

# Using Land Surface Phenologies for Change Analysis

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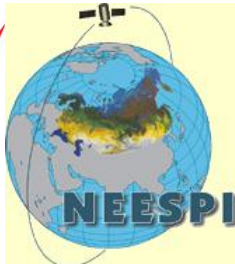
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**SCERIN-1**  
**Prague, June 18**



Support from NASA LCLUC and IDS programs. *Thanks!*

# Steps in Change Analysis

1. **Change Detection:** What has changed? When and where?
2. **Change Quantification:** How much has changed?
3. **Change Assessment:** How significant are the changes?
4. **Change Attribution:** What are the causes of the changes?
5. **Change Consequences:** How do the changes affect other things?

**Phenology:** timing of recurrent life history events of organisms linked to environmental drivers and cues.

Examples: *timing of bud break, leaf out, leaf coloring, leaf fall; timing of animal migration & mating; timing of flowering & pollination*

**Land Surface Phenology:** timing of recurrent patterns of EM radiation associated with biological phenomena.

Example: *timing of the vernal “green wave”; timing of “brown-down”*

**Seasonality:** timing of recurrent abiotic events.

Examples: *timing of soil freeze/thaw; timing of ice on/ice off; timing of reduction in the diel temperature range; timing of center of mass flow*

**Land Surface Seasonality:** timing of recurrent patterns of EM radiation associated with abiotic phenomena.

Example: *timing of soil thaw period; timing of peak fractional water*

# Whose time ?

If phenology attends to the timing of recurrent biological events, then whose “clock” and “calendar” should track that time?

**Calendars are anthropocentric.**

**Do plants pay attention to our calendars ?**

Can we link vegetation dynamics to a biometeorological calendar ?

**Accumulated Growing Degree-Days** (also known as **thermal time**) is a simple biometeorological variable that weights the passage of days by the quantity of “growing degrees” – that portion of the diel temperature range that is useful for plant growth, broadly construed.

The calculation of AGDD is straightforward:

$$(1) \text{AverageTemp}_t = (\text{MaxTemp}_t + \text{MinTemp}_t)/2$$

$$(2) \text{AGDD}_t = \text{AGDD}_{t-1} + \max[(\text{AverageTemp}_t - \text{Base}), 0]$$

**Here we will use a base of 273.15 K (0 °C) with an annual reset each winter solstice.**

# Convex Quadratic model of Land Surface Phenology (CxQ LSP)

Simple quadratic models that link the NDVI to the temporal progression of accumulated growing degree-days (AGDD) have been successfully applied to a variety of settings and scales.

$$NDVI = \alpha + \beta AGDD - \gamma AGDD^2$$

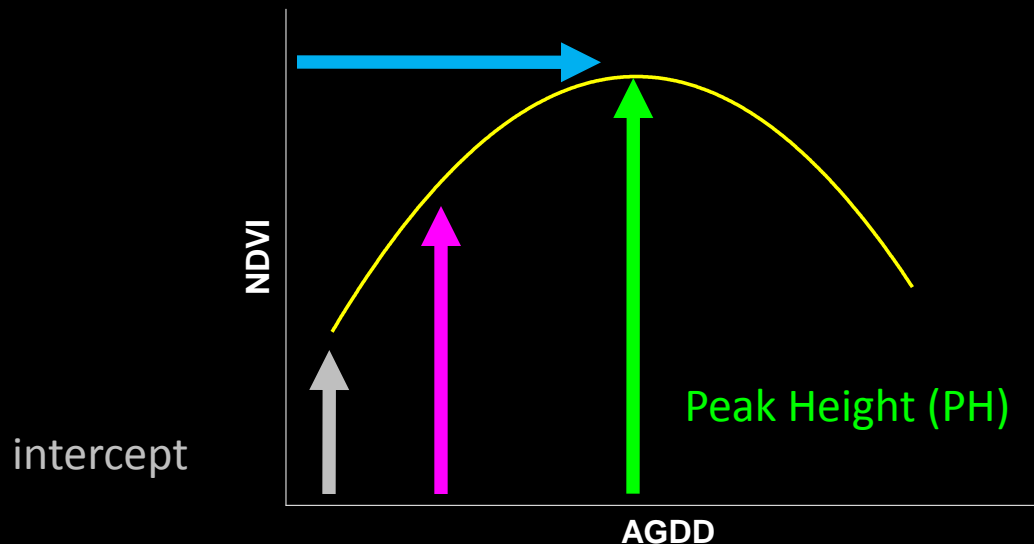
phenometrics

$$PH = \alpha - (\beta^2/4\gamma)$$

$$TTP = -\beta/2\gamma$$

NDVI @ half-TTP

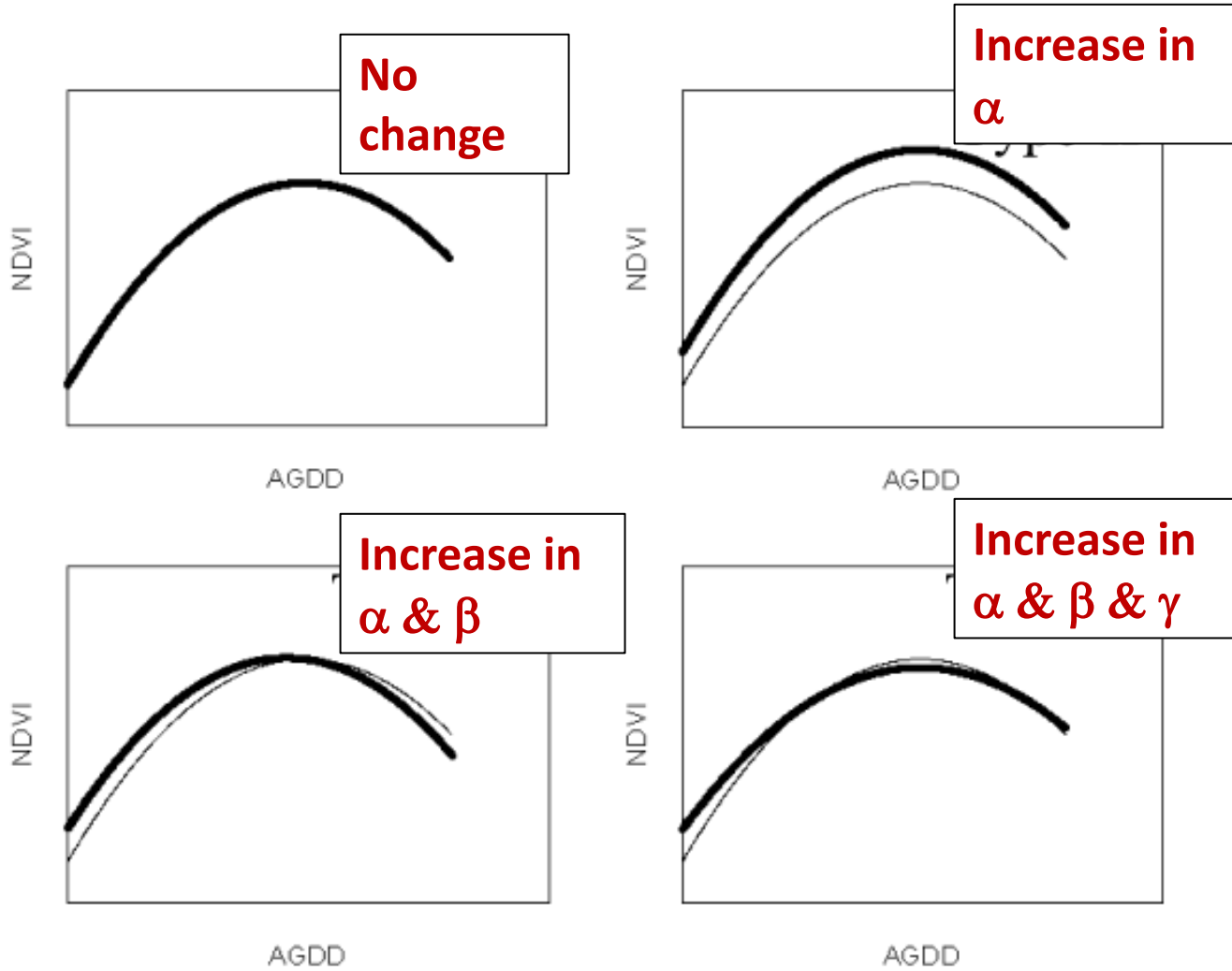
Thermal Time to Peak (TTP)



de Beurs & Henebry. 2005a. Land surface phenology and temperature variation in the IGBP high-latitude transects. *Global Change Biology* 11(5): 779-790.

$$\text{NDVI} = \alpha + \beta \text{AGDD} - \gamma \text{AGDD}^2$$

NDVI



AGDD

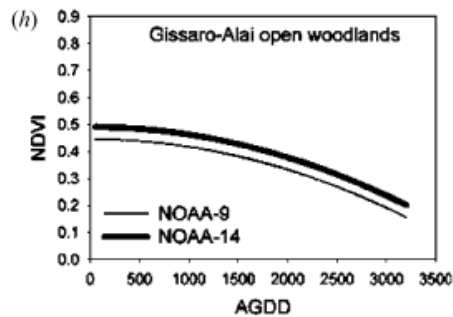
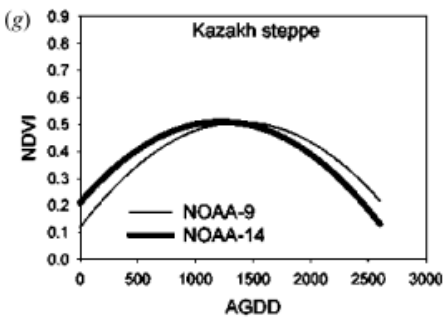
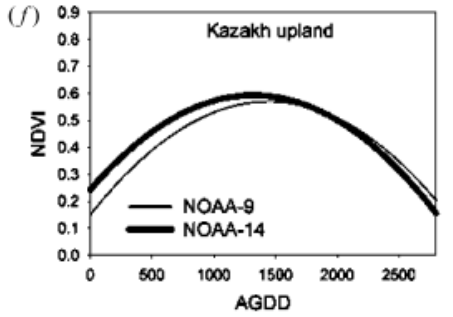
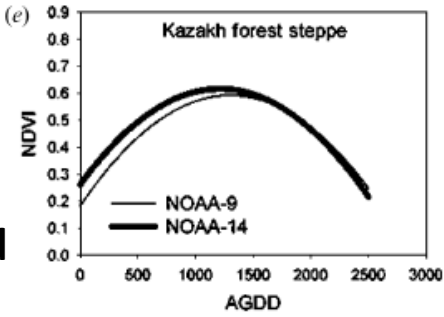
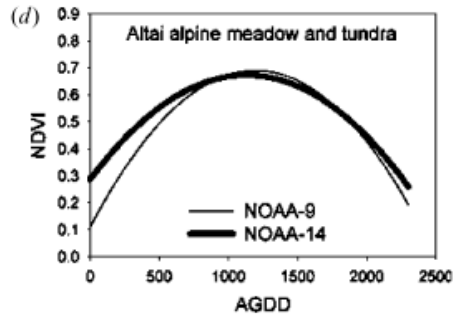
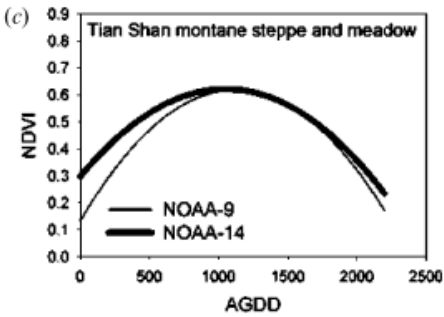
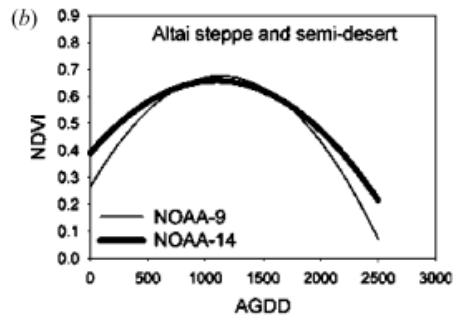
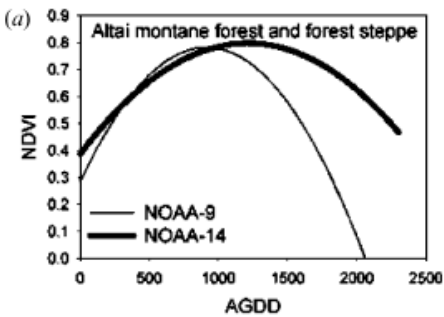
# Significant LSP changes found in 12 of 19\* Kazakhstan ecoregions following the collapse of the Soviet Union



- 1, Altai montane forest and forest steppe
- 2, Altai steppe and semi-desert
- 3, Tian Shan montane conifer forests
- 4, Altai alpine meadow and tundra
- 5, Kazakh forest steppe
- 6, Tian Shan montane steppe and meadow
- 7, Kazakh upland
- 8, Kazakh steppe
- 9, Gissaro-Alai open woodlands
- 10, Central Asian riparian woodlands
- 11, Junggar Basin semi-desert
- 12, Emin Valley steppe
- 13, Pontic steppe
- 14, Tian Shan foothill and steppe
- 15, Alai-Western Tian Shan steppe
- 16, Kazakh semi-desert
- 17, Caspian lowland desert
- 18, Central Asian northern desert
- 19, Central Asian southern desert

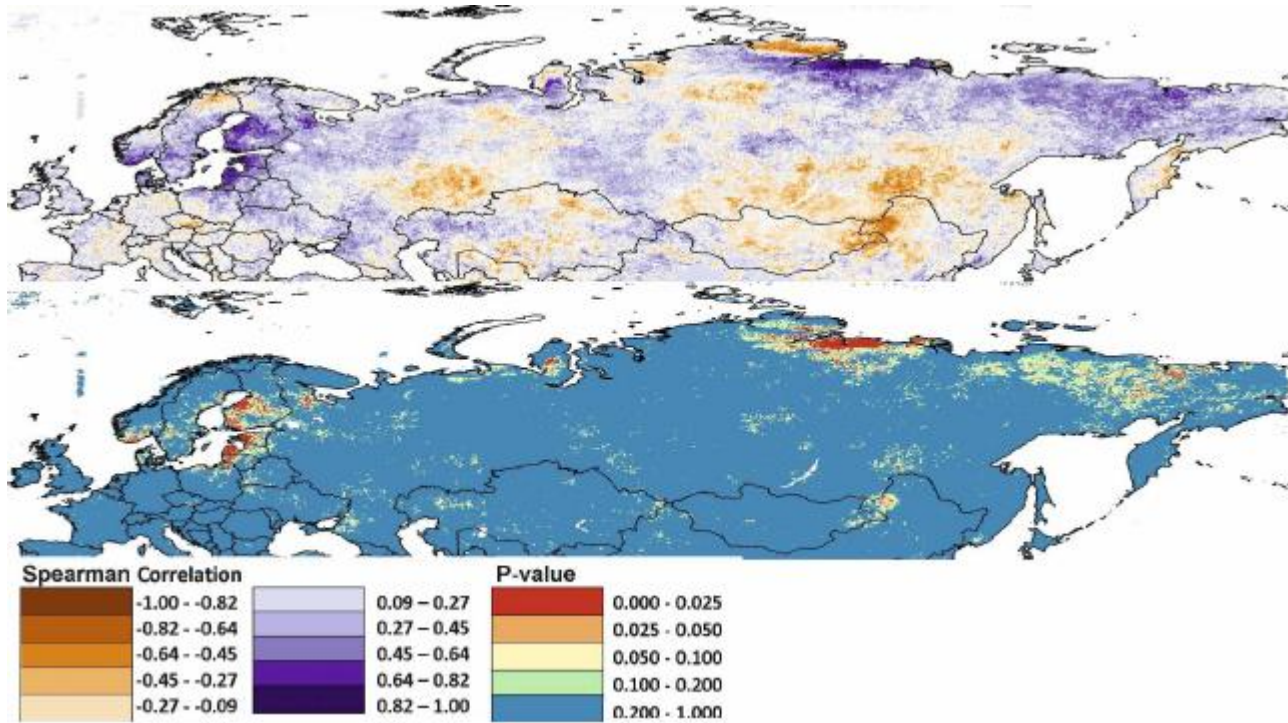
- 15 of 19 ecoregions modeled; 4 deserts omitted
- 12 of 15 showed significant LSP changes
- 3 of 15 showed no change

de Beurs & Henebry. 2005b. A statistical framework for the analysis of long image time series. *International Journal of Remote Sensing* 26(8): 1551-1573.



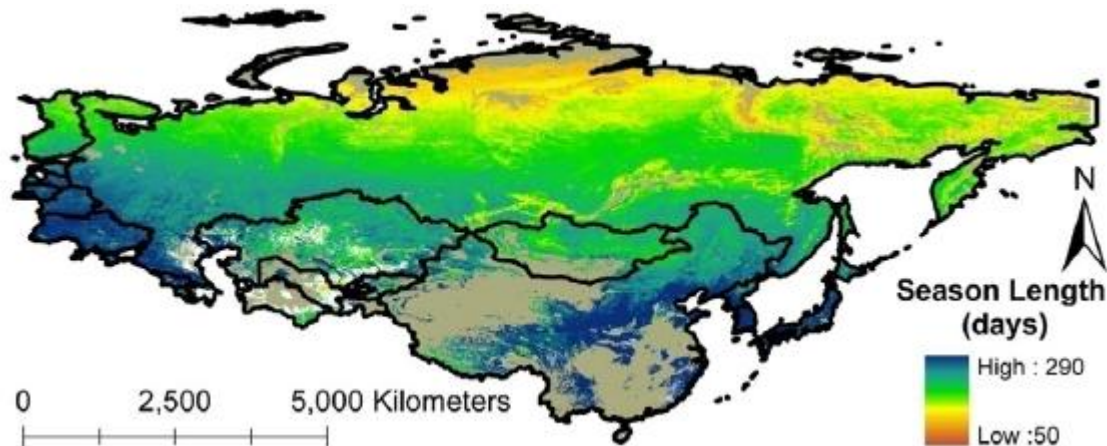


## Using the CxQ LSP model with AVHRR NDVI to link DJF Arctic Oscillation to TTP

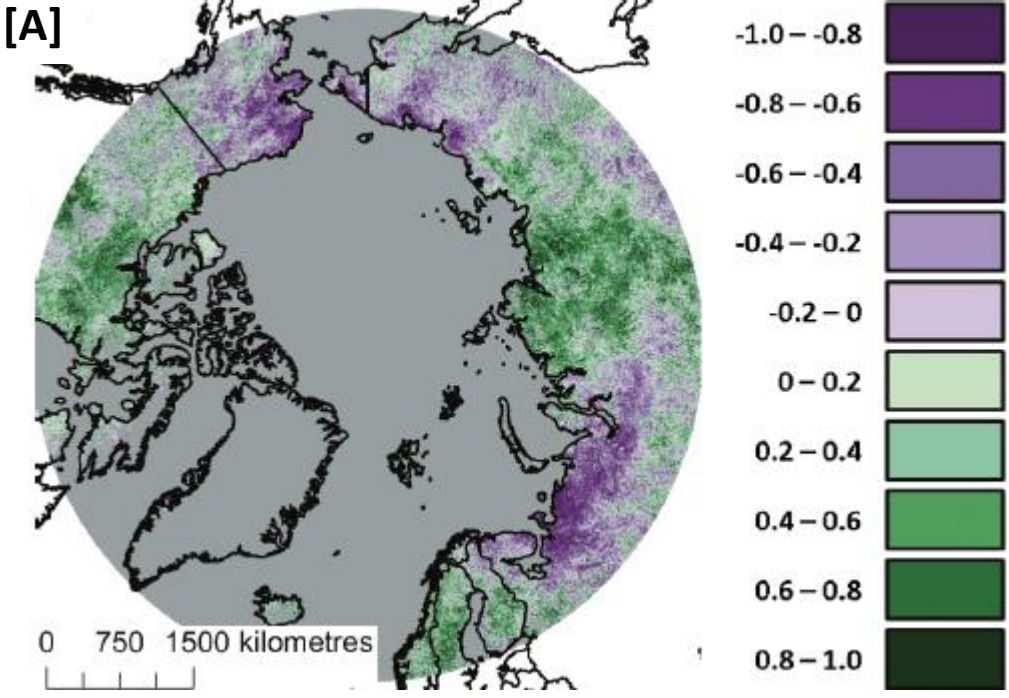


de Beurs & Henebry. 2008. Northern Annular Mode effects on the land surface phenologies of Northern Eurasia. *Journal of Climate* 21:4257-4279.

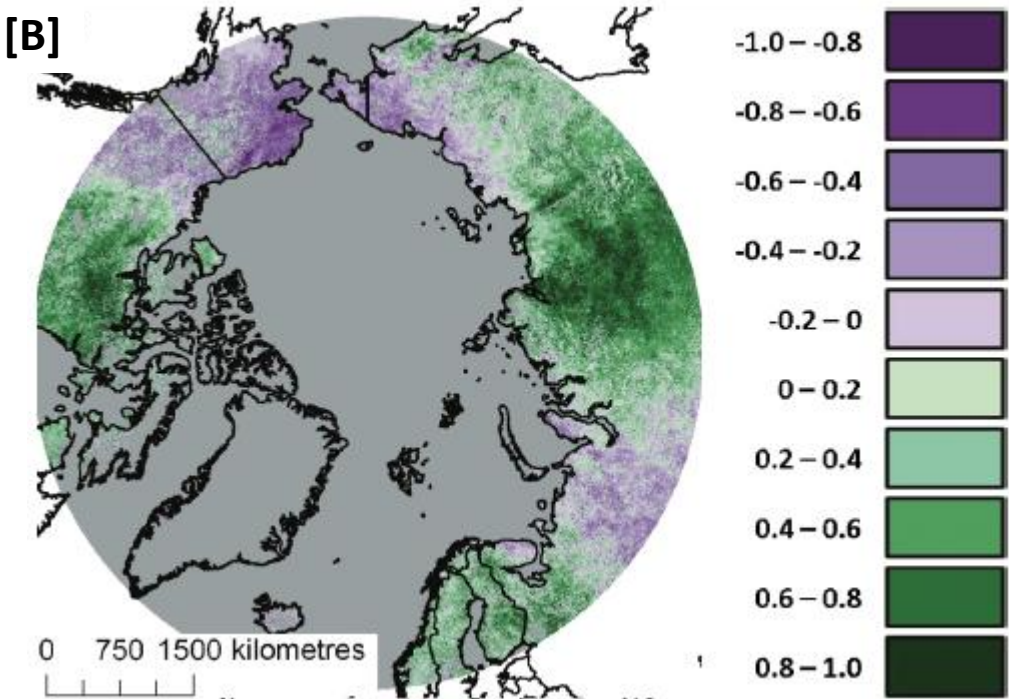
## Using the CxQ LSP model with MODIS NDVI & NDII to derive the snow-free season length



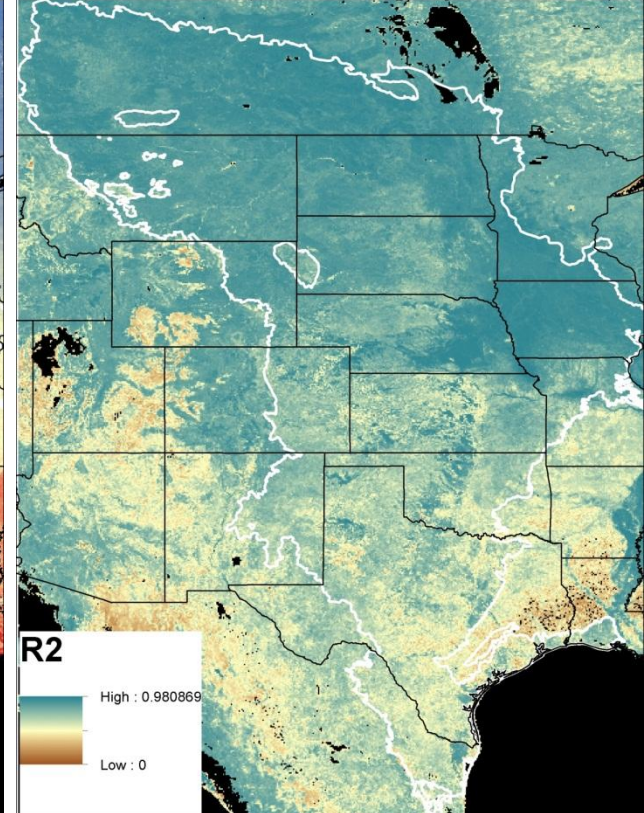
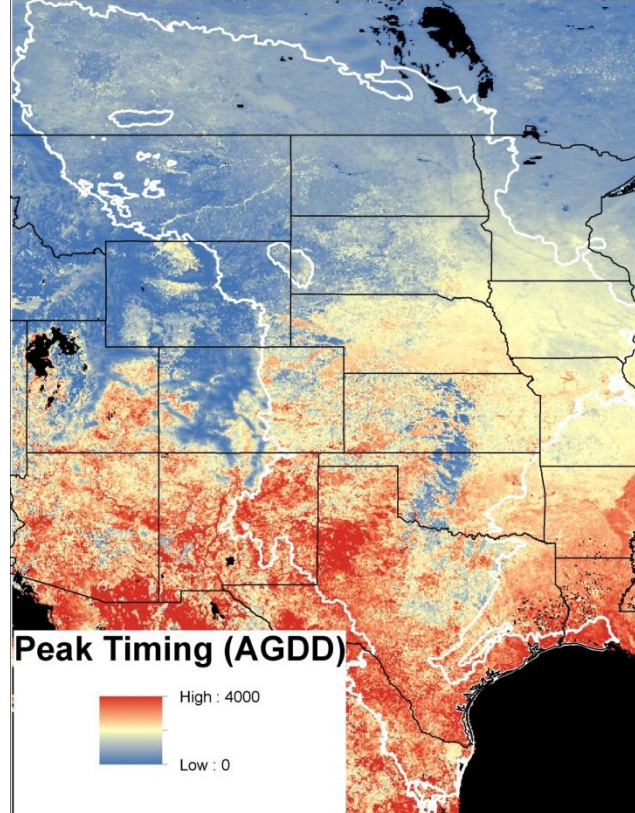
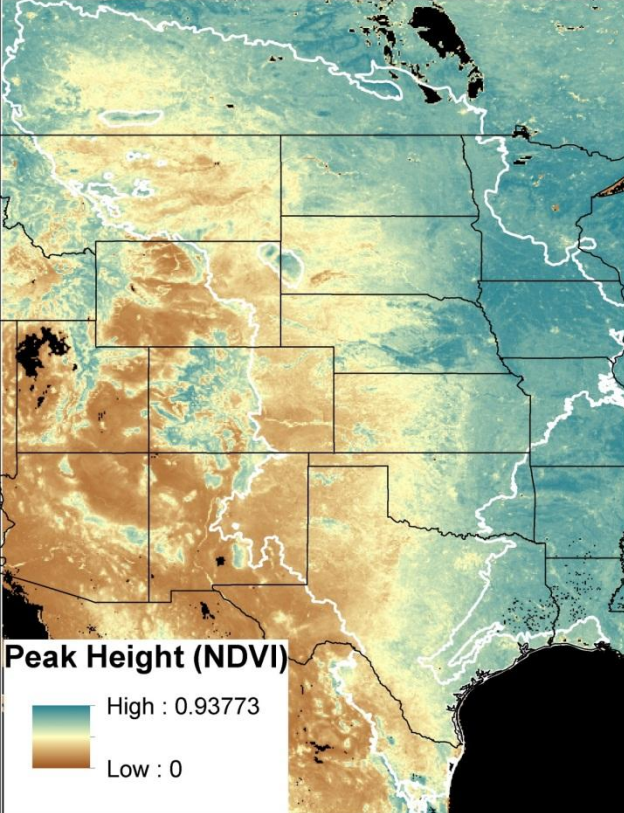
de Beurs, Wright, Henebry. 2009. Dual scale trend analysis distinguishes climatic from anthropogenic effects on the vegetated land surface. *Environmental Research Letters* 4:045012



Using CxQ LSP model to link JJA Arctic Oscillation to MODIS NBAR NDVI  
**[A] PH and [B] TTP**



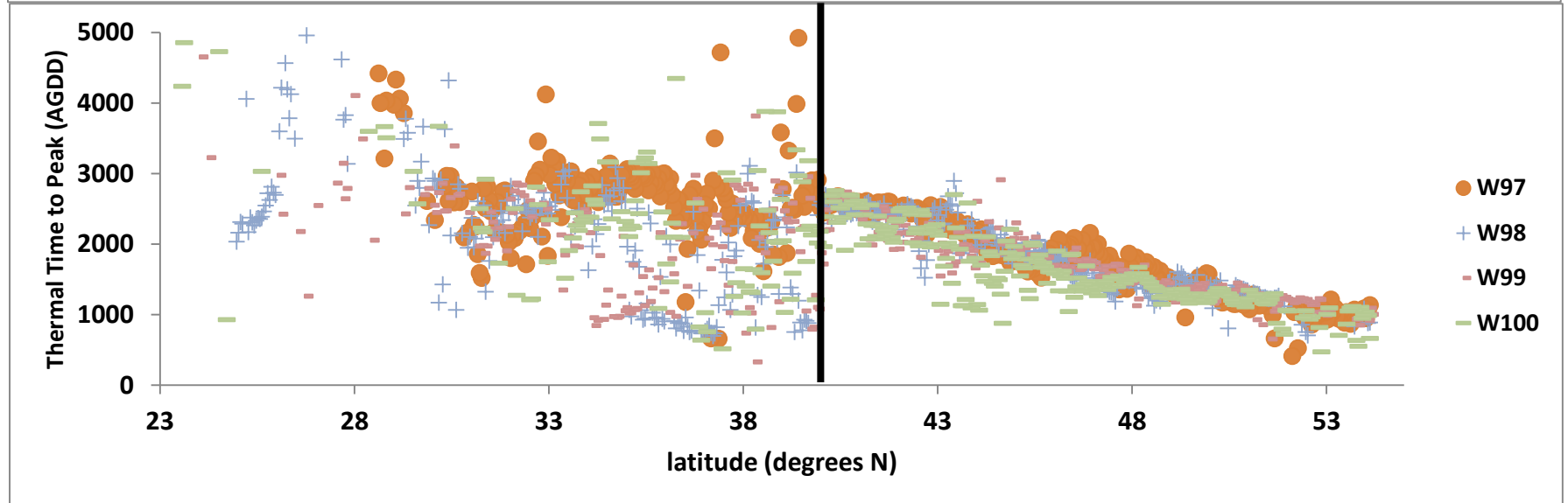
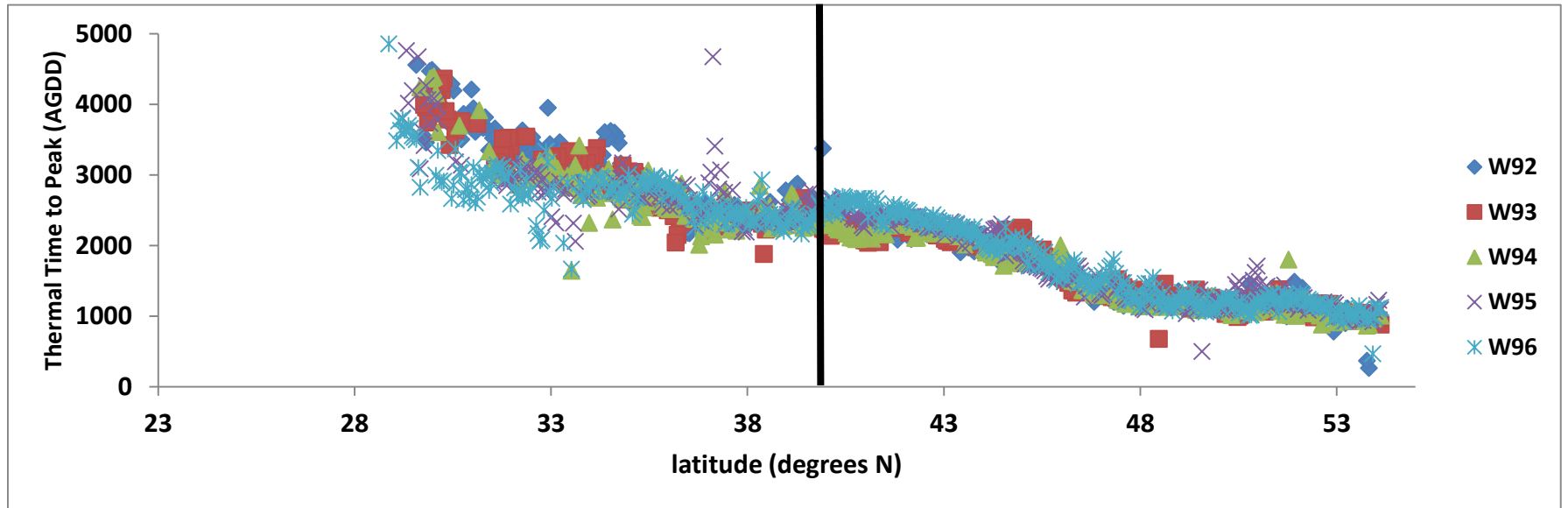
de Beurs & Henebry. 2010.  
 A land surface phenology assessment of the northern polar regions using MODIS reflectance time series.  
*Canadian Journal of Remote Sensing* 36(Suppl. 1): S87–S110.  
 [Special Issue on International Polar Year]



## Convex Quadratic (CxQ) Model of Land Surface Phenology fitted to MODIS NBAR NDVI & MODIS LST data

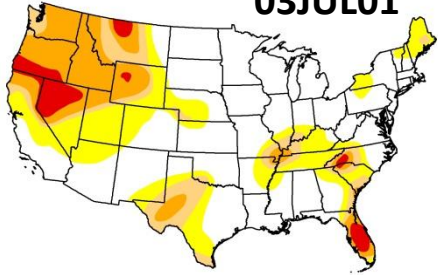
Henebry & de Beurs. 2013. Remote sensing of land surface phenology: a prospectus. In: (Schwartz, ed) Phenology: An Integrative Environmental Science, 2e . Chapter 21.

# Thermal Time to Peak shows a strong latitudinal gradient, especially north of ~N40 and east of ~W98

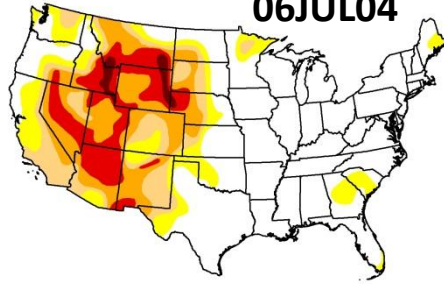


# US Drought Monitor: late June/early July 2001-2011

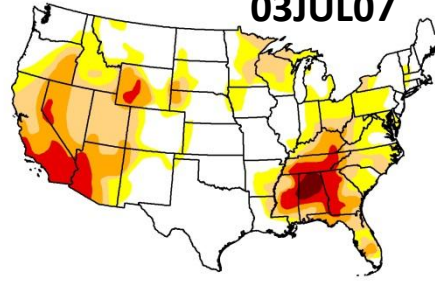
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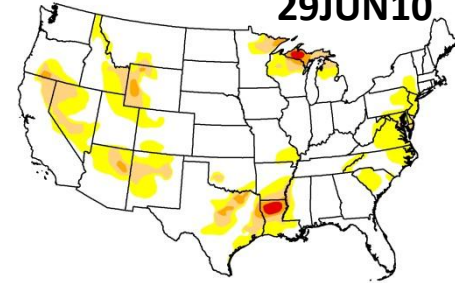
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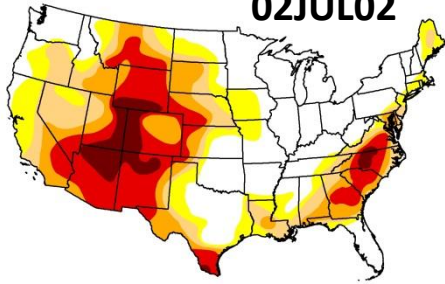
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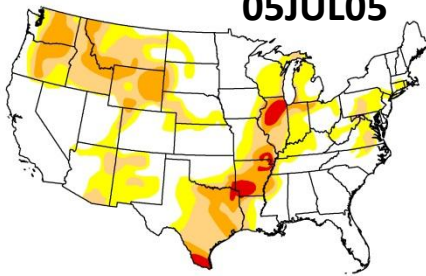
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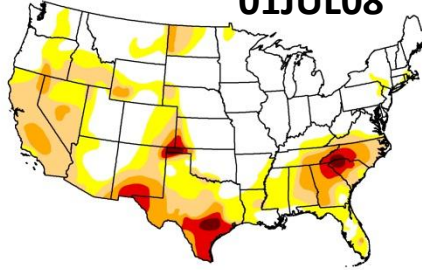
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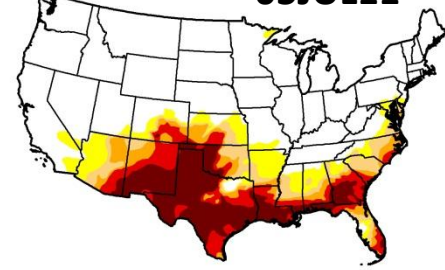
05JUL05



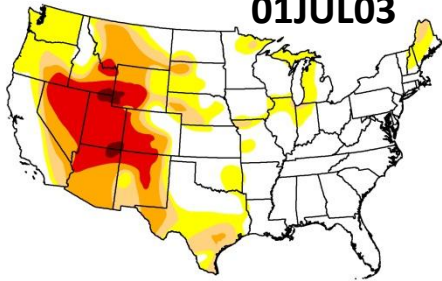
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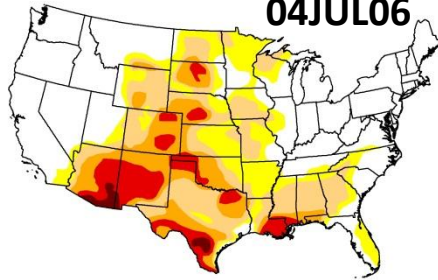
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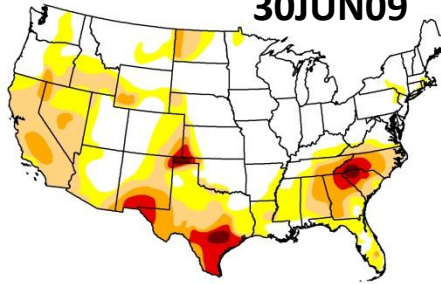
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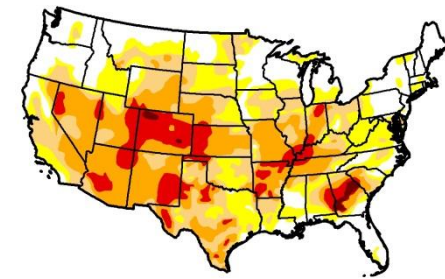
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30JUN09



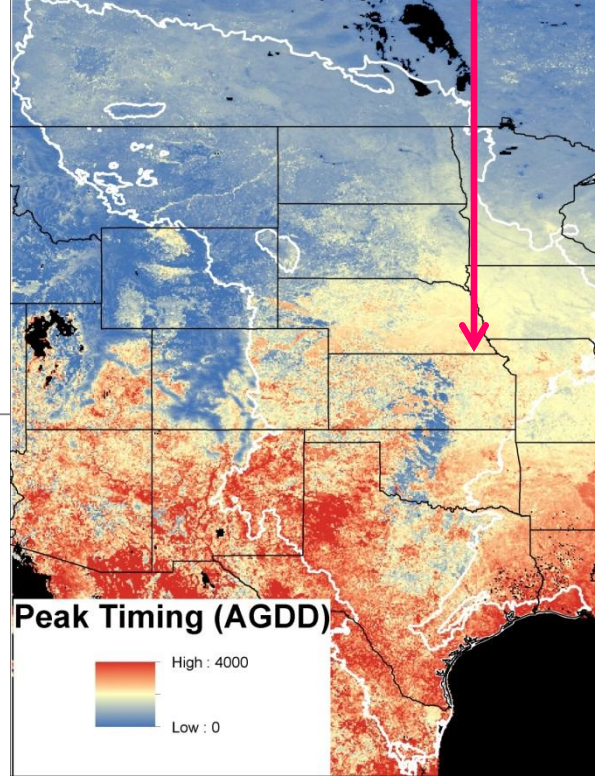
03JUL12



## Average Thermal Time to Peak North of N40° at W96.05°:

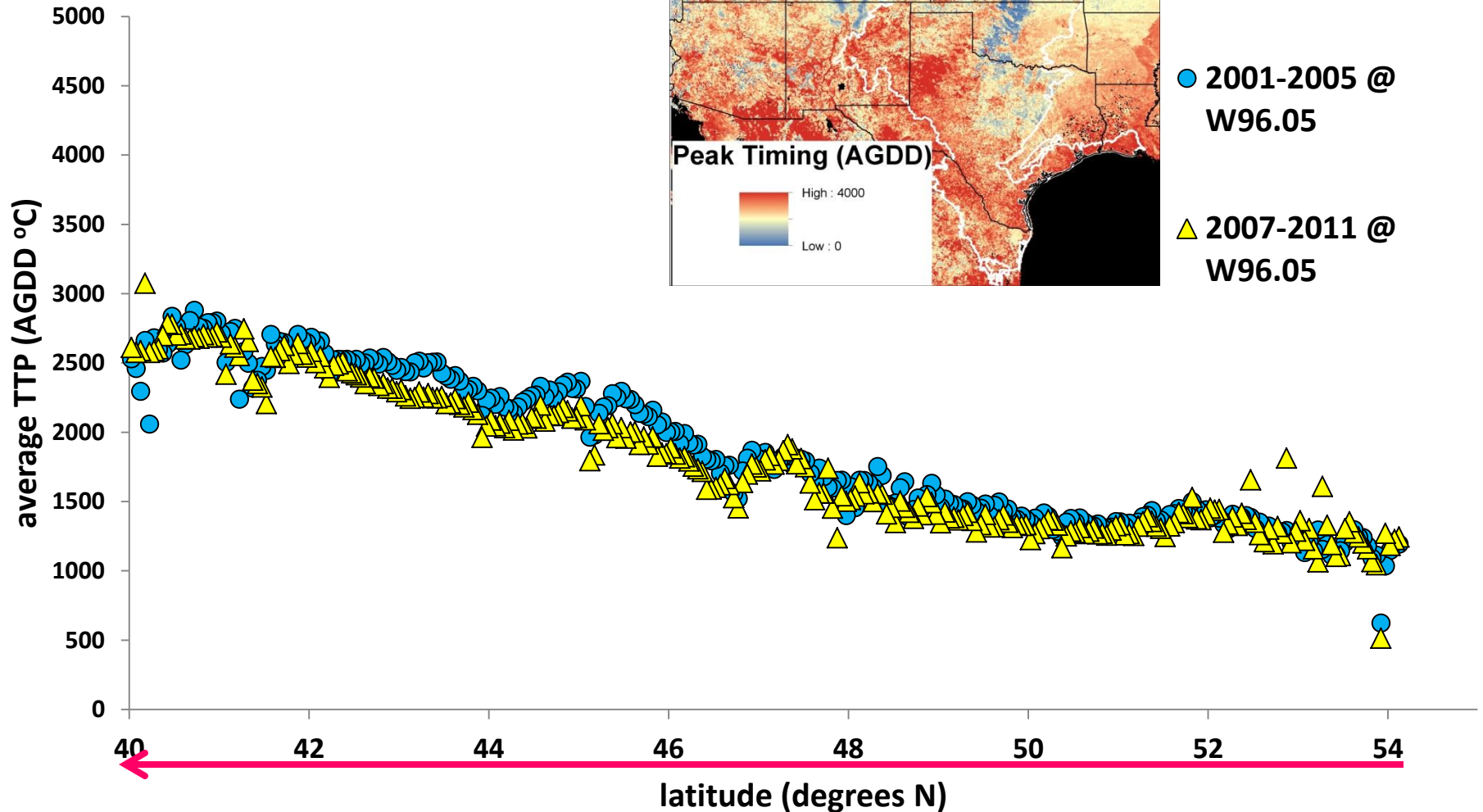
- Larger in earlier period (2001-2005)
- Smaller in later period (2007-2011)

Corn canopy development occurs earlier than soy, due to planting practices and life cycle.



● 2001-2005 @ W96.05

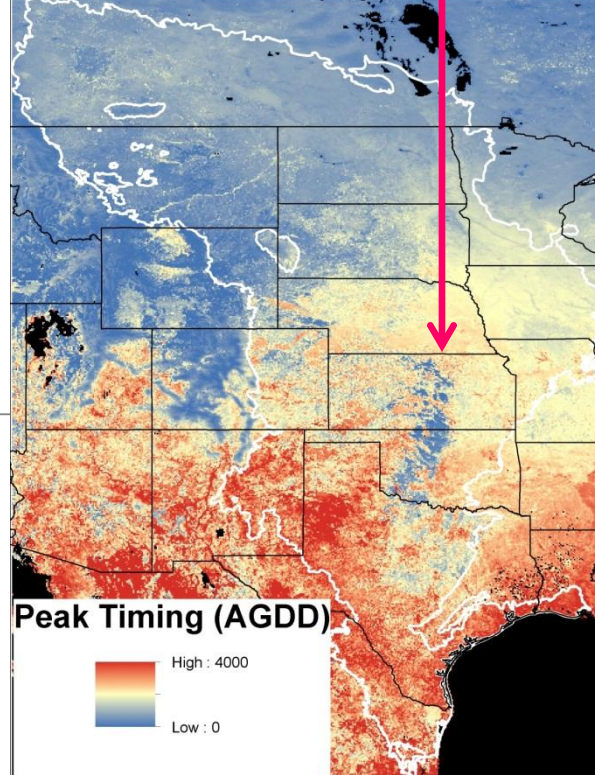
▲ 2007-2011 @ W96.05



## Average Thermal Time to Peak North of N40° at W97.05°:

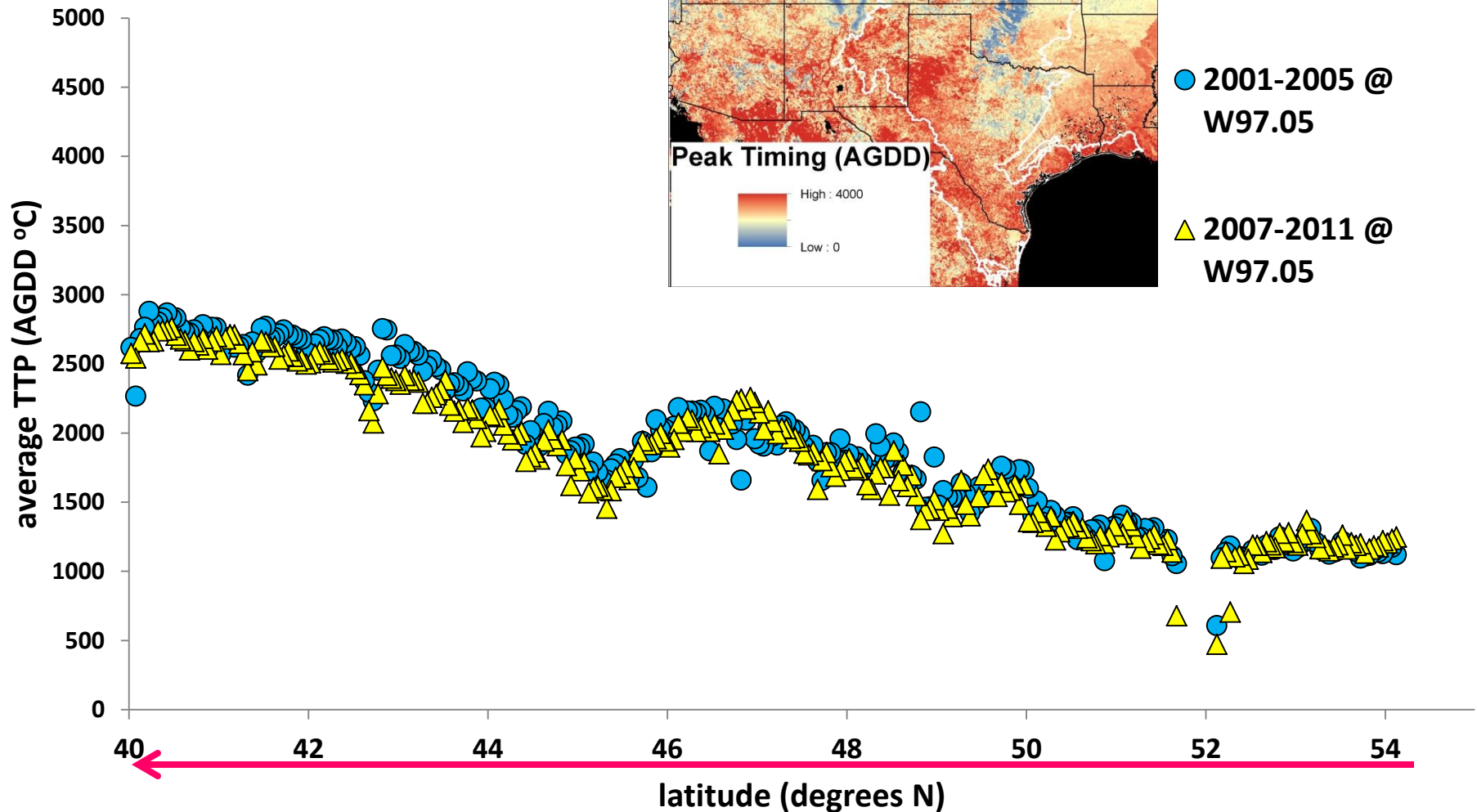
- Larger in earlier period (2001-2005)
- Smaller in later period (2007-2011)

Corn canopy development occurs earlier than soy, due to planting practices and life cycle.



● 2001-2005 @ W97.05

▲ 2007-2011 @ W97.05



# Trend Analysis for Hotspot Change Detection

Although simple linear regression using time as the independent variable is commonly used, but it has many statistical problems [1,2].

Instead, nonparametric trend analysis is more robust and can handle seasonality.

Better tool: the Seasonal Kendall trend test corrected for first-order temporal autocorrelation is a generalization of the Mann-Kendall trend test. [1,3]

**CAVEAT: Trend tests are retrospective and do not predict the future!**

[1] de Beurs KM, GM Henebry. 2004. Trend analysis of the Pathfinder AVHRR Land (PAL) NDVI data for the deserts of Central Asia. *IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Letters* 1(4): 282-286.

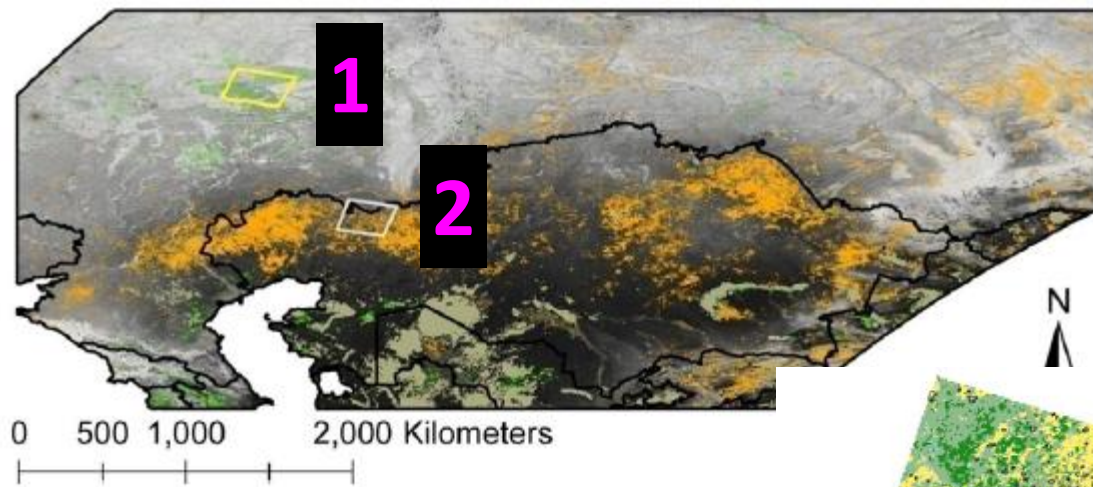
[2] de Beurs KM, GM Henebry. 2005b. A statistical framework for the analysis of long image time series. *International Journal of Remote Sensing* 26(8): 1551-1573.

[3] Hirsch RM, JR Slack. 1984. A nonparametric trend test for seasonal data with serial dependence. *Water Resources Research* 20:727-732.



# Dual Scale Change Analysis using Trend Hotspots

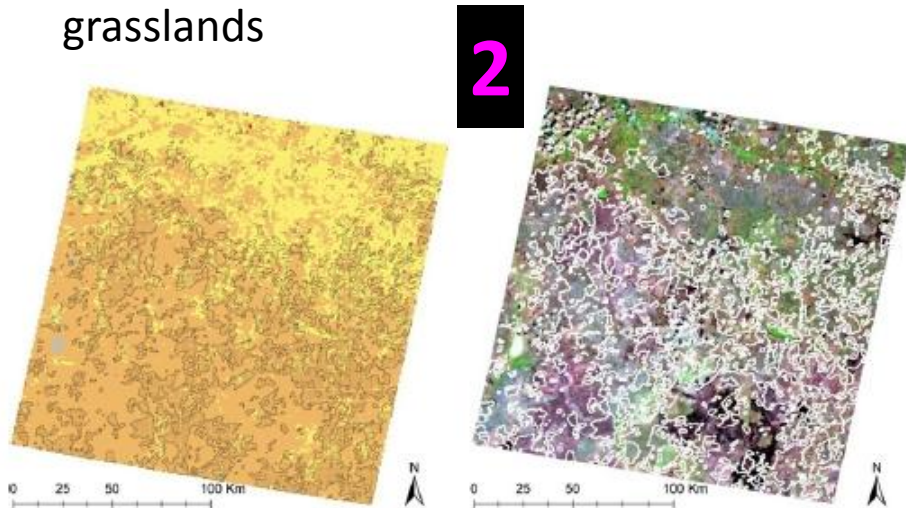
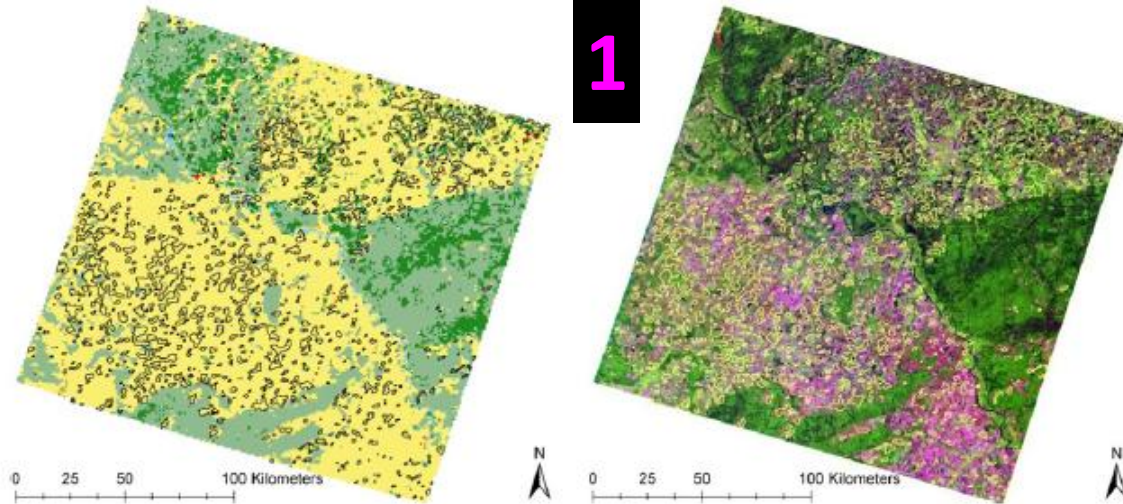
← Hotspot detection with SK trend test on MODIS & two Landsat scenes



MODIS LC (left), Landsat 5,4,3 (right)

RU (right): positive trend in abandoned croplands

KZ (below): negative trends in grasslands



de Beurs, Wright, Henebry. 2009. Dual scale trend analysis distinguishes climatic from anthropogenic effects on the vegetated land surface. *Environmental Research Letters*, 4:045012.

# Location of WELD time series in southeastern South Dakota

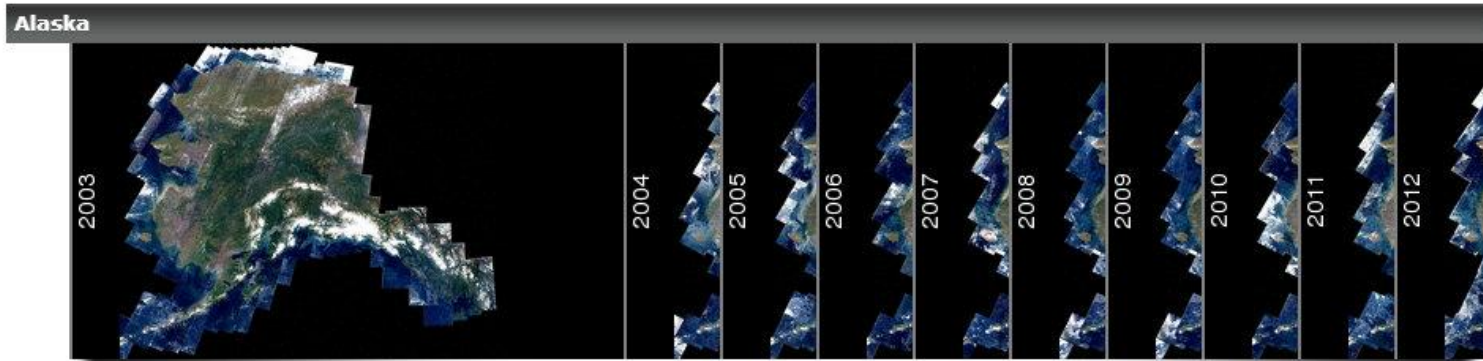
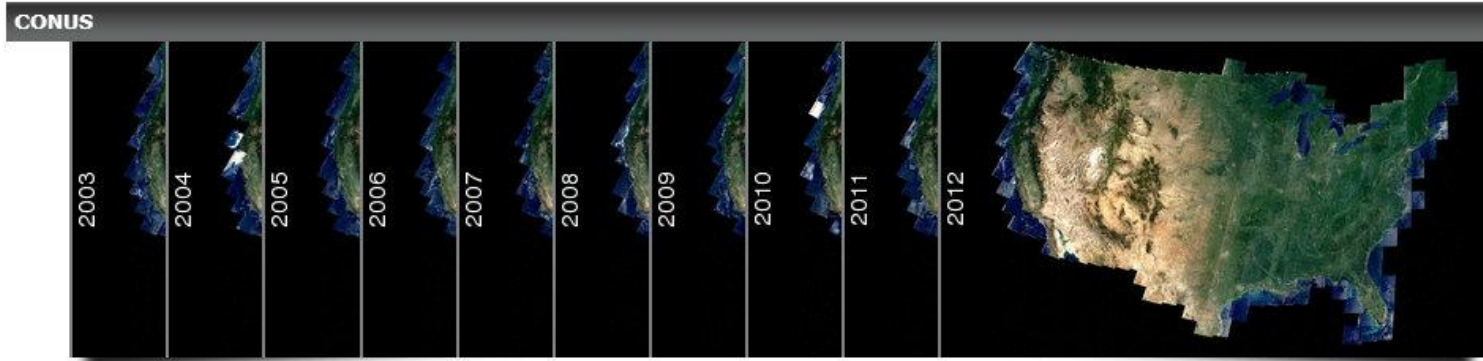


East Field N

July 2010

<http://weld.cr.usgs.gov>

Available Years:



[? Interface Help](#)

[? WELD Product Information](#)

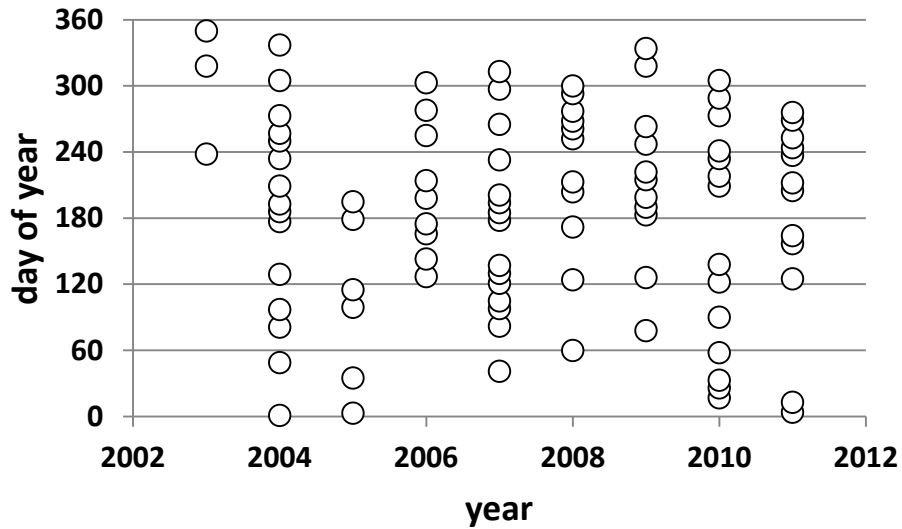
[? Distribution Metrics](#)

[Accessibility](#)   [FOIA](#)   [Privacy](#)   [Policies and Notices](#)

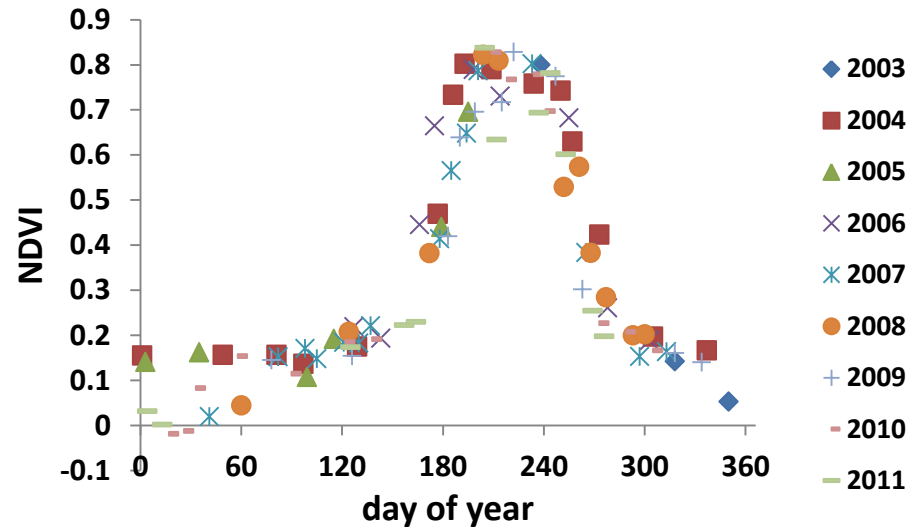
U.S. Department of the Interior | U.S. Geological Survey  
URL: <http://weld.cr.usgs.gov>  
Page Contact Information: Ask WELD  
Page Last Modified: 10/09/2012



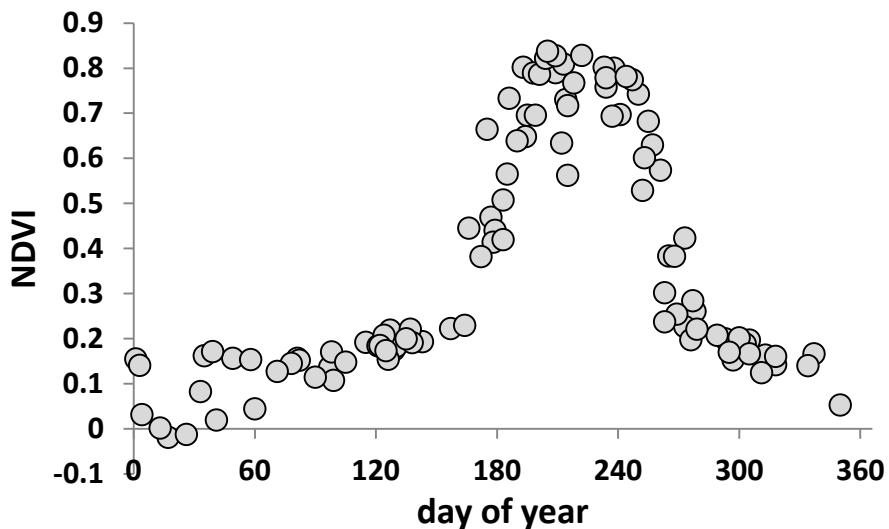
### WELD high quality observations



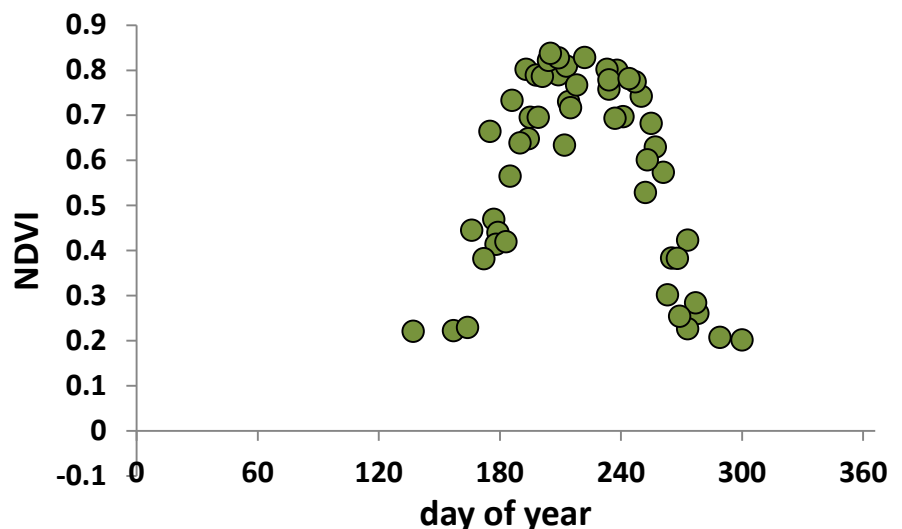
### WELD observations by year

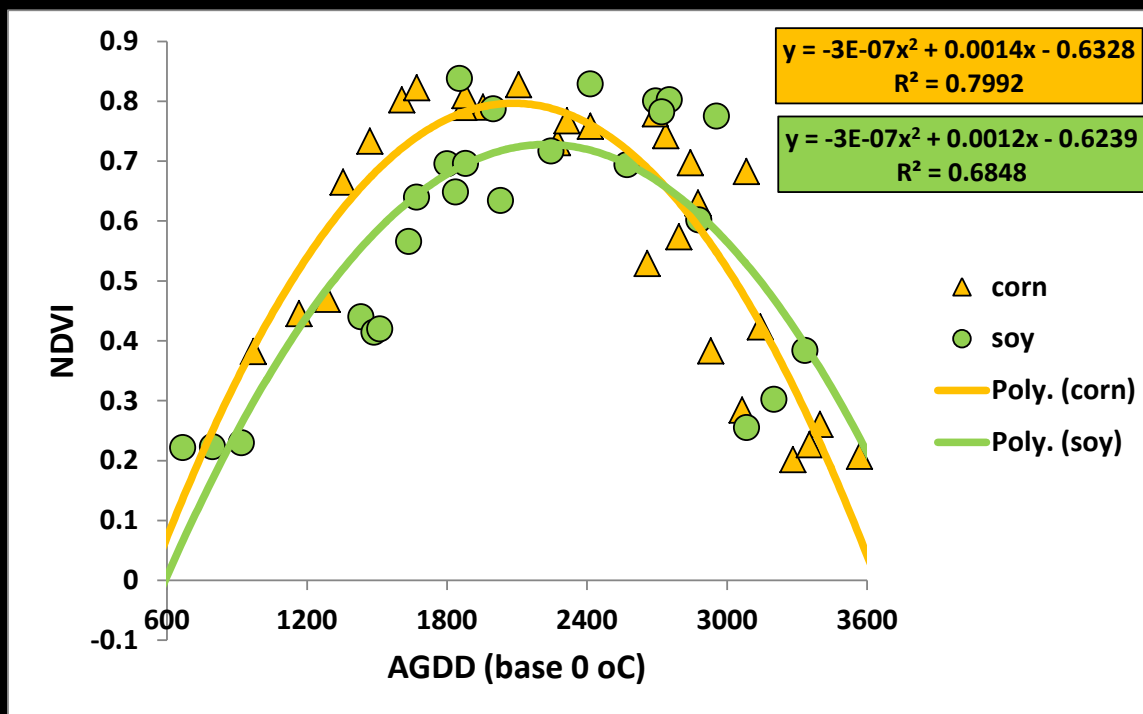


### WELD observations aggregated



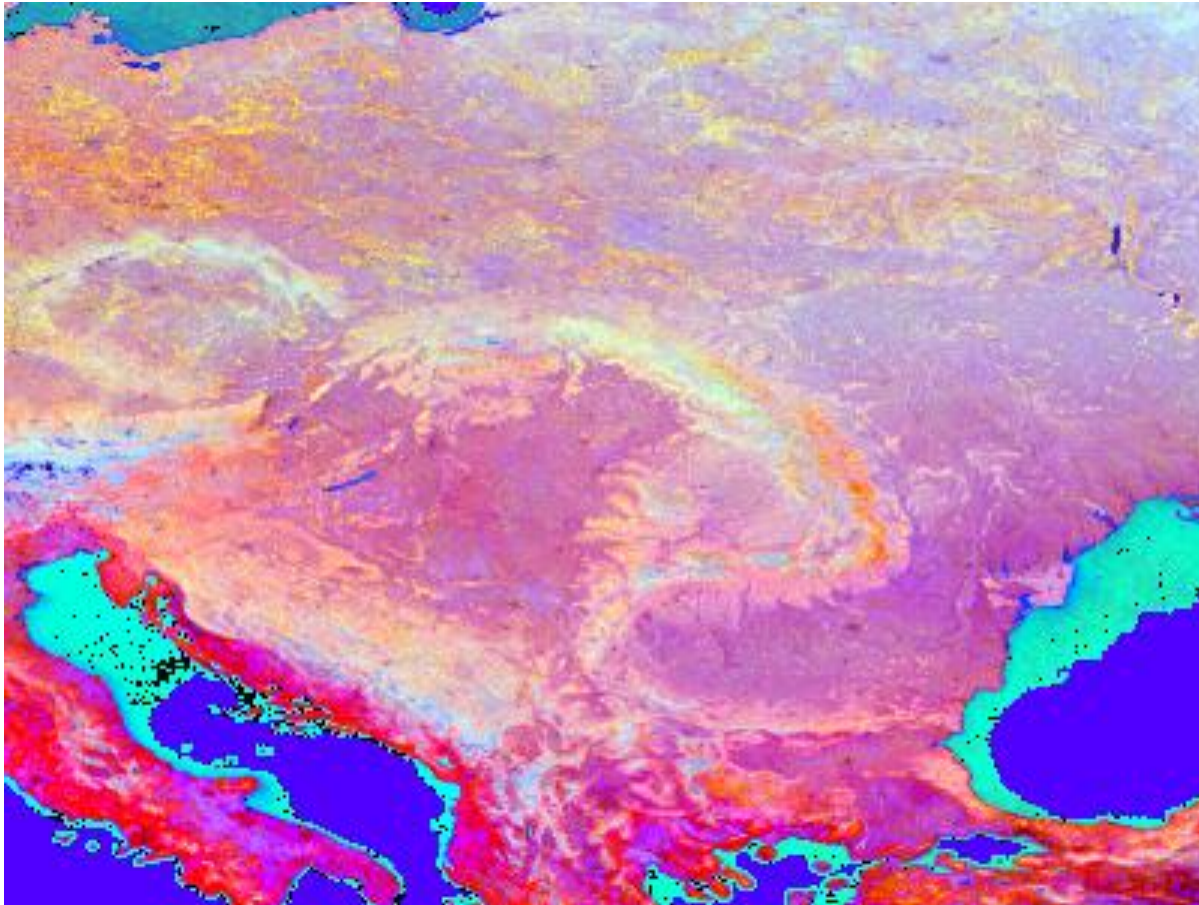
### WELD observations NDVI > 0.2





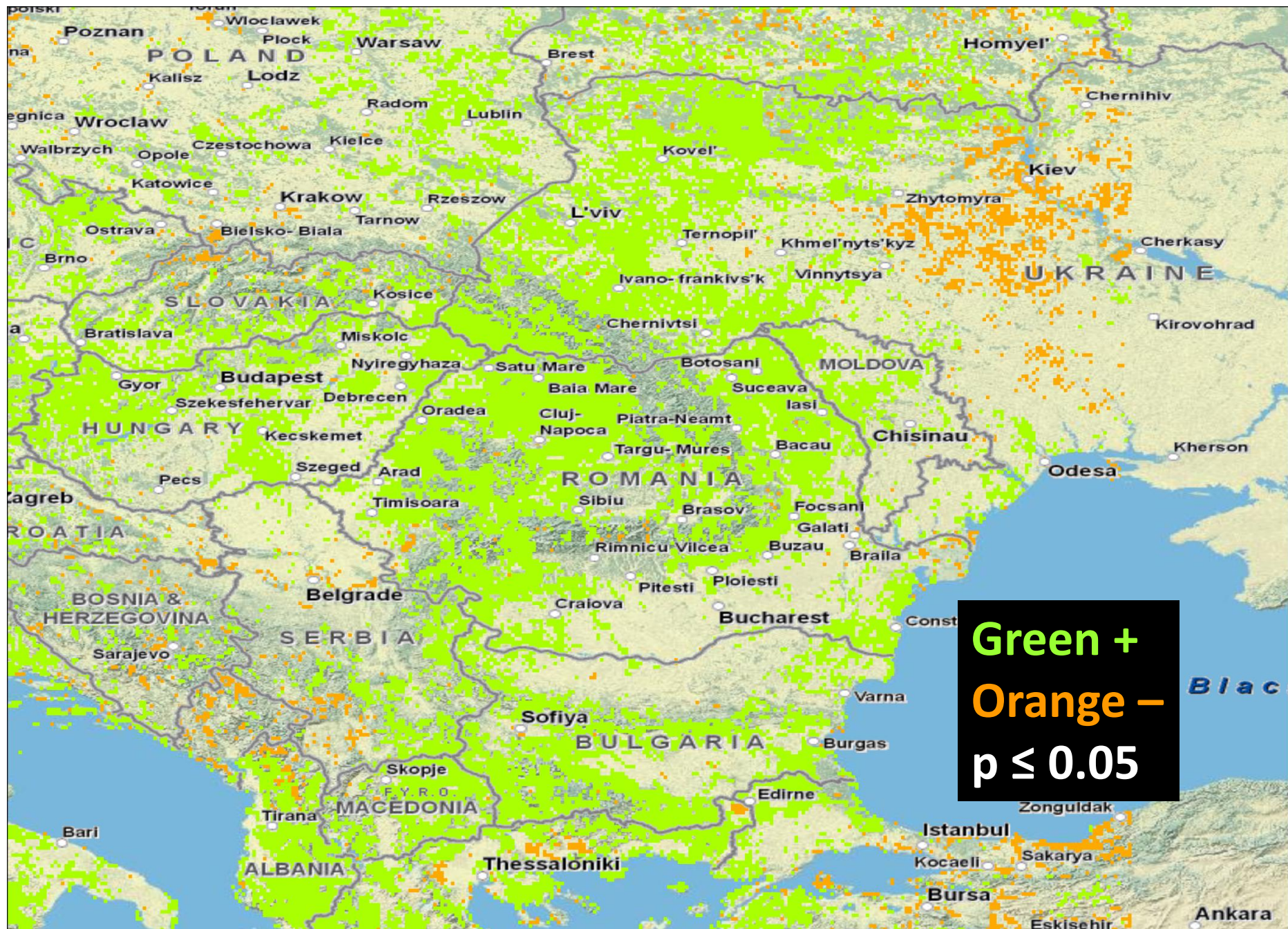
	PH	TTP	NDVI @ half-TTP
<b>Corn</b>	<b>0.797</b>	<b>2084</b>	<b>0.439</b>
<b>Soy</b>	<b>0.728</b>	<b>2227</b>	<b>0.390</b>

# What about South Central and Eastern Europe?



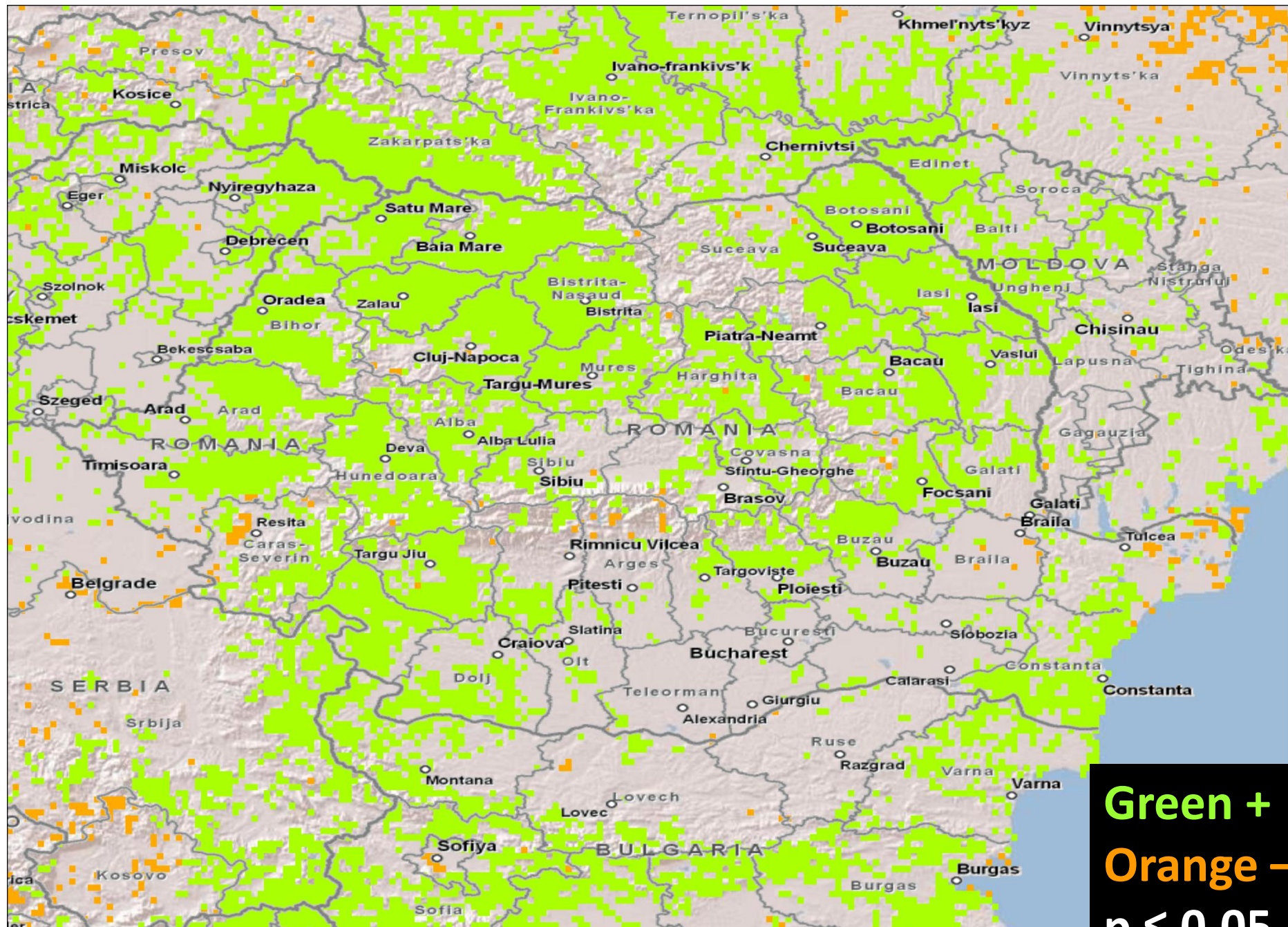
**MODIS NBAR NDVI CMG 2001-2010 doy 81-265**

**R=mean; G=std dev; B=skew**

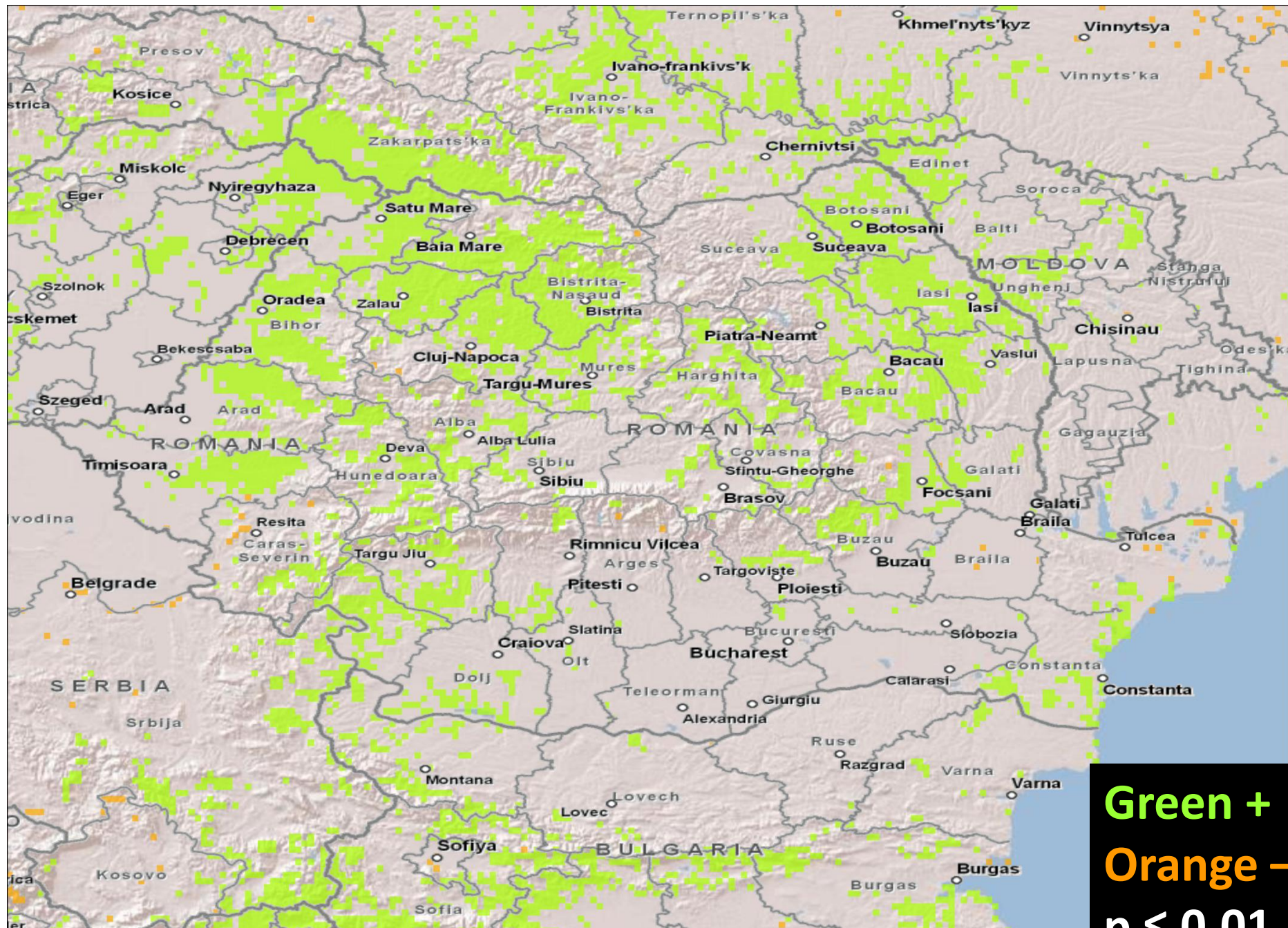








Green +  
Orange -  
 $p \leq 0.05$



**Green +**  
**Orange -**  
 **$p \leq 0.01$**

**These changes appear at coarse resolution of 0.05°, but how and where do they appear at finer resolutions of 500 & 30 m?**

**To which phenomena can these changes be linked?**

**What are consequences/implications of these changes?**

# Thanks to...

Funding from the NASA LCLUC & IDS programs

Dr. Garik Gutman (NASA HQ)

Dr. Pasha Groisman (NOAA/NEESPI)

Prof. Anatoly Gitelson (Univ of Nebraska-Lincoln)

Prof. Kirsten de Beurs (Univ of Oklahoma)

Dr. Valeriy Kovalskyy (SDSU)

Dr. Chris Wright (SDSU)



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