

# 5

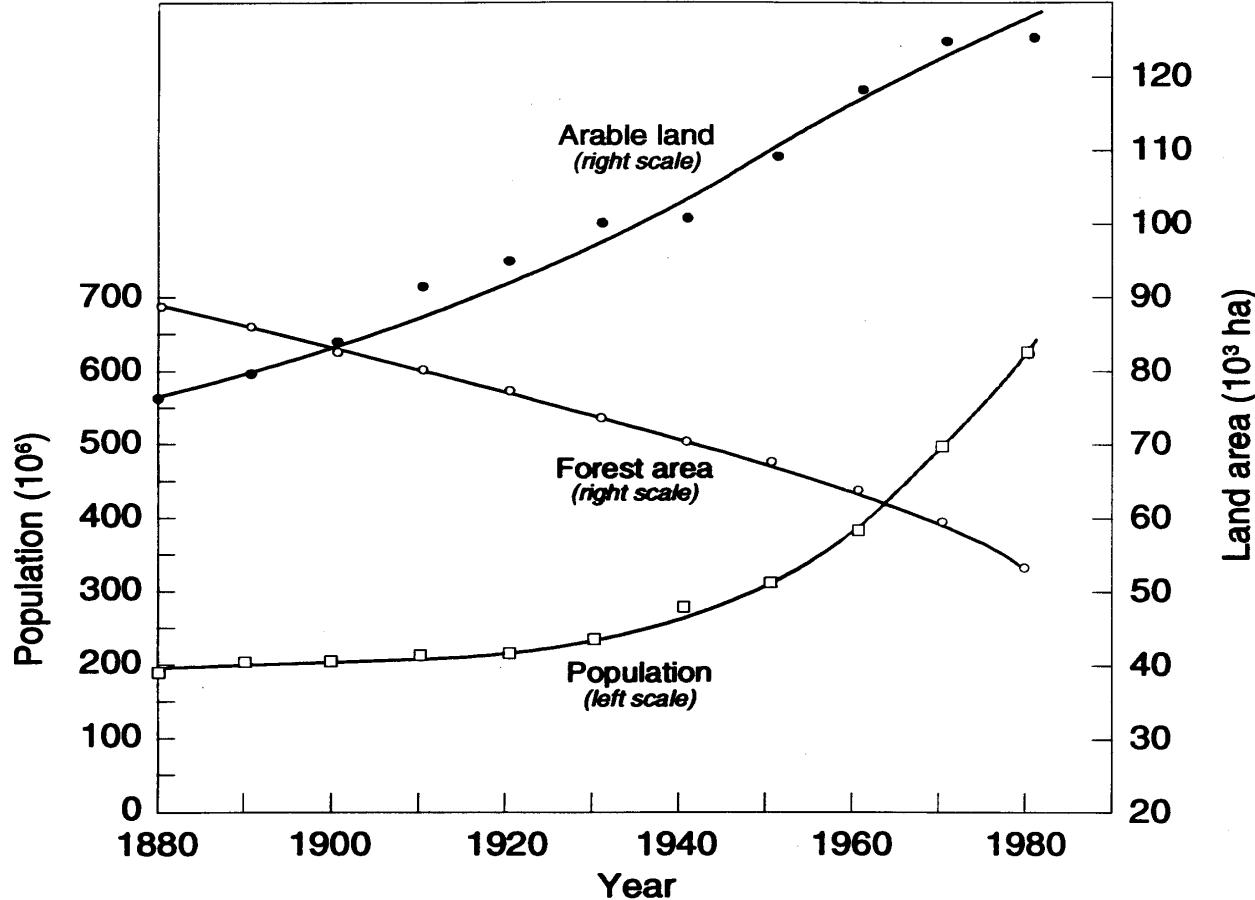
## Fallstudie I Landwirtschaft, oder wie viele Menschen kann die Erde ernähren?

# Feeding More People: Static vs Dynamic Models

- Population growth → growing food demand → more cropland → less forests
- Carrying capacity defined by cropland area available
- Demographic transition → dietary changes → agricultural yield growth → changing land-use patterns
- Carrying capacity defined by interplay of dynamic variables (rates of change)

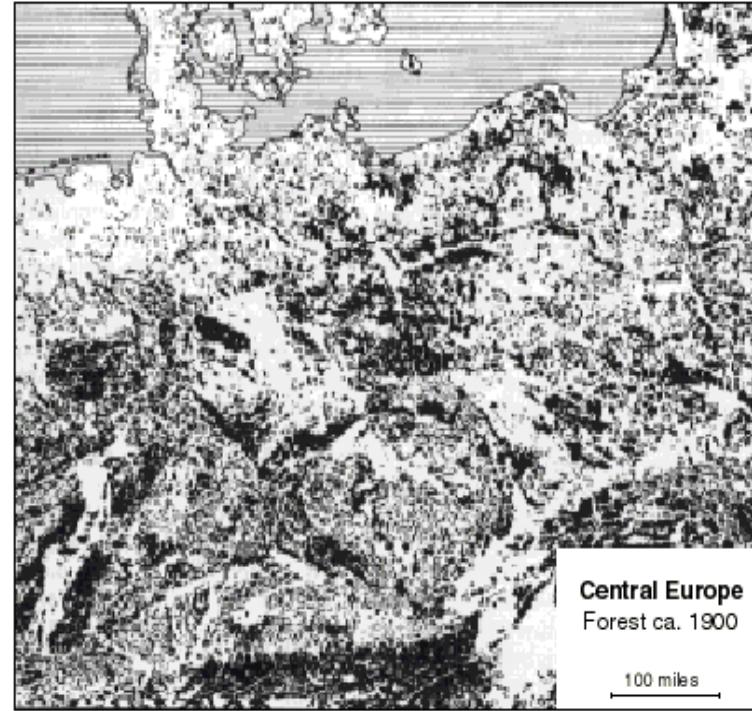
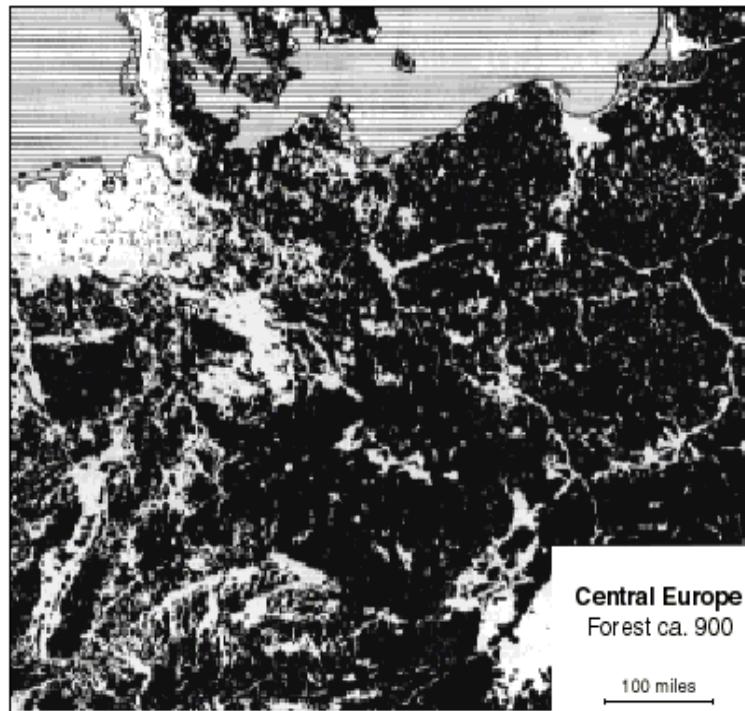
# Population and Land-use Change in Asia

(Source: Marland, 1989)

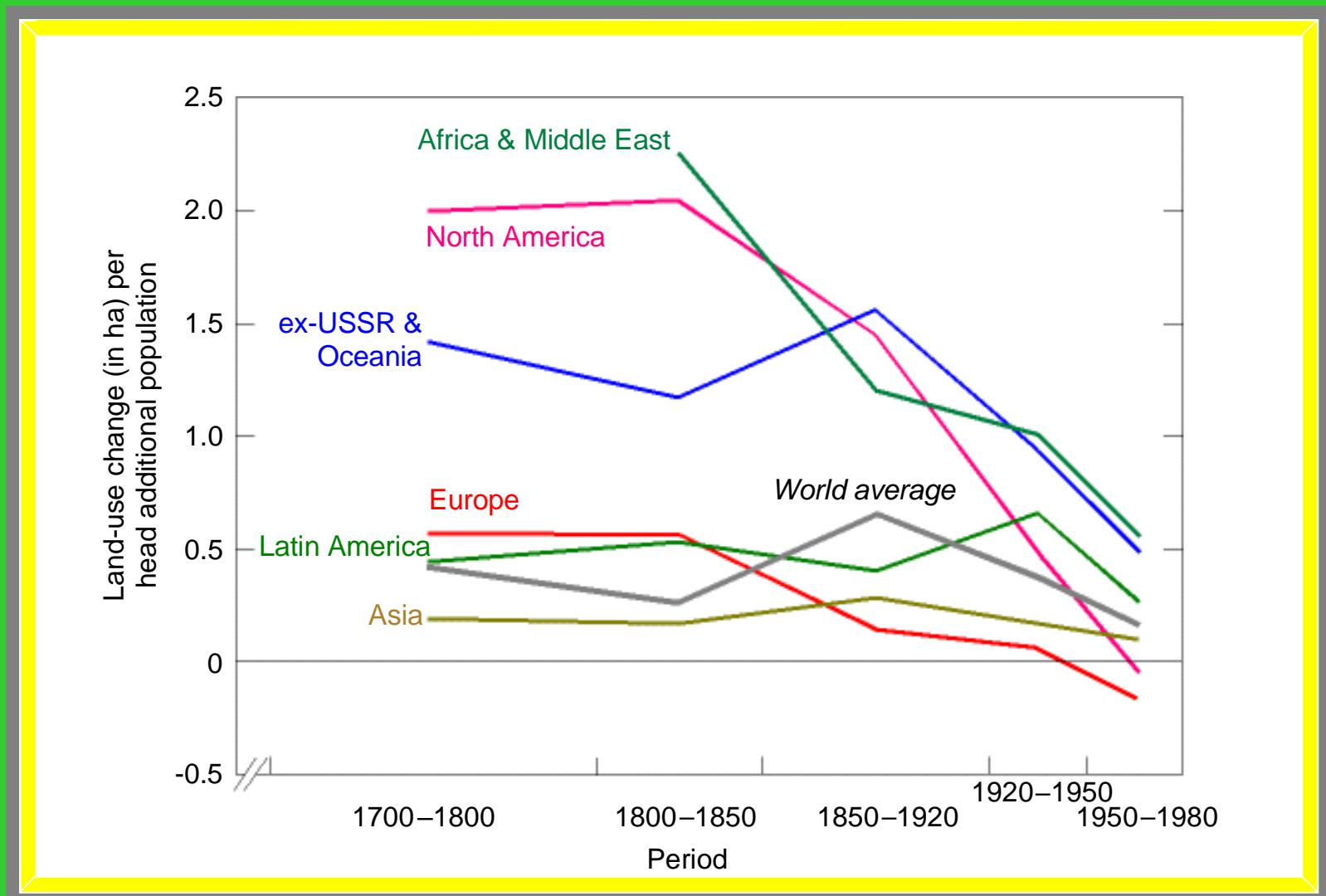


# European Forest Cover AD 900 and 1900

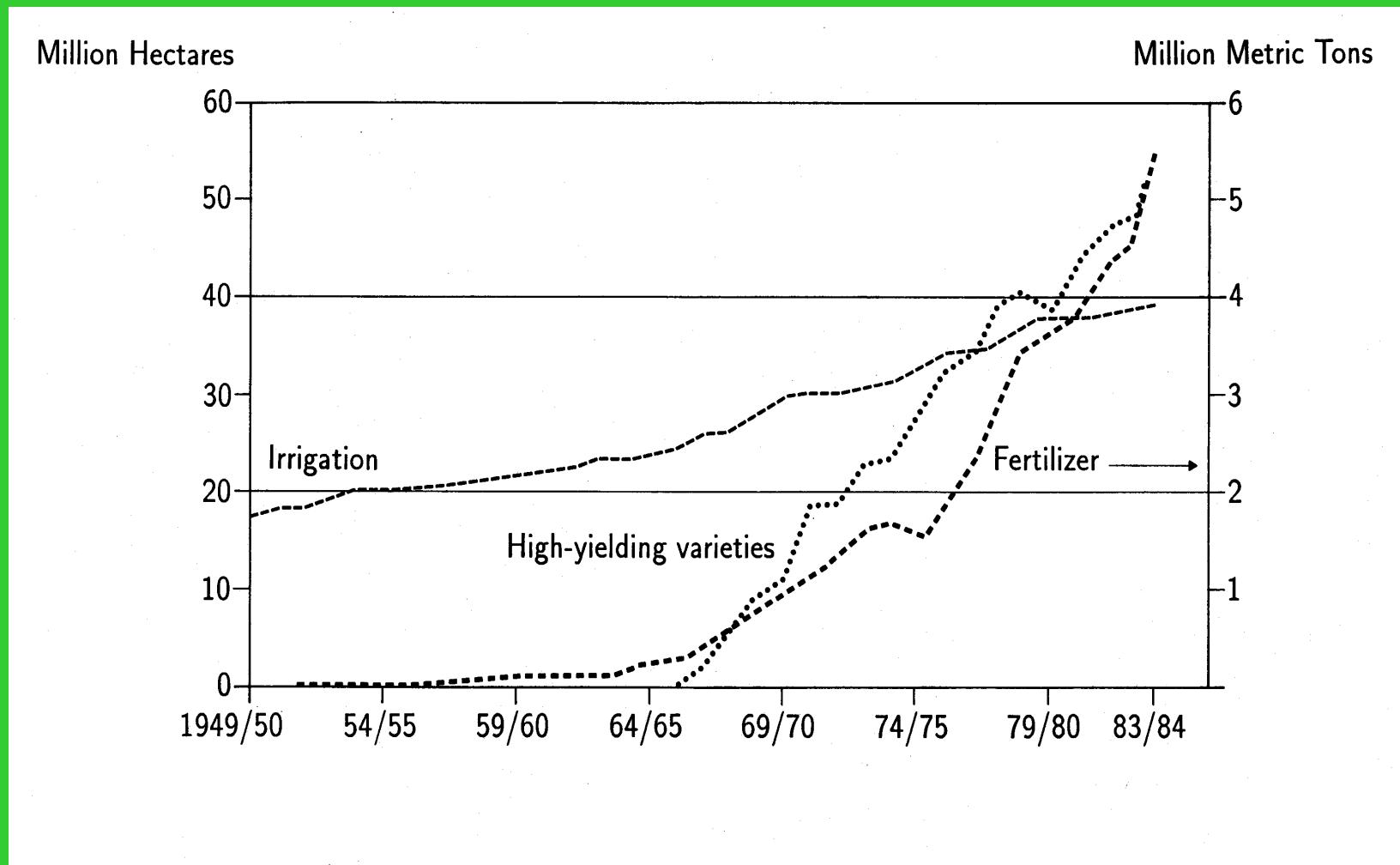
(Source: Darby, 1956)



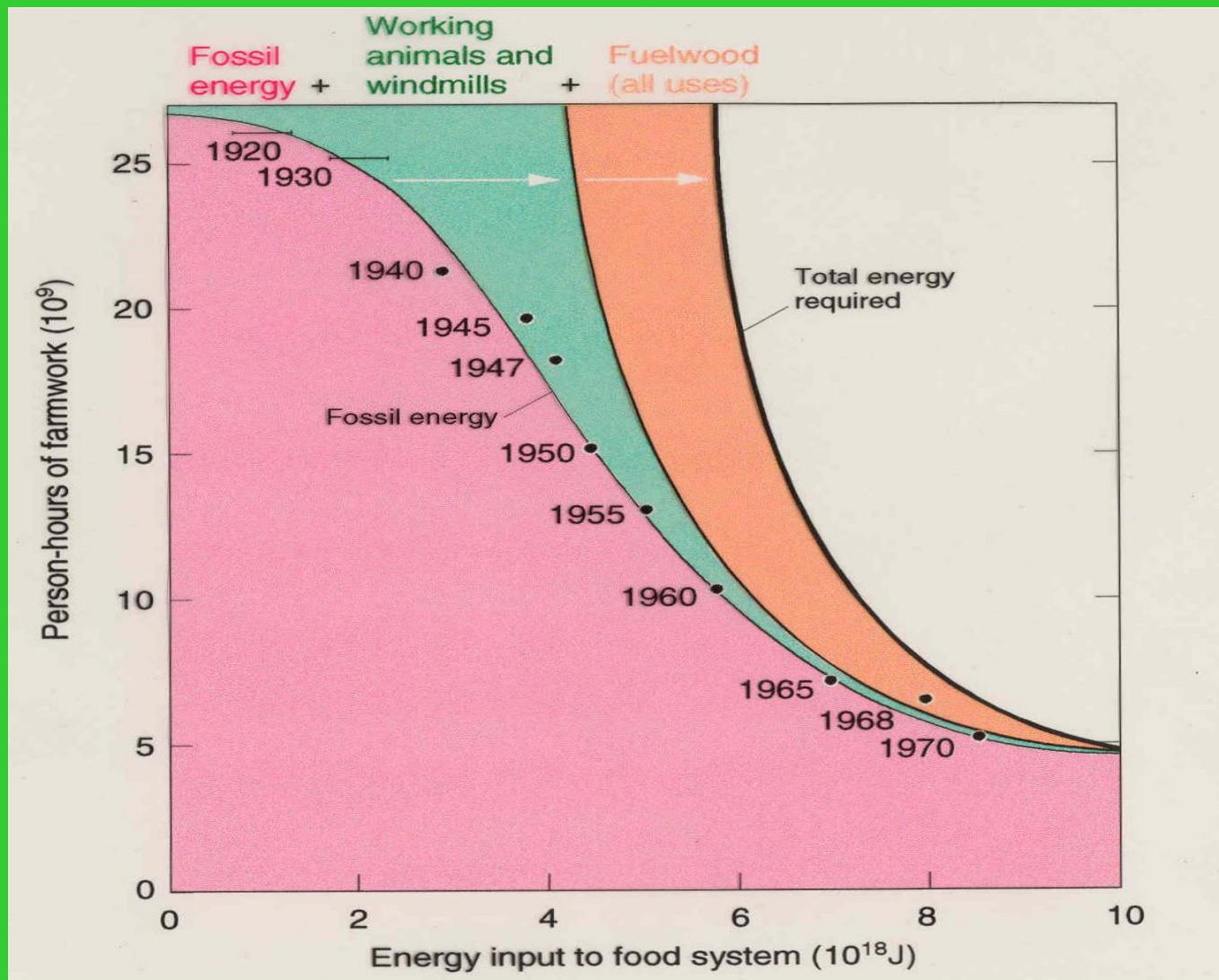
# Land-use Change per Head Additional Population (ha per person)



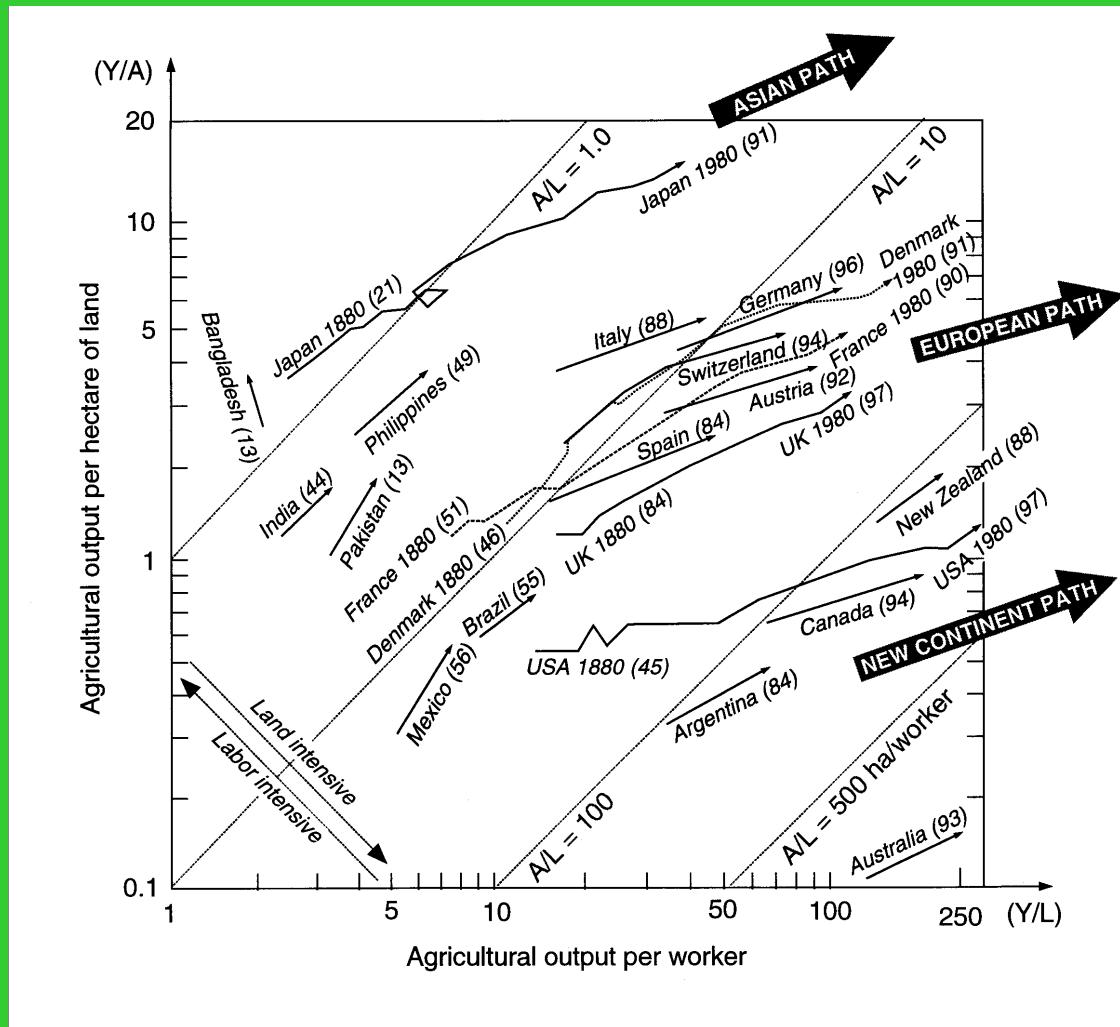
# India – Factors Behind Increasing Land Productivity (Source: Sarma&Gandhi, 1990)



# Labor & Energy for US Food



# Agriculture – Path Dependent Development: Output (Y) per Land (A) and Labor (L). Hayami&Ruttan, 1985.



# Nature – People – Technology: 2 Opposing Views

Thomas Malthus: *Principle of Population (1798)*:

More mouths to feed

Malthusian Model (dynamic mismatch):

- Population: geometric (exponential) growth
- Agriculture output: arithmetic (linear) growth

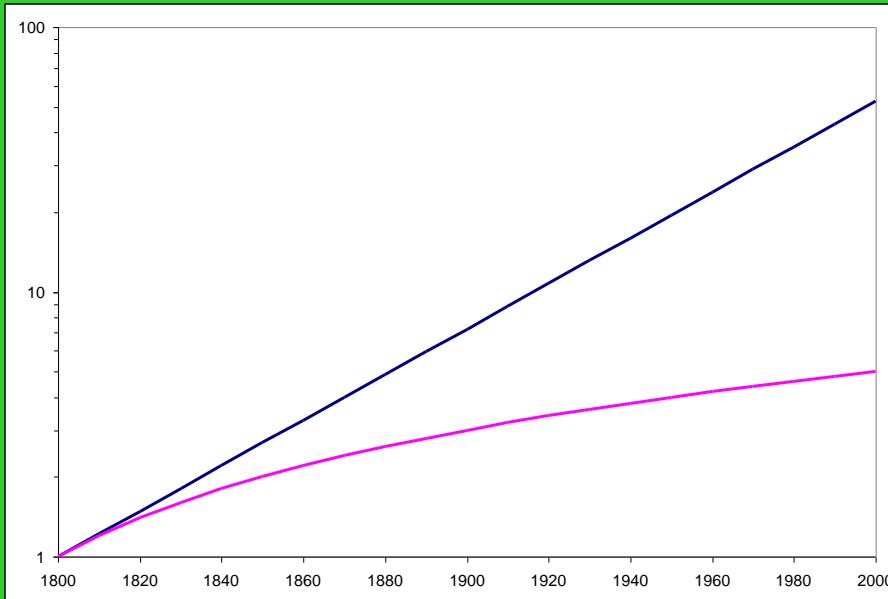
Ester Bosserup: *Population and Technological Change (1981)*: More hands (and brains) to work

Bosserup's positive feedback model:

Population growth → innovation → technological change  
→ expanding carrying capacity

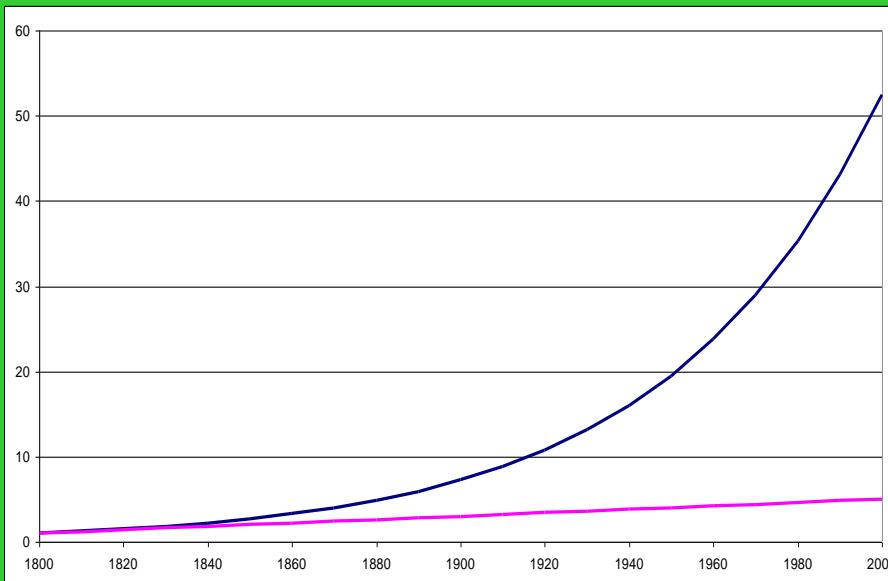
# A Malthusian Model (2%/yr growth, index 1800=1)

Log scale



Population:  
Exponential  
growth

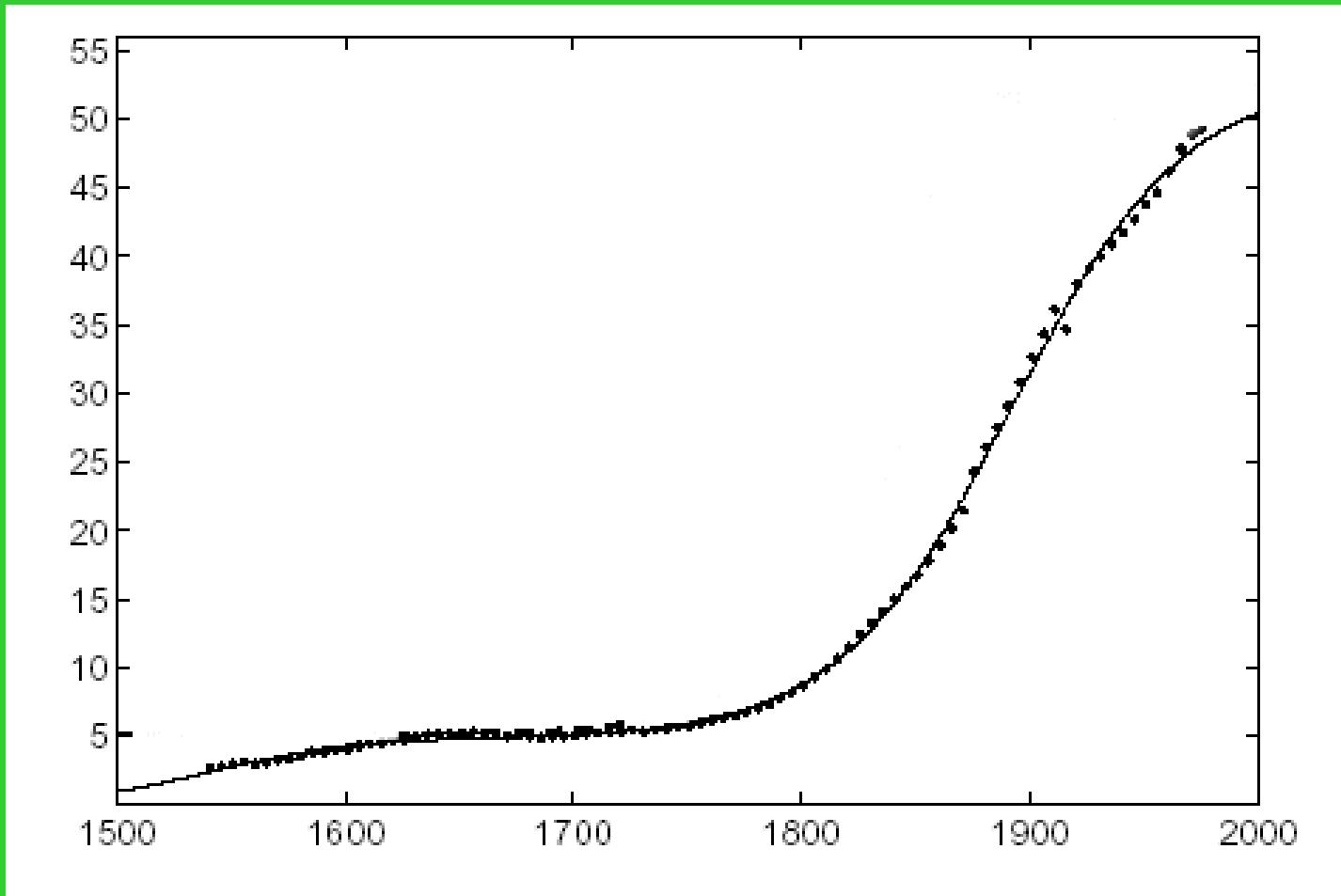
Linear scale



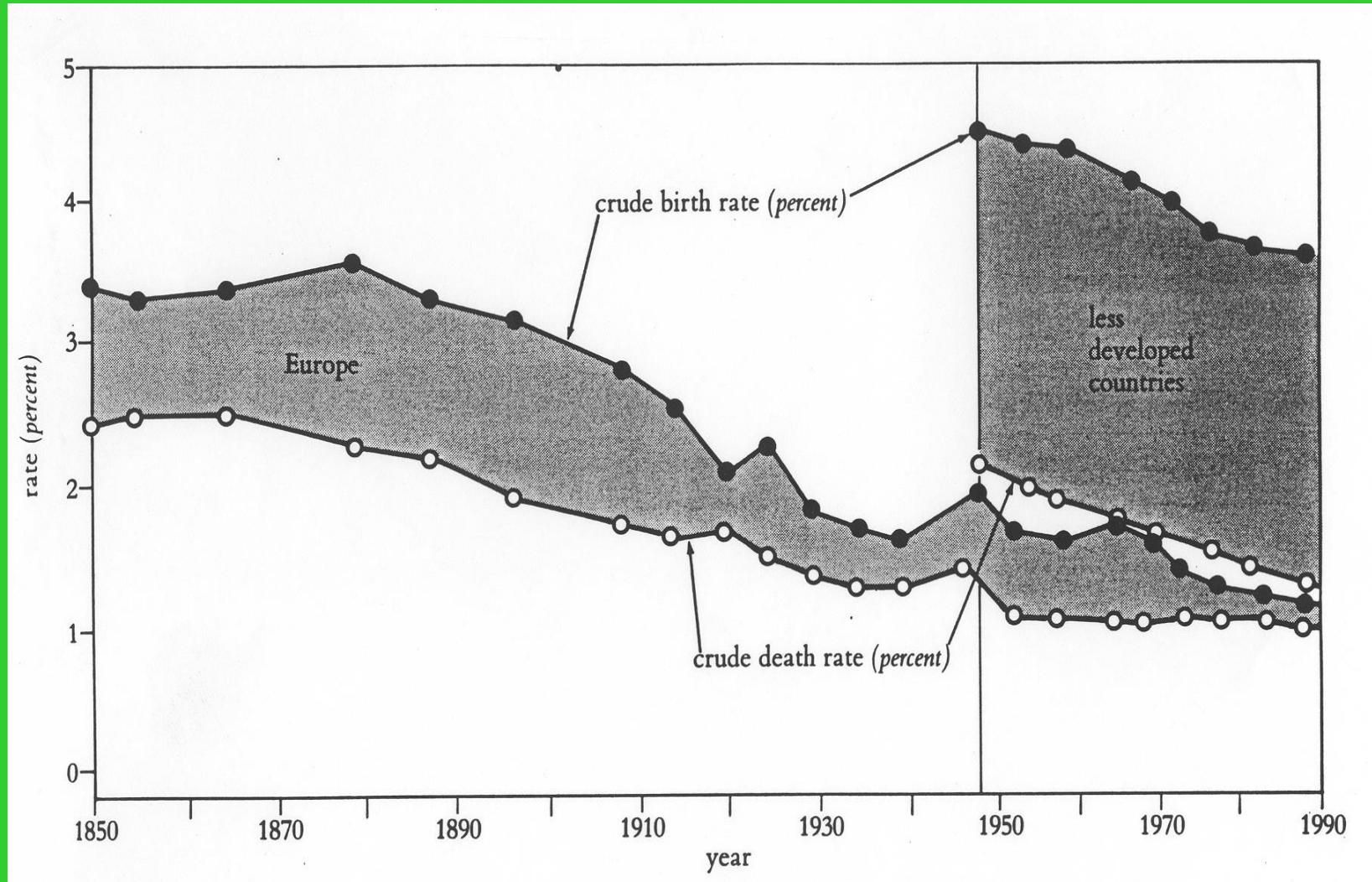
Agriculture:  
Linear  
growth

# Population of England 1541-1975.

Source: Meyer&Ausubel, 1999 based on Wrigley& Schofield, 1981.

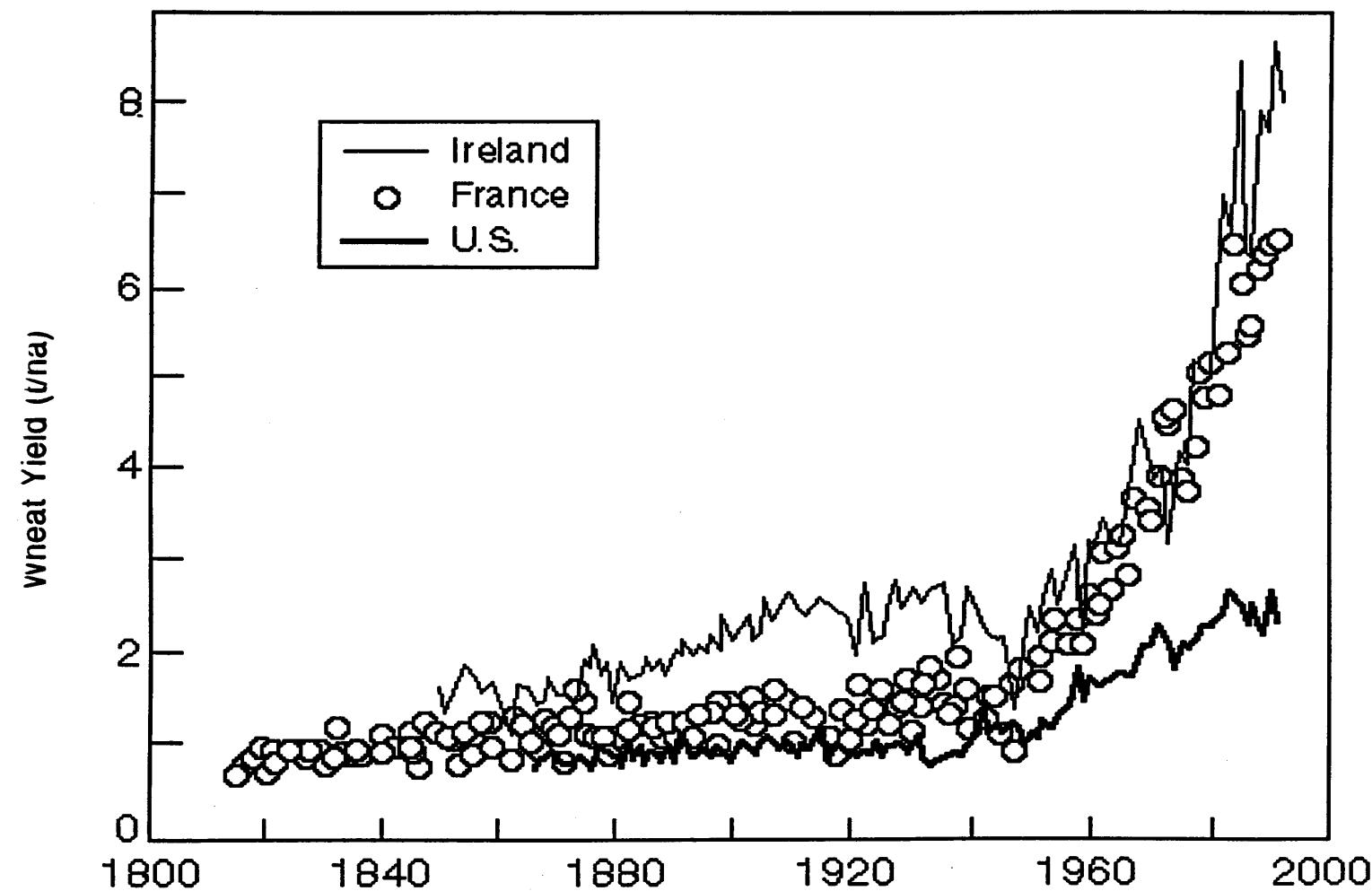


# The Demographic Transition (Kelley, 1988)

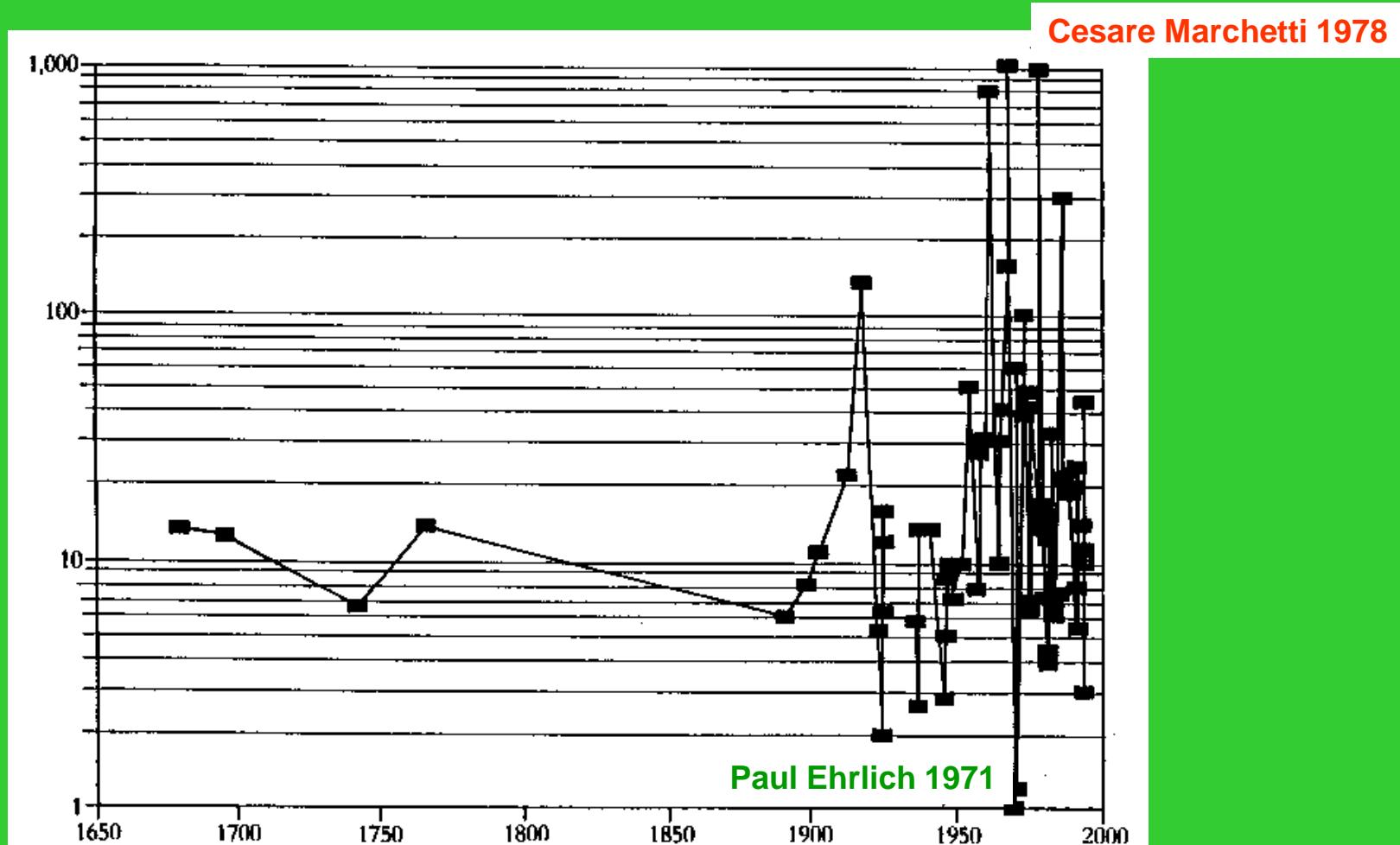


# Long-term Wheat Yields

(Waggoner, 1997).



# Estimates of Earth Carrying Capacity (in billion people). Source: Cohen, 1995.



# Zusammenfassung Block 5

## (Landwirtschaft)

- Agriculture: people x productivity = impacts
- Sources of productivity growth: biological, synthetic inputs (fertilizer), mechanical innovations
- Path dependency: productivity increases as function of relative resource endowments (prices) and resulting cumulative technological change (no convergence!); illustration: Hayami/Ruttan model
- Structural change in employment and residence (urbanization)
- Impacts: land-use changes (agriculture uses 1500 million ha globally)
- Impact on CO2 balance (soil carbon): up to 230 GtC since 1800
- Agriculture: largest user of water resources (3000 km<sup>3</sup>/yr, reservoir size: 5000 km<sup>3</sup>)
- Carrying capacity (1-1000 billion people): dependent on technology
- Malthus versus Bosscherup: static vs. dynamic population and technology
- Demographic transition