

Innovation and IP Management

Safe Nests in Global Nets

Alberto Di Minin

Istituto di Management
Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

& BRIE (Berkeley Roundtable on the International Economy)
U.C. Berkeley

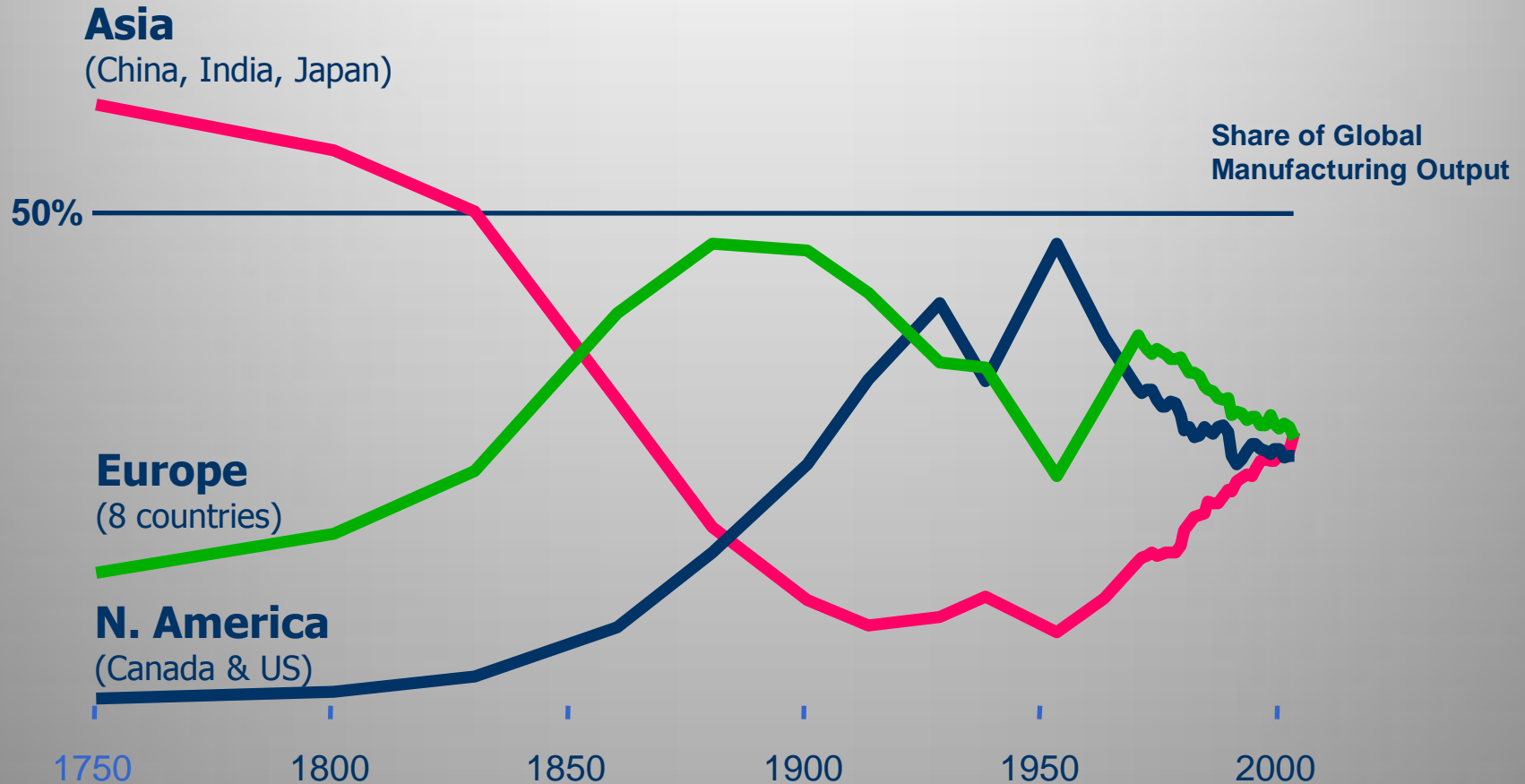
alberto@sssup.it

The relevance of IP Management for Open Innovation

- Open Innovation is connected to the concept of Appropriability
- Opening without a clear IP strategy is dangerous
- What do we know about IP Management?
- Investigating large companies IP Management is not easy



Changing division of labour in manufacturing...will R&D follow?



Source: Bairoch 1982 (updates: ETLA).

“We expect to see greater internationalization of large firms’ technological activities in the future...”

Patel, P & Pavitt, P. 1991. *ibid.*

...this research project started from here



Empirical analysis:

Research Question

Can we find evidence of “Non Globalization”?



Three drivers of R&D globalization (...based on extant research)

Demand factors

- Adapting R&D, products and processes to local demand
- Providing technological support to off-shored mfg. plants

Supply factors

- Monitoring scientific and technological developments
- Obtaining access to scientists, engineers and designers
- Generating entirely new products and core technologies

'Intermediating factors'

- Facilitating the efficient coupling of demand and supply factors
- Aligning activities with local cultures and norms

Wireless Telecom as an interesting case: all signs of globalization...

Demand factors

- Deregulation and break-up of national monopolies, new regional markets with local players demand and tastes

Supply factors

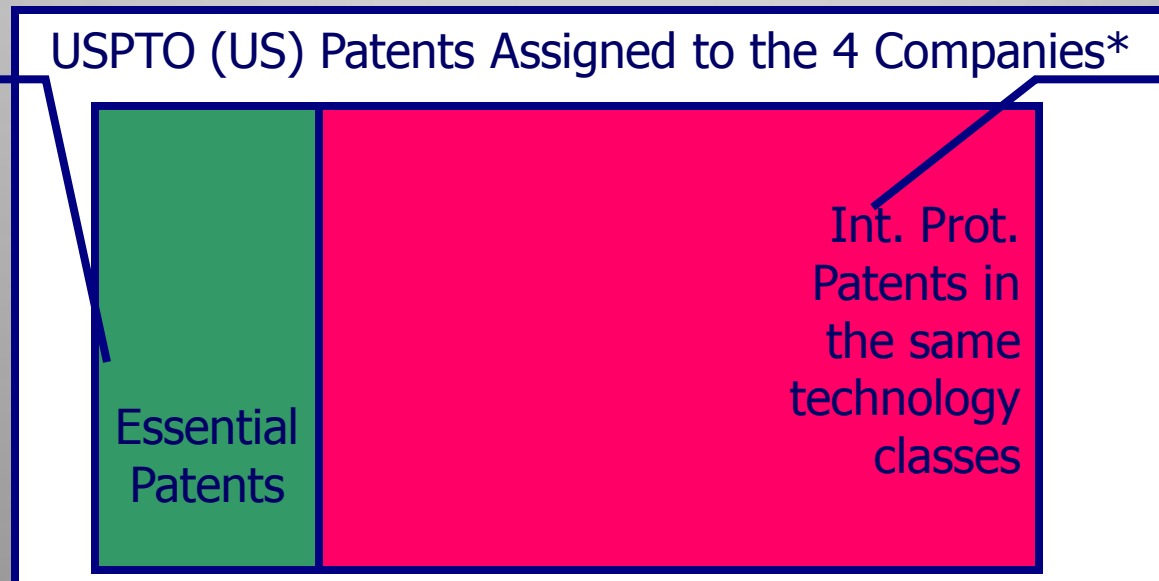
- Technological convergence, emerging/new 'centers of excellence' (Eastern Europe, China, India etc.), supply of both high skilled and low cost engineers

Intermediating factors...?

- Interoperability and modularization, integration of technologies developed worldwide...

...but also an interesting area for Collaboration and Open Innovation practices!

- Standardization of wireless communication
- ETSI system of notification of patents as an analytical lens to single out 'more significant' inventive activity
- The 4 largest assignees of ETSI "essential" patents:
 - **Ericsson, Qualcomm, Motorola, Nokia:**
64% of all essential patents

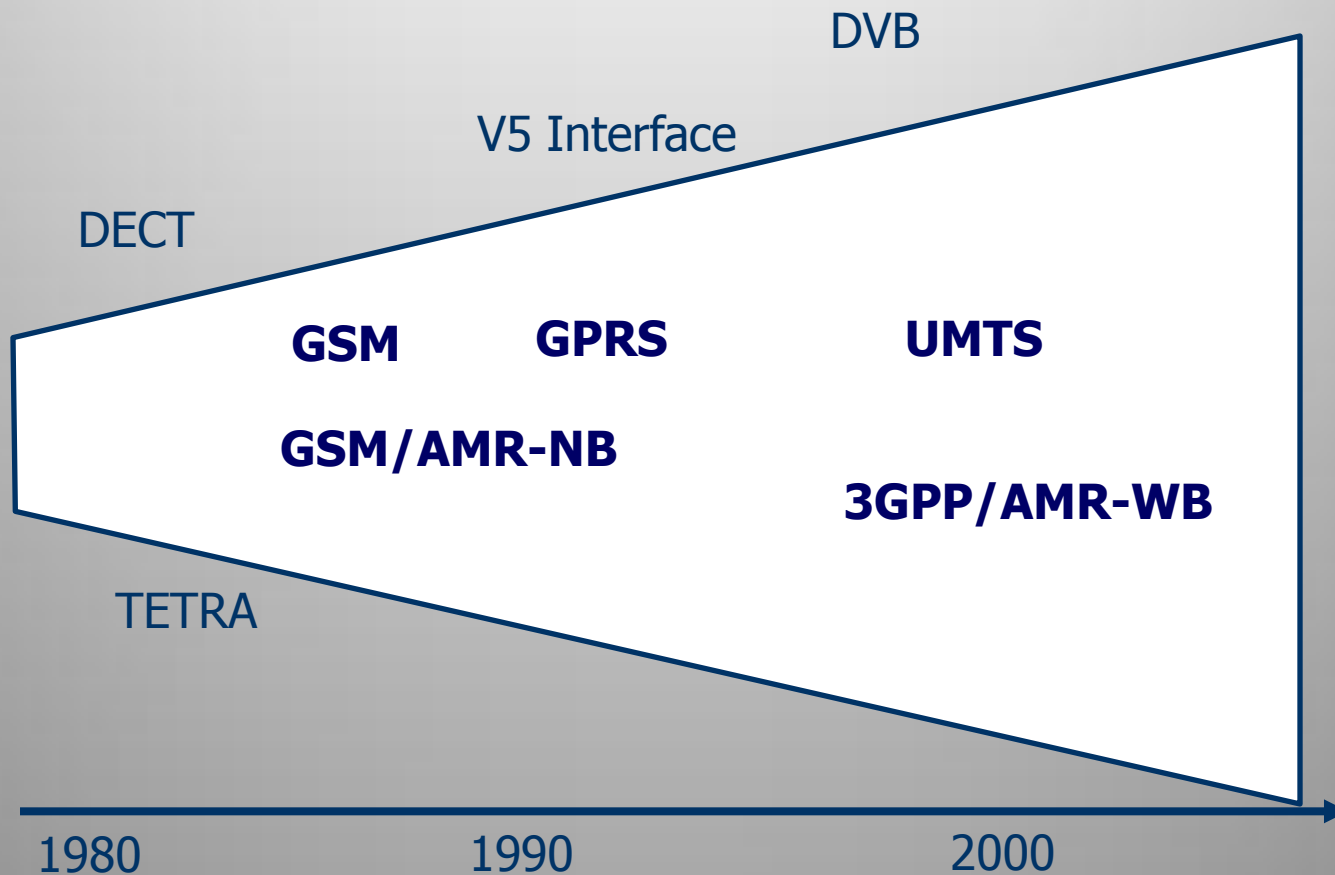


SAMPLE (ES):
537 USPTO
PATENTS

**CONTROL
GROUP (CG):**
4,358 USPTO
PATENTS

* For US companies
solely US patent families
excluded from analysis

Types of ETSI Standards mainly covered by the empirical analysis



Distribution of patents across the 4 companies

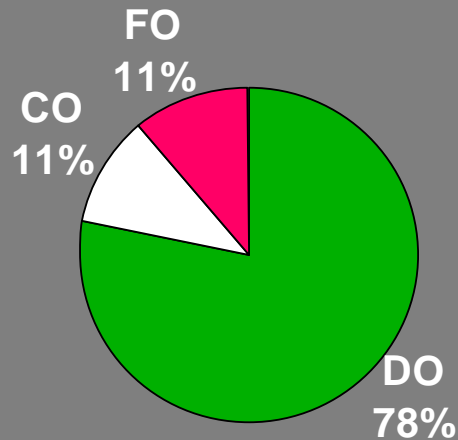
	Total Patents (assigned between 1985-2005)	Ericsson	Nokia	Motorola	Qualcomm
Essential Patents	537	241	72	85	139
Control Group Patents	4 358	1 752	1 012	1 160	434
2Years Fwd Citations / Patents	4.02 (ES)	3.31 (ES)	3.36 (ES)	3.01 (ES)	6.21 (ES)
	2.31 (CG)	2.12 (CG)	2.15 (CG)	2.47 (CG)	3.03 (CG)

Location Analysis

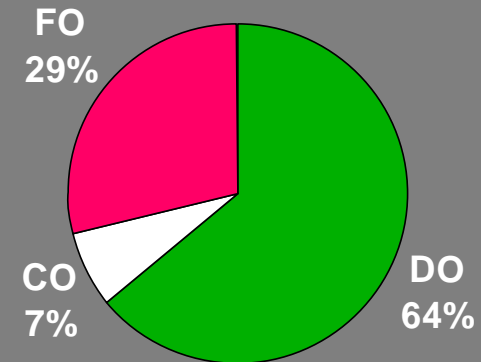
- **DO (Domestic) patents:** all inventors located in H.Q. country
- **CO (International Collaboration) patents:** at least one inventor in H.Q. country and at least one inventor in foreign country
- **FO (Foreign) patents:** all inventors located in foreign countries

FO-CO-DO distribution of patents

Essential Patents



Control Group



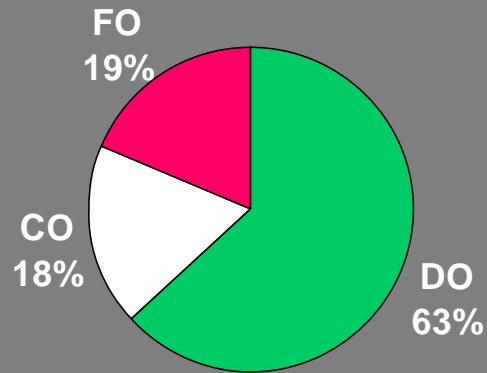
Pearson Chi-Square for DO * Essential : 41.5 (.01 significant)

Pearson Chi-Square for FO * Essential : 77.5 (.01 significant)

Company level

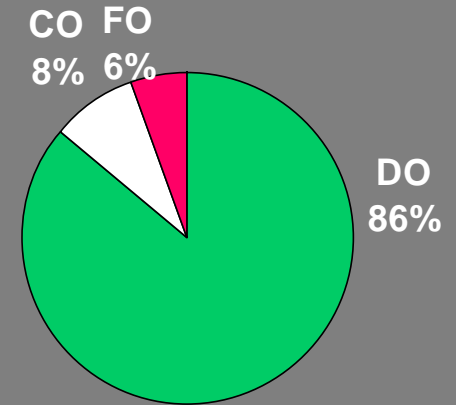
ERICSSON

Essential Patents

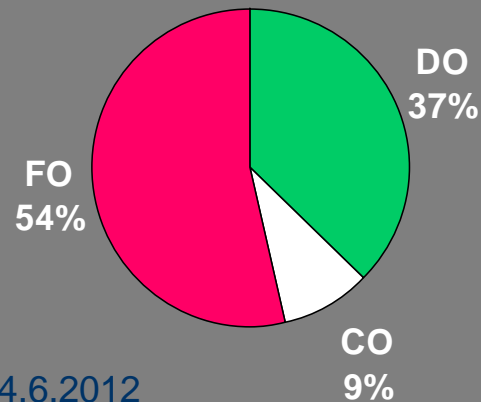


NOKIA

Essential Patents

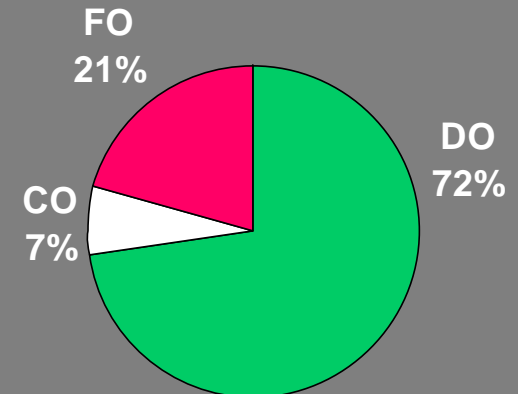


Control Group Patents



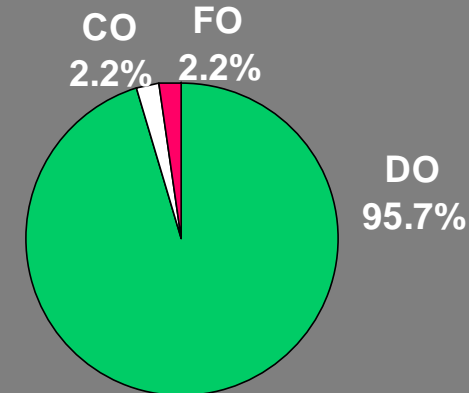
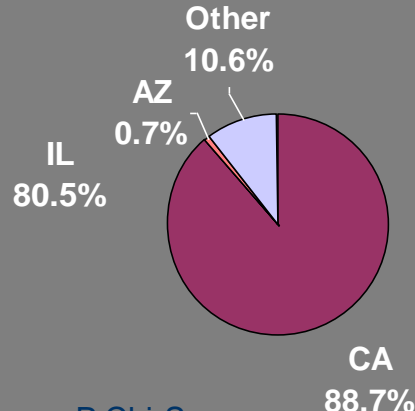
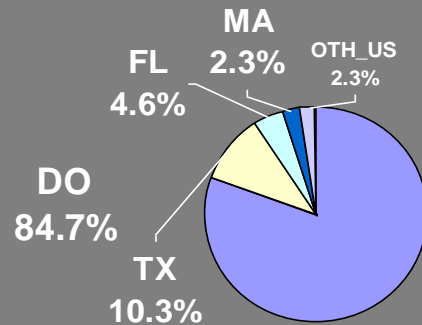
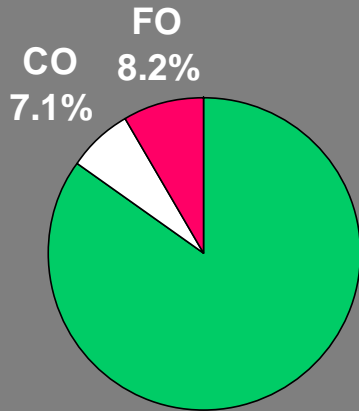
Pearson Chi-Square for DO *
Essential : 59.4
(.01 significant)

Pearson Chi-Square for DO *
Essential : 6.4
(.01 significant)



Company level

MOTOROLA Essential Patents



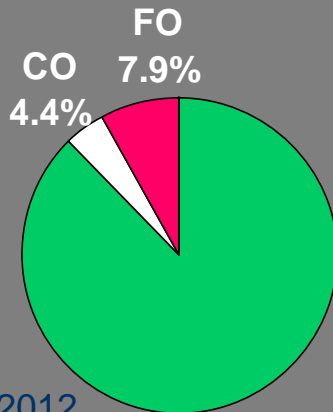
P Chi-Square DO * Essential : N.S. (.01)

P Chi-Square
IL_st * Ess : 39.6

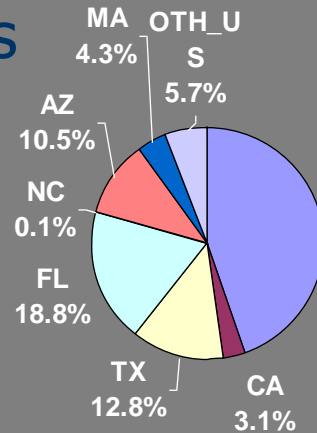
P Chi-Square
CA_st * Ess : N.S.

P Chi-Square DO * Essential : 4.48 *

Control Group Patents



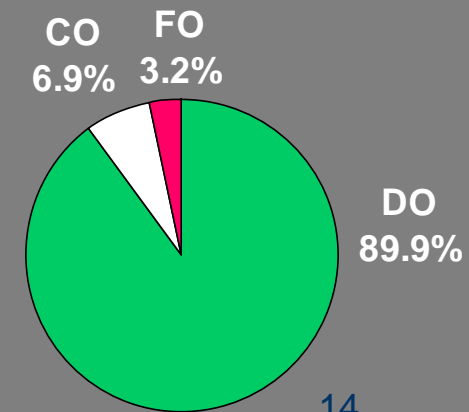
DO
87.7%



Other
9.8%

IL
44.6%

CA
87.6%



DO
89.9%

Multivariate Analysis

Dependent variable:	All inventors from the headquarter <i>country</i>	All inventors from the headquarter <i>country</i>	All inventors from the headq. <i>country/state</i>	All inventors from the headq. <i>country/state</i>
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
	W/o Ess. x Firm	With Ess. x Firm	W/o Ess. x Firm	With Ess. x Firm
	Coeff. Sig.	Coeff. Sig.	Coeff. Sig.	Coeff. Sig.
An ETSI essential patent	.132 ***		.201 ***	
An essential patent x Ericsson		.173 ***		.221 ***
An essential patent x Qualcomm		.063		.027
An essential patent x Motorola		-.066		.290 ***
An essential patent x Nokia		.126 **		.164 **
The patent assignee is Qualcomm	.348 ***	.354 ***	.361 ***	.386 ***
The patent assignee is Motorola	.356 ***	.368 ***	.002	-.004
The patent assignee is Nokia	.256 ***	.262 ***	.322 ***	.326 ***
<i>McFadden's pseudo R2</i>	.204	.206	.127	.129
<i>Count R2</i>	.761	.760	.681	.680

Note: Estimated with Stata 9.2 for Windows.

The reported coefficients are marginal effects for discrete change of the dummy variable in question from 0 to 1.

Control variables are: years dummy, technology classes, number of claims, See the appendix for th complete regression results.

=5% significance and *=1%significance.

Observations: 4,895.

Findings

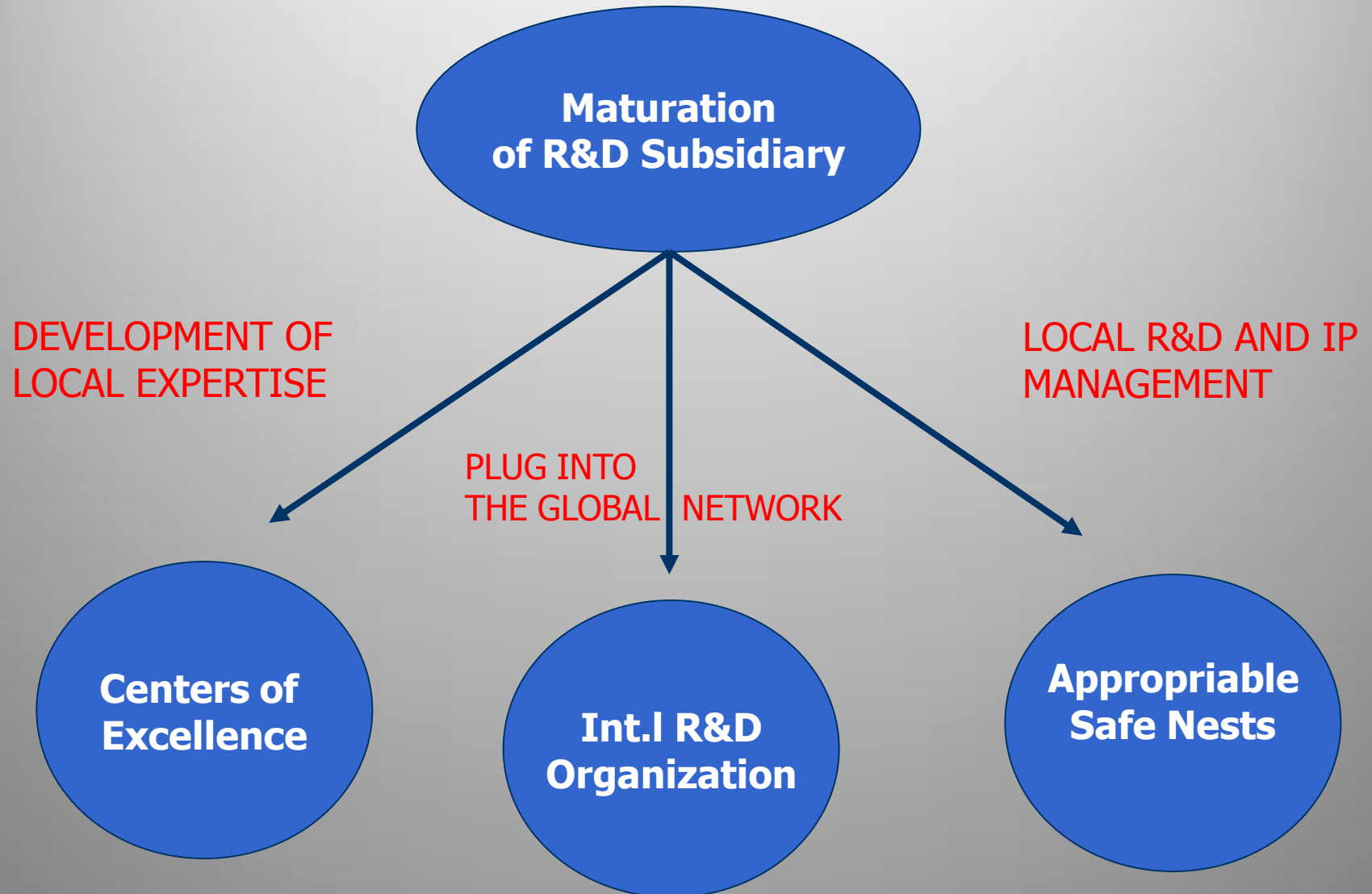
- The Patel Pavitt paradox remains!
 - In a very globalized industry we still see strongly homebound inventive activities once 'R&D' is dissected by economic/technological/strategic content
 - Concentration in the headquarters
- Why is this happening?

Why R&D non-globalization?

- Insights from the company interviews

- Demand and supply factors highlighted for offshored (FO patents) inventive activity
- In-house R&D (DO patents) still remains important due to 'intermediating factors':
 - Accumulated 'sticky' knowledge at HQ, organizational inertia
 - Maturation effect and steep learning curves in R&D internationalization
 - Importance of centralized IP management in this particular industry

Conclusions: Developing and Managing Islands of Appropriability



To be continued

Special issue on
California Management Review
“IP Management: in search of new practices,
strategies and business models”
Supported by the European Patent Office



Grazie per l'attenzione

Di Minin, A., & Bianchi, M. 2011. Safe Nests in Global Nets: Internalization and Appropriability of R&D in Wireless Telecom. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 42(7): 910-934.

alberto@sssup.it
www.diminin.it

