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Sub-Project 3.2.5: Technological Entry: Diversification vs. New Innovators

Statistical Analysis on the Distance Between Fields of Technology

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Abstract:

This paper analyses the distance between fields of technology based on the co-occurrence of IPC-codes assigned to individual patent documents. At least one but usually more classification codes of the IPC are assigned to all patent documents. It is assumed that the occurrence of more than one code can be interpreted as indicating a relationship between the technological areas standing behind the classification code. For each IPC code the co-occurrence with all other codes has been determined and the frequency of the co-occurrence of IPC codes was taken as an indication of the strength of the relationship between the different codes. This analysis was carried out using an IPC based technology-oriented classification which differentiates between 30 fields. The results indicate that there are almost no differences between the distance of fields of technology using world-wide patent data compared to individual country data. Furthermore, the relations between technology areas remain stable for the different periods considered. It is concluded that technological proximity seems to be an intrinsic feature of technology which is valid for industrial countries and which remains nearly unchanged even for long observation periods.

Key-words: technological distance, patents, patent classification, technology classification, diversification

According to the agreement work for sub-project 3.2.5 the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research (FhG-ISI) is providing data on the technological distance between different fields of technology which are used as a basis for the analysis of technological entry which is carried out in particular by CESPRI.

1 Selection of an appropriate classification scheme

The first step within the investigation was to select an appropriate classification as starting point for analysing technological distances. It was agreed with CESPRI to use a technology-oriented classification which distinguishes 30 different fields of technology based on the International Patent Classification (IPC). All patent documents are classified by at least one classification code of the IPC, which are assigned to the documents by the patent examiners of the issuing patent offices. The IPC is an internationally agreed, clear-cut, non-overlapping and comprehensive patent classification system. Currently the IPC contains almost 60,000 individual elements and offers the possibility of representations at different hierarchical levels (Grupp and Schmoch 1992a, p. 84). Drawing on the technological know-how of specialists from the Fraunhofer society the first version of the classification consisting of 28 technological fields was defined already in the early nineties. It has been used and was refined several times in close co-operation with the French Patent Office and the Observatoire des Sciences et des Techniques (OST) taking into consideration the development which technology has undergone¹. The present version of the technology classification is given in table 1.

Table 1: Classification of technology by 30 sectors and related IPC codes

Technical Area	IPC code
1. Electrical devices, <u>electrical engineering</u> , electrical energy	F21; G05F; H01B,C,F,G,H,J,K,M, R,T; H02; H05B,C,F,K
2. Audiovisual technology	G09F,G; G11B; H03F,G,J; H04N-003, -005,-009,-013,-015,-017,R,S
3. Telecommunications	G08C; H01P,Q; H03B,C,D,H,K,L,M; H04B,H,J,K,L,M,N-001,-007,-011,Q
4. Information technology	G06; G11C; G10L
5. Semiconductors	H01L
6. Optics	G02; G03B,C,D,F,G,H; H01S

¹ For more details see also Grupp&Schmoch, 1992 and Grupp, Münt, Schmoch, 1995

Technical Area	IPC code
7. Analysis, measurement, <u>control technology</u>	G01B,C,D,F,G,H,J,K,L,M,N,P,R,S,V, W; G04; G05B,D; G07; G08B,G; G09B,C,D; G12
8. Medical technology	A61B,C,D,F,G,H,J,L,M,N
9. <u>Organic fine chemistry</u>	C07C,D,F,H,J,K
10. Macromolecular chemistry, <u>polymers</u>	C08B,F,G,H,K,L; C09D,J;C13L
11. <u>Pharmaceutics</u> , cosmetics	A61K
12. Biotechnology	C07G; C12M,N,P,Q,R,S
13. <u>Materials</u> , metallurgy	C01; C03C; C04; C21; C22; B22
14. Agriculture, <u>food chemistry</u>	A01H; A21D; A23B,C,D,F,G,J,K,L; C12C,F,G,H,J; C13D,F,J,K
15. Chemical industry and petrol industry, <u>basic materials chemistry</u>	A01N; C05; C07B; C08C; C09B,C,F, G,H,K; C10B,C,F,G,H,J,K,L,M; C11B,C,D
16. Chemical engineering	B01B,D (without -046 to -053),F,J,L; B02C; B03; B04; B05B; B06; B07; B08; F25J; F26
17. <u>Surface technology</u> , coating	B05C,D; B32; C23; C25; C30
18. <u>Materials processing</u> , textiles, paper	A41H; A43D; A46D; B28; B29; B31; C03B; C08J; C14; D01; D02; D03; D04B,C,G,H; D05; D06B,C,G,H,J,L,M,P,Q; D21
19. <u>Thermal processes</u> and apparatus	F22; F23B,C,D,H,K,L,M,N,Q; F24; F25B,C; F27; F28
20. Environmental technology	A62D; B01D-046 to -053; B09; C02; F01N; F23G,J
21. Machine tools	B21; B23; B24; B26D,F; B27; B30
22. <u>Engines</u> , pumpes, turbines	F01B,C,D,K,L,M,P; F02; F03; F04; F23R
23. Mechanical elements	F15; F16; F17; G05G
24. <u>Handling</u> , printing	B25J; B41; B65B,C,D,F,G,H; B66; B67
25. Agricultural and <u>food processing</u> machinery and apparatus	A01B,C,D,F,G,J,K,L,M; A21B,C; A22; A23N,P; B02B; C12L; C13C,G,H
26. Transport	B60; B61; B62; B63B,C,H,J; B64B,C,D,F
27. Nuclear engineering	G01T; G21; H05G,H
28. <u>Space technology</u> , weapons	B63G; B64G; C06; F41; F42
29. <u>Consumer goods</u> and equipment	A24; A41B,C,D,F,G; A42; A43B,C; A44; A45; A46B; A47; A62B,C; A63; B25B,C,D,F,G,H; B26B; B42; B43; B44; B68; D04D; D06F,N; D07; F25D; G10B,C,D,F,G,H,K
30. <u>Civil engineering</u> , building, mining	E01; E02; E03; E04; E05; E06; E21

2 Data and Method

The distance between the fields of technology was determined analysing the co-occurrence of IPC-codes assigned to individual patent documents. As described above, at least one but usually more classification codes of the IPC are assigned to all patent documents. It is assumed that the occurrence of more than one code can be interpreted as indicating a relationship between the technological areas standing behind the classification code. For each IPC code the co-occurrence with all other codes has been determined and the frequency of the co-occurrence of IPC codes was taken as an indication of the strength of the relationship between the different codes. In other words the more often a code was assigned to patent documents within one area together with codes of another area the stronger is the relationship between those codes or the lower is the distance between those technological areas standing behind the respective codes.

To come up with information about technological distances, co-occurrence data can be retrieved using different approaches. Internationally a discussion is going on about the most appropriated approach. Some studies are based on the distinction made between main and supplementary classification which are assigned to the patent document. This approach assumes that the main classification "provides a good proxy of the producing sector of knowledge, and that the listed supplementary IPC codes (taken as partially unintended "by-products" of the main goal of the invention) give an indication for technology spillovers to other industrial sectors. (Verspagen 1995, p. 4). According to our experience collected during the last years while carrying out a number of studies dealing with patent indicators, also including a number of interviews carried out at the German and the European Patent Office, this assumption cannot be confirmed. The main classification assigned to a patent document describes the central characteristics of the main claim of the patent, while the supplementary codes are used to describe further features of the main claim and of the remaining claims of the patent (Schmoch et al. 1988, p- 142). However, this distinction does not enable a distinction between knowledge producing fields of technology and those fields incorporating this knowledge. The direction of knowledge flows cannot be derived. Thus, for the investigations presented in this paper another approach was chosen which does not distinguish between main and supplementary classification, but which counts all classification codes assigned to a patent application equally.

Searches have been performed in the on-line version of the database EPAT. In total three periods of time have been considered (1982-1985, 1986-1989 and 1990-1993). The delimitation of the periods of time was done by the priority year as given in the patent application. The analyses have been carried out for all patent applications at the European Patent Office. In addition, because it was intended to examine whether technological distance is affected by differences between different countries and the kind of technology produced there or whether technological distance is an

international characteristic of technology independent from national patterns, for the most recent period of time distance matrices have been calculated for the USA, Japan and Germany. The "inventor country" was used to distinguish between the countries analysed. Thus, in total 6 matrices on technological distances have been constructed and compared. For all patents all assigned classification codes have been retrieved and the frequency of co-occurrence of the fields of technology defined by IPC-codes have been counted. This data has been used to build co-occurrence matrices. The technological distance has been measured by the overlap (percentage) of patent applications, which according to the assignment of IPC-codes belong to different fields of technology.

A third approach could have been applied using the information of patent citations given in the patent documents. In the official search reports of the patents the state-of-the-art related to the legal claims of the patent application is described using patent citations or if there are still no related patents available also non-patent literature is cited. The patent office examiners generally prefer to cite other patents, because technical features are more clearly described than in scientific articles. But if they cannot find relevant patents, they also refer to publications. This is more often the case in areas of technology which are strongly science-based. In the approach taking patent citations as unit of analysis, the technological area, the cited patent belongs to, is seen as the technology producing one, while the area the citing document belongs to is seen as the absorbing area of technology. However, investigations have shown that there are hardly any differences between the distribution of the cited and citing patent to technological areas. This is due to the fact, that the classification of a patent document have the primary function to determine the areas of novelty searches. Thus, the cited documents have almost the same classification as the citing ones (Grupp et al. 1990). Using patent citations do not provide additional information about knowledge spillovers between areas of technology. Thus, this approach was also seen as being inappropriate to describe technological distances.

3 Results

The results of the analysis are given in table 2 to 7. The Distance between fields of technologies is indicated by the proportion of co-occurring classifications and thus the overlap between these fields.

From the comparison of the different distance matrices it came out that no difference can be identified between the distance of fields of technology using world-wide patent data compared to individual country data. Furthermore, the relation between technology areas remain stable for the different periods considered.

To conclude, technological proximity seems to be an intrinsic feature of technology which is valid for industrial countries and which remains nearly unchanged even for long observation periods.

Table 2: Distance between fields of technology, world-wide, 1982-1985

1	Electrical Engineering	100.0%	1.8%	7.7%	4.2%	2.3%	2.2%	4.6%	0.7%	0.3%	2.5%	0.0%	0.7%	0.3%	1.7%	1.5%	0.9%	1.7%	1.4%	0.2%	1.2%	0.8%	0.1%	1.1%	0.7%		
	2	Audiovisual technology	3.6%	100.0%	6.4%	1.4%	4.4%	3.4%	0.9%	0.1%	0.9%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.7%	0.8%	0.0%	1.7%	1.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	1.4%	0.3%		
	3	Telecommunications	3.8%	6.7%	100.0%	6.4%	1.2%	2.1%	6.6%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.7%	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%		
	4	Information technology	1.8%	4.9%	8.5%	100.0%	2.4%	1.7%	8.5%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.7%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	2.5%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.8%	0.2%		
	5	Semiconductors	7.9%	2.3%	2.3%	3.5%	100.0%	5.2%	2.7%	0.1%	0.2%	1.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	1.1%	0.2%	0.9%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%	0.1%		
	6	Optics	4.2%	4.1%	2.2%	1.4%	2.9%	100.0%	4.9%	1.7%	3.0%	5.2%	0.1%	1.9%	0.4%	0.4%	1.9%	0.2%	0.3%	2.7%	0.1%	0.4%	0.7%	0.3%	0.1%		
	7	Control Technology	4.1%	1.5%	3.3%	3.2%	0.7%	2.3%	100.0%	2.8%	3.0%	3.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%	1.9%	0.2%	0.6%	2.7%	0.2%	0.1%	0.8%	0.5%	1.1%		
	8	Medical technology	1.5%	0.9%	0.5%	1.1%	0.0%	1.8%	6.4%	100.0%	0.4%	3.0%	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%	2.5%	0.9%	1.2%	2.0%	2.5%	0.5%	1.5%	0.8%	2.0%	1.1%		
	9	Organic Chemistry	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	2.9%	0.2%	100.0%	5.3%	36.3%	4.1%	1.3%	16.6%	5.3%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	
	10	Polymers	3.4%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	3.7%	0.5%	1.9%	8.4%	100.0%	2.8%	0.8%	2.5%	4.8%	14.9%	0.1%	0.8%	0.4%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.9%	1.0%		
	11	Pharmaceutics	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	3.6%	2.8%	59.0%	2.9%	100.0%	10.8%	0.6%	2.4%	3.9%	1.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	
	12	Biotechnology	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	18.4%	1.0%	27.8%	1.9%	23.8%	100.0%	0.3%	4.7%	3.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
	13	Materials	6.8%	0.8%	0.0%	1.2%	1.2%	1.9%	1.3%	0.5%	2.6%	3.7%	10.7%	0.2%	100.0%	6.1%	4.6%	4.2%	3.6%	3.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	
	14	Food	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	1.8%	9.5%	1.5%	10.7%	9.6%	100.0%	6.1%	4.9%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	
	15	Basic materials chemistry	1.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	2.1%	0.4%	0.5%	32.0%	8.1%	4.7%	1.7%	3.2%	16.6%	100.0%	7.6%	1.6%	0.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	
	16	Chemical engineering	1.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%	5.3%	2.2%	11.4%	3.2%	1.3%	1.5%	8.2%	14%	8.5%	100.0%	3.4%	4.5%	3.3%	0.6%	0.4%	1.0%	0.1%	0.2%	
	17	Surfaces	8.0%	0.9%	0.2%	4.0%	4.0%	2.6%	1.9%	1.1%	1.6%	9.6%	0.2%	8.1%	8.1%	3.0%	2.6%	5.0%	100.0%	10.3%	10.0%	1.8%	0.2%	1.9%	1.4%	0.0%	
	18	Materials processing	2.5%	0.6%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	4.8%	0.8%	1.7%	1.5%	13.1%	3.2%	7.5%	0.2%	5.5%	3.4%	5.2%	100.0%	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	3.9%	2.7%	0.0%	
	19	Thermal processes	6.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	1.9%	1.3%	0.9%	2.3%	3.3%	0.5%	0.0%	7.5%	0.6%	1.8%	6.2%	0.8%	100.0%	1.7%	1.7%	1.0%	1.5%	1.5%	0.0%	
	20	Environmental technology	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	4.8%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	1.5%	0.2%	5.7%	25.4%	3.2%	2.2%	7.7%	100.0%	0.8%	1.4%	0.0%	0.1%	
	21	Machine tools	3.2%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.7%	1.0%	3.0%	0.6%	0.1%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%	0.9%	1.3%	2.2%	4.5%	1.1%	0.3%	100.0%	0.6%	0.3%	1.6%	0.0%	0.1%
	22	Engines	2.6%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	2.3%	0.4%	3.5%	100.0%	0.8%	0.2%	0.6%	0.8%	0.0%	
	23	Mechanical elements	2.7%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	3.5%	1.2%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	1.7%	1.1%	2.9%	2.0%	0.5%	0.9%	9.5%	5.4%	0.0%	
	24	Handling	1.9%	0.7%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	1.8%	3.7%	0.8%	0.6%	1.0%	0.5%	0.5%	3.4%	4.2%	2.1%	4.3%	3.0%	4.8%	0.6%	2.3%	0.4%	1.3%	1.7%	0.0%	
	25	Food processing	0.7%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	2.2%	1.2%	0.0%	0.7%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	4.2%	0.0%	2.0%	3.0%	1.1%	0.3%	0.5%	100.0%	1.1%	2.4%	0.0%	
	26	Transport	2.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%	3.1%	0.6%	0.2%	0.7%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.6%	0.6%	0.2%	2.9%	2.5%	4.2%	100.0%	2.7%	0.1%	0.0%	
	27	Nuclear engineering	6.5%	1.7%	1.5%	0.7%	0.6%	2.8%	7.2%	5.6%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	1.8%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	10.8%	0.3%	0.0%	100.0%	0.5%	2.6%	0.0%	
	28	Space technology	0.7%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	1.6%	5.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.1%	2.0%	0.4%	0.8%	1.9%	2.5%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.6%	0.8%	0.0%	
	29	Consumer goods	1.7%	1.1%	0.3%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%	3.4%	3.2%	0.2%	1.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%	1.6%	2.3%	4.0%	1.2%	0.9%	2.2%	0.1%	100.0%	2.6%	0.0%
	30	Civil engineering	1.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	2.2%	0.2%	0.2%	1.3%	0.0%	0.2%	2.1%	0.0%	1.1%	1.4%	1.9%	2.1%	1.2%	0.9%	2.7%	0.1%	3.1%	100.0%	0.0%

Table 4: Distance between fields of technology, world-wide, 1990-1993

1	Electrical Engineering	1	7%	100%	1	Electrical Engineering	23	Mechanical elements	23	Mechanical elements	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
2	Audiovisual technology	2	100%	100%	2	Audiovisual technology	24	Handling	24	Handling	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
3	Telecommunications	3	23%	99%	3	Telecommunications	25	Food processing	25	Food processing	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
4	Information technology	4	45%	100%	4	Information technology	26	Transport	26	Transport	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
5	Semiconductors	5	31%	100%	5	Semiconductors	27	Nuclear engineering	27	Nuclear engineering	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
6	Optics	6	25%	100%	6	Optics	28	Space technology	28	Space technology	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
7	Control Technology	7	43%	100%	7	Control Technology	29	Thermal processes	29	Thermal processes	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
8	Medical technology	8	28%	100%	8	Medical technology	30	Basic materials chemistry	30	Basic materials chemistry	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
9	Organic Chemistry	9	03%	100%	9	Organic Chemistry	1	Electrical Engineering	1	Electrical Engineering	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
10	Polymers	10	20%	100%	10	Polymers	2	Audiovisual technology	2	Audiovisual technology	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
11	Pharmaceuticals	11	00%	100%	11	Pharmaceuticals	3	Telecommunications	3	Telecommunications	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
12	Biotechnology	12	00%	100%	12	Biotechnology	4	Information technology	4	Information technology	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
13	Materials	13	27%	100%	13	Materials	5	Semiconductors	5	Semiconductors	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
14	Food	14	01%	100%	14	Food	6	Optics	6	Optics	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
15	Basic materials chemistry	15	06%	100%	15	Basic materials chemistry	7	Control Technology	7	Control Technology	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
16	Chemical engineering	16	08%	100%	16	Chemical engineering	8	Medical technology	8	Medical technology	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
17	Surfaces	17	28%	100%	17	Surfaces	9	Organic Chemistry	9	Organic Chemistry	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
18	Materials processing	18	14%	100%	18	Materials processing	10	Polymers	10	Polymers	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
19	Thermal processes	19	13%	100%	19	Thermal processes	11	Pharmaceuticals	11	Pharmaceuticals	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
20	Environmental technology	20	03%	100%	20	Environmental technology	12	Biotechnology	12	Biotechnology	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
21	Machine tools	21	15%	100%	21	Machine tools	13	Materials	13	Materials	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
22	Engines	22	12%	100%	22	Engines	14	Food	14	Food	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
23	Mechanical elements	23	23%	100%	23	Mechanical elements	15	Basic materials chemistry	15	Basic materials chemistry	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
24	Handling	24	12%	100%	24	Handling	16	Chemical engineering	16	Chemical engineering	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
25	Food processing	25	02%	100%	25	Food processing	17	Surfaces	17	Surfaces	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
26	Transport	26	22%	100%	26	Transport	18	Materials processing	18	Materials processing	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
27	Nuclear engineering	27	07%	100%	27	Nuclear engineering	19	Thermal processes	19	Thermal processes	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
28	Space technology	28	07%	100%	28	Space technology	20	Environmental technology	20	Environmental technology	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
29	Consumer goods	29	11%	100%	29	Consumer goods	21	Machine tools	21	Machine tools	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering
30	Civil engineering	30	08%	100%	30	Civil engineering	22	Engines	22	Engines	29	Consumer goods	30	Civil engineering

Distance between fields of technology, USA, 1990-1993

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
1 Electrical Engineering	100.0%	1.8%	2.8%	1.5%	4.9%	3.5%	4.7%	1.1%	0.2%	2.4%	1.0%	0.0%	2.8%	0.2%	1.1%	1.5%	4.1%	1.6%	1.6%	0.4%	2.1%	1.1%	1.7%	1.3%	0.1%	1.6%	0.8%	0.1%	1.1%	0.4%	
2 Audiovisual technology	3.4%	100.0%	9.5%	7.1%	1.1%	7.0%	3.3%	0.7%	0.1%	0.8%			0.5%		0.4%	0.0%	1.2%	0.8%	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.5%	1.9%	0.0%	0.3%	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.4%	
3 Telecommunications	2.5%	4.7%	100.0%	8.5%	0.9%	4.1%	5.1%	0.6%				0.0%			0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.8%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	
4 Information technology	1.3%	3.3%	8.0%	100.0%	1.3%	1.3%	5.8%	1.0%	0.1%		0.0%			0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.9%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.6%	0.1%	
5 Semiconductors	9.6%	1.2%	1.9%	3.0%	100.0%	5.5%	2.7%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%			2.5%		0.2%	0.9%	6.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.0%	1.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%	0.7%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	
6 Optics	3.7%	4.1%	4.8%	1.7%	3.0%	100.0%	3.9%	2.1%	2.3%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%	1.5%		2.7%	0.3%	2.4%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.1%	0.3%	3.9%	0.0%	0.6%	0.5%	0.2%	0.7%	0.2%	
7 Control Technology	3.1%	1.2%	3.8%	4.6%	0.9%	2.5%	100.0%	3.5%	9.4%	4.7%	7.3%	12.6%	0.3%	0.2%	0.9%	4.4%	0.6%	1.0%	0.7%	0.2%	0.7%	0.9%	1.5%	1.5%	0.6%	1.0%	0.6%	0.6%	1.7%	1.0%	
8 Medical technology	0.9%	0.3%	0.9%	0.1%	1.6%	0.1%	4.1%	100.0%	0.7%	2.8%	0.4%	1.2%	0.5%	0.3%	1.4%	2.3%	1.4%	2.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.7%	0.6%	1.2%	1.7%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.2%	2.9%	0.1%
9 Organic Chemistry	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	8.2%	0.5%	100.0%	0.5%	6.0%	46.4%	21.7%	0.3%	0.8%	9.5%	4.7%	0.4%	0.5%	0.0%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.5%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
10 Polymers	2.1%	0.4%	3.8%	0.1%	0.4%	3.8%	0.5%	3.0%	8.8%	100.0%	3.0%	0.8%	2.2%	0.6%	7.3%	2.3%	5.0%	11.8%	0.3%	0.8%	0.4%	0.0%	0.3%	1.4%	0.2%	0.5%	1.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
11 Pharmaceutics	0.1%			0.0%		0.1%	6.9%	3.5%	50.1%	2.2%	100.0%	19.6%	0.1%	1.5%	4.6%	0.6%	0.1%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	1.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.7%	0.0%
12 Biotechnology	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	22.9%	1.8%	44.9%	1.2%	37.4%	100.0%	0.3%	4.8%	7.3%	2.9%	0.2%	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	2.4%	0.3%	0.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
13 Materials	6.0%	13.0%	6.0%	3.6%	2.6%	3.6%	1.1%	1.3%	3.2%	5.3%	1.3%	0.6%	100.0%	0.1%	4.9%	9.9%	9.2%	6.1%	2.1%	5.0%	3.7%	2.6%	0.7%	2.5%	0.4%	0.0%	0.3%	1.2%	0.3%	0.7%	2.1%
14 Food	0.7%			0.1%			1.2%	1.5%	5.9%	3.0%	10.1%	16.7%	0.2%	100.0%	8.0%	2.7%	0.6%	3.8%	0.7%	1.0%	0.9%	0.4%	0.2%	1.0%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	1.8%	0.1%	0.1%
15 Basic materials chemistry	1.4%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%	0.4%	8.9%	3.8%	10.8%	3.7%	1.3%	2.6%	6.5%	0.9%	8.8%	100.0%	8.3%	2.6%	0.3%	1.9%	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%	3.3%	0.6%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	1.9%	0.1%	0.1%
16 Chemical engineering	2.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	1.7%	3.4%	1.4%	1.1%	0.2%	0.3%	8.6%	0.4%	3.9%	5.4%	100.0%	15.3%	0.6%	1.9%	1.3%	1.0%	1.7%	6.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	4.9%	0.2%	0.2%
17 Surfaces	1.9%	1.0%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	2.5%	1.7%	4.3%	0.9%	16.2%	0.7%	0.6%	3.5%	0.2%	3.3%	4.8%	9.5%	100.0%	0.6%	3.7%	3.0%	3.7%	1.0%	1.7%	5.4%	0.5%	1.5%	0.1%	0.2%	4.0%	1.6%
18 Thermal processes	5.3%	0.8%	0.5%	0.7%	0.2%	1.1%	5.7%	1.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	5.3%	0.1%	2.7%	8.2%	1.7%	100.0%	8.8%	2.3%	1.0%	6.8%	3.9%	1.6%	0.9%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%	0.5%
19 Environmental technology	1.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	1.1%	1.2%	3.6%	3.6%	0.4%	1.1%	9.2%	0.9%	8.0%	29.6%	3.7%	2.4%	6.5%	100.0%	0.1%	3.0%	3.0%	7.7%	0.3%	0.8%	0.6%	0.1%	1.8%	2.8%	1.1%
20 Machine tools	5.9%	0.6%	0.3%	0.4%	1.6%	1.8%	2.8%	2.4%	0.3%	1.3%	0.1%		5.1%	0.1%	1.9%	2.6%	5.3%	7.1%	1.3%	0.1%	100.0%	1.7%	4.6%	4.4%	0.6%	1.5%	1.1%	0.1%	4.3%	2.2%	2.2%
21 Engines	3.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	4.1%	2.4%	0.3%	0.1%					0.9%	2.9%	1.6%	0.8%	2.3%	0.3%	1.8%	100.0%	8.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.7%	0.4%	0.0%
22 Mechanical elements	3.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	4.2%	3.0%	0.0%	0.7%			0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	2.2%	1.7%	3.9%	1.5%	0.6%	3.2%	5.7%	100.0%	3.9%	0.6%	0.9%	0.6%	0.5%	3.0%	4.0%	1.0%
23 Handling	1.6%	1.3%	1.1%	1.2%	0.3%	4.5%	2.8%	2.7%	0.3%	2.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.7%	0.9%	2.9%	4.0%	5.5%	0.4%	0.2%	1.9%	0.1%	2.5%	100.0%	0.5%	1.2%	0.1%	0.3%	2.9%	1.4%	
24 Food processing	1.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	2.0%	7.0%	1.9%	6.4%	1.4%	8.2%	14.9%		12.2%	2.7%	3.3%	1.4%	3.1%	1.4%	0.5%	1.5%	0.3%	3.3%	100.0%	1.7%	1.0%	0.3%	4.4%	4.1%	1.0%	
25 Transport	3.8%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.2%	1.4%	3.7%	0.7%		3.3%	0.5%		0.4%	0.1%	0.5%	0.4%	1.5%	2.9%	1.4%	0.5%	1.3%	2.7%	12.3%	2.3%	0.5%	100.0%	1.4%	2.7%	2.6%	2.6%	2.0%
26 Space technology	6.8%	1.4%	0.9%	1.2%	1.6%	3.9%	7.5%	4.1%	1.0%				4.5%	0.2%	5.5%	2.7%	2.7%	0.9%	1.7%	1.2%	3.0%	0.2%	2.5%	0.5%							
27 Nuclear engineering	1.3%	3.0%	1.5%	0.3%	1.5%	2.3%	10.6%		0.4%	0.3%	0.3%		1.8%	0.6%	0.3%	0.8%	2.5%	2.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	3.0%	2.8%		6.8%	100.0%	2.8%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
28 Consumer goods	1.9%	2.5%	0.9%	1.2%	0.2%	1.5%	4.5%	6.5%	0.1%	2.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.6%	0.8%	0.6%	0.8%	4.5%	2.3%	0.5%	0.8%	2.7%	0.6%	2.7%	6.3%	0.7%	3.2%	0.1%	0.4%	3.3%	100.0%	0.5%
29 Civil engineering	1.3%	0.7%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	4.2%	0.3%	0.1%	2.3%	0.1%	3.1%	0.1%	0.1%	2.2%	2.3%	3.8%	3.9%	0.5%	2.2%	2.3%	0.7%	6.2%	2.5%							

Table 6:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Electrical Engineering	Audiovisual technology	Telecommunications	Information technology	Semiconductors	Optics	Control Technology	Medical technology	Organic Chemistry	Polymers	Pharmaceutics	Biotechnology	Materials	Food	Basic materials chemistry	Chemical engineering	Surfaces	Materials processing	Thermal processes	Environmental technology	Machine tools	Engines	Mechanical elements	Handling	Food processing	Transport	Nuclear engineering	Space technology	Consumer goods	Civil engineering
1	100.0%	3.0%	1.9%	1.2%	4.9%	3.3%	4.3%	0.2%	0.6%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	5.3%	0.0%	1.5%	0.6%	3.2%	1.3%	0.2%	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%	1.2%	0.1%	1.9%	0.1%	0.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
2	2.5%	100.0%	8.0%	3.1%	1.0%	5.8%	2.8%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.5%	0.1%	1.0%	1.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.6%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.7%	0.1%	0.1%
3	1.9%	5.5%	7.6%	100.0%	2.0%	2.5%	0.8%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	1.8%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%
4	7.0%	1.7%	1.7%	2.4%	100.0%	8.1%	5.2%	0.6%	0.1%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%	3.4%	0.0%	0.3%	0.7%	5.7%	0.6%	0.4%	0.1%	1.1%	0.2%	0.3%	1.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
5	2.5%	5.3%	3.1%	1.6%	4.3%	100.0%	1.9%	0.5%	2.0%	4.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	3.1%	0.2%	1.4%	1.4%	0.1%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	2.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
6	4.8%	2.9%	3.1%	2.0%	2.8%	100.0%	2.0%	3.0%	3.4%	1.6%	1.6%	5.4%	0.5%	0.1%	0.5%	1.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.4%	2.1%	1.0%	2.5%	2.5%	0.1%	0.5%	0.2%	1.7%	0.8%	0.8%
7	1.0%	1.3%	0.1%	2.6%	0.4%	2.9%	7.3%	100.0%	0.4%	5.1%	4.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	1.1%	5.4%	1.1%	3.3%	0.3%	0.8%	0.7%	1.0%	2.7%	0.1%	2.0%	0.5%	0.2%	0.2%	1.7%	0.3%
8	0.7%	0.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	2.9%	3.0%	0.1%	100.0%	5.1%	40.4%	10.8%	0.3%	1.0%	13.9%	5.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%	0.1%	2.0%	1.2%	0.3%	3.2%	0.1%
9	2.9%	0.8%	0.1%	0.1%	0.9%	6.1%	0.4%	1.4%	5.2%	100.0%	2.2%	0.8%	1.8%	0.5%	5.3%	1.9%	5.0%	11.2%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.6%	0.1%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	0.1%	0.1%
10	0.1%							0.4%	33.2%	3.6%	21.9%	100.0%	0.2%	5.4%	3.3%	1.9%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	4.0%	1.3%	1.1%	1.0%	0.3%	0.6%	0.1%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
11	0.3%							0.3%	0.5%	3.4%	0.5%	0.1%	100.0%	0.2%	2.7%	3.9%	9.4%	5.1%	2.0%	2.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%	1.6%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	1.9%	0.6%	1.9%
12	3.5%	1.4%		0.1%	0.3%	9.6%	1.1%	0.6%	29.5%	11.0%	4.3%	2.3%	2.8%	0.9%	1.4%	100.0%	4.1%	3.9%	0.3%	1.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.6%	2.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
13	2.0%	0.2%		0.2%	1.5%	1.0%	5.4%	4.2%	14.5%	5.1%	0.9%	1.3%	5.5%	0.9%	5.4%	100.0%	3.0%	3.9%	1.3%	17.2%	1.4%	1.1%	0.4%	3.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
14	7.9%	3.0%	0.2%	0.1%	9.8%	3.2%	1.0%	0.6%	1.0%	10.9%	0.1%	10.6%	0.3%	0.3%	2.6%	2.0%	100.0%	11.9%	0.4%	0.3%	2.9%	1.4%	1.1%	0.4%	3.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
15	2.1%	2.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.7%	2.8%	1.1%	1.3%	0.5%	15.6%	0.2%	0.3%	3.7%	0.2%	2.7%	2.0%	7.6%	100.0%	0.2%	0.5%	2.5%	0.3%	0.2%	5.2%	0.4%	0.9%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
16	7.7%			0.2%	2.1%		3.2%	0.6%	0.2%	0.6%	0.2%	0.2%	6.6%	0.3%	2.8%	35.4%	1.3%	1.3%	100.0%	5.6%	2.1%	3.0%	1.1%	0.6%	0.2%	2.8%	1.3%	0.2%	3.2%	0.9%
17	1.4%			0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	1.2%	1.4%	0.3%	2.2%	0.2%	1.4%	5.3%	0.2%	0.5%	1.3%	3.5%	4.7%	4.5%	100.0%	1.0%	5.3%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.5%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%
18	3.1%	0.2%		0.4%	2.2%	2.0%	5.6%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%	0.1%		5.4%	0.2%	0.3%	1.4%	0.3%	4.7%	0.8%	0.5%	100.0%	0.5%	3.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.5%	2.6%	0.5%	0.5%
19	3.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.2%	3.6%	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%			2.3%		0.3%	1.4%	0.3%	0.6%	1.4%	3.1%	0.6%	100.0%	7.3%	0.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%	0.6%
20	3.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	4.0%	0.1%	1.6%	1.6%		0.7%	1.3%	3.3%	4.2%	0.4%	0.5%	4.0%	5.9%	100.0%	2.6%	0.5%	0.9%	0.1%	1.6%	0.3%	0.6%
21	1.6%	0.9%	1.0%	2.0%	1.0%	4.0%	3.0%	0.8%	1.0%	4.0%	0.1%	2.1%	0.6%	0.2%	1.3%	2.8%	4.4%	0.1%	0.5%	2.6%	1.6%	0.2%	1.1%	100.0%	0.2%	0.8%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
22	2.4%			0.9%	0.9%	2.4%	1.4%	1.9%		2.3%	0.9%	4.3%	0.3%	8.5%	2.8%	0.2%	4.7%	4.7%	0.5%	2.8%	5.2%	0.5%	2.8%	3.3%	100.0%	0.5%	0.3%	3.3%	3.9%	1.9%
23	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.6%	0.1%	0.7%	4.3%	0.1%	1.9%	2.3%	0.2%		0.3%		0.2%	0.2%	0.9%	3.7%	0.8%	0.4%	0.6%	1.6%	7.3%	1.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.7%	1.9%	1.8%	1.8%
24	4.8%	1.6%	1.1%	2.8%	3.2%	4.8%	8.5%	5.9%		0.5%			5.3%		1.6%	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	3.2%	1.6%	2.7%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.8%	0.4%	0.1%	0.7%	1.9%
25	13.3%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	3.6%	15.4%				0.5%	0.2%		2.6%		1.6%	2.6%	2.6%	0.5%	2.6%	1.6%	2.7%	2.6%	2.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	100.0%	12.8%	2.0%
26	2.8%	0.9%	1.6%	0.9%	0.6%	1.4%	4.8%	2.6%		3.6%	0.2%		2.6%	0.6%	0.8%	1.3%	2.6%	6.5%	1.3%	0.4%	2.8%	0.3%	1.7%	5.4%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%	2.0%
27	2.0%	1.0%	0.4%	0.6%	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%		0.4%			1.6%	0.6%	0.4%	2.6%	1.6%	3.0%	0.8%	0.1%	1.4%	1.2%	12.9%	2.2%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	4.6%	100.0%

Figure 1: Distance between fields of technology, world-wide, 1990-1993

WORLD 1993

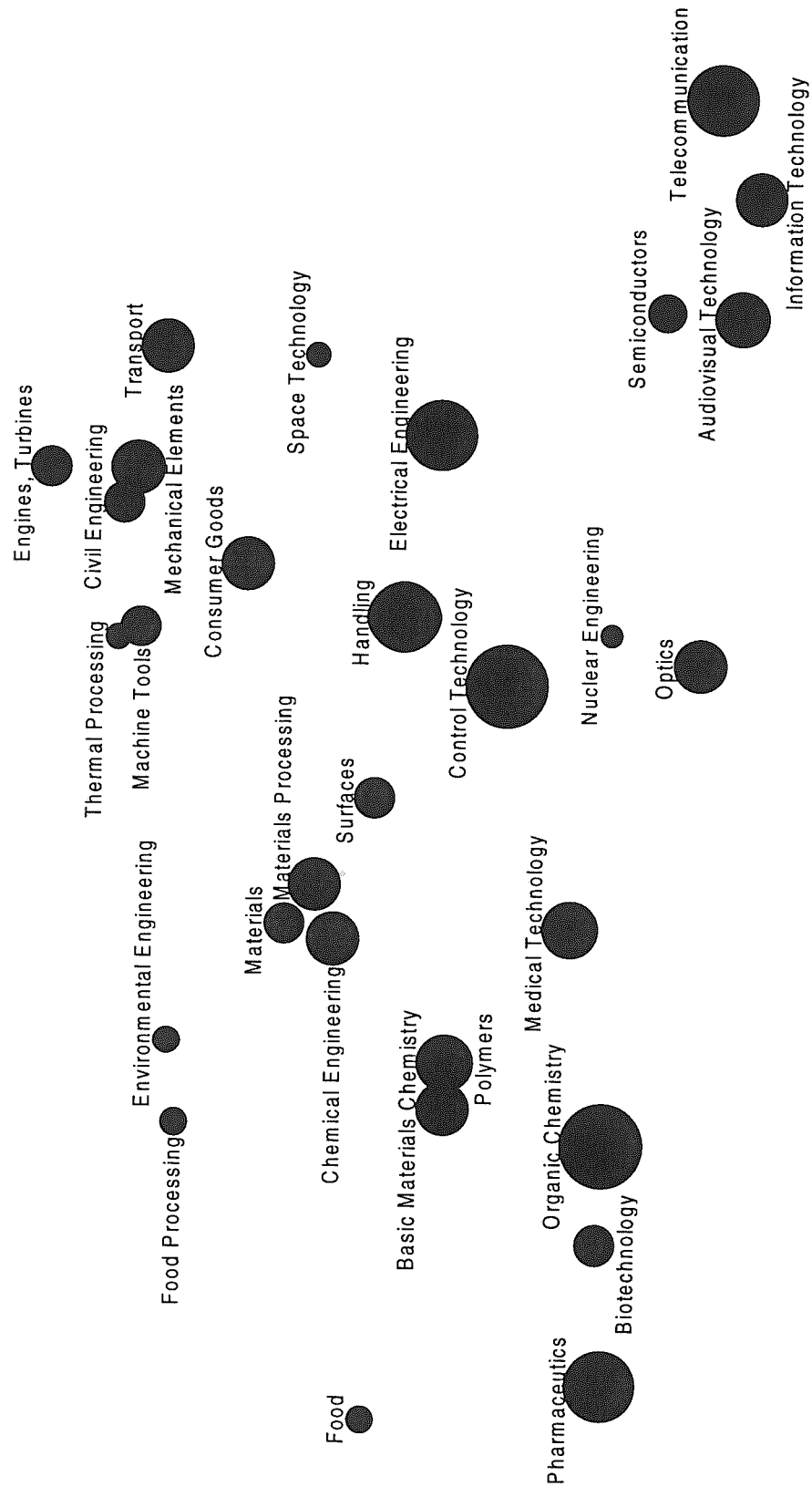


Figure 3: Distance between fields of technology, Japan, 1990-1993

JAPAN 1993

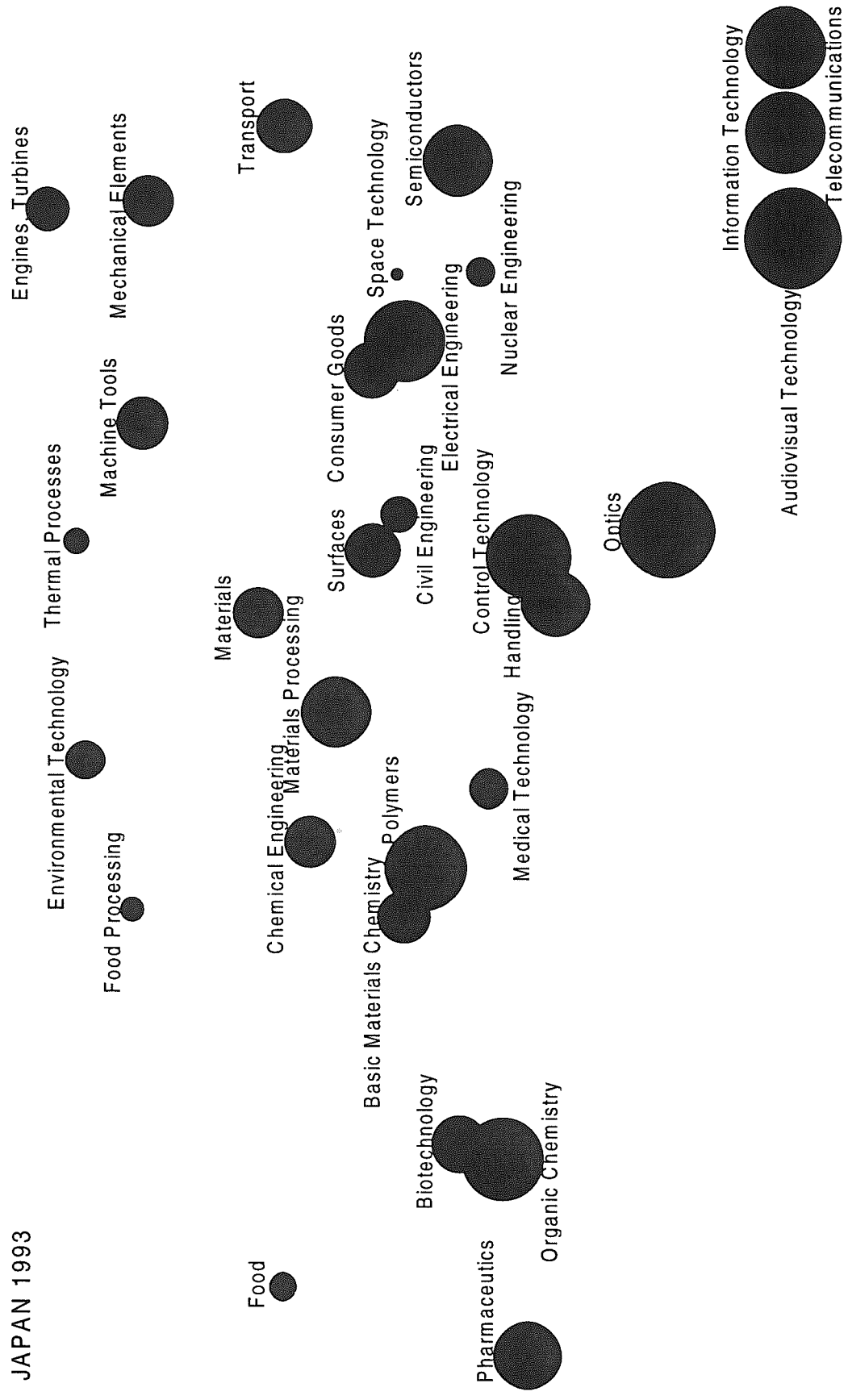
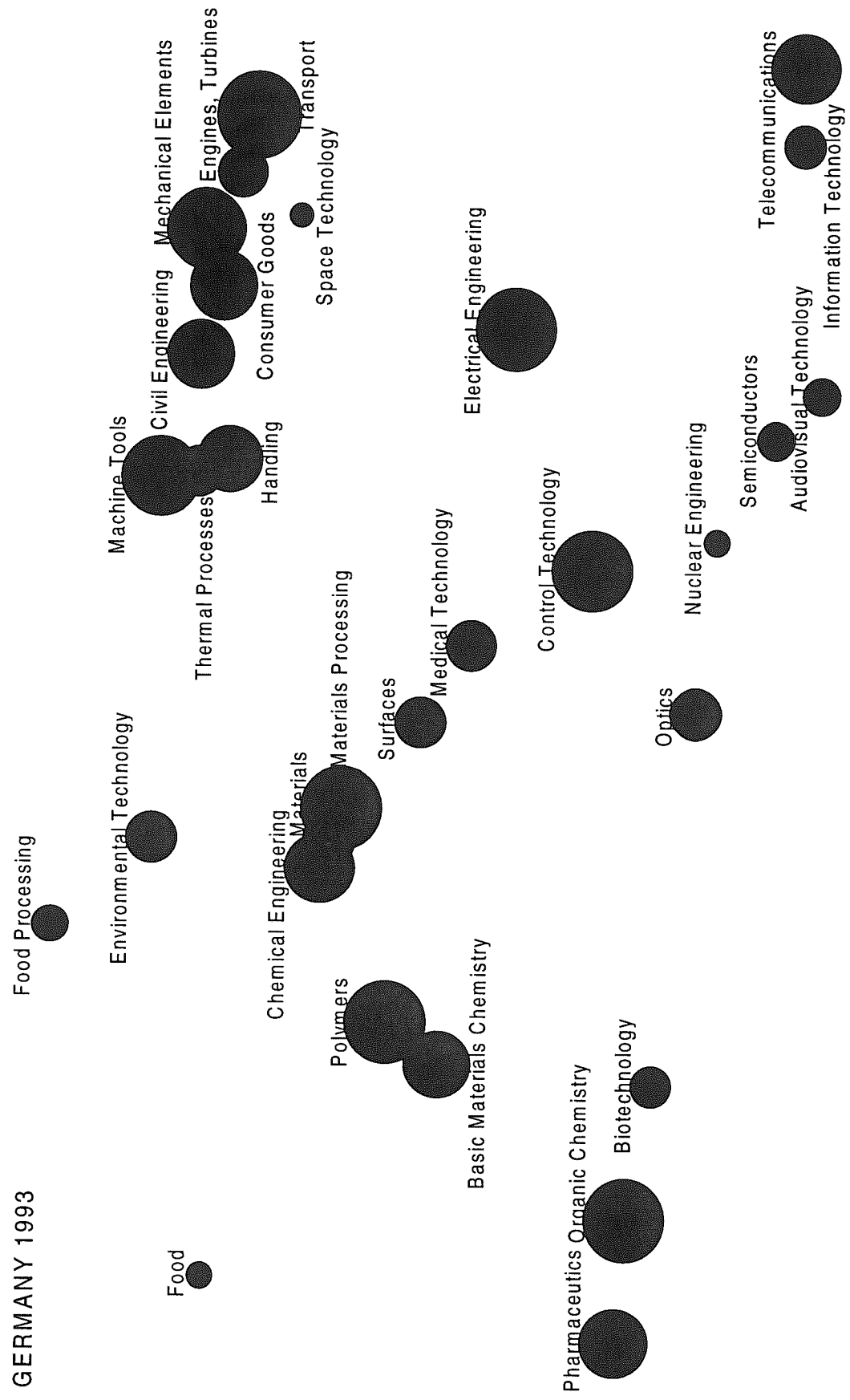


Figure 4: Distance between fields of technology, Germany, 1990-1993



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