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# **A vertically discretised canopy description for ORCHIDEE (SVN r2290) and the modifications to the energy, water and carbon fluxes**

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## Abstract.

Since 70% of global forests are managed and forests impact the global carbon cycle and the energy exchange with the overlying atmosphere, forest management has the potential to mitigate climate change. Yet, none of the land surface models used in Earth system models, and therefore none of today's predictions of future climate, account for the interactions between climate and forest management. We addressed this gap in modelling capability by developing and parametrizing a version of the land surface model ORCHIDEE to simulate the biogeochemical and biophysical effects of forest management. The most significant changes between the new branch called ORCHIDEE-CAN (SVN r2290) and the trunk version of ORCHIDEE (SVN r2243) are the allometric-based allocation of carbon to leaf, root, wood, fruit and reserve pools; the transmittance, absorbance and reflectance of radiation within the canopy; and the vertical discretisation of the energy budget calculations. In addition, conceptual changes were introduced towards a better process representation for the interaction of radiation with snow, the hydraulic architecture of plants, the representation of forest management and a numerical solution for the photosynthesis formalism of Farquhar, von Caemmerer and Berry. For consistency reasons, these changes were extensively linked throughout the code. Parametrization was revisited after introducing twelve new parameter sets that represent specific tree species or genera rather than a group of often distantly related or even unrelated species, as is the case in widely used plant functional types. Performance of the new model was compared against the trunk and validated against independent spatially explicit data for basal area, tree height, canopy structure, GPP, albedo and evapotranspiration over Europe. For all tested variables ORCHIDEE-CAN outperformed the trunk regarding its ability to reproduce large-scale spatial patterns as well as their inter-annual variability over Europe. Depending on the data stream, ORCHIDEE-CAN had a 67% to 92% chance to reproduce the spatial and temporal variability of the validation data.

## 1 Introduction

Forests play a particularly important role in the global carbon cycle. Forests store almost 50% of the terrestrial organic carbon and 90% of vegetation biomass (Dixon et al., 1994; Pan et al., 2011). Globally, 70% of the forest is managed and the importance of management is still increasing both in relative and absolute terms. In densely populated regions, such as Europe, almost all forest is intensively managed by humans. Recently, forest management has become a top priority on the agenda of political negotiations to mitigate climate change (Kyoto Protocol, <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/kpeng.pdf>). Because forest plantations may remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere, if used for energy production, harvested timber is a substitute for fossil fuel. Forest management thus has great potential for mitigating climate change, which was recognized in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol.

35 Forests not only influence the global carbon cycle, they also dramatically affect the water vapour  
and energy fluxes exchanged with the overlying atmosphere. It has been shown, for example, that the  
evapotranspiration of young plantations can be so great that the streamflow of neighbouring creeks  
is reduced by 50% (Jackson et al., 2005). Modelling studies on the impact of forest plantations  
in regions that are snow-covered in winter suggest that because of their reflectance (the so-called  
40 albedo), forest could increase regional temperature by up to four degrees (Betts, 2000; Bala et al.,  
2007; Davin et al., 2007; Zhao and Jackson, 2014). Management-related changes in the albedo,  
energy balance and water cycle of forests (Amiro et al., 2006a, b) are of the same magnitude as the  
differences between forests, grasslands and croplands (Luyssaert et al., 2014). Moreover, changes  
in the water vapour and the energy exchange may offset the cooling effect obtained by managing  
45 forests as stronger sinks for atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> (Pielke et al., 2002). Despite the key implications of  
forest management on the carbon-energy-water exchange there have been no integrated studies on  
the effects of forest management on the Earth's climate.

Earth system models are the most advanced tools to predict future climate (Bonan, 2008). These  
models represent the interactions between the atmosphere and the surface beneath, with the surface  
50 formalized as a combination of open oceans, sea ice and land. For land, five classes are distinguished:  
glacier, lake, wetland, urban and vegetated. Vegetation is typically represented by different plant  
functional types. ORCHIDEE is the land surface component of the IPSL (Institut Pierre Simon  
Laplace) Earth System Model. Hence, by design, the ORCHIDEE model can be run coupled to the  
global circulation model LMDz. In this coupled set-up, the atmospheric conditions affect the land  
55 surface and the land surface, in turn, affects the atmospheric conditions. Coupled land-atmosphere  
models thus offer the possibility to quantify both the climatic effects of changes in the land surface  
and the effects of climate change on the land surface. The most advanced land-surface models used,  
for instance, in Earth System Models to predict climate changes (see the recent CMIP5 exercise),  
account for changes in vegetation cover but consider forests to be mature and ageless, e.g., JSBACH  
60 (Reick et al., 2013), CLM (Stöckli et al., 2008), MOSES (Cox et al., 1999), ORCHIDEE (Krinner  
et al., 2005) and LPJ-DVGM (Bonan et al., 2003). At present, none of the predictions of future  
climate thus account for the essential interactions between forest management and climate. This  
gap in modelling capability provides the motivation for further development of the land-surface  
model ORCHIDEE to realistically simulate both the biophysical and biogeochemical effects of forest  
65 management on the climate. The ORCHIDEE-CAN (short for ORCHIDEE-CANOPY) branch of the  
land surface model was specifically developed to quantify the climatic effects of forest management.

The aim of this study is to describe the model developments and parametrization within ORCHIDEE-  
CAN and to evaluate its performance. ORCHIDEE-CAN is validated against structural, biophysical  
and biogeochemical data at the European scale. To allow comparison with the standard version of  
70 ORCHIDEE, ORCHIDEE-CAN was run with a single-layer energy budget. A more detailed descrip-  
tion and evaluation of the new multi-layer energy budget and multilevel radiative transfer scheme

is given by Ryder et al. (2014), Chen et al. (In prep.) and McGrath et al. (In prep.b). A new forest management reconstruction which is needed to drive forest management in ORCHIDEE-CAN is presented in McGrath et al. (In prep.a) and the interactions between forest management and the new albedo scheme have been discussed by Otto et al. (2014).

## 2 Model overview

### 2.1 The Starting point: ORCHIDEE SVN r2243

The land surface model used for this study, ORCHIDEE, is based on two different modules (Krinner et al., 2005, their Fig. 2). The first module describes the fast processes such as the soil water budget and the exchanges of energy, water and CO<sub>2</sub> through photosynthesis between the atmosphere and the biosphere (Ducoudré et al., 1993; de Rosnay and Polcher, 1998). The second module simulates the carbon dynamics of the terrestrial biosphere and essentially represents processes as maintenance and growth respiration, carbon allocation, litter decomposition, soil carbon dynamics and phenology (Viovy and de Noblet-Ducoudré, 1997). The trunk version of ORCHIDEE describes global vegetation by 13 metaclasses (MTC) with a specific parameter set (one for bare soil, eight for forests, two for grasslands and two for croplands). Each MTC can be divided into a user-defined number of PFTs which can be characterised by at least one parameter value that differs from the parameter settings of the MTC. Parameters that are not given at the PFT-level are assigned the default value for the MTC to which the PFT belongs. By default none of the parameters are specified at the PFT-level, hence, MTCs and PFTs are the same for the standard ORCHIDEE trunk version. A concise description of the main processes in the ORCHIDEE-trunk version and a short motivation to change these modules in ORCHIDEE-CAN is given in Table 1.

Before running simulations, it is necessary to bring the soil carbon pools into equilibrium due to their slow fill rates, an approach known as model spin-up (Thornton and Rosenbloom, 2005; Xia et al., 2012). For a long time, spin-ups have been performed by brute force, i.e., running the model iteratively over a sufficiently long period which allows even the slowest carbon pool to reach equilibrium. This naïve approach is reliable but slow (in the case of ORCHIDEE it takes 3000 simulation years) and thus comes with a large computational demand, often exceeding the computational cost of the simulation itself. Alternative spin-up methods calling only parts of the model, e.g., subsequent cycles of 10 years of only photosynthesis followed by 100 year cycles of only soil processes, have been used for ORCHIDEE to reduce the computational cost in the past. These approaches, however, tend to lead to instabilities in litter and carbon pools. In recent years, semi-analytical methods have been proposed as a cost-effective solution to the spin-up issue (Martin et al., 2007; Lardy et al., 2011; Xia et al., 2012). A matrix-sequence method has been implemented in ORCHIDEE following the approach used by the PaSim model (Lardy et al., 2011). The semi-analytical spin-up implemented in ORCHIDEE relies on algebraic methods to solve a linear system of equations describing the seven

carbon pools separately for each PFT. Convergence of the method and thus equilibrium of the carbon pools is assumed to be reached when the variation of the passive carbon pool (which is the slowest) drops below a predefined threshold. The net biome production (NBP) is used as a second diagnostic criterion to confirm equilibrium of the carbon pools. In order to optimize computing resources, the semi-analytical spin-up will stop before the end of the run once the convergence criteria are met. ORCHIDEE's implementation of the semi-analytical spin-up has been validated at regional and global scales against a naïve spin-up, and has been found to converge 12 to 20 times faster. The largest gains were realised in the tropics and the smallest gains in boreal climate (not shown).

## 115 **2.2 Modifications between ORCHIDEE SVN r2243 and ORCHIDEE-CAN SVN r2290**

One major overarching change in the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch is the increase of internal consistency within the model by adding connections between the different processes (Fig. 1, red arrows). A more specific novelty is the introduction of circumference classes within forest PFTs, based on the work of Bellassen et al. (2010). For the temperate and boreal zone, tree height and crown diameter are calculated from allometric relationships of tree diameter that were parametrized based on the French, Spanish, Swedish and German forest inventory data and the observational data from Pretzsch (2009). The circumference classes thus allow calculation of the social position of trees within the canopy which justifies applying an intra-tree competition rule (Deleuze et al., 2004) to account for the fact that trees with a dominant position in the canopy are more likely to intercept light than suppressed trees, and, therefore, contribute more to the stand level photosynthesis and biomass growth. To respect the competition rule of Deleuze et al. (2004), a new allocation scheme was developed based on the pipe model theory (Shinozaki et al., 1964) and its implementation by Sitch et al. (2003). The scheme allocates carbon to different biomass pools (leaves, fine roots, and sapwood) while respecting the differences in longevity and hydraulic conductivity between the pools. In addition to the biomass of the different pools, LAI, crown volume, crown density, stem diameter, stem height and stand density are calculated and now depend on accumulated growth. The new scheme allows for the removal of the parameter that caps the maximum LAI (Table 1).

The calculation of tree dimensions (e.g., sapwood area and tree height) that respect the pipe theory supports making use of the hydraulic architecture of plants to calculate the plant water supply (Fig. 1, arrow 1), which is the amount of water a plant can transport from the soil to its stomata. The representation of the plant hydraulic architecture is based on the scheme of Hickler et al. (2006). The water supply is calculated as the ratio of the pressure difference between soil and leaves, and the total hydraulic resistance of the roots, leaves and sapwood, where the sapwood resistance is increased when cavitation occurs. Species-specific parameter values were compiled from the literature. As the scheme makes use of the soil water potential, it requires the use of the 11 layer hydrology scheme of de Rosnay (2002) (Table 1). When transpiration based on energy supply exceeds transpiration based on the water supply, the latter restricts stomatal conductance directly, which is a physiologically more

realistic representation of drought stress than the reduction of the carboxylation capacity (Flexas et al., 2006) done in the standard version of ORCHIDEE (further also referred to as "trunk" version).

145 In line with this approach, the drought stress factor used to trigger phenology and senescence is now calculated as the ratio between the transpiration based on water supply and transpiration based on atmospheric demand (Fig. 1, arrow 2).

The new allocation scheme also drastically changed the way forests are represented in the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch. Although the exact location of the canopies in the stand is not known, individual tree  
150 canopies are now spherical elements with their horizontal location following a Poisson distribution across the stand. Each PFT contains a user-defined number of model trees, each one corresponding to a circumference class. Model trees are replicated to give realistic stand densities. Following tree growth, canopy dimensions and stand density are updated (Fig. 1, arrow 3). This formulation results in a dynamic canopy structure that is exploited in other parts of the model, i.e., precipitation  
155 interception, transpiration, energy budget calculations, radiation scheme (Fig. 1, arrow 4) and absorbed light for photosynthesis (Fig. 1, arrow 5). In the trunk version these processes are driven by the big-leaf canopy assumption. The introduction of an explicit canopy structure is thought to be a key development with respect to the objectives of the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch, i.e., quantifying the biogeochemical and biophysical effects of forest management on atmospheric climate.

160 The radiation transfer scheme at the land surface benefits from the introduction of canopy structure. The trunk version of ORCHIDEE prescribes the vegetation albedo solely as a function of LAI. In the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch each tree canopy is assumed to be composed of uniformly distributed single scatterers. Following the assumption of a Poisson distribution of the trees on the land surface, the model of Haverd et al. (2012) calculates the transmission probability of light to any  
165 given vertical point in the forest. This transmission probability is then used to calculate an effective LAI, which is a statistical description of the vertical distribution of leaf mass that accounts for stand density and horizontal tree distribution. The complexity and computational costs are largely reduced by using the effective LAI in combination with the 1D two stream radiation transfer model of Pinty et al. (2006) rather than resolving a full 3-D canopy model. By using the effective LAI, the 1-D  
170 model reproduces the radiative fluxes of the 3-D model. The approach of the two stream radiation transfer model was extended for a multi-layer canopy (McGrath et al., In prep.b) to be consistent with the multi-layer energy budget and to better account for non-linearities in the photosynthesis model. The scattering parameters and the background albedo (i.e. the albedo of the surface below the dominant tree canopy) for the two stream radiation transfer model were extracted from the Joint Re-  
175 search Centre Two-stream Inversion Package (JRC-TIP) remote sensing product (section 4.7). This approach produces fluxes of the light absorbed, transmitted, and reflected by the canopy at vertically discretized levels, which are then used for the energy budget (Fig. 1, arrow 6) and photosynthesis calculations (Fig. 1, arrow 5).

The canopy radiative transfer scheme of (Pinty et al., 2006) separates the calculation of the fluxes  
180 resulting from downwelling direct and diffuse light, with different scattering parameters available  
for near-infrared (NIR) and visible (VIS) light sources. The snow albedo scheme in the trunk does  
not distinguish between these two shortwave bands. Therefore, the snow scheme of the Biosphere-  
Atmosphere Transfer Scheme (BATS) for the Community Climate Model (Dickinson et al., 1986)  
was incorporated into the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch, since it distinguishes between the NIR and VIS  
185 radiation. The radiation scheme of Pinty et al. (2006) requires snow to be put on the soil below the  
tree canopy instead of on the canopy itself. The calculation of the snow coverage of a PFT therefore  
had to be revised according to the scheme of Yang et al. (1997), which allows for snow to completely  
cover the ground at depths greater than 0.2 m. The parameter values of Yang et al. (1997) were used  
in the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch.

190 The ORCHIDEE-CAN branch differs from any other land surface model by the inclusion of a  
newly developed multi-layer energy budget. There are now subcanopy wind, temperature, humidity,  
longwave radiation and aerodynamic resistance profiles, in addition to a check of energy closure at  
all levels. The energy budget represents an implementation of some of the characteristics of detailed  
single site, iterative canopy models (e.g., Baldocchi, 1988; Ogee et al., 2003) within a system that is  
195 coupled implicitly to the atmosphere. As an enhancement to the trunk version of ORCHIDEE (Table  
1), the new approach also generates a leaf temperature, using a vegetation profile and a vertical  
shortwave and longwave radiation distribution scheme (Ryder et al., 2014), which will be fully  
available when parametrisation of the scheme has been completed across test sites corresponding  
to the species within the model (Chen et al., In prep.). As with the trunk version, the new energy  
200 budget is calculated implicitly (Polcher et al., 1998; Best et al., 2004). An implicit solution is a linear  
solution in which the surface temperature and fluxes are calculated in terms of the atmospheric input  
at the same time-step, whereas an explicit solution uses atmospheric input from the previous time  
step to calculate the surface temperature and fluxes. Although it is less straightforward to derive, the  
implicit solution is more computationally efficient and stable, which allows the model to be run over  
205 a time-step of 15 minutes when coupled to the atmospheric model LMDz - much longer than would  
be the case for an explicit model. Parameters were derived by optimizing the model against the  
observations from short-term field campaigns. The new scheme may also be reduced to the existing  
single layer case, so as to provide a means of comparison and compatibility with the ORCHIDEE  
trunk version.

210 The combined use of the new energy budget and the hydraulic architecture of plants required  
changes to the calculation of the stomatal conductance and photosynthesis (Fig. 1, arrow 7). When  
water supply limits transpiration, stomatal conductance is reduced and photosynthesis needs to be  
recalculated. Given that photosynthesis is among the computational bottlenecks of the model, the  
semi-analytical procedure as available in previous trunk versions (r2031 and further) is replaced by  
215 an adjusted implementation of the analytical photosynthesis scheme of Yin and Struik (2009), which

is also implemented in the latest ORCHIDEE-trunk version. In addition to an analytical solution for photosynthesis the scheme includes a modified Arrhenius function for the temperature dependence that accounts for a decrease of carboxylation capacity ( $k_{V_{cmax}}$ ) and electron transport capacity ( $k_{J_{max}}$ , see Table 2 for variable explanations) at high temperatures and a temperature dependent  $k_{J_{max}}/V_{cmax}$  ratio (Kattge and Knorr, 2007). The temperature response of  $k_{V_{cmax}}$  and  $k_{J_{max}}$  was parametrized with values from reanalysed data in literature (Kattge and Knorr, 2007), whereas  $k_{V_{cmax}}$  and  $k_{J_{max}}$  at a reference temperature of 25° C were derived from observed species-specific values in the TRY database (Kattge et al., 2011). As the amount of absorbed light varies with height (or canopy depth), the absorbed light computed from the albedo routines is now directly used in the photosynthesis scheme resulting in full consistency between the top of the canopy albedo and absorption. This new approach replaces the old scheme which used multiple levels based on the leaf area index, not the physical height.

ORCHIDEE-CAN incorporates a systematic mass balance closure for carbon cycling to assure that carbon is not getting created or destroyed during the simulation. Hence, budget closure is now consistently checked for water, carbon and energy throughout the model.

The trunk uses 13 plant functional types (PFT) to represent vegetation globally: one PFT for bare soil, eight for forests, two for grasslands, and two for croplands. The ORCHIDEE-CAN branch makes use of the externalization of the PFT-dependent parameters by adding 12 parameter sets that represent the main European tree species. Species parameters were extracted from a wide range of sources including original observations, large databases, primary research and remote sensing products (section 4). The use of age classes is introduced through externalization of the PFT parameters as well. Age classes are used during land cover change and forest management to simulate the re-growth of a forest. Following a land cover change, biomass and soil carbon pools (but not soil water columns) are either merged or split to represent the various outcomes of a land cover change. The number of age classes is user defined. Contrary to typical age classes, the boundaries are determined by the tree diameter rather than the age of the trees.

Finally, the forest management strategies in the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch were refined from the original forest management branch (Bellassen et al., 2010). Self-thinning was activated for all forests regardless of human management, contrary to the original FM branch. The new default management strategy thus has no human intervention but includes self-thinning, which replaces the fixed 40 year turnover time for woody biomass. Three management strategies with human intervention have been implemented: (1) “high stands”, in which human intervention is restricted to thinning operations based on stand density and diameter, with occasional clearcuts. Aboveground stems are harvested during operations, while branches and belowground biomass are left to litter. (2) “coppices” involve two kinds of cuts. The first coppice cut is based on stem diameter and the aboveground woody biomass is harvested whereas the belowground biomass is left living. From this belowground biomass new shoots sprout, which increases the number of aboveground stems. In subsequent cuts

the amount of shoots is not increased, although all aboveground wood biomass is still harvested. (3)  
"short rotation coppices", where rotation periods are based on age and are generally very short (3-6  
255 years). The different management strategies can occur with or without litter raking, which reduces  
the litter pools and has a longterm effect on soil carbon (Gimmi et al., 2012). All management types  
are parametrized based on forest inventory data, yield tables and guidelines for forest management.  
The inclusion of forest management resulted in two additional carbon pools, branches and coarse  
roots (i.e., aboveground and belowground woody biomass) and therefore required an extension to  
260 the semi-analytical spin-up method (section 2.1). The semi-analytical spin-up is now run for nine C  
pools.

### 3 Description of the developments

#### 3.1 Allocation

Following bud burst, photosynthesis produces carbon that is added to the labile carbon pool. Labile  
265 carbon is used to sustain the maintenance respiration flux ( $F_{rm}$ ), which is the carbon cost to keep  
existing tissue alive (Amthor, 1984). Maintenance respiration for the whole plant is calculated by  
summing maintenance respiration of the different plant compartments, which is a function of the  
nitrogen concentration of the tissue following the Beer-Lambert law and subtracted from the whole-  
plant labile pool (up to a maximum of 80% of the labile pool).

270 The remaining labile carbon pool is split into an active and none-active pool. The size of the active  
pool is calculated as a function of plant phenology and temperature and was formalized following  
Ryan (1991); Sitch et al. (2003); Zaehle and Friend (2010). The remaining non-active pool is used  
to restore the labile and carbohydrate reserves pools according to the rules proposed in Zaehle and  
Friend (2010). The labile pool is limited to 1% of the plant biomass or 10 times the actual daily  
275 photosynthesis. Any excess carbon is transferred to the non-respiring carbohydrate reserve pool.  
The carbohydrate reserve pool is capped to reflect limited starch accumulation in plants, but carbon  
can move freely between the two reserve pools. After accounting for growth respiration ( $F_{rg}$ ), i.e.,  
the cost for producing new tissue excluding the carbon required to build the tissue itself (Amthor,  
1984), the total allocatable C used for plant growth is obtained ( $M_{totinc}$ ).

280 New biomass is allocated to leaves, roots, sapwood, heartwood, and fruits. Allocation to leaves,  
roots and wood respects the pipe model theory (Shinozaki et al., 1964) and thus assumes that pro-  
ducing one unit of leaf mass requires a proportional amount of sapwood to transport water from the  
roots to the leaves as well as a proportional fraction of roots to take up the water from the soil. The  
different biomass pools have different turnover times, and therefore at the end of the daily time step,  
285 the actual biomass components may no longer respect the allometric relationships. Consequently, at  
the start of the time step carbon is first allocated to restore the allometric relationships before the

remaining carbon is allocated in the manner described below. The scaling parameter between leaf and sapwood mass is derived from:

$$d_l = k_{ls} \times m_w \times d_s \quad (1)$$

290 Where  $d_l$  is the one-sided leaf area of an individual plant,  $d_s$  is the sapwood cross-section area of an individual plant,  $k_{ls}$  a parameter linking leaf area to sapwood cross-section area and,  $m_w$  is the water stress as defined in section 3.2. Alternatively, leaf area can be written as a function of leaf mass ( $M_l$ ) and the specific leaf area ( $k_{sla}$ ):

$$d_l = M_l \times k_{sla} \quad (2)$$

295 Sapwood mass  $M_s$  can be calculated from the sapwood cross-section area  $d_s$  as follows:

$$M_s = d_s \times d_h \times k_{\rho s} \quad (3)$$

Where  $d_h$  is the tree height and  $k_{\rho s}$  is the sapwood density. Following substitution of equations 2 and 3 into equation 1, leaf mass can be written as a function of sapwood mass:

$$M_l = (M_s \times f_{KF}) / d_h \quad (4)$$

300 where,

$$f_{KF} = (k_{ls} \times m_w) / (k_{sla} \times k_{\rho s}) \quad (5)$$

where,  $k_{ls}$  is calculated as a function of the gap fraction as supported by site-level observations (Simonin et al., 2006):

$$k_{ls} = k_{lsmin} + f_{Pgap,trees} \times (k_{lsmax} - k_{lsmin}) \quad (6)$$

305  $k_{lsmin}$  is the minimum observed leaf area to sapwood area ratio,  $k_{lsmax}$  is the maximum observed leaf area to sapwood area ratio and  $f_{Pgap,trees}$  is the actual gap fraction. By using the gap fraction as a control of  $k_{ls}$  more carbon will be allocated to the leaves until canopy closure is reached.

Following Magnani et al. (2000), sapwood mass and root mass ( $M_r$ ) are related as follows:

$$M_s = k_{sar} \times d_h \times M_r \quad (7)$$

310 where the parameter  $k_{sar}$  is calculated according to Magnani et al. (2000) (their equation (17)):

$$k_{sar} = \sqrt{(k_{rcon}/k_{scon}) \times (k_{\tau s}/k_{\tau r}) \times k_{\rho s}} \quad (8)$$

where  $k_{rcon}$  is the hydraulic conductivity of roots,  $k_{scon}$  is the hydraulic conductivity of sapwood,  $k_{\tau s}$  is the longevity of sapwood and  $k_{\tau r}$  is the root longevity. Following substitution of equation (4) into (7) and some rearrangement, leaf mass can be written as a function of root mass:

$$315 \quad M_l = f_{LF} \times M_r \quad (9)$$

where,

$$f_{LF} = k_{sar} \times f_{KF} \quad (10)$$

Parameter values used in equations 1 to 9, i.e.,  $k_{lsmax}$ ,  $k_{lsmmin}$ ,  $k_{sar}$ ,  $k_{sla}$ ,  $k_{\rho s}$ ,  $k_{rcon}$ ,  $k_{scon}$ ,  $k_{\tau s}$  and  $k_{\tau r}$ , are based on literature review (Table S1,S2 and S3). The allometric relationships between  
320 the plant components and the hydraulic architecture of the plant (section 3.2) are both based on the pipe model theory, hence, both the allocation and the hydraulic architecture module use the same parameter values for root and sapwood conductivity.

In this version of ORCHIDEE, forests are modelled to have  $k_{ncirc}$  circumference classes with  $d_{ind}$  identical trees in each one. Hence, the allocatable biomass ( $M_{totinc}$ ) needs to be distributed  
325 across  $l$  diameter classes:

$$M_{totinc} = \text{sum}(l)[d_{ind(l)} \times M_{inc(l)}] \quad (11)$$

where  $M_{inc(l)}$  is the biomass that can be allocated to diameter class  $l$ . Mass conservation thus requires:

$$M_{inc(l)} = M_{linc(l)} + M_{rinc(l)} + M_{sinc(l)} \quad (12)$$

330 where  $M_{linc(l)}$ ,  $M_{rinc(l)}$  and,  $M_{sinc(l)}$  are the increase in leaf, root and wood biomass for a tree in diameter class  $l$ , respectively. Equation 4 and 9 can be rewritten as

$$(M_{l(l)} + M_{linc(l)}) / (M_{s(l)} + M_{sinc(l)}) = f_{KF} / (d_{h(l)} + d_{hinc(l)}) \quad (13)$$

$$(M_{l(l)} + M_{linc(l)}) = (M_{r(l)} + M_{rinc(l)}) \times f_{LF} \quad (14)$$

An allometric relationship is used to describe the relationship between tree height and basal area  
 335 (Pretzsch, 2009):

$$d_h(l) = k_{\alpha 1} \times (4/\pi \times d_{ba(l)})^{(k_{\beta 1}/2)} \quad (15)$$

The change in height is then calculated as

$$d_{hinc}(l) = [k_{\alpha 1} \times (4/\pi \times (d_{ba(l)} + d_{bainc}(l)))^{(k_{\beta 1}/2)}] - d_h(l) \quad (16)$$

where  $d_{ba(l)}$  and  $d_{bainc}(l)$  are the basal area and its increment, respectively.  $k_{\alpha 1}$  and  $k_{\beta 1}$  are  
 340 allometric constants relating tree diameter and height. The distribution of C across the  $l$  diameter  
 classes depends on the basal area of the model tree within each diameter class. Trees with a large  
 basal area are assigned more carbon for wood allocation than trees with a small basal area, according  
 to the method of Deleuze et al. (2004).

$$d_{bainc}(l) = f_{\gamma} \times \left( d_{circ(l)} - k_m * g_{\sigma} + \sqrt{(k_m \times g_{\sigma} + d_{circ(l)})^2 - (4 \times g_{\sigma} \times d_{circ(l)})} \right) / 2 \quad (17)$$

345 where  $k_m$  is a parameter,  $f_{\gamma}$  and  $g_{\sigma}$  are calculated from parameters and  $d_{circ(l)}$  is the circumfer-  
 ence of the model tree in diameter class  $l$ .  $g_{\sigma}$  is a function of the diameter distribution of the stand  
 at a given time step.

Equations 10 to 16 need to be simultaneously solved. An iterative scheme was avoided by lin-  
 earising equation 15, which was found to be an acceptable numerical approximation as allocation  
 350 is calculated at a daily time step, and hence the changes in height are small and the relationship is  
 locally linear:

$$d_{hinc}(l) = d_{bainc}(l) / f_s \quad (18)$$

where  $f_s$  is the slope of the locally linearised equation 15 and is calculated as:

$$f_s = k_{step} / (k_{\alpha 1} \times (4/\pi * (d_{ba} + k_{step}))^{(k_{\beta 1}/2)} - k_{\alpha 1} \times (4/\pi \times d_{ba})^{(k_{\beta 1}/2)}) \quad (19)$$

355 Equations 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 18 are then solved for  $f_{\gamma}$ .  $f_{\gamma}$  distributes photosynthates  
 across the different diameter classes and as such controls the intra-species competition within a  
 stand.  $f_{\gamma}$  thus depends on the total allocatable carbon and needs to be optimised at every time step.  
 Once  $f_{\gamma}$  has been calculated,  $M_{linc}(l)$ ,  $M_{rinc}(l)$  and  $M_{sinc}(l)$  can be calculated.

### 3.2 Hydraulic architecture

360 The representation of the impact of soil moisture stress on water, carbon and energy fluxes has  
 been identified as one of the major uncertainties in land surface models (De Kauwe et al., 2013).

Neither the empirical functions nor the soil moisture stress functions, which are commonly used in land surface models, fully capture stomatal closure and limitation of C uptake during drought stress (Bonan et al., 2014; Verhoef and Egea, 2014). Therefore, we replaced the soil moisture stress function which limits C assimilation through a constrain on  $k_{V_{cmax}}$  in the ORCHIDEE-trunk, by a constrain based on the amount of water plants can transport from the soil to their leaves.

The model calculates plant water supply according to the implementation of hydraulic architecture by Hickler et al. (2006). Plant water supply is the amount of water the plant can transport from the soil to its stomata, accounting for the resistances to water transport in the roots, sapwood and leaves. If transpiration rate exceeds plant water supply, the stomatal conductance is reduced until equilibrium is reached.

The water flow from the soil to the leaves is driven by a gradient of decreasing water potential. Using Darcy's law (Slatyer, 1967; Whitehead, 1998), the supply of water for transpiration through stomata can be described as:

$$F_{Trs} = p_{delta} / (R_r + R_{sap} + R_l) \quad (20)$$

where  $p_{delta}$  is the pressure difference between the soil and the leaves; and  $R_r$ ,  $R_{sap}$  and  $R_l$  are the hydraulic resistances of fine roots, sapwood and leaves, respectively.  $p_{delta}$  is calculated following Whitehead (1998):

$$p_{delta} = p_{\psi sr} - k_{\psi l} - (d_h \times k_{\rho w} \times k_g) \quad (21)$$

where  $k_{\psi l}$  is a PFT-specific minimal leaf water potential, which means that plants are assumed to maximise water uptake by lowering their  $k_{\psi l}$  to the minimum, if transpiration exceeds  $F_{Trs}$  (Tyree and Sperry, 1989). The product of  $d_h$ ,  $k_{\rho w}$  and  $k_g$  accounts for the loss in water potential by lifting a mass of water from the soil to the place of transpiration at height  $d_h$ ,  $k_{\rho w}$  is the density of water, and  $k_g$  is the gravitational constant. The soil water potential in the rooting zone ( $p_{\psi sr}$ ) was calculated by adding a modulator ( $m_\psi$ ) to the bulk soil water potential, which was calculated as the sum of the soil water potential in each soil layer weighted by the relative share of roots ( $d_{rd}$ ) in the individual soil layer:

$$p_{\psi sr} = sum(l)[p_{\psi s} \times d_{rd}] + m_\psi \quad (22)$$

The soil water potential for each layer  $p_{\psi sl}$  is calculated from soil water content according to Van Genuchten (1980).

$$p_{\psi s(l)} = \frac{1}{k_{av}} \left( \left( \frac{M_{swc} - k_{swcr}}{k_{swcs} - k_{swcr}} \right)^{-1/k_{mv}} - 1 \right)^{1/k_{nv}} \quad (23)$$

where  $M_{swc}$  is the volumetric soil water content,  $k_{swcr}$  and  $k_{swcs}$  are respectively the residual and saturated soil water content and  $k_{av}$ ,  $k_{mv}$  and  $k_{nv}$  are parameters.

Root resistance is related to the root mass and thus can be expressed as (Weatherley, 1982):

$$395 \quad R_r = \frac{1}{(k_{rcon} \times M_r)} \quad (24)$$

where  $k_{rcon}$  is the fine root hydraulic conductivity per unit biomass. Sapwood resistance is calculated according to Magnani et al. (2000):

$$R_{sap} = \frac{d_h}{(d_s \times k_{scon})} \quad (25)$$

where  $k_{scon}$  is the sapwood specific conductivity, which is decreased when cavitation occurs. The loss of conductance as a result of cavitation is a function of  $p_{\psi_{sr}}$  and was implemented by using an s-shaped vulnerability curve:

$$k_{scon} = k_{scon} \times e^{(-p_{\psi_{rs}}/k_{\psi_{50}})^{k_c}} \quad (26)$$

where  $k_{\psi_{50}}$  is the  $p_{\psi_{sr}}$  that causes 50% loss of conductance; and  $k_c$  is a shape parameter.

$R_l$  is related to the specific leaf conductivity per unit leaf area ( $k_l$ ) and the leaf area index :

$$405 \quad R_l = \frac{1}{(k_{lcon} \times d_{LAI})} \quad (27)$$

The response of water viscosity to low temperatures increases the resistance (Cochard et al., 2000). The relationship is described as:

$$R_{temp} = \frac{R}{(k_{\alpha 1v} + k_{\alpha 2v} \times T)} \quad (28)$$

where  $k_{\alpha 1v}$  and  $k_{\alpha 2v}$  are empirical parameters (Cochard et al., 2000),  $R_{temp}$  is the temperature adjusted  $R_l$ ,  $R_{sap}$  or  $R_r$ ,  $T$  is air temperature for  $R_l$  and  $R_{sap}$  and  $T$  is soil temperature for  $R_r$ .

If, for any time step, the transpiration calculated by the energy budget exceeds the amount of water the plant can transport from the soil to its stomata, transpiration is limited to the plant water supply. As the transpiration is now reduced, the initial calculations of the energy budget and photosynthesis, solely based on atmospheric information, are no longer valid. As a result the energy budget and photosynthesis must be recalculated for the time step in question. For this recalculation, stomatal conductance at the canopy level is calculated such that transpiration equals the amount of water the plant can transport. Owing to the feedback between stomatal conductance, leaf surface temperature and transpiration, this calculation may require up to 10 iterations to converge, using a

stationary iterative method. When the multi-layer energy budget is reduced to its single-layer im-  
 420 plementation, however, canopy level stomatal conductance is decomposed to obtain the stomatal  
 conductance at each canopy layer assuming that each layer is equally restricted by drought stress.  
 Finally, the restricted stomatal conductance is used to calculate CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation rate according to  
 the photosynthesis model by Farquhar, von Caemmerer and Berry (section 3.6).

### 3.3 Canopy structure

425 Stand structure controls the amount of light that penetrates to a given depth in the canopy. For  
 example, the amount of light reaching the forest floor will be higher for a stand with few mature  
 trees compared to many young trees even if both stands have the same leaf area index. Where a big  
 leaf approach assumes a homogeneous block shaped canopy (as in the trunk version of ORCHIDEE)  
 and can therefore rely on the law of Beer-Lambert, a geometric approach is required to calculate light  
 430 penetration through structured canopies. Light penetration needs to be simulated to calculate albedo  
 (section 3.4), photosynthesis (section 3.6), partitioning of energy fluxes (section 3.5) and the amount  
 of light reaching the forest floor (see for example section 3.1). The gap fraction, which is the basic  
 information in calculating light penetration at different depths in the canopy, is calculated following  
 the approach presented by Haverd et al. (2012) and formalized in their semi-analytical model. Rather  
 435 than a spatially explicit approach, Haverd et al. (2012) follow a statistical approach which reduces  
 the memory requirements for the simulations and limits the space requirements for storing the model  
 output files.

The model of Haverd et al. (2012) represents the canopy by a statistical height distribution with  
 varying crown sizes and stem diameters for each height class. The crown canopies are treated as  
 440 spheroids containing homogeneously distributed single scatterers. Although this  $f_{Pgap}$  model can  
 explicitly include trunks, we made the decision to exclude them, as the spectral parameters for our  
 radiation model (section 3.4) are extracted from remote sensing data (section 4.8) without distin-  
 guishing between leafy and woody masses. This gives the gap probability for trees as a function of  
 height ( $z$ ) and solar zenith angle ( $\theta_z$ ):

$$445 \quad f_{Pgap}^{trees}(\theta_z, z) = e^{-d_\lambda \times \overline{d_c(\theta_z, z)} \times (1 - f_{Pwc}(\theta_z, z))} \quad (29)$$

where  $d_\lambda$  is the inverse of the tree density,  $d_c$  is the projected crown area (for an opaque canopy),  
 and  $f_{Pwc}$  is the mean crown porosity. The overbar depicts the mean over the tree distribution as a  
 function of tree height or, in our case, the mean over the  $l$  circumference classes. Following minor  
 adaptations, the implementation of Haverd and Lovell (Haverd et al., 2012) was incorporated in

450 ORCHIDEE-CAN. As there also exist crops, grasses, and bare soil in the model,  $f_{Pgap}$  was adjusted for these situations as well. For grasses and crops, the same formulation is used:

$$f_{Pgap}^{gc}(\theta_z, z) = e^{-0.5 \times d_{LAIabove} \times m_{LAIcorr} / \cos(\theta_z)} \quad (30)$$

where  $d_{LAIabove}$  is the total amount of LAI above height  $z$ , and  $m_{LAIcorr}$  is a correction factor to account for the fact that grasses and crops are treated as homogeneous blocks of vegetation with  
 455 no internal structure and is often referred to as a clumping factor. Here it is treated as a tunable parameter and therefore the term correction factor was used. For bare soil, there is no vegetation to intercept radiation, and therefore  $f_{Pgap}^{bs}(\theta_z, z)$  is always unity.

### 3.4 Multi-layer two-way radiation scheme for tall canopies

Species-specific radiation absorbance, reflectance and transmittance by the forest canopy were calcu-  
 460 lated from a radiation transfer model (Pinty et al., 2006) which was parametrized by satellite-derived species-specific scattering values (section 4.8). Given the complexity of radiation transfer, it remains challenging to accurately simulate radiation transfer through structurally and optically complex veg-  
 etation canopies without using explicit 3-D models. The applied 1-D model belongs to the family of two-stream models (Meador and Weaver, 1980) and thus calculates transmittance, absorbance and  
 465 reflectance of both the incoming and outgoing radiation. The calculation of the reflectance at the top of the canopy due to a collimated source (i.e., the sun) is divided in three components:

1. scattering of radiation between the vegetated elements with a black background

$$f_{Coll,veg}^{fR} = f(\theta_{mu}, f_{rl}, f_{tl}, g_G, d_{LAIeff}) \quad (31)$$

2. scattering of radiation by the background with a black canopy

$$470 \quad f_{UnColl,bgd}^{fR} = f_{Rbgd} \times e^{(-d_{LAIeff} / (2 \times \theta_{mu}))} \times f_{UnColl,veg}^T \quad (32)$$

3. multiple scattering of radiation between the canopy and the background

$$f_{Coll,bgd}^{fR} = f_{Rbgd} \times [f_{Coll,bgd,1}^{fR} + f_{Coll,bgd,n}^{fR}] \quad (33)$$

Term (1) is widely used in cloud reflectance calculations, and depends on the cosine of the solar zenith angle ( $\theta_{mu}$ ), the reflectance and transmittance of the single leaves ( $f_{rl}$  and  $f_{tl}$ , respectively),  
 475 the leaf orientation function ( $g_G$ ), and the effective LAI ( $d_{LAIeff}$ ). The exact definition of this term is given in Equation B2 in Pinty et al. (2006). In term (2),  $f_{Rbgd}$  is the reflectance of the ground beneath the canopy and  $f_{UnColl,veg}^T$  is the transmitted fraction of light to the ground which has not collided with any canopy elements. In term (3),  $f_{Coll,bgd,1}^{fR}$  is the fraction of light which has struck

vegetation and collided with the background a single time, while  $f_{Coll,bgd,n}^{fR}$  is the fraction which  
 480 has collided multiple times ( $n$ ) with the background.

The sum of the three components results in the canopy albedo (Pinty et al., 2006). Similar equa-  
 tions can be derived for light originating from diffuse sources (e.g., clouds and other atmospheric  
 scattering)(Pinty et al., 2006). Implementations of the calculations of the canopy fluxes for a single  
 level are available from the JRC, and these implementations were used as the basis of the routines  
 485 put into ORCHIDEE-CAN for both the single- and multi-level cases (McGrath et al., In prep.b).  
 This implementation relies on the use of the effective LAI, which is the LAI that needs to be used in  
 a 1-D process representation to obtain the same reflectance, absorbance and transmittance as would  
 be obtained by a 3D-canopy representation (Pinty, 2004). In this study, the effective LAI was cal-  
 culated by first computing the canopy gap probability, i.e. the probability that light is transmitted to  
 490 a specified height in the canopy at a given solar angle. The gap probability is then converted into  
 the effective LAI by passing it as an input to the inverted Beer-Lambert's law (with an extinction  
 coefficient of 0.5 to ensure compatibility with the two-stream inversion of Pinty et al. (2011a)).

$$d_{LAIeff} = -2.0 \times \cos(\theta_z) \times \log(f_{Pgap}) \quad (34)$$

where  $f_{Pgap}$  can be  $f_{Pgap}^{trees}$ ,  $f_{Pgap}^{gc}$ ,  $f_{Pgap}^{bs}$ . Following the introduction of multi-layer photosynthe-  
 495 sis and energy budget submodels, the approach proposed by Pinty (2004) had to be adjusted such  
 that it could be applied for every level for which absorbance needs to be known to calculate pho-  
 tosynthesis (section 3.6) and reflectance needs to be known to calculate the net shortwave radiation  
 (section 3.5). The multi-layer approach basically applies the 1D-two stream canopy radiation trans-  
 fer model by Pinty et al. (2006) to each canopy level where the light transmitted by the overlaying  
 500 level becomes the input for the lower level.

As the multi-level approach is built around the solution of the one-level scheme for each canopy  
 level, no new equations are introduced. The method can be summarized by the following algorithm  
 for which the details are given in (McGrath et al., In prep.b). First, three fluxes are calculated for each  
 level independently: the fraction of light transmitted through the layer without striking vegetation,  
 505 the fraction of light reflected after striking vegetation, and the fraction of light transmitted through  
 the layer after striking vegetation. These three fluxes represent the only possible fate of light (any  
 light not taking one of these paths must be absorbed for energy conservation). Next, an iterative  
 approach is invoked which follows the path of a single photon entering the top level. Based on the  
 solutions for each single level, probabilities can be calculated that the photon is transmitted to a  
 510 lower level or reflected to a higher level. Any fraction which is reflected upwards from the top level  
 is added to the total canopy albedo and not considered further. The fraction which is transmitted  
 through the top level enters the next highest level, and again the single level solutions determine  
 where this light goes. Any fraction reflected upwards is considered in the next iteration as part of  
 the light entering the upper level. The steps continue until the bottom canopy level is reached. Here,

515 any fraction which is transmitted into the soil is removed from consideration and added to the total transmittance through the canopy. The algorithm then proceeds to the above canopy level. Now the “transmitted” fluxes are moving in the upwards direction towards to the sky, while “reflected fluxes” are moving towards the ground. The code continues towards the top level, taking as input from below both the flux reflected by downwelling light from the level below the current level and the  
 520 flux transmitted from the lower level by upwelling light. After each iteration (moving from the top of the canopy to the bottom and back to the top), the total amount of light considered “active” has been reduced by light escaping to the sky or being absorbed by the canopy or ground. Eventually, this “active” light falls below a pre-defined threshold and the calculation is considered as converged.

Due to the iterative procedure, energy is not strictly conserved, although we have attempted to  
 525 choose a threshold which minimizes this loss. The multilevel albedo calculation is currently the most expensive part of the model, due to the iterations and the fact that it must be performed over all canopy levels (currently set to 10), grid points, and PFTs at every physical time-step. Levels with no LAI are no less expensive to compute, either, although we have arranged our canopy levels to make sure no levels are empty in most cases.

### 530 3.5 Multi-layer energy budget

The present generation of land surface models have difficulties in reproducing consistently the energy balances that are observed in field studies (Pitman et al., 2009; Jiménez et al., 2011; de Noblet-Ducoudré et al., 2012). The ORCHIDEE-CAN branch implemented an energy budget scheme that represents more than one canopy layer to simulate the effects of scalar gradients within the canopy  
 535 for determining more accurately the net sensible and latent heat fluxes that are passed to the atmosphere. As outlined in Polcher et al. (1998), the use of an implicit solution for coupling between the atmospheric model and the surface layer model is the only way to keep profiles of temperature and humidity synchronised across the two models when the coupled-model is run over large time steps (e.g., of 30 minutes). The difference between explicit and implicit schemes is that an explicit  
 540 scheme will calculate each value of the variable (e.g., temperature and humidity) at the current time step entirely in terms of values from the previous time step. An implicit scheme requires the solution of equations written only in terms of those at the current time step.

The modelling approach formalises three constraints that ensure energy conservation. The three equations that describe the main interactions are:

- 545 1. The energy balance at each layer is the sum of incoming and outgoing fluxes of latent and sensible heat and of shortwave and longwave radiation:

$$k_{lhc,i}k_{\rho_v,i}\frac{\delta T_{L,i}}{\delta t} = \left( k_{shc}k_{\rho_a}\frac{(T_{L,i} - T_{a,i})}{R_{a,i}} + k_{\lambda,LE}\rho_a\frac{q_{L,i} - q_{a,i}}{R_{s,i}} + F_{SW,i} + F_{LW,i} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\Delta d_{hl,i}} \right) \quad (35)$$

where  $F_{LW,i}$  is the sum total of long wave radiation, that is, the net LW radiation absorbed into layer  $i$  and  $F_{SW,i}$  is the net absorbed short wave radiation as calculated by the radiation scheme in section 3.4.  $k_{shc}$  is the specific heat capacity of air. The source sensible heat flux from the leaf at level  $i$  is the difference between the leaf temperature ( $T_{L,i}$ ) and the atmospheric temperature at the same level ( $T_{a,i}$ ), divided by  $R_{a,i}$ , which is the leaf resistance to sensible heat flux (a combination of stomatal and boundary layer resistance). Similarly, the source latent heat flux from the leaf at level  $i$  is the difference between the saturated humidity in the leaf ( $q_{L,i}$ ) and that in the atmosphere at level  $i$  ( $q_{a,i}$ ), divided by  $R_{s,i}$  which is the leaf resistance to latent heat flux.  $R_{a,i}$  is calculated based upon the leaf boundary layer resistance, and is described in the present model according to Baldocchi (1988).  $R_{s,i}$  is the stomatal resistance of the leaf that is calculated using the model of Ball et al. (1987).

2. The sensible heat flux between the vegetation ('the leaf') and the surrounding atmosphere at each level, and between adjacent atmospheric levels above and below is provided by the following expression:

$$\frac{\delta T_{a,i}}{\delta t} \Delta d_{V,i} = k_{k,i} \frac{\delta^2 T_{a,i}}{\delta z^2} \Delta d_{A,i} + \left( \frac{T_{L,i} - T_{a,i}}{R_{a,i}} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\Delta d_{hl,i}} \right) \Delta d_{V,i} \quad (36)$$

where  $z$  denotes the height above the soil surface. We have re-written the scalar conservation equation, as applied to canopies, in terms of the sensible heat flux, temperature and source sensible heat from the vegetation at each layer.

3. The latent heat flux between the vegetation and surrounding atmosphere at each level, and between adjacent atmospheric levels above and below is described in a form that is analogous to equation (36), above:

$$\frac{\delta q_{a,i}}{\delta t} \Delta d_{V,i} = k_{k,i} \frac{\delta^2 q_{a,i}}{\delta z^2} \Delta d_{A,i} + \left( \frac{q_{L,i} - q_{a,i}}{R_{s,i}} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\Delta d_{hl,i}} \right) \Delta d_{V,i} \quad (37)$$

In addition to these three basic equations various terms had to be parameterised. The 1D second-order closure model of Massman and Weil (1999) was used to simulate the vertical transport coefficients  $k_{k,i}$  within the canopy while accounting for the vertical and horizontal distribution of LAI (section 3.3). This set of equations were then written in an implicit form and solved by induction. More details on the implicit multi-layer energy budget and a complete mathematical documentation are given in Ryder et al. (2014).

To complete the energy budget calculations, the multi-layer 1D canopy radiation transfer model (section 3.4) was used to calculate the net shortwave radiation at each canopy layer. Further, the canopy radiation scheme makes use of the Longwave Radiation Transfer Matrix (LRTM) (Gu, 1988;

Gu et al., 1999). This approach separates the calculation of the radiation distribution completely from the implicit expression. Instead, a single source term for the long wave radiation is added at each level. This means that the distribution of LW radiation is now explicit (i.e., makes use of information only from the 'previous' and not the 'current' time step) but the changes within the timestep were small enough to not affect the overall stability of the model. However, an advantage of the approach is that it accounts for a higher order of reflections from adjacent levels than the single order assumed in the process above.

### 3.6 Analytical solution for photosynthesis

The photosynthesis model by Farquhar, von Caemmerer and Berry (Farquhar et al., 1980) predicts net photosynthesis of C3 plants as the minimum of the Rubisco-limited rate of CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation and the electron transport-limited rate of CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation (Farquhar et al., 1980). The ORCHIDEE-CAN branch calculates net photosynthesis following an analytical algorithm as described by Yin and Struik (2009). In addition, the C4 photosynthesis is calculated by an equivalent version of the Farquhar, von Caemmerer and Berry model that was extended to account for noncyclic electron transport (Yin and Struik, 2009). A detailed derivation of the analytical solution of the Farquhar, von Caemmerer and Berry model is given in Yin and Struik (2009). Although the exclusion of mesophyll conductance from the photosynthesis model could lead to an underestimation of the CO<sub>2</sub> fertilization effect in Earth system models (Sun et al., 2014), mesophyll conductance was not included in ORCHIDEE-CAN to maintain compatibility between the model formulation and its parametrization. Because values of  $k_{V_{cmax}}$  and  $k_{J_{max}}$  differ between different formulations of the photosynthesis model (Kattge and Knorr, 2007; Medlyn et al., 2002) and the parametrization that was used in ORCHIDEE-CAN did not include mesophyll conductance, it was also not accounted for in the model formulation. The analytical photosynthesis model implemented in ORCHIDEE-CAN could be easily extended to include mesophyll conductance but that would require reparameterizing the photosynthesis model.

Owing to the canopy structure simulated in this model version and the layering of the canopy, the amount of absorbed light now varies with canopy depth. This new approach replaces the old scheme which uses multiple levels based on the leaf area index, not the physical height within the canopy. Photosynthesis is now calculated at each vertically resolved canopy level independently, using the total amount of absorbed light calculated by the radiation transfer scheme, which means that radiation transfer inside the canopy and photosynthesis are now fully consistent. In the new photosynthesis scheme, photosynthesis thus indirectly depends on canopy structure.

### 3.7 Forest management and natural mortality

Although forest management has developed a wide range of locally-appropriate and species-specific strategies (Pretzsch, 2009), the nature of large scale land surfaces models such as ORCHIDEE-CAN,

require only a limited number of contrasting strategies that are expected to be relevant at the spatial  
615 scale (e.g., 50x50 km) of global and regional modelling studies. Four management strategies were  
implemented based on their expected impact on biogeochemical and biophysical processes:

1. In unmanaged stands self-thinning drives stand dynamics and continues until too few trees are  
left on site. Subsequently, a stand replacing disturbance moves all standing biomass into the  
appropriate litter pools and a new stand is established.
- 620 2. High stand management is characterised by regular thinning and a final harvest cut. Thinning  
is decided on the basis of the deviation between the actual and potential stand density for  
any given diameter. This approach relates to the so-called relative density index (Fortin et al.,  
2012), the land use disturbance index (Luyssaert et al., 2011) or hemeroby and naturalness  
approaches (Schall and Ammer, 2013). Exceeding a threshold diameter results in a clear cut  
625 and the stand is replanted in the next year. For both thinning and harvest, leaves, roots and be-  
lowground wood is transferred to the appropriate litter pools whereas the aboveground woody  
biomass is removed from the site and stored in a product pool. Trees with a diameter below a  
species-specific threshold are stored in a short-lived product pool which mimics wood uses for  
fuel, paper and cardboard. Trees with larger dimensions are moved to medium and long-lived  
630 product pools which mimic for example, particle boards and timber usages, respectively.
3. Coppicing of the aboveground biomass is decided on stem diameter. At harvest, the root sys-  
tem is left intact and in between coppicing, no wood is harvested. Note that at present it is not  
possible to simulate coppicing-with-standards in ORCHIDEE-CAN.
4. In ORCHIDEE-CAN, stands under short rotation management are limited to poplar (*Populus*  
635 *spp.*) and willow (*Salix spp.*) forests. Stands are harvested at a prescribed age. Following a set  
number of harvest cycles, the root system is uprooted and the whole stand is replanted.

Different age classes are distinguished to better account for the structural diversity and its possible  
effects on the element, energy and water fluxes. A clear hierarchy was established for the mortal-  
ity processes regarding the actual killing of trees (i.e., move their biomass to the litter or harvest  
640 pools). All of the processes determine first how much biomass they would remove in the absence  
of all the other processes. Afterwards, the killing is arranged in the most realistic way possible. A  
clear-cut event has the highest priority, followed by human thinning and finally natural mortality in-  
cluding self-thinning. If, for example, a forest is scheduled to be clear-cut, the entire forest biomass  
is subjected to the rules of the clear-cut and no other mortality occurs in that time-step.

645 In addition to forest management and natural prescribed mortality, a variety of changes have been  
made to processes involving vegetation mortality. A whole PFT within a grid-cell is now killed  
if, at the end of the day, the labile pool is empty and there is no carbon available in the leaf or  
carbohydrate reserve pool to refill it. In this situation, it will be impossible for the plant to assimilate

new carbon from the atmosphere as it will not be able to grow new leaves and thus initiate plant  
 650 recovery. Furthermore, a forest can die if the density falls below a certain prescribed value. In the  
 next time step a new young forest will be prescribed.

If a forest is thinned, it is assumed that the weakest trees will be thinned, and therefore human  
 thinning reduces or even eliminates the natural mortality for that time-step. Natural mortality still  
 happens on a daily time-step, while human-induced mortality happens only at the end of the year.  
 655 Self-thinning, as described below, takes priority over environmental mortality which is the mortality  
 of individuals by insects, lightening, wind, drought, frost and heart rot. Environmental mortality is  
 calculated by multiplying the stand biomass by an assumed mortality fraction of  $1/k_{t_{resid}}$ . Where  
 self-thinning is less than this assumed environmental mortality, self-thinning is complemented by  
 additional mortality to reach the set environmental mortality. Where self-thinning mortality exceeds  
 660 the set environmental mortality, simulated self-thinning is assumed to include environmental mortal-  
 ity. The fire module that is available for the trunk but not for the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch simulates  
 stand replacing fires rather than individual-tree based mortality due to lightening. The approach im-  
 plemented in the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch could therefore be extended with models that simulate  
 stand replacing mortality from fire, insects and storms.

665 The use of circumference classes adds a good deal of realism and flexibility to the ORCHIDEE-  
 CAN simulations, but it also raises additional questions. For example, which trees should be targeted  
 by which mortality? Given that self-thinning reflects the outcome of continuous resource competi-  
 tion, the largest trees are expected to be most successful when competing for resources, and therefore  
 we assume that the smallest trees die first to reduce the stand density. Conversely, larger trees are  
 670 more likely to die because of environmental stress factors, being more prone to cavitation, wind  
 damage, lightening, and, heart rot. Therefore, we select more older trees to die from environmental  
 mortality. While doing this also trees in the other circumference classes were killed based on the  
 following recursive definition (cf Bellassen et al., 2010):

$$f_{death}^{icir} = \frac{f_{death}^{icir-1} \times k_{ddf}^{1-(k_{ncirc}-1)}}{m_{Ndeath}} \quad (38)$$

675 Where  $k_{ddf}$  is the death distribution factor, which is the factor by which the smallest and largest  
 circumference classes differ (e.g.,  $k_{ddf} = 10$  means that the largest circumference class will lose ten  
 times as much biomass as the smallest as a result of the mortality),  $m_{Ndeath}$  is a normalization factor  
 so that sum of  $f_{death}^{icir}$  is unity, and  $f_{death}^1$  is set equal to unity before normalization. As the stands  
 are very close to even-aged, we set the factor  $k_{ddf}$  to be equal to 1. This means the same number  
 680 of trees is killed in each circumference class. If, for some reason, there is not enough biomass in a  
 given class to satisfy this distribution, the extra biomass is taken from the next smallest class (in the  
 case the smallest class does not have enough, it is taken from the largest class).

Related to mortality is the question of the circumference class distribution. As mentioned above, trees in different circumference classes are preferentially killed by different processes. If the simulation is long enough (or if the mortality is aggressive enough), eventually the number of trees in some circumference classes may become zero. This would reduce the numerical resolution of the allocation scheme. When only one circumference remains populated, the scheme effectively loses its meaning as all the newly produced biomass is now be allocated to the only remaining circumference class. In order to maintain the same level of detail through the simulation, the distribution of all the circumference classes is recalculated at the end of each day. A normalized target distribution is specified as an input parameter (an exponential distribution is currently used), and this distribution is scaled to produce a target distribution for the current number of individuals. All of the current individuals are placed in these new classes until the target distribution is satisfied. The target distribution now contains, however, trees of multiple sizes, so we need to average them to find the new “model” tree for each class. By changing the size of the model tree in each class, we are able to preserve the total biomass of the stand as well as the total number of individuals. Note that the boundaries of each diameter class are recalculated at each time step, this approach is a numerically efficient alternative to fixing the boundaries of each diameter class with a varying distribution.

#### 4 Description of the parametrization

The ORCHIDEE-CAN branch was specifically developed to quantify the climate effects of forest management over Europe. Although the developments are sufficiently general to be applied outside of Europe, the model was initially parametrized for the boreal, temperate and Mediterranean climate zones and validation focused on Europe. Parametrization of the tropical zone is subject of a follow-up study. The parametrization of the model, including parameter optimization and tuning consisted of five major steps:

1. Parameters related to carbon allocation (section 4.2), forest management and mortality (section 4.3, hydraulic architecture (section 4.4, canopy structure (section 4.5)), photosynthesis (section 4.6), and canopy radiation transfer (section 4.7) and for which observations exists at the species-level (section 4.1) were extracted from a wide range of sources (Tables S1-S5). Using the extracted species-level parameter values in ORCHIDEE without further processing avoids hidden model-tuning and largely reduces the likelihood that simulation results are biased by hidden calibration owing to a poor taxonomic definition of PFTs (Scheiter et al., 2013).
2. The phenology-related parameters of the deciduous MTCs were optimised by MacBean et al. (In prep.), using MODIS-derived NDVI data normalised to model fAPAR over the 2000 - 2008 time period.

3. The modulator ( $m_{\psi}$ ) which accounts for processes in the the soil-plant continuum that are currently not modelled, was manually tuned against species distribution maps (section 4.4).
4. The coefficient for maintenance respiration was optimized making use of Bayesian calibration (section 4.8) against a compilation of 100+ observations of biomass production efficiency.
5. The leaf to sapwood area ratio was manually tuned (section 4.9) to match 100+ site-level GPP and LAI observations recorded over Europe.

#### 4.1 Introducing twelve new PFTs

Similar to the ORCHIDEE trunk, the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch distinguishes 13 metaclasses (MTC) for vegetation. Outside Europe the original MTC classification of ORCHIDEE was kept, while inside Europe 12 new parameter sets representing the main European tree species were added. The default vegetation distribution map in ORCHIDEE, i.e., Olson et al. (1983), was replaced by an up-to-date global MTC map which has been produced using the ESA CCI ECV Land Cover map (<http://www.esa-landcover-cci.org/>)(Poulter et al., 2015).The mapping from land cover to MTC basically followed Poulter et al. (2011), although table 5 (the "cross-walking" table) has been updated following discussions with the LC-CCI team at Universite Catholique de Louvain. For the European domain, the global MTC distribution was overlaid by a tree species distribution map (Brus et al., 2012).

This study focusses on tree species with a coverage of more than 2% in Europe, yielding seven species groups covering in total 78.8% of the European forest area: *Betula sp.*, *Fagus sylvatica*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Picea sp.*, *Pinus pinaster*, *Quercus ilex* and a group combining *Quercus robur* and *Quercus petraea*. For *Pinus sylvestris*, *Picea sp.* and *Betula sp.* An additional distinction between boreal and temperate forest was made for the species map and parametrization: trees located in Norway, Sweden and Finland were considered boreal, while trees growing at lower latitudes were categorized as temperate. Given the potential role of tree species of the Salicacea genus in short rotation coppice management, a separate PFT was parametrized for *Populus sp.* Furthermore, to improve the parametrization of the MTC of boreal needleleaved deciduous forest, observations from *Larix sp.* were included when possible.

For these 12 forest species, 12 new PFTs were created with each PFT belonging to a single MTC (Table S2, S3 and S4) Almost 79% of the European forest was parametrized at the species level. The remaining 21% was reclassified in four residual groups, i.e., a temperate and boreal needleleaf evergreen and a temperate and boreal broadleaved residual group. For use outside Europe, the original MTC classification of ORCHIDEE was kept. The parameters of the residual groups and MTCs are the mean of the parameters of the species-level PFTs that are in the MTC, with the exception of albedo parameters that could be extracted from remote sensing products. Finally, separate PFTs were introduced for boreal grasses and croplands, which allowed for a boreal parametrization of

phenology, senescence and growth. This approach, which distinguishes a total of 28 PFTs, allows a higher taxonomic resolution over Europe, better defines forest types compared to the more general MTC approach and facilitates the use of observations to derive parameters.

## 755 4.2 Allocation

The allocation scheme relies on the leaf to sapwood area ratio (section 4.9) and the relationship between diameter and height. Following a logarithmic transformation of the more than 150,000 data points from the the national forest inventory data of Spain, France, Germany and Sweden, the two parameters (i.e.  $k_{\alpha_1}$  and  $k_{\beta_1}$ ) describing the relationship between diameter and height (equation 760 15) were fitted at the species-level making use of a least square regression. Parameter values for MTCs were derived by grouping the species into MTCs and fitting the parameters. Data sources and parameter estimates are presented in Tables S2 and S3.

## 4.3 Forest management and mortality

Forest management and tree mortality are controlled by (section 3.7): (1) maximum tree diameter 765 (no symbolic notation; called `largest_tree_diam` in ORCHIDEE-CAN), (2) minimum stand density (no symbolic notation; called `ntrees_dia_profit` in ORCHIDEE-CAN), (3) environmental mortality (no symbolic notation; called `residence_time` in ORCHIDEE-CAN), (4) self-thinning ( $k_{\alpha_2}$  and  $k_{\beta_2}$ ) and, (5) anthropogenic thinning (no symbolic notation; called `alpha_RDI_upper`, `alpha_RDI_lower`, `beta_RDI_upper` and `beta_RDI_lower` in ORCHIDEE-CAN) where the parameters depend on the 770 management strategy.

Maximum tree diameter was extracted from the French, Swedish, German and Spanish forest inventories as the observed 50% quantile for diameter at breast height. The 50% quantile rather than the observed maximum was used to account for the fact that large scale land surface models are expected to reproduce large scale patterns rather than local extremes. Minimum stand density was estimated as the expected stand density for the maximum tree diameter for a stand under self-thinning. 775 Although both criteria are related to each other through the observed self-thinning relationship (see below), the minimum number of trees is used to decide when unmanaged forests should be replaced, whereas both the maximum diameter and the minimum number are used for managed sites as criteria to initiate a clear cut. Parameters for anthropogenic thinning are based on the national forest inventory data and checked against the JRC-database of species specific yield tables. Parameter values are 780 presented in Table S5. Resource competition between trees in the same stand has been reported to result in the so-called self-thinning relationship that relates the number of individuals within a stand to the stand biomass (Reineke, 1933; Kira et al., 1953; Yoda et al., 1963):

$$(M_s + M_h) \times k_{\rho s} = k_{\alpha} \times (d_{ind})^{-k_{\beta}} \quad (39)$$

785 Where  $k_\alpha$  and  $k_\beta$  are the constants of the self-thinning relationship. Furthermore, stem volume can be written as a function of tree diameter ( $d_{dbh}$ ), tree height and stem form factor ( $k_{\alpha'}$ ) to account for the fact that the stem shape is not a perfect cylinder:

$$(M_s + M_h) * k_{\rho s} = k_{\alpha'} \times (d_{dbh})^2 * d_h \quad (40)$$

790 Following the allometric relationship given in equation 15, tree height can be written as a function of tree diameter. Hence, the self-thinning relationship can be re-written to relate stand diameter to stand density:

$$d_{dbh} = k_{\alpha 2} \times (d_{ind})^{-k_{\beta 2}} \quad (41)$$

Where,  $k_{\beta 2}$  relates to  $k_{\beta 1}$  (as in equation 15) as follows:

$$k_{\beta 2} = -3/2 \times (2 + k_{\beta 1}) \quad (42)$$

795  $k_{\alpha 1}$  and  $k_{\beta 1}$  were estimated by fitting equation 15 to observed diameter and height of individual trees from NFI of Sweden, Germany, France and Spain.  $k_{\beta 2}$  was calculated from equation 42 and  $k_{\alpha 2}$  was estimated by fitting equation 41 to observations of the quadratic mean stand diameter and stand density from NFI data.

#### 4.4 Hydraulic architecture

800 Initial choices of parameters for this scheme were based on the values and parameter sources listed by Hickler et al. (2006). All data sources were revisited and the search was extended to obtain values at the PFT rather than MTC level. Given that plant hydrology is rather well studied, observed parameters were available for most of the species. Data sources are listed in Table S1 whereas the parameter values are shown in Table S3. Our implementation of hydraulic architecture required  
805 the introduction of a tuning parameter ( $m_\psi$ ) to account for processes that are currently absent in the scheme, e.g. plant water storage and soil-root resistance. A process-based description of these processes (i.e., Sperry et al., 1998; Steppe et al., 2006) is being tested and should reduce the effect of the tuning parameter and eventually allow its removal from the model.

For the time being, the modulator  $m_\psi$  was tuned manually against the species distribution map  
810 to obtain a match between the simulated and observed species distributions. When the modulator is set to zero, all PFTs experience excessive water stress resulting in large-scale plant mortality. The modulator was increased until the prescribed vegetation distribution which was based on remote-sensing observations (section 4.1), survived where it was prescribed. To this aim, the model was run for 50 years, forced with v5.2 of the CRU-NCEP climatology for Europe (Climatic Research Unit,

815 University of East Anglia). Note that the values of the modulator depend on the climate data that are  
used to force the model. Similarly the modulators may need to be re-tuned when ORCHIDEE-CAN  
is coupled to an atmospheric model.

#### 4.5 Canopy structure

The relationship between diameter and projected crown surface area follows the model proposed by  
820 Pretzsch (2009):

$$d_{csa} = k_{ap} \times d_{dbh}^{k_{bp}} \quad (43)$$

with parameters estimated using the dataset presented in Pretzsch and Dieler (2012). This dataset  
contains diameter and projected crown surface areas observations for over 37,000 individual trees  
in Europe covering almost 30 species. Following logarithmic transformation of the observations a  
825 linear least square regression was used to fit species-specific parameter values. Parameter values are  
shown in Table S2. Parameter values for MTCs were derived by grouping the species into MTCs and  
fitting the parameters. No observations were available for the boreal zone and temperate evergreen  
deciduous species. For the boreal species a subset of the temperate observations (*Pinus sylvestris*,  
*Picea abies* and *Betula pendula*) was used, i.e., the relationship between  $d_{csa}$  and  $d_{dbh}$  was fitted  
830 to all available data for *Pinus sylvestris*. Next, all observations with a  $d_{csa}$  that falls below the  
predicted  $d_{csa}$  were selected as considered to represent a boreal subset. Given the importance of  
snow pressure on crown structure, selecting observations with sub average  $d_{csa}$  is justifiable as a  
first approximation. Subsequently, the parameters were fitted to this subset of data. For *Quercus ilex*  
no data were available and parameters were tuned such that the crown diameter was 0.85 m less than  
835 the tree height.

#### 4.6 Analytical solution for photosynthesis

Three originally MTC-specific photosynthetic parameters ( $k_{V_{cmax}}$ ,  $k_{J_{max}}$  and  $k_{sla}$ ) were derived  
at the species level by obtaining weighted site means for each species from the global leaf trait  
database TRY (Kattge et al., 2011) and additionally from Medlyn et al. (2002). Only  $k_{V_{cmax}}$  and  
840  $k_{J_{max}}$  standardized to a common formulation and parametrization of the photosynthesis model by  
(Farquhar et al., 1980) were used. Most  $k_{V_{cmax}}$  and  $k_{J_{max}}$  values in the TRY database had already  
been standardized to a reference temperature of 25°C (Kattge and Knorr, 2007). Subsequently, a  
species-specific  $k_{J_{max,opt}}/k_{V_{cmax,opt}}$  ratio was calculated from the records which included both  
 $k_{V_{cmax,opt}}$  and  $k_{J_{max,opt}}$  measurements. From this ratio, which was within a range of 1.91-2.47  
845 for each species,  $k_{J_{max,opt}}$  was calculated for records which originally only included  $k_{V_{cmax}}$ . Only  
geo-referenced observations within Europe were used and the distinction between boreal and tem-  
perate forest was made similar to the species map. Depending on the species this resulted in 5 to 183

observations for  $k_{sla}$  and 11 to 173 observations for  $k_{V_{cmax,opt}}$  and  $k_{J_{max,opt}}$ . From these observations species-specific means were calculated, weighted for differences in the number of observations  
850 per site. The parameter values are shown in Table S3.

#### 4.7 Multi-layer two-way radiation scheme for tall canopies

The radiation transfer scheme makes use of parameters describing leaf and background properties, i.e., leaf single scattering and preferred scattering direction (for both visible (VIS) and near-infrared (NIR) wavelengths) and the so-called background albedo or the albedo of the surface below the  
855 dominant tree canopy (VIS and NIR). All parameters were taken from the Joint Research Centre Two-stream Inversion Package (JRC-TIP) (Pinty et al., 2011a, b). This is a software package (Pinty et al., 2007) which inverts a two-stream model (Pinty et al., 2006) to best fit the MODIS broadband visible and near-infrared white sky surface albedo from 2001 to 2010 at 1 km resolution (Pinty et al., 2011a). The inverse procedure implemented in the JRC-TIP is shown to be robust, reliable, and  
860 compliant with large-scale processing requirements (Pinty et al., 2011a). Furthermore, this package ensures the physical consistency between sets of observations, the two-stream model parameters, and radiation fluxes.

Only parameter values for which the posterior standard deviation of the probability density functions were significantly smaller than the prior standard deviation were selected from the JRC-TIP  
865 optimization (Pinty et al., 2011a), since this condition ensures statistically significant values. Species and MTC specific values were derived from JRC-TIP by performing a multiple regression. This method determines, in an objective way, how the fractions of each MTC or species explain the JRC-TIP parameter. The multiple regression was performed separately for the six parameters: the single scattering of leaves (for both VIS and NIR), the scattering direction of leaves (VIS and NIR)  
870 and the background albedo (VIS and NIR). Each JRC-TIP parameter was used as the dependent variable and the independent variables consisted of the fractions of each MTC (Poulter et al., 2015) or species (Brus et al., 2012). These fractions were used to find a linear function that best predicted each JRC-TIP parameter. The corresponding slope of a regression of each MTC or species fraction gives the MTC or species dependent JRC-TIP value. The multiple regression was performed without an  
875 intercept. To avoid pollution by the seasonal cycle, the multiple regression was applied only for the pixels of the Northern Hemisphere. Only pixels that were less than 10% covered by non-vegetative fractions were selected for the analysis and only significant results following an F-test and positive  $r^2$ -values were selected. The derived parameter values are shown in Table S4.

#### 4.8 Maintenance respiration

880 Both the trunk and ORCHIDEE-CAN branch reduce the definition of net primary production to biomass production; hence, carbon leaching from the roots, volatile organic emissions from the leaves, dissolved and particulate carbon losses through water fluxes and carbon subsidies to my-

corryhzae are not accounted for in the model. These fluxes are (incorrectly) accounted for in the modelled autotrophic respiration. Modelled autotrophic respiration should therefore be considered  
885 an effective rather than a true value. For this reason, the basal rate of autotrophic respiration was optimized against 126 site observations of the biomass production efficiency ( $k_{cmaint}$ ) calculated as the ratio between annual biomass production and annual photosynthesis (Vicca et al., 2012; Campioli et al., In prep.), using a Bayesian optimization scheme. The scheme, for which more details are given in Santaren et al. (2007), uses a standard variational method based on the iterative minimiza-  
890 tion of a cost function that measures both the model data misfit and the parameter deviations from prior knowledge (Tarantola, 2005).

The simulations that were used in the Bayesian optimization prescribed a 20 m tall vegetation for temperate tree species, a 15 m tall vegetation for boreal tree species and a 10 m tall vegetation for Mediterranean tree species as its initial condition. This approach reduced the need for several  
895 decades of simulations to a single year to grow a mature forests. In total the simulations were run for 10 years and covered the European domain. The first year was discarded and the ratio between modelled GPP and NPP was averaged over the remaining 9 years. Prior to the optimization the observations were averaged for agricultural PFTs (0.57), and deciduous (0.44) and evergreen (0.53) forest PFTs, the observed uncertainty was 0.03. The parameter values were set to range between  
900 0.0032 and 0.160. The optimization converged within 11 iterations and the optimized parameter values are shown in Table S2.

It remains untested how well the simulated effective autotrophic respiration represents the (rarely) observed autotrophic respiration. Note that in the cases of both the trunk and the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch of ORCHIDEE, a match between effective and observed autotrophic respiration should not  
905 be interpreted as evidence of desired model behaviour because several components of net primary production are not modelled yet.

After the optimization of the maintenance respiration coefficient ( $k_{cmaint}$ ), the model simulates reasonable biomass production efficiency for a unit of photosynthesis. Hence, the final step of the parametrization focussed on optimizing the leaf area as this is one of the main drivers of photosyn-  
910 thesis.

#### 4.9 Sapwood to leaf area ratio

The vegetation structure simulated by the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch is sensitive to the value of  $k_{ls}$  which describes the ratio between the leaf and sapwood area of an individual tree. The available observations show a wide range within and across forest species. Dependencies of  $k_{ls}$  on tree height  
915 (McDowell et al., 2002; Novick et al., 2009), tree diameter following stand thinning (Simonin et al., 2006) and CO<sub>2</sub> (Pataki et al., 2006) have been reported. Most observations, however, come from experiments where time was substituted by space which hampers teasing apart the sources of variability. Given the variation and uncertainty in the observations and the model sensitivity to this

parameter, we manually tuned its value within the observed range, to match European-wide obser-  
920 vations of leaf area index as recorded in the Database of Global Forest Ecosystem Structure and  
Function Luyssaert et al. (2007).

This database was used to calculate a mean and maximum observed leaf area index at the species-  
level for the temperate and boreal region. Initially 20-year long European-wide simulations were  
used to simulate leaf area index of a species, when the large-scale leaf area index approached the  
925 mean target value and did not exceed the maximum value, the simulations were extended to reach  
100 years for checking the temporal evolution of leaf area index. We deliberately optimized the  
sapwood to leaf area ratio ( $k_{ls}$ ) by making use of stand-level data to reduce circularity with the  
model validation (see below).

Limited tests over a period of 100 years in a Scots pine forest at 51 – 52°N, 13 – 14°E (Fig.  
930 S1) suggested that optimizing  $k_{maint}$  and  $k_{ls}$  had the largest effect on the maximum LAI, which  
decreased with almost 17% after optimization compared to a simulation with prior parameter values.  
Mean annual GPP, mean annual transpiration and basal area decreased with, respectively 6, 6 and  
7% compared to a simulation with prior parameter values (Fig. S1).

## 5 Validation

935 ORCHIDEE-CAN is designed as the land surface model to be coupled to the atmospheric model  
LMDz. As such future applications of ORCHIDEE-CAN are expected to be regional to global in  
the spatial domain and to span several years in the temporal domain. Given its anticipated uses, the  
ability of the model to reproduce large-scale spatial patterns as well as their inter-annual variability  
is essential. The first applications of the model, both offline and coupled to the atmosphere, will  
940 focus on Europe. The validation, therefore, reports performance indices both over Europe as over  
eight separate regions within Europe (Bellprat et al., 2012). These eight regions, which partially  
overlap, are defined after Bellprat et al. (2012). Furthermore, the performance indices are calculated  
for winter, spring, summer and autumn and thus allow to evaluate the capacity of the model to  
reproduce observed annual cycles.

945 In addition to the root mean square error, a land performance index (LPI) based on the principles  
laid out for the Climate Performance Index (Murphy et al., 2004, their SI) was also calculated.  
LPI normalizes the root of the squared differences between the simulations and observations by  
the observed spatial and temporal variance. The LPI was used to estimate the likelihood that the  
simulated variable belongs to the same population as the observed variable, defined as  $\exp(-0.5LPI^2)$ .  
950 An LPI equal to 1 indicates that the model correctly reproduces the mean observed value and implies  
a likelihood of 61% (Murphy et al., 2004) that the simulations and observations come from the same  
population. Similarly, an LPI of 2 reduces this likelihood to 13%. An LPI of less than 0.32 has a  
likelihood of more than 95% and therefore indicates a statistically significant result.

While developing ORCHIDEE-CAN, the numerical approaches that added functionality to the  
955 code were selected on the basis of their performance at the site-level (see below). Rather than run-  
ning the same site-level tests for our implementation, we performed a complementary large-scale  
validation. The strength of our approach lies not in the details, as is the case for site-level validation,  
but in its width by simultaneously testing model performance for structural variables such as basal  
area (de Rigo et al., 2014), canopy structure (Pinty et al., 2011a) and canopy height (Simard et al.,  
960 2011), biogeochemical fluxes such as GPP (Jung et al., 2008), biophysical fluxes such as albedo  
(Schaaf et al., 2002) and fluxes at the interface of biogeochemistry and biophysics such as evapo-  
transpiration (Jung et al., 2008). The selection of variables was limited by the availability of spatially  
explicit data-derived products for Europe.

For the validation, both the trunk and ORCHIDEE-CAN branch were run from 1850 to 1900  
965 using CRU-NCEP climate forcing from 1901-1950 at 0.5 degree resolution. From 1901 until 2012,  
the corresponding CRU-NCEP forcing data for each year were used. Both versions used the 11-  
layer soil hydrology, the single-layer energy budget and the same land cover map (Poulter et al.,  
2015). Given that no European-wide, spatially explicit and data-derived products were found for the  
validation of the net carbon flux, there was no need for a carbon spin-up. For the ORCHIDEE-CAN  
970 branch, the observed tree height and basal area were compared against the simulation values at the  
end of 2010 (the trunk does not simulate these variables). For both the trunk and the ORCHIDEE-  
CAN branch, the observed GPP, evapotranspiration, effective LAI and VIS and NIR albedos were  
compared against monthly means between 2001 and 2010.

## 5.1 Species versus PFTs

975 In ORCHIDEE-CAN the PFT concept was refined by parametrizing the main European tree species  
groups (section 4.1). To evaluate the effect of the species parametrization we performed a companion  
simulation for the configuration described above, but at the MTC level. Model performance was  
barely affected by the use of the MTC parameters, compared to the simulation with the species  
parameters (Fig. S2 for RMSE scores).

## 980 5.2 Allocation

In ORCHIDEE-CAN, functional relationships which vary by species and light stress are used to  
allocate carbon among the fine roots, foliage and sapwood. The allocation scheme largely follows  
Zaehle and Friend (2010), who in turn was inspired by Sitch et al. (2003). Approaches simulating  
allocation based on functional relationships were found to outcompete allocation schemes based  
985 on constant fractions or resource limitation (De Kauwe et al., 2014). The ability of these schemes  
to reproduce foliage, fine root and sapwood reported in large observational data sets (for example,  
Luyssaert et al., 2007) demonstrates that these schemes capture the main observed features (Zaehle  
and Friend, 2010). In addition, allocation schemes making use of functional relationships were also

capable of simulating the observed effect of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on two mature forest ecosystems (De  
990 Kauwe et al., 2014). Despite these successes, the schemes were reported to be sensitive to their  
parametrization. Differences in parameters were reported to result in substantial differences in the  
simulated allocation. The parameters for the functional relationships used in ORCHIDEE-CAN are  
given in Table S2. The main conceptual difference between the allocation scheme by Zaehle and  
Friend (2010) and ORCHIDEE-CAN is that the latter was designed to simulate one or more diameter  
995 classes.

Given that photosynthesis is still calculated at the stand level (and thus not at the tree level) the  
allocation rule of Deleuze et al. (2004) was integrated in the functional allocation scheme to account  
for light and resource competition within a stand. Where the functional relationships are used to sim-  
ulate carbon allocation within an individual tree of a given diameter, the rule of Deleuze et al. (2004)  
1000 allocates carbon across the different diameter classes. The allocation rule which models the radial  
increment for individual trees in pure even-aged stands was successfully tested for Norway spruce  
and Douglas fir stands in France (Deleuze et al., 2004). A similar approach for modelling radial  
increment has already been implemented in a version close to the trunk of ORCHIDEE (Bellassen  
et al., 2010) and was able to successfully simulate stand characteristics such as height, basal area  
1005 and stand diameter (Bellassen et al., 2011). This previous implementation differs from the current  
implementation in its time resolution (which is now daily instead of yearly), its analytical solution  
and the underlying allocation scheme (which is now based on functional relationships instead of  
resource limitation).

The aforementioned studies performed a detailed validation of the two approaches dealing with  
1010 carbon allocation, which were combined in ORCHIDEE-CAN. Complementary to these studies we  
performed a European-wide validation of our implementation and parametrization of these well-  
tested schemes against a remote-sensing based map of tree height (Simard et al., 2011), upscaled  
eddy-covariance observations for GPP (Jung et al., 2008) and a map of basal area based on national  
forest inventory data (de Rigo et al., 2014). The model's ability to reproduce GPP is thought to  
1015 reflect its capacity to simulate the foliage biomass, a correct simulation of height reflects the model's  
capacity to simulate aboveground woody biomass and its capacity to reproduce observed basal areas  
suggest that the interaction of stand density and individual tree diameter are well-captured.

The new implementation and parametrization of the within-tree and within-stand allocation schemes  
were found to have an 91, 68 and 72% chance that the simulations reproduced the observations for  
1020 GPP, tree height and basal area for Europe, respectively (Table 3). Given that basal area and height  
are not available from the trunk version of ORCHIDEE, we could not compare the performance of  
model versions in this respect. With respect to GPP, the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch was found to out-  
perform the trunk by 12% and thus increased the likelihood that ORCHIDEE-CAN is an unbiased  
simulator of the spatial and temporal variability of GPP from 79 to 91%. Improved performance of

1025 the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch compared to the trunk is observed for all regions in summer where the  
RMSE of GPP was halved from 2.5-5 gC m<sup>-2</sup> day<sup>-1</sup> to 1-2 gC m<sup>-2</sup> day<sup>-1</sup> (Fig. 2, 3 and 4).

Although part of the high likelihood could be due to the fact that the observed GPP was upscaled  
making use of similar climatologies being used as the forcings of the models, this circularity could  
neither have contributed to the improved performance between the trunk and the ORCHIDEE-CAN  
1030 branch nor to the decrease in RMSE. The improvements are thought to be due to structural changes  
to the model such as allocation, hydraulic architecture and canopy structure as well as to the use of  
more consistent parametrization.

### 5.3 Plant water supply

Our implementation of plant hydraulic architecture was largely based on the scheme of Hickler et al.  
1035 (2006), which was tested globally and at site level. Global simulation results for actual evapotran-  
spiration were found to reproduce available data (Baumgartner and Reichel, 1975; Henning, 1989).  
At the site level, the model agreed well with the magnitude and seasonality of eddy-covariance mea-  
surements of actual evapotranspiration for 15 European forests sites (EUROFLUX), with a tendency  
to slightly overestimate actual evapotranspiration for 6 sites (Hickler et al., 2006).

1040 The maximum amount of water that can be transported by a tree relies on the hydraulic archi-  
tecture of the tree and therefore on the capacity of the model to simulate tree and stand dimensions  
as well as on the model's capacity to simulate soil water content. As an additional test, our imple-  
mentation of the model was compared against the upscaled eddy-covariance measurements for GPP  
and actual evapotranspiration (Jung et al., 2008). The capacity to jointly reproduce GPP and actual  
1045 evapotranspiration is an indicator that the model successfully reproduces the coupling between CO<sub>2</sub>  
and water exchange. Model validation showed 91 and 87% chance (compared to 79 and 45% for  
the trunk) that ORCHIDEE-CAN reproduces the upscaled GPP and actual evapotranspiration data  
(Table 3, Fig.4). The RMSE for actual evapotranspiration during summer dropped well below 1 mm  
day<sup>-1</sup> for most regions (Fig. 2), whereas it never dropped below 1 mm day<sup>-1</sup> for the trunk (Fig. 3).

### 1050 5.4 Canopy structure

The canopy structure model by Haverd et al. (2012) was previously validated against ground-based  
LIDAR data for several test sites with varying density, structural complexity, layering and clumping  
(Lovell et al., 2012). Model-derived canopy gap probabilities compared with observations using a  
one-sample t-test were significant for 11 out of 12 test sites. We considered this result as a sufficient  
1055 proof to use this canopy structure model in the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch and added to its validation  
by comparing the simulated canopy structure model over Europe against a remote-sensing based  
map of tree height (Simard et al., 2011) and the JRC-TIP effective LAI product (Pinty et al., 2011a).  
The effective LAI value expresses the capability of the canopy to intercept direct radiation, and is  
thus associated with the probability distribution function of the canopy gaps (Haverd et al., 2012).

1060 Thus the effective LAI contains information about the forest structure and leaf distribution of the canopy. In the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch, canopy structure is used to calculate the albedo, roughness length, absorbed light for photosynthesis and leaf area that is coupled to the atmosphere for, e.g., transpiration and interception of precipitation.

The ORCHIDEE-CAN branch is the first branch of ORCHIDEE that makes use of an effective  
1065 LAI to calculate the interaction between the canopy and the atmosphere. The LPI and RMSE of the branch, therefore, cannot be compared against the trunk. Overall, the combined implementation of the allocation scheme and the canopy structure model shows a 67% chance to reproduce the satellite-based estimates for effective LAI. Surprisingly, effective LAI is better simulated in spring and autumn when dynamics within the canopy are substantial due to leaf on-set and senescence.  
1070 For the periods when the effective LAI is expected to be most stable, i.e., summer and winter, LPI approached and frequently exceeded 1 (data not shown). Part of this shortcoming may be due to the lack of shrubs in the land cover classification. In the model, shrublands are replaced by forest and/or grasslands, likely resulting in differences between the observed and simulated canopy structure. This lapse also appears in the RMSE of effective LAI (RMSE higher than 0.8, Fig. 2)

## 1075 **5.5 Top of the canopy albedo**

The radiation transfer model (Pinty et al., 2006) has been validated extensively against realistic complex three-dimensional canopy scenarios (Pinty et al., 2006) and as part of the RAdiation transfer Model Intercomparison (RAMI) project. The 1-D canopy radiation transfer model by Pinty et al. (2006) was demonstrated to accurately simulate both the amplitude and the angular variations of all  
1080 radiant fluxes with respect to the solar zenith angle (Widlowski et al., 2011). In addition, the radiation transfer model and its effective values extracted from the JRC-TIP data set were successfully applied to a single forest site (Pinty et al., 2011c).

Previously we reported on the capacity of the radiation transfer model to simulate the effects of forest management on albedo (Otto et al., 2014). For the latter, forest properties were prescribed and  
1085 the radiation transfer model was validated against top-of-the-canopy albedo data from five observational sites. Differences in the spatial scales between the observed and simulated albedo values were accounted for by presenting the mean June albedo during 2001-2010 (Otto et al., 2014). The simulated summertime canopy albedo falls within the range of observation. However, there occurs a slight overestimation in the near-infrared wavelength band compared to the single site measurement.  
1090 Too high near-infrared single scattering albedo values for pine, as obtained from the JRC-TIP product, are the most likely cause. The observed deviation is not due to a shortcoming in the model itself but reflects the difficulties the JRC-TIP has with optimizing parameter values in the absence of field observations in the specific case of sparse canopies (Otto et al., 2014).

For the spatial validation we use the white-sky albedo (VIS and NIR) from Moderate Resolution  
1095 Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS, Schaaf et al., 2002) at 0.5° resolution (distributed in netCDF

format by the Integrated Climate Data Center (ICDC, <http://icdc.zmaw.de>) University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany). Over large spatial and temporal domains the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch reproduces the observed VIS and NIR albedo and its variability; LPI for the albedo in the visible light is especially satisfying with a likelihood of 92% for the simulations to come from the same population as the observations (Table 3). This high overall performance index, however, hides performance issues over Scandinavia and the Alps during the snow season. The RMSE for VIS and NIR albedo without snow lies around 0.05, whereas during the snow season the RMSE increases to 0.20 (VIS) and 0.18 (NIR) over these regions (Fig. 2). When the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch is coupled to an atmospheric model, however, these deviations will only have a minor effect on the climate, owing to low incoming radiation during most of the snow season, especially in Scandinavia.

Previous validation of the radiation transfer model showed that the largest discrepancies were occurring in the near-infrared domain with a snow covered background (Pinty et al., 2006). With the exception of the snow-covered season, the new albedo scheme, that relies on the simulated canopy structure, resulted in a substantial improvement of 0.05-0.15 compared to the trunk for the RMSE in both the VIS and NIR range in Scandinavia and the Alps (Fig. 2 and 3). The European LPI-based likelihood that our model simulations come from the same populations as the MODIS albedo increased by a remarkable 11 and 23% for, respectively, NIR and VIS albedo (from 61% and 69% for the trunk to 72 and 92% for the ORCHIDEE-CAN, Table 3).

Given that the parametrization of the canopy radiation transfer model used in ORCHIDEE-CAN relies on MODIS, the high likelihood may not come as a surprise. However, our implementation of the radiation transfer model also relies on the simulated absorbed light, simulated GPP, simulated allocation and simulated canopy structure (which depends on mortality and forest management). In the absence of all these processes our canopy radiation transfer model is expected to reproduce the MODIS data with a probability of 100%. Hence, the likelihood of 72% and 92% (for NIR and VIS, respectively) could also be interpreted as a verification of the aforementioned calculations; all calculations that determine the canopy structure reduce the reproducibility of the data by only 8-28% (100% to 72 or 92%).

## 5.6 Energy fluxes

The multilayer scheme is in the process of a detailed evaluation across a range of tests conditions (Ryder et al., 2014), and further validation across a range of sites is on-going. The scheme is able to produce within-canopy temperature and humidity profiles, and successfully simulates the in-canopy radiation distribution, as well as the separation of the canopy from the soil surface. However, in order to preserve a measure of continuity with previous evaluations of the model, the multilayer solution is here set to single layer operation mode, which includes the effects of hydraulic limitation (section 3.2) and canopy structure (section 3.3) on the energy budget.

The single-layer set-up of the multi-layer solution makes use of an improved albedo estimation and is therefore expected to better simulate the net radiation that needs to be redistributed in the canopy. This has been confirmed at a single site with a sparse canopy (Ryder et al., 2014). Furthermore, the improvements in actual evapotranspiration in addition to the low RMSE (Fig. 2) are expected to be propagated in the performance of the energy budget.

## 5.7 Forest management strategies

Model comparison has previously demonstrated that explicitly treating thinning processes is essential to reproduce local and large scale biomass observations (Wolf et al., 2011). This finding justifies the implementation of generic approaches to forest management despite the difficulties associated with defining and quantifying forest management and its intensity (Schall and Ammer, 2013). Although the use of so-called naturalness indices, in which the current state of the forest is referenced against the potential state of the forest, has been criticised because of difficulties in defining the potential state of the forest (Schall and Ammer, 2013), such approaches were demonstrated to correctly rank different management strategies according to their intensity (Luyssaert et al., 2011).

Naturalness indices making use of only diameter and stand density or the so-called Relative Density Index (RDI) have been previously implemented at the stand-level (Fortin et al., 2012) and as well as in large scale models (Bellassen et al., 2010). This approach was shown to successfully reproduce the biomass changes during the life cycle of a forest (Bellassen et al., 2011; Fortin et al., 2012). The implementation of a forestry model based on the relative density index was reported to perform better than simple statistical models for stand-level variables such as stand density, basal area, standing volume and height (Bellassen et al., 2011). Although the performance of the model was reported as less satisfying for tree-level variables, the approach is nevertheless considered reliable to model the effects of forest management on biomass stocks of forests across a range of scales from plot to country (Bellassen et al., 2011).

In the absence of forest management, ORCHIDEE-CAN simulates that the stands develop into tall canopy (Fig 5a), with a high biomass (Fig 5b), a substantial dead wood and litter pool (Fig 5c) and no harvest (Fig 5d). High stand management reduces the height, standing biomass and litter pools (Fig 5a-c) but produces biomass for harvest (Fig 5d). Under coppicing, the reduction in forest age is reflected in a shorter canopy and lower biomass and litter pools (Fig a-c) compared to high stand management. The harvest is more evenly spread in time but falls below the harvest generated by high stand management (Fig 5d). Given the shorter rotations, canopy height, standing biomass and litter pools are lower for short rotation coppicing with poplar and willow compared to all other management strategies applied on oak forest (Fig 5a-c). Short rotation coppice was harvested every 3 years resulting in a quasi-continuous supply of woody biomass (Fig. 5d).

The forestry model implemented in ORCHIDEE-CAN is based on the RDI approach by Bellassen et al. (2010). We complemented earlier validation of such an approach over France (Bellassen et al.,

2011) by a new European-wide validation for basal area. At the European scale we verified the simulated basal area and height against observed basal area from national forest inventories (de Rigo et al., 2014) and height from remote-sensing (Simard et al., 2011). With an RMSE of 3-7 for height and 7-15 for BA, and a chance of, respectively, 68 and 72% to reproduce the data at the European scale (Table 3), our model is capable of correctly simulating the mean height and basal area but fails to capture much of the spatial variability (Fig. 4, temporal variability was not considered because the data products were only available for one time period).

Furthermore, we evaluated basal area and tree diameter at the species-level for 11 regions over France which represents a finer spatial-scale than targeted by the model developments and their parametrization. The data were extracted from the French forest inventory between 2005 and 2010 and we used the same simulations as for the European validation in the previous paragraph. Pixels contained in the French inventory data we selected and for both simulations and observations we calculated a moving average for the diameter and basal area per age class to then calculated the RMSE. To account for intrinsic species differences in diameter and basal area we normalized the RMSE. The RMSE was lower than 30% of the mean tree diameter or mean basal area for each region for *Betula sp.*, *Pinus pinaster* and *Quercus ilex*. For *Fagus sylvatica*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Picea sp.* and *Quercus robur/petraea* (Fig. 6). The relative RMSE of diameter and basal area exceeded 50% for one to four regions for tree diameter and basal area (not shown).

The inability to fully capture the observed spatial variability in the simulation could be due to the simulation protocol that started in 1850 with 2 to 3 meter tall trees all over Europe. A longer simulation accounting for the major historical changes in forest management such as the reforestation in the 1700s following an all time low in the European forest cover, the start of high stand management at the expense of coppicing in the early 1800s, and the reforestation programs following World War II (Farrell et al., 2000) is expected to improve the spatial variability in tree height and basal area. Regional deviations such as those observed in the Iberian Peninsula or over the entire Mediterranean (thus including part of the Iberian Peninsula) may be due to the lack of shrubs in the land cover map and parametrization of the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch. Therefore the models simulates a higher stand density and higher basal area for regions where in reality shrubs occur (Fig. 4).

The parametrization of the forestry module strongly depends on the national forest inventories from Spain, France, Germany and Sweden. Therefore verification against the same data contains little information about the model quality. Nevertheless, no time-dependent relationships were used in the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch thus the model's capacity to reproduce the relationship between basal area and stand age, diameter and stand age or wood volume and stand age could be considered as largely independent test of the model quality. These tests were performed over 8 bioclimatic regions of France and the ORCHIDEE-CAN branch was found to largely capture the time dependencies of basal area, diameter and wood volume (not shown).

## 6 Conclusions

ORCHIDEE-CAN (SVN r2290) differs from the trunk version of ORCHIDEE (SVN r2243) by the  
1205 allometric-based allocation of carbon to leaf, root, wood, fruit and reserve pools; the transmittance,  
absorbance and reflectance of radiation within the canopy; and the vertical discretisation of the en-  
ergy budget calculations. Conceptual changes towards a better process representation were made  
for the interaction of radiation with snow, the hydraulic architecture of plants, the representation  
of forest management and a numerical solution for the photosynthesis formalism of Farquhar, von  
1210 Caemmerer and Berry. Furthermore, these changes were extensively linked throughout the code to  
improve the consistency of the model. By making use of observation-based parameters the physio-  
logical realism of the model was improved and significant reparametrization was done by introduc-  
ing twelve new parameter sets that represent specific tree species or genera rather than a group of  
phylogenetically often unrelated species, as is the case in widely used plant functional types (PFT).  
1215 As PFTs have no meaning outside the scientific community, the species level parametrization of the  
ORCHIDEE-CAN branch can deliver actionable information to decision-makers and forest owners  
on the implications of management strategies on the climate.

Model performance was tested against spatial explicit or upscaled data for basal area, tree height,  
canopy structure, GPP, albedo and evapotranspiration over Europe. The tested data streams repre-  
1220 sented biogeochemical fluxes, biophysical fluxes and forest management related vegetation charac-  
teristics. Enhanced process representation in ORCHIDEE-CAN compared to the trunk version, was  
found to increase model performance regarding its ability to reproduce large-scale spatial patterns of  
all tested data streams as well as their inter-annual variability over Europe. Although this validation  
approach gives us confidence in the large-scale performance of the model over Europe, additional  
1225 validation is recommended for other regional applications or higher resolution studies.

## 7 Author contribution

- Developed and parametrized the ORCHIDEE-CAN model: Kim Naudts, James Ryder, Matthew  
J. McGrath, Juliane Otto, Sebastiaan Luyssaert, Nicolas Vuichard, Didier Solyga
- 1230 - Evaluated the performance of the ORCHIDEE-CAN model: Kim Naudts, James Ryder, Ju-  
liane Otto, Matthew J. McGrath, Sebastiaan Luyssaert, Aude Valade, Yiyang Chen, Fabienne  
Maignan
- Contributed Fortran code: Vanessa Haverd (canopy gaps), Bernard Pinty (albedo), Valentin  
Bellassen (forestry)

- 1235
- Provided/shared observational data sets or tools for model parametrization: Hans Pretzsch, Päivi Merilä, Jens Kattge, Gerhard Bönisch, Matteo Campioli, Josep Penuelas, Detlef Schulze, Toon De Groot, Gonzalo Berhongaray, Yuan Yan, Philippe Peylin
  - Developed driver data: Natasha MacBean
  - Maintained and developed the run environment: Josefine Ghattas

1240 **8 Code availability**

The code and the run environment are open source (<http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/orchidee>). Nevertheless readers interested in running ORCHIDEE-CAN are encouraged to contact the corresponding author for full details and latest bug fixes.

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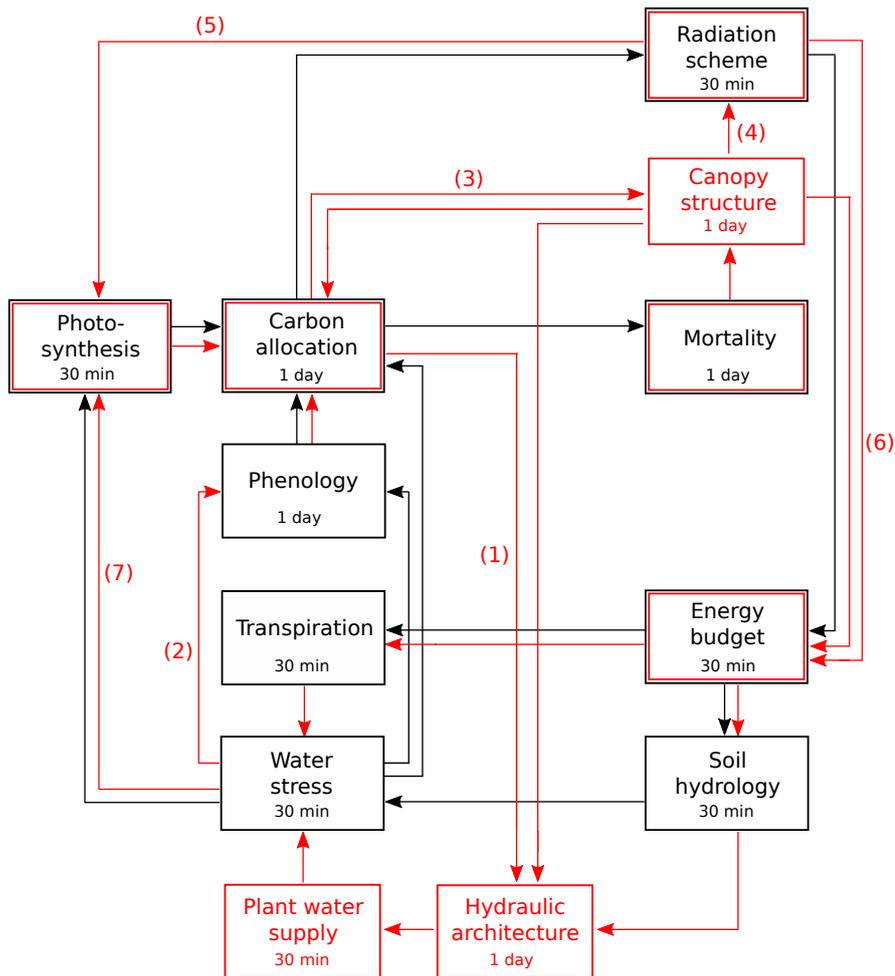
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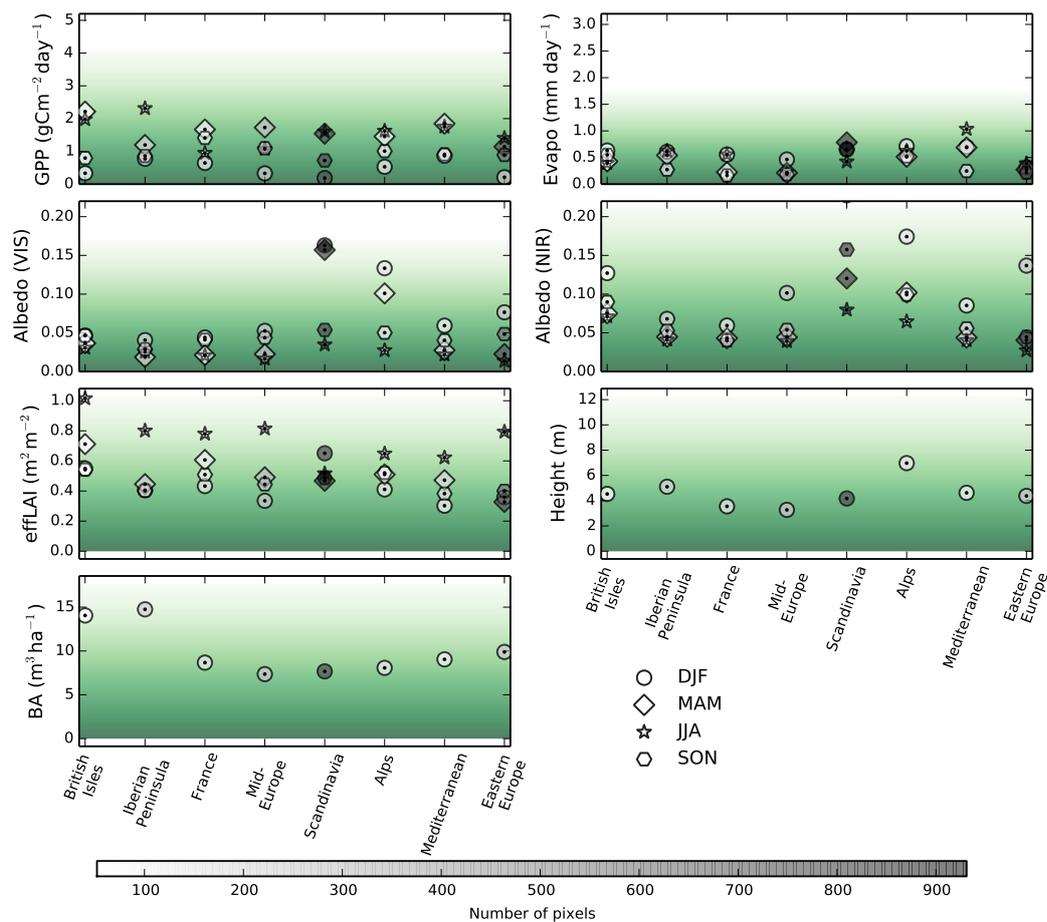
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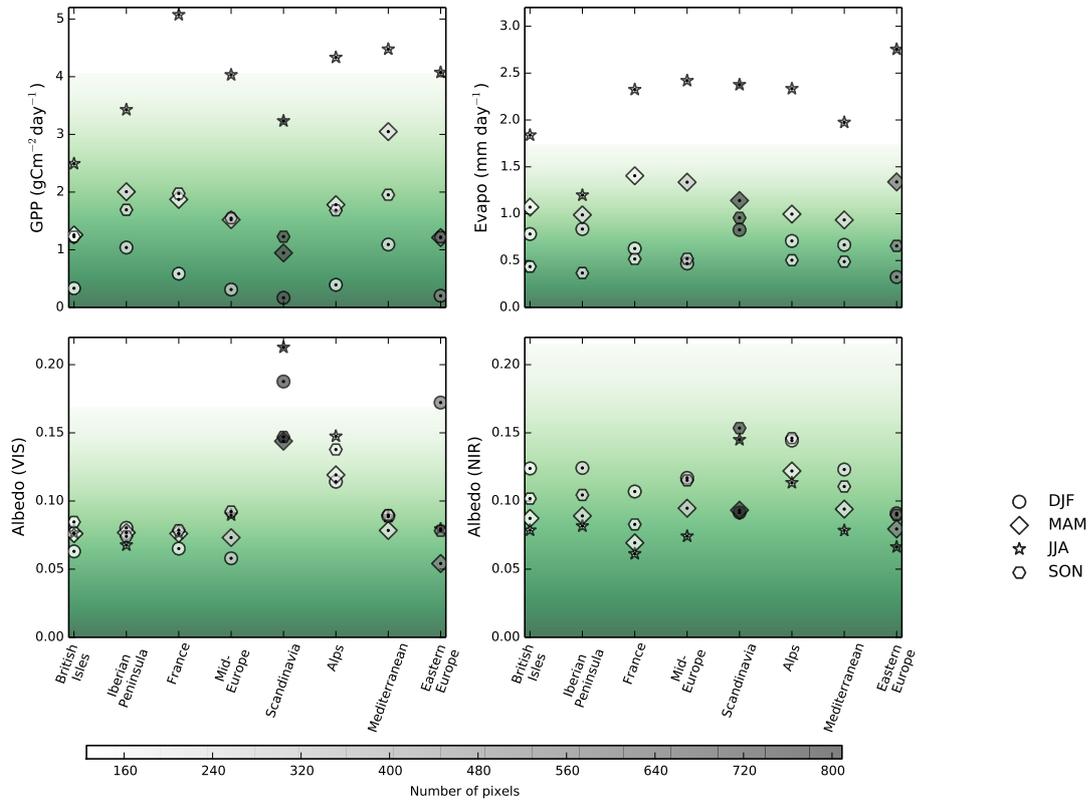
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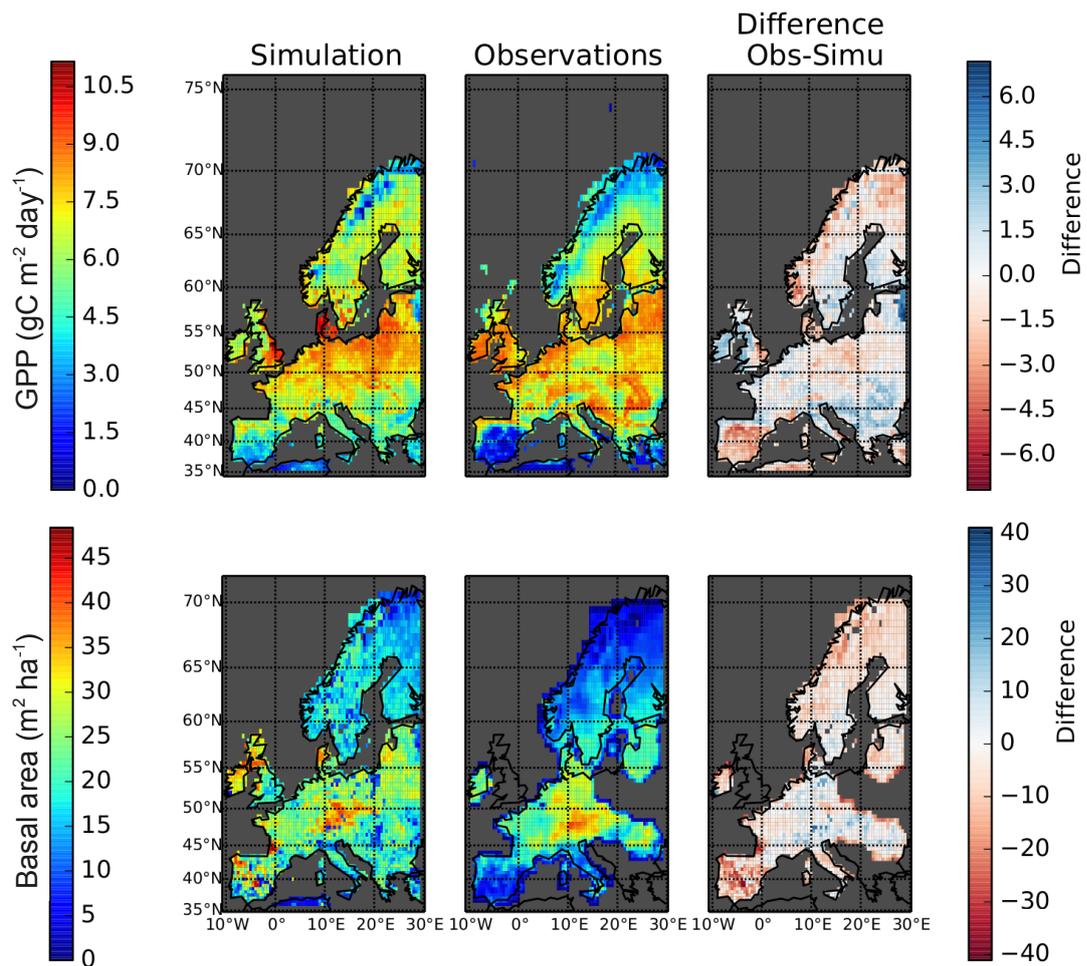
**Figure 1.** Schematic overview of the changes in ORCHIDEE-CAN. For the trunk the most important processes and connections are indicated in black, while the processes and connections that were added or changed in ORCHIDEE-CAN are indicated in red. Numbered arrows are discussed in section 2.2.



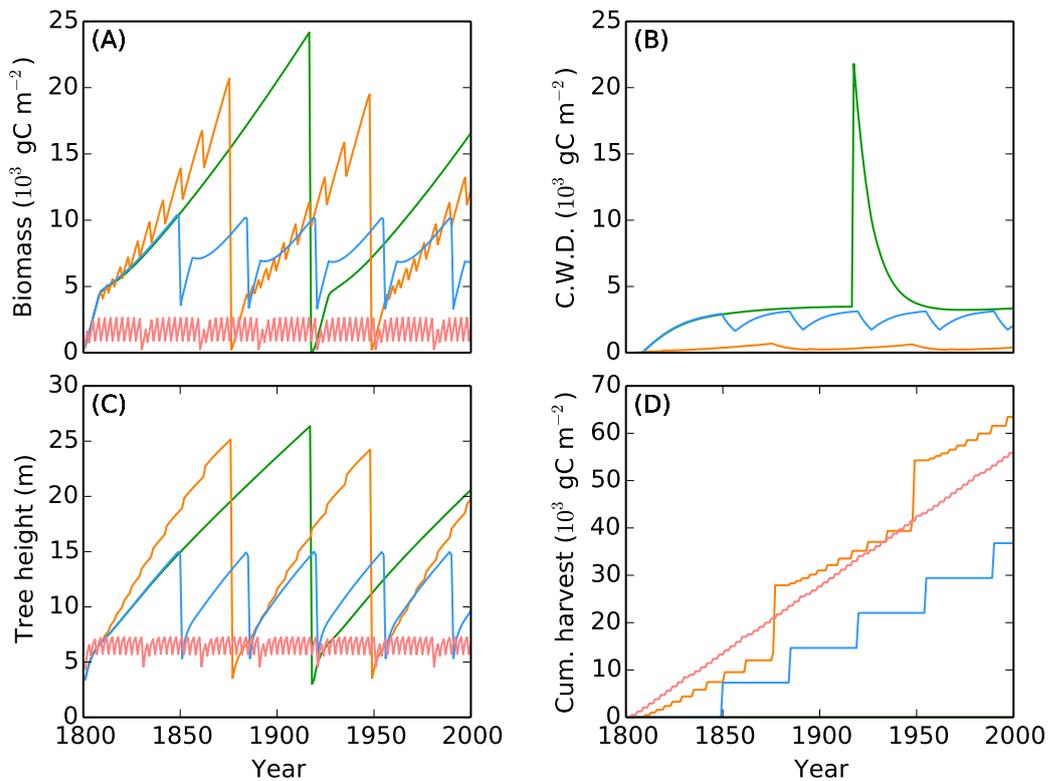
**Figure 2.** Root mean square error of ORCHIDEE-CAN for gross primary production, evapotranspiration, visible and near-infra-red albedo, effective leaf area index, basal area and height for different regions and periods (DJF: December-February, MAM: March-May, JJA: June-August, SON: September-November). The gray-scale of the symbols indicates the number of pixels included in the calculation. The transition from green to white indicates an RMSE of 100%.



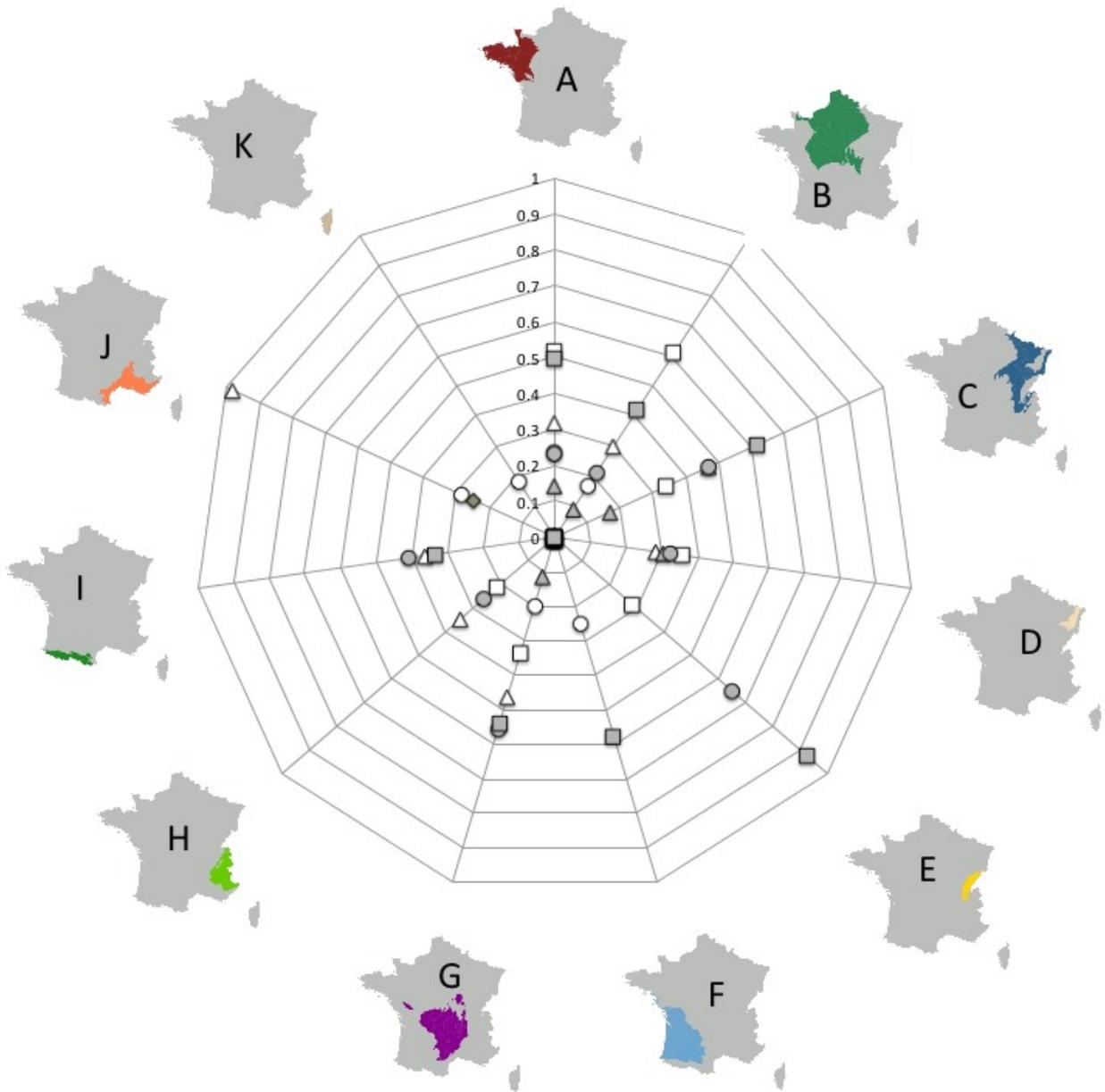
**Figure 3.** Root mean square error of ORCHIDEE-trunk for gross primary production, evapotranspiration and visible and near-infra-red albedo for different regions and periods (DJF: December-February, MAM: March-May, JJA: June-August, SON: September-November). The gray-scale of the symbols indicates the number of pixels included in the calculation. The transition from green to white indicates an RMSE of 100%.



**Figure 4.** Comparison between observations and simulations of ORCHIDEE-CAN for gross primary production and basal area over Europe. Gross primary production represents the mean for June-August between 2001-2010 and basal area is the value at the end of 2010.



**Figure 5.** Impact of the different forest management strategies on an oak forest for unmanged (green), high stand (orange) and coppice (blue) compared to a Poplar short rotation coppicing (red) at  $48^\circ\text{N}$ ,  $2^\circ\text{E}$ . The simulation was run without spin-up to better visualize carbon build up in the coarse woody debris (C.W.D.) pool. The simulation cycled of a single year (1990) of climate data to minimize the inter annual variability due to climatic year to year variability



**Figure 6.** Relative root square error (RMSE) of tree diameter for different species (shown as different markers) for different regions over France (shown as A to K). Open triangle, *Pinus sylvestris*; open circle, *Pinus pinaster*; open square, *Picea Sp.*; filled diamond, *Quercus ilex/suber*; filled triangle, *Betula Sp.*; filled circle, *Fagus sylvatica*; filled square, *Quercus robur/petraea*.

**Table 1.** Concise description of the modules in the standard ORCHIDEE version with the motivation to change the modules in ORCHIDEE-CAN.

<b>Module</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Motivation for change</b>
Albedo	For each PFT the total albedo for the grid square is computed as a weighted average of the vegetation albedo, the soil albedo, and the snow albedo.	The scheme overlooks the effect of vegetation shading bare soil for sparse canopies and gives the ground in all PFTs the same reflectance properties as bare soil.
Soil hydrology	Vertical water flow in the soil is based on the Fokker–Planck equation that resolves water diffusion in non-saturated conditions from the Richards equation (Richards, 1931). The 2 m soil column consists of eleven moisture layers with an exponentially increasing depth (D’Orgeval et al., 2008).	No change
Soil temperature	The soil temperature is computed according to the Fourier equation using a finite difference implicit scheme with seven numerical nodes unevenly distributed between 0 and 5.5 m (Hourdin, 1992).	No change
Energy budget	The coupled energy balance scheme, and its exchange with the atmosphere, is based on that of Dufresne and Ghattas (2009). The surface is described as a single layer that includes both the soil surface and any vegetation.	A big leaf approach does not account for within canopy transport of carbon, water and energy. Further, it is inconsistent with the current multi-layer photosynthesis approach and the new multi-layer albedo approach.
Photosynthesis	C3 and C4 photosynthesis is calculated following Farquhar et al. (1980) and Collatz et al. (1992), respectively. Photosynthesis assigns artificial LAI levels to calculate the carbon assimilation of the canopy. These levels allow for a saturation of photosynthesis with LAI, but have no physical meaning.	The scheme uses a simple Beer’s law transmission of light to each level, which is inconsistent with the new albedo scheme.
Autotrophic respiration	Autotrophic respiration distinguishes maintenance and growth respiration. Maintenance respiration occurs in living plant compartments and is a function of temperature, biomass and, the prescribed carbon/nitrogen ratio of each tissue (Ruimy et al., 1996). A prescribed fraction of 28% of the photosynthates allocated to growth is used in growth respiration (?). The remaining assimilates are distributed among the various plant organs using an allocation scheme based on resource limitations (see allocation).	No change

**Table 1.** Continuation of Table 1.

<b>Module</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Motivation for change</b>
Carbon allocation	Carbon is allocated to the plant following resource limitations Friedlingstein et al. (1999). Plants allocate carbon to their different tissues in response to external limitations of water, light and nitrogen availability. When the ratios of these limitations are out of bounds, prescribed allocation factors are used.	The resource limitation approach requires capping L <sub>AI</sub> at a predefined value. Due to this cap, the allocation rules are most often not applied, reducing the scheme to prescribing allocation.
Phenology	At the end of each day, the model checks whether the conditions for leaf onset are satisfied. The PFT-specific conditions are based on long and short term warmth and/or moisture conditions (Botta et al., 2000).	No change
Mortality and turnover	All biomass pools have a turnover time. Living biomass is transferred to the litter pool, litter is decomposed or transferred to the soil pool.	This approach is not capable of modelling stand dimensions.
Soil and litter carbon and heterotrophic respiration	Following (Parton et al., 1988), prescribed fractions of the different plant components go to the metabolic and structural litter pools following senescence, turnover or mortality. The decay of metabolic and structural litter is controlled by temperature and soil or litter humidity. For structural litter, its lignin content also influences the decay rate.	No change
Forest management	An explicit distribution of individual trees (Bellassen et al., 2010) is the basis for a process-based simulation of mortality. The aboveground 'stand-scale' wood increment is distributed on a yearly time step among individual trees according to the rule of (Deleuze et al., 2004): the basal area of each individual tree grows proportionally to its circumference.	The concept of the original implementation were retained, however, the implementation was adjusted for consistency with the new allocation scheme and to have a larger diversity of management strategies.

**Table 2.** Variable description. Variables were grouped as follows:  $F$ =flux,  $f$ =fraction,  $M$ =pool,  $m$ =modulator,  $d$ =stand dimension,  $T$ =temperature,  $p$ =pressure,  $R$ =resistance,  $q$ =humidity,  $g$ =function.

Symbol in text	Unit	Symbol in ORCHIDEE-CAN	Description
$F_{rm}$	$gC\ m^{-2}s^{-1}$	resp_maint	Maintenance respiration
$F_{rg}$	$gC\ m^{-2}s^{-1}$	resp_growth	Growth respiration
$F_{LW,i}$	$W\ m^2$	r_lw	Long wave radiation incident at vegetation level "i"
$F_{SW,i}$	$W\ m^2$	r_sw	Short wave radiation incident at vegetation level "i"
$F_{Tr,s}$	$m\ s^{-1}$	Transpir_supply	Amount of water that a tree can get up from the soil to its leaves for transpiration
$T_{a,i}$	K	temp_atmos_pres, temp_atmos_next	Atmospheric temperature at the 'present' and 'next' time step, respectively, at level "i"
$T_{L,i}$	K	temp_leaf_pres	Leaf temperature at level "i"
$q_{a,i}$	$kg\ kg^{-1}$	q_atmos_pres, q_atmos_next	Specific humidity at the "present" and "next" time step, respectively, at level "i"
$q_{L,i}$	$kg\ kg^{-1}$	q_leaf_pres	Leaf specific humidity at level "i"
$M_l$	$gC\ plant^{-1}$	Cl	Leaf mass of an individual plant
$M_s$	$gC\ plant^{-1}$	Cs	Sapwood mass of an individual plant
$M_h$	$gC\ plant^{-1}$	Ch	Heartwood mass of an individual plant
$M_r$	$gC\ plant^{-1}$	Cr	Root mass of an individual plant
$M_{linc}$	$gC\ plant^{-1}$	Cl_inc	Increment in leaf mass of an individual plant
$M_{sinc}$	$gC\ plant^{-1}$	Cs_inc	Increment in sapwood mass of an individual plant
$M_{rinc}$	$gC\ plant^{-1}$	Cr_inc	Increment in root mass of an individual plant
$M_{totinc}$	$gC$	b_inc_tot	Total biomass increment
$M_{inc}$	$gC\ plant^{-1}$	b_inc	Increment in plant biomass of an individual plant
$M_{swc}$	$m^3\ m^{-3}$	swc	Volumetric soil water content
$m_w$	-	wstress_fac	Modulator for water stress as experienced by the plants
$m_\psi$	MPa	psi_soil_tune	Modulator to account for resistance in the soil-root interface
$m_{Ndeath}$	-	scale_factor	Normalization factor for mortality
$m_{LAIcorr}$	-	lai_correction_factor	Adjustable parameter in the calculation of gap probabilities of grasses and crops
$d_h$	m	height	Plant height
$d_l$	$m^{-2}$	-	One sided leaf area of an individual plant

**Table 2.** Continuation of Table 2

Symbol in text	Unit	Symbol in ORCHIDEE-CAN	Description
$d_s$	$m^{-2}$	-	Sapwood area of an individual plant
$d_{hinc}$	m	delta_height	Height increment
$d_{dbh}$	m	dia	Plant diameter
$d_{ba}$	$m^2 \text{ plant}^{-1}$	ba	Basal area
$d_{bainc}$	$m^2 \text{ plant}^{-1}$	delta_ba	Basal area increment
$d_{circ}$	m	circ	Stem circumference of an individual plant
$d_{iind}$	trees	n_circ_class	Number of trees in diameter class $l$
$d_c$	$m^2$	crown_shadow_h	Projected area of an opaque tree crown
$d_{csa}$	$m^2$	csa_sap	Projected crown surface area
$d_{LAI}$	$m^2_{leaf} m^{-2}_{ground}$	-	Leaf area index
$d_{LAIeff}$	-	laieff	Effective leaf area index
$d_{LAIabove}$	-	lai_sum	Sum of the LAI of all levels above the current level
$d_{A,i}$	$m^2$	-	Cross-sectional area of vegetation level "i"
$d_{hl,i}$	m	delta_h	Vegetation height of level "i"
$d_{V,i}$	$m^3$	-	Volume of vegetation level "i"
$d_{r,d}$	-	root_dens	Root density
$d_\lambda$	$\text{ind } m^2$	-	Inverse of the individual plant density
$p_{delta}$	MPa	delta_P	Pressure difference between leaves and soil
$p_{\psi, sr}$	MPa	psi_soilroot	Bulk soil water potential in the rooting zone
$p_{\psi, s}$	MPa	psi_soil	Soil water potential for each soil layer
$R_r$	$\text{MPa s } m^{-3}$	R_root	Hydraulic resistance of roots
$R_{sap}$	$\text{MPa s } m^{-3}$	R_sap	Hydraulic resistance of sapwood
$R_l$	$\text{MPa s } m^{-3}$	R_leaf	Hydraulic resistance of leaves
$R_{temp}$	$\text{MPa s } m^{-3}$	-	Hydraulic resistance of roots, sapwood or leaves adjusted for temperature
$R_{a,i}$	$s \text{ } m^{-1}$	big_r	Aerodynamic resistance of vegetation at level "i" in the canopy
$R_{s,i}$	$s \text{ } m^{-1}$	big_r_prime	Stomatal resistance of vegetation at level "i" in the canopy

**Table 2.** Continuation of Table 2

Symbol in text	Unit	Symbol in ORCHIDEE-CAN	Description
$f_{Pwc}$	-	Pwc_h	Porosity of a tree crown
$f_{P_{gap}^{trees}}$	-	PgapL	Gap probability for trees
$f_{P_{gap}^{gc}}$	-	PgapL	Gap probability for grasses and crops
$f_{P_{gap}^{bs}}$	-	PgapL	Gap probability for bare soil
$f_{death}^{circ}$	-	mortality	Mortality fraction per circumference class
$f_{KF}$	-	KF	Leaf allocation factor
$f_{LF}$	-	LF	Root allocation factor
$f_{\gamma}$	-	gamma	Slope of the intra-specific competition
$f_s$	m	s	Slope of linearised relationship between height and basal area
$f_{rl}$	-	leaf_reflectance	Reflectance of a single leaf
$f_{tl}$	-	leaf_transmittance	Transmittance of a single leaf
$f_{rbgd}$	-	bdg_reflectance	Reflectance of the ground beneath the canopy
$f_{Coll,veg}^{fR}$	-	Collim_alb_BB,	Reflected fraction of light to the atmosphere which has collided with canopy elements, separated for direct and diffuse sources, respectively
$f_{UnColl,bgd}^{fR}$	-	Isotrop_alb_BB	Reflected fraction of light to the atmosphere which has not collided with any canopy elements, separated for direct and diffuse sources, respectively
$f_{UnColl,veg}^T$	-	Collim_alb_BC,	Transmitted fraction of light to the ground which has not collided with any canopy elements
$f_{Coll,bgd,1}^{fR}$	-	Isotrop_alb_BC	Reflected fraction of light which has struck the background a single time and has collided with vegetation
$f_{Coll,bgd,n}^{fR}$	-	Collim_Tran_Uncoll	Reflected fraction of light which has struck the background multiple times and has collided with vegetation
$z$	m	z_array	Height above the soil
$\theta_z$	radians	solar_angle	Solar zenith angle
$\theta_{\mu}$	radians	-	Cosine of the solar zenith angle
$gG$	-	-	Leaf orientation function
$g\sigma$	-	sigmas	Cut-off circumference of the intra-specific competition, calculated as a function of $k_{p,circ}$

**Table 3.** Likelihood that the simulated variable comes from the same population as the data. The ORCHIDEE-trunk version does not include effective LAI, basal area and height. Note that the likelihood of Europe cannot be derived from the values of the other regions due to the overlap between regions.

	ORCHIDEE-CAN										ORCHIDEE-TRUNK			
	GPP	EVAPO	ALB_NIR	ALB_VIS	EFFLAI	BA	HEIGHT	GPP	EVAPO	ALBEDO	EFFLAI	BA	HEIGHT	
British Isles	0.91	0.87	0.78	0.45	0.55	0.47	0.13	0.91	0.49	0.74	0.04	-	-	
Iberian Peninsula	0.80	0.80	0.73	0.65	0.60	0.09	0.66	0.65	0.37	0.25	0.04	-	-	
France	0.86	0.90	0.92	0.46	0.60	0.66	0.60	0.69	0.46	0.75	0.02	-	-	
Mid-Europe	0.92	0.93	0.88	0.86	0.68	0.80	0.76	0.81	0.48	0.64	0.46	-	-	
Scandinavia	0.92	0.83	0.47	0.91	0.59	0.62	0.24	0.81	0.31	0.55	0.65	-	-	
Alps	0.92	0.86	0.46	0.83	0.68	0.80	0.47	0.77	0.52	0.25	0.52	-	-	
Mediterranean	0.84	0.77	0.77	0.80	0.65	0.51	0.72	0.54	0.45	0.43	0.45	-	-	
Eastern Europe	0.93	0.94	0.70	0.93	0.73	0.71	0.76	0.84	0.52	0.51	0.75	-	-	
<b>Europe</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.72</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.79</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	