Abstract

This study investigates how different R&D collaboration networks contribute to regional knowledge creation beside spatial interaction between proximate regions. We consider three networks (co-publications, co-inventions and projects supported by the EU-FP) and quantify their effects on patent activity of 213 European regions in ICT during 2003-2009. We specify a spatial Durbin Model and decompose neighboring regions as: proximate regions that are not collaboration partners, proximate collaboration partners, and distant collaboration partners. We find that all three networks affect patenting mainly via fostering local knowledge flows. Evidence on the role of distant collaboration partners is found only for the co-invention network.