

# **IMITATION TO INNOVATION**

**The Dynamics of Korea's  
Technological Learning**

**Linsu Kim**

Technische Universität Darmstadt  
Fachbereich 1  
Betriebswirtschaftliche Bibliothek  
Inventar-Nr.: 48.949  
Abstell-Nr.: A 31/402

Harvard Business School Press  
Boston, Massachusetts

---

# CONTENTS

Preface and Acknowledgments	vii
1. Introduction	1
<b>Part I: Evolution of Public Policy and Sociocultural Environment</b>	<b>19</b>
2. Government as a Learning Facilitator	21
3. Hardworking Koreans: Education and Sociocultural Factors	59
<b>Part II: From Imitation to Innovation in Industries</b>	<b>83</b>
4. Analytical Frameworks	85
5. The Automobile Industry: Crisis Construction and Technological Learning	105
6. The Electronics Industry: From Reverse Engineering to Strategic Alliance	131
7. The Semiconductor Industry: Leapfrogging into the World Frontier	149
8. Imitation and Innovation in Small Firms: Two Contrasting Patterns	171
<b>Part III: Conclusion and Implications</b>	<b>191</b>
9. Korea's Technological Learning: Conclusion	193
10. Korea's Technological Learning: Implications	221
Notes	245
References	271
Index	285
About the Author	303