



Online Music Industry

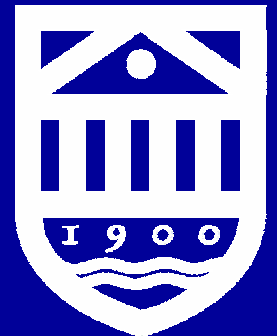
Apple's iTunes vs. the Fast Followers

Lee Bouyea T'05
MBA Fellows Project

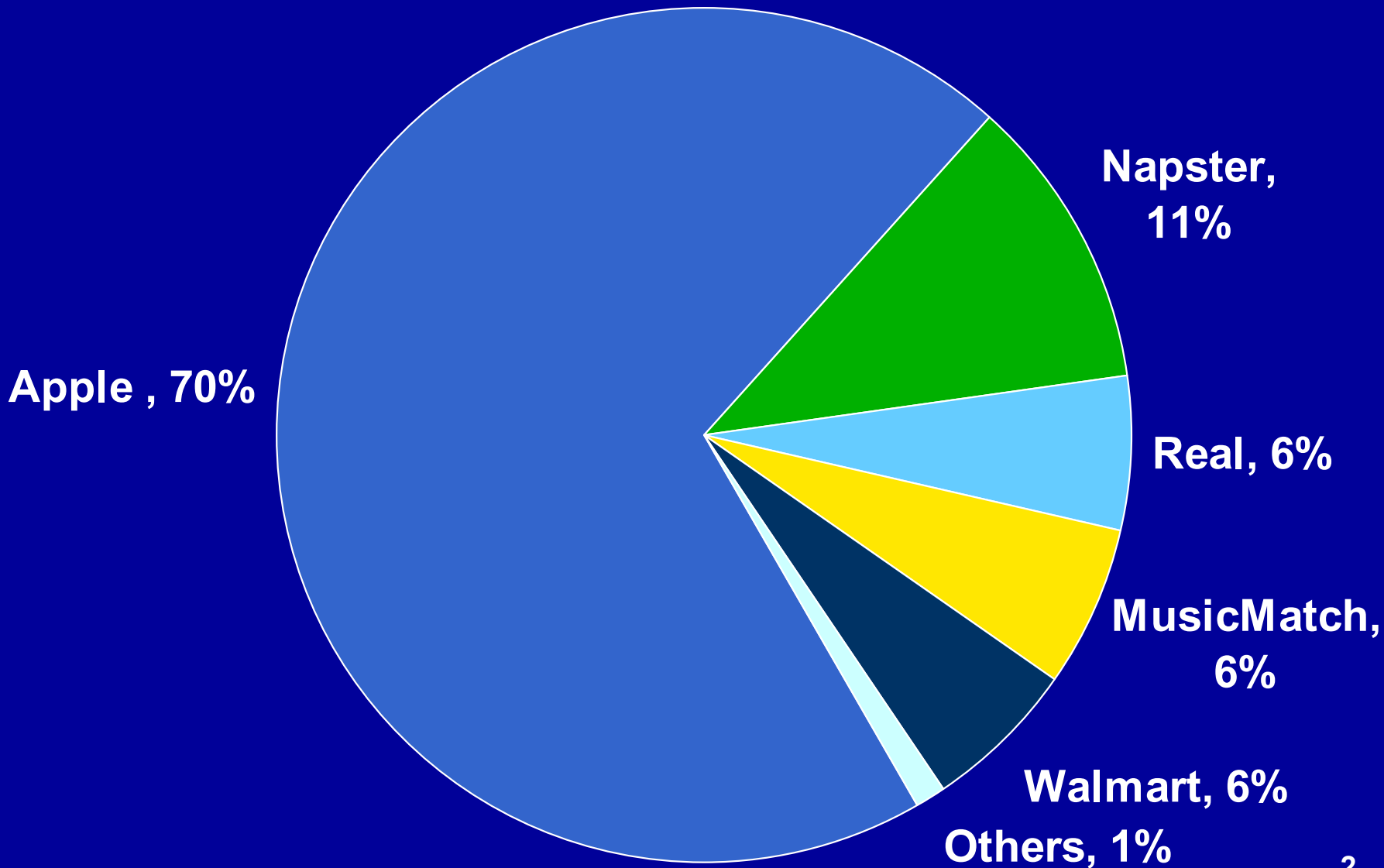
Online Music Industry

Apple's iTunes vs. the Fast Followers

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Independent Study
Center for Digital Strategies
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Apple Dominates Online Music Sales Market Share



Music Industry Forces Create a Dynamic and Fast Changing Environment

Supplier Power - Low

- Increased size and power of the online distribution channel compromises suppliers' bargaining power
- Labels are losing traditional revenues, forcing them to move into online music distribution

Buyer Power – High

- Many alternatives with fairly low switching costs
- Music piracy is also a legitimate option for many consumers

Rivalry – High

- Numerous services are popping up
- Partnerships and shakeouts are prevalent

Substitutes – Medium

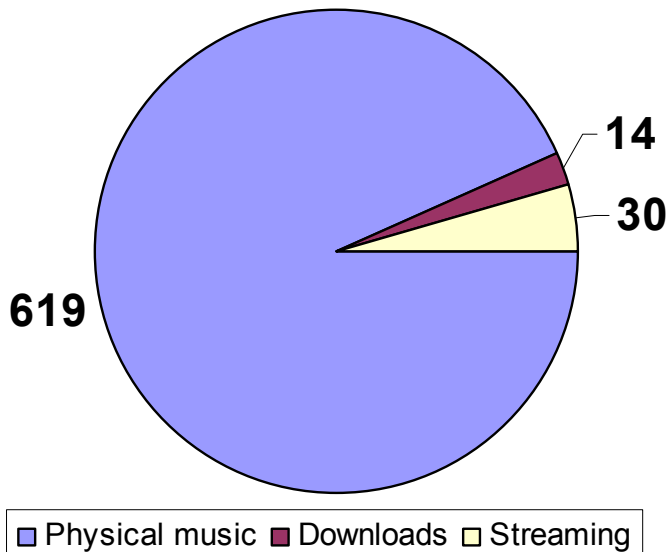
- Many alternatives including physical CDs, traditional radio and satellite radio
- But online format is increasingly appealing to consumers

Entry Barriers – Low

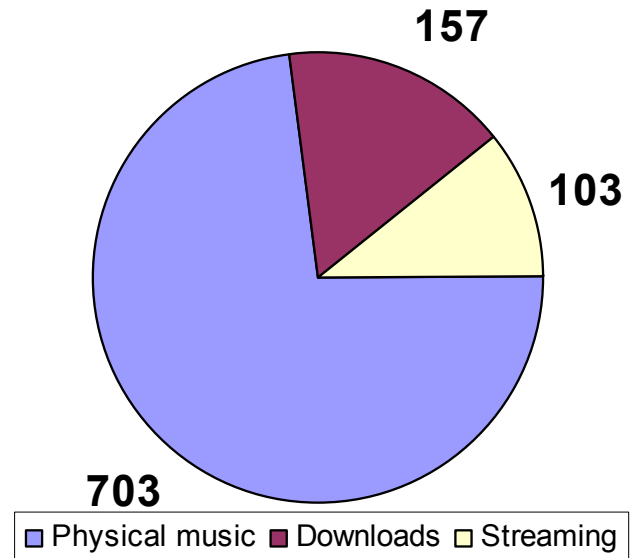
- No fixed assets
- Advertising, Marketing and Pricing can allow companies to gain a quick foothold in the industry

Rapid Growth and Change Seen in the Music Industry from 2002-2004

2002 Online Music Sales in MM - \$663M



2004 Online Music Sales in MM - \$963M



- Total music sales continue to grow, nearing \$1B in 2004
- Downloads and Streams continue to steal share from physical music

*Source: Mintel- Online Music, 8/04

Complementing Factors Also Contribute to Industry Dynamism

- **Changing consumer expectations of music consumption**
 - Multiple delivery models
 - Purchase and Own
 - Stream
 - Limited Time Download
 - Mix and Burn
 - No physical limitations on selection
 - Play before you pay
- **Digital Rights Management development and File Format Wars**
- **Hardware development and convergence**

Apple SWOT Indicates Share Points are Theirs to Lose

Strengths:

- Market Leadership through adoption of closed AAC format
- Design & Usability
- Full solution software > UI > hardware

Weaknesses:

- Learning curve on first ever PC product
- No partnerships to complement their offering

Opportunities

- Continued next generation prod development
- Target PC users- 97% of market
- Lock users in now for the Long Term

Threats:

- Price War
- Backlash from consumers
- Anti-competition lawsuits

Fast Followers SWOT Points to a Number of Opportunities

Strengths:

- Multiple hardware partnerships
- Large WMA install base through Windows

Weaknesses:

- Late start- Fast follower
- Hardware Design

Opportunities:

- Compete on price
- Strategic partnerships
- New delivery models
- Universal file format
- Turn Apple's closed format market leadership against them

Threats:

- Apple's early adopter community closed format

Recommended Strategies for Apple vs. Fast Followers

Apple	Fast Followers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Improve iTunes usability: customer recs and premium services▪ Hardware evolution as convergence and product features develop▪ Aggressively target PC market with iPod and Digital Hub▪ Lock users into the AAC format as long as possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Strategic partnerships▪ Universal open file format▪ Price competition▪ New delivery models▪ Turn Apple's Early Adopter Customer base against them▪ Contract for exclusive content and features

All Parties will have to Navigate the Changing Industry Landscape

- **Broadband Increase**
- **Comprehensive Online Music catalogs**
- **File Format Wars & Digital Rights Management**
- **Hardware Convergence- Digital Hubs & MP3 cell phones**