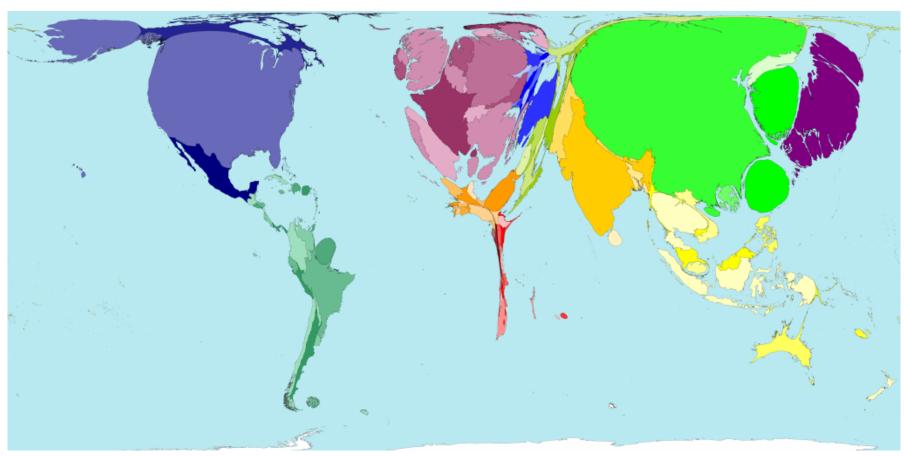
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Global Wealth Distribution: circa 1960



Worldmapper, "Wealth Year 1960", Worldmapper, http://www.worldmapper.org/display.php?selected=160, (C) Copyright SASI Group (University of Sheffield) and Mark Newman (University of Michigan), CC: BY-NC-ND

Global Wealth Distribution: circa 2015



Worldmapper, "Wealth Year 2015", Worldmapper, http://www.worldmapper.org/display.php?selected=164, (C) Copyright SASI Group (University of Sheffield) and Mark Newman (University of Michigan), CC: BY-NC-ND

Design for Marginalized Communities

Goal: Create technologies that empower underserved or marginalized communities to overcome global challenges



There are marginalized communities everywhere!

Three defining characteristics

Global problems

Poverty

Education

Gender equality

Infant mortality

Maternal health

Human rights

Conservation

Technology constraints

Computers

Cell phones

Mobile devices

Networks

Connectivity

Energy and power

Transport

Diverse challenges

Culture

Gender

Politics

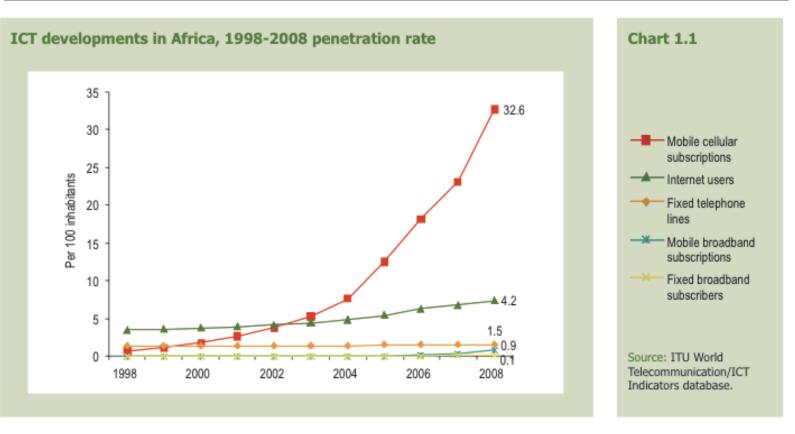
Language

Literacy

Social structures

Communication

What platforms make sense?



A billion mobile subscriptions in Africa by 2015!

Why target mobile devices?

Portable

Battery-powered

Familiar

Intuitive touchscreen

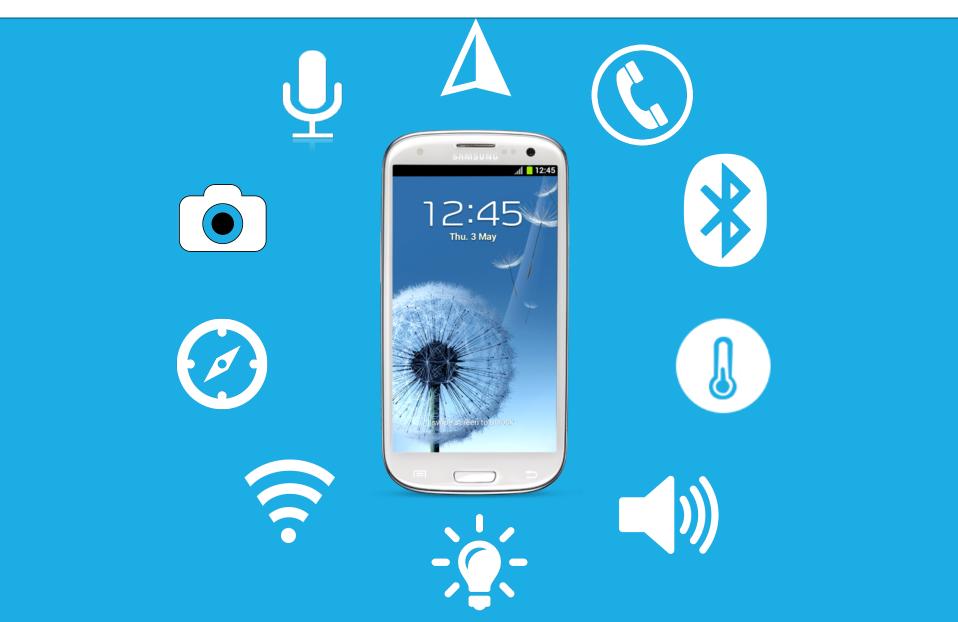
Built-in sensors

Network interfaces

Storage capacity



Built-in sensors provide many opportunities

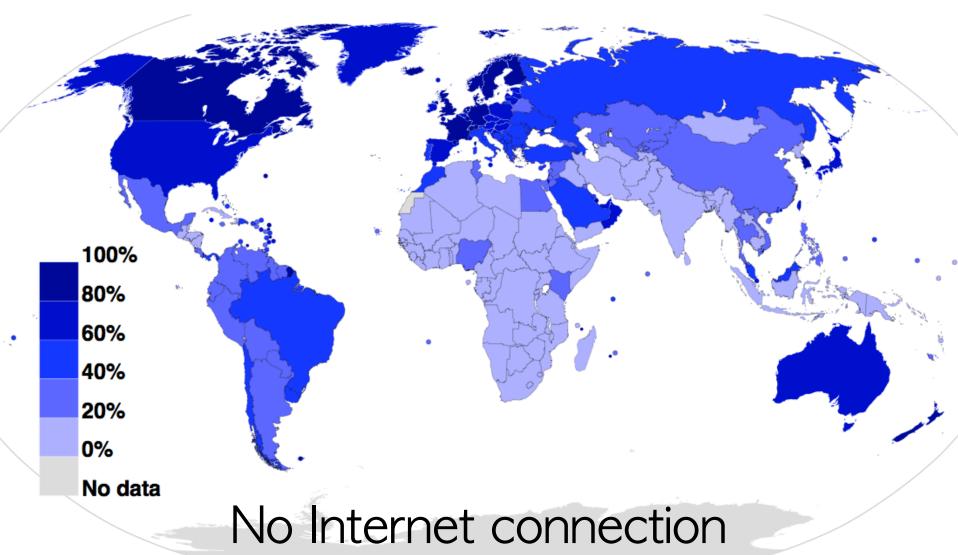


Can we just use the same apps and systems that we use in the US?



Internet users in 2010 as a percentage of a country's population

Source: Percentage of Individuals using the Internet 2000-2011, International Telecommunications Union.



Many other constraints

No or intermittent electricity

Low levels of education

Low levels of literacy

Unfamiliar with technology

Linguistic challenges

Social and cultural challenges

Poverty

Political challenges

Many more....

How can we design technologies that work well under these constraints?

In the beginning....

Technology will save the world!



THE BLOG

Technology to End Extreme Poverty

① 09/24/2012 10:48 am ET | Updated Nov 24, 2012

Example: One Laptop per Child

Originally the \$ 100 Laptop

Later OLPC, finally XO (\$399 for 2)

Technological Innovation

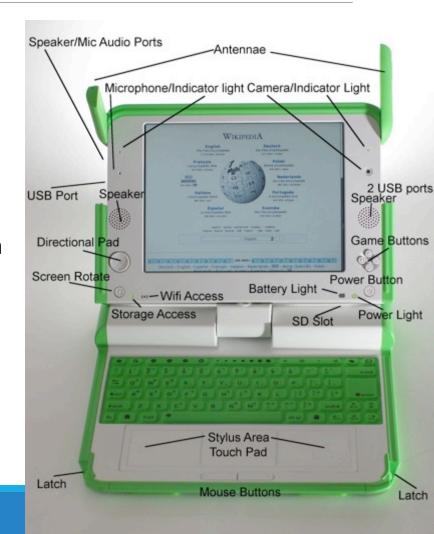
Learning approach

Constructivism

Take laptops home, play with them

Critiques

"Little or no sustained and scaled effects on teaching, learning, and achievement" (Bain and Weston)



Problems with OLPC

Technology centric approach – no focus on humans

Did not fit people's actual needs

Did not pay attention to local contexts and challenges

Did not provide on the ground support

Did not plan for sustainability



The Failure of OLPC:

http://hackeducation.com/2012/04/09/the-failure-of-olpc

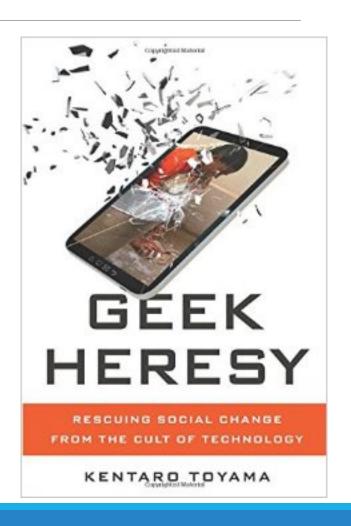
How can we do better?

Amplification theory

 Technology can only amplify human intent (Toyama)

Key idea: Technology on it's own won't do anything

People have to want to change the situation, solve the problem



Example: Digital Green



Problem: Teach poor farmers better farming practices

Solution: Digital Green

Mediation / Mediator

Highly formatted, targeted video content

Contextual content: local presenter, not "well-dressed" scientist

Supporting organizations on the ground

Outcomes: 55% adoption of new practice over 8% in old system

Why it works

Pays attention to local culture and context

Specifically designed to suit the needs of target population

Gives people tools so they can solve their own problems

Provides support through organizations on the ground



Design for Marginalized Communities

Everything you know about good design still applies!

Pay close attention to user needs, understand the context, iterate

Design process often requires extensive fieldwork with target communities to understand the space

The work often requires input from multiple organizations and communities: strong partnerships are essential

If done right, there is great potential for positive impact!





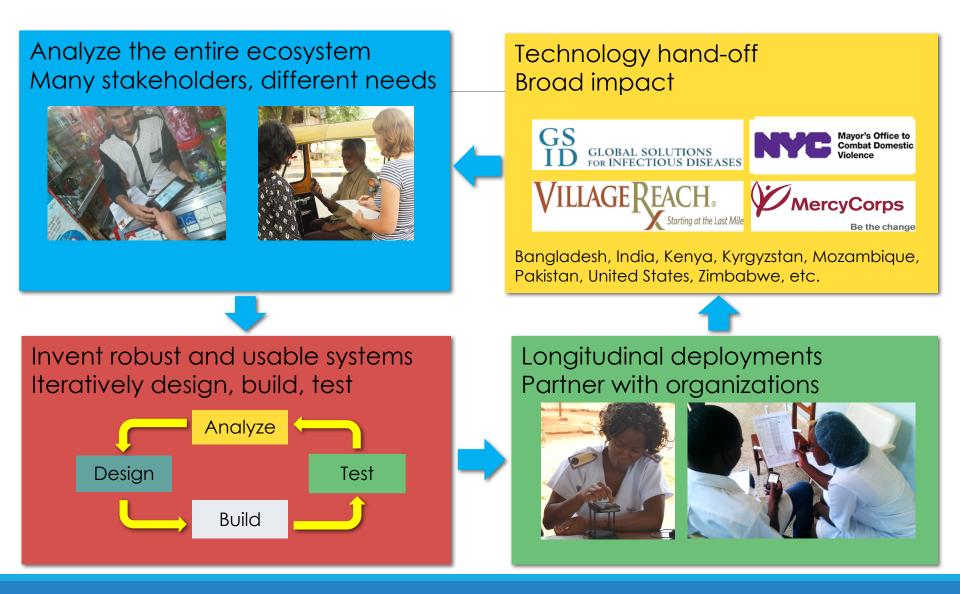








Design for Marginalized Communities (My Approach)



A few example domains

Healthcare

Low-cost diagnostics and telemedicine

Disease prevention and education

Healthcare informatics

Agriculture

Supply chain efficiencies

Agricultural education

Market and pricing information

Geophysical sensing

Education

Low cost computing

Computer sharing

Distance education

Governance

Information organization

Information communication

Detecting and reporting corruption

Activism

Design

Interfaces for low-literacy

Interfaces for low education

Assistive technology

Financial services

Microfinance information

Mobile money

Financial literacy

Summary

Global problems

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Technology alone is not enough, focus on the humans! Everything you have learned about good design/HCI still applies BUT the context and complexities are often fundamentally different