



Chair of Forestry  
Economics and Planning

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# Uncertainty of Carbon Economy Using the Faustmann Model

Rasoul Yousefpour and Andrey L. D. Augustynczik\*

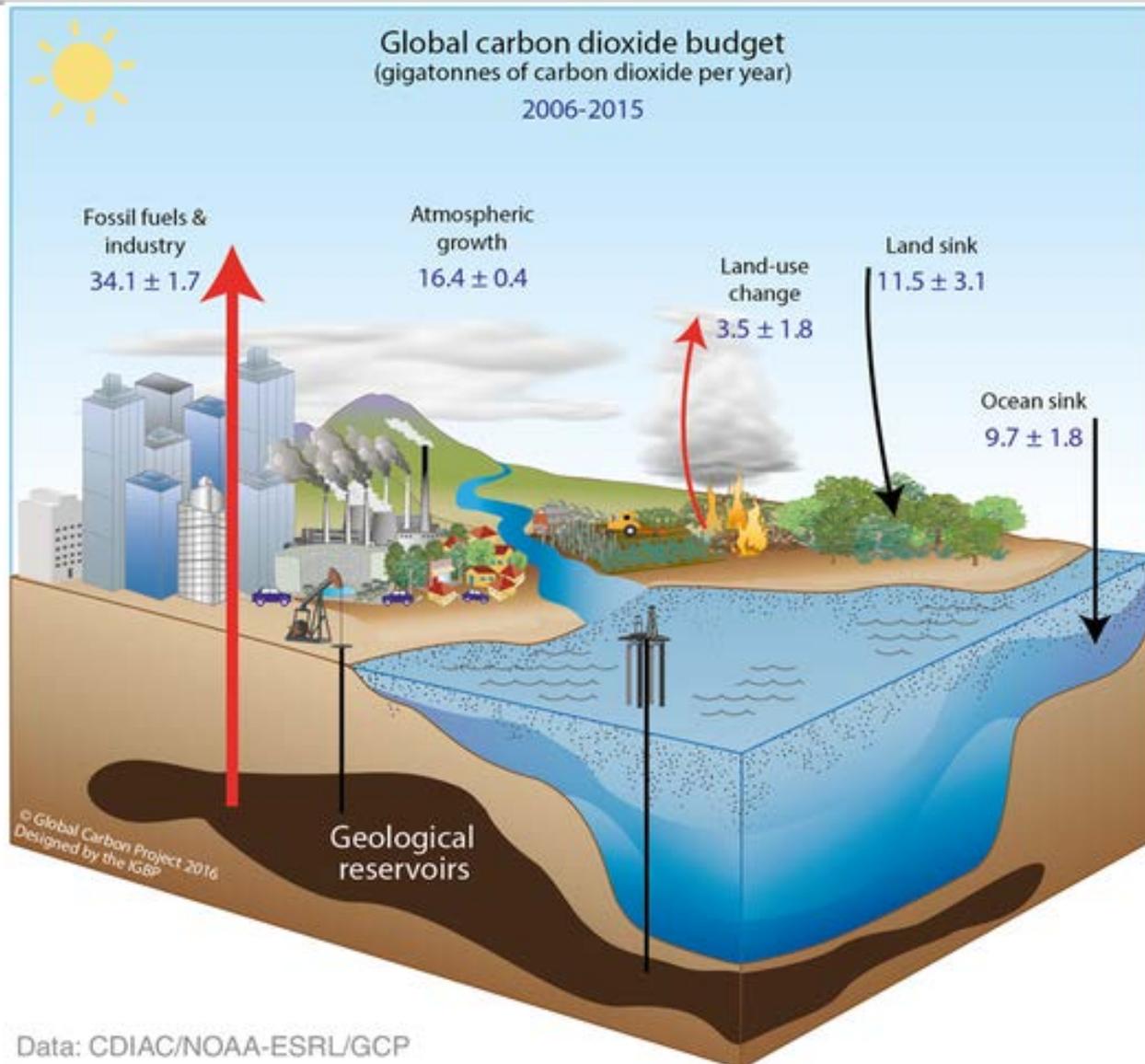
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**FORMASAM Final Meeting, PIK, Potsdam**

**4<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

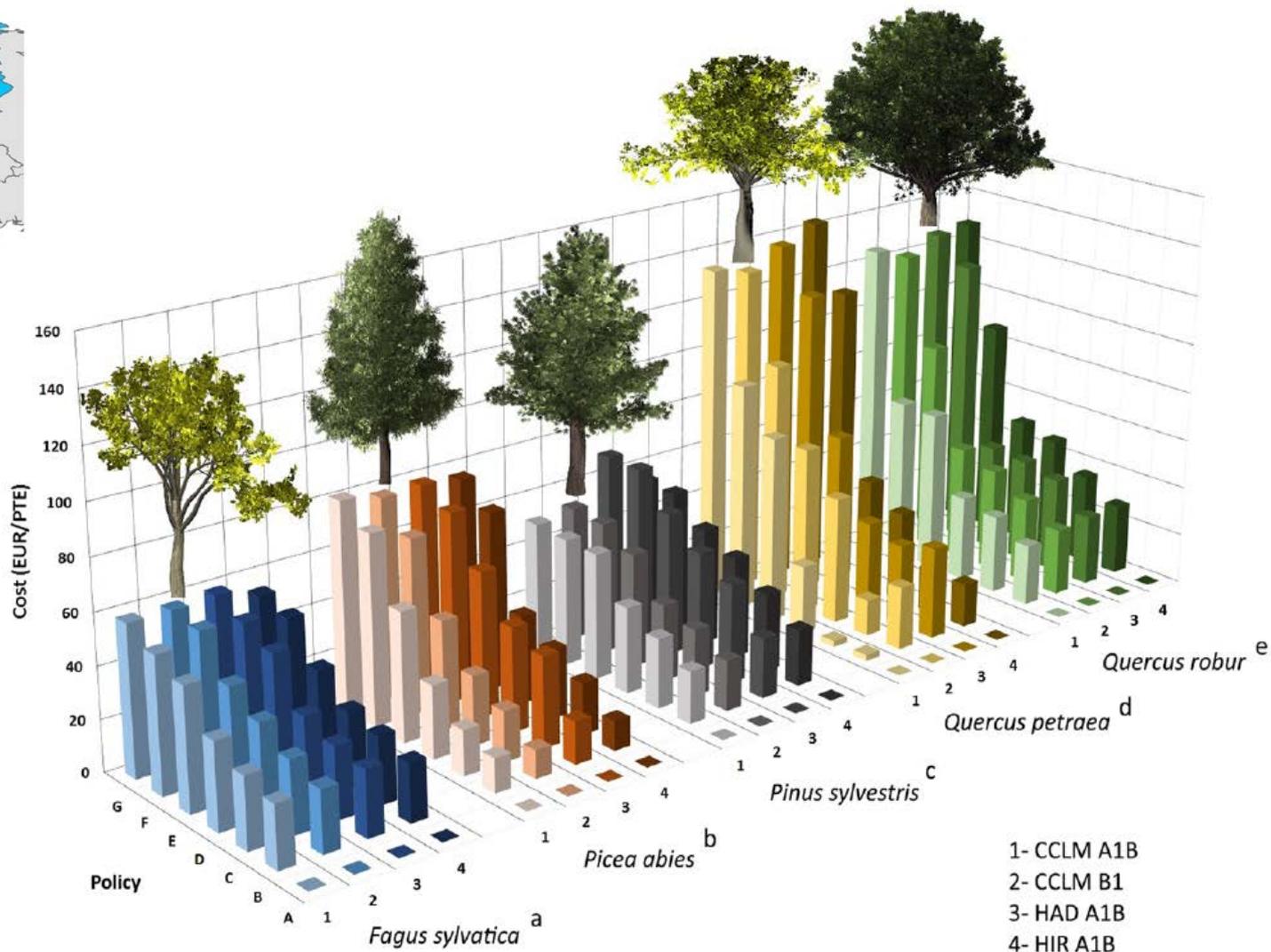
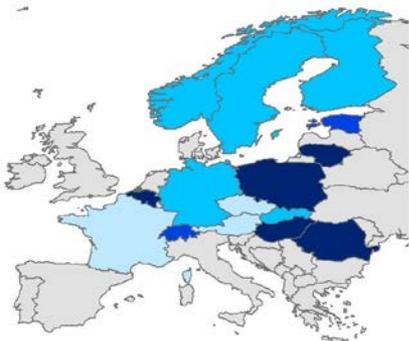
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# Fate of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



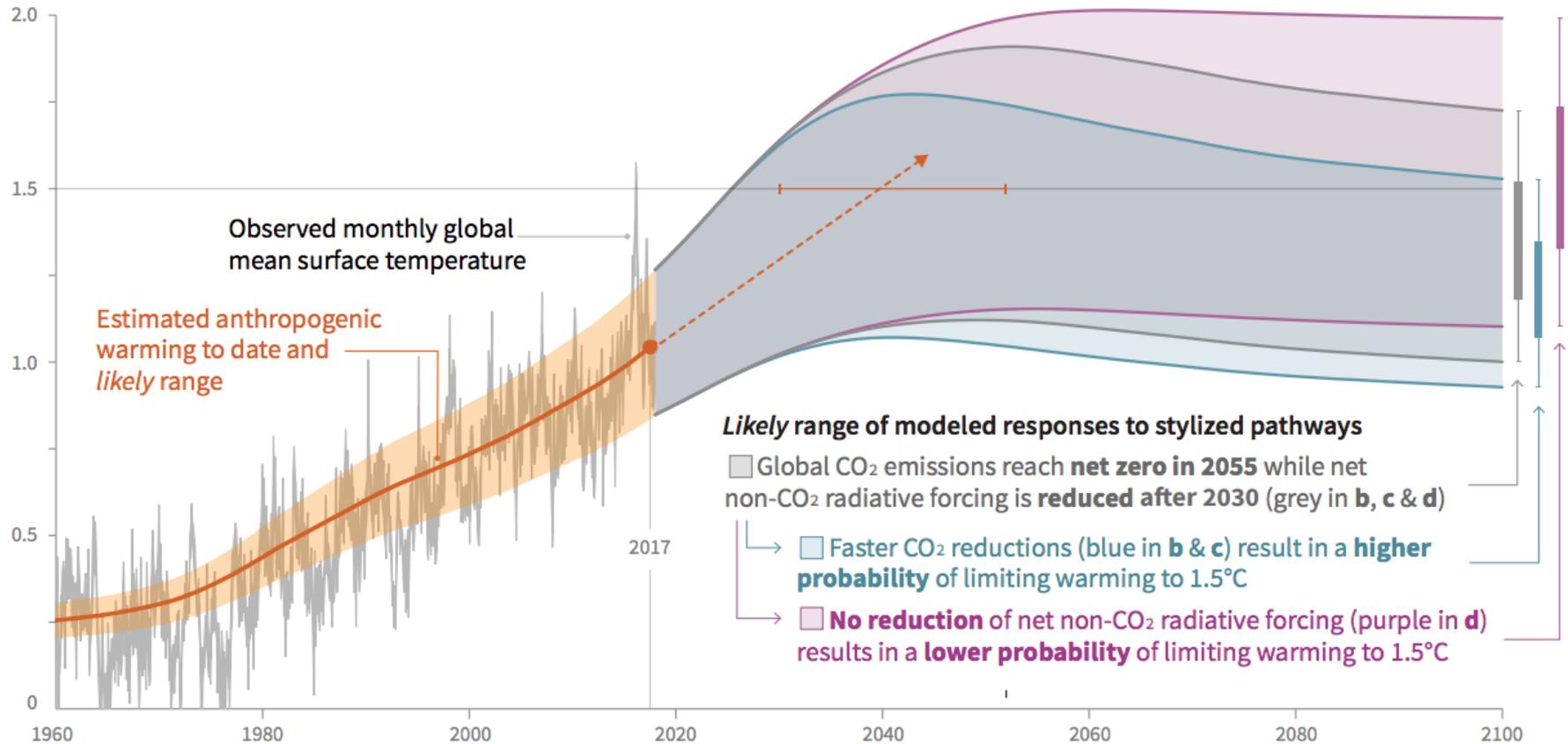
# Realizing Mitigation Efficiency of European Commercial Forests by Climate Smart Forestry

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# Immediacy of mitigation

Global warming relative to 1850-1900 (°C)

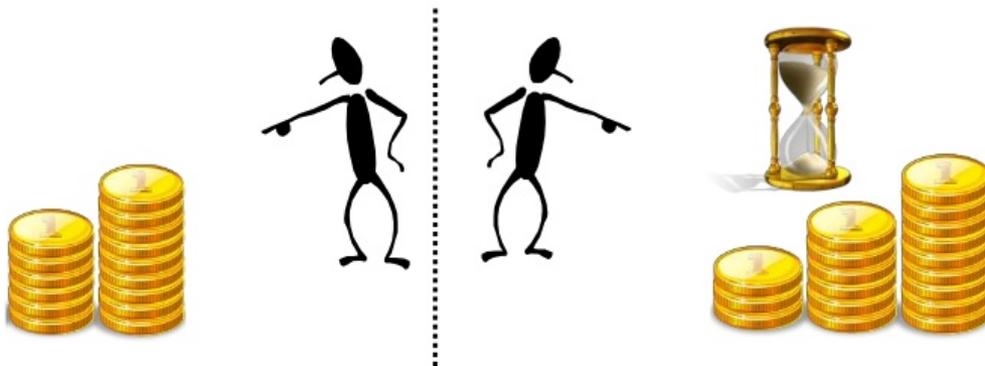


IPCC Chart shows observed monthly temperatures (black line), estimated human-caused warming (red), and idealized potential pathways to meeting 1.5C limit in 2100 (grey, blue and purple). All relative to 1850-1900.

# Discounting

The tradeoff between now and later is called time discounting.

We trade money/sensation/experience today for money/sensation/experience later.



Question: Which is worth more?

\$10,000 to be received with certainty one year from today, or:

\$10,000 received right now?

\$9,500 received now?,

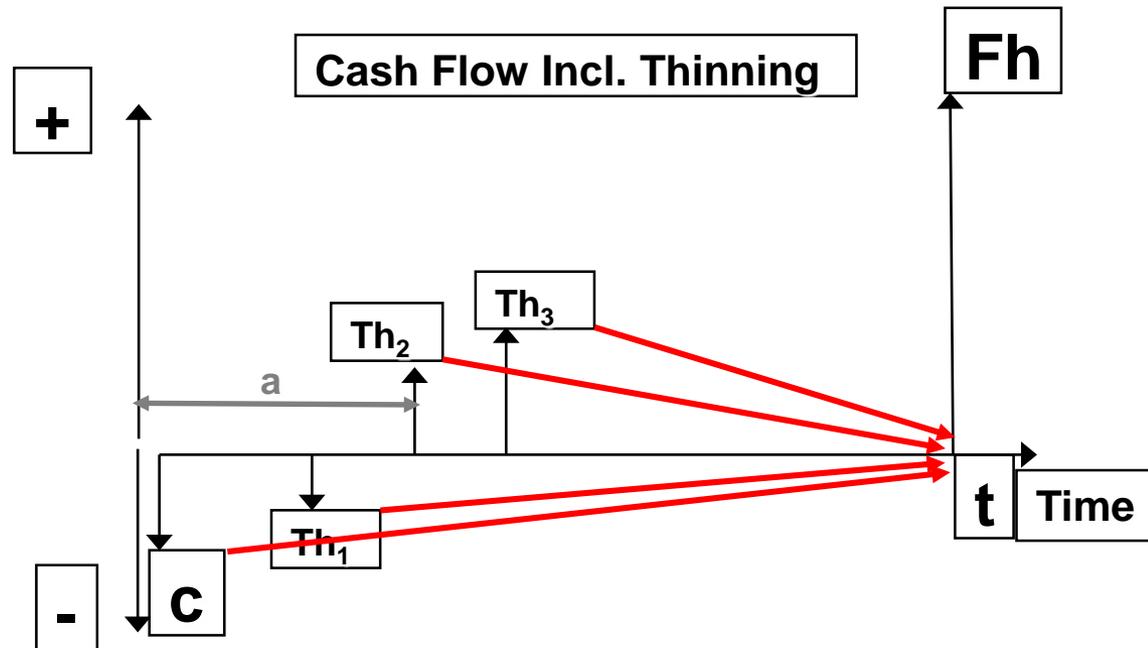
\$8,000 received now?

$$8,000 = 10,000 / (1+0,25)^1$$

or

$$10,000 = 8,000 * (1,25^1)$$

# NPV, LEV



Th1-Th3 = Thinning  
FH= Final harvest  
t = Rotation period

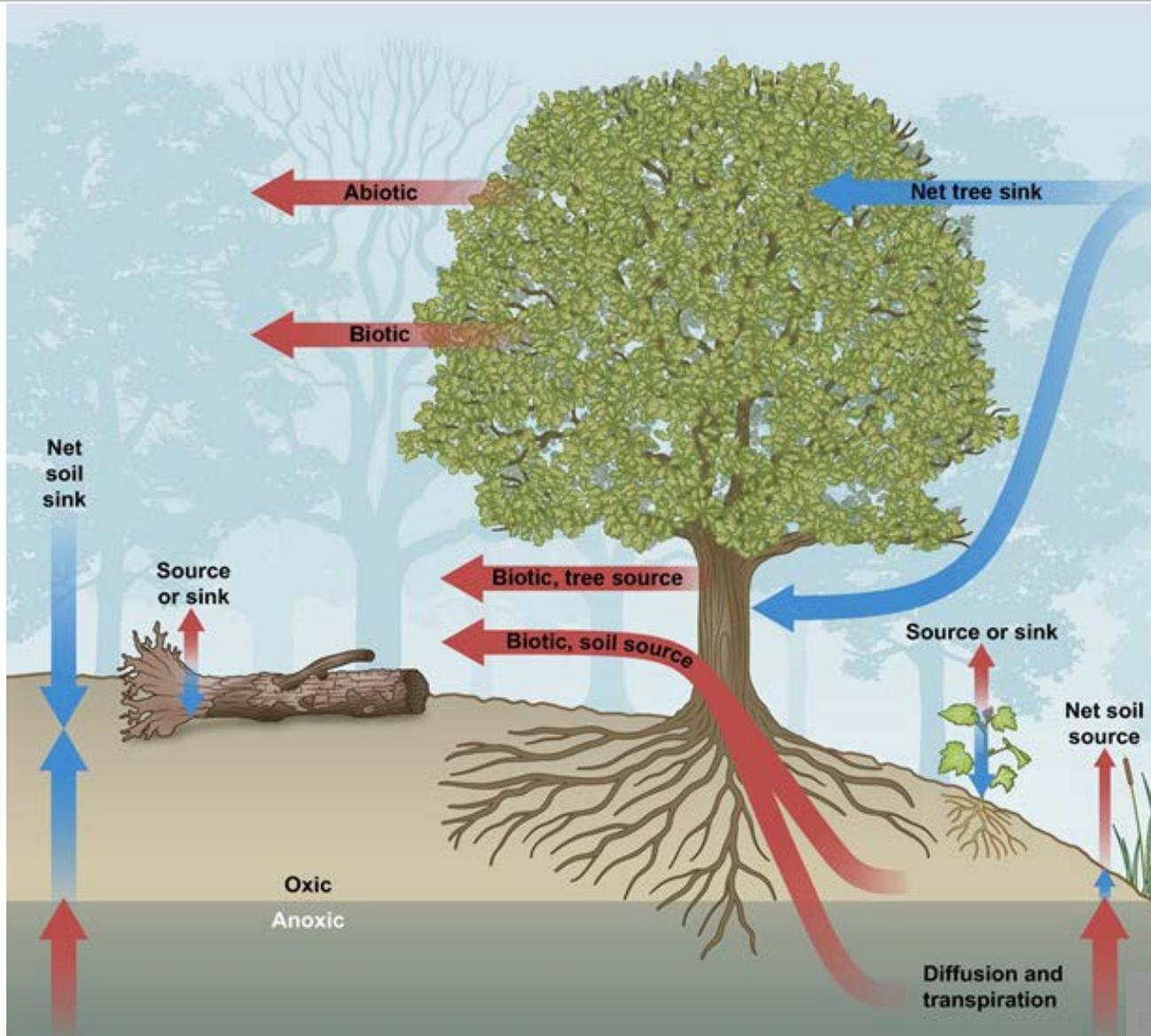
$$NPV = Fh_t + \sum_{a=1}^t Th_a (1+i)^{t-a} - c(1+i)^t$$

Infinite series of  
Identical  
Even-aged  
Rotations

$$LEV = \frac{NPV(1+i)^r}{(1+i)^r - 1}$$

Discount Carbon → PTE (Present Tonne Equivalent)

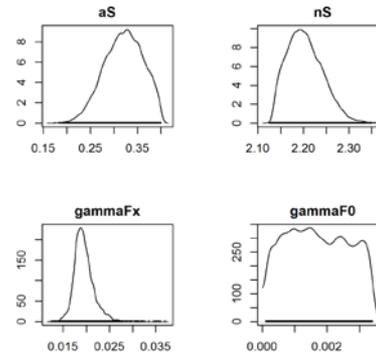
# Forest Carbon Cycle **Uncertainty**



# Forest Carbon Uncertainty & Decisions

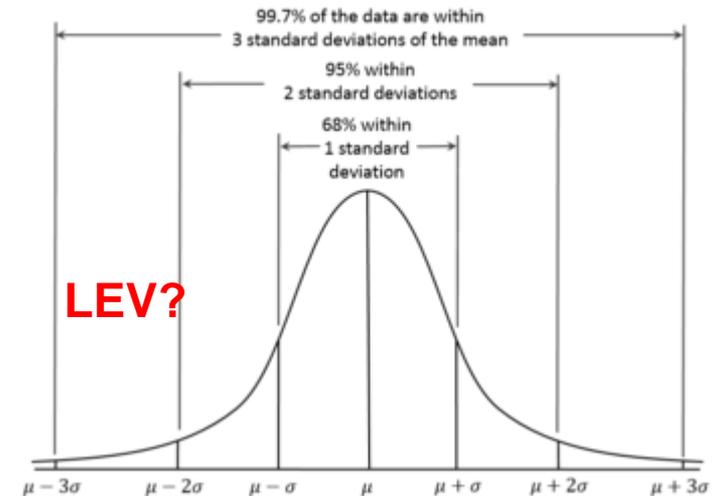
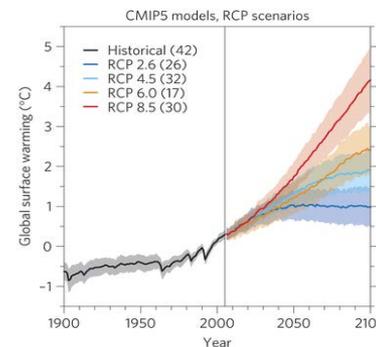
## Model uncertainty

- Process-based models
- Higher parameter uncertainty
- Propagates to predictions



## Climate uncertainty

- Temperature
- Precipitation
- CO2 concentration



## **Climate Scenarios:**

Realisation of no, low, and extreme scenarios RCP2.6, RCP4.5, RCP6.0 and RCP8.5 by global climate models HadGEM2-ES, IPSL-CM5A-LR and NorESM1-M, downscaled by the regional climate model ISIMIP

## **Deterministic versus Stochastic Modelling:**

Model run with(out)uncertainty propagation

## **Weighting Carbon versus LEV:**

Equal, Favoring, Discouraging

## **Management Options:**

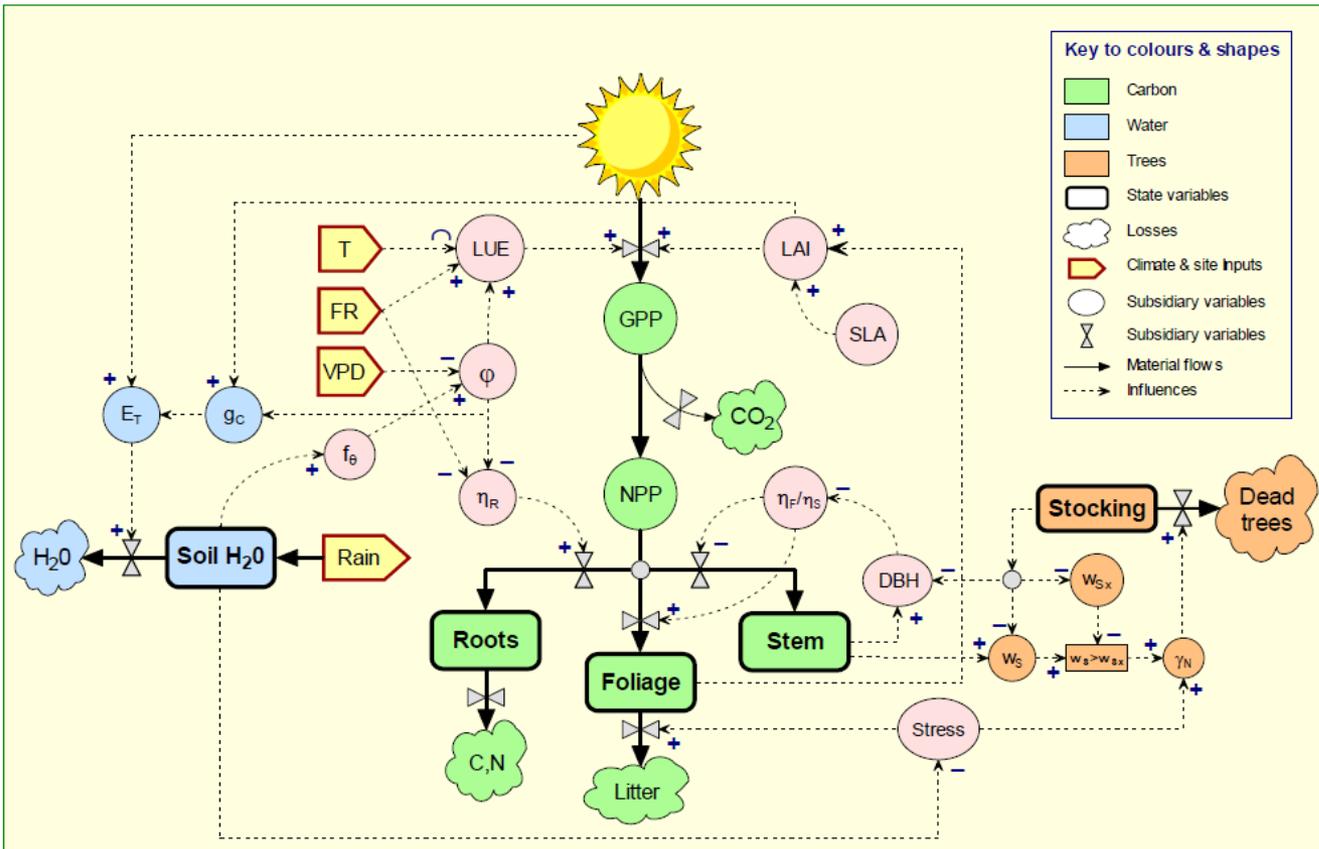
Increase/Decrease BAU Harvest Rate for *Fagus Sylvatica*

## **Discount LEV (Land Expectation Value):**

Fixed 2%

## **Discount Carbon (Present Tonne Equivalent carbon):**

Fixed 2%, No time preference



## Minimum Input

- **Climate data:** Temperature, solar radiation, VPD, precipitation
- **Site properties:** Fertility (0 – 1), soil texture
- **Management:** Initial tree biomass & stocking, thinning (time, intensity, type) and if applied: fertilization & irrigation

Figure 1: Components of 3-PG (Physiological Principles Predicting Growth).

Source: <http://3pg.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2014/04/What-is-3PG.pdf>.

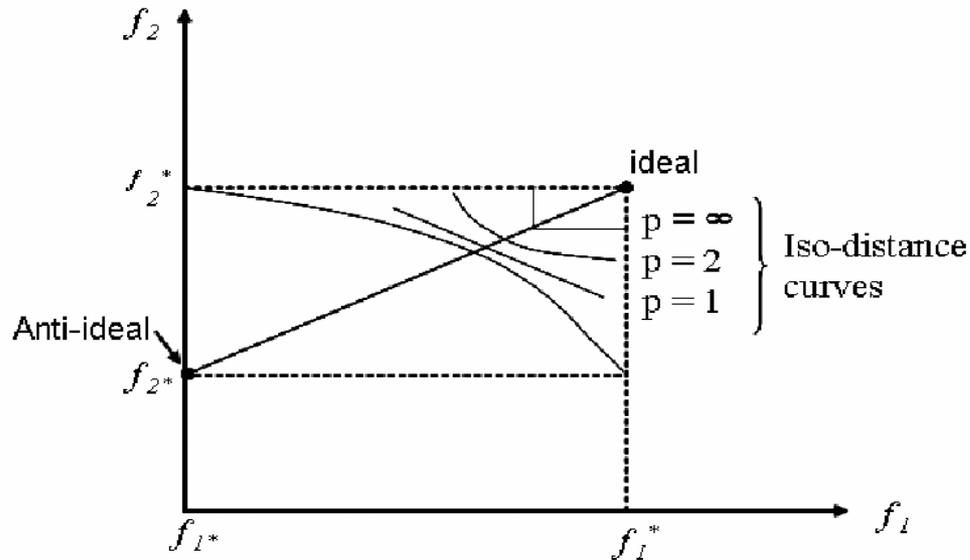
## Management **Options**:

- 1- Forest Conservation (**No management**)
- 2- Business as usual (**BAU**)
- 3- **Intensified** forest wood utilization
- 4- **Reduced** forest wood utilization

5 options of N/ha x 5 options of % of biomass removal => **25 regimes**

## **Weighting** scheme for LEV and Carbon:

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Carbon weight</b>	<b>LEV weight</b>
1	1	0.1
2	0.9	0.2
3	0.8	0.3
4	0.7	0.4
5	0.6	0.5
6	0.5	0.6
7	0.4	0.7
8	0.3	0.8
9	0.2	0.9
10	0.1	1



$w_1$ : normalized weight for LEV

$w_2$ : normalized weight for Carbon

CC: set of climate change scenarios

$i$ : management regime

## 1) Deterministic Optimum Case Euclidean norm

$$\text{Min } Z = \sum_{j \in \text{CC}} \sqrt{w_1 \text{LEV}_{j-}^2 + w_2 \text{CAR}_{j-}^2}$$

## 2) Deterministic Robust Case (L1 norm)

$$\text{Min } Z = \sqrt{w_1 0.5 (\text{RLEV}_{\min} + \text{RLEV}_{\max})^2 + w_2 0.5 (\text{RCAR}_{\min} + \text{RCAR}_{\max})^2}$$

## 3) Uncertain Robust Case Euclidean norm

$$\text{Min } Z = \sqrt{w_1 \text{VaR}_{lev-}^2 + w_2 \text{VaR}_{car-}^2}$$

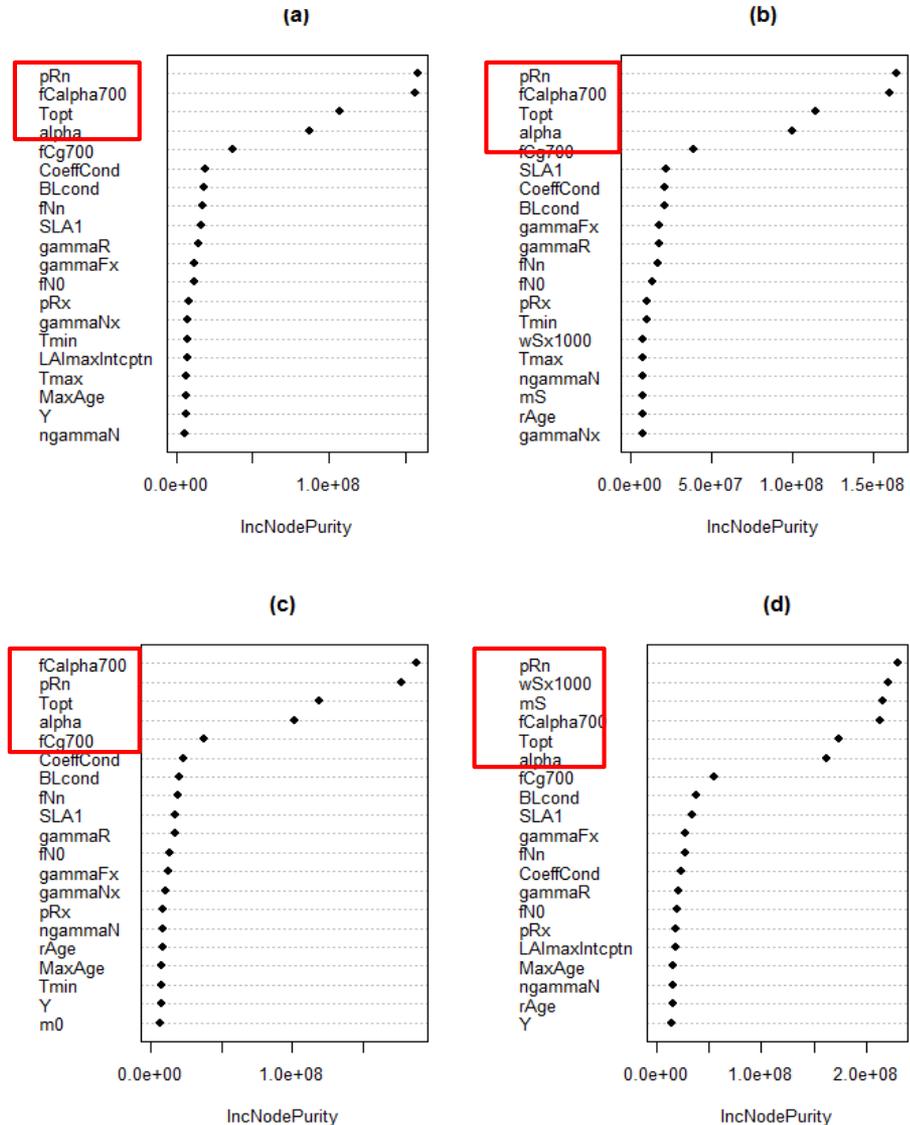
# Sources of Model Uncertainty (random forest technique)

- Parameters related to CO2 fertilization
- Parameters related to absorbed PAR
- Direct impact on growth rates and wood production
- Focus for future data collection in order to produce narrower ranges
- a)-c): Thinning alternatives and d) no thinning (just mortality)

IncNodePurity (Incident Node Purity):  
A Gini index for showing parameter importance in random forest analysis

↑ Higher IncNodePurity = ↑ Impacts on LEV

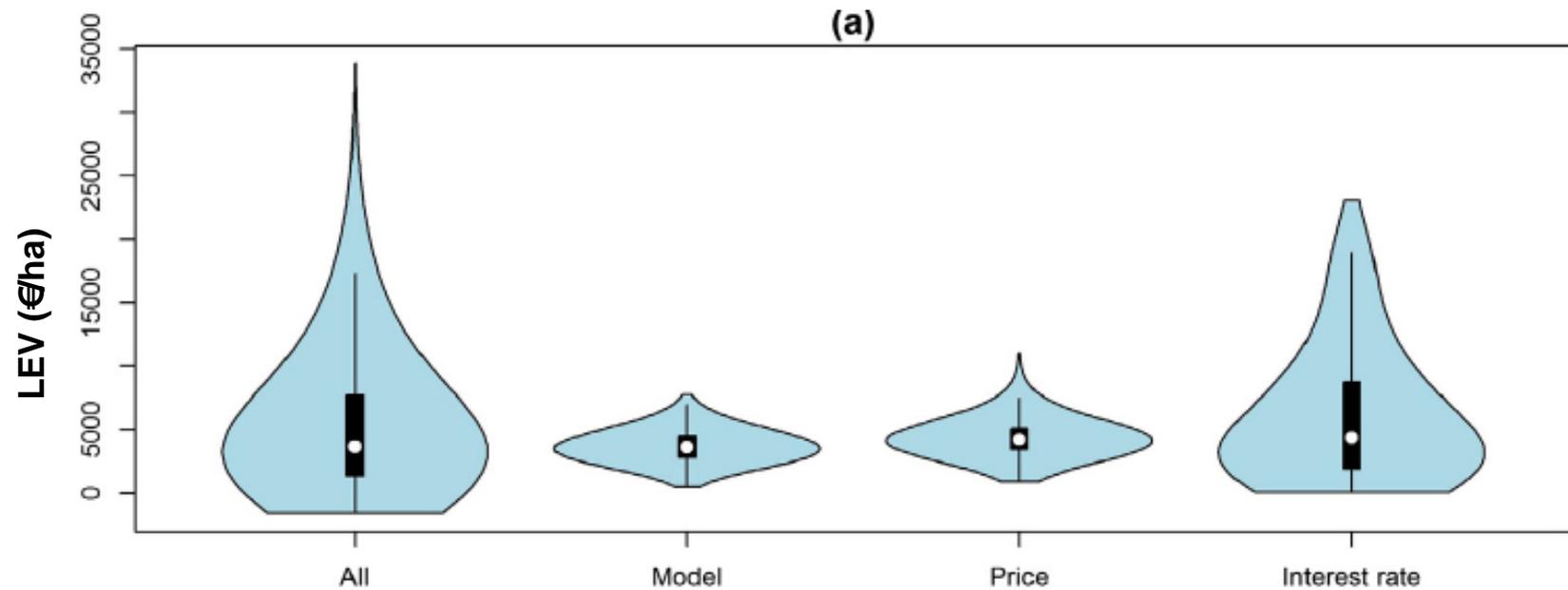
pRn = max. carbon allocation to roots  
fCAlpha700 = CO2 fertilization effect  
Topt = optimal growth temperature  
Alpha = canopy conductance  
mS = stem mortality rate  
wS1000 = stem mass of mean tree



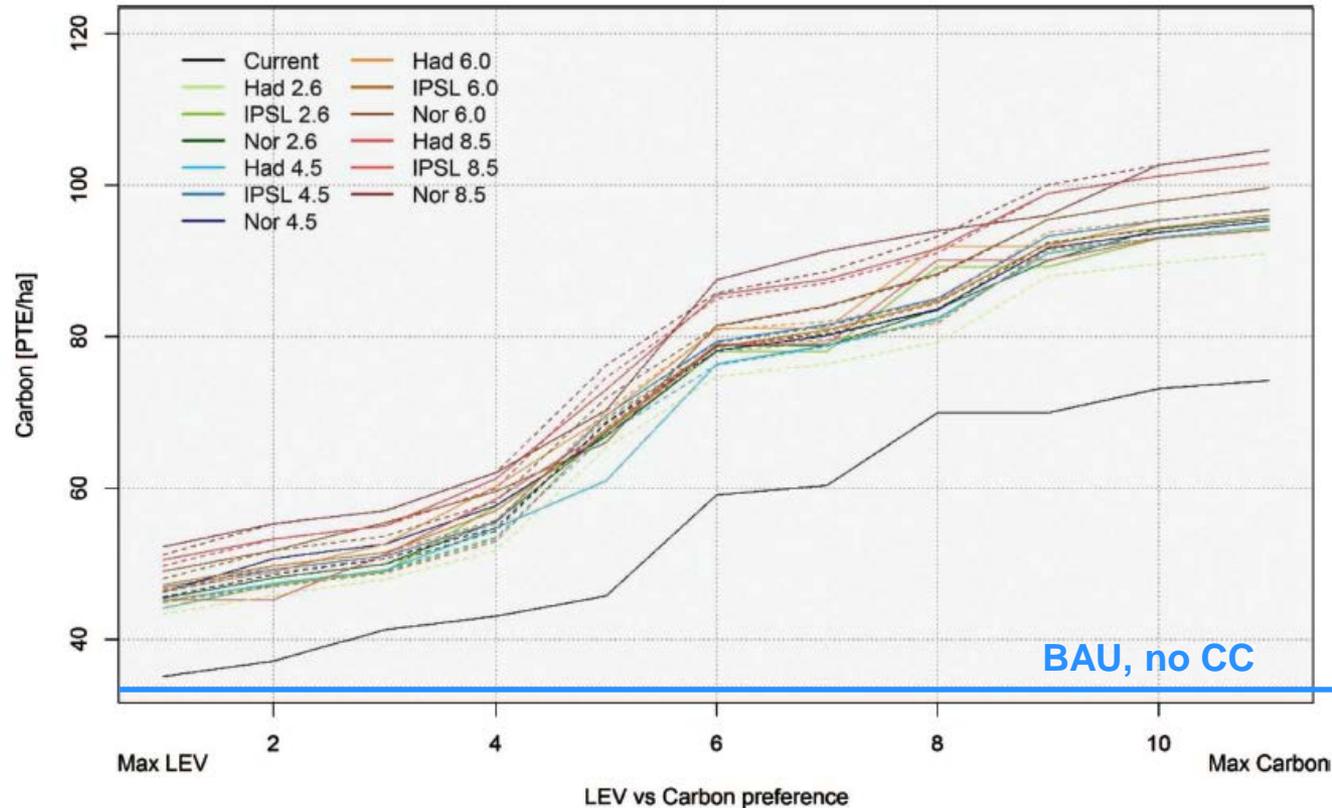
# Productivity of *Fagus sylvatica* under climate change – A Bayesian analysis of risk and uncertainty using the model 3-PG



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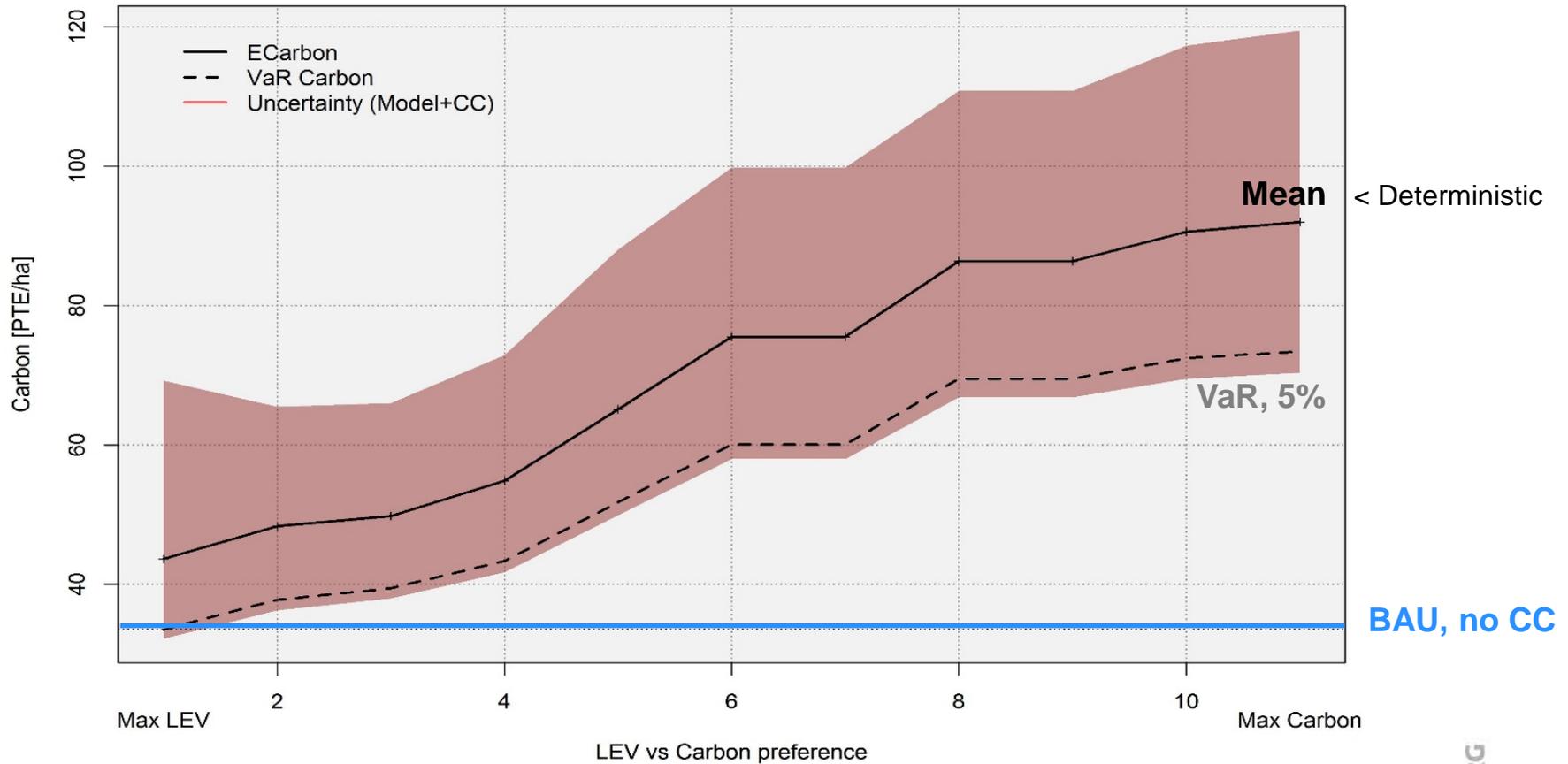
# Deterministic (robust) case



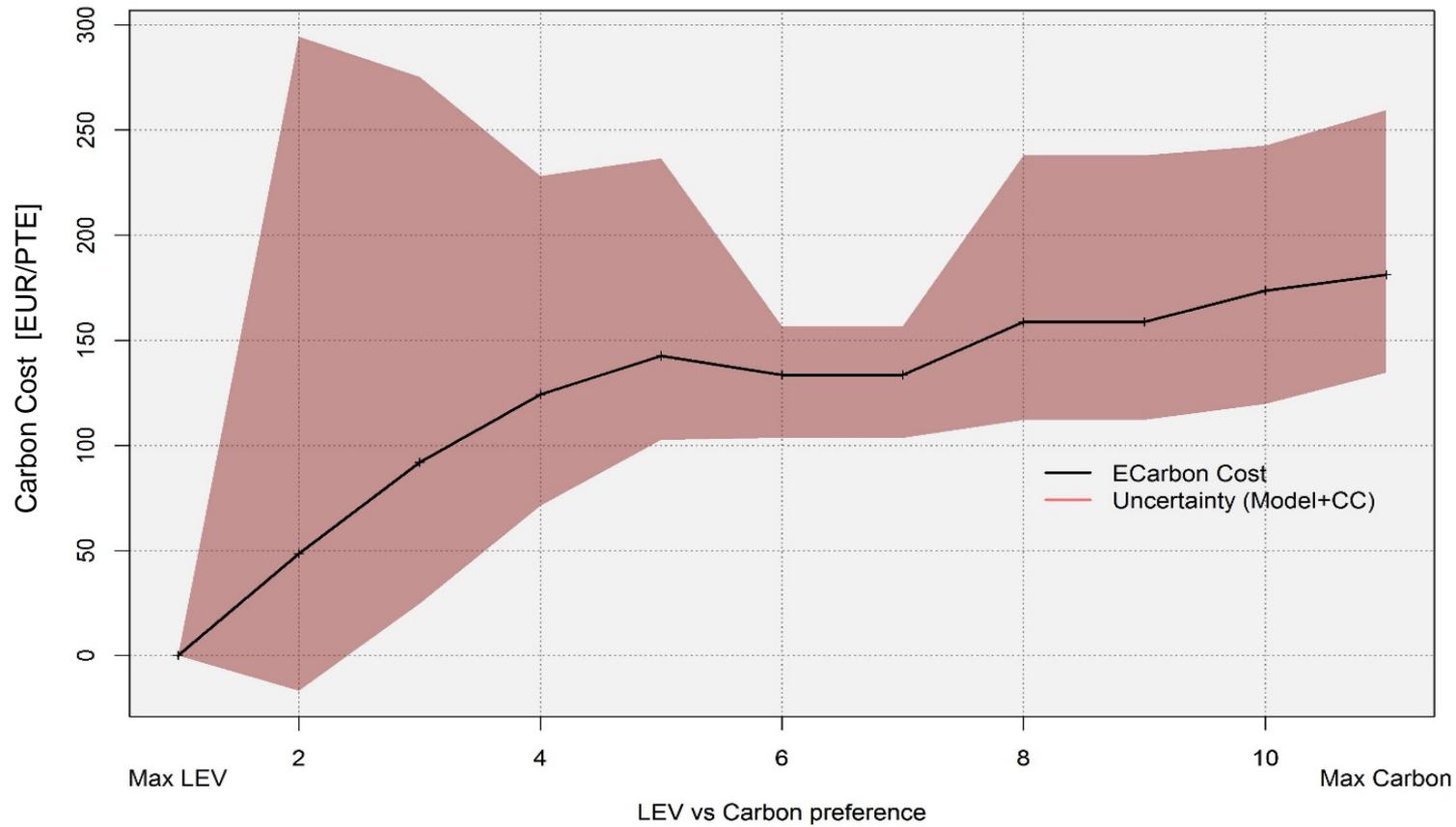
BAU is not optimal for mitigation

Figure 6: Carbon sequestration for the deterministic and robust towards climate optimal solutions. The solid lines represent the deterministic solution and the dashed lines show the robust solution. The dotted horizontal line shows the result for the BAU management and current climate.

# Carbon (PTE)



# Carbon Cost (EUR/PTE)



- **Process-based models** are favored to integrate carbon cycle analysis and economy but s. t. uncertainty
- (No)Discounting (0 vs. 2% ) has been found to be decisive regarding **carbon sequestration level and cost**
- Current **carbon trade price** is NOT sufficient to encourage commercial mitigation in forestry
- Quantification of **forest carbon budget** is uncertain and needs transparent guidelines to realize an effective carbon policy.



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# Thank you for attention!

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# Novel Research Concept (I) Insurance Value of Forest Ecosystems



1- Risk premium for natural insurance is LOWER than risk premium for financial insurance?

2- Find the best combination of natural and financial insurance to deal with risks



Nancy, France, July 1-3, 2020

## IUFRO Division 4.04.07 Risk analysis Conference

International Union of Forest Research Organizations  IUFRO  
Interconnecting  
Forests, Science and People

### Socio-Ecological Conflicts in Forest Management: Risk of (Not) Adapting ?



Abstracts submission deadline: March 31, 2020

AgroParisTech -14 rue Girardet - Nancy, France  
<https://workshop.inrae.fr/iufro-risk-analysis-nancy/>