Supplement

730 Study Site

Bartlett Experimental Forest (44° 17'N, 71° 03'W) is a US Forest Service research forest located outside of Bartlett, NH in the White Mountains (Lee et al., 2018). Species composition is typical of northern hardwood forests and consists predominantly of *Acer rubrum* (red maple), *Fagus grandifolia* (American beech), *Betula papyrifera* (paper birch), and *Tsuga canadensis* (eastern hemlock). Climate is also typical of central New England with short summers (20 °C) and long cold

735 winters (-8 °C). The site is generally moist, receiving approximately 1300 mm/yr of precipitation. Soils are sandy loam Spodosols and can become saturated during spring snowmelt.

An eddy-covariance tower (26.5m) was installed in November 2003 at a lowland site (272m) within the experimental forest (Richardson et al., 2007). Topography near the eddy-covariance tower is flat to gently sloping but larger hills (1-3 km distant) surround the site. Canopy height is 19m with a mean stand age of approximately 100 yr. The eddy-covariance system

- 740 consists of a LI-6262 CO₂/H₂O infra-red gas analyser (LiCor, Lincoln, NE) and SAT-211/3K 3-axis sonic anemometer (Applied Technologies, Longmont, Colo.). Measurements were made at 5 Hz and fluxes were estimated every 30 minutes. The meteorological data used in this analysis were derived from measurements made at the eddy-covariance tower for years 2005-2006. These include air temperature above the canopy (22.3 m), soil temperature, relative humidity, precipitation, above canopy PAR and wind speed.
- 745 The Bartlett tower footprint contains twelve vegetation inventory plots that follow the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) design consisting of four circular 10 m radius subplots: one central and three evenly spaced at a radius of 36.5 meters. Vegetation plots were established in May 2004 and used to initialize ED2. Bradford et al. (2010) provided soil carbon and live aboveground biomass estimates for Bartlett which we used to initialize SIPNET.

Soil respiration measurements were made manually in each plot (n=12) at permanently installed rings that are 10cm in diameter using a soil CO2 flux chamber (LiCOR 6400-9). Soil temperature and moisture were measured concurrently using a soil temperature probe and a TDR probe. During 2006, soil respiration censuses were made approximately every 4-5 days from day 138 to day 325 for a total of 39 chamber censuses.

SIPNET Model

The simplified Photosynthesis and Evapotranspiration model (SIPNET) is a simple ecosystem model which can be used to

- 760 interpret carbon water exchange between vegetation and the atmosphere. SIPNET has been developed from the PnET family of models (Aber & Federer 1992) to facilitate model comparisons to flux towers (Braswell et al., 2005; Sacks et al., 2007). SIPNET runs at a half-hourly time step. It represents relatively few processes (has two vegetation carbon pools, a single aggregated soil carbon pool, and a simple soil moisture sub-model), making it easier to evaluate which data contributes how much to the parameterization of each process. As a result of this setup, SIPNET is a fast model (~ 5.5 sec per MCMC
- 765 iteration in PEcAn including model execution, and writing and reading model outputs), which makes it suitable for application of bruteforce methods.

Forest inventory data collected in the tower footprint were used to set initial conditions in SIPNET. We fitted Bayesian models using the allometric equations available in the literature (Jenkins et al., 2004) to estimate the aboveground biomass at Bartlett through PEcAn's allometry module (Dietze et al., *in prep.*). These values were in agreement with live aboveground biomass estimates by Bradford et al. (2010) whose soil carbon pool estimates were also used to set the initial values in our SIPNET runs (Table S1).

Table S1. Initial state values used for SIPNET runs.

| Pool | Value | Units |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--|
| Above- and below-ground woody biomass | 9600 | gC / m ² ground area |
| Initial leaf area | 0 | m ² leaves / m ² ground area |
| Litter biomass | 200 | gC / m ² ground area |
| Soil biomass | 1600 | gC / m ² ground area |

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Table S2. The prior and posterior distributions of the constrained SIPNET parameters.

| Parameter | Prior | Posterior (Emulator) | Posterior (Bruteforce) | | |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| SOM Respiration rate | unif(0.003, 0.6) | weibull(1.62, 0.13) | norm(0.1, 0.009) | | |
| Soil Respiration Q10 | unif(1.4, 5.0) | lnorm(0.697, 0.24) | lnorm(0.39, 0.046) | | |
| Soil WHC | unif(0.1, 36.0) | lnorm(2.95, 0.31) | lnorm(2.7, 0.035) | | |
| Half saturation PAR | unif(4.0, 27.0) | weibull(3.74, 17.5) | lnorm(2.8, 4.5e-02) | | |
| dVPDSlope | unif(0.01, 0.25) | weibull(2.26, 7e-02) | norm(0.08, 2.6e-03) | | |
| Seasonal leaf growth | unif(0.0, 252.0) | norm(150.6, 46.8) | norm(145, 10.8) | | |
| psnTOpt | unif(5.0, 40.0) | weibull(12.07, 35.7) | weibull(336, 39.9) | | |
| Leaf turnover rate | unif(0.03, 10.0) | norm(5.14, 1.9) | lnorm(1.64, 5e-02) | | |

Table S3. Calibrated SIPNET parameters and the 'true' values used to produce the synthetic data.

| Parameter | Definition | Units | True Values |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------|-------------|
| SOM Respiration rate | Soil organic matter respiration rate coefficient | Day-1 | 0.01 |
| Opt. photosynthesis T | Optimum temperature for photosynthesis | Celcius | 38.73 |
| Soil Respiration Q10 | Scalar determining effect of temperature on soil heterotrophic respiration | ratio | 2.59 |
| Soil WHC | Soil water holding capacity | cm | 25.75 |
| Seasonal leaf growth | Amount of leaf growth following leaf-out | gC m-2 | 212.55 |
| Leaf turnover rate | Average turnover rate of leaves | y-1 | 2.56 |
| Slope-VPD | Slope of VPD-photosynthesis relationship | kPa-1 | 0.06 |
| Half saturation PAR | Photosynthetically active radiation at which photosynthesis occurs at 1/2 theoretical maximum | Einsteins m-2 day-1 | 6.46 |

790 Ecosystem Demography Model

The Ecosystem Demography model version 2.1 (ED2) is a terrestrial biosphere model that couples plant community dynamics to biogeochemical models of associated soil fluxes of carbon, water, and nitrogen (Moorcroft et al. 2001, Medvigy et al. 2009). ED2 is explicitly designed to scale from the individual to the region and to account for community processes, such as disturbance and resource competition, in a manner analogous to forest gap models. ED2 achieves this with a size and

795 age structured (SAS) approximation to a forest gap model which accounts for the vertical size distribution within a stand/patch and the distribution of different stand ages across the landscape. This hierarchical SAS allows ED to be compared to data operating at multiple scales but in practice this means that a single ED run will simulate a large number of different patches, each with a number of trees of different sizes and species. The resulting computational expenses and complexity of drivers and outputs make ED2 an ideal example of the challenges of model-data fusion. The initialization of vegetation and soil for ED2 was done using the same forest inventory data and soil carbon measurements described for

SIPNET. The species occurring in the inventory data were mapped to ED2 PFTs following Dietze and Moorcroft (2011).

Table S4. The PDA prior (meta-analysis posterior) approximated parametric distributions of the targeted ED2 parameters.t.EH: temperate Early Hardwood, t.LC: temperate Late Conifer, t.LH: temperate Late Hardwood, t.NMH: temperate NorthMid-Hardwood, t.NP: temperate Northern Pine

| Plant Functional Type Physiological Parameters | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| | t.EH | t.LC | t.LH | t.NMH | t.NP | | | |
| stomatal slope | gamma(19.7, 2.97) | weibull(2, 10) | weibull(2, 10) | weibull(2, 10) weibull(2, 10) | | | | |
| quantum efficiency | gamma(16.6, 279) | norm(0.08, 0.014) | gamma(82, 1.4e+03) | | | | | |
| Vcmax | norm(74.9, 9.8) | weibull(1.7, 80) | .7, 80) norm(60.5, 11.9) gamma(37.8, 0.53) weibull(2.2 | | | | | |
| cuticular conductance | lnorm(9.4, 0.7) | lnorm(9.4, 0.7) lnorm(9.4, 0.7 | | norm(9988, 497) | lnorm(9.4, 0.7) | | | |
| growth respiration f. | beta(4.06, 7.2) | beta(2.63, 6.52) | beta(4.06, 7.2) | beta(2.63, 6.52) | beta(2.63, 6.52) | | | |
| fine root allocation | gamma(16.59, 23.32) | lnorm(-0.25, 1) | gamma(9.13, 8.22) | gamma(9.44, 8.82) | lnorm(-0.25, 1) | | | |
| Soil Biogeochemistry | (decomposition) param | eters | | | | | | |
| r_stsc | beta(1, 1) | | | | | | | |
| decay rate stsc | unif(0.005, 0.75) | | | | | | | |
| resp tem. increase | unif(0.05, 0.2) | | | | | | | |

Table S5. The emulator-PDA approximated parametric posterior distributions of the targeted ED2 parameters.

| Plant Functional Type Physiological Parameters | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| | t.EH | t.NP | | | | | | |
| stomatal slope | lnorm(1.48, 0.13) | gamma(4.01, 1.6) | gamma(4.01, 1.6) | gamma(4.01, 1.6) | gamma(4.01, 1.6) | | | |
| quantum efficiency | lnorm(-2.8, 0.11) | norm(0.08, 6.3e-03) | gamma(35.8, 541) | lnorm(-3.3, 0.04) | lnorm(-2.8, 0.05) | | | |
| Vcmax | norm(47.3, 3.45) | norm(27.1, 4.17) | norm(42.9, 2.85) | weibull(2.4, 6.4) | | | | |
| cuticular | lnorm(9.85, 0.385) | lnorm(9.85, 0.385) | | | | | | |
| conductance | | | | | | | | |
| growth respiration f. | beta(3.59, 7.47) | beta(2.29, 6.8) | beta(3.59, 7.47) | beta(2.29, 6.8) | beta(2.29, 6.8) | | | |
| fine root allocation | gamma(30.7, 7.47) | lnorm(-0.3, 0.73) | gamma(16.7, 15.6) gamma(17.3, 16.8) lnorm(-0.3, 0.7 | | | | | |
| Soil Biogeochemistry | Soil Biogeochemistry (decomposition) parameters | | | | | | | |
| r_stsc | beta(1, 1.98) | | | | | | | |
| decay rate stsc | lnorm(-2.97, 1.02) | | | | | | | |
| resp tem. increase | lnorm(-2.16, 0.28) | | | | | | | |



Figure S1. ED decomposition and scaling factor posteriors density distributions. Parameters common to all ED2 PFTs ending with suffix "SF" were targeted through the scaling factor.

Residual errors - SoilResp



Figure S2. Posterior probability density distribution of variance (reciprocal of the precision, $1/\tau$) parameter of the Soil 815 Respiration likelihood after emulator-PDA.



Figure S3. Diurnal cycles of NEE and LE fluxes for June-July-August months over the simulation period (2005-2006) before and after the calibration. Error bars represent the variation over the JJA period.

Table S6. Links to the Workflow IDs. The input/output files associated with each workflow can be accessed via the history table on the following link "pecan2.bu.edu/pecan/history.php". Alternatively, each workflowID can be replaced with the

830 workflowID of the following link to directly access the workflow page:

"pecan2.bu.edu/pecan/08-finished.php?workflowid=1000008379"

The left menu on the page can be used to navigate through PEcAn settings, input and output files.

PDA: Parameter Data Assimilation, EA: Ensemble Analysis, UA: Uncertainty Analysis

| Model | Experiment | Workflow ID |
|--------|----------------------------|-------------|
| SIPNET | Pre-PDA EA / UA | 1000008379 |
| SIPNET | Emulator PDA - Synthetic | 1000008974 |
| SIPNET | Emulator PDA - Real Data | 1000008503 |
| SIPNET | Emulator Post-PDA EA | 1000008503 |
| SIPNET | Bruteforce PDA - Real Data | 1000008530 |
| | | 1000008531 |
| | | 1000008532 |
| SIPNET | Bruteforce Post-PDA EA | 1000008923 |
| ED2 | Pre-PDA EA / UA | 1000009051 |
| ED2 | Emulator PDA - Real Data | 1000009052 |
| ED2 | Emulator Post-PDA EA | 1000009052 |

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850 Table S7. Links to the Workflow IDs of scaling experiments. Parameters targeted are in this order cumulatively: som_respiration_rate, soil_respiration_Q10, soilWHC, psnTOpt (4), leafGrowth, leaf_turnover_rate (6), half_saturation_PAR, dVPDSlope (8), AmaxFrac, dVpdExp (10)

| Model | # of params | # of knots | Workflow ID |
|--------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| SIPNET | | 960 | 1000008978 |
| | 4 | 480 | 1000008979 |
| | | 240 | 1000008980 |
| | | 120 | 1000008981 |
| SIPNET | | 960 | 1000008942 |
| | 6 | 480 | 1000008975 |
| | | 240 | 1000008976 |
| | | 120 | 1000008977 |
| SIPNET | | 960 | 1000008938 |
| | 8 | 480 | 1000008939 |
| | | 240 | 1000008940 |
| | | 120 | 1000008941 |
| SIPNET | | 960 | 1000008993 |
| | 10 | 480 | 1000008991 |
| | | 240 | 1000008994 |
| | | 120 | 1000008995 |

Table S8. Scaling experiment results showing the trade-off between wall-clock time vs. the approximation error with increasing emulator knots.

m parameters $(m = \{4, 6, 8, 10\})$

k knots ($k = \{120, 240, 480, 960\}$)

| m | k | Mod | el run time | (sec) | GP fitting (sec) | | | 100 | Deviance | | |
|----|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|
| | | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd | |
| | 120 | 182 | 188 | 184 | 2 | 4 | 12 | 772 | 948 | 1144 | 9489 |
| 4 | 240 | 366 | 364 | 359 | 5 | 27 | 92 | 941 | 1340 | 1764 | 9255 |
| | 480 | 733 | 748 | 744 | 28 | 228 | 707 | 1592 | 2502 | 3614 | 9230 |
| | 960 | 1453 | 1511 | 1505 | 204 | 1736 | 6615 | 2523 | 4862 | 7815 | 9308 |
| | 120 | 182 | 180 | 185 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 795 | 1017 | 1221 | 8371 |
| 6 | 240 | 365 | 368 | 366 | 5 | 27 | 85 | 1039 | 1519 | 1962 | 8284 |
| | 480 | 735 | 777 | 737 | 28 | 215 | 731 | 1544 | 2488 | 3675 | 8310 |
| | 960 | 1521 | 1471 | 1514 | 209 | 1785 | 6858 | 2360 | 4503 | 7799 | 8150 |
| | 120 | 197 | 199 | 198 | 2 | 5 | 12 | 905 | 1116 | 1323 | 9825 |
| 8 | 240 | 410 | 392 | 392 | 7 | 32 | 109 | 1152 | 1611 | 2107 | 8643 |
| | 480 | 745 | 749 | 754 | 30 | 236 | 747 | 1625 | 2596 | 3766 | 8100 |
| | 960 | 1517 | 1532 | 1502 | 217 | 1949 | 6678 | 2532 | 4827 | 7498 | 8062 |
| | 120 | 187 | 187 | 187 | 2 | 7 | 15 | 988 | 1254 | 1277 | 9573 |
| 10 | 240 | 376 | 368 | 418 | 5 | 29 | 92 | 1235 | 1610 | 2075 | 8682 |
| | 480 | 752 | 769 | 766 | 26 | 204 | 787 | 1681 | 2732 | 3489 | 8559 |
| | 960 | 1491 | 1507 | 1490 | 208 | 2015 | 6643 | 2721 | 5010 | 7831 | 8106 |



Figure S4. Correlation density plot after emulator MCMC (SIPNET).



885 Figure S5. Correlation density plot after bruteforce MCMC (SIPNET).



Figure S6. Schematic diagram of emulator workflow.

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