

# Sustainable Tourism and Regional Development

## Critical Reflections

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# Sustainable tourism...?

- Fragmentation of a comprehensive concept
- Spatial fragmentation
- Sectoral fragmentation

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# What "kind" of sustainability?

- Ecotourism
- Sustainable tourism
- Sustainable development and tourism



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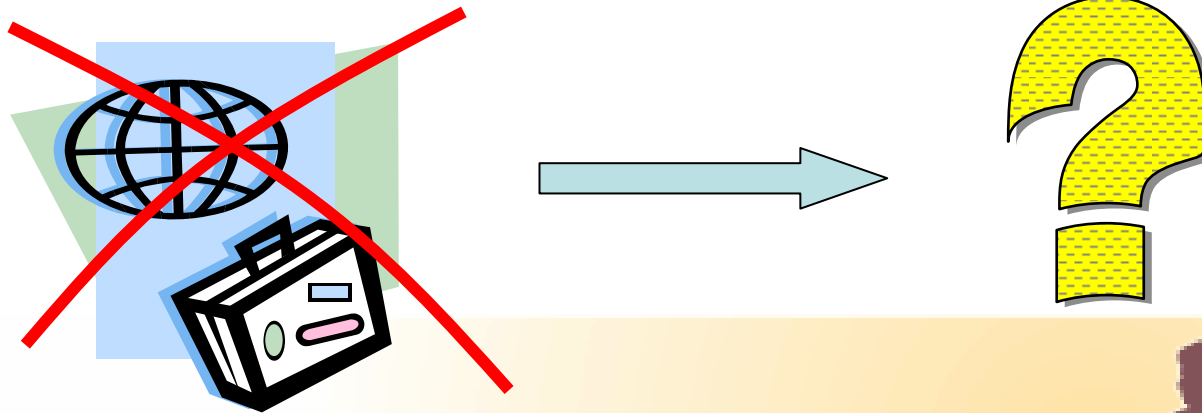


# Shortcomings and dishonesties

- Periphery centrism
- Destination centrism and neglect of tourism as a system
- Environment centrism
- Sustainability as marketing ploy

# Substitution effects

- Tourism as one part of consumption and of a comprehensive economic account



# Sustaining the ego?

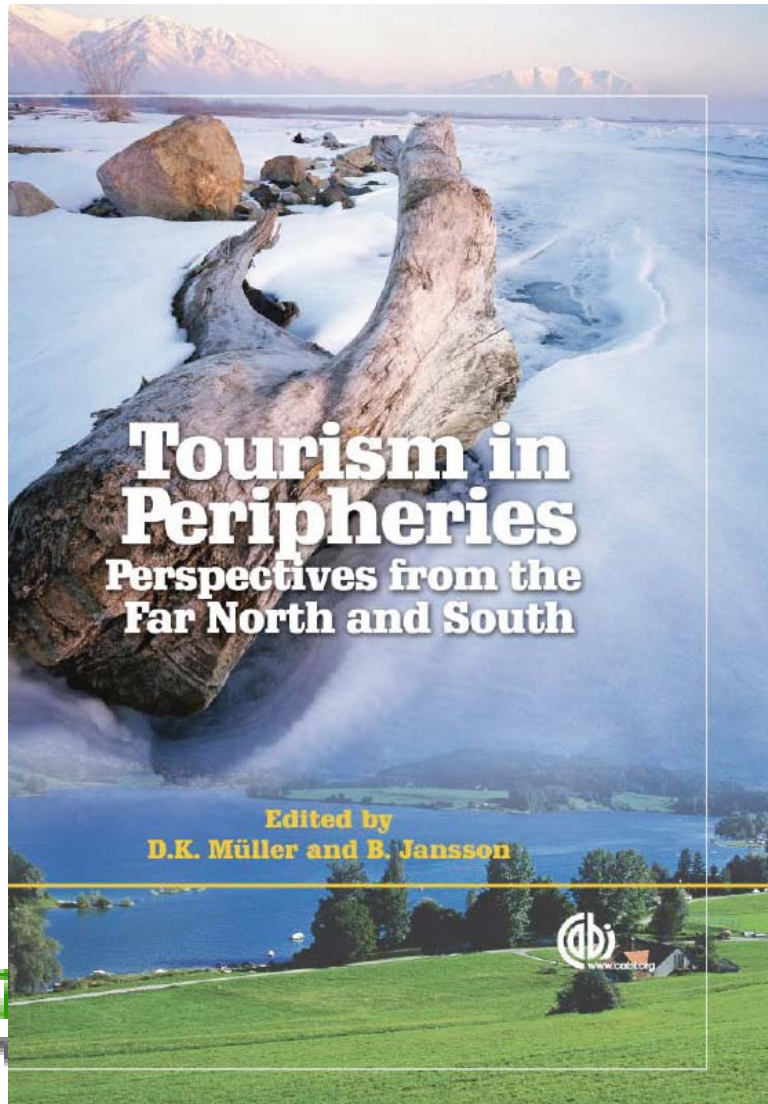


- Ecotourism or egotourism
- Symbolic consumption
- Exclusiveness and democracy
- Who does really care?

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# Tourism in peripheral areas



- Tourism development in peripheries is a common problem all around the world
- TALC as norm



# Place competition

Globalization and economic restructuring cause competition among places for

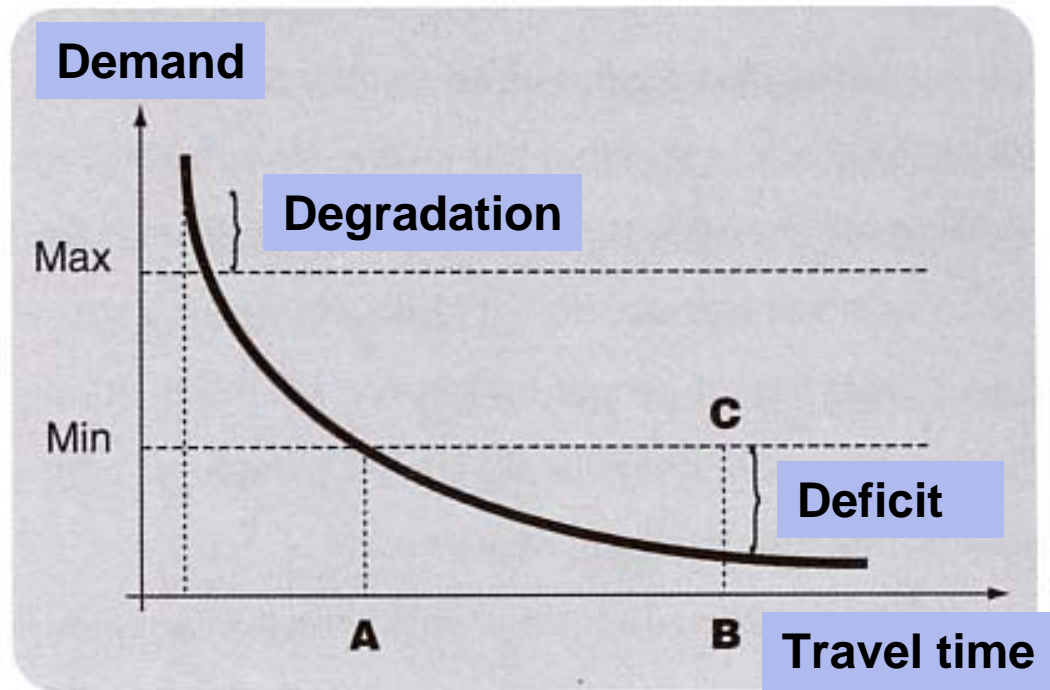
- Mobile capital
- Investments
- Population
- Visitors



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# Demand for peripheral tourism



Modified from Westin & Paju, 2005

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# Visions

- In Sweden: Governmental visions to develop the periphery through small-scale nature-based tourism development

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# Pleasure peripheries



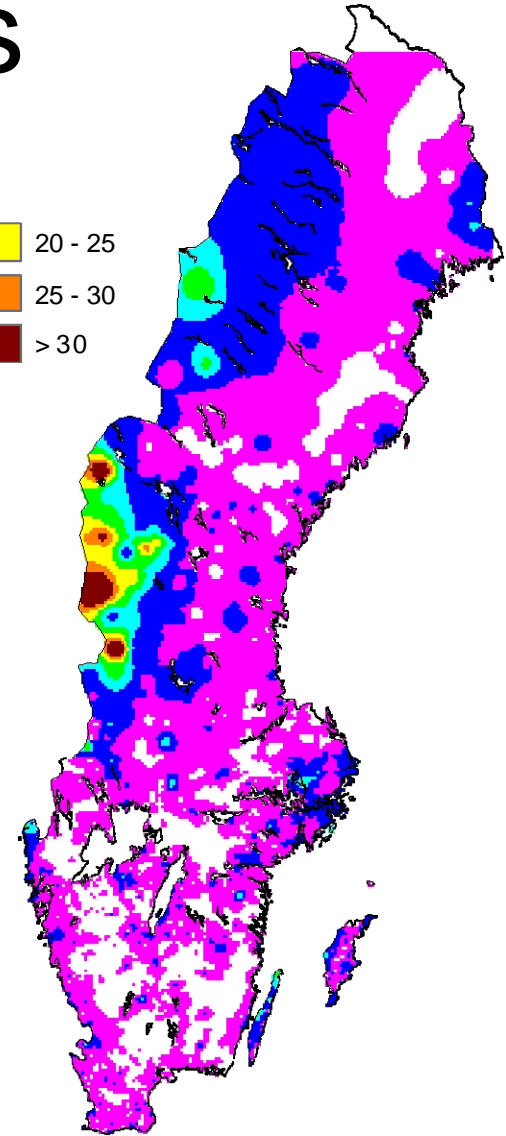
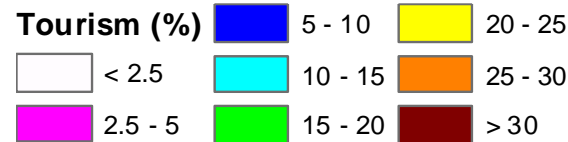
- Labour market and economic development
- Demographical development
- Cheap solutions

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# Tourism labor markets

- Alpine resorts
- Metropolitan areas
- Sea baths



# Accessibility

- Hierarchal accessibility patterns
  - Time
  - Costs

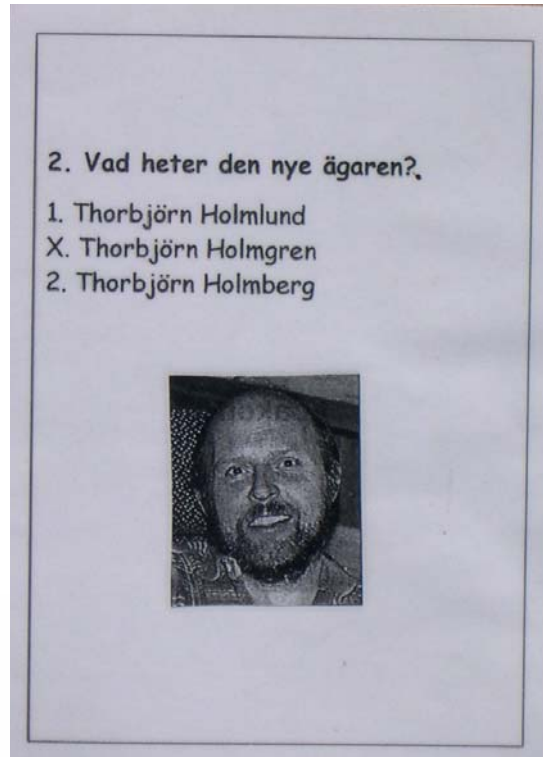


# Peripheral places

- Limited human capital
- Lack of insights into tourism
- Lack of planning
- Dependency on central decisions
- Gender roles and service provision
- Tourism as income trap
- Seasonality



# Peripheral entrepreneurs



- Marginal entrepreneurs
- Lifestyle entrepreneurs
- Competition instead of co-opetition
- Lack of leadership
- Lack of control

# Peripheral economies

- Lack of capital
- Public interference
- Lack of skills
- Lack of market access
- Mono-structures



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# Reasons for failure

- Tourism as isolated phenomenon in development strategies
- Lack of insights into peripheral issues:
  - Unrealistic expectations
  - Special-interest tourism as hinder to other development
  - Tourism growth as end in itself