



## Models of future land use change

Mark Rounsevell,

With contributions from Isabelle Reginster, Claude Schmit, Lilibeth Acosta-Michlik & Anne Van Doorn\*  
 Department of Geography, Université catholique de Louvain,  
 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium \*University of Evora, Portugal



## Plan

- Scenarios as conceptual models
- Top-down quantitative land use modelling (European scale)
- The problem of data quality and validating land use models and future scenarios
- Bottom-up, Agent-Based Models (landscape scale)

## Why scenarios?

« The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, but wiser people so full of doubts. »

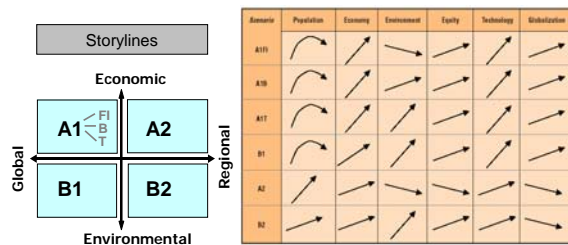
Bertrand Russell

## How to develop scenarios\*

- Select a *scenario logic* (to aid internal consistency and coherence)
- Develop *narrative storylines* (descriptions of plausible, alternative futures) of the *key drivers*
- Translate narratives into *quantitative model inputs* (at multiple scales)
- *Simulate* land use change quantities and location using models

\*Shell plc in the 1970s

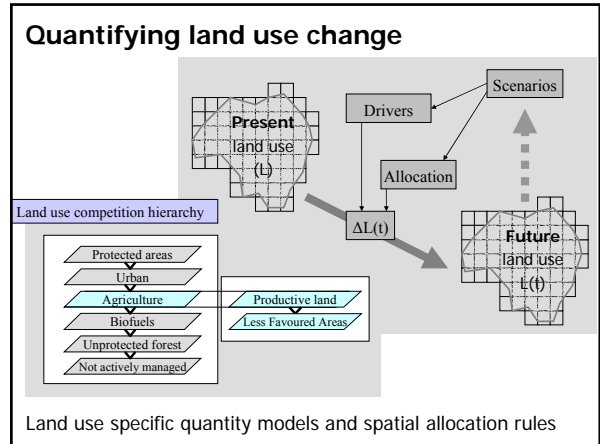
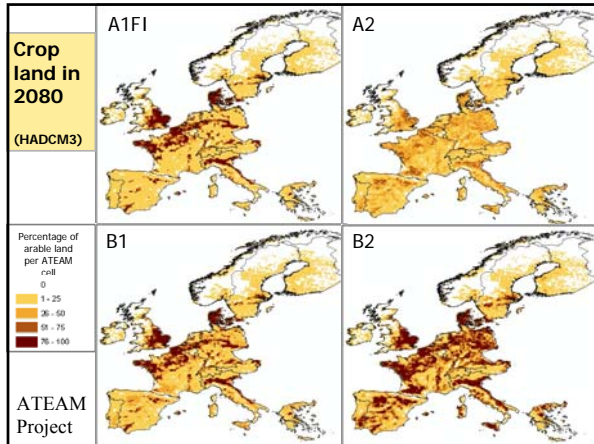
## Scenario logic: the IPCC SRES\* framework



\*Special Report on Emissions Scenarios

## European scale drivers (qualitative)

	A1	A2	B1	B2
Economy - GDP	rapid growth, convergence	growth, uneven	growth, convergence	slow growth, uneven
Population	declining	growing	declining	stable
Technological change	rapid	slow and uneven	rapid	uneven
Institutions and government	weak	weak, diverse	strong	weak, except local
Rural development	not a focus area	result of self-reliance	key issue	increase (self-reliance)
Recreation, tourism	increase	increase, decrease resp.	increase, decrease resp.	decrease resp.
Spatial planning	convergent, less restrictive	heterogeneous	convergent, restrictive	heterogeneous restrictive
EU enlargement	rapid	slow	moderate	stopped



### European agricultural drivers

Policy	Macro-(socio)economics	
	Demand	Supply
Market intervention (subsidies, quotas)	Population (consumption)	Resource competition (e.g. urban)
Rural development (LFAs)	Consumer preferences (meat, organic)	Climate change (temp, precip, CO <sub>2</sub> )
Environmental policy (NVZs, ESAs)	Market liberalisation (WTO)	Technology & management
	EU enlargement	

### Change in agricultural land use areas

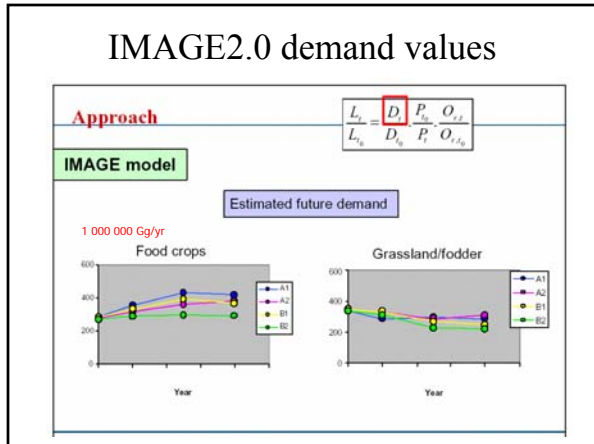
Based on a simple supply and demand model:

$$\frac{L_t}{L_{t_0}} = \frac{D_t}{D_{t_0}} \cdot \frac{P_{t_0}}{P_t} \cdot \frac{O_{r,t}}{O_{r,t_0}}$$

$L$  ... Agricultural land use [ha]  
 $t$  ... Time  
 $t_0$  ... start moment, baseline  
 $D$  ... Demand for production [t]  
 $P$  ... Productivity [t/ha]  
 $O$  ... Overproduction, relative [-]

**Unknown Parameters to estimate**

• Ewert, F., Rounsevell, M.D.A., Reginger, I., Metzger, M. and Leemans, R. (2005). Future scenarios of European agricultural land use. I: Estimating changes in crop productivity. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment*, **107**, 101-116  
 • Rounsevell, M.D.A., Ewert, F., Reginger, I., Leemans, R. and Carter, T.R. (2005). Future scenarios of European agricultural land use. II: projecting changes in cropland and grassland. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment*, **107**, 117-135



### Productivity changes

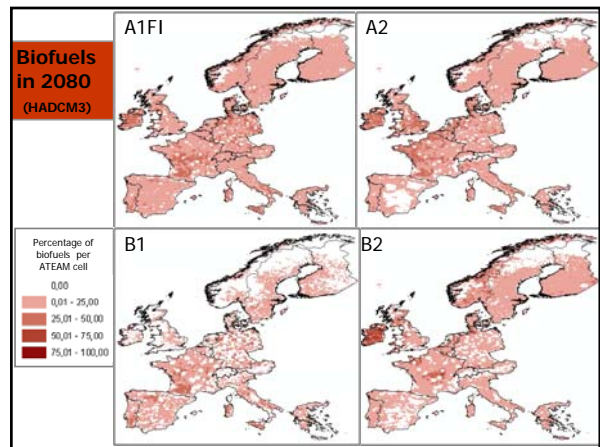
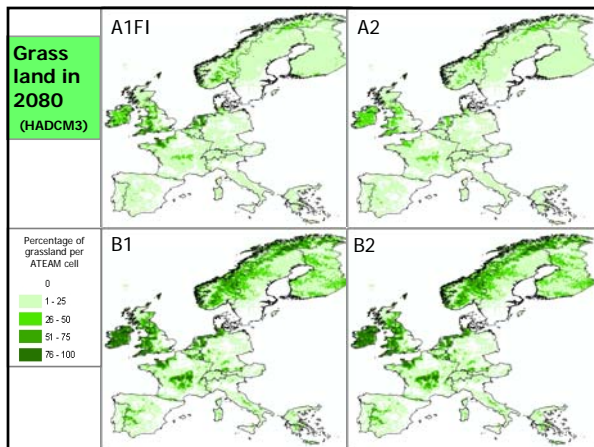
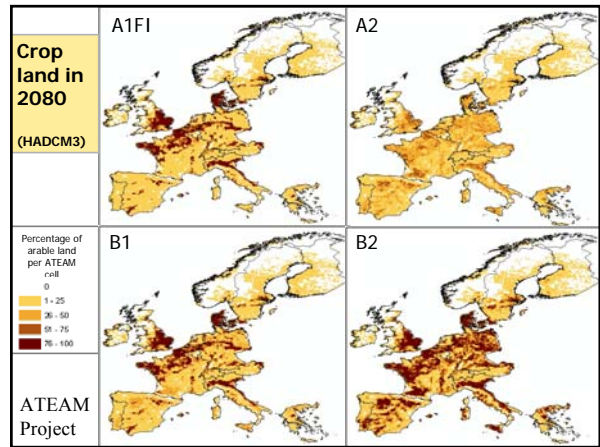
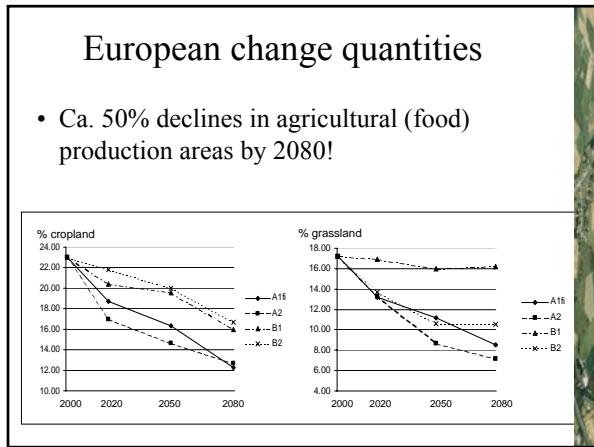
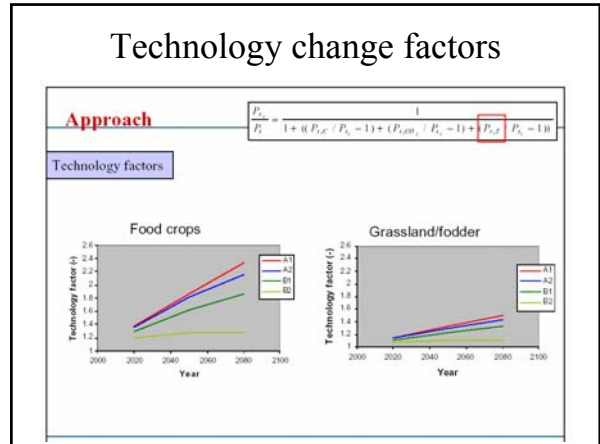
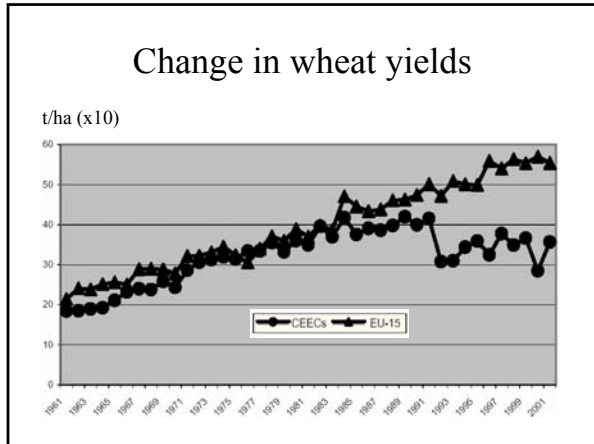
Approach:  $\frac{L_t}{L_{t_0}} = \frac{D_t}{D_{t_0}} \cdot \frac{P_{t_0}}{P_t} \cdot \frac{O_{r,t}}{O_{r,t_0}}$

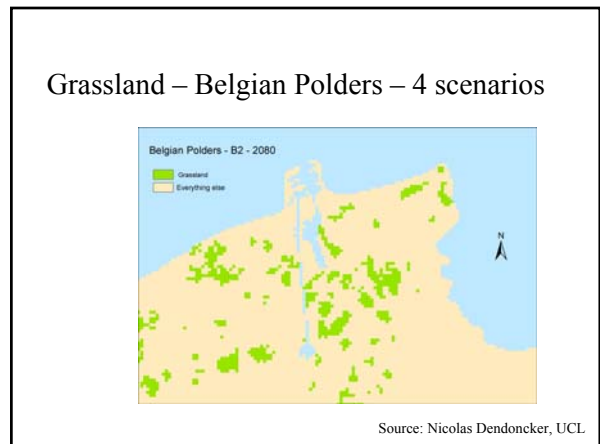
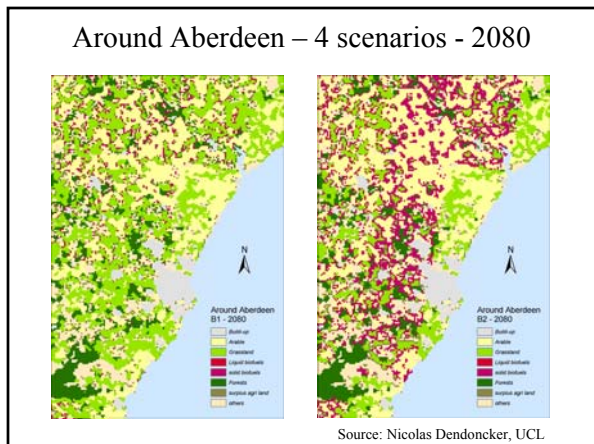
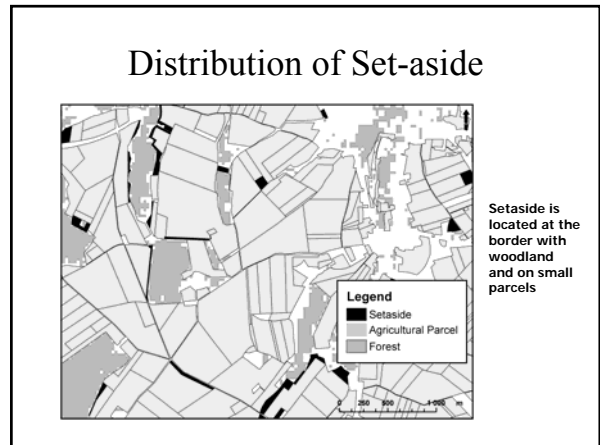
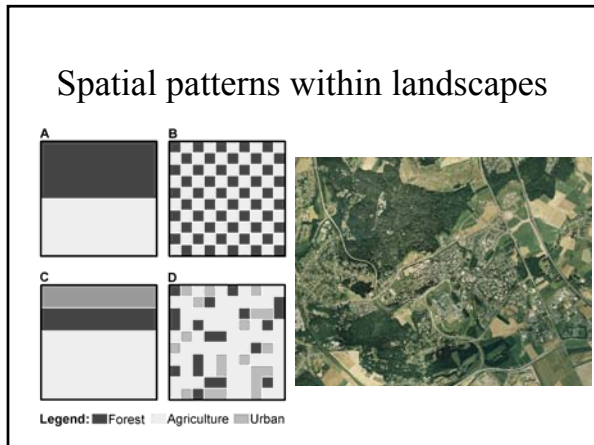
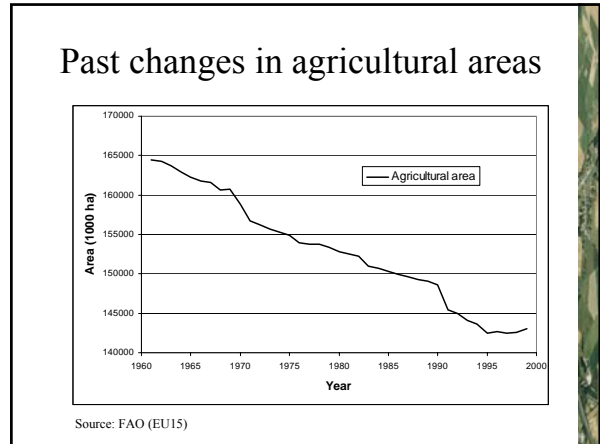
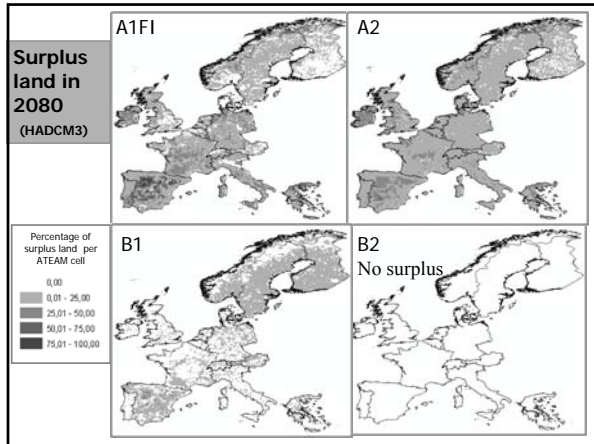
$P_t = P_{t_0} r_{P,t-t_0}$   
 $r_{P,t-t_0} = g(\Delta CO_2, \Delta C, \Delta T)_{t-t_0}$

$P$  ... Productivity [t/ha]  
 $r_P$  ... Relative change in productivity [-]  
 $CO_2$  ... Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration  
 $C$  ... Climate  
 $T$  ... Technology

$$P_t = P_{t_0} + ((P_{t,C} - P_{t_0}) + (P_{t,CO_2} - P_{t_0}) + (P_{t,T} - P_{t_0}))$$

$$\frac{P_t}{P_{t_0}} = \frac{1}{1 + ((P_{t,C}/P_{t_0} - 1) + (P_{t,CO_2}/P_{t_0} - 1) + (P_{t,T}/P_{t_0} - 1))}$$





### Data quality issues

**Problem:**  
It can be difficult to explain and model fine resolution agricultural land use with coarse resolution input data.

### Landscape Data

At the scale of a catchment:

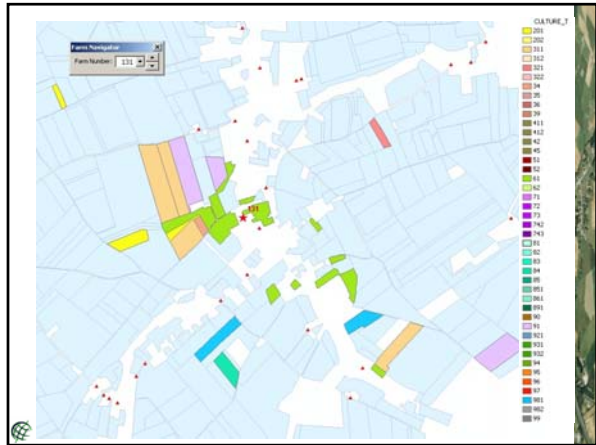
Individual parcel data:

- Parcel Id
- Farm Id
- Land use in 1999

Individual farm data:

- Farm id
- Farm location

- IACS (Integrated Administration and Control System)



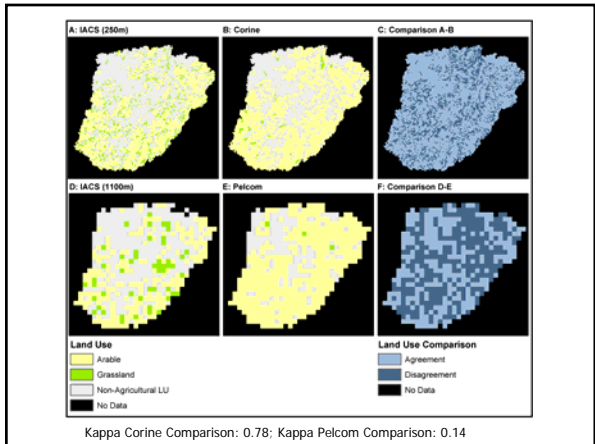
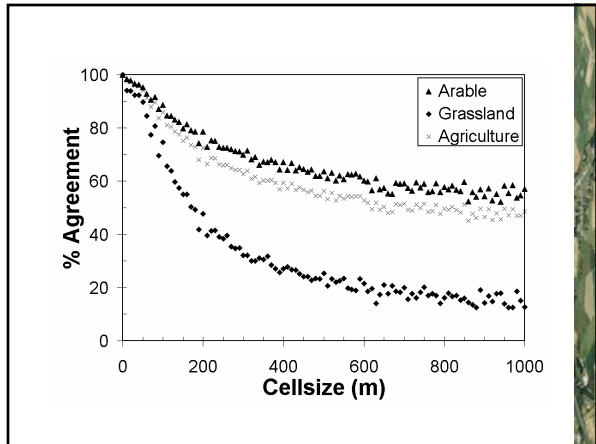
### Rasterising land use data

10 to 1000m = 10m steps  
1000-5000m = 100m steps  
5000-10000m = 500m steps

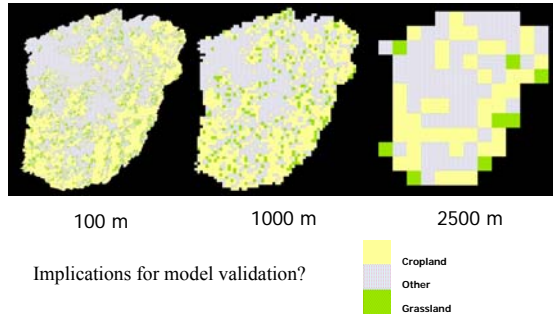
Land use change model

Legend:

- Cropland (yellow)
- Other (grey)
- Grassland (green)



## What is the observation?



## How to validate scenarios?\*

- No observation for the future!
- But, we have observations from the past
- But, the past is only one realisation of what could have happened (other « histories » were possible)
- So, we need « parallel universes » from which observations could be obtained to validate models
- But, ...

\*The scenario assumptions and models used to quantify them

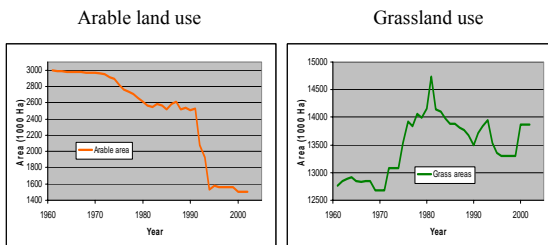
## Spatial and temporal analogues

- Compare the « world » described in a particular scenario to similar world's at different geographic locations or at different points in time
- New Zealand post 1984 – test hypotheses about free market scenarios

## Post 1984 New Zealand

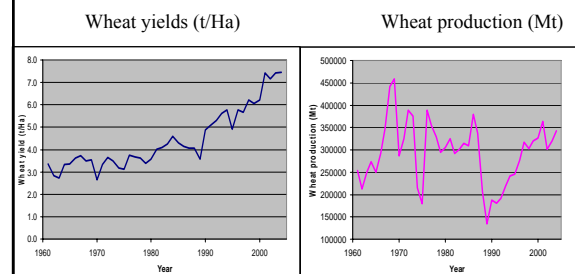
- Deregulation of agricultural sector in 1984 (almost complete removal of subsidies)
- Our scenarios assume that this would lead to agricultural land abandonment
- But, at the same time an increase in crop yields arising from more efficient and innovative management and technology use
- And, constant or increasing production (supply) depending on the demand for agricultural goods

## NZ land use area changes



- The biggest changes (abandonment) occurred in marginal areas, although less than expected;
  - Farmers also diversified their activities;
  - Surprisingly, it is not necessarily the worst farmers that abandon farming
- Source: FAO

## NZ crop yield changes



Source: FAO

## Putting the 'socio' in socio-economic

- The potential role of Agent-Based Models (ABM)
- Not a panacea for land use modelling, but warrants further exploration
- Capacity to adopt multi-sectoral approach (policy consequences), and endogenised policy responses

## Regional to landscape scale analyses



VISTA Project...

Vulnerability of Ecosystem Services to Land Use Change in Traditional Agricultural Landscapes

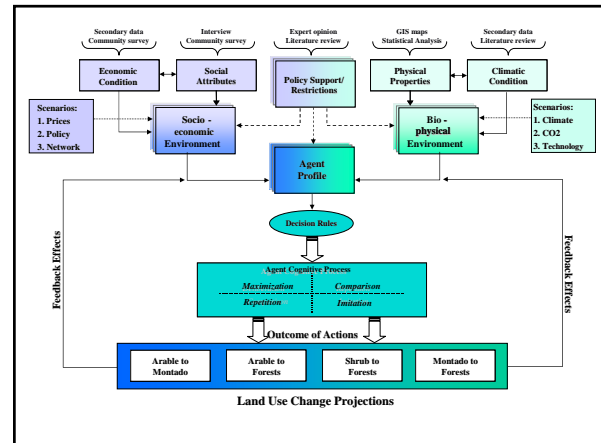
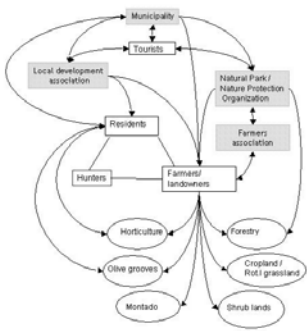
Source: Lilibeth Acosta-Michlik and Martha Bakker, UCL & Anne Van Doorn, University of Evora

## Agent-Based Modelling (ABM) of land use change in the Alentejo, Portugal

### Block arrow diagram

Relations between stakeholders in VISTA case study areas in South Portugal

- Government / associations
- Individuals
- Land cover classes
- One-way influence
- ↔ Reciprocal influence
- Close relationship



## Model Components

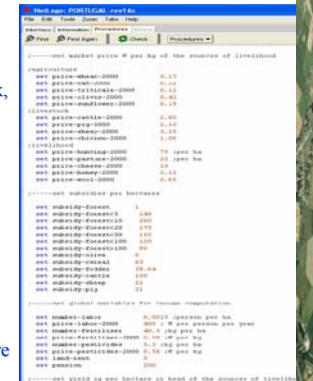
### Components ...

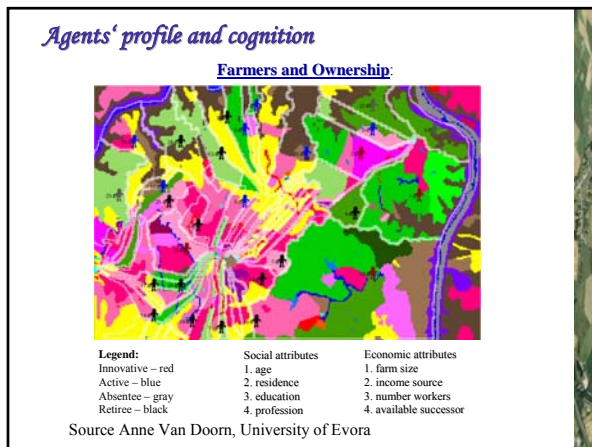
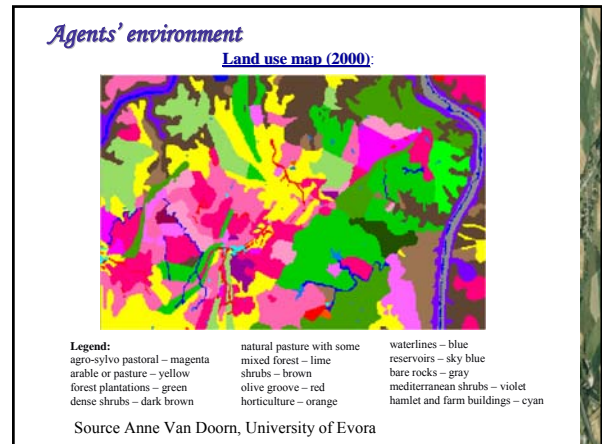
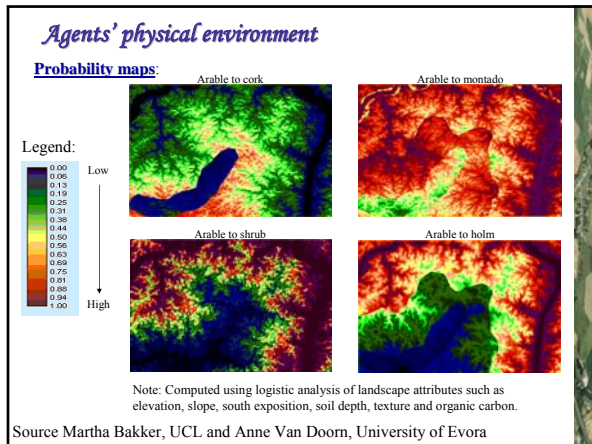
1. Agents' environment
  - Economic Condition
  - Social Network
  - Political/Institutional
  - Biophysical Properties
  - Climatic Condition
2. Agents Profile
  - Cognitive Strategies
  - Decision Rules
3. Environmental changes (scenarios)
  - Socio-economic, technology
  - Climate, CO<sub>2</sub>

## Agents' environment

### Economic data (2000):

- Prices of crops (cereals, cork, livestock, forest products)
- Prices of inputs (fertiliser, labour, pesticides)
- Subsidies (product, area)
- Inputs required per hectare
- Land rent and pension
- Yield
- Social relationships & culture





### ABM: agents' attributes

**Profiles of the reactive agents:**

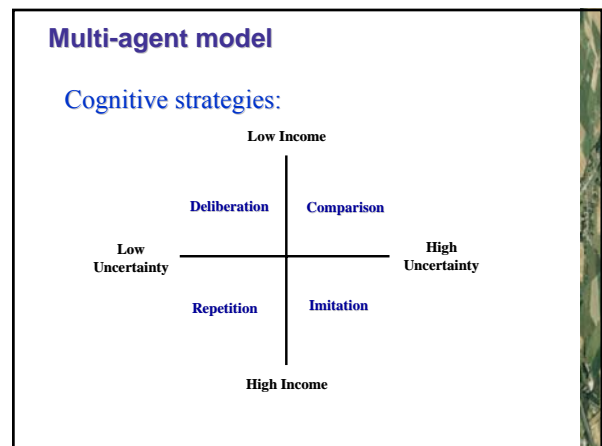
Code	name	hectares	age	gender	educa	prof	work/roo	time	start	obtain	hect	pers	succ	self	basis	mark
AD9		127	4	M	1	2	1	P	1	T	3	N	Y		P	
AD9V		136	4	M	1	1	1	P	3	T	3	N	Y		L	
AD91		148	3	M	1	1	1	P	2	T	1	N	Y		L	
AD92		107	2	M	4	1	2	P	1	T	2	Y	Y		L	
AD93		167	4	M	1	1	1	P	2	T	3	N	Y		L	
AD94		14	3	M	1	2	2	P	2	T	1	N	Y		L	
AD95		31	2	M	1	2	2	P	3	T	2	N	Y		L	
AD96		42	4	F	1	1	1	P	3	T	1	N	Y		R	
AD97		140	2	F	4	2	2	P	1	T	3	Y	Y		L	
AD98		76	3	M	1	2	2	P	2	T	2	Y	Y		L	
AD99		152	3	M	3	2	3	P	2	T	3	N	Y		T	
AD9		73	4	M	1	1	1	P	3	T	2	Y	Y		Y	
AD90		780	2	M	2	1	2	P	2	T	4	Y	Y	N	Y	O
AD91		20	4	M	1	1	1	P	3	T	1	N	Y		R	I
AD92		343	3	M	3	1	2	P	2	T	3	Y	Y	N	Y	O
AD93		167	4	M	1	1	3	P	2	T	3	Y	Y	N	Y	N
AD94		101	2	F	3	2	3	P	1	T	3	Y	Y	N	Y	L
AD95		144	3	M	4	1	2	P	2	T	3	Y	Y	N	Y	L
AD96		43	4	M	3	2	3	P	2	T	3	Y	Y	N	Y	N
AD97		75	4	M	1	1	1	P	3	T	2	N	Y		R	N
AD98		167	4	M	1	1	3	P	2	T	3	Y	Y	N	Y	N
AD99		25	4	M	0	1	1	P	2	T	1	N	Y		R	N
AD9		20	2	M	1	1	1	P	2	T	3	N	Y		L	
AD9		117	4	M	1	1	3	P	2	T	3	N	Y		L	
AD9		11	4	F	0	1	1	P	2	T	1	N	Y		R	
AD9P		13	4	M	4	2	1	P	2	T	1	N	Y		L	
AD9B		144	2	M	1	1	1	P	2	T	3	Y	Y		L	
AD9		46	4	M	1	1	1	P	3	T	1	N	Y		R	

Source Anne Van Doorn, University of Evora

### Agents' profile and cognition

Profile	Characteristics	Strategies
Innovative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Large farm ownership</li> <li>•High education</li> <li>•Young farmers</li> <li>•Diversified source of income</li> </ul>	Maximization, repetition
Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•small to medium farm ownership</li> <li>•Moderate to High education</li> <li>•Young farmers</li> <li>•Traditional source of income</li> </ul>	Maximization, comparison, repetition
Absentee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Medium to large farm ownership</li> <li>•Profession other than farming</li> <li>•Young to old farmers</li> <li>•Diversified source of income</li> </ul>	Imitation, repetition
Retiree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Small farm ownership</li> <li>•Low education</li> <li>•Old farmers</li> <li>•Pension and land rent</li> </ul>	Repetition

With the extensive and valued contributions of Anne Van Doorn, University of Evora



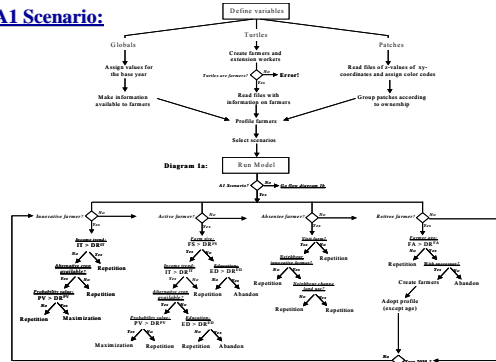


### Scenarios on the environment

SRES Scenarios	Social Network Scenarios
A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large and educated farmers have access to technology, but not small farmers</li> <li>Farmers are individualistic so knowledge not transferred</li> <li>Old farmers without successor abandon their lands, and large farmers do not buy due to decrease in subsidies</li> </ul>
A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transfer of technology based on hierarchal pattern, small farmers no access</li> <li>Regional self-reliance promotes a sense of community help and interaction</li> <li>Old farmers without successor abandon their lands, and large farmers buy these lands due to increase in forest subsidy</li> </ul>
B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small farmers access technology through extension services</li> <li>Poor social network so knowledge not transferred</li> <li>Old farmers without successor can sell their lands because subsidies remain almost stable</li> </ul>
B2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transfer of technology among small farmers through good social network</li> <li>Effective social network because of a strong local self-reliance</li> <li>High level of rural development increases the value of agricultural lands restrict the number of new entrants and limit in-migration</li> </ul>

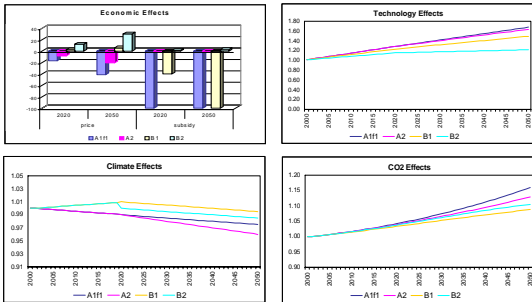
### Model platform and results

#### A1 Scenario:



### Scenarios on the environment

#### SRES scenarios:



Note: Based on ACCELERATES and ATEAM projects

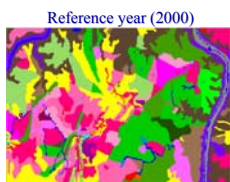
### Model platform and results



NetLogo ... <http://ccl.northwestern.edu/netlogo/>.

### Model platform and results

#### Land use change projections



Source: Anne Van Doorn, University of Evora

A1 scenario (2050)



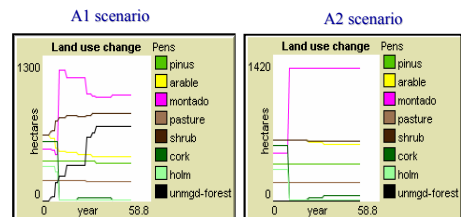
A2 scenario (2050)



#### Environmental Impacts?

### Model platform and results

#### Land use change projections



## Concluding remarks

- Can we improve on our capacity to validate models for a range of alternative futures?
- New models should build on existing knowledge, but adopt multi-sectoral strategies, better represent social processes and be more responsive to policy questions (stakeholders): endogenising policy processes (ABM?)
- Land use models need to nest at different spatial scales (from global to landscapes) – a modelling network