

Productivity in Cloud Forests in the Andes

Carbon cycle measurements and model results from JULES

Toby Marthews

<http://marthews.tripod.com>

Leeds, 10th June 2010

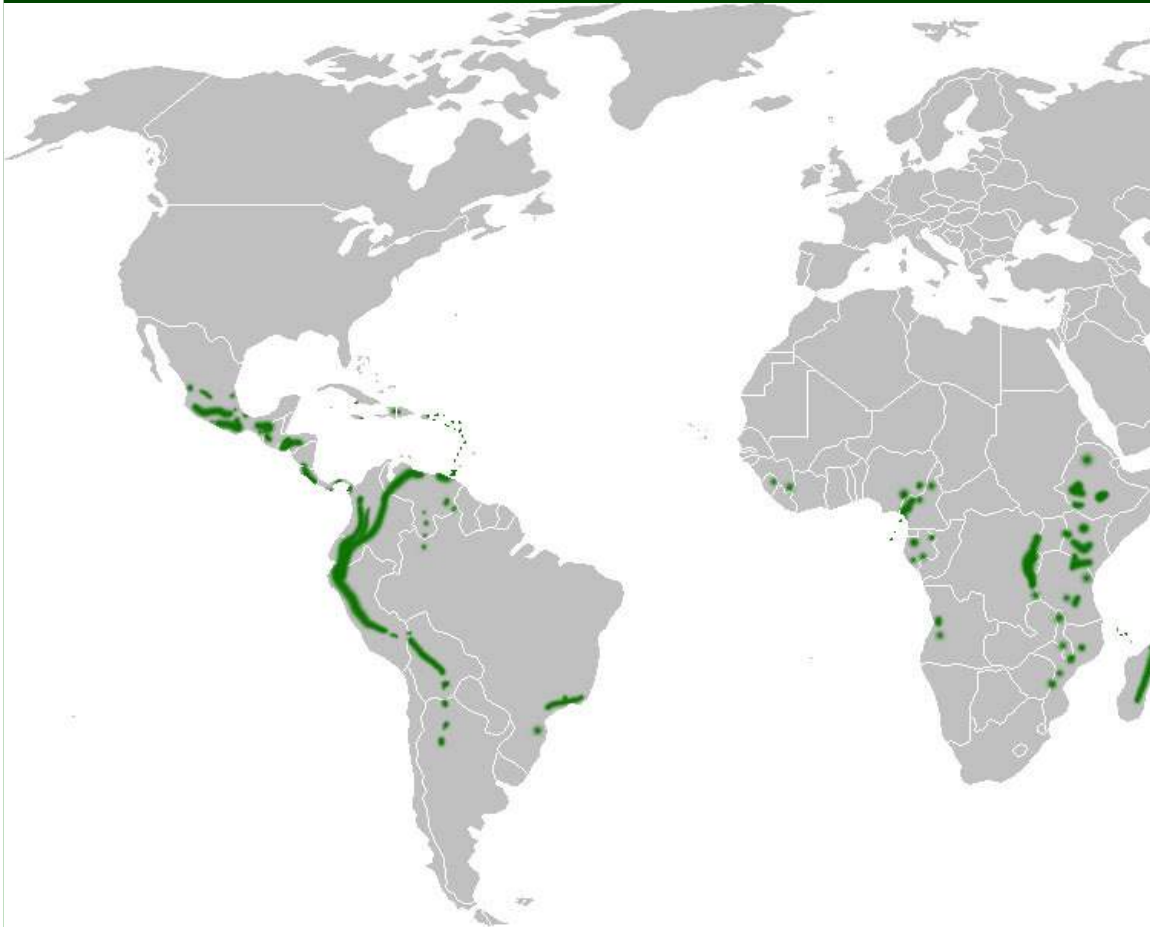
at the Oxford University Centre for the Environment (OUCE)
in association with the Andes Biodiversity and Ecosystem
Research Group (ABERG) and the RAINFOR network



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Research

Cloud Forests



Cloud forests (=upper montane forest =ceja de la montaña) only represent 0.26% of the world's land surface, but are a high conservation priority: If the Amazon warms by 2-4°C then will the cloud forest biome go extinct or migrate to higher elevations?

UNEP WCMC IUCN WWF IIESCI

Cloud forest agenda

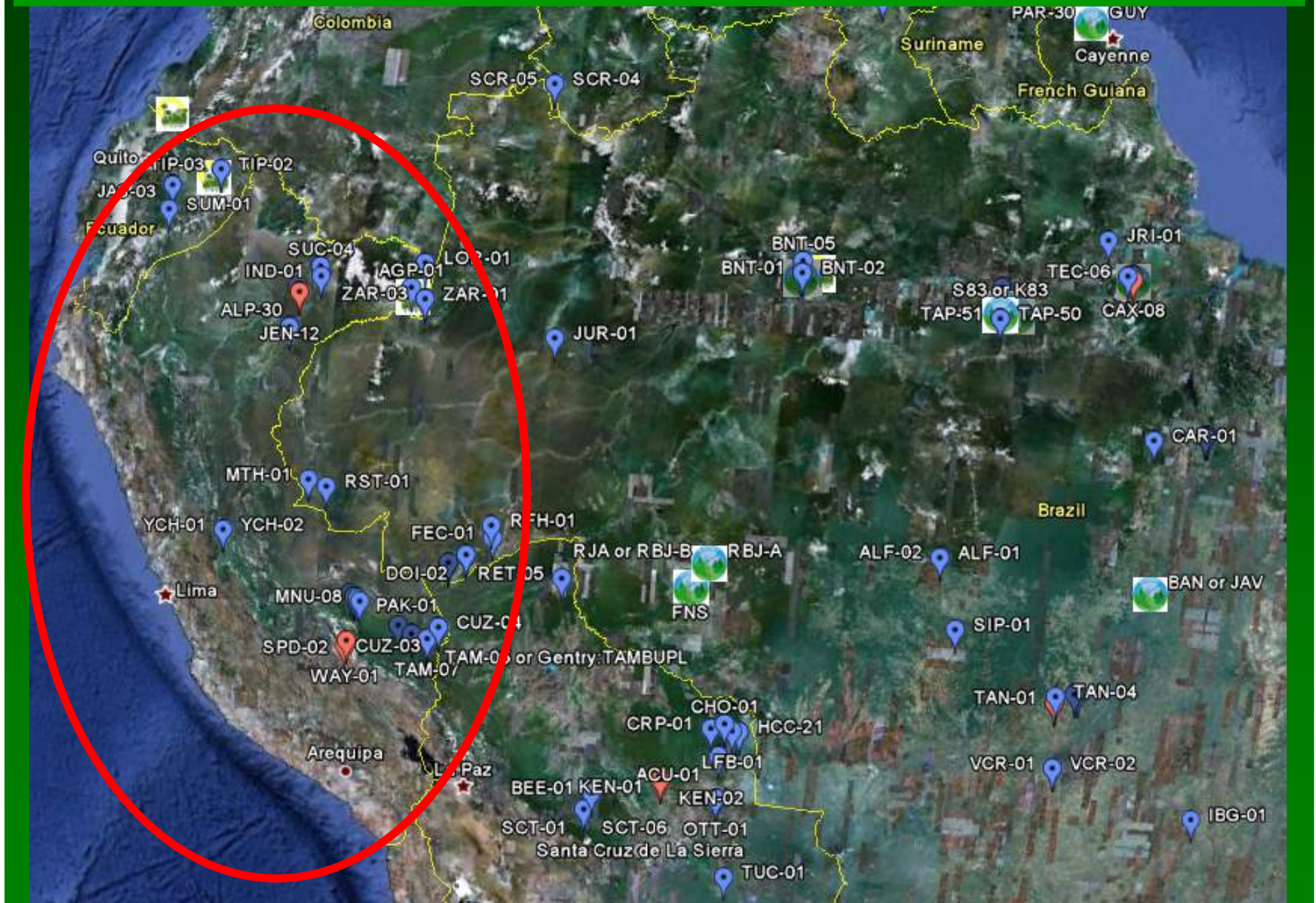
Philip Bubb, Ian May,
Lera Miles and Jeff Sayer

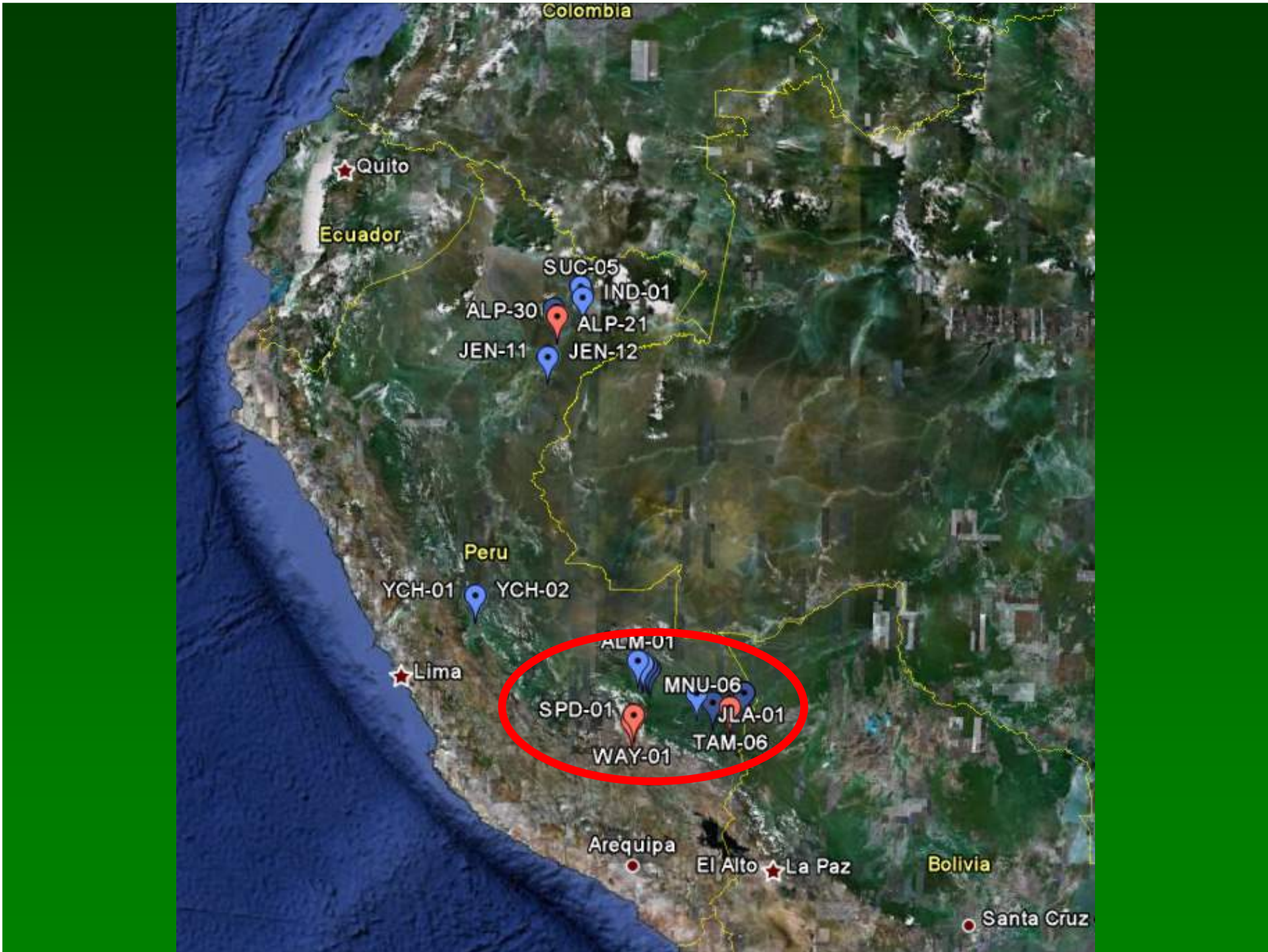


Most of my work concerns a transect of forest census plots in the Kosñipata Valley in SE Peru (Wayqecha - San Pedro - Tono).

I am also using a 'pseudo-transect' Tambopata - Manaus - Caxiuanã to compare with the lowland Amazon.

We are using the RAINFOR network coordinated by University of Leeds







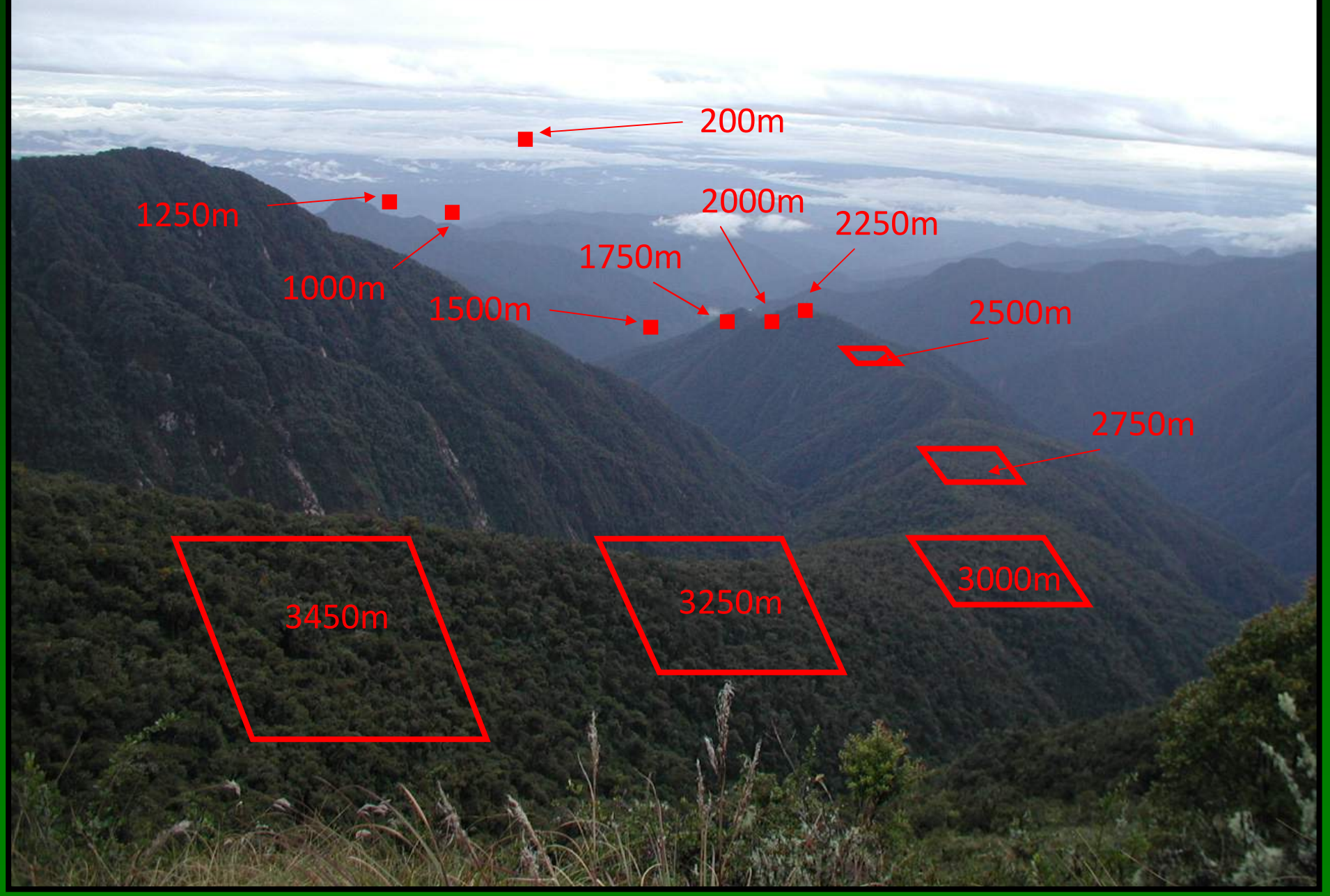
SPD-02



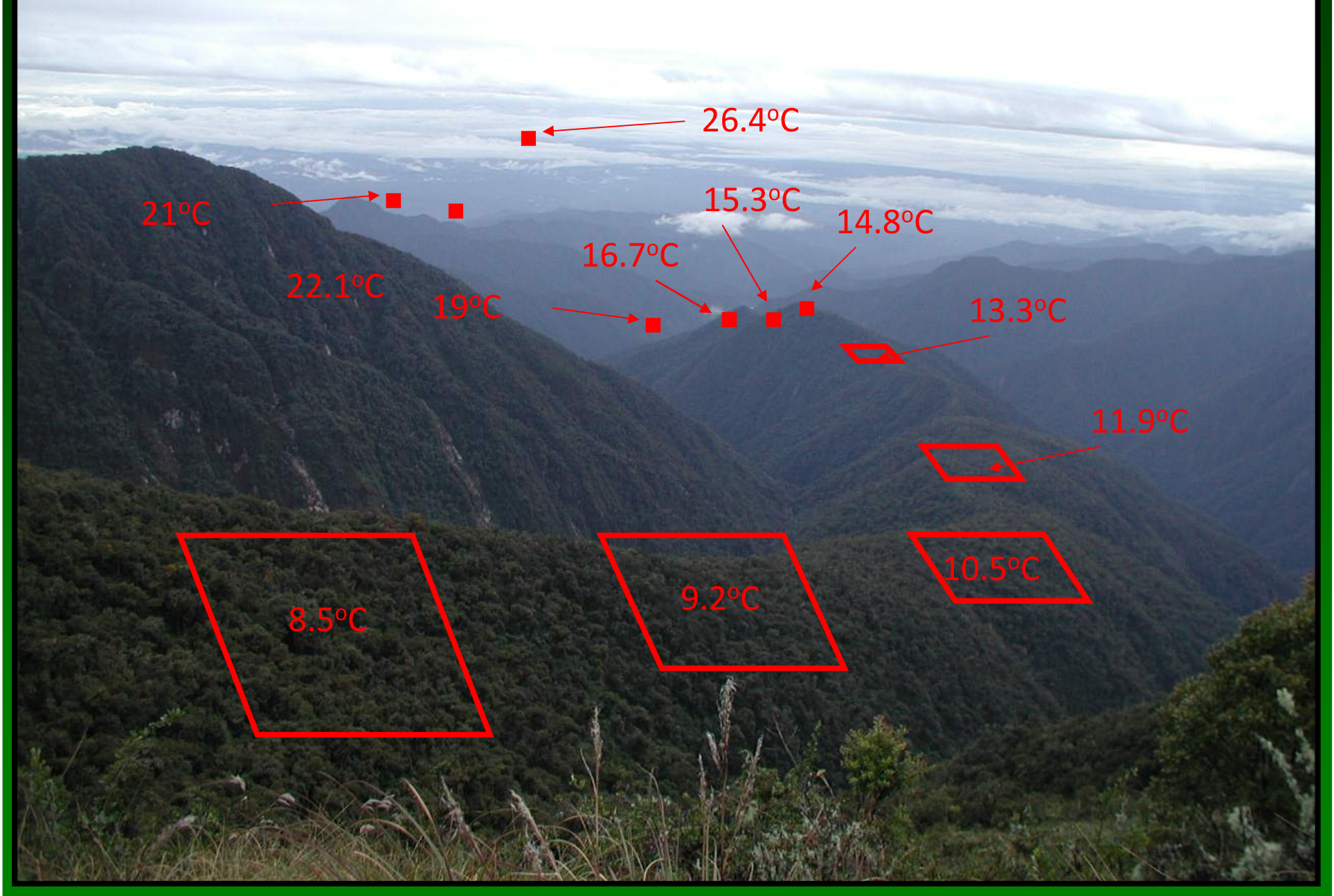
WAY-01



Kosñipata Ridge



Kosñipata Ridge: a natural ecosystem laboratory



■ 1 ha plots

Plot 1 (3391m)

Plot 2 (3205m)

Plot 3 (3033m)

Plot 4 (2745m)

Plot 5 (2540m)

Plot 6 (2290m)

Plot 7 (2038m)

Plot 8 (1855m)

Plot 9 (210m)

Plot 10 (194m)

LOWLAND RAINFORESTS

PUNA

CLOUD FORESTS

LOW MONTANE FORESTS

SUBMONTANE FORESTS



0 1km

13° 10' 22.70" S, 71° 31' 19.02" W

Kosñipata Valley, SE Peru
Source: Dr. Roman-Cuesta (2006)

Forest-grasslands tree line, 3600 m elevation



Upper montane cloud forest, 3000 m elevation



Upper montane cloud forest, 2750 m elevation



Submontane forest, 1500 m elevation



Abril 2009



Marzo 2010

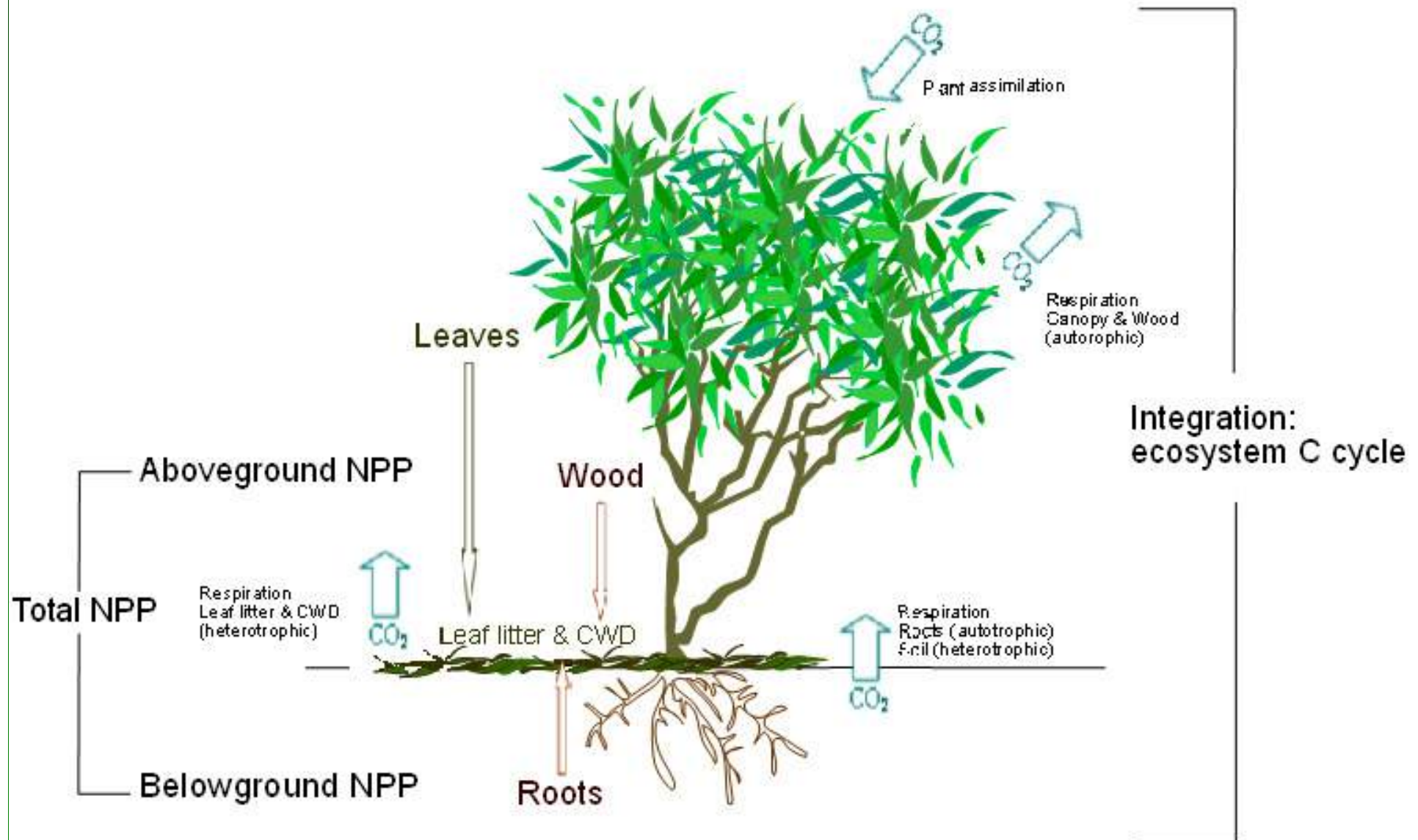


Vista c

Presumably, half a mountainside & several tree snags are busy heading along the Amazon from San Pedro to the Atlantic ...



The Carbon Cycle of a Forest

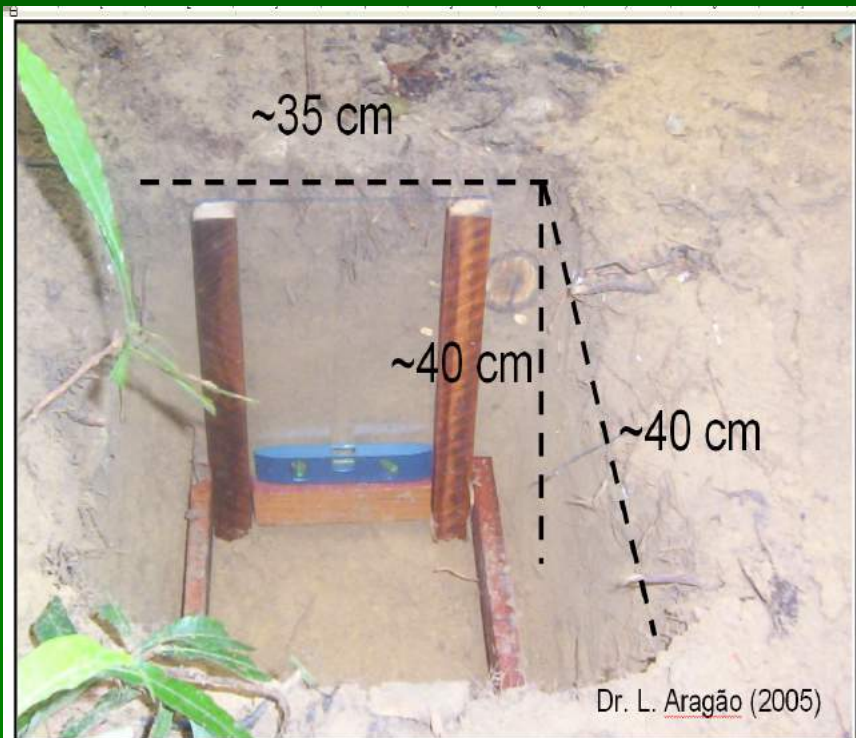


Source: Dr. Cécile Girardin

Above-ground biomass growth



Canopy production



Root production





Measuring Tropical Forest Carbon Allocation And Cycling

RAINFOR Field Manual



Version 1. 14th June 2009. Authors: Dan Metcalfe, Oliver Phillips, Tim Baker, Roel Brienen, Kuo-Jung Chao, Javier Silva & valued contributions from the entire RAINFOR consortium

Global Change Biology (2009) 15, 1255–1274, doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2486.2008.01780.x

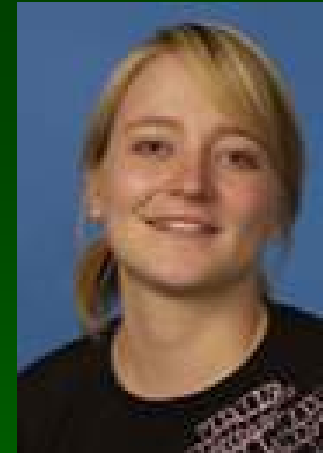
Comprehensive assessment of carbon productivity, allocation and storage in three Amazonian forests

YADVINDER MALHI^{*}, LUIZ EDUARDO O. C. ARAGÃO^{*}, DANIEL B. METCALFE^{*†}, ROMILDA PAIVA[‡], CARLOS A. QUESADA[§], SAMUEL ALMEIDA[¶], LIANA ANDERSON^{*}, PAULO BRANDO^{||**}, JEFFREY Q. CHAMBERS^{††}, ANTONIO C. L. DA COSTA^{‡‡}, LUCY R. HUTYRA^{§§}, PAULO OLIVEIRA^{‡‡}, SANDRA PATIÑO^{¶¶}, ELIZABETH H. PYLE^{|||}, AMANDA L. ROBERTSON^{††} and LILIANE M. TEIXEIRA[‡]

^{*}Environmental Change Institute, School of Geography and the Environment, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3QY, UK, [†]Department of Forest Ecology and Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Umeå 901 83, Sweden, [‡]Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Manaus, Brazil, [§]Earth and Biosphere Institute, School of Geography, University of Leeds, LS2 9JT, UK, [¶]Coordenação de Botânica, Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, Belém, Pará, Brazil, ^{||}Department of Botany and School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida, 220 Bartram Hall, Gainesville, PO Box 118526, FL, USA, ^{**}Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazonia, Avenida Nazaré 669, CEP-66035-170, Belém, Pará, Brazil, ^{††}Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118, USA, ^{‡‡}Centro de Geociências, Universidade Federal do Pará, Belém, Pará, Brazil, ^{§§}Urban Design and Planning, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA, ^{¶¶}LIMR-ECOFOP, Kourou, French Guiana, ^{|||}Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA

Abstract

The allocation and cycling of carbon (C) within forests is an important component of the biospheric C cycle, but is particularly understudied within tropical forests. We synthesise reported and unpublished results from three lowland rainforest sites in Amazonia (in the regions of Manaus, Tapajós and Caxiuaná), all major sites of the Large-Scale Biosphere–Atmosphere Programme (LBA). We attempt a comprehensive synthesis of the C stocks, nutrient status and, particularly, the allocation and internal C dynamics of all three sites. The calculated net primary productivities (NPP) are $10.1 \pm 1.4 \text{ Mg C ha}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ (Manaus)

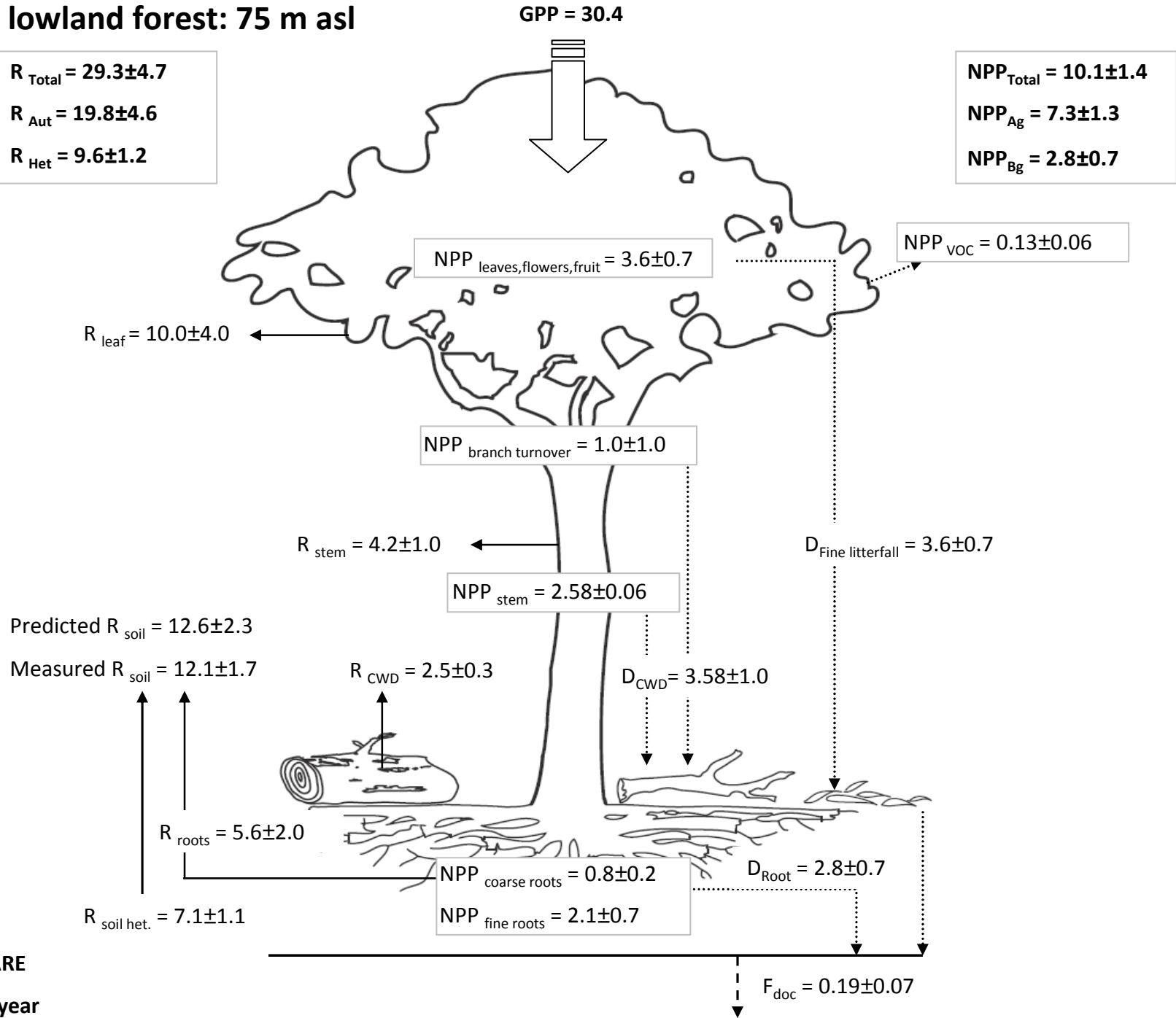




Manaus lowland forest: 75 m asl

$R_{Total} = 29.3 \pm 4.7$
 $R_{Aut} = 19.8 \pm 4.6$
 $R_{Het} = 9.6 \pm 1.2$

$NPP_{Total} = 10.1 \pm 1.4$
 $NPP_{Ag} = 7.3 \pm 1.3$
 $NPP_{Bg} = 2.8 \pm 0.7$



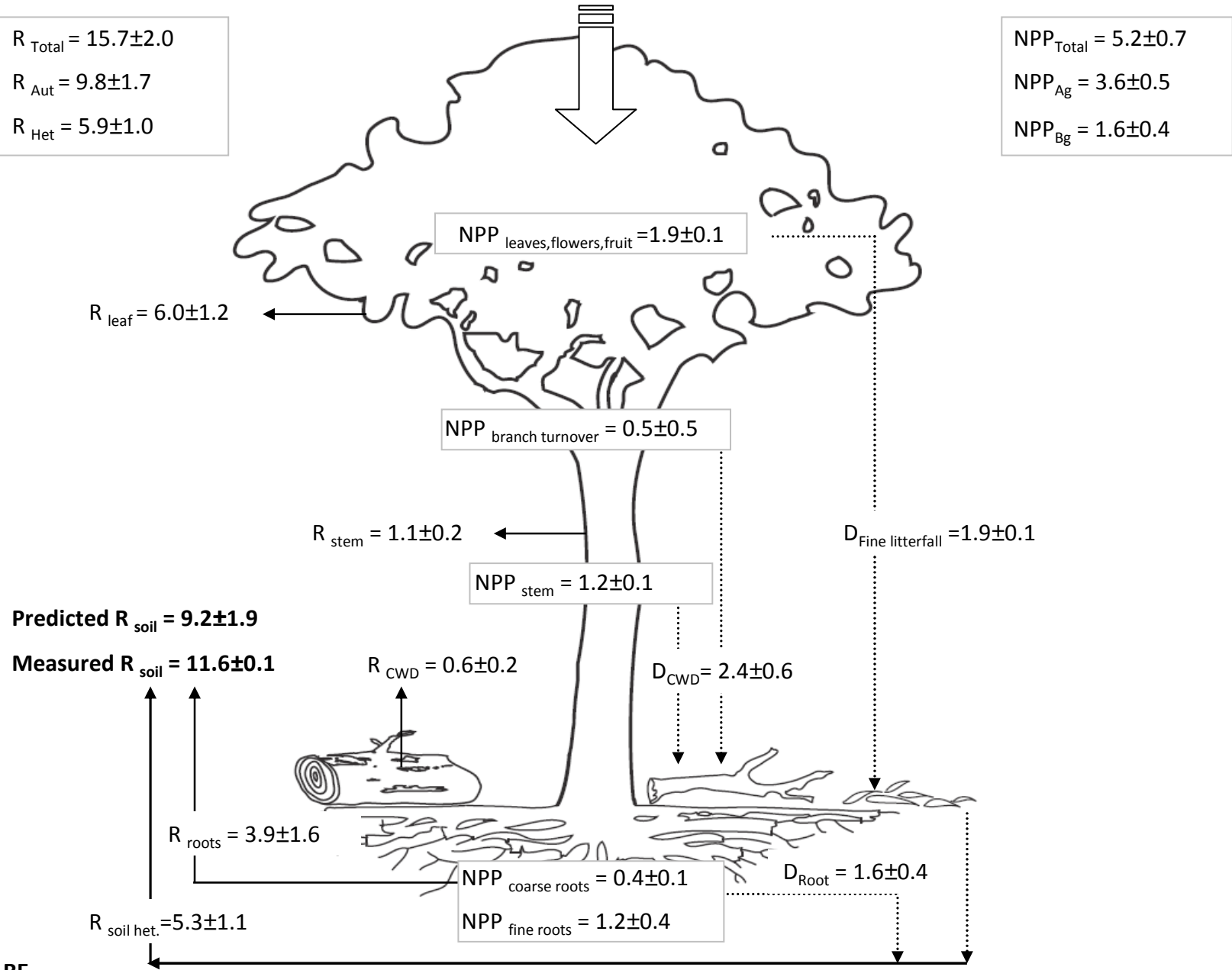
ALL UNITS ARE
t C / ha per year

Wayqecha cloud forest: 3025 m asl

GPP estimated = 16.2 ± 2.5 GPP(canopy physiology) = 14

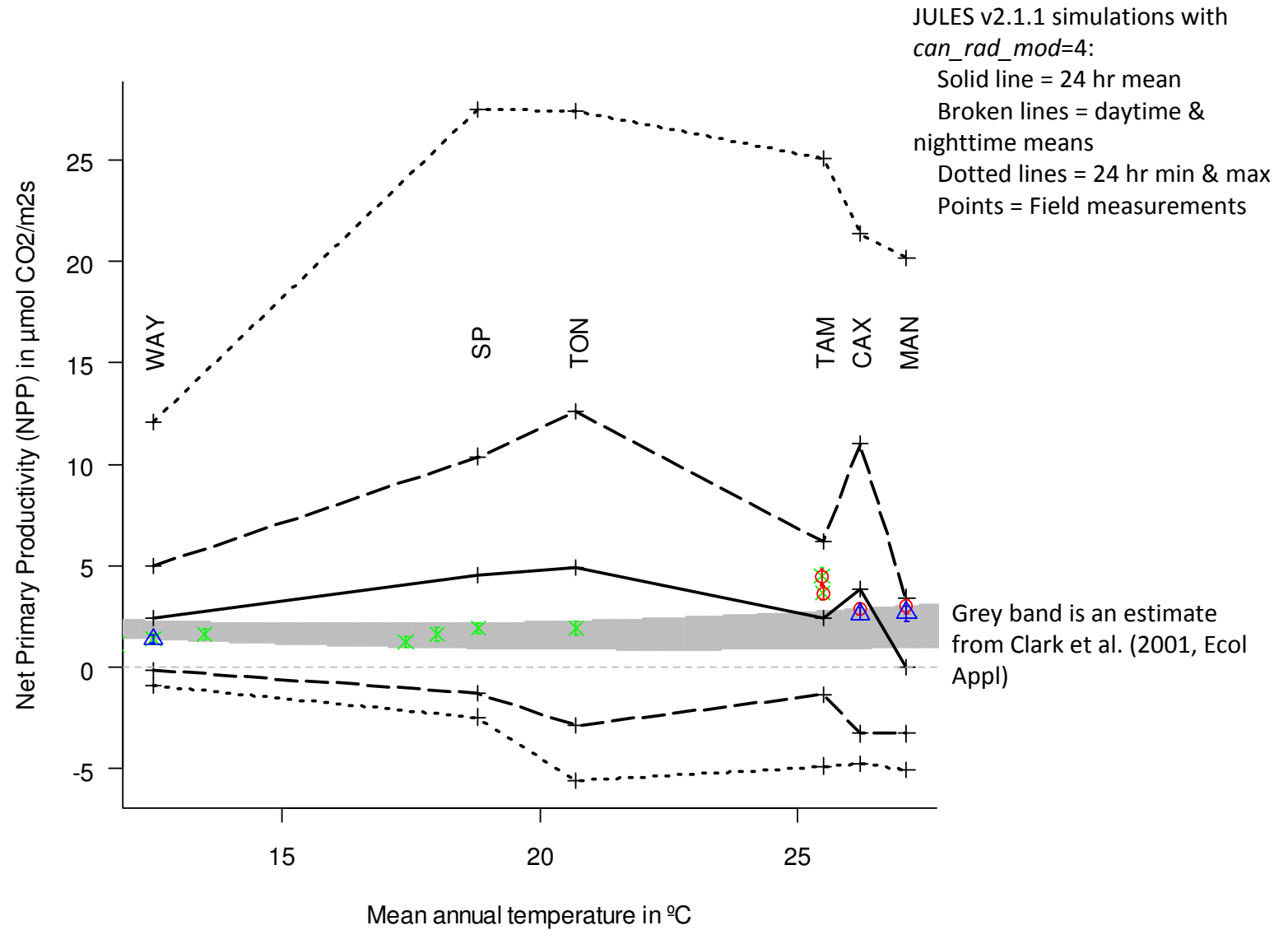
$R_{Total} = 15.7 \pm 2.0$
 $R_{Aut} = 9.8 \pm 1.7$
 $R_{Het} = 5.9 \pm 1.0$

$NPP_{Total} = 5.2 \pm 0.7$
 $NPP_{Ag} = 3.6 \pm 0.5$
 $NPP_{Bg} = 1.6 \pm 0.4$



ALL UNITS ARE
t C / ha per year

NPP:

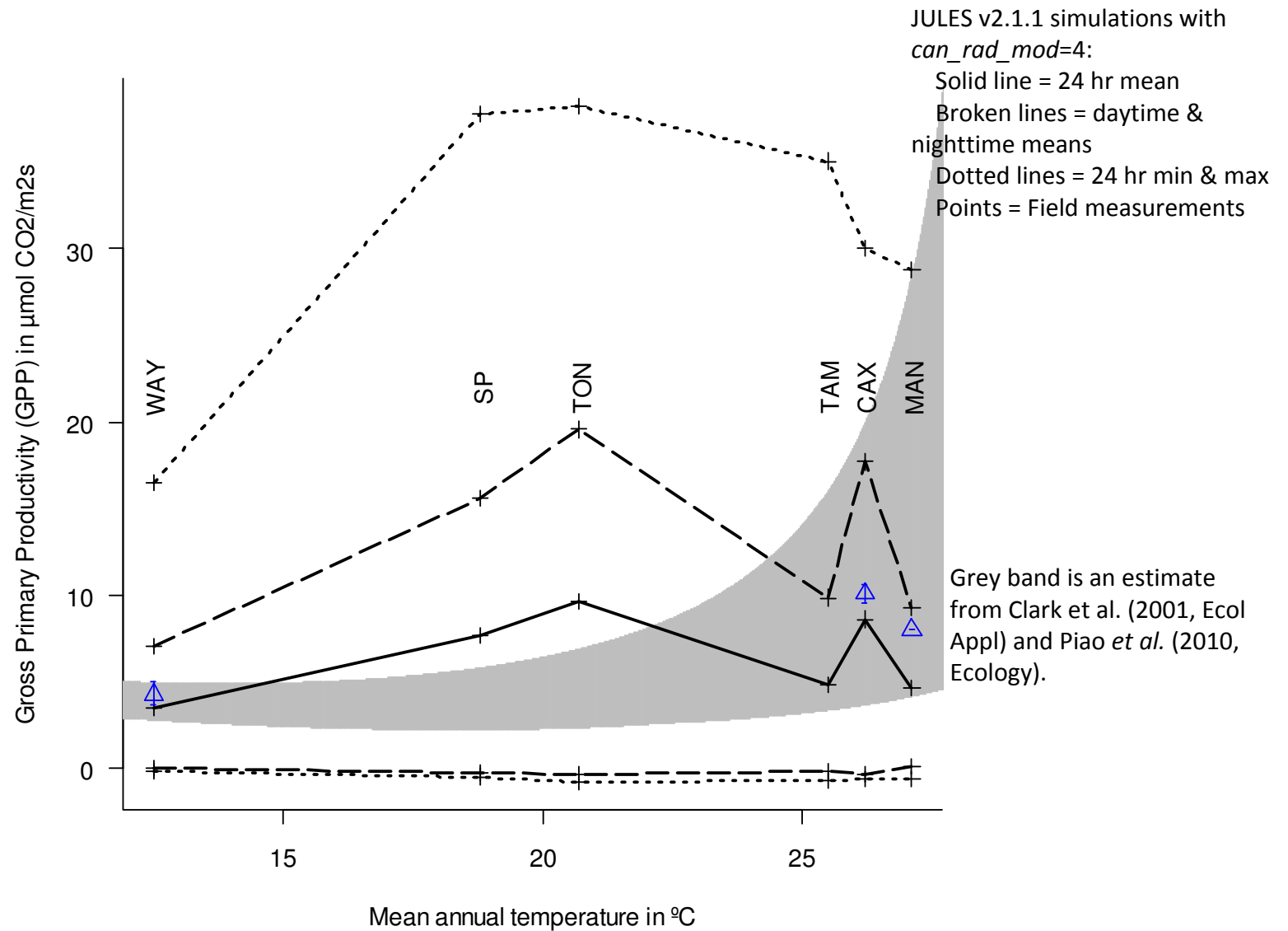


ON THE Y-AXIS
 30 t C / ha per year is approx.
 7.9 μmol C/m² per sec flux.

Girardin et al. (in press GCB). Net primary productivity and its allocation along a tropical forest elevational transect in the Peruvian Andes.

Marthews et al. (in prep). Carbon fluxes in six Amazonian and Andean forests: ecosystem productivity and carbon use efficiency.

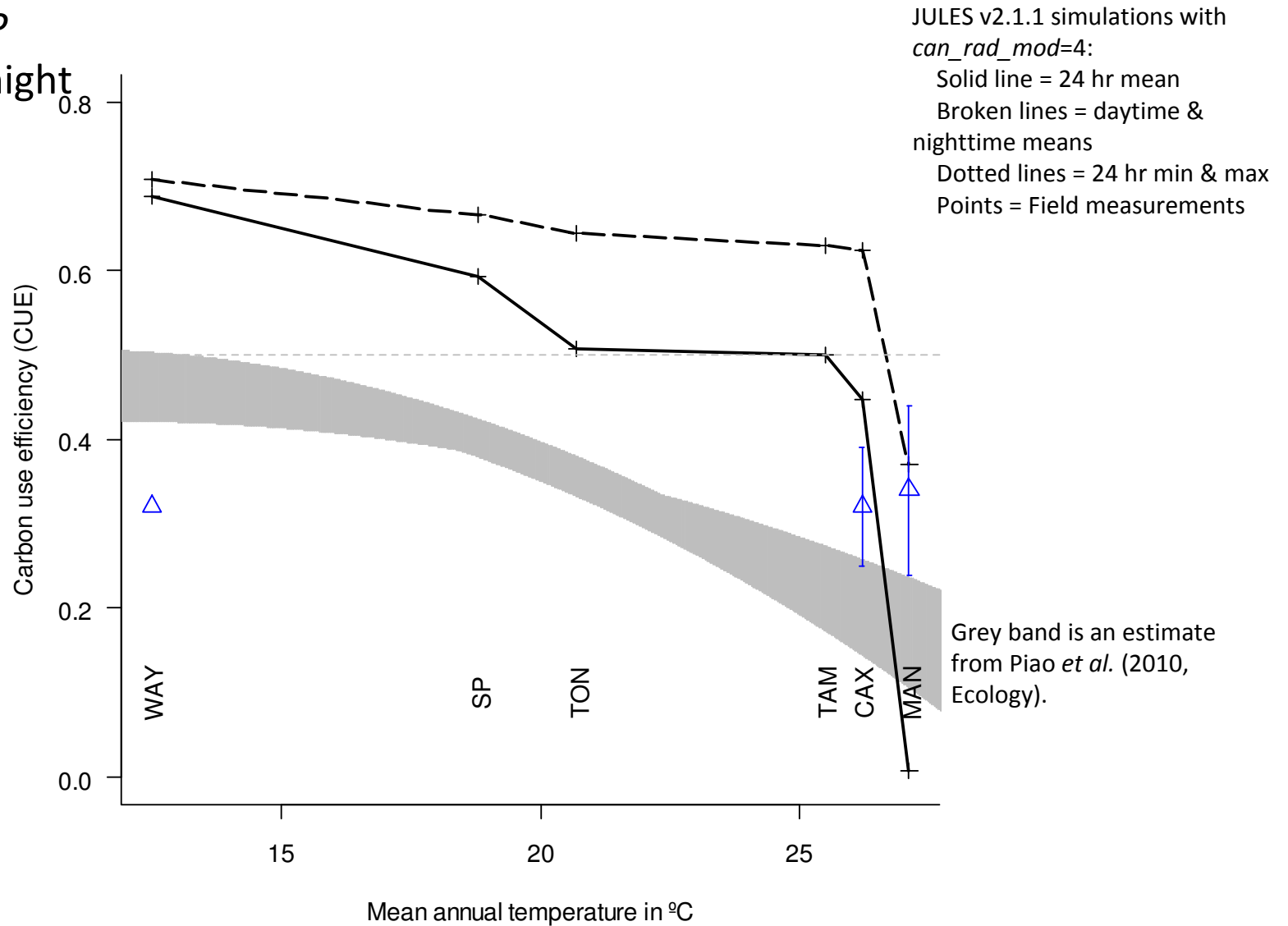
GPP:



Girardin et al. (in press GCB). Net primary productivity and its allocation along a tropical forest elevational transect in the Peruvian Andes.

Marthews et al. (in prep). Carbon fluxes in six Amazonian and Andean forests: ecosystem productivity and carbon use efficiency.

$CUE = NPP/GPP$
 (undefined at night
 when $GPP=0$):

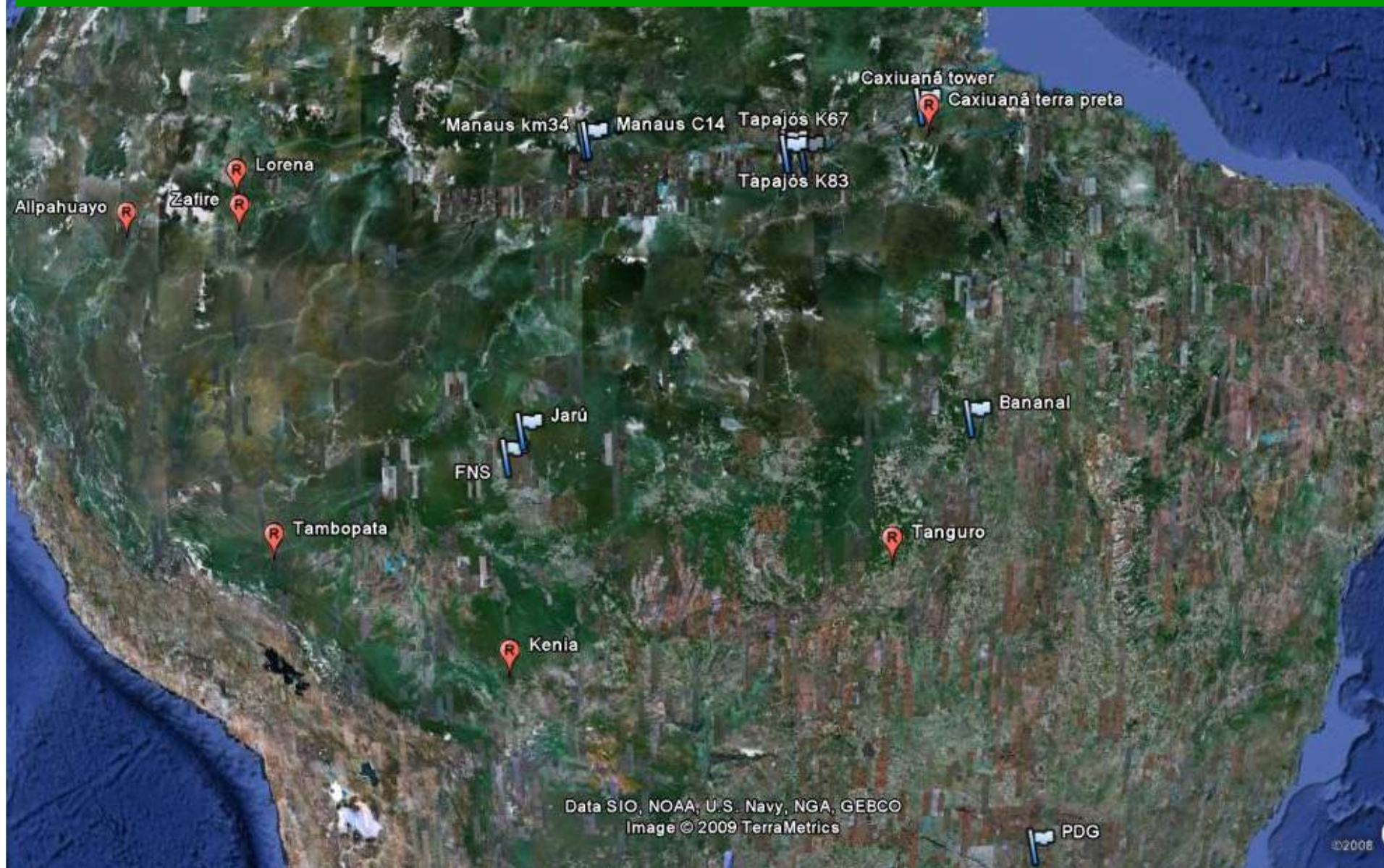


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The Future: Scaling up to Regional Simulations

(last slide!)



THANKS FOR LISTENING

