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Estimating biomass compartments and surface fuel loads by integrating various satellite products with a data-model fusion approach

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What we need...



What we have ...

Dynamic:

- Leaf area index

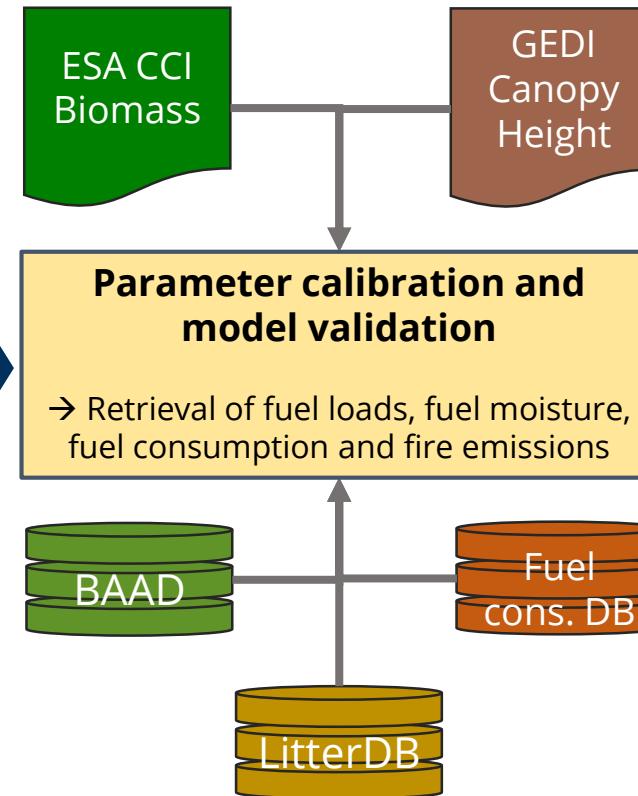
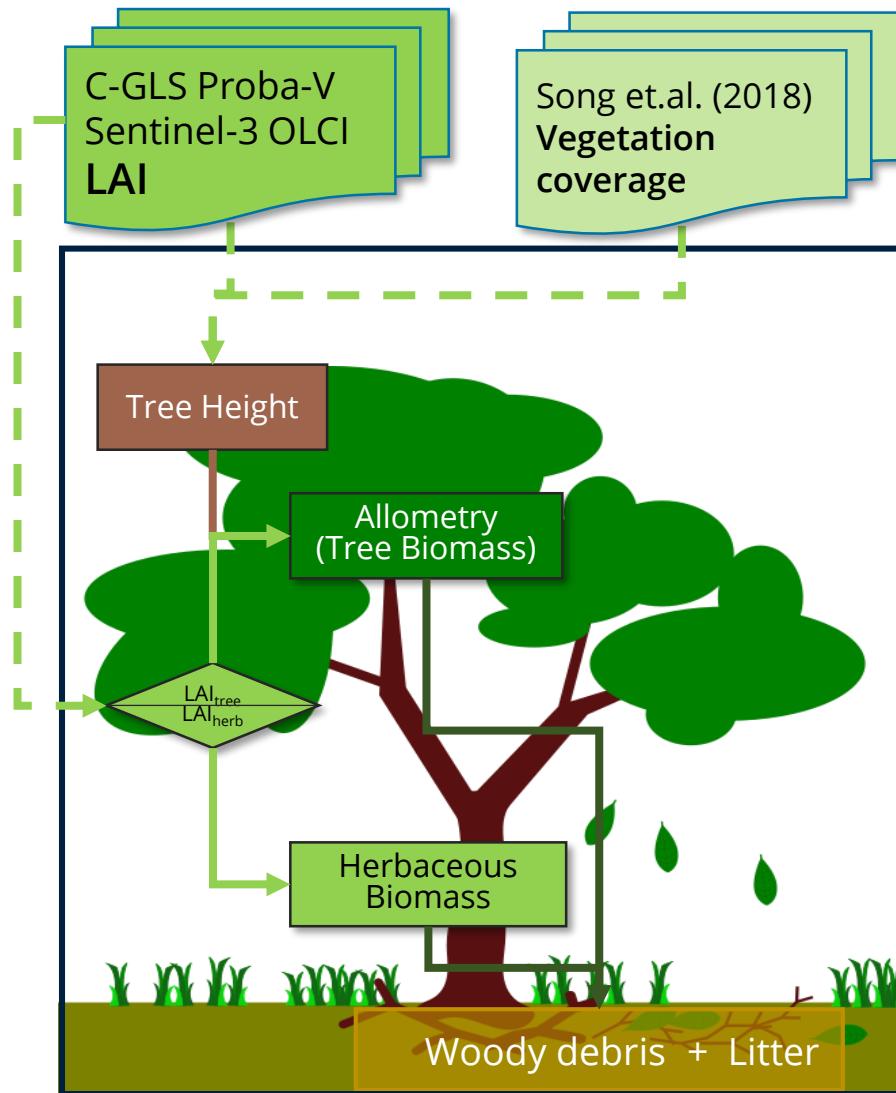
Static:

- Above ground biomass
- Forest canopy height

Annual:

- Land cover
- Global fuelbed database
(static, no spatial variability)

S4F Fuel Data-Model Fusion Approach



Tree Biomass

$$BM_{stem} = a1 \times H^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$BM_{branches} = a3 \times BM_{stem}^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$BM_{leaf} = a5 \times BM_{stem}^{\frac{1}{6}} \times fcover$$

Dynamic Loads

$$L_t = L_{t-1} + T_{leaf,t} + T_{herb,t} - D_{litter,t}$$

$$FWD_t = FWD_{t-1} + T_{br,t} \times f_{sb} - D_{fwd,t}$$

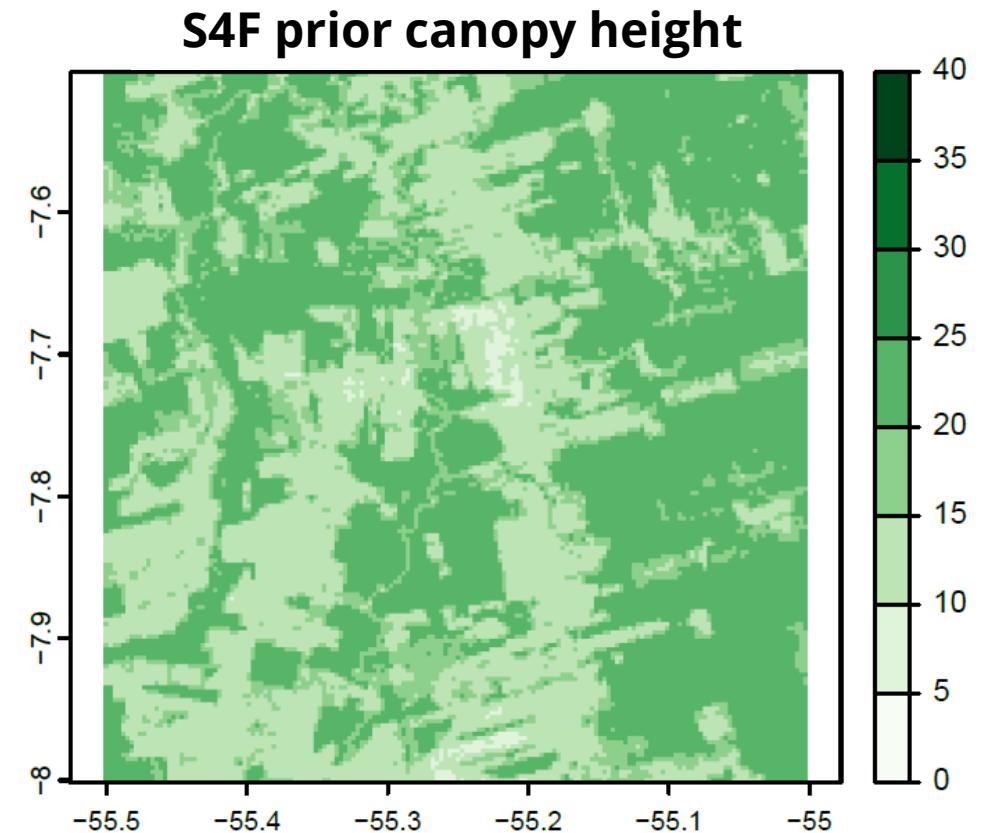
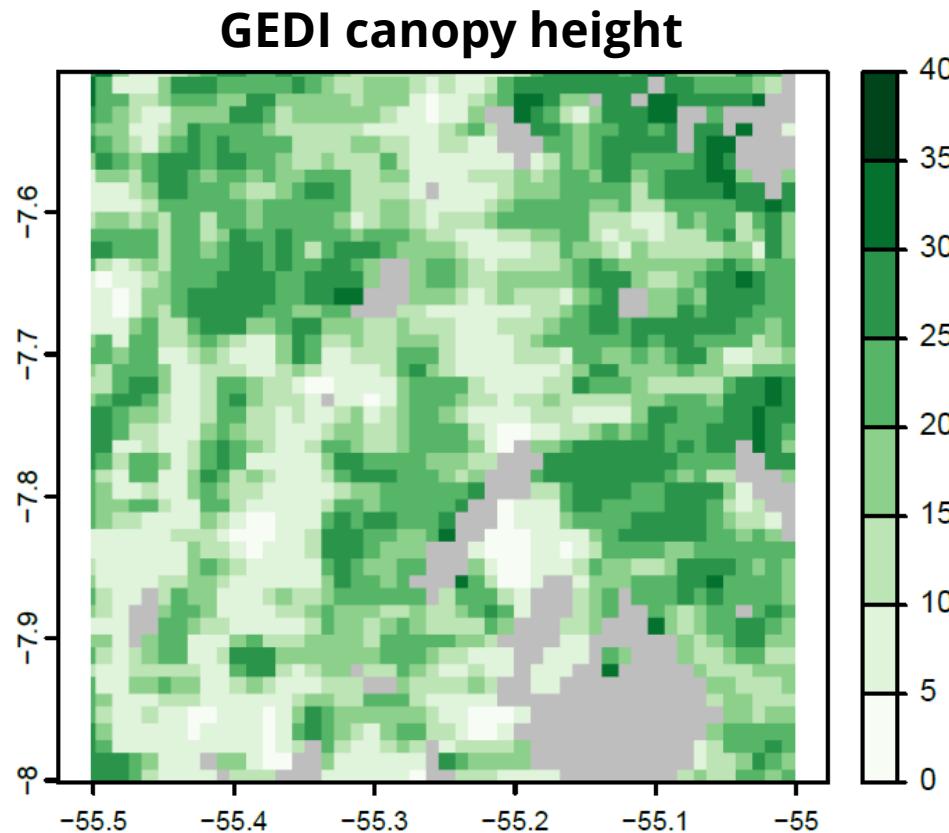
$$CWD_t = CWD_{t-1} + T_{br,t} \times (1 - f_{sb}) + T_{stem,t} - D_{cwd,t}$$

Decomposition*

$$D_{i,t} = S_{i,t} \times \left(1 - e^{-\frac{k_i}{tsy}}\right), \text{ with } S_i \in \{L, FWD, CWD\}$$

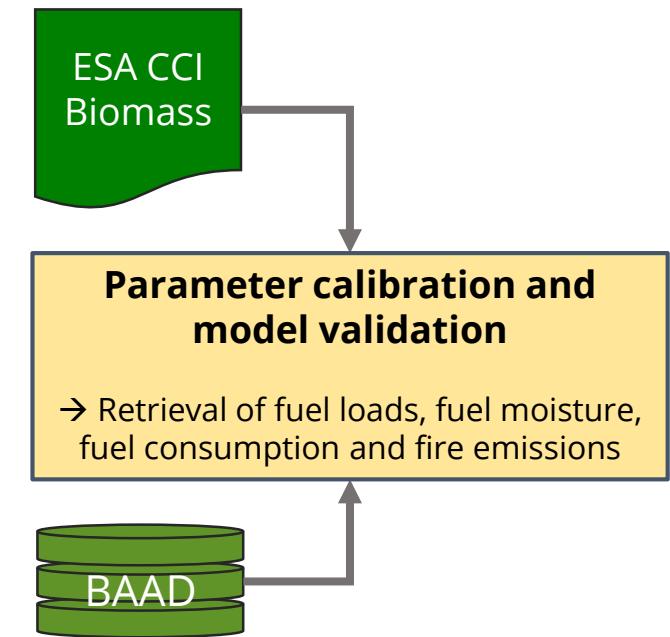
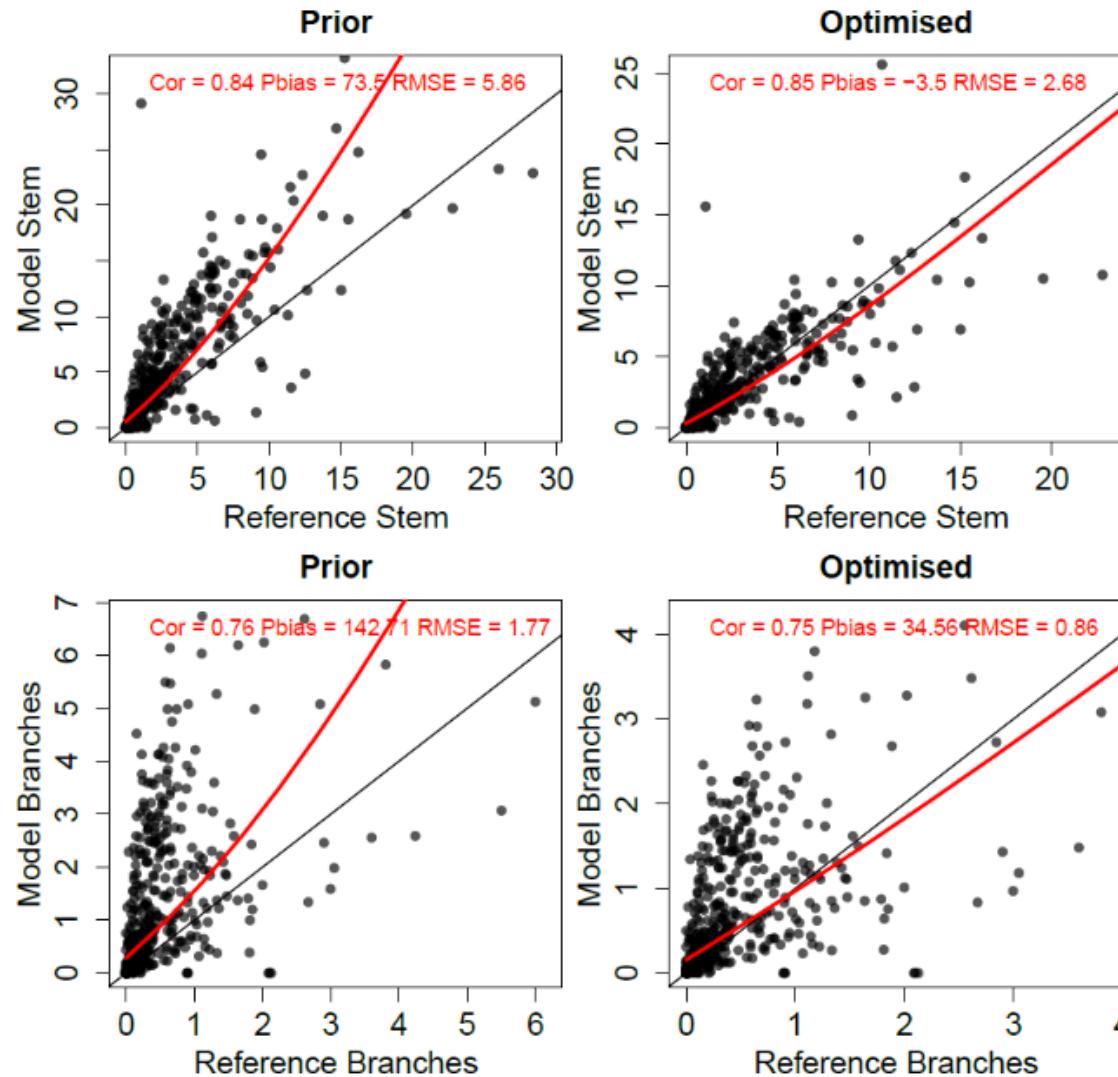
*decomposition rates based on (Harmon et al., 2020)

Pre-calibration of tree height



$$H = h1 \times LAI_{long-term}^2 + h2 \times Treecover + h3$$

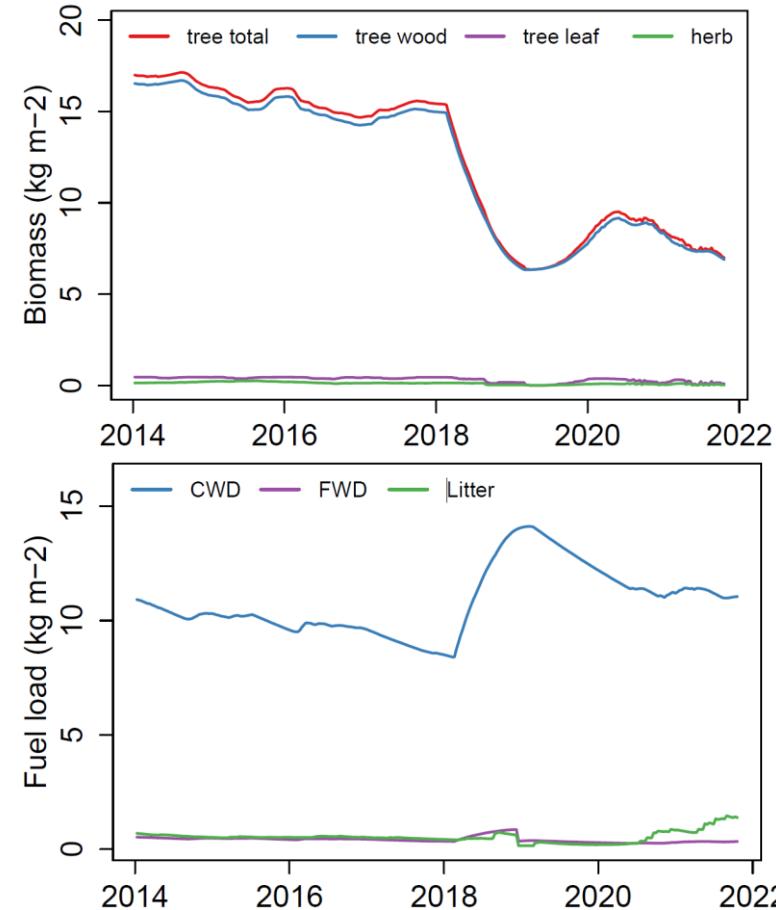
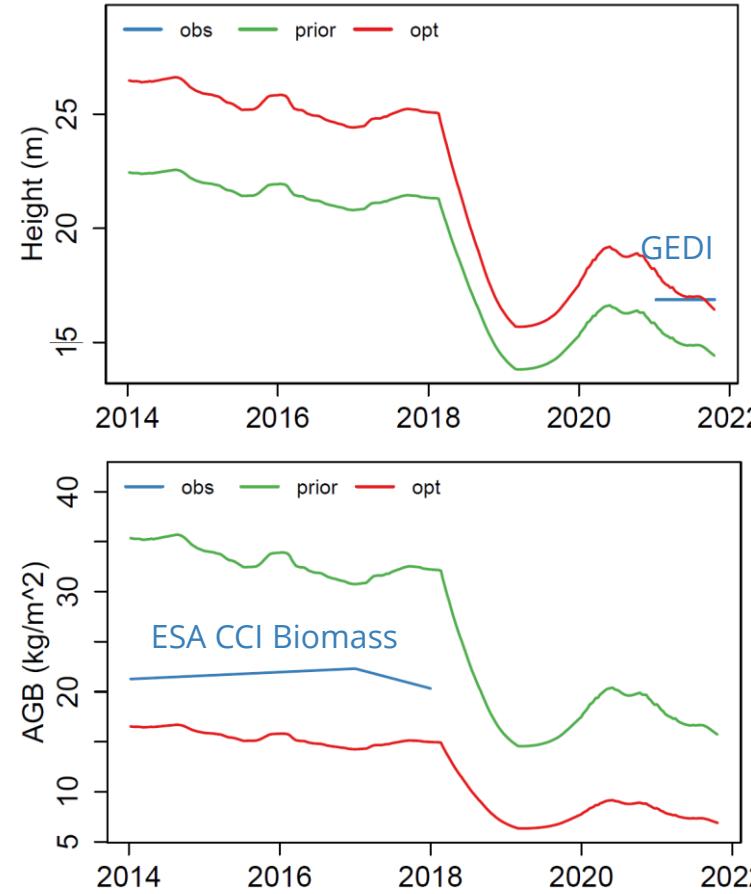
Pre-calibration of allometry module



Joint calibration for single grid cells

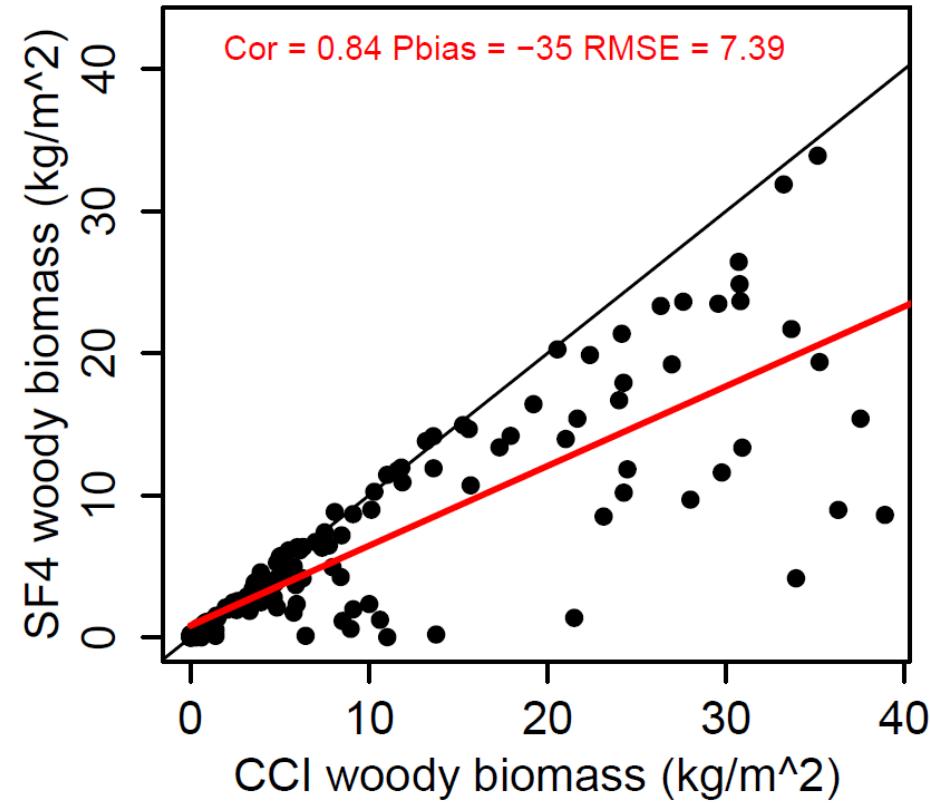
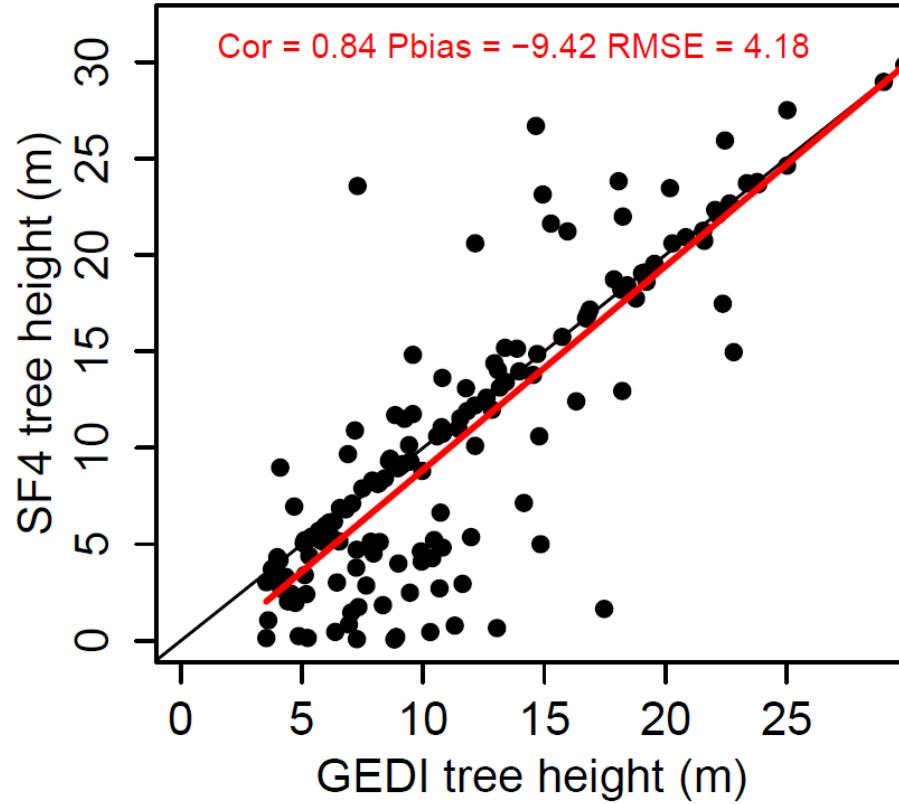


Calibration with genetic optimization using Kling-Gupta efficiency as cost function



Results for one example grid cell in the Amazon

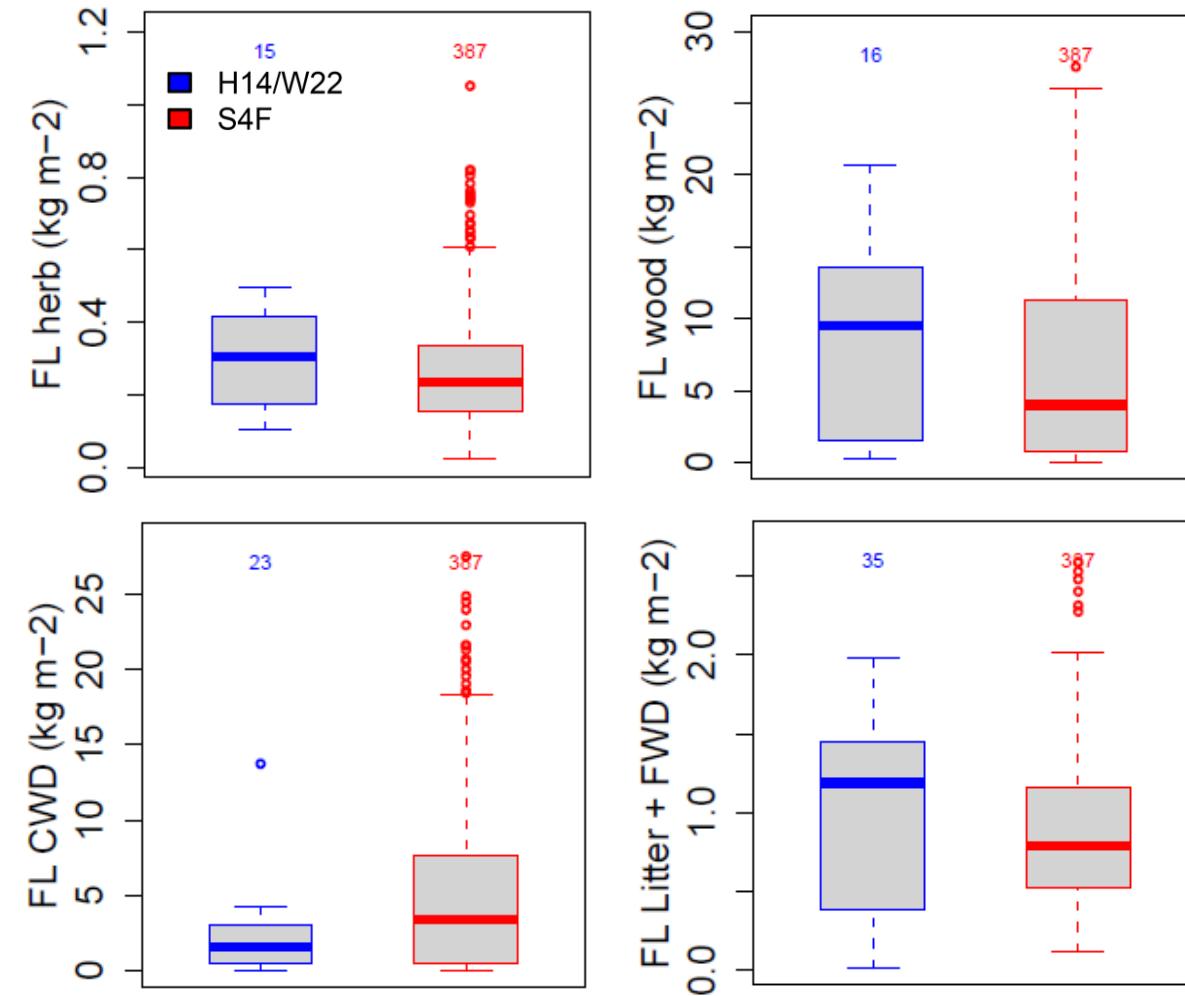
Joint calibration for single grid cells



Validation of fuel loads

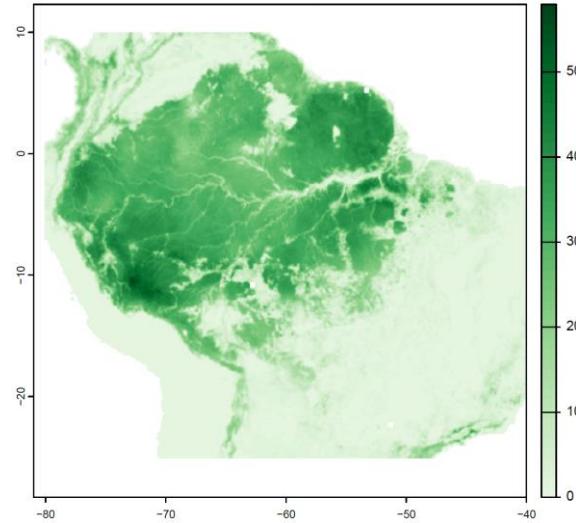


Validation against measurements from the global database of litter fall mass and litter pool sizes (Holland et al. 2014) and fuel consumption database (van Wees et al. 2022)

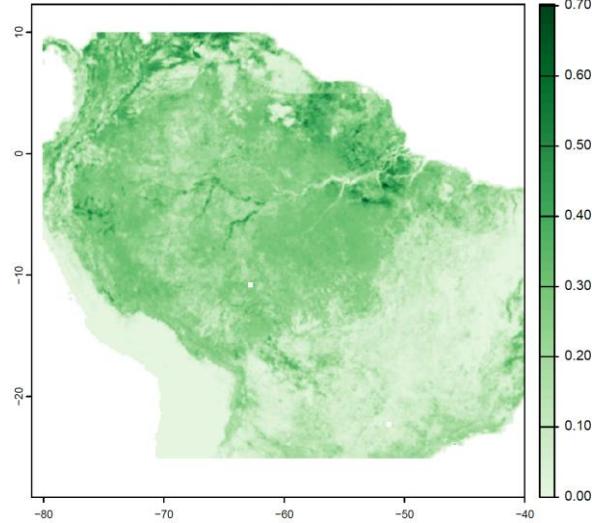


Results

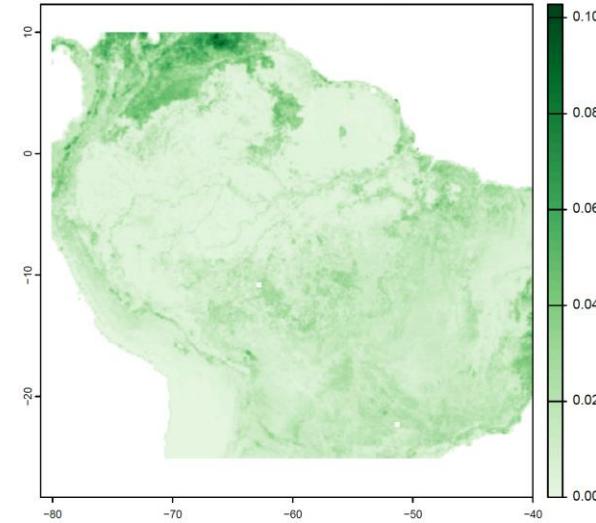
Woody biomass



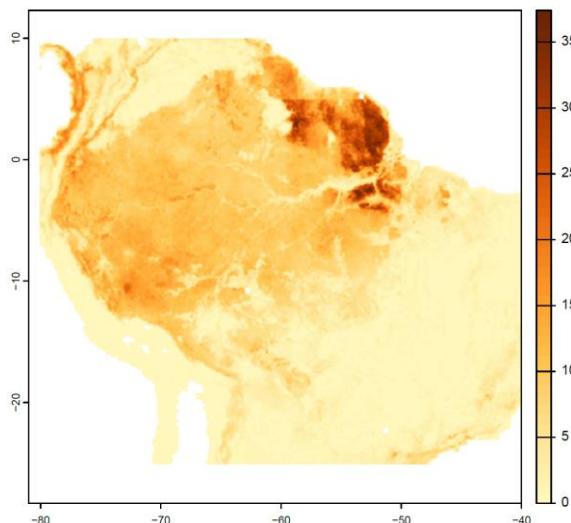
Leaf biomass



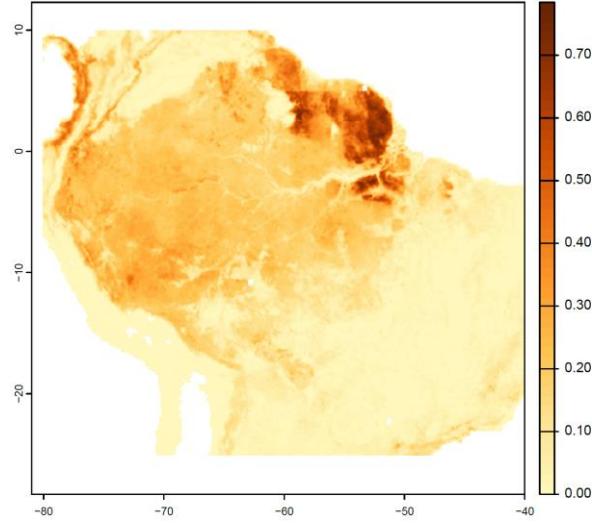
Herbaceous biomass



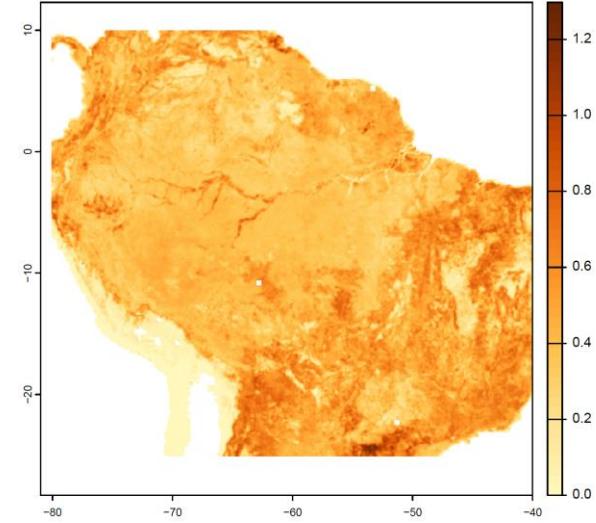
Coarse woody debris



Fine woody debris



Litter

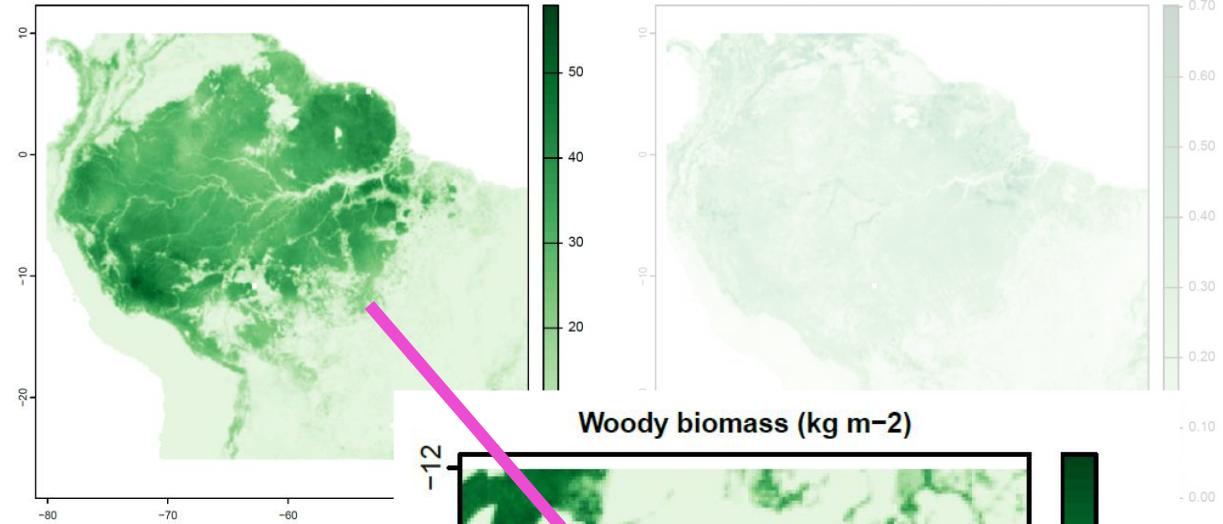


(kg/m²)

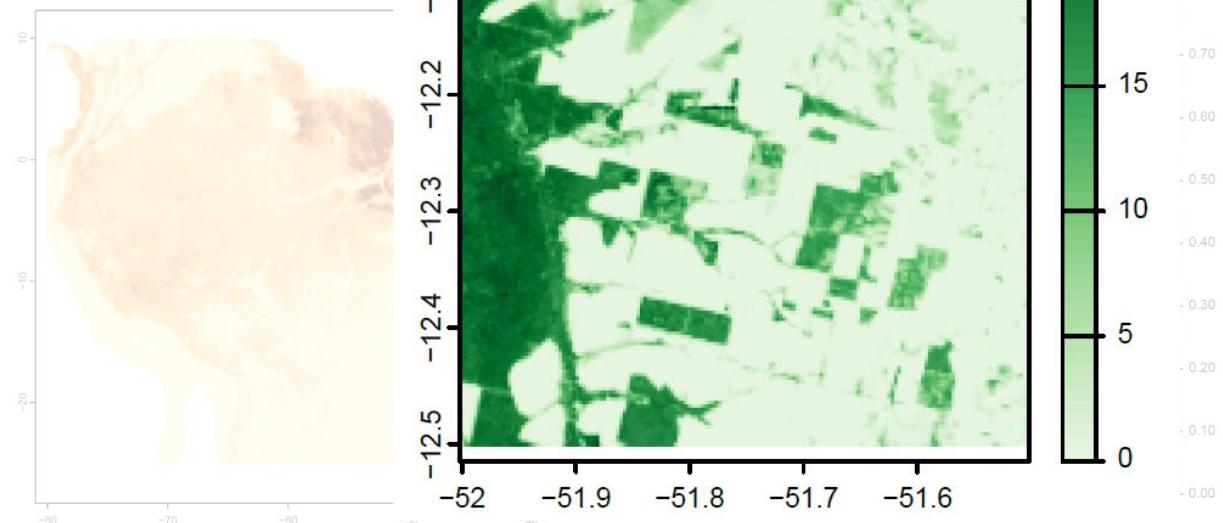


Results

Woody biomass



Coarse woody



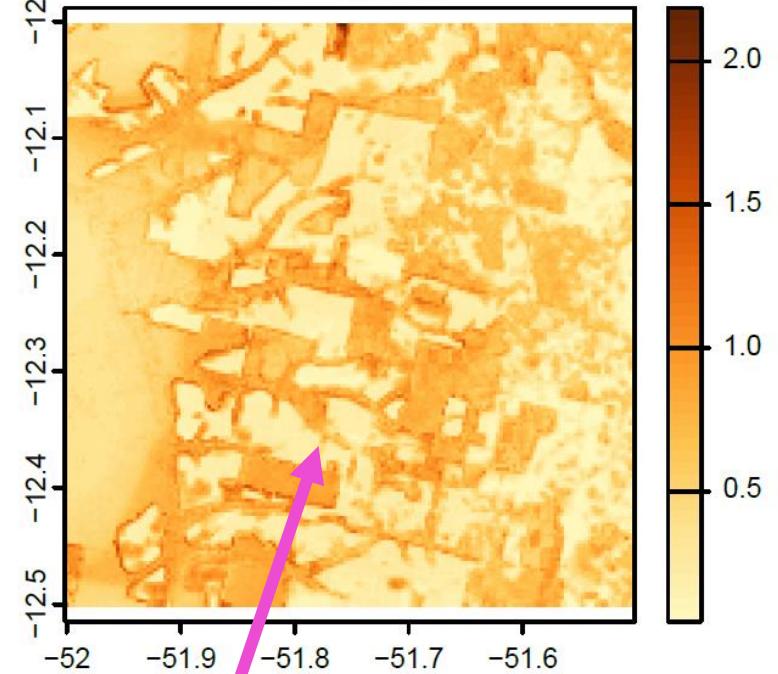
Leaf biomass



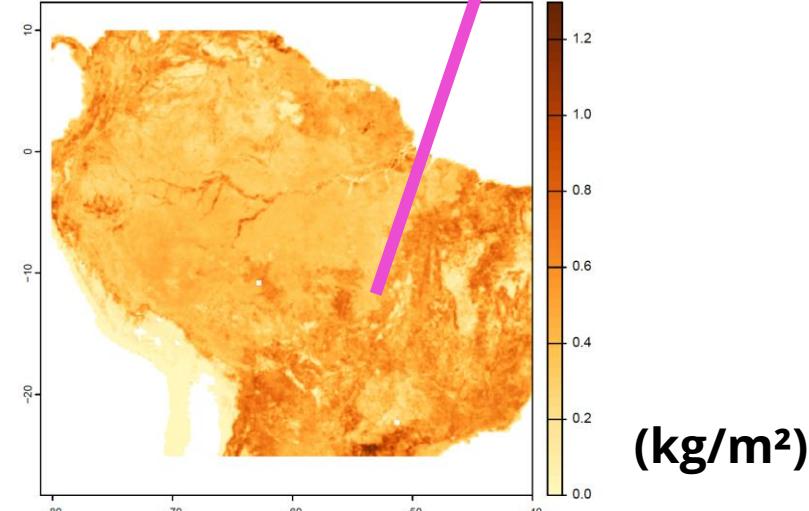
Herbaceous



Litter (kg m⁻²)



Litter



(kg/m²)

Conclusions



- Combining several satellite datasets in a data-fusion approach to estimate fuel loads at 300 m spatial resolution and 10-daily time steps
- Finding an optimum between four inconsistent datasets is challenging ...
- Nevertheless, we obtain plausible distributions and temporal dynamics of fuel loads
- We „burn“ the fuels in Sense4Fire to obtain fire emission estimates

- Database of surface fuel loads will be available in May at: **sense4fire.eu**
→ Feedback and test users welcome