

# The Software Industry

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# The Software Industry

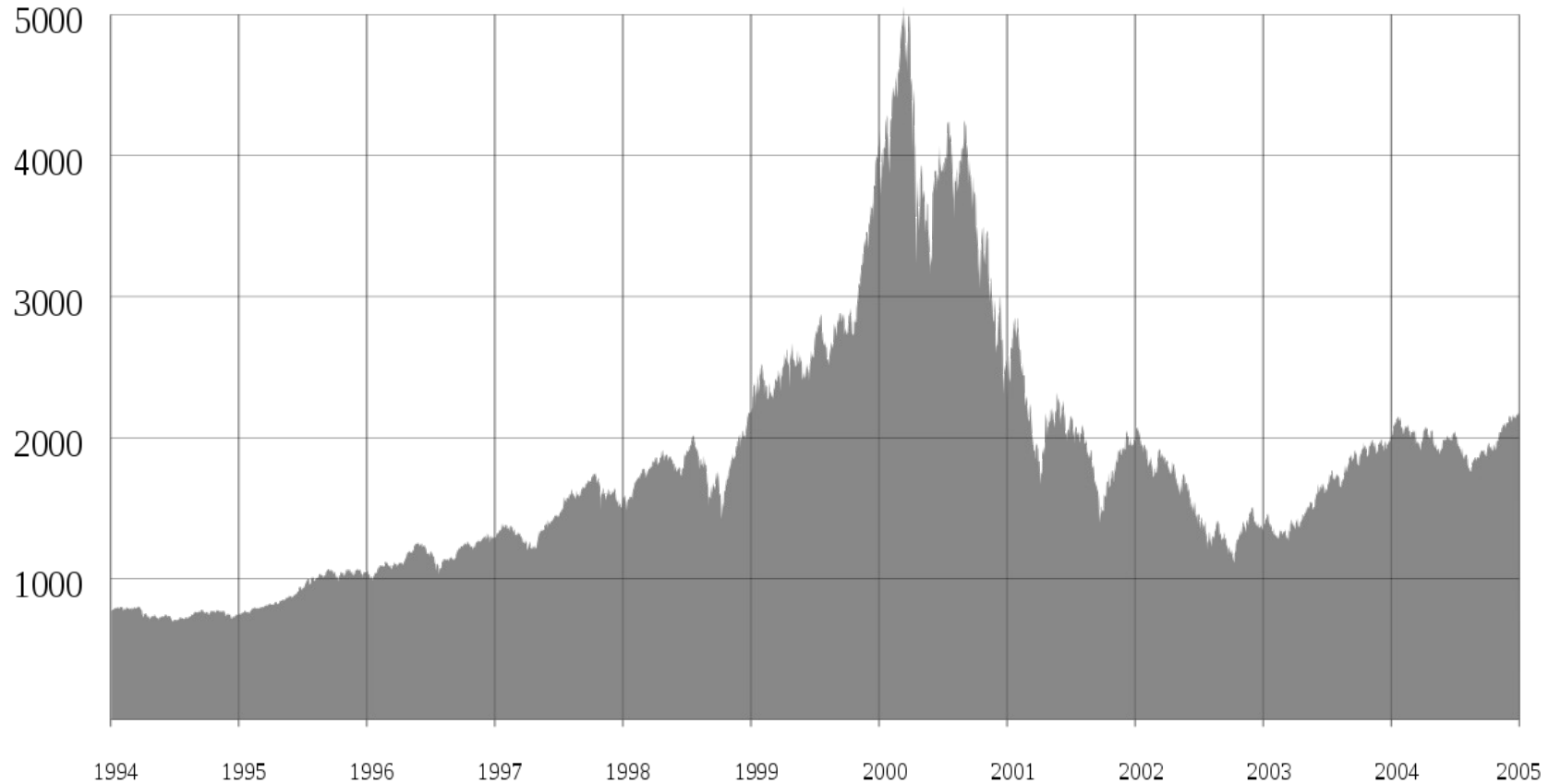
- The software industry
  - Is the set of business that provide
    - Software products and
    - Software services such as
      - Operating services
      - Consulting services
        - Development services
        - Implementation services
  - to other industries as well as itself
- The software industry
  - Is highly concentrated
  - Is highly internationalized
  - Has strong network effects
  - Has a high speed of innovation
  - Is rapidly expanding into new domains

# The Software Industry in 2016 [1]

|                       |         |                             |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| market capitalization | total   | \$1.298 trillion            |
|                       | median  | \$744.2 million             |
|                       | highest | \$415.4 billion (Microsoft) |
|                       | lowest  | \$177700 (Innovaro Inc.)    |
| earnings per share    | median  | \$0.20                      |
|                       | highest | \$13.23 per year (IBM)      |
|                       | lowest  | – \$3.40 per year (Wave)    |
| dividend yield        | mean    | 8.913%                      |
|                       | highest | 170.3% (Aware)              |
|                       | lowest  | 0.07106% (FICO)             |

[1] <https://www.wolframalpha.com/input/?i=how+big+is+the+software+industry>

# The So-called “Dot-Com” Bubble and Burst (1995-2000)



# Software is eating the world

WSJ, 2011-08-20





# Venture Capital and Open Source (Recap)

## Increasing Open Source Investment Pace

|   | <5 YEARS | 5-10 YRS | >10 YEARS | AGGREGATE |
|---|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| OSS COMPANIES FOUNDED (1ST INST. INV.)  | 31       | 19       | 8         | 58        |
| VC INVESTMENT BY FOUNDING VINTAGE (\$M) | \$1,802  | \$2,847  | \$255     | \$4,904   |
| VC INVESTMENT BY YEAR BUCKET (\$M)      | \$4,237  | \$506    | \$161     | \$4,904   |
| VALUATION BY FOUNDING VINTAGE (\$M)     | \$8,174  | \$12,719 | \$16,992  | \$37,886  |
| EXCL. RED HAT                           |          |          | \$1,938   | \$22,832  |

**“It is actually open source software that’s eating the world.” [V15]**

## The CEO Interview

“Industrial companies are in the information business whether they want to be or not.”

—Jeff Immelt

McKinsey&Company





# Short History of the Software Industry

- **1959**
  - First mentioning of term “software”
- **1969**
  - US DoJ separates hard- from software
- **1980ties**
  - From vertical to horizontal integration
  - Growth of platforms and ecosystems
- **1990ties**
  - Centralization, dominance of Windows
- **2000ties**
  - Diversification, multiple platforms
  - Growth of open source software
- **2010ties**
  - Back to vertical, cloud computing

# Main Industry Players

- **Software vendors**
  - Produce products
    - A.k.a. “standard software” or “commercial off-the-shelf software” (COTS)
- **Operating services firms**
  - Operate any form of software (and hardware)
- **Development services firms**
  - Produce custom software
- **Implementation services firms**
  - Adjust software products for use by customers
- **Regulatory bodies**

# Software is a Digital Good

- **Digital good**
  - A digital artifact satisfying a human need
  - Without further intervention
    - No or low reproduction costs
    - Perfect reproduction possible
- **Software** as a digital good
  - Typically high cost to first copy
  - Typically high switching costs
- Examples
  - Consumer software (Games, social media, etc.)
  - Enterprise software (SAP Business Suite, Oracle RDBMS, etc.)

# Software as a Product

- **Product**
  - A man-made good sold to customers in a market
- **Software** as a product
  - A product sold to either enterprise or retail customers
  - What is sold is a license, a usage right, plus services
- **Characteristics**
  - Has an open-ended life-cycle: Is born, may live forever
  - Typically requires upfront capital investment (development)

# Core, Basic, and Whole Product

- **Core product** =
  - Core software
- **Basic product** = bundle of
  - Software + complementary materials + self-help services
  - Guarantees about fitness for use + indemnification
  - Support services
- **Whole product** = basic product +
  - Training
  - Consulting
  - Operations
- For more, see our **Product Management** course



Whole product

Basic product

Usage rights

Software (core product)

- Core software
- Additional software (extensions + plug-ins, tools and utilities, integrations)

Complementary materials

- Documentation
- Training materials

Self-help services

- Forums, mailing lists
- Help and chat agents
- On-line tutorials

Pricing of usage rights

- Quantity: User, machine, time, ...
- Duration: Perpetual, time-limited, ...
- Structured: Initial license fee, regular maintenance fee

Guarantees (“insurance”)

- Fitness for use, certification
- Indemnification

Pricing of guarantees

- By damage: Loss of business, fines received
- Structured: Levels / bands, formula

Support services

- Hot-line support
- On-site servicing

Pricing of support services (SLAs)

- By availability: Incident-based, 9x5, 24x7
- By quality: First-level, second-level, third-level

Training

- In-house training
- Off-site training

Pricing of training

- Fixed fee
- Per participating person

Consulting

- Technical implementation services
- Strategic solution consulting

Pricing of consulting

- Fixed fee
- Time and materials

Operations

- Provision of SaaS (managed service)

Pricing of operations

- Quantity: Users, resources, ...
- Duration: Always time-limited
- Structured: Set-up, subscription

# Commercial Open Source Products [WR13]

|                       | Web Store    | Direct Sales                 |   |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|---|
| Open Source Community | DOC INC UTIL |                              | <b>DOC</b> Documentation<br><b>INC</b> Incident-based support<br><b>UTIL</b> Utilities                                |
| Enterprise Customers  |              | LIC UPD UTIL<br>DOC TRN 24x7 | <b>LIC</b> Commercial license<br><b>UPD</b> Update service<br><b>TRN</b> Training<br>...<br><b>24x7</b> 24x7 hot-line |
| ISV/OEM               |              | LIC UTIL<br>DOC TRN 24x7     |   |

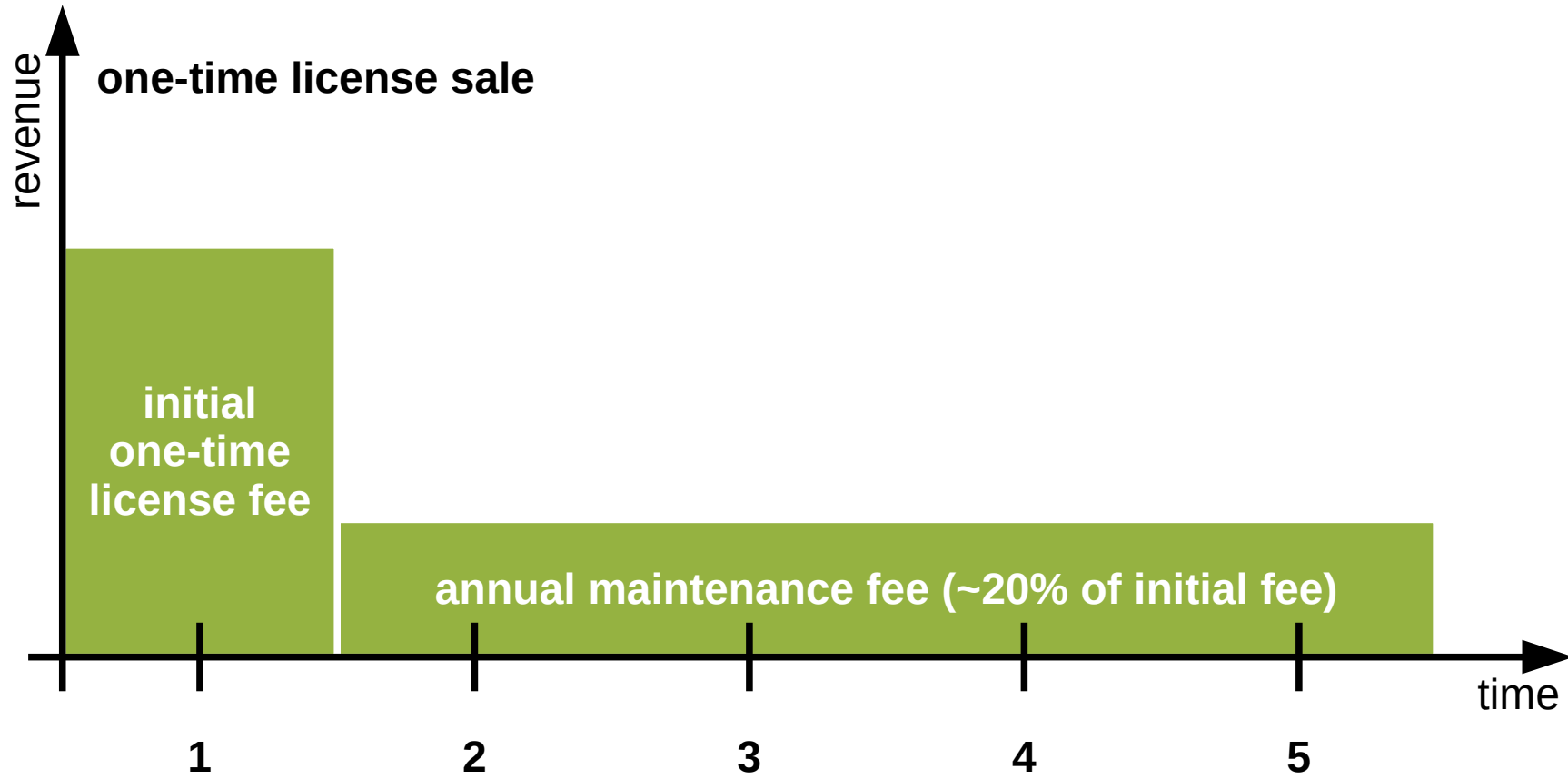
# Enterprise Customers vs. Private Users

- Enterprise customers
  - Are willing to trade money for time
- Private users
  - Are willing to trade time for money

# Products, Projects, and Services

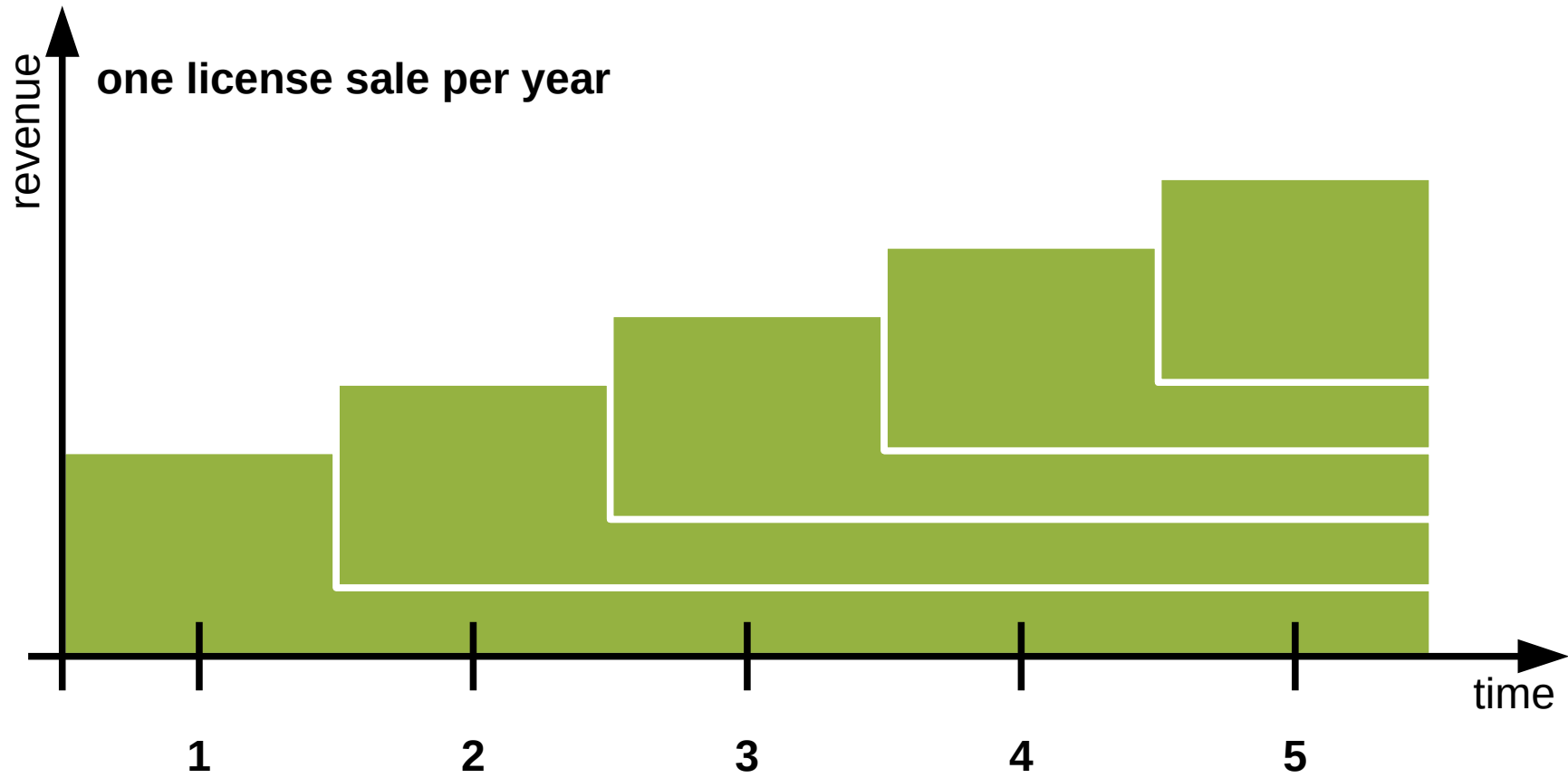
- Products are provided by a software vendor
  - “Standardsoftware”, (commercial) off-the-shelf software (COTS)
- Products can be operated by service providers
  - Service providers specialize in specific products
- Projects are performed by consulting firms
  - “Individualsoftware”, custom software
- Many companies do all of the above

# Single Product Sale Revenue





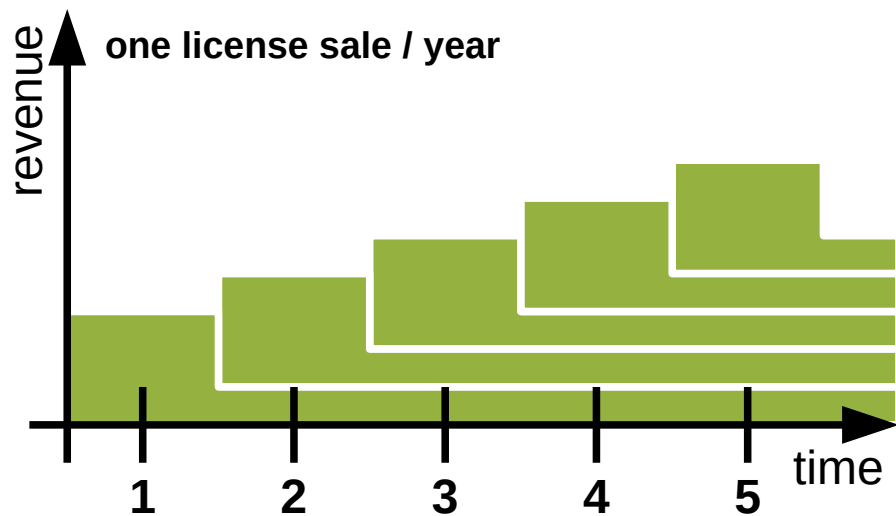
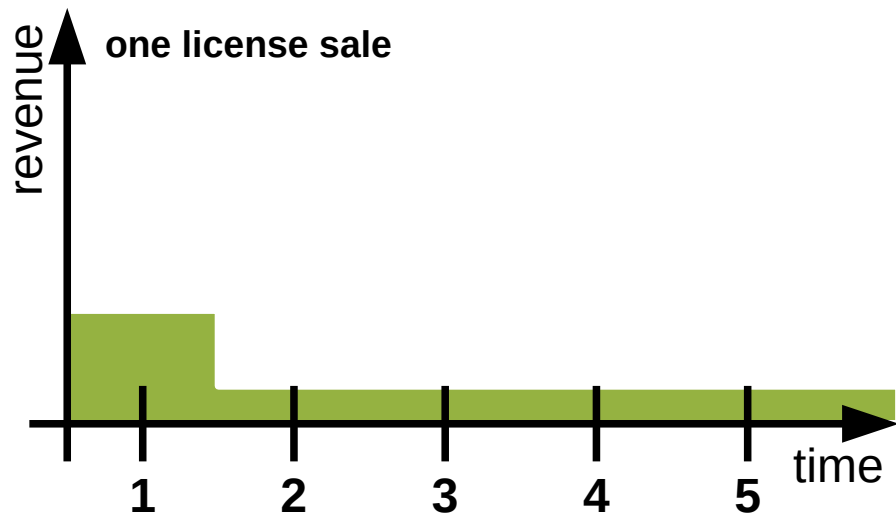
# Accumulating Product Revenues (SaaS) [1]



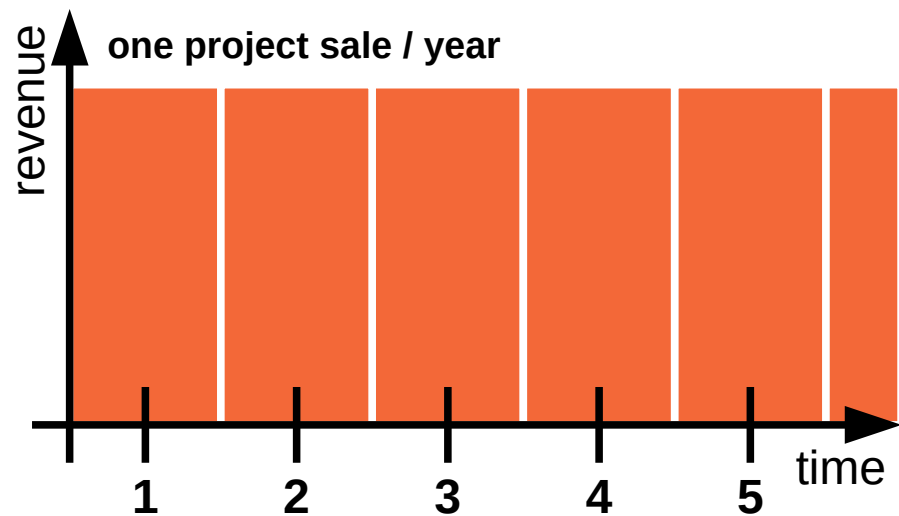
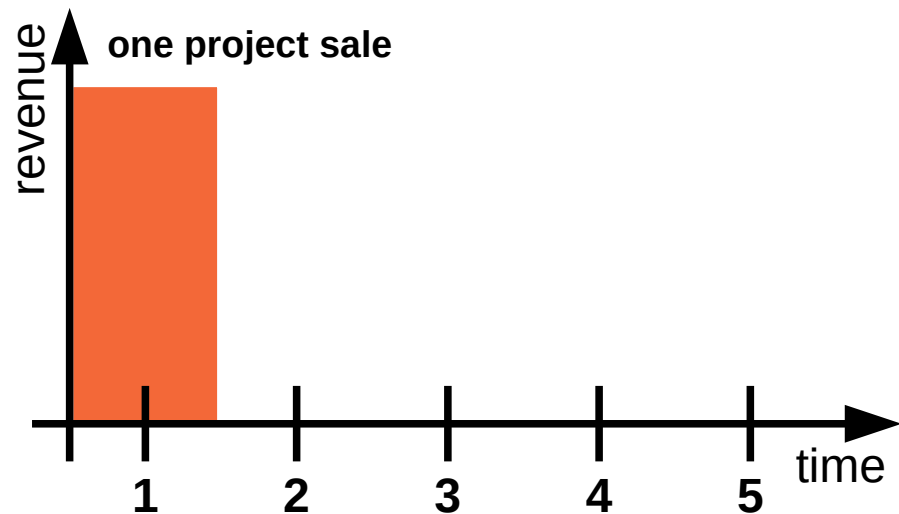
# Software Projects

- Projects
  - A process with a defined start and a defined end
- Software projects
  - Revenues correlate with performed labor
    - Fixed price vs. actual labor
  - Accounted for as revenue and expenses
- Examples
  - Bachelor and Master theses
  - Customizing SAP for a customer

## Product Revenue



## Project Revenue



# (Software) Products and (Implementation) Projects

Software  
Vendor

Product

Consulting  
Firm

Project



Widget Corp.  
BI Impl. 2008



German SME  
Sugar 2010



Continental  
Stages 2010

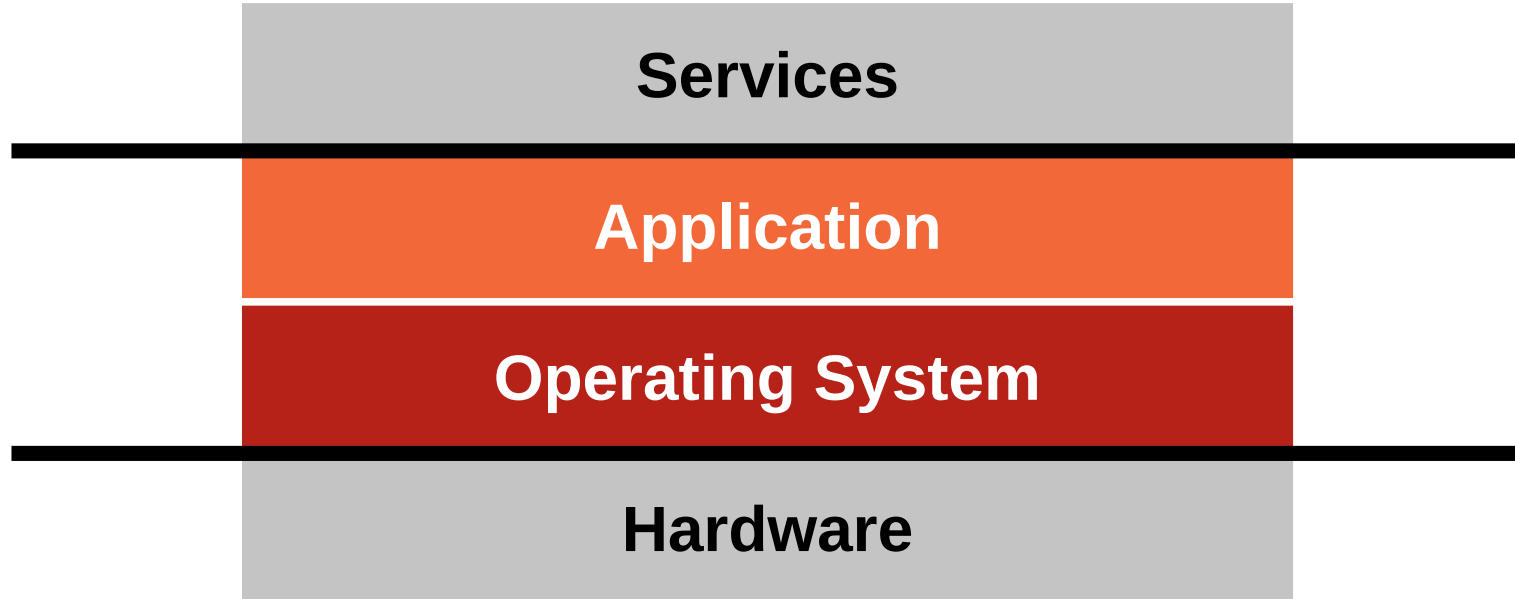


# Software Product vs. Project Companies

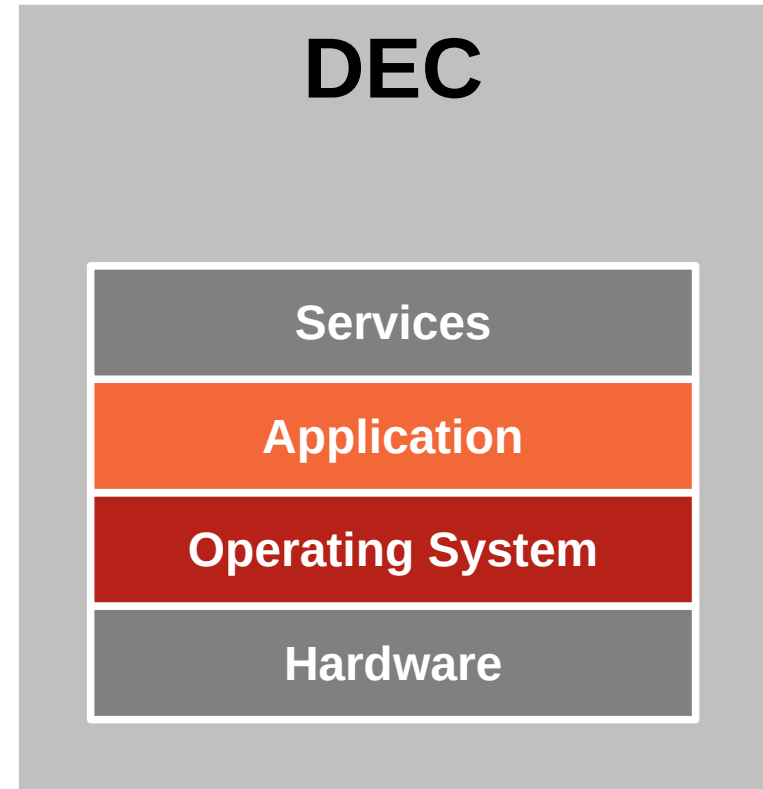
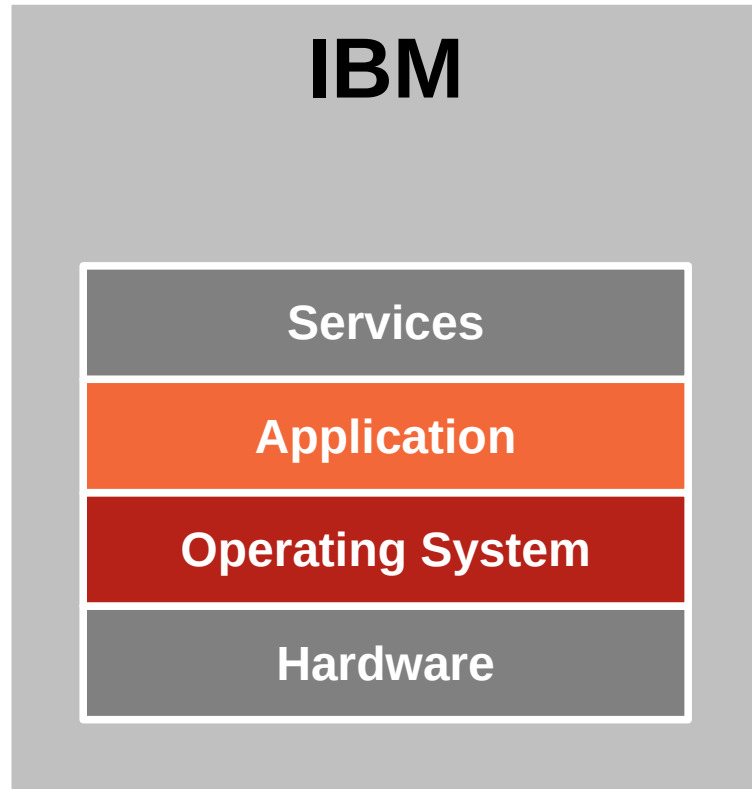
|               | Consulting Firms<br>(Custom Development)   | Software Vendors<br>(COTS Development)  |
|---------------|--|---|
| Advantages    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not capital intensive</li><li>• Can be started easily</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stable maintenance revenue</li><li>• High market capitalization</li></ul>   |
| Disadvantages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Somewhat fragile revenue</li><li>• Little long-term stability</li><li>• High business volatility</li><li>• Limited scalability</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hard to get started</li><li>• Requires upfront investment</li><li>• May be slow to react</li><li>• Most fail, few survive</li></ul> |



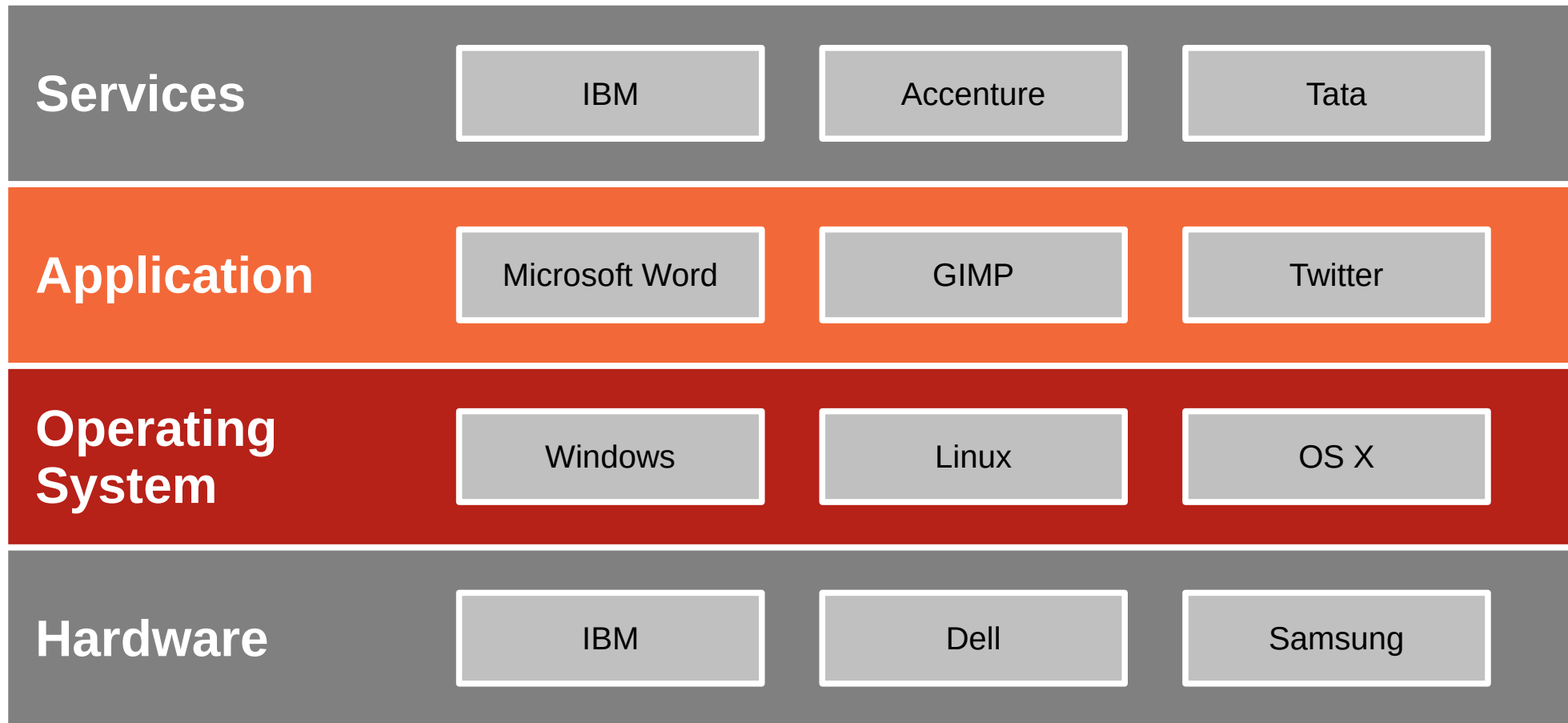
# Customers Buy a “Solution”



# Vertical Integration (Until 1980ties)

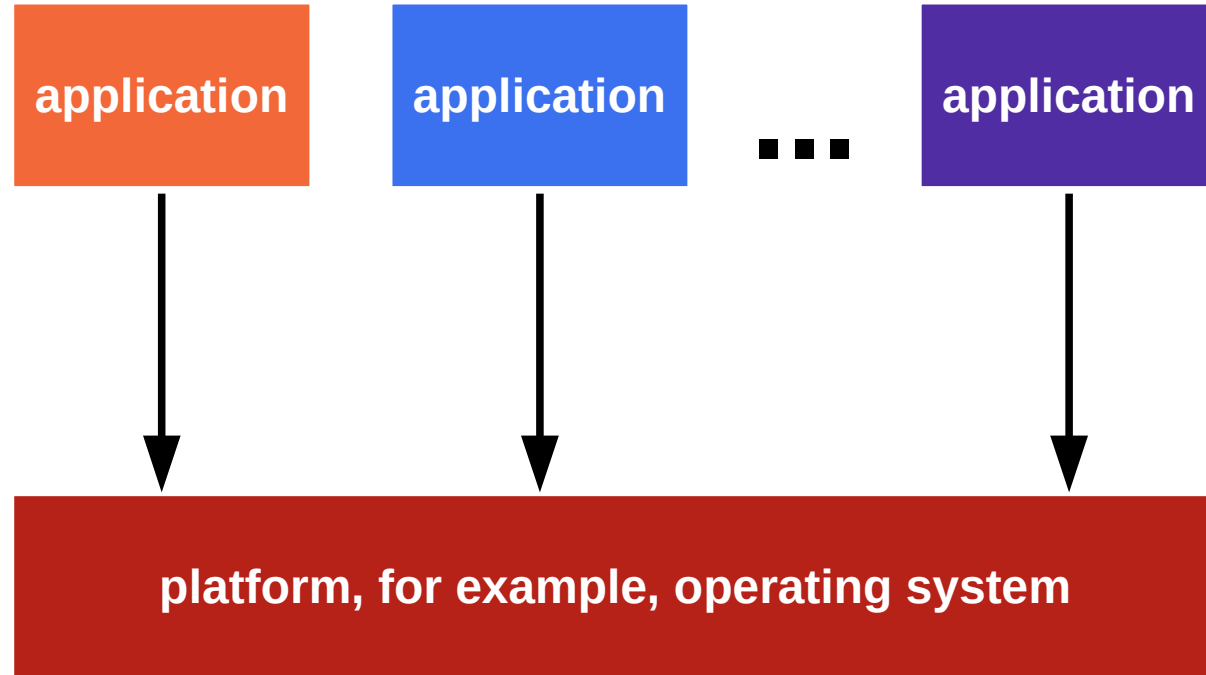


# Horizontal Integration (Since 1990ties)



# Categories of Software Products

- **Applications**
  - Software that is not built upon
  - Top-layer of the solution stack
- **Platforms**
  - Software that is built upon
  - Everything that is not the top layer
- **Why does everyone want to be a platform?**





- Software platform
  - Is an environment for the development and deployment of applications
    - Implies split between applications on top of the platform
  - Is a full set of application-independent life-cycle functions for applications
    - Among many components, the largest collection (i.e. not just a library)
- Customer (user) value of software platforms
  - By definition, a platform in itself is useless
  - Customer value is only created by applications

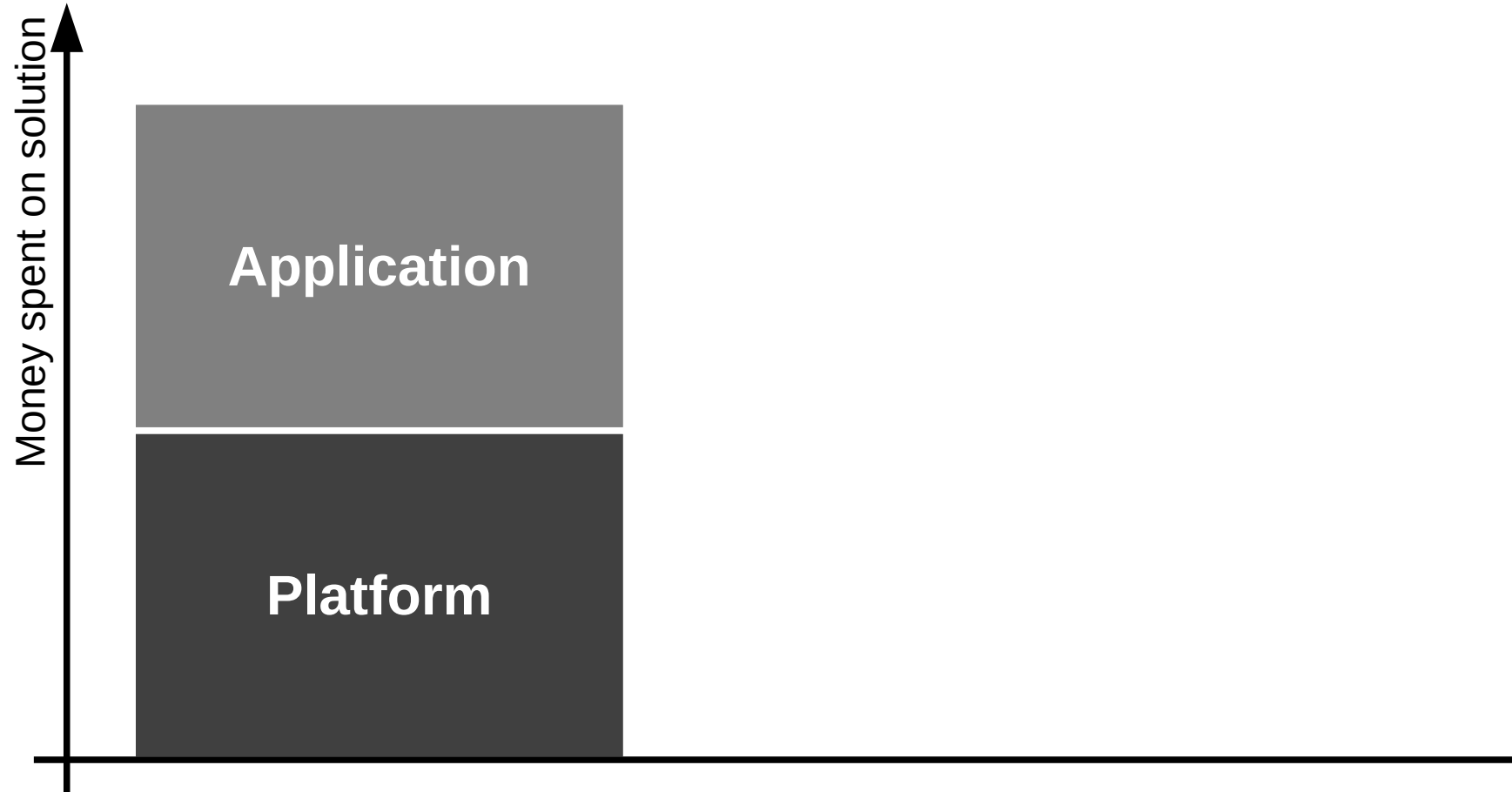
# Software Platforms as a Product

- Platforms are valuable
  - Platforms are needed by the applications running on top of it
  - Platforms can simplify IT department operations costs
- An application license sale implies a platform sale

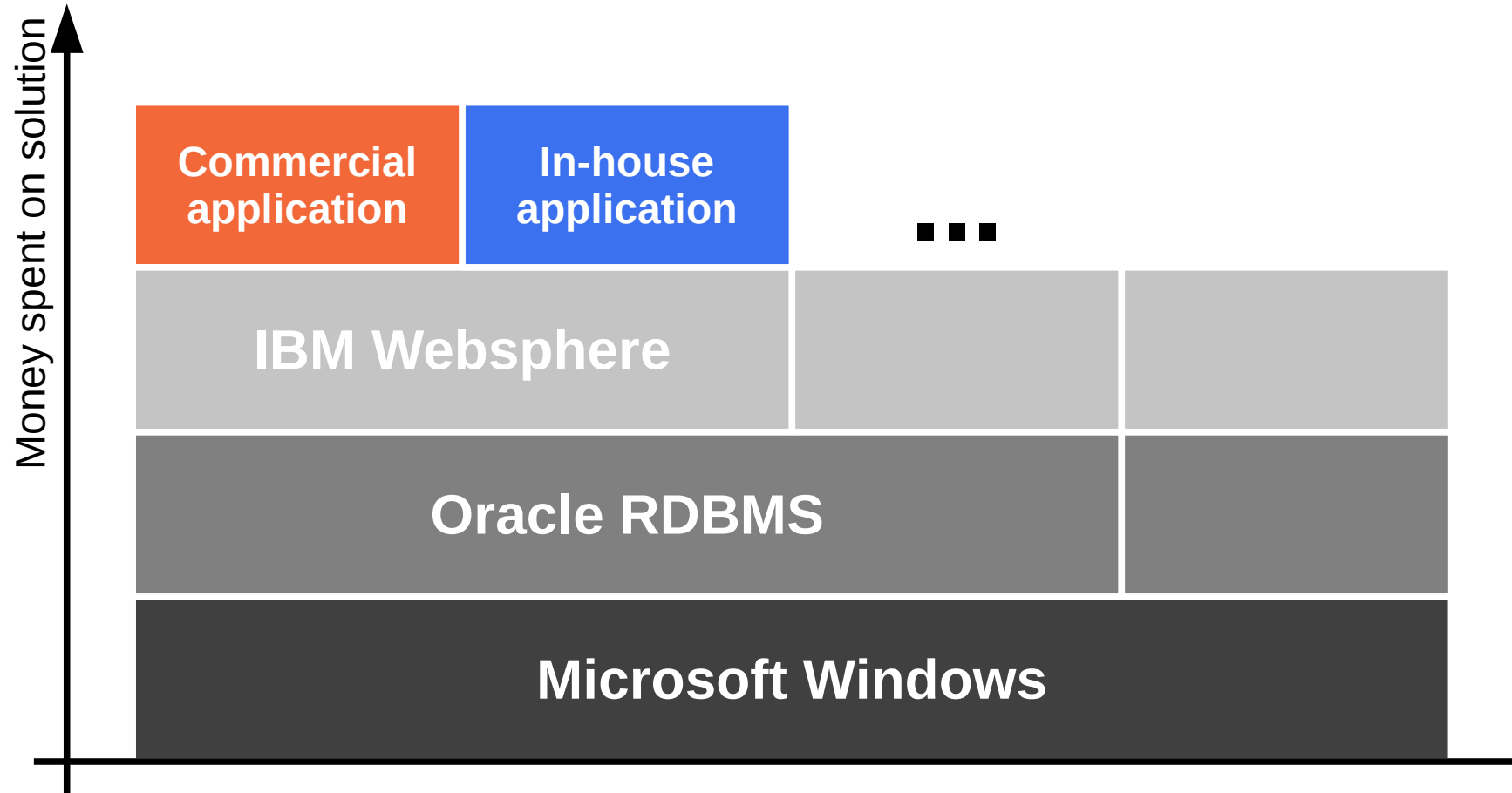
# Software Ecosystem

- Software ecosystem
  - The totality of actors (businesses and individuals),
  - software applications and components,
  - their relationships and goals
  - around a software platform
- Includes but is not limited to a community

# Pricing Power 1 / 2

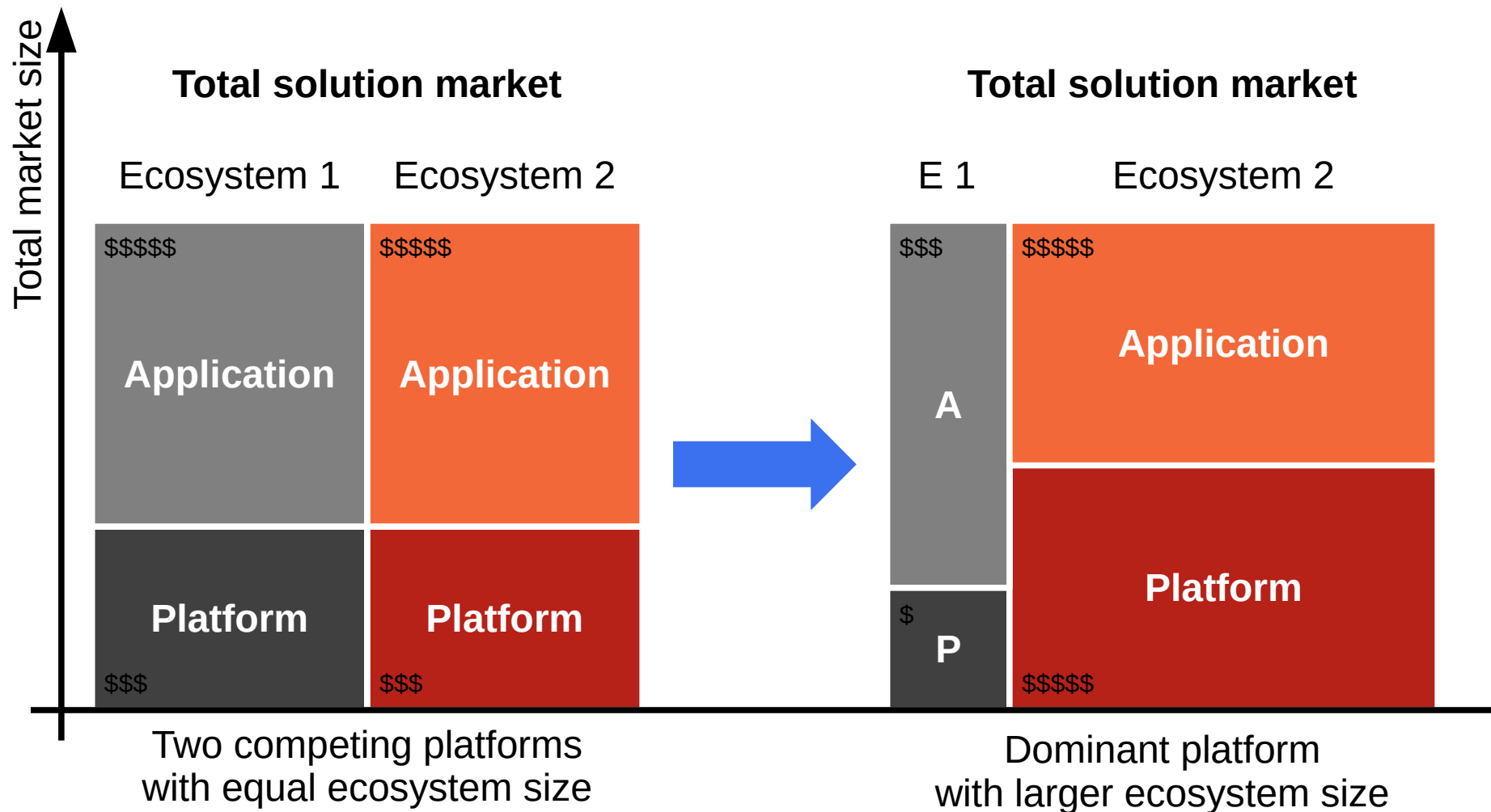


# Pricing Power 2 / 2

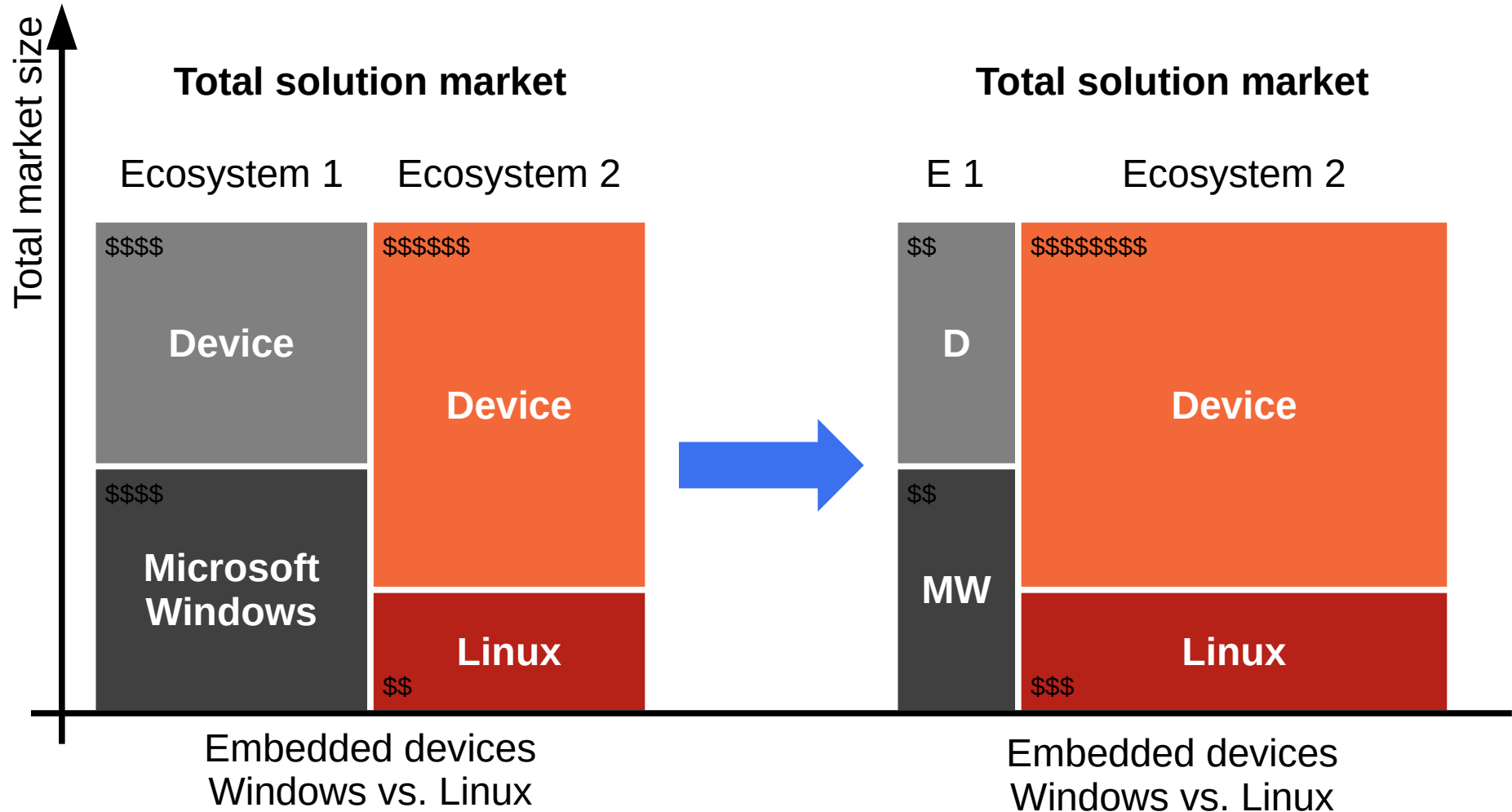


- **Software ecosystem**
  - The totality of actors (businesses and individuals),
  - software applications and components,
  - their relationships and goals
  - for a software platform

# The Software Ecosystem Wars



# Open Source in the Ecosystem Wars





- **A business model**
  - Is a summary description (model) of how a business' elements and their relationships interact to help the business achieve its strategic goals
  - Example elements are products, partners, people, positions, etc. and example relationships are the processes that govern their interaction
- But “open source is not a business model” [A08]
  - But open source can be a key enabler of a business model
  - So much so that the business model is called “open source”

**Key Partners**

**Key Re-  
sources**

**Key  
Activities**

**Value  
Proposition**

**Channels**

**Customer  
Relationships**

**Customer Segments**

**Cost Structure**

**Revenue Streams**

|  | 2011 (\$m) | Percentage |
|--|------------|------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                                | \$1.657    | 100%       |
| Subscription and Support                       | \$1.551    | 94%        |
| Professional Services etc.                     | \$106      | 6%         |
| <b>Cost of Revenues</b>                        | \$324      | 20%        |
| Subscription and Support                       | \$208      | 13%        |
| Professional Services etc.                     | \$116      | 7%         |
| <b>Gross Profit (and Gross Margin)</b>         | \$1.333    | 80%        |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>                      |            |            |
| Research and Development                       | \$188      | 11%        |
| Sales and Marketing                            | \$792      | 48%        |
| General and Administrative                     | \$256      | 15%        |
| <b>Total Operating Costs</b>                   | \$1.236    | 74%        |
| <b>Operating Profit (and Operating Margin)</b> | \$97       | 6%         |

Source: Michael A. Cusumano. Reflecting on the Facebook IPO. CACM 10, 2012.

# Open Source “Business Models”

- Non-profit open source
  - **Community projects** without foundation
  - Open source **developer foundations**
  - Open source **user foundations**
- For-profit open source
  - **Service and support firms**
  - Open source **distributor firms**
  - **Single-vendor** open source **firms**

# Open Source and Business Models

- Open source may not be a business model, but it may be ...
  - A go-to-market strategy
  - An innovation model
  - A collaboration model
  - A sourcing strategy
  - And many other things
- More on this in later lectures on open source business models

# Review / Summary of Session

- The software industry
- Software platforms
- Software ecosystems
- Business models

# Thank you! Questions?

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- Contributions
  - None yet