



Stress Deciduous Phenology in the CLM

Kyla Dahlin & Rosie Fisher

February 25, 2014



Can we accurately model **seasonal changes** in vegetation in the semi-arid tropics?

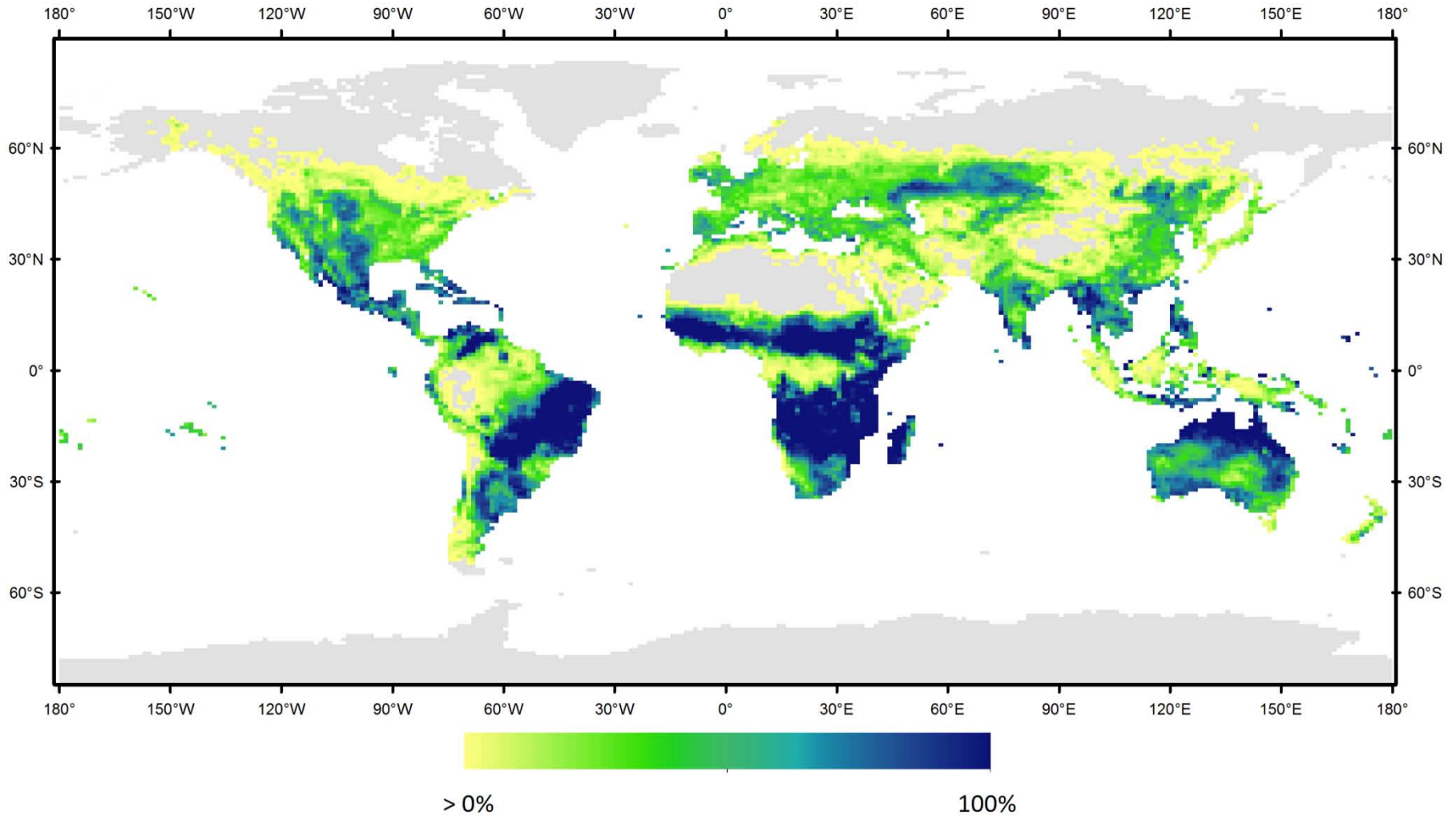
Phenology in CLM

- **15 non-crop plant functional types**
- **3 phenology algorithms**
 - evergreen
 - cold deciduous
 - stress (= drought) deciduous

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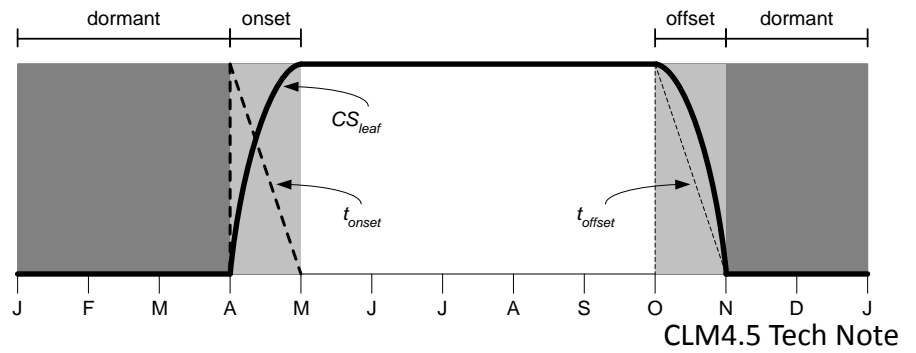
Where is CLM Stress Deciduous?



How does stress/drought deciduousness work in CLM?

(in warm, long-day regions*)

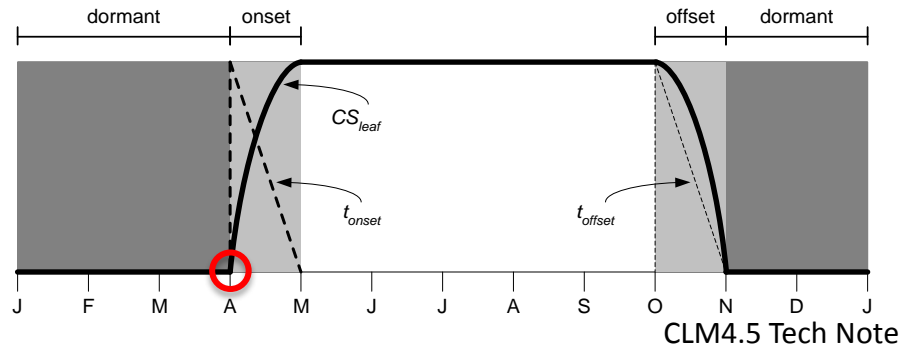
CLM4.5 Tech Note
from White et al 1997



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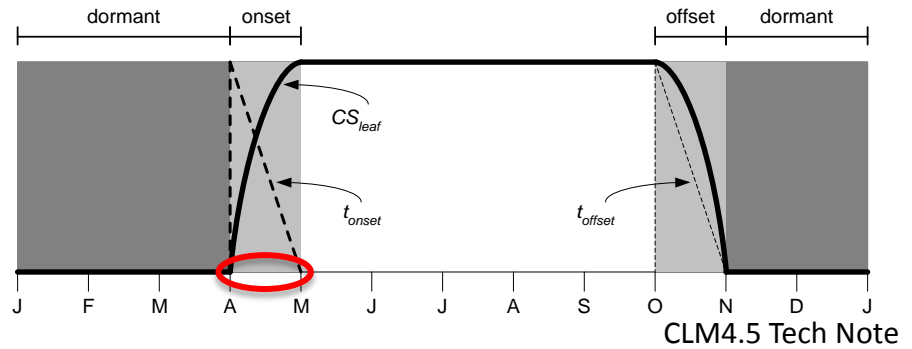


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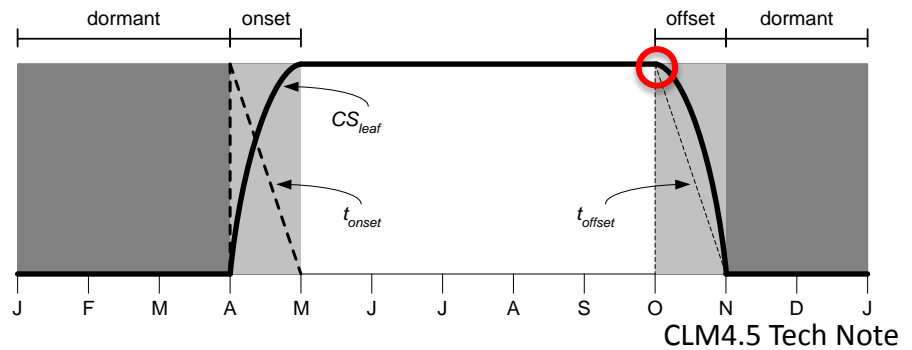


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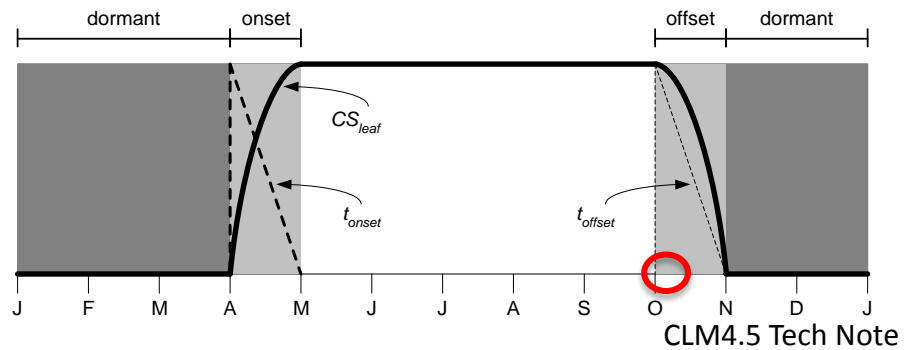


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Questions

- How well does the stress deciduous phenology algorithm work in CLM?

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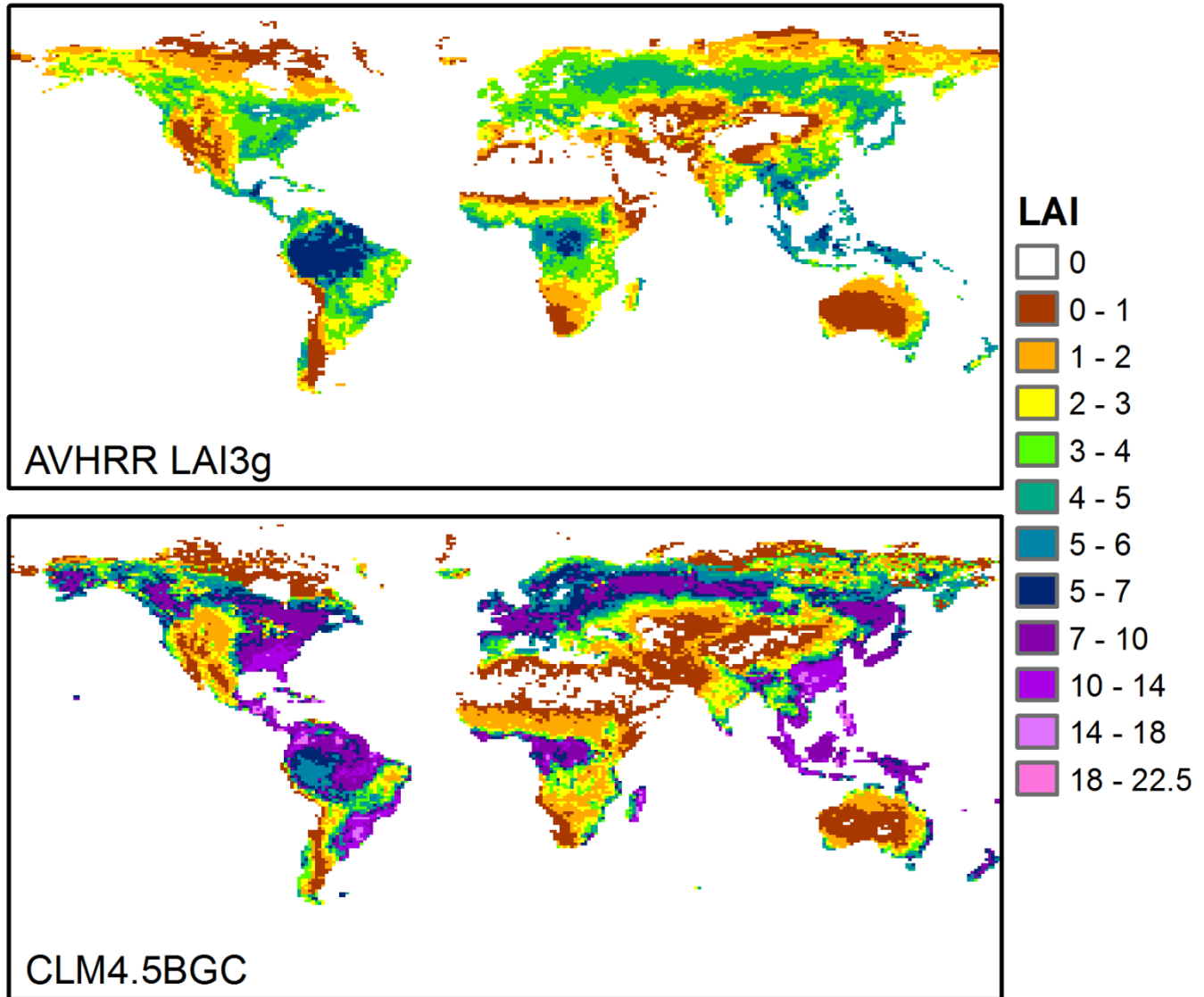
- How well does the stress deciduous phenology algorithm work in CLM? [**Leaf Area Index**]

(compared to AVHRR-derived LAI_{3g} for 1982-2010; Zhu et al 2013)

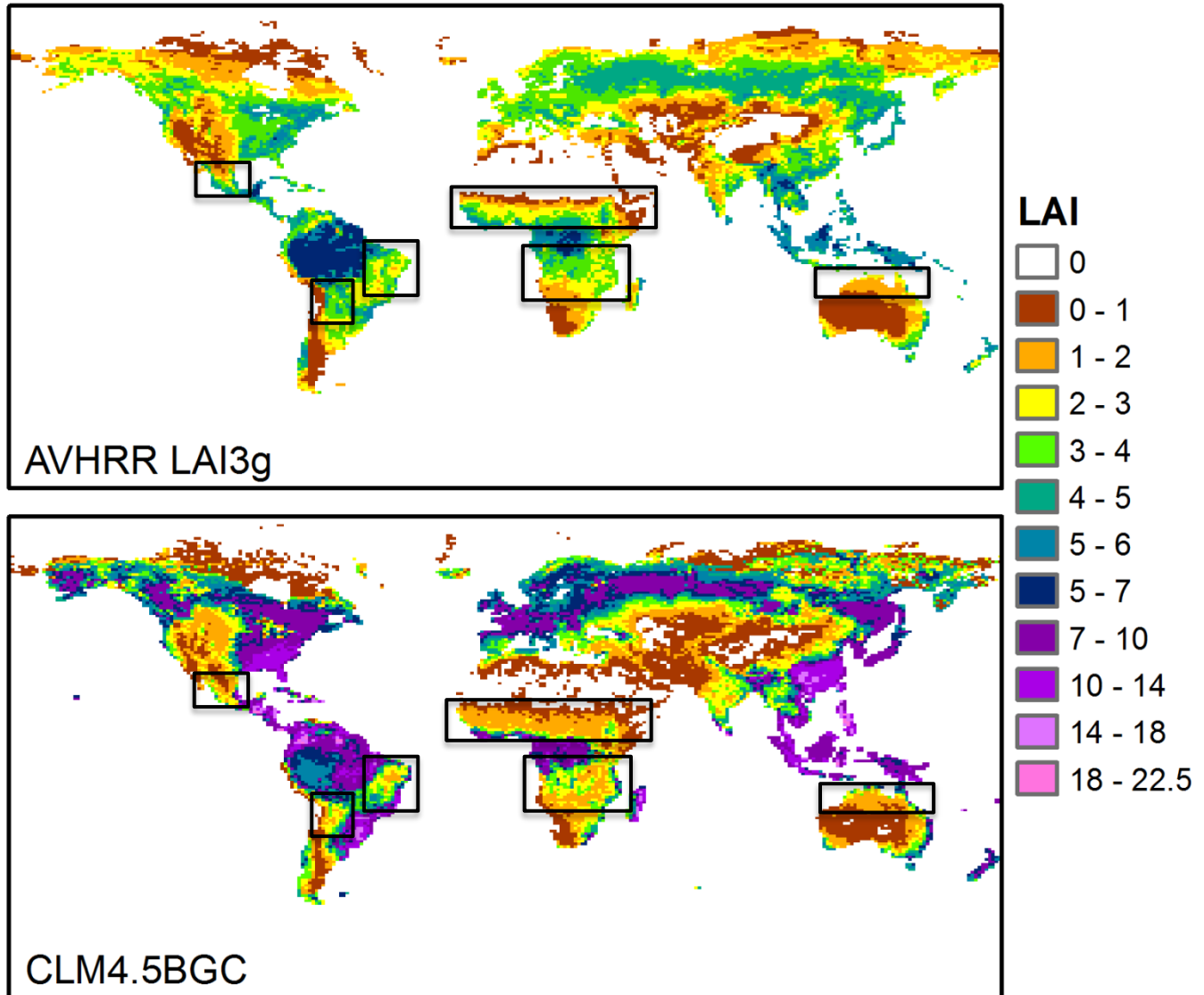
Questions

- How well does the stress deciduous phenology algorithm work in CLM? [**Leaf Area Index**]
(compared to AVHRR-derived LAI_{3g} for 1982-2010; Zhu et al 2013)
- Can we make it work better? (with relatively simple changes)

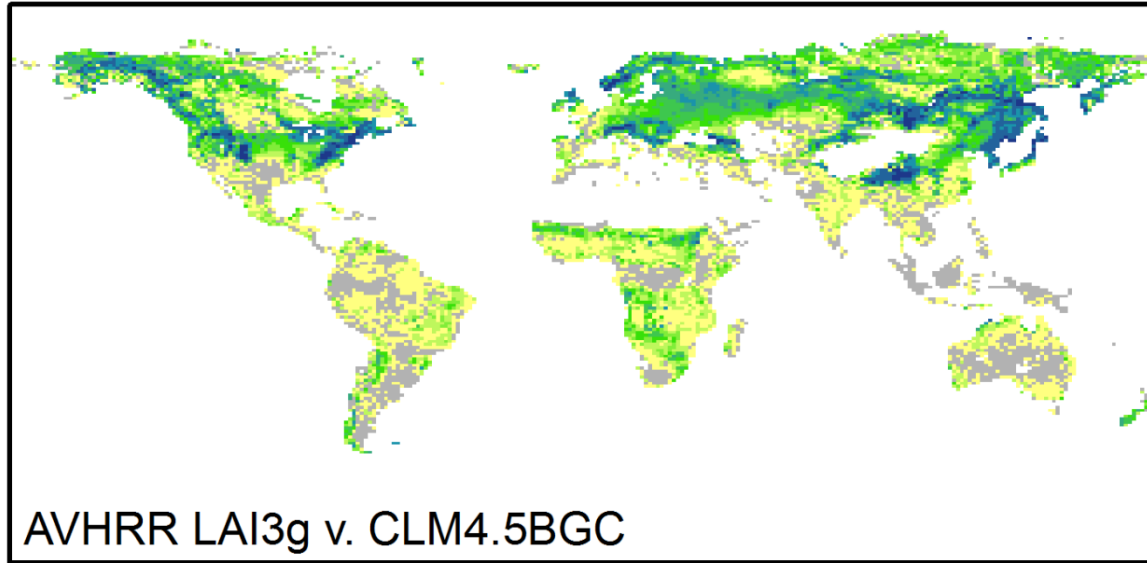
Obs v. CLM4.5BGC LAI



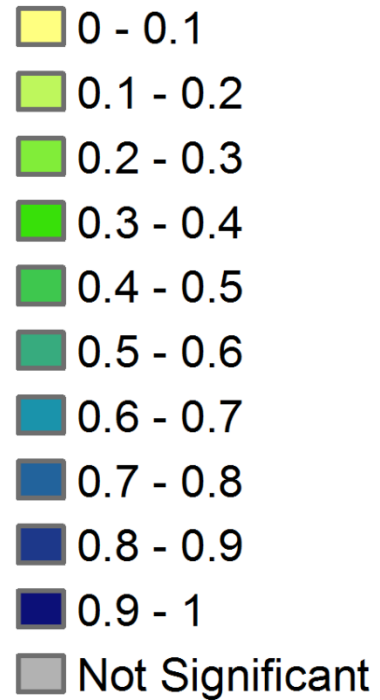
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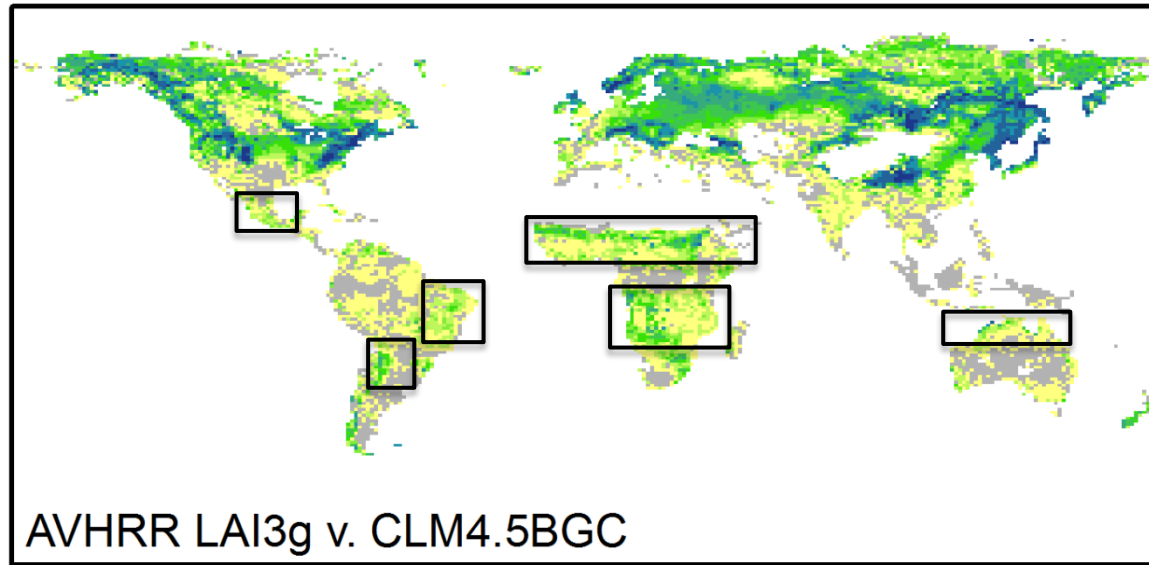
Correlations



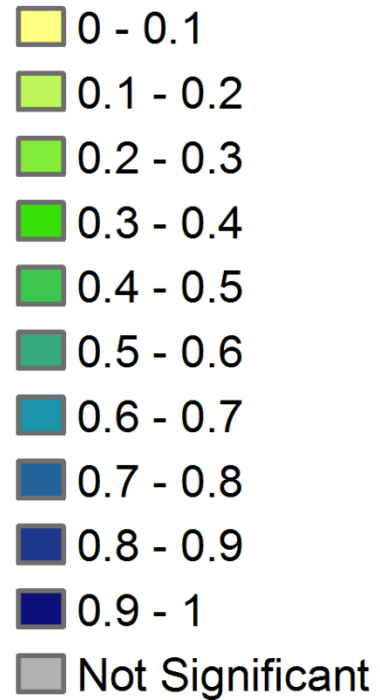
R^2



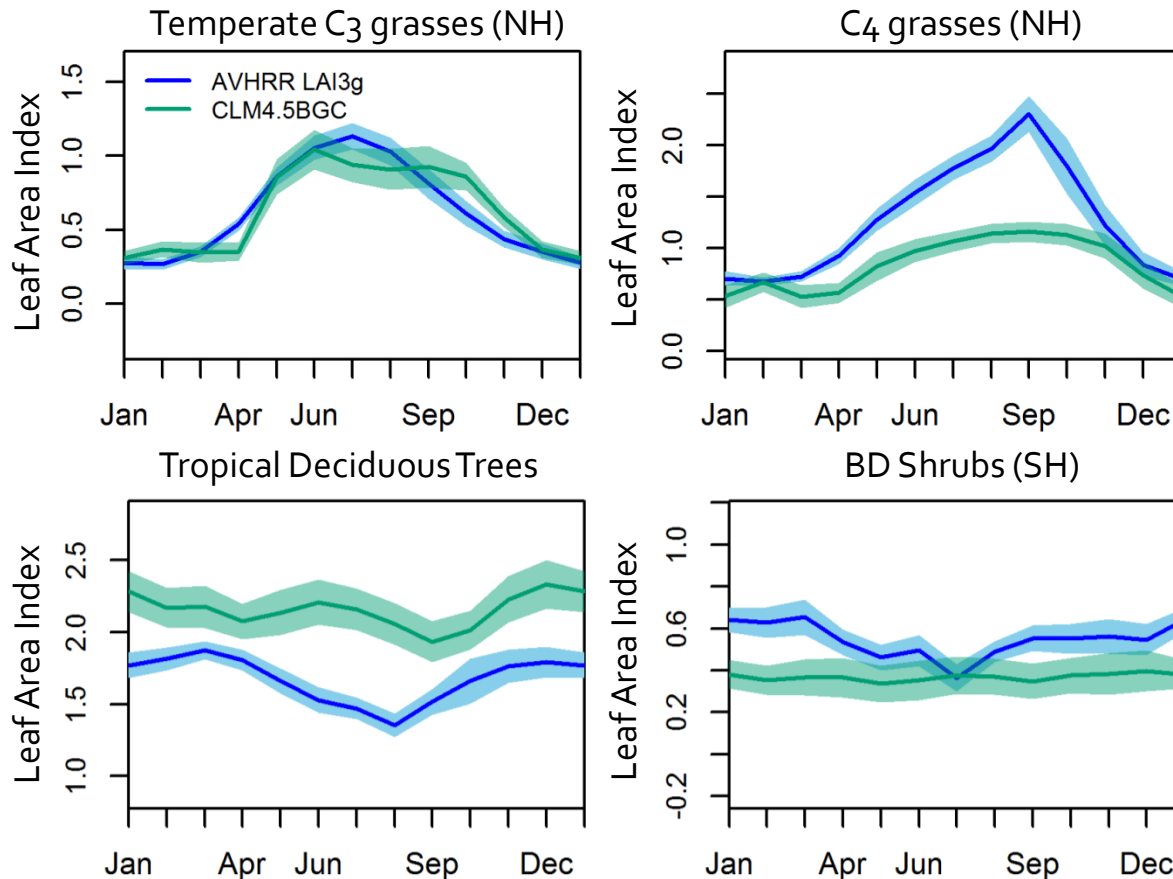
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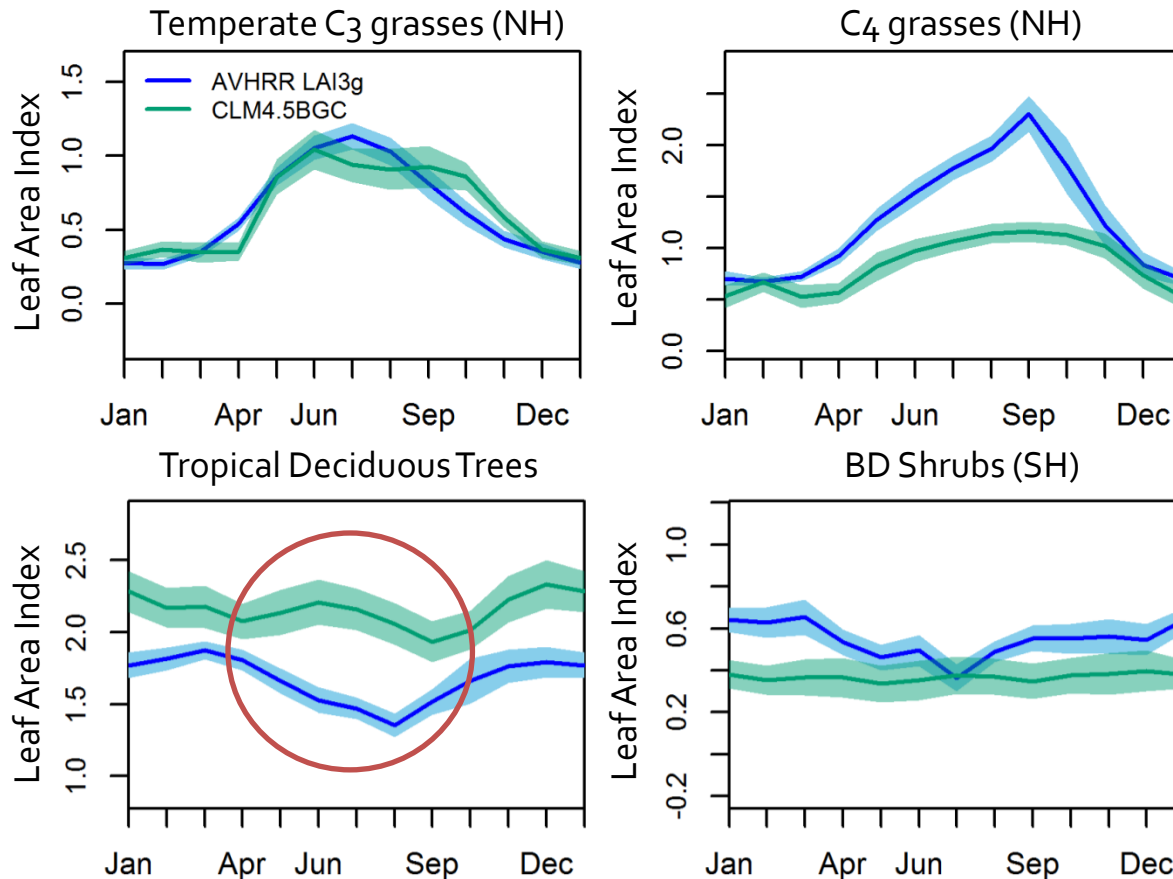
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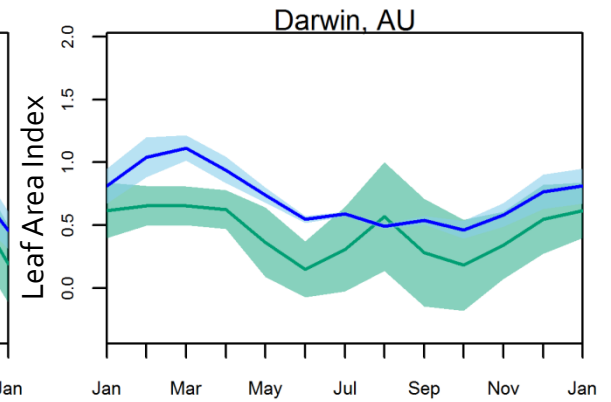
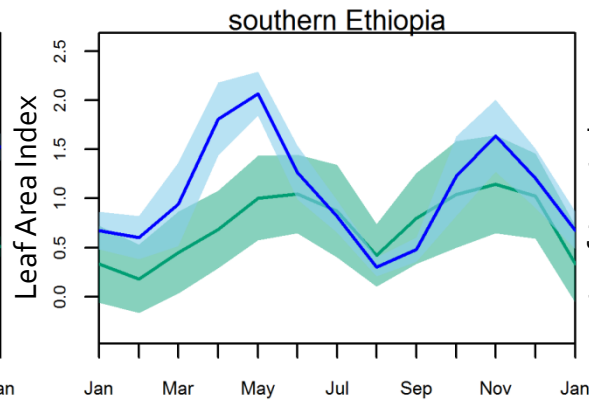
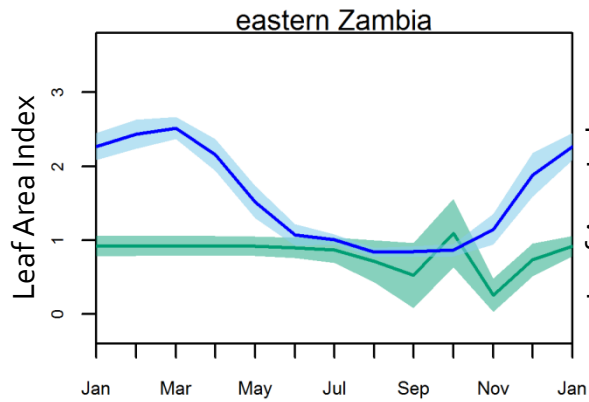
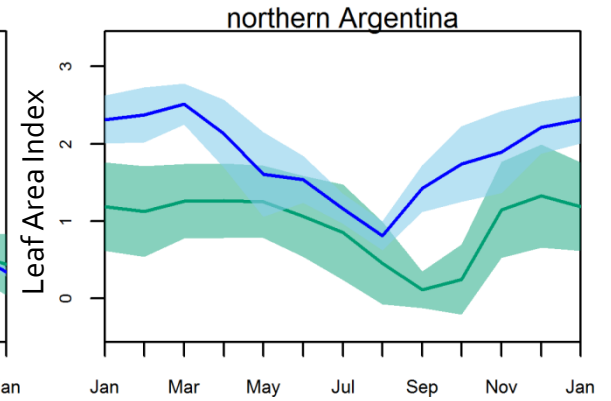
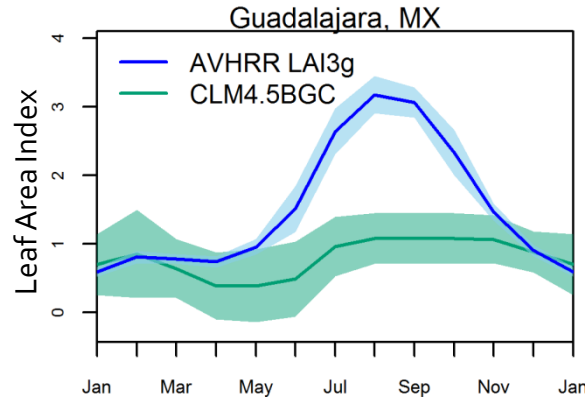
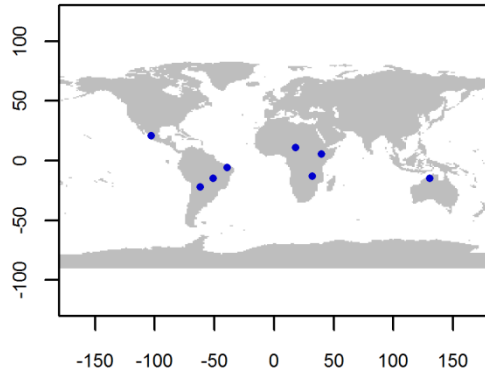
How well does the stress deciduous phenology algorithm work in CLM across different PFTs?



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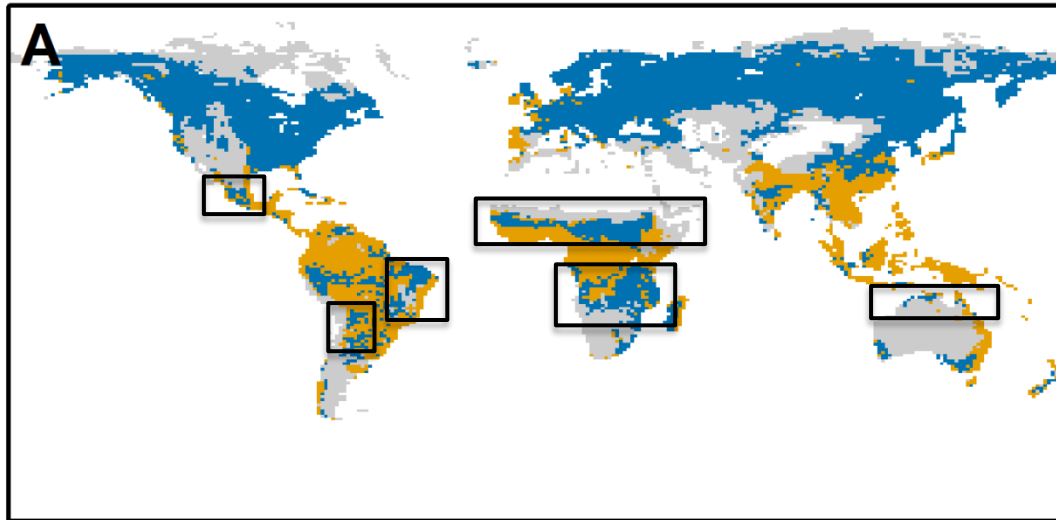


What about at single points?

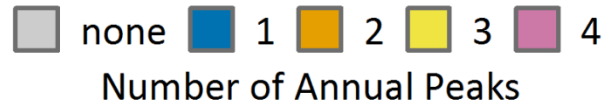
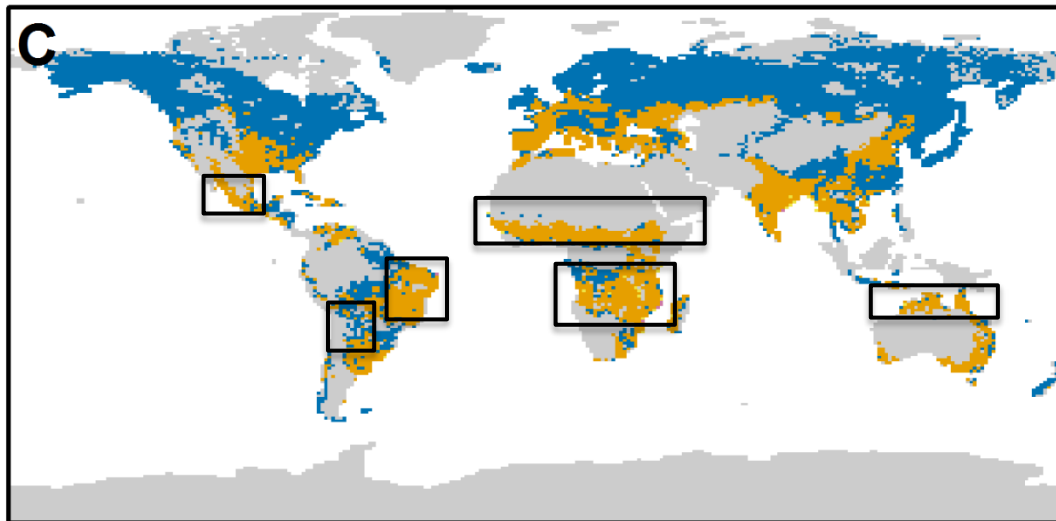


Counting Peaks

AVHRR LAI3g

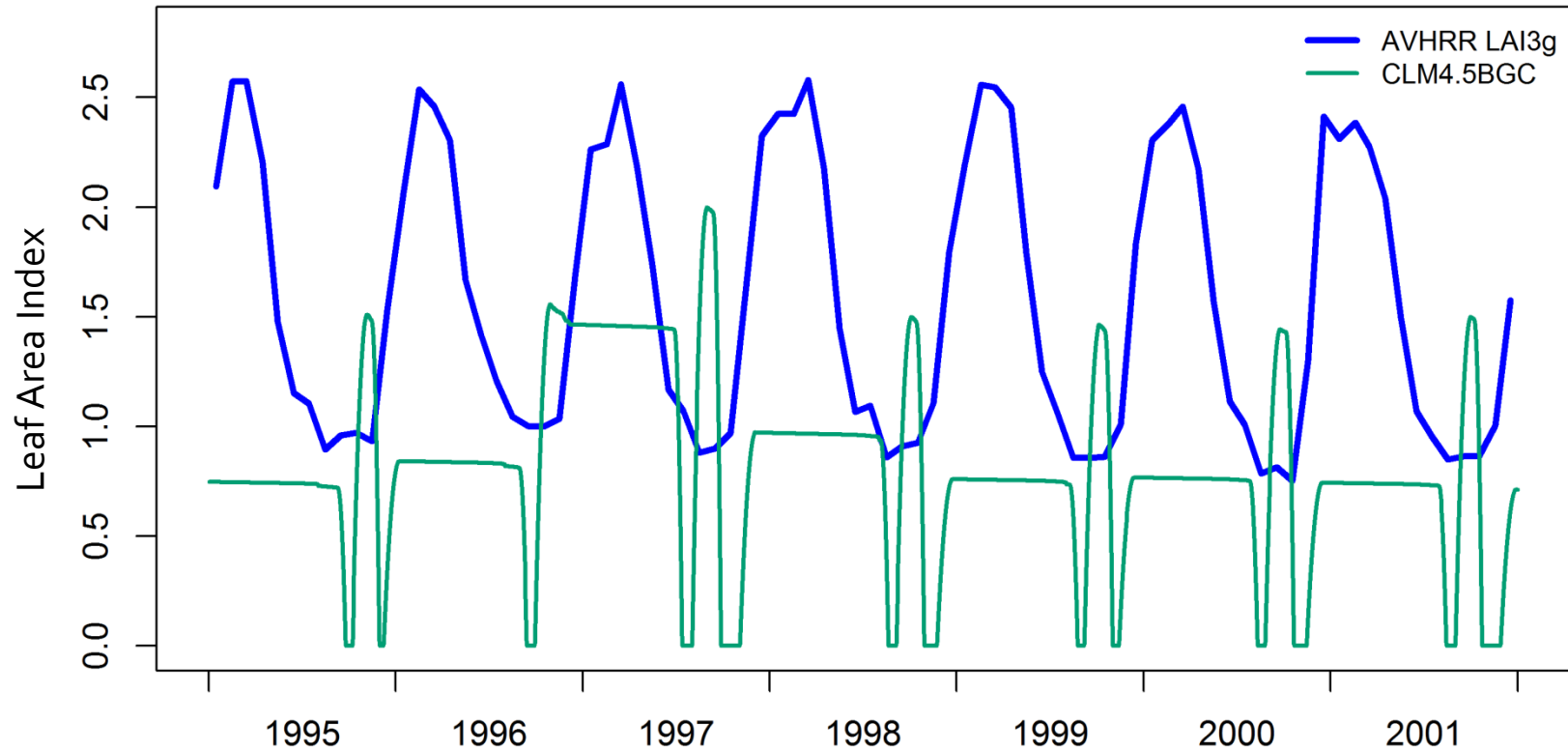


CLM4.5BGC



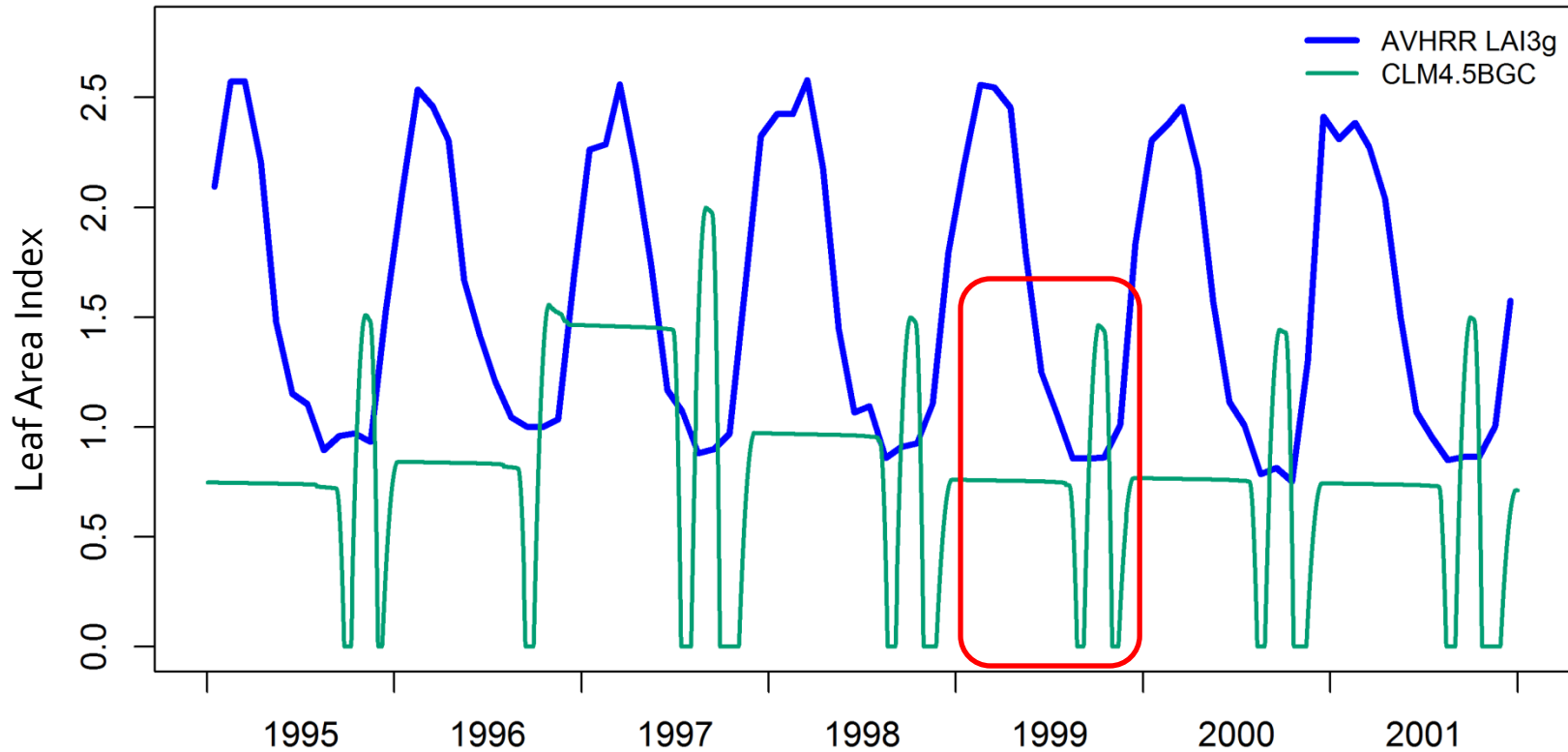
What about daily model output?

Eastern Zambia

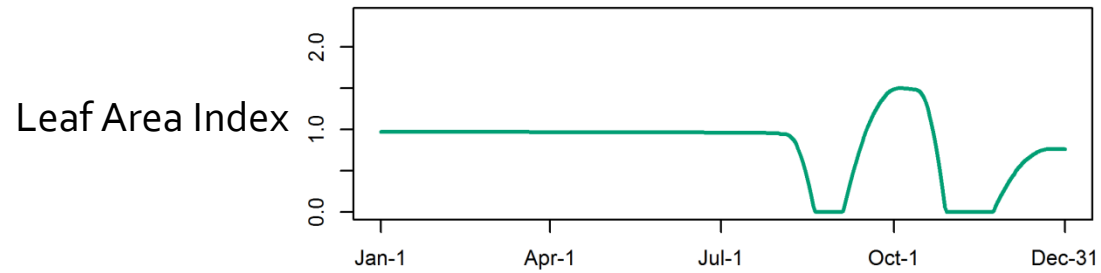


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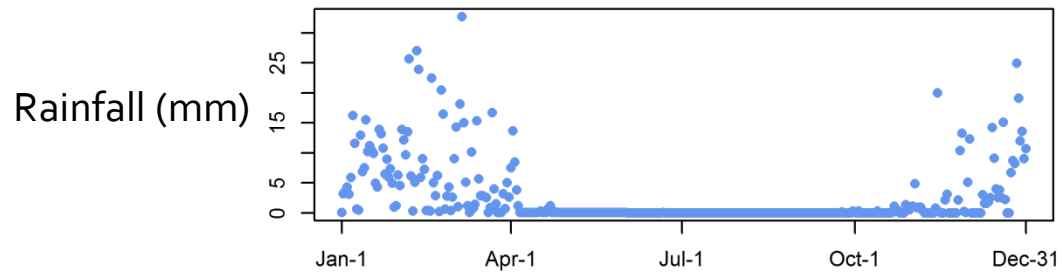
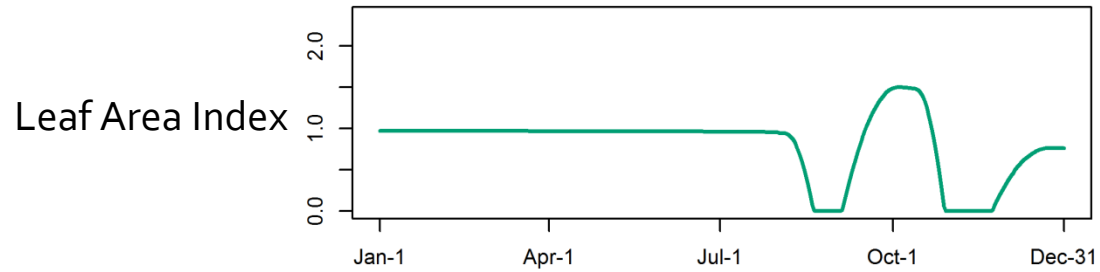
Eastern Zambia



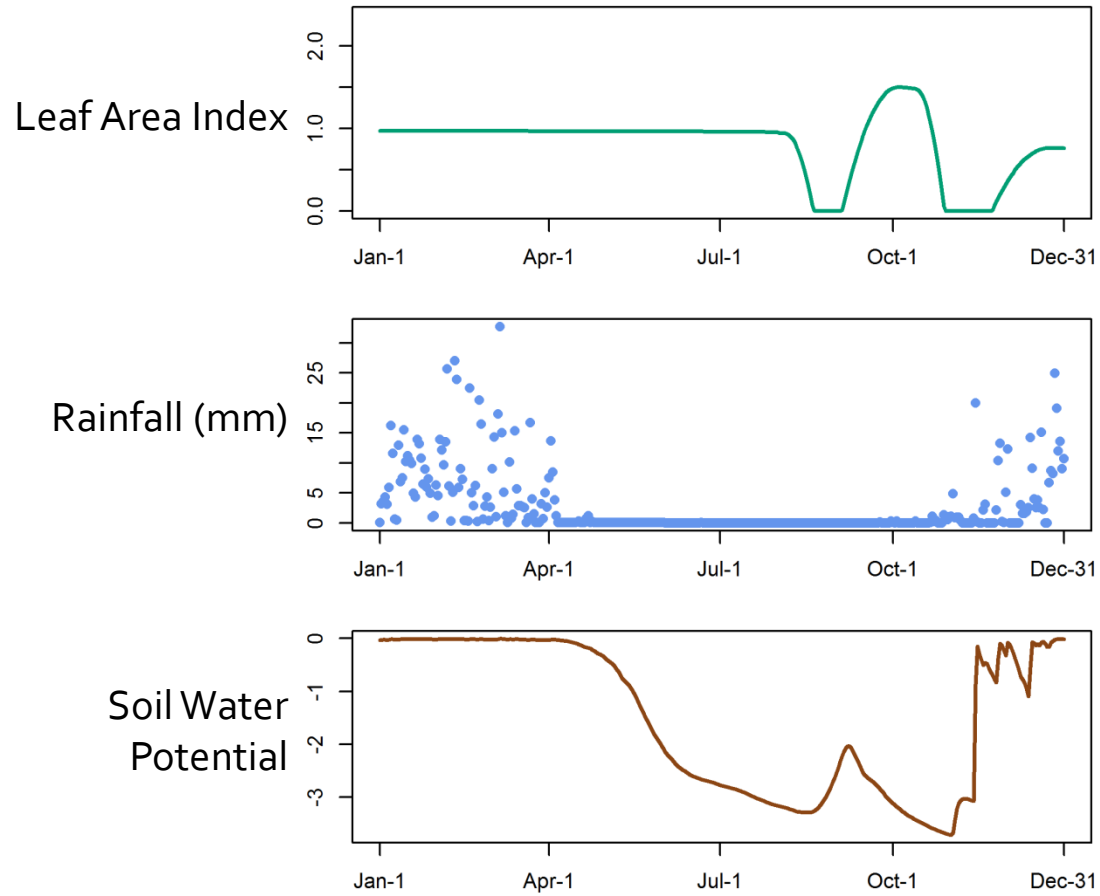
What's going on?



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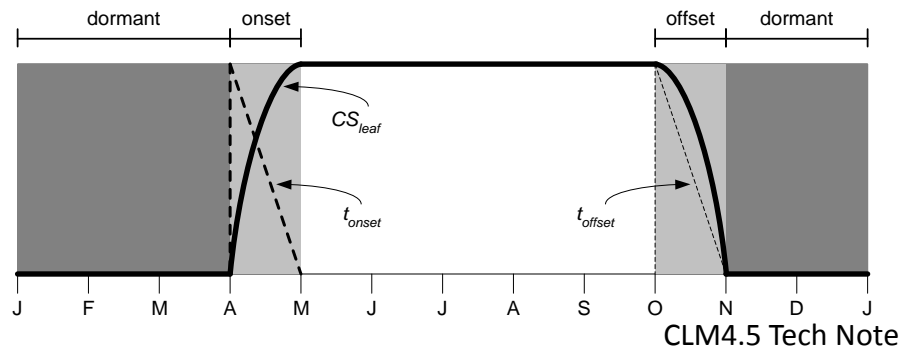
What's going on?



How does stress deciduousness currently work in CLM?

(in warm, long-day regions)

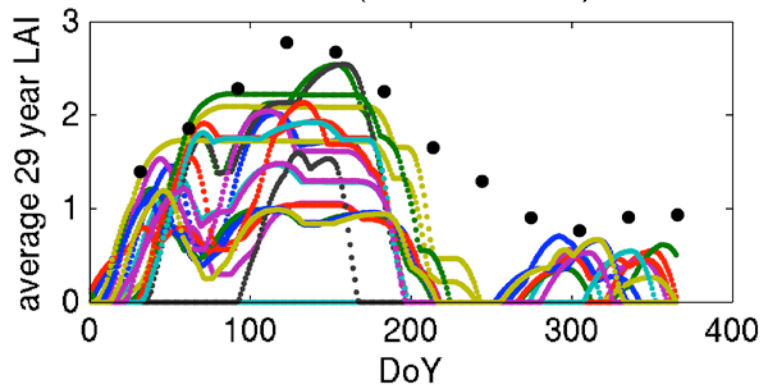
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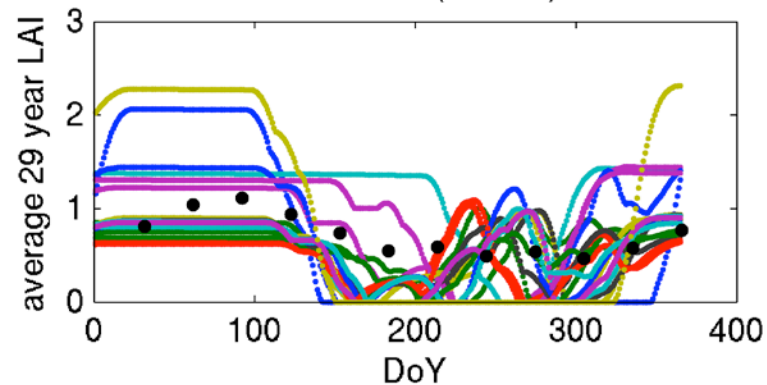
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3 dimensional sensitivity analysis

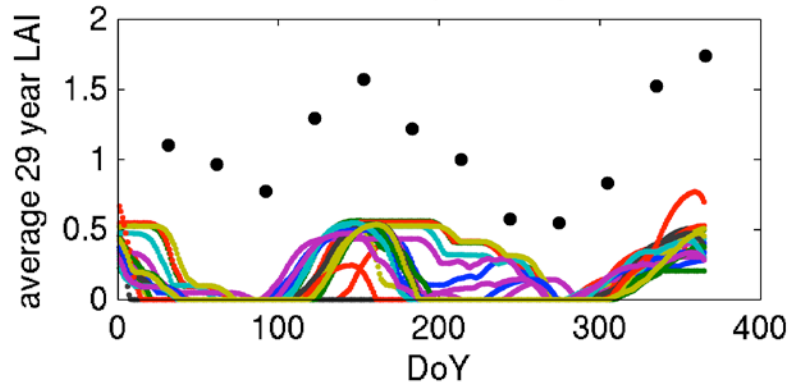
39W 6S (Western Brazil)



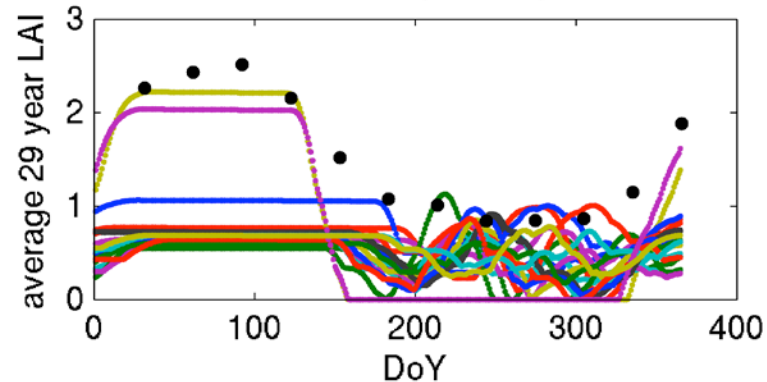
130E 15S (Darwin)



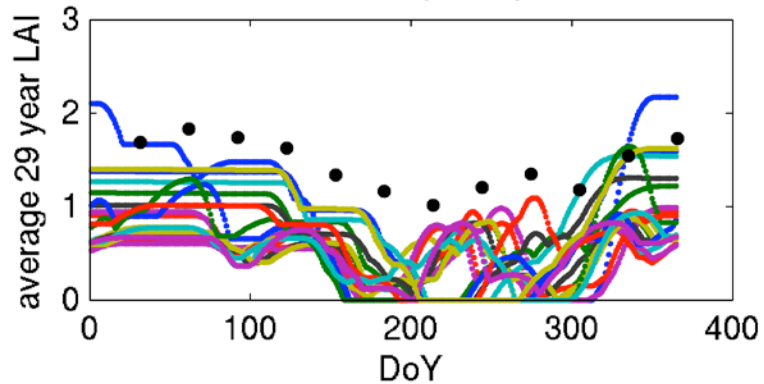
42E 1N (Somalia)



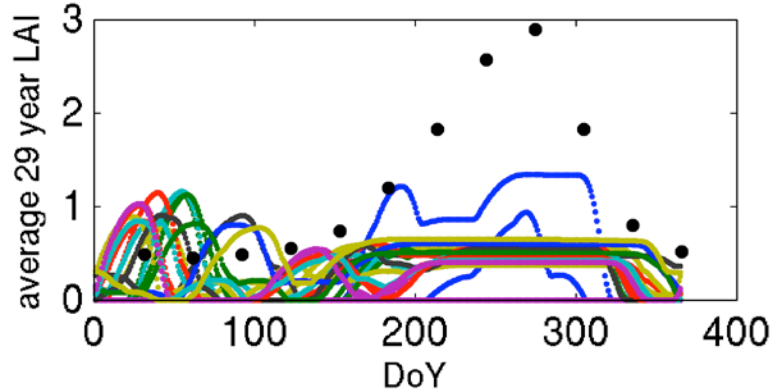
32E 13S (Zambia)



44W 14 (Bahia)



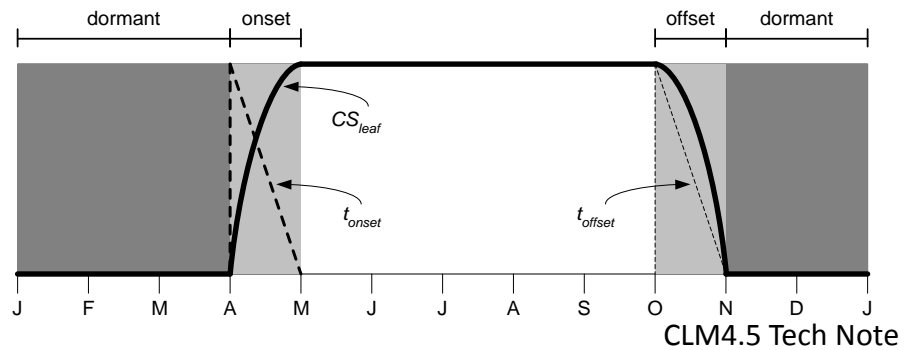
18E 11N (Chad)



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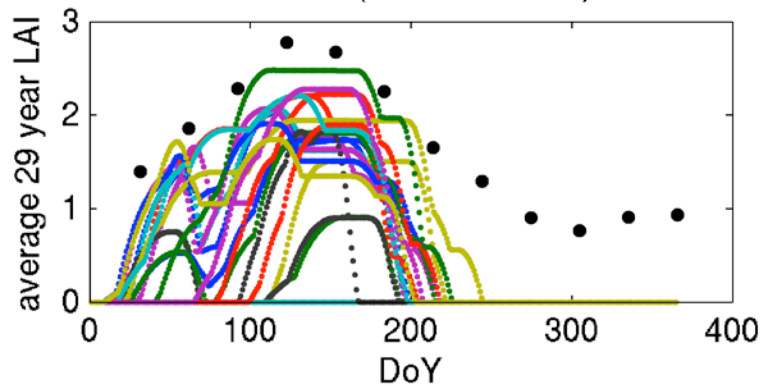
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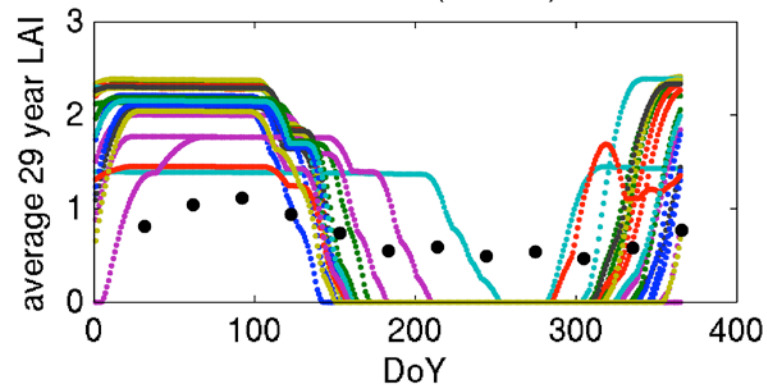
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 - **It RAINS?**
- Onset period fixed at 30 days
- Start dropping leaves if...
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- Leaf drop period fixed at 15 days

Does adding a rainfall trigger help?
4 dimensional sensitivity analysis
with point simulations

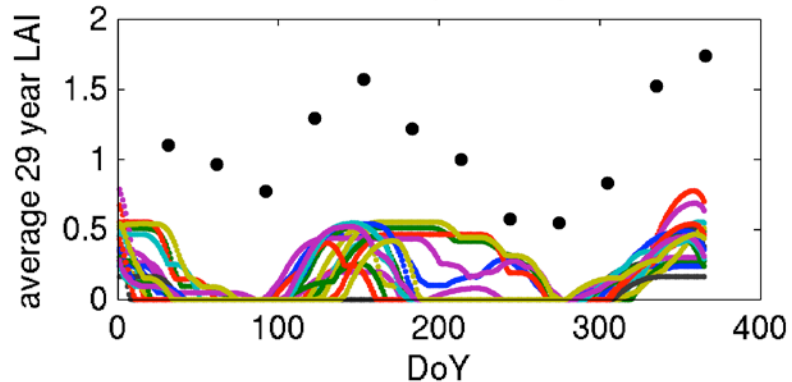
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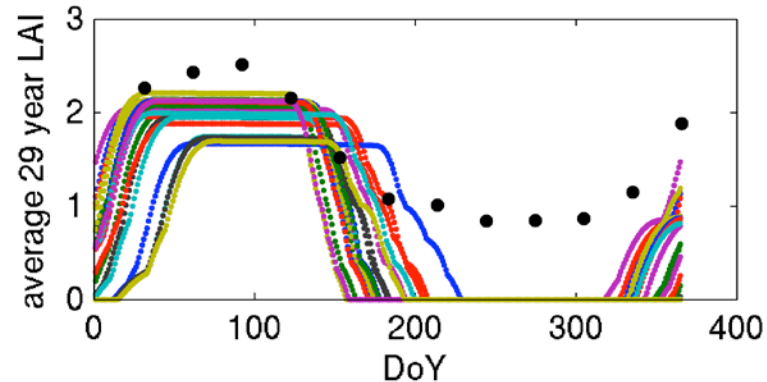
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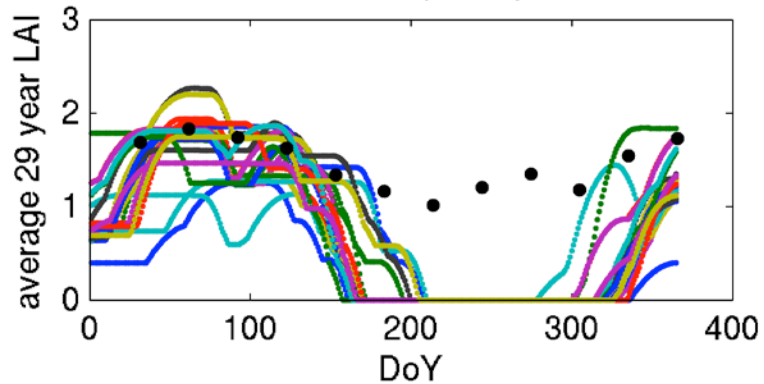
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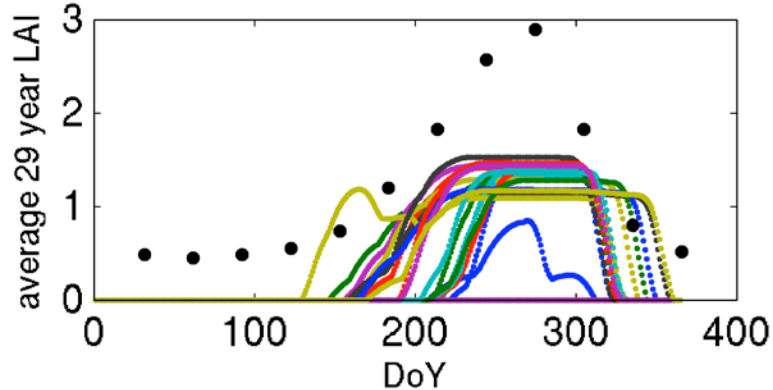
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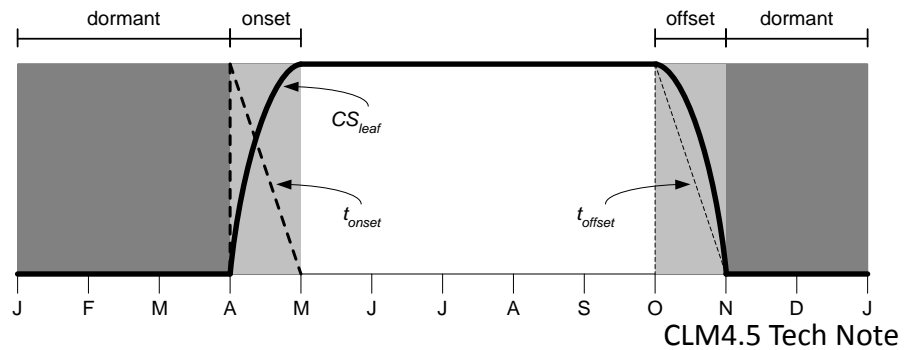
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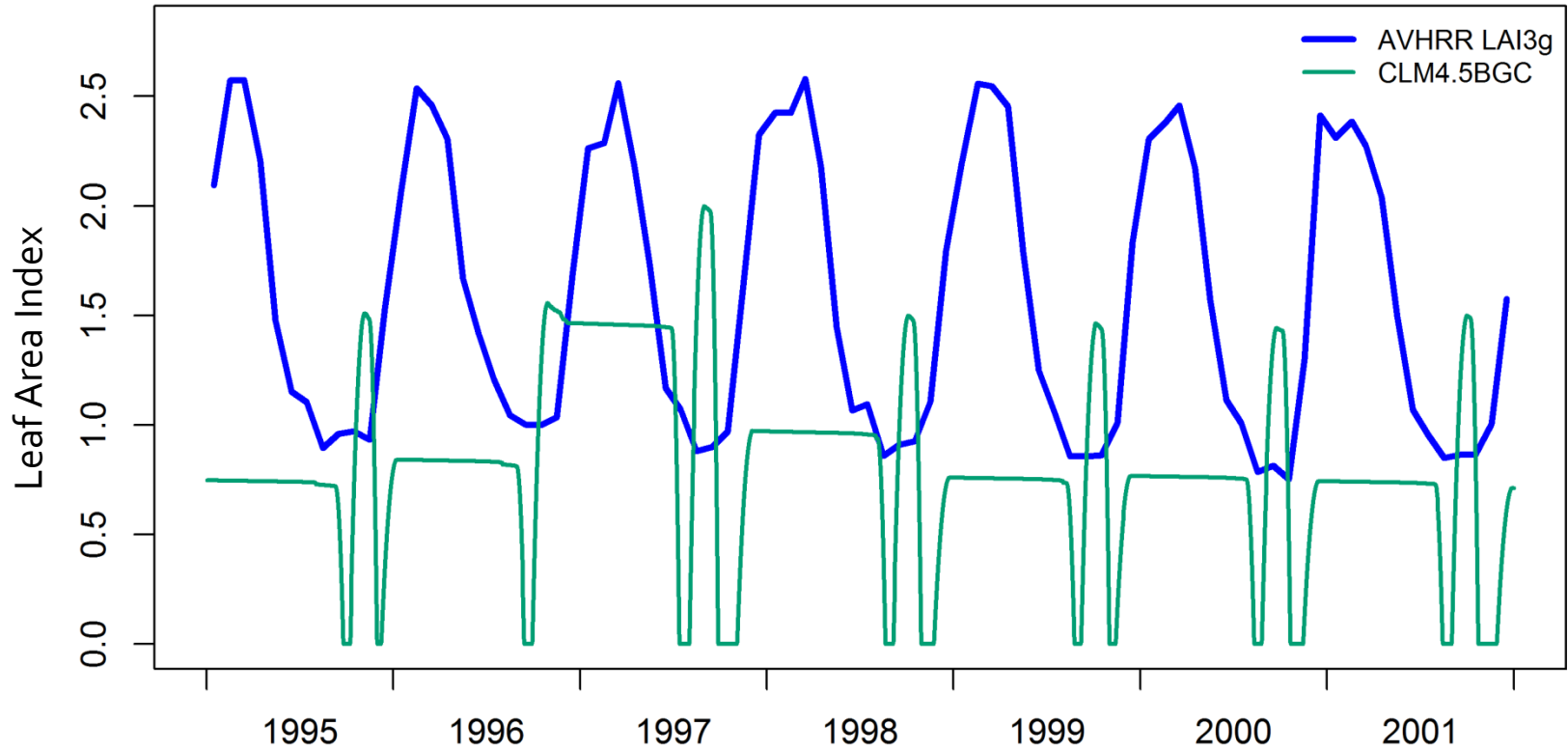
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- Start growing leaves if...
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 - **It RAINS! (20 mm in the past 10 days)**
- Onset period fixed at 30 days
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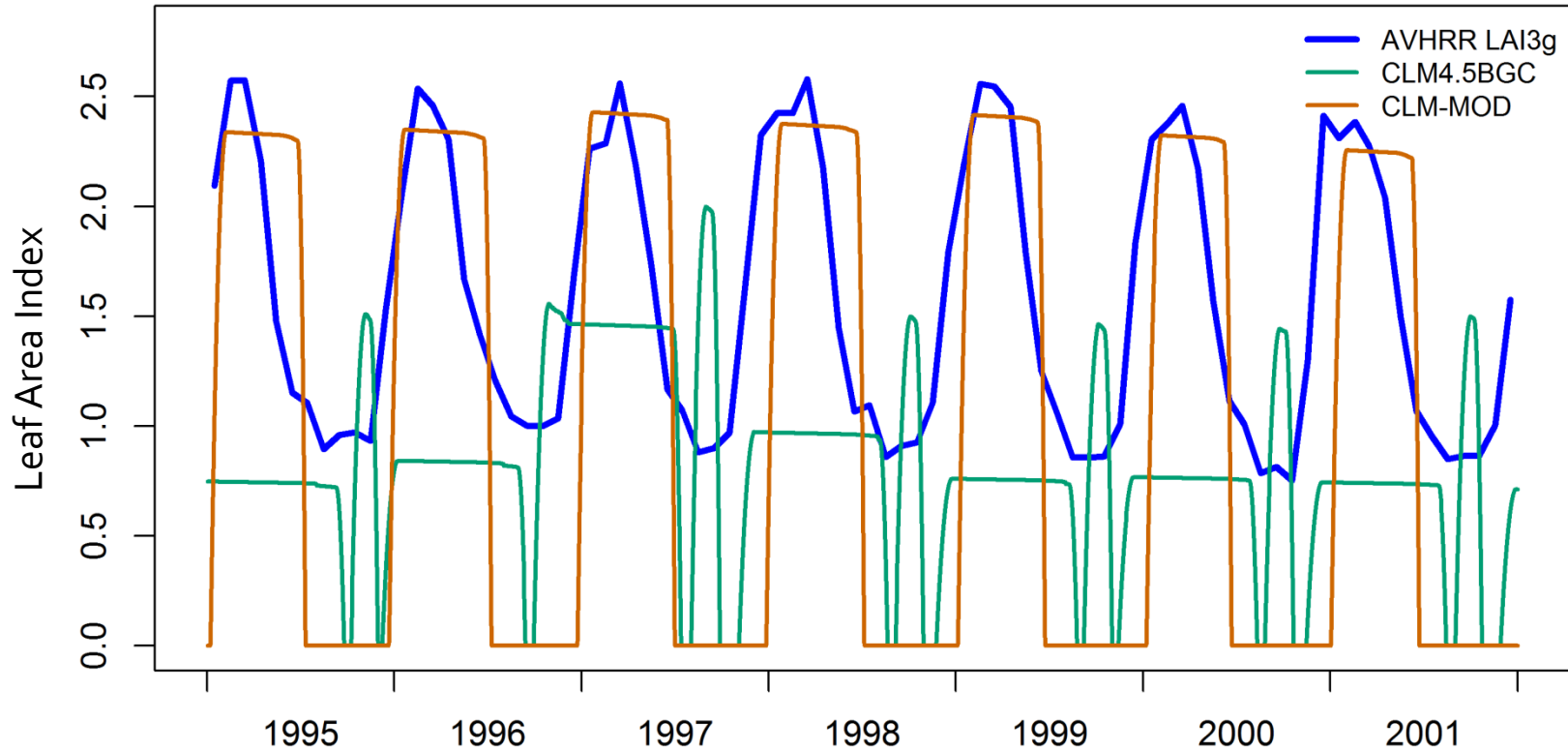
It works (better)!

Eastern Zambia

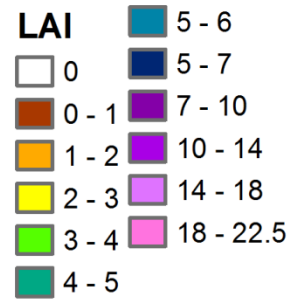
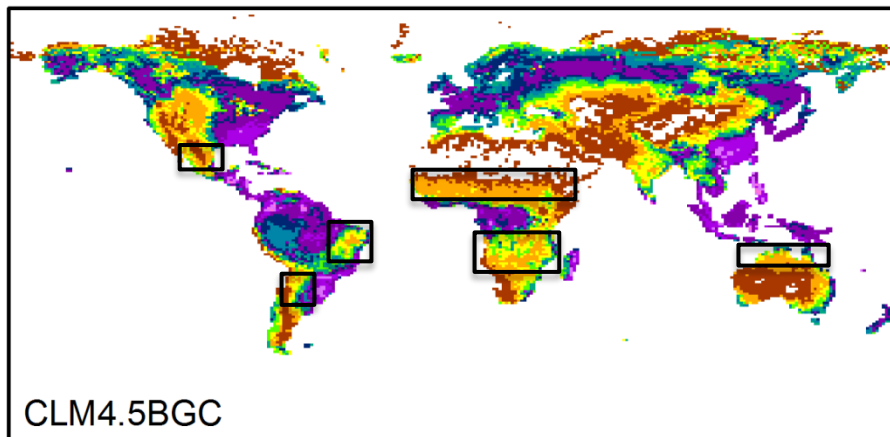
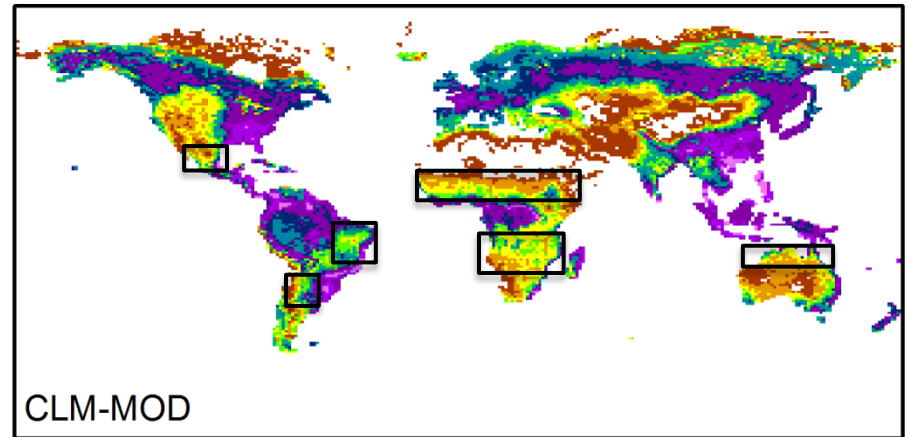
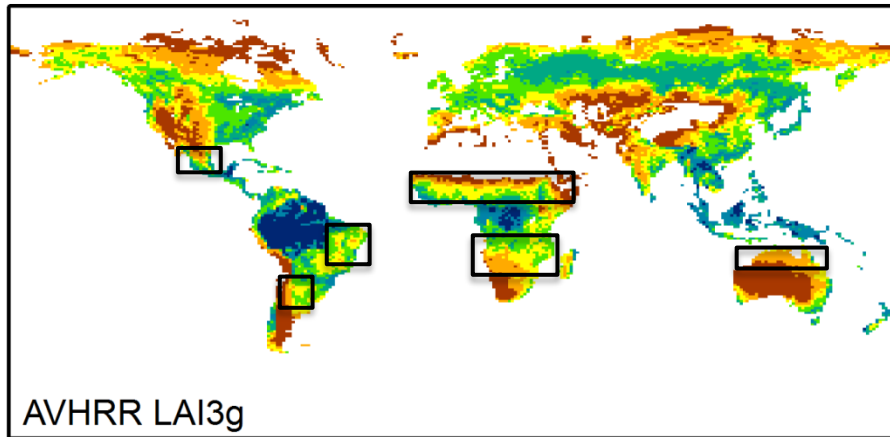


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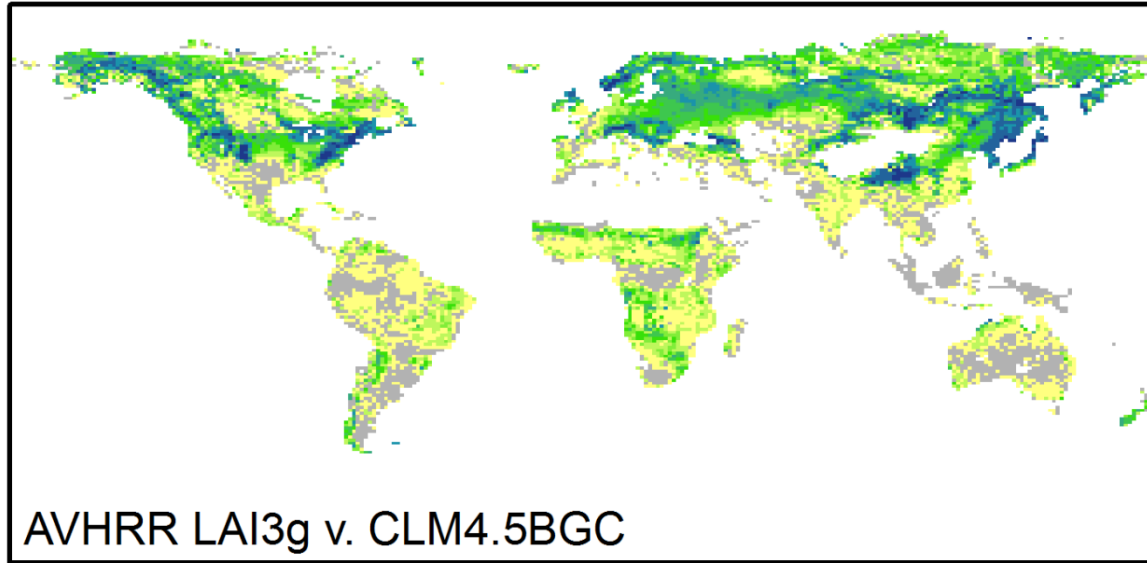
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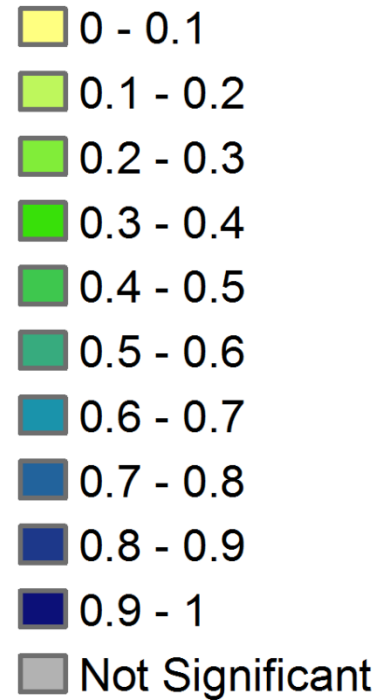
Max LAI



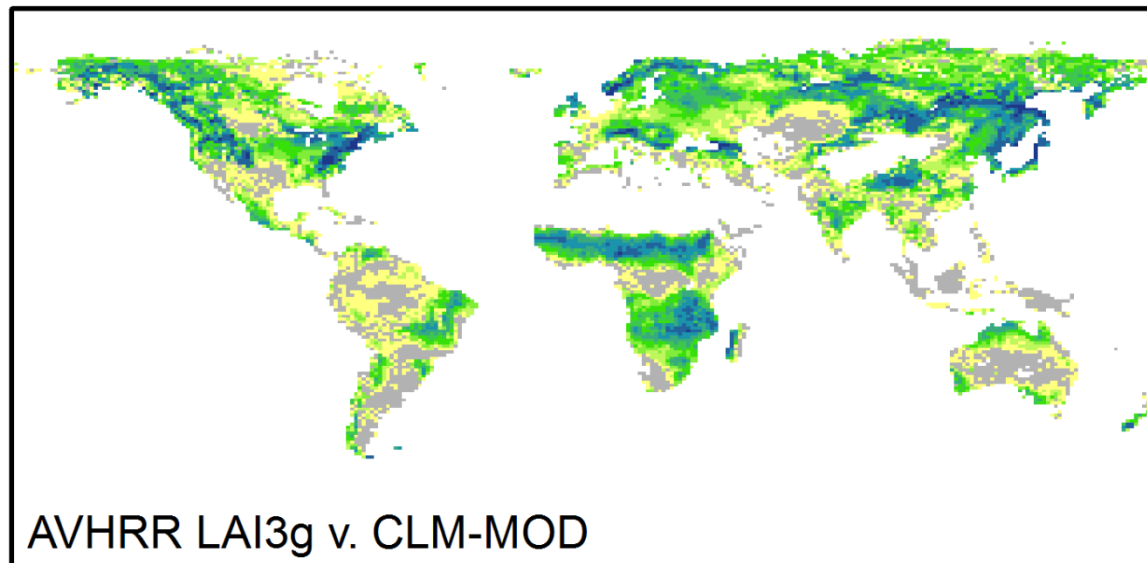
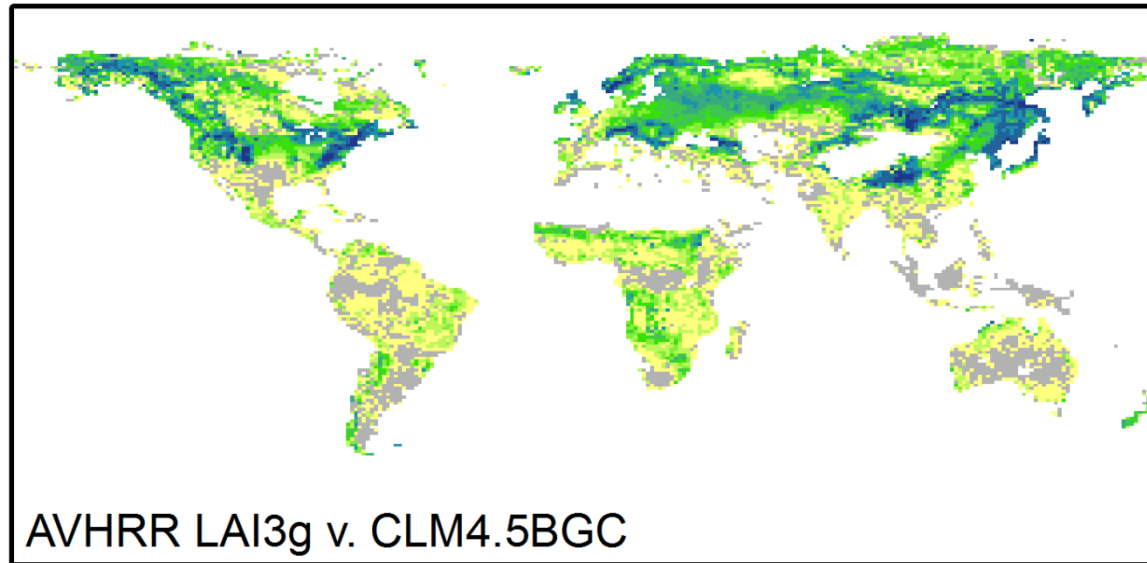
Correlations



R^2



Correlations



R^2

0 - 0.1

0.1 - 0.2

0.2 - 0.3

0.3 - 0.4

0.4 - 0.5

0.5 - 0.6

0.6 - 0.7

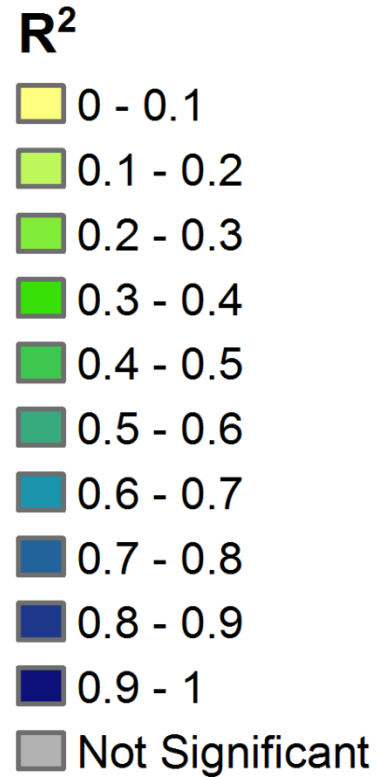
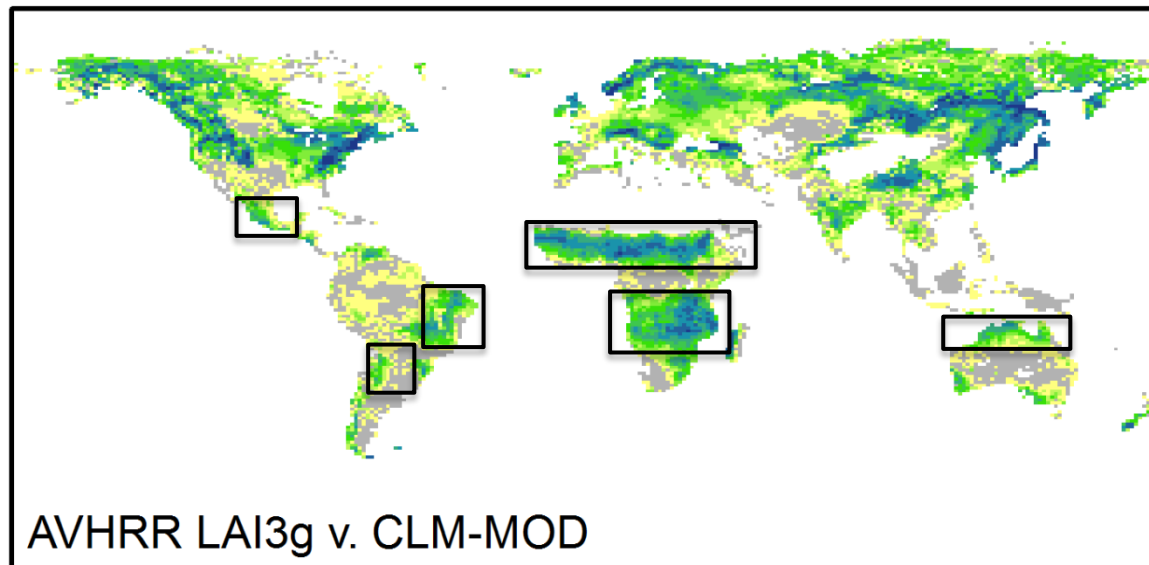
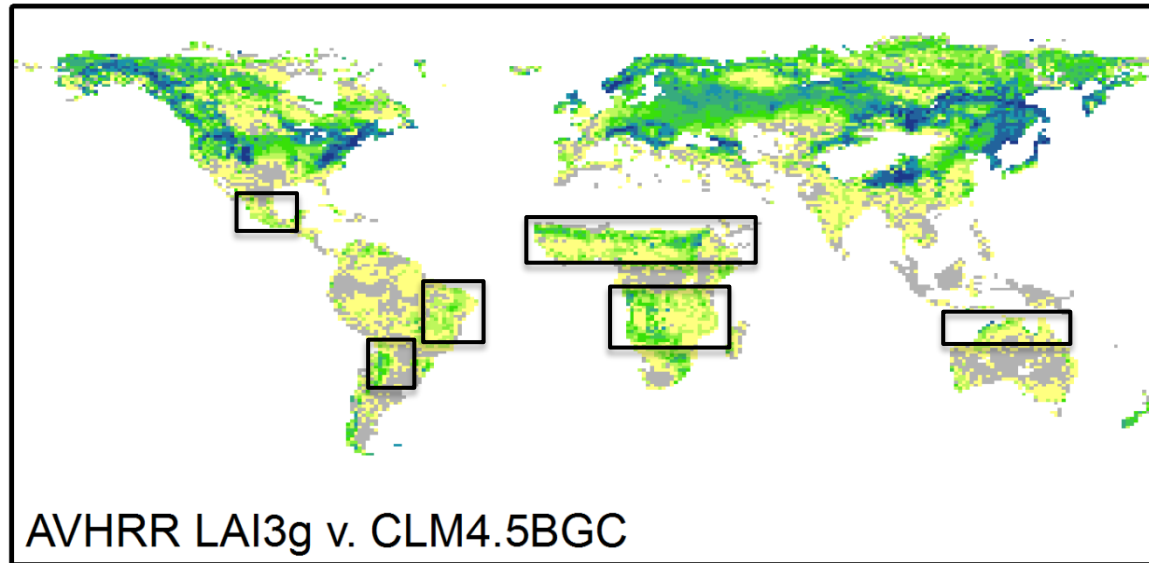
0.7 - 0.8

0.8 - 0.9

0.9 - 1

Not Significant

Correlations



Conclusions

- In CLM leaves come on during the dry season due to **unrealistic upwards water movement** in the soil profile

Conclusions

- In CLM leaves come on during the dry season due to **unrealistic upwards water movement** in the soil profile
- Delaying budburst until some **rain has fallen gives better agreement with the data**, both for magnitude and seasonal cycle of LAI in savanna regions

Next Steps

- What happens to **productivity**?

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- What happens to **productivity**?
- What happens to the **fire cycle**?

Next Steps

- What happens to **productivity**?
- What happens to the **fire cycle**?
- Does this change matter to the **atmosphere**?

Thanks!

Questions?

kdahlin@ucar.edu

www.cgd.ucar.edu/staff/kdahlin

[@bristleweed](#)