LATHUILE FLUXNET DATA

Data Policy and Terms of Reference

The data available in this database have been provided by PIs and Regional networks with the aim to build a global standardized database of eddy covariance measurements to be used for global synthesis activities. This document reports the data policy, terms of reference and rules that apply to use of the data.

1) Data Access and Proposal Submission

   Data access is granted only to data providers based on scientific proposals which are evaluated for overlap and conflicts by a Scientific Moderation Committee (SMC). The role of the SMC is to promote synthesis activities among the FLUXNET community, guide the preparation of the FLUXNET database, identify areas of overlap or duplication, and work together with the regional network leaders to refocus the proposals so as to resolve conflicts, develop data fair use guidelines and ensure that the guidelines are followed, ensure that each contributing network is adequately engaged, and work to resolve any conflicts that arise. The SMC consists of representatives of different regional networks and FLUXNET and its current membership is D. Baldocchi, J. Chen, B. Law, H. Margolis, D.Papale, M. Reichstein and C. van Randow. The SMC can be contacted by email at the address: Lathuile_synthesis_sc@lists.ornl.gov.

   Please note that access to the full LaThuile dataset is <u>reserved only to data contributors</u>. Users that are not PIs of sites included in the collection can access the Opened and Free Fair Use dataset or involve as co-coordinators of the proposals one or more PIs.

   All proposals have to be sent to the above e-mail address and have to include a title, short outline (what do you want to study and how), list of initial coordinator and proposing group, CVs of initial coordinator and proposing group, sites that initially would be involved (also more generally like "all the forest sites" or "all the Boreal sites defined as….") and rules that will be applied for co-authorship. Proposals are checked for overlaps and/or duplication within 3 weeks from the submission. An example to use as a template is attached to this document.

   Under no circumstances can the data be circulated to other people, even to co-authors, that are not listed in the proposal, because of conditional agreements with different networks. Co-authors that need to access the data must first send a request to the SMC and they will forward this to the networks for approval.

2) Data Ownership and Data User Rights and Obligations

   Data providers will be kept fully informed of the use of their data. Data-use plans are made public on the www.fluxdata.org website in the form of the proposals that are posted there.

   All data providers will be invited to give intellectual input to the studies that use their data. Significant intellectual input should lead to co-authorship. The final decision on co-authorship is with the lead author; each lead author must inform the data providers of co-authorship plans early in the process. To avoid misunderstandings between data contributors, co-authors and lead authors, the following protocol is proposed:

   a) a Power Point presentation with major points and graphs sent to all the PIs of sites initially involved, allowing 3 weeks time to receive feedback from PIs who want to participate in the paper;

b) a reminder is sent 10 days before the 3 week deadline. At the end of the 3 week period, the first list of potential coauthors is defined;

c) when the version zero draft is ready, circulate it to the PIs of all the sites used asking for intellectual input to be coauthors within three weeks. The draft must be in a stage where it is possible to give input, so flexible enough to be changed including the main points;

d) send a reminder 10 days before the 3 week deadline. At the end of the 3 week period, the final list of coauthors is defined;

e) circulate the final draft at least two weeks before submission to all the PIs of sites involved + SMC for minor changes and check of citations. At this stage, it is no longer possible to become a coauthor;

f) when/if accepted, send a copy of the paper to all the PIs of sites involved, the SMC and the fluxdata.org staff.

Scientific communication will be between lead authors and co-authors. Until the final manuscript is accepted, the data providers must be kept in the e-mail traffic that discusses the topic, circulates manuscript drafts, etc. The data providers must, however, maintain this information as confidential.

PIs may withdraw their data after the first draft for scientific reasons although they should give a reason for this to the proposer and SMC.

A group co-authorship "FLUXNET members" must be included in the publication. It will be documented on a separate webpage at www.fluxdata.org what sites have contributed to which studies. A link to this documentation has to be included as affiliation of the "FLUXNET members" and will be provided to you by the SMC or the fluxdata.org staff. Lead authors are responsible for appropriately acknowledging the contributions of each contributing network and their funding agencies in all presentations and publications and using the acknowledgment reported at the end of this document in the paper.

It is important that all the emails are sent using the fluxdata.org tool. Only in this way, can we be sure that the email is sent to the reference name indicated by the site PI.

3) Site Specific Paper Citation and Acknowledgment
It is scientifically and personally important for the data providers that a paper where their site is described is cited and a specific acknowledgment added when data are used. The same is true for papers describing data processing. However some journals apply restrictions for the number of references and pages (e.g. Nature, Science, GRL,…). A citation must be included for each site used when the journal has no limitations; in case of journals with limits in page numbers, a citation for each site has to be added in the supplementary material and this must be clearly specified in the text. In addition, the web page linked to the "FLUXNET members" group co-author will also report the relevant references for each site used and specific acknowledgment that the data providers want to add. The sites' references to use in the papers are reported in the www.fluxdata.org webpage.

4) Dissemination Policy
If someone wants to make use of the data in fluxdata.org in a non-peer reviewed, non-citable publication, e.g. newsletters, brochures and other public material, the SMC and the PIs have to be informed about this usage two weeks in advance. PIs can withdraw their data point from the

Figure/Table, while the SMC can veto the planned dissemination for major reasons which have to be stated openly to all FLUXNET PIs.

Downloaded data cannot be redistributed to others and must not be redistributed via other websites, databases or any other storage system to prevent circulation of different versions of the datasets.

Acknowledgment text: