

# SBD IPG MATERIALS

Northwestern | Kellogg



# Kickoff

**SBD IPG**

Session 1

Northwestern | Kellogg



# AGENDA

- Introductions
  - Leaders
  - Participants
- IPG Overview
  - Group Norms
  - IPG Syllabus Review
- Target Companies & Roles
- Week 0 Homework Review
- Week 1 Preview + Homework
- Resources

[LEADER NAME]

- **Program & Section:** X
- **Hometown(s):** X
- **Pre-Kellogg Home:** X
- **Pre-Kellogg Employer:** X
- **Position:** X
- **Summer Internship:** X
- **Childhood Dream Job:** X
- **Bucket List Vacation:** X

[Photo]

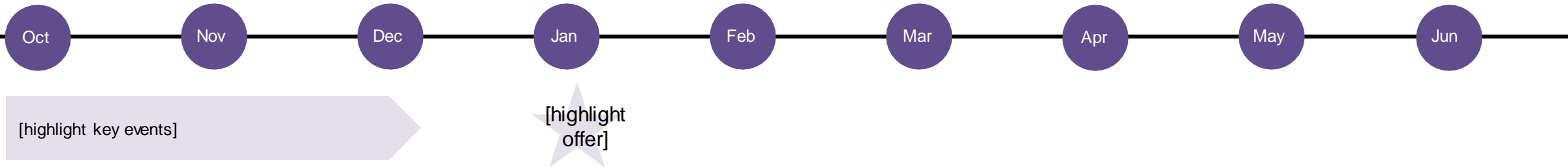


[LEADER NAME]

[#] Resumes dropped

[#] Networking calls

[#] Practice interviews



Key Resources:

- [insert]

# PARTICIPANT INTROS

**Insert photo**

*Name*

Hometown: x  
Before Kellogg: x  
Industries of interest: x  
Fun Fact: x

**Insert photo**

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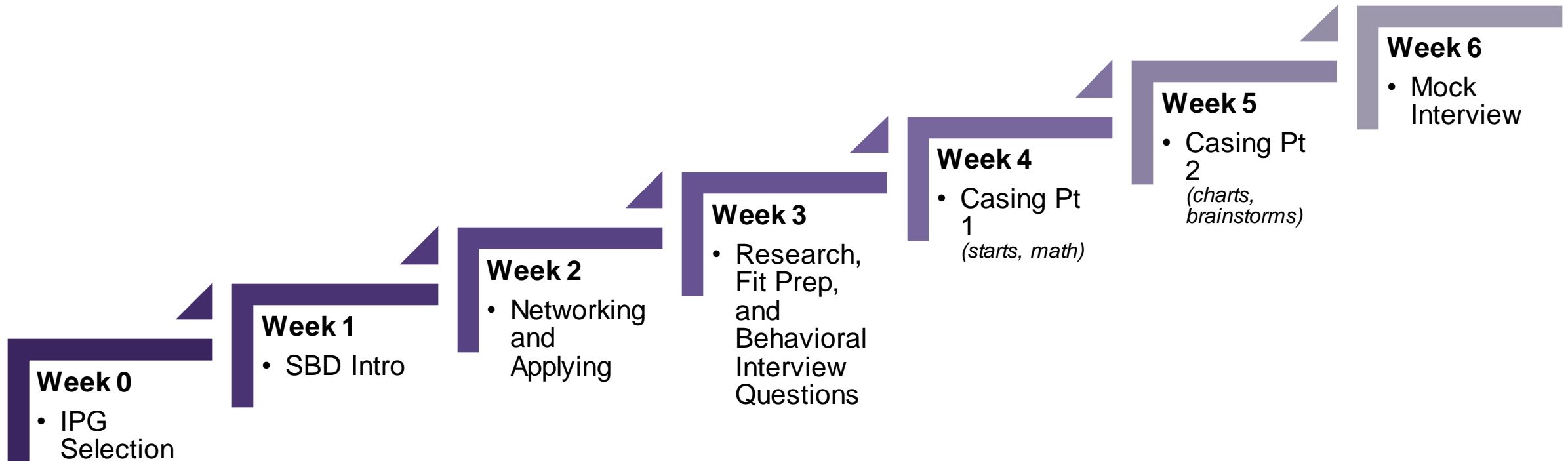
*Name*

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# IPG NORMS

- **All sessions are mandatory:** Be on time. Check with your leaders in case of any extenuating circumstances
- **Participate actively:** Commit to the process (active listening and participation, come ready, complete homework, ask questions)
- **Foster an inclusive environment:** Ensure that all participants have equal opportunities to participate. Communicate constructively, respectfully and with empathy
- {Brainstorm additions with IPG} - consider:
  - How would you like to receive feedback?
  - What are you hoping to get out of the IPG?
  - How can the IPG help you thrive, grow and succeed?

# 2023 IPG TIMELINE





# ABOUT THIS IPG



## WHAT WILL THIS IPG DO?

- Explain the SBD job function
- Prepare you for SBD recruiting process
- Act as a support group throughout recruitment

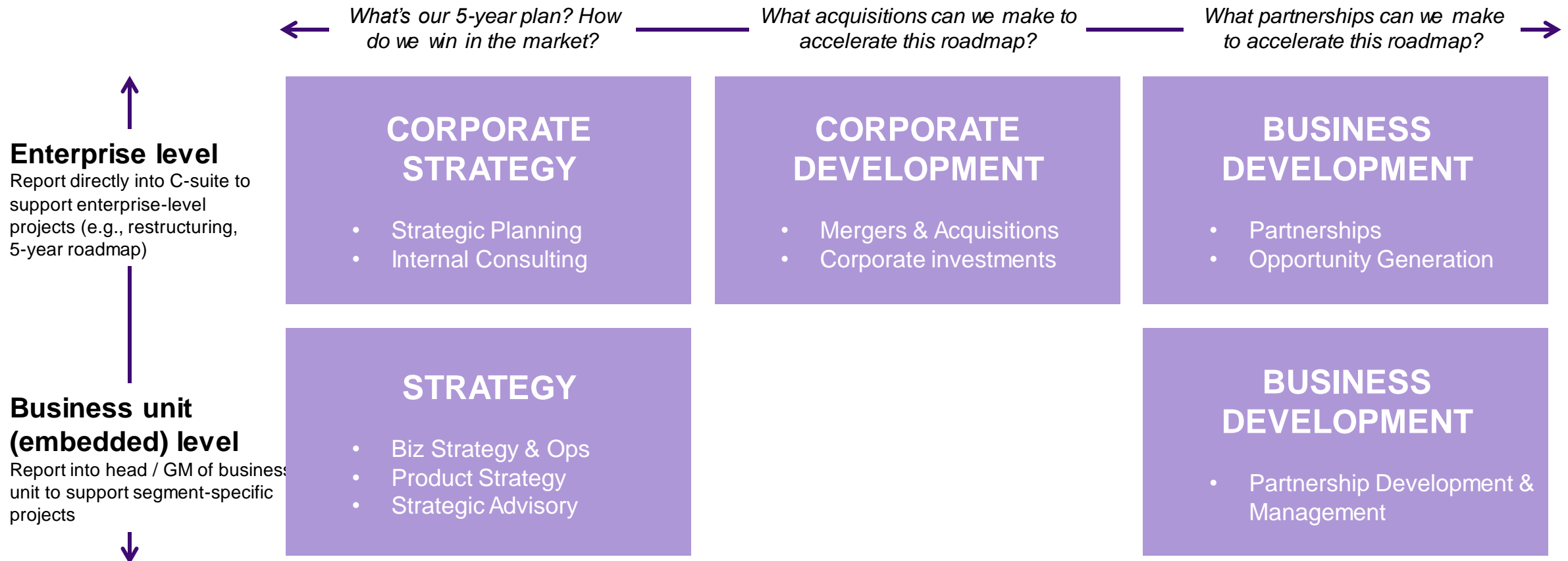


## WHAT WILL THIS IPG NOT DO?

- Guarantee you a job
- “Recruit” for you

# WHAT ARE SBD ROLES?

At their core, Strategy roles (broadly defined) are **growth-oriented** roles aiming to drive market/product/business line/customer expansion for the company or a business unit within the company



# Companies that hire MBAs for SBD roles

## TECH



## MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT



## HEALTHCARE



## CONSUMER & RETAIL



## FINANCIAL SERVICES



Note: only a subset of the above are on-campus recruiting partners for Kellogg. Many companies / roles will be found on LinkedIn and other job sites. Strategy teams are typically small and may only hire a handful of MBA Interns across North America in any given year.

# HOW DO SBD ROLES DIFFER?

COMPANY SIZE / MATURITY	INDUSTRY	TEAM SIZE	SCOPE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start-up</li> <li>• Growth stage</li> <li>• Corporation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthcare</li> <li>• Tech</li> <li>• Media and Entertainment</li> <li>• Financial services</li> <li>• Consumer packaged goods</li> <li>• Retail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small – 5 people or less</li> <li>• Medium- 5-10 people</li> <li>• Large- 10+ people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Line of business</li> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• Function</li> </ul>

# WHY SBD?

## Influence

- Influence the **direction** of a company

## Problem solving

- Solve a companies' **largest problems** while 'on the same team' as your clients

## More chill than consulting

- Build **similar skillsets to consulting** with a narrower focus and less travel

## Cross-functional

- Apply **several functions**, including finance and operations

## Internal mobility

- Start place for **internal mobility**

# WHAT MAKES AN ATTRACTIVE SBD CANDIDATE?

**Problem  
Solving**

**Analytical  
Skills**

**Self-starter**

**Ownership**

**Curiosity**

**Collaboration**

**Passion**

# HOMEWORK FOR NEXT SESSION

- **Resume**
  - Should have been working on this over the summer per CMC, but if not, a good time to dial in
  - Review 'Strategy Impact Statements' document
- **Personal pitch**
  - 2:00, target 250 words or less
    - *Where are you coming from?*
    - *Why are you making the transition to SBD?*
    - *What are your applicable skills/experience/etc.?*
    - *Where are you going and how will this internship help?*
  - Be prepared to practice live during next IPG session

# Networking & Applying

**SBD IPG**

Session 2

Northwestern | Kellogg





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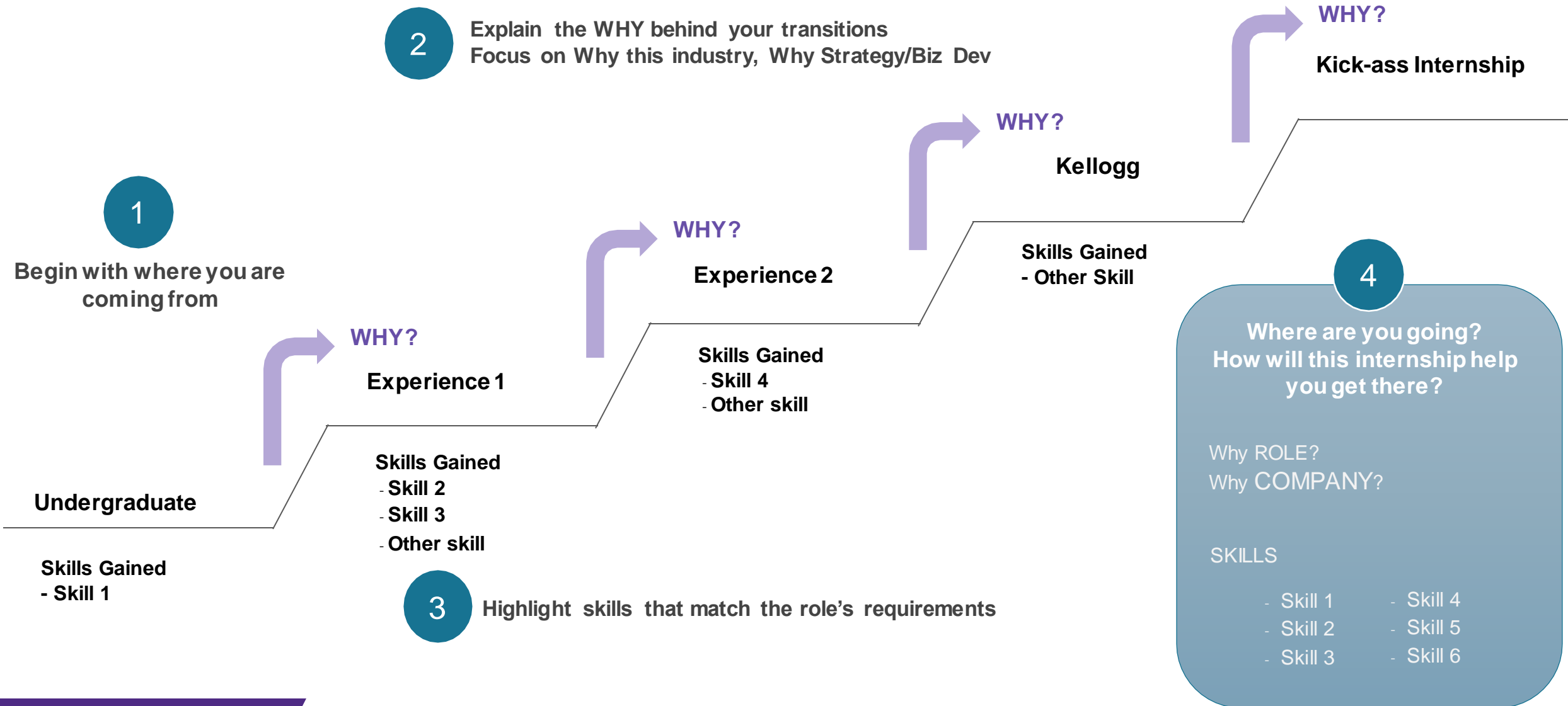
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- Breaking up one's career in “**chapters**” while connecting them through **narrative**
- Keeping a **conversational manner** (Practice! But make sure you **don't sound scripted and rehearsed**)

Golden Rule: **Be authentic!** Follow guidelines, but tell **your story** 🤖

# PITCH – THE 2 MIN STRUCTURE



# PITCH – EXAMPLES

0:30

2:00

# PITCH – TIPS

## DON'T DO this

- **Regurgitate your resume** – people can read;
- Use the **same pitch** for every role;
- **Apologize** for non-traditional background;
- Badmouth your **previous job or industry**;
- Be underprepared **OR** too rehearsed.

## Instead, **DO** this

- Focus on the **WHY**;
- **Customize, Customize, Customize** – Pull out different relevant skills and experiences depending on who you are talking to;
- **Own** your experience;
- **Reframe** negatives as positives;
- Sneak in your answer to “**Why Company?**” at the end.

# PITCH – IDEAL OUTCOMES

*After hearing your pitch, the **interviewer should think** these three things:*

1

This person always knew what they wanted, and **chose to be here today for a sound reason.**

2

This person's previous experience trained them on the **skills required for the position.**

3

Icing on the cake: They are **approachable, likeable**, and don't sound like a robot!

# PITCH – PRACTICE

- First person shares their **2-minute pitch**:
  - ◆ OK to refer to notes but try to minimize this!
  - ◆ Remaining participants listen & take notes
  - ◆ IPG Leader will keep the time (you'll get a :15s remaining warning to wrap up)
- Once person finishes: **Feedback!**
  - ◆ Share things that worked well!
  - ◆ Share constructive feedback in an applicable way
  - ◆ IPG Leader shares feedback last
- Repeat process with next person until everyone has gone



# PITCH – RESOURCES

CMC Training: [Develop Your Personal Brand - Pitch](#)

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- Weave your “**Why’s**” and **your experiences** together in a coherent thread;
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- **Avoid generalities** that could easily apply to other companies;
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**Be authentic!** Demonstrate personality, while remaining professional.

# COVER LETTER – THE STRUCTURE

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- 2** Highlight 3-4 skills and **tie them to the specific role** (ok to use bullets)
- 3** Keep it concise!
- 4** **Show your research** on the company (conversation with individuals, etc.)
- 5** Note that cover letters are **required for all on-campus roles**

# EXAMPLES OF A SUCCESSFUL COVER LETTER

Dear Hayley,

I am excited to apply for the position of Corporate Strategy Manager Intern in the Chief Strategy Office at Cisco.

In my past roles, I have seen how cutting-edge technology can expand access to financial services and education. Through these experiences I have become drawn to work for an organization, like Cisco, which leverages the power of technology to spread opportunity globally. I am particularly inspired by Cisco's initiatives around providing Digital Learning and E-Learning resources to education institutions at a steep discount.

The Corporate Strategy team at Cisco engages in an exciting mix of strategic and forward-looking projects, similar to the type of work I have enjoyed in the past and would leverage the following skills that I have honed.

- **Strategy & Program Management Expertise:** As a financial services consultant at Strategy& and internal strategist at the University of California's Office of the President (UCOP), I gained deep experience in both designing and executing solutions to unstructured, complex problems for expansive organizations. At UCOP, I was asked by the Chief Strategy Officer and Chief Operating Officer to lead strategic planning for multiple executive teams and manage an update process for some of the University's highest-priority initiatives and technology implementations.
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- **Collaborative Approach:** I have facilitated groups of senior clients, ranging from banking vice presidents to chief medical officers, by developing meaningful working relationships and communicating succinctly. I have regularly guided these diverse, cross-functional teams to solutions on expedited timelines – a background conducive to thriving in Cisco's collaborative and pioneering culture.

A Corporate Strategy Manager internship at Cisco would provide a unique setting for me to use my previous experiences and skills to continue to shape the future of the Internet. I look forward to an opportunity to interview to further demonstrate why I'm a great fit for this role and for Cisco.

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# TARGET LIST (STEP 1)

- ✓ **Leverage CMC Resources**
  - Historical Internship Data
  - Student Directory
- ✓ **Leverage Online Resources (LinkedIn, Glassdoor, Indeed)**
- ✓ **Decide what factors are important to you:**
  - Long Term Goals
  - Location
  - Company Size
  - Company Culture
  - “Importance” of target role at company



# NETWORKING/COFFEE CHATS (STEP 2)

*A coffee chat is an optional, informal, and informational discussion **to help you get your recruiting questions answered***

## When to Coffee Chat?

When you have specific questions about a company/role **that you cannot easily answer** via other resources like:

- The company website
- The job descriptions
- SBD Intern Panels

## Coffee Chat Tips

- Try to keep to **30 mins or less** and manage the scheduling (if not via CMC);
- **Have strong questions prepared** - and be ready with your pitch;
- CMC spots go fast so **sign up quickly!** (some may be group not 1:1);
- You don't have to buy the other person coffee - ***but please send a quick thank you.***

# THE APPLICATION (STEP 3)

## Know where the company recruits:

- **On-Campus Recruiting (OCI)**
- **Off-Campus Recruiting**
  - Kellogg Job Board
  - LinkedIn/Glassdoor/Indeed
  - Google
  - Company Website

## Know company-specific nuances:

- Some companies **do (do not) require** cover letters;
- Some companies recruit all MBA interns (role agnostic) **through one application** (ex. Google, Amazon);
- Some companies require you to apply both through **CMS AND the company website.**

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# PRACTICE PAIRS

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# QUESTIONS?

Great work today!



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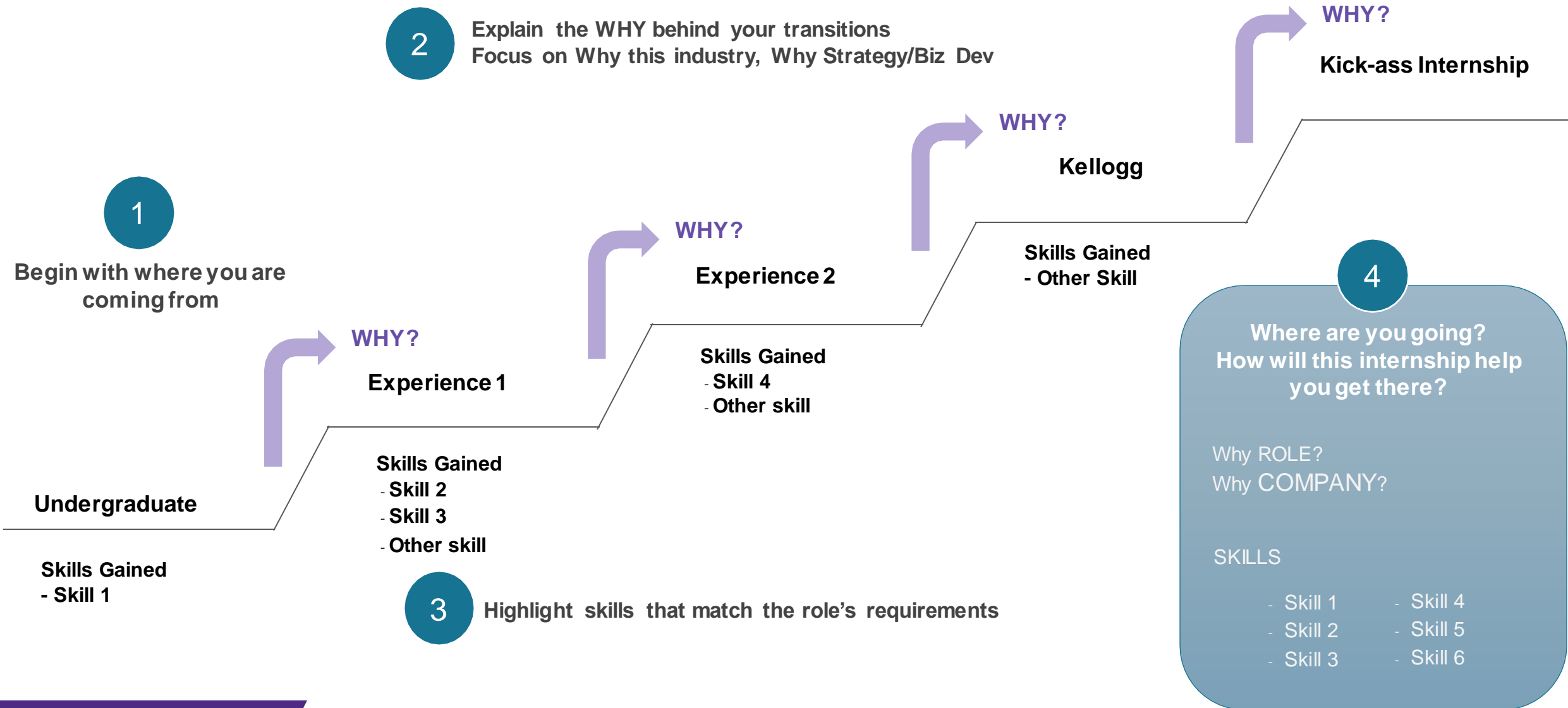
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# Casing Pt. 1

**SBD IPG**

Session 4

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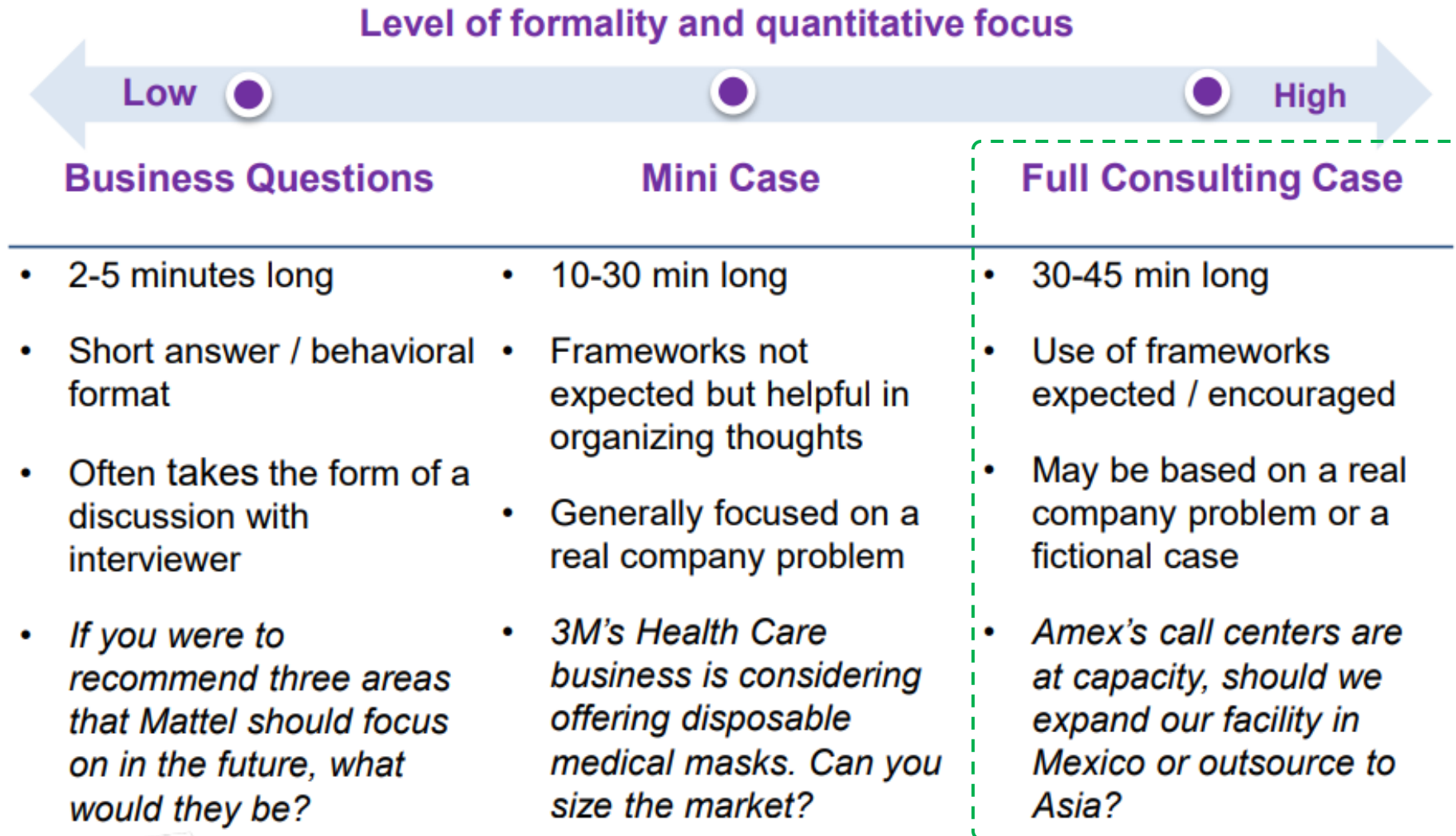


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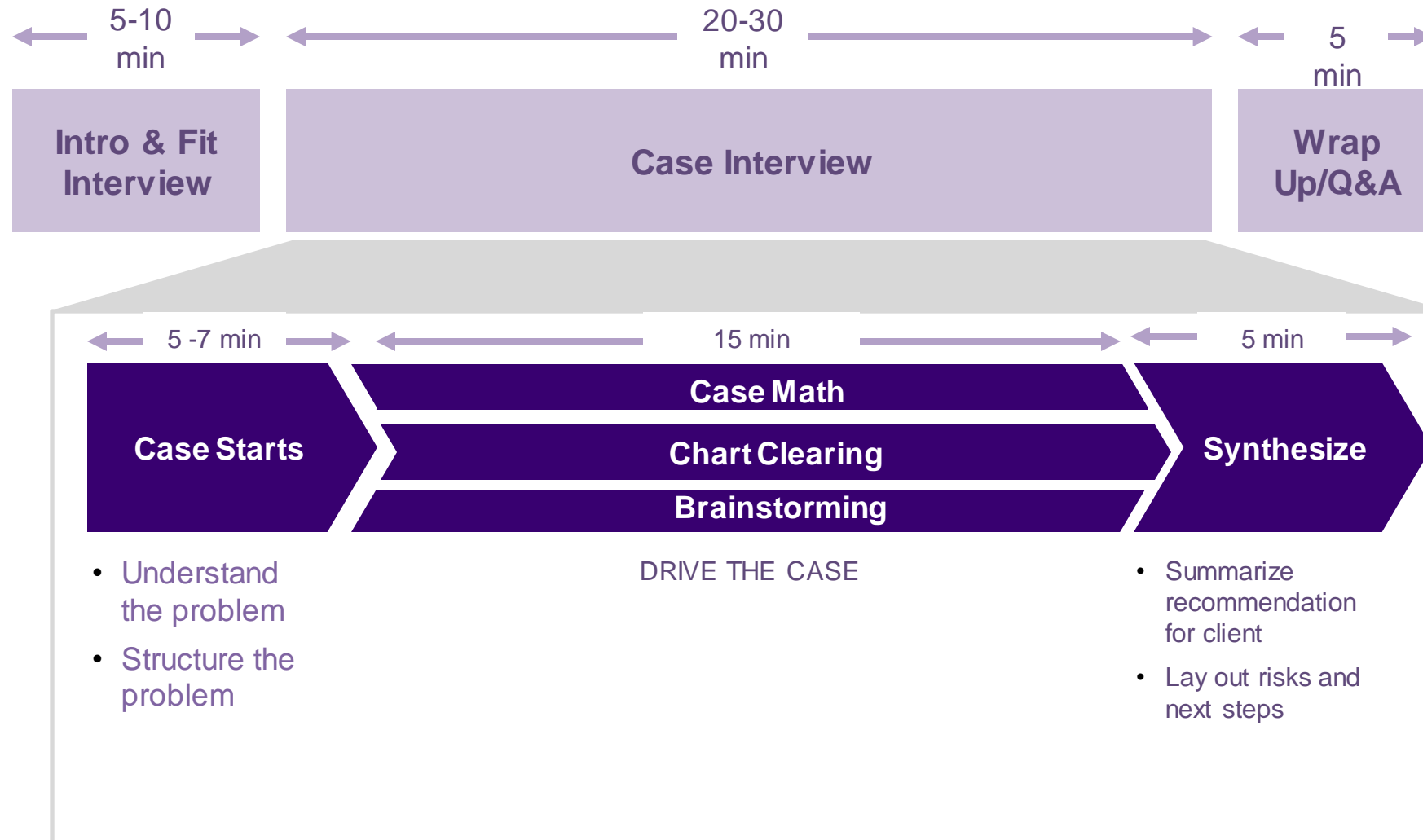
- **Case Math**

# STRATEGY CASES VARY

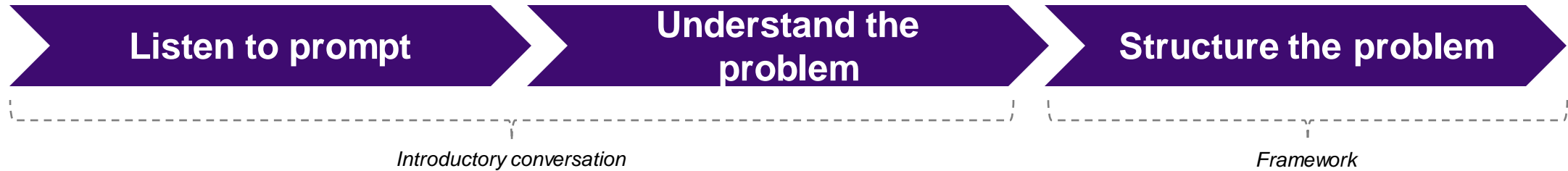


*Where we will focus our efforts – note the skills you learn here will be applicable to less formal cases*

# CASE STRUCTURE OVERVIEW



# THE CASE START



## Goal

- Get high-level background information from interviewer

## What to do?

- Listen to the prompt and take notes
- Identify the key facts of the case and the “problem at hand”

## Goal

- Get missing information and clarification needed
- Establish rapport and that case will be conversational -> show that this will be a fun and engaging experience for interviewer

## What to do?

- Recap critical information only (do NOT read full prompt back)
- Ask clarifying questions necessary to develop framework (do NOT ask canned / laundry list of questions)
- Dive into the case!

## Goal

- Demonstrate that you have thought about the problem critically and that you have a structured approach to tackle the case

## What to do?

- Develop a framework under 2 minutes; walk through under 3 minutes
- Customize the framework to incorporate details and nuances of the case at hand
- Prioritize and hypothesize -> where would you like to start?

*Sample Frameworks in Appendix*

# UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEM: ASK CLARIFYING Q'S

<b>Business model</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can I think about our client like a Harris Teeter or a Publix?</li> <li>• Should I focus on traditional, in-person grocery sales only or is there an online or pick-up format I should be considering?</li> </ul>
<b>Objective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I know we are focused on improving profitability of carbonated beverages...</li> </ul>
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<b>Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• And is there a certain timeline over which we want to achieve the profitability target?</li> </ul>

# UNDERSTAND FRAMEWORK FUNDAMENTALS

MECE:  
Mutually  
Exclusive  
Collectively  
Exhaustive

**Mutually Exclusive:** Categories do not overlap

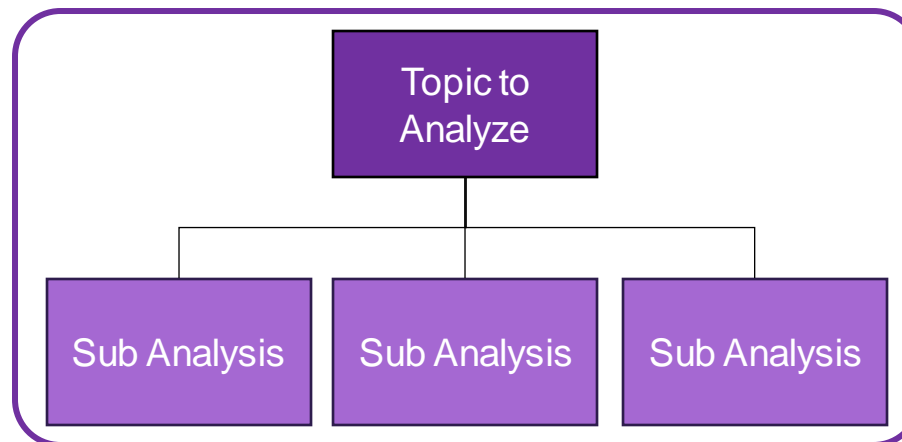
- External vs. Internal (Good)
- Pricing vs. Financials (Bad)

**Collectively Exhaustive:** Categories cover all relevant topics

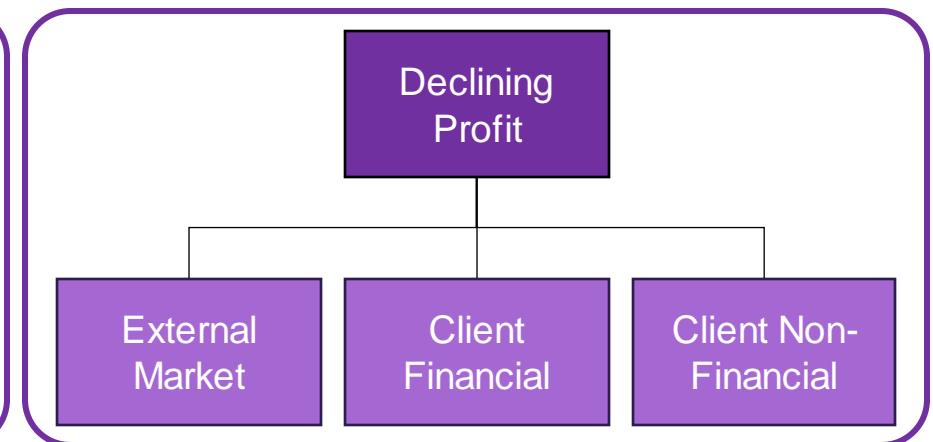
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- Blue skittles vs. green skittles (Bad)

Decision  
Trees: The  
structure of  
frameworks

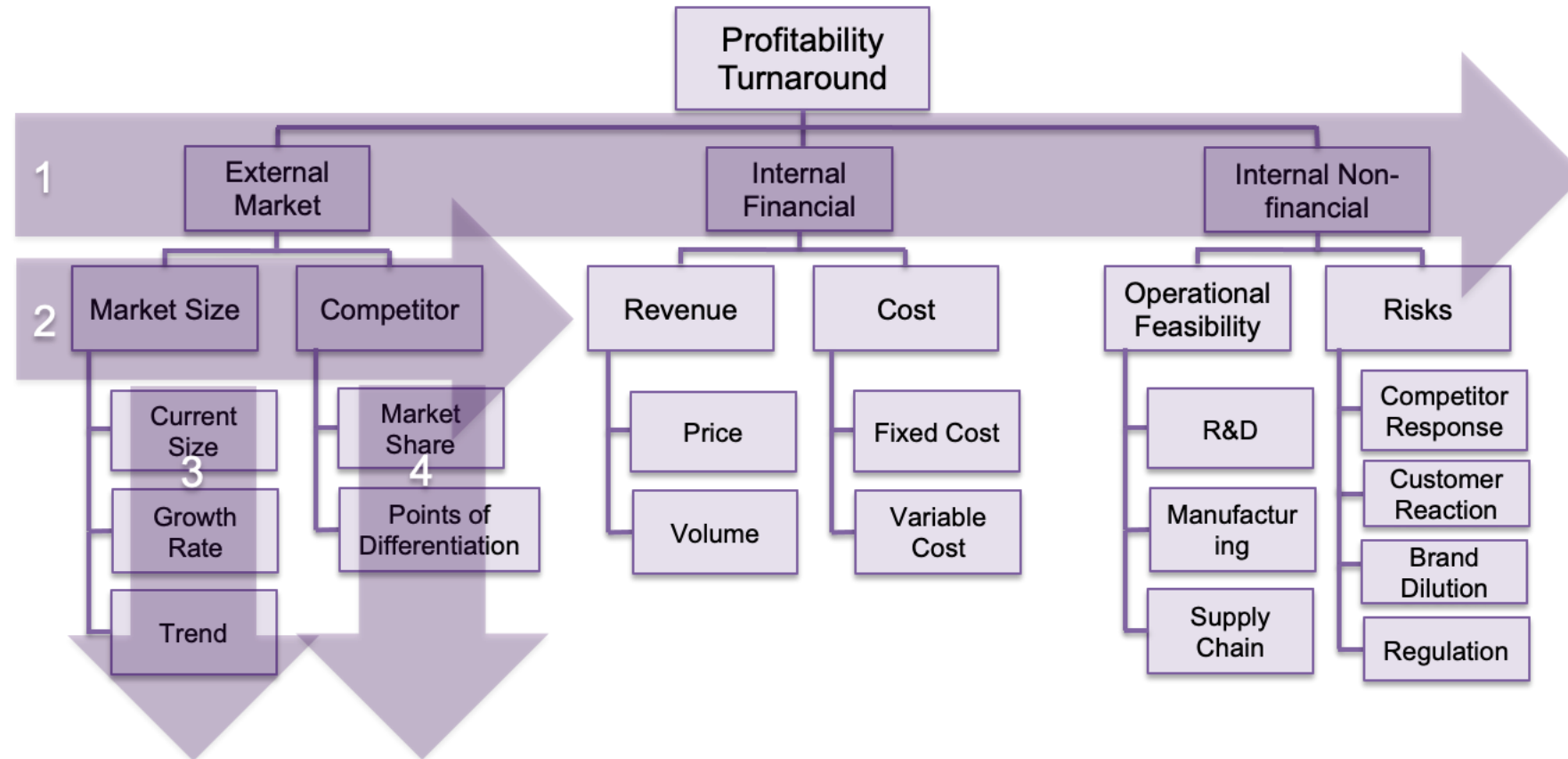
## Structure



## Example

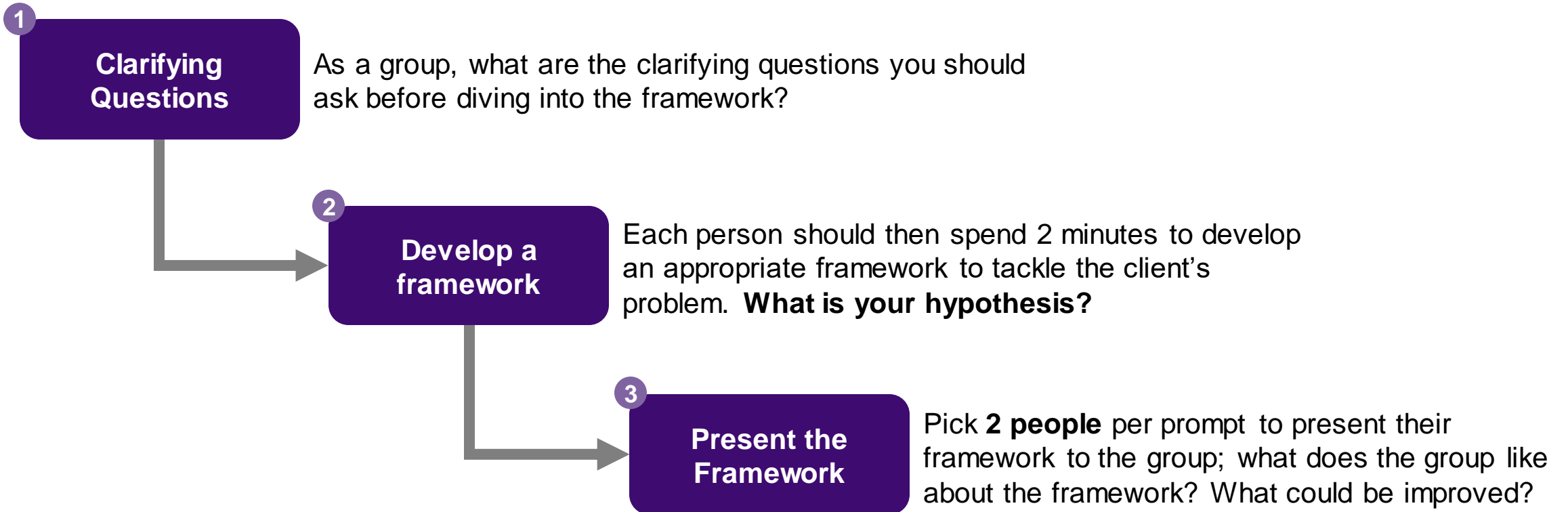


# CLEAR THE FRAMEWORK



**“MECE”**

# CASE START EXERCISES







## Case Start – Exercise #1

*Our client, RadioHut, is thinking about creating a new wearable fitness device after seeing FitBit's success. The new device will track caloric intake automatically and is meant to be used with a mobile app aimed at improving people's dietary health. However, RadioHut is unsure if this new device will be a worthwhile investment. Should the client proceed with the idea?*



## Case Start – Sample Framework for #1

### Market

- **Size and growth** of wearable fitness device market
- **Competitiveness** of wearable fitness device market (lots of competitors? many new entrants? Will FitBit be a problem?)
- **Customer segments** – is there a segment that we can target and own? How is customer preferences towards fitness trending?

### Profitability

- **Revenue:**
  - how many units of the device can we expect to sell? What share of the market can we capture?
  - How much can we charge?
- **Costs:**
  - How much initial investment will the fitness device cost?
  - What FC and VC will be incurred? (e.g., marketing, manufacturing, COGS)

### Execution

- **Capabilities** – does RadioHut have the technical expertise to design a wearable device and the app? How well does it align with RadioHut's core competency?
- **Method of entry** – build from scratch, partner with a firm, or just acquire?
- **Branding** – how well does the existing brand translate to wearable fitness devices?



## Case Start – Exercise #2

*The client is a regional supermarket chain. Historically, olive oil has been one of the more profitable categories as health trends drove more consumers to use olive oil over canola oil. In their most recent fiscal year, however, the olive oil category manager noticed that profits were flat to declining. What should the client do to reverse this profitability trend?*



## Case Start – Sample Framework for #2

### Market

- **Size and growth** of olive oil market declining recently?
- **New supermarket competitors** putting downward pressure on sales and / or profits
- **Customer preferences** – has the historical health trends cooled down and consumers not buying as much olive oil?
- **Substitute** – another oil is replacing olive oil as the healthy oil of choice?

### Profitability

#### Revenue

- **Volume:**
  - Declining units of olive oil sold (category vs. supermarket overall)
  - Change in volume mix shift between private label vs. branded olive oil
- **Price:**
  - Olive oil price discounting
  - Promotional activities

#### Costs

- **Variable Costs:**
  - Increasing costs to produce (private label) or to acquire (supplier negotiations)
  - Distribution costs
- **Fixed Costs:**
  - Marketing expenses
  - Salary of category managers
  - Overhead allocation to olive oil category (e.g., rent, utilities)

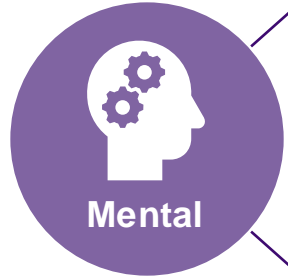
Benchmark costs against competitors and historical levels

# AGENDA

- **Case Starts**

- **Case Math**

# CASE MATH



- Know why you're doing the math
- Write your equation in words first
- Use smart estimations

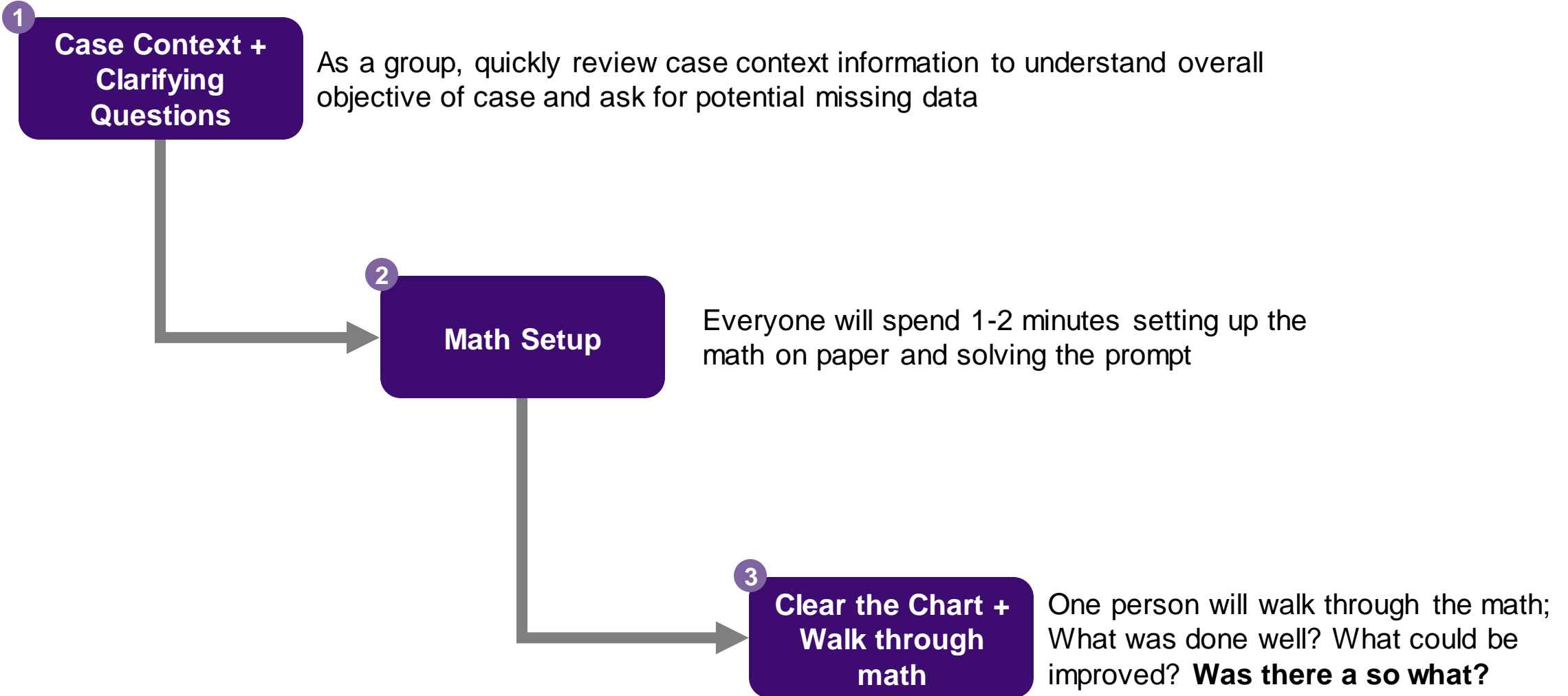


- Format your math page like an Excel table
- Have separate scratch paper
- Manage your 0s in a consistent way
- Box your answers



- Engage your interviewer throughout
- Remain calm and confident
- Don't be afraid to take a step back and acknowledge mistakes

# MATH SETUP EXERCISES





## Math Setup – Exercise #1



### Case Context

- The client is Friendly Deliveries who pride themselves on timely one-day delivery services
- As a part of their fleet renewal, they are deciding if they should keep buying trucks or replace them with helicopters



#### Truck



#### Helicopter

<b>Price</b>	\$100,000	\$200,000
<b>Vehicle Life</b>	10	15
<b>Expected Annual Mileage</b>	50,000	50,000
<b>Avg. MPG</b>	10	25
<b>Maintenance Costs</b>	\$6,000	\$10,000
<b>Insurance Costs</b>	\$4,000	\$8,000
<b>Pilot Certification</b>	-	\$1,000





## Math Setup – Exercise #1 (sample math setup)

### Methodology

Price of vehicle

÷

Vehicle life

=

Annually depreciated vehicle costs

+

Expected annual mileage

÷

Avg. MPG

×

Fuel cost per gallon

+

Maintenance costs

+

Insurance costs

+

Pilot certification costs (helicopter only)

=

Total annual vehicle cost

*Expected  
fuel cost*

### Truck Calc.

\$100K

÷

10

=

\$10K

+

50K

÷

10

×

\$5

+

\$6K

+

\$4K

+

N/A

=

\$45K

### Helicopter Calc.

\$200K

÷

15

=

~\$13K

+

50K

÷

25

×

\$5

+

\$10K

+

\$8K

+

\$1K

=

~\$42K

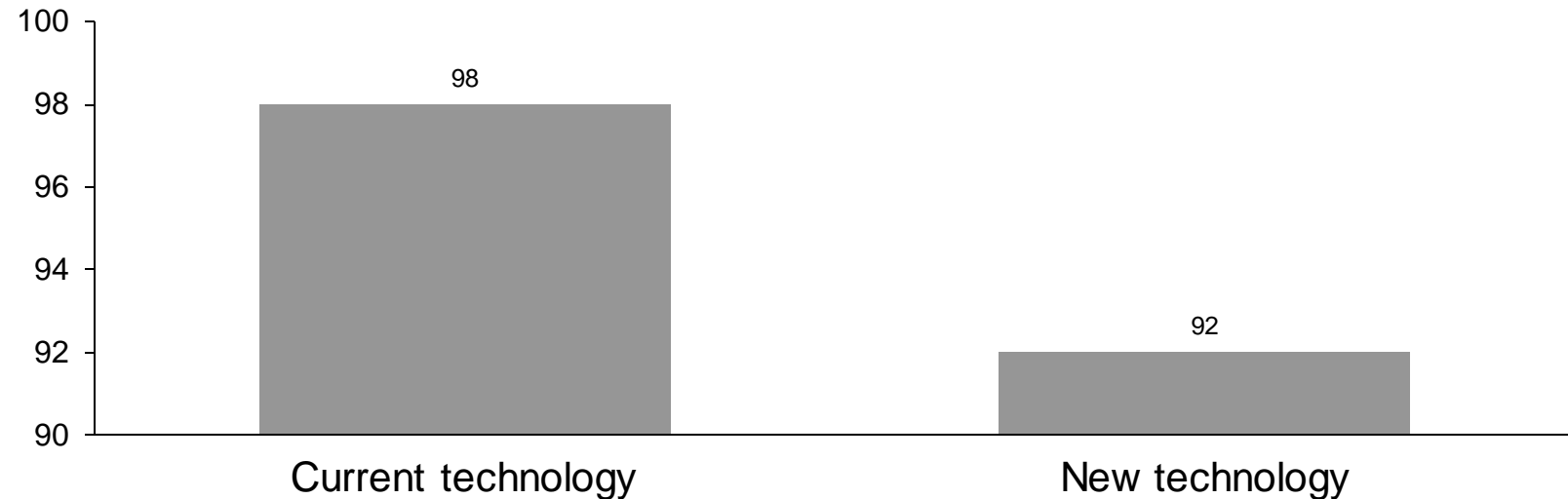


## Math Setup – Exercise #2

### Case Context

- Client has a new product technology that could reduce costs for Product X
- Product X is expected to generate \$50M of revenue – how much money could the client save by adopted the new technology?

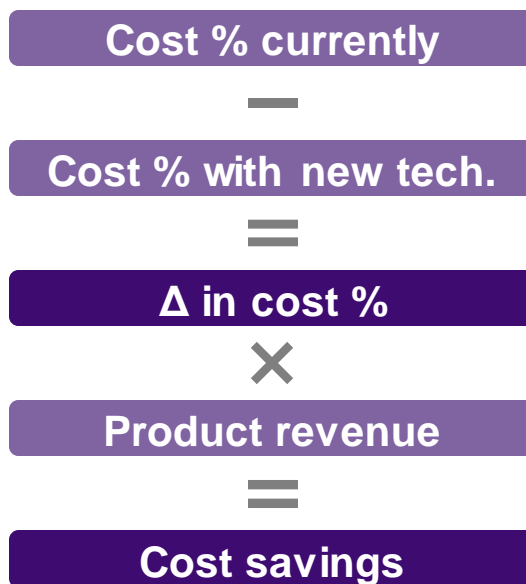
**Product X cost of production**  
Percentage of revenue



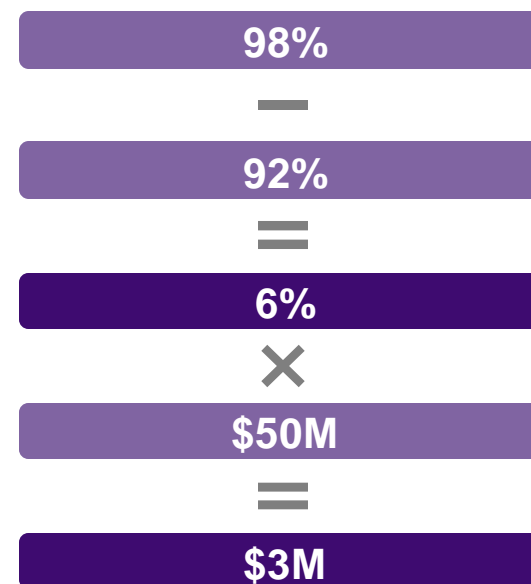


## Chart Clearing / Math Setup – Exercise #2 (sample math setup)

### Methodology



### Calculations





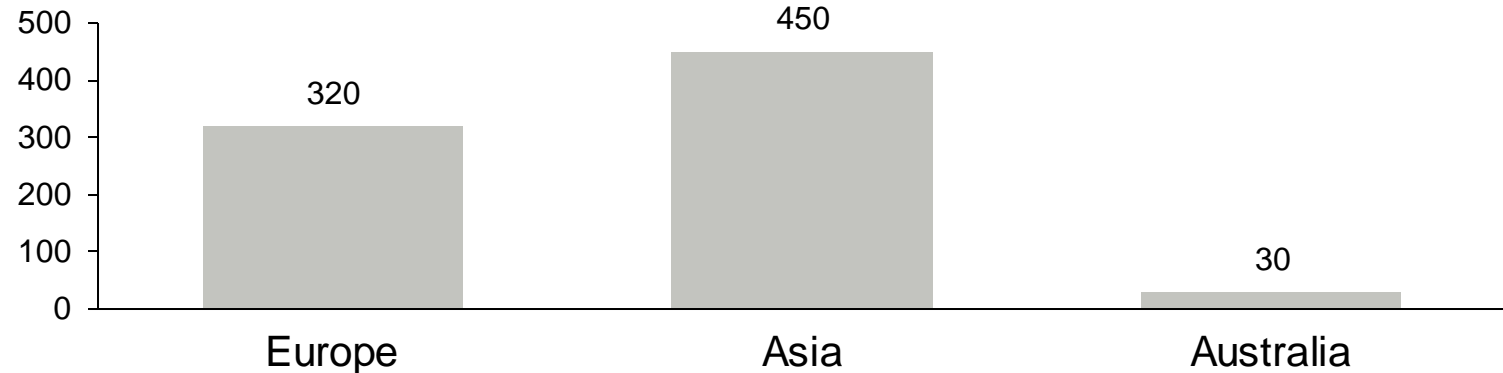
## Math – Exercise #3 (Part 1 of 2)

### Case Context

- PhatCheddar made its name in the U.S. with its secret recipe nacho cheese sauce for make-at-home nachos and is looking to grow internationally through M&A
- Which market should PhatCheddar look to enter via acquisition?

### Nacho consumption in select markets (2019)

Millions of servings of nachos



% of meals dined out	60%	40%	70%
Avg. spend on cheese for nachos	\$5	\$2	\$3



## Math – Exercise #3 (Sample Setup Part 1 of 2)

### Europe

320M  
servings of nachos

×

40%  
meals eaten at home

×

\$5  
avg. spend on cheese

=

\$640M  
avg. spend on cheese

1 - % of meals  
dined out

### Asia

450M  
servings of nachos

×

60%  
meals eaten at home

×

\$2  
avg. spend on cheese

=

\$540M  
avg. spend on cheese

### Australia

30M  
servings of nachos

×

30%  
meals eaten at home

×

\$3  
avg. spend on cheese

=

\$27M  
avg. spend on cheese



## Math – Exercise #3 (Part 2 of 2)

### Case Context (con't)

- There are 3 companies in Europe that PhatCheddar is considering to acquire – which one should it buy?

### Potential European Acquisition Targets (2019)

	HQ Location	Market Share (Europe)	Growth Rate (2009-19)	Growth Rate (2019-29)	WACC*	Net Profit Margin**	Asking Price
<b>Company A</b>	UK	10%	5%	3%	8%	15%	\$200M
<b>Company B</b>	France	15%	3%	5%	15%	25%	\$210M
<b>Company C</b>	Switzerland	5%	10%	10%	15%	20%	\$150M

\* Weighted Average Cost of Capital; \*\* Net Profit Margin = Net Income / Revenue



## Math – Exercise #3 (Sample Setup Part 2 of 2)

$$PV = \frac{\text{Cash flow}}{\text{Discount Rate} - \text{Growth Rate}} = \frac{\text{Market size} \times \text{market share} \times \text{net profit margin}}{\text{WACC} - \text{expected growth rate}}$$

---

Company A

$$\frac{\$640M \times 10\% \times 15\%}{8\% - 3\%} = \$192M$$

Company B

$$\frac{\$640M \times 15\% \times 25\%}{15\% - 5\%} = \$240M$$

Company C

$$\frac{\$640M \times 5\% \times 20\%}{15\% - 10\%} = \$128M$$

# ADDITIONAL MATH PRACTICE



## RocketBlocks

*Good resource for focusing on chart clearing and math drills (similar to what we did today) with large number / variety of charts*



## Practice Cases

*Use older casebooks to practice chart clearing and math setup (avoid burning more recent casebooks for drills)*

*Also focus on re-clearing charts and setting up math “perfectly” as part of reviewing practice cases you’ve done*



## Class Materials

*Who said STRT-431 isn’t useful?  
Many of your cases and lectures will have charts and exhibits – can you try clearing them?*



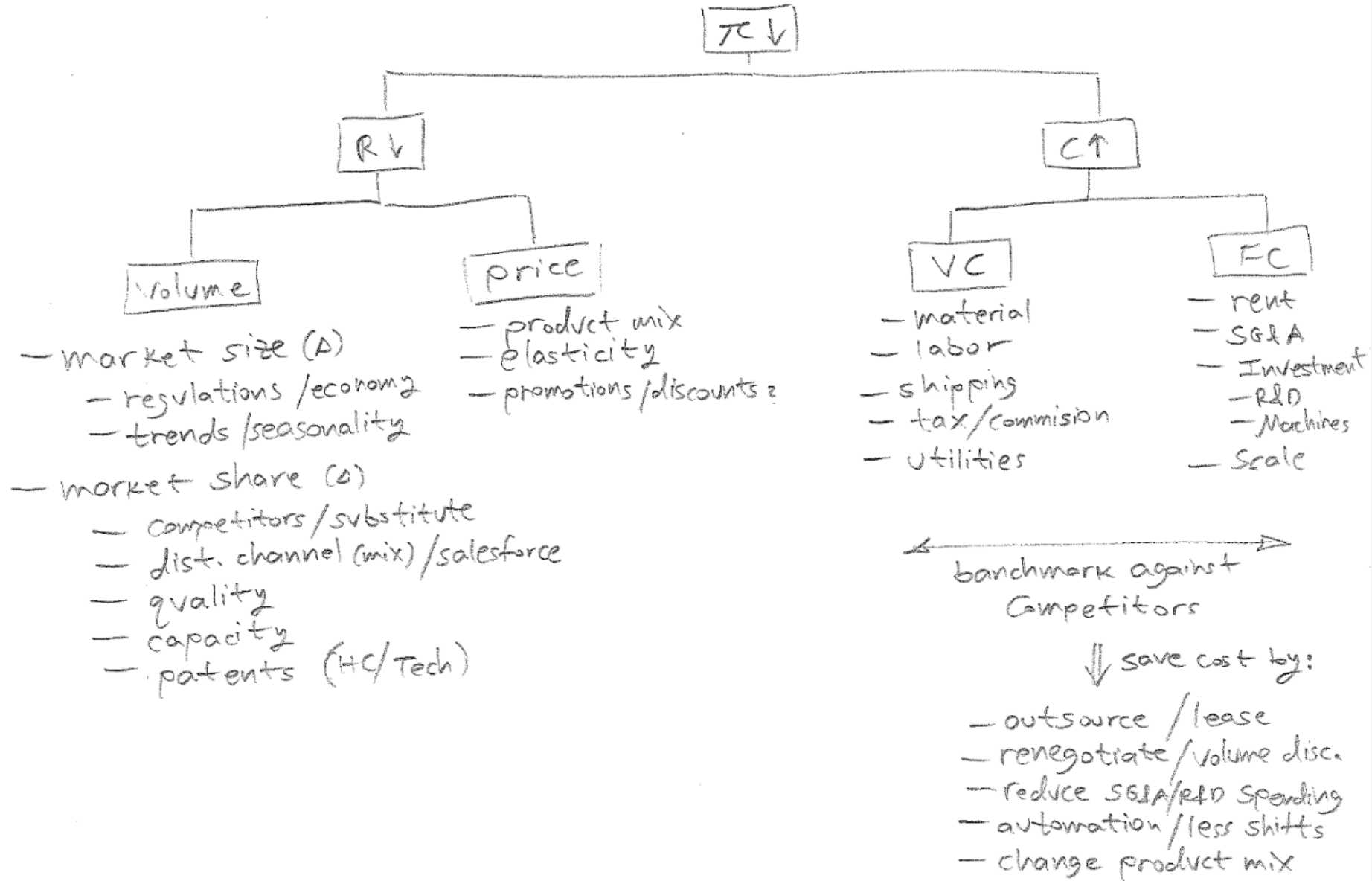
# APPENDIX: SAMPLE FRAMEWORKS, EXTRA MATH



## ***IMPORTANT NOTE***

*These are sample frameworks for illustrative purposes only. These will NOT work for every case, and they certainly will NOT work for everyone. It may help to learn general framework skeletons, but good frameworks come from thoughtful adaptation to the nuances of each case.*

# Profit



# Entering a Market

## client

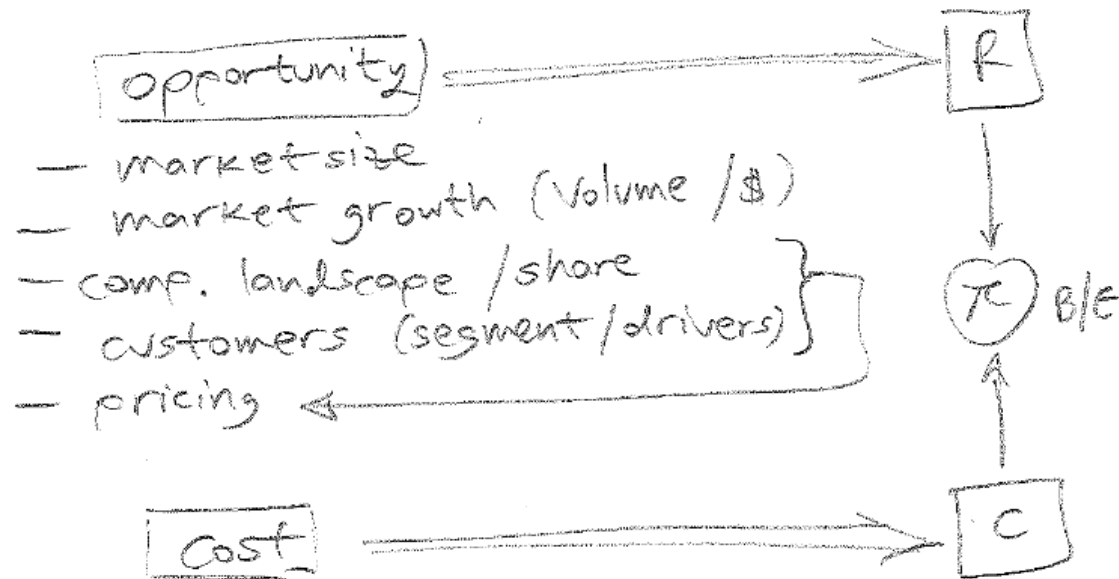
- specific  $\pi$ /R goal? strategic?
- advantages (IP, brand, size, dist.)
- product mix ( $\pi$  of each)
- capabilities/capital limits

## opportunity

- market size
- market growth (Volume/\$)
- comp. landscape / share
- customers (segment/drivers)
- pricing

## Cost

- Initial Investment
- ongoing costs  $\rightarrow$   $FC$   
 $\rightarrow$   $VC$
- opportunity cost



## Go strategy

- build
- M&A
- partner



## Barriers to Entry

- capital
- IP
- regulations/anti trust
- dist. channel



## additional risks:

- comp. reaction
- brand/focus
- currency

# Growth

## client

- Goal ( $\pi \uparrow / R \uparrow$ )?
- Capacity/capital limit?
- Inorganic growth? alternatives?
- product mix

## Market

- market size
- market growth/trends
- competitive landscape/share
- Customer (segment, drivers)

## R $\uparrow$



## Volume

- new products  
geographies (local/global)  
dist. channel (online/retail)  
segment (ext./new products)
- steal share
  - marketing  $\uparrow$
  - price  $\downarrow$
- increase freq/amount of sales
- Acquire a competitor
- balance seasonality (product mix)

## Price

- underpriced?
- premium brand
- add value/features

## risks:

- comp. reaction
  - capacity
  - brand/quality  $\leftarrow$  prod.  $\leftarrow$  service
  - cannibalization
  - currency
- new prod.  $\leftarrow$
- new geo.  $\leftarrow$

# M&A

## client

- Goal? (market product synergy, share, diversity, comp., synergies)
- Capabilities / capital limits
- product mix

## Market

- market size
- market growth (units, \$)
- comp. landscape
- customer (segment, drivers)

## target

- $\pi$  (comp. to market)
  - advantages (IP)
  - expected synergies
  - management
  - culture
  - other options
- C↓ (scale)  
→ R↑ (bundling, cross-selling)

## Cost

- price < Current Value + Synergies
- Cost of M&A (legal)
- opportunity cost

## risks:

- comp. reaction
- unknowns at target
- management ability to execute merge
- mgmt. attention
- anti trust

# KEY FORMULAS

## Profitability

$$\text{Profit} = \text{Revenues} - \text{Cost}$$

$$\text{Profit} = (P * Q) - (Q * VC + FC)$$

$$\text{Profit margin} = \frac{\text{Revenue} - \text{Costs}}{\text{Revenue}}$$

## Return on Investment

$$ROI = \frac{\text{Return} - \text{Investment}}{\text{Investment}}$$

## Net Present Value

### Present Value of a Cash Flow

$$PV = \frac{\text{Cash Flow at time } t}{(1 + \text{Discount Rate})^t}$$

### Present Value of a Perpetual Cash Flow:

$$PV = \frac{\text{Cash Flow}}{\text{Discount Rate} - \text{Growth Rate}}$$

## Breakeven

$$\text{Breakeven Price} = \frac{\text{Total Fixed} + \text{Investment Costs}}{\text{Qty}} + \text{Variable Costs}$$



## Math Setup – Exercise #3

### Case Context

- Davis Car Rental historically had continued profitable growth but in recent years have seen negative profit trends
- It would like to get to a 10% operating margin (*Math hint: how much additional profit is needed to hit the goal?*)

### Davis Car Rental Annual Revenue (2016-20F)

Thousands of USD

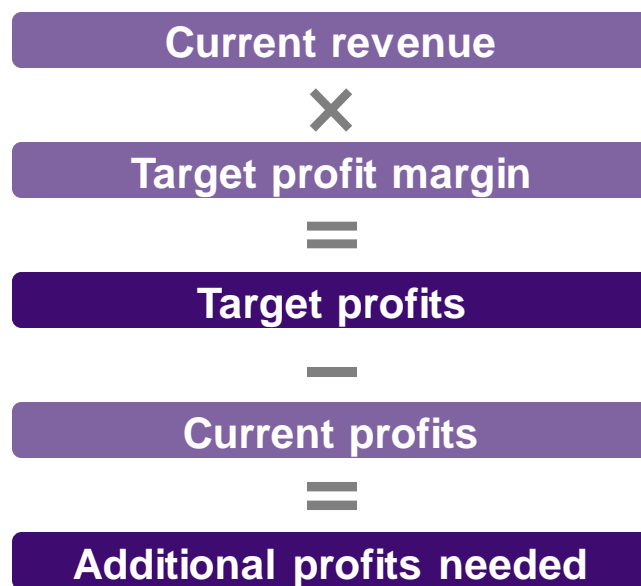
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020E
Revenue	\$1,026	\$1,172	\$1,328	\$1,545	\$1,607
- COGS	\$667	\$750	\$876	\$1,082	\$1,093
<b>Gross Margin</b>	<b>\$359</b>	<b>\$422</b>	<b>\$451</b>	<b>\$464</b>	<b>\$514</b>
- Marketing and Ads.	\$62	\$82	\$106	\$139	\$193
- Rent	\$31	\$32	\$33	\$34	\$35
- Insurance	\$103	\$106	\$109	\$112	\$116
- Misc. Expenses	\$62	\$62	\$62	\$62	\$62
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>\$103</b>	<b>\$141</b>	<b>\$142</b>	<b>\$117</b>	<b>\$110</b>



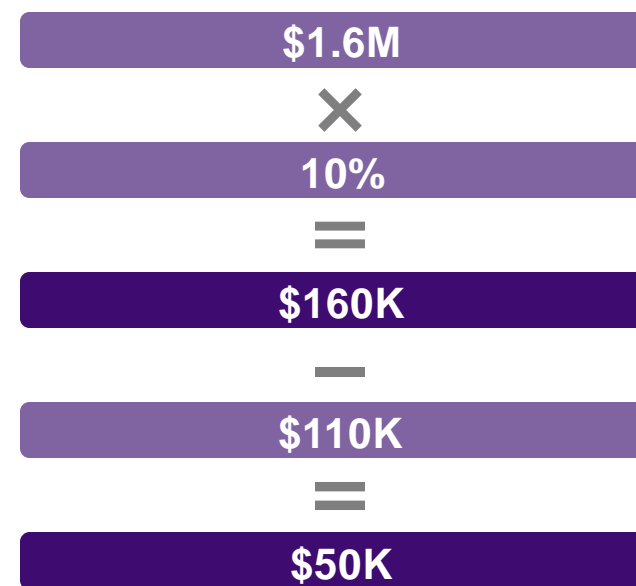


## Math Setup – Exercise #3 (sample math setup)

### Methodology



### Calculations



# Casing Pt. 1

**SBD IPG**

Session 4

Northwestern | Kellogg

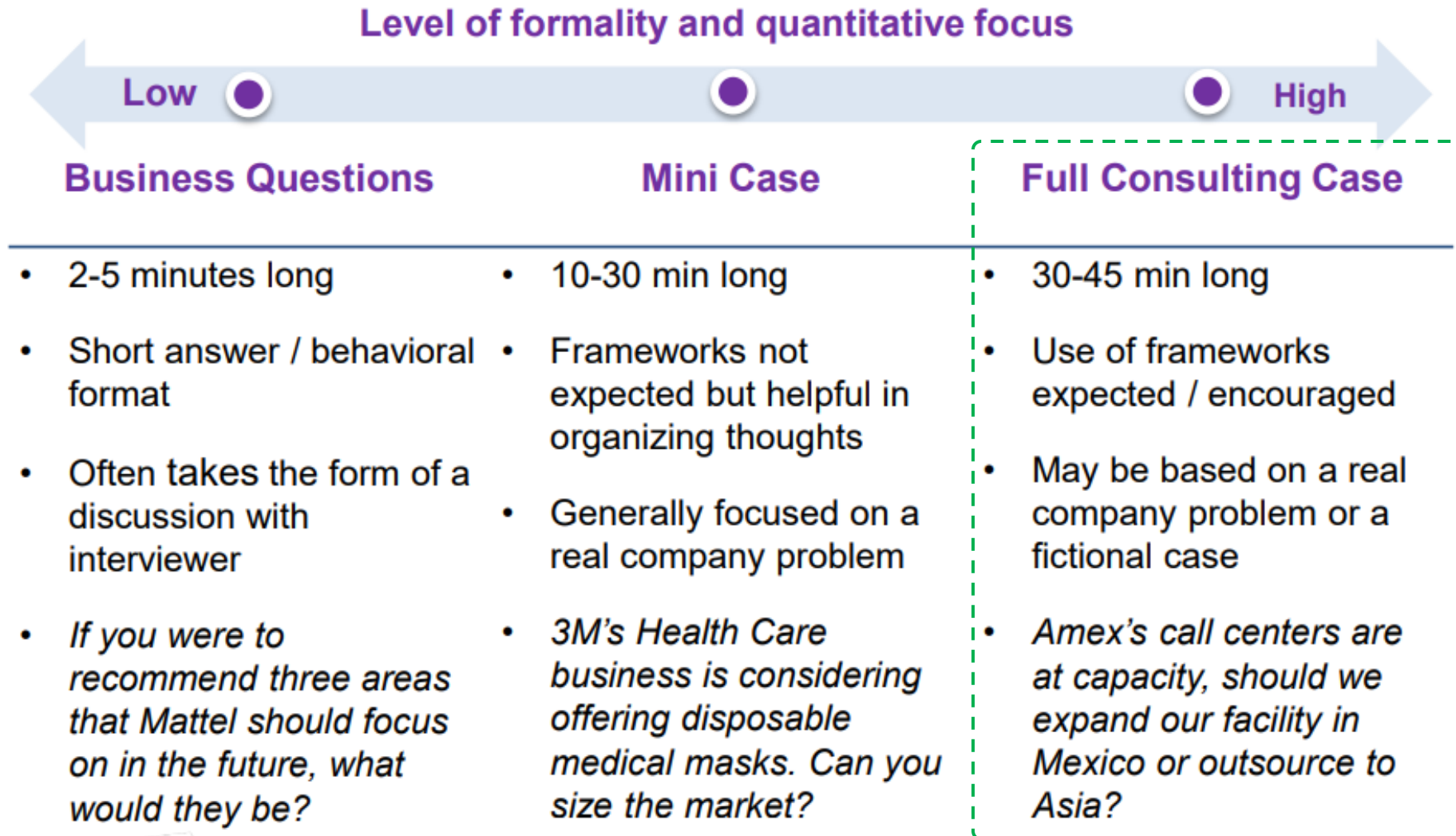


# AGENDA

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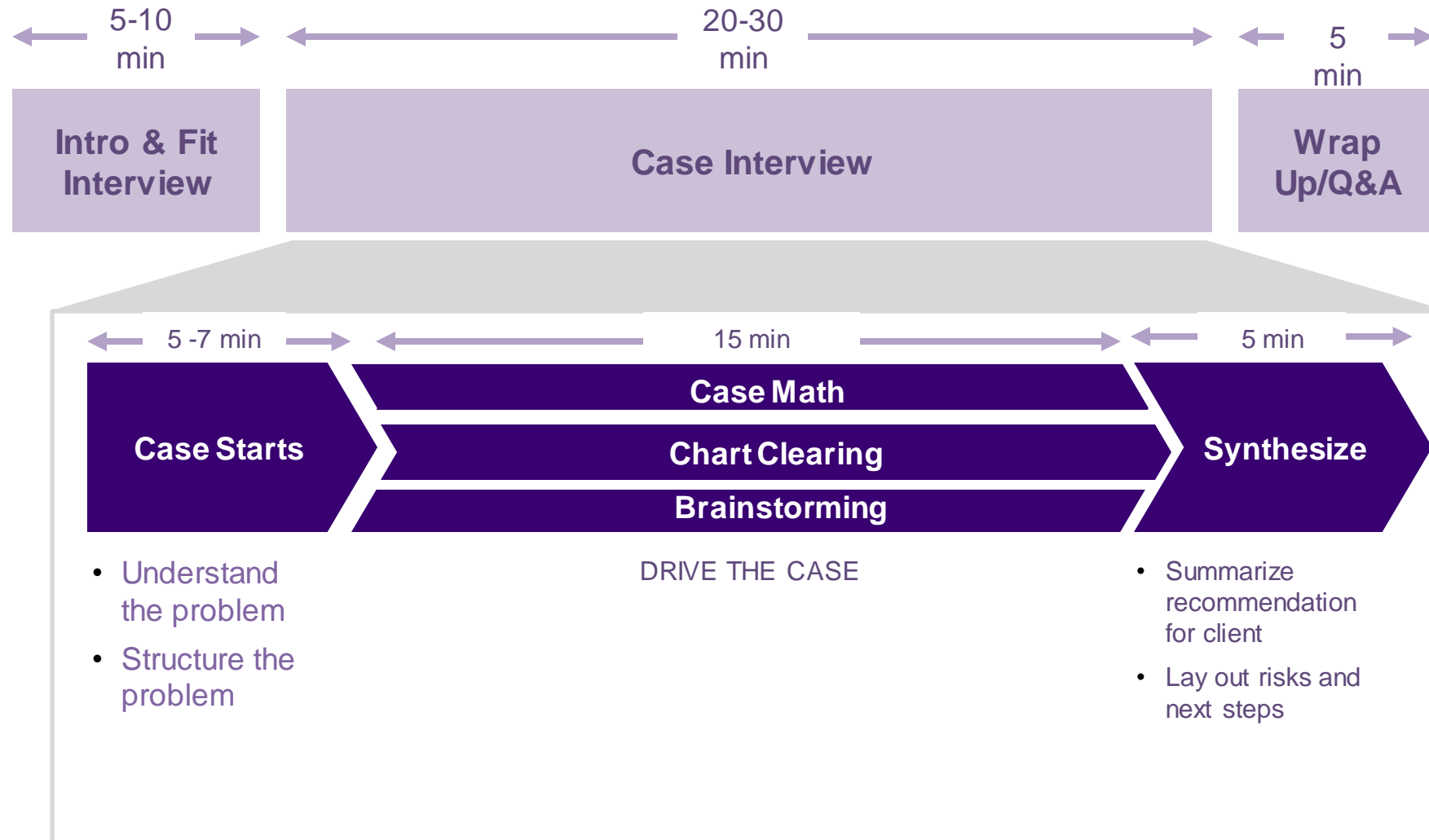
- **Case Math**

# STRATEGY CASES VARY

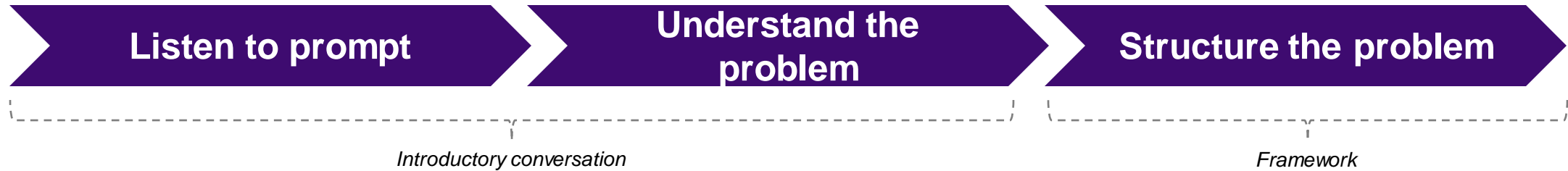


*Where we will focus our efforts – note the skills you learn here will be applicable to less formal cases*

# CASE STRUCTURE OVERVIEW



# THE CASE START



## Goal

- Get high-level background information from interviewer

## What to do?

- Listen to the prompt and take notes
- Identify the key facts of the case and the “problem at hand”

## Goal

- Get missing information and clarification needed
- Establish rapport and that case will be conversational -> show that this will be a fun and engaging experience for interviewer

## What to do?

- Recap critical information only (do NOT read full prompt back)
- Ask clarifying questions necessary to develop framework (do NOT ask canned / laundry list of questions)
- Dive into the case!

## Goal

- Demonstrate that you have thought about the problem critically and that you have a structured approach to tackle the case

## What to do?

- Develop a framework under 2 minutes; walk through under 3 minutes
- Customize the framework to incorporate details and nuances of the case at hand
- Prioritize and hypothesize -> where would you like to start?

*Sample Frameworks in Appendix*

# UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEM: ASK CLARIFYING Q'S

<b>Business model</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can I think about our client like a Harris Teeter or a Publix?</li> <li>• Should I focus on traditional, in-person grocery sales only or is there an online or pick-up format I should be considering?</li> </ul>
<b>Objective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I know we are focused on improving profitability of carbonated beverages...</li> </ul>
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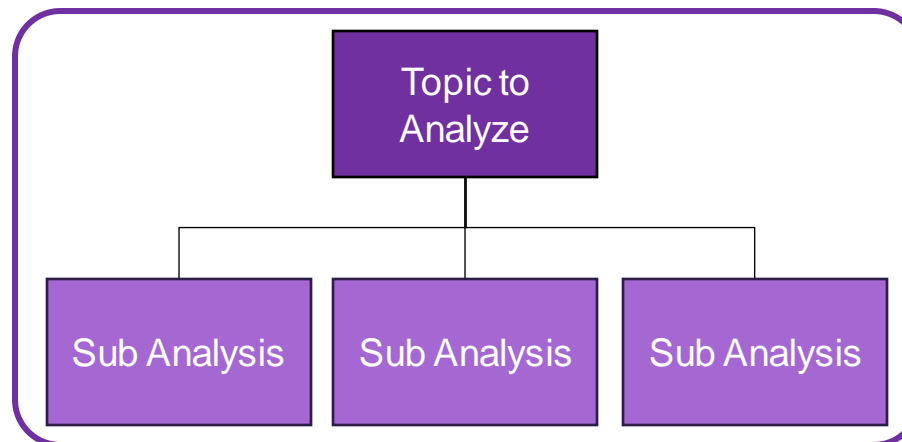
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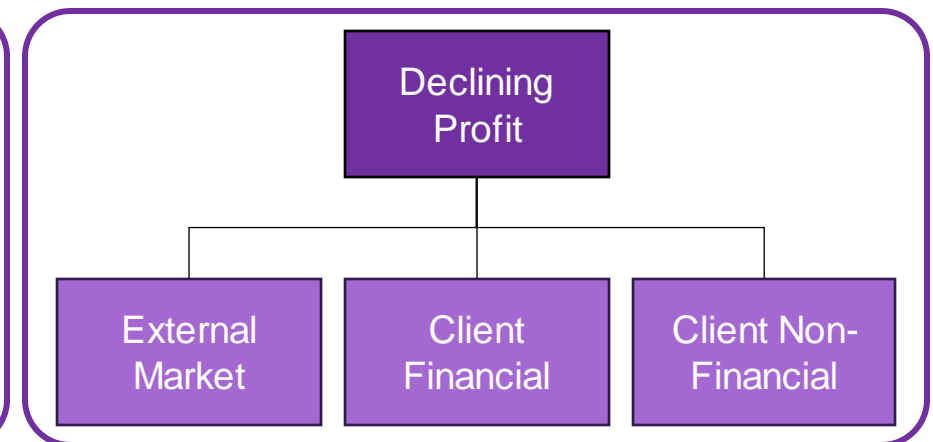
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Decision  
Trees: The  
structure of  
frameworks

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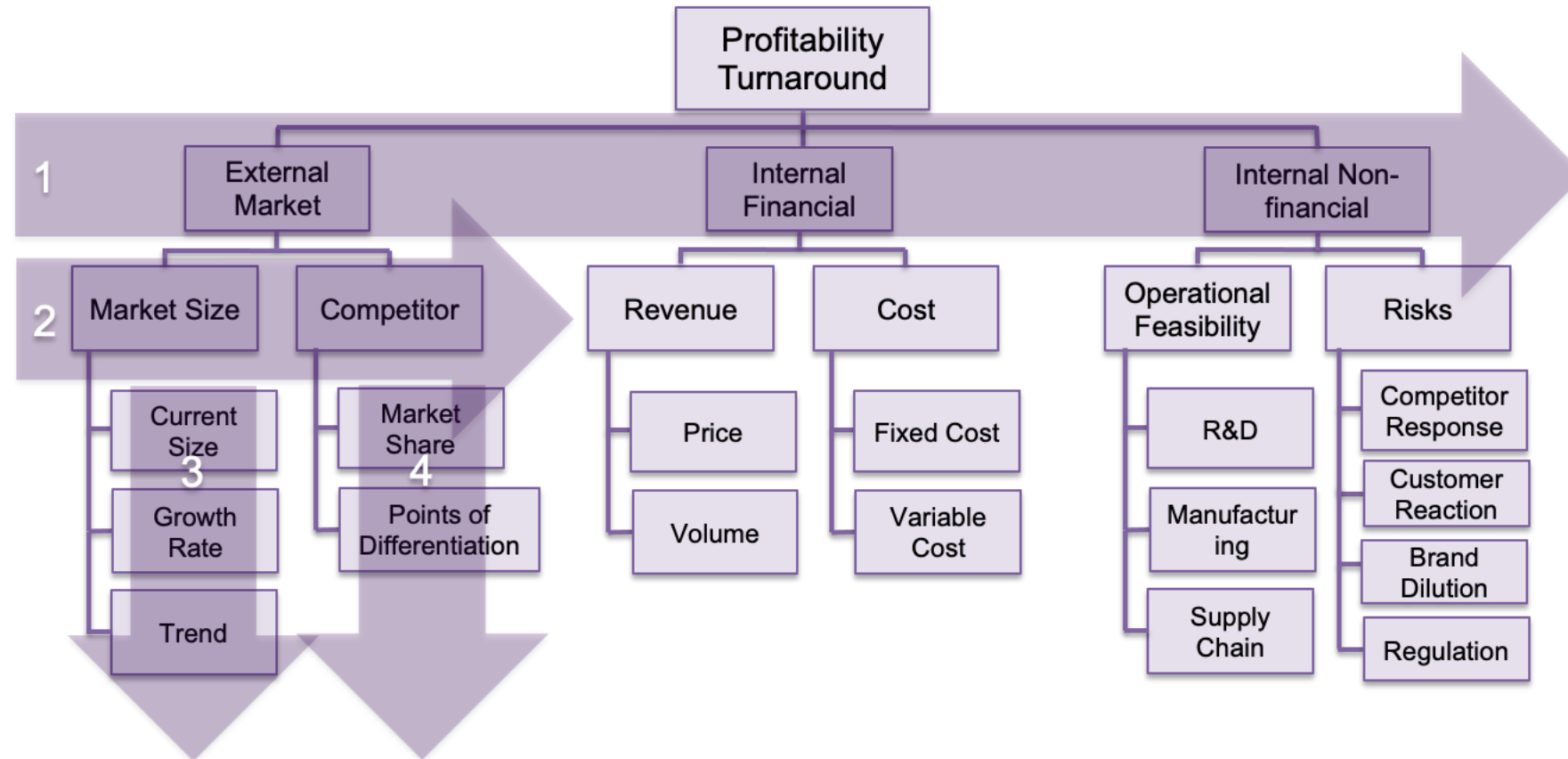


## Example



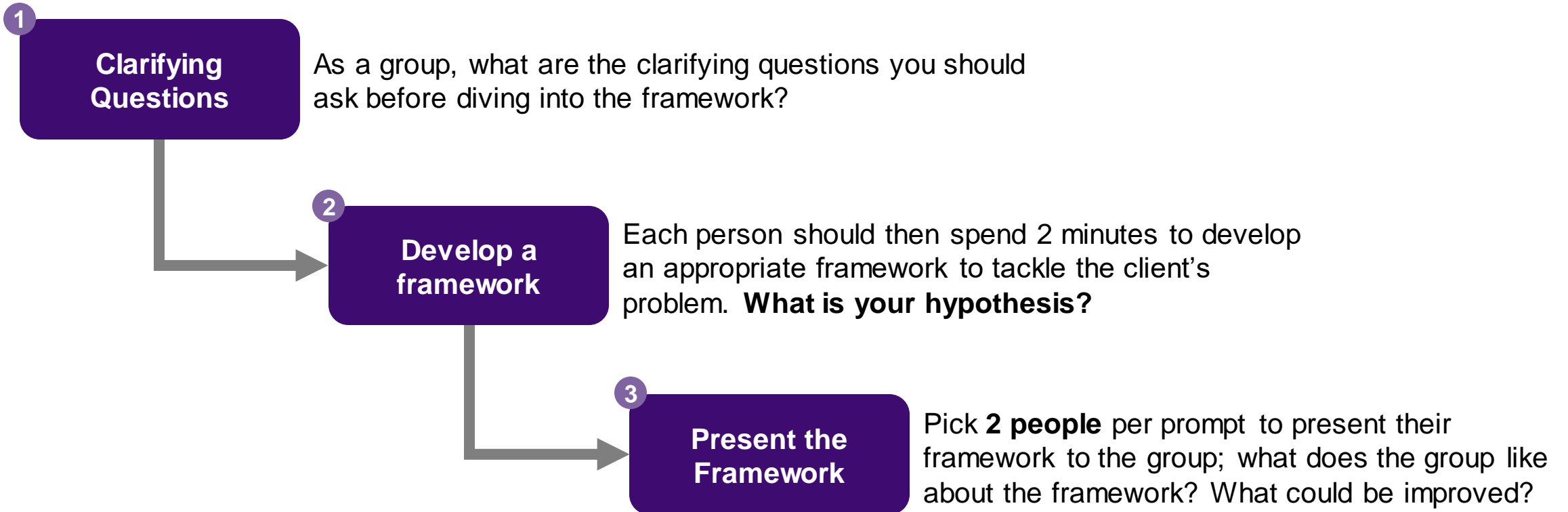


# CLEAR THE FRAMEWORK



**“MECE”**

# CASE START EXERCISES





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- **Size and growth** of wearable fitness device market
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## Case Start – Sample Framework for #2

### Market

- **Size and growth** of olive oil market declining recently?
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- **Substitute** – another oil is replacing olive oil as the healthy oil of choice?

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- **Price:**
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  - Distribution costs
- **Fixed Costs:**
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  - Salary of category managers
  - Overhead allocation to olive oil category (e.g., rent, utilities)

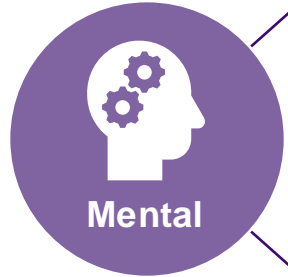
Benchmark costs against competitors and historical levels

# AGENDA

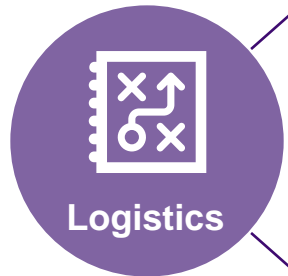
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# CASE MATH



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- Write your equation in words first
- Use smart estimations



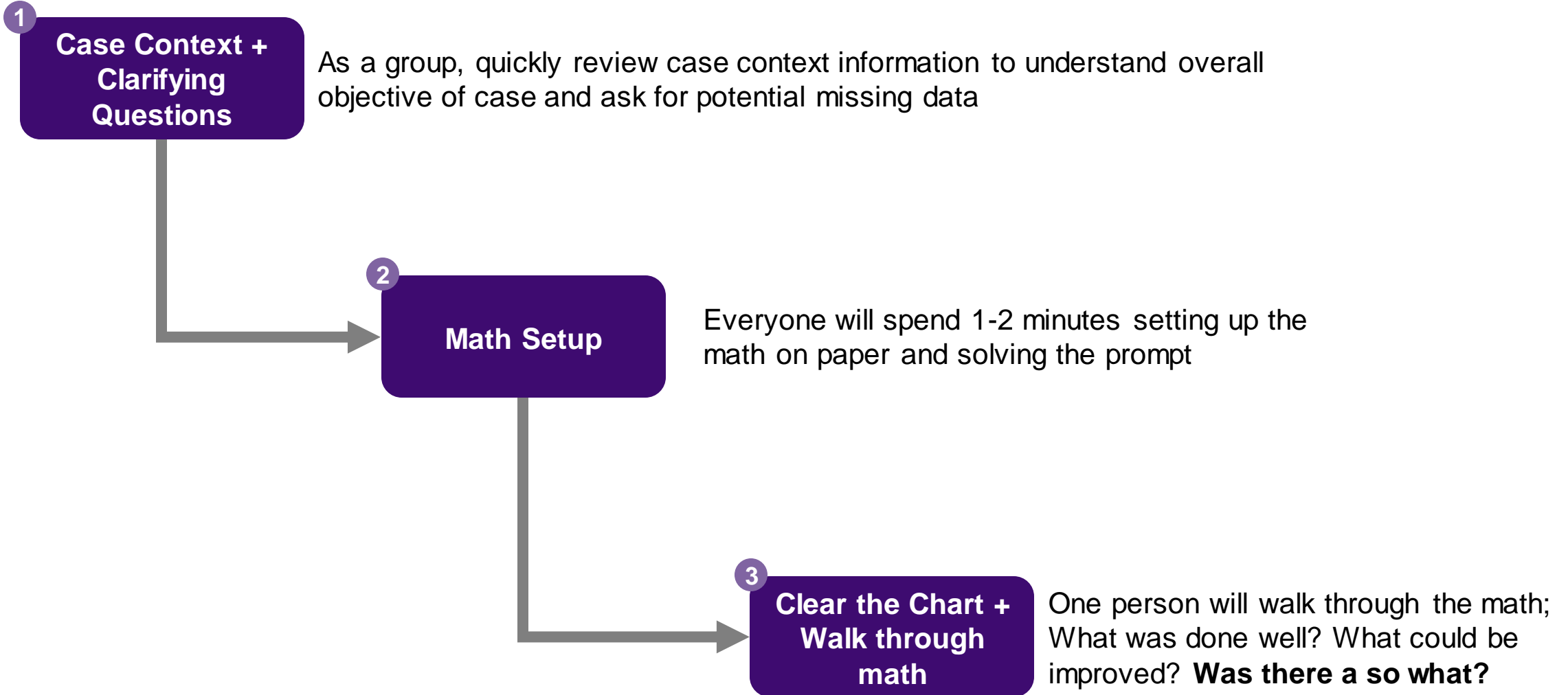
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# MATH SETUP EXERCISES





## Math Setup – Exercise #1



### Case Context

- The client is Friendly Deliveries who pride themselves on timely one-day delivery services
- As a part of their fleet renewal, they are deciding if they should keep buying trucks or replace them with helicopters



**Truck**



**Helicopter**

<b>Price</b>	\$100,000	\$200,000
<b>Vehicle Life</b>	10	15
<b>Expected Annual Mileage</b>	50,000	50,000
<b>Avg. MPG</b>	10	25
<b>Maintenance Costs</b>	\$6,000	\$10,000
<b>Insurance Costs</b>	\$4,000	\$8,000
<b>Pilot Certification</b>	-	\$1,000



## Math Setup – Exercise #1 (sample math setup)

### Methodology

Price of vehicle

÷

Vehicle life

=

Annually depreciated vehicle costs

+

Expected annual mileage

÷

Avg. MPG

×

Fuel cost per gallon

+

Maintenance costs

+

Insurance costs

+

Pilot certification costs (helicopter only)

=

Total annual vehicle cost

*Expected  
fuel cost*

### Truck Calc.

\$100K

÷

10

=

\$10K

+

50K

÷

10

×

\$5

+

\$6K

+

\$4K

+

N/A

=

\$45K

### Helicopter Calc.

\$200K

÷

15

=

~\$13K

+

50K

÷

25

×

\$5

+

\$10K

+

\$8K

+

\$1K

=

~\$42K

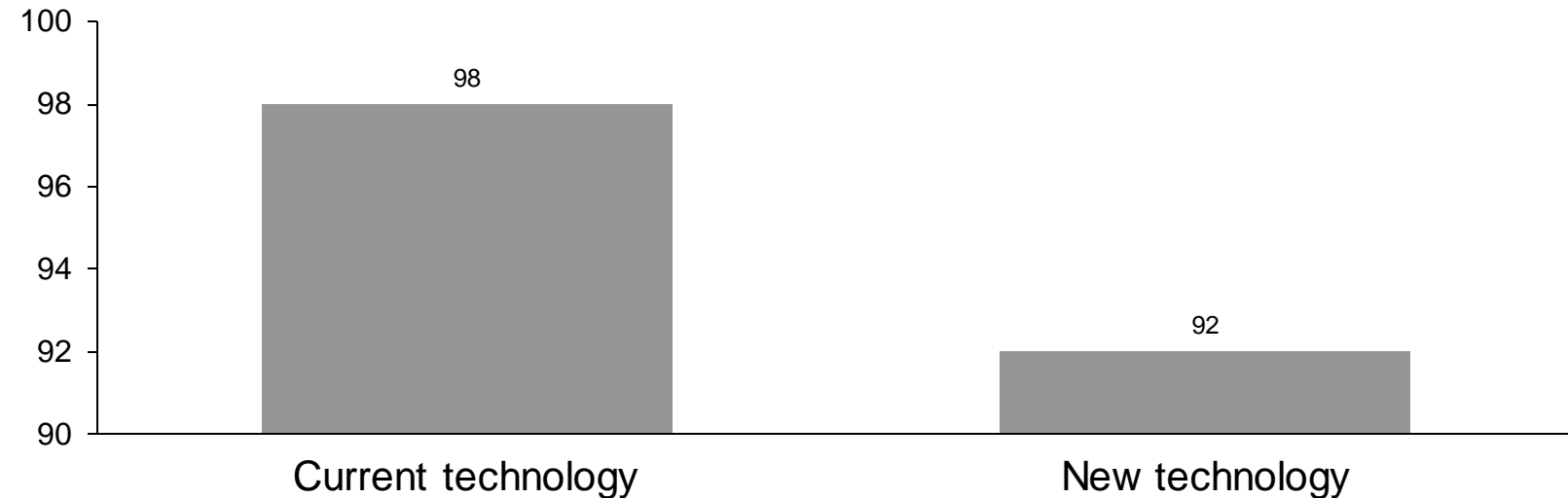


## Math Setup – Exercise #2

### Case Context

- Client has a new product technology that could reduce costs for Product X
- Product X is expected to generate \$50M of revenue – how much money could the client save by adopted the new technology?

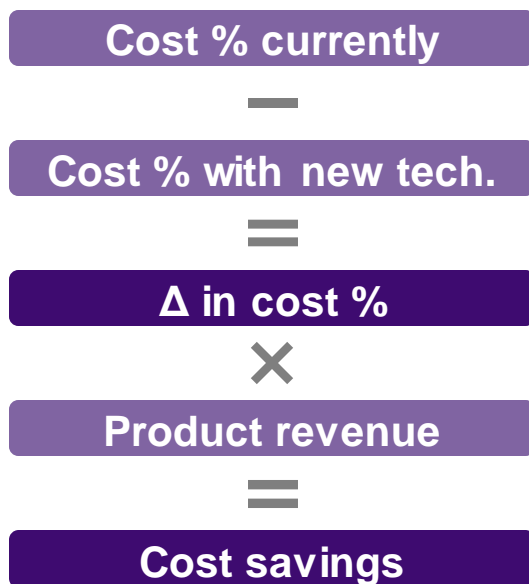
**Product X cost of production**  
Percentage of revenue



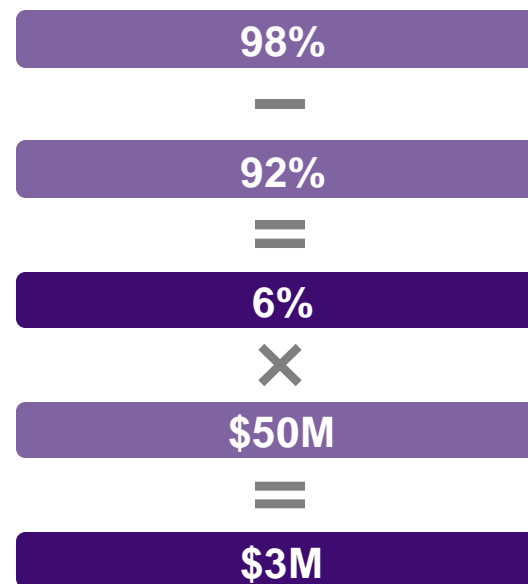


## Chart Clearing / Math Setup – Exercise #2 (sample math setup)

### Methodology



### Calculations





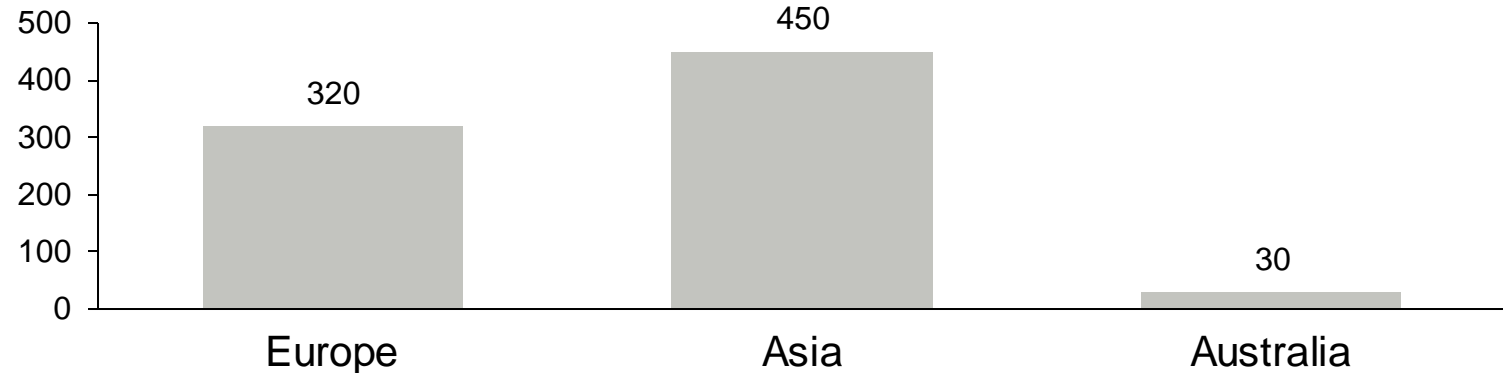
## Math – Exercise #3 (Part 1 of 2)

### Case Context

- PhatCheddar made its name in the U.S. with its secret recipe nacho cheese sauce for make-at-home nachos and is looking to grow internationally through M&A
- Which market should PhatCheddar look to enter via acquisition?

### Nacho consumption in select markets (2019)

Millions of servings of nachos



% of meals dined out	60%	40%	70%
Avg. spend on cheese for nachos	\$5	\$2	\$3



## Math – Exercise #3 (Sample Setup Part 1 of 2)

### Europe

320M  
servings of nachos

×

40%  
meals eaten at home

×

\$5  
avg. spend on cheese

=

\$640M  
avg. spend on cheese

1 - % of meals  
dined out

### Asia

450M  
servings of nachos

×

60%  
meals eaten at home

×

\$2  
avg. spend on cheese

=

\$540M  
avg. spend on cheese

### Australia

30M  
servings of nachos

×

30%  
meals eaten at home

×

\$3  
avg. spend on cheese

=

\$27M  
avg. spend on cheese



## Math – Exercise #3 (Part 2 of 2)

### Case Context (con't)

- There are 3 companies in Europe that PhatCheddar is considering to acquire – which one should it buy?

### Potential European Acquisition Targets (2019)

	HQ Location	Market Share (Europe)	Growth Rate (2009-19)	Growth Rate (2019-29)	WACC*	Net Profit Margin**	Asking Price
<b>Company A</b>	UK	10%	5%	3%	8%	15%	\$200M
<b>Company B</b>	France	15%	3%	5%	15%	25%	\$210M
<b>Company C</b>	Switzerland	5%	10%	10%	15%	20%	\$150M

\* Weighted Average Cost of Capital; \*\* Net Profit Margin = Net Income / Revenue





## Math – Exercise #3 (Sample Setup Part 2 of 2)

$$PV = \frac{\text{Cash flow}}{\text{Discount Rate} - \text{Growth Rate}} = \frac{\text{Market size} \times \text{market share} \times \text{net profit margin}}{\text{WACC} - \text{expected growth rate}}$$

---

Company A

$$\frac{\$640M \times 10\% \times 15\%}{8\% - 3\%} = \$192M$$

Company B

$$\frac{\$640M \times 15\% \times 25\%}{15\% - 5\%} = \$240M$$

Company C

$$\frac{\$640M \times 5\% \times 20\%}{15\% - 10\%} = \$128M$$

# ADDITIONAL MATH PRACTICE



## RocketBlocks

*Good resource for focusing on chart clearing and math drills (similar to what we did today) with large number / variety of charts*



## Practice Cases

*Use older casebooks to practice chart clearing and math setup (avoid burning more recent casebooks for drills)*

*Also focus on re-clearing charts and setting up math “perfectly” as part of reviewing practice cases you’ve done*



## Class Materials

*Who said STRT-431 isn’t useful?  
Many of your cases and lectures will have charts and exhibits – can you try clearing them?*

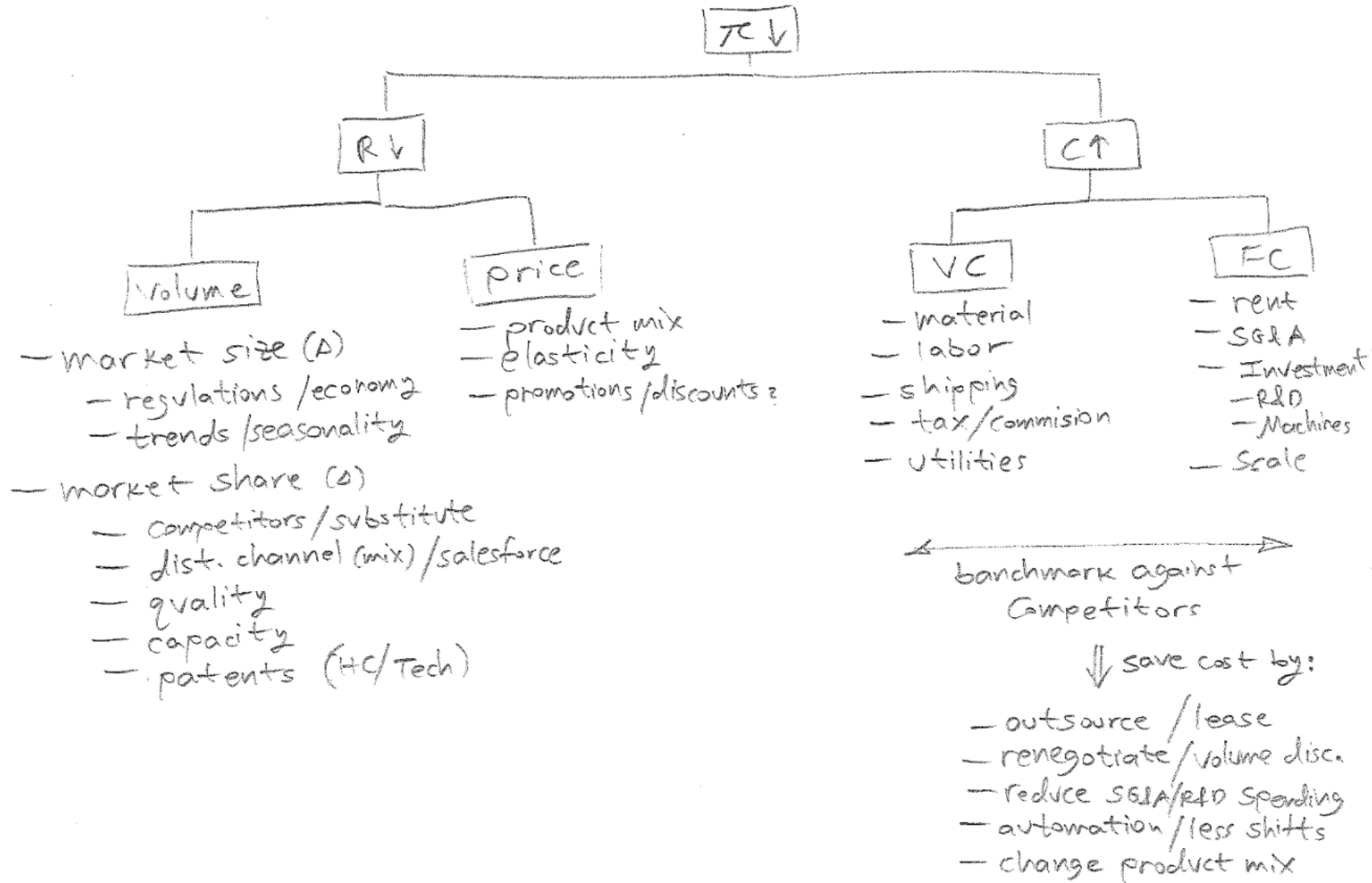
# APPENDIX: SAMPLE FRAMEWORKS, EXTRA MATH



## ***IMPORTANT NOTE***

*These are sample frameworks for illustrative purposes only. These will NOT work for every case, and they certainly will NOT work for everyone. It may help to learn general framework skeletons, but good frameworks come from thoughtful adaptation to the nuances of each case.*

# Profit



# Entering a Market

## client

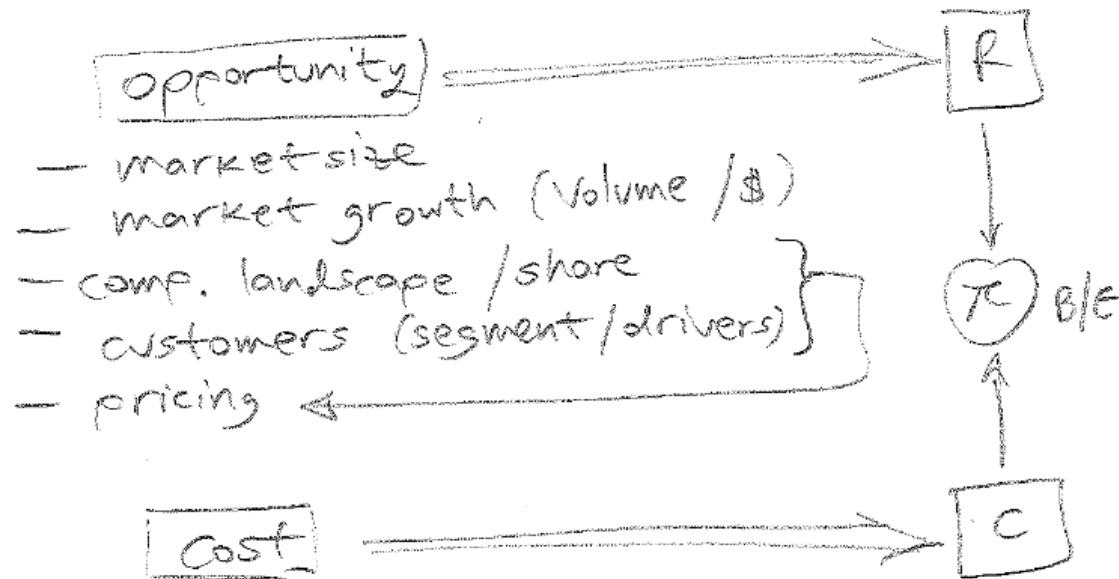
- specific  $\pi$ /R goal? strategic?
- advantages (IP, brand, size, dist.)
- product mix ( $\pi$  of each)
- capabilities/capital limits

## opportunity

- market size
- market growth (Volume/\$)
- comp. landscape / share
- customers (segment/drivers)
- pricing

## Cost

- Initial Investment
- ongoing costs  $\rightarrow$   $FC$   
 $\rightarrow$   $VC$
- opportunity cost



## Go strategy

- build
- M&A
- partner



## Barriers to Entry

- capital
- IP
- regulations/anti trust
- dist. channel



## additional risks:

- comp. reaction
- brand/focus
- currency

# Growth

## client

- Goal ( $\pi \uparrow / R \uparrow$ )?
- Capacity/capital limit?
- Inorganic growth? alternatives?
- product mix

## Market

- market size
- market growth/trends
- Competitive landscape/Share
- Customer (segment, drivers)

## R↑



## Volume

- new products  
geographies (local/global)  
dist. channel (online/retail)  
segment (ext./new products)
- steal share
  - marketing ↑
  - price ↓
- increase freq/amount of sales
- Acquire a competitor
- balance seasonality (product mix)

## Price

- underpriced?
- premium brand
- add value/features

## risks:

- comp. reaction
  - capacity
  - brand/quality - prod. - service
  - cannibalization
  - currency
- new prod. new geo.

# M&A

## client

- Goal? (market product synergy, share, diversity, comp., synergies)
- Capabilities / capital limits
- product mix

## Market

- market size
- market growth (units, \$)
- comp. landscape
- customer (segment, drivers)

## target

- $\pi$  (comp. to market)
- advantages (IP)
- expected synergies
- management
- culture
- other options

→ C↓ (scale)  
→ R↑ (bundling, cross-selling)

## Cost

- price < Current Value + Synergies
- Cost of M&A (legal)
- opportunity cost

## risks:

- comp. reaction
- unknowns at target
- management ability to execute merge
- mgmt. attention
- anti trust



# KEY FORMULAS

## Profitability

$$\text{Profit} = \text{Revenues} - \text{Cost}$$

$$\text{Profit} = (P * Q) - (Q * VC + FC)$$

$$\text{Profit margin} = \frac{\text{Revenue} - \text{Costs}}{\text{Revenue}}$$

## Return on Investment

$$ROI = \frac{\text{Return} - \text{Investment}}{\text{Investment}}$$

## Net Present Value

### Present Value of a Cash Flow

$$PV = \frac{\text{Cash Flow at time } t}{(1 + \text{Discount Rate})^t}$$

### Present Value of a Perpetual Cash Flow:

$$PV = \frac{\text{Cash Flow}}{\text{Discount Rate} - \text{Growth Rate}}$$

## Breakeven

$$\text{Breakeven Price} = \frac{\text{Total Fixed} + \text{Investment Costs}}{\text{Qty}} + \text{Variable Costs}$$



## Math Setup – Exercise #3

### Case Context

- Davis Car Rental historically had continued profitable growth but in recent years have seen negative profit trends
- It would like to get to a 10% operating margin (*Math hint: how much additional profit is needed to hit the goal?*)

### Davis Car Rental Annual Revenue (2016-20F)

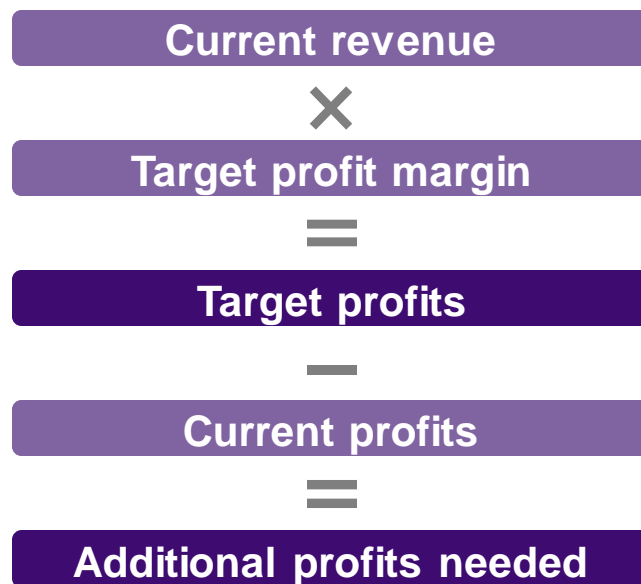
Thousands of USD

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020E
Revenue	\$1,026	\$1,172	\$1,328	\$1,545	\$1,607
- COGS	\$667	\$750	\$876	\$1,082	\$1,093
<b>Gross Margin</b>	<b>\$359</b>	<b>\$422</b>	<b>\$451</b>	<b>\$464</b>	<b>\$514</b>
- Marketing and Ads.	\$62	\$82	\$106	\$139	\$193
- Rent	\$31	\$32	\$33	\$34	\$35
- Insurance	\$103	\$106	\$109	\$112	\$116
- Misc. Expenses	\$62	\$62	\$62	\$62	\$62
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>\$103</b>	<b>\$141</b>	<b>\$142</b>	<b>\$117</b>	<b>\$110</b>



## Math Setup – Exercise #3 (sample math setup)

### Methodology



### Calculations

