COMPUTER MANAGEMENT GAMES FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION IN BULGARIA

prof. Angel Marchev, Ph.D. asist. prof. Angel Marchev Jr., Ph.D

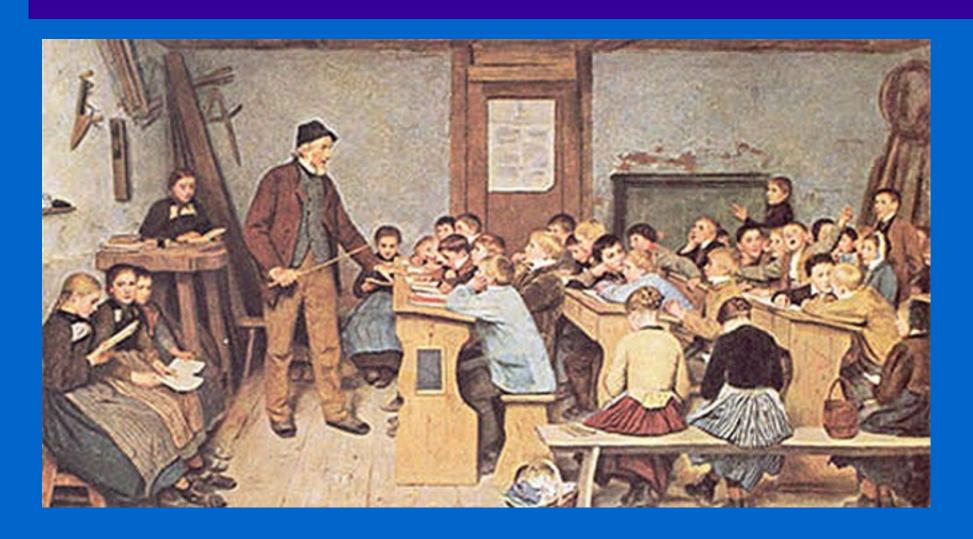
"...a man plays only where he is a man in a full sense of the word and he is entirely a man only where he plays"

Friedrich Schiller – "Letters on aesthetic education of Man"

SOME HISTORY

- Games, gaming, educational games
- First educational games on decision making Germany 19th century. Strategic Games.
- Management (Business) games 1920s
- Management simulations and group dynamics
- Computer Management Games

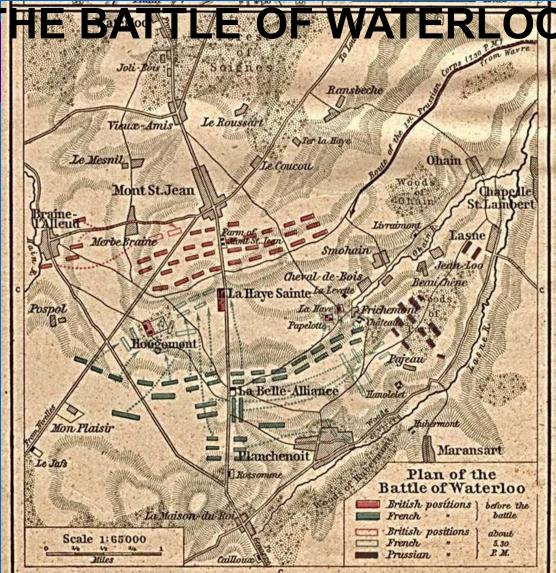
CLASSROOM (PASSIVE) METHODS OF EDUCATION













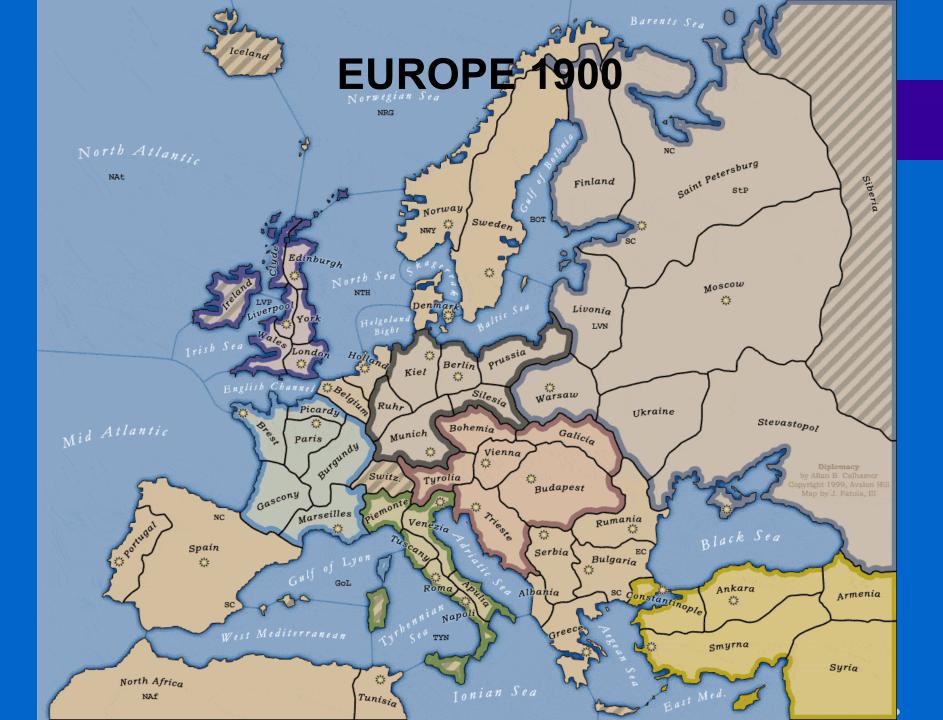


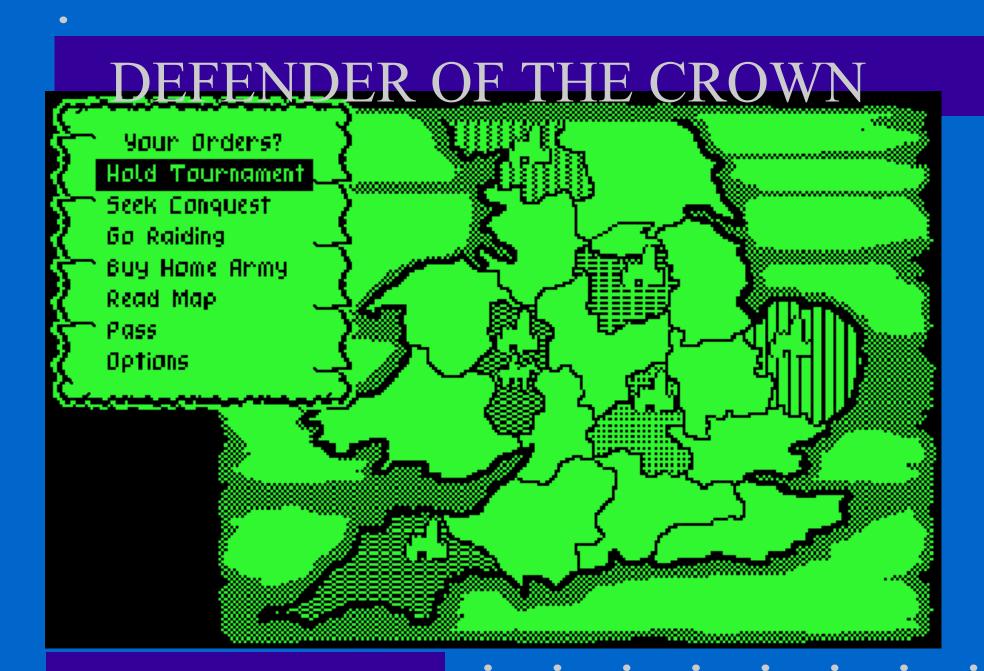












COMPUTER MANAGEMENT GAMES (CMG)

- First CMG AMA Business Game (developed by American Management Association in 1956)
- 1960s and 1970s Business games for Top managers (later on for university students)
- CMG the most effective method for active training for adults
- Nowadays CMG in every college, business school and University

COMPUTER MANAGEMENT GAMES IN BULGARIA

- First CMG for Top Managers a version of IBM Business game, 1970
- CMG, based on Bulgarian cases since 1972/1973
- CMG in university education 1974 (first steps), and on a regular base since 1976/1977
- Since 1991 the use of business simulations and gaming (and other active methods) increased considerably

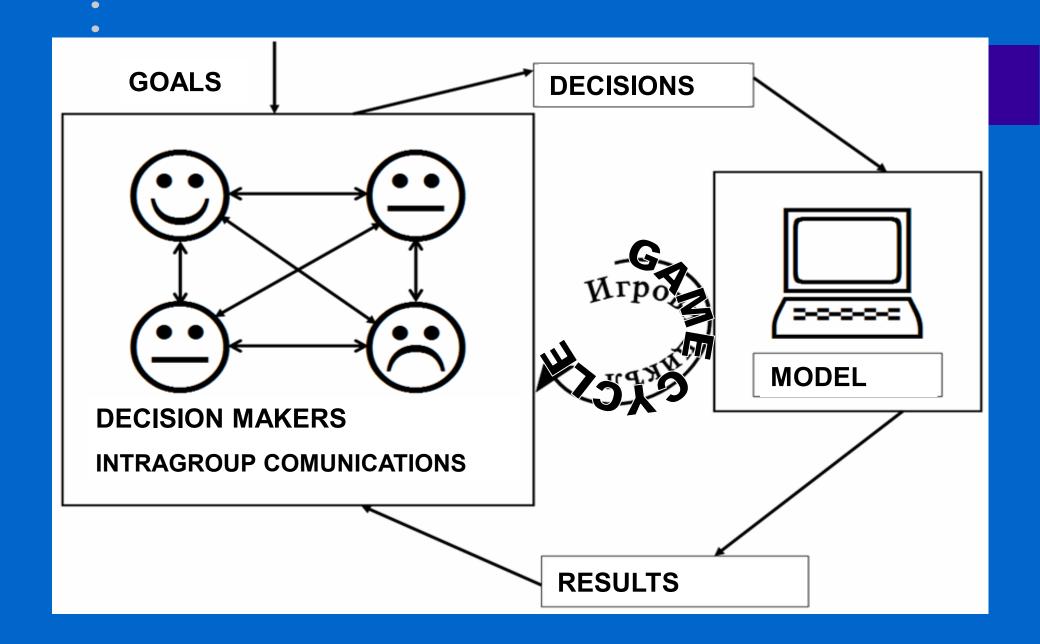
MAIN FEATURES OF CMG

- Teamwork
- Computer simulation models
- Instructors' team
- Combining various pedagogical methods
- Integrative nature of CMG
- Computerization and Internet

TEAMWORK

- Every team plays a company, competing with others in the framework of a certain scenario
- Every participant in a team plays a certain role (say CEO, Finance manager, etc.)
- Every team works out a set of agreed decisions, based on the business situation and intensive intragroup communications
- Autodidactic spontaneous exchange of knowledge and skills between the team members, because of their various backgrounds and life experience







COMPUTER SIMULATION MODELS

- CMG is built on a certain computer simulation model of a business system and its environment ("The World we live in")
- The model is a system of simultaneous equations and logical conditions
- The effects of the external random factors are incorporated in the model
- Gaming cycle





INSTRUCTORS' TEAM

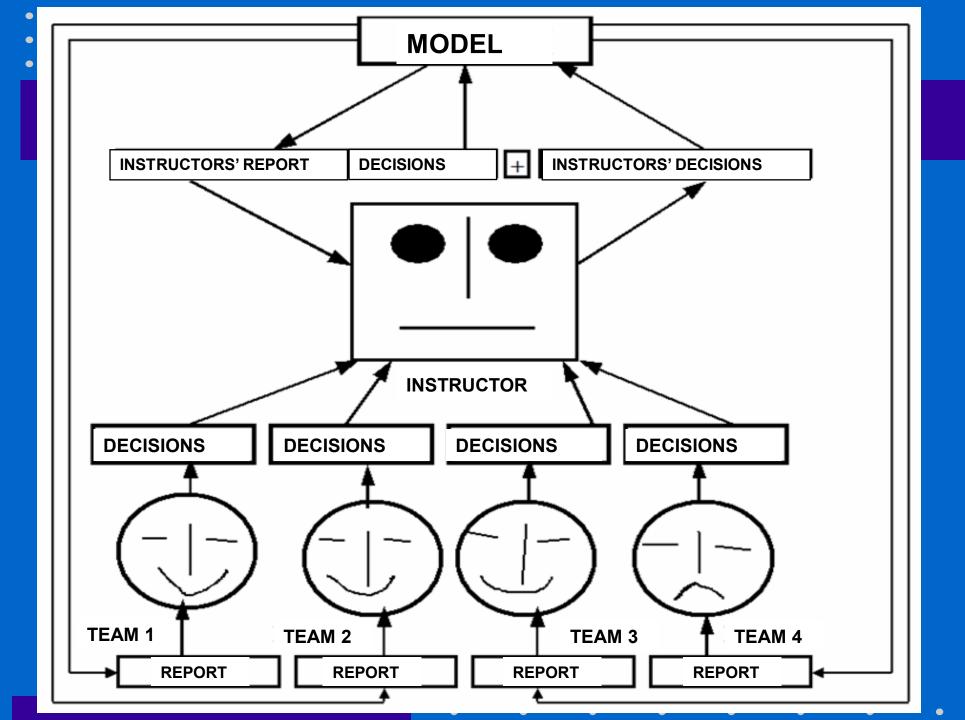
- Enforce the rules of the game
- Create a complex information environment
- Simulate various subjects such as public opinion, media flow, information sources, etc.
- Issue a newspaper ("The News") informing on events for each game period. "The News" is published also online and express editions are sent as SMS.



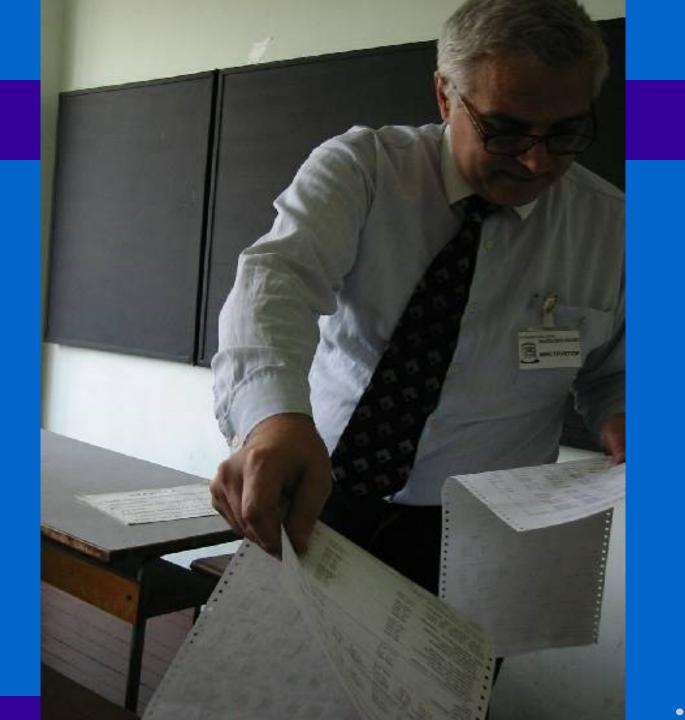


















RESEARCH

ANALYSIS OF EXTERNAL FACTORS

ANALYSIS
OF THE
COMPANY

COMPANY FINANCIAL MODEL

DECISIONS



COMBINING VARIOUS PEDAGOGICAL METHODS

- Whenever possible CMG are combined with traditional forms (video materials, discussions, oral and written presentations, etc.)
- At the end of the game (at the shareholders meeting) every team represents its strategy and achievements and defend their case
- Every team prepare a report on paper and/or in electronic form for public discussion.
- The team is expected to prepare a high quality business presentation using graphics, multimedia, video cuts, internet pages, etc.
- All teams are evaluated on a multi criteria point system
- Video reportage of the game is used to analyze the game and the reactions of the participants

INTEGRATING NATURE OF CMG

- Integrating teaching material from different lectures, topics an subjects
- Bridging the real business life and "The World we live" (the game)
- Integrating research activities with decision making
- Developing decision skills in using simulation models and computer communication means
- Involving intellectual as well as emotional sphere
- Hedonistic element of the game (It is "fun", "cool")

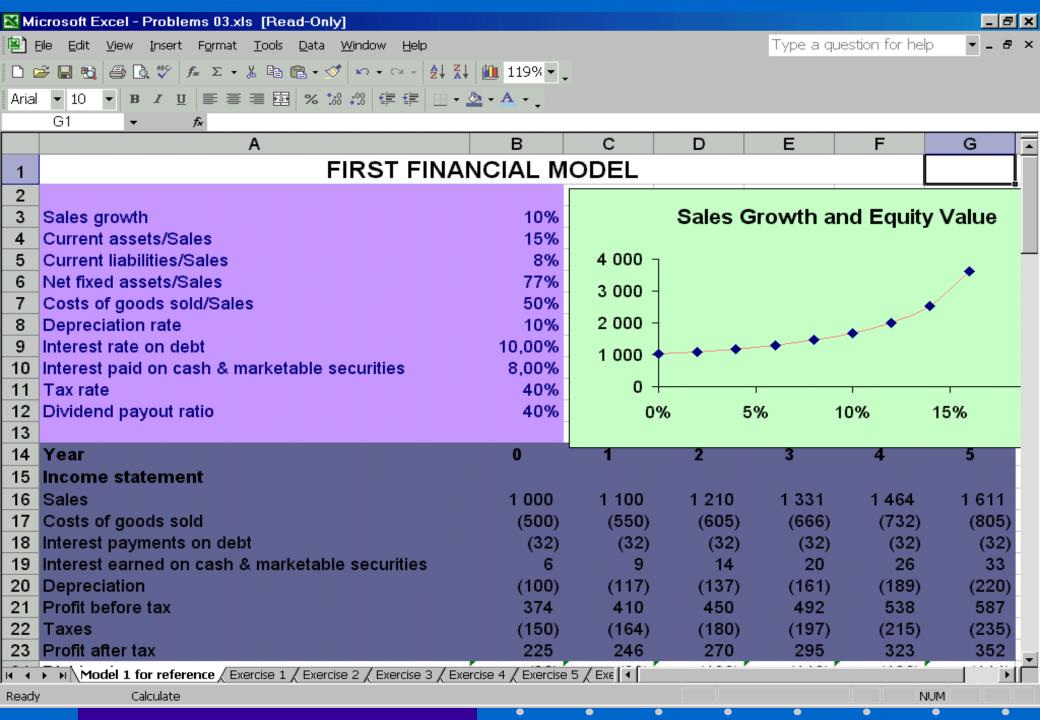


COMPUTARIZATION AND INTERNET

- CMG are INTERNET blended
- INTERNET/INTRANET ensure dynamic communication among the teams and develops business skills in modern information environment
- The participants are encouraged to use computers and INTERNET and to develop simulation models to support their decisions

































"...a man plays only where he is a man in a full sense in this word and he is entirely a man only where he plays"

Friedrich Schiller – "Letters on aesthetic education of Man"

About the authors



Prof. Ph.D. Angel Marchev is one of the pioneers of implementing computer business games and active methods in education for adults in Bulgaria. Over the last 35 years he has educated more than thirty thousand students and managers using over hundred and twenty CMG and other active methods in his courses. He teaches courses such as "Simulation and gaming in management", "Business games", "Modeling" and "Financial modeling in management" at the University for National and World Economy and Bourgas Free University among several others business schools and collages.

Prof. Marchev has been among the first members of ISAGA since it was founded and was member of the steering committee of ISAGA almost until 1990. He was also a member of EESAGA. Now he is establishing BASAGA in Bulgaria.

E-mail: angelm@unwe.acad.bg

About the authors



Asist. prof. Angel Marchev, Jr. has been educated by computer games since the age of four. By the time he finished high school he already participated as Instructor for various CMG and active methods for education so he has more than 15 years of teaching experience. He teaches variety of courses and has excelled at implementing active methods in all of them. He is a Ph.D. at computer simulation and modeling.

E-mail: angel.marchev@basaga.org

Phone: +359888444062