# Integrating xylogenesis in carbon balance projections for boreal forests

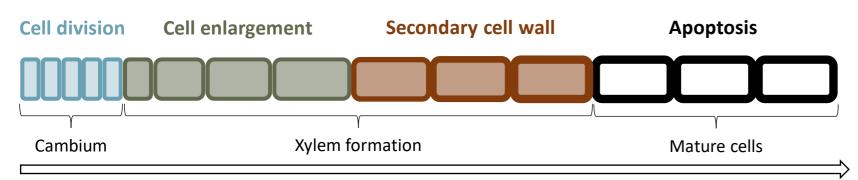
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# 1. Introduction

The boreal forest is a global carbon (C) sink that contributes to climate regulation. In order to improve projections of the C balance of this forest, it is necessary to explain and model the influence of environmental variability on the radial growth of trees. This growth depends mainly on wood formation, i.e. xylogenesis.



**XYLOGENESIS** 

To understand these complex relationships, it is necessary to use **ecophysiological models** that simulate **photosynthesis**, **phenology** and C **allocation** simultaneously.

# 2. Objectives & assumptions

#### Describe the direct controls on boreal xylogenesis

# Assess the hydric/thermal limits on xylogenesis

Climatic extremes (summer drought, frost) have a measurable impact on C sequestration through wood formation

# Analyze the impact of soil type on xylogenesis

Sites with fast-draining soils already show an increased sensitivity to low water availability

# Dissociate the limitations of xylogenesis and photosynthesis + Improve the representation of the C balance

Only the simulation of the constraints of photosynthesis and woody growth together allows us to model the fluxes and balances of C well

#### 3. Materials & method

#### Data

Two xylogenesis monitorings and one ecosystem flux monitoring will be used. Each monitoring is accompanied by daily meteorological data.

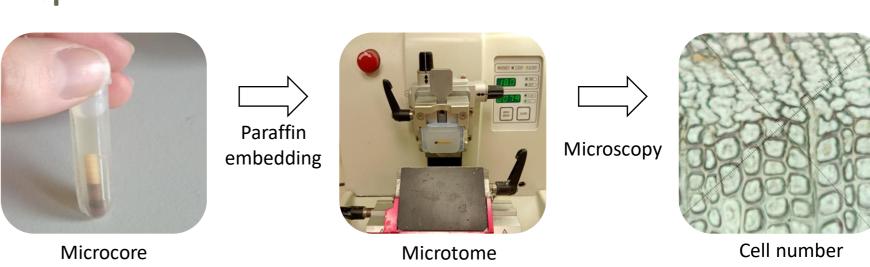
- Microcores on latitudinal gradient (2002-2021)

  Microcores on edaphic gradient (2021-2022)

  Flux tower (2010-2015)

  Regions
- QUEBEC N

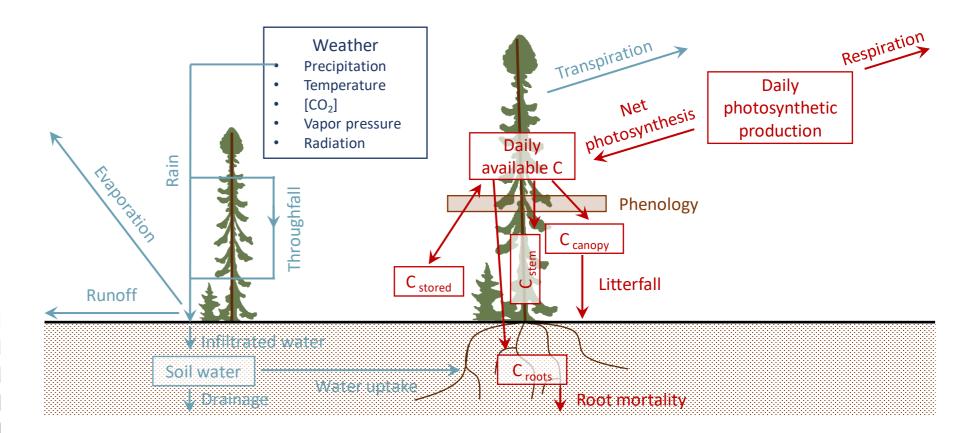
#### **Preparation**



#### Statistical analysis in two models

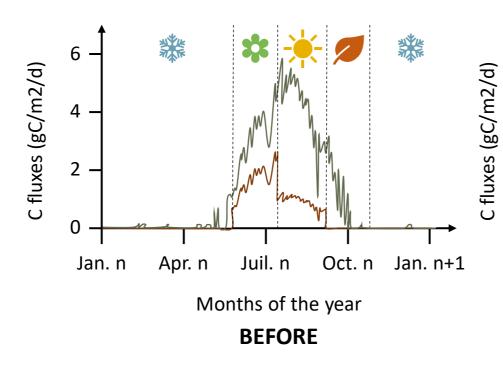
- 1. Phenology and average xylogenesis at the site
- 2. Influence of environmental variables on growth

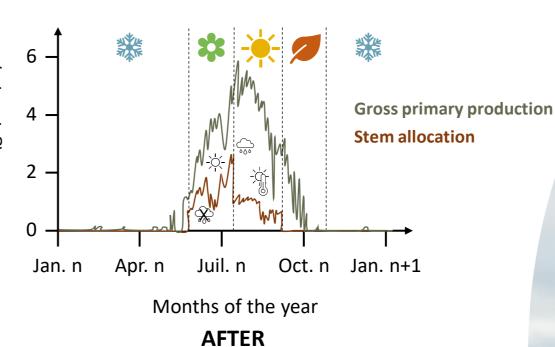
#### **Ecophysiological modeling: MAIDEN**



# 4. Perspectives

Improve stand-scale C flux projections in MAIDEN. Integrate the new model into land surface models to improve representations of C fluxes between the boreal forest and the atmosphere.





#### References

- Fatichi, S., Leuzinger, S., and Körner, C. (2014). Moving beyond photosynthesis: From carbon source to sink-driven vegetation modeling. New Phytologist 201: 1086–1095.
- Friend, A.D., Patrick, A.H.E., Tim, F., Rathgeber, C.B.K., Richardson, A.D., and Turton, R.H. (2019). On the need to consider wood formation processes in global vegetation models and a suggested approach. Annals of Forest Science 76: 49.
- **Gennaretti, F., Gea-Izquierdo, G., Boucher, E., Berninger, F., Arseneault, D., and Guiot, J.** (2017). Ecophysiological modeling of photosynthesis and carbon allocation to the tree stem in the boreal forest. Biogeosciences **14**: 4851–4866.













