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ASSESSING THE EO'S IMPACT ON THE ITALIAN SECTORS: A MULTI-METHOD APPROACH

Abstract

Earth Observation (EO) is a strategic sector of the space industry that contributes to creating a wide range of services and applications for governments, companies and citizens with relevant socio-economic and environmental implications. It refers to the collection of imagery and data related to planet earth's physical, chemical, biological systems via remote sensing technologies to monitor, assess and manage a wide range of natural and socio-economic phenomena. This paper aims to estimate the benefits in terms of value added generated by the use of EO data in different sectors of the Italian economy. The paper collects information through different methods. First, a web-scraping procedure based on machine learning techniques is conducted, aimed to identify the scientific papers which associate EO data with the economic sectors. Second, we performed online surveys to EO experts and EO-data users, and based on them, Monte Carlo simulation exploits ISTAT data to obtain estimates of the economic impact of EO data in Italy.