

# photorespiration-rate-estimation

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2024-10-28

## Photorespiration rate calculation Method 1

There are two approaches to estimating photorespiration rate. Firstly, the differences in photosynthetic CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation rate,  $A_{net}$  under ambient and non-photorespiratory conditions (no or low O<sub>2</sub>)  $A_{net, non-R_p}$  corrected for CO<sub>2</sub> release will provide an estimate of photorespiration. In this case, the respiration cost could be considered similar under photorespiratory and non-photorespiratory conditions (Equation 1).

$$R_{p, apparent} = A_{net, non-R_p} - A_{net, R_p}$$

For C3 plants, for every two oxygenations of RuBP, one CO<sub>2</sub> molecule is released (Mallmann et al. 2014). Thus, the apparent  $R_p$  can be used to estimate the CO<sub>2</sub> released using Equation 2 as follows:

$$released\ CO_2 = R_{p, apparent} * 0.5$$

the sum of CO<sub>2</sub> release and apparent  $R_p$  is the true  $R_p$  (Equation 3).

$$R_p = R_{p, apparent} + released\ CO_2$$

## Method 2

The second method (Erel et al. 2015; VALENTINI et al. 1995) involves partitioning the total linear electron transport (ETR)  $J_T$  rate into photorespiratory and non photorespiratory flux as follows (Equation 4).

$$J_T = J_C + J_O$$

where  $J_T$  is the total electron transport rate,  $J_C$  and  $J_O$  are the electron flow for carboxylation and oxygenation of rubisco, respectively (EPRON et al. 1995). This assumes that there are no other electron flow demands for other cellular processes. This ignores the major energy demand is for RuBP regeneration (Genty, Briantais, and Baker 1989). Since four electrons are required for one carboxylation and oxygenation cycle, and one CO<sub>2</sub> is released for two oxygenation cycles by glycine decarboxylation in the C2 pathway,  $J_C$  can be calculated as follows (Equation 5):

$$J_C = 4A + 0.5J_O + 4R$$

Using Equation 4 this can be rearranged to get  $J_C$  as follows (Equation 6):

$$J_C = 1/3 \times (J_T + 8 \times (A + R_{day}))$$

Similarly,  $J_O$  can be written as (Equation 7)

$$J_O = 2/3 \times (J_T + 4 \times (A + R_{day}))$$

Thus, with equation 4 above, photorespiration rate is calculated as  $J_O$  .

$$R_p = \frac{J_T - 4(A_n + R_{day})}{12}$$

the above equation needs to be solved under 0% and 21% O<sub>2</sub> conditions to see if  $R_{day}$  can be removed. Also check if  $R_{day}$  can be derived from existing data.

ignore text below.

**Data from Puerto Rico** *In situ* measurements on x tropical forest species in Sabana, Luquillo, Puerto Rico was conducted during February 2024.

## References

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