

Combining satellite biomass and disturbances observations to monitor current sinks and project the future







Stock change Method 1

- Coarse resolution annual AGB change maps
- High resolution downscaling of AGB change
- Deep learning AGB change from GEDI and Sentinel 1-2

Gain loss Method 2

- High resolution recovery curves and explainable AI
- Secondary forests C budget for boreal and tropical forests

Method 1 –stock change Global annual biomass change from VOD

- Daily microwave data from SMOS and SMAP at 25 km resolution
- Annual maps of biomass and biomass change since 2010 calibrated using ESA CCI Biomass maps
- We found a net carbon loss in tropical forests, due to deforestation and degradation
- Unlike in IPCC and GCP models, most of the carbon sink is in young temperate and boreal



Comparison of biomass and biomass change



Downscaling L-VOD biomass to 100 m resolution data

Statistical non parametric downscaling method

Input data : high resolution forest area loss, degradation, fires, climate, and Biomass CCI ESA



Validation against plot data 💽





Mapping height and biomass at high resolution

A novel approach based on deep learning with Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and GEDI sensors









Ancillary data (NFI, Tree species)



How does it compare to other models ?

F. Dampers at al.



Liu et al. (2023)

Comparison with other models: Visual





Comparison with other models: Quantitative



Now Global ! global maps can have same the quality than local maps



Can we do change ? Year agnostic deep learning model

Visual results 💽



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Maritimes Pine Plantation, Les Landes

Evolution of height $2018 \rightarrow 2023$

Height difference 2023 - 2018

Height change at high resolution: Average growth rate (Landes forest) seem realistic



Flux analysis system : C losses and gains

Framework

High resolution biomass maps CCI + CTREES Disturbance history since 1984

- Divide boreal region into small areas with disturbances 50 x 50 km
- Post disturbance loss
- Local post disturbance recovery curves +
 uncertainties
- Evaluation against in-situ data
- Dead wood decay functions
- Soil C loss and recovery from in-situ chronosequences studies
- Analyzed growth curves changes over time

High res biomass map + disturbance history



Local recovery curve (compares very well with ground data)



Recovery curves at high resolution

• Explainable ML to explain the drivers of regional regrowth



Application - C budget of boreal secondary forests Aging boreal forests > 30 years make most of the C sink in boreal regions





Moving to the Tropics : high resolution C accounting models

Quantify recovery gains From different disturbance agents

Humid forest: slower recovery after fires compared to non-fire disturbances

Dry forests lower fire intensity shows a quick recovery and higher C accumulation potential compared with forests with higher fire intensity.



Small-scale disturbances dominate biomass carbon losses from tropical forests over the last 30 years



Application - European forest C sink projection to 2030 Alarming decline in the carbon sink of European forests driven by disturbances



Going global

Full C budget of global secondary forests from EO data using disturbance loss and recovery curves

Boreal (in review)

Europe (in review)

Pan-tropical (submitted)

China (in prep)

Australia (in prep)

Top down - bottom up budgets see Deng et al. poster on inversions