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# MEASURING THE INTENSITY OF NONPROFIT COMPETITION:

NEW RESEARCH METRICS

### RESEARCH NOTE:

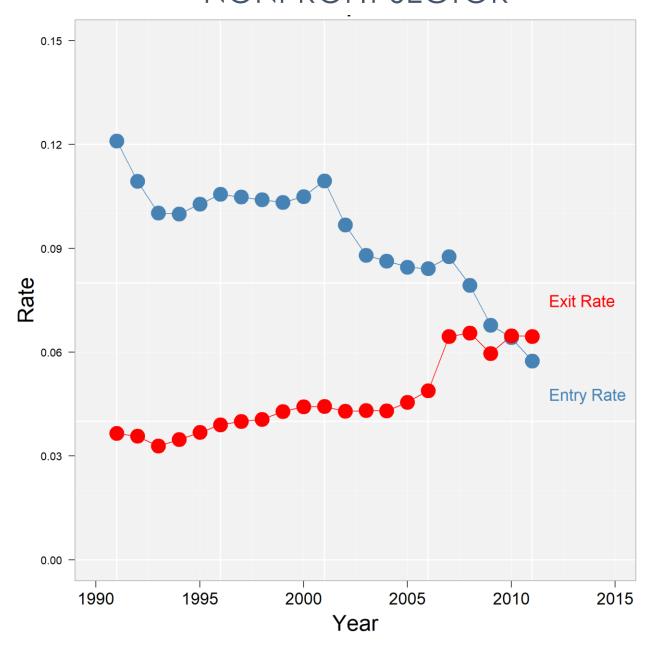
WHAT METRICS ARE BEST TO ASSESS
THE LEVEL OF COMPETITIVENESS
IN NONPROFIT "MARKETS"?

# NONPROFIT SHAKE-OUT?

Klepper, S., & Simons, K. L. (2005). Industry shakeouts and technological change. *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, *23*(1), 23-43.

Reichstein, T. (2003). Firm growth rate distributions, firm size distributions and the industry life cycle. *IKE Group/DRUID, Aalborg*.

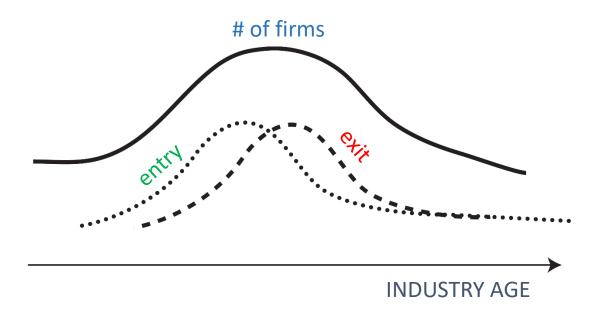
#### NONPROFIT SECTOR



## INDUSTRY SHAKE-OUT

Klepper, S., & Simons, K. L. (2005). Industry shakeouts and technological change. *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, *23*(1), 23-43.

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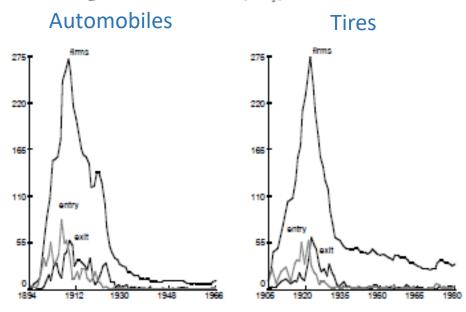


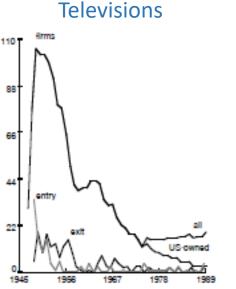
## INDUSTRY SHAKE-OUT

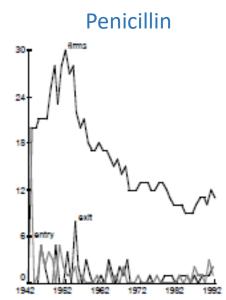
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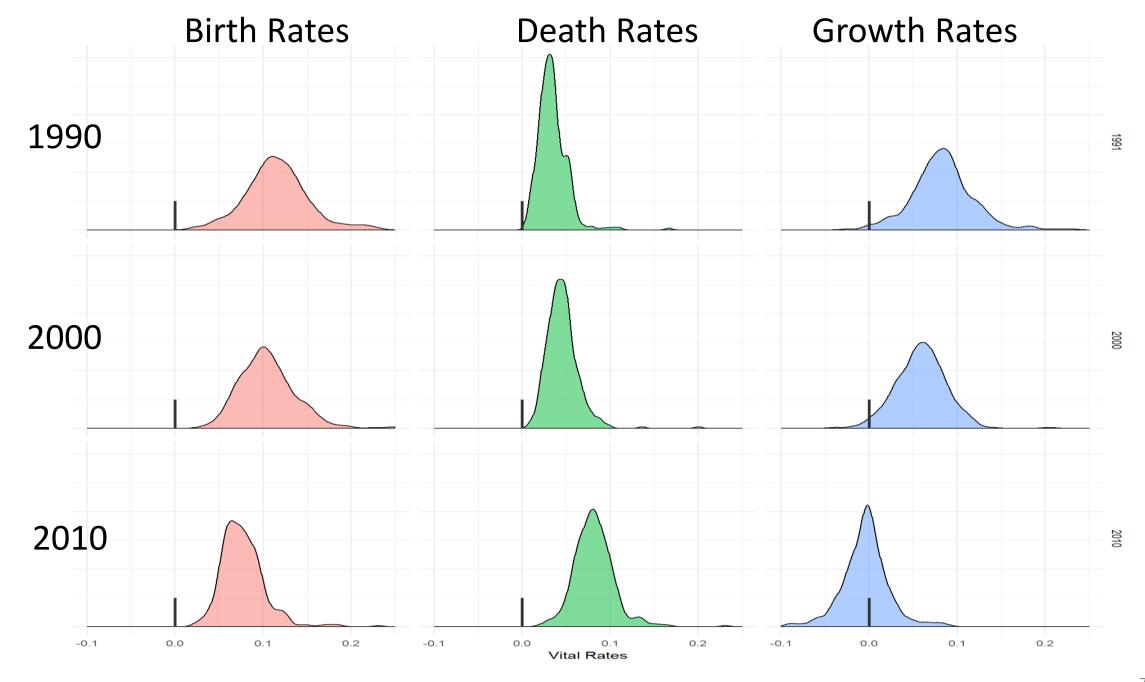
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Figure 1.-Number of Producers, Entry, and Exit in the Four Products





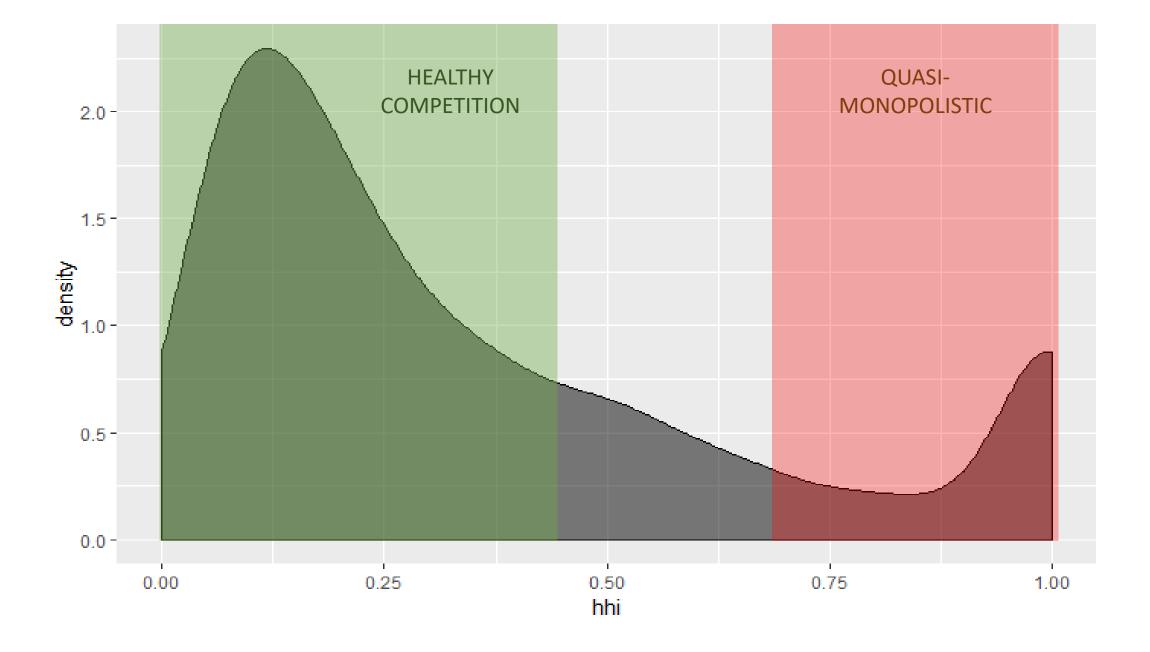




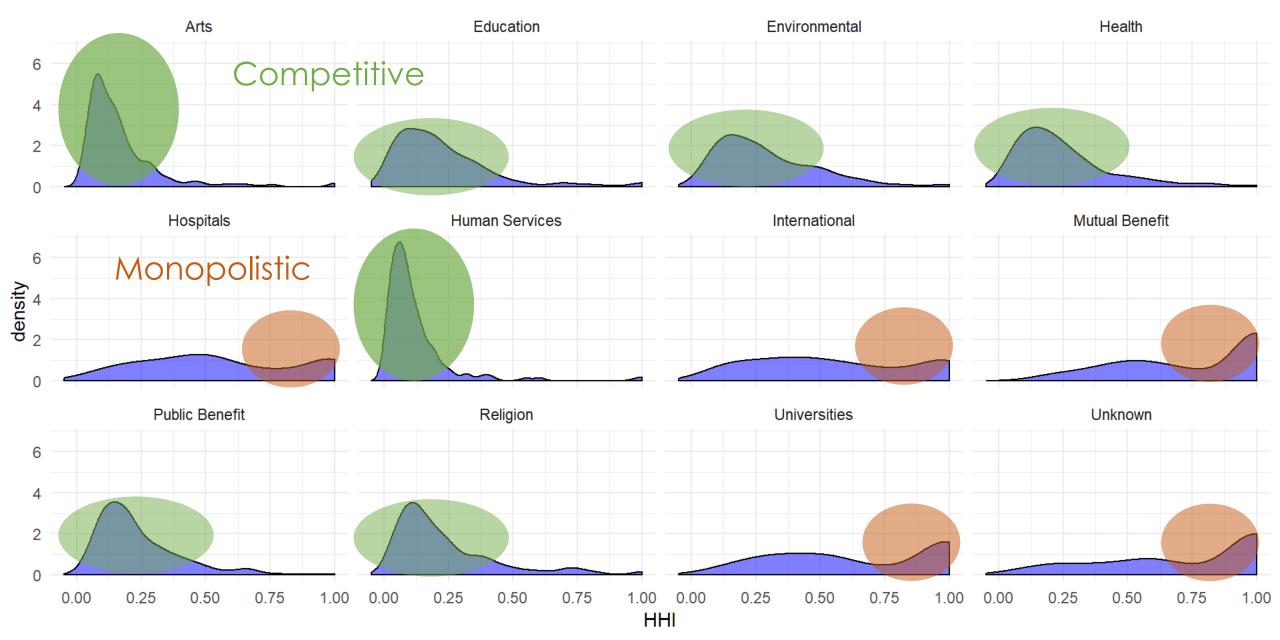
## MARKET COMPETITION METRICS MARKET = MSA + NTEE

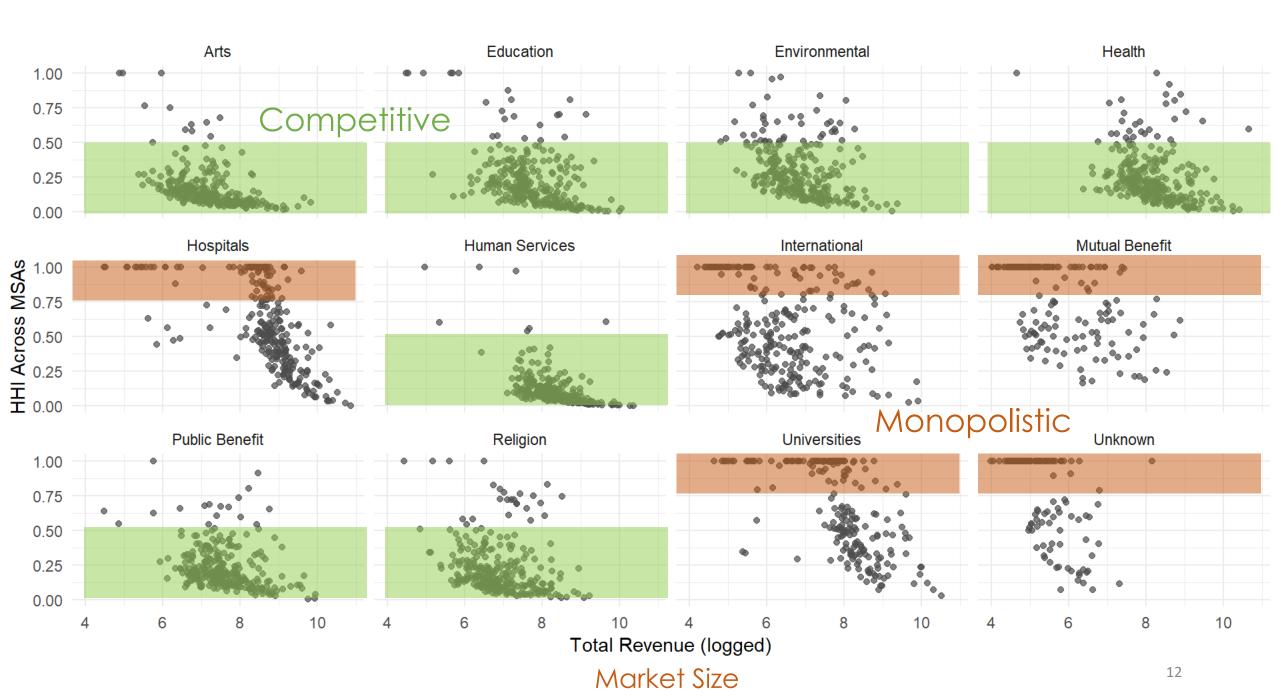
### MARKET COMPETITION METRICS

1. HHI 2. CR4 – four-firm competition ratio Kwoke index – HHI of three largest firms in market Gini coefficient 5. Density – number of nonprofits Demand density – number of nonprofits / 10,000 people 6. Big Dog Ratio (# orgs rev > \$1m / # orgs) Little Pup Ratio (# orgs rev < \$100k / # orgs) Density of commercial nonprofits 10. Resource availability index (total rev / # orgs – ave size of org in market) 11. Fundraising efficiency for NPs with > \$1m in revenue 12. Ave fiscal health in market 13. Ave growth rate in market Growth equity: ave growth rate top quintile / ave growth rate smallest quintile 14. Birth rates (rate of new org formation) [should this be new orgs / current, or new orgs per 10k people? 15. 16. Five-year "smallness" index 17. Death rate (rate of closure) [closures per 10k people? What is expected rate?] 18. Five-year closure rate 19. Philanthropic capital 20. Generosity index



285 MSAs + 12 NTEE Categories = 2,979 "markets" examined





#### What can a competition metric tell us?

#### Healthy Features:

- Efficient market outcomes
- "Thick" markets mean less price gauging and overall better quality of services

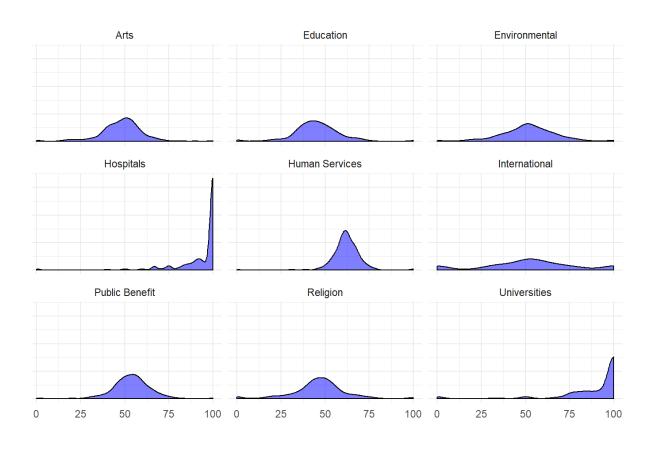
#### Unhealthy Features:

- Unfair / unhealthy competition (see Set in Stone by Woronkowicz et al. 2012)
- Limited market entry and liability of newness suppresses innovation and efficiency

#### CURRENT STATE OF PRACTICE:

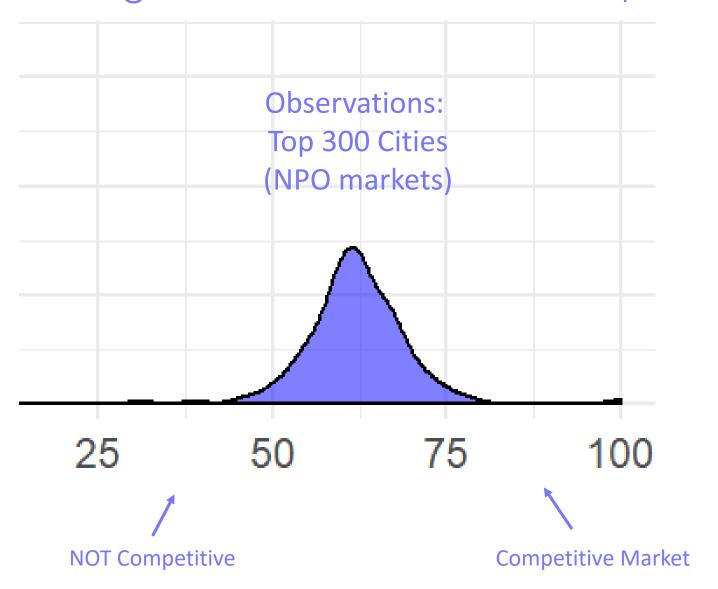
- HHI (Thornton & Belski, 2010; Seaman, Wilsker, & Young, 2014)
- Density (Harrison & Thornton, 2014; Lecy & Van Slyke, 2013)
- Fundraising efficiency (Brooks, 2004; Ritchie & Kolodinsky, 2003)

### **OUR CONTRIBUTION:**

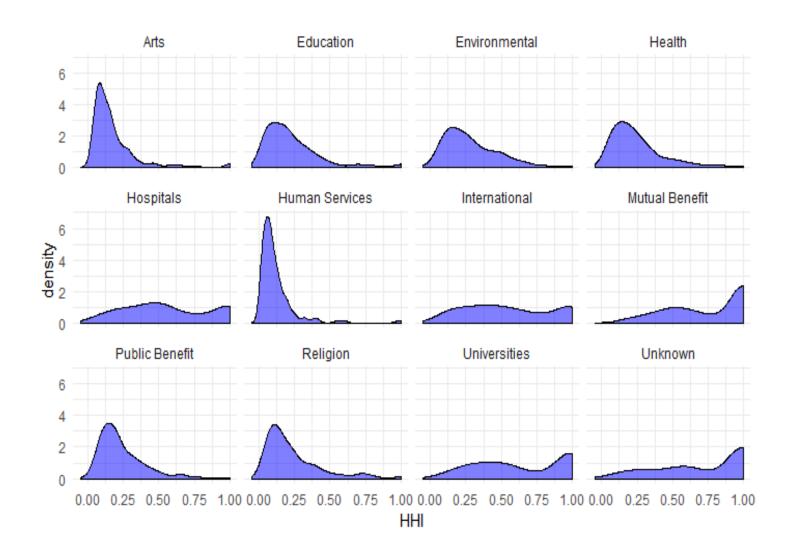


- Ten metrics created
- Calculated for 300 metro areas
- 12 subsectors
- Years: 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015
- Open data, open code

#### Percentage of Firms with Revenue > \$100k



## METRIC 1: HHI

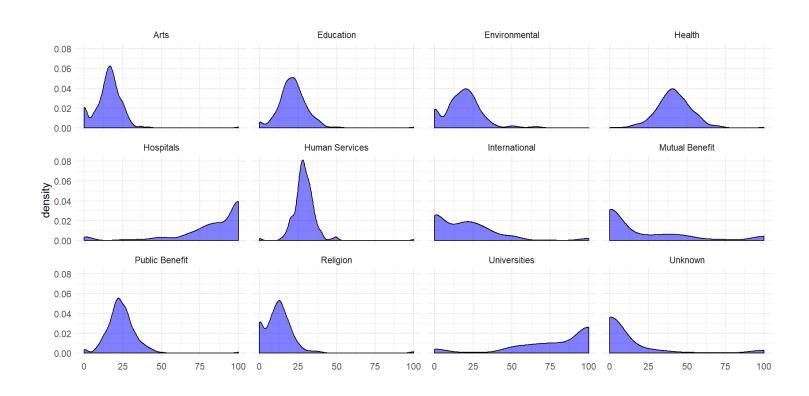


Definition: HHI measures market concentration, with zero being "perfectively competitive" and one being monopolistic.

Formula: 
$$HHI = \sum_{i=1}^{N} Si^{2}$$

Observations: Arts and human services are competitive across all cities, whereas some cities have monopolistic hospital and university subsectors.

## METRIC 2: DENSITY OF LARGE NPOS

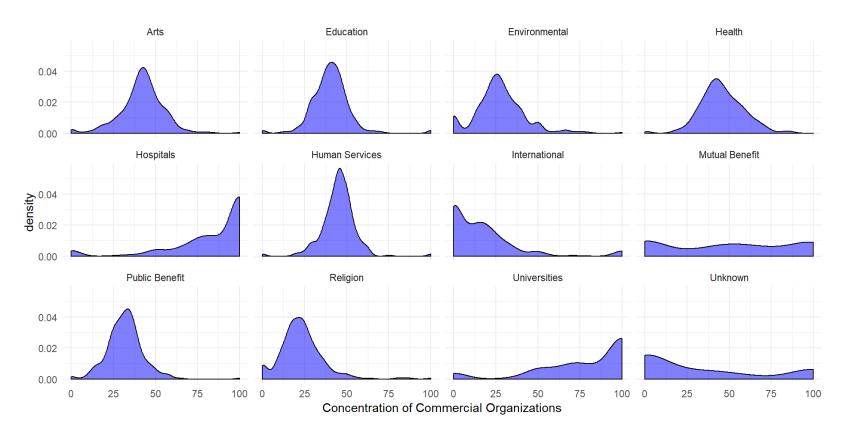


Definition: Percentage of organizations in each market with revenue over \$500k.

Formula:  $\frac{\# of \ large \ nonprofits}{\# of \ nonprofits}$ 

Observations: Arts and human services are pretty "competitive", hospitals and universities are less so.

## METRIC 3: COMMERCIALIZATION



Definition: Percentage of organizations in each city that have at least half of revenues coming from commercial sources

Formula:  $\frac{\# of \ commercial \ nonprofits}{\# of \ nonprofits}$ 

Observations: Most subsectors have one-quarter to half of nonprofits that rely primarily on commercial revenues.

### ASPIRATIONS:

#### Better theory

• Beyond the HHI: different types of market competitiveness

#### Better data

• Open data and code to make it easy to incorporate into your scholarship

#### Better models

Meaningful market-level controls improve empirical estimates

## **\$ ONESTIONS \$**

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