

# 1 **Forest Diversity and Environmental Factors Shape Contrasting** 2 **Soil-Litter BVOC and Methane Fluxes in Three Central** 3 **Amazonian Ecosystems**

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## 20 **Abstract**

21 Biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOCs) play a crucial role in biosphere-atmosphere  
22 interactions and the global carbon cycle. While vegetation is recognized as the primary source of  
23 BVOC fluxes in forest ecosystems, recent studies suggest that the carbon-rich soil-litter  
24 compartment ~~contributes~~ plays a significant role in gas fluxes. However, ~~these fluxes, their~~  
25 ~~underlying~~ drivers, and their variability, and magnitude of these fluxes across different forest types  
26 remain poorly understood, ~~with measurements still scarce~~ This is particularly notable in the  
27 Amazon rainforest, the world's largest source of BVOCs, where measurements still remain scarce.  
28 In this study, we investigated the net soil-litter gas exchange of BVOCs and methane ~~fluxes and,~~  
29 along with their potential drivers ~~including -~~ soil and litter nutrient content, soil and litter  
30 microbial biomass, soil temperature, and soil moisture ~~-~~ across three forest types in central

31 Amazonia: ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest (WS), ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest (UPUp), and ~~a~~Ancient ~~r~~River ~~t~~Terrace  
32 ~~f~~Forest (AR). Our results showed distinct fluxsoil-litter gas exchange patterns ~~among~~across the  
33 forest types. WS exhibited both high emissions and consumption of gases, notably high  
34 acetaldehyde and methane emissions, ~~and strong isoprene and~~along with a uptake of monoterpenes  
35 ~~uptake~~. UPUp showed lower overall fluxes, with moderate emissions and consumption of dimethyl  
36 sulfide (DMS), isoprene, and acetaldehyde. In contrast, AR presented no significant fluxes. ~~Linear~~  
37 ~~models identified~~ Among the variables tested, models indicated that soil moisture and temperature  
38 ~~as were~~ the primarystrongest drivers of fluxes in WS, ~~while~~whereas microbial biomass was the  
39 main driver in UPUp. Our measurements suggest that, despite covering a relatively small area in  
40 the Amazon basin, WS can be a significant ecosystem for BVOC and methane fluxes,  
41 ~~regulated~~where these fluxes are influenced by soil moisture and temperature. Our findings  
42 underscore the need to account for forest-type-specific fluxes when modeling BVOC and methane  
43 emissions in the Amazon, particularly under changing climate conditions.

#### 44 **Key words**

45 Amazon rainforest; Biogenic ~~v~~Volatile ~~e~~Organic ~~e~~Compounds (BVOC); Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>); rain-  
46 induced emissions; Soil-litter fluxes; Forest heterogeneity; Soil-litter microorganism-~~s~~

#### 47 **1. Introduction**

48 Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds (BVOCs) play critical roles across scales, from  
49 cellular processes to global climate regulation. While primarily emitted by plants, BVOCs can also  
50 be produced and consumed by soils, litter and microorganisms. Once released into the atmosphere,  
51 they actively participate in atmospheric chemistry and physics, influencing climate dynamics.  
52 BVOCs react with key atmospheric oxidants - including hydroxyl radicals (OH), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), and  
53 nitrate radicals (NO<sub>3</sub>) - to form secondary organic aerosols (SOAs) (Artaxo et al., 2022; Yáñez-  
54 Serrano et al., 2020). SOAs, in turn, have a major influence on cloud properties, enhancing cloud  
55 condensation nuclei (CCN) concentrations, which impacts precipitation patterns and alters cloud  
56 lifecycles (Liu and Matsui, 2022). Depending on their chemical composition, SOAs can also  
57 influence the Earth's radiation budget by scattering incoming solar radiation (resulting in a cooling  
58 effect) or absorbing outgoing longwave radiation. Additionally, depending on the concentration of  
59 NO<sub>x</sub>, BVOCs contribute to the formation of tropospheric ozone - an important greenhouse gas and

60 a major air pollutant (Vella et al., 2025). Given these large-scale impacts, accurately quantifying  
61 BVOC fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems is essential for advancing our understanding of forest–  
62 atmosphere interactions and for improving Earth system models, thereby improving climate  
63 predictions.

64 Global emissions of BVOCs from terrestrial vegetation are estimated at approximately 760  
65 Tg C yr<sup>-1</sup>, with isoprene (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) and monoterpenes (C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>) accounting for around 70% and 11%  
66 of these emissions, respectively (Guenther et al., 2012, Sindelarova et al., 2014). Isoprene is a  
67 simple building block compound emitted in large quantities, particularly by tropical forests.  
68 Monoterpenes (e.g., α-pinene, β-pinene, limonene) are structurally more complex (Guenther et  
69 al., 2012; Alves et al., 2016) with (-)-α-pinene being the second most emitted compound (Zannoni  
70 et al., 2020; Yanez-Serrano et al., 2018). The Amazon rainforest alone contributes about 40% of  
71 global BVOC emissions, playing a critical role in the global carbon cycle (Guenther et al., 2012;  
72 Wang et al., 2024; Tripathi et al., 2025). However, these global estimates primarily consider  
73 emissions from plants, neglecting potential contributions from soil and litter, which might also  
74 include a large variety of BVOC chemical species. ~~Soil and litter constitute an ecological~~ This gap  
75 is particularly significant given recent evidence that the soil–litter together is a compartment that  
76 can also play a crucial role in ~~gas fluxes of biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOCs)~~  
77 ~~(BVOC emissions (Bourtsoukidis et al., 2018; Drewer et al., 2021; Fan et al., 2020, 2024; Peñuelas~~  
78 ~~et al., 2014; Tang et al., 2019). and greenhouse gases (GHGs) (Fan et al., 2020, 2024). Within this~~  
79 ~~compartment, multiple B~~ biological and physical processes ~~are essential in soil and litter BVOC~~  
80 ~~and GHG fluxes.~~ influence BVOC dynamics. ~~In terms of biological processes, roots release~~  
81 ~~BVOCs for~~ These include plant-related processes such as intra- and inter-organism  
82 communication, ~~defense against herbivory~~ defense, and symbiotic ~~relationships~~ interactions  
83 (Gfeller et al., 2013; Lin et al., 2007; Rasheed et al., 2021; Steeghs et al., 2004; Tang et al., 2019;  
84 Trowbridge et al., 2020); ~~and~~ Additionally, soil microorganisms produce ~~and consume~~ BVOCs for  
85 communication and ecological interactions (e.g., defense and competition), with these compounds  
86 also being released as residual metabolic products (Isidorov & Jdanova, 2002; Leff & Fierer, 2008;  
87 Liu et al., 2024; Monard et al., 2021). ~~GHGs, such as methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>),~~  
88 ~~are produced by microorganisms in the soil. Methane fluxes are primarily driven by methanogenic~~  
89 ~~(archaea) and methanotrophic microorganisms in anaerobic and aerobic environments,~~  
90 ~~contributing to the global methane budget (Conrad, 2009; Hofmann et al., 2016). The~~

91 decomposition of litter also influences BVOC and GHG fluxes; particularly physical factors, such  
92 as temperature and soil moisture, greatly impact litter decomposition by influencing the activity of  
93 microorganisms, a process that also releases BVOCs and GHGs (Greenberg et al., 2012; Tang et  
94 al., 2019; Mäki et al., 2017; Asensio et al., 2008). Temperature directly affects gas production and  
95 consumption (Conrad, 2009), the evaporation of stored compounds (Aaltonen et al., 2011), and  
96 the desorption from leaf litter tissue and soil organic matter (Bachy et al., 2018; Schade &  
97 Goldstein, 2001; Tang et al., 2019; Warneke et al., 1999). Soil moisture affects microbial activity  
98 (Abis et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2024) and BVOC adsorption (Jiao et al., 2023), thereby directly  
99 affecting the magnitude of soil gas fluxes (Conrad, 2009; Liu et al., 2024; Pugliese et al., 2023;  
100 Shah et al., 2024; Svendsen et al., 2016). In addition to changes in soil moisture, precipitation  
101 events can induce BVOC emissions, e.g., by pushing stored soil BVOC gases out of the soil pore  
102 space (Miyama et al., 2020).

103 ——— Soil type can also influence gas fluxes, with sandy soils facilitating BVOC volatilization  
104 and retention due to larger pore spaces that promote water movement and faster evaporation under  
105 higher temperatures (Onwuka, 2018). For example, soil texture influences the relationship between  
106 methane and soil moisture, with methane emission fluxes being generally higher in sandy soils  
107 than in clay soils (Cai et al., 1999), probably due to their larger pore size, which facilitates gas  
108 diffusion (Rosace et al., 2020). Additionally, changes in vegetation cover also impacts gas fluxes  
109 (Gomes Alves et al., 2022). Plant species composition influences BVOC emissions in terms of  
110 chemical composition and emission rates (Bao et al., 2023; Mu et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2024),  
111 and since different soil types often support distinct vegetation (Rodrigues et al., 2018), soil-litter  
112 gas fluxes are expected to vary across forest types (Wachiye et al., 2020).

113 The Amazon basin is the largest source of BVOCs to the global atmosphere (Guenther et  
114 al., 2012). BVOCs are crucial for understanding climate dynamics due to their role in atmospheric  
115 chemistry. They contribute to the formation of secondary organic aerosols (SOAs) and influence  
116 cloud properties, which in turn affect global climate patterns (Fuentes et al., 2000; Jimenez et al.,  
117 2009). Although vegetation is considered the main source of these compounds, with large effects  
118 on the above-mentioned atmospheric processes, some studies have shown that soils are as  
119 important as plants for BVOC emissions (Penuelas et al., 2014).

120           ~~The Amazon basin has different soil types (Quesada et al., 2011), which determine forest~~  
121 ~~structure (Quesada et al., 2012) and plant species composition (Ter Steege et al., 2013), resulting~~  
122 ~~in a mosaic of different forest types throughout the basin (Oliveira-Filho et al., 2020). These~~  
123 ~~different forest and soil types have been little – or not at all investigated for soil-litter BVOC and~~  
124 ~~GHG fluxes and, therefore, are not included in model estimates. In this sense, studies integrating~~  
125 ~~biological and physical measurements are essential to understand the processes controlling soil-~~  
126 ~~litter BVOC and GHG fluxes across Amazonian forest types. Quantifying BVOC emissions from~~  
127 ~~soil is essential for accurately modeling these processes and predicting their effect on climate, as~~  
128 ~~soil can be a significant source of BVOCs.~~

129           Greenhouse gases (GHGs), such as methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrous oxide  
130 (N<sub>2</sub>O), are also produced and consumed by soil microorganisms through key metabolic processes,  
131 including methanogenesis, methanotrophy, and respiration (Conrad, 2009,2020; Hofmann et al.,  
132 2016). While CO<sub>2</sub> and methane are not classified as BVOCs, they play a crucial role in overall gas  
133 exchange processes and provide a broader perspective of soil-litter gas (carbon) fluxes. Moreover,  
134 environmental factors such as soil moisture, temperature, and nutrient availability influence both  
135 BVOC and GHG fluxes, albeit through distinct-but interconnected-biological and physical  
136 mechanisms (Greenberg et al., 2012; Tang et al., 2019; Asensio et al., 2007). These interconnected  
137 processes drive net ecosystem gas exchange between the soil-litter compartment and the  
138 atmosphere, making methane and CO<sub>2</sub> key components for understanding processes driving  
139 BVOC flux dynamics.

140           Fluxes of GHGs and BVOCs can also be linked to litter decomposition. This process is  
141 influenced by various physical factors, including soil moisture, temperature, and nutrient  
142 availability, which collectively can enhance microbial activity—one of the main drivers of these  
143 fluxes (Greenberg et al., 2012; Tang et al., 2019; Mäki et al., 2017; Asensio et al., 2007).  
144 Specifically, microbial processes such as nitrification and denitrification can result in the  
145 production and consumption of N<sub>2</sub>O in soils (Butterbach-Bahl et al., 2013; Snyder et al., 2009).  
146 Together, these processes drive the net ecosystem exchange of BVOCs and GHGs between the  
147 soil-litter compartment and the atmosphere, and the magnitude and direction of this exchange may  
148 vary across different ecosystem types.

149 The Amazon Basin is a mosaic of diverse forest types (Oliveira-Filho et al., 2021), each  
150 with distinct plant species composition (Ter Steege et al., 2013), shaped by the region's highly  
151 variable soil properties (Quesada et al., 2011; Quesada et al., 2012). Although Amazonian  
152 heterogeneity is known to play a critical role in regulating biogeochemical cycles, comparative  
153 studies across forest types, especially at the soil–litter interface, are still scarce. Distinct  
154 interactions between vegetation and soil can lead to highly variable patterns of BVOC and GHG  
155 exchange. This lack of representation underscores the urgent need for studies that account for the  
156 region's ecological diversity to better capture the unique contributions of each forest type to  
157 biogeochemical processes. Quantifying this variability is key to improving both regional and  
158 global models, as gas fluxes are unlikely to be uniform within the Amazon.

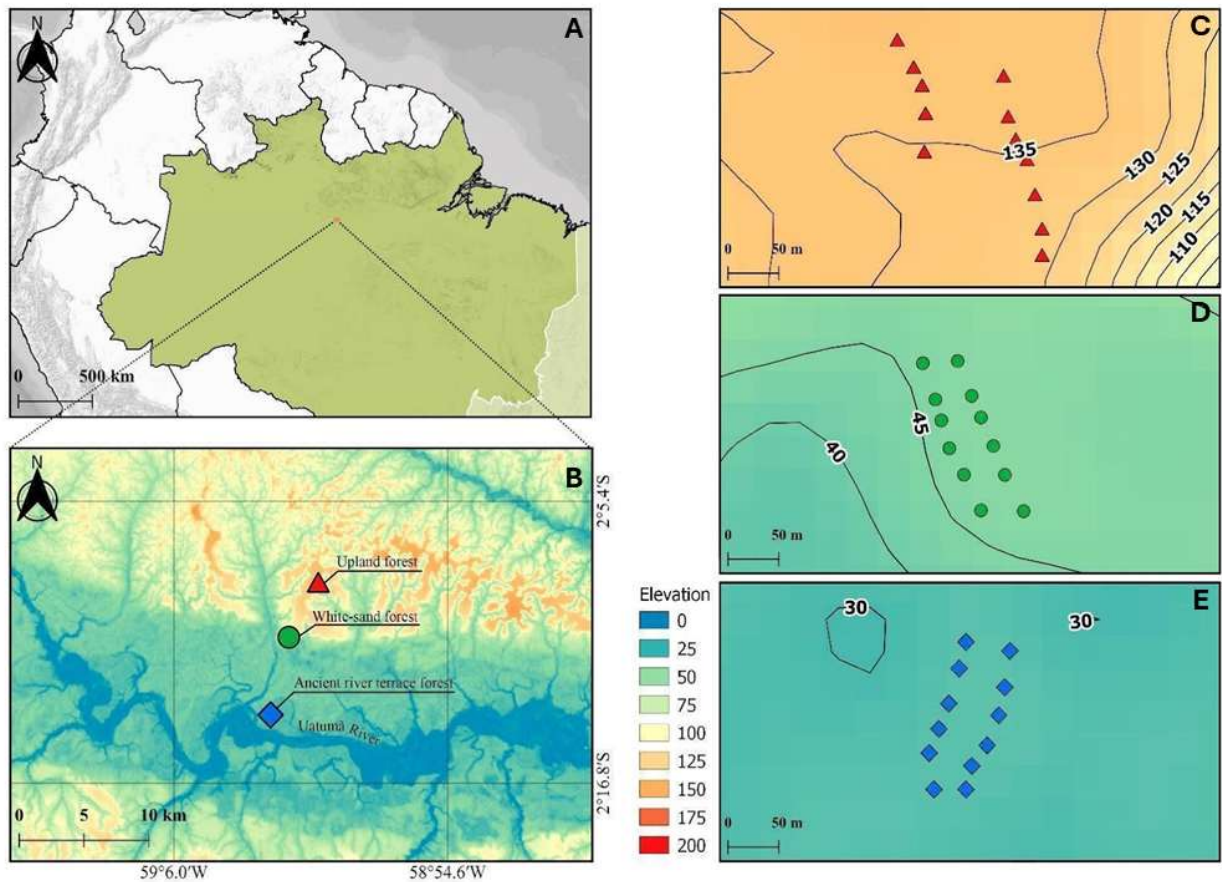
159 ~~With a unique set of measurements~~ To address these gaps, we investigated soil-litter fluxes  
160 of BVOCs (acetaldehyde, methanol, m/z 42, dimethyl sulfide, isoprene and monoterpenes) and  
161 GHGs (CH<sub>4</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>) ~~fluxes~~, soil and litter nutrient content and microbial biomass, and soil  
162 temperature and moisture from three forest types in central Amazonia: (i) ~~a~~ Ancient ~~r~~ River ~~t~~ Terrace  
163 ~~f~~ Forest - a forest that was flooded in the past and is no longer flooded due to changes in the river  
164 course (paleoigapó); (ii) ~~w~~ White ~~s~~ Sand ~~f~~ Forest (locally called campinarana) - a less common forest  
165 type that occupies about 5% of the Amazon basin (Adeney et al., 2016); and (iii) ~~u~~ Upland ~~f~~ Forest  
166 (locally called terra-firme) - the most common forest in Amazonia, with the highest plant species  
167 richness (Emidio et al., 2016; Luize et al., 2018). We aimed to answer the following questions: (i)  
168 what is the emission/consumption of ~~gases~~ (BVOCs, CO<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>4</sub>) in magnitude and chemical  
169 diversity, and?; ~~and~~ (ii) what are the main drivers of soil-litter gas ~~fluxes~~ exchanges across these  
170 three forest types in central Amazonia? (specifically, soil moisture, soil temperature, nutrient  
171 content and microbial biomass from soil and litter)?

## 172 **2. Material and Methods**

### 173 **2.1 Site Description**

174 This study was conducted in the MAUA–PELD experimental plots (PELD is the  
175 abbreviation in Portuguese for long-term ecological research) (Fig. 1) at the Amazon Tall Tower  
176 Observatory (ATTO) experimental site. This site is located 150 km northeast of Manaus and is  
177 part of the Uatumã Sustainable Reserve (USDR), which covers an area of 424,430 hectares

178 (Andreae et al., 2015). The climate is tropical humid, with average annual rainfall of 2,376 mm  
 179 and a temperature of 28°C (Botía et al., 2022). There are two distinct seasons, the wet season from  
 180 December to May and the dry season from July to October, with transition seasons in between.  
 181 The ATTO site contains three dominant non-flooded ecosystems: a dense **u**Upland **f**Forest (**Up**)  
 182 on the plateau, with an elevation close to 100 m (*terra-firme*); a **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest (**WS**)  
 183 (*campinarana*); and another type of *terra-firme* vegetation that developed on the lower-laying  
 184 ancient river terraces (**a**Ancient **r**River **t**Terrace **f**Forests (**AR**)) (Fig. 1) (Andreae et al., 2015).



185  
 186 **Figure 1.** (A) Location of the ATTO site. (B) A map illustrating the locations of the different forest  
 187 types evaluated in this study: **u**Upland **f**Forest, **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest, and **a**Ancient **r**River  
 188 **t**Terrace **f**Forest; and showing the Uatumã River, a tributary of the Amazon River. (C), (D) and  
 189 (E): The distribution of sampling points along the **t**Transects in each forest type (**u**Upland **f**Forest  
 190 - top, **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest - middle, and **a**Ancient **r**River **t**Terrace **f**Forest - bottom); black lines  
 191 and numbers indicate the elevation (above sea level – a.s.l.).

192 Topography is critical to soil formation in the central Amazon region (Quesada et al.,  
193 2009). At the ATTO site, a clear topographic gradient is associated with different soil  
194 characteristics (Fig. 1). In the ~~a~~Ancient ~~r~~River ~~t~~Terrace ~~f~~Forest, soil contains more silt and clay  
195 (39% sand, 37% silt, 23% clay) in comparison to the adjacent sandy ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest soils  
196 (57% sand, 40% silt, 1.50% clay). Upland ~~f~~Forest soils are more clayey and contain very little sand  
197 (13% total sand, 34% silt, 52% clay) (data from this study; supplementary material, [Section 1](#);  
198 Table S1). Upland ~~f~~Forest soils, which are predominantly ferrasols, are known to hold more water  
199 than other tropical soils, benefiting forest activity during the dry season (Quesada et al., 2009).  
200 Ancient ~~r~~River ~~t~~Terrace ~~f~~Forest soils are typically allisols, younger and richer in nutrients  
201 compared to upland ferrasols (Andreae et al., 2015). White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest soils are arenosols,  
202 characterized by high permeability and low water retention, with low specific heat capacity and  
203 often nutrient-poor organic layers (Quesada et al., 2011). The study area in the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand  
204 ~~f~~Forest has high water table variability, with a hard subsoil layer that restricts drainage and can  
205 flood the root system during the wet season (Demarchi et al., 2022).

## 206 2.2 Sampling Design

207 For each forest type, a PELD-MAUA plot (~1 hectare) ~~was selected, wherein two 150 m transects~~  
208 ~~were marked. (<https://peld-maua.inpa.gov.br>) was selected. Six collection points, approximately 30~~  
209 ~~m apart, were determined for each transect, resulting in a total of 36 soil chamber measurements~~  
210 ~~(Fig. 1). Additionally, three blank chambers per transect were measured, which consisted of~~  
211 ~~chambers with the same volume but with a completely bottom-sealed collar. Within each plot, two~~  
212 150 m Transects were established (Fig. 1) in homogeneous areas characterized by consistent  
213 vegetation structure, soil characteristics, and topography, to minimize spatial variability and avoid  
214 pseudo replication. Along each Transect, six sampling points were marked at ~30 m intervals,  
215 resulting in a total of 36 soil chamber measurements conducted on consecutive days; although this  
216 design was necessary for logistical reasons, it also allowed us to examine the influence of external  
217 factors beyond forest-type differences. Chamber-based methods (Section 2.3; Fig. 1) were  
218 employed for the in-situ quantification of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and BVOC fluxes from the soil-litter  
219 compartment. These chambers were installed directly in the field with minimal disturbance to the  
220 surrounding environment. ~~These blank chambers were measured simultaneously and under the~~  
221 same conditions as the sample chambers covering soil and litter ~~To account for potential~~

222 background signals and chamber interferences, three blank chambers, each featuring completely  
223 bottom-sealed collars, were deployed per Transect and measured simultaneously alongside the  
224 sample chambers (Fig. 2b).

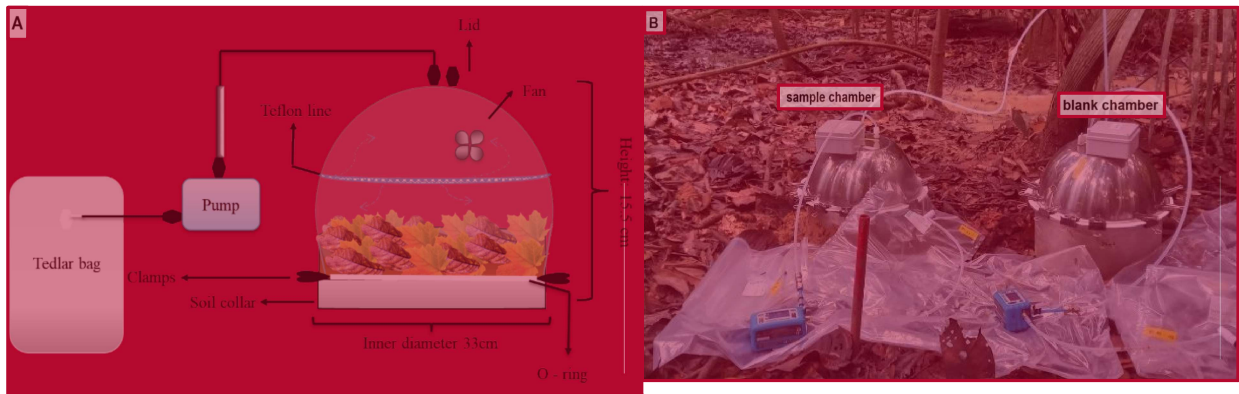
225 Tedlar bags (CEL Scientific, Cerritos, CA, USA) were used to collect gas samples directly  
226 from the outlet of the pump connected to the chambers, capturing the air for subsequent analysis  
227 of BVOCs, CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>. After each gas flux measurement, soil temperature (T, °C) (TP-101,  
228 Delhi, India) and soil volumetric water content (VWC, %) (~~AT SMT150, Cambridge, UK~~) were  
229 measured around the collar five times using a probe (AT SMT150, Cambridge, UK), and the  
230 averages ~~was~~ were recalculated. Surface soil samples were collected from the organic layer,  
231 approximately within the upper 5 cm of the soil. Samples from the litter and surface soil layers  
232 were collected inside the chamber and stored for analysis of chemical and physical characteristics  
233 and microbial biomass. Due to expected low variation and limited possibility for laboratory  
234 analyses, nutrient samples from soil and litter (excluding carbon and nitrogen) and ~~soil~~  
235 granulometry were collected as mixed samples pooled and homogenized from two collars. To  
236 minimize diurnal variation, each ~~†~~Transect was measured between 8:00 and 10:00 (local time),  
237 after which collected ~~bag~~ samples were processed and analyzed for BVOC and GHG  
238 concentrations. During the measurements, no precipitation was observed, but one large rain event  
239 occurred just before the measurement of ~~†~~Transect 2 of the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest.

240

### 241 **2.3 Flux Chamber Measurements**

242

243 The flux chambers used in this study were produced by the Max Planck Institute for  
244 Biogeochemistry ~~and were made~~. The soil chamber, consisting of a lid and a soil collar (Fig. 2a),  
245 was made entirely of 100% stainless steel ~~(Fig. 2)~~, with a total volume of 21 L and a surface area  
246 of 855 cm<sup>2</sup> (0.0855 ~~m~~<sup>2</sup>m<sup>2</sup>). Two Teflon inlets were connected to the top of the chamber, and inside  
247 the chamber was a fan that ~~provided air mixing of~~ mixed the gases ~~-in the chamber headspace. A~~  
248 PTFE-coated Viton O-ring was positioned at the edge of the collar over which the chamber was  
249 placed. ~~The collar and~~ ensuring a tight seal between the chamber ~~were sealed together with~~  
250 ~~multiple clamps to prevent outside air from entering the chamber~~ and the collar.

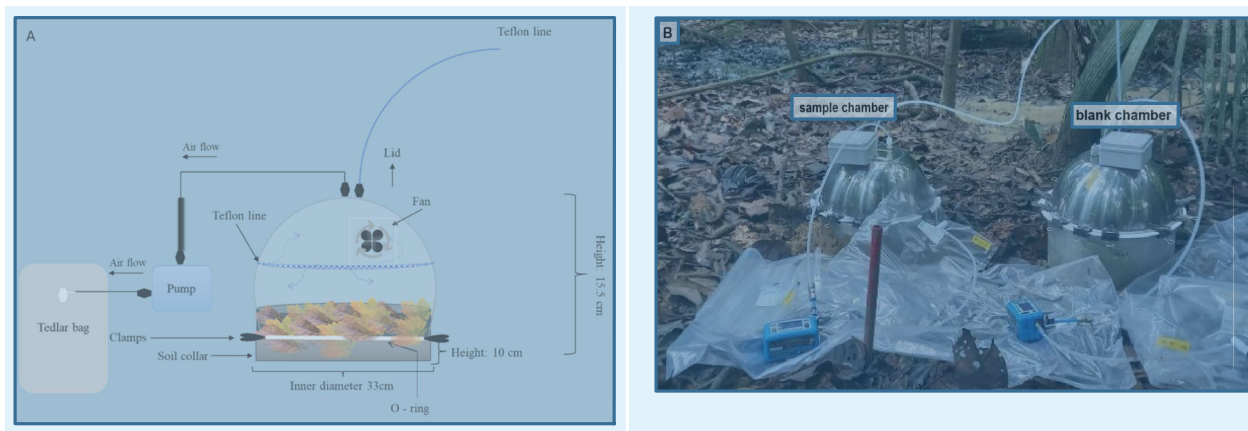


251

252 **Figure 2.** (A) Schematic of the flux chamber. (B) Photo of the measurement setup of the sample  
 253 and the blank chambers.

254 Before gas sampling, each soil collar was carefully installed in a non-invasive manner by  
 255 gently pressing the collar's edge into the soil to avoid damage litter and surface soil to minimize  
 256 disturbance to plant shoots and roots, and then sealed with To further ensure a tight seal preventing  
 257 any potential leakage, the surrounding soil was carefully pressed against the outer edges of the  
 258 collar (Aaltonen et al., 2011). This method ensured that the chamber system was effectively  
 259 isolated from external gas exchange. The chamber and collar were sealed together with multiple  
 260 clamps to prevent outside air from entering the chamber during measurements. The collars were  
 261 installed approximately 24 hours before the measurements prior to sampling to allow the  
 262 surrounding environment to stabilize.

263 **2.4 Field gas measurements**



**Figure 2.** (A) Schematic of the flux chamber. (B) Photo of the measurement setup of the sample and the blank chambers.

264           The gas collection took place in December 2021, during the dry-to-wet season  
265 transition. Tedlar bags (CEL Scientific, Cerritos, CA, USA) were used to sample soil-litter gas  
266 fluxes (BVOCs, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>). Before placing the lid on the collar, the chamber was manually  
267 ventilated to minimize collar-induced CO<sub>2</sub> gas accumulation caused by the collar. Once the  
268 chamber was closed and sealed with clamps, the internal fan was turned on to ensure mixing. An  
269 air sampling pump (GilAir® Plus, Levitt Safety, Ottawa, ON), operating at a flow rate of 500  
270 sccm, ensuring initiated continuous flow from the chamber outlet immediately after closure to  
271 maintain constant conditions throughout the measurement.

272           After 20 minutes of chamber closure with continuous flow, a sampling bag was connected  
273 to the outlet of the Teflon pump, and a 5 L sample was collected over 10 minutes. air circulation, a  
274 Tedlar bag was connected to the outlet of the Teflon pump, and a 5 L air sample was collected  
275 over the next 10 minutes. By the end of the 30-minute measurement process, a total of 15 L of air  
276 had flowed through the chamber, of which and the last 5 L were used for subsequent analyses.  
277 The sample volumes collected were determined by the specific requirements of each analytical  
278 instrument. Measurements of BVOCs were performed using proton-transfer-reaction quadrupole  
279 mass spectrometry (PTR-QMS<sub>5</sub>; IONICON Analytik, Innsbruck, Austria), prioritizing sufficient  
280 ion counts per second (CPS) and integration cycles for reliable detection of BVOC concentrations  
281 with the required precision, especially considering their typically trace levels. Greenhouse gases  
282 (GHGs) were measured using a Los Gatos Ultra-Portable Gas Analyzer (California, USA),  
283 hereafter referred to as the Los Gatos analyzer. Finally, for the offline measurements with  
284 cartridges and for specific compound identification and qualitative analysis with thermal-  
285 desorption gas chromatography time-of-flight mass spectrometry (TD-GC-TOF-MS; Bench ToF  
286 Tandem Ionisation, Markes International, Bridgend, UK), at least 2 L of sample air was required  
287 to effectively load the adsorbent cartridges. These analyses are further detailed in the  
288 Supplementary Materials, Section 3.2.

289 ~~At the end of the 30-minute process, a total of 15 L of air had flown through the chamber,~~  
290 ~~of which the last 5 L was used for analysis by the PTR-QMS, the Los Gatos analyzer, and for~~  
291 ~~collecting a cartridge sample (see below).~~ The same procedure was followed for a blank chamber,  
292 which was measured under identical conditions to account for gas contributions unrelated to soil  
293 and litter processes. For logistical reasons, measurements were conducted with three chambers at  
294 a time simultaneously, pairing two sample chambers with one blank chamber, followed by two  
295 additional sets, resulting in the measurements of six samples and three blank chambers per day.

296 ~~Before placing the lid on the collar, the chamber was manually ventilated to minimize~~  
297 ~~collar-induced CO<sub>2</sub> accumulation. The chamber was then closed, the internal fan was turned on,~~  
298 ~~and the lid was sealed with clamps.~~ Because air was continuously extracted from the chamber  
299 headspace, ~~both (blank and sample) chambers had an attached~~ by the pump, ambient air entered  
300 the chamber through one additional inlet, which consisted of a 2 m long open Teflon tube, fixed  
301 approximately 2 m above the ground and positioned at the same location, which for both sample  
302 and blank chambers. The setup ensured that both chambers (sample and blank) were diluted or  
303 affected by ambient air to the same degree, minimizing potential biases. ~~After collection, the bags~~  
304 ~~were stored in a dark box for transport to the laboratory. Gas concentration analyses were~~  
305 ~~conducted on the same day; first, the bags were measured using proton-transfer reaction~~  
306 ~~quadrupole mass spectrometry (PTR-QMS, IONICON Analytik, Innsbruck, Austria), followed by~~  
307 ~~a Los Gatos Analyzer (see section 2.5). Subsequently, each bag was sampled using a cartridge~~  
308 ~~(stainless steel tubes filled with Tenax TA and Carboxograph 5 TD adsorbents) to be later~~  
309 ~~qualitatively analyzed through thermal-desorption gas chromatography time-of-flight mass~~  
310 ~~spectrometry (TD-GC-TOF-MS; Bench ToF Tandem Ionisation, Markes International, Bridgend,~~  
311 ~~UK). To maintain conciseness and ensure clarity of our main findings, detailed descriptions of the~~  
312 ~~analyses and results are presented in the supplementary material, sections 3 and 3.1. The Tedlar~~  
313 ~~bags were analyzed or sampled within 10 hours of analysis, as recommended by Beauchamp et al.~~  
314 ~~(2024).~~

315 After sampling, bags were handled carefully to prevent leakage. Potential compound losses  
316 due to adsorption onto the inner walls or diffusion through the bag material were minimized by  
317 storing all samples in a dark, stainless-steel box to avoid light exposure, and keeping them in air-  
318 conditioned lab containers at low temperatures until analysis. All samples were analyzed on the

319 [same day, within a maximum of 8 hours post-collection, following the recommendations by of](#)  
320 [Beauchamp et al. \(2008\). Gas analysis began with the quantification of BVOCs using a PTR-QMS.](#)  
321 [Subsequent analyses of CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> concentrations were conducted using a Los Gatos analyzer.](#)  
322 [Each sample bag was then used to fill stainless steel ~~tubes filled with~~ cartridges \(containing Tenax](#)  
323 [TA and Carbograph 5-TD adsorbents\), ~~to be~~ which were later qualitatively analyzed via TD-GC-](#)  
324 [TOF-MS. Detailed descriptions of the analyses analytical procedures and results are in Sections 3](#)  
325 [and 3.1. of the Supplementary Material.](#)

326

## 327 **2.5.4 PTR-QMS measurements and Los Gatos analyzer measurements**

328 Tedlar bags were connected to the PTR-QMS (~~Ionicon Analytik, Austria~~) for analysis of  
329 BVOCs (Lindinger et al., 1998). The PTR-QMS H3O<sup>+</sup> mode was used for chemical ionization,  
330 which is extremely sensitive to all BVOCs that have a higher proton affinity than water, covering  
331 most volatile organic compounds (Edtbauer et al., 2021). ~~Seven~~Six compounds were analyzed  
332 (Table 1). The PTR-QMS was operated under standard conditions at 2.3 mbar, and E/N 120, with  
333 60°C, with a drift tube voltage of 600 V. During each PTR-QMS measurement cycle, the following  
334 specific protonated mass-to-charge ratios (m/z) were measured, 21 (H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>18+</sup>), 32 (O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>), and 37  
335 (H<sub>2</sub>O-H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>), with a dwell time of 500 ms each; and Methanol (33), compound not identified (m/z  
336 42), Acetaldehyde (45), Dimethyl sulfide - [DMS](#) (63), Isoprene (69) and Monoterpenes (137), with  
337 a dwell time of 1 second. We measured approximately 17 cycles for each bag. Mass identifications  
338 were based on the available literature (Warneke et al., 2015), and were consistent with a PTR-MS  
339 mass library database - GLOVOC (Yañez-Serrano et al., 2021) and gas calibration with certified  
340 standards.

341 **Table 1.** Compounds analyzed by the PTR-QMS

342

BVOC	Chemical formula (H <sup>+</sup> )	m/z	Group
Methanol	CH <sub>4</sub> O <sup>+</sup>	33	Alcohol
not identified		42	N-compound
Acetaldehyde	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sup>+</sup>	45	Aldehyde
Isoprene	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub> <sup>+</sup>	69	Alkenes
Dimethyl sulfide ( <a href="#">DMS</a> )	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> S <sup>+</sup>	63	Organosulfides
Monoterpenes	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>16</sub> <sup>+</sup>	137	Alkenes

347

348 Calibrations were performed before the experiment using a multi-component calibration  
349 mix containing various gases of known concentrations (supplementary material; Table S2)  
350 (Apel-Riemer Environmental, Inc.) (supplementary material; Section 2; Table S2). Four-point  
351 calibration curves were generated by diluting the multicomponent with synthetic air, humidifying  
352 the air stream with a water bubbler filled with distilled water, and controlling the flow with mass  
353 flow controllers ~~(0, 1, 3, and 5 ppb)~~ (supplementary material; Section 2; Fig. S1). Curves were  
354 calculated considering the normalized counts per second as a function of the mixing ratio.  
355 Previously, some compounds important for soil-litter processes (Peñuelas et al., 2014), - such as  
356 acetone, ethanol, and formaldehyde - were considered for this study, but as they did not show a  
357 good fit, they were excluded from this work. The error of PTR-QMS concentration measurements  
358 of the six presented compounds is expected to consist of a systematic part and a statistical part.  
359 The systematic error consists of the uncertainty of the calibration gas standard (+5%), the error  
360 of the flow measurements (+5%), and the error of the calibration slope (14.8%, 52.4%, 12.5%,  
361 18.4%, 18.2%, 20.4% for methanol, m/z42, acetaldehyde, DMS, monoterpenes and  
362 sesquiterpenes, respectively). The statistical error is based on the repeatability of the concentration  
363 measurement during the calibration routine, and was found to be 14.4%, 26.2%, 14.8%, 13.7%,  
364 6.0%, 8.5% for methanol, m/z42, acetaldehyde, DMS, monoterpenes and sesquiterpenes,  
365 respectively. The systematic error affects both bags in the same direction, whereas the statistical  
366 error can differ between the two bags in a pair. Therefore, to evaluate the uncertainty of the fluxes,  
367 we focused on the propagated statistical uncertainty, as described in Section 2.5.

368 ~~The mass m/z 42 can be attributed to acetonitrile; however, acetonitrile is usually considered a~~  
369 ~~biomass-burning tracer/or, more generally, a compound of anthropogenic origin (Huangfu et al.,~~  
370 ~~2021). Acetonitrile can be produced in the oceans (Sanhueza et al., 2004) and can also be~~  
371 ~~consumed by these ecosystems. It can be produced by microorganisms (Raio et al., 2020), but~~  
372 ~~there is a lack of evidence to support its emission from the soil. When using the PTR-QMS to~~  
373 ~~measure m/z 42, it is essential to consider the possibility of interference from fragments and side~~  
374 ~~reactions (Dunne et al., 2012). Consequently, it remains uncertain whether the signal at m/z 42~~  
375 ~~was due to acetonitrile since the instrument cannot distinguish between isobaric compounds.~~  
376 ~~However, we decided to present this mass in our results (section 3), as our measurements showed~~  
377 ~~substantial amounts of it. In addition, the mass 63 is attributable to DMS. However, earlier studies~~  
378 ~~in the humid Amazon have found that acetaldehyde (mass 45) can form an agglomerate with water,~~

379 ~~resulting in the same mass (63). Thus, results for mass 63 attributed to DMS can be strongly~~  
380 ~~influenced by acetaldehyde. We have studied the relation of the masses 63 and 45, and found a~~  
381 ~~correlation coefficient of 0.51, indicating that a part of the observed 63 could indeed be~~  
382 ~~acetaldehyde. Since we expect that a considerable part of the mass 63 is still originating from~~  
383 ~~DMS, we focus our discussion of the mass 63 on the possible sources and sinks of DMS.~~

384 After PTR-QMS analysis, the bags were connected to a Los Gatos ~~Ultraportable~~-analyzer  
385 to measure the mixing ratios of ~~CH<sub>4</sub>~~methane and CO<sub>2</sub>. The Los Gatos analyzer is an instrument  
386 based on laser absorption spectroscopy specifically Off-axis Integrated Cavity Output  
387 Spectroscopy (OA-ICOS), enabling ultra-sensitive, precise, and real-time measurements of trace  
388 gases in gas samples (Pohlman et al., 2021; van Asperen et al., 2024). The instrument operates at  
389 a relatively low sample flow rate (~0.1 L min<sup>-1</sup>), and a minimum gas volume of 0.3 L was used as  
390 a precaution to ensure measurement stability and accurate determination of CH<sub>4</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>  
391 concentrations; air from the sample bags ~~air~~ was ~~measured~~analyzed for 3 minutes ~~with an airflow~~  
392 ~~of ~ 0.1 LPM, and an average was taken,~~ and mean concentrations were calculated from the  
393 ~~last~~final 2 minutes of ~~the~~-measurement.

## 394 **2.65 BVOC & GHG flux calculation**

395 To calculate BVOC and GHG fluxes, the Volumetric Mixing Ratios of the blank chamber  
396 bags (VMRb) were subtracted from the sample chamber bags (VMR):

$$397 \text{dVMR} = \text{VMR} - \text{VMRb} \quad (1)$$

398 in which VMR is expressed in pptv or ppbv. By subtracting the mixing ratios of a blank chamber,  
399 dVMR represents the concentration difference attributable solely to soil and litter fluxes, corrected  
400 for potential chamber effects or the influence of ambient air entering the system. ~~A dilution effect~~  
401 ~~due to the constant sample flow is expected to exist but, at most, may lead to a slight~~  
402 ~~underestimation of our fluxes~~To ensure data reliability, bag pairs for which the concentration  
403 difference (dVMR) was less than or equal to the combined statistical uncertainty (calculated using  
404 the Root-Sum-Square method from the individual bag uncertainties) were assigned a value of zero.  
405 This approach ensures that only reliably detected fluxes are considered, while retaining the full  
406 sample size for modeling purposes. To convert dVMR to fluxes, we used:

$$407 F = \text{dVMR} * N * (V / A) * (1/T) \quad (2)$$

408 where N is the value of fixed molar volume at 25 °C (24.8 L mol<sup>-1</sup>; 40.3 mol m<sup>-3</sup>), V is the chamber  
409 volume (0.021 m<sup>3</sup>), A is the chamber area (0.0855 m<sup>2</sup>), and T is the average sampling time (25  
410 min). ~~giving fluxes~~ Flux values in nmol m<sup>-2</sup> min<sup>-1</sup>; ~~then~~ were converted to ng m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>.

## 411 **2.76 Soil and Litter Analyses**

412 The Thematic Laboratory of Soils and Plants (LTSP, [at the National Institute for](#)  
413 [Amazonian Research - INPA](#)) analyzed soil and litter nutrient content according to adapted  
414 protocols (EMBRAPA, 1999). The nutrients - iron (Fe<sup>+2</sup>), calcium (Ca<sup>+2</sup>), magnesium (Mg<sup>+2</sup>), zinc  
415 (Zn<sup>+2</sup>), potassium (K<sup>+</sup>), manganese (Mn<sup>+</sup>), phosphorus (P), and aluminum (Al) - were determined  
416 by digestion with a nitro-perchloric acid solution (Malavolta et al., 1989). Total phosphorus (P)  
417 was quantified using colorimetry (Murphy & Riley, 1962; Olsen & Sommers, 1982) and measured  
418 using a UV spectrophotometer (Model 1240, Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan). Potassium (K), calcium  
419 (Ca), and magnesium (Mg) concentrations were determined by atomic absorption  
420 spectrophotometry (AAS, 1100 B, 250 Perkin Elmer, Ueberlingen, Germany), as described by  
421 Anderson and Ingram (1993). Soil carbon and nitrogen content was determined by the Routine  
422 Measurements & Analyses Lab (RoMA, MPI-BGC) with the elemental analyzer "varioEL"  
423 (Elementar Analysensysteme GmbH, Elementar-Straße 1, D-63505 Langenselbold, Germany).  
424 Soil porosity was analyzed using the pycnometer method described in Flint & Flint (2002). The  
425 amount of water was corrected for soil density.

426 For analysis of soil and litter microbial Carbon, Nitrogen, and Phosphorus (C, N, and P)  
427 contents, 2g of fresh litter and 5g of fresh soil were used from each sample chamber. These were  
428 separated into fumigated and non-fumigated samples. The fumigated samples were left with  
429 chloroform for 24 hours and then divided into two sub-samples. For first, 50 mL of KCl (Potassium  
430 Chloride) was added, and total C and N were extracted, and for the second, 50 mL of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>  
431 (Sodium Bicarbonate) was added for total P extraction. Following the same extraction protocol,  
432 the non-fumigated samples were prepared for direct extraction without going through the 24-hour  
433 fumigation period. Microbial C, N, and P content was estimated in fumigated and non-fumigated  
434 extracts from the difference in organic C, N, and total P measured by a TOC/TN analyzer  
435 (Jenkinson et al., 2004). The extraction of the microbial biomass was performed at INPA, and the  
436 analyses were done by the Routine Measurements & Analyses Lab (RoMA, MPI-BGC).

## 437 **2.87 Statistical analyses**

438 A total of 36 samples were evaluated (n = 12 per forest type). Gas fluxes were first  
439 correlated with potential predictors (soil and litter characteristics, Table 2), revealing variations  
440 between forest types. Separate regression models were built for each forest type to maximize  
441 predictive ability, with variable selection based on the following criteria: 1) given the statistical  
442 power limitation of models (n = 12), the maximum number of independent variables possible to  
443 include was two; thus, 2) we tested all models with one or two independent variable combinations;  
444 ~~3~~ finally, 3) we chose the models which showed no multicollinearity and had the highest adjusted  
445 R-squared and lowest Akaike’s information criterion (AIC). The “ols\_step\_all\_possible” function  
446 from the “olsrr” package (Hebbali, 2024) was used, and multicollinearity was assessed via VIF  
447 (<2.5; Hair et al., 2009). Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Pearson’s correlation (Hmisc  
448 package; Harrell, 2018) were performed to explore variable interactions. Variations within forest  
449 types (e.g., between ~~t~~Transects) were analyzed using t-tests for normal data and Kruskal-Wallis  
450 tests for non-normal data, with a significance level of 0.05. All analyses were conducted in R  
451 (v4.3.0; R Core Team, 2023).

452

453 **Table 2.** Variables, their respective codes, and units.

Variable	Code	Unit
Soil carbon	c_soil	%
Soil nitrogen	n_soil	%
Soil phosphorus	p_soil	P mg/kg
Soil potassium	k_soil	K <sup>+</sup> mg/kg
Soil calcium	ca_soil	Ca <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Soil magnesium	mg_soil	Mg <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Soil aluminum	al_soil	Al <sup>+3</sup> mg/kg
Soil iron	fe_soil	Fe <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Soil zinc	zn_soil	Zn <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Soil manganese	mn_soil	Mn <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Soil ph	ph_soil	pH
Soil temperature	soil_temp	Celsius
Soil moisture	soil_moisture	%
Litter carbon	c_litter	%
Litter nitrogen	n_litter	%
Litter calcium	ca_litter	Ca <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Litter magnesium	mg_litter	Mg <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg

Litter potassium	k_litter	K <sup>+</sup> mg/kg
Litter iron	fe_litter	Fe <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Litter zinc	zn_litter	Zn <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Litter manganese	mn_litter	Mn <sup>+2</sup> mg/kg
Microbial biomass soil carbon	c_mic_soil	g/kg
Microbial biomass soil nitrogen	n_mic_soil	g/kg
Microbial biomass soil phosphorus	p_mic_soil	g/kg
Microbial biomass litter carbon	c_mic_litter	g/kg
Microbial biomass litter nitrogen	n_mic_litter	g/kg
Microbial biomass soil phosphorus	p_mic_litter	g/kg

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454

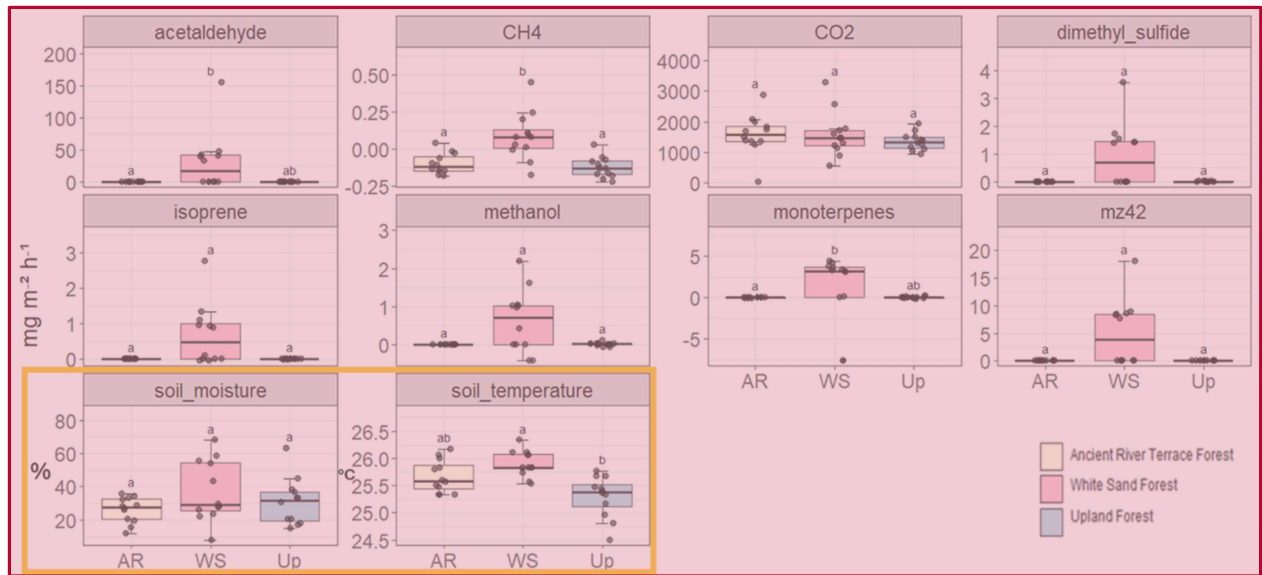
455

456

### 457 3. Results

#### 458 3.1 Comparison between forest types

459 The three forest types showed very different gas fluxes for BVOCs and GHGs (Fig. 3),  
460 with the highest fluxes observed in the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest. Fluxes were very low in the ~~u~~Upland  
461 ~~f~~Forest, and almost no gas fluxes were observed in the ~~a~~Ancient ~~r~~River ~~t~~Terrace ~~f~~Forest.  
462 Acetaldehyde emissions showed the most significant differences between forest types, with  
463 ~~emission~~flux averages of ~~29.911~~35.87 ± 46.86 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> ~~and~~ ~~0.0885~~ mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> (mean ± SD)  
464 for ~~the~~ ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest, ~~and upland forest respectively, and low consumption~~ -0.09 ± 0.02  
465 (mean ± SD) mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> for the Upland Forest, and -0.02 ± 0.008 (mean ± SD) mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> for the  
466 ~~a~~Ancient ~~r~~River ~~t~~Terrace ~~f~~Forest ~~(-0.0140 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>)~~. Isoprenoid (isoprene and monoterpenes)  
467 ~~emissions~~fluxes were also high in the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest, and clear differences were found  
468 between forest types concerning the speciation of monoterpenes (supplementary material; Fig. S2).



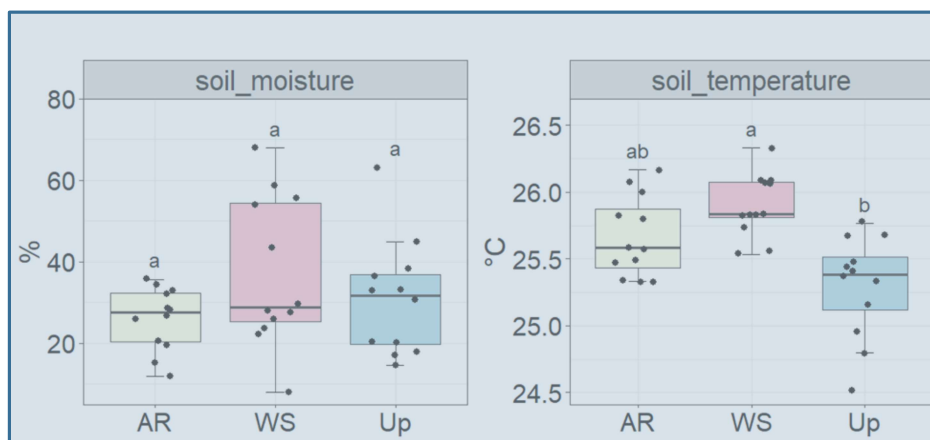


470

471 **Figure 3.** Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds (BVOC) and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) fluxes  
 472 from soil and litter across the three forest types: aAncient rRiver tTerrace fForest (AR), wWhite  
 473 sSand fForest (WS), and uUpland fForest (Up). Letters indicate statistically significant  
 474 differences in fluxes between forest types at are indicated by lowercase letters (\* $p < 0.05$ \*,  $N=36$   
 475 ), “ns” is not significant. Differences were assessed using the Kruskal-Wallis test for non-normal  
 476 data (BVOC and GHG) and ANOVA for normally distributed data, followed by Dunn’s post hoc  
 477 test with Bonferroni. The left axis represents BVOC and GHG fluxes ( $\text{mg m}^{-2} \text{h}^{-1}$ ) for AR and Up,  
 478 while the right axis represents flux values for WS ( $\text{mg m}^{-2} \text{h}^{-1}$ ). Boxes represent the median

479 (horizontal line) and the interquartile range (IQR, first and third quartiles). Whiskers extend up to  
480 1.5 times the IQR, and points beyond whiskers represent statistical outliers.

481 In the wWhite sSand fForest, in addition to the high isoprenoid emissions were observed,  
482 with isoprene fluxes averaging  $0.66 \pm 0.84 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ , and monoterpene fluxes averaging  $1.12 \pm$   
483  $4.31 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ , details on the monoterpene and sesquiterpene speciation can be found in  
484 Supplementary Material, Section 3.2. Conversely, very low (negative) values were recorded in the  
485 Upland Forest (Isoprene,  $-0.005 \pm 0.003 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$  and monoterpenes  $-0.02 \pm 0.08 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ )  
486 and Ancient River Terrace Forest (Isoprene,  $-0.002 \pm -0.001 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$  and monoterpenes  $-0.011$   
487  $\pm 0.015 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ ). In the WS we also observed the consumption of monoterpenes (with  $-7.6283$   
488  $\text{mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ , highlighted as an outlier in Fig. 3) and high emissions of DMS ( $1.10 \pm 1.14 \text{ mg m}^{-2}$   
489  $\text{h}^{-1}$ ), whereas a consumption of the latter was observed in the Upland Forest ( $-0.001 \pm 0.005 \text{ mg}$   
490  $\text{m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ ) and Ancient River Terrace Forest ( $-0.0003 \pm 0.001 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ ).  $\text{CH}_4$  fluxes showed  
491 substantially varied variation in the wWhite sSand fForest, with large both uptake ( $-0.09 \pm 0.16 \text{ mg}$   
492  $\text{m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ ) and emission ( $0.08 \pm 0.07 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ ). In contrast, the Upland Forest and Ancient River  
493 Terrace Forest showed primarily methane uptake, with average fluxes of  $-0.14 \pm 0.05 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$   
494 and  $-0.13 \pm 0.03 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ , respectively.



495  
496 **Figure 4.** The yellow rectangle represents soil moisture (soil moisture expressed as %Soil moisture  
497 and soil temperature (expressed as °C), and soil% for moisture °C for temperature) across the three  
498 forest types: Ancient River Terrace Forest (AR), White Sand Forest (WS), and Upland Forest (Up).  
499 Letters indicate statistically significant differences in fluxes between forest types at  $p < 0.05$ ,  $N=36$   
500 (ANOVA test for normal distribution). Boxes show median and first and third quartiles, with  
501 whiskers and points distinguished at 1.5 times the interquartile range.

502 In the white sand forest, in addition to the high isoprenoid emissions, we also observed the  
 503 consumption of monoterpenes ( $-7.628 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ , outlier in Fig. 3) and high emission of dimethyl  
 504 sulfide (DMS) ( $0.924 \text{ mg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ , on average). Upland and ancient river terrace forests exhibited a  
 505 small amount of DMS consumption.  $\text{CH}_4$  fluxes substantially varied in the white sand forest, with  
 506 large uptake and emission fluxes, while ancient river terrace and upland forests both showed  
 507 mainly  $\text{CH}_4$  uptake.

508 There were no statistically significant differences in soil moisture between the across forest  
 509 types (Fig. 34); however, the wWhite sSand fForest showed the highest and the lowest soil  
 510 moisture values. Differences in soil moisture and temperature were found between transects (Fig.  
 511 8). The large difference in soil texture (see supplementary material, table S1) between the sites  
 512 will affect how soil moisture translates to the amount of soil moisture available for plants and  
 513 microbes. Still, since individual transects were measured on different (consecutive) days, it is  
 514 difficult to distinguish temporal from spatial effects.



515

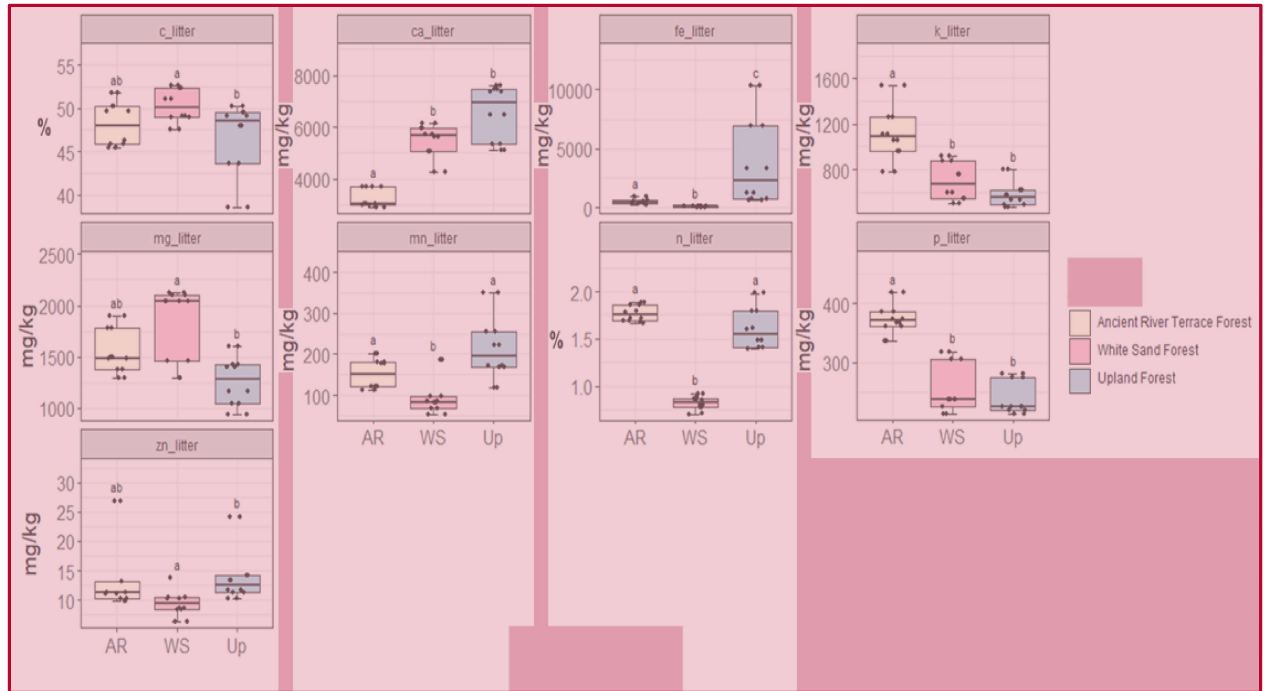


516

517 **Figure 45.** Concentrations of soil micro- and macronutrients in the three forest types: **a**Ancient  
 518 **r**River **t**Terrace **f**Forest (AR), **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest (WS), and **u**Upland **f**Forest (Up). Letters  
 519 indicate statistically significant differences in nutrients between forest types at  $p < 0.05$ ,  $N=36$ .  
 520 (ANOVA test for normal data (aluminum) and Kruskal-Wallis test for non-normal data (carbon,  
 521 calcium, iron, potassium, magnesium, manganese, nitrogen, phosphorus, pH, and zinc). Boxes  
 522 show median and first and third quartiles, with whiskers and points distinguished at 1.5 times the  
 523 interquartile range.

524 Soil macro- and micronutrients varied considerably between the forest types, with  
 525 statistically significant differences in carbon, magnesium, phosphorus, and iron for the **w**White  
 526 **s**Sand **f**Forest. Phosphorus content was the highest in the **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest compared to other  
 527 forest types (Fig. 45). All litter nutrients exhibited significant differences between forest types:  
 528 **u**Upland **f**Forest showed the highest average concentrations of calcium, iron, manganese, and zinc,

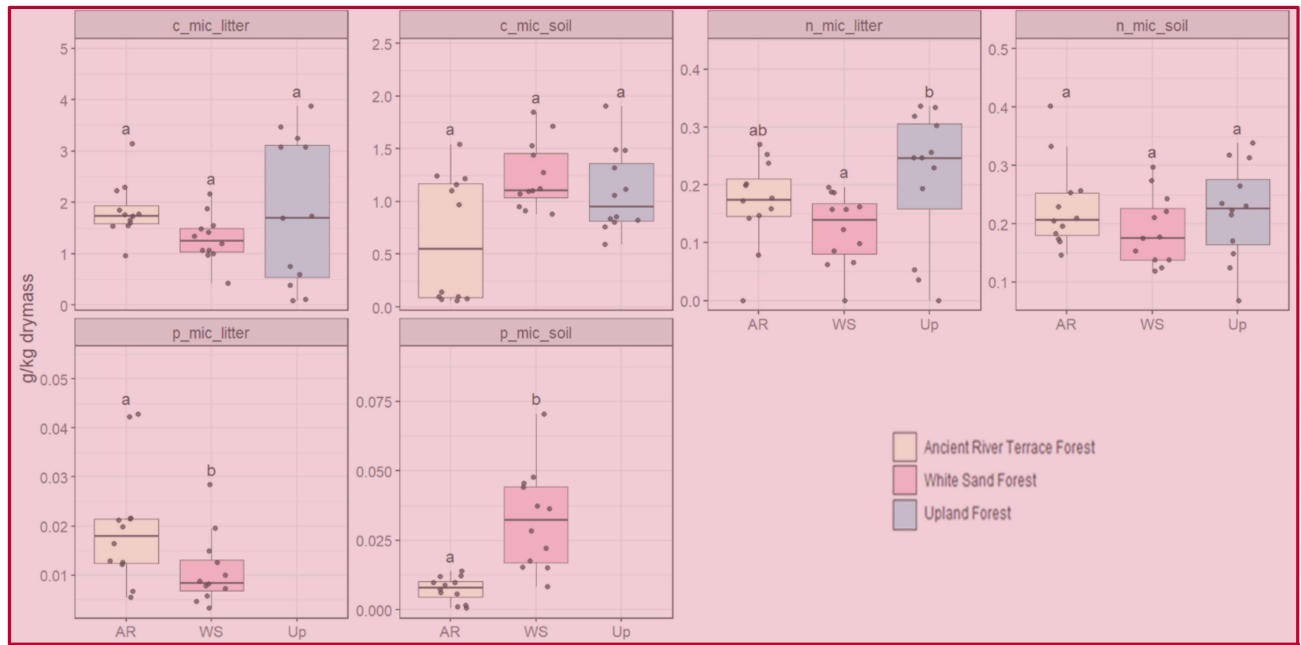
529 while the **a**Ancient **r**River **t**Terrace **f**Forest had the highest nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorus  
530 concentrations, and the **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest had slightly higher carbon concentrations (Fig. **56**).



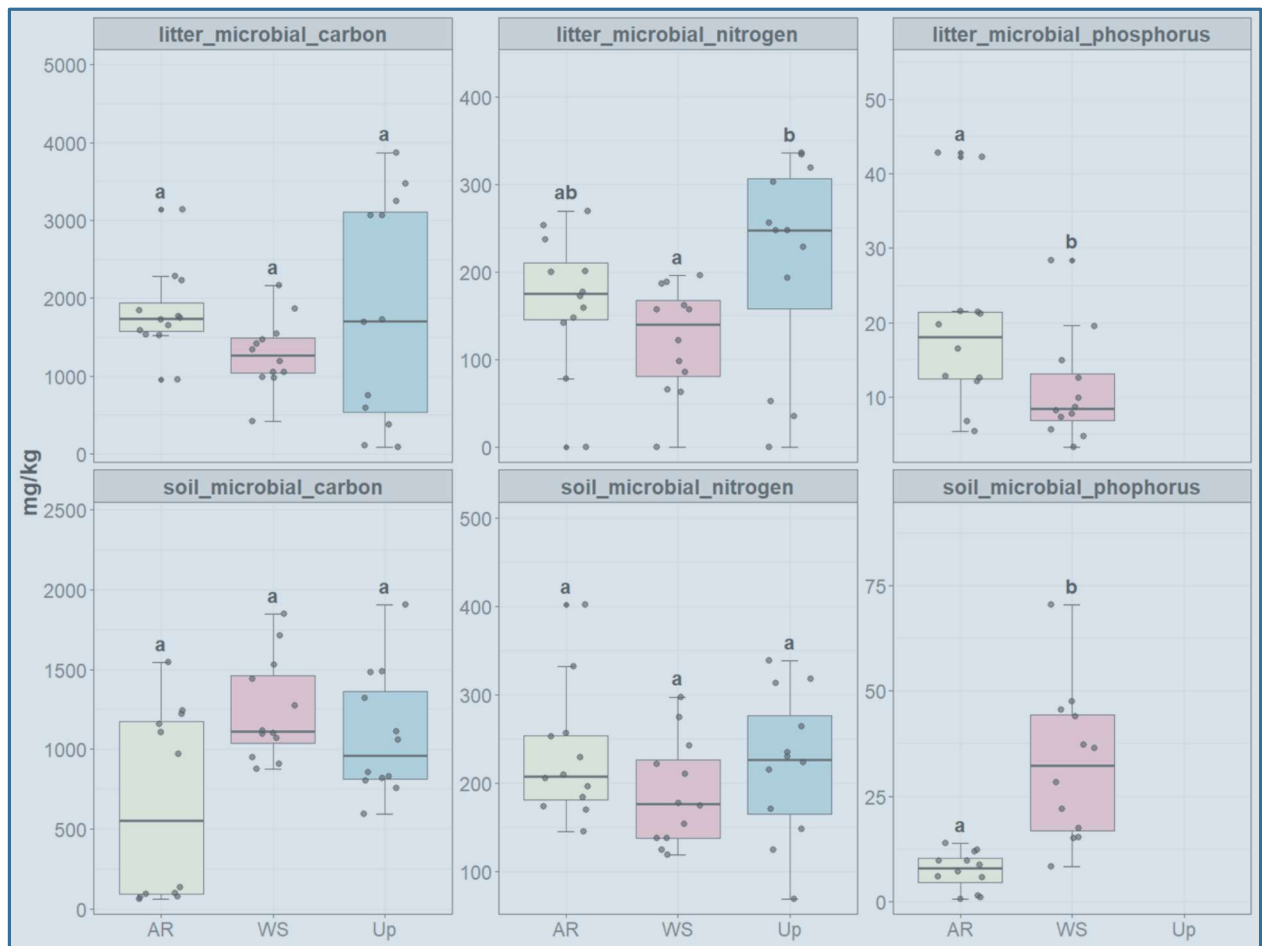


532

533 **Figure 56.** Concentrations of litter micro- and macronutrients in the three forest types: **a**Ancient  
 534 **r**River **t**Terrace **f**Forest (AR), **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest (WS), and **u**Upland **f**Forest (Up). Letters  
 535 indicate statistically significant differences in nutrients between forest types at  $p < 0.05$ ,  $N=36$ .  
 536 (ANOVA test for normal data - potassium and nitrogen, and Kruskal-Wallis test for non-normal  
 537 data - carbon, calcium, iron, magnesium, manganese, phosphorus, and zinc). Boxes show median  
 538 and first and third quartiles, with whiskers and points distinguished at 1.5 times the interquartile  
 539 range.



540



541

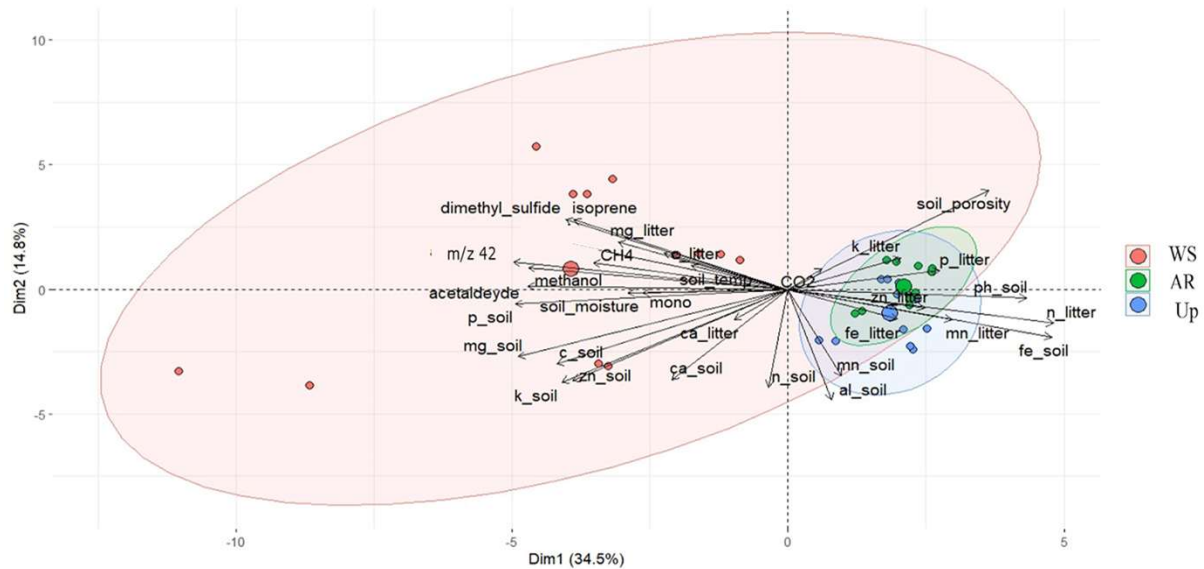
542 **Figure 67.** Concentrations of C, N, and P microbial biomass ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$  dry mass) of soil and litter in  
543 the three forest types: the **a**Ancient **r**River **t**Terrace **f**Forest (AR), the **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest (WS),  
544 and the **u**Upland **f**Forest (Up). Letters indicate statistically significant differences in microbial  
545 biomass between forest types at  $p < 0.05$ ,  $N=36$ . ANOVA test for normal data (litter microbial  
546 carbon, soil microbial phosphorus, and nitrogen) and Kruskal-Wallis test for non-normal data (soil  
547 microbial carbon, litter microbial nitrogen, and litter microbial phosphorus). Boxes show median  
548 and first and third quartiles, with whiskers and points distinguished at 1.5 times the interquartile  
549 range.

550 Microbial biomass (soil and litter), ~~—measured as a potential—~~ used here as a proxy for  
551 microbial activity—, showed significant differences between forest types. ~~Soil microbial only for~~  
552 ~~soil phosphorus, which~~ was ~~significantly~~ higher in the **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest ~~than in~~ compared to  
553 the **a**Ancient **r**River **t**Terrace **f**Forest (no data ~~available~~ for the **u**Upland **f**Forest). ~~In contrast,~~ For  
554 ~~carbon and nitrogen, significant differences were observed only in~~ litter microbial biomass ~~(carbon~~  
555 ~~and nitrogen) was the highest in,~~ with the upland forest ~~and the lowest in~~ exhibiting the highest  
556 ~~values and~~ the white sand forest ~~(carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus)~~ the lowest. However, for most  
557 ~~microbial biomass parameters measured across soil and litter, differences between forest types~~  
558 ~~were not statistically significant~~ (Fig. 67).

## 559 3.2 Identification of drivers of BVOC and GHG fluxes

### 560 3.2.1 Principal Component Analysis

561 A ~~Principal Component Analysis (PCA)~~ of soil and litter characteristics and microbial  
562 biomass, and gas fluxes (BVOC and GHG) indicated that PC1 and PC2 axes accounted for 48.5%  
563 of the data variation (Fig. 78). The first axis explained 31.6% and the second 12.6% (Table 3). The  
564 PCA grouped forest types into two distinct groups: **a**Ancient **r**River **t**Terrace and **u**Upland **f**Forests  
565 showed considerable overlap, with lower fluxes linked to litter characteristics, soil and litter  
566 microbial biomass,  $\text{CO}_2$ , and soil  $\text{pH}$ ; ~~in~~ contrast, the **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest formed a separate  
567 group with higher fluxes associated with soil temperature, moisture, and elevated levels of  
568 phosphorus, magnesium, and potassium.



569

570 **Figure 78.** **Principal Component Analysis (PCA)**, wherein the vectors reflect their correlation with  
 571 the variables, and the colored circles represent the average PCA score related to each ambient. The  
 572 analyzed variables are BVOCs (methanol, m/z 42, acetaldehyde, **dimethyl-sulfide****DMS**, isoprene  
 573 and monoterpenes), greenhouse gases (**CH<sub>4</sub>****methane** and CO<sub>2</sub>), soil characteristics (carbon,  
 574 nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, aluminum, iron, zinc, manganese, pH,  
 575 temperature, and soil moisture), litter characteristics (carbon, nitrogen, calcium, magnesium,  
 576 potassium, iron, zinc, manganese), and soil and litter microorganism dynamics (soil microbial  
 577 nitrogen, soil microbial phosphorus, soil microbial carbon, litter microbial nitrogen, litter  
 578 microbial phosphorus and litter microbial carbon). AR = Ancient River Terrace Forest, Up =  
 579 Upland Forest, WS = White Sand Forest

580 **Table 3.** Percentage correlation values extracted from **Principal Component Analysis (PCA; Fig.**  
 581 **7)8.**

	PC1		PC2
Soil iron	83.480	Isoprene	52.345
Litter nitrogen	83.440	Dimethyl sulfide	51.718
Litter manganese	52.649	Litter Iron	21.662
Litter phosphorus	46.040	Soil moisture	20.658
Soil magnesium	-79.524	Soil carbon	-63.818
Methanol	-80.097	Soil zinc	-64.436
Soil phosphorus	-83.184	Soil aluminum	-71.054
m/z 42	-84.917	Soil nitrogen	-71.553

582

583 **3.2.2 Linear regression models for different forest types**

584 We used linear regression models (referred to as linear models) to better understand the  
 585 relationships between predictor variables and fluxes, as identified by the PCA analyses. Flux  
 586 predictors showed substantial variation between the forest types (Fig. S3a, b, S4a, b, and S5a, b,  
 587 in [Section 4](#); supplementary material). Model comparisons for each forest type revealed  
 588 similarities between ~~aAncient rRiver tTerrace~~ ~~(Table 4)~~ ~~Forest~~ and ~~uUpland fForests~~ (Table ~~5~~4). In  
 589 contrast, the ~~wWhite sSand fForest~~ ~~(Table 6)~~ was distinct ([Table 4](#)), as also shown by the PCA  
 590 analysis.

591 In the ~~aAncient rRiver tTerrace fForest~~, linear models for gas fluxes and predictor variables  
 592 showed coefficients of determination (R<sup>2</sup>) above 0.8 for methanol, acetaldehyde, isoprene, and  
 593 monoterpenes (Table 4). The most important nutrients for predicting gas fluxes from ~~the ancient~~  
 594 ~~river-terrace~~ this forest type were potassium, manganese, magnesium, iron, carbon, and  
 595 phosphorus. The linear models for monoterpenes had ~~the~~ soil microbial biomass carbon and litter  
 596 potassium as predictors. The ~~GHG~~ linear models for GHG had soil temperature, soil moisture, and  
 597 litter nutrients as predictors.

598 **Table 4.** Multiple linear regression models with soil and litter characteristics and microbial  
 599 biomass as predictors of gas fluxes in the three forest types – aAncient rRiver tTerrace fForest  
 600 (AR), Upland Forest (Up), and White Sand Forest (WS). B = unstandardized coefficients. CI =  
 601 confidence interval. f<sup>2</sup> = Cohen’s f<sup>2</sup> effect size. R<sup>2</sup> = R-squared value. R<sup>2</sup><sub>adj</sub> = Adjusted R-squared  
 602 value. N = ~~1236~~.

<u>Forest Type</u>	<u>Gas</u>	<u>R<sup>2</sup>/R<sup>2</sup>adj</u>	<u>Predictor Variable</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>95% CI</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>f<sup>2</sup></u>
<u>AR</u>	<u>Methanol</u>	<u>0.839/0.803</u>	<u>Soil potassium</u>	<u>0.034</u>	<u>0.021;</u> <u>0.047</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>1.92</u>
			<u>Litter</u> <u>manganesenitrog</u> <u>en</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.0000.01</u> <u>;</u> <u>0.0003</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>2.31</u>

Up	<u>Acetaldehyde</u>	<u>0.8629/0.79</u> <u>1.547</u>	<u>Soil iron</u>	<u>0.000</u>	<u>-0.001;</u> <u>0.000</u>	<u>0.059</u>	<u>0.127</u>
			<u>Soil manganese</u>	<u>0.004</u>	<u>0.003;</u> <u>0.005</u>	<u>0.004</u>	<u>1.58</u>
	<u>Dimethyl sulfide</u>	<u>0.574/0.479</u>	<u>Soil magnesium</u>	<u>0.006</u>	<u>0.001;</u> <u>0.010</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>0.059</u>
			<u>Litter magnesium</u>	<u>-0.004</u>	<u>-0.006;</u> <u>1.000</u>	<u>0.004</u>	<u>1.0679</u>
	<u>Isoprene</u>	<u>0.9690/0.96</u> <u>3.51</u>	<u>Soil Iron Phosphorus</u>	<u>0.000</u>	<u>0.000;</u> <u>0.000</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>15.03</u>
			<u>Litter Phosphorus</u>	<u>0.0016</u>	<u>0.0004;</u> <u>0.0017</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>9.38</u>
	<u>Monoterpenes</u>	<u>0.811/0.769</u>	<u>Soil microbial carbon</u>	<u>0.000</u>	<u>0.000;</u> <u>0.000</u>	<u>0.084</u>	<u>4.26</u>
			<u>Soil Moisture</u>	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.000;</u> <u>0.05</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>0.05</u>
	<u>Methane</u>	<u>0.276/0.203</u>	<u>Soil moisture</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00; 0.00</u>	<u>0.0824</u>	<u>0.50</u>
			<u>0.4520.330 Litter carbon</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00; 0.00</u>	<u>0.024</u>	<u>0.32</u>
<u>CO<sub>2</sub></u>	<u>0.685/0.615</u>	<u>Soil temperature</u>	<u>9.054</u>	<u>3.101;</u> <u>15.007</u>	<u>0.007</u>	<u>1.232</u>	
		<u>Litter phosphorus</u>	<u>87.940</u>	<u>-156.215;</u> <u>-19.666</u>	<u>0.017</u>	<u>0.943</u>	
<u>Methanol</u>	<u>0.617/0.532</u>	<u>Soil potassium</u>	<u>0.61</u>	<u>0.418;</u> <u>1.10</u>	<u>0.0010</u>	<u>0.17</u>	
		<u>Soil microbial nitrogen</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00; 0.00</u>	<u>0.0026</u>	<u>1.44</u>	
<u>m/z 42</u>	<u>0.6789/0.60</u> <u>82</u>	<u>Soil potassium</u>	<u>0.000</u>	<u>0.000;</u> <u>0.001</u>	<u>0.002</u>	<u>0.68773</u>	

		<u>Soil microbial nitrogen</u>	<u>0.000</u>	<u>0.000</u> ; <u>0.000</u>	<u>0.006</u>	<u>1.50</u>
<u>Acetaldehyde</u>	<u>0.608/0.521</u>	<u>Soil iron</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>0.14</u>	<u>0.17</u>
		<u>Litter microbial carbon</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>0.006</u>	<u>1.38</u>
<u>Dimethyl sulfide</u>	<u>0.747/0.690</u>	<u>Litter microbial carbon</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>&lt;0.001</u>	<u>1.10</u>
		<u>Litter microbial nitrogen</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>0.003</u>	<u>1.85</u>
<u>Isoprene</u>	<u>0.774/0.724</u>	<u>Soil carbon</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>0.007</u>	<u>1.25e-03</u>
		<u>Liter manganese</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>5.94</u>
<u>Monoterpenes</u>	<u>0.792/0.746</u>	<u>Soil potassium</u>	<u>1.6</u>	<u>1.3</u> ; <u>0.94</u> ; <u>2.3</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>0.96</u>
		<u>Litter microbial nitrogen</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>2.86</u>
<u>Methane</u>	<u>0.888/0.863</u>	<u>Soil carbon</u>	<u>0.231</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>0.043</u>	<u>0.06</u>
		<u>Soil moisture</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>7.91</u>
<u>CO<sub>2</sub></u>	<u>0.626/0.543</u>	<u>Litter microbial nitrogen</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.01</u> ; <u>0.06</u>	<u>0.025</u>	<u>0.25</u>
		<u>Litter microbial carbon</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> ; <u>0.00</u>	<u>0.006</u>	<u>1.43</u>
<u>Methanol</u>	<u>0.8258/0.790</u>	<u>Soil temperature</u>	<u>0.0643</u>	<u>-34.4</u> ; <u>0.461.5</u>	<u>&lt; 0.0015</u>	<u>2.60</u>
<u>WS</u>		<u>Litter phosphorus</u>	<u>-8.4</u>	<u>-16</u> ; <u>-0.37</u>	<u>&lt; 0.042</u>	<u>0.62</u>

<u>m/z 42</u>	<u>0.866/0.837</u>	<u>Soil moisture</u>	<u>0.187</u>	<u>0.099</u> <sub>2</sub> ; <u>0.276</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>2.938</u>
		<u>Litter nitrogen</u>	<u>54.196</u>	<u>-75.904</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>-32.491</u>	<u>&lt;.001</u>	<u>3.545</u>
<u>Acetaldehyde</u>	<u>0.653/0.576</u>	<u>Soil moisture</u>	<u>1.368</u>	<u>0.284</u> <sub>2</sub> ; <u>2.452</u>	<u>0.019</u>	<u>1.022</u>
		<u>Litter nitrogen</u>	<u>327.465</u>	<u>-593.333</u> <sub>2</sub> ; <u>-61.596</u>	<u>0.021</u>	<u>0.863</u>
<u>Dimethyl sulfide</u>	<u>0.78463/0.73611</u>	<u>Soil temperature</u>	<u>0.320</u> <sub>06</sub>	<u>-4.9</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>1.4009</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>0.03</u>	<u>0.003</u>	<u>1.87</u>
		<u>Soil phosphorus</u>	<u>-0.06</u>	<u>-0.09</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>0.03</u>	<u>0.003</u>	<u>1.36</u>
<u>Isoprene</u>	<u>0.764/0.712</u>	<u>Soil temperature</u>	<u>1.9882</u> <sub>3</sub>	<u>-3.6</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>-0.96</u>	<u>0.0034</u>	<u>1.70</u>
		<u>Soil phosphorus</u>	<u>-0.05</u>	<u>-0.007</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>0.02</u>	<u>0.0043</u>	<u>1.54</u>
<u>Monoterpene</u>	<u>0.857/0.825</u>	<u>Soil moisture</u>	<u>0.13</u>	<u>0.06</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>0.20</u>	<u>0.003</u>	<u>0.36</u>
		<u>Litter nitrogen</u>	<u>2.1</u>	<u>1.5</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>2.8</u>	<u>&lt;0.001</u>	<u>5.66</u>
<u>Methane</u>	<u>0.508/0.399</u>	<u>Soil moisture</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>0.0</u>	<u>0.027</u>	<u>0.35</u>
		<u>Litter zinc</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>0.0</u>	<u>0.035</u>	<u>0.69</u>
<u>CO<sub>2</sub></u>	<u>0.742/0.685</u>	<u>Soil microbial carbon</u>	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.0</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>0.03</u>	<u>0.029</u>	<u>1.07</u>
-	-	<u>Litter zinc</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>1.6</u> <sub>1</sub> ; <u>5.5</u>	<u>0.003</u>	<u>1.81</u>

Variable	B	95% CI	P	f <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup> <sub>adj</sub>
<b>Methanol</b>					0.839	0.803
Soil potassium	0.034	0.021; 0.047	<.001	2.222		
Litter manganese	0.000	0.000; 0.000	<.001	2.972		
<b>Acetaldehyde</b>					0.829	0.791
Soil iron	0.000	-0.001; 0.000	<.001	0.127		
Soil manganese	0.004	0.003; 0.005	<.001	4.711		
<b>Dimethyl sulfide</b>					0.635	0.554
Soil magnesium	0.006	0.001; 0.010	0.016	0.059		
Litter magnesium	-0.004	-0.006; -0.002	0.004	1.679		
<b>Isoprene</b>					0.969	0.963
Soil Iron	0.000	0.000; 0.000	<.001	4.452		
Soil Manganese	0.001	0.000; 0.001	<.001	27.279		
<b>Monoterpenes</b>					0.920	0.902
Soil microbial carbon	0.000	0.000; 0.000	<.001	10.81		
Litter potassium	0.03	0.000; 0.05	=0.026	0.78		
<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>					0.276	0.203
Soil moisture	0.00	0.00; 0.00	0.0824	0.50	0.452	0.330
Litter carbon	0.00	0.00; 0.00	0.024	0.32		
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>					0.685	0.615
Soil temperature	9.054	3.101; 15.007	0.007	1.232		
Litter phosphorus	-87.940	-156.215; -19.666	0.017	0.943		

604

605 For the ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest, ~~linear models for~~ gas fluxes ~~models~~ showed R<sup>2</sup> higher than 0.8  
606 for isoprene and ~~CH<sub>4</sub>methane~~ (Table 54), ~~and~~ ~~K~~key nutrients for predicting gas fluxes included  
607 potassium, iron, manganese, and carbon. Microbial biomass was significant in predicting gases  
608 like methanol and ~~dimethyl-sulfide~~DMS. Acetaldehyde and isoprene shared soil iron and  
609 manganese as predictors, while ~~dimethyl-sulfide~~DMS and CO<sub>2</sub> were linked to litter carbon and  
610 microbial nitrogen.

611 ~~Table 5. Multiple linear regression models with soil and litter characteristics as predictors of gas~~  
612 ~~fluxes in the upland forest. B = unstandardized coefficients. CI = confidence interval. f<sup>2</sup> = Cohen's~~  
613 ~~f<sup>2</sup> effect size. R<sup>2</sup> = R-squared value. R<sup>2</sup><sub>adj</sub> = Adjusted R-squared value. N = 12.~~

Variable	B	95% CI	p	f <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup> <sub>adj</sub>
<b>Methanol</b>					0.735	0.676
Soil potassium	0.77	0.41; 1.1	0.001	0.82		
Soil microbial nitrogen	0.00	0.00; 0.00	0.002	1.96		
<b>m/z 42</b>					0.679	0.608
Soil potassium	0.000	0.000; 0.001	0.002	0.687		
Soil microbial nitrogen	0.000	0.000; 0.000	0.006	1.417		
<b>Acetaldehyde</b>					0.793	0.748
Soil iron	0.00	0.00; 0.00	<.001	0.05		
Soil manganese	0.02	0.1; 0.02	0.02	3.80		
<b>Dimethyl sulfide</b>					0.775	0.725
Litter microbial carbon	0.00	0.00; 0.00	<0.001	1.44		
Litter microbial nitrogen	0.00	0.00; 0.00	0.002	2.01		
<b>Isoprene</b>					0.899	0.877

Variable	B	95% CI	p	f <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup> <sub>adj</sub>
Soil iron	0.00	0.00; 0.00	<.001	5.48e-03		
Soil manganese	0.00	0.00; 0.00	<.001	5.94		
<b>Monoterpenes</b>					0.695	0.627
Soil potassium	1.18	1.3; 2.3	<.001	2.94		
Litter microbial nitrogen	0.00	0.00; 0.00	<.001	4.63		
<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>					0.888	0.863
Soil carbon	0.231	0.00; 0.00	0.043	0.06		
Soil moisture	0.00	0.00; 0.00	<.001	7.91		
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>					0.626	0.543
Litter microbial nitrogen	0.00	0.01; 0.06	0.025	0.25		
Litter microbial carbon	0.00	0.00; 0.00	0.006	1.43		

614

615 **In the white sand forest, models**

616 In the White Sand Forest, linear models showed R<sup>2</sup> higher than 0.8 for methanol, m/z 42  
617 and monoterpenes showed high R<sup>2</sup> values, explaining over 80% of emission variation (Table 64).  
618 Key nutrient predictors included phosphorus, nitrogen, and zinc. All emitted gases (except CO<sub>2</sub>)  
619 were influenced by soil temperature or moisture. Soil temperature was inversely related to fluxes  
620 of methanol, DMS, and isoprene, while emissions of m/z 42, acetaldehyde, monoterpenes and  
621 **CH<sub>4</sub>methane** increased with soil moisture.

622 **Table 6.** Multiple linear regression models with soil and litter characteristics as predictors of gas  
623 fluxes in the white sand forest. B = unstandardized coefficients. CI = confidence interval. f<sup>2</sup> =  
624 Cohen's f<sup>2</sup> effect size. R<sup>2</sup> = R-squared value. R<sup>2</sup><sub>adj</sub> = Adjusted R-squared value. N = 12.

Variable	B	95% CI	p	f <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup> <sub>adj</sub>
<b>Methanol</b>					0.825	0.790
Soil temperature	<del>-0.064</del>	<del>-3.4; -0.46</del>	<del>≤0.015</del>	<del>4.21</del>		
Litter phosphorus	<del>-8.4</del>	<del>-16; -0.37</del>	<del>≤0.042</del>	<del>0.62</del>		
<b>Acetonitrile</b>					0.866	0.837
Soil moisture	0.187	0.099; 0.276	≤.001	2.938		
Litter nitrogen	<del>-54.196</del>	<del>-75.901; -32.491</del>	<del>≤.001</del>	<del>3.545</del>		
<b>Acetaldehyde</b>					0.653	0.576
Soil moisture	<del>1.368</del>	<del>0.284; 2.452</del>	<del>0.019</del>	<del>1.022</del>		
Litter nitrogen	<del>-327.465</del>	<del>-593.333; -61.596</del>	<del>0.021</del>	<del>0.863</del>		
<b>Dimethyl sulfide</b>					0.784	0.736
Soil temperature	<del>-0.32</del>	<del>-4.9; -1.4</del>	<del>0.003</del>	<del>1.87</del>		
Soil phosphorus	<del>-0.06</del>	<del>-0.09; -0.03</del>	<del>0.003</del>	<del>1.36</del>		
<b>Isoprene</b>					0.764	0.712
Soil temperature	<del>-1.988</del>	<del>-3.6; -0.96</del>	<del>0.003</del>	<del>1.70</del>		
Soil phosphorus	<del>-0.05</del>	<del>-0.007; -0.02</del>	<del>0.004</del>	<del>1.54</del>		
<b>Monoterpene</b>					0.857	0.825
Soil moisture	0.13	0.06; 0.20	0.003	0.36		
Litter nitrogen	<del>2.1</del>	<del>1.5; 2.8</del>	<del>≤0.001</del>	<del>5.66</del>		
<b>Sesquiterpene</b>					0.888	0.863
Soil moisture	1.1	0.52; 1.7	0.002	2.50		
Litter nitrogen	<del>-435</del>	<del>-5.75; -294</del>	<del>≤0.001</del>	<del>5.43</del>		

Variable	B	95% CI	p	f <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup> <sub>adj</sub>
<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>					0.508	0.399
-Soil moisture	0.0	0.0; 0.0	0.027	0.35		
-Litter zinc	0.0	0.0; 0.0	0.035	0.69		
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>					0.742	0.685
Soil microbial carbon	0.02	0.0; 0.03	0.029	1.07		
Litter zinc	3.5	1.6; 5.5	0.003	1.81		

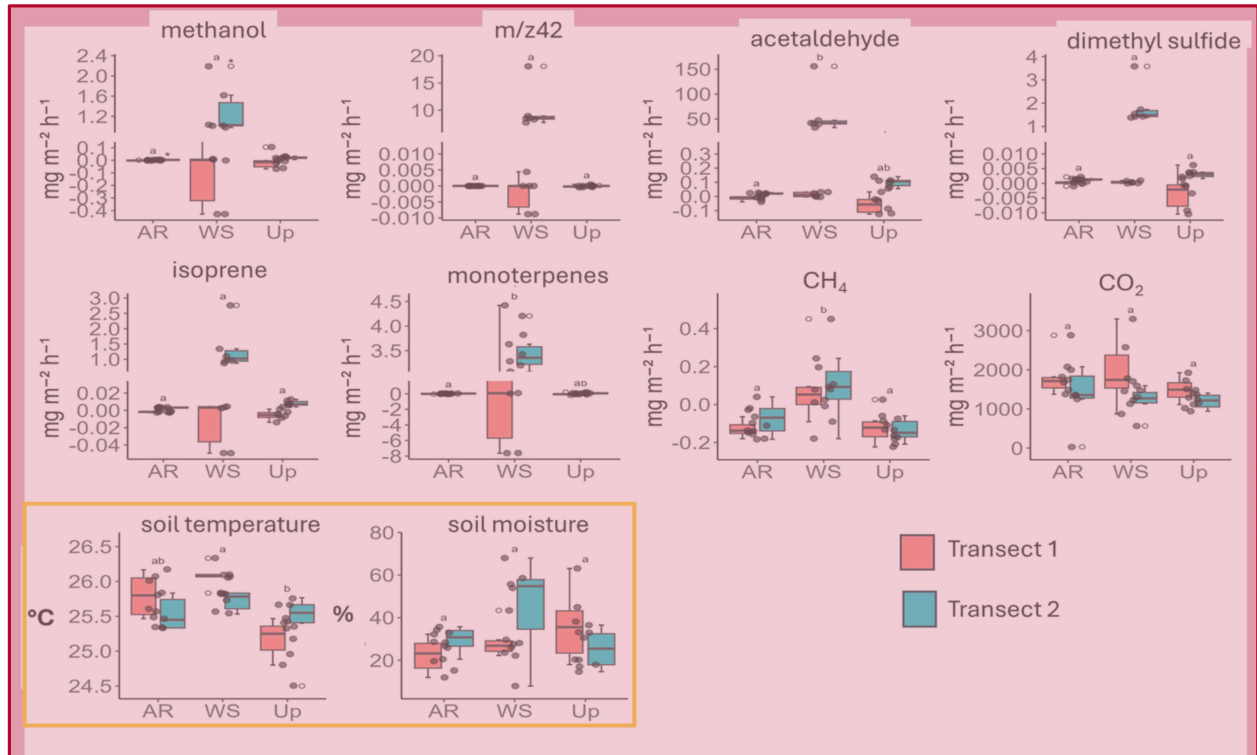
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626

### 627 3.3 Spatial variability within forest types

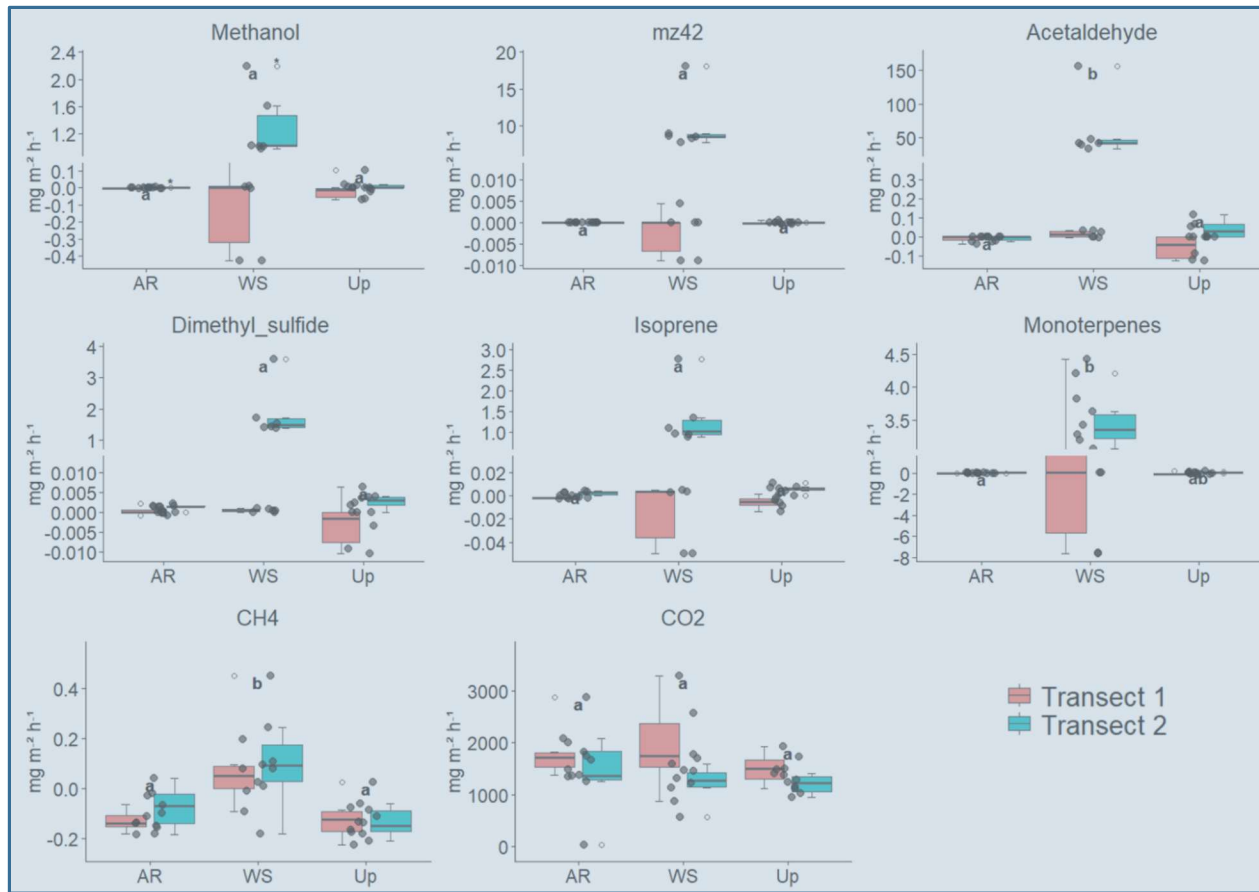
628 Figure 89 shows BVOC and GHG fluxes of each [Transect](#), [Figure 10 shows soil](#)  
629 [temperature and soil moisture of each Transect](#), and [Figure 911](#) illustrates the spatial variability  
630 within and between [Transects](#) ~~effor~~ for isoprene and monoterpenes (see supplementary material,  
631 [Section 8](#); Fig. S8, S9, and S10 for other gases). In the [Ancient River Terrace Forest](#), BVOC  
632 fluxes were generally lower in [Transect 1](#), while GHG fluxes were similar between [Transects](#)  
633 (Fig. 89); ~~The~~ soil temperature was higher in [Transect 1](#), while [Transect 2](#) was slightly wetter  
634 (although not statistically significant). ~~(Fig.10).~~ ~~The~~ [White Sand Forest](#) exhibited the greatest  
635 variation between [Transects](#), with the highest BVOC emissions in [Transect 2](#), and significant  
636 variations in acetaldehyde, m/z 42, ~~dimethyl sulfide~~ [DMS](#), isoprene, and methanol; ~~In addition,~~  
637 monoterpene fluxes showed high variation in emissions and consumption in [Transect 1](#), while  
638 [Transect 2](#) had low variation and high emissions; ~~Furthermore,~~ [and](#) methanol was emitted in  
639 [Transect 1](#) and consumed in [Transect 2](#). In the [Upland Forest](#), significant differences between  
640 [Transects](#) were noted for acetaldehyde, m/z 42, ~~dimethyl sulfide~~ [DMS](#), and isoprene. ~~For the~~  
641 ~~ancient river terrace forest, the gas fluxes between transects were similar with only few variations~~  
642 ~~in GHG fluxes, however significant differences in isoprene fluxes were observed.~~

643



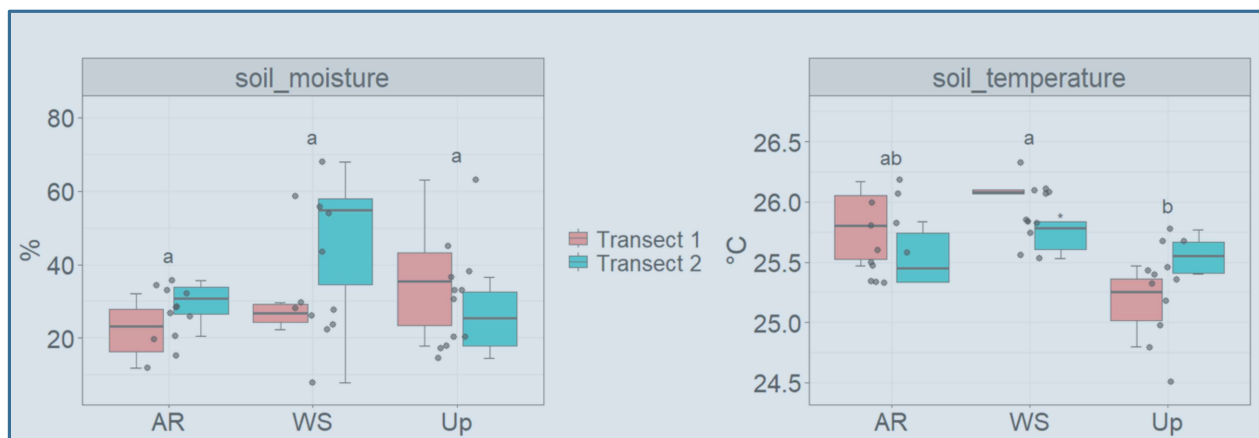
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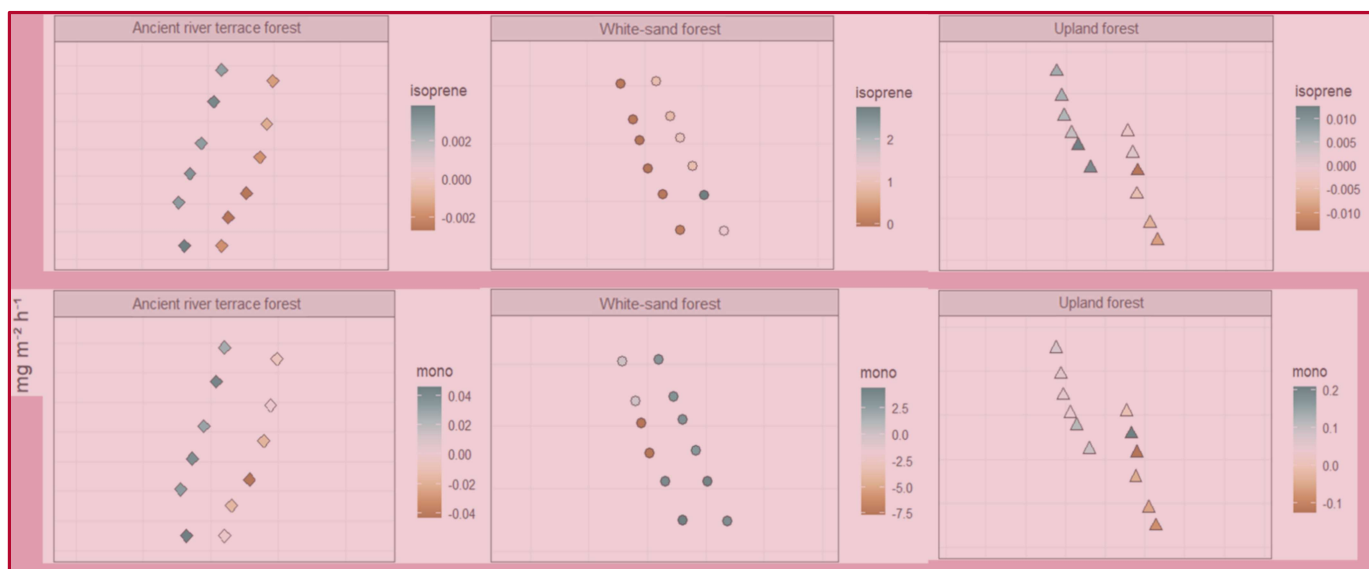
647 **Figure 89.** Soil and litter BVOC and GHG fluxes in each forest type - **a**Ancient **r**River **t**Terrace  
 648 **f**Forest (AR), **w**White **s**Sand **f**Forest (WS), **u**Upland **f**Forest (Up), and **t**Transects within forest  
 649 **t**ypes. Letters indicate statistically significant differences in fluxes between the forest types at  $p <$   
 650  $0.05$ ,  $N=36$  (Kruskal-Wallis test for non-normal data - BVOC and GHG). Boxes show median and  
 651 first and third quartiles, with whiskers and points distinguished at 1.5 times the interquartile range.  
 652 Axes are broken to enhance the visibility of data variation. **The yellow rectangle represents**



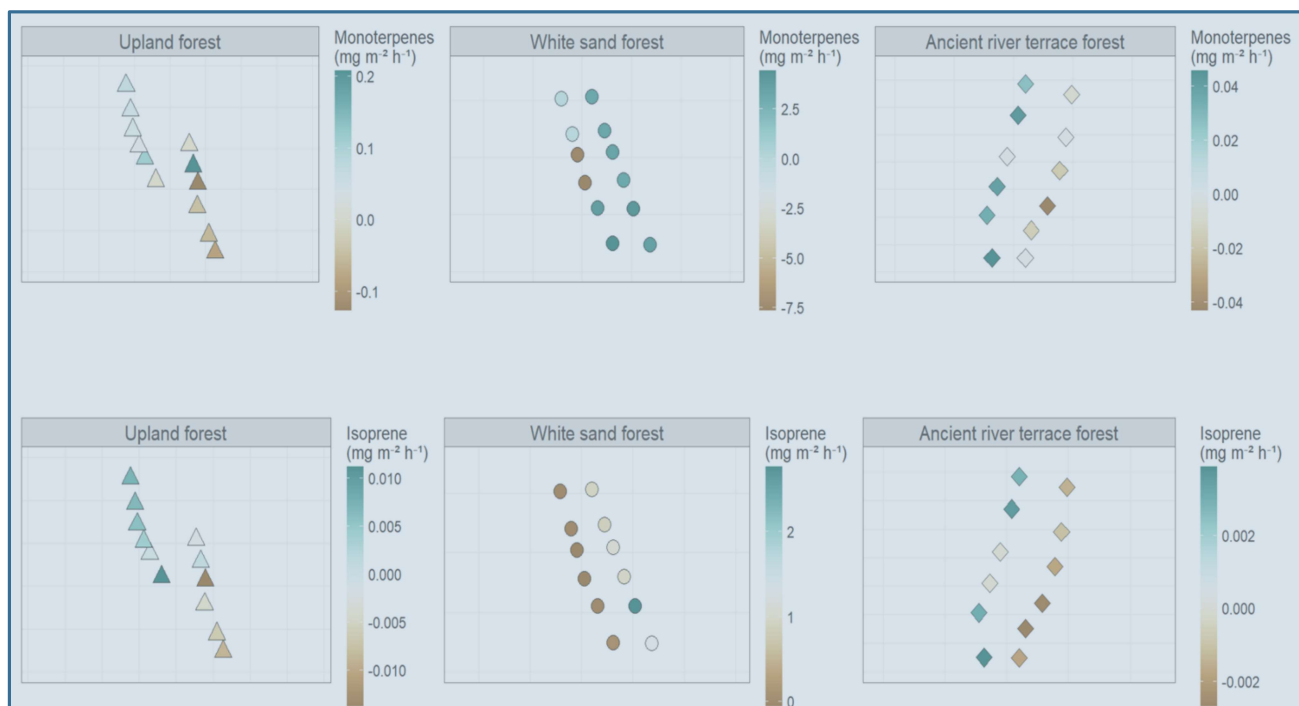
653

654 **Figure 10.** Soil moisture and soil temperature plots in each forest type - Ancient River Terrace  
 655 Forest (AR), White Sand Forest (WS), Upland Forest (Up), and Transects within forest types.  
 656 Letters indicate statistically significant differences in fluxes between the forest types at  $p < 0.05$ ,  
 657  $N=36$  (ANOVA test for normal distribution). Boxes show median and first and third quartiles,  
 658 with whiskers and points distinguished at 1.5 times the interquartile range. Axes are broken to  
 659 enhance the visibility of data variation.

660



661



662

663 **Figure 911.** Map of the sampling points visualizing the spatial heterogeneity of BVOC fluxes in  
664 each of the three forest types. Each ~~€~~Transect, sampled on different but subsequent days, contains  
665 six sampling points, totaling 12 measurement points per forest type. Left - Transect 1; Right -  
666 ~~€~~Transect 2. Mono = Monoterpenes. The gas flux data are expressed in  $\text{mg m}^{-2} \text{h}^{-1}$ .

#### 667 4. Discussion

668 Previous studies investigated ~~ed~~ing tropical soil BVOC fluxes ~~with~~using in-situ  
669 measurements and incubation (Bourtsoukidis et al., 2018) and fertilization experiments (Llusià et  
670 al., 2022). ~~showed that fluxes were~~ ~~These studies gave insights into how BVOC soil fluxes~~  
671 ~~respond to drought and nutrients, and suggested their magnitudes are much~~ higher than previously  
672 ~~anticipated.~~ ~~The present study~~ Although these pioneer studies were very important to understand  
673 soil BVOC fluxes from the tropics, our study took one step further by investigating soil-litter  
674 BVOC and GHG fluxes across Amazonian Forest types. We found that soil-litter BVOC and GHG  
675 fluxes changed across ~~Amazonian~~ forest types and were influenced by differences in nutrient  
676 content, soil moisture and temperature, and microbial biomass. ~~The main differences in soil-litter~~  
677 ~~properties, soil-litter gas fluxes, their interaction with soil-litter properties across forest types, and~~  
678 ~~the significance of our findings are discussed in the following sections.~~

679 Given the extensive number of measured variables, we chose to focus our discussion on  
680 the ~~most relevant and novel findings~~key observations related to BVOC and ~~CH<sub>4</sub>~~methane fluxes  
681 and their drivers, rather than covering all variables and fluxes. However, since these variables may  
682 still be of interest to the reader, detailed analyses are provided in the supplementary material.  
683 (Section 2). In the following sections, we first compare soil-litter properties acrossamong forest  
684 types, followed by a comparison of observed BVOC and GHG fluxes both between forest types  
685 and with other tropical studies. We then discuss their potential drivers and the broader significance  
686 of our findings.

#### 688 4.1 Differences in soil and litter nutrient contents across forest types

689 ~~Soil and litter properties showed strong differences between forest types. The ancient river~~  
690 ~~terrace forest stood out for its high litter K and P contents, though the underlying mechanisms~~

691 ~~such as nutrient resorption efficiency or soil nutrient availability—remain to be investigated.~~  
692 Variations in soil and litter properties were observed among forest types, particularly concerning  
693 their total nutrient contents. These total nutrient pools reflect long-term nutrient availability and  
694 reservoirs within each ecosystem, shaped by distinct biogeochemical processes. In the Ancient  
695 River Terrace Forest, high concentrations of potassium and phosphorus were found in the litter,  
696 suggesting strong nutrient retention and efficient cycling within this forest type. This may result  
697 from its history of periodic flooding and the presence of allisols—relatively young, nutrient-rich  
698 soils (Andreae et al., 2015).

699 In the ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest, the dominance of soil iron total content is likely related to the  
700 intense leaching common in its ferrasols (oxisols), resulting in iron enrichment due to the removal  
701 of other nutrients (Mosquera et al., 2024); ~~in~~In addition, the formation of iron oxides can reduces  
702 the mineralization of organic matter, promoting iron accumulation in the leaf litter (Li et al., 2023).

703 ~~Overall, t~~The ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest ~~exhibited distinct~~showed differences in soil properties  
704 when compared to the other ~~studied~~ forest types analyzed. Despite its well-documented low  
705 fertility (Mendonça et al., 2015; Demarchi et al., 2022) and arenosol characteristics, this forest  
706 type ~~showed~~displayed unexpectedly high soil ~~nutrient~~phosphorus and carbon total concentrations.  
707 Phosphorus ~~levels~~total concentrations, for instance, were up to four times higher than in ~~u~~Upland  
708 and ~~a~~Ancient ~~r~~River ~~t~~Terrace ~~f~~Forests; ~~potentially due to~~This observation may possibly reflect the  
709 role of dissolved organic nutrients in mitigating nutrient limitations (Lange et al., 2024); ~~While~~  
710 ~~earlier studies reported higher carbon content in upland forests (Marques et al., 2017), the white~~  
711 ~~sand~~or the efficient capture and retention of nutrients within the forest's extensive root mats,  
712 ~~may~~which can enhance carbon storage; ~~as observed~~and nutrient cycling in structurally analogous  
713 ecosystems (Draper et al., 2014). ~~Iron~~ Furthermore, iron total concentrations in the soil of ~~white~~  
714 ~~sand~~this forest were lower than expected (Cornu et al., 1997), possibly ~~due~~attributed to spatial  
715 variability and seasonal dynamics. During the dry season, the low water-~~retention~~ ~~in~~capacity of  
716 sandy soils ~~induces~~leads to drought stress, ~~while~~whereas in the wet- season, leaching redistributes  
717 iron, aluminum, and magnesium (García-Villacorta et al., 2016); ~~This—~~ a process that can form  
718 cemented horizons, impeding drainage and elevating water tables (Franco & Dezzio, 1994;  
719 Demarchi et al., 2022). ~~Additionally, differences in~~Variable iron concentrations, together with  
720 wet-season leaching and elemental redistribution, shape the White Sand Forest into a highly

721 distinct environment. In addition, tree species composition ~~between forest types may~~ could play a  
722 role in influencing nutrient levels/stocks in this forest type (García-Villacorta et al., 2016; Gomes  
723 Alves et al., 2022).

724

## 725 **4.2 Differences in gGas fFluxes across ~~the different forest types~~Forest Types**

726 Here, by comparing forest type fluxes, it is important to recognize that our chamber  
727 measurements represent the combined (net) flux from both soil and litter. Observed differences  
728 between sites may therefore reflect variations in the relative contributions of soil and litter, for  
729 example, due to different amounts of litter. Because our measurements do not allow us to separate  
730 these sources, we cannot determine to what extent the observed differences are attributable to each  
731 component. Consequently, we treat soil and litter together as a single compartment in our analysis,  
732 and discuss the differences in soil-litter gas fluxes across forest types.

733 ~~Our results revealed that~~ The wWhite sSand fForest ~~showed~~exhibited the highest

734 emissions and consumption of gasesBVOCs and GHGs, accompanied by the greatest chemical

735 diversity in gas fluxes. ~~This elevated chemical diversity may be attributed to the distinct~~  
736 ~~characteristics of the white sand forest, such as its unique microbiome, seasonality, and species~~  
737 ~~composition (Rinnan et al., 2013; Viros et al., 2021; Vermeuel et al., 2023).~~ Plant Sspecies endemic  
738 to this ecosystem may influence BVOC emission patterns and their chemical speciation. Fine et  
739 al. (2004, 2006) showed that tree species adapted to very nutrient-poor sandy soils highly invest  
740 in secondary metabolite compounds in defense against herbivory, since leaves are very  
741 energetically costly for the plant. This large quantity of secondary compounds can directly  
742 influence litter decomposition rate (Chomel et al., 2016) and probably release gases and various  
743 compounds into the soil and water (Caetano, 2022).

744 Isoprenoids were emitted in considerable amounts in the ~~w~~WWhite ~~s~~SSand ~~f~~FForest. As  
745 isoprenoids are not expected to be emitted from soil (Bach & Rohmer, 2013; Asensio et al., 2008),  
746 the observed high emissions ~~could be attributed to~~ might indicate contributions from the activity of  
747 microorganisms living in the soil and litter (Carruthers & Lee, 2021; Hernandez-Arranz et al.,  
748 2019). In addition, it is important to note that, although emissions in this study are expected to

749 come from soil and litter, the contribution of root emissions cannot be ruled out, as the main source  
750 of isoprenoids is expected to be the plant metabolism (Pulido et al., 2012; Thulasiram et al., 2007).

751 A previous study on experimental rainforest soils - similar to ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest soils -  
752 showed BVOC soil uptake (under wet conditions) primarily for isoprenoids, carbonyls, and  
753 alcohols, as well as soil emissions of ~~dimethyl sulfide~~DMS and carbonyl compounds such as  
754 acetaldehyde and acetone (Pugliese et al., 2023). Our ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest isoprene fluxes exhibited  
755 lower soil uptake (~~-0.10.005~~ mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) compared to the increased uptake fluxes under drier  
756 conditions (~ -2.38 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) observed by Pugliese et al. (2023). This lower isoprene uptake by  
757 the soil observed in the Upland Forest likely reflects the combined effects of the amount of plant-  
758 emitted isoprene diffusing into the soil and the subsequent microbial assimilation and soil physical  
759 adsorption. These processes are strongly influenced by forest structural attributes and underlying  
760 soil properties, which are likely different between this study and Pugliese et al. (2023).  
761 Additionally, the higher atmospheric isoprene concentrations reported by Pugliese et al. (2023),  
762 compared with those in this study may help explain the greater soil isoprene uptake observed in  
763 their work.

764 In general, our ~~u~~Upland and ~~a~~Ancient ~~r~~River ~~t~~Terrace ~~f~~Forests showed lower average  
765 emissions and uptake than those reported by Pugliese et al. (2023). ~~This could also be due to a~~  
766 ~~greater observed abundance of atmospheric isoprene as described in Pugliese et al. (2023), leading~~  
767 ~~to a larger uptake.~~ A study focusing on methanol fluxes in cropland soils observed values ranging  
768 from 0.53 to 2.93 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> (Liu et al., 2024), which are higher than those observed in ~~the~~  
769 ~~currentour~~ study in ~~u~~Upland and ~~a~~Ancient ~~r~~River ~~t~~Terrace ~~f~~Forests but ~~interestingly~~  
770 ~~similarcomparable~~ to the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest fluxes (~~1.50.61 ± 0.81~~ mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>). These higher  
771 emissions in crop soils can likely be attributed to factors such as crop species, tillage, fertilization,  
772 and irrigation, which can all influence BVOC emission rates; whereas the high methanol emission  
773 observed in our study could be related to the root growth of ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest's extensive root  
774 mats, (although future studies are necessary to confirm this hypothesis). ~~Dimethyl sulfide emission~~  
775 ~~fluxes were highest~~

776 The highest DMS emissions were observed in the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest (~ ~~0.921.10 ± 1.14~~  
777 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>), which were higher than the DMS emission of 5.76 μg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> reported by Jardine et

778 al. (2015) for Amazon soils; ~~h~~However, while an interesting observation, it is important to note  
779 that the high magnitude of DMS fluxes presented here might ~~be influenced~~partly be caused by a  
780 potential agglomerate of acetaldehyde (mass 45) with water, resulting in the same mass as DMS  
781 (63), suggesting that future studies ~~esh~~ould make use of techniques that differentiate these  
782 compounds.

783 A compound with a mass-to-charge ratio (m/z) of 42 was observed in the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand  
784 ~~f~~Forest, but its identity could not be confirmed due to technical limitations (Dunne et al., 2012).  
785 This m/z 42 is frequently attributed to acetonitrile, a known biomass burning marker primarily  
786 associated with anthropogenic sources (Huangfu et al., 2021). However, since it can also be  
787 emitted by microorganisms (Raio et al., 2020), it is possible that the microbial communities of the  
788 ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest contributed to potential acetonitrile (m/z 42) -emissions.

789 Methane uptake was observed in the ~~u~~Upland (-0.12 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) and ~~a~~Ancient ~~r~~River  
790 ~~t~~Terrace Forests (-0.10 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) ~~forests~~, whereas emissions were observed in the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand  
791 ~~f~~Forest (0.12 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>). ~~These results are probably explained by the shallow water table~~  
792 ~~characteristic of this forest type, which makes the soil saturated and creates an anaerobic~~  
793 ~~environment that favors the growth of methane-producing microorganisms (methanogens),~~  
794 ~~contributing to the observed high emissions.~~ In another central Amazonia site, ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest  
795 methane fluxes of similar magnitude were observed (-0.02 to -0.09 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) (van Asperen et  
796 al., 2020). However, the discrepancy in ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest fluxes, with uptake reported  
797 ~~study showed uptake instead of emission (-0.38 to -0.25 mg m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>). This difference is probably~~  
798 ~~explained by the natural variations across~~and emissions observed here, can likely be attributed to  
799 the high spatial variability characteristic of white sand forest ecosystems, ~~especially concerning~~  
800 ~~water table depth (Franco & Dezzeo, 1994; Demarchi et al., 2022).~~

801

## 802 **4.3 General Drivers of Soil and Litter Gas Fluxes**

### 803 **4.3.1 Soil moisture and soil temperature as drivers of soil ~~and~~ litter gas fluxes**

804 ~~A principal component analysis (PCA) was performed~~A PCA was initially conducted to  
805 identify variables that ~~could collectively~~might differentiate forest types and their gas fluxes. ~~As~~

806 ~~the PCA showed a limited capacity for differentiation~~ However, due to the overlapping ellipses, a  
807 ~~further investigation was carried out using~~ and limited discrimination capacity, linear models  
808 ~~(LMs) were applied to further explore the findings. The LMs showed that~~ These models  
809 highlighted soil temperature and ~~soil moisture were important~~ as key physical drivers ~~for~~ across all  
810 three forest types, ~~especially for the white sand forest~~. aligning with observations in other  
811 ecosystems (Trowbridge et al., 2020; Pugliese et al., 2023; Liu et al., 2024).

812 Nevertheless, before evaluating these key drivers, it is important to recognize that external  
813 factors inevitably influenced soil moisture and temperature. Although transects were consistently  
814 measured at the same time (08:00–10:00 local time), they were conducted on consecutive days  
815 under varying weather conditions. In addition, while radiation was not quantified during the  
816 campaign, its effects should be considered. Despite the use of opaque chambers, the chamber  
817 surrounding environment - and thus the prevailing BVOC flux dynamics - may still be modulated  
818 by incoming radiation. ~~Since the white sand forest presents a relatively~~ These factors are  
819 particularly important in the White Sand Forest, where the open canopy, with shorter trees stature,  
820 and a shallow water table (Adeney et al., 2016; Rossetti et al., 2019); ~~it often experiences extreme~~  
821 ~~conditions and short-term variation, as demonstrated by the highly variable~~ promote highly  
822 dynamic conditions, reflected in the strong variability of soil temperature and ~~soil moisture values~~  
823 ~~measured over two transects, in two subsequent days.~~ moisture between consecutive transects.  
824 ~~Here, we discuss the role of soil temperature and moisture, and other potential drivers of gas~~  
825 ~~fluxes.~~ While on one hand these factors represent a limitation, it also allowed us to explore the  
826 influence of external factors on gas fluxes within the same forest type, such as the rain event which  
827 will be discussed hereafter.

#### 828 ~~4.3.1 Soil moisture and soil temperature as drivers of soil and litter gas fluxes~~

829 In addition to the complicating external factors, we should also note that high soil moisture  
830 values were generally accompanied by lower soil temperatures, thereby complicating separating  
831 individual drivers. A similar pattern was observed by van Asperen et al., (2024) who showed that  
832 the direct effects of temperature and moisture are difficult to differentiate under tropical field  
833 conditions, where temperature variation is usually small. Furthermore, it should be noted that this  
834 study is additionally limited by a small temporal dataset. Thus, although some BVOC fluxes

835 showed a positive association with soil moisture and a negative association with soil temperature,  
836 distinguishing the primary driver remains difficult. Nevertheless, despite the limitations described  
837 above, we discuss the expected effects of soil moisture and temperature on our fluxes below.

838 We observed a negative relationship between temperature and certain BVOC fluxes, but  
839 we interpret this as an indirect effect mediated by the previously described link to soil moisture.  
840 In general, elevated temperatures are expected to enhance both BVOC emissions and biological  
841 uptake, as described by Baggesen et al. (2022). If the temperature sensitivity of uptake exceeds  
842 that of emission, this may result in reduced net emissions or even a net sink for BVOCs (Asensio  
843 et al., 2007; Peñuelas et al., 2014; Jiao et al., 2023).

844 ~~Soil temperature and moisture were significant drivers for most gases, especially in the~~  
845 ~~white sand forest, which agrees with what has been observed in other ecosystems (Trowbridge et~~  
846 ~~al., 2020; Pugliese et al., 2023; Liu et al., 2024).~~For soil moisture, we found a clear relation with  
847 most of BVOC fluxes, especially for the White Sand Forest. For example,The effects of moisture  
848 on BVOC fluxes were also described by Pugliese et al. (2023) observed who reported that rainforest  
849 soils acted as net BVOC sinks under moist conditions and as net BVOC sources under dry  
850 conditions. ~~By comparing two transects in~~In the uUpland fForest, we observed a similar pattern as  
851 Pugliese et al (2023), with the wetter tTransect showing BVOC consumption while the drier  
852 tTransect showed emissions. However, in tThe wWhite sSand fForest, showed even stronger inter-  
853 Transect differences, with high BVOC emissions were observed in the wetter tTransect, whileand  
854 low emissions and uptake were observed in the drier tTransect. This ~~shows that Amazonian soil~~  
855 ~~emissions may respond differently to soil moisture depending on the soil and forest~~  
856 ~~type.~~pronounced differences between these Transects suggest that the rainfall event preceding  
857 Transect 2 was an important driver of the observed variation. Interestingly, ~~soil moisture was~~  
858 ~~shown to be a predictor for methane for all three forest types, suggesting a general mechanism~~  
859 ~~influencing methane fluxes regardless of the forest type, and in agreement with several studies~~  
860 ~~showing the relationship between methane flux and soil moisture (Bridgham et al., 2013; Conrad,~~  
861 ~~2009; Shah et al., 2024; Van Den Pol-van Dasselaar et al., 1998).~~ A similar hypothesis was posed  
862 by Bourtsoukidis et al. (2018), who also observed that sesquiterpene emissions from Upland Forest  
863 soils in the dry season (after a rain event) were comparable to those from vegetation. In addition  
864 to increasing soil moisture, the physical impact of rainfall may trigger short-term emission bursts

865 (Miyama et al., 2020). As we observed substantially high isoprene, monoterpenes, and  
866 acetaldehyde emissions in †Transect 2 of the wWhite sSand †Forest, we argue that these observed  
867 BVOC emissions represent a burst induced by the preceding rainfall event., sSimilar observations  
868 have been reported by Greenberg et al.,(2012), who observed increased BVOC emissions during  
869 and immediately after rainfall in a Ponderosa pine plantation, and by Jardine et al. (2015), who  
870 reported a peak in soil DMS emissions following rainfall.

871 ~~Generally, BVOC fluxes exhibited a positive correlation with soil moisture and an inverse~~  
872 ~~relationship with soil temperature. However, since high soil moisture often coincides with low~~  
873 ~~temperatures, it remains challenging to ascertain whether low temperatures or high moisture levels~~  
874 ~~drive increased fluxes under field conditions. This complexity is particularly relevant given that~~  
875 ~~BVOC uptake and emission are closely tied to biological processes, which typically correlate~~  
876 ~~positively with temperature. High temperatures can enhance BVOC emissions and, at the same~~  
877 ~~time, stimulate biological uptake (Baggesen et al., 2022). Notably, biological uptake may respond~~  
878 ~~more vigorously to elevated temperatures than biological BVOC emission, potentially resulting in~~  
879 ~~lower net emissions or even uptake (Penuelas et al., 2014; Jiao et al., 2023). However, as this study~~  
880 ~~was based on field measurements, wherein soil moisture and temperature are intertwined, it is not~~  
881 ~~possible to disentangle their combined effects.~~

882 Overall, we hypothesize that the rainfall event induced an emission burst, mostly  
883 explaining the elevated BVOC fluxes observed in that transect. Nevertheless, interactions between  
884 soil temperature, soil moisture, and BVOC fluxes remain highly complex across heterogeneous  
885 forest types, with external drivers contributing to strong spatial and temporal variability and  
886 making their combined effects difficult to separate under natural field conditions.

887

#### 888 **4.3.2 Forest †Type-specific Drivers of Soil-litter Gas Fluxes**

889 We observed that drivers of soil and litter gas fluxes varied across forest types, reflecting  
890 their unique environmental conditions and nutrient dynamics.

891 In general, aAncient †River †Terrace and uUpland †Forests showed many similarities in  
892 the predictors of certain gases., In-contrast,while other drivers were found infor the wWhite sSand

893 ~~fForest~~. Here, we ~~discuss the observed key drivers (soil potassium, carbon, phosphorus and focus~~  
894 ~~on the key factors influencing gas fluxes: soil nutrients, microbial biomass), for each forest type.~~  
895 and their interactions with environmental conditions.

896 ~~For ancient river terrace and upland forests,~~ Soil potassium was found to be a significant  
897 factor influencing ~~soil~~Ancient River Terrace and Upland Forest fluxes, being identified as a  
898 predictor of methanol and monoterpenes. In addition, it was also identified as a predictor of m/z  
899 42 fluxes in the ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest. Although we ~~have~~did not ~~find~~find studies directly relating BVOCs  
900 and GHGs fluxes to soil potassium content, potassium is an essential macronutrient for plant  
901 growth and metabolism. Its availability ~~can~~is known to affect plant physiological processes (Wang  
902 et al., 2013), and its cycling within the soil environment, often mediated by microbial activity,  
903 influences potassium's uptake by plants (Mazahar & Umar, 2022), ~~which~~These plant- and soil-  
904 mediated processes can, in turn, ~~can~~indirectly influence the BVOC production and release  
905 observed within the soil-litter compartment of our study, by affecting the overall ecosystem health  
906 and the quality of organic matter available for decomposition.

907 In the ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest, our methane consumption fluxes correlated well with soil carbon  
908 (in conjunction with soil moisture, as mentioned previously). Soil organic carbon is known to play  
909 an important role in supporting methanotrophic bacteria, which are responsible for methane  
910 oxidation (Lee et al., 2023); therefore, we suggest that the total soil carbon observed in our study  
911 might affect methane uptake through a similar process.

912 Phosphorus, like carbon, is a key nutrient in the soil and significantly affected BVOC soil-  
913 litter fluxes, especially for methanol in the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest. The relationship between  
914 phosphorus and BVOC emissions is well documented for plants since the availability of  
915 phosphorus can influence the production and emission of BVOCs (Ndah et al., 2022). However,  
916 some fertilization studies have also shown that increasing soil nutrient status (nitrogen,  
917 phosphorus, and potassium) can modify pH levels, affecting microorganisms and their health state  
918 (Stotzky et al., 1976), ~~and~~which directly or indirectly promotes or inhibits soil BVOC fluxes  
919 (Liu et al., 2024; Raza et al., 2017). Our findings with bi-directional soil-litter fluxes in the ~~w~~White  
920 ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest are consistent with ~~this observation~~these previous studies showing increase or  
921 inhibition of soil BVOC fluxes with soil nutrient content.

922 Interestingly, our results suggested that lower phosphorus levels were associated with  
923 higher isoprene emissions. The mechanisms behind this relationship remain unclear. However,  
924 [studies on soil fertilization in tropical forests by](#) Llusà et al., (2022) found that phosphorus  
925 fertilization is less efficient than nitrogen fertilization in increasing monoterpene and sesquiterpene  
926 emissions (they did not find isoprene emissions) ~~in a tropical forest~~. They observed that emissions  
927 increased when the soil was fertilized only with nitrogen— - consistent with a phosphorus-limited  
928 system— - because excess nitrogen stimulates the enzymes responsible for producing  
929 monoterpenes and sesquiterpenes. Conversely, the addition of phosphorus likely redirected this  
930 nutrient toward plant growth, resulting in lower emissions of monoterpenes and sesquiterpenes in  
931 the phosphorus-fertilized plots compared to those fertilized with nitrogen. As in this study, there  
932 was no fertilization or a controlled environment, ~~so we can not~~ draw similar conclusions. However,  
933 our findings provide valuable insights into the possible interactions between phosphorus, nitrogen,  
934 and soil-litter BVOC fluxes in tropical ecosystems. These observations align with previous studies  
935 on the influence of soil nutrients (Liu et al., 2024; Llusà et al., 2022) and we suggest future soil  
936 fertilization studies to explore these relationships across soil and forest types in Amazonia.

937 For the ~~u~~Upland ~~f~~Forest, it was found that microbial biomass was a significant driver for  
938 almost all ~~gas~~soil-litter fluxes, except for isoprene and methane. This aligns with previous studies  
939 that have identified microbial biomass as an important driver for soil-litter gas fluxes (Leff &  
940 Fierer, 2008; ~~Lamers et al., 2013~~; Mancuso et al., 2015; ~~Carrion et al., 2017~~; Tang et al., 2019).  
941 For example, [research on soil organic matter degradation by](#) Lehnert et al. (2023~~4~~) demonstrated  
942 that ~~the degradation of organic matter~~it is an important source of DMS emissions, highlighting the  
943 role of microorganisms associated with decomposition. Jardine et al., (2015) point out that DMS  
944 emissions in Amazonian soils are related to microbial processes, ~~which was a~~ relationship also  
945 reported [in litter studies](#) by Kesselmeier and Hubert (2002). DMS can be produced in anaerobic  
946 environments, such as saturated soils or lakes (~~Carrion et al., 2017~~; Lehnert et al., 2023~~4~~). This  
947 may explain the high emissions observed in transect 2 (wetter and more saturated) of the ~~w~~White  
948 ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest, where conditions favorable to anaerobic processes are common and frequently  
949 linked to the production of sulfur compounds such as DMS. In contrast, in the drier transect 1 of  
950 the upland forest, DMS consumption was observed, suggesting the occurrence of microbial uptake  
951 processes. ~~Previous studies, such as the one carried out by Eyice et al.~~[In fact, another study has](#)  
952 ~~(2015), have~~ shown that bacteria can consume carbon from DMS as an energy source [in soil and](#)

953 [lake sediments \(Eyice et al., 2015\)](#). Therefore, the observed uptake may be the result of  
954 microorganisms utilizing the carbon present in DMS as an energy source, leading to uptake rather  
955 than production. This dual role of microorganisms - as both producers and consumers of DMS -  
956 highlights the complexity of sulfur cycling in terrestrial ecosystems.

957 ~~From the few~~ [Based on the limited number of](#) studies investigating the relationship between  
958 microorganisms and BVOC dynamics, it has been shown that some Proteobacteria, Actinobacteria,  
959 and Firmicutes can produce isoprene (Kuzma et al., 1995; McGenity et al., 2018). *Bacillus subtilis*  
960 can produce isoprene in response to stress; however, the mechanism is still not clear (McGenity et  
961 al., 2018). Some studies have shown that reduced ~~soil~~-microbial diversity, [whether in soil \(Abis et](#)  
962 [al., 2020; Saunier et al., 2020; Sillo et al., 2024\)](#) or associated with plant surfaces (Saunier et al.,  
963 [2020](#)), can increase BVOC fluxes and alter the chemical composition of emitted compounds (~~Abis~~  
964 ~~et al., 2020; Saunier et al., 2020; Sillo et al., 2024~~). Although microbial community data were  
965 unavailable in this study, we suggest that potential differences in microbial diversity have  
966 influenced emission and consumption patterns. Therefore, we strongly recommend that future  
967 studies investigate gas flux measurements with microbial community analyses to better understand  
968 these dynamics.

#### 969 ~~4.4. Spatial and temporal variability effects on BVOC fluxes~~

970 ~~While efforts were made in this study to minimize the effects of spatial variability, such as by~~  
971 ~~measuring equidistant points and selecting homogeneous areas, it is important to consider that~~  
972 ~~spatial variability still inevitably influenced our results, as observed in other studies (Durán &~~  
973 ~~Delgado-Baquerizo, 2020). With respect to temporal variability, the transects were measured at~~  
974 ~~the same time (08:00–10:00 am, local time) but on consecutive days, so differences in gas fluxes,~~  
975 ~~soil moisture, and temperature may partly reflect external factors like prior precipitation,~~  
976 ~~cloudiness, and air temperature changes. Just before the measurement of transect 2 at the white~~  
977 ~~sand forest, a heavy rainfall occurred. This coincides with the observation of significantly high~~  
978 ~~BVOC emissions in this transect, while transect 1 showed much lower emissions and more uptake.~~  
979 ~~Bourtsoukidis et al., (2018) also found that sesquiterpenes emissions from upland forest soils in~~  
980 ~~the dry season (after a rain event) were comparable to those from vegetation, suggesting that soil~~  
981 ~~moisture is a crucial factor influencing sesquiterpenes emissions from Amazonian soils. As we~~

982 ~~observed substantially high isoprene, monoterpenes and acetaldehyde emissions in transect 2 of~~  
983 ~~the white sand forest, we argue that these observed BVOC emissions represent a burst induced by~~  
984 ~~the preceding rainfall event, similar to the observed increase in BVOC emissions during and~~  
985 ~~immediately after rainfall in a *Ponderosa pine* plantation (Greenberg et al., 2012). Likewise,~~  
986 ~~Jardine et al., (2016) observed a peak in DMS soil emissions after rainfall. Therefore, higher~~  
987 ~~emissions are expected to result from the interlinked effects of soil temperature and moisture and,~~  
988 ~~as described above, the possible physical effects of rainfall (Miyama et al., 2020).~~

#### 989 **4.5 The relevance of wWhite sSand fForest ecosystems**

990 This study showed large variability across forest types and unexpectedly high BVOC  
991 emissions from the wWhite sSand fForest. In general, Rrelatively few studies have been performed  
992 on wWhite sSand fForests, which canis partly be explained by the challenging conditions of this  
993 forest type, such as flooding and extreme temperatures, ~~which require specific infrastructure for~~  
994 ~~data collection~~ (Adeney et al., 2016). In addition, the ~~complex nature of this ecosystem --~~  
995 ~~characterized by~~ scattered patches of differentiated vegetation distributed within extensive  
996 uUpland fForests (Demarchi et al., 2022) ~~– can make access to these sites even more difficult, and~~  
997 require specific infrastructure for data collection. While our observations constitute one of the first  
998 characterizations of BVOCs in this unique forest type, their capacity to capture the full spectrum  
999 of extreme conditions is inevitably limited by the short temporal coverage of the dataset. It is  
1000 ~~acknowledged that BVOC and GHG studies in white sand forests are limited: so far~~ To the best of  
1001 our knowledge, only one study has provided data on BVOC fluxes with soil incubation lab  
1002 measurements (Bourtsoukidis et al., 2018), and another measuring GHGs in-situ (van Asperen et  
1003 al., 2020) in White Sand Forests. Despite representing only 5% of the Amazon basin area (Adeney  
1004 et al., 2016) and 8% of the Reserve of this study (Demarchi et al., 2022), wWhite sSand fForests  
1005 are extremely important environments. Their sandy, nutrient-poor soil type has created a  
1006 challenging ecosystem for plant growth (Fine & Baraloto, 2016), and this unique condition has  
1007 selected specialized flora and fauna adapted to thrive in these ecosystems (Adeney et al., 2016;  
1008 Demarchi et al., 2022). This high level of endemism contributes significantly to the overall  
1009 biodiversity of the Amazon Basin (García-Villacorta et al. 2016). Moreover, wWhite sSand  
1010 fForests have been shown to play a crucial role in the chemistry of dissolved organic matter (DOM)  
1011 in Amazonian blackwater rivers, linking terrestrial ecosystem processes to aquatic

1012 biogeochemistry (Simon et al., 2021). Our results ~~showed that~~ suggest a stronger link between  
1013 ~~wWhite sSand fForest~~ gas fluxes ~~clearly depend on and~~ physical ~~drivers~~ factors (more than other  
1014 forest types), which indicates a possible sensitivity to upcoming climate extremes. Although Costa  
1015 et al. (2023) did not focus specifically on the ~~wWhite sSand fForest~~, they showed that regions of  
1016 the Amazon with shallow water tables— ~~-~~ such as the ~~wWhite sSand forest—~~ Forests - can act as  
1017 hydrological refuges during droughts. In these areas, higher productivity under dry conditions may  
1018 ~~help offset~~ maintain relatively stable carbon dynamics, presenting a contrasting response to the  
1019 substantial carbon losses typically observed in deep water table— ~~U(upland)~~ fForests, during  
1020 drought. ~~Therefore, it is crucial to recognize that white sand forests have historically been~~  
1021 ~~neglected, even with their critical role in regulating the carbon cycle and maintaining Amazonian~~  
1022 ~~biodiversity (Rossetti et al., 2019). As for BVOC and GHG measurements, even less information~~  
1023 ~~is available for this ecosystem. However, our results suggest that white sand forests may play a~~  
1024 ~~significant role in both the emission and uptake of these compounds, reinforcing their importance~~  
1025 ~~in regional carbon and trace gas fluxes.~~ In addition ~~Notably~~, a recent study reported high  
1026 atmospheric isoprene concentrations in the northwestern Amazon throughout most of the year  
1027 (Wells et al., 2022) — ~~-~~ a region characterized by extensive and continuous ~~wWhite sSand fForest~~  
1028 cover (Borges et al., 2014). In this context, as White Sand Forests play a critical role in regulating  
1029 the carbon cycle and maintaining Amazonian biodiversity (Rossetti et al., 2019), our results study  
1030 suggest that wWhite sSand fForests may play a represent significant source and sink of BVOCs,  
1031 T ~~together, these findings~~ this highlights the need to better integrate ~~wWhite sSand fForests~~ into  
1032 future BVOC and GHG flux studies and ~~atmospheric~~ Earth System modeling.

## 1033 5. Summary and future directions

1034 Multiple interconnected factors influence BVOC and GHG soil-litter fluxes in the central  
1035 Amazon. This study highlights the significant roles of soil and litter properties, as well as microbial  
1036 biomass, in driving these fluxes, with distinct patterns observed across forest types. Given the  
1037 complexity of the mechanisms influencing BVOC and GHG ~~emissions~~ fluxes, future studies should  
1038 prioritize microbial activity and diversity, along with diurnal and seasonal cycles, to better identify  
1039 the key drivers of ~~emissions~~ and consumption in these diverse forest ecosystems.

1040 In addition, it is important to note that this research serves as a pilot study aimed at  
1041 scoping out general trends, and many sampling issues can be addressed in future work. For  
1042 instance, utilizing a PTR-ToF-MS could alleviate the challenges associated with measuring  
1043 acetaldehyde, DMS and m/z 42. Longer sampling periods, ideally continuous, would allow for  
1044 capturing daily variations in emissions.

1045 Surprisingly, despite being the least fertile and diverse forest type, the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand  
1046 ~~f~~Forest exhibited the highest uptake and emission fluxes. This is likely due to intrinsic  
1047 environmental factors, such as soil temperature and moisture, influencing microbial activity and  
1048 gas fluxes, as well as ~~the unique vegetation composition of the white sand forest~~this ecosystem.  
1049 Furthermore, external factors, ~~like~~such as the preceding rainfall event, ~~could~~may have contributed  
1050 to ~~the observed~~very high emissions, potentially reflecting short-term post-rainfall pulses that  
1051 would have a low or moderated effect when averaged over longer periods that capture the full  
1052 range of environmental conditions in these ecosystems. Therefore, future studies extending the  
1053 measurement duration would provide a clearer understanding of how rainfall events influence  
1054 average soil BVOC emissions. ~~The exceptionally high emissions observed in the white sand forest~~  
1055 ~~may reflect short-term bursts following rainfall, which could be moderated when averaging over~~  
1056 ~~longer periods that capture the full range of environmental conditions in these ecosystems. Still,~~  
1057 ~~white sand forests may serve as BVOC emission hotspots after rain events, potentially becoming~~  
1058 ~~even more significant under climate change. Finally, D~~despite their limited area, they could have  
1059 substantial ecological and atmospheric impacts.spatial extent in Amazonia, White Sand Forests  
1060 warrant ~~We encourage~~ further research ~~into this ecosystem to better understand its~~ to elucidate  
1061 their ecological processes and ~~role in~~their influence on atmospheric dynamics, ~~as forest~~Their high  
1062 BVOC fluxes influencemay substantially affect key physical and chemical processes in the  
1063 atmosphere, ~~ultimately affecting~~with potential implications for the climate system.

#### 1064 **Code/Data availability**

1065 All data supporting the findings of this study will be made available in a public repository upon  
1066 publication.

#### 1067 **Authors' contributions**

1068 Débora Pinheiro Oliveira, Hella van Asperen, and Eliane Gomes Alves contributed to the  
1069 development and design of the study, as well as the collection, processing, and statistical analysis  
1070 of the datasets. Murielli Garcia Caetano and Michelle Robin contributed to field data collection  
1071 and data analysis. Achim Edtbauer helped design the methodology used in the PTR-QMS and  
1072 contributed to its calibration improvement. Nora Zannoni, Joseph Byron, Jonathan Williams,  
1073 Sergio Duvoisin-Junior, and Carla Batista contributed to the chemical analysis of BVOC samples  
1074 with the GC-TOF-MS and GC-MS. Layon Demarchi and Maria T. F. Piedade contributed to the  
1075 data analysis of the ~~w~~White ~~s~~Sand ~~f~~Forest. Maria T. F. Piedade, Jochen Schöngart, and Florian  
1076 Wittmann contributed to the dataset for the initial selection of the points in the PELD-MAUA  
1077 project plots where the soil chambers were installed. Rodrigo Augusto Ferreira de Souza  
1078 contributed to the development of the study. All authors contributed to the writing of the  
1079 manuscript.

#### 1080 **Competing interests**

1081 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

#### 1082 **Acknowledgments**

1083 We thank the National Institute for Amazonian Research (INPA) and the Max Planck Institute for  
1084 Biogeochemistry (MPI-BGC) for their ongoing support. ~~We would like to acknowledge the~~  
1085 ~~support of the ATTO project (German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, funds BMBF~~  
1086 ~~01LB1001A, 01LK1602, 01LK2101; Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and~~  
1087 ~~Communications; contract FINEP/MCTIC 01.11.01248.00); UEA and FAPEAM, LBA/INPA and~~  
1088 ~~SDS/CEUC/RDS-Uatumã. We would like to acknowledge the contribution of the DFG project~~  
1089 ~~352322796, which enabled the use of the Ultraportable Greenhouse Gas Analyzer. We also truly~~  
1090 ~~thank the PELD-MAUA project (CNPq/MCTI/CONFAP-FAPs, grant number: 441811/2020-5~~  
1091 ~~(CNPq); 01.02.016301.02630/2022-76 (FAPEAM)) for the plots used in this study.~~ We would also  
1092 like to thank the field assistants, Jose Raimundo Ferreira Nunes and Sipko Bulthuis; and all the  
1093 people involved in the logistical support of the ATTO project (André Almeida, Delano Campos,  
1094 Amaury Rodrigues, Nagib Alberto, Valmir and Antonio Huxley), especially Roberta de Souza,  
1095 who were essential to the development of this study. We also thank the technicians and assistants  
1096 at INPA's soil laboratories - LTSP and Routine Measurements & Analyses Lab (RoMA, MPI-

1097 BGC) for their valuable lab analyses. We sincerely thank Carlos Alberto Quesada for his  
1098 contributions and knowledge to this study. We also thank all the indigenous communities that have  
1099 been bravely protecting the Amazon Forest and the people from riverside communities who have  
1100 always worked together with us. Without the “mateiros”, we would never have achieved our  
1101 scientific goals. ~~Débara Pinheiro Oliveira was supported by the Coordination for the Improvement  
1102 of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), Brazilian Ministry of Education.~~

### 1103 **Financial support**

1104 This research was supported by the National Institute for Amazonian Research (INPA), the Max  
1105 Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry (MPI-BGC), and the ATTO project funded by the German  
1106 Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF grants 01LB1001A, 01LK1602, 01LK2101),  
1107 the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications (contract  
1108 FINEP/MCTIC 01.11.01248.00), the Amazonas State University (UEA), the Amazonas Research  
1109 Foundation (FAPEAM), LBA/INPA, and SDS/CEUC/RDS-Uatumã. Additional support was  
1110 provided by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG project 352322796) and the PELD-  
1111 MAUA project funded by CNPq/MCTI/CONFAP-FAPs (grant numbers 441811/2020-5 and  
1112 01.02.016301.02630/2022-76). D.P. Oliveira was supported by the Coordination for the  
1113 Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), Brazilian Ministry of Education.

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