

### Agenda

Google Has Monopoly Power In The U.S. General Search Services Market

Google's Search Distribution Contracts Have Anticompetitive Effects

Google Failed To Prove Procompetitive Benefits
Outweighing The Anticompetitive Effects

**Summation** 

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"[I]f a plaintiff successfully establishes a *prima facie* case under § 2 by demonstrating anticompetitive effect, then the monopolist may proffer a 'procompetitive justification' for its conduct."

United States v. Microsoft Corp., 253 F.3d 34, 59 (D.C. Cir. 2001)



### Google's Burden

"Microsoft failed to meet its burden of showing that its conduct serves a purpose other than protecting its operating system monopoly."

*United States v. Microsoft Corp.*, 253 F.3d 34, 59, 67 (D.C. Cir. 2001)

"This burden-shifting has evolved based on which party has access to the various categories of evidence and information, with any evidence of pro-competitive justifications likely to be under the defendant's control."

Viamedia, Inc. v. Comcast Corp., 951 F.3d 429, 464 (7th Cir. 2020)

"The Government, having demonstrated harm to competition, the burden shifts to Dentsply to show that [its exclusionary contractual provision] promotes a sufficiently procompetitive objective."

*United States v. Dentsply Int'l, Inc.*, 399 F.3d 181, 196 (3d Cir. 2005)

"[T]he 'procompetitive benefits' argument is the centerpiece of Meta's affirmative defense to the FTC's claims. . . . [B]ecause it is an affirmative defense, Meta will bear the burden of proof on the issue."

FTC v. Meta Platforms, Inc., 2023 WL 3092651, at \*1 (D.D.C. Apr. 26, 2023)

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### Google Failed To Prove Procompetitive Benefits Outweighing The Anticompetitive Effects

A. Competition For The Contract

B. Passthrough

### Competition For The Contract



### **Belongs In Justifications**

Case 1:20-cv-03010-APM Document 728 Filed 10/06/23 Page 1 of 60

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. 20-cv-3010 (APM)

GOOGLE LLC,

Defendant.

STATE OF COLORADO, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. 20-cv-3715 (APM)

GOOGLE LLC,

Defendant.

### MEMORANDUM OPINION

### I. INTRODUCTION

Google LLC operates the largest Internet general search engine in the United States.

Its brand name has become so ubiquitous that dictionaries recognize it as a verb. 1

A Google search can be performed in a variety of ways-through (1) web browsers, like

Apple's Safari, Microsoft's Edge, Mozilla's Firefox, and Google's Chrome; (2) search widgets

"The court thinks that Google's 'competition for the contract' defense cannot be resolved on summary judgment at the *prima facie* stage and is better left for the procompetitive prong of the Microsoft analysis. See Microsoft, 253 F.3d at 59 (describing a procompetitive justification as 'a nonpretextual claim that [the monopolist's] conduct is indeed a form of competition on the merits because it involves, for example, . . . enhanced consumer appeal') (emphasis added)."

*United States v. Google LLC*, No. 20-CV-3010 (APM), 2023 WL 4999901, at \*17 (D.D.C. Aug. 4, 2023) (emphasis added)

<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Google, DICTIONARY.COM, https://www.dictionary.com/browse/roogle (last visited July 31, 2023) ("to search the internet for information about (a person, topic, etc.)"); Google, OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY, https://www.occ.com/dictionary/coogle V27tbs/meaning and uself0568358 (att visited July 31, 2023) ("To use the Google search engine to find information on the internet"); Google, MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY, https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/coogle (att visited July 31, 2023) ("to use the Google search engine to obtain information about (concessor or something) on the World Wide Web.").

# Competition For The Contract: Apple and Mozilla



### **Broken Promise**

"The Court will hear testimony and receive evidence of how Apple and Mozilla conducted these competitions. The Court will hear from **Eddy Cue**, a longtime senior executive at Apple who had responsibility for negotiating agreements with Google.

The Court will also hear from **John Giannandrea**, another senior Apple executive. And, last, the Court will review videotaped deposition testimony from **Mitchell Baker**, Mozilla's CEO.

They will confirm that Google won these competitions on the merits, and that intense competition for browser defaults have improved browser performance and quality, resulting in higher search engine usage and revenues."

Google Opening Statement

Tr. 72:19 73:7.

### No Meaningful Competition For The Contract

### **Apple Lacks Alternatives**



SVP, Services

A. [C]ertainly there wasn't a valid alternative....

**A.** The other existing GSEs were "**not a choice**" Apple could make.

\* \* \*

\* \* \*

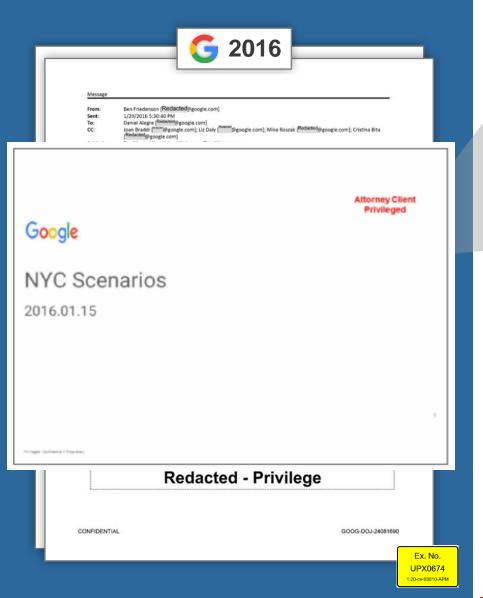
\* \* \*

A. I don't believe there's a price in the world that Microsoft could offer us.

A. [I]t wasn't a choice to pick any of the existing search engines. . . .



### **Bing Cannot Compete**



### **Notes**

 Except Scenario A (most optimistic/least likely), it will not be possible for Alice to match our payments profitably

- In 2016, Google found that Bing would likely need to offer Apple a 122% revenue share rate to match Google's payments at a 33.75% revenue share.
- Google named this project "Alice in Wonderland" after a dream sequence—and used "Alice" as the codename for Bing.

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### **Apple Lacks Alternatives**



- Q. So, armed with all of this information we've just been talking about, at any point in your discussions in 2016 with Mr. Cook and Mr. Cue, did you communicate to them that they didn't really have any leverage in negotiating a revenue share percentage because Google was the only viable option?
- A. I looked at it with a -- with a set of factors.... Our search usage had grown tremendously, so the deal was working well for us. Users were very happy with their experience. It was a competitive dynamic. There was a lot of uncertainty about what Apple would do because Apple tends to, you know, design, control its own experience. . . . And by the way, yes, I did take what you're saying into account, which was why we didn't pay the share Apple wanted.



### **Mozilla Lacks Alternatives**



A. ... Competition in [the] search market would help us ... [b]ecause then there are more options.

\* \* \*

**A.** . . . There aren't many alternatives [to Google].

Des. Testimony

## Competition For The Contract: Android



### **Little Competition For Android**



Prof. Kevin
Murphy
Google Expert
Prof. of Economics,
Univ. of Chicago

- Q. And in describing the competition for on Android, you intentionally do not use the word "intensely competed"; right?
- A. I don't think I had evidence for that.

  That's why I didn't make a statement to the effect one way or the other whether it was intensely competed or not. . . .

## Competition For Distribution Is Not Competition For Consumers



### **Distributors Are Self-Interested**



Prof. Kevin
Murphy
Google Expert
Prof. of Economics,
Univ. of Chicago

- Q. And maximizing profits can mean making decisions that are sometimes worse for Apple's users?
- **A.** Well, I'm not -- yeah, **they're not always aligned**, but they have a strong incentive to please their users since that's where their bread is buttered, right.

\* \* \*

- **Q.** Raising e-Book price meant Apple would make more money itself at the expense of its customers?
- **A.** I'd have to go back and go through all of it, but I presume Apple's conduct reflected their interests.

### Google Failed To Prove Procompetitive Benefits Outweighing The Anticompetitive Effects

A. Competition For The Contract

B. Passthrough

# Passthrough: Does Competition For Search Distribution Benefit General Search Users?



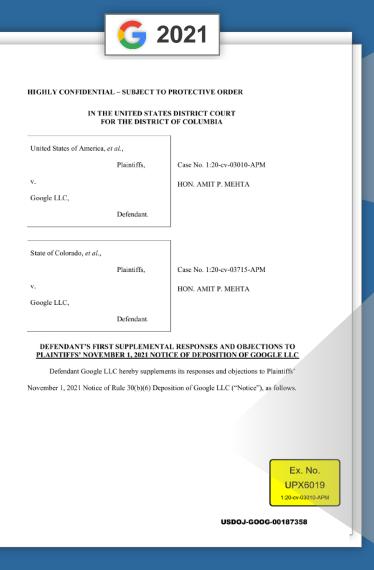
### Procompetitive Justifications Must Be Cognizable

### To be cognizable, justifications:

- 1. Must be in market: Section 2's focus on protecting competition in "any" relevant market derives directly from its text, which prohibits monopolization of "any part of . . . trade or commerce." 15 U.S.C. § 2.
- 2. Cannot be pretextual: A cognizable justification must be "nonpretextual." *United States v. Microsoft Corp.*, 253 F.3d 34, 59 (2001); *Image Tech. Serv., Inc. v. Eastman Kodak Co.*, 903 F.2d 612, 618, 620 (9th Cir. 1990) (justification must be "genuine," not "pretextual").



### Passthrough Not Considered



**30(b)(6) Topic 4:** "From 2005 to present, Google's tracking of whether its search distribution partners pass on payments received by Google to consumers in any form . . . ."

**30(b)(6) Written Response:** Google has not "locate[d] any formal analysis, study, or survey previously conducted, commissioned or relied upon by Google regarding any impact or correlation of payments made by Google to manufacturers or wireless carriers on consumer prices for devices or wireless services in the United States."

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UPX6019 at 368 69.



### The Documents: Prof. Kevin Murphy



Kevin Murphy,
PhD
Google Expert
Prof. of Economics,
University of Chicago

- Q. So you didn't look at Google's documents on this subject?
- **A.** No. I'm an economist, I look at markets and how those markets work, and we learn from the marketplace itself. It's the standard approach in economics.

### Passthrough: Android



### Passthrough Not Tracked



Jamie
Rosenberg
Part-Time Advisor;
Former VP Strategy;
Former VP Business &
Operations for Android
& Google Play



- **Q.** And you have no understanding how carriers use the search revenue payments that Google pays; correct?
- **A.** With the exception of what's now in some of these go-to-market agreements, we don't require them to share with us how they're using the funds.
- Q. And you don't have any understanding as to how carriers or OEMs use the revenue share payments that Google pays them?
- A. I don't.

### Passthrough: Android Ecosystem



### Passthrough Not Considered



Q. So you think about Google search separate from the competition between Apple iOS and Android?

A. That's correct, yeah.



### Passthrough Not Considered



Joan Braddi
VP, Product
Partnerships



- Q. .... So it must be the case that Google has determined that the benefits to Google Search are worth the cost of propping up Android's biggest rival; is that right?
- **A.** I don't think we have ever looked at it that way. We sell our search to many different competitors. It's an independent product.

# Passthrough: Android Low-Cost Phones Better Phones



### **Low-Cost Phone Narrative Unsupported**



Prof. Kevin
Murphy
Google Expert
Prof. of Economics,
Univ. of Chicago

- Q. You haven't seen any documents that link the MADA bundle with the sale of low-cost phones; right?
- **A. I don't recall documents saying that.** I know, though, Google viewed the MADA and the zero-priced license as an important part of the design decision of Android, of the Android model that they built.
- Q. You haven't quantified how many, if any, low-priced Android devices would leave the U.S. market if the MADA bundle was disallowed in the U.S.?
- **A. I don't -- I don't know that, because we don't have empirical data to do that.** As I've been saying throughout, my approach is always to try to use market evidence to say what I can say.
- Q. You haven't seen any data from Europe or Russia that showed that low-end cell phone makers left the market after the MADA bundle was disallowed?
- A. Well, I don't have evidence on that, no. I haven't seen the data.



### **Low-Cost Phone Narrative Unsupported**



Christian Cramer < Redacted 2 google.com>

Ruth Porat < Redacted @google.com>, Kristin Reinke < Redacted @google.com>

Fwd: BC Deal Review: Agenda for Tuesday Sept 5th at 8:30 AM PST and Wednesday Sept 6th at 8:00 AM PST Helen Tsao < Redacted @google.com>, Steven Hahn < Redacted @google.com>, Cristina Bita < Redacted @google.com> Benjamin Friedenson < Redacted @google.com>, Yuki Sugawara < Redacted @google.com>, Alistair Connal < Redacted @google.com>, Michael Roszak -Redacted@google.com>

The Android team it bringing the renewal of the Samsung mobile search revenue share deal to BC tomorrow Wednesday (deal document, supplemental deck). Please see below key terms and Finance perspective

I think you are largely familiar with the recent deal negotiations with Samsung, also from the "Samsung Search Agreement Status" update that you received from Jamie on July 20 (see also copy of the note below my signature for your reference). I will still put some

The previous Samsung revenue share deal expired ~2 years ago in 2015, and we have been extending that deal month-to-month since then as we negotiated a new deal. A deal was approved by BC in November 2015 (deck here) with an initial proposal of gross revenue share on installed base. \*\*Indeed on new devices, and an additional \*\*Indeed on devices with carrier client IDs (and additional form).

Since then, the deal team has been negotiating with Samsung with challenges in alignment first on the revenue share amount

Samsung signed a new Mobile Application Distribution Agreement (MADA) earlier this year. MADA is a license for Android device manufacturers to pre-install some of Google's apps and APIs and ship these apps with their device. Samsung's MADA requires that

- · GSA app is preloaded . The widget is preloaded on the Default Home Screen
- . Google hotword ("Ok Google") is enabled to invoke Google Assistant
- · Long press on home defaults to Google

### UPX0580

- share if Samsung does not meet the security and letter requirements outlined below. Since Samsung currently is behind on their security updates, they have agreed to an initial revenue share of Redacted of net, after deducting Peaceford for expenses) which means Samsung will initially get an \*\*memory payout; the percentage will be increased to \*\*memory of gross revenue upon written confirmation from Samsung that the security requirements have been met, followed by confirmation from our security
- Transaction Revenue share: once exceeding a Redacted threshold (estimated in good faith), Google will pay partner Redacted and parties will discuss in good faith whether Transaction Revenues shall be subject to revenue share and, if so, at what terms, . The team plans to sign the contract before the end of September with an effective date of July 1, 2017

In exchange for revenue share, Samsung has agreed to the following

- Google as default search engine with exclusivity
  - Samsung browser and keyboard cannot be enabled with Bixby (without this, enabling may lead to siphoning off of search queries to other providers)
- 3rd party assistant protections, e.g. 3rd party hotword cannot be enabled out of the box
- Include 2 screens in the Setup Wizard for Google Assistant
- Google set as only search backfill provider for Bixby; non-Q&A / search queries may be backfilled by other providers
- For flagships (S and Note series), monthly updates for years and quarterly in the year
- For high volume devices (A and J series excluding J1), quarterly updates for years
- . Other: Daydream will be supported in flagships, e.g. Note 8 and 9

The deal term is years. Over this time period, under the old deal, we would have paid Redacted in revenue share. With the new proposed deal, we anticipate an incremental payments of Redacted for a total of Resided in revenue share. Estimated search revenues for this time period through Samsung is Redacted

HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

"Rationale in support of the proposal:

- Secures Google access on Samsung devices including:
  - Google as default search/exclusive search
  - Google Search backfill for Bixby
  - Security and letter upgrades
  - Daydream support on specific devices"



### **Prof. Kevin Murphy**

Google Expert Prof. of Economics, Univ. of Chicago

- **Q.** There's nothing in here that says that -- well, nothing in here about pass-through; right?
- A. No.
- **Q.** Nothing in here about supporting low-priced phones throughout the world or throughout the United States?
  - Tr. Testimony

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# Passthrough: Android Consistent User Experience



### Consistency v. Innovation



Jamie Rosenberg

Part-Time Advisor; Former VP Strategy; Former VP Business & Operations for Android & Google Play



- **Q.** And Android partners compete against one another by differentiating their devices and device experiences?
- **A.** That's one of the ways they compete, yes.
- **Q.** And differentiation between Android devices can lead to innovation; correct?
- **A.** Yes, I mean, innovation is one of the ways they can differentiate, like the foldable devices I showed or some of the other innovations we talked about earlier.



### **Consistency Has Many Forms**

A choice screen is a consistent user experience.



**Prof. Michael Whinston** *Plaintiff Expert, Prof. of Economics, M.I.T.* 

A. ... [I]f it's really about consistency, like another way to have consistency is to always have a choice screen, that's very consistent. So it's not -- you know, I don't see the link between exclusivity and consistency.

Tr. Testimony

OEMs and carriers have their own incentives to ensure a good user experience.



### **Jeffrey Giard**

VP, Strategic Partnerships & Business Development

A. . . . [I]f [consumers are] confused to the point where they need to call [Customer] Care, that is a real cost to T-Mobile as well as if we're not providing an optimal experience and they're confused, they may switch devices, . . . switch to an iOS device or even switch carriers[.]

Des. Testimony

### REDACTED FOR PUBLIC FILING

# Passthrough: Android Align Incentives

### Passthrough: Apple



### No Restrictions On ISA Payments



- **Q.** Does the ISA place any limitations on how Apple uses its split of the Google revenue share?
- A. No. I mean, the money comes to Apple, and we can do -- the money is just Apple's to decide how to use it.
- **Q.** Are those payments designated for any specific use within Apple?
- **A**. No, they're not.

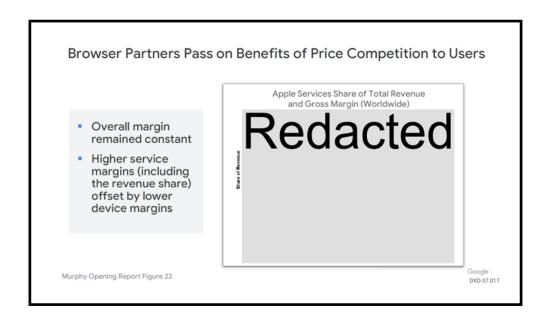
Tr. Testimony

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Tr. 2466:11 17 (Cue (Apple)).



#### Could Be A "Coincidence"



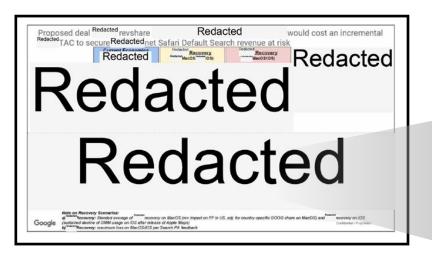
Apple's device margins have declined while its service revenues have increased.

#### **Prof. Murphy:**

- Stated this could be a "coincidence"
- Agreed other factors could have contributed to the decline
- Did not use econometric analysis to show causation—"I don't think I could"



#### TAC Increases Yield Zero Marginal Searches







#### Variance: NYC Ask v. Current

2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 Total

Safari Default Search Revenue

TAC – Safari Default

Redacted

Total TAC

Safari Default Net Revenue

Redacted

# Passthrough: Mozilla



#### The "Mozilla" Letter



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Confidential Business Information



September 30, 2020

#### VIA EMAIL

Ryan A. Shores Associate Deputy Attorney General Senior Advisor for Technology Industries U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Re: Civil Investigative Demand No. 30243

Dear Ryan:

On behalf of Mozilla Foundation, we write to thank you for meeting with us on Monday. We appreciated having an opportunity to further explain why consumers and competition in the browser market would be significantly harmed if the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division brings an enforcement action that prohibits small and independent browser companies, such as Mozilla Corporation, from entering into default search agreements with Google. We also appreciated having the opportunity to explain how such an enforcement action would have the unintended consequence of creating a Google monopoly in cross-platform browser engines by depriving Mozilla Corporation of the revenue needed to continue operating its Gecko browser engine

During our meeting, we were asked several questions related to Mozilla Corporation's willingness to use Microsoft's Bing search product if it were unable to enter a default search agreement with Google. As detailed below, Mozilla Corporation's ability to compete in the browser market – where it has served as an innovative and disruptive force that offers privacy and security conscious users a meaningful alternative – would be severely undermined if it did not have the option of selecting Google as its default search partner and instead were forced to partner with Microsoft. Indeed, it would be likely that Mozilla Corporation would exit the browser market in that circumstance altogether, and it is extremely likely that Mozilla Corporation would no longer be able to sustain an independent browser engine given the

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Written by outside counsel

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DX0547 at 532 33.

# Passthrough: Revenue Share Payments Would Be Higher Without Restrictions

### Less Restrictive Alternatives

"Substantively, the burden would be on [the defendant] to demonstrate that benefits it claims resulted from its [conduct] 'could not have been achieved absent the [conduct]."

FTC v. Meta Platforms, Inc., 2023 WL 3092651, at \*4 (D.D.C. Apr. 26, 2023)

## "Option but not the obligation"



#### Android LRA Already In Effect



Adrienne McCallister VP, Global Partnerships



- Q. ... The go-to-market agreements did not require carriers to preinstall Google Search --
- A. No, it did not.
- Q. -- on devices? It also didn't require Google Search to be set as the default search engine on the Android devices that qualified?
- **A.** The go-to-market deal did not, that was in the RSA agreement.
- **Q.** Got it. And the go-to-market agreement did not require that the devices that qualified had Google Search exclusivity?
- A. No.

\* \* \*

- Q. And again, I don't mean to belabor the point, but the purpose of supporting those marketing activities was to support the sale of Android devices, correct?
- A. Sure, yes.

Tr. Testimony



#### **GSEs Share Revenue Without A Default**



- All other GSEs share revenue without demanding default exclusivity
  - Sometimes to be a user-selectable option
  - Sometimes distributor has "the right, but not the obligation" to include them as an option



#### **Security Update Incentives Available**



- **Q.** But Google could provide a separate financial incentive for security upgrades outside of the RSA, correct?
- **A.** Sure, we could structure it that way.

Tr. Testimony

## Choice Screens Are Efficient



#### **Choice Screens Are Useful**



- **Q.** ... [D]o Apple users make some choices to set up their phones right out of the box?
- A. Oh, they do.
- **Q.** And, Mr. Cue, I'm simply asking that when Apple thinks it's important, it does allow the user a choice, such as the choice screens that we see in UPXD009?

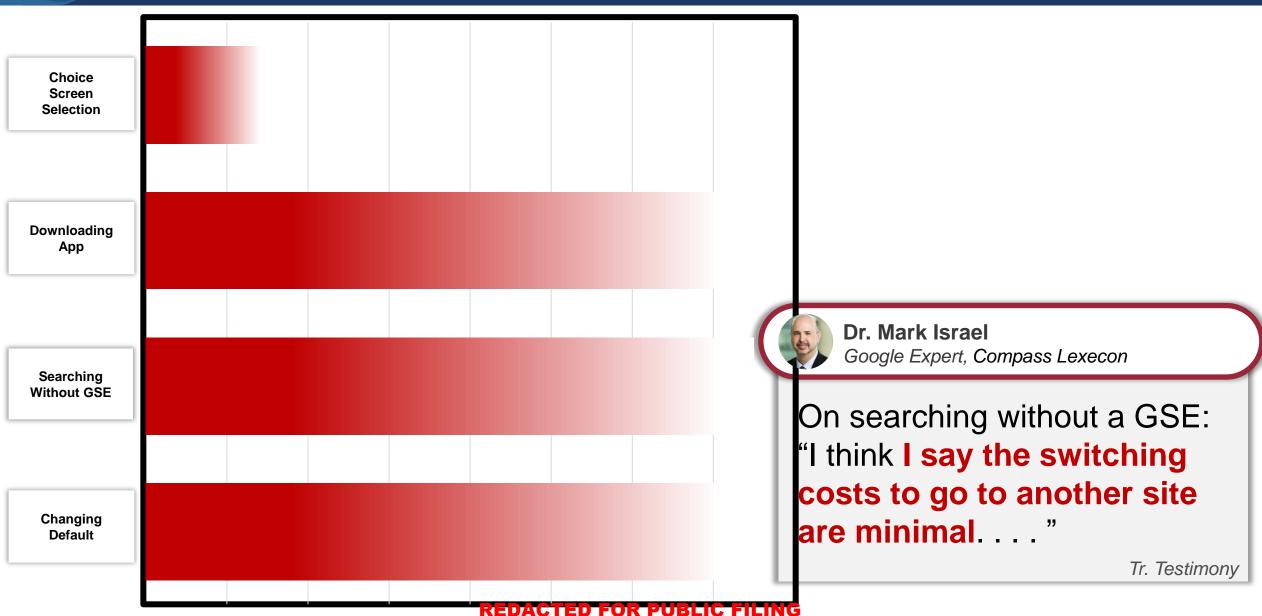
\* \* \*

**A**. We certainly make decisions on when to show these options that you show here.

Tr. Testimony



#### Google v. The Space-Time Continuum



"[I]f the monopolist's procompetitive justification stands unrebutted, then the plaintiff must demonstrate that the anticompetitive harm of the conduct outweighs the procompetitive benefit."

United States v. Microsoft Corp., 253 F.3d 34, 59 (D.C. Cir. 2001)





























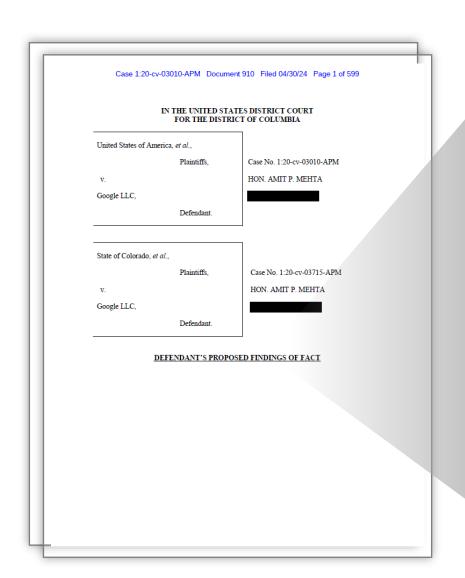
# United States & Co-Plaintiff States v. Google LLC

Plaintiffs' Closing Statement

# Appendix



#### Google v. Google



"Microsoft's index had been too small for too long, as acknowledged by its senior search leadership."

"That same year (2014),[] Microsoft personnel continued to express concerns that most features in Bing were designed with mobile search as an afterthought, resulting in a 'sloppy' search user experience."

Def. Proposed Findings of Fact, ECF No. 910, ¶¶ 471, 482.



#### Payments Higher With Competition



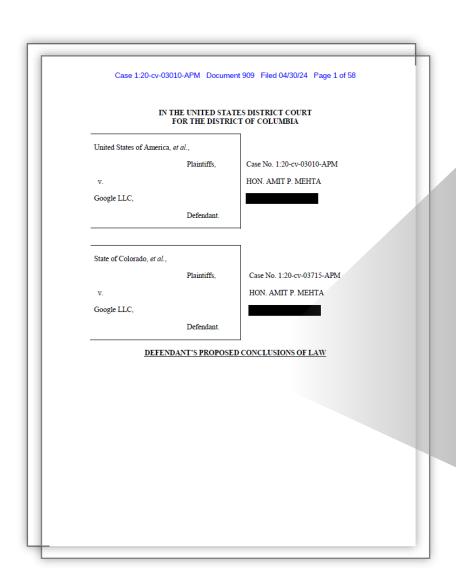
Prof. Michael
Whinston
Plaintiff Expert
Prof. of Economics &
Management, M.I.T.

A. . . . [I]f rivals get stronger, actually that will tend to push revenue shares up. But a second thing is what I just talked about a moment ago, that if competition for these things is not all or nothing, that also can push revenue shares up.

Tr. Testimony



#### **Choice Screens Functional**

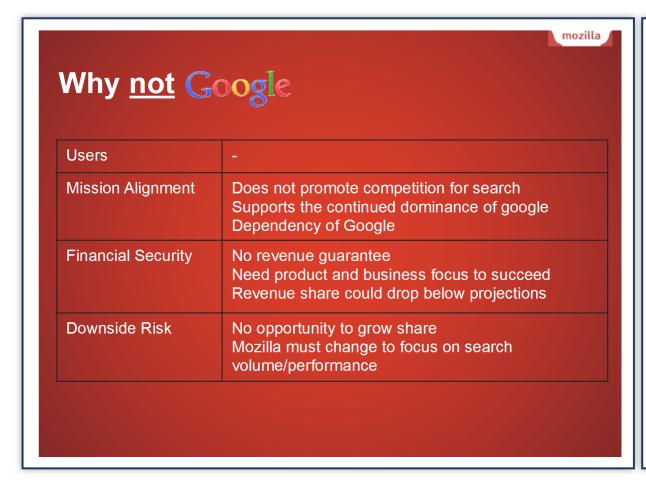


"The browser agreements improve search quality and output by enabling the browser to work effectively out of the box . . . ."

Def. Proposed Conclusions of Law, ECF No. 909, ¶ 86.



#### **Mozilla Benefits From Search Competition**



Why YAHC	00!
Users	Opportunity to innovate features and services that are customized for Firefox users
Mission Alignment	An agent for change
	Independence from Google Opportunity to level the playing field in search
Financial Security	High guarantee 5-year term
	Diversifies sustainability projects Projected growth of market share



Ex. No. UPX0315 1:20-cy-03010-APM

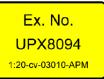
UPX0315 at .005 .006 (modified).



#### ISA Payments > Bing's Revenue

• In 2022, Google's ISA payment of \$20B to Apple was nearly double Bing's total, worldwide revenue

#### Microsoft Form 10-K



41	* **	
(In	mill	ions)

Server products and cloud services	\$ 67,321	\$ 52,589	\$ 41,379
Office products and cloud services	44,862	39,872	35,316
Windows	24,761	22,488	21,510
Gaming	16,230	15,370	11,575
LinkedIn	13,816	10,289	8,077
Search and news advertising	11,591	9,267	8,524
Enterprise Services	7,407	6,943	6,409
Devices	6,991	6,791	6,457
Other	5,291	 4,479	 3,768
Total	\$ 198,270	\$ 168,088	\$ 143,015



# Competition For The Contract Does Not Prevent Competitive Harm



Whinston
Plaintiffs Expert
Prof. of Economics &
Management, M.I.T.

- A dominant firm and distributor can find it worthwhile to enter contracts that harm competition—competition is a public good
  - When bidding for an exclusive contract, a dominant firm can use the **monopoly profits** it protects to make sure it wins
- When there is a dominant firm, competition for exclusives can make competition less intense

"[C]ompetition by a dominant supplier for exclusivity sometimes may result in harm to consumers."

Benjamin Klein & Kevin M. Murphy, *How Exclusivity Is Used to Intensify Competition for Distribution—Reply to Zenger*, 77 Antitrust L.J. 691, 696 (2011)