



# Scaling carbon dioxide exchange from sites to regions

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# Challenges in scaling terrestrial carbon fluxes

- A vast, complex system operating with poorly known feedbacks, periodic/stochastic behaviour...now in uncharted territory
- Eddy flux and biometric data – ‘effective samples?’
- Earth observations -‘shadows on the wall?’
- Modelling – ‘reality?’



# CARDAMOM - CARbon DAta MOdel fraMework

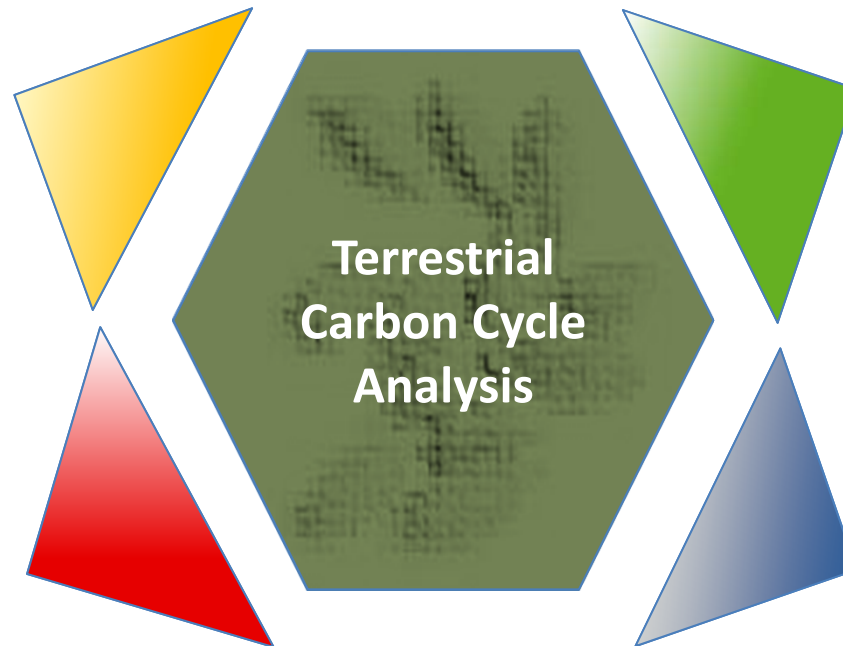


## MODEL

DALEC: Data  
Assimilation Linked  
Ecosystem Carbon  
model

## DRIVERS

Global ERA interim  
analyses



## DATA

MODIS LAI time series,  
Biometric Satellite data, Eddy  
flux tower data, Plant trait data.

## OPTIMIZATION

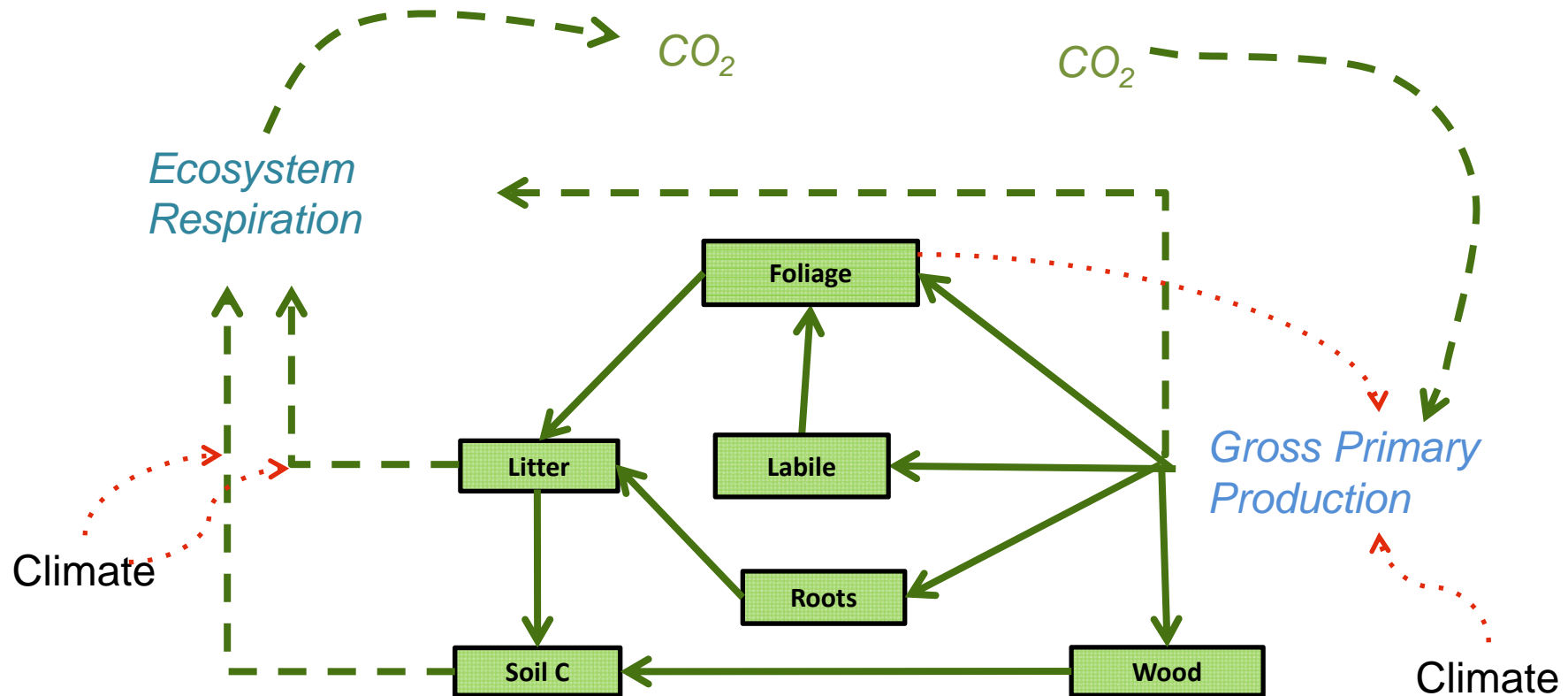
Metropolis-Hastings  
Markov Chain Monte Carlo  
Ecological & dynamic  
constraints



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# DALEC: Data Assimilation Linked Ecosystem Carbon model



**DALEC carbon pools and fluxes: 23 parameters describe pool allocation, phenology and turnover rates in ecosystem carbon cycling.**

DALEC Parameter vector =  $[M_r, f_a, f_f, f_r, L_L, t_w, t_r, t_{lit}, t_{SOM}, T_{rate}, C_{eff}, B_{day}, f_{lab}, R_r, F_{day}, R_f, LMA, C_{LA}, C_{FO}, C_{RO}, C_{WO}, C_{LI}, C_{SO}]$

—————→ C flux  
 - - - - - → CO<sub>2</sub> flux  
 . . . . . → influence

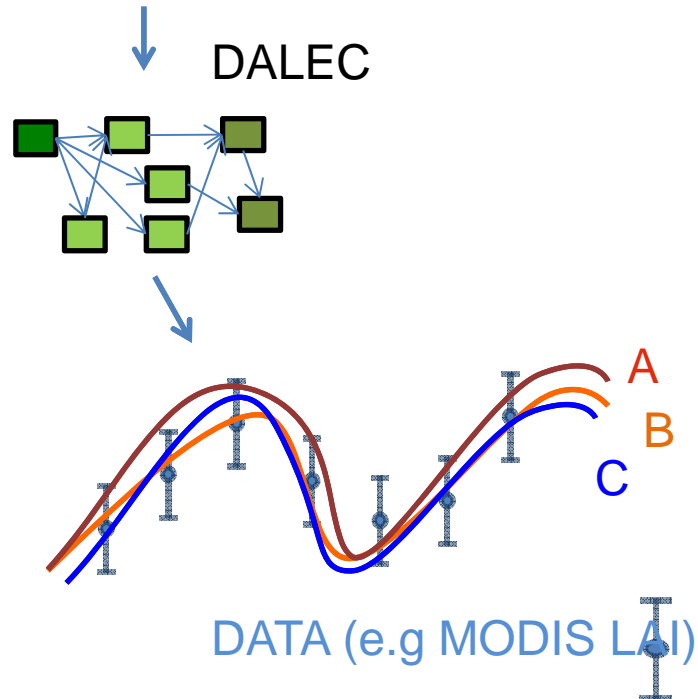
# Model Data Fusion (MDF)

Random Sampling of DALEC parameters

A.  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{23}$

B.  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{23}$

C.  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{23}$



*Bayes' Theorem*

$$p(x|c) \propto p(c|x) p(x)$$

Posterior  
parameter  
probability

Observation  
likelihood,  
given  
parameters

Prior  
Parameter  
Probability

Method = Metropolis Hastings MCMC

(1) Parameter value priors span across multiple orders of magnitude, BUT

(2) Only a subset of parameter space can be considered “ecologically consistent”



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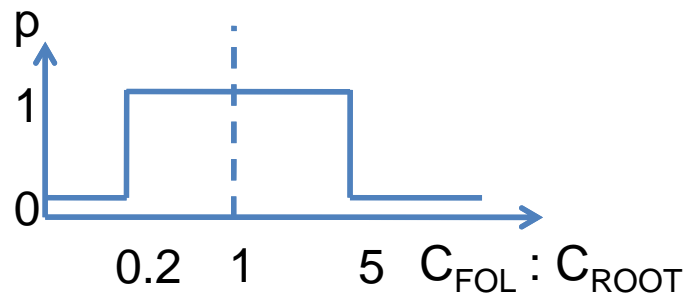
# Ecological and Dynamic Constraints (EDCs)

DALEC Parameter vector =  $[M_r, f_a, f_f, f_r, L_L, t_w, t_r, t_{lit}, t_{SOM}, T_{rate}, C_{eff}, B_{day}, f_{lab}, R_r, F_{day}, R_f, LMA, C_{LA}, C_{FO}, C_{RO}, C_{WO}, C_{LI}, C_{SO}]$

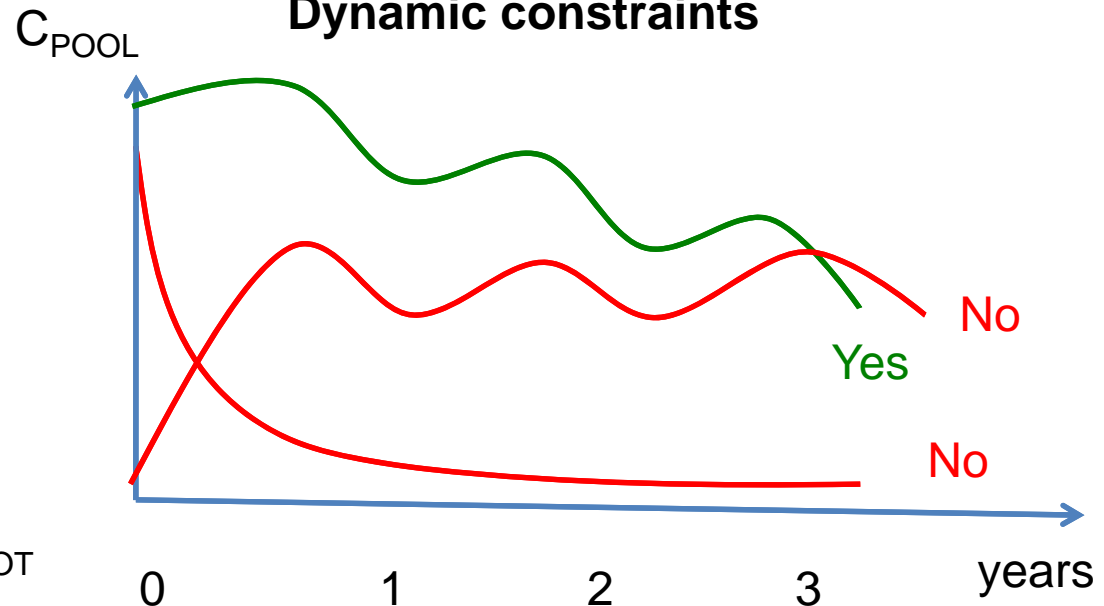
## Turnover constraints

$t_{SOM} < t_{litter} \text{ \& } t_{wood} < t_{foliar}$

$C_{root} : C_{fol}$  ratio

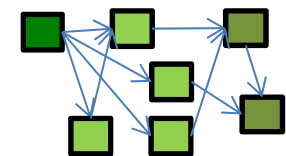


## Dynamic constraints



## Analytical dynamic constraints

order of magnitude constraint on proximity of steady state C pool to initial value (wood, roots, litter, SOM)



**In total: 12 checks**

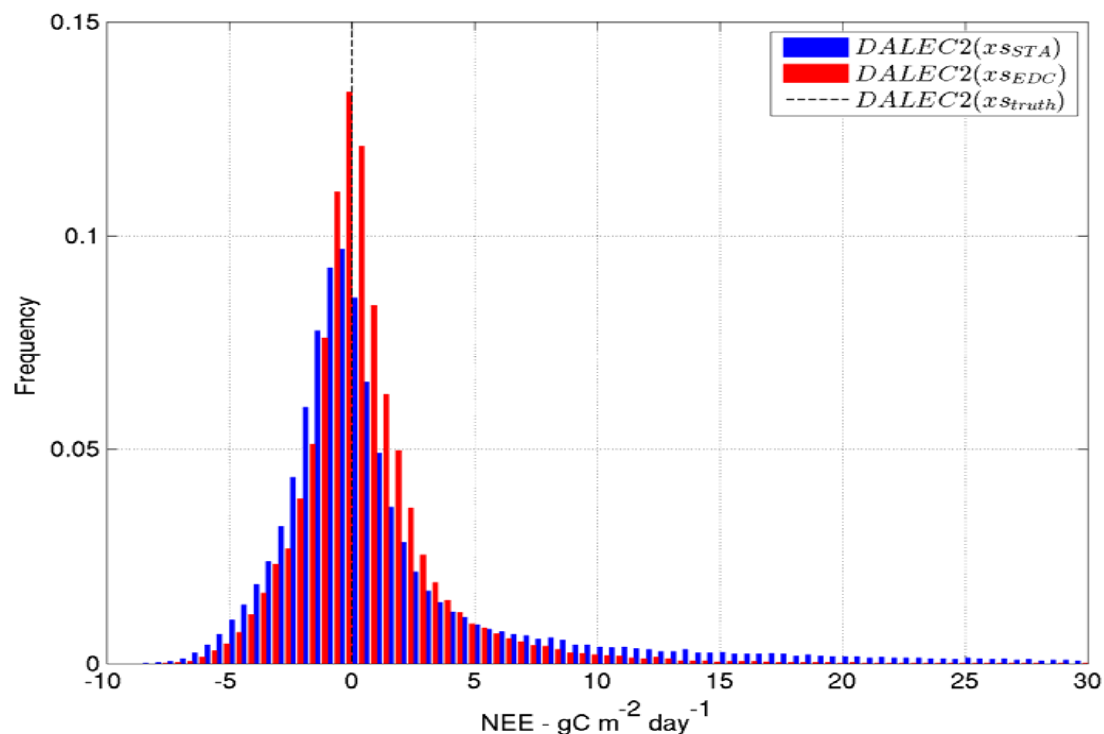


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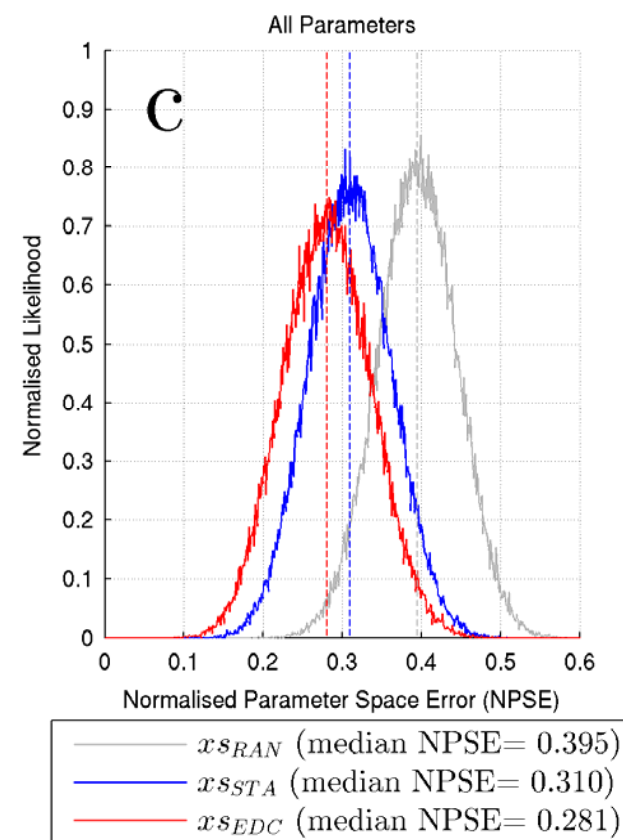
Bloom & Williams, BGD



# EDCs reduce flux bias and assist parameter constraint



**Synthetic studies** – 40 synthetic deciduous forests  
Assimilate: LAI time series, single soil carbon estimate



# Independent tests at flux sites indicate value of EDCs

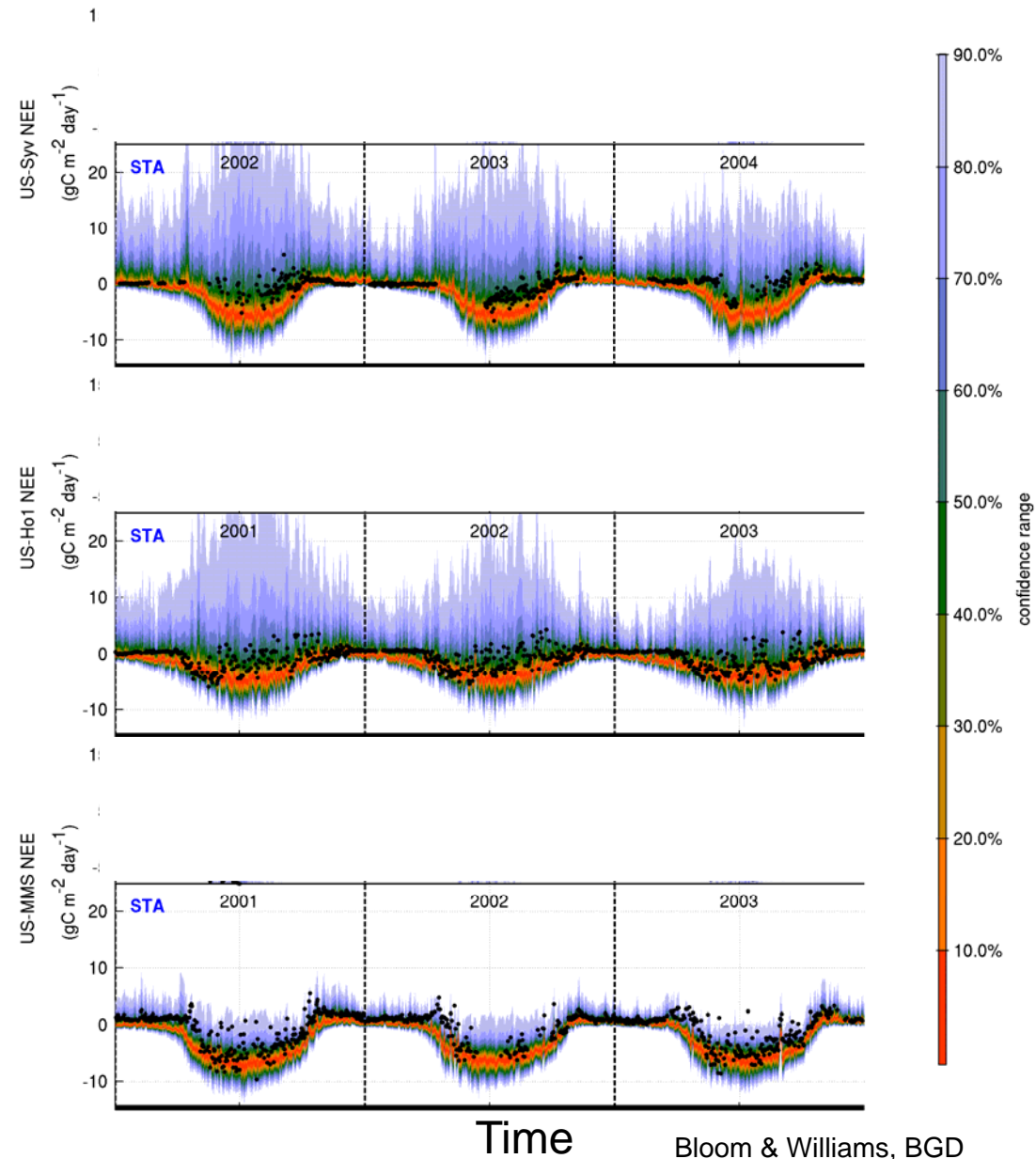
*Assimilate MODIS LAI,  
HWSD soil C*

Sylvania  
(Mixed forest)

Howland  
(Evergreen forest)

Morgan Monroe  
(Decid. Broadleaf)

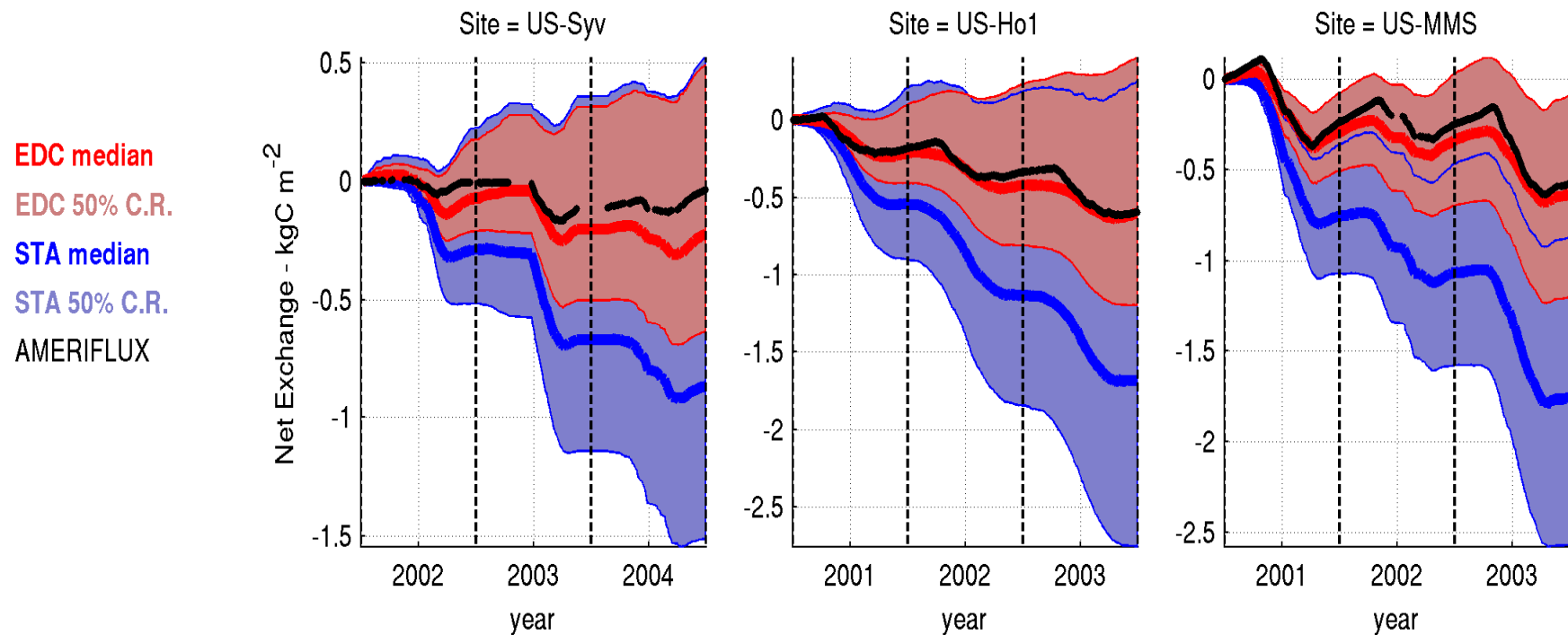
Ameriflux data



Bloom & Williams, BGD



# Independent tests of cumulative NEE at Ameriflux sites



Ameriflux data



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# Terrestrial ecosystem carbon cycle analysis

Posterior  
DALEC  
Parameter  
Probability

1° x 1° Pixel  
scale  
parameter, flux  
& carbon pool  
estimates

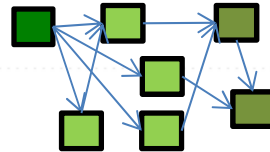
C state likelihood  
function = observation  
likelihood & parameter  
priors

No spin-up  
No PFTs  
No Steady state

## Drivers:

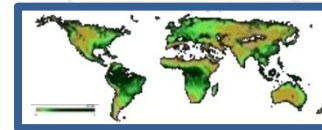
ERA-interim 1° x 1°  
resolution 8-day  
time-step 2001-2010

DALEC

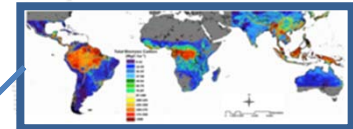


## Biometric Data Constraints

MODIS LAI

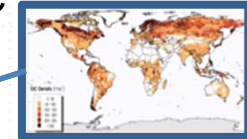


Pan-Tropical  
Biomass



Saatchi et al. 2011

HWSD Soil Organic  
C



Hiederer & Köchy, 2012

$$p(x|c) \propto p(c|x) p(x)$$

Parameter probability  $p(x|c)$  at each pixel derived  
using a Metropolis-Hastings MCMC algorithm

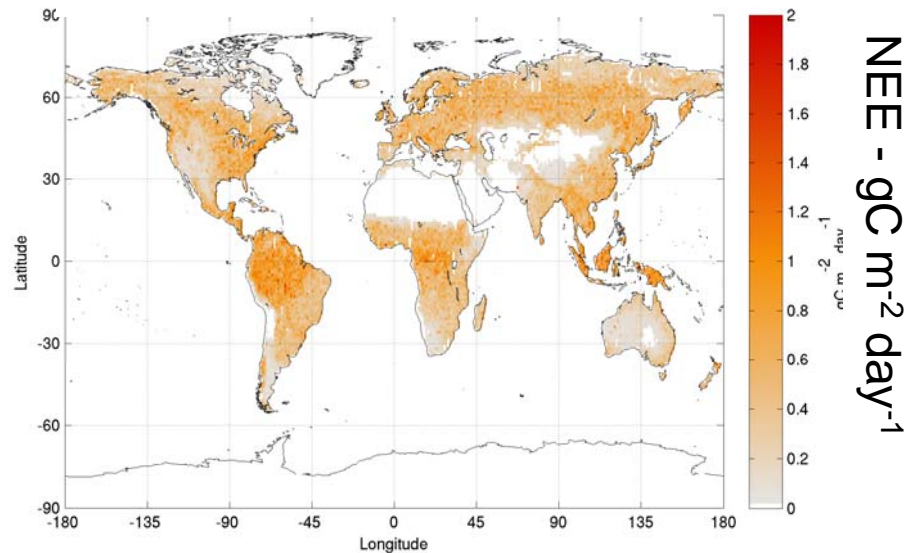
**$C_{eff}$  constraint:**  
**100 Gt/yr < Global**  
**GPP < 150 Gt/yr**

# Mean monthly NEE at 1° x 1°

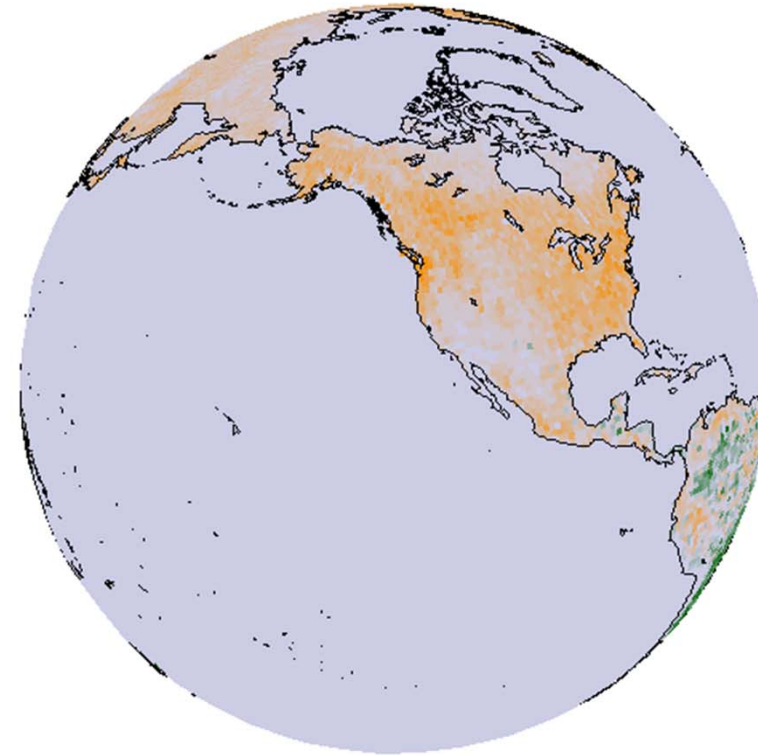
Jan - 2001

2001-2010: global  
terrestrial carbon cycle  
analysis.

## NEE UNCERTAINTY



*Bloom & Williams, in prep.*

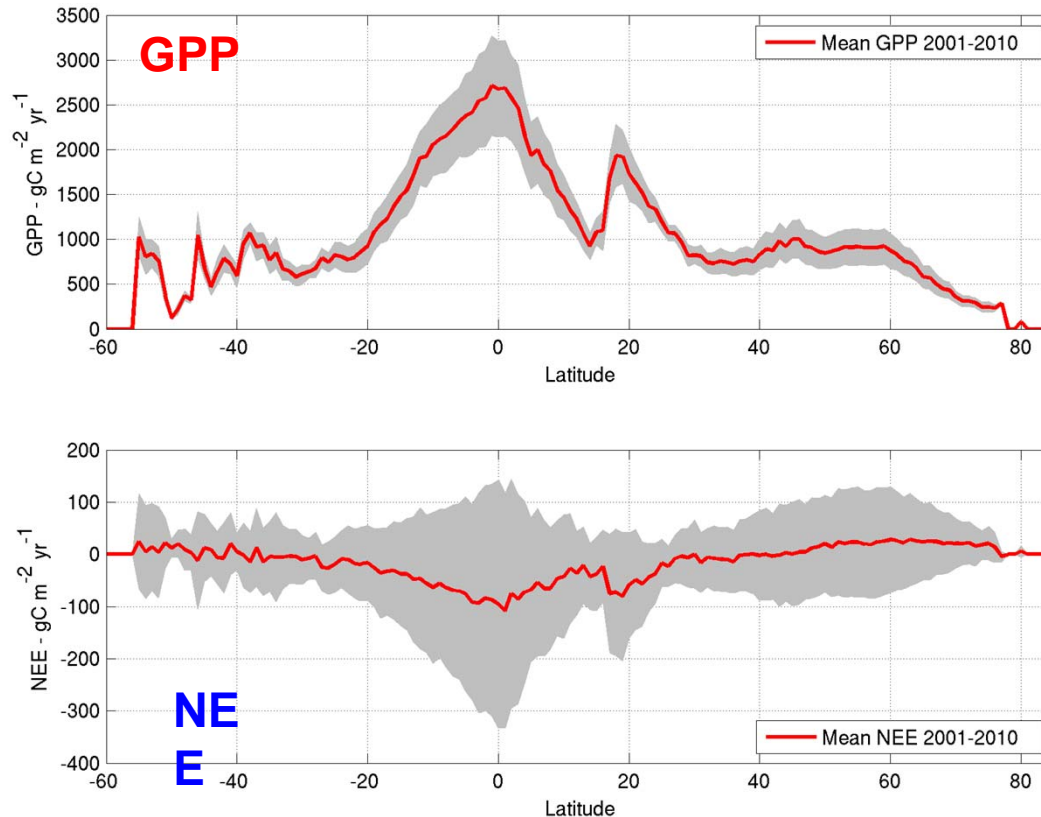


NEE -  $\text{gC m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$



# CARDAMOM fluxes 2001-2010: key results

## (A) Global carbon flux estimates



### Gross Primary Production

$$\text{GPP}_{01-10} = 123.2 \pm 7.5 \text{ PgC yr}^{-1}$$

### Net Ecosystem Exchange

$$\text{NEE}_{01-10} = -1.8 \pm 2.7 \text{ PgC yr}^{-1}$$

### Global carbon pool totals

$$\text{Labile} = 4 \pm 2 \text{ Pg C}$$

$$\text{Foliar} = 11 \pm 7 \text{ Pg C}$$

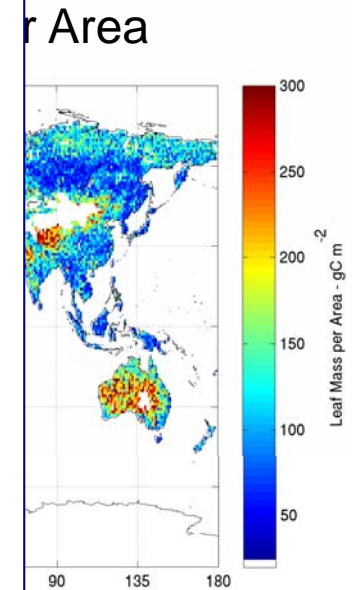
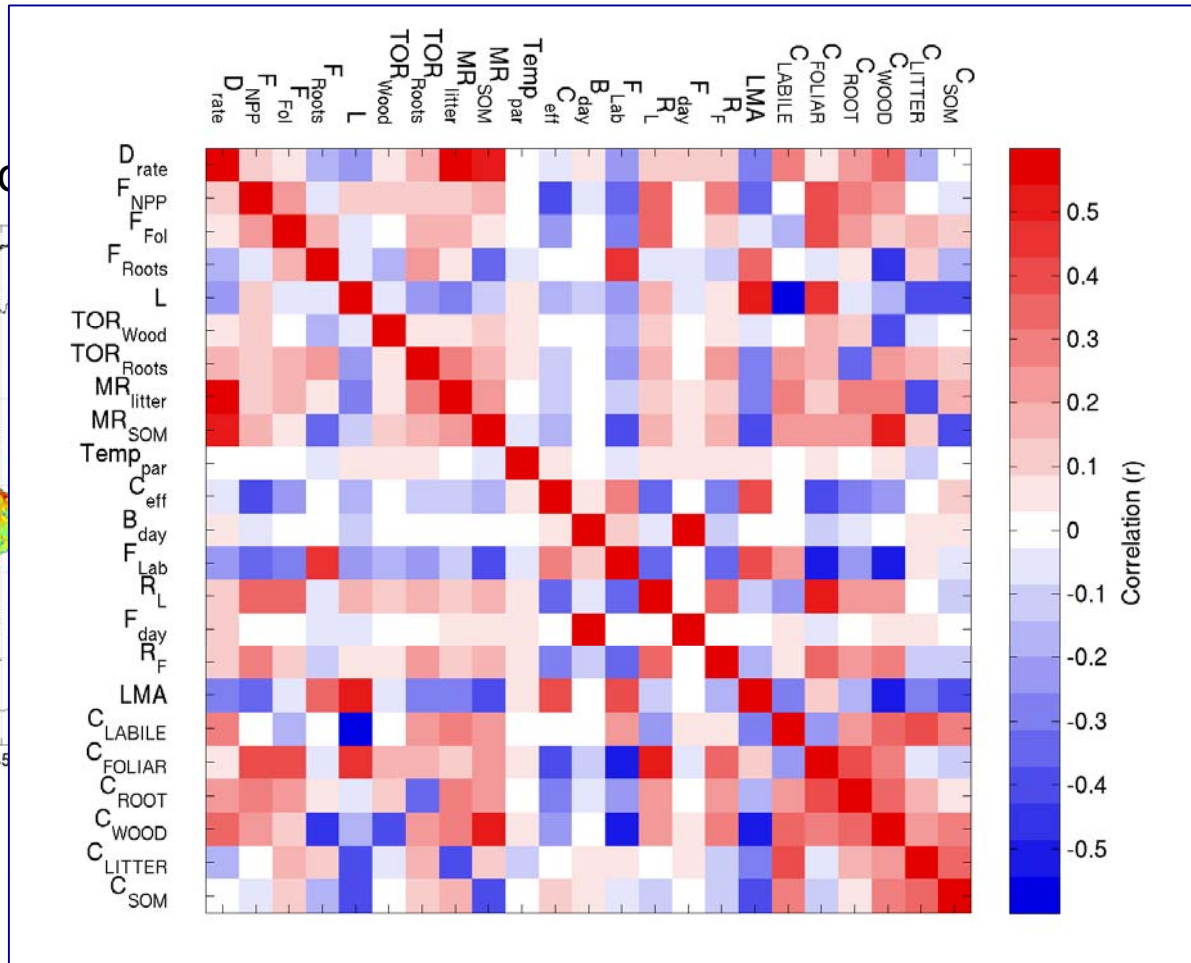
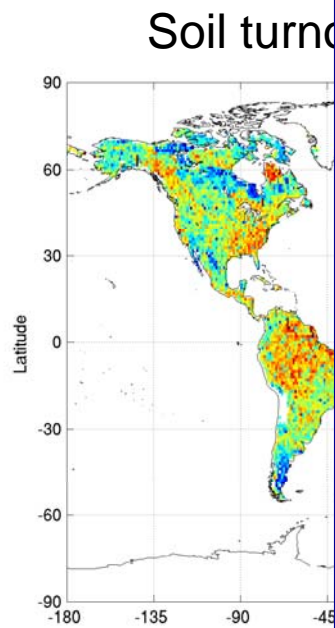
$$\text{Fine Roots} = 16 \pm 12 \text{ Pg C}$$

$$\text{Wood} = 535 \pm 298 \text{ Pg C}$$

$$\text{Litter} = 17 \pm 14 \text{ Pg C}$$

$$\text{SOM} = 1415 \pm 735 \text{ Pg C}$$

# CARDAMOM DALEC – Posterior parameters



# Next steps – perturbed systems

- Assimilating burned area data (MODIS) and deforestation time series (LandSat...)
- Assimilating sequential biomass maps (ALOS, BIOMASS...)
- Including croplands and other human managed systems



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# Conclusions

- CARDAMOM provides a data-consistent approach to terrestrial C analysis across scales
- Multiple data-streams combined with constrained mass balance modelling allow estimation of C dynamics from local to global
- Coupling to N and water cycles – to allows link to further EO/field data constraints and process interaction

A photograph of Edinburgh Castle, Scotland, perched on a dark, silhouetted hill. The sky is a vibrant mix of purple, pink, and orange, indicating a sunset or sunrise. The castle's stone walls and towers are visible against the bright horizon. Bare tree branches are visible in the upper left corner.

## **Acknowledgements:**

Ameriflux PIs, NASA MODIS team, Saatchi et al. biomass team, HWSD team, TRY team, FLUXCOM partners

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