



# New evapotranspiration CalVal sites in interior Alaska: Preparatory science for NASA's planned HyspIRI mission



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# EVAPOTRANSPIRATION

About ET



## Outline

More info:  
[www.et.alaska.edu](http://www.et.alaska.edu)

1. Introduction
2. Operational ET CalVal sites in Alaska
3. Imnavait Creek site
4. New ET CalVal sites: UAF and Caribou Poker Creek Research Watershed
5. TSEB and DTD model application in a tundra environment using MODIS and Landsat data
6. Future research

# Introduction



- Evapotranspiration (ET) is a critical component of the hydrologic cycle in Alaska
- As we witness increasing climate warming, permafrost degradation, forest fire occurrences, and significant LULC changes, ET will become more important
- Alaska has general paucity of CalVal sites that acquire essential climate variable (ECV) and ET relevant data.



Credits: Rudi Gens, ASF



Credits: David Wright, USFS



Credits: ADF&G

# Objectives



- To measure representative ET values for typical tundra (Arctic) and typical boreal forest (sub-Arctic) environments.
- To estimate and upscale ET from visible, near infrared, and thermal infrared remote sensing data → TSEB and DTD models in summer conditions.



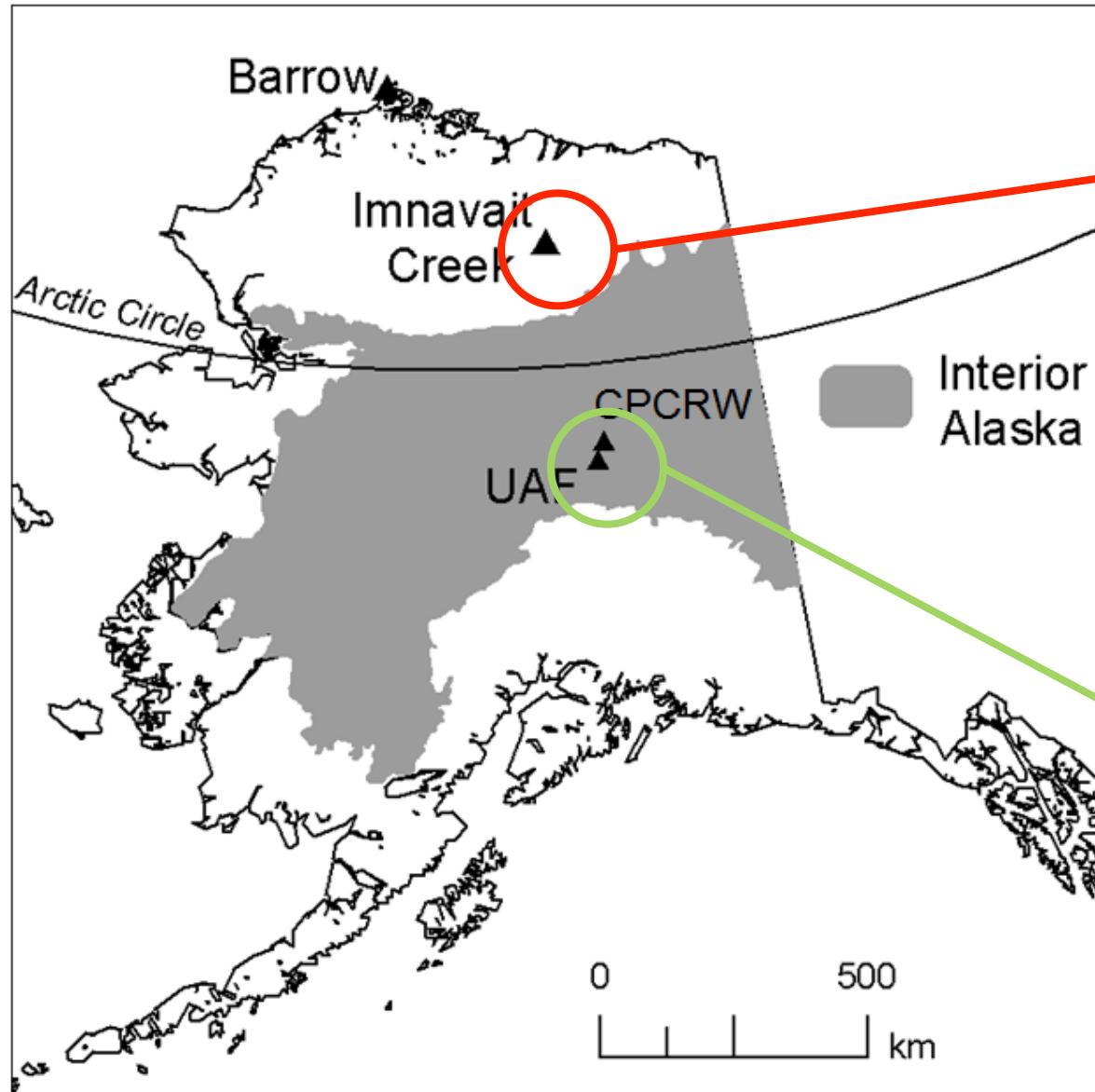
Credits: Toolik field station, UAF



Credits: UAF ET project team



# Operational ET CalVal sites in Alaska

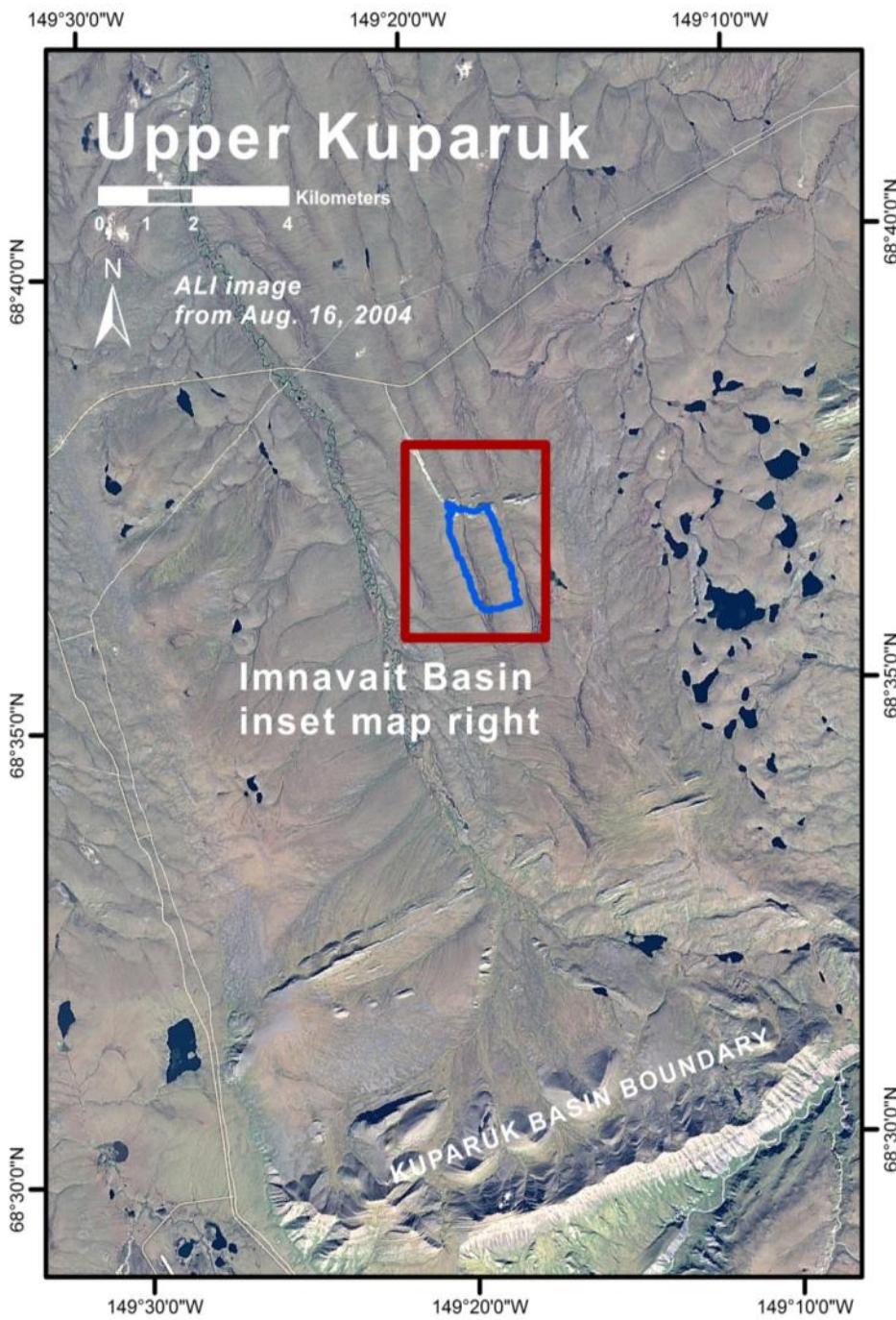
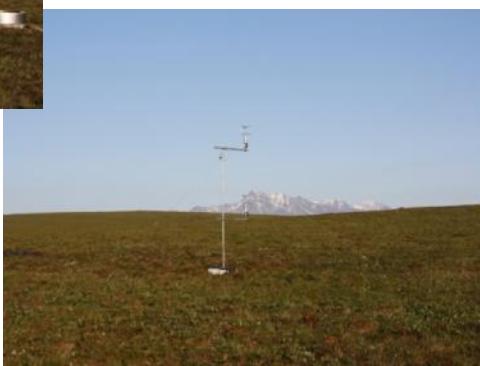
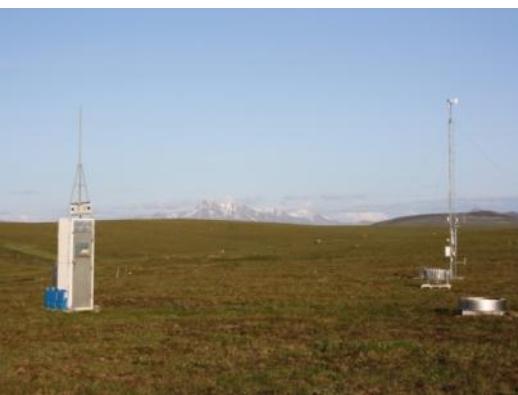
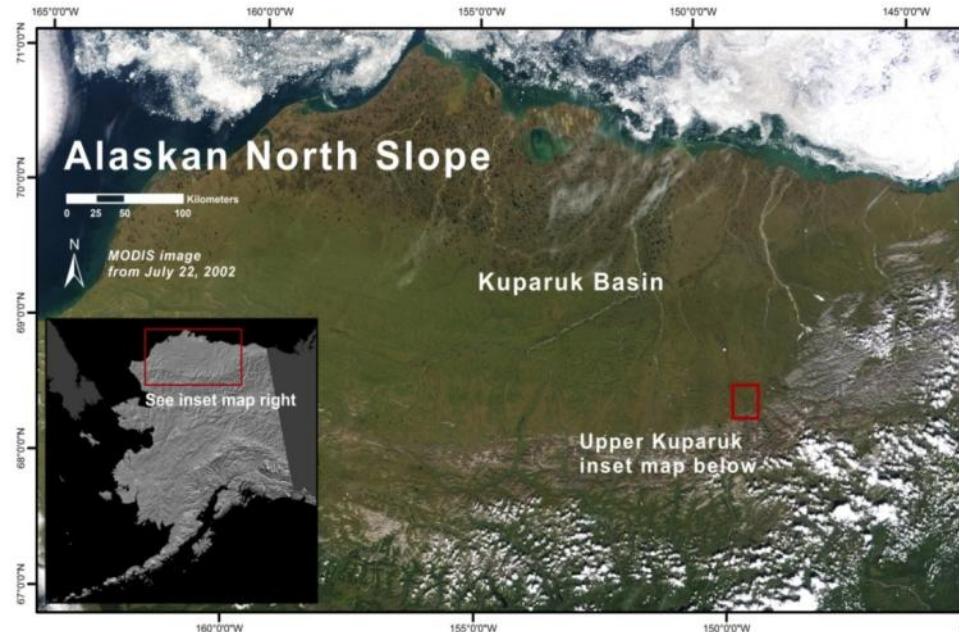


Imnavait Creek →  
Arctic – Tundra

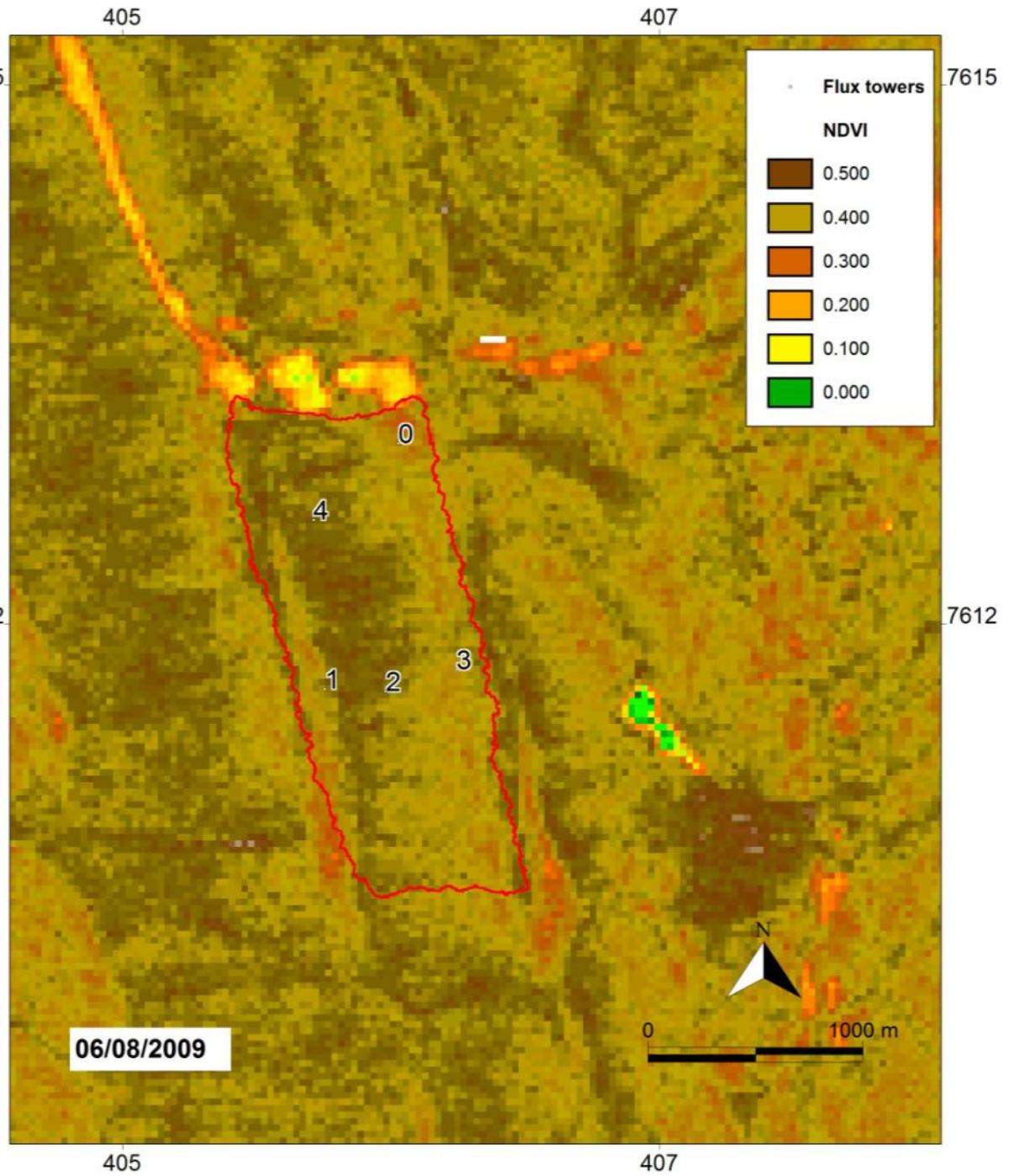
New sites → UAF  
and CPCRW  
Subarctic - Boreal  
forest



# Imnavait Creek



# Imnavait Creek



0 → Scintillometer and meteorological station (2009-2011 summers)

1 → Fen flux station

2 → Tussock flux station

3 → Ridge flux station

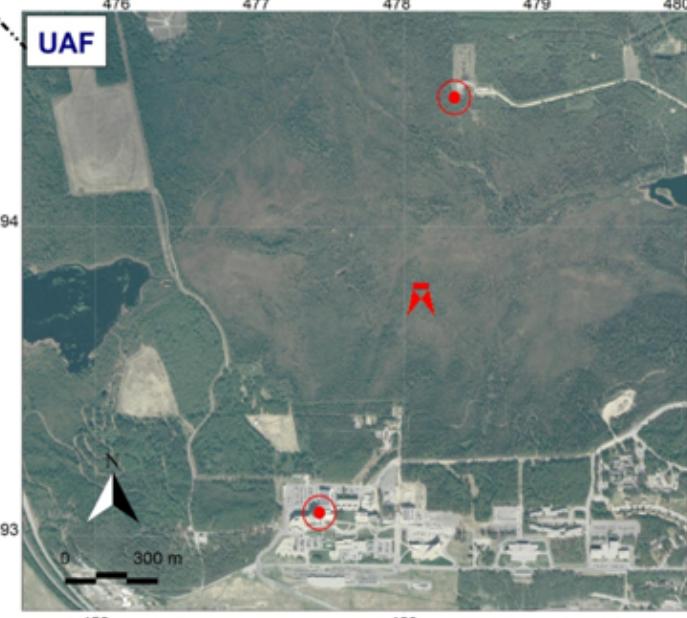
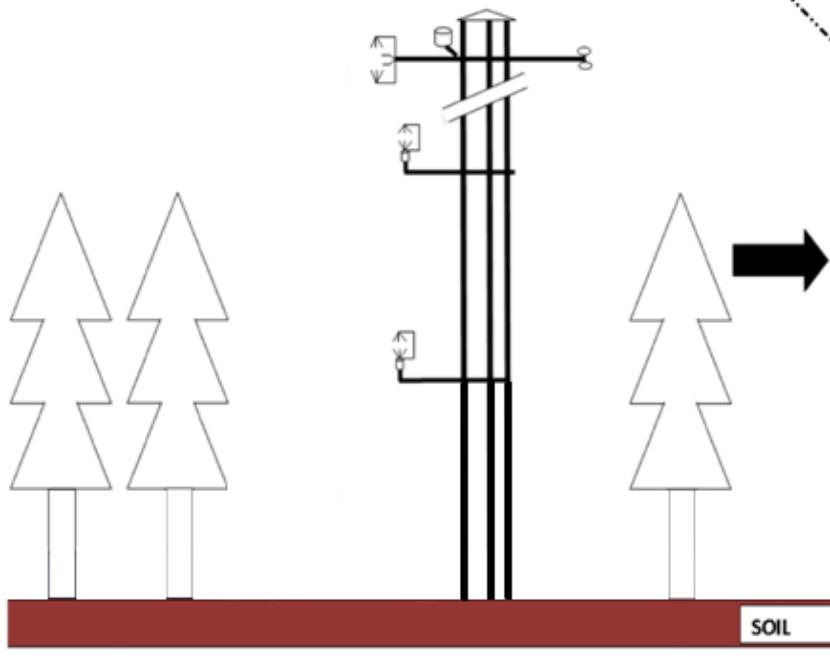
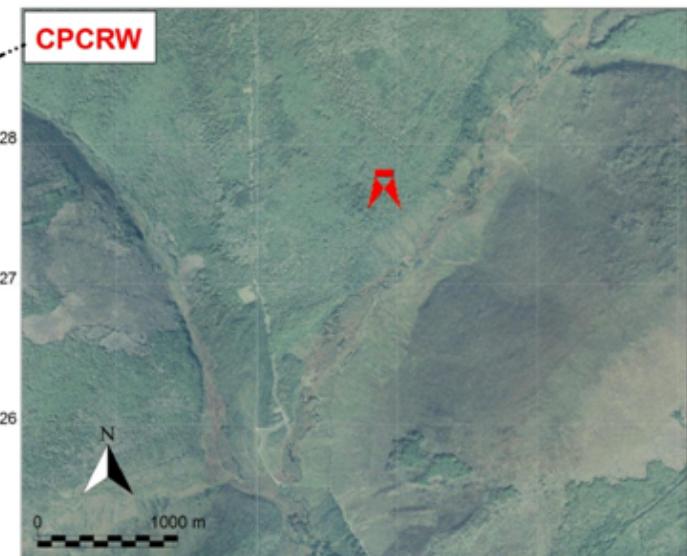
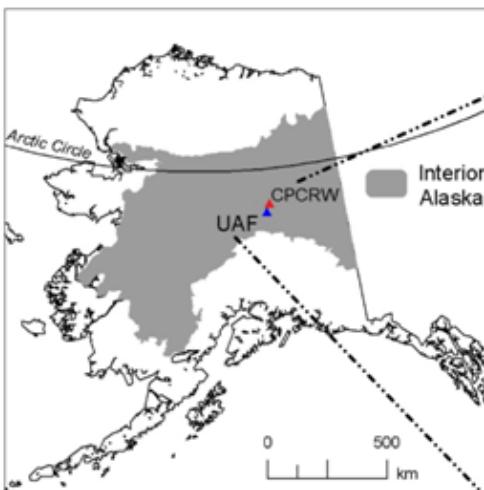
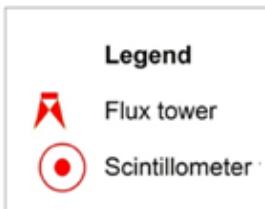
4 → Radiation tripod

0: Managed by D. Kane and J. Fochesatto

1-4: Managed by → Institute of Arctic Biology-UAF



# New ET CalVal sites: UAF and Caribou Poker Creek Research Watershed



# UAF north campus site



Needleleaf evergreen forest → “flat” area

Overstory:

Black spruce (*Picea mariana*)

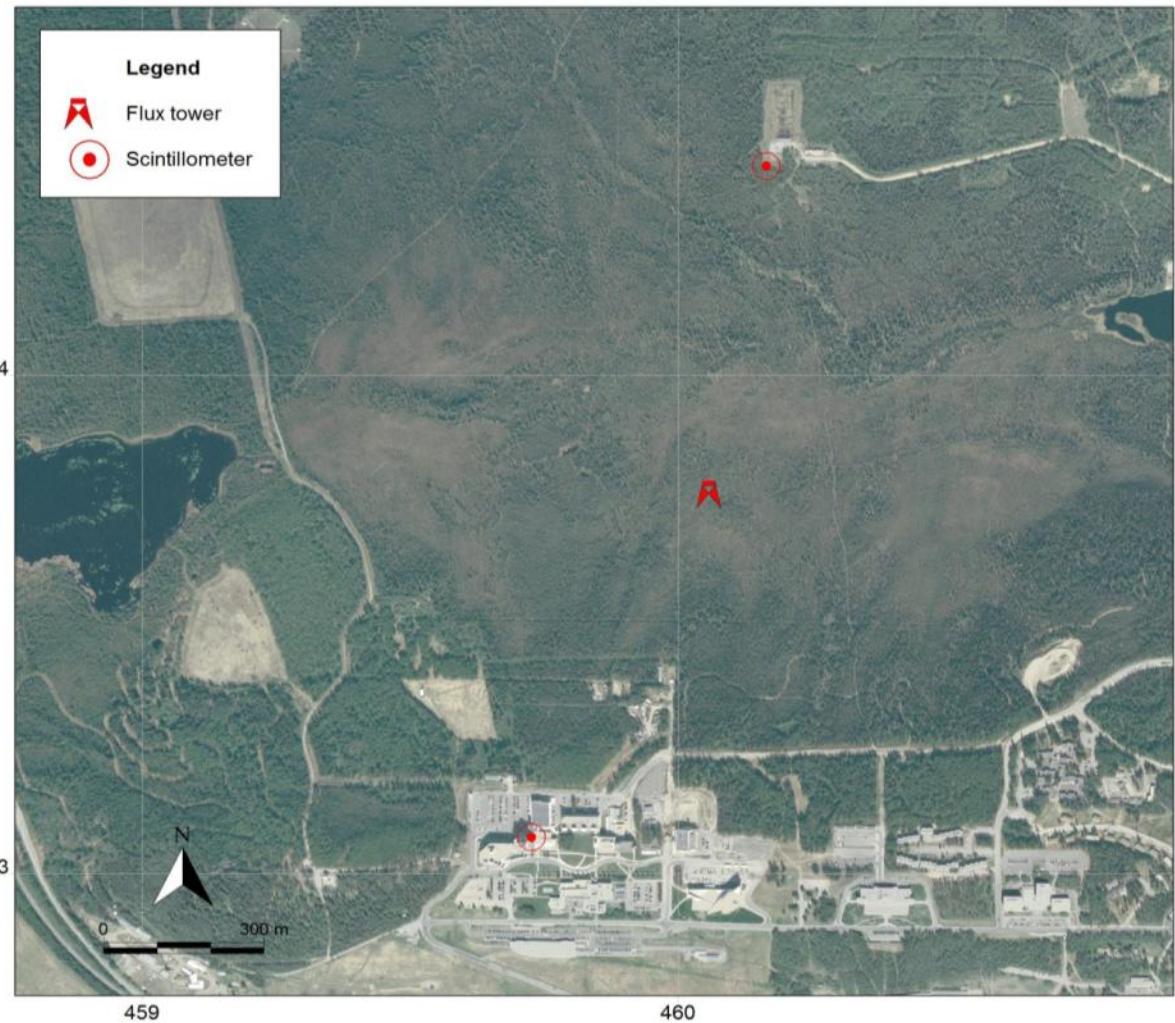
→ cover: ~60%

→ mean tree height: ~5 m

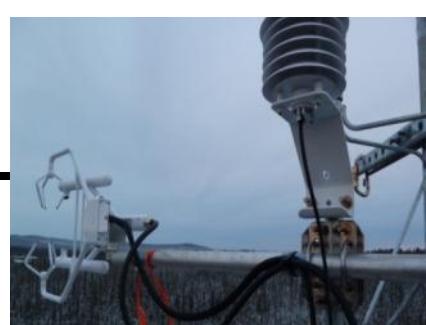
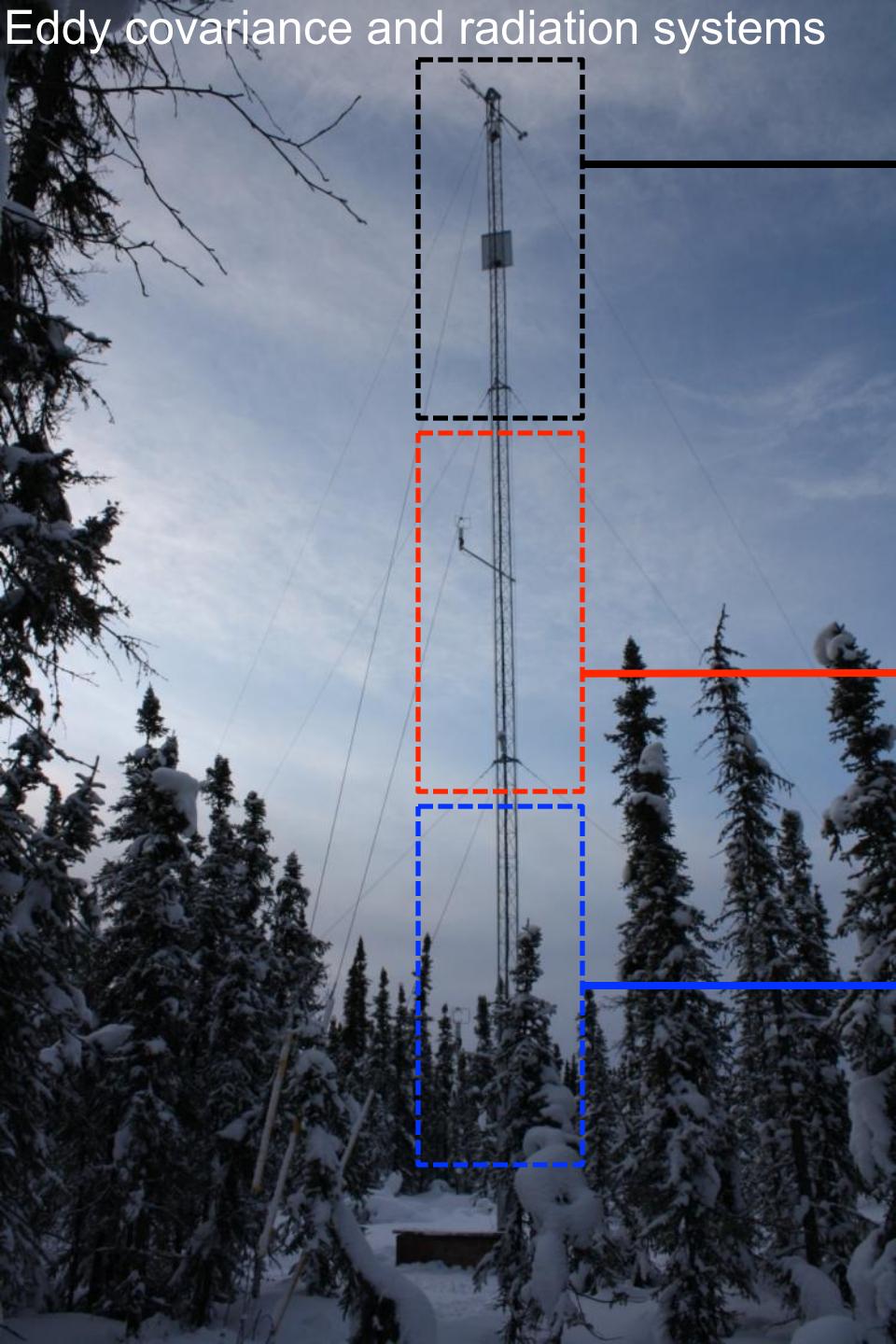
Understory:

→ Small shrubs: *Betula nana*, *Ledum palustre*, *Vaccinium* sp.

→ Moss layer: *Sphagnum* sp.



# Eddy covariance and radiation systems



Canopy Flow Sensors at 24 m: Sonic anemometer and gas analyzer, net radiation and air temperature.

Canopy Flow Sensors at 12m: Sonic anemometer.



Air temperature at 7m.

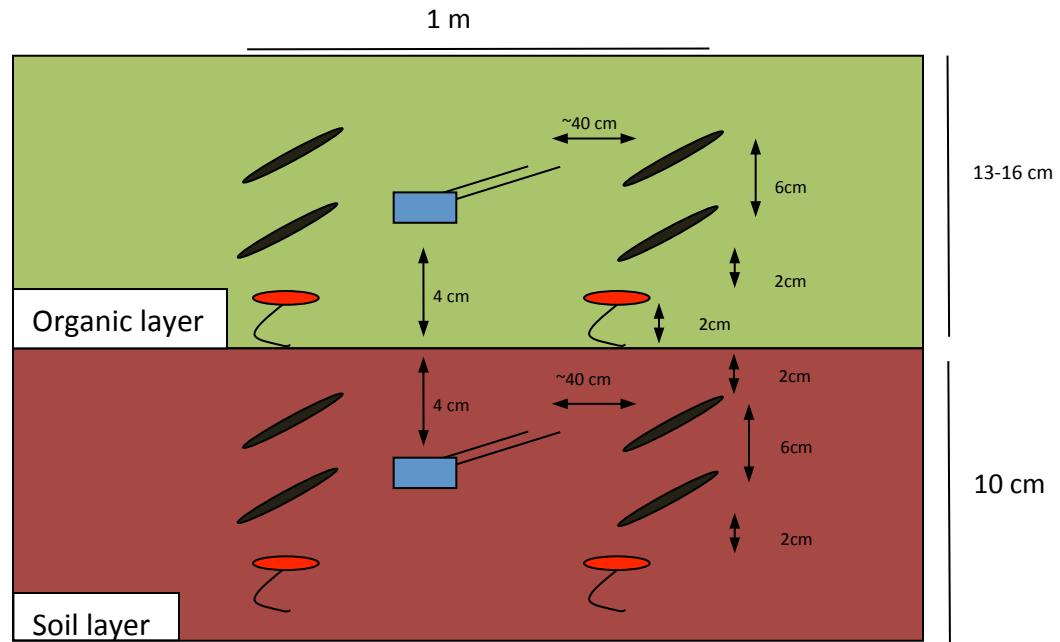
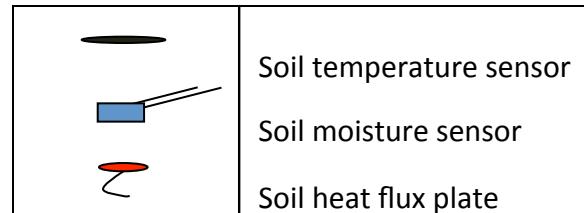


Sub-canopy Flow Sensor at 3m: Sonic anemometer, air temperature, relative humidity and pressure.



# Geothermal flux system (G)

- Designed to account for both organic and soil layers
- one G system sample

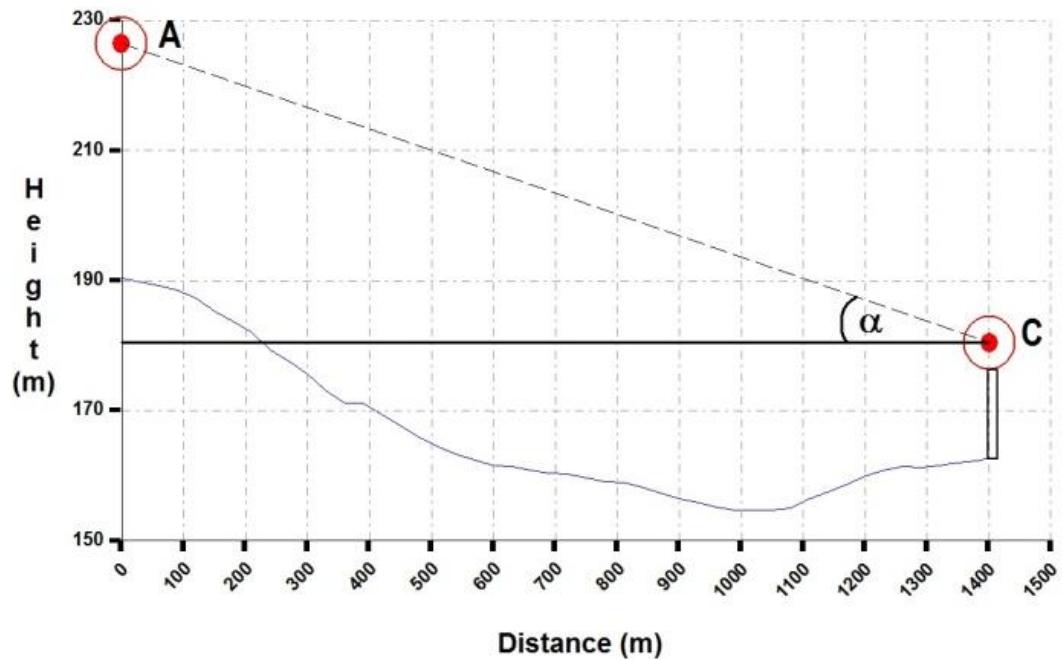
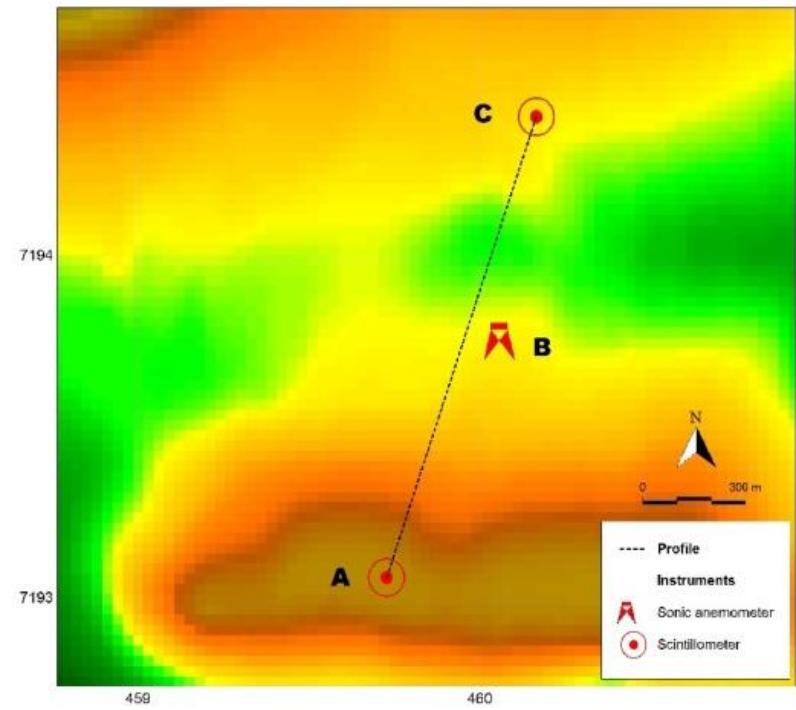


# Scintillometer configuration



At same height (24m)  
and path than the flux  
tower

→ flux upscaling



# Caribou Poker Creek Research Watershed



Deciduous forest →  
“hilly” area

Overstory:

Mainly paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*)

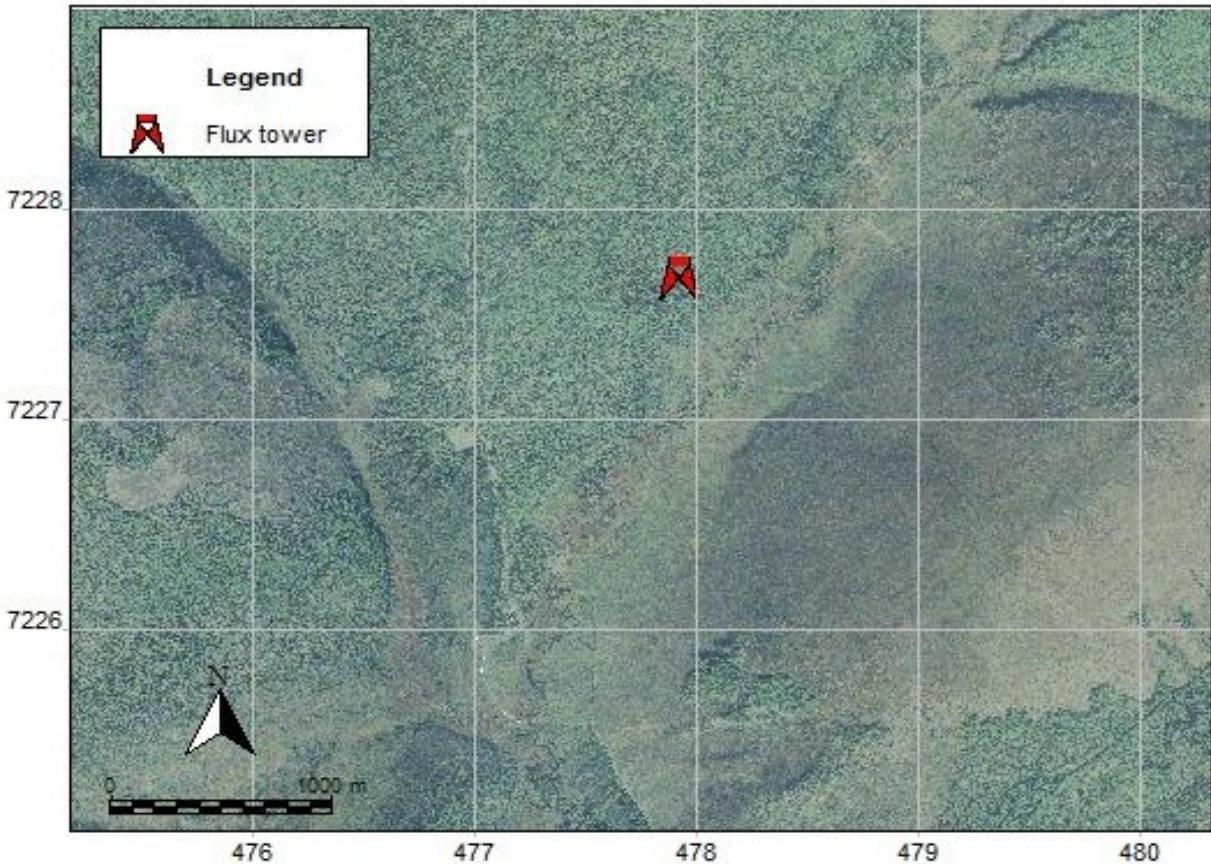
→ cover: ~90%

→ mean tree height: ~18m

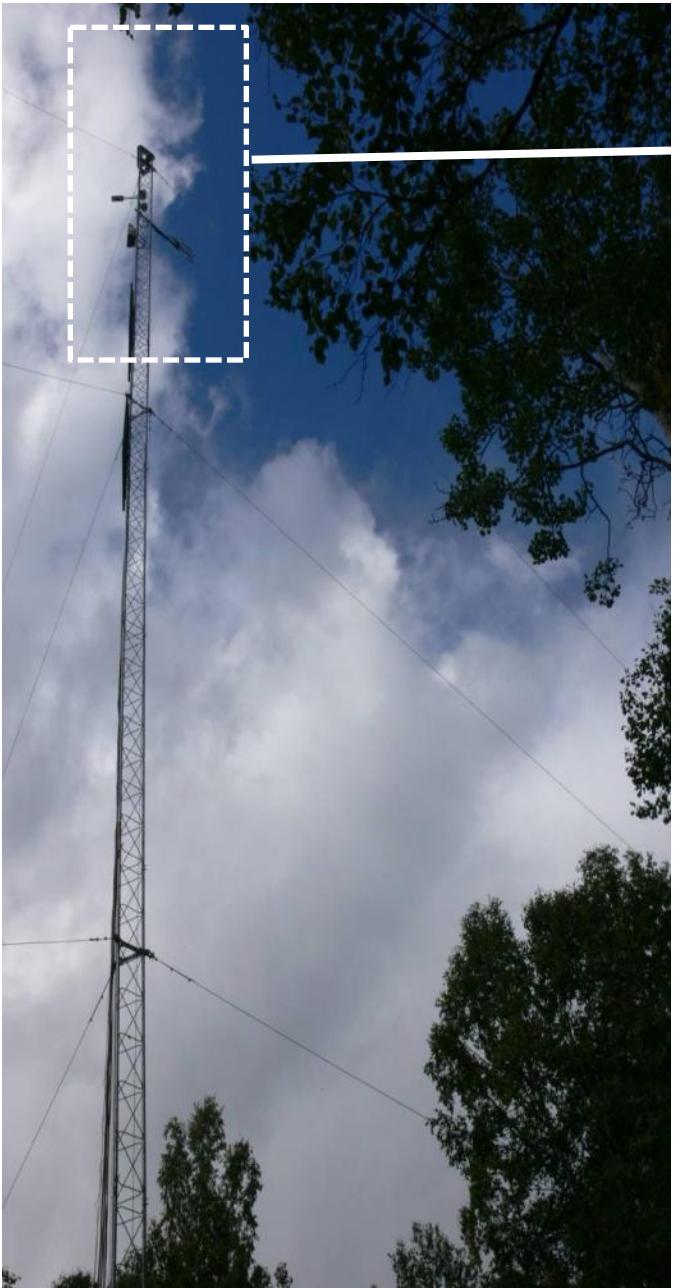
Understory:

→ Small shrubs: *Ledum palustre*, *Vaccinium* sp.

→ Moss layer: *Sphagnum* sp.



# Eddy covariance and radiation systems



Canopy Flow Sensors at 23 m: Sonic anemometer and gas analyzer, net radiation, air temperature and relative humidity.

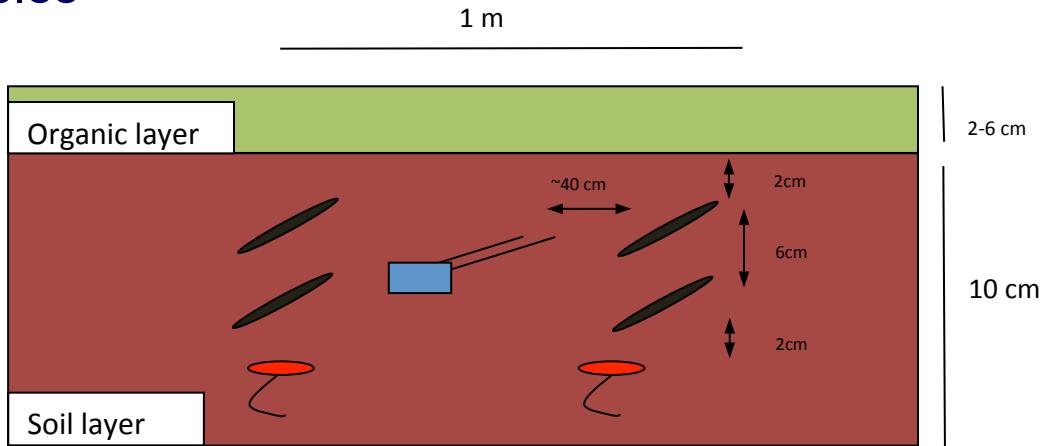
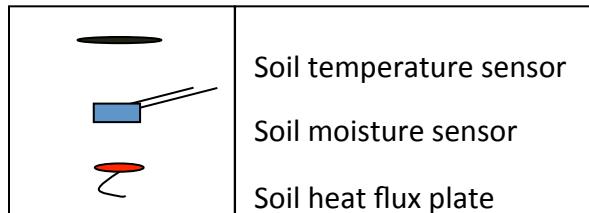




# Geothermal flux system (G)



- Designed to account only for soil layer → thin organic layer
- two G system samples



# Challenges



- Power
- Solar illumination
- Temperature
- Subsidence
- Maintenance



# TSEB and DTD model application in a tundra environment using MODIS and Landsat data



*Dual Time Difference -DTD- (Norman et al. 2000) and Two Source Energy Balance TSEB- (Kustas and Norman, 2000) main inputs:*

- Remote sensing data → LAI and LST (TERRA/AQUA MODIS) and LST (Landsat-5 TM)
- Meteorological data → Net radiation, air temperature, wind speed and atmospheric pressure

$T_A$ : Air temperature

$T_{AC}$ : Air temperature in the canopy

H: Sensible heat flux integration → H from the canopy ( $H_c$ ) and H from the soil ( $H_s$ ).

$R_A$ : Aerodynamic resistance

$R_x$ : bulk leaf boundary layer resistance

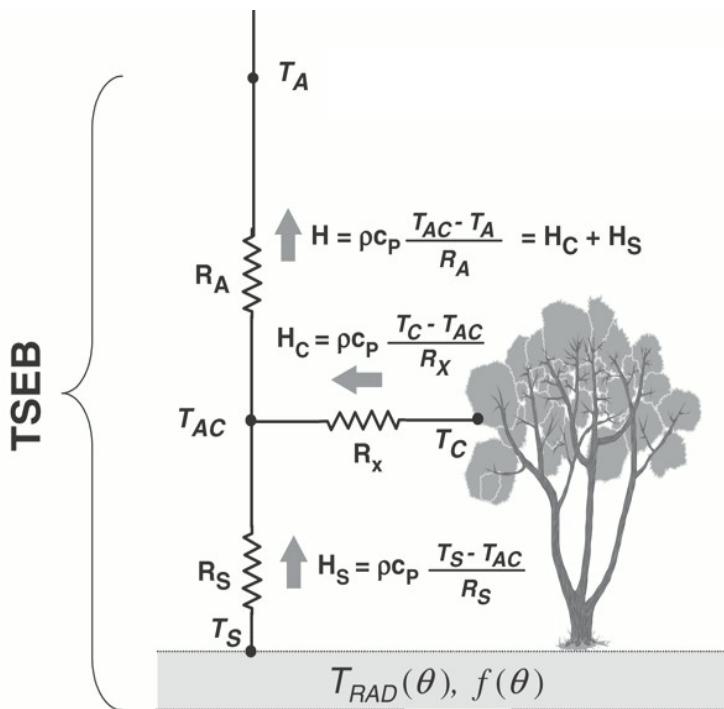
$R_s$ : soil surface boundary layer resistance

$T_{RAD}$ : surface temperature

$f(0)$ : Cover fraction:

→ Clumping factor between 0.87 - 0.89

→ LAI variability from 1.4 to 2.3





# Instantaneous energy fluxes using TSEB & DTD



## 1- DTD remote sensing data

| Period | Satellite               | n  | Date       | Product            |
|--------|-------------------------|----|------------|--------------------|
| 2008   | TERRA/<br>AQUA<br>MODIS | 11 | 13/07/2008 |                    |
|        |                         |    | 24/07/2008 |                    |
|        |                         |    | 13/08/2008 |                    |
|        |                         |    | 16/08/2008 |                    |
|        |                         |    | 20/08/2008 | •LAI (MOD15/MYD15) |
|        |                         |    | 24/08/2008 | •LST (MOD11/MYD11) |
|        |                         |    | 01/09/2008 |                    |
|        |                         |    | 02/09/2008 |                    |
|        |                         |    | 03/09/2008 |                    |
|        |                         |    | 06/09/2008 |                    |
|        |                         |    | 07/09/2008 |                    |

## 2- TSEB remote sensing data

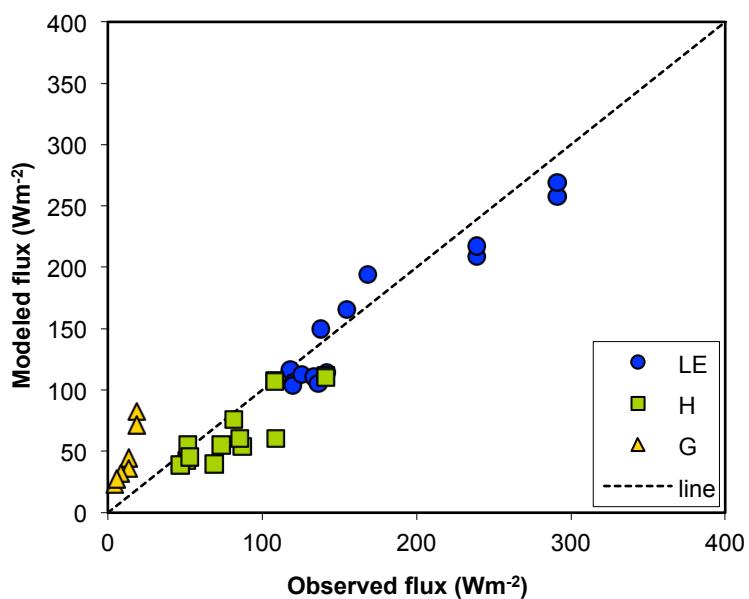
| Period | Satellite       | n | Date       | Product              |  |
|--------|-----------------|---|------------|----------------------|--|
| 2009   | Landsat-5<br>TM | 3 | 05/07/2009 | •Level-1T            |  |
|        |                 |   |            |                      |  |
|        |                 |   |            |                      |  |
|        | TERRA<br>MODIS  |   | 21/07/2009 | •LAI (MOD15A2)       |  |
|        |                 |   | 06/08/2009 | •Water vapor (MOD05) |  |
|        |                 |   |            |                      |  |



# DTD results: MODIS

|       | LE   | H    | G    |
|-------|------|------|------|
| $R^2$ | 0.92 | 0.78 | 0.70 |
| RMSE* | 22   | 23   | 33   |
| MBE*  | -13  | -18  | 31   |
| MAE*  | 20   | 18   | 31   |

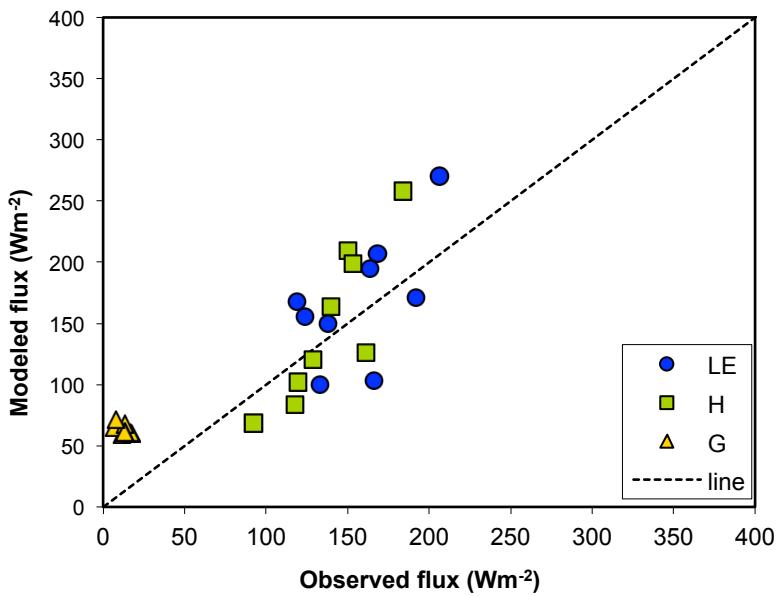
\* in  $\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$



# TSEB results: Landsat

|       | LE   | H    | G    |
|-------|------|------|------|
| $R^2$ | 0.36 | 0.76 | 0.40 |
| RMSE* | 41   | 41   | 51   |
| MBE*  | 12   | 9    | 50   |
| MAE*  | 38   | 36   | 51   |

\* in  $\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$





## Conclusions & Ongoing research



- 1) Field sites are well positioned and working well
- 2) Data QA/QC in place
- 3) Site will provide data useful for broader research
- 4) Results of DTD and TSEB in the Arctic site are encouraging
- 5) HyspIRI will be able to provide higher spatial resolution and high temporal resolution data for high latitudes making DTD a practical model for generating satellite based ET products.
- 6) At new sites we will implement
  - 1) DTD and TSEB
  - 2) Daily energy flux integration using ALEXi/DisALEXI model  
(Anderson *et al.*, 2007).
- 7) Energy fluxes upscaling validated by scintillometer data.
- 8) Energy balance computation in snow conditions.



# Thanks for your attention

