

# Web Interface for Data Exploration Version 2.1

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## 1 Quick introduction of WIDEa

WIDEa is a R package aiming to provide users with a multitude of functionalities integrated into a web interface (shiny application) to explore, clean and analyse "big" environmental and (in/ex situ) experimental data. More specific data can be used with WIDEa, such as data measured on a temporal scale and infrared spectral of near/mid regions. WIDEa requires no programming knowledge and executable files (batch/bash command) are available to install the R package (internet connection is required) and run WIDEa.

Once the dataset is loaded, WIDEa allows you to (i) build sub-datasets from a list of manually generated conditions, (ii) create new qualititative/quantitative variables (concatenation and writing functions from one or more variables), (iii) return a fully interactive data visualization (multiple graph types, 2D/3D) and (iv) manage atypical data (manual selection on visualized data and classification by quality code). WIDEa is also designed as a decision support tool and allows you to perform statistical calculations on visualized data (basic statistics, linear regression, hypothesis tests, etc.) and apply (non) linear mixed effects models (with weighted residuals or not) on loaded data to check residual assumptions and the model robustness.

In next sections, the manual explains how to install WIDEa using different operating systems (Windows, Mac, Linux), describes precisely all functionnalities available in WIDEa and give some examples to help new users become familiar with them.

# 2 WIDEa installation procedure

## 2.1 Preliminary informations

WIDEa requires that a R version 3.5 or greater is previously installed in your computer (if not, see https://cran.r-project.org/bin/). Please, download R software before following the steps described in sections 2.2 and 2.3.

A total of 18 R packages are imported during WIDEa installation: arrangements, car, colourpicker, data.table, DT, grDevices, htmltools, htmlwidgets, magrittr, plotly, scales, shiny, shinyBS, shinybusy, shinyFiles, shinyjs, shinythemes, stats.

WIDEa can be installed in your computer using a R console or executable files (batch/bash scripts). Executable files only apply to Windows/Mac operating systems and are available from https://github.com/PhilippeSantenoise/WIDEa/cmd.

#### 2.2 R console

The following code lines are used to install/load the WIDEa package and run the WIDEa (shiny) application:

```
# Installing the WIDEa package (devtools package required)
if(!require(devtools)){install.packages("devtools")}
devtools::install_github("PhilippeSantenoise/WIDEa")

# Loading the WIDEa package and run the shiny application
require(WIDEa)
f_widea()
```

### 2.3 Executable files

Several steps are required to install WIDEa in your computer:

- Download the WIDEa repository by clicking on Code button (**Download ZIP**) and copy/paste the **cmd** folder at the desired location in your computer.

  Another option is to clone the WIDEa repository in your computer with git;
- Double-click on the first executable file corresponding to your operating system (see cmd folder): WIDEa\_install\_win (Windows) or WIDEa\_install\_macos (Mac).
   This file is used to install the WIDEa package;
- Double-click on the second executable file corresponding to your operating system (see **cmd** folder): **launcher\_win** (Windows) or **launcher\_macos** (Mac). This file is used to run WIDEa.

Windows executable files also creates a new folder (named **WIDEa files**) in the user's Documents folder including a txt file used to locate the R software (R.exe) in your computer. The R software path is required to load R scripts from a batch script (not required for Mac OS).

# 3 Partition of WIDEa into several panels

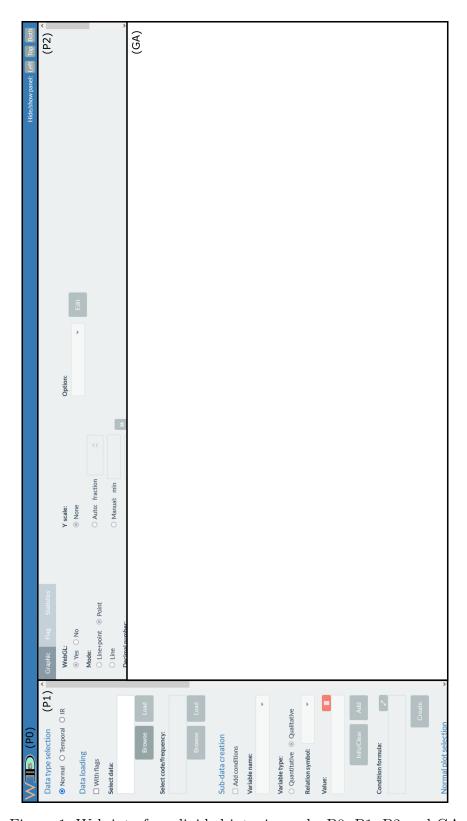


Figure 1. Web interface divided into 4 panels: P0, P1, P2 and GA

The web interface is divided into 4 panels called GA, P0, P1 and P2 (Figure 1). Panels are described below:

- (GA) Panel dedicated to the graph area.
- (P0) Panel with 2 functions:
  - Inform users about the loading of actions performed on the web interface (Figure 2);
  - Show/hide P1 and P2 to resize GA with the corresponding buttons (Left
     P1, Top = P2 and Both = P1 + P2).

For the first function, it is advisable to wait until the end of the loading before performing a new action on the web interface.

- (P1) Panel used to load data, create sub-datasets and new qualitative/quantitative variables, select the graph type and variables and display the selection in GA.
- (P2) Panel containing 3 tabs with the following functions:

Graphic The tab allows changing basic graphics settings (label, color, opacity, point type/size, scale, etc.);

Flag The tab allows managing/saving atypical data (named flag data hereafter) manually selected on the graph with a left mouse click.

The graph is then updated after saving flag data;

Statistics The tab is used to perform statistical calculations and display them on the graph.

Otherwise, each action performed on the web interface can cause a warning/error message window located at the bottom-right of GA and colored in yellow/red. In the next sections, "input controls" is used as a generic term to designate a set of inputs including text field, check box and radio/action button.



Figure 2. Loading animation

# 4 Detailed description of P1

### 4.1 Data presentation

The web interface accepts data file in txt/csv format with the column headers contained only in the first row and a dot character used as the decimal separator. As the function fread (data.table R package) is used to load data, the separator between columns is automatically detected from a set of 6 characters: white space, comma, tabulation, vertical bar, colon, semicolon. In addition, column names should not have spaces or special characters and missing values are designated with NA characters.

Variables are separated into 3 groups in the following sections: quantitative (numeric values and only integer values), qualitative (string values and only integer values) and date (time units). An integer variable can be designated as a quantitative/qualitative variable.

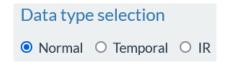


Figure 3. Radio button used to select the data type

A total of 3 data types can be selected from the radio button in Figure 3: normal, temporal and IR. One to two datasets (noted  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ ) are required depending on the selected type and are described as follow:

Normal  $D_1$  is a collection of quantitative/qualitative variables. An ID variable with unique values can be added to data and will be used to identify atypical values saved from Flag tab in P2 (row number if no ID variable precised).

Temporal  $D_1$  is composed of a date variable with unique values (used as an ID variable) and quantitative variables measured over the given time interval.

By considering codes %Y, %m, %d, %H, %M as units of years, months, days, hours and minutes respectively, the combination of time units allowed for the date variable is %Y%m%d, %d%m%Y, %Y%m%d%H%M and %d%m%Y%H%M. In addition, the separator between time units is the following set of 6 characters: white space, h letter, dash, forward slash, colon, dot.

IR Type corresponding to absorption spectral data on near/mid infrared (NIR/MIR) region collected from a set of  $l_1$  (> 1) and  $l_2$  (> 1) equidistant frequencies (called also wave numbers in  $cm^{-1}$ ) respectively. Each infrared region is studied separately and corresponds to 2 datasets.

 $D_1$  contains spectra arranged in rows and qualitative variables used as supplementary information (*ID* variable and/or others). Column names assigned to spectra are frequencies, coded "M1", ..., " $Ml_1$ " (resp. "N1", ..., " $Nl_2$ ") for MIR (resp. NIR) region.

 $D_2$  contains two columns named "Code" and "Frequency" and values are codes/frequencies of the whole spectrum.

In case the number of frequencies is reduced in  $D_1$  related to spectra preprocessings (derivative and Savitzky-Golay methods, deletion of noisy frequency intervals, etc.), then missing frequencies will be automatically added using codes/frequencies in  $D_2$  (except for frequencies lying to interval limits) in order to keep a break in line graph.

## 4.2 Data loading

Input controls in Figure 4 allow to:

• Add flag data related to  $D_1$  (if existing: see section 5.2 for its creation from the Flag tab) by checking the corresponding box. The flag data will be loaded at the same time as  $D_1$ ;

- Enter  $D_1$  ( $D_2$  resp.) file path in the text input field manually or with the browse button;
- ullet Load  $D_1$  ( $D_2$  resp.) with the corresponding button once the text input field is filled.

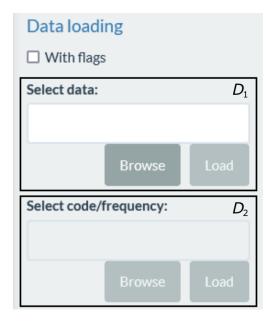


Figure 4. Input controls used to load all data  $(D_1, D_2)$  and flag)

If a problem occurs while loading data, then the corresponding text input field will be colored in red (green in the opposite case) and an error message will be returned (e.g. incorrect path, missing variables for IR data type, flag data not found, etc.).

After loading  $D_1$ , a warning message will be displayed if a flag data already exists but the corresponding box is not checked. In this case, the existing flag data will be replaced by another one if new values are saved during the current session.

## 4.3 Creating subsets of data

This section based on creating subsets of  $D_1$  is only reserved to the normal/IR data type. A subset of data is defined by two elements: the declaration of conditions (can be unique) and the formula used to combine these conditions (the condition itself if unique).

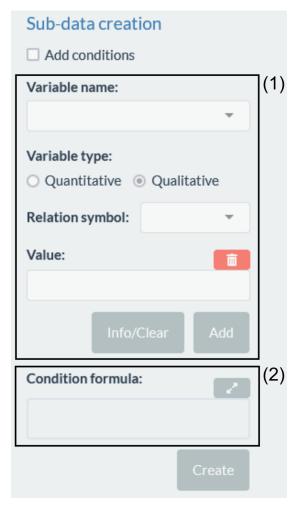


Figure 5. Input controls used to create a subset of  $D_1$ . The main part is dedicated to: (1) adding each condition individually and (2) writing a formula to associate all conditions.

The first element is available once the box used to add conditions is checked (Figure 5). Conditions are then built individually using a multitude of input controls such as: the variable name, the variable type (quantitative/qualitative), the relation symbol and the value. The variable type (radio button) is automatically assigned when the variable name is selected, except for integer variables. The last two input controls are dependent on the variable type. A total of 8 relation symbols (6 + 2 symbols for quantitative/qualitative variables respectively) are available, such as: = (equal to), != (unequal to), < (less than), > (greater than), <= (less than or equal to), >= (greater than or equal to), %in% (belongs to) and !%in% (does not belong to). The value input field is a list with the unique values of the selected variable (into ascending order) for qualitative variables and a text field which

only numeric values are allowed (dot character as the decimal separator) for quantitative variables.

After having filled in all the input controls, a condition can be added by clicking on the add button. A unique code is assigned to each condition added. The code starts with the lowercase letter c and is followed by the number of the condition introduced. All conditions added are kept in a data inventory (Figure 6) available by clicking on the info/clear button. One or more conditions can be deleted by selecting the corresponding row(s) of the data inventory (by clicking directly on it or by using the first two buttons below the data inventory) and pressing the clear button. The data inventory will then be automatically updated after the deletion of the selected condition(s).

#### Conditions added

c1	Species	%in%	"Species 1"
c2	Site	%in%	"Site 1"
c3	Site	%in%	"Site 2"
c4	D	>	40
c5	Н	<=	35

Figure 6. An example of data inventory including 3 conditions on qualitative variables (c1, c2 and c3) and 2 conditions on quantitative variables (c4 and c5). The txt file named  $data\_tree$  is used as  $D_1$  (see  $psD_1$  in the section 6.2). D and H in the second column correspond to the tree diameter (cm) and total height (m) respectively. The clear button is used to delete the selected conditions. All conditions can be selected/deselected with the corresponding buttons or individually by clicking on each row.

The second element is available as soon as a first condition is added. The text input field used to write the formula (Figure 5) must be filled in to create a subset of  $D_1$  and must include all conditions of the data inventory called by their unique code. The c1

code is used as a formula if the data inventory has a single condition. The AND and OR boolean operators are used to associate conditions and are represented by the ampersand and the vertical bar characters respectively. Using the data inventory in Figure 6 as an example, a complex formula can be written (paranthesis character is allowed in the formula) as follows: c1 & ((c2 & c4) | (c3 & c5)). The button enlarges the text input field dedicated to the formula and displays the data inventory to facilitate its writing when a large number of conditions are added.

After completing the two elements, the subset of  $D_1$  is built by clicking on the create button and an error will be returned if no match is found with the formula.

### 4.4 Graph type selection

Radio buttons shown in Figure 7 are enabled only for the normal data type and a total of 6 graph types is available: 2D/3D scatter-plot (type = plot and dimension number = 2 or 3, named 2D/3D plot in the following), box-plot (type = boxplot) with a linear method used to compute quartiles ("H&L-2" listed in Langford et al. 2006 [1]), histogram (type = histplot), bar-plot (type = barplot) and the correlation matrix (type = corplot) calculated from Pearson's method (cor function). A simple left-click on each cell of the correlation matrix allows you to create a combined graph in a new window such as a 2D plot and a histplot for the selected pair of variables. A linear regression and an equality test (hypothesis: slope = 0) based on a Student's t-distribution is added to the 2D plot to check the linearity assumption.

A point-to-point graph (2D plot with connected points or not) is used to represent quantitative variables (NIR/MIR spectra resp.) over a given time (frequency resp.) interval for the temporal (IR resp.) data type. A range slider is added below the main graph to select a custom time/frequency interval.



Figure 7. Radio buttons used to select different types of graphics for the normal data type. The 2D plot (default value) is fixed for the other data types.

#### 4.5 Variable selection

The selection of variables is different when considering the case where a model is added (normal data type: calibration/validation) and will be described in more detail in the section 4.6. For the other cases, variables are selected from the following input fields named: ID, X, Y, Z and Group (Figure 8). Each input field is enabled/disabled depending on the selected data/graph type and accepts a certain type (quantitative, qualitative and date) and number of variables (Table 1).

X, Y and Z input fields only concern the normal/temporal data type and define variables to be plotted on the corresponding graph axes in GA. As NIR/MIR spectra data are automatically selected by combining  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ , all previous input fields are disabled for the IR data type. Moreover, other inputs controls are available to manipulate variables selected from X, Y and Z input fields or add a complementary information, such as:

• A function f(x), g(y) and h(z) can be applied to quantitative variables using the Yes/No radio button (not available for corplot). This function must be known by the R software (does not require the loading of new packages) and its application differs according to the data type. In the case of the normal data type, all variables

entered into the corresponding input field are used to calculate a new variable using the function. This function is defined as mandatory when the number of variables is strictly greater than one. A unique code is assigned to each variable, starting with lowercase letters x, y and z respectively and followed by the number of the selected variable(s) (examples: sqrt(x1) + x2, log(y1 + 1), etc.). In the case of the temporal data type, the same function is applied to each variable of the Y input field. Variables are then designated by a same code corresponding to the lowercase letter y (examples: sqrt(y), exp(y), etc.). Codes can be found by clicking on the button  $\square$  to help users write the function;

- A concatenation checkbox allows you to increase the number of qualitative variables to be filled in the X input field (one variable by default). A new variable named ".concat1." is then created into  $D_1$  when the display button is clicked and correspond to the concatenation of the selected variables. The concatenation option is not possible if this new variable already exists in  $D_1$  (a warning message is returned after  $D_1$  loading);
- The *format* of the date variable selected from the X input field needs to be specified and corresponds to 4 combinations of time units mentioned in section 4.1.

ID and Group input fields are optional (Yes/No radio button) and are only available for the normal/IR data type. The ID input field considers a variable described in section 4.1 and will be automatically filled (in a disabled state) if a flag data including an ID variable is loaded in the current session. In case the flag data are identified from row numbers (no ID variable), then the ID input field will be empty and disabled. The Group input field is used to color/split data into groups of the considered qualitative variable. The data splitting is generally displayed on the same graph, except for the corplot where a correlation matrix is calculated for each group using a new input field created in GA after clicking on the display button. A concatenation checkbox is also available next to this second input field and allows you to create the "concat2." variable into  $D_1$ .

These last two input fields are not available for the temporal data type because the role of the ID variable is already given by the date variable and the data coloration/splitting is performed from Y quantitative variables. In addition, the ID input field is only available for 2D/3D plot of the normal data type. The reason is that flag data are created from these two graph types (section 5.2).

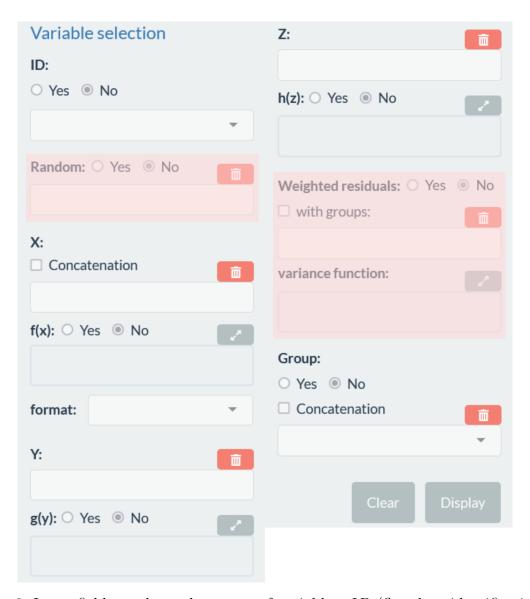


Figure 8. Input fields used to select a set of variables: ID (flag data identification for normal/IR data), variables attributed to X-, Y- and Z-axis and Group (splitting  $D_1$  into groups for normal/IR data). Input fields (Random and  $Weighted\ residuals$ ) colored in red are only enabled if a model is specified (discussed in details in the next section 4.6). The display (clear resp.) button is used to create (remove resp.) the graph in GA after filling in all the input fields.

Data/gra	aph type	ID	X	Y	Z	Group
	2D plot	1	≥ 1	≥ 1	0	≥ 1
	3D plot	1	≥ 1	≥ 1	≥ 1	≥ 1
Normal	boxplot	0	≥ 1	≥ 1	0	≥ 1
Normai	histplot	0	≥ 1	0	0	≥ 1
	barplot	0	≥ 1	0	0	≥ 1
	corplot	0	0	> 1	0	≥ 1
Temporal		0	1	≥ 1	0	0
IR		1	0	0	0	≥ 1

Table 1. Summary of the availablity of ID, X, Y, Z and Group input fields per data/graph type and the type/number of variables to be filled in. A zero value means that the input field is not available. Quantitative, qualitative and date variables are designated with a cell colored in red, green and blue, respectively. No type is required for the ID variable. A number colored in red means that the variable has unique values.

## 4.6 Adding a model

The web interface can be used to apply (not calibrate: see Zuur et al. 2009 [2]) a wide range of statistical models following a normal distribution: linear/non-linear mixed effects models with/without interaction between random effects and/or weighted residuals. Different results are provided depending on the chosen strategy: calibration (study of residual assumptions) and validation (observed vs fitted values). The assumptions about residuals (calibration strategy) are checked from a list of graphs, such as: the comparison of residual empirical-theoretical distributions (Q-Q plot: normality), (standardized or not) residuals vs fitted values/independent variables (homoscedasticity and independency). This list of graphs will be available from a new input field created in GA, once the model is integrated in P1 and validated with the display button.

The model integration is realised in 4 steps, briefly detailed below:

- Creating of model parameters data  $(D_3)$  file;
- Enabling input controls used to load  $D_3$ ;
- $D_3$  loading;
- Model description (form, variables) using variable selection input controls.

The  $D_3$  file format is the same as  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  files (section 4.1).  $D_3$  contains a minimum of 2 columns named "parameter" and "value" corresponding to the list of parameters present in the model with their values. A code is assigned to each model parameter (Table 2) and the following Gompertz model of H-D relationship is used as an example:

$$y = 1.3 + (A1 - 1.3) \cdot exp\left(-exp\left(a2 \cdot \frac{a3 - x1}{A1 - 1.3} + 1\right)\right) + \epsilon$$

$$A1 = a1 + a1|re1:re2$$
(Eq 1)

With y the tree height (H in meter), x1 the diameter at breast height (D in cm), (a1, a2, a3) model coefficients (called also fixed effects coefficients), re1:re2 random effects of the interaction between the site and the species (2 × 2 levels) and a1|re1:re2 random effects coefficients (applied to a1) normally distributed with mean 0 and a certain variance. The residual term  $\epsilon$  is also normally distributed with mean 0 and variance  $sigma^2$  weighted by the following function  $\Phi$ :

$$\Phi\left(sigma^{2}\right) = \left(sigma \cdot x1^{d1|gr1}\right)^{2} \tag{Eq 2}$$

With d1|gr1 are coefficients varying between sites (designated with gr1).

Values of the "parameter" column from the H-D Gompertz model are a, (a|re,d|gr) and sigma codes (Table 2). Each (a|re,d|gr) code is duplicated by the given number of levels and new columns are added to  $D_3$  to define different levels. These new columns are

then named with (re, gr) codes (3 columns in the present case: re1, re2 and gr1). Table 3 represents  $D_3$  created from the H-D Gompertz model.

Code	Description	Example
a	fixed effects coefficients	a1, a2, a3
re	qualitative variable used in random effects	re1, re2
d	coefficients of the residual weighting function	d1
gr	qualitative variable used in the residual	gr1
	weighting function	
(a re,d gr)	coefficients varying between qualitative	a1 re1:re2, d1 gr1
	variable levels (random effect coefficients or	
	not)	
sigma	residual standard deviation	sigma

Table 2. Description of model parameter codes illustrated with an example given by the H-D Gompertz model: Eq 1 and Eq 2

The sigma parameter is used to calculate standardized residuals and check the normality assumption (Q-Q plot) in case the calibration procedure is selected. As only fitted values are calculated from the validation procedure, this parameter is not necessary and can be removed from  $D_3$ . Furthermore, if the sigma parameter is missing in  $D_3$  for the calibration procedure, the Q-Q plot will be removed from the list of graphs and residuals will be not standardized.

After  $D_3$  creation, a series of actions must be executed to enable input controls related to its loading (detailed in Figure 9). A first part is to follow steps presented in the section 4.2 using the normal data type and selecting a 2D plot as graph type.  $D_1$  represents the model data (dependent/independent variables and qualitative variables assignated to re and gr codes) and a flag data can also be loaded (section 5.2 for its creation). A second

part is to select the model strategy (calibration/validation) with the radio button from the normal graph type selection.

parameter	value	gr1	re1	re2
a1	35.7	NA	NA	NA
a2	1.75	NA	NA	NA
a3	10.05	NA	NA	NA
sigma	8.02	NA	NA	NA
d1 gr1	-0.24	Site 1	NA	NA
d1 gr1	-0.25	Site 2	NA	NA
a1 re1:re2	5.86	NA	Site 1	Species 1
a1 re1:re2	-4.79	NA	Site 1	Species 2
a1 re1:re2	-2.14	NA	Site 2	Species 1
a1 re1:re2	1.07	NA	Site 2	Species 2

Table 3. Example of  $D_3$  created from the H-D Gompertz model: Eq 1 and Eq 2.  $D_3$  size increases with the model complexity: only fixed effects model (red), adding of a residual weighting function (green) and random effects (blue). Empty cells are represented by NA characters (in R).

A first check is carried out when loading  $D_3$  about: parameter code assignment, column names and the presence of the sigma parameter for the calibration strategy. A warning/error message will be displayed in GA if the sigma parameter is missing or the  $D_3$  structure is incorrect, respectively. In case  $D_3$  is loaded without any error, a certain number of input controls are then enabled depending on the model strategy (calibration/validation).

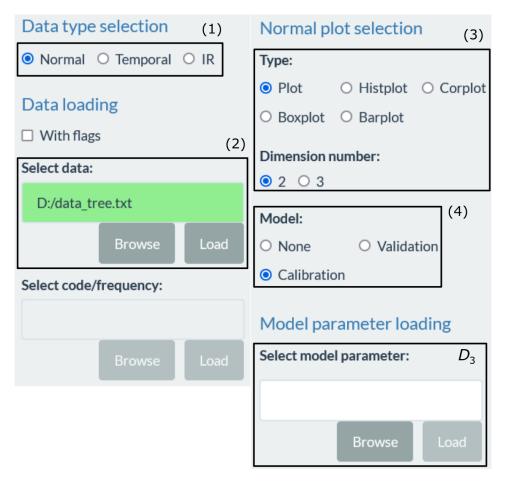


Figure 9. List of necessary actions to enable  $D_3$ : (1) select the normal data type, (2) load  $D_1$  and select the (3) 2D plot as graph type and (4) the model strategy. The txt file named  $data\_tree\ (psD_1)$  are described in the section 6.2.

These input controls are illustrated with the H-D Gompertz model in Figure 10 (calibration strategy) and are described below:

- The *Random* input field is optional (Yes/No radio button) and allows you to add qualitative variables associated to *re* codes;
- X and f(x) input fields are used to introduce the independent variables (required type: quantitative) and the model form respectively;
- The Y input field define the dependent variable (required type: quantitative) and a g(y) function can be specified. Only one variable can be selected from the Y input field;

• The Weighted residuals input controls is also optional (Yes/No radio button) and only applies to the calibration strategy. A first input field considers the variance function and a second input field (enabled with a checkbox above) allows you to designate qualitative variables associated to qr codes.

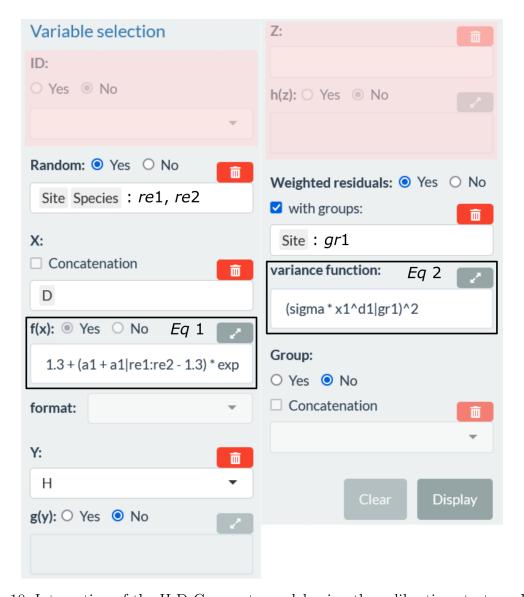


Figure 10. Integration of the H-D Gompertz model using the calibration strategy. Model variables (re1, re2, x1, y and gr1) are filled in Random, X, Y and  $Weighted\ residuals$  input fields. Eq 1 and Eq 2 are entered in f(x) and  $variance\ function$  input fields. A1 is replaced by a1 + a1|re1:re2 in the f(x) input field. ID and Z input fields (colored with a red area) are disabled in this section.

The number assignated to each (re, gr) code depends on the order of the introduction

of qualitative variables in the corresponding input fields. Independent variables (X input field) follow the same rule as (re, gr) codes and the dependent variable (Y input field) is always designated by the lowercase letter y. These codes can be found using the button and thus help users to write the model form, g(y) and the variance function. Moreover, the Group input field can be used to change the color of data points in the graphs (except the Q-Q plot), depending on levels of the considered qualitative variable.

A last check is executed after the display button is clicked. It verifies the concordance between  $D_3$  and informations filled in the variable selection input controls and the calculation of model results.

# 5 Detailed description of P2

### 5.1 Graphic tab

A total of 10 graph settings are available from the Graphic tab (Figure 11) and are enabled/disabled depending on the data/graph type used after loading all required data  $(D_1, D_2)$  or creating a subset of  $D_1$ . Some graph settings (label, color, opacity, point type/size) are available by selecting them in the *option* input field and clicking on the edit button. The graph settings are the following:

WebGL This setting allows you to increase the loading speed of the graph in GA and improves the ability to display more elements and their interactivity. Briefly, some non-essential elements are removed from the graph about the temporal/IR data type (duplicated graph inside the range slider). The WebGL setting is then recommended when the  $D_1$  size is huge but it is only available for the 2D plot for now.

Mode This setting only applies to the temporal/IR data type and is used to connect/disconnect points of each Y variables or NIR/MIR spectra representated in the graph: line+points, only points or lines.

Decimal This setting is used to modify the decimal number of (X, Y, Z) coordinates number obtained with a mouseover (integer values required from the *manual* input field) and is disabled for histplot, barplot and corplot.

Bin This setting is used to set a custom bin width of histplot. The manual width input field considers a value between 0 and the X range (i.e. the difference between max-min values and noted  $r_X$ ). If a Group variable is added, then  $r_X$  is calculated for each group and the maximal value is retained.

Y scale This setting allows you to manage the Y-axis scale for the temporal/IR data type which is disabled (by default) because of the range slider added on the

X-axis (time/frequencies interval). Thus, the Y-axis scale can be manually set with min/max input fields (the decimal symbol is a dot) or automatically calculated from the local X-axis interval. The fraction input field available from the auto scaling is to add a top/bottom margin corresponding to a ratio of the local Y range. Its value is between 0 and 0.1 (the decimal symbol is a comma).

Label This setting is used to add a main title and replace the default label of (X, Y, Z) axes by a custom label (Figure 12). The custom label is written from a text input field. The  $\langle br \rangle$  code can be used in the text input field to break lines.

Color This setting is used to modify the color of the data represented in the graph (Figure 13, not available for corplot). The custom color is selected from a colour picker widget returning an uppercase hexadecimal value in the associated input field. The color name can be entered in this input field and will be transformed into an uppercase hexadecimal value. The default color is defined by the uppercase hexadecimal value #1C86EE if unique or by a hue palette else.

Opacity This setting modifies the opacity of the data represented in the graph (Figure 14, not available for corplot). Data added with statistical methods (section 5.3) are not affected by this setting. An input field is used to enter a custom value between 0 and 1 (0.7 as default value).

Point This setting is used to change the point type for 2D/3D plot and boxplot type (Figure 15). A different number of point types are available from these graph types such as: 24 for 2D plot and boxplot (coded 1 to 24) and 8 for 3D plot (coded 1 to 8). The custom point type is selected from an input field returning the list of codes (1 as default value corresponding to a filled circle).

Point This setting changes the point size for 2D/3D plot and boxplot (Figure 16). size

An input field is used to enter the custom point size (6 as default). The centroid method available from the Statistics tab (section 5.3) is affected by this setting such as the size of centroids is twice the size of points.

All graph settings are taken into account as soon as the graph is created in GA with the display button (P1). The graph is then automatically updated when new custom values are validated. Custom values entered in each manual input field (decimal number, bin width, Y scale) need to be validated by pressing the button  $\stackrel{>}{>}$  when a graph is already created. Custom values of the last 5 graph settings (label, color, opacity, point type/size) are added to each data inventory (Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14, Figure 15, Figure 16) by selecting the row and clicking on the add button. In addition, other buttons available below each data inventory (select all, deselect all, clear, ok) are used to select/deselect all rows and remove/validate the custom value(s) respectively.

A similar approach is used to organize the data inventory of the following graph settings: color, opacity, point type/size. Firstly, default values are shown in each data inventory when a graph is displayed in GA. Secondly, the number of rows depend on the Group input field (a single row if no Group variable is selected) for the normal/IR data type and on the Y input field for the temporal data type. Thirdly, a missing value in the default value column (only for the normal/IR data type) means that the level of the Group variable is missing with the current variable selection (P1). Otherwise, these 4 graph settings do not affect flag data (section 5.2) represented in the graph (GA).

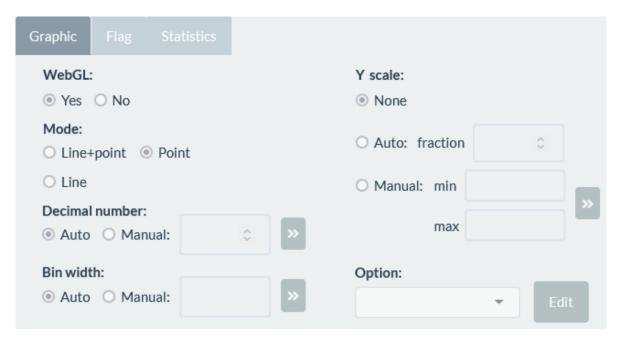


Figure 11. List of graph settings available from the Graphic tab

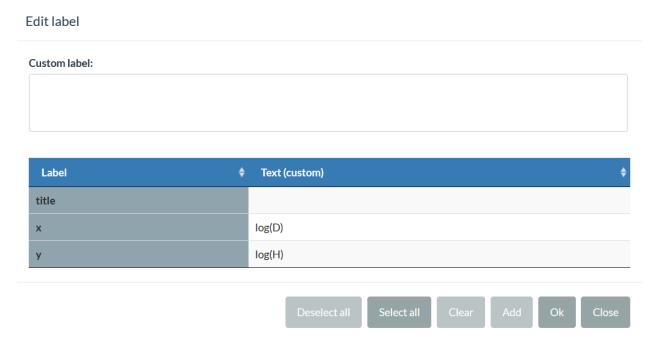


Figure 12. Graph setting used to edit the title and axis labels. The txt file named  $data\_tree$  is used as  $D_1$  ( $psD_1$ , section 6.2). In this figure, a custom label has been assigned to X and Y axes.

# 

Figure 13. Graph setting used to edit the color (available by selecting the color option with the radio button). The txt file named  $data\_tree$  is used as  $D_1$  ( $psD_1$ , section 6.2). In this figure, a custom color is assigned to each level of the Group variable Site.



Figure 14. Graph setting used to edit the opacity (available by selecting the opacity option with the radio button). The txt file named  $data\_tree$  is used as  $D_1$  ( $psD_1$ , section 6.2). In this figure, a custom opacity is assigned to each level of the Group variable Site.

#### Edit point type/size

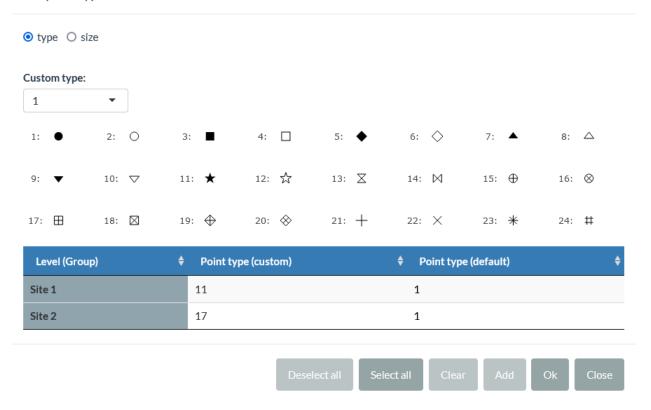


Figure 15. Graph setting used to edit the point type (available by selecting the type option with the radio button). The txt file named  $data\_tree$  is used as  $D_1$  ( $psD_1$ , section 6.2). In this figure, a custom point type is assigned to each level of the Group variable Site.



Figure 16. Graph setting used to edit the point size (available by selecting the size option with the radio button). The txt file named  $data\_tree$  is used as  $D_1$  ( $psD_1$ , section 6.2). In this figure, a custom point size is assigned to the first level of the Group variable Site.

### 5.2 Flag tab

The Flag tab (Figure 17) is available under certain conditions (numeroted 1 to 4 below) as soon as a graph is displayed in GA. A click event listener is also added to the current graph corresponding to the manual selection (left mouse click) of data points considered as outliers. All commands related to Flag tab are then disabled when:

- 1. The 2D/3D plot type is not selected (normal data type concerned);
- 2. X, Y or Z is transformed with f(x), g(y) or h(z) respectively (normal/temporal data type concerned);
- 3. A calibration/validation model is used (normal data type concerned);
- 4. A method is selected in the Statistics tab (normal/IR data type concerned).

The selected data points are highlighted in black and can be removed (one by one or all) or saved with buttons available from this tab: clear, clear all and save, respectively.

Once the save button is clicked, a serie of actions is executed in the following order:

- The selected data points are collected in a new flag data or the existing flag data loaded from the corresponding check box (named with flags, P1);
- Flag data are written in a csv/txt file (same format as  $D_1$ ) at the  $D_1$  location. The filename is the same as  $D_1$  followed by the code "norm\_flag", "temp\_flag" or "ir\_flag" if the data type is normal, temporal or IR, respectively. A supplementary code "\_withID" is added at the end of the filename if an ID variable is used to identify the selected data points;
- The flag box (P1) is automatically checked if no flag data was previously loaded;
- The current graph is updated with information based on the previous selected data points. A new color is assignated to these data points depending on the quality code (option described more precisely below).

Input controls in the Flag tab allows you to manage the manual selection of data points (rule, type) and provide additional information in flag data as follows:

Quality code

The radio button is used to categorize selected data points according to a quality code (qc) numeroted 1 and 2. Data points saved in flag data with a qc = 2 are deleted on the graph (not in the file corresponding to  $D_1$ ) and colored in red. Data points designated by a qc = 1 are only highlighted in orange. A unique qc = 2 is retained for the normal data type. In addition, these new data points highlighted in orange/red will not be displayed on the graph when one of the three first conditions cited above is effective. However, the deletion of data points saved with a qc = 2 will always be taken into account and a warning message will inform about the number of concerned points.

Action

The radio button is used to assign a rule on the click event. The first rule (add new flags) authorizes the selection of points not already saved in flag data. The second rule (replace qc = 1 with 2) only accepts the selection of points previously saved in flag data with a qc = 1 and changes the qc value after clicking on the save button. This second rule is disabled for the normal data type (only qc = 2).

Variable

The check boxes are used to designate which variables (X, Y, Z) are considered as outliers. These check boxes are only available for the normal data type and must be specified before starting the selection of data points.

Draw

The radio button is used to change the type of selection between single point (point) and point-to-point (interval). The point-to-point selection is only available from the temporal data type and requires to click twice on the graph to define the interval boundaries. Multiple intervals will be automatically created if missing values exist in the selected interval. The single point selection is different for the IR data type and allows you to select a whole MIR/NIR spectrum by clicking on one of these data points.

Commentary The text input field is used to add a commentary in flag data related to the selected data points (disabled for the normal data type). No comment will be added if the corresponding text input field is left blank.

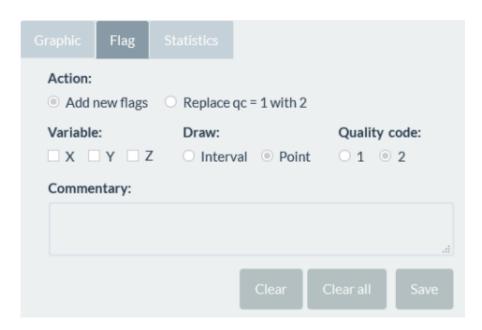


Figure 17. Input controls available from the Flag tab

The flag data is organized differently depending on the used data type (column name precised into quotes below), such as:

Normal Selected points are described by a first column corresponding to the ID variable or the  $D_1$  row number (".row\_num."). The others columns are (X, Y, Z) variables concerned and forms a binary matrix with 1 used to identify these points.

Temporal Selected points/intervals are introduced row by row and are described by start/end dates ("date\_start" and "date\_end" respectively), the Y variable concerned ("var\_name"), a qc and a comment (NA characters if not precised).

IR Informations on selected MIR/NIR spectra are also entered row by row and are given by the same first column as the normal data type, a qc and a comment.

#### 5.3 Statistics tab

The Statistics tab offers several statistical calculation methods for the normal/IR data type (Figure 18). This tab is disabled when data points (related to the Flag tab) are currently selected on the graph. Data points saved in flag data with a qc = 2 are obviously not used in the different statistical calculations performed from this tab. Adding a *Group* variable (P1) allows you to apply separately these methods on each of its levels. Moreover, some methods are available depending on the selected graph type (2D/3D plot, boxplot, histplot) or model strategy after loading all required data  $(D_1, D_2, D_3)$  and are described as follows:

### Normal 2D/3D plot

The methods that can be applied to a 2D plot are the linear regression method (lm function), the 95 % confidence ellipse (dataEllipse function used under the package car) and the centroid. These previous methods are all disabled when a calibration model is selected in P1. As the two first methods require a two-dimensional plan, they are also disabled for a 3D plot. Otherwise, supplementary information is displayed with a mouseover on the regression line, such as the equation, the intercept/slope value,  $R^2$  and RMSE. The regression line information are partly modified if a validation model is used. The RMSE value is then replaced with the p-value of two equality tests based on a Student's t-distribution, such as hypotheses are: intercept = 0 and slope = 1.

#### **Boxplot**

A unique method is available and allows you to add the mean/standard deviation (sd) on each box as new information.

### Histplot

The methods available are the density curve of the X variable distribution (density function with a Gaussian kernel smoothing) and the density curve

following a normal distribution with the mean/sd of the X variable (dnorm function). Two vertical lines are added to the density curve (first method) corresponding to the mean/median (dashed and plain lines respectively). Additional information are displayed with a mouseover on this density curve, such as a set of values used to describe the X variable distribution (size, mean, median, sd) and the p-value of two normality tests: Shapiro-Wilk (shapiro.test function) and Kolmogorov-Smirnov (ks.test function). The p-value of the Shapiro-Wilk test may be missing because of a restriction on the maximum sample size (= 5000). Other p-values are added to information if a Group variable is used and concern variance equality tests (between samples defined for each level): Bartlett (bartlett.test function) and Levene (leveneTest function with mean/median center).

IR A unique method is available and allows you to calculate the mean spectrum.

	Flag	Statistics		
Normal:				IR:
Plot:  Add linear regression  Add confidence ellipsoid  Add centroid			Histplot:  Add density curve  Add normal density curve	☐ Add mean spect
Boxplot:  Add me	an/sd			

Figure 18. List of statistical calculation methods available from the Statistics tab

# 6 Detailed description of GA

### 6.1 Action buttons

A list of buttons is available above the graph depending on the data/graph type and the Statistic tab option used. Their functions can be arranged in three main categories: saving graphs as a picture file (2 buttons), data visualization management (14 buttons) and adding new elements on the graph (1 button). Buttons are described in the order of main categories as follows:

- The button open a new window (Figure 19) corresponding to the management of picture parameters, such as the filename, the height/width (in pixel) and the format (png, jpeg and svg). The ok button available from this window is used to validate new parameters. All parameters are reseted if a new graph is created on GA with the display button (P1).
- The button allows you to save the picture file at the location specified by the web browser used.
- The button concerns the zoom mode (only available from the normal data type: 2D/3D plot and histplot). Areas can be manually selected on the graph when the mode is activated.
- The button is a mode used to move horizontally/vertically the plane (same availability as the zoom mode).
- The two buttons allow you to zoom in/out on the graph (only available from the normal data type: 2D plot and histplot).
- The two buttons are used to select different rotation modes for the 3D plot.

- The button is a mode used to enable/disable the mouseover event (only available from a 3D plot).
- The button is used to return the last saved camera position from the 3D plot. A camera position is saved after each update of the graph.
- The two buttons return the same result and allow you to reset axes corresponding to the whole graph (other button used for the temporal data type and cited below).
- The four buttons only concern the temporal data type. A time interval (X-axis) can be manually/automatically selected on the graph. Different time periods are considered for the second selection: 1 month, 3 months, 6 months or all (reset X-axis).
- The two buttons are used to select all (green) or deselect all (red) legend items. These two buttons replace the double-click action on the legend items.

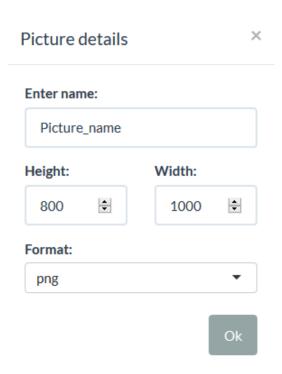


Figure 19. Window used to change picture parameters (default values above)

# 6.2 Graph examples

A list of pseudo-data have been specifically created to help users to test the different functionalities cited in sections above. These datasets (detailed in Table 4) are available from https://github.com/PhilippeSantenoise/WIDEa/Data and are illustrated from several graph examples below.

Data type	Code (loading field)	Github data name
Normal	$psD_1(D_1), parD(D_3)$	$data\_tree,\ data\_param$

Details: Three variables have been randomly generated following known equations (Gompertz, Power) for two (broadleaved) tree species based on two sites: total height (H in m), diameter at breast height (D in cm) and stem biomass (kg). The data size is 400 trees, i.e. 100 trees for each combination of species and sites. Data have been used to calibrate the H-D Gompertz model (Eq 1 and Eq 2) with parD as the inventory of estimated parameters.

Normal	$psD_2(D_1)$	$data\_water\_table\_chemistry$

<u>Details:</u> The content of 11 mineral elements (in ppm) of a water table have been randomly generated following a linear relation between several pairs of elements: F, Cl, S, P, Fe, Mn, Mg, Al, Ca, Na and K. The data size is 300 samples.

<u>Details:</u> Data are the random simulation of the daily temperature (degree Celsius) and the daily humidity (%) in 2020 at Nancy (France). The simulation have been realized from some measured daily values to retain global trends for each month.

IR	$psD_4(D_1), cfD(D_2)$	$data\_MIR\_spectra,\ data\_MIR\_code\_freq$

<u>Details:</u> Data are randomly simulated MIR spectra (size = 100) and informations on MIR code/frequency (cm<sup>-1</sup>) respectively. A set of spectra obtained with the Diffuse Reflectance Infrared Fourier Transform Spectroscopy (DRIFTS) technique on tree branch bark powder samples have been used for the random simulation. The considered MIR interval is 4000 to 550 cm<sup>-1</sup> with a 4 cm<sup>-1</sup> resolution (i.e. 1790 frequencies).

Table 4. Presentation of all data available from https://github.com/PhilippeSantenoise/WIDEa/tree/main/Data and description of generated pseudo-data  $(psD_1, psD_2, psD_3, psD_4, psD_5)$ . Pseudo-data correspond to a specific type mentioned in the section 4.1: normal  $(psD_1, psD_2)$ , temporal  $(psD_3)$ , IR  $(psD_4)$ . The loading field  $(D_1, D_2)$  and  $(psD_3)$  is the location where data must be loaded in P1 (see sections 4.2 and 4.6).

#### Example 1 $(psD_1)$ :

 $psD_1$  can be used to create a list of graphs after selecting the normal data type, loading data ( $D_1$  text field: Figure 4) and providing the requested variables (X, Y, Z, Group). Figure 20 presents an example of 4 graphs displayed in GA. The procedure used to generate these graphs is detailed in Table 5.

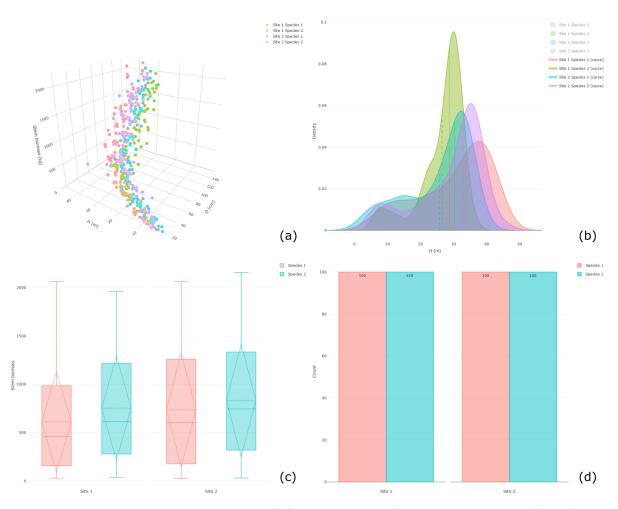


Figure 20. Graphs created from  $psD_1$ : (a) 3D plot with (D, H, Stem biomass) as (X, Y, Z) variables, (b) histplot (deselected) with H as X variable and the associated density curve (Statistics tab), (c) boxplot with (Site, Stem biomass) as (X, Y) variables and informations on mean/sd values (Statistics tab) represented by a dot line and diamond top/bottom vertices respectively and (d) barplot with Species as X variable. A Group variable is used for each graph: Site  $\times$  Species (concatenation) for (a) and (b) and only Site for (c) and (d).

Step	Panel (Section/Tab)			
1	P1 (Data type selection, Data loading)			
	(all): Select "Normal" as data type and load $psD_1$ from $D_1$ text field.			
2	P1 (Normal plot selection)			
	Select the graph type (Model = "None"),			
	(a): "Plot"; (b): "Histplot";			
	(c): "Boxplot"; (d): "Barplot".			
	Select "3" as the dimension number for the graph noted (a).			
3	P1 (Variable selection)			
	Select variables using the corresponding input fields,			
	(a): "D" $(X)$ , "H" $(Y)$ , "Stem_biomass" $(Z)$ ; (b): "H" $(X)$ ;			
	(c): "Site" $(X)$ , "Stem_biomass" $(Y)$ ; (d): "Site" $(X)$ .			
	Add a <i>Group</i> variable by enabling the input field with the Yes/No radio button.			
	Select "Site" and "Species" for graphs noted (a) and (b) after checking the			
	concatenation box. Select only "Site" for graphs noted (c) and (d).			
4	P2 (Graphic)			
	Open the graph setting used to edit labels by selecting "label" in the option input			
	field and clicking on the edit button. Write each axis label in the <i>custom label</i>			
	input field,			
	(a): "D (cm)" $(X)$ , "H (m)" $(Y)$ , "Stem biomass $(kg)$ " $(Z)$ ;			
	(b): " $H(m)$ " ( $X$ ).			
	Select the row of the data inventory (label column: $x, y$ or $z$ ) and click on the			
	add button. Confirm the label of all axes by pressing the ok button.			
5	P2 (Statistics)			
	Add supplementary informations by checking the box named,			
	(b): "Add density curve"; (c): "Add mean/sd".			
6	P1			
	(all): Create the graph with the display button.			

Table 5. Detailed procedure to create graphs noted (a), (b), (c) and (d) in Figure 20. The legend of the graph (b) is partly deselected by clicking on it.

#### Example 2 $(psD_1)$ :

In this example, a 2D plot with custom values for several graph settings (label, color, opacity and point type/size) is created from a susbset of  $psD_1$  (Figure 21). Steps are described as follows:

- (Step 1) Select "Normal" as data type and load  $psD_1$  from  $D_1$  text field (P1: Data type selection, Data loading);
- (Step 2) Enable input controls used to create a subset of  $psD_1$  by checking the  $add \ conditions$  box (P1: Sub-data creation);
- (Step 3) Add conditions into a data inventory by filling in information about the variable name/type, the relation symbol and the value and clicking on the add button. A total of 5 conditions (coded c1 to c5) are added individually and detailed in Figure 6 (P1: Sub-data creation);
- (Step 4) Enter the following formula used to combine all conditions in the text field bellow the add button: c1 & ((c2 & c4) | (c3 & c5)). The formula consist of retaining only "Species 1" (for all sites) and trees which D is strictly greater than 40 cm for "Site 1" or trees which H is less than (not strictly) 35 m for "Site 2". The subset of  $psD_1$  is then created by clicking on the create button (P1: Sub-data creation);
- (Step 5) Keep default values ("Plot" as type, "2" as dimension number and "None" as model) for the graph type (P1: Normal plot selection);
- (Step 6) Select "D" (coded x1) and "H" (coded y1) from the X and Y input fields respectively. Enable the text field (Yes/No radio button) corresponding to f(x) and g(y) functions and use the logarithmic function (log) to transform X and Y variables respectively: log(x1) and log(y1). Enable the Group input field (Yes/No radio button) and select "Site" (P1: Variable selection);
- (Step 7) Build the graph with the display button (P1).

- (Step 8) Select "label" from the *option* input field to edit axis labels. Custom labels assigned to X-axis and Y-axis are detailed in Figure 12 (P2: Graphic);
- (Step 9) Select "color/opacity" from the *option* input field to edit the color/opacity of the *Group* variable levels. Custom colors/opacities assigned to the *Group* variable levels are detailed in Figure 13 and Figure 14 (P2: Graphic);
- (Step 10) Select "point type/size" from the *option* input field to edit the point type/size of the *Group* variable levels. Custom point types/size assigned to the *Group* variable levels (one level for the custom point size) are detailed in Figure 15 and Figure 16 (P2: Graphic);
- (Step 11) Add the linear regression method by checking the corresponding box (P2: Statistics);
- (Step 12) Deselect the "Site 2" regression line in the graph legend (GA);

In steps 8 to 10, some actions (add custom values to a data inentory and confirm them) are required to apply all graph settings to the current graph and are described in the section 5.1.

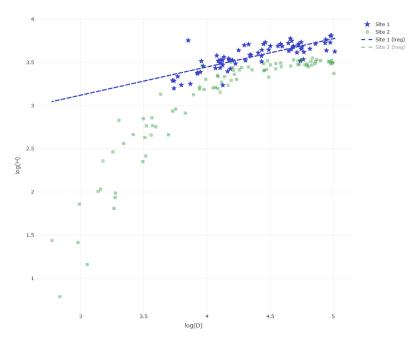


Figure 21. 2D plot from a subset of  $psD_1$ : study of the linear relation between log(H) and log(D).

### Example 3 $(psD_1, parD)$ :

The H-D Gompertz model results (Figure 22) can also be displayed in GA, by using  $psD_1$  as  $D_1$  file and parD as  $D_3$  file. The procedure is fully described in Figure 9 and Figure 10.

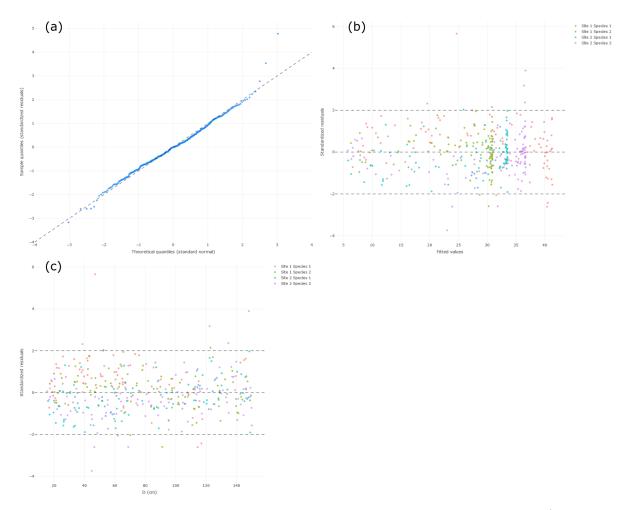


Figure 22. Graphs used to study assumptions on the H-D Gompertz model  $(psD_1$  and parD) residuals: (a) qqplot on the standardized residuals distribution, (b) 2D plot on standardized residuals vs fitted values and (c) 2D plot on standardized residuals vs D. A Group variable is also added to color data per Site  $\times$  Species (concatenation) for (b) and (c).

## Example 4 $(psD_2)$ :

A correlation matrix (Figure 23) can be builded from  $spD_2$ , by following the procedure below:

- (Step 1) Select "Normal" as data type and load  $psD_2$  from  $D_1$  text field (P1: Data type selection, Data loading);
- (Step 2) Select "Corplot" as the graph type (P1: Normal plot selection);
- (Step 3) Select all variables from the Y input field (P1: Variable selection);
- (Step 4) Create the correlation matrix with the display button (P1).

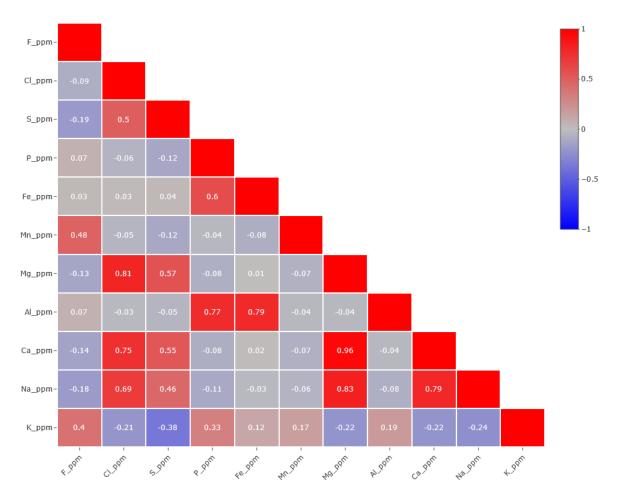


Figure 23. Corplot created from  $psD_2$ : study of linear correlations of the content of 11 mineral elements of a water table.

#### Example 5 $(psD_3)$ :

 $psD_3$  are used as an example of temporal data. The Daily temperature/humidity in 2020 can then be displayed in GA (Figure 24) by following steps below:

- (Step 1) Select "Temporal" as data type and load  $psD_3$  from  $D_1$  text field (P1: Data type selection, Data loading);
- (Step 2) Select "Date", "%Y%m%d" and the pair ("Temperature", "Humidity") from X, format and Y input fields respectively (P1: Variable selection);
- (Step 3) Click on "No" and "Line+point" from WebGL and Mode radio buttons respectively (P2: Graphic);
- (Step 4) Create the graph with the display button (P1).



Figure 24. 2D plot created from  $spD_3$ : the daily temperature and the daily humidity (Y variables) in 2020 (X variable: Date with the %Y%m%d format) at Nancy.

### Example 6 $(psD_4)$ :

 $psD_4$  and cfD are used as an example of IR data. MIR spectra of absorption can be directly displayed in GA (Figure 25) by following steps below:

- (Step 1) Select "IR" as data type and load  $psD_4$  and cfD from  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  text fields respectively (P1: Data type selection, Data loading);
- (Step 2) Click on "Yes" and "Line" from WebGL and Mode radio buttons respectively (P2: Graphic);
- (Step 3) Create the graph with the display button (P1).

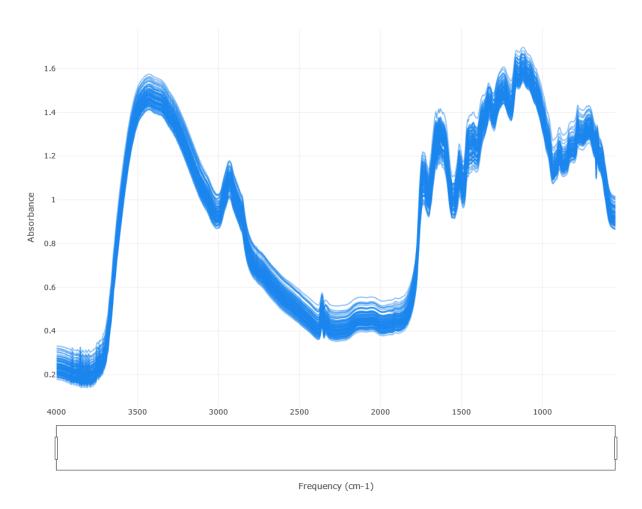


Figure 25. 2D plot created from  $psD_4$  and cfD: MIR spectra of absorption on the considered frequency interval.

# References

- $[1] \ \ Langford \ \ Eric \ \ (2006), \ \ \textit{Quartiles} \quad \textit{in} \quad \textit{Elementary} \quad \textit{Statistics}, \quad 14:3, \quad DOI: \\ 10.1080/10691898.2006.11910589.$
- [2] Zuur, Alain F. (2009), Mixed Effects Models and Extensions in Ecology With R.