

Monitoring *Spartina* Marshes in the Argentine Coast: integrating Biophysical Parameters, Hyperspectral Field Data and Satellite Observations.

Gabriela González-Trilla^{1,2},
Patricia Kandus¹ and Jorge Marcovecchio^{2,3}

gtrilla@unsam.edu.ar

¹ Laboratorio de Ecología Teledetección y Ecoinformática.
(LETyE),

Instituto de Investigaciones e Ingeniería ambiental (3iA),
Universidad Nacional de San Martín (UNSAM)

² Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas
(CONICET)

³ Instituto Argentino de Oceanografía (IADO)

Argentina

Salt marshes of the Southamerican Atlantic Coast



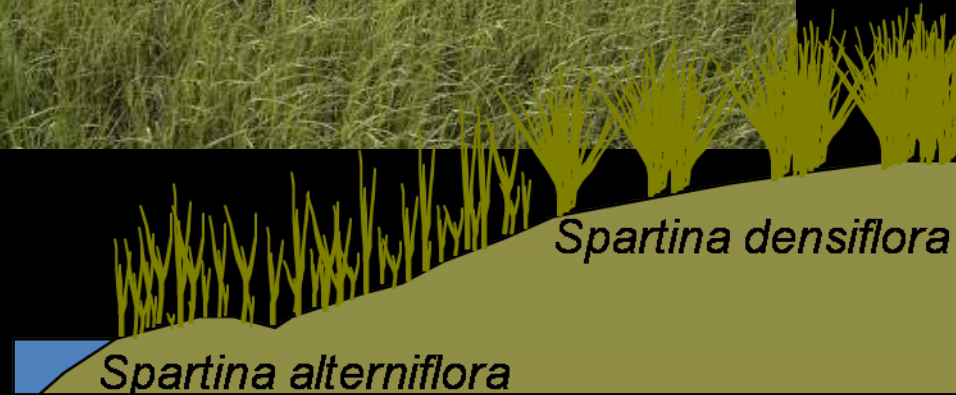
Salt marshes extend from the southern portion of Brazil up to Tierra del Fuego, Argentina.

This low energy intertidal environments are dominated by *Spartina densiflora*, *S. alterniflora* and *Sarcocornia perennis*

Idaszkin, Y.L., Bortolus, A., and Bouza, P.J., 2010. Ecological processes shaping central Patagonian salt marsh landscapes. *Austral Ecology*, 36(1), 59-67

Spartina alterniflora (Smooth cordgrass)

- Native to the temperate Atlantic Coast of the American Continent
- It occupies lower intertidal zones while in the higher zones *S. densiflora* is found in South America
- Primarily maintained by vegetative reproduction





OBJECTIVE

In order to develop procedures to map and monitor *Spartina alterniflora* marshes, we attempt to integrate Leaf Area Index (LAI) and Biomass (Bio) acquired at field local scale, with satellite remote sensing data.

This work took place at Bahia Blanca Estuary, Argentina.

Bahía Blanca Estuary

One of the most important salt marsh in Argentina, where *S. alterniflora* form Monospecific stands

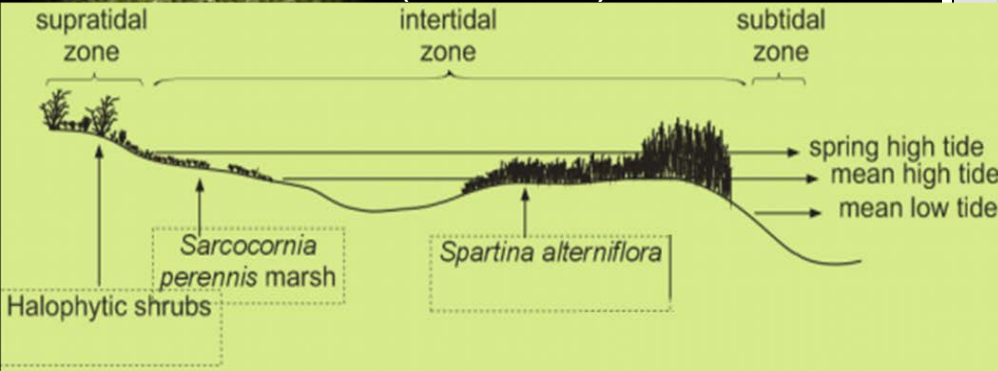
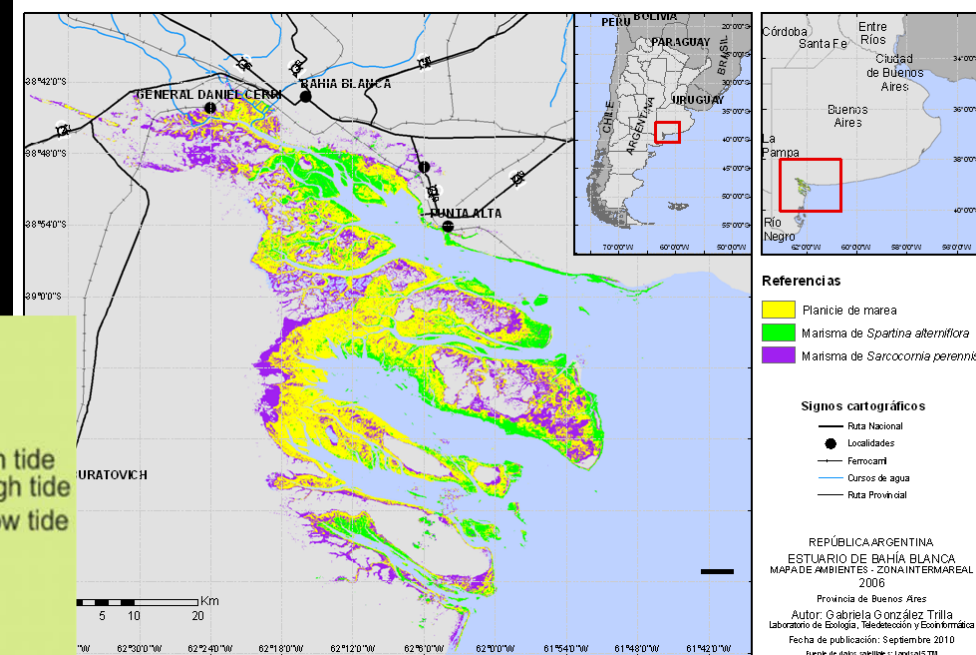
It extends between 38°45' and 39°25' S

Northern limit of the Patagonian desert

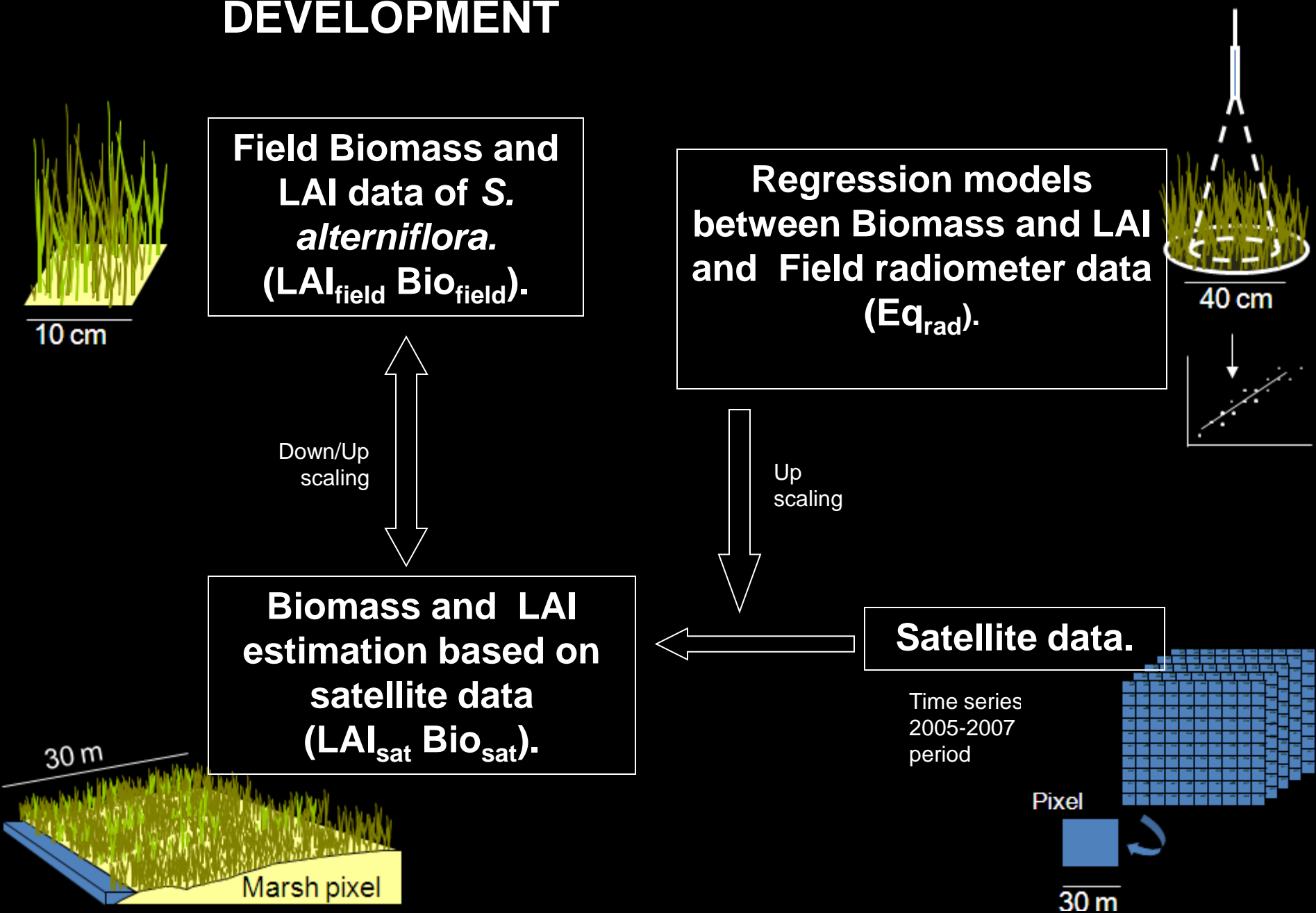
The estuary covers 2500 Km²: 410 km² of marshes and more than 1150 km² of mudflats.

Mesotidal (up to 4m)

Low freshwater inflow (3 m³ s⁻¹)



DEVELOPMENT

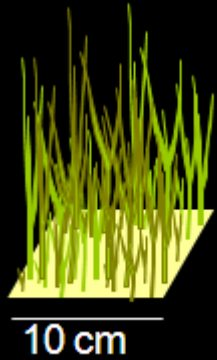


DEVELOPMENT

Field Biomass and LAI data of *S. alterniflora*.

(LAI_{field} Bio_{field})

Measured in permanent sample plots (10 cm side), based on allometric equations (2005-2007)

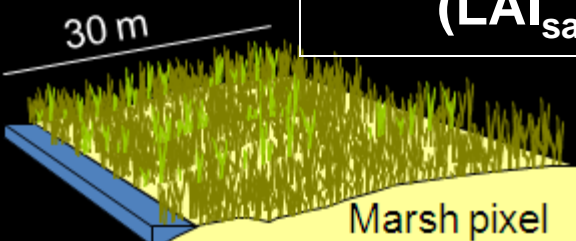


Regression models between Biomass and LAI and Field radiometer data (Eq_{rad}).



Down/Up scaling

Biomass and LAI estimation based on satellite data (LAI_{sat} Bio_{sat}).



Up scaling

Satellite data.

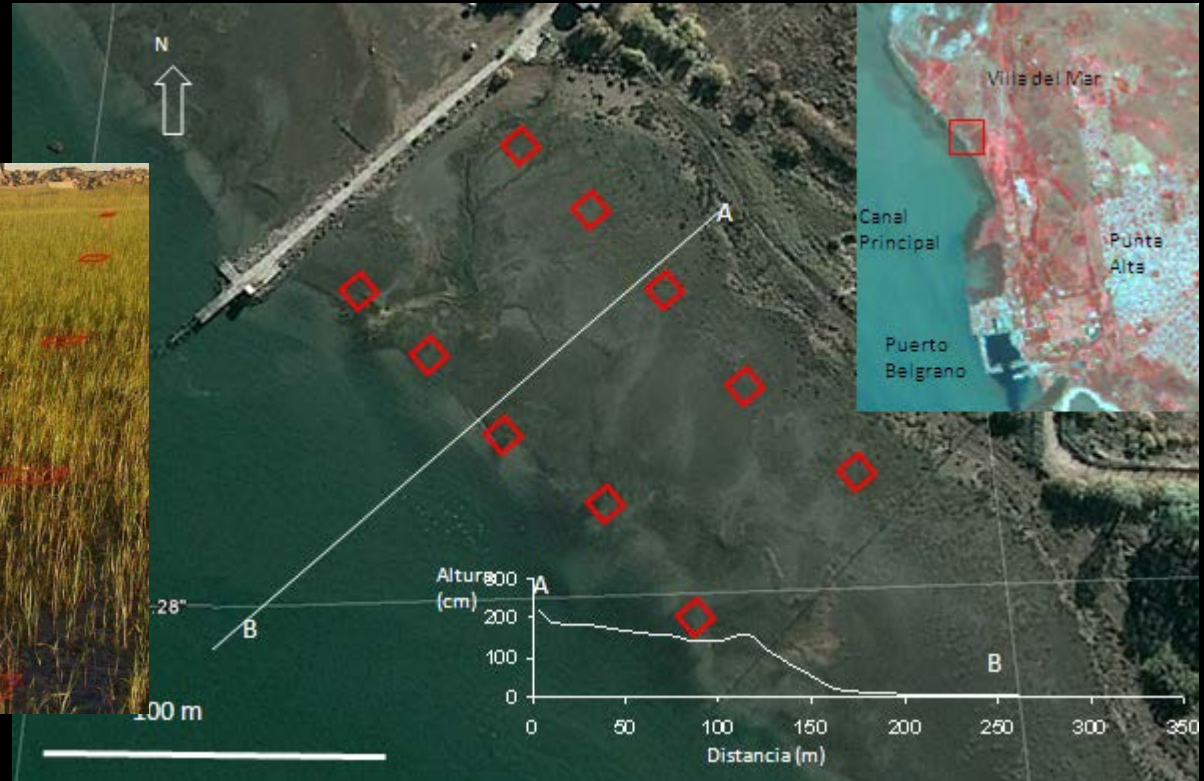
Time series
2005-2007
period

Pixel



30 m

Field Biomass and LAI data of *S. alterniflora*. (LAI_{field} Bio_{field}).



- *Measured in permanent sample plots (10 cm side)*

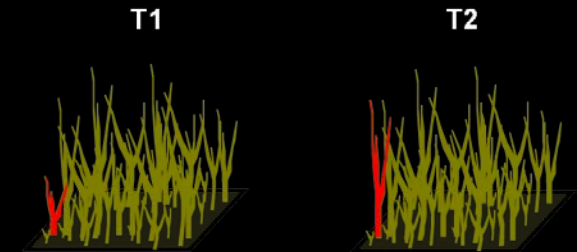
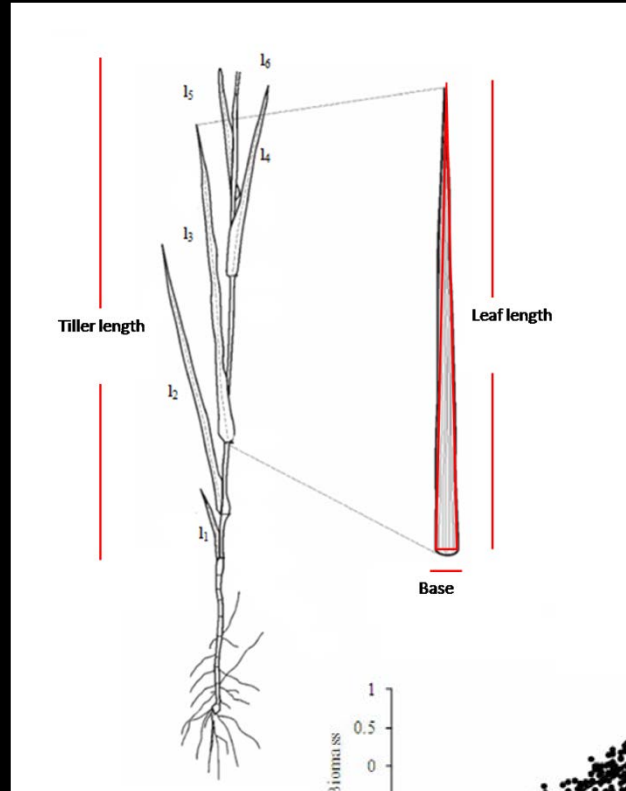
Field Biomass and LAI data of *S. alterniflora*. (LAI_{field} Bio_{field}).

Tagging and following tillers in permanent sample plots

Use of allometric regressions

Measurements every 2 months.

Study period: 2005-2007: 2 growing seasons.



T1

T2

T1

L1

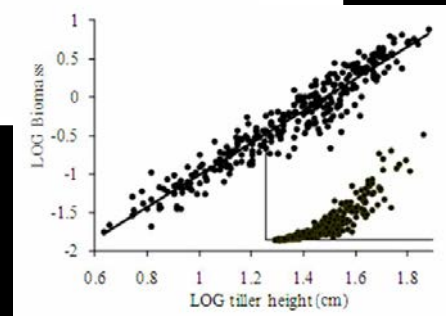
↓

Use of allometric equations between Biomass and LAI and tiller length

B1

B2

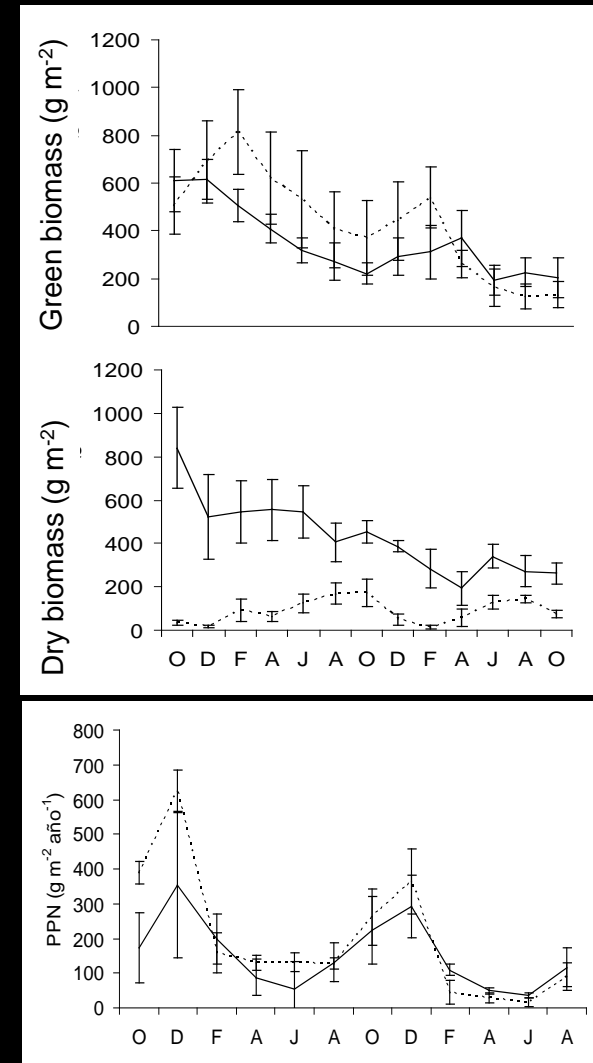
PPN



Field Biomass and LAI data of *S. alterniflora*. (LAI_{field} Bio_{field}).

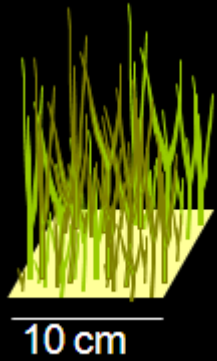
Aboveground primary productivity is around $628 \pm 327 \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ year}^{-1}$.

Total Biomass was estimated as $655.75 \pm 120 \text{ g m}^{-2}$



- González Trilla, G., Kandus, P., Negrin, V. and Marcovecchio, J. 2009. Tiller dynamic and production on a SW Atlantic *Spartina Alterniflora* marsh. Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science. 85:1 (126-133).
- González Trilla, G., De Marco, S., Marcovecchio, J., Vicari, R. and Kandus, P. 2010. Net Primary productivity of *Spartina densiflora* brong in a SW atlantic coastal salt marsh. Estuaries and Coasts. 33 (4): 953-962.

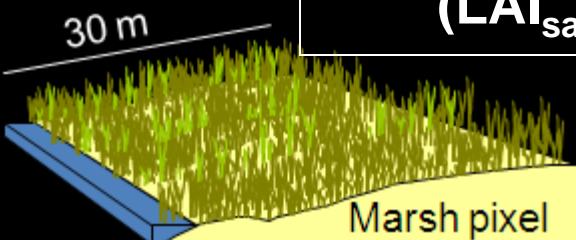
DEVELOPMENT



Field Biomass and LAI data of *S. alterniflora*.
(LAI_{field} Bio_{field}).

Down/Up scaling

Biomass and LAI estimation based on satellite data
(LAI_{sat} Bio_{sat}).



Regression models between Biomass and LAI and Field radiometer data (Eq_{rad}).

Reflectance measured in circular plots (40 cm diameter). Biomass and LAI between $NDVI_{rad}$ and $MSAVI_{rad}$ regression equations were generated.



Up scaling

Satellite data.

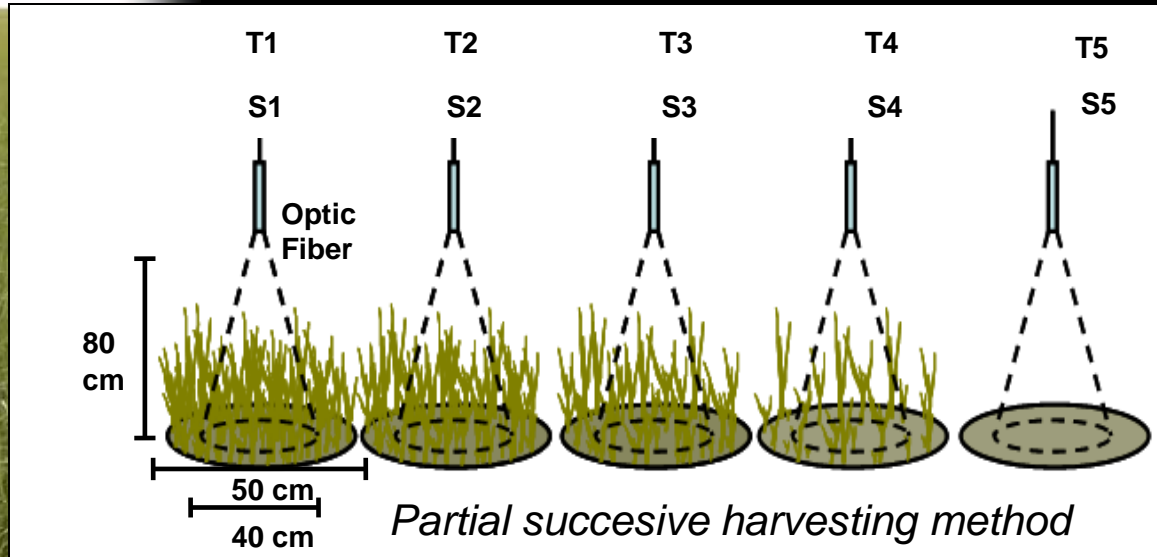
Time series
2005-2007
period

Pixel



30 m

Regression models between Biomass /LAI and Field radiometer data ($E_{q_{rad}}$).



Reflectance was measured in circular plots (40 cm diameter) with a *FieldSpec* Radiometer.

Field measurements

- Low tide
- around Noon
- during summer
- 24 sites

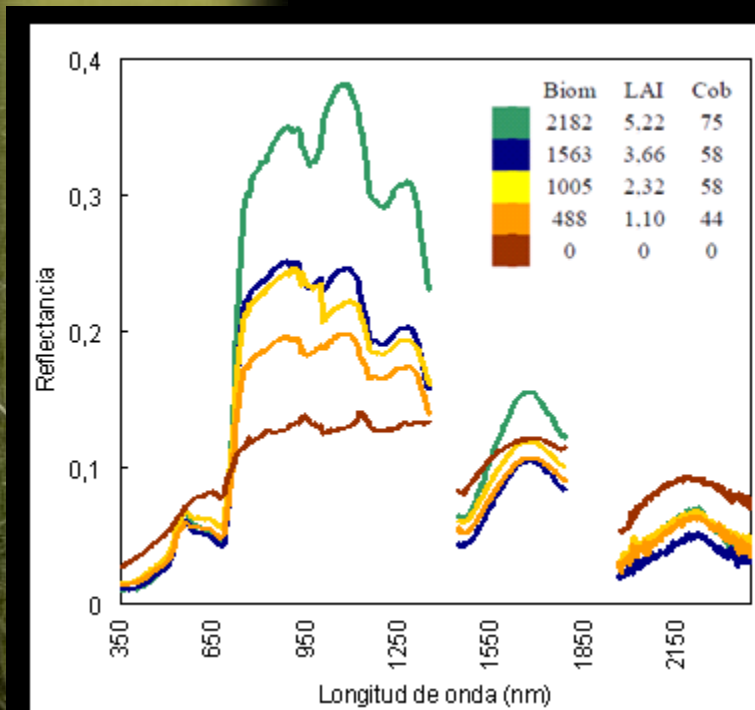


Biomass



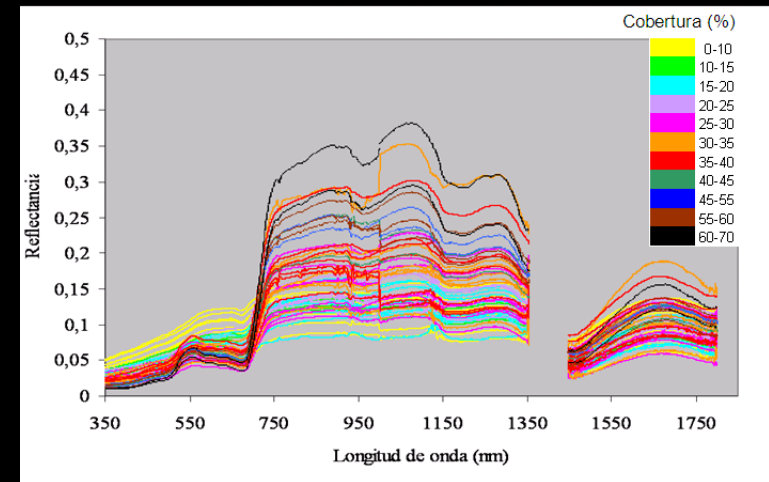
Regression models between Biomass /LAI and Field radiometer data ($E_{q_{rad}}$).

Spectral signatures for different partial successive harvesting biomass levels



Plots biomass were highly correlated with LAI ($r=0.91$) and cover ($r=0.82$).

Spectral signatures for all sites and harvesting



Regression models between Biomass /LAI and Field radiometer data (Eq_{rad}).

Spectral indices

Nombre	Ecuación	Cita
NDVI _{Rouse}	$(\rho_{864} - \rho_{671}) / (\rho_{864} + \rho_{671})$	
NDVI _{NOAA}	$(\text{Pr}(\rho_{720-1100}) - \text{Pr}(\rho_{580-680})) / (\text{Pr}(\rho_{720-1100}) + \text{Pr}(\rho_{580-680}))$	Kriegler et al. (1969), Rouse et al. (1974)
NDVI _{Landat}	$(\text{Pr}(\rho_{760-900}) - \text{Pr}(\rho_{630-690})) / (\text{Pr}(\rho_{760-900}) + \text{Pr}(\rho_{630-690}))$	
NDVI _{Medis}	$(\text{Pr}(\rho_{841-876}) - \text{Pr}(\rho_{620-670})) / (\text{Pr}(\rho_{841-876}) + \text{Pr}(\rho_{620-670}))$	
GNDVI ₁	$(\rho_{800} - \rho_{550}) / (\rho_{800} + \rho_{550})$	Gitelson et al., 1996
GNDVI ₂	$(\rho_{780} - \rho_{550}) / (\rho_{780} + \rho_{550})$	Gitelson et al., 1996
GRDI _{range}	$(\text{Pr}(\rho_{545-565}) - \text{Pr}(\rho_{660-680})) / (\text{Pr}(\rho_{545-565}) + \text{Pr}(\rho_{660-680}))$	
IRI	ρ_{740} / ρ_{730}	Reusch (1997)
VARI _{green}	$(\text{Pr}(\rho_{545-565}) - \text{Pr}(\rho_{660-680})) / (\text{Pr}(\rho_{545-565}) + \text{Pr}(\rho_{660-680}) - \text{Pr}(\rho_{470-490}))$	Gitelson et al., 2002
PRI 1	$(\rho_{529} - \rho_{569}) / (\rho_{529} + \rho_{569})$	Gamon et al. (1992)
PRI 2	$(\rho_{570} - \rho_{531}) / (\rho_{570} + \rho_{531})$	Gamon et al. (1992)
WBI	ρ_{900} / ρ_{970}	
MCARI1	$(\rho_{700} - \rho_{670}) - 0.2 (\rho_{700} - \rho_{550}) (\rho_{700} / \rho_{670})$	Daughtry et al. (2000)
TCARI	$3 ((\rho_{700} - \rho_{670}) - 0.2 (\rho_{700} - \rho_{550}) (\rho_{700} / \rho_{670}))$	Haboudane et al. (2002)
MSAVI	$0.5 (2 \rho_{800} + 1 - \sqrt{(2 \rho_{800} + 1)^2 - 8 (\rho_{800} - \rho_{670})})$	Qi et al. (1994)
p695/p420	p695/p420	Carter (1994)
p695/p760	p695/p760	Carter et al. (1996)
p800/p550	p800/p550	(Buschman y Nagel, 1993)
REIP	$700 + 40 ((\rho_{670} + \rho_{780}) / 2 - \rho_{700}) / (\rho_{740} - \rho_{700})$	Guyot y Baret, 1988.
OSAVI	$(1 + 0.16) (\rho_{800} - \rho_{670}) / (\rho_{800})$	Rondeaux et al. (1996)
SR	ρ_{800} / ρ_{670}	Jordan (1969); Rouse et al. (1974)

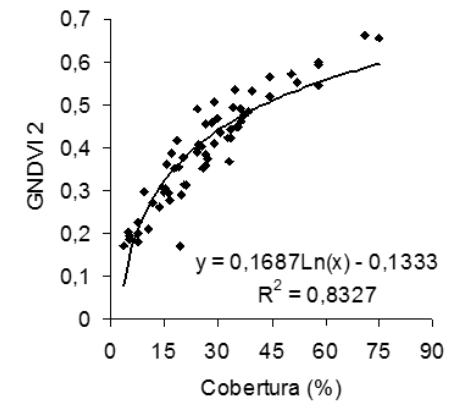
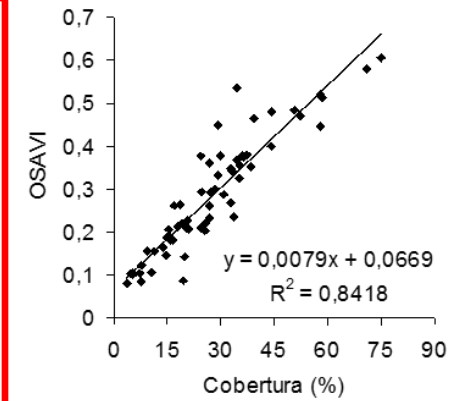
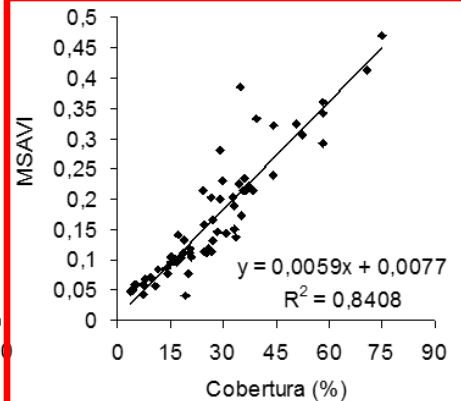
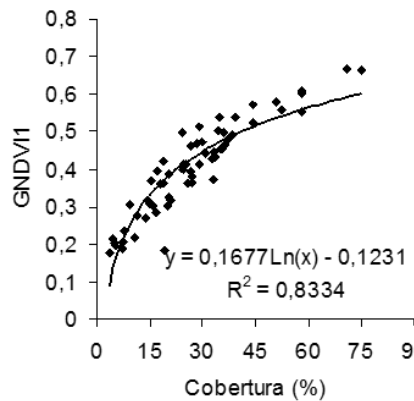
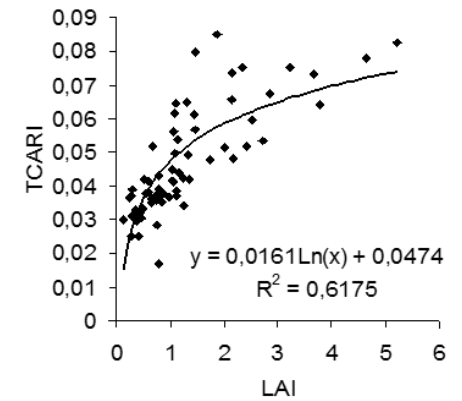
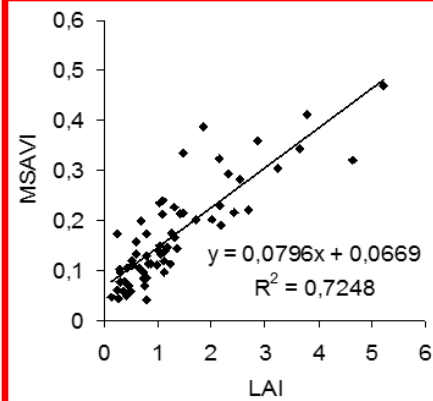
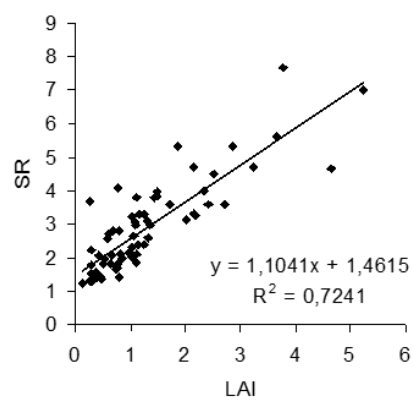
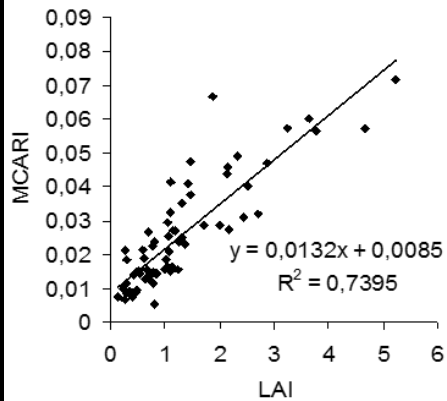
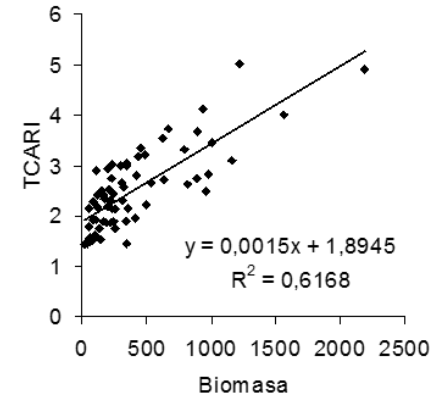
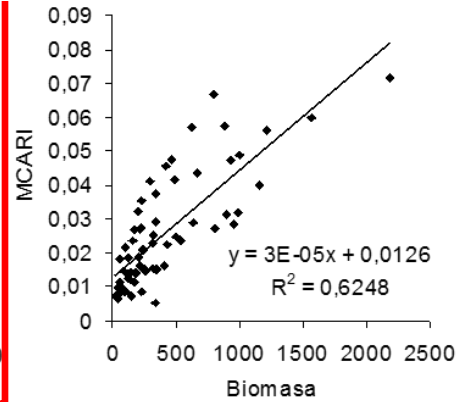
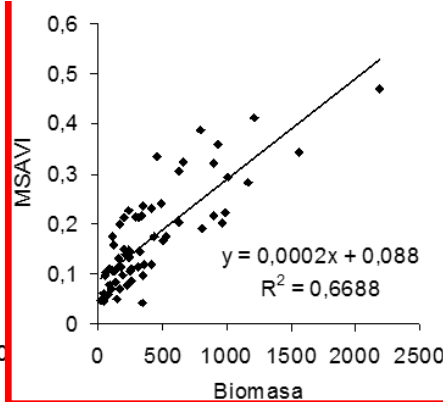
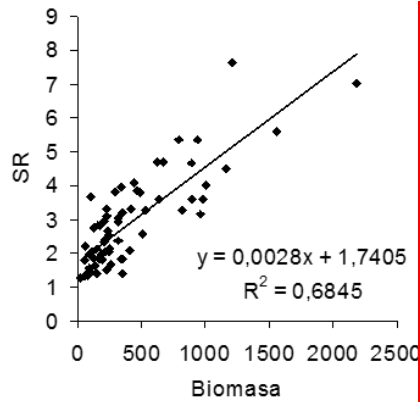
Spectral indices were calculated from spectrometer data for all sites and scenes.

Correlation analysis were performed between Bio and LAI (from plots) and spectral indices.

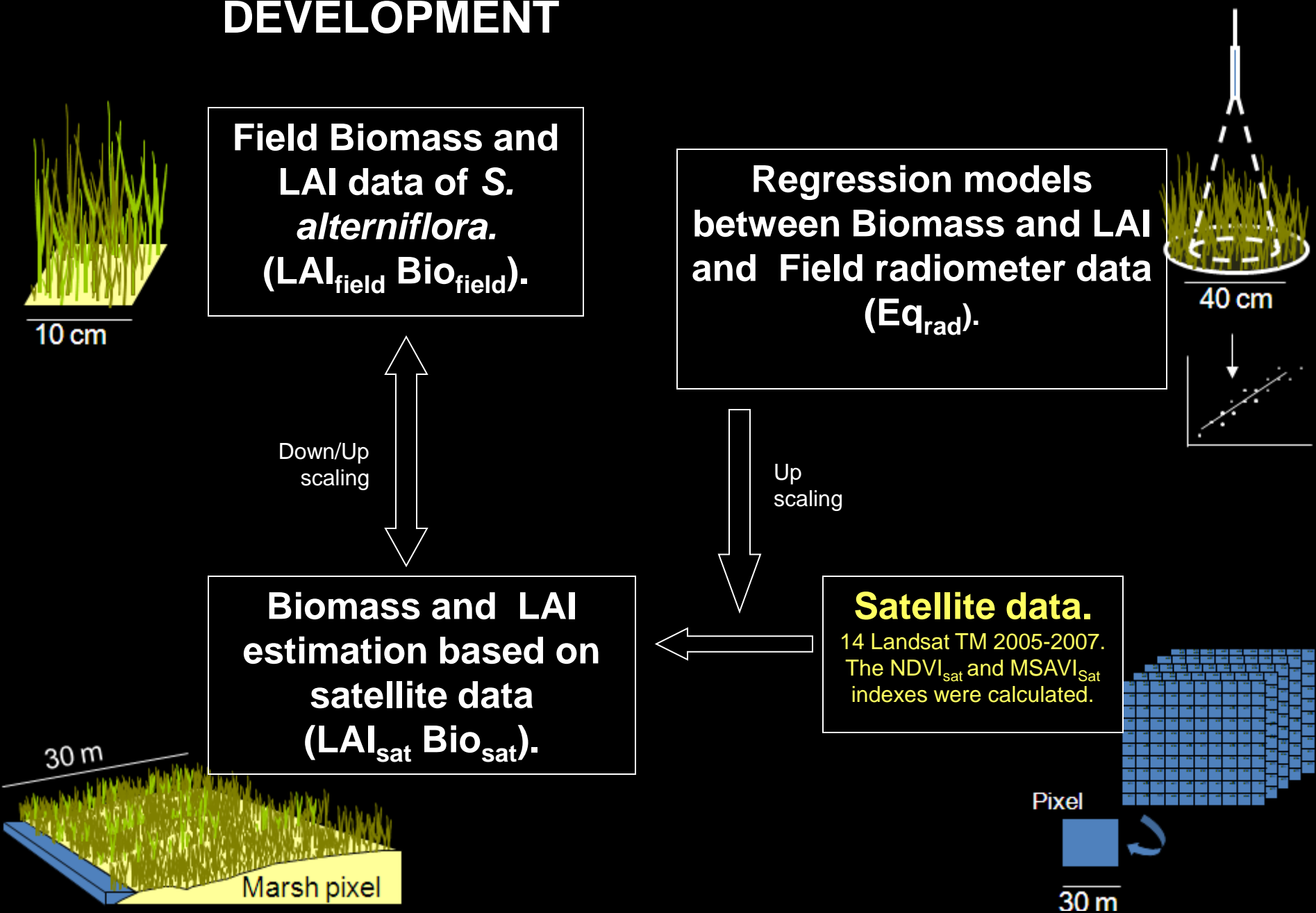
NDVI was not as good as expected and it saturates at high coverage

- González Trilla G, Prato Longo P, Beget ME, Kandus P, Marcovecchio J, Di Bella C. Relating biophysical parameters of coastal marshes in the Bahía Blanca Estuary, Argentina, to hyperspectral reflectance data. Journal of coastal Research. In press.

Regression models between Biomass /LAI and Field radiometer data (Eq_{rad}).



DEVELOPMENT



Satellite data.

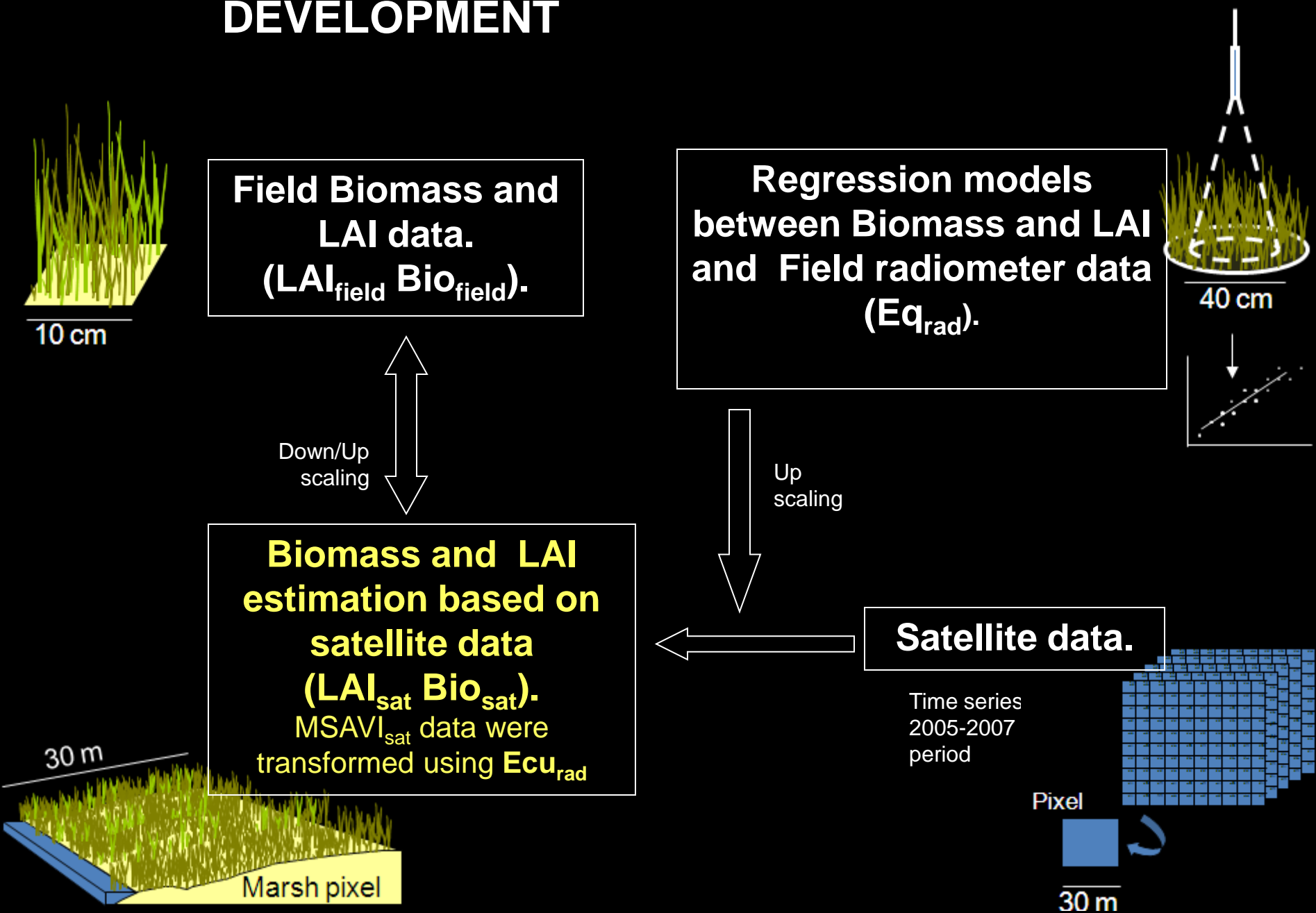
14 Landsat 5 TM scenes (226/87) were acquired between 2005 and 2007.

Images

- geometrically corrected and registered
- surface reflectance were calculated considering a model of Raighley distribution (Stumpft 1992)
- The $MSAVI_{Sat}$ was calculated.
- Pixel samples were taken from the same places where the two years fieldwork was performed.

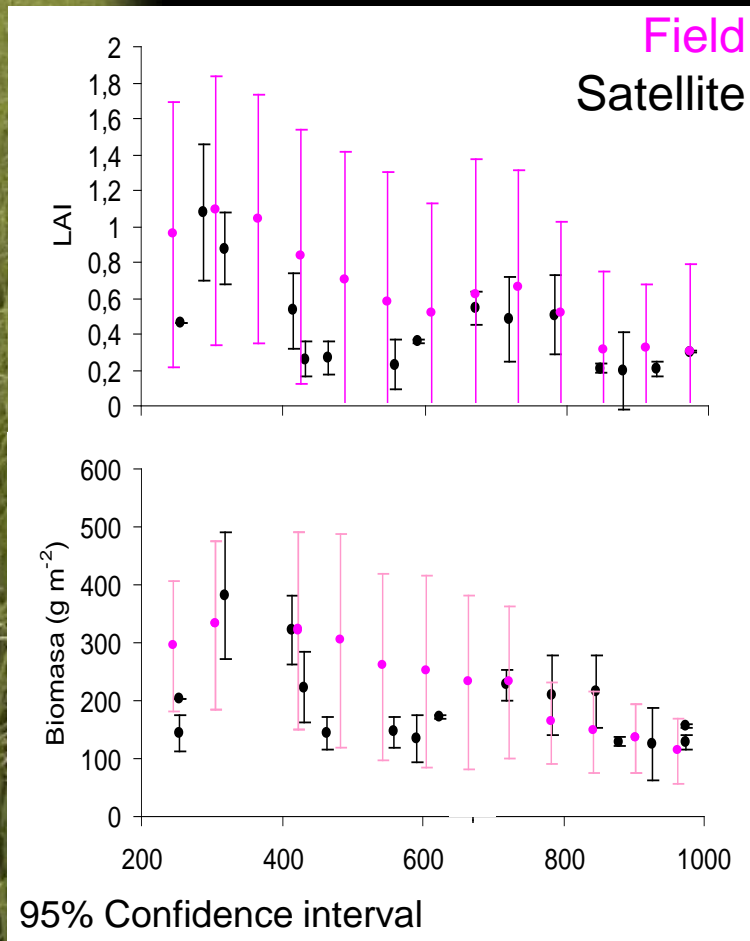


DEVELOPMENT



Biomass and LAI (Bio_{sat} LAI_{sat}) estimations based on satellite data

- Bio_{sat} and LAI_{sat} were estimated from $MSAVI_{sat}$ using Eq_{rad}
- Satellite and field time series data were compared.



$LAI_{sat} - LAI_{field}$

correlations between series $r^2 = 0.79$.

Underestimated	70 (42- 96) %
Overestimated	114 (108 – 118) %

$BIO_{sat} - BIO_{field}$

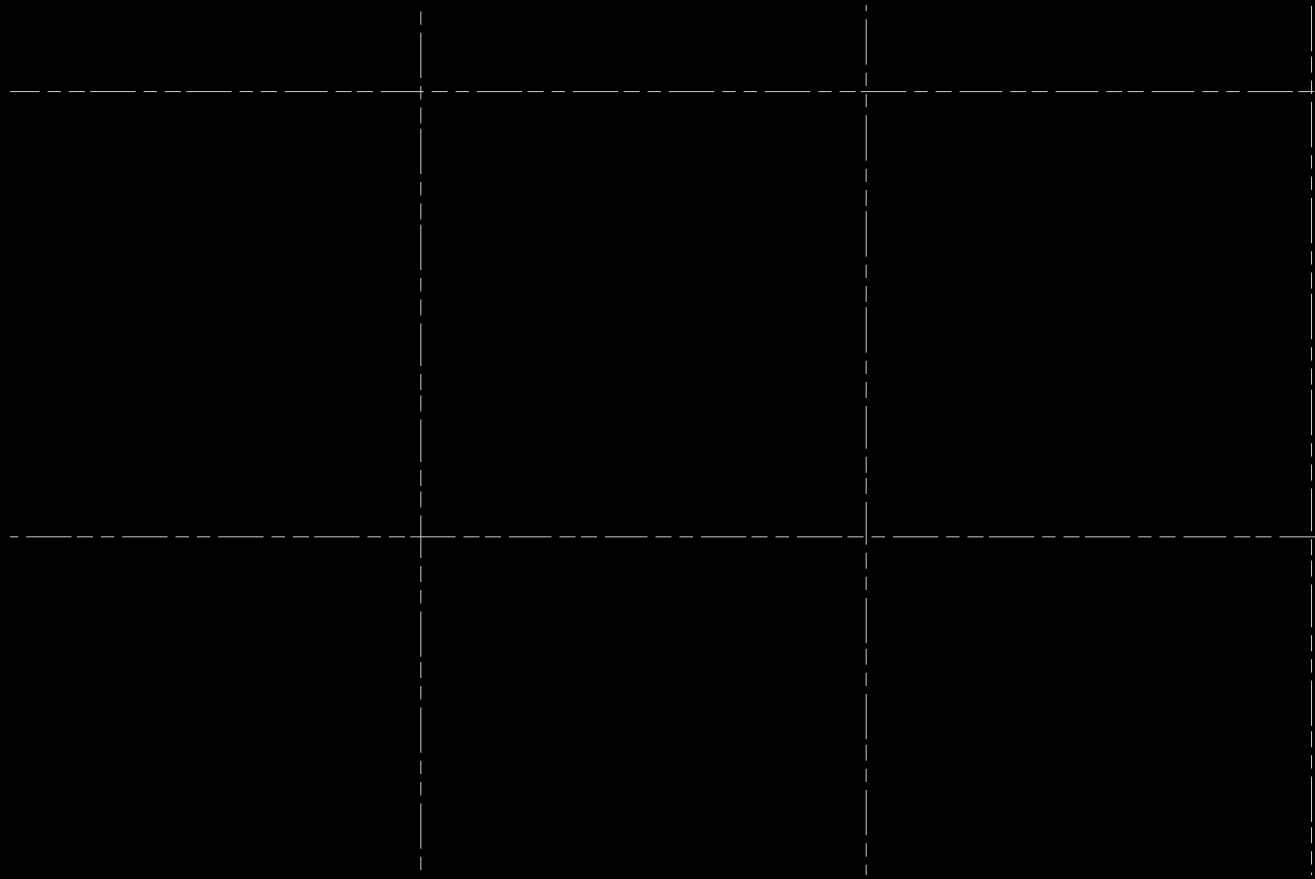
correlations between series $r^2 = 0.43$.

Underestimated	72.83 (44- 97) %
Overestimated	160 (104 – 212) %

LAI showed better estimations

Biomass (Bio_{sat}) estimation based on satellite data

Biomass map made from Landsat 5 TM (226/87) February 2008



Biomass sat	Biomass field	
654 (591 - 718)	639 (416-833.3)	102.3 NS
345 (11 - 679)	469.5 (303.5-635.5)	73.4 NS
707 (501 - 913)	647 (403.3-890.3)	91.5 NS
787 (159 - 1416)	920 (430.5 - 1410)	116.8 NS
794 (613 - 976)	856.5 (406 - 1307)	107.87 NS

Final Remarks

Field data of Biomass and LAI of *Spartina alterniflora* show high variability at site scale, and seasonal and interannual as well. Additional source of variability is the tide condition (*we only consider low tide situations*).

Field radiometer observations were faithful in identifying changes in biomass and LAI.

In order to monitoring *Spartina alterniflora* biomass and LAI, MSAVI show a good performance, much better than NDVI: We obtained a fitting model (RM) between biomass and LAI (field) and MSAVI (radiometer) data.

The application of RM model (Eq_{rad}) on MSAVI derived from a time series of Landsat observations, brings a quite accurate estimation of biomass and LAI mean values.

We obtained a map of biomass distribution for Bahia Blanca marshes which shows a good fit between observed and field values.



UNIVERSIDAD
NACIONAL DE
SAN MARTÍN



3iA

INSTITUTO DE INVESTIGACIÓN E INGENIERÍA AMBIENTAL

Muchas gracias!!

