

Knowledge, Networks, and Local Context

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Summary

- Key questions
- Prominent theories
- Research gap
- Our goals
- Conceptual framework
- Conclusions

Key Questions

The process of knowledge transfer within local business networks

- What we intend with local context?
- What is the influence of the local context on the knowledge transfer process?
- What is the role of knowledge relations on the process of network capabilities accumulation?

Prominent theories

① Knowledge Based Theory

It's concerned with firm level analysis.

Knowledge is seen as a firm specific and cumulative competence or resource.

Knowledge is the fundamental input and the primary source of value in building organizational capabilities.

Prominent theories

② Network Theory

It's concerned with the study of relations among firms

Network is much more than a collection of self-sufficient firms. It is more than the sum of the capabilities of firms

In a network, the relations among firms are based on a strong exchange of information and knowledge

Research Gap

- A major weakness of the knowledge-based approach is the exclusion of the context within which, and the process whereby, knowledge is generated and enhanced

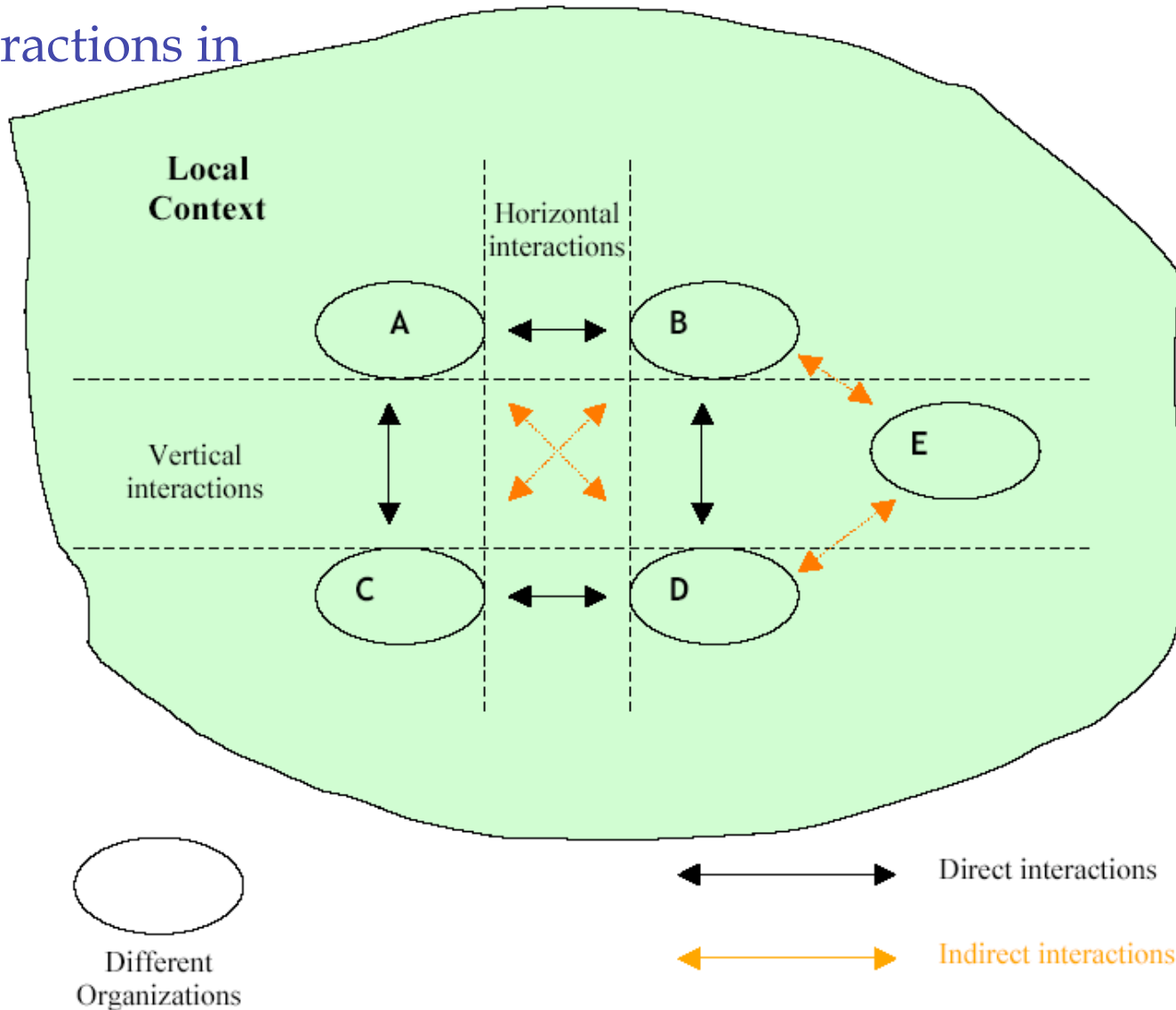
Network theory - especially the idea of knowledge cluster - helps to point the attention on the relations among firms and their connections with local institutions (ie. academic and research institutions, trade associations, etc.)

Our goals

- Join network theories of firm interaction with knowledge-based perspective
- Apply the conceptual categories developed within the knowledge-base theory to the analysis of local business network → Network capabilities
- Highlight the role of the local context on the network capabilities accumulation process

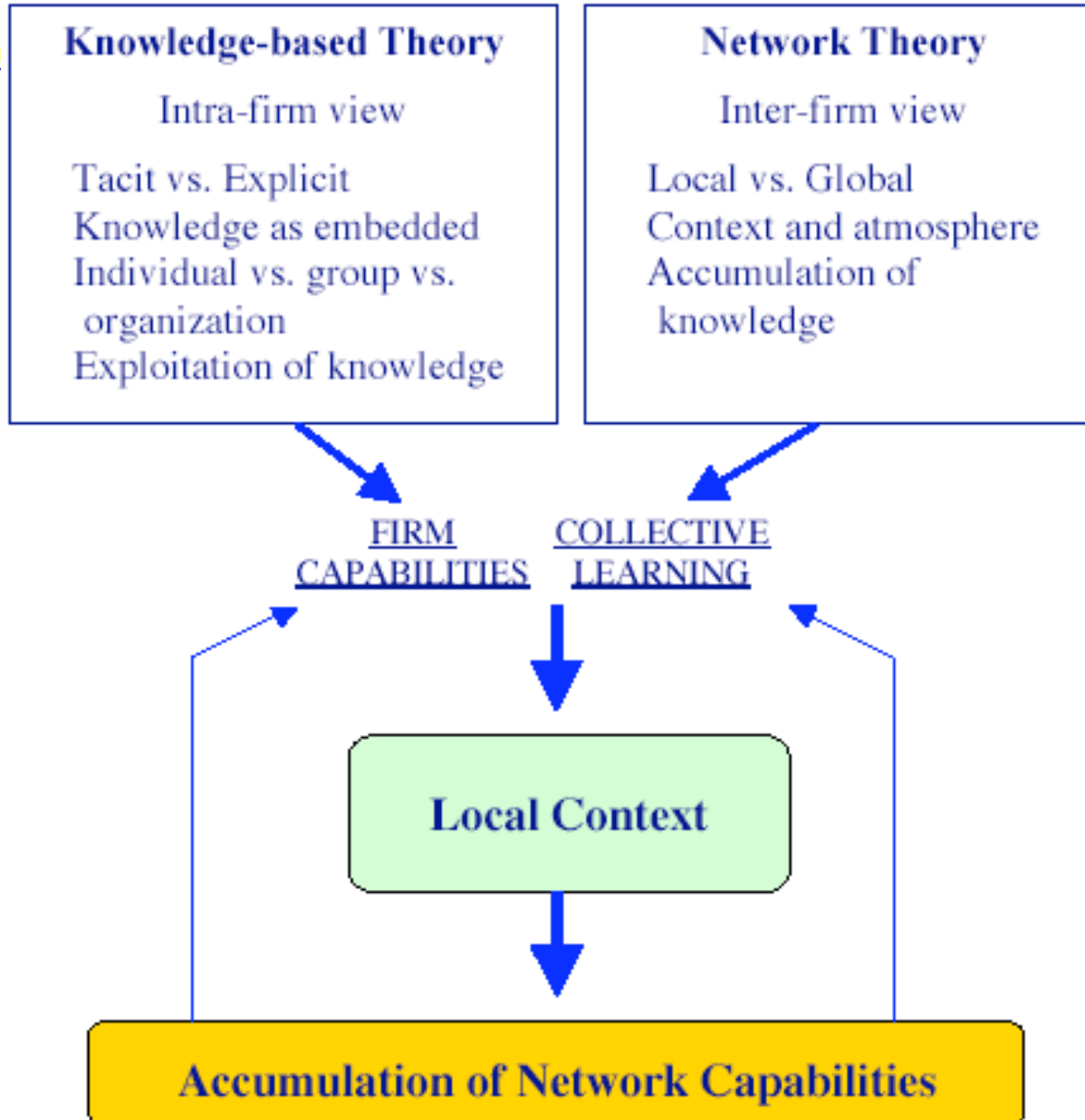
Conceptual framework

Knowledge interactions in a local business network



Conceptual framework

Accumulation
of
network
capabilities



Conclusions

- Add a new variable in order to analyse knowledge transfer within a local business network
- Fill a gap in the knowledge based theory
- Study the process of local network capabilities accumulation
- Start an empirical study