#### The Franco-German Round Table on Intangibles -The 3rd conference-

#### Public and private intangible investments in France: an analysis in terms of complementarities

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## Defining public sector intangibles



- Analysis of the following intangible investments
  - Advertising
  - Artistic Originals
  - Databases
  - Design
  - Marketing
  - Organizational Capital
  - R&D
  - Software
  - Training







Public intangible investment disaggregated

Private intangible investment disaggregated



R&D public vs private investment



Training public vs private investment



• Summary:

- Increased role of intangible assets in the economy.

 A decreasing proportion of investments in the public sector, with respect to the private sector.

## Intangible investment and TFP growth



\* Source: OECD

## Intangible investment and TFP growth



### Intangible investment and TFP growth



R&D investment and MFP growth

# The role of public intangible investment

#### Estimating

 $\frac{\textit{GDP}_y}{\textit{EMP}_y} = \alpha \textit{PublicIntangibles}_y + \beta \textit{PrivateIntangibles}_y + \gamma \textit{TangibleInvestment}_y + \delta T_y + \epsilon$ 

Linear regression

| Number of | obs | = | 28     |
|-----------|-----|---|--------|
| F( 4,     | 23) | = | 978.34 |
| Prob > F  |     | = | 0.0000 |
| R-squared |     | = | 0.9885 |
| Root MSE  |     | = | .01506 |

| gdp_p         | Coef.    | Robust<br>Std. Err. | t     | P> t    | [95% Conf. | Interval] |
|---------------|----------|---------------------|-------|---------|------------|-----------|
| totINTpubli~p | .0053823 | .0075732            | 0.71  | 0.484   | 0102841    | .0210486  |
| totINTpriva~p | .0163299 | .0075113            | 2.17  | 0.040 < | .0007917   | .0318681  |
| tangtot_p     | .0074827 | .0392603            | 0.19  | 0.851   | 0737334    | .0886989  |
| pre1995_dummy | 0394614  | .0165249            | -2.39 | 0.026   | 0736458    | 0052771   |
| _cons         | 4.078552 | .2758763            | 14.78 | 0.000   | 3.507859   | 4.649246  |

Private intangibles seem to be more strongly correlated with productivity, *unlike* public intangibles.

Note: variables are logarithmically transformed

# Identifying public-private complementarities

Searching for public-private complementarities

$$\begin{split} \frac{GDP_{y}}{EMP_{y}} = & \alpha_{1} PublicAsset_{y} + \alpha_{2} PrivateAsset_{y} + \alpha_{3} (PublicAsset_{y}) (PrivateAsset_{y}) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \beta_{i} OtherPrivateAsset_{i,y} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \gamma_{i} OtherPublicAsset_{i,y} + cons + \epsilon \end{split}$$

#### • For public-public investments:

 $\begin{aligned} \frac{GDP_{y}}{EMP_{y}} = & \alpha_{1} PublicAsset_{A,y} + \alpha_{2} PublicAsset_{B,y} + \alpha_{3} PublicAsset_{A,y}) (PublicAsset_{B,y}) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^{N-2} \beta_{i} OtherPublicAsset_{i,y} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \gamma_{i} PrivateAsset_{i,y} + cons + \epsilon \end{aligned}$ 

Note: variables are logarithmically transformed

#### **Public-Private Complementarities**

| 1%<br>investment<br>increase in<br>this public<br>asset | and 1%<br>investment<br>increase in<br>this private<br>asset | is associated<br>with the<br>following %<br>increase in<br>labor<br>productivity | p-value<br>*** p < 0.01;<br>** p < 0.05; *<br>p < 0.1 |
|---|--|--|---|
| database  | database   | 0.035  | *   |
| database  | R&D  | 0.078  | **  |
| organizational capital                                  | database   | 0.057  | **  |
| organizational<br>capital                               | R&D  | 0.106  | ***   |
| organizational capital                                  | software   | 0.052  | **  |
| organizational<br>capital                               | training   | 0.077  | *   |
| R&D   | tangible   | 0.400  | ***   |
| software  | R&D  | 0.074  | **  |
| training  | tangible   | 0.010  | **  |

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#### **Public-Public Complementarities**

| 1%<br>investment                    | and 1%<br>investment                | is associated<br>with the<br>following % | p-value                                    |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| increase in<br>this public<br>asset | increase in<br>this public<br>asset | increase in<br>labor<br>productivity     | *** p < 0.01;<br>** p < 0.05; *<br>p < 0.1 |  |
| database                            | organizational capital              | 0.060                                    | **   |  |
| database                            | R&D                                 | 0.077                                    | *  |  |
| database                            | software                            | 0.030                                    | *  |  |
| database                            | training                            | 0.003                                    | *  |  |
| organizational<br>capital           | R&D                                 | 0.130                                    | **   |  |
| organizational<br>capital           | software                            | 0.057                                    | **   |  |
| organizational<br>capital           | training                            | 0.005                                    | **   |  |
| R&D                                 | training                            | 0.007                                    | *  |  |

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| organizational<br>capital           | software                            | 0.057                                    | **   |  |
| organizational capital              | training                            | 0.005                                    | **   |  |
| R&D                                 | training                            | 0.007                                    | *  |  |

#### Next steps

- Fractional polynomial method to investigate interactions between predictors (applications in clinical trials) (Royston and Sauerbrei, 2009).
- MPIgen, algorithm to fit the function:

$$Z = \beta_1 x^{p_1} + \beta_2 y^{p_2} + \beta_3 x^{p_1} y^{p_2}$$

- Where *p1* or *p2* may take the following values: -2, -1, 0.5, 0, 0.5, 1, 2, 3.
- Chooses interaction with best fit.

## **Preliminary conclusions**

- Measuring the contribution of public intangibles is problematic as there is no consensus regarding a measure of "public output".
- This is a first approach seeking to test for complementary roles of public intangibles in the market economy.
- The role of intangibles is increasing in the French economy. This role needs to be further explored: Austerity measures concerning public investments may disrupt the economic recovery from the recent financial crisis.