

THE ART OF  
**MODELING** IN THE FOREST

Prof. Dr. Tianjian Cao  
Northwest A&F University



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生态仿真优化实验室  
Simulation Optimization Lab



# 智慧林业：从监测、预测到决策

## Smart Forestry

from

**Observation, Prediction, to Decision**



## IT技术发展的三个阶段

- 第一代IT (Industrial Technology),
  - 机电一体化,
  - CIMS,
  - ...
- 第二代IT (Information Technology),
  - 数据库,
  - 电算化,
  - ...
- 第三代IT (Intelligence Technology),
  - 大数据,
  - 大模型,
  - 数字孪生,
  - ...



## AI技术发展的三个阶段

- 1<sup>st</sup> generation AI: Fundamental Algorithms
  - Random number generators, K-means clustering
  - Simulated annealing, Nelder-Mead algorithm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation AI: Nature-Inspired Algorithms
  - Evolution algorithm, Genetic programming
  - Particle swarm optimization, Ant colony optimization
  - Cellular automata
- 3<sup>rd</sup> generation AI: Neural Networks and Deep Learning
  - Machine learning, Artificial neural network
  - Convolutional neural network, Natural language processing



## AI技术应用产业链

- 1. 顶层设计与系统架构
- 2. 硬件设备与工业生产
- 3. 精密仪器与电子测量
- 4. 智能装备嵌入式开发
- 5. 系统集成与网络运维
- 6. 数据采集与模型训练
- 7. 模型优化与模型更新
- 8. 工程部署与监管部门
- 9. 数据安全与闭环管理
- 10. 国产化政策与Linux



## AI技术应用场景

- 1. 数字信号
- 4. 集成电路
- 7. 自动控制
- 10. 智慧交通
- 13. 数字孪生
- 16. 电子商务
- 19. 智慧城市
- 22. 智慧校园
- 25. 智慧矿山
- 28. 智慧农业
- 2. 网络通信
- 5. 机器人
- 8. 边缘计算
- 11. 智慧建筑
- 14. 智慧物流
- 17. 智慧金融
- 20. 智慧应急
- 23. 智慧家园
- 26. 智慧化工
- 29. 智慧牧业
- 3. 视觉识别
- 6. 3D打印
- 9. 无人驾驶
- 12. 虚拟现实
- 15. 智慧仓储
- 18. 电子政务
- 21. 智慧园区
- 24. 智慧医疗
- 27. 智慧水利
- 30. 智慧林业



## 智慧林业发展的四个阶段

- 1. 林业信息化,
  - 数据库, 森林资源GIS图
- 2. 林业3S,
  - GIS, RS, GPS/GNSS/BD?
- 3. 数字林业,
  - GIS, RS, LiDAR, 无人机
- 4. 智慧林业,
  - 数字孪生, 仿真模型? 优化算法?



# Introduction 森林建模学科体系

- 林业经济 Forest Economics
  - 计量经济模型 Econometric models
  - 生物经济模型 Bioeconomic models
- 森林经营 Forest Management
  - 生物统计模型 Growth and yield
  - 决策支持系统 Forest planning
- 森林生态 Forest Ecology
  - 生物统计模型 Biometric models
  - 过程机理模型 Process/mechanistic models
- 森林工程 Logging and transportation
  - 出材优化模型 Log merchandizing models
  - 采运集材模型 Forest transportation



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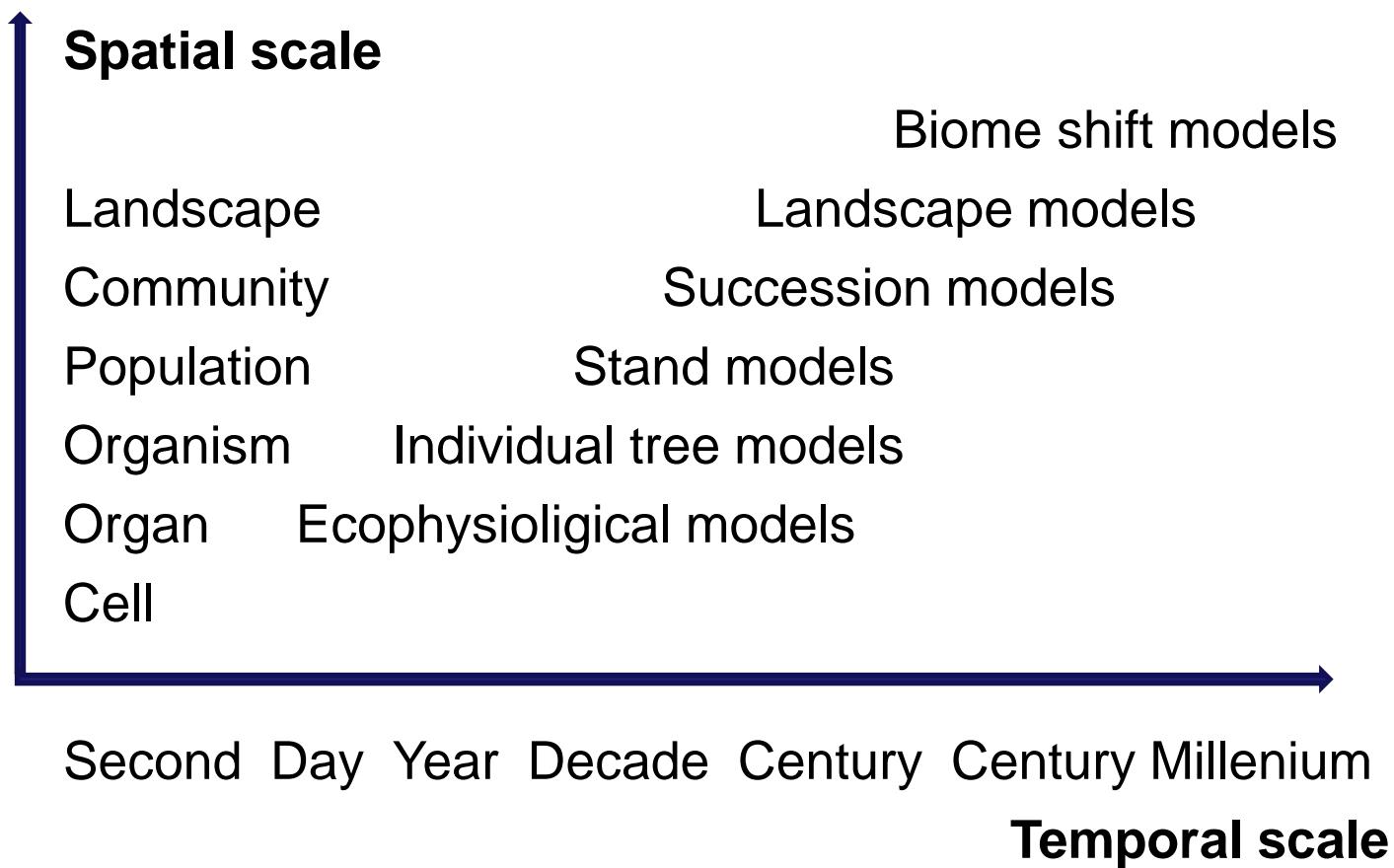


# Managing Natural Resources

From utilization, optimization, to evaluation

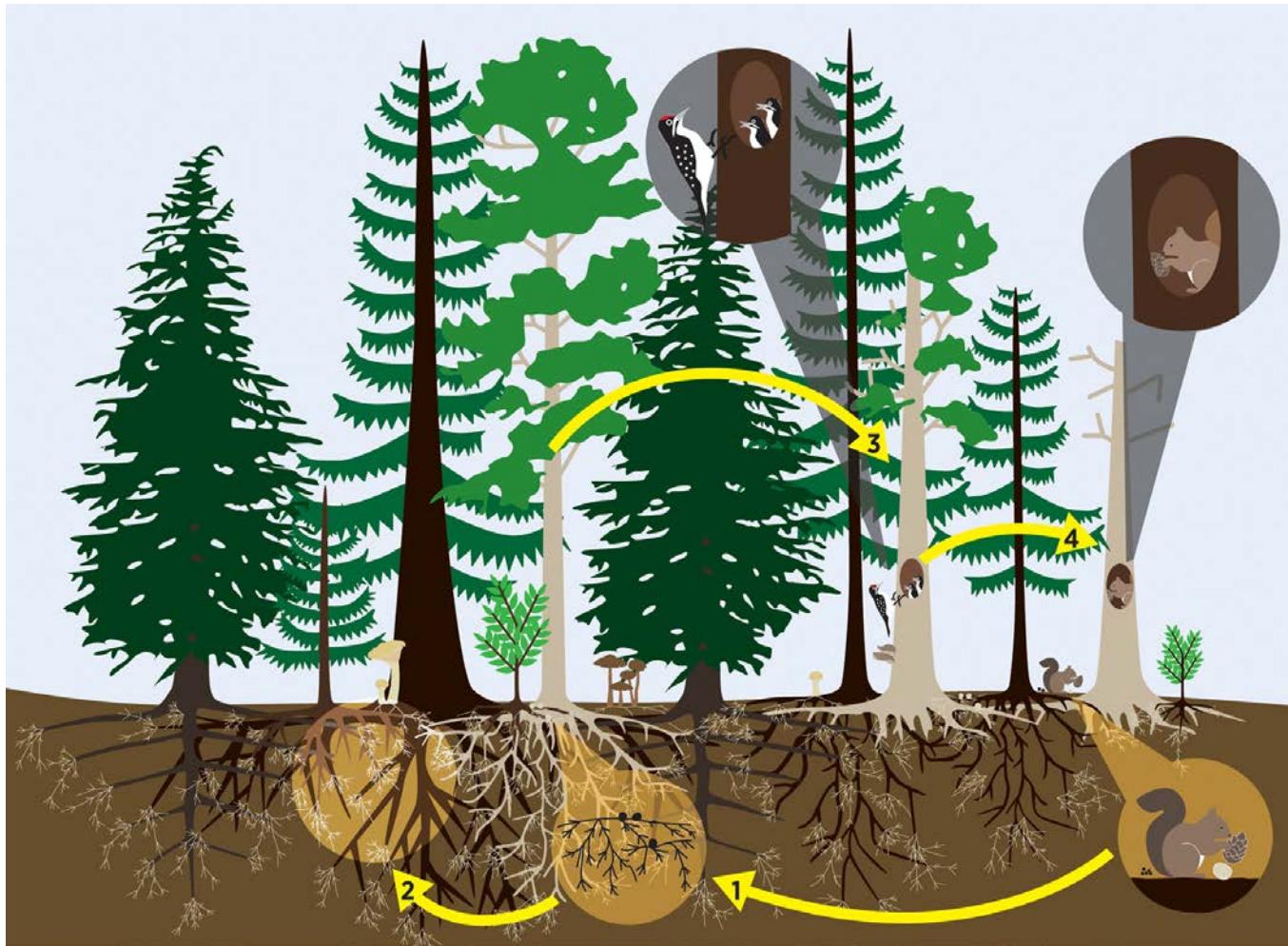


# Spatial and temporal aggregation





## A self-organizing meta-network



Source: Filotas et al. (2014)



# Forest and Natural Resources



## Natural Resources

- Agriculture
- Fisheries
- Mining
- Water resources
- Forestry**

## Natural resources as complex systems

- 1 Heterogeneity,                    2 hierarchy,
- 3 self-organization,                4 openness,
- 5 adaptation,                      6 memory,
- 7 non-linearity,                    8 uncertainty



## Virgin forests in the Rocky Mountains





## OR in Agriculture

- Agriculture problems:
  - Risk management
  - Interaction between agriculture and the environment
  - Water resources planning
  - Agroforestry systems management
  - Simulation of effects on changes of agriculture policy
- OR/MS techniques used:
  - Linear programming
  - Multi-objective fractional programming
  - Goal programming
  - Multi-attribute utility theory
  - Control dynamic optimization



## OR in Fisheries

- Fisheries management
- Shared fish stocks and high seas issues
- Game theoretic applications to fisheries
- Uncertainty in bioeconomic modelling
- Parametric and non-parametric techniques
- Demand structure for fish and seafood products



## OR in Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry

- The same self-thinning rule
  - Optimal stocking control
    - Over grazing
    - Fish farming
    - Forest stand density
- The different time scale
  - The length of rotation
    - Months: Agriculture
    - Years: Fisheries
    - Decades: Forestry



# Managing Forest Resources



*Is there a more efficient way?*

## Simulation

Biometrics

## Optimization

Algorithms



## Spruce-beech forests in Bavaria





## The Faustmann Formula (1849)

- Present Value of Bare Land

$$PV_{timber} = \frac{e^{-rt} [B(T) - c]}{1 - e^{-rt}}$$

- Optimality Condition

$$\frac{B'(T)}{B(T) - c} = \frac{r}{1 - e^{-rt}}$$



## 森林生长理论体系 Theory of forest growth



- 适地适树原则, Species-specific and site-specific
- 林木结构异速生长理论, Allometrics of tree architecture
- 林分结构概率分布理论, Probability distribution of stand structure
- 林木生长代谢尺度理论, Metabolic scaling theory of tree growth
- 林分密度自然稀疏理论, Self-thinning theory of stand density
- 森林更新林窗空间理论, Gap theory of forest regeneration



# Equation set of forest growth 森林生长方程组

## Equation set of forest dynamics

I	$w_i = \alpha \cdot w^{\beta}$	The allometric relationship of tree structure The probability density function of stand structure The metabolic scaling theory of tree growth The -3/2 self-thinning rule of stand density control The gap model theory of forest regeneration
II	$f(d_i) = f(A, S, D)$	
III	$\ln v = \alpha + 3/4 \cdot \ln v$	
IV	$\ln N = \alpha - 3/2 \cdot \ln V$	
V	$R = \alpha - \beta \cdot G + \gamma \cdot S$	

## 森林动态方程组

I	$w_i = \alpha \cdot w^{\beta}$	林木异速生长定律 林分结构概率密度分布规律 林木生长新陈代谢尺度理论 林分密度自疏伐理论 森林更新林窗理论
II	$f(d_i) = f(A, S, D)$	
III	$\ln v = \alpha + 3/4 \cdot \ln v$	
IV	$\ln N = \alpha - 3/2 \cdot \ln V$	
V	$R = \alpha - \beta \cdot G + \gamma \cdot S$	



## OR in Forestry

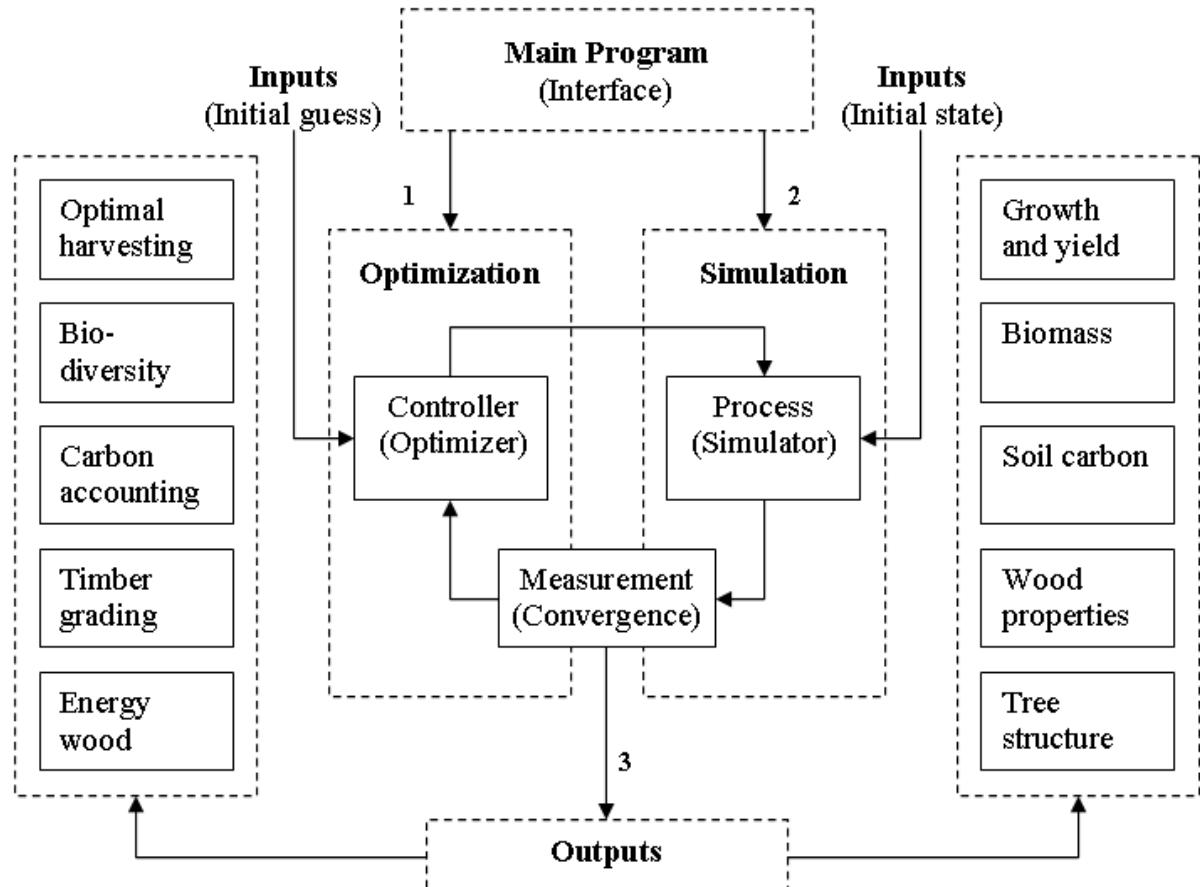
- Tree-, stand-, and forest-level (*simulation*)
- Strategic-, tactical-, and operational-level (*optimization*)
  
- Log merchandizing and timber grading
- Forest logistics
- Forest wildlife preservation
- Spatial environmental concerns
- Forest management planning
- Forest policy and economics
- Multiple criteria decision-making
- Forest fire management
- Forest pests
- Adaptive forest management



# OPTIFOR: OPTImization in FORestry

## ■ Publications:

- Cao (2003)
- Cao et al. (2006)
- Cao et al. (2008)
- Cao (2010)
- Cao et al. (2010)
- Cao et al. (2015)
- Hurttala et al. (2017)
- Xue et al. (2019)





# Optimization of Carbon and Climate



OptiFor Carbon



## Carbon assessment methods

1. Stem carbon
2. Biomass expansion factors
3. Process-based model

Carbon assessment method

0

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Carbon price

OK

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OptiFor Climate



## Climate Scenarios

1. Climate scenario I
2. Climate scenario II
3. Climate scenario III
4. Climate scenario IV

Climate scenario

0

Changes in costs [0, 1]

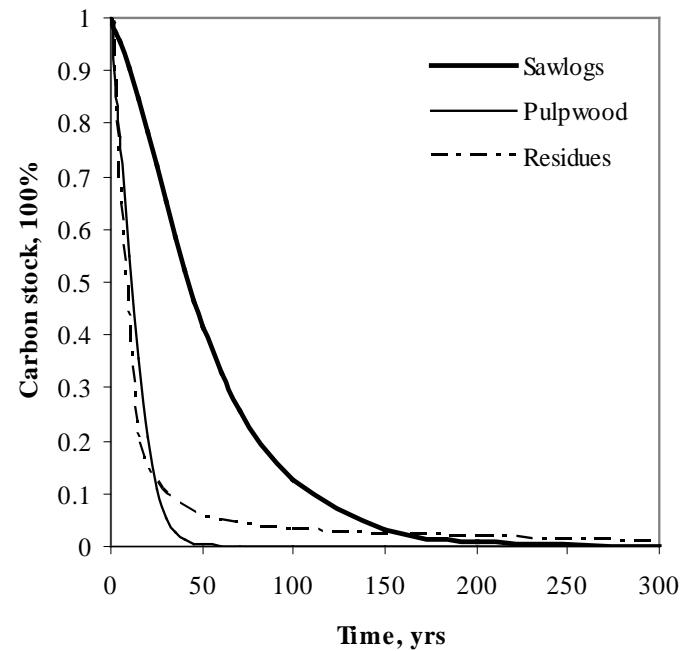
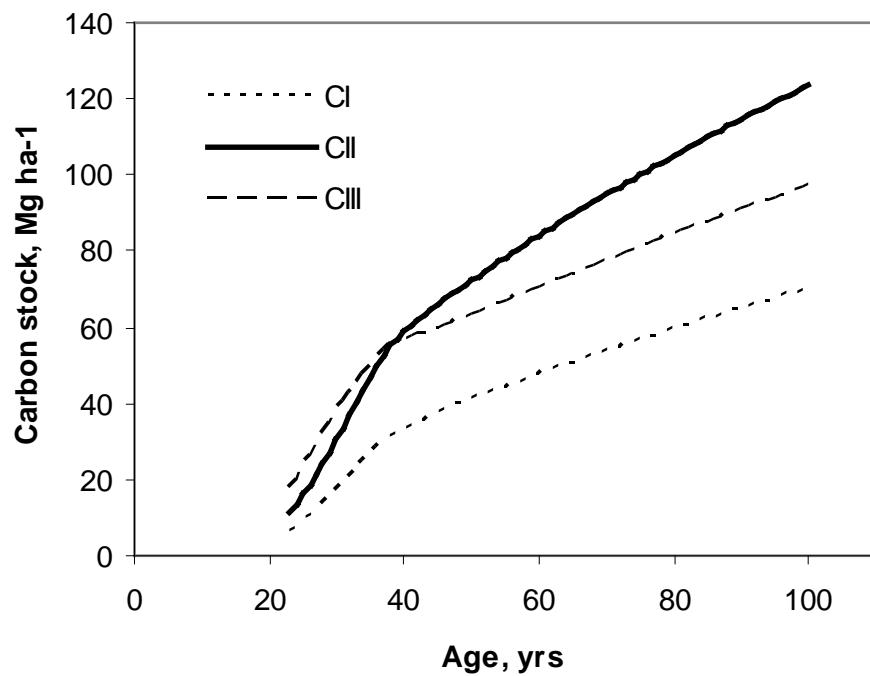
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Cao et al. (2010)





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# OR Techniques

From linear programming, multi-criteria decision-making, to self-learning



## Historical notes

- The traditional division in optimization literature was **linear vs. non-linear problems** as the former were thought to be “easier” to solve than the latter.
- The more recent division is between **convex and non-convex problems**, as it has been found that non-linear problems that are convex are often "almost as easy" to solve as linear problems,
- while **non-convex non-linear problems** often pose problems.



## Pine-birch forests in NE China





## Multi-criteria decision methods

- Multi-Objective Programming (MOP)
- Goal programming (GP)
- Compromise Programming (CP)
- Multi-attribute utility theory (MAUT)
- Fuzzy Mult-Criteria Programming (FMCP)
- Analytic hierarchy process (AHP)
- Other Discrete Methods (ODM)
- Data envelopment analysis (DEA)
- Group Decision Making Techniques (GDM)



# Forest Risk Management



*Mission Impossible?*

**Simulated Forest**

Reliability optimization

**Real Forest**

AI algorithms



## IUFRO Division 8.03



- 8.03.01 – Torrent, erosion and landslide control
- 8.03.02 – Snow and avalanches
- 8.03.03 – Prevention by watershed management and land-use planning
- 8.03.04 – Disaster documentation and assessment
- 8.03.05 – Forest fires
- 8.03.06 – Impact of wind on forests

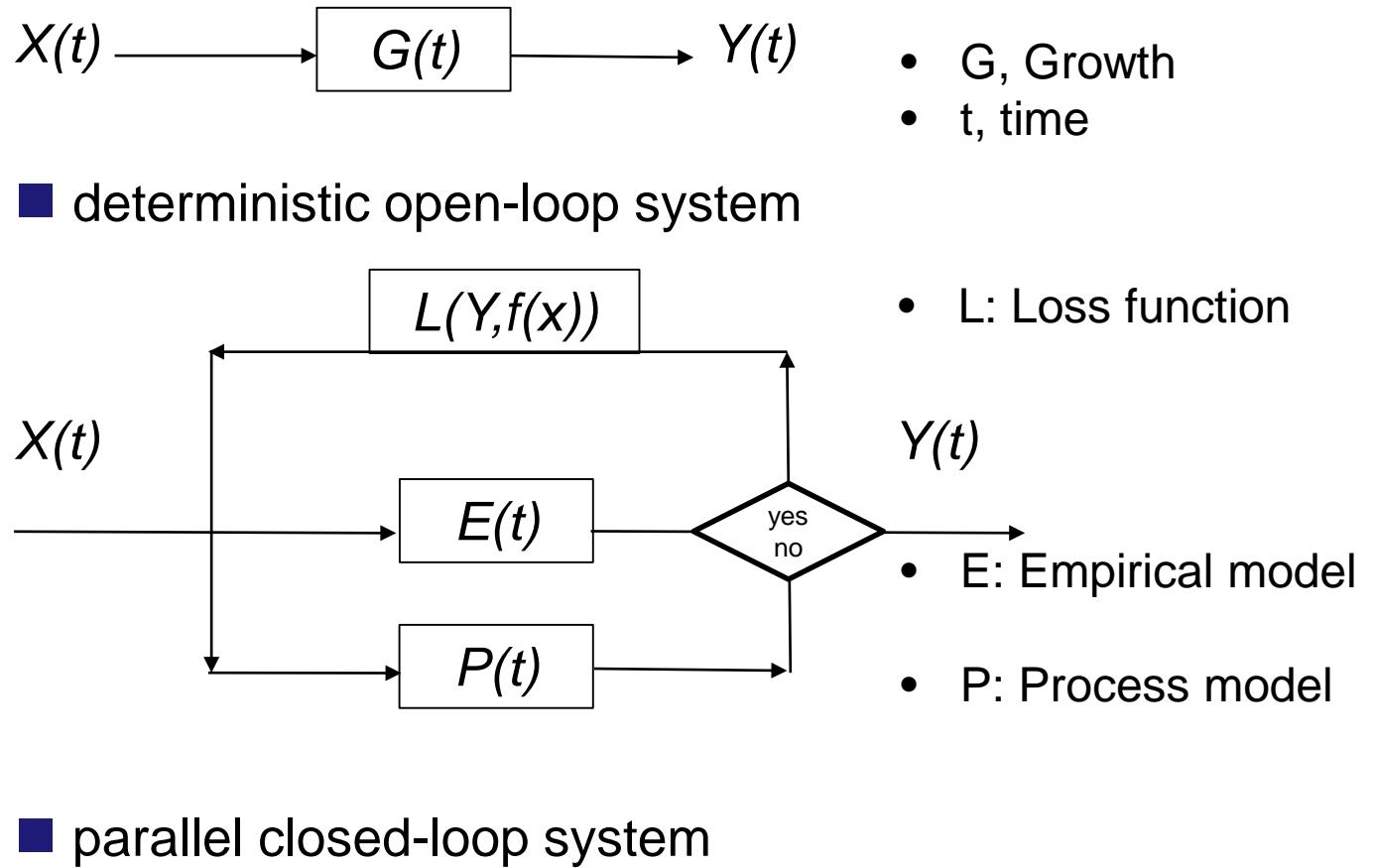


# Risk and Uncertainty in Forestry





## A multimodal self-learning system





## Control of error 冗余控制

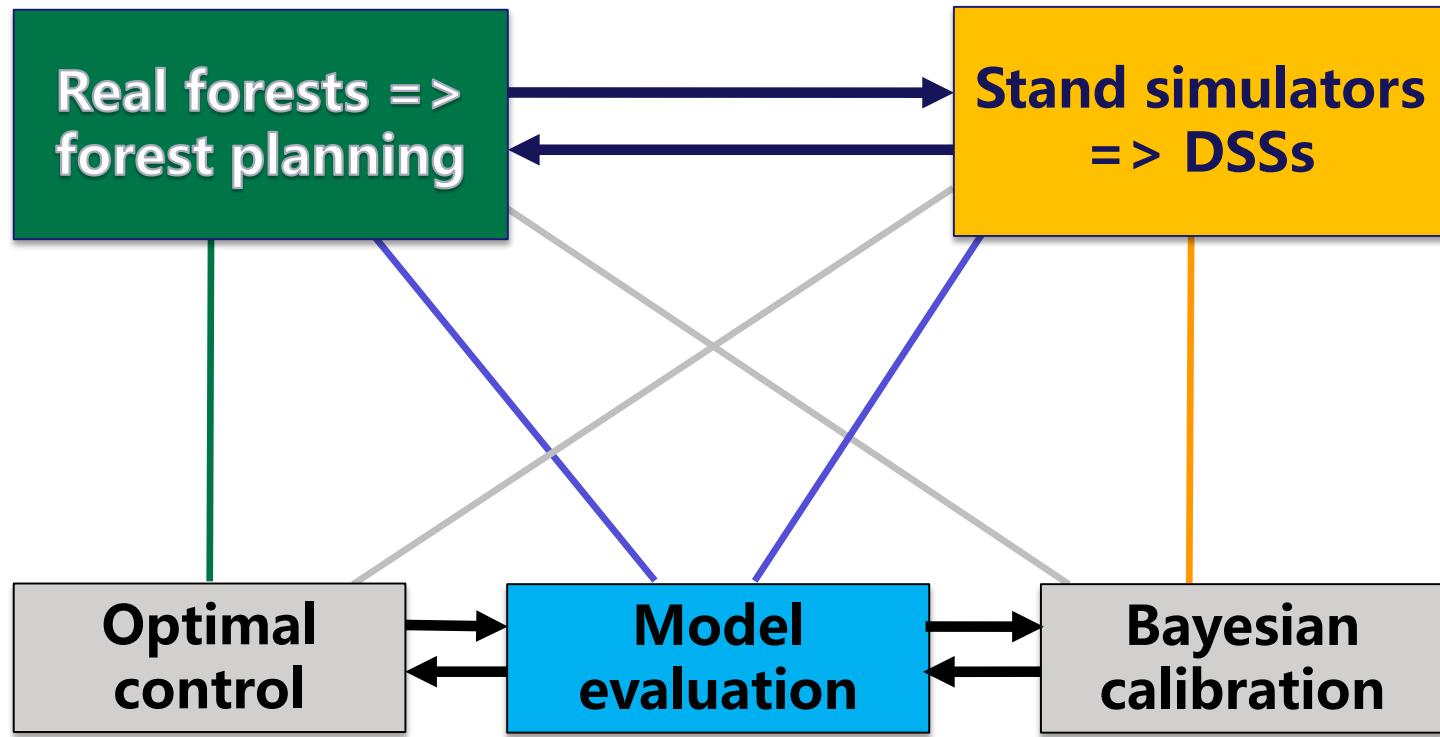
■ 钱学森 1954. 工程控制论. 麦格劳希尔出版公司. USA

- Reliability by duplication
- Method of multiplexing
- Error in executive component
- Error of multiplexing systems

*“This particular method of synthesizing a reliable system out of unreliable elements is called the method of multiplexing by von Neumann.” -- 钱学森 Hsue-shen Tsien*



## Dual closed-loop forest systems



Modified from Wang and Kang (2012)



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# OR in Forestry

From observation, prediction, to decision



# Systems Analysis, OR, or MS



- Since 1975, SSAFR has been the premier international forum for forest systems analysis, operations research (OR), and management science (MS).  
<https://decisions.ctfc.cat/SSAFR2024>



# SSAFR 2024, Basque, Spain

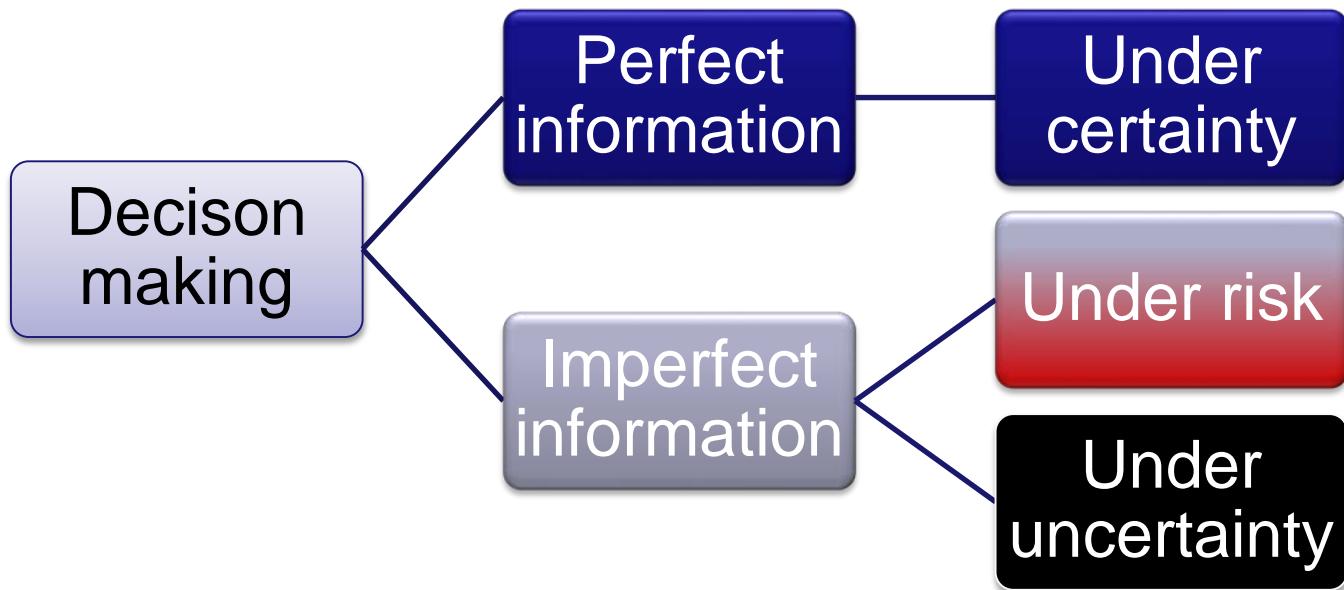


**SSAFR**  
Symposium on Systems Analysis in Forest Resources

- Application of Remote Sensing In Forestry
- Forest Modelling
- Forest management and planning
- Forest transportation and supply chain optimization
- Wildfire risk simulation, management and decision support
- Forest health, invasive species, and wildlife habitat management
- Spatially explicit optimization
- Stochastic process simulation and optimization
- Quantitative forest and fire economics
- Forest and watershed management
- Data science and machine learning
- Forest systems analysis under the impact of climate change



## Decision theory (Taha, 1997)





## Committee of SSAFR 2024



- Jordi Garcia-Gonzalo (Chair), CTFC, Spain
- Yu Wei, Colorado State University, USA.
- Sándor F. Tóth, University of Washington, USA
- Míriam Piqué i Nicolau, CTFC, Spain
- José C. Borges, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal
- Mark Finney, USDA Forest Service, USA
- Erin Belval, USDA Forest Service, USA
- David L. Martell, University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Marc McDill, Pennsylvania State University, USA
- Andrés Weintraub P, Universidad de Chile, Chile
- Blas Mola-yudego, University of Eastern Finland, Finland
- Luiz Carlos Estraviz Rodriguez, Departamento de Ciências Florestais  
ESALQ/USP, Brasil



## Strategic, Tactical, or Operational Level

- Strategic forest management
  - *Linear programming*
  - *Scenario analysis*
- Tactical forest management
  - *Spatial optimization*
- Harvest operational models
  - *harvesting,*
  - *transportation,*
  - *log merchandizing*



# Applications

## ■ Forest policy and economics

- *optimal rotation,*
- *market equilibrium,*
- *forest valuation,*
- *MCDM*

## ■ Adaptive forest management

- *uncertainties of tree growth*
- *future stochastic prizes,*
- *adaptive optimization*

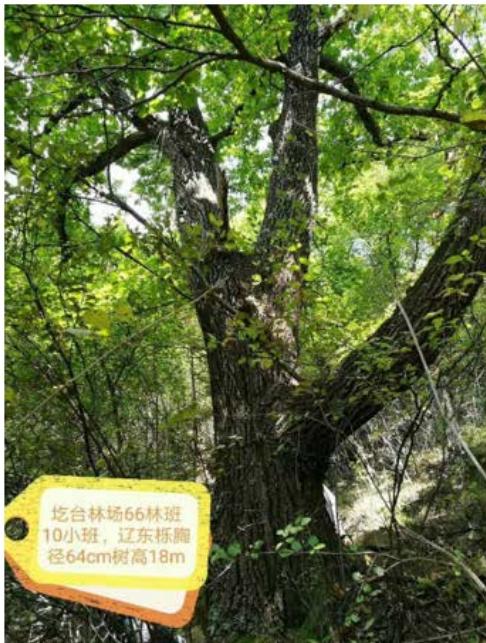


## A simulation-optimization approach

- **USA** (e.g., Amidon and Akin, 1968; Brodie et al., 1978; Kao and Brodie, 1979,1980; Roise, 1986; Haight, 1987,1991,1993; Haight and Monserud ,1990; Arthaud and Pelkki ,1996)
- **Sweden** (e.g., Eriksson 1994,1997; Gong, 1998; Wikström 2000,2001; Lu and Gong, 2003)
- **Norway** (e.g., Risvand ,1969; Solberg and Haight, 1991; Hoen and Solberg, 1994)
- **Denmark** (e.g., Thorsen and Helles, 1998; Strange et al., 1999)
- **The Netherlands** (e.g., Brazee and Bulte, 2000)
- **Finland** (e.g., Kilkki and Väisänen, 1969; Valsta, 1986,1990,1992; Salminen, 1993; Miina, 1996; Pukkala and Miina, 1997,1998; Hyytiäinen et al., 2003, 2004; Cao et al., 2006; Pukkala, 2009; Cao et al., 2010)



# Oak forests in NW China





# Forest planning



- 1960s-1980s (e.g. Amidon and Akin 1968, Brodie et al. 1978)
  - Whole-stand models,
  - Linear programming, Dynamic programming
  - Timber production, Optimal rotation, Stocking control
- 1990s-2000s (e.g. Haight and Monserud 1990, Valsta 1992, ...)
  - Matrix (size-class) models,
  - Individual-tree models,
  - Non-linear programming, Heuristic algorithms, MCDMs
  - Continues Cover Forest, Environmental concern
- 2010s-present (e.g. Cao et al. 2010, Pukkala et al. 2021)
  - Process-based models,
  - Population-based algorithms, Random forest, Machine learning
  - Multi-functional management



# Climate Change Impacts



*Does it really matter?*

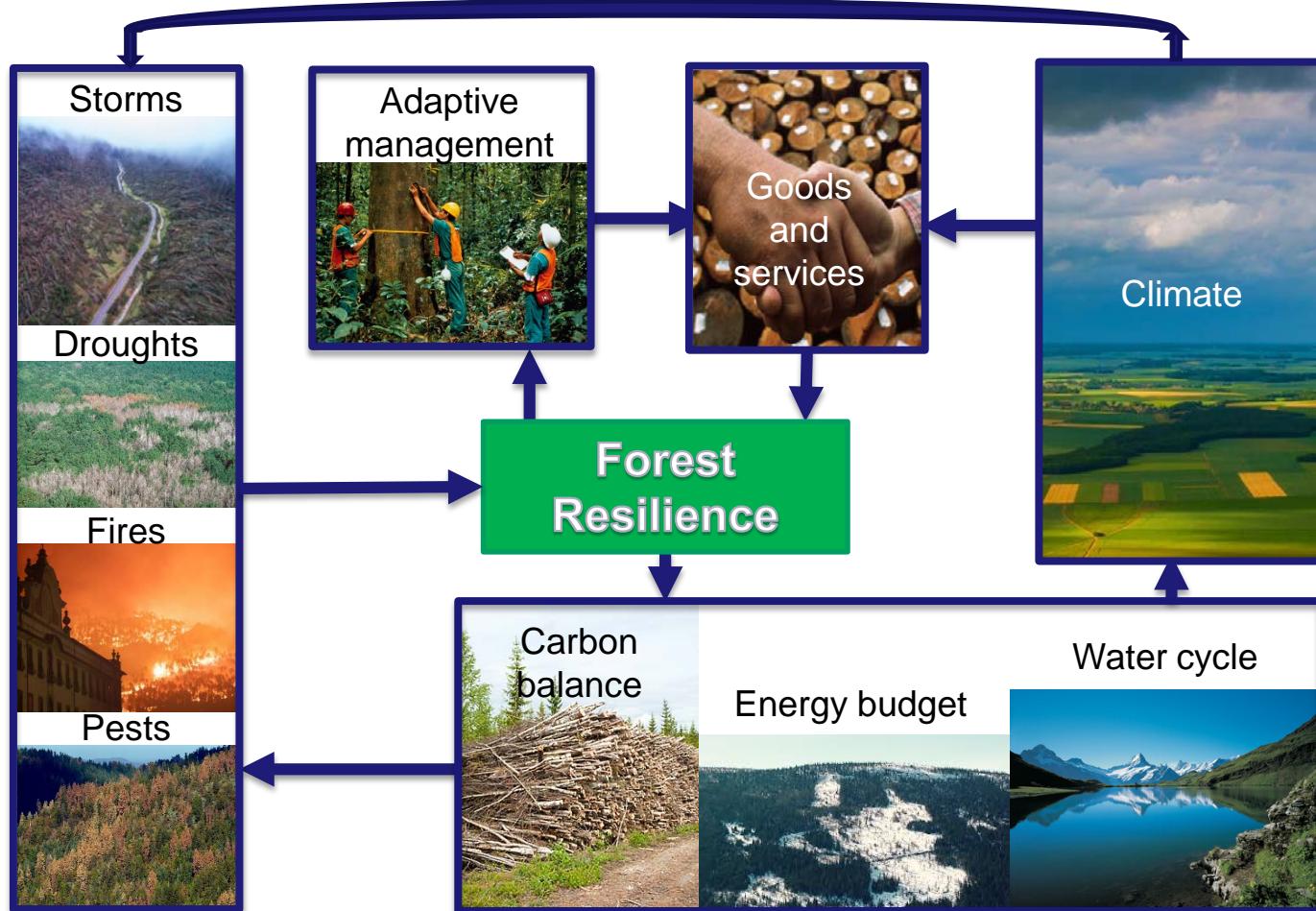
**Climate Effects      Fires & Pests**

Process-based models

AI algorithms

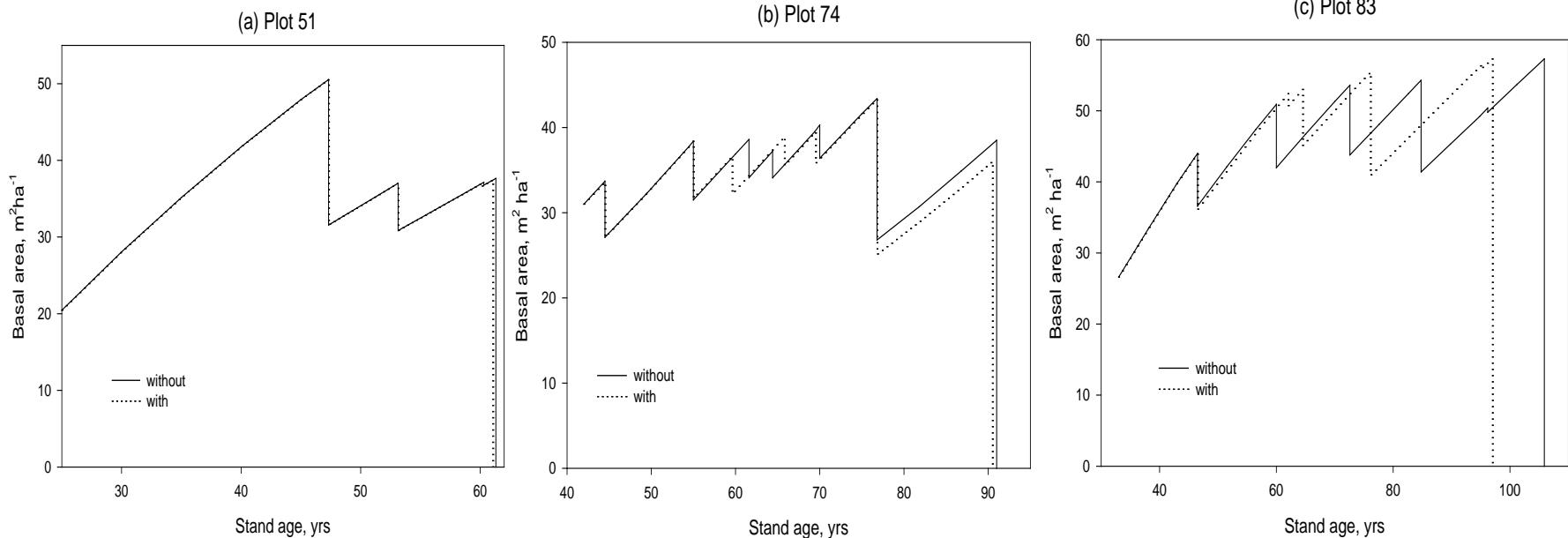


# Climate Change and Forest Resilience



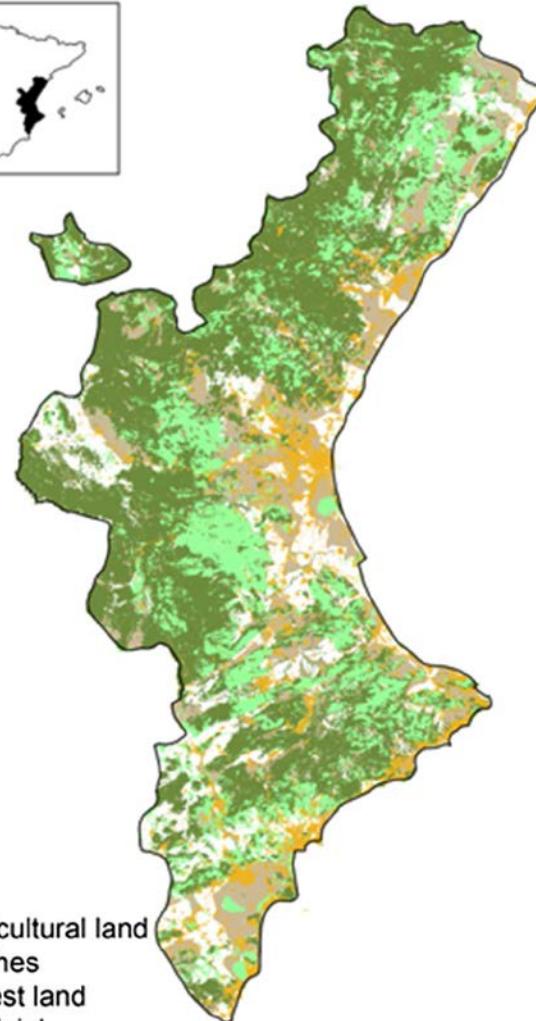


## Butt rot effects (Cao 2003)

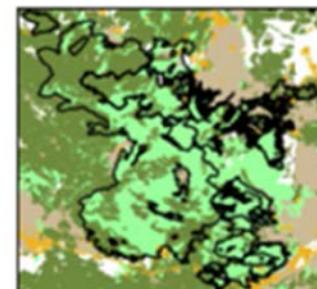




# Fire occurrence in Mediterranean forests

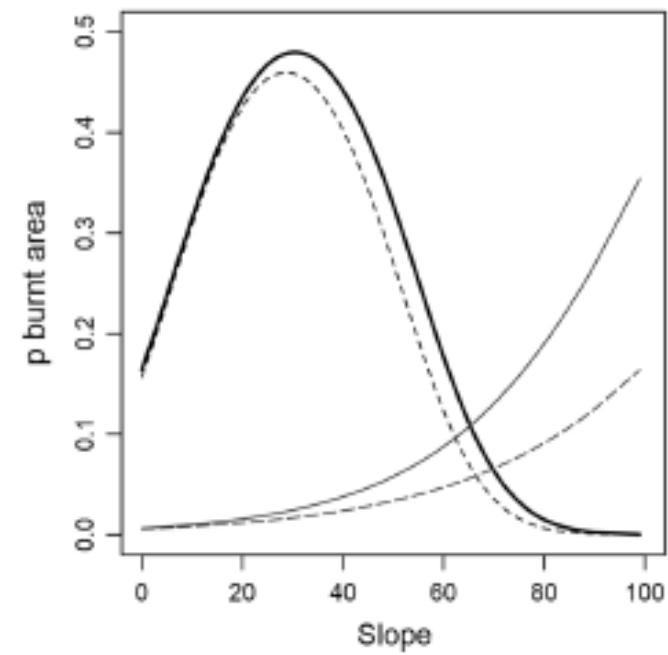
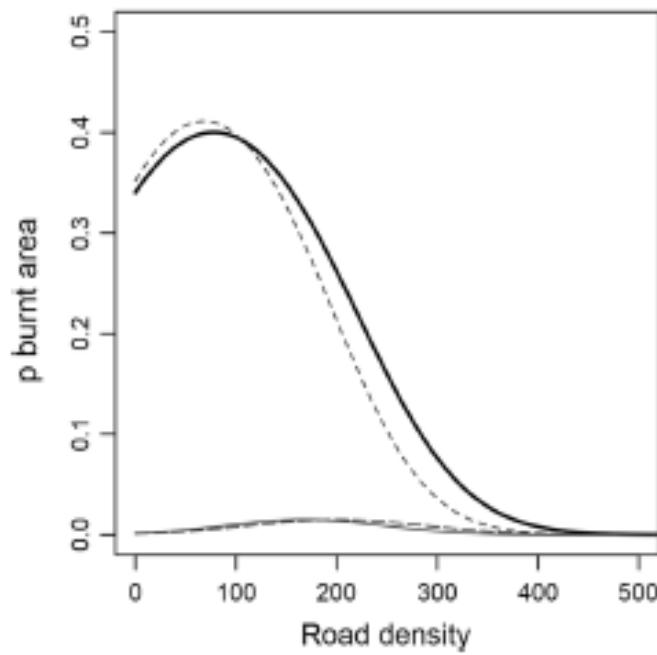
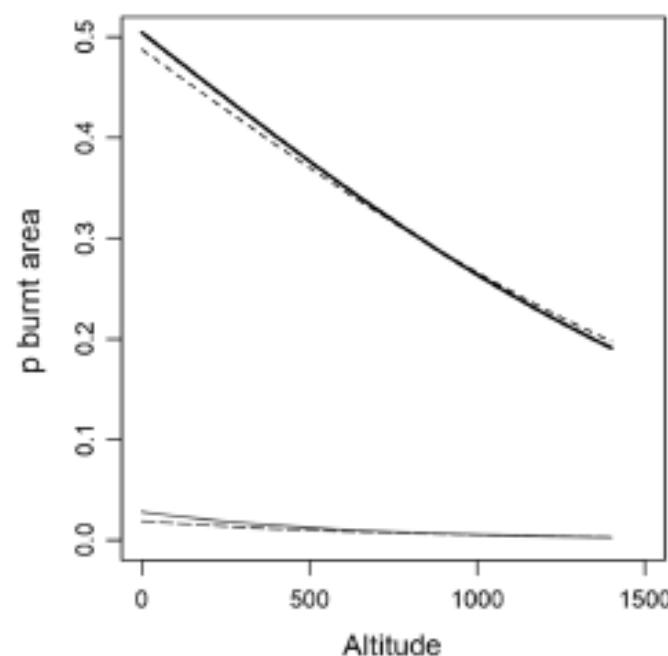
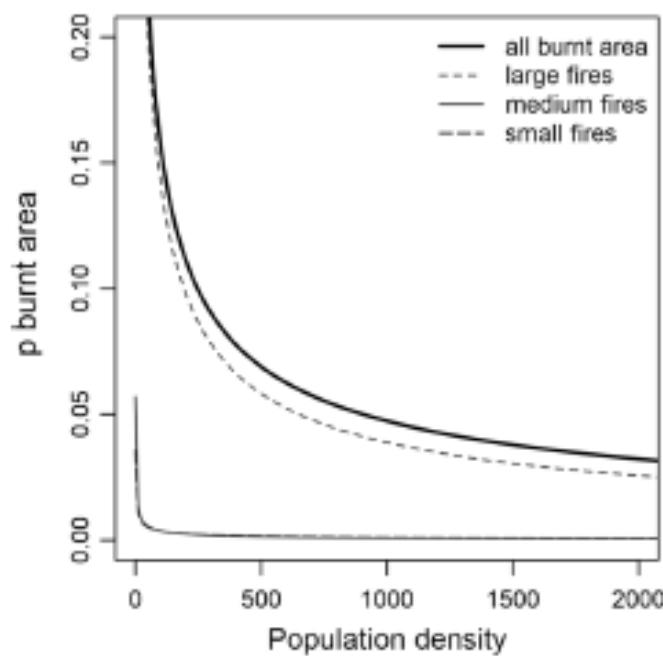


■ Burnt area



- Agricultural land
- Bushes
- Forest land
- Artificial

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# The Future: Smart Forestry 智慧林业

## ■ Applications 应用场景

- 智慧生态监测 => 生态价值
- 数字林木育种 => 经济价值
- 智慧林果生产 => 经济价值
- 智慧病虫防控 => 经济价值 **pests control**
- 智慧林火管理 => 经济价值 **fire management**
- 虚拟森林漫游 => 社会价值

## ■ The Future 发展方向

- 大数据 => 大模型 => 大系统
- 无人化 => 少人化 => 自动化
- 算源 => 算力 => 算法



# 2024 第九届中国林学大会智慧林业分会场





## S42 智慧林业创新与应用分会场



分 会 场 主 题：大数据时代的智慧林业技术与应用

分 会 场 主 席：周国模

分 会 场 秘 书 长：刘金福 孟京辉 董利虎

学 术 委 员 会 主 席：周国模

学 术 委 员 会 委 员：曹田健 王美丽 傅隆生 郭新宇

7月27日（星期六）下午

时 间：13:30-18:00 地 点：西北农林科技大学南校区 S3203 室

内 容：特邀报告

主 持 人：曹田健（西北农林科技大学林学院，教授）

王美丽（西北农林科技大学信息学院，教授）

13:30-14:10 1. 高清时序数据驱动下的松材线虫病智能防控解决方案

周国模（浙江农林大学，教授）

14:10-14:50 2. 考虑不同气候情景下的天然栎类林经营决策支持系统研究

孟京辉（北京林业大学林学院，教授）

14:50-15:30 3. 农作物表型大数据获取解析进展

郭新宇（国家信息化农业工程技术研究中心，研究员）

15:30-15:50 茶歇/合影



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# *Thank you!*

*[cao@nwafu.edu.cn](mailto:cao@nwafu.edu.cn)*

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[www.optifor.cn/pdf/S42\\_2024.pdf](http://www.optifor.cn/pdf/S42_2024.pdf)