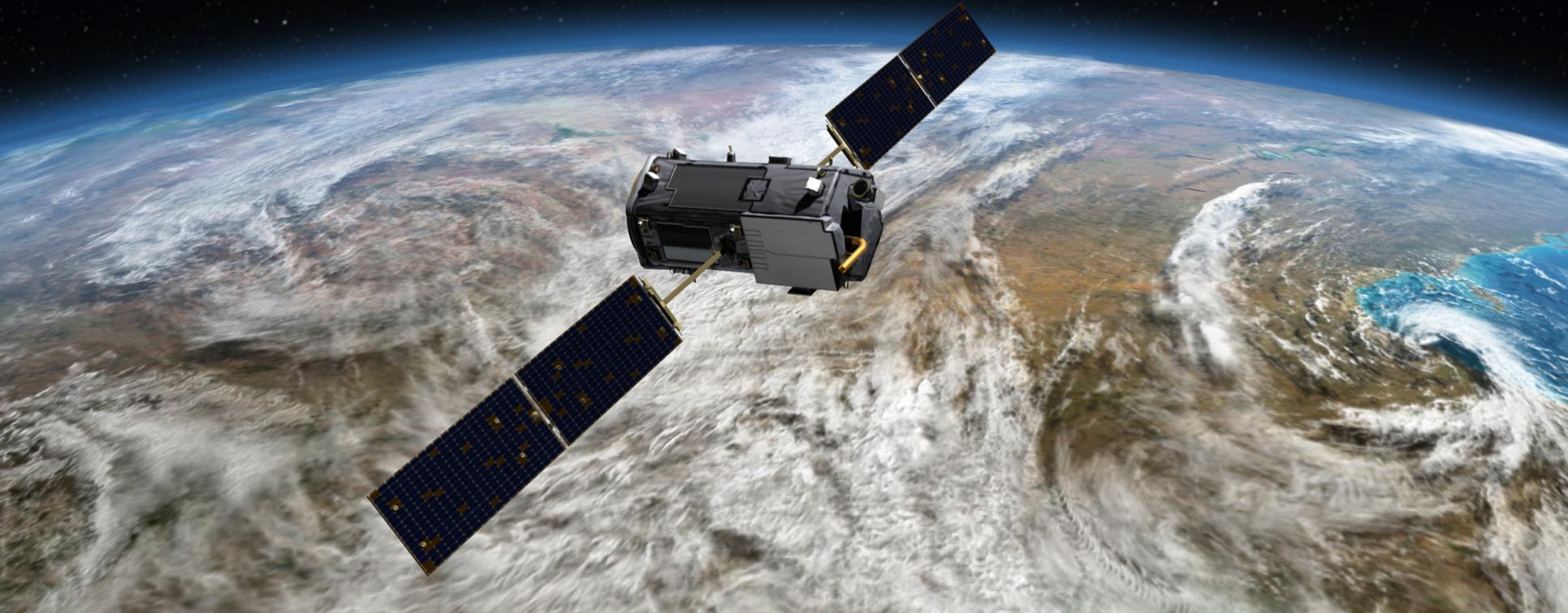


# Reconstructed Solar Induced Fluorescence

*A machine learning approach to photosynthesis*

*By Pierre Gentine, Yao Zhang and S. Hamed Alemohammad*



# Outline

1) *Solar Induced Fluorescence (SIF)*

2) *Difficulties with SIF*

3) *Other vegetation indices (NDVI, EVI, NIRv)*

4) *Defining an “objective” MODIS best product for photosynthesis*

# Solar Induced Fluorescence

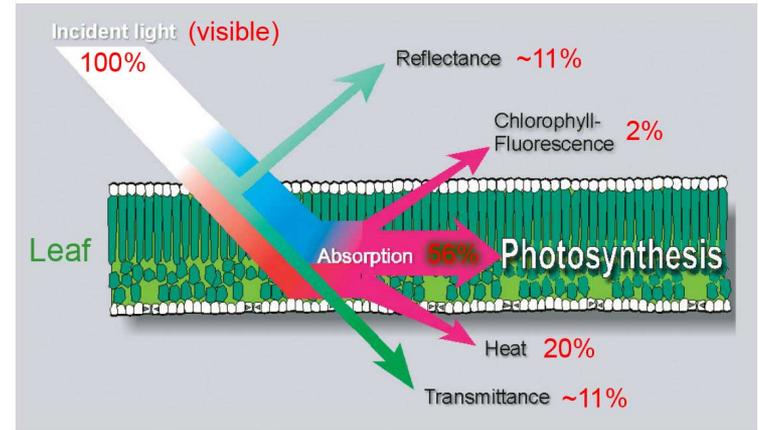
During photosynthesis a plant absorbs energy through its chlorophyll

- % used for ecosystem gross primary production (GPP)
- % lost as heat
- % re-emitted (SIF: **byproduct**)

Relationship between GPP  
and SIF is ~ linear

Responds to stressors (water, light, T)

Now **observable from space** (GOSAT, GOME-2, OCO-2, TROPOMI)



# Solar Induced Fluorescence (SIF)

## Data sampling

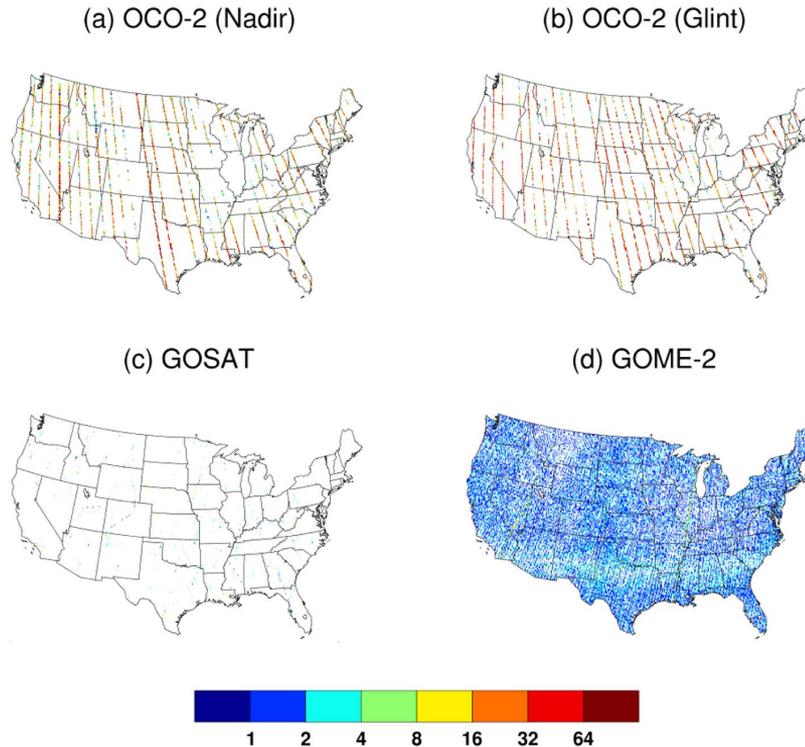
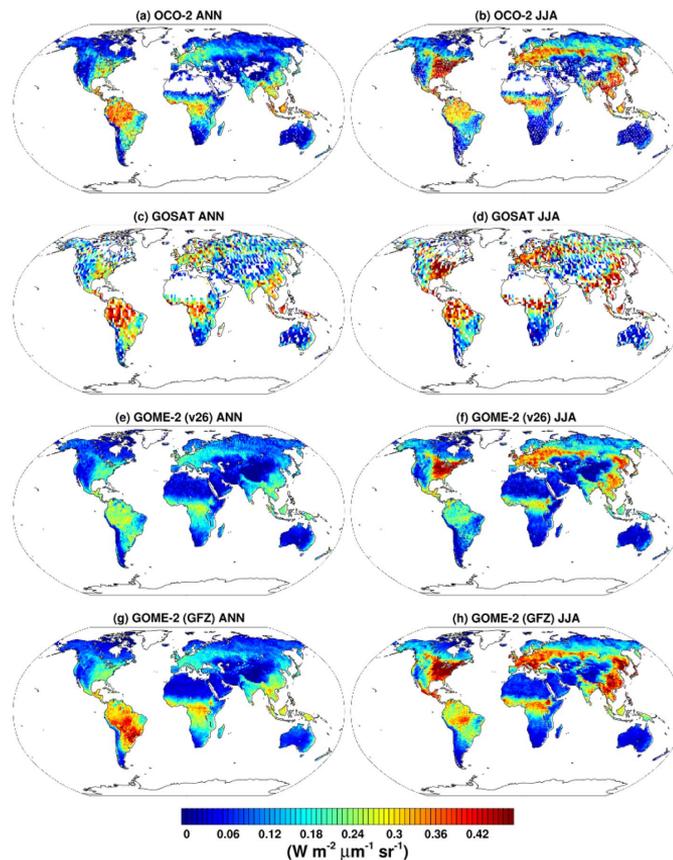


Fig. 1. Illustration of the spatial distribution of the data acquisition, i.e., the number of soundings (represented by colors), of OCO-2, GOSAT-FTS, and GOME-2 onboard MetOp-A, using July 2015 as an example. The level 2 retrieval is aggregated to  $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$ , roughly equivalent to the OCO-2 swath widths ( $\sim 10$  km) in mid-latitude such as US.

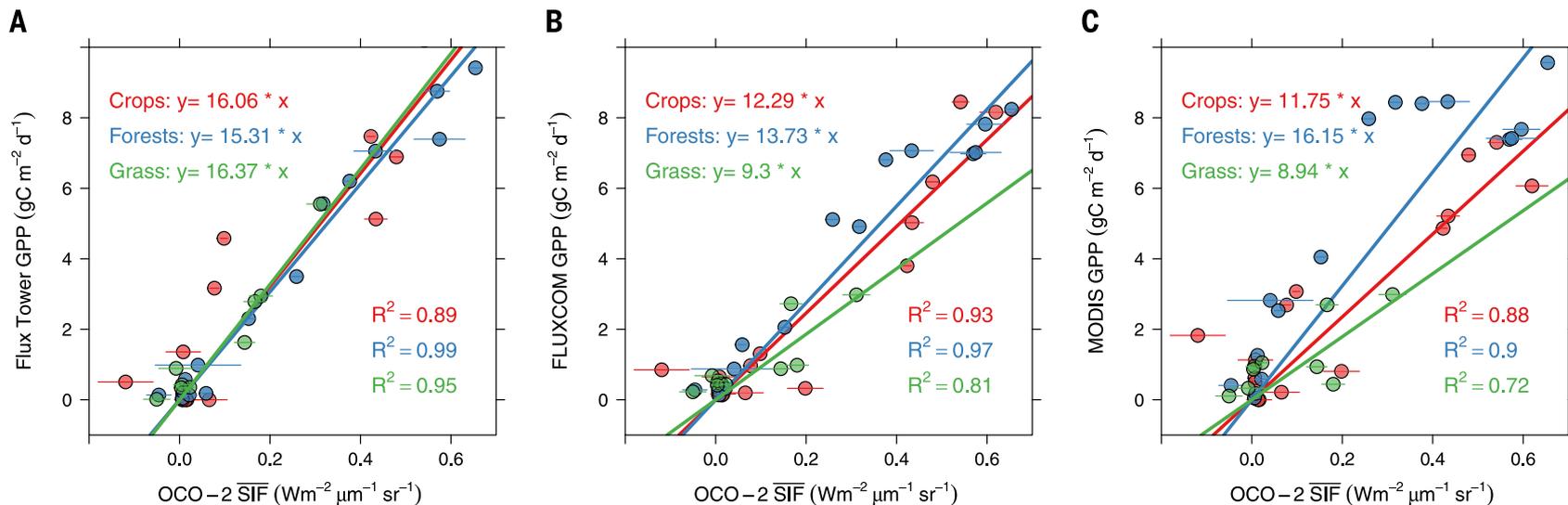
# Solar Induced Fluorescence (SIF)

Different retrievals



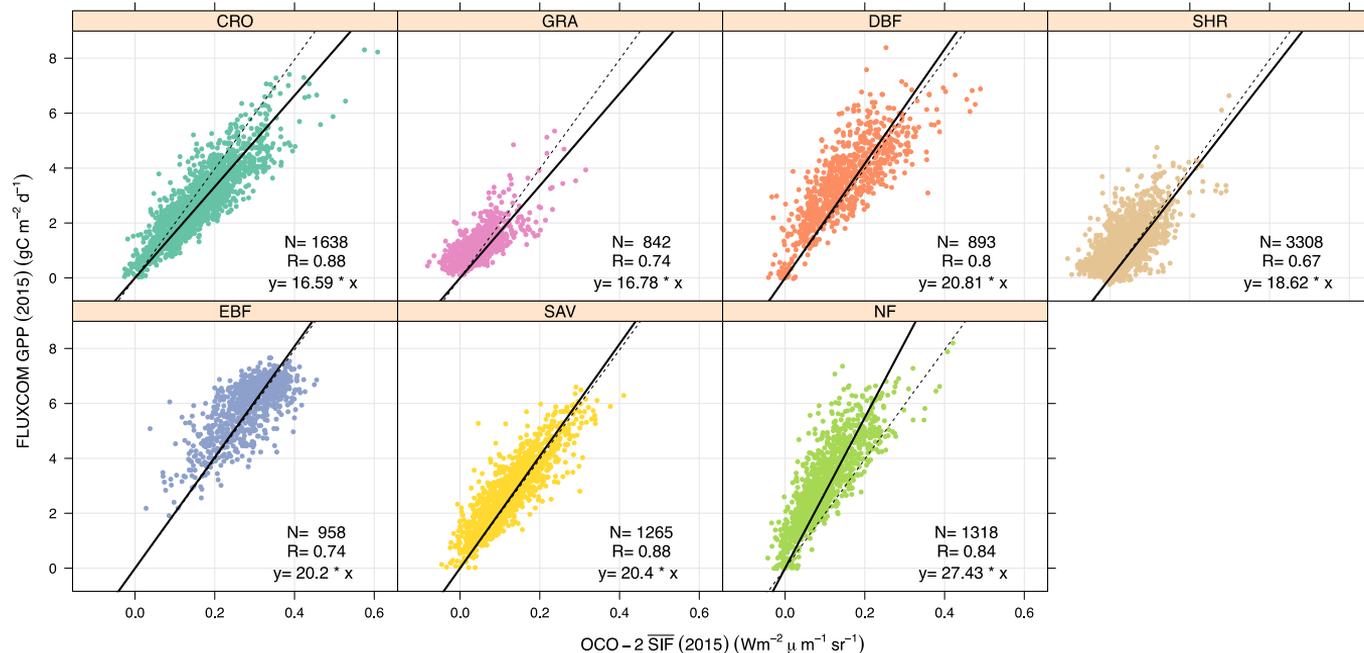
# Solar Induced Fluorescence (SIF)

Relationship with ecosystem GPP  
~ linear (slope varies though)



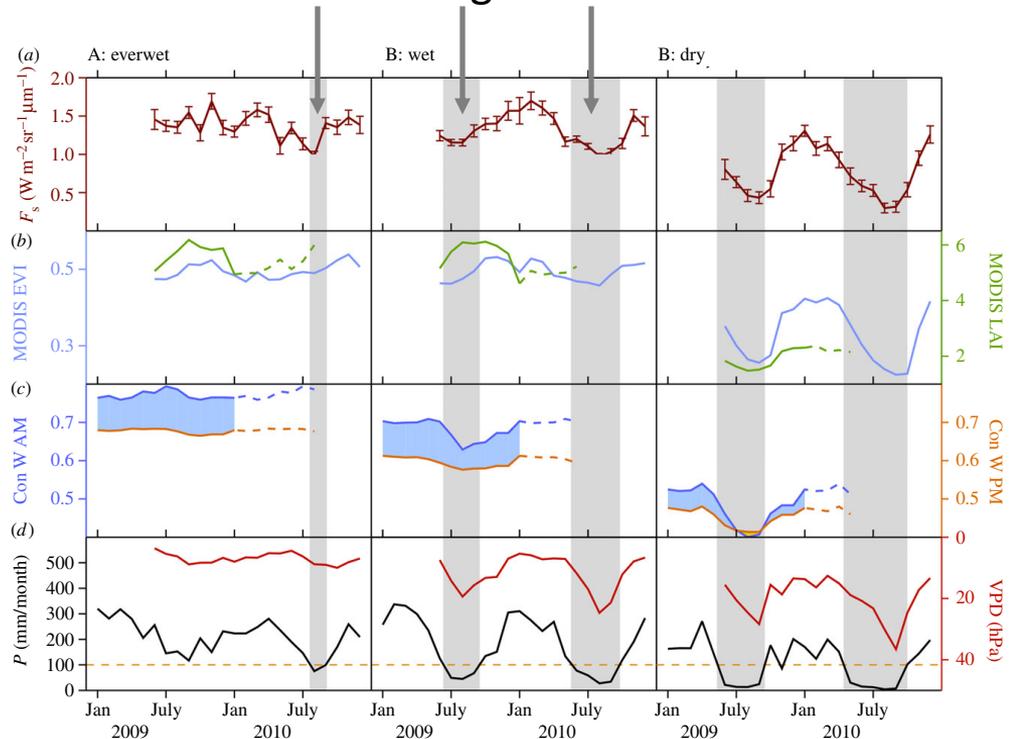
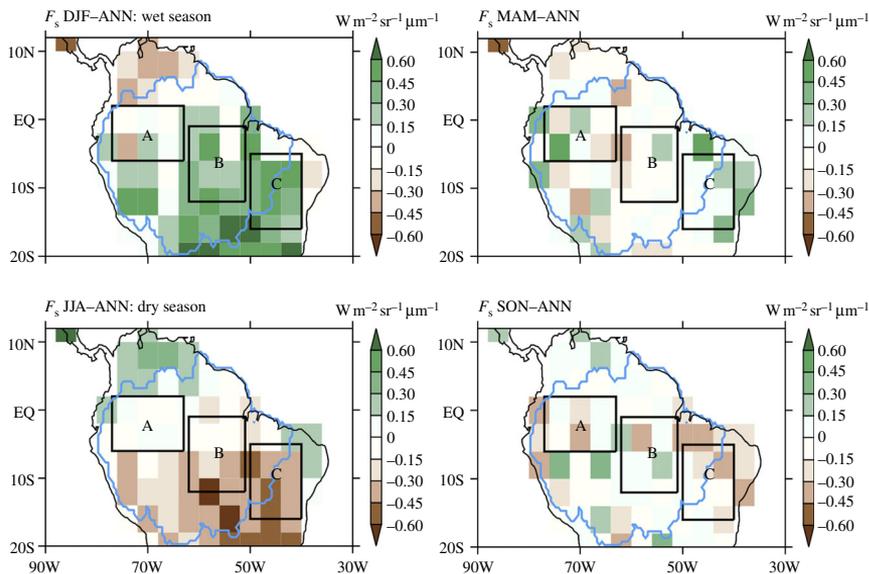
# Solar Induced Fluorescence (SIF)

Relationship with global GPP retrieval  
~ linear (slope varies though)



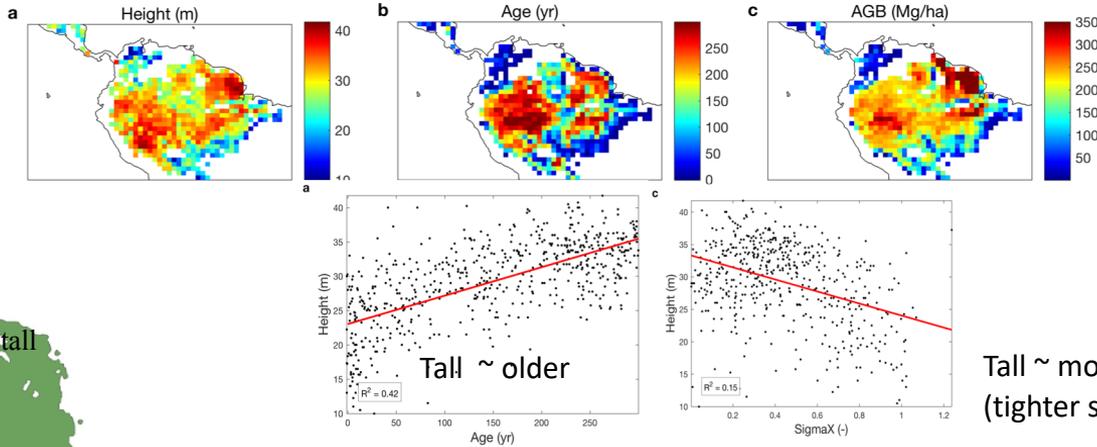
# Success with SIF

## Tropics: Vegetation drought stress in the Amazon using GOSAT

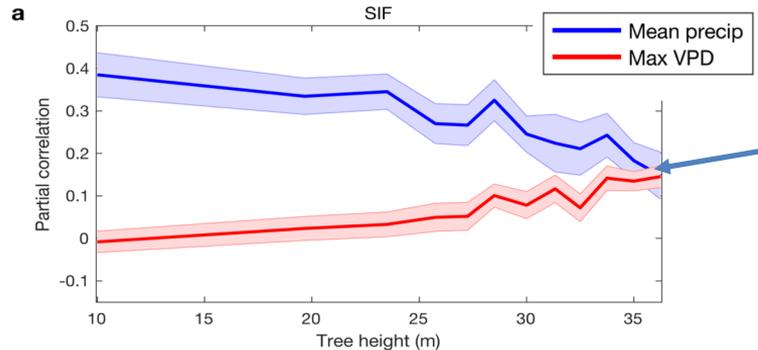
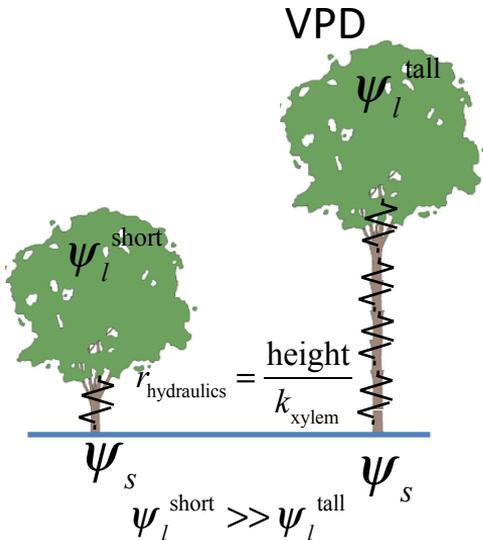


# Success with SIF

## Tropics: Vegetation drought vs aridity stress in the Amazon using GOME-2



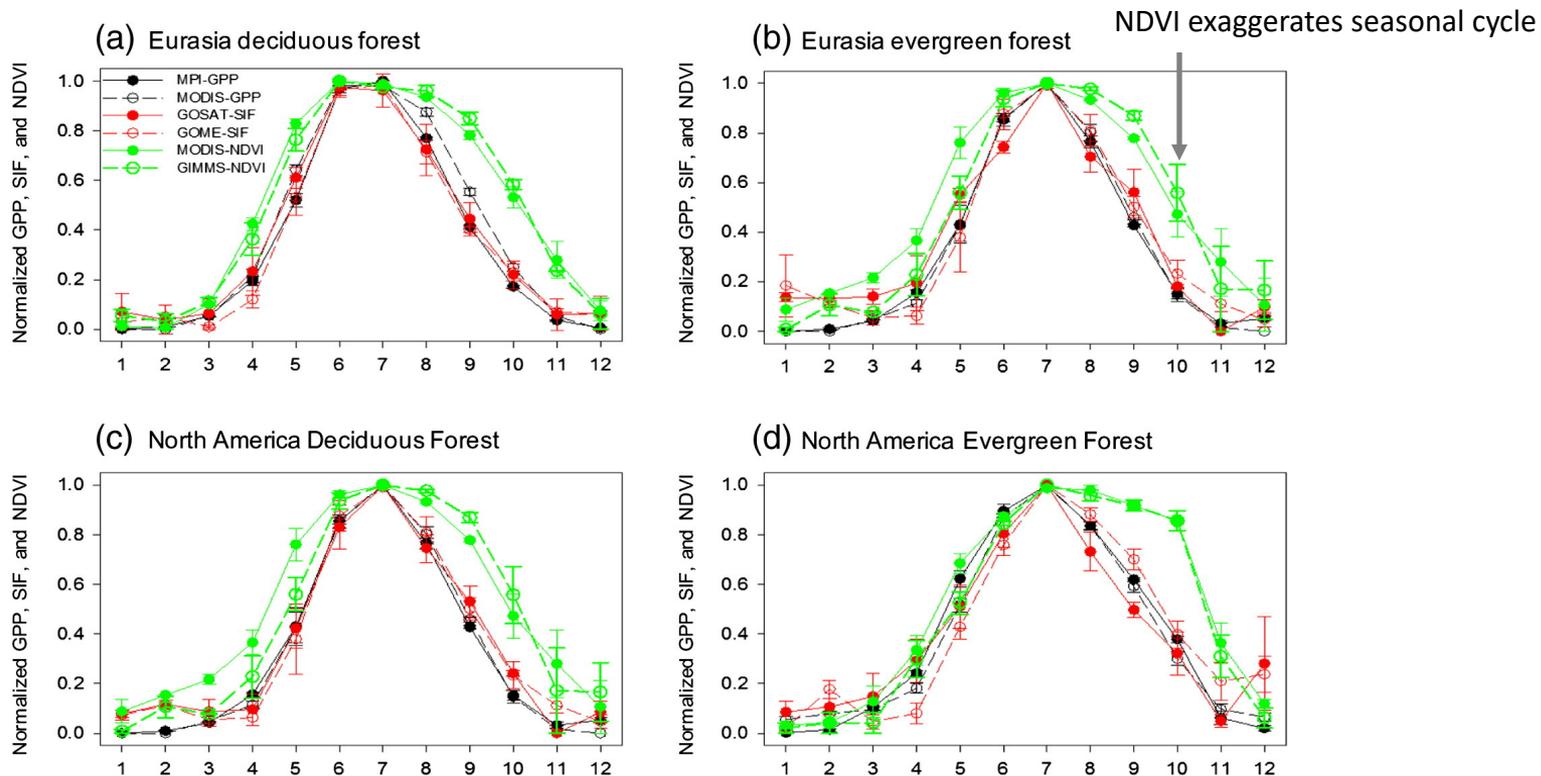
Tall ~ more isohydric  
(tighter stomata regulation)



Tall forests less sensitive to rainfall but more to VPD

# Success with SIF

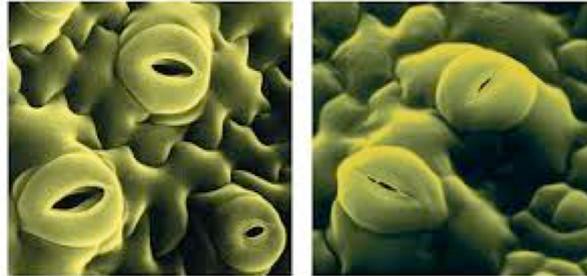
## Cold climates: phenology



# Success with SIF

GPP ( $\text{CO}_2$  uptake) is directly related to transpiration  $T$  ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  release)

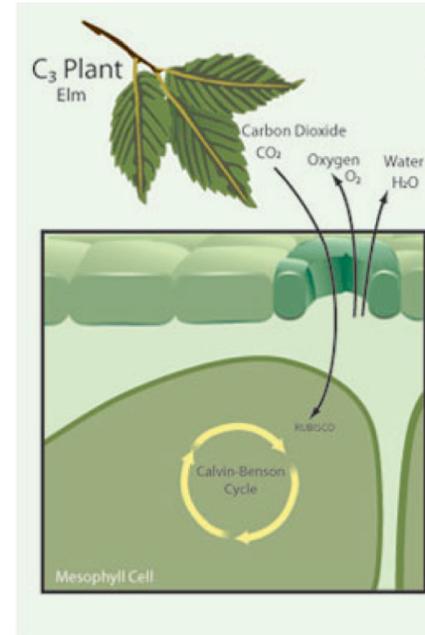
$$GPP = wue T$$



(a) Stomata open

(b) Stomata closed

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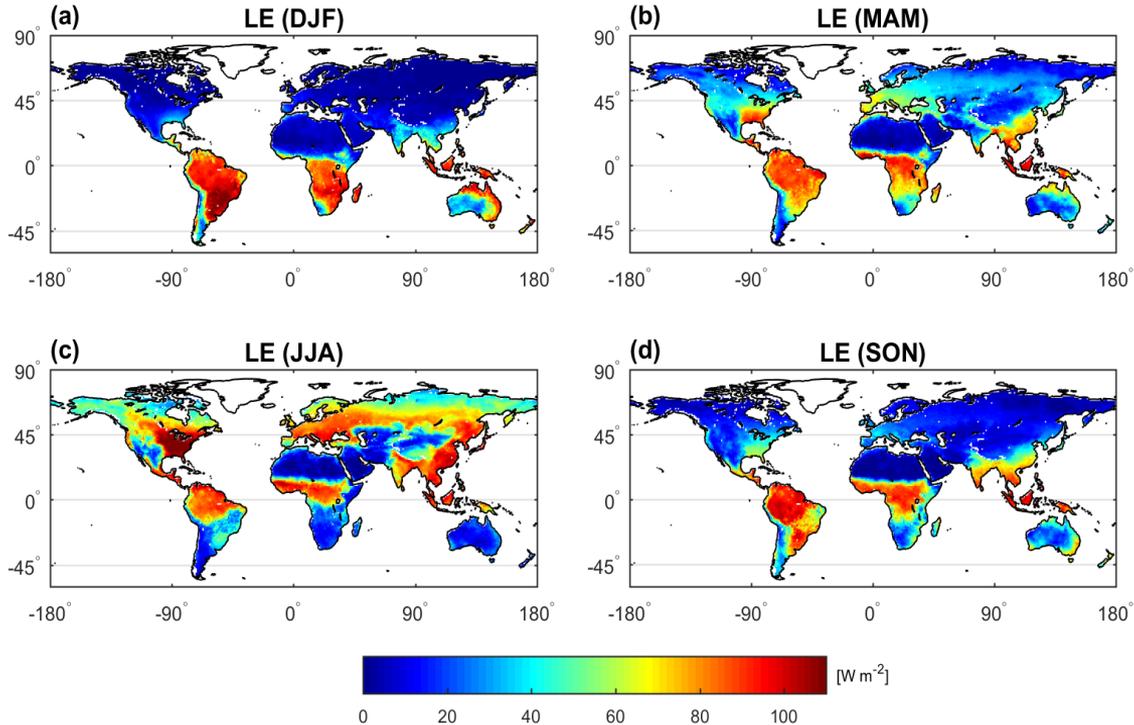


**SIF** might thus a good **proxy** for  $T$  (main ET flux)

# Success with SIF

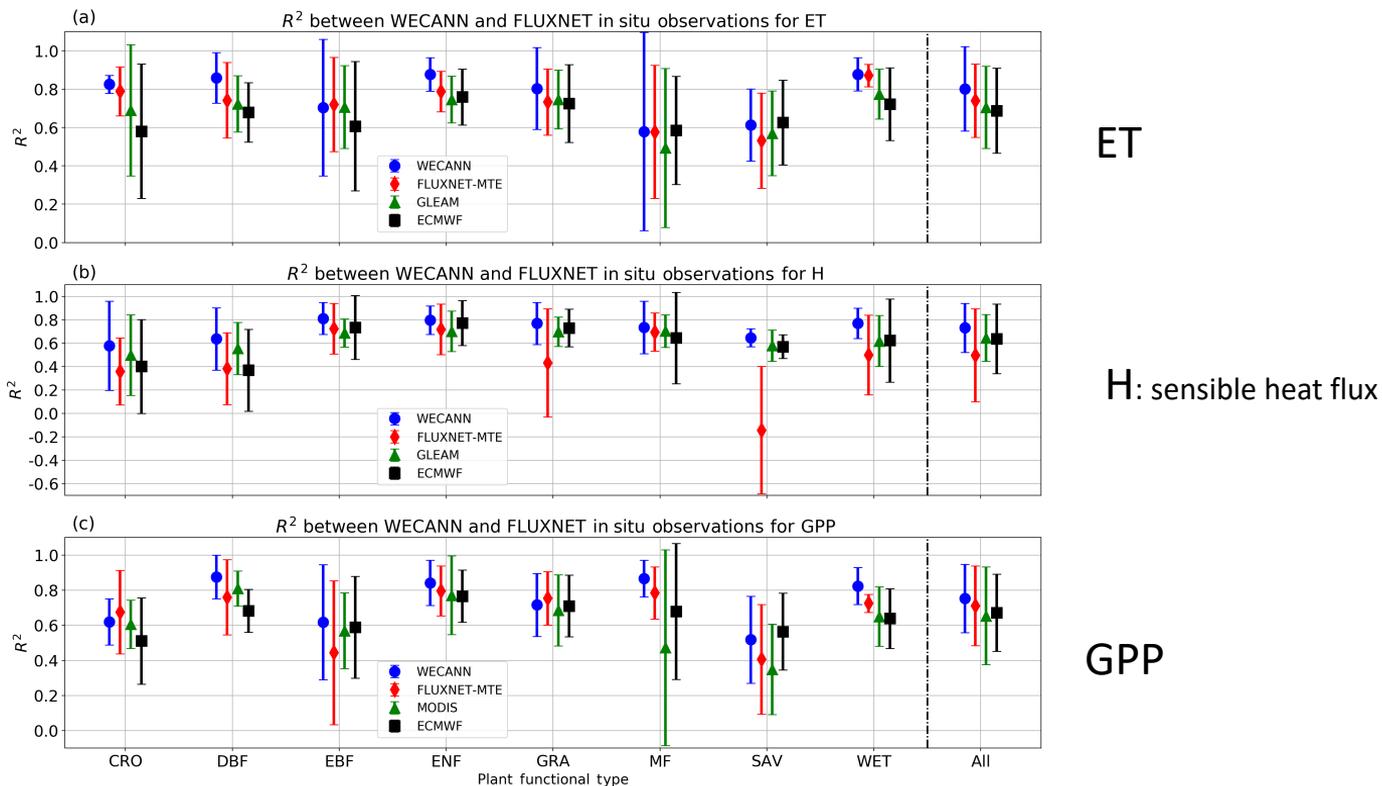
Flux retrieval using machine learning and GOME-2 SIF: WECANN

## Evapotranspiration



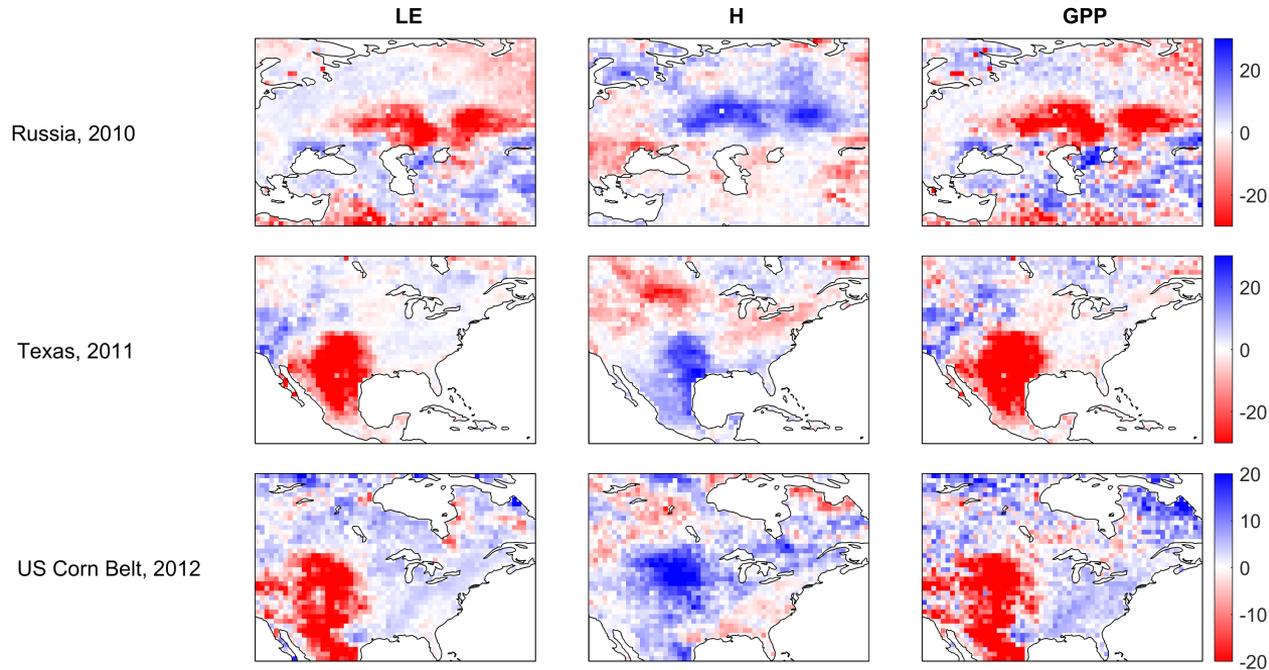
# Success with SIF

## Flux retrieval using machine learning and GOME-2 SIF: WECANN



# Success with SIF

Flux retrieval using machine learning and GOME-2 SIF: WECANN  
Nice interannual variability (unlike FLUXCOM or FLUXNET-MTE)

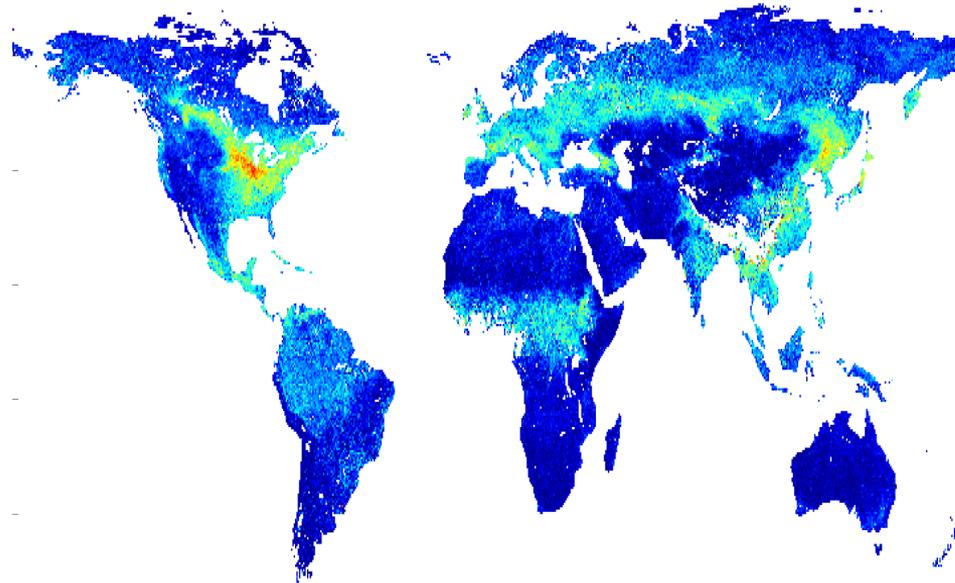


# So we are all good, right?

Nope

SIF has disadvantages: main ones

- **Very very noisy**
- **Coarse scale**



# What are our options?

Use vegetation indices instead

- **NDVI:**

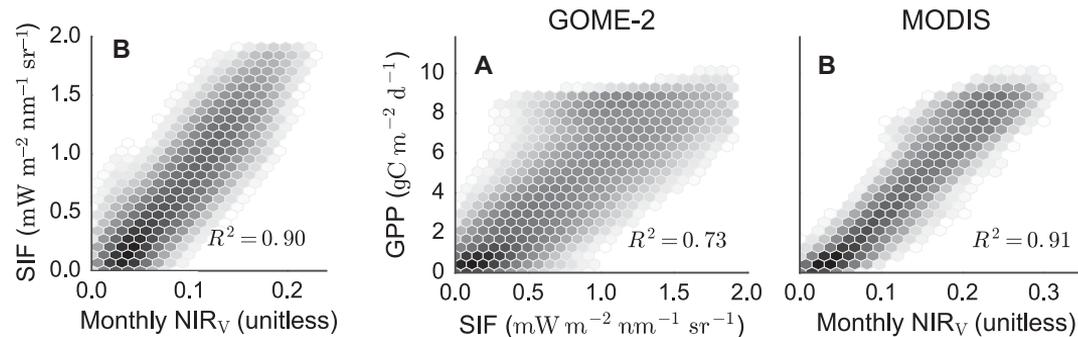
Issue: saturates very quickly, very sensitive to snow, basically color only

- **EVI:**

improved NDVI but share same issues

-  $\text{NIR}_V = \text{NIR}_{\text{reflectance}} \cdot \text{NDVI}$

looks promising



But:

- Still based on NDVI (share some issues – snow)

- No radiation information: Only reflectance, not a flux (only correlated with it)

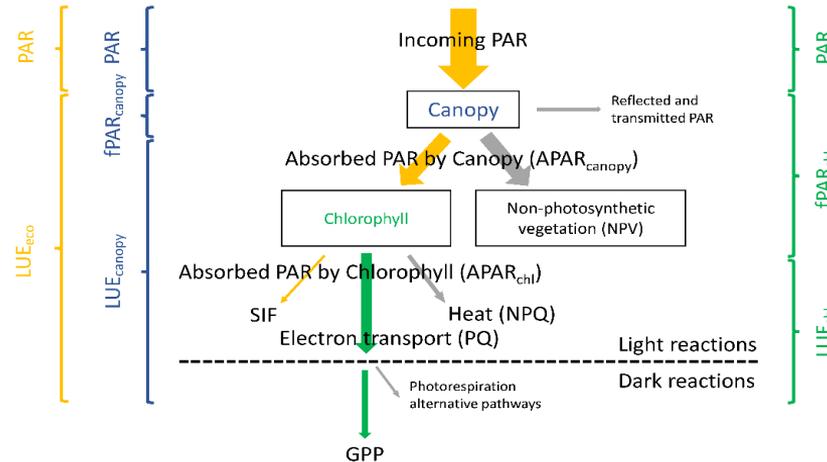
# What are our options?

We want an objective assessment of GPP  
Let us go back to the basics (light use efficiency a la Monteith)

$$\text{GPP} = \text{LUE}_{\text{Chl}} \cdot \text{fPAR}_{\text{Chl}} \cdot \text{PAR}$$

Similarly

$$\text{SIF} = \text{Yield} \cdot \text{fPAR}_{\text{Chl}} \cdot \text{PAR}$$



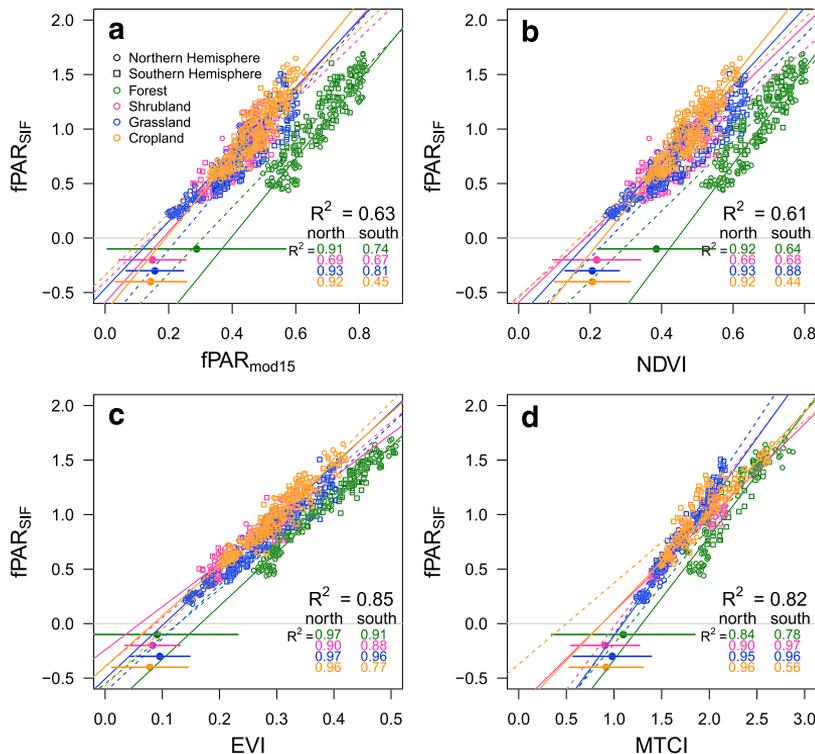
$$\text{So SIF} = \text{Yield} / \text{LUE}_{\text{Chl}} \cdot \text{GPP}$$

If Yield,  $\text{LUE}_{\text{Chl}}$  are not varying much then  $\text{fPAR}_{\text{Chl}} \cdot \text{PAR}$  is a good proxy for GPP (and SIF)

# What are our options?

Is  $fPAR_{chl}$  a good proxy for SIF/PAR?

Mostly yes



MERIS terrestrial chlorophyll index (MTCI)

# How can we define an objective product?

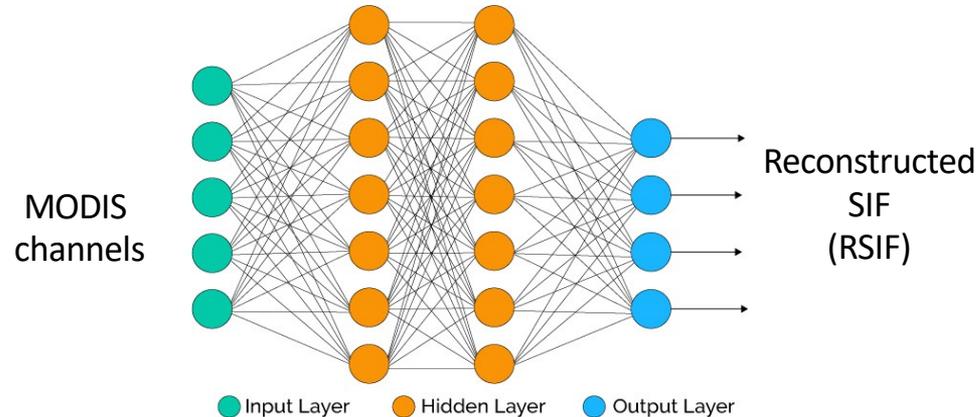
Objective:

Try to reproduce  $SIF/PAR \sim fPAR_{Chl}$  with MODIS

Called **Reconstructed SIF (RSIF)**

Based on GOME-2 v26 Joiner SIF

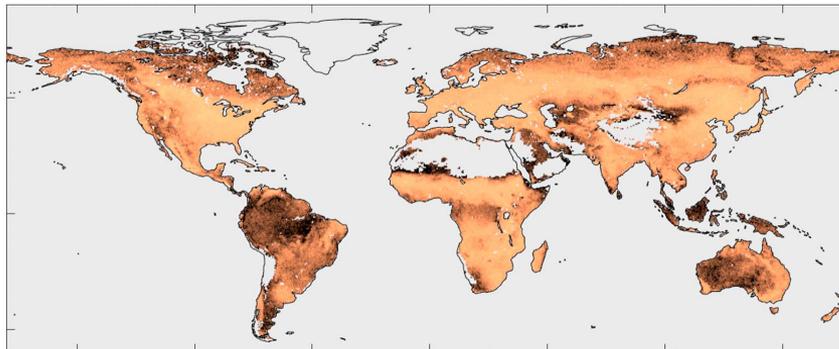
PAR: BESS product (Ryu et al. 2017)



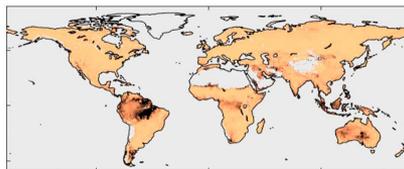
$$\text{Daily } APAR_{Chl} = PAR_{daily} \cdot RSIF / PAR_{9:30AM}$$

# How can we define an objective product?

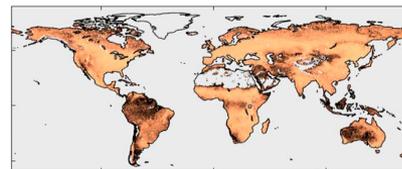
Corr(RSIF,SIF)  
Mean=0.623



Corr(RSIF,GPP FLUXNET-MTE)  
Mean=0.881

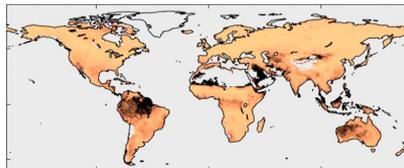


Corr(SIF,GPP FLUXNET-MTE)  
Mean=0.647

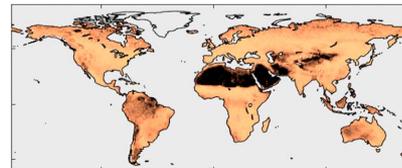


Better against  
FLUXNET-MTE

Corr(RSIF,WECANN)  
Mean=0.807

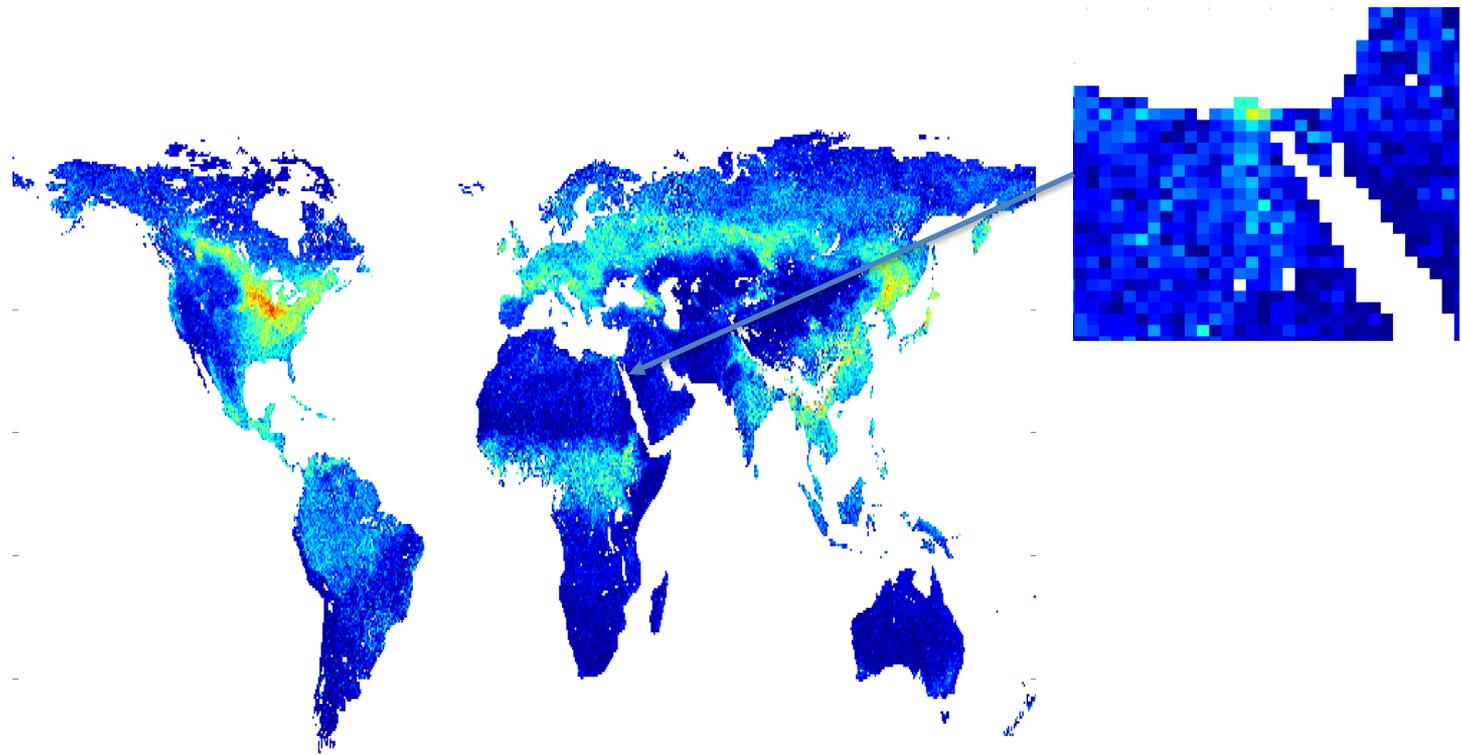


Corr(SIF,WECANN)  
Mean=0.728



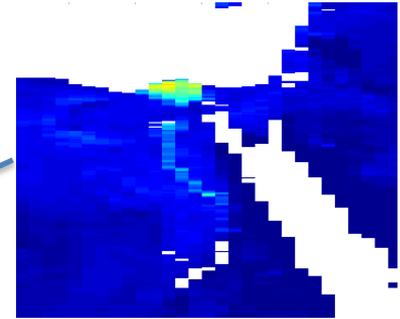
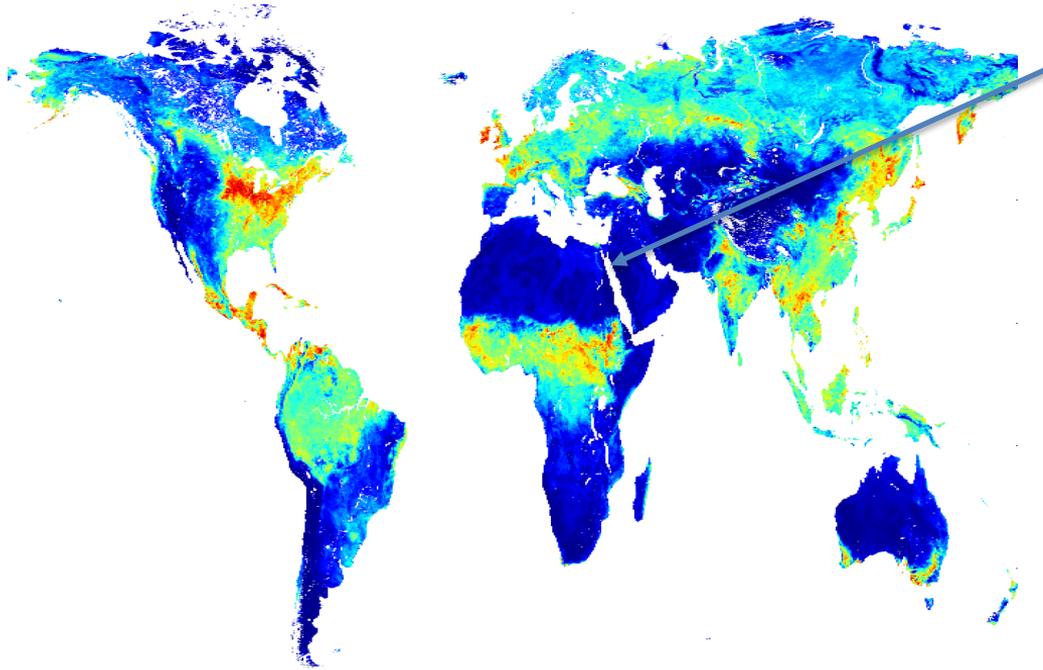
Better with  
WECANN which  
uses SIF 😊

# Example: Nile



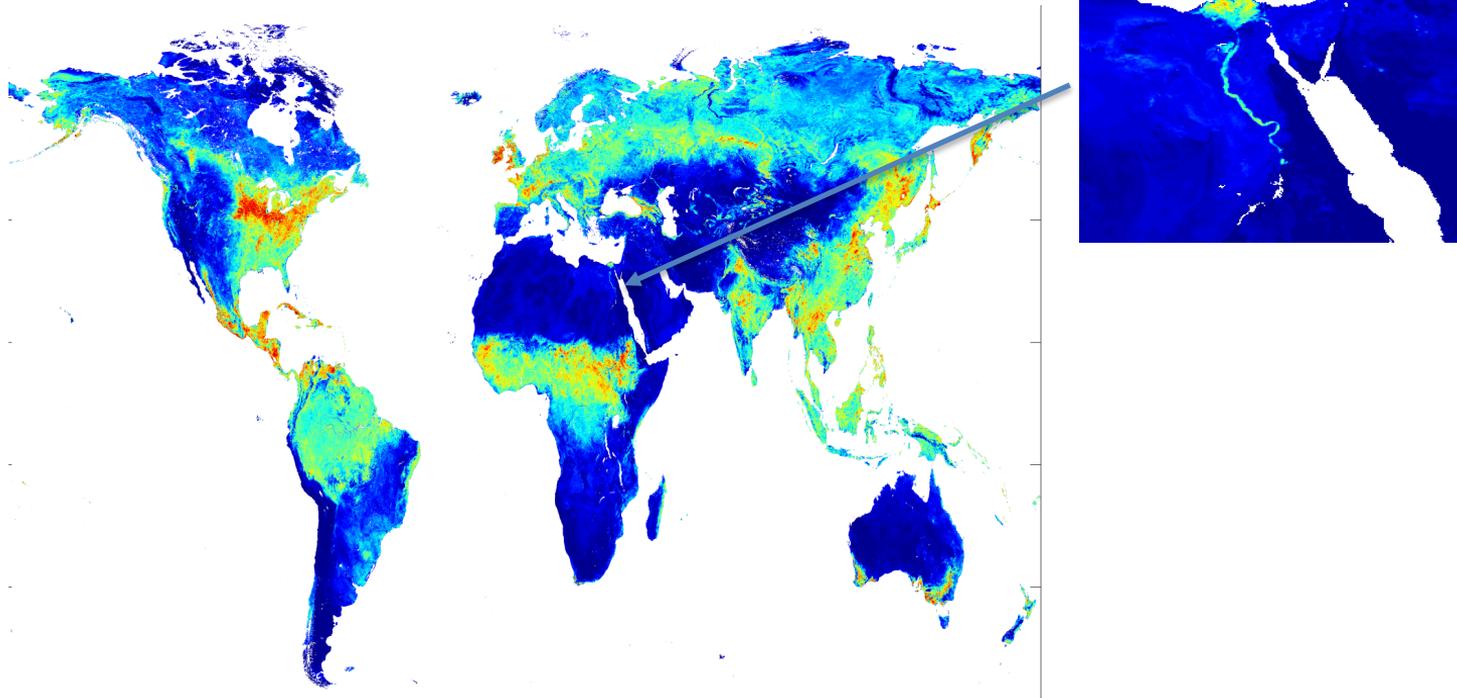
# Example: Nile

RSIF reduces noise

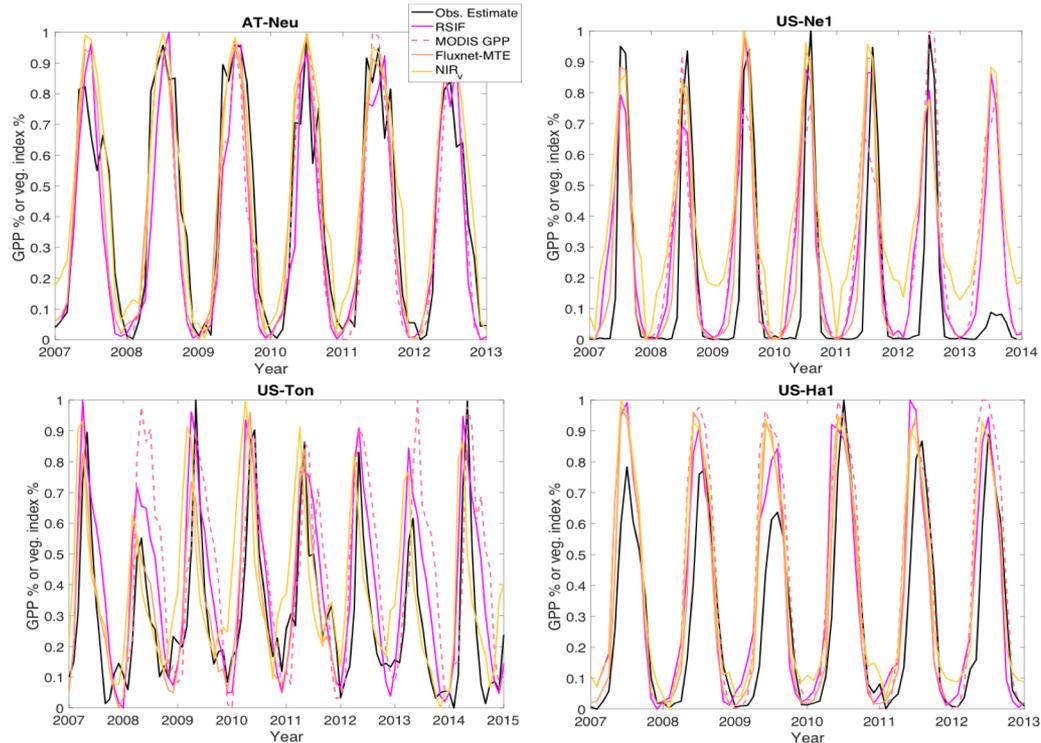


# Example: Nile

Can go to higher resolution (500m) 😊

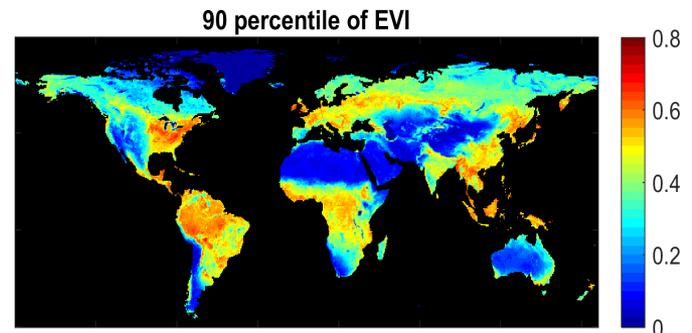
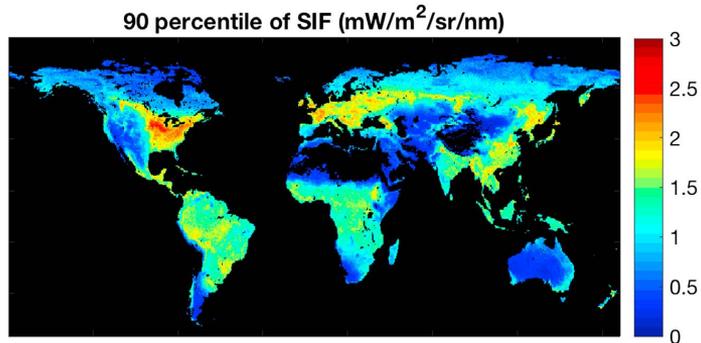
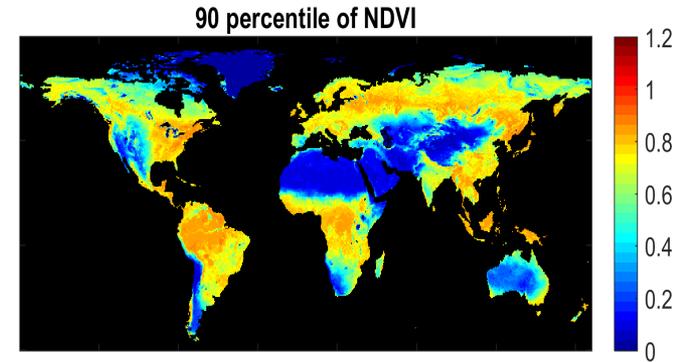
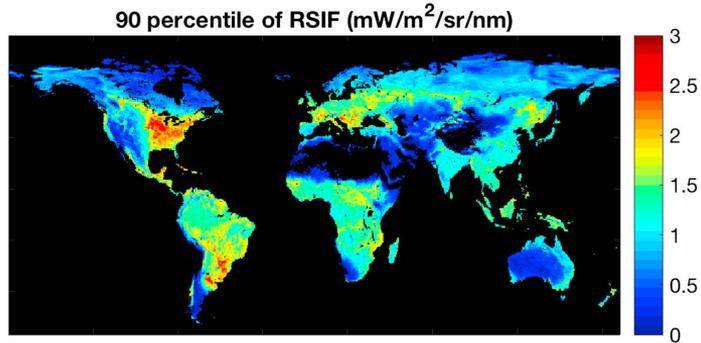


# RSIF site comparisons



Not impacted by snow,  
Can track seasonal dryness in California (no need for  $LUE_{Chl}$  change)

# Comparison with vegetation indices



Can pick up peak in GPP in Ag region like SIF but unlike NDVI/EVI

# Next steps

Still several (important) steps for GPP:

- What we see includes: Radiation attenuation/escape factor (PFT and atmosphere dependent)
- Initial GOME-2 estimate has issues/biases: use another better (higher Signal/noise) estimate e.g. OCO-2, TROPOMI
- More bands? Hyperspectral
- Are  $LUE_{Chl}$  important? Can we observe them?

Zhang, Gentine et al. submitted

The background features a dark blue, almost black, space filled with glowing, wavy lines in shades of blue and purple. These lines are composed of many small, bright points, giving them a shimmering, ethereal appearance. In the background, there are faint, repeating patterns of binary code (0s and 1s) in a light blue color, which adds to the digital or data-themed aesthetic. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and modern technology.

Thank you for your attention

Questions?