

Land cover mapping and phenology in French guiana using remote sensing

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Context

- Tropical humid forests have a crucial role in the climatic and biologic equilibrium of the Earth
- These forests are not homogeneous in terms of structure and functioning

Question

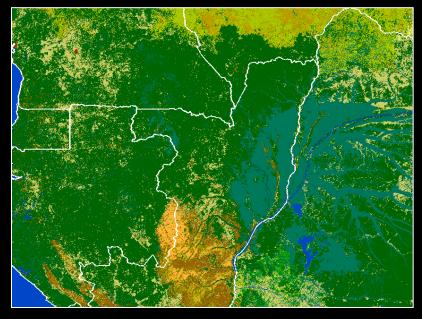
- What is the spatial organization of these tropical humid forests?

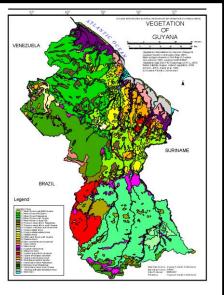
Hypothesis

- The use of remotely sensed data helps to monitor spatial and temporal patterns

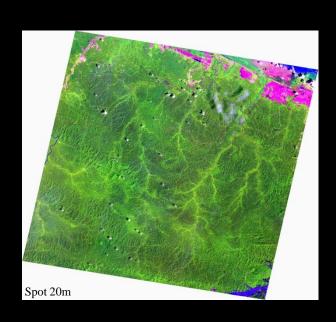
From global to local





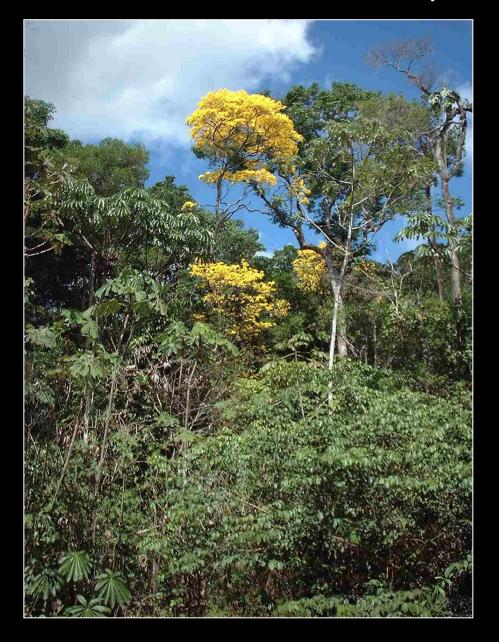


Behind the green layer of the global maps, there are various tropical forest types



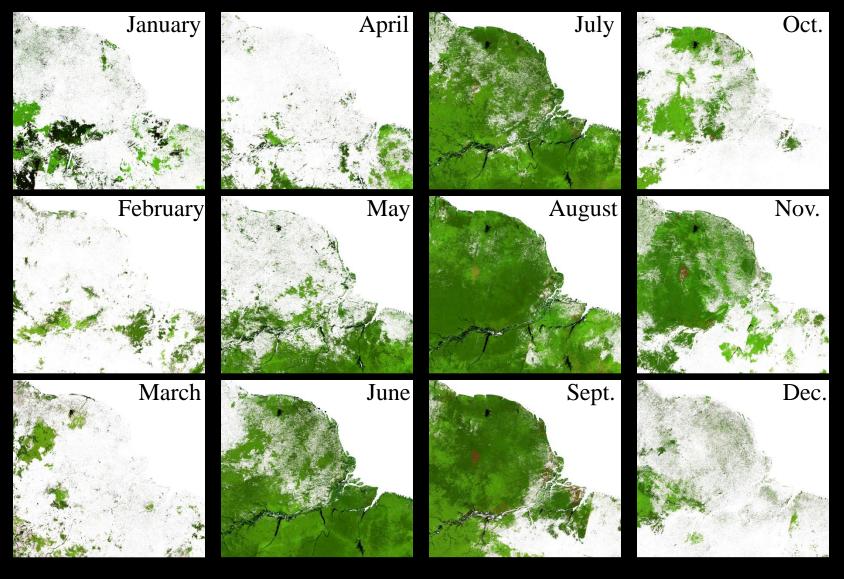
Ter Steege, 2001

Forest phenology



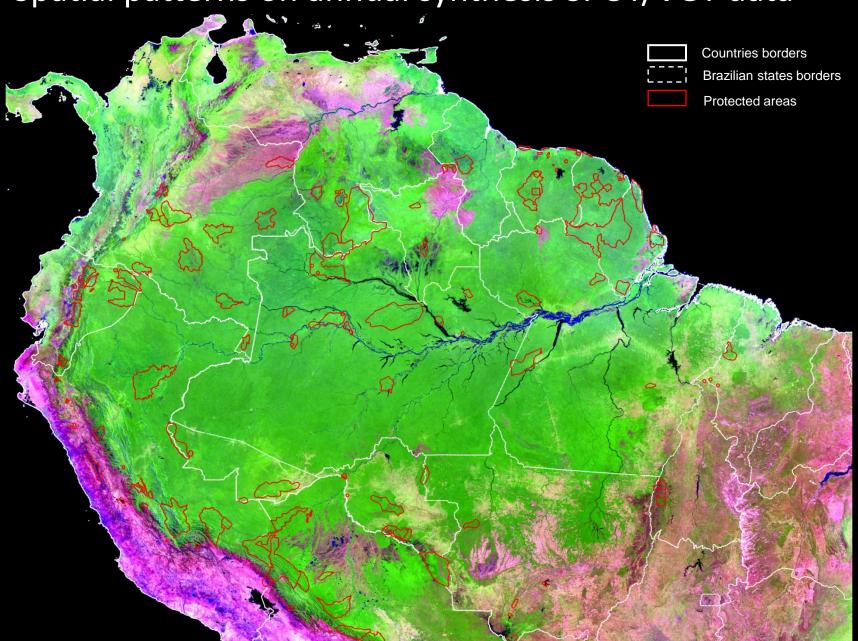


Monthly temporal monitoring



Monthly synthesis from daily data (2000)

Spatial patterns on annual synthesis SPOT/VGT data

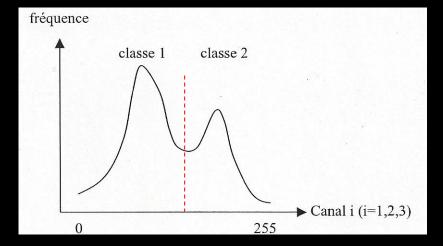


ISODATA classification

(Iterative Self-Organizing Data Analysis Technique)

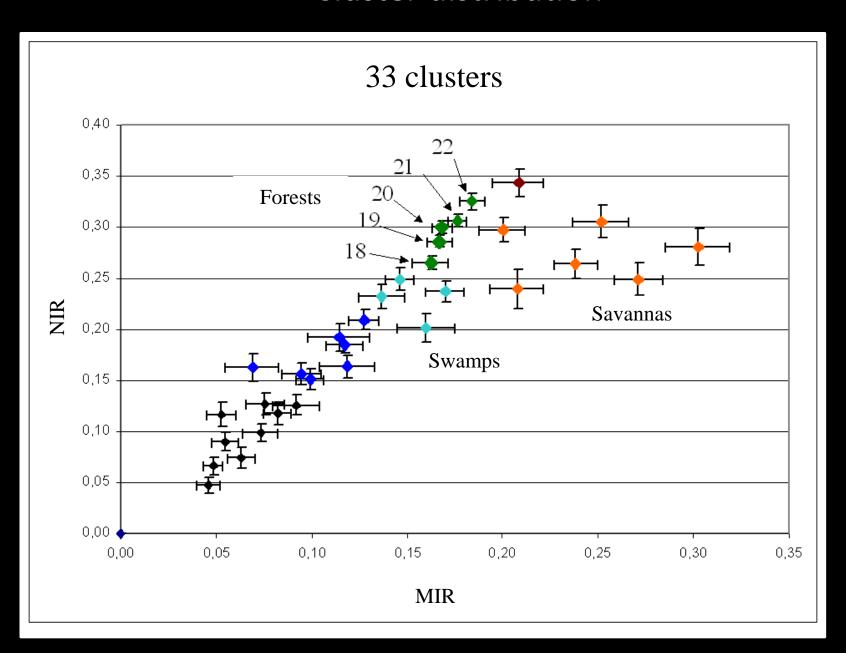
- Iterative method grouping pixels within the radiometric spaces to the closest

gravity center

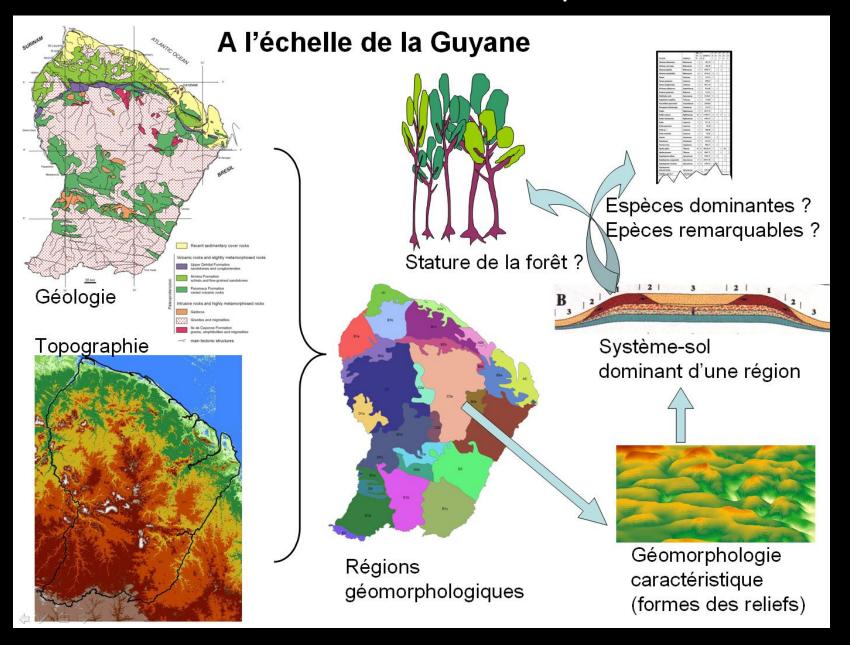


- -The user chooses the number of iterations and of classes [min max]
- In this study, 10 iterations and from 40 to 50 classes gave optimal results
- The final result was chosen by comparison with local maps (TerSteege *et al.*, 2001), experts knowledge (Botanist, forester, etc.) and regional maps (IBGE, Eva *et al.*, 2004).

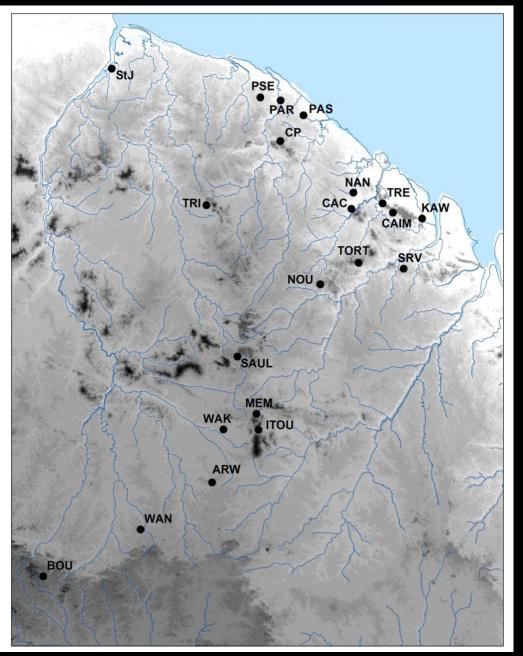
Cluster distribution



Statistics with environnemental parameters



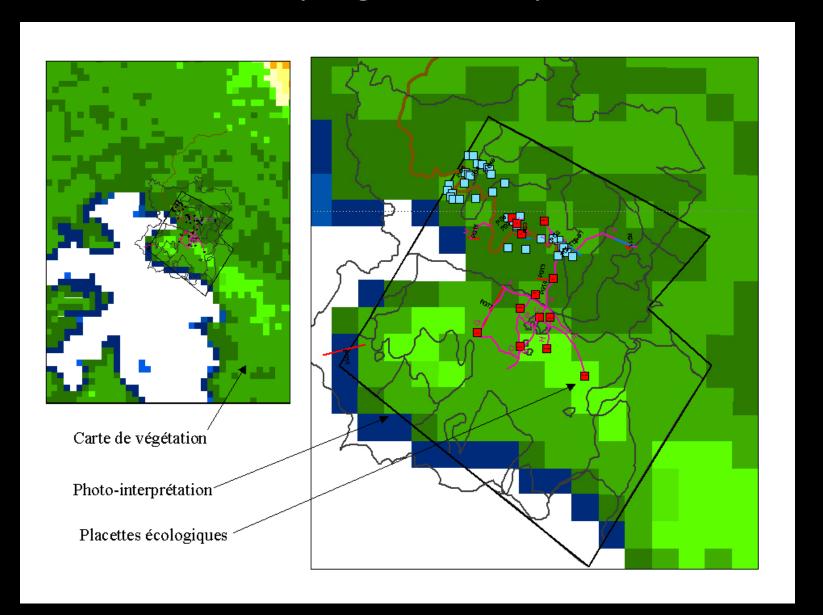
Sampling sites



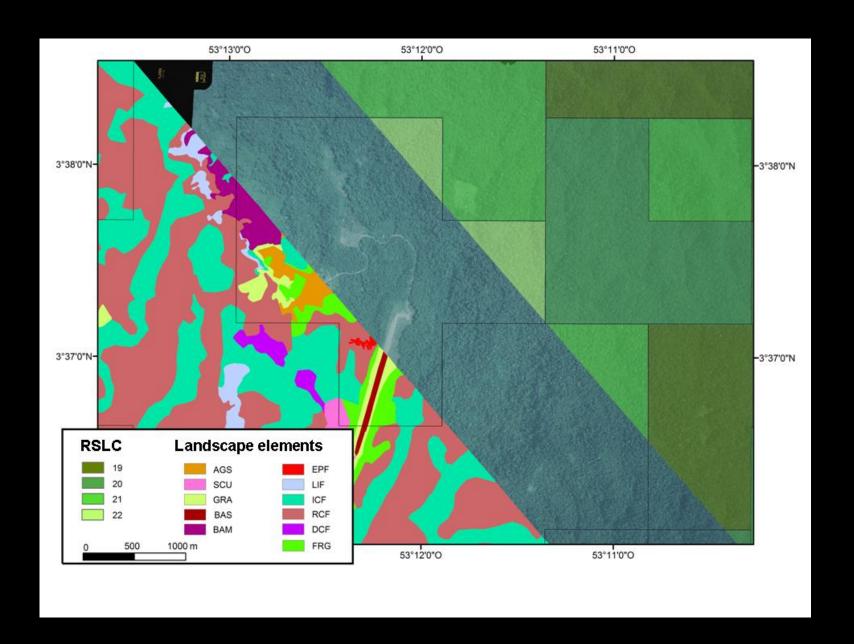
Botanical and canopy structure description

SRTM data

Sampling site description



Sampling site, photo-interpretation, validation



Field work on several validation points

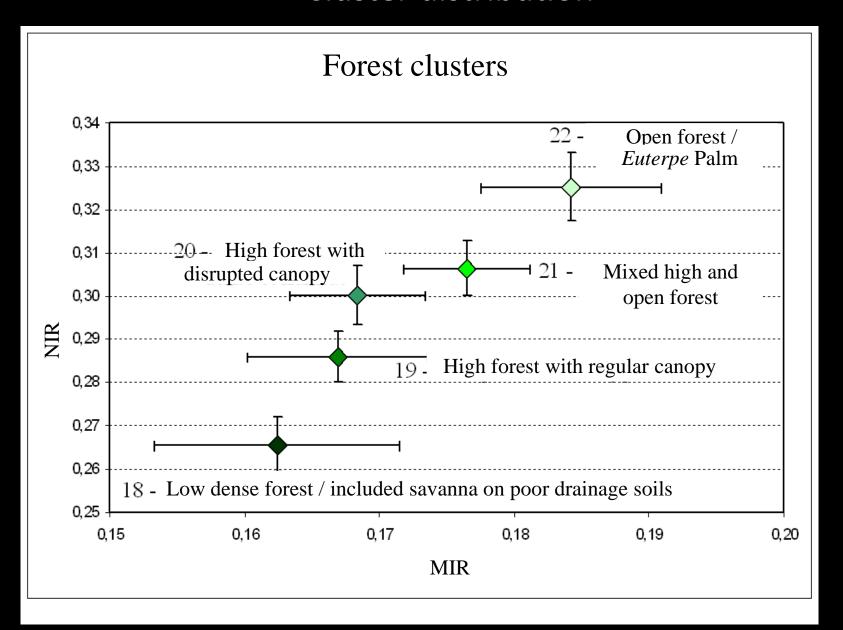


Photo: Daniel Sabatier

Transects for validation



Cluster distribution



Land cover: Low dense forest / included savanna on

poor drainage soils (LC 18)

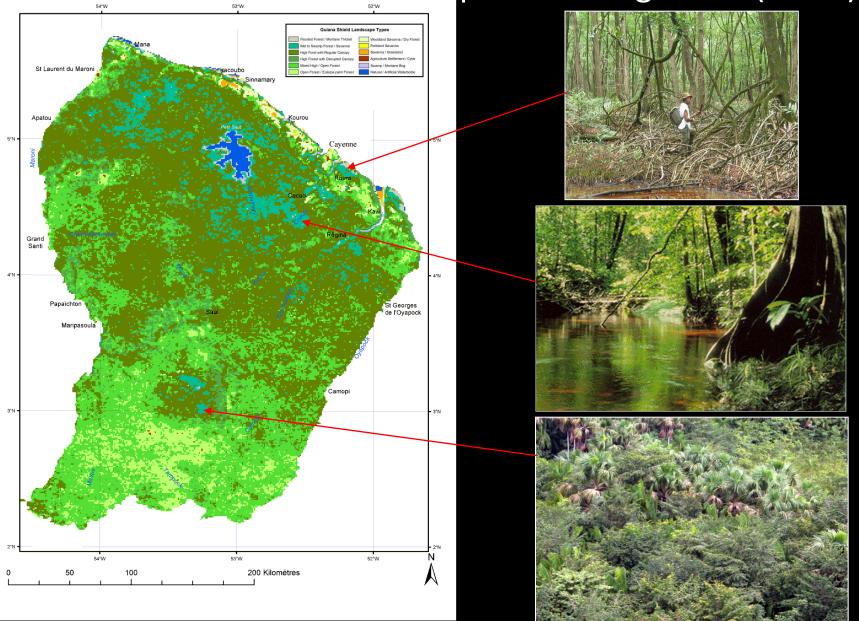
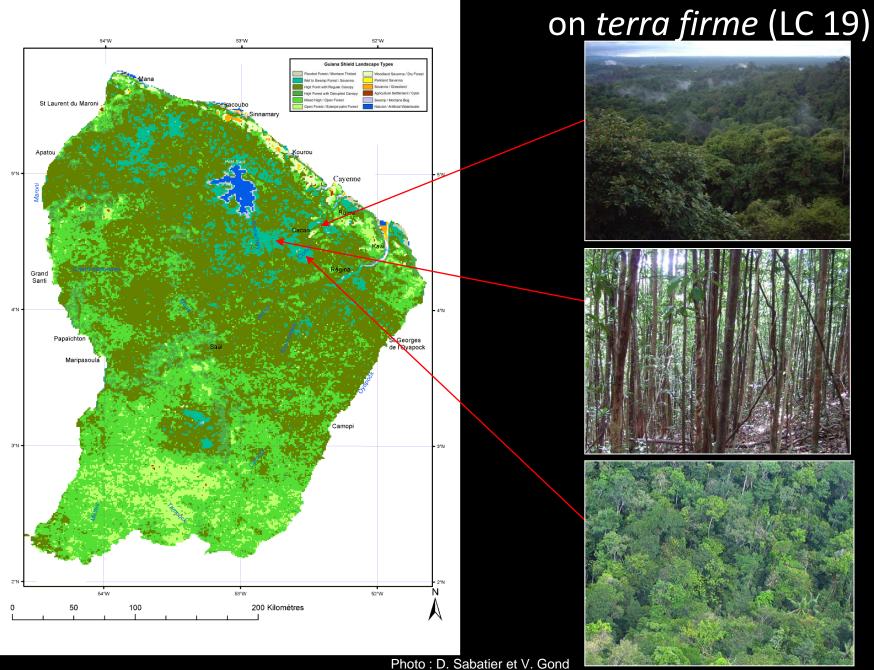
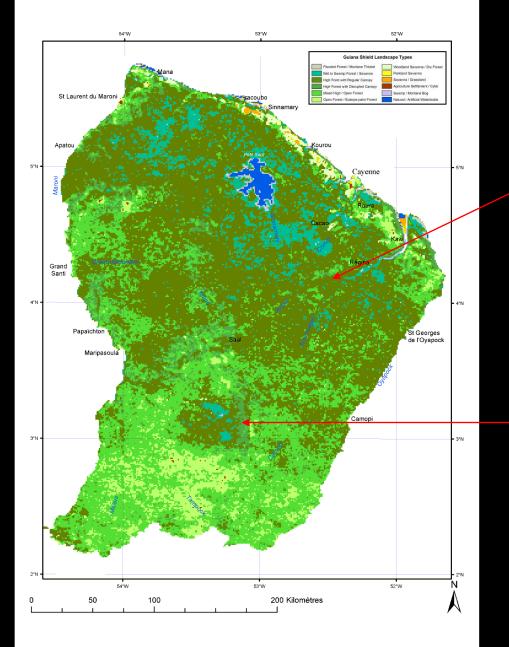


Photo: D. Sabatier et K. Jousseaume

Land cover: High forest with regular canopy mostly



Land cover: Mixed high and open forest (LC21)







Land cover: open forest / Euterpe palm forest (LC22)

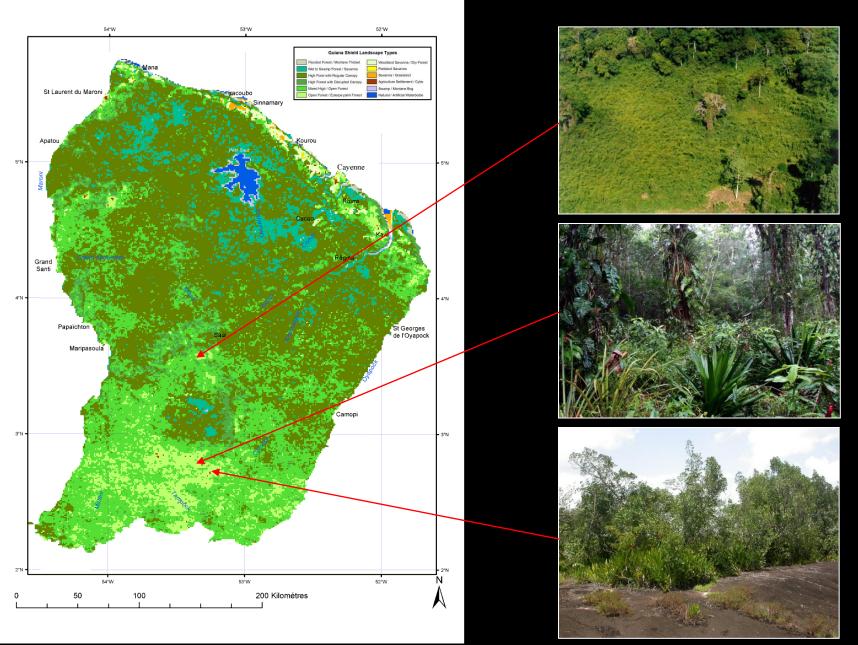
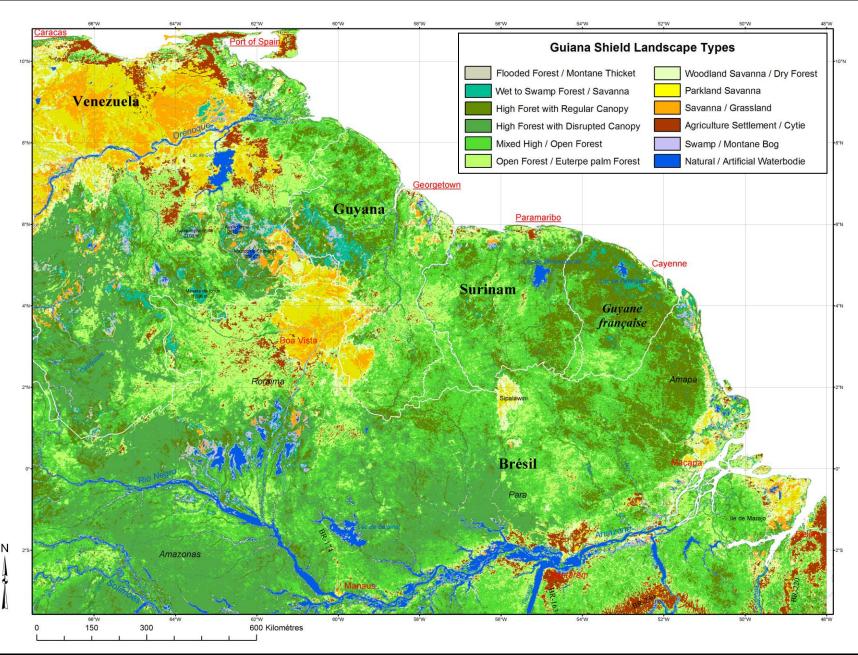
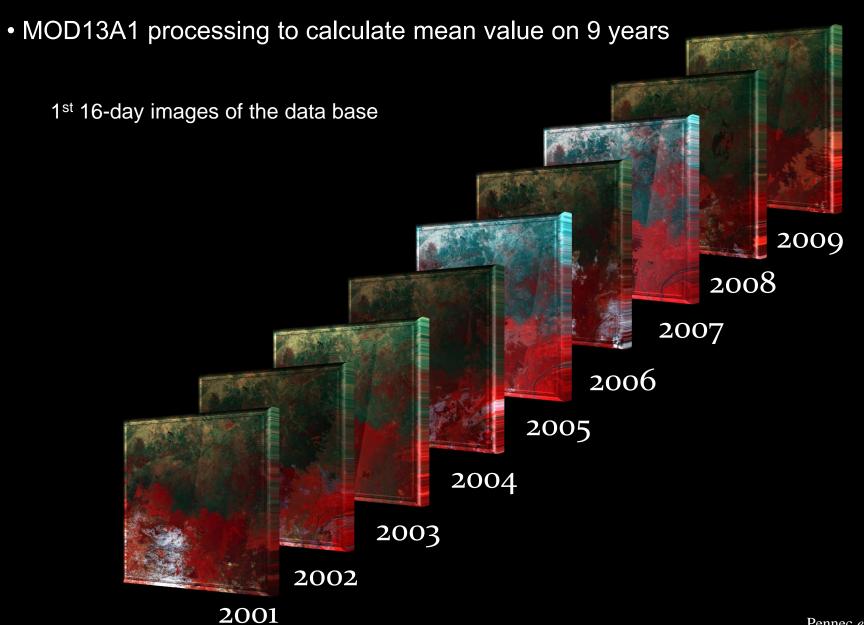


Photo: D. Sabatier et V. Gond

Land use mapping using SPOT/VGT time series data

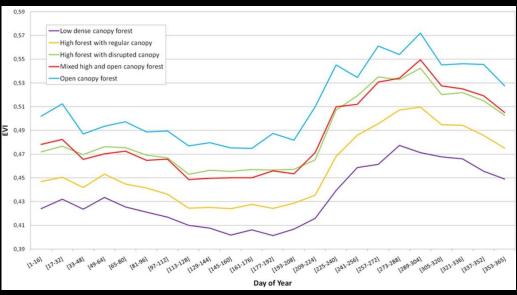


Phenology analysis using MODIS data time series

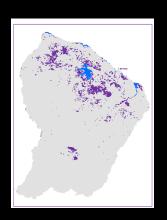


Temporal analysis on the spatial data base from SPOT/VGT

MODIS temporal dynamique on SPOT/VGT classes

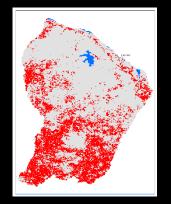


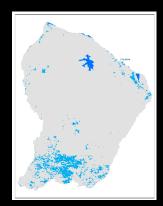
SPOT/VGT classes locations





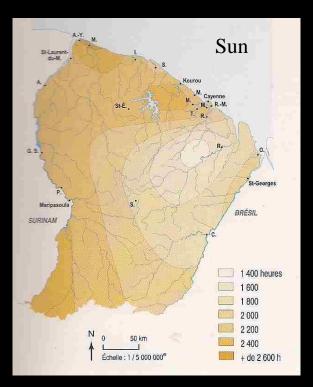


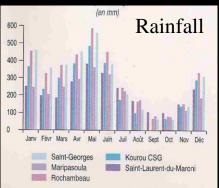


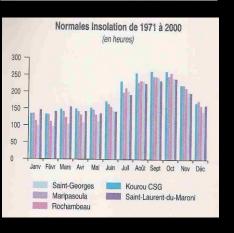


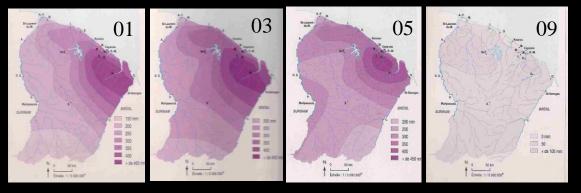
Rainfall O Station synoptique Les vents à Kourou (Période 1991/2000) SURINAM

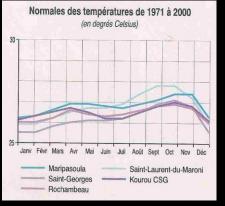
Meteorology



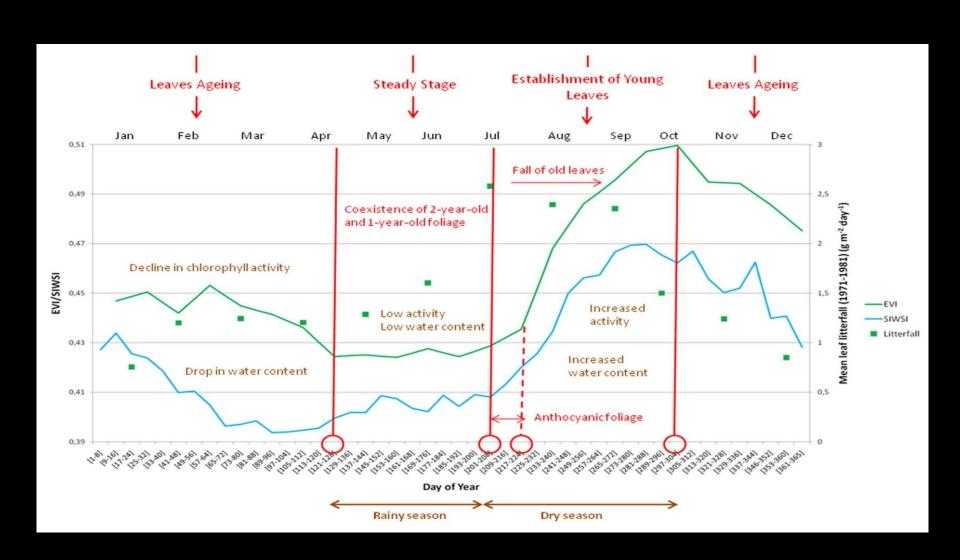








Phenological interpretation



Conclusion

- Remote sensing allows to characterize spatial organization and phenology of the tropical humid forests of the Guiana Shield
- These information are important to better estimate forest biomass and carbon storage
- The mapping of these ecosystems give a more precise idea of their vulnerability in face of the global changes

Thank you



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