

Academic year 2023 – 2024

Research, Innovation and Global Trends

---

# What is innovation?

## concepts, frameworks, implications

(Week 1, Feb 19, 2024)

---

Sandro Mendonça



**Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão**

UNIVERSIDADE TÉCNICA DE LISBOA

Masters in Innovation and Research for Sustainability

# What do we (really) know about innovation?

A complex phenomenon with recurrent features

1. Dealing with the innovation phenomenon
2. Waves of thought regarding innovation
3. What is innovation? (really!)
4. The “linear model” (Bush, 1945)
5. The “chain-linked model” (Kline & Rosenberg, 1986)
6. The “multi-channel” model (Caraça et al., 2009)

Critical insight:

*Understand the role of innovation in the context of economic and institutional relations as defined in conceptual models on the production of economically useful knowledge.*

---

■ 1.

studying  
innovation...

---

# Looking into innovation

Situate the place of innovation in the context of economic and institutional relations as defined in conceptual models on the production of economically useful knowledge.

Arguments partially based on long-standing work:

Caraça, J., B.-Å. Lundvall, S. Mendonça (2009), 'The changing role of science in the innovation process: From Queen to Cinderella?', *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, Vol. 76, No. 6, pp. 861-7.

Castellacci, F., S. Grodal, S. Mendonca, M. Wibe (2005), "Advances and challenges in innovation studies", *Journal of economic issues*, Vol. 39, No. 1, pp. 91-121

---

# 1. The innovation process

Understanding innovation by using conceptual frameworks

**Linear model**

**Not-so-linear model**

**Even-less-linear model**

---

---

# 1. The innovation process

Frames of reference

**Linear model (1st generation)**

**Not-so-linear model (2nd generation)**

**Even-less-linear model (3rd generation)**

---

---

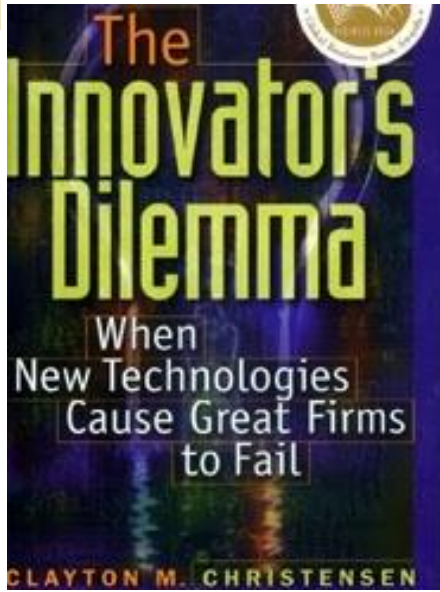
# 1. But this “new era” is different

## Innovation is not what it used to be

- The process of change is changing  
*innovations the mode of producing innovation*
- Fusion of resources and results  
*product life cycles are getting shorter and overlapping*
- Interconnectivity and complexity  
*systemic interdependencies and network complementarities*
- An economy that is learning-intensive  
*from stock to flow of knowledge*
- Access to data and distributed creativity  
*plural innovation is multi-actor and multi-dimensional*
- Intellectual property and openness  
*coexistence of appropriability through exclusion and inclusion*

---

How can a conceptual framework deal with all this?!



# Disrupting Class

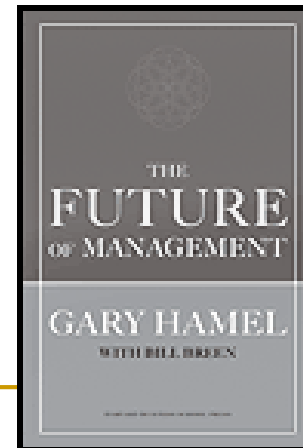
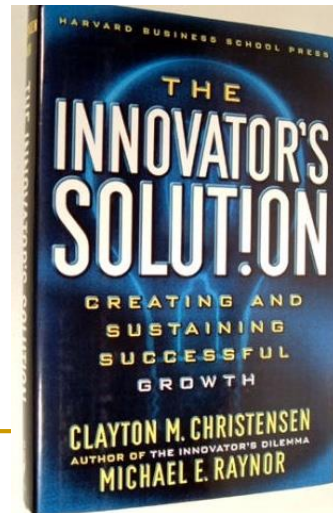
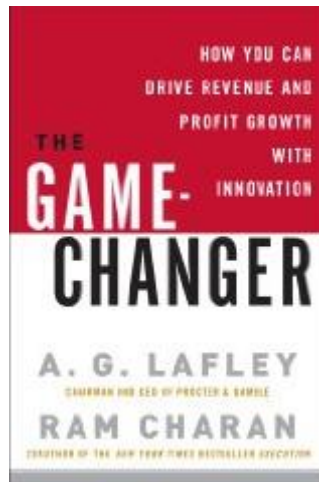
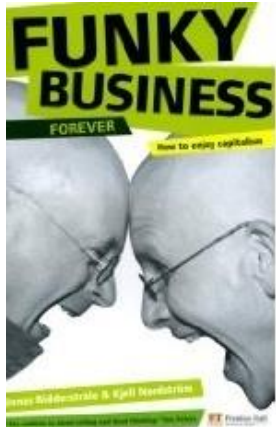
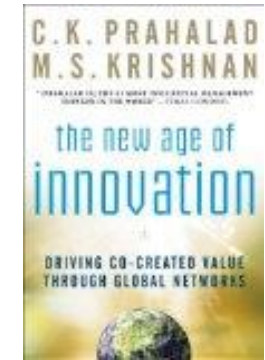
How Disruptive Innovation Will Change the Way the World Learns



Clayton M. Christensen  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE INNOVATOR'S DILEMMA  
Michael B. Horn & Curtis W. Johnson

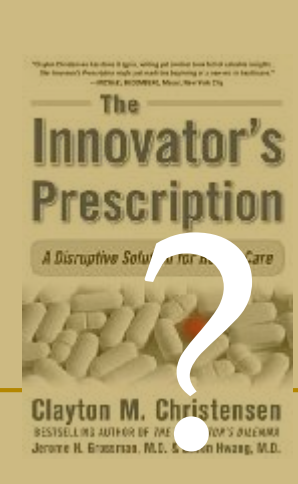
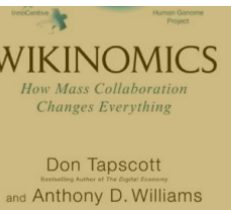
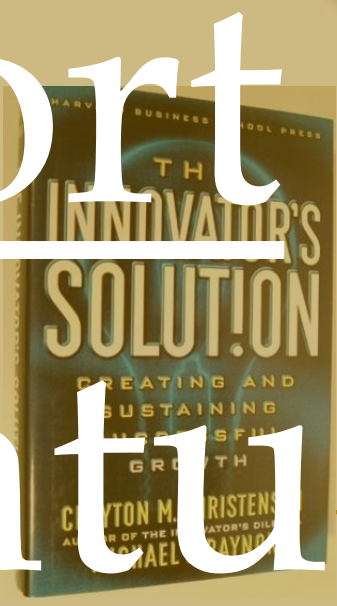
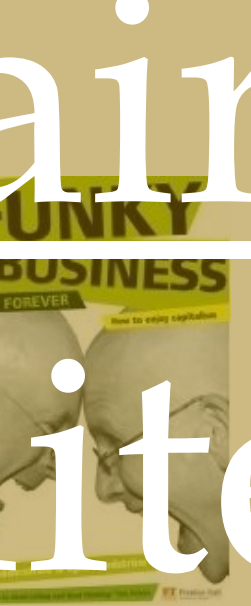
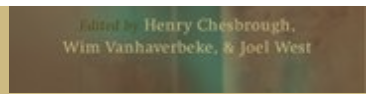
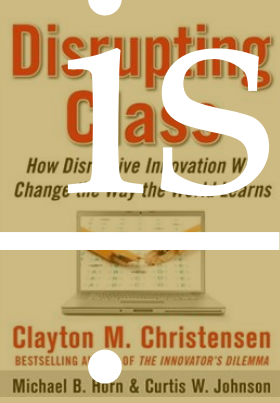
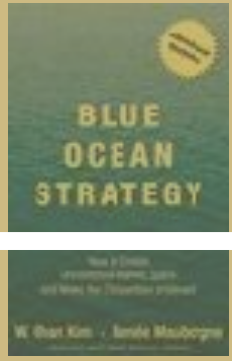


Don Tapscott  
Anthony D. Williams





# What is behind this airport literature?



---

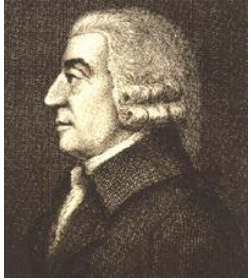
■ 2.

let us check the  
analytical  
backstage...

---

---

## 2. Waves of (western) thought



Adam Smith

*Wealth of Nations*

1776

1700s



1940s

---

---

## ADAM SMITH

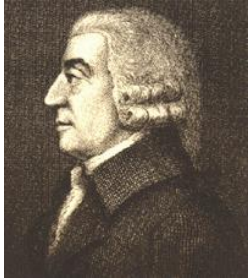
**Division of labour** is the chief cause of the rise of the productive capacity of nations. This is because:

- (i) time savings in the handover between tasks and activities;
- (ii) the possibility to insert tools and machinery to do the work;
- (iii) increased dexterity from practice allowing to do the work better.

That is, a firm will learn even without having an explicit strategy for it: there is the **potential for productivity gains as time goes by**.

But improvements can also come from the “ingenuity of the makers of the machines” and “philosophers or men of speculation” (a new specialisation)

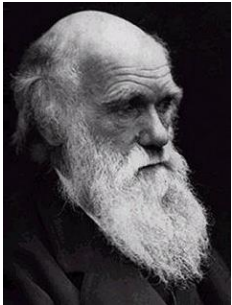
## 2. Waves of (western) thought



Adam Smith

*Wealth of Nations*

1776



Charles  
Darwin

*The Origin  
of Species*

1859

1700s



1940s

---

## CHARLES DARWIN

The evolution of species is the outcome of **cumulative drift** that stems from three mechanisms:

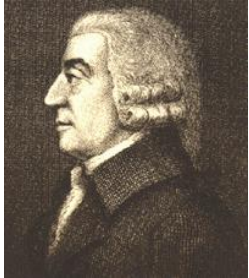
- (i) variation,
- (ii) selection,
- (iii) retention.

The success of “**mutations**” is contingent, depends on space-time context. It is always relative, it depends on “*adaptation*” to the conditions of the environment condições (geographical place, historical time).

---

Take note: evolution is not the survival of the *strongest* (and success of the strongest) but of the *fittest* (the most adjusted to the ecosystem) ... it is the “struggle for existence”

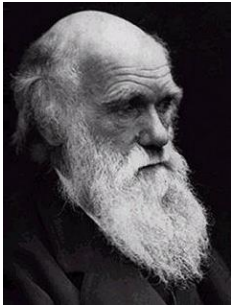
## 2. Waves of (western) thought



Adam Smith

*Wealth of Nations*

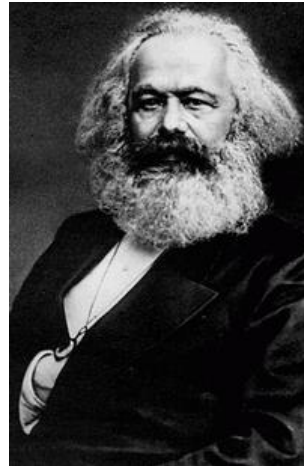
1776



Charles Darwin

*The Origin of Species*

1859



Marx (e Engels)

*Das Kapital*

1887

1700s



1940s

---

## KARL MARX

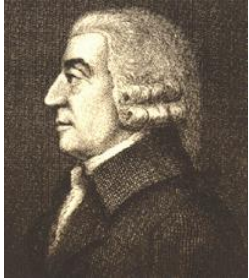
The essence of capitalism is a tendency towards technological transformation leading to more efficient production methods and the replacement of the labour factor with capital and machinery. Oh, and yes:

«The bourgeoisie cannot exist without constantly **revolutionising** the **instruments of production**, and thereby the **relations of production**, and with them the whole relations of society. (...) Constant revolutionising of production, **uninterrupted disturbance** of all social conditions, everlasting uncertainty and agitation distinguish the bourgeois epoch from all earlier ones.»

in Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels (1948), *The Manifesto of the Communist Party*



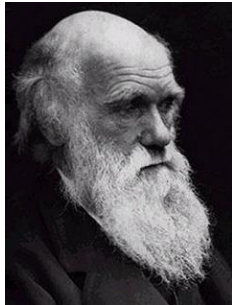
## 2. Waves of (western) thought



Adam Smith

*Wealth of Nations*

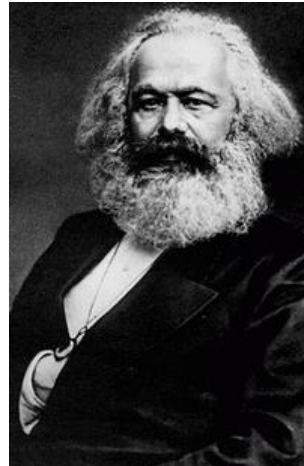
1776



Charles Darwin

*The Origin of Species*

1859

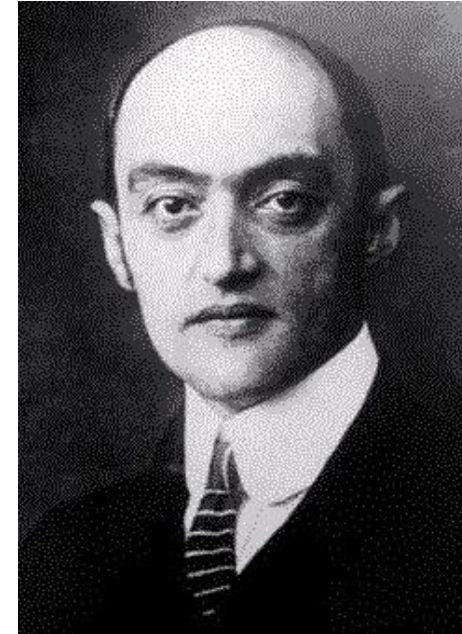
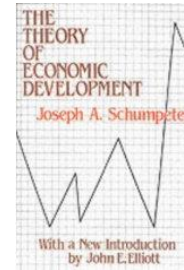


Marx (e Engels)

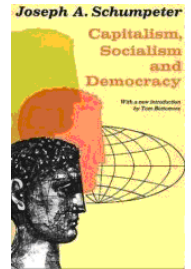
*Das Kapital*

1887

1934



Joseph Schumpeter



1943

1700s

1940s

---

## JOSEPH SCHUMPETER

« The essential point to grasp is that in dealing with capitalism we are dealing with an evolutionary process.»

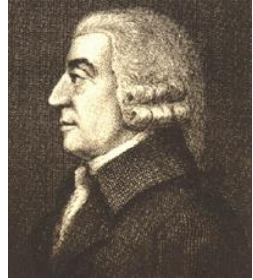
«...in capitalist reality as distinguished from its textbook picture, it is not that kind of competition which counts but the competition from the **new commodity, the new technology, the new source of supply, the new type of organization which commands a decisive cost or quality advantage** and which strikes not at the margins of the profits and the outputs of the existing firms but at their foundations and their very lives.”

J.A. Schumpeter (1942), *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy*

---

Ver esta ilustração: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YNhO5wHib98>

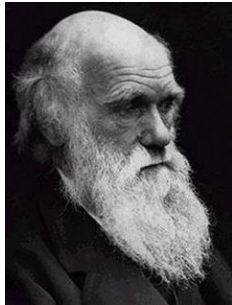
## 2. Waves of (western) thought



Adam Smith

*Wealth of Nations*

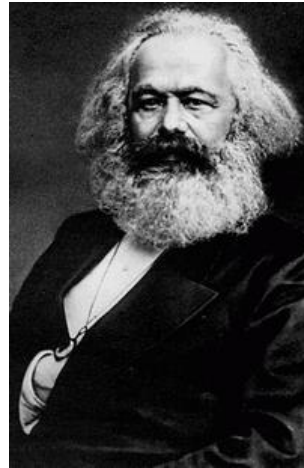
1776



Charles Darwin

*The Origin of Species*

1859

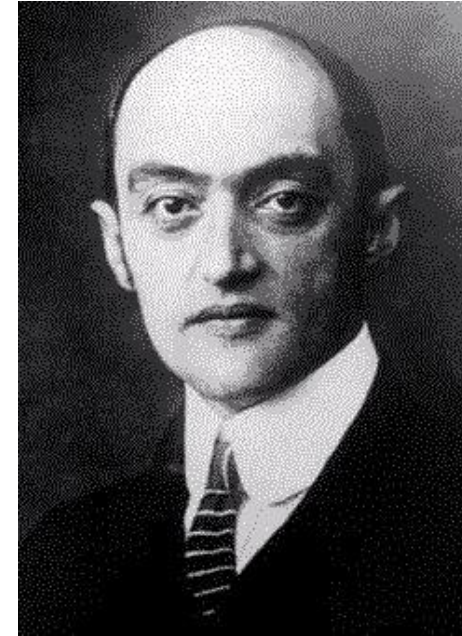
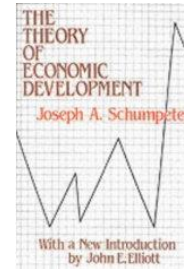


Marx (e Engels)

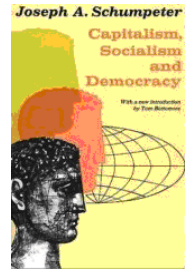
*Das Kapital*

1887

1934



Joseph Schumpeter



1943

1700s



J.D. Bernal

*The Social Function of Science*, 1939

Vannevar Bush

*Science: The Endless Frontier* 1945

1940s



Emergence of science & technology policy

## Research and Innovation for the society and the economy



<http://bit.ly/1z2qfK8>



<http://bit.ly/1z2qfK8>

---

■ 3.

innovation...

what she is not

---



---

Now, ... how to apply theory to reality?



# 3. Schumpeter on innovation

## Endogenising change:

**Innovations “are not evenly distributed in time, but that on the contrary they tend to cluster, to come about in bunches, simply because first some, and then most firms follow in the wake of successful innovation.”**

Source: Schumpeter (1939, p. 75).

**“stationary capitalism is a contradiction in terms.”**

Source: Schumpeter (1951, p. 174)



(1883-1950)

---

# 3. Defining innovation

New Combinations

What?





# 3. Defining innovation

New Combinations

What?

Who?



### 3. Defining innovation

New Combinations

What?

Who?

Novelty?



# 3. Defining innovation

New Combinations

What?

Who?

Novelty?

Impact?



### 3. Defining innovation

New Combinations

What?

Who?

Novelty?

Impact?

Level?



### 3. Defining innovation



New Combinations

What?

Who?

Novelty?

Impact?

Level?

Type?

# 3. Defining innovation

New Combinations

What? (invention, innovation, diffusion)

Who? (first mover vs fast second)

Novelty? (variable viewpoints)

Impact? (radical vs incremental)

Level? (architectural or modular)

Type? (product, process, organizational, marketing)



Schumpeter

## Note: the evolution of a good



### Evolution

This refers to a gradual and linear process where a new category replaces (usually completely) the old one. The telephone is a good example of this.

The telephone was invented in 1876. It changed the world.

The first transcontinental call from New York to San Francisco was made in 1915. By the 1920s, rotary phones were in homes across the world. This continued into 1970s, when keypads replaced the rotary version.

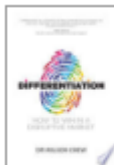
In 1973, Motorola made a breakthrough with the revolutionary DynaTAC mobile phone.

Mobile phones became sleeker through the 1990s, with Nokia leading the charge. In 1992, the first text “sms” created a new form of communication.

In 2000, Japan released the first camera phone. This led to the convergence of the Internet and the mobile phone, and how information is transferred.

Blackberry and Palm led the competition to incorporate emails into mobiles.

In 2007, Apple introduced the iPhone and, within a year, Google unveiled Android. Since then, smartphones have evolved into mobile devices that are as fast as computers were just a generation ago.



Differentiation:

How to Win in a

Disruptive Market



## Note: the evolution of a service

# Tui chief says differentiation is key to survival in tough tourism sector

### Personalised bookings and a push into experiences market help operator to beat rivals

ALICE HANCOCK — DÜSSELDORF

There are few more nerve-racking moments on holiday than the walk between the hotel reception and your room after you check in.

“Usually the blood pressure goes up and then you see the room and you either say ‘wow’ or you say ‘God, let’s change it,’” said Friedrich Jousen, chief executive of the Anglo-German package tour operator Tui.

Tui’s guests should no longer have to suffer this uncertainty, he said. For an extra €10-€15 per night, they can choose rooms with morning or evening sun, be close to the restaurant, or even specify a particular number.

Despite demand for package holidays remaining stable, traditional operators have had to adapt to compete with online booking services providing holidaygoers with hundreds of options.

The pressures on the industry were laid bare by the collapse in September of

Thomas Cook, Tui’s longtime rival, after it failed to put together a restructuring package with its debtholders.

“For the remaining players, I think the short term is very clear. It’s positive. We have less competition,” said Mr Jousen. “But long term, that’s a question we need to ask ourselves: what happened and why it happened? And why we don’t want it to happen to us?”

Since September, Tui has tried to take advantage of the weaker competition, announcing it will increase its airline capacity by 2m seats next summer and adding 135 former Thomas Cook hotels to its books.

Last month, it made a bid for the Thomas Cook brand but was beaten by Fosun, the Chinese conglomerate that was the failed group’s majority shareholder.

Mr Jousen put Thomas Cook’s failure down to “too little differentiation”.

“When you have no differentiation, you are head to head competing with the internet. People are fine with packages because it’s comfort. People are not fine with being treated like anybody else.”

The capability to offer personalised booking “is something which will change our whole company”, Mr Jousen

claimed. Around 30 per cent of Tui customers were opting to pay extra to book a specific room – with options also including proximity to restaurants for parents using baby monitors.

Mr Jousen started his career as a software engineer before joining Vodafone Germany to lead one of its first internet marketing campaigns in 1996.

Since he took over at Tui in 2013, the Hanover-based but UK-listed group, which was formed following the merger

of Tui AG and First Choice in 2007, has steadily diversified away from the traditional tour operator model of buying up capacity in hotels in the winter to flog to customers in the summer. It has invested in its own hotels and online offering.

The company has not been immune to the pressures faced by the travel sector and has issued two profit warnings this year: one due to weakness of the pound and shifts in consumer demand,

the other to the grounding of the Boeing 737 Max jet, which it has said will cost €300m this year.

For the year to September 2018 Tui increased revenue by 5 per cent to €19.5bn and underlying earnings by 4 per cent to €1.15bn.

But this year earnings are expected to fall by about a quarter to around €870m-€880m depending on currency fluctuations, as weaker demand continues.

In October, analysts at Morgan Stanley downgraded Tui’s shares saying that the benefit from Thomas Cook’s collapse would not be “immediately obvious” as it depended on competitors’ reaction and consumer confidence in package holidays.

They added that the 737 Max groundings and Brexit would continue to weigh on earnings in 2020.

Tui’s next move is to push into the €150bn-a-year activities and experiences market, following its acquisition of the online activity booking platform Musement in 2018 for €35.5m.

Tui has doubled the number of Musement’s employees to 260 and plans to expand the number of bolt-on holiday activities, such as hot

air ballooning in the Moroccan desert.

But it is not the only travel company eyeing up this market. Airbnb launched its experiences platform in 2016, while Booking.com and TripAdvisor, both bought activity aggregation businesses in 2018.

Richard Clarke, an analyst at Bernstein, said Tui’s control over its hotels, activities and airline made it more immune than most to the encroachment of tech companies.

“What we’ve seen for the last 10 years is that package holidays as a segment has retained share. Within that it’s difficult, because of the control Tui has over its content, for Expedia and Booking to muscle in.”

Greater risks to the business come from macro concerns such as the environment and Brexit although Mr Jousen said he was not convinced by “*flygskam*” – or “flight-shaming” – a movement that started in Sweden, which is encouraging people across Europe to stop taking as many flights.

“It turns out that in the winter Sweden is very dark. And in the winter season, a lot of Swedes don’t want to sit in the dark. To Spain [on] a train is a long journey,” Mr Jousen said.



Tui customers can choose rooms with morning or evening sun

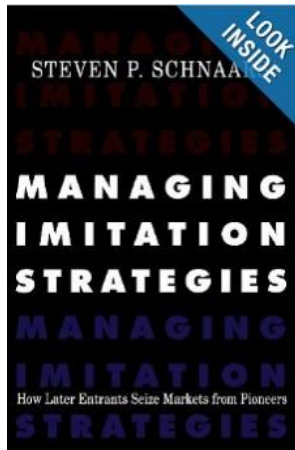


Note: diffusion is not simply the spread of the same



Source: FT, 25 July, 2015, p. 1

Note: imitation is more common than innovation, but is not easy!

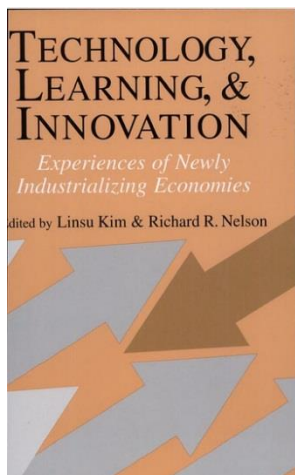


<http://bit.ly/1hq4FT6>

## Imitation is not all alike !

### Duplicative imitation

- illegal copy (contrafaction and piracy)
- legal reproduction (licences or pastiches)



<http://amzn.to/1cgNwIl>

### Creative adaptation

- Creative adaptation (same template but different style)
- Different quality (better than the original)
- Market translation (extrapolating to another arena)

---

Note: old innovation are persistent and do not disappear immediately



“When reactors at the Fukushima nuclear plant went into meltdown in 2011, operators tried to send a fax to alert authorities in the nearby town of Namie.”

---

Source: *Financial Times*, 19 Aug 2014, p. 8

---

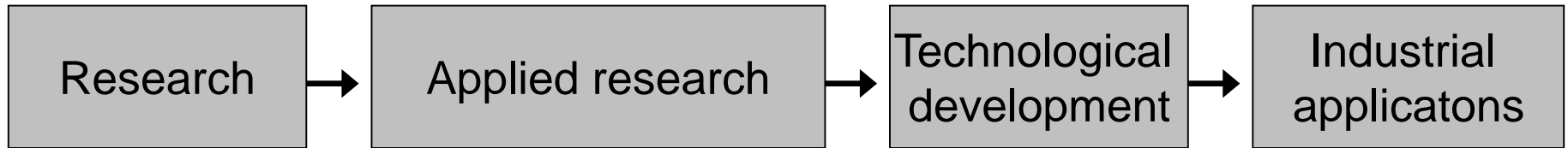
- 4.

the linear  
model...

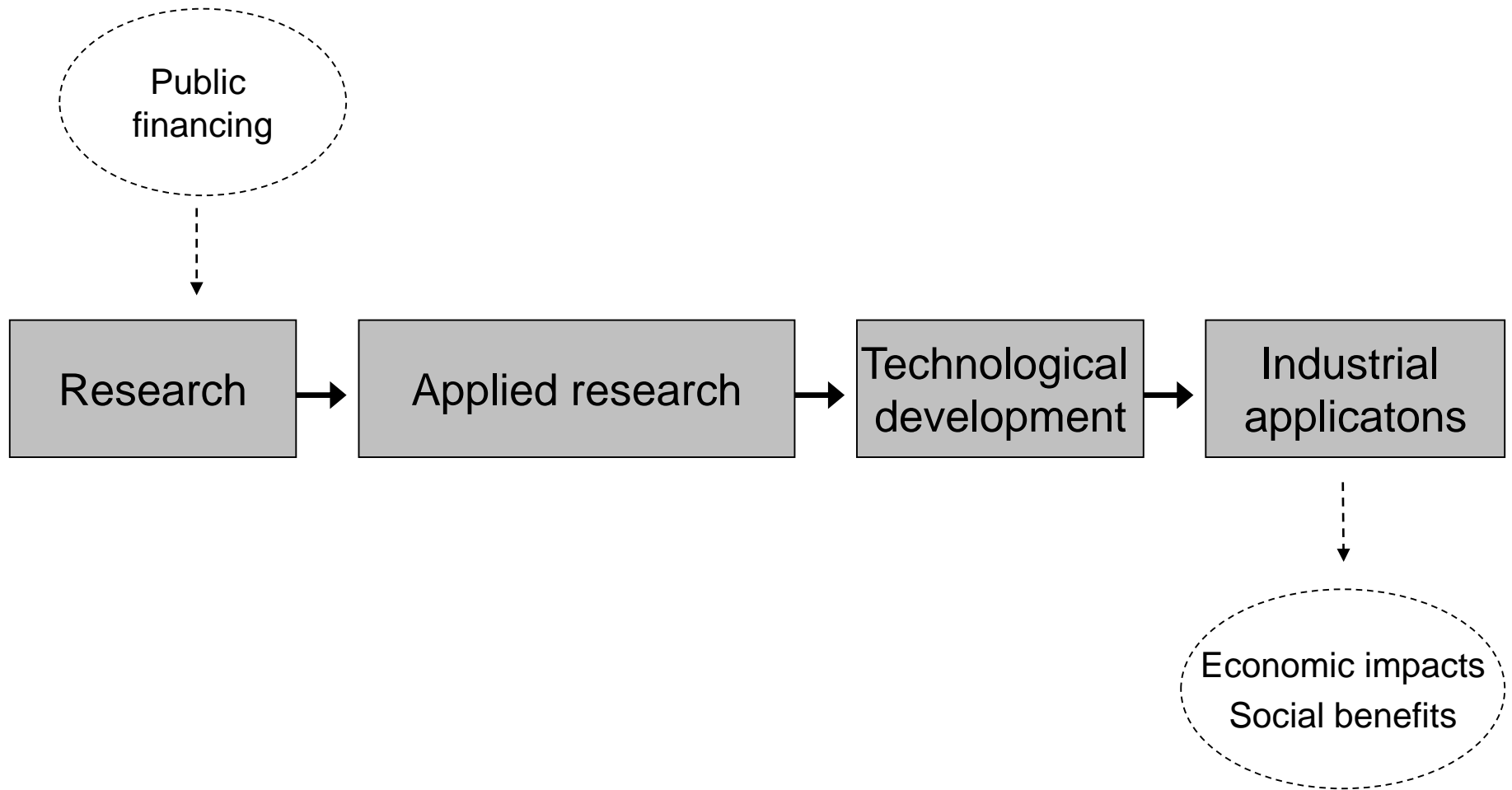
---

---

## 4. The linear model



# 4. The linear model



---

## LINEAR MODEL

- *The key insight is:* Science is the seed, the fruits are new and better products
  - Chicago World's Fair de 1933 : “**Science Finds, Industry Applies**”
  - Intellectual constructs are supposed to drive socio-economic progress
  - Separation is clear between “theory” and “practice”
  - Planning dominates the process, the rest is a sequence of events
  - The “market failure” reasoning is embeded into the model
-



*Vannevar Bush*

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

VANNEVAR BUSH  
1890—1974

A Biographical Memoir by  
JEROME B. WISSNER

Any opinions expressed in this memoir are those of the author(s)  
and do not necessarily reflect the views of the  
National Academy of Sciences.

Biographical Memoirs  
Copyright 1979  
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Book is here:

<http://bit.ly/1s7UYz6>

and also here...

<http://1.usa.gov/1p4sdA9>

a report titled “Science—The Endless Frontier,” which provided a blueprint for far-reaching federal policies. “One of our hopes is that after the war there will be full employment,” Bush said in the report. “To create more jobs we must make new and better and cheaper products. We want plenty of new, vigorous enterprises. But new products and processes are not born full-grown. They are founded on new principles and new conceptions which in turn result from basic scientific research. Basic scientific research is scientific capital.”<sup>1</sup>

Use of the term “basic research” was not a casual choice. Bush explained later: “There were some on Capitol Hill who felt that the real need of the postwar effort would be the support of inventors and gadgeteers, and to whom science meant just that. When talking matters over with some of these, it was well to avoid the word fundamental and use basic instead.”<sup>†</sup> To provide an organization for the support of basic research, Bush proposed the creation of a National Research Foundation, which would administer fellowships and scholarships and would “place its research contracts or grants not only with those institutions which have a demonstrated research capacity but also with other institutions whose latent talent or creative atmosphere affords promise of research success.”



# Dr. Bush Writes a Report: “Science—The Endless Frontier”

In reply to F.D.R.’s request, Bush recommended a postwar National Research Foundation.

J. M. England

The author is special assistant to the director and historian of the National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C. 20550.

In a letter written on Pearl Harbor Day 1944, Palmer Putnam, who as a wartime scientist had turned his talents as engineer and yachtsman to developing amphibious vehicles, asked his friend Carroll Wilson a series of questions (1): “Please tell me what I may know about the background of the President’s letter to Bush. Did Bush write it? Did Bush ask for it? . . . Is it welcome to Bush? Will he carry out the requested studies? Are they under way? By whom?”

Wilson sent a prompt reply: “As to the President’s letter to Bush, Bush did not write it nor did he ask for it, but he had the opportunity to see it before it was sent and made some suggestions which were incorporated. . . . Bush welcomes the letter and is now organizing studies to enable him to reply on the four numbered items.” Wilson expected all four studies to be completed within two months (2).

The letter they referred to was one from President Roosevelt to Vannevar Bush, director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development (OSRD). After expressing his belief that OSRD’s wartime

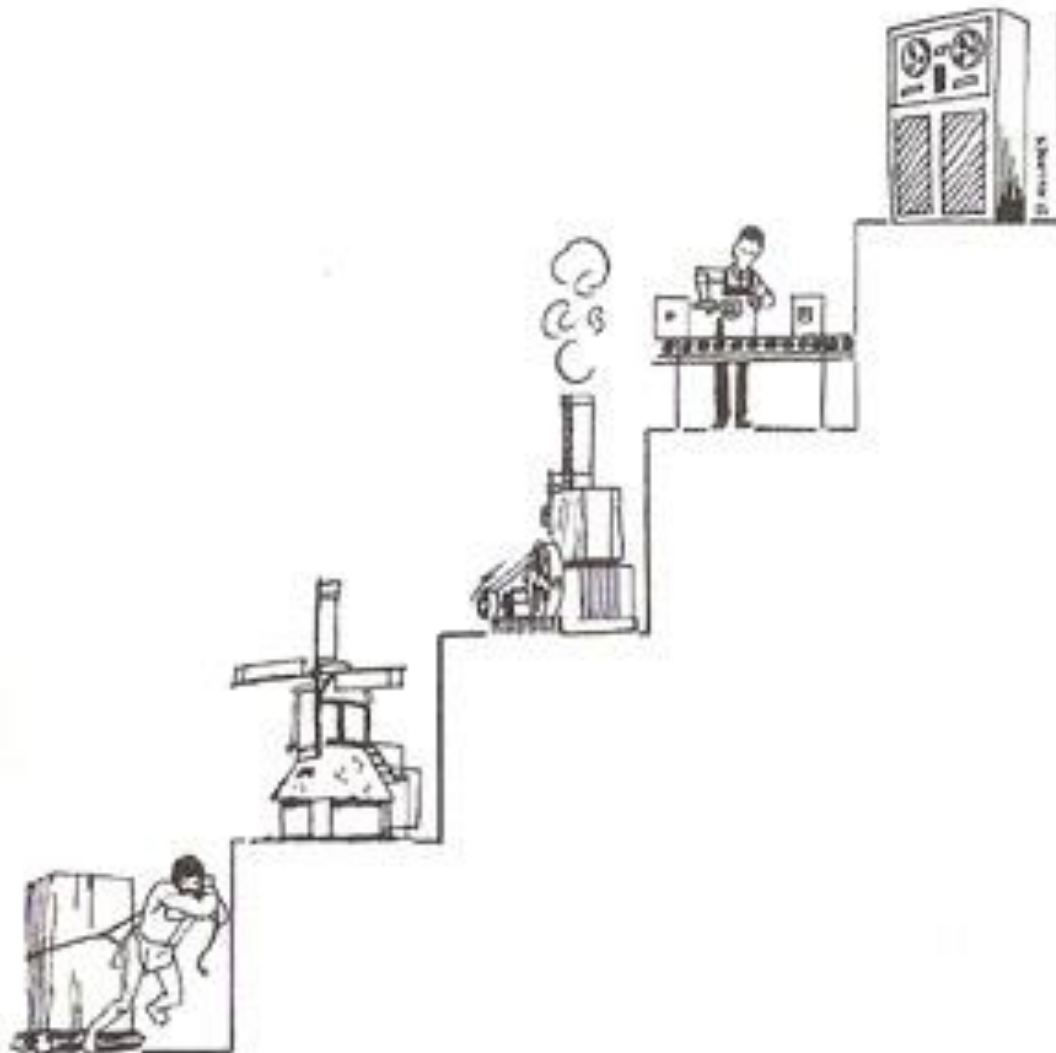
experience might “be used in the days of peace ahead for the improvement of the national health, the creation of new enterprises bringing new jobs, and the betterment of the national standard of living.”

President Roosevelt asked for Bush’s recommendations on four questions (3): (i) How can scientific knowledge developed during the war be released to the world quickly? (ii) How can a program of medical research be organized to continue the attack on disease? (iii) How can the government assist research by public and private organizations? (iv) Can a program be suggested to develop the scientific talent of American youth to ensure high-quality research in the future? As Wilson, who was Bush’s executive assistant, indicated in his reply to Putnam, Bush quickly organized groups to help make recommendations on these four matters.

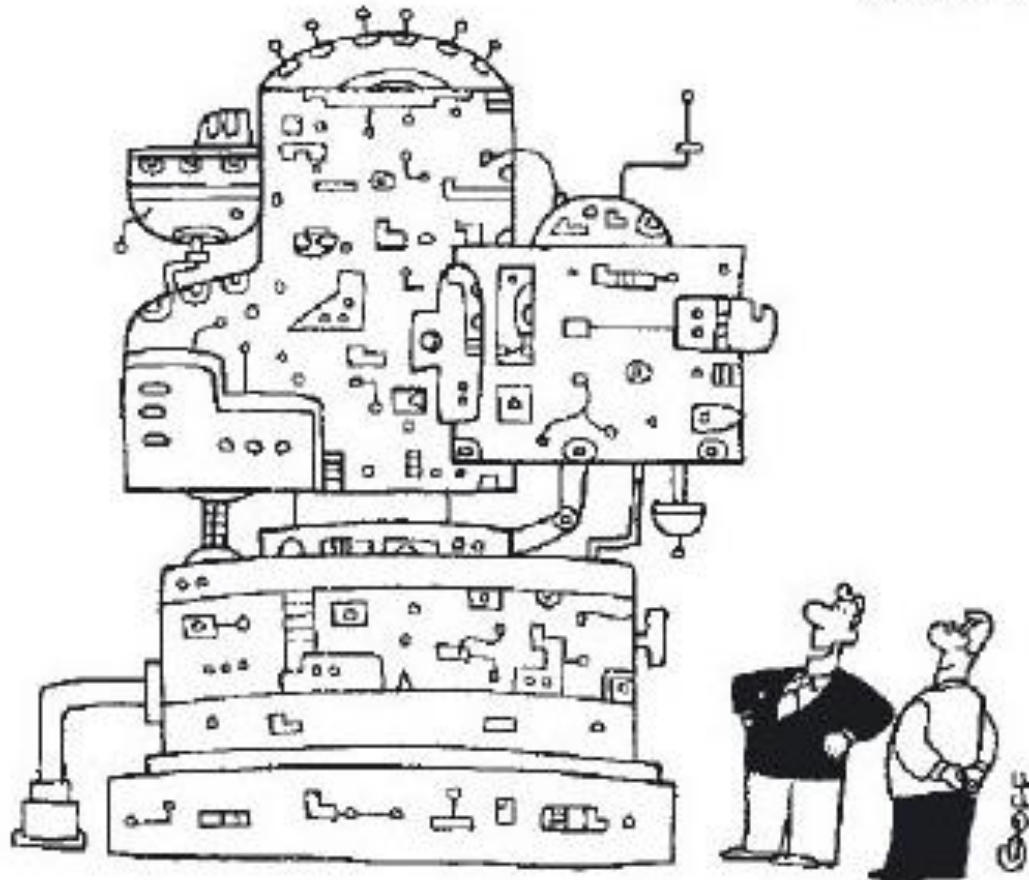
Wilson’s letter contradicts the general assumption that Bush himself originated the President’s request. Worries about a possible return of the bread lines of the Great Depression probably had more to do with the letter’s genesis than did concern

for postwar support of science. The idea for the letter very likely came from Oscar Cox, general counsel of the Foreign Economic Administration, rather than from inside OSRD. Cox, who had worked closely with Bush in establishing the National Defense Research Committee (NDRC) and OSRD, reached an agreement with Harry Hopkins several weeks before the November election that the President should call on Bush for a report. Cox’s rough draft of the proposed letter, dated 18 October, shows a concern simply “to utilize our war-time discoveries, research and development to create fuller peace-time employment.” Bush was to “prepare and submit . . . a list of those discoveries which to your knowledge and judgment are likely to have ready peace-time application.” This “inventory of ideas” would “stimulate thinking by enterprising business” and suggest the creation of new industries (4, 5).

Yet if Bush did not originate the President’s letter, he characteristically seized the opportunity to see that it asked the “right questions” (6). The full-employment emphasis of Cox’s draft was soon substantially broadened. .



TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS IS SAID TO RESEMBLE A FLIGHT OF STAIRS.



**"Magnificent invention! Now, let's  
get the people in Marketing to  
figure out what it can do!"**

---

■ 5.

going beyond this  
model...

---

# 5. Research *on* innovation

Nelson (1959),  
“The simple  
economics of basic  
scientific research”



Nelson (ed.)  
(1962) *The Rate  
and Direction of  
Inventive Activity*

Rosenberg  
(1963),  
“Technological  
change in the  
machine-tool  
industry”



Landes  
(1969) *The  
Unbound  
Prometheus*



SPRU's  
SAPPHO  
Project,  
1970s

1950

1970s



# 5. Research *on* innovation

Nelson (1959),  
“The simple  
economics of  
basic scientific  
research”



Rosenberg  
(1963),  
“Technological  
change in the  
machine-tool  
industry”

Schmookler  
(1966)  
*Invention  
and  
Economic  
Growth*



Landes  
(1969) *The  
Unbound  
Prometheus*



SPRU's  
SAPPHO  
Project,  
1970s



Nelson (ed.)  
(1962) *The Rate  
and Direction of  
Inventive Activity*

De la Solla  
Price (1963),  
*Little  
Science,  
Big Science*

Mansfield (1963)  
“Size of firm,  
market structure  
and innovation”)

Jewkes et al  
(1969), *The  
Sources of  
Invention*



1950s

1970s

National  
Science  
Foundation  
1950

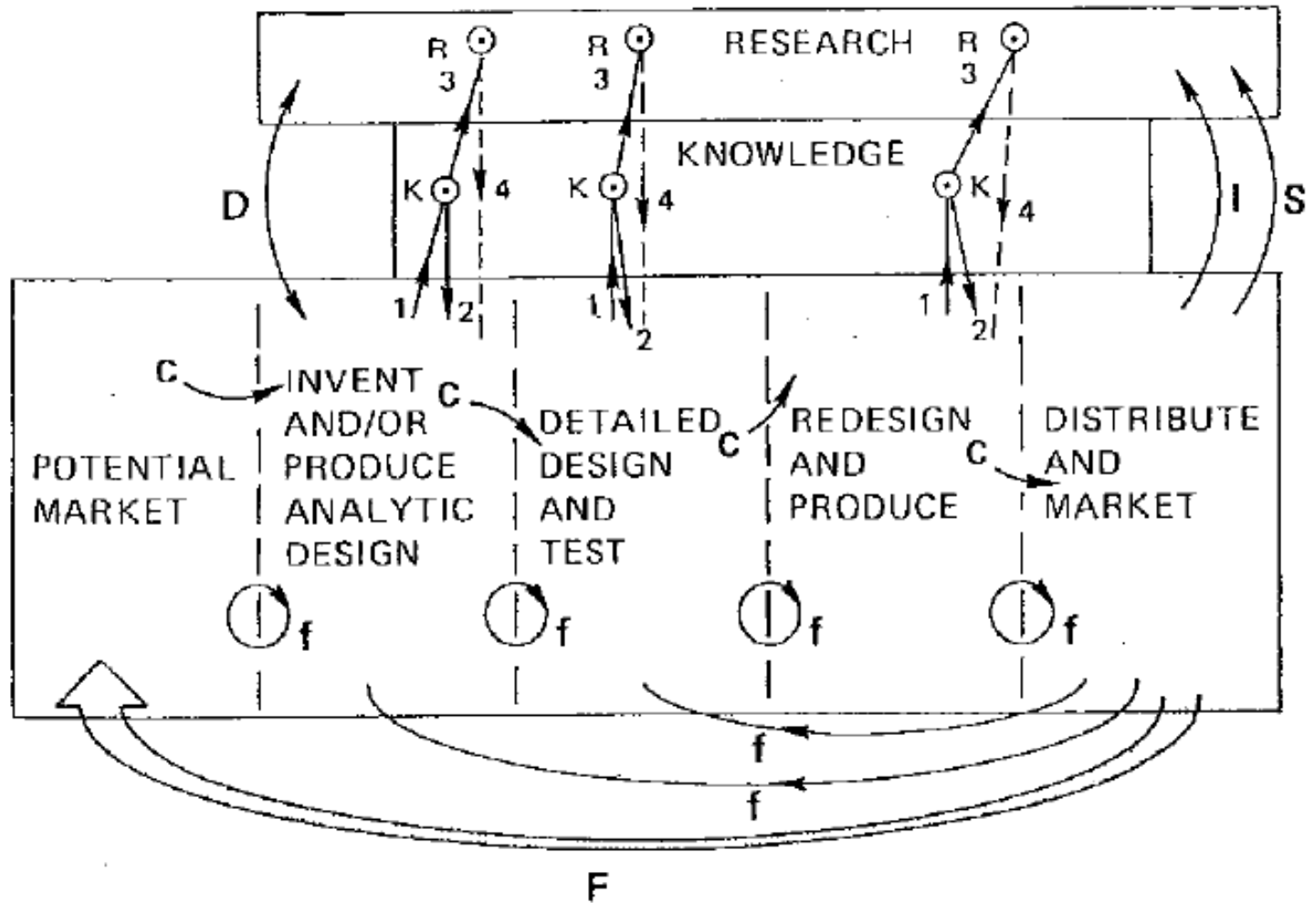
RAND Corporation  
group on Economics  
of R&D

(D)ARPA  
1958

OECD's  
Frascati  
Manual 1963

SPRU  
1964

# 5. Chain-linked model



Kline and Rosenberg (1986), "An overview of innovation"

---

## CHAIN-LINKED MODEL



- *The key insight is:* All starts in the market, but what matters is iteration
  - Technological innovation has not value in itself, only in the market place
  - The innovation process combines technological and non-technological elements
  - Innovative products go through plenty of non-trivial mutations in their lifecycle
  - The process of creating innovations leads to the creation of new science
  - Innovation is price to pay to keep alive in the market
-



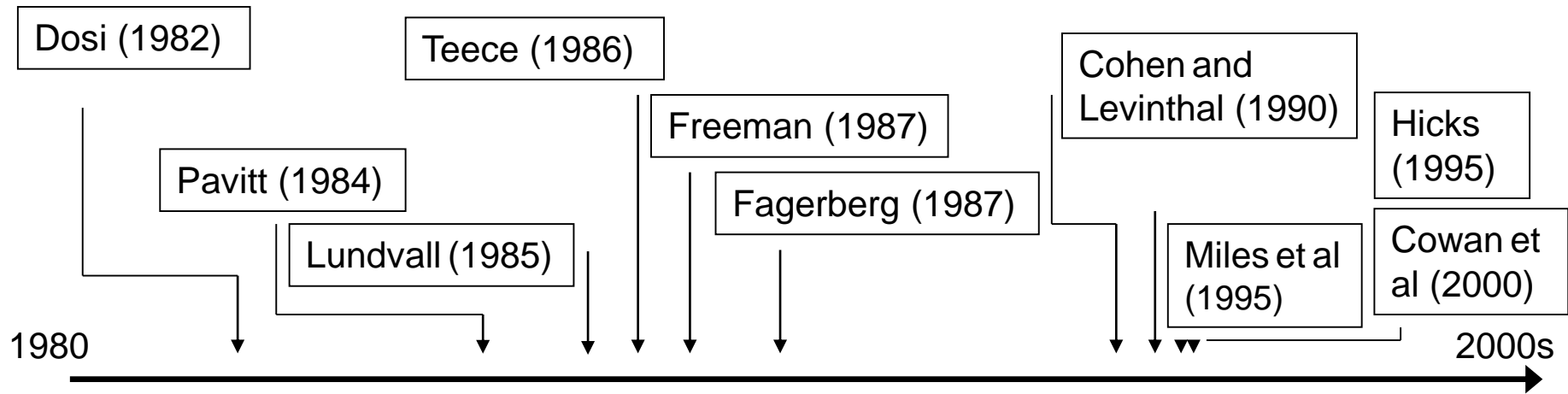
---

■ 6.

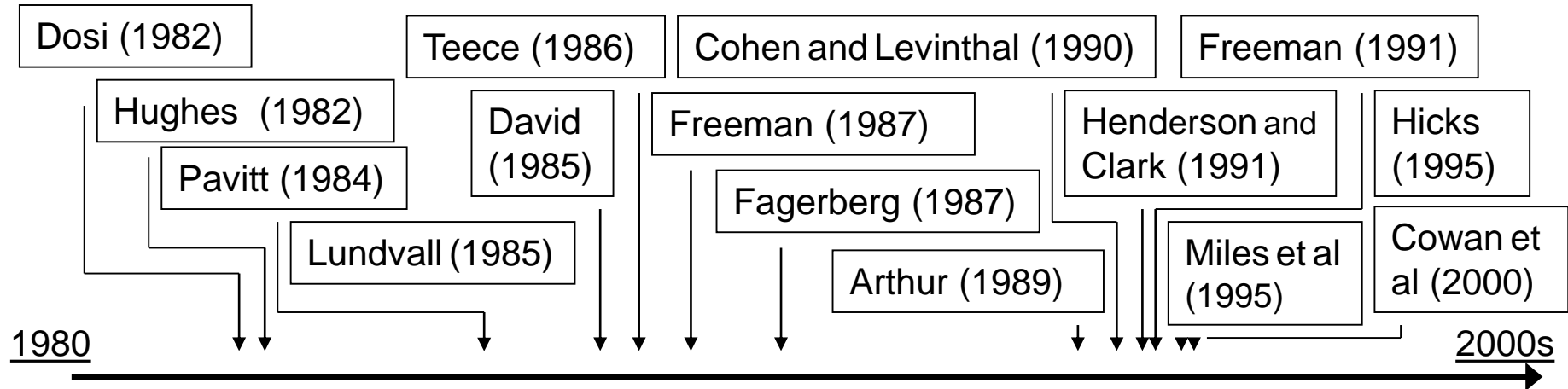
going even more  
beyond...

---

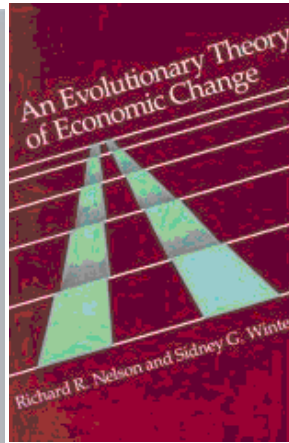
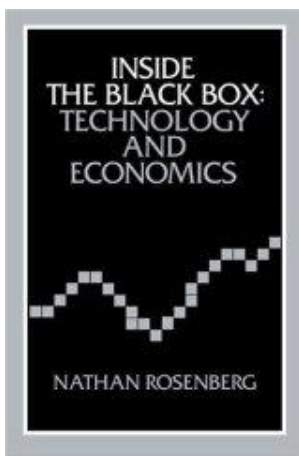
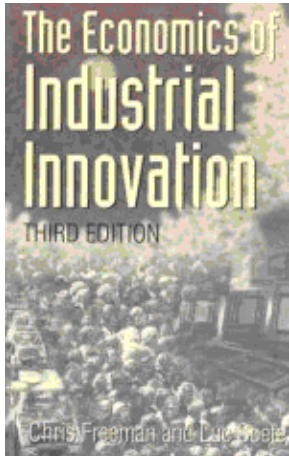
# 6. The research goes on



# 6. The research goes on



(1982)



Dosi, Freeman, Nelson, Silverber and Soete (1988)

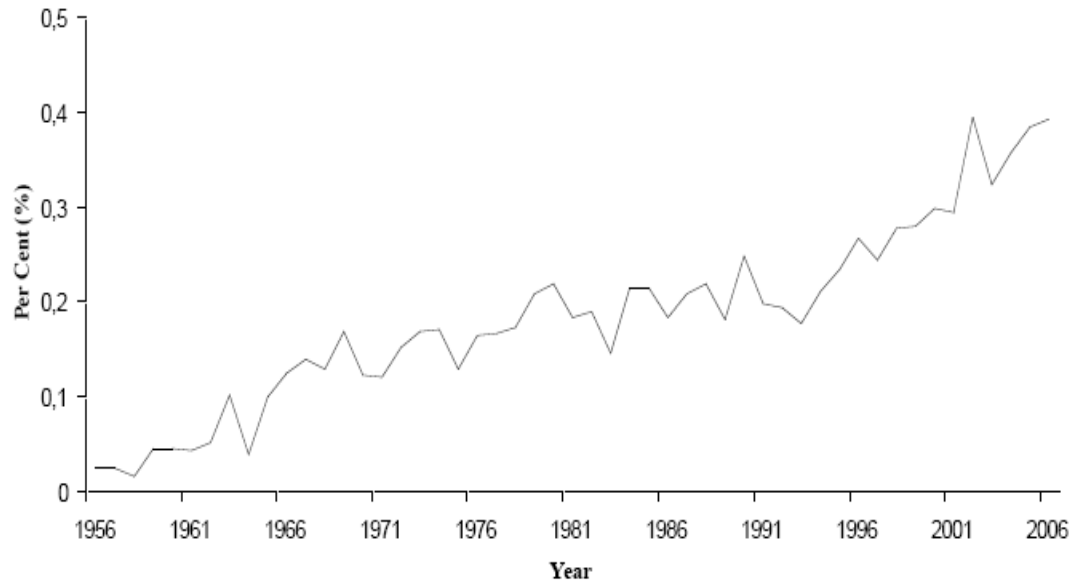
Lundvall (1992)

Fagerberg, Mowery and Nelson (2004)

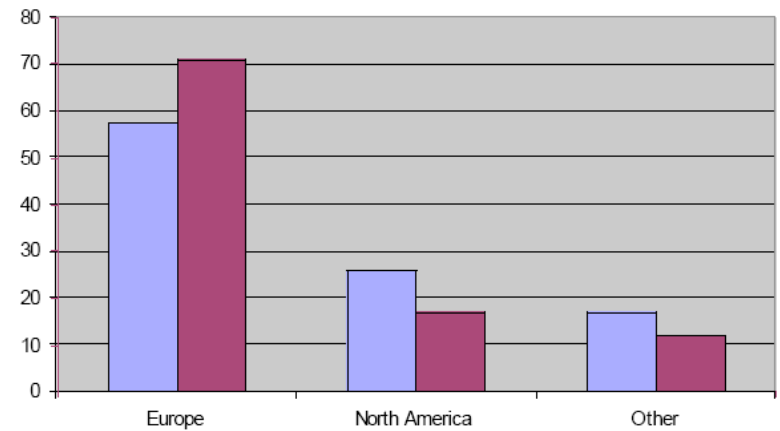
Freeman and Louçã (2001)

# 6. The research goes on

Articles with “innovation” in the title among the social sciences



Where is innovation studied?

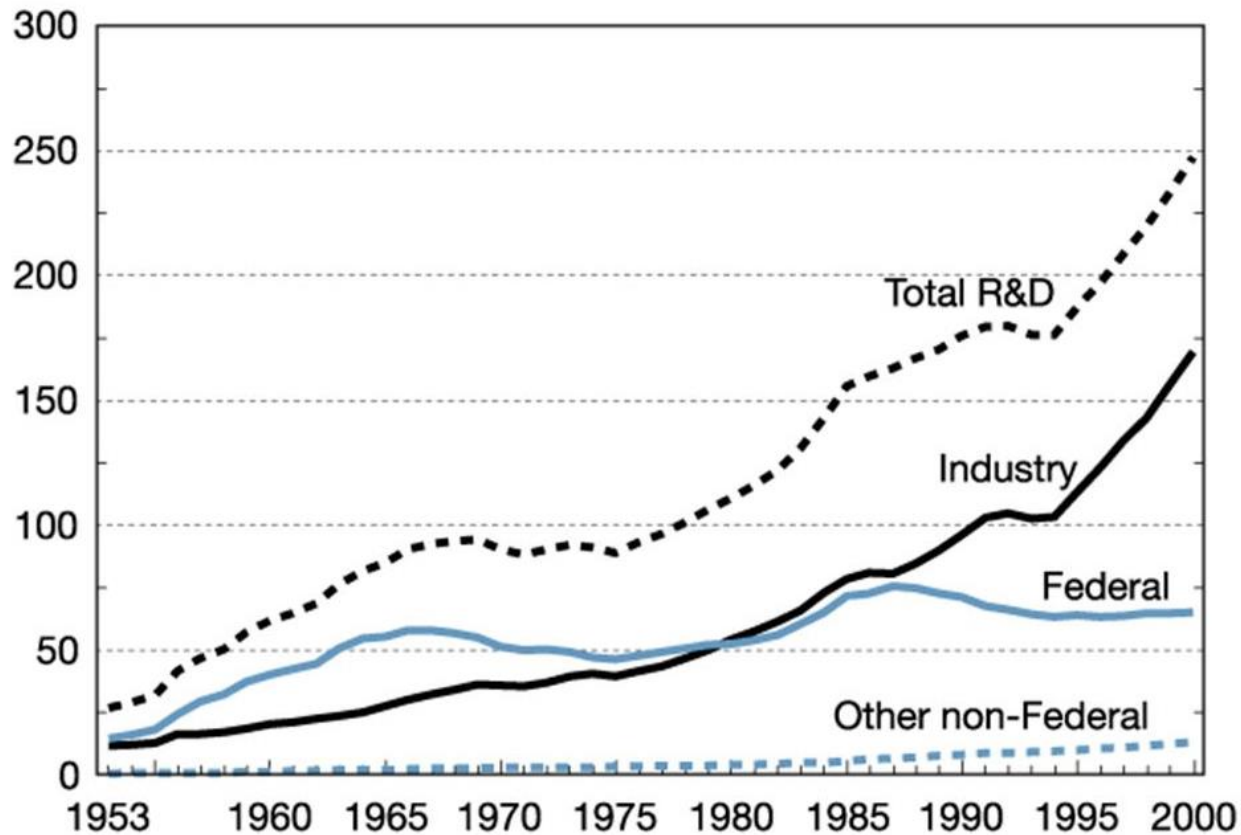


Source: Fagerberg and Verspagen (2009)

# 6. The research goes on

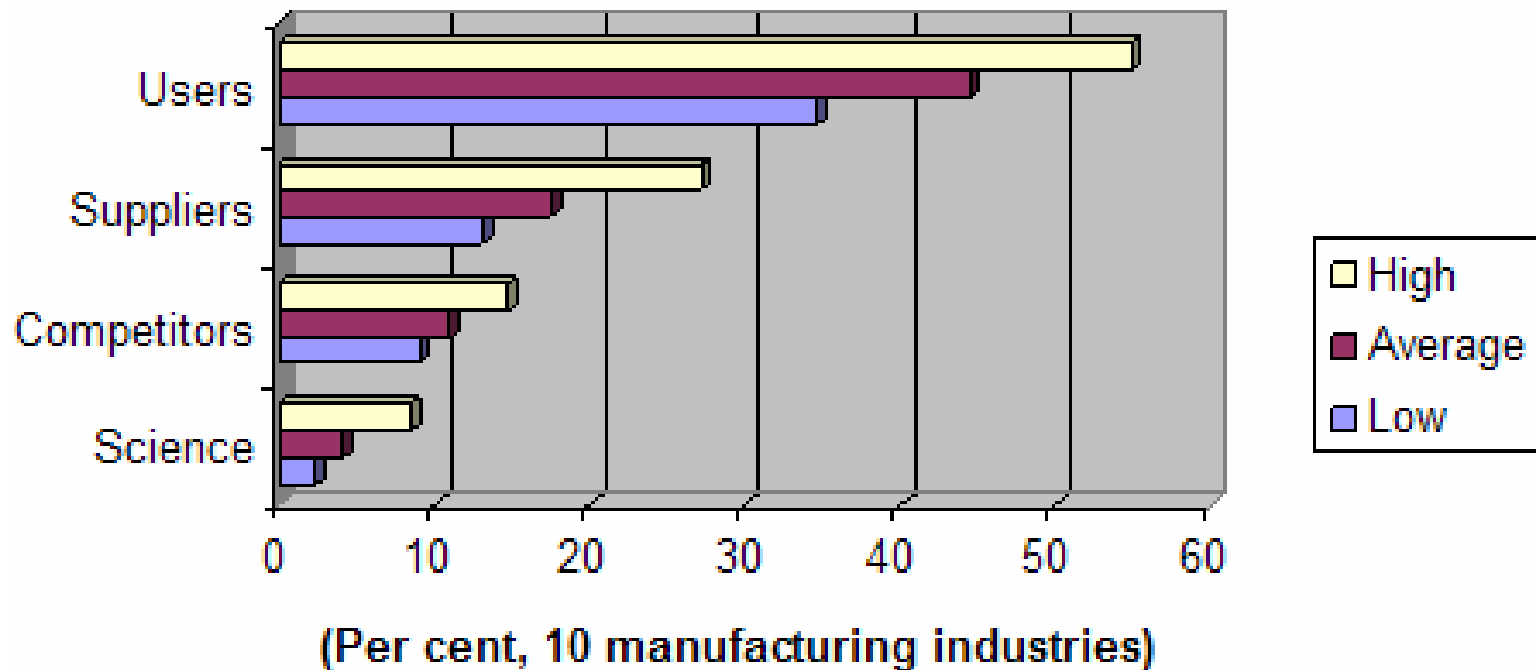
US: sources of R&D funding

Billions of constant 1996 dollars



## 6. The research goes on

Diversity of learning sources



Source: Fagerberg (2004)



---

# 6. Multi-channel model

## Re-re-inventing the innovation model

- Innovation as continuous and interactive moment
- Economics transformation depends on science but also experimentation
- Experimentation depends on openness

### Three forms of openness:

\*  
-

- |                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| - To nature     | (Science & Technology) |
| - To governance | (Organizing)           |
| - To the market | (Marketing)            |
-



**MICRO-ENVIRONMENT**

suppliers • consultants • brokers • partners • distributors • competitors • users

**MACRO-ENVIRONMENT**

education and training system • science and technology system • information infrastructure • regulators • finance • business associations  
trade unions • professional bodies • private foundations • non-governmental organisations

SCIENTIFIC AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
RESEARCH

EXISTING SCIENTIFIC  
AND TECHNOLOGICAL  
KNOWLEDGE

MICRO-ENVIRONMENT

suppliers • consultants • brokers • partners • distributors • competitors • users

EXISTING  
MARKETING KNOWLEDGE  
- Needs, values, tastes -

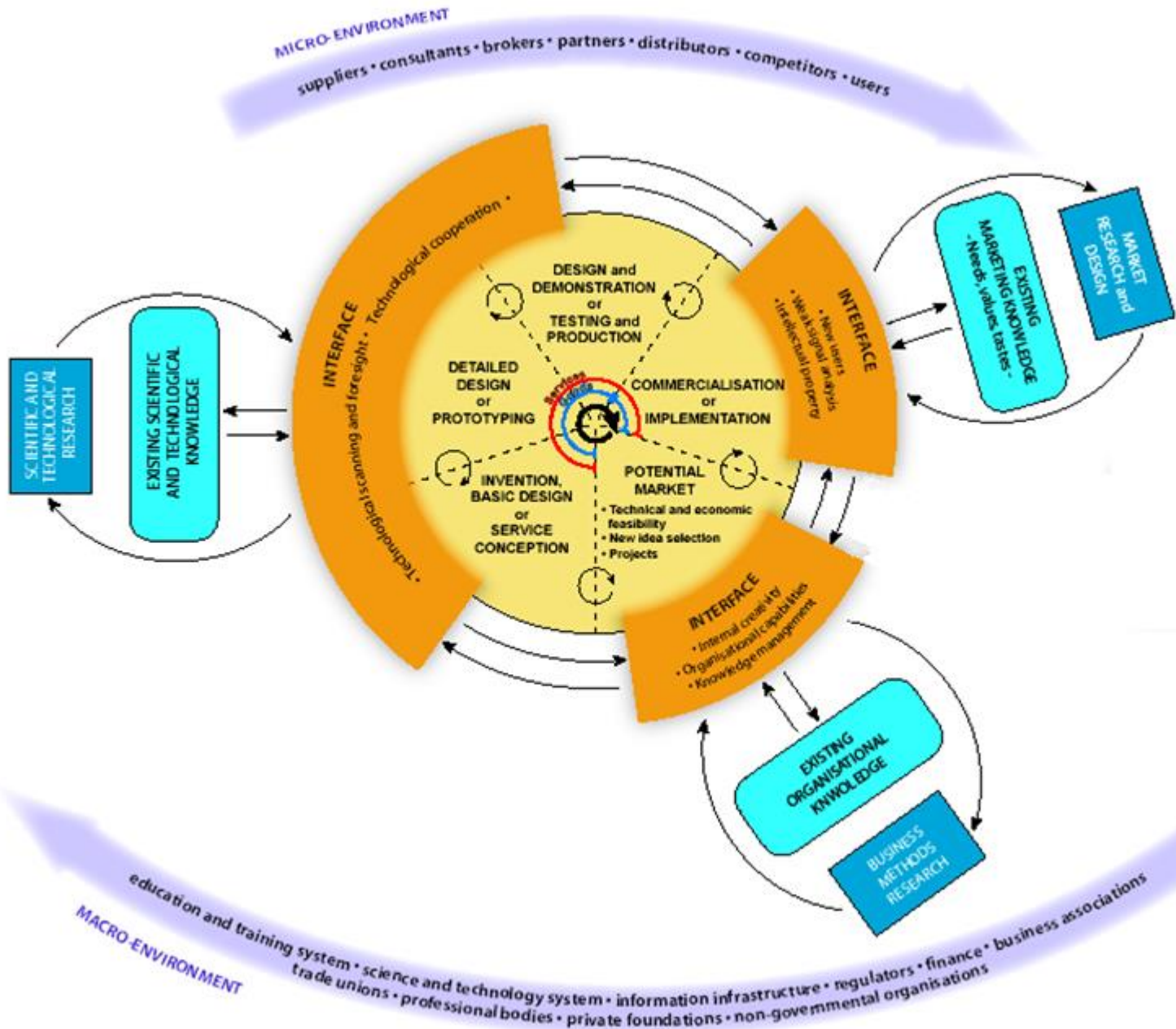
MARKET  
RESEARCH and  
DESIGN

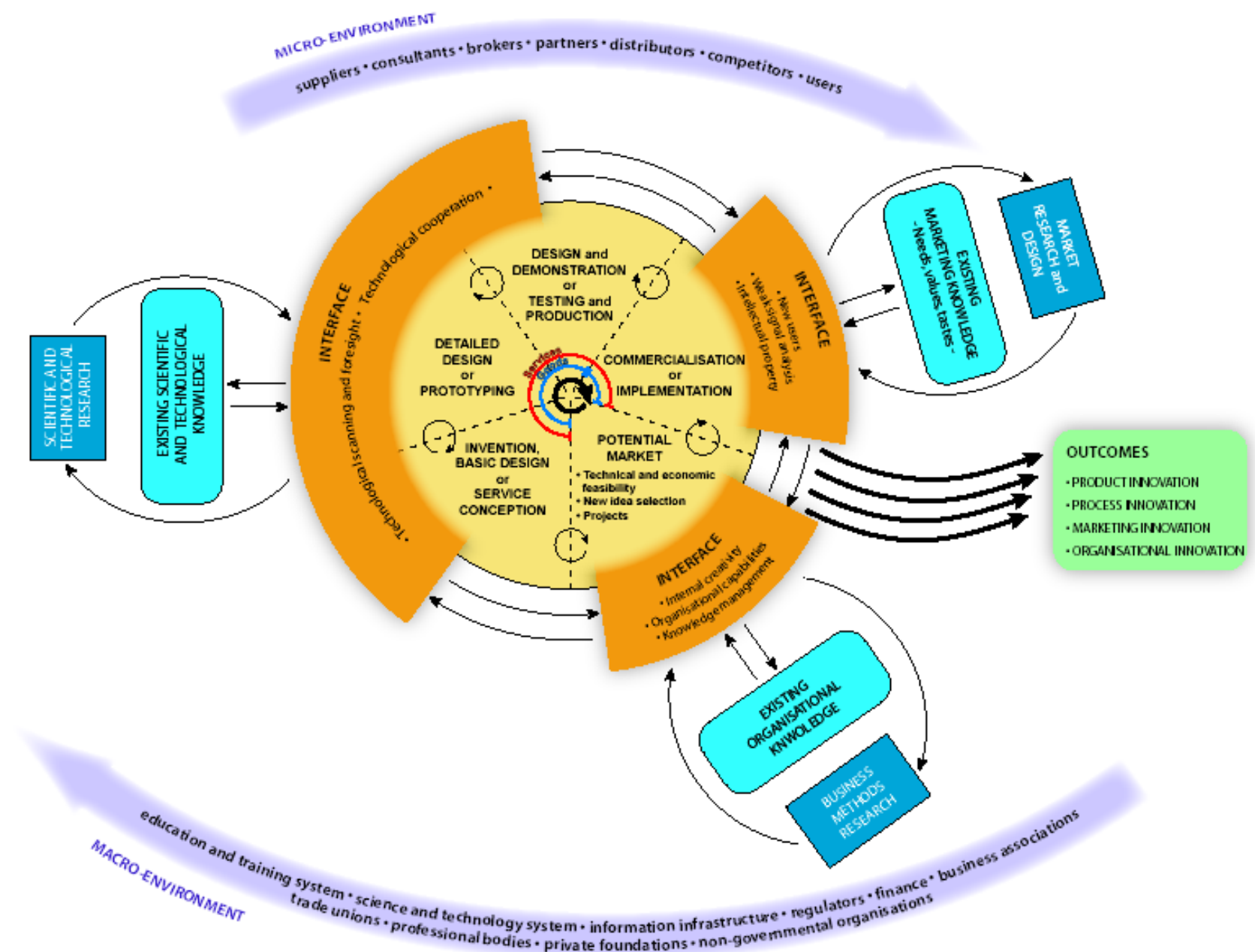
EXISTING  
ORGANISATIONAL  
KNOWLEDGE

BUSINESS  
METHODS  
RESEARCH

MACRO-ENVIRONMENT

education and training system • science and technology system • information infrastructure • regulators • finance • business associations  
trade unions • professional bodies • private foundations • non-governmental organisations





---

## 3rd generation (Caraça *et al.*, 2009)

If innovation is the basis of sustainable competitive advantage, the question is how to generate *dynamic capabilities* that allow us to develop and deliver innovative solutions to new and old problems.

How to manage innovation:

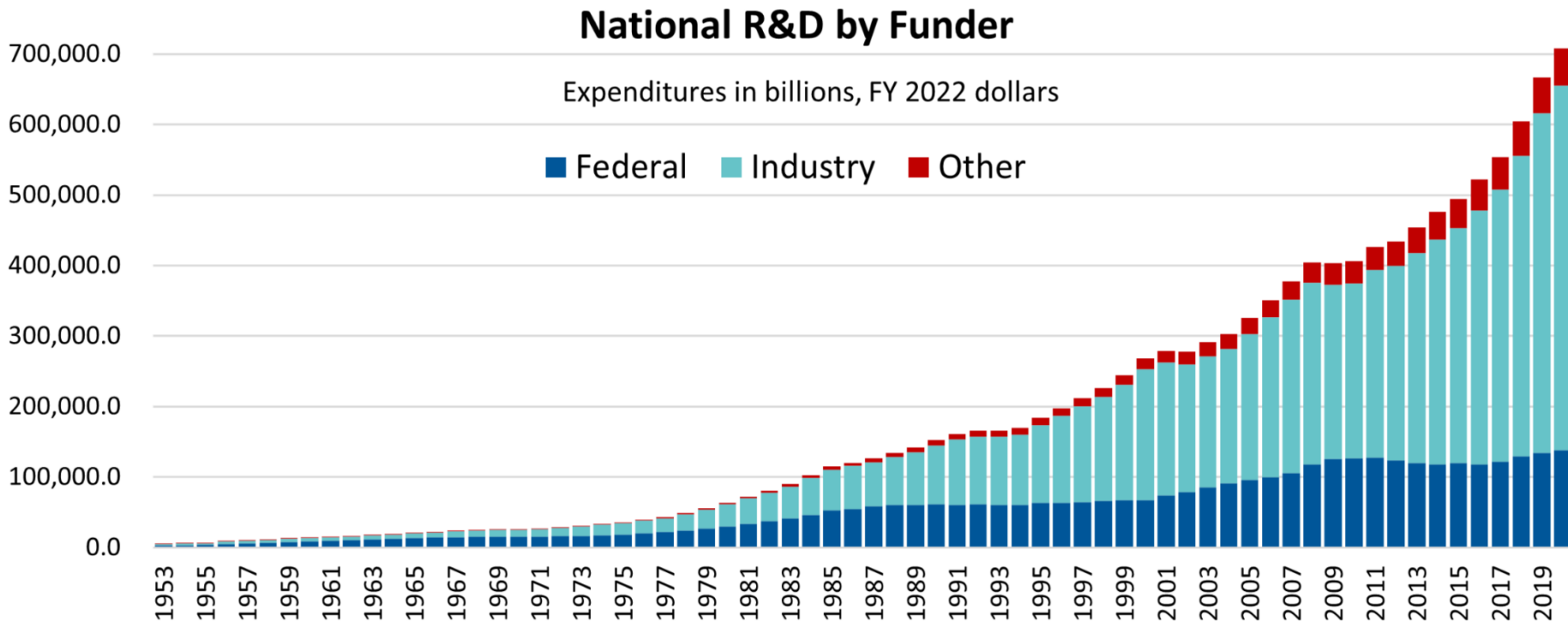
- indigenous problem-solving (inventive capacity)
  - interfaces (absorptive capacity)
  - networking with stakeholder (coordination capacity)
-

---

## MULTI-CHANNEL MODEL

- *The Key insight:* Innovation is plural, interactive learning is what matters
  - Context is always present, it is heterogeneous and rugged
  - No actor innovates isolated and not in a void but in networks
  - There are multiple sources of innovation, and multiple kinds of innovation
  - There is more to innovation than just science & technology
  - The logic “systems failure” is embedded in the framework
-

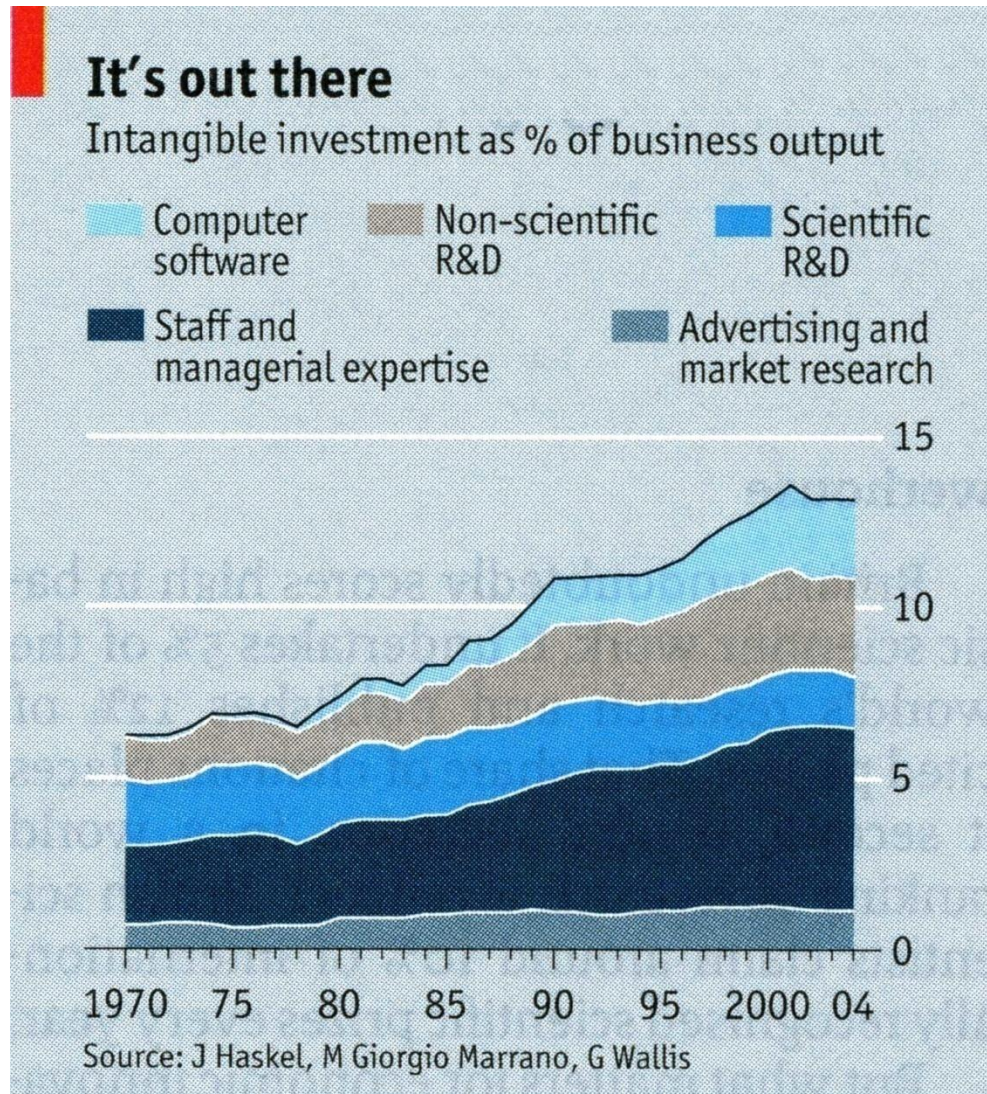
# R&D: Diversifying sources



Source: AAA (2008), dados NSF



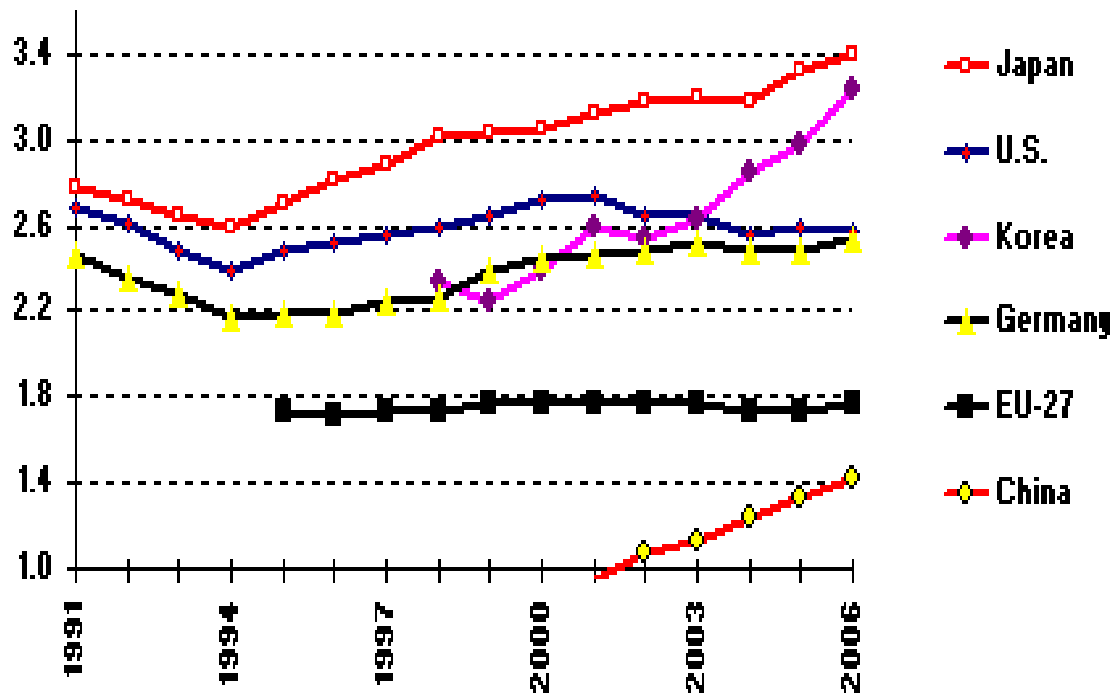
# R&D is not enough



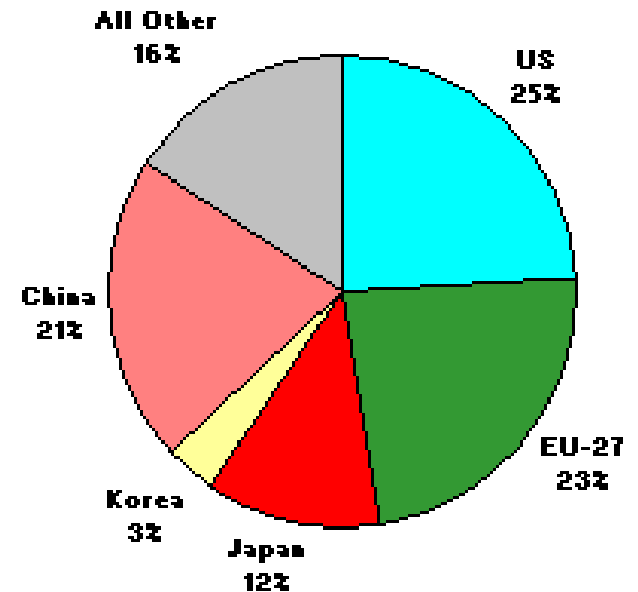
Source: *The Economist*,  
August 4, 2007

# The rise of the “other” innovators

Total National R&D as % of GDP, 1991-2006



Shares of World\* S&E Researchers, 2006

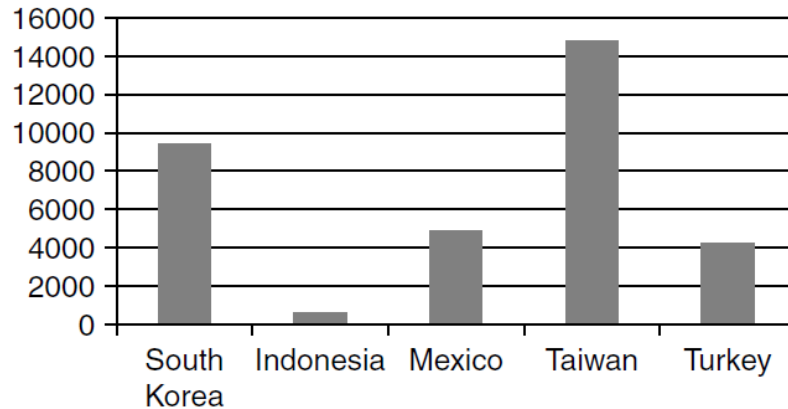


\* World = OECD members plus Argentina, China, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Taiwan. Does not include India.

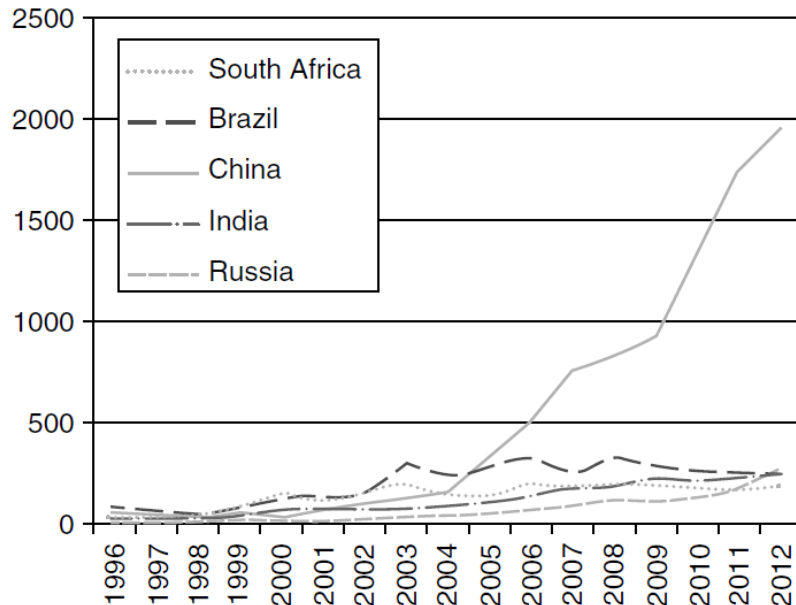
Total World \* S&E Researchers (FTEs) = 5.8 million \*\*

# “Soft innovation”, commercial capabilities, trademark indicator

Applications by other emergent economies, aggregate 1996–2012.



Aggregate applications by the BRICS, 1996–2012.



## 7 National adaptive advantages

Soft innovation and marketing capabilities in periods of crisis and change

*Sandro Mendonça*

### 1. Introduction

Economic history does not play dice. Innovation is a profound and pervasive process that has made humanity come a long way. Approaching this process also requires a panoramic awareness in order to capture techno-economic change in its different guises and details. Innovation is, indeed, a many splintered phenomenon. This study argues for the continuous development of new methodological perspectives as innovation itself continues to make history unfold. Research on innovation has to adapt as the external environment itself changes. When the economic context changes fast and violently, like during the “Great Recession” or “Little Depression” period, the reasons pushing for analytical innovation can only increase. Such efforts may uncover, for instance, deeper weaknesses in the beleaguered European periphery than those already much discussed. It may well be that such countries have been under-investing in innovation more severely than previously realised.

One purpose of innovation studies is to bring us ever-updated knowledge regarding the structure and dynamics of creative and complex economic systems. The economy, as a multivariate and evolving ensemble of knowledge and value-added activities, becomes an ever-fertile ground where genuine learning can take place among those observers concerned with the realism of their hypotheses and the appropriateness of their policy conclusions. A novelty-intensive economic reality thus calls for innovation in the working tools and raw materials themselves, that is, the concepts and data economists use to go about their trade. Innovation in theories and evidence must keep pace with the innovation phenomena themselves. There is a need to keep working and to push the boundaries of approaches and develop new ones. New combinations of intellectual devices and empirical evidence can bridge the gap between the world and our understanding of it. Like in wonderland, the innovation economics programme has to keep moving in order not to lose ground.

Our goal here is to explore ways of mapping and measuring non-technological innovation. But how to explore the softer side of innovation when innovation studies, and neo-Schumpeterian economics in particular, still suffer from a science and technology bias? One way is to focus on the more intangible side of new products made available to customers. A key observation is that new or

# New modes of innovation

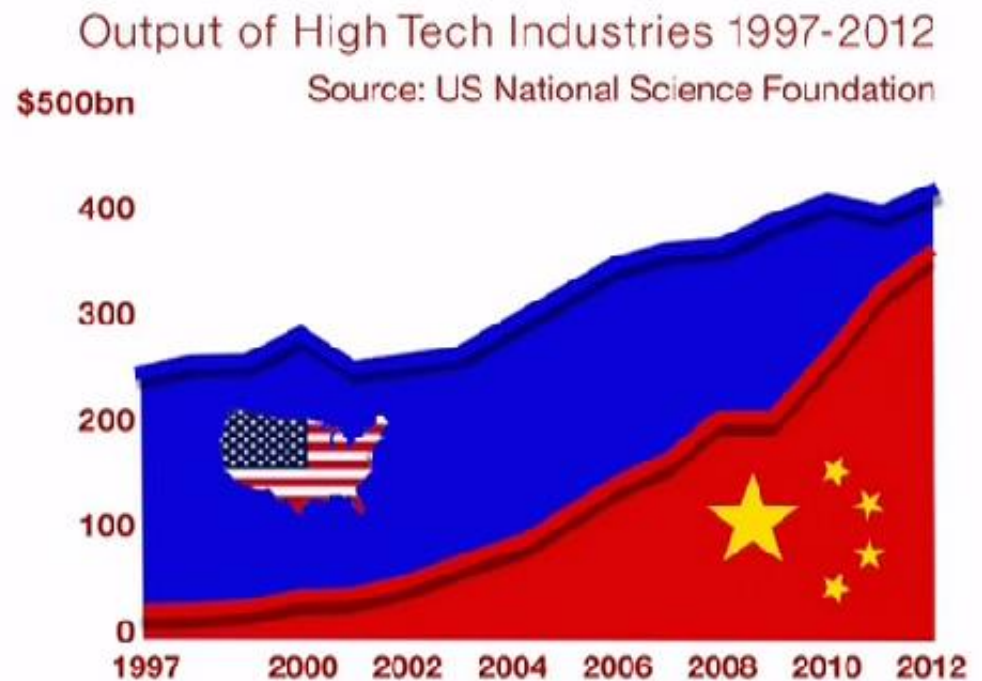
## UK on India



*Low-tech*

*Frugal innovation*

## US on China



*High-tech*

*Re-innovation*

---

So...

---



1950s

2000s

Emphasis  
on action

Emphasis  
on interaction

*Linear model*

*Chain-linked*

*Multi-chanel*

("Vanevar Bush")

("Kline & Rosenberg")

("Caraça *et al.*")

---

That is....

---



---

# Summing up

## 1st generation (V. Bush)

R&D push > Technological innovation > Market introduction

## 2nd generation (Kleine & Rosenberg)

Market needs > Technological innovation > Iterative developments

## 3rd generation (Caraça *et al.*)

Context > multi-knowledge/multi-actor dynamics > Plural innovation

(i.e. institutional envelope > complexity > range of results-resources)

---

---

# Summing up (again)

1st generation (V. Bush)

*Logic and rationalism*

2nd generation (Kleine & Rosenberg)

*Iterative and tentative*

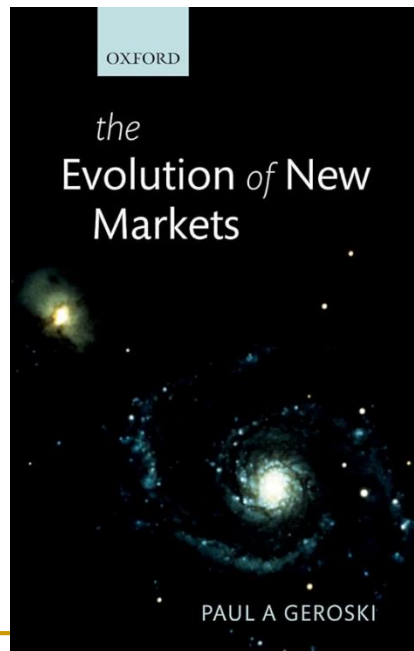
3rd generation (Caraça *et al.*)

*Emergent and co-evolutive*

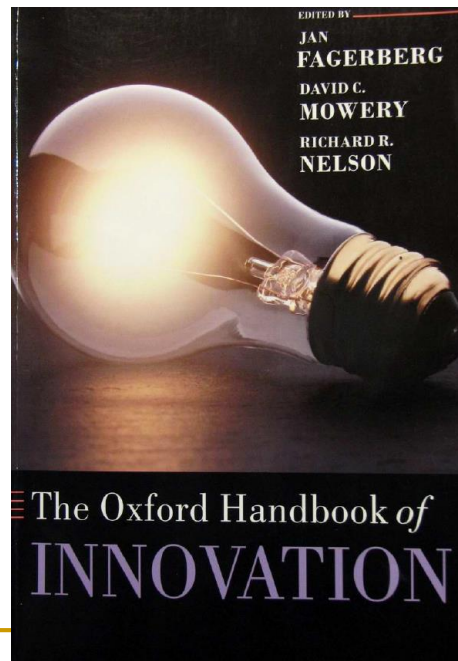
---

# 7. Conclusions

- **Definitions and distinctions**
- **Conceptual frameworks**
- Innovation is a mix of **learning** processes



(2003)



(2004)



(2022)