



A.D. MDLXII

AN EMPIRICAL APPROACH TO ESTIMATE THE BIOGENIC COMPONENTS OF URBAN CO₂ FLUX

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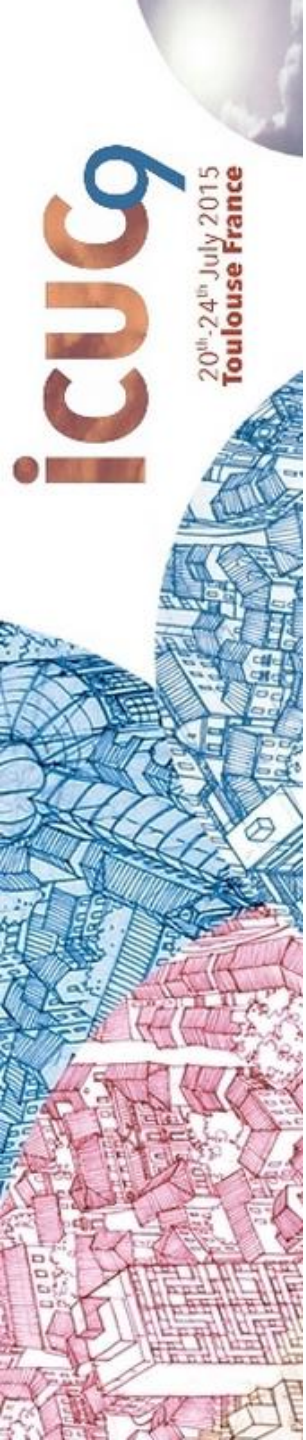
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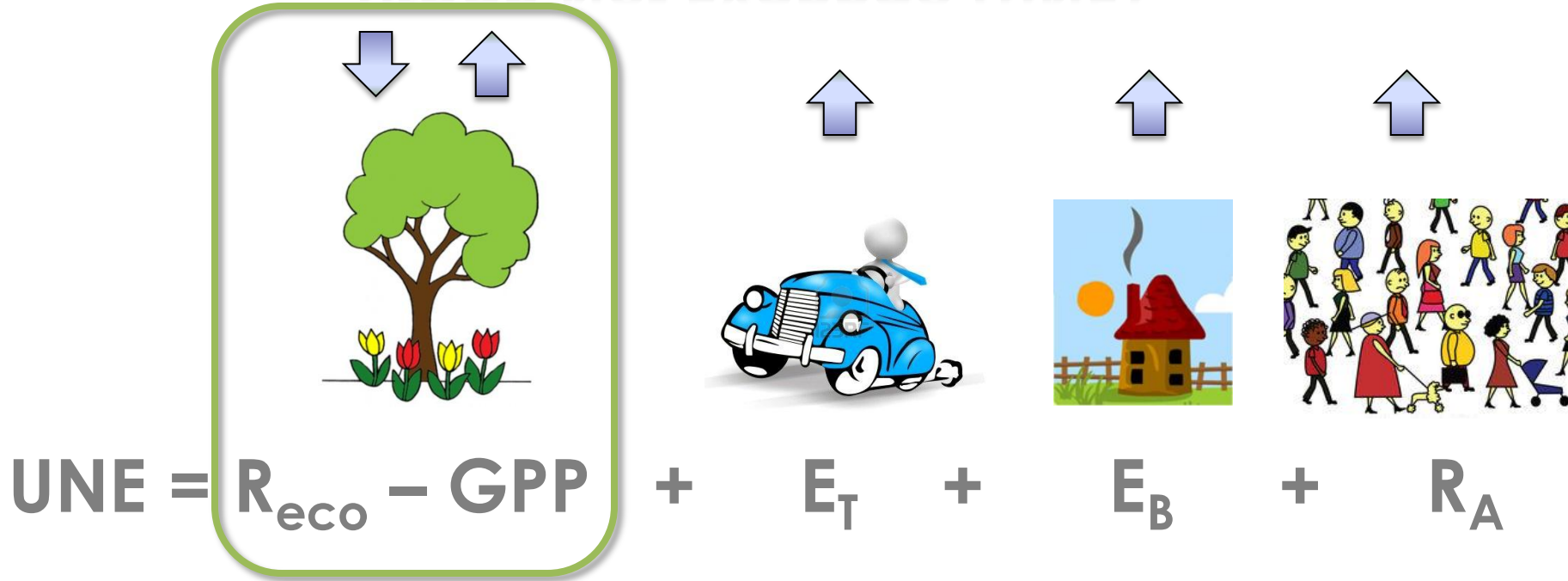
Urban Net Exchange (UNE)

$$\text{UNE} = \underbrace{R_{\text{eco}} - GPP}_{\text{NEE}} + E_T + E_B + R_A$$

Diagram illustrating the components of Urban Net Exchange (UNE):

- NEE (Net Ecosystem Exchange):** Represented by a green box containing a tree and flowers. It is the difference between R_{eco} (ecosystem respiration, indicated by a downward arrow) and GPP (gross primary production, indicated by an upward arrow).
- E_T (Transport Emissions):** Represented by a blue car with a person driving, with an upward arrow indicating emissions.
- E_B (Building Emissions):** Represented by a house with a chimney emitting smoke, with an upward arrow indicating emissions.
- R_A (Respiration of Animals):** Represented by a group of people walking, with an upward arrow indicating emissions.

Urban Net Exchange (UNE)



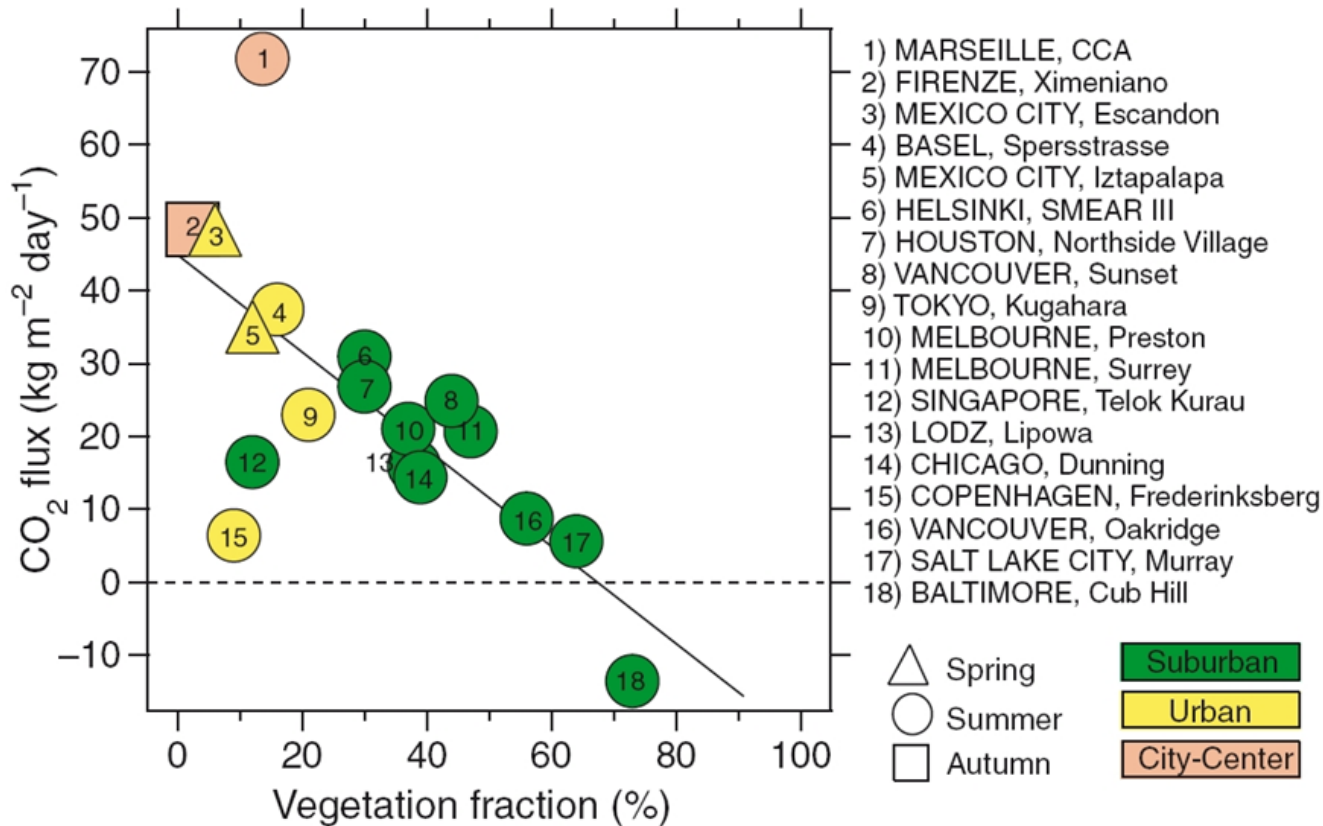
NEE



- is it possible to develop an empirical model based on relations among different ecosystems ?
- is it possible to simulate carbon exchanges of urban and non-urban ecosystems based on land cover fractions and environmental variables?

Vegetation cover fraction (λ_v)

(from Velasco and Roth, 2010)



$\lambda_v > 70\% - 80\%$ cities can be considered sinks at annual scale
(Velasco and Roth, 2010; Nordbo et al., 2012)

$\lambda_v > 34\%$ vegetation offsets emissions due to other sources
(Bergeron and Strachan, 2011; Velasco and Roth, 2010)

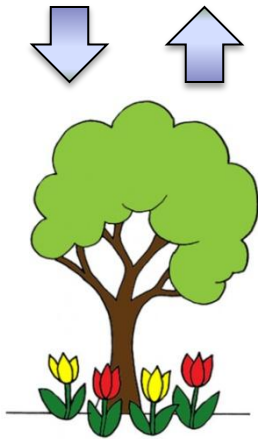
$\lambda_v < 5\%$ soil and vegetation exchanges can be neglected
(Matese et al., 2009; Moriwaki and Kanda, 2004; Velasco et al., 2009)

Sites description and analysis

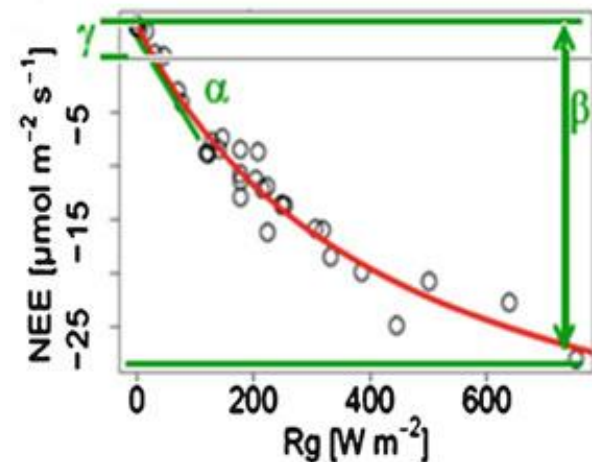
<i>Site</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Period</i>	λ_V
Morgan Monroe State Forest^L (MMSF), IN, USA (Schmid et al., 2000)	Deciduous forest	39.32° N 86.42° W	May–September (1998)	100%
Baltimore, MD, USA^L (Crawford et al., 2011)	Suburban	39.41° N 76.52° W	Summer (2002–2006)	67%
Swindon, UK^L (Ward et al., 2013)	Suburban	51.58° N 1.80° W	Summer (2011)	45%
Serdiana, Italy^{or} (Marras et al., 2012)	Vineyard	39.36° N 9.12° E	Summer (2009–2011)	~50%
Montalcino, Italy^{or} (Marras, 2008)	Vineyard	43.08° N 11.80° E	Summer (2005–2006)	~50%
Capocaccia, Italy^{or} (Marras et al., 2011)	Mediterranean Maquis	40.61° N 8.15° E	Year (2005–2010)	~70%

^Lliterature dataset, ^{or}original dataset

Model development



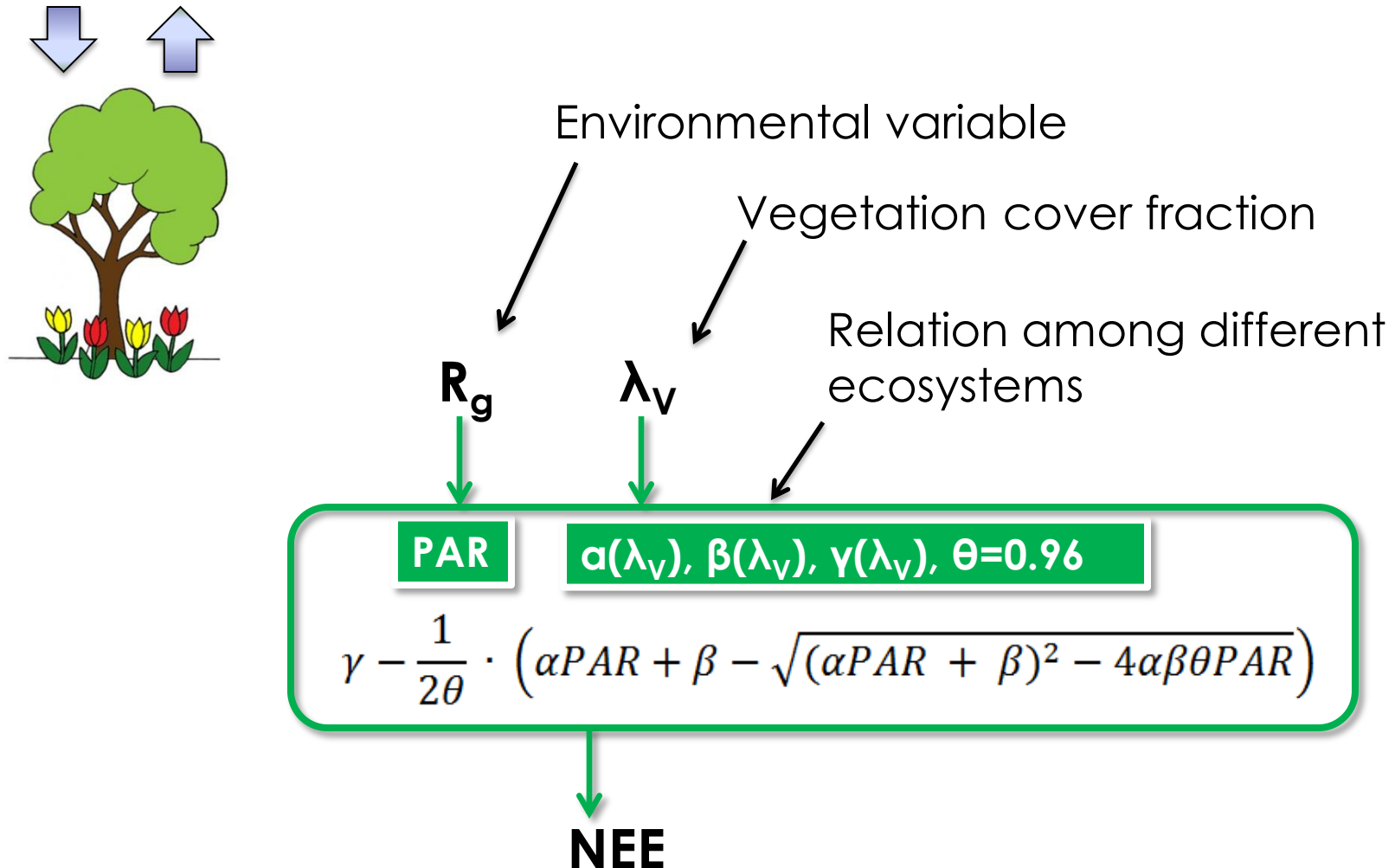
- ✓ Daytime data ($R_g > 5 \text{ W m}^{-2}$),
- ✓ fit of the light-response curve with LOESS regression (Cleveland et al., 1992),
- ✓ fit of the light-response curve using the **Non-Rectangular Hyperbola** (NRH) (Rabinowitch, 1951) and estimation of its α , β , γ , and θ coefficients through the non-linear least square regression.



$$R_{\text{eco}} - \text{GPP} = \gamma - \frac{1}{2\theta} \left(\alpha \text{PAR} + \beta - \sqrt{(\alpha \text{PAR} + \beta)^2 - 4\alpha\beta\theta \text{PAR}} \right)$$

(from Reichstein et al., 2012)

Biogenic empirical model



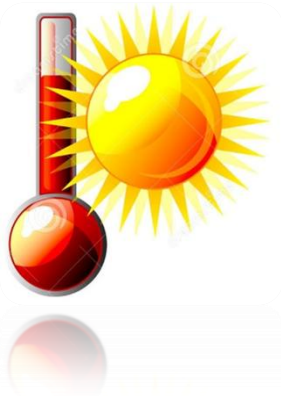
Biogenic empirical model test

Helsinki

(Kumpula
suburban site,
Finland)

$\lambda_v = 52\%$ (all sectors)

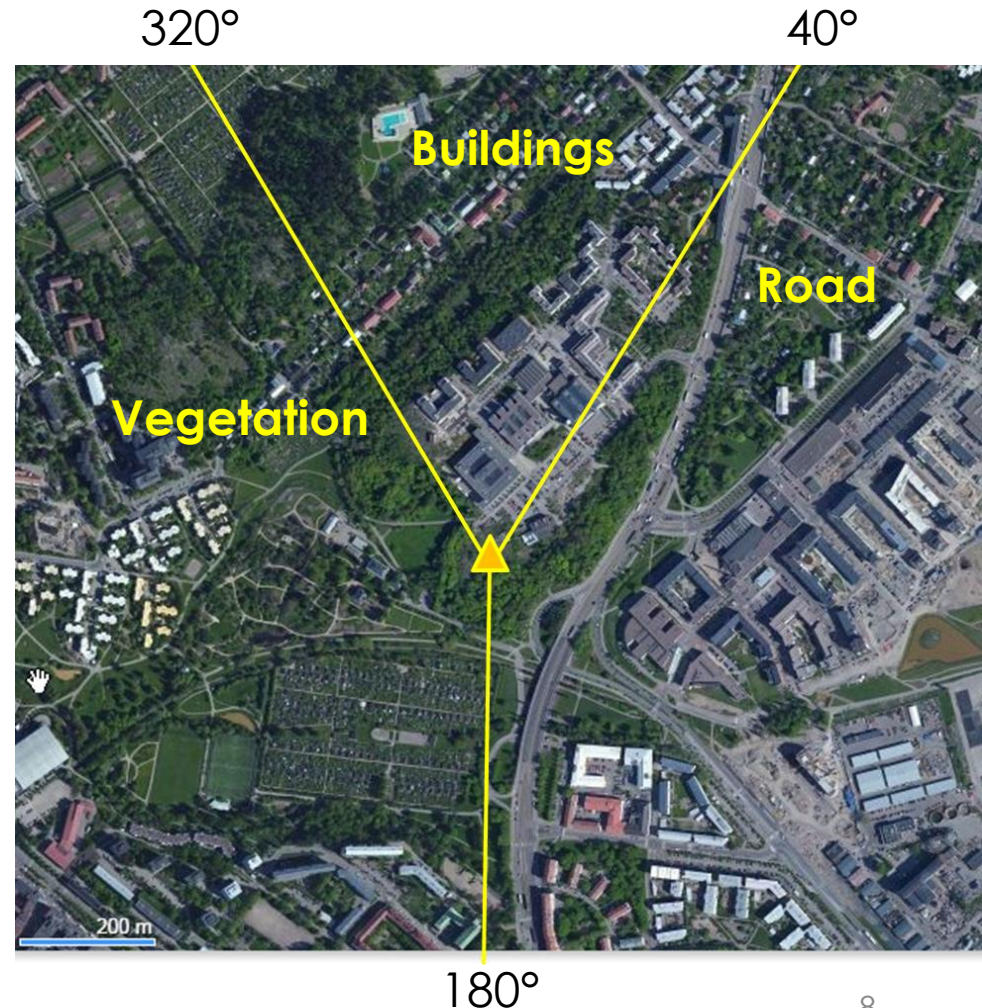
$\lambda_v = 59\%$ (vegetation sector, $180^\circ - 320^\circ$, Järvi et al., 2009)



summer season
(June – July 2010)

reduced vehicular traffic rates

maximum ecophysiological activity



Biogenic empirical model test



Capo Caccia → $\lambda_v = 70\%$

(Alghero,
Mediterranean maquis site, Italy)



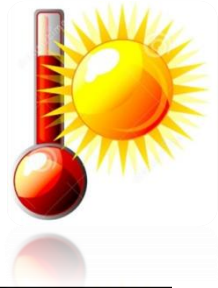
winter season
(Jan – Feb – Mar 2011)

Drought periods affect
ecophysiological processes

well watered conditions

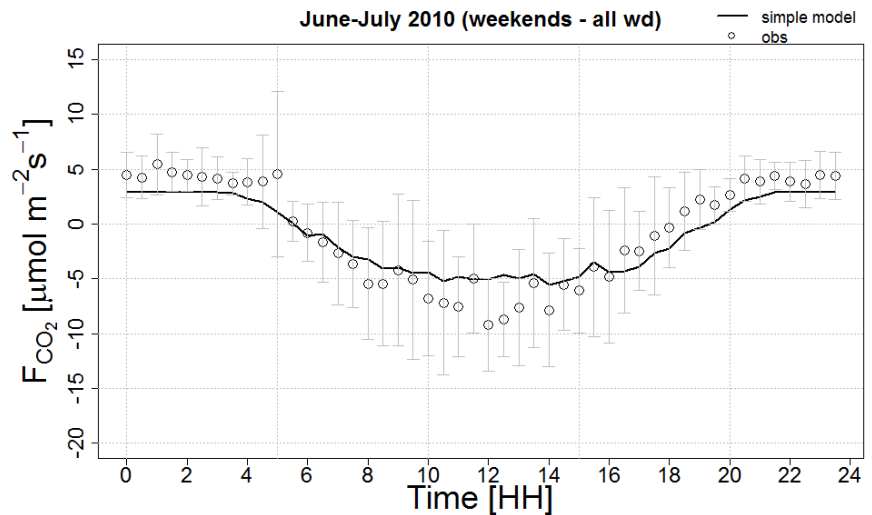
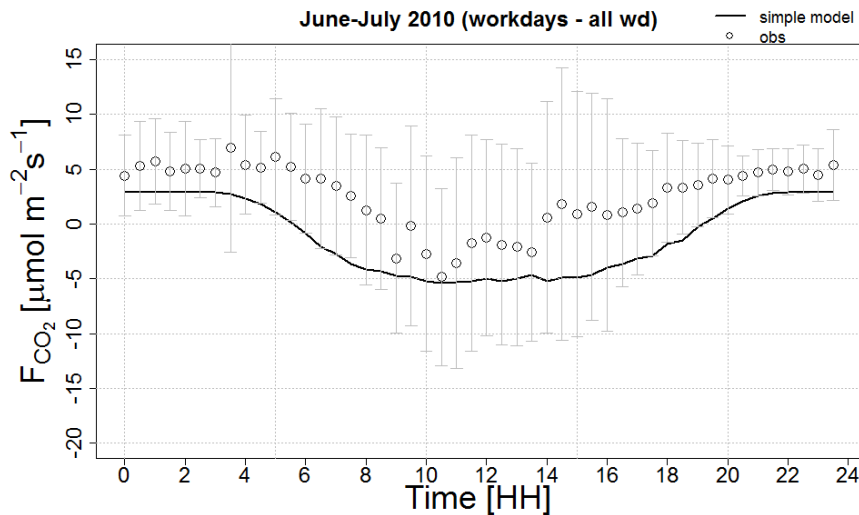


Biogenic empirical model test: Helsinki (suburban)

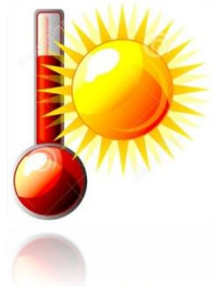


June+July	Wind sector (λ_v)	RMSE	MAE	MBE	IOA	R ²
All days	All (0.52)	2.72	2.47	-2.46	0.86	0.89
Workdays		3.97	3.62	-3.62	0.71	0.77
Weekend		1.79	1.52	-0.28	0.95	0.93

Significant values with $P < 0.001$

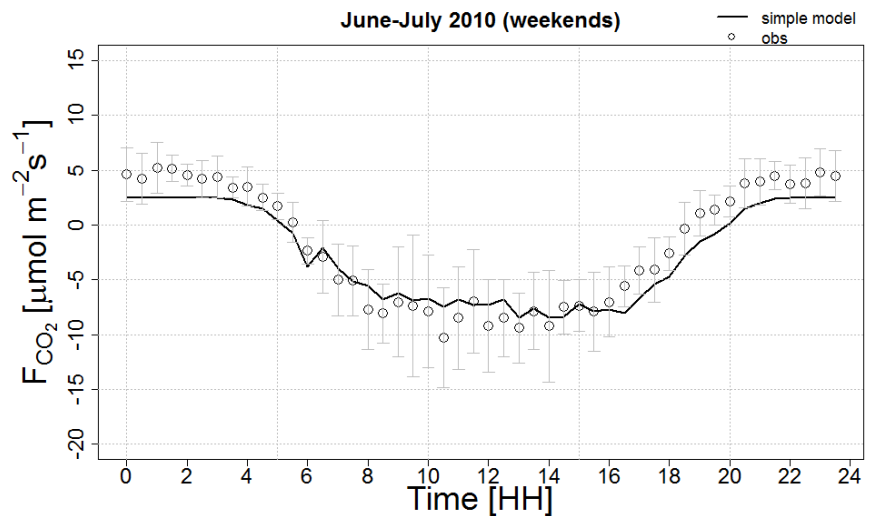
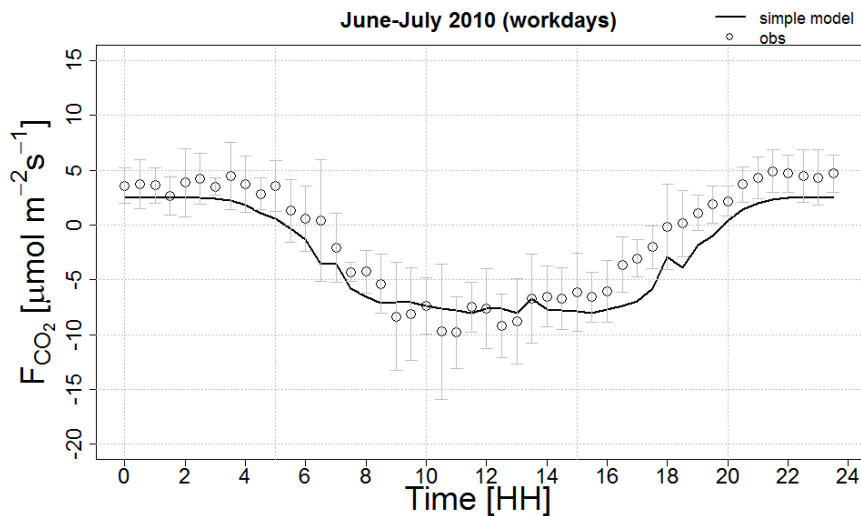


Biogenic empirical model test: Helsinki (suburban)



June+July	Wind sector (λ_v)	RMSE	MAE	MBE	IOA	R ²
All days	Vegetation(59%)	1.77	1.58	-1.16	0.97	0.95
Workdays		2.11	1.86	-1.49	0.95	0.92
Weekend		1.71	1.53	-0.78	0.97	0.96

Significant values with $P < 0.001$

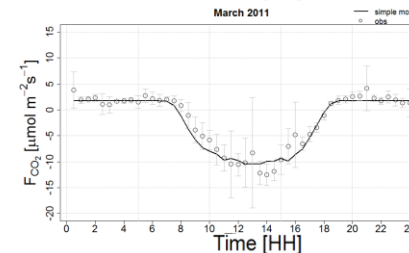
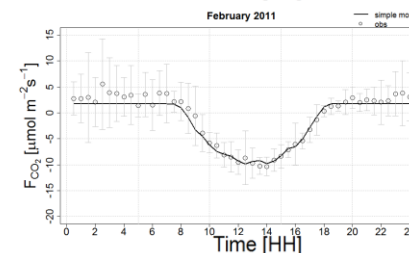
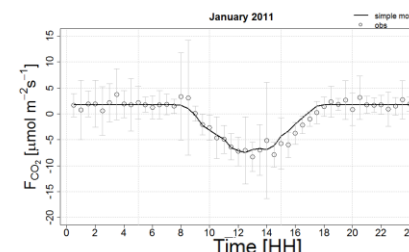
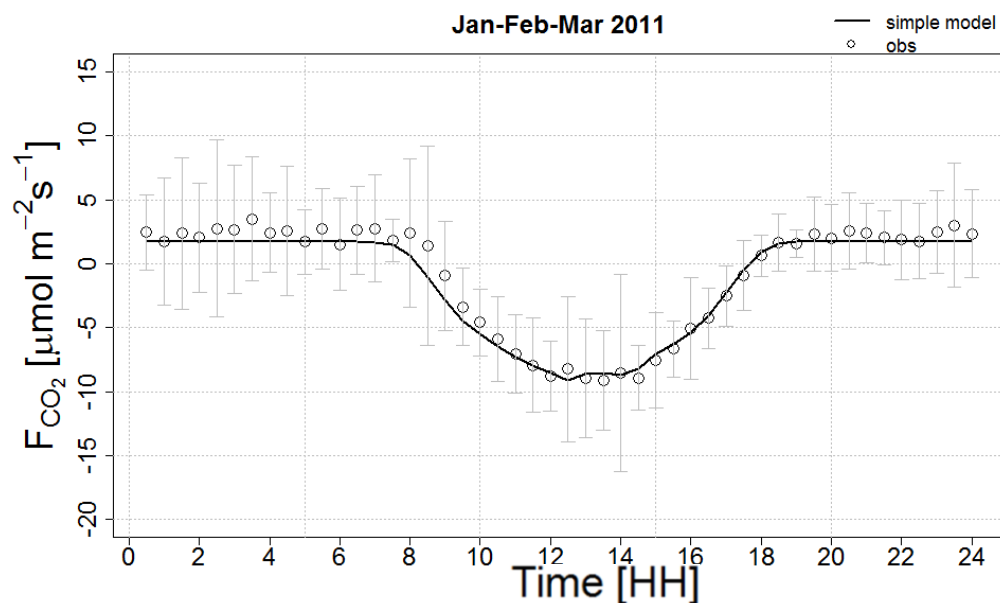


Biogenic empirical model test: Capo Caccia (rural)



	Wind sector (λ_v)	RMSE	MAE	MBE	IOA	R ²
January	All (70%)	0.99	0.72	0.09	0.98	0.93
February		1.25	0.97	-0.70	0.98	0.96
March		1.34	0.98	-0.48	0.98	0.94
Jan+Feb+Mar		0.82	0.63	-0.46	0.99	0.98

Significant values with $P < 0.001$



Conclusions

- First step in the development of a simple empirical model based on land cover fraction and environmental variables.
- Good agreement between modelled and observed data (R^2 up to 96% and 98%).
- **General utility:** capture the general behaviour of different ecosystems.



New approach in the study of relations among different ecosystems and the role of vegetation in urban areas.

To increase the robustness of the relations used by this empirical model, and to include a second anthropogenic module, a greater number of sites will be considered.



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