

# EAA 2018

BARCELONA,  
5-8 SEPTEMBER

REFLECTING FUTURES



# CALL FOR PAPERS

We invite you to our session,

## **#545: Challenging the models: Reflections of reality?**

Currently modelling is a central part of archaeological behavioural research. Many papers focus on the ability to extract the reflections of past social interactions and structures from a variety of archaeological and environmental sources. Especially in the light of highly theoretic archaeological modelling in pre- and proto history this often leads to environmentally driven, Darwinian like models, devoid of cognitive human factors, fuzzy decision making, and the possibility of non-rational choice. Considering all implemented assumptions required for social interaction models we have to question whether a model might be too complex to operate on the basis of our data. Has it entered the vicious circle of self-affirmation? Are our models questioning our own lack of knowledge? Where are we on an epistemic-ontic scale?

In our session we wish to address and discuss current problems in archaeological behavioural modelling. Questions tackled might include:

- whether we are creating Processualism 2.0?
- how narratives are encoded in models, as discussed from a theoretical, methodological or practical viewpoint?
- how the inclusion of social theory and the fuzziness of human decision making alters the results from a model?
- what is the impact of assumptions on modelling results?
- what is the impact of archaeological data on a model's outcome?
- how we can use inherent capabilities and inabilities of models to better interpret and narrate our approximations of reality?

To submit an abstract for our session please visit:

<https://eaa.klinkhamergroup.com/ea2018/>

**Deadline for submissions: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

For any questions regarding our session please contact: [chiara.girotto@web.de](mailto:chiara.girotto@web.de)

We look forward to your contributions,  
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