

Supplementary Information: Global patterns of forest autotrophic carbon fluxes

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Table S1. Climate variable definitions, sources, and abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Climate variable | Units | Definition | Time span | Source |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|---|
| MAT | Mean annual temperature | °C | Annual mean temperature, from primary literature or WorldClim if not reported | 1970 - 2000 | Primary literature; WorldClim ¹ |
| MAP | Mean annual precipitation | mm yr ⁻¹ | Annual mean precipitation, from primary literature or WorldClim if not reported | 1970 - 2000 | Primary literature; WorldClim ¹ |
| T Seas | Temperature seasonality | °C | Standard deviation (variation) of monthly temperature averages | 1970 - 2000 | WorldClim ¹ |
| P Seas | Precipitation seasonality | % | Coefficient of variation of mean monthly precipitation x 100 | 1970 - 2000 | WorldClim ¹ |
| ART | Annual temperature range | °C | Maximum temperature of warmest month - minimum temperature of coldest month | 1970 - 2000 | WorldClim ¹ |
| Solar R | Solar radiation | kJ m ⁻² yr ⁻¹ | Solar radiation | 1970 - 2000 | WorldClim2 ² |
| Cloud | Cloud cover | % | Cloud percentage cover | 1901 - 2014 | CRU time-series dataset v 4.03 ³ |
| AFD | Annual frost days | days yr ⁻¹ | Number of freeze days annually | 1901 - 2014 | CRU time-series dataset v 4.03 ³ |
| AWD | Annual wet days | days yr ⁻¹ | Number of days with precipitation >0.1 mm annually | 1901 - 2014 | CRU time-series dataset v 4.03 ³ |
| PET | Potential evapotranspiration | mm yr ⁻¹ | Mean annual potential evapotranspiration | 1950 - 2000 | Global Aridity Index and Potential Evapotranspiration Climate Database ⁴ |
| AI | Aridity | | MAP/mean annual PET | 1950 - 2000 | Global Aridity Index and Potential Evapotranspiration Climate Database ⁴ |
| VPD | Vapour pressure deficit | kPa | Mean monthly vapour pressure deficit | 1958 - 2015 | TerraClimate ⁵ |
| Max VPD | Maximum vapour pressure deficit | kPa | Maximum monthly vapour pressure deficit | 1958 - 2017 | Derived from TerraClimate data |
| WSM | Water stress months | months yr ⁻¹ | Number of months annually with MAP < PET | 1970 - 2000 | Derived from WorldClim data |
| LGS | Length of growing season | months yr ⁻¹ | Number of months annually with mean minimum temperature > 0.5°C | 1901 - 2014 | Derived from CRU data |
| gsT | Growing season temperature | °C | Mean growing season temperature | 1901 - 2014 | Derived from CRU data |
| gsP | Growing season precipitation | mm month ⁻¹ | Mean monthly precipitation during growing season months | 1901 - 2014 | Derived from CRU data |
| gsPET | Growing season PET | mm month ⁻¹ | Mean monthly potential evapotranspiration during growing season months | 1901 - 2014 | Derived from CRU data |
| gsR | Growing season solar radiation | mm month ⁻¹ | Mean monthly solar radiation during growing season | 1901 - 2014 | Derived from CRU data |

* The WorldClim version used was up-to-date at the time of analysis

¹ Hijmans et al. (2005) ² Fick et al. (2017) ³ Harris et al. (2017) ⁴ Abatzoglou et al. (2018)

Table S2. Model form, ΔAIC , and R^2 for each climate variables as a single fixed effect in models for each C flux. Model forms include first-order linear (Lin), second-order polynomial (Poly), and logarithmic (Log).

| Carbon Flux | Latitude | | | MAT | | | MAP | | | T Seas | | | P Seas | | | ATR | | | Solar R | | | AI | | |
|----------------|----------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|--------|----------------|--------------|--------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|---------|----------------|--------------|-------|------|------|
| | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R-sq | dAIC |
| GPP | Lin | 0.64 | 54.9 | Lin | 0.61 | 52.5 | Lin | 0.18 | 33.3 | Poly | 0.71 | 69.5 | - | - | - | Poly | 0.69 | 63.0 | Log | 0.16 | 8.9 | - | - | - |
| NPP | Log | 0.50 | 44.3 | Lin | 0.42 | 41.5 | Poly | 0.21 | 16.7 | Log | 0.52 | 44.3 | - | - | - | Log | 0.49 | 42.3 | Poly | 0.16 | 12.5 | Lin | 0.04 | 2.8 |
| ANPP | Lin | 0.44 | 63.4 | Lin | 0.44 | 80.5 | Poly | 0.16 | 19.7 | Log | 0.41 | 58.7 | - | - | - | Log | 0.37 | 51.9 | Lin | 0.11 | 12.3 | Lin | 0.05 | 2.1 |
| ANPP stem | Lin | 0.18 | 22.2 | Lin | 0.24 | 38.5 | Log | 0.05 | 7.3 | Lin | 0.14 | 17.6 | Poly | 0.05 | 5 | Lin | 0.12 | 13.6 | Log | 0.06 | 6.8 | Lin | 0.07 | 4 |
| ANPP foliage | Lin | 0.50 | 37.7 | Lin | 0.58 | 52.9 | Poly | 0.25 | 13.3 | Lin | 0.48 | 34.1 | - | - | - | Lin | 0.50 | 36.1 | Log | 0.17 | 10.1 | Lin | 0.11 | 6.8 |
| BNPP root | Lin | 0.34 | 22.9 | Log | 0.31 | 21.0 | Poly | 0.15 | 6.2 | Log | 0.36 | 26.6 | - | - | - | Log | 0.33 | 23.6 | Poly | 0.29 | 18.8 | - | - | - |
| BNPP fine root | Lin | 0.17 | 8.0 | Lin | 0.15 | 7.2 | Log | 0.11 | 5.4 | Lin | 0.17 | 8.4 | - | - | - | Log | 0.19 | 10.9 | Log | 0.14 | 7.2 | Log | 0.06 | 2.4 |
| R auto | Lin | 0.65 | 13.1 | Lin | 0.59 | 10.9 | Poly | 0.60 | 8.6 | Log | 0.65 | 13.1 | - | - | - | Log | 0.60 | 11.5 | Log | 0.27 | 2.4 | Poly | 0.48 | 3.7 |
| R root | Log | 0.22 | 8.8 | Lin | 0.24 | 8.3 | Lin | 0.15 | 6.8 | Log | 0.24 | 9.5 | - | - | - | Log | 0.22 | 8.8 | - | - | - | Lin | 0.16 | 7.3 |

| Carbon Flux | Cloud | | | AFD | | | AWD | | | PET | | | VPD | | | Max VPD | | | WSM | | | LGS | | |
|----------------|-------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|---------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|--------------|
| | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC | Model | R ² | ΔAIC |
| GPP | - | - | - | Log | 0.54 | 50.0 | Lin | 0.11 | 5.7 | Poly | 0.36 | 19.7 | Poly | 0.31 | 15.9 | - | - | - | - | - | - | Lin | 0.53 | 38.2 |
| NPP | Lin | 0.06 | 3.6 | Lin | 0.40 | 38.5 | Lin | 0.11 | 7.3 | Poly | 0.32 | 24.3 | Poly | 0.18 | 15.3 | - | - | - | Lin | 0.04 | 4 | Lin | 0.38 | 28.4 |
| ANPP | Poly | 0.09 | 7.1 | Log | 0.41 | 61.6 | Lin | 0.17 | 18.7 | Poly | 0.27 | 24.5 | Poly | 0.23 | 21.4 | Poly | 0.06 | 2.2 | Poly | 0.06 | 3 | Lin | 0.34 | 44.0 |
| ANPP stem | Poly | 0.09 | 5.4 | Log | 0.17 | 22.3 | - | - | - | Poly | 0.20 | 14.0 | Poly | 0.21 | 17.7 | Log | 0.14 | 7.5 | - | - | - | Log | 0.11 | 12.6 |
| ANPP foliage | - | - | - | Lin | 0.53 | 43.4 | Lin | 0.15 | 7 | Log | 0.32 | 24.2 | Log | 0.35 | 30.0 | Poly | 0.07 | 4.9 | Poly | 0.17 | 7.8 | Log | 0.46 | 32.9 |
| BNPP root | - | - | - | Lin | 0.28 | 19.1 | Poly | 0.11 | 3.4 | Poly | 0.36 | 23.2 | Poly | 0.26 | 13.9 | - | - | - | - | - | - | Lin | 0.26 | 14.7 |
| BNPP fine root | - | - | - | Lin | 0.16 | 9.2 | Lin | 0.08 | 2.7 | Log | 0.14 | 7.1 | Log | 0.06 | 1.9 | - | - | - | - | - | - | Lin | 0.13 | 5.8 |
| R auto | - | - | - | Log | 0.57 | 9.4 | Null | 0.26 | 0.6 | Log | 0.36 | 4.8 | Log | 0.35 | 4.3 | - | - | - | Null | 0.3 | 1.5 | Lin | 0.47 | 5.8 |
| R root | Log | 0.16 | 1.9 | Log | 0.19 | 7.3 | Lin | 0.17 | 3.5 | Poly | 0.19 | 1.7 | Poly | 0.27 | 6.7 | - | - | - | Lin | 0.14 | 6.1 | Lin | 0.19 | 5.9 |

Table S3. Joint effects of MAT and MAP on forest C fluxes

| Carbon flux | MAT | MAT + MAP | MAT x MAP | R ² |
|----------------|---------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| GPP | 0.0e+00 | 8.2e-05 | 0.140 | 0.66 |
| NPP | 0.0e+00 | 4.5e-01 | 0.018 | 0.48 |
| ANPP | 0.0e+00 | 3.5e-02 | 0.460 | 0.45 |
| ANPP stem | 0.0e+00 | 8.3e-01 | 0.021 | 0.26 |
| ANPP foliage | 0.0e+00 | 4.7e-01 | 0.410 | 0.59 |
| BNPP root | 3.3e-06 | 9.6e-01 | 0.056 | 0.29 |
| BNPP fine root | 2.1e-03 | 2.3e-01 | 0.091 | 0.15 |
| R auto | 1.6e-04 | 4.1e-02 | 0.340 | 0.71 |
| R root | 1.1e-03 | 1.1e-01 | 0.110 | 0.25 |

Table S4. Comparison of growing season length and MAT as predictors of forest C fluxes

| Fixed effect | AIC value | Δ AIC | Marginal R ² |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------------|
| GPP | | | |
| MAT | 126.43 | 0.00 | 0.62 |
| Growing season length | 140.81 | 14.38 | 0.54 |
| None | 178.96 | 52.54 | 0.00 |
| NPP | | | |
| MAT | 174.88 | 0.00 | 0.52 |
| Growing season length | 191.54 | 16.65 | 0.40 |
| None | 216.17 | 41.29 | 0.00 |
| ANPP | | | |
| MAT | 249.51 | 0.00 | 0.29 |
| Growing season length | 254.21 | 4.70 | 0.26 |
| None | 268.94 | 19.43 | 0.00 |
| ANPP stem | | | |
| MAT | 235.96 | 0.00 | 0.15 |
| Growing season length | 237.29 | 1.33 | 0.14 |
| None | 243.14 | 7.18 | 0.00 |
| ANPP foliage | | | |
| MAT | 484.88 | 0.00 | 0.45 |
| Growing season length | 520.96 | 36.09 | 0.35 |
| None | 560.35 | 75.47 | 0.00 |
| BNPP root | | | |
| MAT | 184.54 | 0.00 | 0.59 |
| Growing season length | 204.93 | 20.38 | 0.46 |
| None | 237.47 | 52.92 | 0.00 |
| BNPP fine root | | | |
| MAT | 540.19 | 0.00 | 0.24 |
| Growing season length | 566.37 | 26.18 | 0.11 |
| None | 578.66 | 38.46 | 0.00 |
| R auto | | | |
| MAT | 45.26 | 0.00 | 0.63 |
| Growing season length | 50.36 | 5.10 | 0.50 |
| None | 56.17 | 10.91 | 0.00 |
| R root | | | |
| MAT | 133.54 | 0.00 | 0.25 |
| Growing season length | 135.93 | 2.39 | 0.20 |
| None | 141.79 | 8.25 | 0.00 |

Table S5. Best models by carbon flux. Models where $\Delta\text{AIC} \leq 2$ are presented

| Carbon flux | Climate variable | Model type | ΔAIC | R^2 |
|----------------|------------------|------------|--------------------|-------|
| GPP | T Seas | Poly | 6.55 | 0.71 |
| NPP | MAT | Lin | 0.21 | 0.42 |
| | T Seas | Log | 0.21 | 0.52 |
| ANPP | MAT | Lin | 21.40 | 0.44 |
| ANPP stem | MAT | Lin | 15.87 | 0.24 |
| ANPP foliage | MAT | Lin | 11.05 | 0.58 |
| BNPP root | T Seas | Log | 3.01 | 0.36 |
| BNPP fine root | ATR | Log | 2.11 | 0.19 |
| R auto | T Seas | Log | 1.62 | 0.65 |
| | ATR | Log | 1.62 | 0.60 |
| R root | T Seas | Log | 0.76 | 0.24 |
| | ATR | Log | 0.76 | 0.22 |
| | MAT | Lin | 1.30 | 0.24 |

Table S6. Pairwise comparisons between carbon fluxes

| C flux variable 1 | C flux variable 2 | Climate variable | R ² variable 1 | R ² variable 2 | Model type variable 1 | Model type variable 2 | Number of plots | Variable with higher R ² |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| GPP | NPP | Latitude | 0.62 | 0.66 | Lin | Lin | 37 | NPP |
| | | MAT | 0.62 | 0.70 | Log | Lin | 37 | NPP |
| | | T Seas | 0.65 | 0.70 | Log | Log | 37 | NPP |
| NPP | ANPP | Latitude | 0.52 | 0.48 | Log | Log | 158 | NPP |
| | | MAT | 0.30 | 0.44 | Log | Lin | 158 | ANPP |
| | | T Seas | 0.47 | 0.43 | Lin | Lin | 158 | NPP |
| | BNPP | Latitude | 0.49 | 0.34 | Log | Lin | 116 | NPP |
| | | MAT | 0.41 | 0.22 | Log | Log | 116 | NPP |
| | | T Seas | 0.49 | 0.41 | Log | Log | 116 | NPP |
| ANPP | ANPP stem | Latitude | 0.35 | 0.13 | Lin | Lin | 176 | ANPP |
| | | MAT | 0.42 | 0.17 | Lin | Lin | 176 | ANPP |
| | | T Seas | 0.29 | 0.09 | Lin | Lin | 176 | ANPP |
| | ANPP foliage | Latitude | 0.32 | 0.45 | Log | Log | 96 | ANPP foliage |
| | | MAT | 0.36 | 0.50 | Lin | Lin | 96 | ANPP foliage |
| | | T Seas | 0.27 | 0.42 | Lin | Lin | 96 | ANPP foliage |
| GPP | R auto | Latitude | 0.64 | 0.34 | Null | Null | 11 | GPP |
| | | MAT | 0.69 | 0.34 | Null | Null | 11 | GPP |
| | | T Seas | 0.64 | 0.32 | Null | Null | 11 | GPP |
| BNPP | R root | Latitude | 0.01 | 0.39 | Null | Null | 9 | R root |
| | | MAT | 0.08 | 0.35 | Null | Null | 9 | R root |
| | | T Seas | 0.01 | 0.63 | Null | Null | 9 | R root |

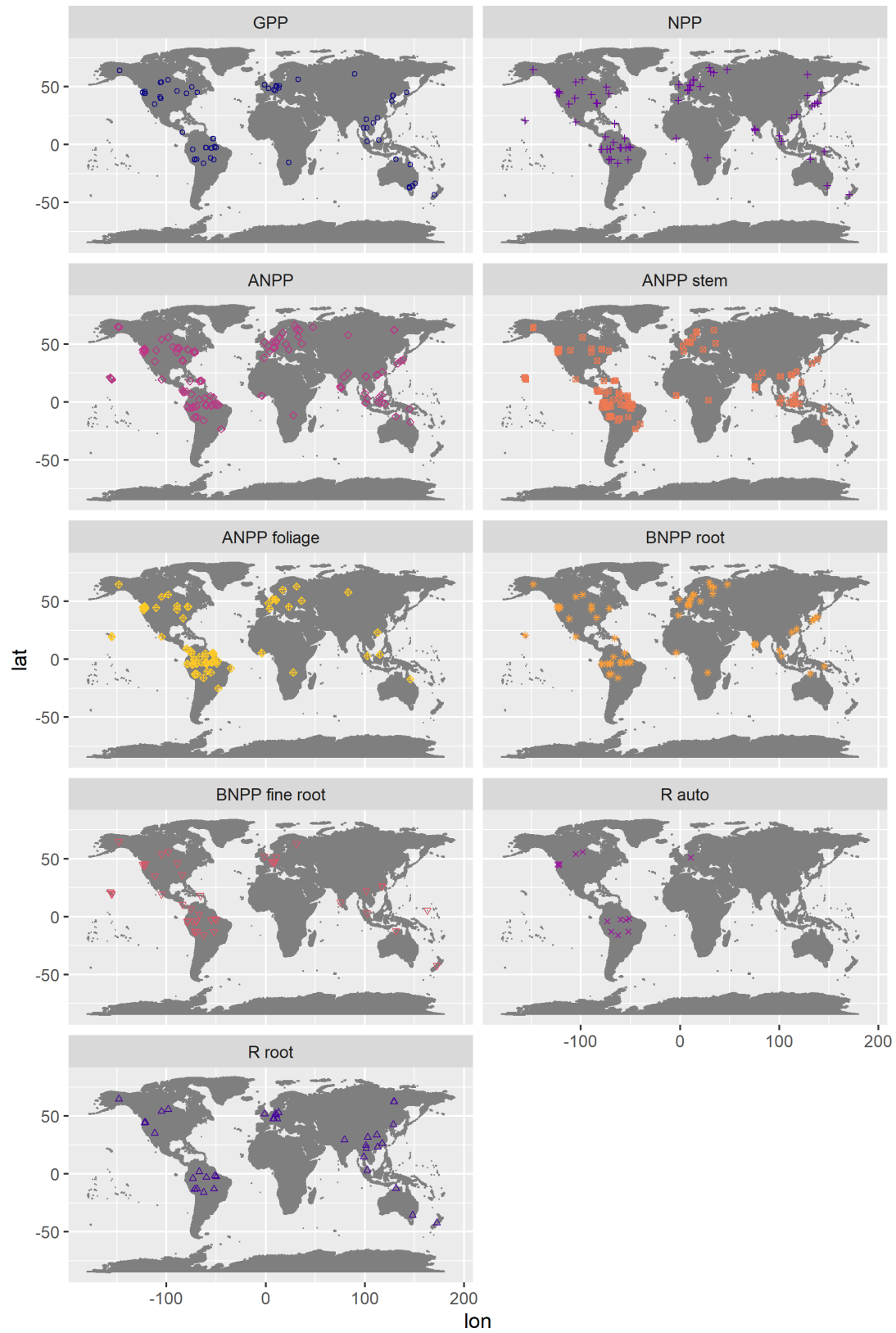


Figure S1: Maps showing distribution of samples for the nine forest C fluxes analyzed here

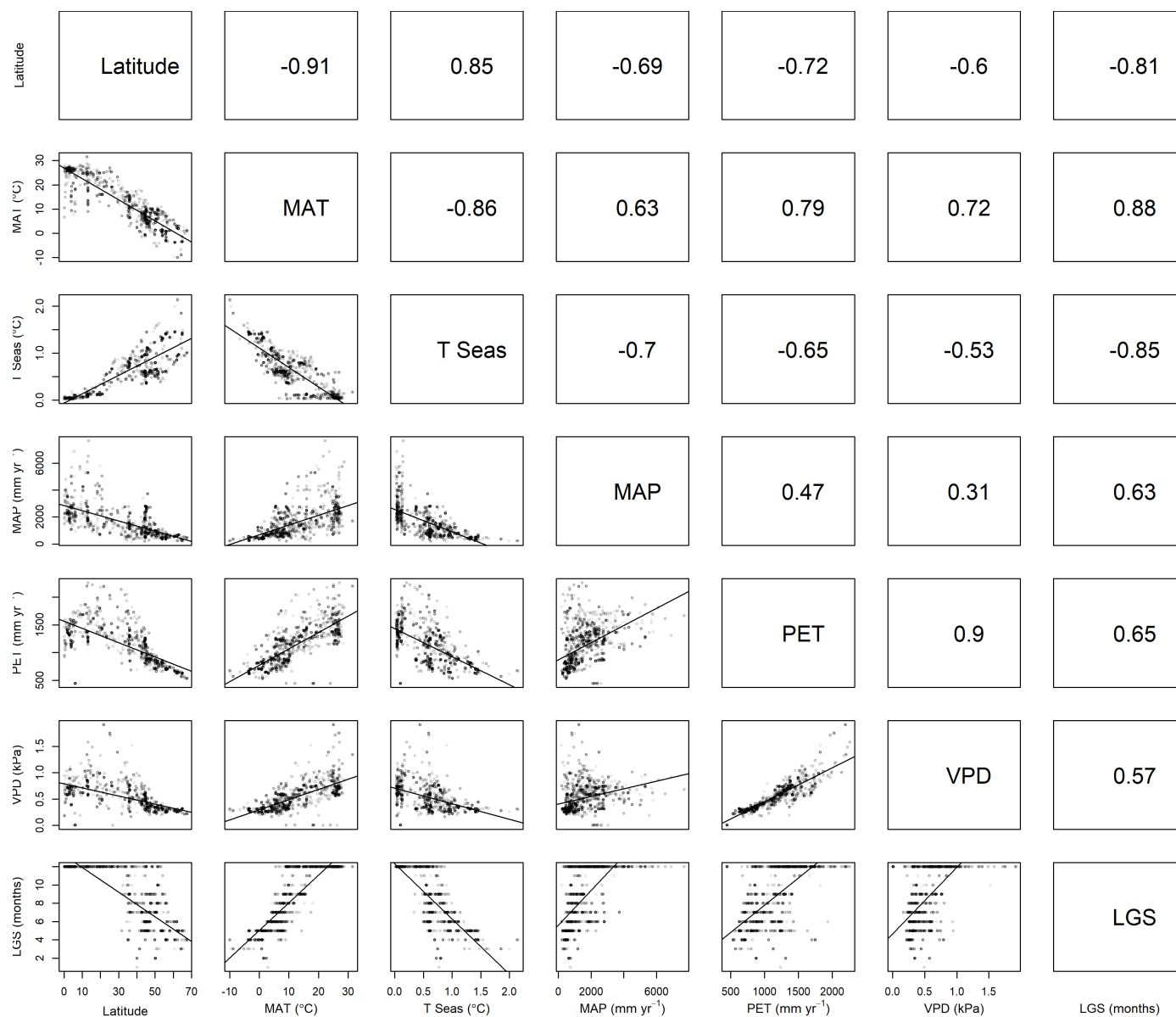


Figure S2: Scatterplots and Pearson's R values for relationships between latitude and climate variables

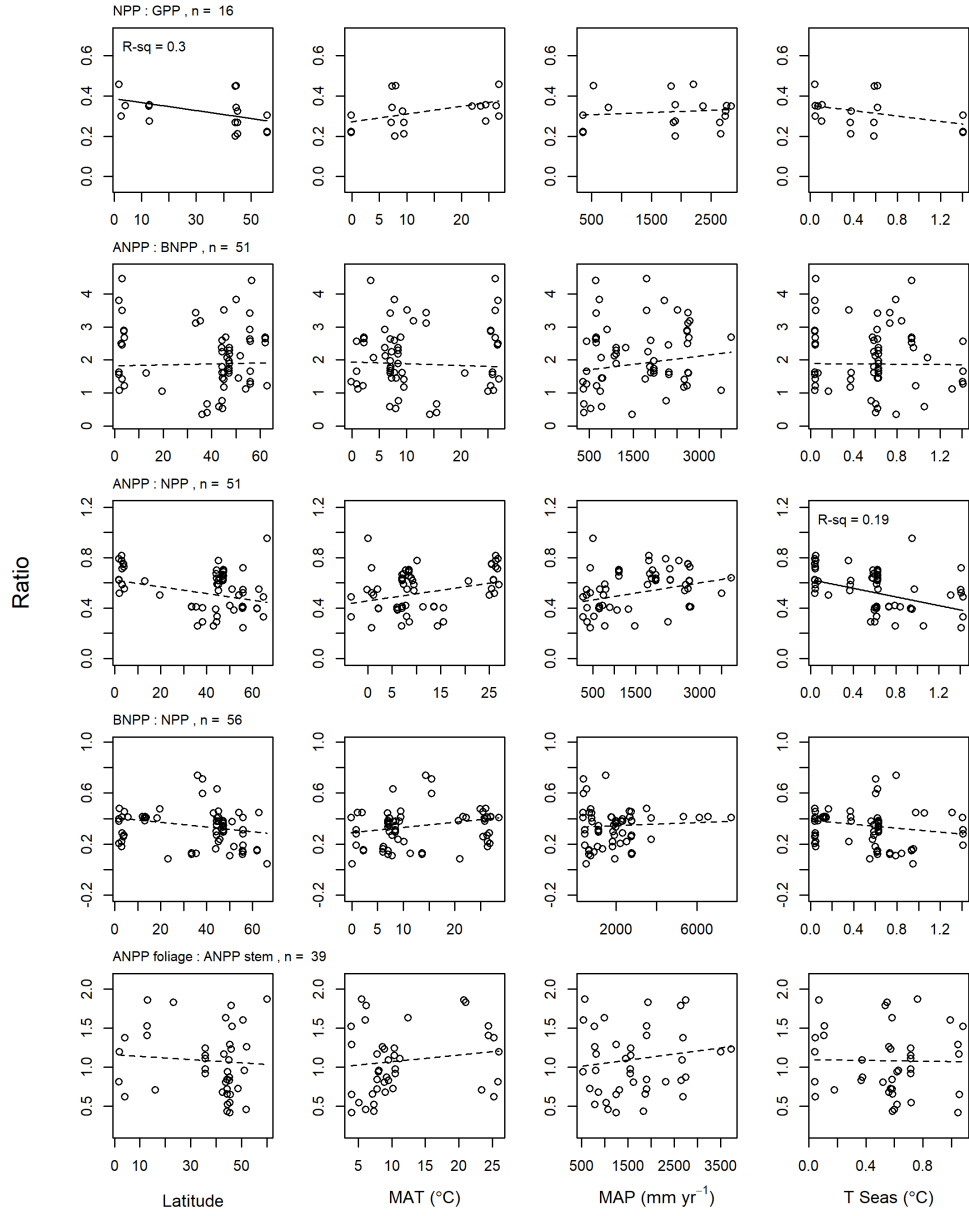


Figure S3: Ratios among forest C fluxes as a function of latitude and climate variables

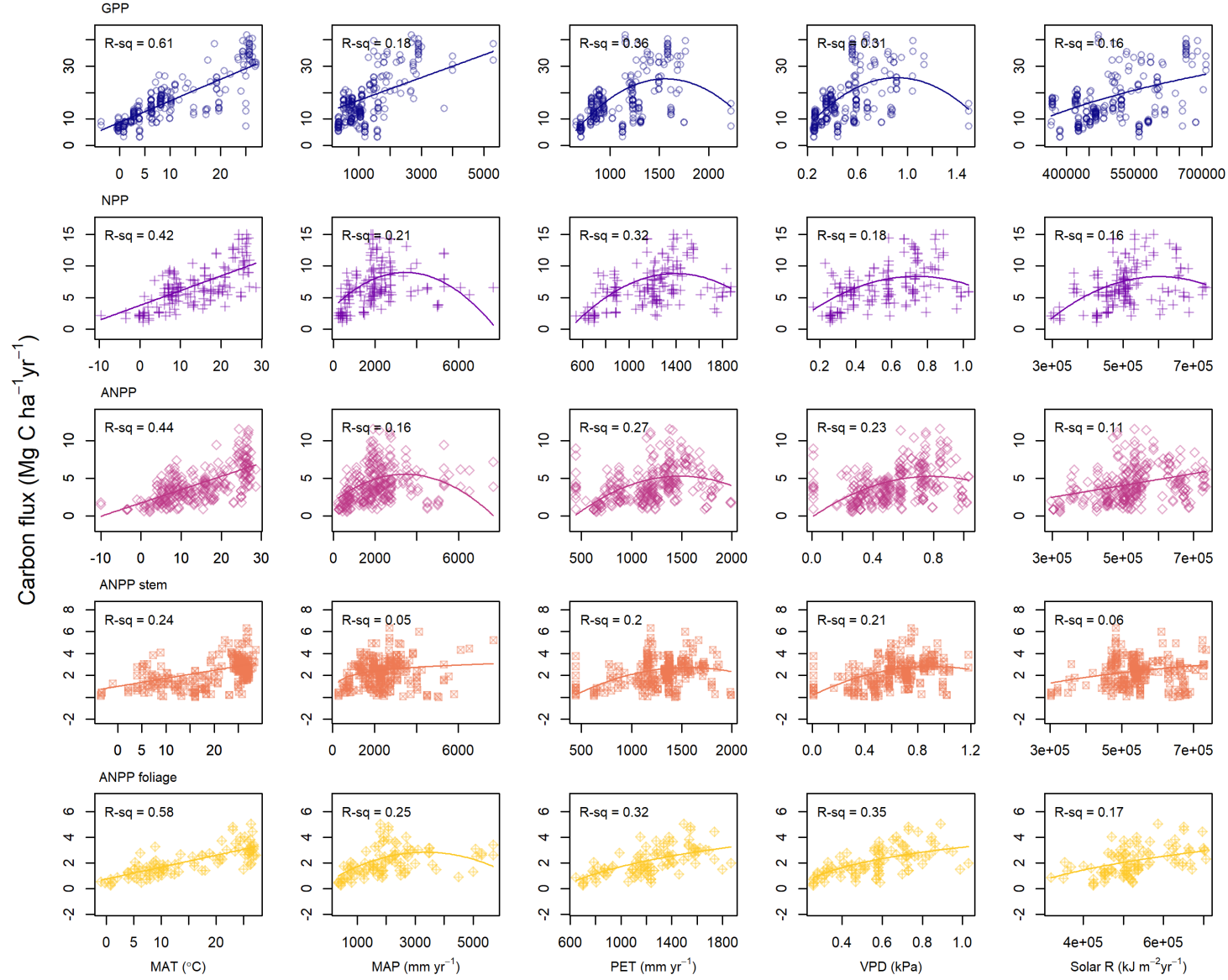


Figure S4: Individual plots of forest C fluxes in relation to mean annual climate, part 1.

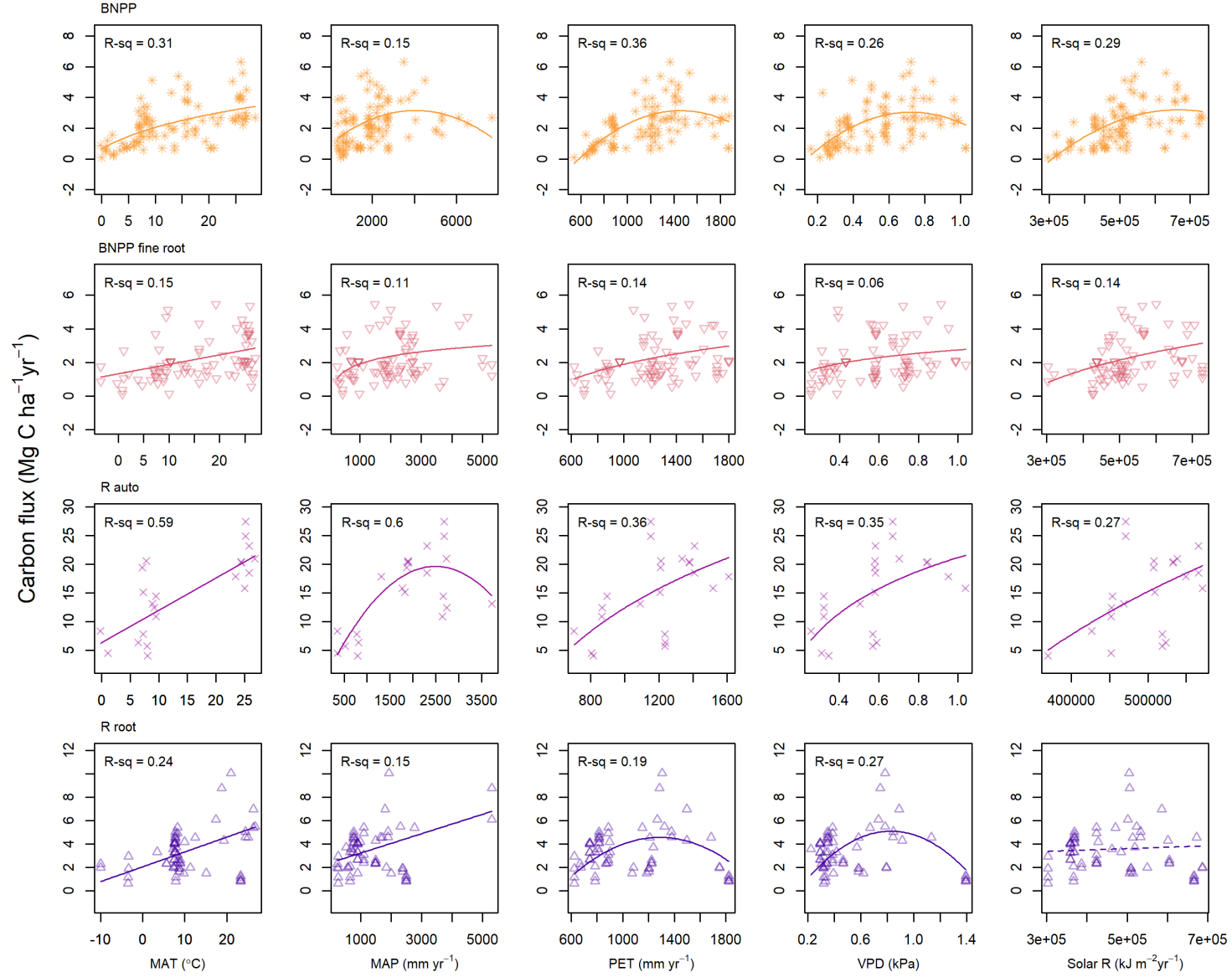


Figure S5: Individual plots of forest C fluxes in relation to mean annual climate, part 2.

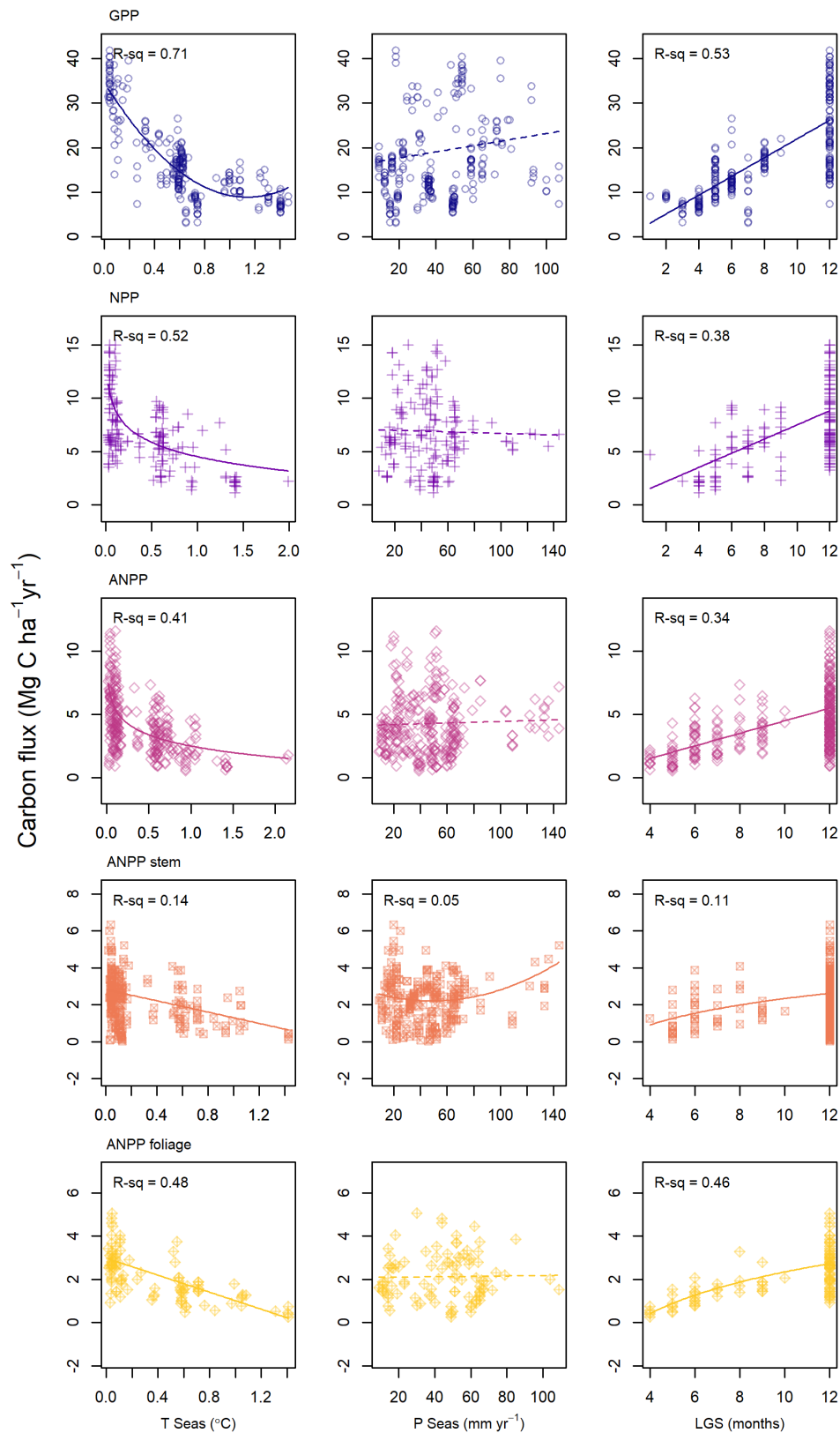


Figure S6: Individual plots of forest C fluxes in relation to mean climate seasonality, part 1.

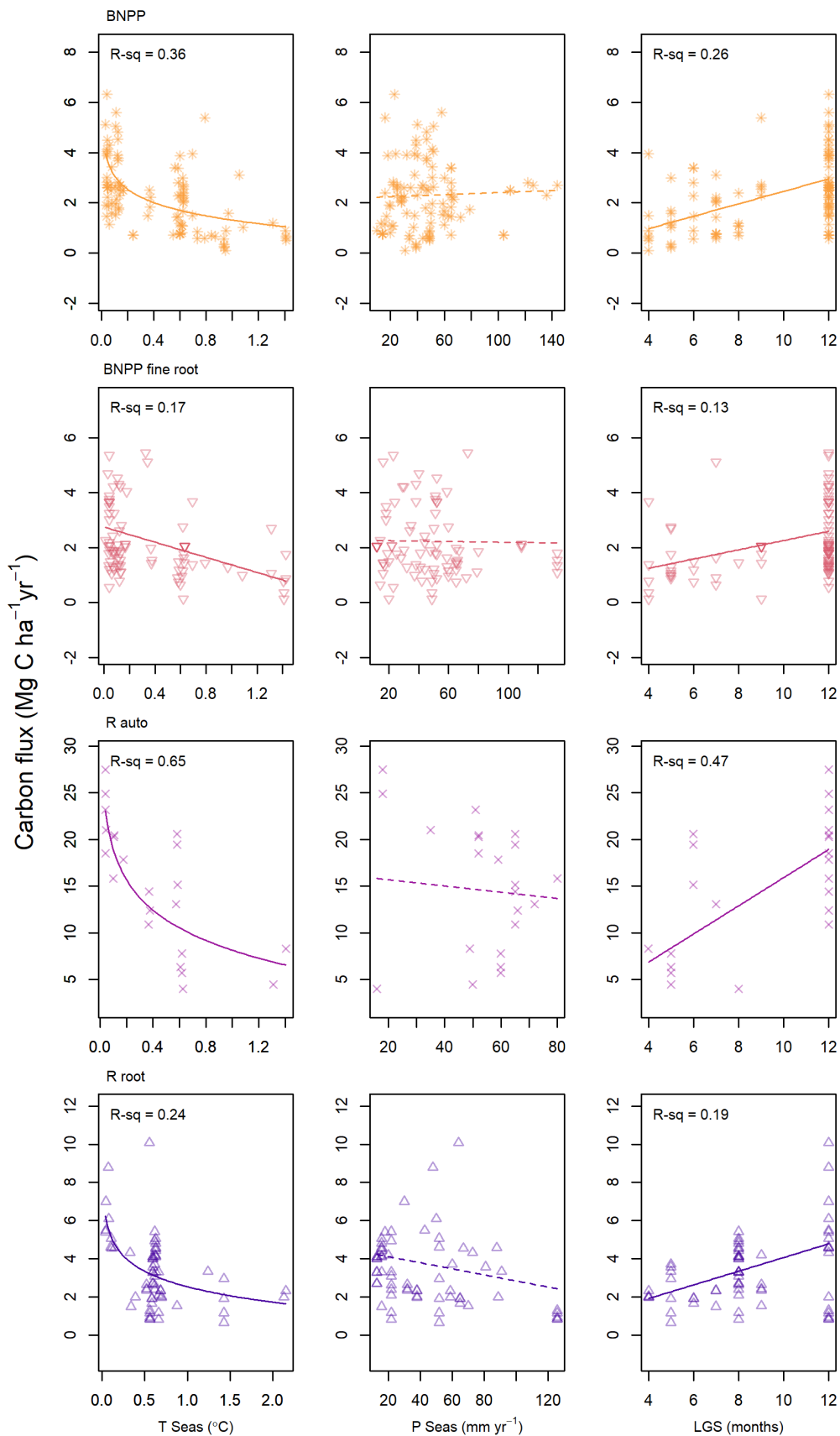


Figure S7: Individual plots of forest C fluxes in relation to mean climate seasonality, part 2.

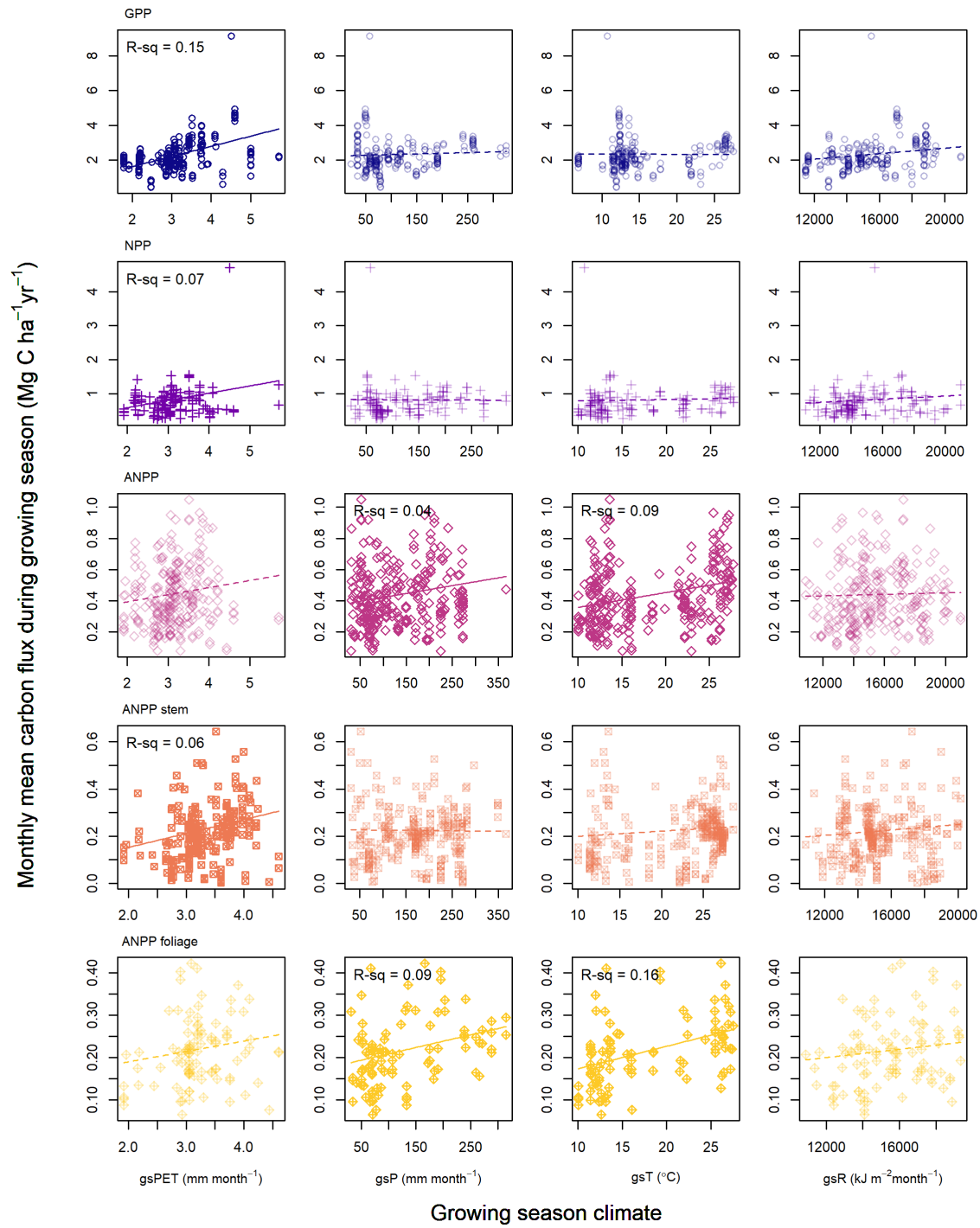


Figure S8: Growing season length-standardized forest C fluxes in relation to mean growing season climate, part 1.

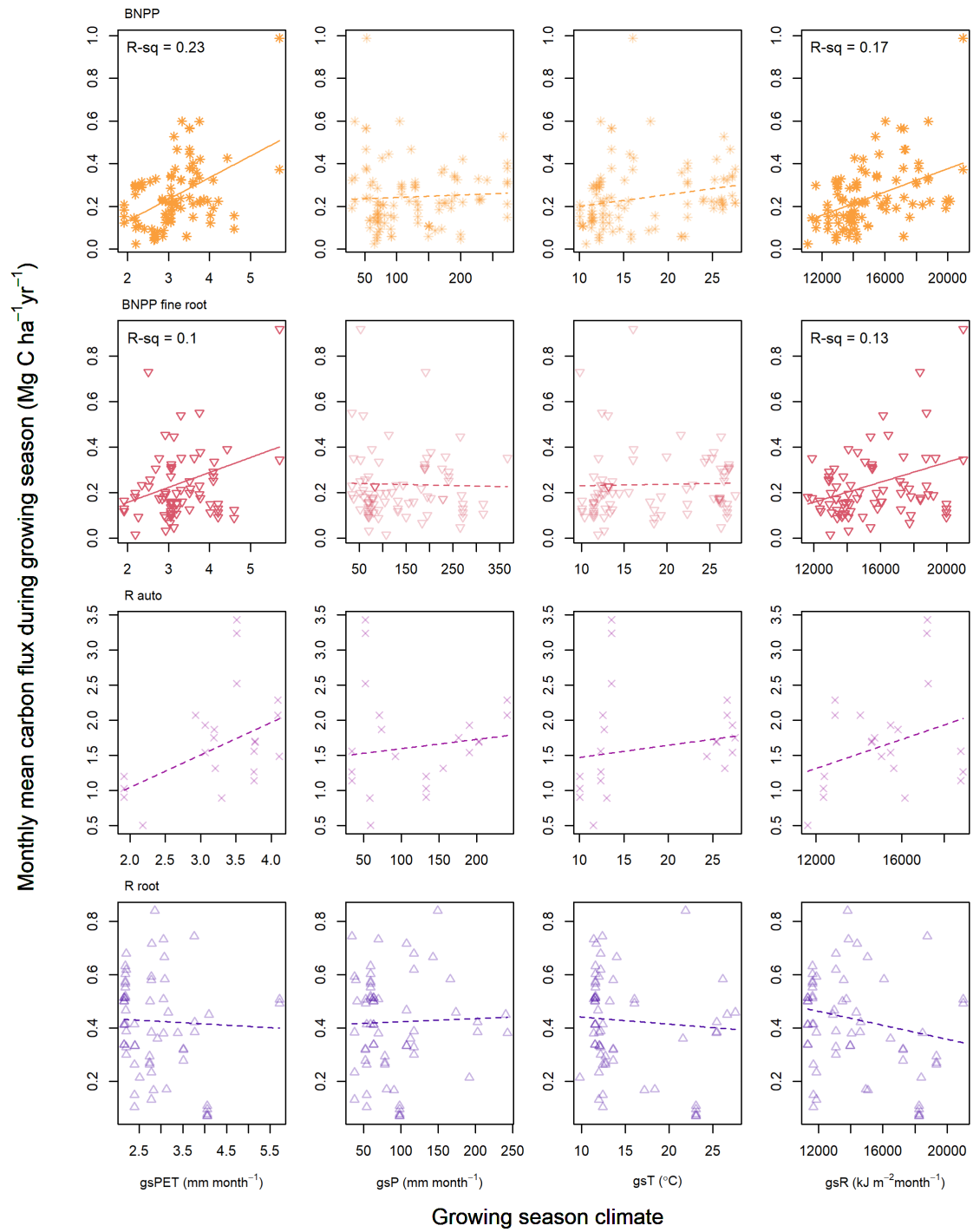


Figure S9: Growing season length-standardized forest C fluxes in relation to mean growing season climate, part 2.

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