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Shazam

# What is Shazam?

- ▷ Shazam is an app that allows users to identify songs by recording a snippet through your phones microphone
- ▷ Lets users discover songs they here around them

# History of Shazam: Founding

- ▷ Founded by Chris Barton, Philip Inghelbrecht, Avery Wang and Dhiraj Mukherjee in 1999
- ▷ Original idea by Barton
- ▷ Trying to find a way to identify any music through a mobile phone

# History of Shazam: Problems

- ▷ Early recognition on mobile phones was hard due to poor technology
- ▷ Mobile vocoder algorithms were not designed to pick up ambient noise

# History of Shazam: Early Years

- ▷ Developed an algorithm and received funding by 2002, launched in UK
- ▷ Dial “2080” and the call would record, then send a text message with song information
- ▷ Launched in 2004 in the US for AT&T customers



# History of Shazam: Mobile Era

- ▷ One of the first apps on the App Store
- ▷ Widely popular, dominating its market
- ▷ Bought by Apple in 2018 for \$400 million

# Usage

- ▶ User records sound snippet
- ▶ Sends digital fingerprint to server, matches against database
- ▶ Returns song information to user



# Shazam vs. SoundHound: Pros

## Shazam

- Auto Shazam (passive)
- Extremely well integrated (iOS specific)
- Shazam scan tags

## SoundHound

- Can hum/sing song for identification
- Live Lyrics once identified
- Better discovery services

# Shazam vs. SoundHound: Cons

## Shazam

- Can't hum or sing a song to identify
- Very basic/one purpose

## SoundHound

- Has a pro paid version, ads in free version
- More "cluttered"
- (Supposedly) worse accuracy

 **1 billion** downloads

 **300-400 million** users  
annually, and 150 million monthly.

 **30 billion** shazams  
20 million daily

# Market Share

- ▷ Available worldwide
- ▷ Highest usage in western countries

# Size

- ▷ App: thousands of lines of code (frontend)
- ▷ Backend: countless more (servers, databases, algorithm code)
- ▷ # of employees hard to estimate as it is part of Apple

# Cost

- ▷ Free to use as of today
- ▷ Shazam Encore
- ▷ AT&T Era

# Supported Platforms

- ▷ Available on every major phone OS
- ▷ iOS, Android, Windows Phone, Blackberry OS, etc..

Why did I choose Shazam?



Thanks!

**Any questions?**