

JOHNSON  
Cornell University

# Industry Analysis

Strategy AEM260I

Professor Marcel Preuss



# Industry Analysis = 5 Forces

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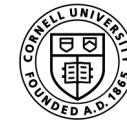


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□ To understand an industry, look for *precise structural features*—why are the following important or not in any given situation:

- Internal Rivalry
- Entry
- Supplier Power
- Buyer Power
- Substitutes

# Threat Levels



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- ☐ It is often useful to assign threat levels to the five forces
- ☐ Which forces are threatening the profitability of the industry?



**high**

**medium/high**

**medium**

**low/medium**

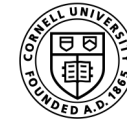
**low**



□ To understand an industry, look for *precise structural features*—why are the following important or not in any given situation:

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# Rivalry – Airframe Manufacturing

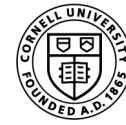


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Rivalry	↑(high threat because)	↓(low threat because)	medium
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Very comparable product line-up</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Large and infrequent orders</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Limited market growth</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Production assets difficult to liquidate during recession</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Incompatibility of parts = differentiation in aftermarket</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Order Backlogs and Undercapacity</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Small number of firms</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Cost benefits of uniform fleet for airlines</li></ul>	

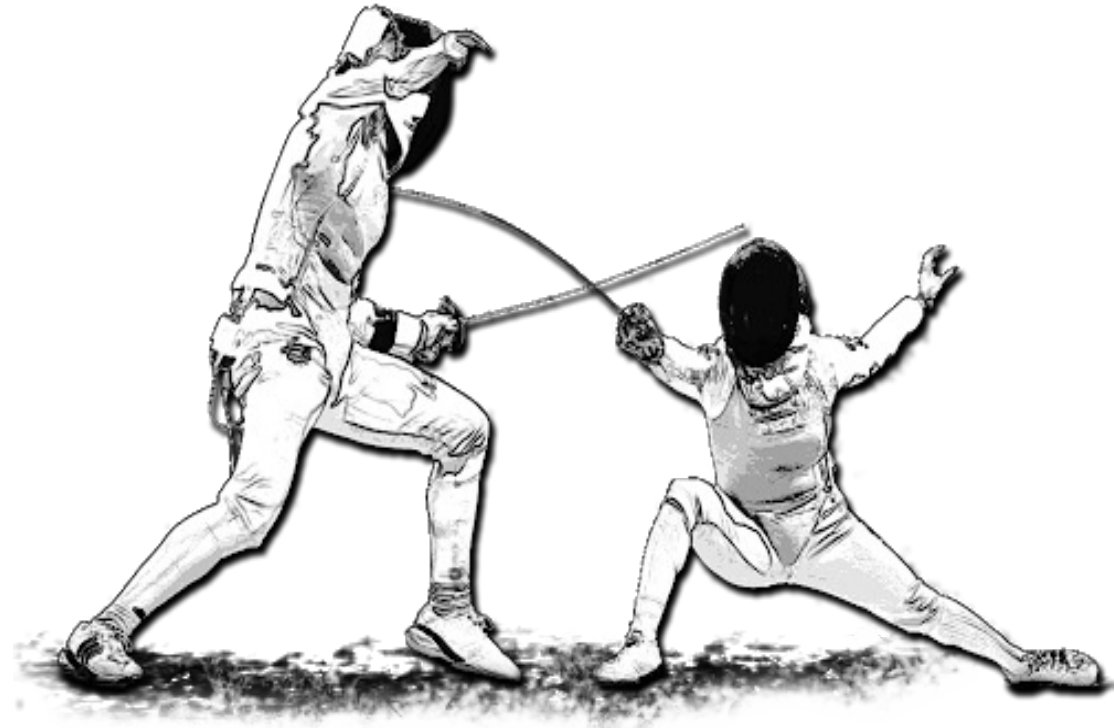


# How to analyze Internal Rivalry



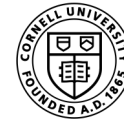
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- Many different factors influence the intensity of rivalry, e.g.:
  - The number of firms (industry concentration)
  - Product differentiation
  - Market growth
  - (Excess) capacity
  - Switching costs
  - Exit costs



# Factors influencing Rivalry

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- ❑ Industry Concentration
  - In an industry in which few firms hold large market shares, the incentives to undercut rivals' prices are weak
- ❑ Production Differentiation
  - In an industry in which firms' products are differentiated, buyers do not only focus on price and, thus, incentives to undercut rivals' prices are weak
- ❑ Switching Costs
  - Buyers face switching costs if switching from their status quo to another product requires an additional investment (of money or time)
  - If there are switching costs, firms have weaker incentives to undercut rivals' prices

# Factors influencing Rivalry

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## ❑ Excess Capacity

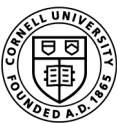
- A firm has excess capacity if its fixed investments (e.g. in store size/ production plant) allow it to produce/sell more than it currently does
- If firms have excess capacity, their marginal cost of selling more are low, which implies strong incentives to sell more by undercutting rivals' prices
- Excess capacity is likely a problem in markets where fixed costs are significant because this means that firms can only expand capacity by taking larger steps

## ❑ Exit Costs (only relevant in during recession)

- Exit costs include the difference between the cost of acquiring an asset and the liquidation value of an asset, plus financial obligations a company owes if it exits a market (without going completely bankrupt)
- If exit costs are high, firms do not exit an industry even if they make losses



# Supplier Power in Streaming

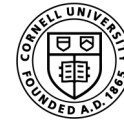


❑ What about supplier power in the video on demand streaming industry?

Supplier Power	↑	↓	Low/ medium
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Increasing number of studios and streaming services</li><li>❑ Studios and streaming services demand quantity to keep subscribers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Studios have many alternatives.</li><li>❑ Market conditions favor variety in terms of actors, genres, preferred short series because<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ it allows studios to hedge against costly flops (different from box-office)</li><li>❑ it allows the recommendation algorithms to select from a greater pool of options</li></ul></li></ul>	

# How to analyze Supplier Power

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- ❑ Supplier power describes the clout of suppliers over the industry in question
- ❑ Supplier power is higher (all else equal) if
  - Suppliers control significant market share
  - Supplier market is more “concentrated”
    - ✓ i.e. there are fewer suppliers than firms in the main industry
    - ✓ Increase in concentration of suppliers raises their power (all else equal)
  - A lack of viable substitutes (to buy from)
  - Suppliers have potential to forward integrate (and lower if you can backward integrate)

# LTL Trucking



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□ Let's understand the LTL market:



- Is the LTL industry more or less profitable than the FTL industry? Think about entry barriers, which are higher?

# LTL Trucking (Yellow)



Entry	↑	↓	low/medium
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Trucks are easy to acquire/rent</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Drivers are easy to hire</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Network of warehouses required to consolidate shipments</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Complex logistics &amp; routing</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Large fixed costs require picking up a large market share from incumbent to be profitable</li></ul>	



# Analyzing Threat from Entry



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- ☐ What about the likelihood of entry into our industry?
- ☐ Entry barriers:
  - Control of essential resources (natural, IP, ...)
  - Economies of scale and scope (in production)
  - (Excess) capacity
  - Switching costs
  - Network effects (In Porter: “demand-side economies of scale”)
  - Incumbent advantages (brand image, etc.)
  - Other incumbent advantages (e.g., brand image)
- ☐ Threat from entry also depends on possible speed of entry



# Network effects on Platforms



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❑ A platform is a product or service that *intermediates multiple sides of a market*

- It profits by charging one or more sides of this market for transactions

❑ For example:

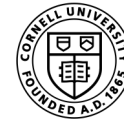
- A newspaper intermediates *readers and advertisers*
- Credit Cards intermediate *merchants and customers*
- Facebook intermediates *social media consumers and advertisers*
- Uber intermediates *passengers and drivers*
- Videogame consoles intermediate *gamers and developers*
- Groupon intermediates *business and deal-seeking customers*
- DogVacay intermediates *dog owners and dog walkers*

❑ Platforms and standards exhibit *network effects*



# Types of Network Effects

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- ❑ Platforms exhibit *network effects*
- ❑ Network effects can be *same-sided*: users care about how many users are on “their side” of the market
  - WhatsApp users care about the number of WhatsApp users
  - Dropbox users care about the number of Dropbox users
- ❑ Network effects can be *cross-sided*: users care about how many users are on “the other side” of the market
  - Apple iOS users want more apps
  - Uber passengers want more Uber drivers
- ❑ Networks effects can lead to exponential growth and constitute a significant barrier to entry

# Industry Analysis – Takeaways

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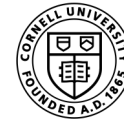
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- ☐ Five Forces: you compete for profits with rivals and
- ☐ Potential Entrants
  - The likelihood of entry depends on barriers to entry
- ☐ Suppliers/Buyers
  - Power of suppliers/buyers depends on market share, concentration, viable substitutes, vertical integration, regulation, etc.
- ☐ Providers of Substitutes
  - The threat from substitutes depends on their viability, availability, price
- ☐ 5+1 forces analysis helps understand
  - Which forces pose the greatest threats
  - Which forces can be influenced
  - Where opportunities lie



# Preview for next Week

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Core Content: Industry Analysis II



“A lack of competition explains the flaws in American aviation” *The Economist* (2017)