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# PNET-BGC: MODELING BIOGEOCHEMICAL PROCESSES (GBONDO-TUGBAWA ET AL. 2001)

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## PnET-BGC: Modeling Biogeochemical Processes (Gbondo-Tugbawa et al. 2001)

### Summary:

This archived model product contains the directions, executables, and procedures for running PnET-BGC to recreate the results of:

Gbondo-Tugbawa, S.S., C.T. Driscoll, J.D. Aber and G.E. Likens. 2001. The evaluation of an integrated biogeochemical model (PnET-BGC) at a northern hardwood forest ecosystem. *Water Resources Research* 37:1057-1070

Gbondo-Tugbawa et al., 2001 Excerpt: Abstract

An integrated biogeochemical model (PnET-BGC) was formulated to simulate chemical transformations of vegetation, soil, and drainage water in northern forest ecosystems. The model operates on a monthly time step and depicts the major biogeochemical processes, such as forest canopy element transformations, hydrology, soil organic matter dynamics, nitrogen cycling, geochemical weathering, and chemical equilibrium reactions involving solid and solution phases. The model was evaluated against soil and stream data at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, New Hampshire. Model predictions of concentrations and fluxes of major elements generally agreed reasonably well with measured values, as estimated by normalized mean error and normalized mean absolute error. Model output of soil base saturation and stream acid neutralizing capacity were sensitive to parameter values of soil partial pressure of carbon dioxide, soil mass, soil cation exchange capacity, and soil selectivity coefficients of calcium and aluminum. PnET-BGC can be used as a tool to evaluate the response of soil and water chemistry of forest ecosystems to disturbances such as clear-cutting, climatic events, and atmospheric deposition.

PnET-BGC, was used to investigate inputs and dynamics of S in a northern hardwood forest at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest (HBEF) (Gbondo-Tugbawa et al., 2002). The changes in soil S pools and stream-water were simulated to assess the response to both atmospheric S deposition and forest clear-cutting disturbances. Watershed studies across the northeastern United States have shown that stream losses of exceed atmospheric sulfur (S) deposition. Understanding the processes responsible for this additional source of S is critical to quantifying ecosystem response to ongoing and potential future controls on SO<sub>2</sub> emission.

More information can be found at: <http://www.pnet.sr.unh.edu/>.

### Model Product Citation:

Cite this model product as follows:

Gbondo-Tugbawa, S. S., C. T. Driscoll, J. D. Aber, and G. E. Likens. 2005. PnET-BGC: Modeling Biogeochemical Processes in a Northern Hardwood Forest Ecosystem. ORNL DAAC, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3334/ORNLDAAC/818>.

### References:

Gbondo-Tugbawa, S.S., C.T. Driscoll, J.D. Aber and G.E. Likens. 2001. The evaluation of an integrated biogeochemical model (PnET-BGC) at a northern hardwood forest ecosystem. *Water Resources Research* 37:1057-1070

Gbondo-Tugbawa, S.S., C.T. Driscoll, M. J. Mitchell and J. D. Aber. 2002. A Model to simulate the response of a northern hardwood forest ecosystem to changes in sulfur deposition. *Ecological Applications* 12:8-23

### Data Format:

PnET-BGC is a special version of PnET-CN that includes a full suite of cation elements and a full soil chemical model. The development of PnET-BGC was coordinated by researchers at Syracuse University and the model runs on the Windows platform.

The source code and pre-built binaries together with sample data sets, documentation, user guides and technical notes are all available in a single file, PnETBGC.zip. PnET-BGC is distributed as the Visual Basic version that offers a GUI frontend, generates output plots and offers a number of runtime options and scenarios.

## Document Information:

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