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The Use of Elementary Mathematics to Solve Important Optimization Problems in Forestry.

Great Strides have been made in sawmill automation since the first Best Opening Face (BOF) models were proposed in the 1970s. This paper will demonstrate the use of elementary mathematical methods and computing to design algorithms that aim maximize lumber yield (or equivalently, minimize lumber loss). These make for nice undergraduate research projects that bring together the areas of mathematics, computer science and forestry. (Received September 14, 2000)