

# Exploratory analysis of the potential of digital maps to predict productivity of maritime pine in Portugal

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Universidade de Lisboa

# Motivation: the ARF project



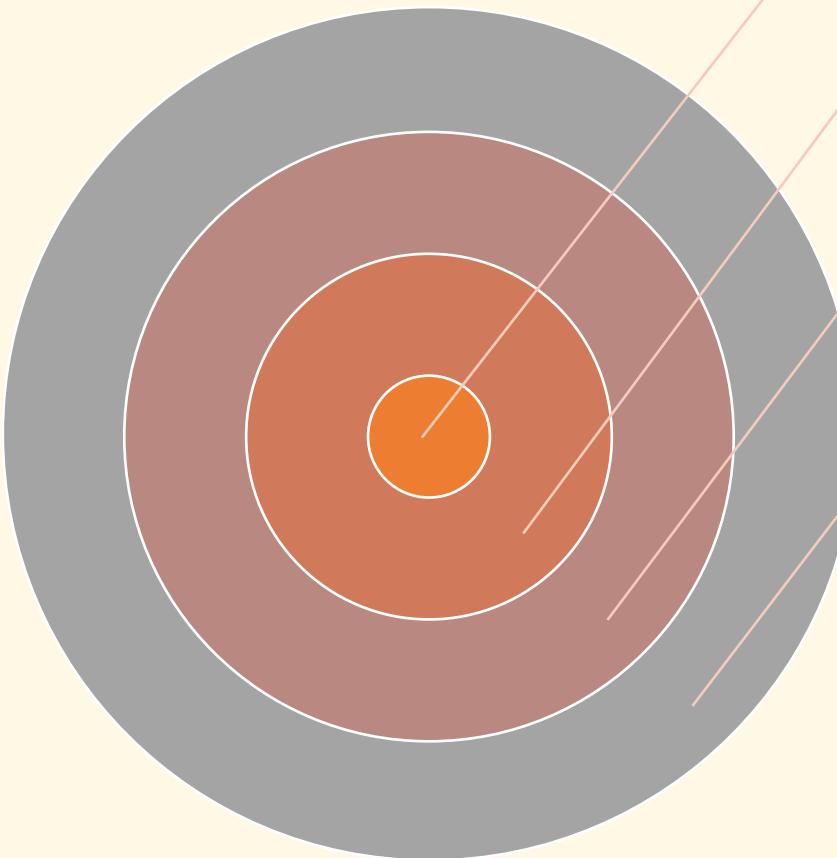


**ARF@Pt**  
A tool to support  
landowners' and  
policy decisions in  
**Portugal**

# ARF@PT - a participatory task force

- ✓ The ForChange group has provided several tools (among which forest simulators) in the FCTOOLS website  
<https://www.isa.ulisboa.pt/cef/forchange/fctools/en/home> (write FCTOOLS in google)
- ✓ Some of the simulators (SUBER and standsSIM) include economic analysis among the output, but they are so flexible that the users find them “too difficult” to use
- ✓ The aim of ARF@ptis to develop a tool that will be liked by the landowners and other stakeholders

# Organization of the task force



Coordination committee

Technical team

Consultation board  
with species-specific  
committees

Users

# ARF@pt project steps

- ✓ Ecological envelopes for each species (EES)
- ✓ Models for the estimation of site index (S) for the species that can be selected for a particular site
- ✓ Define, for each “site condition”, the silvicultural systems and the associated operations along the planning horizon
- ✓ Identification, for each site condition, of all the forest operations during the planning horizon
- ✓ Adoption of cost and prices to be used in the economic analysis
- ✓ Develop a user-friend platform that the stakeholders like and use

# **Exploring digital maps as input for the development of the site index models**

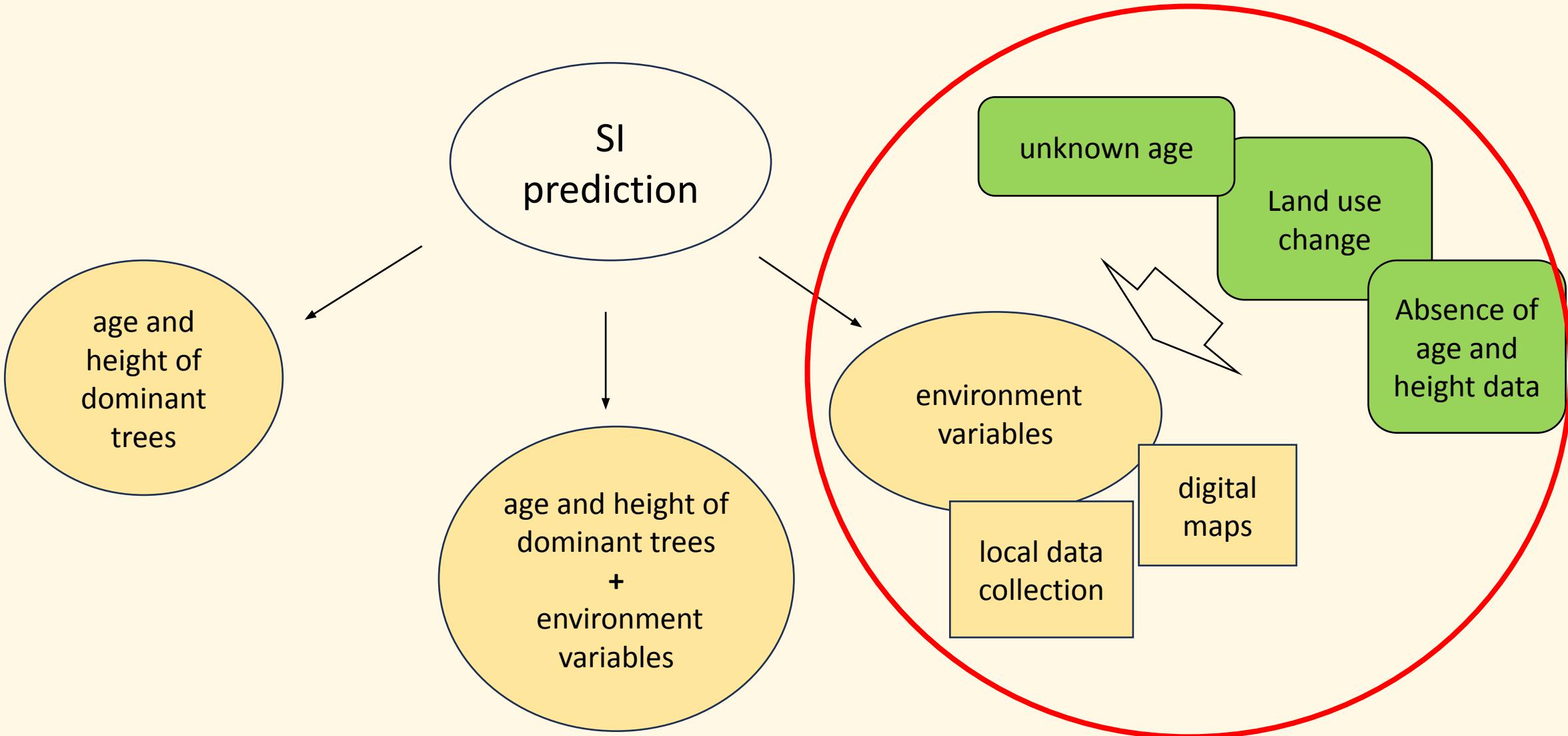


# ARF@pt project steps

- ✓ Models for the estimation of site index (S) for the species that can be selected for a particular site

	Model type	
	Average model for the region with quantiles	Locally calibrated model
	Digital information collected from maps and/or files	Detailed topographic and soil information (soil profile)
Maritime pine	X	
Eucalypt	X	
Cork oak	X	X

# Site index prediction

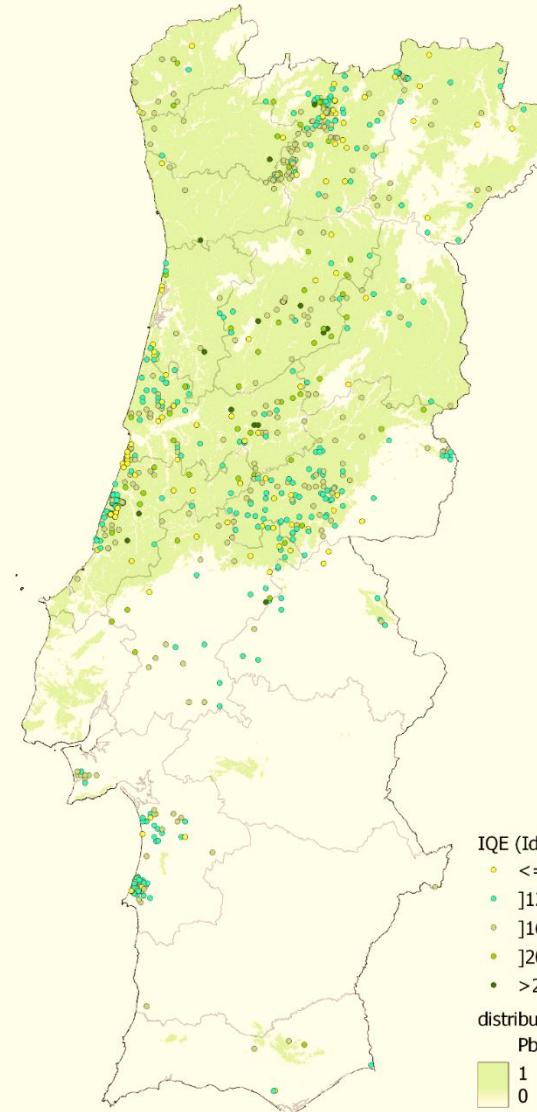


# Materials - data used

Pure regular stands			
Source	No. Of selected plots	tdom (years) (min-max)	No. Plots with tdom btw 15 e 55 years
<b>4º National Forest Inventory (1995)</b>	261	7.0 - 80	181
<b>5º National Forest Inventory (2005)</b>	386	6.0 – 104.5	308
<b>IPB plots</b>	88	16.0 - 66.0	81
<b>IPCB plots</b>	51	2.6 – 74.0	37
<b>Centro Pinus plots</b>	44	4.0 – 65.0	27
<b>Silvicultural trials (Goes e São Salvador)</b>	29	13.0-35.0	20
<b>National Forests Inventory - Sines</b>	73	12.0 - 68.5	70
<b>Leiria National Forest</b>	45	18.0 – 52.0	45
<b>TOTAL</b>	977	-	<b>769</b>

# Methods: distribution of plots and site index values

Localização das parcelas estudadas



# Methods - environmental variables

## Climatic data

- Environment Atlas  
(shapefile 1:1000 000)
- Clipick

## Soil data

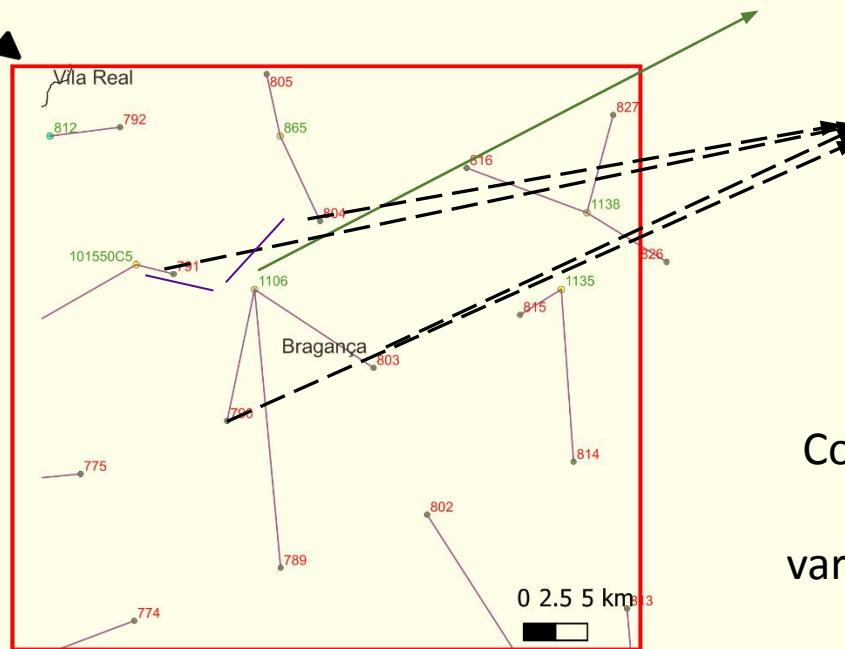
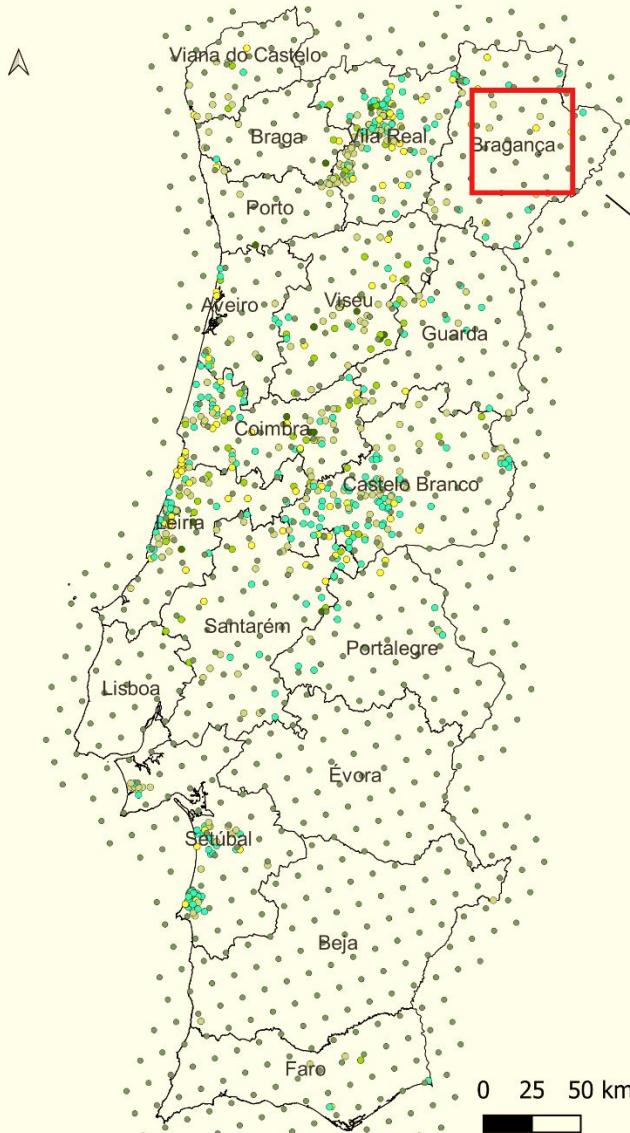
- Environment Atlas  
(shapefile 1:1000 000)
- EPIC  
(shapefile e raster 1: 50000)
- LUCAS database  
(raster 1:100 000)
- Digital maps of FR and MaxASW

## Topographic data

- Digital Terrain Model  
(raster 1:25 000)

# Methods: attribution of variable values to each plot

## Climatic variables



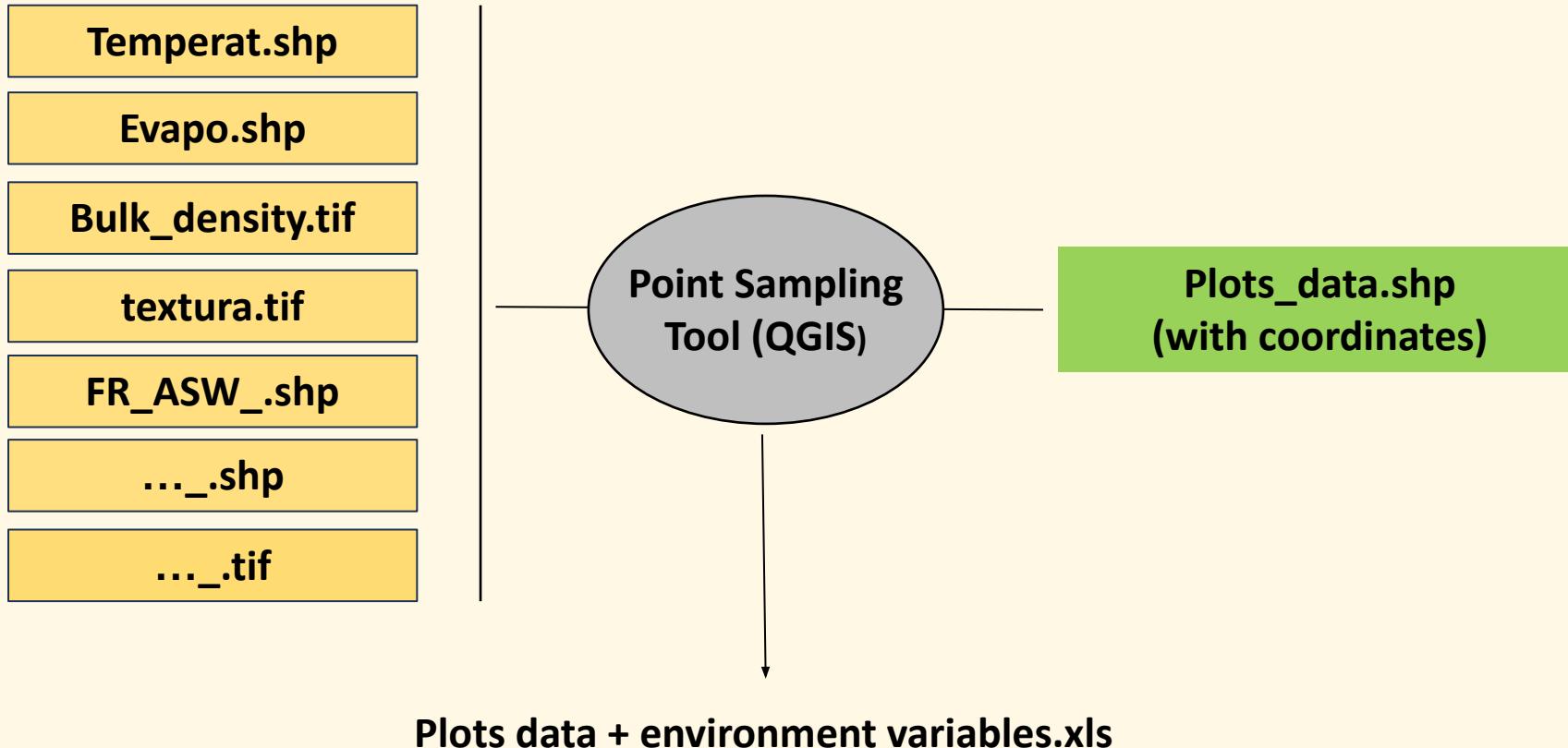
virtual weather stations **Clipick**  
(virtual weather station **791** is  
the nearest to plot **1106**)

Correspondence between each plot and  
the averages of the **Clipick** climatic  
variables (1971-2000) associated with the  
nearest virtual station

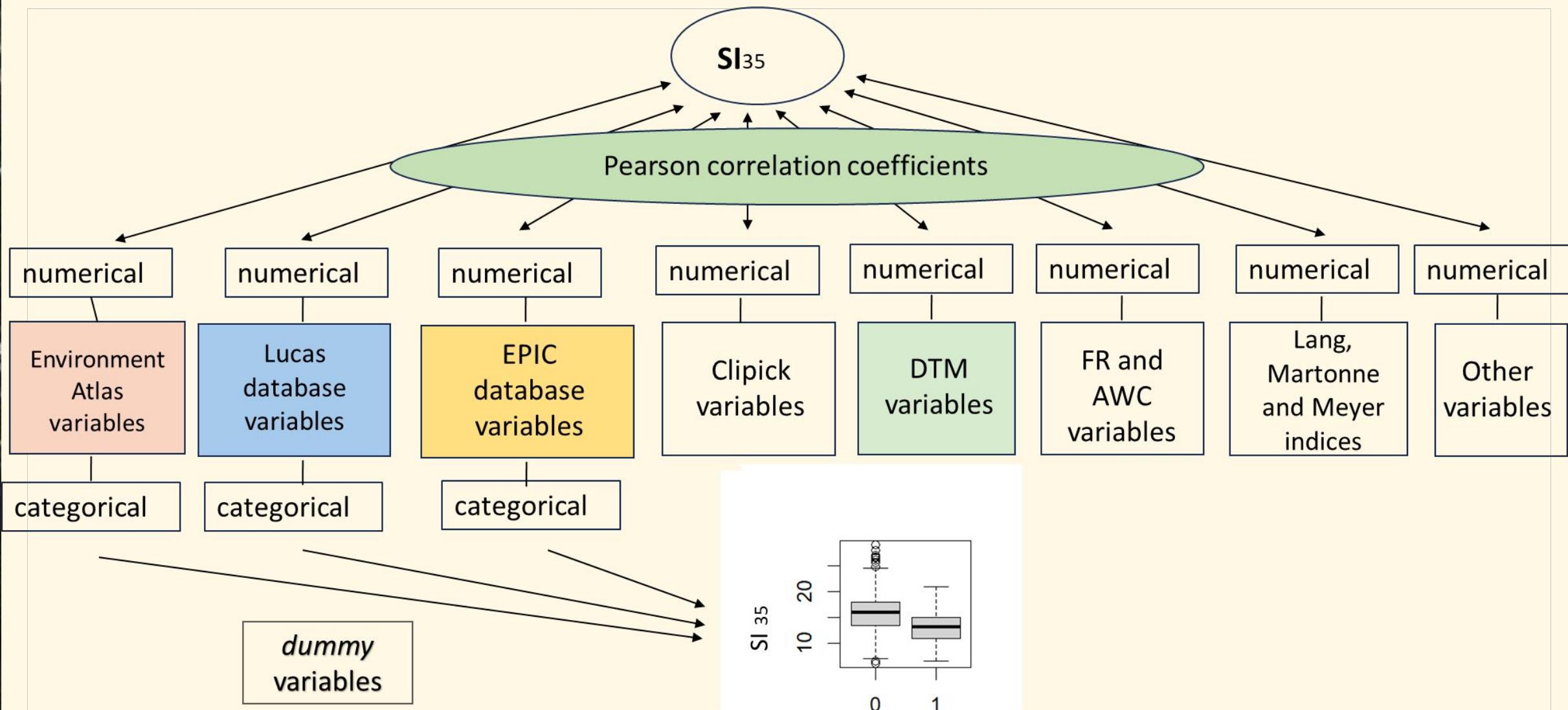
Plots data + Clipick variables.xls

# Methods: attribution of variable values to each plot

Climatic, soil and topographic variables



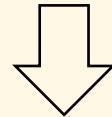
# Methods: preliminary analysis of the correlations between $\text{Si}_{35}$ and the environmental variables



# Methods: variable selection for the linear model:

*regsubsets* (R)  
–identification of  
the variables that  
give rise to the 3  
best models with 6  
variables (SSE as  
criteria)

- very high number of variables
- Significantly different from zero coefficients
- Coefficient sign



Successive use  
of *regsubsets*  
and *lm* in a “trial  
and error”  
process

testing principal  
components in  
models

**relation between**  
SI<sub>35</sub> and the 8  
climatic regions  
(Ribeiro e Tomé,  
2000)

# Methods: quantile regression

modeling of different quantiles of the response variable (SI35)

useful when the relationship between variables varies at different levels of the distribution of the response variable

Minimizes the sum of absolute errors by weighting them according to the quantile

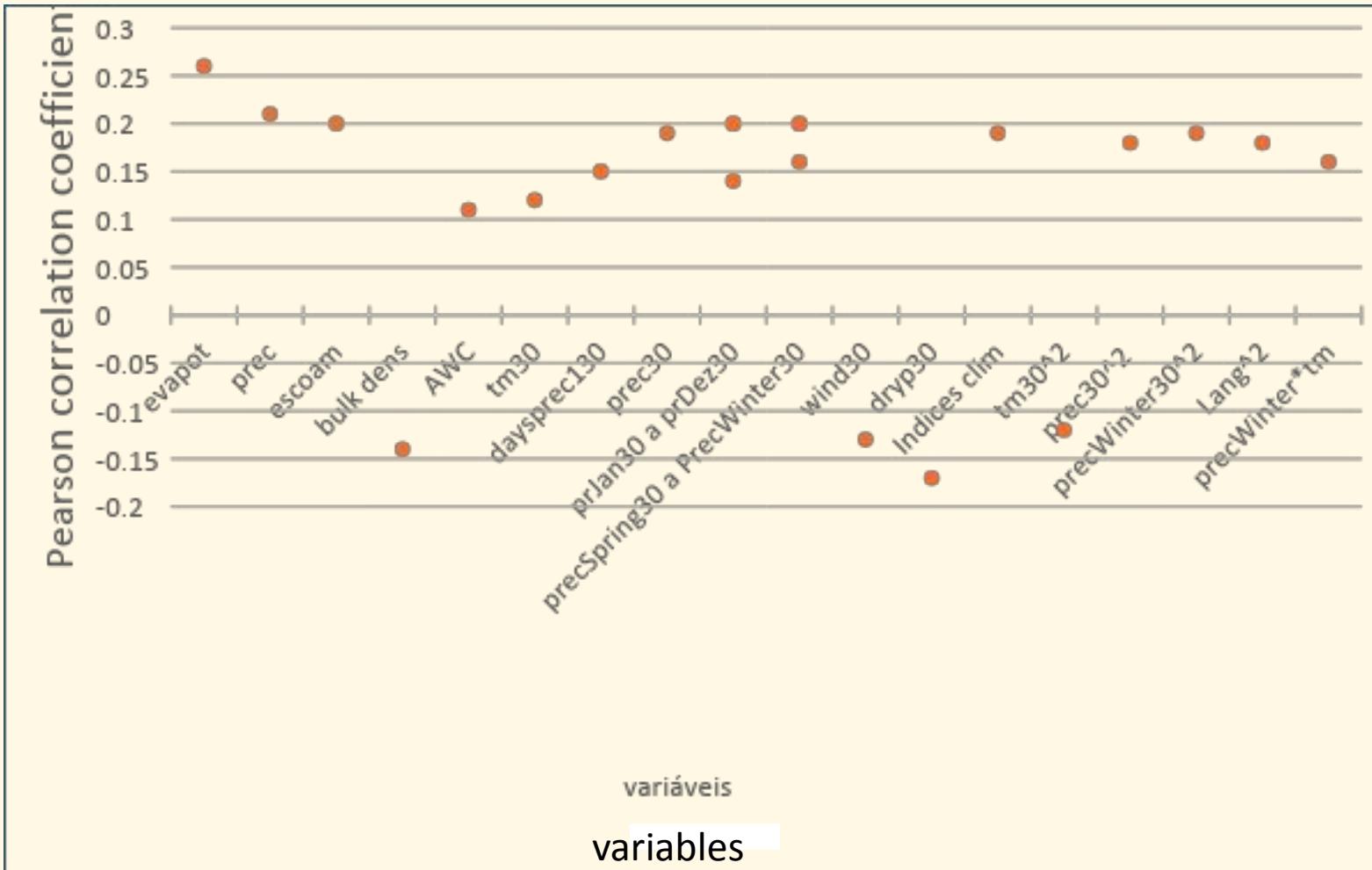
0.05  
0.25  
0.50  
0.75  
0.95

Variables used are the ones selected for the linear model

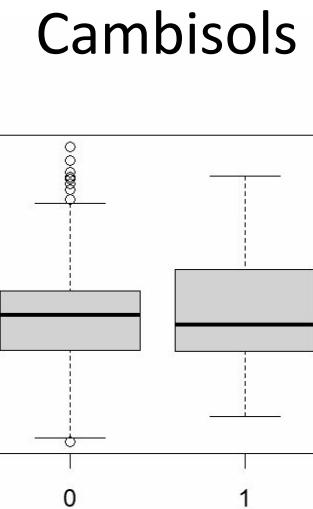
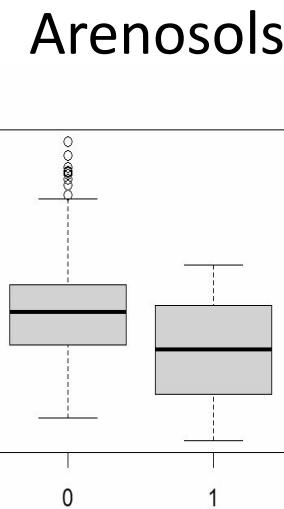
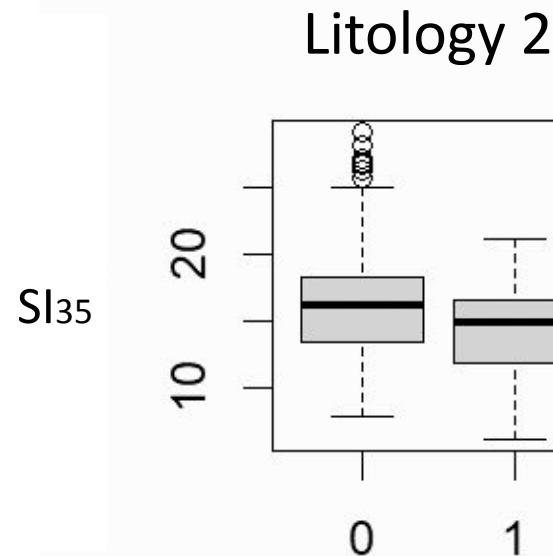
`rq`  
function  
from R

Manual stepwise until all the coefficients are significantly different from zero and whose sign (+/-) makes sense

# Results: best correlations



# Results: examples with categorical variables



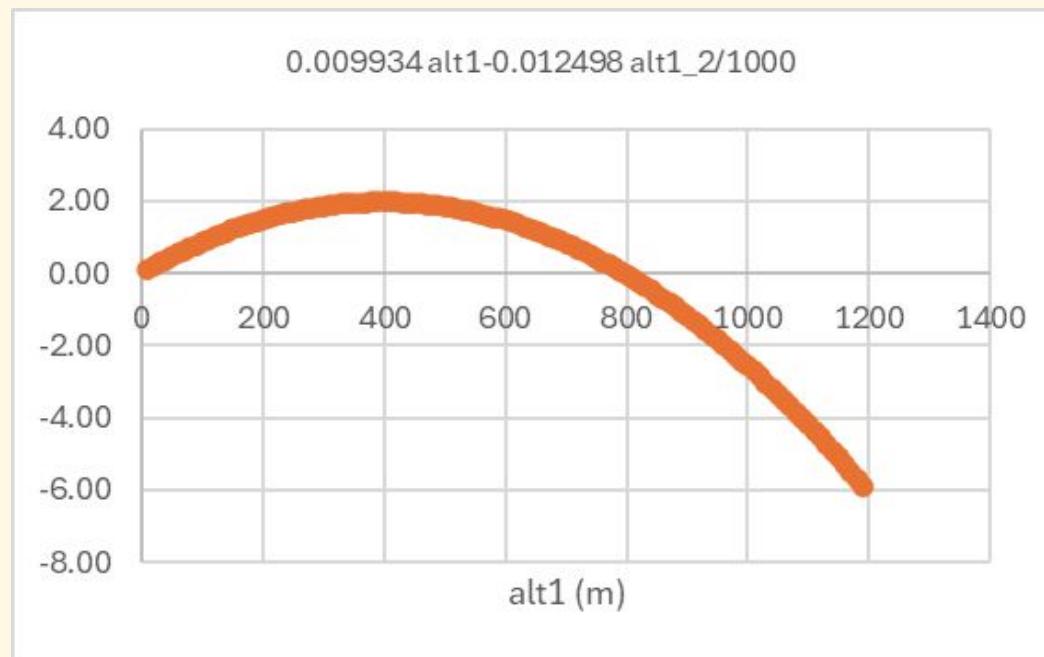
# Results - multilinear regression

Final Model:

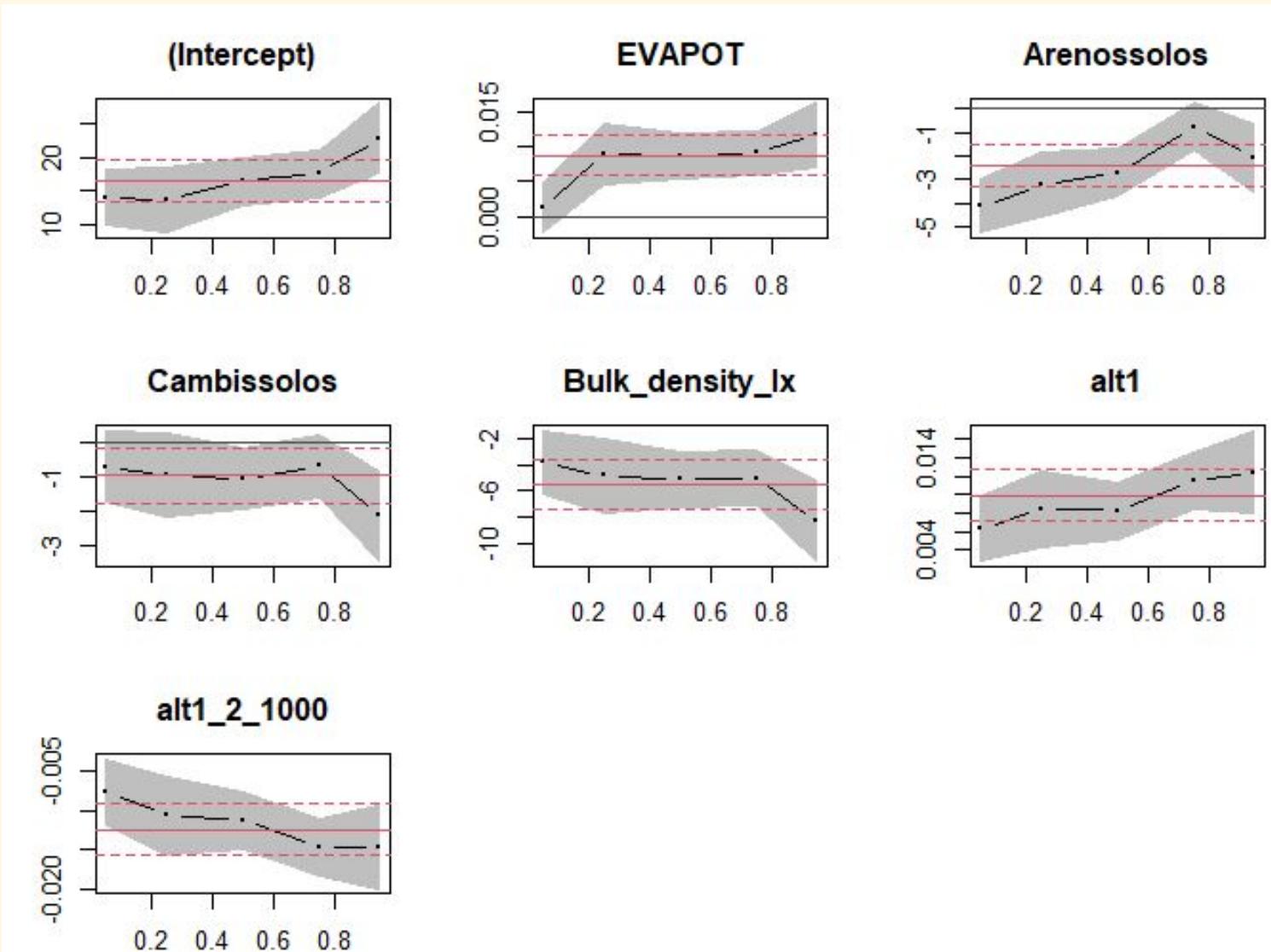
Variable	Intercept	Evapot	Arenossolos	Cambissolos	Bulk_density_lx	Alt1	Alt1 <sup>2</sup> /1000
Coefficient	16.51587	0.008727	-2.406520	-0.947988	-5.423130	0.009934	-0.012498
Signif.	***	***	***	-	***	***	***

model	R <sup>2</sup>	adj.R <sup>2</sup>	aic	vif.max	mean_p	mean_ap	rp_p95	rp_p05	r2p
1	0.16	0.15	3971.83	16.07	-0.0004	2.53	5.15	-5.37	0.15

# Results - multilinear regression



# Results - quantile regression

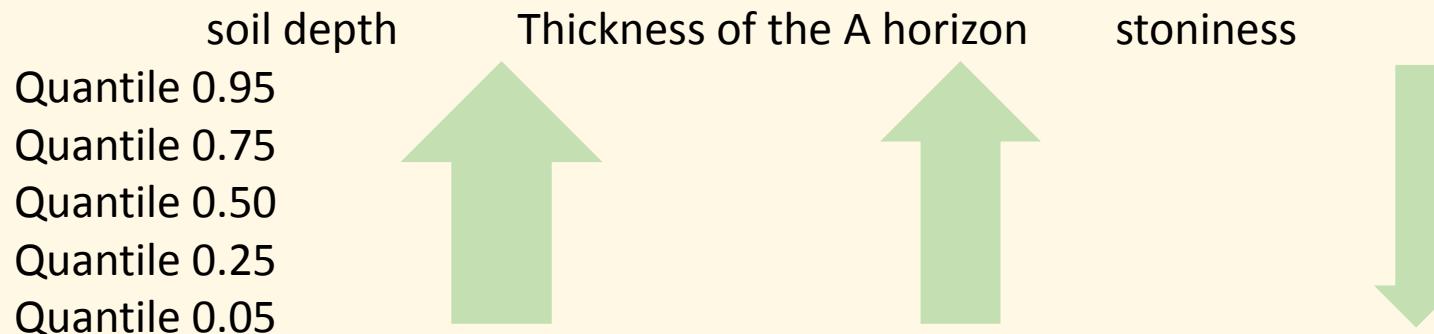


# Results - quantile regression

Quantil	Intercept	Evapot	sign	Arenos	sign	Cambis	sign	Bulk	sign	alt1	sign	Alt_2/1000	sign
<b>0.05</b>	14.73369	-	-	-3.98798	***	-	-	-3.70786	**	0.00641	***	-0.00769	***
<b>0.25</b>	14.08645	0.00902	***	-3.19156	***	-	-	-5.23142	**	0.00890	***	-0.01206	***
<b>0.50</b>	16.76377	0.00884	***	-2.70745	***	-	-	-5.37416	***	0.00760	***	-0.01025	***
<b>0.75</b>	17.53391	0.00828	***	-	-	-	-	-4.53096	***	0.01046	***	-0.01328	***
<b>0.95</b>	22.26358	0.01157	***	-	-	-	-	-7.75115	***	0.01209	***	-0.01418	***

# Results - help for quantile selection

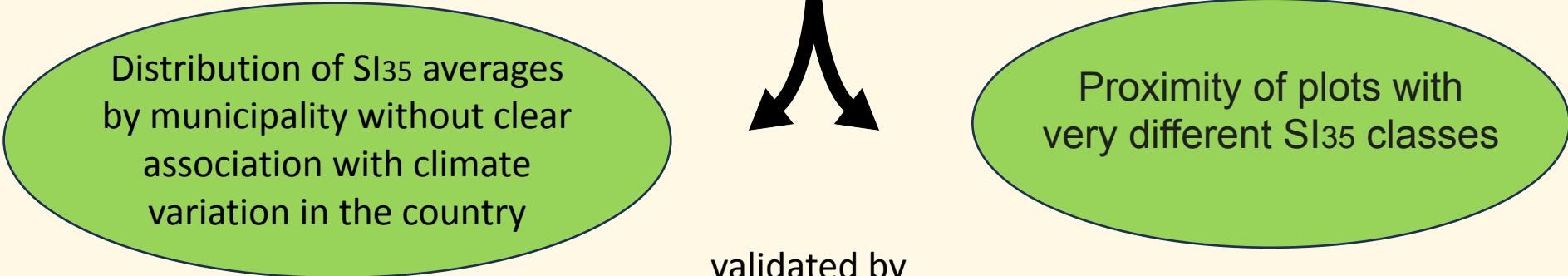
Example of criteria for placing a stand in one of the 5 quantiles:



# Conclusions and discussion

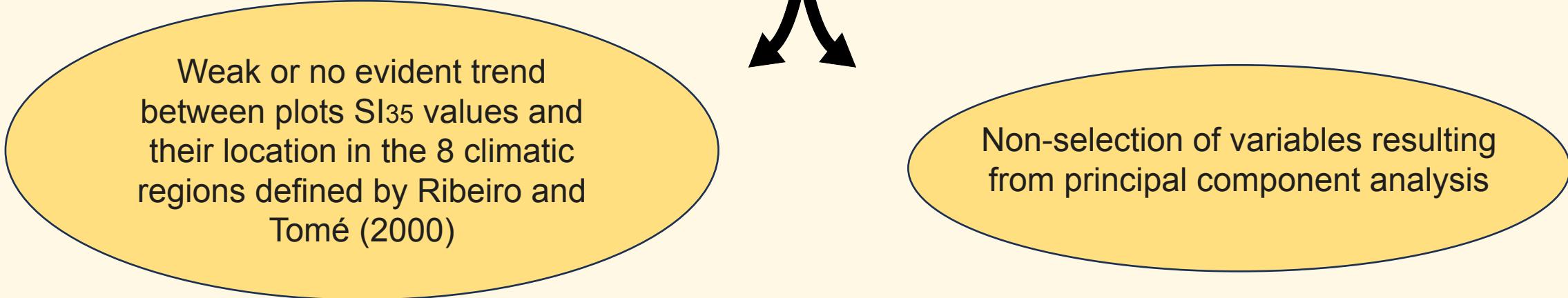
very low  $R^2$

in accordance with



Distribution of SI35 averages by municipality without clear association with climate variation in the country

Proximity of plots with very different SI35 classes

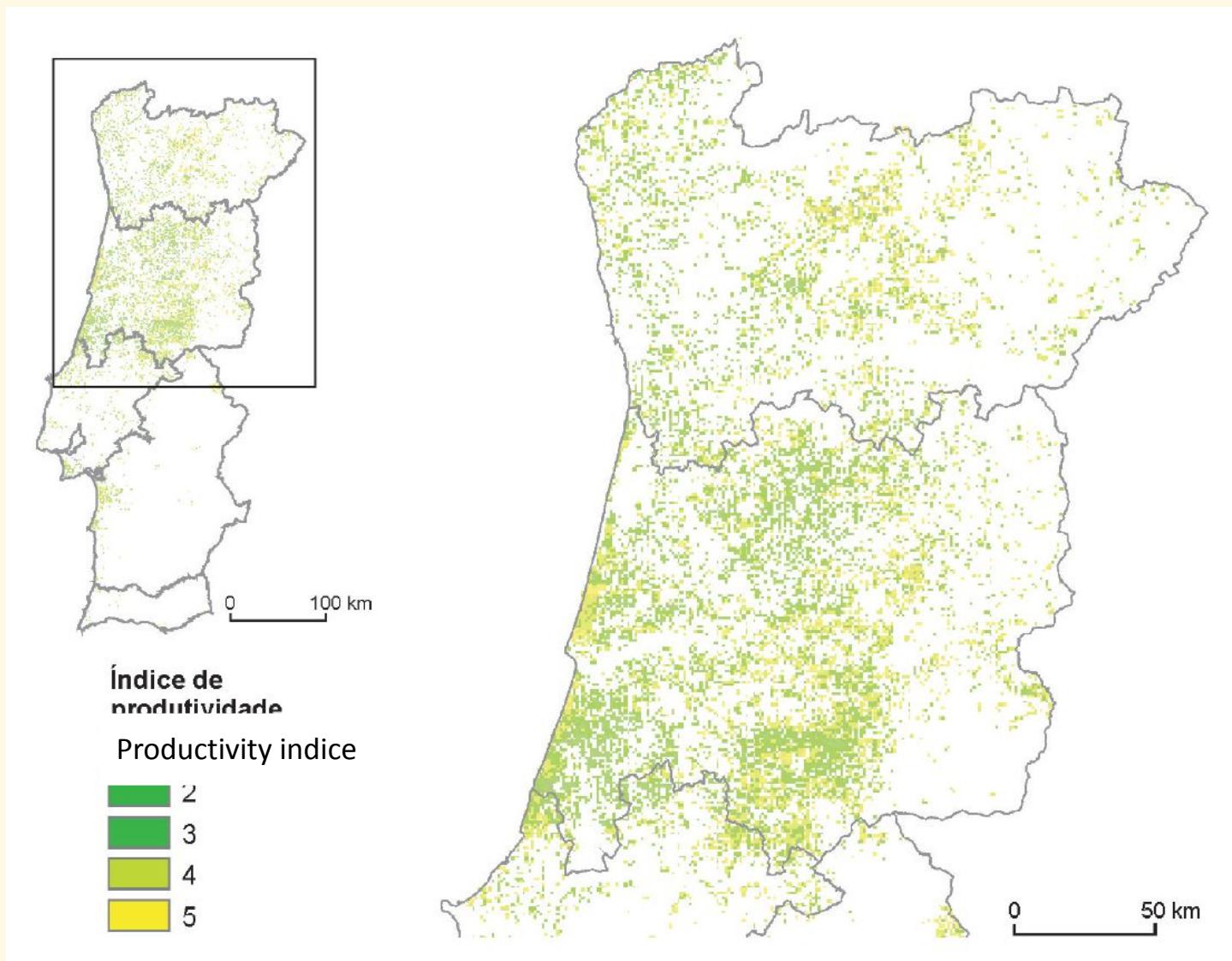


Weak or no evident trend between plots SI35 values and their location in the 8 climatic regions defined by Ribeiro and Tomé (2000)

Non-selection of variables resulting from principal component analysis

validated by

# Conclusions and discussion



(Image from Santos e Almeida, 2003)

# Conclusions and discussion

- The results seem to suggest that **maritime pine** responds much more to **local soil and topography characteristics** than to climate variation and soil characteristics variation obtained from large-scale digital maps
- Several authors obtained higher  $R^2$  values by using variables obtained from soil pit analyses as regressors

# Future work

Visit the locations of some plots to decide whether to continue to be part of the observation set

Choose some sets of plots where the climate and soil type (given by digital maps) do not differ but which have different  $SI_{35}$  values, so that characteristics that explain the difference can be identified locally

Use other methodologies, such as principal component analysis with climate, soil and topographic variables or ML (Machine Learning) regression approach. Use other climate information sources

# The ARF project is iterative

- ✓ The ARF@pt is using the best existing knowledge
- ✓ It allows the identification of gaps in knowledge
- ✓ As soon as new knowledge will be available, it will be incorporated

LET'S LOOK AT A BETA VERSION OF ARF@pt

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Welcome to the Portuguese Forest Profitability Analysis Tool

The collage includes:

- A road through a forest of tall, thin trees.
- A winding road through a dense forest of tall, thin trees.
- A forest of tall, green pine trees.
- Two workers standing next to large logs with the word "BAI" written on them.
- A view of terraced fields on a hillside.
- A red tractor working in a field near some cork oak trees.
- A stack of large logs in a forest.
- A panoramic view of a valley with a small town and rolling hills.
- A close-up of a tree trunk with bags tied to it.
- A yellow flowering plant in a forest.
- A large green pine cone on a tree branch.

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A tool to support landowners' and policy decisions in Portugal



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ABOUT

Localization Characteristics Cost Run Simulation

Lat: 39.23 Lng: -8.58

Specie Maritime Pine Layer Base Map

Portugal Spain

Lisbon

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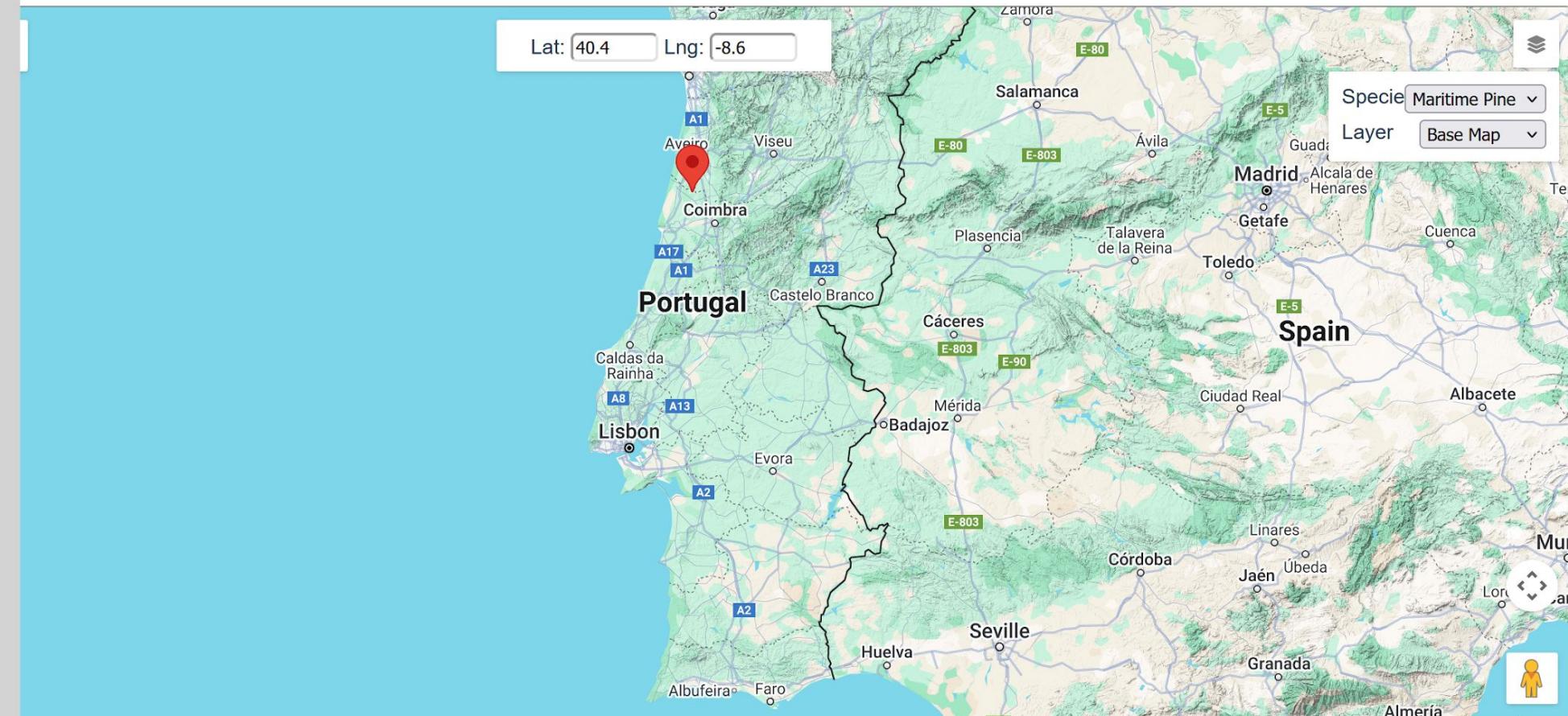
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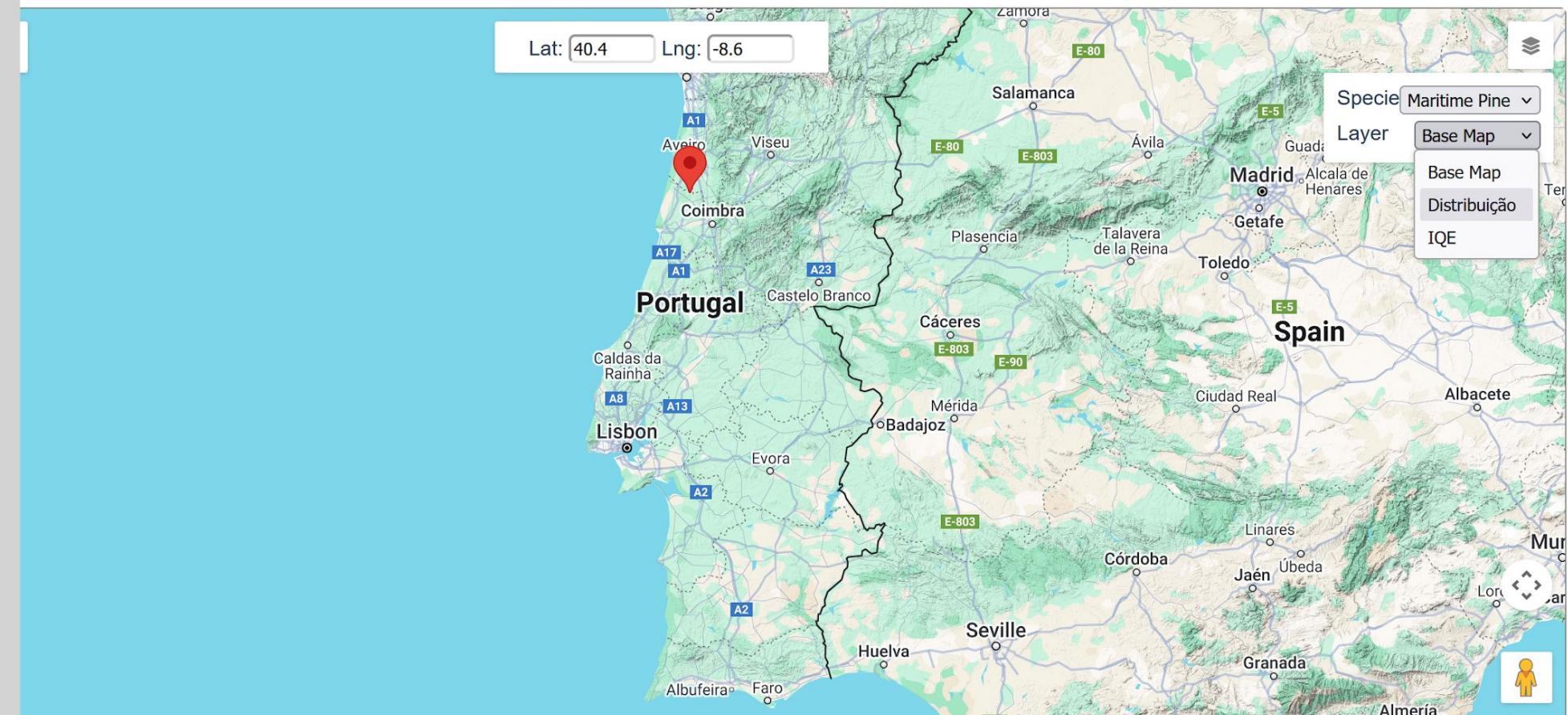
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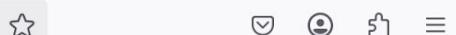
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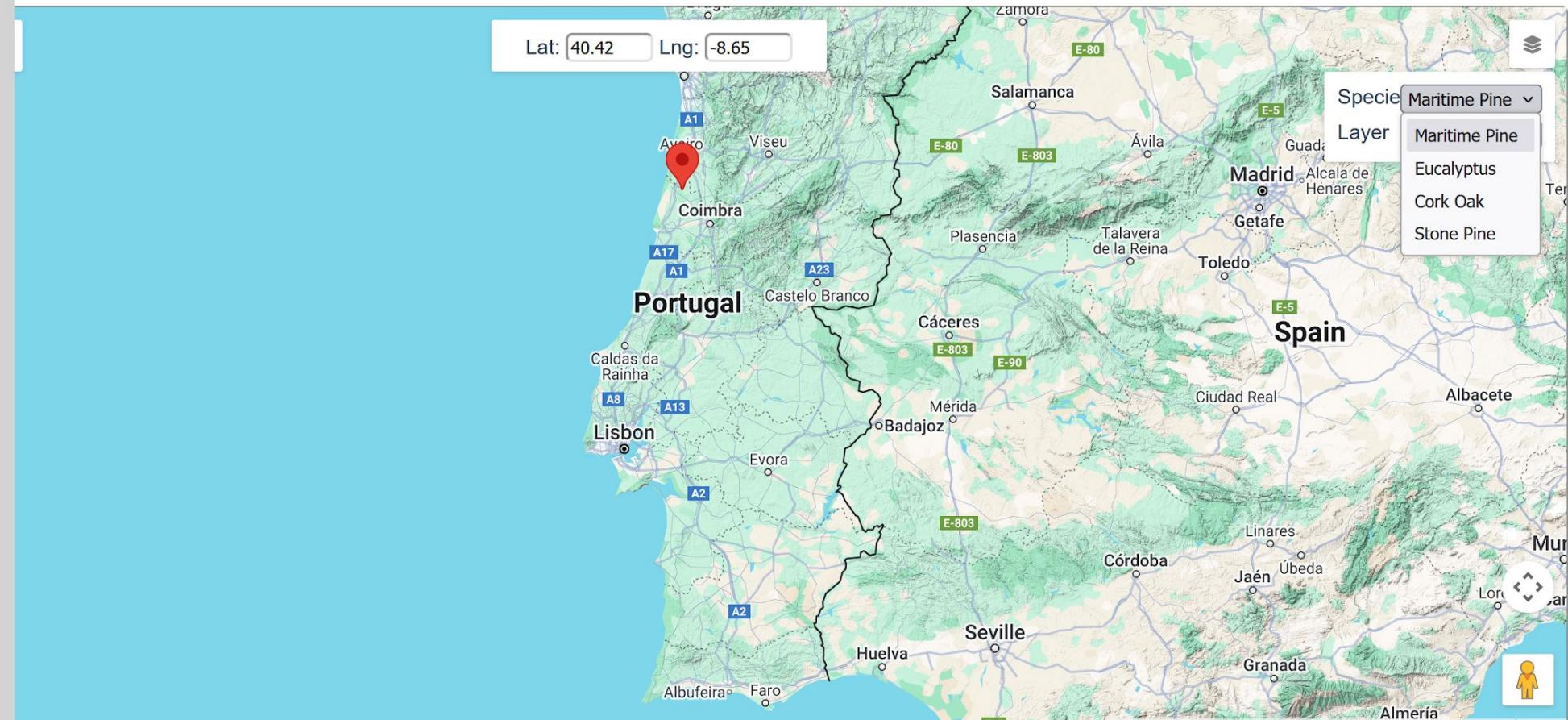


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Localization Characteristics Cost Run Simulation

Lat: 40.4 Lng: -8.6

Specie Maritime Pine Layer Distribuição

Map data ©2025 GeoBasis-DE/BKG (©2009), Google, Inst. Geogr. Nacional Terms

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Lat: 40.4 Lng: -8.6

Specie Maritime Pine Layer Distribuição

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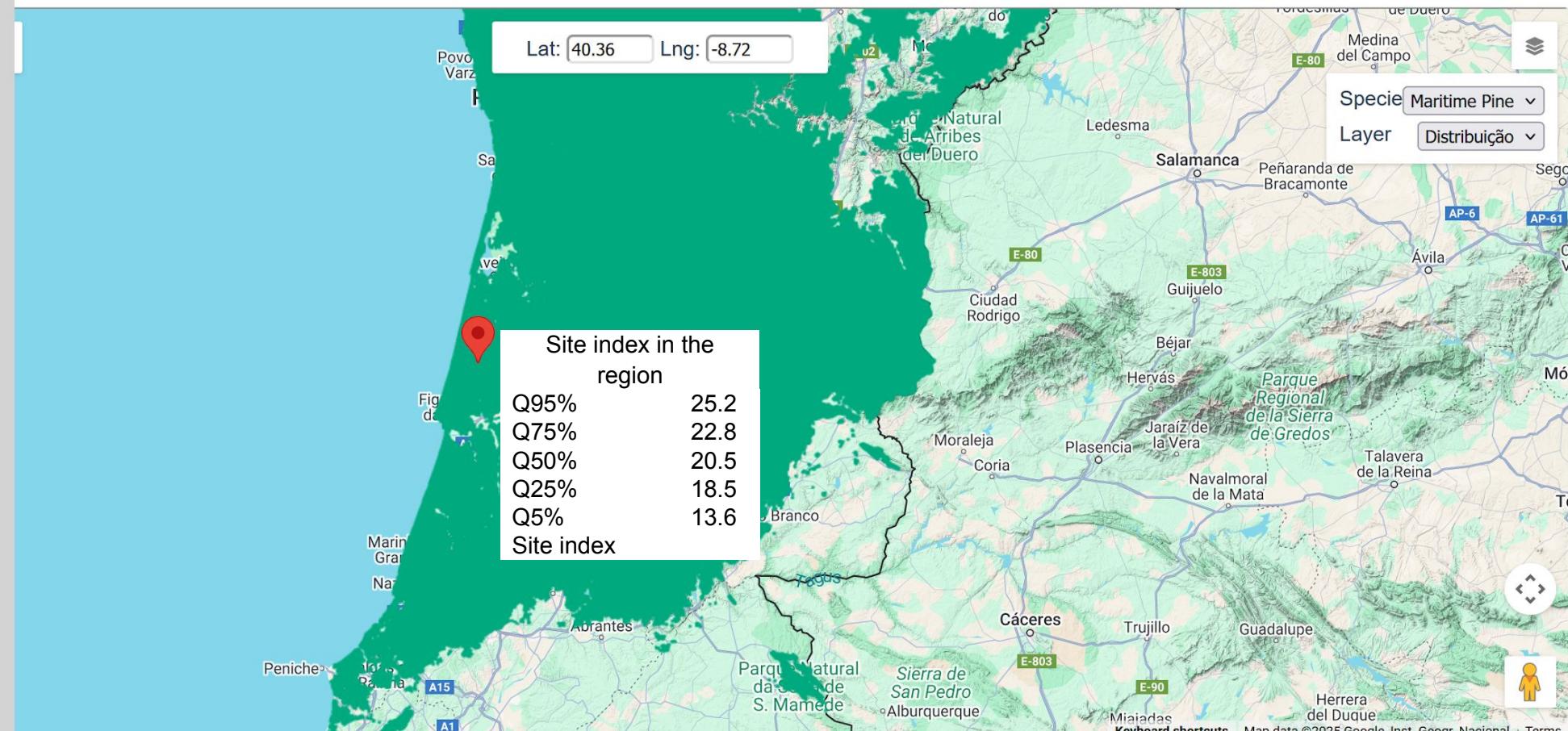
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Lat: 40.36 Lng: -8.72



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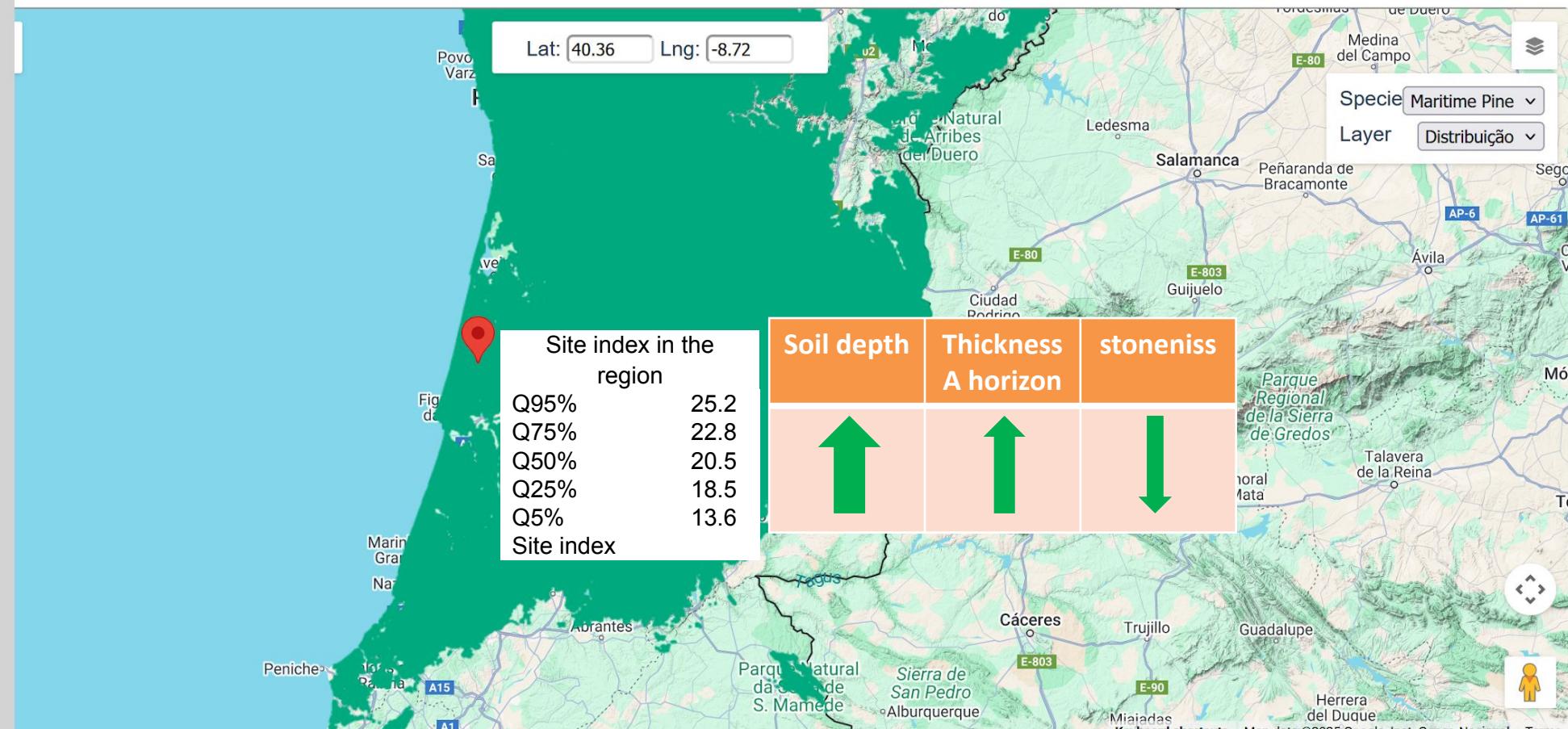
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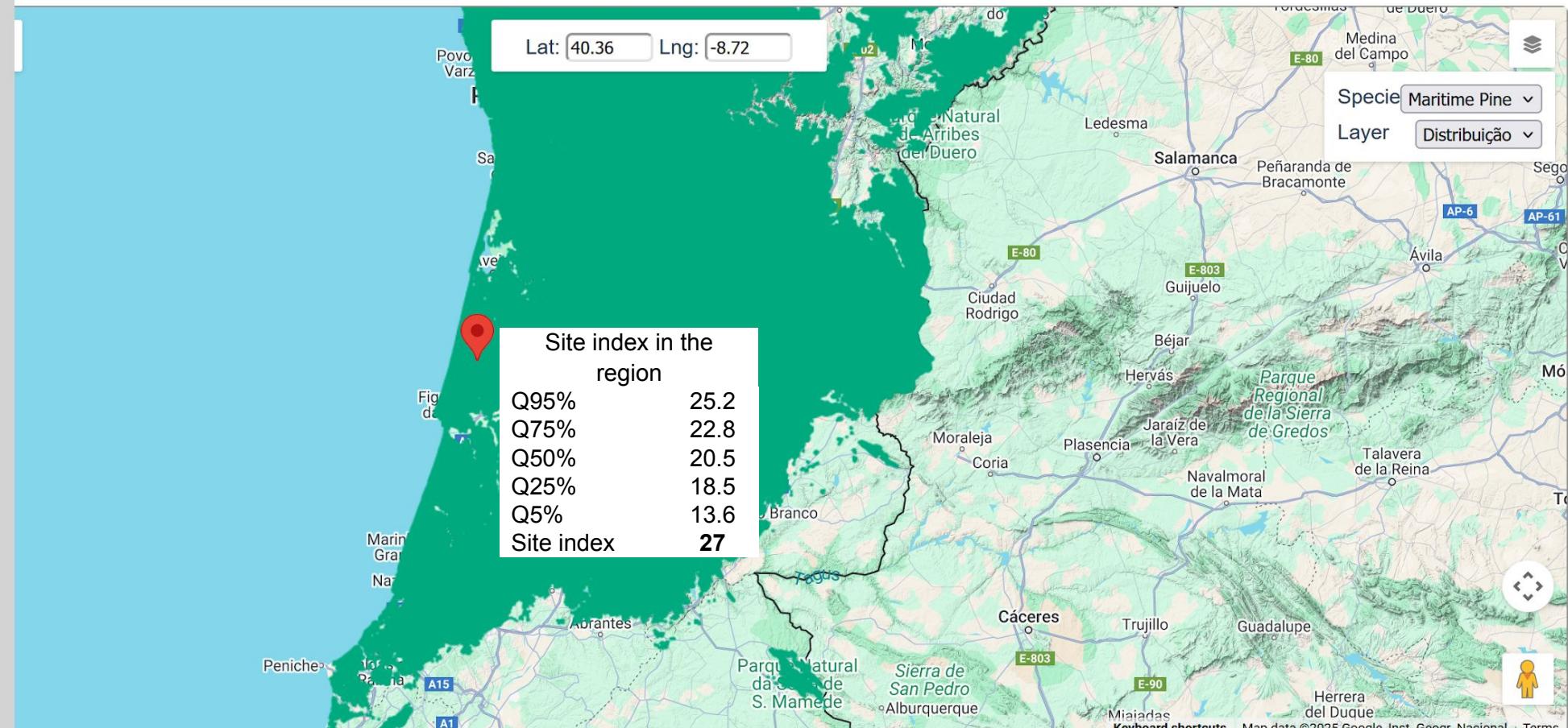
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 ABOUT

Localization      Characteristics      Cost      Run Simulation

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Localization Characteristics Cost Run Simulation

# Characteristics

Select simulation characteristics

Operational scenario : Easy ?

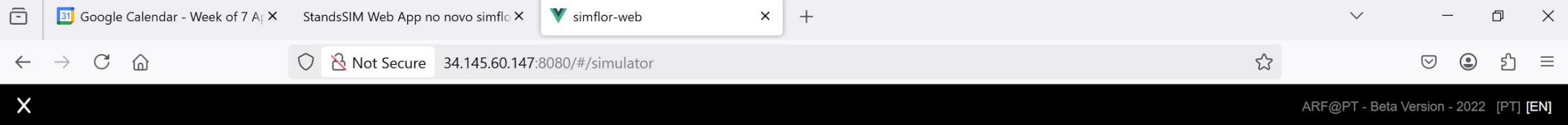
Sylvicultural system - operational schedule Please Select

Search CSV

Fase Operação I Operação II

< PREVIOUS NEXT >

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## Characteristics

Select simulation characteristics

Operational scenario :

- Easy
- Easy
- Average
- Difficult
- Very difficult

Sylvicultural schedule  
Please Select

Operational schedule

Search



Fase

Operação I

Operação II

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## Characteristics

**Select simulation characteristics**

Operational scenario :

Average ?

Sylvicultural system - operational schedule

Please Select

Please Select

Plantation

Natural regeneration

High density natural regeneration

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Operacão II

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Localization Characteristics Cost Run Simulation

# Characteristics

Select simulation characteristics

Operational scenario : Average ?

Sylvicultural system - operational schedule

Plantation

Search CSV

Fase	Operação I	Operação II
PREPARAÇÃO TERRENO	Controlo de vegetação	Limpeza de matos com grade de discos
PREPARAÇÃO TERRENO	Controlo de vegetação	Limpeza de matos com motorroçadora
PREPARAÇÃO TERRENO	Mobilização do solo	Ripagem a 3m com 2 dentes
PREPARAÇÃO TERRENO	Plantação	Abertura manual de covas (30x30x30)
PREPARAÇÃO TERRENO	Marcação e piquetagem	Marcação e piquetagem
INSTALAÇÃO	Plantação	Plantas
INSTALAÇÃO	Adubação	Adubo - Fundo
INSTALAÇÃO	Adubação	Adubação manual na cova
INSTALAÇÃO	Plantação	Plantação manual de resinosas e folhosas em contentor
MANUTENÇÃO	Potenciação	Potenciação

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## COSTS

OPERATION	UNIT	COST
Abertura manual de covas ( 30x 30x 30 cm)	€/ha	400
Aplicação de adubo total (tractor agrícola/ florestal)	€/ha	90,00 €
Aplicação manual de adubo	€/ha	17,5
Construção da pilha	@	0,5
Controlo da vegetação com corta matos de facas ou correntes (tractor agrícola ou florestal borracheiro)	€/ha	180
Controlo da vegetação espontânea na linha ou de forma localizada (mão de obra especializada, incluindo equipamento)	€/ha	650
Corte seletivo ou salteado	€/ha	26
Desbaste seletivo	0	0
Desbóia	€/ha	46,66667
Descortiçamento	€/ha	116,662

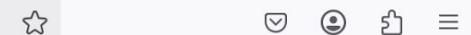
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## PRICES

TYPE: CORK			RAW MATERIAL PRICE			
Calibre		Linhias	1/5		6	
mm	mm		min	max	min	max
14	18	6/8	2,30 €	2,50 €		
18	27	8/12	2,50 €	2,50 €		
27	32	12/14				
29	34	13/15				
34	45	15/20				
41	54	18/24				
		Refugo				

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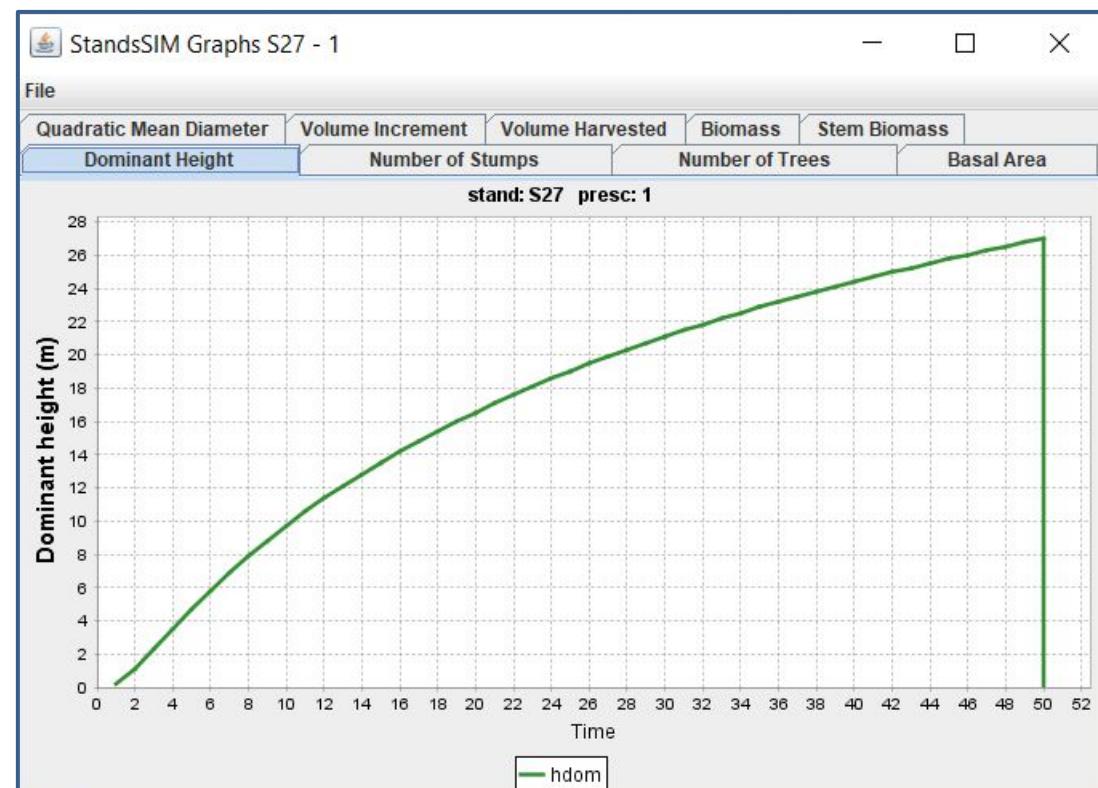
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S	t	hdom	N	G	V
27	1	0.2	2500	0	0
27	2	1.1	2450	0	0
27	3	2.3	2401	0	0
27	4	3.5	2353	0	0
27	5	4.7	2306	0	0
27	6	5.8	2300	5.4	14.7
27	7	6.9	2300	7.8	22.9
27	8	7.9	2300	10.5	34.9
27	9	8.8	2300	13.3	49.2
27	10	9.7	2300	16.3	65.8
27	11	10.6	2300	19.4	84.4
27	12	11.4	2300	22.5	104.8
27	13	12.1	2300	25.7	126.7
27	14	12.8	2300	28.9	150.1
27	15	13.5	2300	32	174.7
27	15	13.5	860	12.2	66.6

NPV: 1094 euros/ha EAA: 51 euros/ha/year



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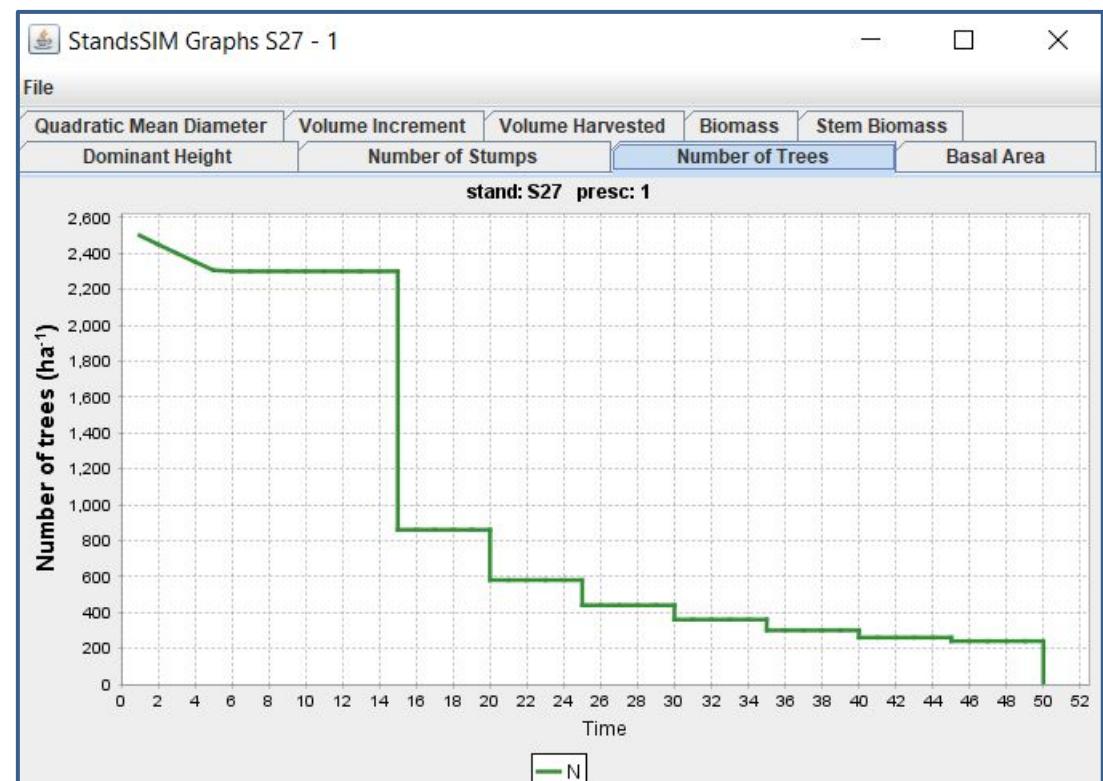
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ABOUT



S	t	hdom	N	G	V
27	1	0.2	2500	0	0
27	2	1.1	2450	0	0
27	3	2.3	2401	0	0
27	4	3.5	2353	0	0
27	5	4.7	2306	0	0
27	6	5.8	2300	5.4	14.7
27	7	6.9	2300	7.8	22.9
27	8	7.9	2300	10.5	34.9
27	9	8.8	2300	13.3	49.2
27	10	9.7	2300	16.3	65.8
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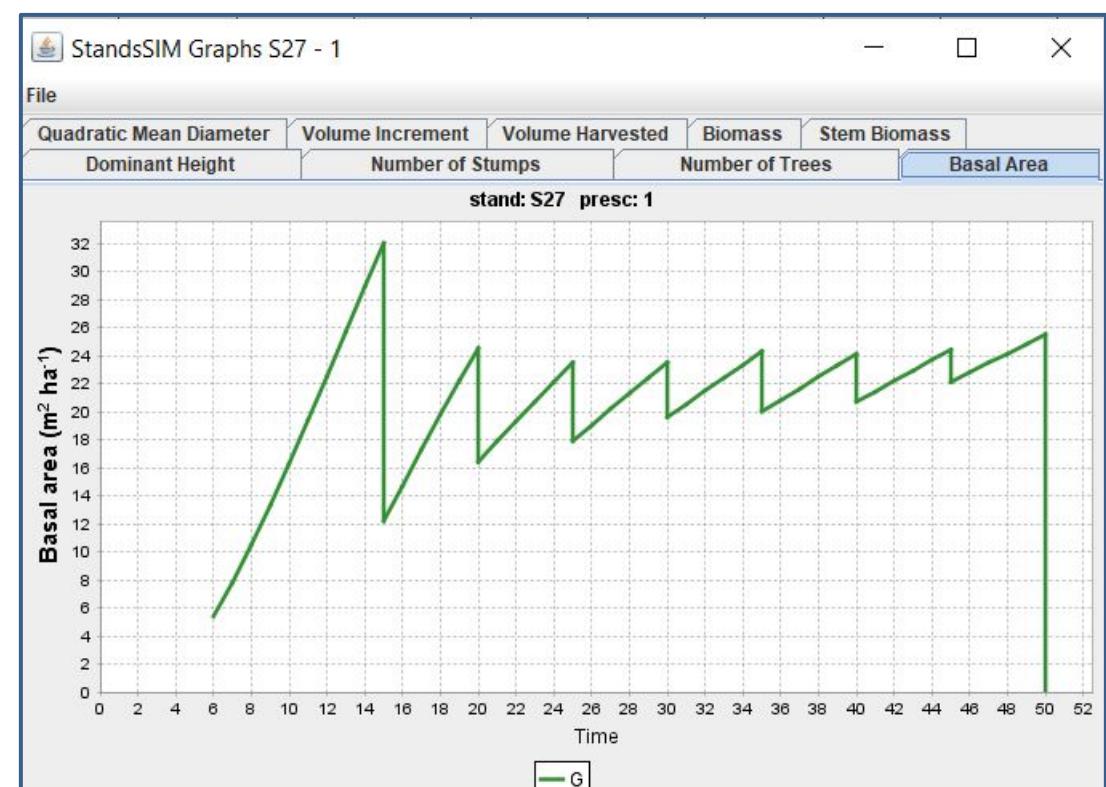
SIMULATOR

SIMFLOR-FCTOOLS

ABOUT



S	t	hdom	N	G	V
27	1	0.2	2500	0	0
27	2	1.1	2450	0	0
27	3	2.3	2401	0	0
27	4	3.5	2353	0	0
27	5	4.7	2306	0	0
27	6	5.8	2300	5.4	14.7
27	7	6.9	2300	7.8	22.9
27	8	7.9	2300	10.5	34.9
27	9	8.8	2300	13.3	49.2
27	10	9.7	2300	16.3	65.8
27	11	10.6	2300	19.4	84.4
27	12	11.4	2300	22.5	104.8
27	13	12.1	2300	25.7	126.7
27	14	12.8	2300	28.9	150.1
27	15	13.5	2300	32	174.7
27	15	13.5	860	12.2	66.6



NPV: 1094 euros/ha EAA: 51 euros/ha/year

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SIMULATOR

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ABOUT



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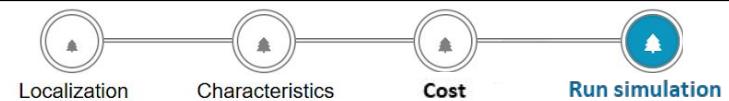
ARF@PT - Beta Version - 2022 [PT] [EN]

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SIMULATOR

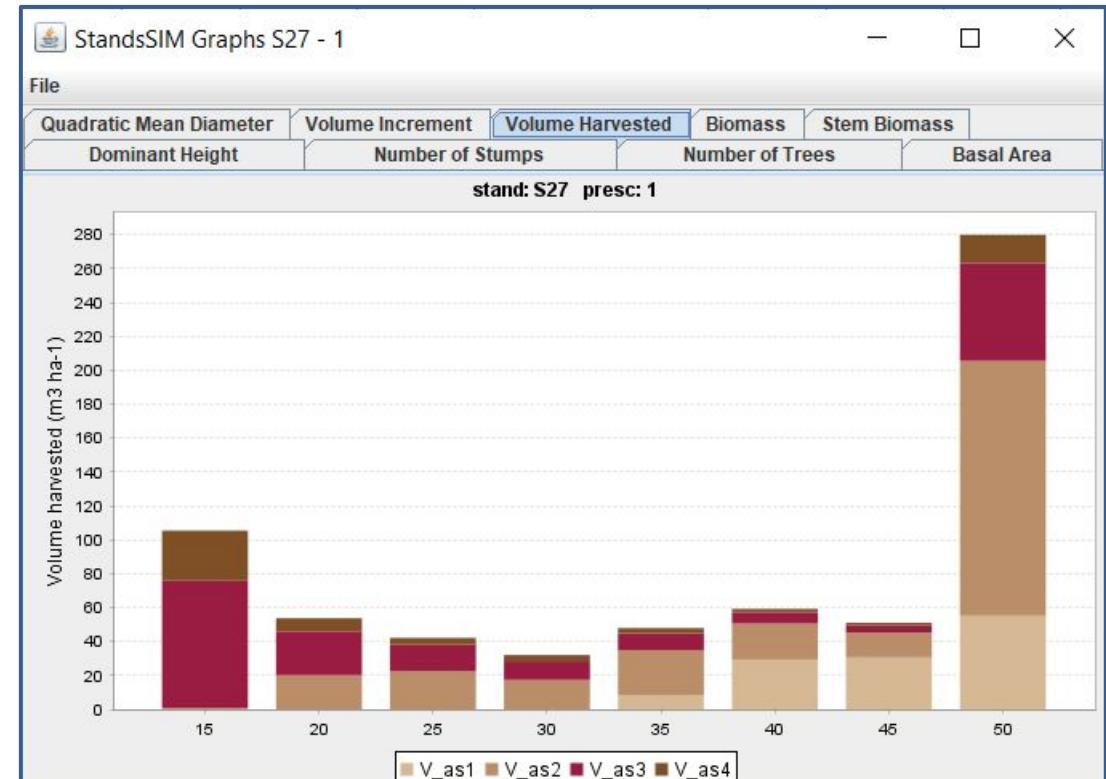
SIMFLOR-FCTOOLS

ABOUT



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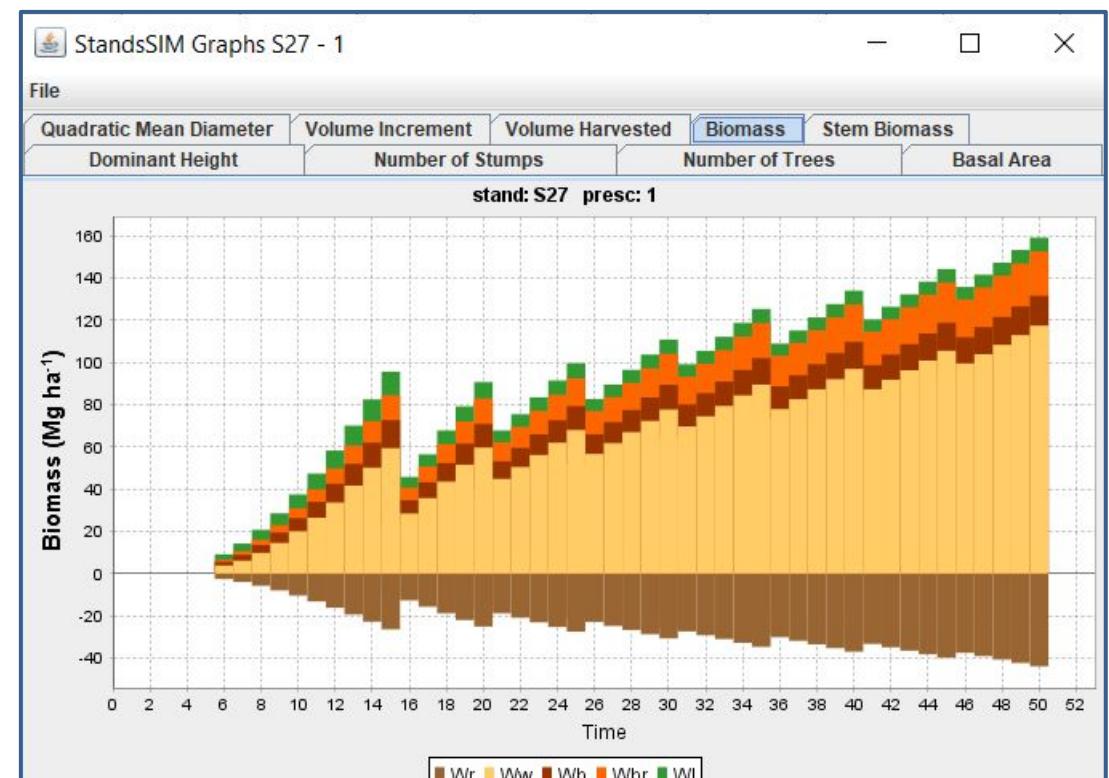
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NPV: 1094 euros/ha EAA: 51 euros/ha/year



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A photograph of a dense forest of tall, thin pine trees. In the foreground, a large pile of cut logs is stacked in a pyramidal shape, showing their yellowish-brown cross-sections. The scene illustrates deforestation.

Questions?