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A FIRST STEP TOWARDS THE DEMOCRATIC COMMERCIALISATION OF  
SPACE RESOURCES DATA

**Abstract**

The Earth's resources are finite and their overexploitation is leading to a rapid decline of the natural world and climate change on an unprecedented scale while the price of commodities and rare Earth metals has been skyrocketing. Space provides the promising prospect of foreseeing in an infinite number of resources and possibilities. Whilst technological advancements and falling launch costs have recently triggered Space Agencies, together with a select club of billionaires, to step up the game towards the exploitation and utilisation of space resources, their extraction, distribution and commercialisation still require enormous amounts of long-term capital to be invested without there being any guarantee on short-term monetization of the investments made. Many traditional finance tools driven by short to medium term return targets seem to be inappropriate to develop a long-term and sustainable vision of a genuine space resources economy. In addition, competing sovereign and private proprietary views in respect of space resources raises questions around their transparent, fair and democratic distribution.

The roadmap to space mining proposes a democratised approach for the commercialisation and distribution of space resources. This democratisation would be spearheaded by giving the public the opportunity to participate in funding space mining explorations carried out by Alpha Persei. In return, participants have access to a unique and dedicated space resources data lake combining all knowledge gathered during the space resources explorations, as well as available data from historic exploration programs such as the Apollo missions. Furthermore, the data lake consisting of resources distribution & abundance is augmented by linking it to expert knowledge on possible extraction technologies, estimated exploitation costs and projections of resources market value. The centralised collective data lake will serve as a key source of information for space resources mission planning and will facilitate a public insight enabling a broad understanding on the potential of space resources. A certain number of space resources data will be commercialised in the context of the developing space economy and profits will in part flow back to the participating public. This support by the general public was identified as one of the prerequisites for the long-term commercial extraction of space resources and takes a first step in fostering a true democratisation of space mining.