

The Software Industry

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Agenda

1. Definition (software)
2. The software industry
3. A (very) short history
4. The main players
5. Software products
6. Software platforms
7. Software ecosystems

1. What is Software?

Software Definition

- Software (technical definition)
 - Is a set of instructions to make computers act
 - Comes in equivalent forms (source, binary)
 - Is formed into components and programs
 - Programs can be built from components
- Software (economic definition)
 - Is a digital good that can be sold



Software as a Product

- **A Product**
 - Is a man-made artifact sold to customers in a market
 - Has a life-cycle
 - Is born,
 - Grows and matures,
 - Eventually dies
- **A software product** is a product that
 - Is intellectual property
 - Is non-physical, does not rot
 - Has near-zero copying costs
 - Is extremely malleable

2. The Software Industry

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>

“Software is eating the world”
Wall Street Journal
2020-08-20



The CEO Interview

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

—Jeff Immelt

McKinsey&Company



Change and Innovation at the Speed of Software

- Products increasingly include software components
 - Hardware components traditionally have long innovation cycles
 - Software has a significantly faster innovation cycle
 - Innovation speed is continuously increasing
- Products are being adapted to take advantage of software
 - Products can be reconfigured at speed of software
 - Products evolve at speed of software innovation
- Examples increased innovation speed
 - Cars are fully delivered with features switched off
 - Cars evolve at speed of over-the-air update
- Software is eating established industries and products

Societal Significance of Software and Software Systems

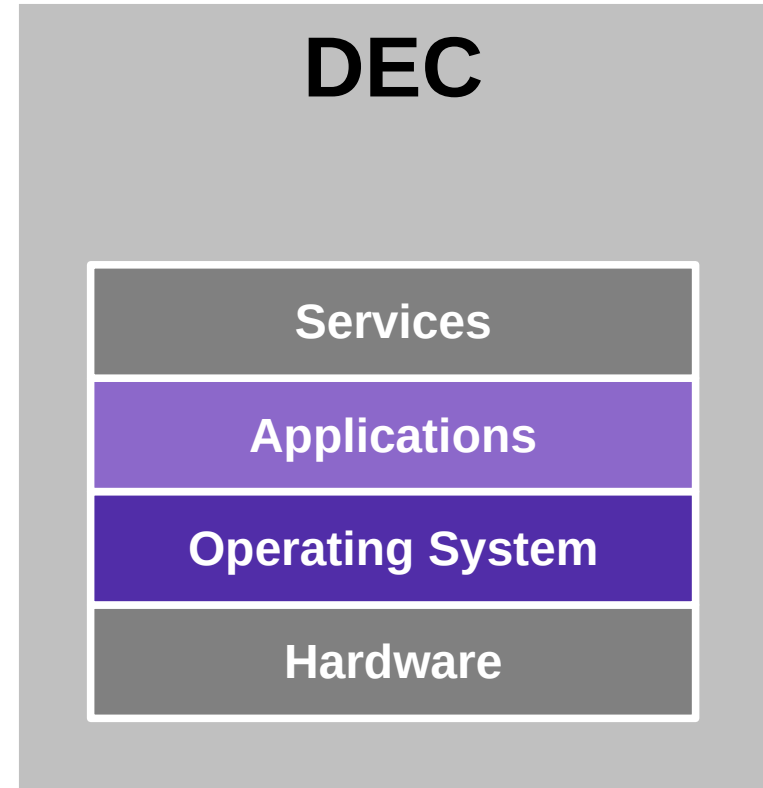
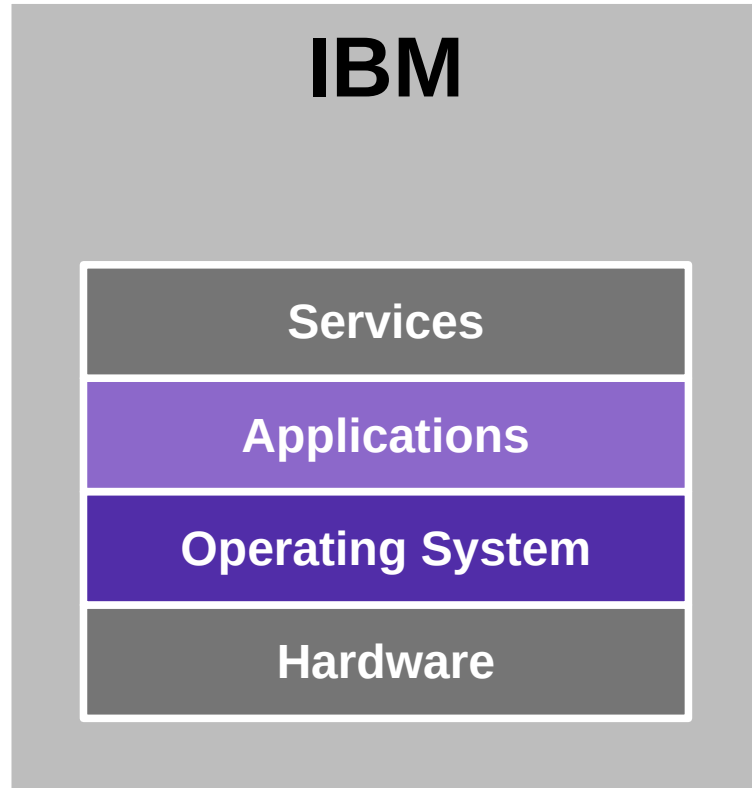
- Software and software systems are changing society
 - Empowerment vs. stratification
 - Enlightenment vs. misinformation
 - Sociability vs. isolation
- Internet and email have become basic utilities

3. A (Very) Short History

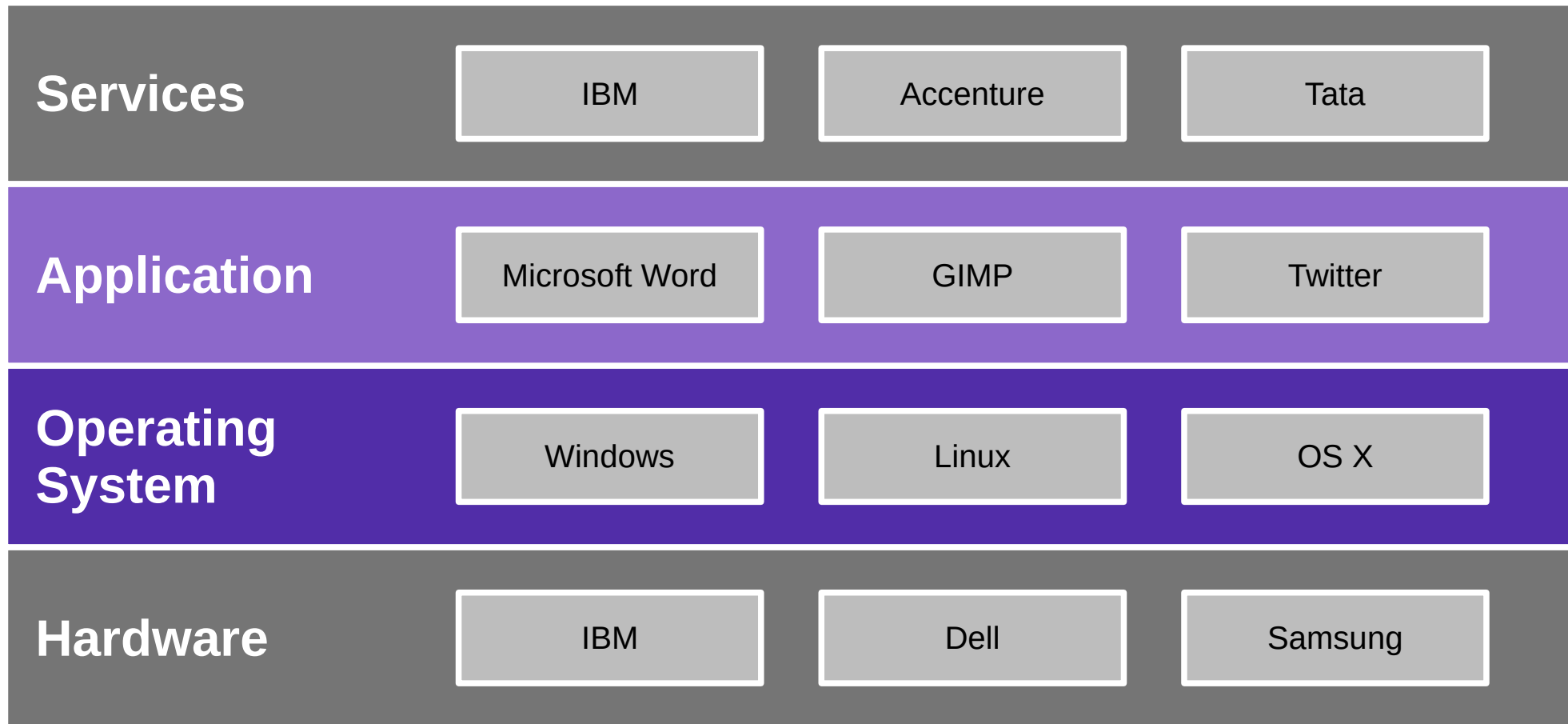
Short History of the Software Industry

- 1959
 - First mentioning of term “software”
- 1969
 - US Dept. of Justice separates hard- from software in landmark decision
- 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 integration in the form of cloud computing

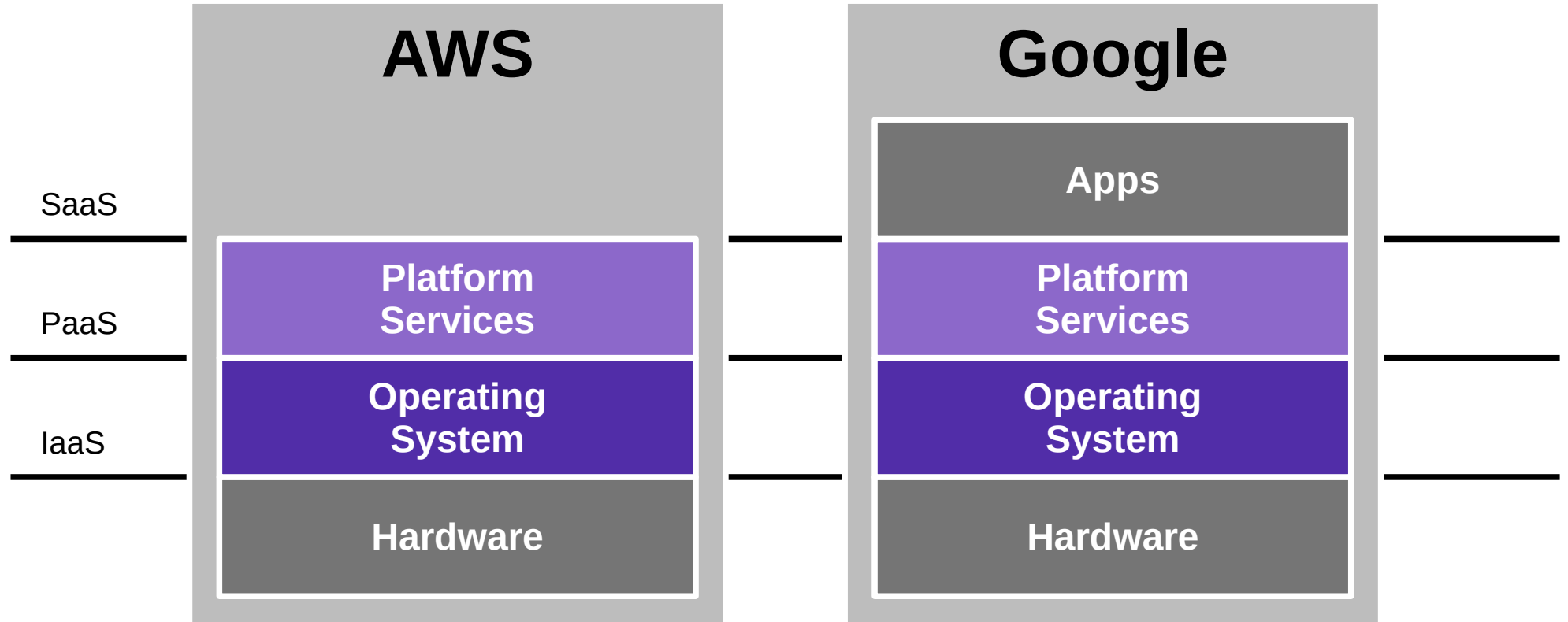
Vertical Integration (Until 1980ties)



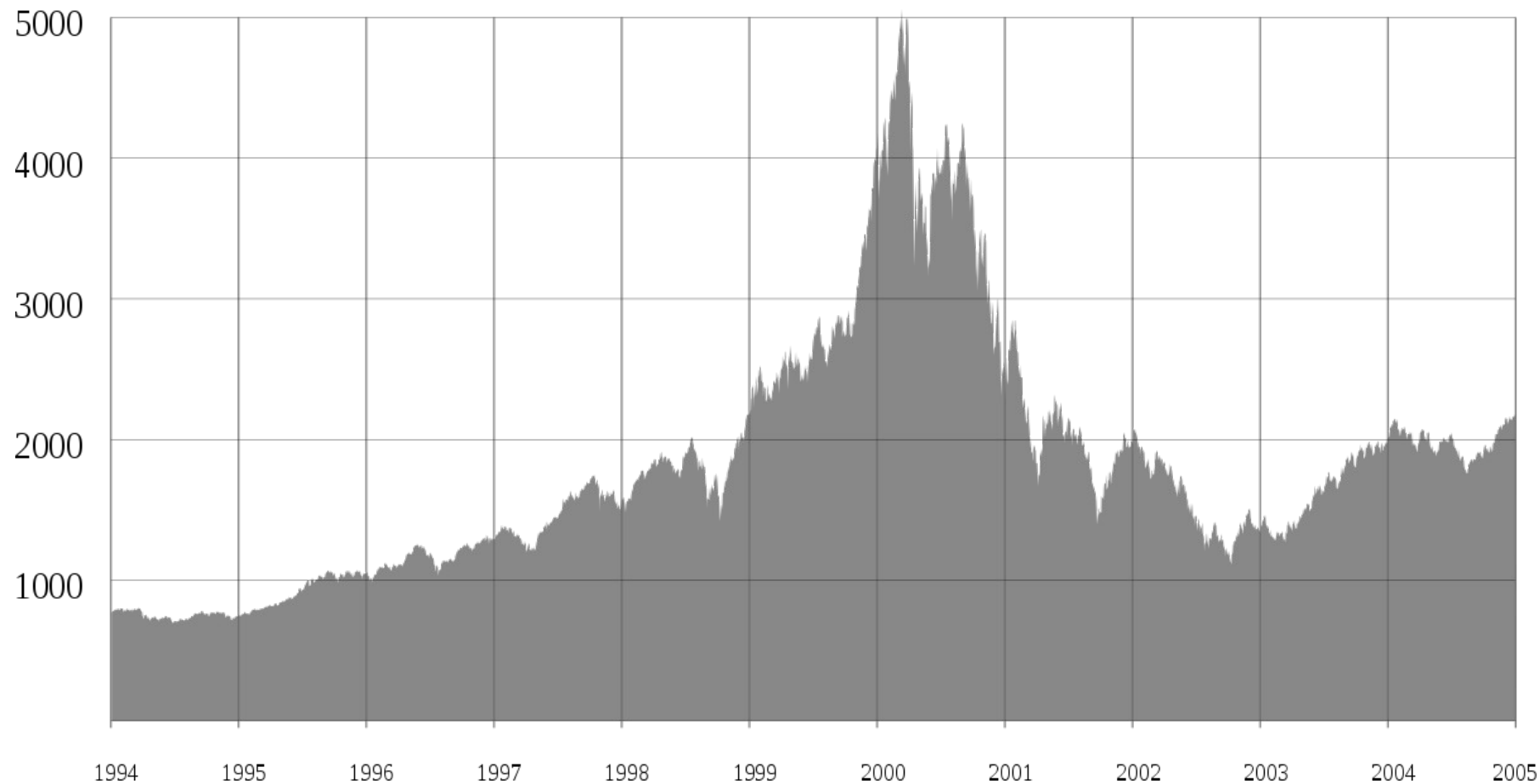
Horizontal Integration (Since 1990ties)



Cloud Computing (Since 2000ties)



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




[1] See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Nasdaq_Composite_dot-com_bubble.svg

4. The Main Players

The Main Types of Industry Players

- Standard product providers
 - (Independent) software vendors (ISVs)
 - Produce software products (“standard software” or “commercial off-the-shelf software”)
 - Software service providers (e.g. “Internet companies”)
 - Operate any form of software (and hardware)
- Software consulting firms
 - Development services firms
 - Produce custom software
 - Implementation services firms
 - Configure software products for use by customers
- Regulatory bodies
 - Regulate the industry

Top 10 Independent Software Vendors (ISVs) in 2019 [1]

Rank ↕	Organization ↕		Sales (B\$) ↕	FY ↕	Market cap (B\$) ↕	Headquarters ↕
1		Microsoft	118.2	2019	946.5	Redmond, WA, US
2		Oracle	39.6	2019	186.3	Redwood City, CA, US
3		SAP	29.1	2019	134.9	Walldorf, Germany
4		Adobe Inc.	9.5	2019	132	San Jose, CA, US
5		Salesforce	13.3	2019	120.9	San Francisco, CA, US
6		VMware	9.0	2019	77.2	Palo Alto, CA, US
7		Intuit	6.4	2019	66.8	Palo Alto, CA, US
8		ServiceNow	2.6	2019	42.9	Santa Clara, CA, US
9		Workday	2.8	2019	41.7	Pleasanton, CA, US
10		Dassault Systèmes	4.1	2019	39.2	Vélizy-Villacoublay, France

Software Vendors vs. “Internet Companies” [1]

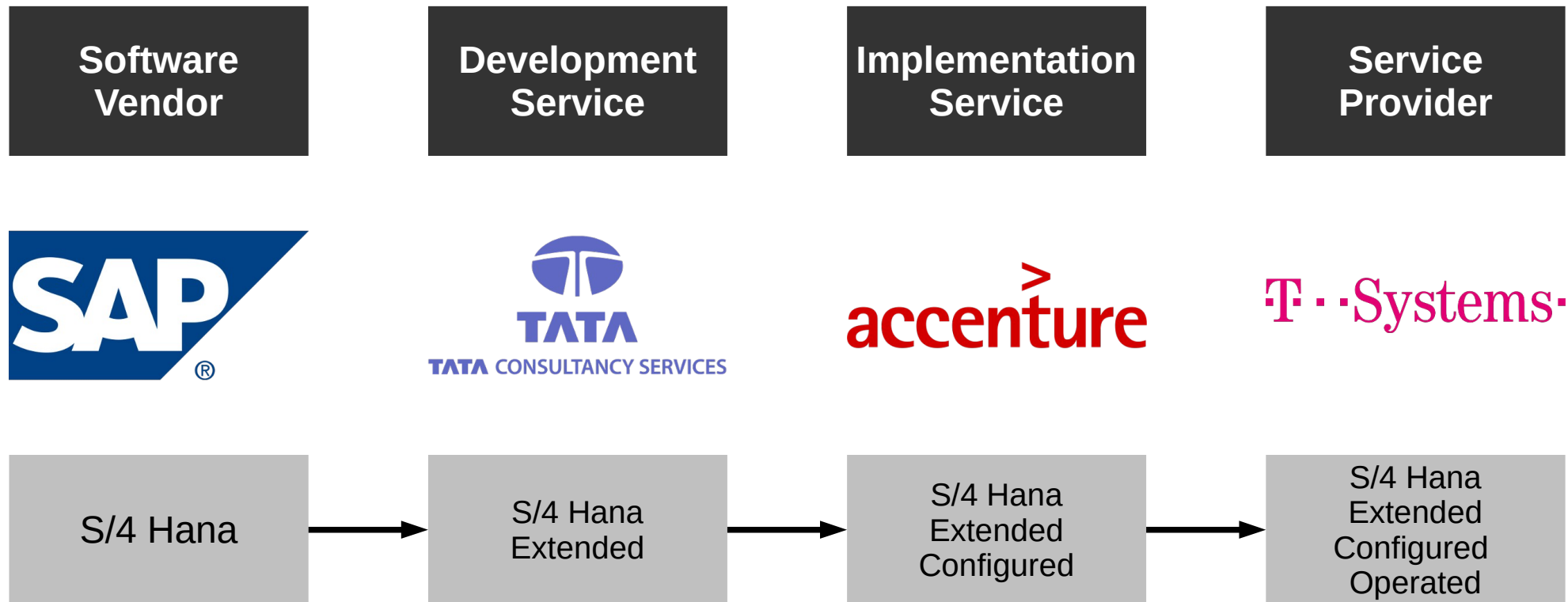


[1] See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_largest_Internet_companies

Software Vendors vs. Service Provider / Operator

- Software vendor
 - Product is a licensed-out artifact
- Examples (before cloud offering)
 - Microsoft
 - Oracle
 - SAP
 - Adobe
- Service provider / operator
 - Product is a standardized service
- Examples
 - Amazon Web Services (if it was broken out)
 - Various Google services
 - Salesforce
 - Facebook

Software Vendors, Consulting Firms, and Service Providers



Regulatory Bodies (Regulators)

- Regulatory body
 - Is a public organization or government agency (state-level, federal-level, union-level)
 - Which by way of laws and directives regulates industries and industry player behavior
 - To protect the public by preventing undesired behavior and enforcing desired one
- Examples
 - European Union
 - European commission → Data protection (GDPR) → Enforcement by Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)
 - U.S.A.
 - Federal and state governments → Antitrust law → Enforcement by Federal Trade Commission (FTC), DoJ

5. Software Products

Consumer vs. Enterprise Customers

- Retail customers (B2C)
 - Are willing to trade time for money
- Enterprise customers (B2B)
 - Are willing to trade money for time

Software Products (Recap)

- **A software product**
 - Is a digital good (software, intellectual property)
 - Is non-physical, does not rot
 - Has near-zero copying costs
 - Is a man-made artifact sold to customers in a market
 - Has a life-cycle (is born, grows and matures, eventually dies)
 - Is both extremely malleable and hard to change

Consumer vs. Enterprise Software Products (and Markets)

- Consumer (also: retail) products

- Pricing

- Comparatively cheap
 - Often free, then subsidized

- Segmentation

- Usually by demographics, e.g.
 - By age group
 - By gender

- Adoption

- Out of the box

- Enterprise software products

- Pricing

- Into million Euros
 - Often the real product behind consumer software

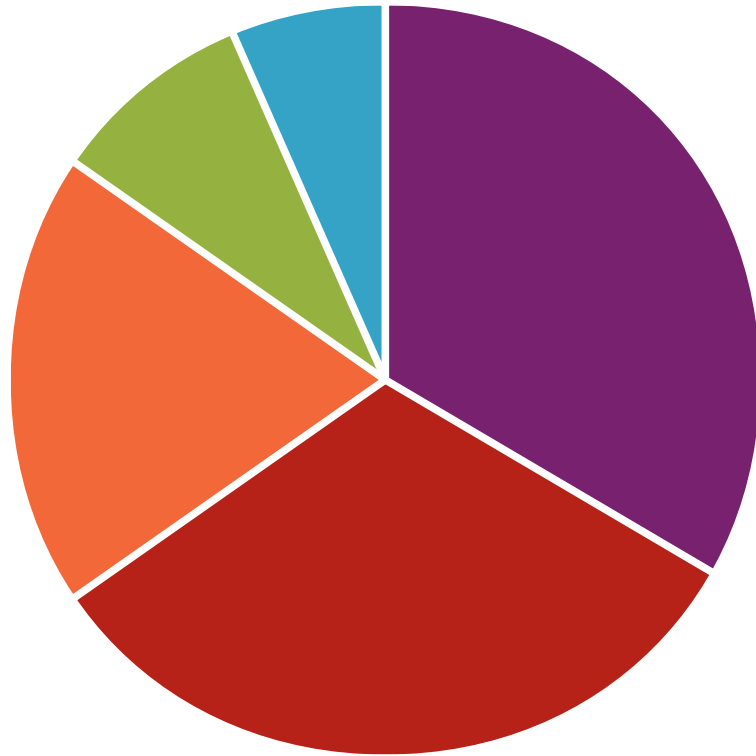
- Segmentation

- Horizontal vs. vertical, e.g.
 - By business function
 - By industry

- Adoption

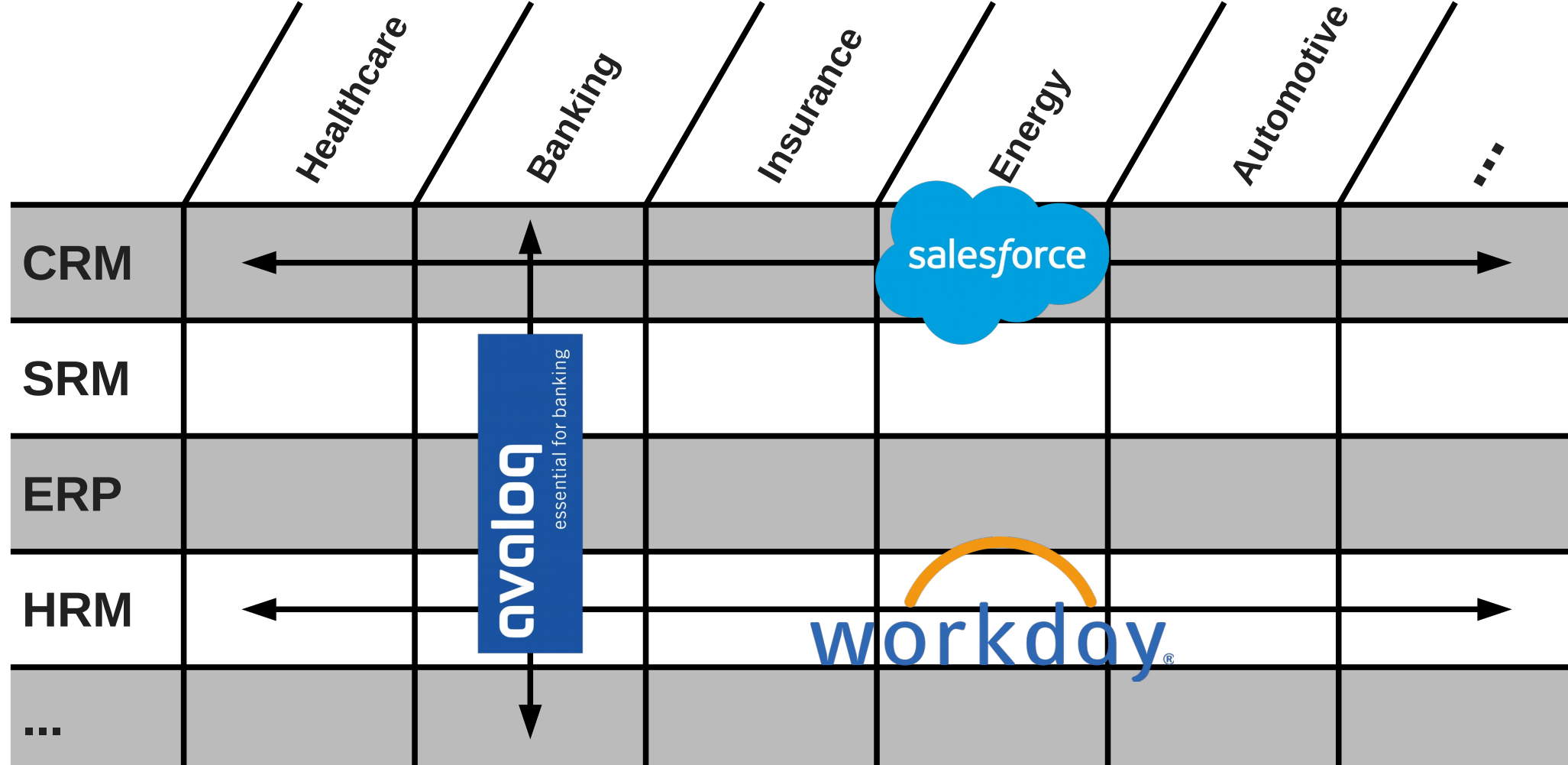
- May require implementation project

Consumer Market (Segments)

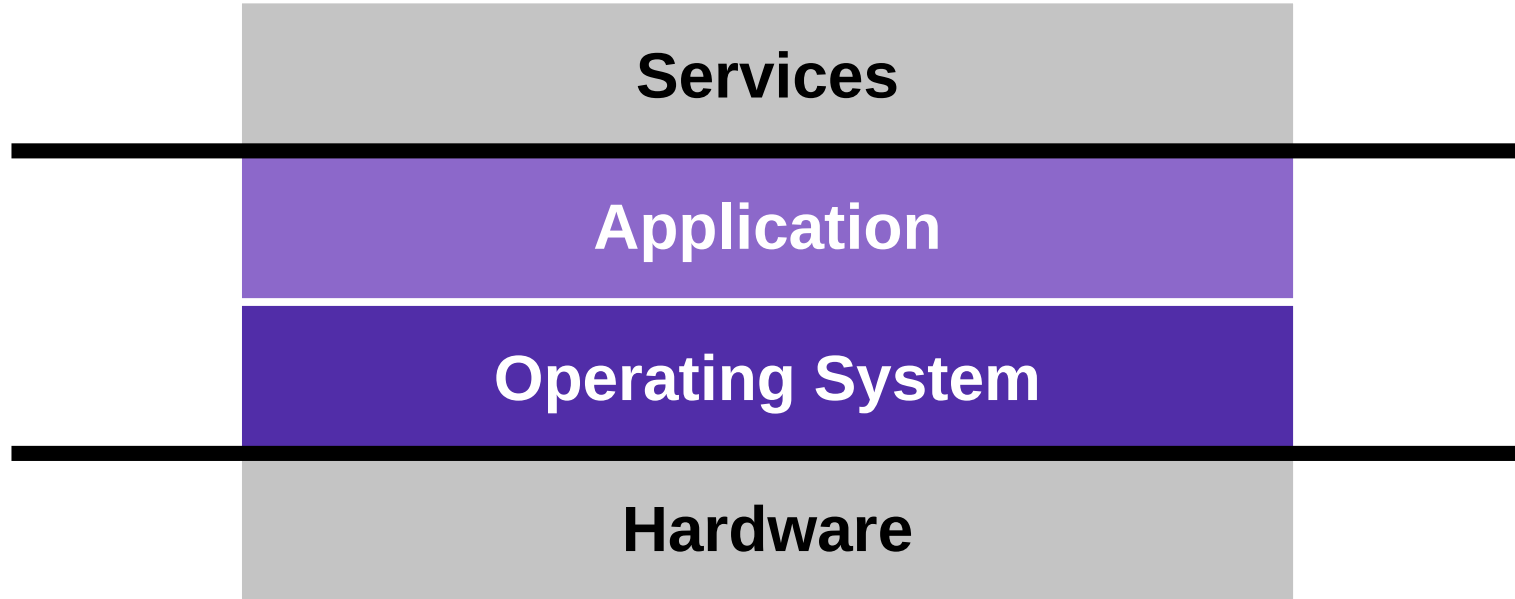


- **Child**
- **Teenager**
- **Single adult**
- **Married no kids**
- **Parent**

Enterprise Software Market Segmentation

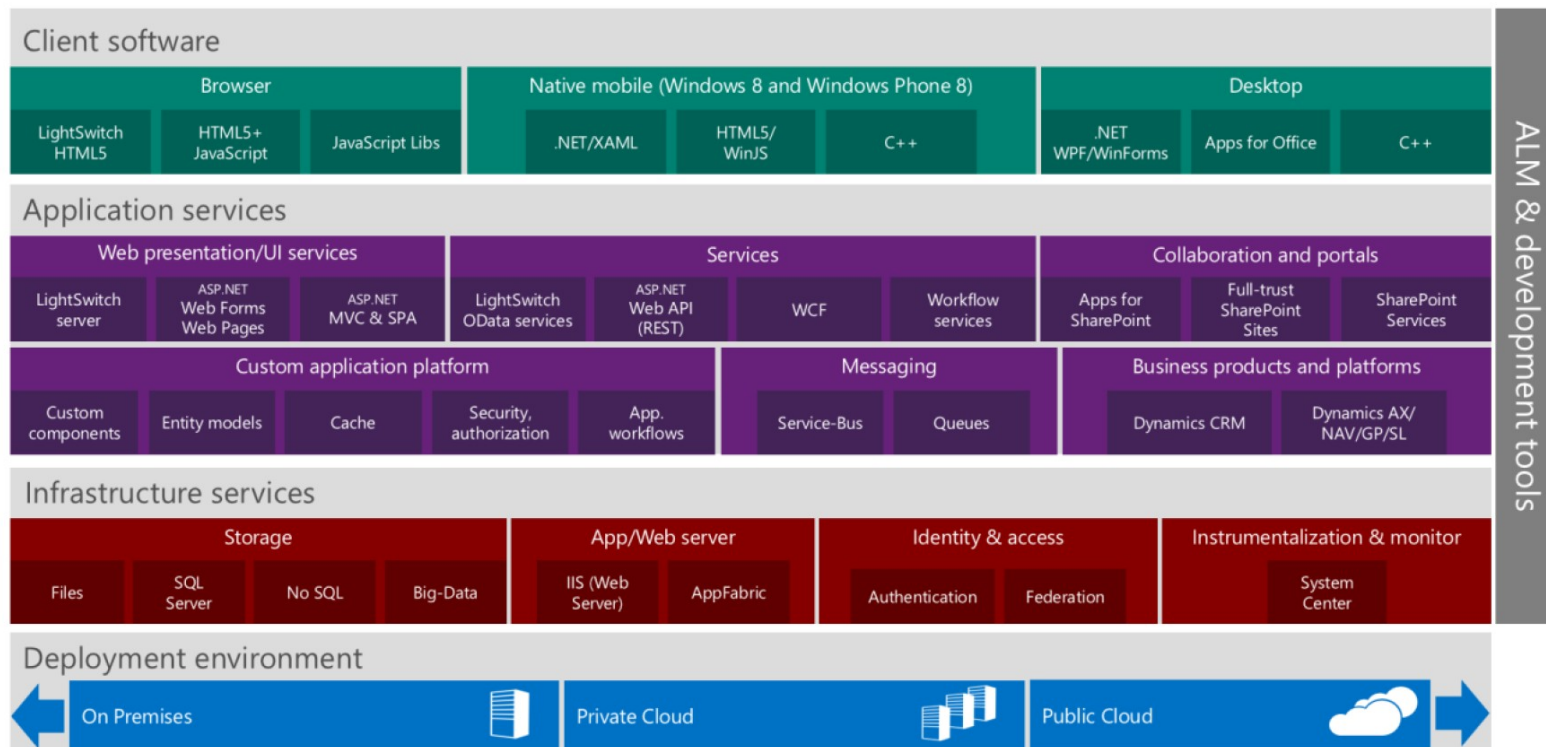


Customers Want to Buy a “Solution”



Technology Stacks

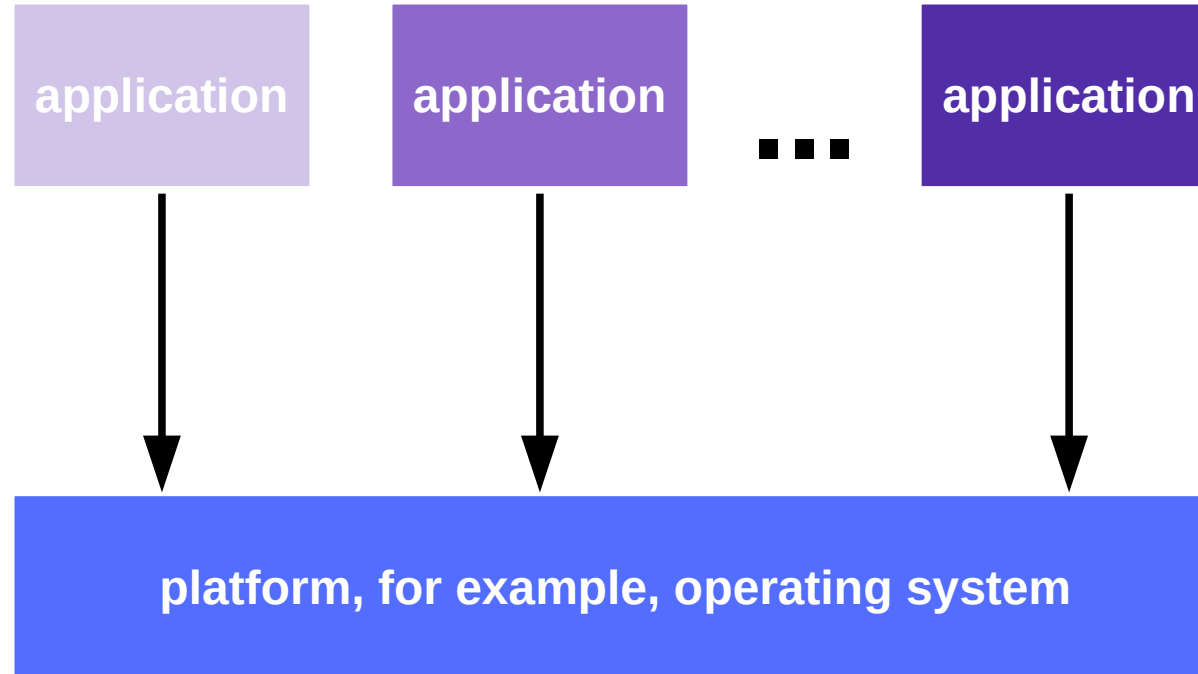
Microsoft Development Platform Technologies



6. Software Platforms

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?**

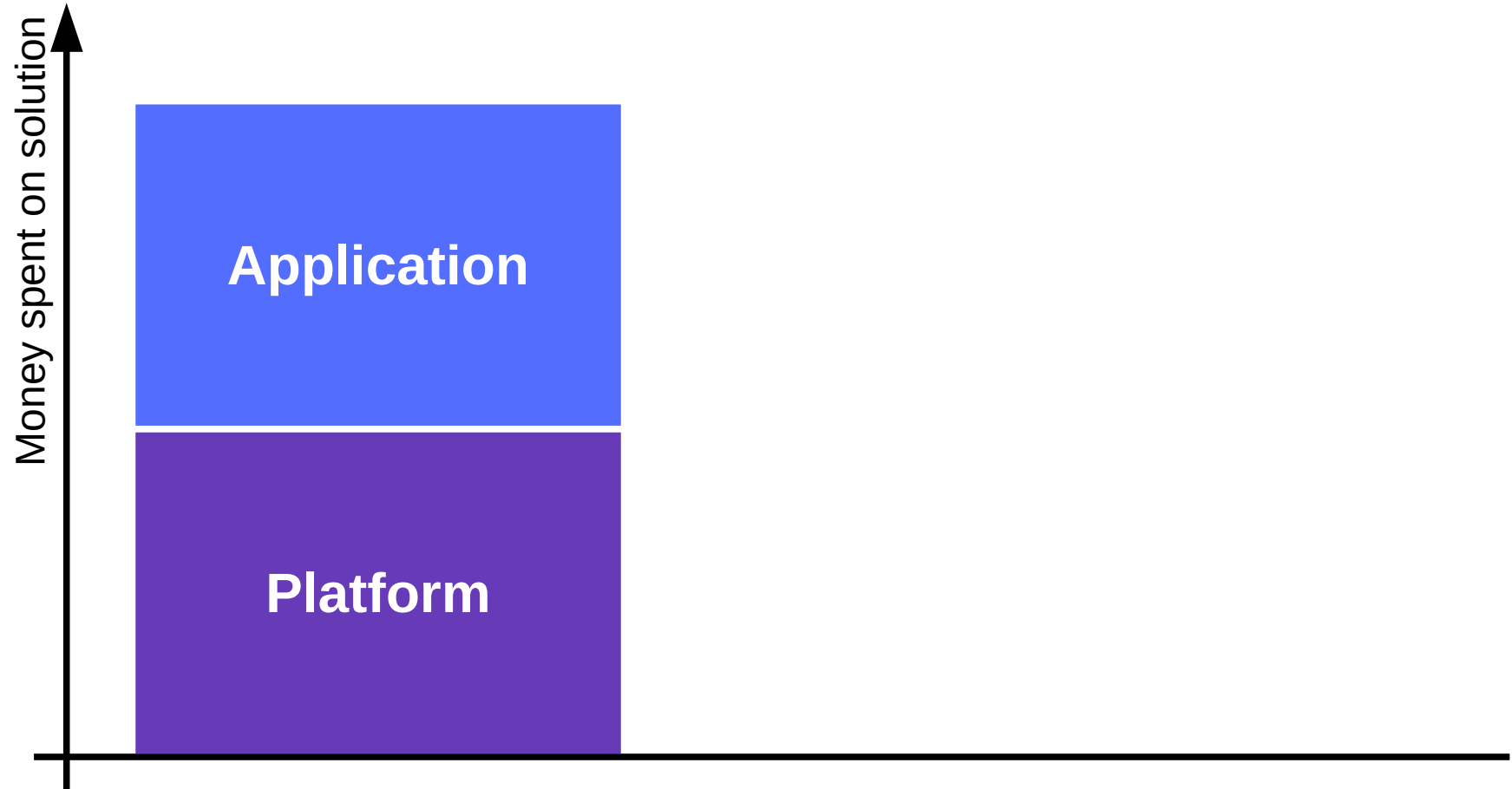


- Software platform
 - Is an environment for the development and deployment of applications
 - Implies split between applications on top of the platform
 - Is a full set of application-independent life-cycle functions for applications
 - Among many components, the largest collection (i.e. not just a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

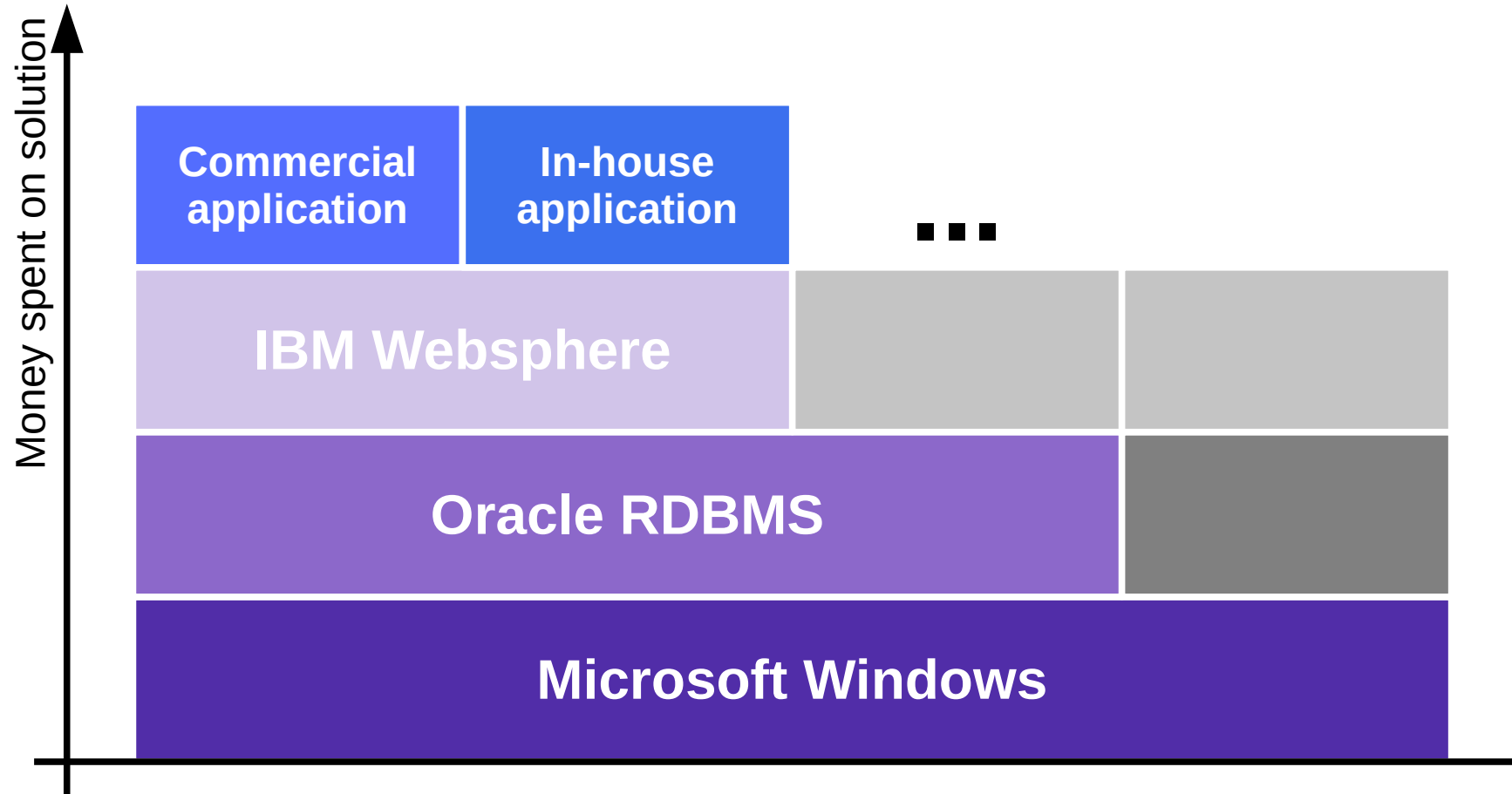
Software Platforms as a Product

- 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

Pricing Power 1 / 2



Pricing Power 2 / 2 [1]



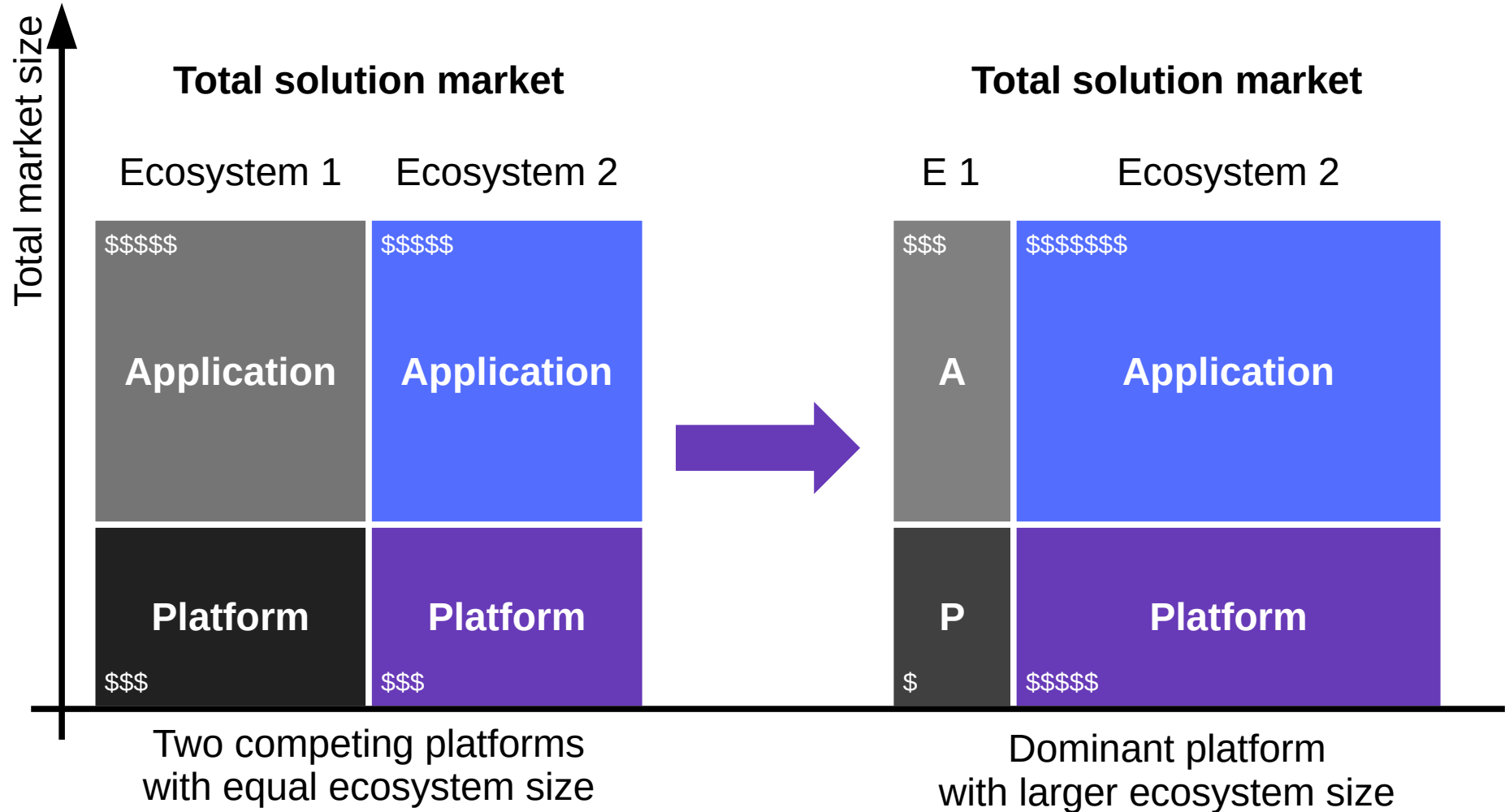
[1] Not drawn to scale

7. Software Ecosystems

Software Ecosystem

- **Software ecosystem**
 - The totality of actors (businesses and individuals)
 - Software applications and components
 - Their relationships and goals
 - On and around a software platform

The Software Ecosystem Wars



Summary

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Thank you! Questions?

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