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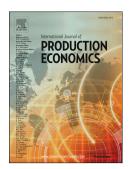
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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# Identifying the business and social networks in the domain of production by merging the data from heterogeneous Internet sources

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#### Abstract

People, companies, and institutions form networks as part of their technical, economic, and social activities. As a consequence, these networks have an influence on how companies conduct business. Recently, the Internet, professional, and scientific social networks have contributed to the ease and simplicity of the network forming process and the public availability of the corresponding data. We investigate whether useful information about the relationships between individuals, companies, and institutions for the domain of production can be extracted from publicly available, structured and unstructured data that is merged from various Internet sources. We demonstrate that relevant information about the structures of these networks can be obtained by merging publicly available data using a combination of advanced computational methods including web crawling, machine learning, and creating mash-ups of publicly available services. The feasibility and the applicability of the approach are shown for a case in the automotive domain. A potential use case of the resulting data is demonstrated, showing how the approach can be used to find specific skills and expertise for a scientific

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