

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

## Changes in Growing Season Duration and Productivity of Northern Vegetation Inferred from Long-term Remote Sensing Data

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This document provides Supplementary information not provided in the main text of the article “Changes in Growing Season Duration and Productivity of Northern Vegetation Inferred from Long-term Remote Sensing Data”. It contains (i) Supplementary Data and Methods, which provides an extended description of the data and methods used; (ii) Supplementary References; (iii) Supplementary Tables, and (iv) Supplementary Figures.

### Supplementary Data and Methods

#### 1. Study region and vegetation cover map

This study focuses on northern vegetated region ( $>45^{\circ}\text{N}$ ), which includes Boreal and Arctic ecosystems. To define both regions, we compiled the latest version of the MODIS International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) land cover map (Friedl *et al* 2010, [WWW-MCD12Q1](#)) and the Circumpolar Arctic Vegetation Map (CAVM) (Walker *et al* 2005, [WWW-CAVM](#)). MODIS IGBP identified 17 land cover classes including 11 natural vegetation classes, three developed and mosaicked land classes, and three non-vegetated land classes. The CAVM map was used to identify the tundra vegetation and associated characteristics of the circumpolar region as a supplement to the IGBP classes. Arctic (8.16 million  $\text{km}^2$ ) is defined as the vegetated area north of  $65^{\circ}\text{N}$ , excluding crops and forests, but including the tundra south of  $65^{\circ}\text{N}$ . Boreal region (17.86 million  $\text{km}^2$ ) is defined as the vegetated area between  $45^{\circ}\text{N}$  and  $65^{\circ}\text{N}$ , excluding crops, tundra, broadleaf forests, but including needleleaf forests north of  $65^{\circ}\text{N}$ . Grasslands south of the mixed forests are excluded as these are not conventionally considered as Boreal vegetation. Combined vegetation map of the Arctic and Boreal regions with 14 different

31 vegetation classes (additionally aggregated into 4 vegetation groups) are described in  
32 Supplementary [Figure S1](#).

33

## 34 **2. Data**

35 **2.1. GIMMS NDVI3g ([WWW-NDVI3g](#)):** In this study, we mainly used the Global Inventory  
36 Modeling and Mapping Studies (GIMMS) NDVI dataset obtained from the Advanced Very High  
37 Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) sensors onboard the NOAA satellite series (7 to 19). The latest  
38 version of GIMMS NDVI data (a.k.a. NDVI3g) spans 1981–2014 with a native resolution of  
39  $1/12^\circ$  at bimonthly temporal resolution ([Pinzon and Tucker 2014](#)). Recently resolved high  
40 latitude discontinuity issue and improved snowmelt and cloud detection have granted a better  
41 observation for northern high latitude vegetation dynamic research. Based on given growing  
42 season and productivity definition, obtained metrics were used to investigate long-term northern  
43 vegetation phenology and productivity changes.

44

45 **2.2. MODIS Phenology (MCD12Q2) ([WWW-MCD12Q2](#)):** The MODIS Land Cover Dynamics  
46 (MCD12Q2) product (a.k.a., MODIS Global Vegetation Phenology product) provides estimates  
47 of the timing of vegetation phenology based on Nadir-BRDF Adjusted Reflectance (NBAR)  
48 enhanced vegetation index (EVI). Four different phenological phases provided are the onset of  
49 greenness increase (same as SOS in this study), onset of greenness maximum, onset of greenness  
50 decrease and onset of greenness minimum (same as EOS in this study). Cumulative EVI area  
51 provided in MCD12Q2 is conceptually overlapped with GSSNDVI of NDVI3g. Native  
52 resolution is 500m and temporal coverage spans from 2001 to 2012 (12 years). For comparison  
53 purpose, annual growing season and productivity metrics are spatially harmonized with GIMMS  
54 NDVI3g data ( $1/12^\circ$ ). We have to note that MODIS phenology uses different quality control,  
55 seasonal trajectory fitting (logistic model) and phenology detection (curvature based approach).  
56 Details can be found in [Zhang \*et al\* \(2003\)](#) and [Ganguly \*et al\* \(2010\)](#).

57

58 **2.3. MODIS NDVI (MOD13C1) ([WWW-MOD13C1](#)):** MODIS Collection 5 standard NDVI  
59 product which spans from 2000 to 2014 with 16-day temporal composite at 0.05 degree is used  
60 in this study. For comparison purpose, it is harmonized with GIMMS NDVI3g spatial resolution

61 (1/12°) via bicubic method. Growing season (i.e., SOS, EOS, and LOS) and productivity (i.e.,  
62 GSSNDVI) are obtained by exactly same definition and method used in NDVI3g.

63

64 **2.4. MODIS NBAR NDVI (MCD43C4) (WWW-MCD43C4):** Nadir Bidirectional Reflectance  
65 Distribution Function (BRDF)-Adjusted Reflectance (NBAR), which spans same temporal  
66 coverage (2000-2014) with MOD13C1 is used in this study. Spatial resolution (0.05°) is adjusted  
67 into NDVI3g (1/12°) and then growing season (i.e., SOS, EOS, and LOS) and productivity (i.e.,  
68 GSSNDVI) metrics are obtained via identical definition and method used in GIMMS NDVI3g.

69

70 **2.5. FLUXNET GPP (WWW-FLUXNET):** We used gap-filled daily tower GPP data at 39 flux  
71 tower sites (140 site-years observation) distributed across northern hemisphere to validate  
72 remotely sensed growing season and a proxy of GPP based on GIMMS NDVI3g. Selection of  
73 valid site and data is performed by following two criteria: (i) more than 95 % of the days had  
74 daily GPP data, and (ii) the mean daily quality flag was more than 0.75 (Richardson *et al* 2010).  
75 The daily data was then aggregated to monthly and later to yearly time step. Details of the  
76 individual towers are provided in Table S2. The data used in this study is obtained from  
77 FLUXNET “Fair-Use” data archive and the spatial distribution of the flux towers is shown in  
78 Figure S1.

79

80 **2.6. MODIS GPP (MOD17A3) (WWW-MOD17A3):** Terra MODIS Net Primary Production  
81 (MOD17A3) provides 15 years (2000-2014) long annual 1km GPP estimate based on light-use  
82 efficiency model. Theoretical and practical details underpinning this product can be found in  
83 Running *et al* (1999). For evaluation purpose, we coarsely aggregated 1km GPP product into  
84 NDVI3g grid format (1/12°).

85

86 **2.7. Model Tree Ensemble GPP (MTE-GPP) (WWW-MTE):** Statistical model based MTE-  
87 GPP is used for evaluating GSSNDVI of GIMMS NDVI3g. This model incorporates flux tower  
88 local observations, satellite retrievals of fraction of absorbed photosynthetically active radiation  
89 (fAPAR), and climate fields to upscale ground level GPP. A machine learning system where the  
90 target variable (i.e., GPP) is predicted by a set of multiple linear regressions from explanatory  
91 variable is implemented in this model. Detail information on MTE-GPP can be found in Jung *et*

92 *al* (2011). This product provides global annual GPP from 1982 to 2011 at 0.5 degree with  
93 monthly time step. Annually aggregated and specially resampled MTE-GPP is compared with  
94 NDVI3g GSSNDVI for evaluation purpose.

95

96 **2.8. MODIS Snow Cover (MOD10C2) (WWW-MOD10C2):** MODIS Snow Cover 8-Day  
97 product (MOD10C2) is used to obtain snow cover information to additionally minimize snow-  
98 contamination during processing of GIMMS NDVI3g, MOD13C1, and MCD43C4 growing  
99 season and productivity determination. We first combined two consecutive 8-day composite to  
100 16-day composite with conservative way (Minimum value composite: take lower snow cover  
101 percentage as representative). This approach can be justified, as all vegetation indices are  
102 composited by maximum value compositing approach. Then we defined a pixel as snow-  
103 contaminant pixel when snow occupies more than 20%. Identified 15-years (from 2000 to 2014)  
104 snow cover information is incorporated to determine background NDVI.

105

106 **2.9. MEaSUREs Freeze-Thaw (FT) (WWW-FT):** The FT-ESDR is a NASA MEaSUREs  
107 (Making Earth System Data Records for Use in Research Environments) funded effort to provide  
108 a consistent long-term global data record of land surface freeze/thaw (FT) state dynamics for all  
109 vegetated regions where low temperatures are a major constraint to ecosystem processes (Kim *et*  
110 *al* 2012). The FT-ESDR data set provides four FT status (frozen, thawed, transitional and inverse  
111 transitional) and five filled values for the whole global with daily temporal frequency. In our  
112 analysis, we defined those days classified as frozen, transitional and inverse transitional as non-  
113 photosynthetic days. To the contrary, the other days are defined as photosynthetic days. The  
114 NDVI based growing season was adjusted by the photosynthetic/non-photosynthetic information  
115 derived from FT data set. The rule is that a day must be in the NDVI based growing season and  
116 identified as photosynthetically active days by FT data set.

117

118 **2.10. MERRA Temperature (WWW-MERRA):** Daily MERRA Temperature products are used  
119 in this study. To obtain temperature based potential growing season and growing season summed  
120 warmth index, we firstly aggregated daily temperature to 15-day time step to smooth and  
121 enhance efficiency, then used following rule to define thermal growing season metrics: (a) the  
122 start of the temperature based growing season is the day when the temperature is crossing 0 °C

123 with rising phase; (b) the end of the temperature based growing season is the day when the  
124 temperature is crossing 0 °C decreasing phase; (c) the length of thermal growing season is the  
125 duration between start day and end day of the thermal growing season; (d) the growing season  
126 summed warmth index is the summation of temperature during the growing season.  
127

## 128 **Supplementary References**

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166

167 **Supplementary Tables**

168 **Table S1.** Information of selected global FLUXNET Sites (N=39, Number of observed site-  
 169 years =140). Selection of valid site and data is performed by following two criteria: (i) more than  
 170 95 % of the days have daily GPP data, and (ii) the mean daily quality flag is more than 0.75  
 171 (*Richardson et al 2010*).

Site	Latitude	Longitude	IGBP	N. Obs.	Site	Latitude	Longitude	IGBP	N. Obs.
AT-Neu	47.117	11.318	GRA	1	IT-Lav	45.955	11.281	ENF	2
BE-Bra	51.309	4.521	MF	3	IT-MBo	46.016	11.047	GRA	4
BE-Vie	50.306	5.997	MF	7	IT-Mal	46.117	11.703	GRA	1
CA-Man	55.880	-98.481	ENF	2	IT-Ren	46.588	11.435	ENF	5
CA-NS1	55.879	-98.484	ENF	2	NL-Loo	52.168	5.744	ENF	7
CA-NS2	55.906	-98.525	ENF	2	PL-wet	52.762	16.309	WET	2
CA-NS3	55.912	-98.382	ENF	3	RU-Fyo	56.462	32.924	ENF	7
CA-NS5	55.863	-98.485	ENF	1	SE-Deg	64.183	19.550	WET	1
CA-NS7	56.636	-99.948	OSH	2	SE-Fla	64.113	19.457	ENF	3
CA-Qcu	49.267	-74.037	ENF	4	SE-Nor	60.087	17.480	ENF	4
CA-Qfo	49.693	-74.342	ENF	3	SE-Sk2	60.130	17.840	ENF	1
CZ-BK1	49.503	18.538	ENF	1	UK-EBu	55.866	-3.206	GRA	1
DE-Bay	50.142	11.867	ENF	2	UK-Gri	56.607	-3.798	ENF	5
DE-Gri	50.950	13.513	GRA	1	US-Ho1	45.204	-68.740	ENF	9
DE-Tha	50.964	13.567	ENF	10	US-Ho2	45.209	-68.747	ENF	6
DE-Wet	50.454	11.458	ENF	5	US-ICH	68.607	-149.296	OSH	7
FI-Hyy	61.847	24.295	ENF	8	US-ICs	68.606	-149.311	OSH	7
FI-Kaa	69.141	27.295	WET	5	US-ICt	68.606	-149.304	OSH	7
FI-Sod	67.362	26.638	ENF	5	US-WCr	45.806	-90.080	DBF	2
IT-LMa	45.581	7.155	GRA	1					

172 GRA: Grass, MF: Mixed Forest, ENF: Evergreen Needleleaf Forest, DBF: Deciduous Broadleaf Forest,

173 OSH: Open Shrubland, WET: Wetland

174

175



176 **Table S2.** Continental scale trend estimation for NDVI3g and MODIS based growing season and  
 177 productivity metrics over common temporal periods. We used the two different common periods  
 178 (one for 2001-2012 and the other for 2000-2014) due to relatively short timespan of MCD12Q2.  
 179 Estimates in parentheses represent trends during 2000-2014. The trends were evaluated by  
 180 Vogelsang's *t-PS\_T* test. CP, NA and EA are for circumpolar, North America and Eurasia  
 181 regions, respectively.

	NDVI3g			MODIS			
	CP	NA	EA	CP	NA	EA	
SOS (days·dec <sup>-1</sup> )	0.06 (0.85)	2.25 (2.33)	-0.98 (0.00)	MOD13C1	-2.24 (-1.98)	0.01 (-1.05)	-3.33 (-2.51)
				MCD43C4	-3.29 (-4.71)	-1.73 (-4.13)	-4.04 (-5.03*)
				MCD12Q2	-3.46 (N.A.)	-1.88 (N.A.)	-4.23 (N.A.)
EOS (days·dec <sup>-1</sup> )	0.95 (-0.69)	1.88 (-0.56)	0.43 (-0.76)	MOD13C1	2.45 (1.34)	2.90 (1.41)	2.19 (1.30)
				MCD43C4	2.89 (1.58)	2.71 (1.49)	2.94 (1.63)
				MCD12Q2	1.38 (N.A.)	0.72 (N.A.)	1.71 (N.A.)
LOS (days·dec <sup>-1</sup> )	1.41 (-1.08)	0.18 (-2.30)	1.98 (-0.38)	MOD13C1	4.96 (3.45*)	3.43 (2.73*)	5.72 (3.85*)
				MCD43C4	6.52 (6.48)	5.22* (6.09)	7.19 (6.70*)
				MCD12Q2	4.65 (N.A.)	2.42* (N.A.)	5.80 (N.A.)
GSSNDVI (dec <sup>-1</sup> )	4.81 (1.87)	4.36 (1.65)	5.01 (2.00)	MOD13C1	3.10 (2.21*)	2.28 (1.92*)	3.50 (2.37*)
				MCD43C4	4.03 (4.42)	3.16 (4.19)	4.46 (4.55)
				MCD12Q2	1.29 (N.A.)	0.41* (N.A.)	1.74 (N.A.)

182 \*\*\* : p<0.01, \*\* : p<0.05, \* : p<0.1

183 N.A.: Not available

184

185 **Table S3.** Area of long-term (1982-2014) SOS, EOS, LOS, MAX and GSSNDVI trends by  
 186 continents and biomes. Significant trends are calculated by Vogelsang's *t-PS\_T* test at 10%  
 187 significance level. Total area focused from this study is 26.02 million km<sup>2</sup>. CP, NA, EA, AR and  
 188 BO are for circumpolar, North America, Eurasia, arctic and boreal regions, respectively. All  
 189 areal quantities in percent (%) are calculated with respect to total vegetated area in CP.

Metric Type	Trend Type	CP			NA			EA		
		All	AR	BO	All	AR	BO	All	AR	BO
SOS	Sig. Positive	2.7	0.5	2.2	2.3	0.4	1.8	0.5	0.1	0.4
	Sig. Negative	27.9	8.7	19.3	5.7	1.8	3.9	22.2	6.8	15.4
	InSig. or No Change	69.4	21.3	48.1	30.3	10.1	20.3	39.0	11.2	27.8
EOS	Sig. Positive	21.9	3.1	18.8	9.9	1.9	7.9	12.1	1.2	10.9
	Sig. Negative	7.7	4.3	3.5	1.9	0.8	1.1	5.8	3.5	2.3
	InSig. or No Change	70.3	23.0	47.3	26.5	9.5	16.9	43.9	13.5	30.4
LOS	Sig. Positive	33.2	7.7	25.4	10.1	2.8	7.3	23.1	4.9	18.2
	Sig. Negative	2.7	1.2	1.6	1.7	0.5	1.2	1.1	0.6	0.4
	InSig. or No Change	64.1	21.6	42.5	26.5	8.9	17.6	37.6	12.6	25.0
MAX	Sig. Positive	28.7	11.3	17.4	8.3	4.5	3.7	20.5	6.8	13.7
	Sig. Negative	5.2	1.1	4.0	3.1	0.4	2.7	2.1	0.7	1.4
	InSig. or No Change	66.1	18.0	48.1	26.9	7.3	19.6	39.1	10.7	28.5
GSSNDVI	Sig. Positive	42.0	12.8	29.1	12.8	5.2	7.6	29.1	7.6	21.5
	Sig. Negative	2.5	0.8	1.7	1.7	0.3	1.4	0.8	0.5	0.3
	InSig. or No Change	55.6	16.8	38.8	23.7	6.7	17.0	31.9	10.1	21.7

190

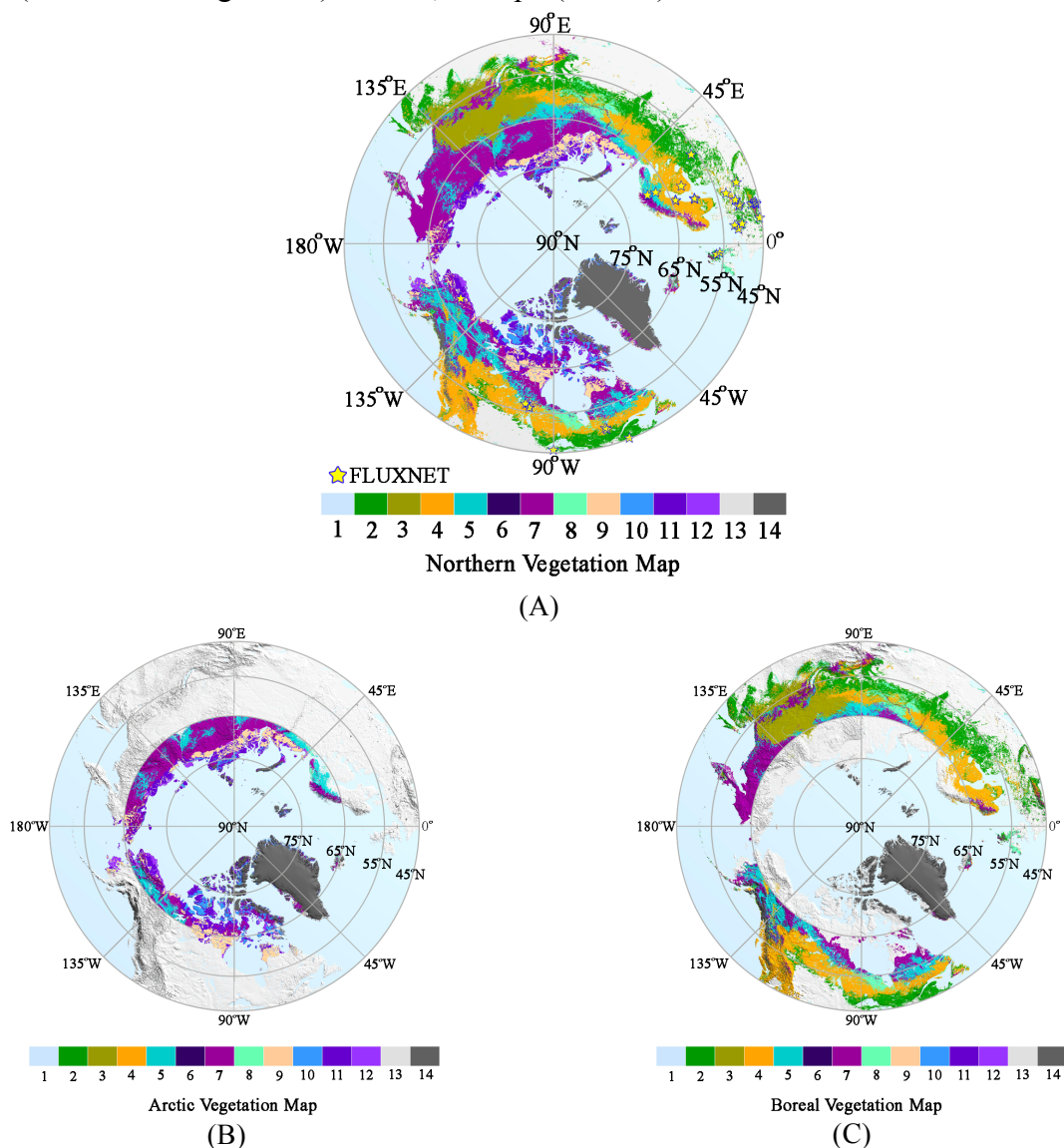
191 **Table S4.** Productivity (GSSNDVI) in 1982 and productivity change between 1982 and 2014 of  
 192 vegetation classes. The Greening (abbreviated as G, shown in green color), Browning  
 193 (abbreviated as B, shown in red color) and No change (abbreviated as N, shown in black color)  
 194 was defined by calculating productivity trend between 1982 and 2014 pixel by pixel using the  
 195 Vogelsang model at 10% significance level. Increased productivity (abbreviated as I, shown in  
 196 green color) and decreased productivity (abbreviated as D, shown in red color) are calculated by  
 197  $\sum_{p=1}^{NVC_i} 33yr \cdot T_p \cdot A_p$ , where  $NVC_i$  is the total pixel number of the  $i$ th vegetation classes showing  
 198 significant positive or negative changes,  $T_p$  is the yearly common productivity trend ( $yr^{-1}$ ) of  
 199 pixel  $p$ ,  $A_p$  is the area weight (unitless) of pixel  $p$ . Area weighted total GSSNDVI over the  
 200 greening ( $G_{1982} = 9.04 \times 10^8$ ) and browning ( $B_{1982} = 5.89 \times 10^7$ ) regions in 1982 was used as  
 201 denominator to calculate [Table 3](#) quantities. All quantities listed in below are unitless.

Vegetation Class	GSSNDVI in 1982			GSSNDVI Change (1982-2014)	
	G	B	N	I	D
Mixed Forests	$3.18 \times 10^8$	$3.66 \times 10^6$	$2.19 \times 10^8$	$5.89 \times 10^7$	$-5.40 \times 10^5$
Deciduous Needleleaf Forests	$8.76 \times 10^7$	$1.87 \times 10^6$	$1.32 \times 10^8$	$1.35 \times 10^7$	$-2.16 \times 10^5$
Evergreen Needleleaf Forests	$2.01 \times 10^8$	$2.13 \times 10^7$	$3.08 \times 10^8$	$4.75 \times 10^7$	$-4.55 \times 10^6$
Forest-Shrubs Ecotone	$7.58 \times 10^7$	$1.16 \times 10^7$	$1.63 \times 10^8$	$1.74 \times 10^7$	$-2.13 \times 10^6$
Closed Shrublands	$2.91 \times 10^6$	$2.87 \times 10^5$	$4.29 \times 10^6$	$7.63 \times 10^5$	$-6.27 \times 10^4$
Open Shrublands	$1.44 \times 10^8$	$1.38 \times 10^7$	$2.17 \times 10^8$	$3.95 \times 10^7$	$-2.67 \times 10^6$
Grasslands/ Wetlands (North of Forests)	$9.72 \times 10^6$	$5.60 \times 10^5$	$1.82 \times 10^7$	$2.41 \times 10^6$	$-1.47 \times 10^5$
Erect Shrub Tundra	$3.17 \times 10^7$	$2.17 \times 10^6$	$3.58 \times 10^7$	$9.77 \times 10^6$	$-5.44 \times 10^5$
Prostrate Shrub Tundra	$4.73 \times 10^6$	$3.98 \times 10^5$	$7.91 \times 10^6$	$1.70 \times 10^6$	$-1.13 \times 10^5$
Graminoid Tundra	$2.36 \times 10^7$	$1.75 \times 10^6$	$2.95 \times 10^7$	$8.33 \times 10^7$	$-5.03 \times 10^5$
Wetlands	$4.80 \times 10^6$	$1.47 \times 10^6$	$1.13 \times 10^7$	$1.62 \times 10^6$	$-3.53 \times 10^5$
<b>Total</b>	$9.04 \times 10^8$	$5.89 \times 10^7$	$1.15 \times 10^9$	$2.01 \times 10^8$	$-1.18 \times 10^7$

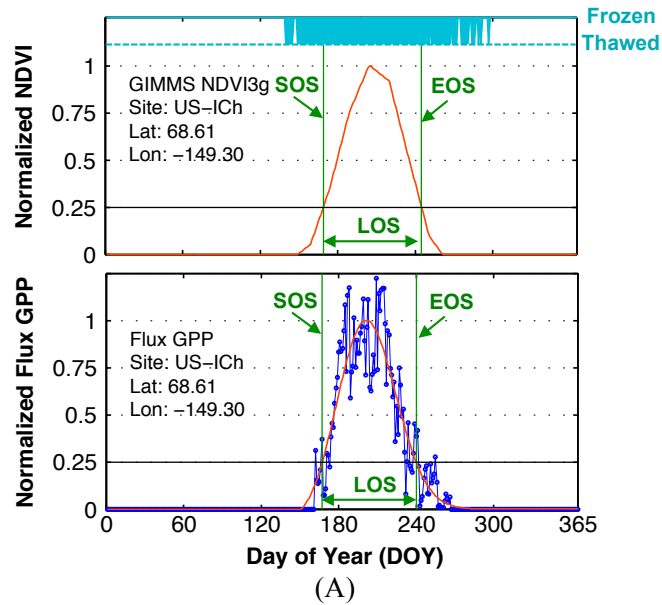
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204 **Supplementary Figures**

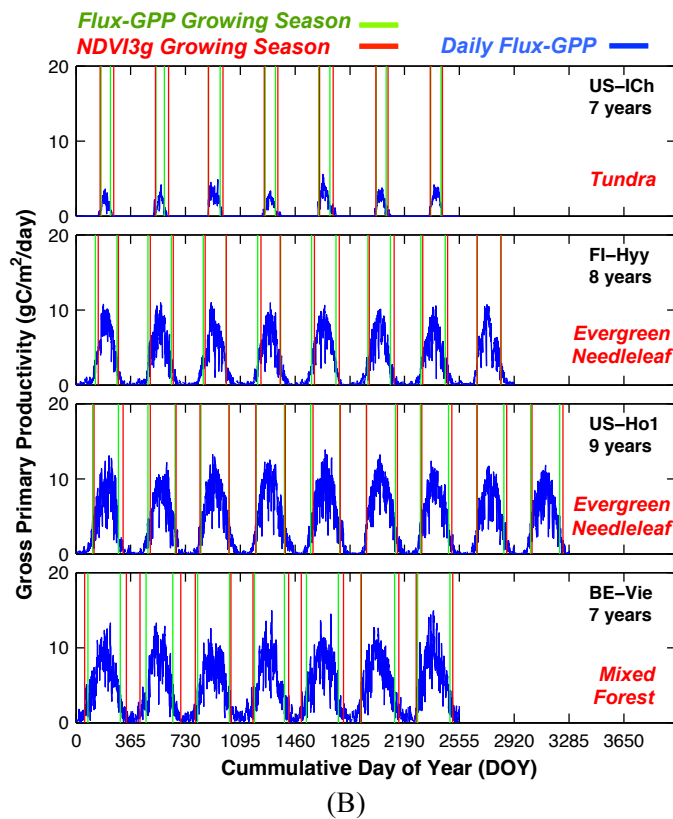
205 **Figure S1.** Northern Boreal and Arctic vegetation map (A). Vegetation classes 9 to 12 are as  
 206 per the Circumpolar Arctic Vegetation Map (Walker *et al* 2005). The rest of the vegetation  
 207 classes are based on the MODIS International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) land  
 208 covers (definitions in Friedl *et al* 2010). Yellow star marker shows spatial distribution of used  
 209 FLUXNET (N=39) sites for evaluation purposes. (B) Arctic vegetation only, (C) Boreal  
 210 vegetation only. Class1: Oceans and inland lakes, Class2: Mixed Forests, Class3: Deciduous  
 211 Needleleaf Forests, Class4: Evergreen Needleleaf Forests, Class5: Forest-Shrubs Ecotone,  
 212 Class6: Closed Shrublands, Class7: Open Shrublands, Class8: Grasslands/ Wetlands (North of  
 213 Forests), Class9: Erect Shrub Tundra, Class10: Prostrate Shrub Tundra, Class11: Graminoid  
 214 Tundra, Class12: Wetlands, Class13: Other Vegetation (e.g., crops): Not considered in this  
 215 study, Class14: Barren. Group1 (Forest): Class2-4, Group2 (Other woody vegetation): Class5-7,  
 216 Group3 (Herbaceous vegetation): Class8, Group4 (Tundra): Class9-12.



217 **Figure S2.** Definition of growing season and productivity from remotely sensed NDVI and  
 218 FLUXNET GPP data (A). One year NDVI3g and tower measured GPP from US-ICH  
 219 FLUXNET site were used for this example case. (B) Examples of retrieved NDVI3g and GPP  
 220 based growing season metrics over four FLUXNET sites where have more than 6 years valid  
 221 GPP observations.

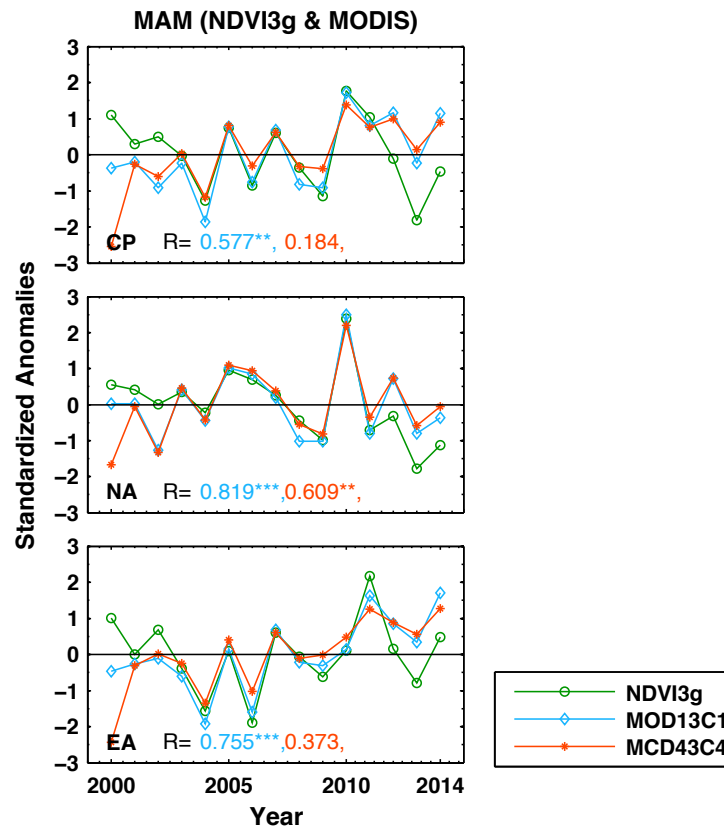


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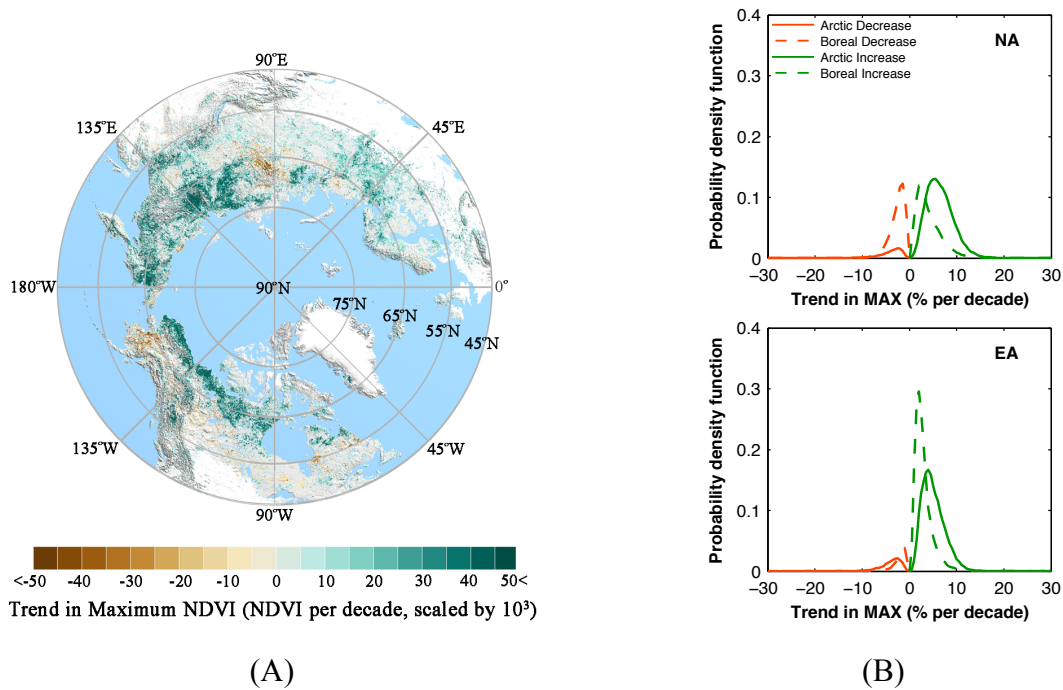
227 **Figure S3.** Continental scale comparison between NDVI3g and MODIS (MOD13C1 and  
 228 MCD43C4) spring (March to May) NDVIs. Correlation coefficients between NDVIs from  
 229 NDVI3g and MODIS datasets are calculated (\*\*:  $p < 0.01$ , \*:  $p < 0.05$ , :  $p < 0.1$ ) and given with  
 230 corresponding color scheme. CP, NA and EA are for Circumpolar, North America and Eurasia  
 231 regions, respectively. Increase in March-May NDVIs corresponds to an advance in the green-up  
 232 date while a decrease corresponds to delay. As shown in below figure, the spring AVHRR NDVI  
 233 showed strong negative anomalies and the other two vegetation indices from MODIS showed  
 234 slight positive anomalies during 2012–2014. Therefore, the different response to vegetation  
 235 growth of the AVHRR NDVI when compared with the MODIS vegetation indices appears to be  
 236 responsible for the differences in the SOS and LOS variation. This comparison clearly indicates  
 237 that divergence between NDVI3g and MODIS we observed (Figure 1A and 1C) should have  
 238 been caused by the differences in response of vegetation indices to vegetation growth between  
 239 sensors, rather than by the processing methods.



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242 **Figure S4.** Long-term (1982-2014) trend in maximum NDVI (MAX) over Northern vegetated  
 243 area (A). The trend was calculated using Vogelsang's  $t$ - $PS_T$  test at 10% significance level. Non-  
 244 vegetated pixels and pixels have no significant trend were shown in white and gray, respectively.  
 245 Probability density function (PDF) of change rate per decade for only showing significant  
 246 positive and negative changes is provided (B). All cases including insignificant or no changes  
 247 can be found in [Figure S4](#). PDFs are normalized to total area of significant changes in each  
 248 continent and biome. NA and EA are for North America and Eurasia. In PDFs, green and red  
 249 lines represent significant positive and negative PDFs. Solid and dash lines stand for arctic and  
 250 boreal regions, respectively.



251

252 **Figure S5.** Probability density function (PDF) of change rate per decade for showing both  
 253 significant and insignificant changes in onset (SOS), end (EOS) and length (LOS) of growing  
 254 season, maximum (MAX) and growing season summed NDVI (GSSNDVI). Significant trends  
 255 are calculated by Vogelsang's  $t$ - $PS_T$  test at 10% significance level. PDFs are normalized to  
 256 total vegetated area of each continent and biome. NA, EA, AR and BO are for North America,  
 257 Eurasia, arctic and boreal regions, respectively (Table S3). In PDFs, green and red lines represent  
 258 only significant positive and negative PDFs, while gray lines show all cases including significant  
 259 and insignificant cases. Solid and dash lines stand for arctic and boreal regions, respectively. (A)  
 260 SOS, (B) EOS, (C) LOS, (D) MAX and (E) GSSNDVI.

