

Different kinds of systems approaches

Hugo F. Alrøe

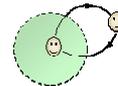
(<http://alroe.dk/hugo>)

Danish Research Centre for Organic Farming

(<http://www.darcof.dk>)

This presentation is at <http://www.orgprints.org/archive/00000293>

DARCOF



What is a systems approach?

Two perspectives:

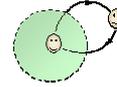
1. Agriculture as a system

- Without human actors
- With human actors (often farmers)

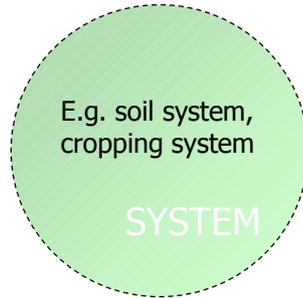
2. Agricultural science as a system

DARCOF





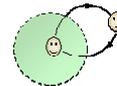
Science as an observer of systems



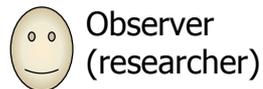
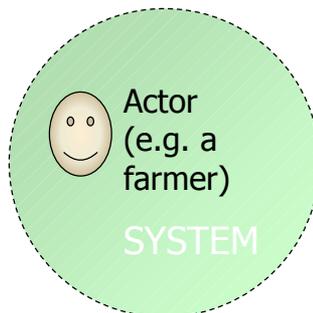
Scientific
observer

ENVIRONMENT

DARCOF



Observing actor systems

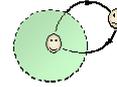


Observer
(researcher)

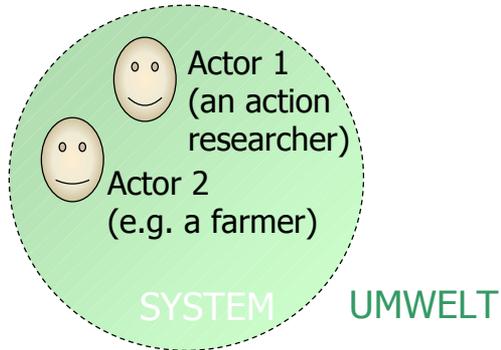
UMWELT /
ENVIRONMENT

DARCOF





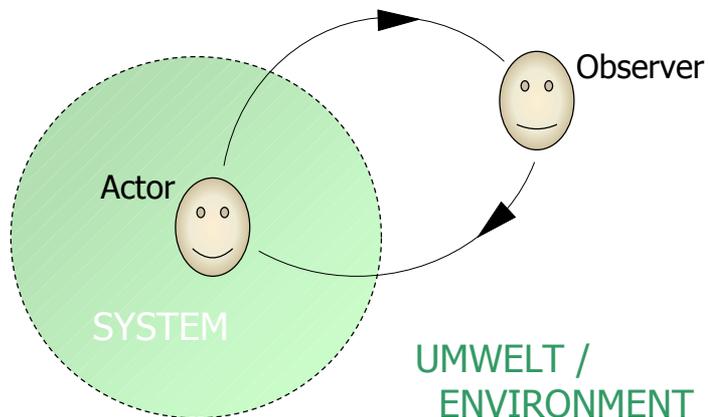
Action research



DARCOF

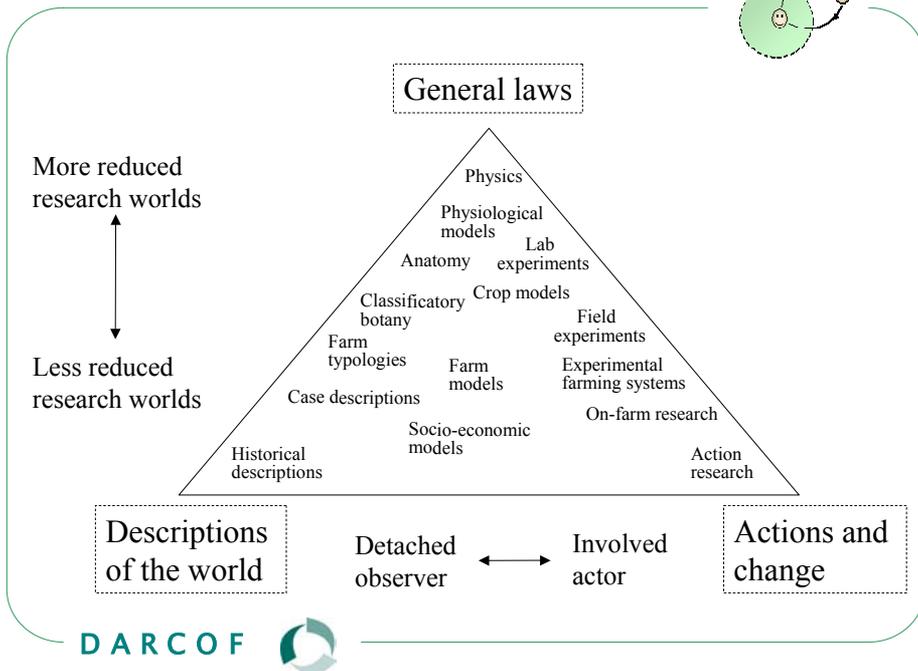
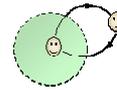
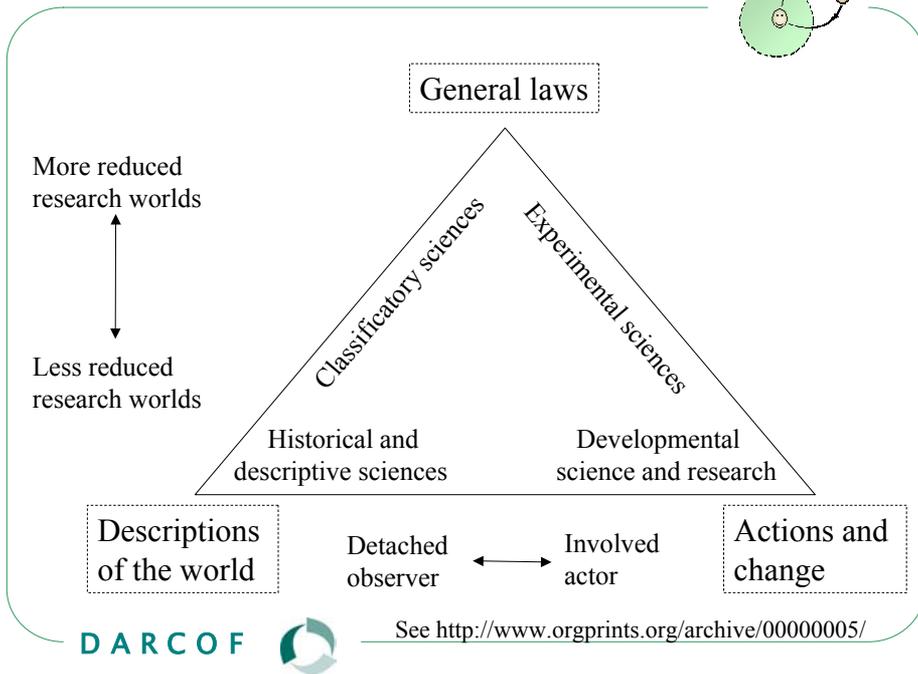
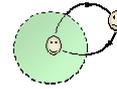


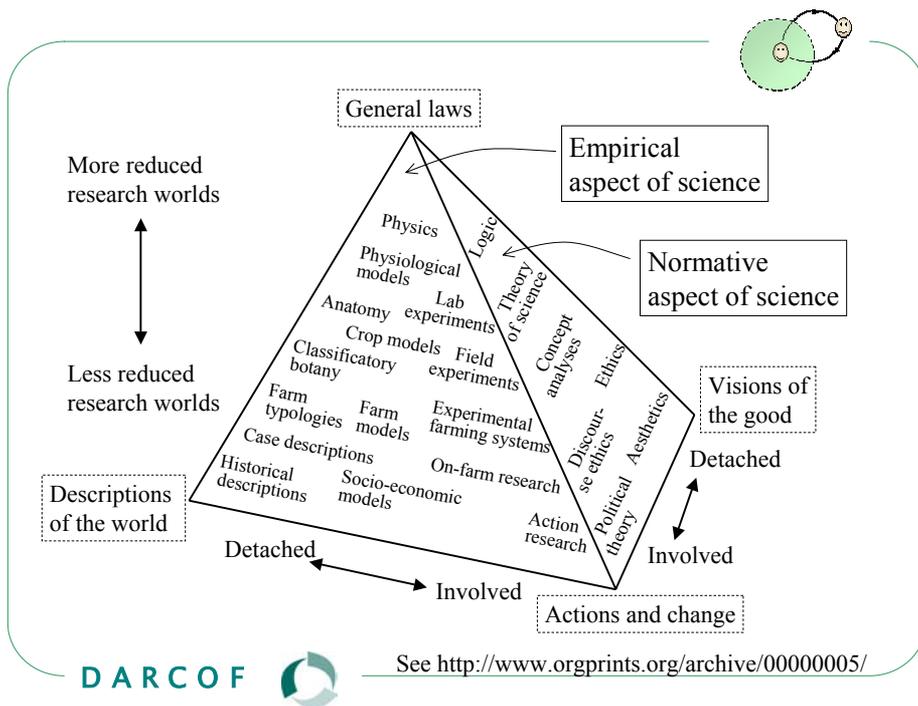
Science as actor and observer



DARCOF

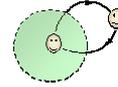






Conclusions

- Science works at different levels of reduction and involvement
 - but values still play a role
- There are normative and empirical disciplines in science
 - but there is always an interplay of facts and values



More information

- My workpage -- [http:// www.alroe.dk/hugo](http://www.alroe.dk/hugo)
 - Alrøe and Kristensen (2002) Towards a systemic research methodology in agriculture
 - and other related papers
- DARCOF -- <http://www.darcof.dk>

DARCOF

