Fire modeling development in ORCHIDEE

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The impacts of fire in biophysical and biogeochemical cycles

- Carbon emission and other trace gases emissions (CO, CH4, NOx, O3 precursors, etc.,), and particles into the atmosphere and the radiative forcing effect
- Vegetation distribution change (eg., boreal forest and savanna)
- Energy flux pattern change after fire





Simulated burned area (I)



Mean annual fire burned fraction (in percentage) over 1997-2009 as simulated by ORCHIDEE and reported by the GFED3.1 dataset.

Global annual burned area by ORCHIDEE simulation and by GFED3.1 data for the period of 1997-2009.



Simulated burned area (II)





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Simulated burned area (III)





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Simulated fire carbon emissions



Mean annual carbon emissions (g C m⁻² yr⁻¹) for the period of 1997-2009 by (a) ORCHIDEE simulation and (b) the GFED3.1 data, based on the gridcell area.

the GFED3.1dataset in breakup of different sources.

The role of fire in terrestrial carbon balance





0.12 -0.04 -0.02 0.0 0.02 0.04 0.06 0.08 0.1

NBP reduced by fire (fireOFF-fireON) in ten most extreme fire years

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The role of fire carbon emissions in relation to fire pyromes





Fig. 2. Mapping the spatial distribution of pyromes. Produced from the five-cluster solution of a model-based expectation-maximization dustering algorithm. Pyromes represent regions of the globe that have similar fire frequencies, intensities, sizes, burned areas, and fire season lengths. Pixels with greater than 60% probability of being uniquely categorized are plotted (85% of the data).

Fire pyrome distribution by Archibald et al. (2013)

Fire characteristics by pyrome:

FIL: Frequent - Intense - Large
ICS: Intermediate - Cool - Small
RCS: Rare - Cool - Small
RIL: Rare - Intense - Large
FCS: Frequent - Cool - Small

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Future improvements in fire modeling (I)

- Ignitions parameterization
- Fire spread rate, fire size, fire intensity evaluation
- The need to build consistent observation data on key parameters in the fire modeling for model evaluation purpose



Future improvements in fire modeling (II)



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