

# Parameterization of DEMENTpy across the Southern California Climate Gradient

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This document details the preparation for DEMENTpy inputs at each of the five sites simulated across the climate gradient (**Figure 1**). In detail, inputs including water potential, soil temperature, and litter chemistry were processed and derived. Water potential was derived from precipitation via an intermediate step of converting the precipitation data. Python code (in the format of Jupyter Notebook, i.e., .ipynb) underlying all of the processing is accessible at a GitHub Repo (<https://github.com/bioatmosphere/microbiome-climate-gradient.git>). With step-by-step demonstrations, those readers who have a keen interest are supposed to be able to easily reproduce these preparations.



Figure 1: Location of the five sites.

## 1 Ecosystems across the Southern California climate gradient

All five sites (**Table 1**) are located on granitic parent material and experience Mediterranean precipitation patterns (cool, wet winters; hot, dry summers). This climate gradient covers a temperature range from ... to...

Table 1: Five sites across the climate gradient.

Site	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
Desert	33.648	-116.38	275
Scrubland	33.610	-116.45	1280
Grassland	33.737	-117.70	470
Pine-Oak	33.683	-116.77	1710
Subalpine	33.823	-116.75	2250

## 2 Climate Forcing

### 2.1 Precipitation

Longterm daily precipitation data were accessed from various sources for the five sites:

**Desert:** daily precipitation data from Boyd Deep Canyon California accessible at <https://wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/rawMAIN.pl?caucde>

**Scrubland:** daily precipitation data from Burns Pinon Ridge Reserve California accessible at <https://wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/rawMAIN.pl?caucbu>

**Grassland:**

**Pine-Oak:** daily precipitation data from James Reserve Station, California available at <https://wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/rawMAIN.pl?caucja>

**Subalpine:** Since there was no station directly next to the Subalpine site, the precipitation at this site is likely underestimated. In Glassman et al. (2019), precipitation was averaged from three NOAA weather stations with heated gauges accounting for snow (USC00045091; US1CARV0002; and USC00044211): <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datasets#GHCND>. Instead, daily precipitation data from station Mt. San Jacinto California (<https://raws.dri.edu/cgi-bin/rawMAIN.pl?caCMSJ>) was accessed.

### 2.2 Water Potential ( $\psi$ )

As there are no direct measurements of water potential ( $\psi$ ; unit: MPa) across the gradient, an approximation was applied. This approximation is based on the only available, indirectly derived water potential data at the grassland site. With available measurements of water content ( $\theta$ ; unit: g H<sub>2</sub>O g<sup>-1</sup> wood), daily water potential was derived by Allison & Goulden (2017) at the grassland site for a record of ??????. This derivation of water potential followed a conversion from water content to water potential as per the equation [Dix (1985), referenced in Allison & Goulden (2017)]:

$$\psi_{grassland} = -10^{0.118 - 0.114 \log_{10} \theta} \quad (1)$$

Water potential of all the other four sites ( $\psi_{site}$ ) were then derived by linearly scaling grassland site water potential ( $\psi_{grassland}$ ) based on the Total Annual Precipitation (**TAP**; unit: mm) at each site following:

$$\psi_{site} = \frac{TAP_{site}}{TAP_{grassland}} \psi_{grassland} \quad (2)$$

One condition that makes this approximate scaling legitimate is the same Mediterranean precipitation patterns across the climate gradient (cool, wet winters and hot, dry summers).

## 2.3 Temperature (°C)

DEMENTpy is conceived using litter temperature at a daily resolution in principle. In practice, soil temperature is used instead to approximate the litter temperature. Soil temperature data across the gradient in each of five sites were measured. Details with regards to the measurement method, pre-, and post-processing are documented in Glassman *et al.* (2018). These measured soil temperature data at a sub-daily time step are available at <https://github.com/stevenallison/UCIClimateExperiment/tree/master/updatednames>. From these field measurements, daily soil temperature was derived by averaging all measurements in each day. A step-by-step demonstration of this derivation is presented in the Jupyter Notebook `soil_temperature.ipynb`.

## 3 Litter Chemistry and Input

DEMENTpy requires substrate-specific inputs in terms of C, N, and P (**Table xx**). **Phospholipids** (i.e., OrgP1 in the model) are a key component of all cell membranes (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phospholipid>). Though compound-specific stoichiometry is clear for determining concentration by element, substrate-specific concentration ( $(Sub_i)$ ; unit:  $\text{mg cm}^{-3}$ ) needs to be determined. This derivation followed:

$$Sub_{s,i} = Fraction_{s,i} Total_s \quad (3)$$

where  $s$  is one of the five sites,  $i$  is one of the 10 substrates,  $Fraction_{s,i}$  is the percentage of substrate  $i$  in site  $s$ , and  $Total_s$  is the total concentration of initial substrates (C+N+P) in site  $s$ .  $Fraction$  was informed by field measurements of litter chemistry at each site as presented in Baker & Allison (2017).  $Total$  was approximated by NPP at each site. As per the observation by Baker & Allison (2017), standing litter pools are largest in the grassland and pine-oak site, reduced in the subalpine site, significantly reduced in the scrubland site, and negligible in the desert site. A detailed script implementing these processes is presented in the Jupyter Notebook `litter_chemistry_v1.ipynb`.

## References

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