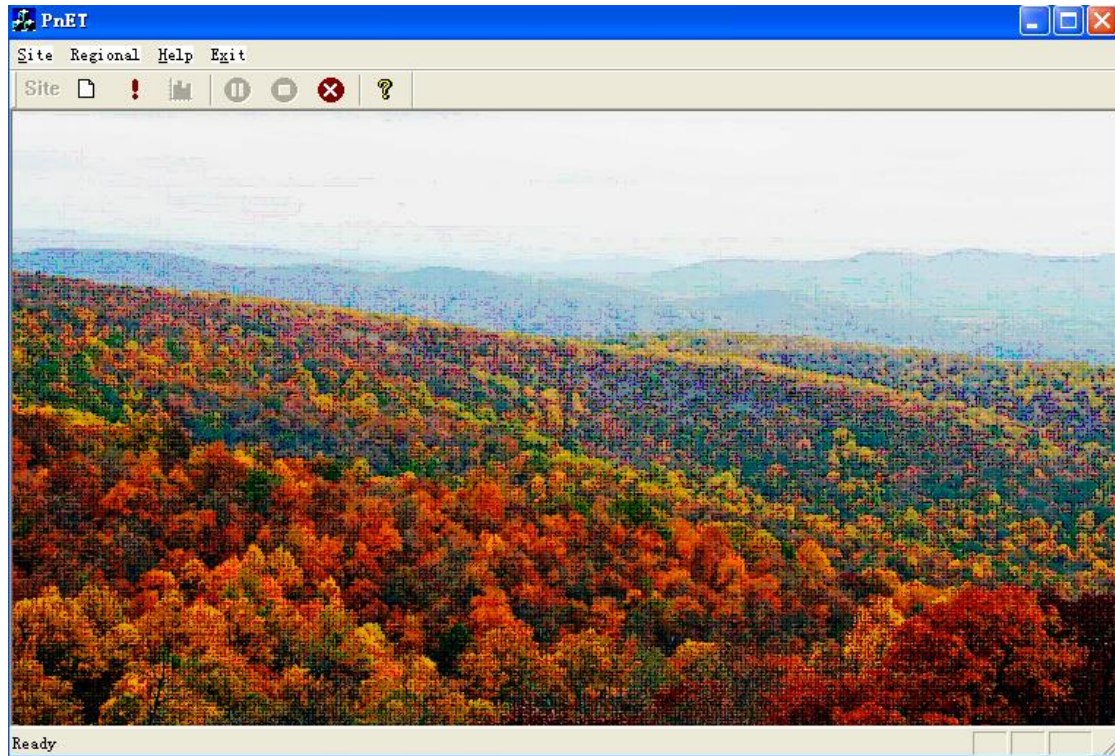


A BRIEF USER'S GUIDE FOR PnET MODEL



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DISCLAIMER

PnET is a suite of nested computer models which provide a modular approach to simulating the carbon, water and nitrogen dynamics of forest ecosystems. Neither the Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space (EOS) nor the University of New Hampshire (UNH) nor any of their employees, make any warranty or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference to any special commercial products, process, or service by tradename, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by EOS or UNH. The views and opinions of the authors do not necessarily state or reflect those of EOS or UNH and shall not be used for advertising or product endorsement.

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PnET models were developed with financial support from the University of New Hampshire (UNH), Department of Agriculture (USDA), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Aeronautics, Space Administration (NASA), National Science Foundation (NSF), and The Long Term Ecological Research Network (LTER).

The researchers involved in the models' development are John D. Aber, Anthony Federer, Scott V. Ollinger, Peter B. Reich, Michael L. Goulden, Charles T. Driscoll, Alexandra M. Thorn, Jennifer C. Jenkins, Andrew P. Ouimette, Jingfeng Xiao, Weifeng Wang, Zaixing Zhou, Christina Tonitto, Christine L. Goodale, Serita D. Frey, et al.

PnET models are still under development. If you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to Dr. Zaixing Zhou via email: zaixing.zhou@unh.edu. We will keep updating the models and this manual.



Information above is subject to change without notice.

1 Introduction

PnET is a suite of nested computer models that provide a modular approach to simulating the carbon, water, and nitrogen dynamics of forest ecosystems. Though primarily a temperate forest canopy model, work is underway to generalize PnET and produce a simple, alternative model applicable to all terrestrial ecosystem types.

PnET-Day is the instantaneous canopy flux (carbon) module. PnET-II adds carbon allocation, a water balance, and soil respiration to produce a monthly time-step carbon and water model, which is driven by nitrogen availability (e.g., foliar N) along with weather forcing. PnET-CN further extends the soil dynamics component and closes the N cycle by tracking nitrogen throughout all compartments and fluxes. i.e., instead of prescribing a foliar N in PnET-II, PnET-CN dynamically predicts foliar N through N cycling. PnET-Daily extends the monthly prediction of PnET-CN into daily dynamics. PnET-SOM replaces the single SOM pool of the PnET-CN model with representations of organic matter dynamics by soil horizons (O, A, B) and organic matter forms.

The best source of information about PnET are the journal publications available on the Publications page. The model is released as open source, and users are encouraged to extend and enhance it for their purposes.

PnET is available in MATLAB, Visual Basic, C++, R sources (PnET-CN), Python (PnET-II). The distribution package contains example files that will allow the user to run each model version using data acquired at the Harvard Forest and Hubbard Brook experimental forests and a subset of the VEMAP continental U.S. data.

PnET was developed at the Earth Systems Research Center (formerly Complex Systems Research Center, a division of the Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans and Space at the University of New Hampshire). Read more about the history of PnET at the ESRC. PnET development and application was supported through grants from the following agencies:

the University of New Hampshire (UNH), Department of Agriculture (USDA), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Aeronautics, Space Administration (NASA), National Science Foundation (NSF), and The Long Term Ecological Research Network (LTER).

It is recommended to review the publications listed in the references to obtain an adequate understanding of the scientific concepts underlining the model functions.

2 Model Description

The PnET Family - Nested Models of Forest Biogeochemistry

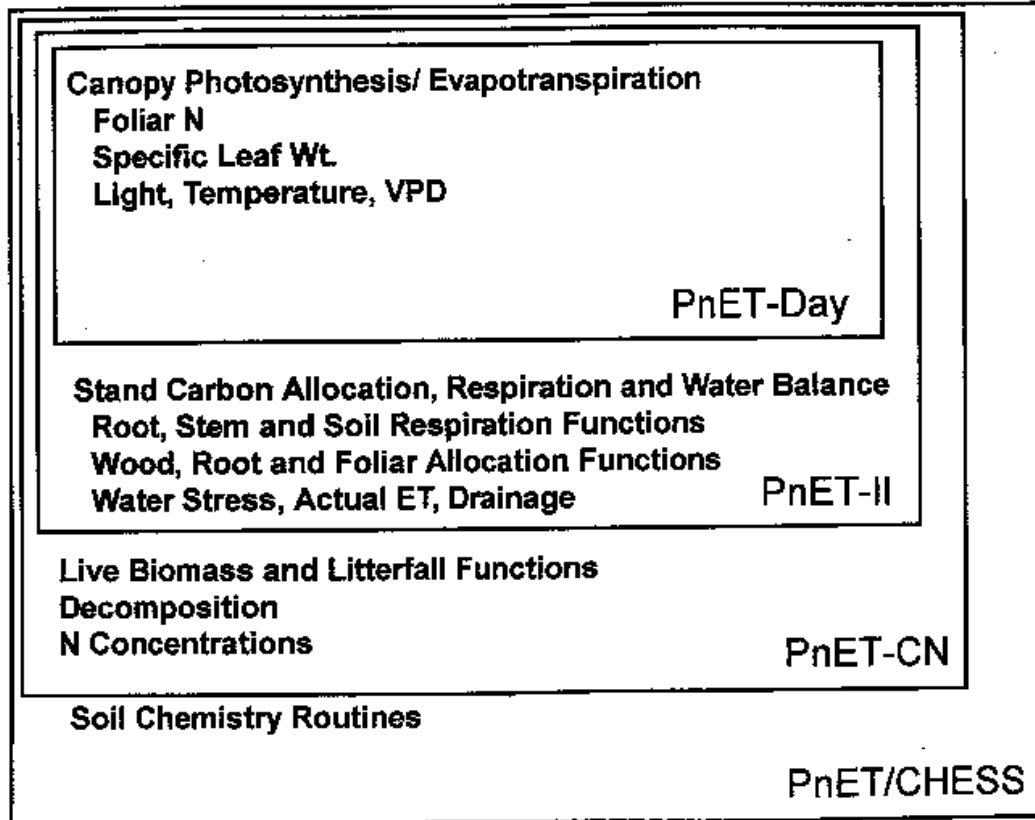


Fig. 1 The concept structure of the PnET model

3 Versions of PnET

3.1. C++ on Windows

3.1.1. Software and Hardware Requirements

3.1.2. Installation

PnET package is available from EOS, UNH, NH, USA. Model package can be copied into any directory in your local hard drive. The model package has a .exe executable and several pre-created directories, such as '*Input*', '*Library*', and '*Result*'.

3.1.3. Input for Site-Scale Simulation

3.1.4. Getting started

After the installation procedure, by double clicking the executable (normally, PnET.exe) in the model directory, the windows interface of the model will be popped up on the screen as shown in Fig.2. By clicking the button you will be able to send your input data to the model or run the mode in the site or regional mode.

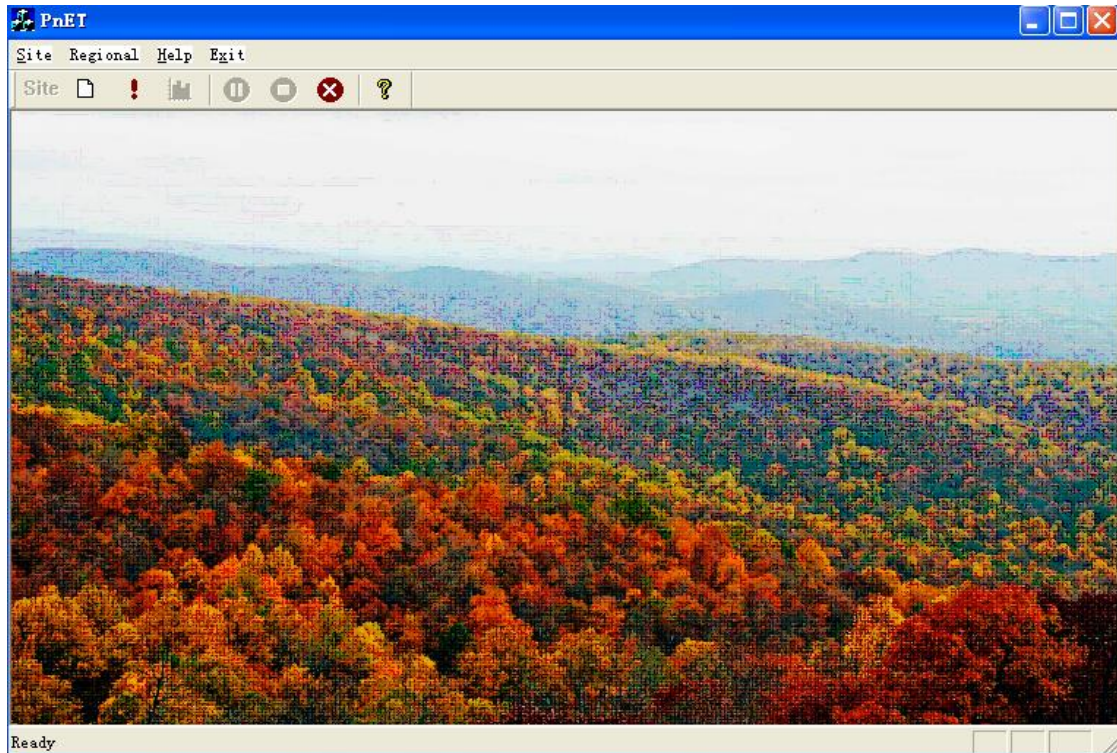



Fig. 2 PnET model interface

3.1.5. Site Mode

In the site mode, most of the input parameters will be typed in manually through the input pages. Clicking the '*Setup Site...*' button by the sign '*Site*' on the main menu will initiate the input procedure in site mode. There are five pages for inputting (1) Model options, (2) Site parameters, (3) Vegetation parameters, (4) Disturbance and management parameters, and (5) Result visualization, respectively. During the input process, you can come back to any specific page to make modifications. Generally, a project case run has to be completely executed and then output all results, thus, the result visualization can be correctly presented. When all the inputs have been typed in for all the pages except *Result*, you are ready to start the site simulation by clicking button '*Run*' on *Model Options* or on the toolbar after clicking the OK button at the bottom of the climate page to end the input procedure.

3.1.6. Model Options

PnET can be operated on IBM-PC computers with 486 or better capabilities or on workstations. Computers with a RAM of 64 MB or more and a speed of 350MHz or higher are recommended.

Click the  button by “Site” in the toolbar. A new property sheet is opened. The “Model Options” page is shown as the active page. (Figure 3).

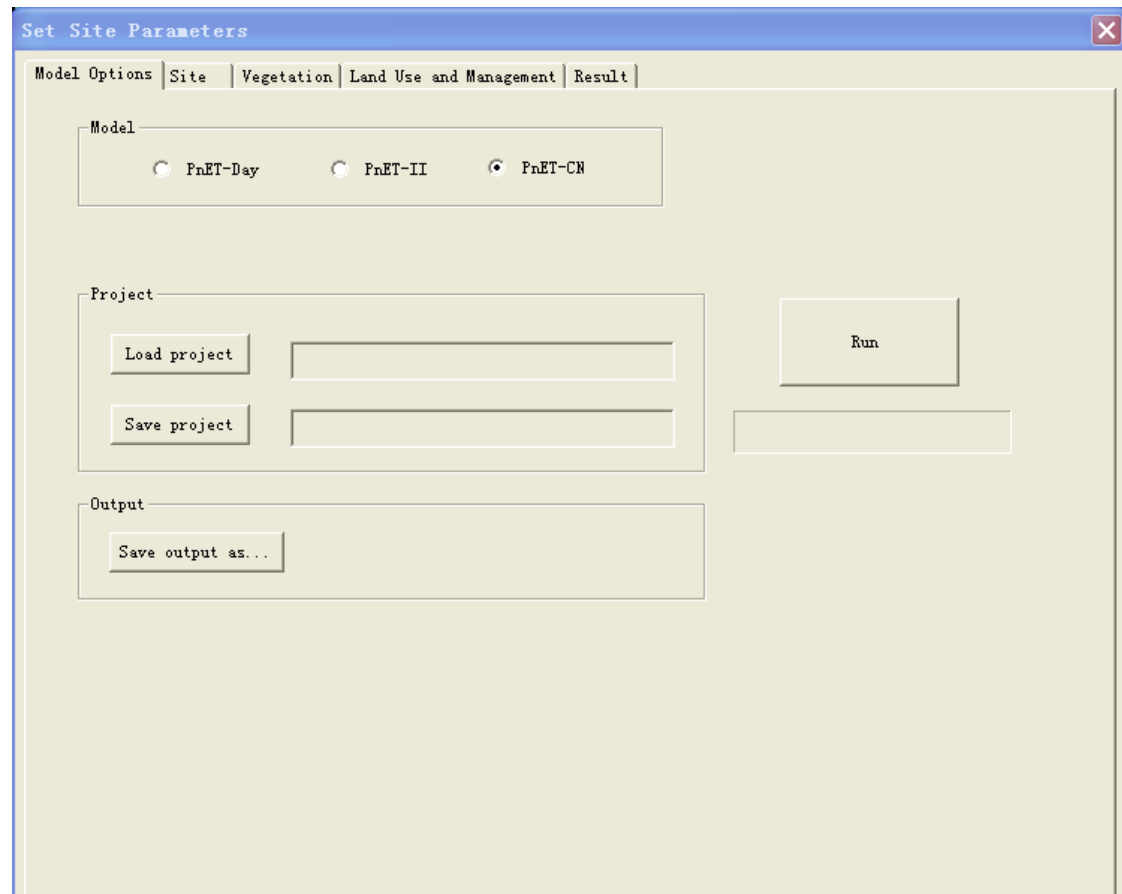


Fig. 3 Page for Model Options

[**Model**]: Three types of PnET model for selection;
PnET-Day, PnET-II, and PnET-CN

3.1.7. Site

Set Site Parameters

Model Options | **Site** | Vegetation | Land Use and Management | Result

Latitude (degree)

Climate options

- Ozone effect
- CO2 effect on stomatal conductance
- Use absolute N content (mg/l)

Simulated years from to

Soil

Water hold capacity (cm)	<input type="text" value="12"/>	Humus mass (g/m ²)	<input type="text" value="13500"/>	Humus decomposition constant	<input type="text" value="0.075"/>
Snow pack (cm)	<input type="text" value="13"/>	Humus N mass (g/m ²)	<input type="text" value="390"/>	Soil respiration factor A	<input type="text" value="27.46"/>
Soil water (cm)	<input type="text" value="12"/>	Soil NH ₄ content (g/m ²)	<input type="text" value="0.01"/>	Soil respiration factor B	<input type="text" value="0.068"/>
Soil moisture factor	<input type="text" value="0"/>			N immobilization factor A	<input type="text" value="151"/>
Fast flow fraction	<input type="text" value="0.1"/>			N immobilization factor B	<input type="text" value="-35"/>
Water release factor f	<input type="text" value="0.04"/>				
DWater	<input type="text" value="0.9"/>				

Fig. 4 Page for Site information

Click the “Site” tab. A new page is opened. This is the “Site” page (Figure 4).

3.1.8. Vegetation

The screenshot shows the 'Set Site Parameters' window with the 'Vegetation' tab selected. The interface includes several sections for parameter entry:

- General Parameters:**
 - Type: 1 RORM Red_Oak_Red_Maple
 - Age: 40
 - Leaf: 0, Live wood: 20000, Dead wood: 0, Root: 6, MaxL: 300, MinL: 0
 - BudC: 130, WoodC: 300, PlantC: 900, PlantN: 1, NRatio: 1.4
- Tree parameters:**
 - AmaxA, n mole CO₂/g/s: -46
 - AmaxE: 71.9
 - Amax fraction: 0.75
 - Base leaf respiration fraction: 0.1
 - Respiration Q10: 2
 - Light half satur constant: 200
 - Minimum Psn temperature: 4
 - Optimum Psn temperature: 24
 - Leaf retention, yrs: 1
 - Initial %N in foliage: 2.2
 - Specific leaf weight, g/m²: 100
 - SLWdel: 0.2
 - Canopy light attenuation k: 0.58
 - Leaf start TDD: 100
 - Leaf end TDD: 900
 - Senesc start day: 270
 - Max leaf growth rate %/yr: 0.95
 - DVPD1: 0.05
 - DVPD2: 2
 - Water use efficiency: 10.9
 - Precipitation intercepted: 0.11
 - C fraction of dry matter: 0.45
 - Growth respiration fraction: 0.25
 - Wood start TDD: 100
 - Wood end TDD: 900
 - Wood maintain resp. frac: 0.07
 - Root maintain resp. fraction: 1
 - Root allocation factor A: 0
 - Root allocation factor B: 2
 - PlantC reserve fraction: 0.75
 - Min wood/leaf: 1.5
 - Wood turnover rate: 0.025
 - Root turnover factor A: 0.789
 - Root turnover factor B: 0.191
 - Root turnover factor C: 0.021
 - Wood litter loss rate: 0.1
 - Wood litter C loss: 0.8
 - Min %N in foliage litter: 0.009
 - Min %N in wood litter: 0.002
 - Min %N in root litter: 0.012
 - Leaf %N range: 0.6
 - Leaf N retranslocation: 0.5
 - Max N storage, kg N/ha: 20

A 'Default' button is located at the bottom right of the parameter grid.

Fig. 5 Page for Vegetation

Click the “Vegetation” tab. A new page is opened for entering the vegetation information (Figure 5).

3.1.9. Disturbance and Management

Set Site Parameters

Model Options | Site | Vegetation | **Disturbance and Management** | Result

Land Use/Disturbance (harvest/fire)

Total disturbance #

Disturbance #

Year Biomass mortality Fraction removed Soil loss fraction Foliar regeneration

NO	Year	Mortality	Remove	Soil loss	Foliar regeneration
1	1750	0.200	0.010	0.000	100.0
2	1930	0.500	0.800	0.000	100.0
3	1950	0.010	0.010	1.000	100.0

Agriculture

Removed: From year To Fraction

Fertilization

Application: Year DOY Type and rate (g/m2)

From NH4+ NO3- Urea

To

Fig. 6 Page for Disturbance and Management

Click the “Disturbance and Management” tab. A new page is opened for entering the vegetation information (Figure 5).

3.1.10. Save and Load Input Files

After you input all data needed for the model and return to the *Model Options* page, you can save all input data into a user-named file by clicking the *Save project* button.

Meanwhile, you can manually edit the save project file with Notepad or other word processor and read the file into the model by clicking the *Load project* button. In this way, you do not need to enter all parameters one page by one page any more.

3.1.11. Execution of Simulation

By clicking the *Run* button on the *Model Options* page, you will command the model to read in all of the input parameters, and execute the relevant calculations. After successful completion of the model run, the progress bar under the *Run* button will show 100% to inform of the ending of calculation (Figure 6).

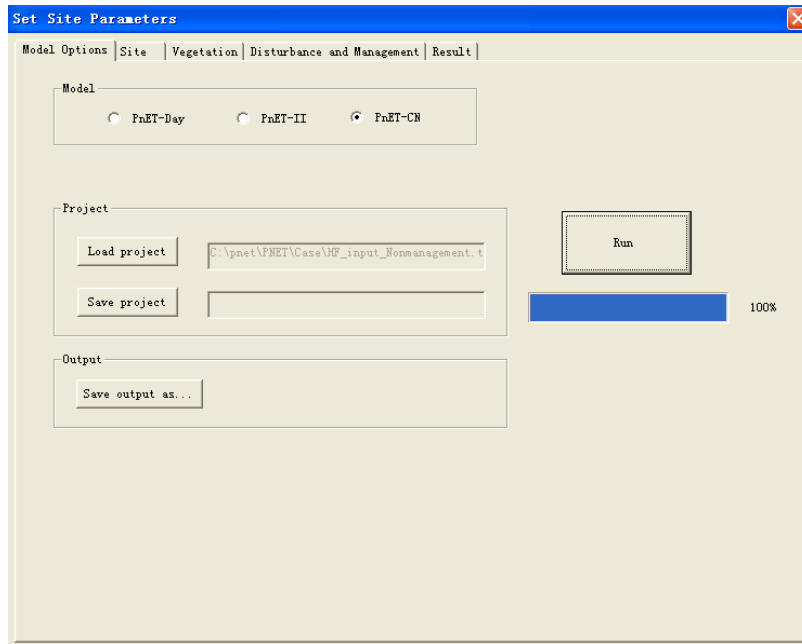


Fig. 7 Completion of the model run

3.1.12. Visualization and Save of Results

Model results are recorded in files located at **Result** directory. They can be opened with any text editors.

Click the “Result” tab. A new page is opened for viewing the results (Figure 8). Figures shown on this page are not based on the same scale. They are displayed only to show patterns of variation for diagnosis.

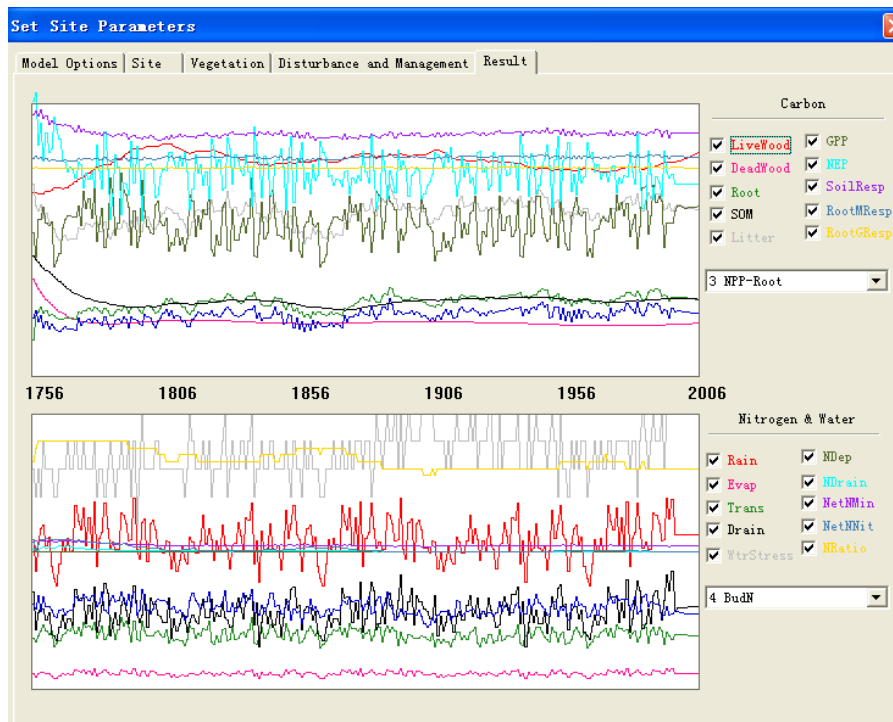


Fig. 8 Visualization of model results

3.1.13. Help

By clicking the *Help* button given in the top toolbar, you will have this user guide to display on the screen for reference.

3.2. C++ on Linux system

3.2.1. Installing and running

A PnET version in C++ is provided for using with text files as input and output interface. Its codes can be compiled by GNU Compiler GCC or using a free development environment on Windows, e.g., Eclipse or Visual Studio Code. A make file comes with the original codes to facilitate the compilation.

3.2.1.1. Linux system

Run a terminal and locate the PnET code folder (pnet\pnet_linux) if you use a Linux system. Type **make** (or **make cleanall** to clean all built files in advance) to compile and build the codes. You can run the PnET model by entering **./pnet**.

3.2.1.2. Windows system

If you use a Windows system to compile the codes, MinGW, a freely distributable compiler system using GCC to produce Windows programs, is recommended to install (<http://www.mingw.org/>) in the root directory (i.e., C:\MinGW). When running the installer, check all boxes specifying different programming languages. After successful installation, you must add C:\MinGW\bin and C:\MinGW\msys\1.0\bin to the PATH environment variables as follows:

- 1, Right-click **My Computer**, and then click **Properties**.
- 2, Click the **Advanced** tab.
- 3, Click **Environment Variables**.
- 4, Double click **Path** in **System Variable**.
- 5, Add C:\MinGW\bin, and C:\MinGW\msys\1.0\bin to the end of the value (for old **Windows**, add a semicomma separator after each field).

To use MinGW Shell to compile and execute PnET, run MinGW Shell (C:\MinGW\msys\1.0\msys.bat) and locate to the PnET code folder (pnet\pnet_linux). Typing **Make** command into the shell terminal starts the compilation of the model. A

pnet.exe executable is generated, and you can run PnET model by typing `./pnet` in the shell or clicking pnet.exe in the code folder.

To use Windows Command Prompt (cmd) to compile and excute PnET, run cmd from the Run by typing cmd and locate to the PnET code folder (pnet\pnet_linux), or first locate the folder and then type cmd in the address bar to run cmd. Typing **Make** command (**or make cleanall to clean all built files in advance**) into the terminal starts the compilation of the model. A pnet.exe executable is generated, and you can run PnET model by typing **pnet** in the shell or clicking pnet.exe in the code folder.

3.2.1.3. Eclipse IDE

If you prefer a better development environment, Eclipse is recommended along with MingGW.

If you use Windows, first install MingGW by following the above section. To install Eclipse (you probably also need to update your Java by installing the latest JDK or JSE, add Java path into the PATH environment variables as with **MinGW**):

- 1, Download Eclipse IDE for C/C++ Developers from <http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/>.

- 2, Install Eclipse for C/C++.

- 3, Click **eclipse.exe** to run it.

To set up PnET Project in Eclipse IDE:

- 1, Run Eclipse by clicking the executable.

- 2, Click **File** and Click **New** to create a C++ Project.

- 3, In the **Project type** box, choose **Makefile project**, and build an **Empty project**.

- 4, Uncheck **Use default location** and use **Browse** to locate the PnET code folder (pnet\pnet_linux). Type a project name in **Project name**, e.g., PnET_Tfarm.

- 5, In the **Toolchains** box, choose **MinGW GCC**. Click **Finish** to complete the setting-up.

- 6, To compile and execute PnET with Eclipse, Click **Project** in the menu and then click **Build project (or Build All)**. Click **Run** command to run PnET.

- 7, If the Build menu does not make any response, the builder property should be updated as follows:

Right-click the project name, go to the **Property**, click the C/C++ **Build**. In the

Environment tab seen by unfolding the **C/C++ Build**, the MinGW and MSYS should appear in the table; otherwise, add manually. In the **Tool Chain Editor**, The **Current Toolchain** should be MinGW GCC, and the **Current builder** is Gnu Make Builder. Then go back to **C/C++ Build** home page to uncheck **Makefile generation**. The **Builder type** should be **External builder**, **Build command** is make, The Build location is active, instead of gray out.

Apple MacOS needs to install Xcode before installing Eclipse.

3.2.1.4. Visual Studio Code IDE

PnET codes can also be compiled and run in Visual Studio Code. After installation of Visual Studio Code (VSCode), you can add the **Makefile Tools** extension in VSC to support makefile by clicking **Extensions** and installing **Makefile Tools**. See the <https://devblogs.microsoft.com/cppblog/now-announcing-makefile-support-in-visual-studio-code/> for more details to install, activate, and use Makefile Tools in VSCode.

3.2.2. Adding a new code file

For all versions, as PnET codes have to be compiled with a make file, if you add a new code file into the project, you have to update the make file in the code folder, namely **makefile**, using the existing text as an example.

3.3. Matlab version

PnET has a Matlab version for PnET-Day, PnET-II, and PnET-CN. To run this version, users must have a license to access the Matlab application.

1, Run your Matlab.

2, Set the model folder. Click **Browse for folder** in the tool bar to select the PnET code directory as the current active directory. In the **Explorer** panel you can see all matlab routines.

3, Load the input climate, site, and vegetation structures. Use the "load" command to load these input files separately from the sample directory, e.g.

```
>>load ('C:\pnet\PnET_R2\samplefiles\nhwd.mat') for veg structure
```

```
>>load ('C:\pnet\PnET_R2\samplefiles\hfsite.mat') for site structure
```

```
>>load ('C:\pnet\PnET_R2\samplefiles\hf_1000y_avg.mat') for climate structure.
```

Alternatively, you can drag and release those files into the command window. You also can use the **Import Data** command in the tool bar to load those files.

After loaded, those structures can be viewed and edited in the **Workspace** panel.

4, Run PnET. Type “out=pnetcn(climIn,siteIn,vegIn)” in the command window to run PnET-CN, where you have to use your climIn, siteIn, vegIn, and out structures instead. out is a structure that consists of all the output variables (e.g., gpp, nep, plantc, et), including monthly and annual output variables.

5, Plot your results. You can use Matlab Plotting commands or tools to visualize model results.

3.4. VB version

The original version of the model is programmed in Visual Basic. It has a graphical user interface and makes an excellent teaching tool. This version of the model runs natively on Windows platforms. Unfortunately, as Windows system keeps updating as well as Visual Basic, we have not updated the VB version along with the other latest versions.

3.5. R version

PnET has an R version of PnET-CN.

3.6. Python version

Python versions of PnET are under development. A Python PnET-II is available on GitHub. https://github.com/zaixingzhou/PnET_python_master.

4 References

A bibliography of peer review journal publications and book chapters related to the PnET model. The four primary reference papers for PnET are listed separately and are available for online reading.

Original PnET paper

From *Oecologia* (1992) 92:463-474. This first PnET related publication is included for historical background only as the early version of the model described is superceded by PnET-II.

PnET-Day

From *Oecologia* (1996) 106:257-265. Description of the instantaneous, daily time-step version of PnET.

PnET-II

From *Climate Research* (1995) 5:207-222. Introduction to the monthly time-step foliar nitrogen driven version of PnET.

PnET-CN

From *Ecological Modelling* (1997) 101:61-78. Description of the monthly time-step version of PnET which includes a complete nitrogen cycle.

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-----2007-----

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