



# Efficient Building of Forestry Modelling Software with the Capsis Methodology

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# The Capsis project

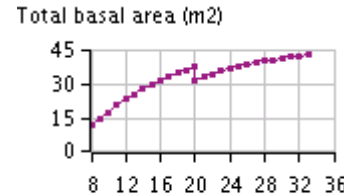
Objectives: Build a **software platform** to **integrate** many forest growth, yield and dynamics models **for** forestry modellers, forestry managers and education

## Details:

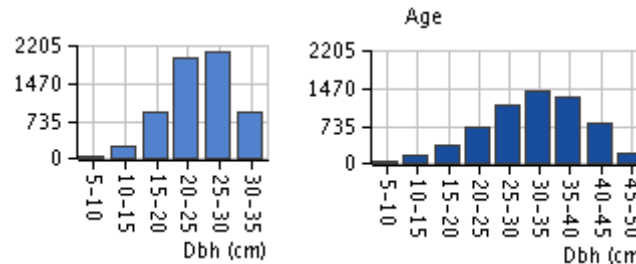
- An integration tool
- Growth / dynamics models for forests / plantations
- Various intervention to build management scenarios
- Interactive or not for long simulations
- Integrated tools to check the results
- Easy export to data analysis tools
- Possible connection to other simulation software
- Free software to ease partnerships
- Multi-OS and multi-language (french, english)

# Forestry models

Stand level models:

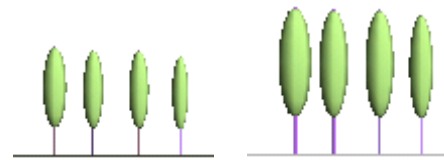


Distribution models:

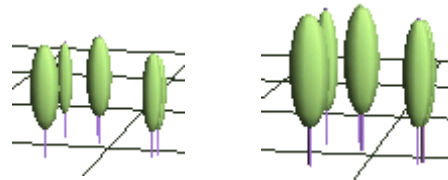


Various types of stand growth and yield models

Individual based models:



Spatialized models:



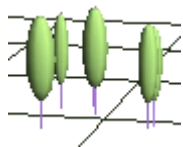
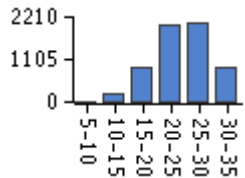
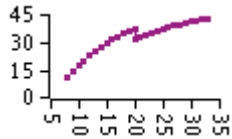
... and also Mixt models:

- Process-based + growth and yield
- Distribution + spatial structure
- Individual based + genetics ...



# Various representations in memory

Kind of model



Other...

Example

**Lemoine model** (stand-level, plantation):

- Age
- Number of trees
- Girth (dominant, mean tree) (cm)
- Basal area (m<sup>2</sup>)
- Height (dominant, mean tree) (m)
- Volume (mean tree) (m<sup>3</sup>)

**PP3 model** (distribution, plantation):

A collection of bars

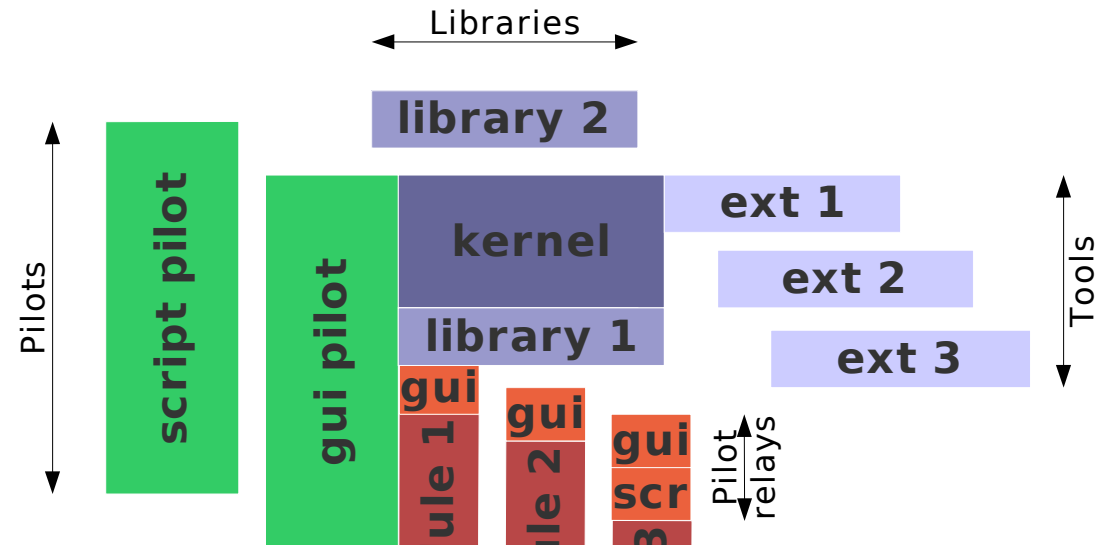
- Age
- Diameter (cm), Height (m), Tree volume (m<sup>3</sup>)
- Number of trees in the bar
- Crown (base height, diameter) (m)
- Other (biomass, carbon mass, leaf area, etc.)

**Samsara model** (individual-based, spatialized):

A collection of trees

- Age
- Diameter (cm) , Height (m)
- Location x, y, z (m)
- Species
- Crown (base height, radius) (m), Light (MJ)

# Capsis Software Architecture



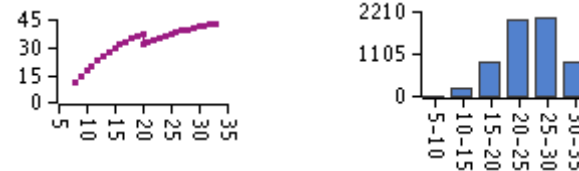
**Kernel:** stability

**Libraries:** additional tools

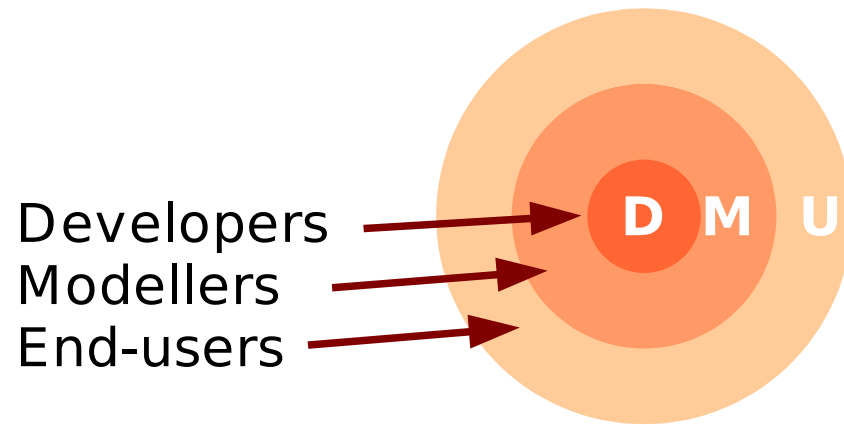
**Modules:** Stand growth models

**Extensions:** evolutive part

**Pilots:** interactive or not



# The Capsis project organisation



Actors roles:

**Developers:** computer developers, design, training courses, assistance

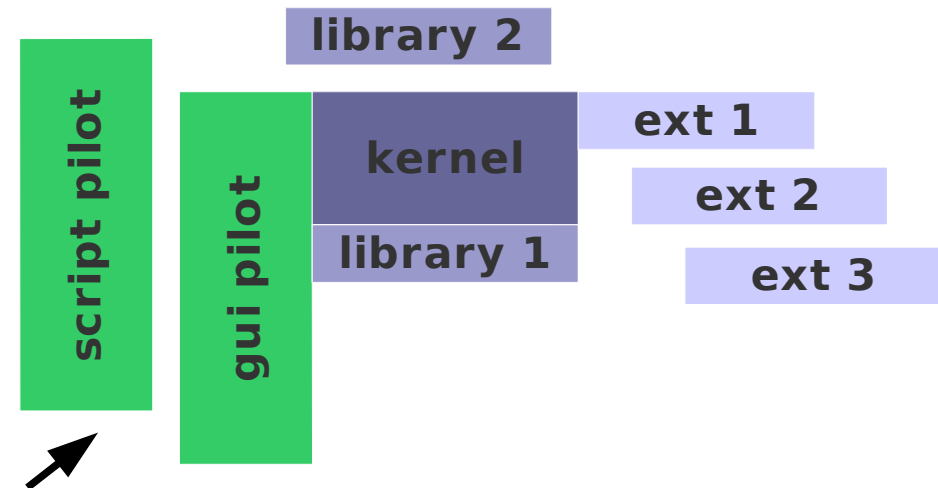
**Modellers:** scientists, build their models inside Capsis

**End-users:** interested by using the models

## The Capsis Community:

Developers + Modellers are co-developopping together

# Clear participation rules

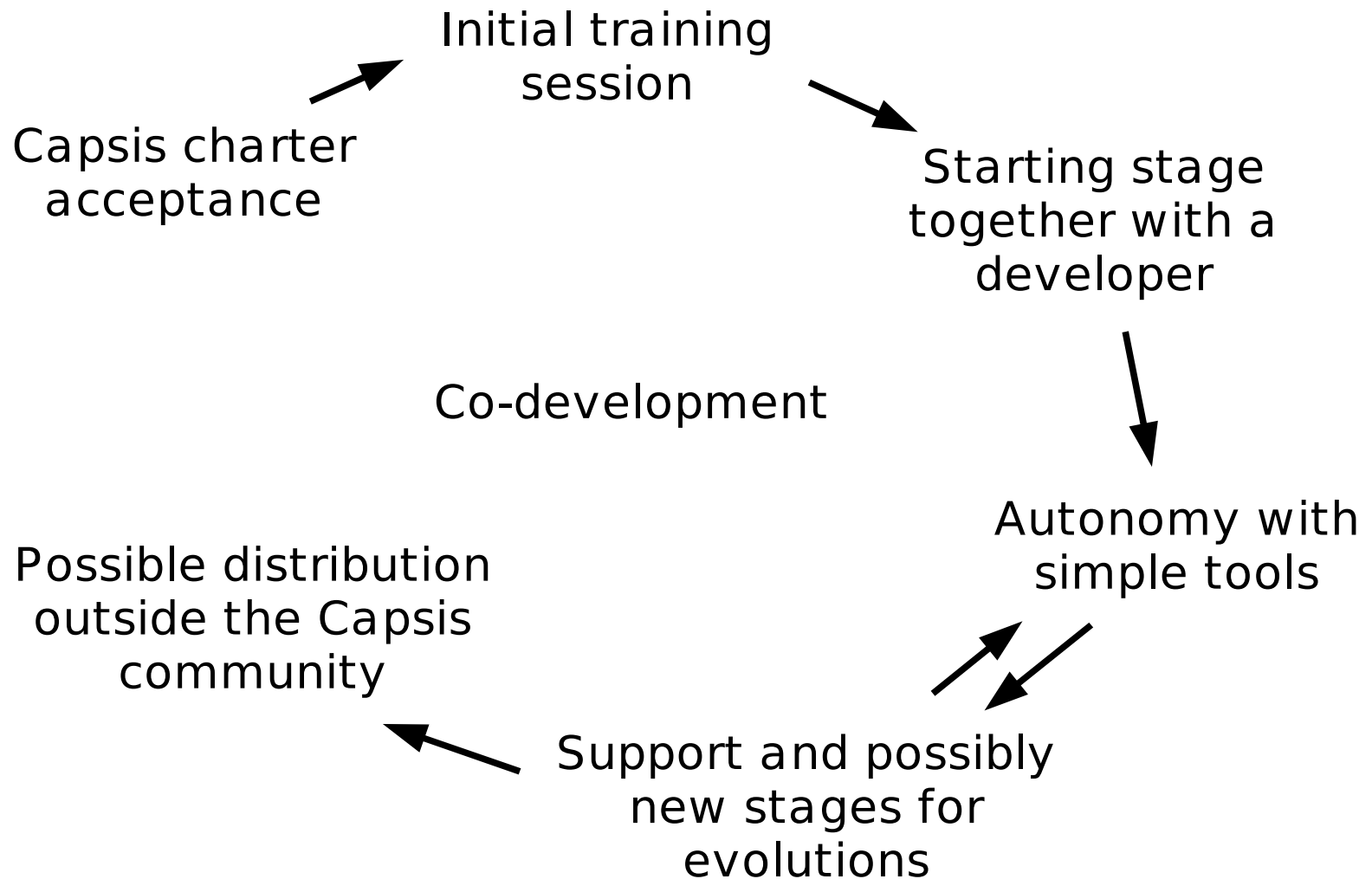


## The Capsis charter:

- 1. Free kernel:** the Capsis kernel is a free software (LGPL licence)
- 2. Development:** the modelers are in charge of the development of their models
- 3. Support:** They can have support from the developers
- 4. Free access in the community:** All the source codes are freely accessible by all members in the Capsis community
- 5. Respect of intellectual property:** all members respect the intellectual property of the other members
- 6. Validations:** developers deal with technical validation, modelers deal with fonctionnal validation
- 7. Distribution:** the stabilized / validated modules may be distributed when the author decides and chooses a licence
- 8. Decentralization:** modelers manage directly the relations with their end-users



# The Capsis methodology



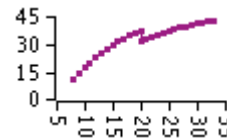


# Focus: Integrated Stand Growth Model (1)

ISGM is a model by **Dr. Tang Shouzheng** (since 1994)  
The **Research Institute of Forest Resource Information Techniques** (IFRIT) of the Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF), Beijing

- Implemented in Capsis by **Hong LingXia** in June 2006 during her visit in France

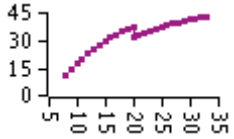
- ISGM is a Stand-level model



Tang Shouzheng, Meng ZhaoHe, Meng FanRui. 1994. A growth and self-thinning model for pure even-aged stands theory and applications. *Forest Ecology and Management* 70(1994): 67~73.

→ - The structure (without equations) of the ISGM model in Capsis **was reused** to begin implement the new Lemoine project in Capsis (Céline Meredieu, Thierry Labbé, INRA-EPHYSE, October 2006)

# Focus: Integrated Stand Growth Model (2)



A group of correlated equations to calculate the growth of an **even-aged stand**:

- Basal area
- Density index
- Self-thinning model
- Dominant tree growth
- Mean tree growth
- Stand volume

Outputs:

- different kinds of growth tables with different site index, stand density, thinning methods
- A stand density control graph

Implemented:

- in ForStat (Chinese, CAF)
- in Capsis (English, INRA-AMAP)

# Focus: Integrated Stand Growth Model (3)

**Initialize Scenario**

**Model parameters**

- Schumacher model
- Richards model

b1: 26.4845011603838  
 b2: 0.226506945951177  
 b3: 0.239230516083442  
 b4: 7.42424756886409  
 b5: 4.17965102244328  
 sf: 1688.23048654887  
 bet: 1.67091988667722  
 gam: 2.40561638950958  
 c1: 0.360997000442638  
 c2: 2.0432371137965  
 a1: 0.957496823263626  
 a2: 1.06915085249478  
 b: 7.67691611117603  
 c: 2.0

**SiteIndex parameters**

Age that average height reached 1.3: 2.5  
 Basic Site index age: 20.0  
 Site index: 18.0

**Initial situation**

- Plantation
- Current situation

Number of trees/ha: 2000.0    Number Of trees/ha: 2000.0  
 Forestation age: 1.0    Age: 8.0  
 Survival rate: 0.95    Basal area: 12.0

Buttons: Load, Save, OK, Cancel

**New Project**

Project name: [ ]

Model:

- Fagacées
- Fire Paradox
- GenLoader
- Guppy
- Hi-sAFe
- IFN-CA
- ISGM**
- Ivy

Parameters: Initialize

Buttons: OK, Cancel, Help

**Open**

Look In: Isgm

Files:

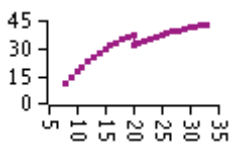
- CVS
- IsgmModelParameters.txt**

Preview:

```
# The IsgmParameters
schumacherModel = true
b1 = 26.4358307554412
b2 = 0.22684891297072
b3 = 0.24022093018782
b4 = 7.53714537486024
b5 = 4.1624186066914
```

File Name: IsgmModelParameters.txt  
 Files of Type: All Files

Buttons: Open, Cancel



# Focus: Integrated Stand Growth Model (4)

Name : i - Model : ISGM - 10 000 m2 - All in memory -

1a

- Evolution
- Intervention
- Delete Step
- Group
- Export
- Toolbox
- Configure
- Properties

**Growth parameters**

**Limit Panel**

Current age :

End age :

**Thinning panel**

Enable thinning

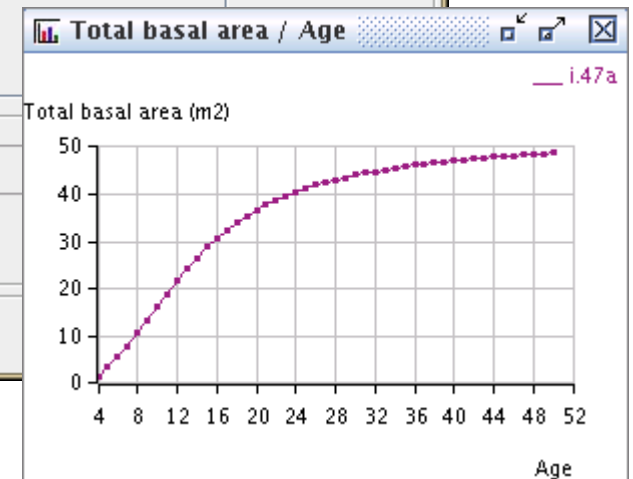
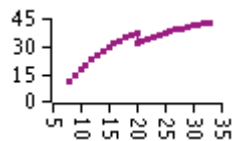
Number	Cutting age	Cutting ratio of tree...	Cutting ratio of bas...

**Add / Edit a thinning step**

Cutting age :

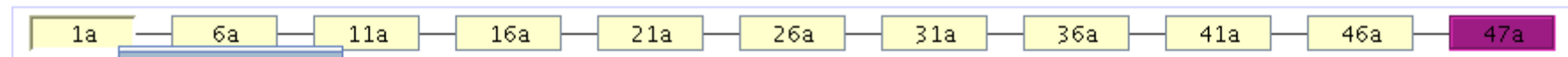
Cutting ratio of tree number :

Cutting ratio of basal area :



# Focus: Integrated Stand Growth Model (5)

Name : i - Model : ISGM - 10 000 m2 - All in memory -



- Evolution
- Intervention
- Delete Step
- Group
- Export
- Toolbox
- Configure
- Properties

**Growth parameters**

**Limit Panel**

Current age :

End age :

**Thinning panel**

Enable thinning

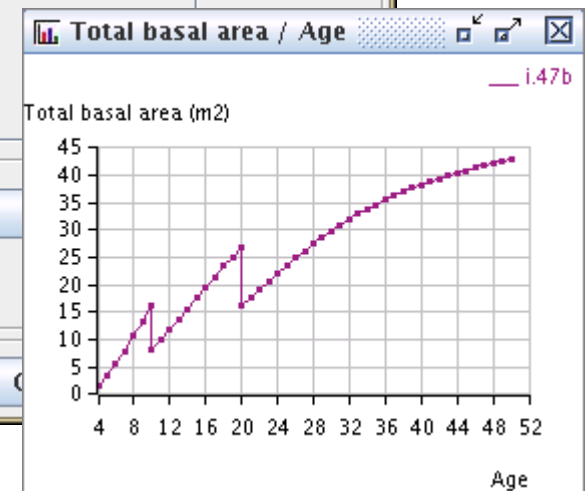
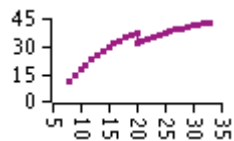
Number	Cutting age	Cutting ratio of tree...	Cutting ratio of bas...
1	10.0	0.4	0.5
2	20.0	0.3	0.4

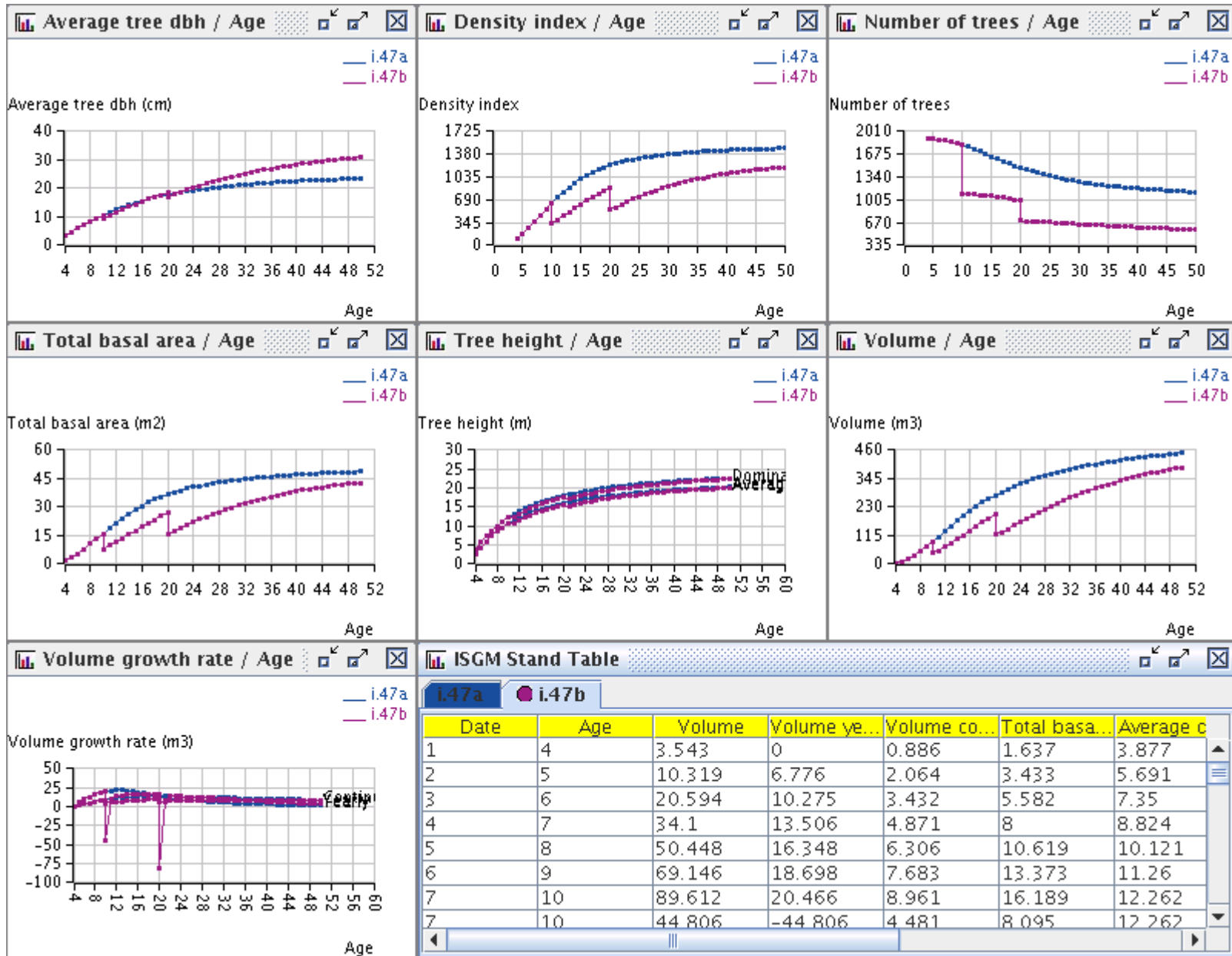
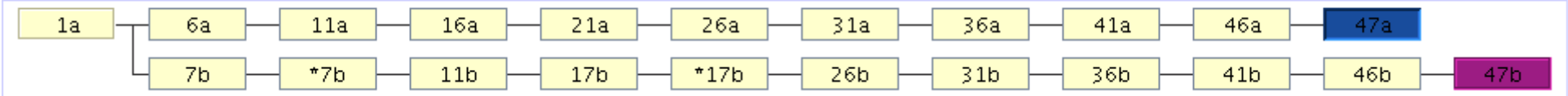
**Add / Edit a thinning step**

Cutting age :

Cutting ratio of tree number :

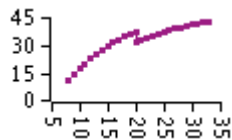
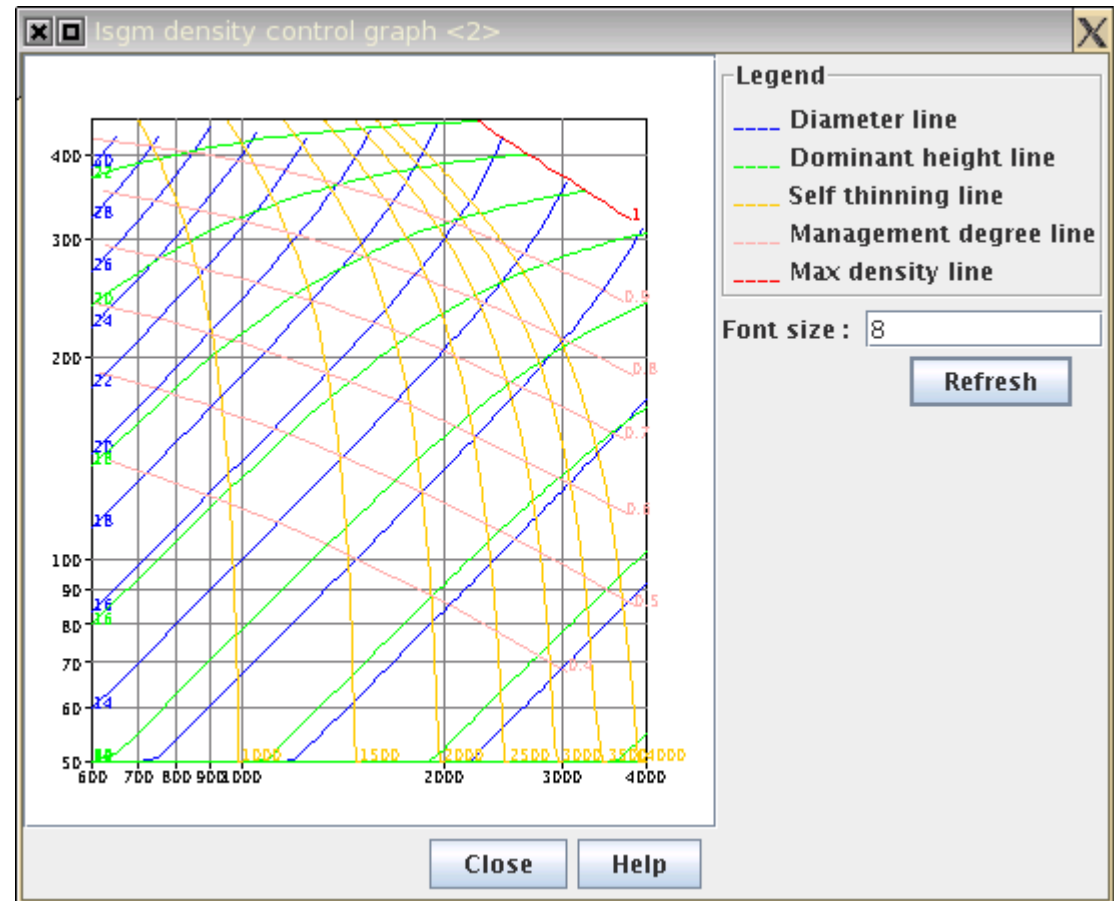
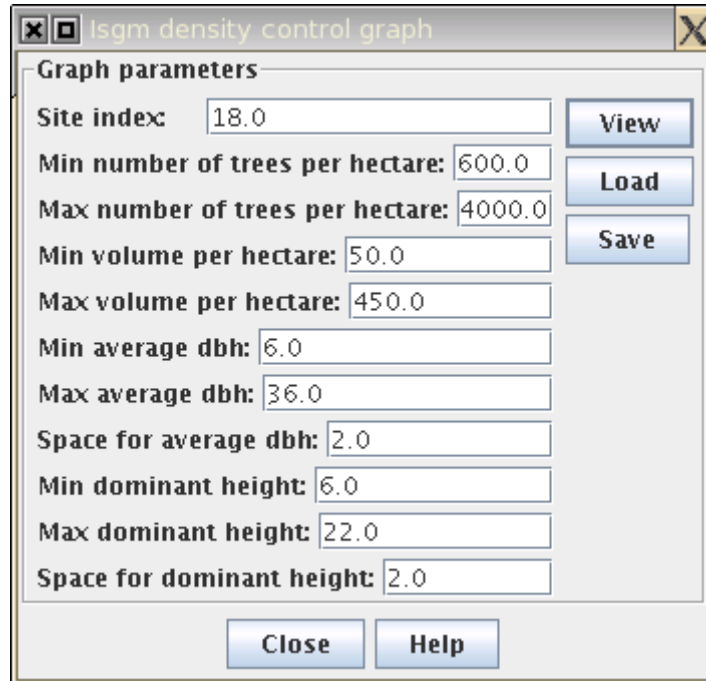
Cutting ratio of basal area :





Focus: ISGM (6)

# Focus: Integrated Stand Growth Model (7)



A specific tool: the ISGM density control graph

# A distribution model: *Sylvestris* (1)

**Sandrine Perret<sup>(1)</sup>, Thomas Pérot<sup>(1)</sup>, Céline Meredieu<sup>(2)</sup>**

<sup>(1)</sup> Cemagref - Forest ecosystems

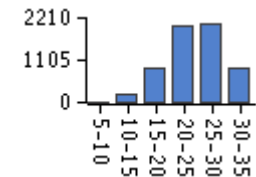
<sup>(2)</sup> INRA - EPHYSE

- Scientific purpose: studying and modelling **Scots Pine growth in pure and even-aged stands**

- Applied purpose: helping forest managers to **build various silvicultural scenarios** adapted to different stand structure, site fertility or management purpose.

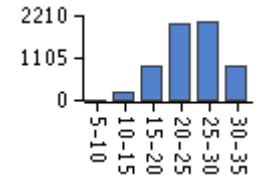
5 equations:

- Dominant height – age – fertility model
- Diameter increment model
- Height-diameter model
- A self-thinning model (Hynynen, 1993)
- Volume table (Goupil, 1981)

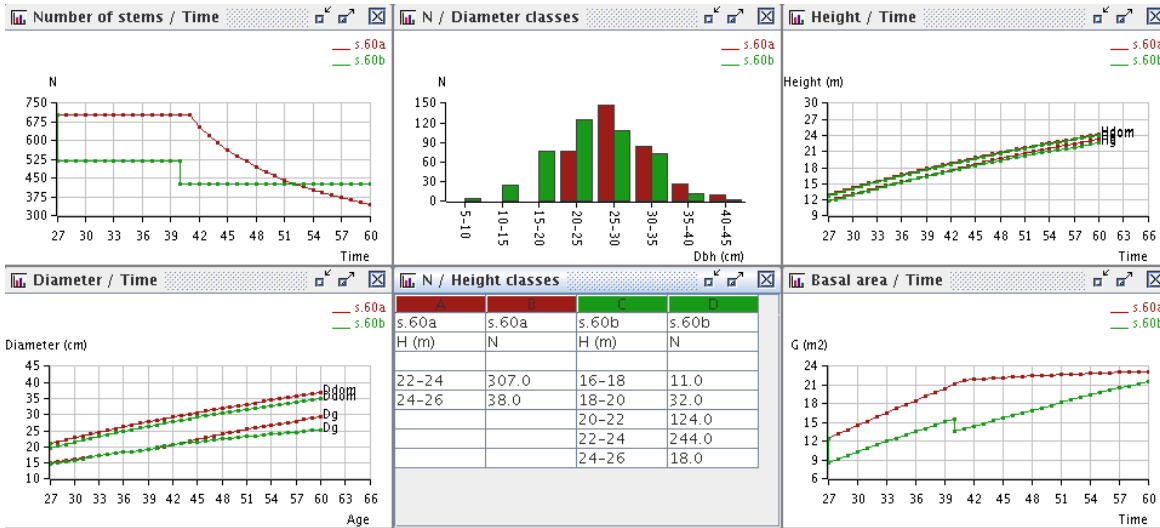
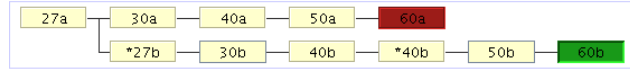




# A distribution model: Sylvestris (2)



Name: s - Model: Pin sylvestre - 5 490 m2 - All in memory - /home/coligny/java/capsis4\_openGL\_branch/data/Sylvestris/er48b1990c1cm.txt



**Thinning diagram**

**Parameters**

Class width (cm):  Minimum threshold (cm):

Per hectare  
 Girth

0 41 269 196 12

0-5 5-10 10-15 15-20 20-25

**Results (approximate)**

	Before	After	Cut
N	705	518	187
G (m2)	12.47	8.56	3.91
Dg (cm)	15.01	14.51	16.31

OK Cancel Help

**Thinning parameters**

**Choose Stocking variable**

N/ha  G/ha  V/ha  RDI  S%

**BEFORE thinning**

N/ha  G/ha  V/ha  RDI  S%

**AFTER thinning**

N/ha  G/ha  V/ha  RDI  S%

**Stocking and Kg**

Target Stocking  Target Kg  Kg mini (according to variable & target stocking)

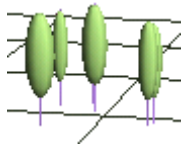
( specify Target Stocking & Kg, then ENTER - When fitted : OK ) OK Cancel Help

Thinning extensions

# Samsara: individual-based, spatialized (1)

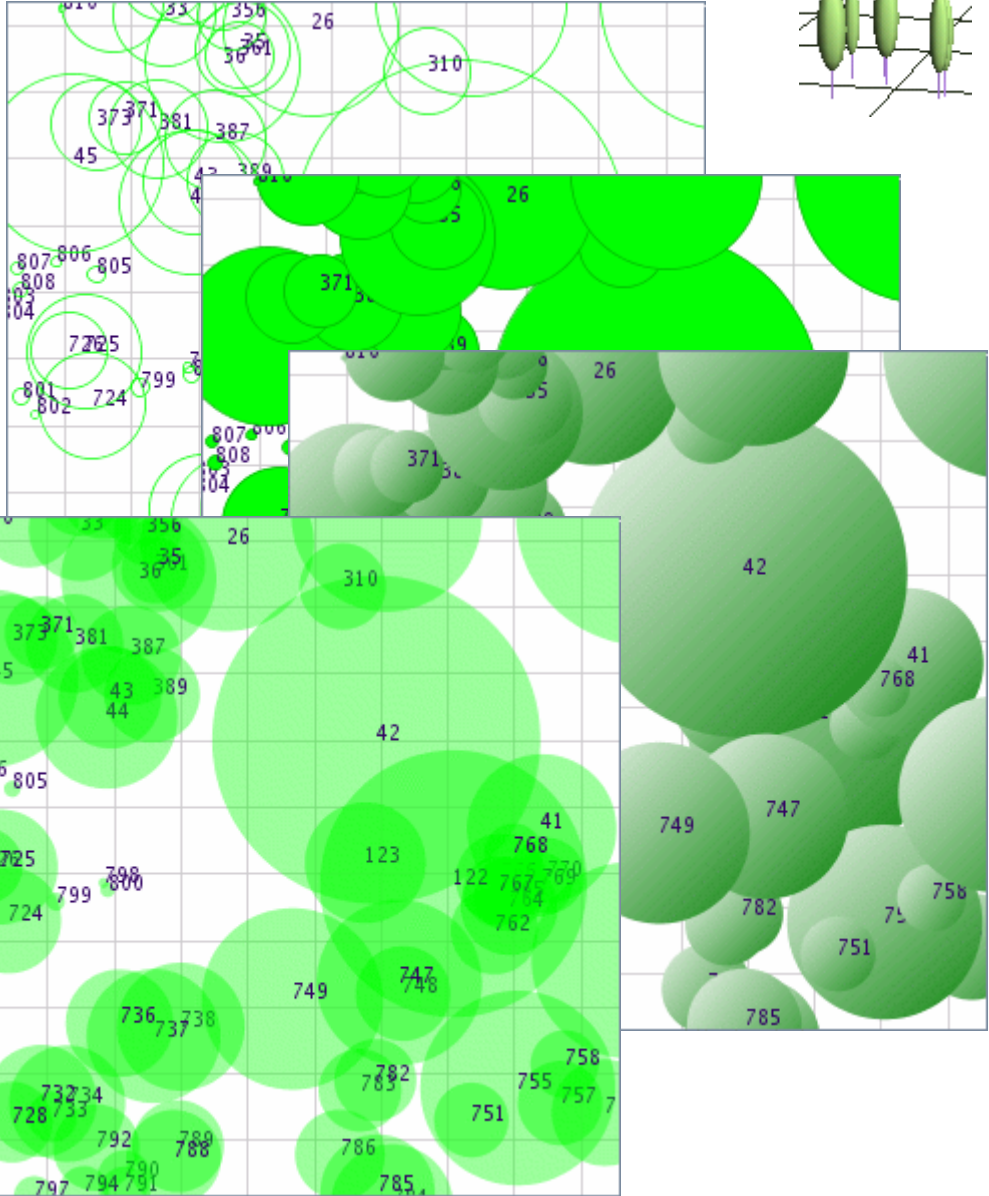
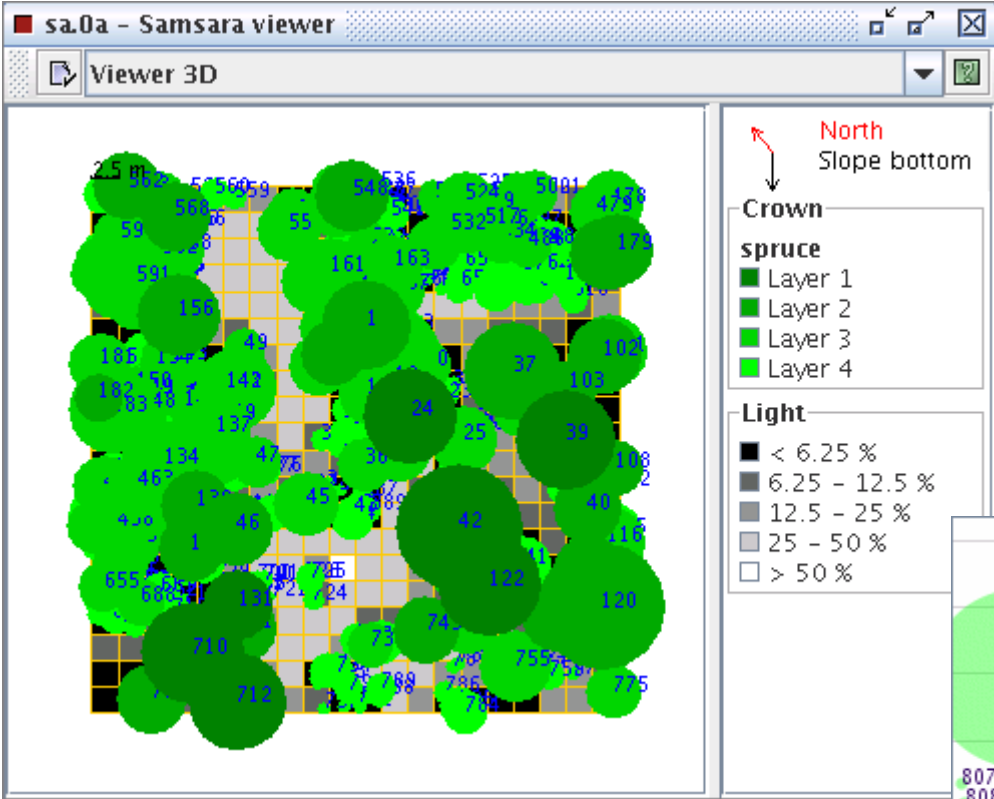
**Benoît Courbaud** - Cemagref

- A model of forest dynamics designed for the study of stand structure / stand dynamics and silviculture interactions
- To **compare thinning strategies** and to understand how demographic processes at the tree level (regeneration, growth, death) generate patterns at the stand level
- Trees: location (x, y, z), height, diameter at breast height, crown base height and crown base radius
- **Light interception** is calculated for every tree and every cell, **growth, death and competition** are modelled at the tree level for every individuals higher than 1.30 m. **Regeneration** is modelled at the ground cell level

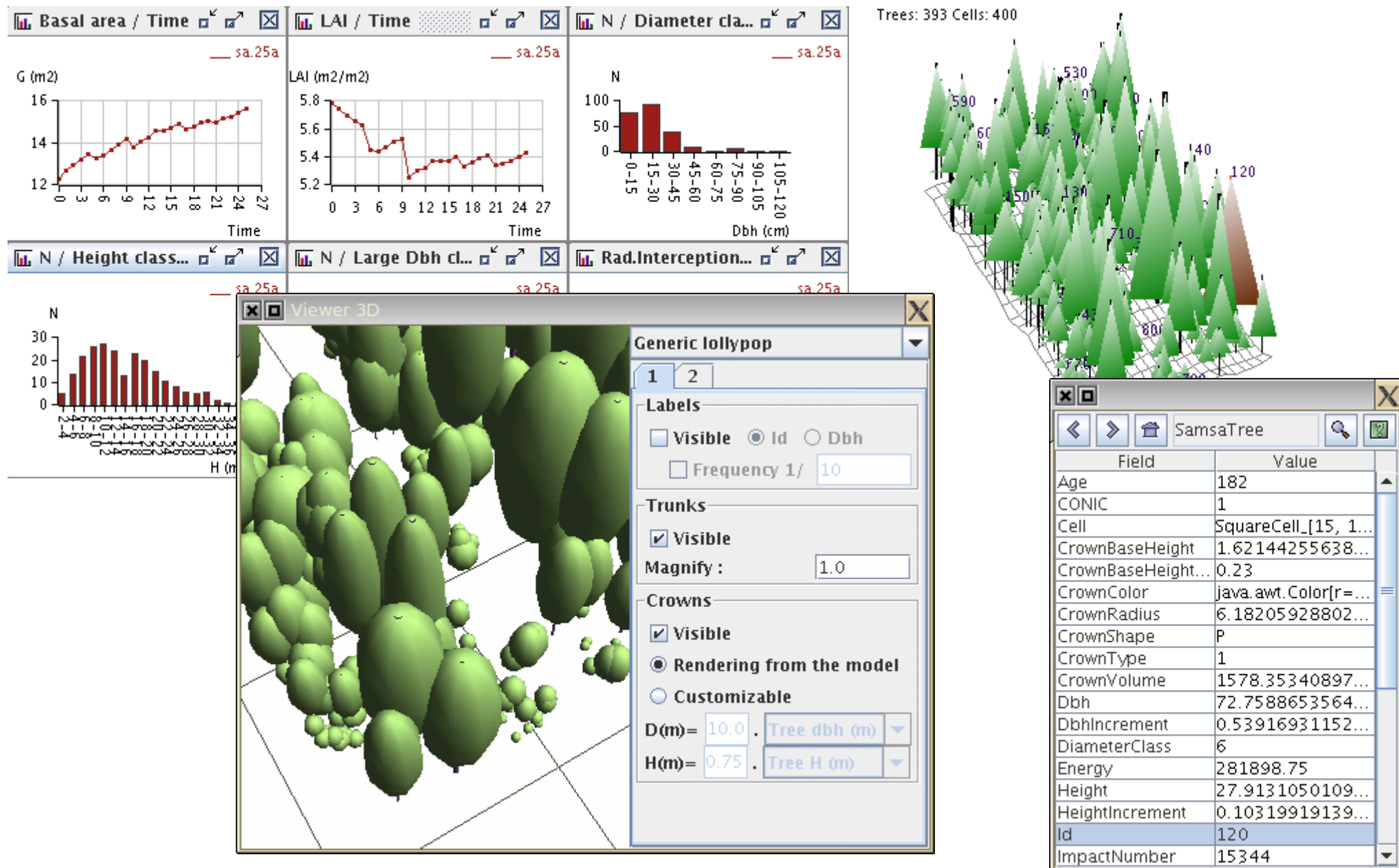


Courbaud, B., Goreaud, G., Dreyfus, Ph., Bonnet, F.R., 2001 : Evaluating thinning strategies using a Tree Distance Dependent Growth Model: Some examples based on the CAPSIS software "Uneven-Aged Spruce Forests" module. Forest Ecology and Management.

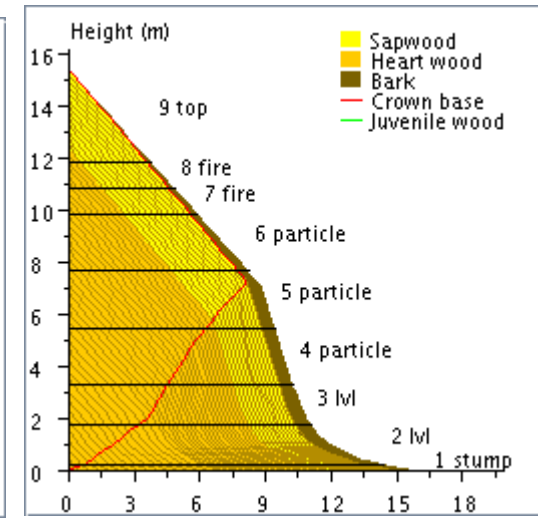
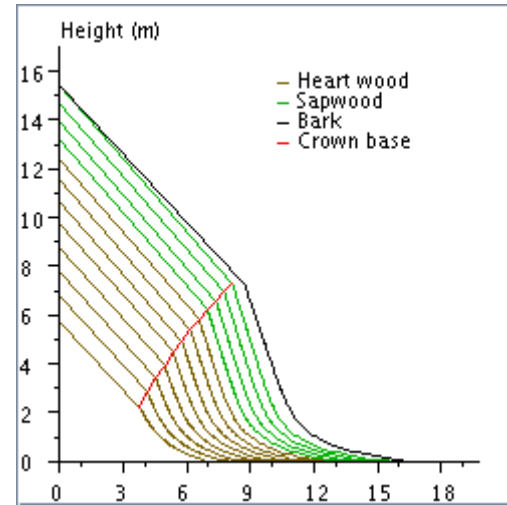
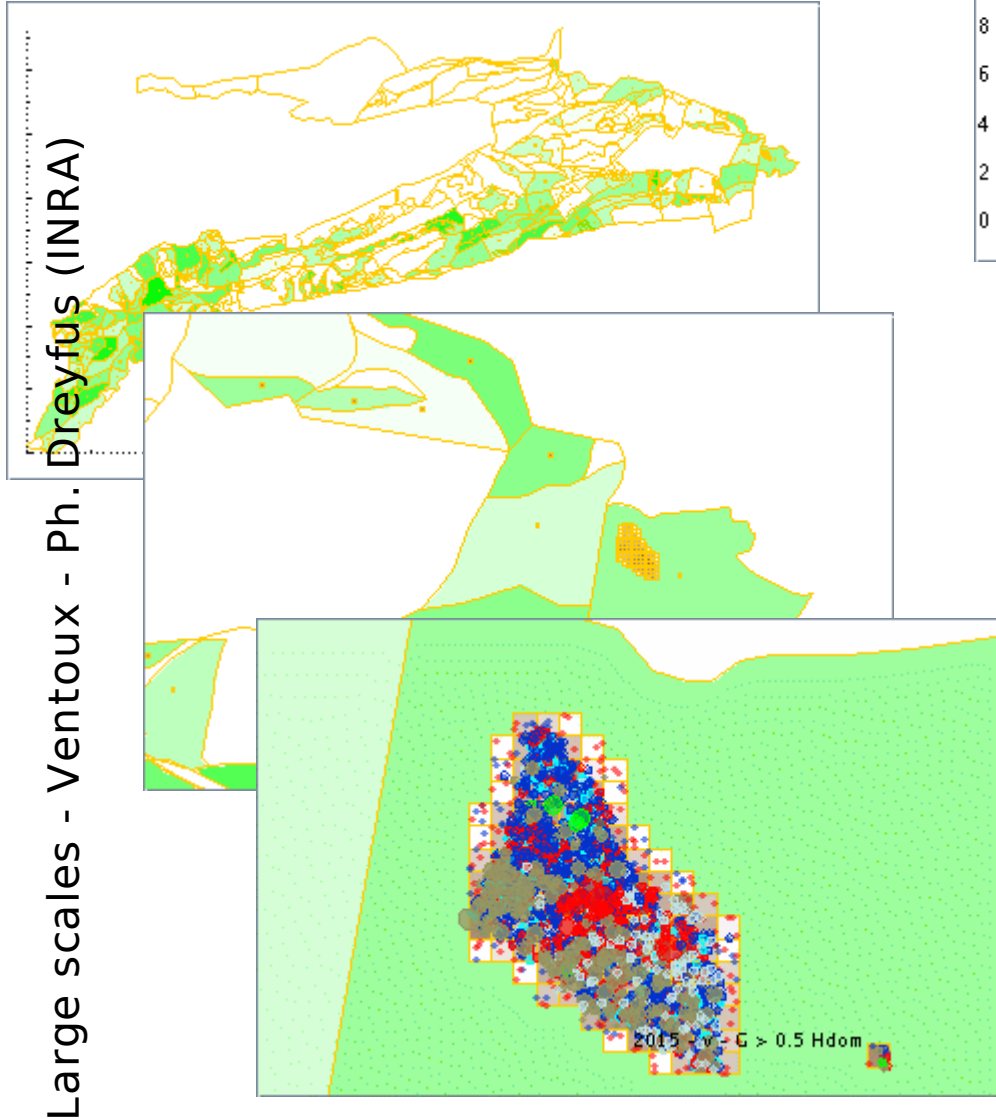
# Samsara: individual-based, spatialized (2)



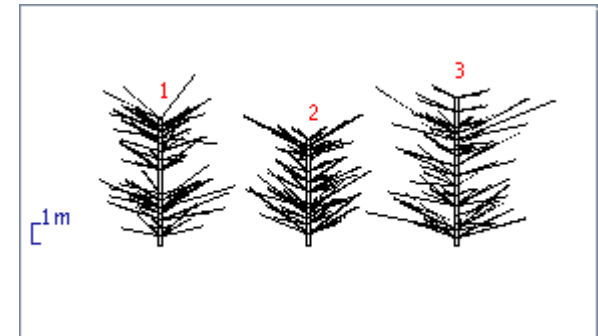
# Samsara: individual-based, spatialized (3)



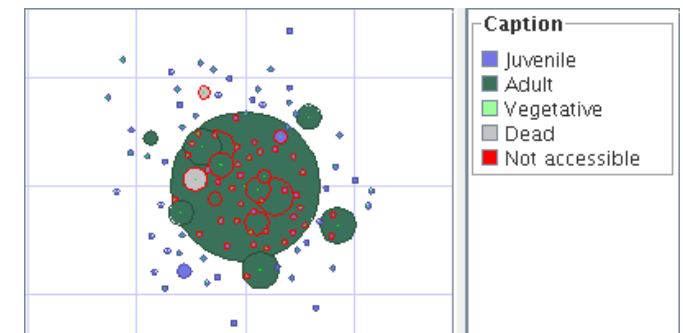
# Other examples



Wood quality - Fagacées - F. Mothe (INRA)

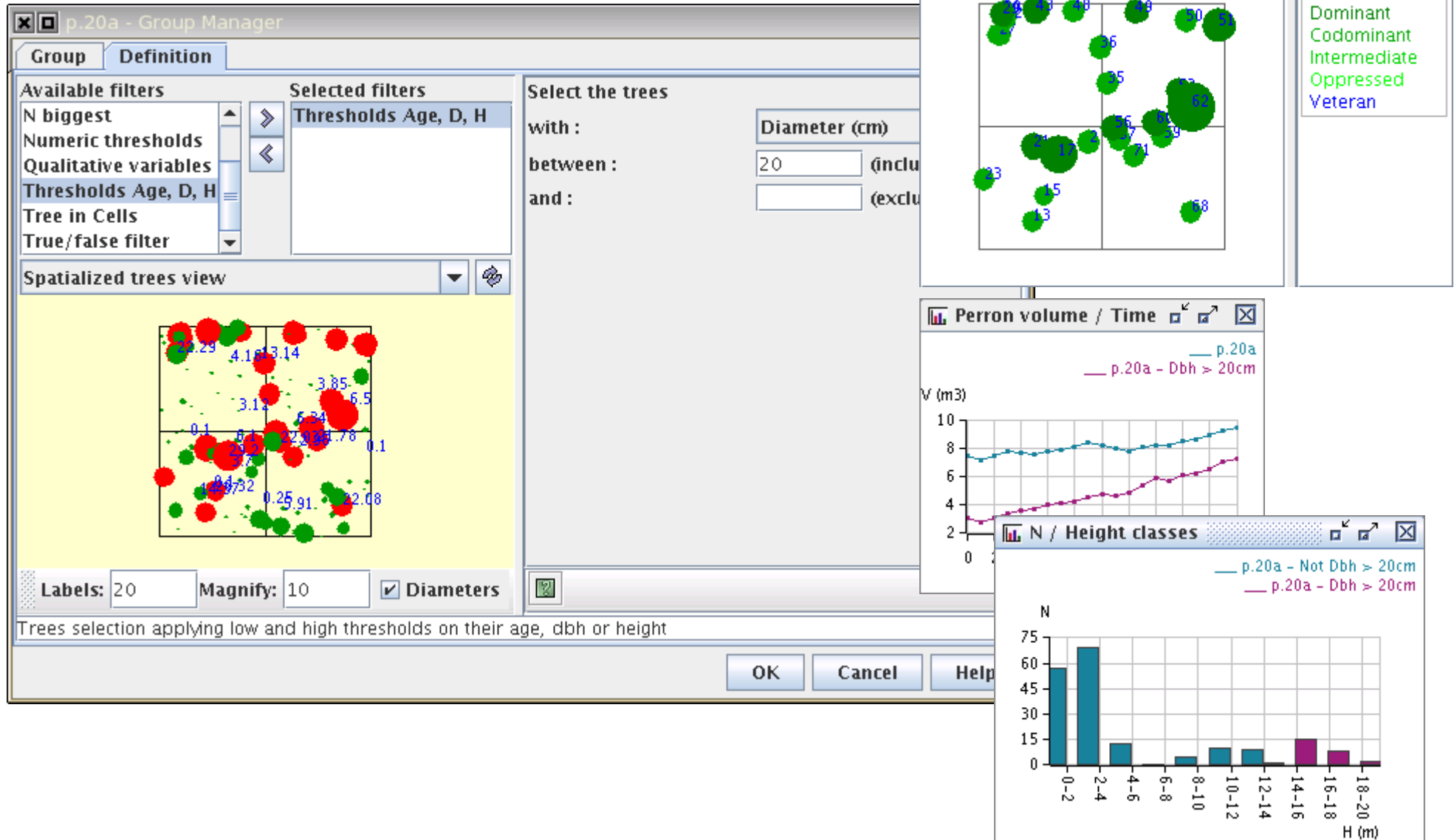


Branches - NZ1 - D. Pont (ENSIS NZ)



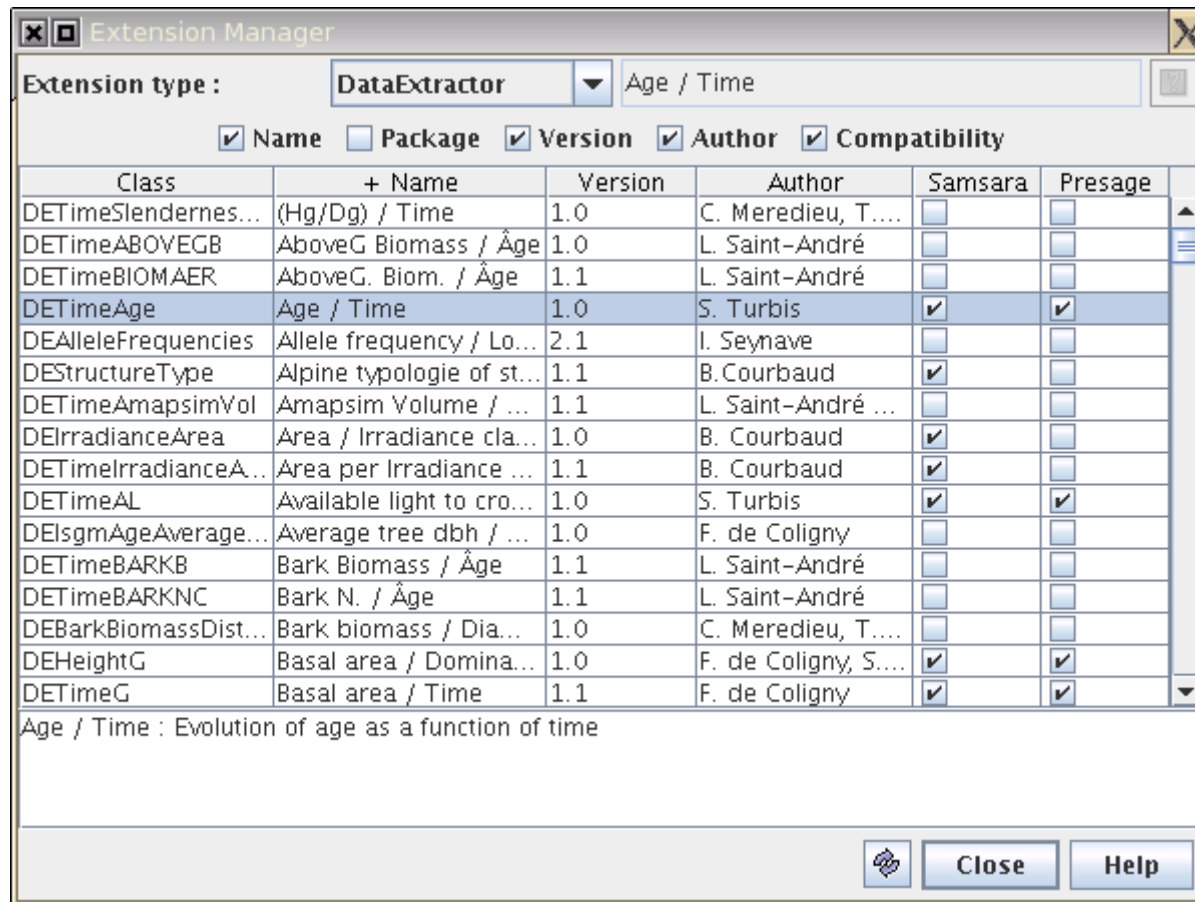
Dispersion - Cytisus - E. Chambon-Dubreuil (INRA)

# Groups management



# Extensions

Capsis  
kernel



Extension manager (390)

Data extractor (182)
Data Renderer (6)
Economic function (7)
Filter (12)
Generic tool (6)
Grouper display (3)
Intervener (26)
loformat (71)
Lollypop (1)
Memorizer (4)
Model tool (18)
Object viewer (24)
Stand viewer (30)

About 400 extensions in Capsis, either generic or specific to one model

# Main reusable libraries

## **Biomechanics** - Philippe Ancelin (Cemagref)

Calculates wind effects, considered as a natural disturbance, on forest stands managed by a tree-based forest growth or dynamics model

## **Economics** - Christophe Orazio (IEFC)

Economic balance of a scenario by allocating expenses and incomes to the interventions

## **Genetics** - Christian Pichot et al. (INRA)

Genetics information and processus to study interactions between gene flows and trees demography

## **Spatial** - Francois Goreaud (Cemagref)

Generation and characterization of spatial structures



## Integrated modules: various types

### IBM

Fagacées  
Fasy  
OakPine1 (*new*)

### IBM + Spatialized

Cytisus  
Fiesta / NRG  
Mountain  
Paletuviers  
Presage  
Quercus  
Regelight  
Samsara  
Selva  
Sexi  
Simsys  
TranspopRege

### Diameter class

CA1, Luberon  
Eucalypt  
IfnCa  
Laricio  
NZ1  
PNN  
PP3  
QS1  
Sylvestris  
Transpop

### Diameter class + Spatialized

Alisier  
Dynaclim  
Ventoux, Ventoug

### Fish

Bidasoa  
Dynet  
Guppy

### Stand level

ISGM  
Lemoine (*new*)

### AgroForestry

HiSafe

# Recent publications

Goreaud F., de Coligny F., Courbaud B., Dhôte J.-F., Dreyfus P., Pérot T., **2005**. [La modélisation : un outil pour la gestion et l'aménagement en forêt](#). Vertigo 6 (2).

de Coligny F., Meredieu C., Labbé T., Vallet P., Dreyfus P., **2005**. [Using Capsis for connection with wood quality](#). In Proceedings of the fifth Workshop "Connection between Forest Resources and Wood Quality : Modelling Approaches and Simulation Software", Waiheke Island, New Zealand, 20-27 November 2005. In press.

Goreaud F., Courbaud B., de Coligny F., **2005**. [How long does the spatial structure of an initial state influence the dynamics of a forest growth model ? A simulation study using the Capsis platform](#). In Proceedings of the Open International Conference on Modeling and Simulation - OICMS 2005, 13-15 June 2005, Clermont Ferrand (France), pp 217-230.

de Coligny F., **2005**. [Capsis: Computer-Aided Projection for Strategies In Silviculture, a software platform for forestry modellers](#). Workshop on Information Science for Agriculture and Environment (ISAE). 3-4 June 2005, GuiZhou Normal University, GuiYang, P.R. China.

Cucchi V., Meredieu C., Stokes A., de Coligny F., Suarez J., Gardiner B.A., **2005**. [Modelling the windthrow risk for simulated forest stands of Maritime pine \(Pinus pinaster Ait.\)](#). Forest Ecology and Management, 213(1-3): 184-196.

# Perspectives

- Integration of new projects
- Progress on the common parts
- Better documentation -> for self-training
- More connections with AMAP plant architecture simulators
- Support for other european projects
- More partnerships with european / other foreign countries
- Web site completely in english

<http://capsis.free.fr>

