

An approach to describe regional economies at NUTS 3 level in the EU

Topic: Analyses of the European Union

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This paper presents a structural analysis for a set of twelve NUTS 3 regions distributed across the EU. Our approach focuses on capturing the most relevant sectors in each of these economies and identifying dynamics for fostering growth. Backward and forward structural linkages are detected within a SAM framework and a key sectors analysis is addressed. The novelty of our approach is double. On the one hand, we use a set of previously built rural-urban NUTS3 SAMs that allow for endogenization of institutional sectors, so that the circular flow of income can be adequately closed and further interpretations can be outlined. On the other hand, the regions are organized by clusters with the aim of searching for common development patterns. This exercise can be useful for policymakers when designing optimal agricultural or regional policies.