

Analytic Methods for Generating Narrative Scenarios

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Narrative scenarios are a powerful tool to help diverse groups discuss policy choices under conditions of deep uncertainty. However, it is often difficult to justify the assumptions that underlie different scenarios and thus, to use them to systematically compare policy choices. In this talk, we will present a systematic, quantitative method for generating scenarios that span a wide range of plausible assumptions and have particular relevance for policy choices. We will demonstrate these general methods with a specific, simple integrated assessment model and suggest how such methods could be used to guide scenario-making with more complex models.