

3-D MODEL OF A MEDITERRANEAN TREE-GRASS ECOSYSTEM FOR REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS

Pacheco-Labrador, Javier¹; Gajardo, John²; Riaño, David^{1,3} & Martín, M. Pilar¹

¹ Environmental Remote Sensing and Spectroscopy Laboratory (SpecLab), Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), C/Albasanz 26-28, 28037 Madrid, Spain.

² Facultad de Ciencias Forestales Universidad de Talca, Avenida Lircay S/N Talca 3460000, Chile.

³ Center for Spatial Technologies and Remote Sensing (CSTARS), University of California, Davis, One Shields Avenue, 139 Veihmeyer Hall, Davis, CA 95616, USA.

1. INTRODUCTION

- Tree-Grass ecosystems show significant heterogeneity at large scale.
- Mix of species and heterogeneous radiation regimens difficult biogeochemical modeling and proximal sensing.
- Suitable 3-D modeling allows overcoming these difficulties.



2. STUDY SITE AND DATA

- Mediterranean Tree-Grass ecosystem:
 - Fluxnet site, 3 Eddy covariance towers + AMSPEC-MED
 - Majadas del Tiétar, Cáceres, Spain
- Airborne and Terrestrial LiDAR data for 3-D modeling



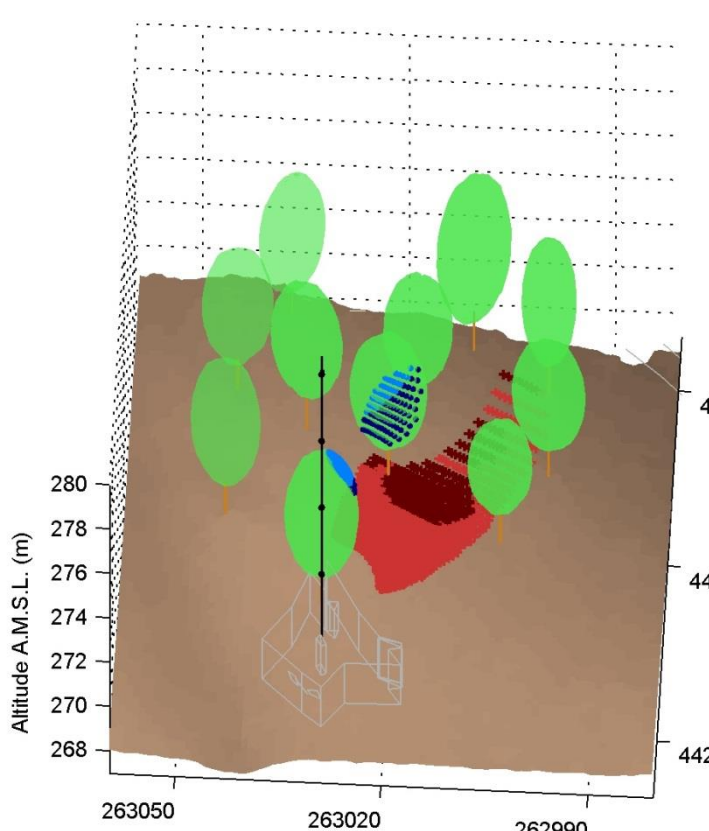
3.1 SUPPORT TO PROXIMAL SENSING

Airborne LiDAR data (PNOA, 0.96 – 0.41 points / m²)
Classification (Terrascan) → DGM and CHM

Individual
crown
detection

Ellipsoid
fitting

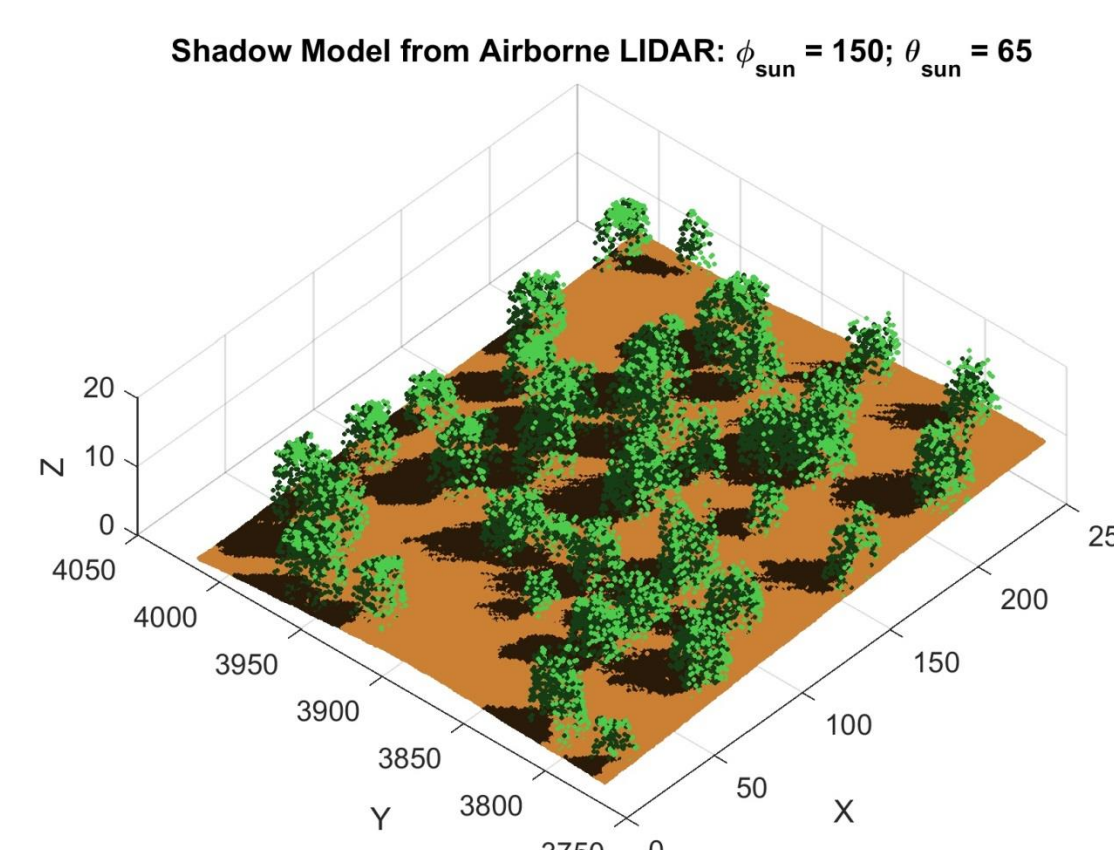
Ray-casting
approach:
Tree/grass
Sunlit/shaded
fractions



3.2 SPATIALIZED RADIATION REGIMEN

Vector-based model to
predict spatialized shadow
fractions

- Vector interception
- +
- Hillshade model



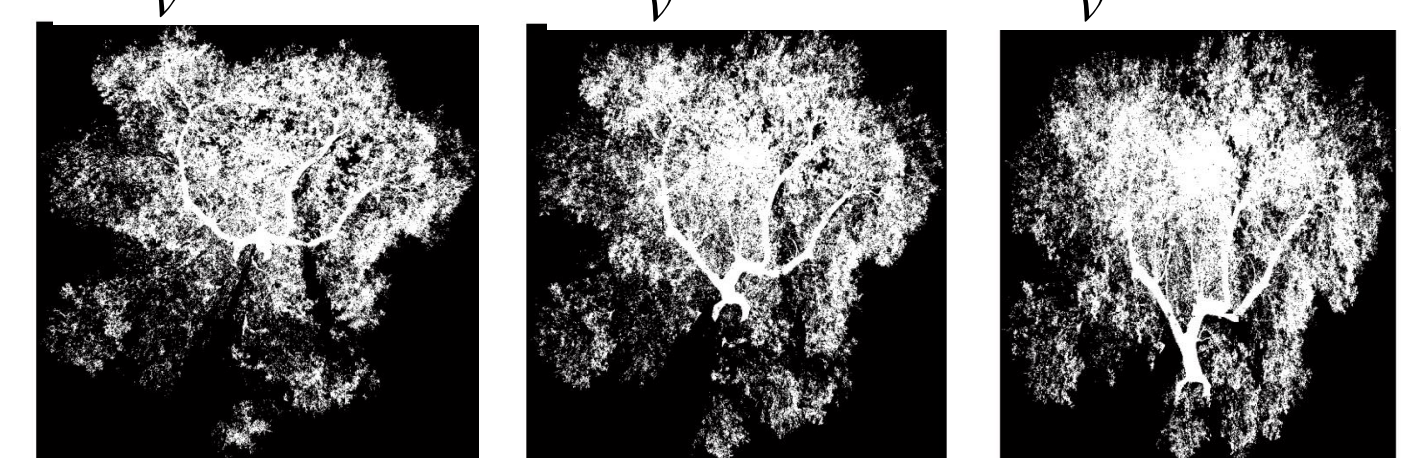
3.3 CROWN TRANSMISSIVITY

Terrestrial LiDAR Scanner
+ Hemispherical
photography

Tree Voxelization
Voxel size 5 mm

Tree observed from different
angles to estimate angular
dependence of crown
transmissivity

$\theta_v = 80^\circ$ $\theta_v = 60^\circ$ $\theta_v = 40^\circ$



4. CONCLUSIONS

LiDAR allows accounting for spatial heterogeneity in the study of Tree-grass ecosystems

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Colleagues from SpecLab, CEAM, Scanner Patrimonio e Industria and beloved Dr. Thomas Hilker

