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Sommario/riassunto	The concept of open innovation has become increasingly popular in the management and policy literature on technology and innovation. However, despite the large volume of empirical work, many of the prescriptions being proposed are fairly general and not specific to particular contexts and contingencies. The proponents of open innovation are universally positive but research suggests that the specific mechanisms and outcomes of open innovation models are very sensitive to context and contingency. This is not surprising because the open or closed nature of innovation is historically contingent a