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São Paulo, February 18 -19, 2016



“The role of rivers in the regional carbon
cycle”

FAPESP Proc. Núm. 2008/52.089-9

PIs: Maria Victoria R. Ballester; Reynaldo L. Victoria; Alex V. Krusche & Jeffrey E. Richey –

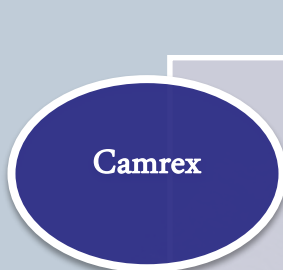
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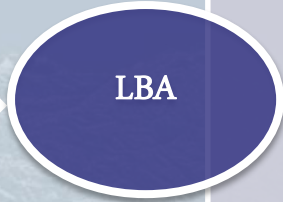
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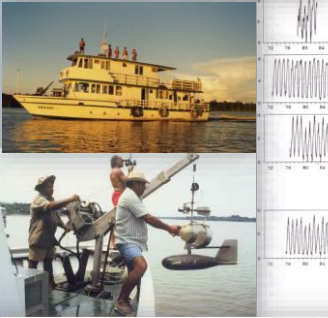
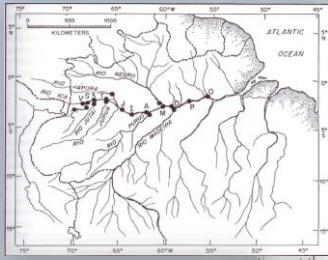
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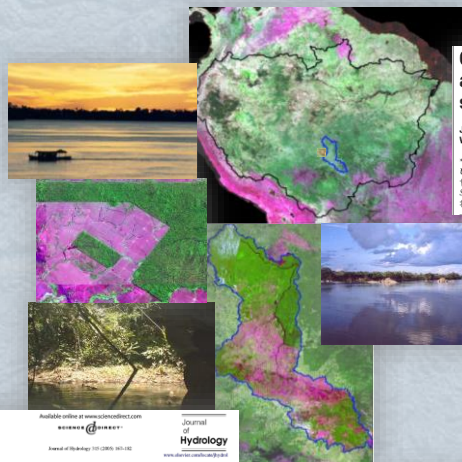
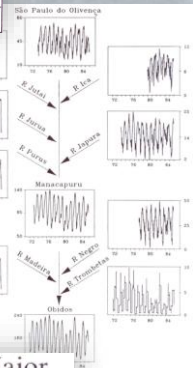


The Biogeochemistry of a Major River System: The Amazon Case Study

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Outgassing from Amazonian rivers and wetlands as a large tropical source of atmospheric CO₂
 Jeffrey E. Richey¹, John M. Melack², Anthony K. Aufdenkampe³, Victoria M. Ballester⁴ & Laura L. Hess⁵
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Spatial and temporal variability of pCO₂ and CO₂ efflux in seven Amazonian Rivers
 Maria de Fátima F. L. Räsä, Alex V. Krusche, Jeffrey E. Richey, Maria V. R. Ballester & Reynaldo L. Victoria

Estimating cell-to-cell land surface drainage paths from digital channel networks, with an application to the Amazon basin
 Emilio Mayorga¹, Miles G. Legler², Maria Victoria R. Ballester³, Jeffrey E. Richey⁴
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³ Instituto de Física de Caruaru, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, 55072-900, Brazil
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Influences of land use and stream size on particulate of dissolved materials in a small Amazonian stream
 M.V.R. Ballester¹, D. de C. Vieira², A.V. Krusche³, R. Cohara⁴, R.L. Victoria⁵, J.E. Richey⁶, M.G. Legado⁷, E. Mayorga⁸, E. Matricardi⁹

Intra and interannual variability in the Madeira River water chemistry and sediment load
 Nel K. Leite¹, Alex V. Krusche², Maria V. R. Ballester³, Reynaldo L. Victoria⁴, Jeffrey E. Richey⁵, Beatriz M. Gomes⁶

Seasonal variation in dissolved carbon concentrations and fluxes in the upper Purus River, southwestern Amazon
 Cleber Salimon¹, Eliete de Santos Sousa², Simone R. Akin³, Alex Vladimir Krusche⁴, Maria Victoria Ballester⁵

Land cover map production for Brazilian Amazon using NDVI SPOT VEGETATION time series
 A. Rodrigues, A.R.S. Marcal, D. Furlan, M.V. Ballester, and M. Cunha

Loss of Nutrients From Terrestrial Ecosystems to Streams and the Atmosphere Following Land Use Change in Amazonia
 Eric A. Davidson¹, Christopher Neill², Alex V. Krusche³, Victoria V. R. Ballester⁴, Daniel Markewitz⁵, and Ricardo de O. Figueiredo⁶

Biogeochemistry
 Volume 35
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 February 2008
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Remote Sensing Environment
 A remote sensing/GIS-based physical template to understand the biogeochemistry of the Ji-Paraná river basin (Western Amazonia)
 M.V.R. Ballester¹, D. de C. Vieira², A.V. Krusche³, R. Cohara⁴, R.L. Victoria⁵, J.E. Richey⁶, M.G. Legado⁷, E. Mayorga⁸, E. Matricardi⁹

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Deforestation alters the hydraulic and biogeochemical characteristics of small lowland Amazonian streams
 Christopher Neill¹, Linda A. Deegan², Suzanne M. Thomas³, Christie L. Haupt⁴, Alex V. Krusche⁵, Victoria M. Ballester⁶ and Reynaldo L. Victoria⁷
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Application of Isotope Techniques for Assessing Nutrient Dynamics in River Basins
 IAEA TECDOC 1695
 Using stable isotope (Pb) additions to understand the effects of land use change on Amazonian rivers
 L.J. Dugas, C. Hall, R.L. Victoria, A.J. Krusche, M.V.R. Ballester, S. Thomas, C. Haupt

Water Balance for the Ji-Paraná River Basin, Western Amazon, Using a Simple Method through Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing
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Estimating the Surface Area of Small Rivers in the Southwestern Amazon and Their Role in CO₂ Outgassing
 Maria de Fátima F. L. Räsä¹, Maria Victoria R. Ballester², and Alex V. Krusche³
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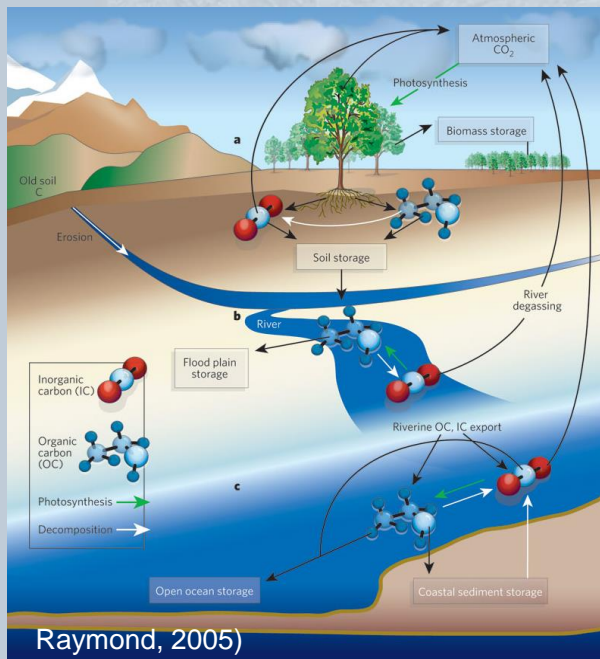
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Recent Research :

- Rivers and freshwater ecosystems release high levels of CO₂ to the atmosphere
- Globally these waters process, transport and sequester 2.7 Pg C yr⁻¹ (a)
- Similar value to the estimated for terrestrial ecosystems carbon sequestration from human activities (2.8 Pg C yr⁻¹ (b))



Outgassing from Amazonian rivers and wetlands as a large tropical source of atmospheric CO₂

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 NATURE | VOL 416 | 11 APRIL 2002 |

NATURE GEOSCIENCE | LETTER

Degradation of terrestrially derived macromolecules in the Amazon River

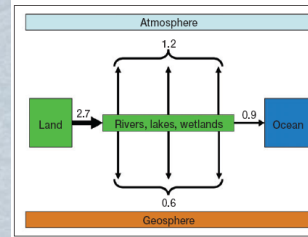
Nicholas D. Ward, Richard G. Keil, Patricia M. Medeiros, Dalmio C. Brito, Alan C. Cunha, Thorsten Dittmar, Patricia L. Yáger, Alex V. Krusche & Jeffrey E. Richey

Affiliations | Contributions | Corresponding author

Nature Geoscience 6, 530–533 (2013) | doi:10.1038/ngeo1817

Riverine coupling of biogeochemical cycles between land, oceans, and atmosphere

Anthony K. Aufdenkampe*, Emilio Meneses†, Peter A. Raymond*, John M. Melack*, Scott C. Doney*, Simone R. Alm†, Jeff E. Richey*, and Krivosheina Yee†



Global Change Biology

Global Change Biology (2014), doi: 10.1111/gcb.12646

Methane emissions from Amazonian Rivers and their contribution to the global methane budget

HENRIQUE O. SAWAKUCHI¹, DAVID BASTVIKEN², ANDRÉ O. SAWAKUCHI³, ALEX V. KRUSCHE¹, MARIA V. R. BALLESTER¹ and JEFFREY E. RICHEY⁴

Global Change Biology

Global Change Biology (2012), doi: 10.1111/gcb.12083

Evasion of CO₂ from streams – The dominant component of the carbon export through the aquatic conduit in a boreal landscape

MARCUS B. WALLIN¹, THOMAS GRÄNS², ISHI BUFFAM¹, HJALMAR LAUDON¹, ANNELI ÅGREN¹, MATS G. ÖQUIST¹ and KEVIN BISHOP³

Nature 436, 538–543 (29 July 2005) | doi:10.1038/nature03880; Received 19 November 2005; Accepted 26 May 2005

Young organic matter as a source of carbon dioxide outgassing from Amazonian rivers

Ermilo Mayorga^{1,2}, Anthony K. Aufdenkampe^{2,3}, Caroline A. Masiello³, Alex V. Krusche⁴, John I. Hedges^{4,2}, Paul D. Quay⁴, Jeffrey E. Richey⁴ & Thomas A. Brown²

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Estimating the Surface Area of Small Rivers in the Southwestern Amazon and Their Role in CO₂ Outgassing

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Fluvial processing plays a key role on carbon (and associate nutrients) transport and recycling not only in the watersheds but also in the oceans that receive their waters.

(a) Battin et al., 2009; Tranvik et al., 2009, (b) Canadell et al., 2007;

Overall objective

Challenge:

develop tools to comprehensively describe Amazonian fluvial biogeochemistry and the role of rivers in the regional C cycle to predict their responses to climate change



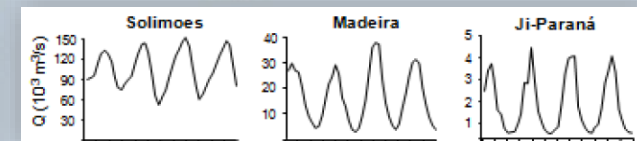
Produce scientific data on Amazonian fluvial systems to feed a carbon base basin wide model to predict their responses to global climate change and regional land use change



Long term data collection : 20 extensive sampling (Rede Beija-Rio), distributed in the Amazon basin

+

Intensive campaigns employing several measurement methods and laboratory experiments at least once at each stage of the hydrograph, at several spatial scales



We have demonstrated that the rivers of the Amazon play an important role in the regional carbon cycle

- ➔ Evading to the atmosphere $\sim 0,5 \text{ Gt C yr}^{-1}$
- ➔ 13 x more C than discharged to the ocean:
- ➔ TOC: 0,036 and DIC: 0,035 Gt.yr^{-1}
- ➔ Higher than the amount released by regional deforestation at it's peak ($0,38 \text{ GtC yr}^{-1}$, $\sim 25.000 \text{ km}^2 \cdot \text{yr}^{-1}$)

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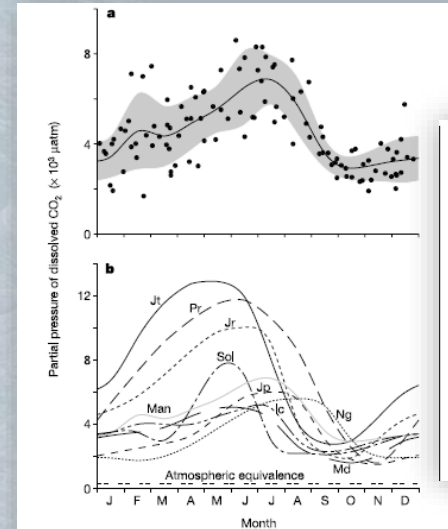


Figure 3 Seasonal distributions of carbon dioxide dissolved in rivers of the central Amazon basin. **a**, A ten-year time-series station on the mainstream Amazon near Manaus (Man, by the confluence of the Negro and Solimões) offers a high-resolution image of seasonality. **b**, Annual profiles for major tributaries derived from thirteen expeditions to observation

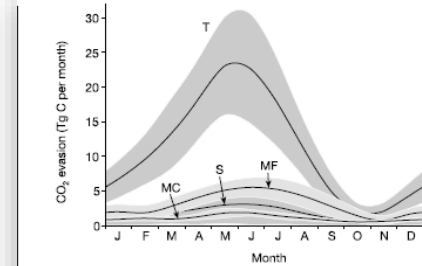
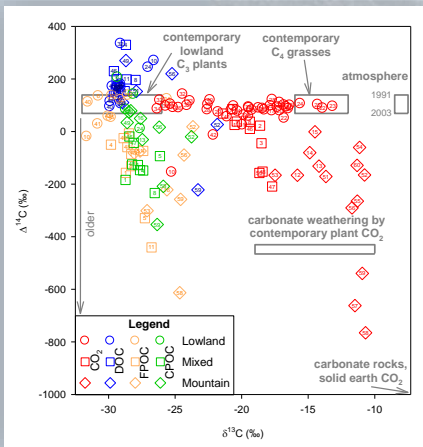
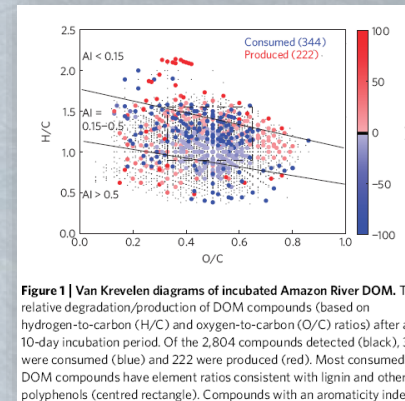


Figure 4 Spatially integrated sequences of monthly carbon dioxide evasion for the respective hydrographic environments (identified in Fig. 2). Lines represent the best estimate of long-term means, whereas shaded regions represent the 67% confidence interval for the range of values likely in a particular year. The upper confidence limit for streams, hidden from view, extends nearly to the upper limit for floodplains.

What is these CO₂ main source?



➔ In channel respiration of young labile organic matter (~5 year)



➔ 55 % of terrestrial lignin is degraded by in channel bacteria

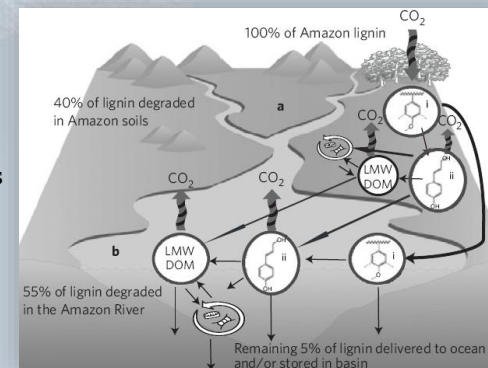
NATURE GEOSCIENCE | LETTER

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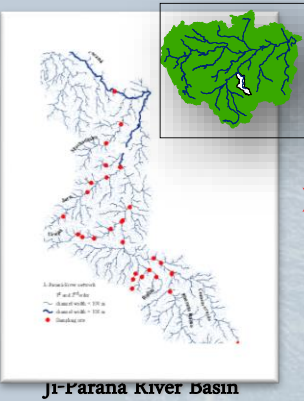
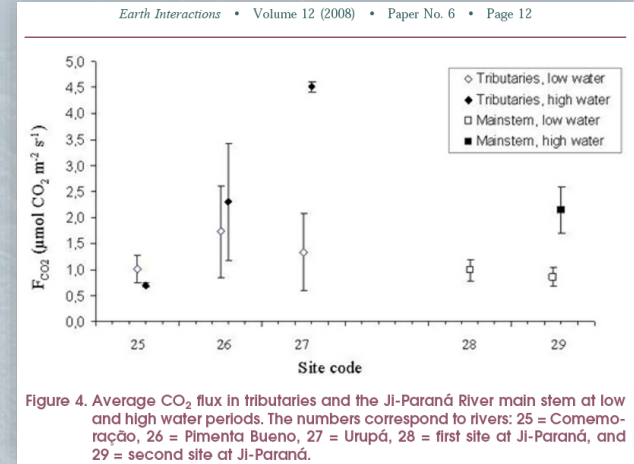
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Smaller rivers (channel wide < 100 m)

CO₂ evasion main C export pathway:

289 Gg C yr⁻¹

➤ ~2,4 x the amount of C exported as dissolved inorganic carbon (121 Gg C y⁻¹) and 1,6 x as dissolved organic carbon (185 Gg C y⁻¹)



~92% of the Amazon river network are small rivers,

usually supersaturated with CO₂

- surface small rivers area: 0,3 ± 0,05 millions of km²,
- Potential evasion to the atmosphere: 170 ± 42 Tg C y⁻¹ as CO₂
- Relevant role in the regional carbon cycle

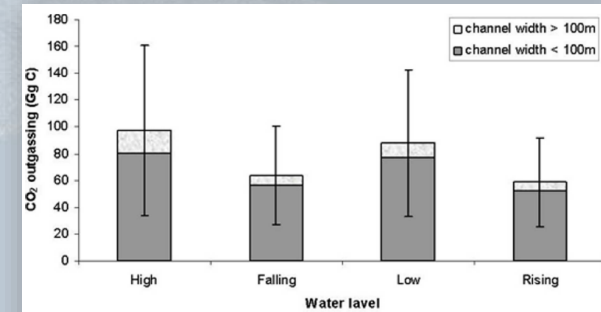
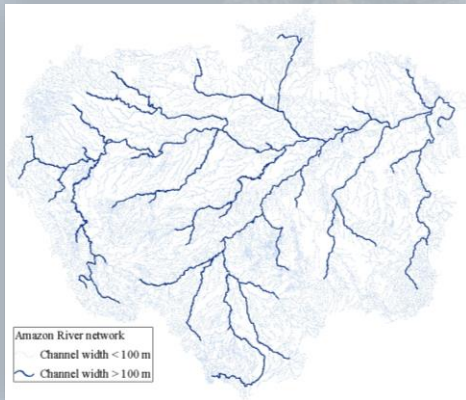
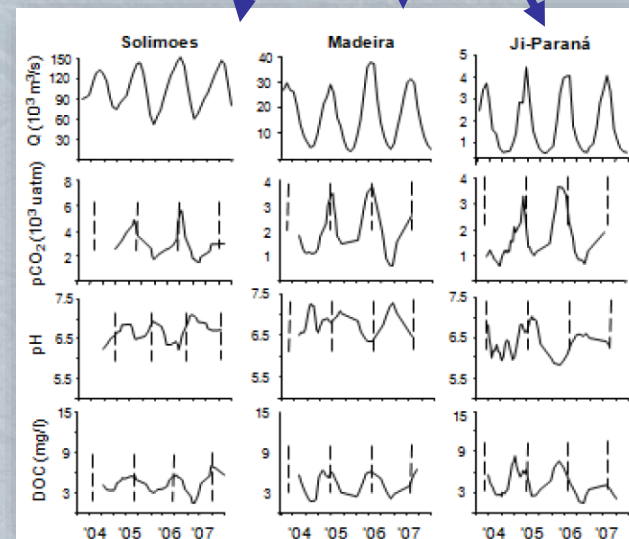
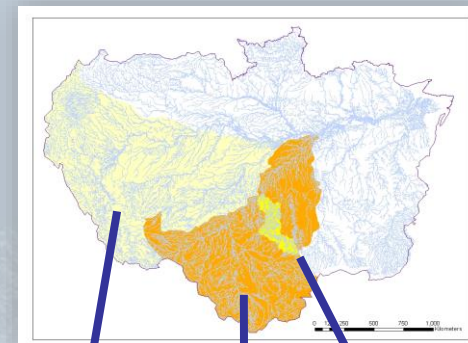


Figure 5. Carbon dioxide outgassing from rivers of the Ji-Paraná River basin during low, rising, high, and falling water periods. The uncertainty bar corresponds to the combined standard uncertainty resulting from contributions of calculated surface area and CO₂ fluxes measured with chambers.

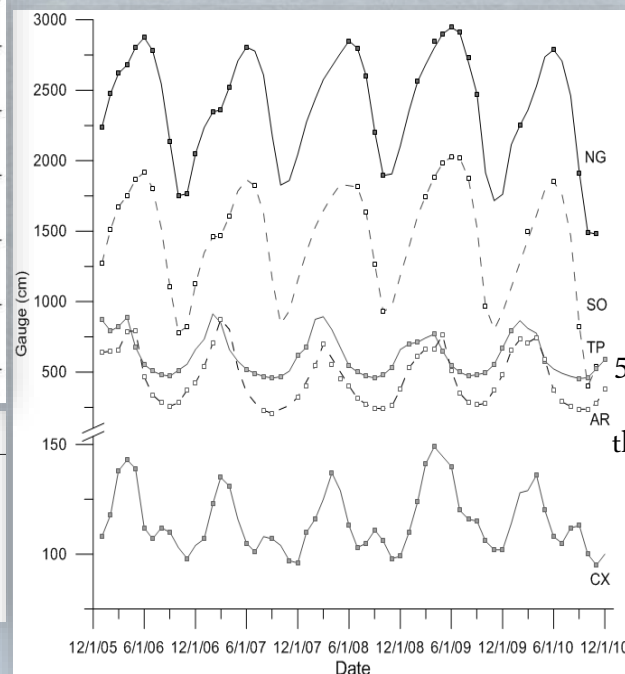
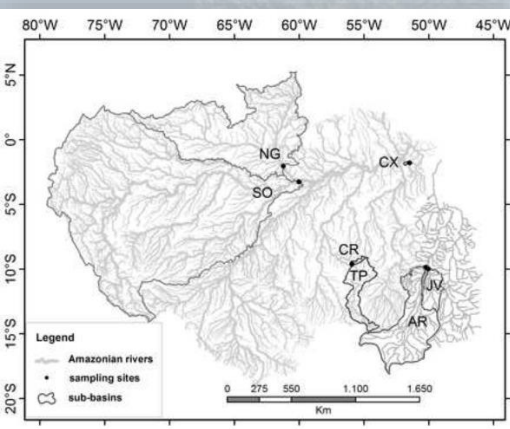


What is the main C dynamic controller in these ecosystems?

The most striking finding of our current integrated network approach is that, regardless of any scale or basin characteristic, the distribution of biogenic species show the same seasonal patterns, tightly connected to the hydrograph



5 year time series of CO₂ fluxes in Amazon rivers, spanning the whole hydrograph and encompassing representative rivers of the region



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DOI 10.1007/s10533-013-9854-0

Spatial and temporal variability of pCO₂ and CO₂ efflux in seven Amazonian Rivers

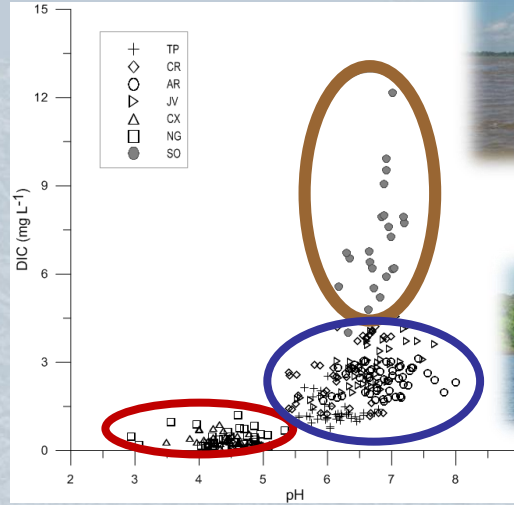
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Jeffrey E. Richey · Maria V. R. Ballester ·
Reynaldo L. Victória

While these river can be separated into 3 groups according to their water characteristics:

Group I- drain low lands, highly weathered, high levels of DOM, low DIC and pH



Negro, Cristalino and Caxiuaná



Solimões

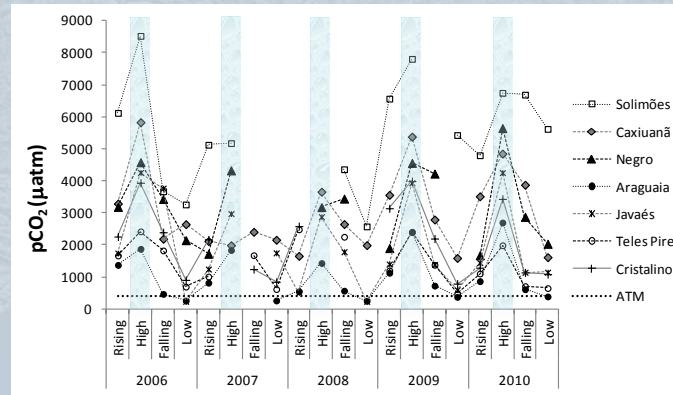
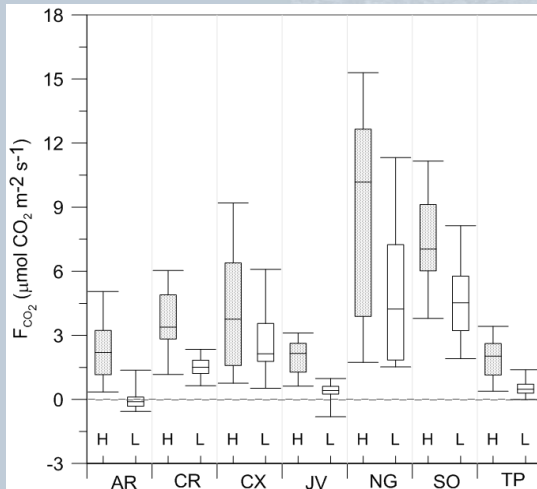


Teles Pires, Javaés

Group II- High sediment transport from the Andes, high DIC concentrations and pH ~ neutral

Group III- drain the Brazilian shield, low sediments and OM, inter medium DIC levels, pH ~ neutral

CO₂ Fluxes seasonal cycles



High variability for both low and high water: -0,8 a

15,3 mmol CO₂ m⁻² s⁻¹

- CO₂ Fluxes always higher at high water

- Key to develop adequate models to describe C cycle: a seasonal pattern link to the hydrograph can simplify scaling

Methane emissions from Amazonian Rivers and their contribution to the global methane budget

HENRIQUE O. SAWAKUCHI¹, DAVID BASTVIKEN², ANDRÉ O. SAWAKUCHI³, ALEX V. KRUSCHE¹, MARIA V. R. BALLESTER¹ and JEFFREY E. RICHEY⁴

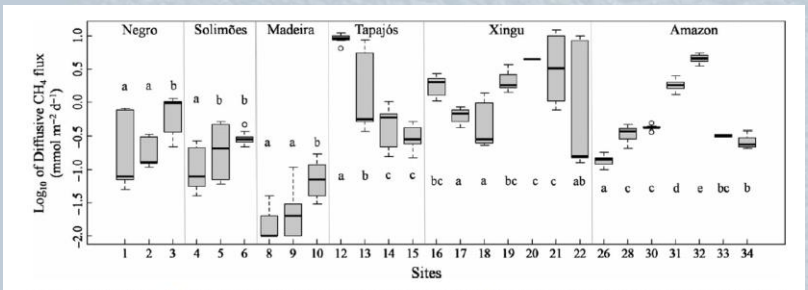
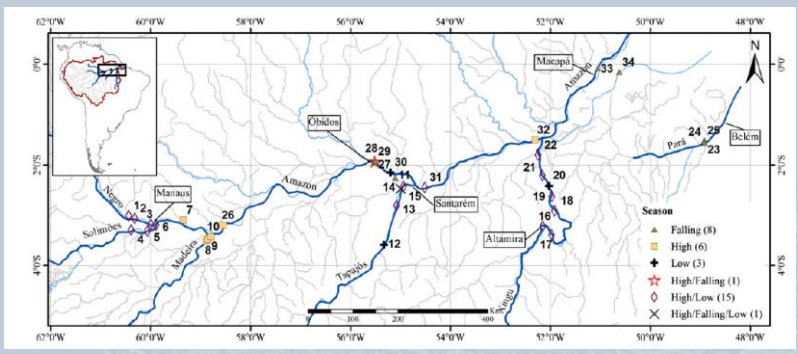


Fig. 3 Diffusive fluxes (log transformed) between sites measured in each river. Numbers in the x-axis are the sites shown in Fig. 1 and Table 1. Letters above or below the boxes indicate the grouping of sites within each river based on a one-way ANOVA with Tukey's test ($P < 0.05$) to determine which sites had similar emissions (e.g. Sites with an a in their letter combination were significantly different from those without an a in their combination).

- Wide spatial and temporal variability
- Hydrograph differential effect
- We estimate an emission of $0.49(\pm 0.09)$ Tg $\text{CH}_4 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ from large rivers Or 44 – 65% of the global tropical river CH_4 emissions and 22 – 28% of the global river emission
- These values are to 31–84% higher than the previous estimate (Bastviken et al., 2011)

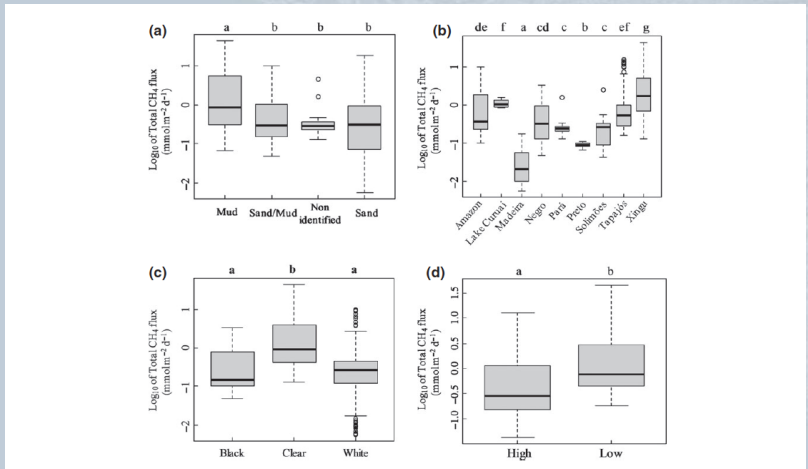


Fig. 5 Log_{10} of total CH_4 flux ($\text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) comparisons of sites in regard to (a) different types of sediments, (b) source river, (c) river water type, and (d) river water level (seasonal comparison performed with only sites measured during both seasons). Letters above graphics show grouping according to Tukey *post hoc* test ($P < 0.05$).

Two mechanism of emission, diffusion and ebullition + Methane oxidation

MOX

Oxidative mitigation of aquatic methane emissions in large Amazonian rivers

HENRIQUE O. SAWAKUCHI¹, DAVID BASTVIKEN², ANDRÉO. SAWAKUCHI³, NICHOLAS D. WARD⁴, CLOVIS D. BORGES⁵, SIU M. TSAI¹, JEFFREY E. RICHEY⁵, MARIA VICTORIA R. BALLESTER¹ and ALEX V. KRUSCHE¹

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varied according to hydrologic regime and general tributaries geochemical characteristics.

E.G.: Higher levels of MOX at high water in black and white water rivers and minimal in clear water at low water

Table 3 Concentration ([CH₄]; μM) and δ¹³CH₄ (average, SD %, and *n* replicates) of CH₄ in the water and in sediment bubbles (%), estimated range of total MOX (%), and total input (mmol m⁻² day⁻¹), as well as the number of *pmoA* gene copies in the water (copies mL⁻¹)

Location no*	River	Water season	Water type	δ ¹³ CH ₄ air	[CH ₄] water	δ ¹³ CH ₄ water	[CH ₄] bubble	δ ¹³ CH ₄ bubble	MOX† Eqn 1	MOX† Eqn 2	Input Eqn 1	Input Eqn 2	<i>pmoA</i>
1	Negro	High	Black	-42.7	0.02	5.6 ± 0.1 (2)	-	‡	100§	91–96	¶	5.18–10.84	5192
2	Negro	High	Black	-42.4	0.05	-27.3 ± 1.4 (3)	-	‡	100§	74–83	¶	1.85–2.81	3419
3	Negro	Low	Black	-46.3	0.13	-58.1 ± 2.7 (3)	26	-79.4 ± 2.8	65–85	49–58	1.35–3.23	0.93–1.15	179
4	Solimões	High	White	-43.3	0.02	-24.6 ± 9.4 (2)	4	-43.1 ± 1.9	100§	76–85	¶	1.05–1.64	20395
5	Preto	High	Black	-41.9	0.06	6.9 ± 0.6 (3)	-	‡	100§	91–96	¶	1.01–2.14	6166
6	Madeira	High	White	-42.1	0.04	-20.3 ± 1.1 (3)	9	-45.4 ± 4.3	100§	79–87	¶	0.19–0.31	9901
7	Amazon	High	White	-42.6	0.10	-24.6 ± 0.8 (3)	-	‡	100§	76–85	¶	4.44–6.92	15146
8	Amazon	Low	White	-42.3	0.04	-39.4 ± 2.9 (3)	59	-85.4 ± 0.1	100§	77–85	¶	4.52–7.09	221
9	Tapajós	Low	Clear	-43.2	0.50	-49.0 ± 0.3 (3)	7	-71.3 ± 3.7	68–89	50–60	7.02–21.29	4.57–5.67	
10	Tapajós	High	Clear	-43.7	0.06	-44.4 ± 0.2 (3)	-	‡	79–100§	56–66	10.69	5.12–6.59	504
11	Xingu	High	Clear	-41.9	0.25	-45.4 ± 0.2 (3)	8	-61.7 ± 0.2	50–65	40–49	5.85–8.55	4.92–5.77	347
12	Xingu	Low	Clear	-	0.15	-54.5 ± 0.7 (3)	45	-60.6 ± 0.2	18–24	17–22	3.61–3.89	3.56–3.78	23
13	Xingu	High	Clear	-41.9	0.32	-46.1 ± 0.2 (3)	7	-63.7 ± 1.1	53–71	42–51	6.34–10.01	5.12–6.08	1076
14	Amazon	High	White	-42.9	0.31	-63.1 ± 0.9 (3)	-	‡	22–29	20–26	1.36–1.50	1.33–1.43	1386

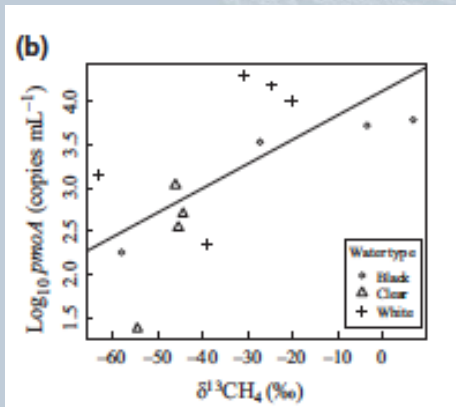
*Locations showed in the map in Fig. 1.

†Range calculated using *a* = 1.033 and *a* = 1.025 from Zhang *et al.* (2013).

‡No data available. For calculation, an average from the other sites -70.4‰ was used as the CH₄ signature.

§Overestimation by the equation indicating approximately 100% oxidation.

¶Noncalculated. When MOX from Eqn 1 is 100% the input from the same equation cannot be estimated.



Abundance of genetic markers for MOX bacteria (*pmoA*) were positively correlated with enhanced signals of oxidation: independent support for the detected MOX patterns.

Table 4 Estimated ranges of diffusive emissions, input to the water column, and oxidation of CH₄ (Tg CH₄ yr⁻¹). Diffusive fluxes were calculated based on averages per river available in Sawakuchi *et al.* (2014). Values in bold represents the estimate for all large rivers in the Amazon basin

Rivers	River Area (km ²)	Input to the water column	Diffusive flux to atmosphere	MOX	MOX (%)
Negro	12 309	0.07–0.78	0.031–0.038	0.04–0.74	54–95
Solimões	31 576	0.19–0.30	0.042–0.050	0.15–0.25	74–83
Amazon	9577	0.07–0.40	0.051–0.068	0.02–0.33	32–83
Preto da Eva	80	0.0005–0.0010	0.000041–0.000043	0.0004–0.0010	91–96
Madeira	11 477	0.013–0.021	0.002–0.003	0.010–0.018	82–85
Tapajós	6441	0.17–0.25	0.068–0.103	0.10–0.15	59–60
Xingu	6760	0.14–0.40	0.101–0.132	0.04–0.26	28–67
Others	12 992	0.14–0.38	0.046–0.062	0.09–0.32	66–84
Amazon	91 212	0.80–2.52	0.34–0.46	0.45–2.07	57–82

(MOX): diffusive CH₄ flux can be reduced by ~ 28 –

96 %

- MOX in large Amazonian rivers can consume from 0.45 to 2.07 Tg CH₄ yr⁻¹ or up to 7% of the estimated global soil sink.
- Climate change and changes in hydrology (e.g. construction of dams) can alter this balance, influencing CH₄ emissions to atmosphere.

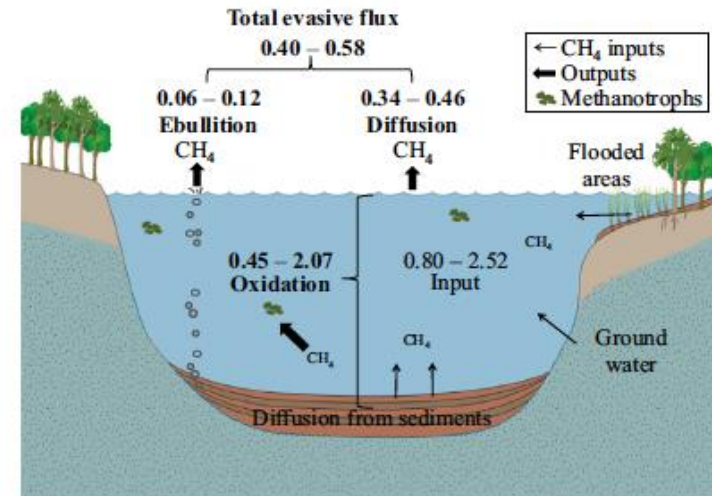
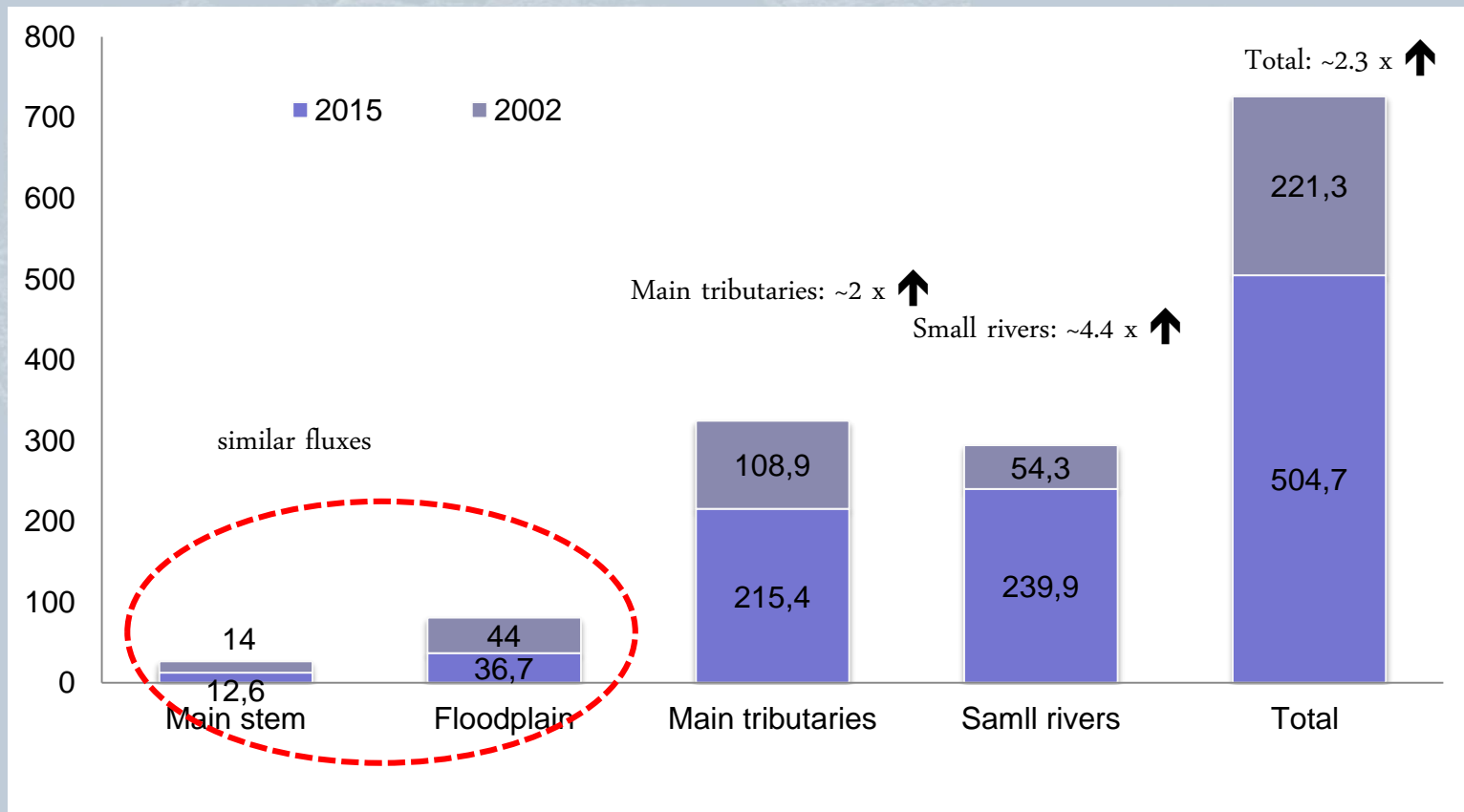


Fig. 4 Net inputs and outputs (Tg CH₄ yr⁻¹) of water column CH₄ in the Amazon River. CH₄ is exported from groundwater, seasonally flooded areas, and anoxic sediments along the riverbed and margins into the oxic layer in the sediment and water column (plain arrows and numbers indicate input). A fraction of this CH₄ is released directly to the atmosphere as bubbles (i.e., ebullition) and the rest is dissolved in the water, where it is subjected to oxidation by methanotrophs and diffusive evasion to the atmosphere (bold arrows and numbers). Figure adapted from: ian.umces.edu.

The role of rivers in the regional carbon cycle

C exported as CO₂ (Tg yr⁻¹)



- Current CO₂ flux: 0.8 Pg C yr⁻¹ for upstream rivers from Óbidos (~70 % of the amazon basin)
- This value is 60 % higher than our previous measurements
- Fluxes are highly correlate to the hydrograph, moreover climate changes can lead to a significant change in ecosystem metabolism