

Al Technologies and Remote SensingVQ2 overarching question:BITY OF CALIFORNIA DAVISVQ2 overarching question:Ecosystem Function, Physiology and Seasonal Activity

Not for Distribution

What are the **seasonal expressions and cycles** for terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, functional groups, and diagnostic species?

How **are these being altered** by changes in climate, land use, and disturbances? [DS 191, 195, 203]

SubTeam: Susan Ustin, Betsy Middleton, John Gamon

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# Jasper Ridge, CA

Seasonal Changes in a Mosaic of Plant Functional Types





CIR Composite: 850 nm:1652 nm:668 nm





# Jasper Ridge, CA

Seasonal Changes in a Mosaic of Plant Functional Types

Wavelength (nm)





Wavelength (nm)



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## **High Latitude Phenology**



Myneni et al., 1997: Nature Tucker et al., 2001: Int. J. Biometeol

Extended time & magnitude of NDVI are likely response to higher temperatures.

Important species changes cause climate feedbacks such as  $\Delta$  albedo



#### **Transect J: Temporal Changes in Spectra**

Roberts et al., 1999



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### VQ2 Subquestion #1:

• How does the seasonal activity of ecosystems and functional types vary across biomes, geographic zones, or environmental gradients between the equator and the poles?

• How are seasonal patterns of ecosystem function being affected by climate change? [DS 205, 206, 210]

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#### Climate Interactions w/ Canopy Water Content, 2000 to 2007

Niño periods – Normal periods (Winter)



Niño periods – Normal periods (Summer)

Niña periods – Normal periods (Winter)



Niña periods – Normal periods (Summer)





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### VQ2 Subquestion #2:

- How does the seasonal activity of ecosystems and functional types vary across biomes, geographic zones, or environmental gradients between the equator and the poles?
- How are seasonal patterns of ecosystem function being affected by climate change? [DS 205, 206, 210]

#### **Spatial and temporal patterns** of carbon and water vapor fluxes, Sky Oaks, CA



Fuentes et al. 2006

Net CO<sub>2</sub> Flux (g C m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>)







> -2.0

Flight Date

April 13, 2002 (Beginning of drought)

(Drought)



October 3, 2002

(Drought)

March 12, 2003

(Drought recovery)

September 10, 2003

(Post-fire recovery)



Water Vapor Flux (mm d<sup>-1</sup>)







< 0.0 > -1.0

< 3.0



### VQ2 Subquestion #3:

• How do changes in phenology affect productivity, carbon sequestration, and hydrological processes across ecosystems and agriculture? [DS 195, 205, 210]

#### Seasonal Changes in Invasive Aquatic Plants Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

Submerged aquatic weed density – June 2005





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### VQ2 Subquestion #4:

 What is the seasonal pattern in physiological function (e.g., photosynthetic light use efficiency) for communities and functional types within major biomes, including agriculture? [DS 195]



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#### Time Series of Red Edge Spectral Index over Growing Season. Relationships with Yield. Field 6-4.





### VQ2 Subquestion #5:

• How do environmental stresses affect the seasonality of physiological function of water and carbon exchanges within ecosystems? [DS 203, 206, 210]

# **Canopy Water Stress**



The dominant control on plant growth in Mediterranean ecosystems is water. Water stress decreases live fuel moisture and increases fire danger.

Dennison et al., 2003 Roberts et al., 2006

Chuvieco et al. 2002



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### VQ2 Subquestion #6:

• What is the seasonality and environmental impact of algal blooms in shallow water environments? [DS 201, 208]





