

## LBA-ECO ND-02 Saturated Soil Hydraulic Conductivity, Tapajos National Forest, Brazil

Revision date: March 26, 2012

### Summary

This data set reports field estimated saturated hydraulic conductivity measurements from June 12 through June 20, 2001. This study was part of a rainfall exclusion experiment that was conducted from 1999-2001 at the km 67 Seca Floresta site, Tapajos National Forest, Para, Brazil. The objective of this component of the study was to develop an understanding of the physical processes driving the observed soil water dynamics at the site. There is one comma-delimited ASCII data file with this data set.

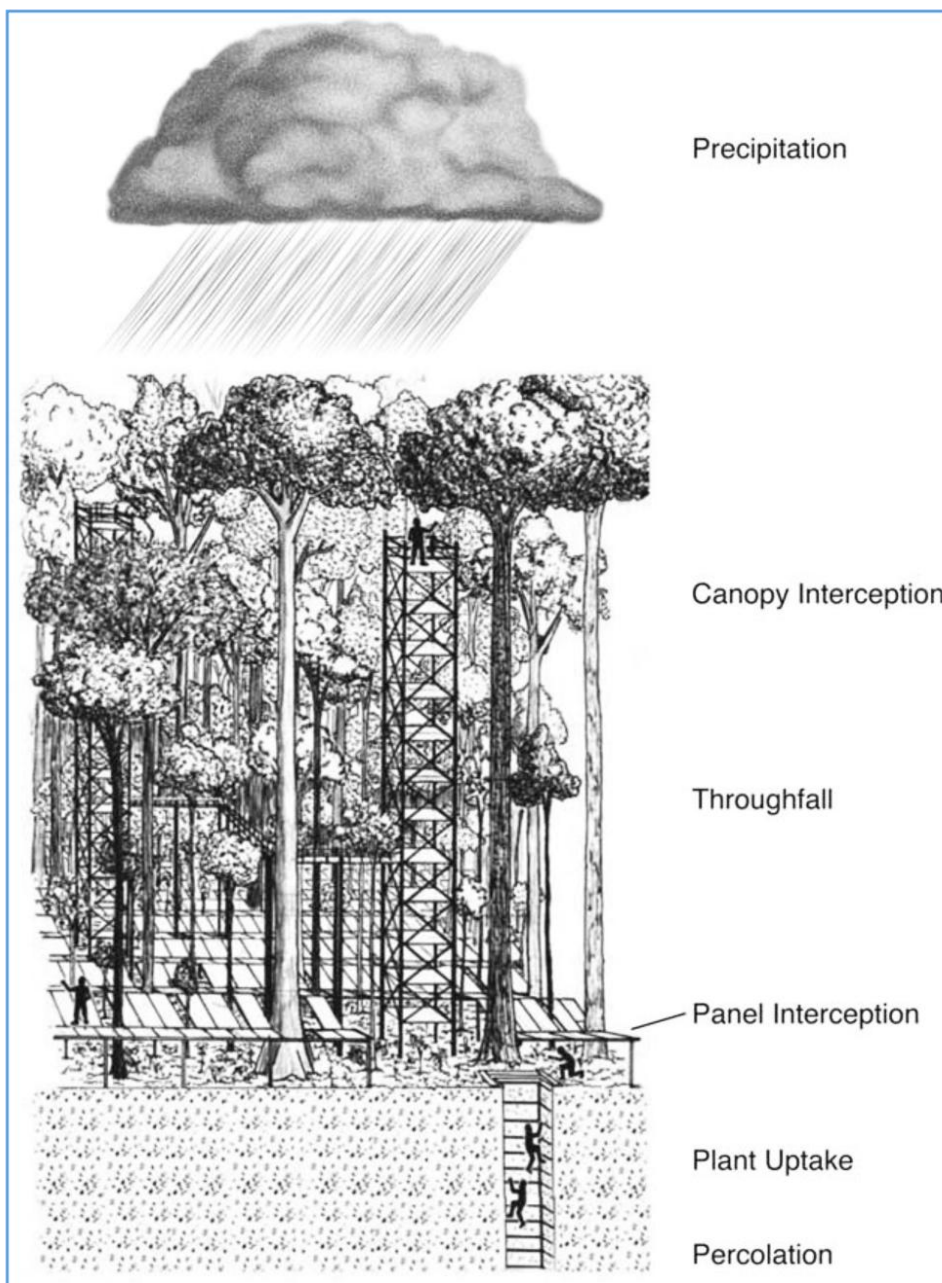


Figure 1. Idealized model structure for water cycling in a deep Oxisol. Drawn by Kemel Bittencourt Kalif.  
From Belk et al. 2007.

## Data Citation:

Cite this data set as follows:

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This data set was archived in March of 2012. Users who download the data between March 2012 and February 2017 must comply with the LBA Data and Publication Policy.

Data users should use the Investigator contact information in this document to communicate with the data provider. Alternatively, the LBA website [<http://lba.inpa.gov.br/lba/>] in Brazil will have current contact information.

Data users should use the Data Set Citation and other applicable references provided in this document to acknowledge use of the data.

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## 1. Data Set Overview:

**Project:** LBA-ECO

**Activity:** Modeling the Biogeochemical System of the Terrestrial Amazon

**LBA Science Component:** Nutrient Dynamics

**Team ID:** ND-02 (Davidson / Stone / Markewitz / Carvalho / Sa / Vieira / Moutinho / Figueiredo)

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**LBA Data Set Inventory ID:** ND02\_Soil\_hydraulic\_Conductivity

This data set reports field estimated saturated hydraulic conductivity measurements from June 12 through June 20, 2001. This study was part of a rainfall exclusion experiment that was conducted from 1999-2001 at the km 67 Seca Floresta site, Tapajos National Forest, Para, Brazil. The objective of this component of the study was to develop an understanding of the physical processes driving the observed soil water dynamics at the site.

**Related data sets:**

- [LBA-ECO ND-02 Soil Volumetric Water Content, Tapajos National Forest, Brazil](#). (Same rainfall exclusion study, same research location)
- [LBA-ECO TG-09 SOIL ISOTOPIC C, N, H2O, AND N2O DATA, TAPAJOS NATIONAL FOREST, BRAZIL](#) (Studies performed during same time frame, same location)

## 2. Data Characteristics:

Data Description: Field estimated saturated hydraulic conductivity measurements at the Seca-Floresta km 67 site, Santarem, Para, Brazil, 2001. Measurements extend to a depth of 6 meters.

Data are provided as a single comma-delimited ASCII file: ND02\_Soil\_Hydraulic\_Conductivity.csv

Column	Heading	Units/format	Description
1	Date	yyyymmdd	Sample date
2	Location		Relative location of sampling: Outside Seca plot; Near Soil Pit 5; Above humid plot; Near soil pit 6; Between Seca and humid plot; Outside Seca plot near soil pit 3; Near soil pit 7; and Outside of humid plot near soil pit 6. See Figure 3
3	Depth	cm	Depth of Guelp permeameter in centimeters. Surface

			indicates surface infiltration ring was utilized and area is 35.2 cm <sup>2</sup> . Otherwise depth is depth of auger hole with Guelph tube placed at depth
4	Head_ht	cm	Head height: height of the Guelph permeameter head in centimeters
5	Reading_num	nn [1...23]	Reading number: number of reading in chronological order (1 to 23)
6	Minute	mm	Minutes since initiating reading. 0 indicates first reading
7	Second	ss	Seconds following minutes since initiating reading. 0 indicates first reading
8	Time_interval	decimal minutes	Time interval: number of minutes (expressed as decimal minutes) elapsed between readings
9	Water_level	cm	Water level: height of water in centimeters (cm) in inner water column of Guelph
10	Water_level_change	cm	Water level change: the change in centimeters during elapsed time interval since last reading
11	Water_level_change_rate	cm/min	Water level change rate: rate of water level change in centimeters per minute (cm/min) -- the difference in water level divided by the time interval since last measurement
12	R1	cm/sec	R1: steady-state rate of water change in centimeters per second (cm/sec) estimated from the data
13	Kfs	cm/sec	Kfs: calculated hydraulic conductivity in centimeters per second (cm/sec) based on the measurement data and the reported constants
14	Comments		Specific comments about measurements, if provided; otherwise "none"
Note: -9999 indicates missing values where intervals, rates, or saturated hydraulic conductivity could not be calculated.			

**Example data records:**

```

Date,Location,Depth,Head_ht,Reading_num,Minute,Second,Time_interval,Water_level,Water_level_change,Water_level_change_rate,R1,Kfs,Comments
20010612,Outside Seca plot,Surface,5,1,0,0,-9999,2.3,-9999,-9999,-9999,-9999,none
20010612,Outside Seca plot,Surface,5,2,2,0,2,3.4,1.1,0.55,-9999,-9999,none
20010612,Outside Seca plot,Surface,5,3,4,0,2,4.3,0.9,0.45,-9999,-9999,none
...
20010614,Near soil pit 7,Surface,5,1,0,0,-9999,18,-9999,-9999,-9999,-9999,none
20010614,Near soil pit 7,Surface,5,2,0,15,0.25,21,3,12,-9999,-9999,none
20010614,Near soil pit 7,Surface,5,3,0,30,0.25,23.1,2.1,8.4,-9999,-9999,none
...
20010620,Near soil pit 5,300,10,4,30,0,10,25.3,2.6,0.26,-9999,-9999,none
20010620,Near soil pit 5,300,10,5,40,0,10,27.8,2.5,0.25,-9999,-9999,none
20010620,Near soil pit 5,300,10,6,50,0,10,30.3,2.5,0.25,0.00417,0.0003822,none

```

**Site boundaries:** (All latitude and longitude given in decimal degrees)

Site (Region)	Westernmost Longitude	Easternmost Longitude	Northernmost Latitude	Southernmost Latitude	Geodetic Datum
Para Western (Santarem) - km 67 Seca-Floresta Site (Para Western (Santarem))	-55.0000	-55.0000	-2.75000	-2.75000	World Geodetic System, 1984 (WGS-84)

**Time period:**

- The data set covers the period 2001/06/12 to 2001/06/20
- Temporal Resolution: One time sample

**Platform/Sensor/Parameters measured include:**

- FIELD INVESTIGATION / PERMEAMETER / PERCOLATION
- FIELD INVESTIGATION / TENSION INFILTROMETER / HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY

### 3. Data Application and Derivation:

**Typical application of data:**

The Guelph permeameter is used to generate field measures of saturated hydraulic conductivity. Knowledge of the changes in below-ground storage and partitioning of water enhances our ability to explain other responses of the forest to drought conditions. By quantifying how the ecological functions of tropical forests change during prolonged drought, we hope to better understand the changes that may occur during the annual dry season in functions such as rooting depth or leaf shedding and better predict the ability of these forests to tolerate reductions in precipitation associated with land use conversion as well as long-term climate changes. (Belk et al., 2006).

**Derivation:**

$K_{sat}$  at surface =  $(\alpha * (G * \text{area} * \text{infiltration rate})) / (a * (\alpha * \text{Height} + 1) + (\text{depth} * \alpha) * (3.14159 * a))$   
 $K_{sat}$  at depth =  $[(0.0041) * (\text{res constant}) * (R2)] - [(0.0054) * (\text{res constant}) * (R1)]$

The following constants were utilized for converting surface measurements to hydraulic conductivity:

$\alpha = 0.12 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

$A = 35.44 \text{ cm}^2$

$a = 10 \text{ cm}$

$H1 = 7.5 \text{ cm}$

$G = 0.158$

$d = 5 \text{ cm}$

The well head height was estimated as  $WHH = (7.5 - l) + WHS$  where:

$l$  = insertion depth of cutting ring (=5 cm)

$WHS$  = well head scale value (=5 cm). As such well head height = 7.5 cm.

Saturated hydraulic conductivity was calculated for the surface as:

$K_{fs} = \alpha * (G * A * R1) / a * (\alpha * H1 + 1) + (G * \alpha) * (3.14159 * a^2)$

For subsurface measurements reservoir constants were:

$X = 35.44$

$Y = 2.14$

Tube constant used=35.44

And saturated hydraulic conductivity was calculated as:

$$Kfs = [(0.0041) * (\text{tube constant}) * (R1 \text{ at } 10 \text{ cm})] - [(0.0054) * (\text{tube constant}) * (R1 \text{ at } 5 \text{ cm})]$$

## 4. Quality Assessment:

For a few measurements negative Ksat values were obtained, therefore, re-measurements were made and the negative values discarded.

## 5. Data Acquisition Materials and Methods:

### Site Description

To study the response of a humid Amazonian forest to severe drought, a partial throughfall exclusion study was initiated in 1998 in the Tapajós National Forest, east-central Amazonia, near Santarém, Brazil (Nepstad et al., 2002). The Seca-Floresta study plots are situated on an upper landscape plateau where the soils support a dense, humid, evergreen forest (terra firme) that does not flood annually. The canopy at this site is horizontally continuous and approximately 30 m tall. Soils are well-drained, predominantly Haplustox (Latasolos vermelhos), dominated by kaolinite clays. The objective of this component of the throughfall reduction study was to develop an understanding of the physical processes driving the observed soil water dynamics at the site.

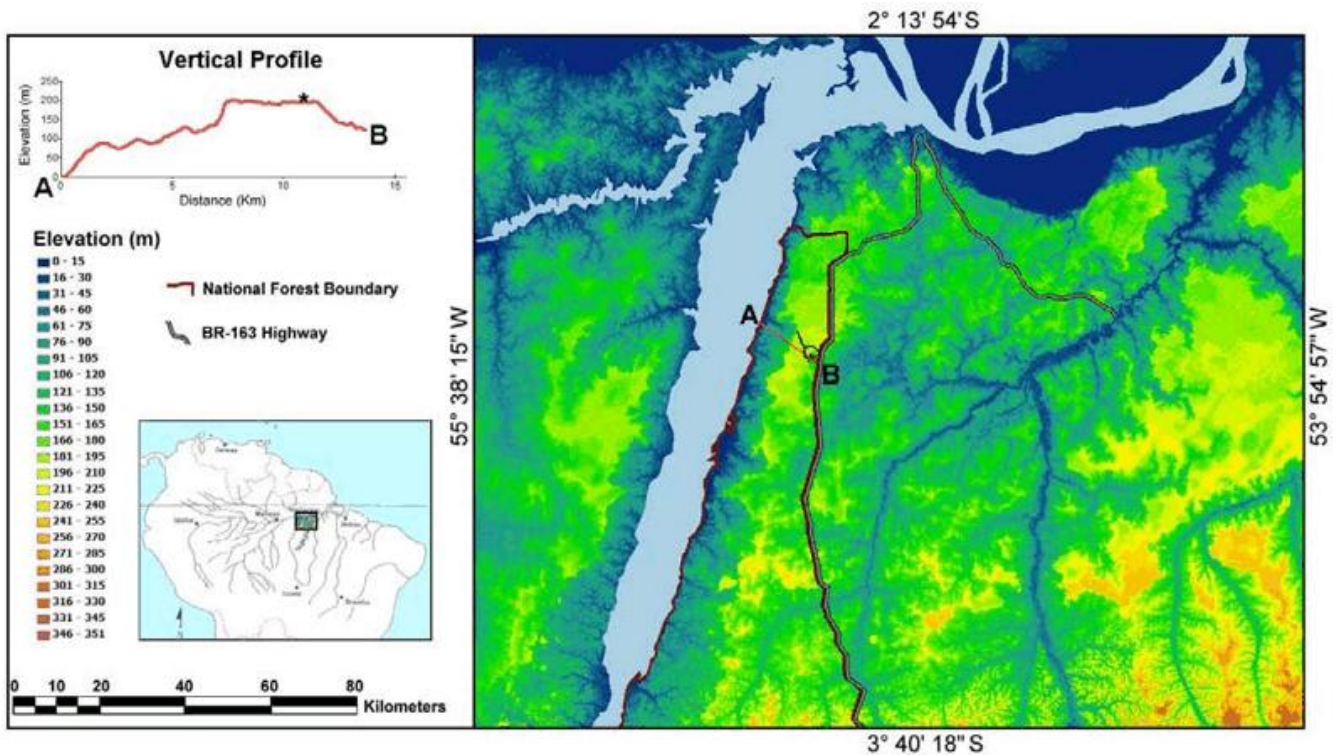


Figure 2: Site location for the throughfall exclusion experiment in the Tapajós National Forest, Brazil. (Source: Belk et al., 2007).

### Experiment Description

This experiment compared two 1-ha plots, one of which received natural rainfall, while the other had plastic panels installed in the forest understory during the rainy season. These panels capture approximately 60 percent of incoming throughfall, channeling the water to a system of gutters and diverting it from the soil. Both the control and exclusion plots were surrounded by a 1.0-1.7 m deep trench, which reduced the ability of trees within the plots to access water from outside the plots (Sternberg et al., 2002). After a 1-year pretreatment measurement period, the plastic panels were installed at the beginning of the 2000 rainy season that extended from January to May. Panels were removed during the dry season and reinstalled prior to the rainy season of the following year. The saturated hydraulic conductivity measurements reported in this data set were taken from June 12-June 20th, 2001.

Saturated hydraulic conductivity (Ks) was quantified using a Guelph permeameter [Soil Moisture Equipment Corporation, 1986]. Seven sets of surface measurements were made at randomly selected locations 1 -7 around the plots using a pressure infiltrometer attachment. Below-ground observations were obtained by augering 6-cm-diameter vertical holes - maximum depth 600 cm. One or two sets of below-ground measurements were completed at each of three sites in the study area. The holes were gently brushed before measurements to remove any smearing of the clays that may have occurred during augering. The steady-state rate of water change in centimeters per second (R1) (cm/sec) was calculated from the data and used to calculate the hydraulic conductivity in centimeters per second (Kfs) (cm/sec) based on the measurement data and the reported constants as described in Section 3.

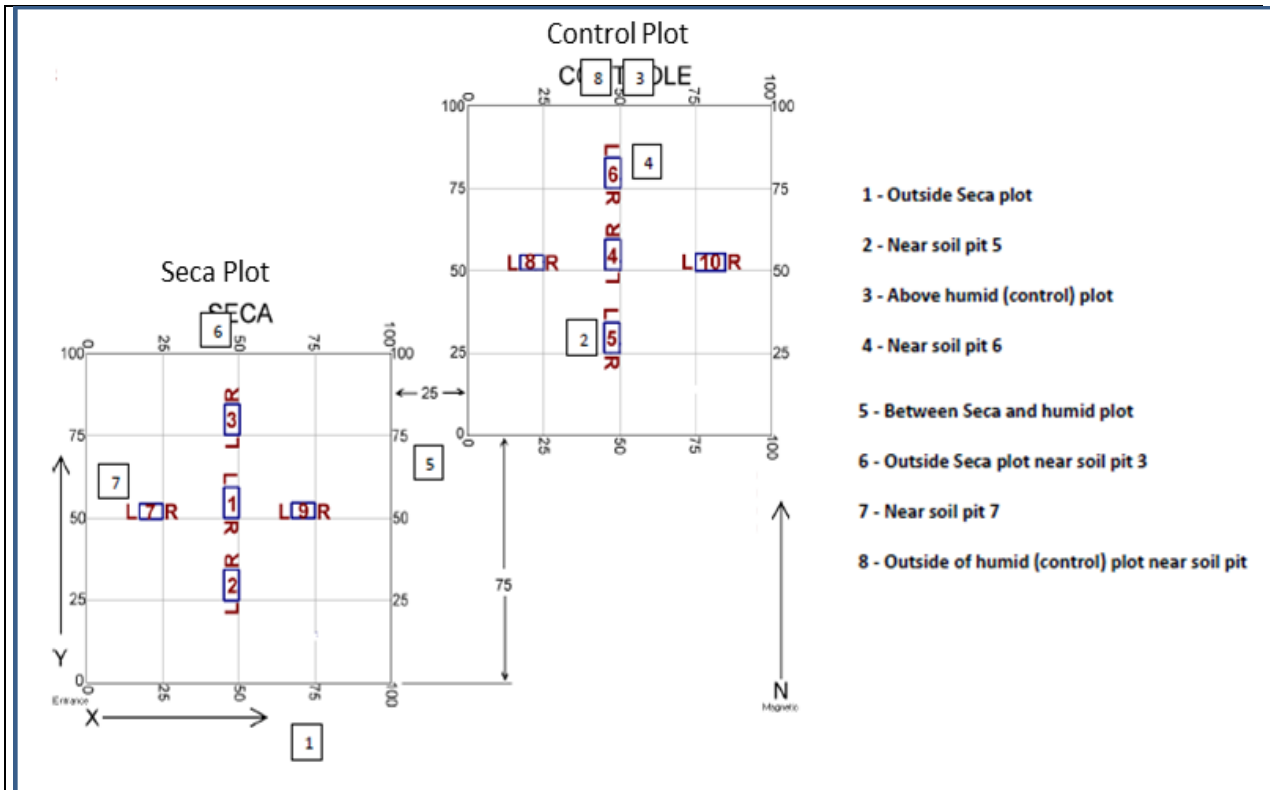


Figure 3. Surface measurements of steady-state rate of water change in centimeters per second were made at sites 1 - 7. Below-ground observations were made at sites 1, 2, and 4.

## 6. Data Access:

This data is available through the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Distributed Active Archive Center (DAAC).

### Data Archive Center:

Contact for Data Center Access Information:

E-mail: [uso@daac.ornl.gov](mailto:uso@daac.ornl.gov)

Telephone: +1 (865) 241-3952

## 7. References:

Belk, Elizabeth L., Daniel Markewitz, Todd C. Rasmussen, Eduardo J. Maklouf Carvalho, Daniel C. Nepstad, and Eric A. Davidson. 2007. Modeling the effects of throughfall reduction on soil water content in a Brazilian Oxisol under a moist tropical forest. *Water Resources Research*, Vol. 43, W08432, doi:10.1029/2006WR005493.

Belk, Elizabeth L., Daniel Markewitz, Todd C. Rasmussen, Eduardo J. Maklouf Carvalho, Daniel C. Nepstad, and Eric A. Davidson. 2008. Correction to "Modeling the effects of throughfall reduction on soil water content in a Brazilian Oxisol under a moist tropical forest." *Water Resour. Res.*, 44, W07701, doi:10.1029/2008WR007190.

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Topp, G. C., J. L. Davis, and A. P. Annan (1980), Electromagnetic determination of soil water content: Measurements in coaxial transmission lines, *Water Resour. Res.*, 16(3), 574–582.