David Rich
Research Methods
Seminar Review #6

Erik Borke
"An operational fire spread model based on sequences of historical fire perimeters"
12/6/2019

I. Presentation Style

Good presentation style. He motivated the problem he was researching well with wildfire headlines. His slides were informative of his methods and engaging. Even the short repeating fire clip helped convey his point as well as keeping the audiences attention (similar to the eagle clip during the machine learning talk we watched in class).

II. Intellectual Merit

His approaches seemed to have good intellectual merit to me. Using the steady state equation seemed logical for computing interim wildfire states between time lapse images (though he may want to account for weather and terrain if data is available). And his approach to finding fire perimeters seemed promising as well.

III. Broader Impacts

This research has obvious impacts on the fire community. If his method is able to accurately predict fire behavior and perimeters between time lapses, it may create more efficient means to store fire data and may feed back into predictive modeling. And the ability to derive fire perimeters from images will save a lot of man-hours spent labeling data that could be better spent elsewhere.