# Strategy



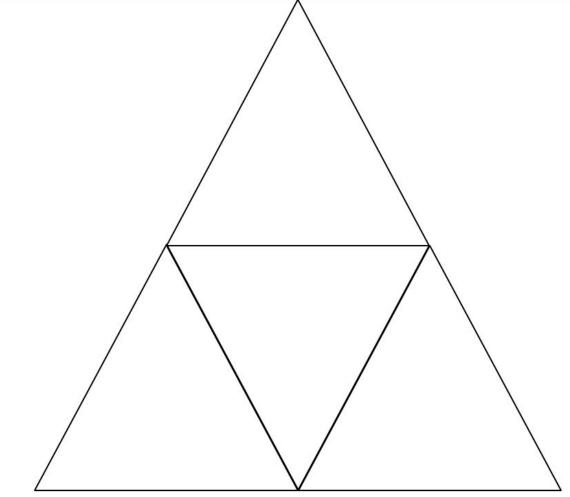
## So What is Strategy?

- A problem solving system two problems
  - Users/Buyer's concerns/Issue/Pain Points
  - How I organizational to solve them
- So, what is the problem you are solving?
- We follow a 7-element system to answer these questions

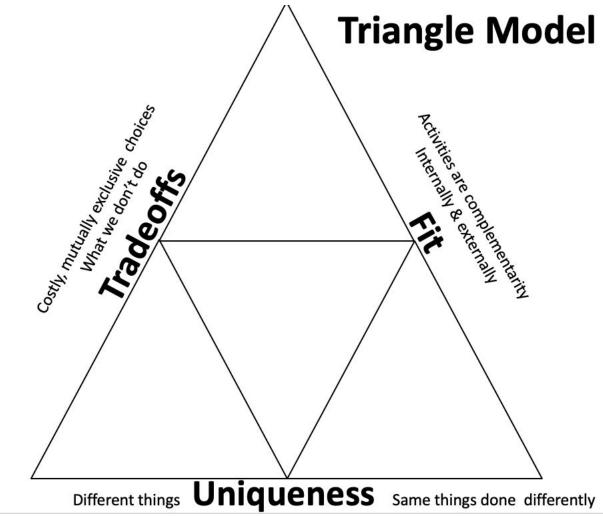




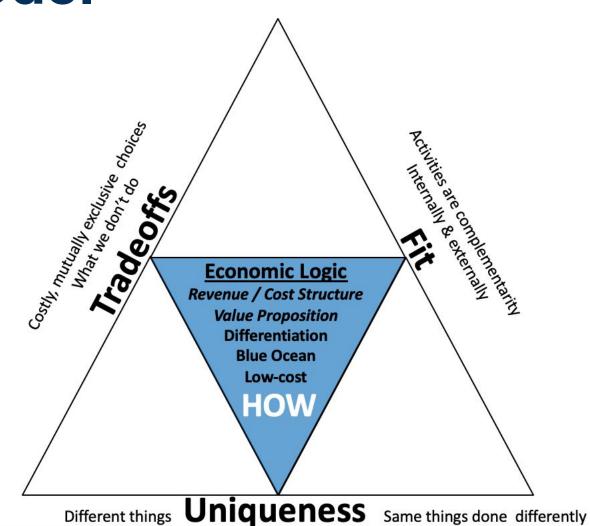




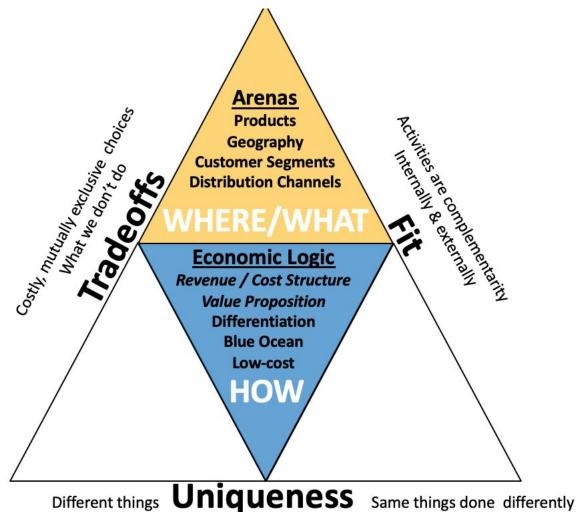






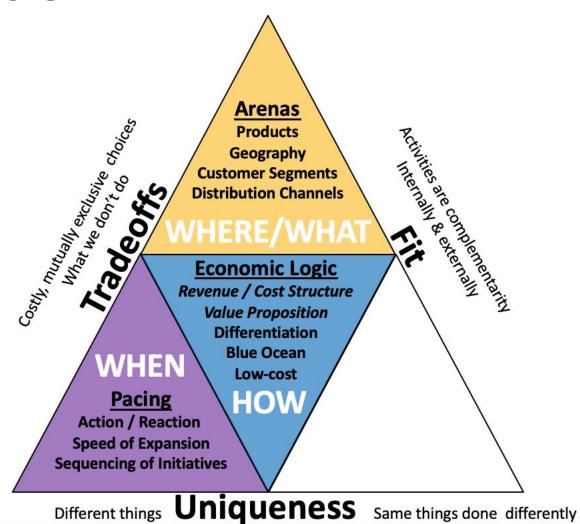






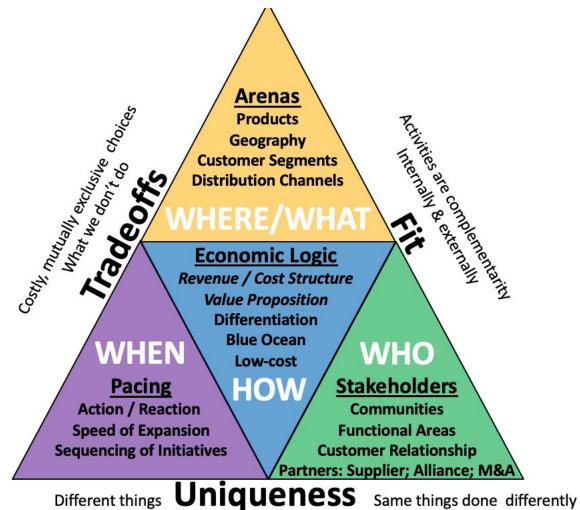


Choices: How to Win





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#### **The Strategy Concept** New Entry Supplier Buyer Power Power Degree of Aspiration Rivalry Arenas Substitute Complement Tradeoffs 5 **Economic Logic** Structure WIN WHEN WHO Performance Controls/ Human Pacing **Stakeholders** HOW Processes Incentives Capital Objective Uniqueness Culture

OBJECTIVES STRATEGY METRICS	OBJECTIVES
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## **David vs. Goliath Reading**

- Give some examples
- Uniqueness?
- Tradeoffs?
- Fit?
  - Internal
  - External

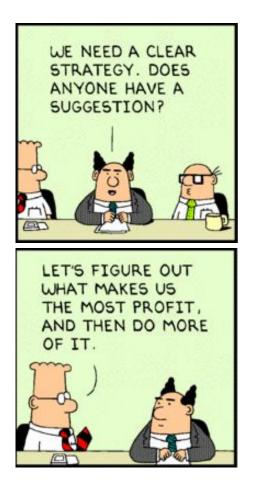




## What Strategy is Not

#### • NOT

- a singular focus on profit (this is a metric)
- a static idea (strategy is dynamic)
- a once a year plan (strategy is so much more)
- a set of tactical actions (related to functional-level)
- or even operational excellence (a different metric)





## Symptoms of "Bad" Strategy

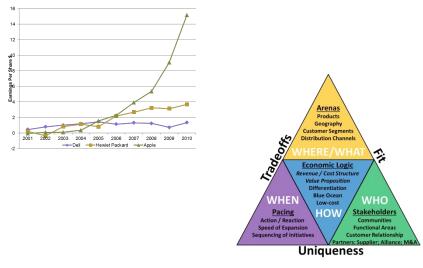
- Failure to Face Problem
- Mistaking what (objectives) for how (strategy)
  - Grow Revenues by 20%; Margins above 20%!
- Fluff
  - "Our Strategy is customer-centric intermediation"
    - What the heck??? Intermediation = banking; Customer-centric = attention on patron;
    - Attention on patron banking!
    - "Big words" does not make a strategy

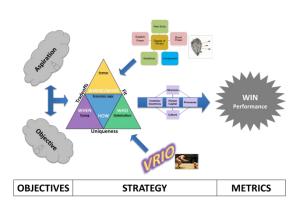




## **Review Today**

- Strategy is worth learning
- Strategy:
  - NOT objectives, buzz words, or fluff
  - <u>Choices</u> regarding how to win
  - Triangle Model: 7 elements
    - Uniqueness, Fit and Tradeoffs
    - Economic Logic, Arenas, Stakeholders, Pacing
- Course model is comprehensive
  - Great climate enhances learning





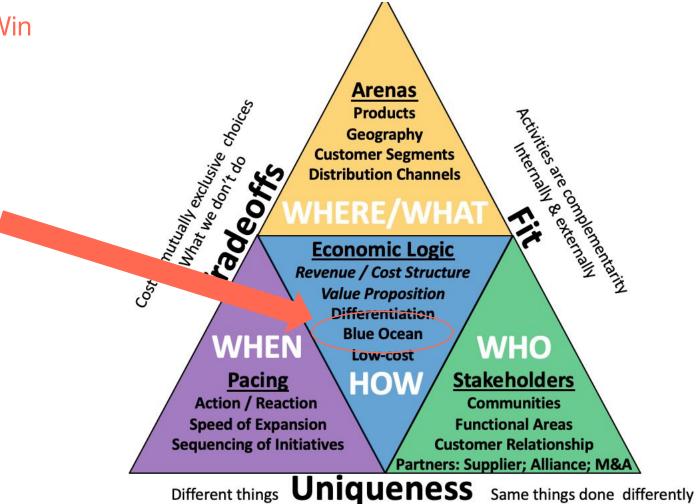


#### **Blue Ocean / Value Innovation**

David G. Sirmon, PhD. Robert Herbold Professor University of Washington Foster School



Choices: How to Win

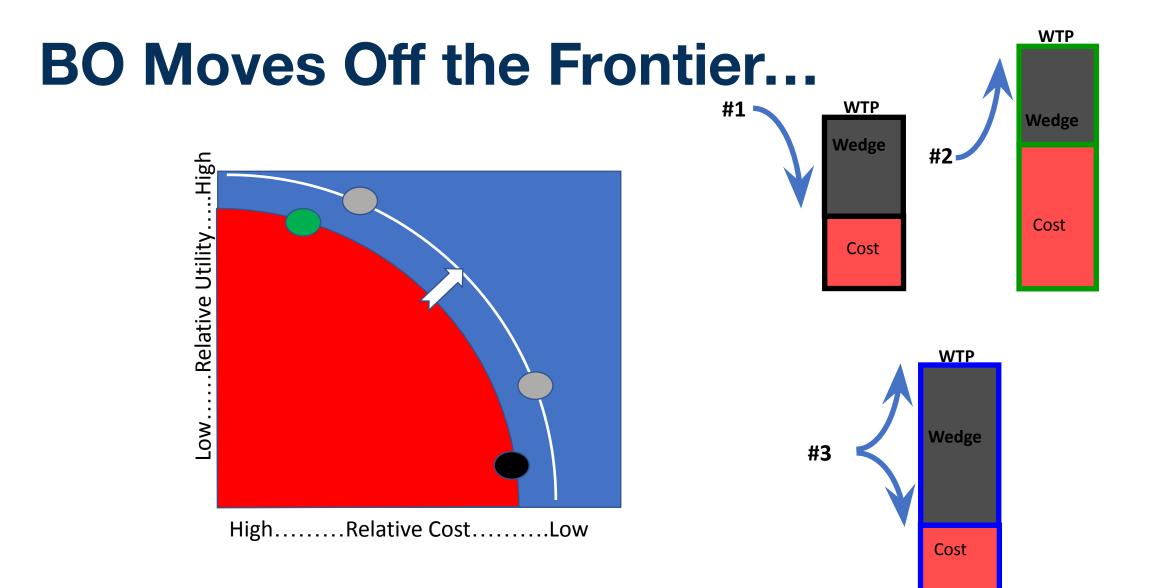




#### **Describe Blue Ocean**

Red Ocean Strategy	Blue Ocean Strategy
Choose Low Cost or Differentiation	Simultaneously pursue both
Compete in existing market space with existing demand	Find new unmeet demand via non-users
To beat the competition	To move away from competition







#### How to do both:

4Actions Raise Create What factors should be What factors should be WT created that increases raised that increase buyer & non-user UTILITY? buyer & Non-user **UTILITY?** Wedge Cos Eliminate Reduce What factors should be reduced What factors should be eliminated because while they are still because their removal do not impact necessary costs can be reduced utility and improves costs



## **Misconceptions of Blue Ocean**

- •....is technology driven
  - NO: often recombines existing tech
- •....is for small/young firms
  - NO: incumbents & new
- •....includes tradeoffs
  - YES, but in new ways: shifts frontier
- •....is buyer utility focused
  - YES: but sequence is uncommon: Utility, Price, then Cost
- •....is stealing existing customers
  - NO: reaching non-users with different set of activities







## **Traditional CRM Industry**

- Suppliers: really none
- Buyers: are powerful, large enterprises
- Rivals: Numerous large ERP vendors
- Substitutes: limited
- Entry barriers: capital, distribution, competitive retaliation
- Complementors: limited
- Product is highly customized, expensive to build and buy, difficult to learn. Rivalry is intense and feature richness (expensive) is increasing.

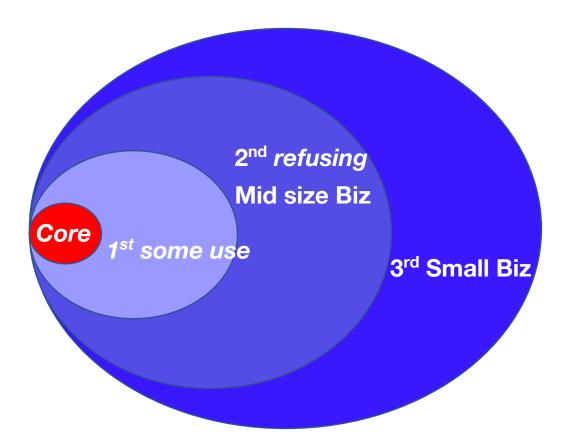




## Who is not using? WHY NOT?

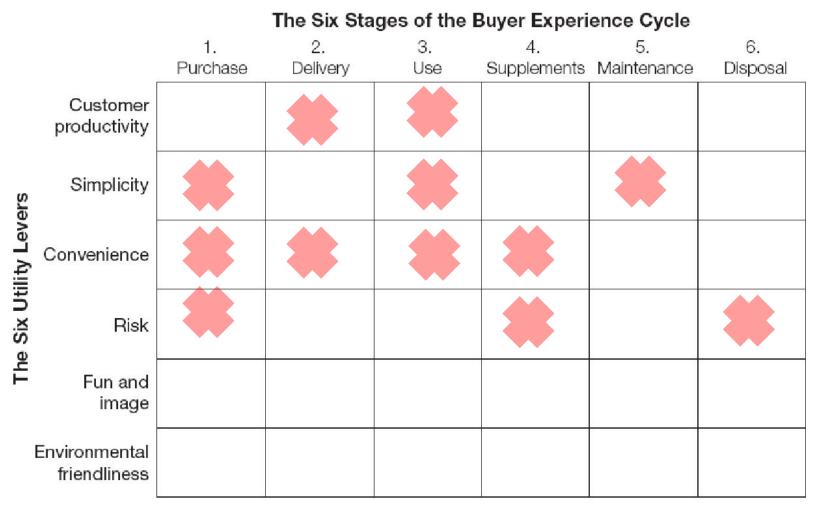
- Core/1st: large enterprises who can scale out the costs, but so many pain points ready for better alternative
- •2<sup>nd</sup> Mid-size who resist due to \$ and challenges
- •3<sup>rd</sup> Small biz, never really thought of

#### Think **DE-SEGMENTATION**





#### **User/Non-User Pain Points?**



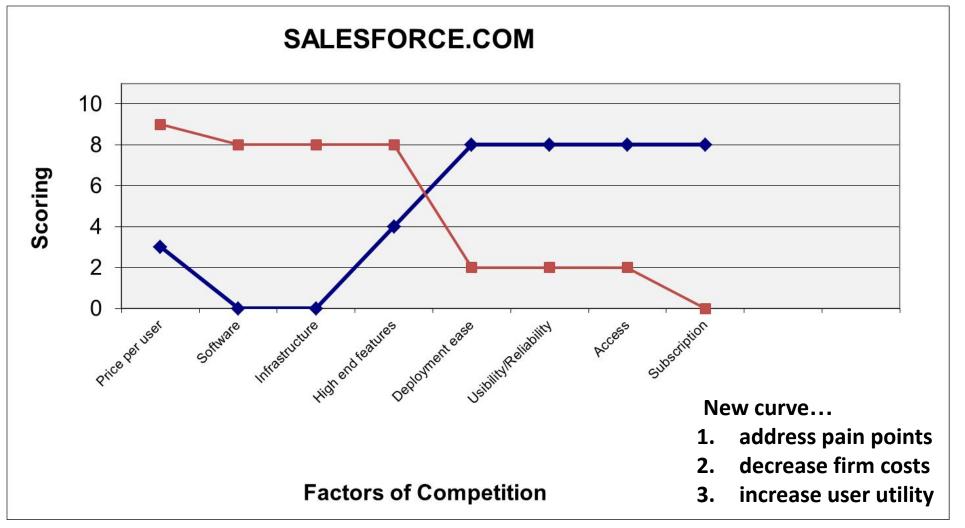


#### **Salesforce removed Pain Point**

ELIMINATE	REDUCE
Software	Time to use
Capital investment	Set up time
Maintenance costs	Training Complex function
<b>RAISE</b> Ease of Deployment Simplicity	<b>CREATE</b> Subscription Accessibly

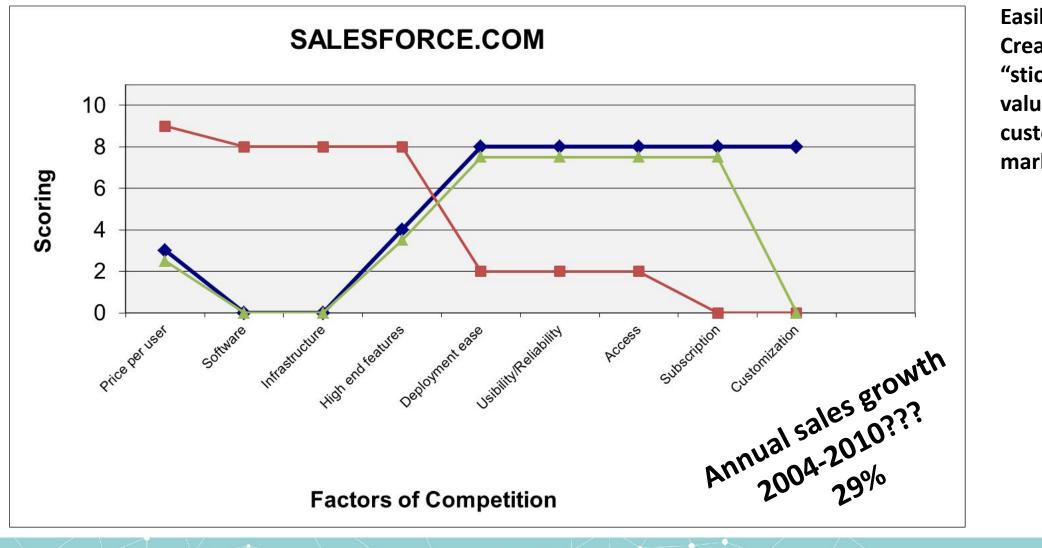


#### Salesforce.com Value Curve 1.0





#### Salesforce.com Value Curve 2.0

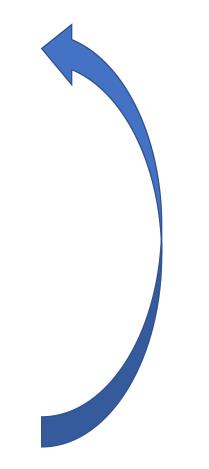


Easily copied.... Creates "stickiness" and value via a customization marketplace



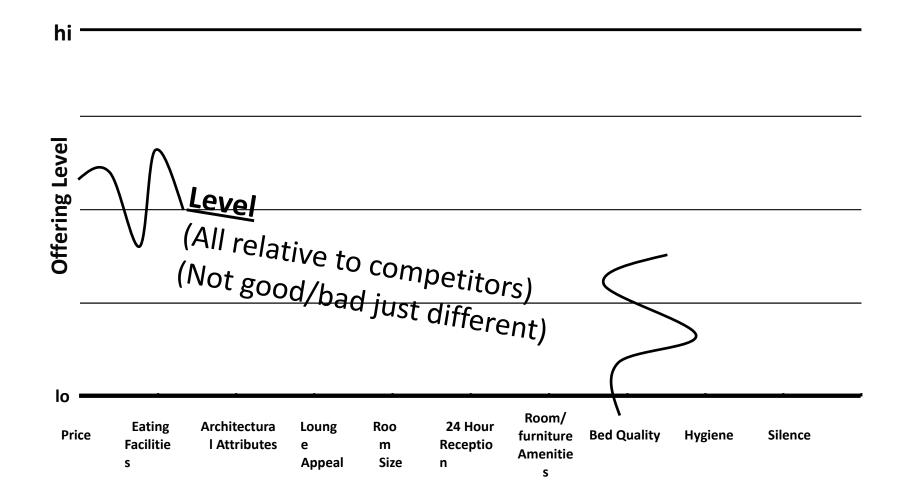
#### **Blue Ocean's Tools**

- Primary tools: <u>Value Curve</u> & <u>4Actions</u>
- Understand: <u>Buyer/Non-buyer Utility</u>
  - Finding Opportunity: <u>6 Paths</u>
    - Viability: <u>Sequence</u>





#### Value Curves:





#### **Elements of Great Value Curve**

Divergent: different from competition

• Failure: me-too; no new cost saving

Focus: Buyers utility clearly seen

• Failure: incoherent; inconsistent

Tagline: Must be communicable

- Failure: internally focused; misses mark
- Not only Drives Formulation, but Communication



## **Utility by Removing Pain Points**

• Unlock utility by identifying and removing pain points...

Search Purchase	Delivery	Use	Supplements	Maintenance	Disposal		
Customer productivity: efficiency – less time, effort, and/or money							
Simplicity: anything that eliminates or minimizes complexity or hassle							
<b>Convenience:</b> when and where you want something, like 24/7, 365 days a year.							
<b>Risk reduction:</b> including financial, physical and reputational risk.							
Fun & image: the look, feel and attitude the offering conveys							
Enviror	nmental friend	lliness: how	green your product	or service is, and do	pes it matter		

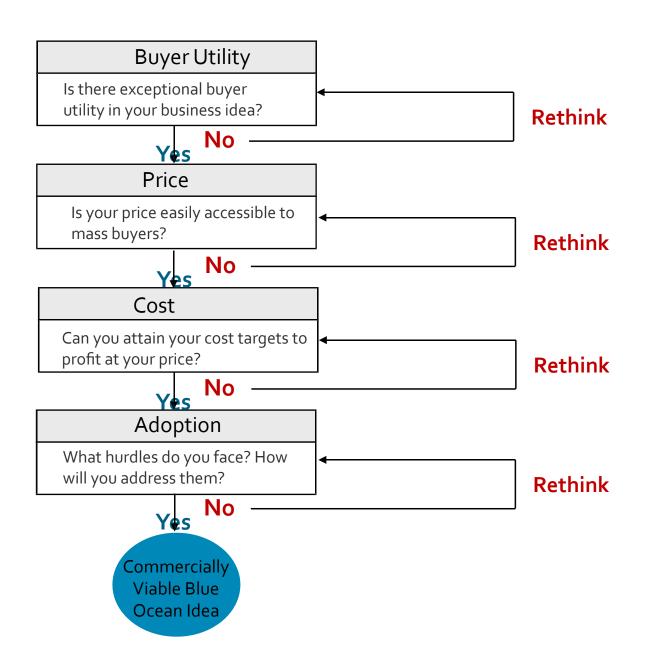




**Price Before Cost** 







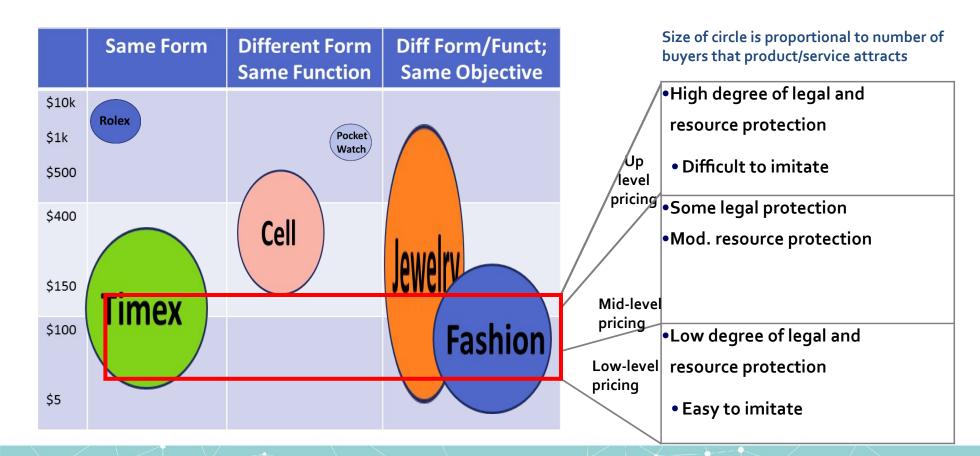


#### Sequence

#### From Utility to Pricing

Step 1. Identify price similarity to

#### Step 2. Specify a level within the price





### **Sequence for Viability**





## Shaving in the 1900s

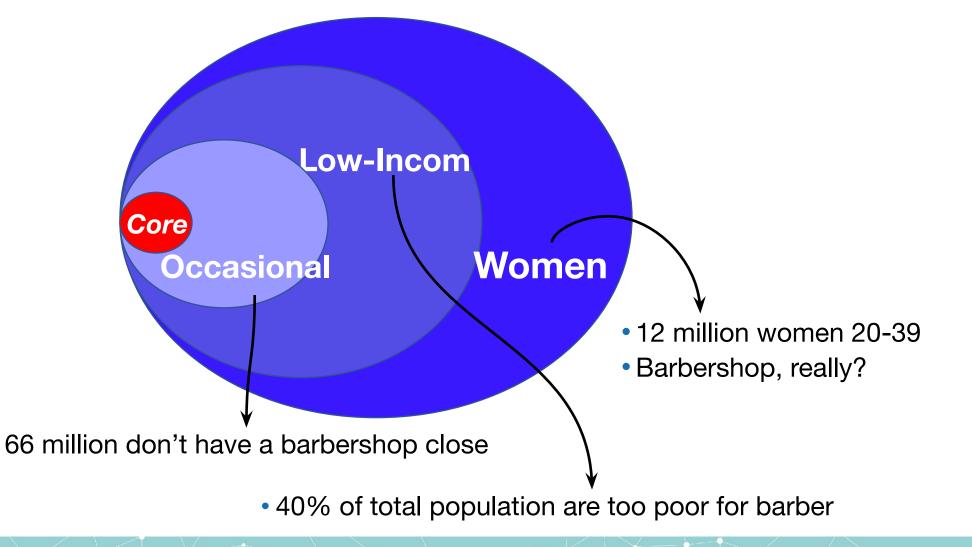




- Life-lasting razors
- Forged blades
- Size of blade
  - Price of razor

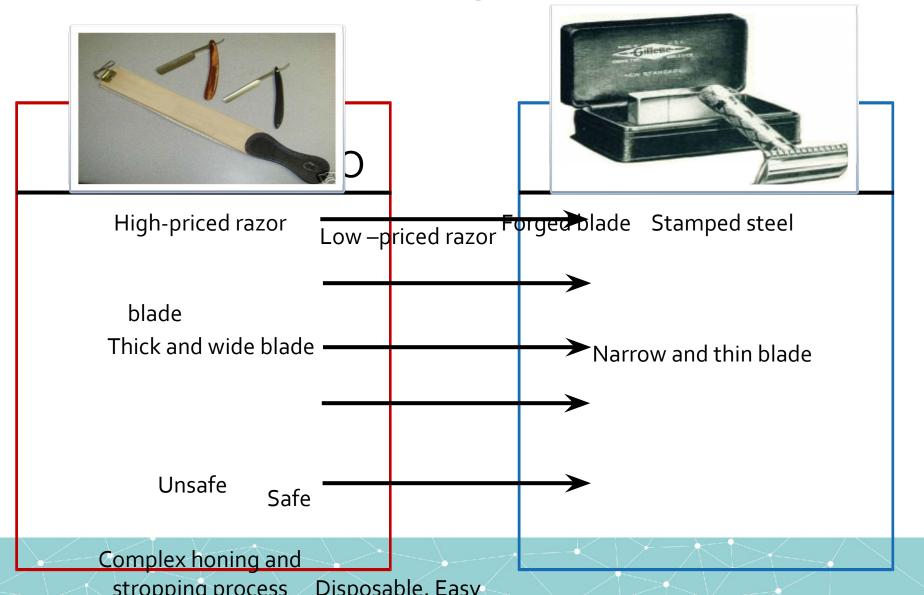


#### The Three Tiers of Noncustomers



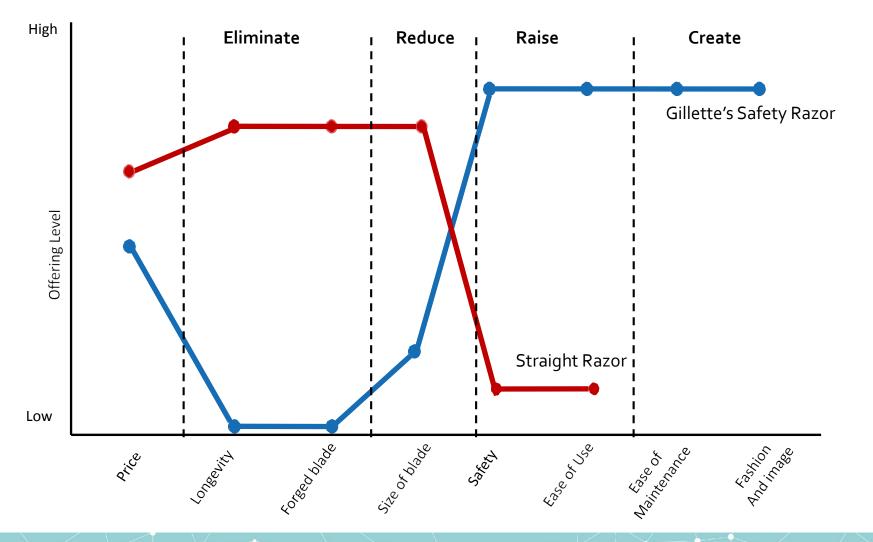


### **Gillette's Strategic Move**





# **Strategy Canvas**





#### Gillette's Strategic Move

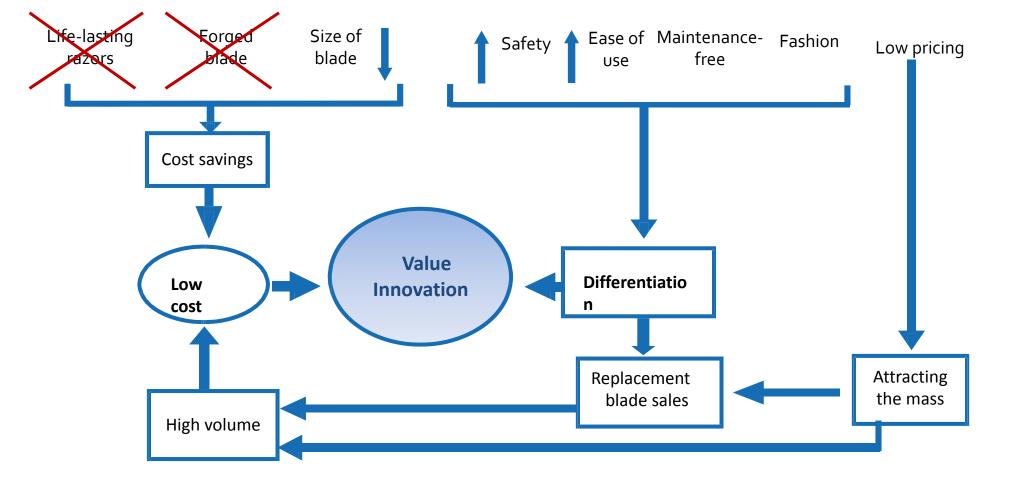






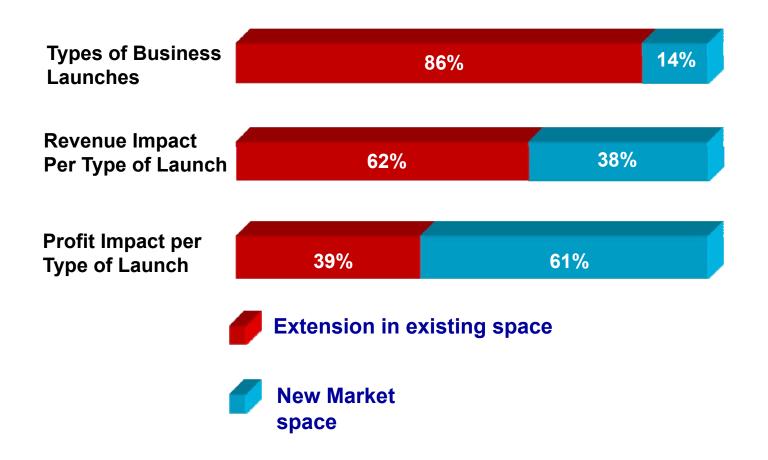
# **These Actions Aren't Fluffy**

They Change Cost and Revenues Structures





# **New Market Actions Produce Profit**





### Your Turn with Value Curves

- 1. Get into groups
- 2. Pull up Excel Value Curve Template
- 3. Consider your firm and your major competitors (2)
- 4. Draw the value curves for each on the <u>same canvas</u>
  - What factors did you specify?
  - How do they compare?
    - Do your curve show utility? Is it focused? Does it diverge? Is there a clear tagline?
- 5. Present to Class
  - Describe your canvas to class



# Now, turn attention to Six Paths

Systematic		Industry		
way to reconstruct		Strategic group		
market boundaries	From Competin g Within	Buyer group Scope of product or service offering		To Creati g Acros
and create new market		Functional-emotional orientation of an		Acros
space		industry Time		



# **Care When Thinking via Analogy**

• Powerful: Drive to insight.....Can also Drive to failure





- Articulate the analogy explicitly
  - Evaluate soundness: similarity / difference
- Test idea forward with thought experiments
  - User / Non-User utility?
  - Effect on the 5Forces
  - Utilization and fungibility of current resource for new context



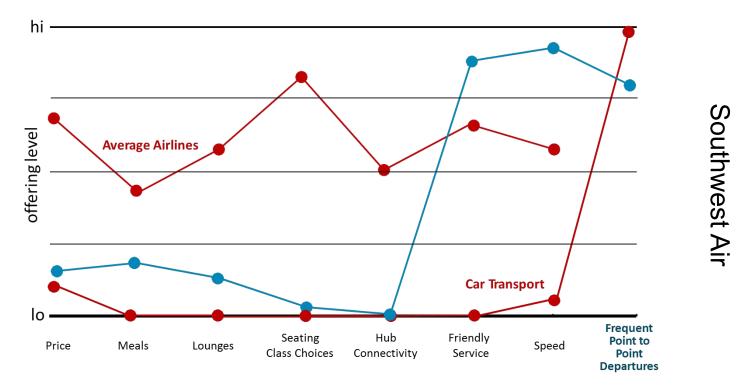


# **1. Look Across Alternative Industries**

The Logic:

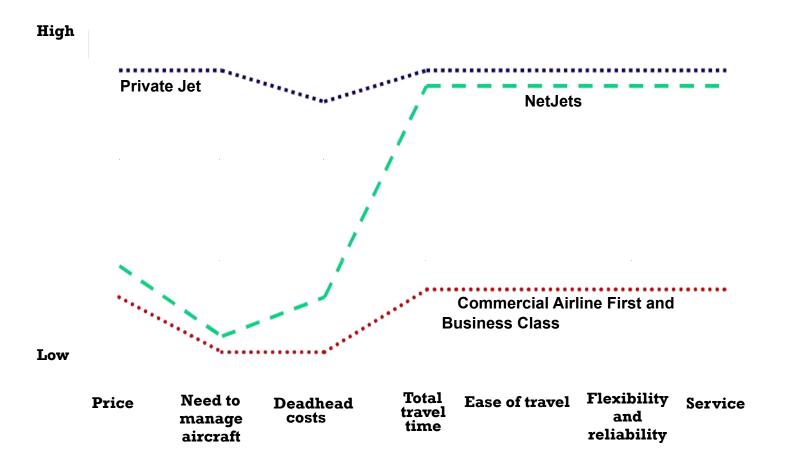
Buyers often implicitly weigh alternatives across industries:

• Drive / Train / Fly -> What pushes them?





### **NetJets**

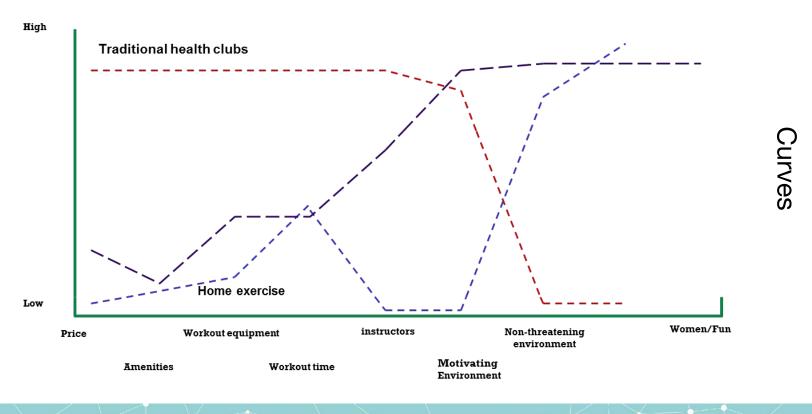




### 2. Look Across Strategic Groups

#### The Logic:

Strategic groups rightly segment the market. But is there an offering that unites segments?





### Path 3. Chain of Buyers

- Purchasers, Users and Influencers are actually different groups. Their views of value likely differ!
  - Can shifting focus creating new demand?





# Path 4. Complementary Offerings

- Other products or services affect the value of your offering. Value can be created by offering a total solution.
  - What happens before/during/after the use of your offering?

#### **IKEA** offer complementary services

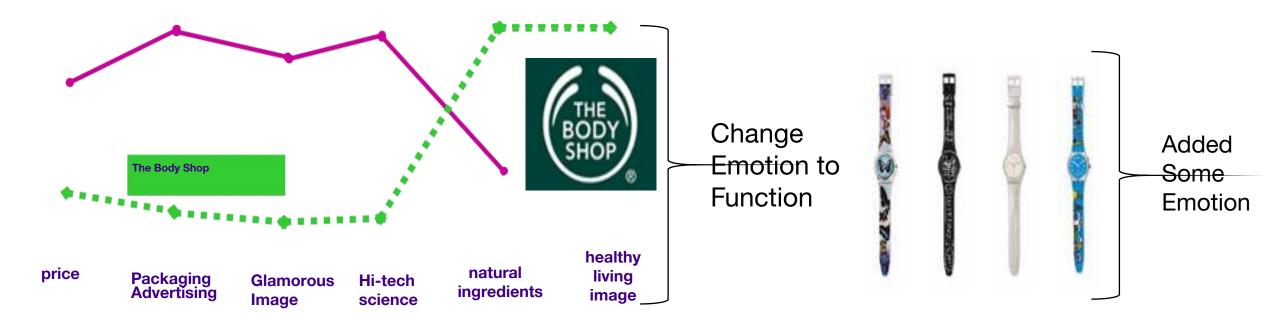


Starbuck's 3<sup>rd</sup> place: couches, music, Wi-Fi, nice place for visiting



# Path 5. Functional/Emotional Appeal

• Some industries compete principally on functionality or emotion. Switch it up.





### **6 Paths Shift Focus**

	Conventional Logic Focuses on	Value Innovation Looks to	
1. Industry	Rivals within its industry	Cross alternative industries	
2. Strategic Group	Competitive position within strategic group	Cross strategic groups within industry	
3. Buying Group	Better serving the buyer group	Redefine who derives value	
4. Complementary	Maximizing the value of product and service offerings within the bound of its industry	Cross complementary products and services	
5. Function/Emotion	Improving price-performance within the functional-emotional orientation if its industry	Invert the functional- emotional orientation	
6. Time	Adapting to trends over time	Shape trends over time	

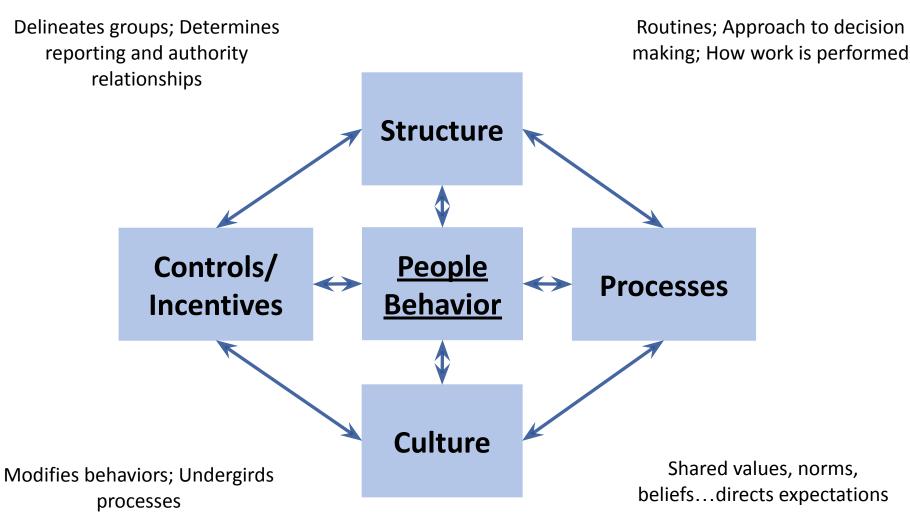


### Remember, Strategy...

- A problem solving system two problems
  - Users/Buyer's concerns/Issue/pain points
  - How I organize to solve them



# **Organizational Design Elements**





# **Big Picture on Org Design**

- Relationship with Strategy
  - strategy is implemented via organizational design
  - should match strategy in discriminating ways
    - elements can be made complementary in various ways. Not set in stone.
- Relationship with VRIO
  - can be valuable, rare and inimitable, thus creating a strength
  - can be inertial in its dysfunction, and thereby a weakness that promotes disadvantage



# Incentives must drive productivity (not cost)

- Good
  - Transparent
  - Rewarding
    - •\$
    - Recognition
    - Advancement
  - Tied to Strategy

- Bad
  - Opaque
    - Excuses abound
    - Shirking increases
  - De-motivating
    - Too much team
    - Too much me
    - Not differentiating among level of achievement









# Controls

- Strategic (behavioral)
- "Show me the effort"
  - Principles
  - Need to coach desired behaviors
    - Cold calling
    - Time in office
    - Risk taking
    - Experimentation

#### Which are needed per Strategy?

- Financial (output)
  - "Show me the \$"
  - Ratios
    - Sales
    - Costs
  - Job specific metrics
  - You do not need to coach, just count!





# **Organization Culture**

- Culture....
  - Espoused values and norms of behavior within organizations.
  - Taken for granted ways of behaving within an organization
    - Nordstrom: "Our number one goal is to provide outstanding customer service"
    - Don't point, walk customers to a location; Walk bagged purchase to customer, don't hand across counter; Offer to ring up purchase (avoid standing in line)
  - Reinforced by symbols and stories
    - Any good stories of your firms culture?
  - Comes in both formal and informal flavors
    - GM's informal culture: People who show too much initiative don't get promoted
    - Microsoft's informal culture values autonomous action
  - It is a different means of control
  - Can be the most powerful element (along with incentives)



# **Organization Culture (Cont.)**

- Management can shape culture through structure, controls, incentives
  - A "bad" culture can be the end of a firm!





NETFLIX

Bottom up Organization Autonomous action

Good ideas come from deep in organization.

#### Value of serendipity

Make a little sell a little

Don't overly manage new pro development

Identify needs

Family like; low turn

Highly aligned Loosely coupled

**Great Performance** 

Creativity: Focused

Responsible: Keeper test

Self-discipline: Context

Freedom: Avoid rules

Team: No Jerks

**Professional not family** 



# **Organization Processes**

- How decisions are made and/or how is done
- Examples:
  - Strategy formulation processes
    - 3 year rolling plan at Microsoft
  - Product development processes
    - Stage-gate processes at Google
  - Quality improvement processes
    - Lean production at Toyota
  - Decision making processes
    - Consensus decision making processes at IBM
  - Performance evaluation processes
    - Stack ranking at GE and Microsoft



# **Example: Performance Evaluation**

#### Stack Ranking

- •Not a good or bad thing!
- •Fosters competitive environment
- •Rewards best, fires the poorest
- •Does not promote collaboration
- •But other elements can!

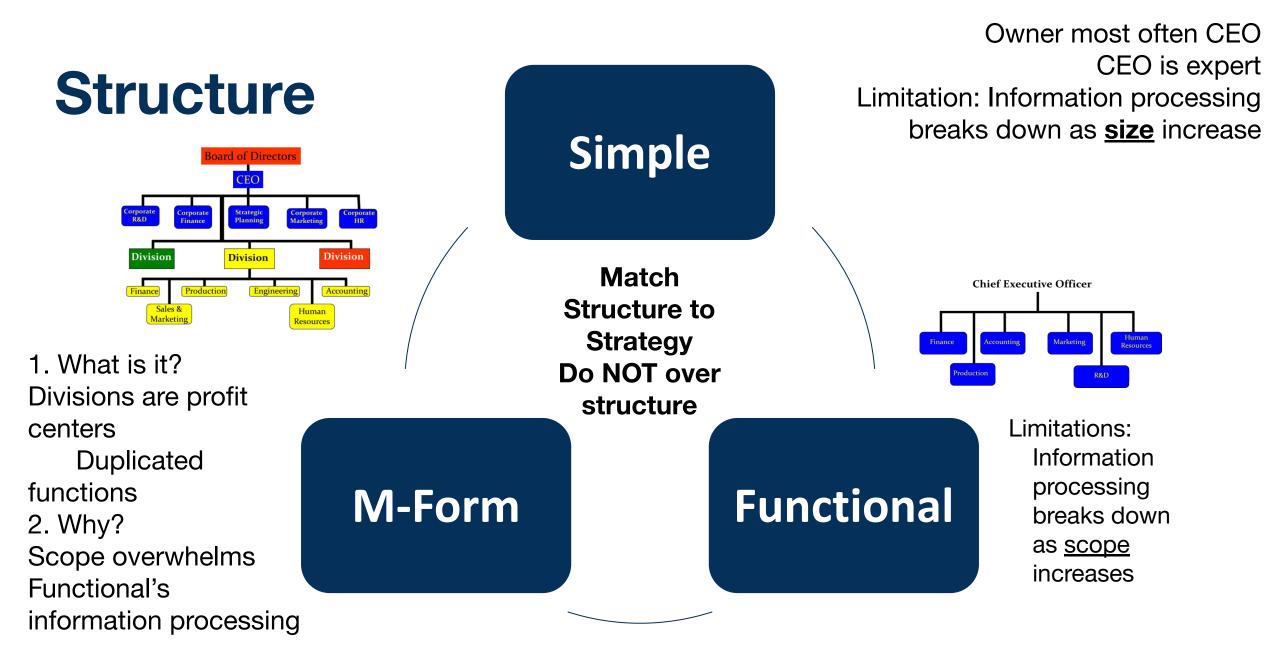
#### 360 Review

- •Not a good or bad thing!
- •Fosters collaborative environment
- Makes responsiveness a priority
- •Does not promote competition
- •But other elements can!











### Take-Aways...

Controls/ Incentives ↔ Human Capital ↔ Processes Culture

General for Org Design

- 1. Critical to winning
- 2. Often overlooked buts needs significant attention
- 3. All elements work together, but different per strategy



# **Org Design: Google**

