"Satellite Ecology" initiative for ecosystem function and biodiversity analyses

Key topics:

"Satellite Ecology" concept, networking networks, super-site, canopy phenology, mapping ecosystem functions

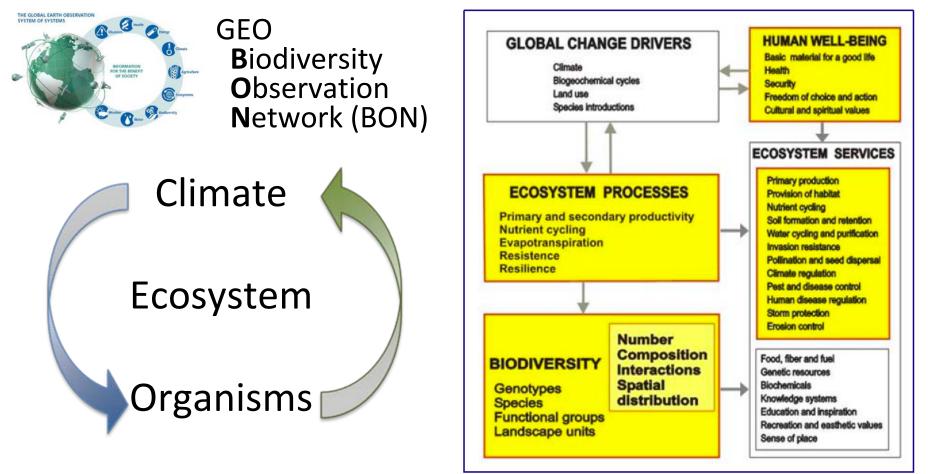
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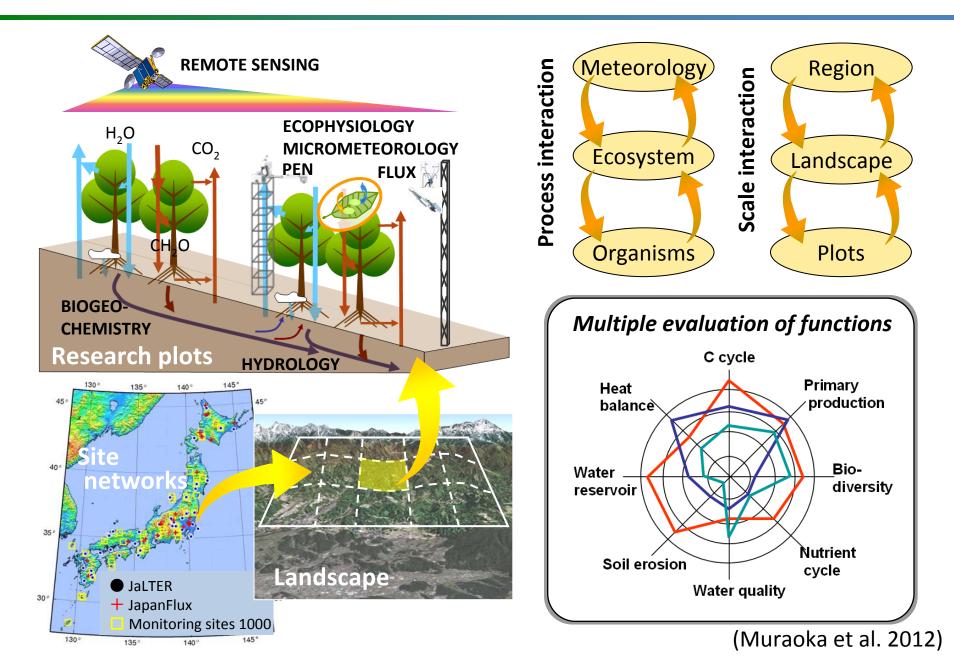
Background: Ecosystem, Biodiversity and Climate change



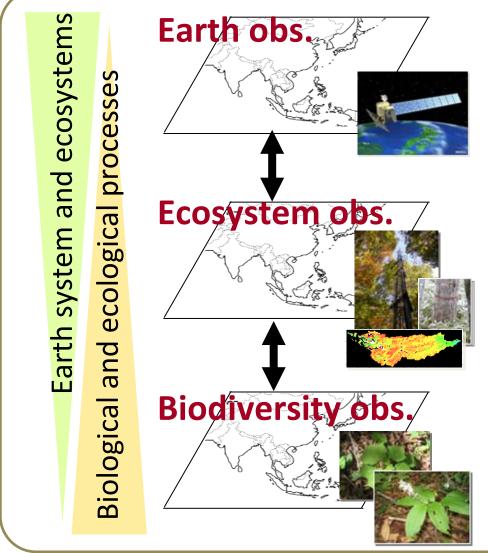
GEO (2008)

Primary production (NPP) and biodiversity Vulnerability assessment of ecosystem functions

"Satellite Ecology" concept for multiple-observations



SATECO initiative to link Earth, Ecosystem & Biodiversity obs.



Satellite remote sensing

Ecosystem and landuse types Vegetation structure Temporal change in ecosystems

Ecological process research, tower flux obs. and modeling

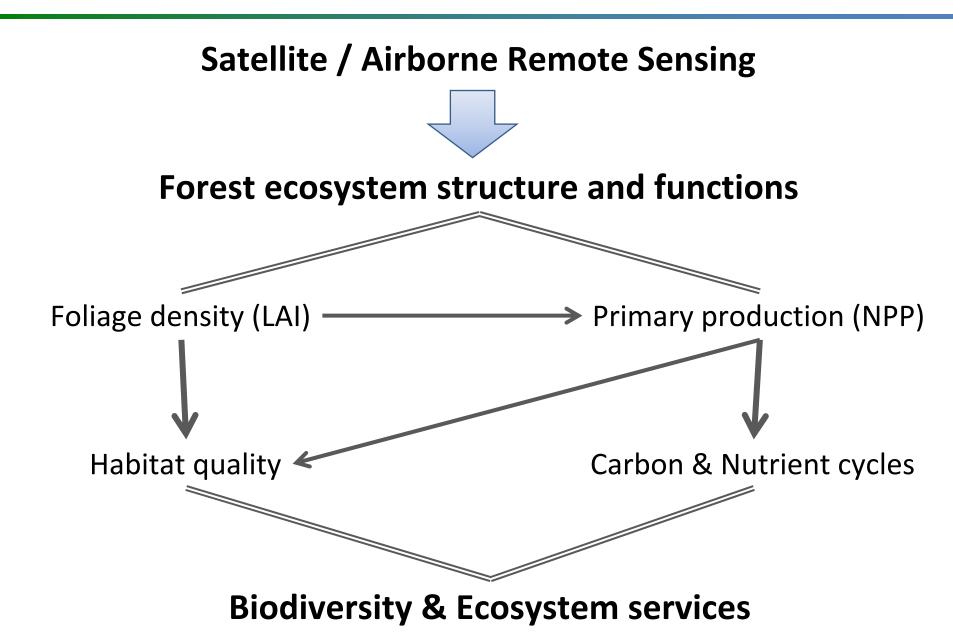
Primary production (carbon cycling) Eco-hydrology Carbon & Nutrient cycling

Species and genetic level research

Plant species distribution Wildlife habitat assessment Biological interactions

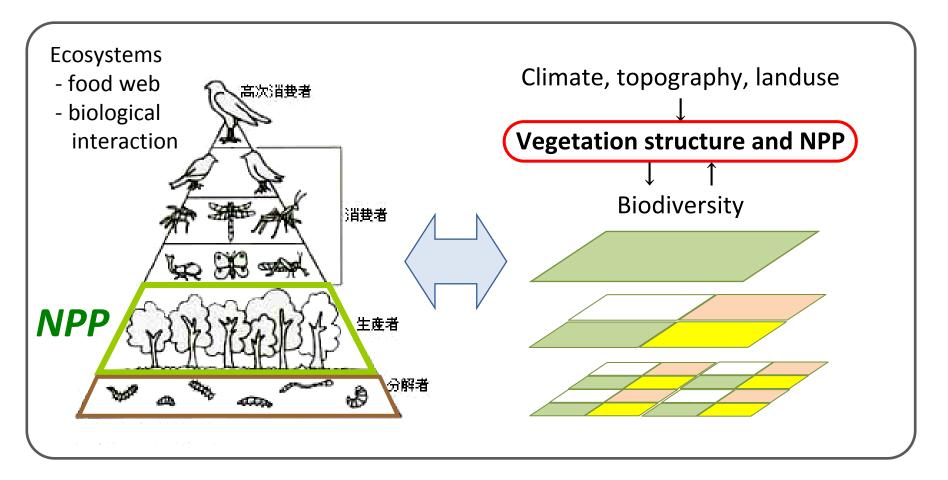
Concept by In-Situ/RS integration WG, J-BON

Linking ecosystem functions and biodiversity by RS+model



Vegetation structure and NPP as the indicator of biodiversity

- Ecosystem structure as the habitat for biodiversity
- Ecosystem function (primary production) as the resource for biodiversity
- Primary production as the indicator of climate change impacts on ecosystems



GPP and bird species richness

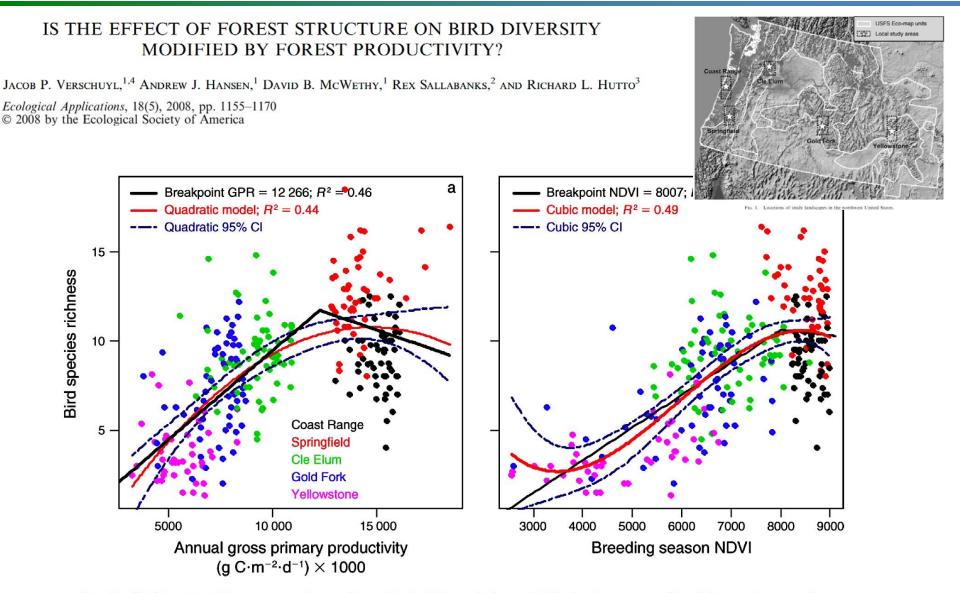
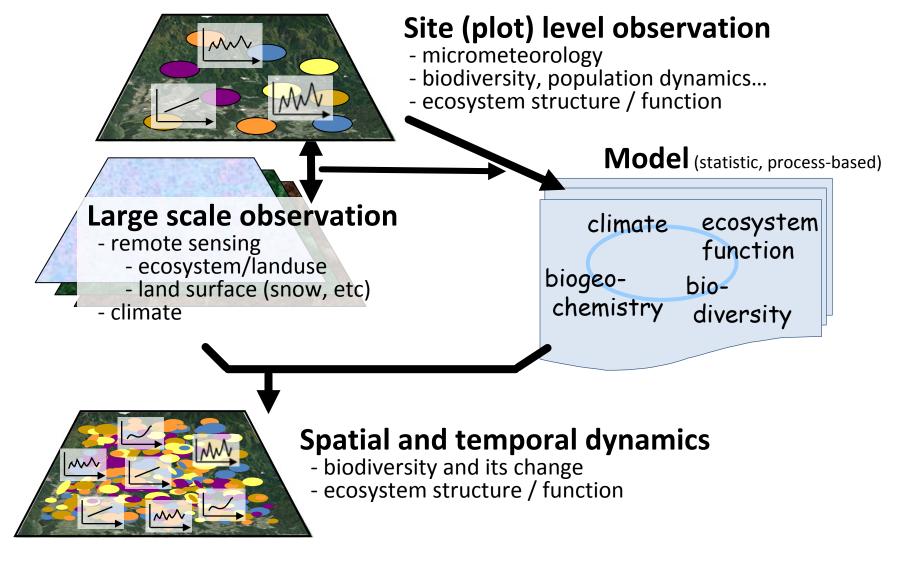


FIG. 3. Bird species richness across the northwest United States (color coded by landscape name) by (a) annual energy (gross primary productivity [GPP]), and (b) breeding season energy (normalized difference vegetation index [NDVI]). Best curvilinear (red lines with blue dashed confidence bands) and breakpoint regression (black lines) relationships are shown.

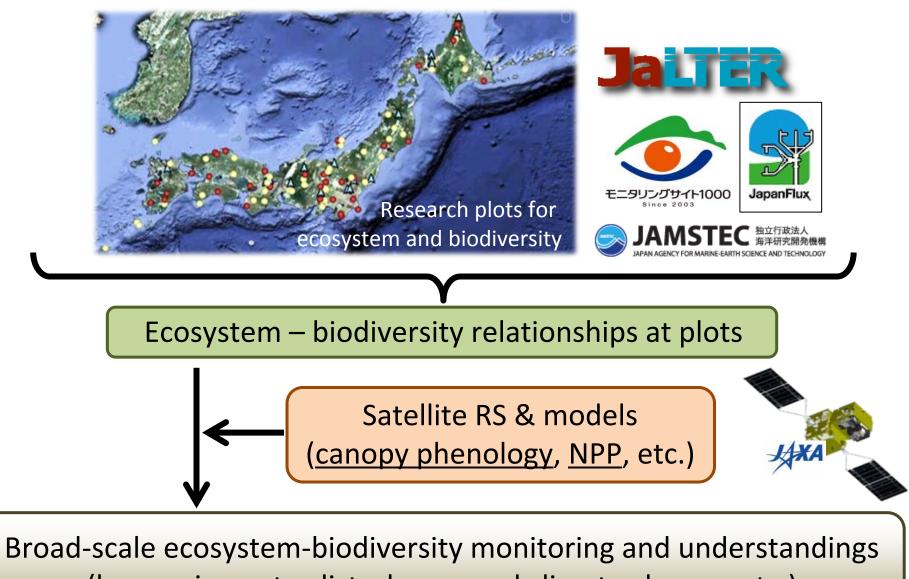
Spatial scaling by RS+models based on plot-studies

"LENS" concept by GEO BON (2008)



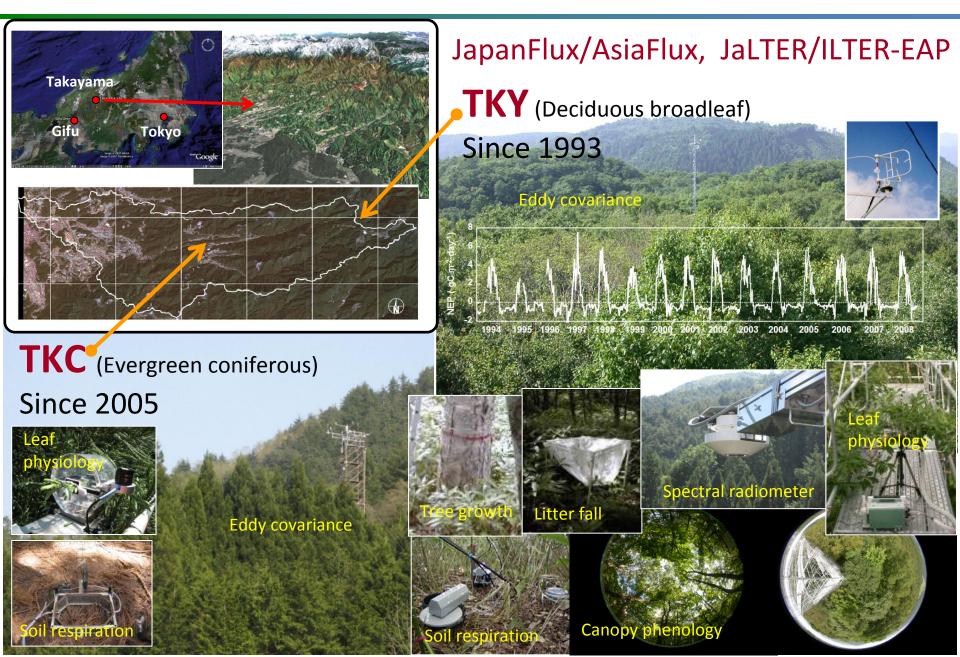
(Muraoka et al. 2012)

Challenge in Japan: cross-scale evaluation by multi-networks

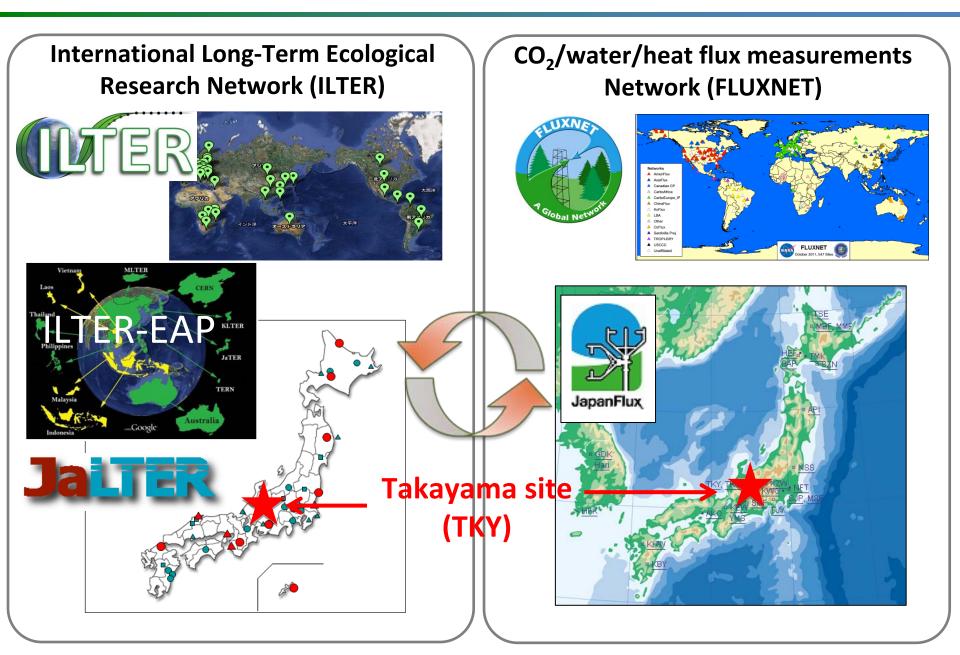


(human impacts, disturbance and climate change, etc.)

"Takayama" super-site (long-term, multidisciplinary obs.)



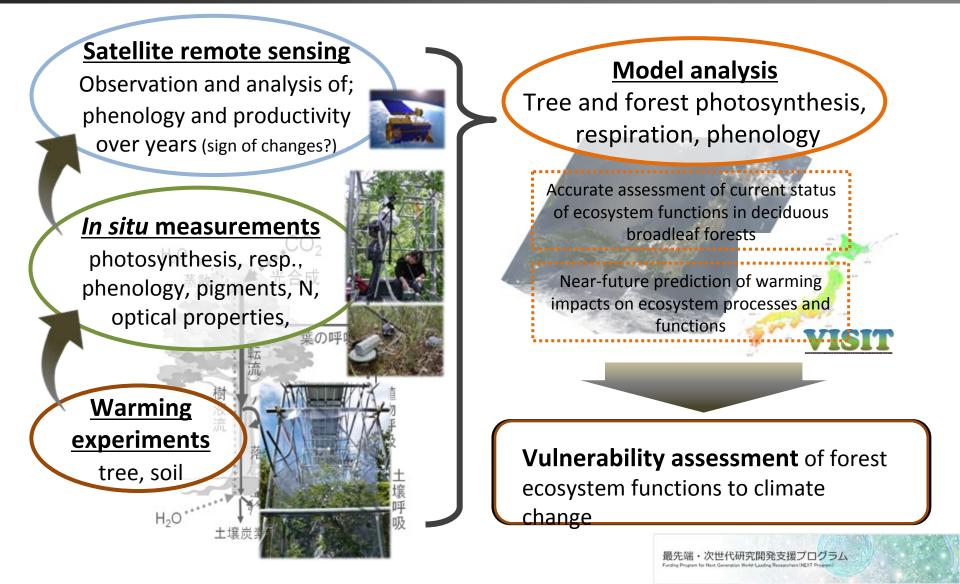
Networking networks at super-sites



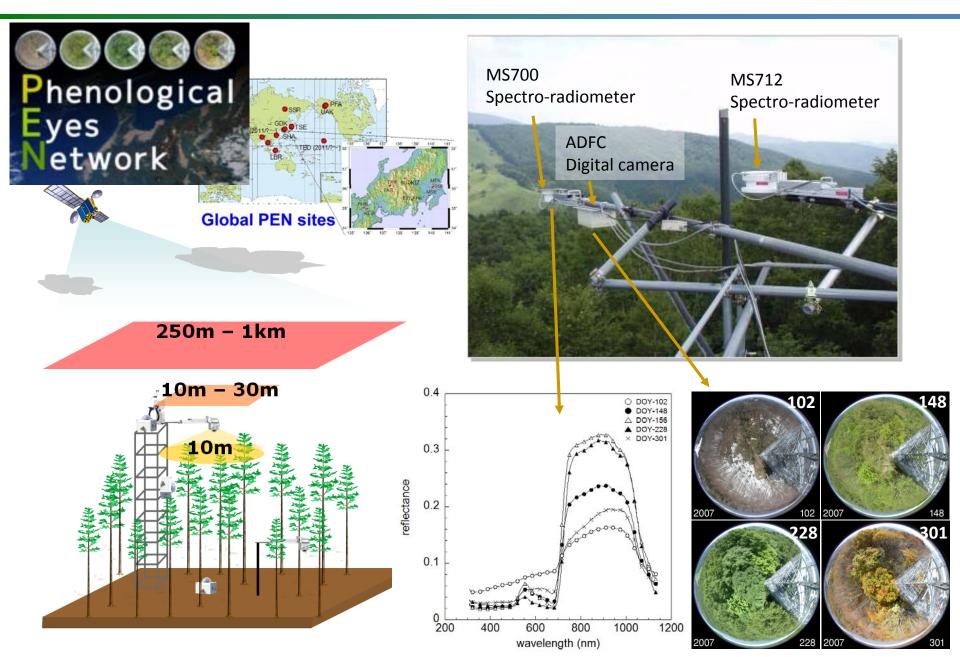
SATECO-2 (FY2011 – 2014)



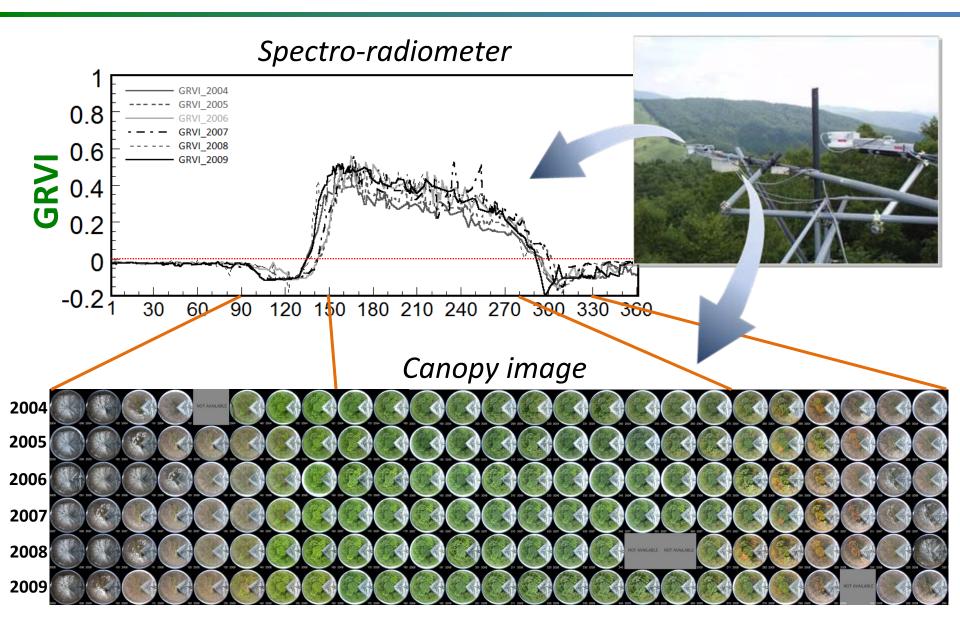
"Climate change impact assessment of forest ecosystem functions by satellite-ecophysiology-modeling integrated study"



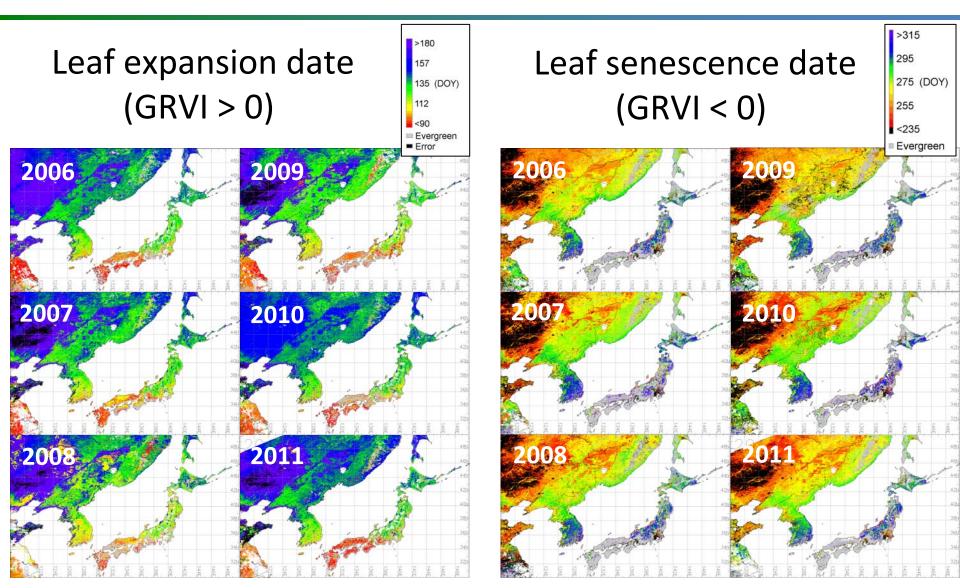
Multi-scale remote sensing of canopy processes



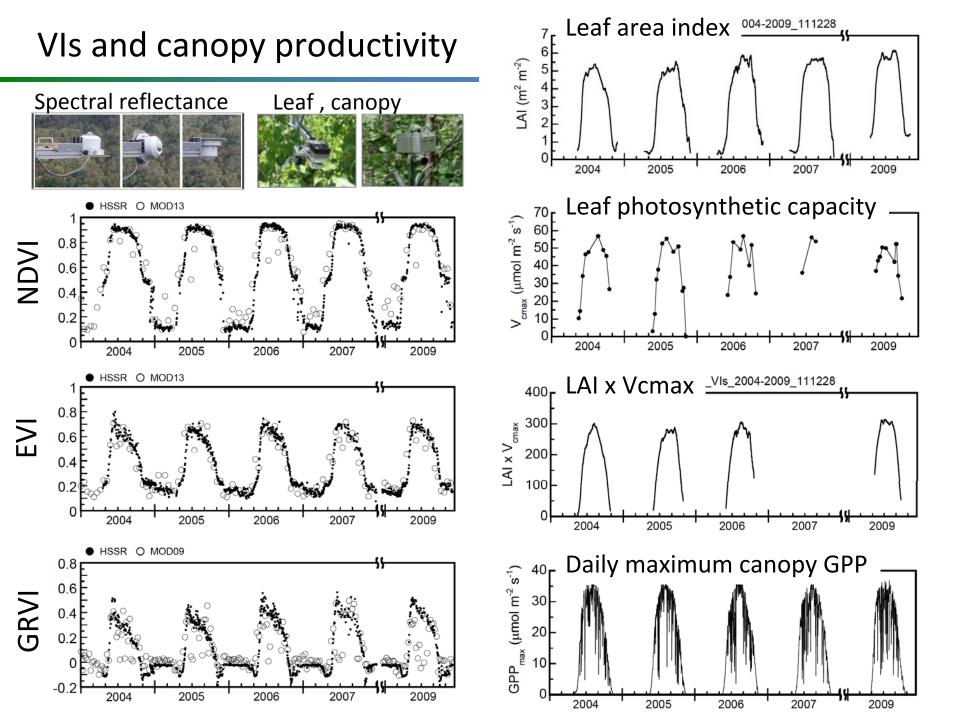
In-situ leaf phenology and spectral vegetation index (VI)



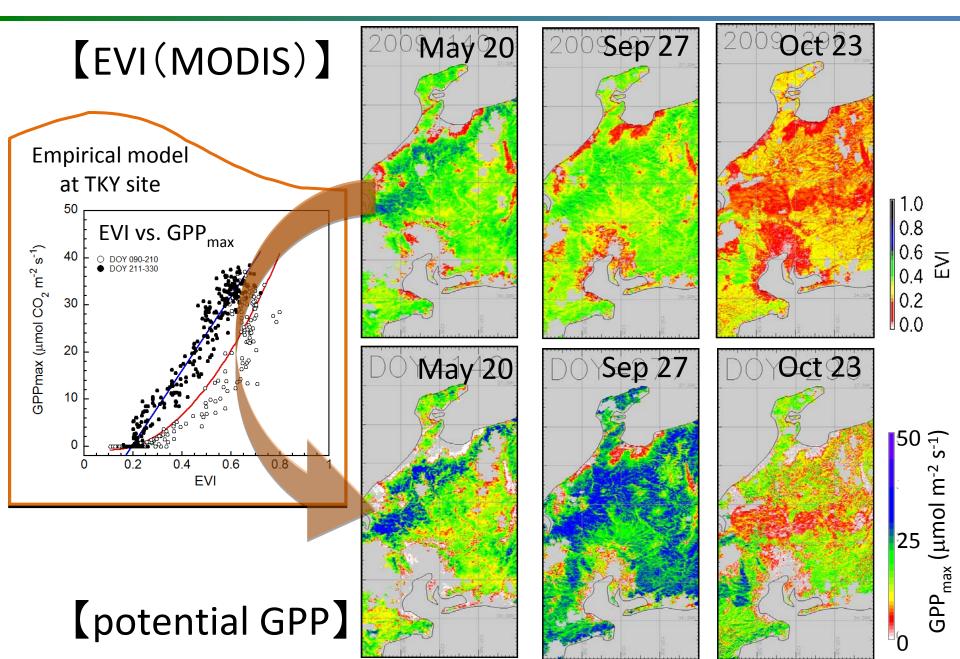
Mapping leaf phenology by MODIS (Terra, Aqua)



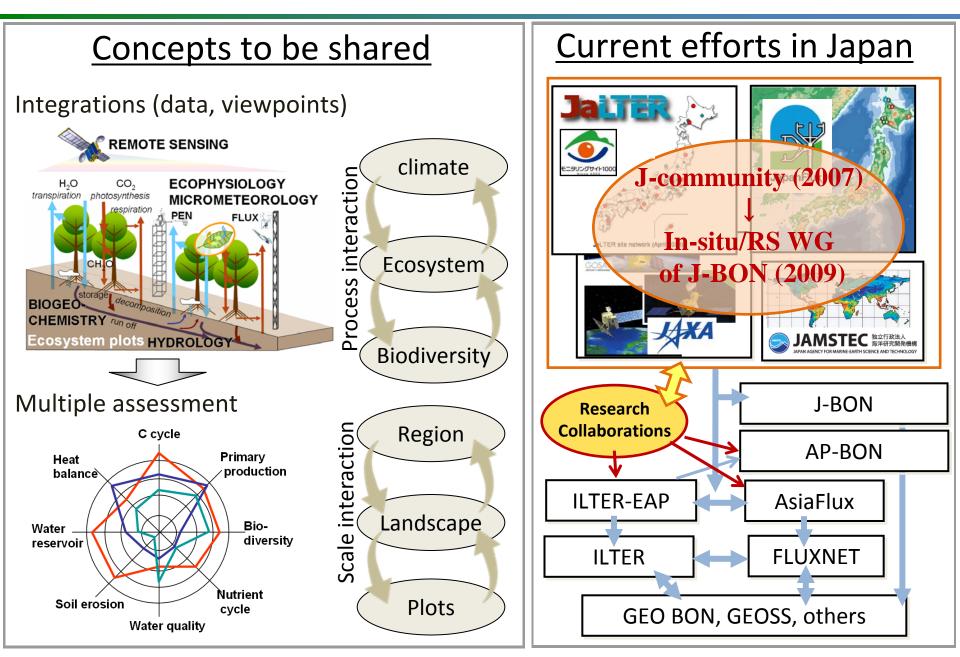
Careful *in-situ* examination of satellite RS data enables us to map ecosystem functions. Further validation of satellite RS data at ecological research sites is required.



From EVI to potential photosynthetic productivity (GPP)



Networking networks for climate-ecosystem-biodiversity obs.



Linking with ILTER for NPP-biodiversity issues



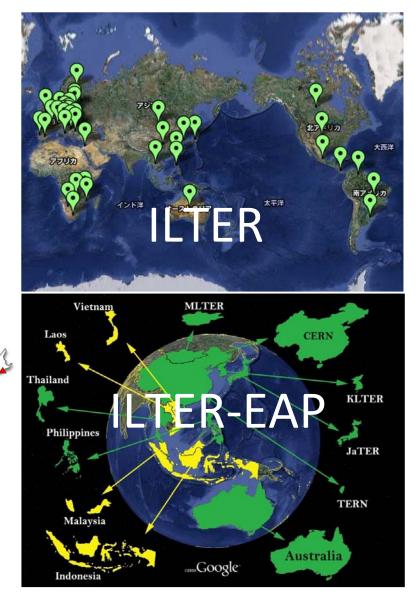
International Long Term Ecological

Research (ILTER) is a 'network of networks', a global network of research sites located in a wide array of ecosystems worldwide that can help understand environmental change across the globe.

ILTER's vision is a world in which science helps prevent and solve environmental and socio-ecological problems.

Partner of GEO BON





Recommendations: networkings for cross-scale collaborations

(I) "Vertically deep – laterally sparse network"

to find consequences among ecosystem composition, structure and functions for various ecosystems along the environmental gradients, by networking 'super-sites' of existing research networks.

(II) "Vertically shallow – laterally dense network"

to find the general relationships between the ecological aspects of plants, animals, birds and microorganisms (i.e., assessment of habitat quality and preferences, distribution patterns, etc.).

(III) "Integration of biological, ecological and physical data by GIS"

to achieve a comprehensive understanding on the ecosystem composition – structure – functions, and then to predict these changes under climate and human impacts.