

# The role of LST characteristics in the data-driven simulation of fluxes of carbon, water and energy

**Sophia Walther**, Martin Jung, Jacob A. Nelson, Fabian Gans, Sofia Ermida, Markus Reichstein and the FLUXCOM team

LST\_cci User Workshop  
June 2020



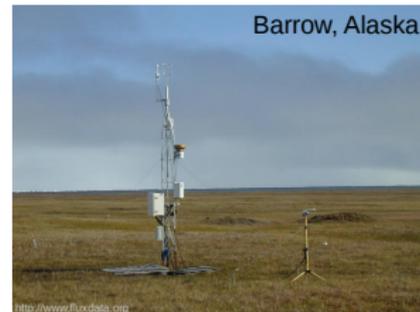
Max Planck Institute  
for Biogeochemistry



FluxCom



# Eddy-covariance: the only way to directly measure land-atmosphere fluxes



# A complementary way to model natural fluxes over land

# A complementary way to model natural fluxes over land

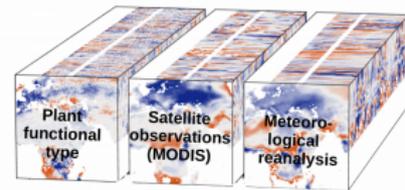
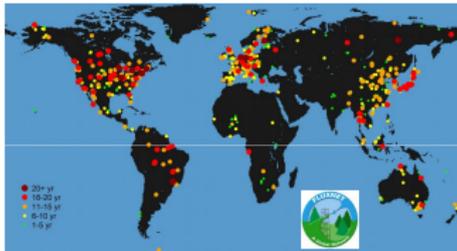


In-situ eddy-covariance  
fluxes & meteorology



machine learning

# A complementary way to model natural fluxes over land



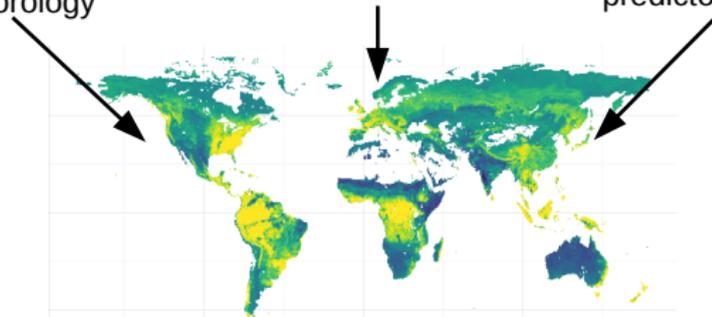
In-situ eddy-covariance fluxes & meteorology



machine learning



global gridded data sets of predictors



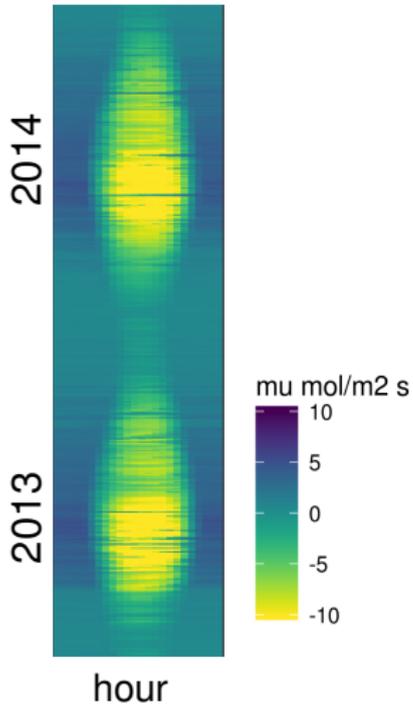
Global gridded estimates of fluxes

Annual net land CO<sub>2</sub> uptake [gC/m<sup>2</sup>d]

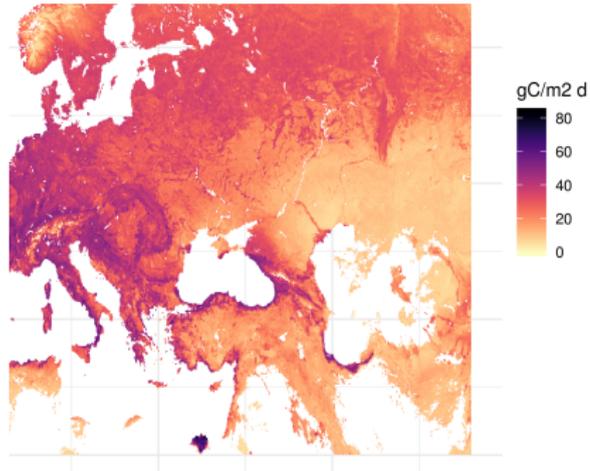


# Simulated carbon fluxes

Annual gross CO<sub>2</sub> uptake through photosynthesis

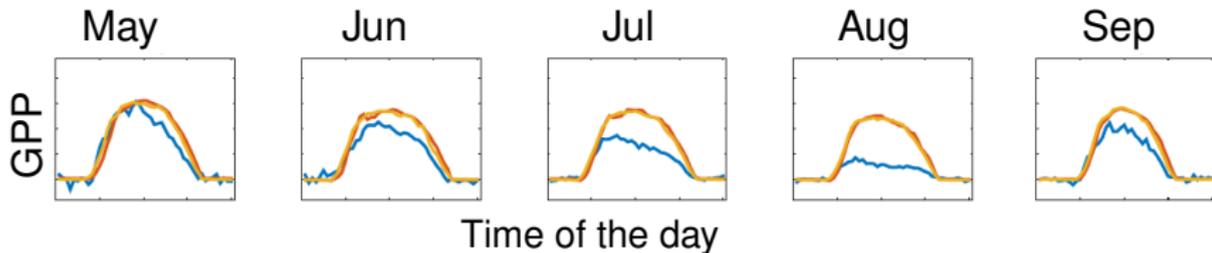


Net CO<sub>2</sub> uptake in the pixel of Jena/ Germany (hourly)



**Robust spatial and seasonal patterns**

# Drought effects not well represented

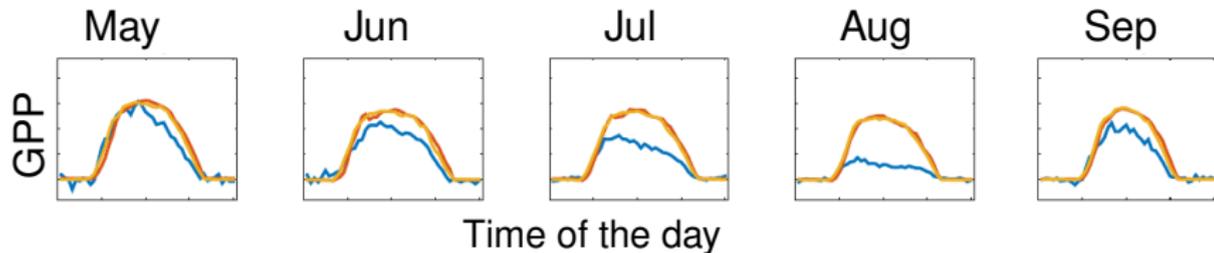


- observation
- modelled with daily predictors
- modelled with daily & halfhourly predictors

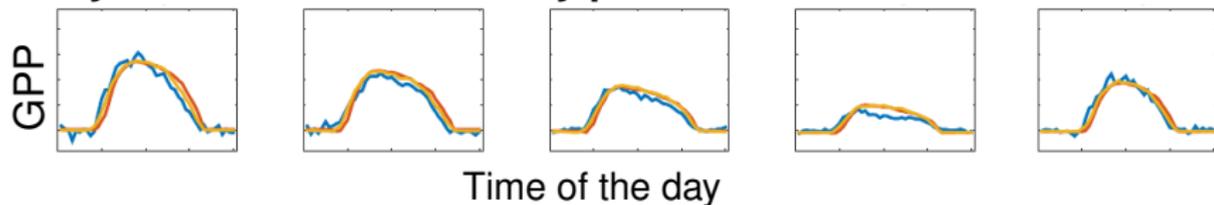
Puechabon



# Drought effects not well represented



## Daily GPP as additional daily predictor:



- observation
- modelled with daily predictors
- modelled with daily & halfhourly predictors

Puechabon

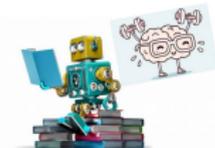






Eddy covariance & meteo:

- ▶ more sites & more site-years
- ▶ careful QC, gapfilling, ancillary
- ▶ harmonization of different sources
- ▶ additional eddy processing



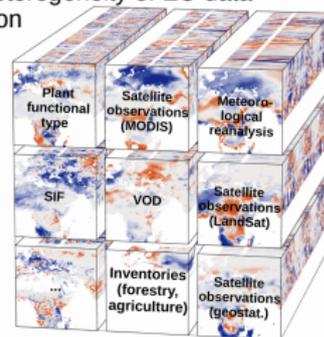
machine learning  
▶ more and other techniques

Features:

- ▶ extend suite of EO predictors
- ▶ both local (full resolution) and global scales
- ▶ dedicated QC+gapfilling
- ▶ develop methods to account for footprint mismatch & heterogeneity of EO data
- ▶ harmonization

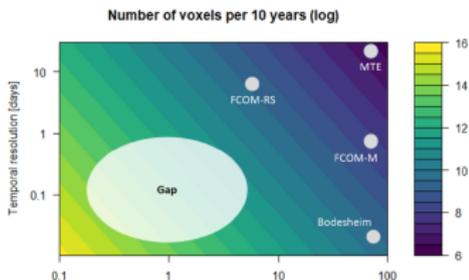


# FluxCom2.0



Set-up

- ▶ semi-operational
- ▶ flexible
- ▶ scalable



Resolution

- ▶ towards subdaily and ~km scale



Uncertainty characterization

- ▶ better characterization of different types and sources of uncertainty
- ▶ develop methods to estimate an overall uncertainty

# Towards a better understanding of how characteristics of LST datasets affect the data-driven simulation of land-atmosphere fluxes:

- ▶ careful QC, gapfilling, ancillary techniques
- ▶ harmonization of different sources
- ▶ additional eddy processing

# FluxCom2.0

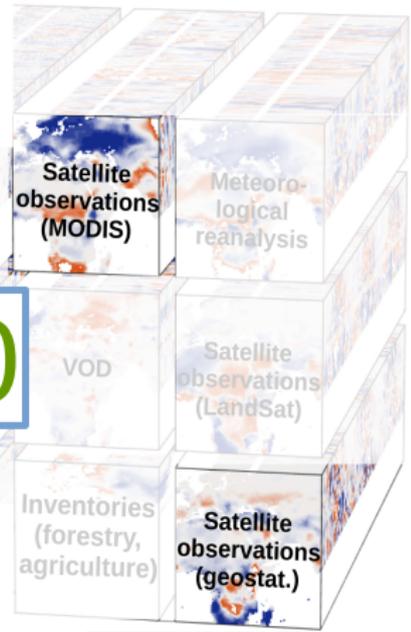
&



land surface temperature  
cci

### Set-up

- ▶ semi-operation:
- ▶ flexible
- ▶ scalable



### Uncertainty characterization

- ▶ better characterization of different types and sources of uncertainty
- ▶ develop methods to estimate an

→ LST ranks among the most important predictor variables!

# Towards a better understanding of how characteristics of LST datasets affect the data-driven simulation of land-atmosphere fluxes:

which data?

- **MODIS daily:**
  - **CCI:**  
cutouts @0.01°/ 1km
  - **NASA:**  
cutouts @1km  
MxD11A1
- **Seviri hourly:**
  - **CCI:**  
0.05°, oblique,  
instant obs.
  - customized **LSAF:**  
0.05°, hourly avrg.,  
oblique & nadir

# Towards a better understanding of how characteristics of LST datasets affect the data-driven simulation of land-atmosphere fluxes:

## what do we want to know?

- representativeness of **temporal information**, ie hourly vs 4xdaily, hourly avrg. vs inst. hourly
- **directional effects**
- effects of **retrieval methods**

## which data?

- **MODIS daily:**
  - **CCI:** cutouts @0.01°/ 1km
  - **NASA:** cutouts @1km MxD11A1
- **Seviri hourly:**
  - **CCI:** 0.05°, oblique, instant obs.
  - customized **LSAF:** 0.05°, hourly avrg., oblique & nadir

# Towards a better understanding of how characteristics of LST datasets affect the data-driven simulation of land-atmosphere fluxes:

## what do we want to know?

- representativeness of **temporal information**, ie hourly vs 4xdaily, hourly avrg. vs inst. hourly
- **directional effects**
- effects of **retrieval methods**

## which data?

- **MODIS daily:**
  - **CCI:** cutouts @0.01°/ 1km
  - **NASA:** cutouts @1km MxD11A1
- **Seviri hourly:**
  - **CCI:** 0.05°, oblique, instant obs.
  - customized **LSAF:** 0.05°, hourly avrg., oblique & nadir

→ **Site-level cross-validation at ~ 300 sites in Europe**

## Important processing steps

- **geometrical correction** to nadir (Ermida et al. 2018 RS) for Seviri and possibly CCI MODIS
- **QC** using flags, uncertainty information and beyond
- dedicated **gapfilling**
- **cutout** around towers for MODIS/ account for scale-mismatch of tower footprint–Seviri pixel explicitly (**downscaling**) or implicitly (in the machine-learning training)

## Important processing steps

- **geometrical correction** to nadir (Ermida et al. 2018 RS) for Seviri and possibly CCI MODIS
- **QC** using flags, uncertainty information and beyond
- dedicated **gapfilling**
- **cutout** around towers for MODIS/ account for scale-mismatch of tower footprint–Seviri pixel explicitly (**downscaling**) or implicitly (in the machine-learning training)

**Discussion on any of these aspects very welcome!**

## Applications in the fields of...

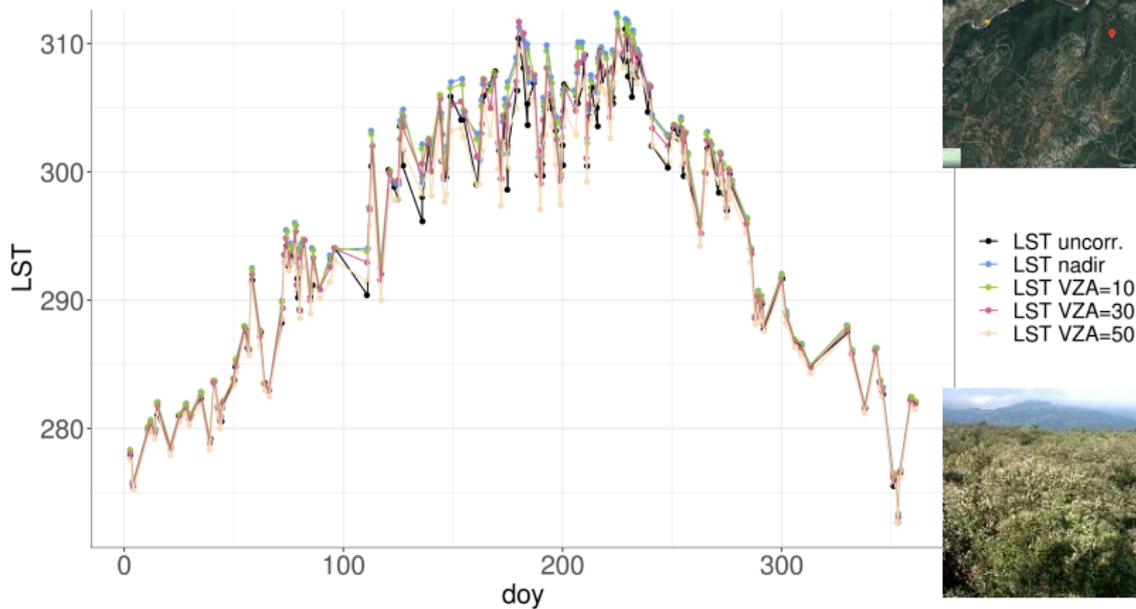
data-driven carbon, water and energy flux estimates

- the terrestrial carbon, water, energy cycles
- atmospheric sciences
- for the benchmarking of models of the land surface
- ecology
- land-atmosphere interactions
- ...

Spatially explicit flux estimates will be produced for the best performing set-up in the cross-validation

# first tests on normalizing directionality

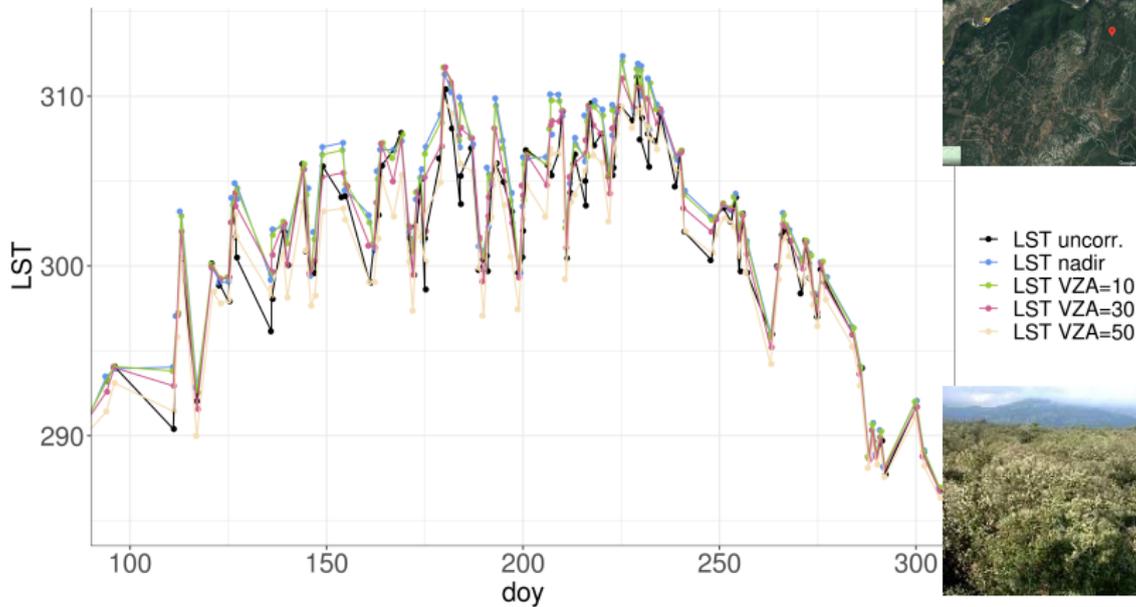
NASA Terra daytime swath products in the region of Puechabon/ France



normalized using the Kernel-hotspot model after Ermida et al. 2018

# first tests on normalizing directionality

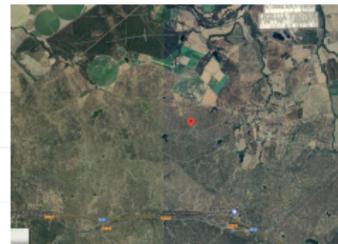
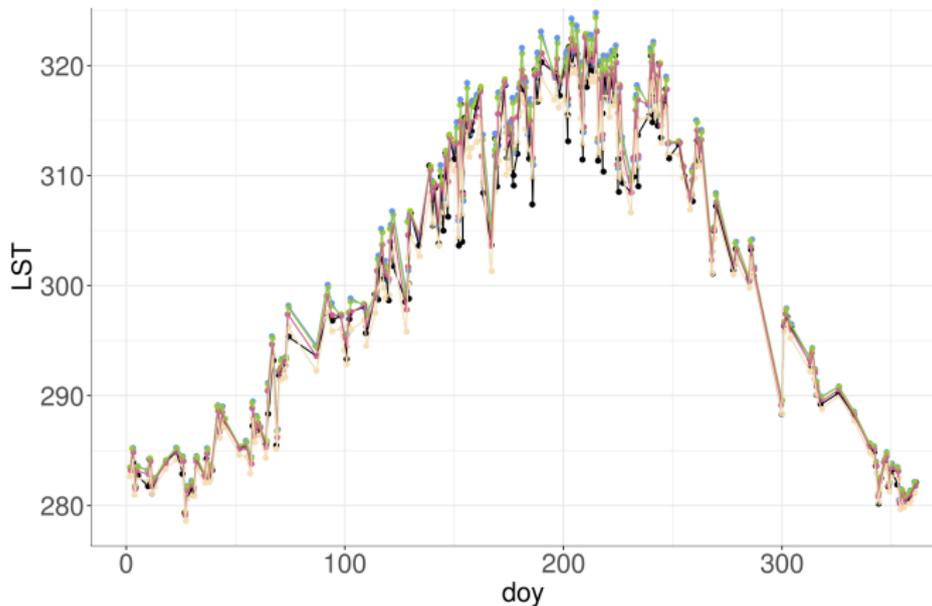
NASA Terra daytime swath products in the region of Puechabon/ France



normalized using the Kernel-hotspot model after Ermida et al. 2018

# first tests on normalizing directionality

NASA Terra daytime swath products in the region of Las Majadas/ Spain



- LST uncorr.
- LST nadir
- LST VZA=10
- LST VZA=30
- LST VZA=50

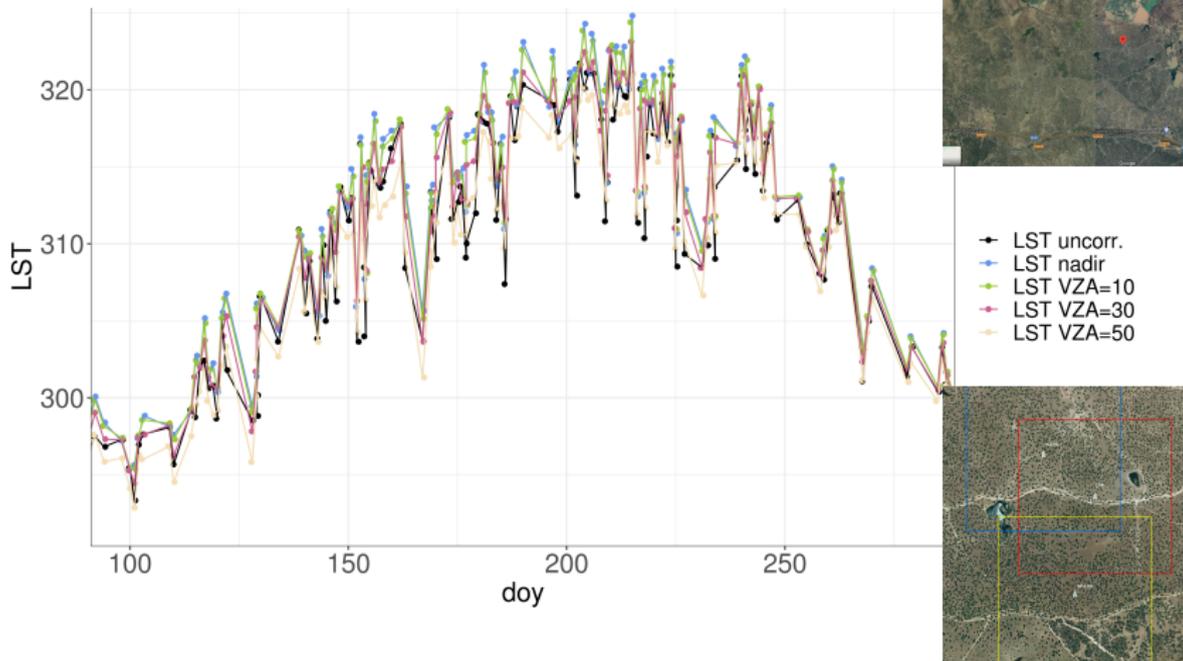


Pacheco-Labrador et al. 2017

normalized with the Kernel-hotspot model after Ermida et al. 2018

# first tests on normalizing directionality

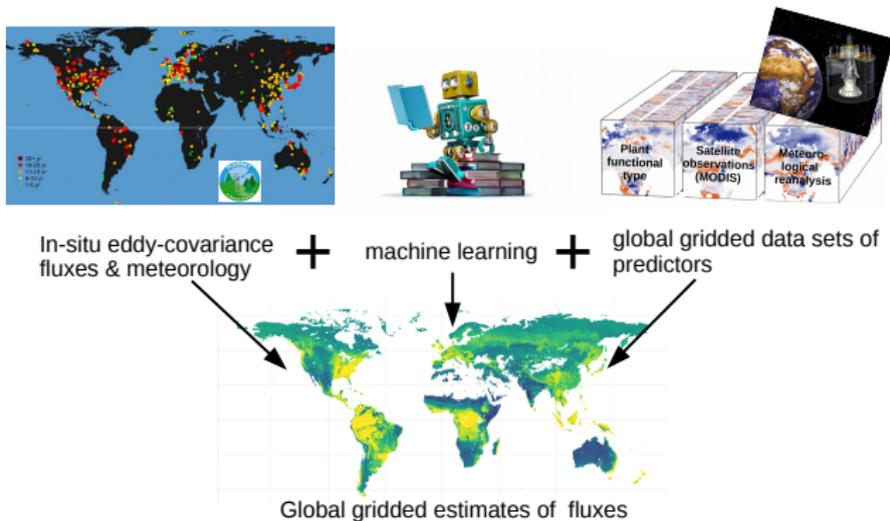
NASA Terra daytime swath products in the region of Las Majadas/ Spain



Pacheco-Labrador et al. 2017

normalized with the Kernel-hotspot model after Ermida et al. 2018

Thank you :)



**questions, suggestions, criticism?**  
now, Padlet or [swalth@bgc-jena.mpg.de](mailto:swalth@bgc-jena.mpg.de)