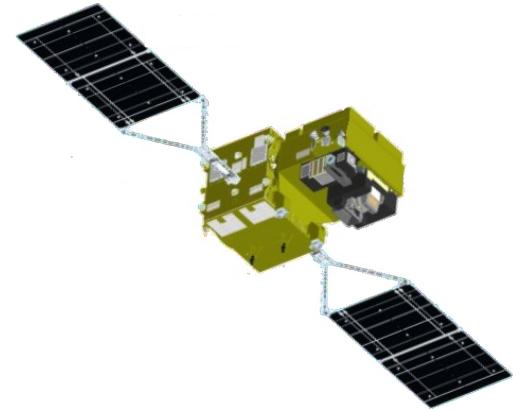


2012/04/03

The Fifth GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium:

“GEO Initiatives Towards Green Growth in the Asia-Pacific Region”

@ Miraikan, Tokyo, Japan



# Systematic collection of *in-situ* data for validation of remotely sensed information for regional forest carbon monitoring

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- University of Tsukuba

- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)  
/ Earth Observation Research Center (EORC)



筑波大学  
*University of Tsukuba*



宇宙航空研究開発機構  
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

*in-situ* data are critical  
for quality assurance of FCT products.

*in-situ* data help you to ...

1. trust or distrust a map.
2. judge which map is the best.



A QUALITY ASSURANCE  
FRAMEWORK FOR  
EARTH OBSERVATION

- [Home](#)
- [QA4EO Explained](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [Documentation](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Contact](#)



## ***Providing guidance on the quality assurance of Earth Observation data***



is a contribution to



### Latest Announcements



A QA4EO Workshop on 'Providing Harmonised Quality Information in Earth Observation Data by 2015' took place from 18th - 20th October 2011. The workshop agenda, participants and presentations are available [here](#).

### Guidance

Please visit the [Documentation page](#) for the latest versions of the QA4EO framework and guidelines.



Classic *in-situ* data for remote sensing:  
particularly for **radiometric products** of satellite sensor

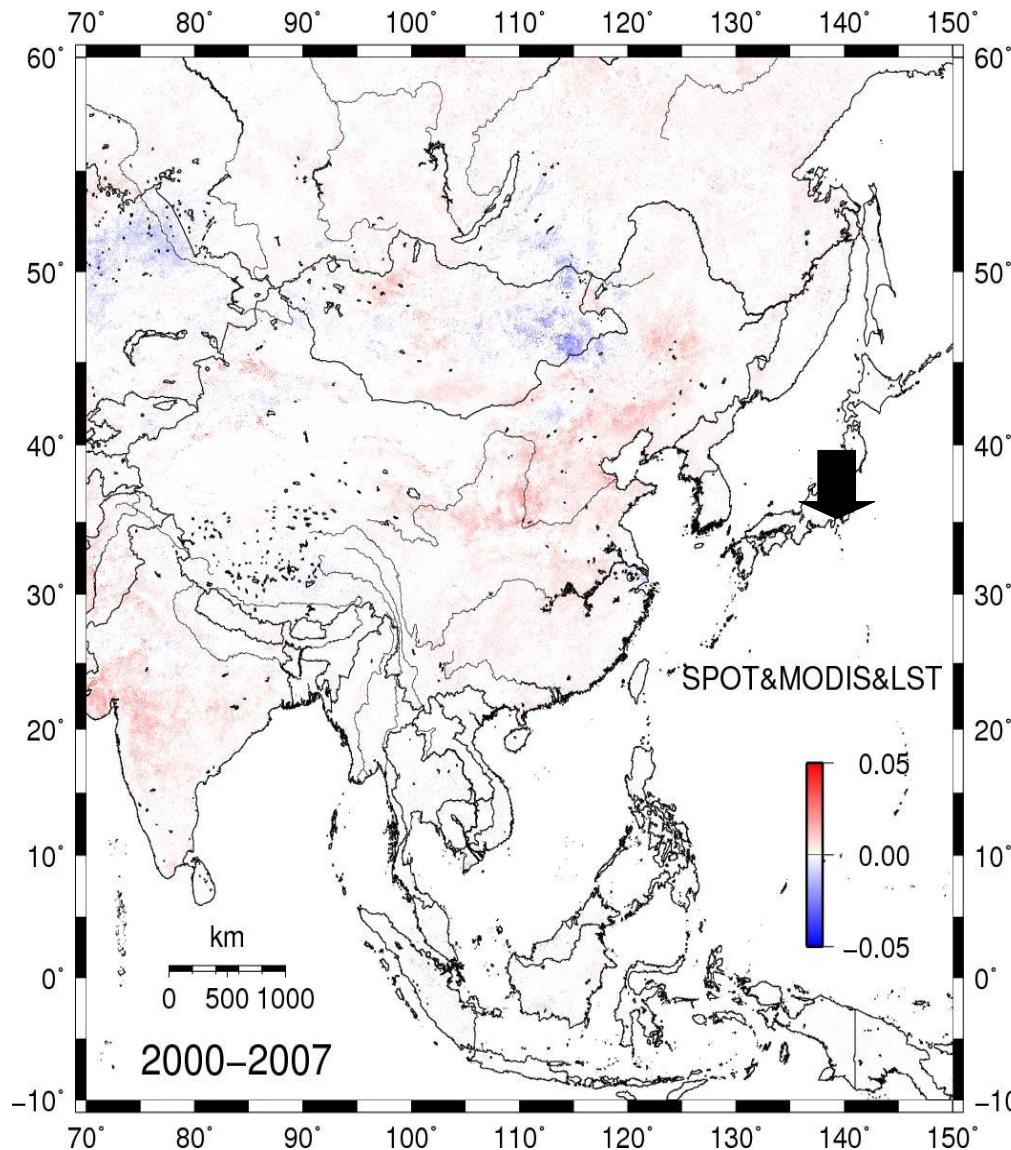
[http://www.qa4eo.org/docs/QA4EO-WGCV-IVO-CLP-004\\_vDraft.pdf](http://www.qa4eo.org/docs/QA4EO-WGCV-IVO-CLP-004_vDraft.pdf)



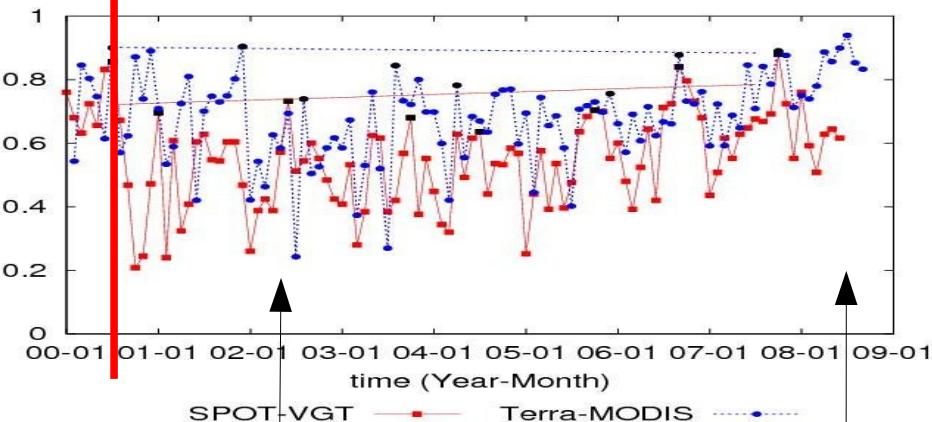
→ *in situ* data = Optical characteristics of the ground surface

But we also need *in-situ* data for **higher level products**:  
forest cover, biomass, etc.

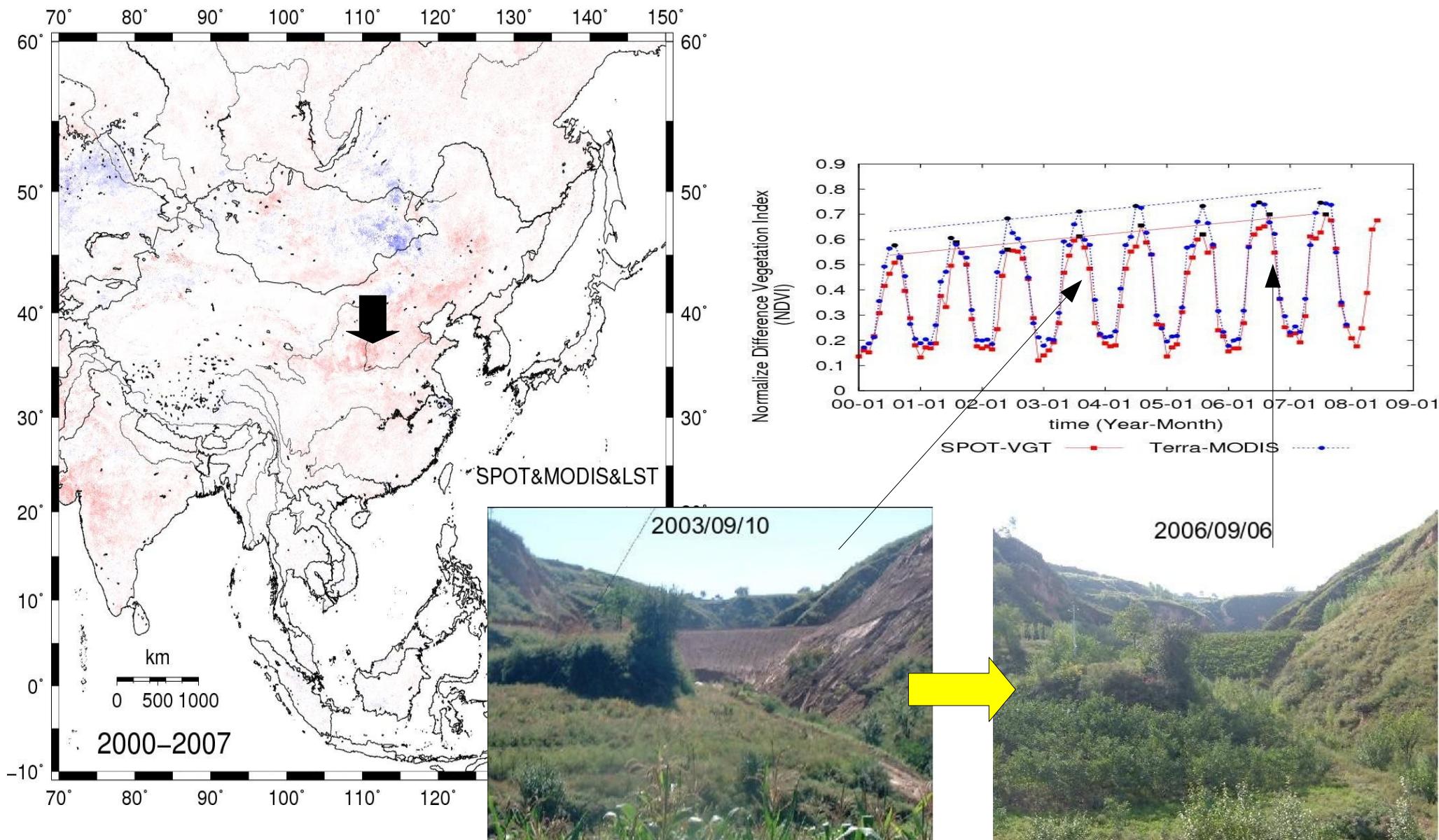
# Example: Damage & recovery of forest after a volcanic eruption



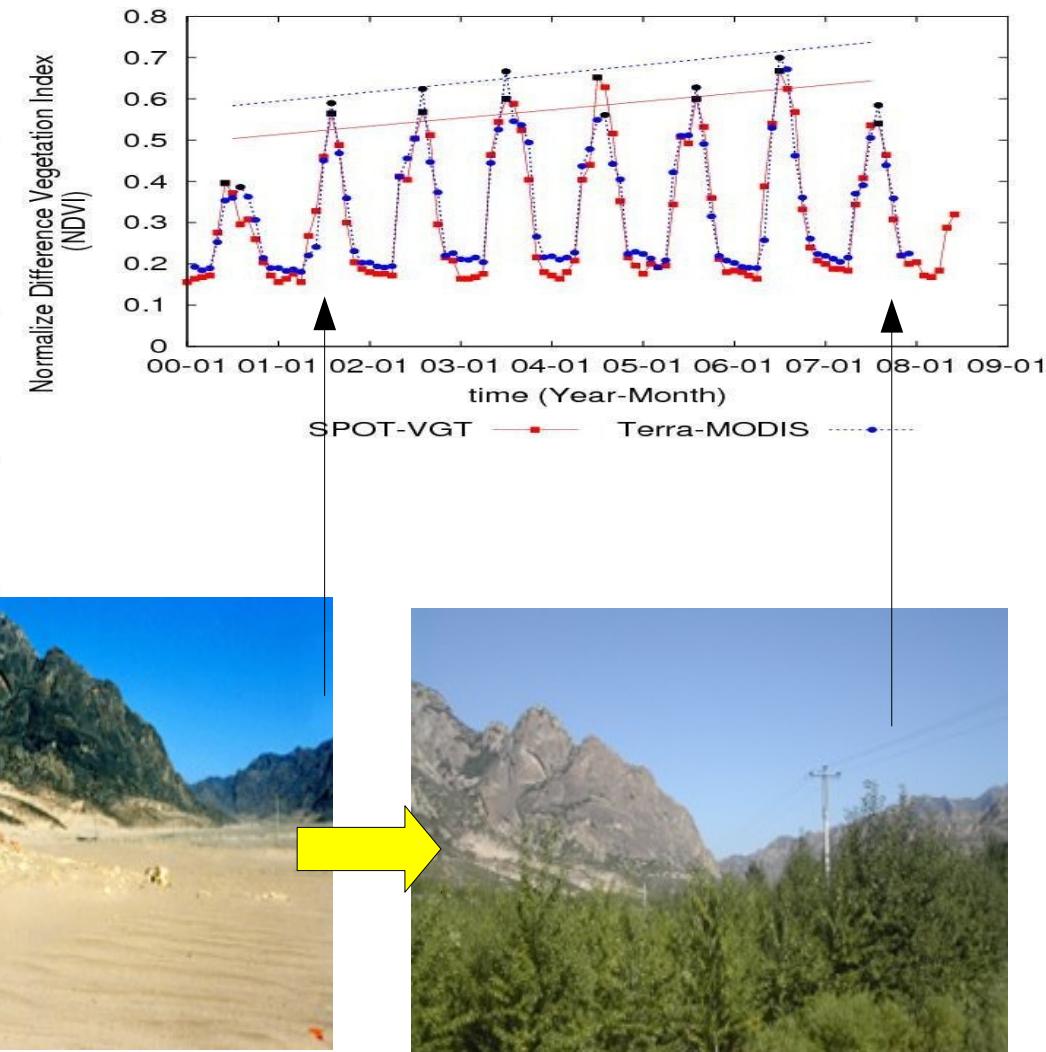
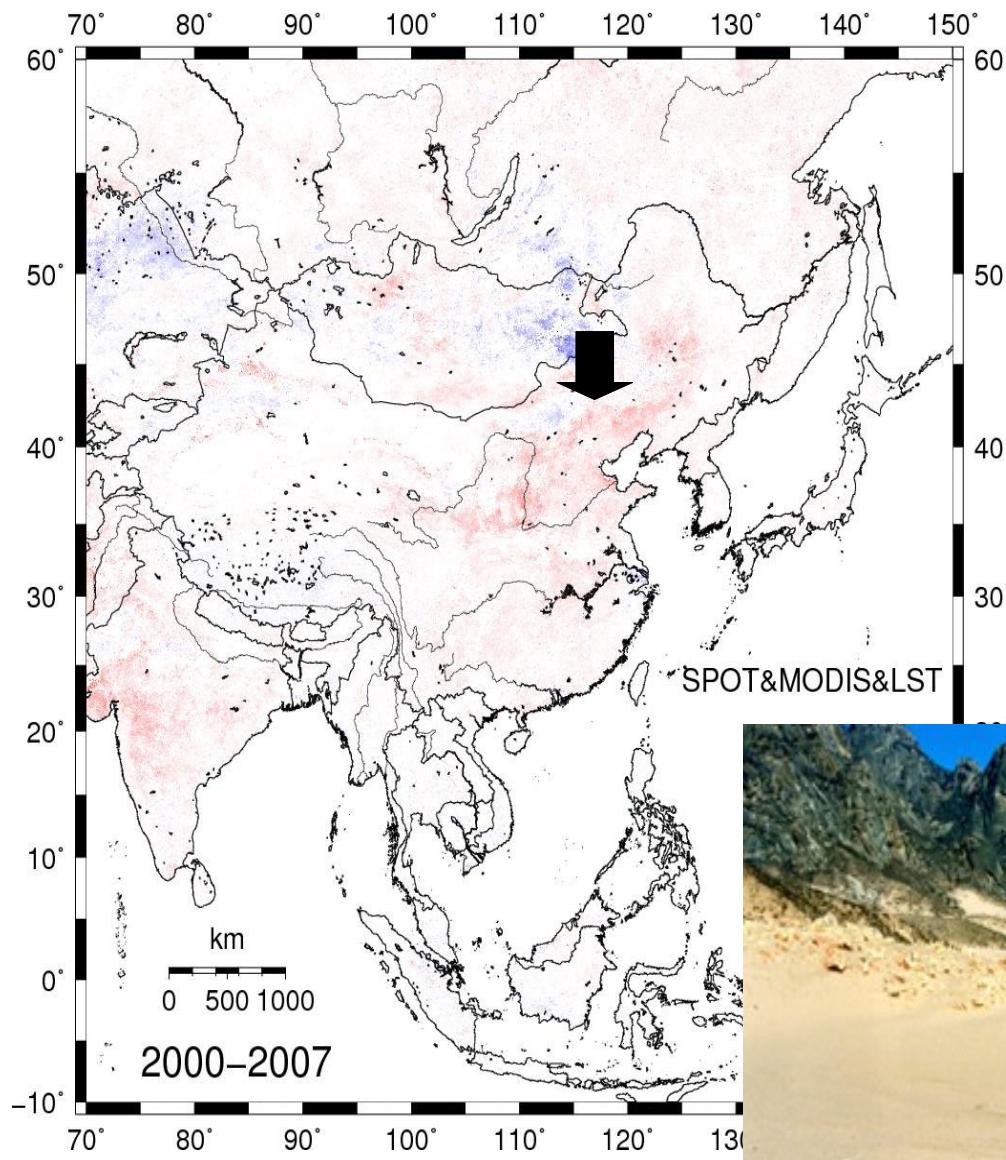
Eruption: July 2000



# Example: Aforestation in China

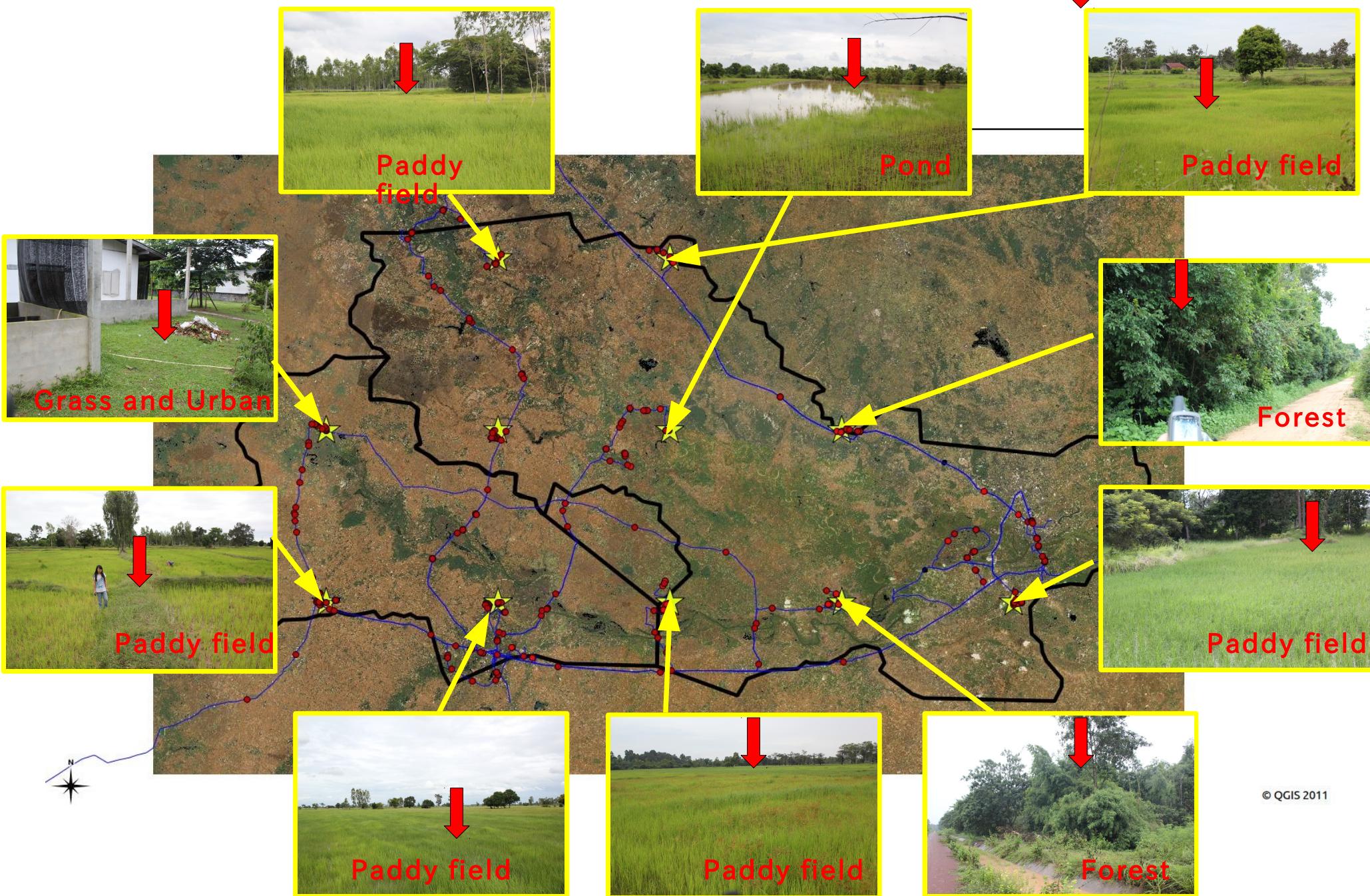


# Example: Aforestation in China



# Getting *in-situ* data is laborious...

↓ : target points



# How can we get, share, and utilize the *in-situ* data systematically?

*in-situ* data for FCT should be ...

- Open to public (So that everybody can check their reliability.)
- Worldwide (Because FCT products are global.)
- Described comprehensively (geolocation, time stamp, etc.)
- Dynamic (Forest cover changes in time.)

# GoogleEarth

ファイル(E) 編集(E) 表示(V) ツール(T) 追加(A) ヘルプ(H)

ジャンプ ビジネスを検索 ルート

ジャンプ 例: 37.407229, -122.107162

お気に入り  
銅米ツアーリー [建物の 3D 表示] レイヤにチェックが入っていることを確認してください  
保留

Earth ギャラリー >>

- プライマリ データベース
- 境界線や地名
- 場所
- 写真
  - Panoramio
  - 360 Cities
- 道路
- 建物の 3D 表示
- 海
- 天気
- ギャラリー
- グローバル アウェアネス

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
Image © 2012 TerraMetrics  
2° 53' 23.81" S 113° 25' 45.68" E 標高 26 m  
高度 56.46 km

# photo on GoogleEarth

Valuable source. But no reliable location or time information.

The screenshot shows the Google Earth application window. The main view displays a satellite map of a hilly, green landscape. A large white callout box contains a photograph of a steep, densely forested hillside overlooking a body of water under a cloudy sky. The callout box has the following details:

- Bukit Kaki, Desa Mendawai**
- By blueparay
- [Fly to this photo's location](#)
- [Misplaced?](#)
- [Inappropriate](#)
- [Comment it](#)
- Panoramio**
- [Upload your photos](#)
- [Sponsored Links](#)
- fujisan223.jp

The left sidebar contains a search bar and a folder tree. The tree includes categories like "お気に入り" (Favorites), "録画ツリー" (Record Tree), and "保留" (Pending). Under "Earth ギャラリー", "写真" (Photos) is selected, showing a thumbnail of the current photo labeled "1/4". Other photo thumbnails are visible below it. The bottom status bar shows coordinates (2° 46' 22.76" S, 137° 17' 28.11" E), elevation (標高 10 m), height (高度 56.46 km), and copyright information (Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO, Image © 2012 TerraMetrics).

# field photo library in Univ. Oklahoma

Global Geo-Referenced Field Photo Library - Mozilla Firefox

file Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.comf.ou.edu/photos/map.php?longmin=-130&longmax=80&latmin

Most Visited Getting Started Latest Headlines

What is Com... Global G... Global Geo-R... Global Geo-R... HuLetter\_Vo... Problem lo...

## Earth Observation and Modeling

### University of Oklahoma

Home About Us Dataset Photo Visualization Models iCarbon GeoHealth Education Workshop

#### Global Geo-Referenced Field Photo Library

Welcome, you are xiao2007

[Home](#) | [Xiao2007's Account](#) | [Upload](#) | [Log out](#) | [Admin Center](#) | [Query](#) | [Map Query](#)

Search by coordinates: Search by date: Search by metadata: Search by region:

Longitude min: Longitude max: From: Categories: Countries:

Latitude min: Latitude max: To: Users: Geographical:

Search by keywords:

Submit

Transferring data from maps.google.com...

ファイル(E) 挿入(I) 表示(V) 観察(S) ブックマーク(B) ツール(T) ヘルプ(H)

http://www.comf.ou.edu/photos/map.php?longmin=-130&longmax=80&latmin

Most Visited Red Hat, Inc. Red Hat Network Support Shop Products Training

Global Geo-Referenced Field Photo Library

### Global Geo-Referenced Field Photo Library

Welcome, you are Guest

[Home](#) | [Logout](#) | [Register](#) | [Query](#) | [Map Query](#)

Search by coordinates: Search by date: Search by metadata: Search by region:

\*Enter maximum longitude less than: From: Categories: Countries:

Longitude min: Longitude max: Jan 1 1990

Latitude min: Latitude max: Dec 1 2010

To: All

Users: All

Geographical: All

Search by keywords:

Submit

720 photos

Photo id: 26155

Filename: 26155P1080840.JPG

Description: View MODIS time series data

Filenam... Descript...

完了

- Not necessarily confluence points
- Geographical concentration is a problem

# Degree Confluence Project (DCP) ... a new type of hobby.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Degree Confluence Project (DCP). At the top left, there's a link to "the Degree Confluence Project". The top right features a search bar with the URL "http://confluence.org/" and a dropdown menu. The header includes navigation links for "Most Visited", "Red Hat, Inc.", "Red Hat Network", "Support", "Shop", "Products", and "Training".

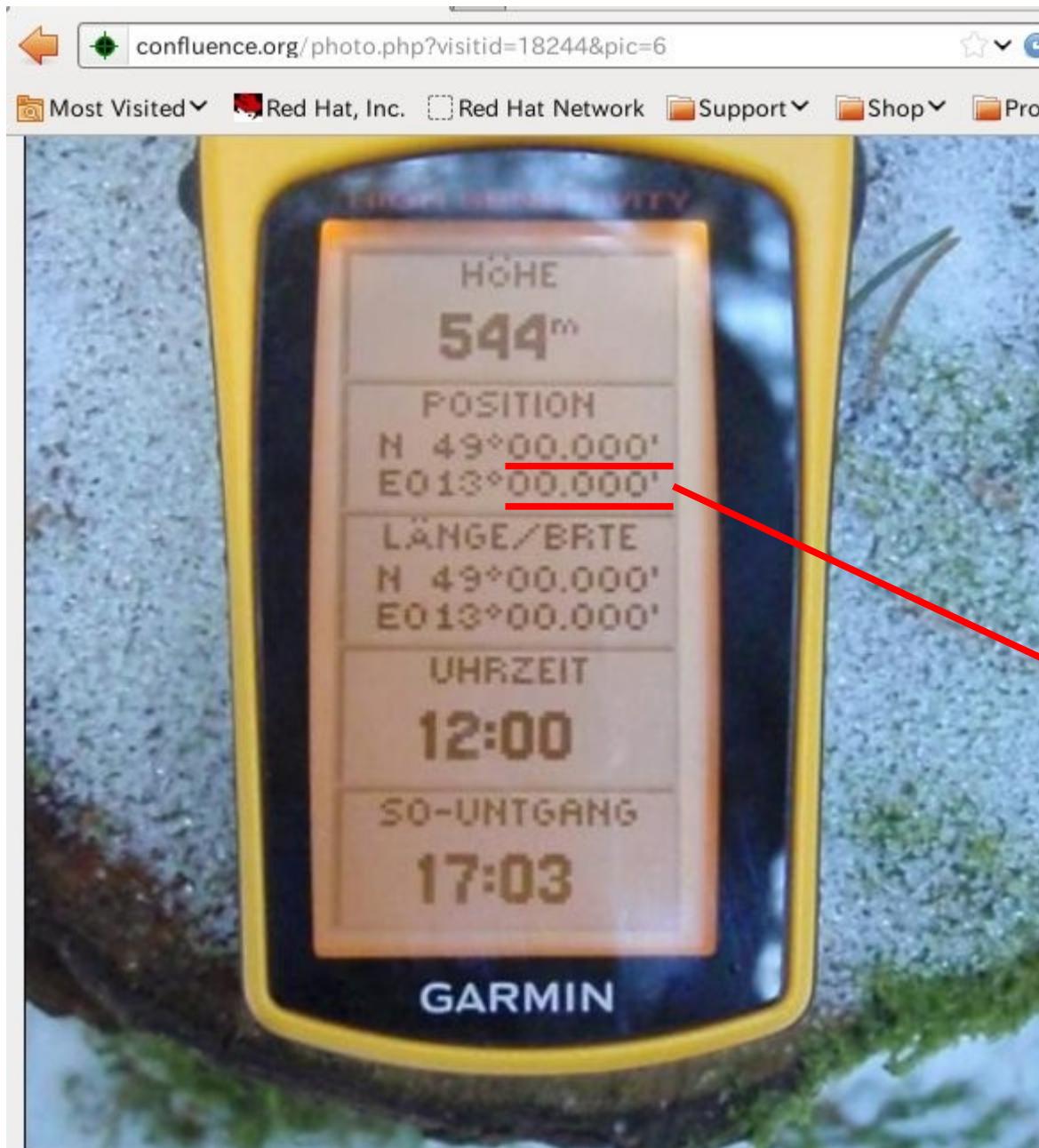
On the left sidebar, there are stats: "6131 successful, primary, confluences", "575 secondary confluences", "349 incomplete confluences", "12204 visitors and 97097 photographs in 184 countries", and a link to "(more stats)". Below this is a "How To ..." button. Under "project links", there's a list including "Information", "Contact us", "IRC", "Member page", "Worldwide maps", "Visitor index", "Search", and "T-shirts", each with a small thumbnail image.

The main content area features a large banner with the text "degree confluence project" overlaid on a photo of people near a vehicle and a flag. Below the banner, a text box states: "The goal of the project is to visit each of the latitude and longitude integer degree intersections in the world, and to take pictures at each location. The pictures will then be posted here." An "overview" section explains the project's purpose: "The project is an organized sampling of the world. There is a confluence within 49 miles (79 km) of you if you're on the surface of Earth. We've discounted confluences in the oceans and some near the poles, but there are still 10,214 to be found." It also invites users to help by photographing confluence points and provides links to "Information" and "contact us".

At the bottom, there's a link to "18 newest confluence visits" with a RSS icon, and a "view on Google" link. On the right side, there's a grid diagram illustrating the project's goal: a 4x5 grid of red dots representing confluence points at integer degree coordinates. The vertical axis is labeled "36N", "35N", and "34N" from top to bottom. The horizontal axis is labeled "138E", "139E", "140E", and "141E" from left to right. A black arrow points to one of the red dots in the top row.

"The goal of the project is to visit each of the latitude and longitude integer degree intersections in the world, and to take pictures at each location."

# Degree Confluence Project (DCP)



A yellow Garmin GPS device is mounted on a tree branch. The screen displays the following information:

- HÖHE  
**544m**
- POSITION  
N 49°00.000'  
E013°00.000'
- LÄNGE/BREITE  
N 49°00.000'  
E013°00.000'
- UHRZEIT  
**12:00**
- SO-UNTGANG  
**17:03**

A red arrow points from the text "People satisfy themselves watching many zeros." to the decimal parts of the coordinates (".000'") on the GPS screen.

People satisfy themselves watching many zeros.

<http://confluence.org/>

# Degree Confluence Project (DCP)

confluence.org/confluence.php?visitid=18244      Degree Confluence Project

Most Visited Red Hat, Inc. Red Hat Network Support Shop Products Training

{ Main | Search | Countries | Information | Member Page | Random }

49°N 13°E (visit #10)



**Germany : Bayern**

1.2 km (0.7 miles) W of Ruhmannsfelden-Vorderditzberg, Bayern, Germany  
Approx. altitude: 554 m (1817 ft)  
([?] maps: [Google MapQuest](#) [Multimap world confnav](#))  
Antipode: [49°S 167°W](#)

Accuracy: 5 m (16 ft)

Click on any of the images for the full-sized picture.

#8: [10-Jun-08]   #7: [02-Mar-08]   #9: [05-Sep-11]   #3: [23-Feb-02]

#4: [06-Jun-04]   #5: [11-May-05]   #1: [17-Mar-01]   #2: [25-Mar-01]

#6: [03-Apr-06] (incomplete)

(visited by [Hansen Ohnesorge](#))

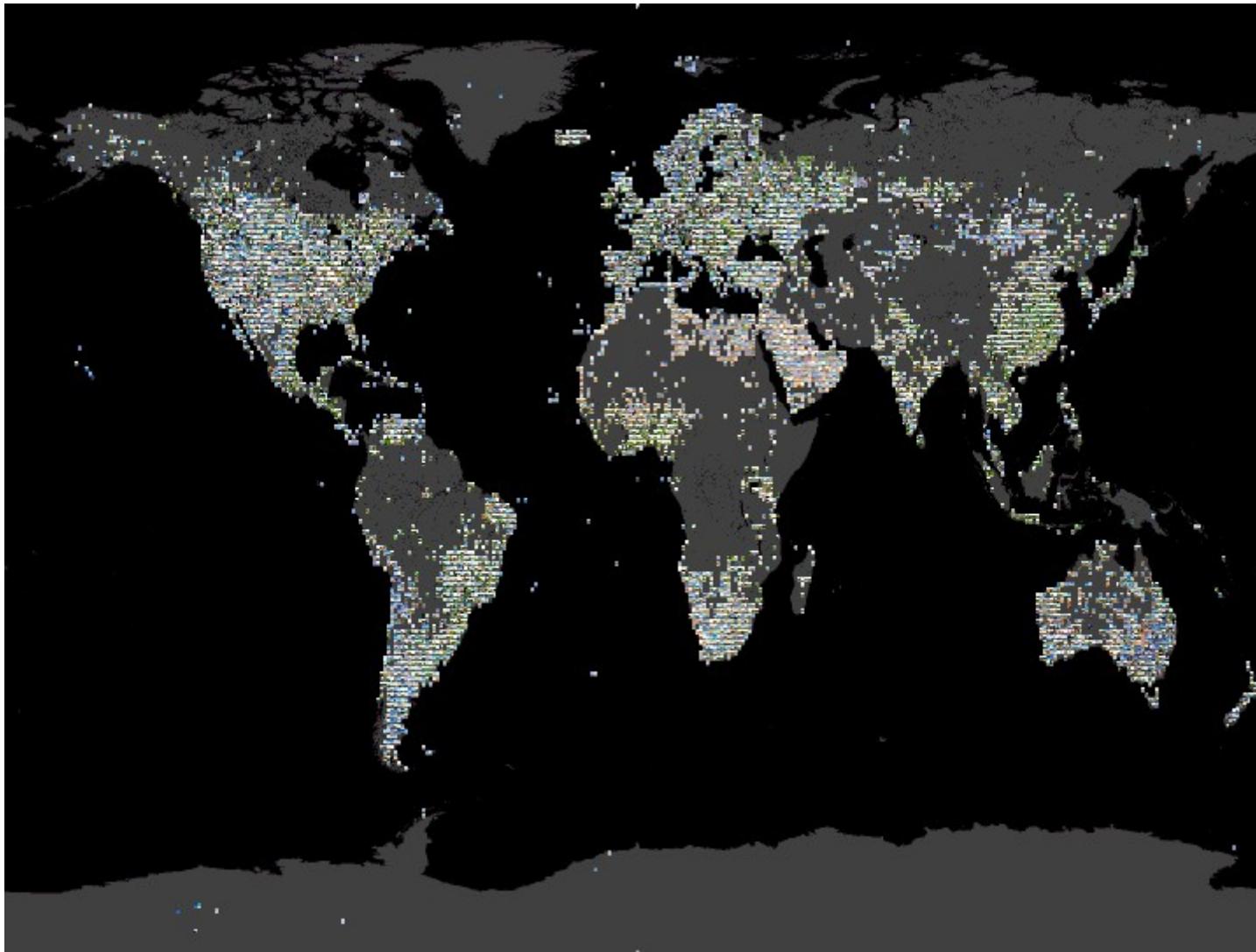
English

<http://confluence.org/>

Lots of information: geolocation, date, photos, text in detail, ...  
--> useful *in-situ* data for satellite products! (Iwao *et al.*, 2006 GRL)

# Degree Confluence Project (DCP)

Coverage of the confluence points already visited



- There are 14,029 confluence points (excluding ocean).
- About 6,000 confluence points have been visited.

<http://confluence.org/>

# Degree Confluence Project (DCP): application

in-situ data for validation of JAXA Forest Map

www.eorc.jaxa.jp/ALOS/en/guide/forestmap\_oct2010

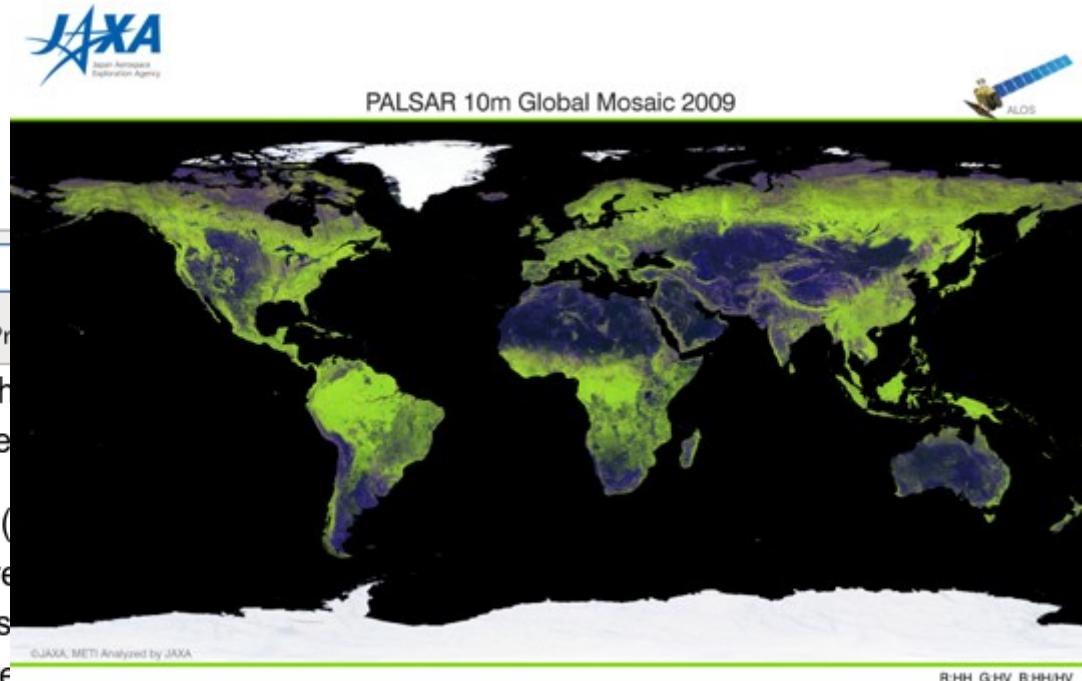
polar consistencies  
r-continental  
le.

research  
nouncement

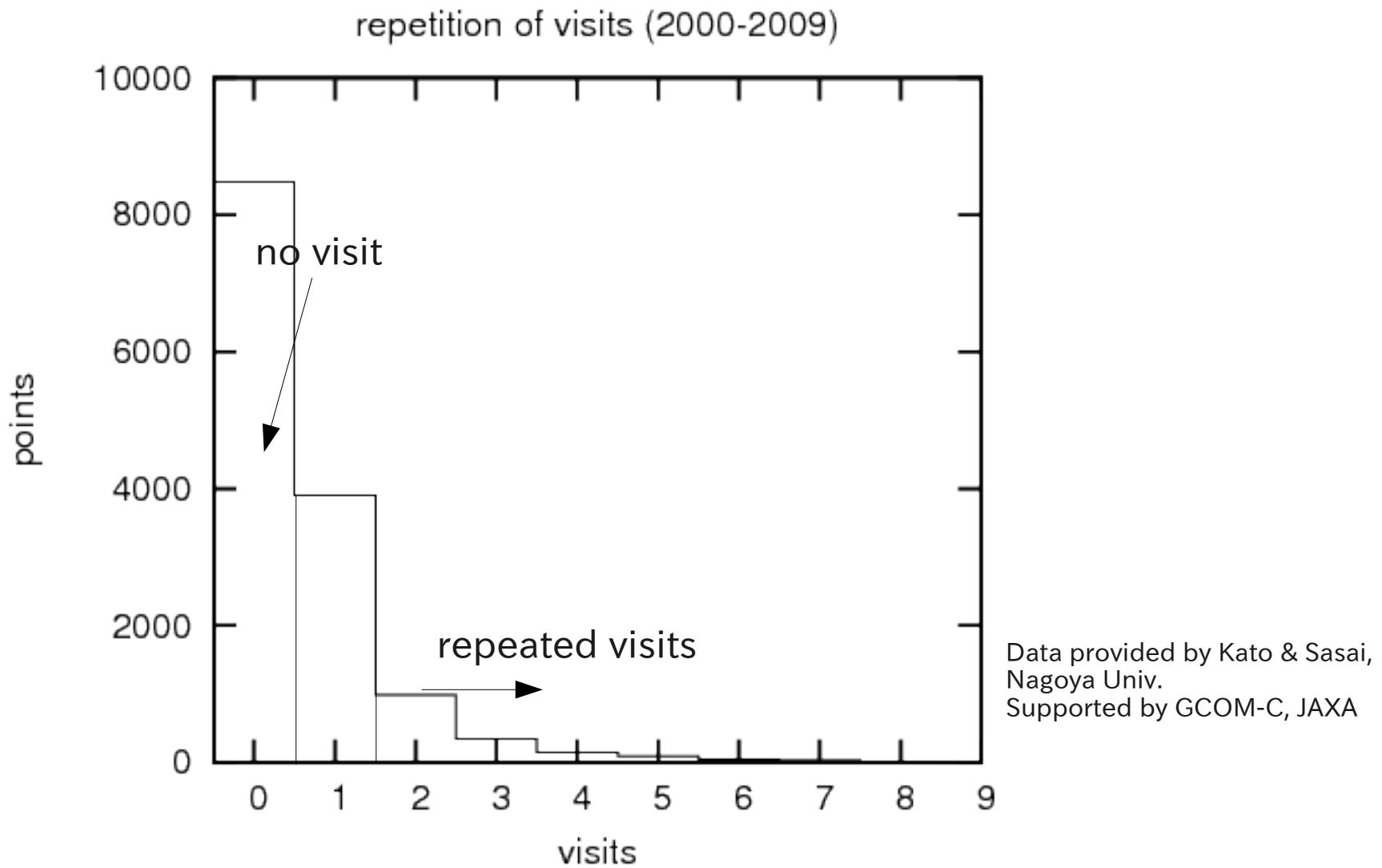
l for research  
posal using  
DS products.

onference

the land.  
\*3 Ground truth data set: data that is compiled based on local data of each one-degree square area in latitude and longitude gathered from the Degree Confluence Project (<http://confluence.org/>)

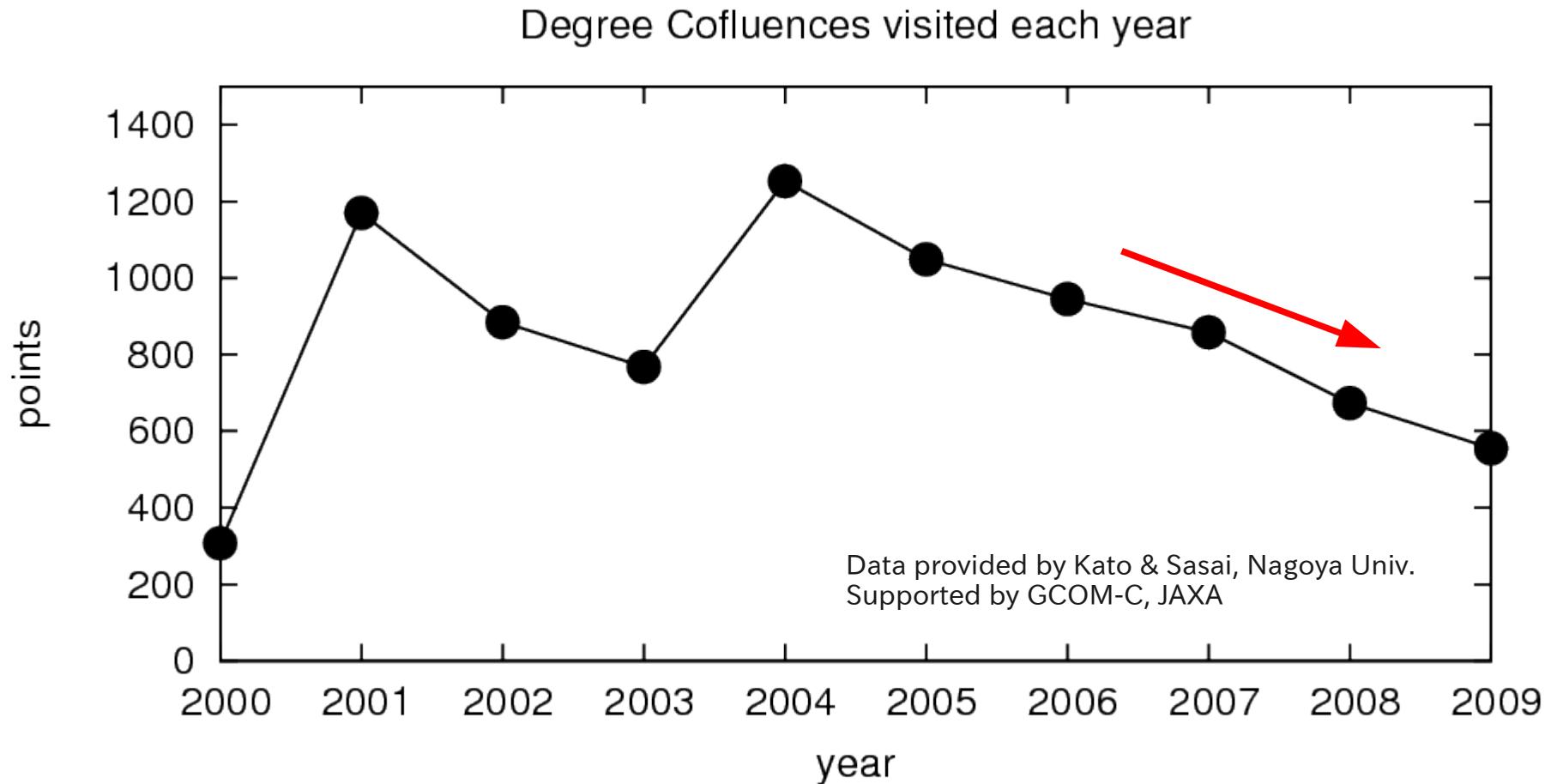


# Degree Confluence Project (DCP): problem



- More than half of the entire confluence points have never been visited.
- Few points have been visited repeatedly.

# Degree Confluence Project (DCP): crisis?



- Number of visits (including repetition) is decreasing.
- People may be **loosing passion** for this hobby.

What if you want more than single photos?

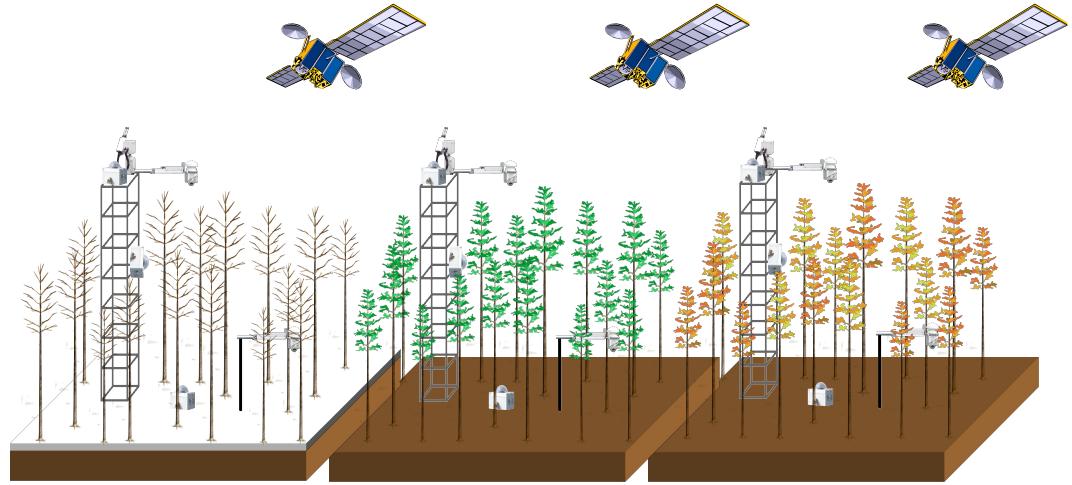


Collaborate with scientific “ground networks.”

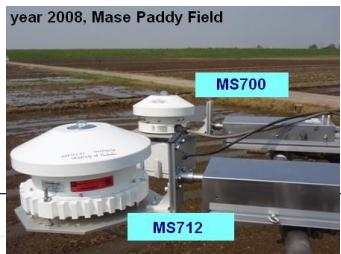
- PEN
- ILTER / JaLTER / Moni1000
- FluxNet / AsiaFlux / JapanFlux

# PEN (Phenological Eyes Network) ... 2003-

Connecting remote-sensing and ground



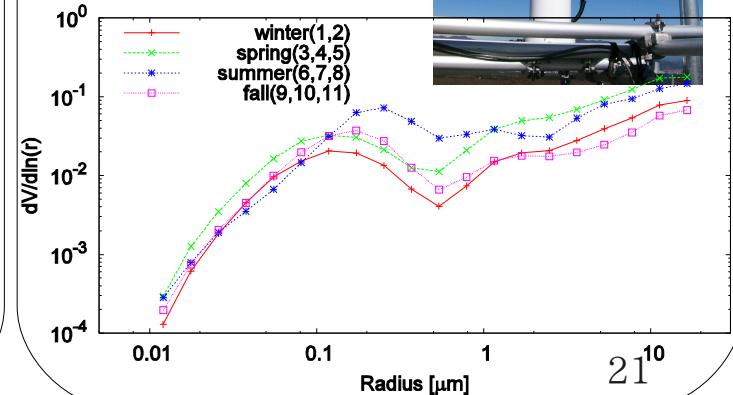
Automatic spectrometer  
(VIS/NIR/SWIR)



Automatic  
Digital Fish-Eye  
Camera



Sunphotometer  
(for aerosol)



# Key1: Seasonal change

常緑針葉樹林(高山C50サイト; スギ)

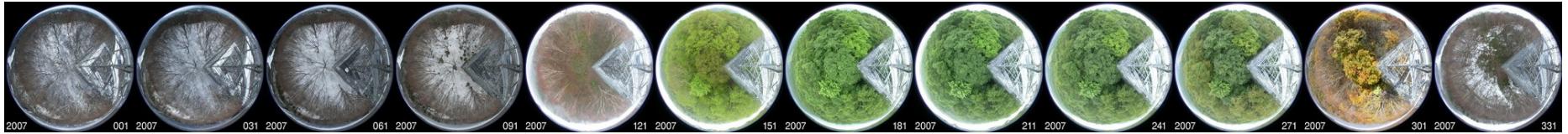


自動魚眼デジカメによる群落定点写真 (PEN)

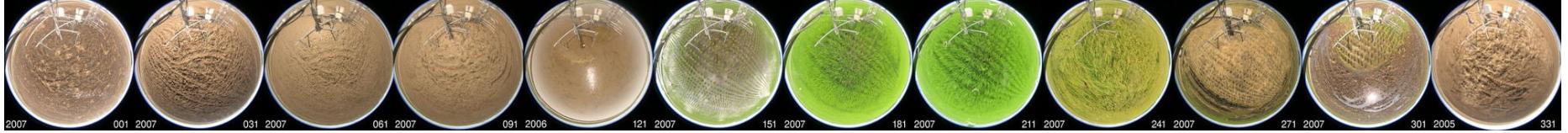
落葉針葉樹林(富士北麓サイト; カラマツ)



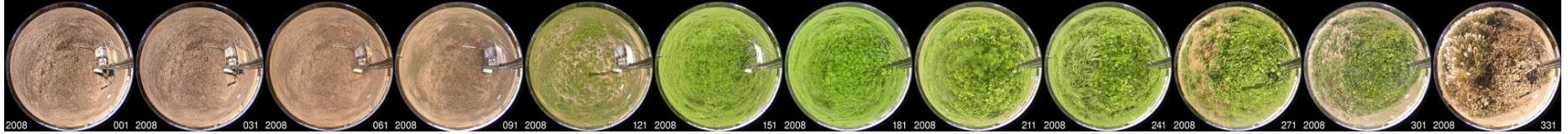
落葉広葉樹林(高山サイト; ダケカンバ・ミズナラ)



水田(真瀬サイト; コシヒカリ)



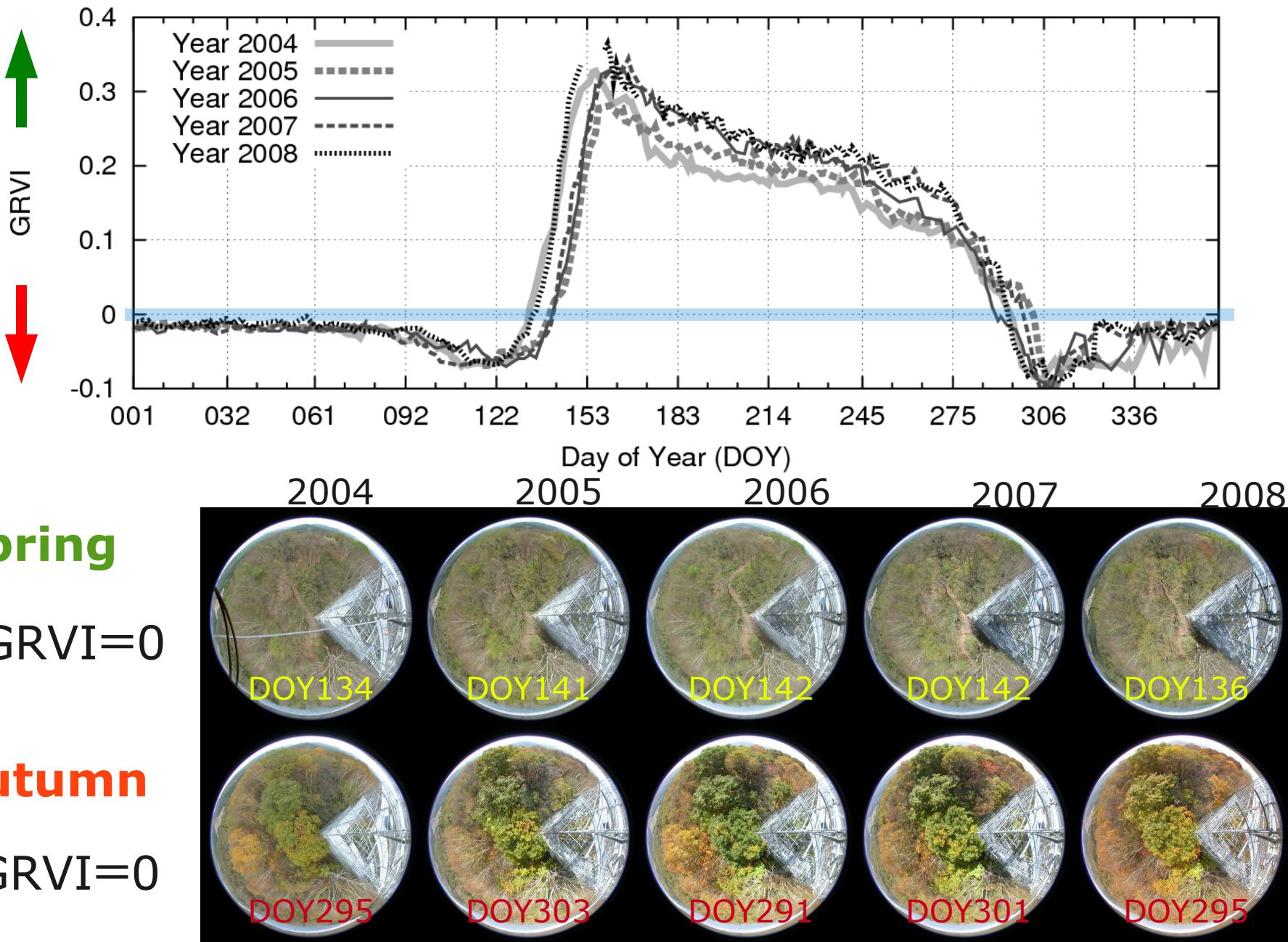
草原(筑波大TERC; ススキ・セイタカアワダチソウ・クズ)



草原(筑波大学菅平高原実験センター; ススキ)



# PEN (Phenological Eyes Network)

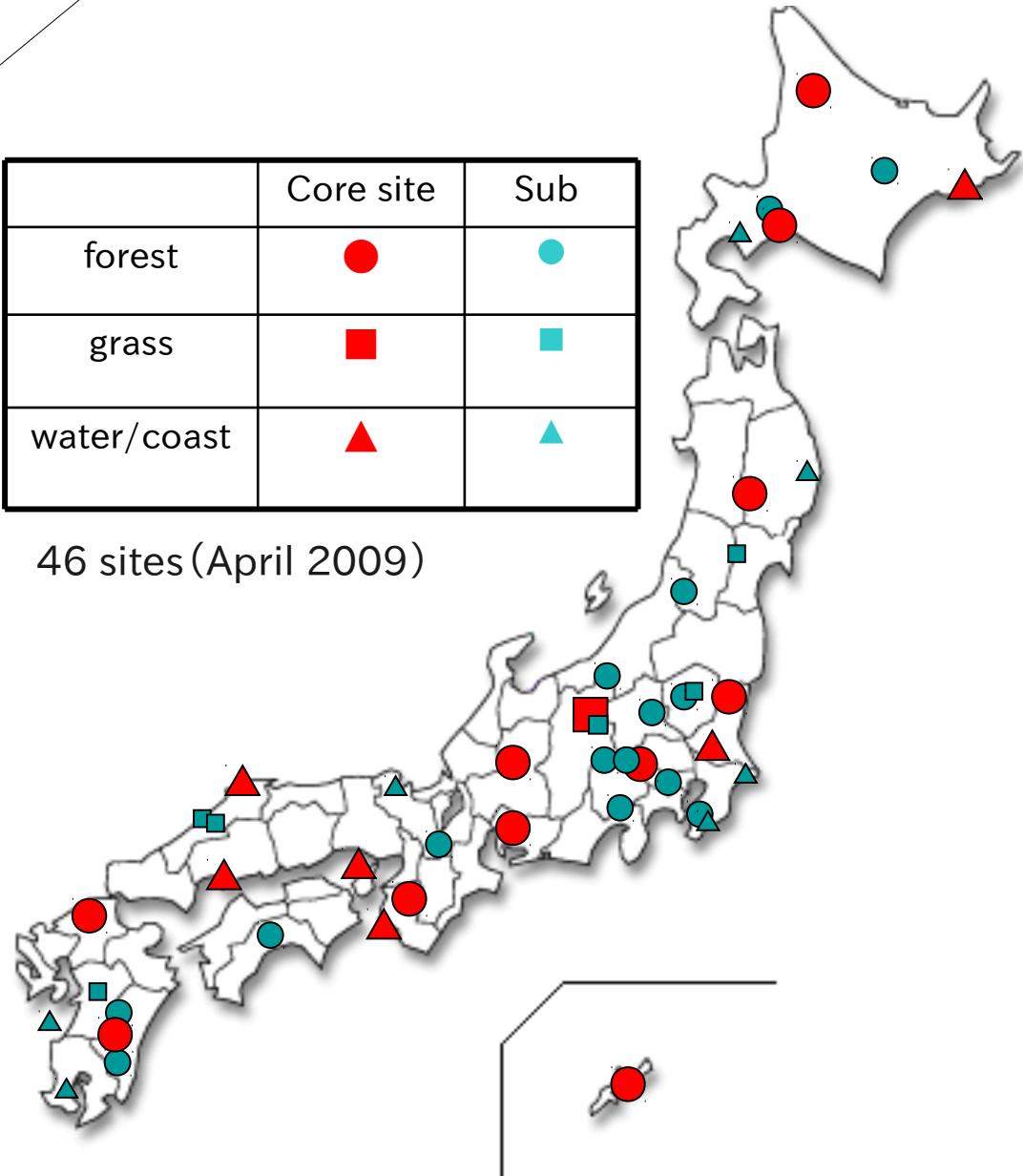


ILTER (International Long Term Ecological Research Network)



	Core site	Sub
forest	●	●
grass	■	■
water/coast	▲	▲

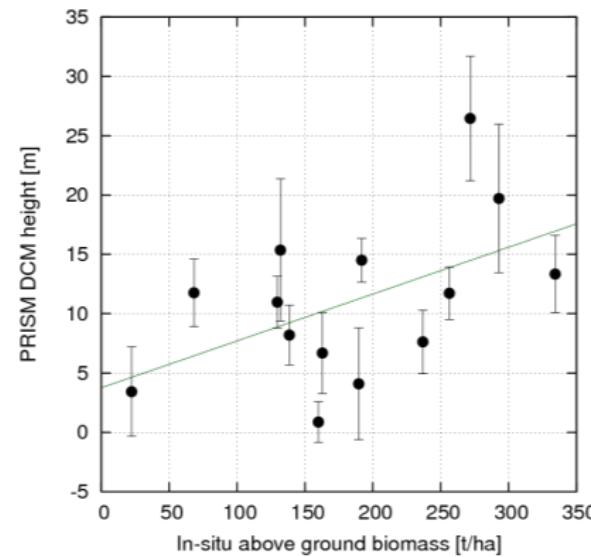
46 sites (April 2009)



## Forest biomass estimation

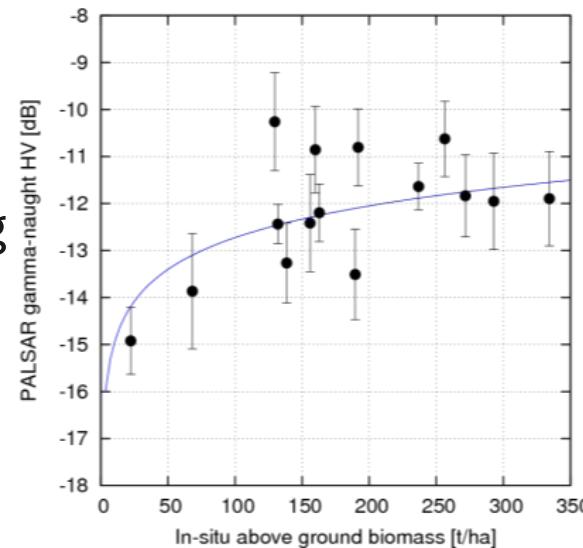
### ALOS PRISM

Digital canopy height model  
Vs. biomass



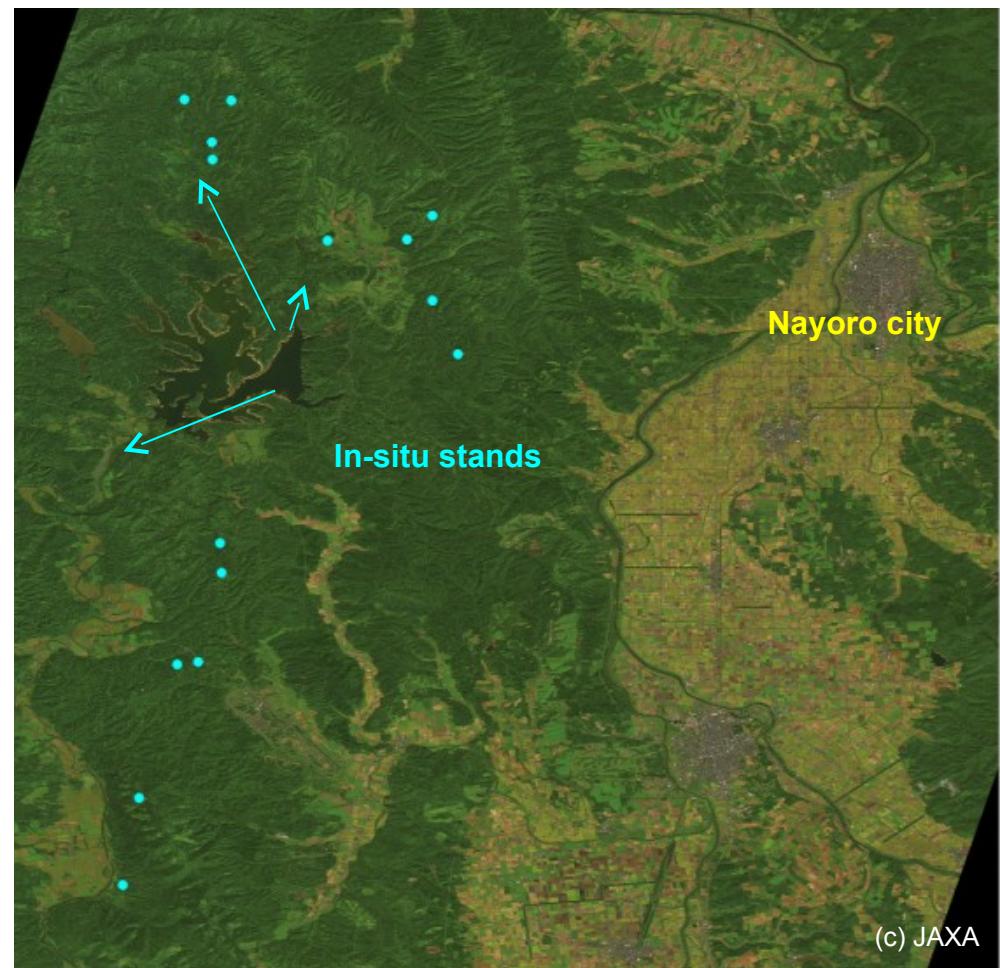
### ALOS PALSAR

Backscattering coefficient  
vs. biomass



- In-situ tree census data are provided by Hokkaido University (Dr. Yoshida, Dr. Shibata, and their members).

ALOS PRISM/AVNIR-2, 2010/09/09



# “Monitoring Site 1000” in Japan

by the Ministry of Environment of Japan (2003-)

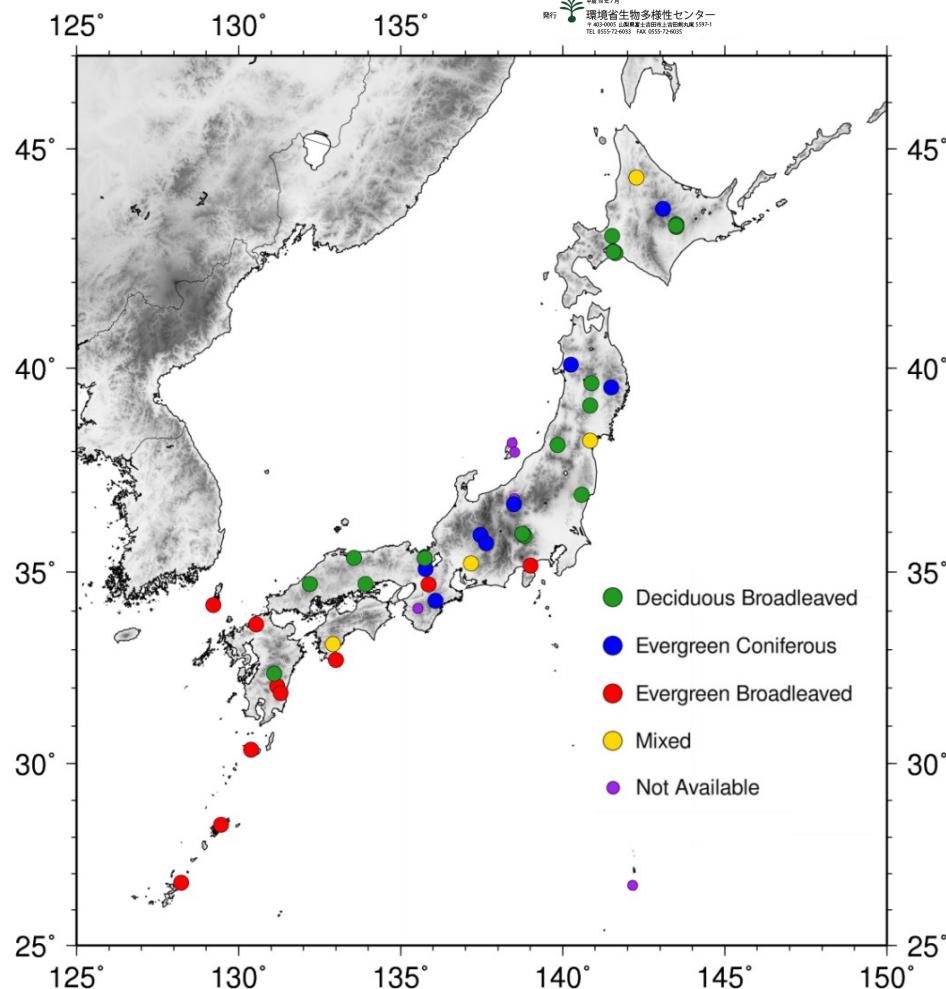
- so called “monisen”
- Network of long-term research sites for biodiversity assessment
- collaborating with JaLTER
- Tree census ... 49 sites
- Located at various forest types



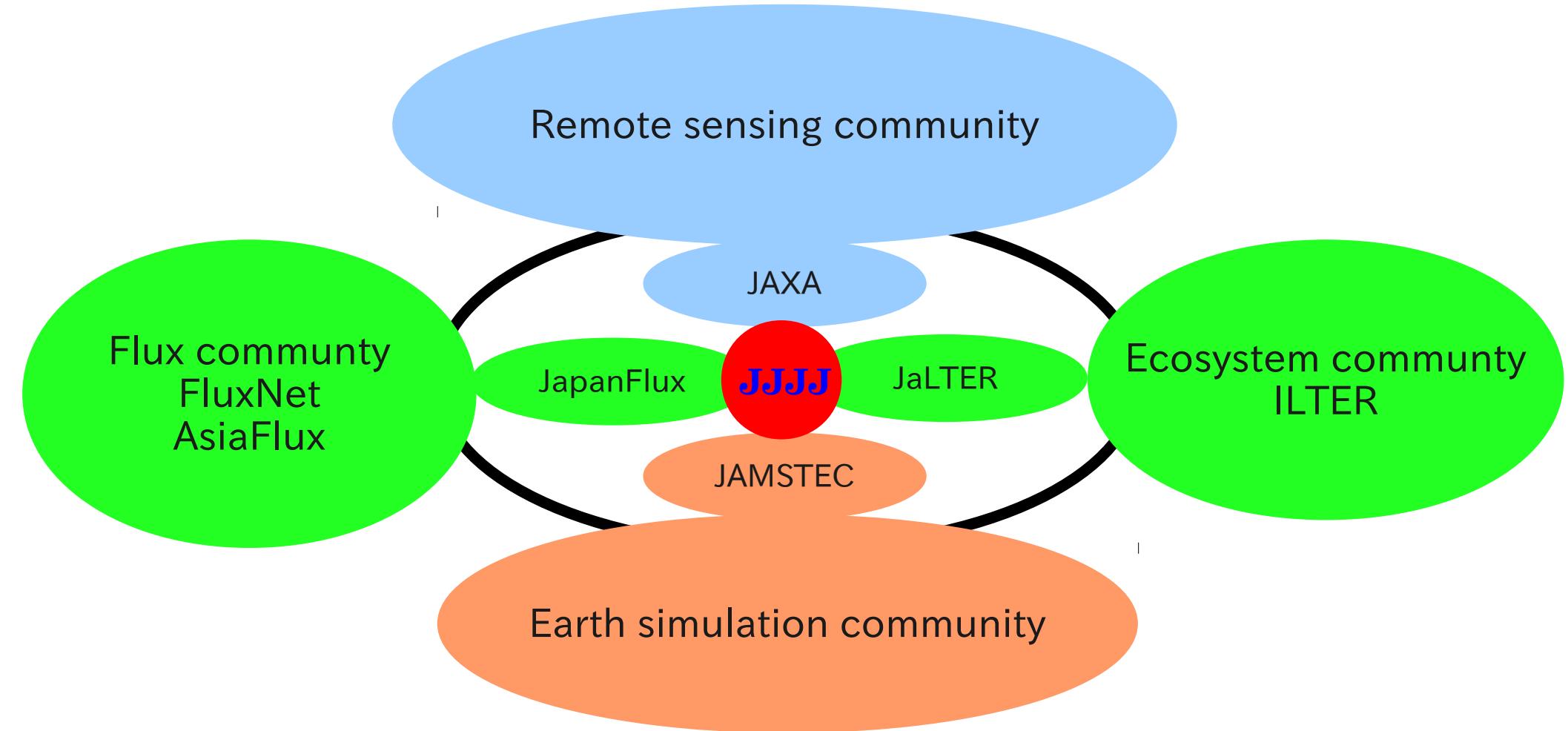
Website: <http://www.biadic.go.jp/moni1000/>



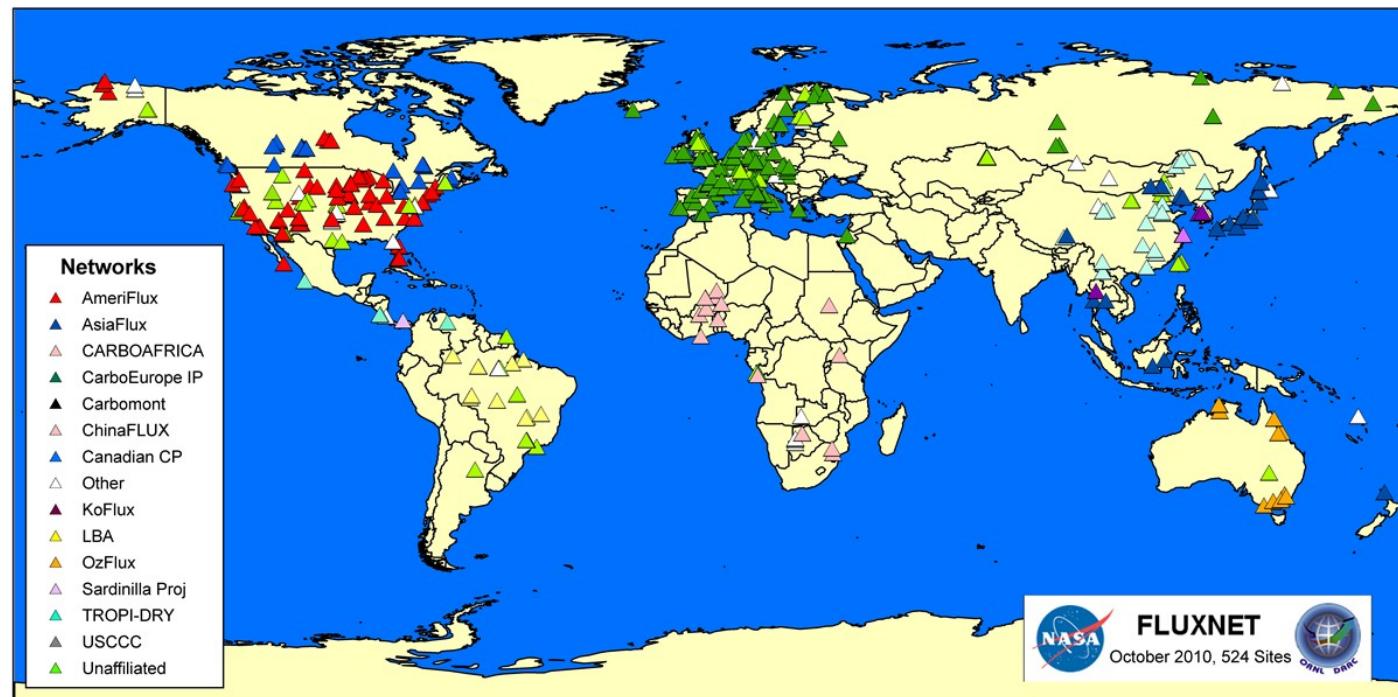
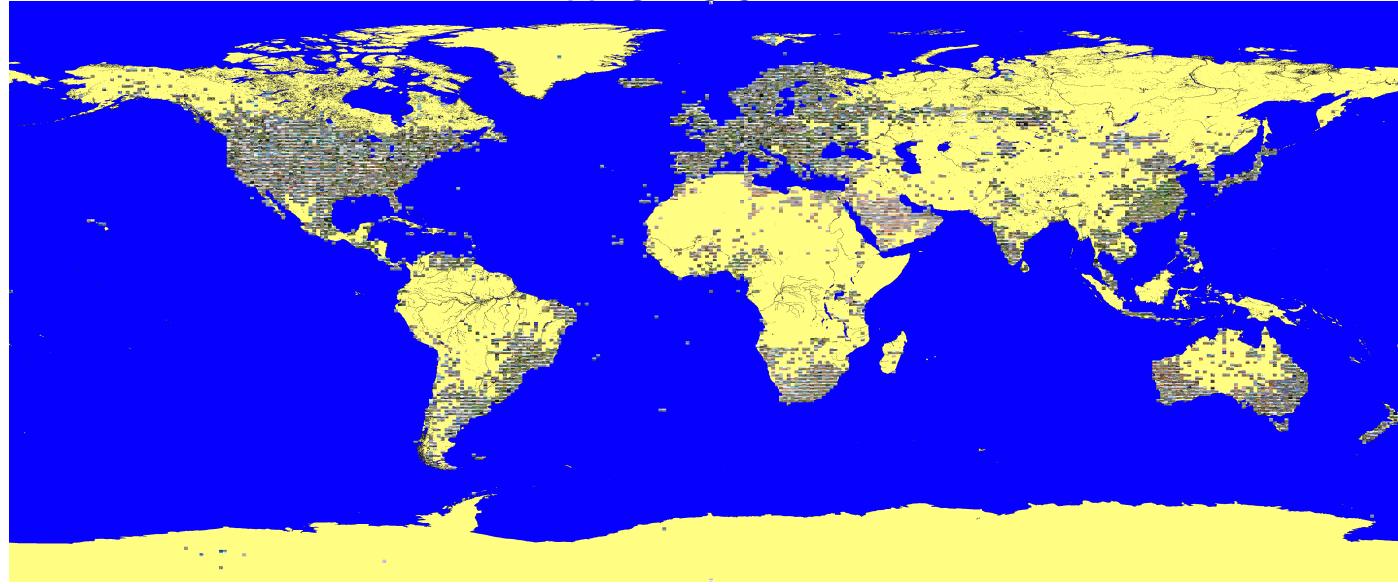
*In situ* Biomass Data



# JJJJ-Community ... a collaboration group of JAXA, JaLTER, JapanFlux, and JAMSTEC.



Ground information of Africa is needed, required, hoped, and wished!



# Conclusion

- Let's become happy by sharing and connecting each other. Less politics.
- Let's make more “good practices” than “standard protocols.”
- Let's make use of mobile gadgets (smart phone, GPS video coder, etc.)
- Let's repeat visiting to same points --> temporal change.
- Let's “rescue” numerous photos taken by amateur people.
  - \* Give geolocation & time stamp to each photo
  - \* Digitize (scan) and store.
  - \* Visit again and again. --> historical change.
- Copyright issue. Creative Commons? ODbL?
- Let's collaborate with existing scientific ground networks.

Land cover WS in Tokyo, supported by JAXA (May 25, 2012)