

## ***OR Jobs? A successful transition from Academia to Industry***

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### *The Academic Environment*

- ◆ Pursuing a PhD. exposes you to the inner workings of academia
- ◆ Be your own boss
  - Intellectual freedom
  - Flexibility
  - Responsibilities
- ◆ Intellectual Thrills
  - Adrenaline rush comes from solving “my problems”



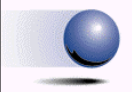
## *The Industrial Environment*

- ◆ Always have a boss (or some higher authority to respond to, I.e. shareholders)
  - Limited intellectual freedom
  - Limited flexibility
  - Limited responsibility
- ◆ Intellectual thrills
  - Adrenaline rush comes from solving “real problems” for “real people”
  - Get things done!

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## *Why go to industry?*

- ◆ Do you enjoy solving other people's problems?
- ◆ Do you like “short-term” projects?
- ◆ Do you like other people to guide you?
- ◆ Do you like to apply what you learned to the real world?
- ◆ Do you mind taking shortcuts?
- ◆ Do you like to increase your earning potential?

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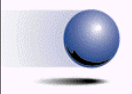
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## *If you answered YES!*

- ◆ Exciting opportunities in industry for OR practitioners
- ◆ Demand for quantitative answers is rapidly increasing
- ◆ Job market is great
- ◆ New industries are requiring more and more experts in OR (maybe they do not know it is called OR)



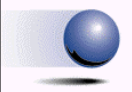
## *Three steps to success:*

- ◆ Get a job!
- ◆ Do well in your job!
- ◆ Retire young and rich!



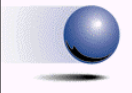
## *Step 1: Get a job!*

- ◆ Get the right skills!
  - Modeling, modeling, modeling
  - Algorithm design
  - Implementation (yes, includes programming)
- ◆ Work on exciting problems!
  - Real-world implementation
  - Up-to-date topic
- ◆ Leave a mark, do a good thesis!



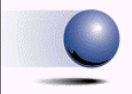
## *Step 2: Do well in your job!*

- ◆ Think before you act (but not too much)
- ◆ Analyze the problem in depth (but not too much)
- ◆ Don't forget what the goal is!
- ◆ Learn, always be ready to learn
- ◆ Business is business!



## *Step 3: Retire young and rich*

- ◆ Be entrepreneurial, even if you have a boss
- ◆ Join exciting start-ups
- ◆ Start your own venture
- ◆ Build up a reputation for yourself and your company
- ◆ Get options! IPO!



## *Optimization is in your future*

- ◆ The optimization market is booming with opportunity
- ◆ The business world is embracing quantitative decision making
  - SCM
  - Internet
  - Energy
  - Finance
  - Advertising



*Join now...*

- ◆ This is an exciting time to join the upcoming stars of the market
- ◆ OR and Optimization are appreciated in the business place
- ◆ People with your skills are getting great jobs
- ◆ The window of opportunity is now...