

# **Impact of High Speed Rail Investments on Regional and Urban Development**

**Werner Rothengatter**

**Karlsruhe Institute of Technology**

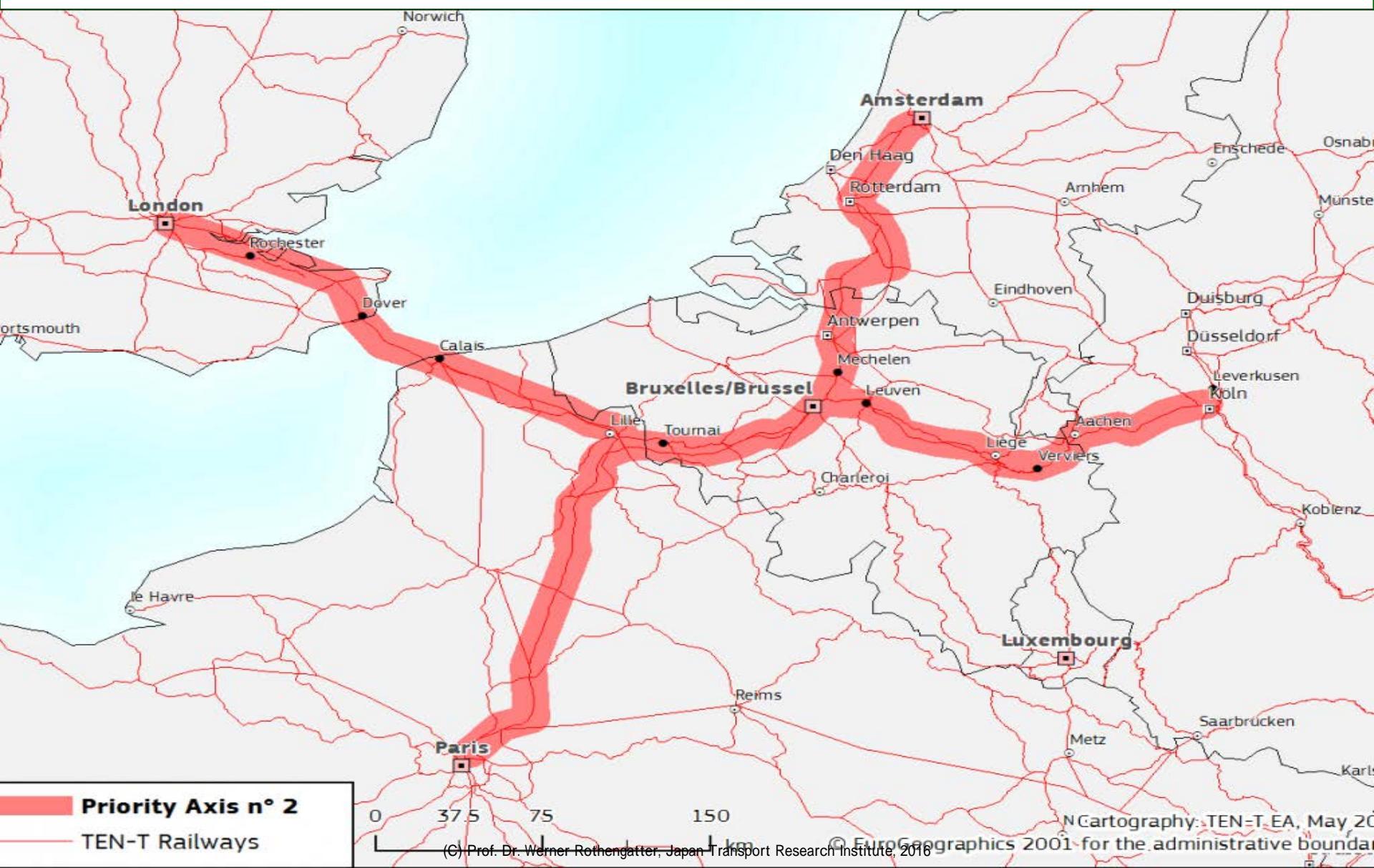
- **Economic approaches to measure the impacts of HSR**
- **General lessons from regional economic analysis**
- **Specific lessons from case studies:  
impacts on regional and urban development**
- **Conclusions**

- Micro-economic ex-post analysis
  - unclear evidence of impact
- New geographic economy
  - agglomeration effects
- Endogenous growth theory integrated in system dynamics
  - long-term impact on productivity
- Regional potential analysis
  - impact subject to bottlenecks

**Paul Krugman**  
**Nobel Prize Winner for Economics**  
**2008**



- Paul Krugman, Nobel Prize 2008
- New geographic economy: Impact of increasing returns on spatial activity
- Higher productivity through higher density and/or better accessibility
- Empirical analysis by Venables and Graham; crucial parameter: elasticity of productivity on effective employment density



Operator	1995	2000	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	△95-13
Eurostar	4.9	7.1	7.45	8.26	9.2	9.7	10.1	+106%
Thalys	1.54	5.5	6.19	6.2	6.08	6.65	6.69	+334%
ICE Int.*							3.0	n.a.

\* Frankfurt-Amsterdam and Frankfurt-Brussels. national and international passengers

**Source:** European Commission (2012) and press releases by Thalys and Eurostar

## Findings (Vickerman 2015)

- ◆ Agglomerations have benefited from HSR:  
Density impacts in big cities, accessibility  
impacts in medium sized cities (Lille)
- ◆ Little impacts on regions in between HSR  
stations
- ◆ Examples: Nord Pas de Calais (FR), Kent  
(UK), only positive touristic effects (Disney  
Land Paris), no reduction of regional  
disparities

# Agglomeration economies: elasticity of productivity with respect to effective employment

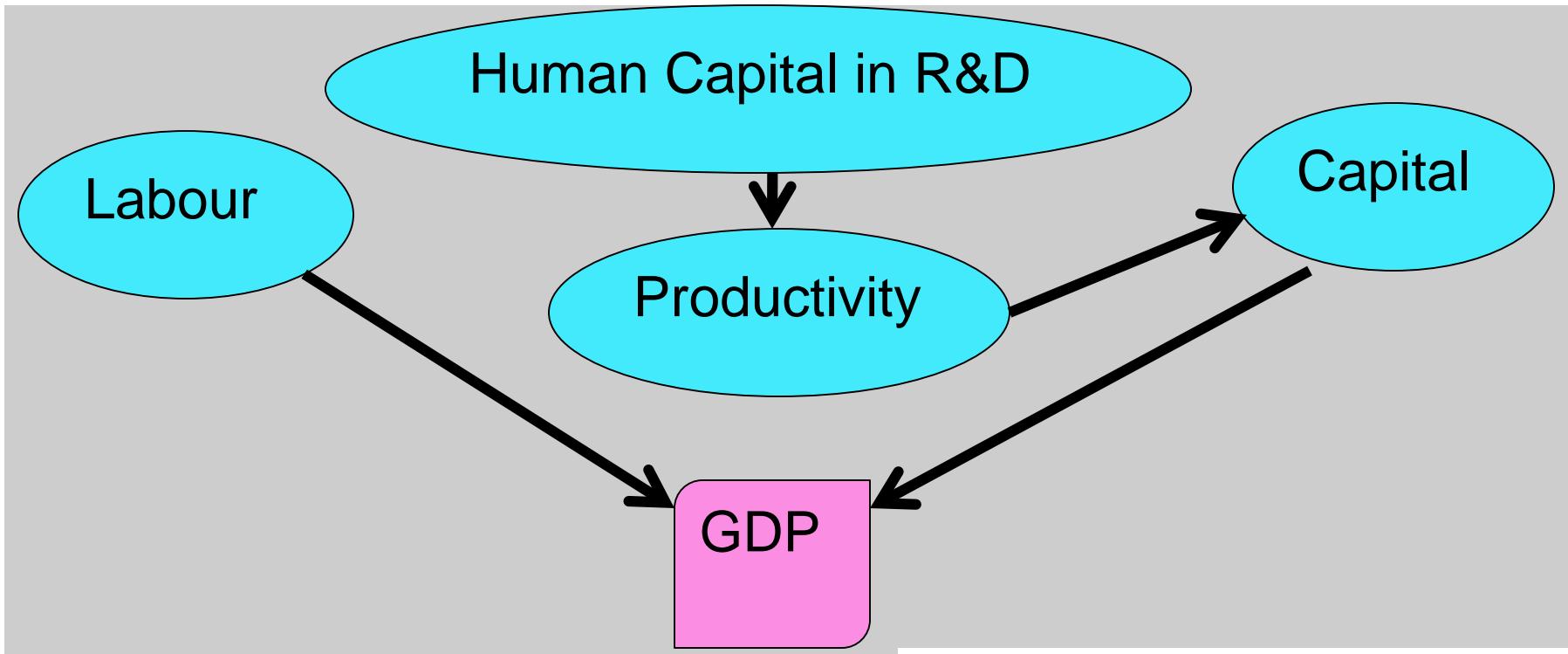
Industry	Sydney	UK	New Zealand	Melbourne
Retail Trade	0.003	0.042	0.086	0.080
Accommodation, Cafés, Restaurants	-0.003	0.042	0.056	0.09
Electricity, Gas, Water Supply	0.108	0	0.035	0.07

**Paul Romer**  
**Chief Economist of the World Bank**  
**2016**



# The Endogenous Growth Approach

## Paul Romer, 1996



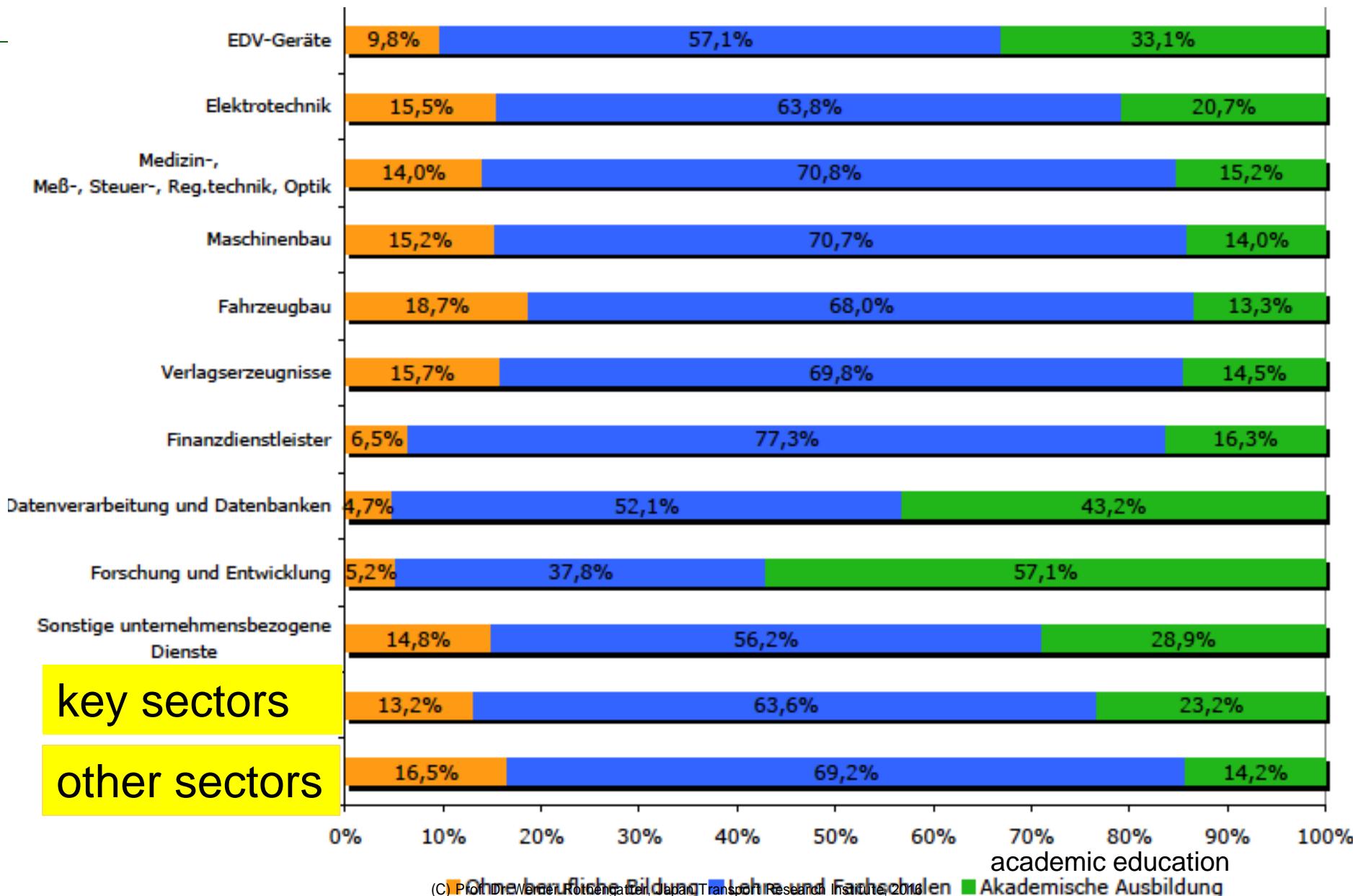
$$\dot{A} = \frac{dA}{dt} = \delta * H_A * A$$

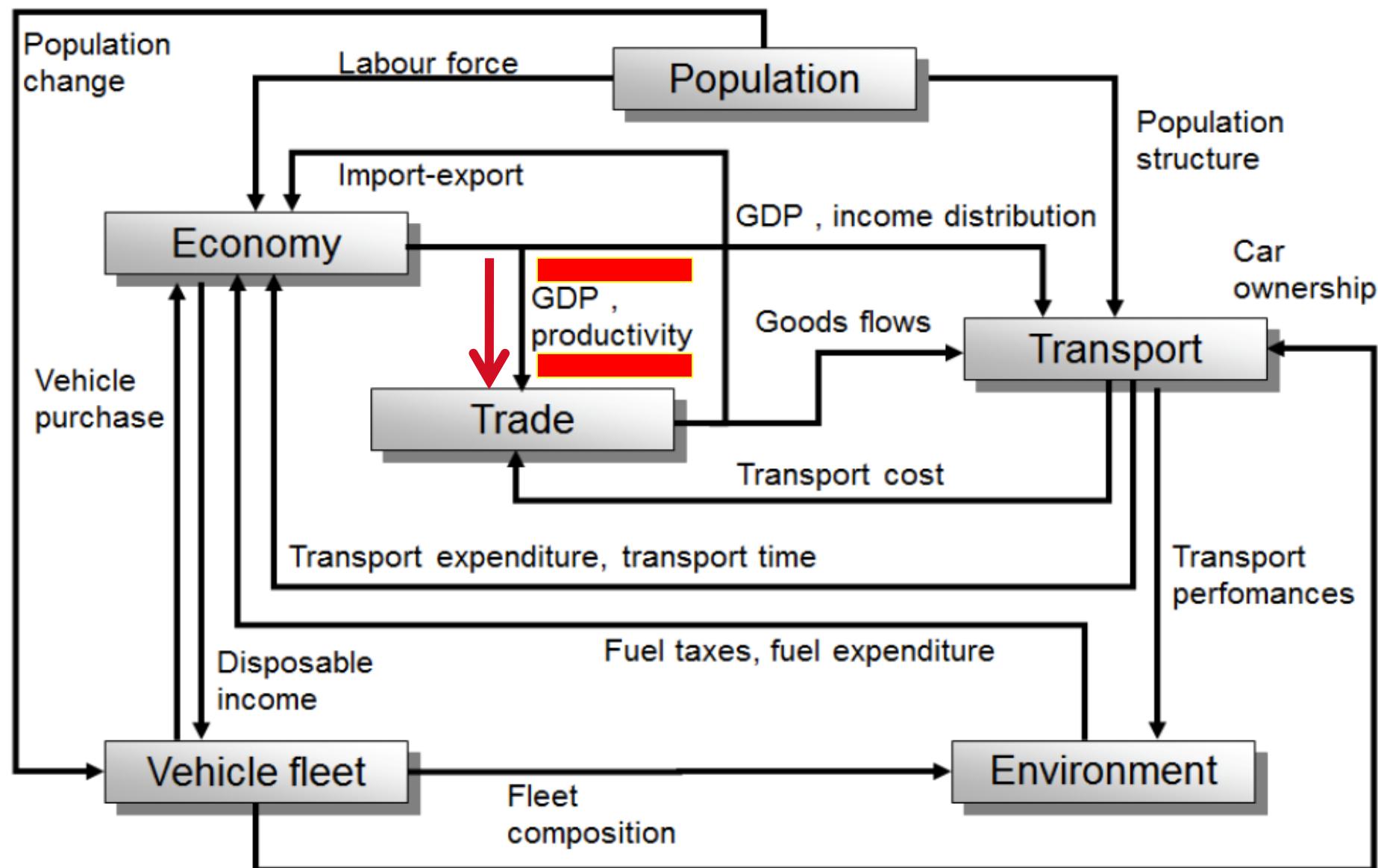
A: tech. knowledge  
 H<sub>A</sub>: human capital  
 δ: productivity of H<sub>A</sub> in R&D

**Freight:** HSR → time savings, higher reliability, better synchronization of supply chains → higher productivity → long-term growth

**Passengers:** HSR → better connections to fast transport modes, attraction of high skilled workers (high qualified workers have higher mobility demand)  
→ higher productivity → long-term growth

# Share of academics in key sectors Baden-Württemberg (green)

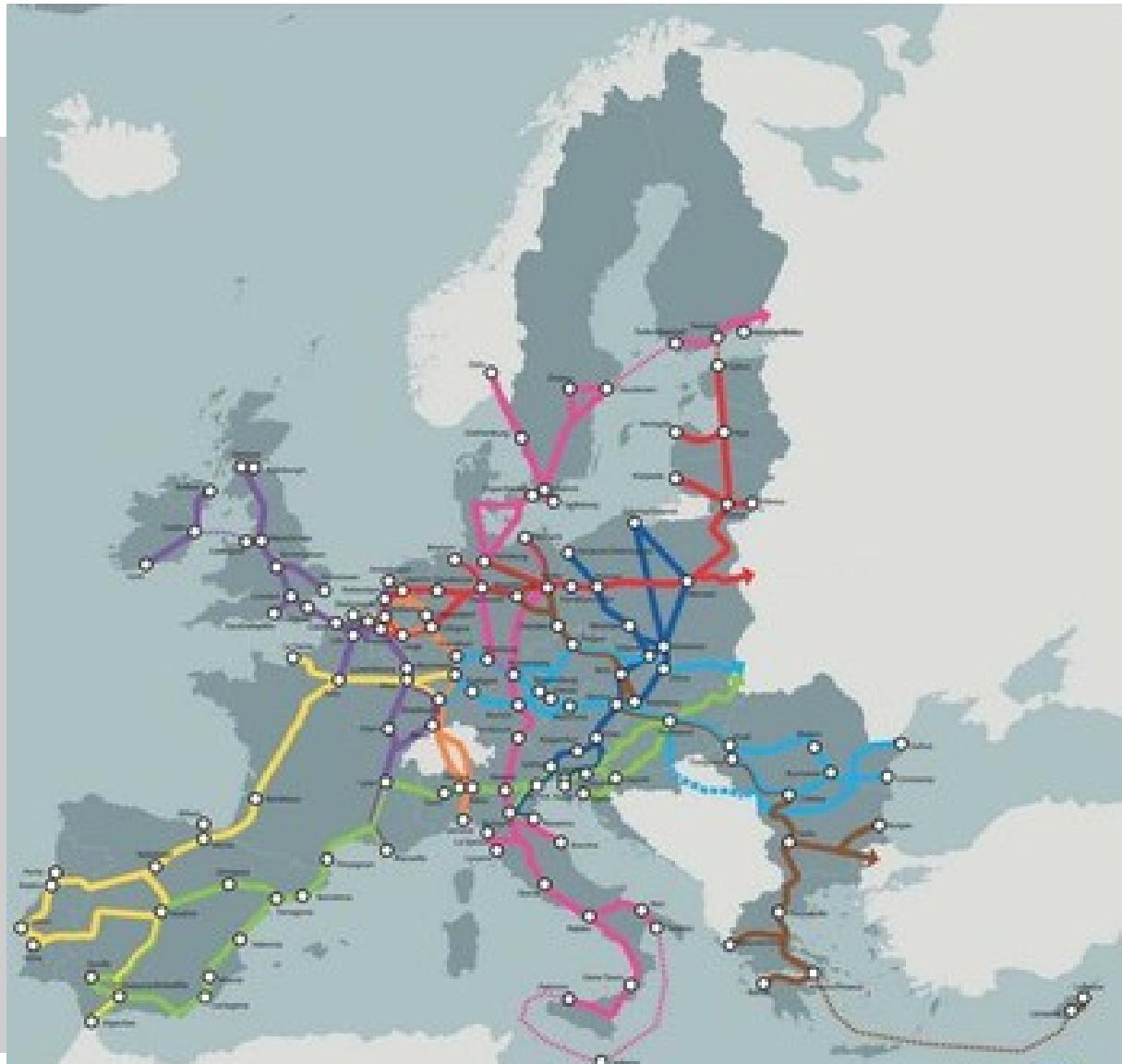
**ECON**




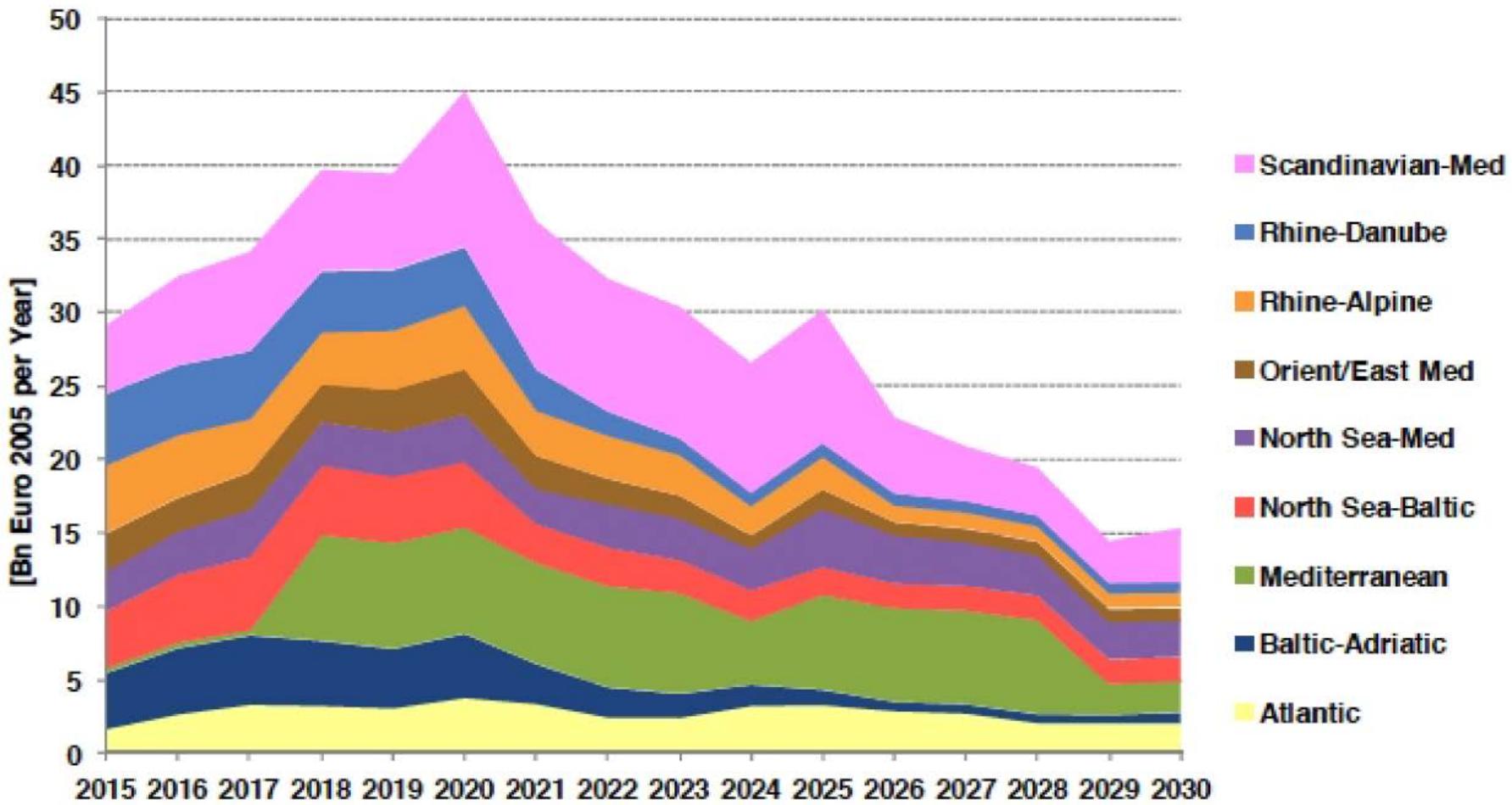
# TEN-T and the status of CNC Infrastructure planning

TEN-T  
CNC

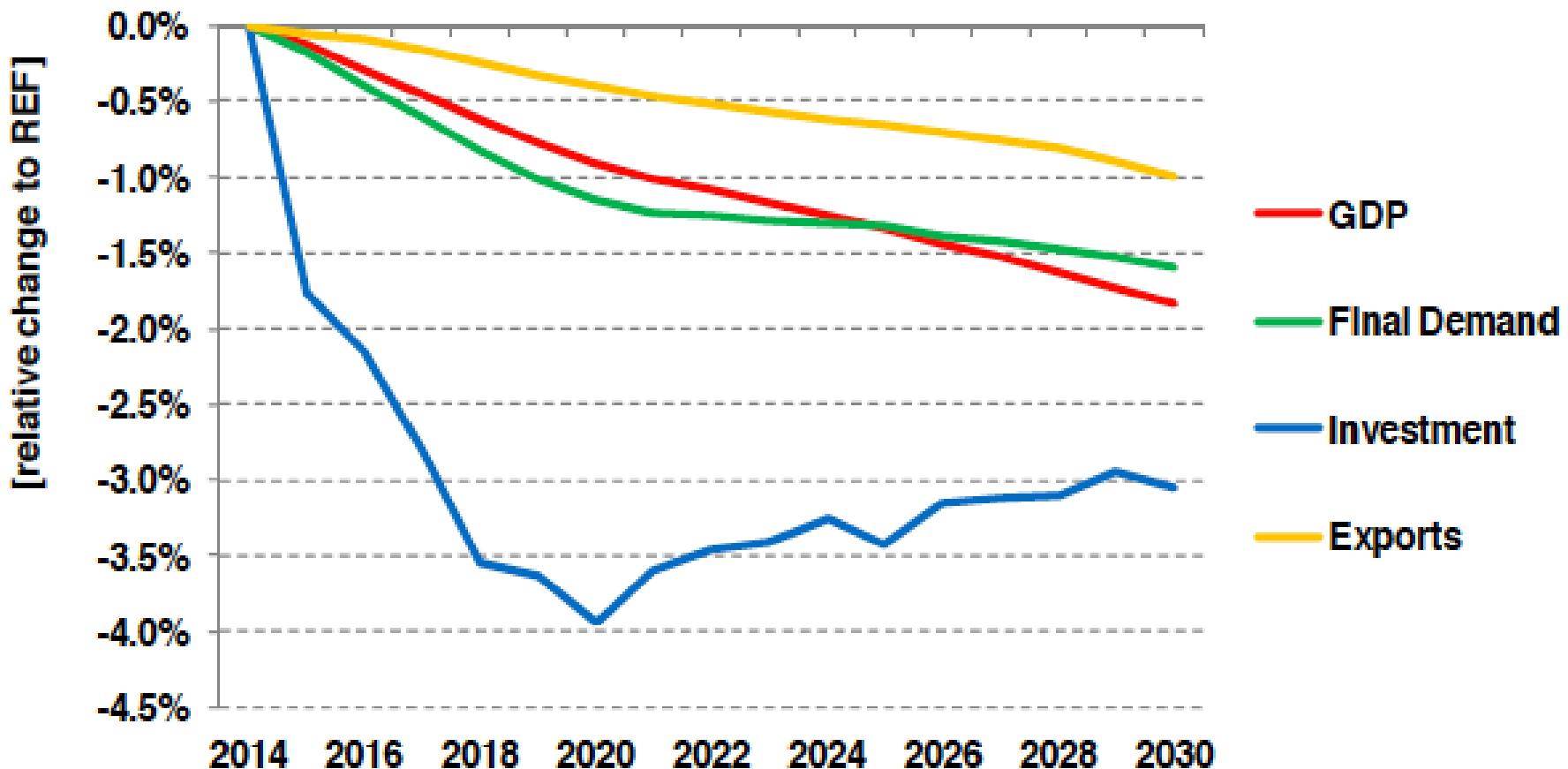
Corri-  
dors



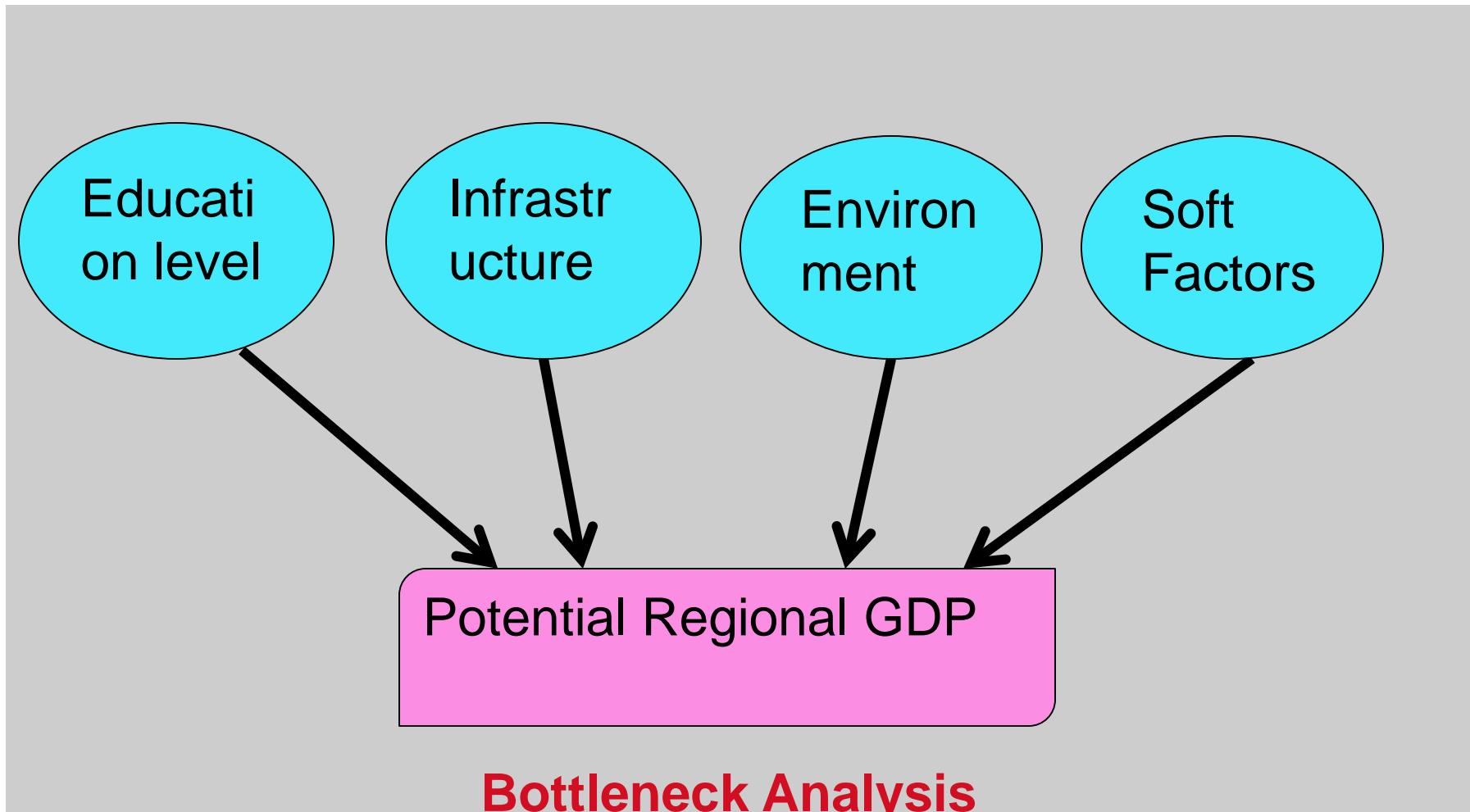
## Annual TEN-T Investments per Corridor



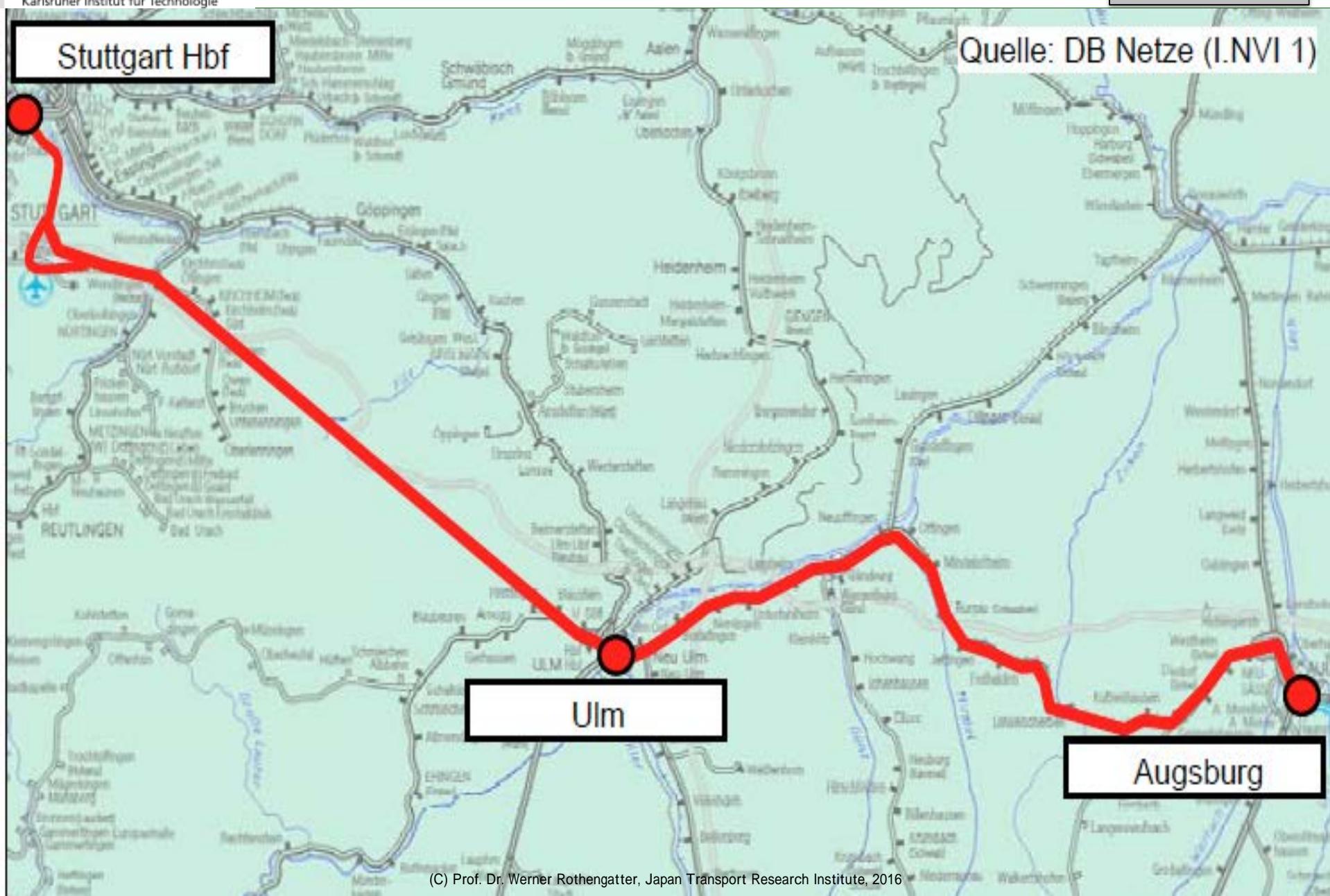
## Economic impacts of non-completion of core TEN-T compared with REF

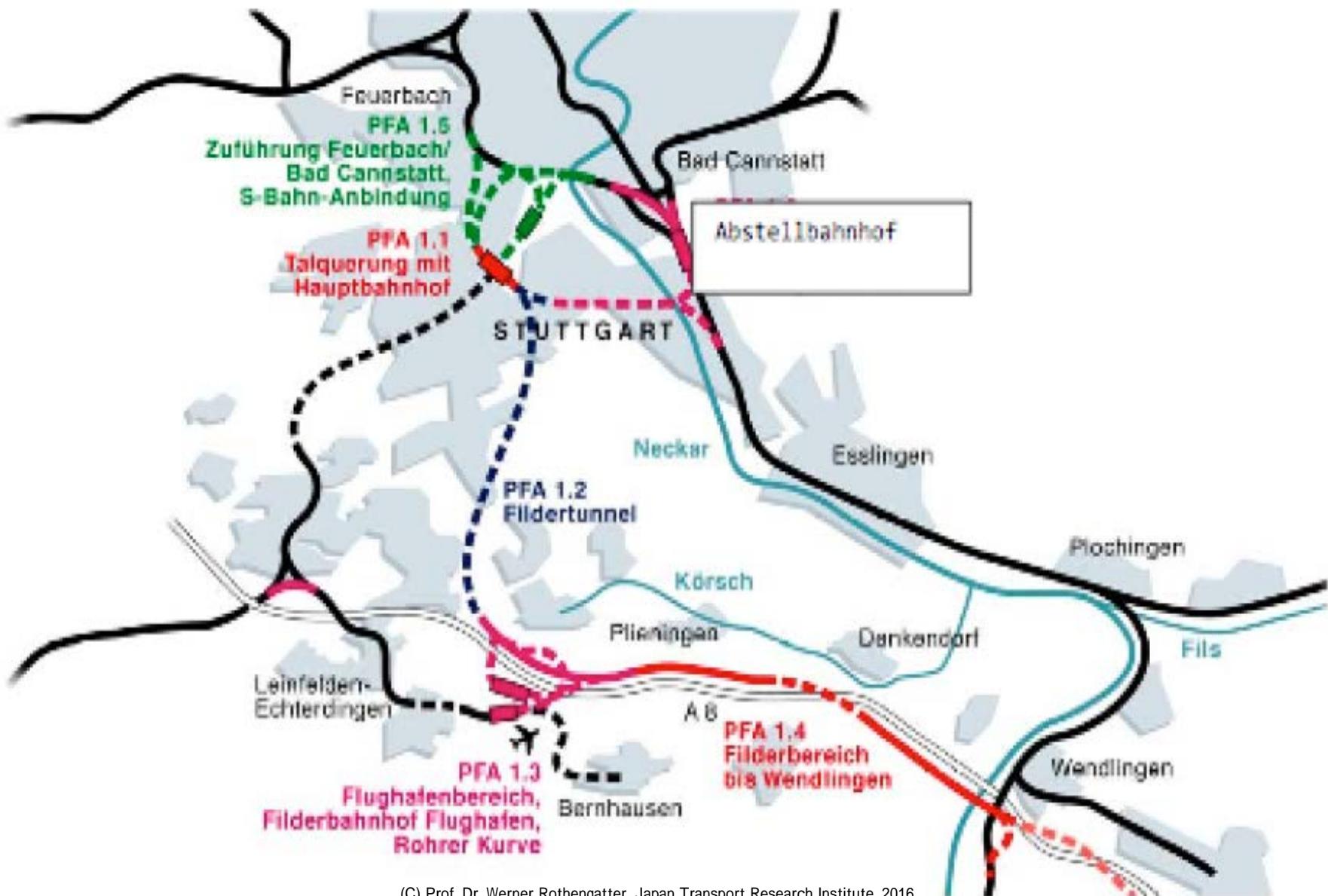


Factors immobile, indivisible, non-substitutable, polyvalent



## Bottleneck Analysis

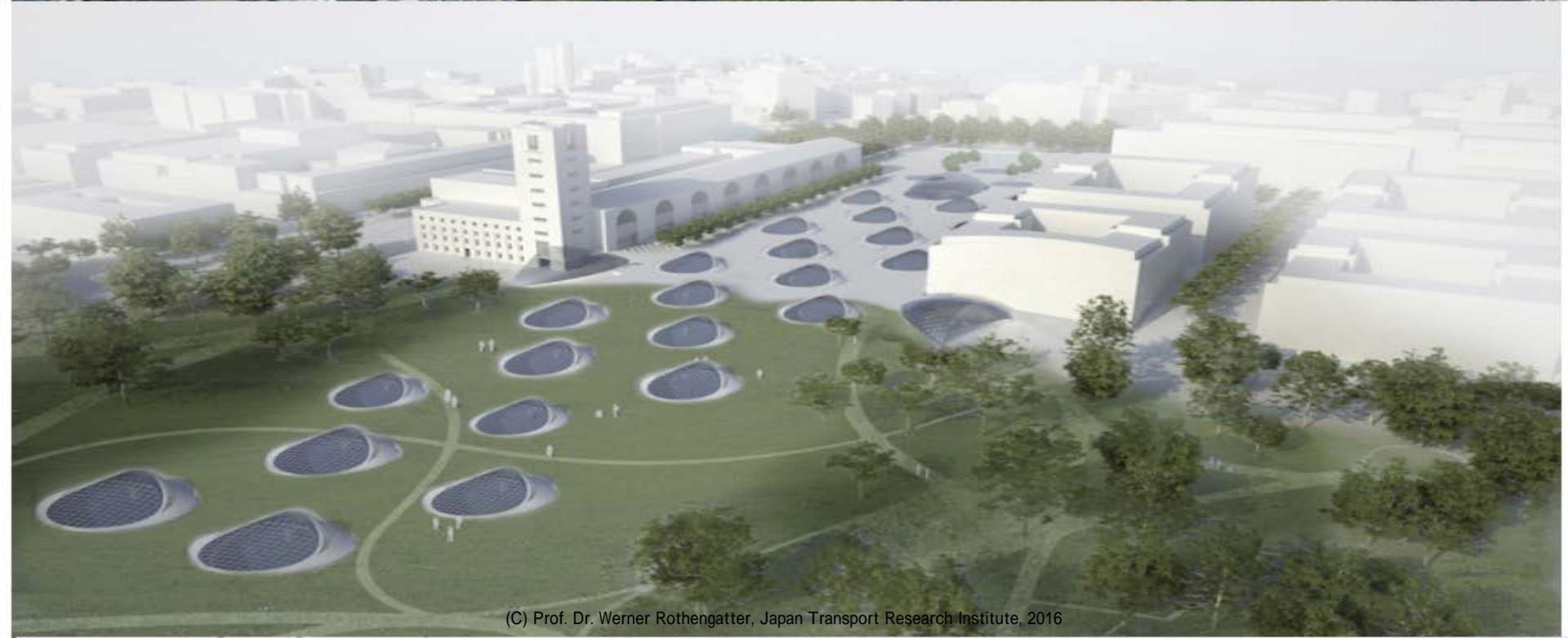




## Example of Stuttgart 21 (part of HSR Stuttgart-Ulm)

- ◆ Replacement of rail freight station
- ◆ New alignments for regional rail transport
- ◆ New urban S-Bahn station
- ◆ Gain of 106 ha of land for park area and new business/ residential district
- new urban development perspectives
- better environment
- new attractive underground station
- new airport station/connection

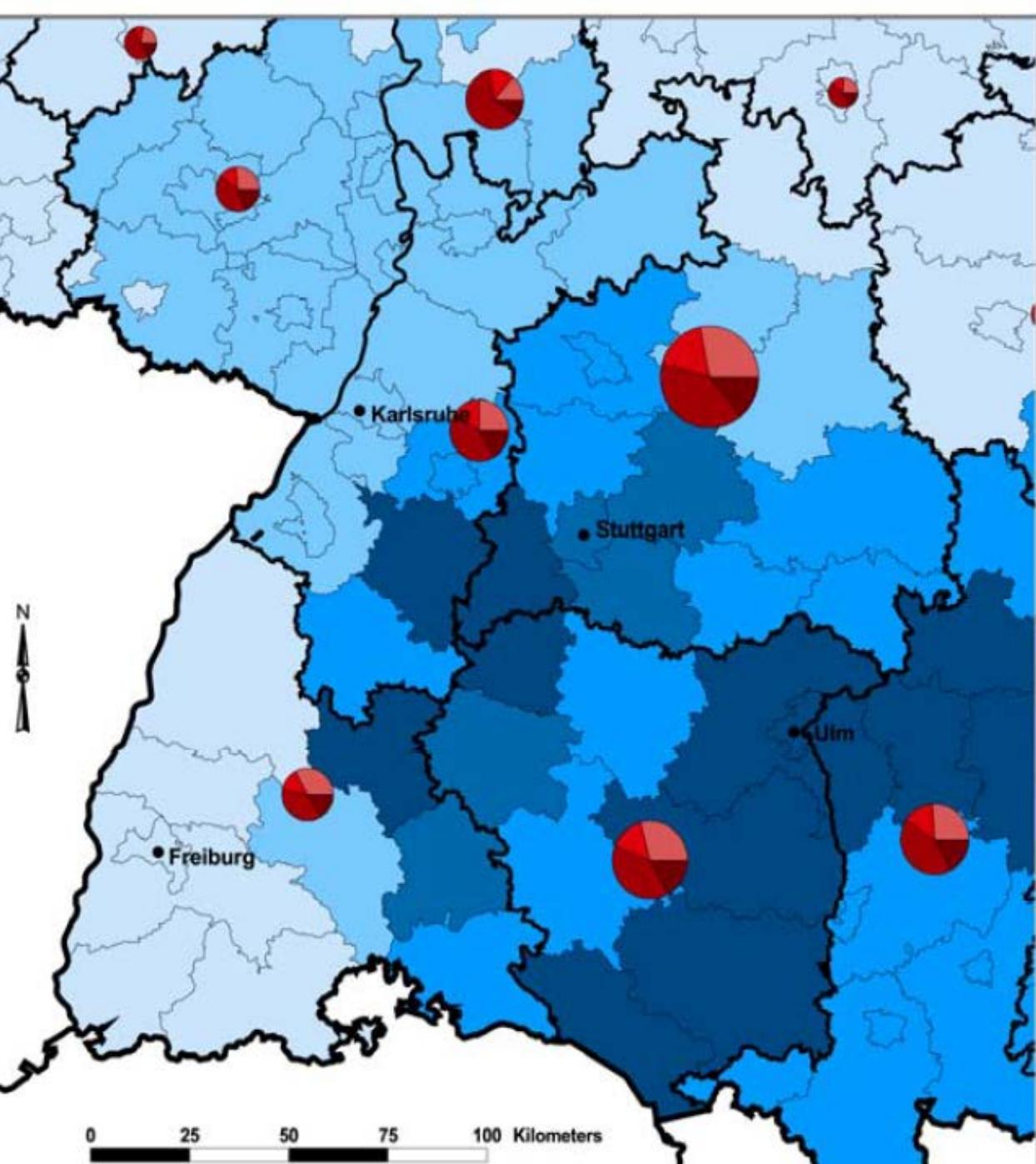
# New Underground Station





Gained Central City Area: 106 ha





## Impact of HSR Stuttgart-Ulm

### regional impacts:

dark blue: high

Light blue: low

(in % of GDP)

### sector impacts:

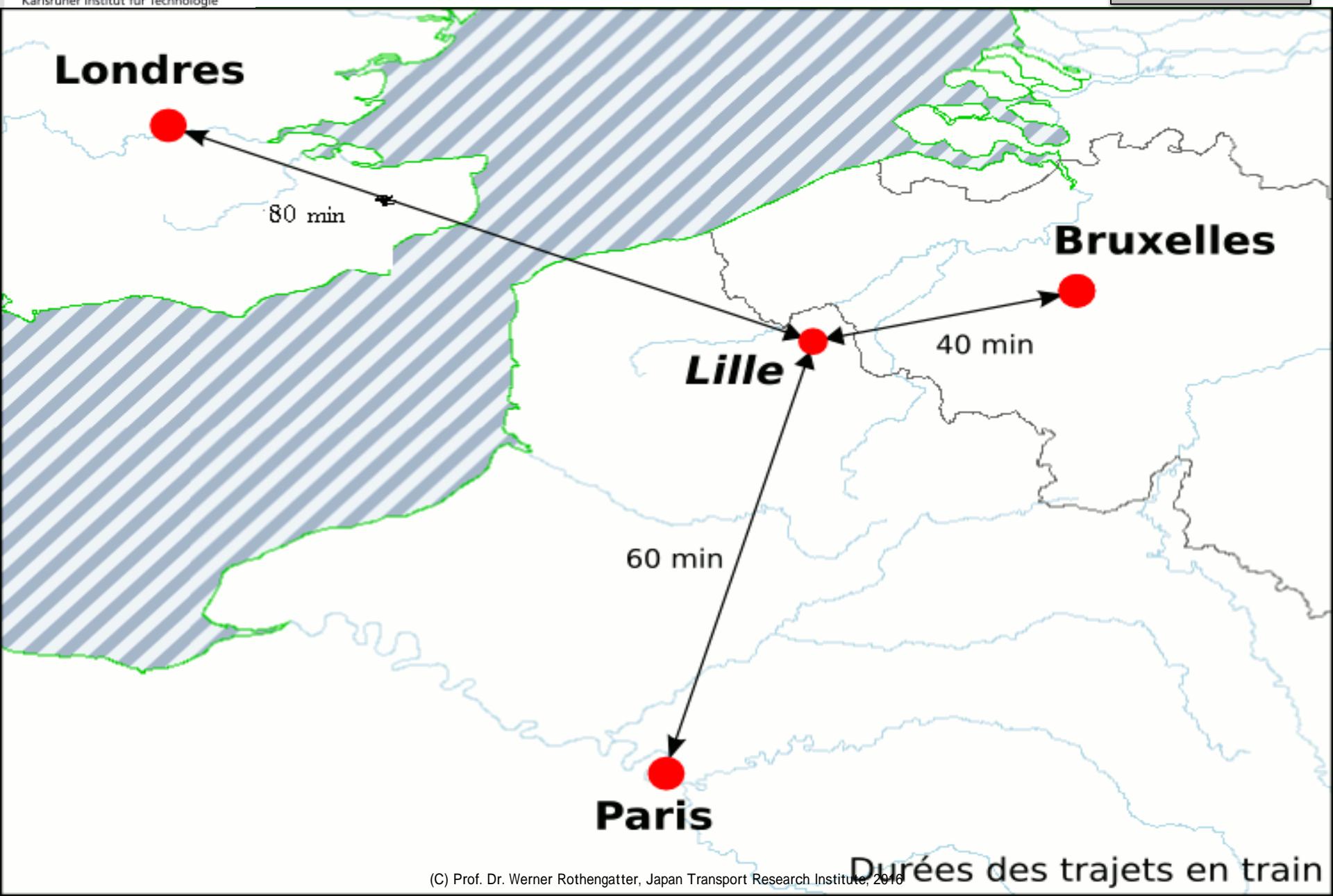
areas of red circles

light.: industry

light-med: trade,  
transport, tourism

med-dark: commer-  
cial services

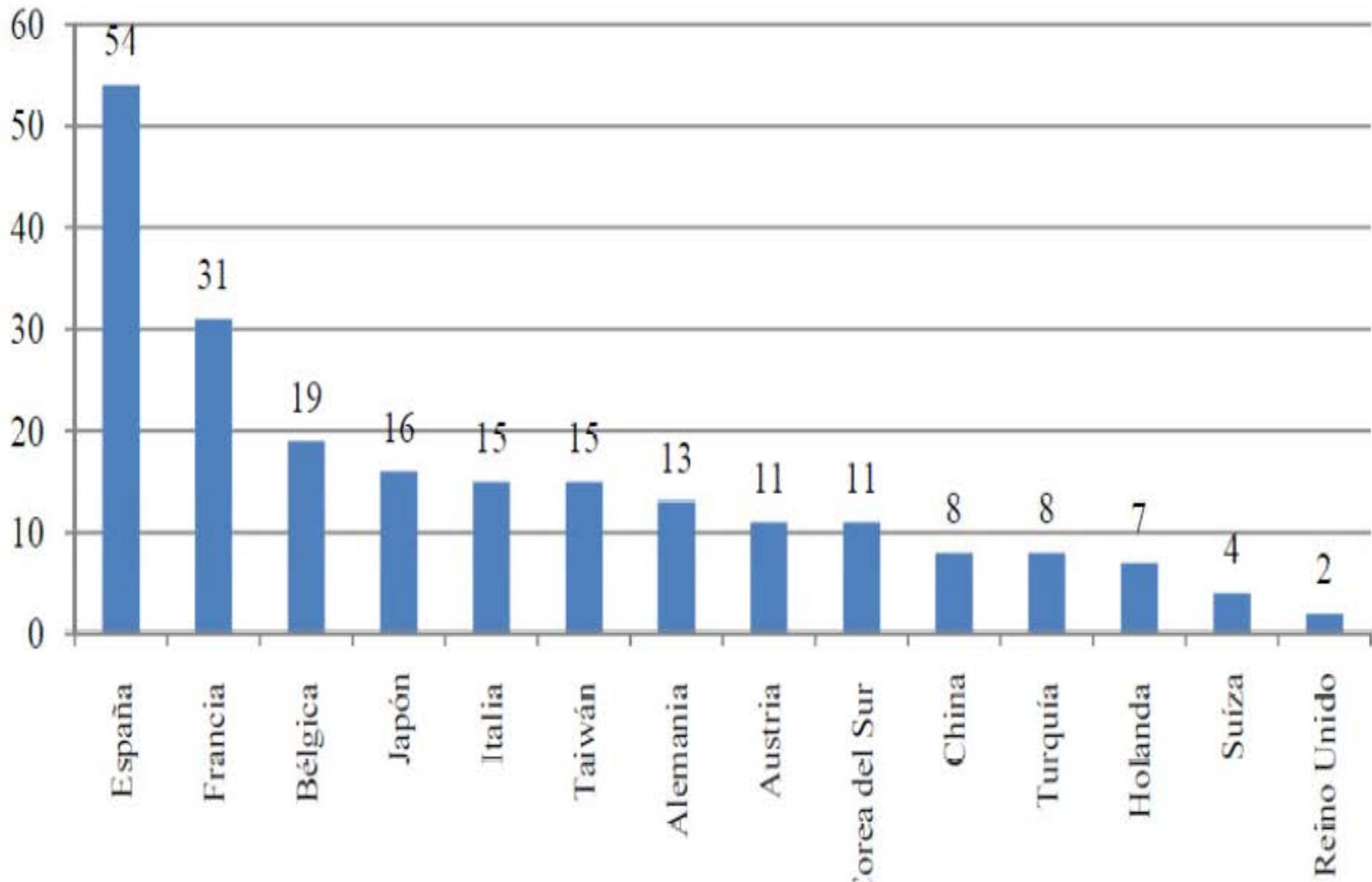
dark: public  
services



## HSR station opened in 1993

- population 172,000 (1990) to 232,000 (2013)
- Euralille 3rd biggest business center of French cities
- share of industry 10% (incl. Toyota)
- four universities in the area (110,000 students)
- center of services, trade and transport
- conferences and fairs







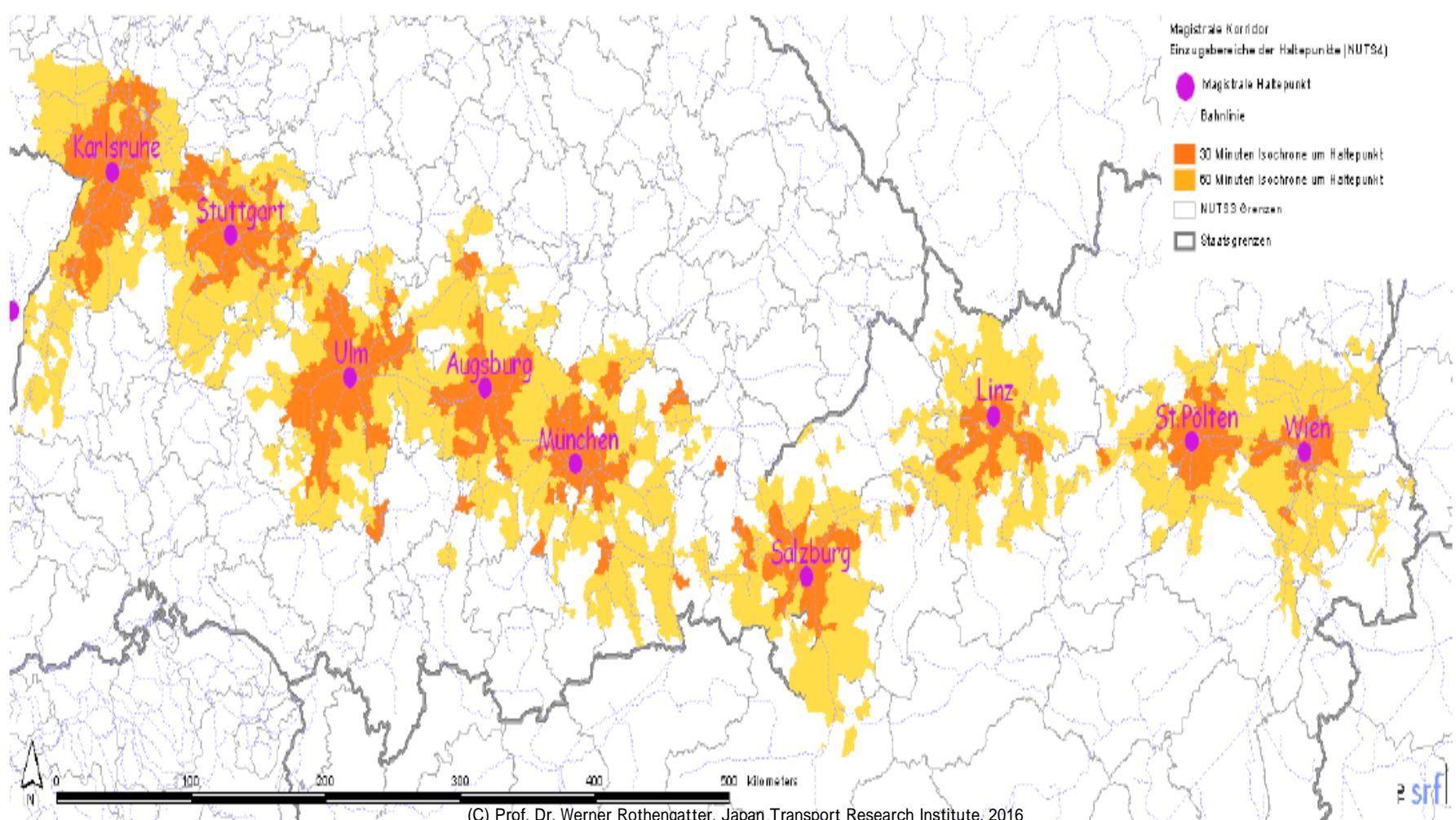
**Political positions:** strongly pro (Berlusconi government; instrument of regional development policy); strongly contra (Prodi, Monti governments)

**Position of regional scientists:** regional development policy to come first; bridge and HSR access links only economically viable after a strong economic upturn in southern Italy and Sicily



AlpTransit Gotthard   Lötschberg Base Tunnel   Rail 2000   Increase in capacity













- HSR needs **high passenger volumes**; in this case it is environmentally advantagous to aviation and car travel.
- HSR brings **economic stimuli to station areas**.
- HSR brings regional economic benefits if physical **bottlenecks are removed**.
- **Efficient regional transit** systems can transfer HSR benefits to the regions around HSR stations.
- **Integrated planning** of HSR, urban and regional development brings synergy effects. It is often hard to implement because of **complexity and costs**.

Thank you.

Werner Rothengatter  
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

[rothengatter@kit.edu](mailto:rothengatter@kit.edu)

# Supplementary slides

$$Y^{pot} = aI^{\alpha_1}Q^{\alpha_2}S^{\alpha_3}U^{\alpha_4}, \quad \text{for every region i (index omitted)}$$

a (total) factor productivity

I Indicator for infrastructure capital

Q Indicator for human capital

S Indicator for soft location factors (e.g.: cultural assets)

U Indicator for environmental quality

$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_4$  production elasticities

**Bottleneck analysis based on single regression**

(3.1)

$$WB1 = \sum_{i,j} \left[ \left( \varepsilon_{i,j} \times \frac{\Delta ED_j}{ED_j} \right) \times GDP_{i,j} \times E_{i,j} \right]$$

where

i: industries      j: locations

ED: effective employment density

 $\varepsilon$ : elasticity of productivity with respect to effective employment density

GDP: output per employed person

E: number of jobs



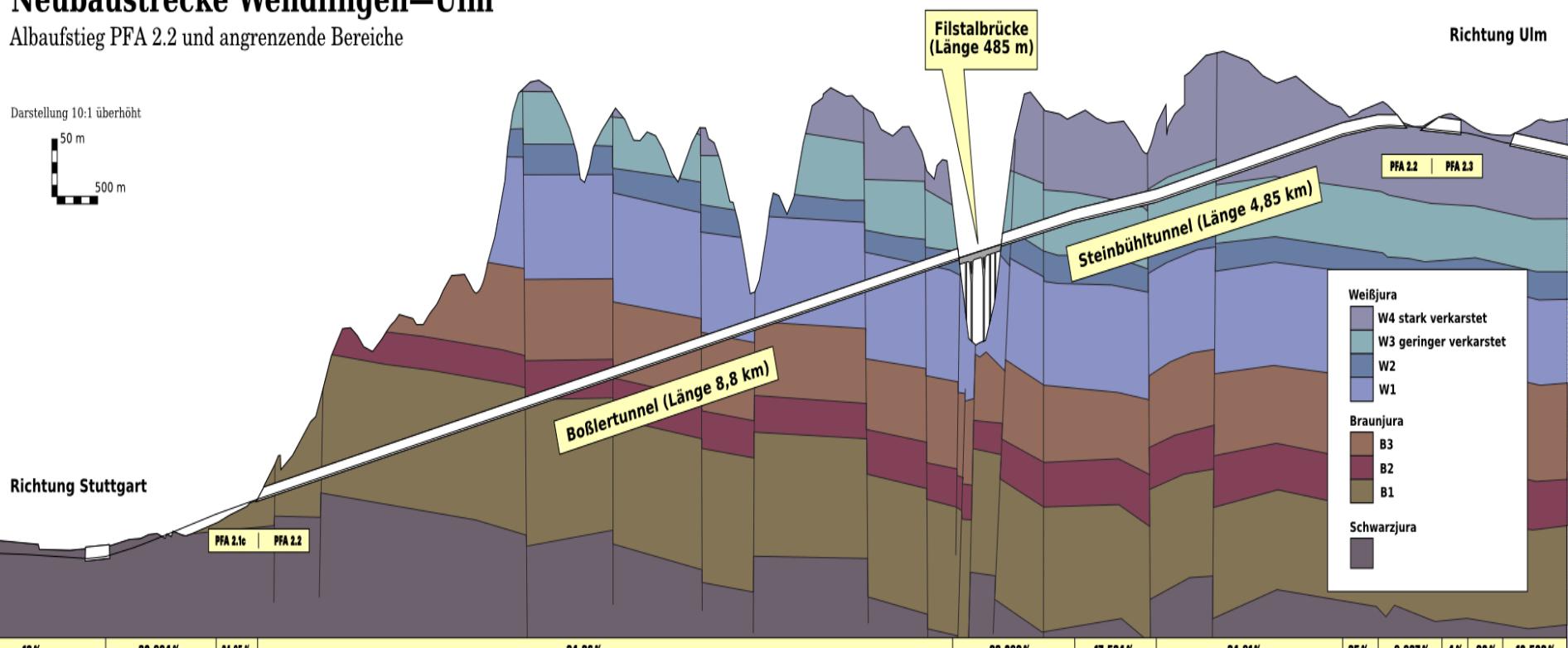
## ◎ Chronology

- First plans 1988
- Start of legal planning 1996
- Process of legal approval 2001-2006
- Signature of financial agreement, 6 partners, 2009
- Cost estimate Jan. 2009: 5.1 bill. €
- Revision of cost estimate Dec. 2009: 6.6 bill. €
- Start of construction work Jan. 2010
- Interruption 2010, 2011, arbitration process,  
voting of population of Baden-Württemberg
- Revision of cost estimate Dec. 2012: 9.7 bill. €
- Construction continuing since 2011

# Alignment of tunnels/bridges in the hilly area Stuttgart-Ulm with various geological rock formations

## Neubaustrecke Wendlingen–Ulm

Albauftieg PFA 2.2 und angrenzende Bereiche



-13 % 30,994 % 24,95 % 24,26 % 23,092 % 17,534 % 24,91 % 25 % -9,927 % -4 % -20 % -10,502 %

- Ca 3000 km, second largest HSR network after China
- In terms of km/inhabitant most dense network of the world
- Plans to extend the network to 5000 km
- Planning base: PEIT, environmental issues and regional accessibility dominating
- Increasing doubts in economic viability
- Most lines operated by short trains (400 pass.)
- Several land use planning failures (Mega Project Sesena/Madrid)

# Example for the removal of physical Bottlenecks: Øresund fixed link



# Oeresund Fixed Link

