

# An Integrated Rate Methodology (IRM) for Estimating Terrestrial Water and Carbon Fluxes

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#### **Carbon-Water Coupling**



# Biome and climate relationship: Whittaker's diagram





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#### Carbon and water cycles are intrinsically coupled



Since carbon uptake and water loss occur through stomata, photosynthesis and transpiration both decline with stomatal closure.

#### **Transpiration and stomatal control**

$$E = \rho g_c (q_s^* - q_s)$$

#### Penman-Monteith equation

 $E = \frac{\varepsilon A + \left(\rho c_p / \gamma\right) g_a D_a}{\varepsilon + 1 + g_a / g_c}$ 







John Monteith (1929-2012)



#### Effect of stomatal control: from leaf to region

$$E = \Omega_{ci}E_{eq} + (1 - \Omega_{ci})E_{imp} \qquad \Omega_{ci} = (\varepsilon + 1)/(\varepsilon + 1 + g_a/g_c)$$

 $\Omega_{ci}$  is the decoupling factor between vegetation and atmosphere.

$$\frac{dE}{E} = (1 - \Omega_{ci}) \frac{dg_c}{g_c}$$

 $\Omega_{ci}$  increases with spatial scale, *E* is less controlled by stomatal conductance.





# Linked terrestrial water and carbon cycles



Raupach et al (2001)



# **Energy-Water-Carbon Coupling**





# **Dynamics of water-energy-carbon fluxes**

Water balance: 
$$\frac{dS(t)}{dt} = P(t) - E(t) - Q(t) - R(t)$$
  
Carbon balance:  $\frac{dC_p(t)}{dt} = GPP(t) - RP(t) - L(t)$   
Energy balance:  $\frac{dW(t)}{dt} = R_n(t) - E(t) - H(t) - F_p(t)$ 

We must consider the balance in the process representation so that model consistency, reliability and accuracy can be achieved.



#### Theoretical framework: long-term average evaporation

Demand = Potential evaporation (E<sub>0</sub>)

Supply = Precipitation (P)



$$\frac{E}{P} = 1 + \frac{E_0}{P} - \left[1 + \left(\frac{E_0}{P}\right)^w\right]^{1/w}$$





Fu (1981), Zhang et al. (2004)

#### Theoretical framework: long-term average evaporation

$$\frac{E}{E_{pa}} = 1 + \frac{P}{E_{pa}} - \left[1 + \left(\frac{P}{E_{pa}}\right)^{w}\right]^{1/w}$$





Zhang and Brutsaert (2021)

#### Budyko-like equation for carbon?



#### Camops et al (2013)



# The Michaelis–Menten Equation

In biochemistry, the Michaelis–Menten Equation describes enzyme kinetics:

$$\mu = V_{max} \frac{S}{K_s + S}$$

Where  $\mu$  is the reaction rate, and  $V_{max}$  is maximum reaction rate, *S* is the concentration of a substrate,  $K_s$  is the concentration of the substrate at which the reaction rate is half of  $V_{max}$ .  $K_s$  controls how fast  $V_{max}$  is approached.





Leonor Michaelis (1875 -1949)



Maud Menten (1879 -1960)



# **Generalized Michaelis–Menten Equation**

To generalize a single substrate system to an n-substrate systems, a ratio form of the Michaelis–Menten equation is considered:

$$r = \frac{\mu}{V_{max}} = \frac{1}{1 + K_s/S}$$

The characteristics of this single substrate system:

- *r* = 0 when *S* = 0
- r = 1 when  $S \rightarrow \infty$
- r = 1/2 when S =  $K_{s}$

Generalized Michaelis-Menten equation:

$$r_n = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^n {K_{si} / S_i}}$$





# Plant growth is fundamentally a function of available light, water, and nutrients (Wu et al., 1994).



$$A = A_{max} \left[ \frac{1 + W_H + W_N}{\frac{1}{m_L x_L} + \frac{W_H}{x_H} + \frac{W_N}{x_N}} \right]$$

- light: *x<sub>L</sub>*
- water: *x<sub>H</sub>*
- nutrients:  $x_N$



### Modelling plant growth using IRM

$$A = A_{max} \left[ \frac{1 + W_H + W_N}{\frac{1}{m_L x_L} + \frac{W_H}{x_H} + \frac{W_N}{x_N}} \right]$$

where  $W_H$  and  $W_N$  are the weightings of water relative to light and nutrients,  $x_L$ ,  $x_H$ , and  $x_N$  are the relative resources availabilities for light, water, and nutrient respectively, and  $m_L$  is the modifier of light availability due to temperature.





# Modelling plant growth using IRM





Zhang et al., (1999)

# Integrated Rate Methodology (IRM) for mean annual ET and ANPP

$$Y = Y_{max} \left[ \frac{1 + W_H + W_N}{\frac{1}{m_L x_L} + \frac{W_H}{x_H} + \frac{W_N}{x_N}} \right]$$





# Global ET data:

- Global catchment water balance (n=524)
- Global flux sites (n= 156)





#### Estimation of mean annual evapotranspiration using IRM

Strong relationship between mean annual precipitation (MAP) and ET





#### Estimation of mean annual evapotranspiration using IRM



IRM can provide accurate estimates of mean annual ET



# **Global ANPP data**



#### Locations of the 688 field-observed ANPP



# Key controls on ANPP





#### Estimation of mean annual ANPP using IRM

The Global Primary Production Data Initiative (GPPDI) data (1508 points)



AMP and ANPP exhibits relationship similar to the Budyko curve



#### Estimation of mean annual ANPP using IRM



IRM can provide reasonable estimates of mean annual ANPP



#### Estimation of mean annual ANPP using IRM



IRM can provide reasonable estimates of mean annual ANPP



# Estimation of global ANPP





#### IRM is a useful tool for modelling carbon & water fluxes



### Summary

- Carbon and water coupling is important for ecohydrology and ecosystem services.
- Dominant controls of ecosystem water and carbon balance include precipitation and radiation.
- The integrated rate methodology (IRM) can be used to estimate mean annual ET and ANPP.
- Uncertainties in the ET and ANPP estimates include temperature and age effects.
- Further studies will be conducted to examine sensitivity parameters in the IRM and their effects on water and carbon modelling.



# Thank you !



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