

Conceptual Agent-Based Model of Sustainable Land-Use Farming Adoption

Model Equations

1. Utility Calculation

$$\begin{aligned} U_i &= \alpha U_{\text{econ},i} + (1 - \alpha) U_{\text{social},i} \\ U_{\text{econ},i} &= S - w_i^{(p)} P_i^{(\text{conv})} + w_i^{(p)} P_i^{(\text{nat})} \\ U_{\text{social},i} &= SCF \cdot w_i^{(s)} \cdot \phi \end{aligned}$$

Legend

- U_i : Total utility for agent i (EUR/ha)
- α : Weight for economic utility ($0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$)
- $U_{\text{econ},i}$: Economic utility (EUR/ha)
- $U_{\text{social},i}$: Social utility (EUR/ha)
- S : Subsidy for adoption (EUR/ha/year)
- $w_i^{(p)}$: Profit weight (range: 0.5–2.0)
- $P_i^{(\text{conv})}$: Profit from conventional agriculture (EUR/ha)
- $P_i^{(\text{nat})}$: Profit from nature-based agriculture (EUR/ha)
- SCF : Social capital factor (EUR/ha)
- $w_i^{(s)}$: Peer weight (range: 0.5–2.0)
- ϕ : Fraction currently adopting ($0 \leq \phi \leq 1$)

2. Adoption Probability

$$p_i = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(-\frac{U_i}{k}\right)}$$

Legend

- p_i : Probability of adoption
- U_i : Utility (EUR/ha)
- $k = 100$: Scaling factor (adoption sensitivity to utility)

3. Agent Learning

Peer Weight Update (Temporal)

$$w_i^{(s)}(t+1) = w_i^{(s)}(t) + \lambda_{\text{social}}(\phi(t) - w_i^{(s)}(t)), w_i^{(s)}(t) \in [0.5, 2.0]$$

Profit Weight Update (Temporal)

$$w_i^{(p)}(t+1) = w_i^{(p)}(t) + \lambda_{\text{econ}}(U_{\text{econ},i}(t) - w_i^{(p)}(t)), w_i^{(p)}(t) \in [0.5, 2.0]$$

Legend

- $w_i^{(s)}$: Peer weight (0.5–2.0)
- λ_{social} : Social learning rate (0.0–1.0)
- ϕ : Fraction adopting ($0 \leq \phi \leq 1$)
- $w_i^{(p)}$: Profit weight (0.5–2.0)
- λ_{econ} : Economic learning rate (0.0–1.0)
- $U_{\text{econ},i}$: Economic utility (EUR/ha)

4. Emissions Calculation

$$E_i = 5.0 \cdot (1 - 0.5 \cdot A_i)$$

Legend

- E_i : Emissions (t CO₂-eq/ha/year)
- A_i : Adoption status (1 if adopted, 0 otherwise)
- 5.0: Baseline emissions for non-adopters (t CO₂-eq/ha/year)
- 0.5: Emissions reduction factor for adopters

5. Policy Cost and Cost-Effectiveness

$$\text{PolicyCost}_{ha} = S \cdot \phi$$

$$\text{EmissionsSaved}_{ha} = \max(5.0 - \bar{E}, 0)$$

$$\text{CostPerTonne} = \begin{cases} \frac{\text{PolicyCost}_{ha}}{\text{EmissionsSaved}_{ha}}, & \text{if } \text{EmissionsSaved}_{ha} > 0.01, \\ \text{NaN}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Legend

- PolicyCost_{ha} : Policy cost per hectare (EUR/ha/year)
- S : Subsidy for adoption (EUR/ha/year)
- ϕ : Fraction adopting ($0 \leq \phi \leq 1$)
- \bar{E} : Average emissions (t CO₂-eq/ha/year)
- 5.0: Baseline emissions for non-adopters (t CO₂-eq/ha/year)
- $\text{EmissionsSaved}_{ha}$: Emissions saved per hectare (t CO₂-eq/ha/year)
- 0.01: Threshold to avoid division by very small numbers
- CostPerTonne : Cost per tonne CO₂ saved (EUR/t CO₂)
- NaN: Not a Number, used when savings are too small