



The Globalization of Tech Innovation: Institutional Patterns

Gili S. Drori
Stanford University

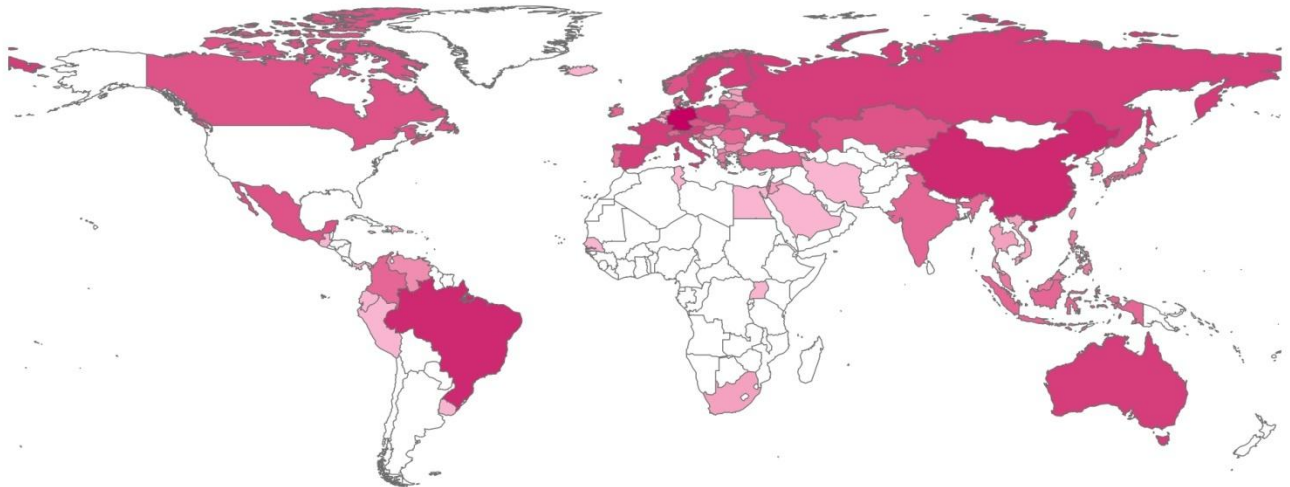
Globalization Panel, Hanken
April 2009



Globalization: Focus on Innovation

- Globalization as competition → seeking relative advantage
- From “human capital” to “innovation systems”
- “The innovation divide”
- What factors shape global innovation gaps?

Total Number of ICs





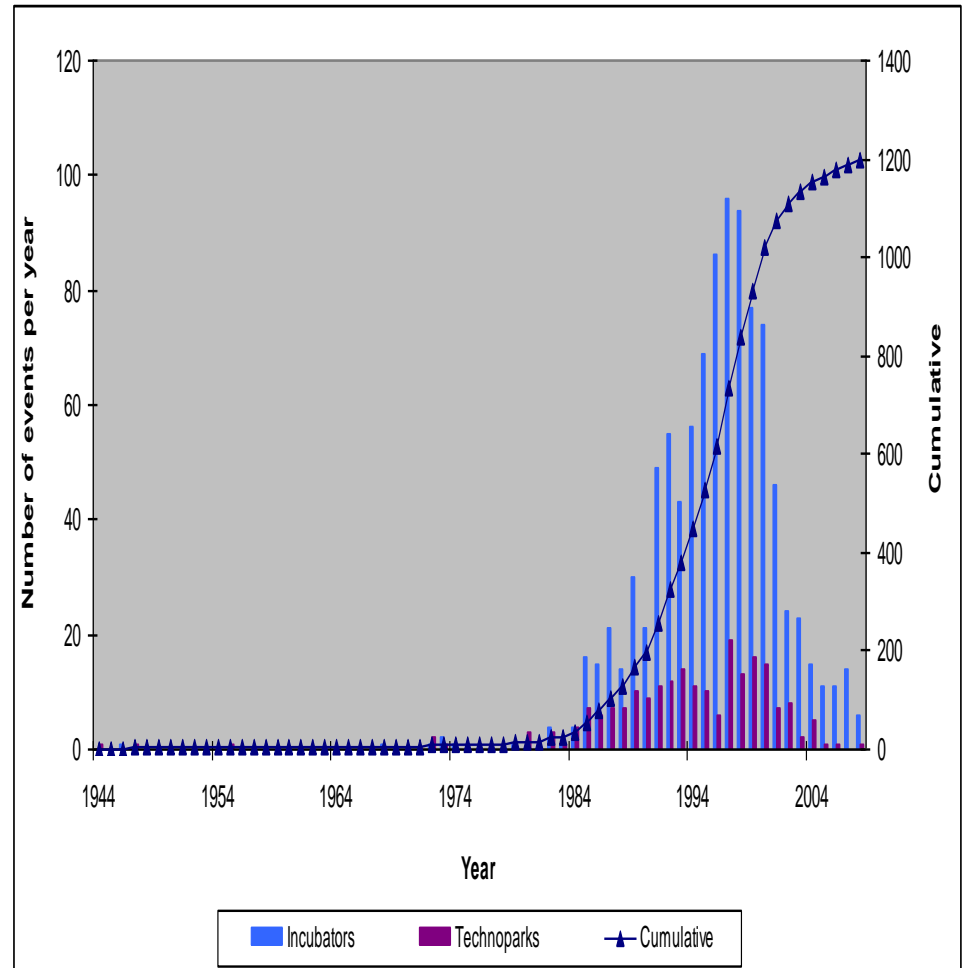
What is an Innovation Center?





Pattern 1: Timing, A Global wave

- Timing of global wave: 1985 and on
- Old roots, but new form
- → New fashion or new meaning
- 97 (+1) countries





Other Patterns

- 2. Similarity of organizational features**
 - In technology and discipline
 - In services
 - In physical properties
 - In sponsorship type
- 3. Causal determinants:**
 - National conditions: wealth, regime
 - National trade relations, global economy
 - National business culture
 - National science and technology base
 - National embeddedness in global society



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Summary of Findings

- **Defining features:**
 1. Talent
 2. Technology
 3. Capital
 4. Business know-how
 5. Network access
- **The model:**

Innovation center = technology entrepreneurship
= knowledge commercialization
- **Sign of their time:** 1980s as pivotal era
- **Isomorphism:** in identification, in tech specialization, through alignment
- **Loose Coupling:** causes and outcomes

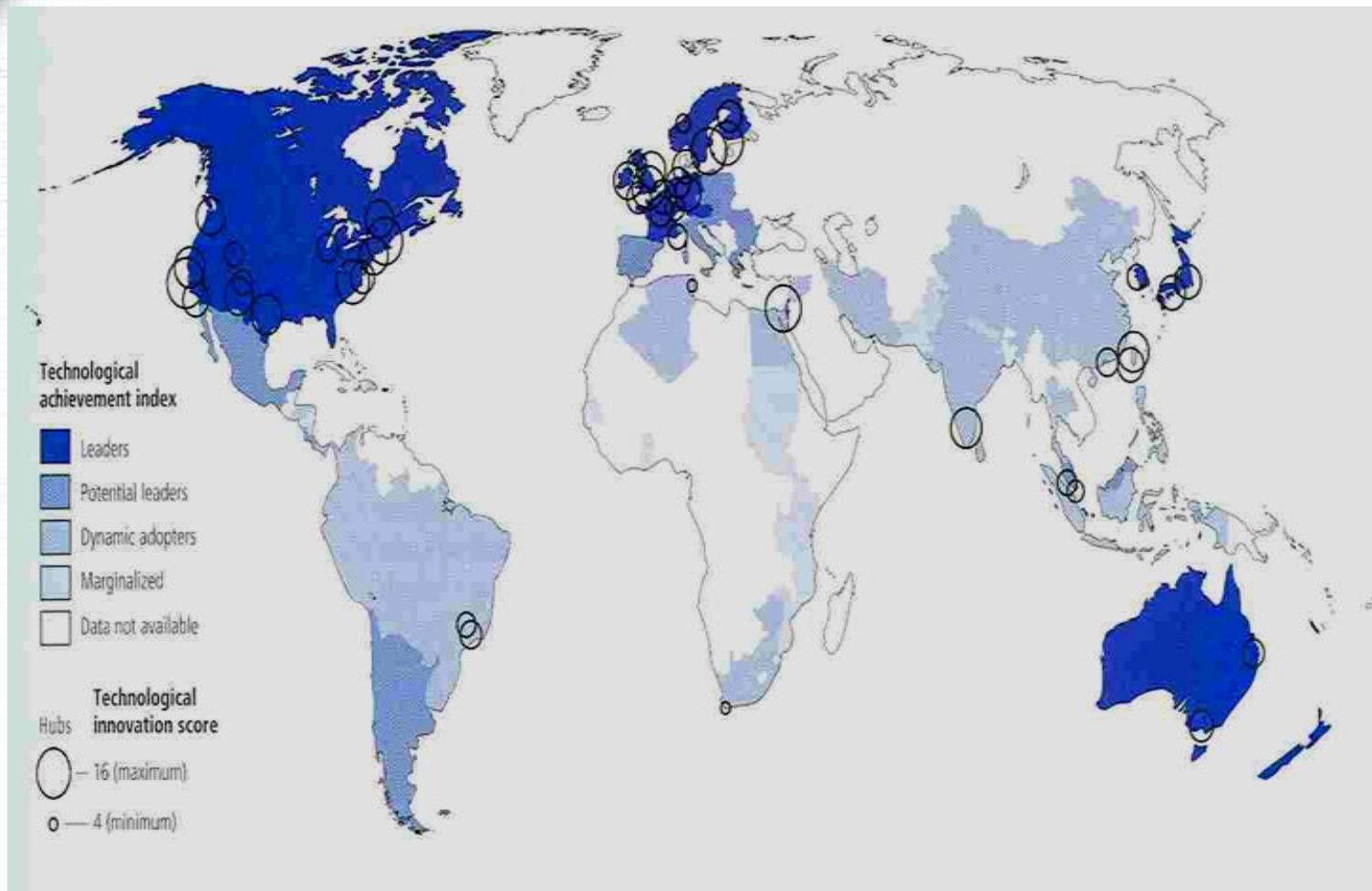


Concluding Comments

- Global patterns, global fashion
Impact on policy
- Lesson 1: Strategic, managerial
Risks of late entry, beyond competitive niche
- Lesson 2: Theoretical, sociological
Mythology of innovation: mixing technology
and entrepreneurship
- The study of business strategies as fashions or
ideologies, worldwide
Ritualized globalization of policy



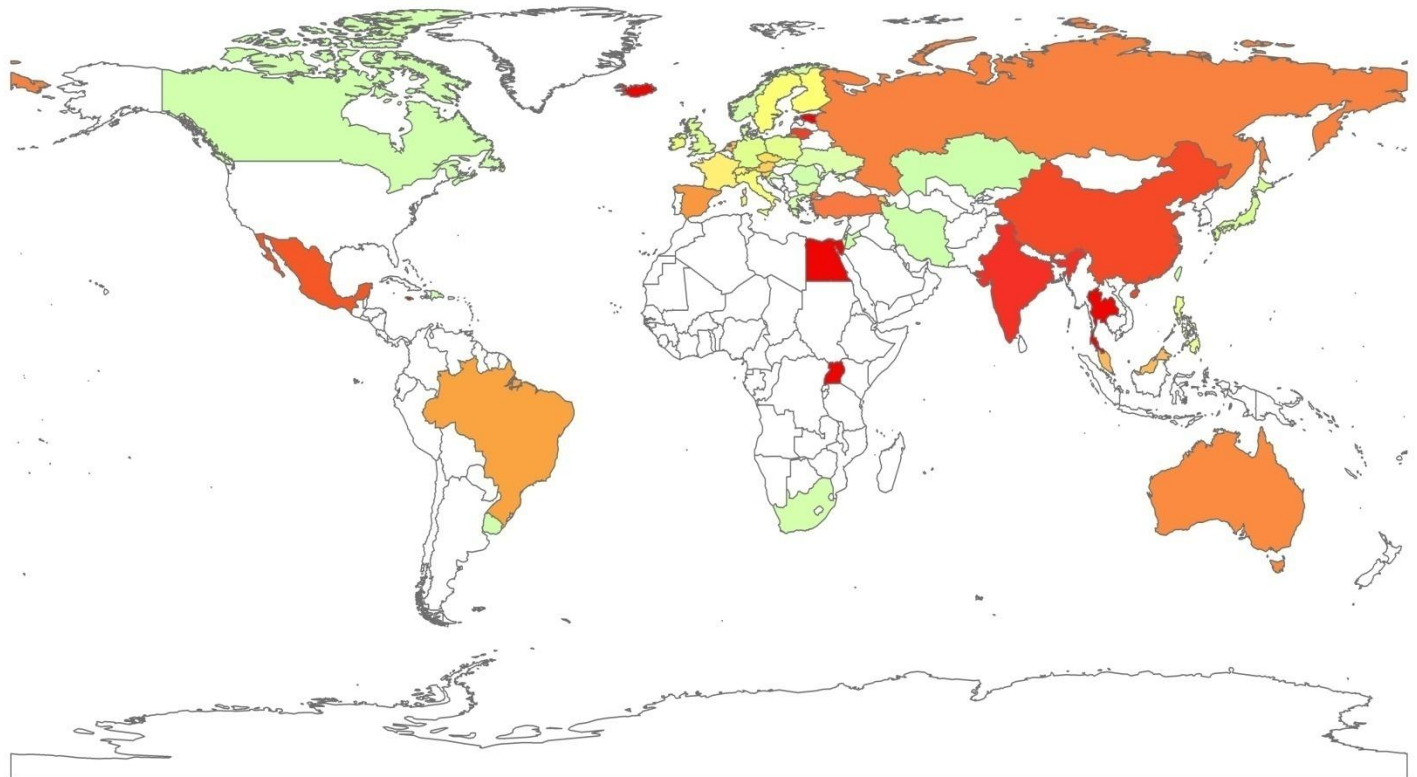
Global Innovation Divide





Organizational Feature: Sponsorship

Scale of Sponsorship Type -Green (Private) to Red (Public)





1. Timing: Cross-National Diffusion

- Change of perspective in data: focus on countries
- First founding of innovation center per country: 97 (+1) countries, in total.
- Founding of national association of innovation centers: 42 countries, in total.

