

# Forest digital twin via big data integration: Current advances and future perspectives

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## Electronic Supplementary Material (ESM)

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Table S1. The most relevant publications on forest digital twins from 2021 to 2025

| Year | Author                | Title                                                                                                                          | Scope of applications                                          | Country        | Journal/conference                                                                                  |
|------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2021 | Huang et al.          | Walking through the forests of the future: using data-driven virtual reality to visualize forests under climate change         | visualise forest for the future under climate change           | USA            | International Journal of Geographical Information Science                                           |
| 2021 | Klippel et al.        | Embodied digital twins for environmental applications                                                                          | potential theoretical grounding of embodied digital twins      | USA            | ISPRS Annals of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences                 |
| 2021 | Möttus et al.         | A methodology for implementing a digital twin of the Earth's forests to match the requirements of different user groups        | forest carbon stocks                                           | Finland        | GI_Forum                                                                                            |
| 2021 | Nita                  | Testing forestry digital twinning workflow based on mobile LiDAR scanner and AI platform                                       | forest management                                              | Romania        | Forests                                                                                             |
| 2021 | Sahal et al.          | 4.0 towards Forestry 4.0: Fire detection use case                                                                              | forest fire detection                                          | Ireland        | Sensors                                                                                             |
| 2021 | Wallgrün et al.       | Embodied digital twins of forest environments                                                                                  | the concept of forest digital twins                            | USA            | GIScience 2021 Short Paper Proceedings                                                              |
| 2022 | Bae et al.            | Automatic flight plan creation tool with digital twin for monitoring forest fire on mountain trail through UAV                 | monitoring forest fire                                         | Korea          | 1 <sup>st</sup> International Workshop on Intelligent Software Engineering                          |
| 2022 | Buonocore et al.      | A proposal for a forest digital twin framework and its perspectives                                                            | framework proposal                                             | Italy          | Forests                                                                                             |
| 2022 | Hejtmánek et al.      | Forest digital twin as a relaxation environment: A pilot study                                                                 | forest bathing                                                 | Czech Republic | Frontiers in Virtual Reality                                                                        |
| 2022 | Jang et al.           | Forestry digital twin with machine learning in Landsat 7 data                                                                  | forestry canopy, species and distribution                      | China          | Frontiers in Plant Science                                                                          |
| 2022 | Lv et al.             | Editorial: Digital twins of plant and forest                                                                                   | editorial on the research topic                                | China          | Frontiers in Plant Science                                                                          |
| 2022 | Li et al.             | Digital twinning of all forest and non-forest trees at national level via deep learning                                        | forest management                                              | Denmark        | Research Square                                                                                     |
| 2022 | Nie et al.            | Artificial intelligence and digital twins in sustainable agriculture and forestry: A survey                                    | a review                                                       | China          | Turkish Journal of Agriculture and Forestry                                                         |
| 2022 | Qi et al.             | A case study of the relationship between vegetation coverage and urban heat island in a coastal city by applying digital twins | effect of vegetation coverage on the urban thermal environment | China          | Frontiers in Plant Science                                                                          |
| 2022 | Sanchez-Guzman et al. | Modeling a simulated forest to get burning times of tree species using a digital twin                                          | forest fires                                                   | Ecuador        | Proceedings of the IEEE 12 <sup>th</sup> Annual Computing and Communication Workshop and Conference |

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Table S1. To be continued

| Year | Author                 | Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Scope of applications                                   | Country     | Journal/conference                                                                                |
|------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022 | Wang et al.            | Integrating real tree skeleton reconstruction based on partial Computational Virtual Measurement (CVM) with actual forest scenario rendering: A solid step forward for the realization of the digital twins of trees and forests | tree structure                                          | China       | Remote Sensing                                                                                    |
| 2022 | Yun et al.             | A novel digital twin architecture with similarity-based hybrid modeling for supporting dependable disaster management systems                                                                                                    | wildfire scenario                                       | South Korea | Sensors                                                                                           |
| 2022 | Yusup et al.           | Population structure and spatial distribution pattern of <i>Populus euphratica</i> riparian forest under environmental heterogeneity along the Tarim River, Northwest China                                                      | forest stand structure and spatial distribution pattern | China       | Frontiers in Plant Science                                                                        |
| 2023 | Döllner et al.         | Forests in the digital age: Concepts and technologies for designing and deploying forest digital twins                                                                                                                           | forest ecosystem service                                | Germany     | The 28 <sup>th</sup> International ACM Conference on 3D Web Technology                            |
| 2023 | Iwaszczuk et al.       | Potential of mobile mapping to create digital twins of forests                                                                                                                                                                   | MLS application to forest digital twin                  | Germany     | The International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences |
| 2023 | Koning et al.          | Digital twins: Dynamic model-data fusion for ecology                                                                                                                                                                             | a review                                                | Netherlands | Trends in Ecology & Evolution                                                                     |
| 2023 | Li et al.              | Framework of virtual plantation forest modeling and data analysis for digital twin                                                                                                                                               | forest experimentation and management                   | China       | Forests                                                                                           |
| 2023 | Liu et al.             | Reconstructing the digital twin of forests from a 3D library: Quantifying trade-offs for radiative transfer modeling                                                                                                             | impact of forest subsampling on RT modelling            | Belgium     | Remote Sensing of Environment                                                                     |
| 2023 | Qiu et al.             | Forest digital twin: A new tool for forest management practices based on Spatio-Temporal Data, 3D simulation Engine, and intelligent interactive environment                                                                     | forest management                                       | China       | Computers and Electronics in Agriculture                                                          |
| 2023 | Silva et al.           | Forest digital twin: A digital transformation approach for monitoring greenhouse gas emissions                                                                                                                                   | monitoring greenhouse gas emissions                     | Brazil      | Polytechnica                                                                                      |
| 2023 | Sujaswara and Hasegawa | Evaluating the potential of UAV structure-from-motion for generating forest digital twin: Performing DBH estimation and wood-leaf classification                                                                                 | performing DBH estimation and wood-leaf classification  | Japan       | available at SSRN                                                                                 |
| 2023 | Zamari                 | A proposal for a wildfire digital twin framework through automatic extraction of remotely sensed data: The Italian case study of the Susa Valley                                                                                 | forest wildfire management                              | Italy       | doctoral dissertation                                                                             |

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Table S1. To be continued

| Year | Author                       | Title                                                                                                                                      | Scope of applications                                    | Country        | Journal/conference                                                                                           |
|------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2023 | Zhong et al.                 | Reduced-order digital twin and latent data assimilation for global wildfire prediction                                                     | forest wildfire prediction                               | United Kingdom | Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences                                                                    |
| 2024 | Afsar et al.                 | Prototype biodiversity digital twin: forest biodiversity dynamics                                                                          | forest management                                        | Finland        | Research Ideas and Outcomes                                                                                  |
| 2024 | Ambarwari et al.             | Conceptual model of graph-based individual tree and its utilization in digital twin and metaverse of urban forest                          | urban forest structure                                   | Indonesia      | International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences-ISPRS Archives |
| 2024 | Aydin and Oktug              | Employing digital twin to forest fire management systems                                                                                   | forest fire management                                   | Turkiye        | 9 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computer Science and Engineering                                 |
| 2024 | Chen et al.                  | Towards the digital twin of urban forest: 3D modeling and parameterization of large-scale urban trees from close-range laser scanning      | urban forest structure                                   | China          | International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation                                        |
| 2024 | Damaševičius and Maskeliūnas | A reinforcement learning-based adaptive digital twin model for forests                                                                     | forest ecosystems                                        | Lithuania      | 4 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Applied Artificial Intelligence                                  |
| 2024 | Hoppen et al.                | Smart forestry – A Forestry 4.0 approach to intelligent and fully integrated timber harvesting                                             | forest timber harvesting                                 | Germany        | International Journal of Forest Engineering                                                                  |
| 2024 | Huang et al.                 | Modeling of wildfire digital twin: Research progress in detection, simulation, and prediction techniques                                   | forest wildfires                                         | China          | Fire                                                                                                         |
| 2024 | Karolos et al.               | Advancing forest biodiversity conservation with the EL-BIOS digital twin: An integration of LiDAR and multispectral earth observation data | forest biodiversity                                      | Greece         | Tenth International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment                       |
| 2024 | Li et al.                    | Research on forest resource supervision technology based on digital twin UAV                                                               | forest fire management                                   | China          | IEEE 7 <sup>th</sup> Advanced Information Technology, Electronic and Automation Control Conference           |
| 2024 | Murtiyoso et al.             | Virtual forests: A review on emerging questions in the use and application of 3D data in forestry                                          | education and training, communication among stakeholders | Switzerland    | International Journal of Forest Engineering                                                                  |
| 2024 | Ozel and Petrovic            | Green urban scenarios: A framework for digital twin representation and simulation for urban forests and their impact analysis              | framework for urban forest                               | Netherlands    | Arboriculture & Urban Forestry                                                                               |
| 2024 | Padmakumar and Shanthakumar  | Artificial intelligence and remote sensing for climate-resilient precision forestry management                                             | forest management                                        | Canada         | The 4 <sup>th</sup> International Electronic Conference on Forests                                           |

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| Year | Author           | Title                                                                                                                                                   | Scope of applications                                 | Country     | Journal/conference                                                 |
|------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2024 | Rammer et al.    | The individual-based forest landscape and disturbance model iLand: Overview, progress, and outlook                                                      | forest dynamics at the level of individual trees      | Germany     | Ecological Modelling                                               |
| 2024 | Subedi et al.    | Exploring the potential application of machine learning techniques in forest management planning                                                        | forest planning                                       | Canada      | The 4 <sup>th</sup> International Electronic Conference on Forests |
| 2024 | Tagarakis et al. | Digital twins in agriculture and forestry: A review                                                                                                     | a review                                              | Greece      | Sensors                                                            |
| 2024 | Wang et al.      | RFWNet: A multi-scale remote sensing forest wildfire detection network with digital twinning, adaptive spatial aggregation, and dynamic sparse features | forest wildfire models                                | China       | IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing                 |
| 2024 | Zohdi            | A machine-learning enabled digital-twin framework for next generation precision agriculture and forestry                                                | framework for digital twin                            | USA         | Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering              |
| 2025 | Li et al.        | Review and perspectives of digital twin systems for wildland fire management                                                                            | wildland fire management                              | China       | Journal of Forestry Research                                       |
| 2025 | Wang et al.      | Climatesmart forestry: An AI-enabled sustainable forest management solution for climate change adaptation and mitigation                                | forest under climate change adaptation and mitigation | USA         | Journal of Forestry Research                                       |
| 2025 | Dao et al.       | A semantic digital twin-driven framework for multi-source data integration in forest fire prediction and response                                       | a semantic digital twin-driven framework              | China       | Forests                                                            |
| 2025 | Sasaki and Abe   | A digital twin architecture for forest restoration: integrating AI, IoT, and Blockchain for smart ecosystem management                                  | a digital twin architecture                           | Thailand    | Future Internet                                                    |
| 2025 | Jo et al.        | Construction of tree-based forest management digital twin database with airborne laser surveying                                                        | forest management                                     | South Korea | Sensors & Materials                                                |
| 2025 | Tam et al.       | Toward a digital twin to improve the training and performance of forestry operators                                                                     | review about forestry operators                       | Belgium     | International Journal of Forest Engineering                        |
| 2025 | Li et al.        | Forest fire analysis prediction and digital twin verification: A trinity framework and application                                                      | forest fire prediction                                | China       | Forests                                                            |
| 2025 | Väätäinen et al. | Toward a digital twin of forest roads – Road weather stations for monitoring road condition and trafficability in Eastern Finland                       | a digital twin of forest roads                        | Finland     | International Journal of Forest Engineering                        |

Table S1. To be continued

| Year | Author      | Title                                                                                                                     | Scope of applications   | Country    | Journal/conference                                                                     |
|------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025 | Das         | High-resolution remote sensing and ecosystem modelling for climate-resilient forests: A review of digital-twin approaches | a review article        | Bangladesh | SSRN                                                                                   |
| 2025 | Ortu et al. | Digital twin for real-time forest fire monitoring and response                                                            | forest fire detection   | Italy      | Seventh International Conference on Information Technology and Computer Communications |
| 2025 | Fan et al.  | A digital twin approach to forest fire re-ignition: Mechanisms, prediction, and suppression visualization                 | forest fire re-ignition | China      | Forests                                                                                |

DBH – diameter at breast height; MLS – mobile laser scanning; RT – radiative transfer

Scope of applications means the main idea of the forest digital twin from their publication; country only denotes the first affiliation of the first author