

Conference on Applied Methods for Ag & Resource Economics A Festschrift for Richard E. Howitt

AGR Room, Walter E Buehler Alumni & Visitor's Center, UC Davis
May 23-24, 2016

Justification for the conference

The conference is aimed at bringing together the vast body of work initiated by Richard Howitt and his students and collaborators in agricultural production and natural resource management modeling. The papers in the conference will outline the development and state-of-the-art developments in key applications ranging from positive mathematical programming (PMP), water resource management, the application of information theoretic methods to environmental decision making, and other empirical work. The papers presented at the conference will form part of an edited book (TBD).

AGENDA

Day One - Monday, May 23

08:45–09:00 Arrival/Distribution of meeting material, coffee

09:00–09:15 Welcome of participants, introductions & agenda-setting
Siwa Msangi (IFPRI)

Conference Opening

09:15–9:30 Welcome & reflections on Richard's contributions to ARE
Richard Sexton (Chair, Dept of ARE, UC Davis)

09:30–10:00 Richard's career and its influence on the ag & resource econ community
Siwa Msangi (IFPRI)

Topic 1: Applied methods for Ag production modeling (Positive Mathematical Programming)

In this session, we trace the origins and foundations of PMP methodology and examine the state-of-the-art in its application, and its usefulness in applied agricultural policy analysis

10:00-10:30 Positive Mathematical Programming: theory, practice & ways forward
Pierre Mérel (ARE, UC Davis)

10:30-11:00 Applied ag sector modeling for California: CVPM & beyond
Steve Hatchett (CH2MHill)

- 11:00-11:30** Applied methods for examining european ag policy
Bruno Henry de Frahan (Univ Louvain-La-Neuve)
- 11:30-12:00** Modeling agricultural abatement cost
Cloe Garnache (Michigan State University)
- 12:00-12:30** The role of soil quality in crop choice
Peter Berck (Univ of California at Berkeley)
- 12:30-13:00** Q&A/discussion

Lunch Break

Topic 2: Applied methods in water resource management

In this session, we examine the body of work originated by Howitt and collaborators to deal with important water policy problems in California and elsewhere.

- 14:00-14:30** Hydro-economic modeling: the SWAP-CALVIN interface
Josue Medellin-Azuara (Center for Watershed Sciences, UC Davis)
- 14:30-15:00** Water markets in the Western US
Kristiana Hansen (Univ Wyoming)
- 15:00-15:30** Water quantity & quality problems in China
Qiuqiong Huang (Univ. Arkansas-Fayetteville)

Coffee Break

- 16:00-16:30** Hydro-economic modeling in the Brazilian context
Marcello Torres (Univ of Brasilia)
- 16:30-17:00** Spatial groundwater dynamics and resource management
Keith Knapp (UC Riverside)
- 17:00-17:30** Q&A/discussion
- 17:30-17:45** Synthesis of today's proceedings & roadmap for tomorrow
Siwa

**** Adjourn ****

- 18:00-20:30** ***Evening reception and dinner***

Day Two - Tuesday, May 24

09:00–09:10 Arrival and welcome

Topic 3: Information-theoretic and experimental methods in natural resources research

In this session, look at the application of entropy-based methods to the calibration of empirical models, as well as to the solution of environment and resource management problems

09:10-09:40 Experimental methods in water resource management & policy
Jonathan Kaplan (Calif State Univ, Sacramento)

09:40-10:10 Information-theoretic methods for parameterizing economic models
Siwa Msangi (IFPRI)

10:10-10:40 Entropy-based estimation of crop rotation dynamics
Richard Howitt (UC Davis)
Duncan MacEwan (ERA Economics)

10:40-11:10 Experimental economics: applications for resource problems
Jim Murphy (Univ of Alaska)

11:10-11:40 Q&A/discussion

Lunch Break

Topic 4: Ag & resource policy: The need for quantitative methods in decision-making

In this session, we recognize the contributions that Richard Howitt and his collaborators have made to important agricultural and water policy problems in California and elsewhere in the world. We highlight the usefulness of the empirical methods applied to addressing the key problems facing policy makers and resource managers in different empirical contexts

13:00-13:30 Applied analysis in designing California's water resource infrastructure
Jay Lund (Center for Watershed Sciences, UC Davis)

13:30-14:00 Applied analysis in designing California's water resource policy
Ellen Hanak (Public Policy Institute of California)

14:00-14:30 Applied methods in addressing issues in California's ag sector
Daniel Sumner (Ag Issues Center/ARE, UC Davis)

14:30-15:00 Q&A/discussion

Coffee Break

Closing session

15:30-17:00

Reflections and comments from colleagues, collaborators & friends of
Richard E Howitt

Australia's Water – Mike Young

California Ag – Jay Noel

Resource Policy – John Antle

Teaching Resource Economics – Jim Wilen

Mentoring and Dissertation – Mimako Kobayashi

Reflections on Richard Howitt – Gordon Rausser, Rich Adams

17:00-17:15

Synthesis and next steps (Festschrift publication)

Vote of Thanks and Adjournment

Siwa Msangi

**** Meeting Ends ****

List of Participants

Name	Email contact
1. Siwa Msangi	s.msangi@cgiar.org
2. Duncan MacEwan	duncan@eraeconomics.com
3. Richard Howitt	howitt@primal.ucdavis.edu
4. Pierre Merel	merel@primal.ucdavis.edu
5. Chloe Garnache	garnache@anr.msu.edu
6. Steve Hatchett	Stephen.Hatchett@ch2m.com
7. Kristiana Hansen	Kristi.Hansen@uwyo.edu
8. Jay Lund	jrlund@ucdavis.edu
9. Josue Medellin-Azuara	jmedellin@ucdavis.edu
10. Qiuqiong Huang	qghuang@uark.edu
11. Keith Knapp	keith.knapp@ucr.edu
12. Jonathan Kaplan	kaplanj@csus.edu
13. John Antle	john.antle@oregonstate.edu
14. Susan Capalbo	susan.capalbo@oregonstate.edu
15. Jay Noel	jnoel@calpoly.edu
16. Farhad Farnam	farhad@water.ca.gov
17. Mike Young	mike.young@adelaide.edu.au
18. Ellen Hanak	hanak@ppic.org
19. Marcello Torres	motorres@hotmail.com.br
20. James Murphy	murphy@uaa.alaska.edu
21. Greg Charaklis	charack@email.unc.edu
22. Dan Sumner	dan@primal.ucdavis.edu
23. Jim Wilen	wilen@primal.ucdavis.edu
24. Mark Rosegrant	m.rosegrant@cgiar.org
25. Ali Taghavi	ATaghavi@rmcwater.com
26. Bruno Henry de Frahan	Bruno.Henrydefrahan@uclouvain.be
27. Marc Carey	marc.carey@state.co.us
28. Richard Adams	richard.adams@oregonstate.edu
29. Lee Garoyan	lgaroyan@att.net
30. Colin Carter	cacarter@ucdavis.edu
31. Julian Alston	julian@primal.ucdavis.edu
32. Peter Berck	pberck@berkeley.edu
33. Lorena Danessi	l.danessi@cgiar.org
34. Quirino Paris	fzparis@ucdavis.edu
35. Dalia Ghanem	dghanem@ucdavis.edu
36. Cynthia Lin Lawell	cclin@primal.ucdavis.edu
37. L S Jarvis	jarvis@primal.ucdavis.edu
38. Mimako Kobayashi	mkobayashi@worldbank.org
39. Xiaomeng Cui	ecui@ucdavis.edu
40. L J (Bees) Butler	butler@primal.ucdavis.edu