

# Study on Broadband Penetration

Prof. Ryszard Struzak, NIT PL



# Studies

## — Poland

- Rozwój szerokopasmowego internetu w Polsce – trendy i granice wzrostu; TiTI Nr. 1-2/ 2009, pp. 38-48

## — EU

- Broadband Internet in EU Countries: Limits to Growth; IEEE Communications Magazine, April 2010, pp. 53-57
- Diffusion of Broadband Services: An Empirical Study; IEEE Communications Magazine, August 2012, pp. 129-134

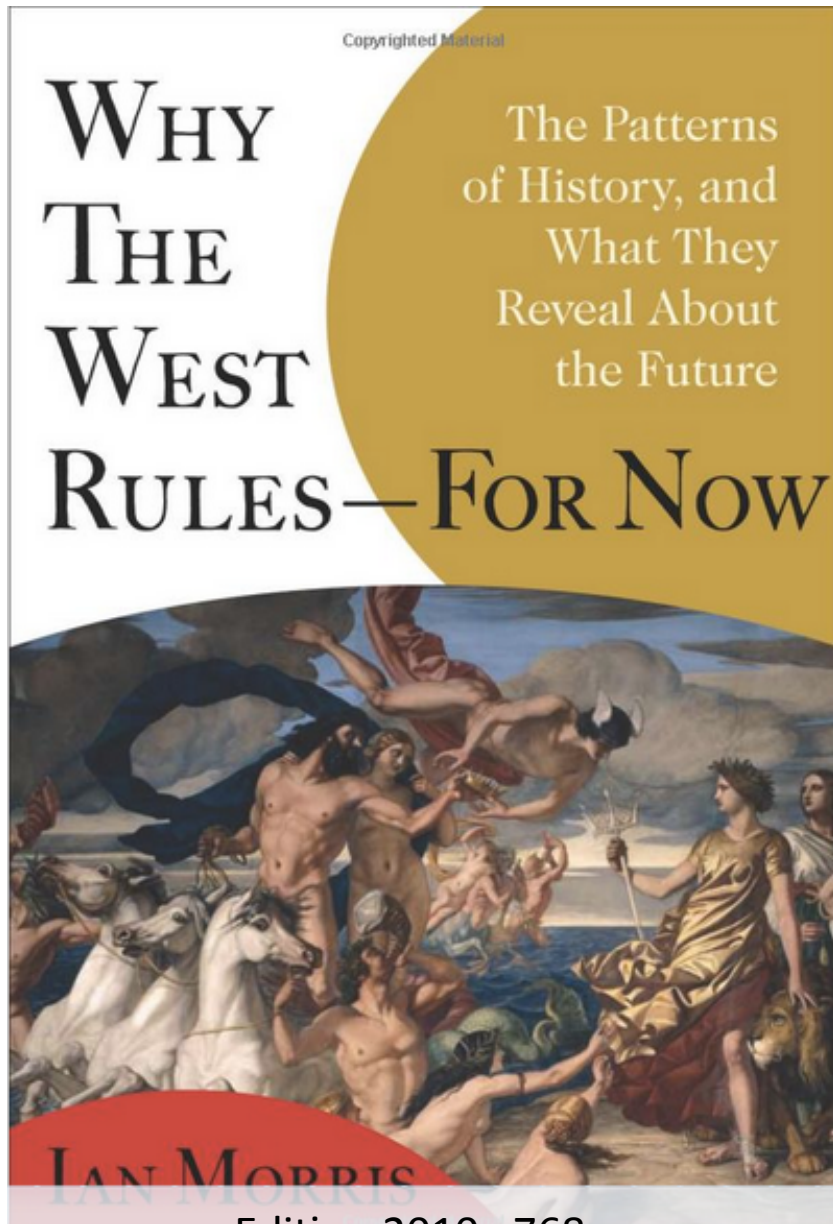
## — OECD

- Perspectives of Household Internet in 35 Countries; Proc. of XXVIII National Symposium on Telecommunications and Tele Informatics, Warsaw 12-14 September 2012 (KSTiT 2012)

- Beware of misprints! These materials are preliminary notes intended for my lectures only and may contain misprints.
- Feedback is welcome: if you notice faults, or you have improvement suggestions, please let me know.
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# Outline

- Introduction
- Models
- Application examples
- Summary



Edition 2010, 768 pp.



Ian M. Morris (1960 - )

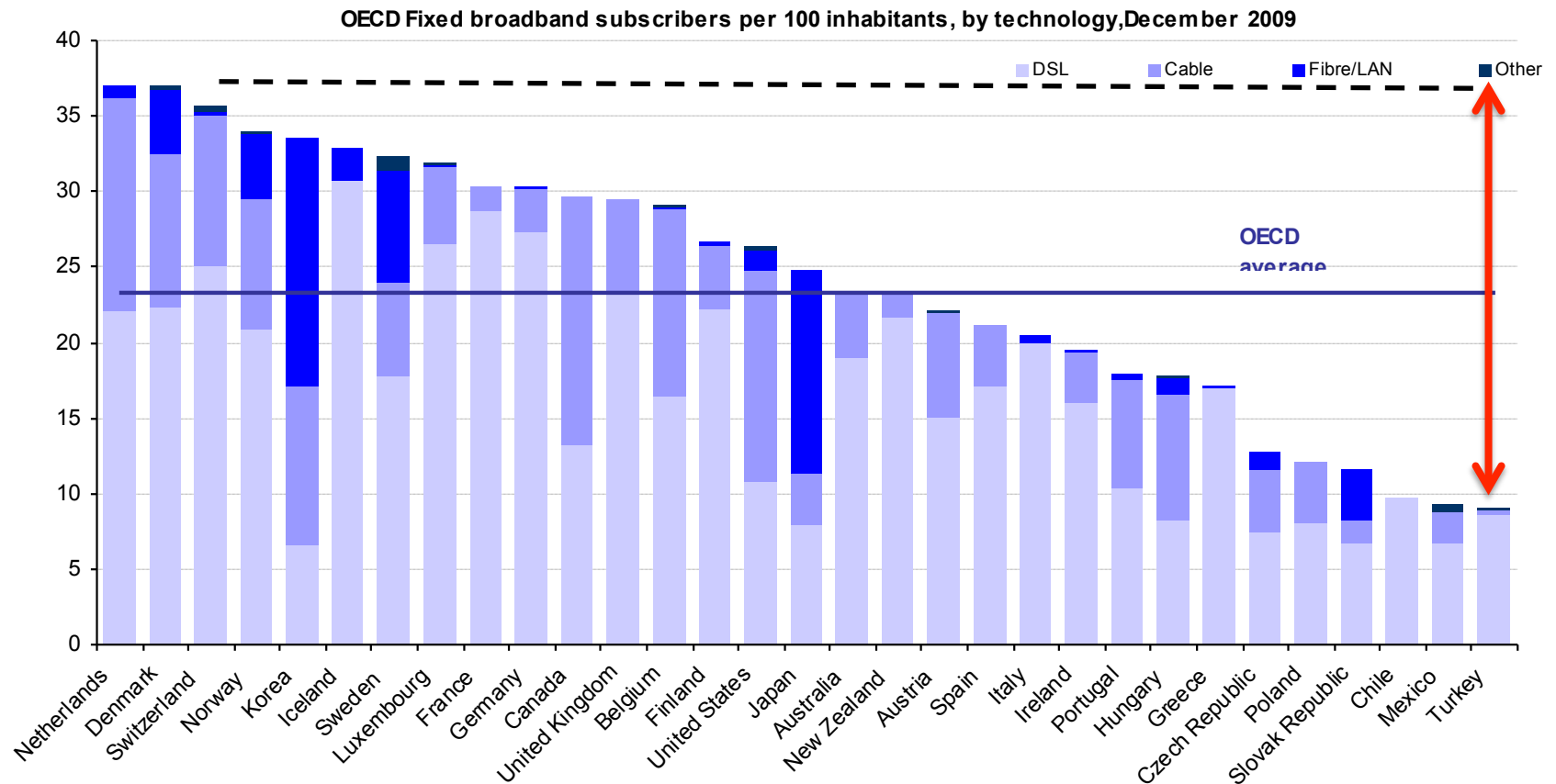
- ... during the next 50 years the socio-technological development of humanity will be 2 times greater than during the previous 15 000 years ...
- ... in the next 50 years it will double again ...
- ... the XXI century will assure immediate access to all information and knowledge gathered on the Earth till now ...

- ... their brains will be interconnected with a gigantic computer and their capacity will be billions times greater than the total computing power of all brains and computers today ...

# Geography



# Bb. penetration rate in OECD (2010)

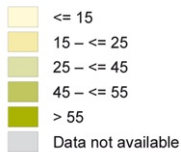


Source: OECD (Jan 2010)

# E-commerce

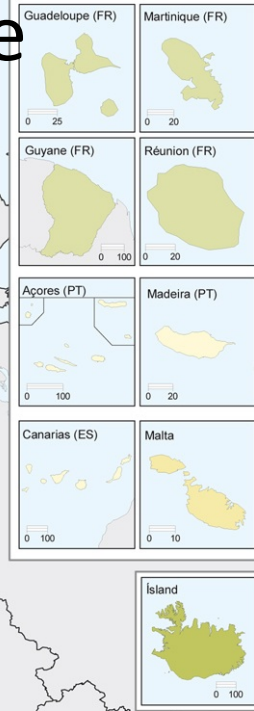
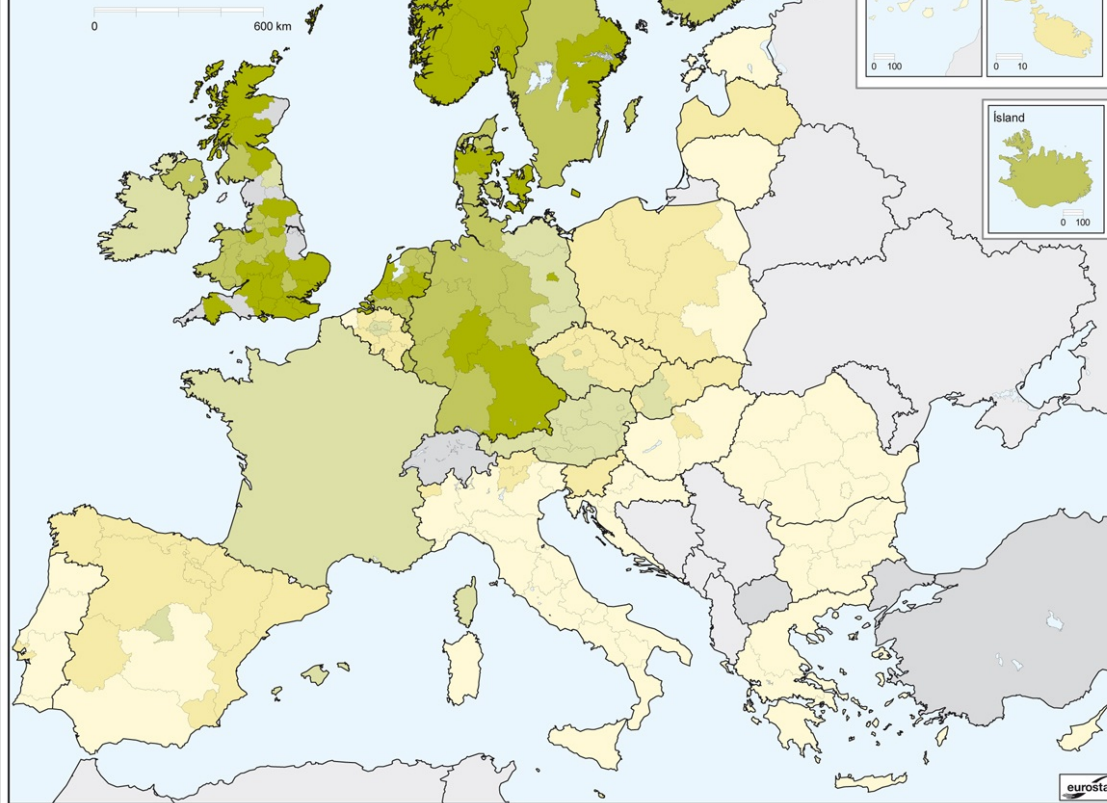
## E-commerce by private persons, by NUTS 2 regions, 2008

Percentage of persons who ordered goods or services,  
over the Internet, for private use, in the last year



DE, EL, HU, PL, SE: by NUTS 1 regions  
IE, FR, SI: national level  
FI: FI20 combined with FI19

Data source: Eurostat  
© EuroGeographics Association, for the administrative boundaries  
Cartography: Eurostat — GISCO, 06/2009



Popularity of  
broadband services  
varies among the  
lowest administrative  
units

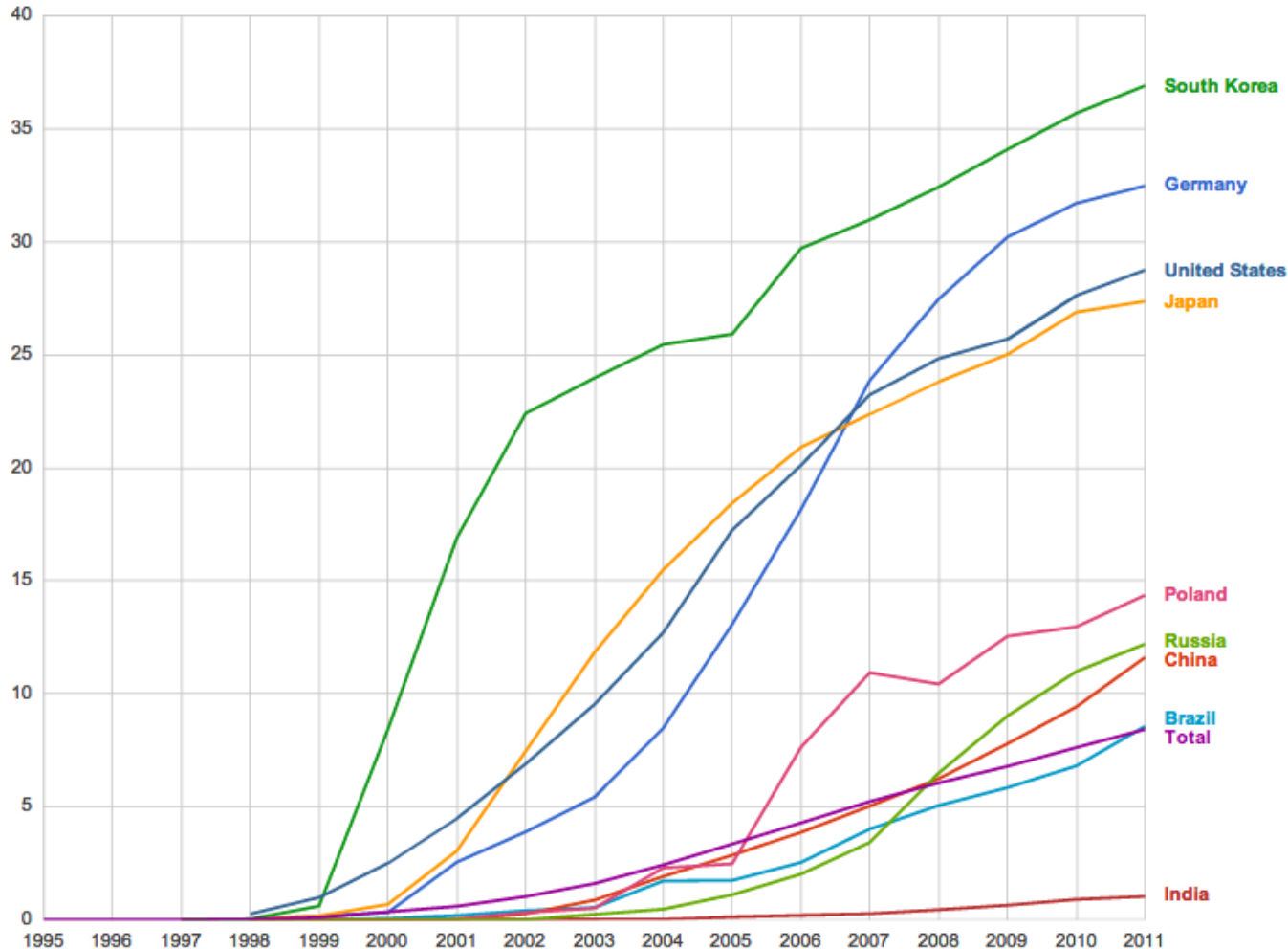
The aid is not  
distributed following  
reasonable and  
transparent rules

Models could help

Time

# Fixed (wired)-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants

(Source: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/statistics/explorer/index.html>; accessed 1 September 2012)



Broadband services are relatively new

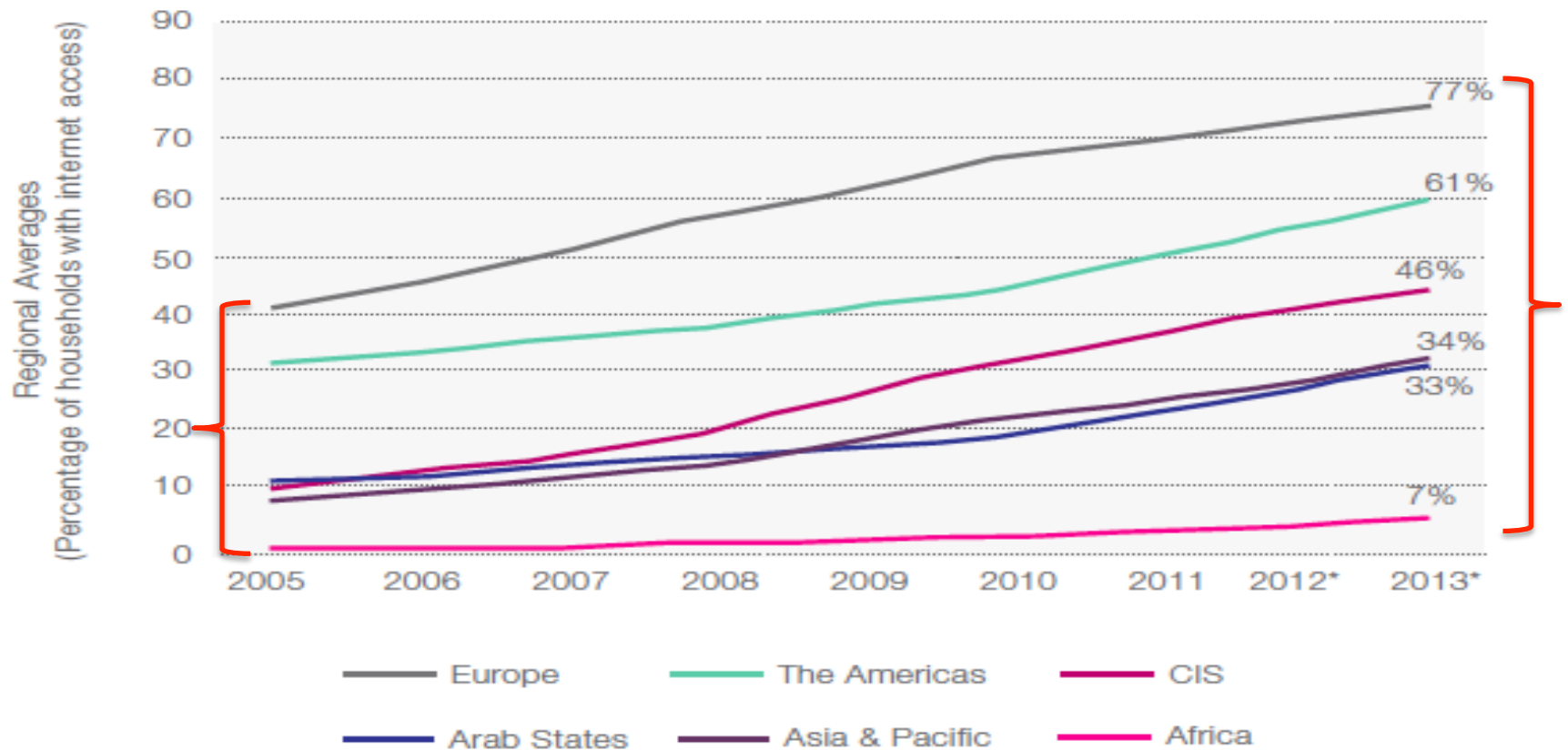
Free-market produces diversity

How long the “digital gaps” will continue?

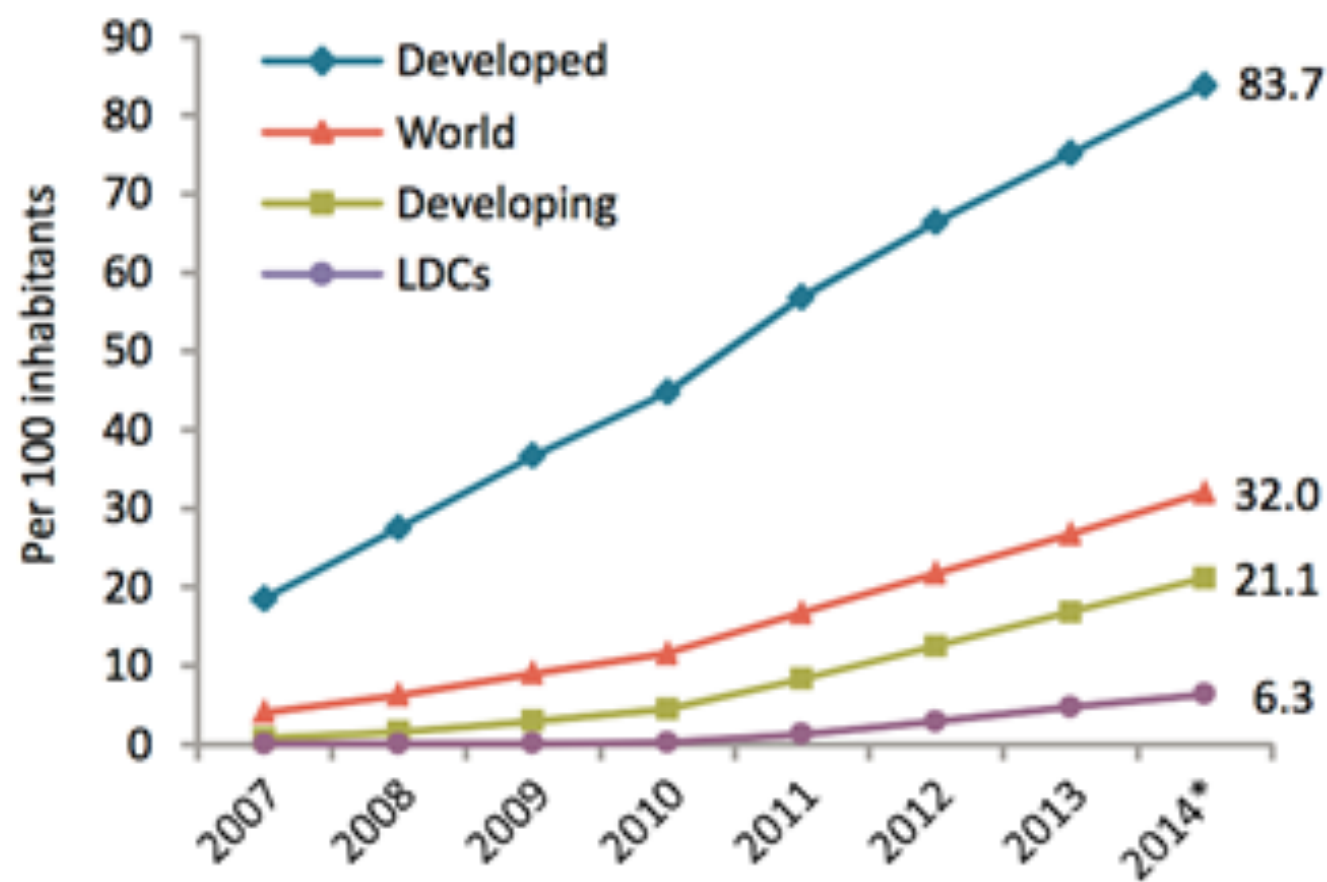
Are they reducible?

# Households with Internet Access (2005-2013)

## Regional Averages



Source: The State of Broadband 2013: Universalizing Broadband. A report by the Broadband Commission, ITU & UNESCO Sept. 2013 (T.3)



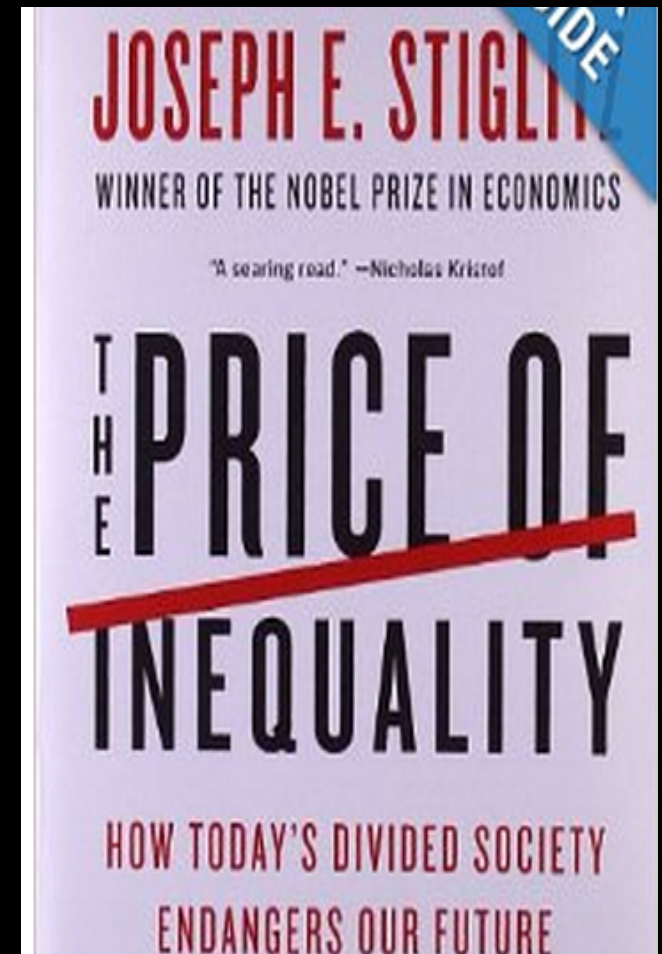
- Will the gaps ever vanish?
- As the raw statistical data do not directly answer this intriguing question, I proposed a simple approach that leads to a reasonable answer – via a mathematical model

- The growth of the Information Society and Internet diffusion can be compared to a course of virtual illness, where infected people become Internet users.
- In case of real diseases we would like to be all 100 percent immune; hence vaccinations and other preventive measures.



- With Internet diffusion the aim of governmental policies is to have 100 % of the population “infected”.
- In studying diseases differential equations have been successfully used, but such an approach cannot be applied to Internet because of the lack of necessary data.
  - M. Keeling: “The Mathematics of Diseases” Plus Mag., Mar. 2001, p. 3–8.

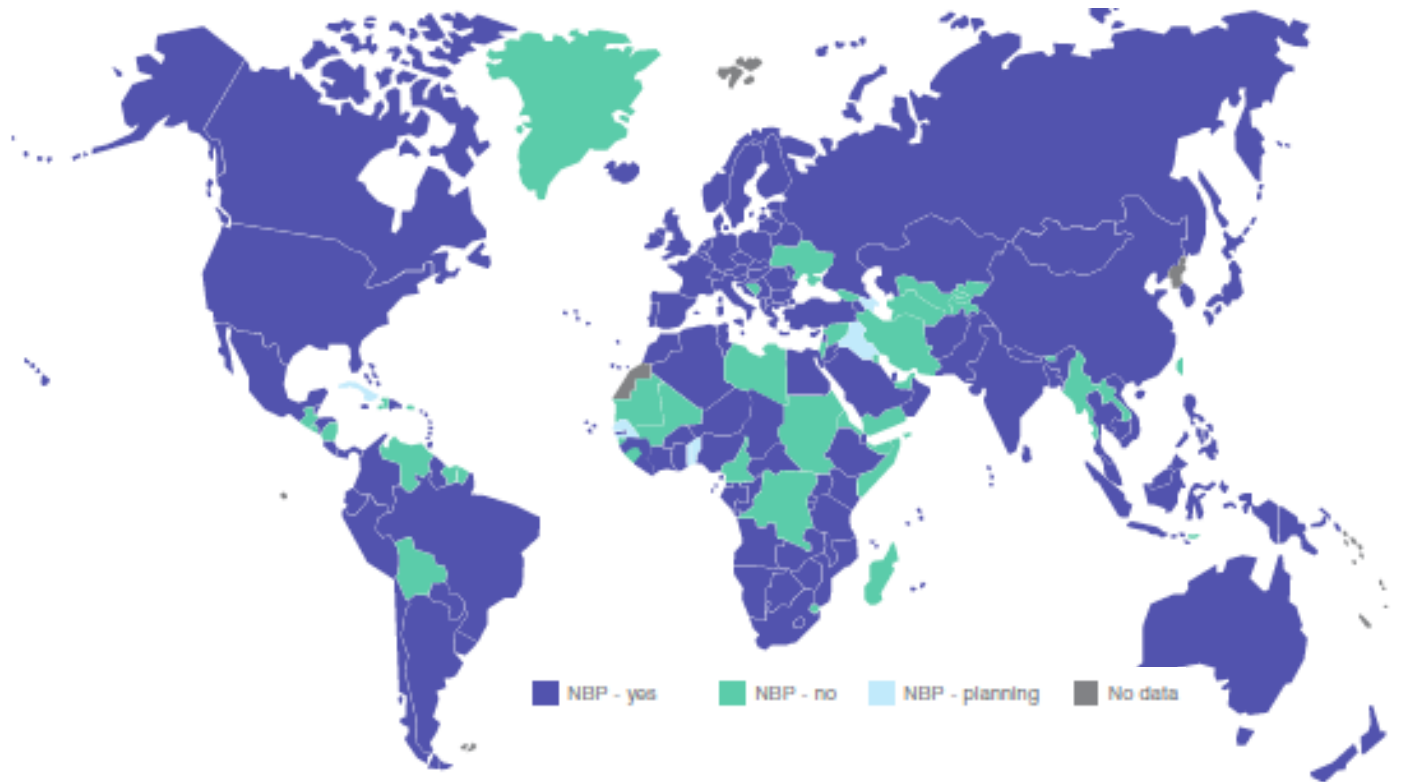
- “Everyone, everywhere should have the opportunity to participate
- ... no one should be excluded from the benefits of the Information Society offers.”
  - The WSIS Declaration of Principles, 2003, item #4



# OECD Council recommends:

- *“Governments should focus [...] on improving [...] analysis to better understand new usage trends, their impacts on the economy and society as well as policy.”* OECD Publications (2008); ISBN 978-92-64-04668-9-No. 56221
- National Broadband Plans are under discussions
  - Plans ignore the inherent limits to growth

# National Broadband Plans (2013)



Source: The State of Broadband 2013: Universalizing Broadband - A report by the Broadband Commission, September 2013

Broadband Commission: by 2015, Internet user penetration should reach 60% worldwide, 50% in developing countries and 15% in LDCs.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_broadband\\_plans\\_from\\_around\\_the\\_world](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_broadband_plans_from_around_the_world)

# THE STATE OF BROADBAND 2013: UNIVERSALIZING BROADBAND

A REPORT BY THE BROADBAND COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 2013



## UNESCO & ITU 2013

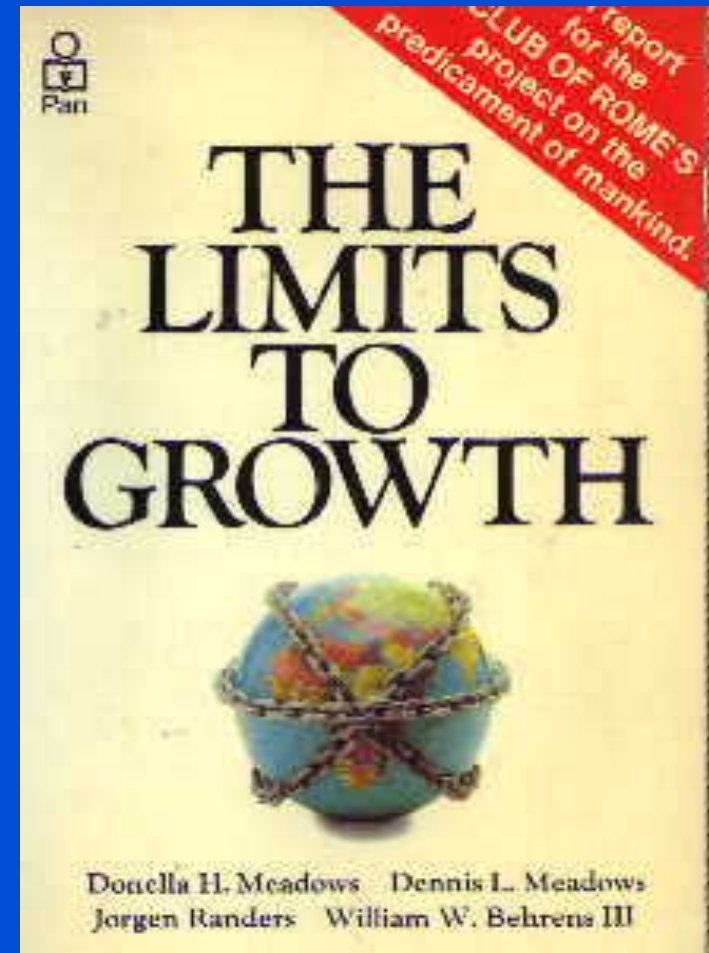
... broadband connectivity, services and applications are essential to modern society, offering widely recognized social and economic benefits.

... the Commission views broadband as a cluster of concepts: always on, high-capacity connectivity enabling combined provision of multiple services ...

[www.broadbandcommission.org/Reports](http://www.broadbandcommission.org/Reports)  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_broadband\\_plans\\_from\\_around\\_the\\_world](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_broadband_plans_from_around_the_world)

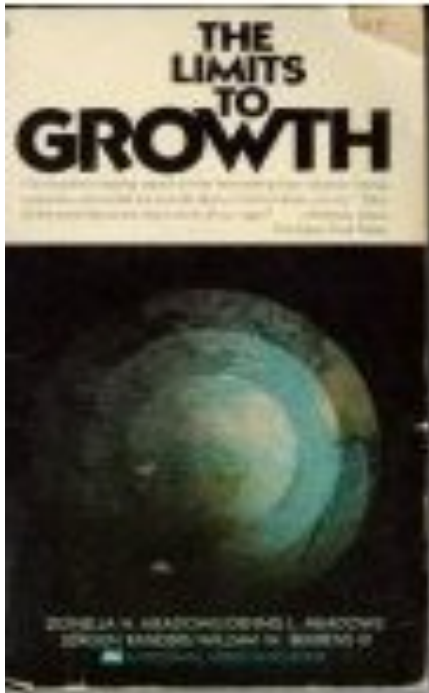
# Limits to growth

- Countries develop, but the digital divide increases faster
- Is there any natural limit?

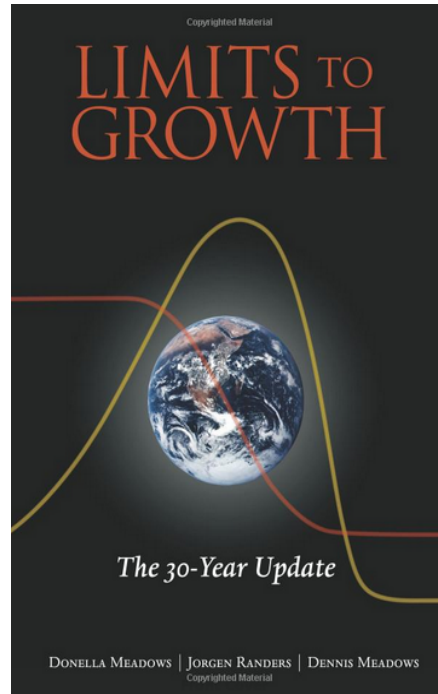


# Inherent limits to growth

Discussions on limits to growth have started in the 18<sup>th</sup> century (T. Malthus). Apparently the most popular publications are those of the “Club of Rome”



1972



2004

*“Once the limits to growth were far in the future. Now they are widely in evidence ...”*

# Consequences of ignoring the limits:

- Wrong targets
- Unrealizable projects
- Increased costs
  - due to delays and necessary corrections
- Frustrations
- Eroding confidence
  - in the competence of experts & politicians that propose (or endorse) such unrealizable projects

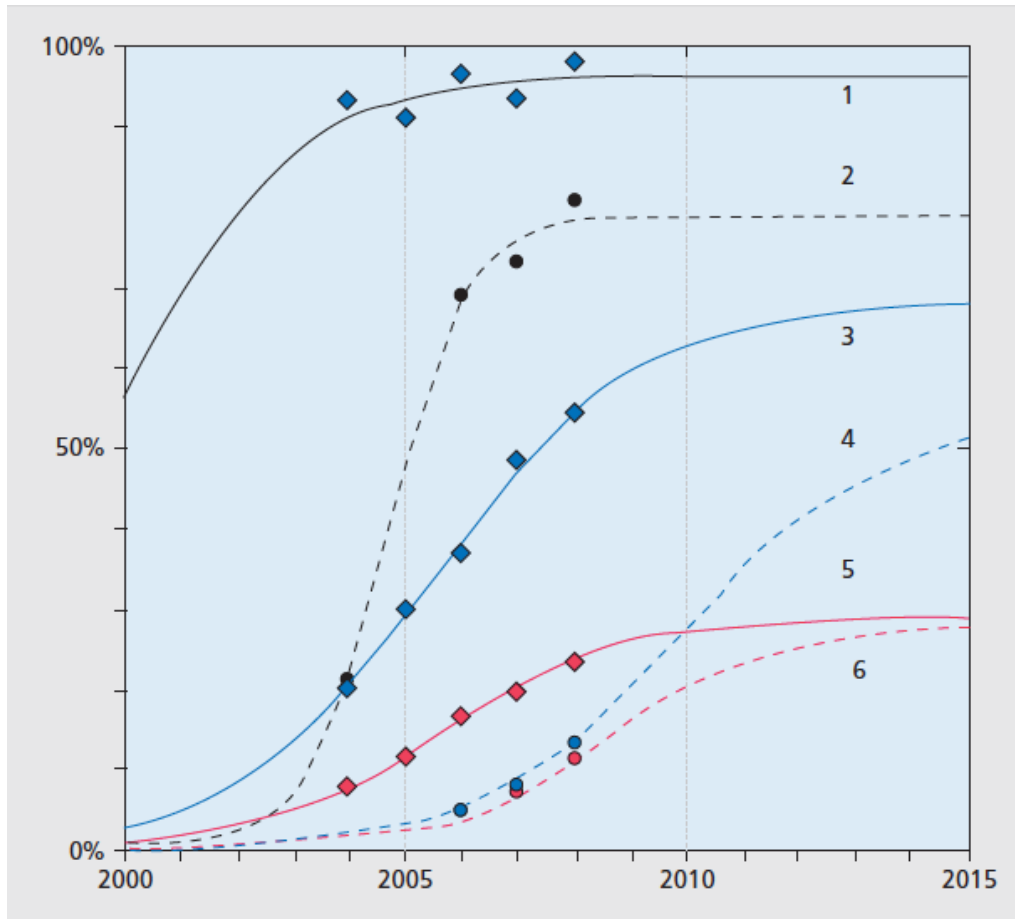


- Mathematically, Internet growth can be compared to
  - colonization of a host organism by a parasite
  - epidemic development of infectious disease, where pathogenes are transmitted from one person to another
  - growth of human population
    - Thomas Malthus (1776 – 1834)
    - Pierre Franois Verhulst (1804–1849) → Logistic Model

# Country data ingested

Australia	Finland	Latvia	Rep. of Korea
Austria	France	Lithuania	Romania
Belgium	Germany	Luxemburg	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Greece	Malta	Slovenia
Canada	Hungary	Mexico	Spain
Cyprus	Iceland	Netherlands	Sweden
Czech Rep.	Ireland	Norway	U. Kingdom
Denmark	Italy	Poland	United States
Estonia	Japan	Portugal	

# Bb Internet diffusion: Estonia vs. Romania



Estonia - continuous lines

Romania –

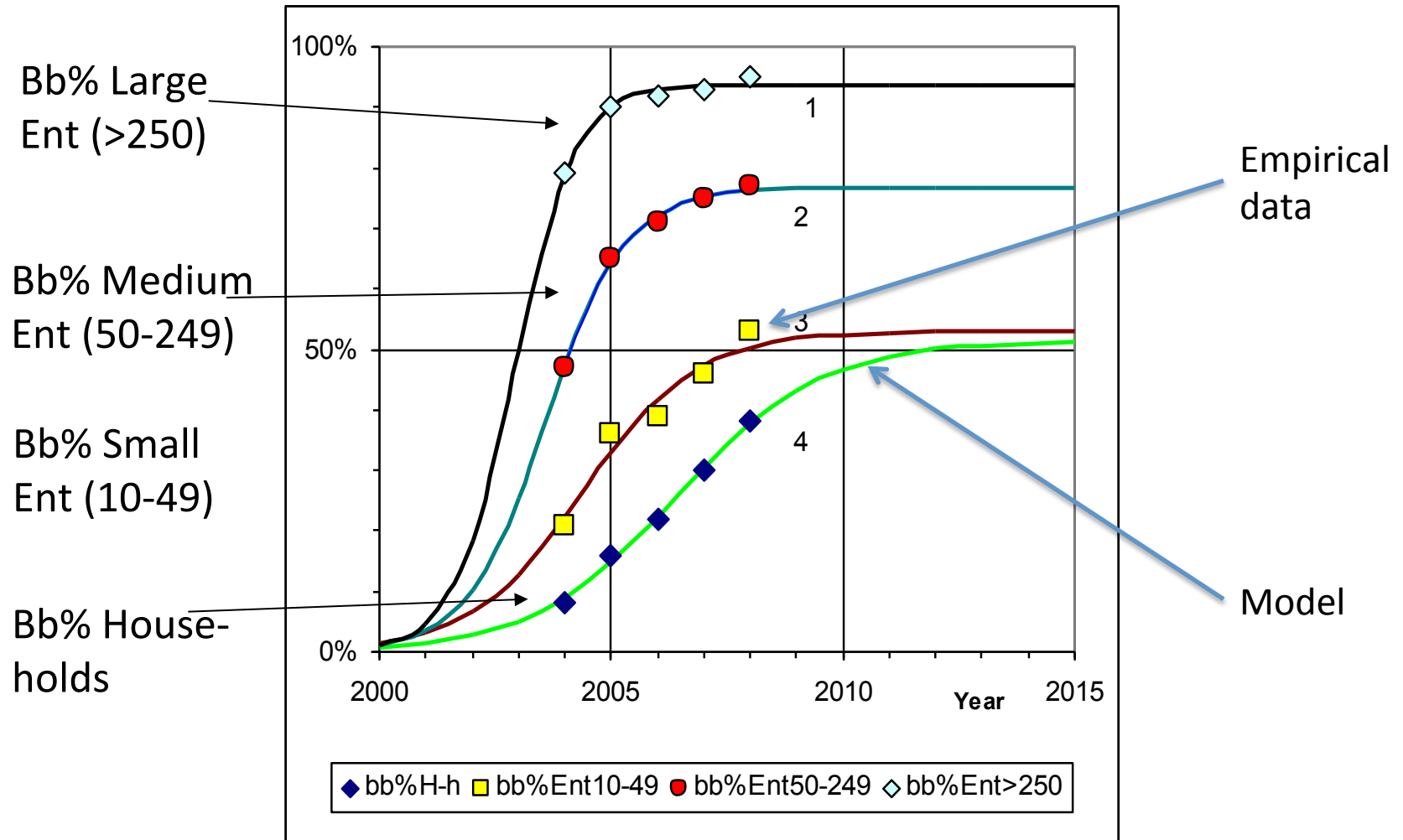
1 and 2: percentage of large enterprises connected to a broadband network;

3 and 4: percentage of households connected to a broadband network;

5 and 6: the penetration rate of broadband.

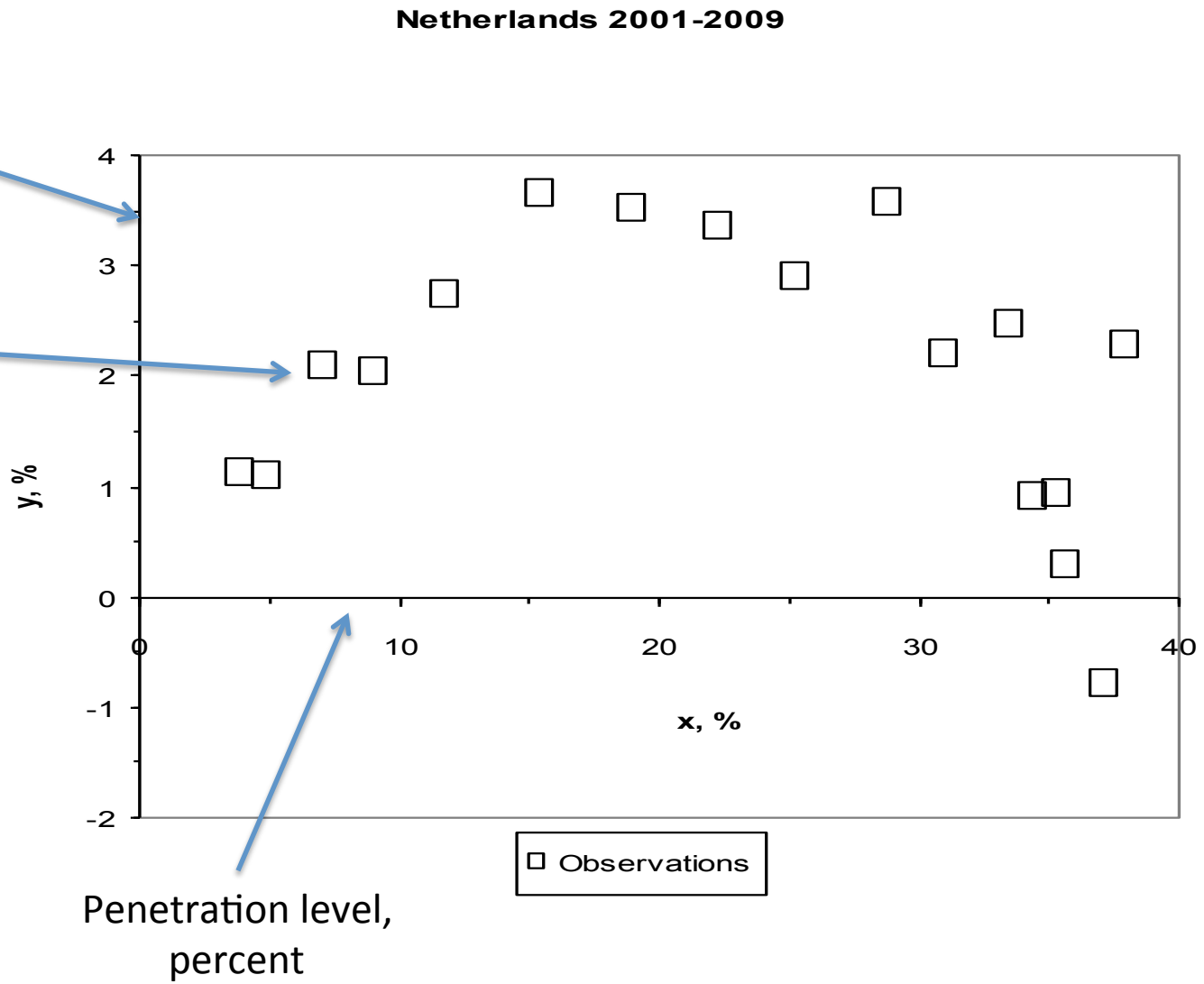
Source: R. Struzak, IEEE Comm. Mag. April 2010, pp. 53-57

# Inherent limits (PL 2000 – 2015)



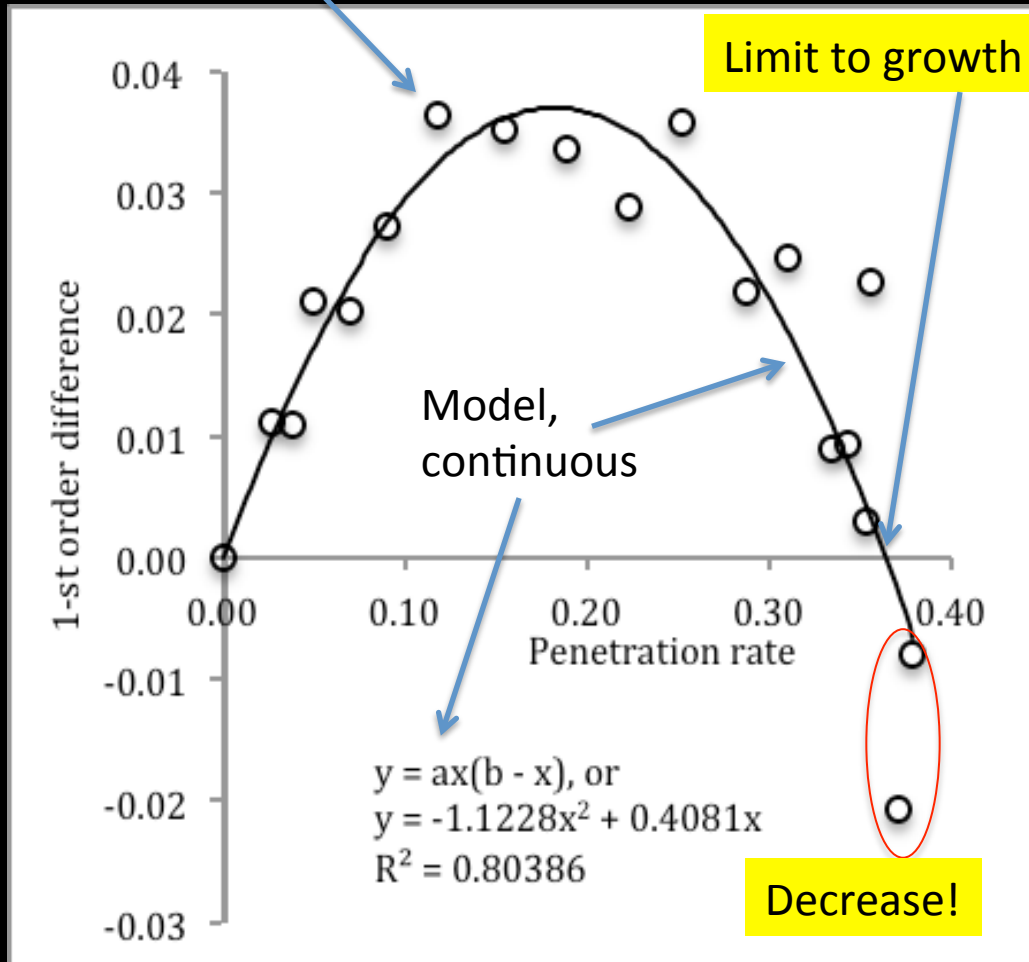
Yearly increment,  
percentage points

Emirical  
data  
points



# Penetration rate analysis (Netherlands 2000-2010)

Empirical data, discrete



$R^2$  (coeff. of determination) is a standard measure of the match between the model and observations

$R^2 = 1$ : the model perfectly matches the data and explains fully their variability.

$R^2 = 0$ : model and observation are completely unrelated.

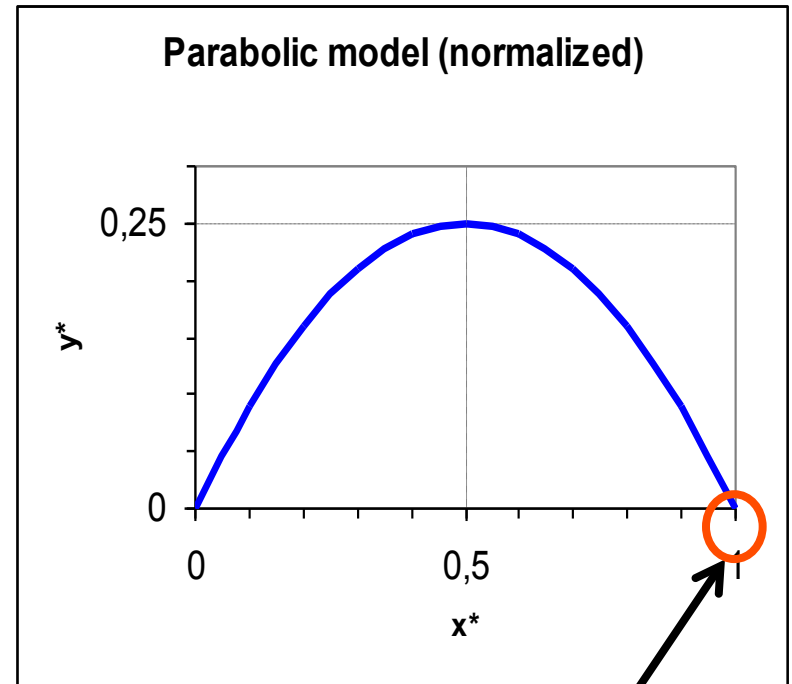
$0 < R^2 < 1$ : some observations do not fit the model.

# 1-st order differential & difference equations

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \approx \\ \frac{dx}{dt} \approx \end{array} \right\} = ax(b - ax)$$

After normalization:

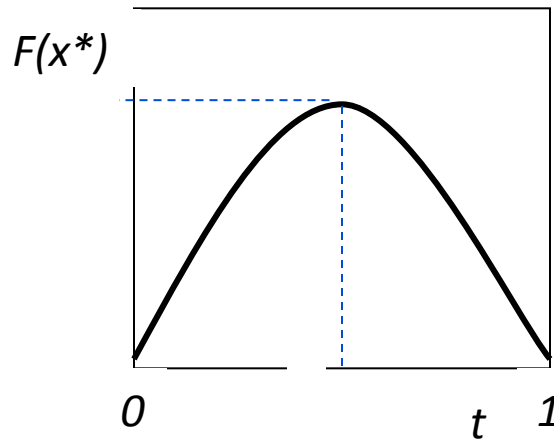
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\Delta x^*}{\Delta t} \approx \\ \frac{dx^*}{dt} \approx \end{array} \right\} = x^*(1 - x^*)$$



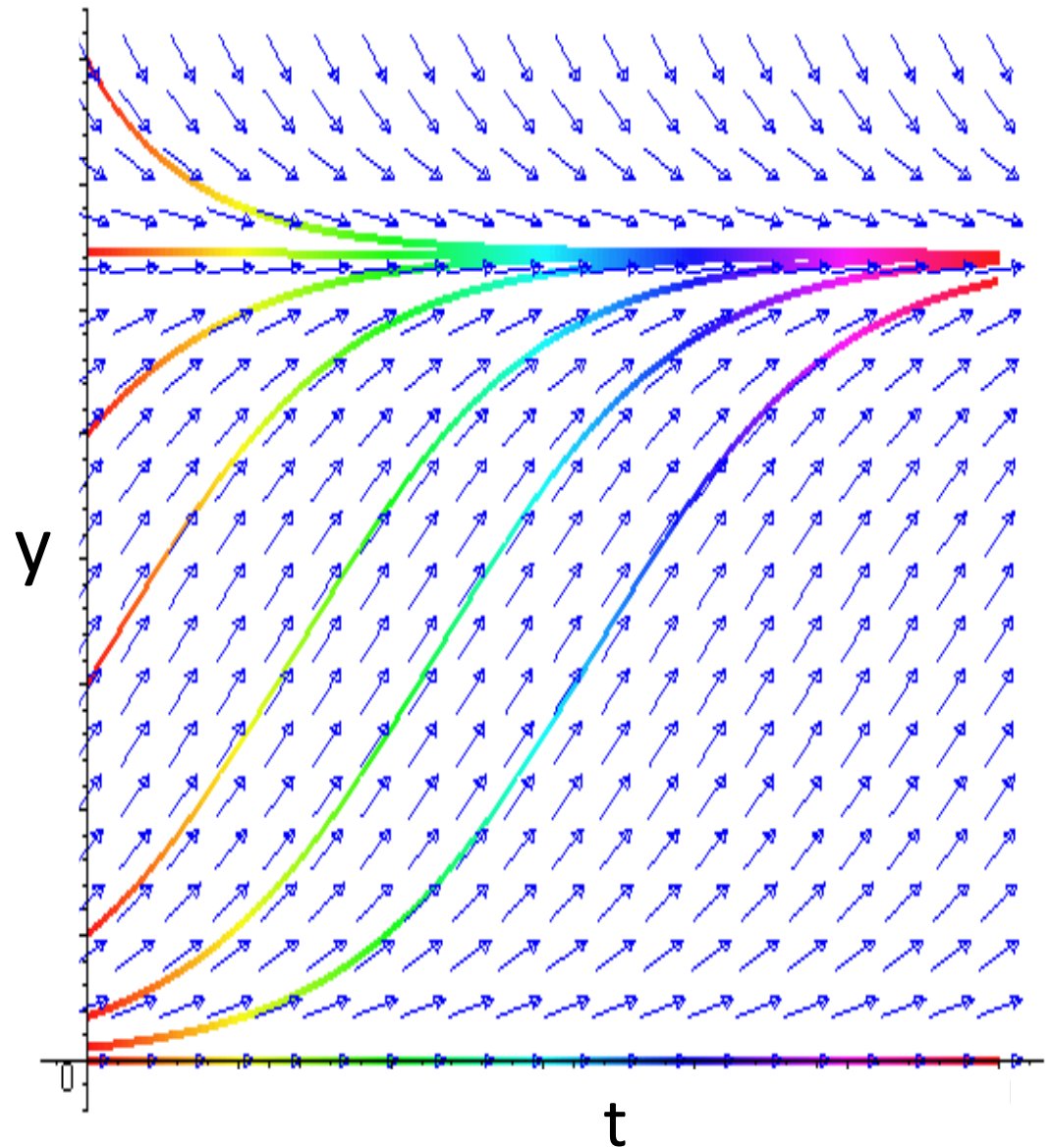
Limit to growth

$$\frac{dx^*}{dt} = f(x^*)$$

$$f(x^*) = y(1 - y)$$



$$y(t) = a \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-t)}$$





# Continuous model (normalized)

Differential equation:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(1 - x)$$

Continuous logistic model:

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-t)}$$

Difference equation:

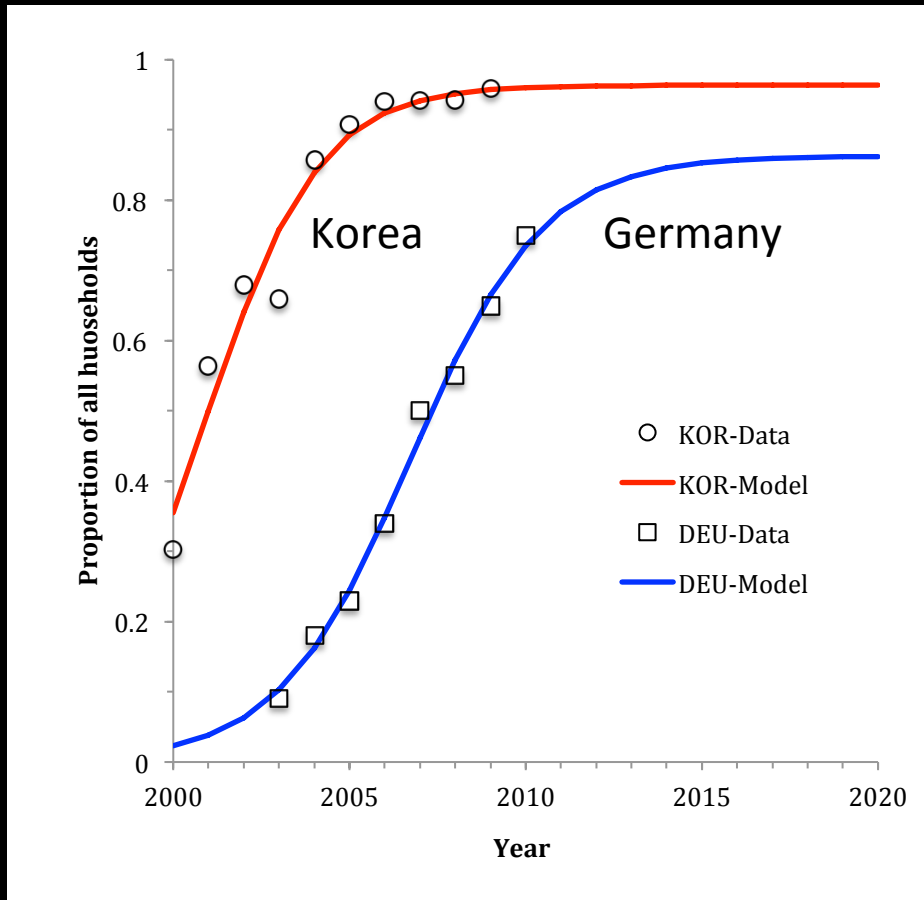
$$\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = x(1 - x)$$

Discrete logistic model:

$$x(t + \Delta t) = rx(t)[1 - x(t)]$$

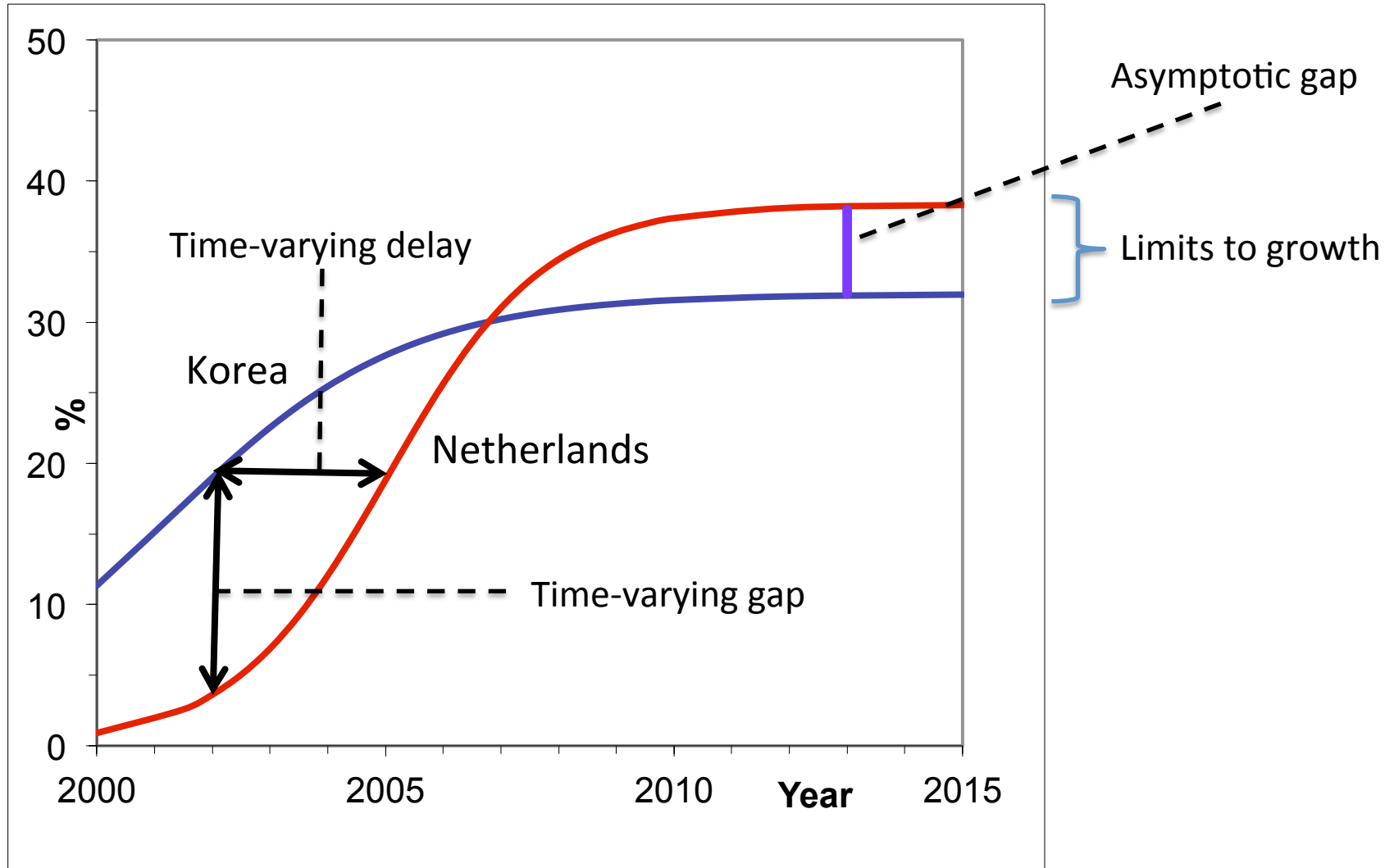
# Continuous models

$$x(t) = \frac{a}{1 + \exp[b(c - t)]}$$

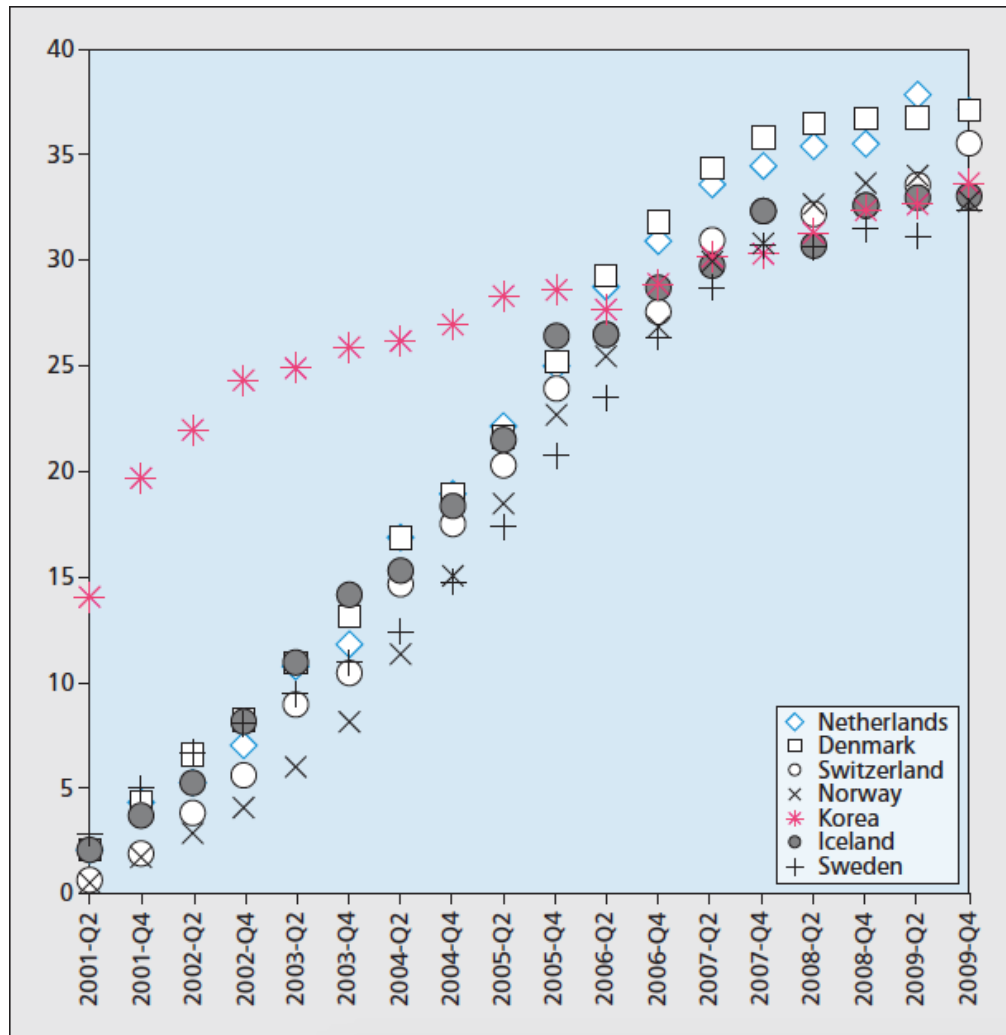


- Numerical values of  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  represent all the relevant factors: financial, technical, regulatory, cultural, etc.
- They are determined individually for each country

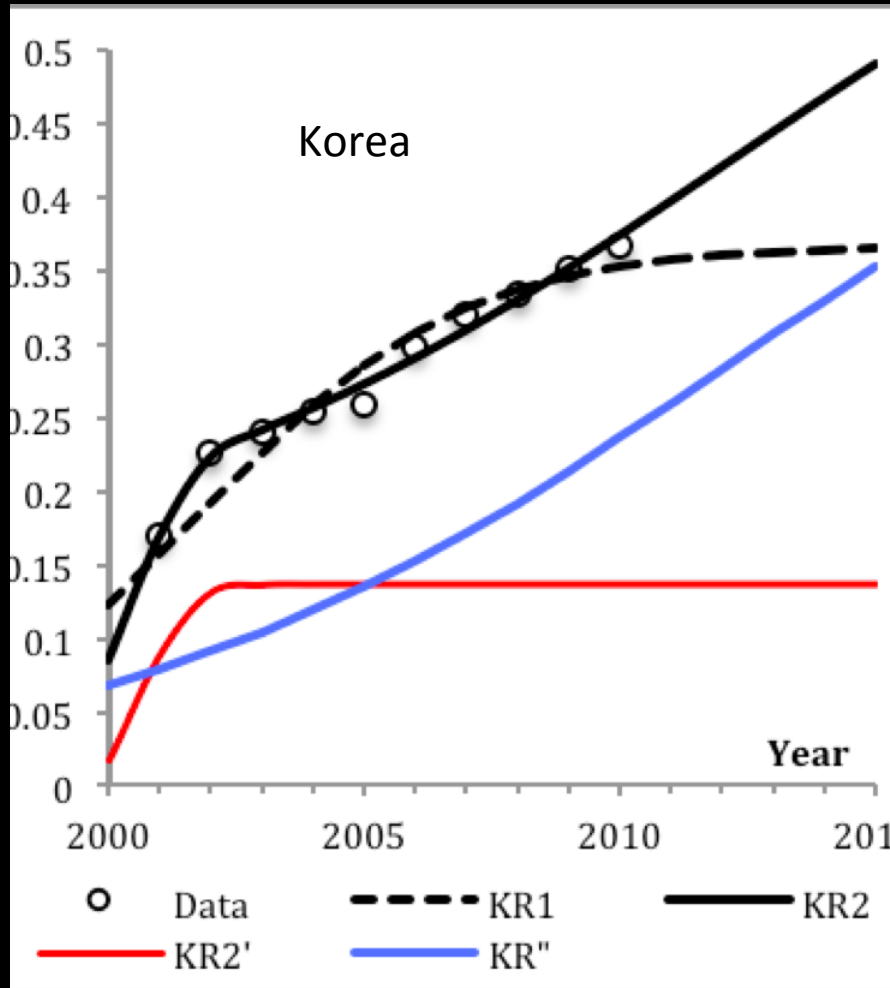
# Penetration models: delays & gaps



# Bb penetration in 7 countries



# Multiple logistic models



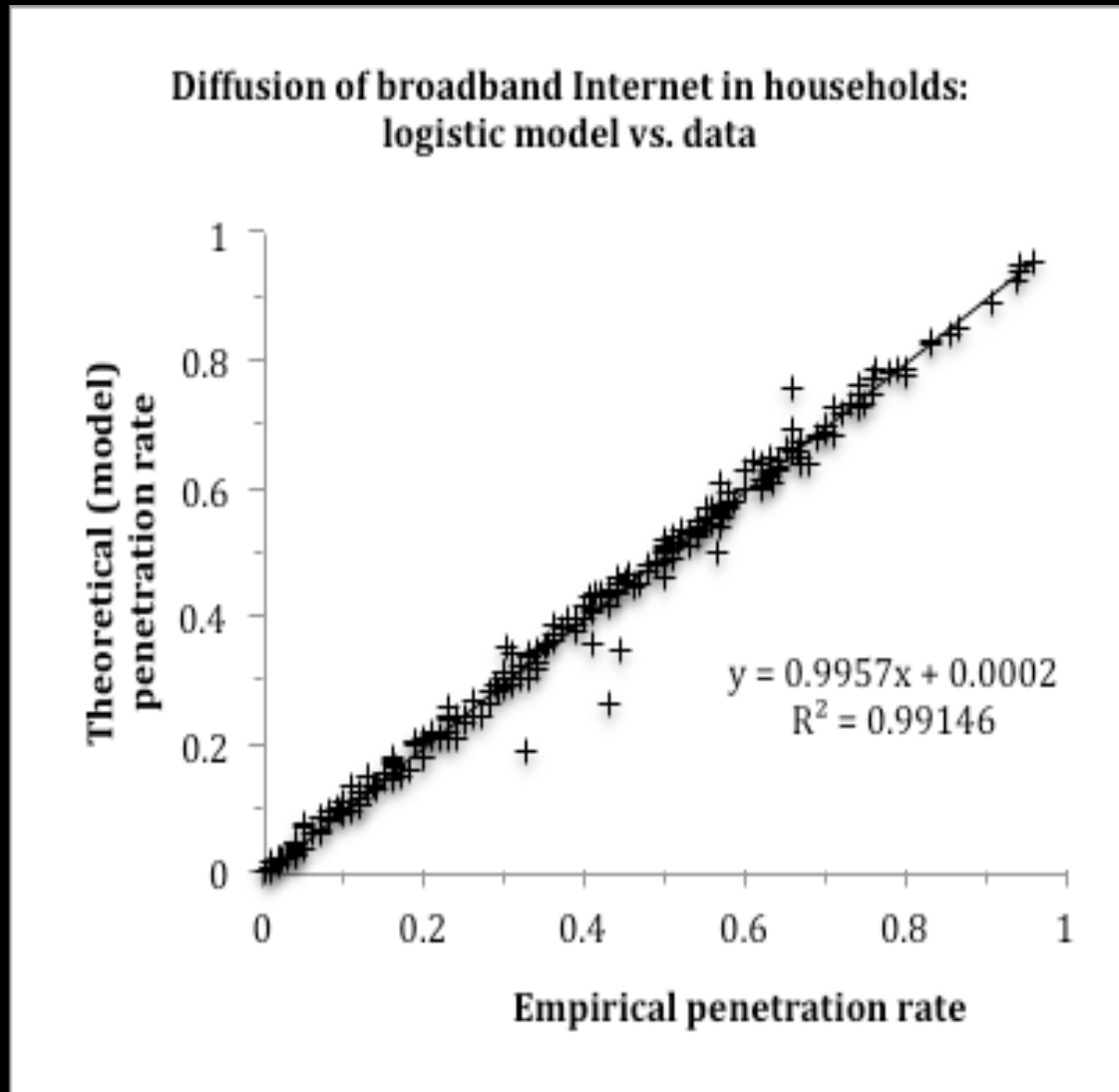
- The logistic function cannot approximate decreasing trends
- Two (or more) logistic functions can model both increasing and decreasing trends

$$p = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{a_i}{1 + \exp[b_i(c_i - t)]}$$

# Comparison of models and data

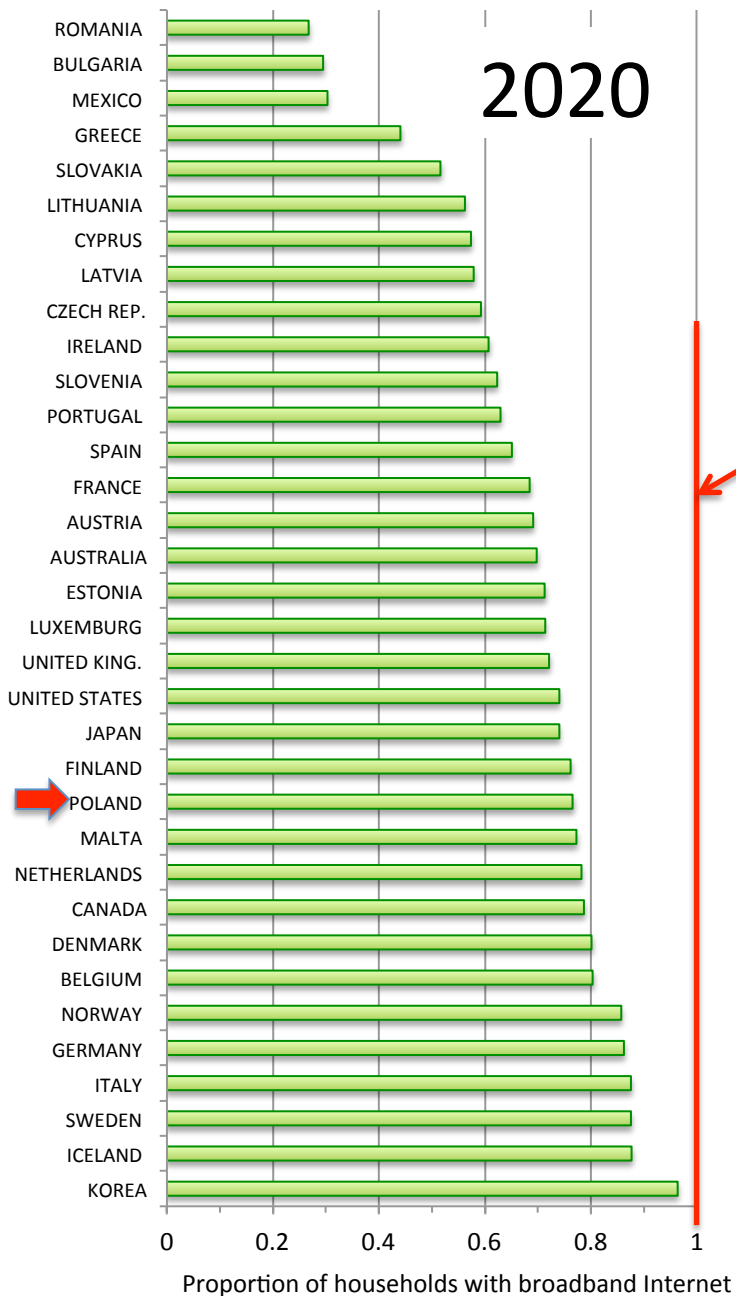
10 years  
35 countries  
240 data-points

The models match  
empirical data  
very well



# Outline

- Introduction
- Models
- **Application examples**
- Conclusions & Future work

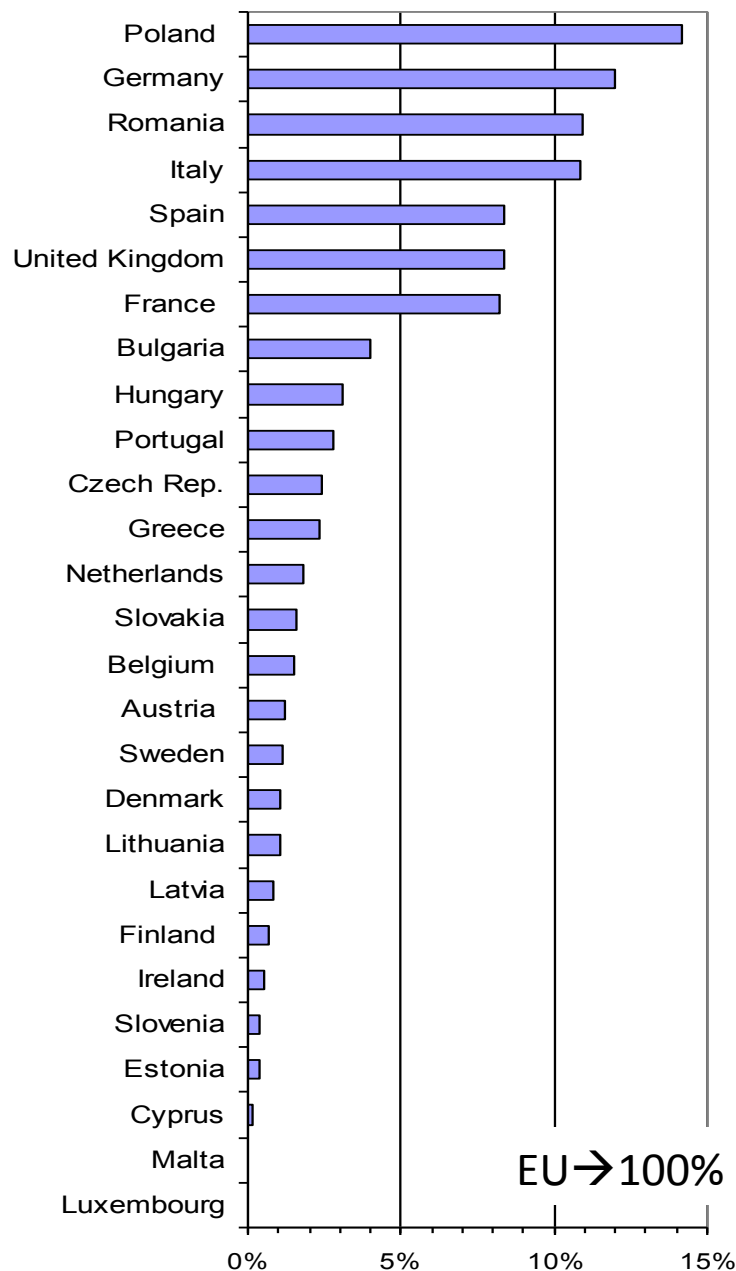


# EU target 2020

- The EU 2020 target: 100% of households (30 Mbytes/s)  
(and > 50% with 100 Mbytes/s.)
- No EU country can reach the target in present conditions  
(with the standard >256 kb/s.)
- The targets must be changed, or the free-market mechanism must be complemented by extra aid



# Distributing the EU aid



- Reaching an uniform penetration rate means diversified aid
- The models can help in the distribution of aid in a reasonable and just way

Source: R Struzak: „Broadband Internet in EU Countries: Limits to Growth”; IEEE Comms. Mag. Apr.2010

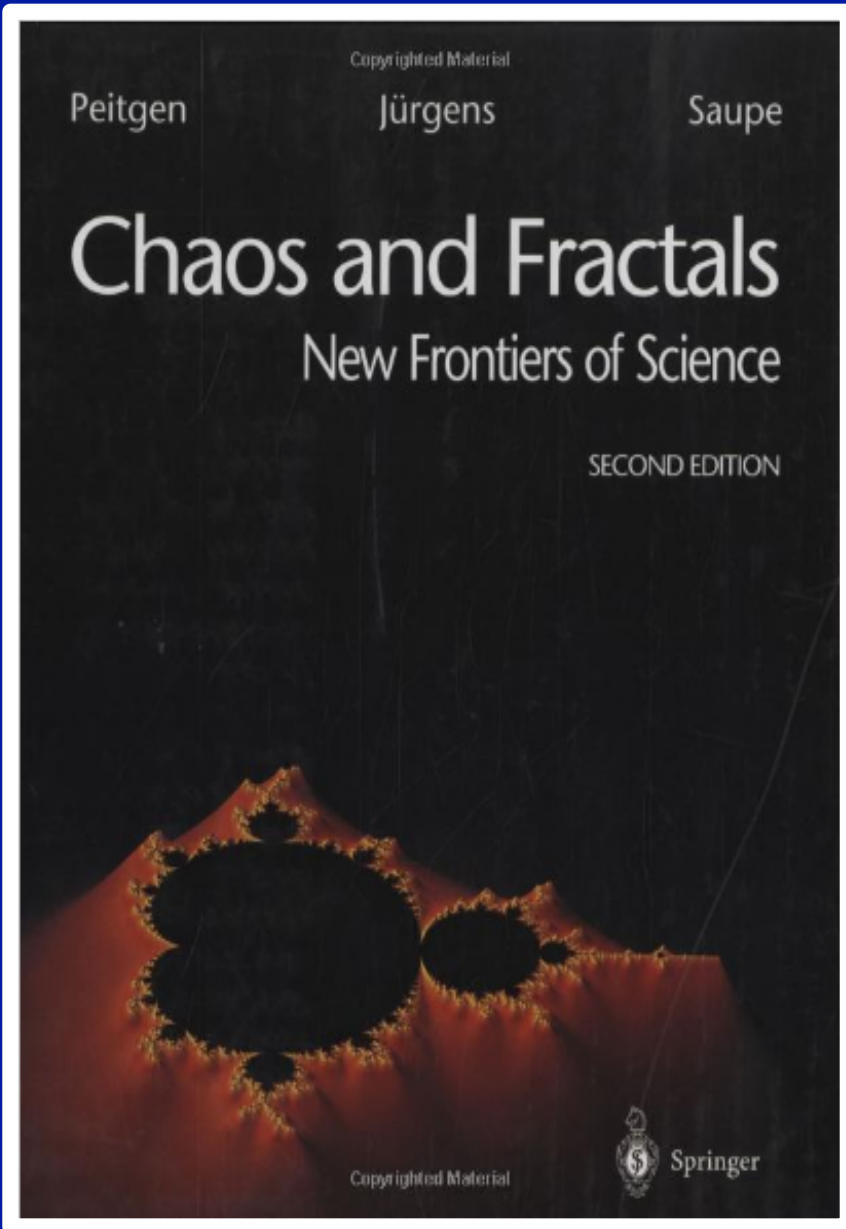
# Discrete Models (normalized)

Difference equation:

$$\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = x(1 - x)$$

Discrete logistic model:

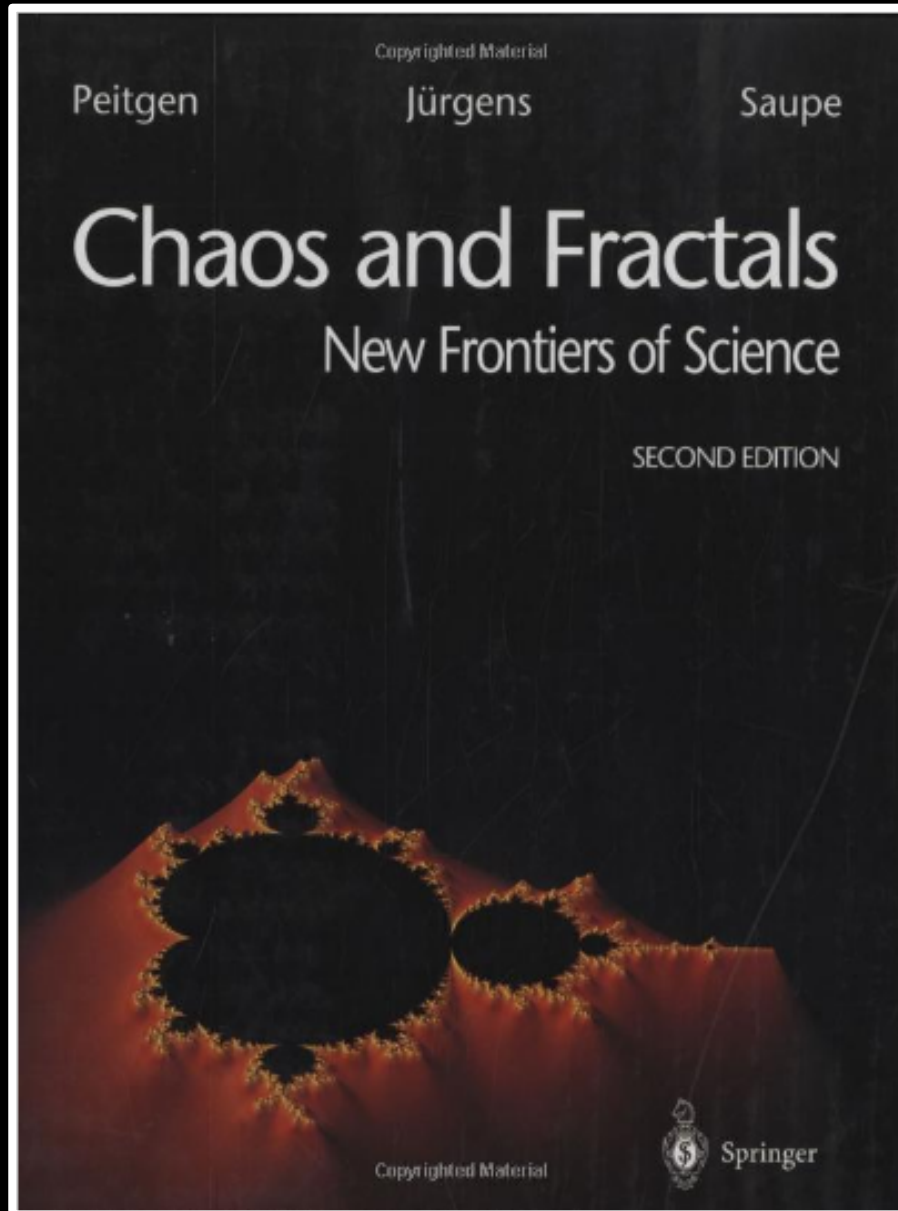
$$x(t + \Delta t) = rx(t)[1 - x(t)]$$



# Discrete model

$$x(t + \Delta t) = rx(t)[1 - x(t)]$$

- Finite difference (discrete) model, or logistic map may lead to monotonic, non-monotonic, periodic, or chaotic behavior, depending on “r”

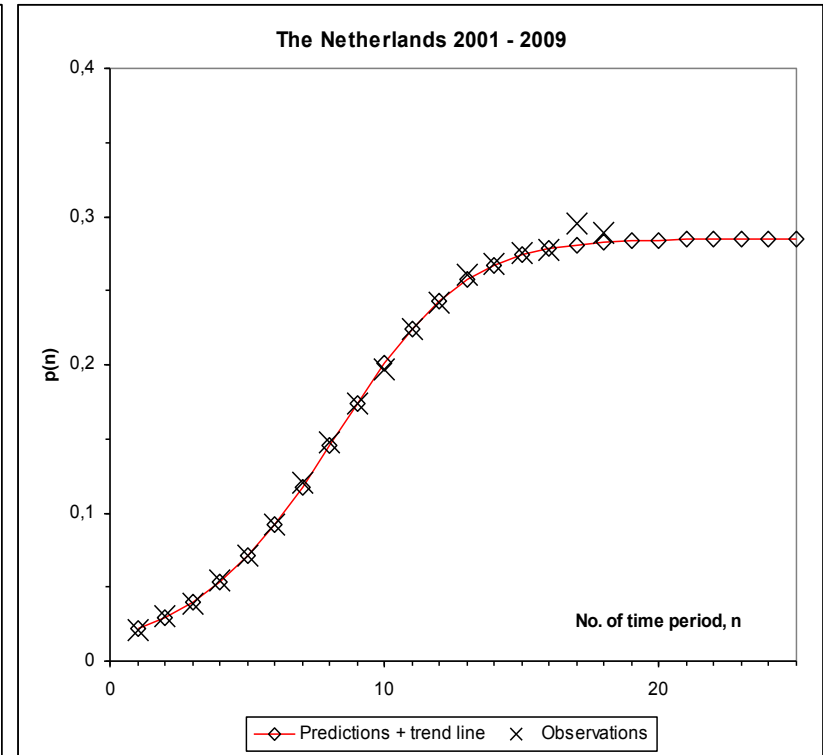
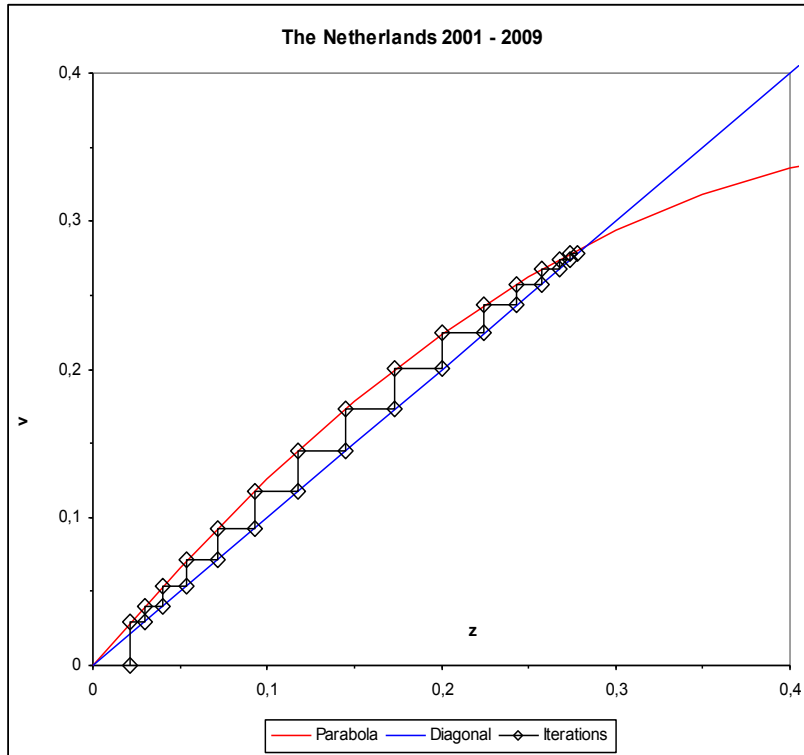


# Discrete models

$$x(t + \Delta t) = rx(t)[1 - x(t)]$$

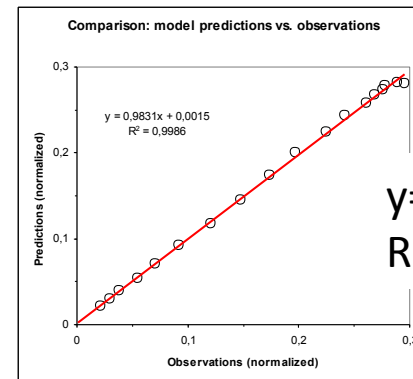
- Discrete logistic map may lead to chaotic behavior depending on “r”

# Discrete model: monotonic growth



$$z_n = \frac{a}{1+ab} p_n, \text{ or } p_n = \frac{1+ab}{a} z_n$$

$$z_{n+1} = r z_n (1 - z_n), \text{ with } r = (1 + ab)$$



$$y = 0,9831x + 0,0015$$

$$R^2 = 0,9986$$

# Discrete model: cyclic variations

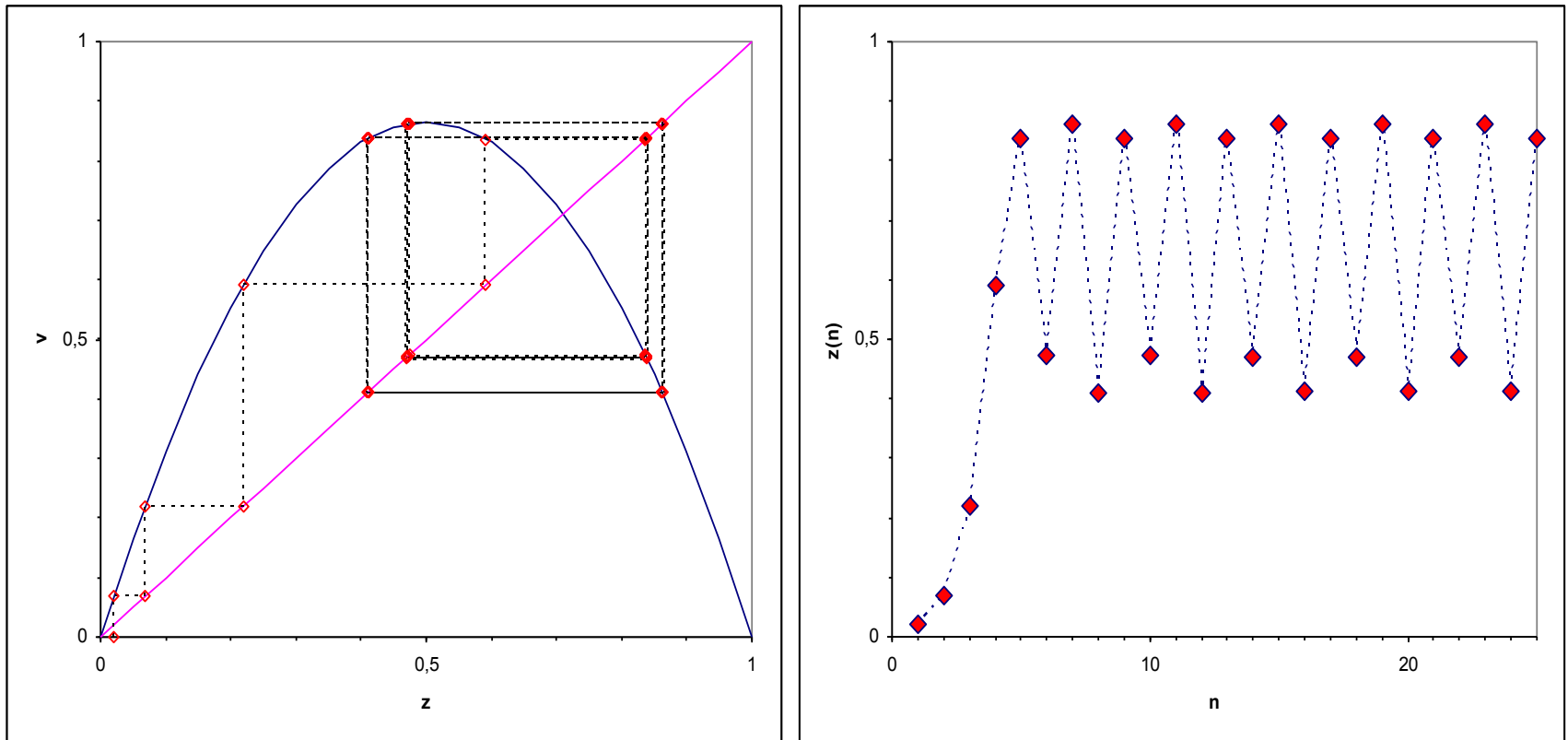


Figure 8. Left: Graphical iteration of relation (11) for  $z_0 = 0,02$  and  $r = 3,46$ . Right: Results of 25 iterations (left diagram) as time series.

# Discrete model: chaotic fluctuations

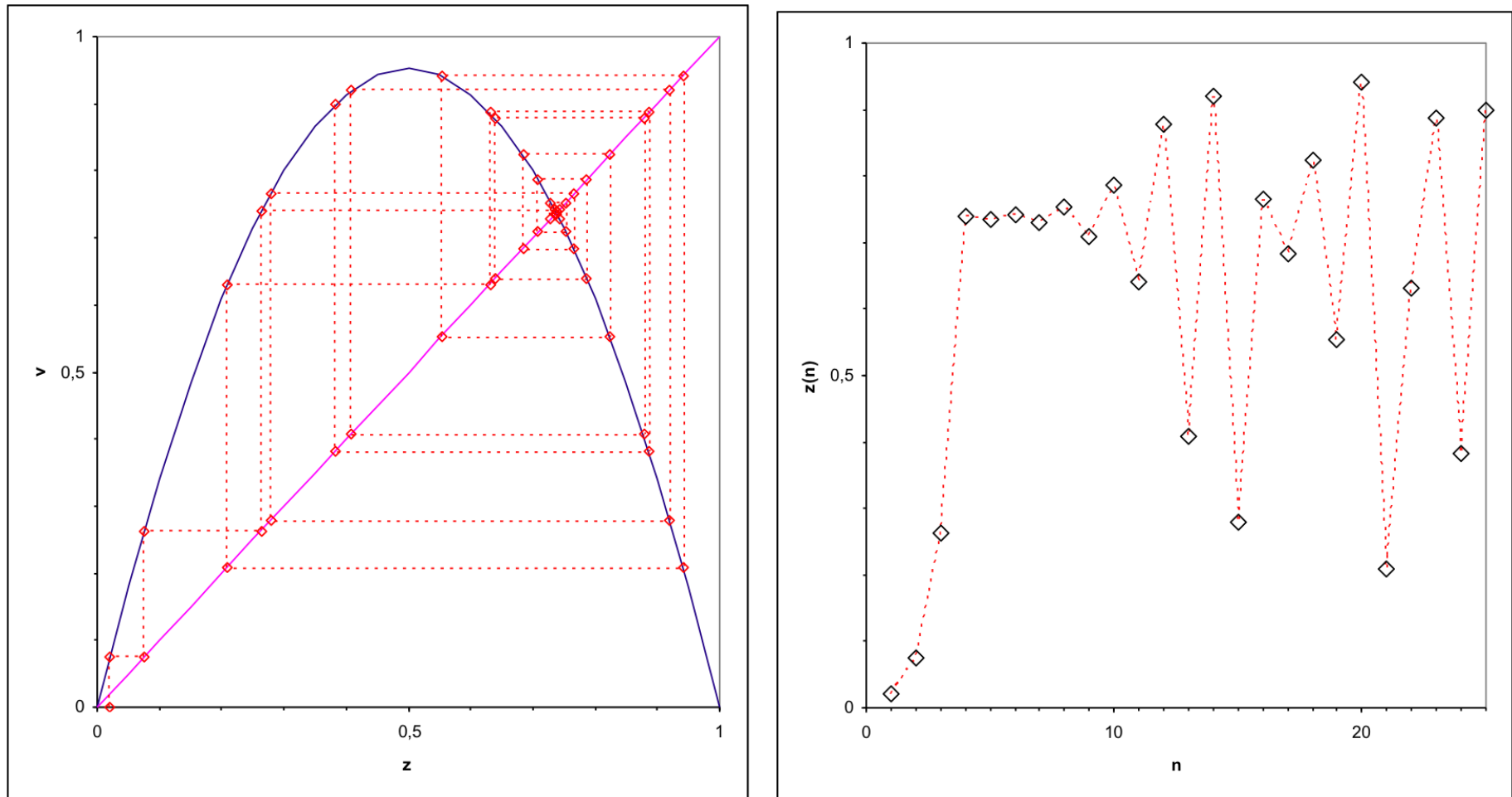
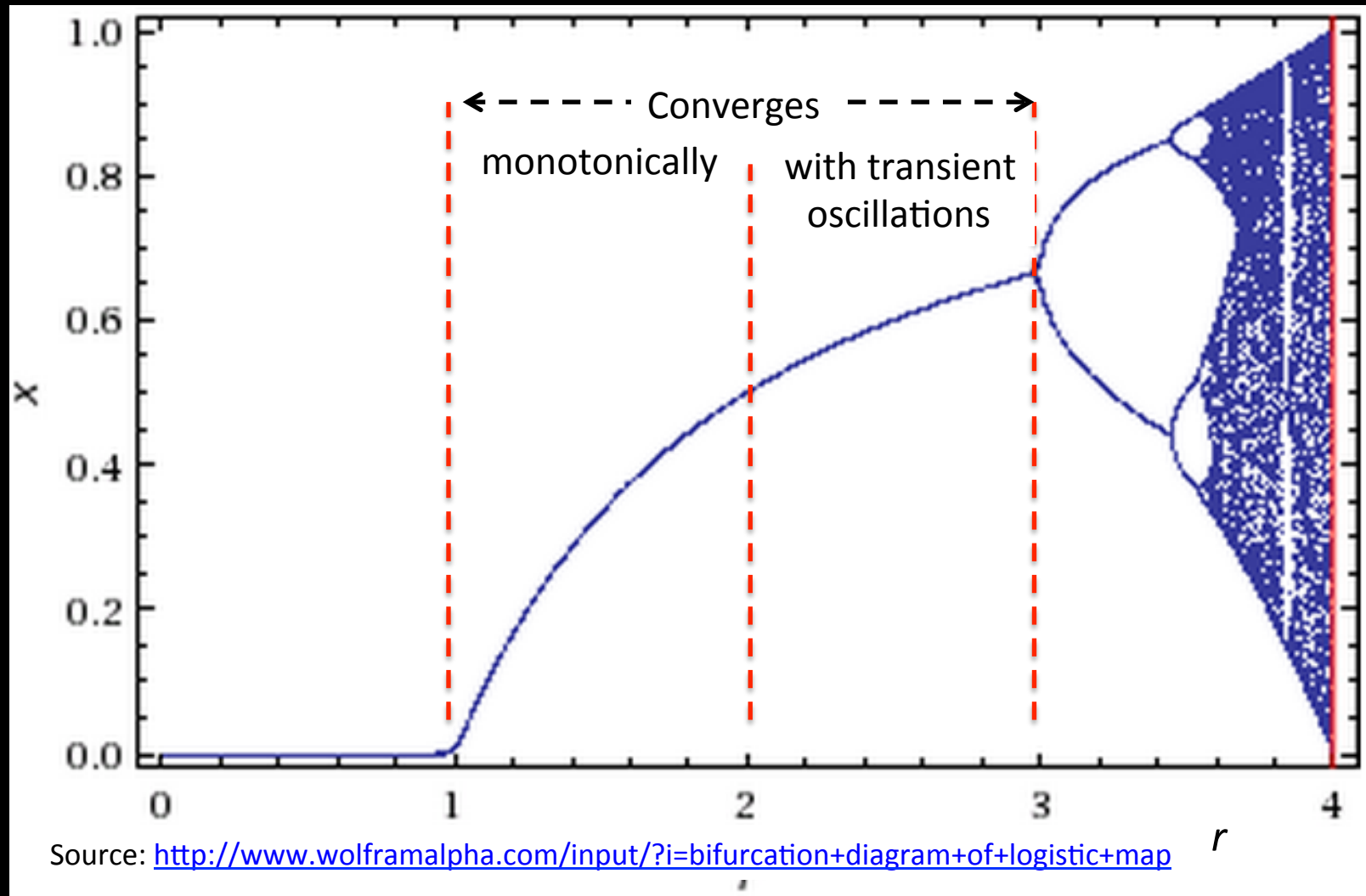


Figure 10. Left: Graphical iteration of recurrence relation (11) for  $z_0 = 0,02$  and  $r = 3,81$ . Right: Results of 25 iterations (from the left diagram) as time series.

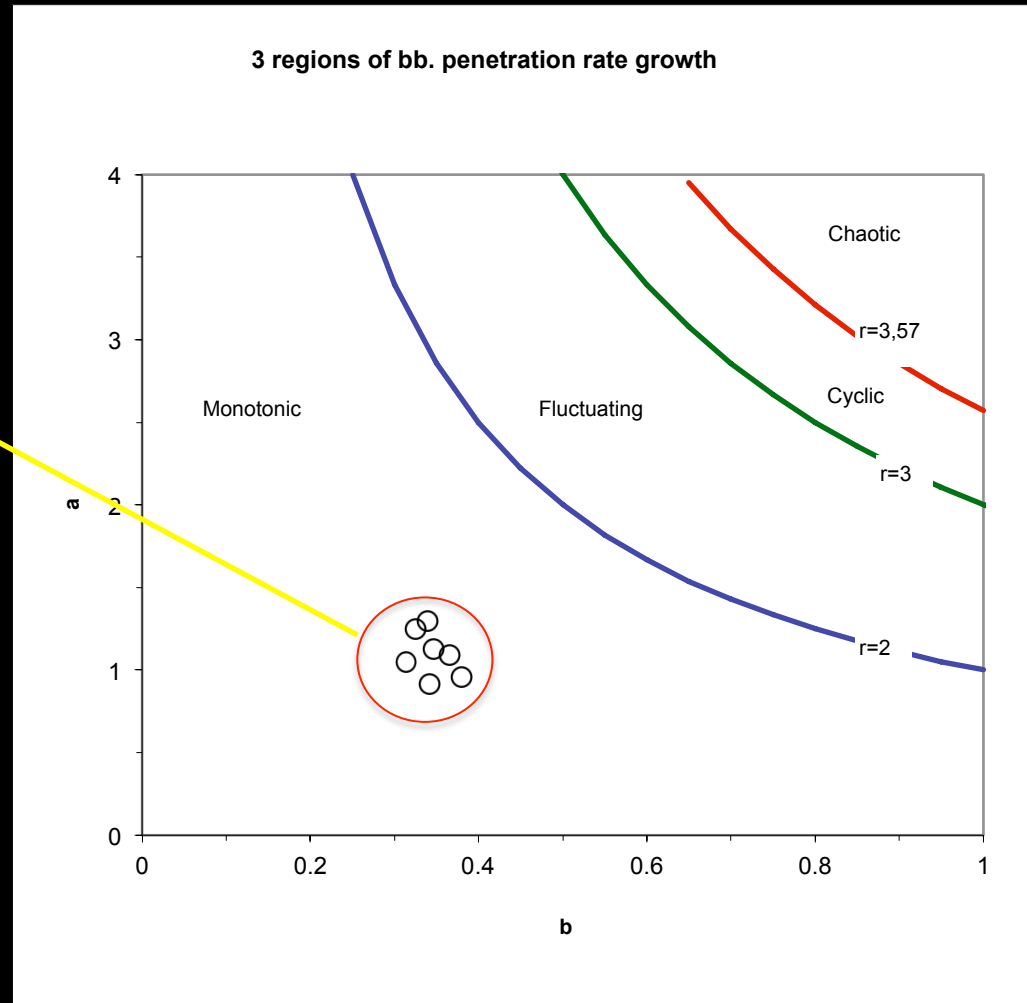
# Bifurcation diagram of the logistic map



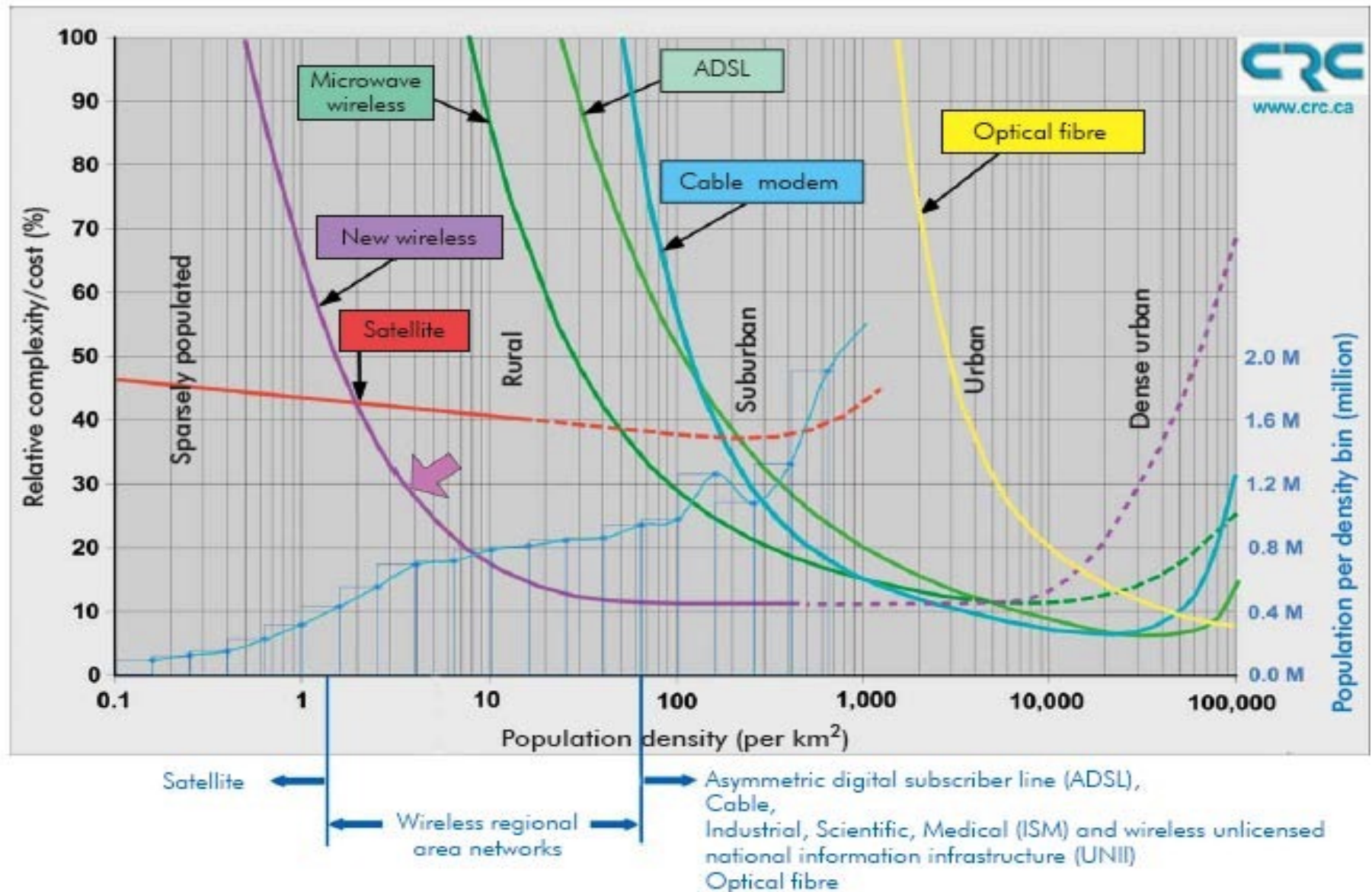


# Regions of bb. penetration rate growth

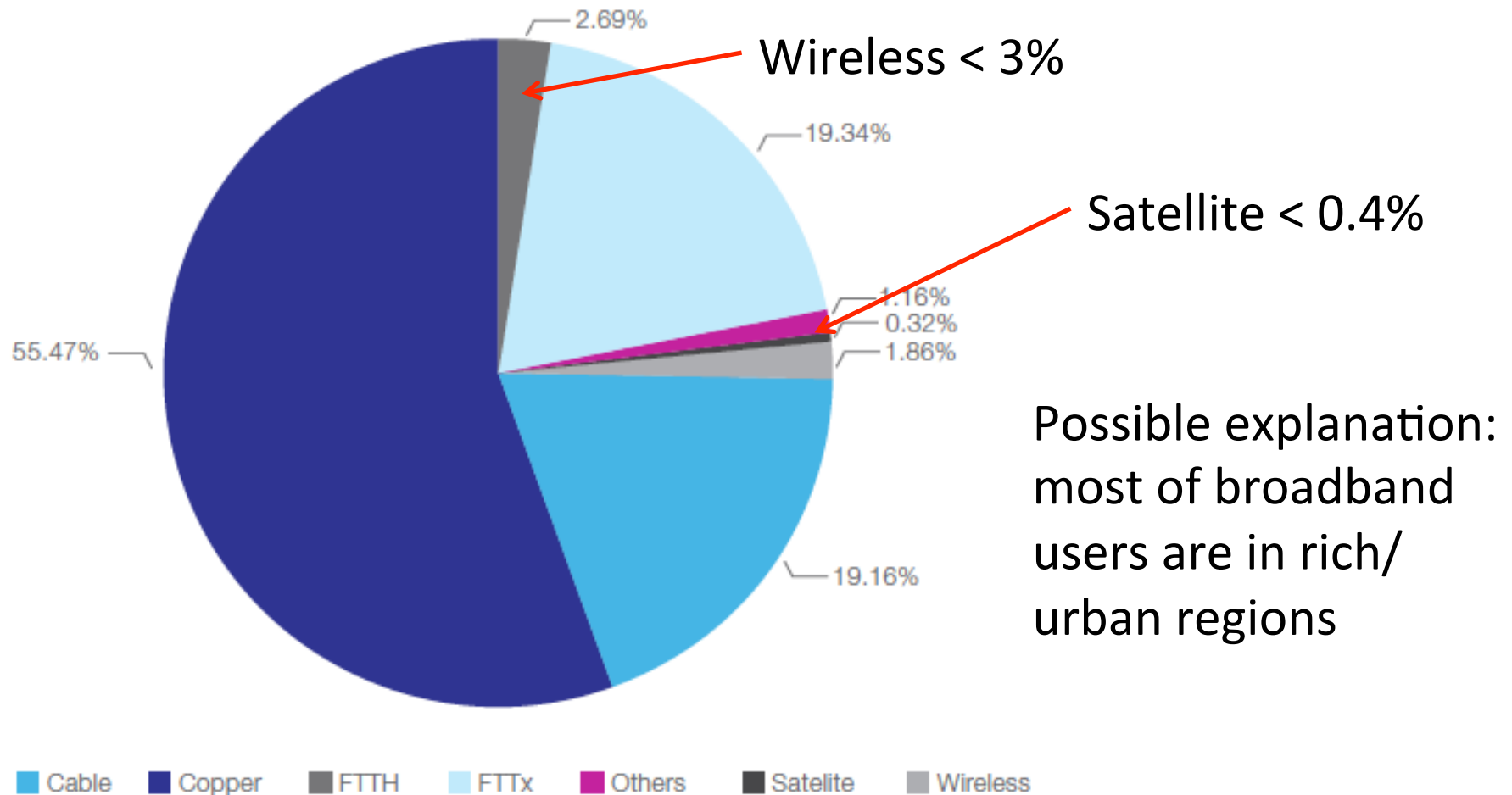
7 leading EU countries



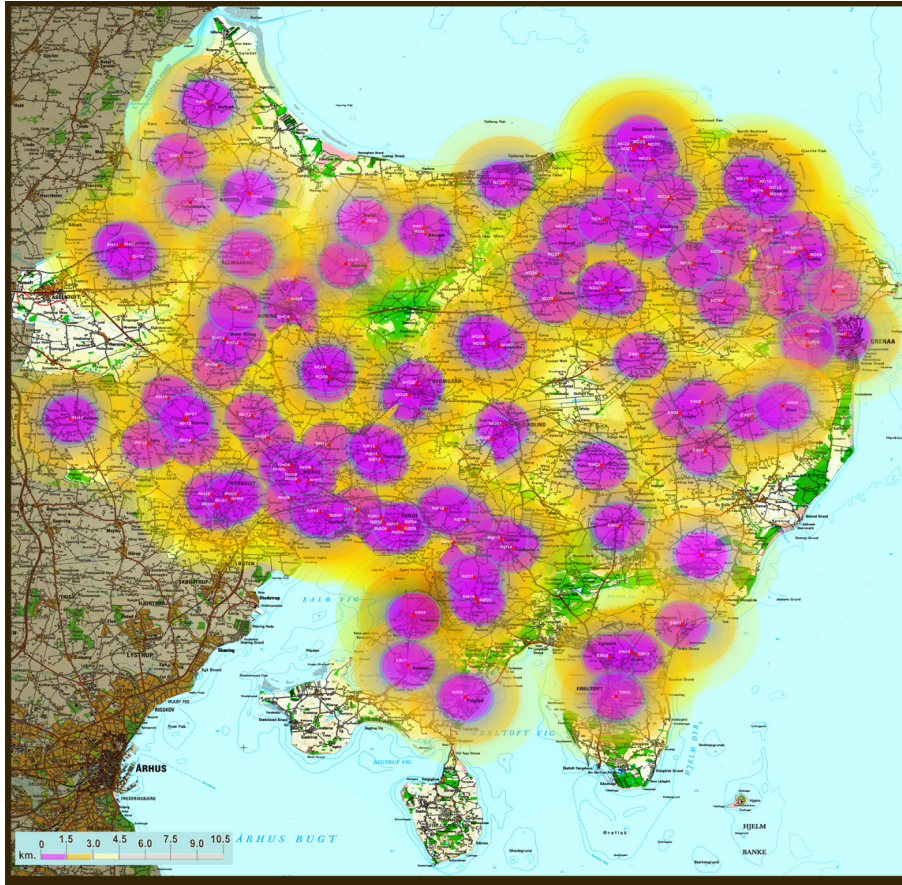
**Figure 1 — Suitable broadband access technologies as a function of population density**



# Technologies sharing bb. market (2013)



Source: The State of Broadband 2013: Universalizing Broadband. A report by the Broadband Commission September 2013



**Denmark (Djursland):** 1491 km<sup>2</sup>  
 Population: 82420 (58/ km<sup>2</sup>)  
 6000 houses w.access (1/3 cost)

[http://hos.nr-djurs.net/bjarke/DIIRWB-presentation\\_final-2.pdf](http://hos.nr-djurs.net/bjarke/DIIRWB-presentation_final-2.pdf)

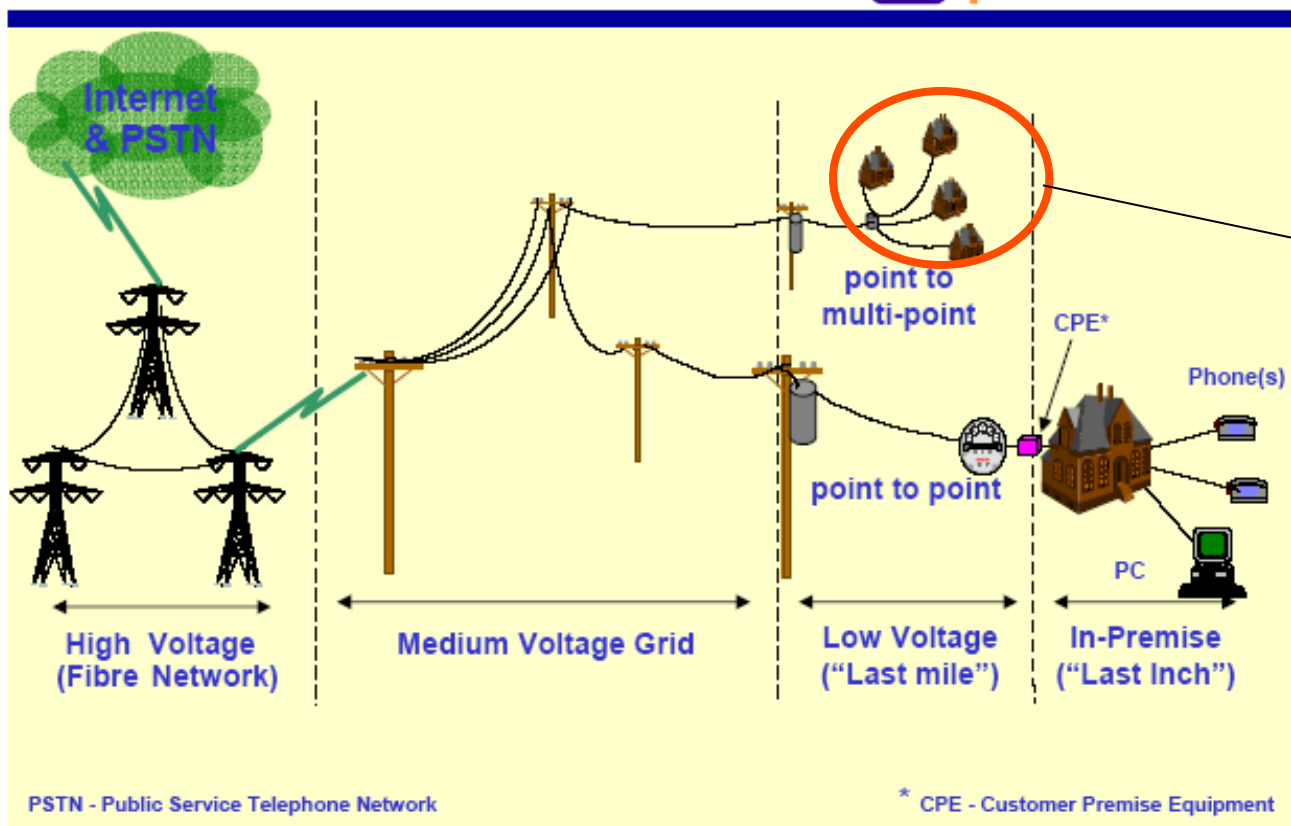


**Malawi**  
 (Malawi Polytechnic + ICTP + NIT)



# PowerLine Communications (PLC)

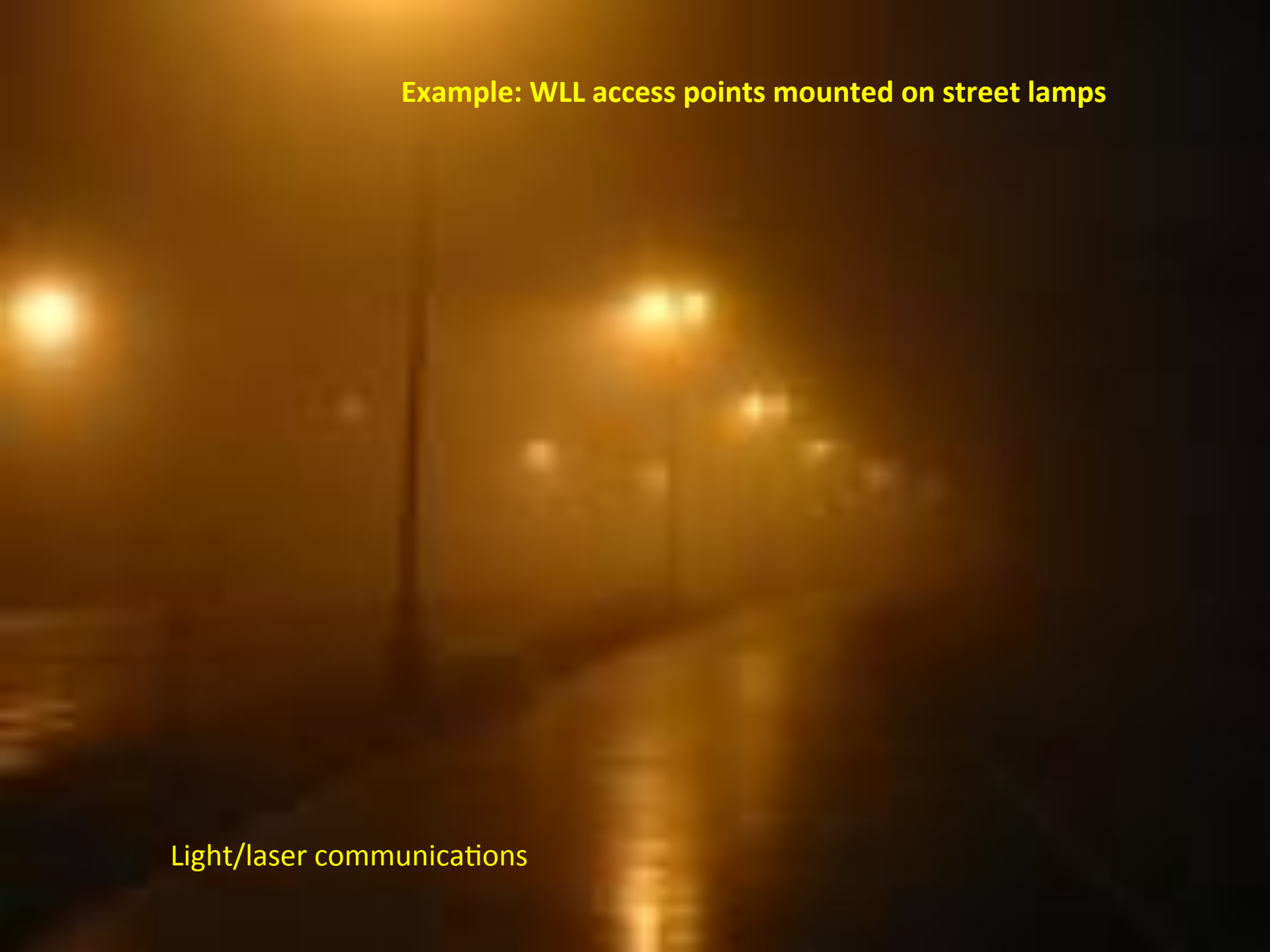
Generic Integrated Model



Wired  
or  
wireless

Integration with Automatic Meter Reading!

**Example: WLL access points mounted on street lamps**



Light/laser communications

# HAPS – high altitude platform station



R. Struzak: Mobile telecommunications via stratosphere;

<http://www.intercomms.net/AUG03/content/struzak1.php> [http://www.ursi.org/files/RSBissues/RSB\\_334\\_2010\\_09.pdf](http://www.ursi.org/files/RSBissues/RSB_334_2010_09.pdf)

Solar  
Cells

I-shaped  
Tail  
Assembly

Back  
Propeller

JAPAN

STA/MP1

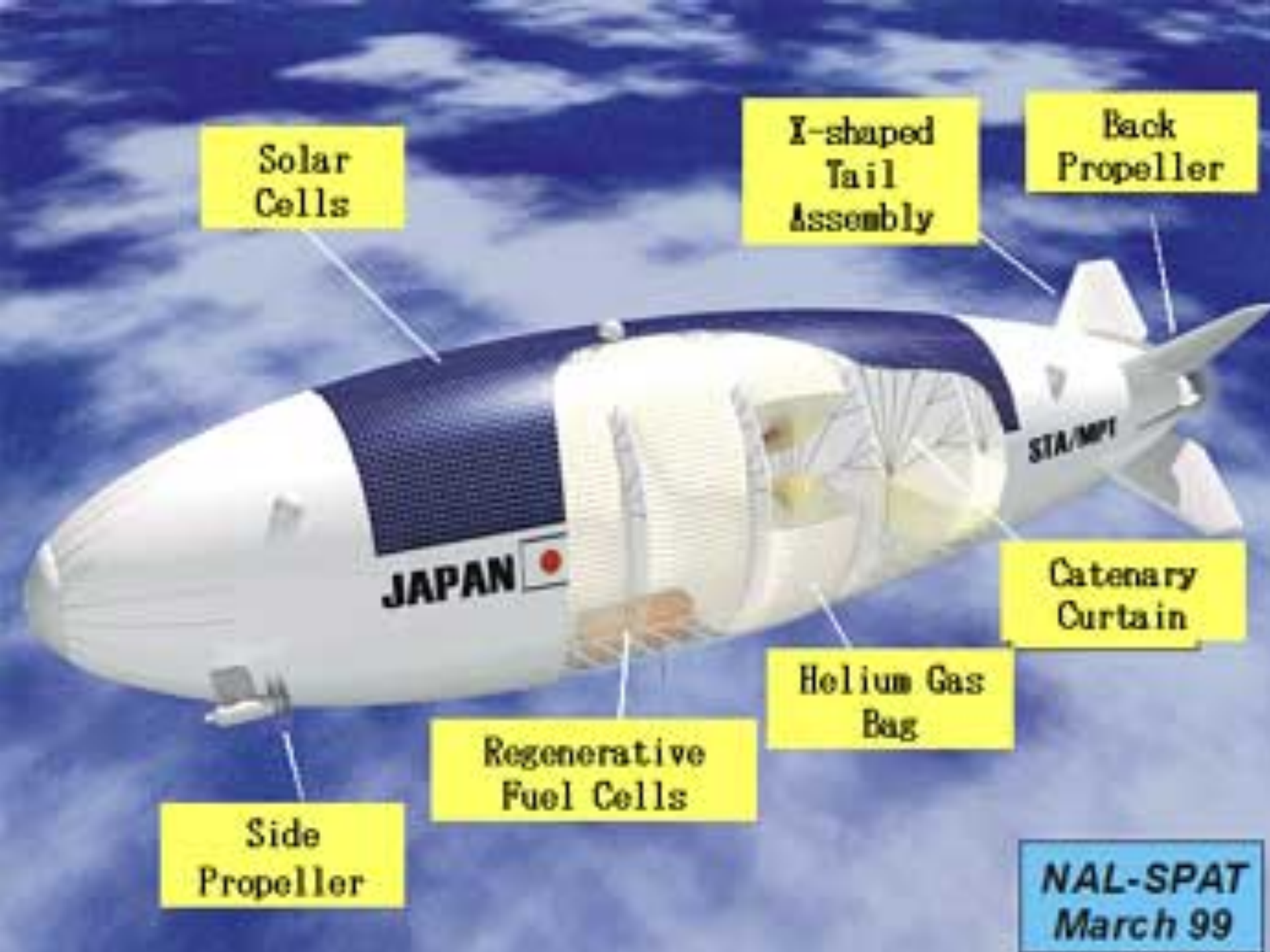
Catenary  
Curtain

Helium Gas  
Bag

Regenerative  
Fuel Cells

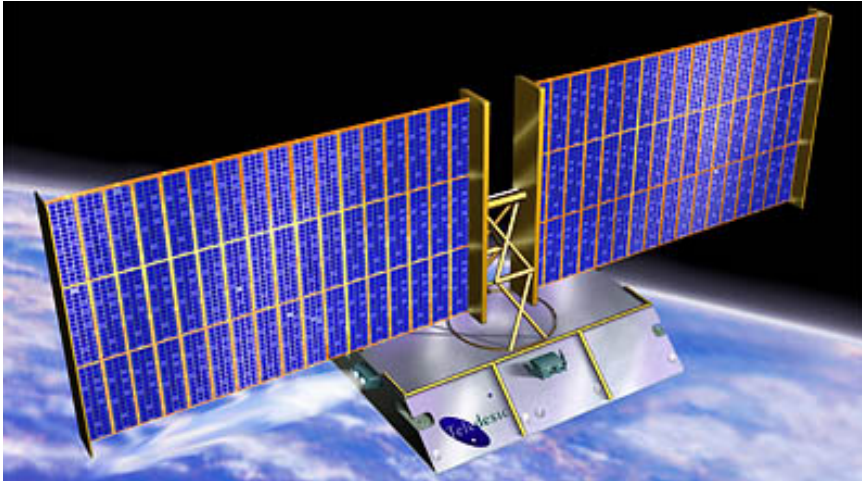
Side  
Propeller

NAL-SPAT  
March 99



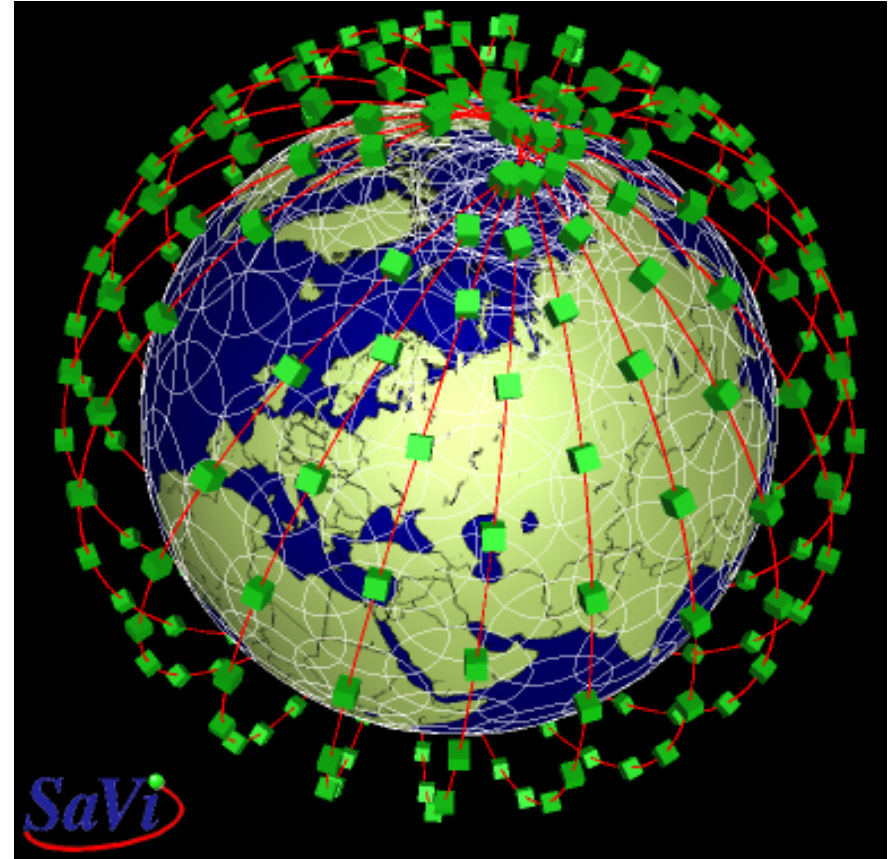


# Internet-in-the-Sky



Teledesic - a bb. LEO network :  
the global coverage, low latency,  
robustness, "fiber-like" QOS and  
affordable access from nearly 100% of  
the Earth's population and 95% of the  
landmass. Designed to support millions  
of simultaneous users.

<http://web.archive.org/web/20011217200708/http://www.teledesic.com/>



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teledesic>

# Conclusions

- Key contributions:
  - Quantification (models) of bb. internet penetration in households and „digital divide” (in stationary conditions)
  - Identification of
    - Generic model form verified in 35 countries
    - Limits and irreducible “digital gaps”
    - Market perspectives
    - Bottlenecks (i.e. where to allocate resources)

- The models presented here uncover the underlying structure of the Bb. diffusion process, hidden in the empirical data.
- They may be of interest for those desiring to gain insight into the scientific, business, and other aspects of the process.

# Models – basic tools

- to understand better the process
- to evaluate trends, to compare alternative solutions possible, to plan
- to analyse & monitor implementation
- to identify bottlenecks & learn from the past policy/regulations/planning

- The findings can be useful in:
  - planning,
  - design,
  - implementation/deployment,
  - performance trackingof broadband infrastructure

# For further details

- R. Struzak: Growth of broadband Internet in Poland – models, trends and limits; Telekomunikacja I Techniki Informacyjne 1-2/2009, pp. 38-49
- R. Struzak: Broadband Internet in EU Countries: Limits to Growth; IEEE Comms. Magazine, April 2010, 52 – 57
- R. Struzak: Diffusion of Broadband Services: An Empirical Study; IEEE Comms. Magazine, August 2012, 129 – 134
- R. Struzak: Internet in the Sky: Tests have Started...; ITU News No. 6/98, p. 22 – 26 (in English, French, Spanish)
- R. Struzak: Mobile telecommunications via stratosphere; <http://www.intercomms.net/AUG03/content/struzak1.php>

# Thank you for your attention

[r.struzak@ieee.org](mailto:r.struzak@ieee.org)