Remote Sensing of Regenerating Vegetation

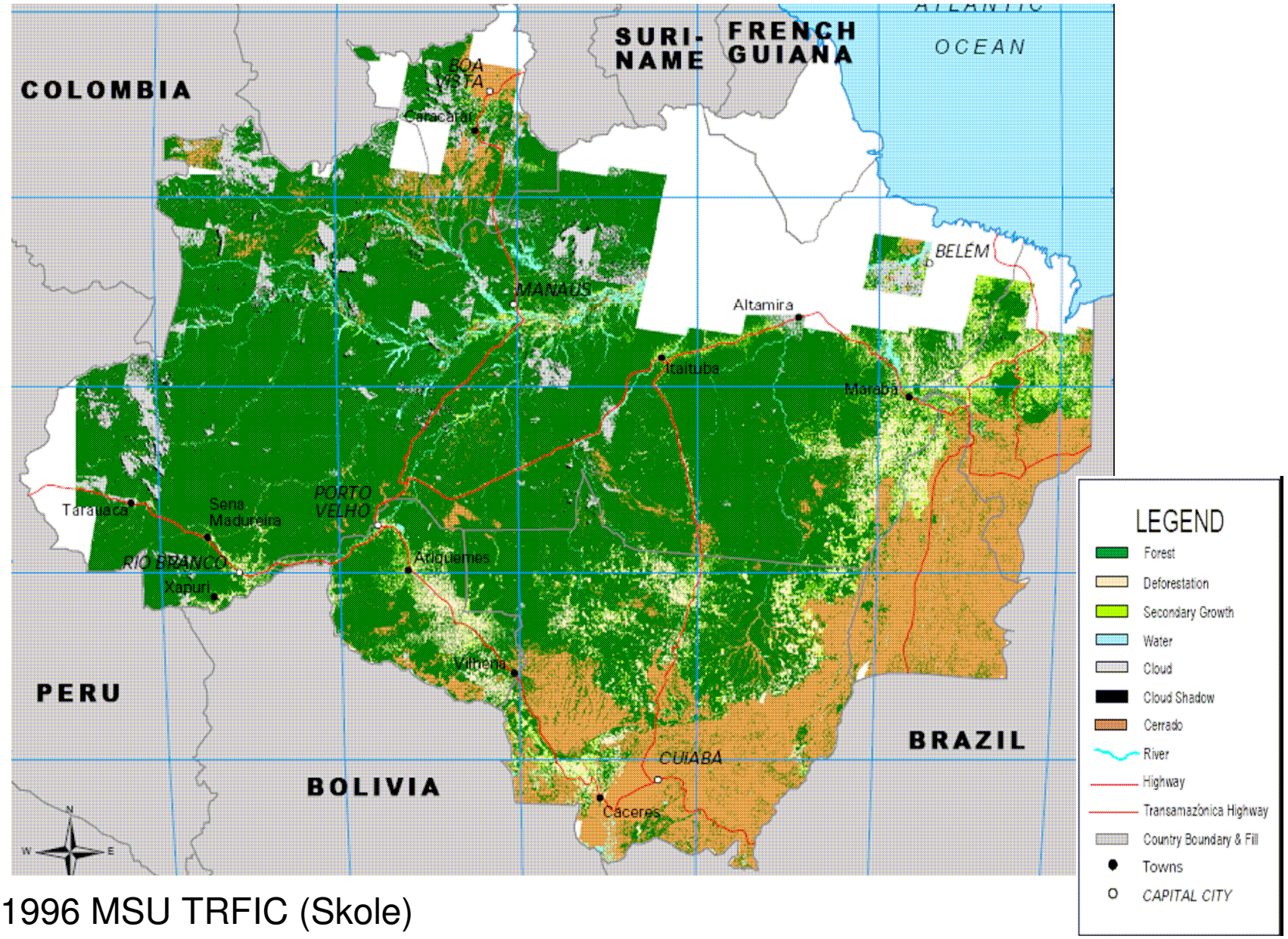
LBA-ECO

October, 2006

Regenerating vegetation in Amazonia: Is it important?

- Plays a role in the ***carbon cycle***
- Quickly establishes rates of ***evapotranspiration*** close to mature forests
- Temporary home to ***biodiversity***
- Provides ***resources*** for local communities
- Captures ***nutrients***

Extent of regenerating vegetation



1996 MSU TRFIC (Skole)

Plan for Wednesday's meeting

1. Brief look at what's been done
2. Resolve definitional issues
3. Identify gaps in research (geographical coverage, approaches, questions that remain unanswered)
4. Construct a plan of future work

1. Brief look at what's been done

- Review of literature (from over 30 studies)
- Results from surveys (10 surveys)
- Alves' work using census data to identify land use patterns.
- Zarin et al. synthesis on the effect of fire on biomass accumulation rates (Frontiers of Ecology, 2005).

2. Resolve definitional issues

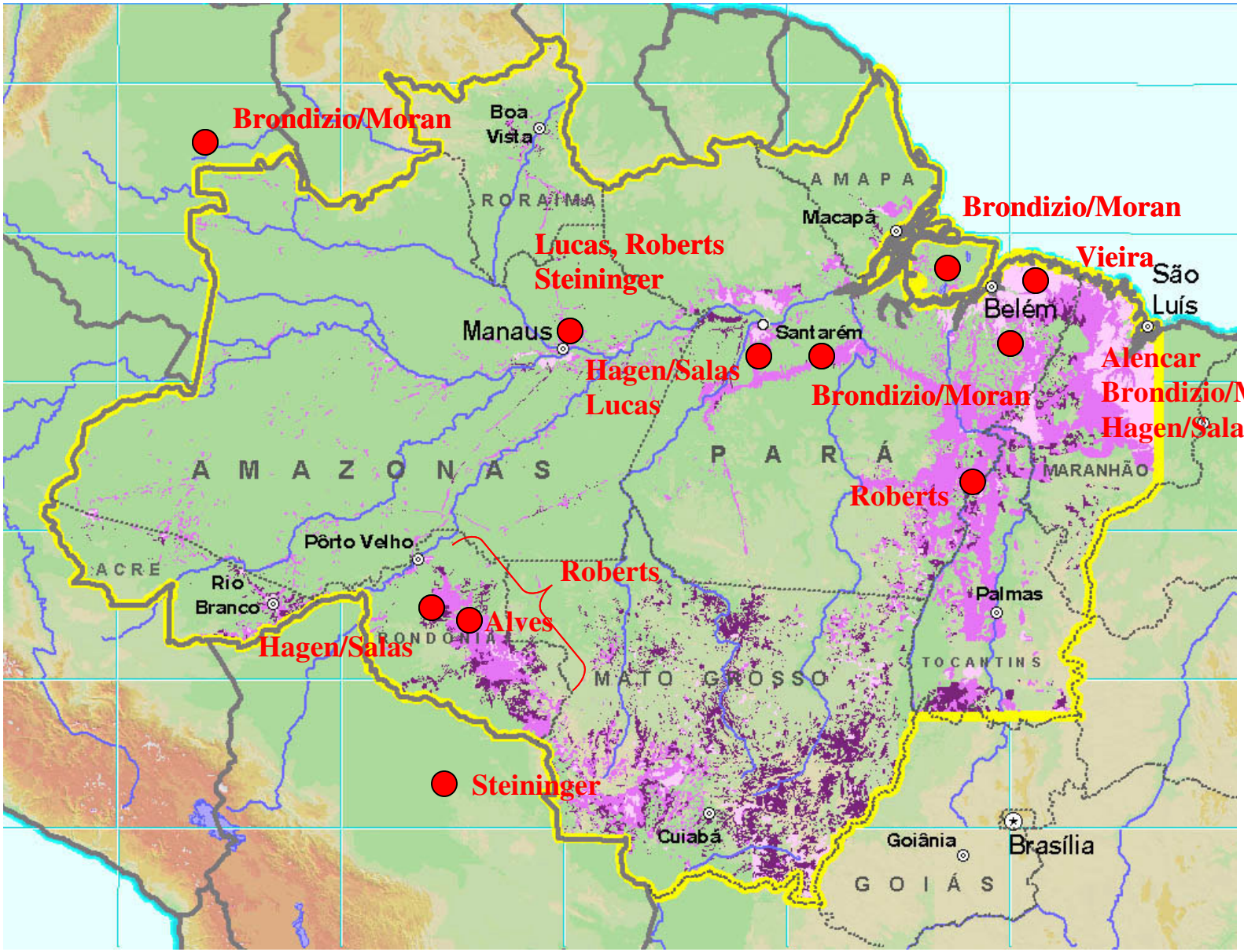
- What is regenerating vegetation?
- Is there a consensus on
  a) Structural characteristics
  b) Spectral characteristics

  that separates regenerating vegetation from other land cover types?
- Is there a consensus on **successional stages**?

3. Identify priorities & gaps

- Geographic areas with limited research
- Proposed priorities:
  - Common methodology for mapping extent
  - Rates of agriculture abandonment
  - Rates of re-clearing of secondary veg.
  - Improving basin-wide map of regeneration vegetation

Study Locations



4. Plan of Future Work

- Come to a consensus on products
- Potential products include:
  a) Comprehensive review paper
  b) Methodologically consistent multi-site estimates of extent and persistence

Synthesis Group:

Remote Sensing of Secondary Vegetation

Tomorrow, 11 AM

SAN DIEGO