# THE IMPACT OF TERRITORIAL RESOURCES ON THE FIRM PRODUCTIVITY: TOWARD A FIRM-BASED OR A REGIONAL-BASED DEVELOPMENT?



S18 - Entrepreneurship and local development





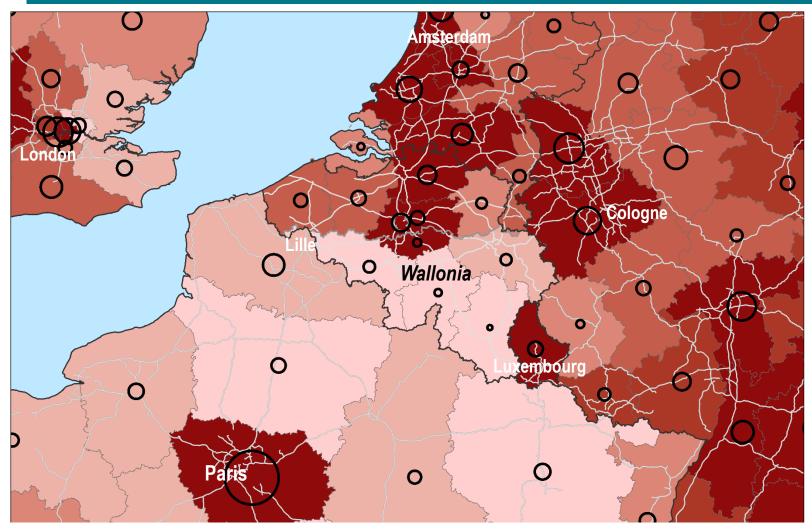




(1) ECOGEO & Lepur – University of Liège (Belgium); (2) University of Namur & UCLouvain (Belgium); (3) HEC Liège (Belgium); (4) Walloon Institute of Evaluation, Foresight and Statistics, Namur (Belgium)

# WALLOON REGION IN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT



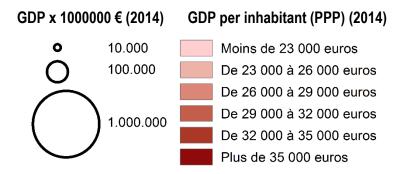


Author: H. Maldague (2019) Sources: Eurostat (2014)



#### Wallonia?

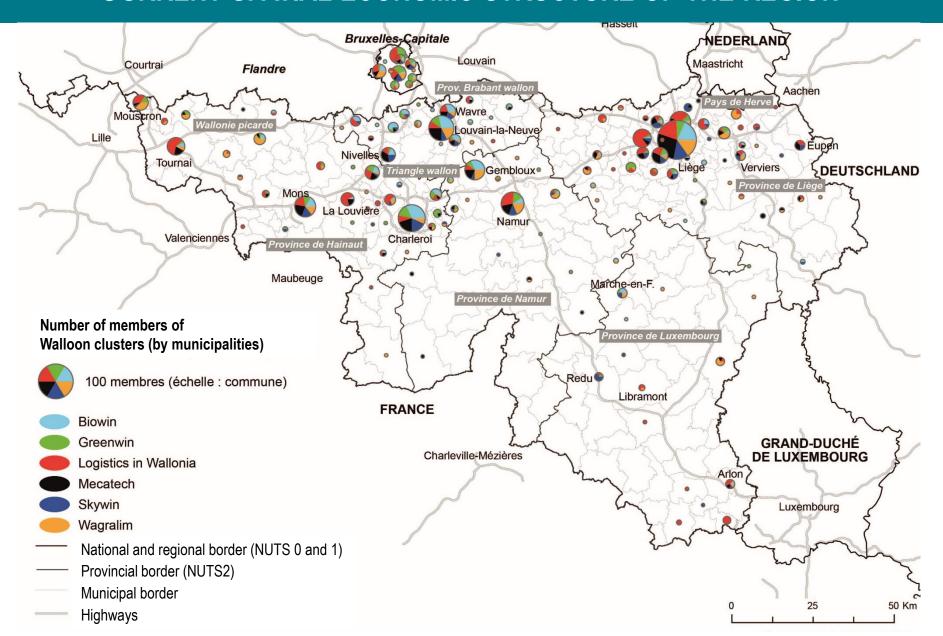
- Southern and French-speaking part of Belgium
- Industrial decline
- Spatial disparities between ...
  - Belgian regions
  - Brussels metropolitan area and the rest of the country



#### **CURRENT SPATIAL ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF THE REGION**







#### **TERRITORIAL RESOURCES?**





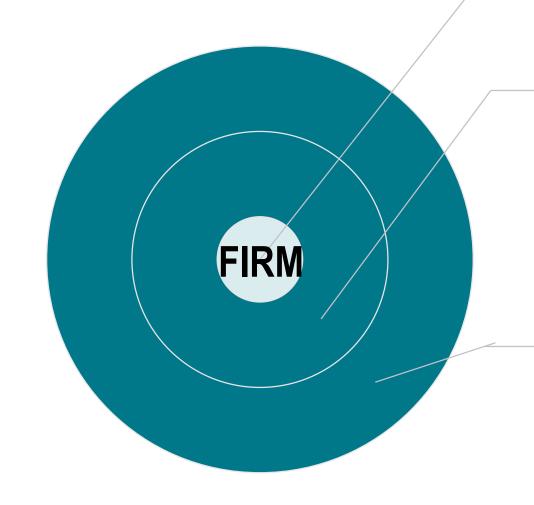




- 1. Sharing of inputs
- 2. Transport costs related to market size
- 3. Transaction costs
- 4. Knowledge spillovers

#### Social and economic environment

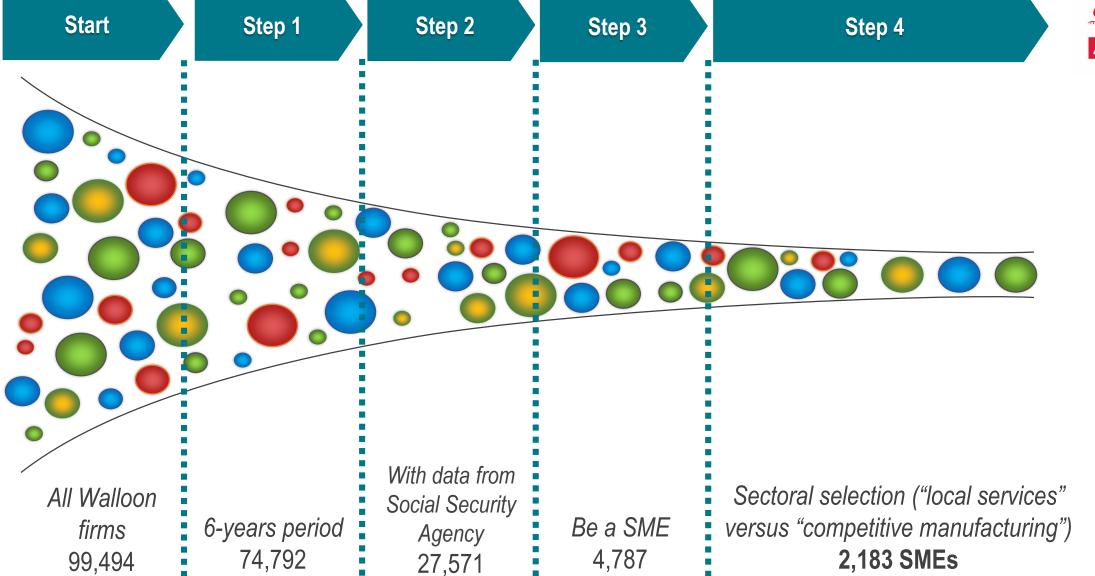
- 1. Institutional structures
- 2. Economic structures
- 3. Social structures
- 4. Geographical structures



# TOWARDS A SAMPLE OF SME



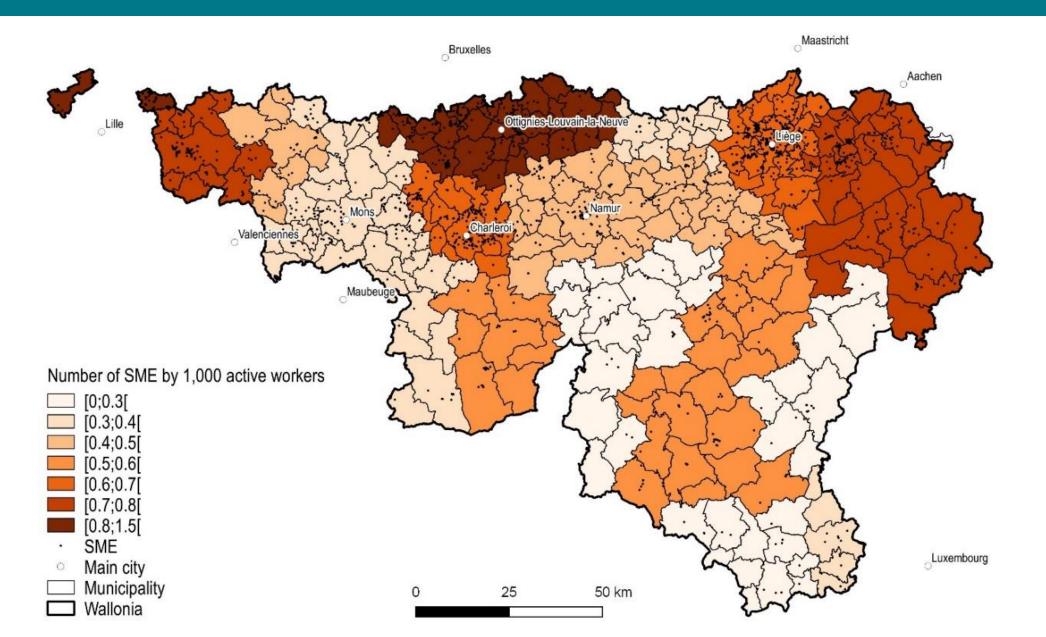




# LOCATION OF THE SMEs SAMPLE



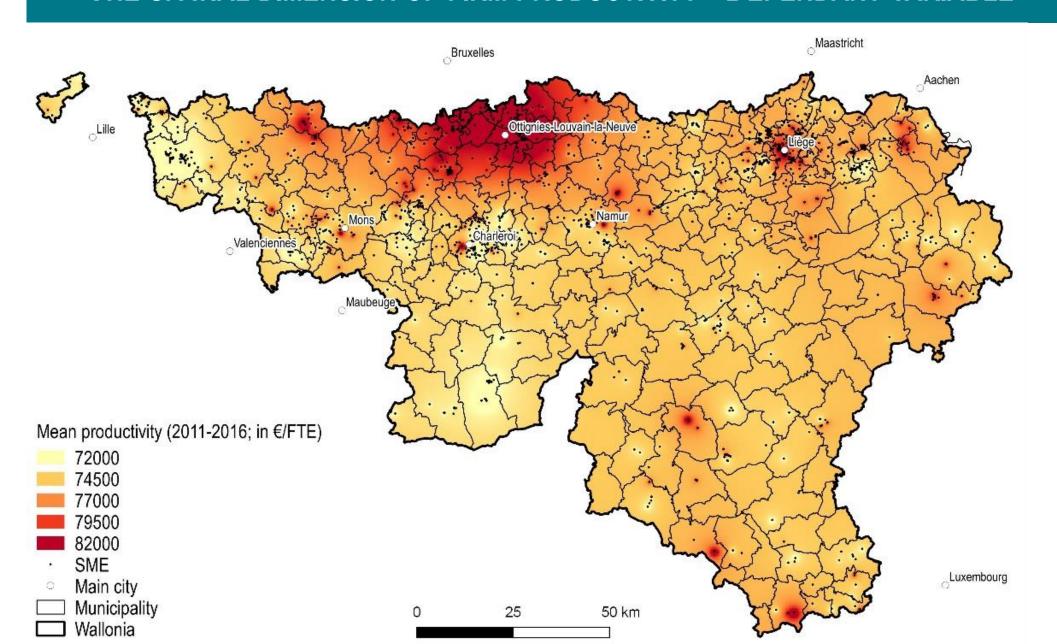




### THE SPATIAL DIMENSION OF FIRM PRODUCTIVITY - DEPENDANT VARIABLE







# TOWARD A MODEL INCLUDING INTERNAL VARIABLES:





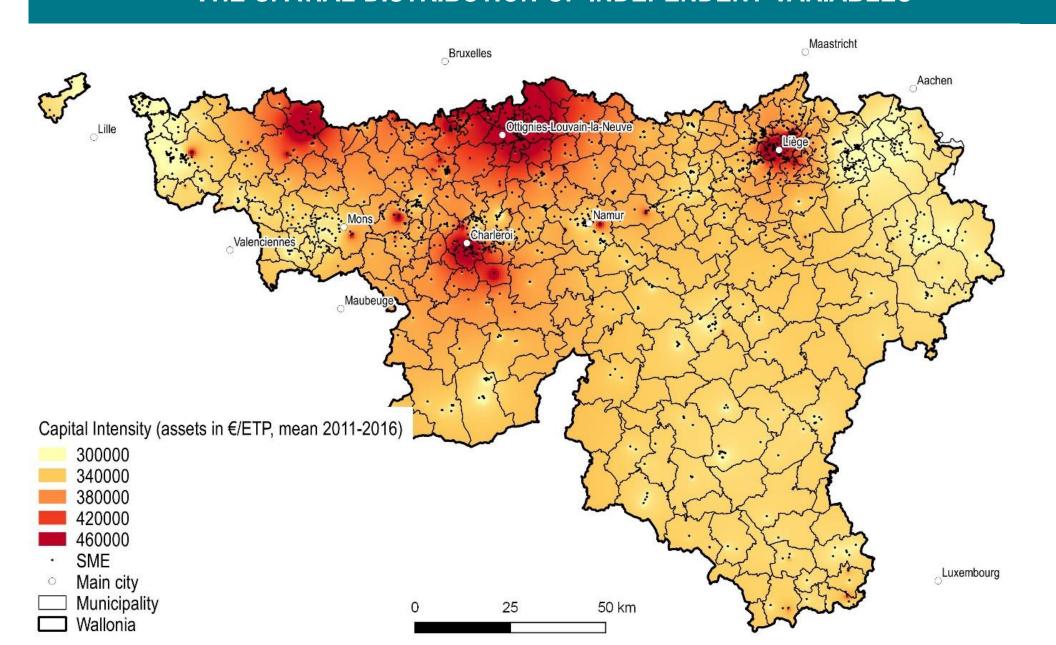
Log(Productivity) ~	Coefficient	Std	P-value
Constant	2,57690	0,00828207	<0,0001 ***
Log(Capital)	0,0237717	0,00164243	<0,0001 ***
Log(Wages)	0,0943276	0,00509301	<0,0001 ***
Economic sector (20)	Dummy variables		
Observation year (6)			
Creation period: age between 0 and 3	0,0028	0,002	0,1760
Emergence period : age between 4 and 7	0,0032	0,002	0,0822 *
Growth period: age between 8 and 20	0,0018	0,001	0,0375 **

OLS Model	References:	
$N = 2,183 \times 6$	<ul> <li>Economic sector with n max</li> </ul>	
HAC Std robust	<ul> <li>Observation year 2016</li> </ul>	
$R^2$ adj = 0,498	<ul> <li>Age period &gt; 20 (maturity)</li> </ul>	

#### THE SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF INDEPENDENT VARIABLES



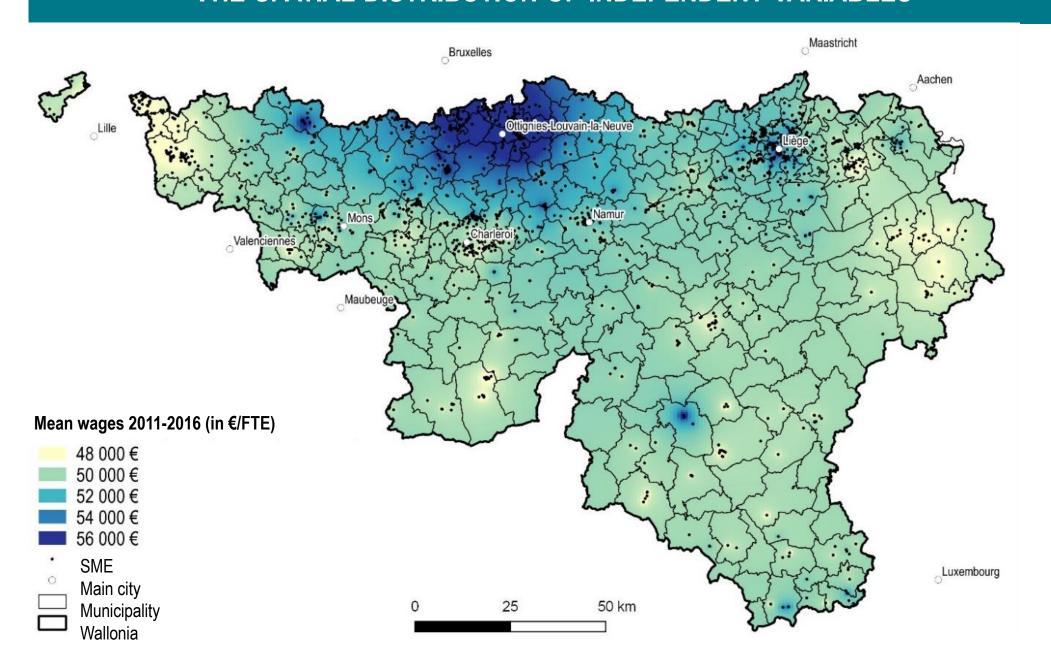




# THE SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF INDEPENDENT VARIABLES



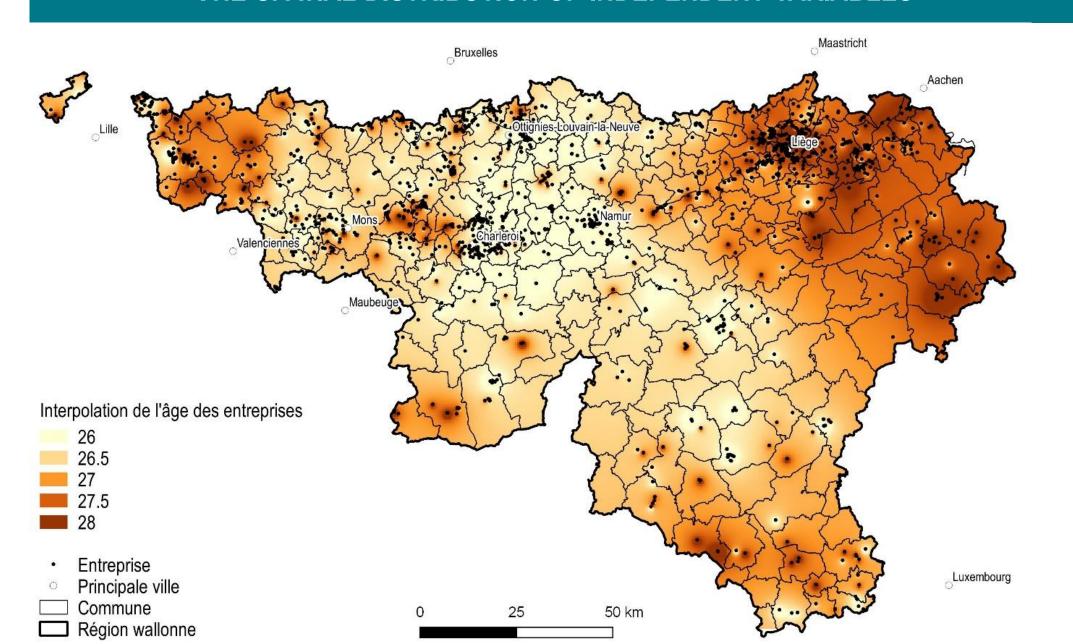




# THE SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF INDEPENDENT VARIABLES



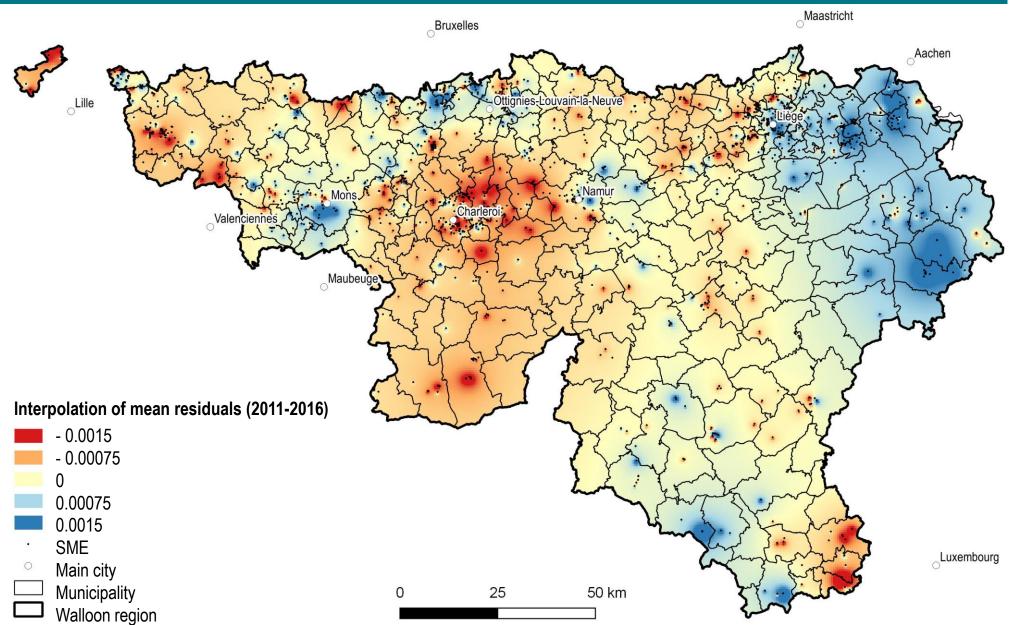




### ... AND THE SPATIAL DIMENSION OF RESIDUALS WITH INTERNAL VARIABLES



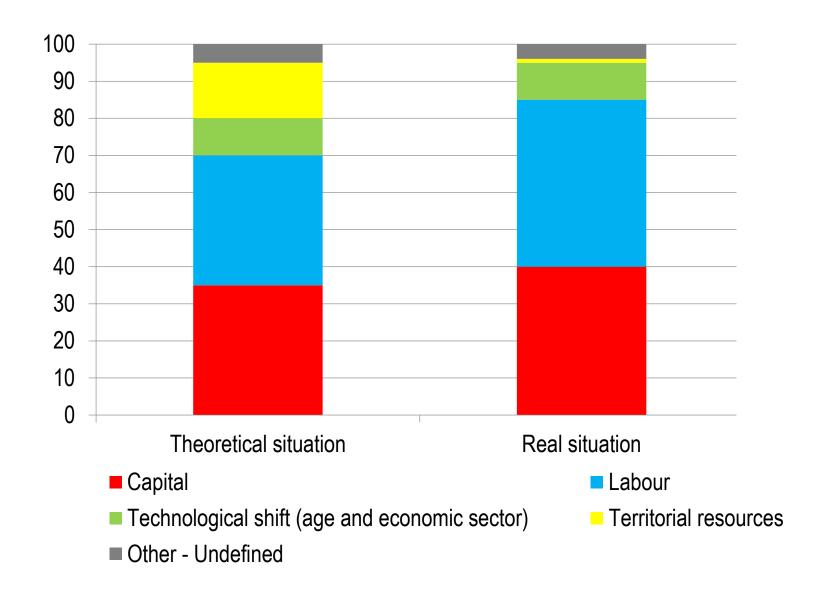




#### TOWARD A METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEM







#### WHICH OPTIONS?





Wages as a territorial resource?

Verifying residuals as a proxy of capacity of investment of firms

Testing also the territorial resources?

Toward sectoral models: industry, logistics and services

#### **TOWARD SOME CONCLUSIONS**





#### Methodological viewpoint

- Methodological challenge to detect the impact of location from the production factors
- Unexpected effect of wages on the territorial resources

#### But a real significance for economic geography

- The low impact of local and global accessibility ... at Walloon scale
- In contrast with the key role of labour market!

#### Depending on the viewpoint

- Entrepreneur goal: maximising gross operating profit to develop business
- Public authorities goal: maximising wages and added value (tax)
- ... not the same locational strategy

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