A big and important topic
Substantive (policy)

Systemic (institutions)

Dimensions / Implications
SUBSTANTITIVE DIMENSIONS
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Connected policies – contemporary view

- Competition protects consumers
- Consumer welfare
- Consumer protection promotes competition
- Economic growth
The new paradigm: making markets work for consumers

“Within the framework of ‘enabling markets to work’, [competition laws] speak to the protection of the availability of consumer choice; consumer laws, on the other hand, speak to the conditions for the effective exercise of consumer choice. Both are crucial to functioning markets.”

Louise Sylvan, former ACCC Commissioner, 2004
Joined-up diagnosis of markets

1. High competition, high consumer protection
   - No intervention

2. Low competition, low consumer protection
   - Intervene to address competition and consumer protection
3. Low competition, high consumer protection
   • Consider any trade-off for consumer protection from improving competition

4. High competition, low consumer protection
   • Consider any trade-off for competition from improving consumer protection
SYSTEMIC DIMENSIONS
“…successful public policy outcomes are the product of good physics AND good engineering…”

Kovacic, 2009
Focus on number of agencies

separate vs combined agencies?

History

Personalities

Politics

Administrative culture
Focus on coordination

1. Separate with no coordination

2. Combined with no or limited coordination

3. Separate with coordination

4. Combined with full integration
Comments and questions welcome

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