

Problem Chosen

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Summary Sheet

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Summary

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1 Introduction

1.1 Problem Restatement

In order to cope with the tremendous threat imposed by climate change, human-beings should spare no effort to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere by not only cutting down the emission of the greenhouse gases, but also sequestering carbon from the atmosphere into plants, soil and water. Considering that the carbon dioxide can be sequestered in both forests and wooden products, it's reasonable that more carbon will be stored by forests with the appropriate combination of the regrowth of younger forests and the wooden products. Thus, forest managers are ought to deliberate about the balance between the value of forests as living tress to grow and absorb the carbon and the value of forests harvested as wooden products. What's more, the forest managers should not only consider the factors about forests such as type and age of forests, geography, topography, and benefits and lifespan of forest products, but also the conservation and diversity of wild species, recreational uses and cultural considerations.

The International Carbon Management (ICM) Collaboration has been established to guide the management of forests all over the world under the consideration of different forest formation, climate, population, interests and values.

1. Design a carbon sequestration model to calculate the amount of carbon dioxide sequestered by a forest and its products, which also determines what kind of manage plan is most efficient at sequestering carbon.
2. Develop a decision model consisting of various ways that forests are valued (including carbon sequestration) for forest managers to understand the best use of a forest. Consider the following questions as well as those of your own:
 - a. What is the scope of the management plan that your decision model might suggest?
 - b. Are there any conditions that the forests should not be harvested?
 - c. Whether there is a transition point between management plans applicable to all forests?
 - d. How can the characteristics of a particular forest and its location be used to determine transition points between management plans?
3. Apply your models to various forests. Identify a forest that your decision model would suggest the inclusion of harvesting in its management plan.
 - a. How much carbon dioxide can be sequestered by this forest and its products in 100 years?
 - b. What kind of forest management plan should be carried out for this forest? Why it's best?
 - c. The best management plan is assumed to include a harvest interval of 10 years longer than current forest practices discussing strategies for transitioning from existing to new schedules in a manner sensitive to the needs of forest managers and all those who use forests.
4. Some people think that we should never cut down any trees, but you've determined the forest which includes harvest in its management. Write a one-to-two-page non-technical newspaper articles to explain why your analysis including in the management of the forest logging, rather than it remaining the same. Finally, your article should convince local community that it's the best decision for their forest.

1.2 Overview of Our Work

2 Assumptions and Justifications

These are necessary assumptions for simplifying the model.

1.

3 Notations

Table 3.1: Notation Descriptions

Symbol	Definition
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height
β_b	Conversion factor of coniferous trees
β_c	Conversion factor of broad leaf trees
n	Total iteration years
λ	Harvest rate
M	Sequestered carbon mass in wooden products
CarbonMass _f	Sequestered carbon mass in forests
ϕ	Proportion in total product
s	Scrap rate
m	Decomposition rate

4 Binary Volume and Dynamic Product Inventory based Carbon Sequestration Model

In order to clearly demonstrate the amount of carbon sequestered by forests and their products, we decide to consider the trunk volume of living trees as an estimation of total Volume of trees that are able to store carbon (Wang Yan, 2009).

For the living trees, we apply Binary Timber Volume Regression model (Luo Qibang, 1992) to depict their growth as shown in Algorithm 1. It is significant to point out that β_b and β_c are two **Conversion Factors** from Timber Volume to Carbon Mass sequestered. Besides, the mass of carbon sequestered in soil and leaves can be deemed as a constant which merely depends on the area of coniferous and broad-leaved forests (Deren, 2011).

As for the wooden products, we consider w kinds of wooden products, each kind, which decomposes at the rate of $m_i (i = 1, \dots, w)$, accounts for ϕ_i of the total product mass (Birdsey et al., 2006). Note that the **harvest rate** λ and the product proportion ϕ are flexible regarding the circumstances, which are also the core of our forest management. What's more, we hold the view that the volume of wooden products derive from the volume of harvested trees with a certain **Scrap Rate** s . The complete idea is shown in Algorithm 2.

Algorithm 1 Binary Timber Volume Regression of Carbon Prediction Algorithm

Input: Measurement of DBH, Height of tree (h), conversion factor β_c (coniferous) and β_b (broad leaf), Harvest rate $\lambda(t)$

```

1: for x in enumerate (DBH, h) do
2:   for k  $\leftarrow$  1 to m do  $P_k(x) = \frac{1}{2^k k!} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} (x^2 - 1)^k$ 
3:     for l  $\leftarrow$  1 to m do
       Calculate  $\int_{-1}^1 P_k(x)P_l(x)dx \leftarrow$  Integral of Legendre Polynomials
4:     if k = l then  $\int_{-1}^1 P_k(x)P_l(x) = \frac{2x}{2i+1}$ 
5:     else  $\int_{-1}^1 P_k(x)P_l(x) = 0$ 
6:     end if
7:   end for
8: end for
9: end for
   Find (DBH, h)T to minimize  $J = \int_a^b [f(\text{DBH}) + g(h) - 2(x)]^2 dx$ 
10: for t  $\leftarrow$  1 to n do
      Regression of DBH and h
       $V_0 \leftarrow$  Initiate
       $V_t = (V_{t-1} + a\text{DBH}^b h^c) \times \text{Area} \times \text{Density}(t) \times (1 - \lambda(t))$ 
11: end for
       $\text{Area} = \text{Area}_b + \text{Area}_c$ 
       $\text{CarbonMass}_f = \beta_c V_c + \beta_b V_b + 9.6 \times \text{Area}_c + 3.4 \times \text{Area}_b + 70 \times \text{Area}$ 

```

Output: Carbon Dioxide Quantity of Forest = $\frac{44}{12} \times \text{CarbonMass}_f$

Algorithm 2 RBF Neural Network Fitting of wooden products for carbon sequestration Algorithm

Input: ϕ, s, m, w as kinds wooden products, Standardized CarbonMass and V in Algorithm1

```

1: for t  $\leftarrow$  1 to n do
2:   for i  $\leftarrow$  1 to hidden_dim do
        $y_0 \leftarrow$  Initiate
        $\hat{y}_t = y_{t-1} + \phi_{it} V_i(t)$ 
        $c_i \leftarrow$  Sample CarbonMass
        $\sigma_i \leftarrow$  Z-score Normalization
        $V_i(t) = e^{-\frac{\|t - c_i\|^2}{2\sigma_i^2}}$ 
3:   end for
        $M_0 \leftarrow$  Initiate
4:   for j  $\leftarrow$  1 to w do
        $M_t = M_{t-1} + s\lambda(t)V(t) \times (\phi_j(t)m_j(t))$ 
5:   end for
6: end for

```

Output: Carbon Dioxide Quantity of Wooden Products = $\frac{44}{12} \times M_t$

5 Sensitivity Test

6 Evaluation of Model

Strength:

7 Conclusions

POLICY ADVICE ON FINLESS PORPOISE CONSERVATION

To: Relavant Authorities

From: MCM/ICM team XJ162

Date: February 19, 2022

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Appendices