

Recent Results and Collection 6 Refinements for the Land Cover and Land Cover Dynamics Products

*Mark Friedl, Damien Sulla-Menashe, Josh Gray, Eli Melaas,
Xioaman Huang, Curtis Woodcock*

*Department of Earth and Environment
Boston University*

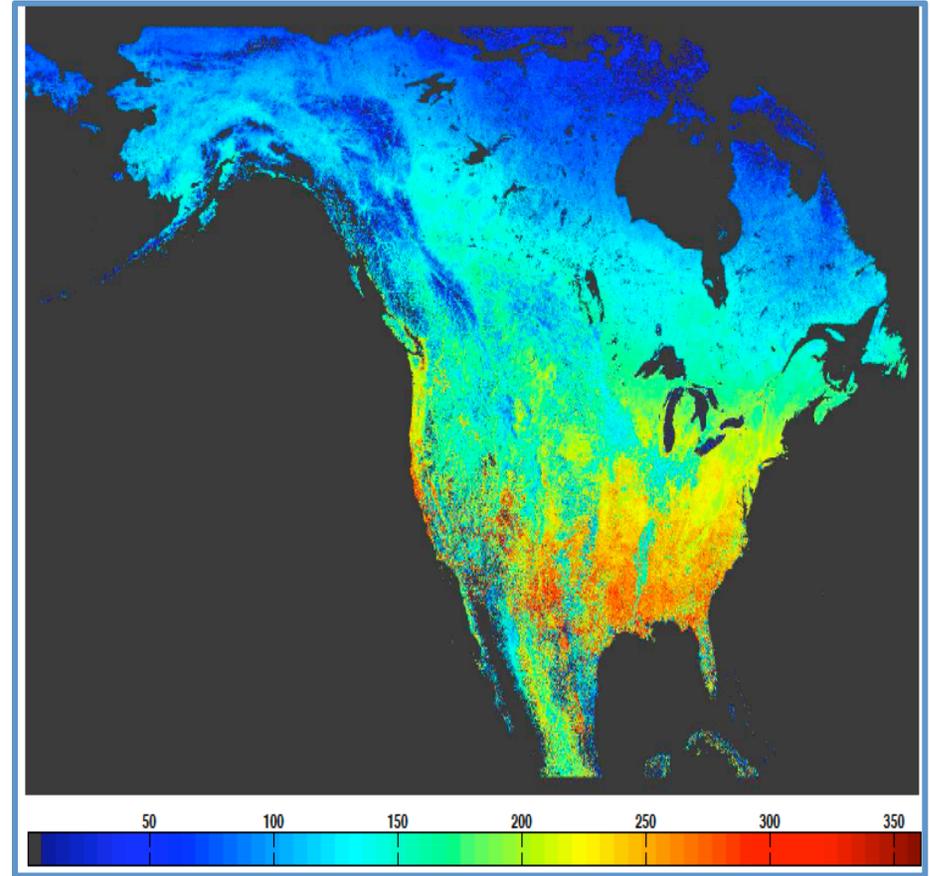
MCD12 Products

MCD12Q1 – Global Land Cover Type



*North American land cover from MODIS
(MODIS Land Cover mage courtesy National Geographic)*

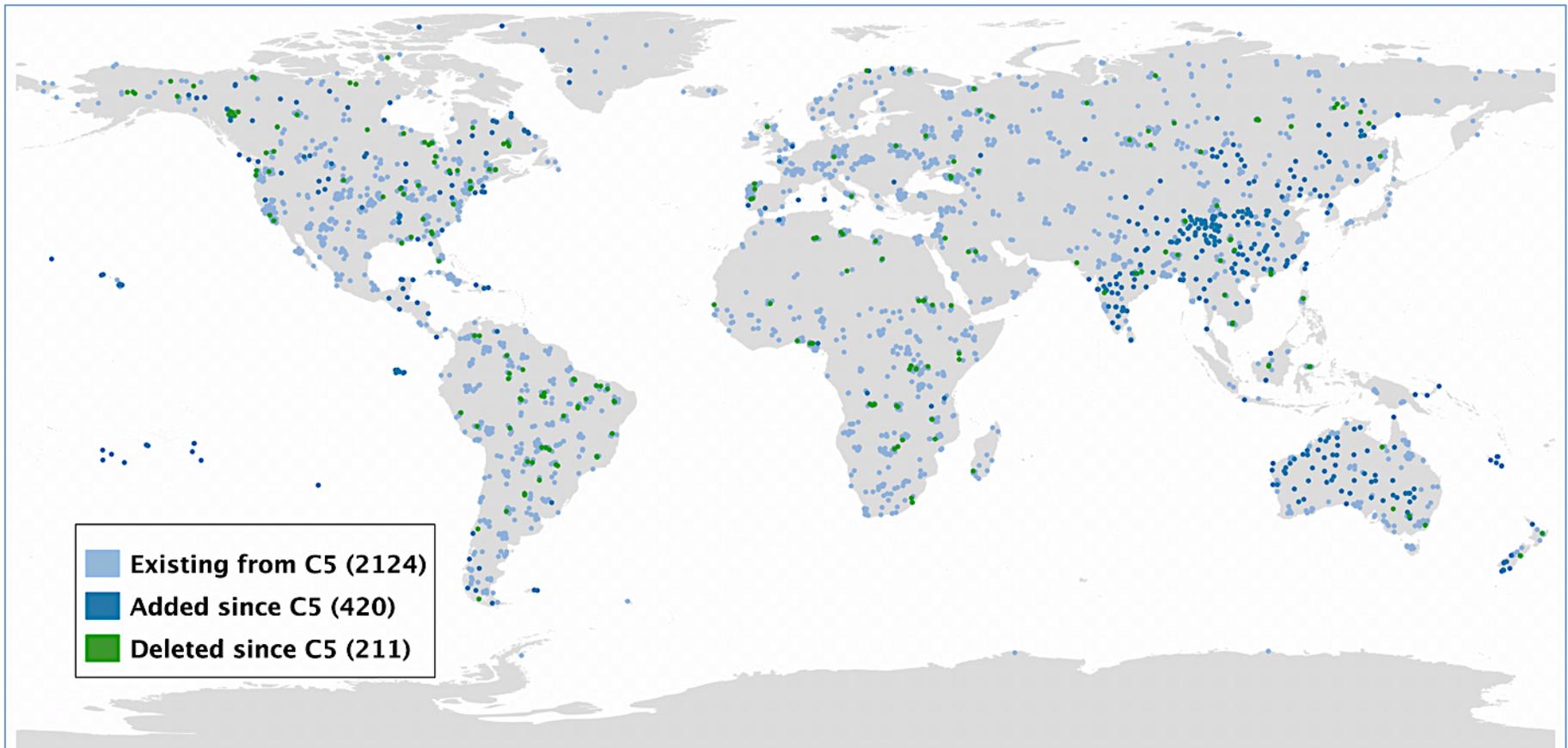
MCD12Q2 – Global Land Cover Dynamics



*North American growing season length
(Ganguly et al., RSE, 2010)*

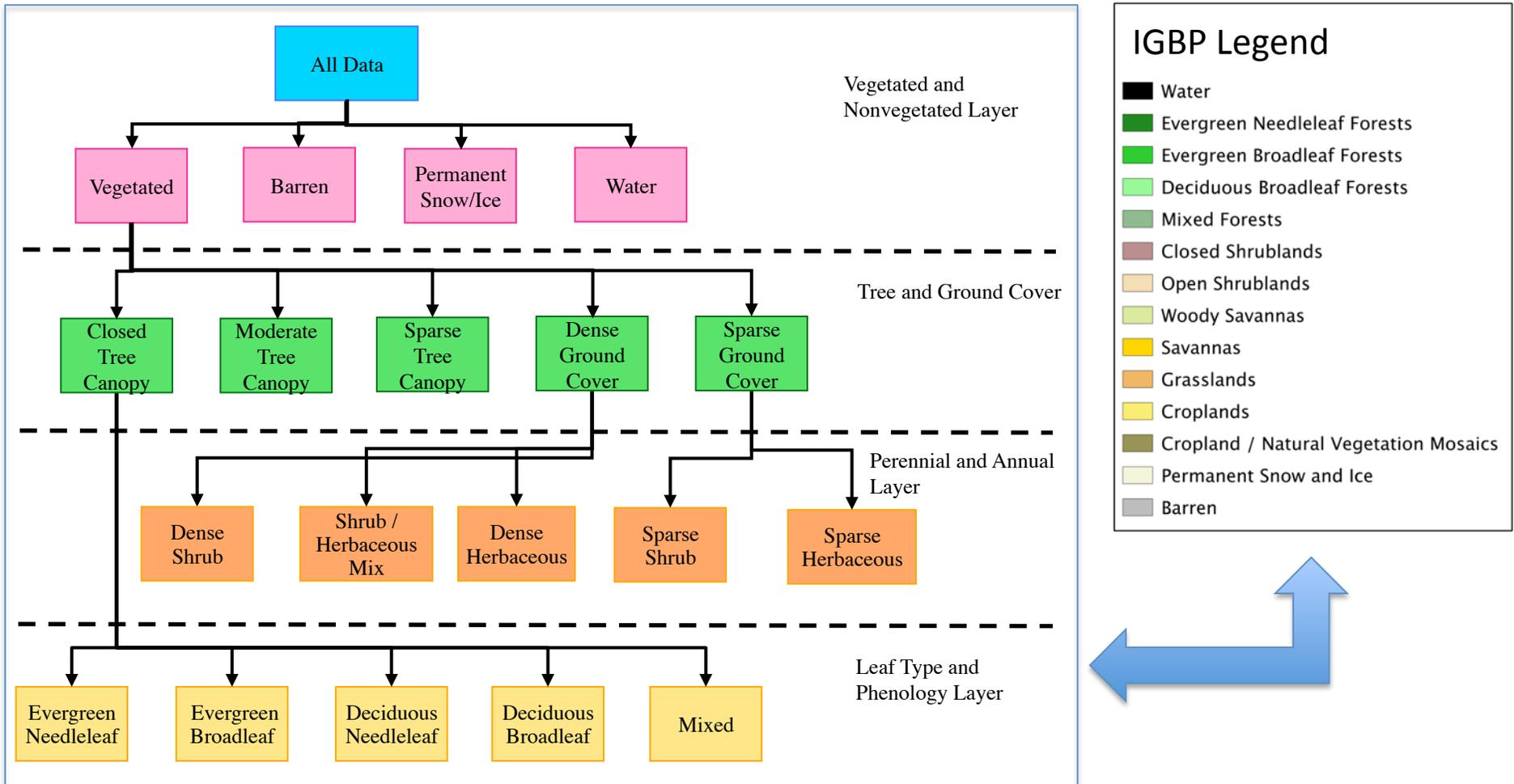
MCD12Q1 - Refinements

Training site database for supervised classification completely revised, augmented



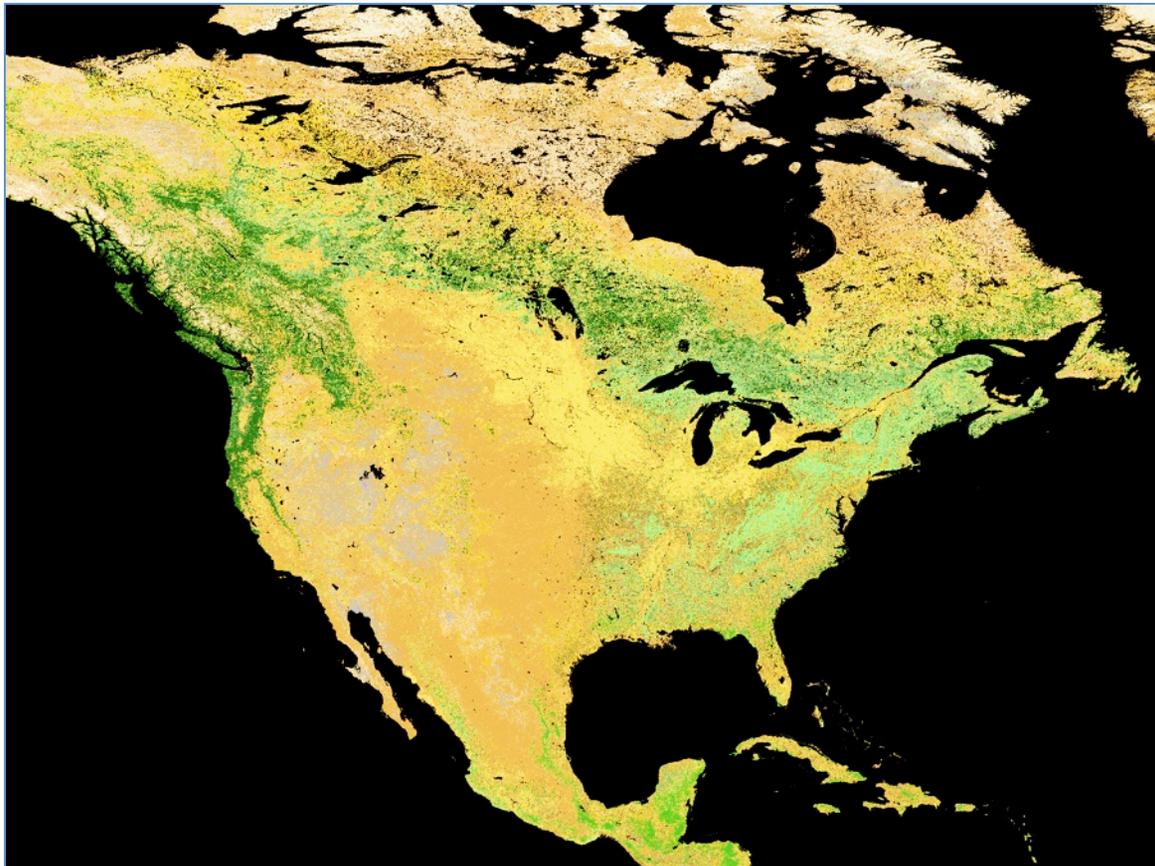
MCD12Q1 - Refinements

New LCCS Compliant Land Cover Layer



Preliminary C6 LCCS Product

North America

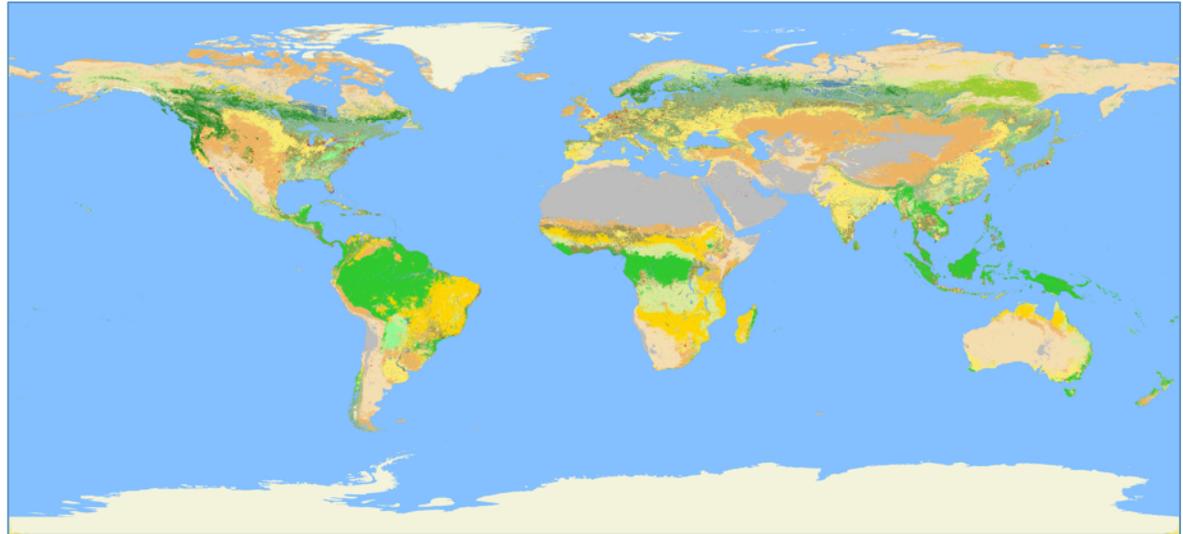


Legend

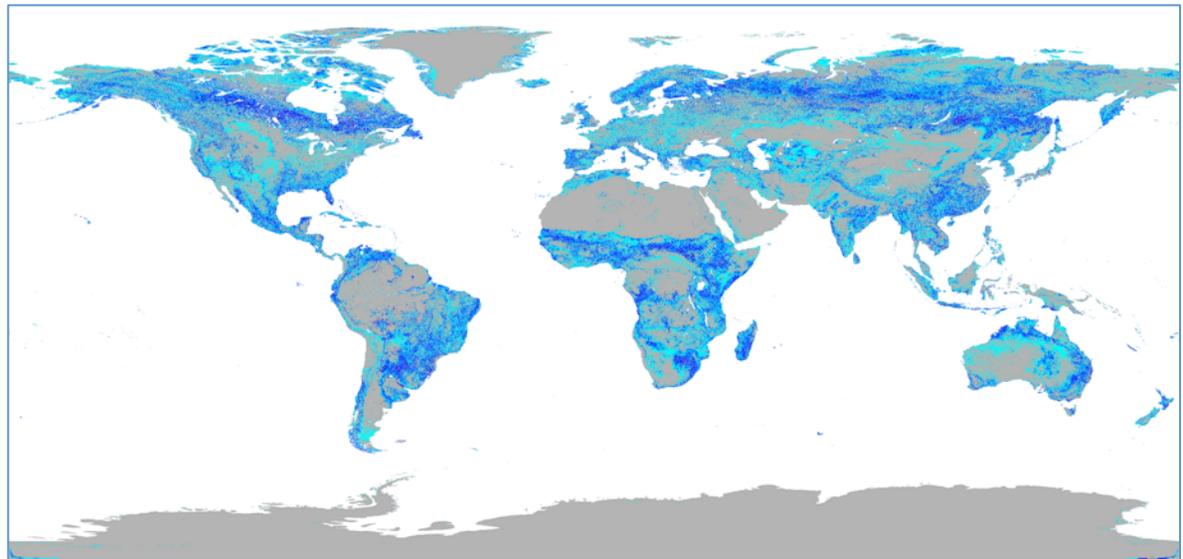
- Water
- Evergreen Needleleaf Forests
- Evergreen Broadleaf Forests
- Deciduous Broadleaf Forests
- Mixed Forests
- Closed Shrublands
- Open Shrublands
- Woody Savannas
- Savannas
- Grasslands
- Croplands
- Cropland / Natural Vegetation Mosaics
- Permanent Snow and Ice
- Barren

MCD12Q1 Refinements: Land Cover Change

Majority class from 11 years of MCD12Q1



Number of different class labels at each 500 m pixel



What is nature, magnitude of detectable change?

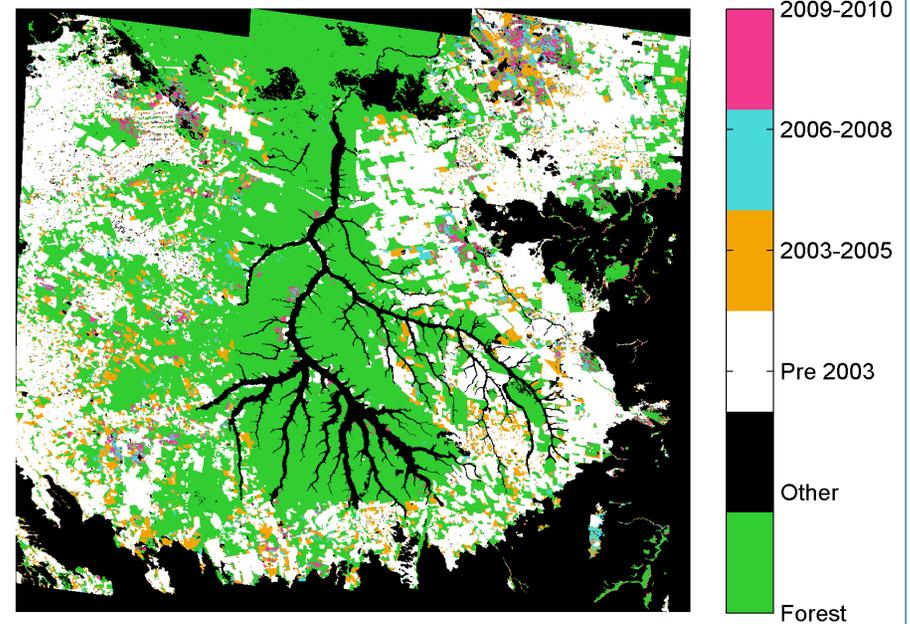
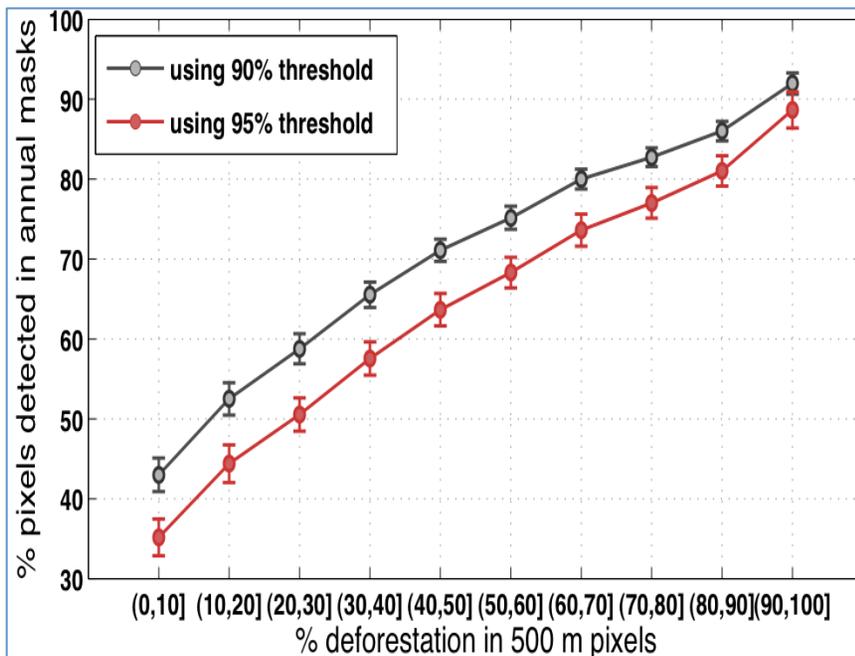
Signatures of LC Change in MODIS

Land Cover Conversion:

- Pre-processing & feature extraction
- Statistical metrics of change that exploit both spatial and temporal information

$$D_{yr1, yr2}^2 = (X_{yr1} - X_{yr2})'(X_{yr1} - X_{yr2})$$

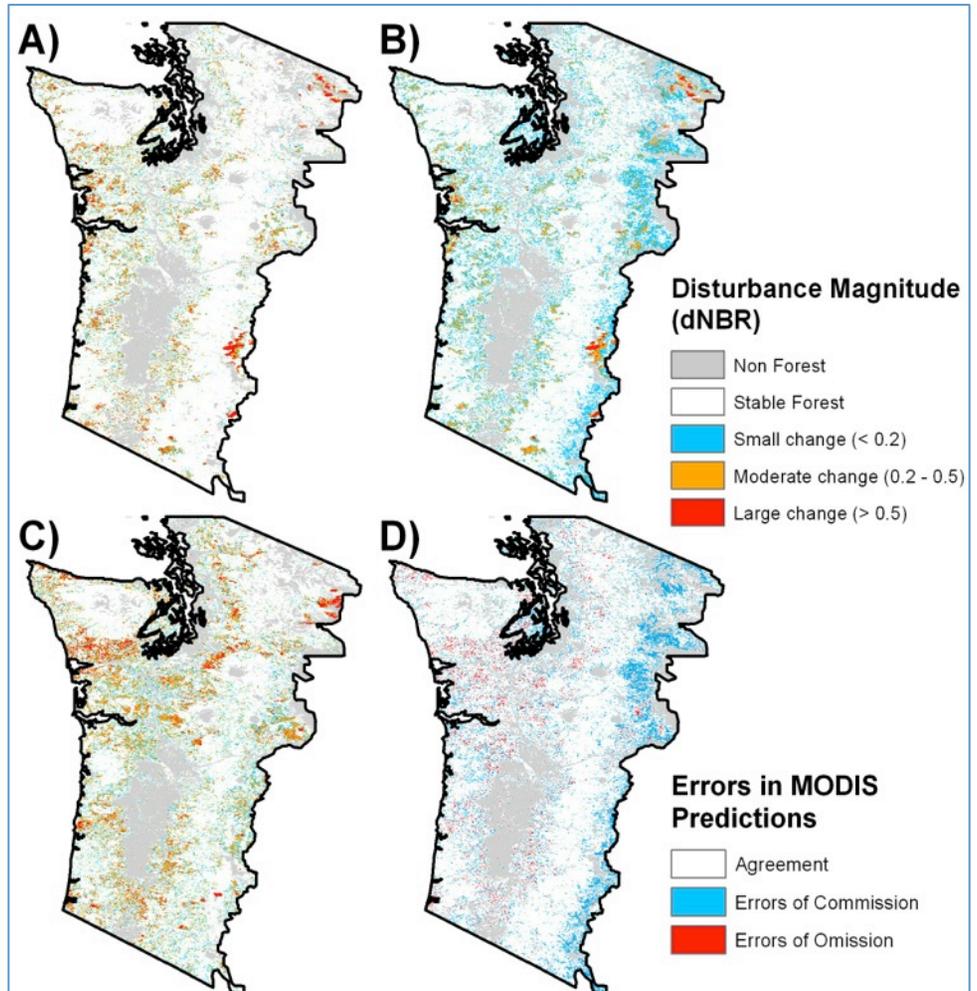
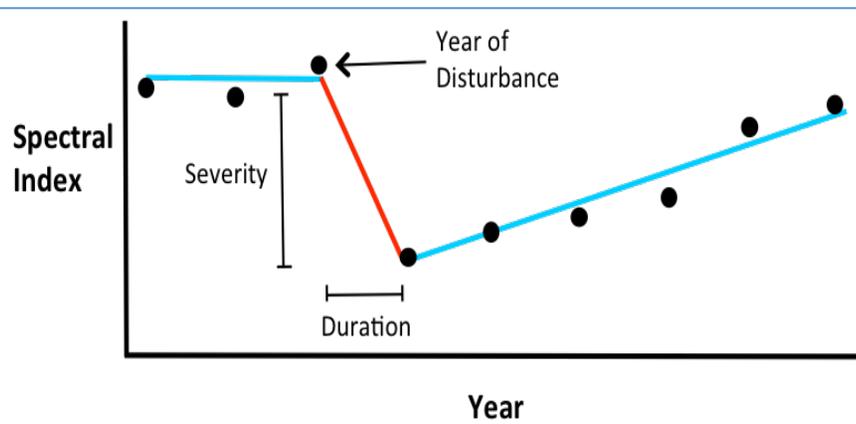
$$D_{yr}^2 = (X_{yr} - \bar{X})'\Sigma^{-1}(X_{yr} - \bar{X})$$



Signatures of LC Change in MODIS

Disturbance

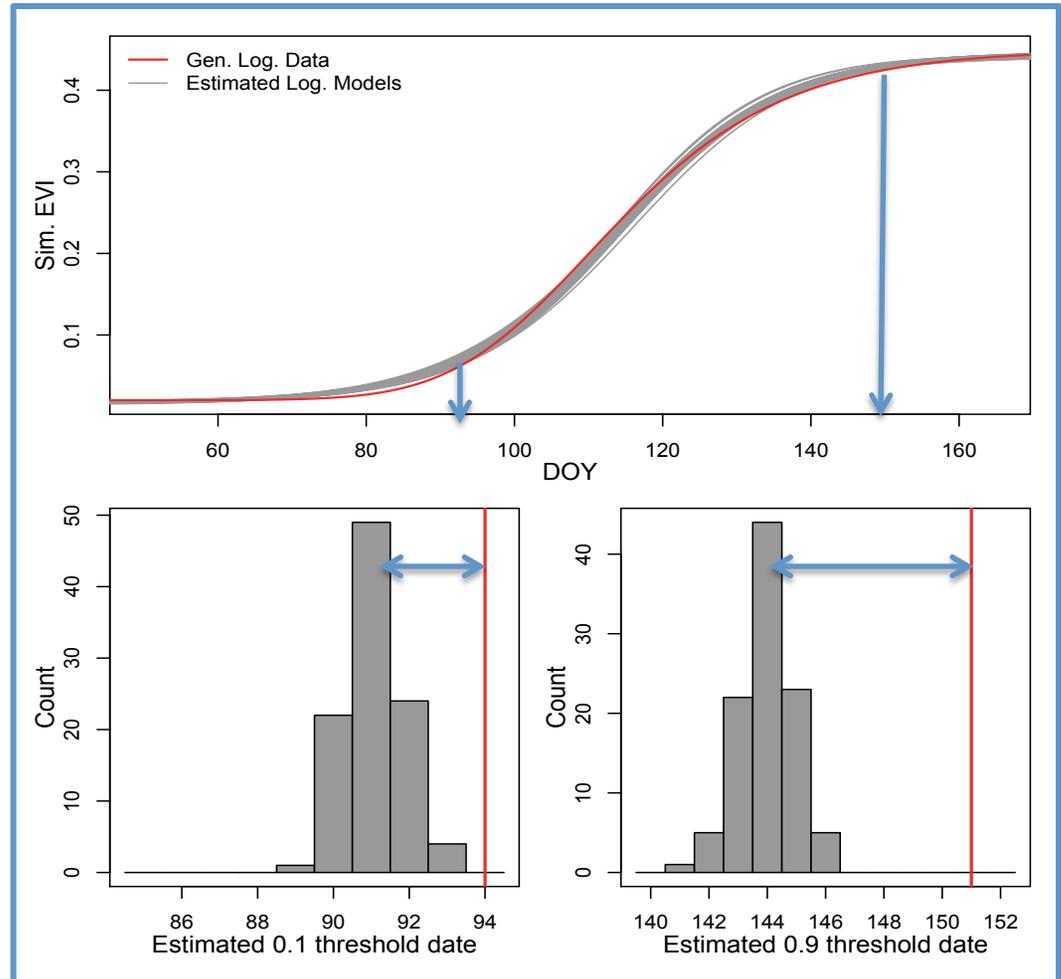
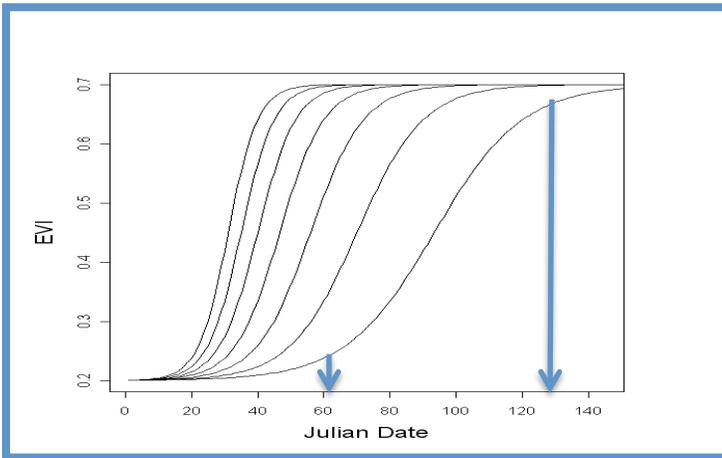
- How does area of land cover change affect detection of change?
- How does land cover history (disturbance) affect detection of change?
- How does noise in data affect detection of change?



MCD12Q1 Summary

- Improved training site database
 - Provides improved basis for mapping
- New LCCS-based classification
 - Better framework for LC mapping
- Land cover time series
 - Explicit incorporation of change
 - Explicit definition of nature, magnitude of changes

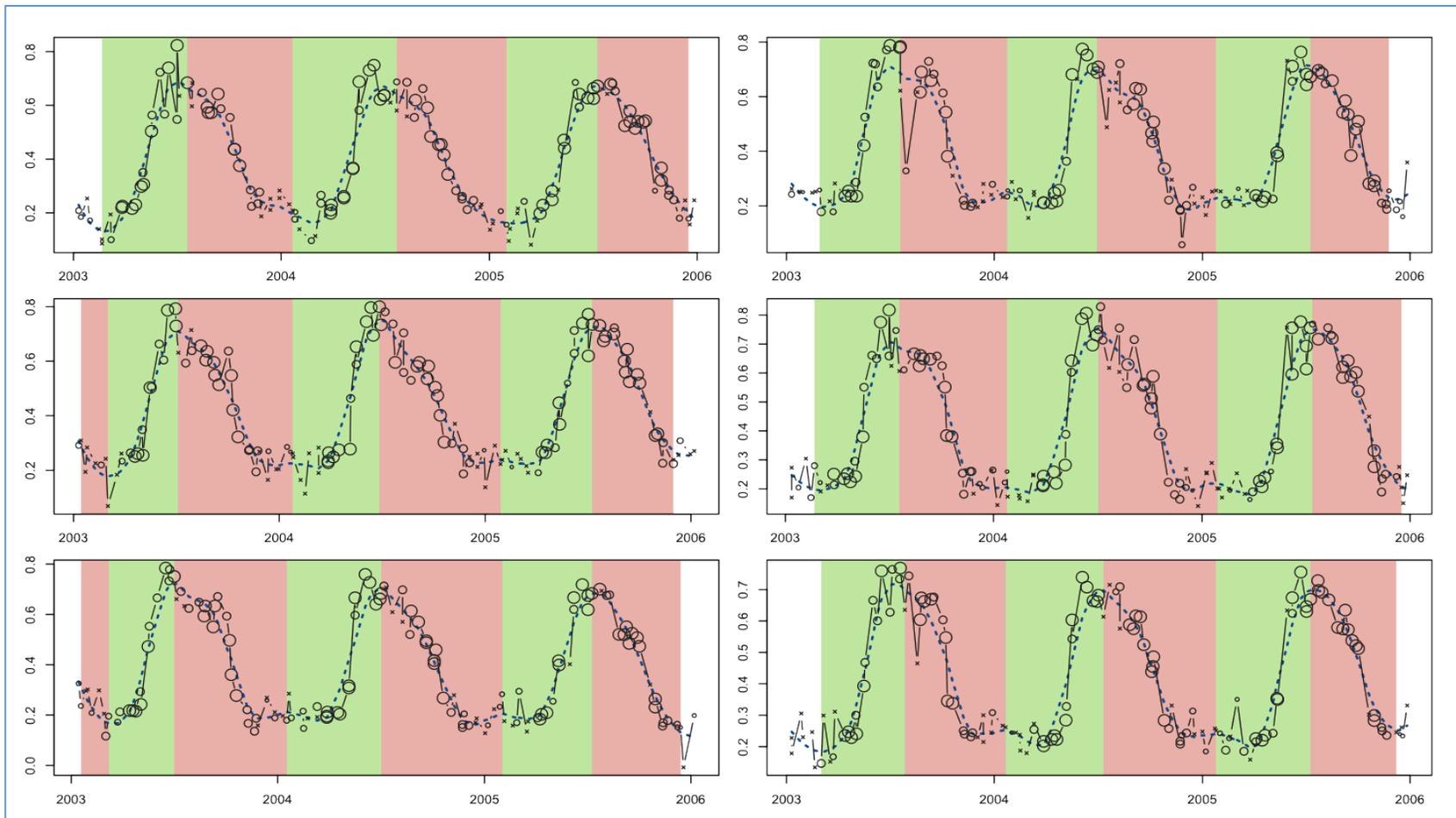
MCD12Q2 - Refinements



Bias reduction for asymmetric phenology using generalized logistic function.

MCD12Q2 - Refinements

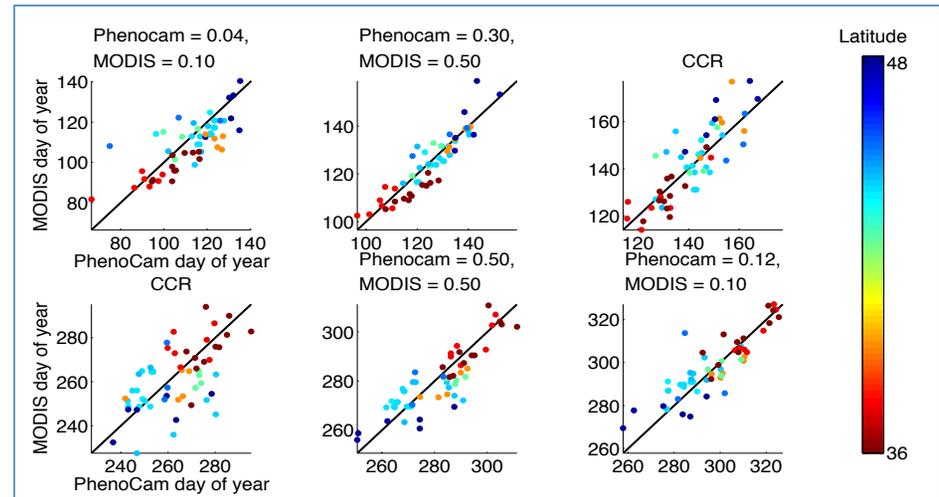
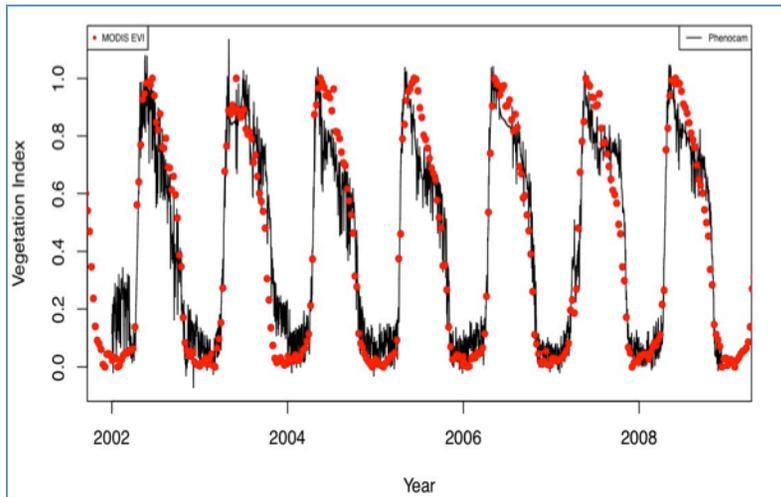
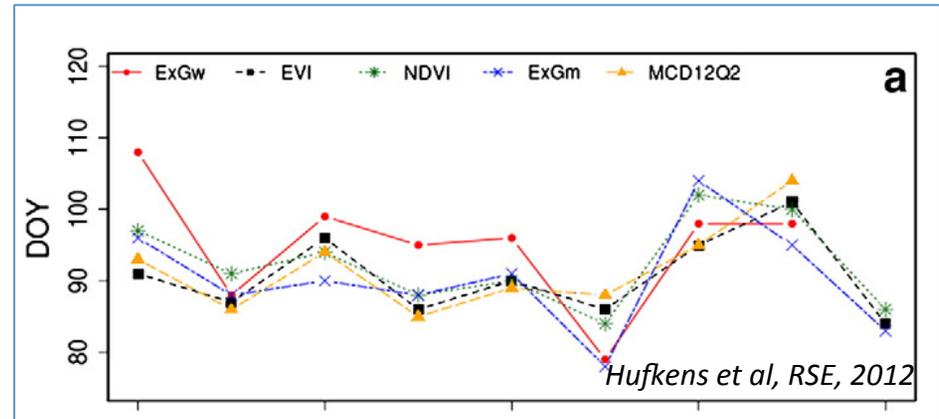
Smoothing & gap filling (snow, noise, missing data) via local regression



MCD12Q2 - Assessment

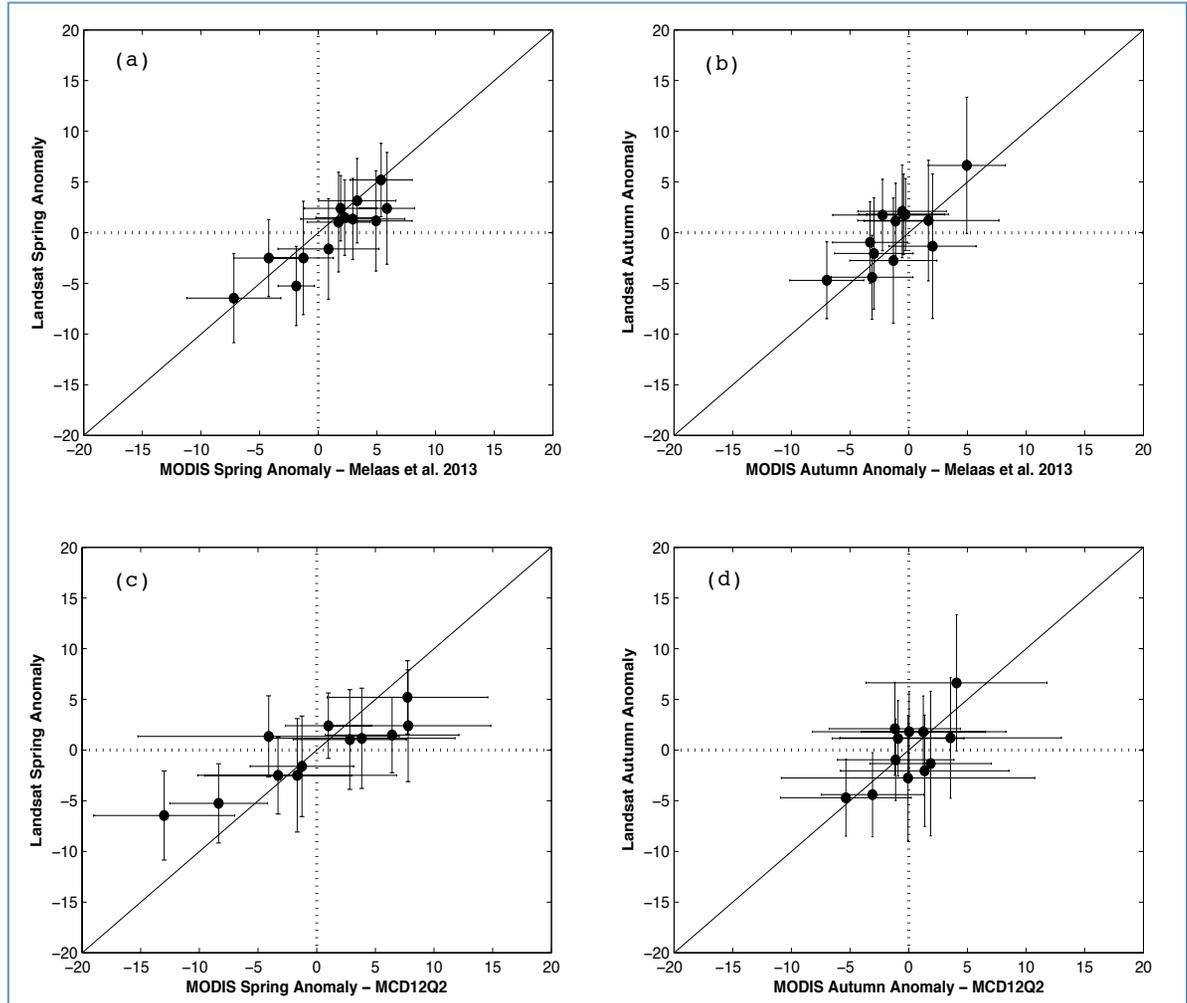
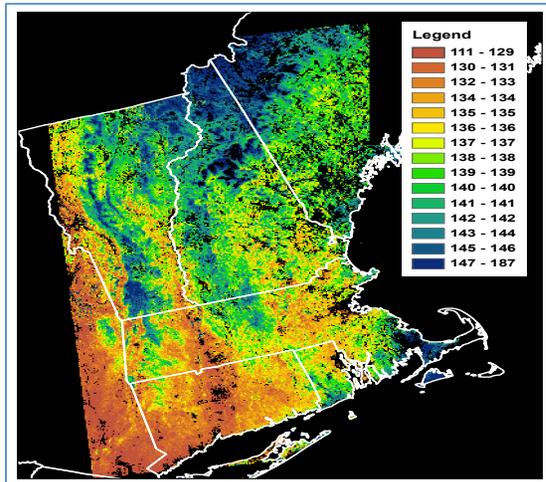
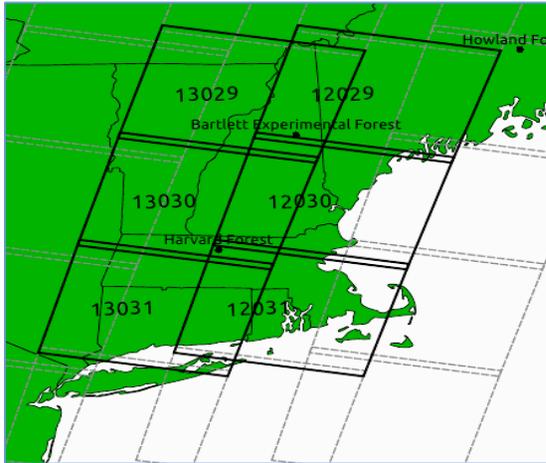
Comparison with Webcam data

- G_{cc} time series from “Phenocams”
- Using identical curvature change point methods to identify transitions
- Across sites and across years



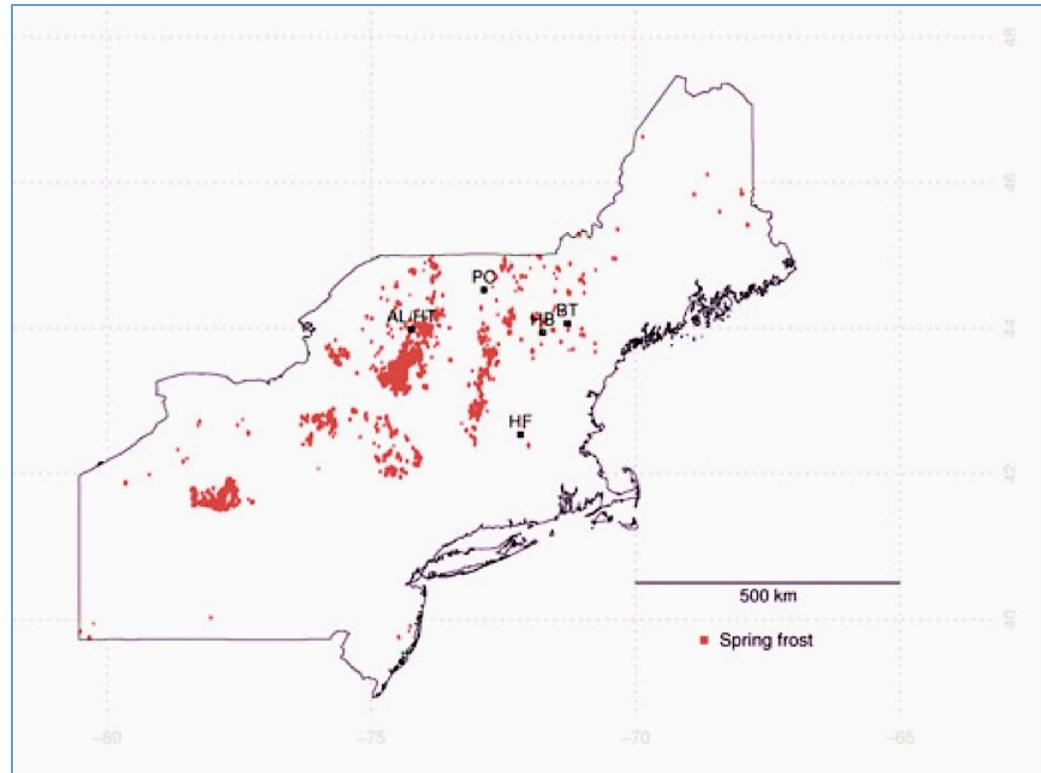
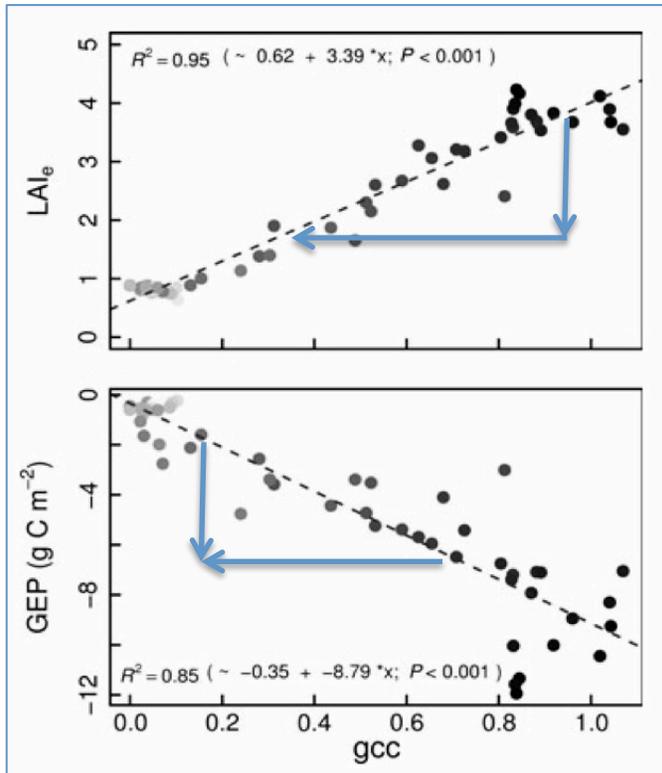
Klosterman et al, in prep

MCD12Q2 - Assessment



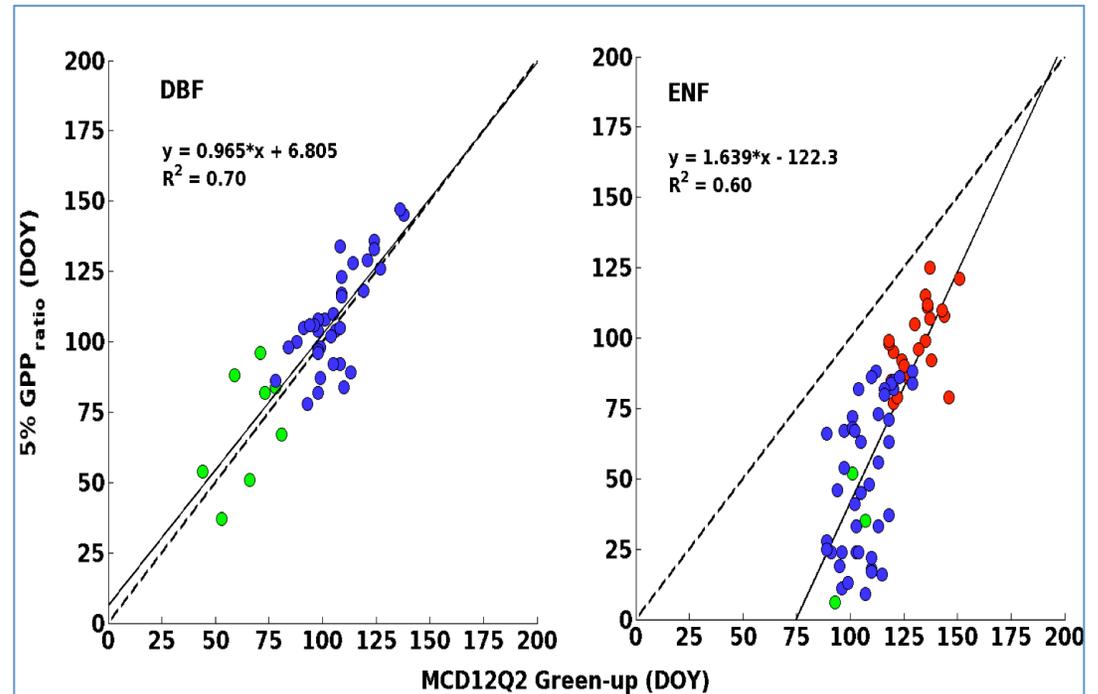
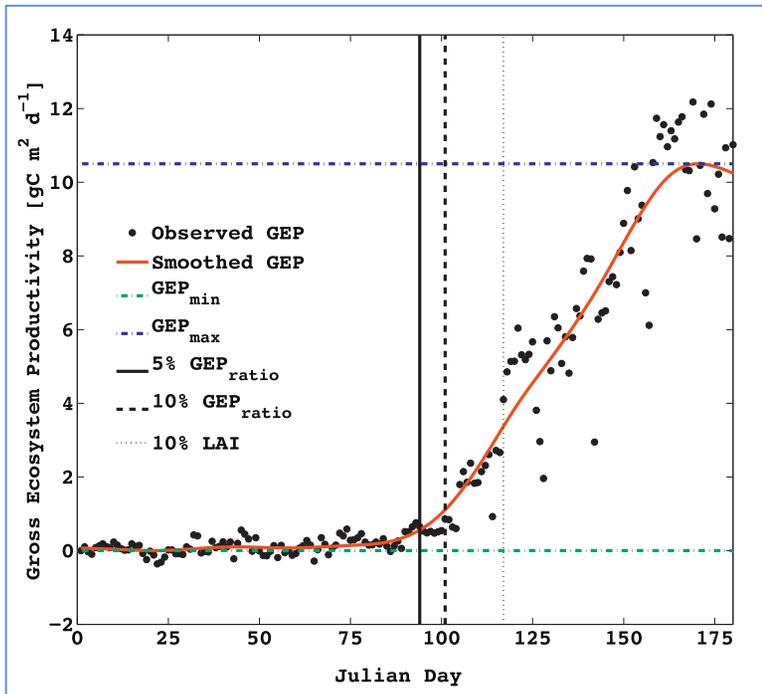
Start of Spring from MODIS vs Landsat

MCD12Q2 – New Science Results



Carbon cost associated with early spring and late spring frosts based on MODIS and flux data (Hufkens et al., GCB, 2012)

MCD12Q2 – New Science Results



Comparison of Photosynthetic Start of Spring from Eddy Covariance vs MCD12Q2 (Melaas et al., AFM, 2013)

MCD12Q2 - Summary

- Revised functional model for phenology
 - Reduces bias in product
- Improved treatment for noise, missing data
 - Reduces noise in product
- Extensive assessment and validation
 - Feeding back into algorithm revisions

Questions?