Growth Exploration & Initial Models

Josh Carrell - Ph.D. Student | Forest Sciences - Colorado State University

Last Update: March 02, 2025

Contents

```
library(tidyverse)
library(lme4)

# Data prepped for competition indexes
load("D:/Projects/SubalpineTopoGrowth/data/growth_long/subalpine_non_spatial.RData")
df <- subalpine_non_spatial
df <- na.omit(df)
names(df)</pre>
```

```
[1] "id"
                             "Plot"
                                                  "Spec"
    [4] "Census"
                             "rgr_basal_area"
                                                  "height"
  [7] "competition"
                             "dead"
                                                  "dead_census"
## [10] "elevation"
                             "slope"
                                                  "aspect"
   [13] "soil_moisture"
                             "soil_temperature"
                                                  "air_temperature"
## [16] "relative_humidity" "moisture_class"
                                                  "X"
```

Takeaways

- 1. Competition has a strong negative effect on growth (estimate: -2.352e-04, t value: -9.384)
- 2. Competition effects are amplified in wetter sites (estimate = -3.345e-05, t = -12.410)
- 3. Soil moisture has small positive but significant effect on growth (Estimate = 2.507e-03, t = 1.902)
- 4. Elevation plays no role here, but rather facilitates other covariates. A correlation among predictors would be useful here.
- 5. Soil temperature is positively correlated with growth, potentially meaning longer growing season? estimate = 1.995e-02, t = 21.132.