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A COMPARISON BETWEEN GLC2000 RESULTS AND BRAZILIAN CENSUS DATA

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The Brazilian census evaluates land use in Brazil in a decadal basis. Its classification scheme does not correspond exactly with the one used on the land cover mapping of Brazil, based on SPOT VGT. Forests, for example, are divided into just two or three classes at census. The figures are estimations declared by farmers and government agencies. Still, the methodology is homogeneous all over the country. A statistical comparison - for the states, regions and country - was made, among the most alike mapping classes and certain census classes groups. The results showed a strong correlation for R2 data, between 0.70 and 0.85. The largest diversions occurred at the Brazilian North-eastern semi-arid. That is attributed to a difference in *land cover* and *land use* of census and VGT mapping criteria, respectively. Another and bigger diversion occurred on the country's most developed region, mainly in São Paulo, where census data is probably more precise than the mapping, and due to the landscape fragmentation, not distinguished by the satellite.

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