

Table S1 –Most cited papers in each of the analyzed periods. For the first and second periods, we present the top 5 most cited papers, and for the third and fourth periods, we illustrate the top 10 most cited papers. The numbers of citations refer only to citations made within the respective time period.

Citation	Journal	N° of citations	Sensor System	Indicator	Region of interest	P
(Graetz, Pech and Davis, 1988 [37])	International Journal of Remote Sensing	118	Landsat	Land Cover	Australia	1
(Robinove <i>et al.</i> , 1981[49]))	Remote Sensing of Environment	93	Landsat	Albedo	USA	
(Otterman, 1981 [50]))	Journal of Geophysical Research	33	Landsat	Land Cover	EUA	
(Graetz, 1987 [42]))	Remote Sensing of Environment	31	Landsat/AVHRR/Spot	Land Cover	Australia	
(Grazing, Sharma , 1989 [51]))	Journal of the Indian Society of Remote Sensing	12	Landsat	Land Cover	India	
(Lambin and Ehrlich, 1997 [52]))	Remote Sensing of Environment	238	AVHRR	Land Cover	Africa	2
(Leeuwen, Huete e Laing, 1999 [53]))	Remote Sensing of Environment	179	MODIS/AVHRR	Land Cover	Global	
(Pickup, Chewings and Nelson, 1993 [54]))	Remote Sensing of Environment	141	Landsat	Land Cover	Australia	
(Valle, Del <i>et al.</i> , 1998 [55]))	Arid Research and Rehabilitation	118	AVHRR	Desertification	Argentina	
(Pickup and Chewings, 1994 [56]))	International Journal of Remote Sensing	99	Landsat	Land Cover/erosion	Australia	
(Evans and Geerken, 2004 [57]))	Journal of Arid Environments	337	AVHRR	Land Cover/Rainfall	Syria	3
(Asner and Lobell, 2000 [46]))	Remote Sensing of Environment	296	Spectrometer/AVIRIS	Tec Paper	Multi	
(Asner and Heidebrecht, 2002 [45]))	International Journal of Remote Sensing	276	Multi	Tec Paper	USA	

(Ichii K., Kawabata A., 2002 [58])	International Journal of Remote Sensing	198	AVHRR	Land Cover/Climate	Global
(Helldén and Tottrup, 2008 [59])	Global and Planetary Change	182	AVHRR	Desertification	Global
(Diouf and Lambin, 2001 [16])	Journal of Arid Environments	167	AVHRR	Land Cover	Senegal
(Russell-Smith <i>et al.</i> , 2007 [60])	International Journal of Wildland Fire	148	AVHRR	Fire	Australia
(Cao <i>et al.</i> , 2003 [61])	Global Change Biology	137	AVHRR	Carbon	China
(Rasmussen, Fog and Madsen, 2001 [62])	Global Environmental Change	131	SPOT/Aerial	Desertification	Burkina
(Okin, Murray and Schlesinger, 2001 [63])	Journal of Arid Environments	131	AVIRIS/Landsat	Desertification	USA
(Dijk, Van and <i>et al.</i> , 2013 [47])	Water Resources Research	523	Multi-Sensor	Climate	Australia
(Fensholt <i>et al.</i> , 2012 [64])	Remote Sensing of Environment	301	AVHRR	Vegetation Cover	Global
(Schulz <i>et al.</i> , 2010 [65])	Applied Geography	176	Landsat	Land Cover	Chile
(Abd El-Kawy <i>et al.</i> , 2011 [66])	Applied Geography	164	Landsat	Land Cover	Egypt
(Gessner <i>et al.</i> , 2013 [67])	Global Planetary Change	108	AVHRR/GPCC	Climate/Vegetation	Asia
(Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2013 [68])	International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation	103	HJ-1	Vegetation Cover	China
(Gebrehiwot, Veen, van der and Maathuis, 2011 [69])	International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation	89	SPOT	Climate/Vegetation	Ethiopia
(Guo <i>et al.</i> , 2012 [70])	Global Change Biology	89	AVHRR	Climate/Vegetation	Eursia
(Gao e Liu, 2010 [71])	International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation	86	Landsat	Land Cover	China

(Vicente-Serrano *et al.*, 2012 [72])

Ecological Monographs

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Landsat

Aridity/Vegetation

Spain

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