

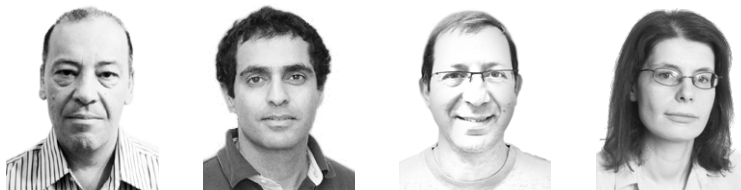
It's about Time! Learning Races in Strategic Alliances



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Firms increasingly engage in strategic alliances in order to acquire new knowledge and establish their competitive advantage. In dynamic knowledge-intensive industries in particular, learning is critical for continuous innovation and long-term success. Learning in alliances, however, may also emphasize differences between partners and thus intensify tensions that encourage competitive behavior. Hazards relating to competitive learning in alliances such as knowledge leakage, opportunistic behavior at the partner's expense, and learning races can potentially lead to alliance instability and jeopardize the attainment of strategic goals. The article reviews literature on competitive learning in alliances and raises the notion of "time" as a primary determinant of firm behavior.

Have Hourly Audit Fees Declined Over Time and Have Audit Revenues Declined Due To the Disclosure or Audit and Non-audit Hours?



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We examine what happened to hourly audit and non-audit fees over the period 2006-2018. We also examine what happened over time to the average number of audit and non-audit hours per-engagement. The results show a monotonic decline in hourly audit fees from 2006 to 2018; hourly non-audit fees also declined but to a lesser degree. Concurrently, the number of audit and non-audit hours increased substantially over time, probably due to the increase in the complexity of the financial statement. In addition, total audit revenues have declined over time, but revenues from non-audit services remained stable. These findings support the argument that increased competition among audit firms resulted in lower hourly audit fees, but did not materially affect non-audit services. However, there is no evidence that disclosure of audit and non-audit hours had anything to do with the decline of hourly fees.