Seasonal and interannual changes in vegetation activity of tropical forests in Southeast Asia

Yuan Zhang, Shilong Piao, Xiran Li, Zhenzhong Zeng, Philippe Ciais, Mengtian Huang, Yongwen Liu



Outline

- Motivation
- Data
- Results and discussion
- Summary





GPP (Beer et al. 2010)

	Area	Biomass
Humid tropical forests	13%	340 Pg C
Nonhumid tropical forests	12%	63 Pg C
Global terrestrial total	100%	652 Pg C

Tropical forests are critical for global C cycle.











 Δ Tree coverage between 1860 and 2099 (%)

(Sitch et al. 2008)



Δ biomass between 1860 and 2099 (Pg C)

Tropical forests are sensitive to climate change, but the mechanisms of how these forests response to climate change are poorly understood.



(Nemani et al. 2003)

Growth of vegetation in tropical regions are radiation limited?







(Myneni et al. 2007)



(Saleska et al. 2003)



(Phillips et al. 2006)



(Xu et al. 2011)





Response of African humid tropical forests

t Widespread decline of Congo rainforest greenness in – the past decade

Sa Liming Zhou¹, Yuhong Tian², Ranga B. Myneni³, Philippe Ciais⁴, Sassan Saatchi⁵, Yi Y. Liu⁶, Shilong Piao⁷, Haishan Chen⁸, Eric F. Vermote⁹, Conghe Song^{10,11} & Taehee Hwang¹²

¹Institute of Environment and Sustainability, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA

²Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91109, USA



A Large and Persistent Carbon Sink in the World's Forests

Yude Pan,¹* Richard A. Birdsey,¹ Jingyun Fang,^{2,3} Richard Houghton,⁴ Pekka E. Kauppi,⁵ Warner A. Kurz,⁶ Oliver L. Phillins,⁷ Anatoly Shvidenko,⁸ Simon L. Lawis,⁷ Josep G. Canadell,⁹ Philippe Ciaks, Bobert B. Gackson, Listephen W. Pacata, ¹⁴A. David McGuile, St. Shitong Piao,² Aaw Hatticing State and State of Constended of the Variations?

Data

NDVI



 $NDVI = \frac{(\rho_{NIR} - \rho_{Red})}{(\rho_{NIR} + \rho_{Red})}$

GIMMS AVHRR NDVI3g: since 1981

SPOT-VGT: since 1998

MODIS (MOD13A2, C5): since 2000

Sun-induced Chlorophyll Fluorescence (SIF)



GOSAT Sun-induced chlorophyll fluorescence (since 2009)

Other data

- CRU TS 3.21 Precipitation, Temperature
- SRB incoming shortwave radiation
- GLC 2000 land cover



Results and discussion



Distinct seasonal variation of climate factors from north to south Southeast Asia;

A remarkable decline in NDVI during dry season.





(Elliott et al. 2006)



NDVI represents greenness, chlorophyll content or potential photosynthesis ability

SIF is related to absorbed radiation and stress (e.g. heat, dry), reflects instantaneous photosynthesis activity

- At the season scale, in forests with pronounced wet-dry seasonal cycle, both NDVI and SIF decline during the dry season.
- During the wet season, SIF is generally consistent with NDVI in the DF but contrasts to NDVI in the EF.

Interannual-dry season



Interannual-wet season



Interannual-wet season

Cloud cover limits net CO₂ uptake and growth of a rainforest tree during tropical rainy seasons

Eric A. Graham*, Stephen S. Mulkey*[†], Kaoru Kitajima*, Nathan G. Phillips[‡], and S. Joseph Wright[§]

*Department of Botany, 220 Bartram Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 34002-8526; [‡]Geography Department, 675 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston University, Boston, MA 02215; and [§]Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Apartado 2072, Balboa, Ancón, Republic of Panama



Summary

- At the season scale, in forests with pronounced wetdry seasonal cycle, both NDVI and SIF decline during the dry season.
- During the wet season, SIF is generally consistent with NDVI in the DF but contrasts to NDVI in the EF.
- At the interannual scale, the dry season NDVI was positively correlated with precipitation, but was negatively correlated with radiation, while the wet season NDVI was positively correlated with radiation.
- Distinct driving factors of forests growth are found in Southeast Asia during different seasons.

Thanks for listening!