



## **Seasonality of a boreal forest: a remote sensing perspective**

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Understanding the seasonal dynamics of boreal ecosystems through interpretation of satellite reflectance data is needed for efficient large-scale monitoring of northern vegetation dynamics and productivity trends. Satellite remote sensing enables continuous global monitoring of vegetation status and is not limited to single-date phenological metrics. Using remote sensing also enables gaining a wider perspective to the seasonality of vegetation dynamics. The seasonal reflectance cycles of boreal forests observed in optical satellite images are explained by changes in biochemical properties and geometrical structure of vegetation as well as seasonal variation in solar illumination. This poster provides a synthesis of a research project (2010-2015) dedicated to monitoring the seasonal cycle of boreal forests. It is based on satellite and field data collected from the Hyytiälä Forestry Field Station in Finland. The results highlight the role understory vegetation has in forming the forest reflectance measured by satellite instruments.