



CL2.5 Phenology and seasonality in climate change

Long-term trends towards delayed autumn senescence

Laura Marqués, Koen Hufkens, Christof Bigler, Thomas W. Crowther, Constantin M. Zohner, and Benjamin D. Stocker

Department of Environmental Systems Science (D-USYS), ETH Zurich, Switzerland



I. INTRODUCTION

Spring leaf-out Start-of-the season (**SOS**)



Autumn senescence End-of-the season (**EOS**)

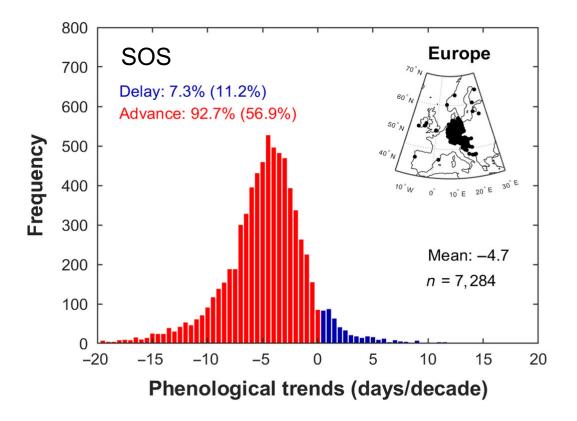


Global changes are causing phenological shifts

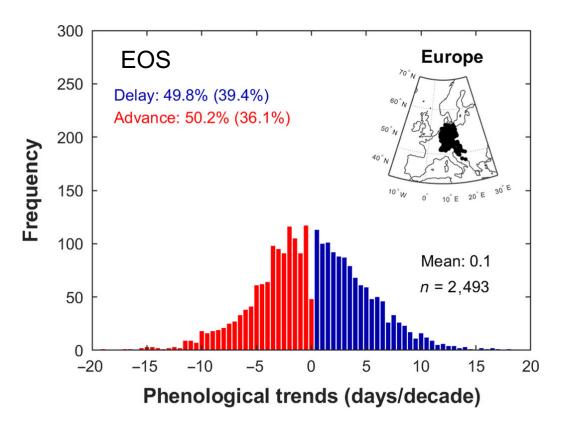
Photos: Swiss NFI

I. INTRODUCTION

Long-term temporal trends towards earlier SOS

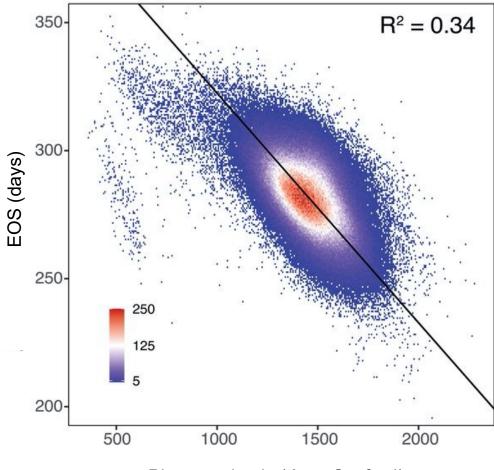


No clear temporal trends of EOS



I. INTRODUCTION

Negative relationship between **A**_{net} and **EOS**



Photosynthesis (A_{net} gC m² y⁻¹)

Need to decompose the levels of variation

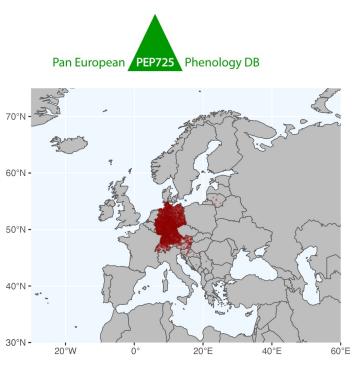
- Interannual
- Long-term
- **Spatial**

To identify general trends in the changes of EOS and reconcile conflicting observations.

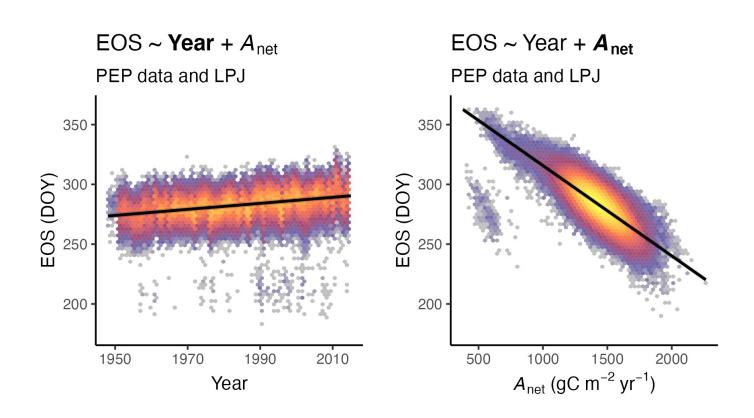
II. RESULTS

Opposing A_{net} and EOS relationships at interannual and decadal times

- Ground observations (1948-2015)
- A_{net} simulations with LPJ model (Sitch et al. 2003) and P-model (Stocker et al. 2020)



Site locations of the phenological observations

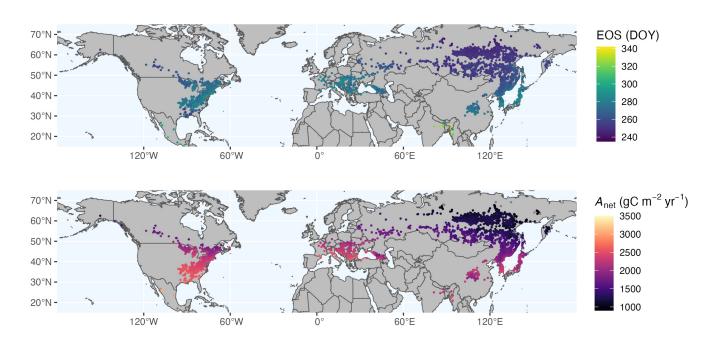


A decadal trend towards later EOS persists despite the negative A_{net} -EOS relationship at the interannual scale.

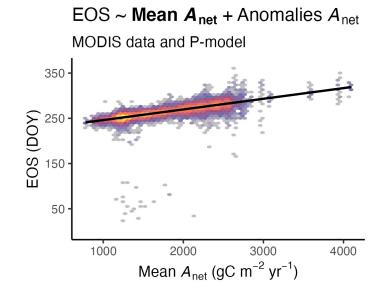
II. RESULTS

Opposing A_{net} and EOS relationships at interannual and spatial scales

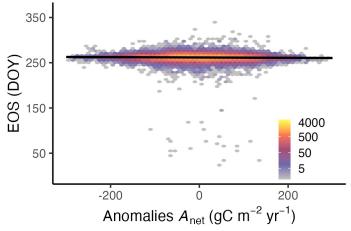
- Remote sensing observations MODIS MCD12Q2
- A_{net} simulations with P-model (Stocker et al 2020)



A positive mean A_{net} -EOS relationship exists across space, while the opposite prevails when considering interannual variations at a given site.



EOS ~ Mean A_{net} + **Anomalies** A_{net} MODIS data and P-model



III. CONCLUSIONS

• The opposing relationships at different scales found in this study reconcile the apparent conflicts by previous reports of autumn phenology.

• The non-stationary A_{net} -EOS relationship indicates a gradual acclimation of phenological processes, leading to a relief of constraints at the interannual scale.







Preprint





