



OzFlux Land-Atmosphere Observatory





OzFlux: scientific outputs 2016–2017

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NCRIS

National Research

Global land carbon sink anomaly of 2011

- Annual precipitation anomaly restricted by dry months
- Annual Australian land C sink induced by antecedent wet months
- Followed 'Millennium Drought'
- Soil moisture a key driver of large inter-annual variability in NEP via ENSO





Enhanced climate variability

Multiple ocean effects on Australian climate and ecosystem productivity



Attribution: carbon sink anomaly



[Cleverly et al. 2016 Scientific Reports]

- Savanna
- Dryland





net contribution to IAV

Sparsely Veg WarmTemp CoolTemp [Haverd et al. 2016 Environmental Research Letters]

Tropics

Savanna

Mediterr

Carbon sources and carbon balance



[Cleverly et al. 2016 Agricultural and Forest Meteorology]

Legacy of land sink anomaly

- Strong carbon source from dryland grasses
- Fire emissions during following dry year: [Ma et al. 2016]
 - 2010–2011: 0.07 Pg C y⁻¹
 - 2011–2012: 0.17 Pg C y⁻¹



[Beringer et al. 2016 Biogeosciences]



- Nocturnal storage of CO, in canopy air spaces
 - See Ian McHugh's presentation on this topic [McHugh et al. 2017 Biogeosciences]



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Carbon cycle: CH

NZ-Kop:

50

- methane emission 0.5–3 g C m⁻² month⁻¹
- even with methane emissions, site generally in a positive net ecosystem ecosystem carbon balance (uptake)

		All wind directions		Unsuitable directions excluded	
Trace gas	Site	median flux $(nmol m^{-2} s^{-1})$	N	median flux $(nmol m^{-2} s^{-1})$	Ν
CH ₄	IFR	25.6	172	26.3	101
CH ₄	UUW	14.0	164	8.73	96
N_2O	IFR	0.604	293	0.637	165
N ₂ O	UUW	0.396	279	0.289	131

[Laubach et al. 2016 Biogeosciences]

AU-Wom:

- methane uptak 30–50 μg C m⁻² hour⁻¹
- reduced by throughfall due to reduction in air-filled porosity



[[]Fest et al. 2016 Biogeosciences]



Weak source strength under hummocks





[Sun et al. 2017 Journal of Soil

Science and Plant Nutrition]

NATT water budget

Modelling of soil water content

- Matching targets remains difficult
- Large variability amongst models

Inter-annual Budyko energy versus water limitations

- Northern NATT a little of both
- Southern NATT water-limited





[Zhuang et al. 2016 International Journal of Plant Production]



[Barraza et al. 2017 Agricultural and Forest Meteorology]



[Holgate et al. 2016 Remote Sensing of Environment]

Water budget components



Seasonality of transpiration, soil evaporation and total evaporation

• Large inter-model × site variability in partitions

Large variability in total monthly evaporation

 Attributed to differences between C₃ and C₄ plants



[Chen et al. 2016 Ecosystems]



Spatial surface heterogeneity

Spatial and temporal correlations between regional weather patterns, topographic wetness index, soil water content, leaf area index, NEP and GPP



[Cleverly et al. 2016 Science of the Total Environment]



[Griebel et al. 2016 Agricultural and Forest Meteorology]

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Photosynthesis & phenology

Photosynthesis

 Fundamental relationships of carbon uptake by ecosystems



[Restrepo Coupe et al. 2016 Biogeosciences]

Phenology

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[Moore et al. 2016a Biogeosciences]

Understory and canopy attribution



[Moore et al. 2017 Biogeosciences]

EVI

- constantly high
- seasonally dynamic
- not dynamic seasonally



Savanna tree-grass partitioning

Strong seasonality in phenology and contributions to GPP

- Canopy low-variability, constant carbon sink
- Accounting for root distributions is key





[Moore et al. 2016b Biogeosciences]



Leaf area index

Remotely sensed GPP

• LAI affects coupling between vegetation index and GPP



[Shi et al. 2017 Ecological Indicators]

nsed GPP

- LAI
 - affects coupling between rainfall and carbon flux anomalies, but
 - only for forests



[Li et al. 2017 Scientific Reports]



Growth and biomass

Savanna biomass is projected to increase by 2010, enhanced by reduced rainfall

lower seasonality > no change > more seasonality



[Whitley et al. 2017 Biogeosciences]



Strong tree growth at AU-Wom supports large GPP

 See Nina Hinko-Najera's presentation on this topic [Hinko-Najera et al. 2017 Biogeosciences]



[Greibel et al. 2017 Forest Ecology and Management]

Land-atmosphere interface

Contributions to our understanding of plant ecophysiology and morphology

• See Santini et al. [2016 Trees] and Rachael Nolan's presentation [Nolan et al. 2017a Functional Plant Biology, Nolan et al. 2017b Functional Plant Biology]

Global modelling of sensitivity of GPP versus ER to rainfall variability



[Haverd et al. 2017 Global Change Biology]



NASA SMAP

30 (b)

 $R^2 = 0.91$

Satellite and flux measurement modelling of soil moisture and productivity



+ three slides which were lost...

...with my apologies for not including in the presentation



Carbon cycle and agriculture

GHG fluxes and land clearing Northern Territory



[Bristow et al. 2016 Biogeosciences]

Grazing, fertilisation and ecosystem productivity New Zealand



[Hunt et al. 2016 *Biogeosciences*]



Energy and heatwave

Mediterranean woodlands and dry sclerophyll forests:

- additional heat dissipated through radiative cooling (i.e., lower net radiation) and sensible heat flux,
- thus intensifying heatwave *via* land-surface feedback

AU-Tum: evaporative cooling ameliorated 'Angry Summer' heatwave, but

- soil moisture reserves were nearly depleted.
- Thus, a future with longer and more intense heatwaves
 could spell trouble







Energy balance closure

Energy balance closure comparable to or higher than global standards *Rn-G* versus *H*+*lE* at AU-Dry



70 to >100% closure across all sites

Energy balance across three sites (AU-Dry, AU-Stp, AU-TTE):

• closure *ca*. 83–99%

 $H + IE(W m^{-2})$

-100





500

v = 0.987x

 $R^2 = 0.951$

600

500



Hcor+lEcor



[Maruyama et al. 2017 Open Journal of Modern Hydrology]



Congratulations

Questions? Corrections?







[Photos: Cacilia Ewenz]

