

1 **Distinguishing the drivers of trends in land carbon fluxes and plant volatile**
2 **emissions over the past three decades**

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Abstract

The terrestrial biosphere has experienced dramatic changes in recent decades. Estimates of historical trends in land carbon fluxes remain uncertain because long-term observations are limited on the global scale. Here, we use the Yale Interactive terrestrial Biosphere (YIBs) model to estimate decadal trends in land carbon fluxes and emissions of biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOCs) and to identify the key drivers for these changes during 1982-2011. Driven with hourly meteorology from WFDEI (WATCH Forcing Data methodology applied to ERA-Interim data), the model simulates an increasing trend of 297 Tg C a^{-2} in gross primary productivity (GPP) and 185 Tg C a^{-2} in the net primary productivity (NPP). CO_2 fertilization is the main driver for the flux changes in forest ecosystems, while meteorology dominates the changes in grasslands and shrublands. Warming boosts summer GPP and NPP at high latitudes, while drought dampens carbon uptake in tropical regions. North of 30°N , increasing temperatures induce a substantial extension of 0.22 day a^{-1} for the growing season; however, this phenological change alone does not promote regional carbon uptake and BVOC emissions. Nevertheless, increases of LAI at peak season accounts for $\sim 25\%$ of the trends in GPP and isoprene emissions at the northern lands. The net land sink shows statistically insignificant increases of only 3 Tg C a^{-2} globally because of simultaneous increases in soil respiration. Global BVOC emissions are calculated using two schemes. With the photosynthesis-dependent scheme, the model predicts increases of 0.4 Tg C a^{-2} in isoprene emissions, which are mainly attributed to warming trends because CO_2 fertilization and inhibition effects offset each other. Using the MEGAN (Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature) scheme, the YIBs model simulates global reductions of 1.1 Tg C a^{-2} in isoprene and 0.04 Tg C a^{-2} in monoterpene emissions in response to the CO_2 inhibition effects. Land use change shows limited impacts on global carbon fluxes and BVOC emissions, but there are regional contrasting impacts over Europe (afforestation) and China (deforestation).

45 **1 Introduction**

46

47 The terrestrial biosphere interacts with the atmosphere through photosynthesis and
48 biogenic volatile organic compound (BVOC) emissions. Annually, terrestrial ecosystems
49 assimilate ~120 petagrams of carbon (Pg C) from the atmosphere (Beer et al., 2010),
50 most of which reenters atmosphere through respiration and decomposition, resulting in a
51 net global land carbon sink of $2.6 \pm 0.7 \text{ Pg C a}^{-1}$ (Le Quere et al., 2009; Sitch et al.,
52 2015). Global BVOC emissions are estimated to be about 1 Pg C per year (Carslaw et al.,
53 2010). These emissions are important precursors of atmospheric oxidants and aerosols,
54 both of which affect surface air quality and exert additional regional and global chemical
55 climate forcings (Scott et al., 2014; Unger, 2014). Observations and simulations have
56 shown significant changes in terrestrial carbon assimilation and BVOC emissions in the
57 past 2-3 decades (Lathiere et al., 2006; Sarmiento et al., 2010; Sindelarova et al., 2014;
58 Sitch et al., 2015). Understanding drivers of these trends is important for the projections
59 of future carbon fluxes, water cycle, air quality, and climatic responses.

60

61 Trends in land carbon assimilation and BVOC emissions are related to the changes in
62 atmospheric CO₂, meteorology, and human land use land cover change perturbations.
63 Elevated CO₂ promotes plant photosynthesis (Ainsworth and Long, 2005) but can
64 directly inhibit isoprene productions (Arneth et al., 2007). Warming accelerates both
65 carbon uptake and BVOC emissions when temperature is not above the thermal optimum
66 (25-30 °C for photosynthesis and 35-40 °C for isoprene emission) for ecosystems that are
67 not water-stressed (Farquhar et al., 1980; Guenther et al., 1993; Piao et al., 2013).
68 Additional warming above thermal optimum may decrease photosynthesis but still
69 promote respiration, reducing net carbon uptake by plants (Liang et al., 2013). Increased
70 temperatures also indirectly influence carbon exchange and BVOC emissions through the
71 extension of growing season (Piao et al., 2007). Drought decreases gross primary
72 productivity (GPP) and net primary productivity (NPP) (Zhao and Running, 2010), but
73 may temporally enhance isoprene emissions (Monson et al., 2007). Land use change
74 affects the regional carbon budget and BVOC emissions through either additional

75 emissions or land cover changes due to deforestation, forest management, and
76 agricultural activities (Lathiere et al., 2006; Houghton, 2010).

77

78 Estimates of recent decadal global trends in the land carbon budget and BVOC emissions
79 are limited and uncertain due to the lack of observations. The earliest site-level
80 measurements of land carbon fluxes were set up in the 1990s (Wofsy et al., 1993). The
81 flux tower data sets provide long-term records of regional carbon exchange with high
82 precision but low spatial representation. In contrast, satellite products, such as GPP and
83 NPP retrievals from the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS)
84 (Zhao et al., 2005) and isoprene emissions based on tropospheric formaldehyde columns
85 from the Global Ozone Monitoring Experiment (Palmer et al., 2006), improve the spatial
86 coverage but usually are available for only a relatively short time period (months to
87 several years) and suffer from systematic biases when compared with ground
88 measurements (e.g., Heinsch et al., 2006; Marais et al., 2012). Terrestrial biosphere
89 models, evaluated with both site-level and satellite-based observations, are useful tools to
90 estimate trends and attribute drivers of changes in land carbon fluxes and BVOC
91 emissions (e.g., Mao et al., 2013; Stavrakou et al., 2014; Sitch et al., 2015).

92

93 In this study, we use the Yale Interactive Terrestrial Biosphere Model (YIBs, Yue and
94 Unger, 2015) driven with long-term reanalysis meteorology to study the global trends of
95 land carbon fluxes and BVOC emissions over the past three decades. The YIBs model is
96 a process-based vegetation model including complete land carbon cycle (photosynthesis,
97 plant/soil respiration, carbon allocation, and tree growth), plant phenology (Yue et al.,
98 2015), and two independent schemes of BVOC emissions (Zheng et al., 2015). Simulated
99 carbon fluxes has been fully validated with carbon fluxes from 145 flux tower sites and
100 multiple satellite products (Yue and Unger, 2015). The major goals of this study are to
101 identify: (1) the dominant drivers of the 30-year trends in carbon fluxes and BVOC
102 emissions from elevated CO₂, changes in meteorology (temperature, radiation, and soil
103 moisture), and human land use change; (2) the feedback of biosphere, including changes
104 in phenology and leaf area index (LAI), to the trends of land carbon uptakes and BVOC

105 emissions; and (3) the discrepancies in BVOC trends due to application of different
106 isoprene emission schemes.

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108

109 **2 Data and methods**

110

111 **2.1 Observations and benchmark products**

112

113 We use long-term global measurements of LAI, GPP, and NPP to validate the simulated
114 trends. The LAI dataset for 1982-2011 is retrieved based on the Normalized Difference
115 Vegetation Index (NDVI) from Global Inventory Modeling and Mapping Studies
116 (GIMMS) with 1/12 degree resolution and a 15-day interval (Zhu et al., 2013). We also
117 use LAI data for 2000-2011 from the MODIS (<http://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov/>). GPP
118 benchmark products of 1982-2011 are upscaled from the FLUXNET eddy covariance
119 measurements using an ensemble of regression trees (Jung et al., 2009). As a comparison,
120 we also use the GPP and NPP datasets for 2000-2011 from the MODIS, which have been
121 developed based on remote sensing of biome parameters and assimilated meteorology
122 (Zhao et al., 2005). All the datasets are interpolated to the monthly interval at the $1^{\circ}\times 1^{\circ}$
123 off-line YIBs model resolution.

124

125 **2.2 Model**

126

127 The YIBs model is a process-based terrestrial vegetation model that simulates the land
128 carbon budget and dynamic tree growth (Yue and Unger, 2015). The model adapts
129 routines from the mature TRIFFID (Cox, 2001) and CASA (Schaefer et al., 2008) models
130 with special updates in the parameterizations of ozone vegetation damage (Yue and
131 Unger, 2014), plant phenology (Yue et al., 2015), and the photosynthesis-dependent
132 isoprene emission (Unger et al., 2013). The model simulates carbon uptake for 9 plant
133 functional types (PFTs) including tundra, C3/C4 grass, shrubland, deciduous broadleaf
134 forest (DBF), ENF evergreen needleleaf forest (ENF), evergreen broadleaf forest (EBF),
135 and C3/C4 cropland. The vegetation biophysics calculates leaf-level photosynthesis using

136 the well-established Farquhar scheme (Farquhar et al., 1980; von Caemmerer and
137 Farquhar, 1981) and the stomatal conductance model of Ball and Berry (Collatz et al.,
138 1991). The canopy radiative transfer scheme computes direct and diffuse
139 photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) for sunlit and shaded regions for an adaptive
140 number of layers. The leaf photosynthesis is then integrated over all canopy layers to
141 generate the GPP.

142

143 Part of the assimilated carbon is used for maintenance and growth respiration, and the
144 rest is allocated among different pools for plant development. The model calculates
145 phenology for deciduous forests using cumulative temperature summation with additional
146 constraints from chilling and photoperiod (Yue et al., 2015). The phenology of shrubland
147 and grassland is jointly determined by the temperature- and drought-dependent metrics.
148 The LAI is then updated daily based on phenology and the net carbon assimilation. The
149 soil respiration scheme considers carbon flows among 12 biogeochemical pools,
150 including 3 live pools and 9 dead pools. The land carbon source or sink is calculated as
151 the difference between the net carbon assimilation and soil respiration.

152

153 The YIBs model incorporates two independent leaf-level isoprene emission schemes
154 embedded within the exact same host model framework (Zheng et al., 2015). The
155 photosynthesis-based (PS_BVOC) isoprene scheme calculates emissions based on the
156 electron transport-limited photosynthesis rate, canopy temperature, and intercellular CO₂
157 concentrations (Arneth et al., 2007; Unger et al., 2013). The Model of Emissions of
158 Gases and Aerosols from Nature (MEGAN) scheme applies commonly used leaf-level
159 empirical functions of light and canopy temperature. Both schemes implement CO₂
160 inhibition effects on BVOC emissions parameterized as a reciprocal empirical function of
161 intercellular [CO₂] following the observations from Possell et al. (2005). For
162 monoterpene emissions, the YIBs model applies the same temperature-dependent scheme
163 as Lathiere et al. (2006) but with CO₂-inhibition effects. The leaf-level BVOC emissions
164 are integrated over the multiple canopy layers following the same approach as GPP to
165 obtain the total canopy-level emissions.

166

167 YIBs can be used in three different configurations with increasing complexity: (1) off-
168 line local site level, which is driven with hourly measurements of CO₂ concentrations and
169 meteorology at flux tower sites; (2) off-line global forced with spatially uniform but
170 annually updated CO₂ concentrations and hourly gridded reanalysis meteorology; (3) on-
171 line coupled to the NASA ModelE2 driven with simulated meteorology by the GCM
172 every half hour. At the site level, YIBs simulates reasonable seasonality (correlation
173 coefficient $R > 0.8$) of GPP at 121 out of 145 flux-tower sites with biases in magnitude
174 ranging from -19 to 7 % depending on PFTs. On the global scale, the offline model
175 simulates an annual GPP of 125 ± 3 Pg C and net ecosystem exchange (NEE) of $-2.5 \pm$
176 0.7 Pg C for 1982-2011, with seasonality and spatial distribution consistent with both
177 satellite observations and benchmark synthesis products (Yue and Unger, 2015).
178 However, the model does not include a fully coupled carbon-nitrogen cycle, which may
179 overestimate CO₂ fertilization effects. In addition, phenology of evergreen trees is set to
180 constant value of 1, leading to underestimation of phenological feedbacks to flux trends.
181 In this study, we use the (2) off-line global version of the model, which is driven with
182 global meteorology reanalysis data and observed CO₂ concentrations.

183

184 **2.3 Simulations**

185

186 We apply observed historical atmospheric CO₂ concentrations from the fifth assessment
187 report (AR5) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (Meinshausen et
188 al., 2011). We apply an annually-varying historical transient land cover dataset (Oleson et
189 al., 2013), which is developed based on a combination of remote sensing data from both
190 MODIS (Hansen et al., 2003) and the Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer
191 (AVHRR) (Defries et al., 2000), and with land use change from Hurtt et al. (2011). We
192 use hourly meteorological variables for 1980-2011 from the WATCH Forcing Data
193 methodology applied to ERA-Interim data (WFDEI, Weedon et al., 2014). The WFDEI
194 reanalysis is an update of the WATCH Forcing Data (WFD), which is developed based
195 on the European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) ERA-40
196 reanalysis (Uppala et al., 2005). Meteorological variables applied include surface air
197 temperature, specific humidity, wind speed, surface pressure, total PAR, and soil

198 temperature and wetness. All of the forcing data are interpolated to the $1^{\circ}\times 1^{\circ}$ model
199 resolution at the hourly interval.

200

201 We perform 10 sensitivity simulations to distinguish driving factors for the changes in
202 land carbon fluxes and BVOC emissions in the past 3 decades (Table 1). The control
203 simulation (CO2_MET_LUC) uses interannually-varying meteorology, [CO₂], and land
204 cover for 1980-2011. The CO2_MET run is the same as the control simulation but
205 prescribes land cover at the year 1980. Three single-factor runs prescribe most boundary
206 conditions at the year 1980 but allow the interannual variations of [CO₂] (CO2_ONLY),
207 land cover (LUC_ONLY), and meteorology (MET_ONLY) respectively. Results from
208 these runs are compared with that of control simulation to determine the dominant drivers
209 of simulated trends. To understand the impact of individual meteorological variables,
210 three additional runs are performed with fixed (or recycled) [CO₂], land cover, and all
211 meteorology at year 1980 but one field varying for 1980-2011 each time, including
212 temperature (TEMP_ONLY), PAR (PAR_ONLY), and soil wetness (SOILW_ONLY).
213 Finally, two runs are performed to examine feedback of biospheric changes. LAI_ONLY
214 prescribes all boundary conditions at the starting year 1980 but implements the year-to-
215 year LAI simulated by the control run. PHEN_ONLY also prescribes all forcings at the
216 starting year except for the year-to-year phenology from control simulation. All
217 simulations are initialized following the same spin up process (Yue and Unger, 2015) and
218 are integrated for 1980-2011.

219

220

221 **3 Results**

222

223 **3.1 Drivers of trends in LAI**

224

225 Observations show an increasing trend of LAI on most of vegetated continents, especially
226 in Europe, northern and eastern Asia, central Africa, and southeastern U.S. in the past 3
227 decades (Fig. 1a). The simulation with year-to-year [CO₂], land cover, and meteorology
228 reproduces the magnitude of trend in Europe and the sign of trend in northern Asia,

229 eastern U.S., central Asia, and Australia (Fig. 1b). The model predicts negative changes
230 in central Africa, western U.S., eastern Asia, and the east of South America, which are
231 inconsistent with satellite observations. These negative trends are mainly contributed by
232 the changes in meteorology (Fig. 1e), except for that in East Asia where land cover
233 changes due to human activities result in the decline of LAI (Fig. 1f). Without the land
234 use perturbation, the negative LAI trend in East Asia is weakened and the prediction is
235 closer to observations (Fig. 1c). For the individual drivers, CO₂ fertilization leads to
236 widespread increases in LAI (Fig. 1d), meteorology causes dipole changes on most
237 continents (Fig. 1e), and land use change generally results in negative trends (Fig. 1f).
238 Regionally, simulation CO₂_MET_LUC shows a positive trend of 0.0035 m² m⁻² a⁻¹ in
239 Europe (Table 2), close to the observed value of 0.0049 m² m⁻² a⁻¹ (Fig. 1a). In other
240 areas, simulated LAI trends are either underestimated (by 87% in Amazon, 78% in North
241 America, and 48% in Central Africa) or opposite in sign (East Asia and Indonesia)
242 compared to observations. Such inconsistencies indicate the limit of model simulations,
243 but may also in part result from the uncertainties in the satellite measurements (see
244 section 4.1).

245

246 **3.2 Drivers of trends in land carbon fluxes**

247

248 Predicted GPP and NPP trends show similar spatial pattern as that of LAI (Figs. 2a and
249 2c). However, regional trends are all positive in the main continents and on the global
250 scale (Tables 2 and 3). Tropical areas are experiencing maximum changes, especially in
251 Central Africa (GPP by 83.3 Tg C a⁻² and NPP by 51.7 Tg C a⁻²) and the Amazon (52.7
252 and 27.1 Tg C a⁻²). In the Northern Hemisphere (NH), changes are significant in Europe
253 (53.4 and 33.2 Tg C a⁻²), East Asia (42.4 and 27.2 Tg C a⁻²), and North America (13.6
254 and 9.7 Tg C a⁻²). 30-year historical observations of GPP and NPP are not available.
255 Therefore, we compare YIBs predictions with MODIS land carbon fluxes over the more
256 recent period of 2000-2011 (Fig. 3). Different from the 30-year trend, land carbon fluxes
257 over the recent decade show negative trends in southeastern U.S., southern Africa,
258 eastern Australia, and central and northern Asia (Figs. 3a and 3c). Most of these changes

259 are consistent with the MODIS observations (except for the U.S., Figs. 3b and 3d) and
260 are attributed to the drought tendency in the past decade (Zhao and Running, 2010).

261

262 For the 30-year trend, both CO₂ and meteorology are playing important roles (Figs. 2b
263 and 2d). CO₂ fertilization dominates the GPP and NPP trends of tropical forests in the
264 Amazon, central Africa, and Indonesia, and ENF and DBF in boreal North America,
265 eastern Europe, and central and northern Asia. Land use change plays a limited role in
266 land carbon cycle flux trends over the past 3 decades, except for some areas in northern
267 Africa. Meteorological forcing drives changes in land carbon fluxes for tundra in
268 subarctic regions, C3 grasslands in the central U.S. and southern Africa, C4 grasslands in
269 central Africa and the east of South America, and shrublands in Australia and southern
270 Asia. Soil wetness plays the dominant role in the tropical and subtropical areas (Fig. 4b).
271 The drought tendency in the western U.S., central Africa, and the east of South America
272 (Fig. S1d) results in the regional decline of land carbon fluxes (Fig. 4a). In contrast, the
273 increasing wetness in the northern Amazon and southern Africa leads to the enhancement
274 of regional GPP. Warming is the main cause for the GPP trends over the subarctic areas
275 (Fig. 4b). Contribution of PAR is limited, except for some areas in the eastern Europe.

276

277 The simulated net ecosystem productivity (NEP) shows weaker trends compared with
278 GPP and NPP (Fig. 2e), because NEP is offset by the significant trends in heterotrophic
279 respiration (Rh) (Table 2). Regionally, the YIBs model predicts enhanced net land carbon
280 uptake in boreal North America, northern Asia, and southern Africa but reduced NEP in
281 the central U.S., the Amazon, central Africa, eastern Europe, and East Asia. The
282 simulated global NEP trends (Fig. 5d) are in broad agreement with the comprehensive
283 bottom-up estimates by Pan et al. (2011), who found slightly decreasing net carbon
284 uptake by global established forests (without human perturbations in the tropics but with
285 afforestation in subtropical areas) in 2000-2007 relative to that in 1990-1999. Attribution
286 analysis shows that the NEP trends are mainly driven by the changes in meteorological
287 forcings (Fig. 2f), because CO₂ fertilization enhances both NPP and Rh with similar
288 magnitude (Fig. 5).

289

290 On the global scale, GPP, NPP, and Rh increase respectively by 298, 185, and 181 Tg C
291 a^{-2} in the past 3 decades (Table 3). The long-term trends of carbon fluxes are mainly
292 driven by CO_2 fertilization, while the interannual variability is related to meteorological
293 forcings (Fig. 5). Warming alone decreases GPP especially in tropical forests (not shown)
294 but increases autotrophic respiration (R_a), leading to global reductions of 56 Tg C a^{-2} in
295 NPP and 10 Tg C a^{-2} in NEP (Table 3). Drought alone strongly decreases GPP, especially
296 for tropical grassland and shrubland (Fig. 4), leading to reductions of 51 Tg C a^{-2} in NPP
297 and 13 Tg C a^{-2} in NEP. Trends in PAR do not affect GPP and NPP, but may decrease
298 NEP by 23 Tg C a^{-2} because soil respiration is slowly increasing to reach the equilibrium.
299 Land use change has very limited impacts on the trends of carbon fluxes, though it
300 induces relatively large reductions in NEP (Table 3).

301

302 **3.3 Drivers of trends in BVOC emissions**

303

304 Simulated isoprene emission trends are sensitive to the choice of modeling scheme. With
305 the PS_BVOC scheme, global isoprene emissions increase by 0.4 Tg C a^{-2} during 1982-
306 2011. Large enhancements are predicted in central Africa (0.25 Tg C a^{-2}) and Europe
307 (0.16 Tg C a^{-2}), while moderate reductions are found in the western U.S., eastern South
308 America, and East Asia (Fig. 6a). Drought accounts for the decline of isoprene emissions
309 in the U.S. and South America, but land use change is the main driver for the reductions
310 in East Asia (Fig. 6b). Increasing $[\text{CO}_2]$ promotes photosynthesis but meanwhile inhibits
311 BVOC emissions, leading to offsetting CO_2 effects on isoprene. Consequently, the global
312 isoprene emission is mainly driven by meteorological changes (Fig. 6b). In contrast,
313 using MEGAN scheme, the YIBs model simulates a global reduction of 1.1 Tg C a^{-2} for
314 isoprene emissions (Fig. 6c). Strong declines are found in the tropical rainforest, for
315 example in the Amazon (-0.43 Tg C a^{-2}), central Africa (-0.14 Tg C a^{-2}), and Indonesia (-
316 0.16 Tg C a^{-2}) (Fig. 6c). The MEGAN scheme is sensitive to both light and temperature
317 (Guenther et al., 1995). The strong positive brightening trends in PAR in Europe (Fig.
318 S1b) promote isoprene emissions there. The positive impacts of NH warming (Fig. S1a)
319 are compensated by CO_2 inhibition, leading to small changes in isoprene emissions (Fig.
320 6c). In the tropical areas, where trends of temperature and PAR are limited, CO_2

321 inhibition results in strong reductions of BVOC emissions. Monoterpene emissions show
322 a global reduction of 0.04 Tg C a^{-2} over the past 3 decades (Fig. 6e).

323

324 **3.4 Feedback of biospheric changes to the trends**

325

326 Due to the changing climate and CO_2 fertilization, the biosphere is experiencing
327 significant changes in the past 3 decades. The most evident alterations include LAI
328 changes in peak season and phenological changes in growing and falling seasons. In this
329 section, we explore the feedback of these biospheric changes to the carbon uptake and
330 BVOC emissions.

331

332 **3.4.1 Impacts of LAI changes**

333

334 Sensitivity run LAI_ONLY retains the trends in LAI but prescribes other forcings. In this
335 simulation, trends in GPP (Fig. S2a) and NPP (Fig. S2c) generally follow that in LAI
336 (Fig. 1b), but with smaller magnitude relative to those in control simulations (Figs. 2a
337 and 2c). LAI in the north of 30°N shows widespread increases in both observations and
338 simulations (Figs. 1a and 1b). Over these northern lands, the unit change in leaf area
339 leads to enhancement of regional GPP by 32 Pg C a^{-1} , much lower than the response of
340 $116 \text{ Pg C a}^{-1} \text{ LAI}^{-1}$ for the simulation including CO_2 fertilization and climate forcings
341 (Fig. 7a). In the tropical areas, both positive and negative LAI trends are predicted due to
342 the competition between CO_2 fertilization and drought effects (Fig. 1). As a result, LAI-
343 induced GPP and NPP changes show patchy distributions at tropics (Fig. S2a and S2c),
344 leading to moderate changes in the global carbon assimilations (Table 3).

345

346 Trends in isoprene emission (calculated with the PS_BVOC scheme) also follow that of
347 LAI, except that leaf expansion results in decreased emissions at high latitudes ($\sim 60^\circ\text{N}$,
348 Fig. S2e). The cause for such inconsistency is unclear, but might be because the denser
349 leaves reduce radiation penetrating to lower canopy layers. Such impact would only
350 affect BVOC emissions at high latitudes because PAR is usually limiting near subarctic
351 areas. In most of the subtropical areas, increased LAI leads to enhanced isoprene

352 emissions. On average, unit change in LAI at north of 30°N leads to enhanced isoprene
353 emissions by 43 Tg C a⁻², only 25% of the magnitude in simulation CO2_MET (Fig. 7b).
354 A similar ratio of 23% is achieved for MEGAN isoprene emissions. These results are
355 consistent with that for GPP (Fig. 7a), suggesting that CO₂ fertilization and
356 meteorological changes are the main drivers for the changes in carbon uptake and BVOC
357 emissions, even over the northern lands where the most evident changes in LAI are
358 observed.

359

360 **3.4.2 Impacts of phenological changes**

361

362 Plant phenology, which is the timing of budburst and leaf fall, is closely related to
363 temperature, moisture, and photoperiod and thus is experiencing significant changes in
364 the past decades following climate change (Jeong et al., 2011; Keenan et al., 2014;
365 Buitenwerf et al., 2015; Yue et al., 2015). Extension of the growing season has the
366 potential to promote carbon uptake of forests (e.g., Piao et al., 2007; Richardson et al.,
367 2009). Yet such inference requires careful interpretation because the phenological
368 changes are usually accompanied with warming and elevated [CO₂], both of which are
369 also contributing to the enhancement of carbon fluxes. Phenological changes are also
370 expected to affect BVOC emissions, however, such investigations are still missing
371 (Richardson et al., 2013). With the YIBs model, we evaluate the impacts of the growing
372 season extension on both carbon uptake and BVOC emissions by isolating long-term
373 phenological trends from changes in temperature and [CO₂].

374

375 The YIBs model simulates advanced spring and delayed autumn over most areas in NH
376 (Fig. S3). Budburst dates advance on average by 0.16 days a⁻¹ in Europe and 0.15 days a⁻¹
377 in East Asia (Table 2), but with moderate changes or even delays in northwestern Asia
378 and eastern Siberia (Fig. S3a). Spring is earlier by 0.14 days a⁻¹ in eastern U.S. while
379 delayed by 0.15 days a⁻¹ in northwestern U.S. and southeastern Canada, leading to a
380 minor advance of 0.01 days a⁻¹ over North America. Dormancy onset dates are largely
381 delayed in eastern Europe and northwestern Asia (~0.3 day a⁻¹), western U.S. (~0.1 day a⁻¹)
382 ¹), boreal Canada (~0.1 day a⁻¹), and northeastern China (~0.1 day a⁻¹) (Fig. S3b).

383 Advanced autumn ($\sim 0.1 \text{ day a}^{-1}$) is predicted in northern Asia. Most of these changes are
384 consistent with observations from remote sensing data (Jeong et al., 2011), except for
385 some discrepancies in the magnitude. The predicted phenological trends mainly follow
386 the long-term changes of surface air temperature, especially that in April (for spring) and
387 September (for autumn) (Fig. S4). Sensitivity tests without chilling requirement and
388 photoperiod limit show similar changes (Yue et al., 2015), suggesting that temperature
389 changes dominantly drive the trends of forest phenology in the past 3 decades.

390

391 On average, the YIBs model simulates advanced budburst by 0.12 day a^{-1} and delayed
392 dormancy onset by 0.09 day a^{-1} at north of 30°N in the past 3 decades (Figs. 8a and 8b).
393 Observations based on remote sensing greenness show trends of -0.11 day a^{-1} for onset
394 and 0.25 day a^{-1} for offset during 1990-2009 (Zhu et al., 2013). An ensemble prediction
395 based on 9 terrestrial models yields an advance of $0.08 \pm 0.13 \text{ day a}^{-1}$ for onset and a
396 delay of $0.22 \pm 0.1 \text{ day a}^{-1}$ for offset (Sitch et al., 2015). Our predictions are in broad
397 agreement with these estimates though the autumn delay is less, likely because the
398 positive trend of offset is weaker for the recent decade (Jeong et al., 2011).

399

400 We plot the annual total GPP and isoprene emissions at north of 30°N against the length
401 of growing season for 1982-2011 (Figs. 8c and 8d). In the CO2_MET run, the 1-day
402 extension is correspondent to increases of 0.17 Pg C a^{-1} in GPP and 0.34 Tg C a^{-1} in
403 isoprene emissions. If only temperature is allowed to vary, the phenological trend
404 remains the same while the increases of GPP and isoprene emissions are largely
405 weakened. In the TEMP_ONLY run, the 1-day extension in growing season is
406 accompanied by increases of 0.05 Pg C a^{-1} in GPP and 0.25 Tg C a^{-1} in isoprene
407 emissions. The changes in BVOC emissions are not as dramatic as those of GPP because
408 CO₂ has both enhancing and suppressing impacts on the former. If we further exclude
409 temperature effects (PHEN_ONLY run), GPP increases only by 0.01 Pg C a^{-1} while
410 isoprene emissions decrease by 0.1 Tg C a^{-1} , both of which are not statistically
411 significant, suggesting that the phenological change alone does not promote either GPP
412 or isoprene emissions. There are two reasons for this apparent contradiction. First, the
413 extension of the growing season occurs in shoulder months, usually in May and

414 September, when both GPP and BVOC emissions and their changes are much smaller
415 compared to that in peak months (Fig. S5). Second, phenological changes are not uniform
416 in space. As Fig. S3 shows, both positive and negative changes are predicted for budburst
417 and dormancy onset dates. Such spatial inhomogeneity, in combination with the
418 discrepancies in regional vegetation types and meteorological conditions, result in varied
419 responses in GPP (Fig. S2b) and isoprene emissions (Fig. S2f).

420

421 Plant phenology at lower latitudes (30°S-30°N) is also experiencing dramatic changes,
422 though such changes are diverse in phase, magnitude, or both (Buitenwerf et al., 2015).
423 In the model, tropical phenology is mainly driven by soil wetness and as a result exhibits
424 large changes in the past 3 decades (not shown). These changes lead to a reduction of 42
425 Tg C a^{-1} in GPP at the tropics (Fig. S2b), which accounts for 14% of global GPP trend
426 but with the opposite sign (Table 3), suggesting additional inhibition of drought on
427 carbon cycle. A similar conclusion applies for BVOC emissions (Fig. S2f), though
428 experiments suggest that isoprene production has some tolerance to mild drought
429 conditions (e.g., Pegoraro et al., 2006). However, changes in drought-dependent
430 phenology are very uncertain and observations are not available for evaluation. We
431 assume that phenological changes may have larger impacts on both carbon assimilation
432 and BVOC emissions at tropical areas than that at higher latitudes.

433

434

435 **4 Discussion**

436

437 **4.1 Uncertainties in observations**

438

439 Terrestrial biosphere modeling is a useful tool to identify drivers of long-term changes in
440 land carbon fluxes. The reliability of simulations is dependent on the availability of
441 observations for model validation. In this study, we use 30-year LAI observations from
442 the LAI3g product (Zhu et al., 2013) and 12-year GPP from MODIS (Zhao et al., 2005),
443 both of which are remote sensing retrievals, to validate the simulated trends (Figs. 1 and
444 3). We found the offline global model biases against both fields, especially for LAI (Fig.

445 1). Such discrepancies may in part result from the uncertainties in measurements
446 themselves. As a check, we compare the derived LAI trends from LAI3g with retrievals
447 from MODIS for the overlap period of 2000-2011 (Figs. S6a and S6b). Global LAI
448 significantly increases in LAI3g but show widespread reductions in MODIS, especially
449 over subtropical areas. Simulated trends (CO2_LUC_MET) are closer to the estimates
450 with MODIS, especially for the changes in the NH (not shown). Meanwhile, we compare
451 the derived GPP trends from MODIS with that upscaled from FLUXNET data using an
452 ensemble of regression trees (Jung et al., 2009) for 2000-2011 (Figs. S6c and S6d). The
453 two products show similar trends over most areas except for some discrepancies in
454 tropical areas and the eastern U.S. Simulated GPP trends match results from Jung et al.
455 (2009) better than that from MODIS (Fig. 3a). However, we do not use Jung et al. (2009)
456 to validate simulations for 1982-2011 because the earliest flux tower observations began
457 only in middle 1990s. The large discrepancies in the observed trends among different
458 data sets not only indicate the importance of model evaluations with multiple products,
459 but also put forward the necessity of data inter-comparisons and algorithm improvements
460 to alleviate uncertainties in observations.

461

462 **4.2 Comparisons with other modeling studies**

463

464 The YIBs model predicts NPP trends of 67.4 Tg C a^{-2} in northern land (25-90°N) and
465 98.1 Tg C a^{-2} in tropical land (15°S-25°N), similar to the ensemble estimates of 63 ± 22
466 and $102 \pm 34 \text{ Tg C a}^{-2}$ for 1990-2009 based on 9 terrestrial biosphere models (Sitch et al.,
467 2015). However, the simulated NPP trend is only 19.8 Tg C a^{-2} in southern land (15-
468 90°S), much lower than the ensemble mean value of $53 \pm 31 \text{ Tg C a}^{-2}$ in Sitch et al.
469 (2015). As for the NEP, the YIBs predicts trends of 2.0 Tg C a^{-2} in northern land, 1.0 Tg
470 C a^{-2} in tropical land, and -0.3 Tg C a^{-2} in southern land, much smaller in magnitude
471 compared with the -2.0 ± 12 , 36.0 ± 13 , and $21 \pm 17 \text{ Tg C a}^{-2}$ estimated by Sitch et al.
472 (2015). However, their predictions are insignificant ($p > 0.05$) for 9, 5, and 7 out of 9
473 models in the northern, tropical, and southern land respectively, suggesting that the
474 strengthening uptake by terrestrial ecosystem is not robust.

475

476 Stavrakou et al. (2014) investigated isoprene emissions over Asia during 1979-2012
477 using the MEGAN scheme and taking into account both climate and land-use changes.
478 Their results showed widespread increases in the emissions over China but moderate
479 decreases in Indonesia. In contrast, the YIBs model with the MEGAN scheme simulates
480 widespread reductions in the same areas for 1980-2011 (Fig. 6c). The discrepancies
481 between studies are accounted for by differences in the drivers including land cover
482 change, meteorology, and CO₂ inhibition effects. The YIBs model is driven with land
483 cover data from Hurtt et al. (2011), which estimates an increase of crop (non-isoprene
484 emitter) fraction in East China by 0.32% per year in the last 3 decades, at the cost of the
485 coverage loss by 0.12% a⁻¹ for DBF and 0.14% a⁻¹ for ENF (strong BVOC emitters).
486 However, the data from Ramankutty and Foley (1999), used by Stavrakou et al. (2014)
487 with updates to 2007, show a reduction of the crop fraction over East China for the
488 similar period. In addition, the ERA-Interim PAR used in Stavrakou et al. (2014) shows
489 an increasing trend in southeast China (c.f. their Fig. 5c). On the contrary, the WFDEI
490 PAR for YIBs exhibits a declining trend in the same region (Fig. S1b), leading to a
491 reduction in isoprene emissions. The WFDEI surface solar radiation is based on the ERA-
492 Interim radiation but is adjusted using the average cloud cover from the Climatic
493 Research Unit (CRU) and taking into account the effects of interannual changes in
494 atmospheric aerosols (Weedon et al., 2011). Finally, the YIBs simulations include CO₂
495 inhibition effects on BVOC emissions, which were neglected in Stavrakou et al. (2014).

496

497 Naik et al. (2004) predicted a global trend of 1.3 Tg C a⁻² for isoprene emissions during
498 1971-1990 using the Integrated Biospheric Simulator (IBIS) driven with monthly mean
499 CRU meteorology. Lathiere et al. (2006) estimated an increasing global trend of 0.3 Tg C
500 a⁻² for 1983-1995 using the ORCHIDEE (Organizing Carbon and Hydrology in Dynamic
501 EcosystEms) vegetation model driven with sub-daily variables from the NCEP/DOE
502 (National Center for Environmental Predictions/Department of Energy) Reanalysis 2.
503 Muller et al. (2008) reported a global increase of 4.5 Tg C a⁻² for 1995-2006 using a
504 canopy environmental model and the NCEP meteorological data. In contrast to these
505 previous studies, YIBs with the MEGAN scheme simulates a decreasing trend of ~1 Tg C
506 a⁻² in the past 3 decades. The main cause of the discrepancy in the sign of change is the

507 missing CO₂ inhibition effects in the previous studies. In addition, differences in
508 vegetation models, meteorological forcings, and time frames of investigation also likely
509 contribute. The YIBs result is consistent with a recent study by Sindelarova et al. (2014),
510 who reported a decreasing trend of ~1.2 Tg C a⁻² for global isoprene emissions during
511 1980-2010 using the MEGAN scheme and inclusion of a CO₂ inhibition parameterization
512 from Heald et al. (2009).

513

514 **4.3 Impacts of CO₂ effects**

515

516 Similar to the multi-model ensemble predictions (Sitch et al., 2015), we found that global
517 trends in carbon fluxes are dominantly driven by CO₂ fertilization (Figs. 2 and 5). In the
518 YIBs, the global responses to elevated [CO₂] is 0.2% ppm⁻¹ for GPP and 0.27% ppm⁻¹ for
519 NPP, with relatively uniform spatial distribution (Figs. S7a and S7b). The GPP response
520 falls within the range of 0.05-0.21% ppm⁻¹ predicted by 10 terrestrial models (Piao et al.,
521 2013) and that of 0.01-0.32% ppm⁻¹ observed from multiple free-air CO₂ enrichment
522 (FACE) sites (Ainsworth and Long, 2005). The NPP response is higher than the model
523 ensemble of 0.16% ppm⁻¹ (Piao et al., 2013) and the observed median value of 0.13%
524 ppm⁻¹ (Norby et al., 2005), suggesting that CO₂ fertilization to NPP may be
525 overestimated in the YIBs. One possible cause is the omission of N limitation in the
526 model, which could reduce CO₂ responses by half (Piao et al., 2013). Elevated [CO₂]
527 leads to increases of 0.023 Pg C a⁻¹ ppm⁻¹ in NEP, within the multi-model range of 0.003-
528 0.06 Pg C a⁻¹ ppm⁻¹ (Piao et al., 2013).

529

530 Responses of BVOC emissions to elevated [CO₂] are different between PS_BVOC and
531 MEGAN schemes (Figs. S7c and S7d). PS_BVOC includes both CO₂ fertilization (on
532 photosynthesis) and inhibition (on isoprene) effects, leading to moderate but generally
533 positive changes in isoprene emissions. In contrast, emissions from the MEGAN scheme
534 are not dependent on foliar photosynthesis and as a result only CO₂ inhibition is enforced.
535 Chamber experiments show contrary tendencies for photosynthesis and isoprene in
536 response to elevated [CO₂] (Possell et al., 2005), supporting the simulations with
537 MEGAN. In addition, the magnitude of CO₂ inhibition implemented in MEGAN (-0.25%

538 ppm⁻¹) is close to observations (-0.26% ppm⁻¹) in Possell et al. (2005). However, most of
539 these experiments are conducted for short-term period and cannot detect LAI changes due
540 to the long-term CO₂ fertilization. In addition, the impacts of CO₂ are dependent on
541 species and environmental conditions (ambient temperature and light availability). For
542 example, Buckley (2001) found almost no responses in isoprene emissions to the elevated
543 [CO₂] for oak trees. Furthermore, experiments with high temperature and/or light density
544 show increasing isoprene at elevated [CO₂] (Sun et al., 2013). These studies suggest that
545 the real responses of isoprene emissions to CO₂ under long-term climate change may not
546 be so linear as predicted in MEGAN scheme. More sensitivity experiments and long-term
547 samplings are required to identify CO₂-isoprene relationships on broad range of biomes
548 and locations.

549

550 **4.4 Impacts of meteorology**

551

552 Predicted long-term trends show large deviations against observations at tropical areas
553 (Fig. 3), where meteorology plays important and complex roles. Responses of carbon
554 fluxes to temperature are more diverse than to CO₂ (Figs. S8a and S8b). In the YIBs,
555 negative responses of GPP and NPP are predicted in tropical areas, where soil moisture
556 availability limits plant functions (e.g. stomatal conductance) to the increased
557 temperature. Furthermore, for tropical rainforests where ambient temperature is higher
558 than optimal photosynthetic temperature (25-30°C), additional warming decreases carbon
559 assimilation, especially for NPP because of simultaneous increases in plant respiration
560 (Liang et al., 2013). On the contrary, warming leads to enhanced GPP and NPP at wetter
561 and cooler areas in the NH subtropics. Such spatial pattern is consistent with multi-model
562 ensemble predictions (Piao et al., 2013). On the global scale, warming results in changes
563 of -0.7% °C⁻¹ for GPP in YIBs, falling within the range of -1.6-1.4% °C⁻¹ estimated by 10
564 models (Piao et al., 2013). Predicted NPP responses of -15-6% °C⁻¹ (Fig. S8b) is not so
565 positive as the measurements of -8-40% °C⁻¹, probably because most of current warming
566 experiments are located in subtropics of NH (Wu et al., 2011). Elevated temperature
567 changes NEP by -1.4 Pg C a⁻¹ °C⁻¹, also within the multi-model range of -5~-1 Pg C a⁻¹
568 °C⁻¹ (Piao et al., 2013). Simulated isoprene emissions with PS_BVOC show similar

569 warming responses as that of carbon fluxes (Fig. S8c), except for tropical rainforests
570 where the former is positive while the latter is negative. Such decoupling is attributed to
571 the differences in optimal temperatures between isoprene (35-40 °C) and photosynthesis
572 (25-30 °C). Simulations with MEGAN scheme show very strong temperature dependence
573 of 6-15% °C⁻¹ (Fig. S8d), consistent with measurements of 5-20% °C⁻¹ for aspen
574 (Niinemets and Sun, 2015) and 9-12% °C⁻¹ for oak (Li et al., 2011). However,
575 experiments with some other species (e.g. spruce in Kivimaenpaa et al. (2013)) show no
576 responses or moderate ones, suggesting that warming sensitivity of isoprene emissions
577 might be dependent on species and ambient conditions.

578

579 Responses to PAR are mostly positive and distributed evenly, with global sensitivity of
580 0.3% W⁻¹ m² for GPP and 0.5% W⁻¹ m² for NPP (Figs. S9a and S9b). Isoprene emissions
581 from both PS_BVOC and MEGAN schemes show similar responses to PAR, with larger
582 sensitivity in subtropics than that in tropics (Figs. S9c and S9d), likely because the
583 ambient PAR is higher at lower latitude, leading to slower responses of isoprene
584 emissions to the unit changes of light (Guenther et al., 1993). YIBs simulations show that
585 PAR is not the driver of long-term trends in carbon fluxes and BVOC emissions (Fig. 4),
586 likely because changes in solar radiation is limited in the past 3 decades (Figs. S1b).

587

588 Soil moisture dominates climate-driven flux changes in tropical areas (Fig. 4). In YIBs
589 model, changes in soil water availability affect carbon assimilation through the alteration
590 of leaf stomatal conductance and plant phenology (especially for shrublands and
591 grasslands in arid regions). Both GPP and NPP show strong responses to soil wetness
592 variations, especially over tropics where >10% changes are found for every increase of
593 0.01 in soil wetness at 1.5 m (Figs. S10a and S10b). On the global scale, GPP changes by
594 4.7% 0.01⁻¹ and NPP by 5.5% 0.01⁻¹ in response to soil wetness. Although experiments
595 also show rapid reductions in carbon assimilation due to drought stress (e.g., Ruehr et al.,
596 2012; Xia et al., 2014), the magnitude of such influence is difficult to evaluate because
597 different metrics and depths of soil water are used in measurements. Isoprene emissions
598 from PS_BVOC show similar soil-wetness responses to that of GPP (Fig. S10c),
599 indicating that drought reduces BVOC emissions. However, observations show

600 insignificant changes of isoprene with mild drought stress (e.g., Pegoraro et al., 2006),
601 though such drought tolerance is strongly weakened at severe drought and/or warm
602 conditions (Centritto et al., 2011). Consistent with these experiments, MEGAN scheme
603 does not include drought inhibition on isoprene emissions. Simulations with YIBs show
604 large responses of BVOC to soil wetness in tropical areas (Fig. S10d), mainly because of
605 the changes in drought-dependent phenology.

606

607 **4.5 Impacts of land use change**

608

609 Changes of land use show moderate impacts on global carbon budget (Fig. 2) and BVOC
610 emissions (Fig. 6) in the past 3 decades, though regional perturbations are found in China
611 and Europe. The afforestation in Europe helps promote regional carbon uptake, resulting
612 in more reasonable trends in LAI compared with remote sensing data (Fig. 1). However,
613 the expansion of crop in China leads to a reduction in LAI, which is not supported by the
614 satellite data. One possible cause is the uncertainty in crop fraction, because data from
615 Hurtt et al. (2011), used by YIBs, show crop expansion while data from Ramankutty and
616 Foley (1999) suggest reductions of the crop fraction over East China over the similar
617 period. The role of land use change in our simulation might be conservative because we
618 consider only land cover changes. Perturbed emissions from land use management, such
619 as forest logging, cropping practice, use of fertilizer, fire management and so on
620 (Houghton, 2010) may alter regional carbon budget by changing carbon sinks to sources.
621 Studies including gross emissions of land use perturbation estimated a global net land
622 source to atmosphere, which shows decreasing trend in the last 3 decades (Ciais et al.,
623 2013). Such change may help strengthen net land carbon sink but is missing in our study.

624

625 **4.6 Impacts of biospheric changes**

626

627 The land biosphere has experienced significant changes in the past 3 decades. At north of
628 30°N, changes in LAI account for 25% of the trends in regional carbon fluxes and
629 isoprene emissions. However, the extension of growing season alone makes insignificant
630 contributions to the increased carbon assimilation. This conclusion is inconsistent with

631 site-level observations that show evident increases in carbon assimilation at early spring
632 and/or late autumn in recent decades (Dragoni et al., 2011; Keenan et al., 2014). The
633 causes for such discrepancies lie in two. First, phenology at specific location may exhibit
634 much more intense changes than that at larger scale. For example, Dragoni et al. (2011)
635 estimated extensions of growing season by 2.3-3.3 day a⁻¹ in Morgan-Monroe State
636 Forest in south-central Indiana of US for 1998-2008. The magnitude of this change is ~10
637 times larger than the observed value of 0.36 day a⁻¹ from satellite and simulated value of
638 0.22 day a⁻¹ with YIBs for the northern lands. Second, enhanced temperature also
639 contributes to the stronger uptake at early spring and late autumn. One difficulty for the
640 observation-based estimate of phenological impacts is that extension of growing season is
641 accompanied by warmer climate, which may stimulate both carbon assimilation and
642 BVOC production. In a recent study, Barlow et al. (2015) found invariant length of land
643 carbon uptake period at high northern latitudes based on the first time differential of
644 atmospheric CO₂ concentrations, suggesting that increased greenness is not necessarily
645 equal to enhanced carbon uptake in shoulder seasons. Furthermore, Barlow et al. (2015)
646 showed that enhanced peak uptake is the main driver for the strengthened carbon sink at
647 high northern latitudes over the past 4 decades. These conclusions are supportive of our
648 simulations for the monthly trends at subtropical regions (North America, Europe, and
649 East Asia) (Fig. S5).

650

651

652 **5 Conclusions**

653

654 With YIBs model, we estimated global increases of carbon assimilation especially at
655 tropical areas for 1982-2011. This trend is mainly attributed to the widespread CO₂
656 fertilization effect, and jointly affected by changes in meteorology and land cover.
657 Increase of temperature promotes carbon uptake of forest ecosystems at high latitudes
658 (>30°N) while drought tendency dampens GPP and NPP of grasslands and shrublands at
659 low latitudes (30°S-30°N). The widespread increases of LAI at northern lands account for
660 ~25% of the regional GPP trends. Significant changes in phenology are found at north of
661 30°N; however, this temperature-driven phenological change alone is not promoting

662 regional carbon assimilation. Changes in land use show limited influences on global
663 carbon fluxes, except for some regional impacts over Europe (afforestation) and China
664 (deforestation). Due to the simultaneous enhancement in soil respiration, land carbon sink
665 has remained almost stable in the past 3 decades. The YIBs model does not yet include a
666 fully coupled carbon-nitrogen cycle, thus the model may overestimate CO₂ fertilization
667 effects. On the contrary, implementation of drought-dependent phenology may amplify
668 drought inhibition effects on photosynthesis and result in an underestimation of carbon
669 uptake.

670

671 We estimated global trends of BVOC emissions with two schemes. Simulations with
672 PS_BVOC scheme show increasing isoprene emissions, mainly attributed to the increases
673 of temperature. For this scheme, CO₂ effects are neutralized due to both fertilization (on
674 photosynthesis) and inhibition (on isoprene). Simulations with MEGAN scheme show
675 decreasing emissions of isoprene and monoterpene because of CO₂ inhibition, especially
676 in the tropics. In subtropical areas, both schemes predict regional increases of BVOC
677 emissions in Europe following the warming trend and afforestation, but reductions in the
678 U.S. and China due to cropland expansion.

679

680

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685

686

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Table 1. Summary of model simulations driven with WFDEI reanalysis.

Simulations	Descriptions
CO2_MET_LUC	Annually updated [CO ₂] and land cover, and hourly meteorology. All forcings vary for 1980-2011.
CO2_MET	Annually updated [CO ₂] and hourly meteorology for 1980-2011, land cover is prescribed at the year 1980.
CO2_ONLY	Annually updated [CO ₂] for 1980-2011, land cover is prescribed and hourly meteorology is recycled for the year 1980.
MET_ONLY	Hourly meteorology varies for 1980-2011. [CO ₂] and land cover are prescribed at the year 1980.
LUC_ONLY	Annually updated land cover for 1980-2011, [CO ₂] is prescribed and hourly meteorology is recycled for the year 1980.
TEMP_ONLY	Hourly temperature for 1980-2011 but other meteorological variables are recycled for 1980. [CO ₂] and land cover are prescribed at the year 1980.
PAR_ONLY	Hourly PAR for 1980-2011 but other meteorological variables are recycled for 1980. [CO ₂] and land cover are prescribed at the year 1980.
SOILW_ONLY	Hourly soil wetness for 1980-2011 but other meteorological variables are recycled for 1980. [CO ₂] and land cover are prescribed at the year 1980.
LAI_ONLY	Hourly meteorology is recycled for the year 1980. [CO ₂] and land cover are prescribed at the year 1980. Leaf area index varies for 1980-2011.
PHEN_ONLY	Hourly meteorology is recycled for the year 1980. [CO ₂] and land cover are prescribed at the year 1980. Phenology varies for 1980-2011.

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Table 2. Summary of trends in different domains from the simulation CO2_MET_LUC, which is driven with WFDEI meteorology. Significant trends ($p < 0.05$) are indicated with asterisks.

Regions	Amazon	North America	Central Africa	Europe	East Asia	Indonesia
LAI ($10^{-3} \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ a}^{-1}$)	0.8	0.4 *	1.8 *	3.5 *	-0.4 *	-0.1
GPP (Tg C a^{-2})	52.7 *	13.6	83.3 *	53.4 *	42.4 *	15.3 *
NPP (Tg C a^{-2})	27.1 *	9.7	51.7 *	33.2 *	27.2 *	11.4 *
NEP (Tg C a^{-2})	-8.1	-1.7	11.6	6.7	-6.2	0.2
Ra (Tg C a^{-2})	25.6 *	3.9	31.6 *	20.2 *	15.2 *	3.9 *
Rh (Tg C a^{-2})	35.2 *	11.2 *	39.8 *	26.6 *	33.4 *	11.2 *
Isoprene PS_BVOC (Tg C a^{-2})	0.04	-0.03	0.25 *	0.16 *	-0.02	-0.01
Isoprene MEGAN (Tg C a^{-2})	-0.43 *	-0.07 *	-0.14 *	0.10 *	-0.13 *	-0.16 *
Monoterpene (Tg C a^{-2})	-0.03 *	0.01	-0.002	0.03 *	-0.02 *	-0.02 *
Budburst (days a^{-1})	N/A ^a	-0.01	N/A	-0.16 *	-0.15 *	N/A
Dormancy onset (days a^{-1})	N/A	0.09 *	N/A	0.16 *	0.03	N/A
Season extension (days a^{-1})	N/A	0.1 *	N/A	0.32 *	0.18 *	N/A

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^a Phenology is set to constant for tropical rainforest in the model.

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Table 3. Summary of simulated trends of global carbon fluxes (Tg C a⁻²) from different experiments. Simulations are using WFDEI meteorology. Significant trends ($p < 0.05$) are indicated with asterisks.

Simulations	GPP	NPP	NEP	Ra	Rh
CO2_MET_LUC	297.4 *	185.3 *	2.7	112.1 *	180.9 *
CO2_MET	329.5 *	206.2 *	4.5	123.3 *	199.8 *
CO2_ONLY	412.4 *	299 *	66.2 *	113.5 *	231.9 *
MET_ONLY	-108.6 *	-108.2 *	-72.6 *	-0.4	-35
LUC_ONLY	-13 *	-8 *	-34.6 *	-5 *	26.9 *
TEMP_ONLY	-23.2 *	-56 *	-10.2 *	32.8 *	-43.6 *
PAR_ONLY	-5.9	-5.8	-23.4 *	-0.1	18.3 *
SOILW_ONLY	-84.8 *	-51 *	-13.1 *	-33.8 *	-38.3
LAI_ONLY	-8.8	-25.6 *	-44.5 *	16.7 *	18.7 *
PHEN_ONLY	-103.1 *	-56.2 *	47.1 *	-46.8 *	-102.9 *

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1010 **Figure Captions**

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1012 **Figure 1.** Comparison of trends in (b-f) simulated leaf area index (LAI) with (a)
1013 observations for 1982-2011. Observations are derived from GIMMS NDVI. Simulations
1014 are performed with either (d, e, f) single forcings or (b, c) the combinations of these
1015 forcings. Forcings considered include meteorology from WFDEI reanalysis (MET), CO₂
1016 fertilization (CO₂), and land use change (LUC). For every forcing included in the
1017 simulation, the year-to-year fields are utilized. Otherwise, the forcing is prescribed at the
1018 year 1980. Only significant trends ($p < 0.05$) are presented. The six box regions in (a)
1019 indicate areas for statistical analyses in Table 2.

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1021 **Figure 2.** Simulated trends in (a) gross primary productivity (GPP), (c) net primary
1022 productivity (NPP), and (e) net ecosystem productivity (NEP), and (b, d, f) the dominant
1023 drivers for these changes during 1982-2011. Simulations are performed with WFDEI
1024 reanalysis. Three factors, meteorological forcing, CO₂ fertilization, and land use change,
1025 are considered as the potential drivers of flux trends. For each grid in figures (b, d, f), the
1026 factor generating the largest (either maximum or minimum) trend with the same sign as
1027 the net change (a, c, e) is selected as the driving factor. Only significant trends ($p < 0.05$)
1028 are presented.

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1030 **Figure 3.** Comparisons of trends in (a, b) GPP and (c, d) NPP for 2000-2011 between (a,
1031 c) simulations and (b, d) observations. Observed fluxes are retrieved from the Moderate
1032 Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS).

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1034 **Figure 4.** Simulated (a) trends in GPP driven alone with WFDEI reanalysis and the (b)
1035 drivers for such changes. Simulation in (a) is performed with year-to-year meteorological
1036 forcings but prescribed [CO₂] and land use in the year 1980. Simulations in (b) are the
1037 same as (a) except that the year-to-year variations are allowed only for a single
1038 meteorological variable (temperature, PAR, or soil wetness) each time. For each grid, the
1039 meteorological variable generating the largest (either maximum or minimum) trend with

1040 the same sign as the net change (a) is selected as the driving factor. Only significant
1041 trends ($p < 0.05$) are presented.

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1043 **Figure 5.** Global total fluxes of GPP, NPP, Rh (heterotrophic respiration), and NEP from
1044 different sensitivity simulations with all forcings (black), meteorology alone (red), CO₂
1045 alone (green), and land use change alone (blue).

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1047 **Figure 6.** Simulated trends of (a, c) isoprene and (e) monoterpene, and (b, d, f) the
1048 dominant drivers for these changes during 1982-2011. Simulations are performed with
1049 WFDEI reanalysis. Isoprene emissions are simulated with (a) PS_BVOC and (c)
1050 MEGAN schemes. Three factors, meteorological forcing, CO₂ effects (both fertilization
1051 and inhibition), and land use change, are considered as the potential drivers of flux
1052 trends. For each grid in figures (b, d, f), the factor generating the largest (either maximum
1053 or minimum) trend with the same sign as the net change (a-c) is selected as the driving
1054 factor. Only significant trends ($p < 0.05$) are presented.

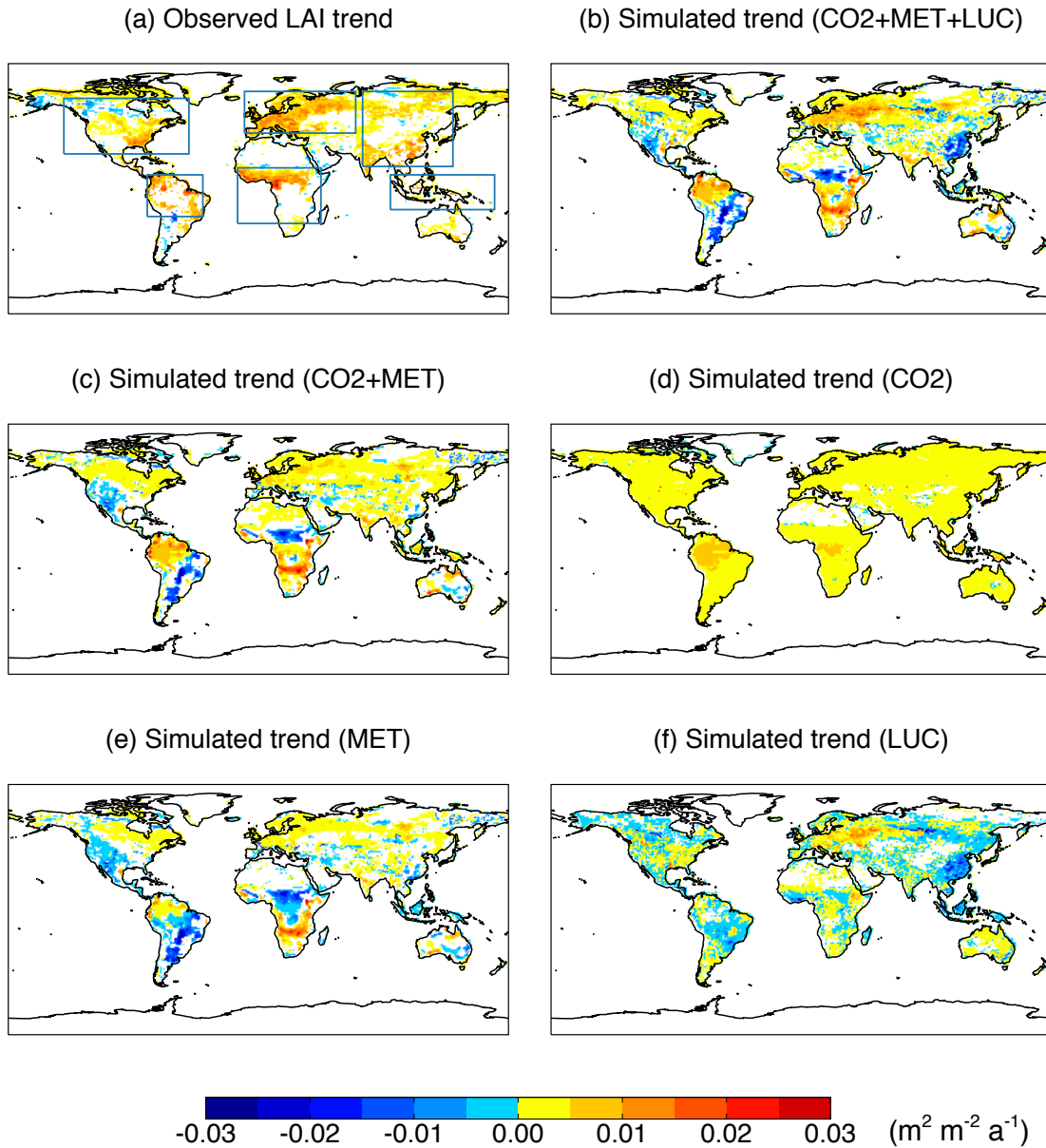
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1056 **Figure 7.** Responses of (a) GPP and (b) isoprene emissions to the changes in the annual
1057 average LAI at the north of 30°N for simulations CO₂_MET (red) and LAI_ONLY
1058 (blue). Both GPP and isoprene emissions are the sum of all PFTs. Isoprene is simulated
1059 with the PS_BVOC scheme. Units of trends are (a) Pg C a⁻¹ LAI⁻¹ and (b) Tg C a⁻¹ LAI⁻¹.
1060 The spatial distribution of GPP and isoprene changes is shown in Figure S2.

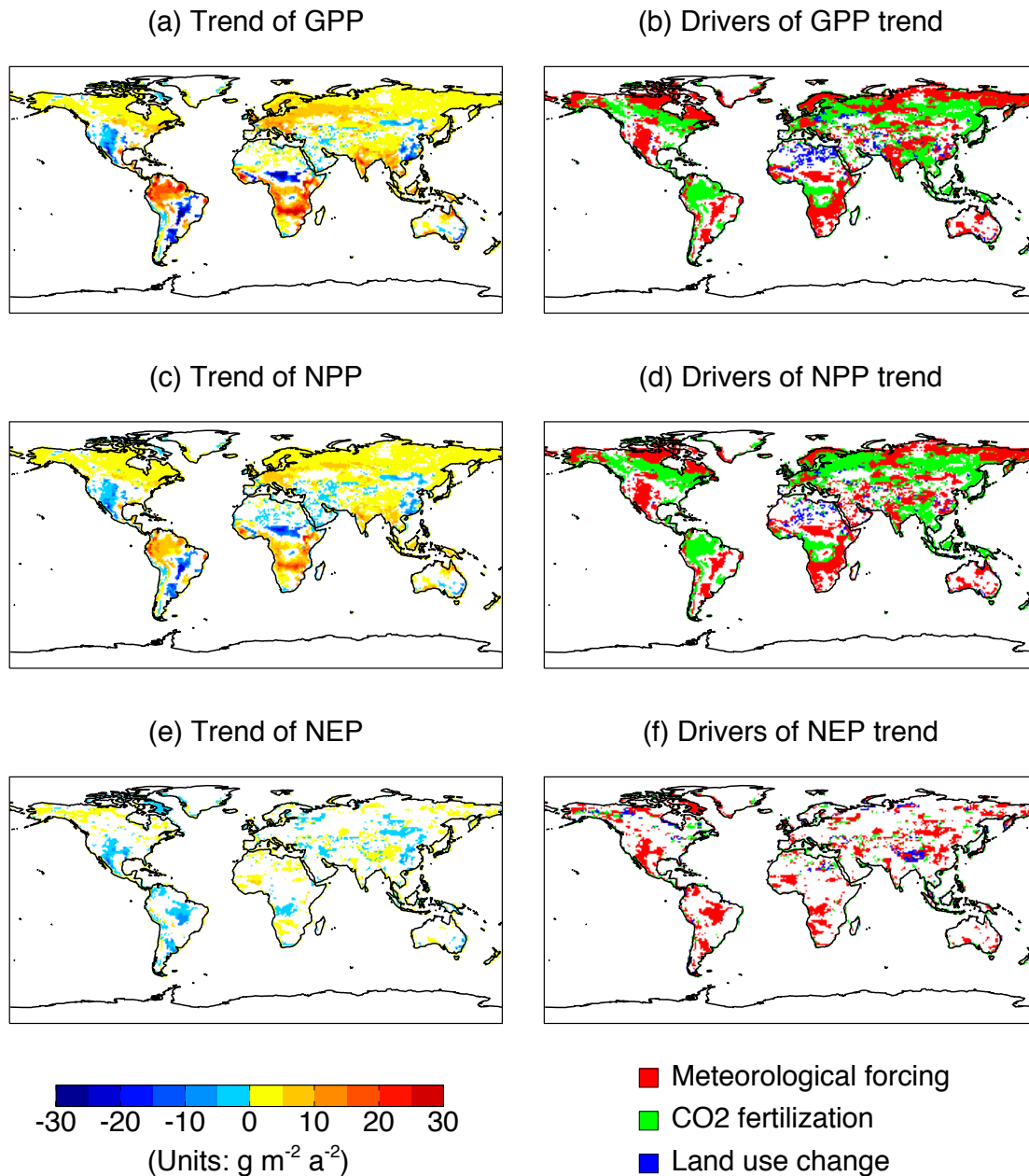
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1062 **Figure 8.** Predicted trend in (a) budburst and (b) dormancy onset dates over north of
1063 30°N and the responses of (c) GPP and (d) isoprene emissions to the changes in the
1064 growing length. Both GPP and isoprene emissions are the sum of DBF, shrub, grassland,
1065 and tundra. Isoprene is simulated with the PS_BVOC scheme. For the bottom panel,
1066 different colors indicate sensitivity experiments with different year-to-year forcings: CO₂
1067 and meteorology (red), temperature only (magenta), and phenology only (blue). Units of
1068 trends are (a) day a⁻¹, (b) day a⁻¹, (c) Pg C a⁻¹ day⁻¹, and (d) Tg C a⁻¹ day⁻¹. The spatial
1069 distribution of GPP and isoprene changes is shown in Figure S2.

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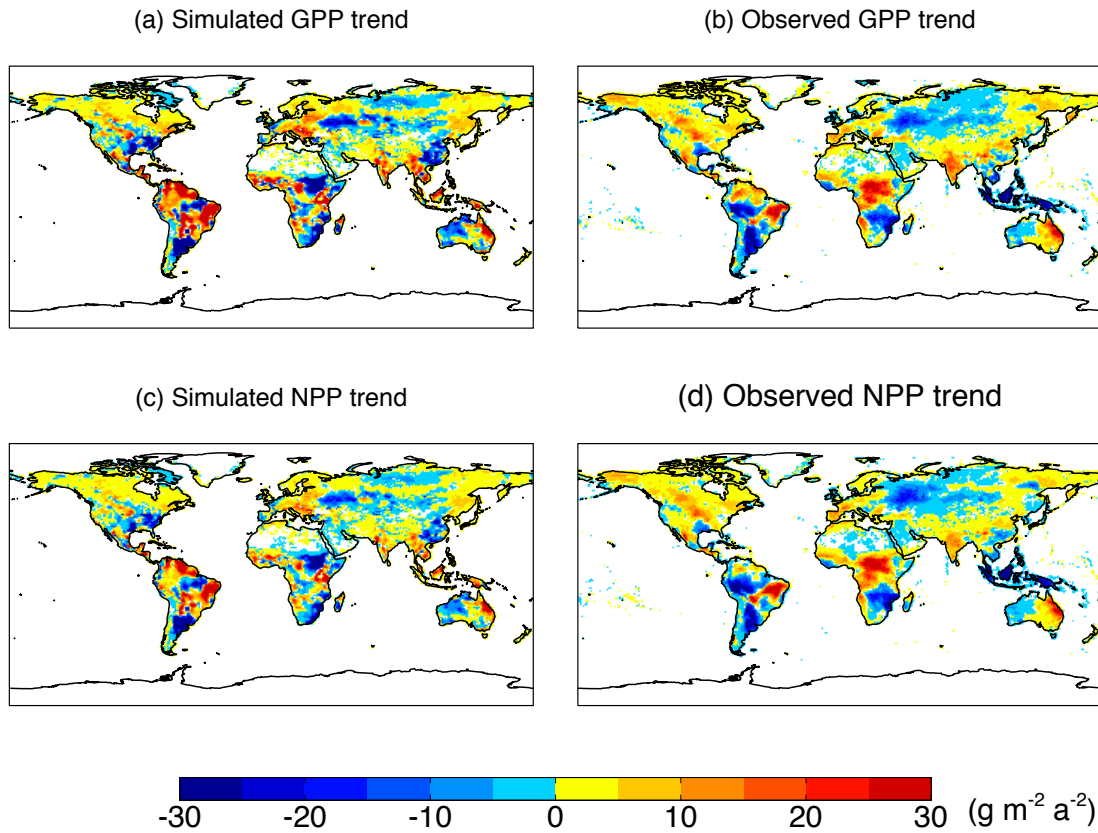
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 1072 **Figure 1.** Comparison of trends in (b-f) simulated leaf area index (LAI) with (a)
 1073 observations for 1982-2011. Observations are derived from GIMMS NDVI. Simulations
 1074 are performed with either (d, e, f) single forcings or (b, c) the combinations of these
 1075 forcings. Forcings considered include meteorology from WFDEI reanalysis (MET), CO₂
 1076 fertilization (CO₂), and land use change (LUC). For every forcing included in the
 1077 simulation, the year-to-year fields are utilized. Otherwise, the forcing is prescribed at the
 1078 year 1980. Only significant trends ($p < 0.05$) are presented. The six box regions in (a)
 1079 indicate areas for statistical analyses in Table 2.
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 1084 **Figure 2.** Simulated trends in (a) gross primary productivity (GPP), (c) net primary
 1085 productivity (NPP), and (e) net ecosystem productivity (NEP), and (b, d, f) the dominant
 1086 drivers for these changes during 1982-2011. Simulations are performed with WFDEI
 1087 reanalysis. Three factors, meteorological forcing, CO₂ fertilization, and land use change,
 1088 are considered as the potential drivers of flux trends. For each grid in figures (b, d, f), the
 1089 factor generating the largest (either maximum or minimum) trend with the same sign as
 1090 the net change (a, c, e) is selected as the driving factor. Only significant trends ($p < 0.05$)
 1091 are presented.

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1097 **Figure 3.** Comparisons of trends in (a, b) GPP and (c, d) NPP for 2000-2011 between (a,
1098 c) simulations and (b, d) observations. Observed fluxes are retrieved from the Moderate
1099 Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS).

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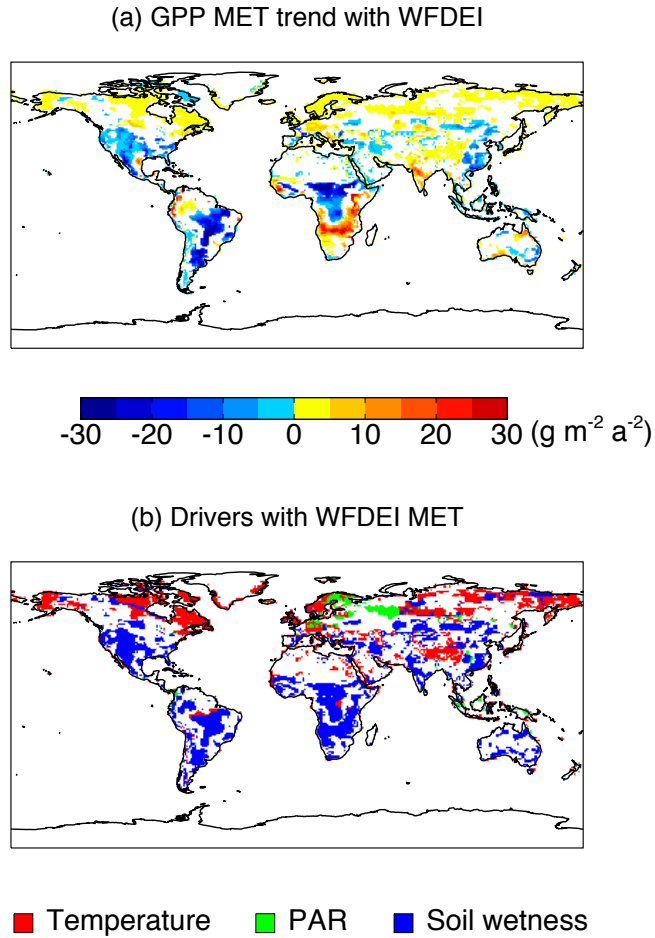
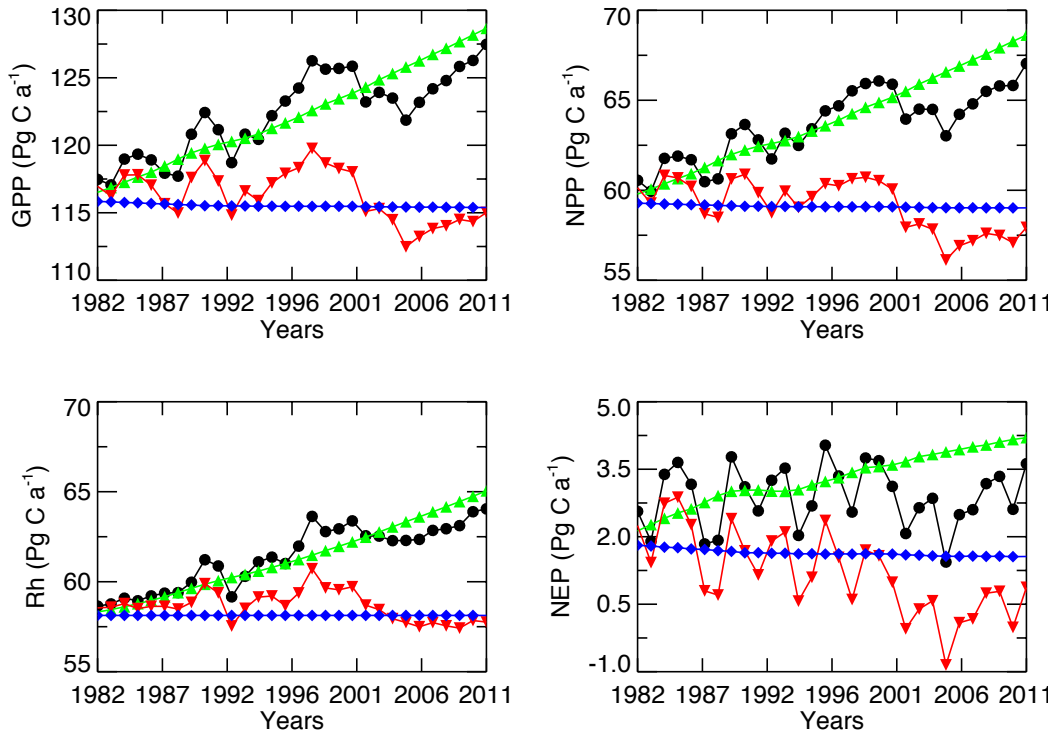
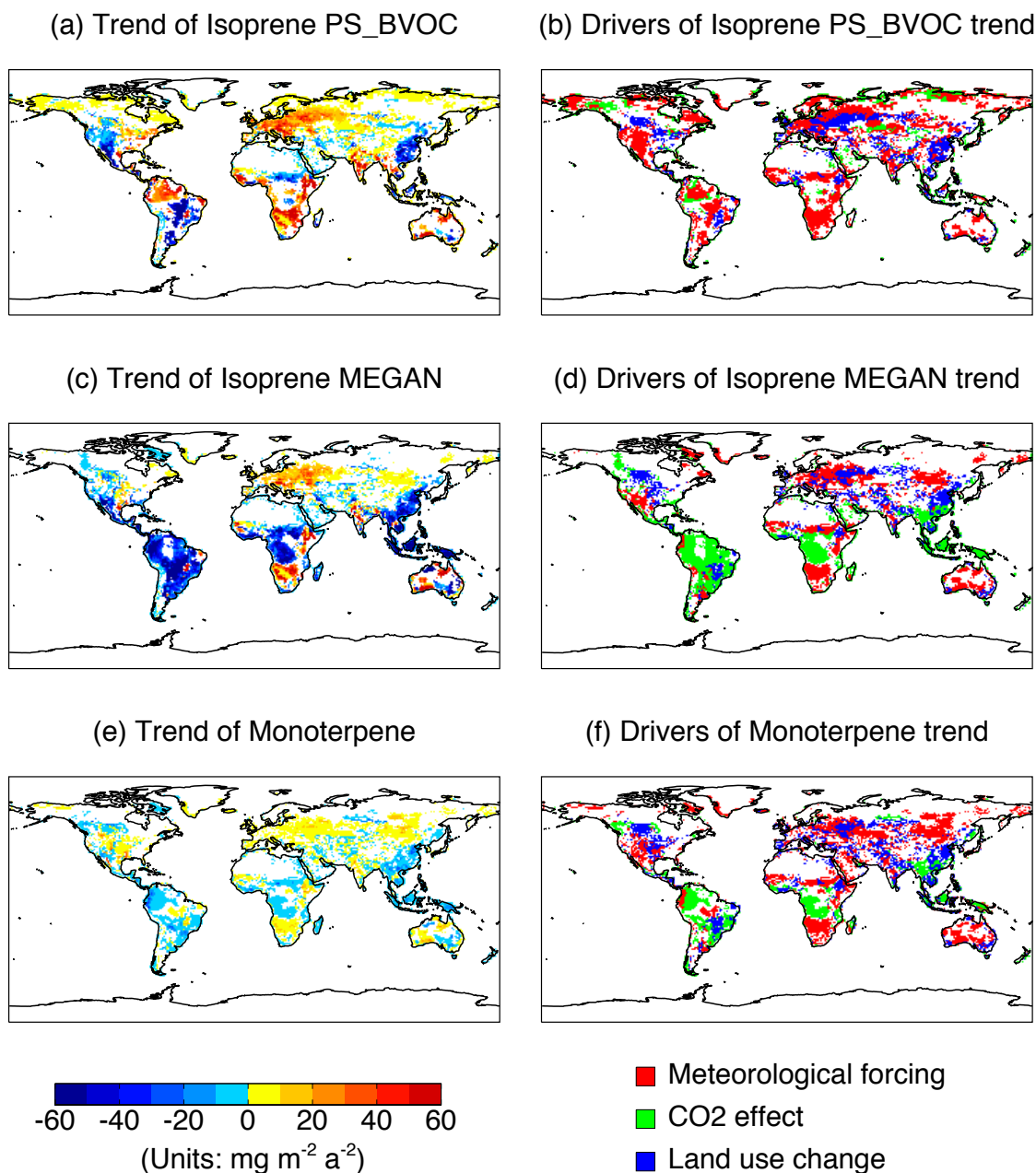


Figure 4. Simulated (a) trends in GPP driven alone with WFDEI reanalysis and the (b) drivers for such changes. Simulation in (a) is performed with year-to-year meteorological forcings but prescribed [CO₂] and land use in the year 1980. Simulations in (b) are the same as (a) except that the year-to-year variations are allowed only for a single meteorological variable (temperature, PAR, or soil wetness) each time. For each grid, the meteorological variable generating the largest (either maximum or minimum) trend with the same sign as the net change (a) is selected as the driving factor. Only significant trends ($p < 0.05$) are presented.

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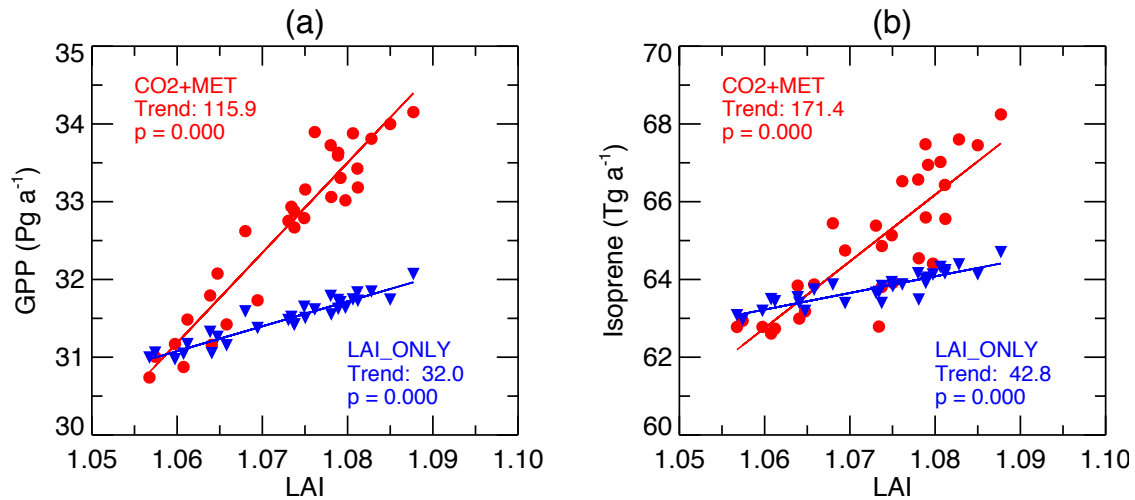


1152 **Figure 5.** Global total fluxes of GPP, NPP, Rh (heterotrophic respiration), and NEP from
1153 different sensitivity simulations with all forcings (black), meteorology (red), CO₂
1154 alone (green), and land use change alone (blue).
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 1158 dominant drivers for these changes during 1982-2011. Simulations are performed with
 1159 WFDEI reanalysis. Isoprene emissions are simulated with (a) PS_BVOC and (c)
 1160 MEGAN schemes. Three factors, meteorological forcing, CO₂ effects (both fertilization
 1161 and inhibition), and land use change, are considered as the potential drivers of flux
 1162 trends. For each grid in figures (b, d, f), the factor generating the largest (either maximum
 1163 or minimum) trend with the same sign as the net change (a-c) is selected as the driving
 1164 factor. Only significant trends ($p < 0.05$) are presented.
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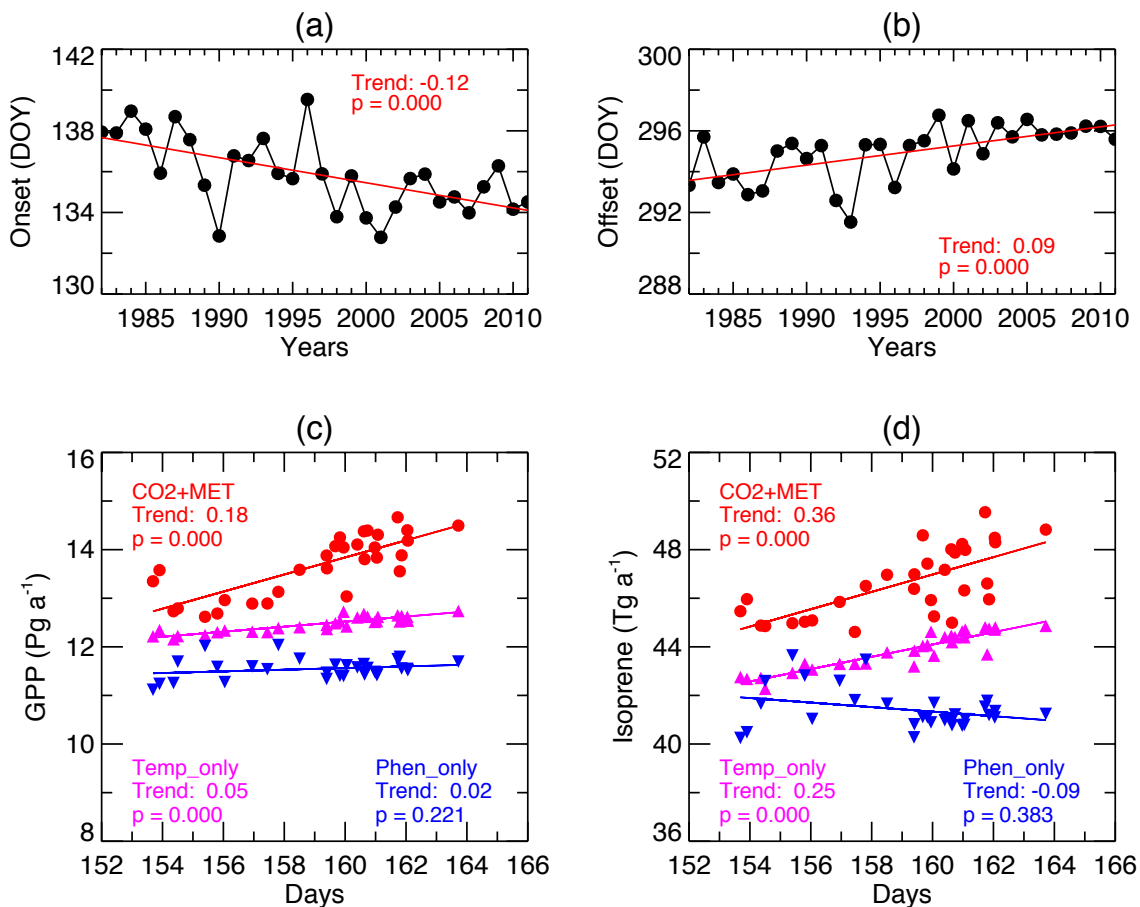
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1174 (blue). Both GPP and isoprene emissions are the sum of all PFTs. Isoprene is simulated
1175 with the PS_BVOC scheme. Units of trends are (a) Pg C a⁻¹ LAI⁻¹ and (b) Tg C a⁻¹ LAI⁻¹.
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1182 **Figure 8.** Predicted trend in (a) budburst and (b) dormancy onset dates over north of
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1184 growing length. Both GPP and isoprene emissions are the sum of DBF, shrub, grassland,
1185 and tundra. Isoprene is simulated with the PS_BVOC scheme. For the bottom panel,
1186 different colors indicate sensitivity experiments with different year-to-year forcings: CO₂
1187 and meteorology (red), temperature only (magenta), and phenology only (blue). Units of
1188 trends are (a) day a⁻¹, (b) day a⁻¹, (c) Pg C a⁻¹ day⁻¹, and (d) Tg C a⁻¹ day⁻¹. The spatial
1189 distribution of GPP and isoprene changes is shown in Figure S2.

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