

# Reward signal for ABM

Previous work

# Reward Signal

TODO:

- Code in this reward signal for each agent in `agent_step!()`
- If  $r > 0$ : agent stays
- If  $r \leq 0$ : agent leaves

$$r = PR + NR + ER$$

Weights:

- $w_1 = 0.1$
- $w_2 = 0.05$
- $w_3 = 1.0$

## Place Reward

$$PR = w_1$$

Reward for place attachment

## Neighbor Reward

$$NR = w_2 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{n_t}{n_0}\right)$$

Reward for neighborhood; e.g., don't want to live in abandoned neighborhood

$n_t$ : Number of neighbors at time  $t$   
 $n_0$ : Number of neighbors at start of simulation

## Exposure Reward

(or penalty)

$$ER = -w_3 \cdot p_e$$

Negative reward for exposure

Notes:

- $n_t$  is accessible through `agent.state`
- $n_0$  is accessible through `agent.neighborhood_original`
- $p_e$  is the percent of year exposed that you used before

## Utility theory for ABM

# Utility theory

Agents make decisions based on “utility”

Example from Wikipedia (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Utility>)

- Agent has utility function  $U = \sqrt{xy}$  where  $x$  is number of apples and  $y$  is number of chocolates.
- Agent is given two options:
  - A: 9 apples and 16 chocolates
  - B: 13 apples and 13 chocolates
- $U_A = \sqrt{xy} = \sqrt{9 \cdot 16} = 12$
- $U_B = \sqrt{xy} = \sqrt{13 \cdot 13} = 13$
- Agent decides option B, 13 apples and 13 chocolates

Want to do the same for migration ABM

For example, each Agent has two options

- A: do nothing (e.g., stay)
- B: leave

## Cobb-Douglas Utility Function - General

$$U_a = \prod_{i=1}^n P_i^{\alpha_i} = (P_1^{\alpha_1}) \cdot (P_2^{\alpha_2}) \cdots P_n^{\alpha_n}$$

$U_a$  Utility if taking action  $a$

$P_i$  Some feature/variable, e.g., percent of year exposed

$\alpha_i$  Weights the importance of the above feature to the agent; between 0 (less important) and 1 (more important)

# Cobb-Douglas Utility Function - Applied to Galveston

$$U_{stay} = P_{place}^{\alpha_1} \cdot P_{neighbor}^{\alpha_2}$$

$$U_{leave} = P_{exposure}^{\alpha_3}$$

## Features/variables to consider

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$P_{place} = 100$       Set this to 100, the weighting of this will be done through  $\alpha_1$

$P_{neighbor} = \frac{N_t}{N_0} \cdot 100$       Same ratio as before (number of agents at time  $t$  to number of neighbors at time 0); multiply by 100

$P_{exposure} = p_e \cdot 100$       Same percent of year exposed as before, but  $\times 100$

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## Cobb-Douglas Utility Function - Applied to Galveston

$$U_{stay} = P_{place}^{\alpha_1} \cdot P_{neighbor}^{\alpha_2}$$

$$U_{leave} = P_{exposure}^{\alpha_3}$$

Dylan Added `alpha_calc()` function to `misc_funcs.jl`  
Use this to determine alpha values for each agent

## Nat: Next Steps

Update the ResidentialAgent struct to carry  $\alpha$  values

Add  $\alpha$  values to all agents in function `add_agents!()`

- Each agent should have different  $\alpha$  values

In `agent_step!()`

- Compute  $U_{stay}$  and  $U_{leave}$
- If  $U_{stay} > U_{leave}$  then agent stays
- If  $U_{leave} > U_{stay}$  then agent leaves

Extra:

- In `input.csv`, there is a variable called `n_iterations`; change this to 100 to run the model 100 times
  - This is called Monte-Carlo simulation ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte\\_Carlo\\_method](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte_Carlo_method))
  - It's used to understand uncertainty

I won't be available for meetings June 21-25; however, you can text me. I'll respond when I can.