



Earth Observation for European Sustainable Forest Management –
webinar

Large scale burnt area mapping

Emilio Chuvieco

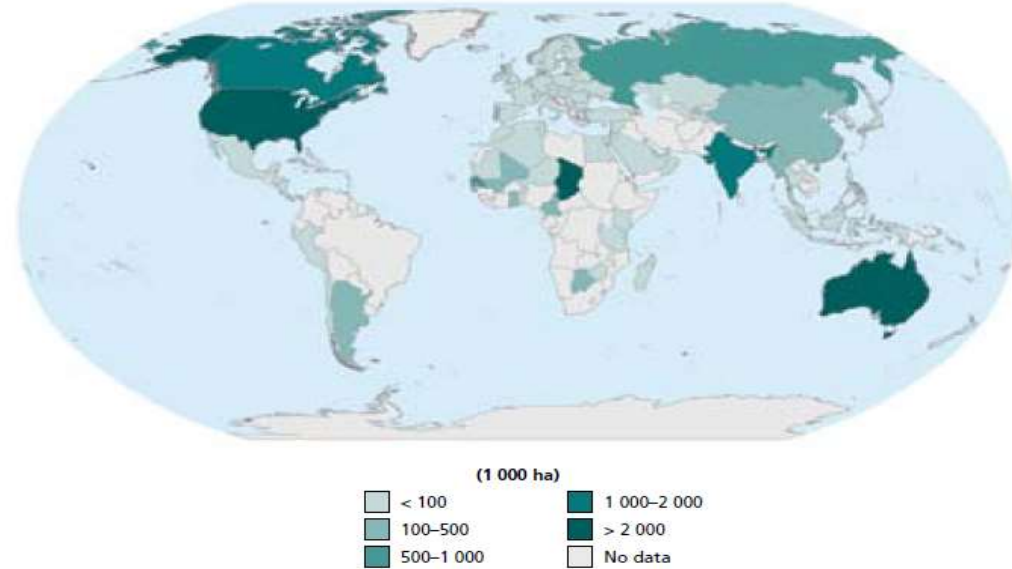
Grupo de investigación en Teledetección Ambiental (GITA)

University of Alcalá (Spain)

How much area is burned globally?

From official FAO statistics (FRA2010): 0.6 Mkm².
Based on information from 78 countries

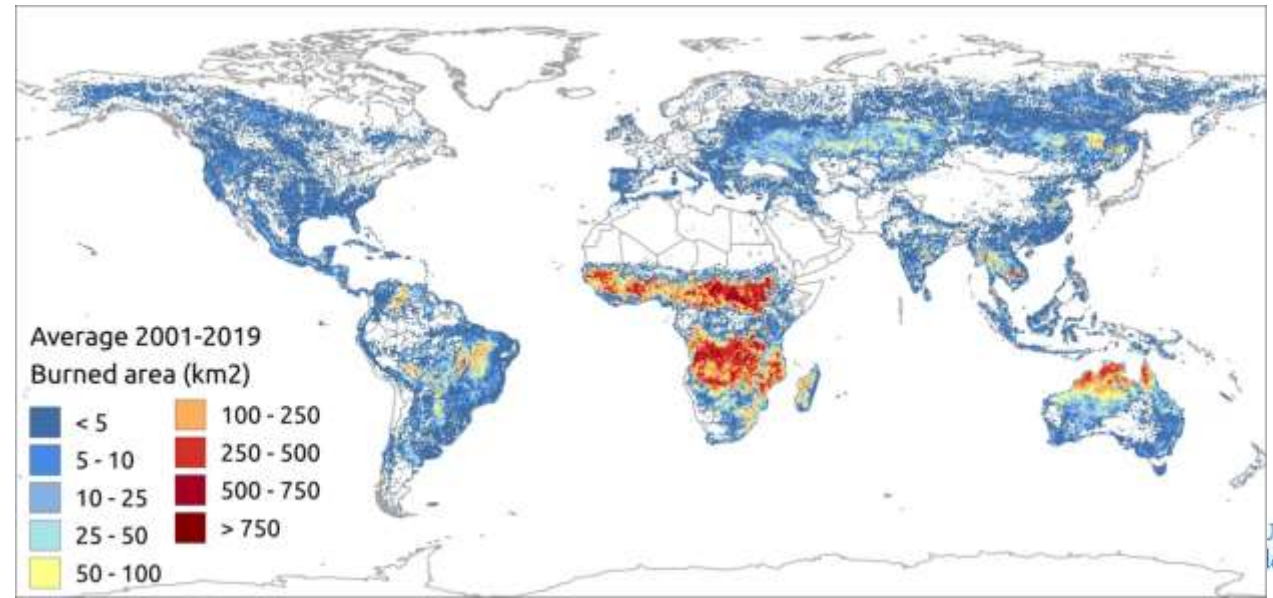
Average area of forest annually affected by fire by country, 2005



From satellite-based products

FireCCI average BA: 4.5 Mkm²

Lizundia-Loiola et al., 2020, RSE



Existing Global BA products

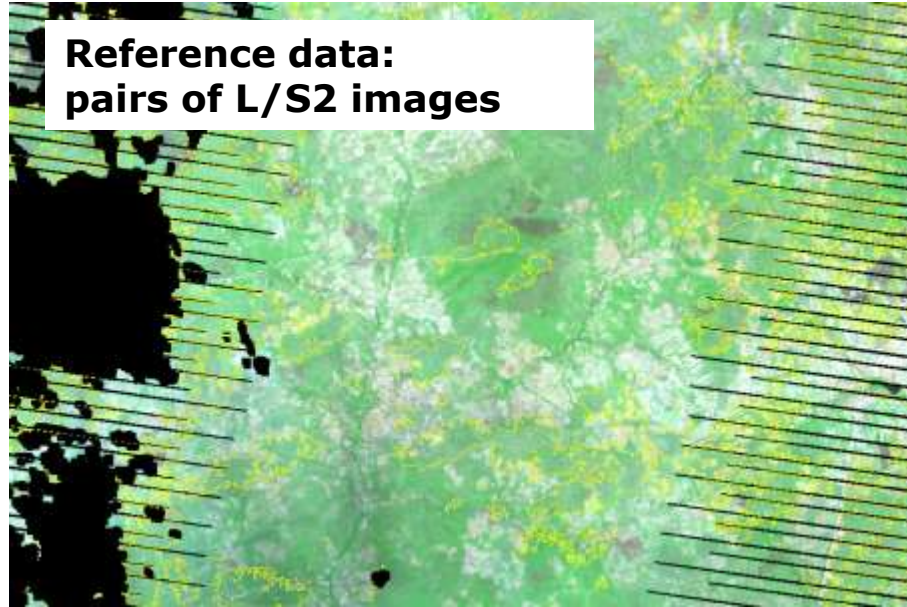
BA dataset	Time span	Sensor/Method	Spatial resolution g=grid p=pixel d=degree	Temporal compositing
GIO-GL1*	1999-present	SPOT VGT; from 04/2014 onwards: PROBA-V	p: 1 km	10-day composite
GIO-GL1 300*	04/2014-present	PROBA-V	p: 300 m	10-day composite
FireCCI51	2001-2019	MODIS VNIR + HS	p: 250 m g: 0.25 d	Monthly
GFED4s	1997-present	MCD64A1 + scaled HS	g: 0.25 d	Monthly with scalars for daily and 3-hourly estimations
GFED4	1995-present	MCD64A1+ ATSR + HS	g: 0.25 d	Monthly Daily (from Aug-2000)
MCD64A1 c6	2000-present	MODIS + HS	p: 500 m g: 0.25 d	Monthly

Sources of BA product errors

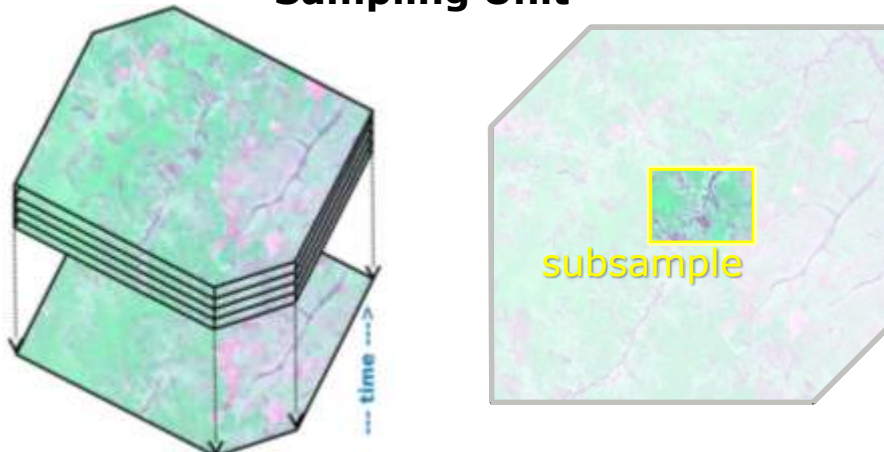
- Input data (sensor limitations):
 - Spatial, spectral and temporal resolution.
 - Cloud coverage, artefacts.
 - Observation conditions.
- Algorithms.
 - Fire is not a binary event!
 - Global BA algorithms should take into account:
 - Severity.
 - Type of fire.
 - Time after fire



Challenges for Global BA validation



Sampling Unit



Stratified random sampling

Years, 2003-2014



npengage.com

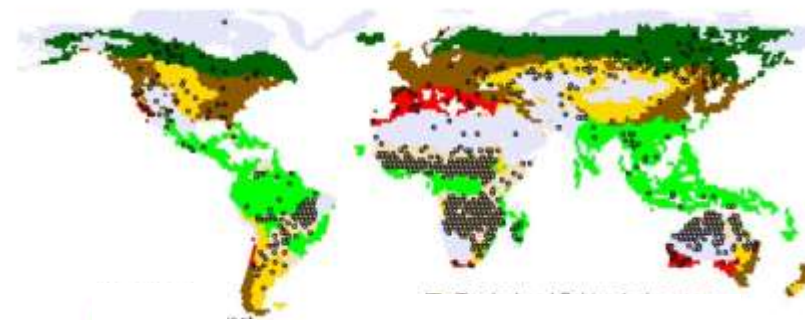
Biomes



MCD64c5
BA

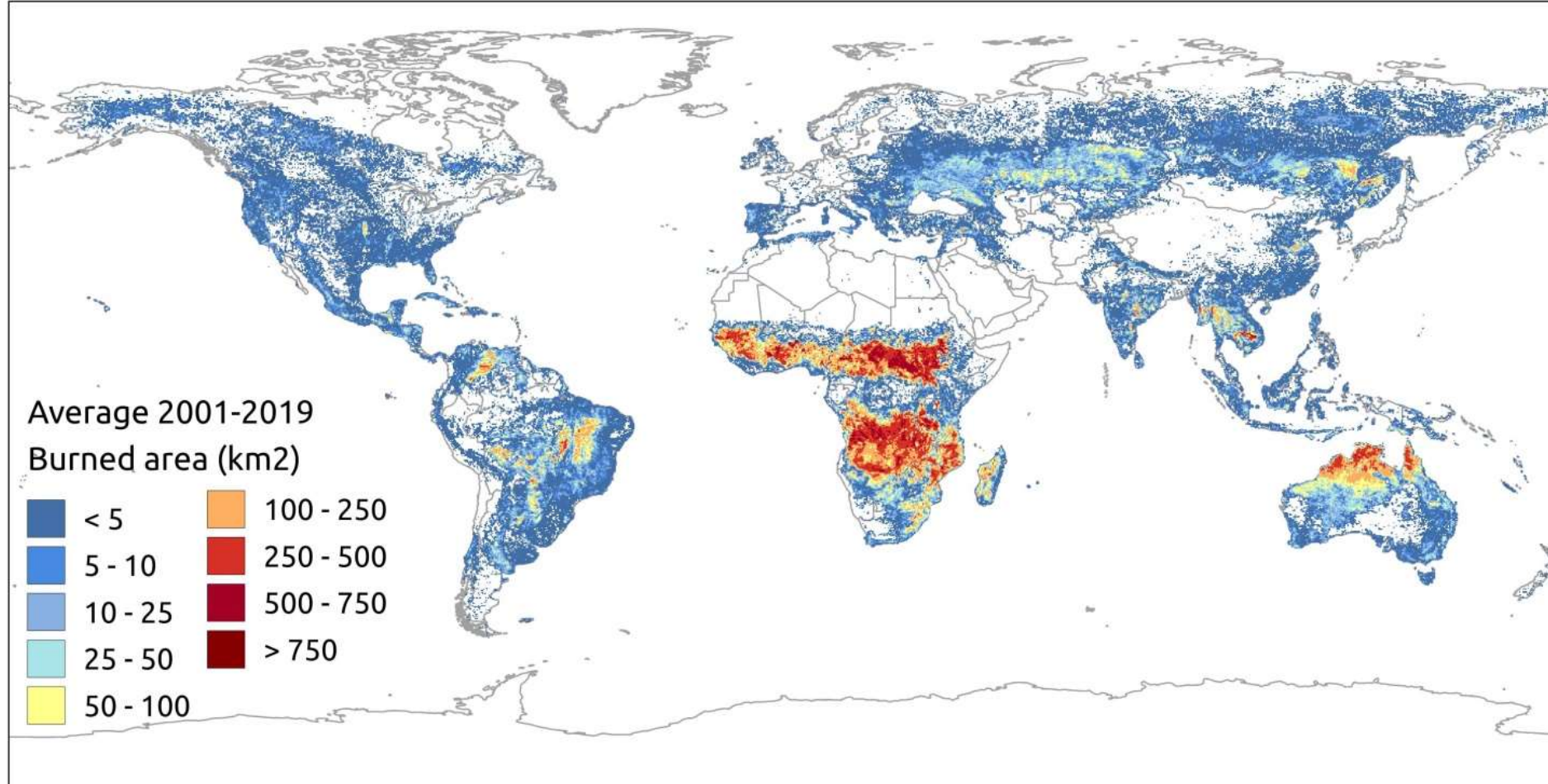


1200 sampling units, 100 each year



Strengths & Limitations of EO BA products

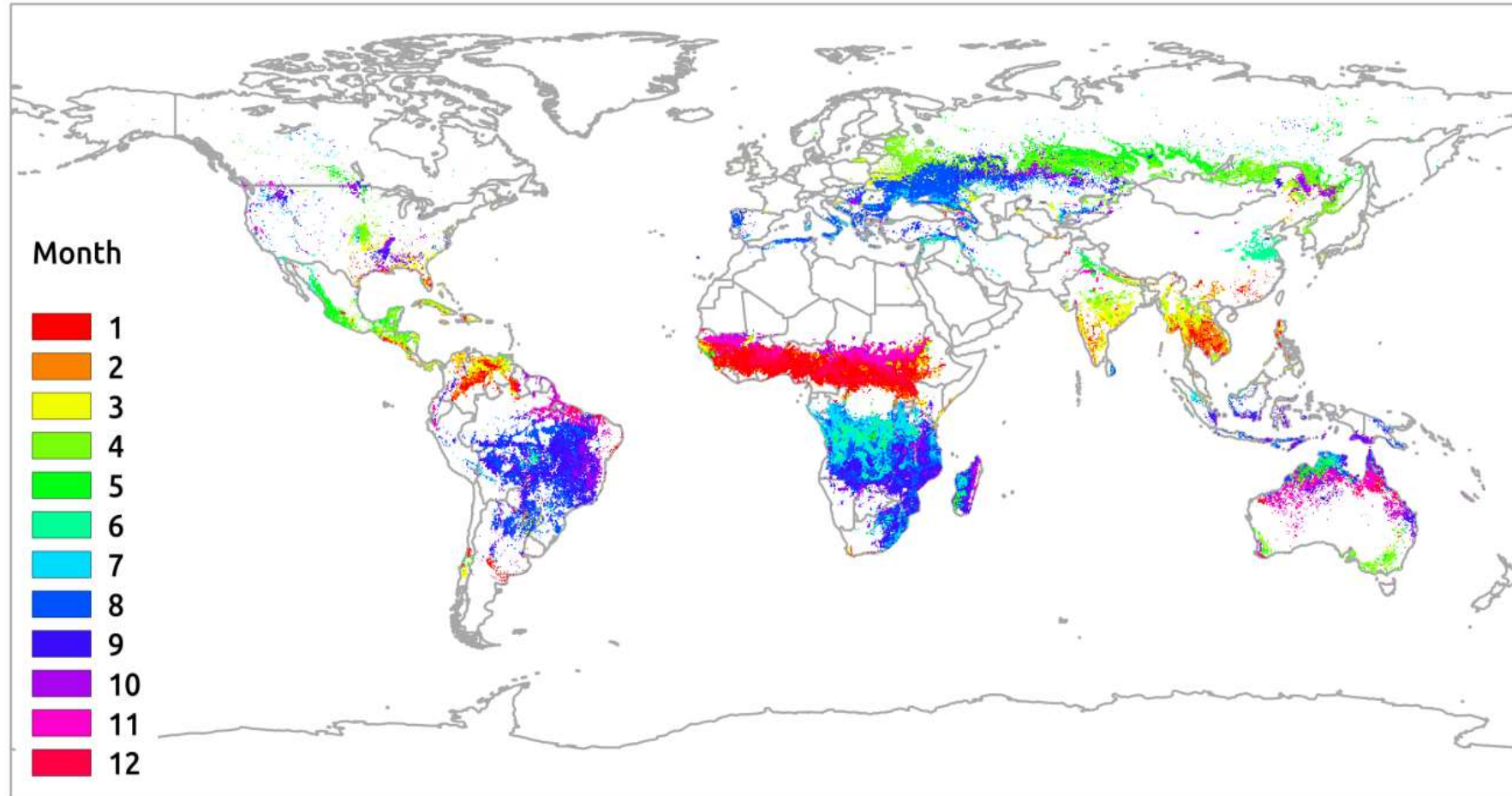
- Spatial coverage (+)



Strengths & Limitations of EO BA products

- Spatial coverage (+).
- Seasonal coverage (+-)

Highest occurrence month



Strengths & Limitations of EO BA products

- Spatial coverage (+)
- Seasonal coverage (+-)
- Temporal reporting (+-).

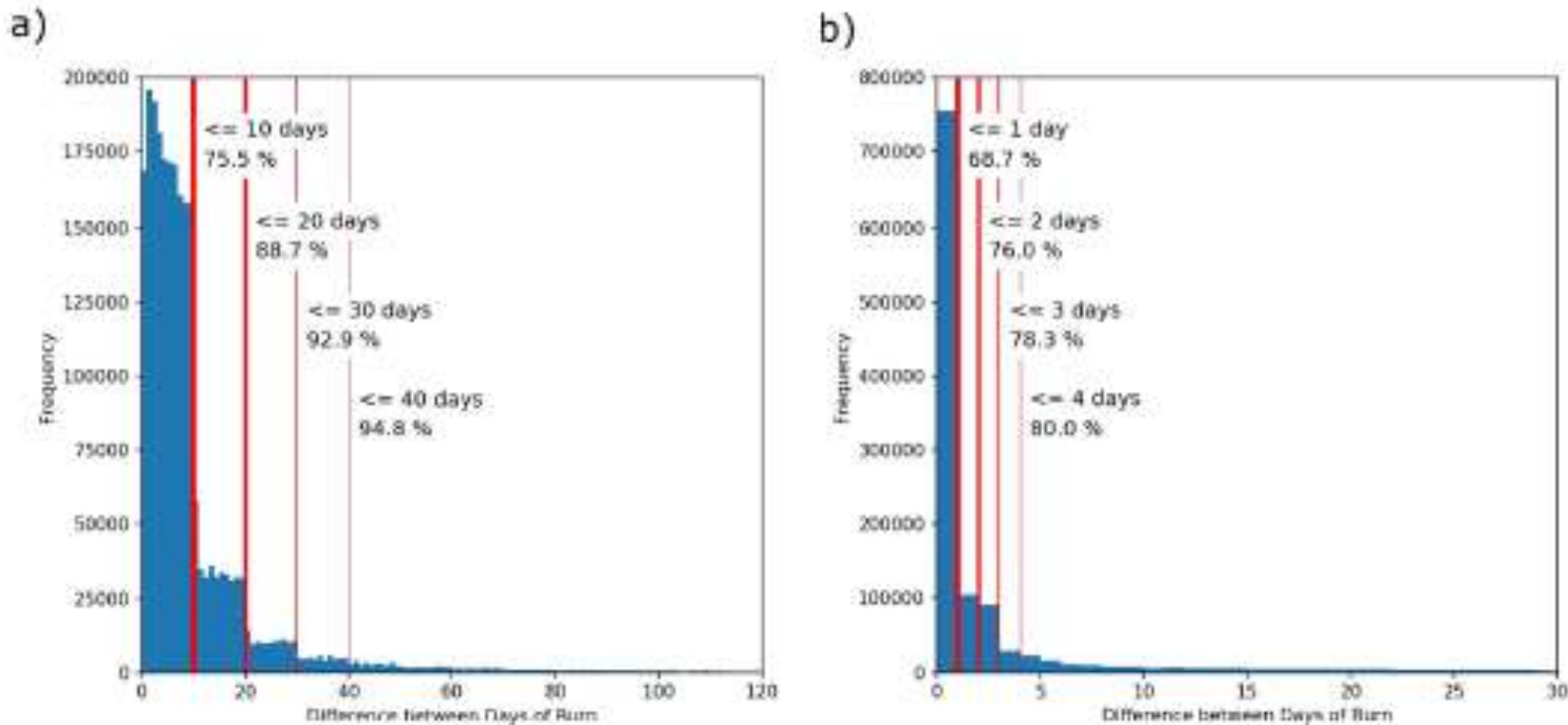
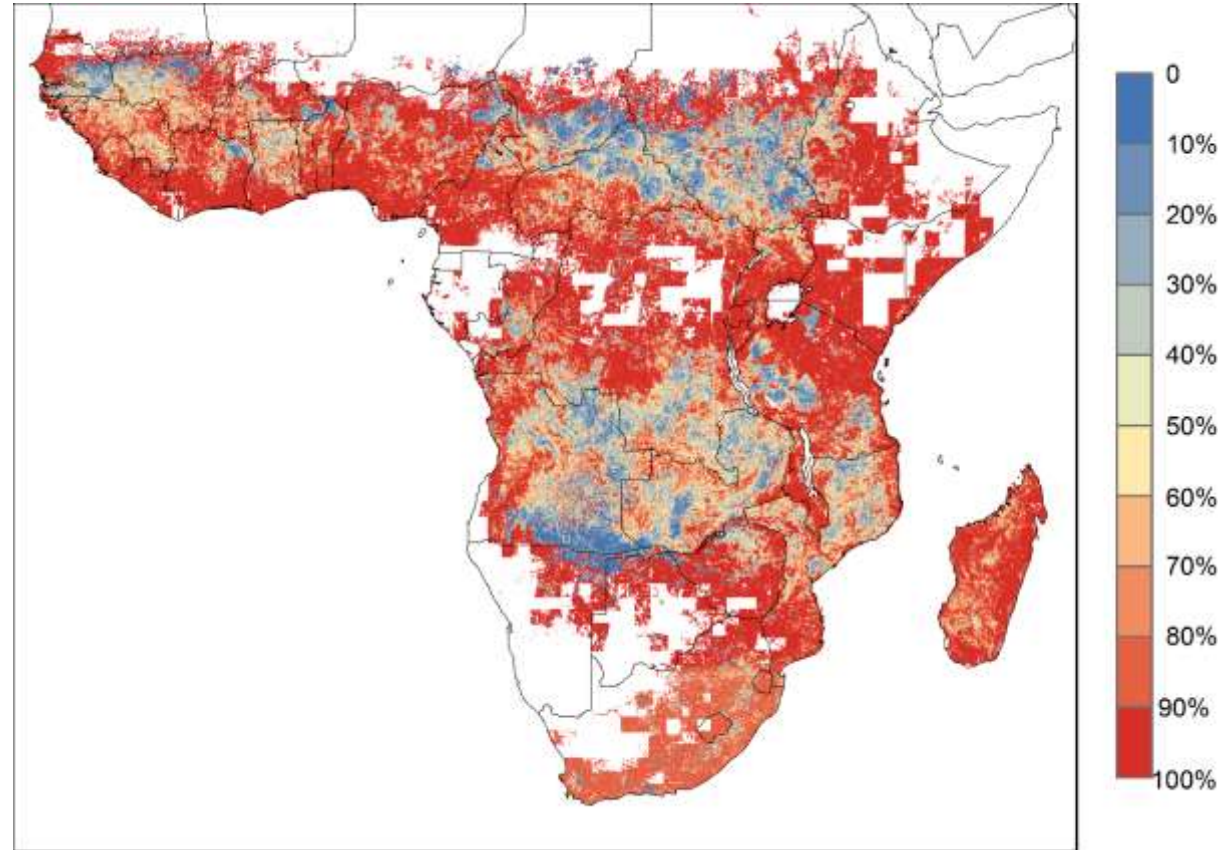


Fig. 14. Detection delay of the a) FireCCI5D11 and b) MCD64A1 comparing to MCD14ML hotspots acquisition date.

Strengths & Limitations of EO BA products

- Spatial coverage (+)
- Seasonal coverage (+-)
- Temporal reporting (+-)
- Fire size distribution (-)

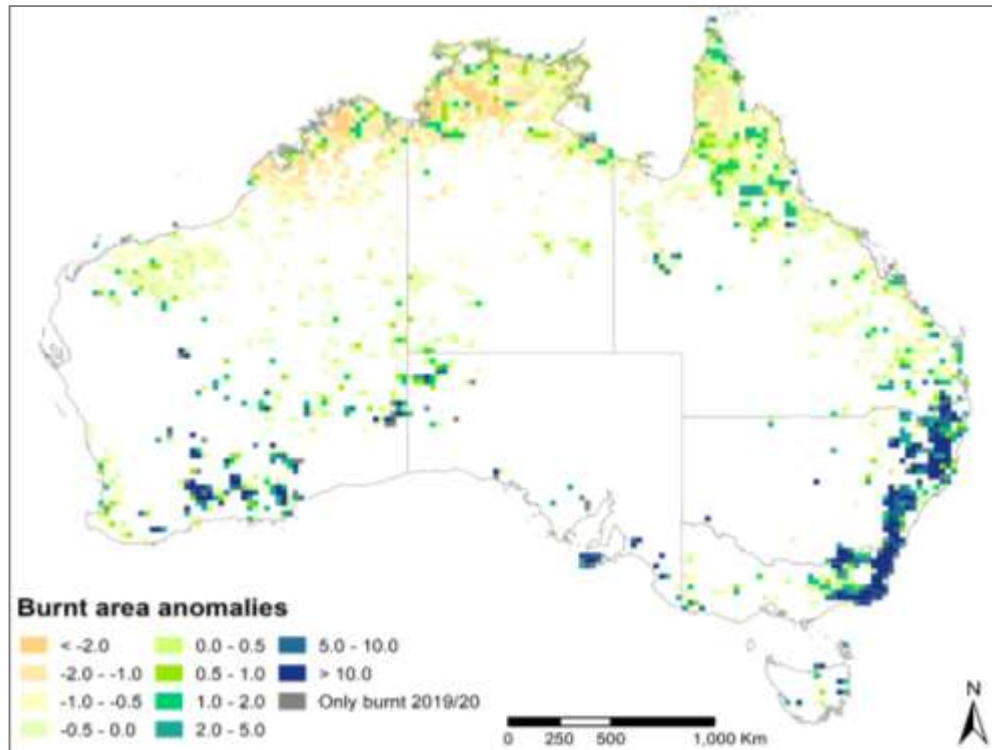


Fraction of total burned area from fires smaller than 100 ha (plotted on a 0.05° grid).

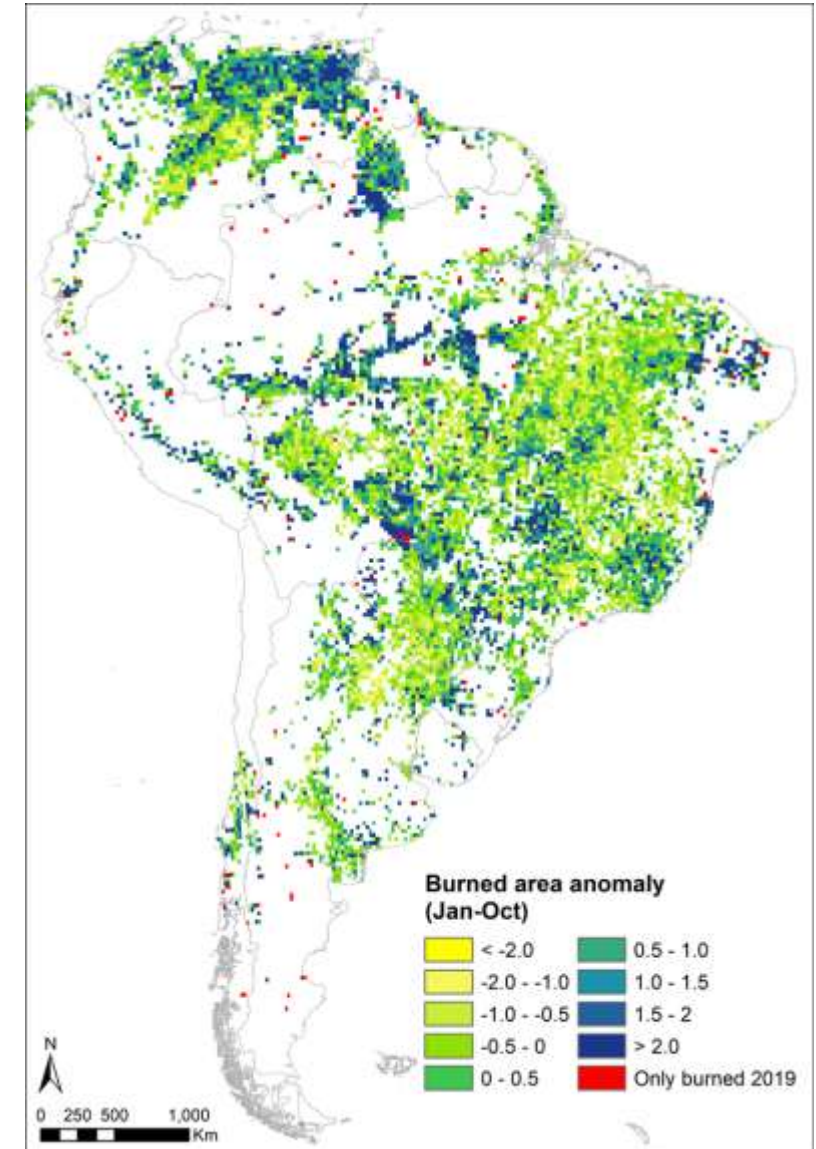
Ramo et al. 2020, in review

Strengths & Limitations of EO BA products

- Spatial coverage (+)
- Seasonal coverage (+-)
- Temporal reporting (+-)
- Fire size distribution (-)
- Interannual variability: anomalies



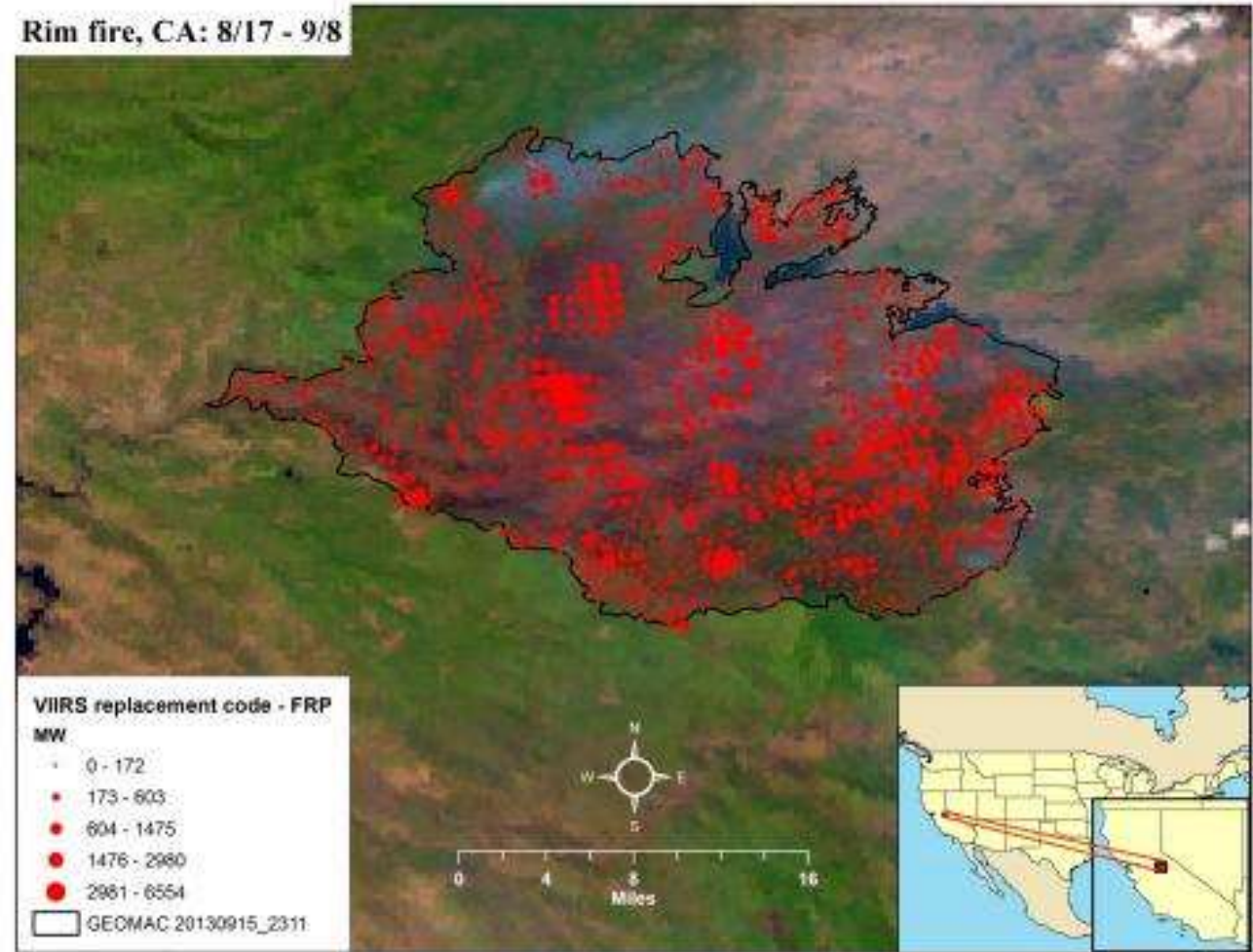
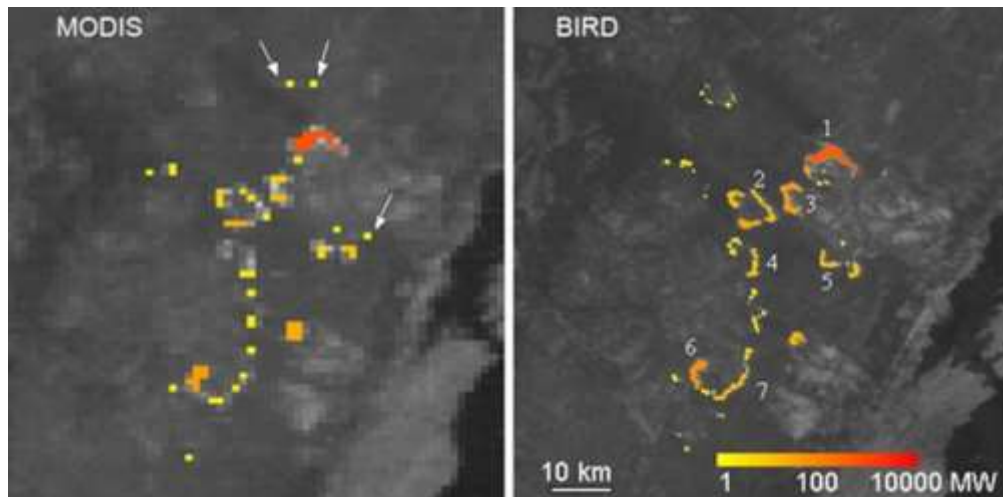
Bowman et al., 2020, Nature



Lizundia-Loiola et al., 2020, RS

Strengths & Limitations of EO BA products

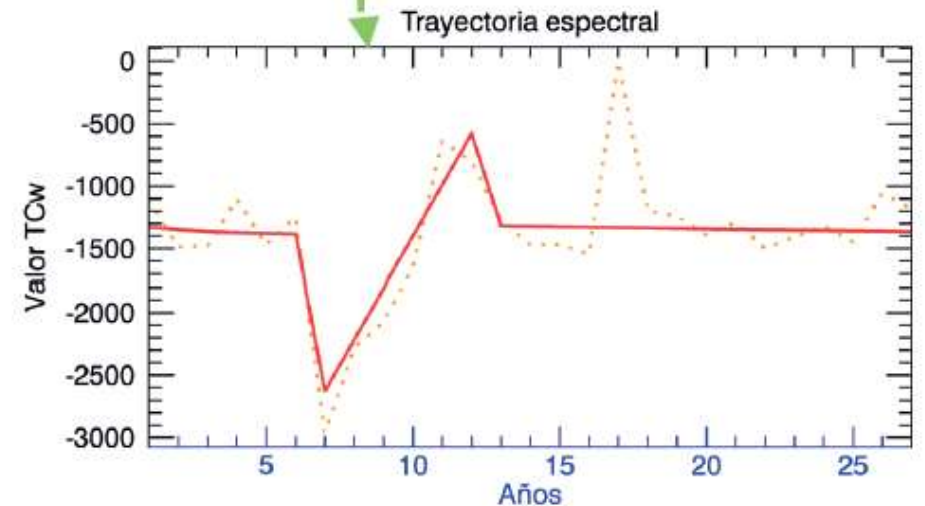
- Spatial coverage (+)
- Seasonal coverage (+-)
- Temporal reporting (+-)
- Fire size distribution (-)
- Interannual variability (Fire return interval)
- Burn severity (-)



<http://viirsfire.geog.umd.edu/pages/AFPE.php>

Strengths & Limitations of EO BA products

- Spatial coverage (+)
- Seasonal coverage (+-)
- Temporal reporting (+-)
- Fire size distribution (-)
- Interannual variability (Fire return interval) (-)
- Burn severity (-)
- Regeneration Potential (+).



Martínez et al., 2017, RET