

# The GridFire Fire Spread and Severity Model

Gary W. Johnson, Ph.D., David Saah, Ph.D., Max Moritz, Ph.D.

Copyright 2011-2015 Spatial Informatics Group, LLC

## 1 Preface

This document is a Literate Program<sup>1</sup>, containing both the source code of the software it describes as well as the rationale used in each step of its design and implementation. The purpose of this approach is to enable anyone sufficiently experienced in programming to easily retrace the author's footsteps as they read through the text and code. By the time they have reached the end of this document, the reader should have just as strong a grasp of the system as the original programmer.

To execute the code illustrated within this document, you will need to install several pieces of software, all of which are open source and/or freely available for all major operating systems. These programs are listed in Table 1 along with their minimum required versions and URLs from which they may be downloaded.

Table 1: Software necessary to evaluate the code in this document

Name	Version	URL
Java Development Kit	1.7+	<a href="http://www.java.com">http://www.java.com</a>
Leiningen	2.5.2+	<a href="http://leiningen.org">http://leiningen.org</a>
Boot	2.1.2+	<a href="http://boot-clj.com">http://boot-clj.com</a>
Postgresql	9.3+	<a href="http://www.postgresql.org">http://www.postgresql.org</a>
PostGIS	2.1+	<a href="http://postgis.net">http://postgis.net</a>

GridFire is written in the Clojure programming language<sup>2</sup>, which is a modern dialect of Lisp hosted on the Java Virtual Machine.(Hickey, 2008) As a result, a Java Development Kit is required to compile and run the code shown throughout this document.

The Clojure build tools, Leiningen and Boot, are used to download required libraries and provide a code evaluation prompt (a.k.a. REPL) into which we will enter the code making up this fire model.

---

<sup>1</sup>[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Literate\\_programming](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Literate_programming)

<sup>2</sup><http://clojure.org>

Postgresql (along with the PostGIS spatial extensions) will be used to load and serve raster-formatted GIS layers to the GridFire program. Although it is beyond the scope of this document, PostGIS provides a rich API for manipulating both raster and vector layers through SQL. See <http://postgis.net> for more information.

**License Notice:** All code presented in this document is solely the work of the authors (Copyright 2011-2015 Gary W. Johnson, Ph.D., David Saah, Ph.D., Max Moritz, Ph.D.) and is made available by SIG under the GNU General Public License version 3.0 (GPLv3) <https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>. Please contact Gary Johnson ([gjohnson@sig-gis.com](mailto:gjohnson@sig-gis.com)), David Saah ([dsaah@sig-gis.com](mailto:dsaah@sig-gis.com)), or Max Moritz ([mmoritz@sig-gis.com](mailto:mmoritz@sig-gis.com)) for further information about this software.

## 2 Setting Up the Clojure Environment with Leiningen

Because Clojure is implemented on the Java Virtual Machine (JVM), we must explicitly list all of the libraries used by our program on the Java classpath. Fortunately, the Clojure build program, Leiningen, can handle downloading and storing these libraries as well as linking them to the Clojure process at runtime. However, in order for Leiningen to know which libraries are needed, we must first create its config file, called “project.clj”, and place it in the directory from which we will call our Clojure program. A minimal but complete project.clj is shown below.

```
(defproject sig-gis/gridfire "1.0.0"
  :description "SIG's Raster-based Fire Spread and Severity Model"
  :dependencies [[org.clojure/clojure "1.7.0"]
                 [org.clojure/java.jdbc "0.4.2"]
                 [postgresql/postgresql "9.3-1102.jdbc41"]
                 [net.mikera/core.matrix "0.42.0"]
                 [net.mikera/vectorz-clj "0.36.0"]
                 [org.clojars.lambdatronic/matrix-viz "0.1.7"]]
  :min-lein-version "2.5.2"
  :aot [gridfire/cli]
  :main gridfire/cli
  :repl-options {:init-ns gridfire.fire-spread}
  :global-vars {*warn-on-reflection* true})
```

Once this file is created, we need to instruct Leiningen to download these library dependencies and then open the REPL (Read-Evaluate-Print-Loop).

```
lein deps
lein repl
```

### 3 Setting Up the Clojure Environment with Boot

As an alternative to Leiningen, the Clojure ecosystem provides another build tool called Boot. This program performs all of the same functions as Leiningen and is configured similarly by placing a text file in the directory from which the Clojure program will be run. In this case, two files are required: “boot.properties” and “build.boot”.

```
BOOT_CLOJURE_VERSION=1.7.0
BOOT_VERSION=2.4.2
```

```
(task-options!
  pom {:project      'sig-gis/gridfire
        :version      "1.0.0"
        :description  "SIG's Raster-based Fire Spread and Severity Model"}
  repl {:eval        '(set! *warn-on-reflection* true)
        :init-ns      'gridfire.fire-spread}
  aot  {:namespace    '#{gridfire.cli}}
  jar  {:main          'gridfire.cli})

(set-env!
  :source-paths    #{"src"}
  :resource-paths  #{"resources"}
  :dependencies    '[[org.clojure/clojure           "1.7.0"]
                    [org.clojure/java.jdbc          "0.4.2"]
                    [postgresql/postgresql          "9.3-1102.jdbc41"]
                    [net.mikera/core.matrix          "0.42.0"]
                    [net.mikera/vectorz-clj          "0.36.0"]
                    [org.clojars.lambdatronic/matrix-viz "0.1.7"]])

(deftask build
  "Build my project."
  []
  (comp (aot) (pom) (uber) (jar)))
```

To download all the required dependencies and launch a REPL to follow along with the rest of this document, simply run the following command from your shell:

```
boot repl
```

### 4 Setting Up the PostGIS Database

GridFire may make use of any raster-formatted GIS layers that are loaded into a PostGIS database. Therefore, we must begin by creating a spatially-enabled database on our local Postgresql server.

When installing Postgresql, we should have been prompted to create an initial superuser called **postgres**, who has full permissions to create new databases and roles. We can log into the Postgresql server as this user with the following **psql** command.

```
psql -U postgres
```

Once logged in, we issue the following commands to create a new user account with our system login name (in my case, this is gjohnson). We then create a new database to store our raster data (e.g., gridfire) and import the PostGIS spatial extensions into it.

```
CREATE ROLE gjohnson WITH LOGIN CREATEDB;
CREATE DATABASE gridfire WITH OWNER gjohnson;
\c gridfire
CREATE EXTENSION postgis;
```

Whenever we want to add a new raster-formatted GIS layer to our database, we can simply issue the **raster2pgsql** command as follows, replacing the raster name and table name to match our own datasets.

```
SRID=4326
RASTER=dem.tif
TABLE=dem
DATABASE=gridfire
raster2pgsql -s $SRID $RASTER $TABLE | psql $DATABASE
```

**Note:** The **raster2pgsql** command has several useful command line options, including automatic tiling of the raster layer in the database, creating fast spatial indexes after import, or setting raster constraints on the newly created table. Run **raster2pgsql -?** from the command line for more details.

## 5 Fire Spread Model

GridFire implements the following fire behavior formulas from the fire science literature:

Surface Fire Spread: Rothermel 1972 with FIREMODS adjustments from Albini 1976

Crown Fire Initiation: Van Wagner 1977

Passive/Active Crown Fire Spread: Cruz 2005

Flame Length and Fire Line Intensity: Byram 1959

Midflame Wind Adjustment Factor: Albini & Baughman 1979 parameterized as in BehavePlus, FARSITE, FlamMap, FSPro, and FPA according to Andrews 2012

Fire Spread on a Raster Grid: Morais 2001 (method of adaptive timesteps and fractional distances)

The following fuel models are supported:

Anderson 13: no dynamic loading

Scott & Burgan 40: dynamic loading implemented according to Scott & Burgan 2005

The method used to translate linear fire spread rates to a 2-dimensional raster grid were originally developed by Marco Morais at UCSB as part of his HFire system. (Peterson et al., 2011, 2009, Morais, 2001) Detailed information about this software, including its source code and research article references can be found here:

<http://firecenter.berkeley.edu/hfire/about.html>

Outputs from GridFire include fire size (ac), fire line intensity (Btu/ft/s), flame length (ft), fire volume (ac\*ft), fire shape (ac/ft) and conditional burn probability (times burned/fires initiated). Fire line intensity and flame length may both be exported as either average values per fire or as maps of the individual values per burned cell.

In the following sections, we describe the operation of this system in detail.

## 5.1 Fuel Model Definitions

All fires ignite and travel through some form of burnable fuel. Although the effects of wind and slope on the rate of fire spread can be quite pronounced, its fundamental thermodynamic characteristics are largely determined by the fuel type in which it is sustained. For wildfires, these fuels are predominantly herbaceous and woody vegetation (both alive and dead) as well as decomposing elements of dead vegetation, such as duff or leaf litter. To estimate the heat output and rate of spread of a fire burning through any of these fuels, we must determine those physical properties that affect heat absorption and release.

Of course, measuring these fuel properties for every kind of vegetation that may be burned in a wildfire is an intractable task. To cope with this, fuels are classified into categories called “fuel models” which share similar burning characteristics. Each fuel model is then assigned a set of representative values for each of the thermally relevant physical properties shown in Table 2.

**Note:** While  $M_f$  is not, in fact, directly assigned to any of these fuel models, their definitions remain incomplete for the purposes of fire spread modelling (particularly those reliant on the curing formulas of dynamic fuel loading) until it is provided as a characteristic of local weather conditions.

The fuel models supported by GridFire include the standard 13 fuel models of Rothermel, Albini, and Anderson (Anderson, 1982) and the additional 40 fuel models defined by Scott and Burgan (Scott and Burgan, 2005). These are all concisely encoded in an internal data structure, which may be updated to include additional custom fuel models desired by the user.

Table 2: Physical properties assigned to each fuel model

Property	Description	Units
$\delta$	fuel depth	ft
$w_o$	ovendry fuel loading	lb/ft <sup>2</sup>
$\sigma$	fuel particle surface-area-to-volume ratio	ft <sup>2</sup> /ft <sup>3</sup>
$M_x$	moisture content of extinction	lb moisture/lb ovendry wood
$h$	fuel particle low heat content	Btu/lb
$\rho_p$	ovendry particle density	lb/ft <sup>3</sup>
$S_T$	fuel particle total mineral content	lb minerals/lb ovendry wood
$S_e$	fuel particle effective mineral content	lb silica-free minerals/lb ovendry wood
$M_f$	fuel particle moisture content	lb moisture/lb ovendry wood

```

(ns gridfire.fuel-models)

(def fuel-models
  "Lookup table including one entry for each of the Anderson 13 and
  Scott & Burgan 40 fuel models. The fields have the following
  meanings:
  {number
   [name delta M_x-dead h
    [w_o-dead-1hr w_o-dead-10hr w_o-dead-100hr w_o-live-herbaceous w_o-live-woody]
    [sigma-dead-1hr sigma-dead-10hr sigma-dead-100hr sigma-live-herbaceous sigma-live-woody]]
  }"
  {
    ;; Grass and Grass-dominated (short-grass, timber-grass-and-understory, tall-grass)
    1  [:R01 1.0 12 8 [0.0340 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000] [3500.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0]]
    2  [:R02 1.0 15 8 [0.0920 0.0460 0.0230 0.0230 0.0000] [3000.0 109.0 30.0 1500.0 0.0]]
    3  [:R03 2.5 25 8 [0.1380 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000] [1500.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0]]
    ;; Chaparral and Shrubfields (chaparral, brush, dormant-brush-hardwood-slash, southern-rough)
    4  [:R04 6.0 20 8 [0.2300 0.1840 0.0920 0.2300 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1500.0 0.0]]
    5  [:R05 2.0 20 8 [0.0460 0.0230 0.0000 0.0920 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 0.0 1500.0 0.0]]
    6  [:R06 2.5 25 8 [0.0690 0.1150 0.0920 0.0000 0.0000] [1750.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
    7  [:R07 2.5 40 8 [0.0520 0.0860 0.0690 0.0170 0.0000] [1750.0 109.0 30.0 1550.0 0.0]]
    ;; Timber Litter (closed-timber-litter, hardwood-litter, timber-litter-and-understory)
    8  [:R08 0.2 30 8 [0.0690 0.0460 0.1150 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
    9  [:R09 0.2 25 8 [0.1340 0.0190 0.0070 0.0000 0.0000] [2500.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
    10 [:R10 1.0 25 8 [0.1380 0.0920 0.2300 0.0920 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1500.0 0.0]]
    ;; Logging Slash (light-logging-slash, medium-logging-slash, heavy-logging-slash)
    11 [:R11 1.0 15 8 [0.0690 0.2070 0.2530 0.0000 0.0000] [1500.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
    12 [:R12 2.3 20 8 [0.1840 0.6440 0.7590 0.0000 0.0000] [1500.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
    13 [:R13 3.0 25 8 [0.3220 1.0580 1.2880 0.0000 0.0000] [1500.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
    ;; Nonburnable (NB)
    91 [:NB1 0.0 0 0 [0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000] [ 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0]]
    92 [:NB2 0.0 0 0 [0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000] [ 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0]]
    93 [:NB3 0.0 0 0 [0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000] [ 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0]]
    98 [:NB4 0.0 0 0 [0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000] [ 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0]]
  }

```

```

99  [:NB5 0.0 0 0 [0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000] [ 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0]]
;; Grass (GR)
101 [:GR1 0.4 15 8 [0.0046 0.0000 0.0000 0.0138 0.0000] [2200.0 109.0 30.0 2000.0 0.0]]
102 [:GR2 1.0 15 8 [0.0046 0.0000 0.0000 0.0459 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 0.0]]
103 [:GR3 2.0 30 8 [0.0046 0.0184 0.0000 0.0689 0.0000] [1500.0 109.0 30.0 1300.0 0.0]]
104 [:GR4 2.0 15 8 [0.0115 0.0000 0.0000 0.0872 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 0.0]]
105 [:GR5 1.5 40 8 [0.0184 0.0000 0.0000 0.1148 0.0000] [1800.0 109.0 30.0 1600.0 0.0]]
106 [:GR6 1.5 40 9 [0.0046 0.0000 0.0000 0.1561 0.0000] [2200.0 109.0 30.0 2000.0 0.0]]
107 [:GR7 3.0 15 8 [0.0459 0.0000 0.0000 0.2479 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 0.0]]
108 [:GR8 4.0 30 8 [0.0230 0.0459 0.0000 0.3352 0.0000] [1500.0 109.0 30.0 1300.0 0.0]]
109 [:GR9 5.0 40 8 [0.0459 0.0459 0.0000 0.4132 0.0000] [1800.0 109.0 30.0 1600.0 0.0]]
;; Grass-Shrub (GS)
121 [:GS1 0.9 15 8 [0.0092 0.0000 0.0000 0.0230 0.0298] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 1800.0]]
122 [:GS2 1.5 15 8 [0.0230 0.0230 0.0000 0.0275 0.0459] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 1800.0]]
123 [:GS3 1.8 40 8 [0.0138 0.0115 0.0000 0.0666 0.0574] [1800.0 109.0 30.0 1600.0 1600.0]]
124 [:GS4 2.1 40 8 [0.0872 0.0138 0.0046 0.1561 0.3260] [1800.0 109.0 30.0 1600.0 1600.0]]
;; Shrub (SH)
141 [:SH1 1.0 15 8 [0.0115 0.0115 0.0000 0.0069 0.0597] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 1600.0]]
142 [:SH2 1.0 15 8 [0.0620 0.1102 0.0344 0.0000 0.1768] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1600.0]]
143 [:SH3 2.4 40 8 [0.0207 0.1377 0.0000 0.0000 0.2847] [1600.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1400.0]]
144 [:SH4 3.0 30 8 [0.0390 0.0528 0.0092 0.0000 0.1171] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 1600.0]]
145 [:SH5 6.0 15 8 [0.1653 0.0964 0.0000 0.0000 0.1331] [ 750.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1600.0]]
146 [:SH6 2.0 30 8 [0.1331 0.0666 0.0000 0.0000 0.0643] [ 750.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1600.0]]
147 [:SH7 6.0 15 8 [0.1607 0.2433 0.1010 0.0000 0.1561] [ 750.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1600.0]]
148 [:SH8 3.0 40 8 [0.0941 0.1561 0.0390 0.0000 0.1997] [ 750.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1600.0]]
149 [:SH9 4.4 40 8 [0.2066 0.1125 0.0000 0.0712 0.3214] [ 750.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 1500.0]]
;; Timber-Understory (TU)
161 [:TU1 0.6 20 8 [0.0092 0.0413 0.0689 0.0092 0.0413] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 1800.0 1600.0]]
162 [:TU2 1.0 30 8 [0.0436 0.0826 0.0574 0.0000 0.0092] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1600.0]]
163 [:TU3 1.3 30 8 [0.0505 0.0069 0.0115 0.0298 0.0505] [1800.0 109.0 30.0 1600.0 1400.0]]
164 [:TU4 0.5 12 8 [0.2066 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.0918] [2300.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 2000.0]]
165 [:TU5 1.0 25 8 [0.1837 0.1837 0.1377 0.0000 0.1377] [1500.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 750.0]]
;; Timber Litter (TL)
181 [:TL1 0.2 30 8 [0.0459 0.1010 0.1653 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
182 [:TL2 0.2 25 8 [0.0643 0.1056 0.1010 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
183 [:TL3 0.3 20 8 [0.0230 0.1010 0.1286 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
184 [:TL4 0.4 25 8 [0.0230 0.0689 0.1928 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
185 [:TL5 0.6 25 8 [0.0528 0.1148 0.2020 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1600.0]]
186 [:TL6 0.3 25 8 [0.1102 0.0551 0.0551 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
187 [:TL7 0.4 25 8 [0.0138 0.0643 0.3719 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
188 [:TL8 0.3 35 8 [0.2663 0.0643 0.0505 0.0000 0.0000] [1800.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
189 [:TL9 0.6 35 8 [0.3053 0.1515 0.1905 0.0000 0.0000] [1800.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 1600.0]]
;; Slash-Blowdown (SB)
201 [:SB1 1.0 25 8 [0.0689 0.1377 0.5051 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
202 [:SB2 1.0 25 8 [0.2066 0.1951 0.1837 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
203 [:SB3 1.2 25 8 [0.2525 0.1263 0.1377 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
204 [:SB4 2.7 25 8 [0.2410 0.1607 0.2410 0.0000 0.0000] [2000.0 109.0 30.0 0.0 0.0]]
})

```

Once fuel moisture is added to the base fuel model definitions, they will each contain values

for the following six fuel size classes:

1. Dead 1 hour ( $< 1/4''$  diameter)
2. Dead 10 hour ( $1/4''$ – $1''$  diameter)
3. Dead 100 hour ( $1''$ – $3''$  diameter)
4. Dead herbaceous (dynamic fuel models only)
5. Live herbaceous
6. Live woody

In order to more easily encode mathematical operations over these size classes, we define a collection of utility functions that will later be used in both the fuel moisture and fire spread algorithms.

```
(defn map-category [f]
  {:dead (f :dead) :live (f :live)})

(defn map-size-class [f]
  {:dead {:1hr      (f :dead :1hr)
          :10hr     (f :dead :10hr)
          :100hr    (f :dead :100hr)
          :herbaceous (f :dead :herbaceous)}
   :live {:herbaceous (f :live :herbaceous)
          :woody      (f :live :woody)}})

(defn category-sum [f]
  (+ (f :dead) (f :live)))

(defn size-class-sum [f]
  {:dead (+ (f :dead :1hr) (f :dead :10hr) (f :dead :100hr) (f :dead :herbaceous))
   :live (+ (f :live :herbaceous) (f :live :woody))})
```

Using these new size class processing functions, we can translate the encoded fuel model definitions into human-readable representations of the fuel model properties.

```
(defn build-fuel-model
  [fuel-model-number]
  (let [[name delta M_x-dead h
        w_o-dead-1hr w_o-dead-10hr w_o-dead-100hr
        w_o-live-herbaceous w_o-live-woody]
        [sigma-dead-1hr sigma-dead-10hr sigma-dead-100hr
         sigma-live-herbaceous sigma-live-woody]]
    (fuel-models fuel-model-number)
    M_x-dead (* M_x-dead 0.01)
    h (* h 1000.0)]
    {:name name
     :number fuel-model-number
     :delta delta
     :M_x {:dead {:1hr      M_x-dead
```



```

      :10hr      M_x-dead
      :100hr     M_x-dead
      :herbaceous 0.0}
:w_o    {:live  {:herbaceous 0.0
                :woody      0.0}}
      {:dead  {:1hr      w_o-dead-1hr
                :10hr     w_o-dead-10hr
                :100hr    w_o-dead-100hr
                :herbaceous 0.0}
          :live  {:herbaceous w_o-live-herbaceous
                  :woody      w_o-live-woody}}}
:sigma  {:dead  {:1hr      sigma-dead-1hr
                :10hr     sigma-dead-10hr
                :100hr    sigma-dead-100hr
                :herbaceous 0.0}
          :live  {:herbaceous sigma-live-herbaceous
                  :woody      sigma-live-woody}}}
:h      {:dead  {:1hr      h
                :10hr     h
                :100hr    h
                :herbaceous h}
          :live  {:herbaceous h
                  :woody      h}}}
:rho_p  {:dead  {:1hr      32.0
                :10hr     32.0
                :100hr    32.0
                :herbaceous 32.0}
          :live  {:herbaceous 32.0
                  :woody      32.0}}}
:S_T    {:dead  {:1hr      0.0555
                :10hr     0.0555
                :100hr    0.0555
                :herbaceous 0.0555}
          :live  {:herbaceous 0.0555
                  :woody      0.0555}}}
:S_e    {:dead  {:1hr      0.01
                :10hr     0.01
                :100hr    0.01
                :herbaceous 0.01}
          :live  {:herbaceous 0.01
                  :woody      0.01}}}}))

```

Although most fuel model properties are static with respect to environmental conditions, the fuel moisture content can have two significant impacts on a fuel model's burning potential:

1. Dynamic fuel loading
2. Live moisture of extinction

These two topics are discussed in the remainder of this section.

### 5.1.1 Dynamic Fuel Loading

All of the Scott & Burgan 40 fuel models with a live herbaceous component are considered dynamic. In these models, a fraction of the live herbaceous load is transferred to a new dead herbaceous category as a function of live herbaceous moisture content (see equation below). (Burgan, 1979) The dead herbaceous category uses the dead 1 hour moisture content, dead moisture of extinction, and live herbaceous surface-area-to-volume-ratio. In the following formula,  $M_f^{lh}$  is the live herbaceous moisture content.

$$\text{FractionGreen} = \begin{cases} 0 & M_f^{lh} \leq 0.3 \\ 1 & M_f^{lh} \geq 1.2 \\ \frac{M_f^{lh}}{0.9} - \frac{1}{3} & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{FractionCured} = 1 - \text{FractionGreen}$$

```
(defn add-dynamic-fuel-loading
  [{:keys [number M_x M_f w_o sigma] :as fuel-model}]
  (let [live-herbaceous-load (-> w_o :live :herbaceous)]
    (if (and (> number 100) (pos? live-herbaceous-load))
      ;; dynamic fuel model
      (let [fraction-green (max 0.0 (min 1.0 (- (/ (-> M_f :live :herbaceous) 0.9) 0.33333)))
            fraction-cured (- 1.0 fraction-green)]
        (-> fuel-model
          (assoc-in [:M_f :dead :herbaceous] (-> M_f :dead :1hr))
          (assoc-in [:M_x :dead :herbaceous] (-> M_x :dead :1hr))
          (assoc-in [:w_o :dead :herbaceous] (* live-herbaceous-load fraction-cured))
          (assoc-in [:w_o :live :herbaceous] (* live-herbaceous-load fraction-green))
          (assoc-in [:sigma :dead :herbaceous] (-> sigma :live :herbaceous))))
      ;; static fuel model
      fuel-model)))
```

Once the dynamic fuel loading is applied, we can compute the size class weighting factors expressed in equations 53-57 in Rothermel 1972 (Rothermel, 1972). For brevity, these formulas are elided from this text.

```
(defn add-weighting-factors
  [{:keys [w_o sigma rho_p] :as fuel-model}]
  (let [A_ij (map-size-class (fn [i j] (/ (* (-> sigma i j) (-> w_o i j))
                                           (-> rho_p i j))))]

    A_i (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (-> A_ij i j)))

    A_T (category-sum (fn [i] (-> A_i i)))

    f_ij (map-size-class (fn [i j] (if (pos? (-> A_i i))
                                       (/ (-> A_ij i j))
```

```

                                (-> A_i i))
                                0.0)))

    f_i (map-category (fn [i] (if (pos? A_T)
                                (/ (-> A_i i) A_T)
                                0.0))))]

(-> fuel-model
  (assoc :f_ij f_ij)
  (assoc :f_i f_i)))

```

### 5.1.2 Live Moisture of Extinction

The live moisture of extinction for each fuel model is determined from the dead fuel moisture content, the dead moisture of extinction, and the ratio of dead fuel loading to live fuel loading using Equation 88 from Rothermel 1972, adjusted according to Albini 1976 Appendix III to match the behavior of Albini's original FIREMODS library. (Rothermel, 1972, Albini, 1976) Whenever the fuel moisture content becomes greater than or equal to the moisture of extinction, a fire will no longer spread through that fuel. Here are the formulas referenced above:

$$M_x^l = \max(M_x^d, 2.9 W' (1 - \frac{M_f^d}{M_x^d}) - 0.226)$$

$$W' = \frac{\sum_{c \in D} w_o^c e^{-138/\sigma^c}}{\sum_{c \in L} w_o^c e^{-500/\sigma^c}}$$

$$M_f^d = \frac{\sum_{c \in D} w_o^c M_f^c e^{-138/\sigma^c}}{\sum_{c \in D} w_o^c e^{-138/\sigma^c}}$$

where  $M_x^l$  is the live moisture of extinction,  $M_x^d$  is the dead moisture of extinction,  $D$  is the set of dead fuel size classes (1hr, 10hr, 100hr, herbaceous),  $L$  is the set of live fuel size classes (herbaceous, woody),  $w_o^c$  is the dry weight loading of size class  $c$ ,  $\sigma^c$  is the surface area to volume ratio of size class  $c$ , and  $M_f^c$  is the moisture content of size class  $c$ .

```

(defn add-live-moisture-of-extinction
  "Equation 88 from Rothermel 1972 adjusted by Albini 1976 Appendix III."
  [{:keys [w_o sigma M_f M_x] :as fuel-model}]
  (let [dead-loading-factor (:dead (size-class-sum
                                   (fn [i j] (if (pos? (-> sigma i j))
                                                 (* (-> w_o i j)
                                                     (Math/exp (/ -138.0 (-> sigma i j)))))
                                   0.0)))]
    live-loading-factor (:live (size-class-sum
                               (fn [i j] (if (pos? (-> sigma i j))
                                             (* (-> w_o i j)
                                                 (Math/exp (/ -500.0 (-> sigma i j)))))
                               0.0)))]

```

```

                                0.0))))
dead-moisture-factor (:dead (size-class-sum
                            (fn [i j] (if (pos? (-> sigma i j))
                                            (* (-> w_o i j)
                                                (Math/exp (/ -138.0 (-> sigma i j)))
                                                (-> M_f i j))
                                            0.0))))
dead-to-live-ratio (if (pos? live-loading-factor)
                      (/ dead-loading-factor live-loading-factor))
dead-fuel-moisture (if (pos? dead-loading-factor)
                      (/ dead-moisture-factor dead-loading-factor)
                      0.0)
M_x-dead (-> M_x :dead :1hr)
M_x-live (if (pos? live-loading-factor)
             (max M_x-dead
                  (- (* 2.9
                       dead-to-live-ratio
                       (- 1.0 (/ dead-fuel-moisture M_x-dead)))
                     0.226))
             0.0)]
(-> fuel-model
  (assoc-in [:M_x :live :herbaceous] M_x-live)
  (assoc-in [:M_x :live :woody] M_x-live)))

(defn moisturize
  [fuel-model fuel-moisture]
  (-> fuel-model
    (assoc :M_f fuel-moisture)
    (assoc-in [:M_f :dead :herbaceous] 0.0)
    (add-dynamic-fuel-loading)
    (add-weighting-factors)
    (add-live-moisture-of-extinction)))

```

This concludes our coverage of fuel models and fuel moisture.

## 5.2 Surface Fire Formulas

To simulate fire behavior in as similar a way as possible to the US government-sponsored fire models (e.g., FARSITE, FlamMap, FPA, BehavePlus), we adopt the surface fire spread and reaction intensity formulas from Rothermel’s 1972 publication “A Mathematical Model for Predicting Fire Spread in Wildland Fuels”. (Rothermel, 1972)

Very briefly, the surface rate of spread of a fire’s leading edge  $R$  is described by the following formula:

$$R = \frac{I_R \xi (1 + \phi_W + \phi_S)}{\rho_b \epsilon Q_{ig}}$$

where these terms have the meanings shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Inputs to Rothermel's surface fire rate of spread equation

Term	Meaning
$R$	surface fire spread rate
$I_R$	reaction intensity
$\xi$	propagating flux ratio
$\phi_W$	wind coefficient
$\phi_S$	slope factor
$\rho_b$	oven-dry fuel bed bulk density
$\epsilon$	effective heating number
$Q_{ig}$	heat of preignition

For a full description of each of the subcomponents of Rothermel's surface fire spread rate equation, see the Rothermel 1972 reference above. In addition to applying the base Rothermel equations, GridFire reduces the spread rates for all of the Scott & Burgan 40 fuel models of the grass subgroup (101-109) by 50%. This addition was originally suggested by Chris Lautenberger of REAX Engineering.

For efficiency, the surface fire spread equation given above is computed first without introducing the effects of wind and slope ( $\phi_W = \phi_S = 0$ ).

```
(ns gridfire.surface-fire
  (:require [gridfire.fuel-models :refer [map-category map-size-class
                                           category-sum size-class-sum]]))

(def grass-fuel-model? #(and (> % 100) (< % 110)))

(defn rothermel-surface-fire-spread-no-wind-no-slope
  "Returns the rate of surface fire spread in ft/min and the reaction
  intensity (i.e., amount of heat output) of a fire in Btu/ft^2*min
  given a map containing these keys:
  - number [fuel model number]
  - delta [fuel depth (ft)]
  - w_o [ovendry fuel loading (lb/ft^2)]
  - sigma [fuel particle surface-area-to-volume ratio (ft^2/ft^3)]
  - h [fuel particle low heat content (Btu/lb)]
  - rho_p [ovendry particle density (lb/ft^3)]
  - S_T [fuel particle total mineral content (lb minerals/lb ovendry wood)]
  - S_e [fuel particle effective mineral content (lb silica-free minerals/lb ovendry wood)]
  - M_x [moisture content of extinction (lb moisture/lb ovendry wood)]
  - M_f [fuel particle moisture content (lb moisture/lb ovendry wood)]
  - f_ij [percent of load per size class (%)]
  - f_i [percent of load per category (%)]"
  [{:keys [number delta w_o sigma h rho_p S_T S_e M_x M_f f_ij f_i] :as fuel-model}]
  (let [S_e_i (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (* (-> f_ij i j) (-> S_e i j))))

        ;; Mineral damping coefficient
        eta_S_i (map-category (fn [i] (let [S_e_i (-> S_e_i i)]
```

```

                                (if (pos? S_e_i)
                                    (/ 0.174 (Math/pow S_e_i 0.19))
                                    1.0)))

M_f_i      (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (* (-> f_ij i j) (-> M_f i j))))

M_x_i      (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (* (-> f_ij i j) (-> M_x i j))))

r_M_i      (map-category (fn [i] (let [M_f (-> M_f_i i)
                                       M_x (-> M_x_i i)]
                                   (if (pos? M_x)
                                       (min 1.0 (/ M_f M_x))
                                       1.0))))

;; Moisture damping coefficient
eta_M_i     (map-category (fn [i] (+ 1.0
                                     (* -2.59 (-> r_M_i i))
                                     (* 5.11 (Math/pow (-> r_M_i i) 2))
                                     (* -3.52 (Math/pow (-> r_M_i i) 3)))))

h_i         (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (* (-> f_ij i j) (-> h i j))))

;; Net fuel loading (lb/ft^2)
W_n_i       (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (* (-> f_ij i j)
                                           (-> w_o i j)
                                           (- 1.0 (-> S_T i j)))))

beta_i      (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (/ (-> w_o i j) (-> rho_p i j))))

;; Packing ratio
beta        (if (pos? delta)
                (/ (category-sum (fn [i] (-> beta_i i))) delta)
                0.0)

sigma'_i     (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (* (-> f_ij i j) (-> sigma i j))))

sigma'       (category-sum (fn [i] (* (-> f_i i) (-> sigma'_i i))))

;; Optimum packing ratio
beta_op      (if (pos? sigma')
                (/ 3.348 (Math/pow sigma' 0.8189))
                1.0)

;; Albini 1976 replaces (/ 1 (- (* 4.774 (Math/pow sigma' 0.1)) 7.27))
A           (if (pos? sigma')
                (/ 133.0 (Math/pow sigma' 0.7913))
                0.0)

;; Maximum reaction velocity (1/min)
Gamma'_max   (/ (Math/pow sigma' 1.5)

```

```

(+ 495.0 (* 0.0594 (Math/pow sigma' 1.5)))

;; Optimum reaction velocity (1/min)
Gamma' (* Gamma'_max
  (Math/pow (/ beta beta_op) A)
  (Math/exp (* A (- 1.0 (/ beta beta_op)))))

;; Reaction intensity (Btu/ft^2*min)
I_R (* Gamma' (category-sum (fn [i] (* (W_n_i i) (h_i i)
  (eta_M_i i) (eta_S_i i)))))

;; Propagating flux ratio
xi (/ (Math/exp (* (+ 0.792 (* 0.681 (Math/pow sigma' 0.5))
  (+ beta 0.1)))
  (+ 192.0 (* 0.2595 sigma'))))

E (* 0.715 (Math/exp (* -3.59 (/ sigma' 10000.0))))

B (* 0.02526 (Math/pow sigma' 0.54))

C (* 7.47 (Math/exp (* -0.133 (Math/pow sigma' 0.55))))

;; Derive wind factor
get-phi_W (fn [midflame-wind-speed]
  (if (and (pos? beta) (pos? midflame-wind-speed))
    (-> midflame-wind-speed
      (min (* 0.9 I_R)
        (Math/pow B)
        (* C)
        (/ (Math/pow (/ beta beta_op) E)))
    0.0))

;; Derive wind speed from wind factor
get-wind-speed (fn [phi_W]
  (-> phi_W
    (* (Math/pow (/ beta beta_op) E))
    (/ C)
    (Math/pow (/ 1.0 B))))

;; Derive slope factor
get-phi_S (fn [slope]
  (if (and (pos? beta) (pos? slope))
    (* 5.275 (Math/pow beta -0.3) (Math/pow slope 2.0))
    0.0))

;; Heat of preignition (Btu/lb)
Q_ig (map-size-class (fn [i j] (+ 250.0 (* 1116.0 (-> M_f i j)))))

foo_i (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (let [sigma_ij (-> sigma i j)
  Q_ig_ij (-> Q_ig i j)]

```

```

                                (if (pos? sigma_ij)
                                    (* (-> f_ij i j)
                                       (Math/exp (/ -138 sigma_ij))
                                       Q_ig_ij)
                                    0.0)))

rho_b_i    (size-class-sum (fn [i j] (-> w_o i j)))

;; Overdry bulk density (lb/ft^3)
rho_b      (if (pos? delta)
                (/ (category-sum (fn [i] (-> rho_b_i i))) delta)
                0.0)

rho_b-epsilon-Q_ig (* rho_b (category-sum (fn [i] (* (-> f_i i) (-> foo_i i)))))

;; Surface fire spread rate (ft/min)
R          (if (pos? rho_b-epsilon-Q_ig)
                (/ (* I_R xi) rho_b-epsilon-Q_ig)
                0.0)

;; Addition proposed by Chris Lautenberger (REAX 2015)
spread-rate-multiplier (if (grass-fuel-model? number) 0.5 1.0)]

{:spread-rate      (* R spread-rate-multiplier)
 :reaction-intensity I_R
 :residence-time    (/ 384.0 sigma')
 :get-phi_W         get-phi_W
 :get-phi_S         get-phi_S
 :get-wind-speed    get-wind-speed}}

```

Later, this no-wind-no-slope value is used to compute the maximum spread rate and direction for the leading edge of the surface fire under analysis. Since Rothermel's original equations assume that the wind direction and slope are aligned, the effects of cross-slope winds must be taken into effect. Like Morais' HFire system, GridFire implements the vector addition procedure defined in Rothermel 1983 that combines the wind-only and slope-only spread rates independently to calculate the effective fire spread direction and magnitude. (Peterson et al., 2011, 2009, Morais, 2001, Rothermel, 1983)

The midflame wind speed that would be required to produce the combined spread rate in a no-slope scenario is termed the effective windspeed  $U_{\text{eff}}$ . Following the recommendations given in Appendix III of Albini 1976, these midflame wind speeds are all limited to  $0.9I_R$ . (Albini, 1976)

Next, the effective wind speed is used to compute the length to width ratio  $\frac{L}{W}$  of an ellipse that approximates the fire front using equation 9 from Rothermel 1991. (Rothermel, 1991) This length to width ratio is then converted into an eccentricity measure of the ellipse using equation 8 from Albini and Chase 1980. (Albini and Chase, 1980) Finally, this eccentricity  $E$  is used to project the maximum spread rate to any point along the fire front. Here are the formulas used:



$$\frac{L}{W} = 1 + 0.002840909 U_{\text{eff}} \text{EAF}$$

$$E = \frac{\sqrt{(\frac{L}{W})^2 - 1}}{\frac{L}{W}}$$

$$R_{\theta} = R_{\text{max}} \left( \frac{1 - E}{1 - E \cos \theta} \right)$$

where  $\theta$  is the angular offset from the direction of maximum fire spread,  $R_{\text{max}}$  is the maximum spread rate,  $R_{\theta}$  is the spread rate in direction  $\theta$ , and EAF is the ellipse adjustment factor, a term introduced by Marco Morais and Seth Peterson in their HFire work that can be increased or decreased to make the fire shape more elliptical or circular respectively. (Peterson et al., 2009)

**Note:** The coefficient 0.002840909 in the  $\frac{L}{W}$  formula is in units of min/ft. The original equation from Rothermel 1991 used 0.25 in units of hr/mi, so this was converted to match GridFire’s use of ft/min for  $U_{\text{eff}}$ .

```
(defn almost-zero? [^double x]
  (< (Math/abs x) 0.000001))

(defn degrees-to-radians
  [degrees]
  (/ (* degrees Math/PI) 180.0))

(defn radians-to-degrees
  [radians]
  (/ (* radians 180.0) Math/PI))

(defn scale-spread-to-max-wind-speed
  [{:keys [effective-wind-speed max-spread-direction] :as spread-properties}
   spread-rate max-wind-speed phi-max]
  (if (> effective-wind-speed max-wind-speed)
    {:max-spread-rate      (* spread-rate (+ 1.0 phi-max))
     :max-spread-direction max-spread-direction
     :effective-wind-speed max-wind-speed}
    spread-properties))

(defn add-eccentricity
  [{:keys [effective-wind-speed] :as spread-properties} ellipse-adjustment-factor]
  (let [length-width-ratio (+ 1.0 (* 0.002840909
                                     effective-wind-speed
                                     ellipse-adjustment-factor))
        eccentricity      (/ (Math/sqrt (- (Math/pow length-width-ratio 2.0) 1.0))
                             length-width-ratio)]
    (assoc spread-properties :eccentricity eccentricity)))
```

```

(defn smallest-angle-between [theta1 theta2]
  (let [angle (Math/abs ^double (- theta1 theta2))]
    (if (> angle 180.0)
      (- 360.0 angle)
      angle)))

(defn rothermel-surface-fire-spread-max
  "Note: fire ellipse adjustment factor, < 1.0 = more circular, > 1.0 = more elliptical"
  [{:keys [spread-rate reaction-intensity get-phi_W get-phi_S get-wind-speed]}
   midflame-wind-speed wind-from-direction slope aspect ellipse-adjustment-factor]
  (let [phi_W (get-phi_W midflame-wind-speed)
        phi_S (get-phi_S slope)
        slope-direction (mod (+ aspect 180.0) 360.0)
        wind-to-direction (mod (+ wind-from-direction 180.0) 360.0)
        max-wind-speed (* 0.9 reaction-intensity)
        phi-max (get-phi_W max-wind-speed)]
    (->
      (cond (and (almost-zero? midflame-wind-speed) (almost-zero? slope))
        ;; no wind, no slope
        {:max-spread-rate spread-rate
         :max-spread-direction 0.0
         :effective-wind-speed 0.0}

        (almost-zero? slope)
        ;; wind only
        {:max-spread-rate (* spread-rate (+ 1.0 phi_W))
         :max-spread-direction wind-to-direction
         :effective-wind-speed midflame-wind-speed}

        (almost-zero? midflame-wind-speed)
        ;; slope only
        {:max-spread-rate (* spread-rate (+ 1.0 phi_S))
         :max-spread-direction slope-direction
         :effective-wind-speed (get-wind-speed phi_S)}

        (< (smallest-angle-between wind-to-direction slope-direction) 15.0)
        ;; wind blows (within 15 degrees of) upslope
        {:max-spread-rate (* spread-rate (+ 1.0 phi_W phi_S))
         :max-spread-direction slope-direction
         :effective-wind-speed (get-wind-speed (+ phi_W phi_S))}

        :else
        ;; wind blows across slope
        (let [slope-magnitude (* spread-rate phi_S)
              wind-magnitude (* spread-rate phi_W)
              difference-angle (degrees-to-radians
                               (mod (- wind-to-direction slope-direction) 360.0))
              x (+ slope-magnitude
                   (* wind-magnitude (Math/cos difference-angle)))
              y (+ slope-magnitude
                   (* wind-magnitude (Math/sin difference-angle)))
              magnitude (Math/sqrt (+ x x y y))
              direction (if (neg? y)
                           (+ wind-to-direction slope-direction)
                           (- wind-to-direction slope-direction))]
          {:max-spread-rate magnitude
           :max-spread-direction direction
           :effective-wind-speed (get-wind-speed (+ phi_W phi_S))})))

```

```

        y                (* wind-magnitude (Math/sin difference-angle))
        combined-magnitude (Math/sqrt (+ (* x x) (* y y)))
    (if (almost-zero? combined-magnitude)
        {:max-spread-rate      spread-rate
         :max-spread-direction 0.0
         :effective-wind-speed 0.0}
        (let [max-spread-rate      (+ spread-rate combined-magnitude)
              phi-combined        (- (/ max-spread-rate spread-rate) 1.0)
              offset              (radians-to-degrees
                                  (Math/asin (/ (Math/abs y) combined-magnitude)))
              offset'             (if (>= x 0.0)
                                   (if (>= y 0.0)
                                       offset
                                       (- 360.0 offset))
                                   (if (>= y 0.0)
                                       (- 180.0 offset)
                                       (+ 180.0 offset)))
              max-spread-direction (mod (+ slope-direction offset') 360.0)
              effective-wind-speed (get-wind-speed phi-combined)]
            {:max-spread-rate      max-spread-rate
             :max-spread-direction max-spread-direction
             :effective-wind-speed effective-wind-speed})))
    (scale-spread-to-max-wind-speed spread-rate max-wind-speed phi-max)
    (add-eccentricity ellipse-adjustment-factor)))

(defn rothermel-surface-fire-spread-any
  [{:keys [max-spread-rate max-spread-direction eccentricity]} spread-direction]
  (let [theta (smallest-angle-between max-spread-direction spread-direction)]
    (if (or (almost-zero? eccentricity) (almost-zero? theta))
        max-spread-rate
        (* max-spread-rate (/ (- 1.0 eccentricity)
                               (- 1.0 (* eccentricity
                                             (Math/cos (degrees-to-radians theta))))))))))

```

Using these surface fire spread rate and reaction intensity values, we next calculate fire severity values by applying Anderson's flame depth formula and Byram's fire line intensity and flame length equations as described below. (Anderson, 1969, Byram, 1959)

$$t = \frac{384}{\sigma}$$

$$D = Rt$$

$$I = \frac{I_R D}{60}$$

$$L = 0.45(I)^{0.46}$$

where  $\sigma$  is the weighted sum by size class of the fuel model's surface area to volume ratio in  $\text{ft}^2/\text{ft}^3$ ,  $t$  is the residence time in minutes,  $R$  is the surface fire spread rate in  $\text{ft}/\text{min}$ ,  $D$  is

the flame depth in ft,  $I_R$  is the reaction intensity in Btu/ft<sup>2</sup>/min,  $I$  is the fire line intensity in Btu/ft/s, and  $L$  is the flame length in ft.

```
(defn anderson-flame-depth
  "Returns the depth, or front-to-back distance, of the actively flaming zone
  of a free-spreading fire in ft given:
  - spread-rate (ft/min)
  - residence-time (min)"
  [spread-rate residence-time]
  (* spread-rate residence-time))

(defn byram-fire-line-intensity
  "Returns the rate of heat release per unit of fire edge in Btu/ft*s given:
  - reaction-intensity (Btu/ft^2*min)
  - flame-depth (ft)"
  [reaction-intensity flame-depth]
  (/ (* reaction-intensity flame-depth) 60.0))

(defn byram-flame-length
  "Returns the average flame length in ft given:
  - fire-line-intensity (Btu/ft*s)"
  [fire-line-intensity]
  (* 0.45 (Math/pow fire-line-intensity 0.46)))
```

This concludes our coverage of the surface fire spread and severity equations implemented in GridFire. In Section 5.4, these formulas will be translated from one-dimension to two-dimensional spread on a raster grid. Before we move on to that, however, the following section explains how crown fire spread and severity metrics are incorporated into our model.

### 5.3 Crown Fire Formulas

In order to incorporate the effects of crown fire spread and severity, GridFire includes the crown fire initiation routine from Van Wagner 1977.(Wagner, 1977) According to this approach, there are two threshold values (*critical intensity* and *critical spread rate*) that must be calculated in order to determine whether a fire will become an active or passive crown fire or simply remain a surface fire. The formulas for these thresholds are as follows:

$$H = 197.8 + 1118M^f$$

$$I^* = (0.002048 Z_b H)^{1.5}$$

$$R^* = \frac{0.61445}{B}$$

where  $H$  is the heat of ignition for the herbaceous material in the canopy in Btu/lb,  $M^f$  is the foliar moisture content in lb moisture/lb oven-dry mass,  $Z_b$  is the canopy base height in

ft,  $I^*$  is the critical intensity in Btu/ft/s,  $B$  is the crown bulk density in lb/ft<sup>3</sup>, and  $R^*$  is the critical spread rate in ft/min.

If trees are present and the surface fire line intensity is greater than the critical intensity ( $I > I^*$ ), then crown fire initiation occurs. If the surface fire spread rate is greater than the critical spread rate ( $R > R^*$ ), then the crown fire will be active, otherwise passive.

```
(ns gridfire.crown-fire
  (:require [gridfire.surface-fire :refer [byram-fire-line-intensity byram-flame-length]]))

(defn van-wagner-crown-fire-initiation
  "- canopy-base-height (ft)
   - crown-bulk-density (lb/ft^3)
   - foliar-moisture (lb moisture/lb oven-dry weight)
   - spread-rate (ft/min)
   - fire-line-intensity (Btu/ft*s)"
  [canopy-base-height crown-bulk-density foliar-moisture spread-rate fire-line-intensity]
  (if (and (pos? canopy-base-height)
            (pos? crown-bulk-density))
      (let [heat-of-ignition (+ 197.8 (* 1118.0 foliar-moisture)) ;; Btu/lb
            critical-intensity (Math/pow (* 0.002048
                                              canopy-base-height
                                              heat-of-ignition
                                              1.5) ;; Btu/ft*s
                                              critical-spread-rate (/ 0.61445 crown-bulk-density))] ;; ft/min
          (if (> fire-line-intensity critical-intensity)
              ;; crown fire initiation occurs
              (if (> spread-rate critical-spread-rate)
                  :active-crown-fire
                  :passive-crown-fire)
              ;; no crown fire initiation
              :surface-fire))
      ;; no trees to set on fire
      :surface-fire))
```

If the fire is deemed to be an active or passive crown fire, then the spread rate is determined by the formulas given in Cruz 2005.(Cruz et al., 2005)

$$\text{CROS}_A = 36.155 U_{10m}^{0.90} B_m^{0.19} e^{-0.17 \text{EFFM}}$$

$$\text{CROS}_P = \text{CROS}_A e^{\frac{\text{CROS}_A B}{-0.61445}}$$

where  $\text{CROS}_A$  is the active crown fire spread rate in ft/min,  $U_{10m}$  is the 10 meter windspeed in km/hr,  $B_m$  is the crown bulk density in kg/m<sup>3</sup>,  $B$  is the crown bulk density in lb/ft<sup>3</sup>, EFFM is the estimated fine fuel moisture as a percent (0-100), and  $\text{CROS}_P$  is the passive crown fire spread rate in ft/min.

**Note:** The coefficients 36.155 and -0.61445 do not correspond directly to those given in Cruz 2005 because the units in GridFire's calculations have been converted from metric to English units.

```
(defn cruz-active-crown-fire-spread
  "Returns spread-rate in ft/min given:
  - wind-speed-20ft (mph)
  - crown-bulk-density (lb/ft^3)
  - estimated-fine-fuel-moisture (-> M_f :dead :1hr) (0-1)"
  [wind-speed-20ft crown-bulk-density estimated-fine-fuel-moisture]
  (let [wind-speed-10m (/ (* 1.609344 wind-speed-20ft) 0.87) ;; km/hr
        crown-bulk-density (* 16.01846 crown-bulk-density) ;; kg/m^3
        estimated-fine-fuel-moisture (* 100.0 estimated-fine-fuel-moisture)]
    (* 36.155
      (Math/pow wind-speed-10m 0.90)
      (Math/pow crown-bulk-density 0.19)
      (Math/exp (* -0.17 estimated-fine-fuel-moisture)))))

(defn cruz-passive-crown-fire-spread
  "Returns spread-rate in ft/min given:
  - wind-speed-20ft (mph)
  - crown-bulk-density (lb/ft^3)
  - estimated-fine-fuel-moisture (-> M_f :dead :1hr) (0-1)"
  [wind-speed-20ft crown-bulk-density estimated-fine-fuel-moisture]
  (let [active-crown-spread-rate (cruz-active-crown-fire-spread wind-speed-20ft
                                                                crown-bulk-density
                                                                estimated-fine-fuel-moisture)]
    (* active-crown-spread-rate
      (Math/exp (/ (* active-crown-spread-rate crown-bulk-density) -0.61445)))))
```

Once the crown fire spread rate is determined, the crown fire line intensity and flame lengths may be derived using the following formulas:

$$I_c = \frac{R_c B (Z - Z_b) h}{60}$$

$$L_c = 0.45(I + I_c)^{0.46}$$

where  $I_c$  is the crown fire line intensity in Btu/ft/s,  $R_c$  is the crown fire spread rate (either  $CROS_A$  or  $CROS_P$ ) in ft/min,  $B$  is the crown bulk density in lb/ft<sup>3</sup>,  $Z$  is the canopy height in ft,  $Z_b$  is the canopy base height in ft,  $h$  is the fuel model heat of combustion (generally 8000 Btu/lb),  $L_c$  is the crown flame length in ft, and  $I$  is the surface fire line intensity in Btu/ft/s.

```
;; heat of combustion is h from the fuel models (generally 8000 Btu/lb)
(defn crown-fire-line-intensity
  "(ft/min * lb/ft^3 * ft * Btu/lb)/60 = (Btu/ft*min)/60 = Btu/ft*s"
  [crown-spread-rate crown-bulk-density canopy-height canopy-base-height heat-of-combustion]
```

```

(/ (* crown-spread-rate
    crown-bulk-density
    (- canopy-height canopy-base-height)
    heat-of-combustion)
  60.0))

(defn crown-flame-length
  [reaction-intensity flame-depth crown-spread-rate crown-bulk-density
   canopy-height canopy-base-height heat-of-combustion]
  (byram-flame-length
   (+ (byram-fire-line-intensity reaction-intensity flame-depth)
      (crown-fire-line-intensity crown-spread-rate
                                   crown-bulk-density
                                   canopy-height
                                   canopy-base-height
                                   heat-of-combustion))))

```

This concludes our discussion of the crown fire spread and severity formulas used in GridFire.

## 5.4 Fire Spread on a Raster Grid

Although Rothermel’s spread rate formula provides some useful insight into how quickly a fire’s leading edge may travel, it offers no specific mechanism for simulating fire movement in two or more dimensions. Therefore, when attempting to use the Rothermel equations in any spatial analysis, one must begin by choosing a model of space and then decide how best to employ the spread rate equations along each possible burn trajectory.

In GridFire, SIG adopted a raster grid view of space so as to reduce the potentially exponential complexity of modeling a fractal shape (i.e., fire front) at high resolutions using vector approximation. This also provided the practical benefit of being able to work directly with widely used raster datasets, such as LANDFIRE, without a geometric lookup step or *a priori* translation to vector space.

In simulation tests versus FARSITE on several historical California fires, Marco Morais wrote that he saw similarly accurate results from both his HFire model and from FARSITE but experienced several orders of magnitude improvement in runtime efficiency. (Peterson et al., 2011, 2009, Morais, 2001) His explanation for this phenomenon was in the same vein as that described above, namely, that it was FARSITE’s choice of vector space that slowed it down versus the faster raster-based HFire system.

Taking a cue from HFire’s success in this regard, GridFire has adopted HFire’s two-dimensional spread algorithm, called the *method of adaptive timesteps and fractional distances*. (Peterson et al., 2011, 2009, Morais, 2001) The following pseudo-code lays out the steps taken in this procedure:

1. Inputs

- (a) Read in the values shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Inputs to SIG's raster-based fire behavior model

Value	Units	Type
max-runtime	minutes	double
cell-size	feet	double
elevation-matrix	feet	core.matrix 2D double array
slope-matrix	vertical feet/horizontal feet	core.matrix 2D double array
aspect-matrix	degrees clockwise from north	core.matrix 2D double array
fuel-model-matrix	fuel model numbers 1-256	core.matrix 2D double array
canopy-height-matrix	feet	core.matrix 2D double array
canopy-base-height-matrix	feet	core.matrix 2D double array
crown-bulk-density-matrix	lb/ft <sup>3</sup>	core.matrix 2D double array
canopy-cover-matrix	0-100	core.matrix 2D double array
wind-speed-20ft	miles/hour	double
wind-from-direction	degrees clockwise from North	double
fuel-moisture	%	map of doubles per fuel size class
foliar-moisture	%	double
ellipse-adjustment-factor	< 1.0 = circle, > 1.0 = ellipse	double
initial-ignition-site	point represented as [row col]	vector

## 2. Initialization

- Verify that **initial-ignition-site** and at least one of its neighboring cells has a burnable fuel model (not 91-99). Otherwise, terminate the simulation, indicating that no fire spread is possible.
- Create a new set, called **ignited-cells**, containing only the **initial-ignition-site**.
- Create three new matrices, called **ignition-matrix**, **flame-length-matrix**, and **fire-line-intensity-matrix**. The first contains all ones except for a zero at **initial-ignition-site**, and the other two are initialized to zero.
- Set **global-clock** to 0. This will track the amount of time that has passed since the initial ignition in minutes.

## 3. Main Loop

- If **global-clock** has not yet reached **max-runtime** and the **ignited-cells** set is not empty, proceed to 3.(b). Otherwise, jump to 4.(a).
- For each location in the **ignited-cells** set, compute the maximum rate of spread (and bearing) originating from it using the Rothermel equations and taking into account the effects of downhill and cross-slope winds as described in Rothermel 1983. This spread rate is used to compute Byram's surface fire line intensity. Van Wagner's



crown initiation model is then applied to determine if the fire will be a passive or active crown fire or remain a surface fire. In the surface fire case, the Byram flame length is calculated from the fire line intensity. In the case of a passive crown fire, Cruz' passive crown fire spread rate is used and the flame length is computed from the sum of the surface and crown fire line intensities. In the active crown fire case, Cruz' active crown fire spread rate is used and the flame length is computed from the sum of the surface and crown fire line intensities. These values are stored in **flame-length-matrix** and **fire-line-intensity-matrix** respectively. **Note:** The **wind-speed-20-ft** value is multiplied by Albini and Baughman's wind adjustment factor to compute the midflame wind speed, using the same sheltered/unsheltered condition as FARSITE (i.e., sheltered means canopy cover > 0). For every burnable neighboring cell, compute the spread rate along its trajectory using Anderson's elliptical eccentricity formula. Also record the terrain (e.g., 3d) distance between this cell and its neighbor. The set of all burnable neighbors with respect to the **ignited-cells** set is called the **burn-front**.

- (c) The timestep for this iteration of the model is calculated by dividing **cell-size** by the maximum spread rate to any cell in the **burn-front**. As spread rates increase, the timesteps grow shorter and the model takes more iterations to complete. Similarly, the model has longer timesteps and takes less iterations as spread rates decrease. This is called the *method of adaptive timesteps*.
- (d) The **percent-heated** is calculated for each cell along the **burn-front** as  $Rt/D_{3d}$ , where  $R$  is the spread rate in ft/minute,  $t$  is the timestep in minutes, and  $D_{3d}$  is the 3-dimensional terrain distance between this cell and its ignited neighbor in ft. This is the *method of fractional distances*, which works together with the adaptive timesteps method mentioned above to reduce aliasing errors induced by working on a raster grid. Because each cell in the **burn-front** may have multiple ignited neighbors, only the maximum **percent-heated** value will be retained. The final **percent-heated** is subtracted from this cell's value in **ignition-matrix** with a minimum value of zero allowed in the matrix.
- (e) Any cells in **burn-front** whose **percent-heated** values exceed their **ignition-matrix** values generate an overflow vector which pass on the additional heating capacity (i.e.,  $\text{abs}(\text{ignition-matrix} - \text{percent-heated})$ ) to the next cell along the same trajectory that the **burn-front** cell was heated. Since overflow cells may receive multiple heating trajectories, only the maximum overflow is retained.
- (f) Any cells in **burn-front** whose **ignition-matrix** values have reached zero are added to the **ignited-cells** set. Any **ignited-cells** that have no burnable neighbors that have not already been ignited are removed from the **ignited-cells** set.
- (g) The **global-clock** is incremented by this iteration's **timestep**.
- (h) Repeat from 3.(a).

## 4. Post-processing

- (a) If any cells remain in **ignited-cells**, ensure that their fire behavior metrics have been calculated and stored in **flame-length-matrix** and **fire-line-intensity-matrix**.
- (b) Invert the values in **ignition-matrix** by subtracting each of them from 1. By doing this, all burned cells will contain a 1, non-burned cells have a 0 value, and those being heated by the fire line but not yet ignited will have a value somewhere in between.

## 5. Outputs

- (a) Return an associative map with the fields shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Outputs from SIG's raster-based fire behavior model

Value	Units	Type
global-clock	minutes	double
initial-ignition-site	point represented as [row col]	vector
ignited-cells	set of points represented as [row col]	set
fire-spread-matrix	percent heated (0-1)	core.matrix 2D double array
flame-length-matrix	feet	core.matrix 2D double array
fire-line-intensity-matrix	Btu/ft/s	core.matrix 2D double array

```

(ns gridfire.fire-spread
  (:require [clojure.core.matrix :as m]
             [clojure.core.matrix.operators :as mop]
             [gridfire.fuel-models :refer [build-fuel-model moisturize]]
             [gridfire.surface-fire :refer [rothermel-surface-fire-spread-no-wind-no-slope
                                             rothermel-surface-fire-spread-max
                                             rothermel-surface-fire-spread-any
                                             anderson-flame-depth byram-fire-line-intensity
                                             byram-flame-length]]
             [gridfire.crown-fire :refer [van-wagner-crown-fire-initiation
                                           cruz-passive-crown-fire-spread
                                           cruz-active-crown-fire-spread
                                           crown-fire-line-intensity]]))

(m/set-current-implementation :vectorz)

;; for surface fire, tau = 10 mins, t0 = 0, and t = global-clock
;; for crown fire, tau = 20 mins, t0 = time of first torch, t = global-clock
;; (defn lautenberger-spread-acceleration
;;   [equilibrium-spread-rate t0 t tau]
;;   (* equilibrium-spread-rate (- 1.0 (Math/exp (/ (- t0 t 0.2) tau)))))
;;
;; Note: Because of our use of adaptive timesteps, if the spread rate on

```

```

;;      the first timestep is not at least 83 ft/min, then the timestep will
;;      be calculated as greater than 60 minutes, which will terminate the
;;      one hour fire simulation instantly.
(defn lautenberger-spread-acceleration
  [equilibrium-spread-rate t0 t tau]
  equilibrium-spread-rate)

(defn random-cell
  "Returns a random [i j] pair with i < num-rows and j < num-cols."
  [num-rows num-cols]
  [(rand-int num-rows)
   (rand-int num-cols)])

(defn get-neighbors
  "Returns the eight points adjacent to the passed-in point."
  [[i j]]
  (let [i- (- i 1)
        i+ (+ i 1)
        j- (- j 1)
        j+ (+ j 1)]
    (vector [i- j-] [i- j] [i- j+]
            [i j-] [i j] [i j+]
            [i+ j-] [i+ j] [i+ j+])))

(defn in-bounds?
  "Returns true if the point lies within the bounds [0,rows) by [0,cols)."

```

```

        (m/mget elevation-matrix i2 j2))]
    (Math/sqrt (+ (* di di) (* dj dj) (* dz dz))))))

(def offset-to-degrees
  "Returns clockwise degrees from north."
  {[-1 0] 0.0 ; N
   [-1 1] 45.0 ; NE
   [ 0 1] 90.0 ; E
   [ 1 1] 135.0 ; SE
   [ 1 0] 180.0 ; S
   [ 1 -1] 225.0 ; SW
   [ 0 -1] 270.0 ; W
   [-1 -1] 315.0} ; NW

(defn wind-adjustment-factor
  [fuel-bed-depth canopy-height canopy-cover]
  (cond
    ;; null value
    (neg? canopy-cover) nil

    ;; unsheltered: equation 6  $H_F = H$  (Andrews 2012)
    (zero? canopy-cover)
    (/ 1.83 (Math/log (/ (+ 20.0 (* 0.36 fuel-bed-depth)) (* 0.13 fuel-bed-depth))))

    ;; sheltered: equation 2 based on CC and CH, CR=1 (Andrews 2012)
    (pos? canopy-cover)
    (/ 0.555 (* (Math/sqrt (* (/ canopy-height 300.0) canopy-height))
                (Math/log (/ (+ 20.0 (* 0.36 canopy-height)) (* 0.13 canopy-height))))))

  )

(defn rothermel-fast-wrapper [fuel-model-number fuel-moisture]
  (let [fuel-model      (-> (build-fuel-model (int fuel-model-number))
                            (moisturize fuel-moisture))
        spread-info-min (rothermel-surface-fire-spread-no-wind-no-slope fuel-model)]
    [fuel-model spread-info-min]))

(def rothermel-fast-wrapper (memoize rothermel-fast-wrapper))

(defn compute-neighborhood-fire-spread-rates!
  "Returns a vector of {:cell [i j], :trajectory [di dj], :terrain-distance ft,
  :spread-rate ft/min} for each cell adjacent to here."
  [ignition-matrix flame-length-matrix fire-line-intensity-matrix landfire-layers
   wind-speed-20ft wind-from-direction fuel-moisture foliar-moisture
   ellipse-adjustment-factor cell-size num-rows num-cols global-clock
   time-of-first-torch [i j :as here]]
  (let [fuel-model-number (m/mget (:fuel-model landfire-layers) i j)
        slope             (m/mget (:slope landfire-layers) i j)
        aspect            (m/mget (:aspect landfire-layers) i j)
        canopy-height     (m/mget (:canopy-height landfire-layers) i j)
        canopy-base-height (m/mget (:canopy-base-height landfire-layers) i j)
        crown-bulk-density (m/mget (:crown-bulk-density landfire-layers) i j)
        canopy-cover      (m/mget (:canopy-cover landfire-layers) i j)]
    ))

```

```

[fuel-model spread-info-min] (rothermel-fast-wrapper fuel-model-number fuel-moisture)
waf (wind-adjustment-factor (:delta fuel-model
                             canopy-height
                             canopy-cover)
midflame-wind-speed (* wind-speed-20ft 88.0 waf) ; mi/hr -> ft/min
spread-info-max (rothermel-surface-fire-spread-max
                  spread-info-min midflame-wind-speed wind-from-direction
                  slope aspect ellipse-adjustment-factor)
spread-info-max (assoc spread-info-max :max-spread-rate
                       (lautenberger-spread-acceleration
                        (spread-info-max :max-spread-rate)
                        0 global-clock 10.0))
flame-depth (anderson-flame-depth (:max-spread-rate spread-info-max)
                                   (:residence-time spread-info-min))
fire-line-intensity (byram-fire-line-intensity (:reaction-intensity spread-info-min)
                                                flame-depth)
fire-type (van-wagner-crown-fire-initiation
           canopy-base-height
           crown-bulk-density
           foliar-moisture
           (:max-spread-rate spread-info-max)
           fire-line-intensity)]
(if (and (nil? @time-of-first-torch) (not= fire-type :surface-fire))
    (reset! time-of-first-torch global-clock))
(let [spread-info-max (case fire-type
                        :surface-fire spread-info-max
                        :passive-crown-fire
                        (assoc spread-info-max :max-spread-rate
                              (-> (cruz-passive-crown-fire-spread
                                    wind-speed-20ft
                                    crown-bulk-density
                                    (-> fuel-moisture :dead :1hr))
                                  (lautenberger-spread-acceleration
                                   @time-of-first-torch global-clock 20.0)))
                        :active-crown-fire
                        (assoc spread-info-max :max-spread-rate
                              (-> (cruz-active-crown-fire-spread
                                    wind-speed-20ft
                                    crown-bulk-density
                                    (-> fuel-moisture :dead :1hr))
                                  (lautenberger-spread-acceleration
                                   @time-of-first-torch global-clock 20.0))))]
  fire-line-intensity (if (= fire-type :surface-fire)
                          fire-line-intensity
                          (+ fire-line-intensity
                             (crown-fire-line-intensity
                              (:max-spread-rate spread-info-max)
                              crown-bulk-density
                              canopy-height
                              canopy-base-height)

```

```

                                (-> fuel-model :h :dead :1hr)))
  flame-length      (byram-flame-length fire-line-intensity)]
  (m/mset! flame-length-matrix      i j flame-length)
  (m/mset! fire-line-intensity-matrix i j fire-line-intensity)
  (into []
    (comp
      (filter #(and (in-bounds? num-rows num-cols %)
                    (burnable? ignition-matrix (:fuel-model landfire-layers) %)))
      (map (fn [neighbor]
              (let [trajectory (mop/- neighbor here)
                    spread-rate (rothermel-surface-fire-spread-any
                                spread-info-max (offset-to-degrees trajectory))]
                { :cell      neighbor
                  :trajectory trajectory
                  :terrain-distance (distance-3d (:elevation landfire-layers)
                                                  cell-size here neighbor)
                  :spread-rate  spread-rate}))))
            (get-neighbors here)))))

(defn update-ignition-matrix!
  [ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix burn-front timestep num-rows num-cols]
  (let [heating-values
        (reduce (fn [heating-values {:keys [cell trajectory terrain-distance spread-rate]}]
                  (let [[i j]      cell
                        percent-heated (/ (* spread-rate timestep) terrain-distance)
                        percent-unheated (- (m/mget ignition-matrix i j) percent-heated)
                        heating-values (if (> percent-heated (get heating-values cell 0.0))
                                         (assoc! heating-values cell percent-heated)
                                         heating-values)]
                    (if (neg? percent-unheated)
                        (let [overflow-cell (mop/+ cell trajectory)
                              overflow-heat (* -1.0 percent-unheated)]
                          (if (and (in-bounds? num-rows num-cols overflow-cell)
                                    (burnable? ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix overflow-cell))
                              (if (> overflow-heat (get heating-values overflow-cell 0.0))
                                  (assoc! heating-values overflow-cell overflow-heat)
                                  heating-values)
                              heating-values)))
                        (transient {}))
                    burn-front))]
            (doseq [[[i j] percent-heated] (persistent! heating-values)]
              (m/mset! ignition-matrix i j
                        (max 0.0 (- (m/mget ignition-matrix i j) percent-heated))))))

(defn burnable-neighbors?
  [ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix num-rows num-cols cell]
  (some #(and (in-bounds? num-rows num-cols %)
              (burnable? ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix %))
        (get-neighbors cell)))

```

```

(defn update-ignited-cells
  [ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix burn-front ignited-cells num-rows num-cols]
  (let [all-ignited-cells (into ignited-cells
                                (comp
                                 (map :cell)
                                 (filter (fn [[i j]] (zero? (m/mget ignition-matrix i j))))
                                 burn-front))]
    (into #{}
          (filter #(burnable-neighbors? ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix
                                         num-rows num-cols %)
                  all-ignited-cells)))

(defn select-random-ignition-site
  [fuel-model-matrix]
  (let [num-rows      (m/row-count fuel-model-matrix)
        num-cols      (m/column-count fuel-model-matrix)
        ignition-matrix (dot (m/zero-matrix num-rows num-cols) (mop/+= 1.0))]
    (loop [[i j :as ignition-site] (random-cell num-rows num-cols)]
      (if (and (burnable-fuel-model? (m/mget fuel-model-matrix i j))
               (burnable-neighbors? ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix
                                     num-rows num-cols ignition-site))
          ignition-site
          (recur (random-cell num-rows num-cols)))))

(defn run-fire-spread
  "Runs the raster-based fire spread model with these arguments:
  - max-runtime: double (minutes)
  - cell-size: double (feet)
  - elevation-matrix: core.matrix 2D double array (feet)
  - slope-matrix: core.matrix 2D double array (vertical feet/horizontal feet)
  - aspect-matrix: core.matrix 2D double array (degrees clockwise from north)
  - fuel-model-matrix: core.matrix 2D double array (fuel model numbers 1-256)
  - canopy-height-matrix: core.matrix 2D double array (feet)
  - canopy-base-height-matrix: core.matrix 2D double array (feet)
  - crown-bulk-density-matrix: core.matrix 2D double array (lb/ft^3)
  - canopy-cover-matrix: core.matrix 2D double array (0-100)
  - wind-speed-20ft: double (miles/hour)
  - wind-from-direction: double (degrees clockwise from north)
  - fuel-moisture: doubles (%) {:dead {:1hr :10hr :100hr} :live {:herbaceous :woody}}
  - foliar-moisture: double (%)
  - ellipse-adjustment-factor: (< 1.0 = more circular, > 1.0 = more elliptical)
  - initial-ignition-site: point represented as [row col] (randomly chosen if omitted)"
  ([max-runtime cell-size landfire-layers wind-speed-20ft wind-from-direction
    fuel-moisture foliar-moisture ellipse-adjustment-factor]
   (let [ignition-site (select-random-ignition-site (:fuel-model landfire-layers))]
     (run-fire-spread max-runtime cell-size landfire-layers wind-speed-20ft
                      wind-from-direction fuel-moisture foliar-moisture
                      ellipse-adjustment-factor ignition-site)))
  ([max-runtime cell-size landfire-layers wind-speed-20ft wind-from-direction

```

```

fuel-moisture foliar-moisture ellipse-adjustment-factor
[i j :as initial-ignition-site]]
;;(println "Fire ignited at" initial-ignition-site)
(let [fuel-model-matrix (:fuel-model landfire-layers)
      num-rows          (m/row-count fuel-model-matrix)
      num-cols          (m/column-count fuel-model-matrix)
      ignition-matrix   (doto (m/zero-matrix num-rows num-cols) (mop/+= 1.0))]
  (when (and (in-bounds? num-rows num-cols initial-ignition-site)
             (burnable? ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix initial-ignition-site)
             (burnable-neighbors? ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix
                                   num-rows num-cols initial-ignition-site))
    (loop [global-clock      0.0
           time-of-first-torch (atom nil)
           ignited-cells     #{initial-ignition-site}
           ignition-matrix   (doto ignition-matrix (m/mset! i j 0.0))
           flame-length-matrix (m/zero-matrix num-rows num-cols)
           fire-line-intensity-matrix (m/zero-matrix num-rows num-cols)]
      (if (and (< global-clock max-runtime)
               (seq ignited-cells))
        (let [burn-front (into []
                                (mapcat #(compute-neighborhood-fire-spread-rates!
                                           ignition-matrix
                                           flame-length-matrix
                                           fire-line-intensity-matrix
                                           landfire-layers
                                           wind-speed-20ft
                                           wind-from-direction
                                           fuel-moisture
                                           foliar-moisture
                                           ellipse-adjustment-factor
                                           cell-size
                                           num-rows
                                           num-cols
                                           global-clock
                                           time-of-first-torch
                                           %))
                                           ignited-cells)
              timestep (/ cell-size (transduce (map :spread-rate) max 0.0 burn-front))]
          ;; (println "Clock:"      global-clock
          ;;          "Timestep:"    timestep
          ;;          "Ignited Cells:" (count ignited-cells)
          ;;          "Burn Front:"   (count burn-front))
          (update-ignition-matrix! ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix burn-front
                                    timestep num-rows num-cols)
          (recur (+ global-clock timestep)
                 time-of-first-torch
                 (update-ignited-cells ignition-matrix fuel-model-matrix burn-front
                                         ignited-cells num-rows num-cols)
                 ignition-matrix
                 flame-length-matrix

```



```

        fire-line-intensity-matrix))
(do
  (doseq [cell ignited-cells]
    (compute-neighborhood-fire-spread-rates!
      ignition-matrix
      flame-length-matrix
      fire-line-intensity-matrix
      landfire-layers
      wind-speed-20ft
      wind-from-direction
      fuel-moisture
      foliar-moisture
      ellipse-adjustment-factor
      cell-size
      num-rows
      num-cols
      global-clock
      time-of-first-torch
      cell))
    { :global-clock          global-clock
      :time-of-first-torch  @time-of-first-torch
      :initial-ignition-site initial-ignition-site
      :ignited-cells        ignited-cells
      :fire-spread-matrix   (m/emap #(- 1.0 %) ignition-matrix)
      :flame-length-matrix  flame-length-matrix
      :fire-line-intensity-matrix fire-line-intensity-matrix}))))))

```

This concludes our description of GridFire’s raster-based fire spread algorithm.

## 6 User Interface

The GridFire model described in the previous section may be called directly from the REPL through the **run-fire-spread** function. However, this would require that the user had already prepared all of their map layers as 2D Clojure core.matrix values. In order to enable GridFire to easily access a wide range of raster formatted GIS layers directly, we make use of the open source Postgresql database and its PostGIS spatial extensions along with a simple client interface from the Clojure side. This interface is described in Section 6.1. Section 6.2 then describes GridFire’s command line interface along with its input configuration file format.

### 6.1 PostGIS Bridge

Extracting raster layers from a PostGIS database is performed by a single function, called **postgis-raster-to-matrix**, which constructs a SQL query for the layer, sends it to the database in a transaction, and returns the result as a core.matrix 2D double array with nodata values represented as -1.0. This function may be called directly from the REPL or indirectly through GridFire’s command line interface.

```

(ns gridfire.postgis-bridge
  (:require [clojure.java.jdbc :as jdbc]
             [clojure.core.matrix :as m])
  (:import (org.postgresql.jdbc4 Jdbc4Array)))

(m/set-current-implementation :vectorz)

(defn postgis-raster-to-matrix
  "Send a SQL query to the database given by db-spec for a raster tile from
  table table-name. Resample the raster to match resolution and set any values
  below threshold to 0. Return the post-processed raster values as a Clojure
  matrix using the core.matrix API."
  ([db-spec table-name]
   (let [data-query (str "SELECT ST_DumpValues(rast,1) AS matrix FROM " table-name)]
     (jdbc/with-db-transaction [conn db-spec]
       (->> (jdbc/query conn [data-query])
              first
              :matrix
              (#(.getArray ^Jdbc4Array %))
              (m/emap #(or % -1.0))
              m/matrix))))))
  ([db-spec table-name resolution threshold]
   (let [rescale-query (if resolution
                        (format "ST_Rescale(rast,%s,-%s,'NearestNeighbor')"
                                resolution resolution)
                        "rast")
         threshold-query (if threshold
                           (format (str "ST_MapAlgebra(%s,NULL,"
                                         "'CASE WHEN [rast.val] < %s"
                                         " THEN 0.0 ELSE [rast.val] END')")
                                   rescale-query threshold)
                           rescale-query)
         data-query (format "SELECT ST_DumpValues(%s,1) AS matrix FROM %s"
                             threshold-query table-name)]
     ;; (println data-query)
     (jdbc/with-db-transaction [conn db-spec]
       (->> (jdbc/query conn [data-query])
              first
              :matrix
              (#(.getArray ^Jdbc4Array %))
              (m/emap #(or % -1.0))
              m/matrix))))))

```

## 6.2 Command Line Interface

The entire GridFire system is available for use directly from the Clojure REPL. However, if you just want to simulate an individual ignition event, GridFire comes with a simple command line interface that can be parameterized by a single configuration file, specifying the ignition

location, burn duration, weather values, and the location of the PostGIS raster layers to use for topography and fuels.

The executable may be created using either the Leiningen or Boot build tools as follows:

```
lein uberjar
```

```
boot build
```

Either of these commands will generate a Java Archive (JAR) file in the **target** directory that may be run from the command line as follows:

```
java -jar gridfire-1.0.0.jar myconfig.clj
```

**Note:** Boot creates a JAR called “gridfire-1.0.0.jar”. Leiningen creates two files: “gridfire-1.0.0.jar” and “gridfire-1.0.0-standalone.jar”. In this case, the standalone JAR should be used, and the other JAR file may be safely ignored.

When run, the executable connects to the PostGIS database specified in the passed-in config file, downloads the necessary raster layers, simulates the ignition event for the requested duration, and returns three PNG images showing the spatial distributions of fire spread, flame length, and fire line intensity respectively. It will also print out the final clock time from when the simulation was terminated as well as the total number of ignited cells on the raster grid.

```
(ns gridfire.cli
  (:gen-class)
  (:require [clojure.core.matrix :as m]
             [matrix-viz.core :refer [save-matrix-as-png]]
             [gridfire.postgis-bridge :refer [postgis-raster-to-matrix]]
             [gridfire.surface-fire :refer [degrees-to-radians]]
             [gridfire.fire-spread :refer [run-fire-spread]]))

(m/set-current-implementation :vectorz)

(defn fetch-landfire-layers
  "Returns a map of LANDFIRE rasters as core.matrix 2D double arrays:
  {:elevation      feet
   :slope          vertical feet/horizontal feet
   :aspect         degrees clockwise from north
   :fuel-model     fuel model numbers 1-256
   :canopy-height  feet
   :canopy-base-height feet
   :crown-bulk-density lb/ft^3
   :canopy-cover   % (0-100)}"
  [db-spec layer->table]
  (let [landfire-layers (reduce (fn [amap layer]
                                (let [table (layer->table layer)]
```

```

        (assoc amap layer
              (postgis-raster-to-matrix db-spec table))))
    {}
    [:elevation
     :slope
     :aspect
     :fuel-model
     :canopy-height
     :canopy-base-height
     :crown-bulk-density
     :canopy-cover]]

(assoc landfire-layers
      :elevation      (m/emap #(* % 3.28)
                             (landfire-layers :elevation)) ; m -> ft
      :slope          (m/emap #(Math/tan (degrees-to-radians %))
                             (landfire-layers :slope)) ; degrees -> %
      :canopy-height  (m/emap #(* % 3.28)
                             (landfire-layers :canopy-height)) ; m -> ft
      :canopy-base-height (m/emap #(* % 3.28)
                             (landfire-layers :canopy-base-height)) ; m -> ft
      :crown-bulk-density (m/emap #(* % 0.0624)
                             (landfire-layers :crown-bulk-density))))
      ; kg/m^3 -> lb/ft^3

(defn -main
  "Outputs:
  {:global-clock          global-clock
   :initial-ignition-site initial-ignition-site
   :ignited-cells         ignited-cells
   :fire-spread-matrix    (m/emap #(- 1.0 %) ignition-matrix)
   :flame-length-matrix   flame-length-matrix
   :fire-line-intensity-matrix fire-line-intensity-matrix}"
  [config-file]
  (let [config      (read-string (slurp config-file))
        landfire-layers (fetch-landfire-layers (:db-spec config)
                                                (:landfire-layers config))
        fire-spread-results (run-fire-spread (:max-runtime      config)
                                              (:cell-size       config)
                                              landfire-layers
                                              (:wind-speed-20ft  config)
                                              (:wind-from-direction config)
                                              (:fuel-moisture    config)
                                              (:foliar-moisture   config)
                                              (:ellipse-adjustment-factor config)
                                              (:ignition-site     config))]

    (save-matrix-as-png :color 4 -1.0
      (:fire-spread-matrix fire-spread-results)
      (:fire-spread-outfile config))
    (save-matrix-as-png :color 4 -1.0
      (:flame-length-matrix fire-spread-results)

```

```

                (:flame-length-outfile config))
(save-matrix-as-png :color 4 -1.0
  (:fire-line-intensity-matrix fire-spread-results)
  (:fire-line-intensity-outfile config))
(println "Global Clock:" (:global-clock fire-spread-results))
(println "Ignited Cells:" (count (:ignited-cells fire-spread-results))))

```

The configuration file for GridFire’s command line interface is a text file in Extensible Data Notation (EDN) format.<sup>3</sup> A sample configuration file is provided below and in “resources/sample\_config.clj”. The format should be self-evident at a glance, but it is worth noting that EDN is case-sensitive but whitespace-insensitive. Comments are anything following two semi-colons (;). Strings are contained in double-quotes (“”). Keywords are prefixed with a colon (:). Vectors are delimited with square brackets ([]). Associative lookup tables (a.k.a. maps) are delimited with curly braces ({}) and are used to express key-value relationships.

```

{:max-runtime          60.0    ;; double (minutes)
 :cell-size            98.425  ;; double (feet)
 :wind-speed-20ft      20.0    ;; double (miles/hour)
 :wind-from-direction  90.0    ;; double (degrees clockwise from north)
 :fuel-moisture         {:dead {:1hr 0.06
                                :10hr 0.07
                                :100hr 0.08}
                        :live  {:herbaceous 0.60
                                :woody 0.90}} ;; doubles (%)
 :foliar-moisture      0.9    ;; double (%)
 :ellipse-adjustment-factor 1.0 ;; (< 1.0 = more circular, > 1.0 = more elliptical)
 :ignition-site        [25 40] ;; point represented as [row col]
 :db-spec              {:classname "org.postgresql.Driver"
                        :subprotocol "postgresql"
                        :subname     "///localhost:5432/gridfire"
                        :user        "gjohnson"}
 :landfire-layers      {:elevation "landfire.dem WHERE rid=100"
                        :slope      "landfire.slp WHERE rid=100"
                        :aspect     "landfire.asp WHERE rid=100"
                        :fuel-model "landfire.fbfm40 WHERE rid=100"
                        :canopy-height "landfire.ch WHERE rid=100"
                        :canopy-base-height "landfire.cbh WHERE rid=100"
                        :crown-bulk-density "landfire.cbd WHERE rid=100"
                        :canopy-cover "landfire.cc WHERE rid=100"}
 :fire-spread-outfile  "fire_spread.png"
 :flame-length-outfile "flame_length.png"
 :fire-line-intensity-outfile "fire_line_intensity.png"}

```

This concludes our discussion of GridFire’s command line interface.

<sup>3</sup><https://github.com/edn-format/edn>

## References

- Frank A Albini. Estimating wildfire behavior and effects. *General technical report/Intermountain forest and range experiment station. USDA (no. INT-30)*, 1976.
- Frank A Albini and Robert G Baughman. Estimating windspeeds for predicting wildland fire behavior. *USDA Forest Service Research Paper INT (USA)*, 1979.
- Frank A Albini and Carolyn H Chase. *Fire containment equations for pocket calculators*, volume 268. Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Forest Service, US Dept. of Agriculture, 1980.
- Hal E Anderson. Heat transfer and fire spread. *USDA forest service research paper. Intermountain and range experiment station*, (69), 1969.
- Hal E Anderson. Aids to determining fuel models for estimating fire behavior. *The Bark Beetles, Fuels, and Fire Bibliography*, page 143, 1982.
- Patricia L Andrews et al. Modeling wind adjustment factor and midflame wind speed for rothermel’s surface fire spread model. 2012.
- Robert E Burgan. Estimating live fuel moisture for the 1978 national fire danger rating system. *USDA Forest Service Research Paper INT (USA). no. 226.*, 1979.
- George M Byram. Combustion of forest fuels. *Forest fire: Control and use*, 1:61–89, 1959.
- Miguel G Cruz, Martin E Alexander, and Ronald H Wakimoto. Development and testing of models for predicting crown fire rate of spread in conifer forest stands. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*, 35(7):1626–1639, 2005.
- Rich Hickey. The clojure programming language. In *Proceedings of the 2008 Symposium on Dynamic Languages*, DLS ’08, New York, NY, USA, 2008. ACM.
- Marco Emanuel Morais. Comparing spatially explicit models of fire spread through chaparral fuels: A new model based upon the rothermel fire spread equation. Master’s thesis, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2001.
- Seth H Peterson, Marco E Morais, Jean M Carlson, Philip E Dennison, Dar A Roberts, Max A Moritz, David R Weise, et al. Using hfire for spatial modeling of fire in shrublands. 2009.
- Seth H Peterson, Max A Moritz, Marco E Morais, Philip E Dennison, and Jean M Carlson. Modelling long-term fire regimes of southern california shrublands. *International Journal of Wildland Fire*, 20(1):1–16, 2011.
- Richard C Rothermel. A mathematical model for predicting fire spread in wildland fuels. *Research paper/Intermountain forest and range experiment station. USDA (INT-115)*, 1972.

Richard C Rothermel. How to predict the spread and intensity of forest and range fires. *General technical report/Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. USDA (no. INT-143)*, 1983.

Richard C Rothermel. Predicting behavior and size of crown fires in the northern rocky mountains. *Research paper/United States Department of Agriculture, Intermountain Research Station (INT-438)*, 1991.

Joe H Scott and Robert E Burgan. Standard fire behavior fuel models: a comprehensive set for use with rothermel's surface fire spread model. *The Bark Beetles, Fuels, and Fire Bibliography*, page 66, 2005.

Charles E Van Wagner. Conditions for the start and spread of crown fire. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*, 7(1):23–34, 1977.