







MONITORING VEGETATION IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

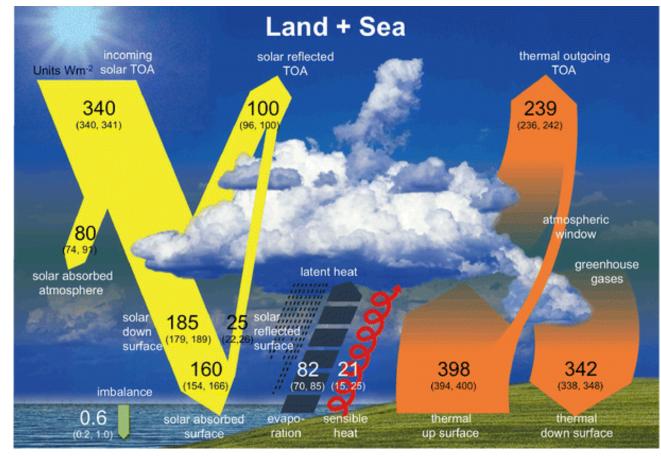
[D5T3a]

Gregory Duveiller

European Commission Joint Research Centre

Why/how is the climate changing?

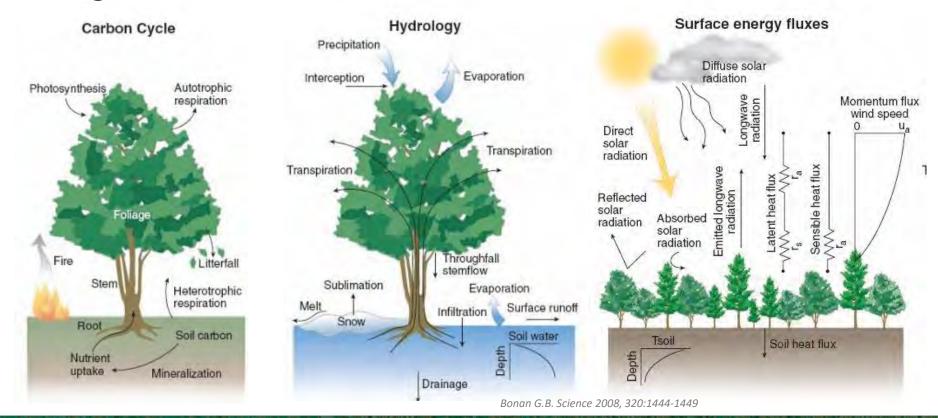
The Global Energy (im)balance



Wild et al. 2015. Clim. Dynamics

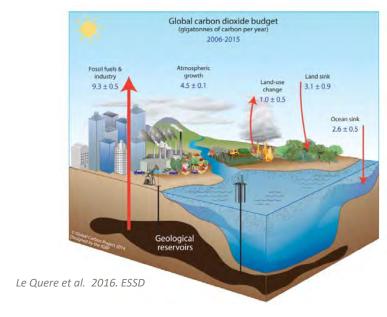
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Vegetation interacts with climate in various ways



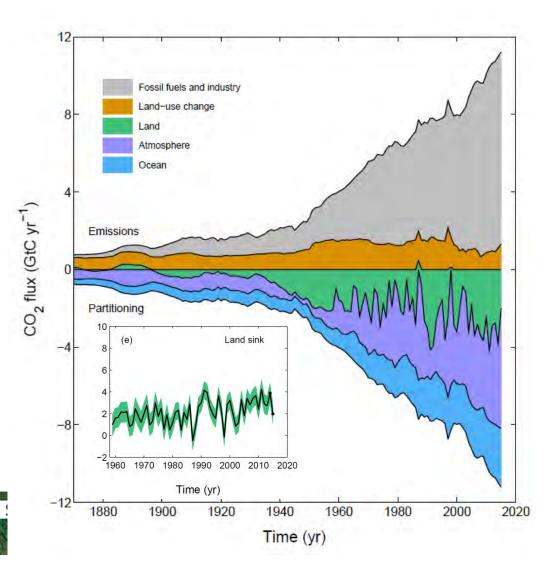
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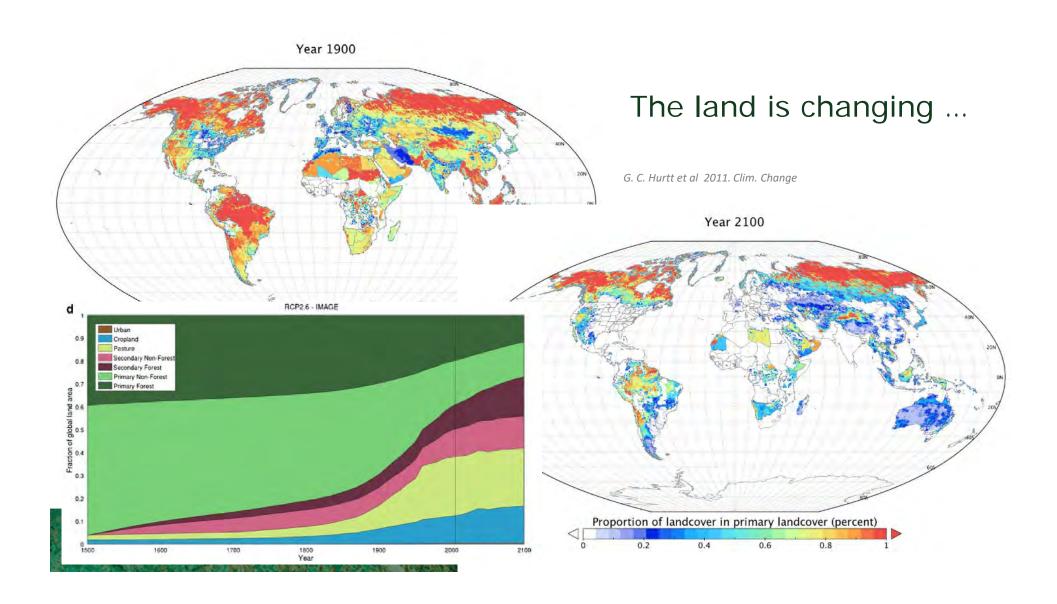
Carbon fluxes



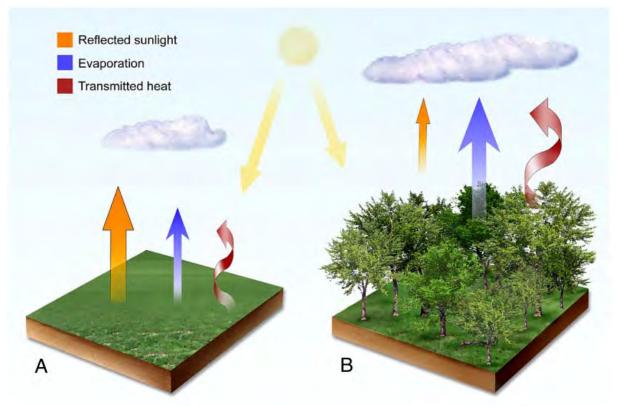
Terrestrial vegetation is the most variable and uncertain component in the global carbon balance

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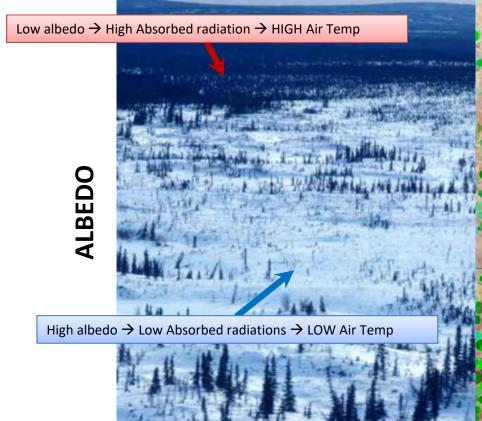
Land cover changes has local biophysical impacts



Source:

Jackson, R. B., Randerson, J. T., Canadell, J. G., Anderson, R. G., Avissar, R., Baldocchi, D. D., ... Pataki, D. E. (2008). Protecting climate with forests. Environmental Research Letters, 3(4)

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→ 7th ADVAN(4-9 September 201

What would we want to extract from RS?

- Vegetation productivity and biomass
- Energy fluxes (LST, albedo, ET)
- Vegetation type and change



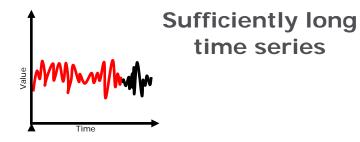
What do we use these estimates for?

- To better understand land surface processes
- To monitor changes in land surface at global to local scales
- To benchmark, calibrate and parametrize land surface models

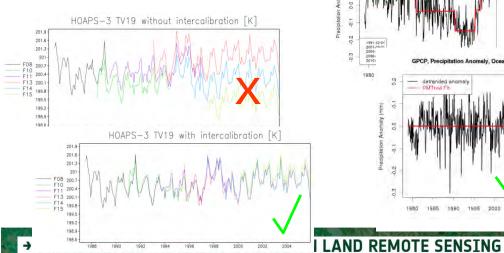
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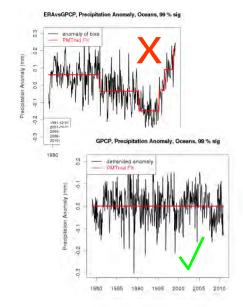
Requirements for climate data

Slide adapted from Jedrzej S. Bojanowsky

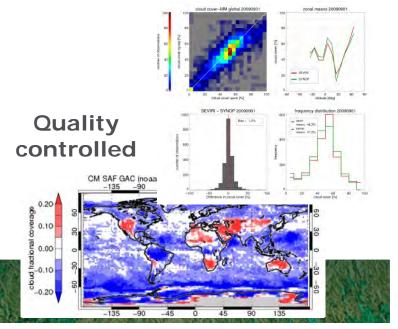


Calibrated





Homogeneous



ESA Climate Change Initiative (CCI)

The Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) developed the concept of the **Essential Climate Variable** (ECV).

ECVs: Physical, chemical or biological variable (or group of linked variables) that critically contributes to the characterisation of Earth's climate.

ECVs are defined based on criteria of:

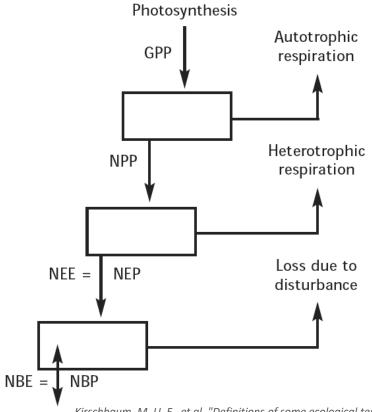
Relevance, Feasibility and Cost effectiveness

The CCI program is the response of ESA to GCOS.



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Ecological terms commonly used in carbon accounting



Kirschbaum, M. U. F., et al. "Definitions of some ecological terms commonly used in carbon accounting." Cooperative Research Centre for Carbon Accounting, Canberra (2001): 2-5.

GPP [Gross Primary Production]:

total amount of carbon fixed in the process of photosynthesis by plants in an ecosystem

NPP [Net Primary Production]:

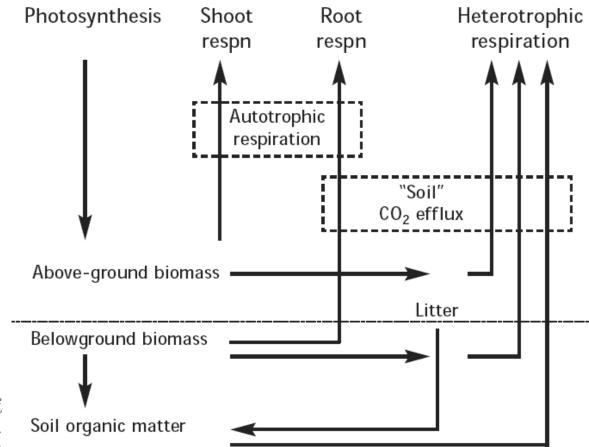
net production of organic matter by plants in an ecosystem, that is: GPP - autotrophic respiration

NEP [Net Ecosystem Production]:

net accumulation of organic matter or carbon by an ecosystem; NEP = NPP - heterotrophic resp.

NBP [Net Biosphere Production]:

net production of organic matter in a region containing a range of ecosystems (a biome) minus what is lost by disturbance (harvest, forest clearance, and fire, etc.) Complexity of measuring all components...



Kirschbaum, M. U. F., et al. "Definitions of some ecological terms commonly used in carbon accounting." Cooperative Research Centre for Carbon Accounting, Canberra (2001): 2-5.

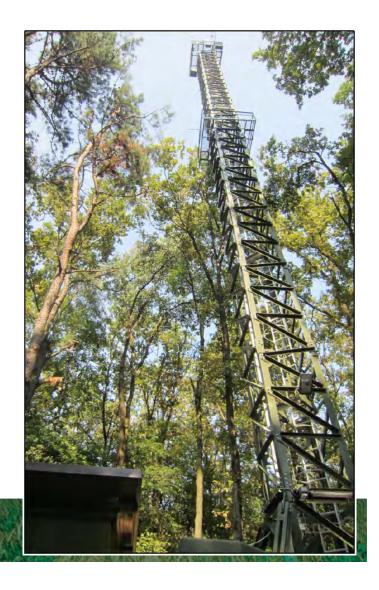
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Productivity measured from flux-towers

Measures NEE (Net Ecosystem Exchange = NEP)

GPP can be derived, but already contains some modelling assumptions to remove respiration

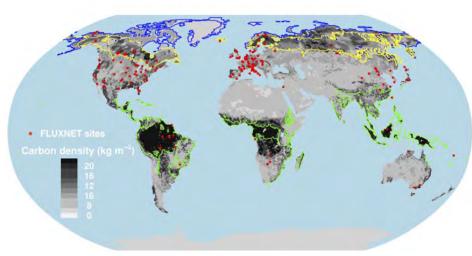
Limited to a very localized area (~1km)



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Productivity measured from flux-towers

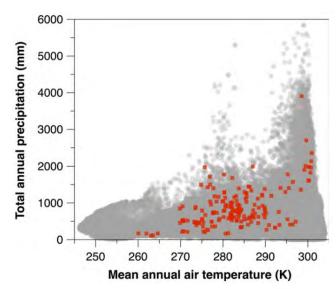
Sub-optimal spatial distribution despite reasonable climatic distribution

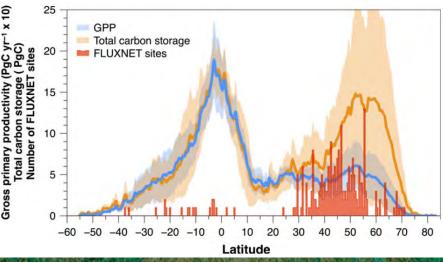


Schimel, D., Pavlick, R., Fisher, J. B., Asner, G. P., Saatchi, S. S., Townsend, P., ... Cox, P. (2015).

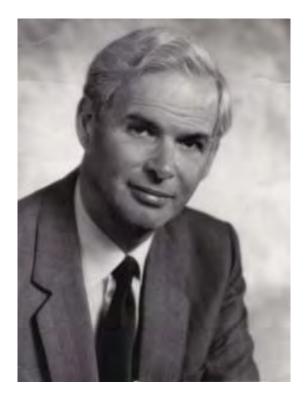
Observing terrestrial ecosystems and the carbon cycle from space. Global Change Biology,
21(5), 1762–76. https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.12822

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Light use efficiency (Monteith approach)



Monteith, J. L. (1972). Solar radiation and productivity in tropical ecosystems. Journal of Applied Ecology, 9(3), 747–766.

Canopy = Radiation * Radiation use productivity = interception * efficiency

Simple approach that can be linked to remote sensing observations

PAR, APAR and fAPAR

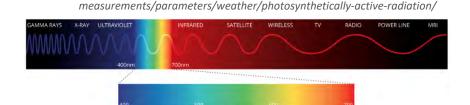
Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR):

Radiation between 400 and 700 nm that photosynthetic organisms are able to use in the process of photosynthesis.

Coincides with visible light [Units: μ mol photons m-2 s-1]

Absorbed PAR (APAR):

Quantity of PAR absorbed by the plants
Often considered equal to
intercepted PAR



VISIBLE LIGHT

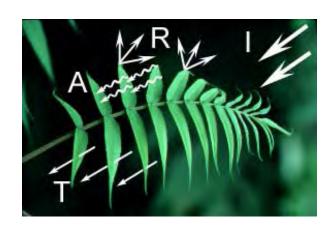
Source: http://www.fondriest.com/environmental-

Fraction of APAR (fAPAR):

Normalized variable between 0 and 1 fAPAR = APAR/PAR

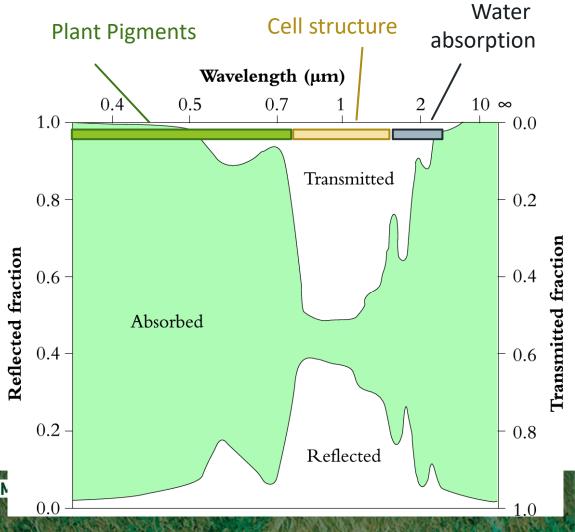
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Spectral properties of vegetation

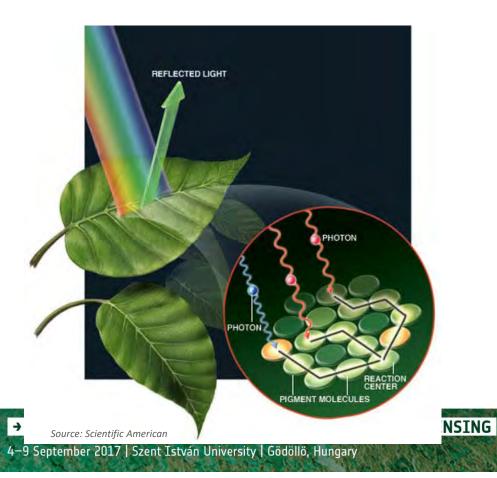


Source: Plants in Action, published by the Australian Society of Plant Scientists, http://plantsinaction.science.uq.edu.au/edition1/

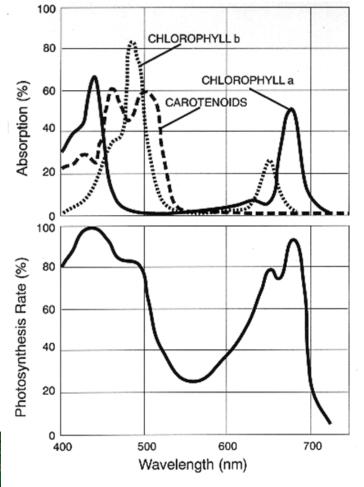
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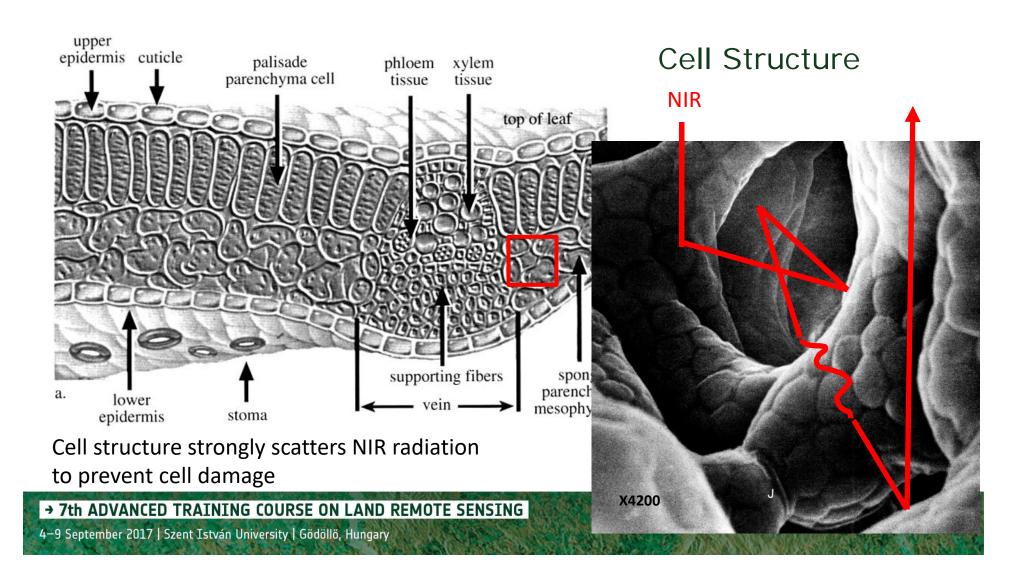


Plant pigments

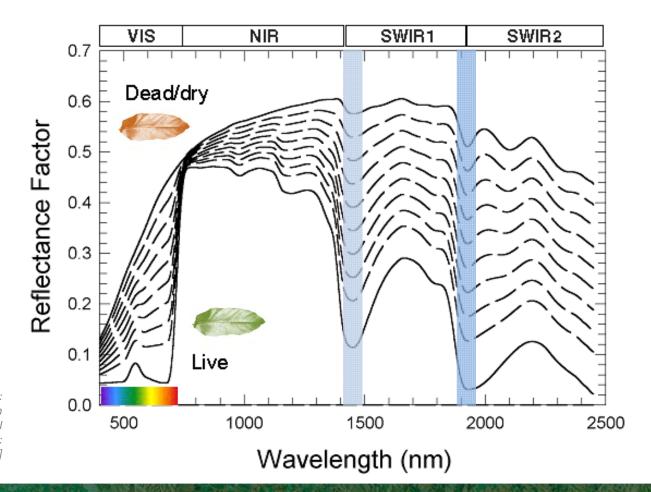


Source: http://www.life.uiuc.edu/govindjee/paper/gov.html, from "Concepts in Photobiology: Photosynthesis and Photomorphogenesis", Edited by GS Singhal, G Renger, SK Sopory, K-D Irrgang





Absorption from water in the plants

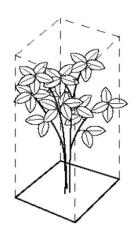


Source: http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/Non PhotosyntheticVegetation.html [incorrectly cited as coming from: Asner, G.P., 1998. RSE.]

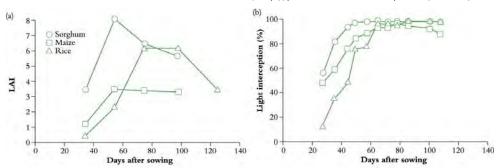
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Source: Plants in Action, published by the Australian Society of Plant Scientists, http://plantsinaction.science.uq.edu.au/edition1/

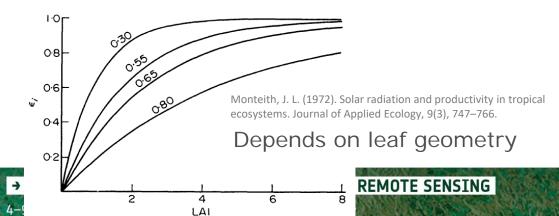
Leaf Area Index (LAI)

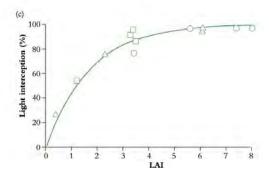


Defined as half the total developed area of green leaves per unit of ground horizontal surface area [units: m2 m-2]



Interface between atmosphere and vegetation.





Useful to describe light interception: $I = I_0 e^{-kLAI}$

Measuring 'greenness'

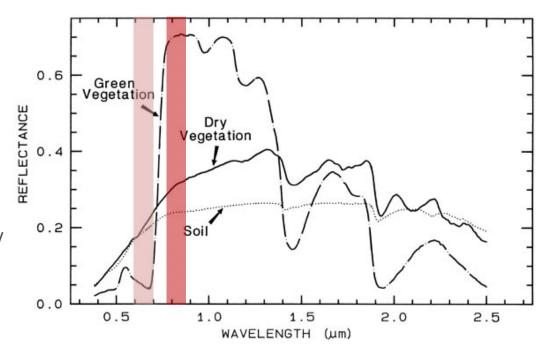
Normalized Difference Vegetation Index

$$NDVI = \frac{NIR - Red}{NIR + Red}$$

Exploits particular spectral properties of vegetation

Partly independent of viewing geometry

Proposed by Rouse et al. 1974 Popularized by Tucker since 1980



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Vegetation indices

- Convenient way to resume information
- Exploit the particular spectral properties of vegetation
- Depend on spectral response of the sensors (which changes even for bands with same names)
- Potentially unlimited number of combinations

Differenced Vegetation Index Misra Soil Brightness Index	DVI MSBI	(2.4MSS7 - MSS5) (0.406MSS4 + 0.600MSS5 + 0.645MSS6 + 0.243MSS7)	Richardson and Wiegand, 1977 Misra et al., 1977
Misra Green Vegetation Index Misra Yellow Vegetation Index Misra Non Such Index	MGVI MYVI MNSI	(-0.386MSS4 - 0.530MSS5 + 0.535MSS6 + 0.532MSS7) (0.723MSS4 - 0.597MSS5 + 0.206MSS6 - 0.278MSS7) (0.404MSS4 - 0.039MSS5 - 0.505MSS6 + 0.762MSS7)	Misra et al., 1977 Misra et al., 1977 Misra et al., 1977
Perpendicular Vegetation Index	PVI	$\sqrt{(\rho_{\rm sol} - \rho_{\rm végé})_R^2 + (\rho_{\rm sol} - \rho_{\rm végé})_{\rm NIR}^2}$	Richardson and Wiegand, 1977
Ashburn Vegetation Index	AVI	(2.0MSS7 – MSS5)	Ashburn, 1978
Greenness Above Bare Soil	GRABS	(GVI - 0.09178SBI + 5.58959)	Hay et al., 1979
Multi-Temporal Vegetation Index	MTVI	(NDVI(date 2) - NDVI(date 1))	Yazdani et al., 1981
Greenness Vegetation and Soil Brightness	GVSB	GVI SBI	Badhwar, 1981
Adjusted Soil Brightness Index	ASBI	(2.0 YVI)	Jackson et al., 1983
Adjusted Green Vegetation Index	AGVI	GVI - (1 + 0.018GVI)YVI - NSI/2	Jackson et al., 1983
Transformed Vegetation Index	TVI	$\frac{(\text{NDVI} + 0.5)}{ \text{NDVI} + 0.5 } \sqrt{ \text{NDVI} + 0.5 }$	Perry and Lautenschlager, 1984
Differenced Vegetation Index	DVI	(NIR – R)	Clevers, 1986
Normalized Difference Greenness Index	NDGI	$\frac{(G-R)}{(G+R)}$	Chamard et al., 1991
Redness Index	RI	$\frac{(R-G)}{(R+G)}$	Escadafal and Huete, 1991
Normalized Difference Vegetation Index	NDVI	$\frac{(NIR - R)}{(NIR + R)}$	Rouse et al., 1974
Perpendicular Vegetation Index	PVI	$\frac{(\text{NIR} - aR - b)}{\sqrt{a^2 + 1}}$	Jackson et al., 1980
Soil Adjusted Vegetation Index	SAVI	$\frac{(NIR - R)}{(NIR + R + L)}(1 + L)$	Huete, 1988
Transformed SAVI	TSAVI	$\frac{[a(\text{NIR} - aR - b)]}{(R + a\text{NIR} - ab)}$	Baret et al., 1989
Transformed SAVI	TSAVI	$\frac{[a(\text{NIR} - aR - b)]}{[R + a\text{NIR} - ab + X(1 + a^2)]}$	Baret and Guyot, 1991
Atmospherically Resistant Vegetation Index	ARVI	$\frac{(NIR - RB)}{(NIR + RB)}$ $RB = R - \gamma(B - R)$	Kaufman and Tanré, 1992
Global Environment Monitoring Index	GEMI	GEMI = $\eta(1 - 0.25\eta) - \frac{(R - 0.125)}{(1 - R)}$	Pinty and Verstraete, 1992
		$\eta = \frac{[2(NIR^2 - R^2) + 1.5NIR + 0.5R]}{(NIR + R + 0.5)}$	
Transformed Soil Atmospherically Resistant Vegetation Index	TSARVI	$\frac{[a_{rb}(\text{NIR} - a_{rb} \text{RB} - b_{rb})]}{[\text{RB} + a_{rb} \text{NIR} - a_{rb} b_{rb} + X(1 + a_{rb}^2)]}$	Bannari et al., 1994
Modified SAVI	MSAVI	$\frac{2NIR + 1 - \sqrt{(2NIR + 1)^2 - 8(NIR - R)}}{2}$	Qi et al., 1994
Angular Vegetation Index	AVI	$\tan^{-1}\left\{\frac{\lambda_3-\lambda_2}{\lambda_2}[NIR-R]^{-1}\right\}^2+\tan^{-1}\left\{\frac{\lambda_2-\lambda_1}{\lambda_2}[G-R]^{-1}\right\}$	Plummer et al., 1994

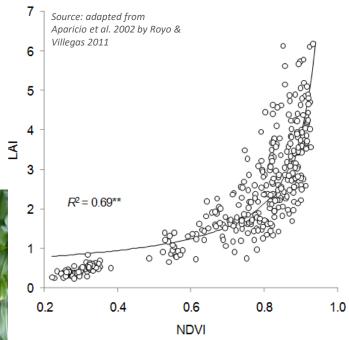
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Retrieving biophysical variables (fAPAR, LAI) from RS

Empirical methods

- Establishment of a statistical relationship between VI or ρ and field measured biophysical variables
- Require intensive field measurements for calibration and validation
- Relation is typically limited to large geographic extent





Retrieving biophysical variables (fAPAR, LAI) from RS

Physical methods

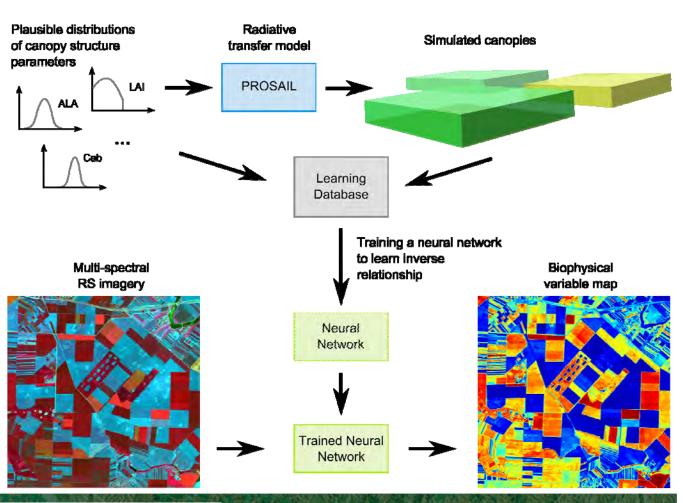
- Replacement of field measurements by radiative transfer models (RTMs)



- Mathematical inversion necessary, but difficult because it is an ill-posed problem
- Method is transportable across landscapes as long as RTM is valid

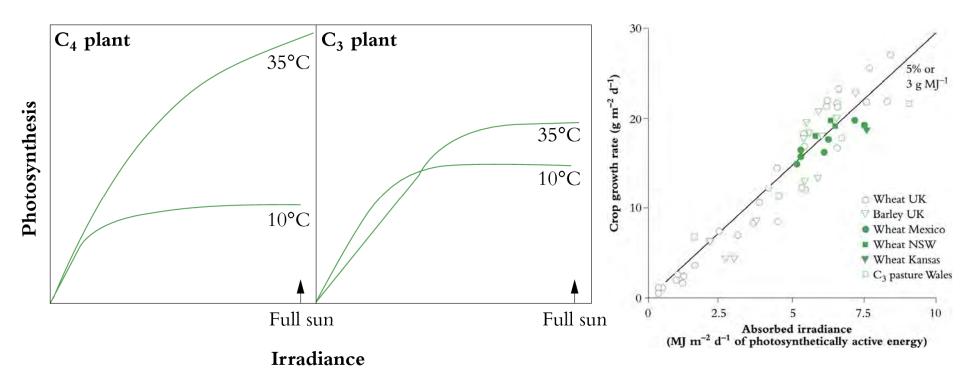
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Hybrid method with neural network inversion of RTM



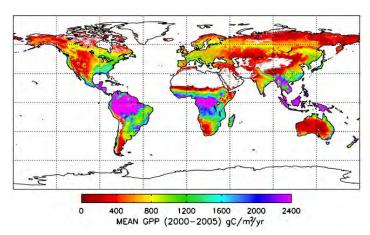
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Light use efficiency



Source: Plants in Action, published by the Australian Society of Plant Scientists, http://plantsinaction.science.uq.edu.au/edition1/

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Source: http://www.ntsg.umt.edu/project/modis/mod17.php

Canopy

productivity

MODIS GPP/NPP Project (MOD17)

Land cover/biome maps



Set for different vegetation types and climatic conditions



Radiation use efficiency

on use

Meteorology



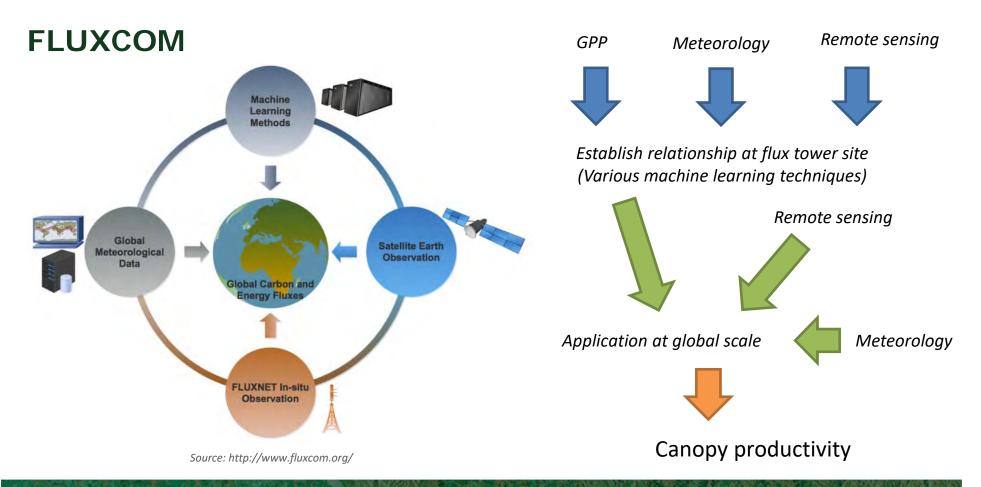
Down-regulated if waterstressed and/or cold temperature condition

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PAR * fAPAR

Radiation

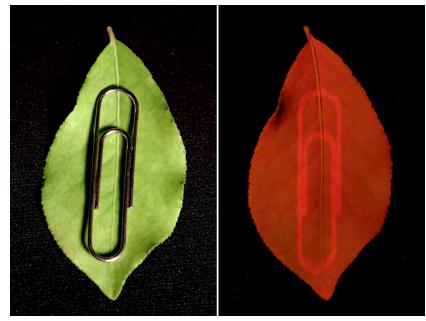
interception



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Exploring other avenues ...

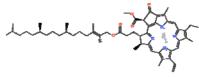
- (Sun-induced) chlorophyll fluorescence (SIF) emitted by the photosynthetic machinery
- Responds instantaneously to perturbations in the environmental conditions such as light and water stress
- This allows to translate effects of stress which do not necessarily cause a reduction of Chl or LAI
- Can provide early and direct diagnostic of functional status of vegetation...
 proxy for photosynthetic activity

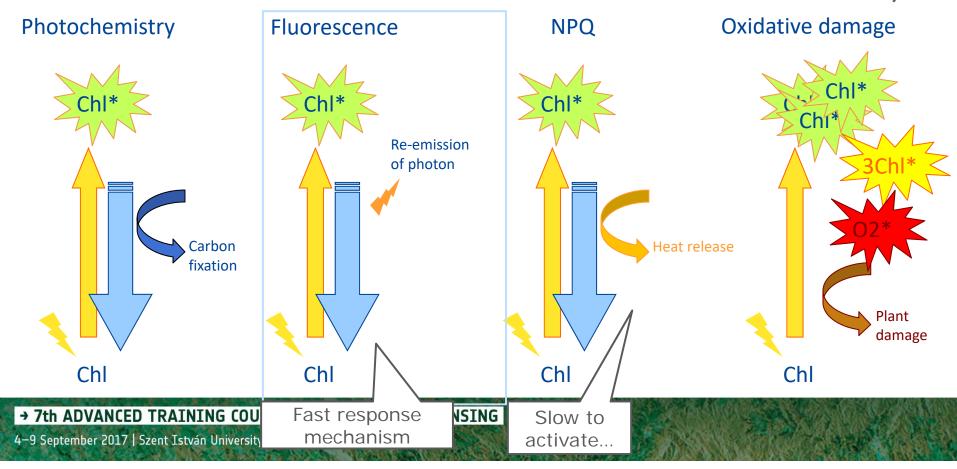


 $\label{lem:http://www.nightsea.com/articles/fluorescence-photography-illuminates-chlorophyll/$

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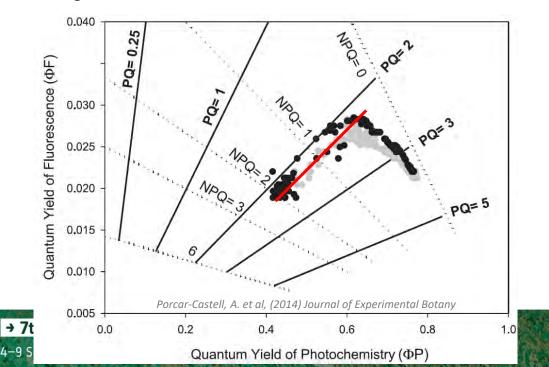
The various fates of exited chlorophyll...

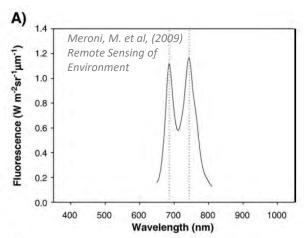


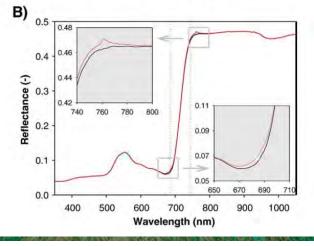


The challenge of retrieving SIF from satellite RS

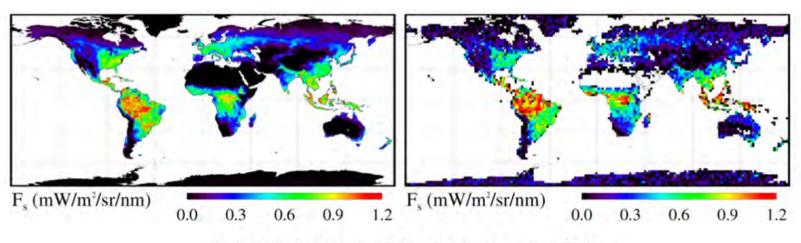
Only 1-5% of the reflected signal !!! Fluorescence is proportional to photosynthesis only in some conditions







Several global datasets have appeared



(c) GOME-2 (left) and GOSAT (right), Annual 2009

Potentially useful, even if only a better 'green APAR'

Coarse spatial resolution: 0.5 degrees (but downscaled product exists)

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Other avenues worth exploring...

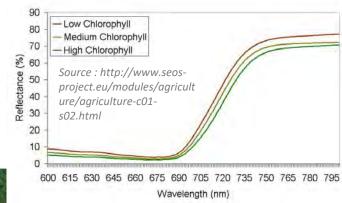
NIRv: Index multiplying NIR times NDVI seems to provide high correlation with SIF/GPP (*Badgley, Field, Berry, Sci. Adv. 2017*), advantage of having longer archive & higher res.

Photochemical Reflectance Index (PRI): Normalized difference between leaf reflectance at 531 nm and a reference wavelength (~550 nm) (Gamon et al. 1992)

- ⇒ Related to xanthophyll cycle
- \Rightarrow can serves as proxy for LUE

Bands in the RED EDGE: region of rapid change in reflectance of vegetation between red and near infrared (690-730 nm)

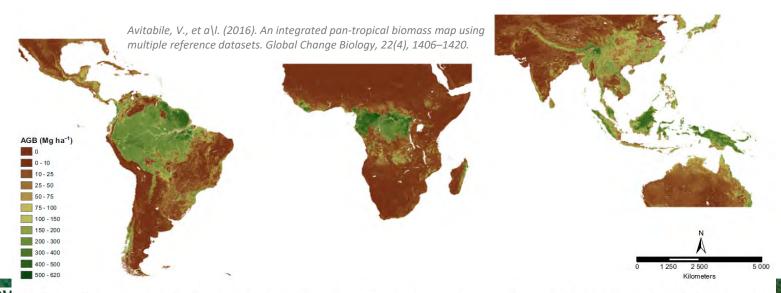
- ⇒ recognized as key for improving chlorophyll retrieval
- ⇒ Sentinel-2 has 2 bands in the red edge



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(Above-Ground) Biomass [AGB] from space

- Requires space-borne lidar (GLAS) to estimate AGB from tree height
- Assume global or continental allometric relationships (AGB varies only with stand height
- Fusion of 2 maps along with ground AGB estimates:



→ **7th ADV** Fig. 3 Fused map, representing the distribution of live woody aboveground biomass (AGB) for all land cover types at 1-km resolution 4–9 Septembe for the tropical region.

VOD – Vegetation Optical Depth

Passive microwave sensors are used for estimating soil moisture

But they need to 'model' and estimate 'noise' from the vegetation above

This 'noise' is in fact useful to relate to wet canopy structure

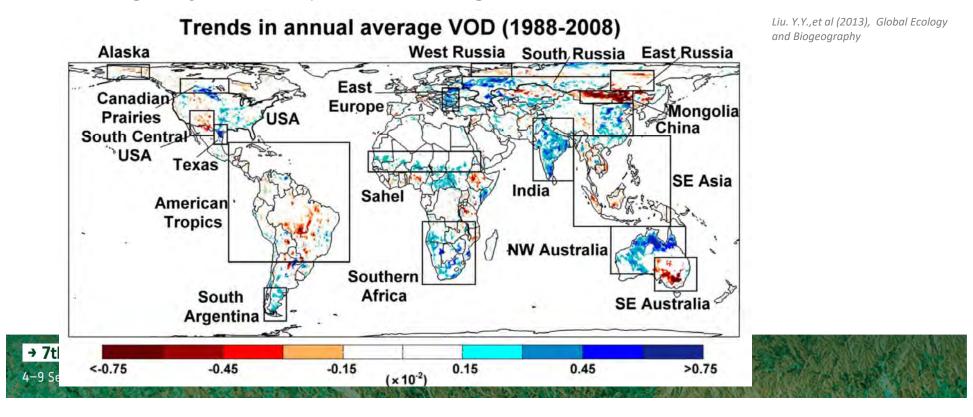
Not all bands penetrate as much...

X-Band C-Band L-Band L-

Source: http://www.dlr.de/hr/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-8113/14171 read-35852/

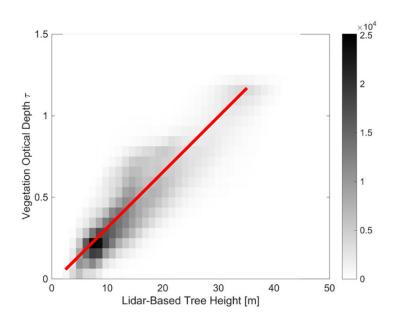
VOD from C-band

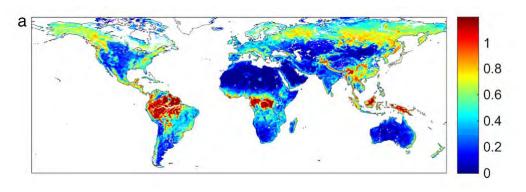
Long time series of above-ground biomass change estimated from VOD But arguably does not penetrate enough...



VOD from L-band sensors (SMOS, SMAP)

Show some promise of better results. But time series are very short (couple of years)...





Konings, A. G., Piles, M., Das, N., & Entekhabi, D. (2017). L-band vegetation optical depth and effective scattering albedo estimation from SMAP. Remote Sensing of Environment, 198, 460–470. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2017.06.037

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The surface energy balance (SEB)

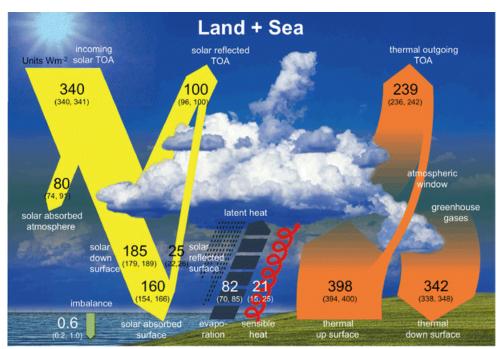
Radiative vs non-radiative (turbulent) fluxes

$$SW + LW = LE + H + G$$

$$SW_{down} - SW_{up} + LW_{down} - LW_{up} = LE + H + G$$

$$SW_{down} (1 - a) + LW_{down} - LW_{up} =$$

 $LE + H + G$



Wild et al. 2015. Clim. Dynamics

Surface Albedo

- How much shortwave radiation is reflected by the surface
- Obtained from multi-angular observations over a moving window
- Algorithms provide black-sky (directional) albedo and vs white-sky (diffuse) albedo
- Shortwave broadband or provided per spectral band (BRDF correction)



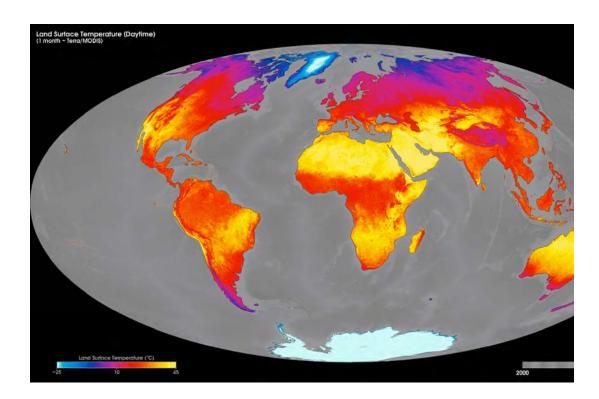
http://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov

Land surface temperature (LST)

- Radiant temperature in Kelvin
- Variable resuming the consequence of the energy balance
- Linked to LW by Stephen-Boltzmann law

LW =
$$\varepsilon \sigma T^4$$

- Obtained from multi-angular observations of TIR reflectance
- III-posed problem inversion



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Evapotranspiration or Latent Heat

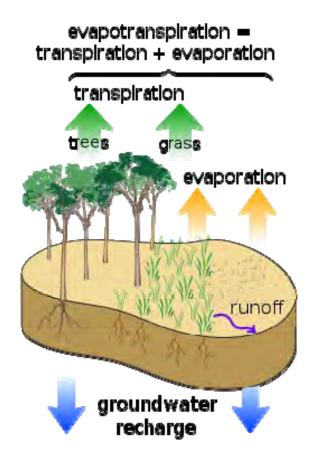
Penman-Monteith equation

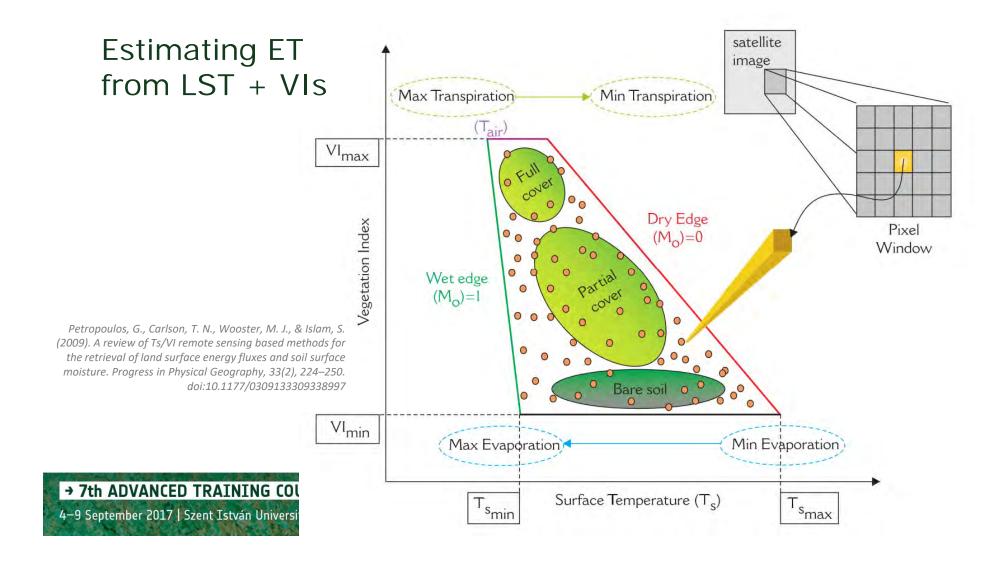
$$ET_o = \frac{0.408\Delta(R_n - G) + \gamma \frac{900}{T + 273} u_2 (e_s - e_a)}{\Delta + \gamma (1 + 0.34 u_2)}$$

Priestly-Taylor equation

$$ETp = \alpha \frac{\Delta}{\Delta + \gamma} (Rn - G)$$
 [1]

Some existing products: MOD16,

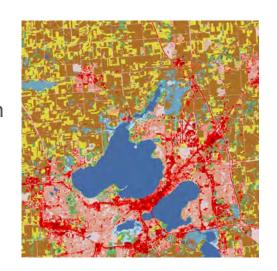




Description of the terrestrial surface

Land Cover = physical material at the surface of the earth (grass, asphalt, trees)

Land Use = description of how people *utilize* the land (wheat field, short-rotation coppice, ...)

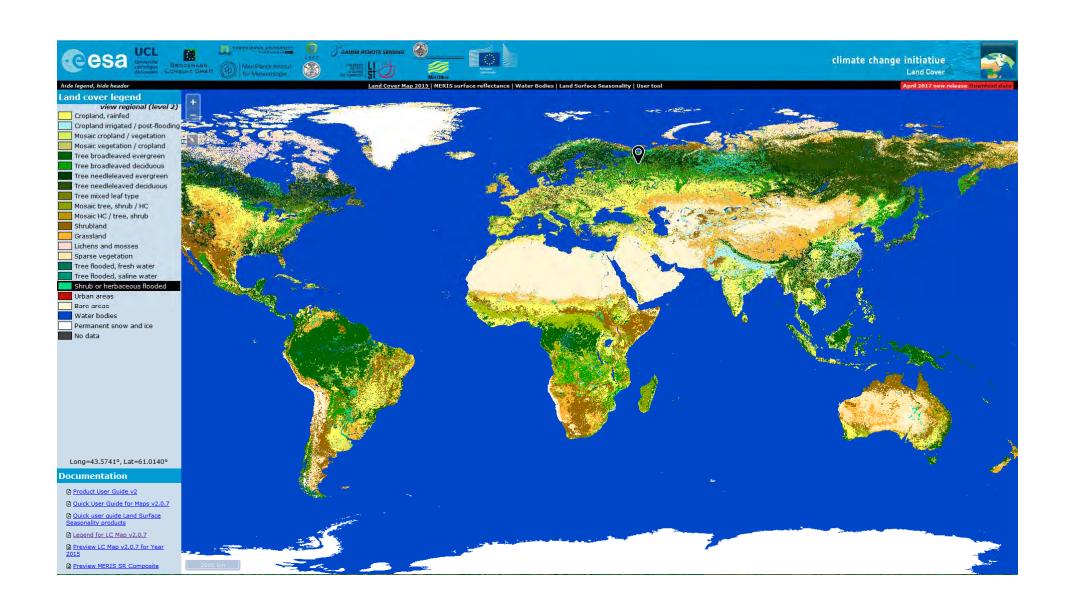


Plant Functional Types = group of plants based on common features: structural (grasses/shrubs/trees), physiological (broadleaf/needleleaf) phenological (deciduous/evergreen)

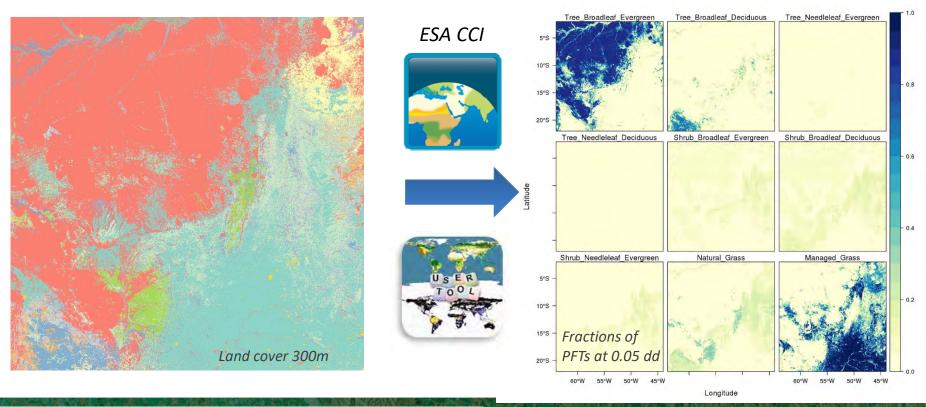
Optically distinguishable functional types = based on detectable traits

Ustin, S. L., & Gamon, J. A. (2010). Remote sensing of plant functional types. The New Phytologist, 186(4), 795–816. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-8137.2010.03284.x

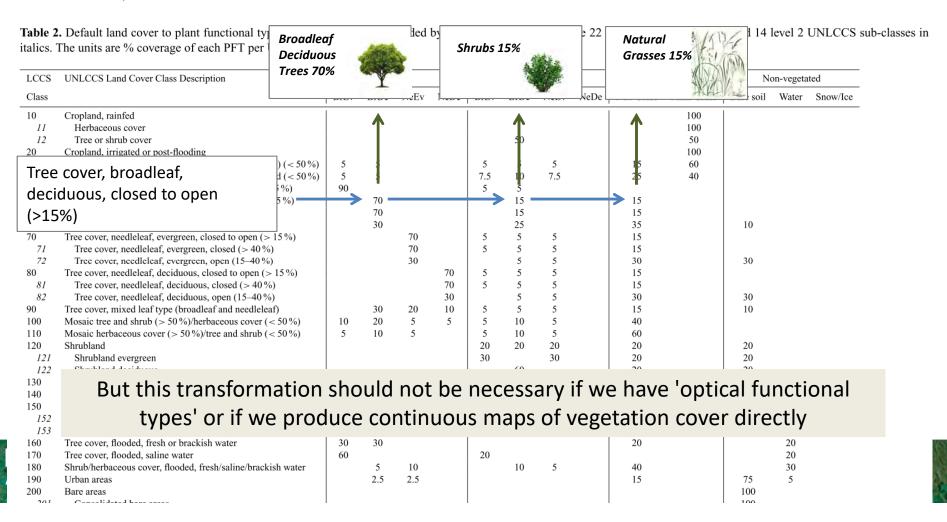
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From land cover to plant functional types (PFTs)



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Climate modelling: some clarifications...

LSMs [Land surface models]: models biogeophysical and biogeochemical interactions between the land and the atmosphere.

DGVMs [Dynamic global vegetation model]: models potential vegetation and its associated biogeochemical and hydrological cycles as a response to shifts in climate. (often equivalent to LSM with dynamic vegetation but sometimes has no biophysics)

GCMs [General Circulation Models]: models the general circulation of a planetary atmosphere (AGCM) or ocean (OGCM) or both (AOGCM). Includes an LSM/DGVM.

IAMs [Integrated Assessment Models]: models socio-economic interactions and their responses to forced climate (eg. from GCMs). Used to make scenarios (SSPs and RCPs)

ESMs [Earth System models]: models full Earth system, i.e. physical processes like an AOGCM but also includes human interactions such as land use change

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Role of remote sensing for climate science

- Full potential has been neglected to some extent by climate community
- no direct observation of carbon
- Requires archive... often too short...
- Cannot go in the future under difference scenarios
- Synoptic coverage → can bridge the gap between *in situ* and models



Thank you for your attention...

Contact:

gregory.duveiller@ec.europa.eu

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