When does Knowledge Integration Work?

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What am I working on?

- Area of research
  - Coordination and division of innovative labor and knowledge

- How do firms coordinate loosely coupled networks?
  - Focus on systems integrating firms – know more than they make (with Brusoni and Pavitt, 2001; with Brusoni, 1998, 2001, 2013)

- Role of services
  - Focus on the shift from product-based to service-based offering in IT (with Masini and Ceci, 2013)
Emergence of new coordinating patterns – i.e. new design rules
- Role of individuals with broad and deep systemic knowledge (with Brusoni, 2006; 2009)

Challenges
- Identifying roles: brokers that connect and control or integrators that forge new relationships and create new meanings?
- Choosing unit of analysis: individuals or organizations?

Current approach
- Mapping personal relationships
- Analysing career paths
How can we solve it?

- **Theoretical approaches**
  - Back to the roots: roles in new product development processes (Clark, Roberts, Rothwell, Van De Ven)
  - Relying on other disciplines: socially skilled individuals (Fligstein, 2001); socially situated and socially constituted actions (Westphal and Zajac, 2013)

- **Multi-level, multi or mixed method approach**
  - From meso- (ecosystems) through micro- (organizations) to nano- (individuals) levels
  - Mixed method approach (qualitative & quantitative research)

- **Data access**
  - Firms’ engagement