Discussion of "Leveraging Monopoly Power by Limiting Interoperability"

Pai-Ling Yin

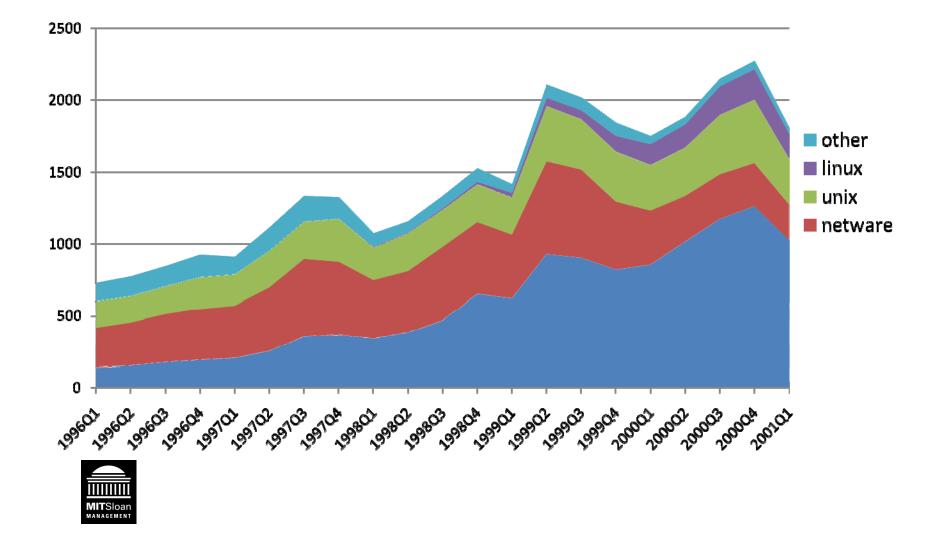


New and Relevant

- Robust incentive to leverage monopoly power to price discriminate via interoperability degradation of complementary product.
 - Note that if this possibility is not considered, you could overestimate margin on monopoly product
- Estimate in a real-life, timely setting.
- Exposition is easy to follow and implement!
 - PLUS Chris generously answered questions and shared his data before this discussion!



Levels: growing market



Interoperability Coefficient α

- Specified as coefficients on RAM & RAM*Windows
- Random coefficients should be for both, not just RAM
 - Could drive lack of heterogeneity on RAM?
 - Affects PC demand, but I think larger incentive results still go through.
- Estimating incentives AND α assuming that α is constant and not optimally chosen
 - If we let α vary over time, estimates of incentives would change (less stark?)



Caveats to application

- Interoperability could also be less than optimal
- More gentle interpretation: even if not explicitly degrading, monopolist has no incentive to exert effort to be more interoperable
- Instruments: Have to be careful in time series where prices rise and then falling product characteristics.

