**Academic vs. Industrial Research: The Missing Link**

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**Abstract**

Several academic and industrial researchers certainly have different points of view when it comes to the fundamental question on research purposes. Some critics do claim that researchers between these two sectors become increasingly similar. However, the large-scale empirical evidence regarding similarities and differences are still missing. Trying to compare the scientific foundation between these two sectors, one can develop a framework pointing to the four key dimensions: (1) the nature of research, (2) organizational characteristics, (3) personal preferences, and (4) the mechanism of success measurement. Principle of differences creates a discontinuity in research finding and its applications, hence the term ‘death valley’ has been coined. However, the private sector has become more understanding of fundamental research, and on the other hand, there have been a driving force in academic institutions to generate revenue from their research findings. This phenomenon could help bridging these two formerly very different schools of thoughts. The important question remains that which entity should take a leading role in building a strong bridge. Nowadays, both academic and private entities allow their researchers to be actively involved in scientific community and provide them with considerable levels of independence in their scientific endeavors. While the nature of research dimension plays a significant role in prediction of other dimensions such as the use of patenting and publishing, it does no longer fully explain the industry-academia differences in those dimensions. All in all, the stereotypical views of industrial and academic sciences may be changing, but how harmonious they could be is yet to be observed.

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