

# Forest stand modelling: Achievements and future challenges

Annikki Mäkelä Potsdam 27 February 2019

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# **Forest stand models – the beginnings**

- Rapid model development phase 1970s 1990s
- Resulted in families of models on the basis of
  - purpose
  - drivers
  - scale





# **Major model families**





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# Combining carbon balance and population structure

Tree Physiology 20, 357–365 © 2000 Heron Publishing—Victoria, Canada

### Volume growth and survival graphs: a method for evaluating process-based forest growth models

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Received October 22, 1998

Summary We investigated the relationships within forest stands between tree size and (a) stem volume growth rate and (b) risk of mortality for individual trees. Values of both x and y variables were plotted relative to the the largest value in the stand. We refer to the resultant presentations as relative volume growth and relative survival graphs (VGSs). A pair of VGSs can be produced readily from an individual-tree growth model.

ciple, every simulation model should be validate applied. Evaluation of PBMs is not a trivial t because suitable validation data are often diffice Mathematical methods are available that aid model properties with respect to data, e.g., sensit (Miller 1974, Dale et al. 1988) and Monte Ca 1996) methods. Despite the applicability of thes



Tree Physiology 20, 347–355 © 2000 Heron Publishing—Victoria, Canada

### Application of volume growth and survival graphs in the evaluation of four process-based forest growth models

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Received October 22, 1998

Summary Volume growth and survival (VGS) graphs, which show volume growth rate and risk of mortality for individual trees (or tree size classes), have been proposed as a tool for assessing the validity of models that describe the development over time of tree size distributions within forest stands. We examined the utility of the VGS method in evaluating four trees at different positions in the stand have seldom been tested.

In one of the few tests focusing on individual trees, Korol et al. (1996) evaluated the performance of the model TREE-BGC against field measurements. They compared size distributions and growth of individual trees after 20 simula-

# Forest stand models – fine tuning

- Fine tuning and application phase 2000 –
- Basic structures established
- Model development towards applications in sustainable forest management
  - Climate change impacts and adaptation
  - Biodiversity
  - Ecosystem services in general
- More efficient data assimilation
  - Model testing
  - Bayesian calibration



Mäkelä et al. 2012 Review in FORECOnki.fi/yliopisto

### CRITERION

### CRITERION

4C MODEL PROPERTIES

Criterion	Indicator	Model types
C1: Maintenance and appropriate enhancement of forest resources and their contribution to global carbon cycles	Growing stock Total volume Age structure and/or diameter distribution	GYM growth GYM GYM
Carbon cycle	Carbon stocks GHG emissions	PBM carbon
C2: Maintenance of forest ecosystem health and vitality	Soil condition Fire hazard	BGC Structure Models with explicit stand structure
Health and vitality	Wind hazard Pest and disease hazard Broadleaved tree mixture is maintained Felling and skidding damage Water use (of forest ecosystem) Forest resources/growing stock Forest biodiversity (delayed DCP)	Models with explicit stand structure Models with explicit stand structure Models with explicit stand structure BGC, models of soil physics BGC GYM SOIL and Water Biodiversity models
C3: Maintenance and encouragement of productive functions of forests (wood and non-wood)	Wood products Non-wood products Productivity of the principal forest production	Wood quality models Non-wood products models GYM WOOD QUALITY
	roundwood Other productions	Non-wood products models
C4: Maintenance, conservation and appropriate enhancement of biological diversity in forest ecosystems	Understorey shrub diversity Tree species composition/	Models with explicit stand structure Models with explicit stand structure
Biodiversity	Structural diversity Long-lived and cavernous trees	Structure Models with explicit stand structure
Protection	Volume of standing and lying deadwood	Models with explicit stand structure, models of SOM
C5: Maintenance and appropriate enhancement of protective functions in forest management (notably soil and water)	Evidence of erosion Water quality	BGC, models of soil physics BGC, models of soil physics
C6: Maintenance of other socioeconomic functions and conditions ONOTHIC	Recreational services	Non-woody products, models with explicit stand structure

# More efficient data assimilation

Forest Ecology and Management 289 (2013) 255-268 Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

Forest Ecology and Management



Prior

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/foreco

Bayesian calibration, comparison and averaging of six forest models, using data from Scots pine stands across Europe

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Annals of Forest Science (2014) 71:211-225 DOI 10.1007/s13595-013-0306-8

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Featwork: 5 June 2017

People: 15 December 2017

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### OPEN **Realizing Mitigation Efficiency of** European Commercial Forests by Climate Smart Forestry

Rasoul Yousefpour 31, Andrey Lessa Derci Augustynczik<sup>1</sup>, Christopher P. O. Reyer 32, Petra Lasch-Born 2, Felicitas Suckow<sup>2</sup> & Marc Hanewinkel 2<sup>1</sup>



CossMark

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# **Forest stand models – challenges**

- New basic research challenges underlying ecological paradigms
- Requirements of wide spatial and temporal application challenge modelling paradigms



# Some key paradigms under change

Growth	<ul><li>The production ecology paradigm</li><li>Source limitation</li></ul>	
Soil processes	<ul> <li>The decomposition paradigm</li> <li>First order dynamics</li> </ul>	
Parameterisation	<ul> <li>The species and functional groups paradigm</li> <li>Constant group-specific parameters</li> </ul>	



## The production ecology paradigm

NPP = Photosynthesis – Respiration Stem Growth = (Stem allocation) x NPP

Explains well large geographical variation at monthly to annual scale





PAR for stands of **Pinus radiata** growing at Puruki (numbers correspond with Table 8).

Grace et al. 1987



## The production ecology paradigm





NPP =

Photosynthesis – Respiration Stem Growth =

(Stem allocation) x NPP

Explains well large geographical variation

Does not do so well for year-to-year nor day-to-day variability

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Schiestl-Aalto et al. 2019



# The production ecology paradigm vs Sink limitation

- Better explanation for inter-annual growth variations from
  - Temp, Precip, Soil W
  - Timing of influence
- Christian Körner 2003 J Ecol Appl

C is always abundant Growth is limited by direct drivers

### SINK LIMITATION



#### Henttonen et al. 2014. AFM198-199: 294 - 308



# The production ecology paradigm: How to reconcile sink-source interactions?

 PBMs of intra-annual growth combine environment driven phenology with C balance

Grote 1998 Drew et al. 2010 JTB Schiestl-Aalto et al. 2015 NP Guillemot et al. 2017 NP Review: Sala et al. 2012 Tree Phys.

- Long term: Supply limitation Short term: Sink limitation
- Interactions & acclimation => consequences for CC impacts





# The decomposition paradigm Evidence on priming and exudates

• RPE observations

La Fontaine et al. 2004 Ecology Letters Heinonsalo et al. 2017

- Plants gain N with exudation Näsholm 1998 Science, Schimel and Weintraub 2003
- N fertilisation enhances C accumulation in soil Högberg et al. 2014 Plant and Soil
- Implications on stand growth and C sequestration under climate change?

Näsholm et al. 2013 NP

### Soil respiration



#### Heinonsalo et al. 2017 EGU



# The decomposition paradigm Possible implications on stand growth under climate change

Unlimited N

High N

Low N



- N availability matters for growth
- Soil N-C interactions matter for N release and soil C sequestration
- How would these change if exudates and priming are accounted for?

HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO HELSINGFORS UNIVERSITET UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI Time under climate change Mäkelä et al. 2017 IUFRO

# The species and functional groups paradigm: Replace with traits

- Some traits quantified as species-specific parameters actually vary with environment
  - SLA
  - Specific respiration rates
  - Turnover rates
  - etc...
- Evolutionary acclimation => no "space-for-time" substitution
- "SPECIES" => "COLLECTION OF TRAITS"
  - Derive all traits and their combinations on a physiological basis
  - Modified by environment

New generation DVMs <u>https://ar17.iiasa.ac.at/dynamic-vegetation/</u>; Kunstler et al. 2016 Nature

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Tupek et al. 2014 BER Mäkelä et al. 2016 FORECO



# Large-scale spatial and temporal applications challenge reductionist modelling paradigm

- Modellers tend to find lack of realism in models and predictions
- Solving this by adding more processes and inputs leads to
  - Increased data requirements
  - Decreased trasparercy
  - Increased uncertainty
- Especially in DGVMs!

# Spatial and temporal applications challenge modelling paradigms Eco-evolutionary models

- Process-based models with evolutionary optimisation
- Optimise processes with trade-offs in new environments

*Reviews:* Mäkelä et al. 2000 SF, Dewar et al. 2009 BioScience, Franklin et al. 2012 Tree Phys

- Stomatal control (Prentice et al. 2015)
- Carbon nitrogen coallocation (Valentine & Mäkelä 2012 NP)
- Plant-microbe relationships and priming (Franklin et al. 2014)
- Trait-based models?
- Sink-source balance?

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#### Optimal co-allocation of N and C at different sites under climate change



Mäkelä et al. 2014 AGU



### Summary

- Rapid model development 1970s 1990s resulted in a number of stand growth models with established & convergent theoretical basis
- 2000s have seen an increasing number of model testing, fine-tuning and use for applications in sustainable forest management
- The 4C model is exeptional among stand models in its wide scope and applicability as well as the wide efforts in model parameterisation and validation
- New challenges of model development are emerging from both new basic research in trees and soils, as well as modelling methods
- The rigorous modelling work up to now provides a sound basis for further development responding to the challenges

# Petra and Felicitas Thank you for your collaboration and insights

# All the best for the future!