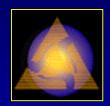
# Agent Based Approaches to Land-Use and Land-Cover Change in the Southern Yucatan Peninsular Region of Mexico

Steven M. Manson
Graduate School of Geography &
George Perkins Marsh Institute
Clark University
Worcester MA 01610 USA

smanson@clarku.edu www.clarku.edu/~smanson

NAS – October 2001 – Irvine CA

## Acknowledgements



Carnegie Mellon University Center for Integrated Study of the Human Dimensions of Global Change

NASA Earth System Science Fellowship Program





NSF Decision, Risk, and Management Science and NSF Geography and Regional Science Programs

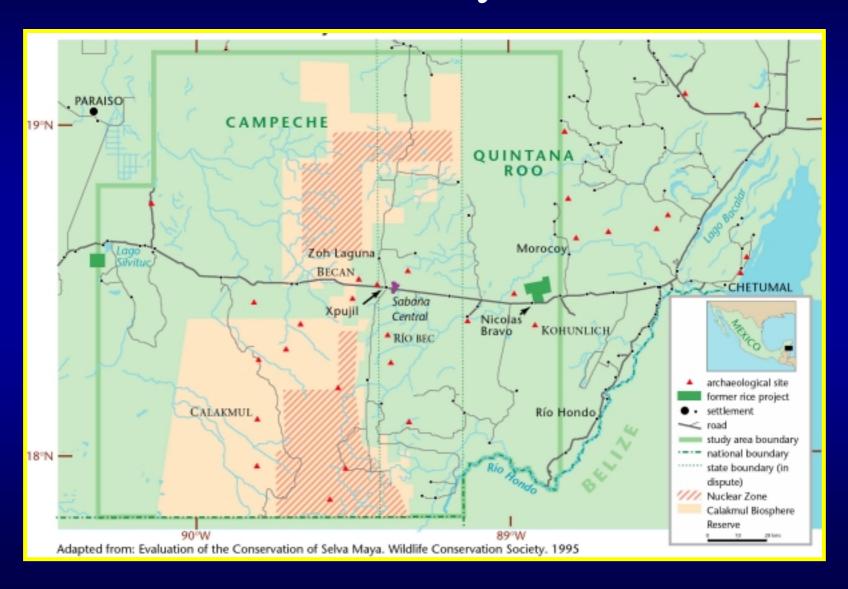
Pruzer/Holzhauer Fund





NASA-funded LCLUC-SYPR Project

# SYPR Study Site



# Study Site Characteristics



- Migration
- Development
- El Mundo Maya



- World Bank "Critical Corridor"
- Calakmul Biosphere Reserve
- Deforestation "Hot Spot"



# LUCC Drivers: Global change science perspective

#### **Distal Forces**

- Population
- Markets
- Infrastructure
- Technology
- Policy

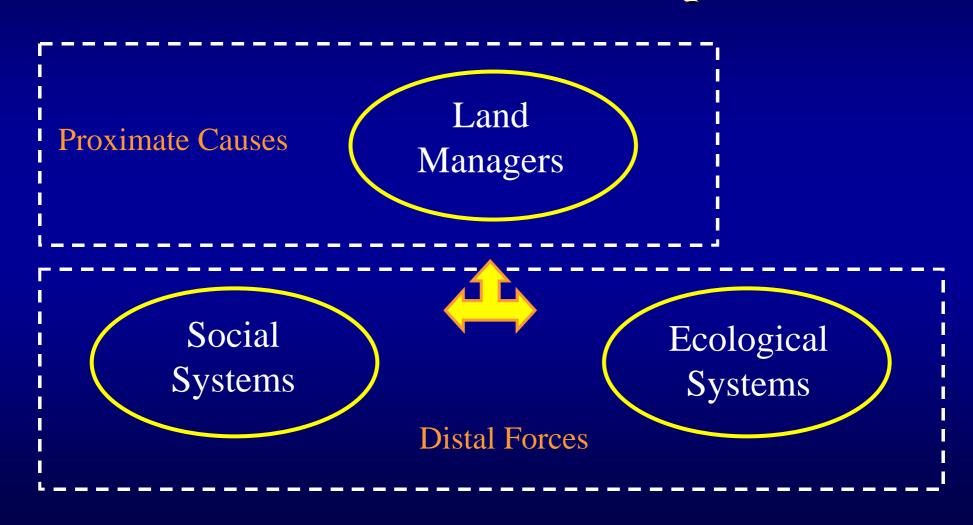


#### **Proximate Causes**

- Logging
- Farming
- Cattle rearing



# LUCC Drivers: LUCC Research Plan Perspective



# LUCC Drivers: SYPR IA Perspective

Land Managers

Actors

Institutions

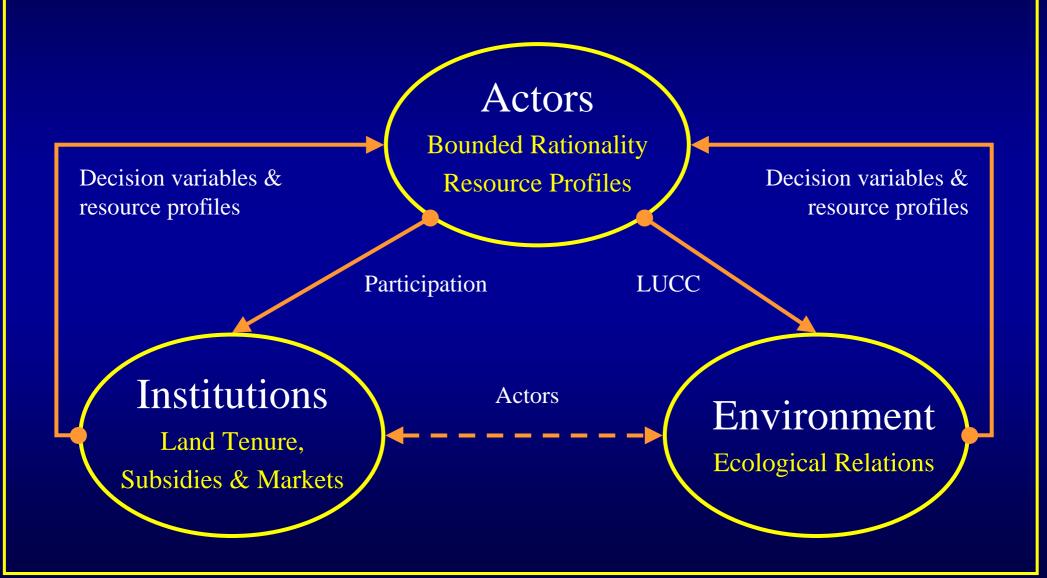


Environment

Social Systems

**Ecological Systems** 

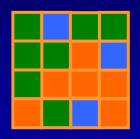
# Conceptual Model: Relationships



# From Concept to Practice

Cellular Model

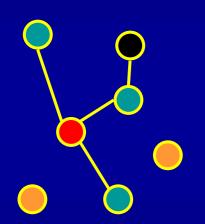
+



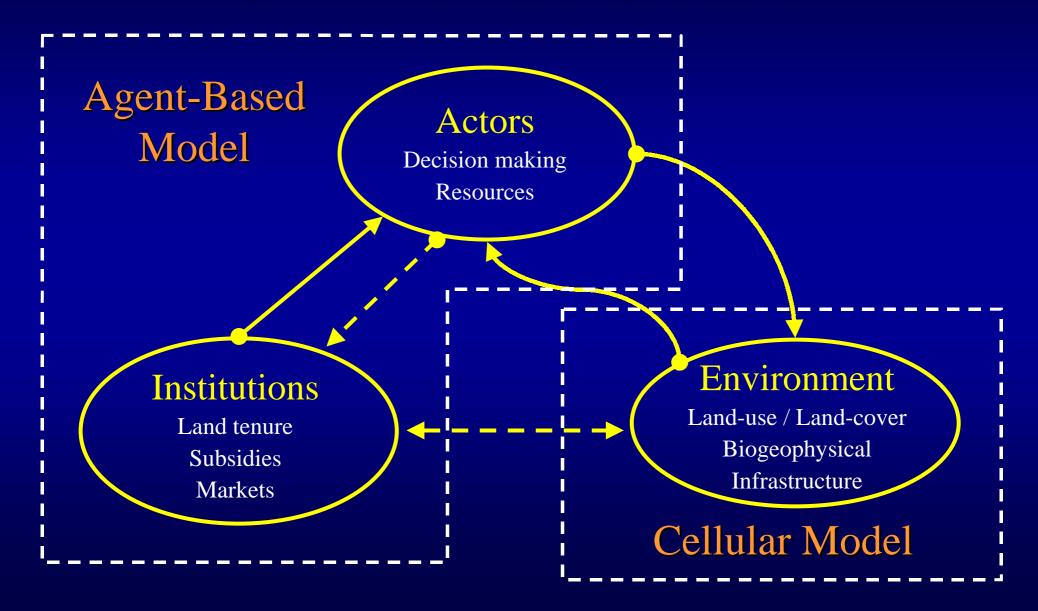
Agent-Based Model

Multi-Agent System/LUCC Model (MAS/LUCC)





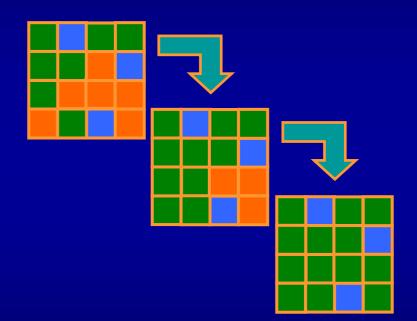
### SYPRIA: Model Structure



### SYPRIA: Cellular Model

#### Characteristics

- Simple, portable, yet complex!
- Proven ecological applications



### Represents

- Ecological functions
- Agent intervention (LUCC)

## SYPRIA: Agent-Based Model



Decision making

Communication

Capabilities



#### Institutions

Effects on actors

Mechanisms



### States

Processes

Household characteristics



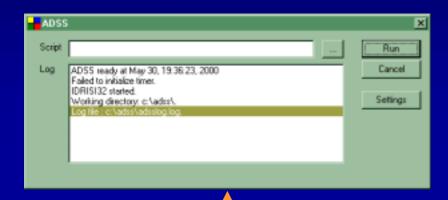
Resource profiles

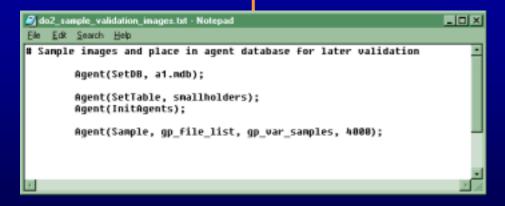
**Characteristics** 



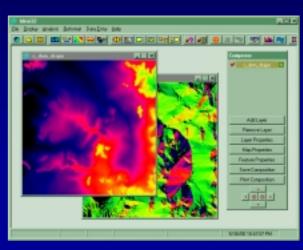
# SYPRIA: Implementation

#### Core

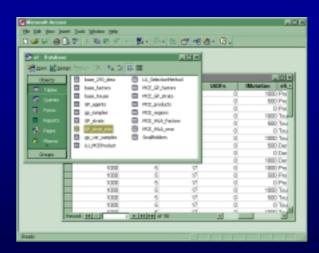




**Scripts** 



#### Idrisi32 GIS



Access Database

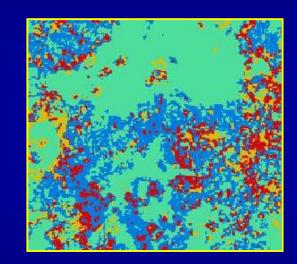
### SYPRIA: Simulation Procedure

- 1. Update exogenous parameters
- 2. Institutions change actor profiles
- 3. Actors choose production activities
- 4. Actor behavior changes resource profiles and impacts environment through land-use
- 5. Environment updates

### **SYPRIA**: Validation

#### Metric assessments performed on spatial LUCC outcomes

- Kappa Index of Agreement
- Pattern measures
- Multi-Resolution Goodness of Fit
- Monte Carlo uncertainty tests



#### Structural assessment

- Disaggregated expert tests of domain knowledge
- Integrated Assessment Structural changes lead to meta change?

### Conclusion

### Challenges

- Spatiotemporal dynamics
- Nature/society integration
- Uncertainty/surprise



#### Goals

- Policy
- Methodological
- Theoretical

### Future Research Directions

Broaden extent: expand temporal and spatial scales

System integration: anthropology, economics, & ecology

Policy: better linkage to livelihoods, biodiversity and climate models

GIScience: further methodological and conceptual innovations

Scaling issues: scale, global environmental change, and GIS

Complexity: complexity theory and complex systems

Uncertainty handling: consultation with CMU/Idrisi/Maastricht

Comparative modeling: CMU, Maastricht, Indiana, & Waterloo

Vulnerability & resilience: SYPR Phase 2 & Resilience Network