Open Source / Open Standards
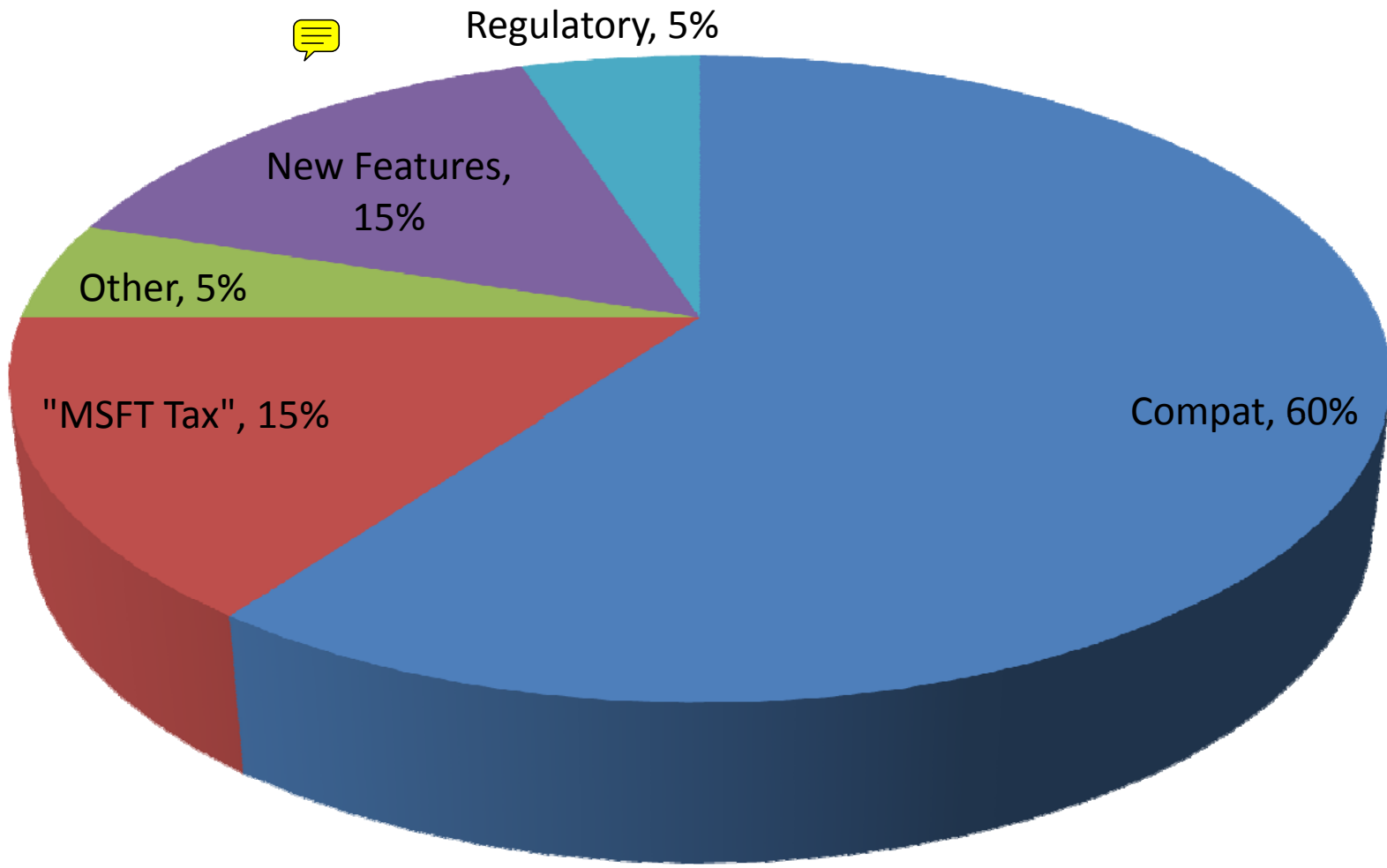
CS/INFO 431 – 631

Stephen Purpura – April 4, 2008
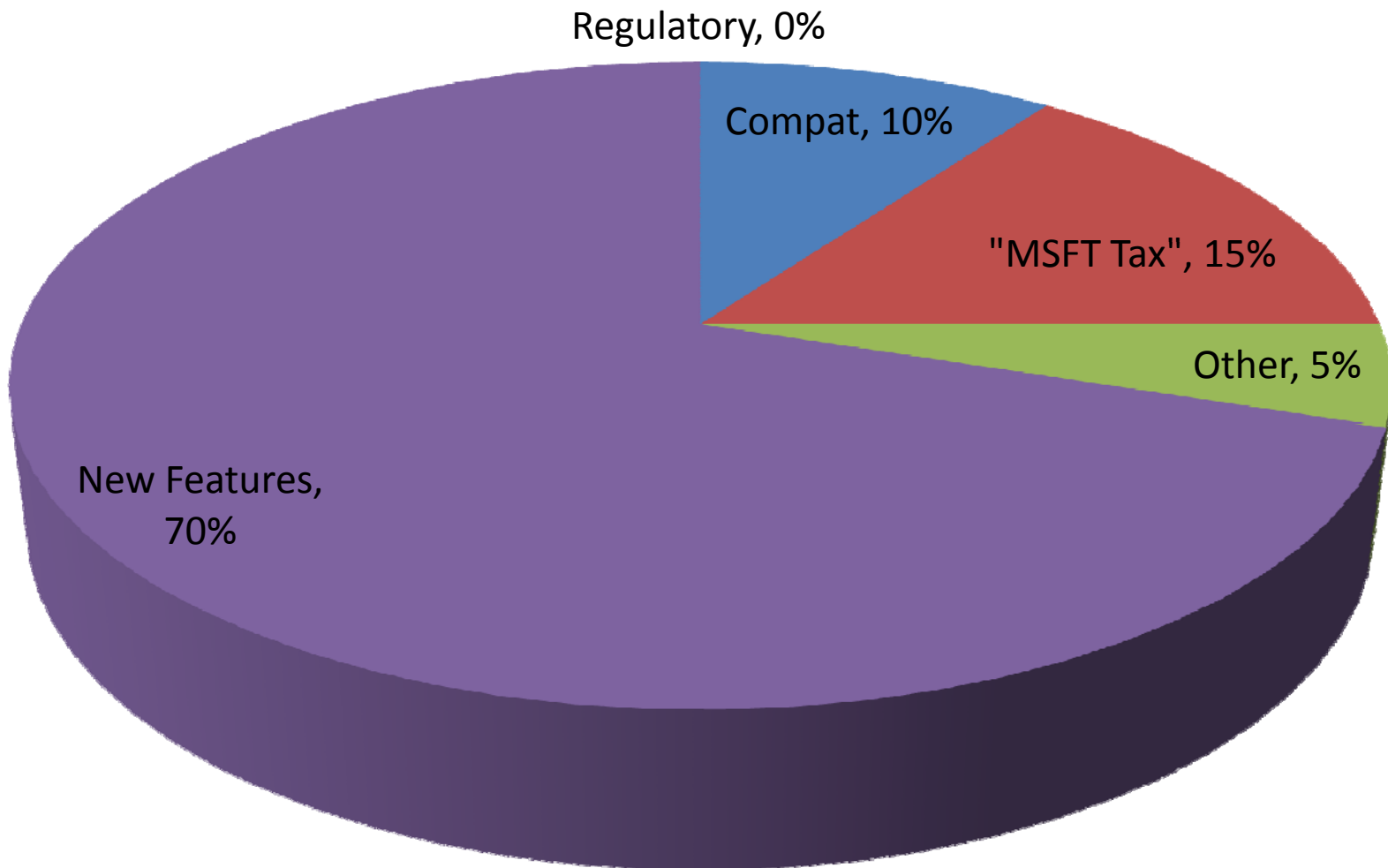
The opinions in these slides are my own and not those
of Cornell or any other entity.

SHOULD IE8 SUPPORT OPEN STANDARDS?

Possible IE8 Division of Work

Possible IE3 Division of Work

How Do Standards Fit?

- Competitors want standards because they want to have an avenue to compete in the market.

- Customers and activists want standards to gain leverage against monopoly control.

- Government is a BIG customer and listening to influence from competitors and customers.

- Microsoft wants the web to work and grow, because they want to capture a larger share of a growing market.

MSFT <u>SHOULD</u> BE CONFLICTED

Managing Conflict

Some program managers will …

- … fight for the customer
- … fight for MSFT
- … fight for inter-op
- … fight for the technology
- … fight for legal
- … fight to SHIP!!!*

*shipping is a feature … at least it was at one point

IE8's Property vs. Attribute Access

1. Separate Property URL from Attribute URL Retrieval

In Internet Explorer 7, due to the merged attribute/property implementation, developers were not able to obtain the absolute URL (or relative URL, depending on the property), as both the attribute value and the property value were linked and returned the same value. Internet Explorer 8 brings consistency on par with other browsers, so that property access always returns the absolute URL, while attribute access always returns the relative URL (or more precisely, the "as-specified" URL).

```html
<head>
<base href="http://example.com/dir/">
</head>
<body>
<a id="oA" href="page.html">Hi</a>
<script id="oScr" src="externalSrc.js"></script>
</body>
```

Mode	Property Access
	var a = document.getElementById('oA');
	alert(a.href);
		Attribute Access
		var a = document.getElementById('oA');
		alert(a.getAttribute('href'));

IE=7	'http://example.com/dir/page.html'	'http://example.com/dir/page.html'
IE=8 (default)	'http://example.com/dir/page.html'	'page.html'

	Property Access
	var b = document.getElementById('oScr');
	alert(b.src);
		Attribute Access
		var b = document.getElementById('oScr');
		alert(b.getAttribute('src'));

IE=7	'externalSrc.js'	'externalSrc.js'
IE=8	'http://example.com/dir/externalSrc.js'	'externalSrc.js'

URLs, URIs, and URNs

- Who knows the difference between them?
- Who can tell me …
  - How has <base> evolved since 1998?
  - The difference between a URI and a URI reference?
  - The difference between a URI and a XML namespace?

HOW IS IBM DIFFERENT?

Business Model Differences: Software versus Services

- IBM earns significant revenue from selling specialized labor rather than the fruits

- Open source requires specialized labor

- But services are typically lower margin than products

WHAT HAPPENS IN THE STANDARDS MEETINGS?

Business isn't always done in the room

- "Meetings are to communicate decisions"

- Each company will build a corporate strategy and the people in the meeting will work towards it. The contradictions give them an opportunity to blame someone not in the room (if they even know/understand what's going on)

- There are a number of freelance people who fight for the technology. Code used to win. Things have slowed down. These people need to align themselves to survive.