

Paper to be presented at the “Workshop sobre Novos Desenvolvimentos e Aplicações da Análise IO”.

ISEG, 9 de Maio de 2003

The Innovation Matrix

Ana Abrunhosa

Faculty of Economics, University of Coimbra

Av^a Dias da Silva, 165, 3004-512 Coimbra, Portugal

e-mail: ampa@sonta.fe.uc.pt

Phone: +351239790573

Fax: +351239403511

Abstract

Innovation is a complex process that involves not only the innovative firm but also a system of interactions and interdependencies among that firm and other organisations and institutions. The innovation matrix is inspired in the traditional input-output (I/O) tables, but instead of measuring flows of intermediate goods and services the cells of the matrix express flows of innovation outputs (flows of knowledge) between industries.

After presenting the particularities of an innovative activity matrix, we show that it is a methodology that fits with our innovation concept. Despite of some problems, the innovation matrix is an appropriate tool for identifying the locus of innovative activity in the economic space and for studying possible relations between innovative activities and other economic activities. Two examples of innovation matrices are also presented: the Italian and the Danish. The paper ends with our research agenda for constructing and exploring the Portuguese innovation matrix.

Keywords: innovation, national innovation systems, input-out-put tables, innovation matrix.

JEL Classification: O30, B52, C67.
