Final Project Report

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1 Introduction

1.1 Problem Statement

So far, our simulations have considered the Net Present Value of home elevation under the assumption that homeowners will pay for their home elevation out of pocket. In reality, people have to chose between paying out of pocket (if this is even something they can afford), taking out a loan, or saving up.

Each of these options has tradeoffs in total cost, yearly cost, the cost of damages, and in NPV. In this paper, we will analyze these tradeoffs.

1.2 Selected Feature

Describe the feature you have selected to add to the existing decision-support tool. Discuss how this feature relates to the problem statement and its potential to improve climate risk assessment.

The new feature I've chosen to implement is a struct called "Finance". This struct describes the financial conditions of the home, and the plan to elevate it. It includes a loan variable, that describes if the owners will take out a loan to finance the elevation, save up to finance it, or if they will pay out of pocket. It also contains a loan_rate variable for the interest on potential loans, loan_years, which describes how long homeowners will either save up for or pay out a loan for, paid_off_percent, the amount of the house that's paid off as a decimal, and paid_off_amnt, or the total value of the home that's paid off in US dollars.

In addition to this new struct, run_sim has been modified to take it into account. So if we chose to save up, our action of elevating the home is delayed until enough money has been saved to do so, and the cost of construction will be increased with the discount rate of that scenario.

If we choose to take out a loan, we will elevate the home immediately, but then pay off the loan annualy according to the pre-determined interest rate, and the discount rate will again be accounted for in the value of these payments.

If we pay out of pocket, then nothing changes, and run_sim operates as it did before.

2 Literature Review

Provide a brief overview of the theoretical background related to your chosen feature. Cite at least two relevant journal articles to support your approach (see Quarto docs for help with citations).

Explain how these articles contribute to the justification of your selected feature.

[Finance_and_climate] discusses how policy makers ought to take a precautionary approach to addressing the financial impacts of climate change, and that policy "should help justify immediate preventative action". They argue for using scenario analysis and stress testing to evaluate potential policies. To this end, this feature could give policy makers a clearer picture about what they ought to do: give homeowners money to elevate their homes or force them to pay for home elevation, set up loan programs for home elevation, and forcing homeowners to save up for home elevation. This feature can be used to compare these three strategies.

3 Methodology

3.1 Implementation

using Plotsusing Randomusing Unitful

```
import Pkg
2 Pkg.status() # Note the paths for your local packages
3 Pkg.gc() # Garbage collect and delete cached package files
  Status `C:\Users\Jonah\OneDrive\Documents\Rice PhD\Climate Damage Mitigation\final-project-js3
    [336ed68f] CSV v0.10.13
    [a93c6f00] DataFrames v1.6.1
    [1313f7d8] DataFramesMeta v0.15.2
     [31c24e10] Distributions v0.25.107
     [49e40289] HouseElevation v0.1.0 `HouseElevation`
     [7073ff75] IJulia v1.24.2
     [b964fa9f] LaTeXStrings v1.3.1
     [bcdb8e00] Metaheuristics v3.3.5
    [b6ca2b7d] ParkingGarage v0.1.0 `ParkingGarage`
    [91a5bcdd] Plots v1.40.2
    [295af30f] Revise v3.5.14
    [2913bbd2] StatsBase v0.34.3
    [1986cc42] Unitful v1.19.0
     [9a3f8284] Random
  Info Packages marked with have new versions available and may be upgradable.
        Active manifest files: 10 found
        Active artifact files: 121 found
        Active scratchspaces: 2 found
       Deleted no artifacts, repos, packages or scratchspaces
 using CSV
using DataFrames
3 using DataFramesMeta
4 using Distributions
5 using LaTeXStrings
6 using Metaheuristics
```

```
Plots.default(; margin=5Plots.mm)

using Revise
using HouseElevation
#include("Finance.jl")
#using house
```

We put in our house in galveston

Choosing Galveston Pier 21, Texas The guage is at 29° 18.6 N, 94° 47.6 W https://maps.app.goo.gl/GyanSMA2fp9r

Our building is 302 17th St, Galveston, TX 77550, Home area as estimated by google maps: 30ftx50ft home = 1500ft^2 Home value from zillow: 247,700 (Round up to 250,000)

The home is 4.41 feet or 1.34 meters above sea level in elevation. Looking at it on street view, the house appears to be on concrete blocks about 6 inches tall, giving it an effective height of 4.91 feet. Round this up to 5 so that it works.

Row 98 from the data is two-story, no basement in Galveston, so we'll be using that for our depth-damage curve. The home is on concrete blocks, so we can be confident that it doesn't have a basement.

```
house = let
       haz_fl_dept = CSV.read("data/haz_fl_dept.csv", DataFrame) # read in the file
2
       desc = "Two-story, no basement in Galveston"
3
       row = @rsubset(haz_fl_dept, :Column1 == 98)[1, :,] # select the row I want
4
       area = 1500u"ft^2"
5
       height_above_gauge = height_above_gauge = 5u"ft"
6
       House(row; area=area, height_above_gauge=height_above_gauge, value_usd=250_000)
   end
   slr_scenarios = let
       df = CSV.read("data/slr_oddo.csv", DataFrame)
2
        [Oddo17SLR(a, b, c, tstar, cstar) for (a, b, c, tstar, cstar) in eachrow(df)]
3
   end
5
   function draw_surge_distribution()
6
         = rand(Normal(5, 1))
7
         = rand(Exponential(1.25))
8
         = rand(Normal(0.1, 0.05))
9
       return GeneralizedExtremeValue( , , )
10
   end
11
12
   function draw_discount_rate()
13
       return rand(Normal(0.05, 0.03))
14
   end
15
16
   function draw_sow()
17
       slr = rand(slr_scenarios)
18
       surge_params = draw_surge_distribution()
```

```
discount = draw_discount_rate()
20
       return SOW(slr, surge_params, discount)
21
   end
22
   Generate our possible states of the world
   Random.seed! (421521)
  N_SOW = 10
_3 N_SOW_opt = 50 # to start
  sows = [draw_sow() for _ in 1:N_SOW]
   sows_opt = first(sows, N_SOW_opt)
   10-element Vector{SOW{Float64}}:
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64})(58.66628415, 2.709557857, 0.003600726, 2061.196955, 24.785578
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(18.98238754, 2.076689405, 0.002459112, 2017.216294, 15.584015
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(13.54334493, 1.576769557, -0.001892038, 2019.630551, 13.56306
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(38.14589083, 2.623948719, 0.005085519, 2016.508542, 8.1346290
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(40.9256403, 2.858600773, 0.008671168, 2024.544892, 18.7522310
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(36.12774556, 2.258399655, 0.002399946, 2066.78925, 19.7923147
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(54.44686357, 2.440676913, 0.003209864, 2039.323894, 22.897051
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(42.54886307, 2.374354031, 0.003786949, 2018.717192, 9.5870908
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(5.951503134, 1.501882544, -0.002460307, 2022.058777, 10.78953
    SOW{Float64}(Oddo17SLR{Float64}(17.66182918, 1.54415968, -0.002055399, 2058.500619, 31.641258
   Write our function we'll use to evaluate financial plans
   #"'{julia}
   p = ModelParams(; house=house, years=2024:2083, finance=finance_basic) #make our model
   elevations_try = 0:0.5:14 #establish actions to try actions_try = Action.(elevations_try)
   #Get all the contruction costs we can afford construction_costs = [elevation_cost(house, elevation)
   for elevation in elevations_try if elevation_cost(house, elevation) <= 170_000
   actions_try = actions_try[1:length(construction_costs)] #get the list of actions we can afford
   #"'
```

3.2 Financial_NPVS function

```
#assume physical house and SLR scenarios stay constant, only financial conditions change
function financial_npvs(finance)

p = ModelParams(; house=house, years=2024:2083, finance=finance) #make our model

elevations_try = 0:0.5:14 #establish actions to try

actions_try = Action.(elevations_try)

#Get all the contruction costs we can afford
construction_costs = [elevation_cost(house, elevation) for elevation in elevations_try if

actions_try = actions_try[1:length(construction_costs)] #get the list of actions we can actions_try = actions_try[1:length(construction_costs)] #get the list of actions we can actions_try = actions_try[1:length(construction_costs)] #get the list of actions we can actions_try[1:length(construction_costs)]
```

```
elevations_try = elevations_try[1:length(construction_costs)] #limit elevations as well s
12
13
       #Run simulations
14
       npvs_opt = [mean([run_sim(a, sow, p) for sow in sows_opt]) for a in actions_try]
15
16
       #get height that minimizes NPV
       min_npv, min_idx = findmax(npvs_opt)
18
       minimizer = elevations_try[min_idx]
19
20
       #return elevations we tried (x), npvs(y) and minimizing elevation
21
       return elevations_try, npvs_opt, minimizer
22
23
   end
24
```

financial_npvs (generic function with 1 method)

Basic financing, just paying up fronts

println(methods(Finance)) println(fieldtypes(Finance)) ## Finance_Basic

```
finance basic = let
       loan = 0
2
       loan_years = 0
3
       loan_rate = 0.0
4
       paid_off_percent = 1.0
5
       amnt_paid_off = paid_off_percent * house.value_usd # Calculate amnt_paid_off
6
       # Create Finance object using keyword arguments
8
       Finance(;
9
           loan = loan,
10
            loan_years = loan_years,
11
            loan_rate = loan_rate,
12
           paid_off_percent = paid_off_percent,
13
            amnt_paid_off = amnt_paid_off
14
       )
15
   end
16
```

Finance(0, 0, 0.0, 1.0, 250000.0)

Now lets calculate our basic finance options

```
elevations_tried, npvs, min = financial_npvs(finance_basic)
```

(0.0:0.5:14.0, [-1.0914604085744503e6, -1.0905425222436262e6, -953694.5075908549, -824837.0348

3.3 plot_many

Define our function to plot many financial scenarios

```
function plot_many(finance_list, initial_plot)

2
3
```

```
for finance in finance_list
4
5
            #println(finance)
6
            elevations_tried, npvs, min = financial_npvs(finance)
            if finance.loan == 1 #if taking out a loan
                label = "$(round(finance.loan_rate*100))% loan over $(finance.loan_years) years"
            elseif finance.loan > 1
10
                label = "Saving over $(finance.loan_years) years"
            else
12
                label = "Paying out of pocket"
13
            end
14
            plot!(
15
            initial_plot,
16
            elevations_tried,
17
            npvs ./ 1000;
            xlabel="Elevation [ft]",
19
            ylabel="NPV [1000 USD]",
20
            label=label,
21
            marker=:circle,
22
            #color=line_color
23
24
25
             #make the vertical line color the same as the horizontal line
26
            line_color = initial_plot.series_list[end][:linecolor]
27
            #line_color = plot_object.series_list[end].plotseries[:linecolor]
28
            vline!([min]; label="$(min)ft elevation", linestyle=:dash, color=line_color)
29
       end
30
   end
31
```

plot_many (generic function with 1 method)

3.4 reasonable saving time

Generate many financial scenarios where we save up for different periods of time

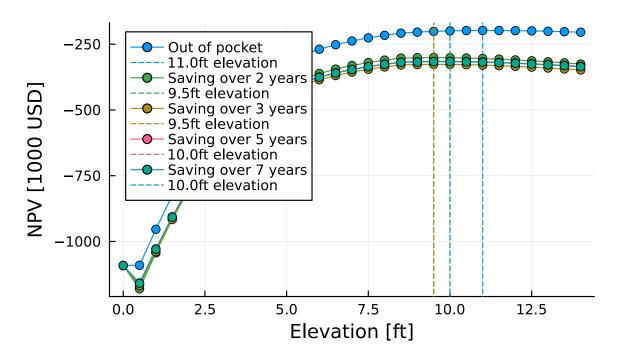
```
finance_saving = []
   for i in [2, 3, 5, 7]
3
       #print(i)
4
       paid_off_percent = 1.0
5
       fin = Finance(; loan=2, loan_years=i, loan_rate=0.0, paid_off_percent=paid_off_percent,
           amnt_paid_off=(house.value_usd*paid_off_percent)
       push!(finance_saving, fin)
9
   end
10
11
   println(finance_saving)
12
```

Any[Finance(2, 2, 0.0, 1.0, 250000.0), Finance(2, 3, 0.0, 1.0, 250000.0), Finance(2, 5, 0.0, 1

Plot our saving options

```
p = plot(
       elevations_tried,
2
       npvs ./ 1000;
3
       xlabel="Elevation [ft]",
4
       ylabel="NPV [1000 USD]",
       title="Out of Pocket Vs Various saving periods",
       label="Out of pocket",
       marker=:circle#, color=line_color
   )
9
10
11
   line_color = p.series_list[end][:linecolor] #make the vertical line color the same as the hor
12
   vline!([min]; label="$(min)ft elevation", linestyle=:dash, color=line_color)
13
14
   plot_many(finance_saving, p)
15
   display(p)
```

Out of Pocket Vs Various saving periods



Results of this graph show two interesting things:

- 1. NPV of saving is always a lot lower than paying up front. This makes sense, since we're increasing construction cost with inflation, so the only change to the NPV will be more damages while we wait to elevate the house.
- 2. NPV results recommend lower elevations if we chose to wait. This seems strange at first, since most people might save money so they can elevate higher, and you'd think that if we do

wait to elevate, it'd make more sense to do a higher elevation to compensate for the damages we experienced in the first few years.

But since we are doing this simulation over a fixed period of time, the longer we wait to elevate, the less value is gained by elevating, since we'll have spent less of our time avoiding damages. So assuming a non-infinite time duration for this experiment, the longer we wait to elevate, the lower the recommended elevation height gets.

We can demonstrate this more clearly by displaying some extremely long saving periods.

3.5 Long saving time

```
Long_Savings = []
2
   for i in [10, 20, 30, 50]
3
       #print(i)
4
       paid_off_percent = 1.0
5
       fin = Finance(; loan=2, loan_years=i, loan_rate=0.0, paid_off_percent=paid_off_percent,
6
            amnt_paid_off=(house.value_usd*paid_off_percent)
       push! (Long Savings, fin)
9
   end
10
11
   println(Long_Savings)
12
```

Any[Finance(2, 10, 0.0, 1.0, 250000.0), Finance(2, 20, 0.0, 1.0, 250000.0), Finance(2, 30, 0.0

p = plot(
 elevations_tried,
 npvs ./ 1000;
 xlabel="Elevation [ft]",
 rlabel="NNPV [1000 MSP]"

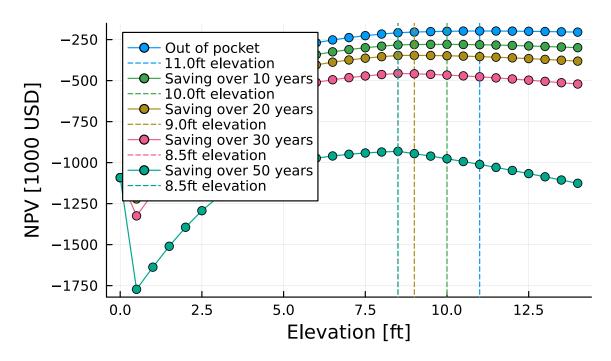
```
ylabel="NPV [1000 USD]",
title="Out of Pocket Vs Various saving periods",
label="Out of pocket",
marker=:circle#, color=line_color
)
```

line_color = p.series_list[end][:linecolor] #make the vertical line color the same as the hor vline!([min]; label="\$(min)ft elevation", linestyle=:dash, color=line_color)

plot_many(Long_Savings, p)
display(p)

10

Out of Pocket Vs Various saving periods



3.6 Different loan durations

Generate many financial scenarios with different years to pay off the loan at a 7% interest rate

```
finance_list_years = []

for i in [3, 5, 7, 10]
    #print(i)
    paid_off_percent = 0.7
    fin = Finance(; loan=1, loan_years=i, loan_rate=0.07, paid_off_percent=paid_off_percent,
        amnt_paid_off=(house.value_usd*paid_off_percent)
    )
    push!(finance_list_years, fin)
end

println(finance_list_years)
```

Any [Finance(1, 3, 0.07, 0.7, 175000.0), Finance(1, 5, 0.07, 0.7, 175000.0), Finance(1, 7, 0.07). Plot our scenarios of different years to pay off the loan

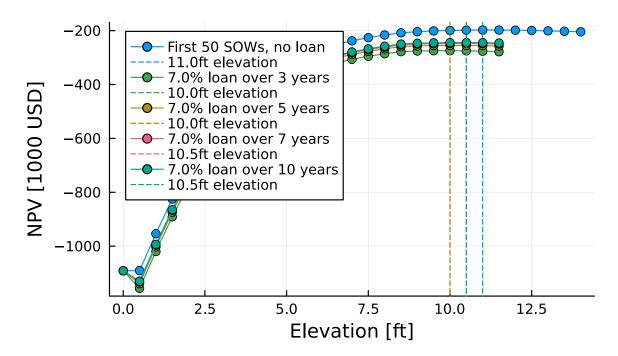
```
p = plot(
    elevations_tried,
    npvs ./ 1000;
    xlabel="Elevation [ft]",
    ylabel="NPV [1000 USD]",
```

```
title="Out of Pocket Vs Various payment periods",
label="First $(N_SOW_opt) SOWs, no loan",
marker=:circle#, color=line_color

line_color = p.series_list[end][:linecolor] #make the vertical line color the same as the hor vline!([min]; label="$(min)ft elevation", linestyle=:dash, color=line_color)

plot_many(finance_list_years, p)
display(p)
```

Out of Pocket Vs Various payment periods



3.7 Different interest rates

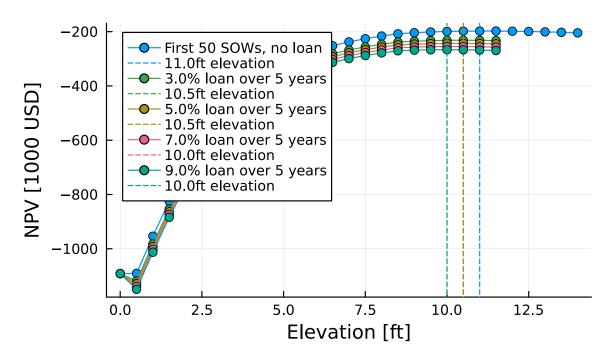
Generate many financial scenarios with different interest rates

```
finance_list_rates = []

for i in range(start=3, stop=9, length=4)
    #print(i)
    paid_off_percent = 0.7
    fin = Finance(; loan=1, loan_years=5, loan_rate=i/100, paid_off_percent=paid_off_percent,
        amnt_paid_off=(house.value_usd*paid_off_percent)
    )
    push!(finance_list_rates, fin)
```

```
end
11
   println(finance_list_rates)
   Any[Finance(1, 5, 0.03, 0.7, 175000.0), Finance(1, 5, 0.05, 0.7, 175000.0), Finance(1, 5, 0.07
   #colors = [colorant"red", colorant"green", colorant"blue", colorant"orange", colorant"purple"]
   #line_color = colors[1]
4
   p = plot(
5
       elevations_tried,
6
       npvs ./ 1000;
       xlabel="Elevation [ft]",
       ylabel="NPV [1000 USD]",
       title="Out of Pocket Vs Various 5 year loans, 70% paid off",
10
       label="First $(N_SOW_opt) SOWs, no loan",
11
       marker=:circle#, color=line_color
12
13
   #println(p.series_list[end][:linecolor] )
14
15
   #colors = Plots.palette()
16
17
   line_color = p.series_list[end][:linecolor] #make the vertical line color the same as the hor
18
   vline!([min]; label="$(min)ft elevation", linestyle=:dash, color=line_color)
19
20
   plot_many(finance_list_rates, p)
21
   display(p)
```

Out of Pocket Vs Various 5 year loans, 70% paid



3.8 Compare NPVS and annual costs

Now we want to compare NPVS and annual costs for all of these scenarios

Make a function to get NPV, annual cost, and optimal elevatin

```
function annual_loan_cost(p, r, n)
       #P is principle amount, r is rate, n is number of years
       a = p * (r * ((1+r)^n) / ((1+r)^n - 1))
       return a #a is annual payments
   end
6
   function annual_v_npv(finance)
9
       elevations_tried, npvs, best_elevation = financial_npvs(finance)
10
       #An engineer is not someone who makes things maximally efficient, but someone who makes th
       best_npv, best_idx = findmax(npvs)
12
13
       construction_cost = elevation_cost(house, best_elevation)
14
       #println(elevation_cost(house, best_elevation))
15
16
       if finance.loan == 0 #out of pocket
17
           annual_cost = construction_cost
       elseif finance.loan == 1 #taking out a loan
19
           annual_cost = annual_loan_cost(construction_cost, finance.loan_rate, finance.loan_year
```

```
else #saving up
21
            annual_cost = construction_cost/finance.loan_years
22
       end
23
24
       return best_npv, annual_cost, best_elevation
25
26
   end
27
   annual_v_npv (generic function with 1 method)
   function get_costs(finances)
       figures = annual_v_npv.(finances)
2
       best_npvs = [fig[1] for fig in figures]
3
       annual_costs = [fig[2] for fig in figures]
       best_elevations = [fig[3] for fig in figures]
6
       return best_npvs, annual_costs, best_elevations
7
   end
8
9
10
   function plot_money_values(finance, initial_plot, label)
11
12
       best_npvs, annual_costs, best_elevations = get_costs(finance)
13
       plot!(
14
            initial_plot,
15
            best_npvs ./ 1000,
16
            annual_costs ./ 1000;
17
            xlabel="Optimized NPV [1000 USD]",
            ylabel="Annual Costs [1000 USD]",
19
            label=label,
20
            marker=:circle,
21
            #color=line color
22
23
24
   end
25
   plot_money_values (generic function with 1 method)
   get costs(finance list rates)
   optimal_npv, annual_cost, best_elevation = annual_v_npv(finance_basic)
   Annual_v_npv_plot = plot(
3
        [optimal_npv] ./ 1000,
4
        [annual_cost] ./ 1000;
5
       xlabel="Optimized NPV [1000 USD]",
6
       ylabel="Annual Costs [1000 USD]",
       title="NPV vs Yearly Costs",
       label="Out of Pocket",
```

```
marker=:circle#, color=line_color

marker=:circle#, color=line_color

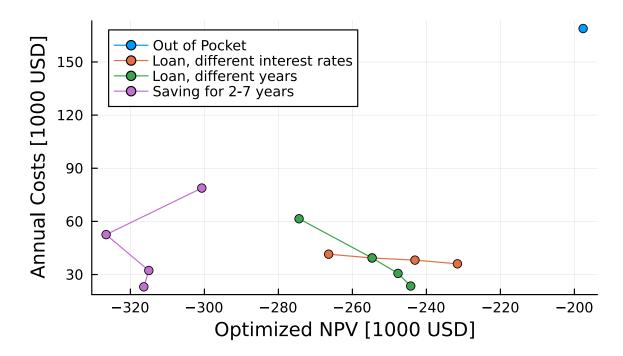
plot_money_values(finance_list_rates, Annual_v_npv_plot, "Loan, different interest rates")

plot_money_values(finance_list_years, Annual_v_npv_plot, "Loan, different years")

plot_money_values(finance_saving, Annual_v_npv_plot, "Saving for 2-7 years")

display(Annual_v_npv_plot)
```

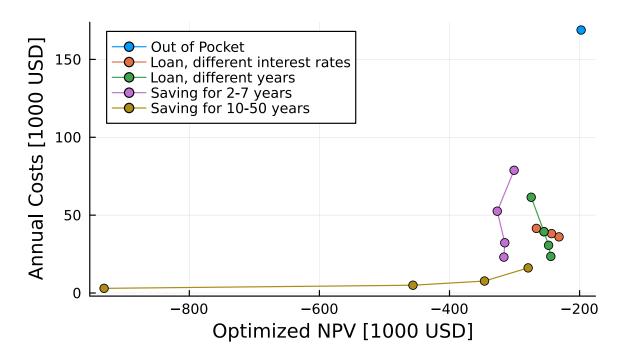
NPV vs Yearly Costs



The chart changes radically when we display long savings times

```
plot_money_values(Long_Savings, Annual_v_npv_plot, "Saving for 10-50 years")
display(Annual_v_npv_plot)
```

NPV vs Yearly Costs



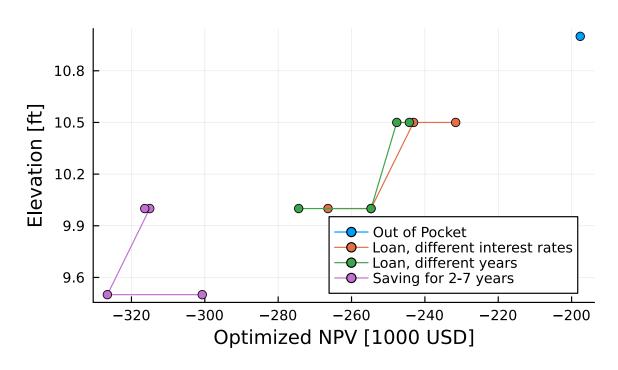
3.9 compare NPVS and construction heights for all these different scenarios

```
function general_plot(x, y, finance, initial_plot, label)
2
       # 1 = best_npvs, 2 = annual_costs, 3 = best_elevation
3
       values = collect(get_costs(finance)) #get our values to plot.
4
       #Using collect makes sure these values are in an array so we can use ./1000 later
5
       #println(values)
6
       #println(values[2])
       values[1] = values[1] . / 1000 #adjust npv and annual costs
       values[2] = values[2] ./1000
9
10
11
       plot!(
12
            initial_plot,
13
            values[x], #decide what to plot
14
            values[y];
15
            label=label,
16
           marker=:circle,
17
            #color=line color
18
19
   end
20
```

general_plot (generic function with 1 method)

```
height_v_npv_plot = plot(
       [optimal_npv] ./ 1000,
2
       [best elevation] ;
3
       xlabel="Optimized NPV [1000 USD]",
4
       ylabel="Elevation [ft]",
       title="NPV vs Elevation",
       label="Out of Pocket",
       marker=:circle,#, color=line color
       legend=:bottomright
9
10
11
   general_plot(1, 3, finance_list_rates, height_v_npv_plot, "Loan, different interest rates")
12
   general_plot(1, 3, finance_list_years, height_v_npv_plot, "Loan, different years")
   general_plot(1, 3, finance_saving, height_v_npv_plot, "Saving for 2-7 years")
   display(height_v_npv_plot)
```

NPV vs Elevation



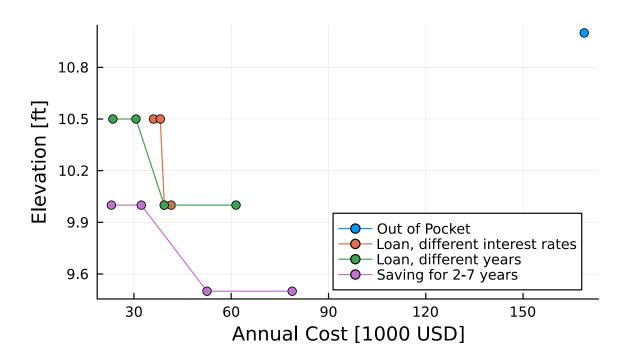
3.10 compare annual costs and construction heights

```
height_v_npv_plot = plot(
        [annual_cost] ./ 1000,
        [best_elevation];
        xlabel="Annual Cost [1000 USD]",
        ylabel="Elevation [ft]",
        title="Annual Cost vs Elevation",
```

```
label="Out of Pocket",
marker=:circle,#, color=line_color
legend=:bottomright
)

general_plot(2, 3, finance_list_rates, height_v_npv_plot, "Loan, different interest rates")
general_plot(2, 3, finance_list_years, height_v_npv_plot, "Loan, different years")
general_plot(2, 3, finance_list_years, height_v_npv_plot, "Loan, different years")
general_plot(2, 3, finance_saving, height_v_npv_plot, "Saving for 2-7 years")
display(height_v_npv_plot)
```

Annual Cost vs Elevation



3.11 testing

Now we want to compare NPVS and construction heights for all these different scenarios

3.12 Next: add indicators to annual_v_npv plot that shows what thing is what

You should make your modifications in either the HouseElevation or ParkingGarage module. Detail the steps taken to implement the selected feature and integrate it into the decision-support

tool. Include code snippets and explanations where necessary to clarify the implementation process.

3.13 Validation

In this case, we don't really *need* optimization – we can use brute force. We can compare by plotting the objective function for a range of elevations (from 0 to 14 ft) using all SOWs.

As we have seen in labs, mistakes are inevitable and can lead to misleading results. To minimize the risk of errors making their way into final results, it is essential to validate the implemented feature. Describe the validation techniques used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of your implemented feature. Discuss any challenges faced during the validation process and how they were addressed.

4 Results

Present the results obtained from the enhanced decision-support tool. Use tables, figures, and visualizations to clearly communicate the outcomes. Provide sufficient detail to demonstrate how the implemented feature addresses the problem statement. Use the #| output: false and/or #| echo: false tags to hide code output and code cells in the final report except where showing the output (e.g.g, a plot) or the code (e.g., how you are sampling SOWs) adds value to the discussion. You may have multiple subsections of results, which you can create using ##.

5 Conclusions

5.1 Discussion

Analyze the implications of your results for climate risk management. Consider the context of the class themes and discuss how your findings contribute to the understanding of climate risk assessment. Identify any limitations of your approach and suggest potential improvements for future work.

5.2 Conclusions

Summarize the key findings of your project and reiterate the significance of your implemented feature in addressing the problem statement. Discuss the broader implications of your work for climate risk management and the potential for further research in this area.

6 References

example citation: