

The pilot communicates with the module through its piloting relay which transmits its requests and the answers of the module. Therefore, a module owns a relay for each pilot the modeller is interested in. A relay contains descriptions for the parameters of its module concerning initialisation and evolution. Interactive relays also describe dialog boxes to input these parameters interactively.

The interactive pilot is bilingual (French, English) and can be easily adapted to other languages. It drives the simulations through a project manager (Fig. 3), showing the calculated steps. It is then possible to trigger an evolution phase or an intervention on one given step by using the mouse and a contextual menu. Graphical viewers and data extractors can be synchronized with the project steps to observe the effects of the simulation.

The script pilot can be used to plan long or repetitive simulations in a command file. This script can then be run without user action. The results of each scenario can be evaluated within the script to choose the next actions or can be saved in files for future analysis.



Figure 3 : A glance at Capsis4 interactive pilot under Linux (same look & feel under Windows). Project manager, stand viewers with tree inspector, data extractors.

The libraries

Besides housing forest growth and dynamics models, Capsis hosts various tools and models which can be used in several modules. These resources are grouped in transversal applied libraries. Modellers can also use technical libraries resources to build their modules.

