

Performance effects and complementarity of internal, cooperative and external R&D

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Performance Effects and Complementarity of Internal, Cooperative and External R&D

1. There are economies of scope in R&D. Internal and external R&D both reveal stronger declining returns to focused increases in either internal and external R&D than to simultaneous increases in both (Chapter 6).
2. R&D cooperation with a particular partner is significantly more likely if incoming spillovers from that type of partner are more important for the firm's innovation process, with the exception of competitor cooperation, reflecting greater appropriability concerns (Chapter 2).
3. Universities are important sources of knowledge for firms pursuing radical innovations, which facilitate growth in innovative sales. Customers are important for market facilitation of new products, which contributes to the growth in innovative sales (Chapter 3).
4. True complementarity between variables/strategies can be revealed only if the relation holds for all states of the choice variables (Chapter 4). In other words, coffee and Limburgian vlaai are complements if you prefer to have them together to having coffee and vlaai separately when it is somebody's birthday as well as when you have to pay for them yourself.
5. Not all types of R&D cooperation are mutually reinforcing: certain combinations may lead to higher productivity when pursued independently. There is also evidence that diseconomies of scope exist in cooperative R&D, especially for smaller firms (Chapter 5).
6. According the Dutch Immigration and Naturalization Office's definition, a knowledge worker is a person earning more than 45 thousand Euros a year, academic personnel younger than 30 years and AIOs without an age limit. By this definition a large share of the academic staff at the University of Maastricht cannot be considered to be advancing the frontiers of knowledge.
7. "The French and Dutch governments should not use eastern enlargement of the European Union as a scapegoat for their referendum defeats. Unemployment and dependence on welfare payments are due to domestic policy failures; closing borders or welfare to workers from the new members would backfire". (T. Bruecker and R. Portes, FT, June 10 2005).
8. Writing propositions for a thesis defense is one of the traditions at the Dutch universities. However now it is a sort of helping hand for the corona members to come up with a question in case there was no time to read the whole thesis.
9. It is OK to have more than one promoter and to iterate between them while improving a dissertation chapter as long as the iterations converge.