Partitioning Evapotranspiration into Soil Evaporation and Canopy Transpiration via a Two-Source Variational Data Assimilation System

> Tongren Xu¹ Sayed M. Bateni², Lisheng Song¹, et al. ¹Beijing Normal University ²University of Hawaii

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Background

- Accurate estimates of soil evaporation (ET_s) and canopy transpiration (ET_c) are required in:
 - Climate forecast
 - Water resources planning and management
 - Monitoring crop condition, Irrigation scheduling

In-situ measurements

- Expensive
- Sparse
- Large-scale mapping is impossible
- > Models
 - Diagnostic
 - > Data Assimilation

The aim of this study:

to assess feasibility of the two-source variational data assimilation (TVDA) approach (developed by Bateni and Liang, 2012) in estimating ET_s and ET_c.

to compare ET_s and ET_c estimates from the TVDA with those of the commonly used TSEB model introduce by Norman et al. (1995)

Land surface temperature (LST)

 > lies in the heart of the surface energy balance (SEB) equation:

Has the signature of partitioning of net radiation (R_N) among the surface energy balance components

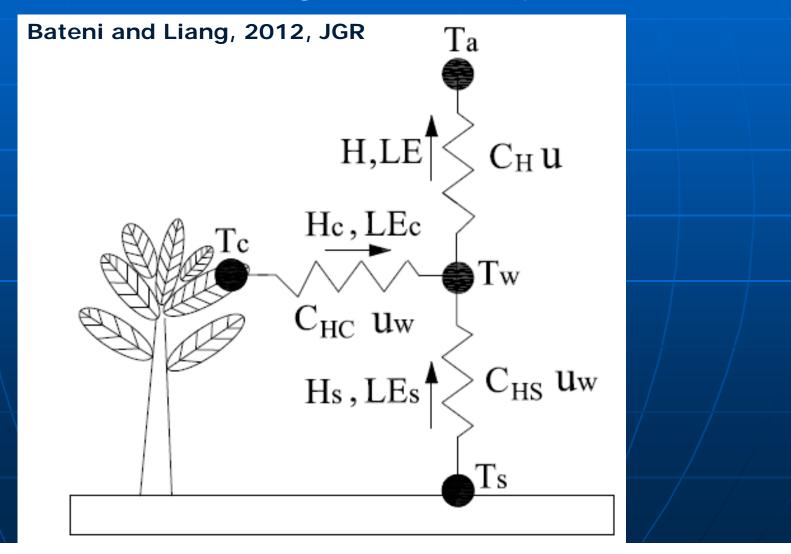
 LST is hypothesized to be composed of soil surface temperature (T_s) and canopy temperature (T_c).

The surface energy balance is created individually for each of these two sources.

With LST, ET_s and ET_c can be estimated by diagnostic and data assimilation methods.

Two-source Surface Energy Balance Scheme

Considers the soil and vegetation as separate sources



Methodology

> Diagnostic Method

 two-source surface energy balance (TSEB) model developed by Norman et al., 1995

- Data Assimilation Method:
 - A two-source variational data assimilation (TVDA) scheme developed by Bateni and Liang, 2012
 - The TVDA was based on TSEB, but introduced a heat diffusion equation to make full use of all available LST Obs. in the assimilation window. Thus, TVDA outperform TSEB in theory.

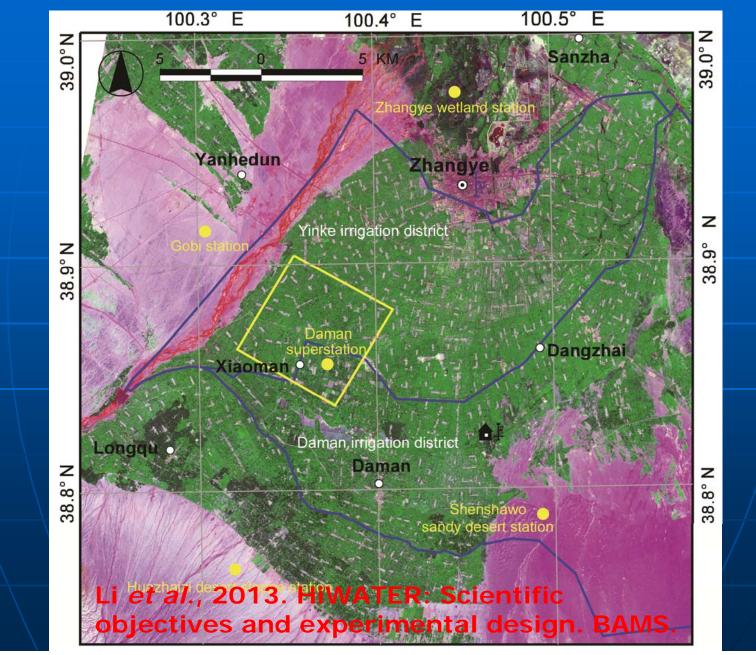
$$C_{HN} = \exp(R), \text{ function}$$
of vegetation phenology, and varies on a monthly time scale
$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} [T_{obs,i}(t) - T_i(t)] dt$$

$$+ (R - R')^T K_R^{-1}(K - R') + \sum_{i=1}^{N} (EFs_i - EFs_i')^T K_{EFs}^{-1}(EFs_i - EFs_i')$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{N} (EFc_i - EFc_i')^T K_{EFc}^{-1}(EFc_i - EFc_i')$$

$$+ 2\sum_{i=1}^{N} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{0}^{t} \Lambda_i(z,t) [c \frac{\partial T_{si}(z,t)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\lambda \frac{\partial T_{si}(z,t)}{\partial z})] dz dt$$
Xu et al., 2014, JGR

Data Sets



A combination of eddy covariance-based ET measurements and stable isotope-based measurements of ratio of evaporation and transpiration to total evapotranspiration (ET_s/ET and ET_c/ET)

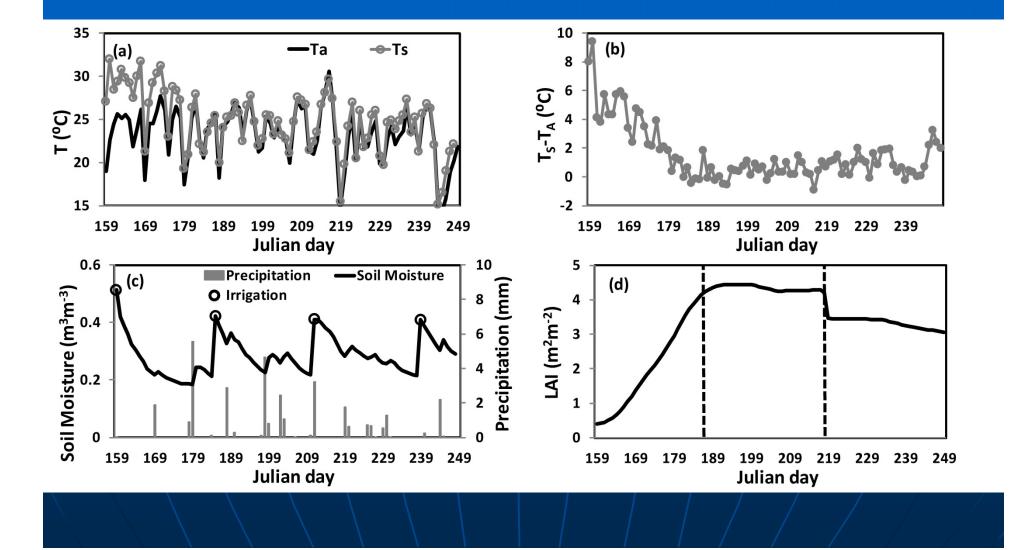
Analysis and calibration system

Flux tower

Sample system

2012/08/08

Environmental conditions



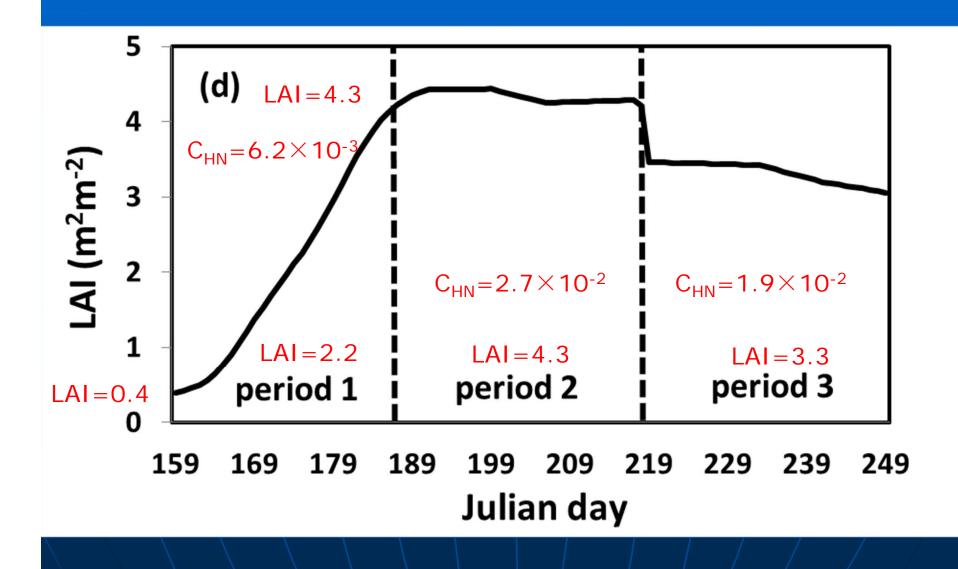
Results

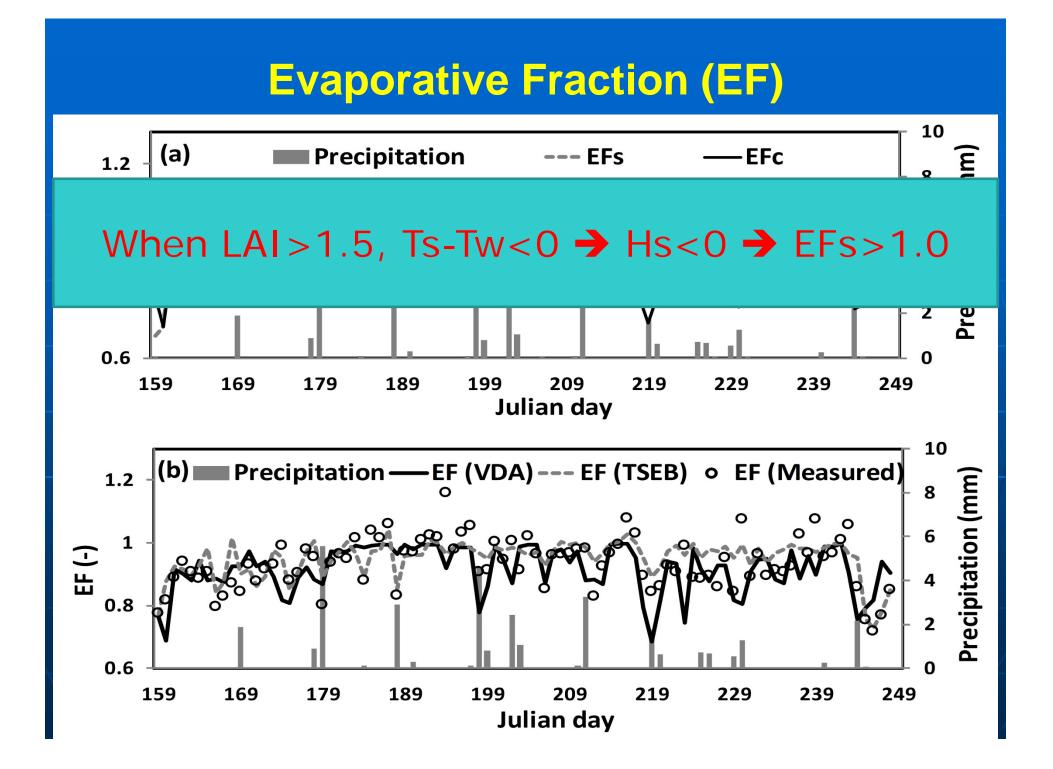
Neutral Heat Transfer Coefficient (C_{HN}) and Evaporative Fraction (EF_c and EF_s)

Surface energy balance components

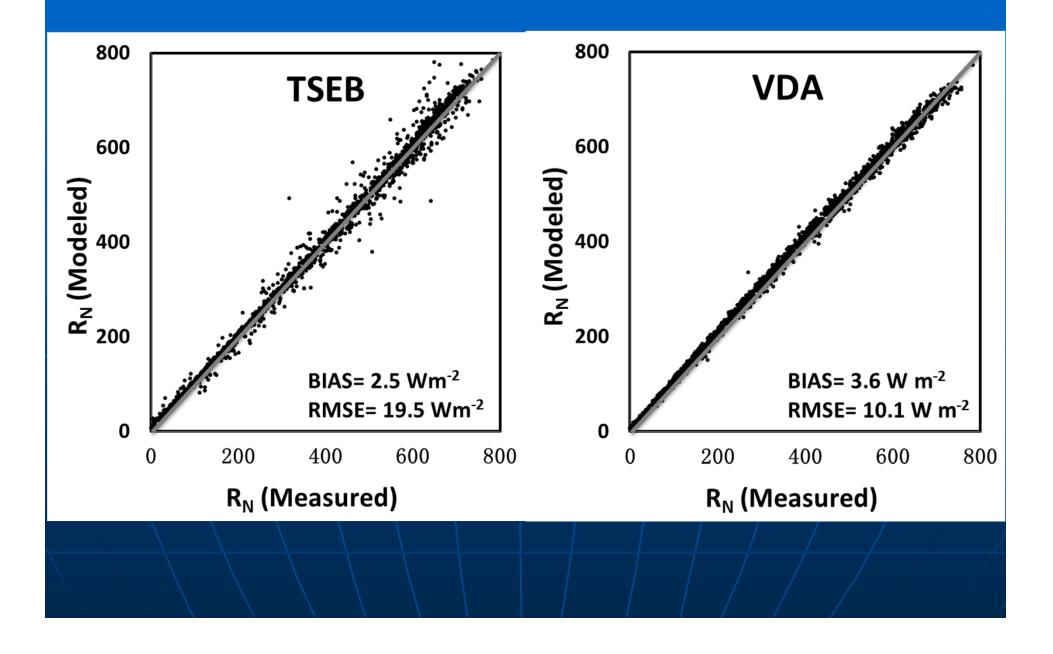
> ET_s and ET_c estimates

Neutral Heat Transfer Coefficient (C_{HN})

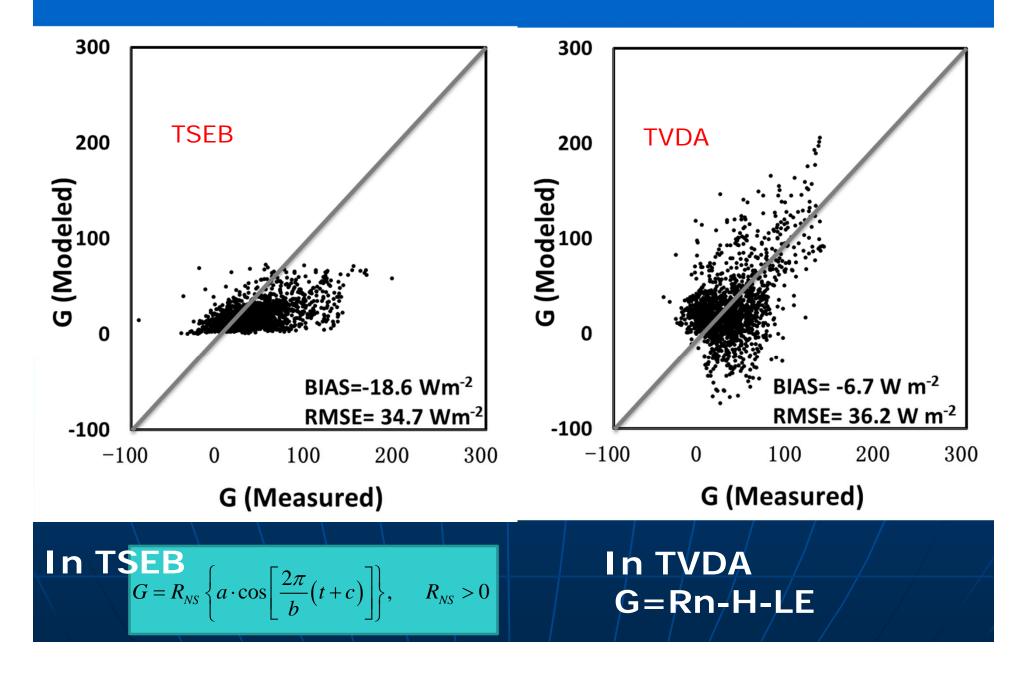




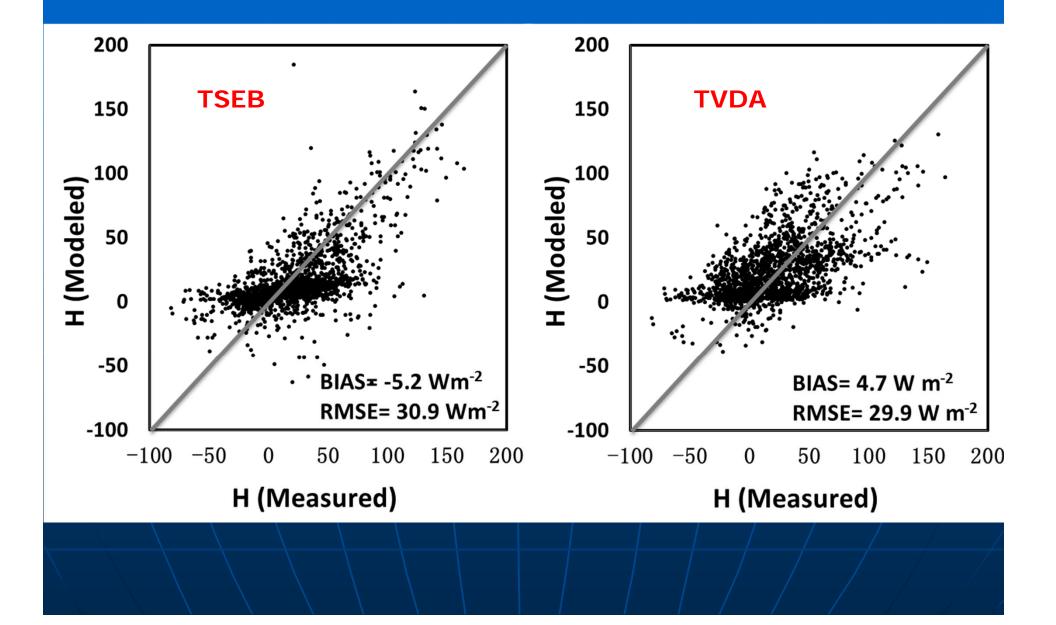
Net radiation



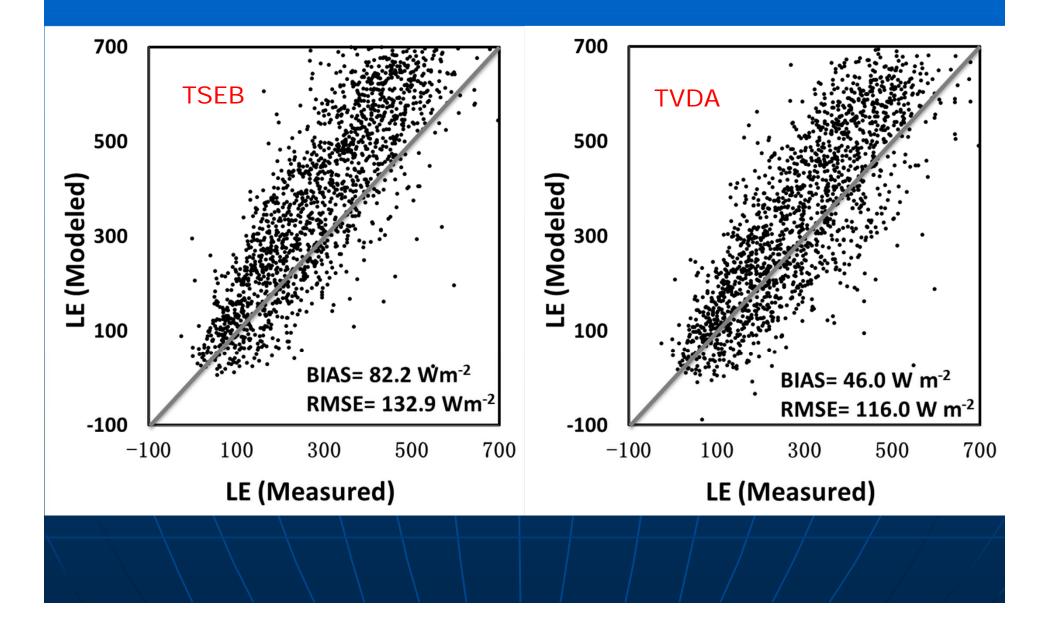
Ground heat flux

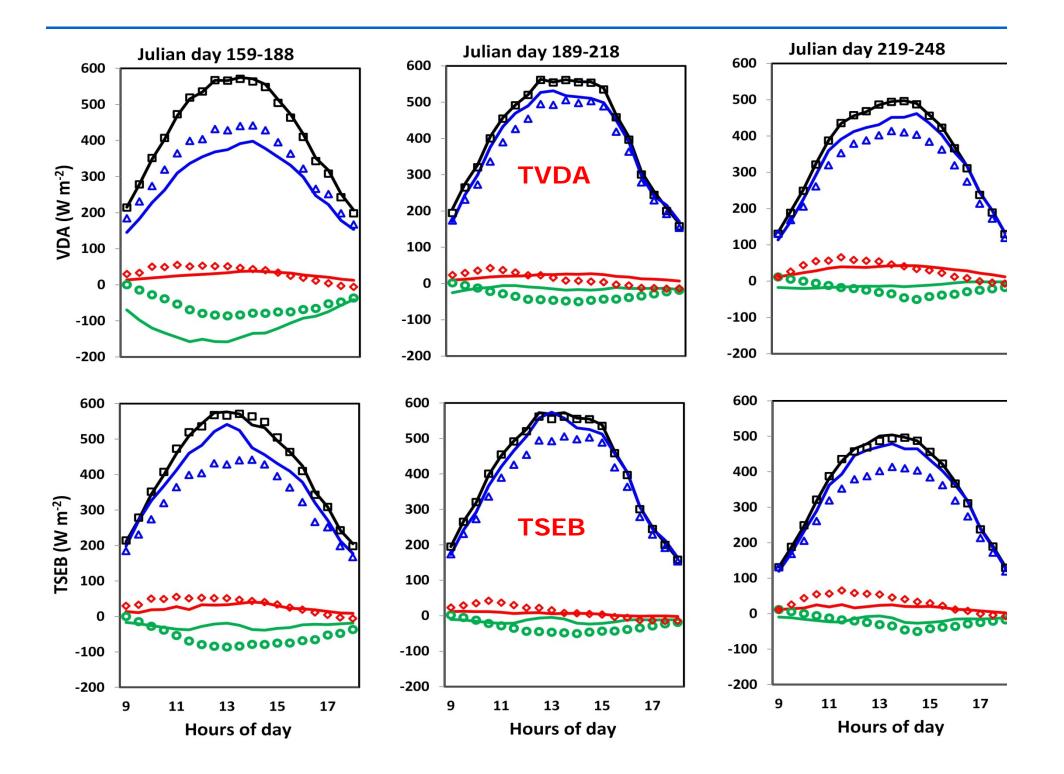


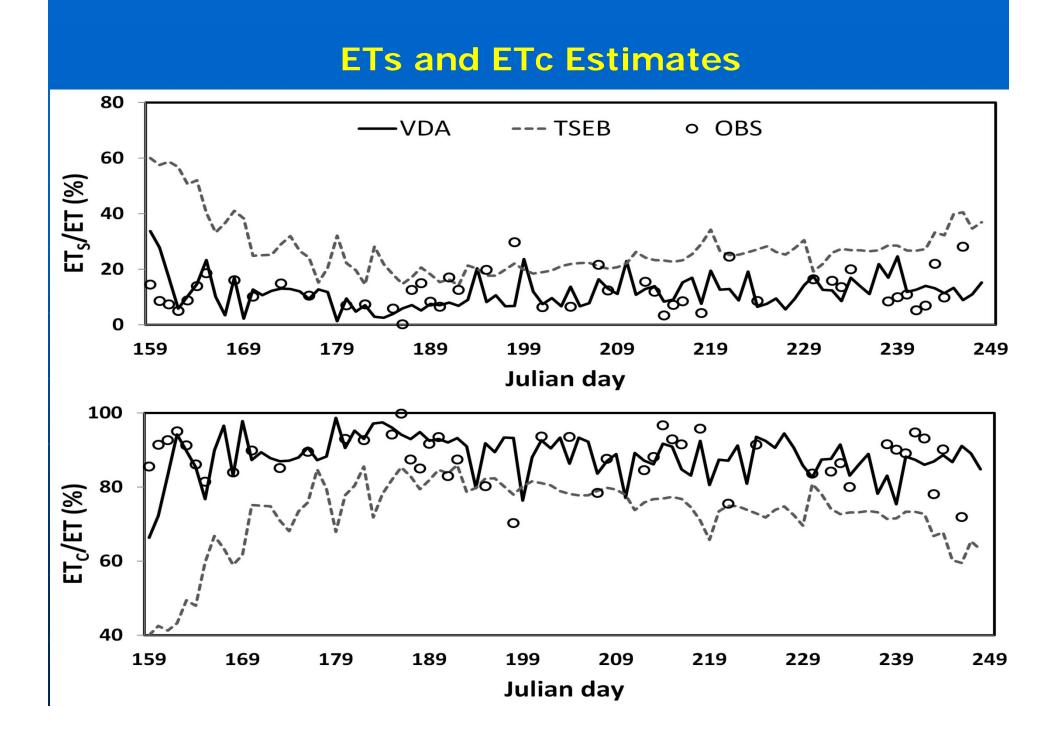
Sensible heat flux

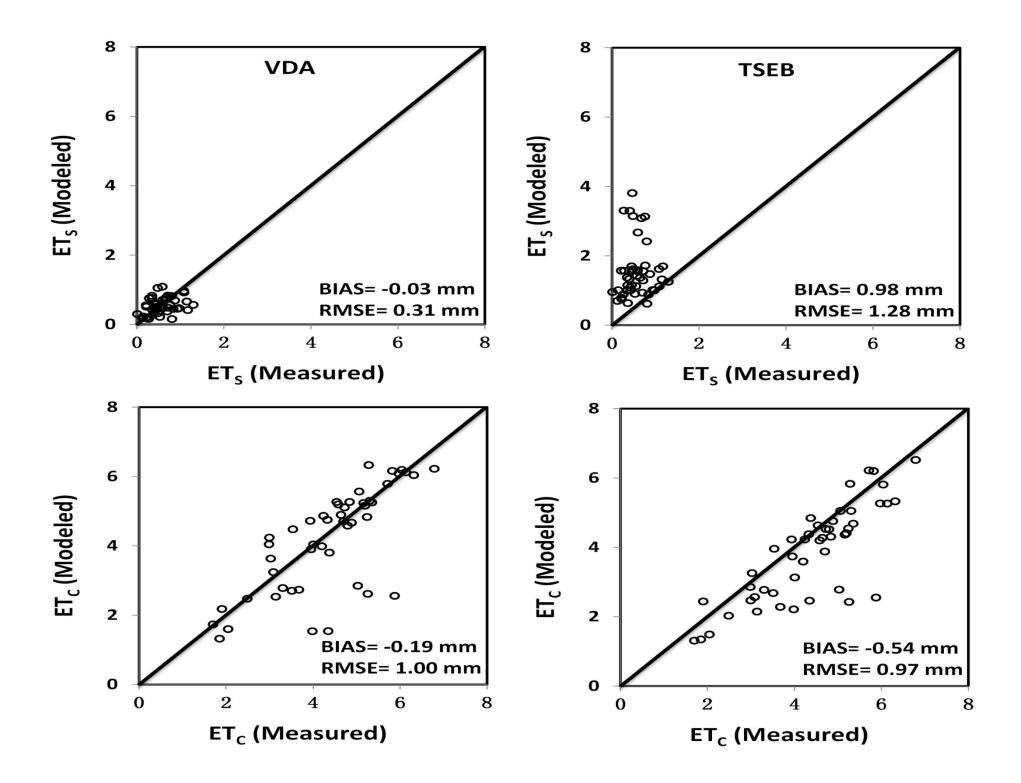


Latent heat flux









Main Conclusion

- Compared to the TSEB model, the TVDA scheme makes full use of land surface temperature (LST) data within the modeling period by introducing a dynamic model (heat diffusion equation), and thus can produce more accurate fluxes.
- > The TVDA model can partition ET into ET_s and ET_c efficiently by comparing to ground measurements, acquired by combining eddy covariance based ET measurements and stable isotope measurements of ratio of evaporation and transpiration to total evapotranspiration (ET_s /ET and ET_c /ET).
- Future studies should focus on C_{HN} parameterization with LAI to improve the model flux estimates in vegetation fast growth conditions.

