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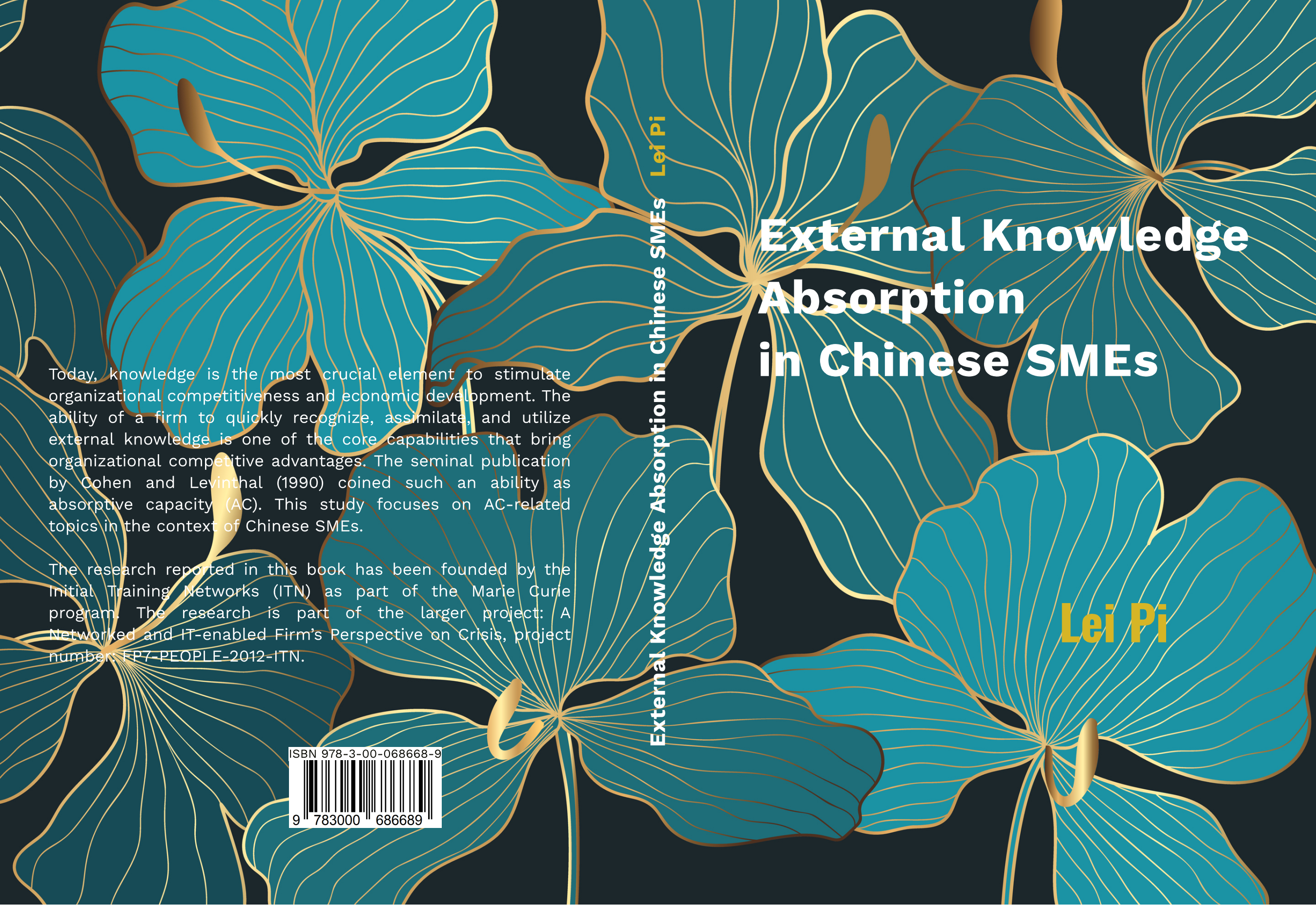


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External Knowledge Absorption in Chinese SMEs **Lei Pi**

# External Knowledge Absorption in Chinese SMEs

**Lei Pi**

Today, knowledge is the most crucial element to stimulate organizational competitiveness and economic development. The ability of a firm to quickly recognize, assimilate, and utilize external knowledge is one of the core capabilities that bring organizational competitive advantages. The seminal publication by Cohen and Levinthal (1990) coined such an ability as absorptive capacity (AC). This study focuses on AC-related topics in the context of Chinese SMEs.

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