

CARBON FLUXES OF AN AMAZONIAN PALM PEATLAND

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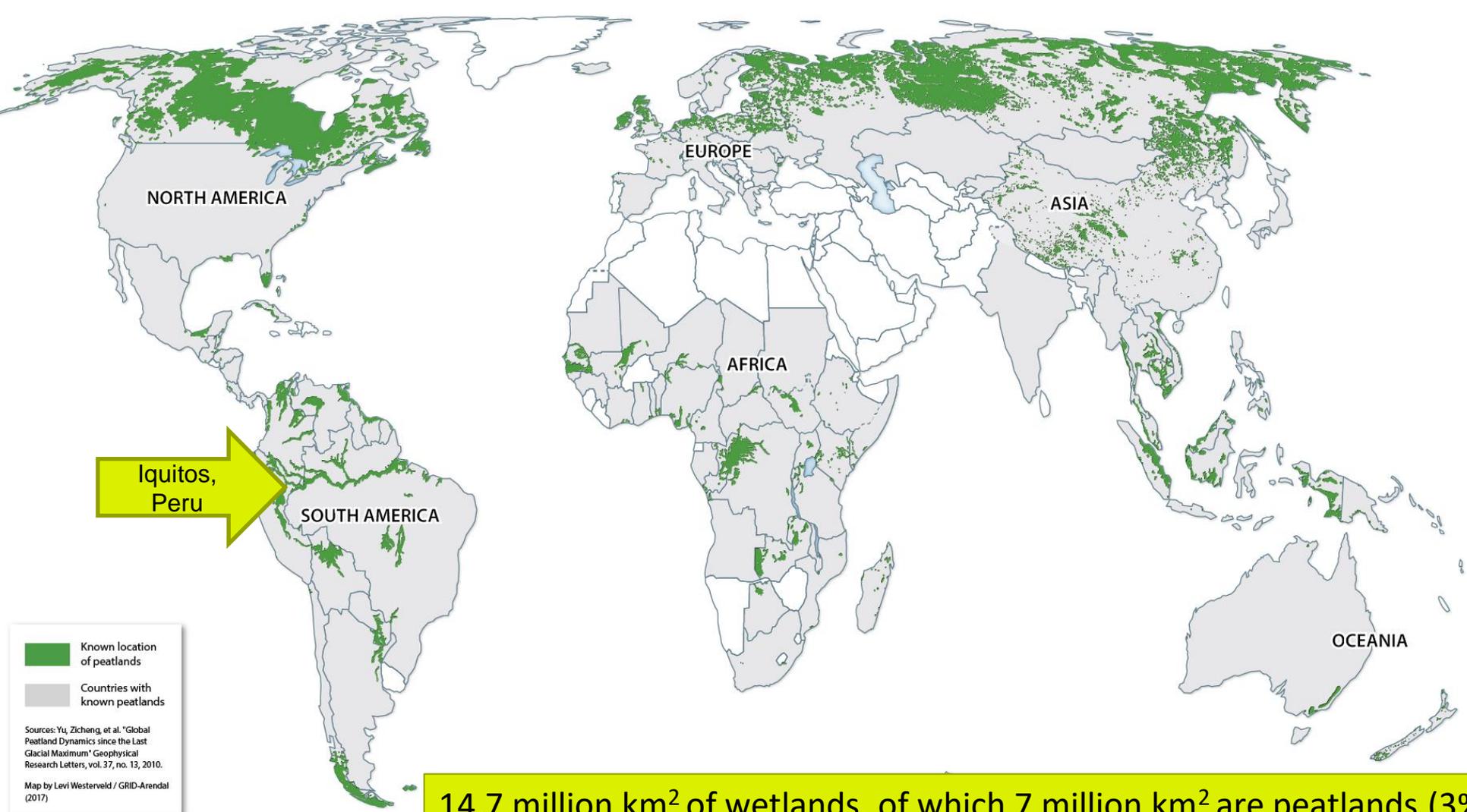
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Iquitos,
Peru

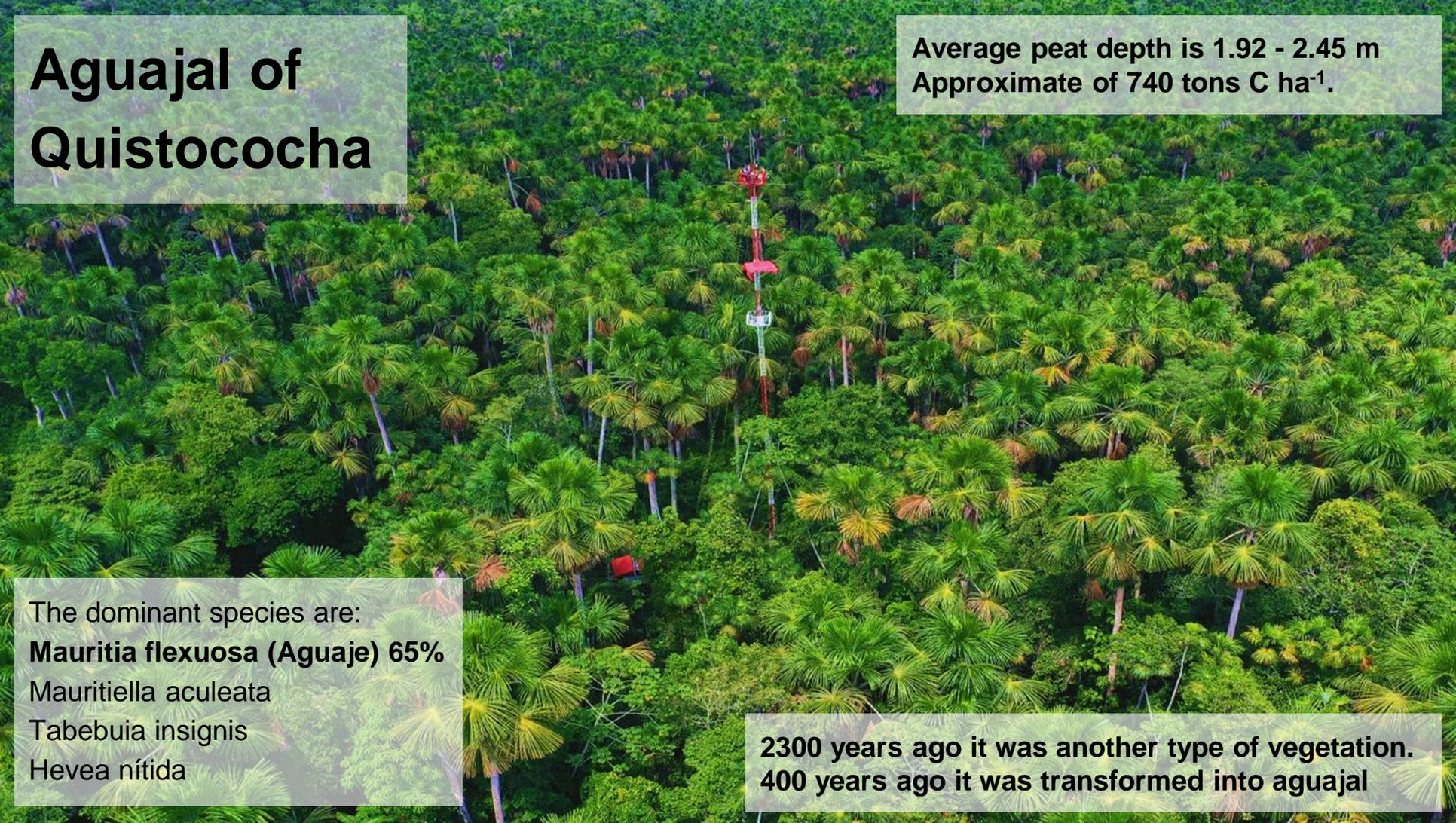
- Known location of peatlands
- Countries with known peatlands

Sources: Yu, Zicheng, et al. "Global Peatland Dynamics since the Last Glacial Maximum" *Geophysical Research Letters*, vol. 37, no. 13, 2010.

Map by Levi Westerveld / GRID-Arendal (2017)

14.7 million km² of wetlands, of which 7 million km² are peatlands (39%)

Aguajal of Quistococha

An aerial photograph of a vast, dense forest of aguajal (Mauritia flexuosa) palm trees. The forest is a vibrant green, with many trees showing signs of being cut or harvested, as their fronds are yellowed or brown. In the center of the forest, a tall, white research tower with red accents and a white platform is visible, used for monitoring the forest's health and carbon storage. The tower is surrounded by a network of thin white lines, likely paths or cables. The overall scene is a lush, tropical landscape.

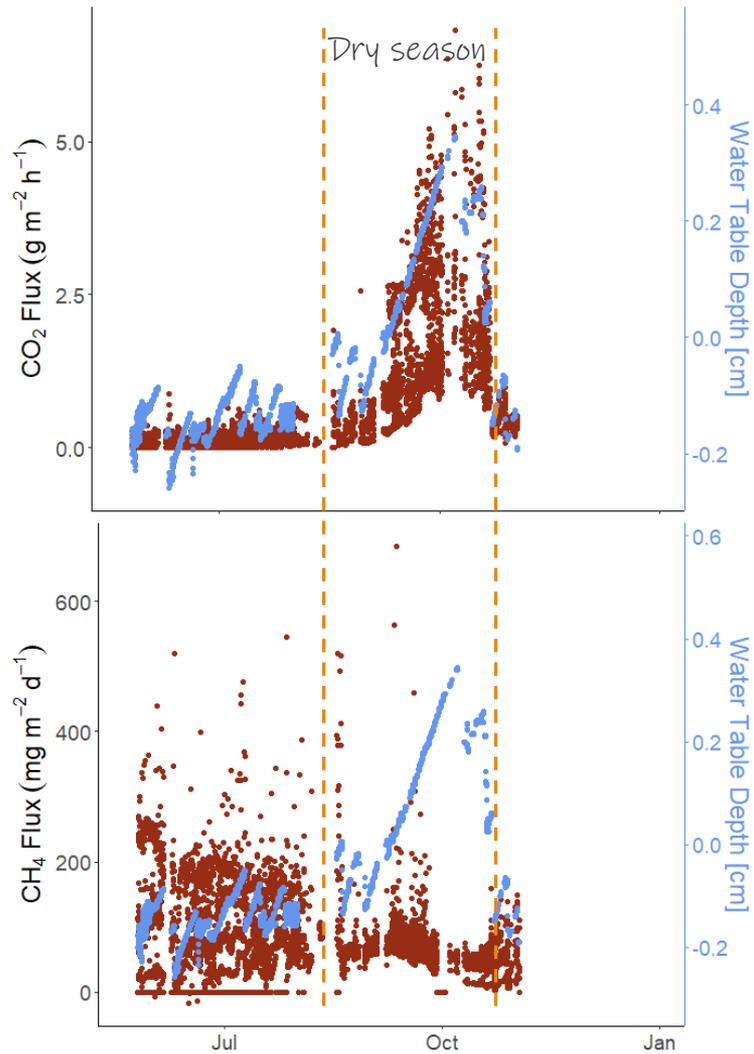
Average peat depth is 1.92 - 2.45 m
Approximate of 740 tons C ha⁻¹.

The dominant species are:
Mauritia flexuosa (Aguaje) 65%
Mauritiella aculeata
Tabebuia insignis
Hevea nítida

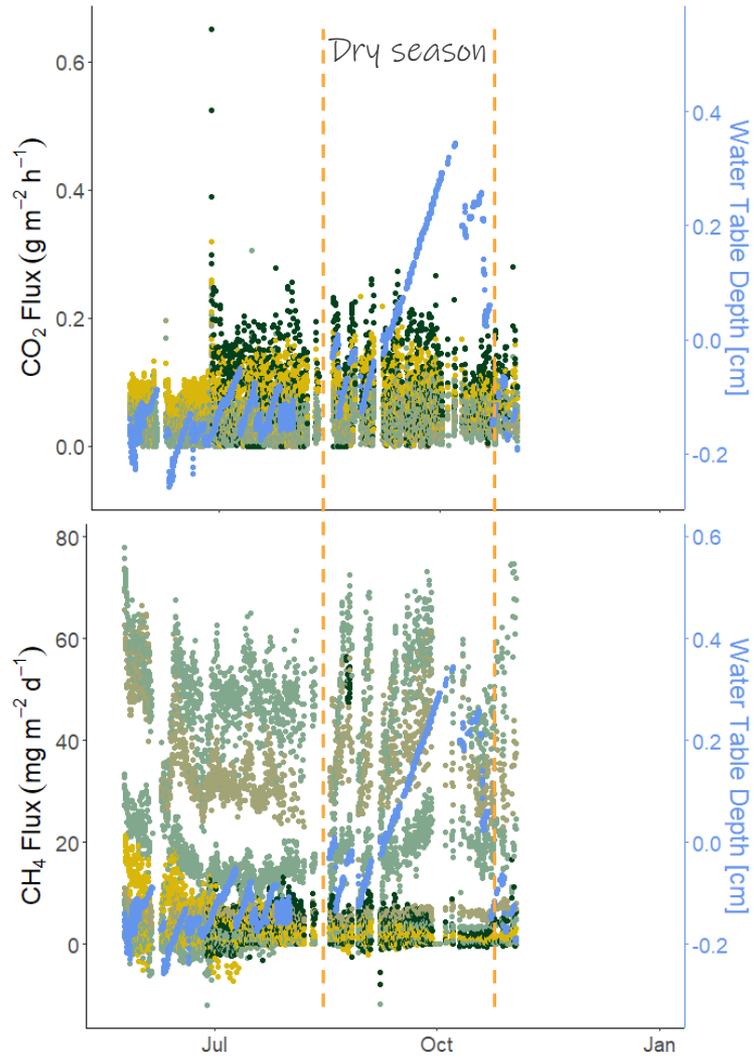
**2300 years ago it was another type of vegetation.
400 years ago it was transformed into aguajal**

**LI-8100 + LI-7810 + LI-8150 system linked to
6 automated soil chambers + 10 stem chambers**



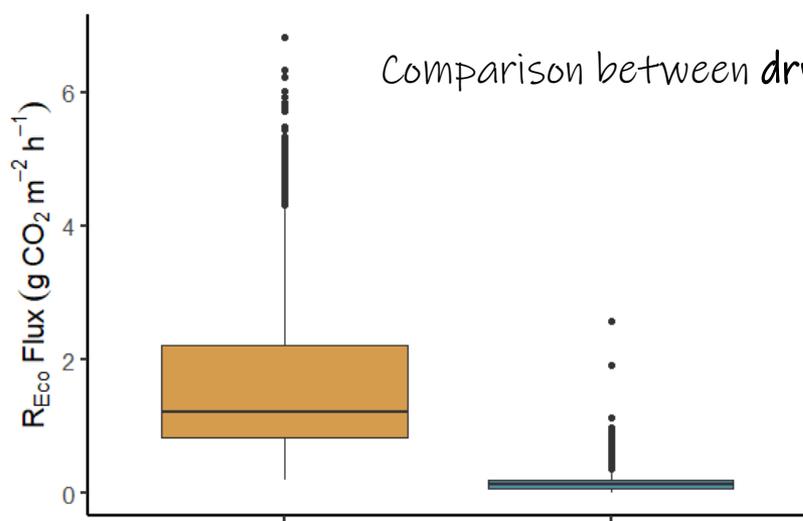


Observed variation on **Carbon fluxes** measured by the automated **soil chambers** during the study period (**June-November 2022**).

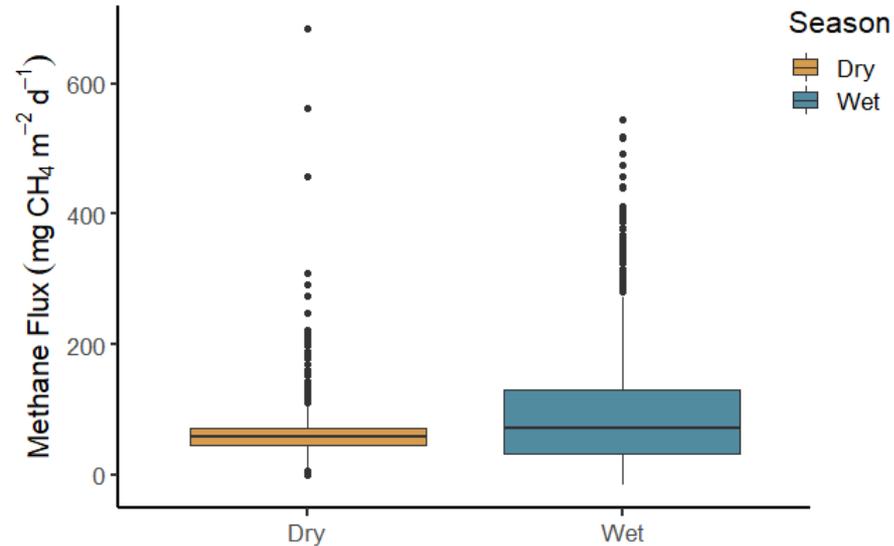


Observed variation on **Carbon fluxes** measured at 50 cm height (and 90 cm only on *Mauritia flexuosa*) by the automated **stem** chambers colour-coded by tree species during the study period (**June-November 2022**).

Comparison between dry and wet season on average C fluxes

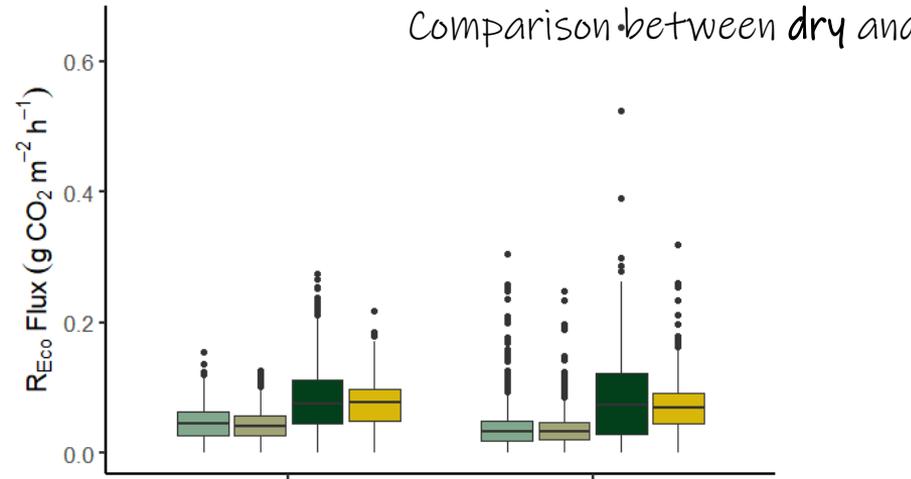


Averaged **CO₂ fluxes** from soil are higher in the dry than in the wet season.

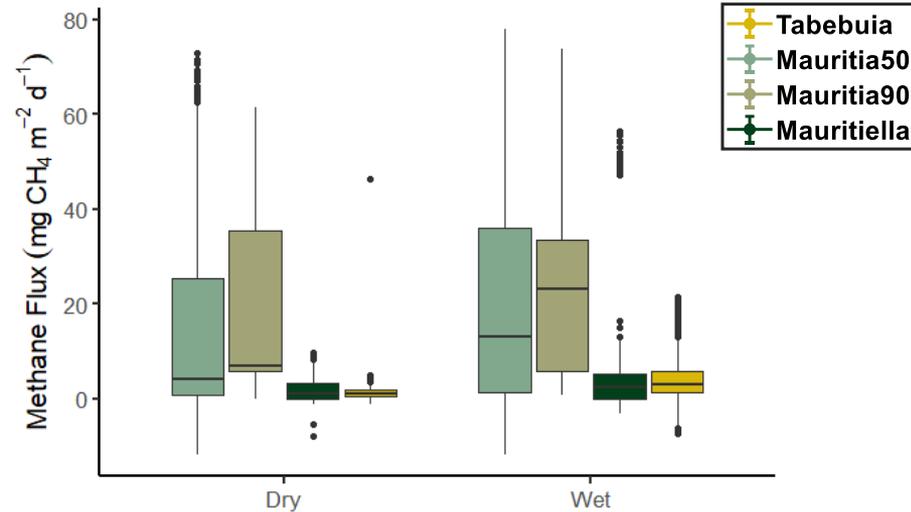


Averaged **CH₄ fluxes** from soil are higher in the wet than in the dry season.

Comparison between dry and wet season on average C fluxes

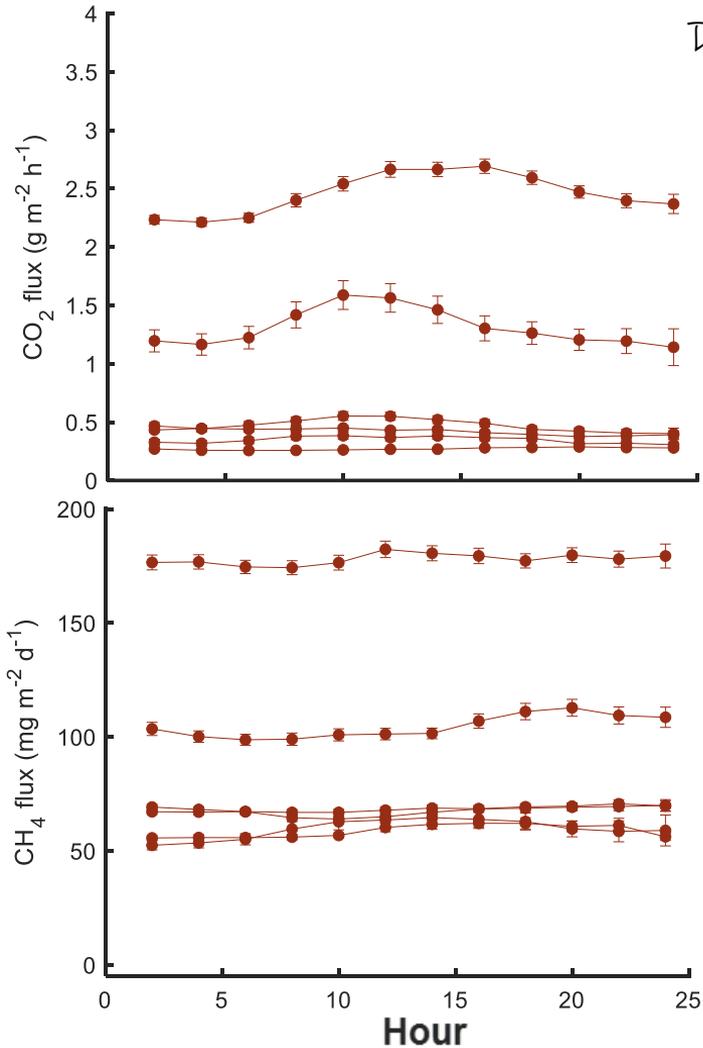


Averaged **CO₂ fluxes** are higher in *Mauritiella armata* and *Tabebuia insignis* than in *Mauritia flexuosa* both in the dry and wet seasons.



Averaged **CH₄ fluxes** are higher in *Mauritia flexuosa* than in *Mauritiella armata* and *Tabebuia insignis* both in the dry and wet seasons.

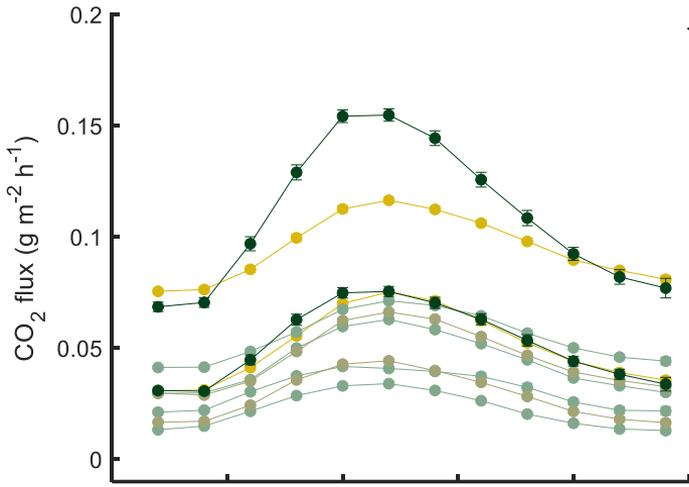
Diel patterns on soil C fluxes



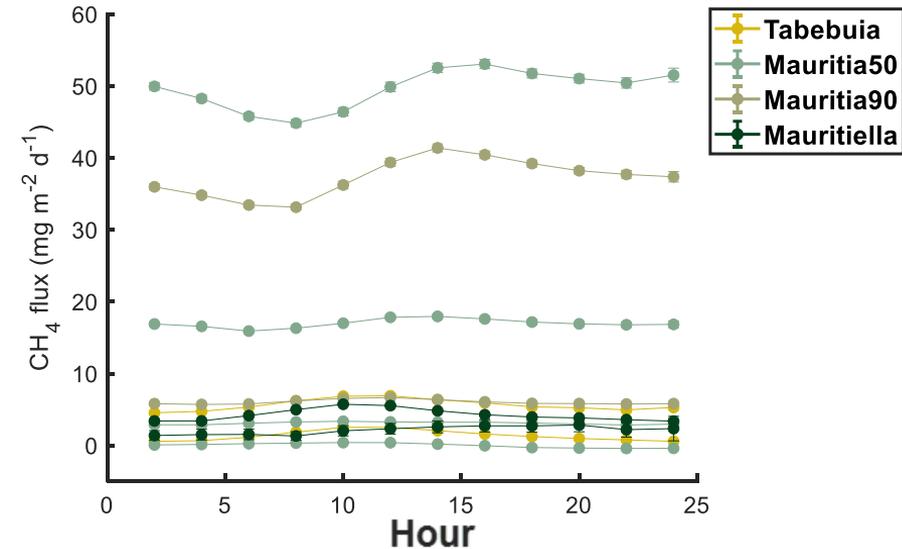
Two of the soil auto-chambers show a diel pattern on **CO₂ fluxes**.

We do not observe a diel pattern on **CH₄ fluxes** from soils.

Diel patterns on stem C fluxes



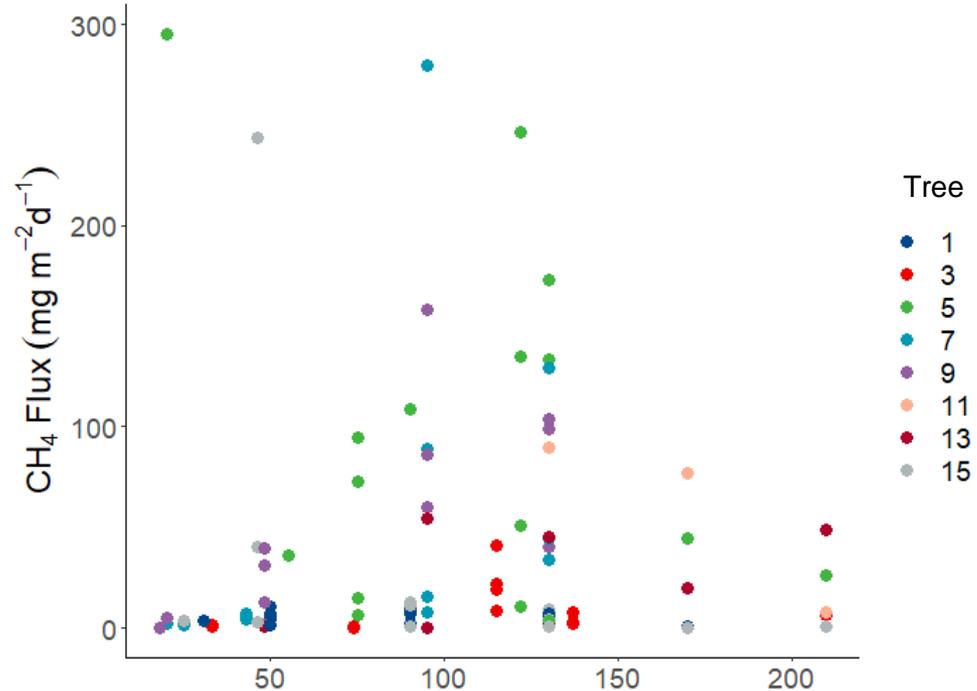
We observe a diel pattern on stem **CO₂** fluxes.



We do not observe a diel pattern on stem **CH₄** fluxes.



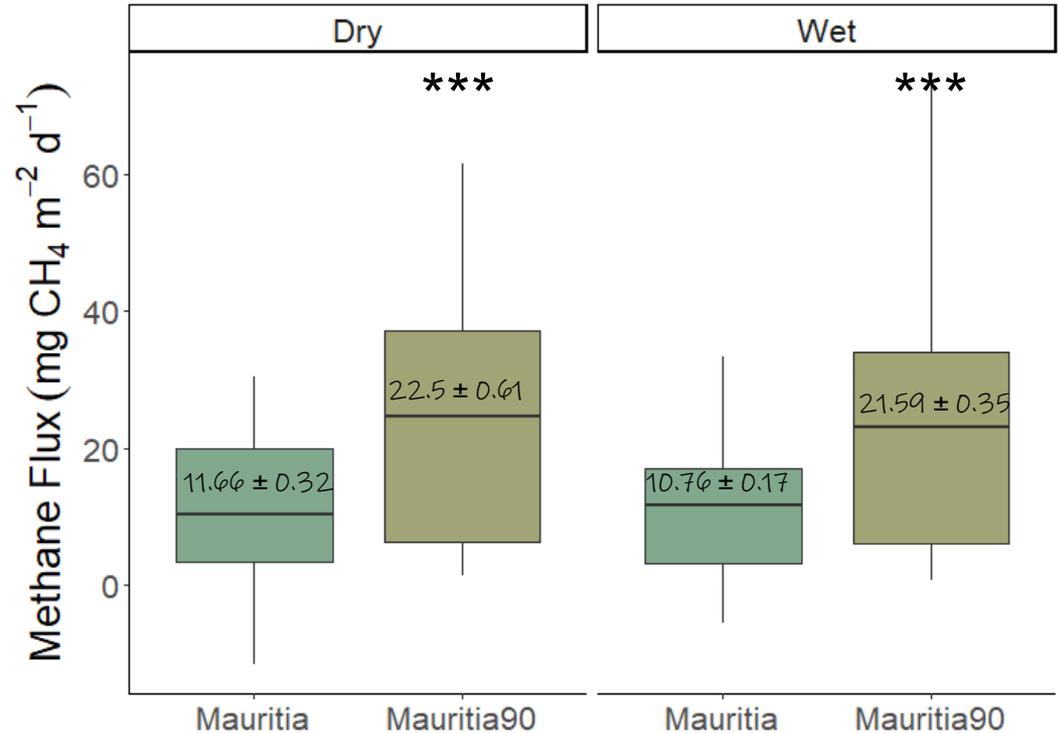
Manual measurements done on *Mauritia flexuosa* stem with a Picaro GasScouter show that **CH₄ fluxes peak at 90cm** height and then rapidly decrease after 130 cm from the soil surface.

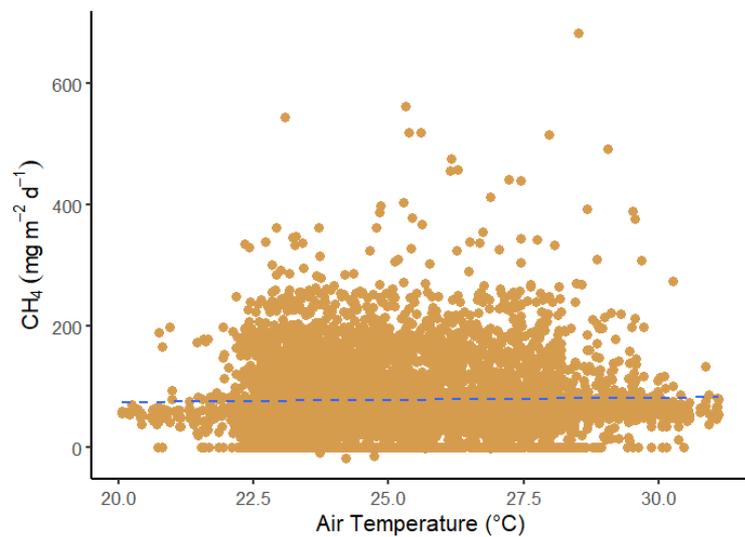




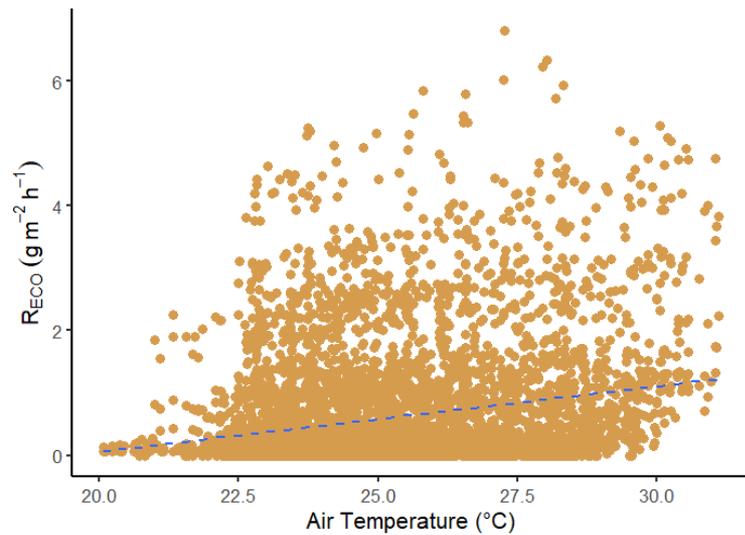
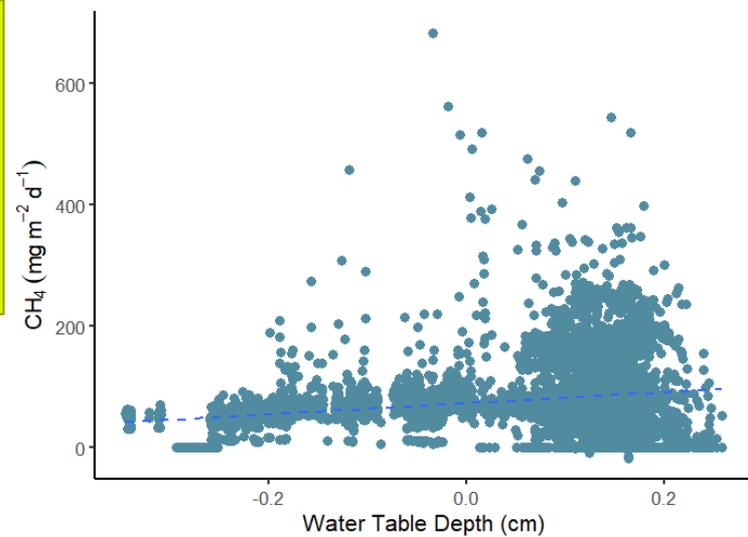
Measurements done with autochambers linked to LI-8100 + LI-7810 + LI-8150 at 2 heights on *Mauritia flexuosa* stems

CH₄ fluxes are significantly **higher** at **90 cm** from the soil surface both during the dry and wet season

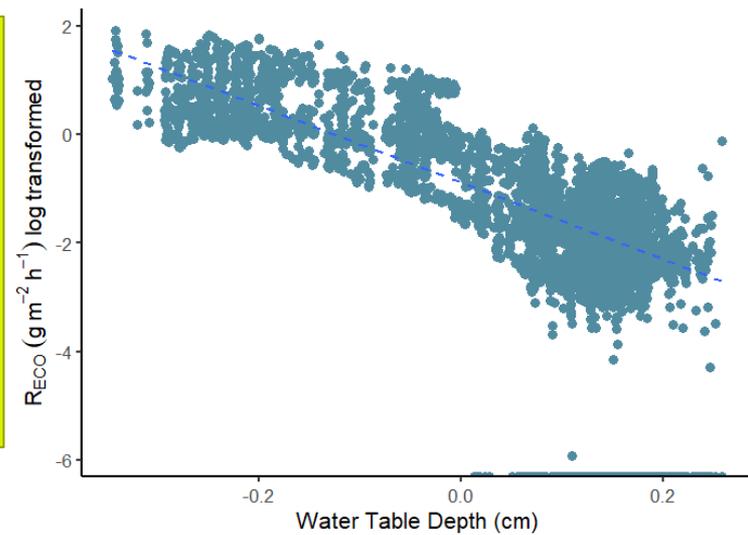


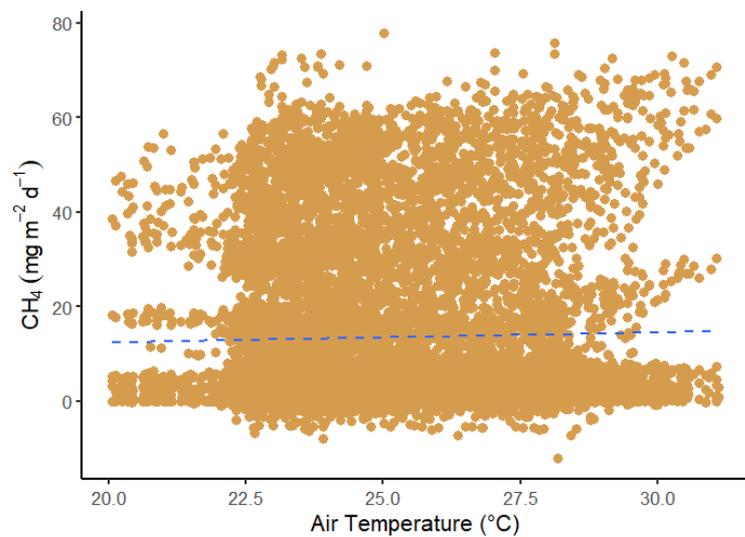


Soil CH₄ fluxes
are positively
correlated with
temperature and
water table depth

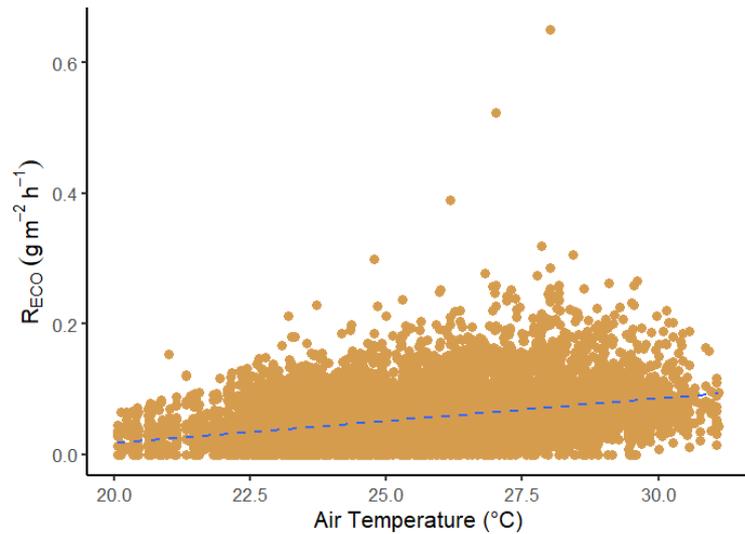
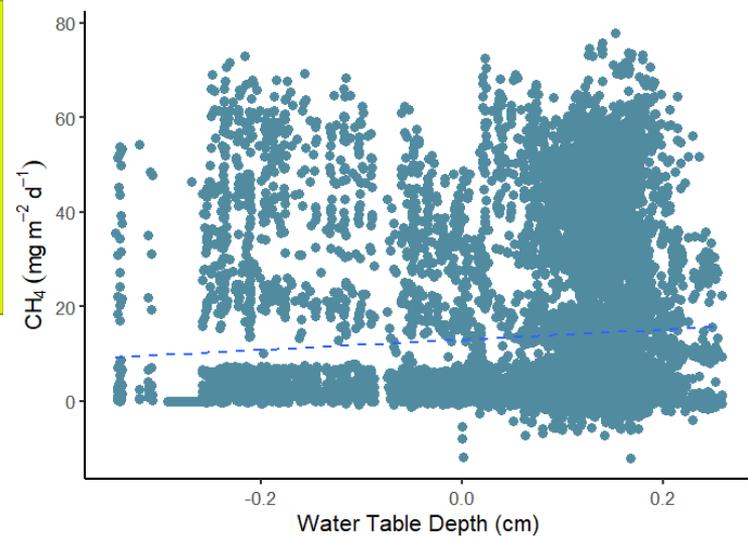


Soil CO₂ fluxes
are positively
correlated with
temperature and
negatively
correlated with
water table depth

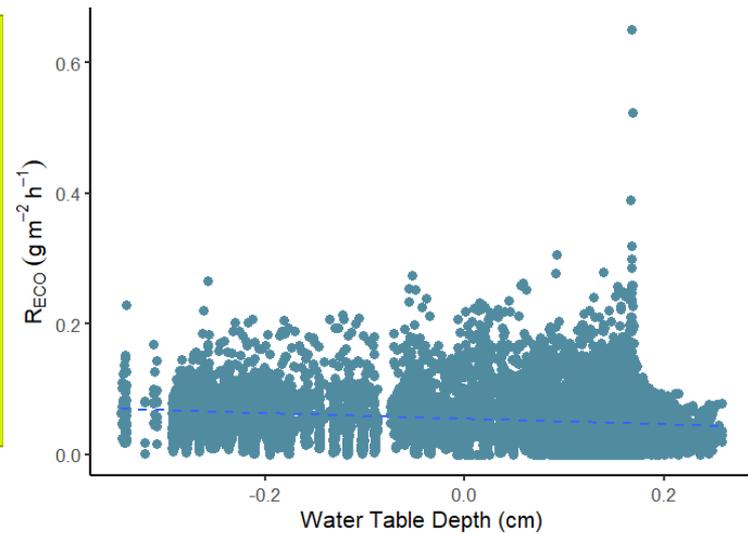




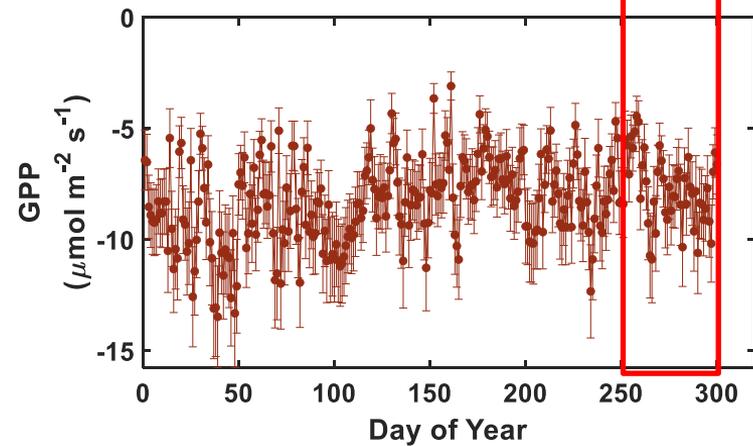
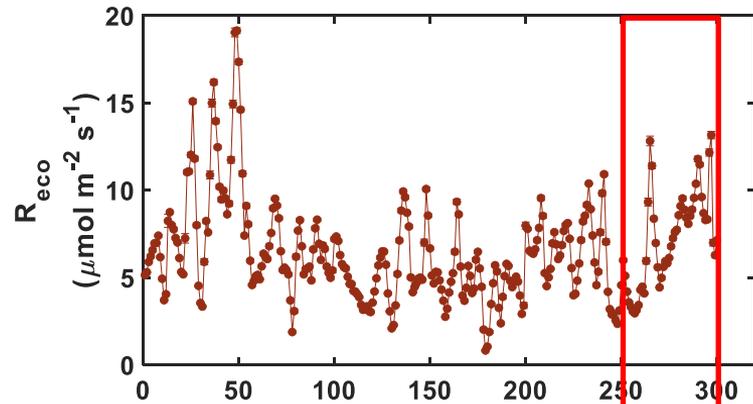
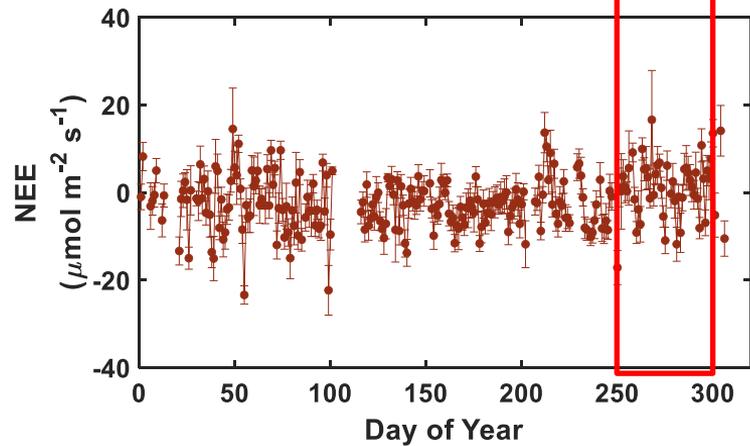
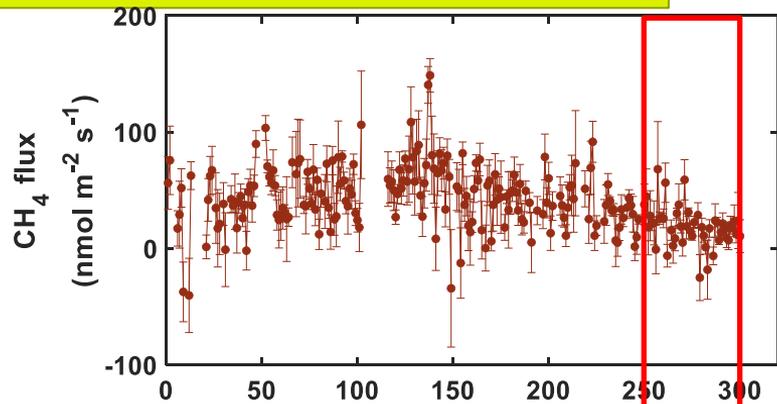
Stem CH_4 fluxes are positively correlated with temperature and water table depth



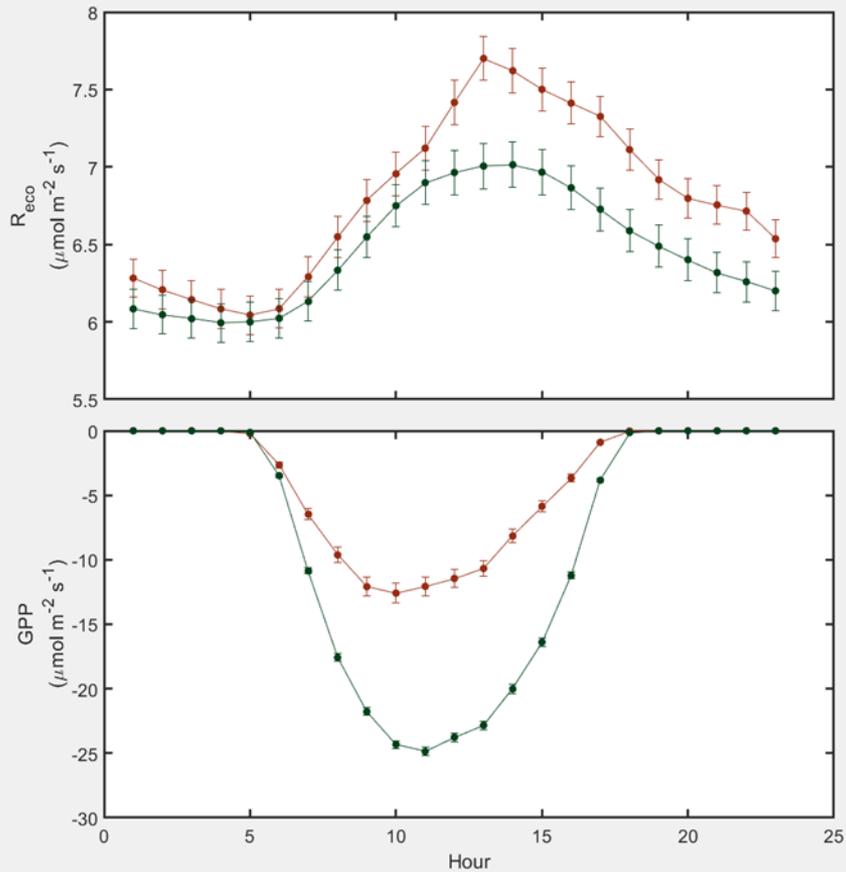
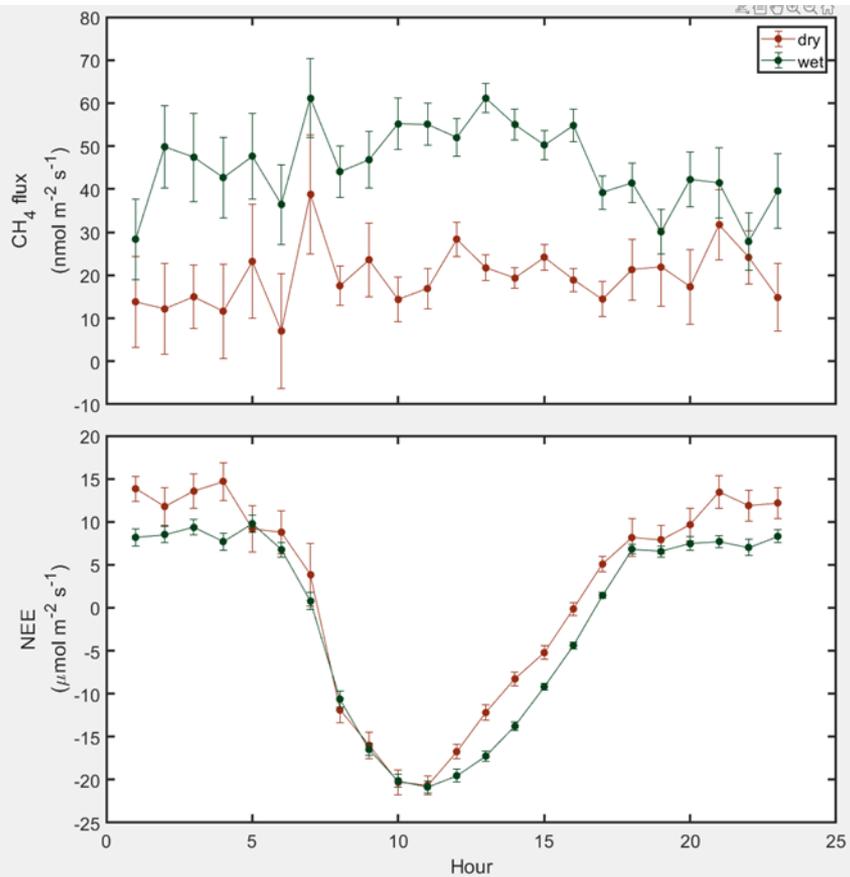
Stem CO_2 fluxes are positively correlated with temperature and negatively correlated with water table depth



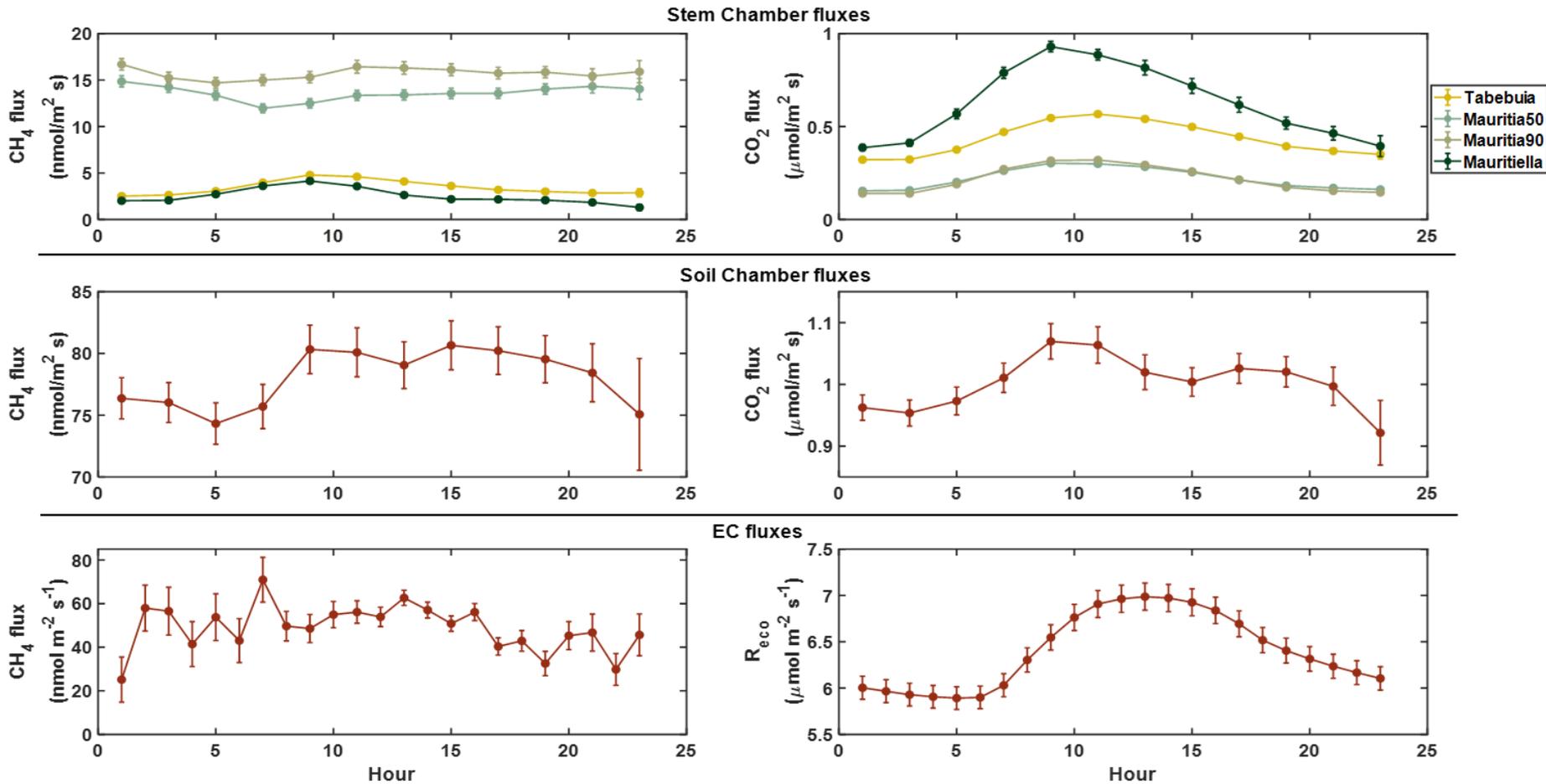
EddyCovariance fluxes. Marked in red is the dry season.



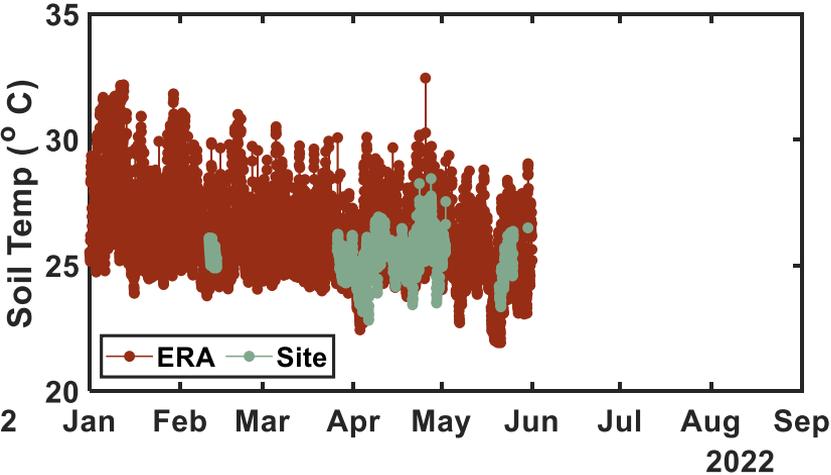
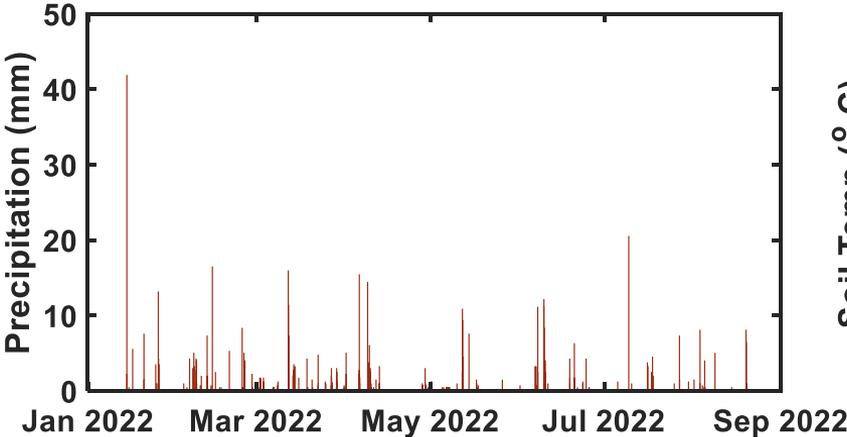
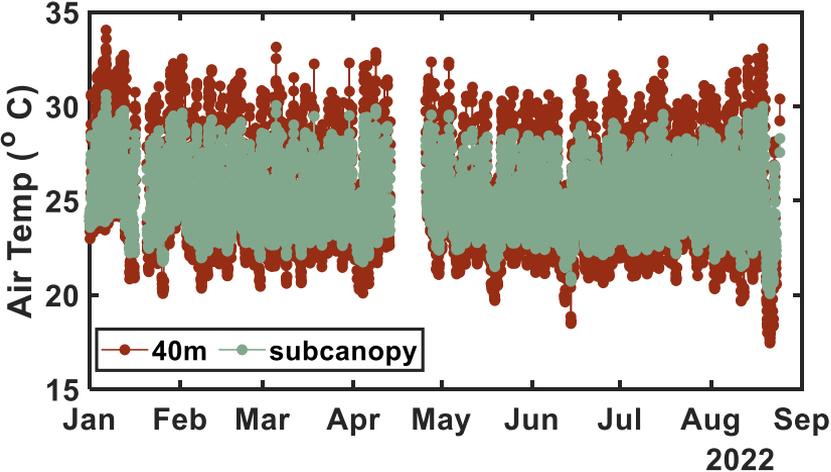
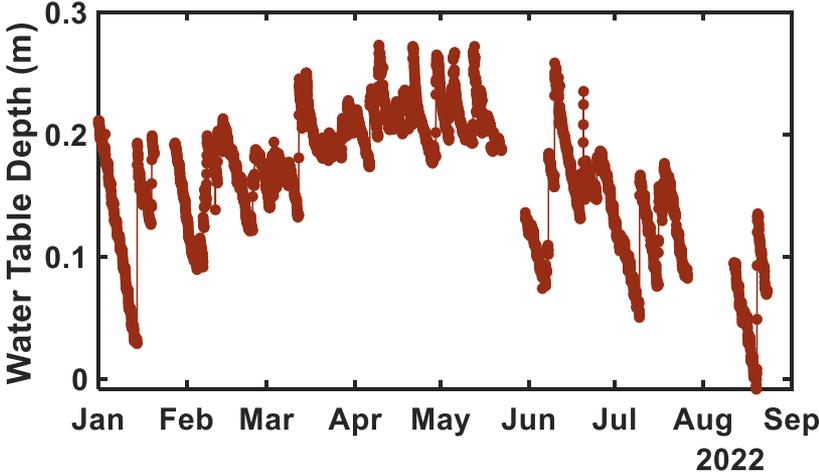
EddyCovariance flux diel patterns during the dry and wet seasons.



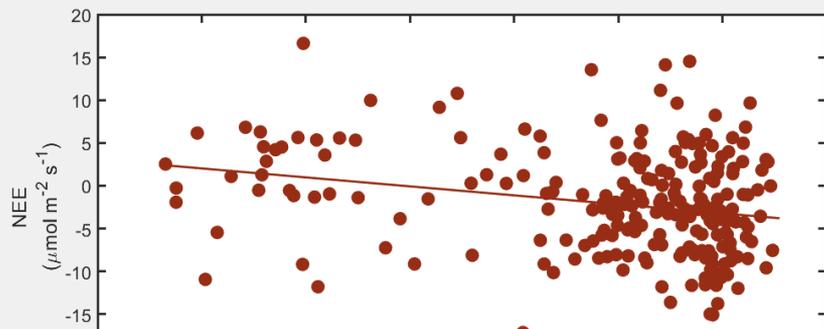
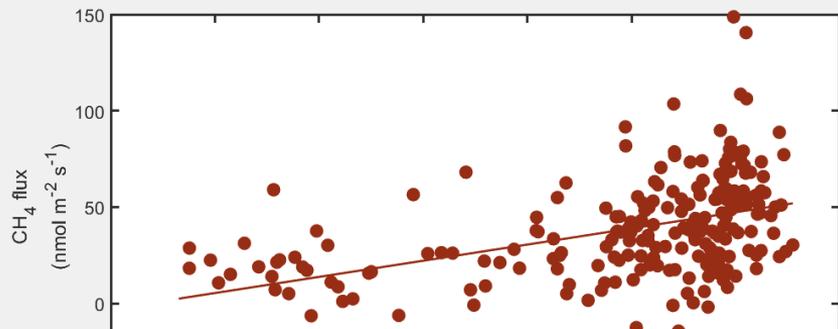
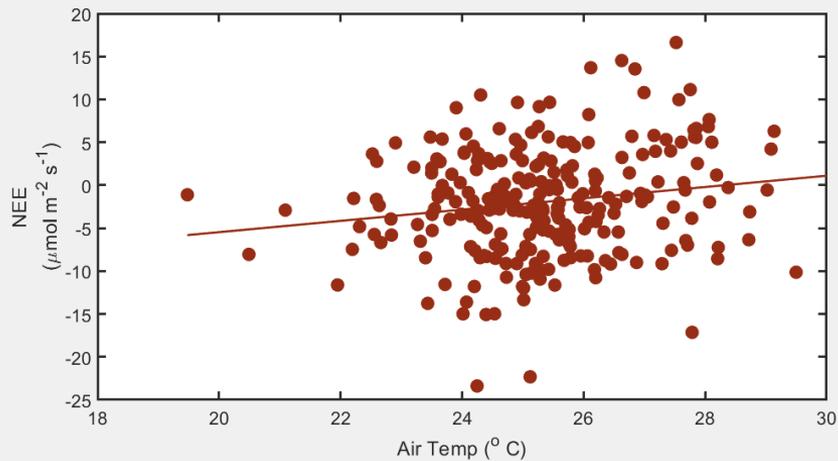
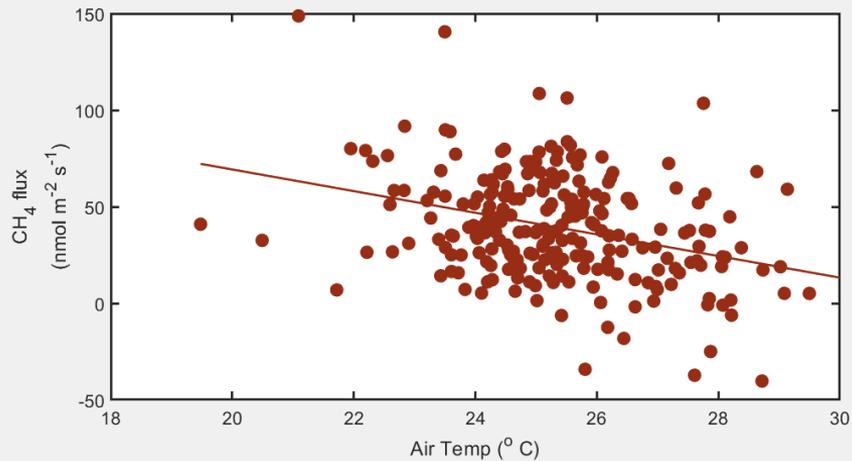
EddyCovariance and chamber diel cycles during the wet season. *Note different Y axis scales*



Environmental variables.

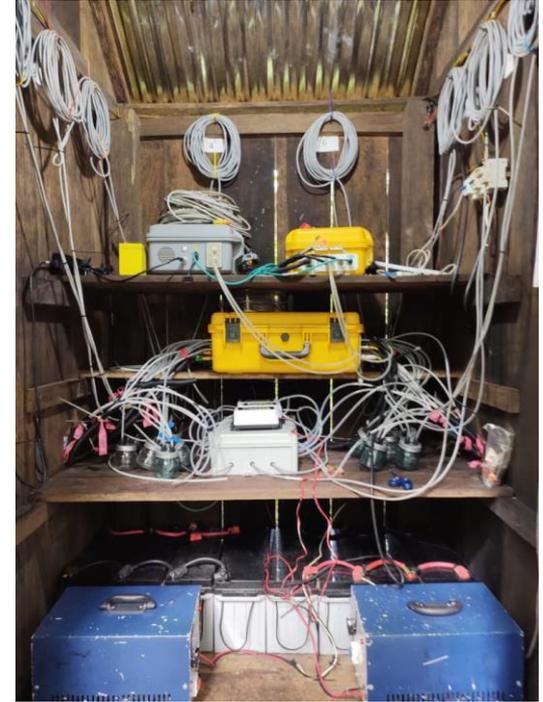


EddyCovariance fluxes vs Air Temperature & Water Table Position



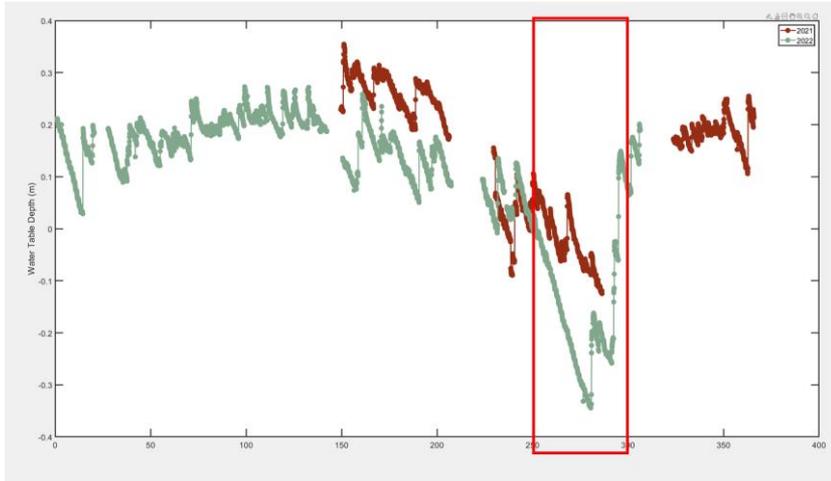
Conclusions

- Both EC and chamber fluxes show **correlation** with **Water Table position** and **air temperature**
 - 2022 dataset only contains 'wet season' so far for EC data
- **Diel pattern** similar for chambers and EC on **CO₂ fluxes**
- Neither shows particularly strong CH₄ diel pattern
- **CH₄ fluxes** from **stems** are **significant** and **vary by species**

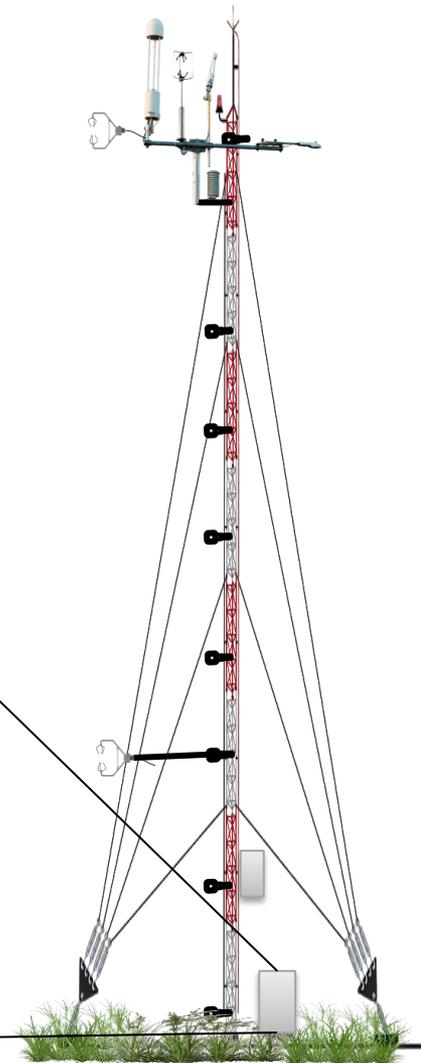


Next Steps...

- Addition of Profile system for Lagrangian canopy analyses
- Allometric data to scale stem flux data
- Continue investigating vertical distribution of stem fluxes
- Currently entering dry season... evaluate changes in fluxes



Profile System



Acknowledgments



Thanks to the AMP Tech Team for providing a loaner LI-7500 to keep the site in operation while our instrument was shipped back to the USA for repairs

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