# A Market-based Perspective on Technology Evolution and Innovation

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## What drives change?

The Internet is a market, like any other

Consumers of Internet goods and services make purchasing choices

These consumer choices are what drives the market

Consumers tend to show cost-based preferences

Innovation that reduces the cost base of services tend to gain market share

The greater the cost shift the greater the impact of the innovation on the providers

There is often a "tipping point" of innovative change that makes it irresistible

#### Economics of Innovation



## What resists change?

- Volume tends to increase inertial resistance
  - And the digital world has massive volume
- Monopoly incumbency resists change
  - And the digital world is now dominated by a small set of incumbents
- Changes that do not impact the cost base of the service increases resistance
- The emergence of large scale digital incumbents creates its own challenges

#### Economics of Innovation



Unit Cost Reduction

## A Gentle Touch

- A continual flow of innovation into competitive markets that alter the cost base tends to create a continuous marginal advantage to the innovator
- The trick is to avoid entrenched monopolies
   As their inevitable eventual displacement is extremely messy and highly
   disruptive

### A Gentle Touch

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## The Internet's Gilded Age

The New York Times

Tech Giants Amass a Lobbying Army for an Epic Washington Battle



#### Total 2017 federal lobbying spends by tech giants

Catlin O'Neill committee or policy for Fac	Alphabet			\$18.1 million
	Amazon		\$13 million	
	Facebook		\$13 million	
			\$11.5 million	
	Microsoft			
fom Williams/		\$8.6 million		
<b>By (</b> June	Apple			
		\$7.1 million		
	SOURCE: Open Secrets			
WA		or		
action	ns and legislation to curb their power, four of the biggest			
techn	ology companies are amassing an a			

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