



Modeling Terrestrial Ecosystems at Different Spatial-Temporal Scales

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Topics Outline

I. Overview of TRIPLEX Model Development

II. Three Case Studies:

- Modelling forest growth and carbon budgets **at local scale**
(TRIPLEX)
- Simulating terrestrial ecosystems at **regional and global scales**
(TRIPLEX-GHG)

III. Ongoing Challenges and Directions

Three Main Approaches to Investigating Effect of Climate Change on Ecosystems

- Long-term observation



- Experimental manipulation



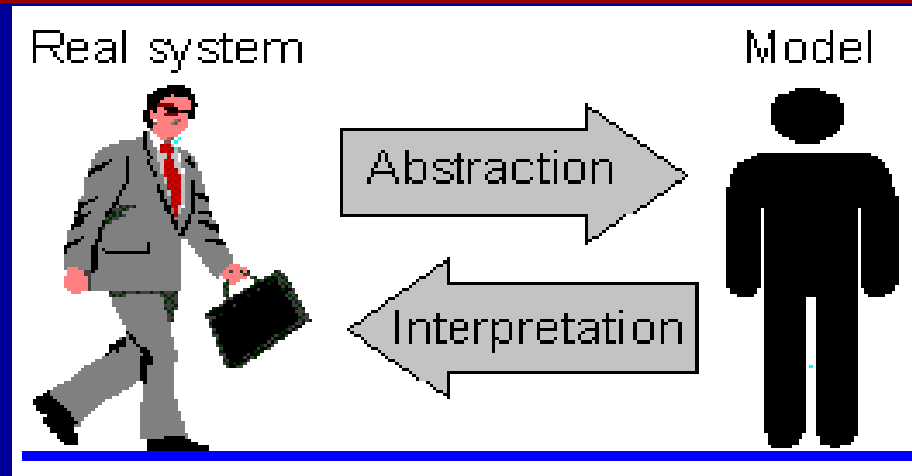
- Model simulation



(J.M. Melillo, 1999, Science, 283: 183)

What is a Model ?

Real system



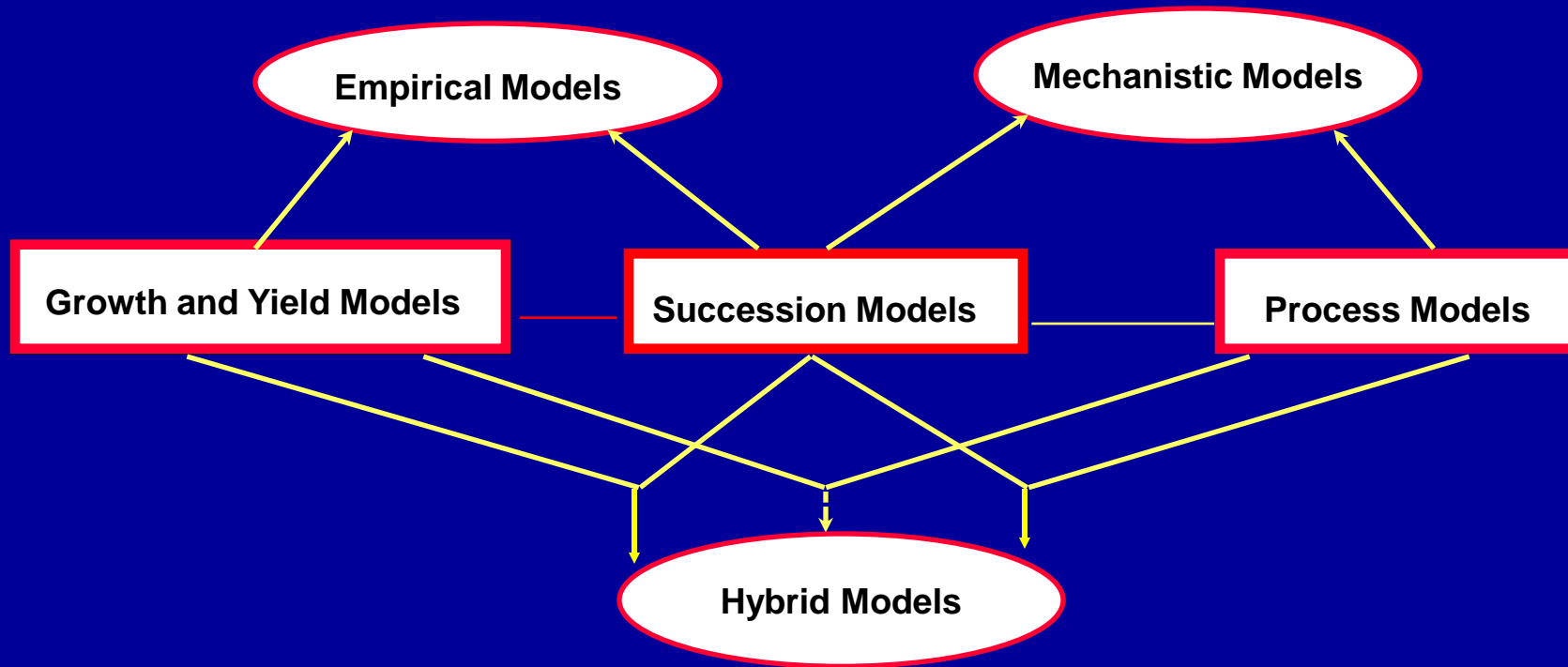
Model

- A **model** is an abstraction of a real system
- We use models in two ways:
 - conceptual model
 - formal model

Model Catalog

- **Conceptual (Word or Flowcharts) Models:** used to represent our concepts or knowledge and describe the interactions between the components of a system
- **Mathematical (Statistical) Models:** used to present the a conceptual Model or other types by using mathematical notation.
- **Computer Simulation Models:** Mathematical models cab be translated Into computer languages and implemented on a computer

Forest Simulation Models



Increasing ability to predict growth under changed future conditions



Increasing model simulation options and flexibilities

Description



Explanation

(Peng, 2000, FEM)

Why Do We Need Models?

- Three methods to assess the effects of a changing environment on ecosystems (Botkin 1993):
 - (a) our knowledge of the past
 - (b) present measurements
 - (c) our ability to project into the future
- Our knowledge of the past and present measurements have been of limited use
- Long-term monitoring of the forest has proven difficult due to cost and long-term commitment
- Current experimental techniques are not directly applicable to complicated environmental change



The Roles of Models

- Models as *research tools*
to increase our knowledge
- Models as *management tool*
to help to make decisions
- Models as *education tools*
to help to understand the Earth system

Current Process-Based Models

Spatial Scales

A. Organ (Leaf or Canopy) models

e.g. FOEST-BGC (Running and Coughlan, 1988); MAESTRO (Wang and Jarvis, 1990); BIOMASS (McMurtrie et al. 1990);

B. Individual tree ecophysiological models

e.g. ECOPHYS (Rauscher et al. 1990); TREGRO (Winstein and Yanai, 1994); TREE-BGC (Korol et al., 1994)

C. Community models (gap or succession models)

e.g. JABOWA (Botkin et al. 1972); FORET (Shugart and West, 1977); ZELIG (Smith and Urban, 1988); LINKAGE (Pastor and Post, 1985)

D. Stand or Ecosystem models

e.g. PnET (Aber and Federer, 1992); CENTURY (Parton et al. (1987), NDNC (Li, 1992), TRIPLEX (Peng et al, 2002)

E. Landscape models

e.g. FIRE-BGC (Keane et al., 1996); LANDIS (He et al. 1996) etc...

F. Global models

e.g. BIOME3 (Haxeltine and Prentice, 1996); IBIS (Foley et al., 1996); LPJ-DGVM (Sitch et al., 2003) etc



Laboratoire de modélisation écologique et de science du carbone (Eco-MS)
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(www.crc.uqam.ca)



Eco-MCS Lab. Objective

Develop state-of-the-art computer simulation models across different scales and use them to assess the impacts of past and future climate change and associated ecosystem disturbances on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems across Canada, China and Globe



**Canada Research
Chairs**

**Chaires de recherche
du Canada**



TRIPLEX Model Development History (10 years)

- **2000- 2002:** TRIPLEX 1.0 (OFRI, Sault Ste Marie, ON, Canada)
- **2003-2005:** TRIPLEX 1.0 Testing and application at stand and landscape Levels (SD, USA; UQAM, Montreal)
- 2004-2010:** Application of TRIPLEX1.0 in China (Beijing U, Zhejiang U and Central-South U of Forestry & Tech.)
- **2006-2008:** TRIPLEX-Flux, TRIPLEX-Fire, TRIPLEX-DOC (UQAM)
- **2008-present:** TRIPLEX-Management (UQAM); TRIPLEX-Aquatic (UQAM and China); TRIPLEX-DGVM (UQAM and China)

TRIPLEX Model Development Publications

(2002-2012) (www.crc.uqam.ca)

• **TRIPLEX1.0 Model**

- Peng et al, (2002), Ecol. Model ; Liu et al. (2002), CEA

• **TRIPLEX Application in Canada:**

- Zhou et al (2004), EM&S; Zhou et al (2005), CJFR; Zhou et al. (2006), MASGC

TRIPLEX Application in China

- Zhang et al. (2008), EM; Peng et al. (2009), GPC; Zhao et al. EM (2012)

• **New TRIPLEX-Flux, TRIPLEX-Fire, TRIPLEX-DOC**

- Zhou et al (2008), EM; Sun et al. (2008), EM; Two MS (in preparation)

• **TRIPLEX-Management, TRIPLEX-Aquatic, TRIPLEX-GHG**

- Wang et al (2010, 2012); Wu et al.(submitted); Zhu et al. (in preparation)

TRIPLEX: A generic hybrid model for predicting forest growth and carbon and nitrogen dynamics

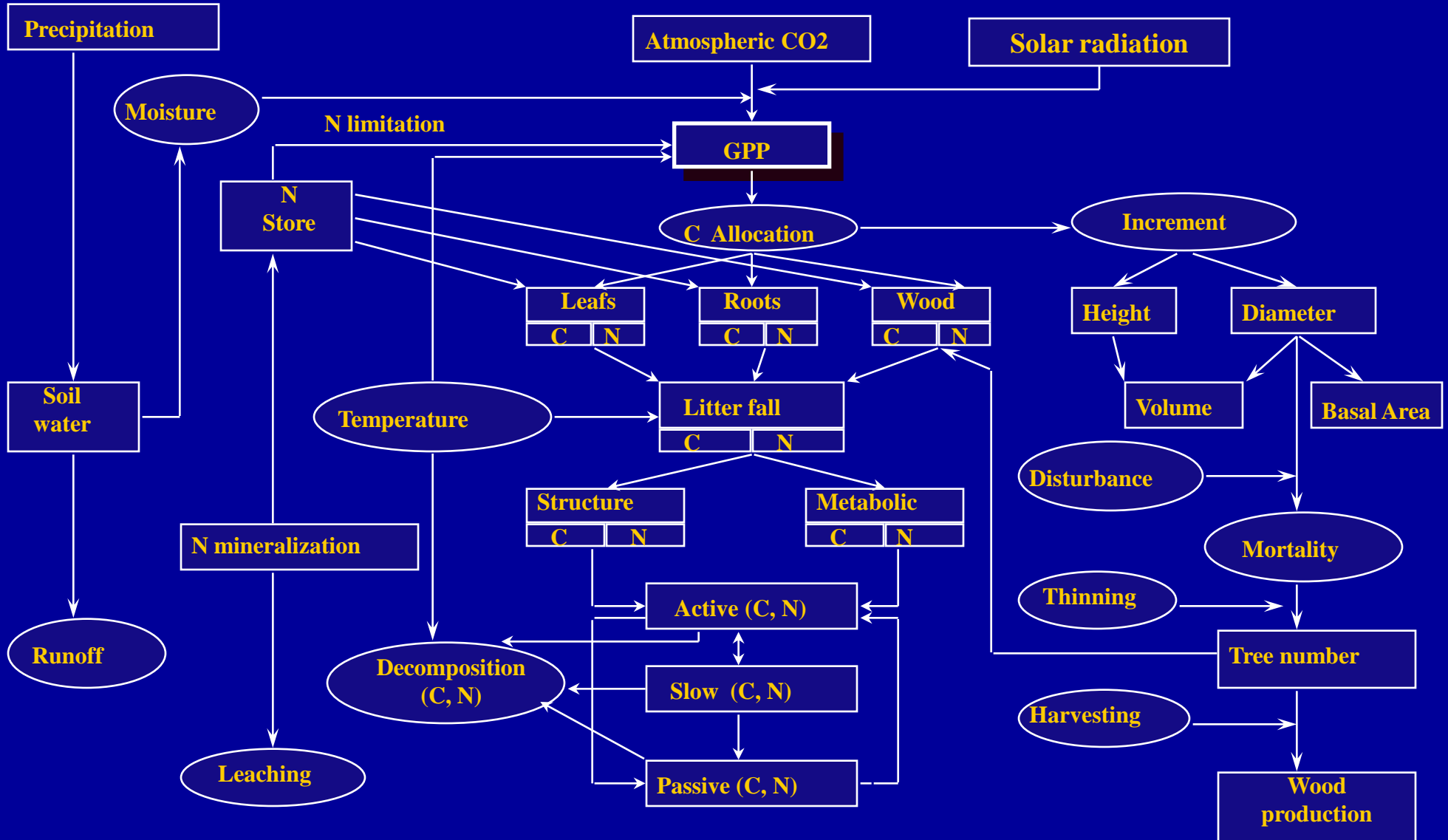
(Peng et al. 2002, Ecol. Model)

- **Developed based on well-established models:**
 - 3-PG (Landsberg and Waring, 1997)
 - TREEDYN3.0 (Bossel, 1996)
 - CENTURY4.0 (Parton et al., 1987, 1993)
- **Bridges the gap between forest growth and yield and process-based C balance models**
- **Can be used for:**
 - 1) **Making forest management decisions (e.g., G&Y prediction)**
 - 2) **Quantifying forest carbon budgets**
 - 3) **Assessing the effects of climate change on forest ecosystems**

Key Features of TRIPLEX1.0:

- **Driving variables (main inputs):**
Monthly climate data; tree & stand variables, LAI, soil texture, geo-location
- **Mass balances:**
C, N, and water pools and fluxes fully balanced
- **Time step:**
Monthly C flux and allocation calculation; annual tree growth, C, N, and water budget
- **Outputs:**
H, DBH, BA, volume, NPP, biomass, soil C, N, and water dynamics
- **Modelling strategy:**
OOP (objective-oriented programming - C++) and model reuse approaches

TRIPLEX1.0 Framework



Triplex v 2.0
File Window Model Tools Help

Triplex v1.0

Time Length (month): 1200

Model Builder

PSP000.txt

Model Selection:
 3-PG
 TREEDYN3
 CENTURY4
 Other

Component Selection:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PAR	<input type="checkbox"/> Litterfall
<input type="checkbox"/> Climate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DHV
<input type="checkbox"/> GPP	<input type="checkbox"/> Soil_C_N
<input type="checkbox"/> Partitioner	<input type="checkbox"/> Soil_Water

Excel Application Support

Triplex uses Excel97 for multiple sites simulation.
If you have only one site to simulate, you can choose not to use Excel.

Climate File	D:\jinxun1\Tri_T2\Test_ClimateData.xls
Site file	D:\jinxun1\Tri_T2\Test_SiteData.xls
Result File	D:\jinxun1\Tri_T2\Test_SiteData_Result_5-

Result Interval: 10

Model Parameters

Model component: Century_SoilCNO

L_Emission=1
 L_Slow=500
 L_Passive=5000
 L_Leached=1
 L_Surface_microbe=50

Set Charts

Color	Variable	Scale	Unit
Red	L_P	0.05	stem
Yellow	AnnualGpp	10	t/ha/year
Blue	L_DBH	500	meter
White	AnnualNpp	10	t/ha/year
Green	L_MineralN	4000	t/ha
Purple	LAI	20	N/A

TRIPLEX 1.0 User Interface

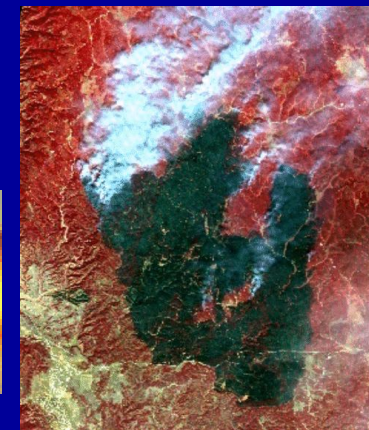
Challenge: Validation

Validation is testing a model to see how well it predicts. (How well does the model capture the structure, controls, and dynamics of a real forest ecosystem).

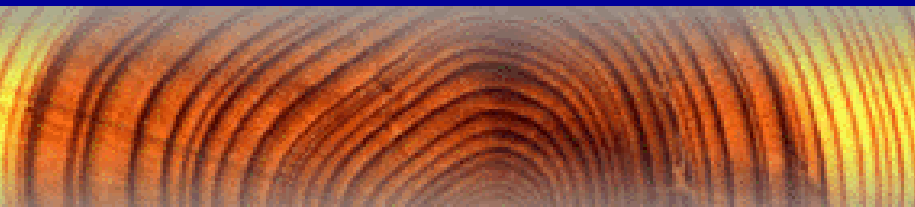
- **First question is: what variable do we want to validate (test)?**
- **The second question is finding adequate data.**

Data for Validating Ecosystem Models

- Greenhouse or experimental data
- *Tree growth plots (PSP, TSP)*
- Forest inventory
- Flux tower (CO₂, NPP, NEP etc..)
- Remote Sensing (NDVI-NPP, MODIS etc..)
- Paleocological data (pollen, tree-ring)



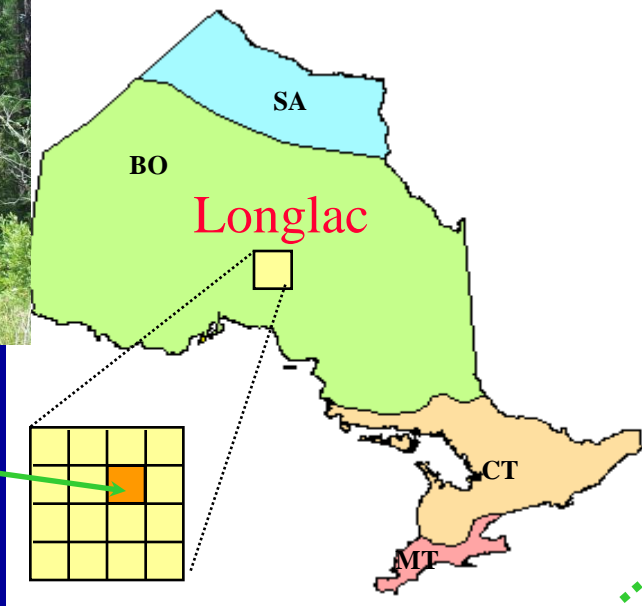
Click here to learn
about tree rings
& to try crossdating
for yourself.



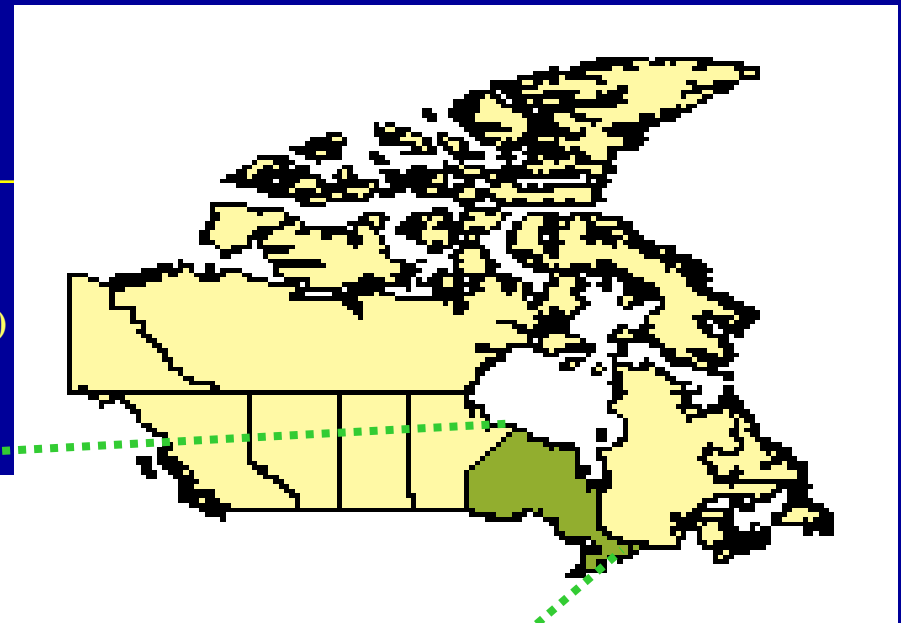
One Case Study

Location: Longlac (Kimberly Clark Ltd.)

Forest type: Jack pine (*Pinus banksiana* Lamb.)



12 PSP
(0.08ha
each)



Ontario

BO: Boreal; CT: Cool Temperate; MT: Moderate Temperate; SA: Subarctic

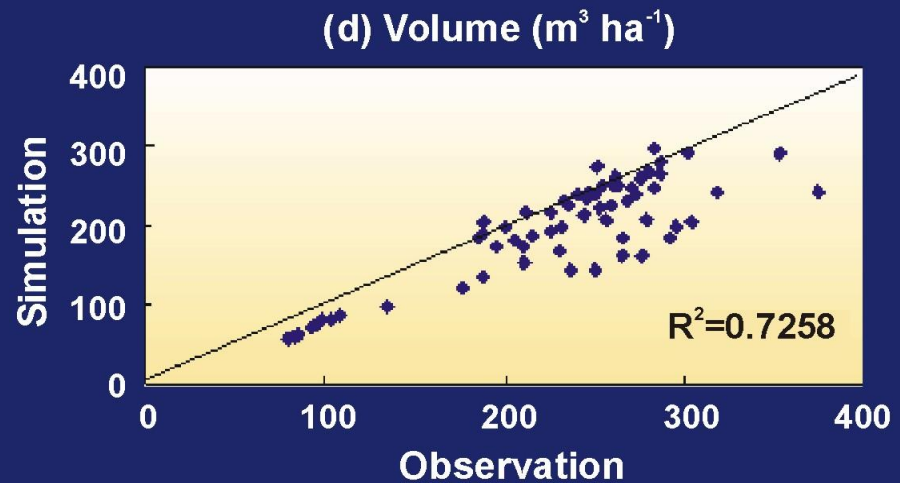
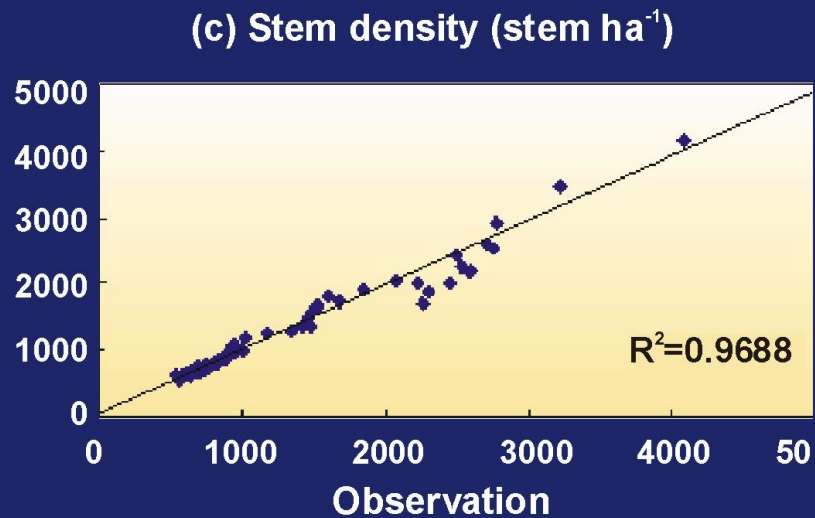
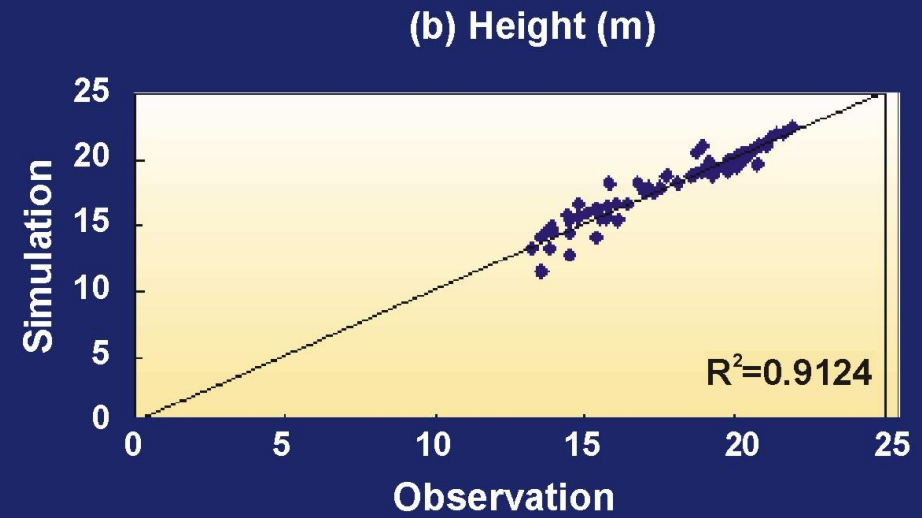
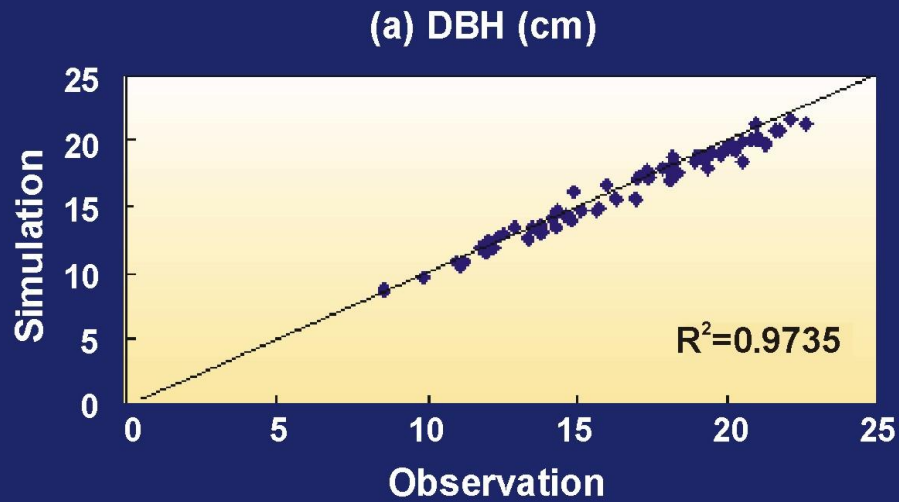
Calibration and Validation for TRIPLEX Model

We have 6 consecutive measurements (very 5 yr) for DBH, H, tree density (1952-1982)

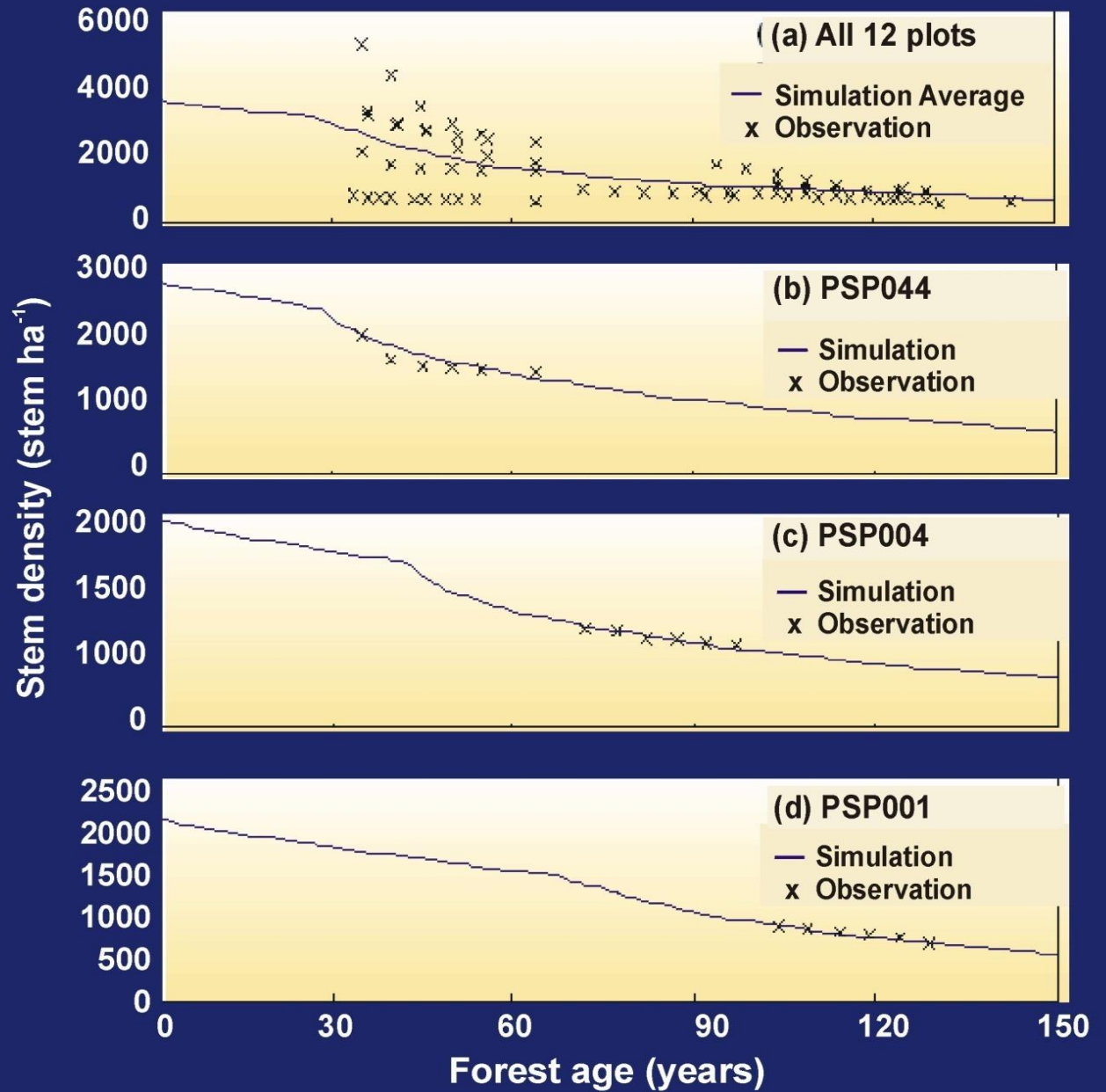
- Use first measurements (1952) to calibrate the TRIPLEX model
- Use the other 5 measurements to validate (1957 - 1982)

Comparison of Simulations and Observations

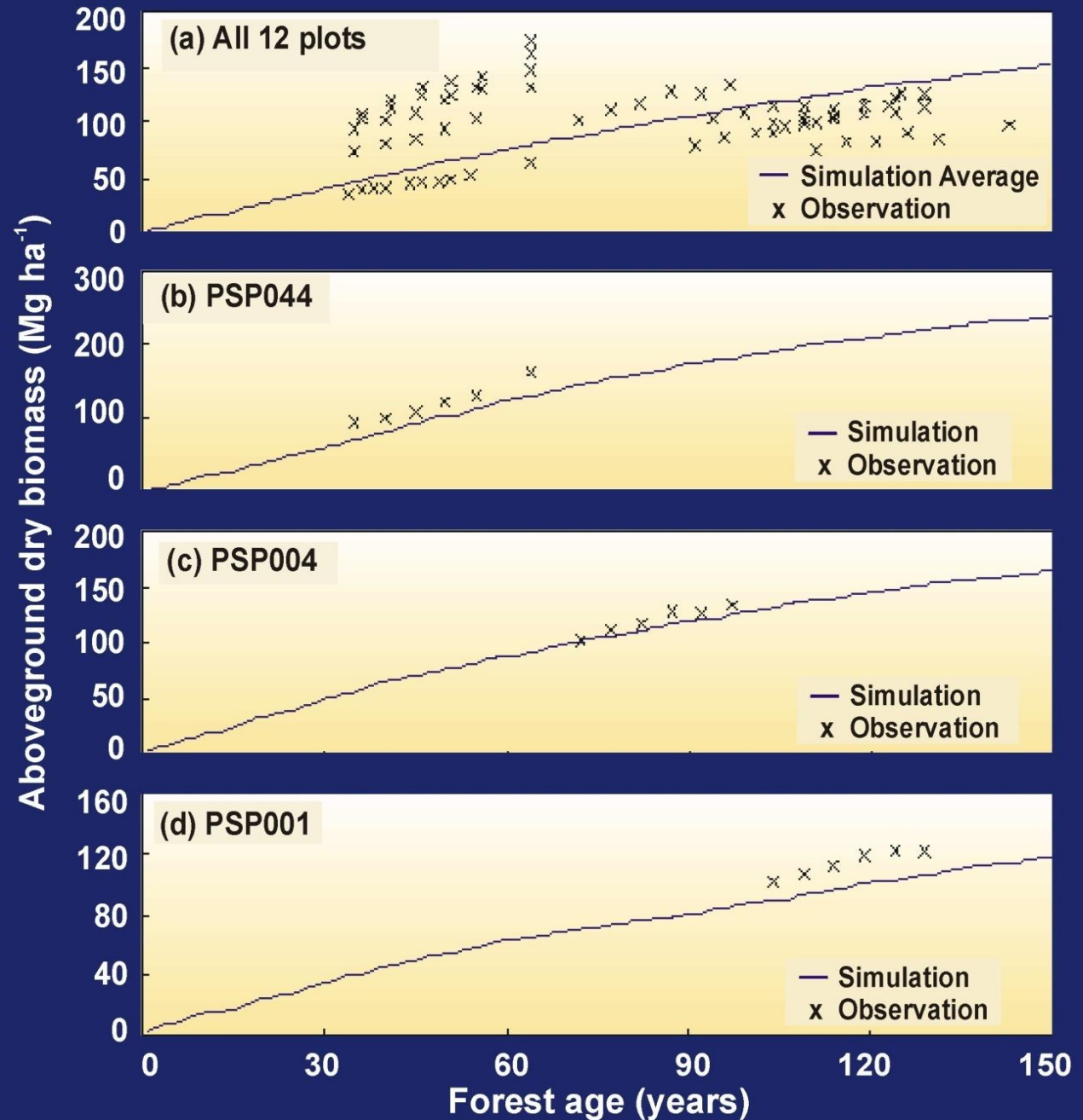
(solid diagonal is the 1:1 line; N=60)



Comparison of Averaged Simulations and Observations - Stem Density



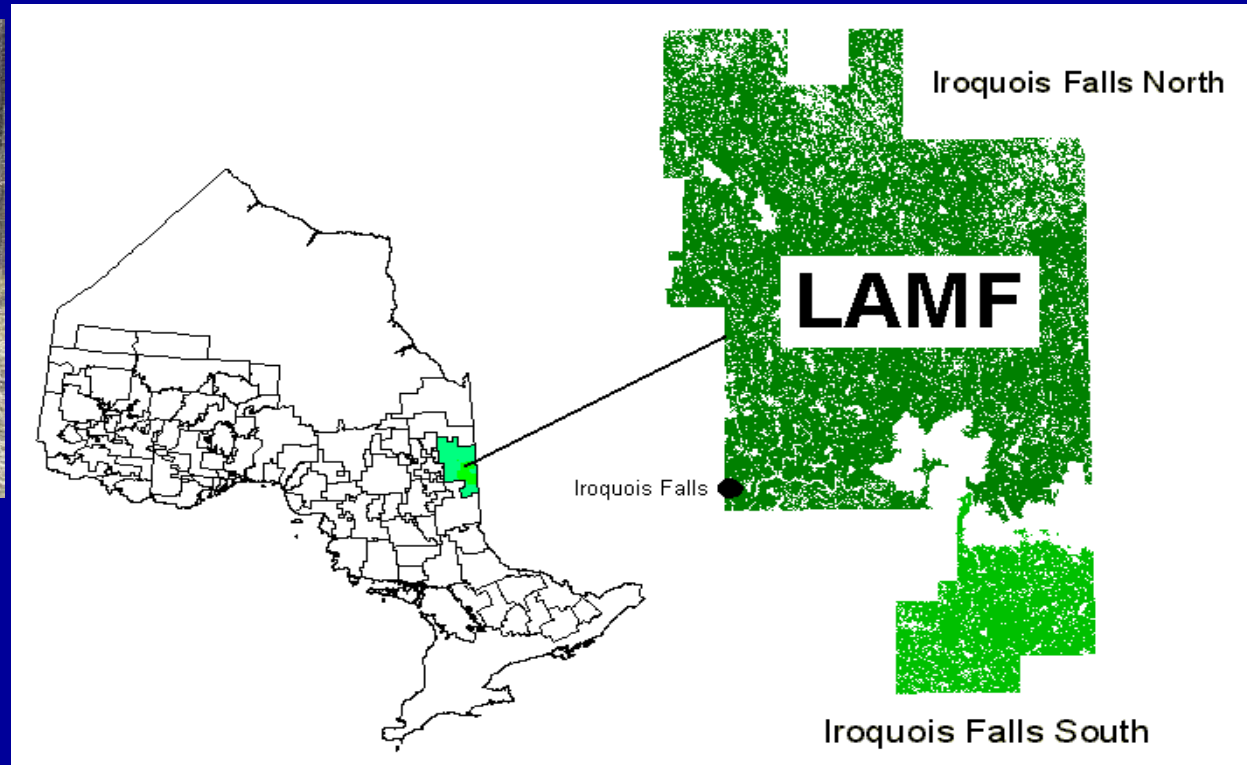
Comparison of Averaged Simulations and Observations - Aboveground Biomass (Hegyi, 1972)



Modeling Forest Growth and Carbon Dynamics at Landscape level in Lake Abitibi Model Forest



(May 12, 2002)

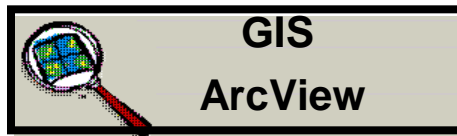
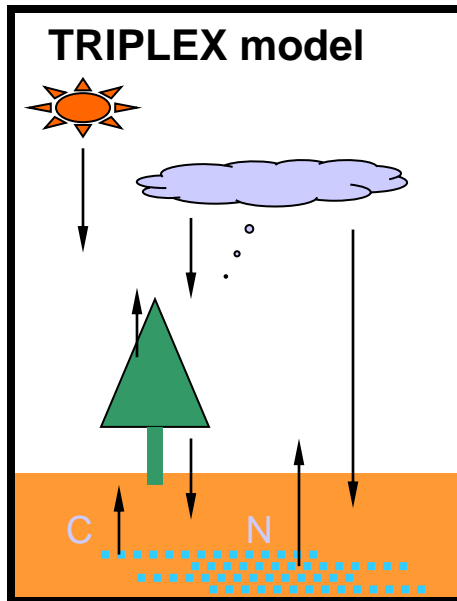


(Zhou et al, 2007)

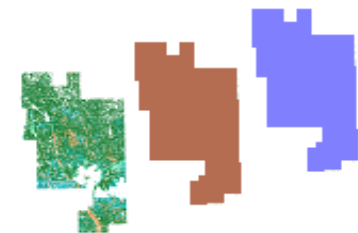
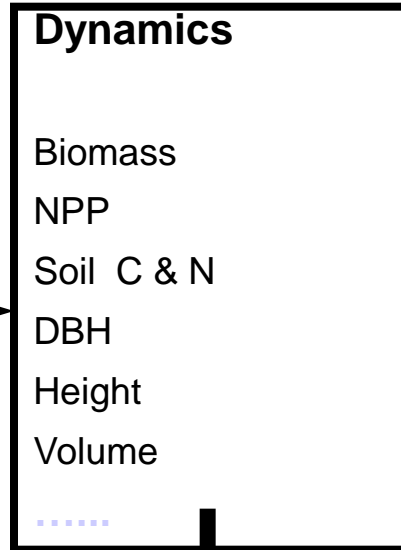


Method

Simulation Model



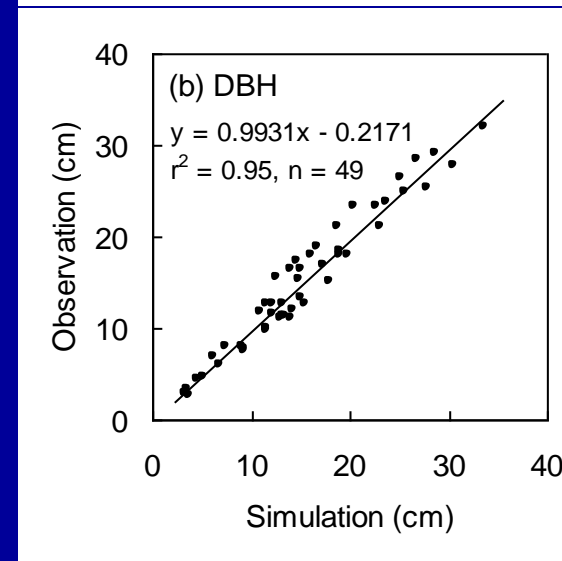
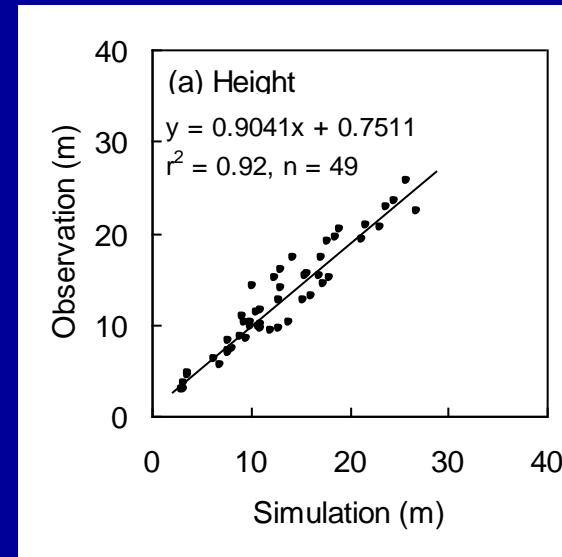
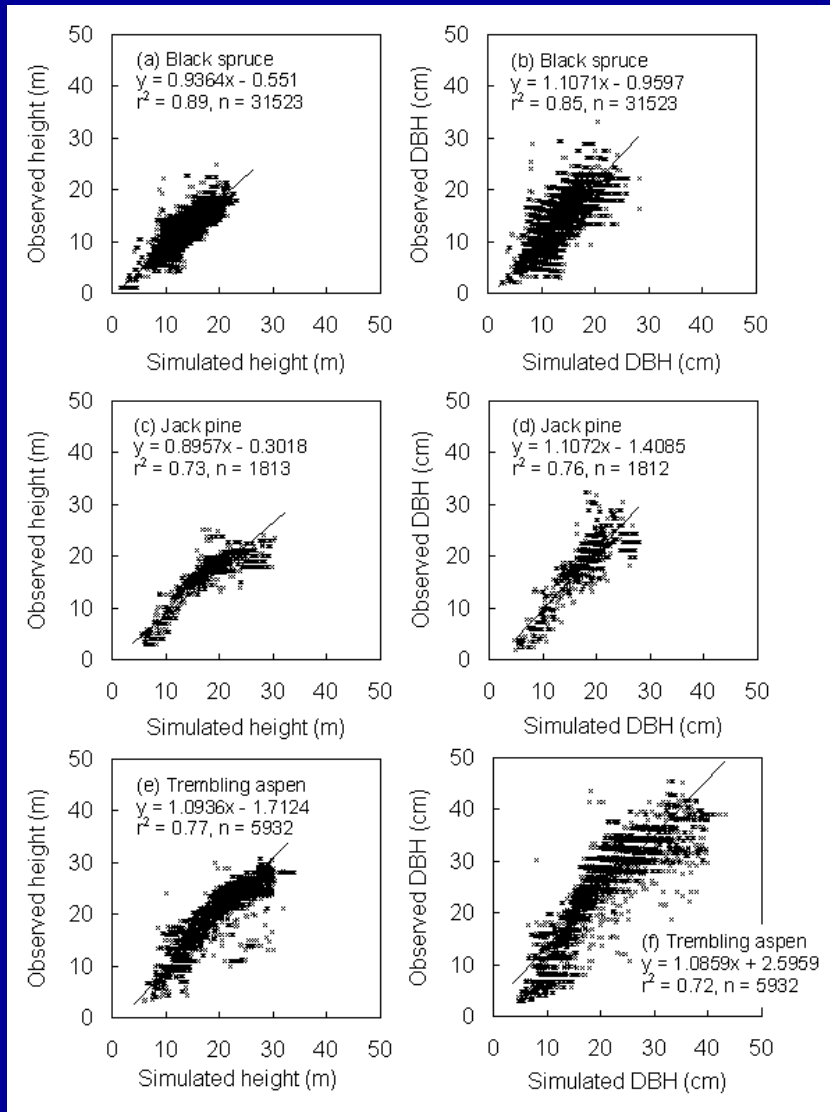
Outputs



Model inputs

Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● LAMF Local data (stands and spatial data)
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ontario Land Inventory Prime land Information System (OLIPIS)● A soil profile and organic carbon data base for Canadian forest
Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Database from Environment Canada● Canadian Centre for Climate Modeling (CCCMA database)

Model validation



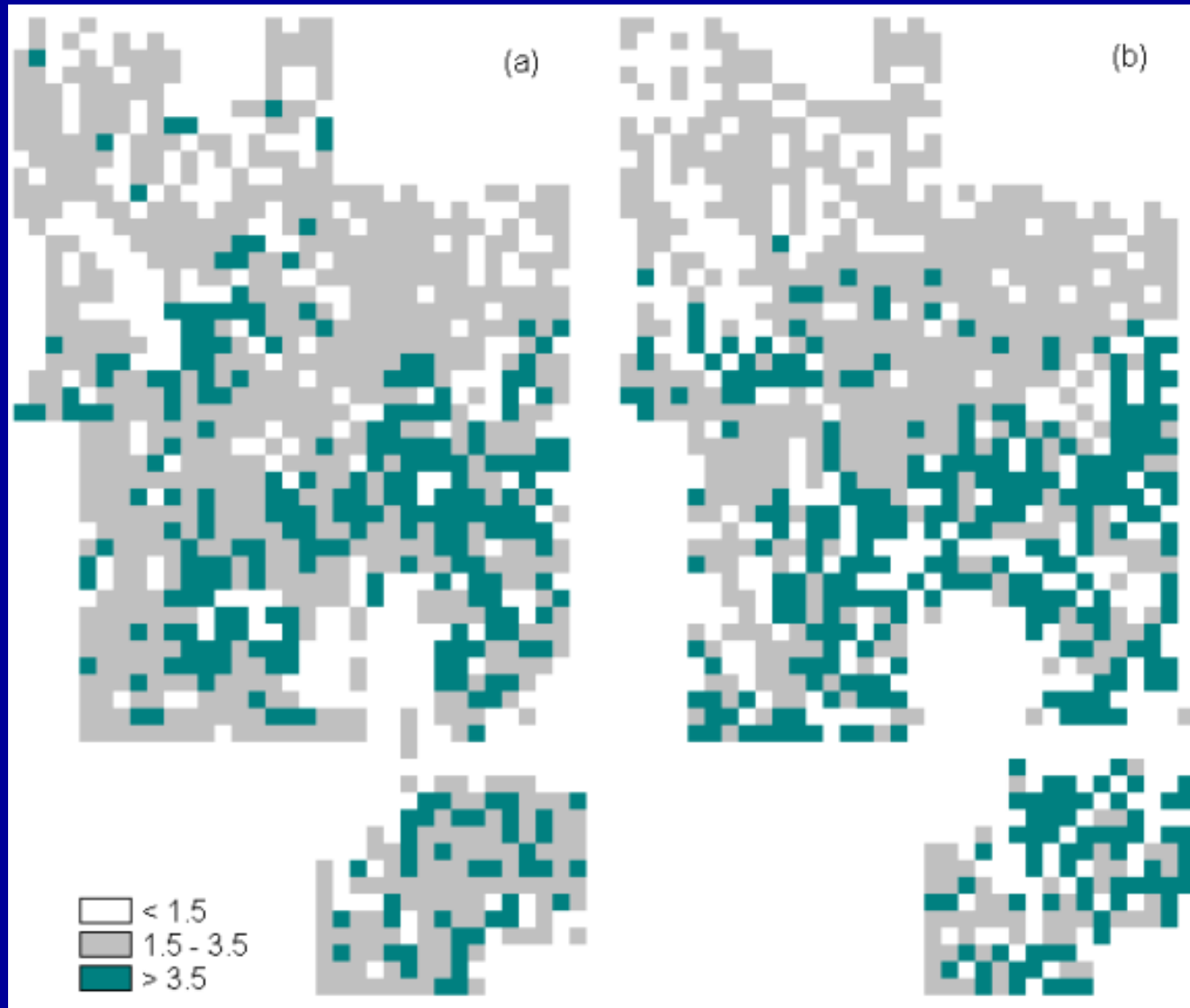
32 black spruce,
9 jack pine,
8 trembling aspen
plots
(measured in 1995)

(Zhou et al., 2005)

TRIPLEX vs. Forest Inventory

TRIPLEX vs. PSP

NPP Spatial Distribution at Landscape Level



(a) TRIPLEX
(Zhou et al, 2005)

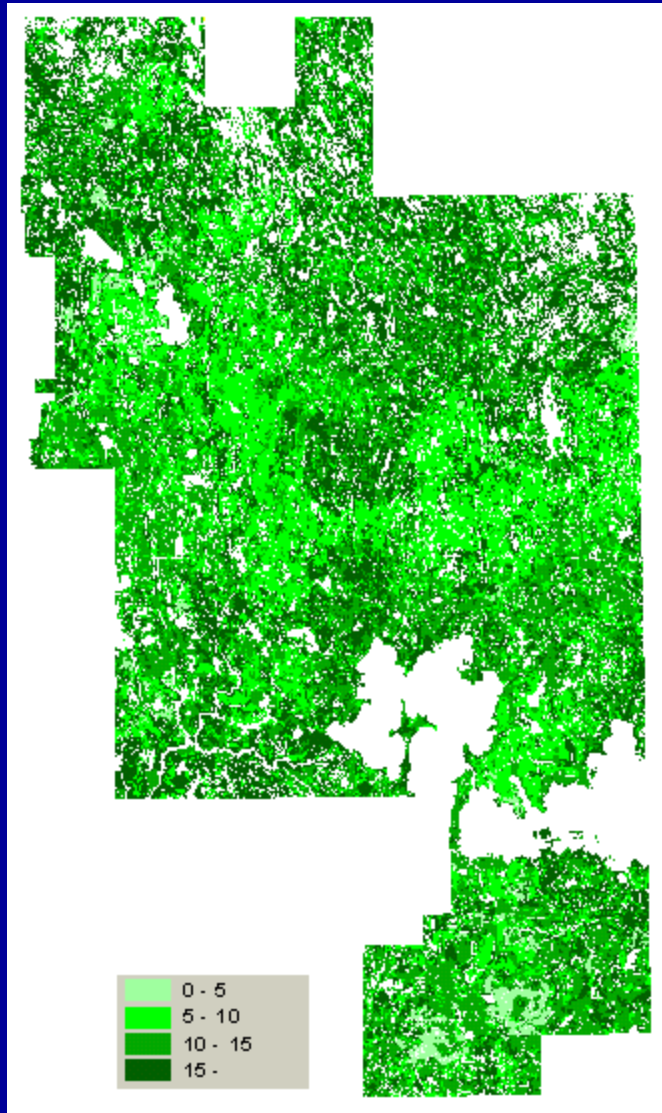
(b) Remote Sensing
(Liu et al, 2002)

Fig. 4 The comparison between NPP ($t\ C\ ha^{-1}\ yr^{-1}$) simulations at landscape (a) and remote sensing (b) levels for the LAMF in 1995. (a) was based on the TRIPLEX model simulation for 1995 (averaged $3.28\ tC\ ha^{-1}\ yr^{-1}$, $SD=0.79$), and (b) was converted using spatial data from Liu et al. (2002) for 1994 (averaged $3.08\ tC\ ha^{-1}\ yr^{-1}$, $SD=1.15$). The grid size is $3\times 3\ km$.

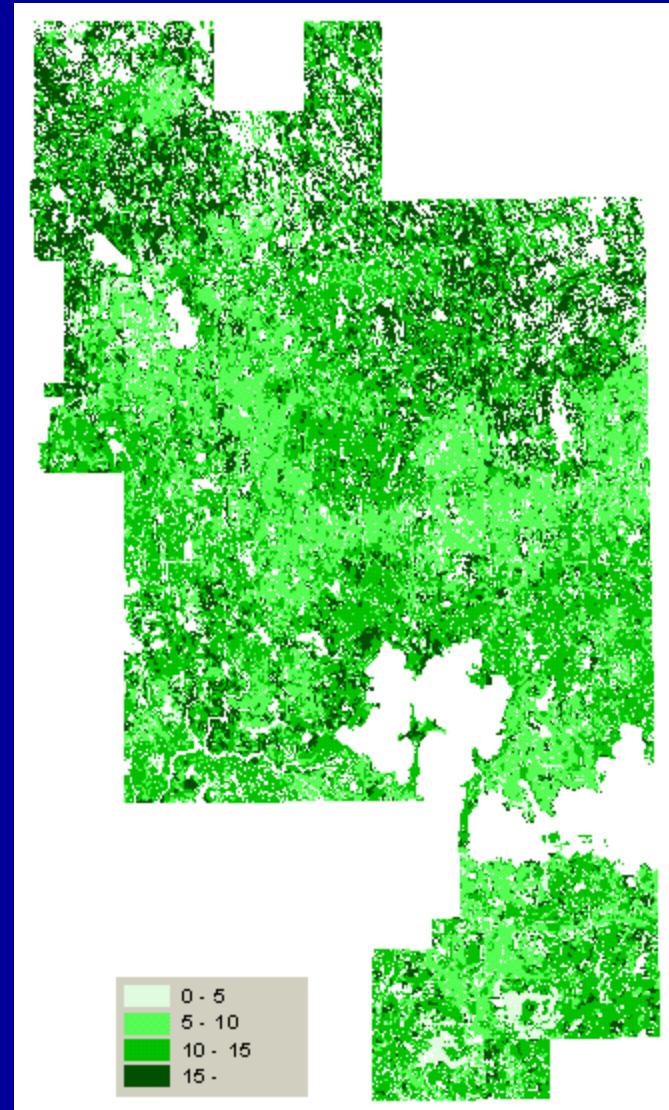
Kappa Statistic (k) = 0.55

Good agreement if $0.55 < K < 0.7$

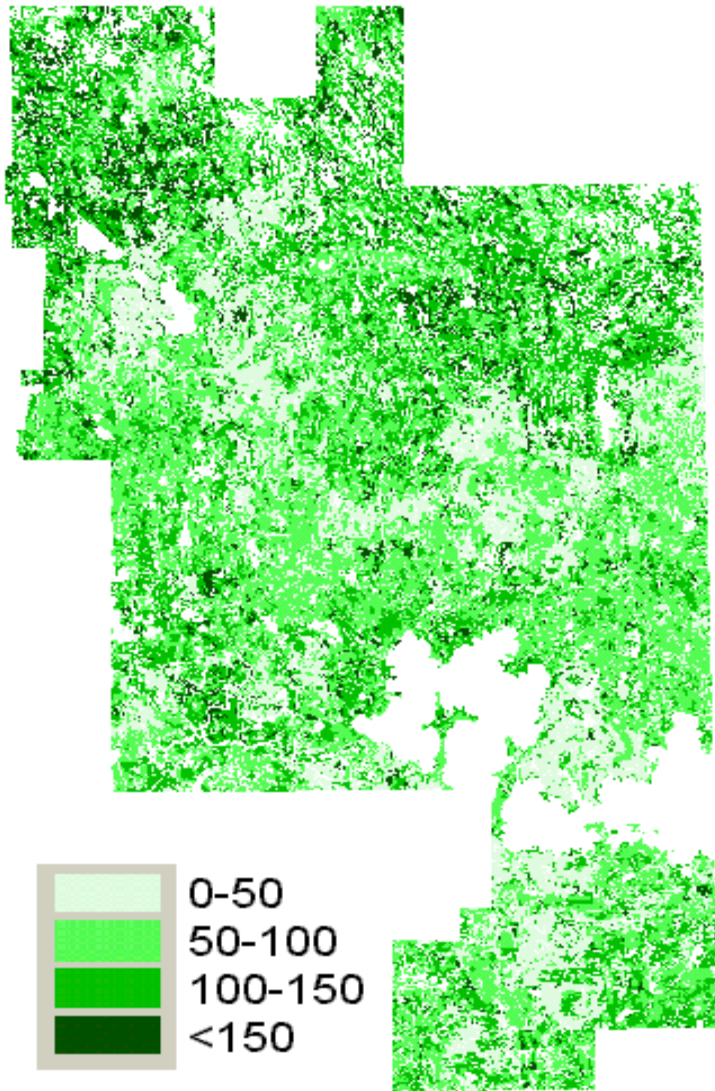
Total Height (m)



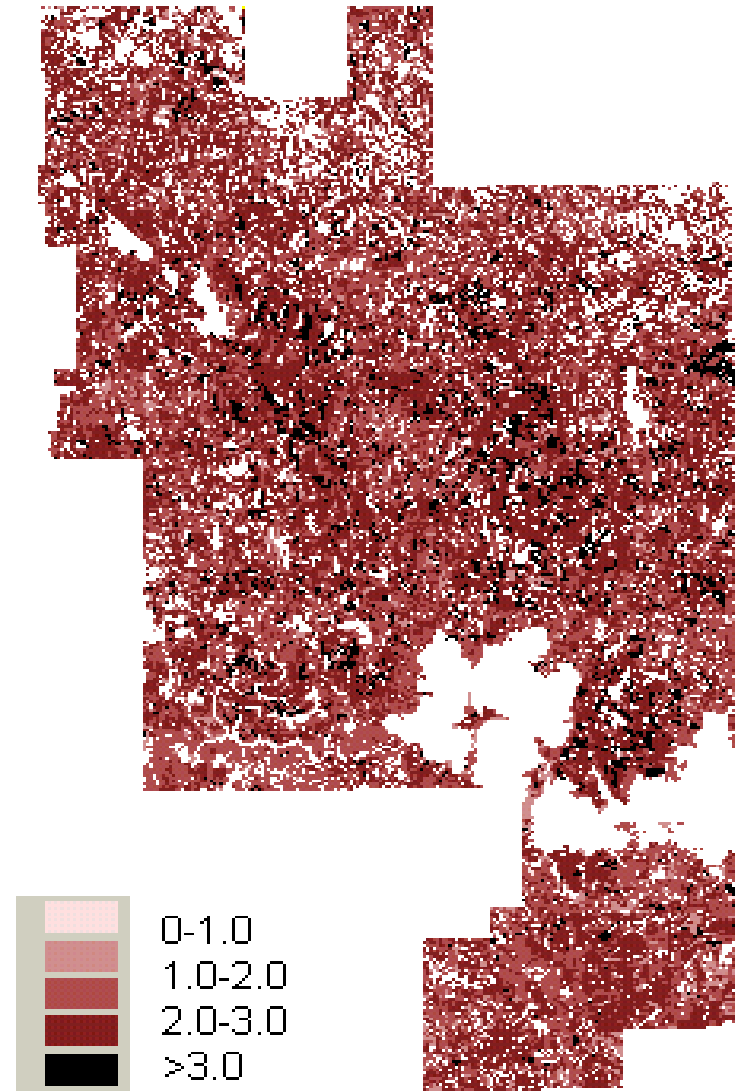
DBH (cm)



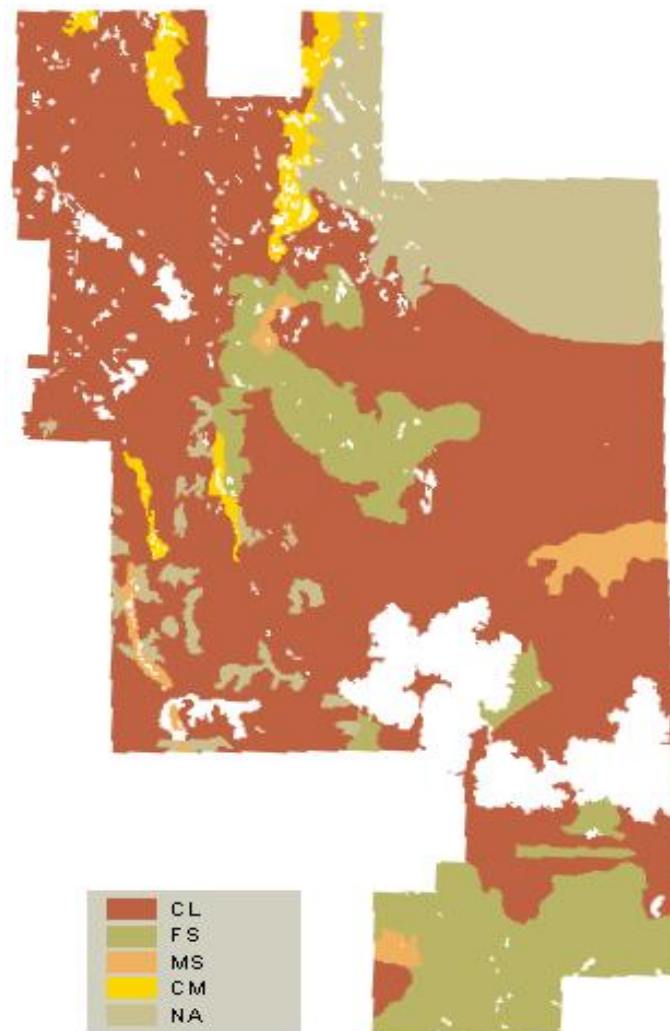
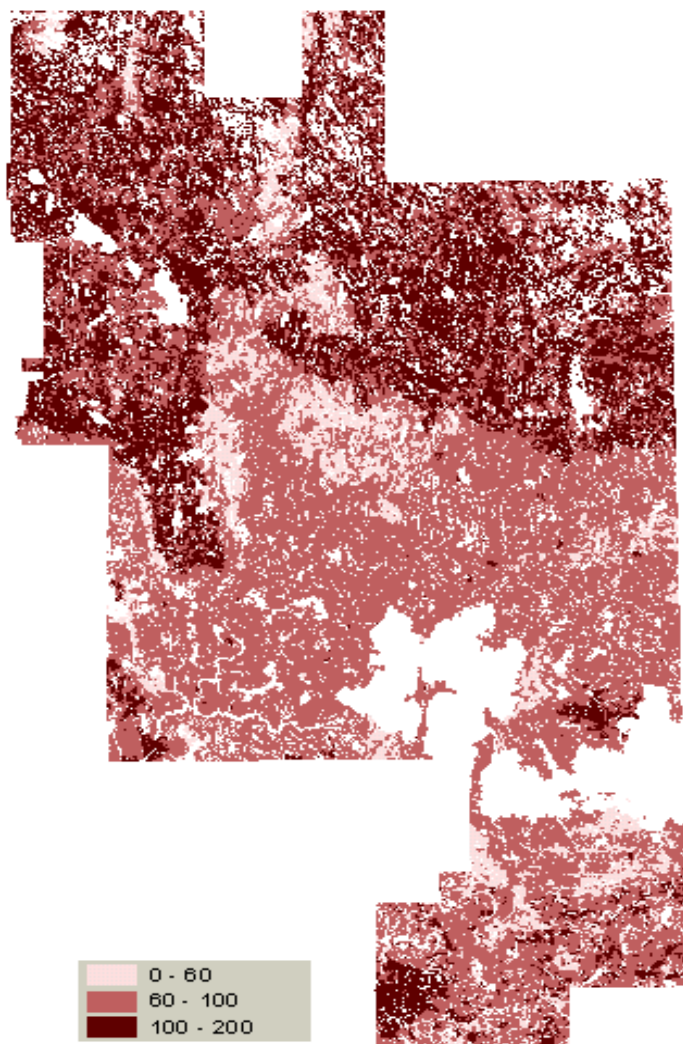
2000



**Simulated Biomass (t ha^{-1})
in 2000**

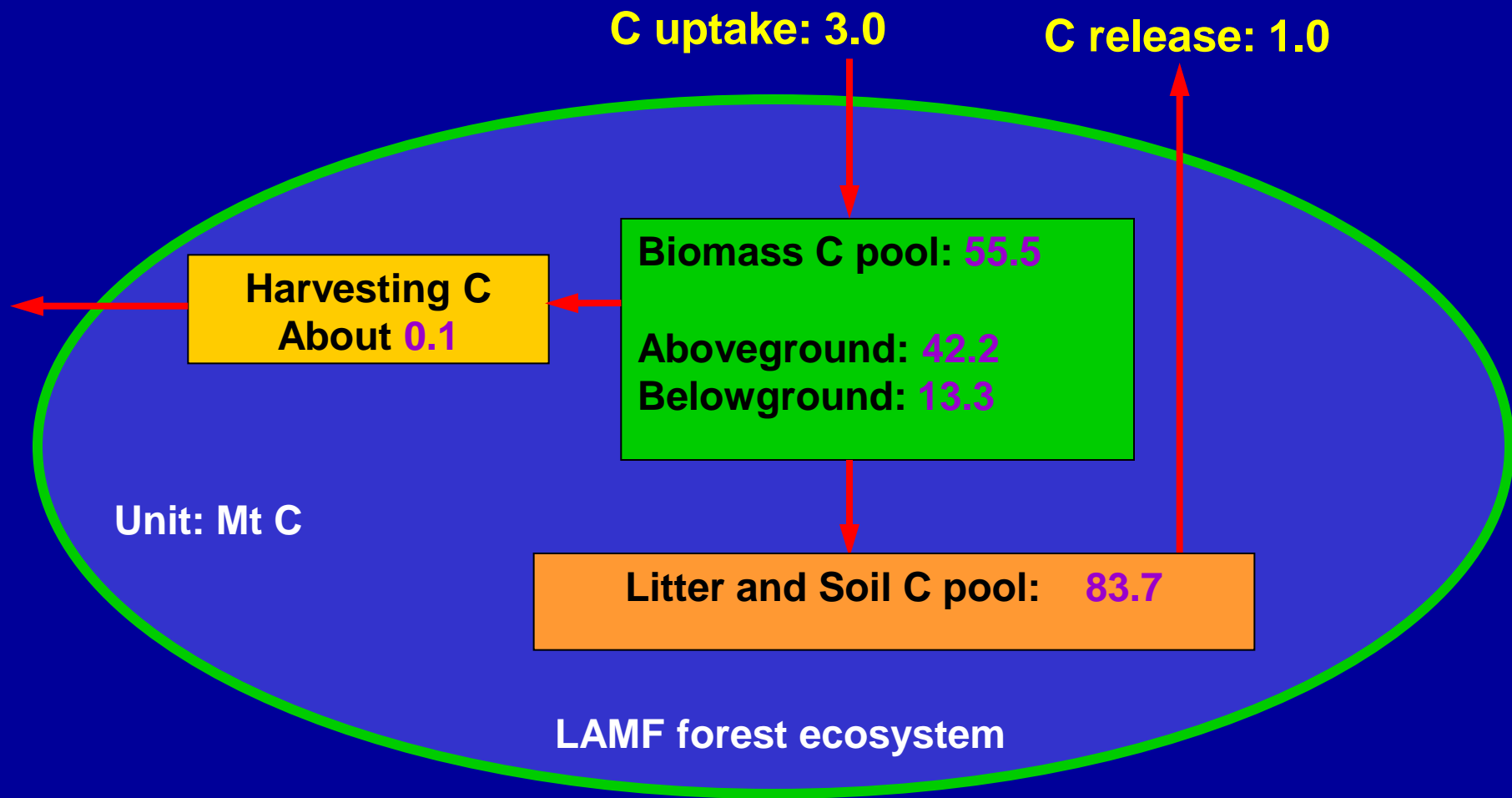


**Simulated NPP ($\text{tC ha}^{-1}\text{yr}^{-1}$)
in 2000**



**Simulated Soil carbon (tC ha⁻¹)
in 2000**

Soil texture



C budget of LAMF forest ecosystem in 2000:

Net carbon balance (NCB) = 2.0 Mt C

(Zhou et al., 2007)

Case Study 3

Global and Planetary Change 66 (2009) 179–194



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Global and Planetary Change

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/gloplacha



Quantifying the response of forest carbon balance to future climate change in Northeastern China: Model validation and prediction

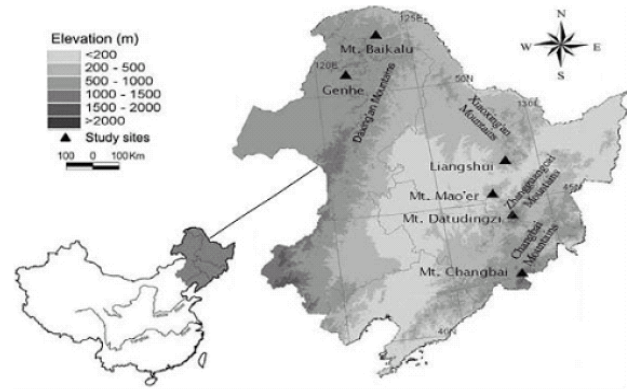
Changhui Peng^{a,c,*}, Xiaolu Zhou^a, Shuqing Zhao^{a,b}, Xiangping Wang^b, Biao Zhu^b,
Shilong Piao^b, Jingyun Fang^b

^a Institute of Environmental Sciences, Department of Biology Sciences, University of Quebec at Montreal, Case postale 8888, Succ Centre-Ville Montreal, QC Canada H3C 3P8

^b Department of Ecology, College of Environmental Sciences, and Key Laboratory for Earth Surface Processes of the Ministry of Education, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China

^c Ecology Research Section, Central-South University of Forestry & Technology, Changsha, Hunan 410004, China

June, 2004



Chinese Forest Carbon

Science *Reprint*

Carbon storage increased significantly after the late 1970s from 4.38 to 4.75 pg of carbon by 1998, for a mean accumulation rate of 0.021 pg of carbon per year.

Changes in Forest Biomass
Carbon Storage in China
Between 1949 and 1998

Jingyun Fang,^{1*} Anping Chen,¹ Changhui Peng,² Shuqing Zhao,¹
and Longjun Ci³

22 June 2001, Volume 292, pp. 2320–2322

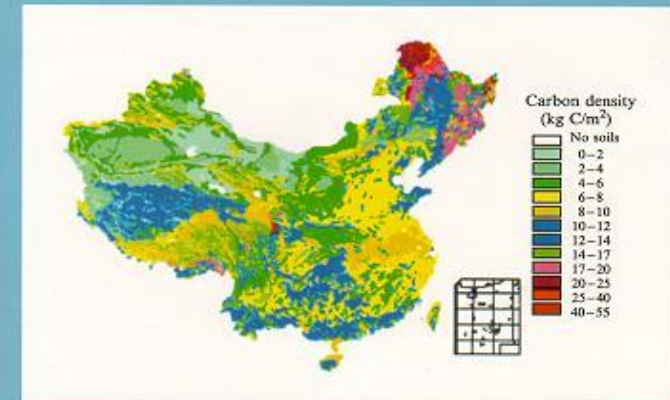
Chinese Soil Carbon

Global Change Biology

ISSN 1354-1013
<http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journals/gcb>

VOLUME 9
NUMBER 3
MARCH 2003

A loss of 7.1 pg soil C due to increasing human activities (land use)



(Wu et al., 2003)

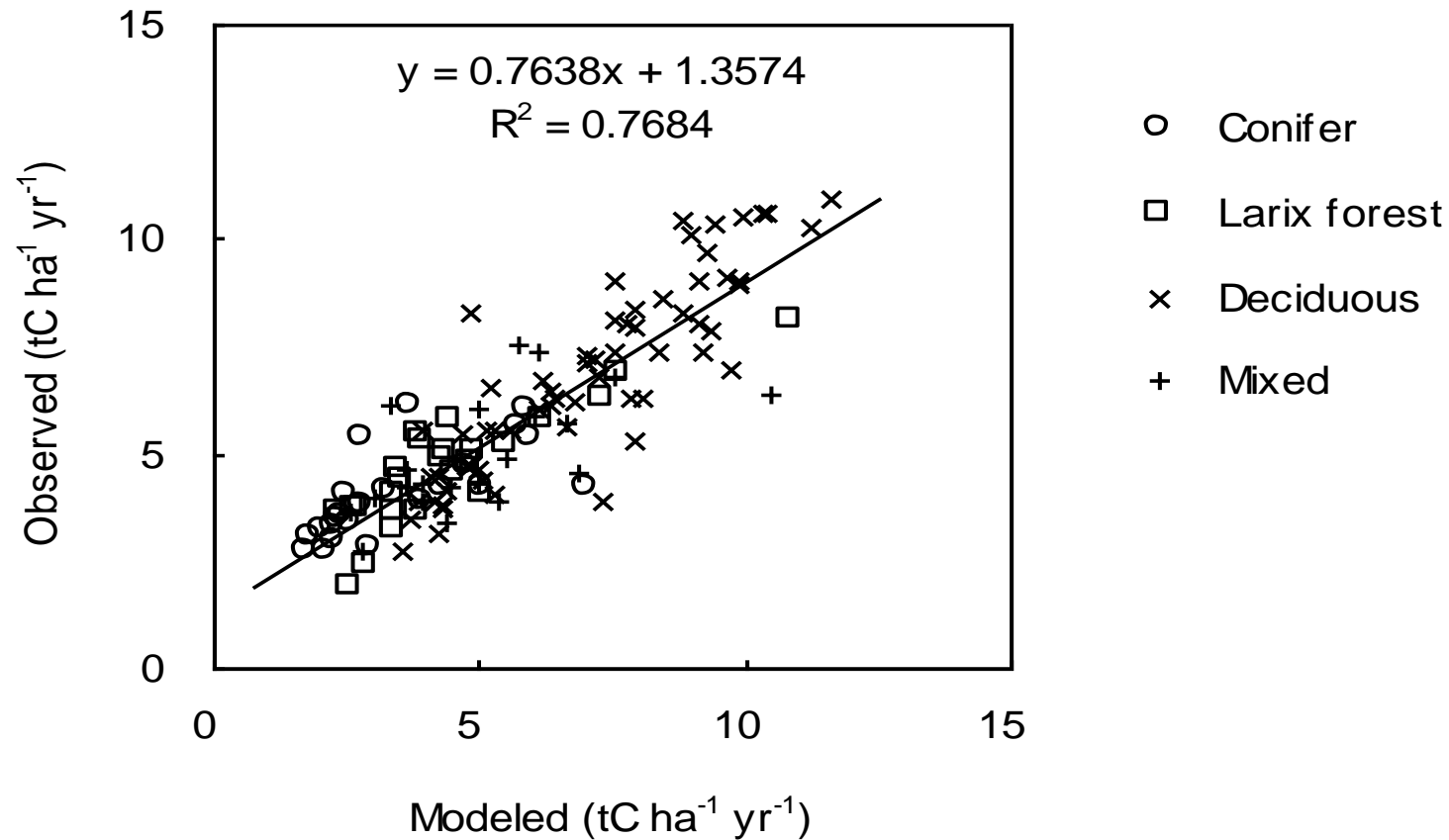


Blackwell
Publishing

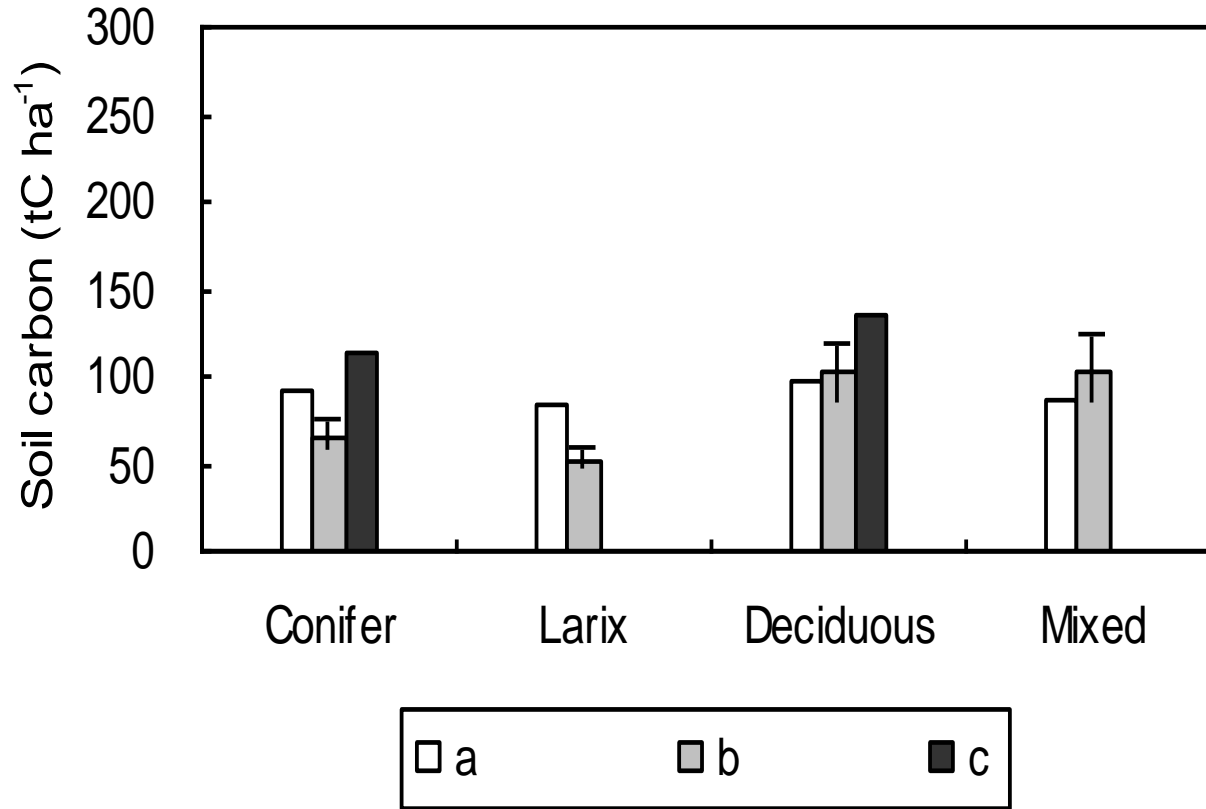
- Land-use change and soil organic carbon storage in China
- Cross-biome comparison of light-use efficiency for GPP
- Elevated CO₂, nitrogen and fungal endophyte infection
- Climate change and fitness of migratory birds

Objectives

- 1) Validate the TRIPLEX1.0 model using a comprehensive ground observations and measurements;**
- 2) Simulate the temporal and spatial response of NPP and carbon balance under projected future climate change and increasing CO2 scenarios**



Comparison of simulated forest NPP against 133 observed forest NPP in northeastern China. The observed forest NPP data sets are obtained from the most comprehensive database compiled by the PhD dissertation of Luo (1999) and Ni et al. (2001).



Comparison between simulated and observed soil carbon for four major forest types. (a) refers to averaged values of model simulations in this study. (b) and (c) represent average values measured by Zhu et al. (2005) and Yang and Li (2003), respectively. The vertical line represents standard error (*SE*) for b.

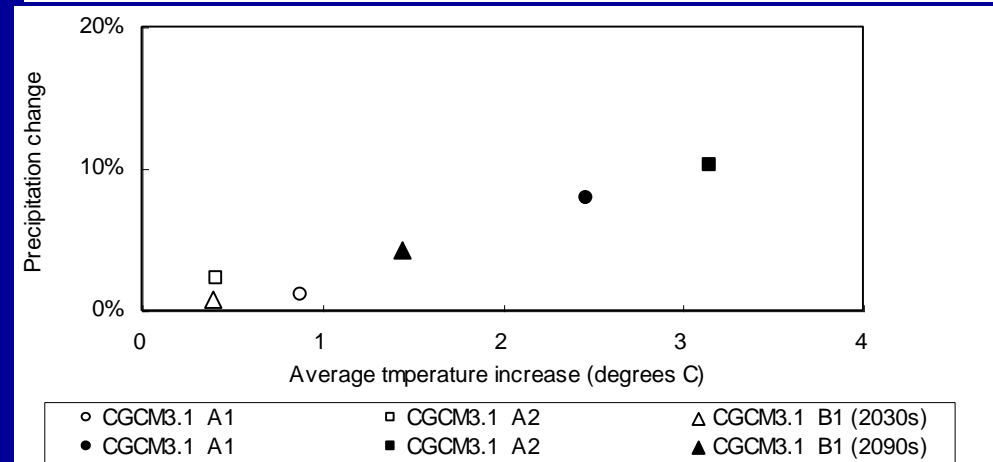
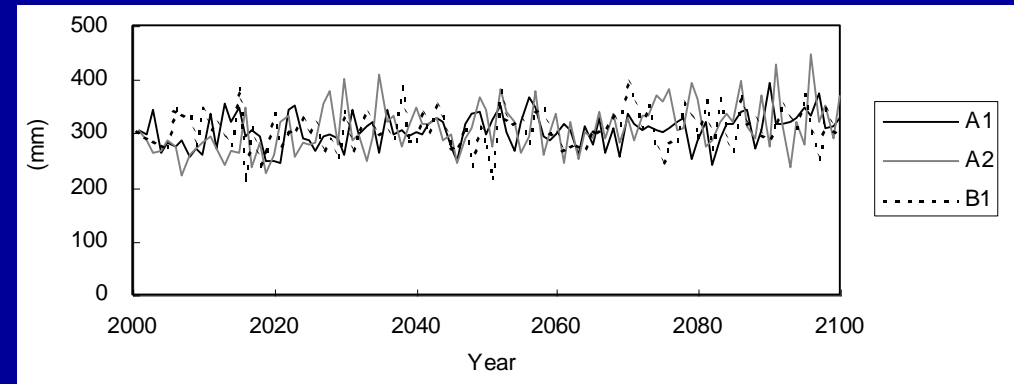
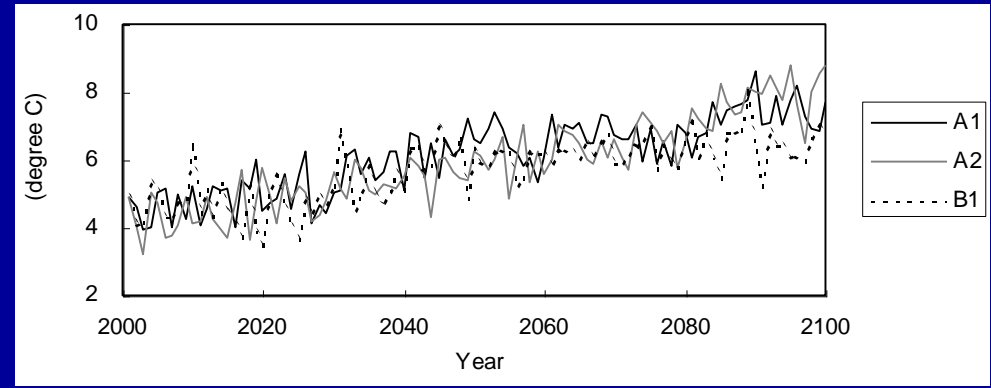
Climate Change Scenarios

CGCM3.1 outputs for the period from 2001 to 2100, under three scenarios (IPCC, 2005):

(a) A2, Temperature and CO2 increase 4 °C and 350-850 ppm;

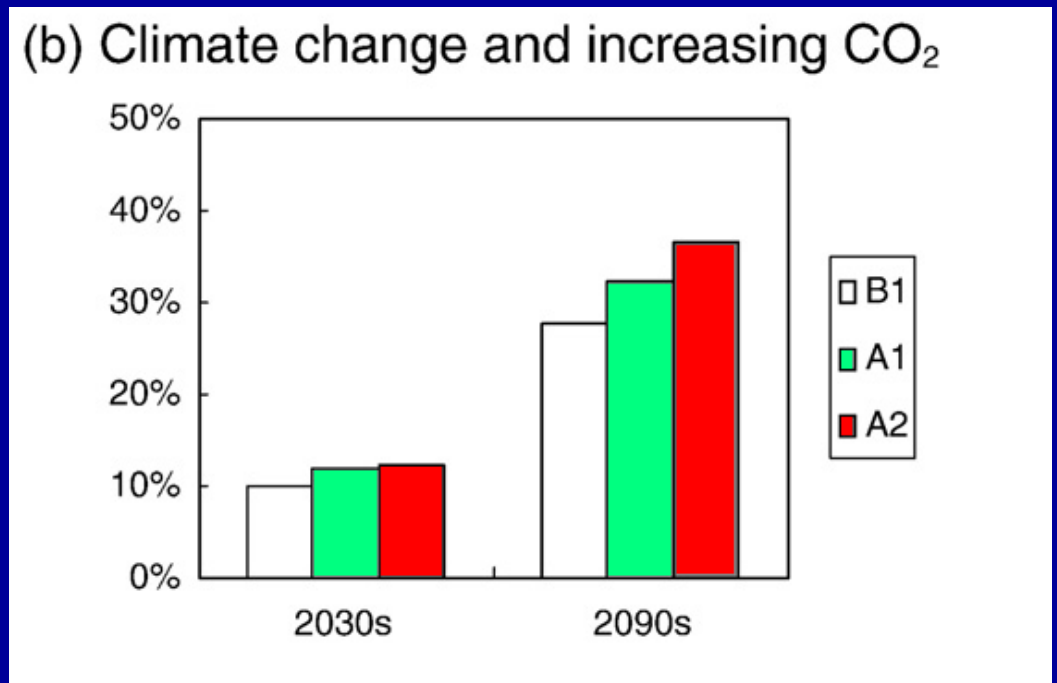
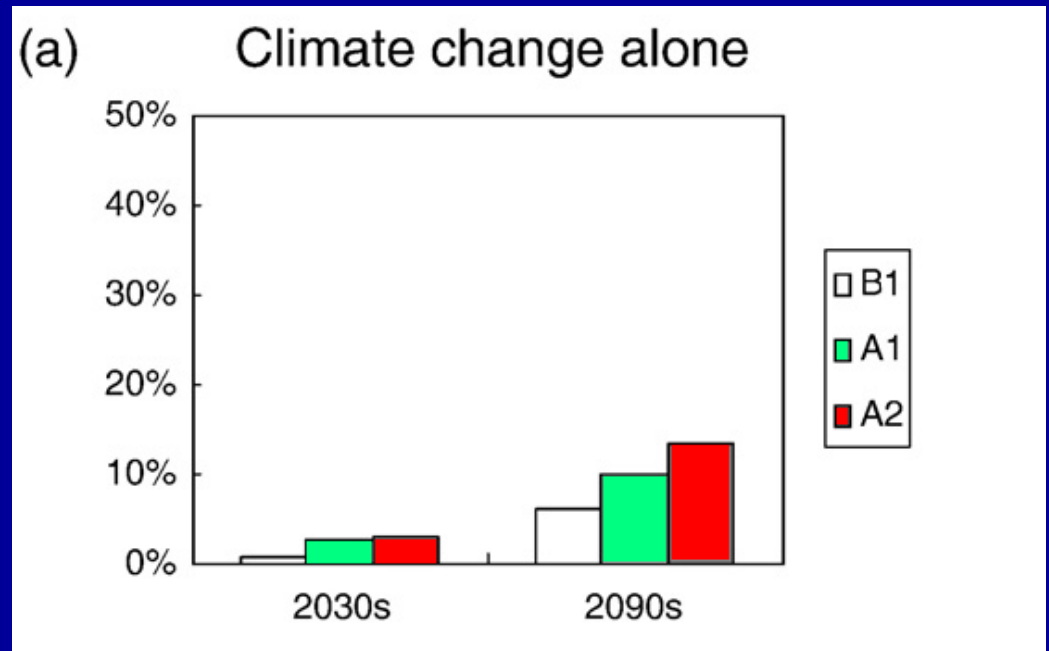
(b) A1, Temperature and CO2 increase 3 °C and 350-700 ppm;

(c) B1, Temperature and CO2 increase 2 °C and 350-550 ppm;



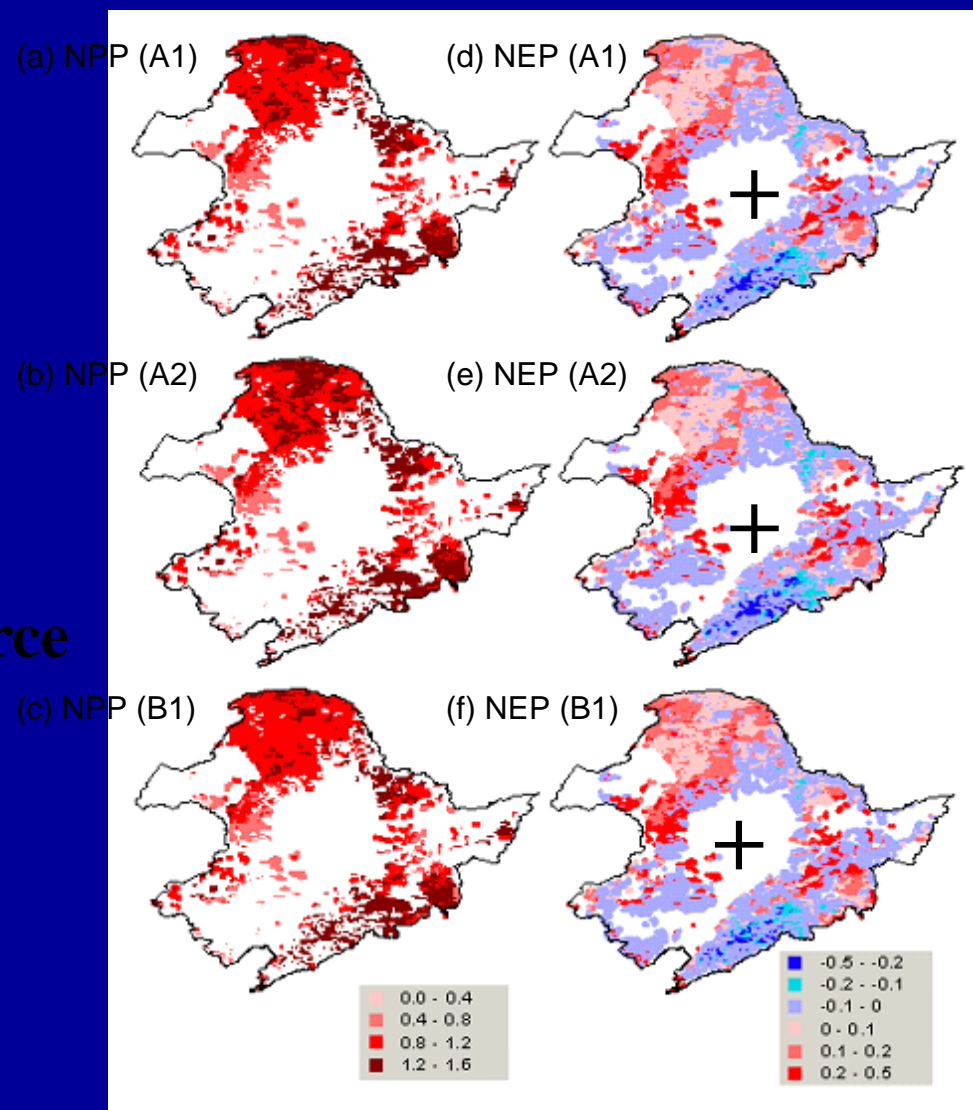
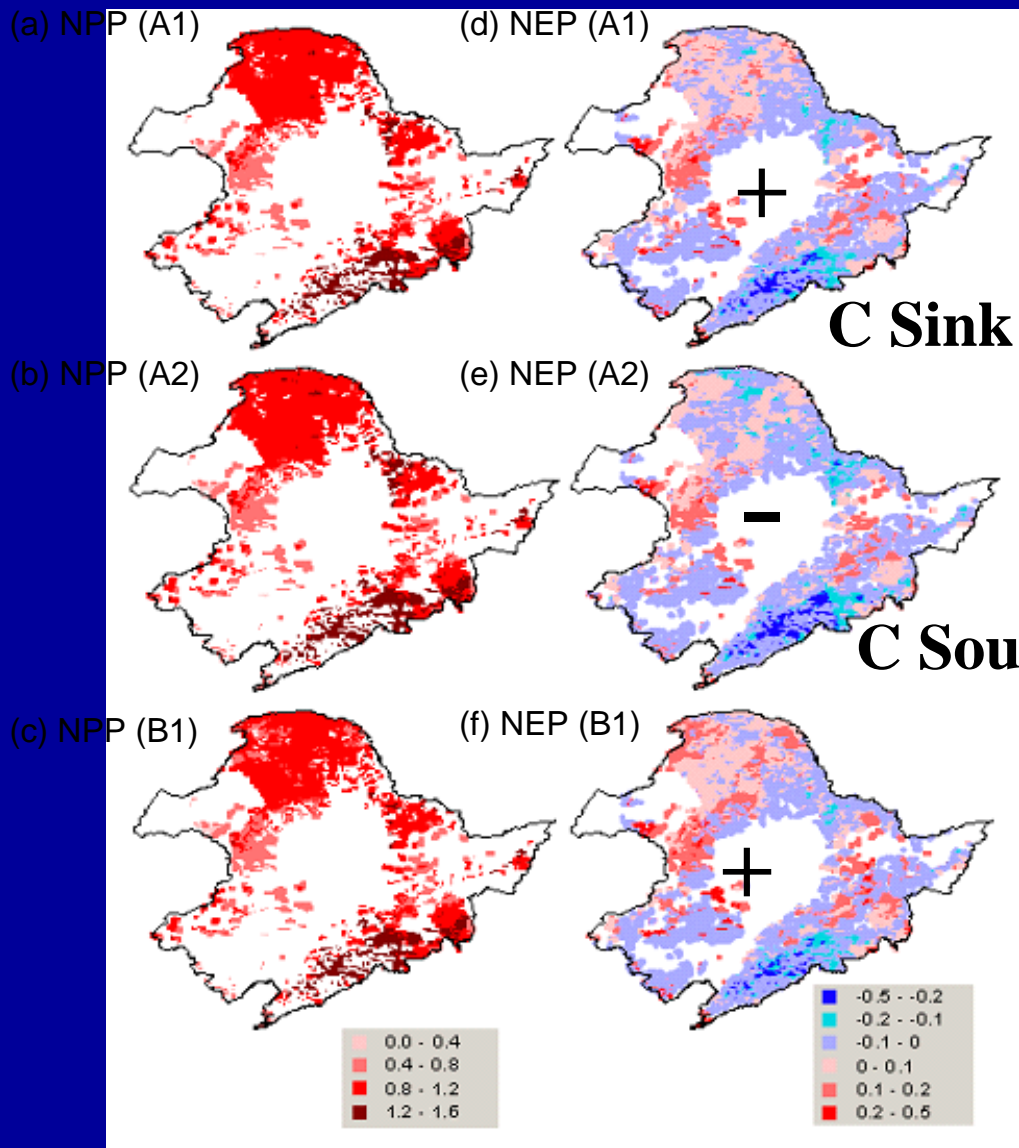
**Relative changes of NPP
(t C ha⁻¹yr⁻¹) in 2030s
(averaged over 2030-
2040) and 2090s
(averaged over 2090-
2100) under different
three scenarios (A1, A2,
B1) compared with
baseline (1999).**

(Peng et al, GPC, 2009)

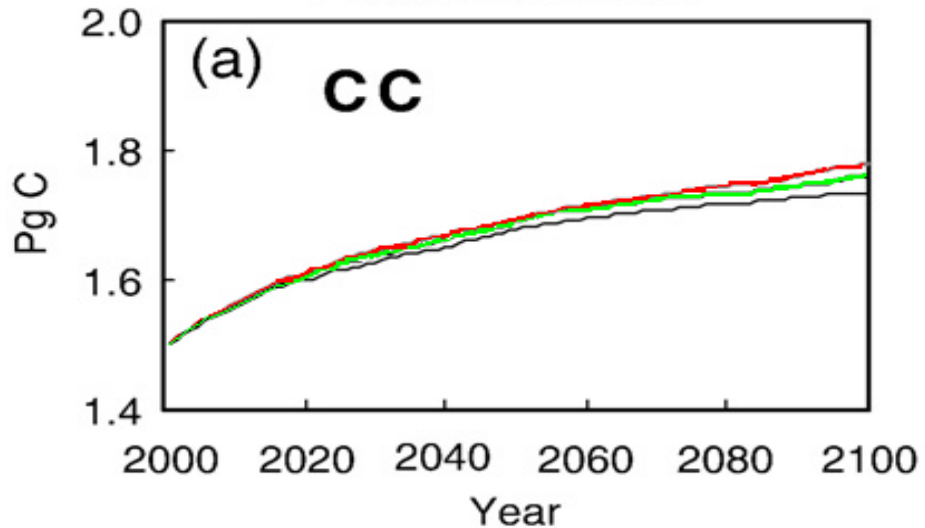


(a) Climate change along (CC)

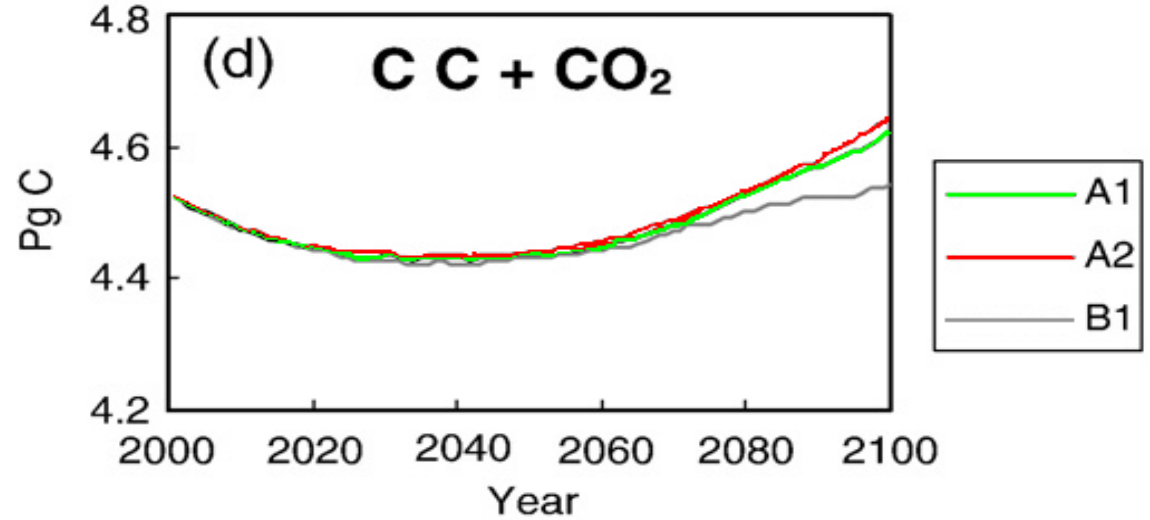
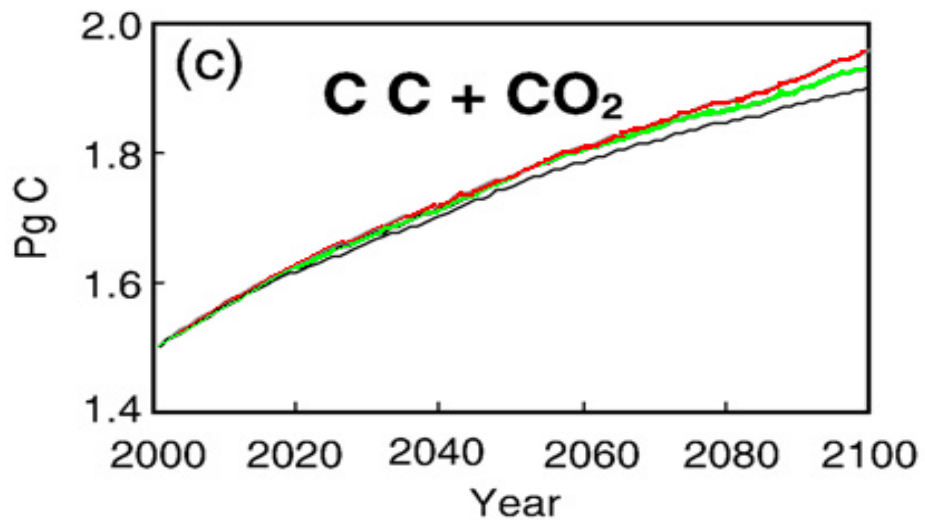
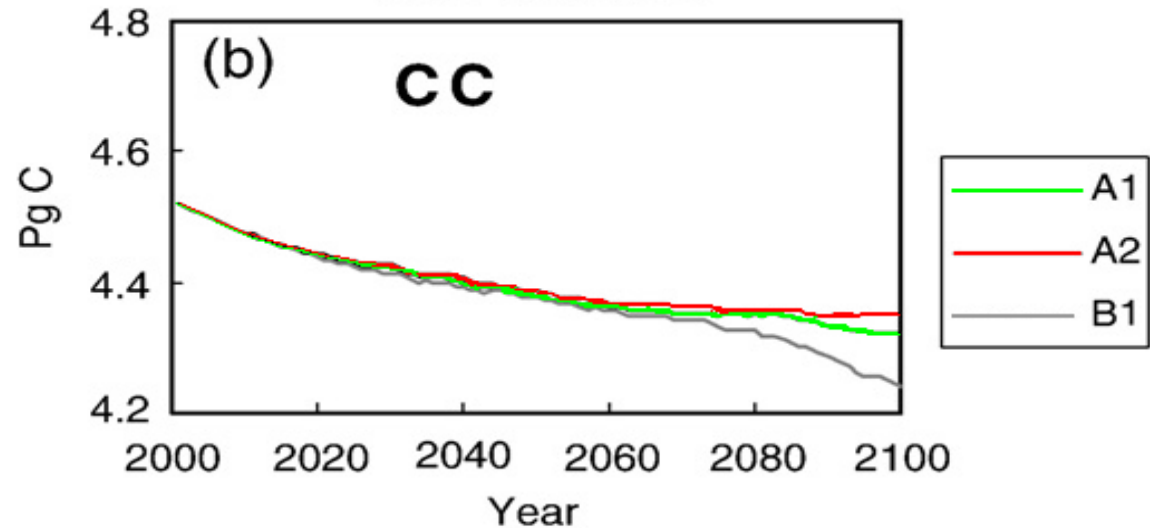
(b) CC + CO2 fertilization effect



Total Biomass



Soil Carbon



Simulated temporal dynamics of total biomass (left) (Pg C = 10^{15} g C) and soil carbon stock (right) (Pg C) under 3 different climate change scenarios with two experiments

Summary

The results show that the simulated forest yield, NPP, total biomass and soil carbon are consistent with observed data across northeastern China, suggesting that the TRIPLEX1.0 model is able to simulate forest growth and carbon dynamics for boreal and temperate forest ecosystems at regional scales.

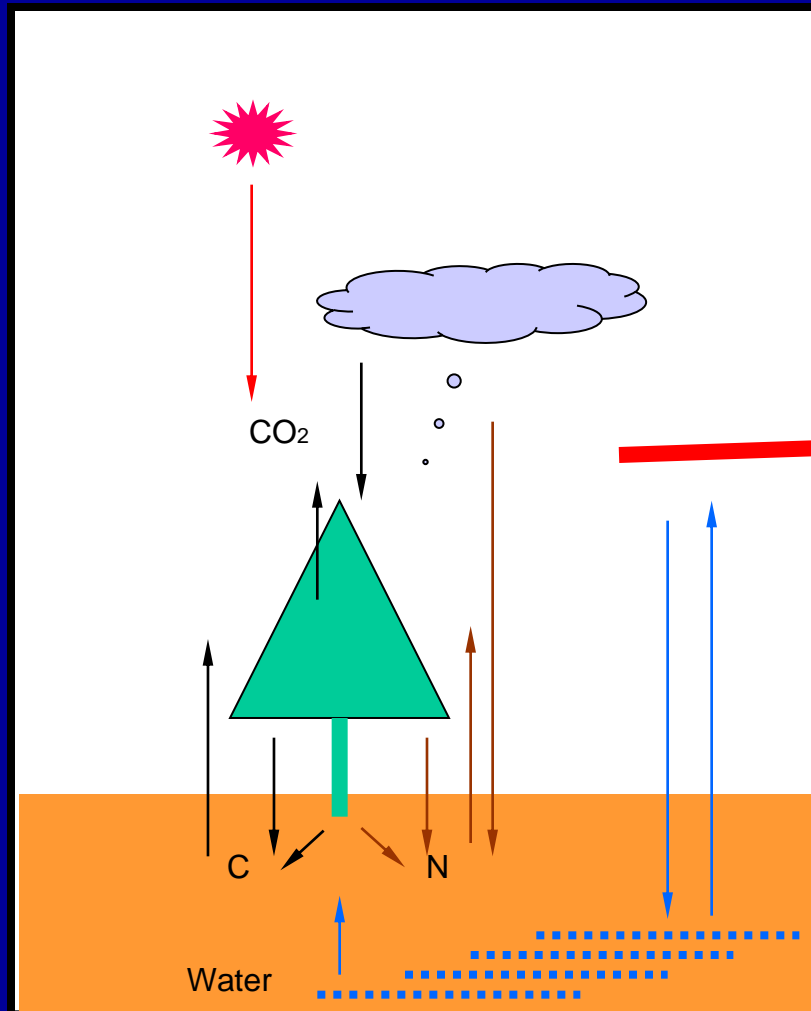
Climate change would increase forest NPP and biomass carbon, but decrease overall soil carbon under all three climate change scenarios. Combined effects of climate change and increased atmospheric CO₂ would result in increased NPP and carbon within vegetation and soil for both the short-term (30 to 40 years) and long-term (90 to 100 years).

The simulated effect of CO₂ fertilization significantly offset the soil carbon loss due to climate change alone.

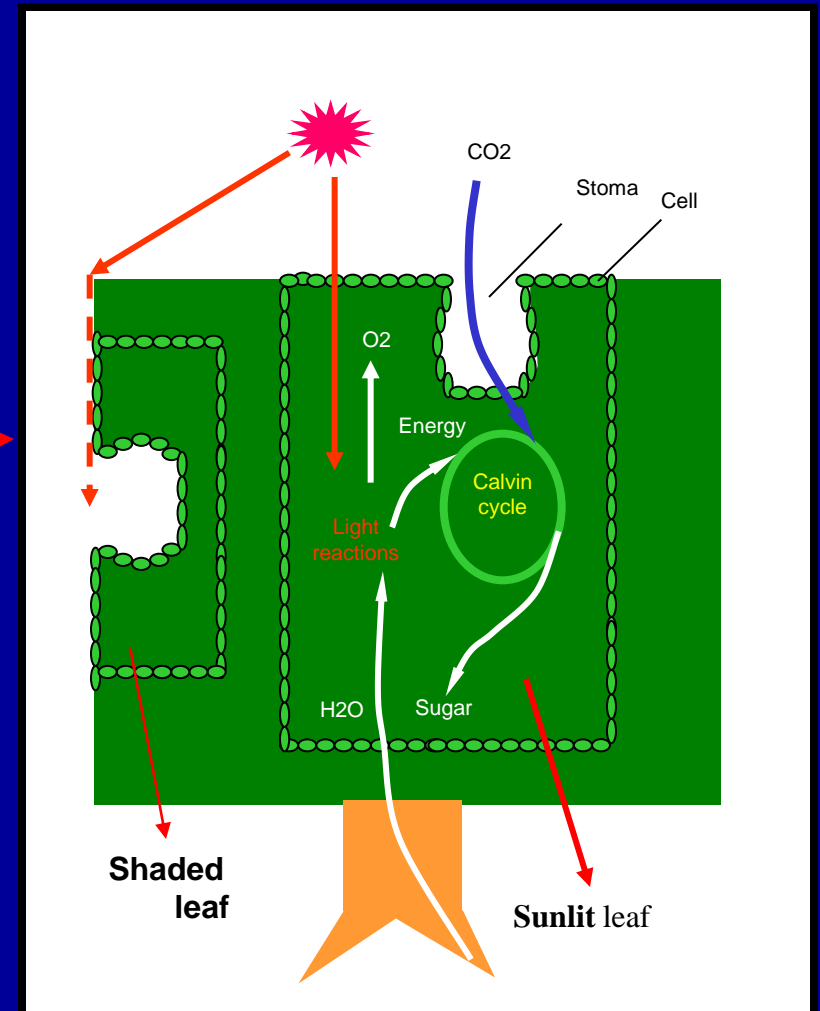
Overall, the forest ecosystems of northeastern China are very sensitive to changes in future climate change and increasing CO₂ in the atmosphere.

New TRIPLEX-Flux Model Development

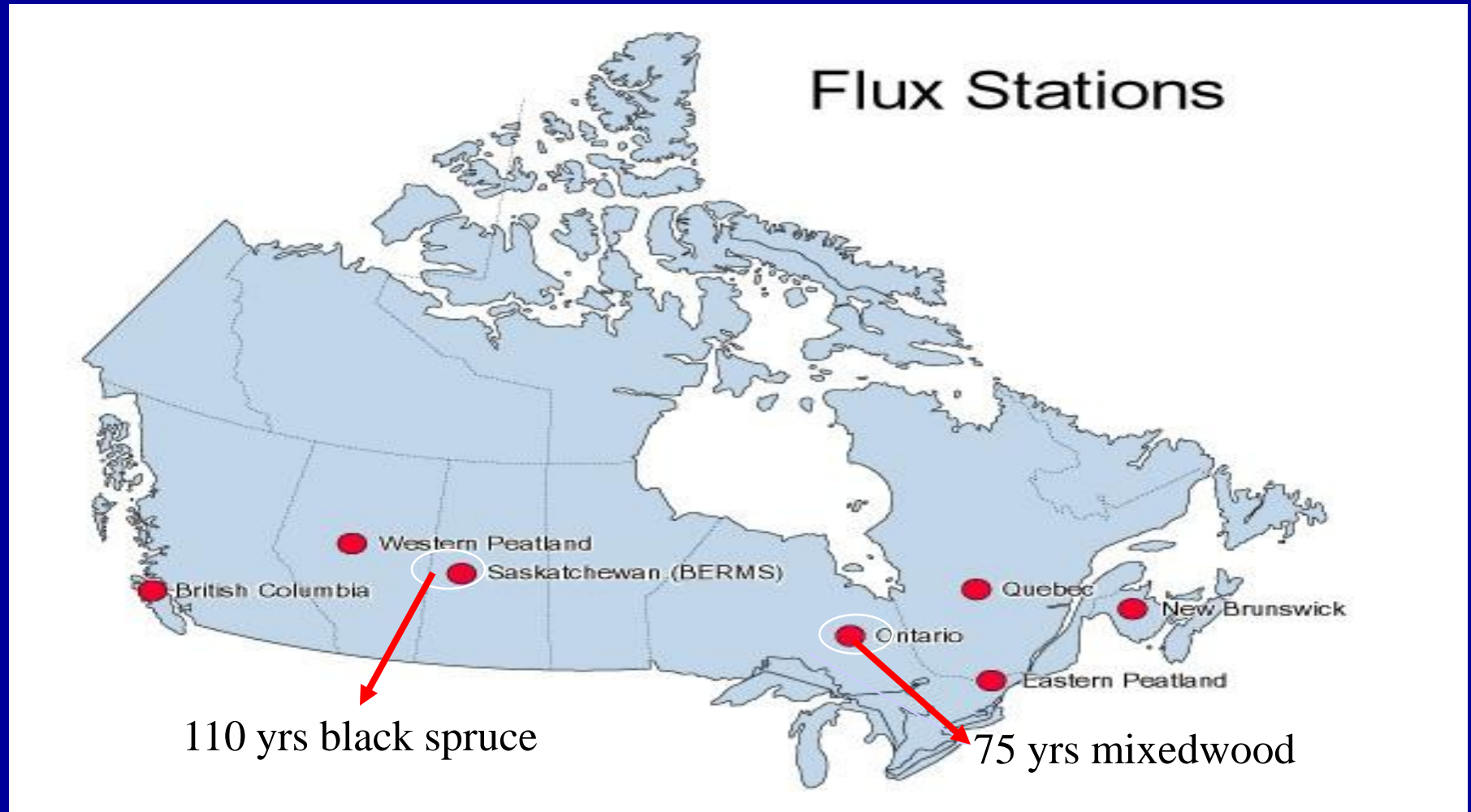
TRIPLEX1.0 (big leaf, monthly)



TRIPLEX-Flux (two leaves, daily)

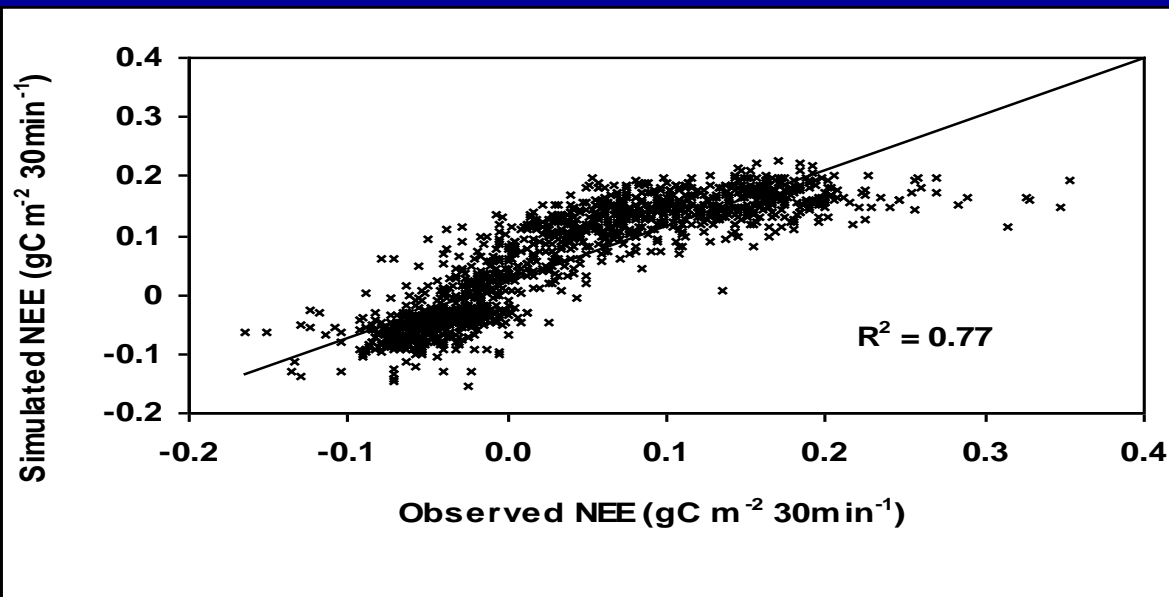
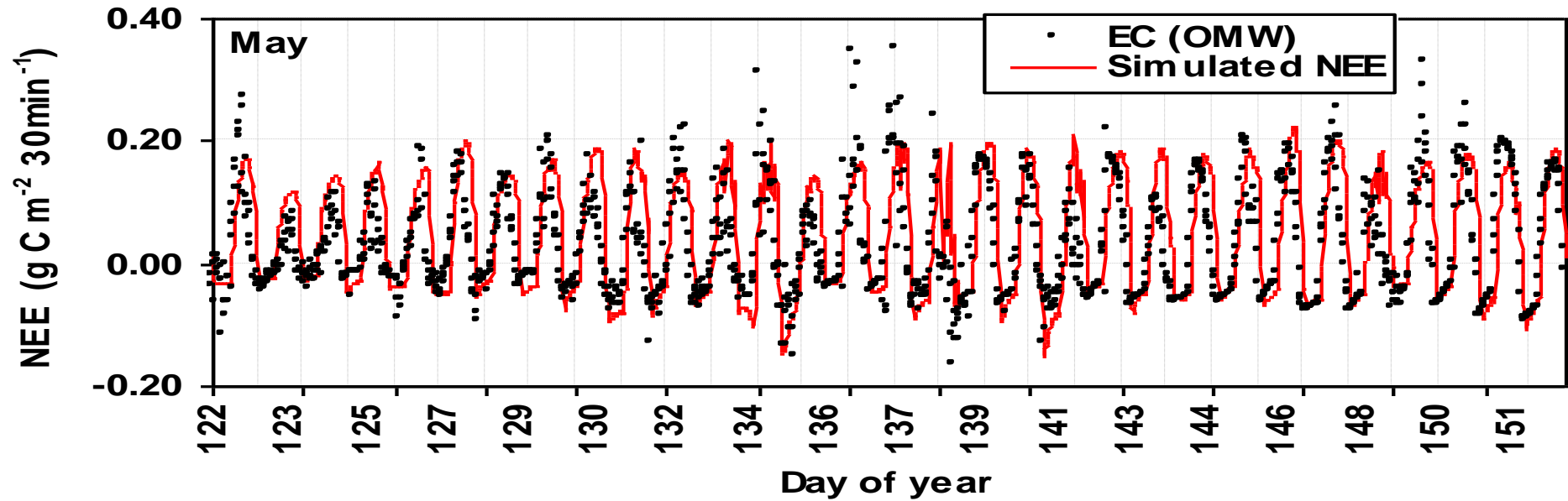


Model Testing for 2 Flux tower sites



(Fluxnet-Canada)

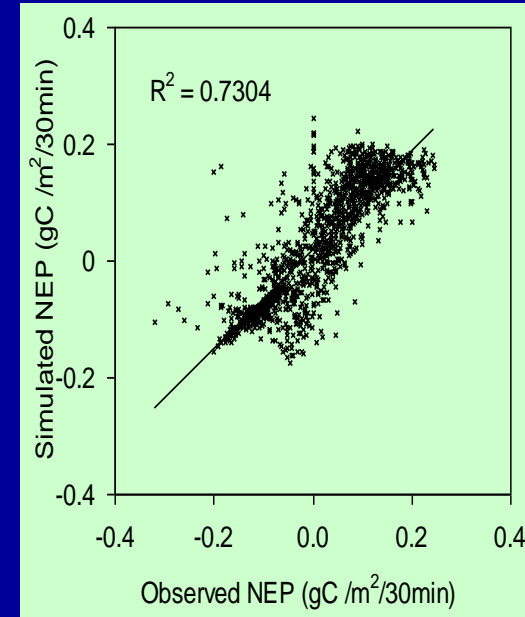
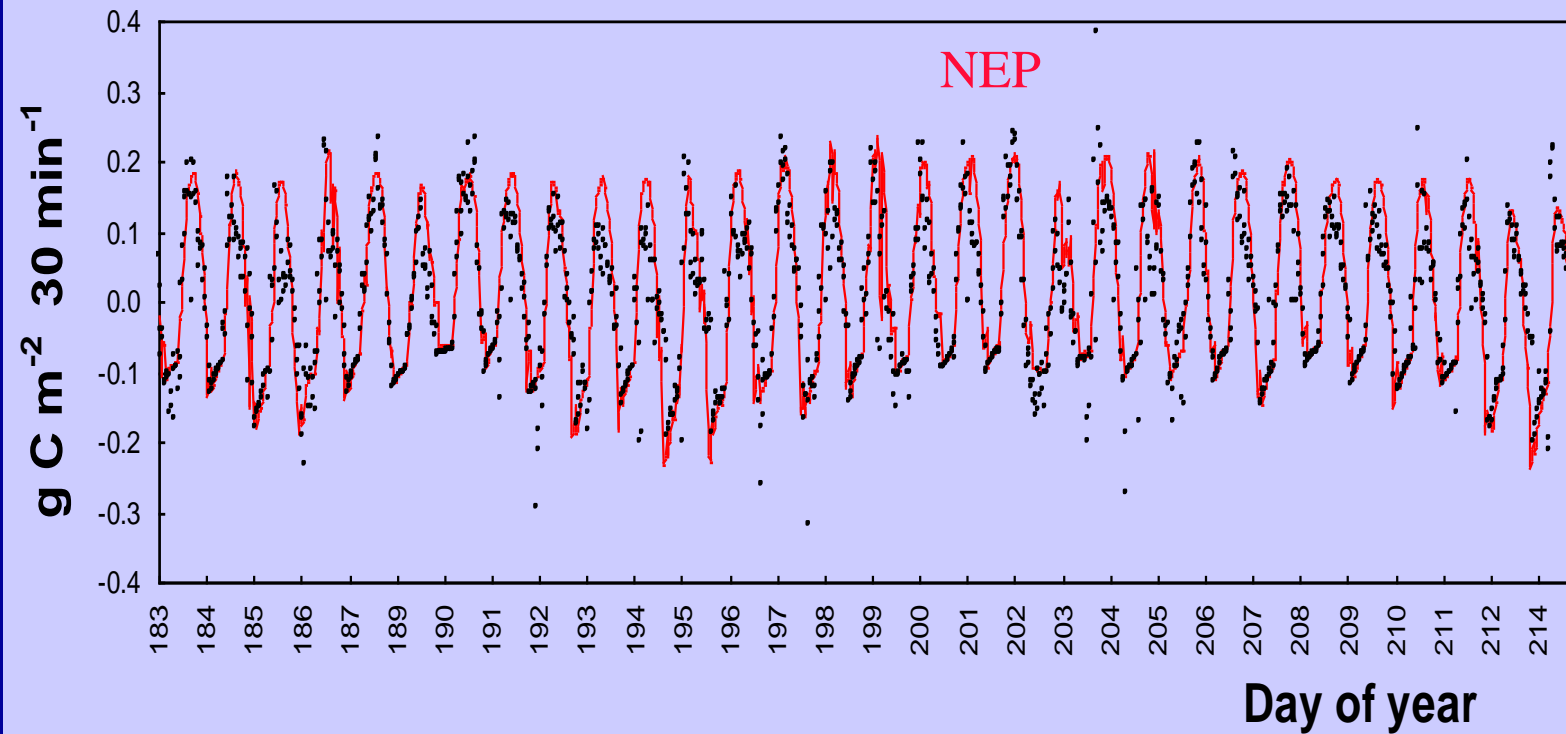
Boreal Mixedwood Site (Ontario)



(Sun et al., 2008)

Model Validation – OBS Flux Tower

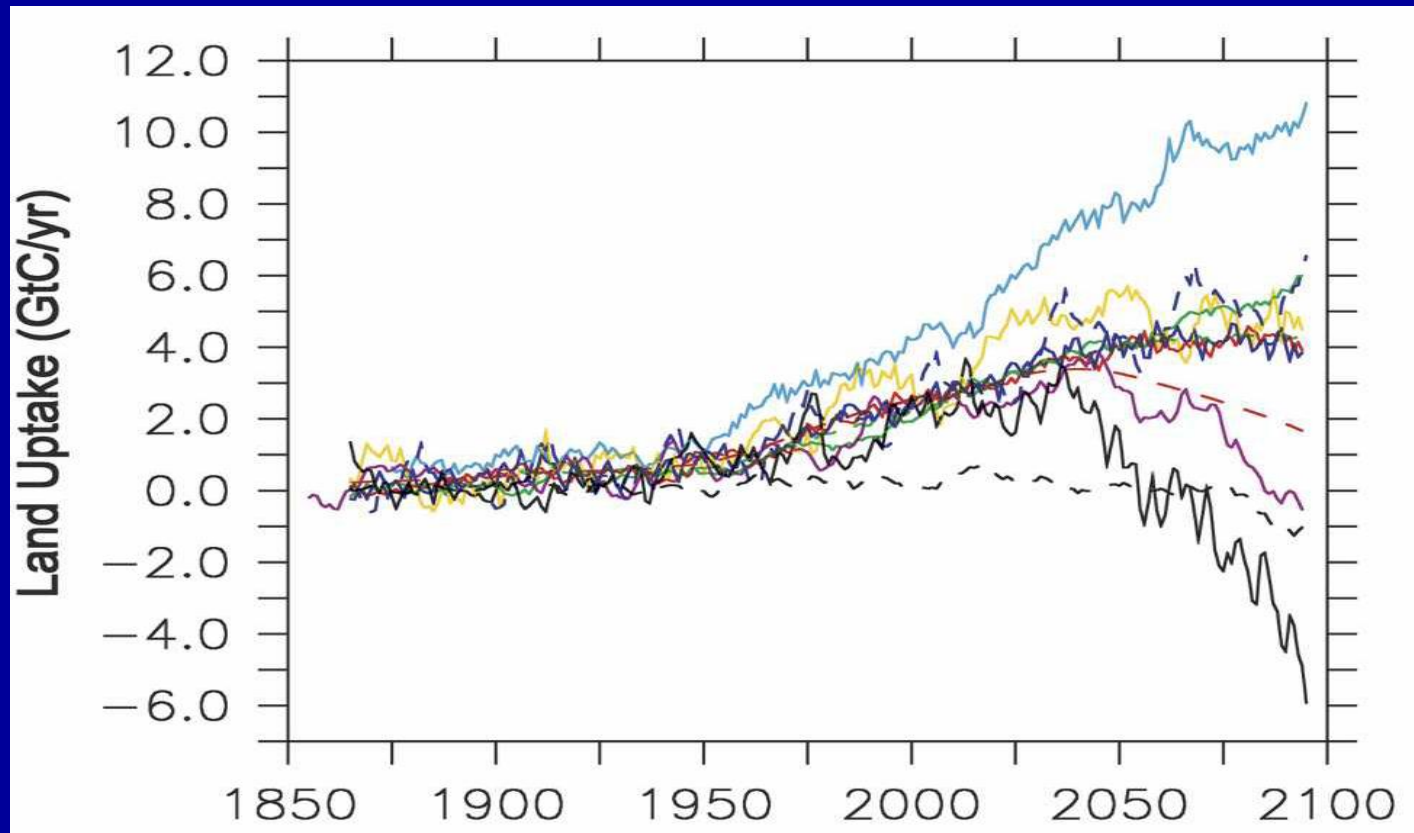
Field data from NSA-OBS-FLXTR in Jul 1996



Daily Simulation using TRIPLEX-flux

(Zhou et al, 2008)

Simulation Uncertainty



11 Models:

HadCM3LC
IPSL-CM2C
IPSL-CM4-LOOP
CSM-1
MPI
LLNL
FRCGC
UMD
UVic-2.7
CLIMBER
BERN-CC

Source: Friedlingstein et al., 2006

Parameters estimation and net ecosystem productivity prediction through model-data fusion approach for seven forest flux sites in North America (Zhou et al., submitted)

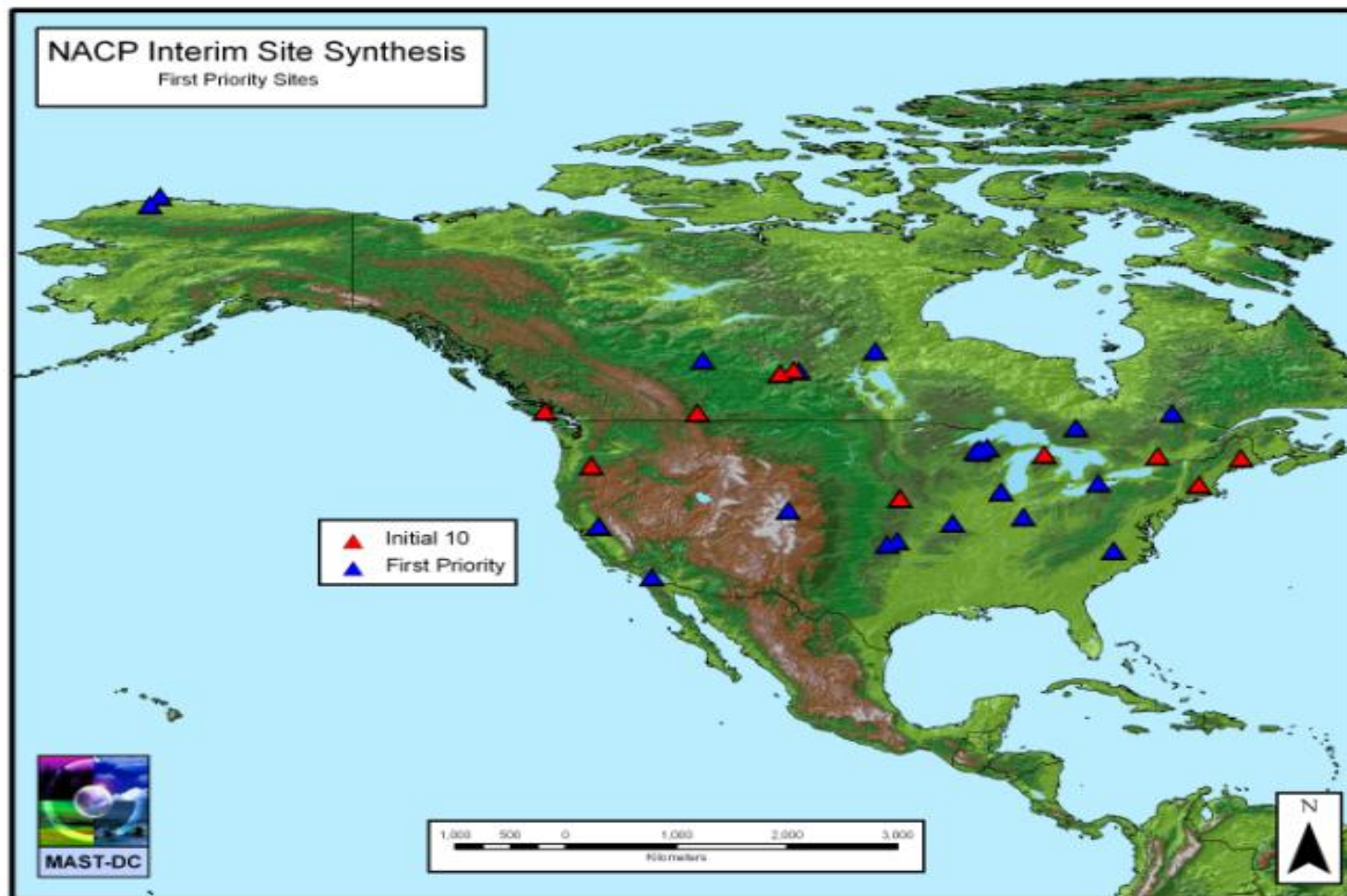
Objectives

- to estimate some key parameters using data assimilation approach;
- to test TRIPLEX-Flux model simulations against flux tower measurements;
- to understand the uncertainty of estimating carbon sequestration due to model parameters variation for different forests

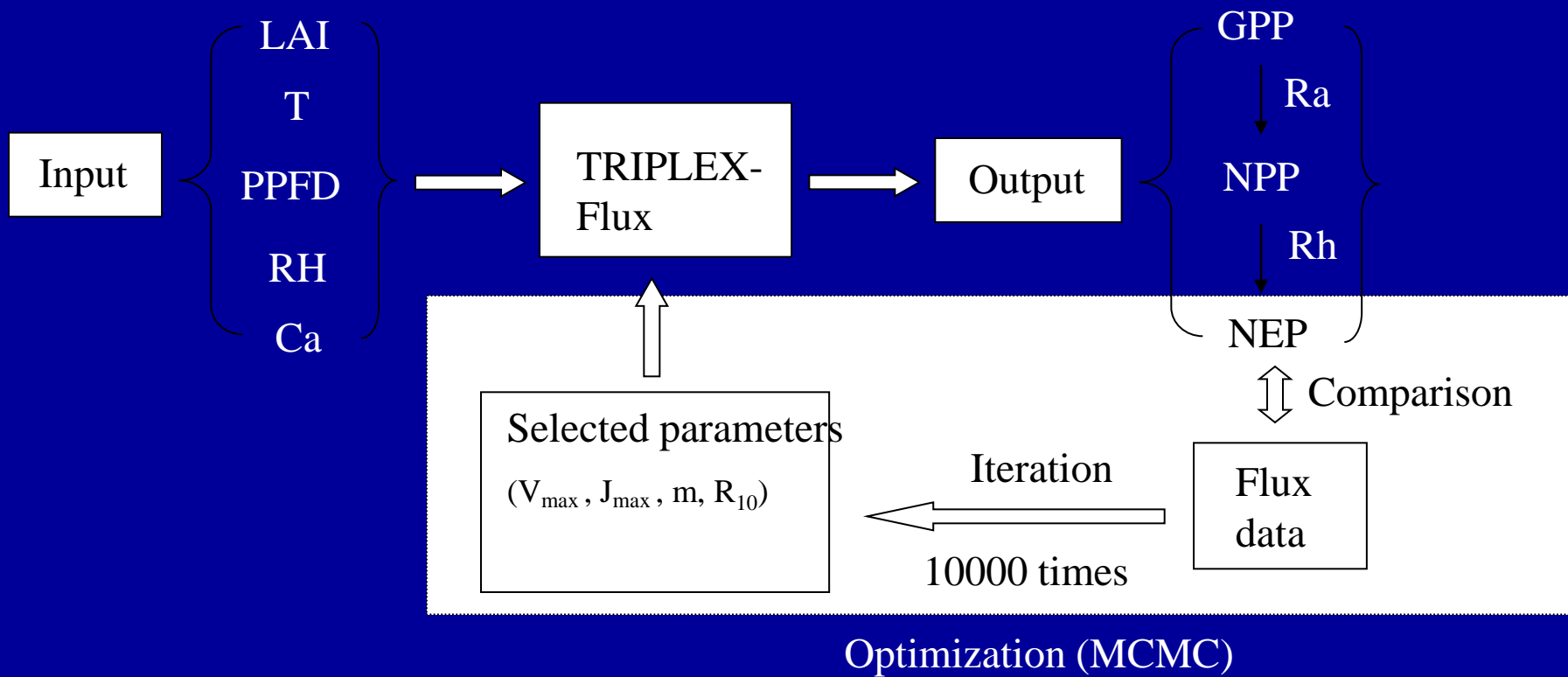
Sources of Uncertainty

- basic model structure
- initial conditions (e.g. vegetation types, especially mixed)
- model parameters
- data input
- representation of natural and anthropogenic disturbance (e.g. regeneration after fire and cutting)
- scaling exercises
- knowledge limitation for ecosystem process

Flux Tower Sites



model-data assimilation

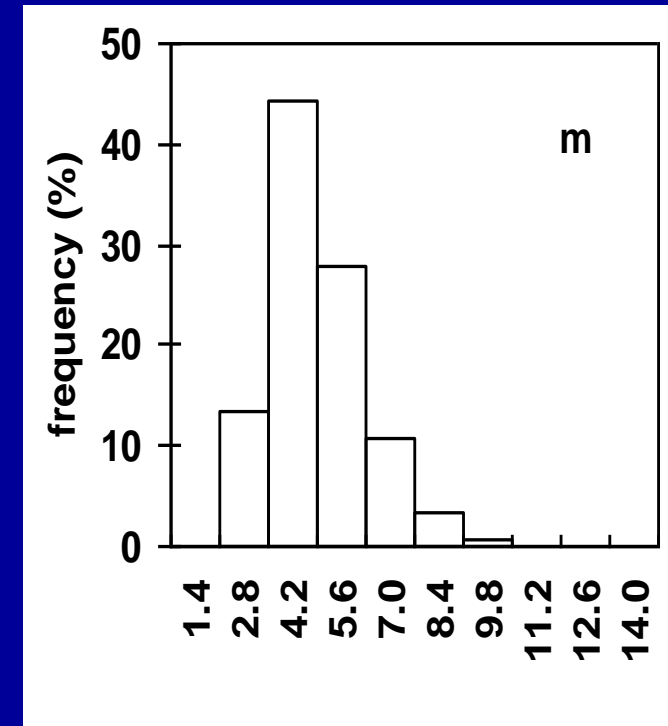
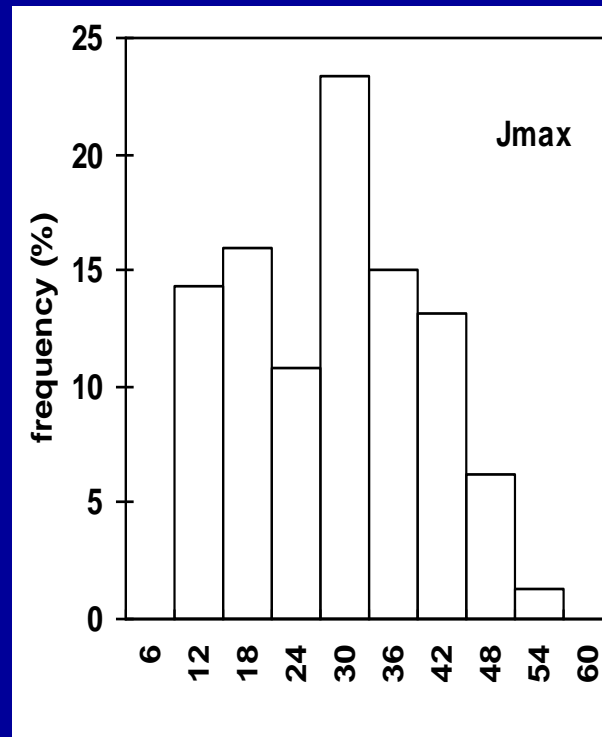
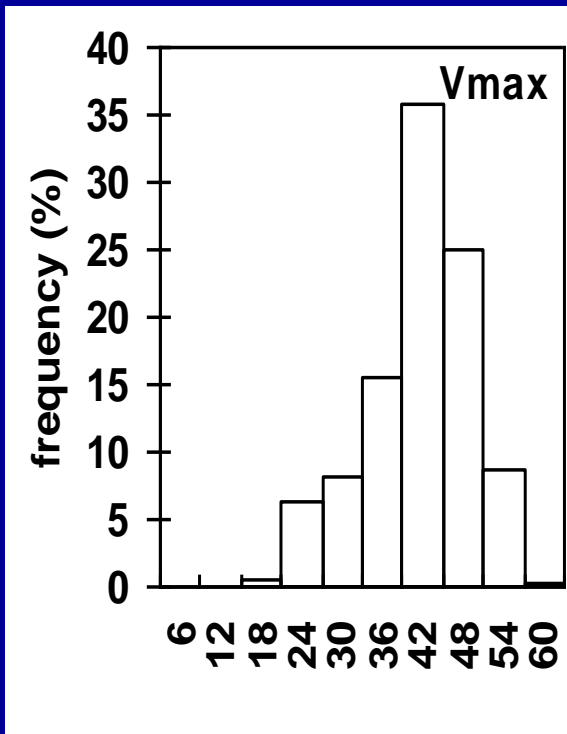


MCMC: Markov chain Monte Carlo

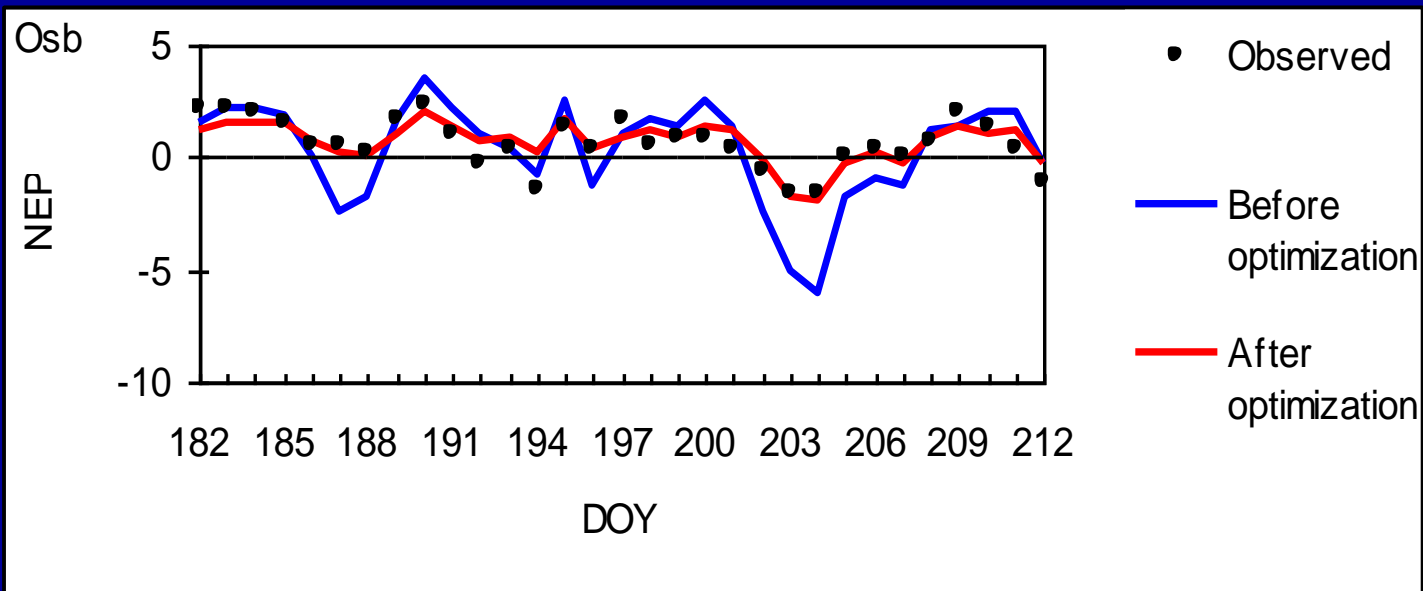
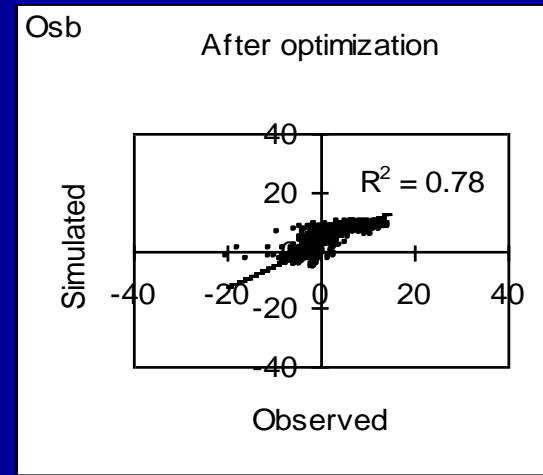
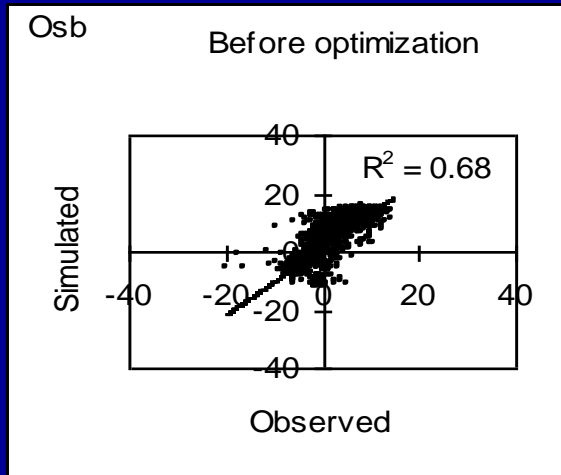
Selected Parameters

- V_{\max} : maximum carboxylation rate at 25° C in the photosynthetic carbon cycle in leaf
- J_{\max} : light-saturated rate of electron transport in the photosynthetic carbon cycle in leaf
- m : coefficient of stomatal conductance
- R_{10} : the reference respiration rate at 10 °C

Maximum likelihood estimation

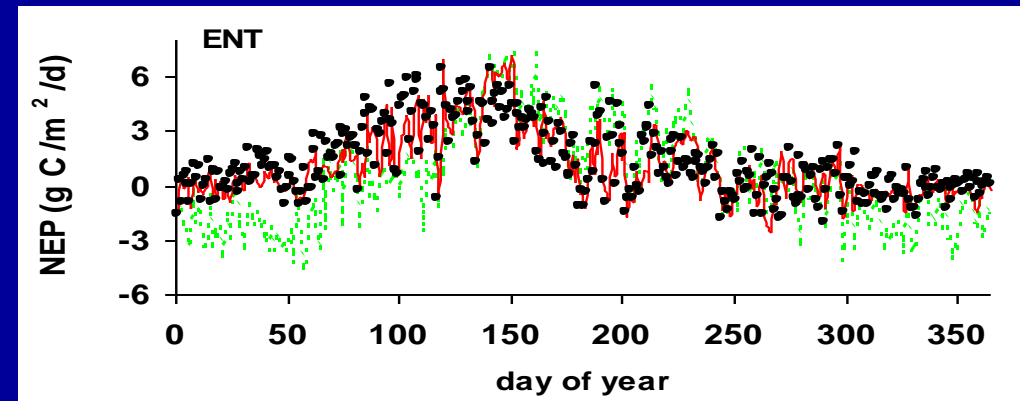
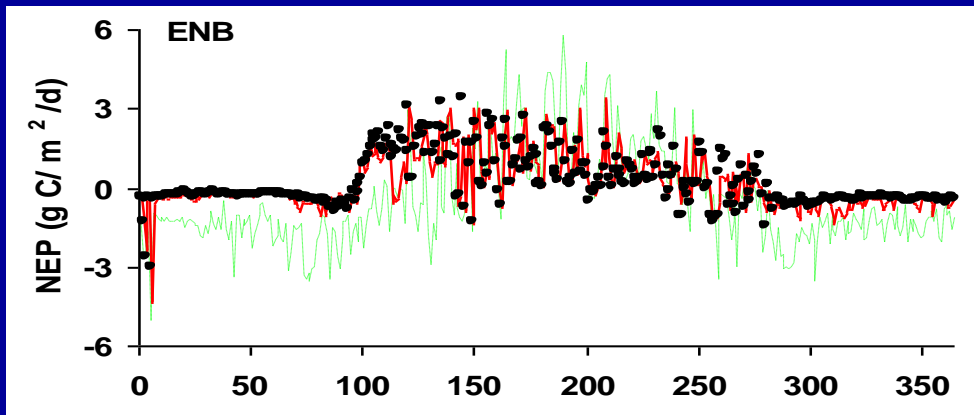
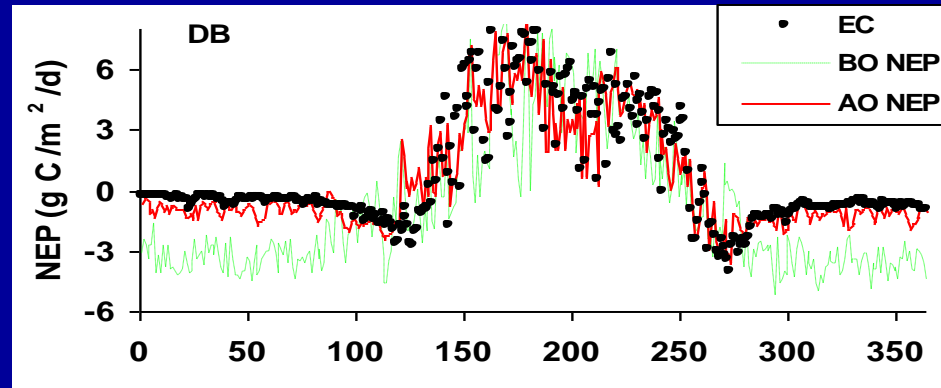


Model Parameter Optimization (MCMC)



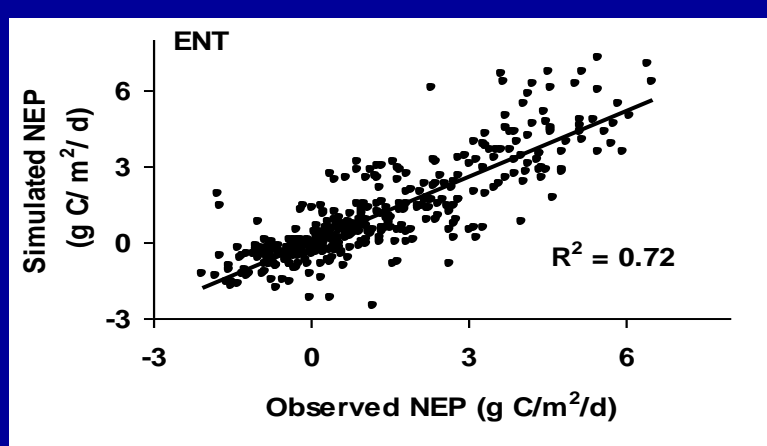
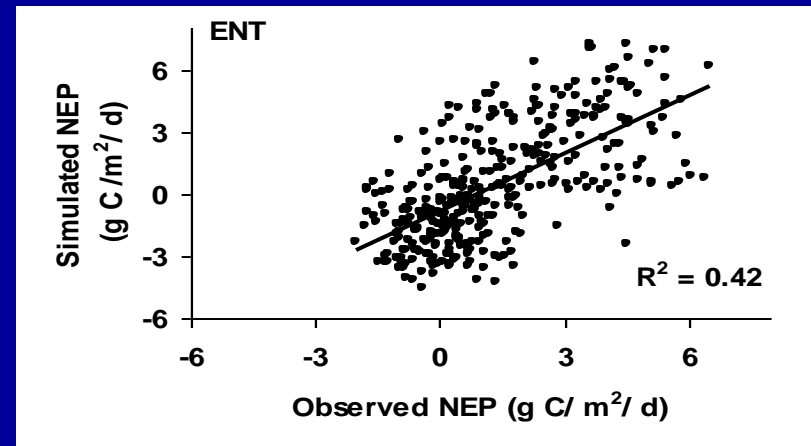
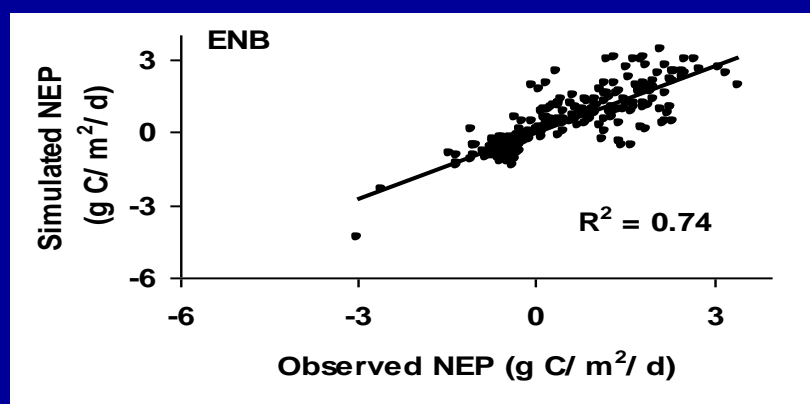
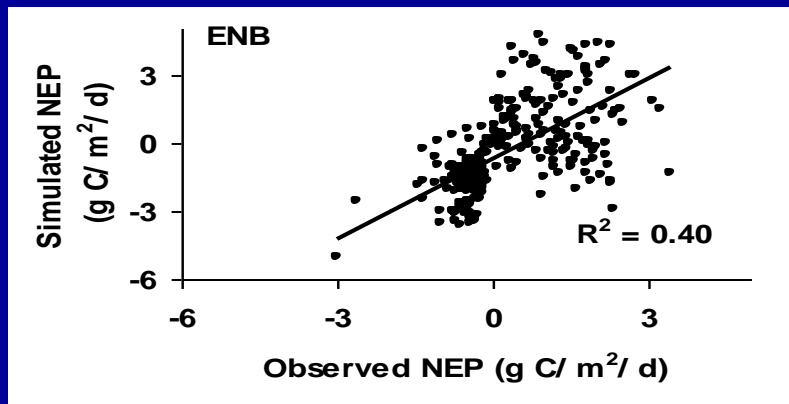
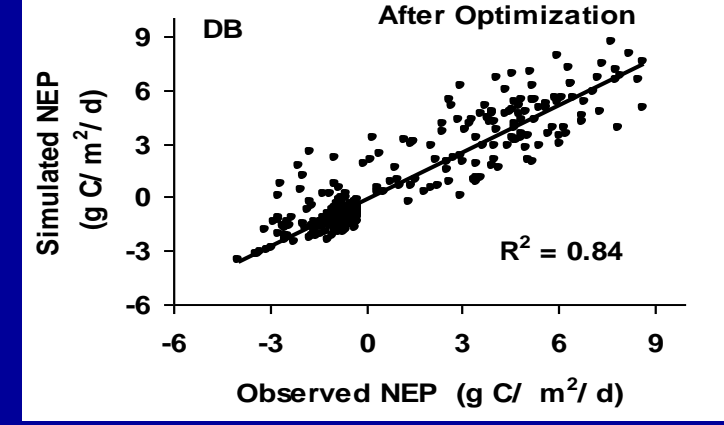
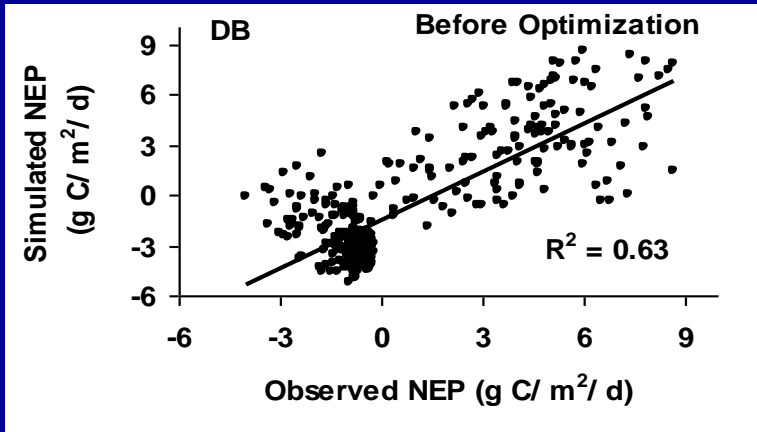
(Sun et al, in preparation)

NEP simulation



EC: eddy covariance, BO: before optimization, AO: after optimization

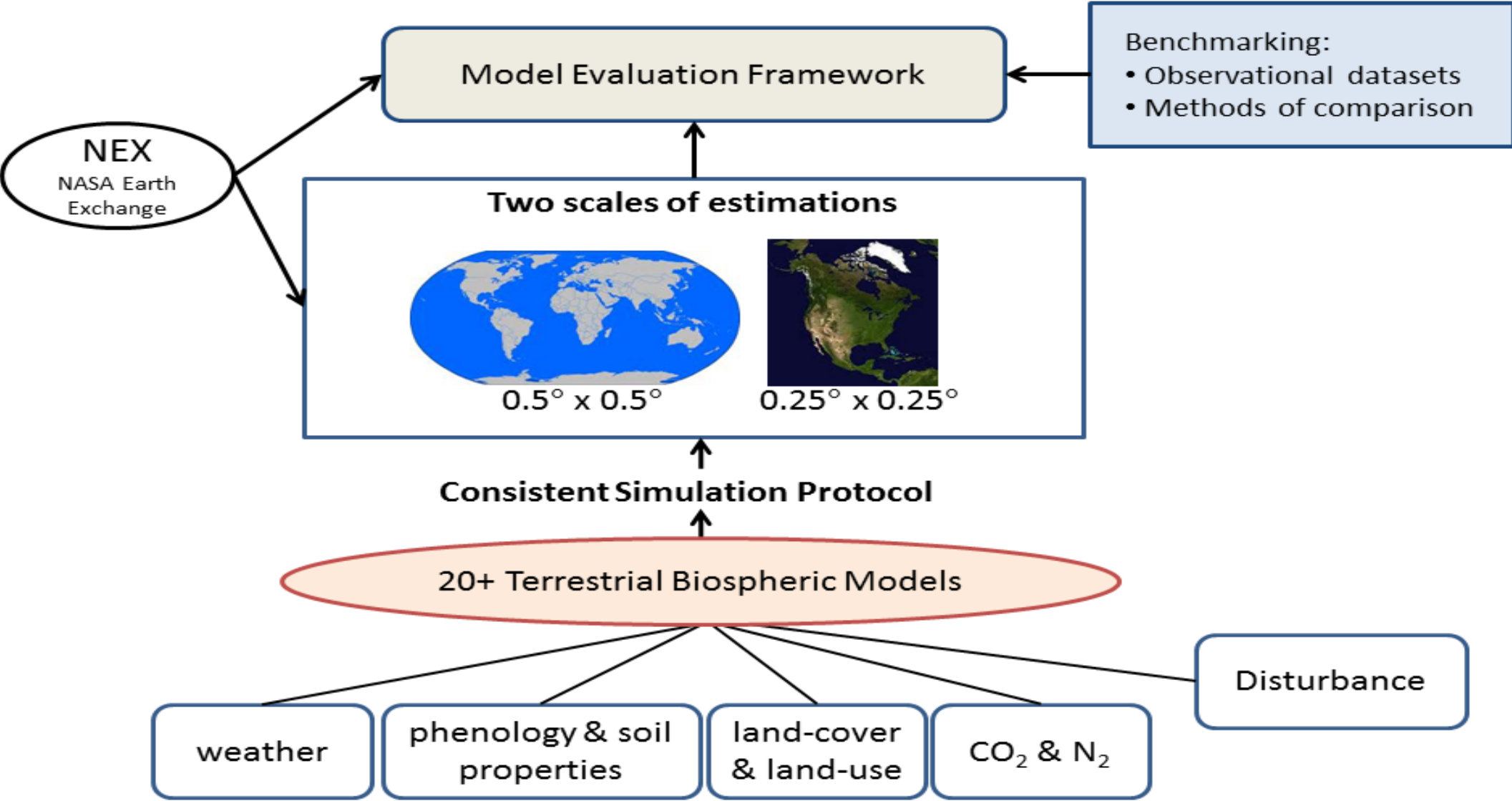
ENB = Evergreen needle-leaf boreal forest, ENT = evergreen needle-leaf temperate forest, DB = deciduous broad-leaf forest



The North American Carbon Program (NACP) Multi-Scale Synthesis and Terrestrial Model Intercomparison (MsTMIP) Project (<http://nacp.ornl.gov/MsTMIP.shtml>)

The overall goal of the MsTMIP is to

provide feedback to the terrestrial biospheric modeling community to improve the diagnosis and attribution of carbon sources and sinks across regional and global scales.



MsTMIP Participants



- Over 19 different institutions
- Over 20 different models
 - ~6 dynamic vegetation models
 - ~9 models have prognostic fire
 - ~2 data assimilation models
- Most models participated in NACP site and/or regional interim synthesis activities

VEGAS	DLEM	CLM-VIC	ISAM
SIPNET	PRIPLEX-GHG	LPJ-wsl	Ecosys
MC1	CLASS-CTEM-N+	GEMS	ORCHIDEE
SiB	SiB-CASA	TEM	CLM-CN
Biome-BGC	IRC	ED	GTEC

+ multiple models out of JPL

MsTMIP **workshop 1** was held at NASA Ames Research Center on October 13th and 14th, 2011.



Next MsTMIP **workshop** will be held the beginning of March, 2012 (location TBD).

Terrestrial biospheric models participating in the MsTMIP activity

Model Name	Affiliation (Team Contact)	Model Name	Affiliation (Team Contact)
BIOMAP	Pacific NW Research Station (John Kim)	JULES	NASA Jet Propulsion Lab (Joshua Fisher)
Biome-BGC	NASA Ames (Weile Wang)	LPJ	Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et l'Environnement (LSCE), France (Ben Poulter)
CABLE	NASA Jet Propulsion Lab (Joshua Fisher)	MC1	Oregon State University (Dominique Bachelet)
CLASS-CTEM-N+	McMaster University (Altaf Arain)	ORCHIDEE	NASA Jet Propulsion Lab (Joshua Fisher)
CLM	Oak Ridge National Lab (Dan Hayes)	ORCHIDEE	Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et l'Environnement (LSCE), France (Shushi Peng)
CLM4-VIC	Pacific Northwest National Lab (Maoyi Huang)	SiB3.1	Colorado State University (Ian Baker)
DLEM	Auburn University (Hanqin Tian)	SiB3	NASA Jet Propulsion Lab (Joshua Fisher)
ED	University of Maryland (George Hurtt)	SiBCASA	National Snow and Ice Data Center (Kevin Schaefer)
GEMS	USGS (Shuguang liu)	SIPNET	Applied GeoSolutions, LLC (Rob Braswell)
GTEC	Oak Ridge National Lab (Dan Ricciuto)	TEM	Oak Ridge National Lab (Dan Hayes)
Hyland	NASA Jet Propulsion Lab (Joshua Fisher)	TRIPLEX-GHG	University of Quebec at Montreal (Changhui Peng)
IRC/DayCent5	Colorado State University (Tom Hilinski)	VEGAS	University of Maryland (Ning Zeng)
MIROC-ESM-CR	MIROC	MIROC-ESM-CR	MIROC

Ten Simulations (1801-2010)

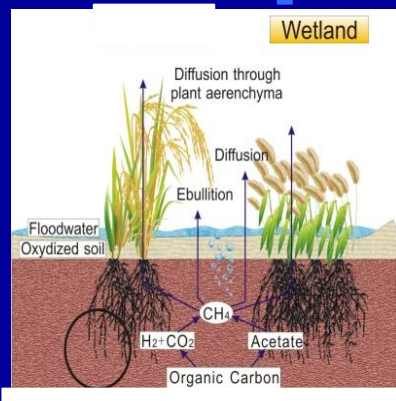
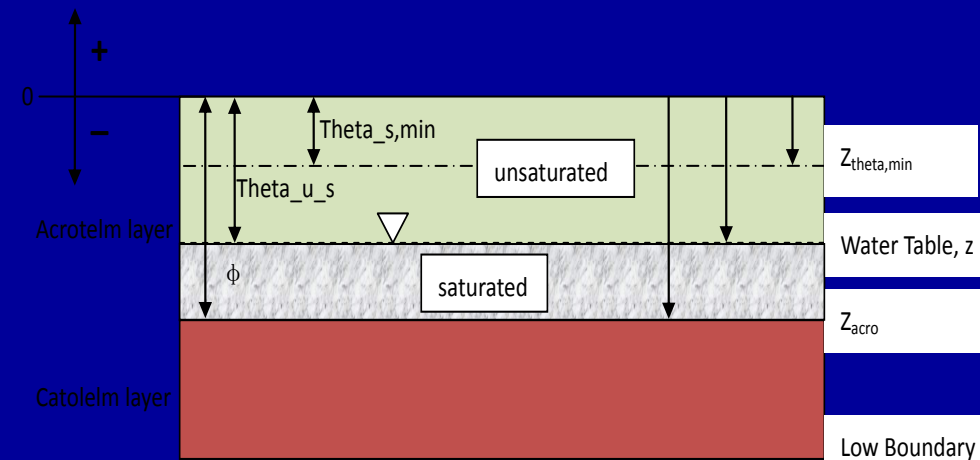
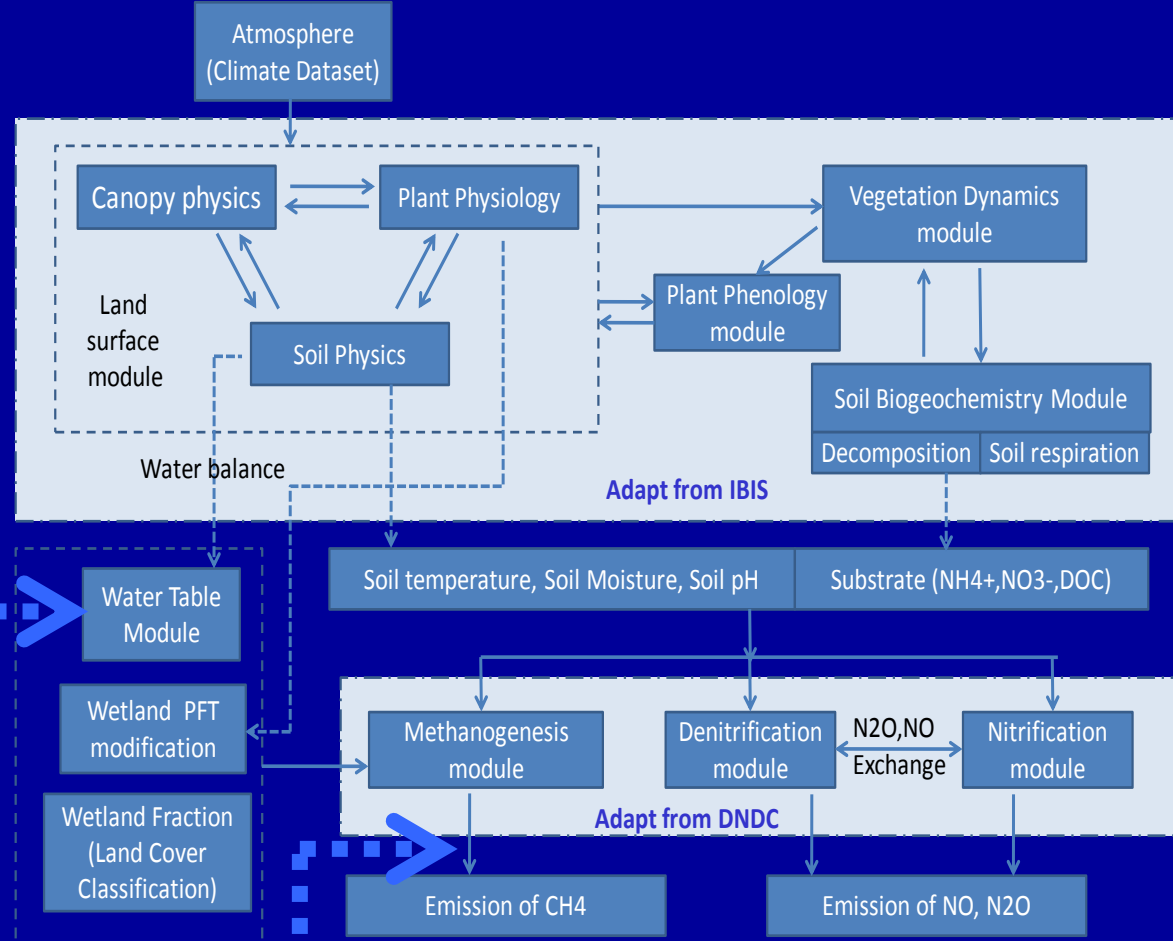


Order	Domain	Code	Climate	LULUC	Atm. CO ₂	Nitrogen
1	Global 	RG1	Constant	Constant	Constant	Constant
2		SG1	CRU+NCEP			
3		SG2				
4		SG3		Hurtt et al.		
5		BG1			Observed	
6	North Amer. 	RR1	Constant	Constant	Constant	Constant
7		SR1	NARR			
8		SR2				
9		SR3		Hurtt et al.		
10		BR1			Observed	

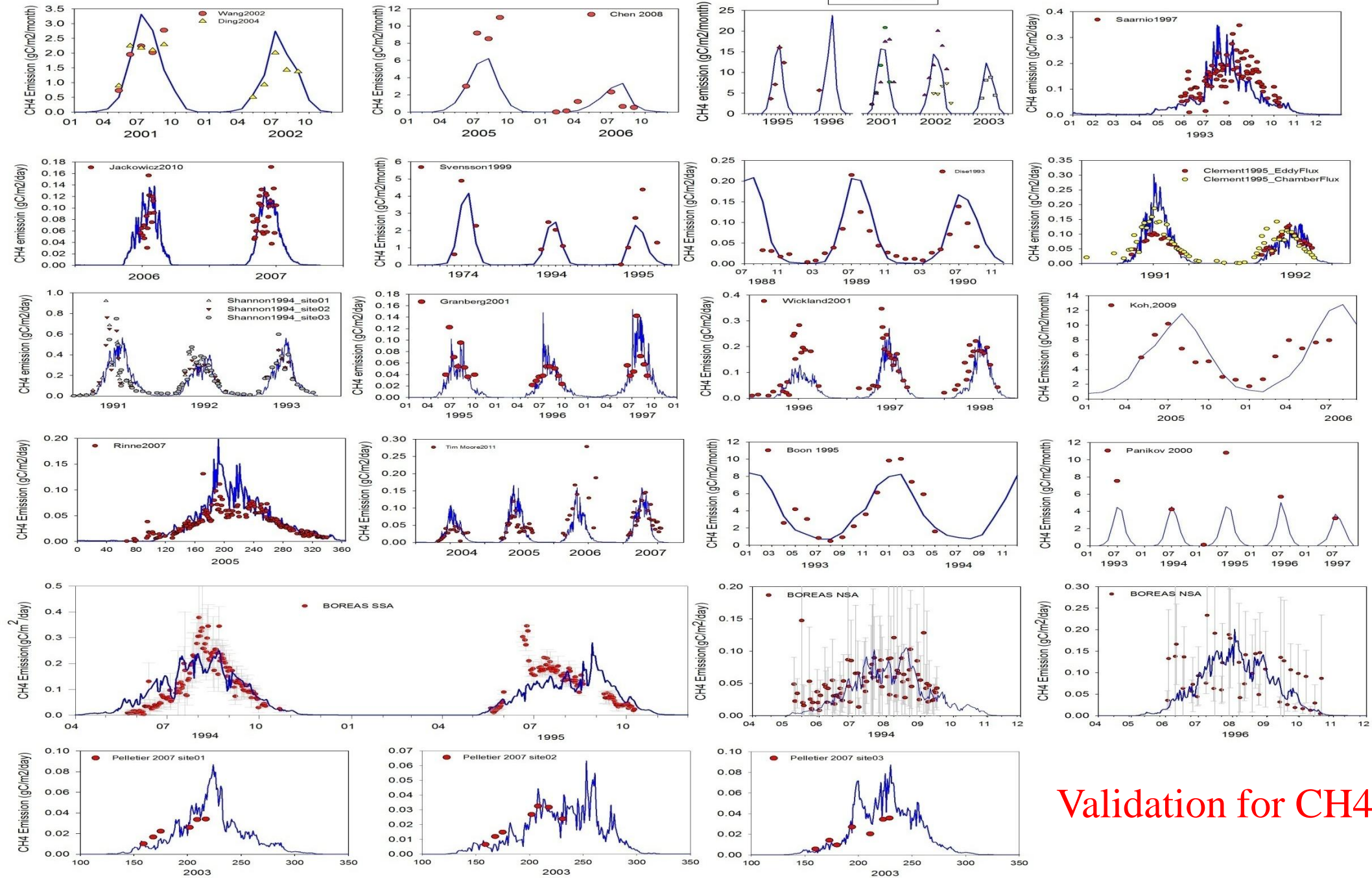
Framework of integrating trace greenhouse gas emission processes into

TRIPLEX- GHG (DGVM)

(under development)



(Zhu et al., in prepa.)

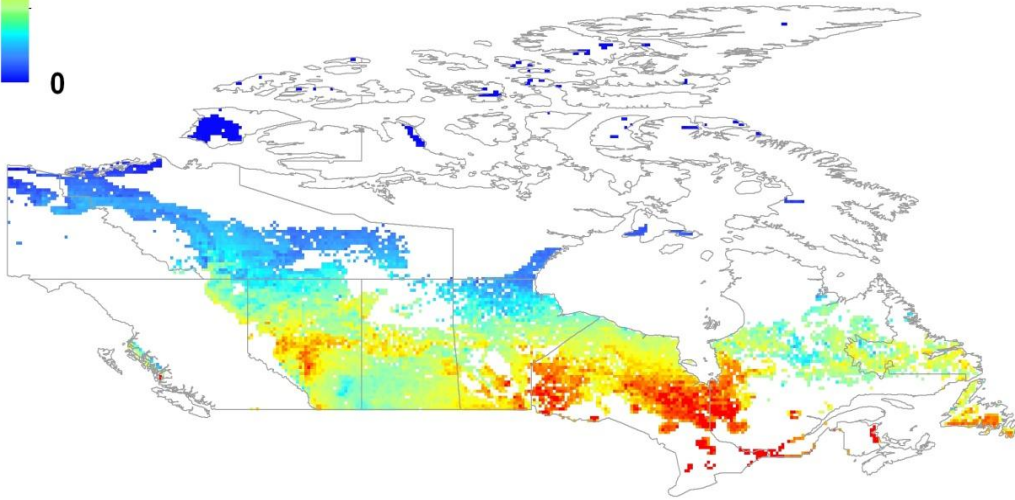
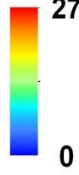


Validation for CH₄

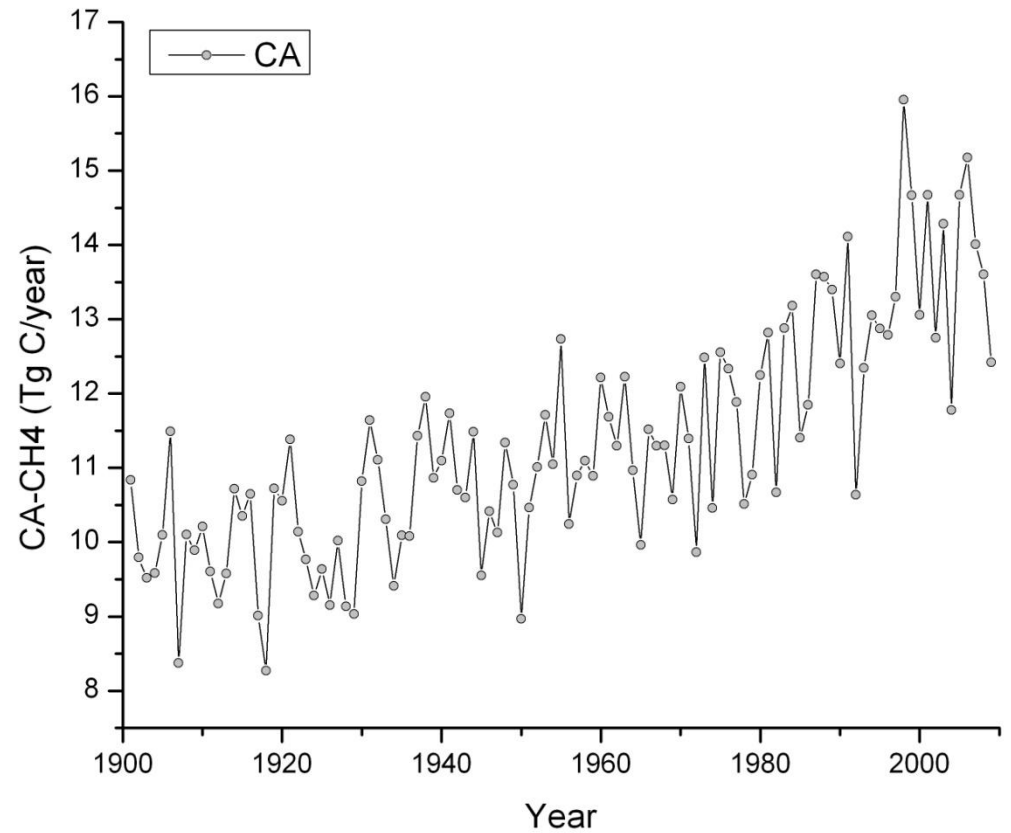
(Zhu et al., in prepa.)

mean1990-2005
gC/m²/year

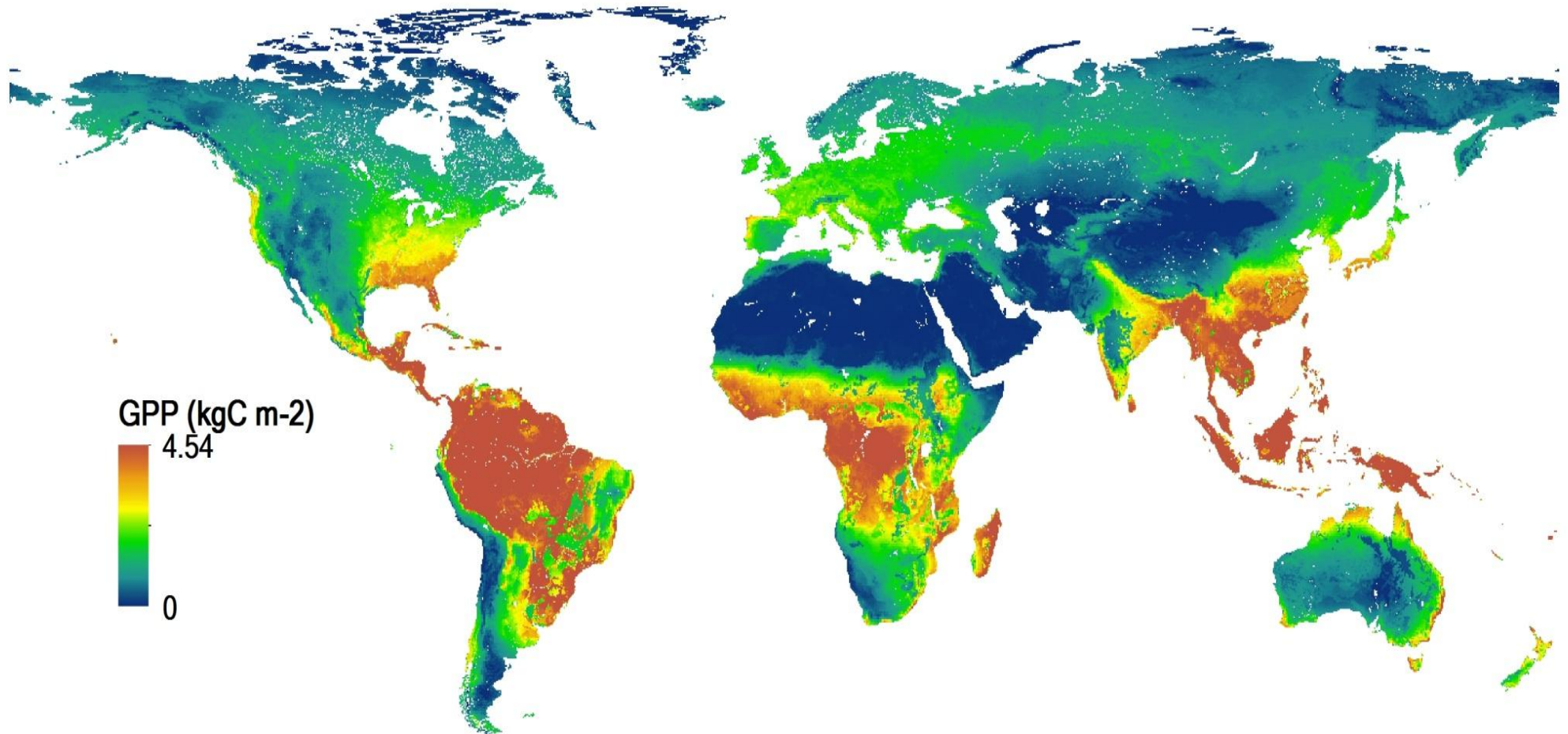
Canada CH₄
27.67



(Peng et al., in prepa.)

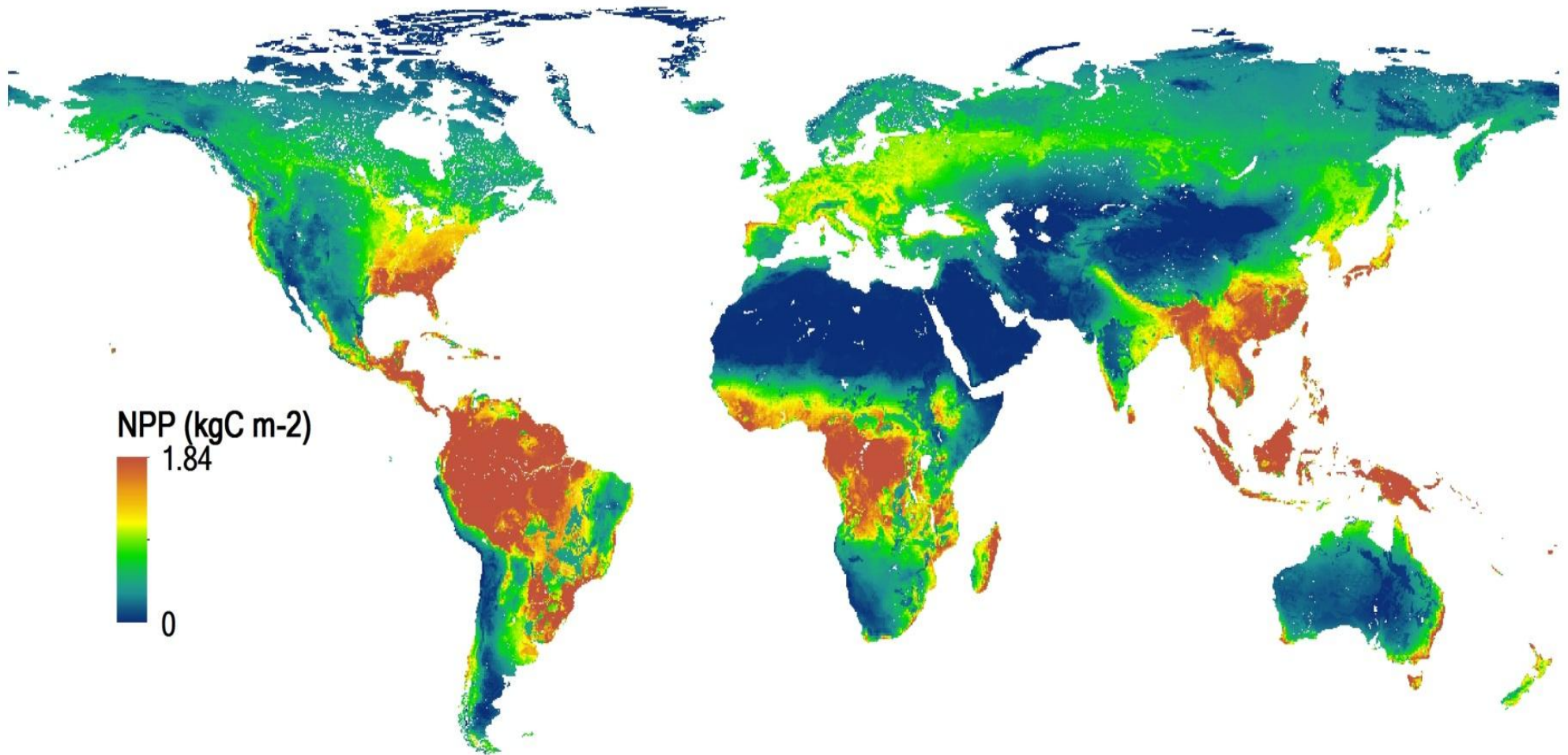


Mean Annual GPP (1980-2010)



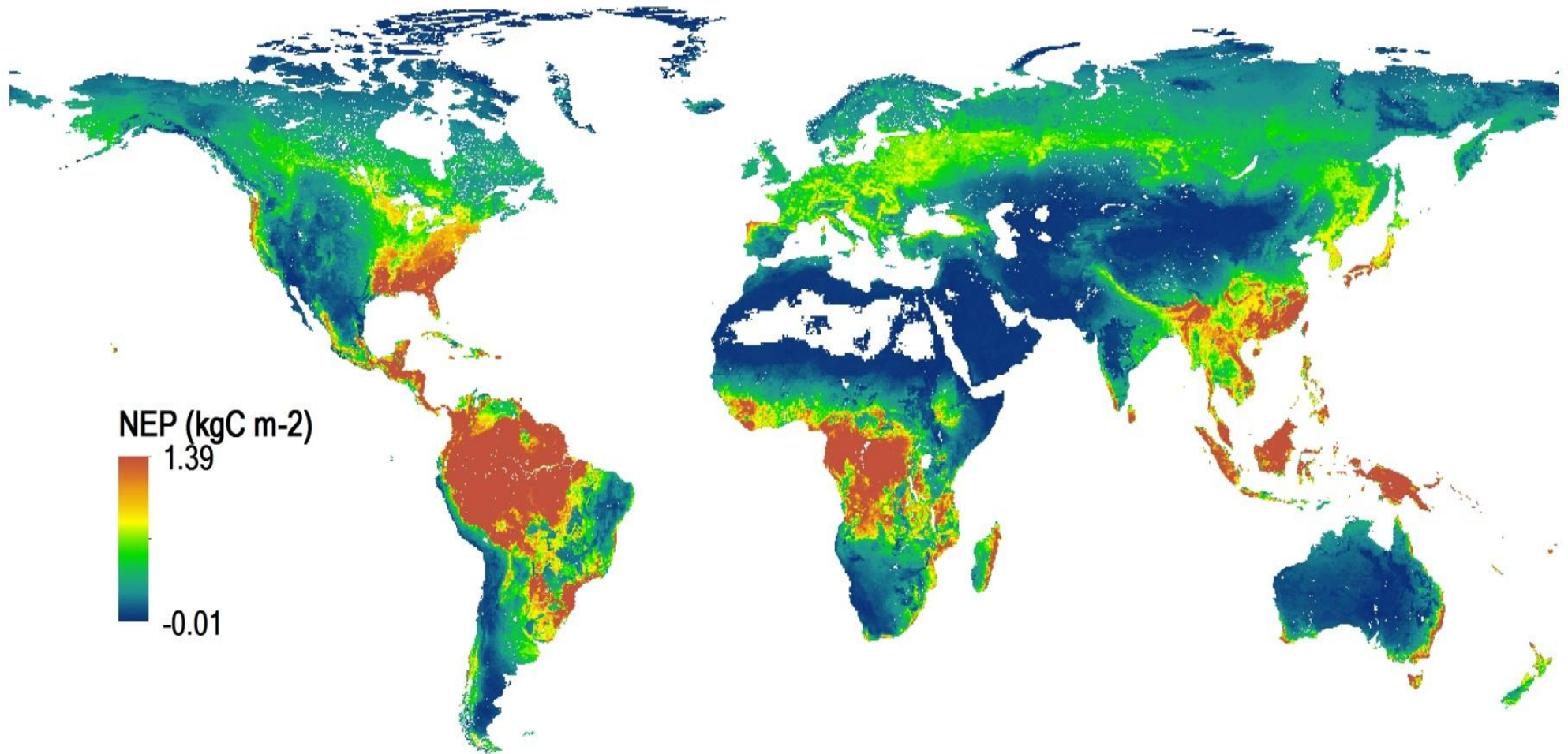
(Zhu et al., in prepa.)

Mean Annual NPP (1980-2010)



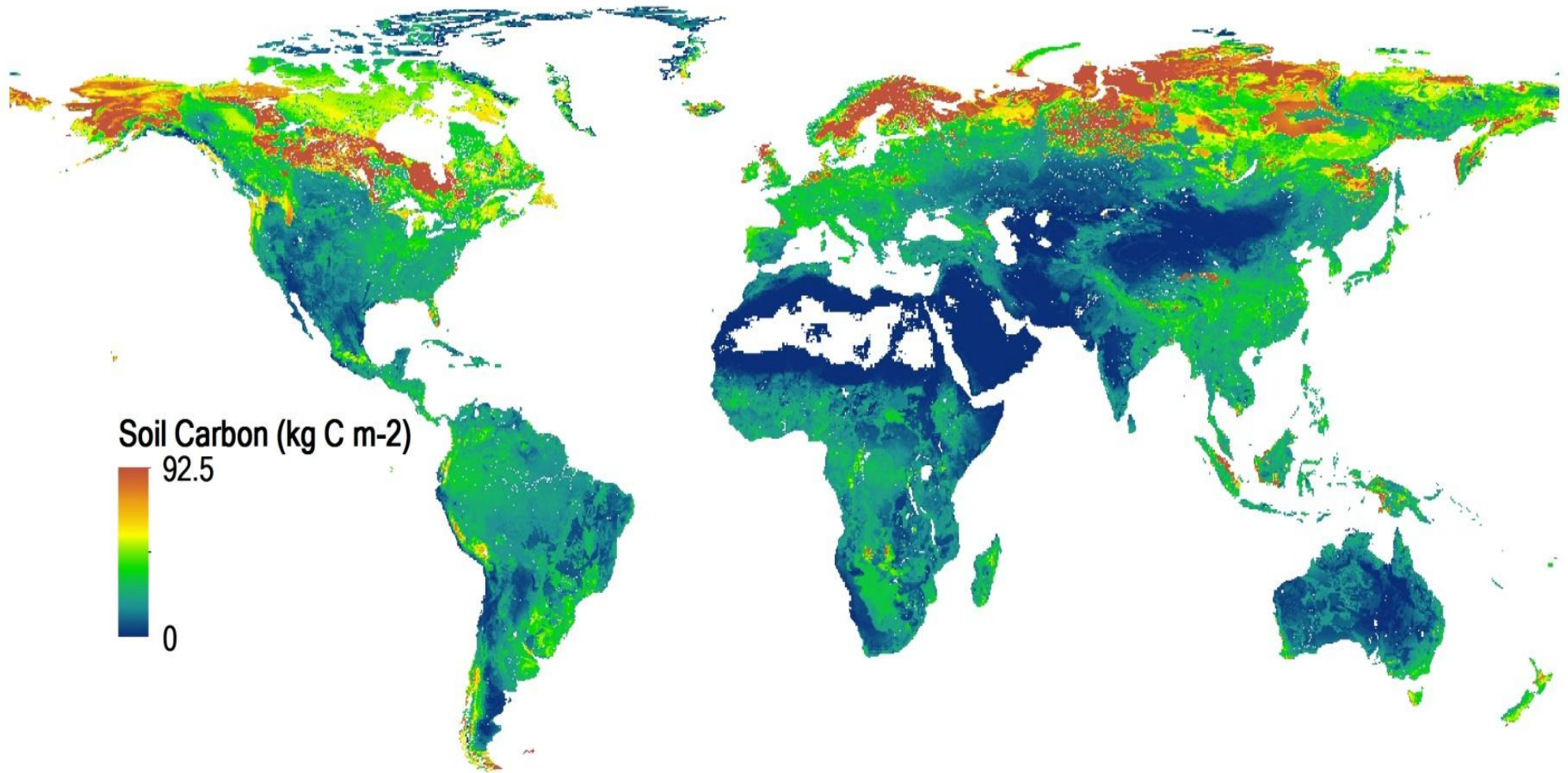
(Zhu et al., in prepa.)

Mean Annual NEP (1980-2010)



(Zhu et al., in prepa.)

Soil Carbon

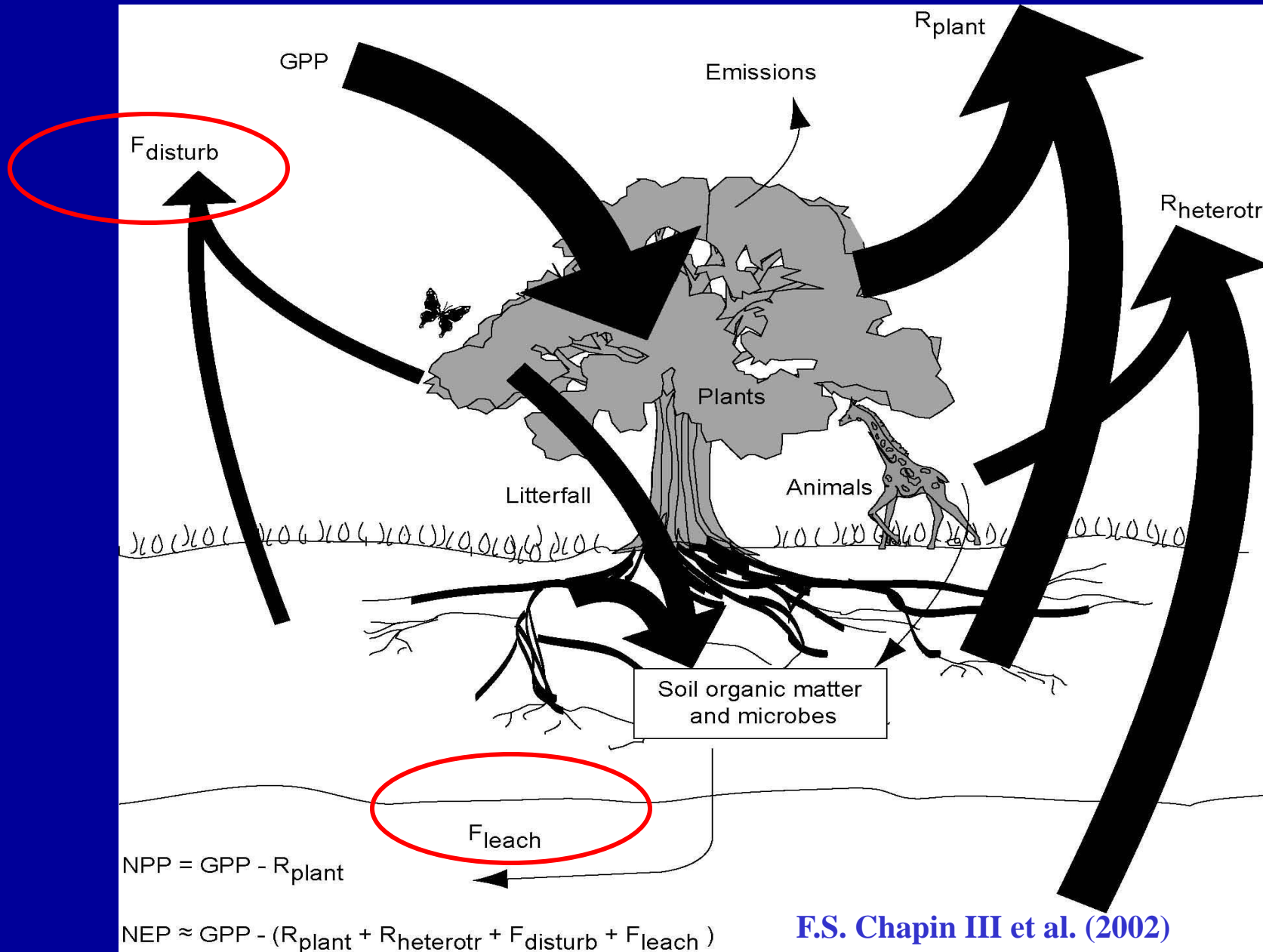


(Zhu et al., in prepa.)

Challenges for TRIPLEX Development

- Continued testing of the model's ability to belowground biomass, soil C, N and water (BOREAS sites as well as Canada-Fluxnet)
- Developing new submodels (**TRIPLEX-Fire, TRIPLEX-DOC, TRIPLEX-management**) to include the effects of ecosystem disturbances (fire, harvesting, insects, disease), land use, and forest management planning
- Linking terrestrial ecosystem with aquatic ecosystem : **TRIPLEX-Aquatic**
- Integrating trace greenhouse gas emission processes into TRIPLEX model (**TRIPLEX-GHG, TRIPLEX-DGVM**)

Uncertainty in Ecosystem Carbon Budget



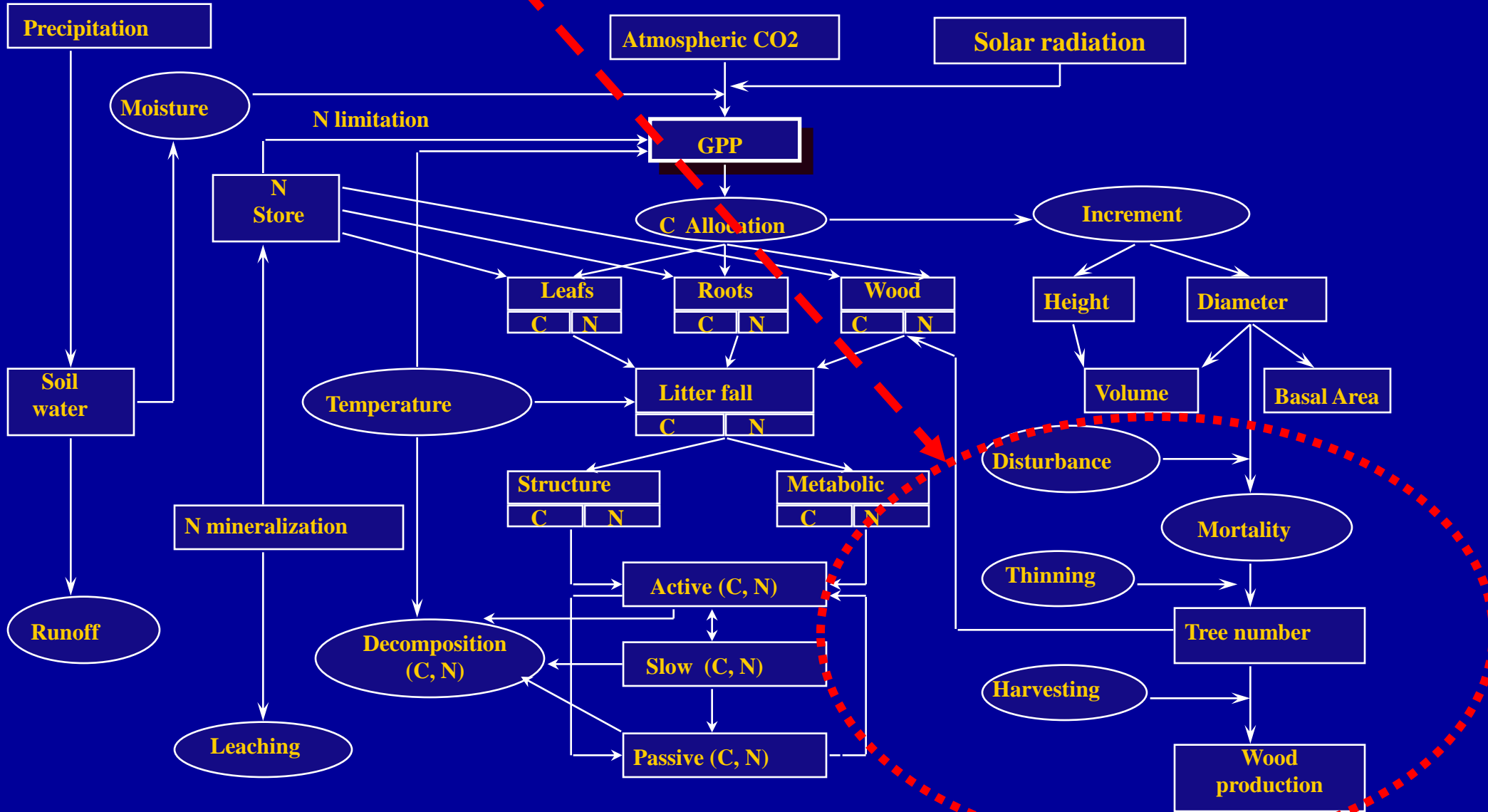
Accidental mortality after disturbances



Des infestations et des maladies fréquentes après perturbation



TRIPLEX-Management



Disturbance

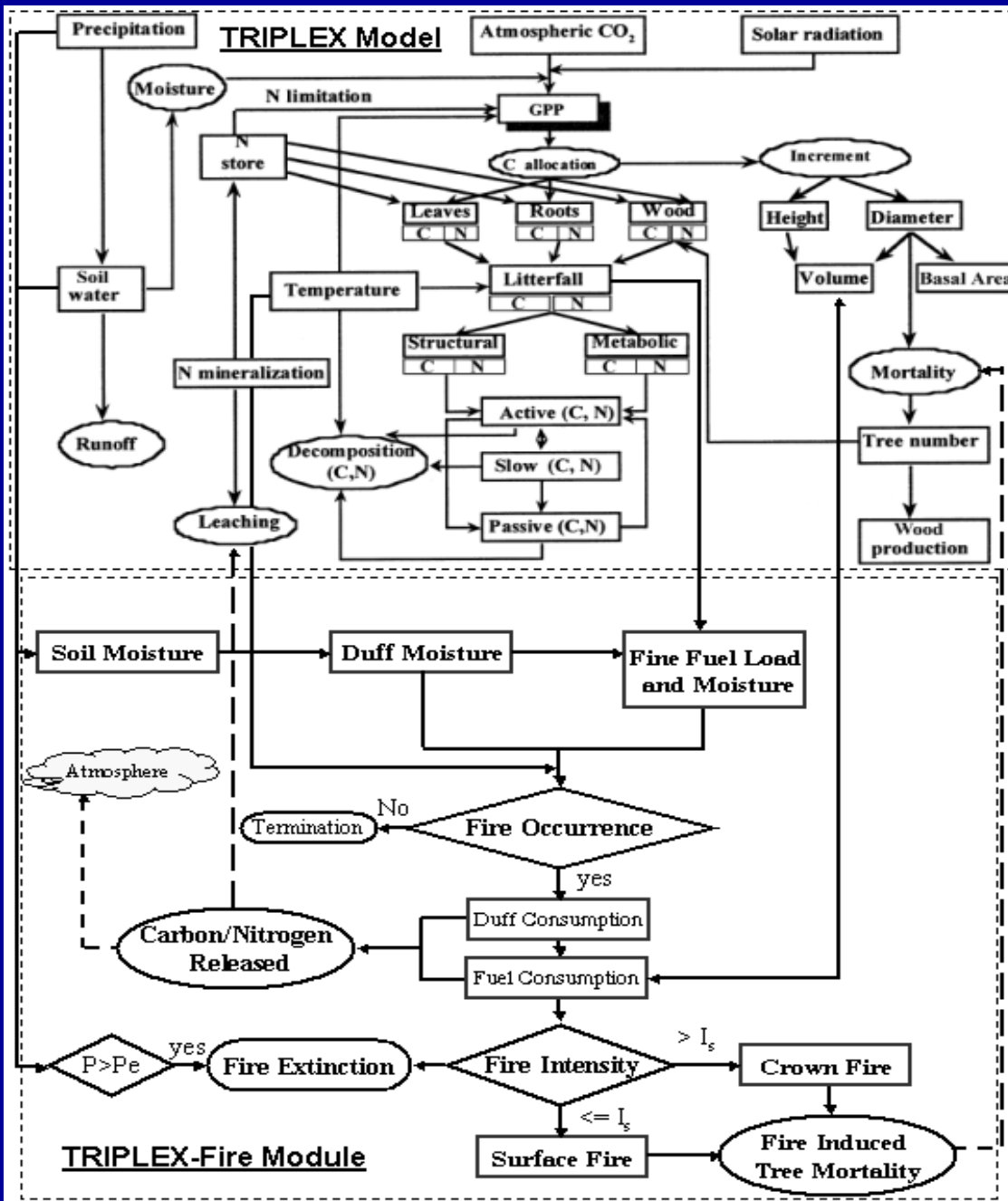
Disturbance is a cause of carbon loss
from many ecosystems

Fire and harvest of plants or peat can be the dominant
Avenues of carbon losses from ecosystems:

**Carbon losses during fires in the Canadian boreal
forests**

= 10 to 30% of average NPP
(Harden et al., 2000, GCB)





Ongoing: TRIPLEX-Fire Model

**DOC is still missing in current
ecosystem carbon budget**

**DOC is poorly represented in most
terrestrial carbon models**

Within forested ecosystem, DOC leaching from the forest floor
and organic soil horizons ranges from **10 to 85 g m⁻² yr⁻¹**
(Neff and Asner, 2000)

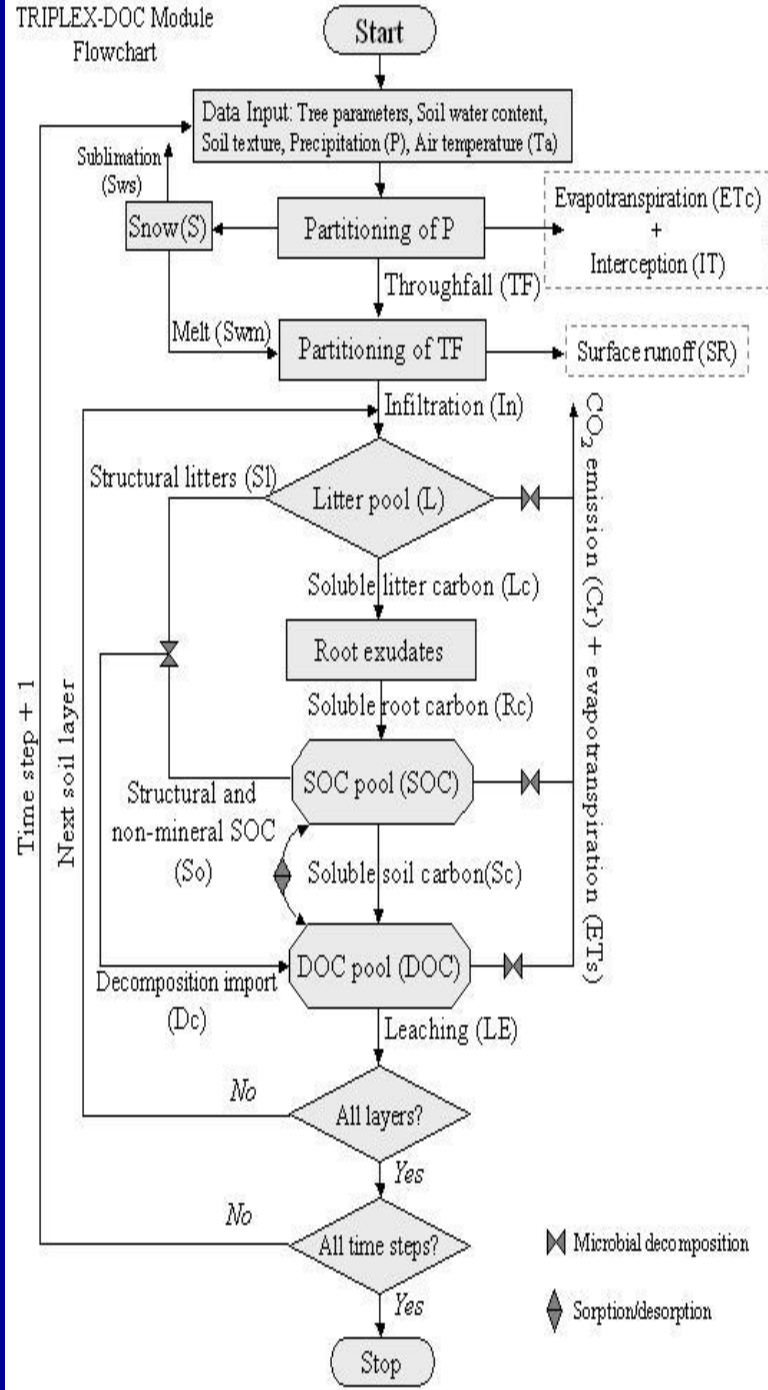


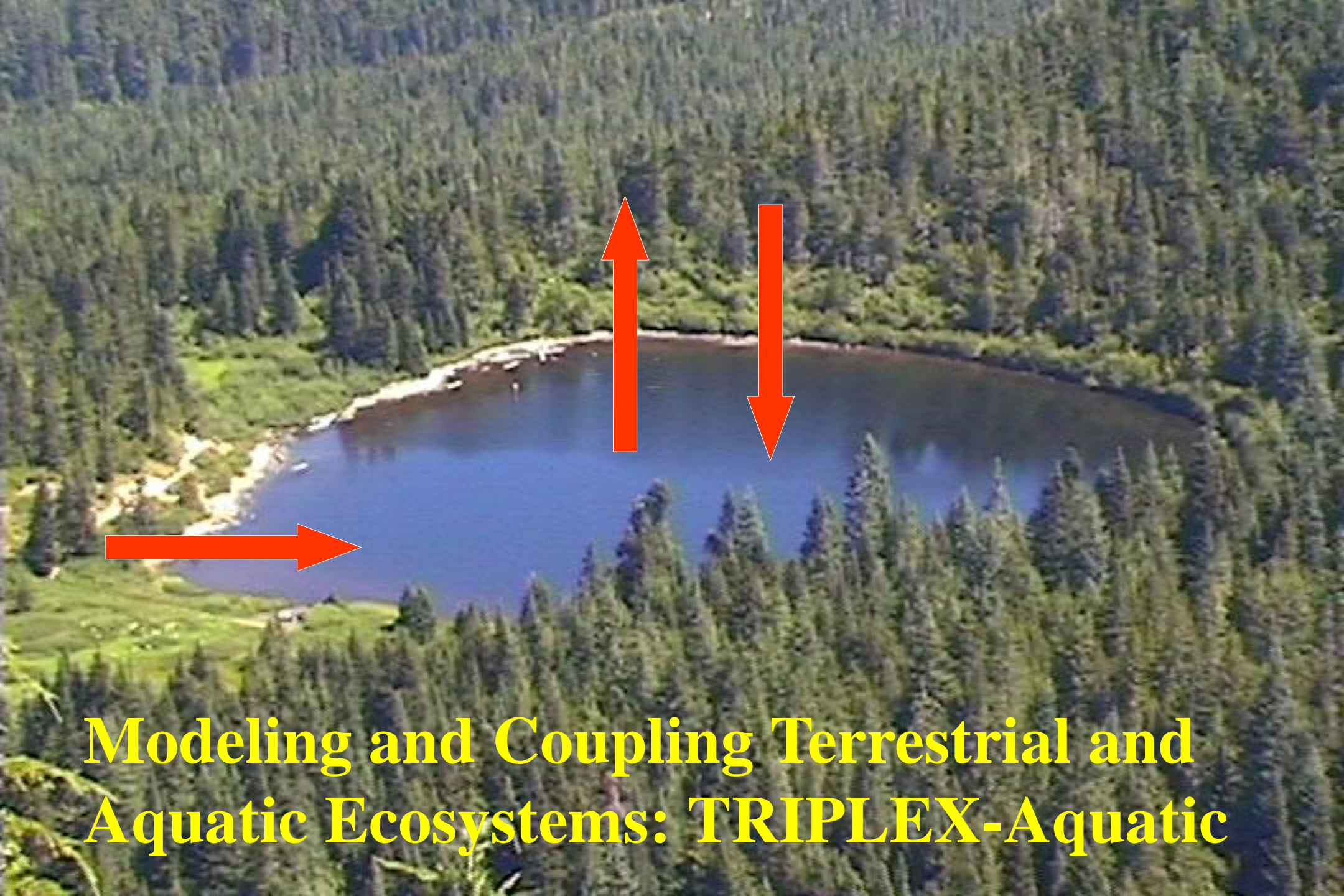
Forest Dissolved Organic Carbon Simulator



- Model Introduction
- Data/Parameter Input
- Run Simulation
- Model Outputs
- Exit Model
- Help

TRIPLEX-DOC Module Flowchart



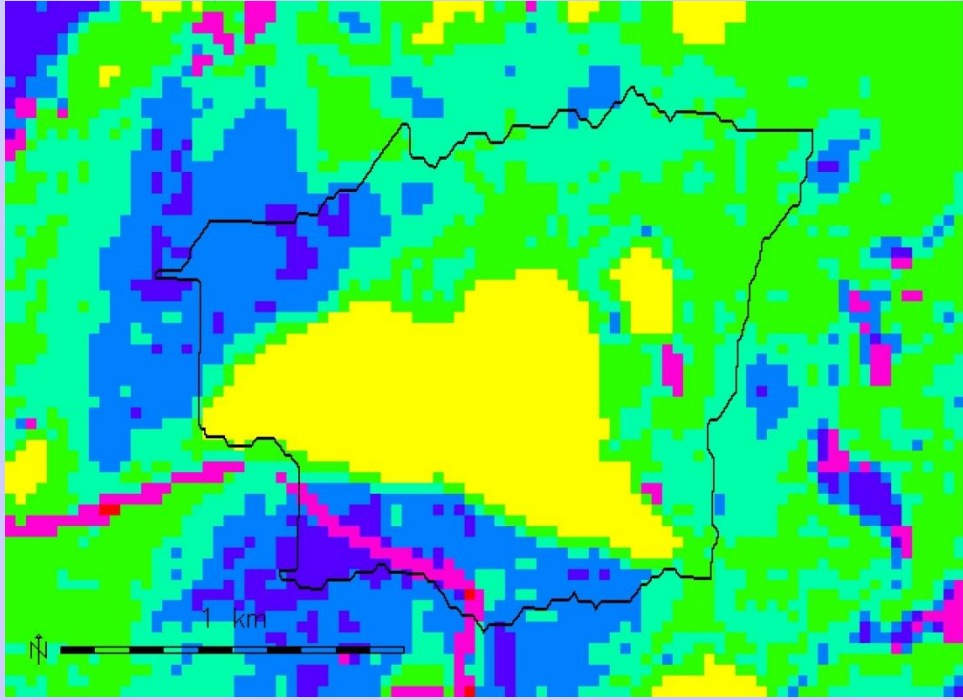
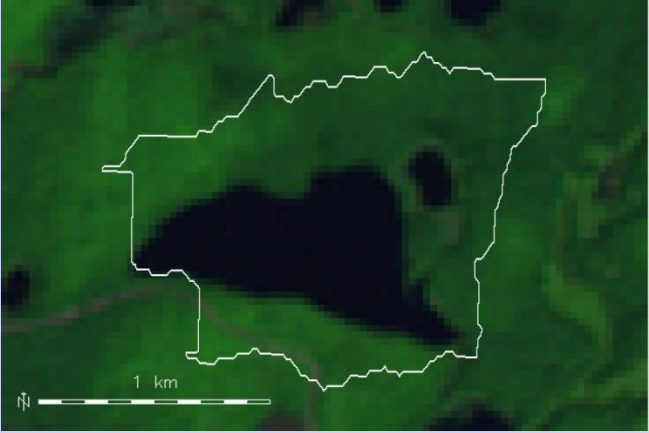


Modeling and Coupling Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecosystems: TRIPLEX-Aquatic

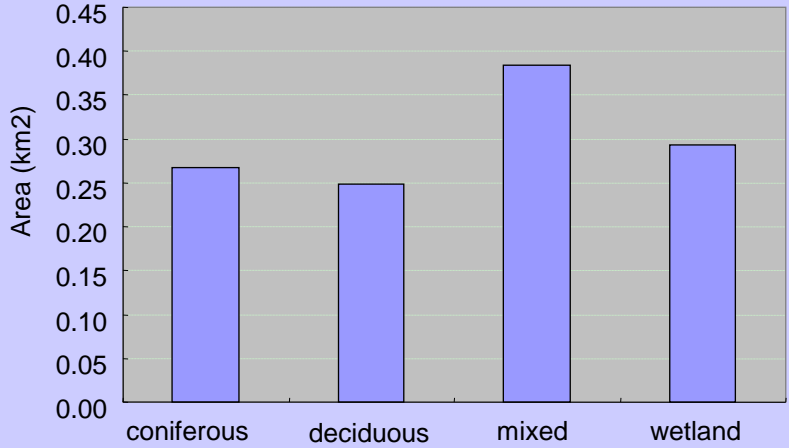
Lake Mary

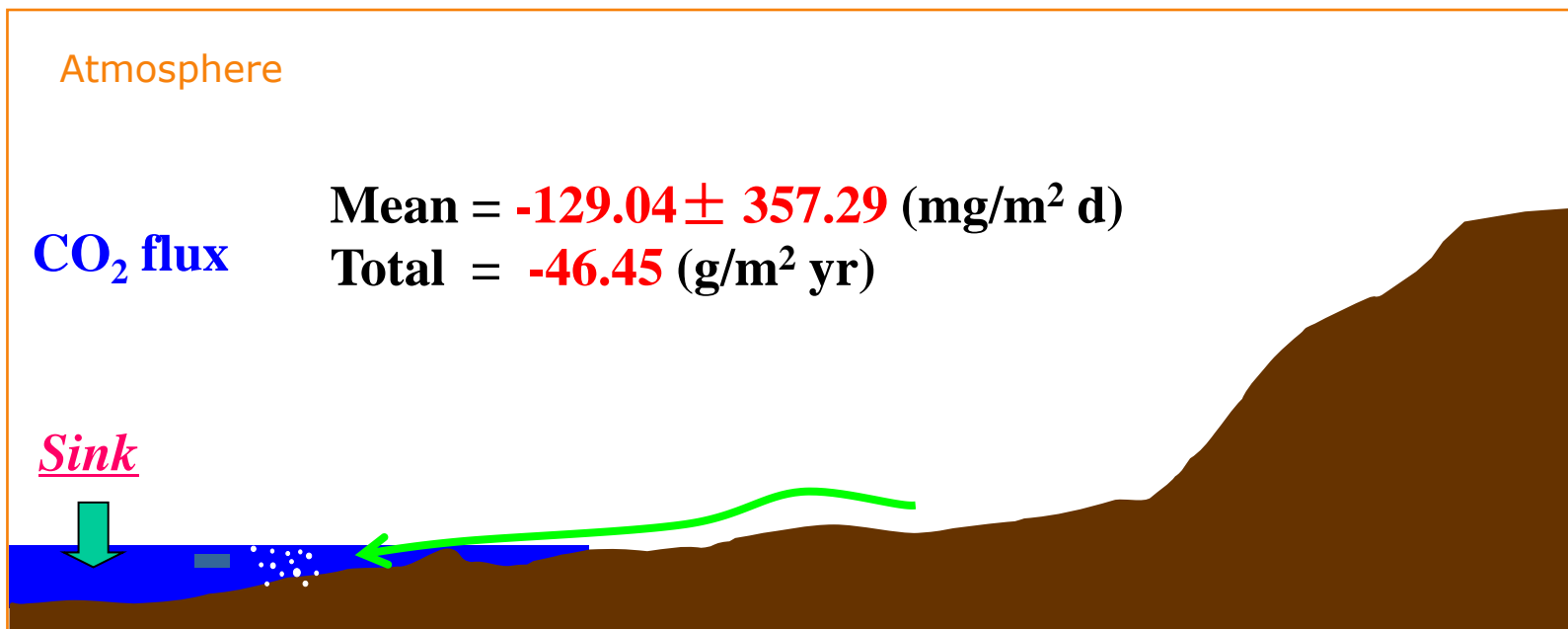
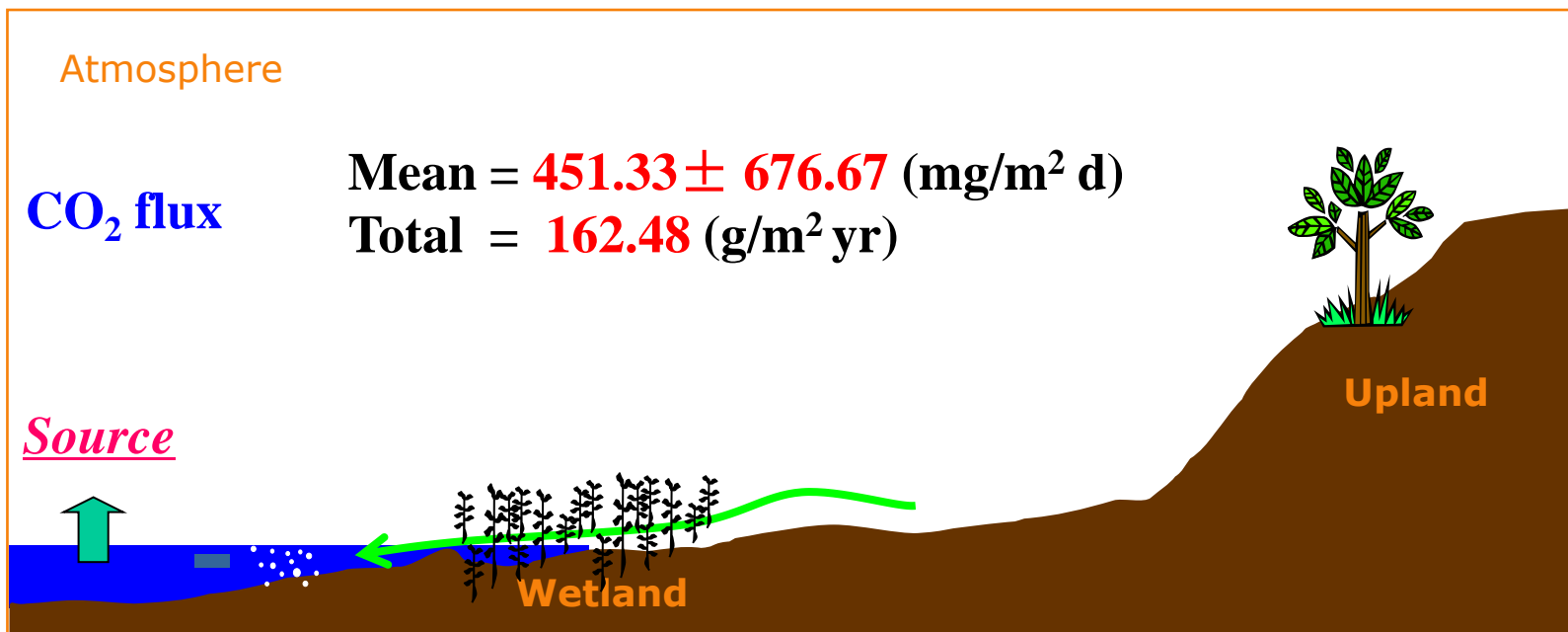
Condition:
No perturbed

Lake: 0.58 km²
Watershed: 1.22 km²



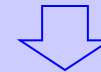
Areas of coniferous, deciduous, mixed forest and wetland in lake Mary





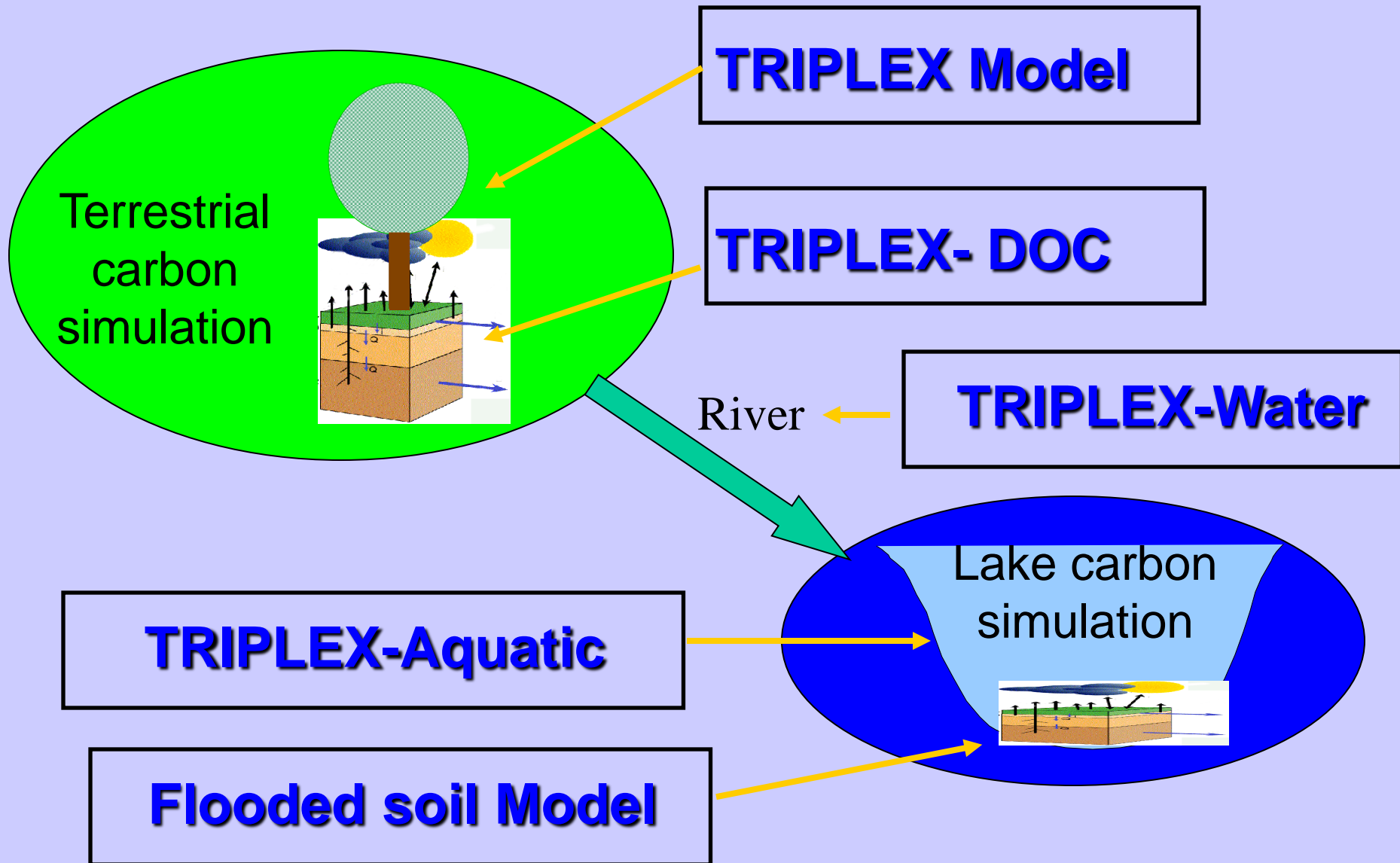
TRIPLEX-Aquatic Simulations (Wu et al., submitted)

Empirical model + Process-based model



Coupled model

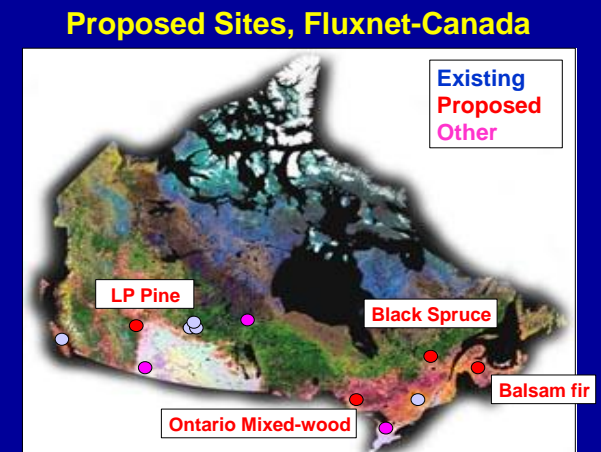
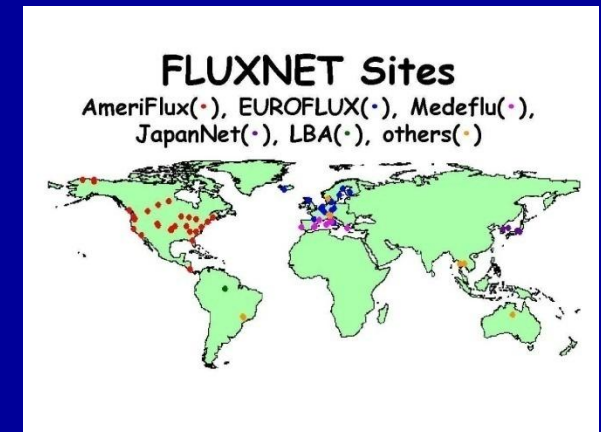
TRIPLEX Framework



Challenges for Science

- **Weaknesses in Scientific Understanding:**

- *Allocation of C in plant tissues*
- *Nutrient feedback*
- *CO₂ fertilization at ecosystem scale - is it real? important?*
- *Projecting changes in disturbance regimes (fire, insect, harvesting, ice damage...)*
- *Peatland and wetland carbon dynamics*
- *Other GHG (CH₄ and N₂O) etc....*



Take –Home Messages:

*“To keep the model as simple as possible,
as complex as necessary”*

“ I hear and I forget;
I see and I remember;
I do and I understand ! ”

Thanks!

Open for
Questions and Collaboration
(www.crc.uqam.ca)

