

High Technology Clusters in UK: Science Parks & Incubators for Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Phil Cooke

Centre for Advanced Studies

Cardiff University

Conference: 'Innovazione e sviluppo locale: Esperienze
italiane e internazionali,' Artimino, October 12-13, 2007

MAR and Jacobs

- Boschma, Frenken, Van Oort et al Utrecht
- MAR ascribed view that sectoral or cluster specialisation furthers innovativeness
- Jacobs ascribed view that diversification of sectors is key to innovativeness
- Research by Cantwell/Iammarino (2003); Utrecht Team; C. Ketels - suggests growth dynamics (including innovation) are more associated with 'related variety'

Related Variety

- An evolutionary concept
- Variety enhances health of species (cf. Dutch elm disease; or contemporary devastation of *Ponderosa* pine forest in BC, Canada)
- Too much diversity makes ‘lateral absorptive capacity’ difficult = ‘cognitive dissonance’
- Neighbouring and proximate knowledge interaction ‘adds value’ to localised knowledge spillovers
- Clusters have some, but limited, related variety

Incubators for Specialisation

- E.g. Bioincubation
- Specialist infrastructure
- Specific service requirements
- Distinctive 'screening' expertise
- Long-term financing model
- Opportunities for IPR & licensing revenue
- Geographical & Relational Proximity

Science Parks as 'Related Variety' Proximity Platforms

- Harmonious interaction between entrepreneurship and the innovation system
- Entrepreneurs proximate to innovation system hub
- System hub has interactive policy instruments

The Cambridge & Oxford Science Parks

- Originally, somewhat ‘Jacobian’
- Or, at least, diversified – by 1980s Cambridge Science Park (1969) had very mixed tenants
- Pharmaceutical, electronics, biotechnology, materials, software, consultancies, etc.
- Little networking – so Cambridge Network Ltd. (ICT) set up in 1986 – Californian model
- Later, incubators, e.g. St. John’s & Babraham (C), BioTechNet (O) brought MAR interactions
- By 2000s quite good ‘related variety’ ICT-Bio-Nano interactions and spillovers

The First Cambridge Clusters in ICT : a MAR-type cluster – Wolfson & St. John's Incubator

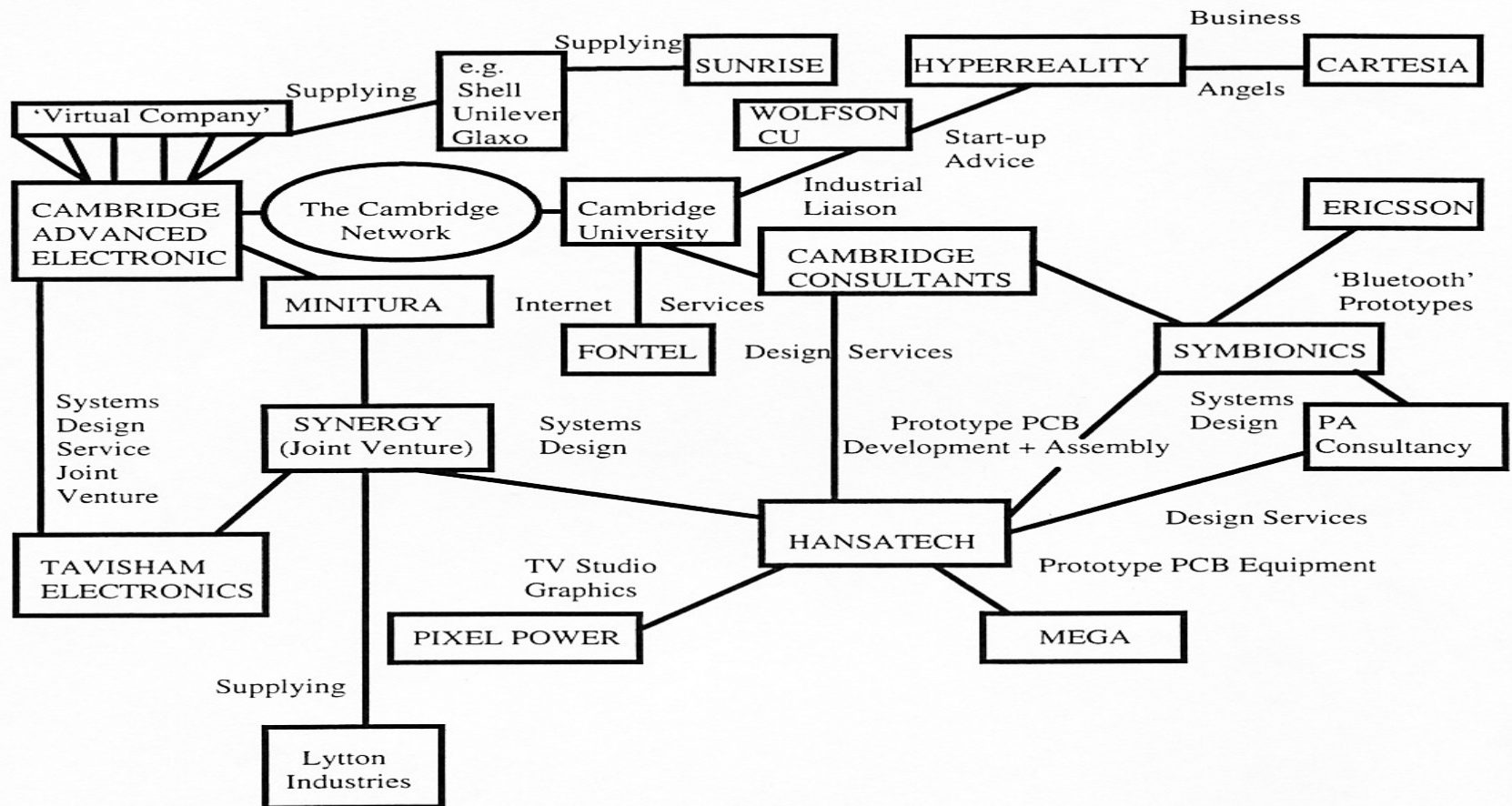
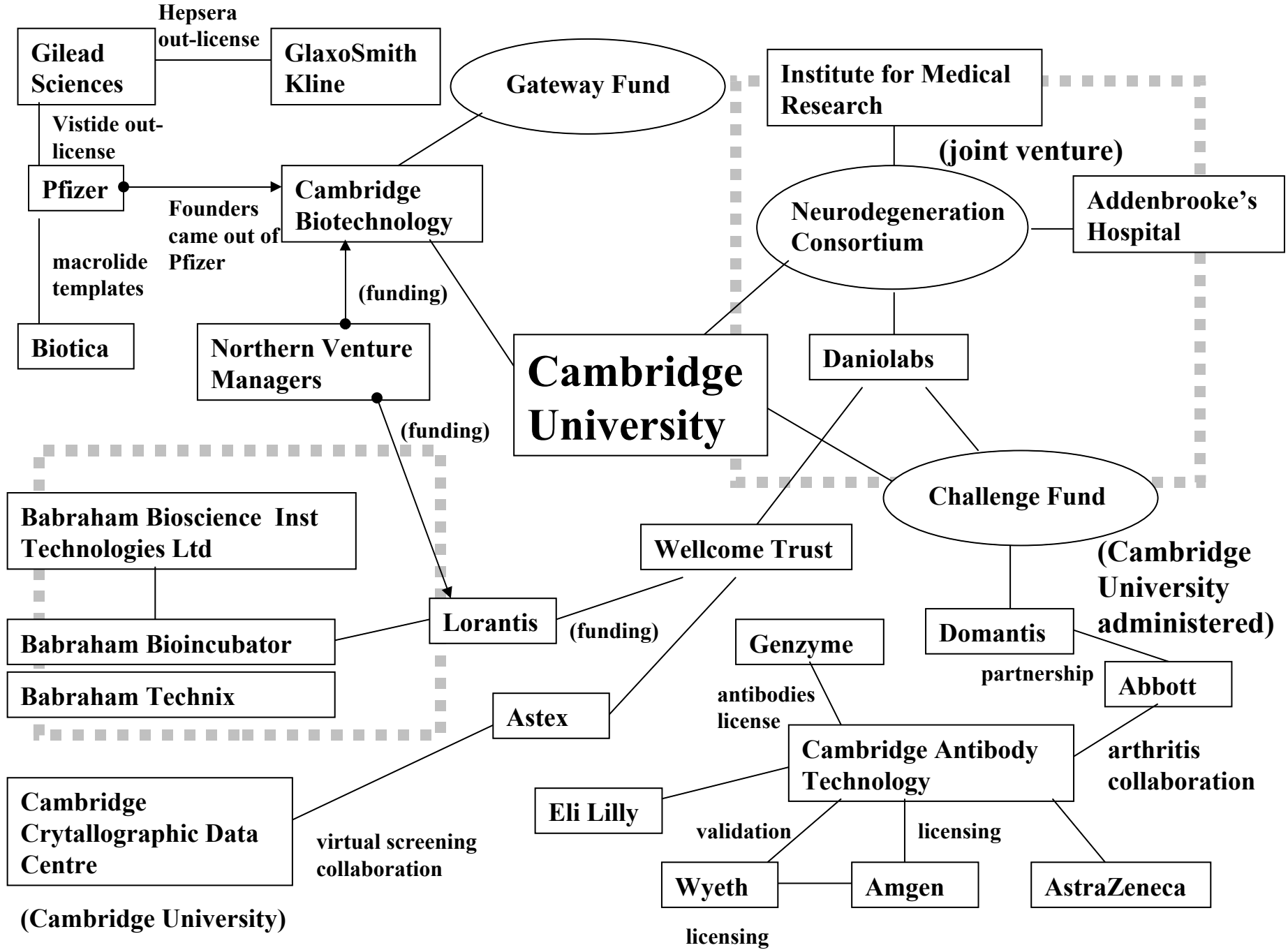
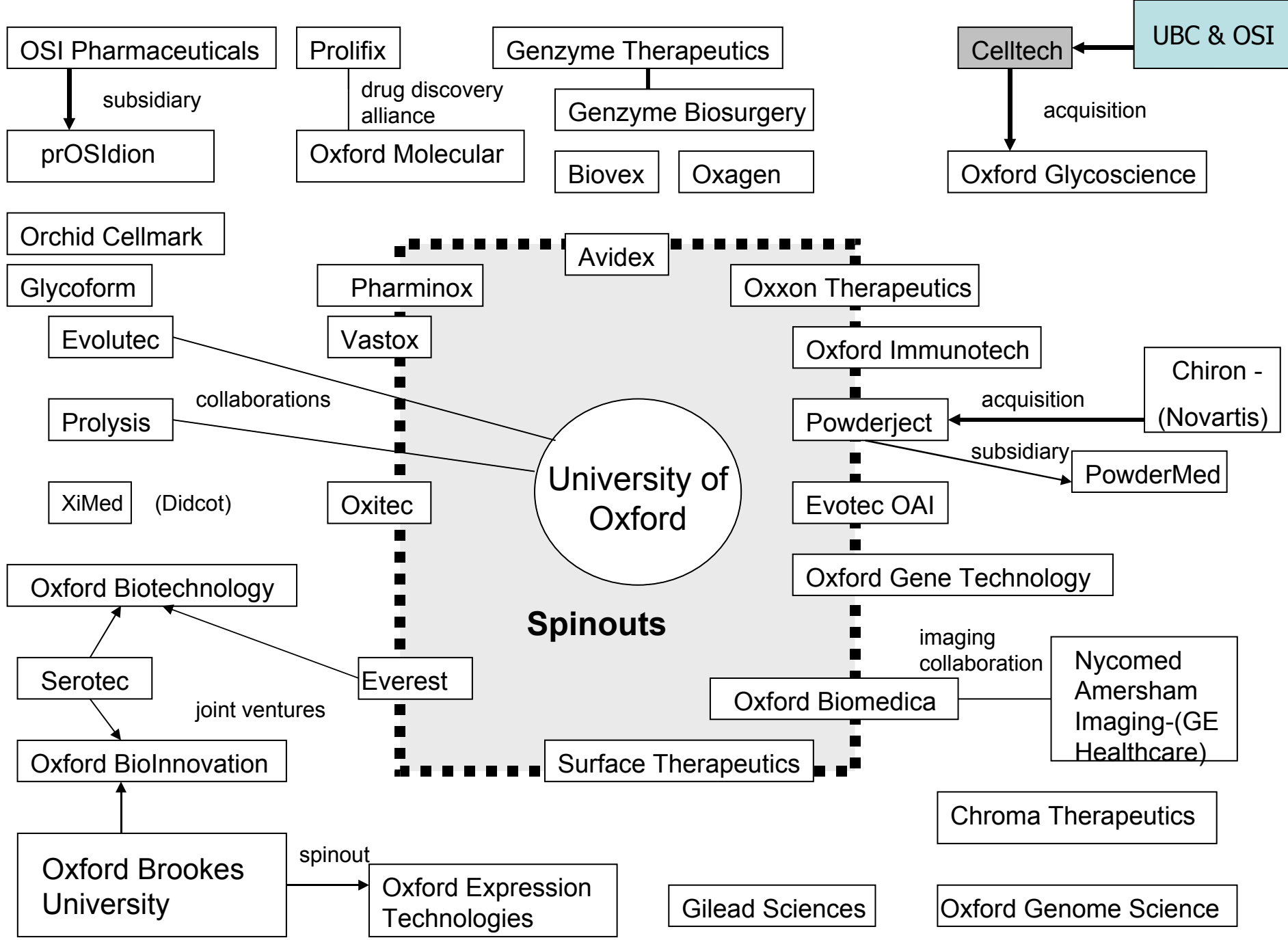
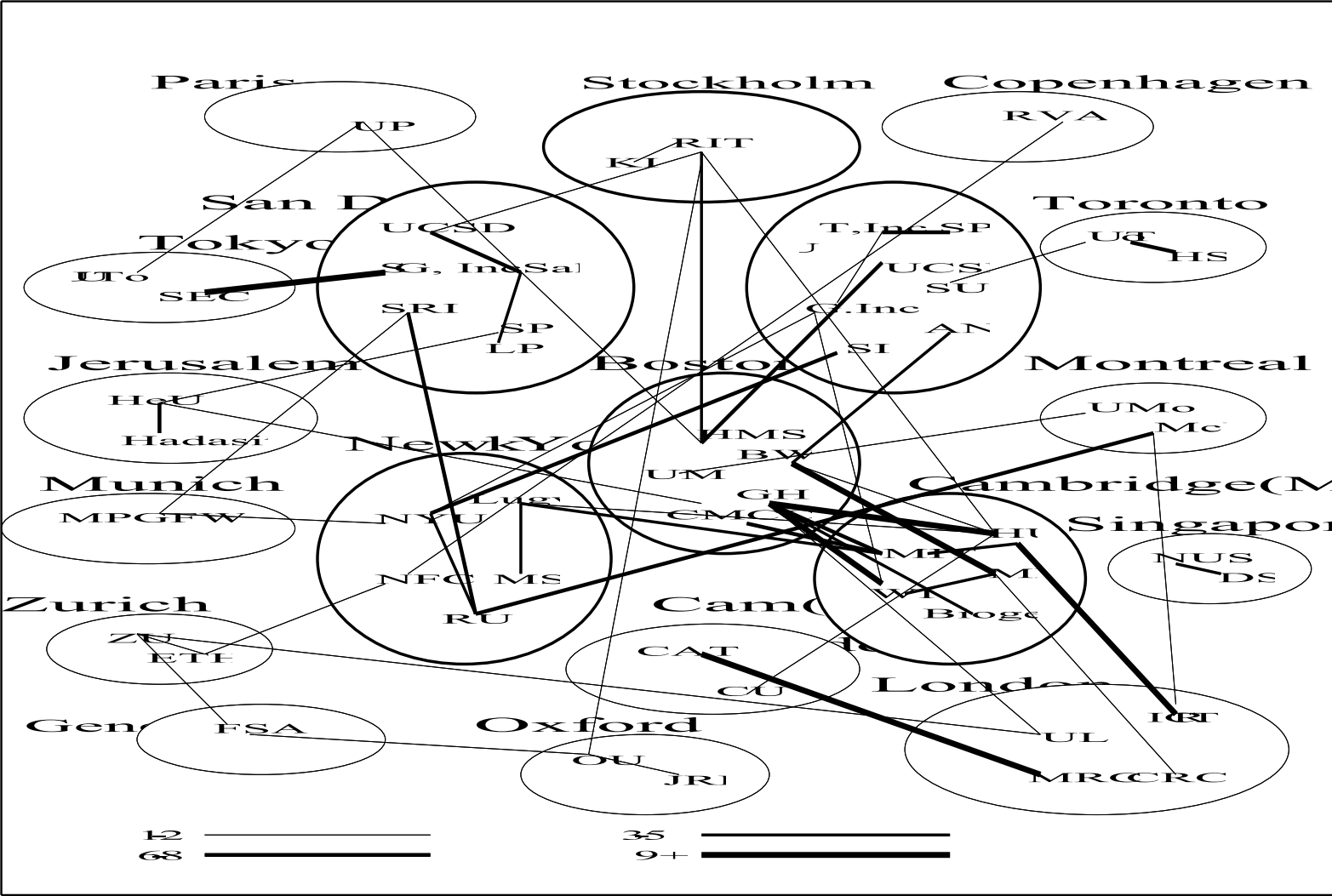


Fig. 1 Aspects of the Cambridge IT Cluster





Global Biotechnology Co-Patenting: 1998-2004



Scotland's 'Knowledge Economy' Approach

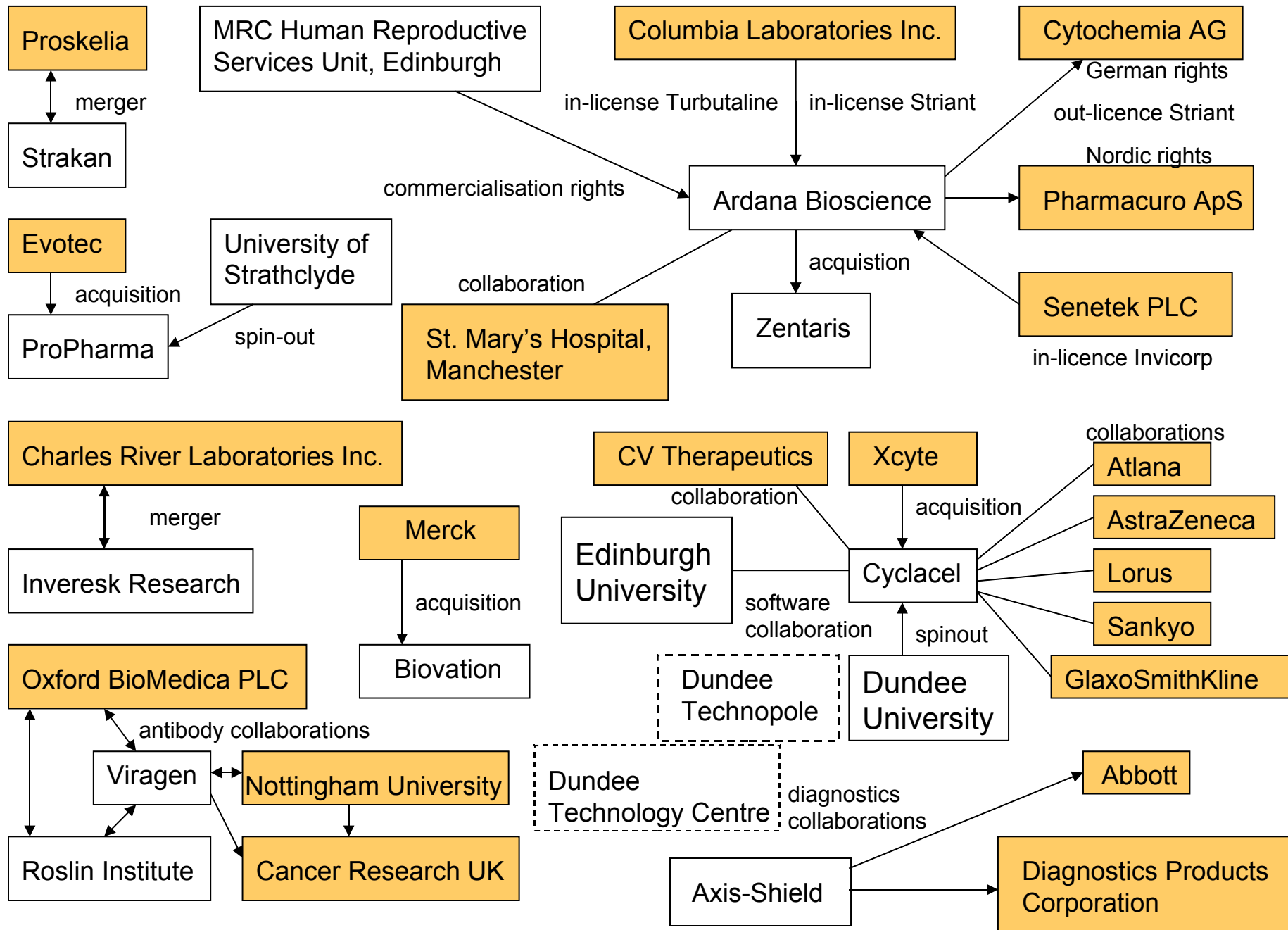
- Global Knowledge Flows
- Cosmopolitanism
- Retaining 'Talent'
- FDI conversion to R&D
- Intermediary Technology Institutes
- Clusters/'Proof of Concept Fund'
- Scotland's Science Strategy
- Edinburgh Science Triangle -

Edinburgh Science Triangle: Towards 'Related Variety' Platform-Building?

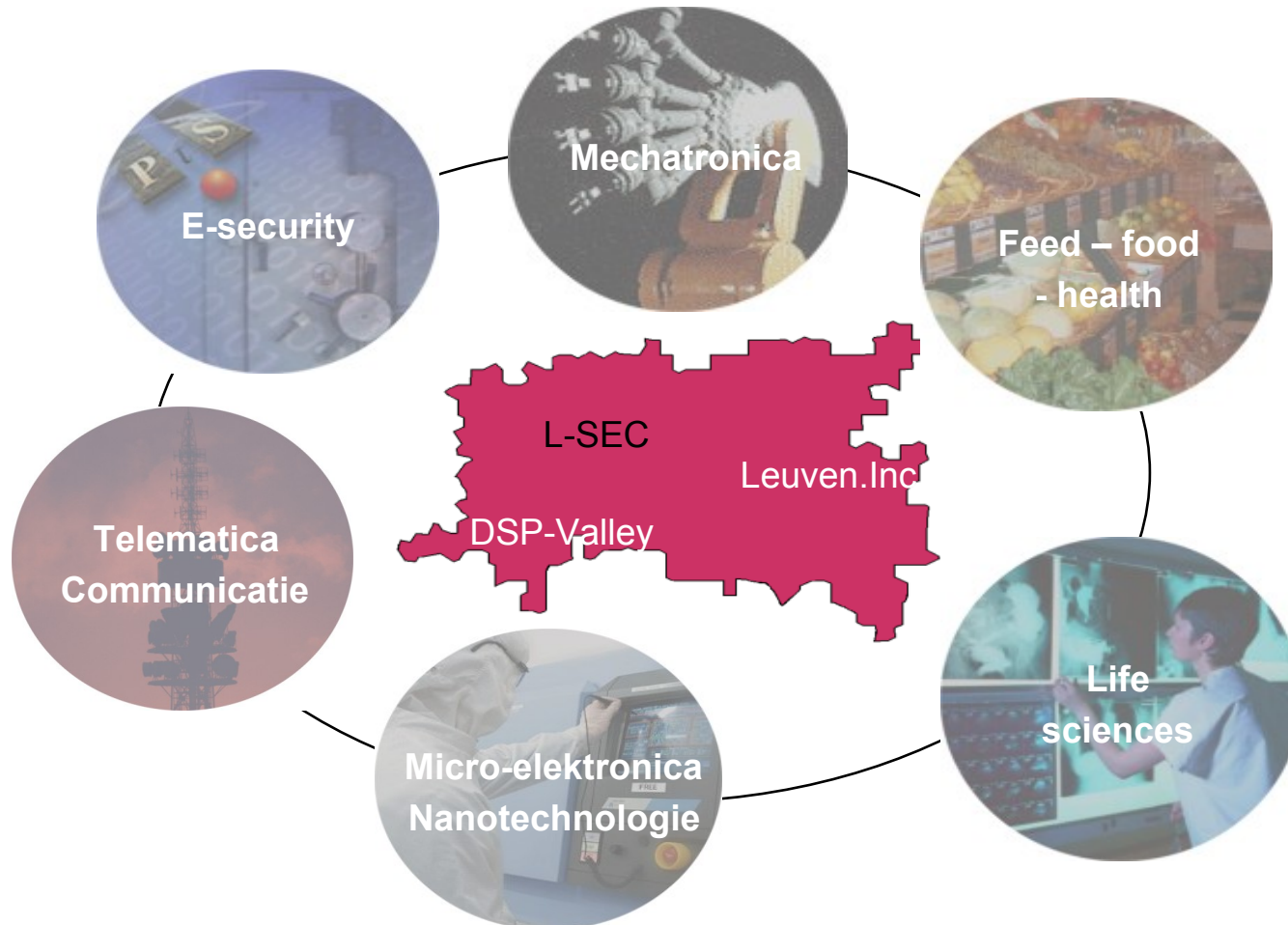
- Alba Campus – advanced IT software design
- Edinburgh Technopole – 62 hec. S&T Park
- BioCampus – 12 hec. Biomanufacturing GMP centre
- Heriot Watt Research Park – est.1971
- Centre for BioMedical Research – medical bioincubator
- Pentlands Science Park – veterinary & environmental
- Roslin BioCentre – transgenics R&D commercialisation institute

Scotland's Life Sciences Infrastructure





Jacobian Cluster Platform Policy



Lateral System Support

- Knowledge centres
- Entrepreneurs
- Seed Money
- Capital markets
- Infrastructure
- Role Models
- Cluster Policy
- Presence of international companies
- Networks
- Government
- Quality of Life

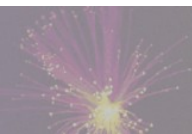
Telecommunications



Kenniscentra



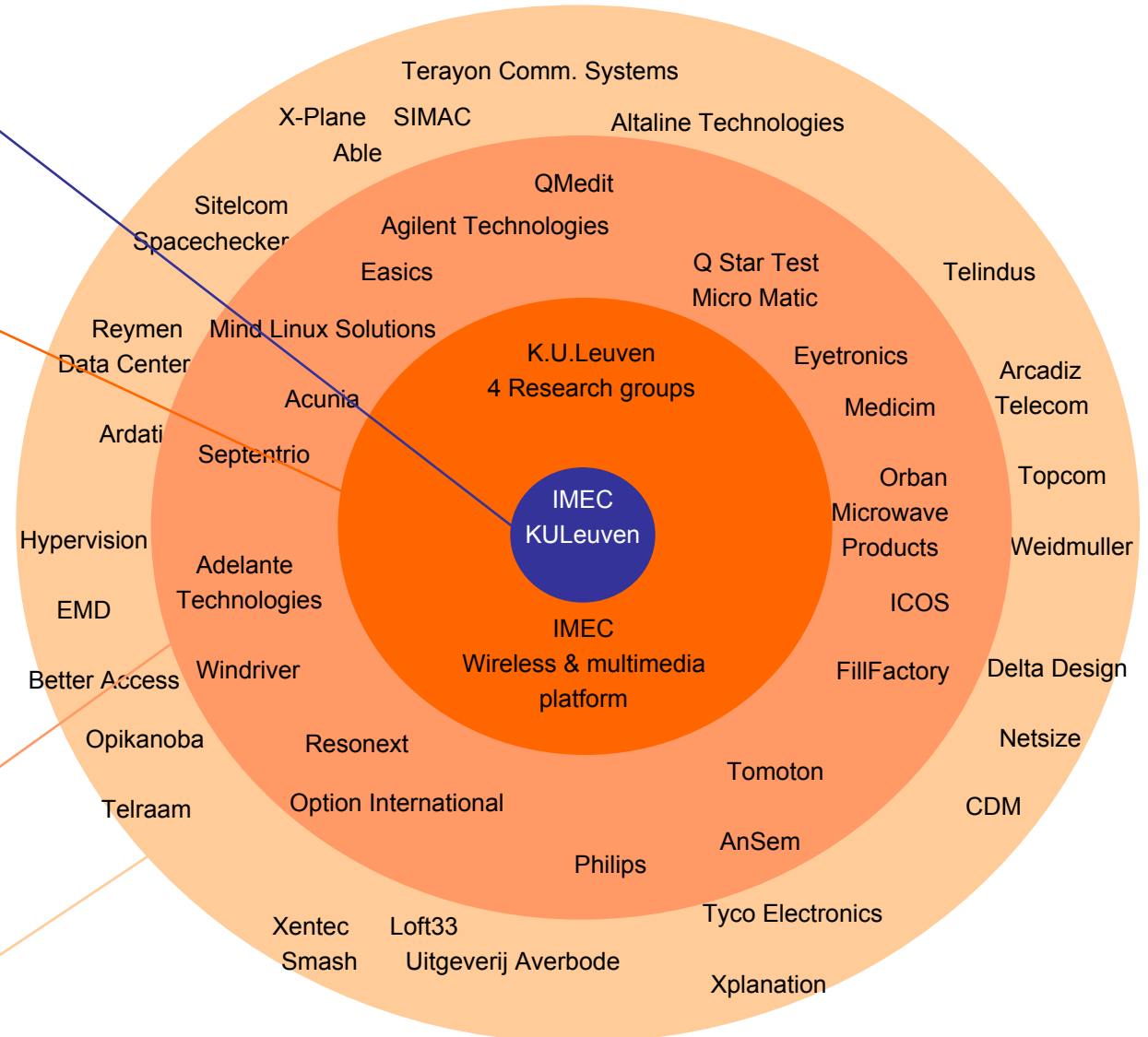
Centres of excellence



Pure innovatieve driven



Mixed innovative driven



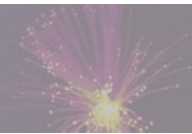
E-security



Kenniscentra



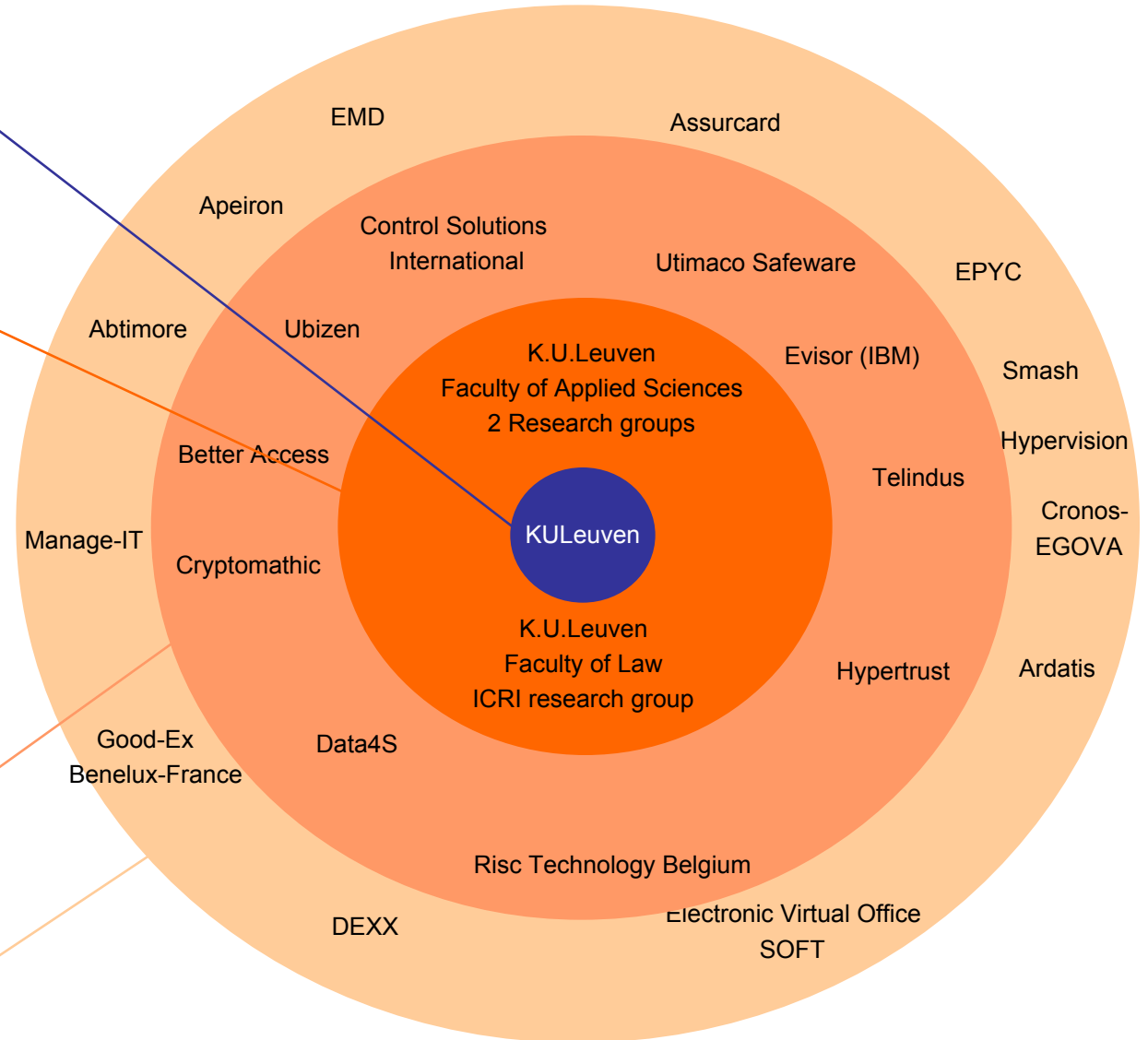
Centres of excellence



Pure innovation driven



Mixed innovation driven



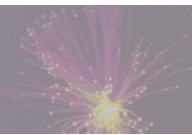
Life sciences



Kenniscentra



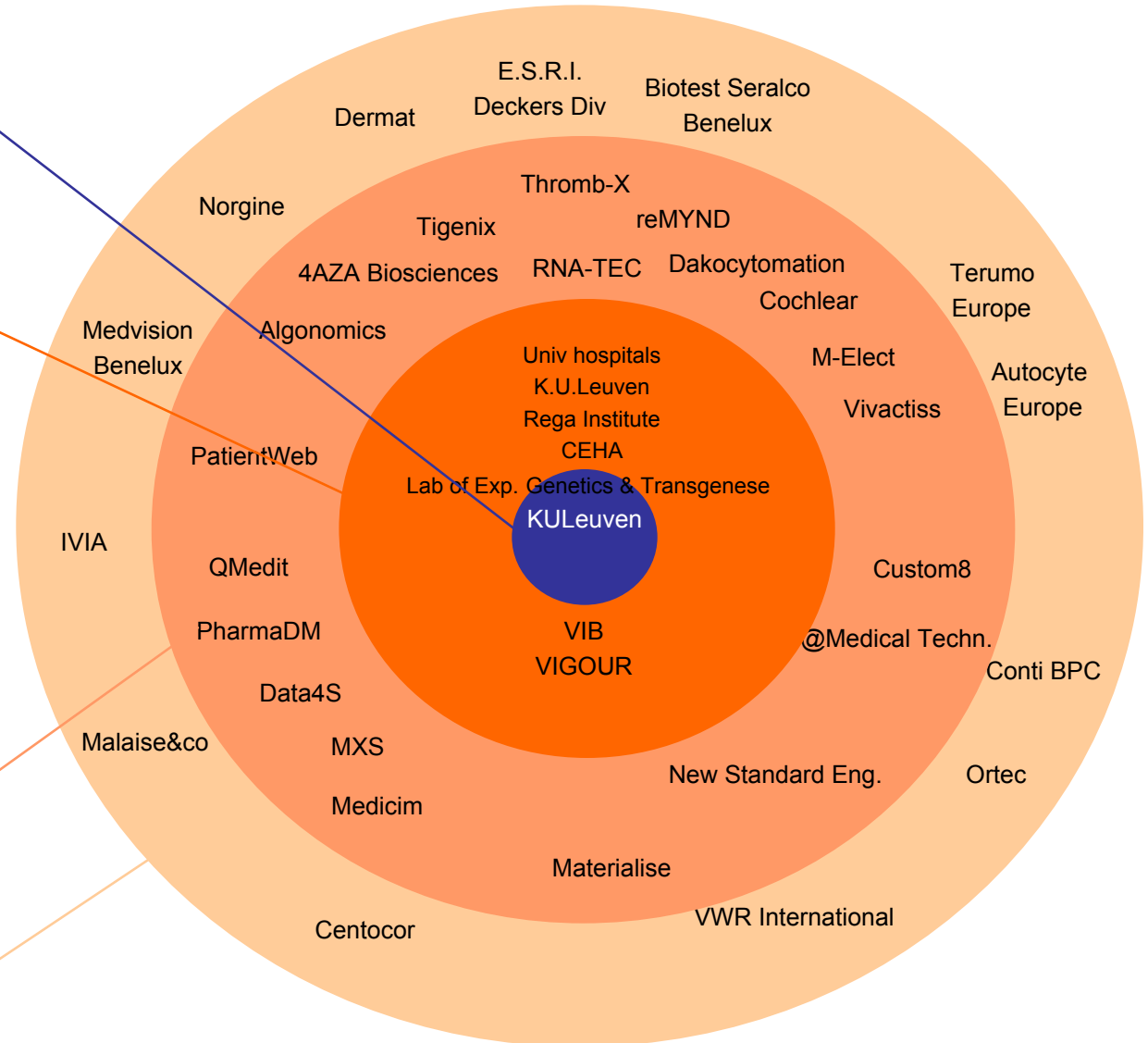
Centers of excellence



Pure innovatieve bedrijven



Mixed innovatieve bedrijven

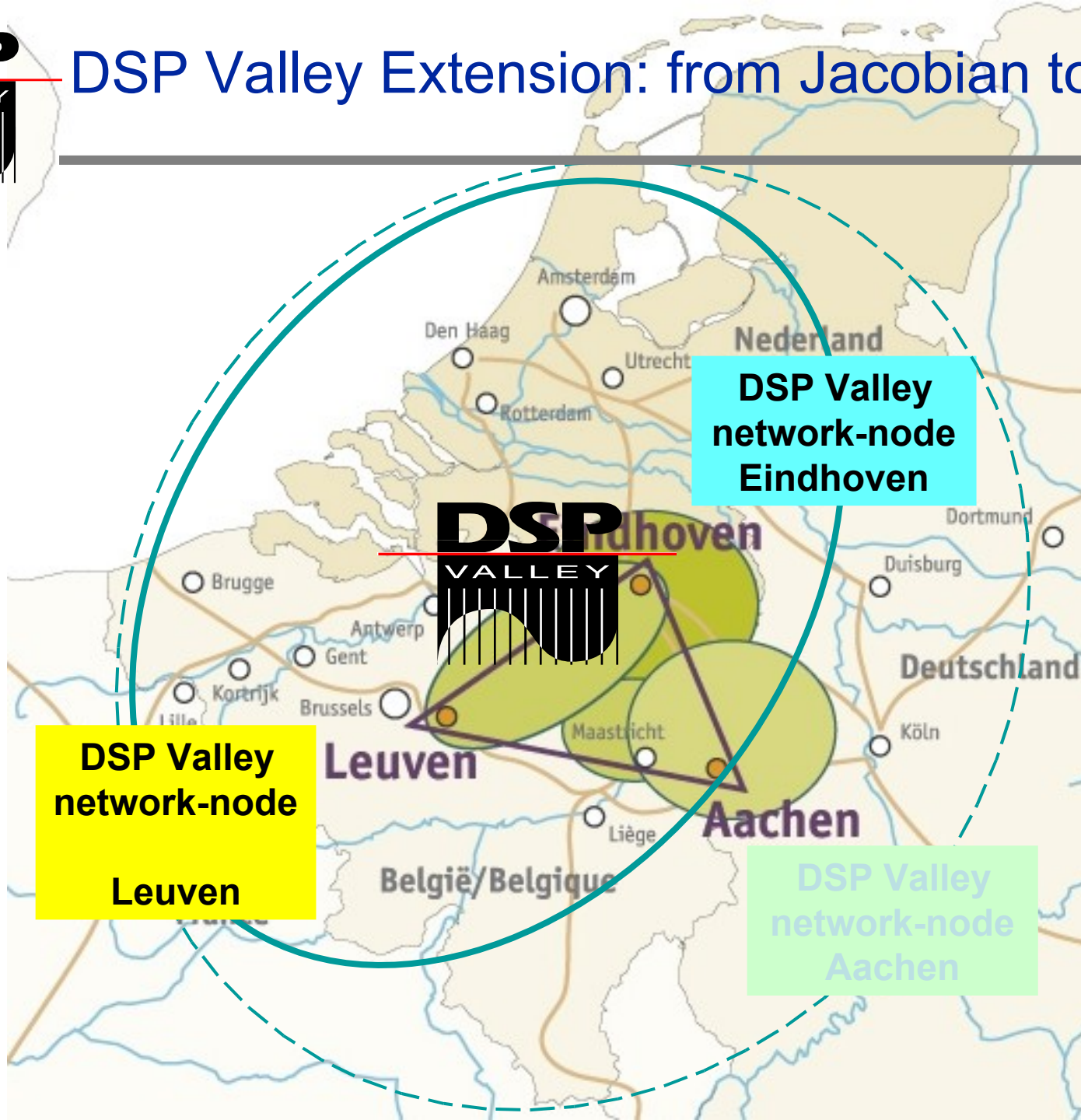


Performance Indicators

| | 2004 | 2010 (est.) |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| N° of companies | >300 | 400 |
| Turnover | 4.5 bn. € | 8 bn. €* * Growth 10 % |
| Jobs | 15,500 | 20,000 |



DSP Valley Extension: from Jacobian to MAR



**DSP Valley
network-node
Eindhoven**

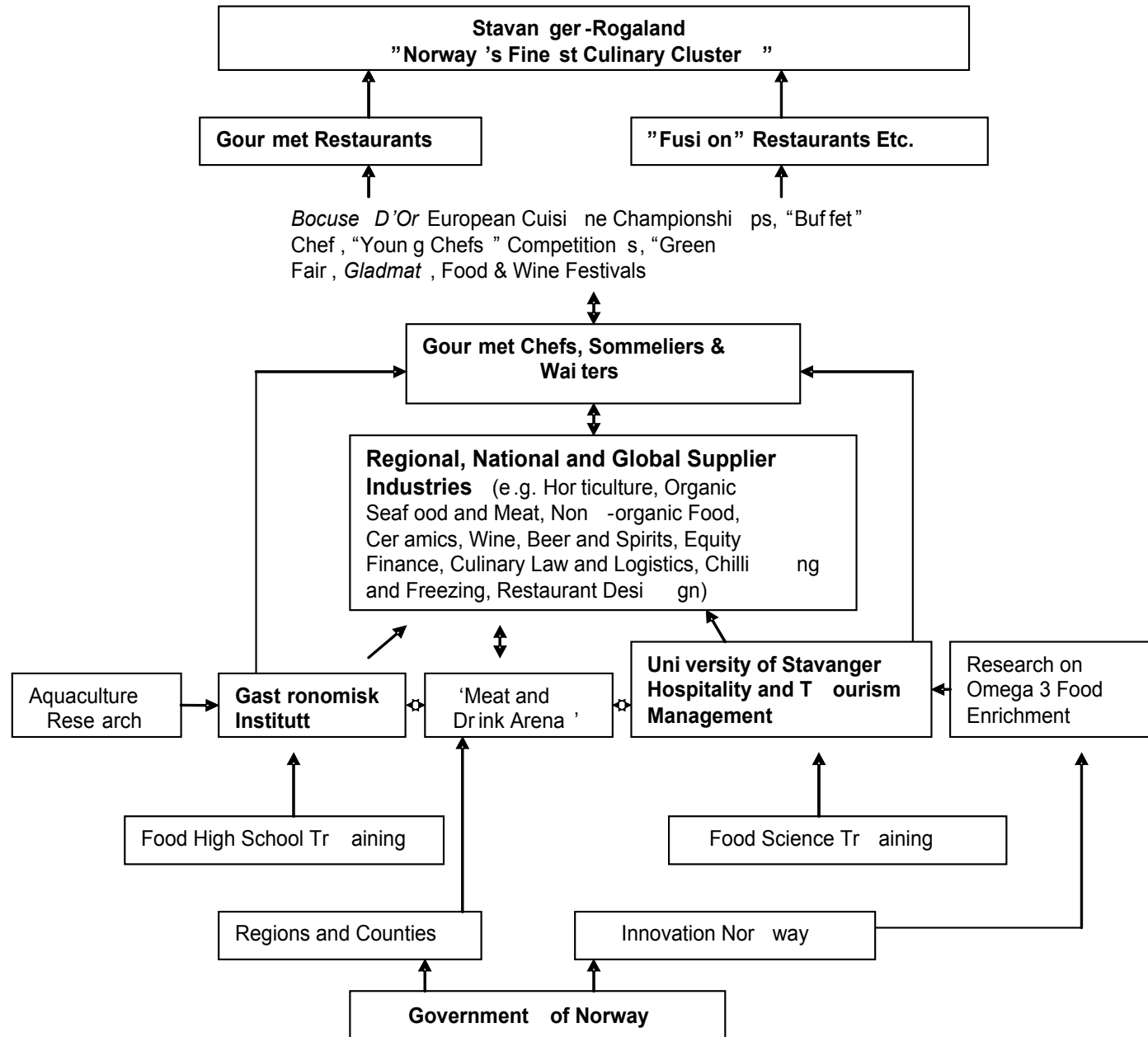
**DSP Valley
network-node
Leuven**

**DSP Valley
network-node
Aachen**

Digital Signal Processing

- Is central to products like high-density hard-disk drives
- Desktop video-conferencing
- Audio/video compression by rapidly processing large amounts of digital information
- Used in conjunction with mixed-signal devices and embedded software, it is referred to as a DSP Solution
- It collects, processes, compresses, transmits and displays analogue and digital data

Norway: Rogaland-Stavanger 'Related Variety' Culinary Platform



Conclusions

- UK high-tech clusters begin specialised (MAR) but evolve towards limited Jacobian character
- Incubation more 'hands-on' and can be best when specialised
- Science Parks, once seemed too diversified, but potentially new 'platform' functions emerge
- KU Leuven 'learns' from Cambridge – moves swiftly from rather weak MAR origins (IMEC) to powerful Jacobian 'related variety'
- Platform assists local, inter-sectoral 'horizontal' 'related variety' innovation, relational proximity to firms in other nodes helps 'pipeline' innovation
- Entrepreneurship benefits from horizontal 'absorptive capacity' proximities and vertical absorptive capacity customer networks