A landscape generator prototype and its application as tool for integrated regional environmental impact assessment of bioenergy activities

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Introduction

Aim:

Sustainable use of crop biomass for Bioenergy at landscape and regional level.

Need:

Basic understanding how landscape structure influences the environmental impact of bioenergy use of crop biomass.



Introduction:

Example: Spatial impacts at landscape scale





Problem: many spatial simulation models at different and smaller scales !



How to deal with small scall models for regional assessment?

Introduction

Research Agenda:

Development of a landscape generator at the landscape scale generating model landscapes.

Model landscapes are designed such, that a consistent, multi-criterial analysis of several environmental impacts is possible.





Introduction

Research Agenda:

Aggregation of spatial ecological and environmental effects into the landscape scale - Landscape metrics.



Further development of Life Cycle Assessments (spLCAs): Inclusion of space and Biodiversity.

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Approach

Scenario based, systematic parameter variation

Gradients

Natural landscape unit forest cover, fragmentation

Integration of land use patterns (cropping systems)

Integration of gradients, rivers and streams





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Approach:

Large scale spatial patterns:





Variation of:

- % of forest cover and agricultural area
- Degree of forest fragmentation





Systematic evaluation of Model landscapes

Distribution of cropping systems within large scale spatial pattern.



Crop diversity

Cropping systems (management)



Size of agricultural fields

Spatial distribution of fields

Analysis:

Systematic evaluation of Model landscapes



Landscape metrics:

Identification of Landscape metrics as Indicators



Landscape generators as "tool for cooperation"

POF based projects about spatial ecological impacts of biomass use: They use the output of the landscape generator



Understanding of spatial effects
Landscape metrics as indicators
Interpretation -> Biomass cultivation
Interpretation -> Biomass cultivation

"Result": Landscape generator prototype



Example First version

- Forest, connected
- Small fields of diff. crops

Next steps:

- Inclusion of field strips
- Scaling issues
- Field distributions



Summary

Landscape generator for inclusion of small scale models into

Landscape and regional impact assessment

Natural landscape unit forest cover, fragmentation

Integration of land use patterns (cropping systems)

Integration of gradients, rivers and streams





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Thank you for your attention !

And Jeroen Everaars and Jan Engel for providing former versions. Questions? Contact: sandro.puetz@ufz.de

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