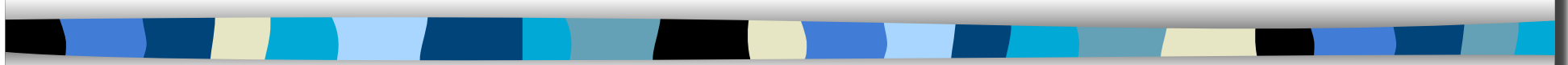




# Innovation in China

Stéphane Grumbach

INRIA





# Innovation is a top priority in China

- Economic growth
- Defense
- Sustainable development
- Pride and prestige

*much like in many countries...*



# Innovation is a top priority in China

- Economic growth
  - From the factory of the world to its lab
- Defense
  - US and EU Embargo
- Sustainable development
  - #1 for CO2 emission
  - New emerging diseases (SARS, Flu, etc.)
- Pride and prestige
  - no Nobel prize in China yet

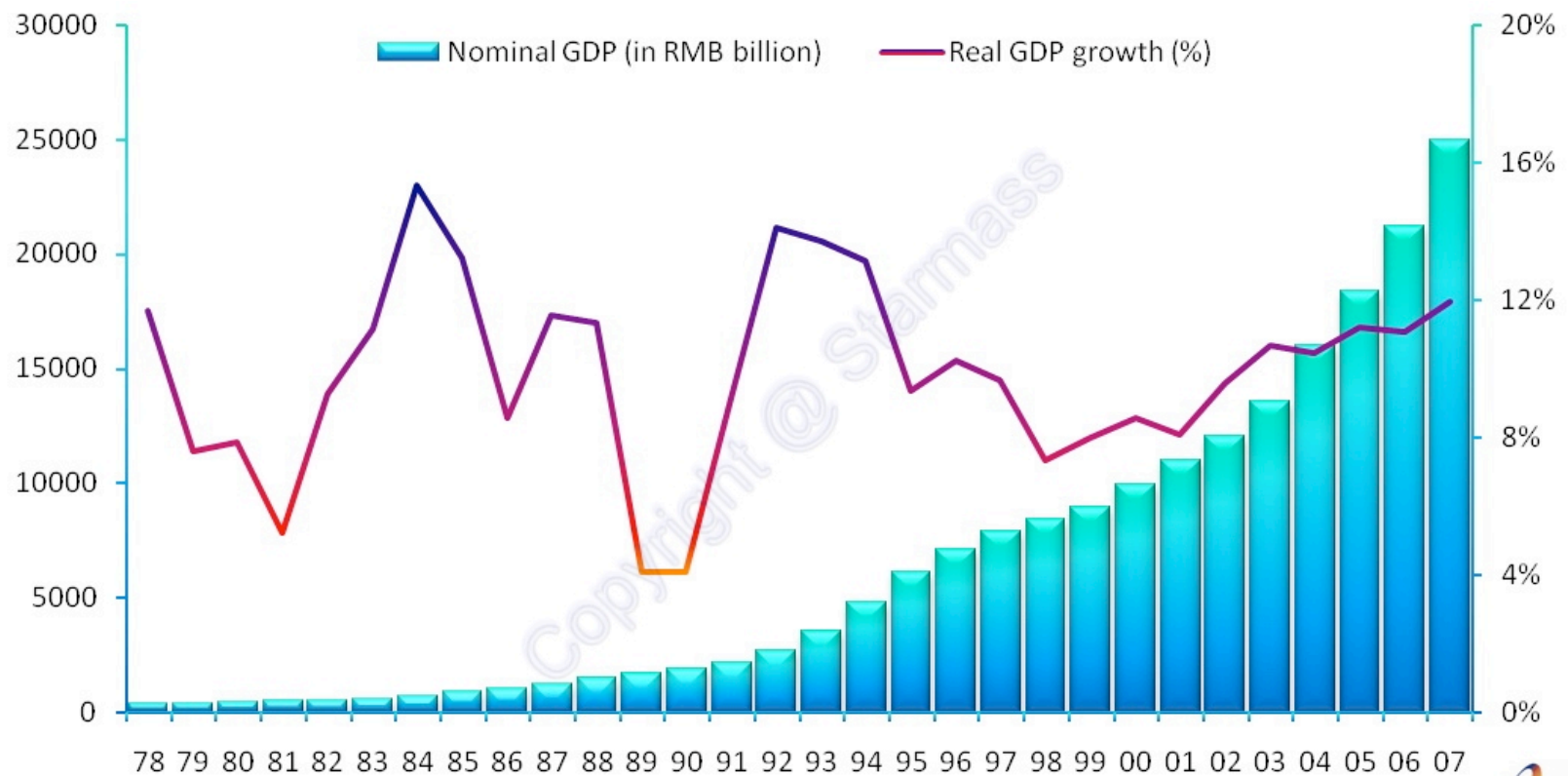
*well, not quite like other countries...*



# China is not quite like other countries

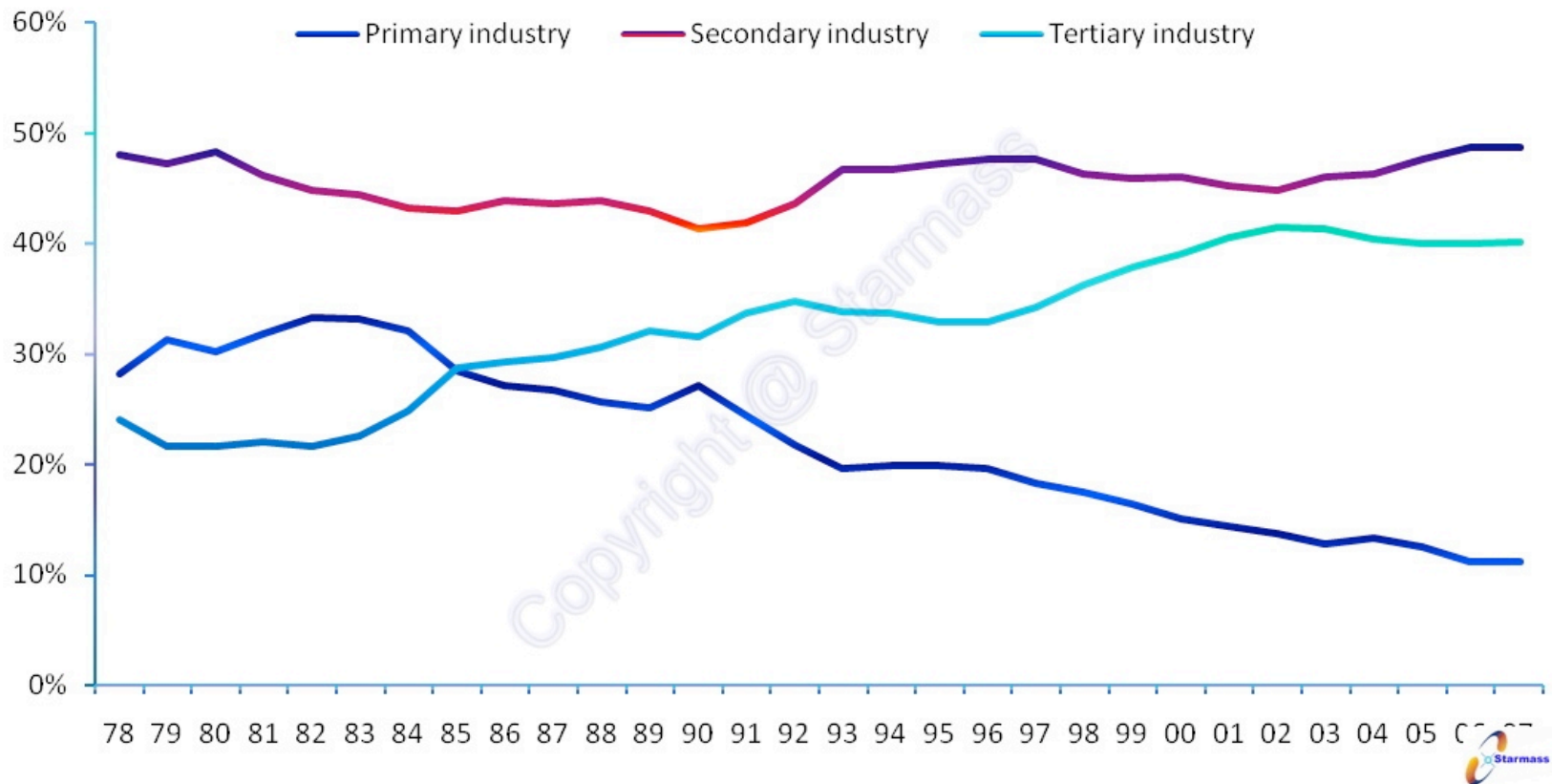
- Population: 1.3 Billion
  - More than any other continent
  - ca 200 cities of more than 1 million inhabitants
- GDP :
  - 8 trillions US\$ (PPP) (US: 15 US\$, EU: 18US\$)
  - #1 FDI
  - ca 10% growth since 1990
  - 8.5 in 2009 (World Bank est.)
- Foreign exchange reserve:
  - 2 Trillions US\$ (Japan 1 TUS\$)
- Raw materials:
  - China is #1
  - steel, coal, cement, etc.
- Manufacturing:
  - toys, computers, cameras, CD/DVD players, etc.
- Agriculture:
  - 15% fruits, 18% cereals, 28% meat
- 600 millions mobile phones
- 350 millions online
- 21% CO2 emission (USA 20%)
- #2 Energy consumption

# 30 years of sustained growth



Source: [www.starmass.com](http://www.starmass.com)

# Drastic changes in the society



Source: [www.starmass.com](http://www.starmass.com)

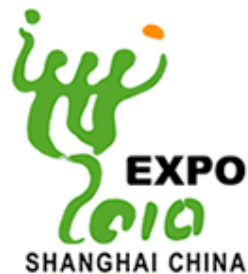
# A world player



2001 WTO



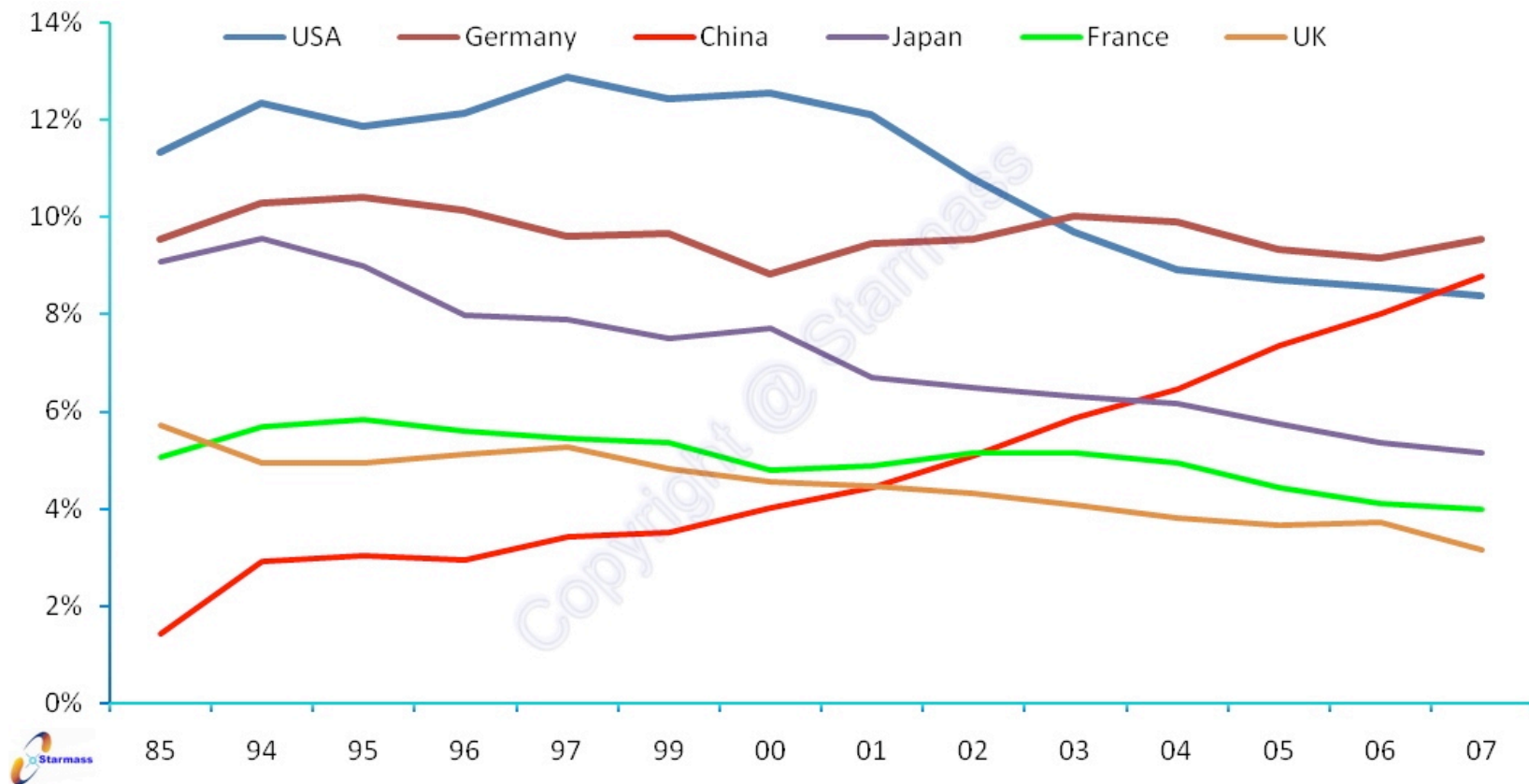
2008 Olympic games



2010 Universal exhibition  
in Shanghai

# #1 Global trade

## Export and import's shares



Source: [www.starmass.com](http://www.starmass.com)





# A culture of increasing impact

In China:

classical culture rehabilitated

Abroad:

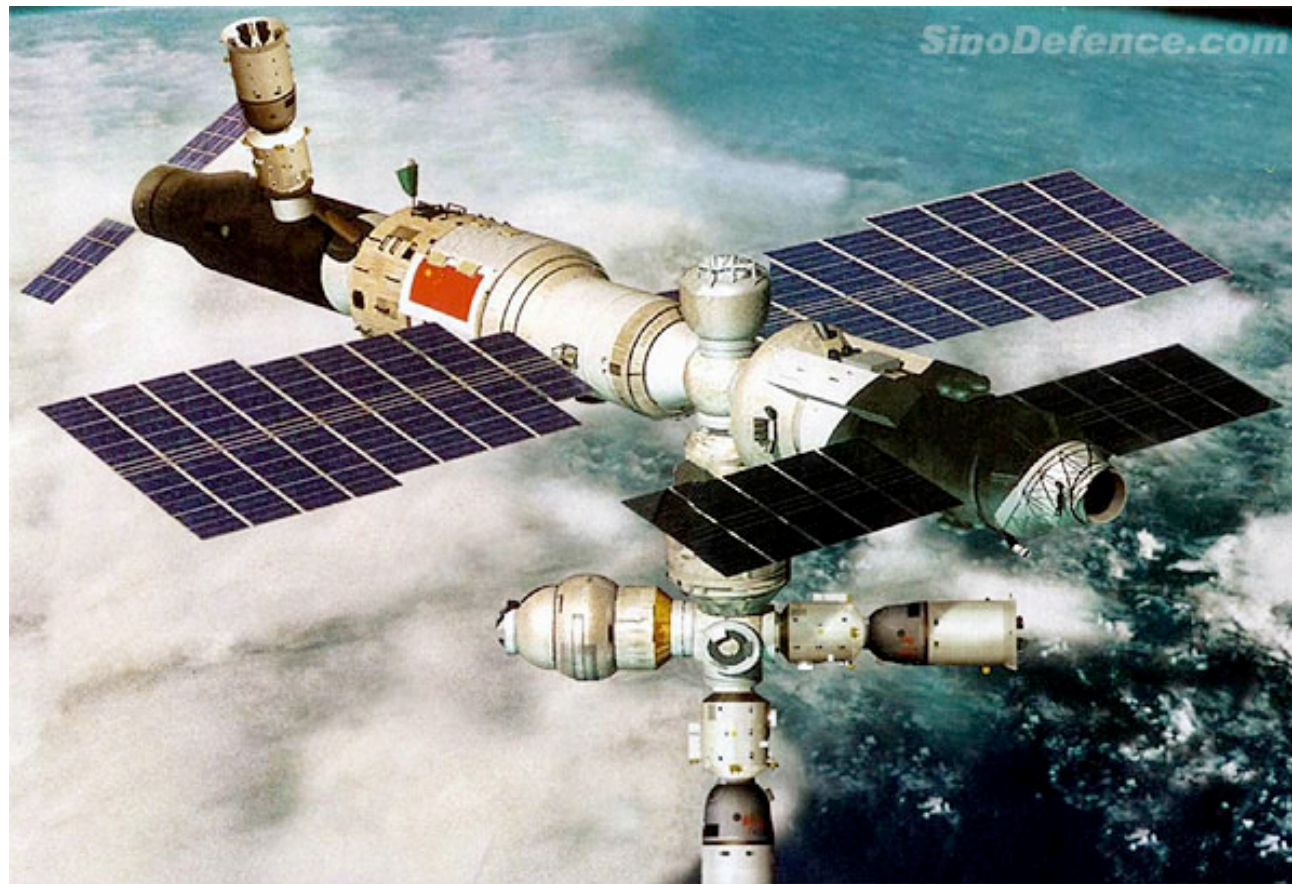
Chinese novels, movies, artworks

New international media

Chinese New Year celebrated all around the world



# An emerging scientific power





## **I The Chinese innovation system**

Historical perspective

Organization and reform

## **II Impact and potential**

Investment, HR, publications, patents, ...



I

# The Chinese innovation system



# From Chinese sciences ...

## Four Great Inventions of ancient China:

Compass, gunpowder, paper making, printing

Water regulation: hydraulic systems

Mathematics: algorithms vs deductive

Observation of astronomical phenomena

Metallurgy : iron (6<sup>th</sup> c. BC) et steel (3<sup>rd</sup> c. BC)

Navigation : vertical axial rudder,

Wheelbarrow, harness, ...

Propulsion,

China, silk, ...



remains of the supernova  
observed by Chinese  
astronauts in 1054



## ... to modern science

During the 18<sup>th</sup> century, China is the first industrial power

Scientific exchanges with Europe (Jesuits in the Manchu court)

High technological level

- Length of the “li” relative to the earth meridian (1702)
- Smallpox vaccine (since the 16<sup>th</sup> century)

Modern science penetrates China: 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century

Brutal confrontation with the Western countries (Opium war, concessions)

Translations of numerous foreign scientific books

Students sent abroad (USA, Europe)

Foundation of the first universities (Tianjin, Tsinghua, Beijing)

Emerging fields: naval construction, mathematics, physics, chemistry, geology



# The People's Republic

## 1949 Establishment of the PRC

Reorganization of the academic institutions

with the assistance of the USSR

Creation of the Academy of Sciences (Nov, 1 1949)

Reorganization of universities

Development of a military industry (space, nuclear)

## 1956 1<sup>st</sup> Conference on science

Creation of the Commission for scientific planning (future MOST)

Launch of the first 12 year plan (1956-1967)

## 1966 Cultural Revolution

Universities are closed

Interruption of research in most fields



# S&T achievements of the 1960s

1960 : 200kg rocket launched at 10.000 meters

1964 : Atomic bomb

1965 : Synthesis of insulin

1967 : H bomb

1970 : Red Orient Satellite

launched by the Long March Rocket





# 30 years of reforms

1976 Death of MAO

1978 DENG Xiaoping

Four modernizations : agriculture, industry, S&T, defense

A slogan : « *science and technology: first production force* »

2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on science

S&T development plan 1978-1985

Universities are reopened

Reconstruction of research centers

Hundred of thousands of students are sent abroad



# The fundamental tools of the 80's

## Fundamental research

- National Science Foundation (1986)  
inspired by the American NSF

## Applied research

- State key labs (1984)  
150~200 labeled labs (5 year evaluation)
- 863 program for high tech (1986)  
More than 5000 projects

## Development

- Key technology for industry (1982)
- Spark (1986) for the modernization of agriculture
- Torch (1988) for technological parks (53 parks)





# The Chinese Academy of Sciences

## The main research organization of China

- Based on the Russian model
- ca 100 institutes (one third in Beijing)
- A university (Hefei)
- The Academy
- 25% of scientific output

## A 12 year reform

### Phase I (1998-2000)

1/3 of the institutes closed (119 to 84)

Focus on a restricted set of fields

### Phase II (2001-2005)

Complete reform of the management

Thematic clustering to foster synergies

### Phase III (2006-2010)

New organization in the institutes

New institutes (mostly in life sciences)

# Tech parks and policy

A large area of the city with special status (fiscal, jurisdiction)

- 40 universities, 500.000 students,
- 150 research centers,  
incl. dozens of Foreign R&D Centers  
Motorola, IBM, Intel, Microsoft, Google, ...
- Tens of thousands of high tech companies,  
incl. sea turtles

Strong tax incentives

- Free income tax for several years
- Tax free importation of R&D equipments  
for research institutions

Public procurement

- 60% at least on domestic firms

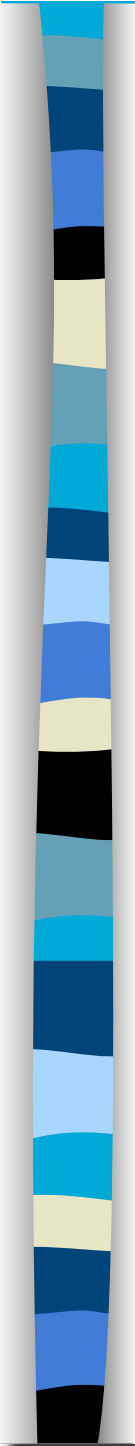
Zhongguancun in Beijing  
the « *Chinese silicon valley* »





# Medium and Long term plan for S&T (2006-2020)

- A long preparation with an international high level panel
  
- Objectives
  - Increase intensity to 2% in 2010 and to 2.5% in 2020
  - S&T contribution to 60% of growth
  - Dependence on foreign technology reduced to 30%
  - China #5 for patents and citations of publications worldwide
  
- First period: 11<sup>th</sup> Five year Plan (2006-2010)
  - 16 megaprojects

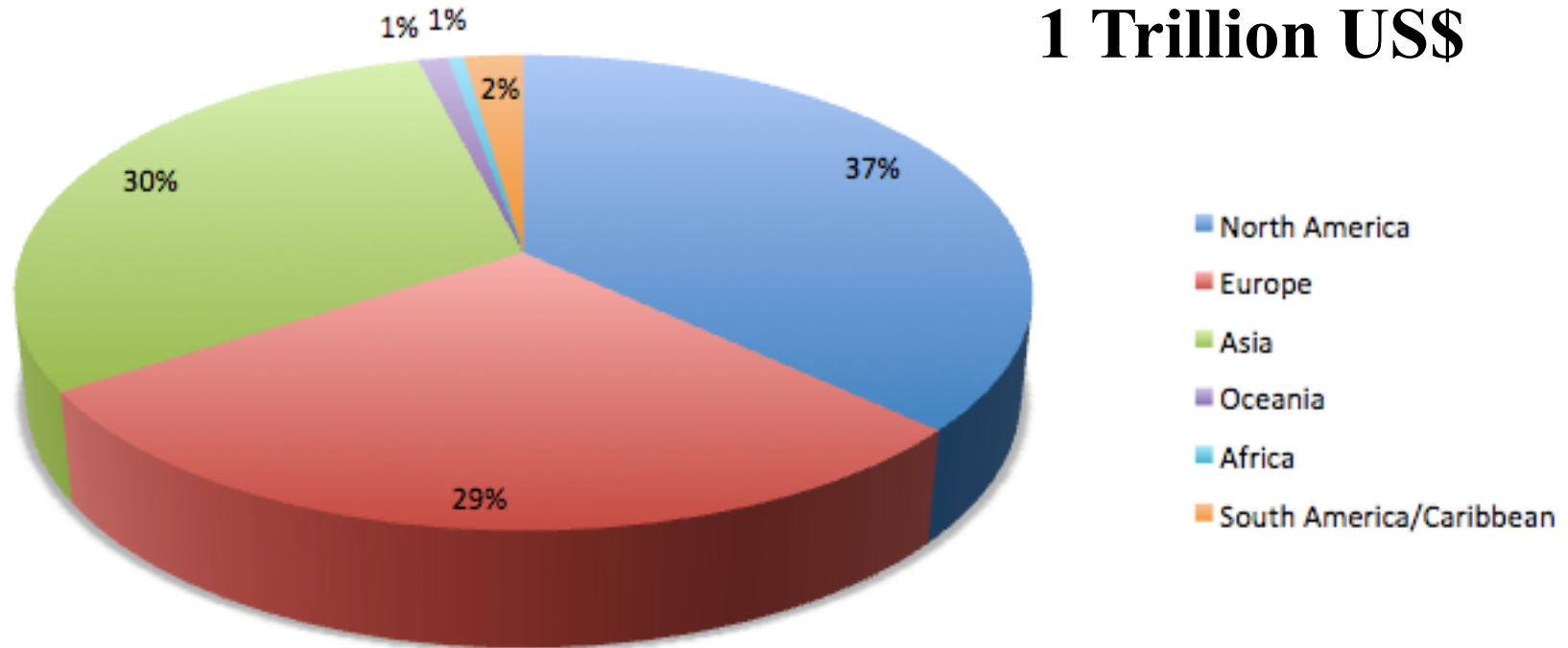


# II

## Impact and potential

# Global R&D expenditure 2008

1 Trillion US\$



Source: OECD

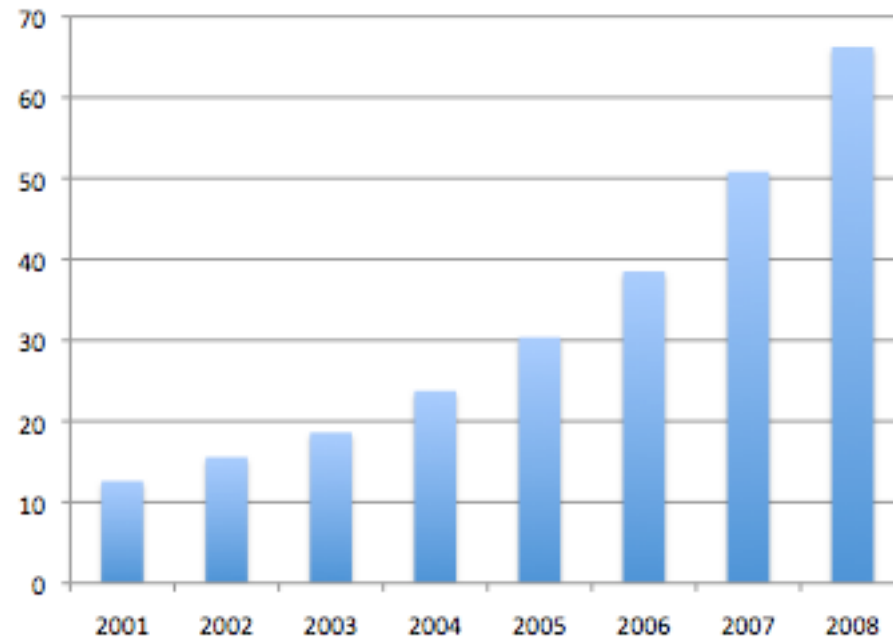


# Strong increase in China

## R&D expenditure

- Yearly growth
  - 20%
- Intensity
  - 0.6% in 1995
  - 1.35% in 2004
  - 1.5% in 2008

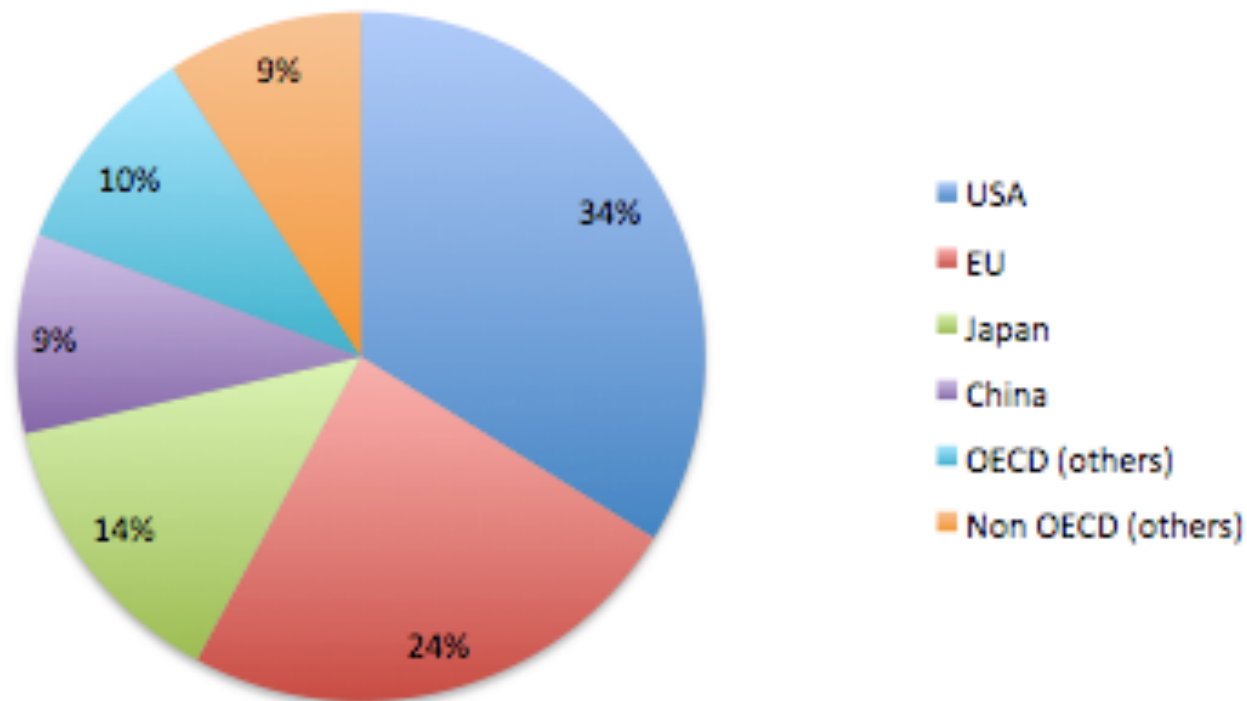
R&D (billions US\$)



Source: MOST

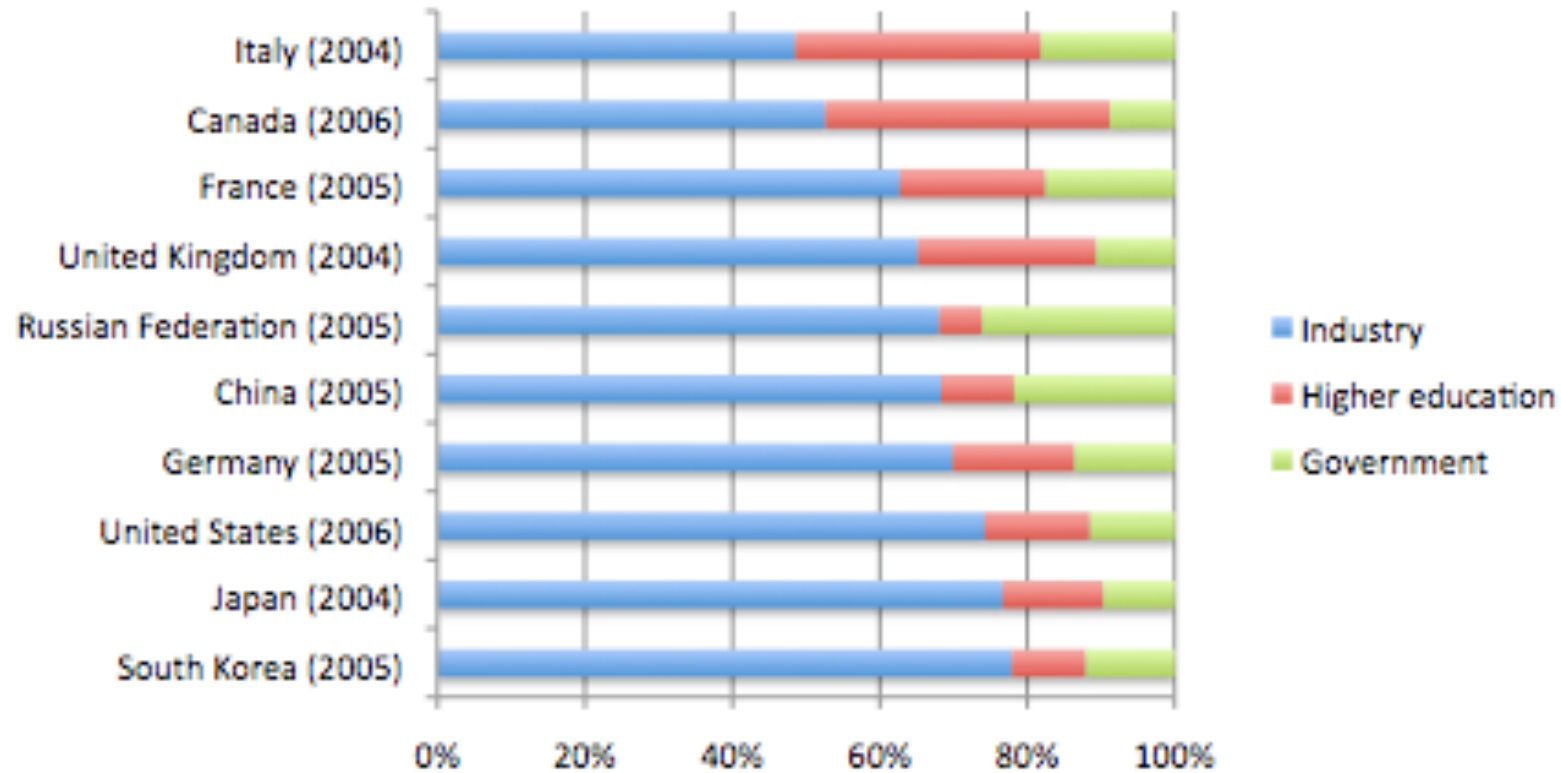
# China's position in 2008

## R&D expenditure in PPP



Source: OECD-MSTI'09

# R&D expenditures by performing sector



Industry represented only 45% in 1998

Source [www.nsf.gov/statistics](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics)

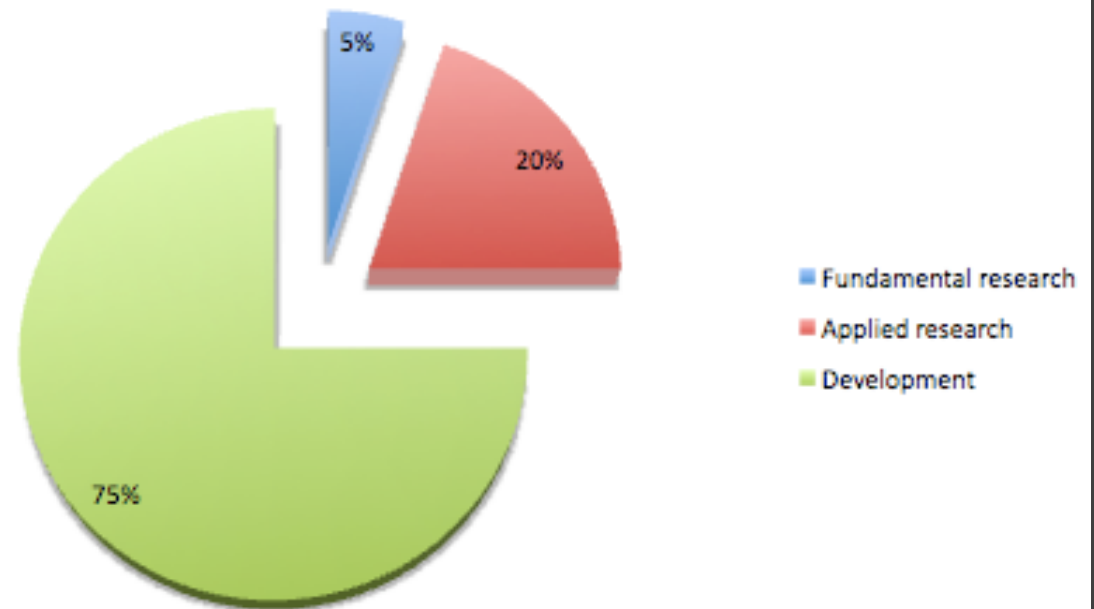
# Expenditure by domain

Weak fundamental  
research: 5%

OECD average: 20%

Still a logic  
of developing country

Technological catch up



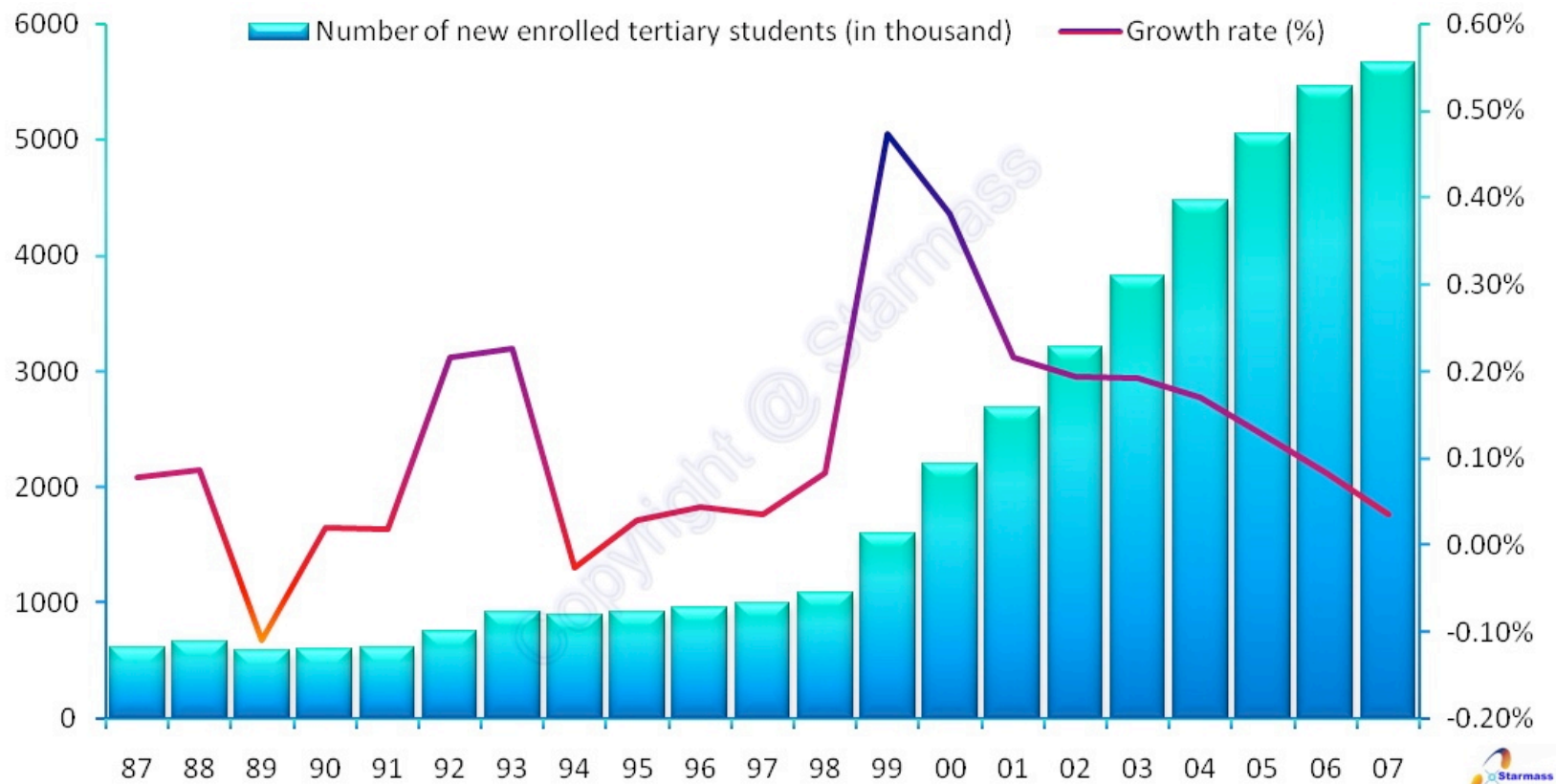
Source: MOST



# Human resources

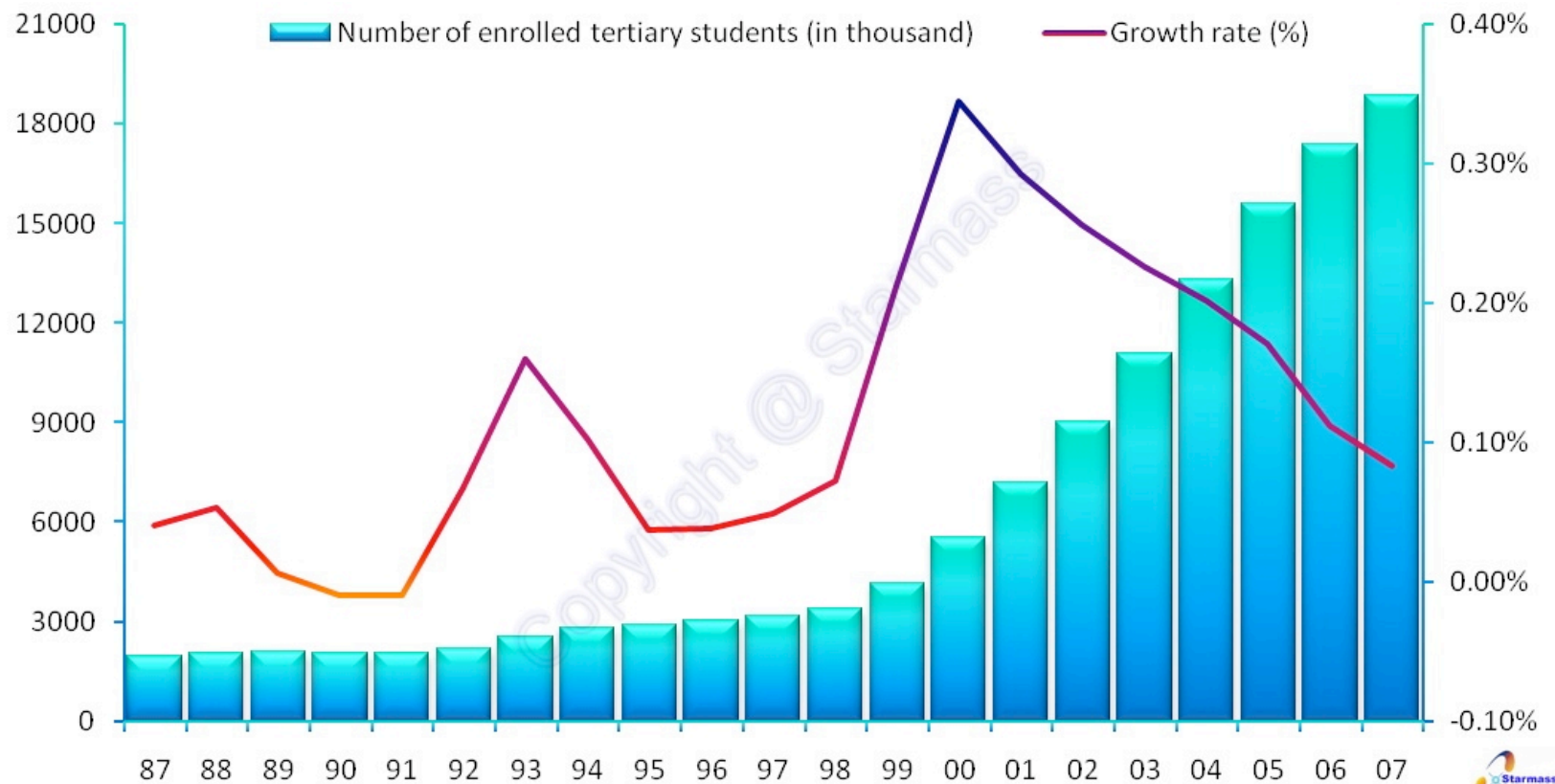
- The first potential of the country
    - 20 millions students
    - 5% tertiary education (USA 37%)
    - New promotion 15% of an age group
  - But an unbalanced pyramid
    - Few scientists above 50
    - Extremely large student pool
- aftershock of the Cultural Revolution

# Strong increase of the enrolment



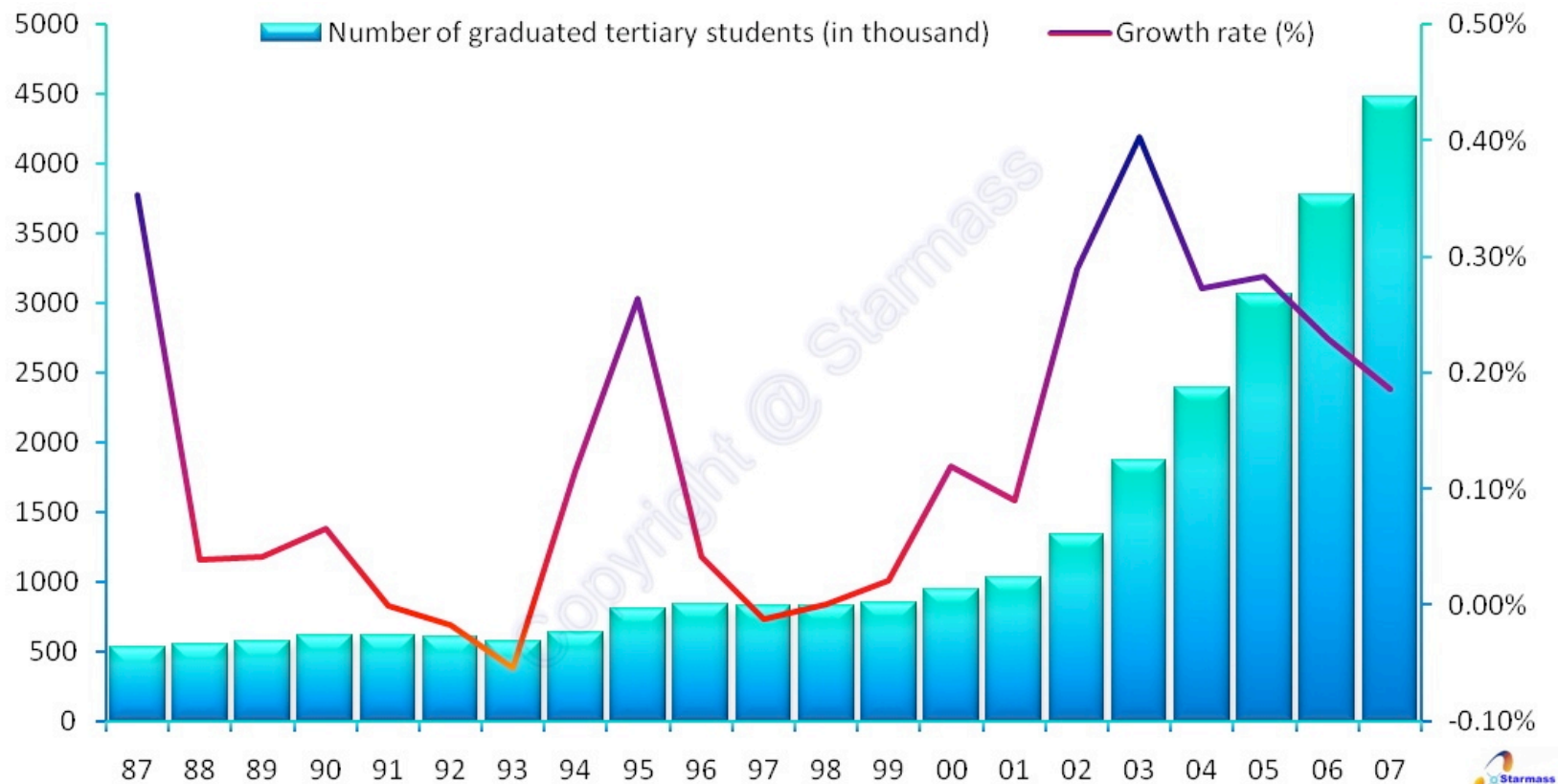
Source: [www.starmass.com](http://www.starmass.com)

# Increasing student population



Source: [www.starmass.com](http://www.starmass.com)

# Largest pool of graduated



Source: [www.starmass.com](http://www.starmass.com)



# Strong international presence

## Chinese students abroad

- 800.000 students sent abroad 1978-2005
- 124.000 chinese students in OECD in 2001

## Proportion of Chinese students among foreign students

- in the USA: 11%
- in Japan : 43%
- in the EU : 3%

## Major impact of expatriate Chinese researchers

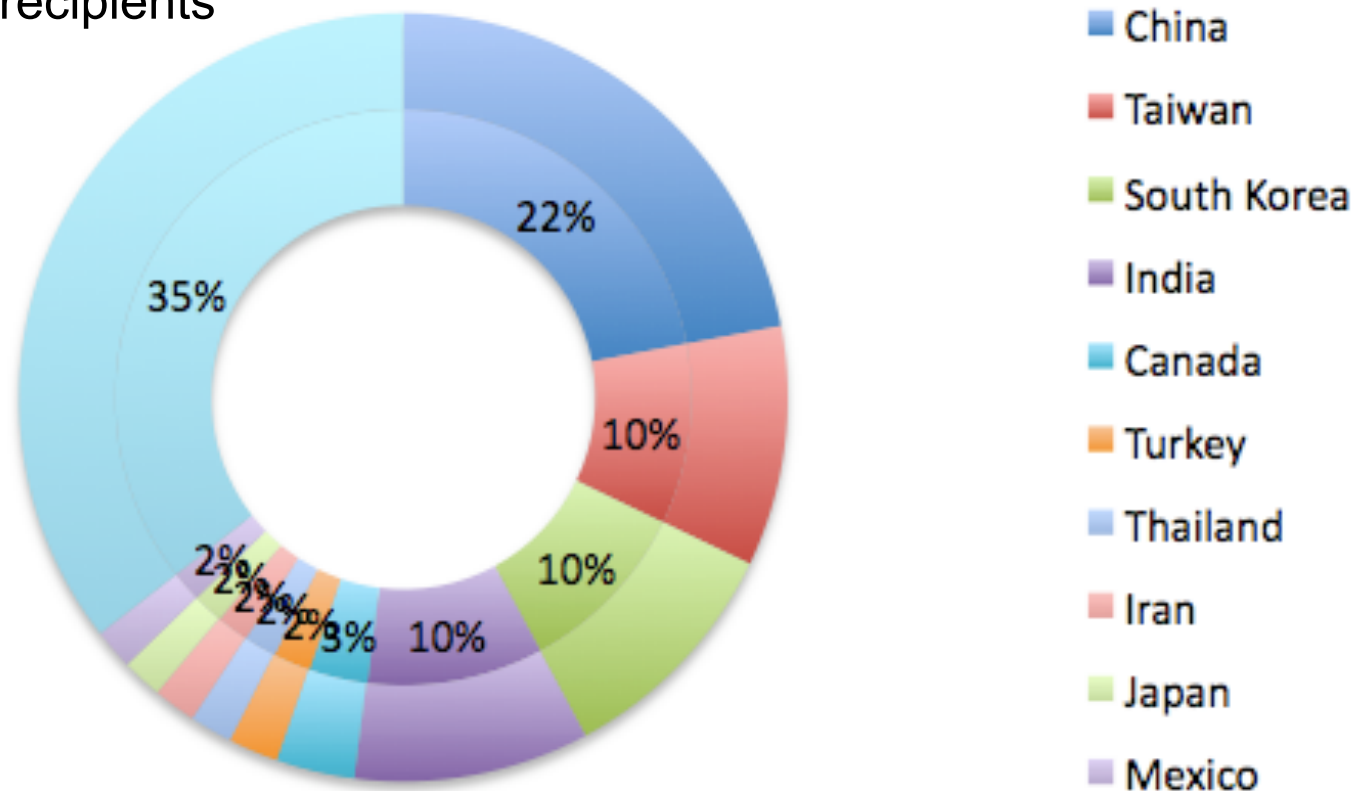
- 15.000 in the USA
- Chenning YANG, Nobel physics 1957, in Tsinghua since 1999
  - Andrew YAO, Turing award 2000, in Tsinghua since 2004



# Chinese students abroad

Foreign recipients of U.S. S&E doctorates, by country 1985–2005

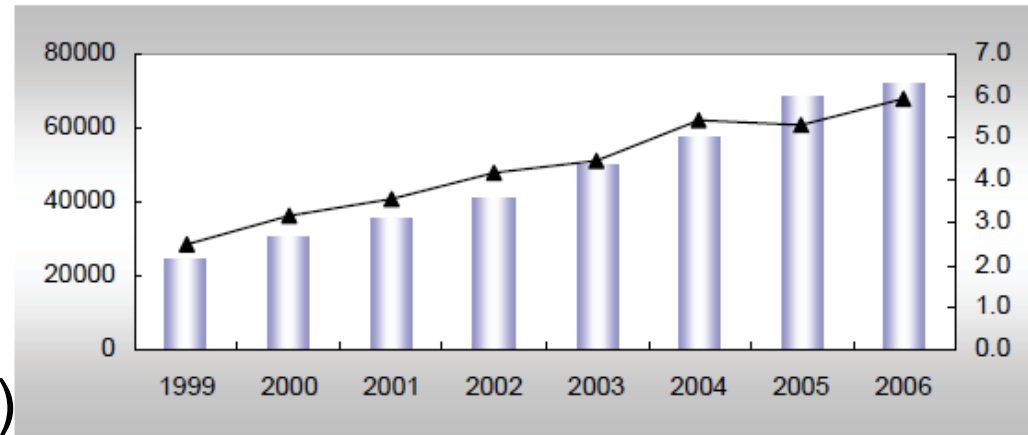
189,346 recipients



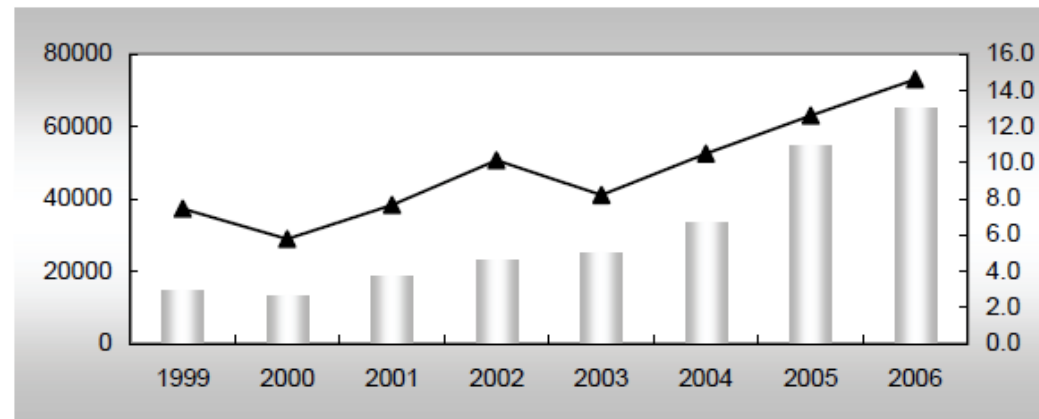
Source [www.nsf.gov/statistics](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics)

# Publications

SCI:  
6% of world total  
15% yearly growth  
#5  
(behind US,JP,GB,DE)



EI:  
14% of world total  
30% yearly growth  
#2 (behind US)



Source: 中国科技论文统计结果2007



# Impact and visibility

## Strong evolution of the citation rate of publications

- 13<sup>th</sup> position (18th in 2003)
- Progression of citations: 28% in 2006
- Publications SCI 1997-2006
  - 40% of articles never cited
  - 225 articles cited more than 100 times (129 in 2005)

## Impact

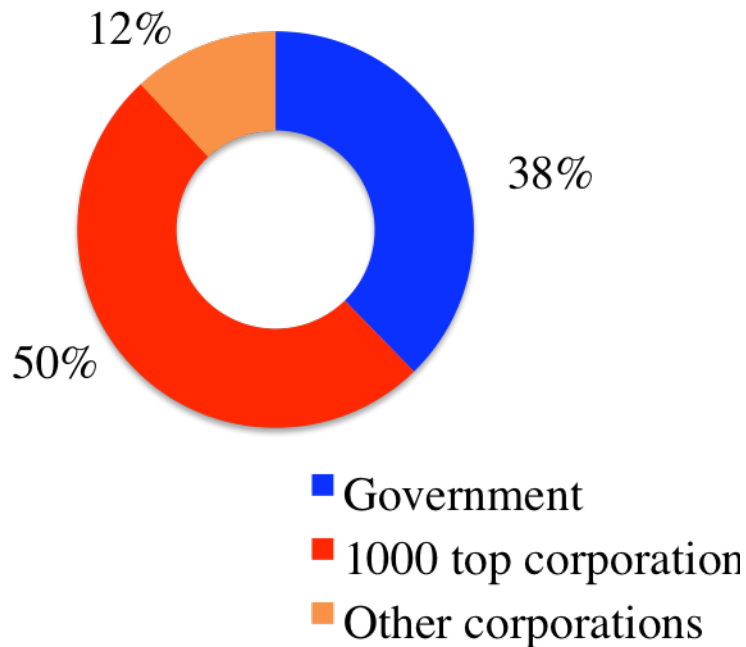
Reasonable in new materials, mathematics, chemistry, physics

Low in life sciences

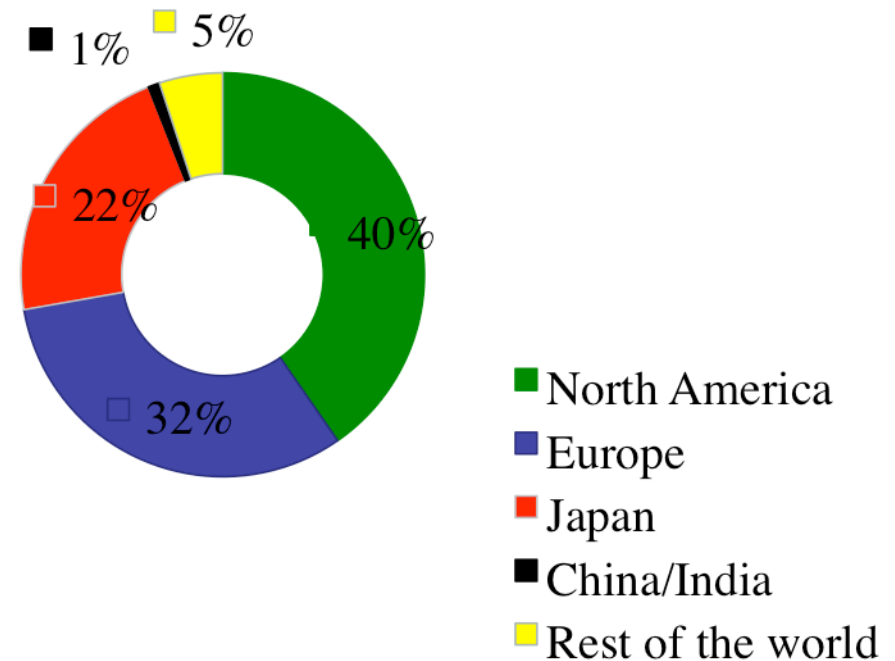
Source: 中国科技论文统计结果2007

# Industrial R&D spending 2008

Circa 1 Trillion US\$



For the 1000 top corporations



Source: Booz Global Innovation 1000



# Few Chinese corporations in R&D

## 2008 investment in R&D

A dozen Chinese corporations among the top 1000

None in the top 100

- PetroChina 818.26 Million Euros, (intensity 0.7%)
- ZTE (telecom equip.) 450.52 Million Euros, (9.6%)
- China Petroleum & Chemical
- China Railway Construction
- China Coal Energy
- China Communications Construction
- BYD Electronic equipment
- ...

Source: 2009 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard

# Globalization of R&D

1993: First foreign R&D center (Motorola)

2004: 700 foreign R&D centers

2005: **China 1<sup>st</sup> localization for new R&D centers  
ahead of the USA and India**

## Objectives

- 1) adapt products to local market
- 2) technological intelligence
- 3) global R&D

## Attractiveness of China

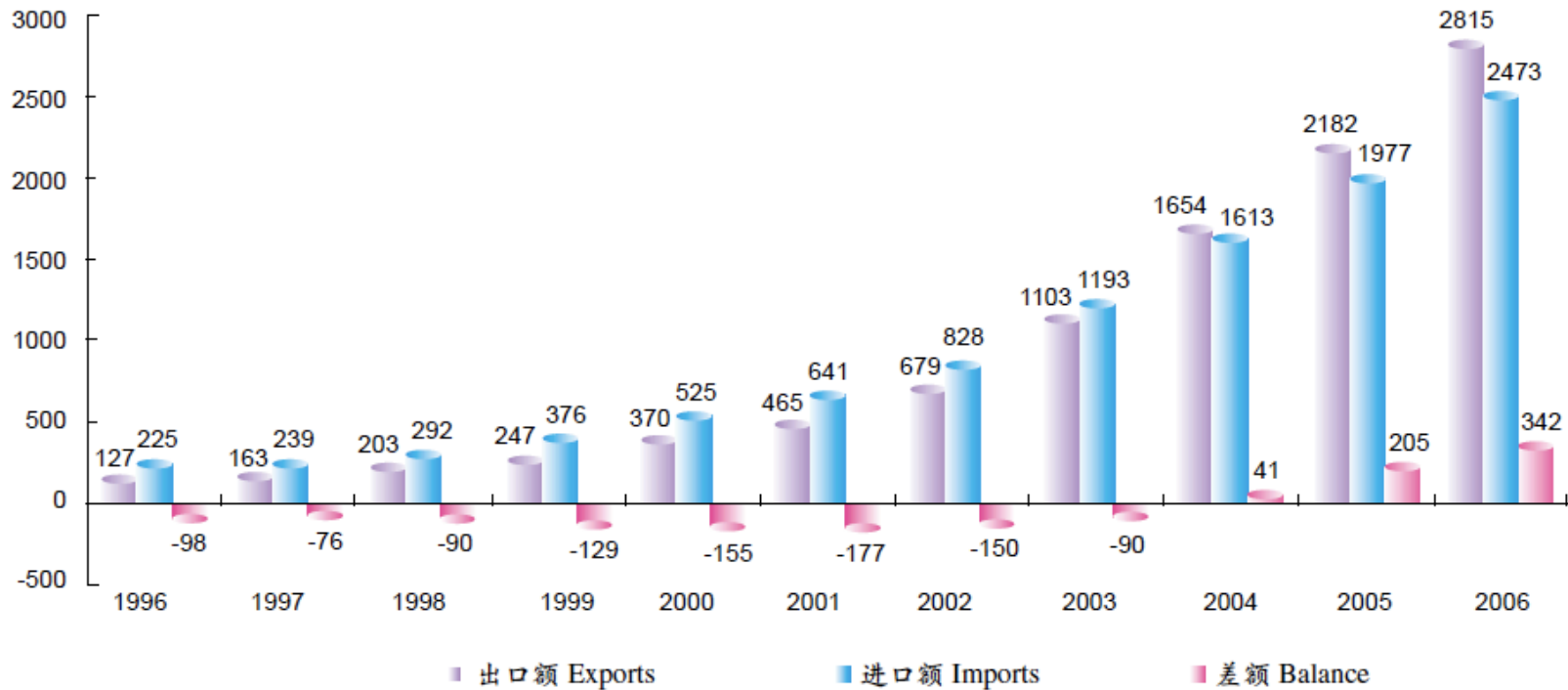
- 1) market shares vs. technologies  
participation in the design of Chinese standards
- 2) talents
- 3) costs



## 全国高技术产品进出口 (1996~2006)

National imports and exports of high-tech products

亿美元 USD 100 million



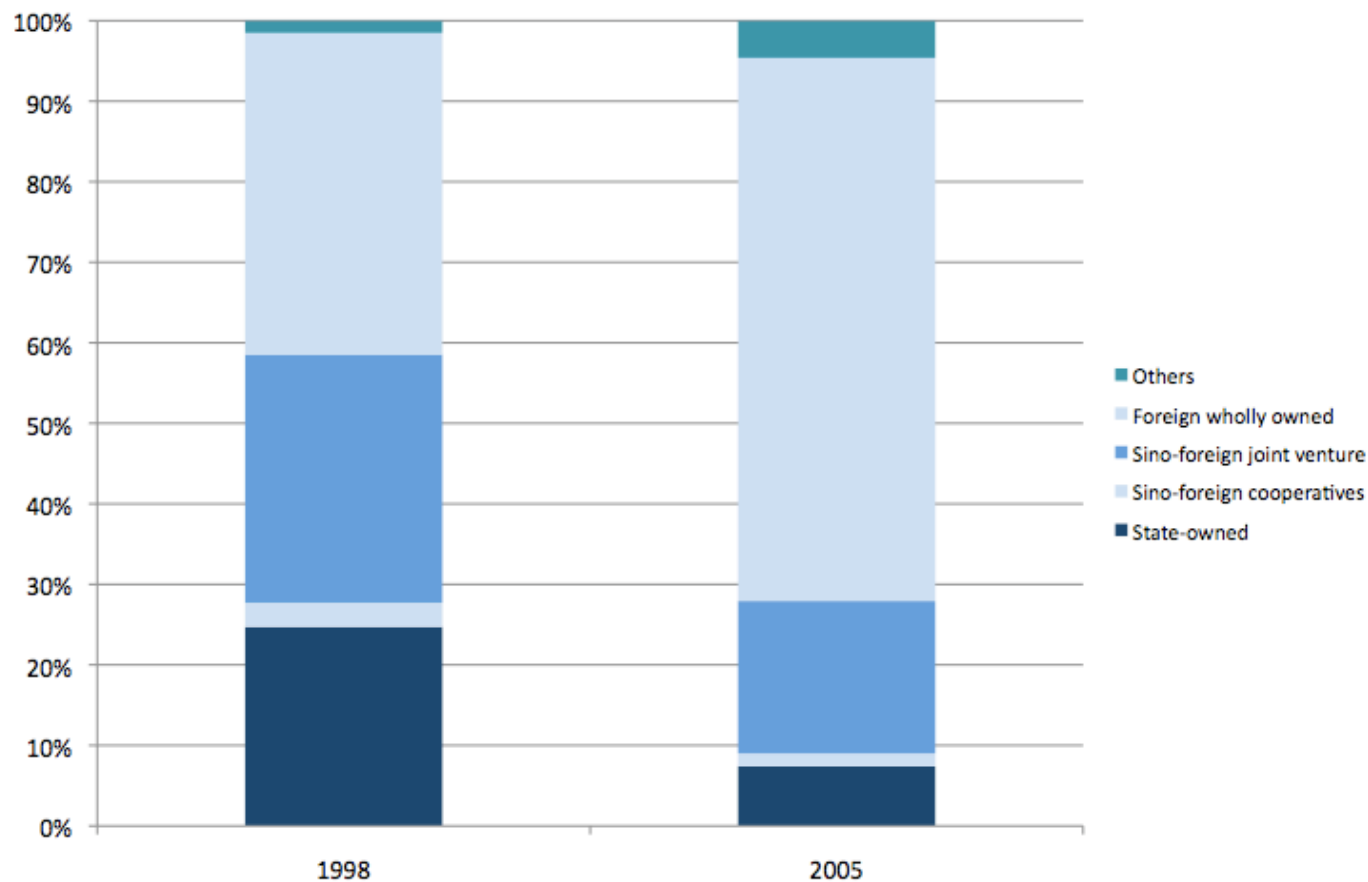
#1 for ICT exports since 2004

High-Tech exports mostly under foreign brands

Source: MOST



# High-tech exports by firm ownership

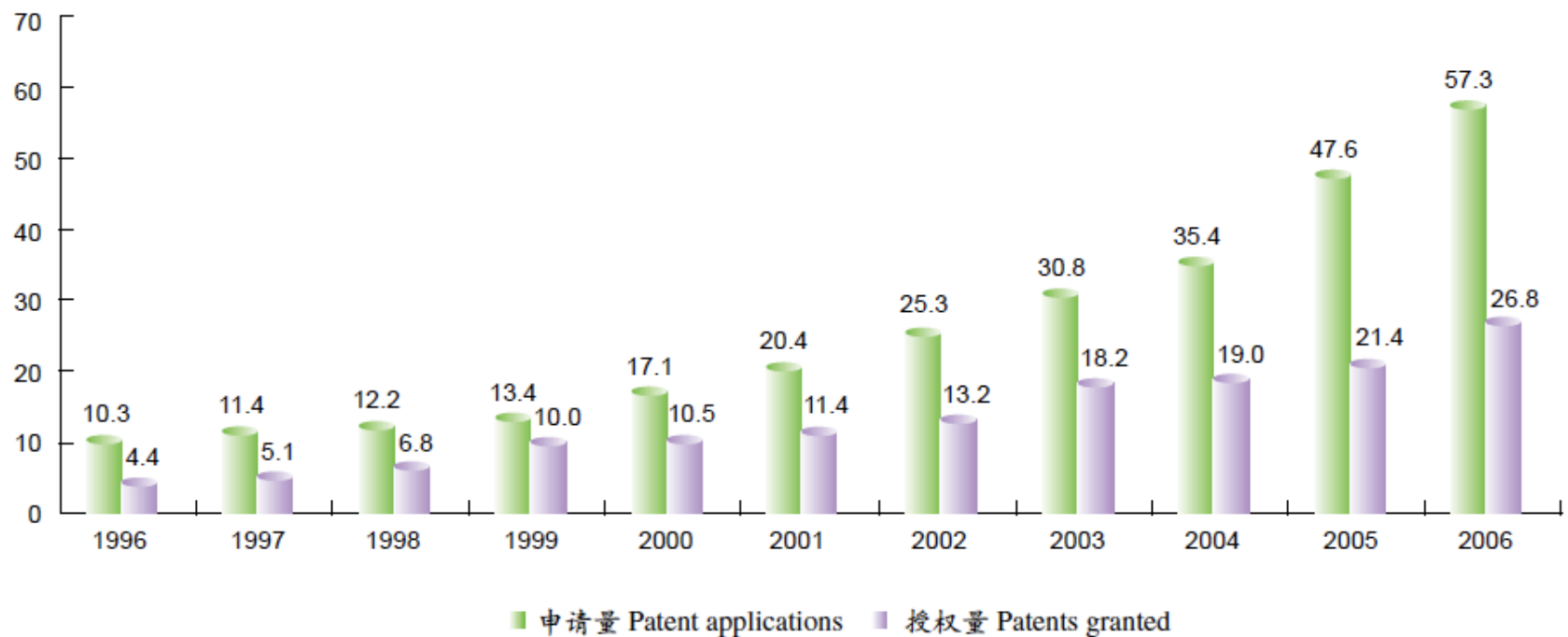


Source: OECD-STI 2008

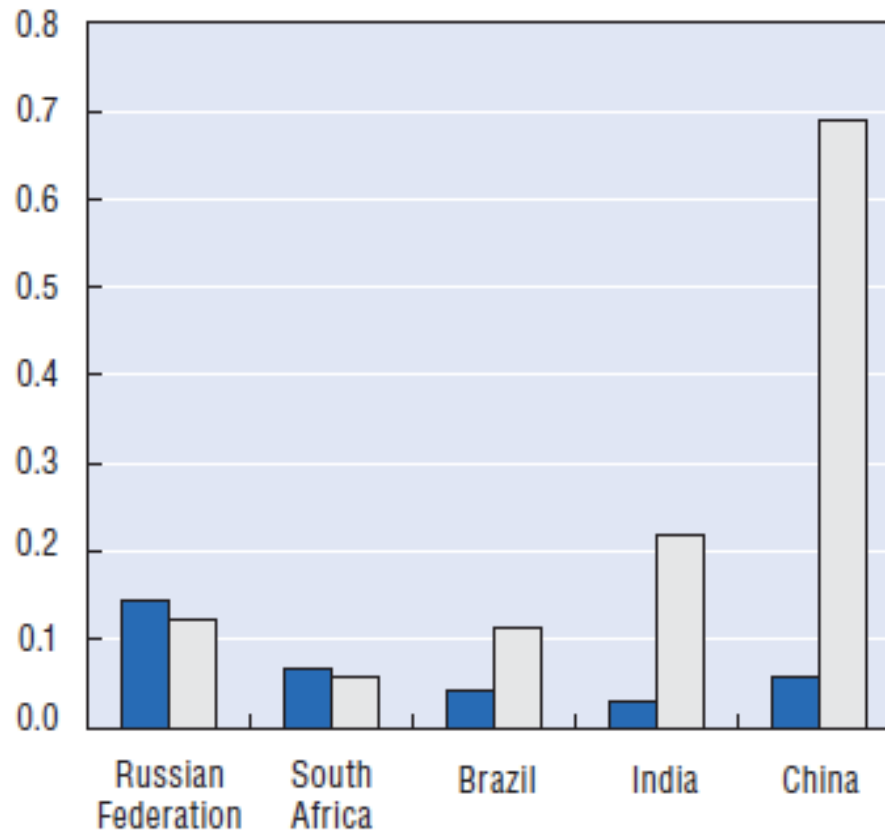
# IPR, national SIPO

国家知识产权局专利申请受理及授权量 (1996~2006)  
Patent applications filed and patents granted by SIPO

万件 10,000 cases



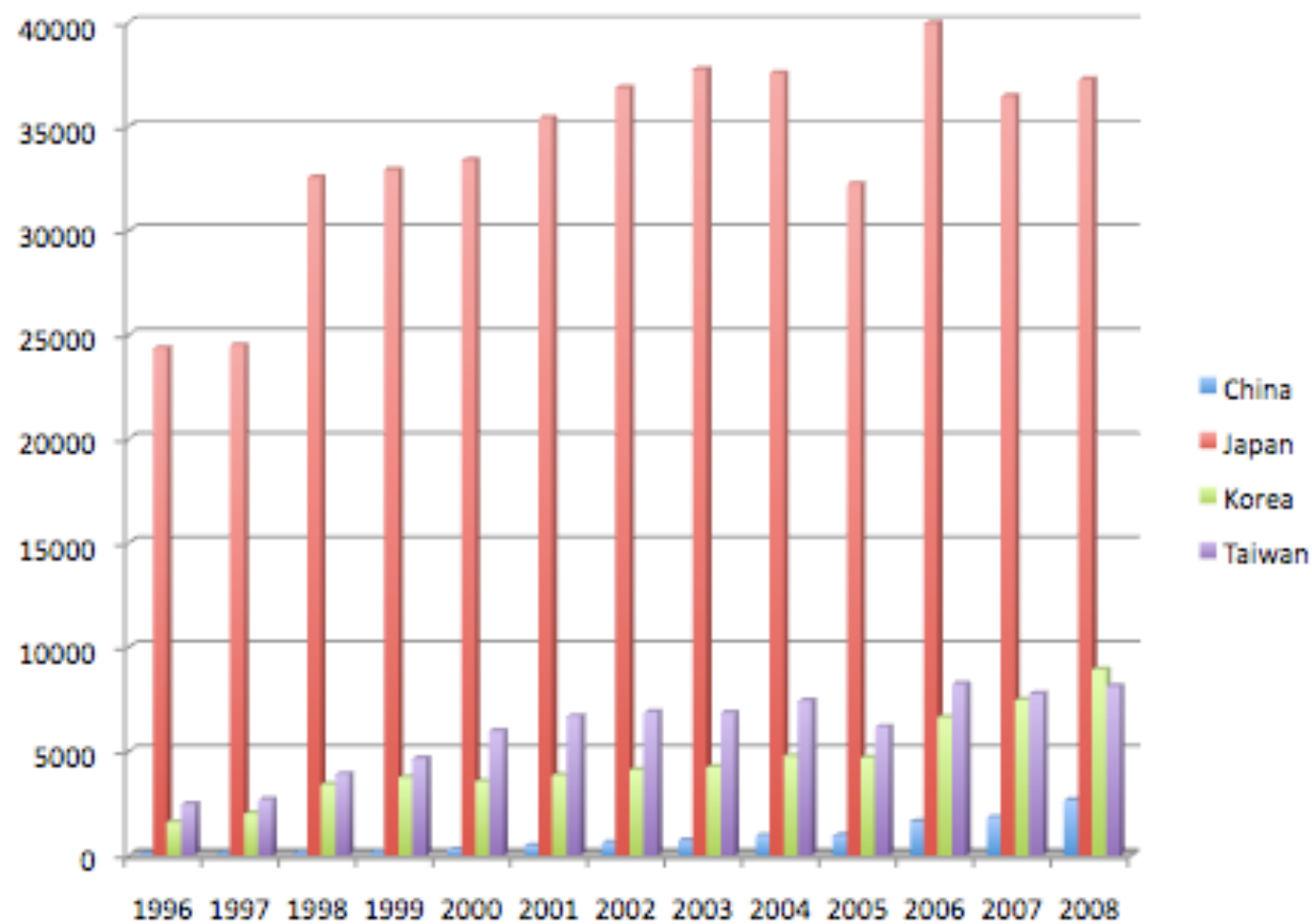
# IPR: triadic patents



Global share  
1995 - 2005

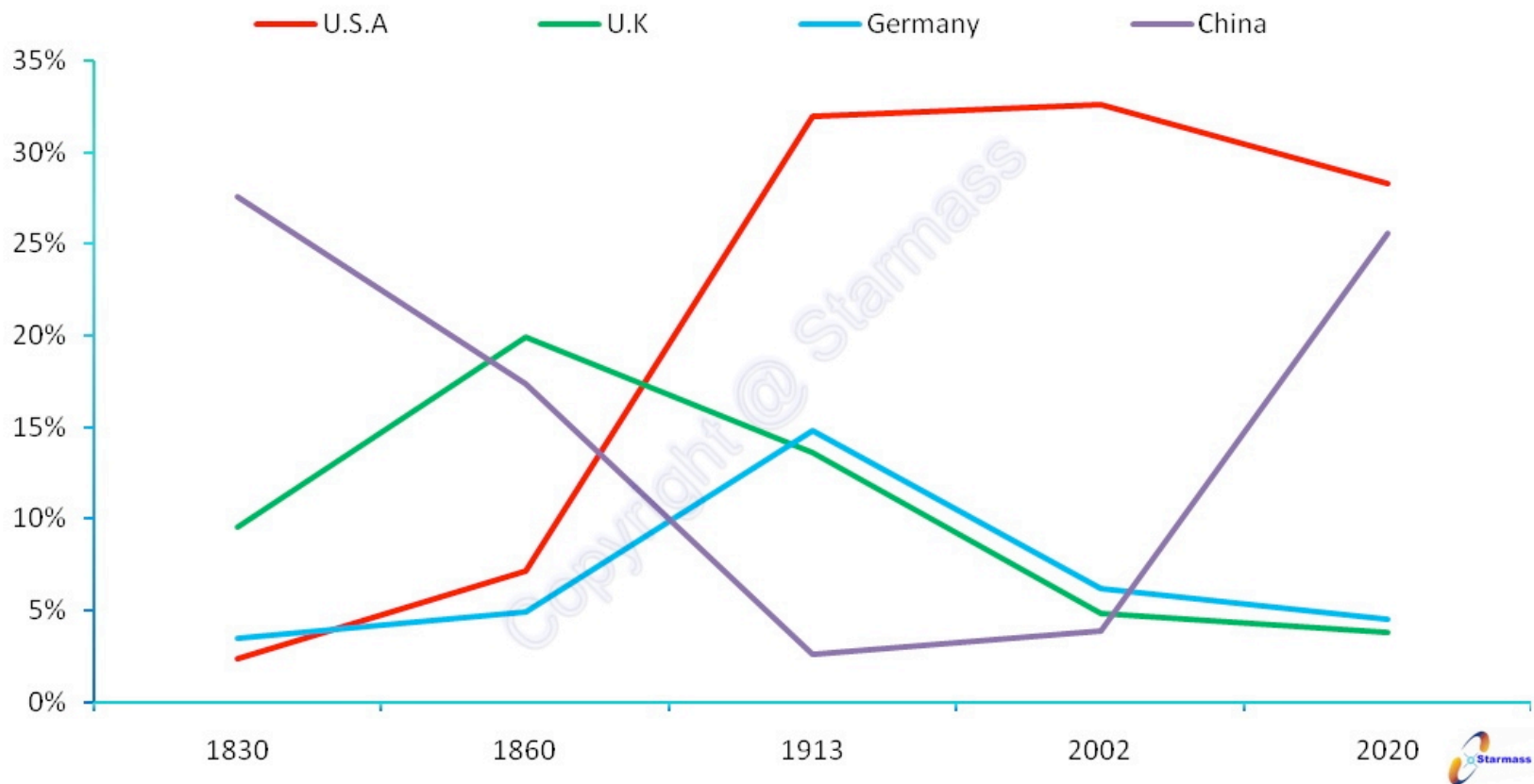
Source: OECD-STI'08

# US patents



# Concluding remarks

## Towards the recovery of its past potential percentage of China's contribution to global economy



Source: [www.starmass.com](http://www.starmass.com)



# Concluding remarks

- Objectives of China:
  - 2.5% of GDP in R&D by 2020
  - World scientific leader by 2050
  
- Strengths
  - Political ambition
  - Human resources
  - Huge national market
  - Unbalanced knowledge
  
- Weaknesses
  - Scientific culture
  - Fundamental research
  - IPR



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