

BRINGING ASIA INTO THE COMPARATIVE APPROACH

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INTRODUCTION

- I. Common issues to quite all authors*
- II. Specific questions addressed to each article*
- III. Some next steps*

I. COMMON ISSUES

1. How do the three major concepts relate?

✓ Capitalism : a holistic vision

all authors

✓ Social systems of Innovation and production:
a sub component and meso level

Reslinger

✓ Business systems and models : meso /
individual firm

Witt & Redding, Whitley

Question G1: In your research what is to be explained what is explaining variable?

2. What are the cohesive forces that stick these entities?

- ✓ Compatibility : nearly everything goes
- ✓ Complementarity : a superior static or dynamic performance.
- ✓ Hierarchy: one component (finance, SSIP, completion...) imposes its logic to other components
- ✓ Isomorphism between components or levels

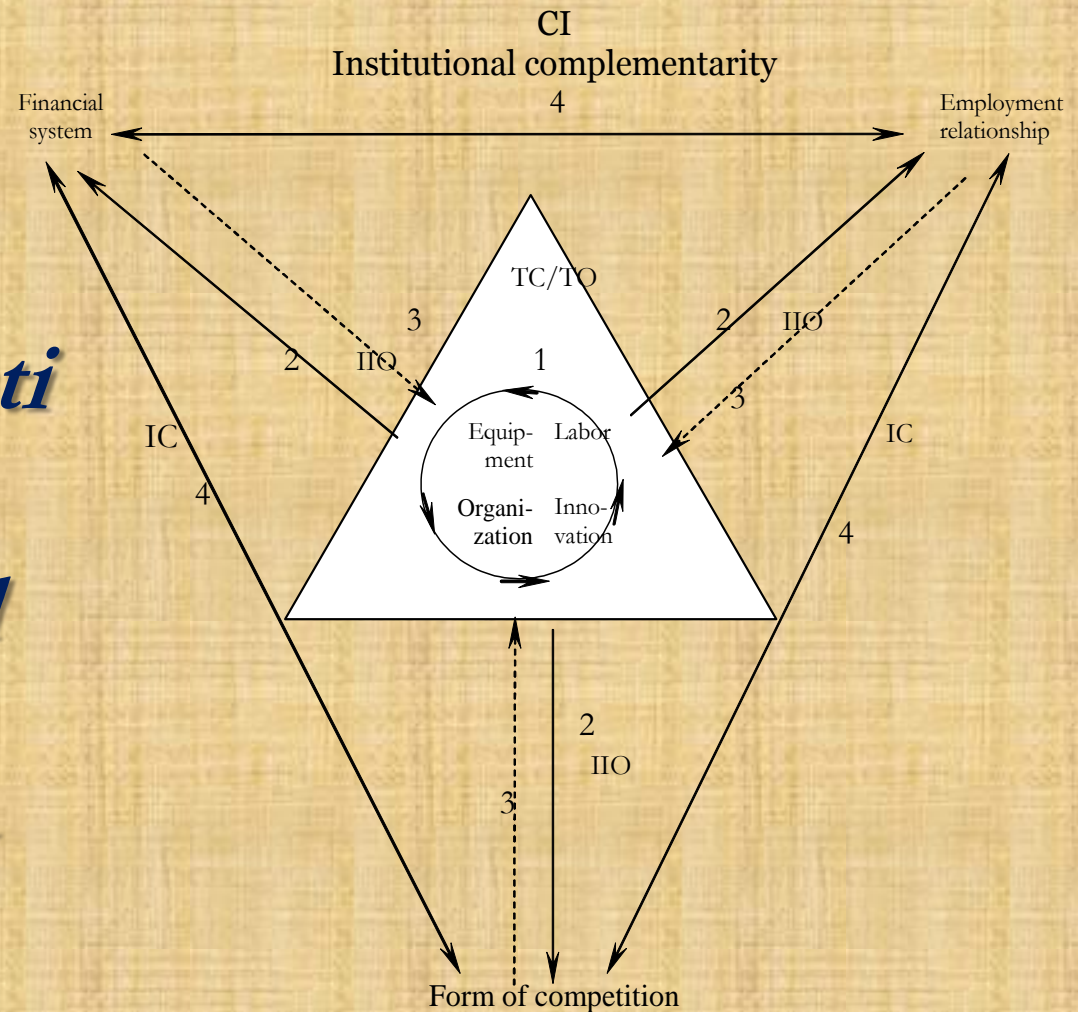
Question G2 : What is the main mechanism you rely upon in your research ?

3. From the firm to the national economy or the reverse?

➤ Two different conceptions of the causality

- ✓ *From the firm to society wide institutions: Variety of Capitalism (VoC)*
- ✓ *From institutional forms to firms organization: Régulation Theory(RT).*

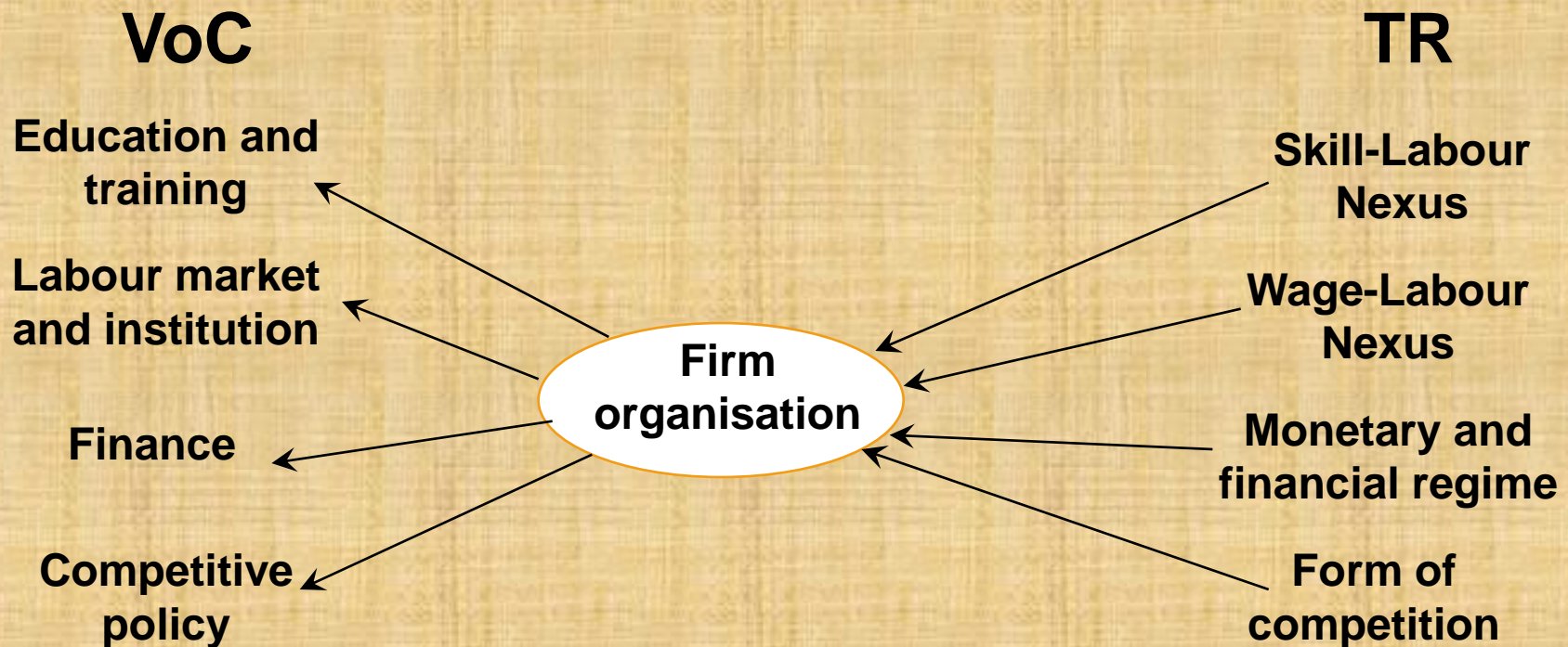
Links between organizational complementarity, organizational/insti tutional isomorphism and institutional complementarity



- | | | |
|-------|-------|--|
| 1 | TC/TO | Technological/organization complementarity
(Ex. <i>Just-in-time, total quality, polyvalence</i>) |
| 2 & 3 | IIO | Isomorphism between institutions and organizations
(Ex. <i>Just-in-time, industrial district polyvalence, training system</i>) |
| 4 | IC | Institutional complementarity
(Ex. <i>industrial district, stable employment, patient financial market</i>) |

A convergence between VOC and RT about the links between economic institutions and firms organization ...

...but an opposite causality

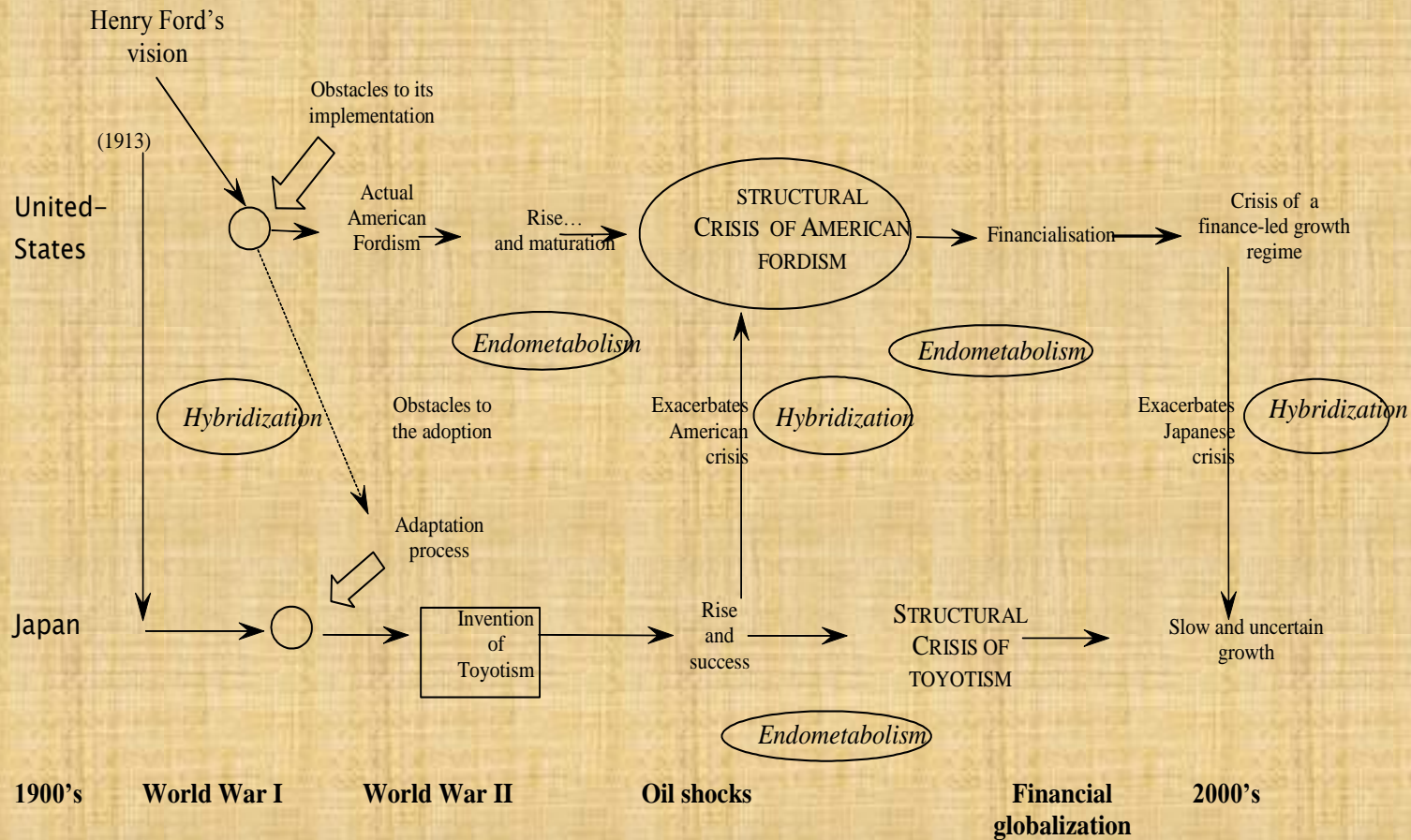


Question G3 : How would you classify your approach: bottom-up or top-down?

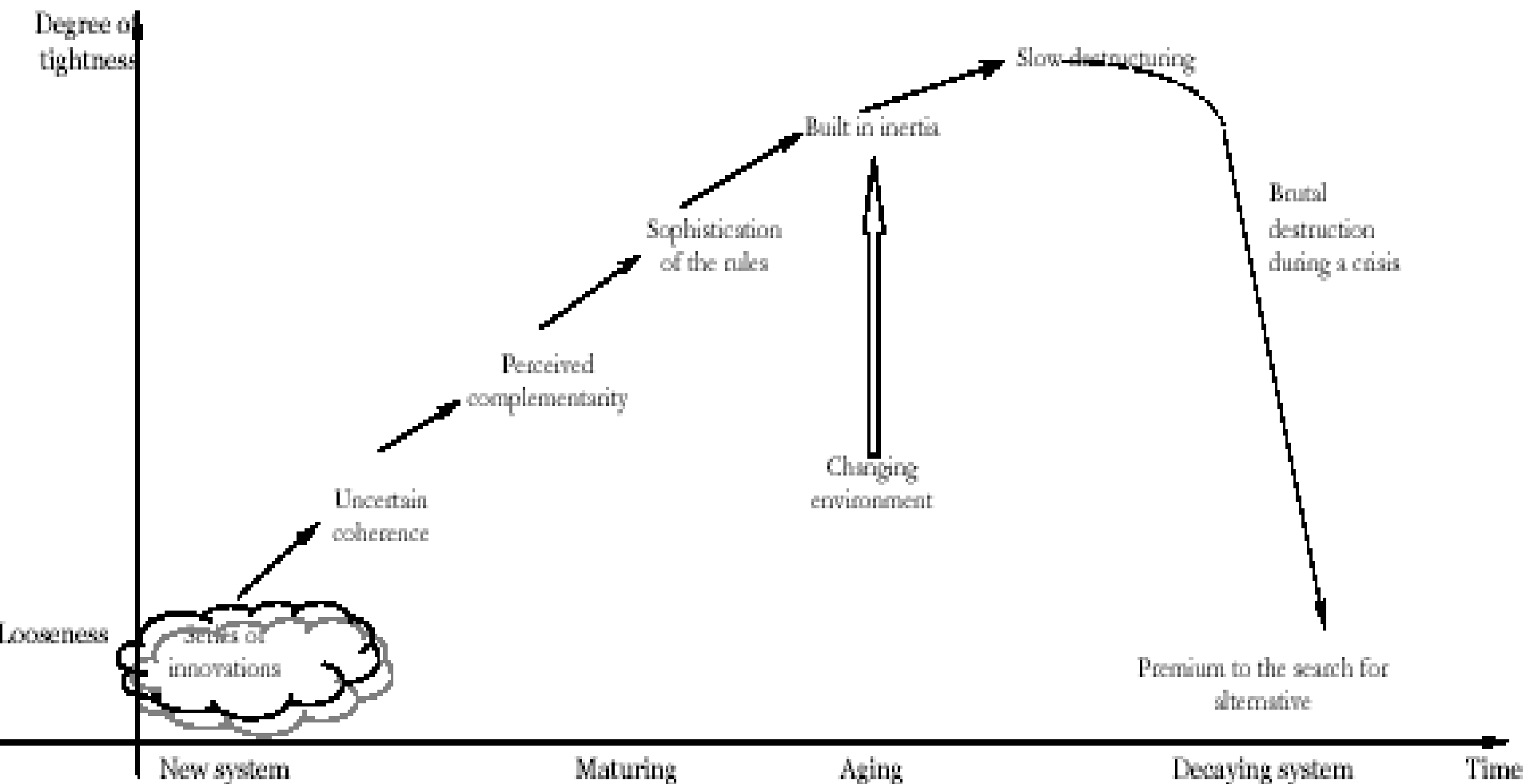
4. Why and how do business systems and capitalisms change?

- ✓ **Exogenous shocks:** down played by all authors
- ✓ **Hybridization** of local entities with imported and adapted norms and practices
- ✓ **Endo-metabolism:** the very success of a configuration leads to its endogenous destabilization

✓ *Hybridization and endo-metabolism, two factors of institutional change: the joint evolution of American and Japanese trajectories*



✓ *From the perception and effectiveness of an institutional Complementarity (IC) to rising inertia and possible crisis*



Question G4 : How do hybridization (syncretism) and endogenous change explain the transformations you studied...

Implicitly Reslinger, and partially Kushida & Shimizu

- ...or are shifts in the dominant coalitions the drivers of institutional change...

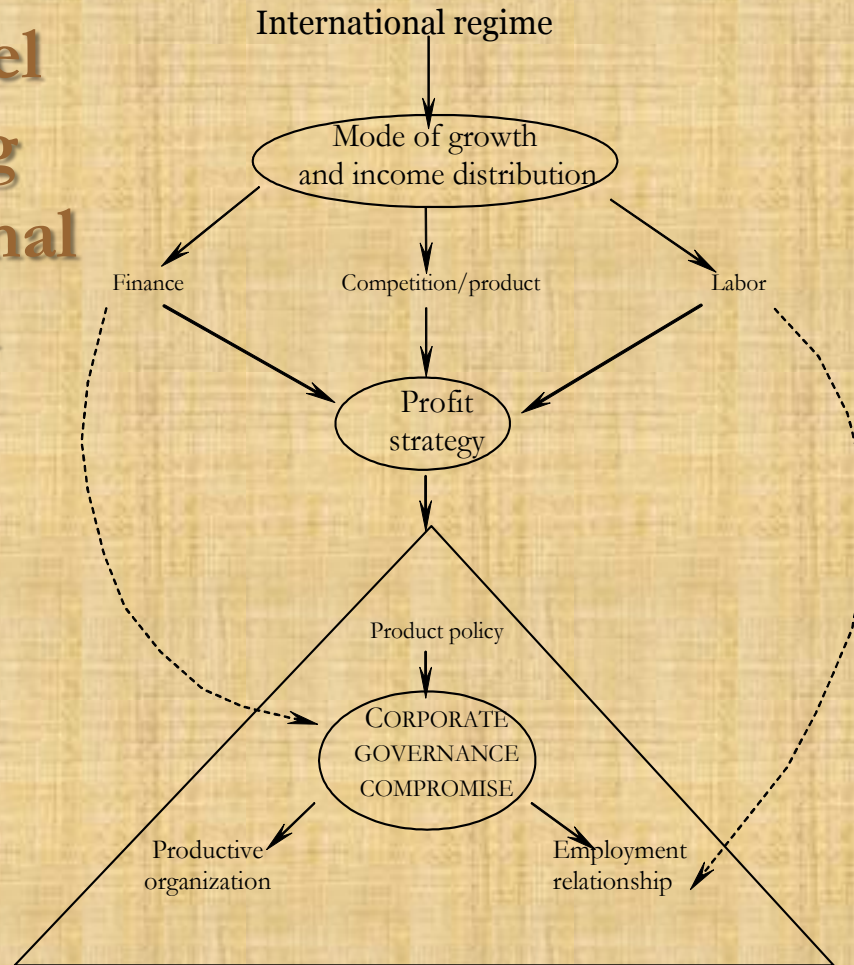
Zhang & Whitley, Kushida & Shimizu

- ... And this falsifies the path dependency hypothesis

Storz, Amable, Casper and Lechevalier

5. *The next frontier: heterogeneity of business systems and firms*

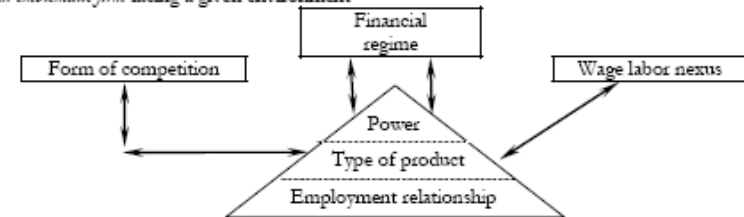
**The productive model
concept as a starting
point for an institutional
analysis of the firm**



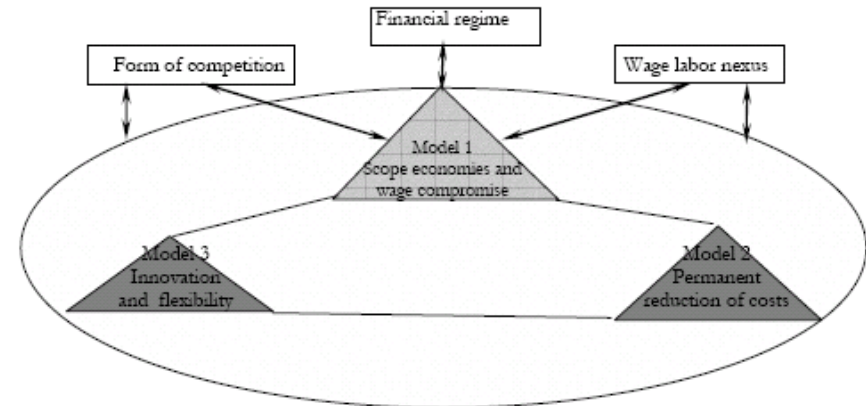
Source: adapted from Boyer, Freyssenet [2000: 24].

From the mode of regulation to the heterogeneous nature of firms: three steps

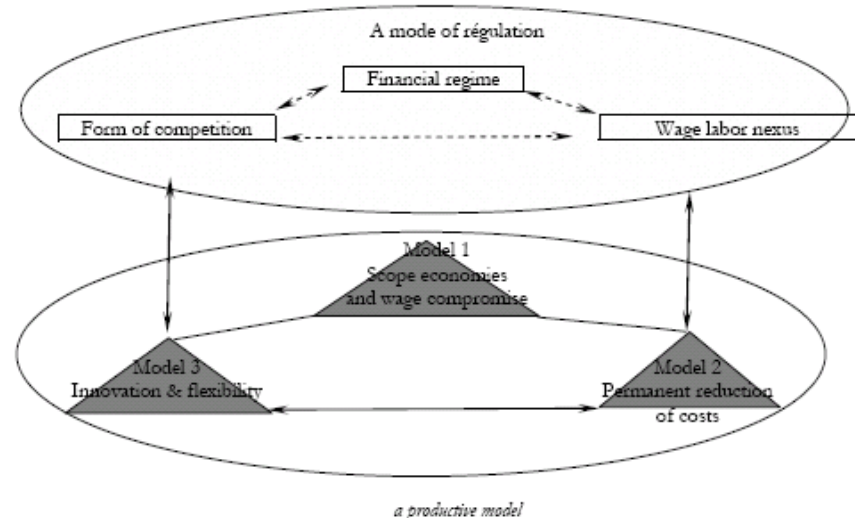
A. An emblematic firm facing a given environment



B. A similar sectoral context, but with a diversity of profit strategies and industrial models, which together comprise a system.



C. Ensuring a productive model's coherency with a mode of regulation



Legend:

- Influence of context on the industrial model(s) and vice versa.
- Complementarities between profit strategies and industrial models
- Complementarities between the institutional forms defining the mode of regulation

Question G5 : How would the heterogeneity issue change your conclusion ?

- ✓ *Not so much, Witt & Redding (private/public)*
- ✓ *Heterogeneity of bank restructuring is part of the explanation, Kushida & Shimizu*
- ✓ *Probably via culture and informality, Storz, Amable, Casper and Lechevalier.*
- ✓ *The role of multinationals and Chinese business diaspora in the heterogeneity of each Asian Emerging Countries (EC): Reslinger*

6. *In search for a common taxonomy of Asian capitalisms: an impossible task?*

Authors	Witt/Redding	Harada/Tohyama	Reslinger	Zhang/Whitley
Coverage of countries	13	10	8/27 (global)	4
Taxonomies	<p>Post Socialist</p> <p>China, Vietnam, Laos, India</p> <p>South East Asian</p> <p>Thailand, Malaysia, The Philippines, Indonesia</p> <p>Advanced North-east Asian</p> <p>Korea, Taiwan, Japan</p> <p>Advanced cities</p> <p>Hong-Kong, Singapore</p>	<p>Continental mix capitalisms</p> <p>China, India</p> <p>Insular semi-agrarian</p> <p>Indonesia, The Philippines</p> <p>Innovation-led capitalism</p> <p>Japan, Korea, Taiwan</p> <p>City capitalisms</p> <p>Hong-Kong, Singapore</p>	<p>Directed</p> <p>Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, India</p> <p>Cocktail</p> <p>The Philippines</p> <p>Decentralized</p> <p>Korea</p> <p>Finance-led</p> <p>Malaysia</p>	<p>State-led</p> <p>Malaysia (1970-2000), Taiwan (1950-1980)</p> <p>Personalized</p> <p>Thailand (1990-2000)</p> <p>Co-governed</p> <p>Taiwan (1990-2000)</p> <p>Networked</p> <p>Japan (1970-2000)</p> <p>Thailand (1950-1980)</p>

A multiplicity of capitalism brands

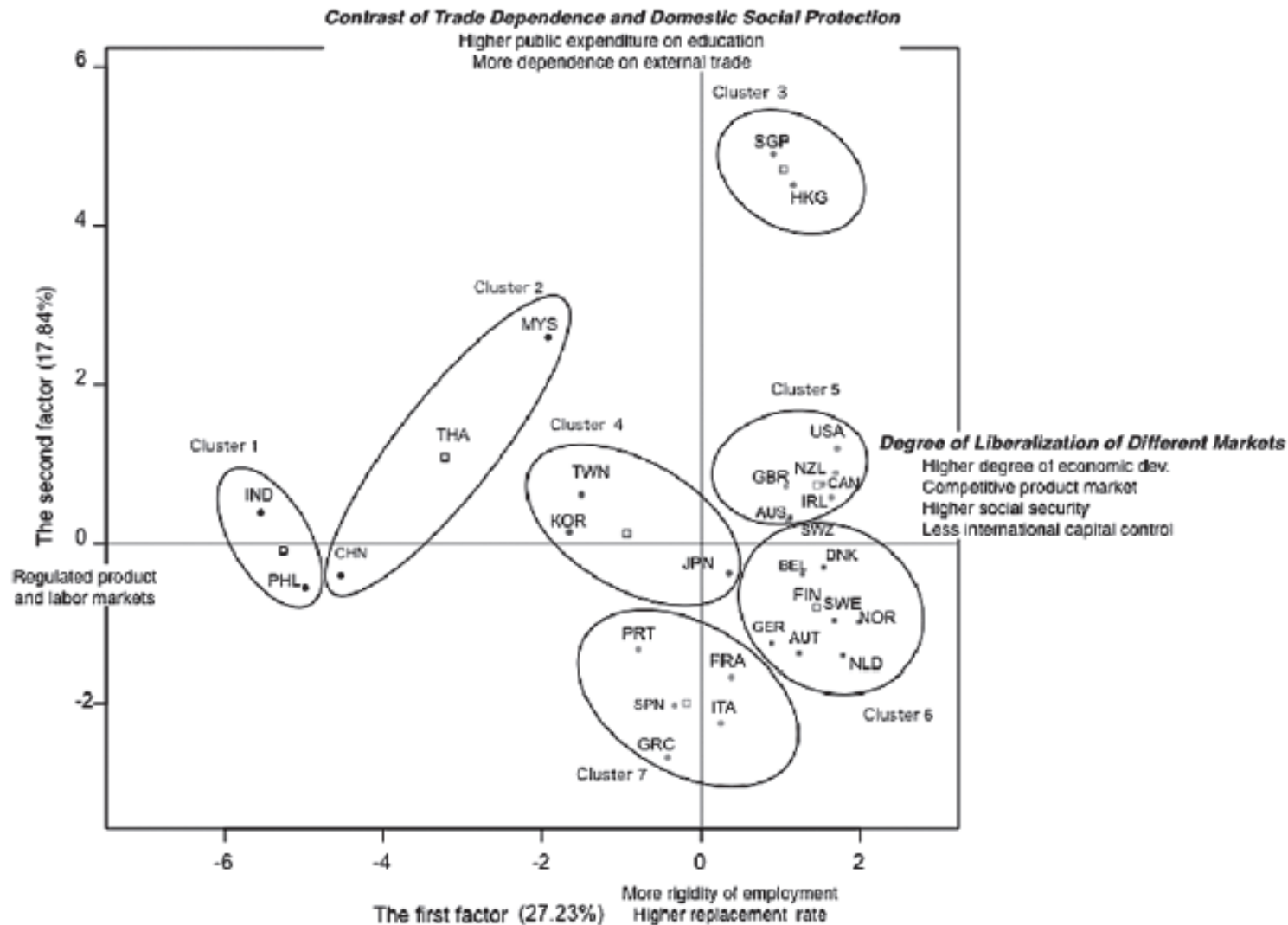
Analysis of the
variety of
capitalisms
as the expression of
a combination of
the four main
principles of
coordination



Five brands of capitalism in Asia (Harada, Toyama, 2011)

- *City capitalism: Singapore and Hong Kong*
- *Insular semi-agrarian capitalism: Indonesia and the Philippines*
- *Innovation-led capitalism: Japan, Korea and Taiwan*
- *Trade led industrializing capitalism: Malaysia and Thailand*
- *Continental mixed capitalism: China*

At least four different Asian capitalisms, distinctive from the rest of the world



Source: HARADA Yuji, Hironori TOHYAMA (2012), p. 247

Still a larger variety of capitalism in Latin America

1990s	Argentina	Brazil	Chile	Mexico	Venezuela
Régulation Mode	Largely market led and open to world competition	Between Clientelist and market -led	Moderately market led	Corporatist in crisis	Administered and “rentier” in crisis
<i>Leading institutional forms</i>	Monetary regime and forms of competition	Basic but declining role of the State	Central role of the State	Monetary regime and free trade agreement (NAFTA)	Leading role of State, but declining efficiency
<i>Complementary institutional</i>	Highly flexible wage labour nexus	Very flexible wage labour nexus	Accommodating exchange and monetary regime	Accommodating wage labour nexus	Accommodating monetary policy
Accumulation regime	Intensive and competitiveness led	Intensive with de-structuring of productive coherence	Extensive and “rentier” with diversification	Dual. Export-led in the North, inward looking elsewhere	Rentier
Performance	High but unbalanced productivity increases	High productivity increasing, uncertain growth	Few productivity increases	Productivity increases in modern sectors	No significant productivity increases
Nature of crisis	Structural crisis: bank insolvency, panic devaluation, political instability	Loss of coherence of the productive systems and slow growth	Intrinsic limits of extensive accumulation	Legitimacy crisis that spills over on external viability	Structural crisis during the 1990s

7. What priorities for future joint research ?

- *Be more precise about the nature of change: parameters, institutions, overall logic, economic outcomes*
- *The Chinese puzzle: permanent institutional adjustments but relatively steady growth.. until now!*
- *How specific the impact of informality and culture?*
- *What consequence of Asian integration on each brands of capitalism*

The methods : conflict, complementarity or new approaches (media analysis..)

TOOLS NOTIONS	GAME THEORY	QUALITATIVE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS	AUTOMATIC DATA ANALYSIS	ECONOMETRIC ANALYSIS WITH NON LINEAR TERM	HISTORICAL ANALYSIS	EVOLUTIO NARY MODELS
COMPLEMENTARITY	**	*		**		
COMPATIBILITY		*			*	*
HIERARCHY	**				**	*
COHERENCE			*		*	*
ISOMORPHISM			*	*	*	
CLUSTERING		**	**	*		**
COEVOLUTION	*				**	**

Thank you for your attention

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