

Business models and channels to market

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evolution of sector

1960s	mainframes	ibm
1970s	micros & minis	intel dec
1980s	desktop PCs	ibm commodore compaq apple
1990s	local networks	microsoft novell sun
2000s	internet	google altavista mozilla
2010s	mobile	apple samsung google facebook
2010s	<i>cloud</i>	<i>amazon netflix itunes iplayer</i>
2020s	<i>internet of things? AI? digital twins?</i>	

business model choices

revenue: free or paid-for or freemium

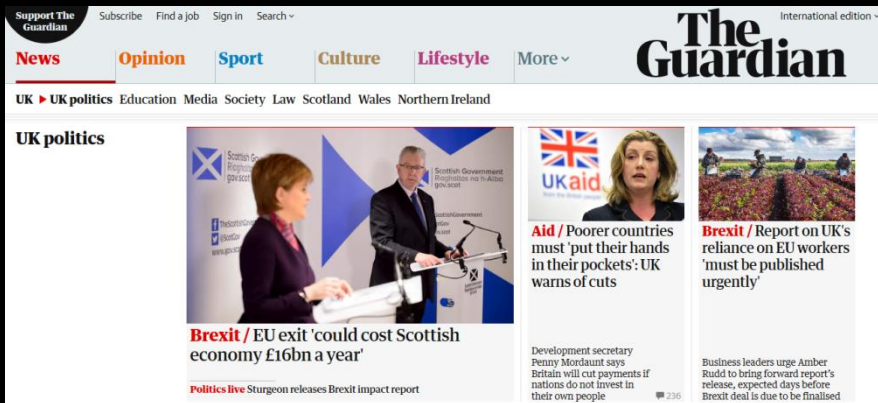
architecture: installed or app or cloud/saas

ip: patent or trade secret or no-IP (eg f/oss)

channel: in-house or spinout or third party

product: software or consultancy or s/w + hardware

policy: revenue and/or PR and/or “**impact**” ()



revenue

free

www.theguardian.com/uk



freemium

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/>

Other examples:

www.linkedin.com



paid subscription

www.thetimes.co.uk

(Links OK Jan 2019)

the first euro

expectation of service?

expectation of support?

who?

24*7?

service level agreement?

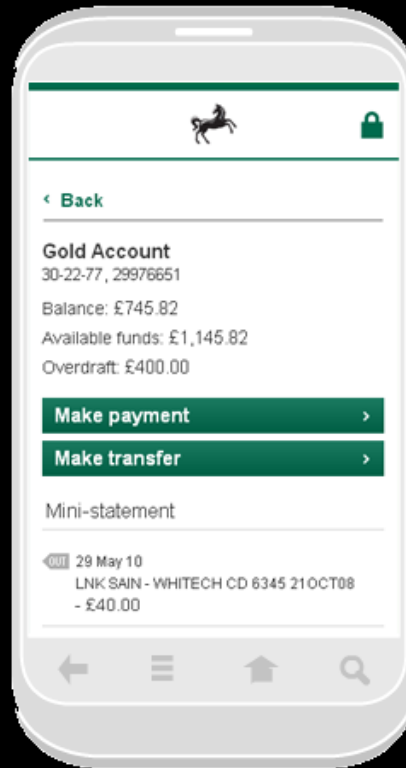


the first euro of revenue can be expensive

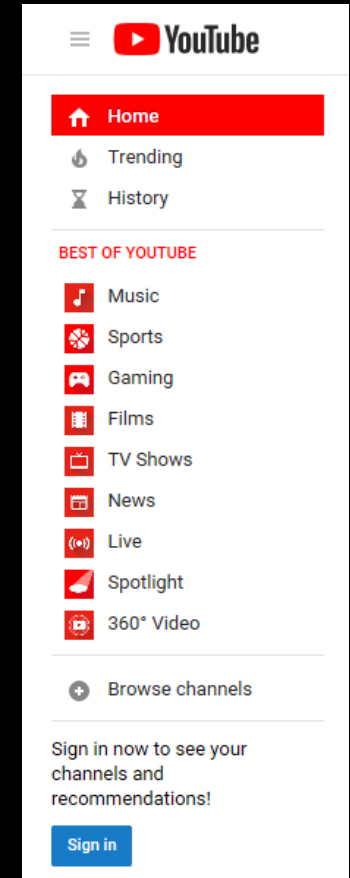
architecture



installed - software used to be sold in boxes



app – sell a download



cloud/saas – sell (or provide free) a service
Typically via a generic browser

advantages of server-only solution



- no client software (just any browser)**
- all bug fixes in one central place**
- works on multiple client operating systems**
- control of access (password) to premium functions**
- no distribution or redistribution of software**
- efficient use of f/oss ...**

advantages of server-only solution

f/oss has 4 required freedoms

freedoms apply to USE

OK to use f/oss on the server

0 = run the software as you wish, for any purpose

1 = study how the software works, and change it as you wish

2 = redistribute the software to help others

3 = distribute modified versions of the software to others

f/oss licence restrictions apply to DISTRIBUTION

server model distributes service NOT software

so f/oss licence restrictions do not apply **

** a few licences such as AGPL do have applicable restrictions

advantages of server-only solution for medical software

Use PC or phone for entry of data and display of results

Easy - via a browser interface and standard protocols

The PC or phone is then NOT a medical device.

Only server software requires medical device validation

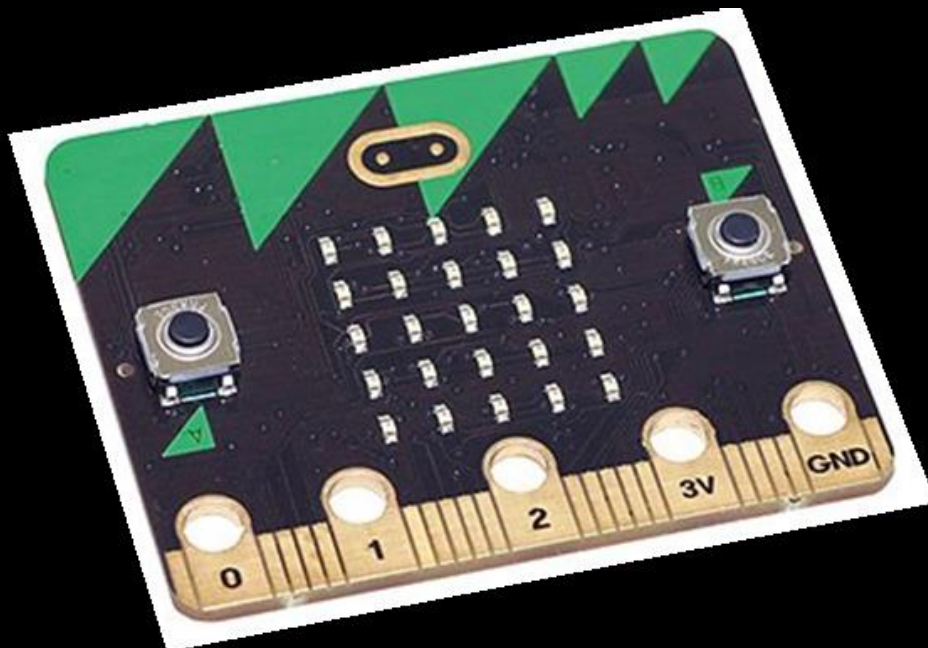
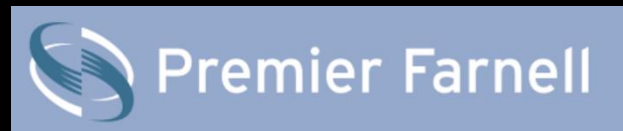
examples - 1

some university projects

channel: *in-house*

micro:bit

credit-card size computer
free to all UK year 7 children
software created pro-bono



micro:bit - rationale

800,000+ to be distributed annually
software support funded by university

revenue: **free**

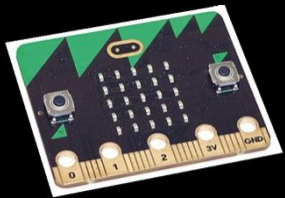
architecture: **installed** plus downloads **saas**

ip: source code = **f/oss**

channel: **in-house**

product: **pure software**

policy: **PR** and educational outreach **“impact”**



aberystwyth farm apps



farm apps - rationale

advertisement for academic expertise
dissemination of research

revenue: **free**

architecture: **app**

ip: **none** - *software based on published research*

channel: **in-house**

product: **pure software**

policy: **PR** and outreach **“impact”**



apps from training publications



Essentials of Fire
Fighting, 6th Edition
Exam Prep Plus App

\$14.99



Hazardous Materials
Technician, 1st Edition
Exam Prep Plus App

\$9.99



<https://www.ifsta.org/shop/product-categories/ifsta-apps> (Link OK Jan 2018)

fire apps - rationale

capitalise on existing unique copyright IP

revenue: **sales b2b and b2c**

architecture: **app**

ip: **existing copyright** materials (sector knowledge)

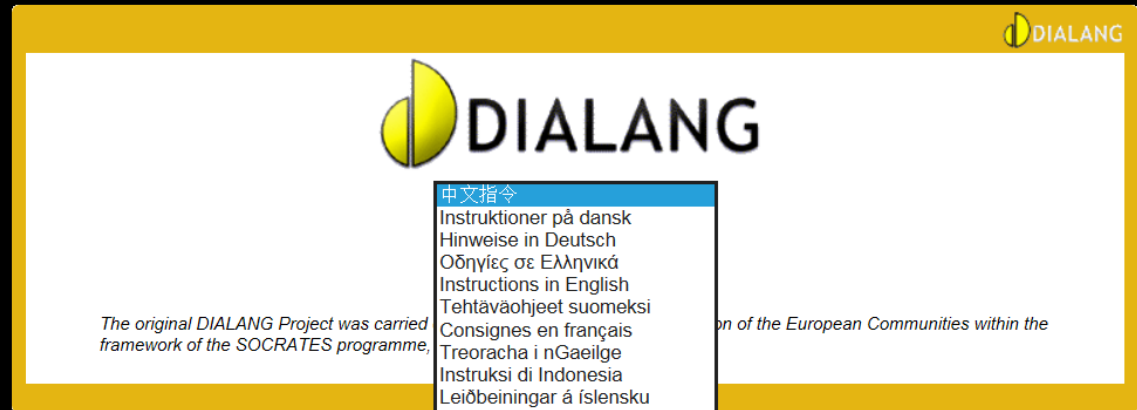
channel: **in-house**

product: **pure software**

policy: **commercial**



dialang



<https://dialangweb.lancaster.ac.uk/>



online
adult language tests
CEF
14 euro languages

dialang - rationale

EU-funded academic project has finished
no resources now – volunteers fix (few) bugs
1,000,000+ tests taken

revenue: **free** (*no guarantee of service*)

architecture: access via browser **saas**

ip: scoring and calibration is **trade secret**

channel: **in-house**

product: **pure software**

policy: service to linguistics community **“impact”**

english semantic parser

corpus-based parser
part-of-speech & semantic tagging

UCREL

University Centre for Corpus
Research on Language



parser - rationale

companies pay annual fee (for key) to use
academics worldwide offered “free” key

revenue: **freemium**

architecture: **password-protected saas api**

ip: **trade secrets** = *proprietary s/w and tagged corpus*

channel: **in-house**

product: **pure software**

policy: **revenue** and **“impact”**

examples - 2

external route to market

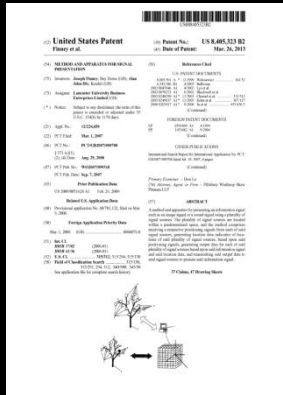
channel: *third-party*

firefly

software calculates 3D (x,y,z) positions of
(many thousands of) randomly located lights



firefly - rationale



fully commercial product

revenue: **commercial licence**

architecture: software **embedded** in product

ip: **granted patents in USA and China; others pending**

channel: **third-party licensee**

product: **software plus hardware design**

policy: **revenue** and “**impact**”



software spinouts

start a software spinout when:

you need to employ non-academic staff

you need external funding

the objectives are fully commercial ...

... to avoid state aid issues

software spinouts

*software spinouts can be very **lean***

no office – work at home
build on home PC or laptop
no capital expenditure
employ students? part time?
academics' spare time

software spinouts

initial **location** can be anywhere
but clustering is beneficial for growth
access to people and capital

financial tech: London

ad-tech/media: London Berlin Helsinki

gaming: Stockholm

bio software: Cambridge



examples - 3

university software companies

channel: *spinout*

LiftUpp Ltd

tool & monitor for dental students

15DEC2015: LiftUpp secures £425k investment

Assessment software developed
by educators for educators

Liftuppp triangulates all assessment data to give a
complete picture of student performance, professional
competence and regulatory body compliance



LIFTUPP
PERFORM DEVELOP PROGRESS



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

LiftUpp - rationale

fully commercial product

revenue: **commercial b2b**

architecture: **app & cloud**

ip: **proprietary software & sector knowledge**

channel: **spinout** funded by sales & VC

product: **software**

policy: **revenue**

location: **Liverpool**

<https://www.liftupp.com/> (Link OK Jan 2019)





Dallas, Texas – March 5, 2019

ExamSoft, a secure testing and assessment platform company based in Dallas, announces the acquisition of leading UK-based clinical assessment company, Liftupp.



relative insight ltd

digital analysis of marketing

INSIGHTS AS A SERVICE

award-winning
analysis of textual
big data



Next Big Thing at ad:tech London
awarded to Relative Insight

relative insight - rationale

fully commercial product

revenue: **commercial b2b spinout**

architecture: *consultancy using in-house software*

ip: **patent pending** and **trade secrets**

channel: **spinout** funded by **sales** and **VC**

product: **consultancy**

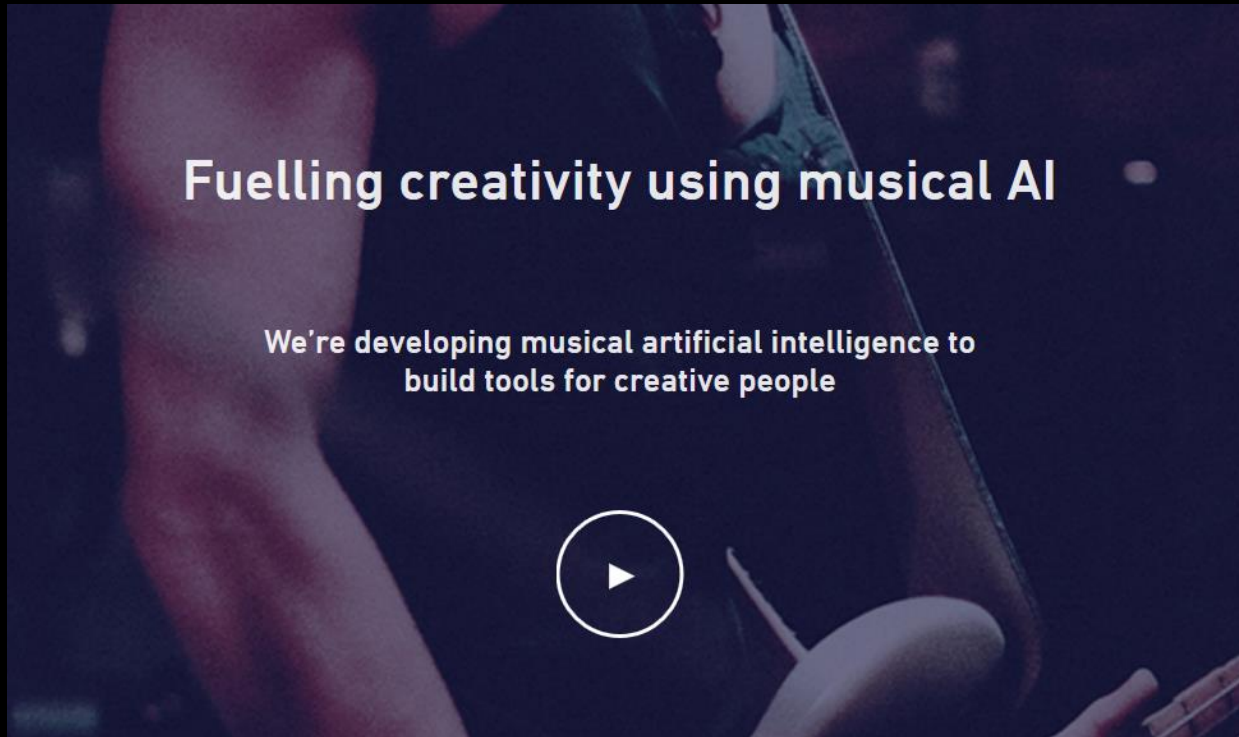
policy: **revenue**

location: **Lancaster** and **London**

<https://relativeinsight.com/> (Link OK Jan 2019)

jukedeck ltd

“original music at the touch of a button”



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

jukedeck - rationale

fully commercial product

revenue: **commercial b2b/b2c spinout**

architecture: **saas**

ip: **proprietary software**

channel: **spinout** funded by **sales** and **VC**

product: **consultancy**

policy: **revenue**

location: **London**

<https://www.jukedeck.com> (Link OK Jan 2019)



The logo for Warwick Analytics features a background image of hands holding a pen over a document with sticky notes. The text "Warwick Analytics" is overlaid in a white, sans-serif font.

Warwick Analytics

predictive data analytics

SyndicateRoom is for sophisticated investors who understand that their capital is at risk.



INVEST FUNDS RAISE ABOUT SR LIVE

Warwick Analytics completed its latest SyndicateRoom round in July 2017, overfunding to **£475,609**. The company's first round raised **£392,000** in June 2015 to hire additional technical and sales staff to complement its growth.

At Sep 2018 Warwick Uni had 3.8% equity

Source UK Companies House





Warwick Analytics rationale

fully commercial product

revenue: **commercial b2b spinout**

architecture: *consultancy using in-house software*

ip: **trade secrets**

channel: **spinout** funded by **sales** and **VC**

product: **consultancy**

policy: **revenue**

location: **London, Lisbon, USA, Germany, China**



<https://warwickanalytics.com//> (Link OK Jan 2019)



**Manage Your Company's Energy Accurately.
Track & Compare Buildings in Your Estate.
Reduce Your Energy Costs.**

active energy management
for buildings
for company estates

<http://www.piliogroup.com/> (link OK Jan 2019)



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

pilio - rationale

fully commercial product

revenue: **commercial b2b spinout**

architecture: **installed** (smart metering) and **saas**

ip: **proprietary software**

channel: **spinout** funded by **sales**

product: **consultancy enabled by unique software**

policy: **revenue**

location: **London**



hybrid instruments ltd

neutron spectrometry

world-leading instruments



hybrid - rationale

fully commercial product

revenue: **commercial b2b spinout**

architecture: **embedded software**

ip: **granted patents**

channel: **spinout** funded by **sales**

product: **equipment enabled by unique software**

policy: **revenue**

location: **Lancaster**

<http://www.hybridinstruments.com/> (Link OK Jan 2019)



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Events

Diffblue, a University of Oxford AI spin-out, raises \$22 million in Series A funding

Posted: 27th June 2017

Diffblue, a world leader in AI for code, today announces that it has raised \$22 million in Series A funding, one year after its spin-out from the University of Oxford. This round is led by Goldman Sachs Principal Strategic Investments, alongside Oxford Sciences Innovations (OSI) and Oxford Technology and Innovations Fund (OTIF).

Founded by University of Oxford Computer Science Professor Daniel Kroening and Dr. Peter Schrammel, Diffblue develops AI for code. Daniel has brought together a team that includes some of the world's leading experts in computer-aided verification and machine learning.

The company automates many traditional coding tasks: bug fixing, test writing, finding and fixing exploits, refactoring code, translating from one programming language to another, and creating original code to fit specifications. Diffblue's core AI builds an exact mathematical model of any code base. This model allows a very deep semantic understanding of what a program is trying to do.



diffblue
AI for Code



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

diffblue - rationale

fully commercial product

revenue: **commercial b2b spinout**

architecture: **saas**

ip: **proprietary software**

channel: **spinout** funded by **sales** and **VC**

product: **consultancy enabled by unique software**

policy: **revenue**

location: **Oxford**



summary

**review objectives
determine constraints**



choose appropriate business model



launch

Questions?

business model choices

revenue: free or paid-for or freemium

architecture: installed or app or cloud/saas

ip: patent or trade secret or no-IP (eg f/oss)

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