David Coomes is currently a Professor at Cambridge University, UK. Working on Forest ecology and remote sensing, he is particularly interested in using high resolution remote sensing to understand how forests are responding to global environmental changes including logging, land management and climate change, addressing key issues in ecology and conversation.

Email: dac18@cam.ac.uk
Personal website (facultative): https:coomeslab.org/

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Zoom : https://umontpellier-fr.zoom.us/j/91050922592

The geography of tall trees and their demise across the Amazon basin: an ALS perspective

presented by

Professor David Coomes

Cambridge University, UK

ABSTRACT

Using airborne lidar surveys, researchers have found the tallest tropical tree ever recorded – a 100 m dipterocarp in Borneo – and the tallest tree in the neotropics - an 88 m Dinizia tree in Brazil. Why do trees grow exceedingly tall in some places and why tropical forest canopies vary in height at the regional scale? Are tall trees on the best soils? Are short forests located where disturbances are most frequent? We are starting to find out thanks to a remarkable lidar dataset collected by Brazilian researchers, comprising over 500 transect sampling the entire Brazilian Amazon. In my talk, I will discuss three papers that evaluate the drivers of tree height, patterns of mortality as revealed by treefall gaps, and some recent work on gap dynamics.

KEY WORDS

lidar, Amazon forest, tree mortality

Invited and animated by:	Greg Vincent (UMR AMAP)
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