

# Review of: "Digitalization of research: do ICT improve scientific production in developing countries?"

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This paper tries to relate two really complex dimensions: the efficiency of scientific research and the degree of development of countries. To do this, it uses an interesting econometric model based on a data panel from a sample of 70 countries.

Although the initial approach is to correlate Internet access with scientific production measured based on publications and patents, I believe that the management of the indicators requires further refinement.

Initially, there is the selection of the sample. The number of countries seems to be sufficient, but if they were not chosen randomly, the selection criteria should have been specified. On the other hand, the researchers talk about the Internet in generic terms, when in reality issues such as geographic coverage, cost, speed, and hardware quality make quite a difference. Likewise, in relation to the published articles, it is not distinguished on what topics, since much of the literature can be in social fields when it should focus on engineering or basic sciences.

Likewise, there is the issue of quartiles, since academic journals do not all have the same impact. Finally, regarding patents, try to distinguish not only the field of knowledge but also its level of application.

With these comments, I do not intend to ignore the effort made by the researchers but rather to give guidelines to continue perfecting this topic that, without a doubt, may have more research developments. Regarding the conclusions, I do not find public policy guidelines according to the findings from the model used.