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Comparison the Fee of Cell Phone Companies: Collaborative Study between a Mathematics Teacher-Trainee and High School Students

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Abstract

This paper reports on the results of the design and implementation of a didactic device proposed by a mathematics teacher-trainee. This student did a course designed for didactic - mathematical training with the aim of adopting a non-traditional didactic model based on research, while linking mathematics with other disciplines. The teacher-trainee developed its implementation in a senior- course of an Argentine high school. This didactic device is based on the analysis of a real and present situation whose study allows to make some gestures of the questioning world paradigm, in the current conditions of an Argentine high school.

Introduction

The Anthropological Theory of the Didactic (Chevallard, 1999, 2013a, 2017) proposes to introduce in the educational systems a new perspective of the mathematics teaching, characterized by the paradigm of world questioning (PWQ). Its educational objective is to create new positions towards learning characterized by the attitude of problematization, associated with the herbartian, procognitive and exoteric character (Chevallard, 2013b). In this sense, the learning engine is the receptive attitude towards the questions formulation and unresolved problems (herbartian attitude), some of these questions become problems for at least one group of people (problematization attitude), the knowledge is to be discovered and not to be the review of knowledge already discovered (procognitive attitude), and there is always place for new knowledge about a discipline (exoteric attitude).

To introduce the perspective of the PWQ in the current Argentine high school requires changes in the teaching conception of mathematics teachers. This impels to renew the mathematics teacher training, involving them in processes of studies compatible with the PWQ. In this paper it is assumed that the teacher-trainees have to take part in those teaching processes which possess the characteristics of the way they intend to teach (Ponte, Chapman, 2008). Following this perspective, a course aimed at mathematics teacher-trainees (MTT) was designed and started to be experimented (Corica and Otero, 2015, 2016a). The objective of the proposal is that MTT can adopt a non-traditional didactic model based on research, while linking mathematics with other disciplines. The course has three phases.

In the first phase, two situations managed simultaneously are to integrate both the MTT's mathematical training with the didactic training. It is proposed to study an initial generating question related to one of the fundamental problems of the teaching profession: how to teach mathematical knowledge. At the same time, playing the students' role, the MTT have to study different didactic devices based on the PWQ. In this way, the study of didactic devices takes place together with the technological environment that justifies the making of the didactic organizations involved. The importance of this proposal lies in trying to involve MTT in experiences that bring them closer to the PWQ in all their formative didactic-mathematical process. In the second phase the MTT have to adopt or propose a didactic device to teach mathematics to make some gestures of the PWQ live. Finally, in the third phase, the MTT implement their didactic devices in regular courses at the Argentine high school.

This paper reports on the results of the design and implementation of a didactic device (DD) by an MTT that experienced the course of didactic-mathematical training. The DD implemented by the MTT is an adaptation of the DD developed in Corica (2018). This DD focuses on studying a current situation which compares cell companies' plans. In this study, mathematics recovers its utility from modeling through functions defined by pieces. In this paper it is proposed to answer the following research questions: What conditions and restrictions does the MTT have to face to manage the DD? What PWQ gestures can the community the MTT teaches do?

Framework

The Anthropological Theory of the Didactic (ATD) (Chevallard, 1999, 2007a, 2013b, 2013c) assumes the didactic of mathematics as the science that studies the diffusion and acquisition of mathematical knowledge (Chevallard, Sensey, 2014), locating its problematic at an epistemological and institutional level. In particular, Gascón (2014) indicates that the mathematic didactic is understood as the science that constructs, describes and explains didactic phenomena. Several researchers have identified didactic phenomena in the mathematics teaching at different educational levels (García et al., 2019). The evolution of the ATD has generated the hypothesis that all these phenomena are linked to the validity of a dominant didactic paradigm in school institutions (García et al., 2019): the *paradigm of visiting works* (PVW) (Chevallard, 2013a). In the PVW the mathematical works are presented to the students as crystallized human works, valuable in themselves, but devoid of the issues that gave rise to their origin, or at least of the questions to which they could give an answer and which would therefore give a sense to his study. Faced with this paradigm, Chevallard (2013a) advocates the need to establish a new didactic paradigm: it is proposed to introduce functional study processes into teaching systems instead of studying unmotivated knowledge, in response to questions whose origin is unknown or hidden. It requires the study of umbilical questions that demand material and conceptual tools, useful to study and answer questions, always in an unfinished way. The Study and Research Path (SRP) are devices that would allow facing the phenomenon of knowledge monumentalism from a new school epistemology based on the world questioning (Chevallard, 2013a). Carrying out the methodology of the new paradigm requires incorporating a set of didactic gestures, which imply radical modifications with respect to the teaching in the PVW. The teacher's role would not be to present the work O to the students so that they can visit it, but to conduct a process of inquiry guided by living and fruitful questions, assuming both students and teacher the responsibility of seeking answers to these questions, analogously how scientists act in their field of research. In particular, teaching by SRP presupposes addressing a process of collective inquiry in which the starting point is a problematic question Q_0 , with sufficient power to generate the process of inquiry, causing the formulation of new Q_k questions. This means that the study process can have a certain open and indeterminate character.

The study of the question Q_0 and those that derive from it, give rise to a shared and collaborative process of inquiry, characterized by the search and study of possible R^\diamond responses elaborated in other institutions that could help answer the questions. In this way, the didactic medium M is made up of all the elements available for the study of Q_0 . The access to these answers and works is determined by the media accessible to the study community. Media is understood as any system that represents a part of the natural or social world addressed to a specific audience, such as: a mathematics article, a magazine, a book, a website, texts edited by the teachers themselves, etc. (Chevallard (2007b). The study process culminates with the development of a possible R^\heartsuit , tentative and provisional response. This response may include mathematical and non-mathematical objects, which constitute the official answer given by the class $[X, Y]$ within their institution. R^\heartsuit will be significant insofar as it offers an adequate response to Q_0 and to the derived questions Q_k . The dynamics of the elements that constitute the structure of these study processes is described in terms of dialectics (Chevallard, 2007a, 2013b, 2013c):

- *The study and research dialectic.* A research implies the study of the combination of questions and pre-established answers. This dialectic is the engine of teaching for SRP. We cannot research without studying and, in turn, a genuine study is the generator of questions to be researched.
- *The individual and group dialectic.* The students with the study director must distribute the tasks and negotiate everyone's responsibility.
- *Dialectic of praxeological analysis-synthesis and didactic analysis-synthesis.* The construction of a response to a question requires the analysis of this knowledge and determines what is useful, functional for the construction of the sought response.
- *Dialectic of getting in and out of topic.* If the question is open and brainstorming, it is likeable to get out of the topic, even it could be necessary to get out of the reference discipline and get back in later.

- *Dialectic dark boxes and the light boxes.* This refers to the need to establish whether a work deserves to be studied, clarified analyzed, etc., or some knowledge is approached at grey level. Here it is not essential to answer the brainstorming questions and its derivate questions.
- *Dialectic of the parachutist and the truffles.* It refers to the status of explorers assumed by the actors of the didactic system. They have to take a great distance from the problem and explore the terrain from the very top. This inspection hardly ever finds what is sought at once, and requires gestures of approach, to analyze the usefulness of what is found. This dialectic is opposed to the school habit of immediacy in the search for solutions, where immediate and trivial responses are studied.
- *Dialectic of the media and the medium?* The productions of provisional successive answers require pre-established answers, accessible by means of communication and diffusion: the media (book, paper, class note, etc.). These answers are the product of conjecture, therefore they must be checked before being transformed and incorporated to the medium.
- *Dialectic of reading and writing.* It refers to the process of avoiding the formal transcription of existing responses. It is about taking from them the useful part and rewriting them in summary notes, glossaries, etc.
- *Dialectic of production and reception.* It is necessary to disseminate and defend the response developed by the study community. Knowledge is not important by itself, but it becomes relevant because the mathematical activity provides answers considered valuable by the study community.

Methodology

This paper proposes a qualitative research methodology of exploratory, descriptive and interpretative character (Hernández, Fernández, Baptista, 2014). Results of the management of a DD by an MTT are reported. The MTT was a fourth-year student of a mathematics teaching career at a National University of Argentina, who experimented the didactic-mathematical course designed for the vocational training in Maths (Corica and Otero, 2016a, 2016b, 2017). This MTT lacks teaching experience yet he knows the high school first-hand as well as by his training process at University.

The DD starts with the analysis of a situation aimed at comparing cell phone plans, analyzing the real condition of the plans offered by different companies (Corica, 2018). This DD turns out to be compatible to make some PWQ gestures. The implementation of the DD was developed in a senior- course at a public high school of private management in Argentina. In this course three hours per week are devoted to study mathematics, segmented in two-hour and one-hour stimuli. The study required 13 sessions (20 hours). The course was composed of $N = 32$ students whose ages ranged from 16 to 17. The students were grouped in sets of 3 to 5 members. Students had access to the Internet and used personal computers.

Despite being trained in traditional teaching, the students showed interest in participating and explaining their proposals to others regardless of whether the techniques used were appropriate or not. The MTT participated as an assistant to the teacher of the course for two months before implementing his DD. This allowed him to get to know the group and their study techniques; what contributed to the students' interaction with whom, in a short time, would be their teacher.

The general audio was recorded and field notes were made of each session during implementation. At the end of each session, the written productions of the students were collected and returned the following lesson. Likewise, the MTTs log was collected. In this log, he expressed his daily experience throughout its implementation, stating his didactic decisions. This allowed to explicitly have his decisions and to understand the management of the study.

To understand the management of the study proposed by the MTT, a Praxeological Reference Model (PRM) was built around the initial situation of the proposed DD. The formulation of a research problem in mathematics didactics presupposes an interpretation of the field of mathematical activity in the involved institution (Fonseca, Gascón and Lucas, 2014). From the ATD, the explicitation of the said model constitutes the nucleus of the epistemological dimension of the problem (Chevallard, 2013). This model consists of a network of mathematical praxeologies whose dynamics entail enlargements and progressive completions. From these models, the researcher takes a certain explicit point of view about the mathematical activity that takes place in an institution (García, Barquero, Florensa, Bosch, 2019). These models demand to be understood as relative and provisional, open to questioning and revision, resulting to be fertile for the identification of didactic phenomena and the formulation of didactic problems (Gascón, 2014). The following section indicates the essential characteristics of a PRM on the issue of how to compare cell phone rates.

Praxeological Reference Model

Below, the essential characteristics of a PRM around the study of the issue are presented: Q_0 : *There are several Cell Companies in the market. We want to contract one. Which one? Why?* In the Figure 1 it is proposed a tree diagram of possible issues derived from Q_0 .

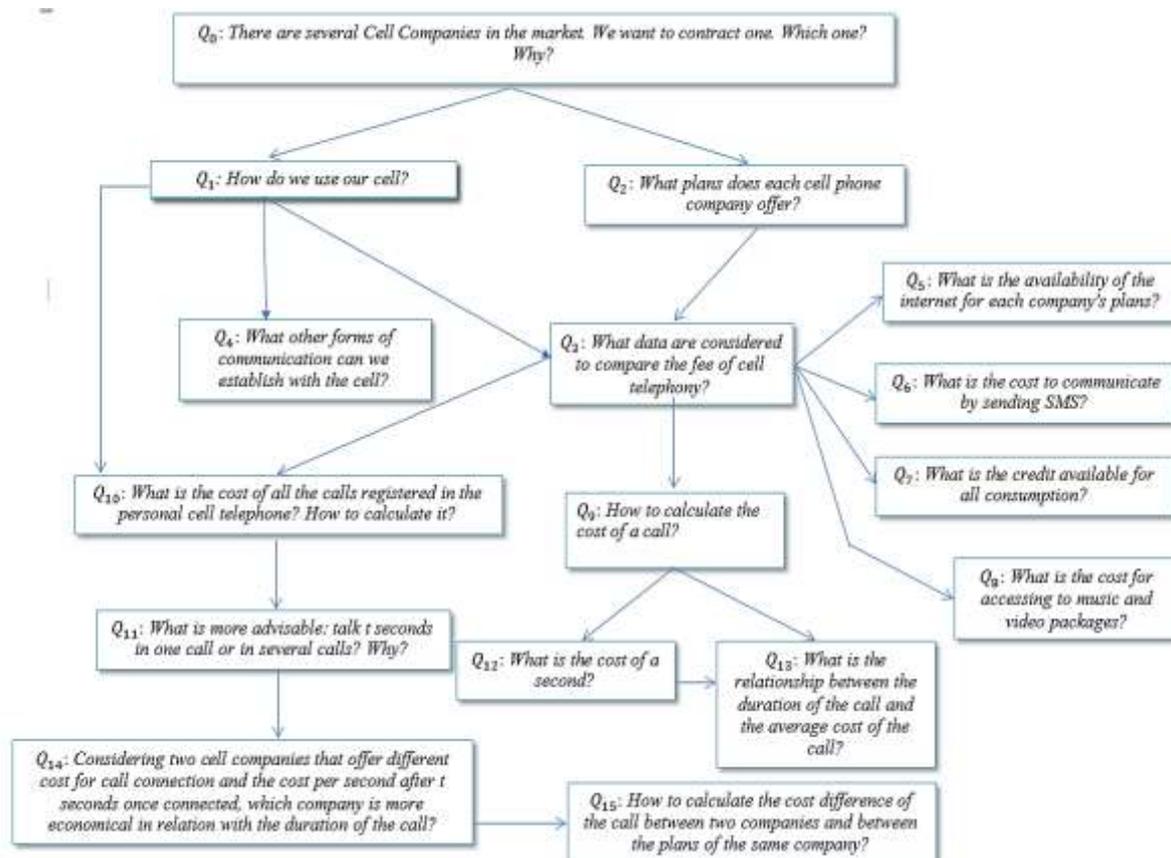


Figure 1. Praxeological reference model

In the PRM, the following questions, among others, are intended to inquire about each client's cell phone usage, and define what his needs are.: Q_1 : *How do we use our cell?* and Q_4 : *What other forms of communication can we establish with the cell?*

Q_2 : *What plans does each cell phone company offer?* has as objective to inquire about the characteristics of the different plans offered by each company. This exploration results in the study of the following questions: Q_3 : *What data are considered to compare the fee of cell telephony?* The latter invites us to ask ourselves: Q_5 : *What is the availability of the internet for each company's plans?*, Q_6 : *What is the cost to communicate by sending SMS?*, Q_7 : *What is the credit available for all consumption?*, Q_8 : *What is the cost for accessing to music and video packages?*, Q_9 : *How to calculate the cost of a call?*

Q_5 , Q_7 and Q_8 can be answered quickly, reviewing the information provided by each company. However, Q_6 and Q_9 require further deepening in relation to the response obtained from Q_7 , making the initial situation problematic. The duration of the communications by means of calls and the amount of SMS that can be sent depend on the minutes and free SMS indicated by the companies and the credit available for all consumption.

In particular, the following questions are derived from Q_9 : Q_{10} : *What is the cost of all the calls registered in the personal cell telephone? How to calculate it?*, Q_{11} : *What is more advisable: talk t seconds in one call or in several calls? Why?*, Q_{12} : *What is the cost of a second?*, Q_{13} : *What is the relationship between the duration of the call and the average cost of the call?*, Q_{14} : *Considering two cell companies that offer different cost for call connection and the cost per second after t seconds once connected, which company is more economical in*

relation with the duration of the call?, Q_{15} : How to calculate the cost difference of the call between two companies and between the plans of the same company?

The possible answers to the questions derived from Q_0 , require to go through mathematical praxeologies that, in the curricular design of the Argentine high school, appear little articulated, or they are absent. These praxeologies are: descriptive statistics, constant function, linear function, rational function, function defined by pieces, ceiling function, floor function, module function, rounding and truncation estimation, linear equations and inequalities, system of linear equations, continuous and discrete domain, continuous and discontinuous function, limit of functions at infinity. The study of Q_0 allows to rediscover the usefulness of the different mathematical praxeologies and link them to study a current situation (Corica, 2018).

Characteristics of the DD proposed by the MTT

In the first instance, before beginning the study, the MTT made the work guidelines explicit: small work groups to foster further discussions with the entire study community, procedure, purpose of collecting the student's productions, and evaluation (Annex I). Then, the MTT proposed the study of the following situation q_0 :

We want to hire a cell phone company. We have the description of the current costs of Movistar, Claro and Personal. Which cell phone company should we hire if we communicate through local calls?

For the study, the MTT provided the information on the plan of three cell phone companies in Argentina available at the time of implementing the DD (Annex II). This information is summarized in the Table 1:

Table 1. Information on the plan of three cell phone companies

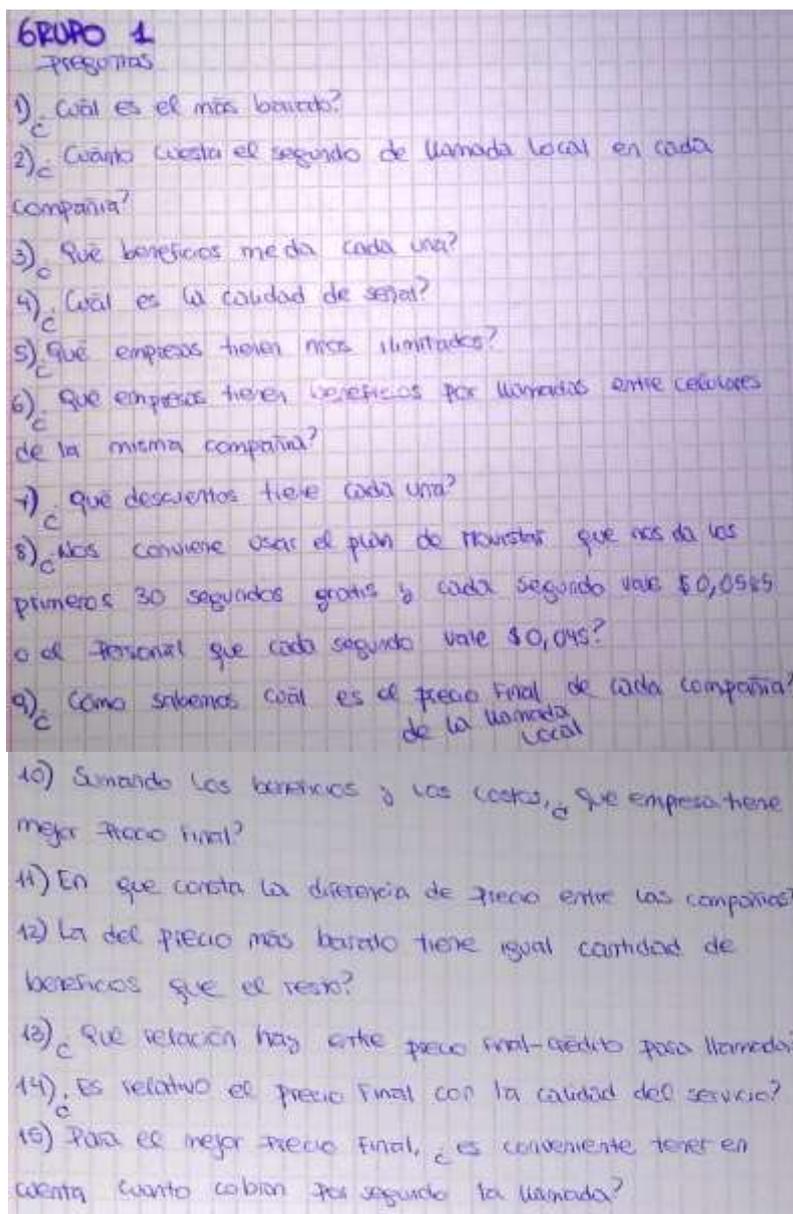
Company	Plan Cost	Internet included	Available credit to all consumption	Free seconds	Call connection (First30 seconds)	Second included cost
Claro	\$150	500MB	\$60	To other Claro	\$0,9510	0,0317
Personal	\$145	300MB	\$90	10000 seconds	\$0,045	\$1,35
Movistar	\$149	500MB	\$50	To Community Movistar	\$0,0585	\$1,7536

The information provided by the MTT refers to the most economical plans of the three selected companies. This decision of the MTT constitutes a first restriction in the management of the DD, since it restricted the study to analyze those plans selected by himself. The offer of each company is broader than that provided by the MTT, since the companies offer different plans. For each plan, information is indicated on the use of the internet, communication by SMS, cost by communication through calls (those that have a fixed cost for the first 30 seconds of communication and then start being charged per second the communication lasts), numbers to communicate without cost and for the plan of each company, different amounts are indicated as available to be used in different forms of communication. Thus, the exploratory moment is determined by the MTT's decision despite the fact the students have access to the Internet and their personal computers.

The decision of the MTT to limit the analysis of the situation depends on the teacher of the course's request that the proposal should be finished in approximately 12 meetings. In addition, it is an institution strongly regulated by evaluation. The students are continually submitted to evaluation instances, which made the MTT plan situations in order to have all the records requested by the institution. In the following section, the results of the management of the situation q_0 by the MTT are discussed.

Discussion of study management by MTT

The analysis of the initial situation was discussed in small groups of two or three students, and then shared with the whole class. The students explored the information provided by the MTT and proposed sets of questions. In the students' protocols can be observed that the questions exceed the information provided by the MTT. For example, Figure 2 shows the protocol of Group 1 as one of the broadest sets of questions collected:



[1) Which is the cheapest? 2) How much does the second of a local call cost in each company? 3) What benefits does each company give me? 4) What is the signal quality like? 5) Which companies have unlimited numbers? 6) Which companies have benefits for calls between cell phones of the same company? 7) What discounts does each one have? 8) Should we use the MOVISTAR plan that gives us the first 30 seconds for free every second of 0.0585 or the Personal that every second is worth \$ 0.45? 9) How do we know what the final price of each company's local call is? 10) Adding the benefits and costs, which company has the best final price? 11) What determines the price difference between the companies? 12) Does the company with the cheapest price have the same amount of benefits as the rest? 13) What is the relationship between final price and credit for calls? 14) Is the final price relative to the quality of the service? 15) For the best final price, is it convenient to consider how much the call per second is?]

Image 2. Questions proposed by Group 1

The first question that Group 1 proposes is to establish which company is the most economical. If the study of this question is carried out in depth, it is necessary to inquire not only about the cost of the plan but also about the entire offer of the plan. Likewise, the students also propose specific questions related to what the plan of each company offers, in particular, regarding the cost of the call and the quality of the signal. The MTT said that there were no elements to carry out the analysis of the quality of the signal. However, through the use of the Internet it is possible to know the coverage area of the companies based on the analysis of an interactive map (for example at: <https://www.claro.com.ar/personas/institucional/cobertura/>) and in this way address the question asked by the students. After the exchange of the proposal of each group, the following set of questions were agreed:

q₁: Which company has the cheapest call second?

q_2 : Which company has unlimited numbers?

q_3 : Which companies have benefits for calls between cell phones of the same company?

q_4 : What discounts does each one have?

q_5 : How much does the local call second cost in each company?

q_6 : Which company has the best final price?

q_7 : Should we use the MOVISTAR plan that gives us the first 30 seconds for free every second of 0.0585 or the Personal that every second is worth \$ 0.45?

The questions q_2 and q_3 admit immediate response since it is enough to review the terms and conditions established by each company. The question q_4 moves away from the purpose of the situation formulated by the MTT because of the breadth involved in its study. Questions q_1 and q_5 refer to the same type of task T_1 : Determine the cost per second of call for each company. Questions q_6 and q_7 refer to the type of task T_2 : Compare the cost of local calls for each of the cell phone companies. The MTT agreed with the group of students to begin studying the questions q_6 and q_7 . In particular, q_7 was discussed together with q_6 because they refer to aspects of the cost of the call, but q_7 formulation shows an inadequate interpretation of the information provided by the companies. Thus, the group expanded the set of questions, proposing the following:

q_8 : Does the company with the cheapest price have the same amount of benefits as the rest?

q_9 : Why is the price between the companies different?

q_{10} : What is the relationship between final price and credit for calls?

q_{11} : How do we know the final price of each company's local call?

q_{12} : Added the benefits and costs, which has the best final price?

The questions q_8 , q_9 and q_{12} are beyond MTT's plan. The proposal of the MTT was to limit this set of questions again and to study q_{10} and q_{11} . To study these questions, one of the students indicated: Give us a certain amount of time. Let's make a call from each company. In this way, the proposal was orientated to analyze the situation of specific calls duration. Some groups proposed to analyze the cost for 30-seconds calls, where the response can be obtained quickly from the information provided by the companies, without the need to problematize the situation. Other students proposed to study the cost for 60-seconds calls. The students of Group 7 made the following proposal (Image 3):

MOVISTAR $\rightarrow 60s = 11,7536 + (0,0585 \times 30s)$
 $= 18,5136$

CLARO $\rightarrow 60s = 10,9310 + (0,0387 \times 30s)$
 $= 12,1021$

PERSONAL $\rightarrow 60s = 0,045 \times 60s$
 $= 2,7$

Siempre la compañía más barata no a ser Claro

[Always the cheapest company will be Claro]

Image 3. Calculate the cost of a 60-second call for each company by Group 7

The students claimed that if the calls costs of a set time in the different companies were compared, they could determine which would be the most economical. This statement is based on the fact that if the call is cheaper for a certain time, it will always be. This does not problematize the situation and does not answer the question q_{11} : How do we know the final price of each company's local call? This required that the MTT intervened and proposed to address the question: q_{13} : How long can I talk with the available credit? This is a central question, because it allows to analyze that, the available credit to establish communication through calls is even lower although the communication costs are cheaper. For example, the Claro company offers a plan with the cost of establishing calls and cost of the second lower than the Personal plan which offers a credit for all consumption longer to establish communications through calls.

The analysis to establish the call cost derived in the formulation of functions defined by pieces. These constitute new notions to students and do not intend to address the curriculum design for the high school in Argentina. This study allows to recover different functions that are studied in the high school and in particular to carry out

an analysis on the domain of validity. Within the context of the initial situation, the analysis turns out to be interesting because the intervals in which each branch of the function is defined depend on the credit for all consumption that determines the plan of each company. Thus, notions that are proposed for the first years of high school, such as estimation, rounding and truncation, become meaningful. The proposals of the students focused on establishing a function to calculate the cost of the call for each particular case of each company, for example, in Image 4 an arithmetical resolution was proposed that constituted the first formulations that later derived in algebraic expressions.

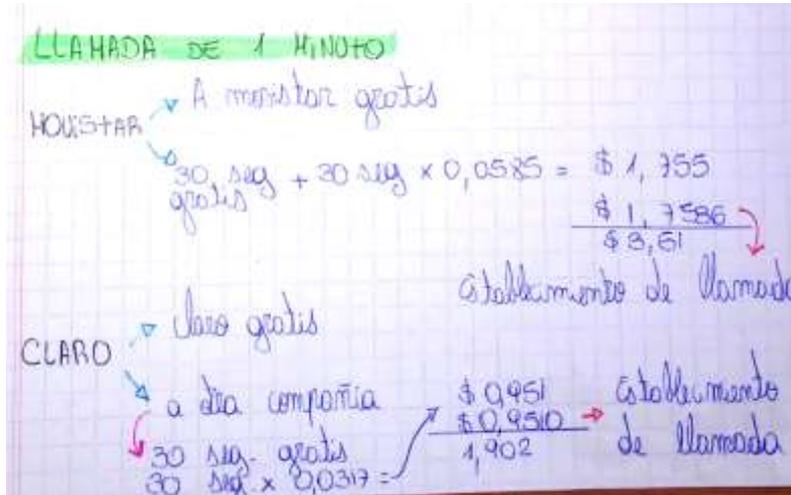


Image 4. Arithmetical resolution proposed by Group 3

As it can be observed in the Image 5 the proposal of the Group 4 contains the first algebraic formulations:

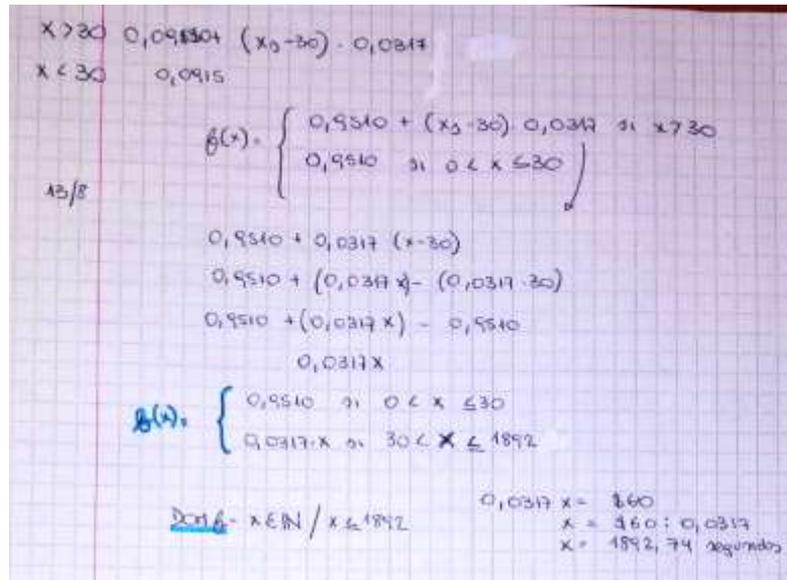


Image 5. Cost function proposed by Group 4

The discussion of the questions in small groups generated the writing of the expression that allows the calculation of the call cost to a particular company. Thus, for example, in the Group 4 protocol it can be observed the work on the first branch of the piece function, to finally write the cost function for the company Movistar. The definition of the domain of the function is also highlighted in this protocol. In particular, to calculate the domain of the second branch of the function requires considering the calculation of the duration of a call in which communication is established and continues until all the credit for all consumption is consumed. This is the optimal way to make the maximum available credit for all consumption, since when a communication is established, stopped and established again, each call is affected by the cost of establishing the call.

In addition, the context of the problem leads to truncate the result of the calculation of the function's domain as, due to the company charging policy, the fractions of a second do not make sense because they are lost by the user, the companies only charge for the duration of the communication. Finally, the group produced expressions of the type indicated below:

$$c(t) = \begin{cases} c_e & \text{si } 0 < t \leq 30 \\ c_e + c_s(t - 30) & \text{si } 31 \leq t \leq \left\lceil \frac{c_r - c_e}{c_s} + 30 \right\rceil \end{cases} \quad \text{where } t \in \mathbb{N}$$

Being c : the cost of the call, c_e : the cost for establishing the call; c_s : cost per second after the expiration of 30 seconds of the call establishment, c_r : credit available for any consumption.

Next, the MTT proposed to leave the topic to study notions of functions defined by pieces. These tasks refer to the following tasks types:

- T_1 : Establishing the validity domain of expressions defined by pieces.
- T_2 : Establishing the image of functions defined by pieces.
- T_3 : Find intersection points of functions defined by pieces with the coordinate axes.
- T_4 : Graph graphically defined functions by pieces.
- T_5 : Establishing intervals of positivity and negativity of functions defined by pieces.
- T_6 : Find the expression of functions defined by pieces represented graphically.
- T_7 : Establishing continuous and discontinuous functions.

In this proposal it was sought that the students become familiar with certain specific techniques of the study of functions defined by pieces and to have more knowledge to analyze q_1 : Which company has the cheapest call second? and q_5 : How much does the local call second cost in each company? The analysis of these questions derived in the study of functions defined by pieces composed of rational functions. This also turns out to be some new knowledge for senior students that intend to study in high school in Argentina (Dirección General de Cultura y Educación de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, 2011). The students reformulated their proposals, providing centralized response in analyzing particular cases, as it can be seen in the proposal of Group 2 (Image 6), who used the data provided by the company Movistar to write the expression:

Image 6. Average cost function proposed by Group 2

Finally, the students, together with the study aids provided by the MTT, proposed expressions of the type indicated below:

$$c_m(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{c_e}{t} & \text{si } 0 < t \leq 30 \\ \frac{c_e + c_s(t - 30)}{t} & \text{si } 31 \leq t \leq \left\lceil \frac{c_r - c_e}{c_s} + 30 \right\rceil \end{cases} \quad \text{where } t \in \mathbb{N}$$

Being c_m : the average cost, c_e : the cost per establishment of the call; c_s : cost per second after the expiration of 30 seconds of the call establishment, c_r : credit available for any consumption.

This was the first meeting of the students with the rational function. Therefore, the MTT proposed to study rational functions through tasks represented by the following tasks types:

- T_1 : Establishing the validity domain of rational expressions.
- T_2 : Establishing the image of rational functions.
- T_3 : Find points of intersection of rational functions with the coordinate axes.

T_4 : Represent rational functions graphically.

T_5 : Establish intervals of positivity and negativity of rational functions.

T_6 : Find the expression of rational functions represented graphically.

Finally, with the aim of recovering the analysis made OF the plans offered by the cell phone companies and of providing answers to the initial situation q_0 , the MTT proposed the following task to the students.

Review all the study conducted on cell phone companies and prepare a report outlining the answer to What cell phone company should we hire if we communicate through local calls?

The tasks were carried out in groups. The proposal of the students recovered what had been done from the beginning of the situation, deepening in the usefulness of mathematics to the analysis of the situation. The productions obtained for the final task focus on summarizing what was studied in the 12 sessions. In this way, the students did not inquire beyond the limits devised by the teacher. For example, in previous sessions the companies' way of charging calls was deepened, but no specific questions were asked such as those proposed for the company Movistar. This applies an additional cost depending on the distance of the call and has other benefits such as landline calls at no cost.

In this way, the students could have formulated and studied questions such as: Which company should I hire if the calls are long distance? How are landline telephone calls charged? From what second of the call is one plan more convenient than another? Also, to decide which company to hire, it is necessary to define the usage that each user makes of their cell phones. For example, for communications through calls, the plan offered by the Claro company proposes lower costs than Personal, the latter offers more credit for all consumption and 10000 seconds for free calls (approximately 166 minutes), while Claro offers unlimited calls to cell phones of the same company. The exploration of information made by students is superficial and without going beyond the limits that were studied in previous sessions. This is attributed to the previous training of students, who are used to a traditional and instantaneous teaching of mathematics where tasks have unique and immediate answers, and where formulating and answering their own questions is not part of their responsibilities.

Conclusion

This paper describes the results of the implementation of a DD by a MTT in regular math classes at a high school in Argentina. The DD has the peculiarity of allowing gestures of the QWP. The study was rich in the set of derived questions, thus transiting one of the fundamental gestures of the pedagogy of research: *the dialectic of study and research*. The formulation of questions is of vital importance in this type of study and the MTT managed to make the group formulate and study their own. The study aids offered by the MTT were fundamental to advance and sustain the problematization of the initial situation. However, his didactic decisions caused the study to be restricted. These decisions were made to rush the times and comply with institutional demands. The high school students who participated in the research are accustomed to a traditional and instantaneous mathematics teaching, where the tasks have unique and immediate answers, and evaluation is the core of the system. This is one of the fundamental conditions and restrictions that the MTT had to face in order to manage the study.

Despite the fact that the analysis of the questions derived from q_0 was regulated by the MTT, the students assumed the responsibility of searching for answers, proposing and studying specific situations. The answers were validated by the students' own experience and knowledge and by the verification between the work groups and the MTT. This corresponds to one of the gestures characteristic of the pedagogy of research: *the dialectic of the collective and the individual*. This was partially addressed, because the students shared the same answers although the study medium was originated from the proposal of each small group.

During the study conducted by the MTT, mathematics emerged as a need to respond to the initial situation and led to rediscover the functionality of some notions studied by students in previous years such as: constant function, linear function, estimation by rounding and truncation, equations and linear inequations, continuous domain. The study also demanded that students explore new notions related to: rational function, function defined by pieces, whole part function, discrete domain, continuous and discontinuous function. In particular, the notions: function defined by pieces, function whole part, are not proposed to be studied in the curricular design of the Argentine high school. The mathematical notions involved in the study do not fully cover the notions that were projected to be used in the MPR. Due to institutional constraints, such as the current curricular

design and the temporary space assigned, the MTT could not expand the study of necessary notions to deepen the analysis, such as those related to statistics.

During the direction of the study, more liberal and more arbitrary instances were alternated. The liberal instances correspond to the formulation of questions derived from q_0 . This, even when the MTT indicated how to deepen the analysis of q_0 and the derived questions, provided new questions to deepen the exploration of the study. Here, the decisions taken were the result of collective deliberation, under the supervision of the MTT. While the study became arbitrary when the MTT required the study of specific mathematical tasks. He decided not only what purely mathematical tasks to study about function defined by pieces and rational function but also with what level of deepening according to the previous training of the students. This made the dialectic of entering and leaving the subject and *the dialectic of the clear and black boxes* to be totally directed by the MTT.

This is also attributed to the teaching inexperience of the MTT, the temporary restriction, the need to comply with a curricular design, the projected tasks for the study proposed by the teacher of the course and the evaluating system prevailing in the institution. Future work continues to focus on forming MTT in the study and management of didactic devices in which mathematics regains its functionality. Although the DD managed in this work is not an open SRP, it allows to move some of the own gestures that involves teaching by research by MTT (who are not experts in the ATD), in the current conditions of the high school in Argentina.

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Annex I

- It is proposed to study the different problems in groups. The groups will be made up of 2 or 3 students, who will be maintained throughout the lessons.
- At the end of each session, the productions of all the students will be withdrawn in order to study the work of the students during the session and project the continuation of the study process. They will also be taken into account as a record for the preparation of the conceptual qualification required in the evaluation form.
- When resolving the different activities, students are requested not to delete the resolutions. In the event that each student considers a resolution incorrect, he is asked to mark it with a cross. The focus of study are the productions of each student, beyond whether the final result of the task is successful or not.
- It is intended that students perform the tasks during the class and participate in the subsequent sharing.
- It is requested that the student's name, the group number and the sheet number be identified on the sheets that the students write.
- At the end of the entire study, an evaluation will be proposed. The date for the realization will be scheduled with the whole group. The evaluation will be done individually.

Annex II

Smart Control \$150 « Volver a Planes

\$ 150 **Ilimitadas** **\$60** **500 MB** **100** **Bonificada**
 al mes Llamadas a otros Claro Crédito para todo consumo Internet Incluido SMS incluidos Larga distancia nacional

Detalles del plan | Términos y Condiciones

Planes Smart	Internet Incluido	Llamadas a otros Claro	SMS Incluidos	Crédito para todo consumo	Larga distancia Nacional	Establecimiento de llamada	Establecimiento de llamadas excedente	Segundo incluido	Segundo excedente	SMS Excedente	Internet Excedente
Plan Smart \$150	500 MB	ilimitadas	100	\$ 60	Bonificada	\$ 0,9510	\$ 2,20	\$ 0,0317	\$ 0,0733	\$ 1,15	\$3,50 el día

Llamadas ilimitadas: Solo llamadas nacionales a destinos móviles de Claro de Argentina. Servicio bonificado por 6 meses, al 7mo mes el precio del servicio será de \$70 finales/mes.

Smart Control \$150 « Volver a Planes

\$ 150 **Ilimitadas** **\$60** **500 MB** **100** **Bonificada**
 al mes Llamadas a otros Claro Crédito para todo consumo Internet Incluido SMS incluidos Larga distancia nacional

Detalles del plan | **Términos y Condiciones**

(1) Llamadas ilimitadas a otros Claro (2) Crédito para todo Consumo (3) Internet \$3,50 el día (4) Internet (5) SMS incluidos (6) Larga Distancia (7) Establecimiento de llamadas (8) Segundo Incluido y Excedente (9) Recarga de saldo

Oferta válida en Argentina del 29/06/2015 al 31/07/2015 para nuevas activaciones con Smart Control. No incluye cargo Enard Ley 26.573. 1) Llamadas nacionales a destinos móviles Claro Argentina por 6 meses, al 7mo mes \$70 finales/mes. Beneficio podrá ser suspendido o dado de baja, si CLARO identifica el uso abusivo, incluyendo uso con fines comerciales o para realizar llamadas masivas. 2) Crédito disponible para realizar llamadas a otras compañías y/o destinos Claro en caso de no tener el paquete de llamadas ilimitadas y/o SMS excedente y/o MB excedente y/o mensajes multimedia y/o llamadas a destinos internacionales y/o consumos realizados sobre las redes de otros operadores en el exterior. 3) Una vez consumida la capacidad incluida en el plan, \$3,50 por día. Hasta las 23:59 hs. del día. Velocidad máxima hasta 50MB por día, luego 128Kbps. \$3,50 serán descontados al conectarse. 4) Servicio de alcance nacional sujeto a tecnología de equipo, cobertura 3G/4G LTE de CLARO y disponibilidad técnica y geográfica. Máxima velocidad hasta llegar al máximo de la capacidad incluida en el pack mensual de acuerdo al plan contratado. Líneas con equipos BlackBerry: el servicio de valor agregado BlackBerry no se encuentra disponible para Planes Control. 5) Beneficio nacional mensual no acumulable. Este beneficio no incluye envío de SMS Premium, Internacionales, ni MMS. 6) Llamadas nacionales a todo destino se abonan a precio de llamada local. 7) Es el cargo por inicio de la llamada y cubre la primer fracción de 30 segundos. Luego se comienza a tasar la llamada por segundo. El establecimiento de la llamada excedente tiene un precio de \$2,20 finales. 8) La unidad de medida de las llamadas originadas es el segundo a partir de los primeros 30 segundos de establecida la llamada, excepto en las llamadas sobre las redes de otros operadores en el exterior. Las llamadas bajo modalidad roaming serán tasadas en unidades de minuto, y cualquier fracción inferior al minuto será redondeada y tasada a minuto completo. 9) El crédito de regalo proveniente de las recargas de saldo es válido para llamadas y envíos de SMS a cualquier destino nacional. Los beneficios del plan podrán ser suspendidos o dados de baja por Claro sin derecho a reclamo alguno para el cliente y serán facturados los servicios y cualquier otro concepto que corresponda (según precios del plan contratado), en los siguientes casos: (i) utilización con fines comerciales o para obtener rédito económico; (ii) utilización para realizar llamadas o enviar SMS a través de máquinas, PC u otros dispositivos automatizados. Condiciones en www.claro.com.ar y en locales de venta. AMX ARGENTINA SA. CUIT 30-66328849-7 Av. de Mayo 878 CABA.

Smart Control \$150

\$150 **Unlimited** **\$60** **50MB** **100** **Bonus**
 A Calls to Credit for all Internet SMS National long
 month others Claro consumption Included Included distance

Plan Details

Smart plans	Internet Included	Calls to others Claro	SMS Included	Credit for all consumption	National long distance	Call establishment	Establishment of surplus calls	Second included	Second surplus	Surplus SMS	Surplus Internet
Smart plans \$150	500 MB	Unlimited	100	\$60	Bonus	\$0,9510	\$2,20	\$0,0317	\$0,0733	\$1,15	\$3,50 the day

Unlimited Calls: Only national calls to mobile destinations in Claro of Argentina. Bonus service for 6 months, at 7th month the price of the service will be \$70 end/month.

Terms and Conditions

(1) Unlimited calls to other Claros (2) Credit for all Consumption (3) Internet \$ 3,50 per day (4) Internet (5) SMS included (6) Long Distance (7) Call establishment (8) Second Included and Surplus (9) Balance recharge

Offer valid in Argentina from 06/29/2015 to 07/31/2015 for new activations with Smart Control. Does not include Enard Law 26.573. 1) National calls to mobile destinations CLARO Argentina for 6 months, at the 7th month \$70 end/month. Benefit may be suspended or terminated, if CLARO identifies abusive use, including one for commercial purposes or for making mass calls. 2) Credit available to make calls to other companies and/or Claro destinations in case you do not have the unlimited calls package and/or SMS surplus and/or excess MB and/or multimedia messages and/or calls to international destinations and/or consumption made on the networks of other operators abroad. 3) Once consumed the capacity included in the plan, \$ 3,50 per day. Until 11:59 p.m. of the day Maximum speed up to 50MB per day, then 128Kbps. \$ 3,50 will be discounted when connected. 4) Service of national scope subject to equipment technology, 3G / 4G LTE coverage of CLARO and technical and geographical availability. Maximum speed until reaching the maximum capacity included in the monthly pack according to the contracted plan. Lines with BlackBerry devices: The BlackBerry value-added service is not available for Control Plans. 5) Monthly national benefit not cumulative. This benefit does not include sending Premium SMS, International, or MMS. 6) National calls to all destinations are paid at the local call price. 7) It is the charge for initiating the call and covers the first fraction of 30 seconds. Then the call starts charging per second. The establishment of the surplus call is priced at \$ 2,20 final. 8) The unit of measurement of the originated calls is the second from the first 30 seconds of establishing the call, except for calls on the networks of other operators abroad. Calls under roaming mode will be priced in minute units, and any fraction less than the minute will be rounded and priced at full minute. 9) The gift credit from balance refills is valid for calls and SMS shipments to any national destination. The benefits of the plan may be suspended or terminated by Claro without any right to claim for the client and the services and any other corresponding concept will be charged (according to prices of the contracted plan), in the following cases: (i) use with commercial purposes or to obtain economic revenue; (ii) use to make calls or send SMS through machines, PCs or other automated devices. Conditions in www.claro.com.ar and in sales premises. AMX ARGENTINA SA: CUIT 30-66328849-7 Av. de Mayo 878 CABA.

Plan Comunidad Habla y Navegá I - \$ 149

Plan disponible en Argentina para personas físicas del 11/07/15 al 31/08/15. En cada llamado, se descontarán del crédito del cliente los primeros 30 segundos desde el establecimiento de la comunicación, que tendrán un valor fijo de \$1,7536 en llamadas a todos los destinos móviles o fijos de cualquier operadora de telefonía de Argentina, independientemente de la duración de la llamada o de que se consuma la totalidad de estos primeros 30 segundos. A partir del segundo 31, cada segundo de comunicación tendrá un valor de \$0,0585 a destinos móviles o fijos de cualquier operadora de telefonía de Argentina.

El plan incluye los siguientes servicios:

(i)Ampliación de Crédito (excepto Tierra del fuego), que permite obtener hasta 2 ampliaciones de crédito automáticas por mes de \$30 cada una (en total, \$60 por mes de recargas automáticas extras), a pagar en la siguiente factura, de manera adicional al abono y cualquier otro servicio contratado. Las ampliaciones de crédito automáticas se realizarán cuando el saldo disponible sea de \$3. El cliente podrá solicitar que las ampliaciones de crédito no se realicen automáticamente, y realizarlas manualmente cuando desee, a través del envío de un SMS sin cargo con la palabra CONSULTA al 88668. En caso de querer volver al sistema de ampliación de crédito automático original, deberá enviar un SMS sin cargo con la palabra ALTA al 88668.

Community Plan Mas \$149

The Community Mas plans allow you to always be connected, they contain a monthly credit that, once consumed, you can receive up to two automatic credit extensions per month (which will be paid on the charge for the following month). If they consumed the total credit they will be able to make refills in traditional media.

\$149

Internet 500 MB + \$50 gift, plus credit X5 Speed 4G Free calls to the
 Internet per day plus. extension Movistar Community.

Talk and Navigate Community Plan I - \$149

Plan available in Argentina for individuals from 07/11/15 to 08/31/15. In each call, the first 30 seconds from the establishment of the communication will be deducted from the customer's credit, which will have a fixed value of \$ 1,7536 in calls to all mobile or fixed destinations of any telephone operator in Argentina, regardless of the duration of the call or the totality of these first 30 seconds is consumed. As of the second 31, each second of communication will have a value of \$ 0,0585 to mobile or fixed destinations of any telephone operator in Argentina.

The plan includes the following services:

(i) Credit Extension (except Tierra del Fuego), which allows to obtain up to 2 automatic credit extensions per month of \$ 30 each (in total, \$ 60 per month of extra automatic recharges), to be paid on the following invoice, so additional to the subscription and any other contracted service. Automatic credit extensions will be made when the available balance is \$3. The client may request that credit extensions not be carried out automatically, and and perform them manually whenever you want by sending an SMS without charge with the word CONSULTATION to 88668. If you want to return to the original automatic credit extension system, you must send a free SMS with the word ALTA to 88668.

Personal Mi Cuenta Tienda Club Personal Ayuda ¿Quié quieres hacer? SMS online

Teléfonos móviles Planes Internet USB Servicios para tu plan

< a cualquier compañía \$145 **CONTRATAR**

El Plan Abono Día Full a cualquier compañía \$145 es un plan con factura fija mensual. Descuenta \$11,90 final por día (precio promocional hasta 31/07/2015, posterior a esa fecha el plan tazará \$12,90 x día) del crédito de tu abono con tu primer llamada nacional a Personal y otras compañías o envío de SMS. Incluye 10.000 segundos para llamadas a otro Personal y/o cualquier compañía y 1000 sms. Incluye servicio de internet.

Abono mensual	\$145
Crédito Mensual	\$ 90
Internet	Incluido x mes 300MB
SMS	1.000
Primer bloque	\$1,35
Segundo local	\$0,045
Valor a descontar por día	\$11,90 x día
Llamadas a personal y otras compañías	10.000 segundos

Beneficios incluidos \$40 de crédito inicial sin vencimiento

Legales

Plan de alcance Nacional. Válida desde el 06/05/2015 hasta 29/07/2015. Aplica para altas nuevas y/o cambio de plan. Precios para consumidores finales. No incluye Cargo 1% ENARD. Beneficio por activación: \$40 de crédito inicial. Incluye \$90 de crédito mensual. Precio del día \$12,90, el cual se descontara con el primer SMS enviado o primer llamada a un numero local de Personal y otras compañías, otorgando 10.000 segundos y 1000 SMS (se excluye SMS Premium, Contenidos, Internacionales y a línea fija) para utilizar hasta las 23:59hs del mismo día. Superada las unidades incluidas: Precio Final SMS nacional excedente: \$1,05. Valor Bloque inicial (30 segundos) local \$1,35 final. Precio final del segundo aire local: \$0,045 para llamadas locales a números de Personal y otras compañías. No aplica en Roaming Internacional. [-]

Precio por segundo de larga distancia nacional: Hasta 110Km \$0,056, entre 110Km y 240 km \$0,058 y mayor a 240 km \$0,064. Valor Bloque inicial (30 segundos) de larga distancia nacional: hasta 110Km \$1,68, entre 110Km y 240 km \$1,74 y mayor a 240 km \$1,92. Precio final MMS nacional: \$1,25. Internet Incluido: La velocidad de navegación dependerá de los recursos disponibles de la red hasta alcanzar los 300MB mensuales, a partir del cual la velocidad será hasta 32Kbps. Renovación de velocidad de navegación: Precio \$39 final que será descontado del crédito de la línea. Dispondrá nuevamente de 300MB para navegar hasta una velocidad máxima hasta 256 Kbps. Plan Excluido de beneficios asociados a la recargas como Doble/Triple de crédito, Recarga SOS y/o beneficio Superchip. Para hacer uso de la línea se deberá contar con crédito mayor a \$0,01 y encontrarse vigente sin ningún tipo de restricción. La tasación de una llamada comienza desde el momento en el que el abonado llamado contesta directamente o por medio de una casilla de mensajes o sistema equivalente, hasta que finaliza la comunicación. Conforme a lo dispuesto por la Res. SC N° 26/2013, la tasación de cada llamada se compondrá de un valor fijo correspondiente al Bloque Inicial de Comunicación (incluye hasta 30 segundos), conforme el precio fijado en el plan elegido, mas la tasación por segundo que transcurra después del segundo 30 de establecida la comunicación, valorizada al precio del segundo fijado en el plan elegido. Promoción Lanzamiento Precio del día \$11,90 final, Precio Reseteo de cuota \$19 final desde el 01/02/2015, hasta el 31/07/2015. A través del *111 o de la página web www.personal.com.ar podrá acceder a mayor información. Telecom Personal S.A. Alicia M. de Justo 50. CABA CUIT 30-67818644-5.

[Personal

Mobile phones to any company \$ 145

The Subscription Plan Dia Full to any company \$ 45 is a plan with monthly fixed bill.

Discount \$11,90 end per day (promotional price up 31/07/2015, after that date the plan will cut \$ 12.90 per day) of credit of your subscription with your first national call to Personnel and other companies or sending SMS. It includes 10,000 seconds for calls to other Personnel and / or any company and 1000 sms. It includes internet service.

Monthly Payment	\$ 145
Monthly credit	\$ 90
Internet	Included x moth 300MB
SMS	1000
First block	\$1,35
Second place	\$0,045
Value to be discounted per day	\$11,90 x day
Call to personal and other companies	10000 seconds

Benefits included \$ 40 initial credit without expiration

Legal

National scope plan. Valid from 06/05/2015 to 07/29/2015. Applies for new registrations and / or change of plan. Prices for final consumers. Does not include 1% ENARD charge. Activation benefit: \$ 40 initial credit. Includes \$ 90 monthly credit. Price of the day \$ 12.90, which will be discounted with the first SMS sent or first call to a local number of Personnel and other companies, granting 10,000 seconds and 1000 SMS (excluding Premium SMS, Contents, International and landline) to use until 11:59 p.m. on the same day. exceeded the units included: Final National SMS Final Price: \$ 1.05. Initial block value (30 seconds) local \$ 1.35 final. Final price of the second local air: \$ 0.045 for local calls to Personnel numbers and other companies. Does not apply in International Roaming.

Price per second of national long distance: Up to 110km \$ 0.056, between 110Km and 240Km \$ 0.058 and greater than 240Km \$ 0.064. Initial block value (30 seconds) of national long distance: up to 110Km \$ 1.68, between 110Km and 240Km \$ 1.74 and greater than 240KM \$ 1.92. Final national MMS price: \$ 1.25. Internet included: The browsing speed will depend on the available resources of the network until reaching 300MB per month, from which the speed will be up to 32Kbps. Navigation speed renewal: Price \$ 39 final that will be deducted from the line credit. You will have 300MB again to navigate up to a maximum speed up to 256Kbps. Excluded Plan of benefits associated with recharges as Double / Triple credit. Recharge SOS and / or Superchip benefit. To make use of the line, you must have a credit greater than \$ 0.01 and be in force without any restriction. The appraisal of a call begins from the moment in which the called subscriber answers directly or by means of a message box or equivalent system, until the communication ends. In accordance with the provisions of Res. SC N ° 26/2013, the appraisal of each call will consist of a fixed value corresponding to the Initial Communication Block (includes up to 30 seconds), according to the price set in the chosen plan, plus the appraisal per second that occurs after the second 30 of establishing the communication, valued at the price of the second set in the chosen plan. Promotion Launch Price of the day \$ 11.90 final. Price Reset fee \$ 19 final from 02/01/2015, until 07/31/2015. Through * 111 or www.personal.com.ar you can access more information. Telecom Personal S.A. Alicia M. de Justo 50. CABA CUIT 30-67818644-5.]