Session L21.1

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Sheep for meat farms in plain: diversity and evolution over 16 years (France)

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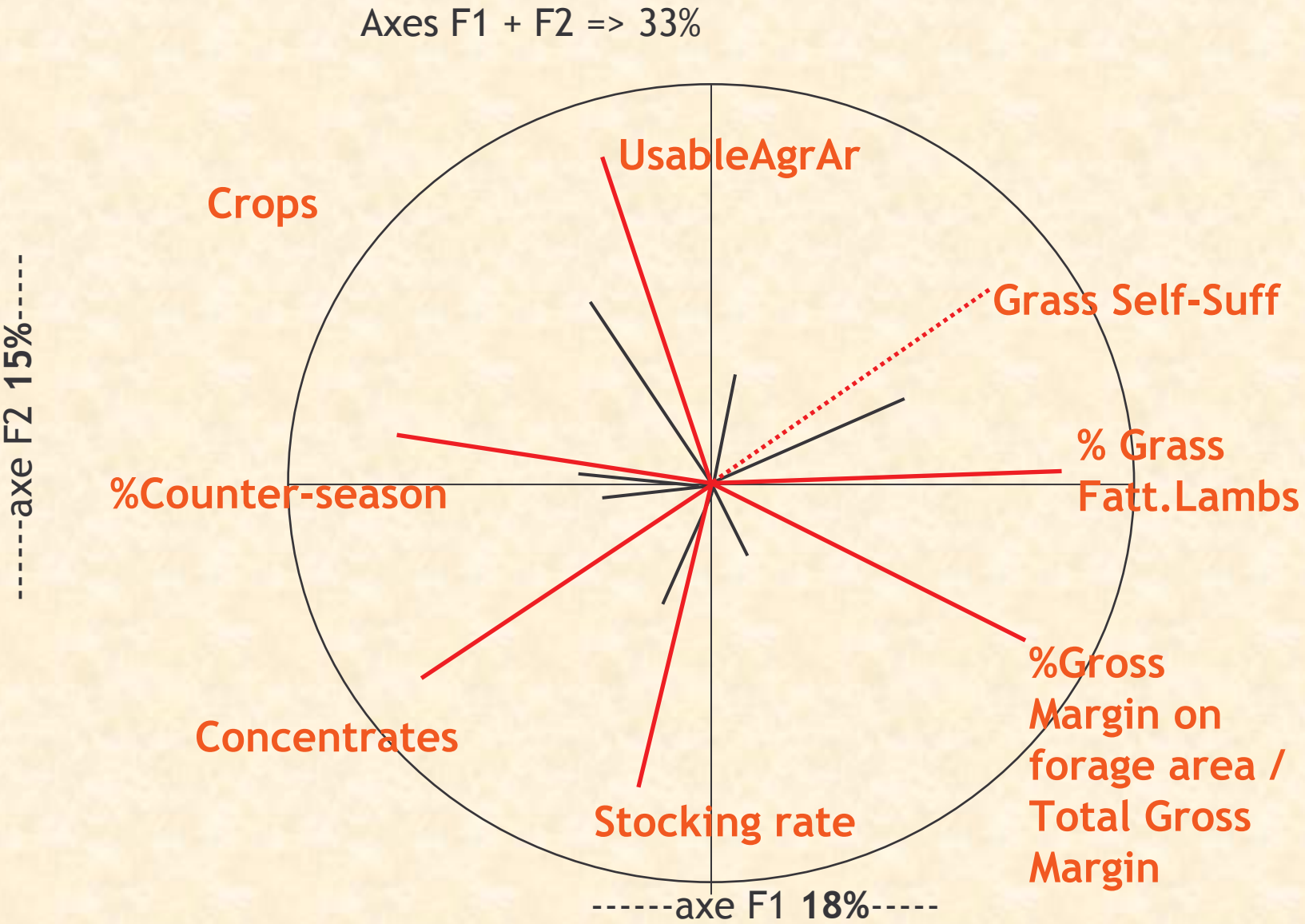
Introduction

- Strong evolution of sheep farms from 1988 to 2003 :
  - CAP
  - Prices: sheep meat and inputs
  - Socio-économic factors
- Analysis
  - Which farm “trajectory” over 16 years?
  - Which farm typology in 2003?
  - In 2003, which adequacy of the farming systems with the expectation
    - Of the farmers
    - Of the society (economic, social, environnemental)?

Material et methods

- A sheep farm network on a long term period (n=25 farms/year)
- Over 16 years (1988-2003)
- 460 years-farms (387 with more than 12 years)
- Interannual multifactorial analysis (Principal Components), based on 14 variables
  - Farm structures (size, productions, grass intensification , work…)
  - Sheep flock functioning (numerical productivity, concentrates use, seasons..)

Results: Which discriminant variables?



Results 1/evolution

which evolution dynamics?

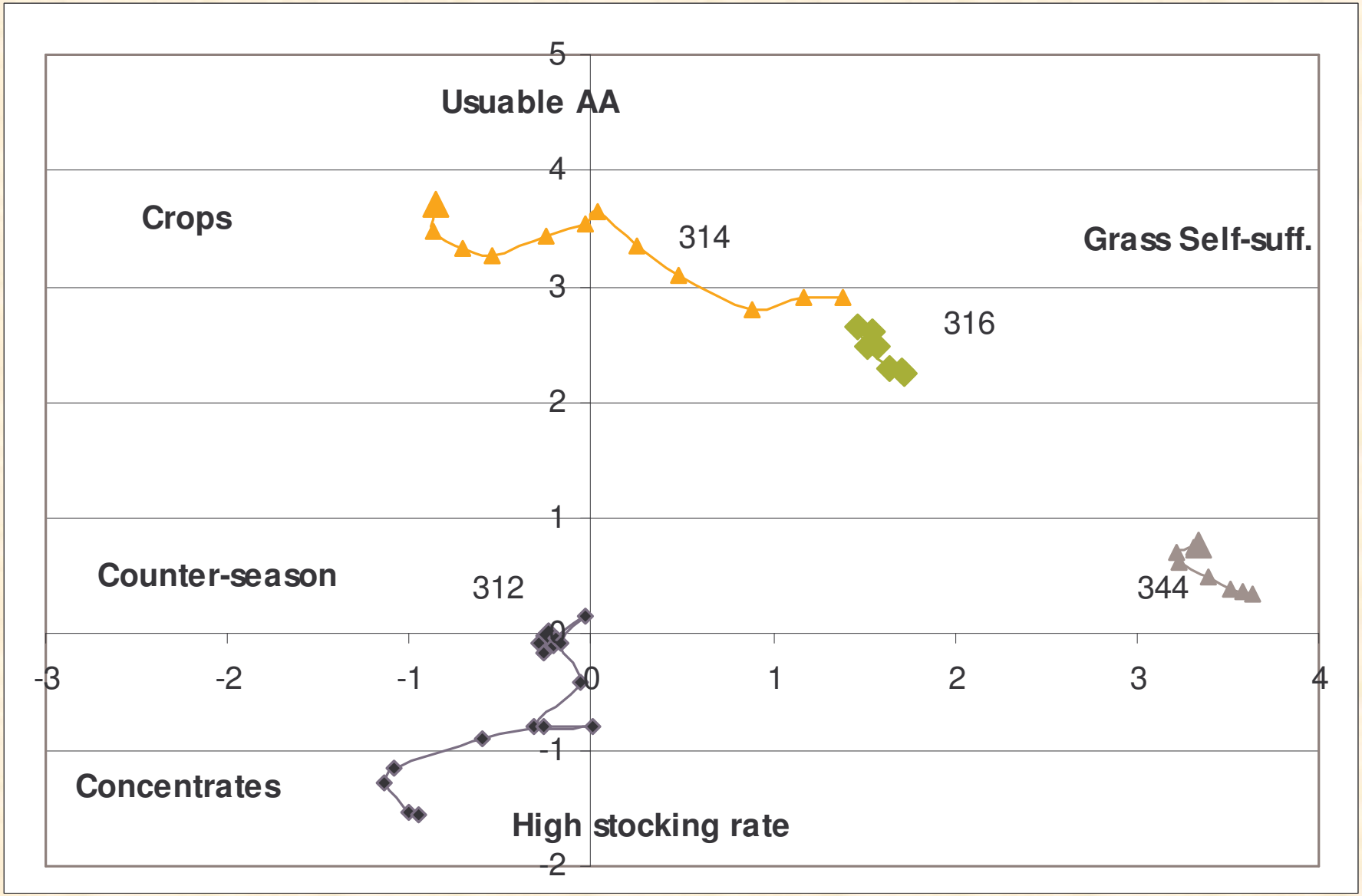
Two criteria to analyse the evolution:

- ***Interannual changes***= calculation of the average distance between 2 years (14 factors) = **Average Dist**
- ***Beginning period - End period changes***= calculation of the distance between the co-ordinates of the average beginning 4 years and the average end 4 years

		Average Dist (=interannual)			
		Small	Small-medium	Medium-high	High
Dist. Begin-End	Small	**n=4**	**n=3**	**n=2**	**n=5**
	High	**n=4**	**n=3**	**n=4**	**n=5**

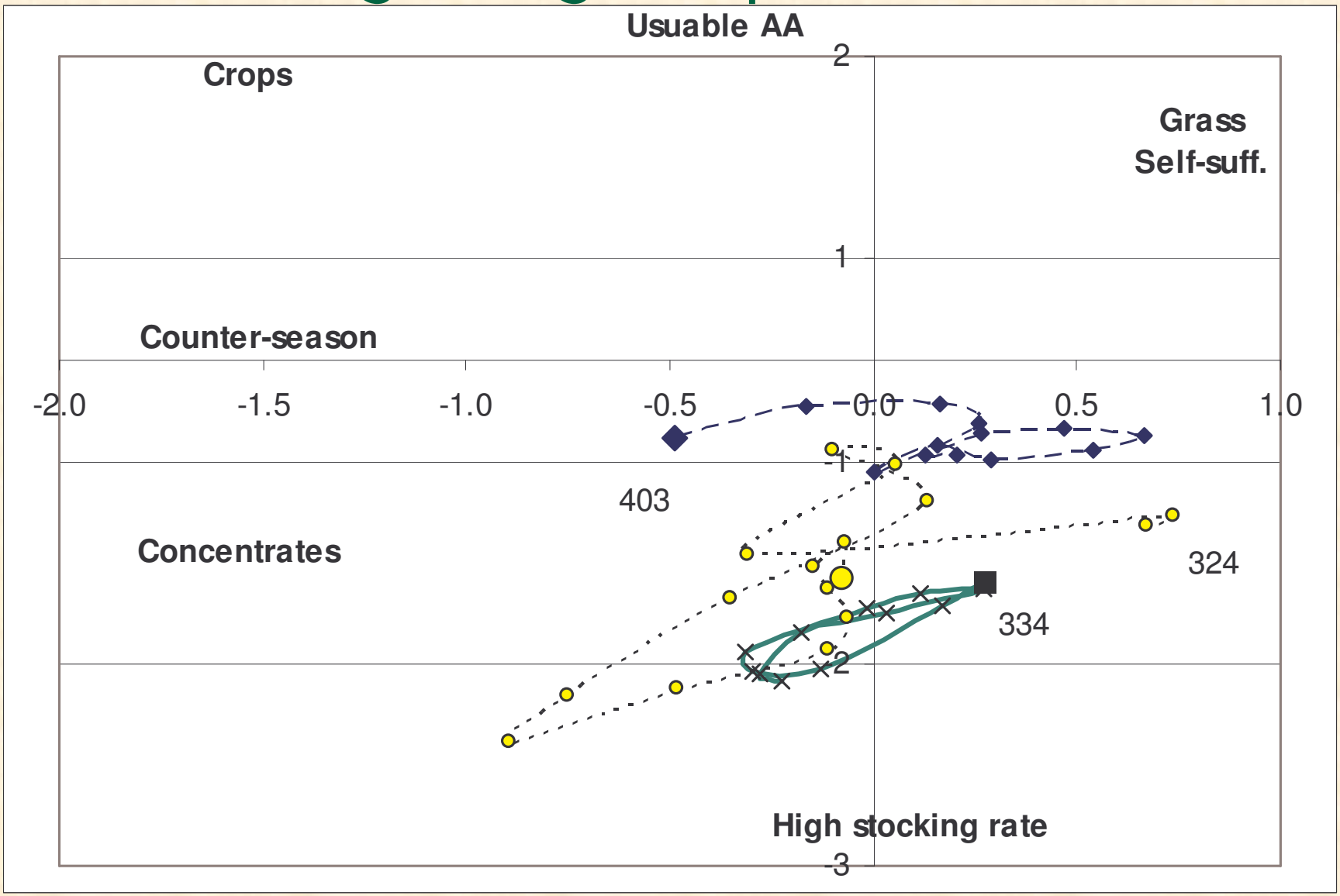
inter-years: small

between begenning-end period: small or high



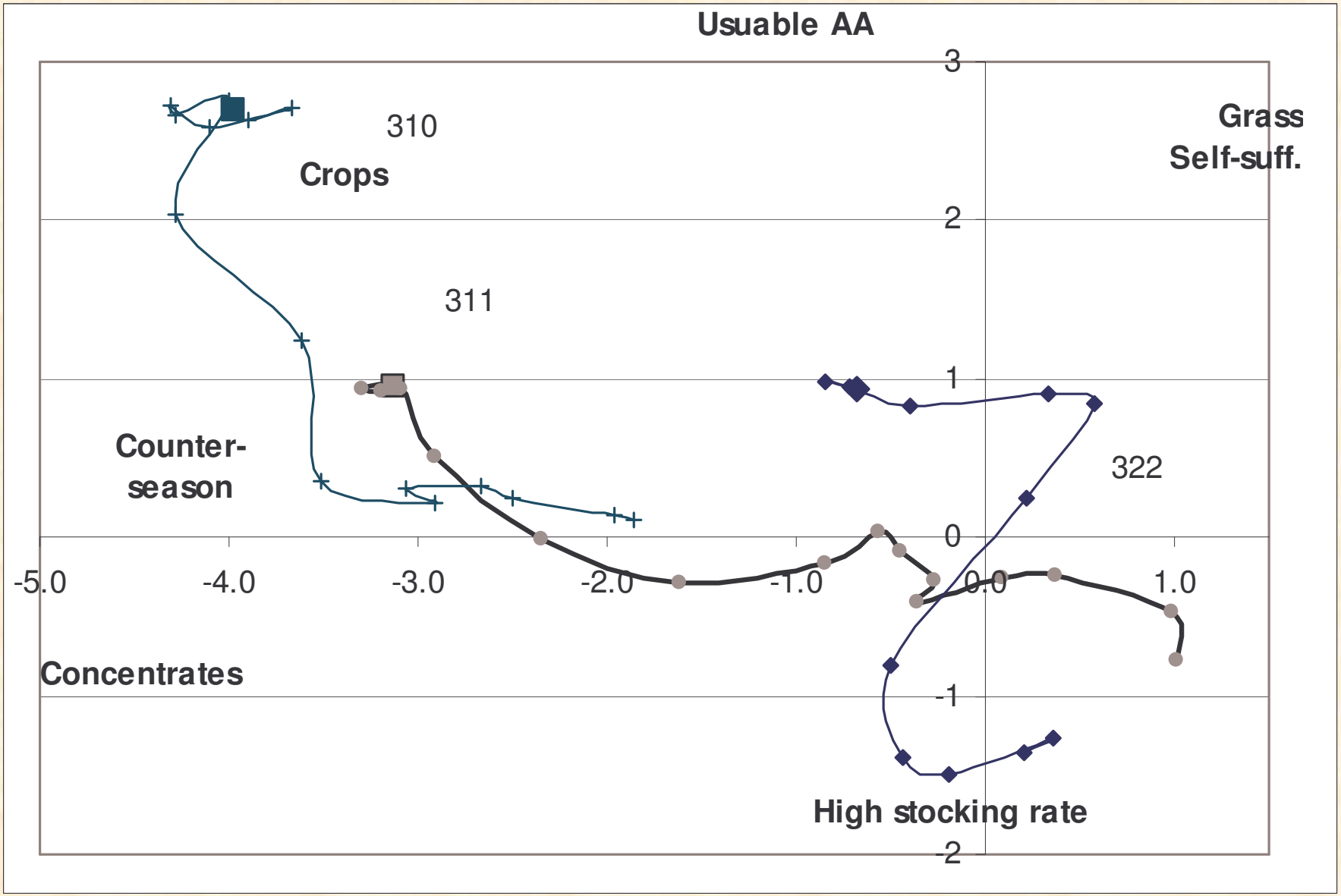
inter-years: high

between begenning-end period: small



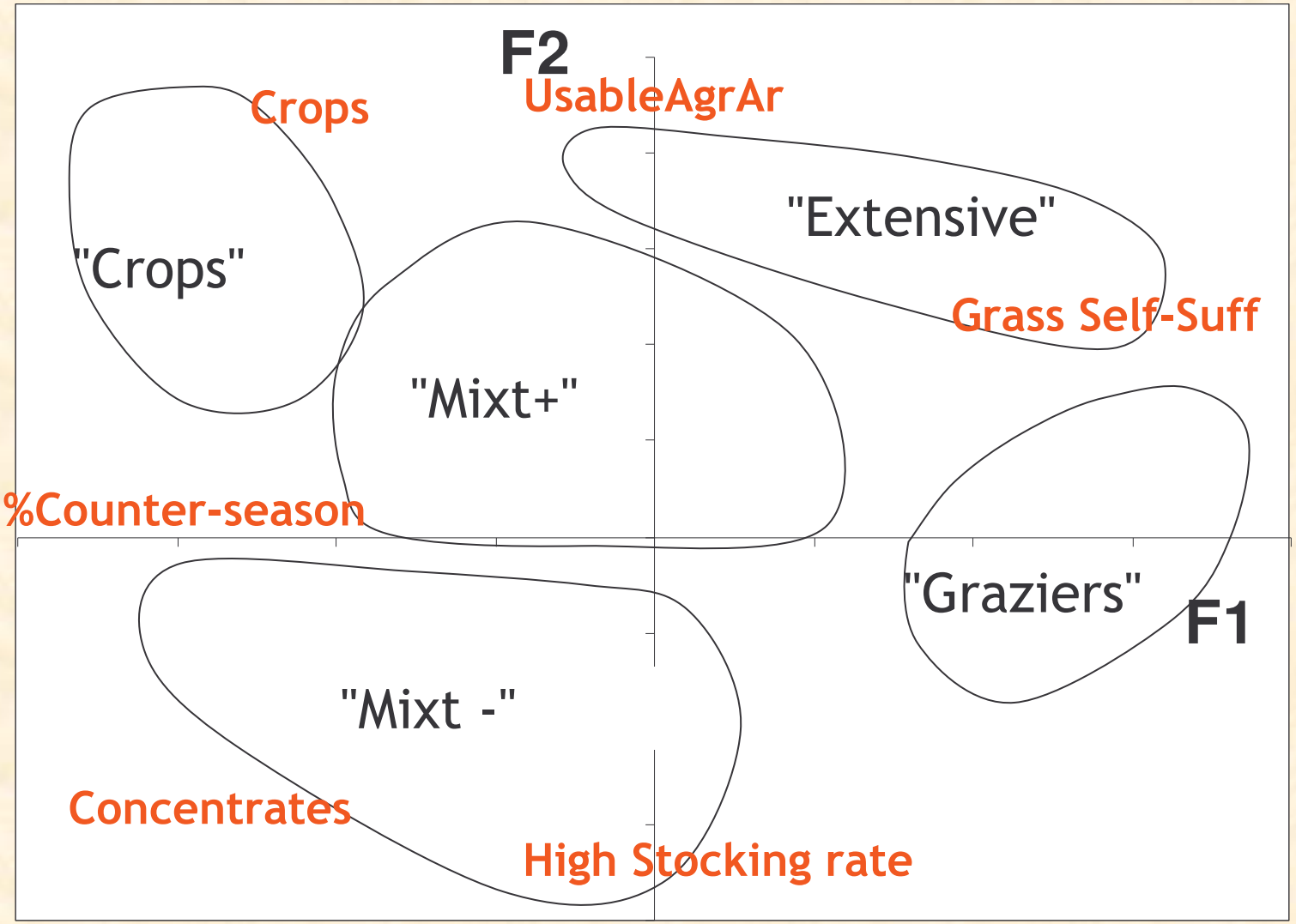
inter-years: high

between begenning-end period: high



Results 2/Typology

Typology of the farms (year 2003)



Analysis of the situation 2003

Why such differences between the farms and in their evolution?

- **Internal factors:**
  - pedo-climatic and structural characteristics,
  - aims of the farmers (Income, work, succession of the farm, family structure and way of life)…
- **External factors:**
  - various adaptations from the farmers: CAP, needs of PP networks,

Results 2/Typology analyse

Assets of the 5 groups according several approaches

For the farms themselves:

+ : *favorable*	Extens.	Graziers	Mixt+	Mixt-	Crops
Net Income	+ +	+ +	+ + +	+	+
Capital needed	++	+++		+	++
Workload	++	++			+++

For the community:

Prod. and processing Network	+	+	+++	++	++
Territory occupancy	+	+++	++	+	
Local Economic Activ.		++	+++	++	++
Added Value /ha		+++	+++		
Environn. Criteria	++	+++	++	++	

Discussion - Conclusion

- 3 key points: Workload – Net income – PP network
- On a middle term period: the aim is to **provide the PP network**…with **reasonable workload** in the farms
  - **Individually** -> «Mixt+» -> Salaried workforce

    -> Subcontracting work
  - **Collectively** -> «Graziers» + «Crops»
    - *Which breed to have lambing in « counter-season »?*
    - *Will the PP network accept lambs from different breeds in «counter-season»?*
    - *Which (simple) flock management for the «Crops» farms?*
    - *Single Farm Payment Scheme: favorable to the developpment of sheep in "Crops" farms…if the workload is low*