

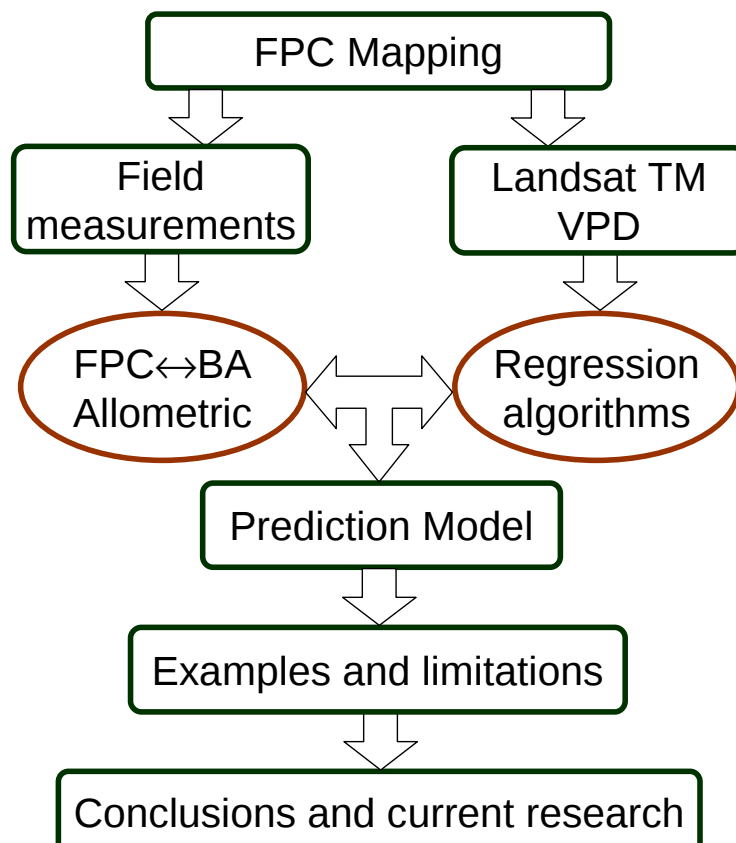


# ***Regression Modelling Approach to Deriving FPC from Landsat Data***

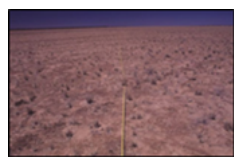
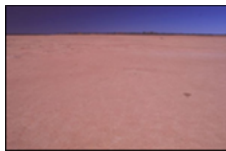
Robert Denham  
John Armston  
Tim Danaher  
Bruce Goulevitch  
Lisa Collett

## **Statewide Landcover and Trees Study**

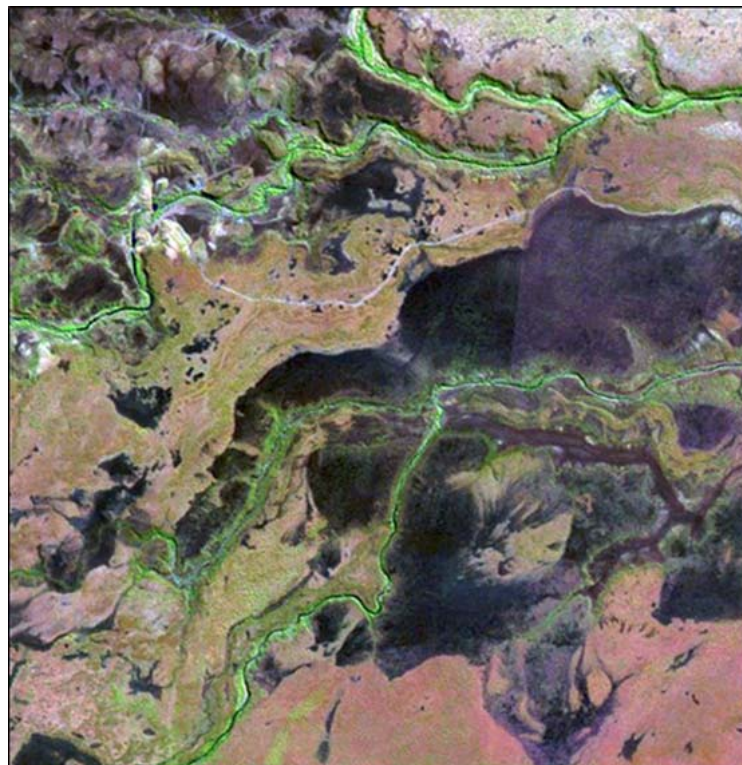
### ***Outline***



## ***Spatial variation in soil reflectance Landsat-5 TM***



## ***Fire scars - spatial and temporal variation Landsat-5 TM***



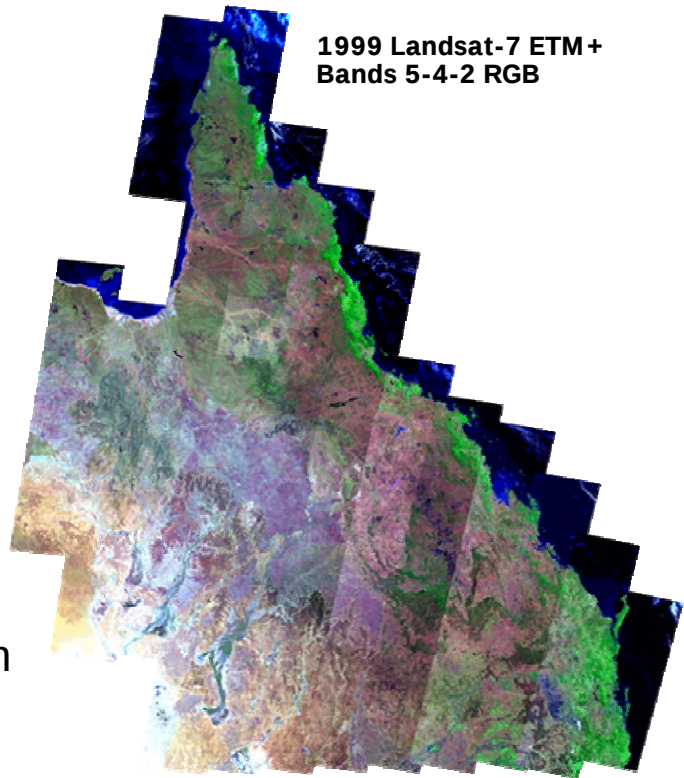
## ***Satellite Data***

- Image acquisition

- Landsat-5 TM
  - 1986 to date
- Landsat-7 ETM+
  - 1999-2003
- Dry season

- Pre-processing

- Ortho-rectification
- Sensor calibration
- Empirical BRDF correction



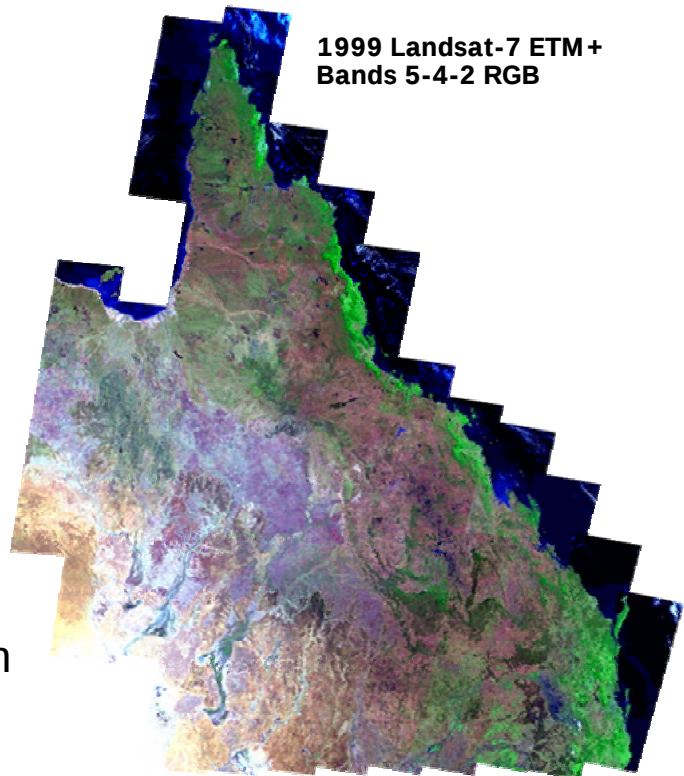
## ***Satellite Data***

- Image acquisition

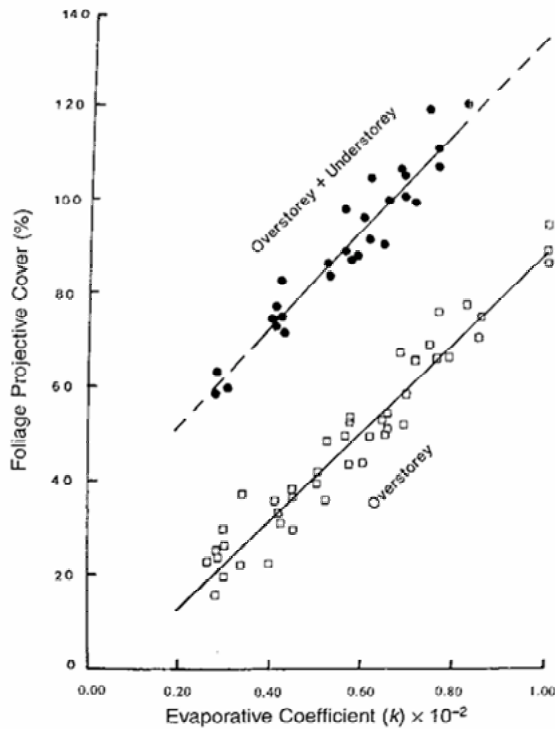
- Landsat-5 TM
  - 1986 to date
- Landsat-7 ETM+
  - 1999-2003
- Dry season

- Pre-processing

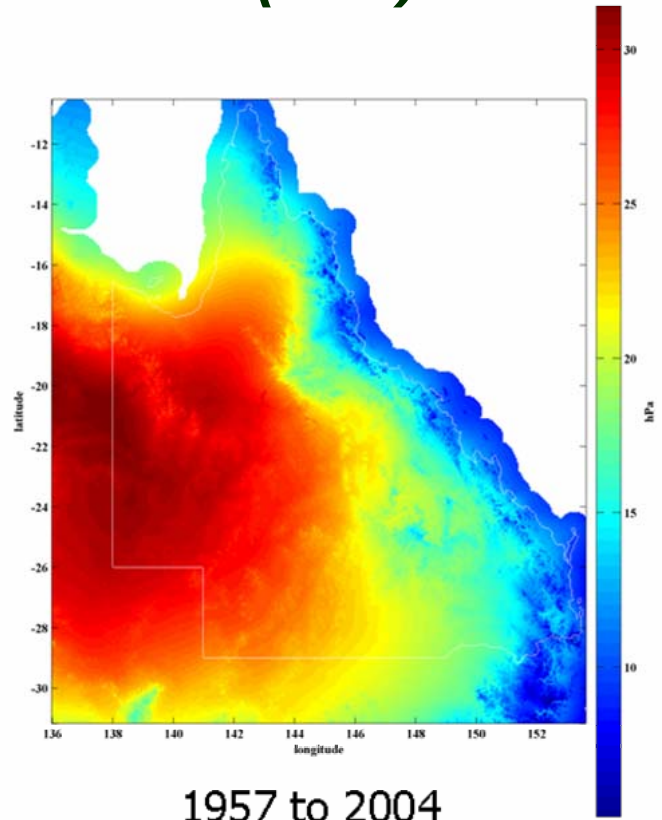
- Ortho-rectification
- Sensor calibration
- Empirical BRDF correction



# Vapour Pressure Deficit (VPD)



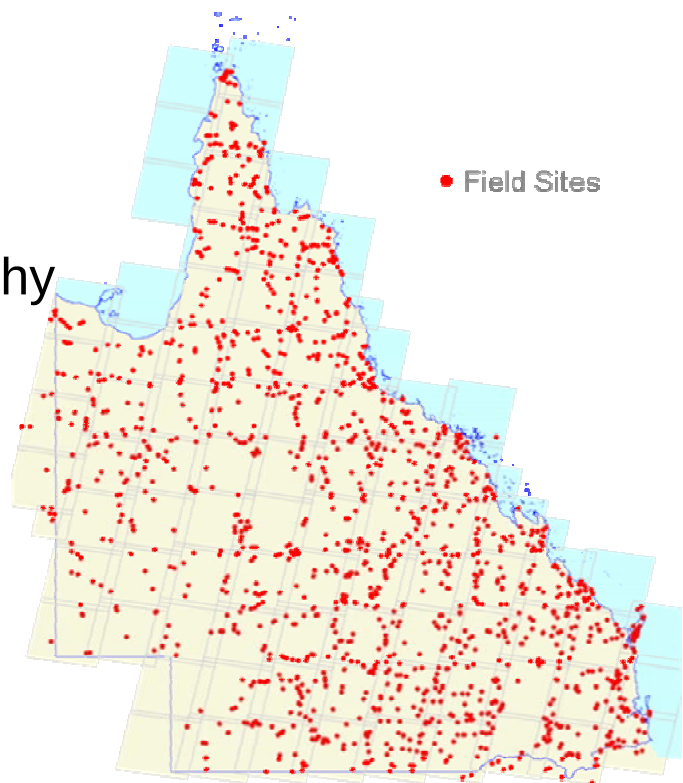
Specht (1983)



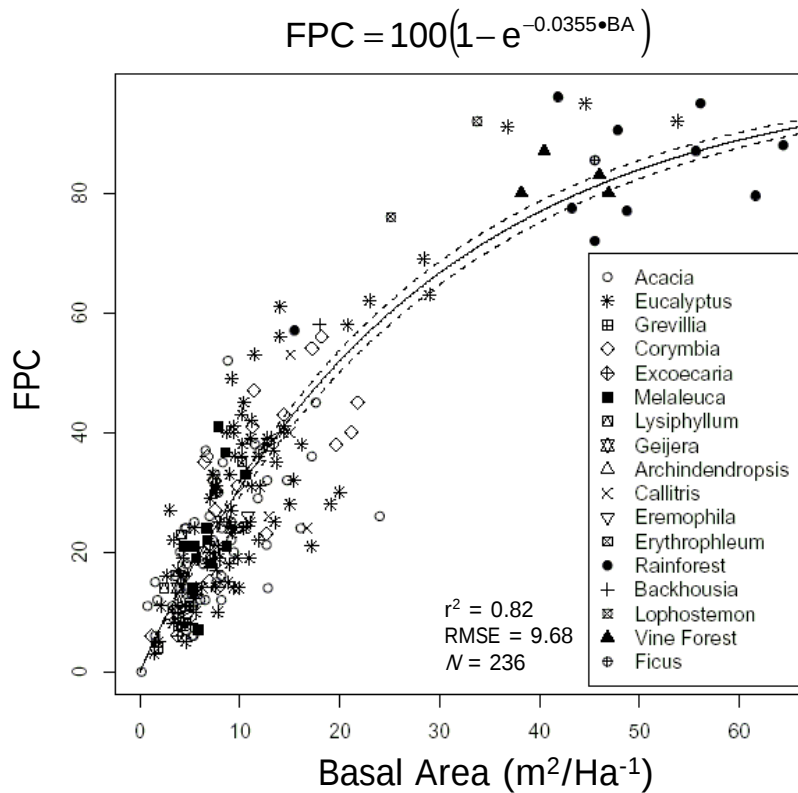
1957 to 2004  
SILO annual daily average VPD

## Field Measurements

- Site measurements
  - 1996-1999
  - Basal Area (BA)
  - FPC (~20% sites)
- NR&M aerial photography
  - Verification of 0 BA
  - Dark and bright soils
  - Fire scars

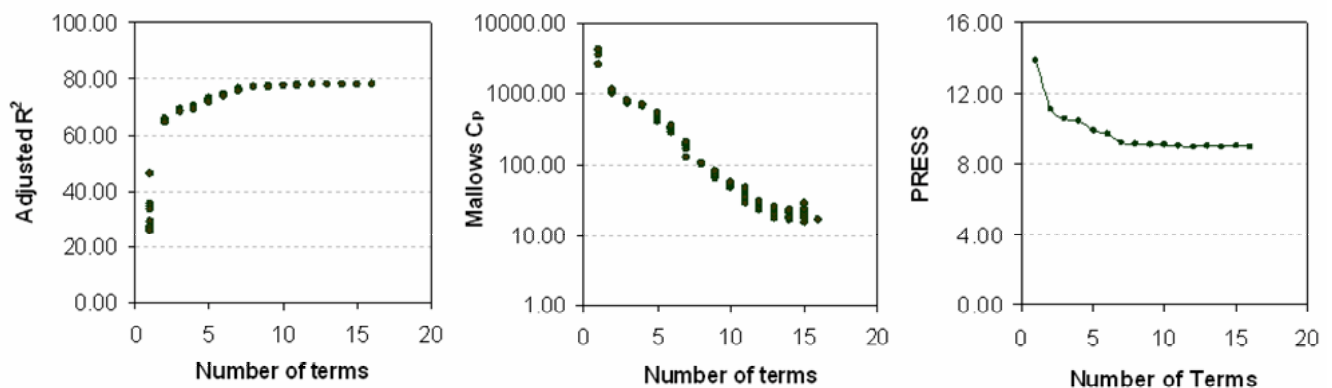


## Basal Area $\leftrightarrow$ FPC Relationship



## Multiple Linear Regression

- All-subsets multiple linear regression (MLR)
  - Explanatory transformations
  - Minimise PRESS
  - Maximise adjusted  $r^2$
  - Minimise Mallows  $C_p$



## ***Selected Regression Models***

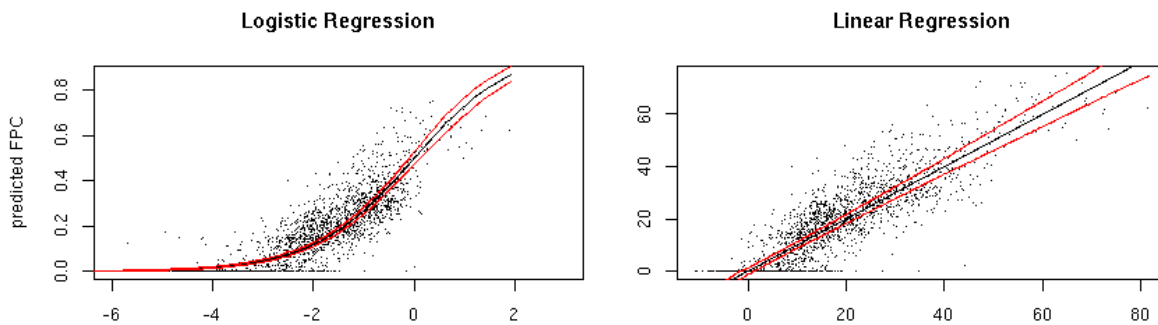
| <b>Result</b>        | <b>Landsat-5 TM Model</b>                                                                                    | <b>Landsat-7 ETM+ Model</b>                                                                                  |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Terms</b>         | $B3^{0.5}$ , $B4^{0.5}$ , $B5^{0.5}$ , $B7^{0.5}$ , $VPD^{-1}$<br>$B2^{0.5}$ to $B7^{0.5}$ interactive terms | $B3^{0.5}$ , $B4^{0.5}$ , $B5^{0.5}$ , $B7^{0.5}$ , $VPD^{-1}$<br>$B2^{0.5}$ to $B7^{0.5}$ interactive terms |
| <b>R<sup>2</sup></b> | 0.815                                                                                                        | 0.801                                                                                                        |
| <b>S.E.</b>          | 7.98                                                                                                         | 8.26                                                                                                         |

## ***Alternative Regression Algorithms***

- Generalised Linear Models
- Multiple Regression with splines
- Regression Trees
- Support Vector Machines Regression

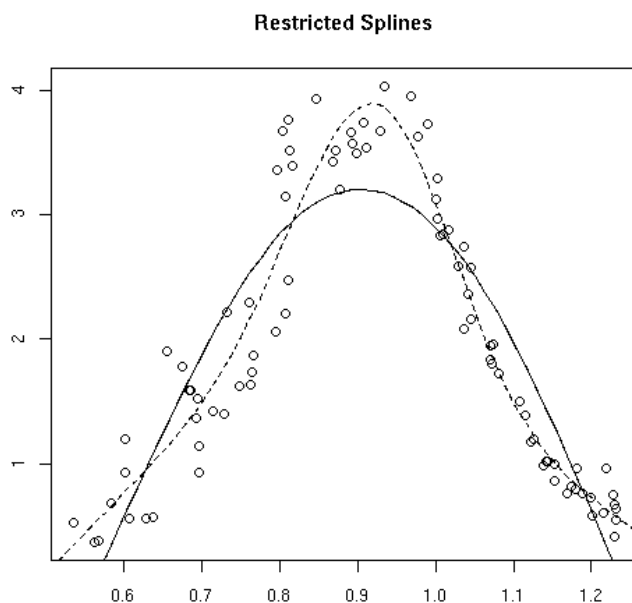
# Generalised Linear Models

- Don't need to assume that residuals  $\sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
- Better model distribution of response



## Multiple Linear Regression with Splines

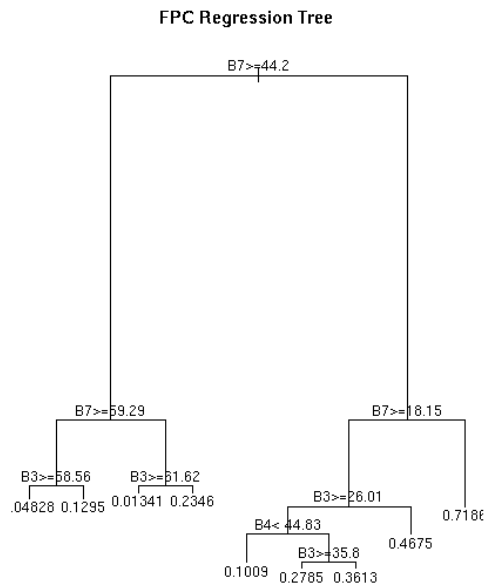
- Can relax assumptions of linearity



- piecewise polynomials, smooth at the joins (knots)
- Typically use 5,4,3 knots.
- More data support more knots, more flexible

# Regression Trees

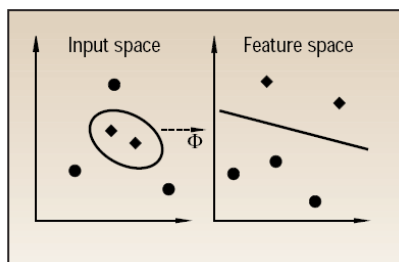
- Interaction handled automatically
- Monotonic transformations handled automatically
- Often accurate on non-linear problems



- Random forest extension
- Grows many trees based on random selection of data
- Feed a new observation into each tree and average results

# Support Vector Machines

- Flexible modelling for classification/regression
- Hype or Hallelujah?



- Uses hyperplanes to separate groups
- Maps input space to feature space using mathematical functions (kernels)
- Extension to regression ( $\epsilon$ -SVM regression)

## Comparison of Algorithms

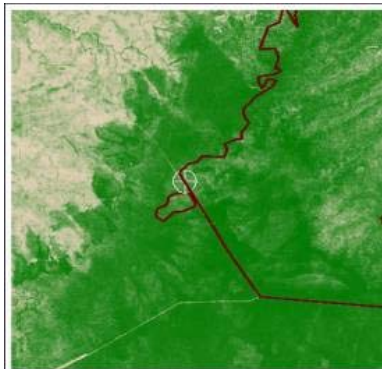
- Five approaches compared
- Same predictors as the selected model
- Assessed using c.v predictive accuracy

| Method        | RMSE <sub>cv</sub> |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Linear Reg.   | 8.6                |
| GLM           | 8.2                |
| Tree (RPART)  | 8.2                |
| Splines       | 7.1                |
| SVM           | 7.1                |
| Random Forest | 7.0                |

- Small increase in predictive accuracy in newer methods
- Cost is added complexity
- Some practical problems

## Example of model predictions: Fire scars

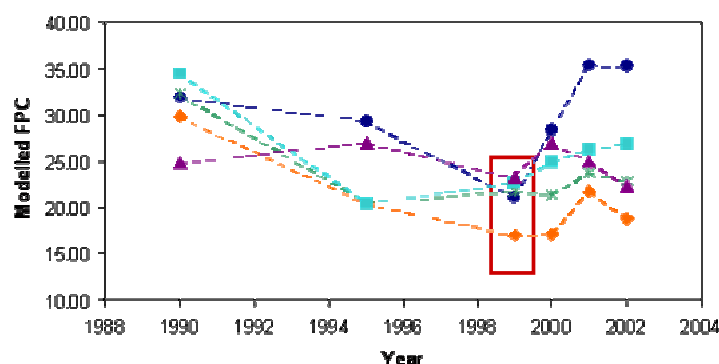
Modelled FPC



Landsat-5 TM



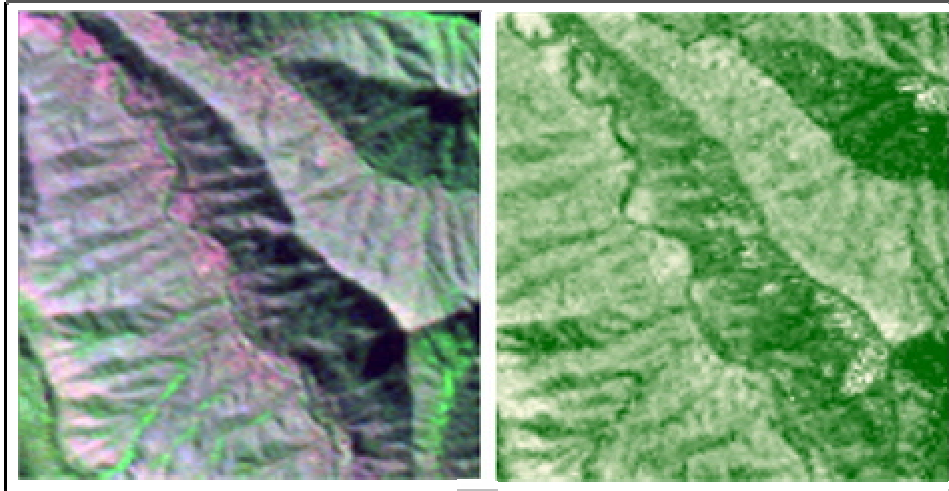
Site Photo



- Site 1: Scorch Height = 10.0m  
FPC = #
- Site 2: Scorch Height = 1.0m  
FPC = 21.0
- Site 3: Scorch Height = 2.5m  
FPC = 26.0
- Site 4: Scorch Height = 0.5m  
FPC = 23.9
- Site 5: Scorch Height = 2.2m  
FPC = 26.7

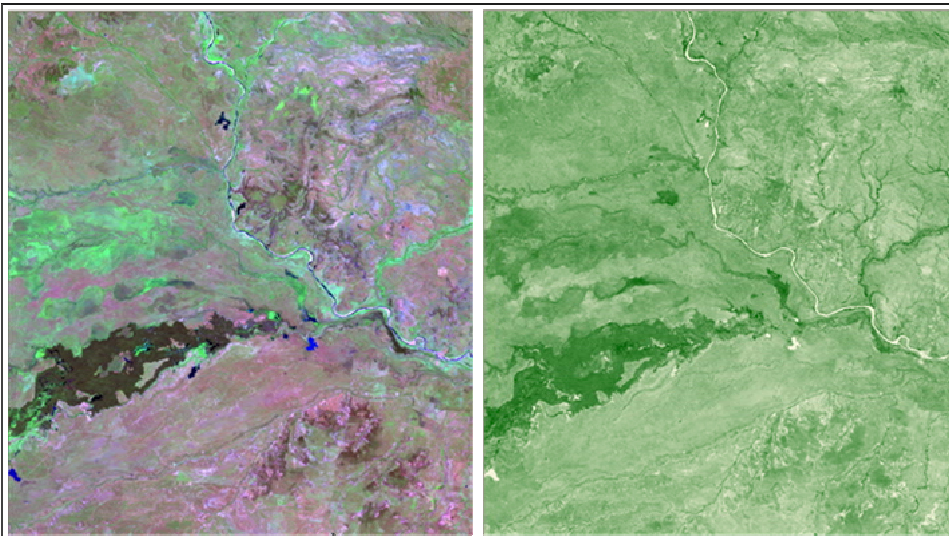
## ***Regression model limitations***

- Topographic effects



## ***Regression model limitations***

- Herbaceous effects



# Conclusions

- Existing regression models do a good job
  - Representative field data
  - Minimised **prediction** error
  - Different regression algorithms performed similarly
- Primary limitations
  - Topographic effects
  - Herbaceous green cover
- Current work
  - Topographic correction
  - Relationships between different structure measurements
  - Airborne LIDAR validation of FPC products
  - Linking uncertainty between field ↔ LIDAR ↔ Landsat models
    - Bayesian approach
  - Decoupling perennial and herbaceous FPC
    - Trend analysis of Landsat FPC products
    - MODIS time-series decomposition