

The medfate reference book

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# Preface

This is a reference book for the models implemented in **medfate** and **medfateland**, two R packages that provide functions for the simulation of functioning and dynamics of Mediterranean forests and landscapes.

## How to use this book

This *reference book* is meant to help you understand the static and dynamic models included in packages **medfate** (ver. **2.5.0**) and **medfateland** (ver. **0.4.0**). Hands-on user guides to run simulation functions and static functions can be found as *package vignettes* within the packages. As any reference book, you are not expected to read the book linearly, but to jump to specific book sections whenever you have doubts about the design or implementation of certain processes or calculations.

The first part of the book present the main functions of the package and describes the soil, vegetation and meteorology inputs that apply to all simulation models. After that, the book presents each simulation model using a set of chapters. The first of them provides an overview of the model design and the remaining ones describe the details of formulations by processes. Those process formulations that are common to more than one model (like hydrology) are described only once to avoid repeating material already presented, but links are provided whenever needed. Static models and their corresponding R functions are presented grouped at the end of the book, before the appendices, which include parametrization information and a list of all symbols for reference.

In this book we use **objectname** or **variablename** to refer to an R objects or a variable within data frames, and **functionname()** to refer to a package function. Whenever relevant, we indicate the correspondence between mathematical symbols, their units and the names used within the R package.

Our aim is to continuously update this reference book along with package developments, so that users have detailed and up-to-date information about the models at the time functions are run. Since the book evolves with the package, after any model application we recommend users to store a **PDF version** of the reference book to be sure it matches the version the package reported in their application report or article.

## An ongoing project

You should look at **medfate** and **medfateland** as both R packages and an ongoing research project for the development of forest ecosystem modelling tools. The models included in the package may contain bugs, and provide wrong predictions (all models are wrong). Some package functions may evolve in the future, so that you may have to modify your scripts after package updates (hopefully not too often). Nevertheless, we feel the tool is mature enough to become useful for applications and that is why we made an effort to document it thoroughly. The R packages are the result of collaborative work between modellers and experts in different disciplines. If your own expertise includes any of the processes that are modelled in the package and you feel that your expertise could be helpful to improve the package, you are more than welcome to contact us!

## Acknowledgements

I have been intensively working on **medfate** since 2013, when I obtained a *Ramon y Cajal* research fellowship from the Spanish government. An investment on a long-term modelling project could not have started with this initial financial help, that of other competitive research projects and the support of CTFC, the research institution until March 2021, and CREAM, my current institution where I coordinate its Ecosystem Modelling Facility.

The idea of an R package devoted to Mediterranean vegetation evolved after a previous attempt at modelling the dynamics of plant cohorts within a landscape model that tried to extend the MEDFIRE model. I made these initial efforts when I was still a post-doc at CTFC under the supervision of Lluís Brotons, to whom I am grateful for having greatly expanded my view of ecology and its applications. Undertaking this initial endeavour made us contact two excellent researchers in fire and drought ecology respectively, Juli G. Pausas (CIDE-CSIC, Spain) and Jordi Martínez-Vilalta (CREAF-UAB, Spain). While interacting with Juli was rewarding and fostered my interest in wildfires, Jordi had a profound influence on the project. Collaborating with him caused a slow but steady drift of my research interests towards the soil water balance, plant hydraulics and physiological responses to drought. His influence on my work was not so apparent when we published water balance model (and launched the R package) with the help of the forest hydrologist Pilar Llorens (CSIC, Spain) and other researchers (Rafa Poyatos, Lluís Coll and Pere Casals). However, it became undeniable when I started studying plant hydraulics, trying to understand and implement Sperry's model in the package. Jordi made me interact with people in his research group and introduced me to Maurizio Mencuccini, another great ecophysiologicalist with whom he had been working for a long time. I have to thank Maurizio and Jordi for encouraging me to continue working on this development project and overcome the difficulty that entails learning scientific disciplines quite far from my previous experience.

The development of the package has benefited from many colleagues who have provided me with ideas or have struggled to use the models within it. Asaf Karavani was among the first package users besides me. Together, we used the package to predict soil moisture dynamics in forest plots where mushroom production was being monitored. Antoine Cabon (CTFC, Spain) was also an early user of the package. I have enjoyed endless discussions with him about several processes and how to implement them. While he was the Ph.D. student and I one of his advisors, I felt we both learned together. Moreover, Antoine has contributed with some functions to the package (and I hope he will contribute more!). Another key person for the development of **medfate** was working with Victor Granda (Ecosystem Modelling Facility at CREAM, Spain), whose great programming skills and profound knowledge about R technologies has encouraged me to embrace new programming habits and skills. I owe the idea of separating packages **meteoland** and **medfate** to Roberto Molowny (Ecosystem Modelling Facility at CREAM, Spain) an excellent modeller. More recently, collaboration with another ecophysiologicalist, Nicolas Martin-StPaul (INRA, France), has stimulated improvements both in **meteoland** and **medfate**. In fact, Nicolas has become another key person in my research, with whom I share the interest for one of the interfaces between fire and drought, namely fuel moisture dynamics. Recently, collaboration with Shengli Huang (Forest Service, US) on adapting the package for the US Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program has expanded the horizons of its application.

I would not like to finish the acknowledgements without thanking my former colleagues at CTFC (located in the small town of Solsona, Catalonia, Spain), for their collaboration and support. Particularly, Lluís Coll and Pere Casals have been continuously supporting my efforts and finding new model applications. Moreover, they have contributed to the knowledge within the package with their expertise in forest dynamics, soils and fire issues. I also thank Mario Beltrán and Assu Gil for teaching me forestry.

Finally, I would like to thank José Manuel, who takes care of me and has to endure my endless talking about the package and its models, to my family for being there at difficult times, including my three nephews from whom I learn the joy of life.





**Part I**

**Preliminaries**



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of the purpose of developing the **medfate** and **medfateland** R packages, their main simulation functions and expected applications.

### 1.1 Purpose

Being able to anticipate the impact of global change on forests is one of the major environmental challenges in contemporary societies. However, uncertainties in how forest ecosystems function and practical constraints in how to integrate available information still hinder the availability of robust and reliable predictive models. Despite the amount of knowledge accumulated about the functioning and dynamics of forest ecosystems and the plethora of modelling tools already available, further efforts are necessary to achieve the challenge of integrating different global change drivers into simulation tools useful for research and applications.

#### 1.1.1 Package **medfate**

The R package **medfate** has been designed as a platform to simulate the functioning and dynamics of individual forest stands at temporal scales from days to years. Climate is the main environmental driver covered by the package and the ecological, hydrological and physiological processes surrounding these are fundamental for the simulation models included in the package. In particular, the package allows the simulation of water balance of soils and plants within forest stands. It also allows simulating plant growth, mortality and recruitment processes of a set of cohorts competing for light and water within a forest stand. Finally, additional package functions allow relating the amount of plant biomass and the water status of plant tissues to fuel characteristics and, hence, fire hazard.

The version of the reference manual that you are reading is intended to reflect **version 2.5.0** of the package.

#### 1.1.2 Package **medfateland**

The R package **medfateland** has been designed to extend the capabilities of **medfate** to the landscape level. It allows running the stand-level models available in **medfate** on points and cells within landscape. More importantly, the package allows considering spatial hydrological processes in forested watersheds. Hence, **medfateland** can be used as a tool for eco-hydrological applications.

The version of the reference manual that you are reading is intended to reflect **version 0.4.0** of the package.

## 1.2 Package installation

### 1.2.1 medfate

Package **medfate** can be found at CRAN, where it is updated every few months. Hence, it can be installed using:

```
install.packages("medfate")
```

Users can also download and install the latest stable versions GitHub as follows (required package **devtools** should be installed/updated first):

```
devtools::install_github("emf-creaf/medfate")
```

When installing from GitHub, one may force the installation of package vignettes by using:

```
devtools::install_github("emf-creaf/medfate",  
                          build_opts = c("--no-resave-data", "--no-manual"),  
                          build_vignettes = TRUE)
```

Among other dependencies, installing **medfate** requires package **meteoland**, as it links to some of its C++ functions. Note that some package dependencies are only *suggested*, so that they are not automatically installed when installing **medfate**.

### 1.2.2 medfateland

Since both packages evolve together, installing **medfateland** normally requires an up-to-date version of **medfate**. The package **medfateland** is currently only available at GitHub, and can be installed using:

```
devtools::install_github("emf-creaf/medfateland")
```

As with **medfate**, one may force the installation of package vignettes for **medfateland**, by using:

```
devtools::install_github("emf-creaf/medfateland",  
                          build_opts = c("--no-resave-data", "--no-manual"),  
                          build_vignettes = TRUE)
```

### 1.2.3 Installation from sources

Both packages have a user interface in R, but actual calculations have been implemented as C++ functions and linked to R via the **Rcpp** package. This means that you will need a compiler to install **medfate** and **medfateland** packages from sources (i.e. Rtools in Windows).

## 1.3 Data structures and functions in medfate

### 1.3.1 Data structures

Package **medfate** deals with simulations at stand level and, hence, the data structures defined in the package are meant to encapsulate information about a target forest stands and the properties of the soil where it grows:



- S3 class **soil** is a list of soil physical and hydraulic properties, including both parameters and state variables. Soil objects are described in subsection 2.2.3.
- S3 class **forest** is a list of forest inventory data (i.e. mainly tree and shrub measurements) corresponding to a single forest stand. Forest plot objects are described in subsection 2.3.2.
- S3 classes **spwbInput** and **growthInput** are lists containing all the vegetation parameters and state variables necessary to run water-balance simulations (function **spwb()** and alike) and forest growth simulations (function **growth()** and alike). Objects of classes **spwbInput** and **growthInput** can be created using functions whose input includes a **forest** object and a **soil** object.

### 1.3.2 Dynamic simulation functions

Dynamic simulation functions in **medfate** include three nested simulation levels (Fig. 1.1):

1. Forest water and energy balance can be studied for a given forest stand using function **spwb()** (soil-plant-water-balance). The same function is used to run two models of different degree of complexity (*basic* or *advanced*; see Fig. 1.1), from which the user should choose depending on the intended application and data availability. Water balance simulations include hydrological processes (rainfall interception, soil infiltration, percolation and evapotranspiration) and plant physiological processes related to transpiration (hydraulics, photosynthesis and stomatal regulation). Most processes are implemented at the daily scale, although some operate at subdaily time steps. Function **spwb()** has a closely related function **spwb.day()** that allows focusing on subdaily processes. Finally, one can simulate plant physiological processes only, while having soil moisture as a dynamic input like weather, using function **pwb()** (plant-water-balance).
2. Changes in primary (leaf area) and secondary (wood) growth are key to evaluate the influence of climatic conditions on plant and forest structure and function. Function **growth()** extends the previous models because it allows simulating carbon balance, growth and mortality of a set of plant cohorts competing for light and water in a given forest stand. Analogously to the simulation of water balance, **growth()** has a closely related function **growth.day()** that allows focusing on subdaily processes (i.e. carbon balance).
3. Finally, function **fordyn()** complements growth and mortality processes with recruitment (from seeds), thus completing the minimum set of demographic processes needed to simulate forest dynamics. The function splits the period to be simulated by years and makes internal calls to **growth()** for the simulation of growth and mortality. **fordyn()** is suited to simulate the interannual variation in forest structure and composition, while accounting for the biophysical and ecophysiological processes provided by the former models.

Importantly, **growth()** and **fordyn()** functions and the processes that they implements are still **under development**.

### 1.3.3 Sub-model functions

Many of the sub-models included in **medfate** are implemented as C++ functions and internally called by the simulation functions implementing top-level models. Most sub-models have, however, their corresponding R function to made them directly available to the user. This facilitates understanding the different sub-models and a more creative use of the package. Sub-model functions are grouped by *subject*, which is included in the name of the function. The different sub-model functions are (by subject):

- **biophysics\_\***: Physical and biophysical utility functions.
- **carbon\_\***: Structural and non-structural carbon compartments and flows.
- **hydraulics\_\***: Plant hydraulics.
- **hydrology\_\***: Canopy and soil hydrology.
- **light\_\***: Light extinction and absorption.



Figure 1.1: Nested relationships between simulation functions and processes included in each model

- **moisture\_\***: Tissue water relations and live tissue moisture.
- **pheno\_\***: Leaf phenology.
- **photo\_\***: Leaf photosynthesis.
- **root\_\***: Root distribution and root/rhizosphere conductance estimation.
- **soil\_\***: Soil hydraulics and thermodynamics.
- **spwb\_\***: Soil water balance routines.
- **transp\_\***: Stomatal regulation and plant transpiration.
- **wind\_\***: Canopy turbulence.

### 1.3.4 Static functions

Package **medfate** includes a number of functions to examine static properties of plants conforming forest stands, summary functions at the stand level or vertical profiles of several physical properties:

- **plant\_\***: Cohort-level information (species name, id, leaf area, height...).
- **species\_\***: Cohort-level attributes aggregated by species (e.g. basal area).
- **stand\_\***: Stand-level attributes (e.g. basal area).
- **vprofile\_\***: Vertical profiles (light, wind, fuel density, leaf area density).

Vegetation functioning and dynamics have strong, but complex, effects on fire hazard. On one hand, growth and death of organs and individuals changes the amount of standing live and dead fuels, as well as downed dead fuels. On the other, day-to-day changes in soil and plant water content changes the physical properties of fuel, notably fuel moisture content. Package **medfate** provides functions to estimate fuel properties and potential fire behaviour in forest inventory plots. Specifically, function **fuel\_stratification()** provides a stratification of the stand into understory and canopy strata; and **fuel\_FCCS()** calculates fuel characteristics. A fire behaviour model is implemented in function **fire\_FCCS()** to calculate the intensity of surface fire reaction and the rate of fire spread of surface fires assuming a steady-state fire. Fuel and fire behaviour functions allow obtaining the following:

1. Fuel characteristics by stratum.
2. Surface fire behavior (i.e. reaction intensity, rate of spread, fireline intensity and flame length).
3. Crown fire behavior.
4. Fire potential ratings of surface fire behavior and crown fire behavior.

## 1.4 Data structures and functions in medfateland

### 1.4.1 Data structures

Package **medfateland** allows simulating forest functioning and dynamics on sets forests stands distributed across space. Three S4 classes have been defined to facilitate simulations on particular locations and over grids. They extend spatial classes from package **meteoland**

- S4 class **SpatialPointsLandscape** contains a list of soil and forest stand descriptions along with the spatial location of stands. It extends class **SpatialPointsTopography**.
- S4 class **SpatialPixelsLandscape** contains a set of soil and forest stand descriptions along with the location over a grid of the corresponding set of pixels. It extends class **SpatialPixelsTopography**.
- S4 class **SpatialGridLandscape** contains a set of soil and forest stand descriptions along with the location over a full grid. It extends class **SpatialGridTopography**.

While simulation functions in the package can be run sequentially on individual forest stands of the former classes, the package has been designed so that it could be part of a broader modelling infrastructure including *spatial hydrological processes*, notably surface and sub-surface lateral water flows. An additional S4 class has been defined for this purpose.

- S4 class **DistributedWatershed** contains a set of soil and forest stand descriptions along with the location over a grid of the corresponding set of pixels, because it extends class **SpatialPixelsLandscape**. In addition, however, **DistributedWatershed** includes many other spatial layers, such as list of discharge values to neighbors, an integer vector of cell processing order or the water content of the underlying aquifer.

### 1.4.2 Dynamic simulation functions

Package **medfateland** offers sets of simulation functions for the first three S4 classes presented above. Simulations available are analogous to those of package **medfate**:

- Forest water and energy balance can be studied for a set of forest stands using functions **spwbpoints()**, **spwbpixels()** and **spwbgrid()** .
- Growth and mortality of a set of plant cohorts competing for light and water can be simulated for a set of forest stands using functions **growthpoints()**, **growthpixels()** and **growthgrid()** .
- Forest dynamics arising from competition for light and water can be simulated for a set of forest stands using functions **fordynpoints()**, **fordynpixels()** and **fordyngrid()** .

In addition, the package offers a simulation function tailored to be used with objects of class **DistributedWatershed**:

- Function **wswb()** is distributed hydrological model that simulates daily water balance on the cells of a watershed while accounting for overland runoff, subsurface flow and groundwater flow between cells.

## Chapter 2

# Model inputs

Data input for simulation models can be grouped into four categories. First, a description of the **vegetation** existing in the target forest stand is needed. This information should be available at a level of detail appropriate for the model design, which in our case includes not only species composition and/or structure, but also functional parameters of woody plants. Vegetation structure is considered static in `spwb()` calls, but becomes dynamic in calls to `growth()`. Hence, in this latter case the input vegetation describes to the starting point. Second, **soil** information is also required, because underground water resources are important for the processes included in the model. While soil features are considered static parameters in model simulations, **weather** is always a dynamic input that defines the temporal variation of environmental conditions in which physical and biological processes occur. Finally, **topographic and geographic information** is often required, since internal calculations of some physical variables (such as atmospheric pressure or radiation) require them.

This chapter describes the requirements of **medfate** package with respect to each of these data input categories. The last section describes additional parameters that are used to specify global options of simulation functions (i.e., `spwb()`, `pwb()`, `growth()`, `fordyn()` and daily simulation functions).

Since preparing inputs for simulations can be hard, package **medfateutils** provides a set of utility functions aimed at facilitating this task.

## 2.1 Latitude and topography

Topography has a relatively small direct influence in **medfate** simulations, because most topographic effects are assumed to be taken into account in the estimation of weather input. Nonetheless, *elevation* in meters is needed to estimate atmospheric pressure and air density (see 2.4), whereas *aspect* (in degrees from North) and *slope* (also in degrees) are needed in addition to *latitude* (also in degrees North) to estimate sunrise/sunset hours and potential radiation. Topographic variables should be readily accessible for users having access to a digital elevation model.

## 2.2 Soil description

Soils are described in **medfate** using  $S > 1$  different soil layers ( $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, S\}$ ). Here the word *soil* refers to depths that plant rooting systems can reach (i.e., the critical zone), including cracks within the bedrock. The number and size of soil layers may reflect changes in soil properties along depth, but also can be chosen to reflect differences in plant rooting depths. The physical properties of the soil are needed to estimate soil hydraulic properties. Most soil properties are considered *static* parameters in simulations, except soil

moisture content, variables that depend on moisture (e.g. soil water potential and soil conductivity) and soil temperature, if the soil energy balance is considered in simulations.

### 2.2.1 Soil physical properties

Soil physical properties, such as *texture* (i.e. volume percent of sand, silt and clay), *organic matter content*, *bulk density* or *rock fragment content*, can differ between soil layers, and this has important consequences for soil water retention capacity and soil hydraulics. Specifying layers with an elevated rock fragment content (e.g. layers of weathered rock where soil particles are scarce) may be important in seasonally-arid climates like the Mediterranean, because plants often extend their roots into cracks existing in the parent rock to access water during summer (Ruffault *et al.* 2013).

For each soil layer  $s$ , the following physical parameters are needed:

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$d_s$	mm	<b>widths</b>	Width of soil layer $s$
$P_{clay,s}$	%	<b>clay</b>	Percent volume of clay (within soil particles fraction) in layer $s$
$P_{sand,s}$	%	<b>sand</b>	Percent volume of sand (within soil particles fraction) in layer $s$
$OM_s$	%	<b>om</b>	Percentage of organic mater per dry weight (can be missing) in layer $s$
$BD_s$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>bd</b>	Bulk density in layer $s$
$P_{rocks,s}$	%	<b>rfc</b>	Rock fragment content as percent volume (within whole soil) in layer $s$

The percent volume of silt is 100% minus the percent volume of clay and sand. Whenever possible, soil physical properties should be measured in soil profiles conducted at the target forest plot (although soil profiles rarely reach rooting depths of deeply-rooted plants). Soil input data should be arranged in a **data.frame** with soil layers in rows and physical variables in columns (see function **defaultSoilParams()**).

Package **medfateutils** includes a function **soilgridsParams()** to fetch soil information from SoilGrids.org, a global soil database currently providing soil data at 250m scale. This can be helpful to users lacking local soil measurements, but the uncertainty of SoilGrids estimates can be high for some areas and soil properties, especially soil depth and rock fragment content.

The depth of a given soil layer  $s$  ( $Z_s$ ; in mm) is defined as the sum of layer widths from the surface to the target layer:

$$Z_s = \sum_{i=1}^s d_i \quad (2.1)$$

And the overall *soil depth* ( $Z_{soil}$ ; in mm) is the sum of soil layer widths. As it may include rocky layers, the value of  $Z_{soil}$  may be larger than the soil depth reported in soil profiles.

### 2.2.2 Water retention curves

The water retention curve of a soil is the relationship between *volumetric soil moisture content* ( $\theta$ , in  $m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$  of soil, excluding rock fragments) and the corresponding *soil water potential* ( $\Psi$ , in MPa), i.e. the amount of work that must be done per unit quantity of pure water in order to transport reversibly and isothermally an infinitesimal quantity of water from a reference pool. The shape of the water retention curve (also called the *soil moisture characteristic curve*) depends on physical properties (mainly texture and bulk density, but also organic matter content). Since soil layers usually differ in their physical properties they also normally have different water retention curves.

Two water retention curve models are available in **medfate** (fig. 2.1):

1. *Saxton model*: In this model, volumetric soil moisture  $\theta(\Psi)$  corresponding to a given water potential  $\Psi$  (in MPa) below field capacity (i.e.,  $\Psi < \Psi_{fc}$ ) is calculated using:

$$\theta(\Psi) = (\Psi/A)^{(1/B)} \quad (2.2)$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  depend on the texture and, if available, organic matter in the soil. If organic matter is available,  $A$  and  $B$  are calculated from  $P_{clay}$ ,  $P_{sand}$  and  $OM$  following Saxton & Rawls (2006). Otherwise, they are calculated from  $P_{clay}$  and  $P_{sand}$  as indicated in Saxton *et al.* (1986). Volumetric changes between field capacity and saturation (i.e.,  $\Psi_{fc} \leq \Psi < 0$ ) are estimated using a linear function.

2. *Van Genuchten model*: The well known van Genuchten (1980) model is:

$$\theta(\Psi) = \theta_{res} + \frac{\theta_{sat} - \theta_{res}}{[1 + (\alpha \cdot \Psi)^n]^{1-1/n}} \quad (2.3)$$

where  $\theta(\psi)$  is the water retention,  $\theta_{sat}$  is the saturated water content,  $\theta_{res}$  is the residual water content,  $\alpha$  is related to the inverse of the air entry pressure, and  $n$  is a measure of the pore-size distribution.

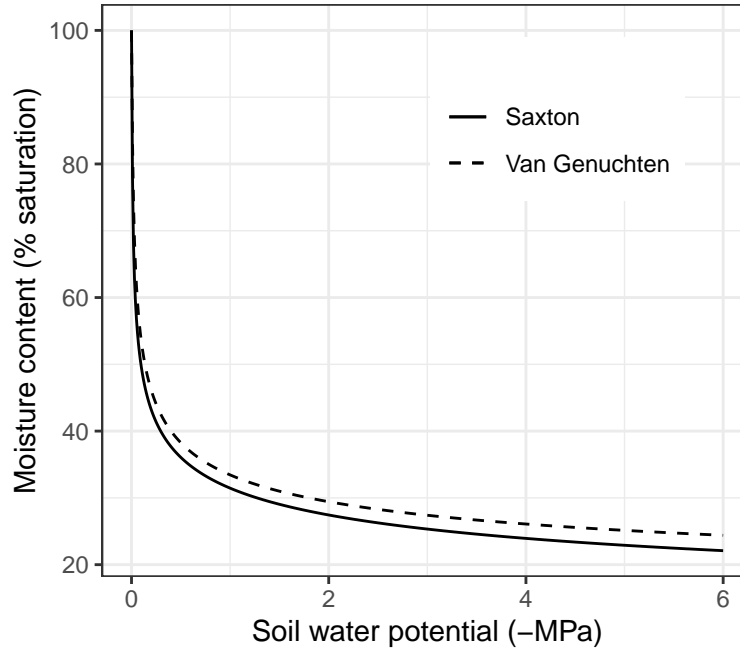


Figure 2.1: Water retention curves under the Saxton and Van Genuchten models, for the same physical attributes (25% sand, 25% clay, 50% silt and bulk density of  $1.5g \cdot cm^{-3}$ ). Parameters of the Van Genuchten curve have been estimated using pedotransfer functions given in Tóth *et al.* (2015).

### 2.2.3 Soil initialization

Soil initialization is needed to estimate soil hydrological parameters for each soil layer  $s$  from their physical attributes. Initialization is done using function `soil()`, which returns an object of a S3 class with the same name. Simulation functions in **medfate** need an object of class `soil` to be run.

Function `soil()` adds the following information to the physical soil description:

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$P_{macro,s}$	%	<b>macro</b>	Percentage of macroporosity corresponding to each soil layers
$\gamma_{soil}$	$mm \cdot day^{-1}$	<b>Gsoil</b>	The maximum daily evaporation rate from soil (see 5.5)
$\kappa_{soil}$		<b>Ksoil</b>	Extinction parameter to regulate the amount of water extracted from each soil layer when simulating evaporation from bare soil (see 5.5)
$\theta_{sat,s}$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$	<b>VG_theta_sat</b>	Volumetric soil moisture at saturation
$\theta_{res,s}$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$	<b>VG_theta_res</b>	Residual volumetric soil moisture
$n_s$		<b>VG_n</b>	Parameter $n$ of the Van Genuchten (1980) model
$\alpha_s$	$MPa^{-1}$	<b>VG_alpha</b>	Parameter $\alpha$ of the Van Genuchten (1980) model
$K_{sat,s}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-1}$	<b>Ksat</b>	Saturated soil conductivity
	$MPa^{-1}$		
$K_{drain}$	$mm \cdot d^{-1}$	<b>Kdrain</b>	Hydraulic conductivity for deep drainage.

Macroporosity values are calculated using the equations given in Stolf *et al.* (2011), while  $\gamma_{soil}$  and  $\kappa_{soil}$  are derived from texture. Parameters of the van Genuchten model for each layer are estimated from the physical description of the layer using one of two pedotransfer functions (see help for **soil()**):

1. Using the USDA texture classification and the average texture class parameters given by Carsel & Parrish (1988).
2. Directly from the soil texture, organic matter and bulk density, using the pedotransfer functions in Tóth *et al.* (2015).

Soil layer saturated conductivity ( $K_{sat,s}$ ) is estimated using Saxton & Rawls (2006) or Saxton *et al.* (1986), depending on whether an estimate of organic matter is available.  $K_{drain}$  is currently initialized from soil saturated conductivity in the deepest soil layer, but should be defined depending on the permeability of the bedrock material.

Besides defining soil parameters, function **soil()** also initializes *soil state variables*: soil moisture content, soil temperature (although set to a missing value) and water table depth. Users can edit the **soil** object manually (it is actually a **list**), for example to provide specific parameters of the Van Genuchten retention curve calibrated from soil measurements.

## 2.2.4 Water content and water table depth

The *volume of water* ( $V_s$  in  $mm = l \cdot m^{-2}$  of ground area) in a soil layer  $s$  is calculated from its water potential ( $\Psi_s$ ) and water retention curve using:

$$V_s(\Psi_s) = d_s \cdot ((100 - P_{rocks,s})/100) \cdot \theta_s(\Psi_s) \quad (2.4)$$

where  $d_s$  is the depth of the soil layer (in mm) and  $P_{rocks,s}$  is the percentage of rock fragments. The overall volume of water in the soil (accessible by roots) is simply the sum of water content over soil layers:

$$V_{soil} = \sum_{s=1}^S V_s(\Psi_s) \quad (2.5)$$

A number of fixed water volumes (and their corresponding moisture) are important to remember:

- *Water holding capacity* ( $V_{fc,s}$ , in mm) of the soil layer  $s$  is defined as the volume of water at *field capacity*, i.e. at  $\Psi_{fc} = -0.033$  MPa, the amount of water held in the soil after gravitational water has drained away:

$$V_{fc,s} = V_s(-0.033) = d_s \cdot ((100 - P_{rocks,s})/100) \cdot \theta_{fc,s} \quad (2.6)$$

where  $\theta_{fc,s} = \theta_s(-0.033)$  is the corresponding moisture at field capacity.



- *Water content at saturation* ( $V_{sat,s}$ , in mm) is calculated analogously, but replacing  $\theta_{fc,s}$  by  $\theta_{sat,s} = \theta_s(0)$ , the moisture at *saturation*, the amount of soil moisture when all easily drained spaces between soil particles (i.e. macropores) are also filled with water.
- *Water content at wilting point* ( $V_{wp,s}$ , in mm) is calculated replacing  $\theta_{fc,s}$  by  $\theta_{wp,s} = \theta_s(-1.5)$ , the moisture at *wilting point*, i.e. at  $\Psi_{fc} = -1.5$  MPa, a conventional amount of soil moisture beyond which plants are assumed have problems extracting water and start to wilt. However, plants can often extract water from much drier soils.
- The *amount of extractable water* (in mm) is the difference between water content at field capacity and the water content at a conventional minimum water potential, which can be set at wilting point or lower values (by default at -5 MPa in **medfate**).

The depth of water table is the depth of saturated soil (in mm). In **medfate**, *water table depth* ( $Z_{wt}$ , in mm) equals soil depth (i.e.  $Z_{soil}$ ) when all soil layers are below field capacity. When some layers are between field capacity and saturation, water table depth is calculated as:

$$Z_{wt} = \sum_s d_s \cdot \min[1, (\theta_{sat,s} - \theta(\Psi_s)) / (\theta_{sat,s} - \theta_{fc,s})] \quad (2.7)$$

## 2.3 Vegetation description

The representation of plants within a target plot is done in **medfate** by means of **cohorts** of woody plants (i.e. trees and shrubs). A plant cohort represents a set of plants that belong to the same species (or functional group) and are more or less of the same *size*. For example, trees in a stand may be grouped by species and diameter class. This representation is chosen so that package functions can be easily applied to **forest inventory data**, for example from national forest surveys. The description of plant cohorts includes a measure of *abundance* of the cohort in the stand, which in the case of trees is *density* as stems per hectare and for shrubs is *percent cover* (shrubs are often multi-stemmed). The difference in measurement units for abundance is the main motivation for distinguishing between tree cohorts and shrub cohorts, rather than their size or growth form.

Note that one limitation of the representation of vegetation in **medfate** is that it is not spatially-explicit (i.e. plants cannot have explicit coordinates within forest stands) and hence spatial (horizontal) interactions between plant cannot be taken into account explicitly (but see 2.3.5).

### 2.3.1 Structural attributes of plant cohorts

A plant cohort  $i$  is either a *tree cohort* or a *shrub cohort*, and is defined using a set of structural attributes shown in the following table, where columns **spwb**, **growth** and **fordyn** indicate whether attributes are required by simulation functions **spwb()**/**pwb()**, **growth()** and **fordyn()**, respectively:

Symbol	Units	R	Description	spwb	growth	fordyn
$SP_i$		<b>Species</b>	Species identity	Y	Y	Y
$H_i$	cm	<b>Height</b>	Average tree or shrub height	Y	Y	Y
$CR_i$		<b>CR</b>	Crown ratio (i.e. ratio between crown length and plant height)	Y	Y	N
$N_i$	ind $\cdot$ ha $^{-1}$	<b>N</b>	Density of tree individuals	N	Y	Y
$DBH_i$	cm	<b>DBH</b>	Tree diameter at breast height	N	Y	Y
$Cover_i$	%	<b>Cover</b>	Shrub percent cover	N	Y	Y
$LAI_i^{live}$	m $^2 \cdot$ m $^{-2}$	<b>LAI_live</b>	(Maximum) leaf area index	Y	Y	N
$LAI_i^{dead}$	m $^2 \cdot$ m $^{-2}$	<b>LAI_dead</b>	Dead leaf area index	Y	Y	N
$LAI_i^{\phi}$	m $^2 \cdot$ m $^{-2}$	<b>LAI_exp</b>	Current expanded leaf area index	Y	Y	N

Symbol	Units	R	Description	spwb	growth	fordyn
$Z_{50,i}$	mm	Z50	Depth above which 50% of the fine root mass is located	Y	Y	Y
$Z_{95,i}$	mm	Z95	Depth above which 95% of the fine root mass is located	Y	Y	Y

Height ( $H$ ) values refer to average height of individuals included in the cohort, and the same for crown ratio ( $CR$ ) and diameter at breast height ( $DBH$ ). While plant size (i.e. height or diameter) is relatively easy to tally, other measurements are not usually made in the field. Package **medfate** includes utility functions that provide estimates  $CR$  and  $LAI$  from forest inventory data (e.g. heights, DBH and density for measured trees), using allometric relationships calibrated for Catalonia (see chapter 20).

### Leaf area index

$LAI$  variables refer to *one-sided leaf area* of plants in the cohort per surface area of the stand. Leaves standing on branches can be alive or dead. We will call *total leaf area index* of a plant cohort  $i$  ( $LAI_i^{all}$ ) to the sum of dead and live (and unfolded) leaves of the cohort:

$$LAI_i^{all} = LAI_i^{\phi} + LAI_i^{dead} \quad (2.8)$$

For simulations not involving growth, winter deciduous phenology is still simulated, and the current level of leaves unfolded may be lower than the maximum (live) amount of leaves. If there are  $c$  plant cohorts, the leaf area index of the whole stand can be calculated for living leaves, unfolded leaves, dead leaves and total leaf area as:

$$LAI_{stand}^{live} = \sum_{i=1}^c LAI_i^{live} \quad (2.9)$$

$$LAI_{stand}^{\phi} = \sum_{i=1}^c LAI_i^{\phi} \quad (2.10)$$

$$LAI_{stand}^{dead} = \sum_{i=1}^c LAI_i^{dead} \quad (2.11)$$

$$LAI_{stand}^{all} = \sum_{i=1}^c LAI_i^{all} = LAI_{stand}^{\phi} + LAI_{stand}^{dead} \quad (2.12)$$

### 2.3.2 Forest plot objects

While the previous section described the structural forest variables required to run simulations in **medfate**, forest plot data input in the package is easier if one uses a format that follows closely the Spanish national forest inventory. In this format, each forest plot is represented in an object of class **forest**, a list that contains several elements:

```
data(exampleforestMED)
exampleforestMED
```

```
## $ID
## [1] "1"
##
## $patchsize
## [1] 10000
##
```

```
## $treeData
##   Species   N   DBH Height Z50  Z95
## 1     148 168 37.55    800 400 2000
## 2     168 384 14.60    660 400 2000
##
## $shrubData
##   Species Cover Height Z50  Z95
## 1     165   3.75    80 300 1500
##
## $herbCover
## [1] 10
##
## $herbHeight
## [1] 20
##
## attr("class")
## [1] "forest" "list"
```

Among them, the most important items are two data frames, `treeData` (for trees) and `shrubData` for shrubs. Information about herbs is currently only used for fire hazard calculations. Elements `ID` and `patchsize` are only relevant when using `medfate` functions in a spatial context.

While not strictly necessary (except for `fordyn()`), `forest` objects are a convenient format to start calculations with `medfate`, because there are many static functions that take forest objects as input and calculate leaf area index for each plant cohort. Another pathway to obtain LAI estimations is by specifying foliar biomass values as additional columns of forest objects.

With the aim to help users in the task of constructing `forest` objects, package `medfateutils` includes functions to map user data in into tables `treeData` and `shrubData`.

### 2.3.3 Vertical leaf distribution

The vegetation inputs for height, leaf area index and crown ratio allow the package to determine the vertical distribution of leaves in the stand. The leaf area of any plant cohort is assumed to be distributed vertically following a **truncated Gaussian function** whose standardized values -1.5 and 1.5 correspond to crown base height ( $H_{crown,i}$ ; in *cm*) and total plant height ( $H_i$ ), respectively. Crown base height is defined as the height corresponding to the first living branch. It is calculated from the crown ratio of the cohort ( $CR_i$ ; a proportion between 0 and 1), which in turn can be estimated as explained in (20.10).

Simulation models in `medfate` divide the vertical dimension into vertical layers (by default are 100 cm width, but see control parameter `verticalLayerSize`). Let us define  $LAI_{i,j}^{all} = LAI_{i,j}^{\phi} + LAI_{i,j}^{dead}$  as the leaf area index of cohort  $i$  in layer  $j$  including both functional leaves and dead leaves standing on branches. The truncated Gaussian distribution defines the  $LAI_{i,j}^{\phi}$  and  $LAI_{i,j}^{dead}$  for all plant cohorts and vertical layers.

Dividing the leaf area of a given layer by its width, one obtains the *leaf area density* ( $LAD$  in  $m^2 \cdot m^{-3}$ ). Figure 2.2 illustrates the leaf area density profile (see function `vprofile_leafAreaDensity()`) corresponding to the forest stand described in the example `forest` object that we showed above.

The leaf area density profile determines the light extinction rates through the forest canopy. The same truncated Gaussian distribution is used to distribute leaf and small branch biomass along the vertical dimension.

### 2.3.4 Vertical root distribution

Roots can be distinguished functionally into two different organs: **coarse roots** are responsible for mechanical support and transport of water and nutrients towards the stem, whereas **fine roots** are responsible for

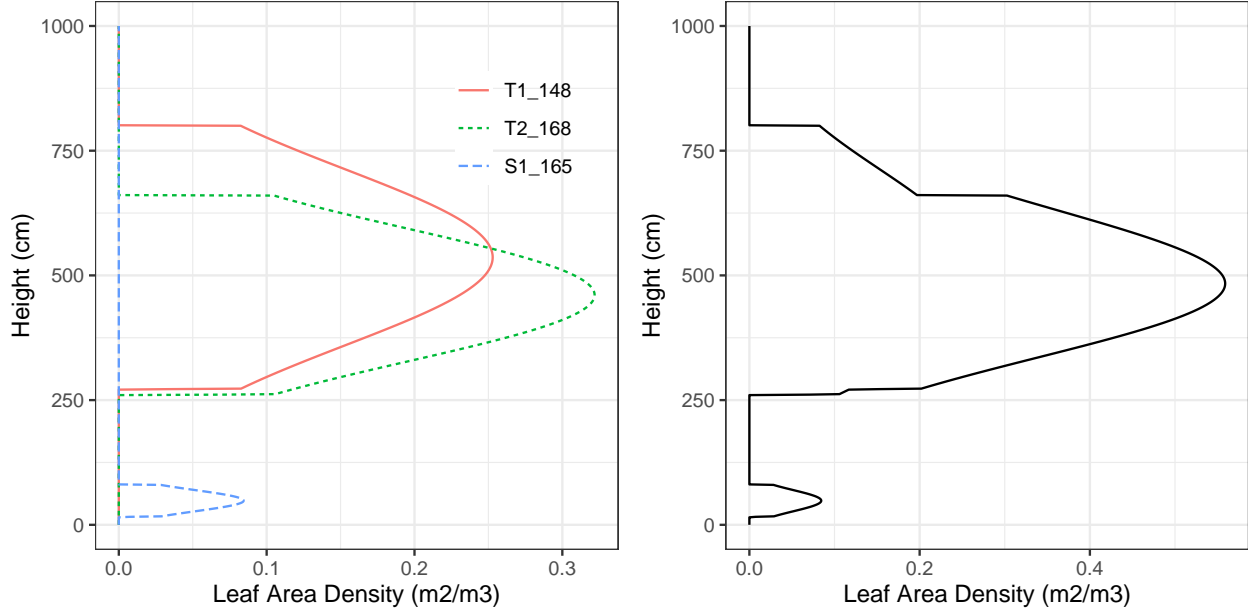


Figure 2.2: Leaf area density distribution in a forest stand. The left panel shows the distribution for each plant cohort separately, whereas the right panel shows the overall density distribution.

absorbing water and nutrients.

Analogously to the aboveground vegetation parameters, inputs describing depths corresponding to 50% and 95% of fine roots ( $Z_{50,i}$  and  $Z_{95,i}$ ) are used to completely specify the distribution of roots across soil layers. The root system of each plant cohort  $i$  is described using  $FRP_{i,s}$ , the proportion of fine roots (with respect to the whole plant) in each soil layer  $s$ .  $FRP_{i,s}$  values are normally defined using the linear dose response model (Schenk & Jackson 2002; Collins & Bras 2007):

$$FRP_{i,s} = Y_i(Z_s) - Y_i(Z_{s-1}) \quad (2.13)$$

$$Y_i(z) = \frac{1}{1 + (z/Z_{50,i})^{c_i}} \quad (2.14)$$

where  $Y_i(z)$  is the cumulative fraction of fine root mass located between surface and depth  $z$ ;  $Z_{50,i}$  is the depth (in mm) above which 50% of the root mass is located; and  $c_i$  is a shape parameter related to  $Z_{50,i}$  and  $Z_{95,i}$  as  $c_i = 2.94 / \ln(Z_{50,i}/Z_{95,i})$ .

The linear dose response model is quite flexible with respect to fine root distribution (see function `root_ldrDistribution()`). The following figure shows the fine root distribution profile of the same cohorts as in fig. 2.2 (see `vprofile_rootDistribution()`):

The actual input to simulation functions `spwb()`, `growth()` and alike, describes fine root distribution using the matrix of  $FRP_{i,s}$  values - not  $Z_{50,i}$  and  $Z_{95,i}$  -, which means that the proportions of fine roots can be modified manually or be defined by another model. In fact, **medfate** also allows calculating  $FRP_{i,s}$  values assuming a conic distribution of fine roots (see `root_conicDistribution()`).

### 2.3.5 Plant water pools and root horizontal distribution

By default, models in **medfate** assume that soil moisture under all plant cohorts is the same (i.e. water sources corresponding to vertical soil layers are shared among cohorts). However, variations in soil moisture beneath plant cohorts (and, implicitly, horizontal variation of soil moisture) can also be simulated if required by the user. Considering plant **water pools** involves partitioning the stand area into fractions corresponding

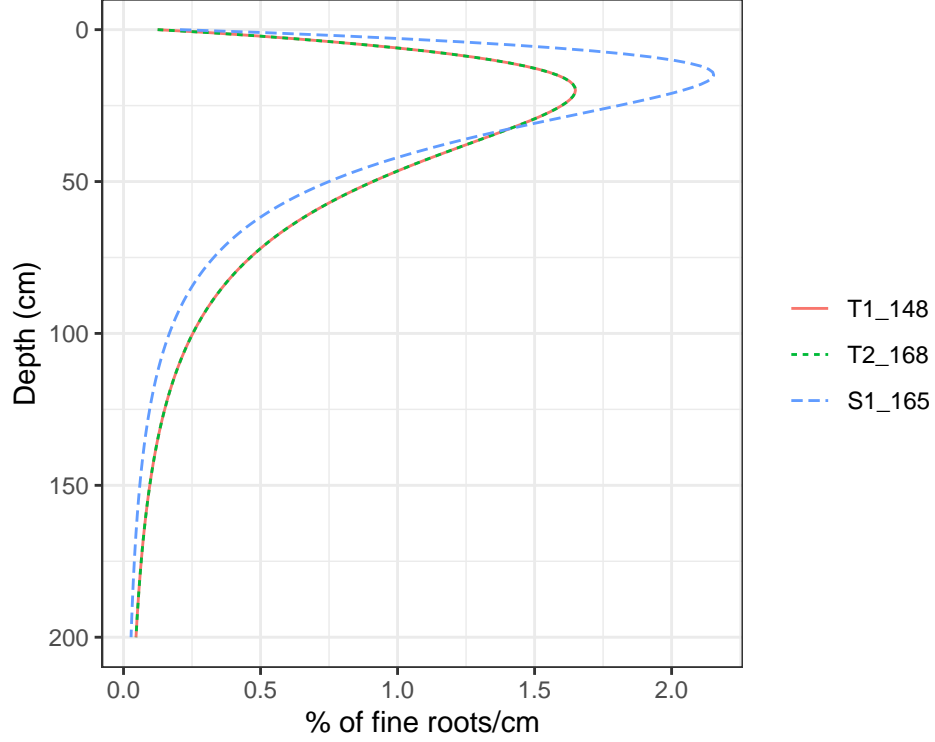


Figure 2.3: Examples of root density profile according to the linear dose response model.

to the abundance of each plant cohort. More specifically, the model defines as many plant water pools as plant cohorts, with proportions defined by their LAI values:

$$f_{pool,i} = \frac{LAI_i^{live}}{LAI_{stand}^{live}} \quad (2.15)$$

Models assume that the rhizosphere of each plant cohort occupies its own water pool but may extend into the water pools under other plant cohorts. In other words, the root systems of different cohorts may overlap horizontally. Moreover, the horizontal overlap of root systems will vary across soil layers. A given plant cohort  $i$  will have its roots in layer  $s$  partitioned among different water pools. We thus need to define  $fr_{i,s,j}$ , the (horizontal) proportion of fine roots of cohort  $i$  in layer  $s$  of the water pool  $j$ , with the restriction that:

$$\sum_j fr_{i,s,j} = 1 \quad \forall i, s \quad (2.16)$$

It is important to realize that proper estimation of  $fr_{i,s,j}$  is challenging when we do not have explicit plant coordinates, root lateral widths, etc. At this point, let us assume we have a reasonable estimate of  $Vol_i$ , the **soil volume explored by coarse roots** of an individual of cohort  $i$ . Assuming that the proportion of fine roots in each layer is proportional to the proportion of total soil volume explored by coarse roots that corresponds to the same layer we have that  $Vol_{i,s}$ , the soil volume explored by coarse roots in layer  $s$  is:

$$Vol_{i,s} = FRP_{i,s} \cdot Vol_i \quad (2.17)$$

In **medfate**, coarse roots are represented by *axial* and *radial* components. The length of axial component of a given layer ( $L_{axial,i,s}$ ) is simply equivalent to its bottom depth, whereas the radial component ( $L_{radial,i,s}$ ) is unknown. However, we can assume that the soil volume explored by coarse roots corresponds to a cylinder:

$$Vol_{i,s} = \pi \cdot L_{radial,i,s}^2 \cdot L_{axial,i,s} \quad (2.18)$$

and substituting the soil volume  $Vol_{i,s}$  in the equation above we can isolate  $L_{radial,i,s}$  (see function `root_coarseRootLengthsFromVolume()`). Once we have the radial component we can estimate the area ( $m^2$ ) covered by coarse roots of an individual of the cohort in a given layer  $s$ :

$$Area_{i,s} = \pi \cdot L_{radial,i,s}^2 \quad (2.19)$$

We can then compare  $Area_{i,s}$  to the area of the water pool for an individual of cohort  $i$ , which in  $m^2$  is:

$$AreaPool_i = 10000 \cdot f_{pool,i} / N_i \quad (2.20)$$

If  $Area_{i,s} \leq AreaPool_i$ , then the roots of the individual do not exceed the area of the pool, in other words  $fr_{i,s,i} = 1$  and  $fr_{i,s,j} = 0$  for all  $j \neq i$ . If  $Area_{i,s} > AreaPool_i$  then the excess should be counted as overlap with the other pools. Assuming that plants are randomly distributed (i.e. no clumping) the probability of finding the pool of a cohort is equal to the proportion of its water pool (see function `root_horizontalProportions()`). All these calculations were done assuming  $Vol_i$  were known. Estimation of  $Vol_i$  depends on the complexity of the water balance model and is explained in A.4.6.

### 2.3.6 Functional traits and vegetation initialization

Besides the physical representation of vegetation, forest ecosystem models require information regarding vegetation functioning, because this influences the outcome of biophysical, physiological and hydrological processes. In the following chapters, we will indicate for each simulated process its required functional parameters. Normally, functional traits are described at the species level because infra-specific parameters are hard to get. Even at the species level, many functional (e.g. physiological) traits are hard to obtain, so in **medfate** we provide a default species parameter table for woody species found in Catalonia, with many of them occurring elsewhere in the Mediterranean Basin (**SpParamsMED**). Recently, a new parameter data set is being developed for plants in California (**SpParamsUS**). User can modify these data frames to account for intra-specific trait variation (see function `modifySpParams()`).

The package provides functions `spwbInput()` and `growthInput()` that prepare the vegetation input for simulation functions `spwb()` and `growth()`, respectively. This initialization mostly consists in compiling the necessary functional traits from the species parameter table, following the  $SP_i$  attribute of plant cohorts. Some new model parameters are estimated from the initial ones, while taking into account the structural attributes of cohorts (an example of these derived quantities is stem conductance, which estimated from stem xylem conductivity, Huber value and plant height). Users can take the output of these initialization functions and replace parameter values for specific plant cohorts (see function `modifyCohortParams()`).

### 2.3.7 Update of structural variables during simulations

Vegetation characteristics stay constant during simulations using functions `spwb()` or `pwb()`, although the actual (unfolded) leaf area and dead leaf area may vary depending on leaf phenology.

In contrast, growth simulation requires updating the structure of vegetation, i.e. heights, tree diameters and shrub cover. Function `growth()` can modify any of the vegetation attributes. Finally, function `fordyn()` modifies not only structural variables of the initial cohorts but also involves the recruitment of new woody cohorts during simulations.

## 2.4 Metereological input

Weather input data must include variables calculated at the **daily** scale. Weather data should be arranged in a data frame with days in rows and variables in columns. The following table indicates the symbols, units, definitions and the variable name in R.

Symbol	Units	R param	Description	Basic	Advanced
$T_{mean}$	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	MeanTemperature	Mean temperature	Y	Y
$T_{min}$	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	MinTemperature	Minimum temperature	N	Y
$T_{max}$	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	MaxTemperature	Maximum temperature	N	Y
$RH_{min}$	%	MinRelativeHumidity	Minimum relative humidity	N	Y
$RH_{max}$	%	MaxRelativeHumidity	Maximum relative humidity	N	Y
$P$	$L \cdot m^{-2} = mm$	Precipitation	Precipitation (either rainfall or snow).	Y	Y
$PET$	$L \cdot m^{-2} = mm$	PET	Potential evapotranspiration, preferably calculated using Penman's (1948) equation	Y	N
$Rad$	$MJ \cdot m^{-2}$	Radiation	Solar radiation after accounting for clouds	(opt.)	Y
$u$	$m \cdot s^{-1}$	WindSpeed	Wind speed	Y	Y
$C_{atm}$	$ppm$	CO2	Atmospheric (above-canopy) $CO_2$ concentration	N	Y

Dates are needed in **medfate** to estimate parameters like solar declination or the day of the year (*DOY*). Importantly, *dates* should be included as row names (in format *year-month-day*) of the input meteorology data frame. Since it allows producing data frames with appropriate variable units and row/column names, we recommend meteorological input to be generated using package **meteoland** (De Cáceres *et al.* 2018), but many other sources are possible.

Not all simulation models require all weather variables (see rightmost columns in the previous table). In particular, basic water balance modelling (chapter 3) requires much less information than advance water balance modelling (chapter 7). The weather input requirements for modelling growth (chapter 15) or forest dynamics (chapter 18) depend on the complexity of the water balance model used within it.

Whereas the weather variables listed in the table above are input requirements, **medfate** derives other atmospheric variables from them, using also topographic information (see utility functions of the **meteoland** reference manual):

Symbol	Units	R param	Description
$P_{atm}$	$kPa$		Atmospheric pressure
$\rho_{air}$	$kg \cdot m^{-3}$		Air density
$e_{atm}$	$kPa$		Atmospheric water vapor pressure

## 2.5 Simulation control

Simulation control parameters are a list of global parameter values, initialized using function `defaultControl()`, that the user can modify to change the general behavior of simulation functions. Here is the set of global control parameters currently accepted in **medfate**:

```
names(defaultControl())
```

```
## [1] "modifyInput"                "fillMissingSpParams"      "verbose"
## [4] "subdailyResults"            "transpirationMode"        "soilFunctions"
## [7] "defaultWindSpeed"           "snowpack"                  "leafPhenology"
## [10] "rockyLayerDrainage"         "unlimitedSoilWater"        "plantWaterPools"
```

## [13] "unfoldingDD"	"verticalLayerSize"	"windMeasurementHei
## [16] "cavitationRefill"	"ndailysteps"	"nsubsteps"
## [19] "cochard"	"capacitance"	"taper"
## [22] "multiLayerBalance"	"gainModifier"	"costModifier"
## [25] "costWater"	"klatstem"	"klatleaf"
## [28] "numericParams"	"fracLeafResistance"	"fracRootResistance"
## [31] "averageFracRhizosphereResistance"	"Catm"	"thermalCapacityLAI"
## [34] "boundaryLayerSize"	"refillMaximumRate"	"allowDessication"
## [37] "allowStarvation"	"allowDefoliation"	"sinkLimitation"
## [40] "shrubDynamics"	"allocationStrategy"	"nonStomatalPhotosyn"
## [43] "phloemConductanceFactor"	"nonSugarConcentration"	"equilibriumOsmotic"
## [46] "minimumRelativeSugarForGrowth"	"constructionCosts"	"respirationRates"
## [49] "senescenceRates"	"maximumRelativeGrowthRates"	"mortalityMode"
## [52] "mortalityBaselineRate"	"mortalityRelativeSugarThreshold"	"mortalityRWCThresh"
## [55] "allowRecruitment"	"recruitmentMode"	"removeEmptyCohorts"
## [58] "minimumCohortDensity"	"seedRain"	"seedProductionTree"
## [61] "seedProductionShrubHeight"	"minTempRecr"	"minMoistureRecr"
## [64] "minFPARRecr"	"recrTreeDBH"	"recrTreeDensity"
## [67] "recrTreeHeight"	"recrShrubCover"	"recrShrubHeight"
## [70] "recrTreeZ50"	"recrShrubZ50"	"recrTreeZ95"
## [73] "recrShrubZ95"		

Control parameters are employed when initializing vegetation inputs and state variables using functions `spwbInput()` and `growthInput()`, since they are needed also to make decisions at the point of initialization. Control parameters are also stored in the result of these functions, so the user does not need to specify again control parameters when calling simulation functions such as `spwb()` or `growth()`. Function `fordyn()` is different than the other simulation functions, because the list control parameters is directly passed to the function.

Not all control parameters are relevant to all simulation functions (this will be indicated in the following chapters). However, there are a set of parameters that apply to all simulations:

- **verbose** [=TRUE]: Whether extra console output is desired during simulations.
- **modifyInput** [= TRUE]: Boolean flag to indicate that simulations will modify the input object. If set to **FALSE**, simulations will not modify the input R object but return the current (modified) state variables within the output. In function `fordyn()` option `modifyInput` is always set to **FALSE**.
- **fillMissingSpParams** [=TRUE]: Boolean flag to indicate that functions `spwbInput()` and `growthInput()` should provide estimates for functional parameters if these are lacking in the species parameter table `SpParams`. Note that if `fillMissingSpParams` is set to **FALSE** then simulations may fail if the user does not provide values for required parameters.
- **subdailyResults** [=FALSE]: Boolean flag to force subdaily results to be stored in calls to `spwb()`. Subdaily results are returned as a list called `subdaily` of `spwb_day` objects, one by simulated date. In function `fordyn()` option `subdailyResults` is always set to **FALSE** and, hence, subdaily results are not possible.

In addition, there is an important control parameter called `transpirationMode`, because it allows the user to switch between the *basic* and *advanced* water balance models (chapters 3 and 7). Another relevant control parameter is `plantWaterPools`, which allows considering plant water pools as explained in 2.3.5.



## Part II

# Basic water balance modelling



## Chapter 3

# Basic water balance model

This chapter provides an overview of the water balance model described in De Cáceres *et al.* (2015), which allows simulating water flows, soil moisture and plant drought stress dynamics on a daily step basis for a given forest stand and for the period corresponding to input weather data. The model is run using function `spwb()`, for a set of days, or function `spwb_day()`, for a single day. Alternatively, one can use function `pwb()` to evaluate plant transpiration and drought stress resulting from given weather and soil moisture dynamics.

The information provided in this chapter should be enough to understand what the model does and when it can be useful, but the reading the following ones should provide a more detailed understanding on how the different processes are formulated.

### 3.1 Design principles

The model considers only the vertical spatial dimension of the stand and not the horizontal distribution of plants within it. In other words, the model is not spatially explicit (i.e., plants do not have horizontal coordinates nor interact for space explicitly). Woody vegetation in the stand is divided into groups, here referred to as *plant cohorts* of different species, height and leaf area index (*LAI*). Height and *LAI* values determine competition for light. *LAI* values also drive competition for soil water, along with fine root distribution.

The soil water balance follows the design principles of SIERRA (Mouillot *et al.* 2001; Ruffault *et al.* 2013, 2014) and BILJOU (Granier *et al.* 1999, 2007), although some features are taken from other models (Ker-goat 1998). Hydrological processes include water interception loss (Gash *et al.* 1995), plant transpiration, evaporation from soil (Ritchie 1972) and the partition between infiltration and runoff (Boughton 1989). Infiltrated water is either retained by capilarity or percolates through soil layers, depending on macroporosity, and water exceeding soil water holding capacity is lost beyond the rooting zone via deep drainage. Snow pack dynamics can also be simulated. Potential evapotranspiration (*PET*) is a required input and the model determines maximum canopy transpiration ( $Tr_{\max}$ ) using an empirical relationship between the *LAI* of the stand and the ratio  $Tr_{\max}/PET$  (Granier *et al.* 1999). Actual plant transpiration is estimated using a function that depends not only on  $Tr_{\max}$  but also on current soil moisture levels, cohort-specific drought resistance, fine root distribution and the degree of shading of the target plant cohort.

By default, the model assumes that soil moisture under all plant cohorts is the same (i.e. water sources corresponding to vertical soil layers are shared among cohorts). However, variations in soil moisture beneath plant cohorts (and, implicitly, horizontal variation of soil moisture) can be simulated. In this case, hydrological processes are replicated for the fraction of soil corresponding to each cohort. Transpiration of each plant cohort depends on the soil moisture beneath itself and, depending on root overlap, on the soil moisture beneath other plant cohorts.

### 3.2 State variables

The following are state variables in the model under all simulations:

- Cumulative degree days (a) to budburst, (b) to complete unfolding or (c) to senescence ( $S_{eco,d}$ ,  $S_{unf,d}$  or  $S_{sen,d}$ ; all in  $^{\circ}C$ ), are tracked by the model to determine leaf phenological status (see 4.1).
- Soil moisture content dynamics on each layer  $s$  are tracked daily using  $W_s = \theta_s(\Psi)/\theta_{fc,s}$ , the *proportion of soil moisture in relation to field capacity*, where moisture at field capacity,  $\theta_{fc,s}$ , is assumed to correspond to  $\Psi_{fc} = -0.033$  MPa. Note that  $W_s$  values larger than one are possible if the soil is between field capacity and saturation (which can happen if deep drainage is not allowed).

Additional state variables depend on the activation of specific control flags:

- *If snow accumulation/melting is considered*, the model tracks  $S_{snow}$ , the snow water equivalent (in mm) of the snow pack storage over the surface.
- *If stem cavitation is not completely reversible*, the model tracks  $PLC_i$ , the proportion of stem conductivity lost by plants of cohort  $i$ .
- *If plant water pools are considered*, the model also tracks  $W_{i,s}$ , the proportion of soil moisture in relation to field capacity for layer  $s$  within the areal fraction of the stand covered by cohort  $i$ .

### 3.3 Water balance

Daily variations in soil water content ( $\Delta V_{soil}$  in mm) can be summarized as:

$$\Delta V_{soil} = Pr + Sm - In - Ru - Dd - Es - Tr \quad (3.1)$$

where  $Pr$  is precipitation as rainfall,  $Sm$  is water from melting the snow pack (if considered),  $In$  is the interception loss (i.e., water evaporated after being intercepted by the canopy),  $Ru$  is surface runoff,  $Dd$  is deep drainage (i.e. water percolated to layers beyond soil depth),  $Es$  is evaporation from soil and  $Tr$  is plant transpiration.

While the above describes the default water balance equation, variations can occur depending on specific control flags:

- If snow dynamics are considered*, the water balance of the snow pack ( $\Delta S_{snow}$  in mm of snow water equivalents) is defined as:

$$\Delta S_{snow} = Ps - Sm \quad (3.2)$$

where  $Ps$  is precipitation as snowfall and  $Sm$  is snow melt. Evaporation from bare soil cannot occur if there is a snow pack over the soil (i.e., if  $S_{snow} > 0$  then  $Es = 0$ ).

- If plant water pools are considered*, the water balance equation applies not only to the soil of the overall stand but also to the soil beneath each plant cohort. The fraction of stand area covered by each cohort is used to keep the water balance at the two scales aligned. Moreover, the water balances of soils beneath the different plant cohort are more or less correlated depending on root overlap.

### 3.4 Process scheduling

For every day to be simulated, the model performs the following steps:

1. Update leaf area values according to the phenology of species and recalculate light extinction (sections 4.1 and 4.2).

2. If snow dynamics are included, increase snow pack from snow precipitation ( $Ps$ ) and decrease it following snow melt ( $Sm$ ) (section 5.2).
3. Determine rainfall interception loss ( $In$ ) and net rainfall ( $Pr_{net}$ ) (section 5.3)
4. Increase soil water content due to net rainfall ( $Pr_{net}$ ), surface runoff ( $Ro$ ) and snow melt ( $Sm$ ), after accounting for surface runoff ( $Ru$ ) and deep drainage ( $Dd$ ) (section 5.4).
5. Decrease soil water content due to bare soil evaporation ( $Es$ ), if snow is not present (section 5.5).
6. Determine transpiration, photosynthesis and drought stress for each plant cohort and decrease soil water content due to plant transpiration ( $Tr$ ) (chapter 6).

Details of the formulation of each of these processes are provided within the referred chapters and sections. *If plant water pools are considered*, steps 4-5 are performed for each plant water pool separately, step 6 involves extracting water from different plant water pools depending on the proportion of fine roots of each cohort in each pool (see 6.1.3).

## 3.5 Inputs and outputs

### 3.5.1 Soil, vegetation and meteorology

#### Soil

Soil input requirements are fully described in section 2.2.

#### Vegetation

Vegetation input requirements are fully described in section 2.3. Trees and shrubs do not need to be characterized with different variables in soil water balance calculations, since both kinds of cohorts have a  $LAI$  value. In most cases, users only need to estimate the leaf area index corresponding to live leaves, i.e.  $LAI^{live}$ , because normally at the starting point all leaves are expanded (i.e.  $LAI^\phi = LAI^{live}$ ) and one can assume no dead leaves in the canopy (i.e.,  $LAI^{dead} = 0$ ). Vegetation characteristics stay constant during simulations using function `spwb()`, although the actual expanded leaf area ( $LAI^\phi$ ) and dead leaf area ( $LAI^{dead}$ ) may vary if the species is winter deciduous.

#### Meteorology

The minimum daily weather variables required to run the model are mean temperature ( $T_{mean}$ ), precipitation ( $P$ ) and potential evapotranspiration ( $PET$ ). Solar radiation ( $Rad$ ) is required if snow pack dynamics have to be simulated. Additionally, the user may also specify values of wind speed ( $u$ ) that are used to control leaf fall in autumn. Definitions and units of these variables are given in section 2.4.

### 3.5.2 Vegetation functional parameters

A relatively small set of functional parameters should be supplied for each plant cohort  $i$ . A first set of parameters relate to light extinction and water interception (`paramsInterception`):

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$k_{PAR}$		kPAR	PAR extinction coefficient (see section 4.2).
$s_{water}$	$mm\ H_2O\ LAI^{-1}$		Crown water storage capacity (i.e. depth of water that can be retained by leaves and branches) per LAI unit (see section 5.3).

A second set refers to leaf phenology (`paramsPhenology`):

Symbol	Units	R	Description
		<b>PhenologyType</b>	Phenology type (oneflush-evergreen, progressive-evergreen, winter-deciduous, winter-semideciduous)
$LD$	years	<b>LeafDuration</b>	Longe duration of leaves (in years).
$t_{0,eco}$	days	<b>t0gdd</b>	Date to start the accumulation of degree days.
$S_{eco}^*$	$^{\circ}C$	<b>Sgdd</b>	Degree days corresponding to leaf budburst (see section 4.1.2).
$T_{eco}$	$^{\circ}C$	<b>Tbgdd</b>	Base temperature for the calculation of degree days to leaf budburst (see section 4.1.2).
$S_{sen}^*$	$^{\circ}C$	<b>Ssen</b>	Degree days corresponding to leaf senescence (see section 4.1.3).
$Ph_{sen}$	hours	<b>Phsen</b>	Photoperiod corresponding to start counting senescence degree-days (see section 4.1.3).
$T_{sen}$	$^{\circ}C$	<b>Tbsen</b>	Base temperature for the calculation of degree days to leaf senescence (see section 4.1.3).
$x_{sen}$	{0,1,2}	<b>xsen</b>	Discrete values, to allow for any absent/proportional/more than proportional effects of temperature on senescence (see section 4.1.3).
$y_{sen}$	{0,1,2}	<b>ysen</b>	Discrete values, to allow for any absent/proportional/more than proportional effects of photoperiod on senescence (see section 4.1.3).

A second set of parameters are related to transpiration and photosynthesis (**paramsTranspiration**):

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$T_{max,LAI}$		<b>Tmax_LAI</b>	Empirical coefficient relating LAI with the ratio of maximum transpiration over potential evapotranspiration (see section 6.1.1).
$T_{max,sqLAI}$		<b>Tmax_LAIsq</b>	Empirical coefficient relating squared LAI with the ratio of maximum transpiration over potential evapotranspiration (see section 6.1.1).
$\Psi_{extract}$	$MPa$	<b>Psi_Extract</b>	Plant water potential at which plant transpiration is 50% of its maximum (see section 6.1.2).
$\Psi_{critic}$	$MPa$	<b>Psi_Critic</b>	Plant water potential corresponding to 50% of cavitation (see section 6.2.2).
$WUE_{max}$	$g\ C\cdot mm^{-1}$	<b>WUE</b>	Maximum water use efficiency under full light and no water limitations (see section 6.1.4).
$WUE_{decay}$		<b>WUE_decay</b>	Exponent describing the decay of water use efficiency with low light levels (see section 6.1.4).
$K_{rootdisc}$	[0-1]	<b>pRootDisc</b>	Whole-plant relative transpiration corresponding to hydraulic disconnection from the soil (see section 6.2.2).

Vegetation functional attributes are normally filled for each cohort  $i$  by function **spwbInput()** or **forest2spwbInput()** from species identity (i.e.  $SP_i$ ). However, different parameters can be specified for different cohorts of the same species if desired (see section 2.3.6).

### 3.5.3 Control parameters

Control parameters modulate the overall behaviour of water balance simulations (see section 2.5). Most importantly, **transpirationMode** defines the transpiration model, which in turn defines the complexity of the water balance model. If **transpirationMode** = "Granier" (the default value) then the basic water balance model is used.

The other control parameters for the basic water balance model are:

- **soilFunctions** [= "SX"]: Soil water retention curve and conductivity functions, either 'SX' (for Saxton) or 'VG' (for Van Genuchten).

- **defaultWindSpeed** [= 2.5]: Default value for wind speed (in  $m \cdot s^{-1}$ ) when this is missing (only used for leaf fall, see section 4.1).
- **snowpack** [= TRUE]: Whether dynamics of snow pack are included (see section 5.2).
- **leafPhenology** [= TRUE]: Whether leaf phenology is simulated (see section 4.1). If FALSE then all species are assumed to be evergreen.
- **rockyLayerDrainage** [= TRUE]: Whether water exceeding the field capacity of the deepest layer can be drained via macropore flow towards a non-reachable compartment, only for layers with > 95% rocks (see section 5.4).
- **unlimitedSoilWater** [=FALSE]: Boolean flag to indicate the simulation of plant transpiration assuming that soil water is always at field capacity.
- **unfoldingDD** [= 300]: Degree-days for complete leaf unfolding after budburst has occurred ( $S_{unf}^*$ ; see section 4.1.2).
- **plantWaterPools** [=FALSE]: Boolean flag to indicate the simulation of water balance assuming that each cohort has its own water pools.
- **verticalLayerSize** [= 100]: Size of vertical layers (in cm) for the calculation of light extinction (see section 2.3.3).
- **windMeasurementHeight** [= 200]: Height (in cm) over the canopy corresponding to wind measurements.
- **cavitationRefill** [= "total"]: A string indicating how refilling of embolized conduits is done (see section 6.2.2. Allowed values are:
  - "none" - no refilling.
  - "annual" - every first day of the year.
  - "total" - instantaneous complete refilling.

### 3.5.4 Model output

Functions **spwb()** and **pwb()** return a list of a class with the same name. The first four elements of this list (i.e., **latitude**, **topography**, **spwbInput** and **soilInput**) are simply copies of model inputs. The next four elements correspond to *water balance flows*, *soil state variables*, *stand-level variables*, and *plant-level variables*:

Element	Description
<b>WaterBalance</b>	Climatic input and water balance flows (i.e. net precipitation, infiltration, runoff, transpiration...). All of them in $mm = l \cdot m^{-2}$ .
<b>Soil</b>	Soil variables for each soil layer: Moisture relative to field capacity ( $W_s$ ), water potential ( $\Psi_s$ ) and volumetric water content ( $V_s$ ).
<b>Stand</b>	Stand-level variables, such as $LAI_{stand}^\phi$ , $LAI_{stand}^{dead}$ , the water retention capacity of the canopy ( $S_{canopy}$ ) or the fraction of light reaching the ground ( $L_{ground}^{PAR}$ and $L_{ground}^{SWR}$ ).
<b>Plants</b>	Plant-level variables, such as $LAI_i^{phi}$ , plant transpiration, plant water potential, etc.

Elements **WaterBalance**, **Soil** and **Stand** are data frame with dates in rows and variables in columns, whereas **Plants** is itself a list with several elements, with dates in rows and plant cohorts in columns:

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
<b>LAI</b>	$LAI_i^\phi$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$	Leaf area index (expanded).
<b>AbsorbedSWRFraction</b>	$f_{sw}$	[0-1]	Fraction of shortwave radiation absorbed.
<b>Transpiration</b>	$Tr_i$	mm	Transpiration per unit ground area.
<b>GrossPhotosynthesis</b>	$gC$	$gC \cdot m^{-2}$	Gross photosynthesis per unit ground area.
<b>PlantPsi</b>	$\Psi_{leaf,i}$	$MPa$	Plant water potential.
<b>StemPLC</b>	$PLC_i$	[0-1]	Degree of stem embolisation.

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
<b>PlantStress</b>	$DDS_i$	[0-1]	Drought stress level suffered by each plant cohort (relative whole-plant transpiration).

The output of simulations can be inspected using `plot` and `summary` functions specific to `spwb` objects (examples are given in the corresponding package *vignette*).

As it simulates water balance for only one day, function `spwb_day()` returns a much more reduced output. This function is most useful with advanced water balance modelling (chapter 7).

### 3.6 Applications

The basic water balance model is relatively easy to parametrize and use. Moreover, the model is quite fast. These features make it appropriate for applications that do not seek a high predictive at the plant level, but require robust estimates at the stand, landscape or regional levels. In our opinion the basic water balance model may be useful for the following applications:

1. To monitor or forecast temporal variation in transpiration flows and soil water content in particular stands or in multiple stands across a landscape or region.
2. Monitor or forecast temporal variation of plant drought stress in particular stands or in multiple stands across a landscape or region (for example to anticipate mortality events).

For example, Karavani *et al.* (2018) employed the water balance to provide sound estimates of soil moisture dynamics to predict mushroom production in a network forest stands. The model is particularly interesting to test the relationship between forest structure/composition and the water balance at the stand level or the drought stress suffered by plants, as done in Ameztegui *et al.* (2017). See also another application in Rolo & Moreno (2019).



## Chapter 4

# Leaf phenology and light extinction

Leaf phenology determines seasonal variations in the surface area of leaves, hence influencing the energy and water exchange between plants and the atmosphere. Light extinction is an important process to consider in a model where plants have different heights.

### 4.1 Leaf phenology

#### 4.1.1 Phenological types and leaf expanded area

Plant species can have either *progressive evergreen*, *one-flush evergreen*, *winter-deciduous*, *winter semi-deciduous* or *drought-deciduous* leaf phenology (see Fig. 4.1). Progressive evergreen plants are assumed to shed old leaves at the same time as new leaves appear, so that the leaf area remains constant throughout the year. One-flush evergreen plants concentrate leaf unfolding and leaf senescence during similar periods, so that leaf area is also approximately constant year-round. In winter-deciduous plants, leaf shedding and leaf bud formation occurs in autumn. Buds remain under dormancy until spring, when budburst and unfolding occurs. The difference between semi-deciduous and deciduous plants is that the former retain dead leaves in the plant until next season unfolding period, so that leaf fall is retarded. Finally, drought-deciduous plants behave like progressive-evergreen plants except that they can shed their leaves in response to drought.

Evergreen plants thus maintain constant leaf area over the year, whereas in deciduous plants leaf-expanded status is updated daily, represented by  $\phi_i$ , the fraction of maximum leaf area:

$$LAI_i^\phi = LAI_i^{live} \cdot \phi_i \quad (4.1)$$

whereas for evergreen species  $LAI_i^\phi = LAI_i^{live}$  (or equivalently  $\phi_i = 1$  at all times).

The general structure of process based phenological models explained in Chuine *et al.* (2013). These models aim determine, for a given phenological phase  $n$  (endodormancy, ecodormancy, maturation, etc), the day of its finalisation  $d_n$ , such that the following equation holds:

$$S_{n,d} = \sum_{d_{n-1}}^{d_n} R_{n,d} = S_n^* \quad (4.2)$$

where  $S_{n,d}$  is the state of development on day  $d$  in phase  $n$ , and  $d_{n-1}$  is the end of the previous phase.  $R_{n,d}$  is the rate of development during phase  $n$  on day  $d$ , which depends on environmental variables (temperature, photoperiod, ...) and  $S_n^*$  is the critical threshold to achieve the change of phase.

In the water balance model leaf area index ( $LAI$ ) values of winter (semi-)deciduous plants are adjusted for leaf phenology following a leaf development model in spring and a leaf senescence model in autumn. Function `pheno_updateLeaves()` updates the status of expanded leaves and dead leaves in a simulation object.

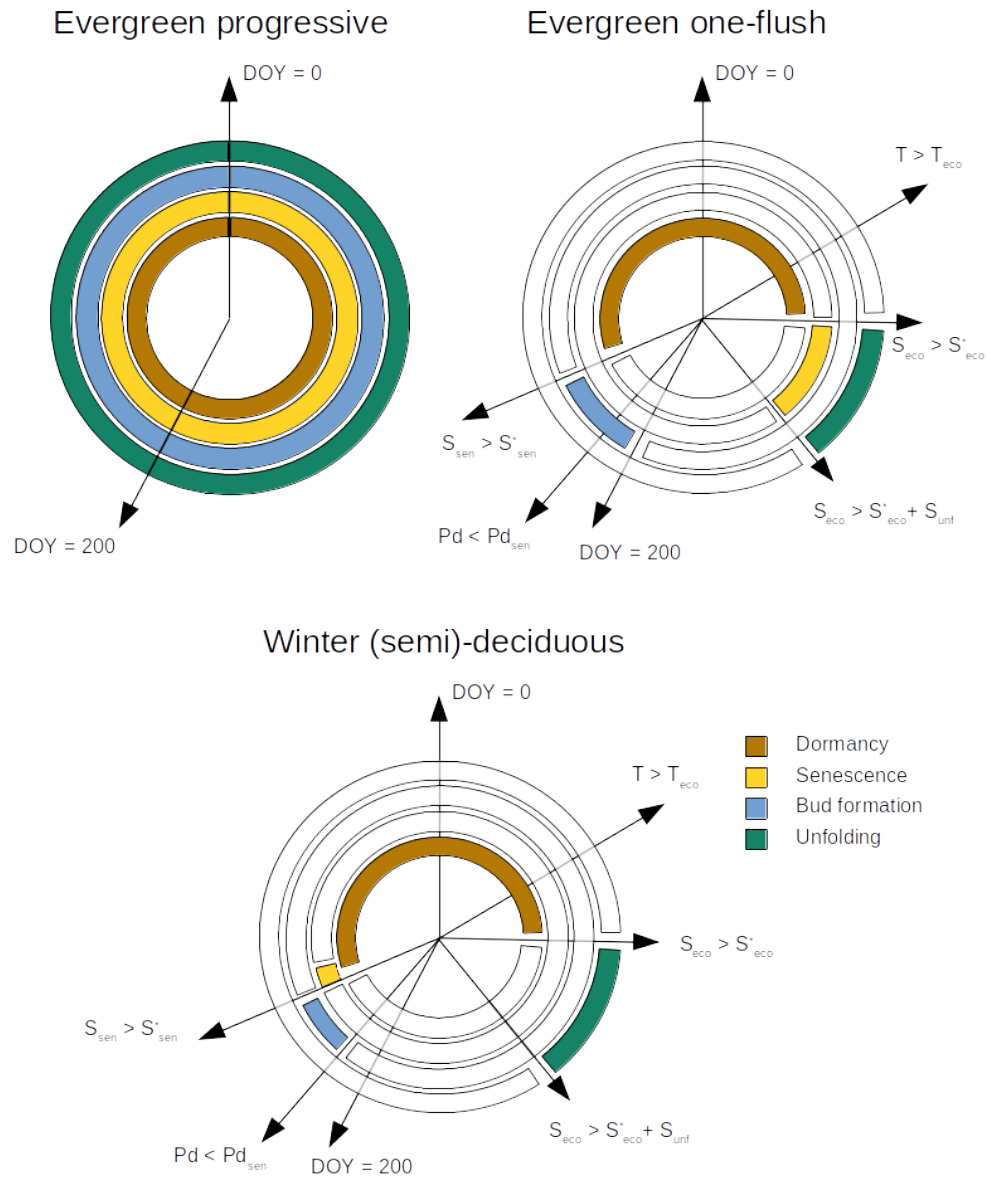


Figure 4.1: Schematic representation of leaf phenology types

### 4.1.2 Bud burst and leaf unfolding

Transition from ecodormancy to bud burst is estimated using a very simple one-phase ecodormancy model (also called the spring warming model) implemented in function `pheno_leafDevelopmentStatus()`. Given a base temperature ( $T_{eco}$ , in °C), the rate of development during the ecodormancy phase ( $R_{eco}$ , in °C) is zero for those days where mean temperature  $T_{mean}$  is below  $T_{eco}$  and  $T_{mean} - T_{eco}$  for those days where temperatures become warmer than this threshold:

$$R_{eco,d}(T_d) = \begin{cases} 0 & T_d \leq T_{eco} \\ T_d - T_{eco} & T_d > T_{eco} \end{cases} \quad (4.3)$$

Degree accumulation starts after the year date surpasses parameter  $t_{0,eco}$ . If  $DOY > t_{0,eco}$ , daily  $R_{eco,d}$  values are added to the cumulative sum  $S_{eco,d}$  and budburst occurs when  $S_{eco,d} > S_{eco}^*$ . Both  $T_{eco}$  and  $S_{eco}^*$  are plant-specific parameters in `spwbInput`.

After budburst, we model progressive leaf unfolding in a similar manner, by accumulating degree days using the same definition as for  $R_{eco,d}$ :

$$R_{unf,d} = R_{eco,d} \quad (4.4)$$

and then defining an unfolding development status  $S_{unf,d} = \sum_{d,eco}^d R_{unf,d}$ , which we use to determine  $\phi_{i,d}$ , the degree of leaf expansion of cohort  $i$  at day  $d$ :

$$\phi_{i,d} = S_{unf,d} / S_{unf}^* \quad (4.5)$$

until  $S_{unf,d} \geq S_{unf}^*$  and the unfolding process ends, where  $S_{unf}^*$  is a simulation control parameter `unfoldingDD`.

### 4.1.3 Leaf senescence

Leaf senescence follows the models developed by Delpierre *et al.* (2009). The daily rate of development of senescence  $R_{sen,d}$  is defined on the basis of daily photoperiod ( $Ph_d$ , in hours) and temperature ( $T_d$ , in °C):

$$R_{sen,d}(Ph_d, T_d) = \begin{cases} 0 & T_d \geq T_{sen} \text{ or } Ph_d > Ph_{sen} \\ (T_d - T_{sen})^{x_{sen}} \cdot (Ph_d / Ph_{sen})^{y_{sen}} & T_d < T_{sen} \text{ and } Ph_d < Ph_{sen} \end{cases} \quad (4.6)$$

where  $Ph_{sen}$  is the maximum photoperiod to start counting the senescence;  $x_{sen}$  and  $y_{sen}$  are exponents regulating the importance of temperature and photoperiod on leaf senescence. The state of development of senescence  $S_{sen,d}$  is defined

$$S_{sen,d} = \sum R_{sen,d} \quad (4.7)$$

and when  $S_{sen,d} \geq S_{sen}^*$  then expanded leaves are assumed to suddenly die. This model is implemented in function `pheno_leafSenescenceStatus()` and returns  $\phi_{i,d} = 1$  for all days until  $S_{sen,d} \geq S_{sen}^*$  when it returns  $\phi_{i,d} = 0$ . Parameters  $T_{sen}$ ,  $Ph_{sen}$  and  $S_{sen}^*$  are plant-specific parameters in `spwbInput`.

### 4.1.4 Leaf abscission

The drop of  $\phi_i$  causes live expanded leaves to become dead leaves. To avoid a sudden decrease of leaf area, dead leaves are kept in the canopy and they are reduced daily using a negative exponential function of wind speed:

$$LAI_i^{dead} = LAI_i^{dead} \cdot e^{-u/10} \quad (4.8)$$

where  $u$  is wind speed in ( $m \cdot s^{-1}$ ).

## 4.2 Light extinction

The proportion of photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) and short-wave radiation (SWR; 400-3000 nm) decreases through the canopy following the Beer-Lambert's light extinction equation.  $L_{ground}^{PAR}$ , the proportion of PAR that reaches the ground, is calculated as:

$$L_{ground}^{PAR} = e^{-\sum_{i=1}^c k_{PAR,i} \cdot LAI_i^{all}} \quad (4.9)$$

where  $k_{PAR,i}$  is the PAR extinction coefficient of cohort  $i$ . We can also define  $L_i^{PAR}$  as the proportion of PAR available for a given plant cohort  $i$ , which we associate to the PAR available at a height corresponding to half of the cohort's crown. This height will include some self-shading of the target cohort.

The proportion of short-wave radiation (SWR) energy absorbed by each plant cohort needs to be calculated to divide the transpiration of the stand among cohorts (chapter 6), and the radiation absorbed by the soil is needed to calculate soil evaporation (section 5.5). Foliage absorbs a higher proportion of PAR than SWR; thus, the extinction coefficient is higher for PAR than for SWR. However, values for the ratio of extinction coefficients are rather constant. Following Friend et al. (1997) it is assumed that the extinction coefficient for PAR is 1.35 times larger than that for SWR (i.e.  $k_{SWR,i} = k_{PAR,i}/1.35$ ). Figure 4.2 shows the PAR and SWR extinction profiles (see functions `vprofile_PARExtinction()` and `vprofile_SWRExtinction()`) corresponding to the leaf area density distribution of Fig. 2.2.

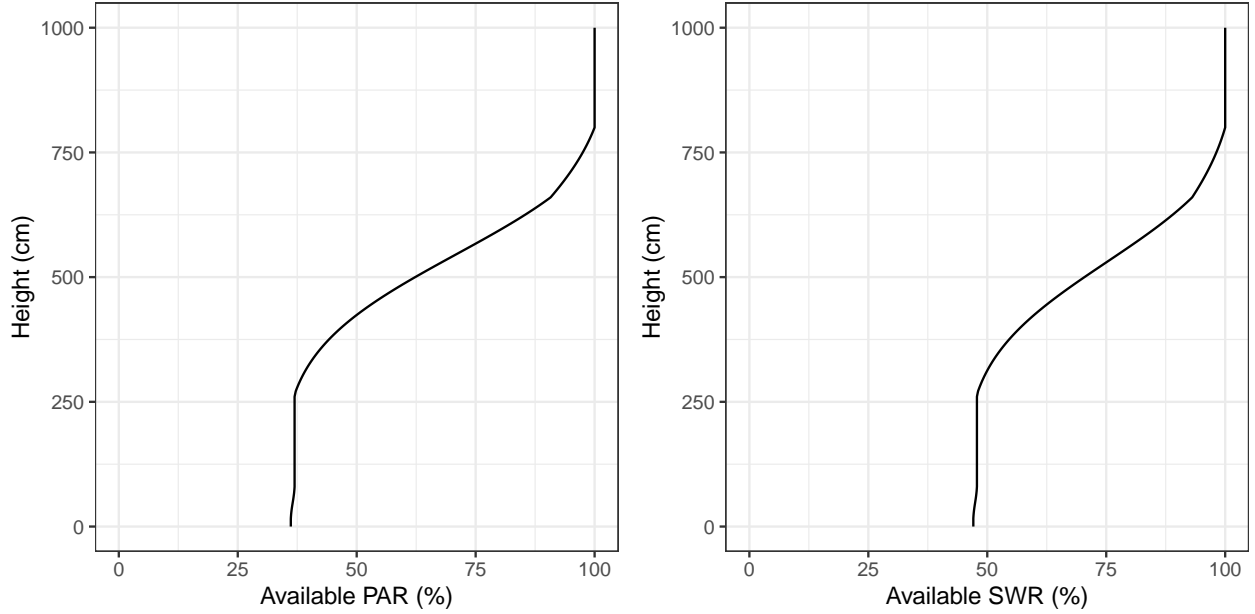


Figure 4.2: Light extinction in a forest stand. Note the sharper decrease of PAR (left panel) in comparison to SWR (right panel)

To calculate radiation absorption, where the vertical dimension of the plot is divided into layers (as explained in 2.3.3), and the SWR absorbed is calculated for each plant cohort in each layer. Let  $l$  be the number of vertical layers. The fraction of radiation incident on layer  $j$  that is absorbed in the same layer is:

$$f_j = 1 - e^{-\sum_{i=1}^c k_{SWR,i} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{all}} \quad (4.10)$$

where  $LAI_{i,j}^{all}$  is the leaf area index of cohort  $i$  in layer  $j$ . Hence, the fraction transmitted is  $(1 - f_j)$ . The fraction of radiation incident on layer  $j$  that is absorbed by expanded leaves of plant cohort  $i$  in that layer ( $f_{ij}$ ) is calculated from the relative contribution of these leaves to the total absorption in the layer:

$$f_{ij} = f_j \cdot \frac{k_{SWR,i} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{\phi}}{\sum_{h=1}^c k_{SWR,h} \cdot LAI_{h,j}^{all}} \quad (4.11)$$

The fraction of canopy radiation absorbed by a plant cohort  $i$  across all layers is found by adding the fraction absorbed in each layer:

$$f_i = \sum_{j=1}^l f_{ij} \cdot \prod_{h>j}^l (1 - f_h) \quad (4.12)$$

where for each layer the fraction of the radiation incident in the canopy that reaches the layer is found by multiplying the transmitted fractions across the layers above it. For example, the fraction of SWR absorbed by each of the three cohorts of the example in Fig. 2.2 would be (see function `light_cohortAbsorbedSWRFraction()`):

```
##      T1_148      T2_168      S1_165
## 0.270272058 0.251476829 0.007592907
```

The proportion of (shortwave) net radiation absorbed by the ground is simply:

$$L_{ground}^{SWR} = 1 - \sum_j^l f_j \quad (4.13)$$

which in our example would be:

```
## [1] 0.4706582
```

as also shown in Fig. 4.2.



# Chapter 5

## Forest hydrology

Forest hydrological processes are key for soil and plant water balances. This chapter details the design and implementation of most of the vertical hydrological processes included in package **medfate**. These processes determine the value of the water flows mentioned in eq. (3.1). The only process that is not described here is plant transpiration ( $Tr$ ), as it will be covered in detail in chapter 6.

Although each process can be simulated in specific sub-model functions, function `hydrology_verticalInputs()` allows simulating soil water input processes altogether, including canopy water interception, snow accumulation/melt, soil infiltration and percolation.

### 5.1 Snow and rainfall

Precipitation ( $P$ ) is considered be snow precipitation ( $Ps$ ) when  $T_{mean} < 0$ , and is considered rainfall ( $Pr$ ) otherwise. Thus, we have:

$$P = Pr + Ps \quad (5.1)$$

Interception of snow by the canopy is neglected, and all snow is assumed to accumulate in a single storage compartment  $S_{snow}$  over the soil (i.e. canopy snow storage capacity is neglected). Rainfall interception is described in section 5.3.

### 5.2 Snow pack dynamics

A very simple snow submodel is used for snow pack dynamics (accumulation and melt), taken from Kergoat (1998). When mean air temperature is above 0 Celsius ( $T_{mean} > 0$ ), a simple energy budget relates snow melt,  $Sm$  (mm), to air temperature and soil-level radiation (see function `hydrology_snowMelt()`):

$$Sm = \frac{Rad \cdot L_{ground}^{SWR} \cdot (1 - \alpha_{ice}) + \tau_{day} \cdot T_{mean} \cdot \rho_{air} \cdot C_p / r_s}{\lambda_{ice}} \quad (5.2)$$

where  $Rad$  is solar radiation ( $MJ \cdot m^{-2}$ ),  $L_{ground}^{SWR}$  is the fraction of (short-wave) radiation reaching the ground,  $\alpha_{ice} = 0.9$  is the albedo of snow,  $\tau_{day} = 86400$  is the day duration in seconds,  $\rho_{air}$  is the air density ( $kg \cdot m^{-3}$ ), depending on temperature and elevation (see utility functions of the **meteoland** reference manual),  $C_p = 1013.86 \cdot 10^{-6} MJ \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot C^{-1}$  is the specific heat capacity of the air and  $r_s = 100 s \cdot m^{-1}$  is the snow aerodynamic resistance and  $\lambda_{ice} = 0.33355 MJ \cdot kg$  is the (latent) heat of fusion of snow.

### 5.3 Rainfall interception loss

As mentioned above, interception loss is only modelled for liquid precipitation (i.e. snow interception is not modelled). Rainfall interception loss,  $In$ , is estimated using the Gash *et al.* (1995) analytical interception model for sparse canopies, where rain is assumed to fall in a single event during the day. First, the amount of rainfall needed to saturate the canopy is calculated:

$$P_G = -\frac{S_{canopy}/C_{canopy}}{ER_{ratio}} \cdot \ln(1 - ER_{ratio}) \quad (5.3)$$

where  $S_{canopy}$  is the canopy water storage capacity (in mm) – i.e. the minimum amount of water needed to saturate the canopy –,  $C_{canopy}$  is the canopy cover and  $ER_{ratio}$  is the ratio of evaporation rate to rainfall rate during the rainfall event. Although interception models are normally applied to single-canopy stands, we apply the sparse Gash model to the whole stand (including shrubs). Moreover, in our implementation stem interception is lumped with canopy interception, so that  $S_{canopy}$  represents both. Following Watanabe & Mizutani (1996) we estimate  $S_{canopy}$ , the canopy water storage capacity, from adjusted LAI values:

$$S_{canopy} = \sum_i s_{water,i} \cdot LAI_i^\phi \quad (5.4)$$

where  $s_{water,i}$  is the depth of water that can be retained by leaves, branches and stems of cohort  $i$  per unit of leaf area index ( $mm \cdot LAI^{-1}$ ). To estimate the stand cover,  $C_{canopy}$ , we use the complement of the percentage of PAR that reaches the ground, i.e.  $C_{canopy} = 1 - L_{ground}^{PAR}$  (Deguchi *et al.* 2006).

Simplifying assumptions are made to determine  $ER_{ratio}$ . Values of the evaporation-to-rainfall ratio are calculated from daily potential evapotranspiration and rainfall, while accounting for seasonal variation in rainfall intensity ( $mm \cdot h^{-1}$ ). Minimum values for rainfall intensity are assumed for convective storms ( $5.6 mm \cdot h^{-1}$ ) and synoptic storms ( $1.5 mm \cdot h^{-1}$ ) from Miralles *et al.* (2010). Synoptic storms are assumed between December and June, and convective storms are assumed for the remaining months, as typical in the Mediterranean Basin.

The amount of water evaporated from interception ( $In$ , in mm), is calculated as:

$$In = C_{canopy} \cdot P_G + C_{canopy} \cdot ER_{ratio} \cdot (Pr - P_G) \text{ if } Pr > P_G \quad (5.5)$$

$$In = C_{canopy} \cdot Pr \text{ if } Pr \leq P_G \quad (5.6)$$

where  $Pr$  is the daily gross rainfall (in mm). Net rainfall ( $Pr_{net}$ , also in mm) includes throughfall and stemflow, and is calculated as the difference between gross rainfall and interception loss. Fig. 5.1 below shows examples of relative throughfall (including stemflow), calculated according to the Gash *et al.* (1995) interception model, under different situations (see function `hydrology_rainInterception()`).

### 5.4 Runoff, infiltration and percolation

The amount of water that reaches the soil is the sum of net rainfall ( $Pr_{net}$ ), runoff ( $Ro$ , in mm) and melted snow ( $Sm$ ). The amount of water infiltrating into the soil is  $Pr_{net} + Sm + Ro - Ru$ , where  $Ru$  (in mm) is the water lost by surface runoff (see function `hydrology_infiltrationAmount()`).

Surface runoff, is calculated using the USDA SCS curve number method, as in Boughton (1989):

$$Ru = \frac{(Pr_{net} + Ro + Sm - 0.2 \cdot V_{fc,soil})^2}{(Pr_{net} + Ro + Sm - 0.8 \cdot V_{fc,soil})} \quad (5.7)$$

where  $V_{fc,soil}$  (in mm) is the overall soil water retention capacity.

Following Granier *et al.* (1999), part of the water reaching one soil layer percolates quickly through the macropores. The amount of water reaching each layer through macropores is modelled using an extinction function that depends on macroporosity (see function `hydrology_infiltrationRepartition()`). The



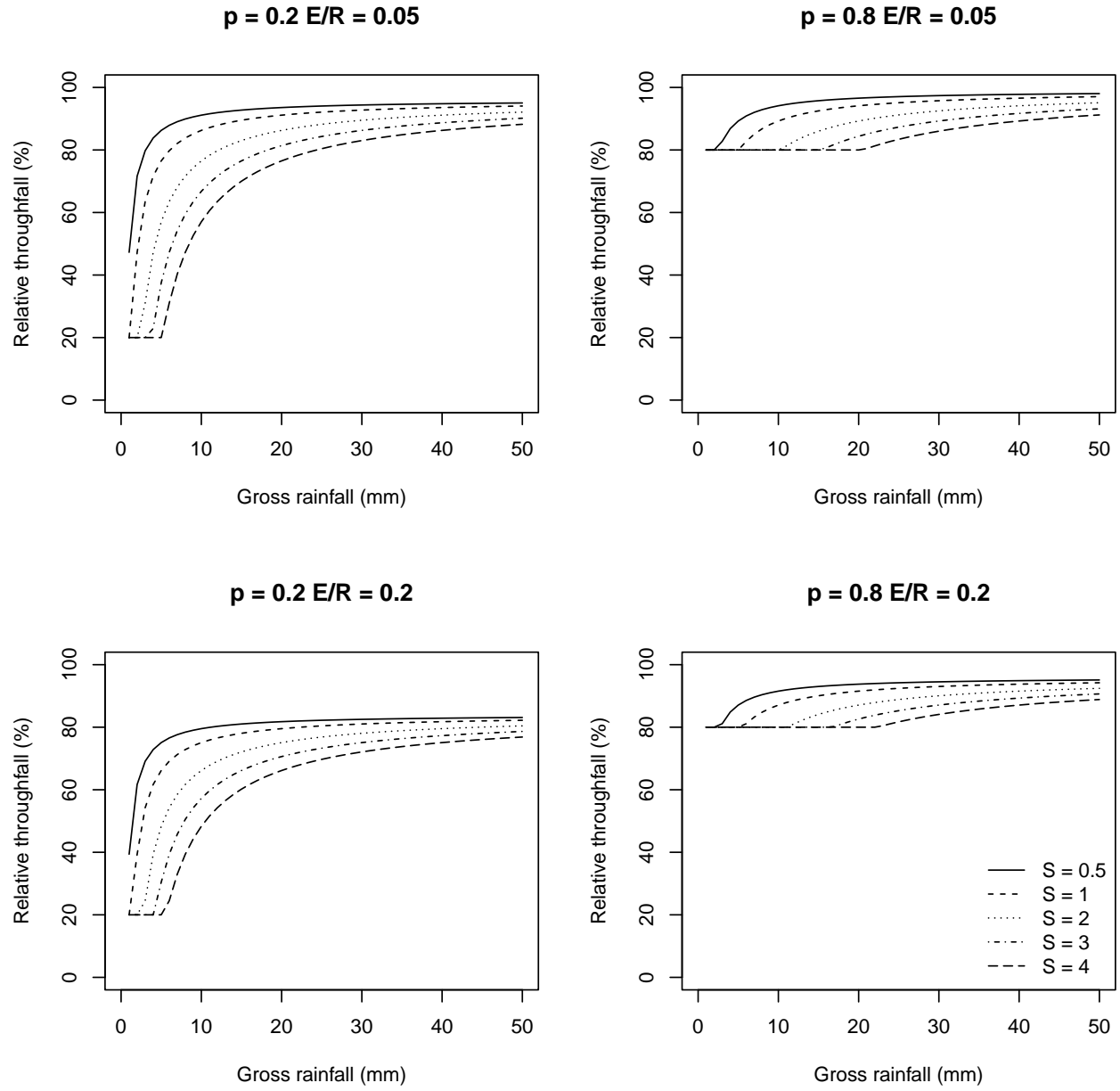


Figure 5.1: Examples of canopy interception with different  $S_{canopy}$  (canopy water storage capacity),  $ER_{ratio}$  (ratio between evaporation and rainfall rates) and  $p$  (throughfall coefficient;  $p = 1 - C_{canopy}$ ).

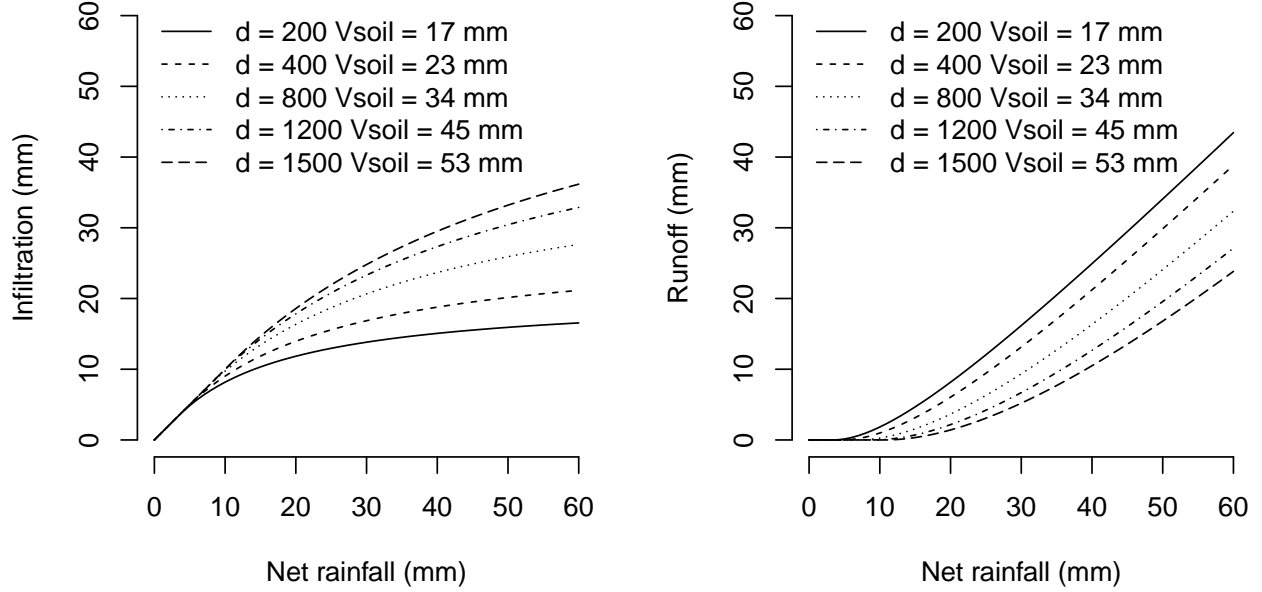


Figure 5.2: Examples of infiltration/runoff calculation for different values of net rainfall and overall retention capacity,  $V_{soil}$ , calculated from different soil depths (topsoil+subsoil) and assuming that soil texture is 15% clay and 25% sand. Rock fragment content was 25% and 40% for the topsoil and subsoil, respectively.

remaining water is retained by the micropores refilling the current soil layer. When this soil layer reaches its field capacity the excess of water also percolates to the soil layer below.

Percolation in deepest layer may be treated differently in the model. If it is a rocky layer (i.e. if rock fragment content  $> 95\%$ ) and `rockyLayerDrainage = FALSE`, the model assumes that most cracks in the rock are not hydraulically connected to groundwater, so that they conform water pockets from which plants can extract water. Hence, in this situation the percolation excess occurs only if saturation is surpassed. Otherwise, percolation excess is estimated if field capacity is surpassed, as in the other soil layers. When a percolation excess exists, the remaining water fills soil layers over field capacity up to saturation, from bottom to top. If the soil becomes saturated and there is still an excess of water, this is assumed as infiltration excess and added to the surface runoff ( $Ru$ ).

Deep drainage ( $Dd$ ) is estimated after percolation of soil water inputs. First, hydraulic head is estimated summing the amount of water contained in macropores across soil layers (i.e. water over field capacity). Then, an estimation of the daily maximum drainage is obtained by multiplying hydraulic head by the saturated vertical hydraulic conductivity  $K_{drain}$ . Drainage of saturated water is then applied from top to bottom until the maximum drainage is achieved or macropores are empty in all soil layers. As before, the drainage from the deepest rocky layer may be prevented if `rockyLayerDrainage = FALSE`.

## 5.5 Bare soil evaporation

Evaporation from the soil surface is the last component of the soil water balance to be calculated before calculating plant transpiration. Bare soil evaporation cannot happen if there is snow over the soil surface (i.e., if  $S_{snow} > 0$ ).

Potential evaporation from the soil ( $PE_{soil}$ ; in  $mm \cdot day^{-1}$ ) is defined as the product between  $PET$  and  $L_{ground}^{SWR}$ , the proportion of SWR absorbed by the ground:

$$PE_{soil} = PET \cdot L_{ground}^{SWR} \quad (5.8)$$

Actual evaporation from the soil surface is modeled as in Mouillot *et al.* (2001), who in turn followed Ritchie (1972). First, the model determines  $t_{soil}$ , the time needed to evaporate the current water deficit (difference between field capacity and current moisture) in the surface soil layer:

$$t_{soil} = \left\{ \frac{V_{fc,1} \cdot (1 - W_1)}{\gamma_{soil}} \right\} \quad (5.9)$$

where  $V_{fc,1}$  is the water retention capacity of layer 1,  $W_1$  is the proportion of moisture in relation to field capacity of layer 1 and  $\gamma_{soil}$  is the maximum daily evaporation ( $mm \cdot day^{-1}$ ). The calculated time is used to determine the ‘supplied’ evaporation,  $SE_{soil}$ :

$$SE_{soil} = \gamma_{soil} \cdot (\sqrt{t_{soil} + 1} - \sqrt{1}) \quad (5.10)$$

The amount of water actually evaporated from the soil,  $Es$ , is then calculated as the minimum between supply,  $SE_{soil}$ , and demand (Federer 1982), i.e.  $PE_{soil}$  (see function `hydrology_soilEvaporationAmount`):

$$Es = \min(PE_{soil}, SE_{soil}) \quad (5.11)$$

Finally,  $Es$  is distributed along the soil profile according to an exponential decay function with an extinction coefficient  $\kappa_{soil}$  (Mouillot *et al.* 2001). Figure 5.3 shows the cumulative evaporation from soils for different values of maximum evaporation rate and extinction coefficient. When the extinction coefficient is smaller a higher proportion of the evaporated water is removed from the subsoil and less from the topsoil. This causes more water being available to calculate  $t$  in the next step.

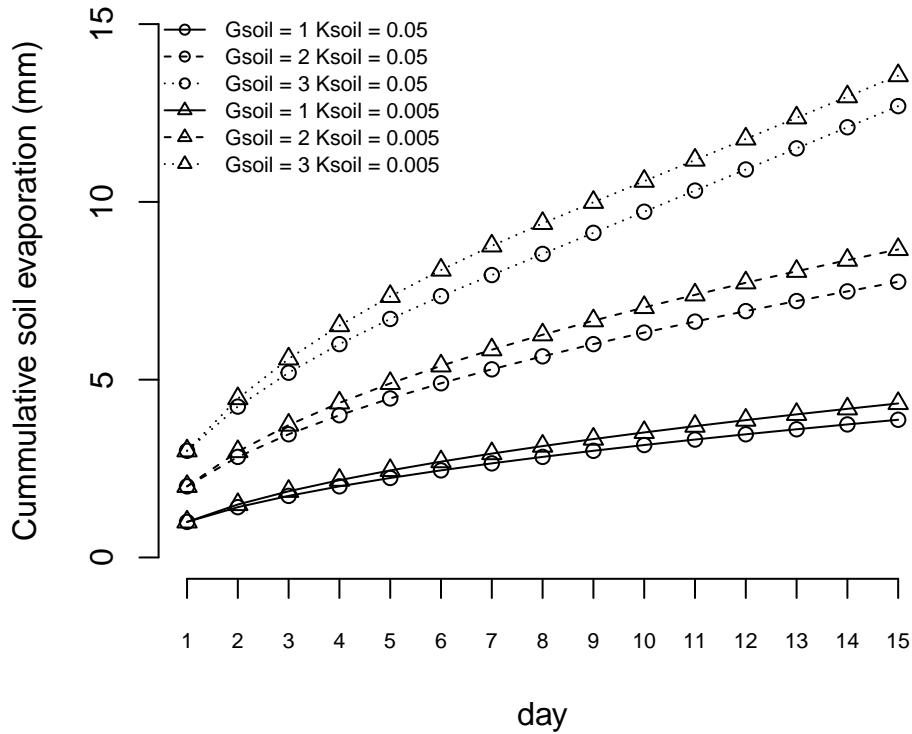


Figure 5.3: Cumulative bare soil evaporation for different values of maximum evaporation rate ( $\gamma_{soil}$ ) and extinction coefficient ( $\kappa_{soil}$ ). Three soil layers (0 – 30 cm; 30 – 150 cm; 150 – 400 cm) are initialized at field capacity ( $V_1 = 50mm$ ;  $V_2 = 201mm$ ;  $V_3 = 35mm$ ).  $PE_{soil}$  was assumed not to be limiting.



## Chapter 6

# Transpiration, photosynthesis and drought stress under Granier's model

This chapter describes how daily plant transpiration is modelled in the basic water balance model, completing the flows needed to evaluate eq. (3.1). The model uses the approach of BILJOU (Granier *et al.* 1999) to estimate stand maximum transpiration, and then divides this value among the contribution of plant cohorts and estimate actual transpiration depending on soil moisture and cohort functional parameters, which determine plant drought. The chapter also describes how is daily photosynthesis estimated, a process that in this model does not influence transpiration but is necessary for growth calculations (chapter 15).

### 6.1 Plant transpiration and photosynthesis

#### 6.1.1 Maximum transpiration

Potential evapotranspiration ( $PET$ , in mm) is assumed to represent open water evaporation potential. Maximum canopy transpiration  $Tr_{\max}$  depends on both  $PET$  and the amount of transpiring surface, i.e. the current cumulative  $LAI$  of the stand,  $LAI_{stand}^{\phi}$ . To estimate  $Tr_{\max}$  the model uses the empirical equation of Granier *et al.* (1999), where  $Tr_{\max}/PET$  is a function of  $LAI_{stand}^{\phi}$ :

$$\frac{Tr_{\max}}{PET} = -0.006 \cdot (LAI_{stand}^{\phi})^2 + 0.134 \cdot LAI_{stand}^{\phi} + 0.036 \quad (6.1)$$

This equation has already been adopted for Mediterranean biomes (Fyllas & Troumbis 2009; Ruffault *et al.* 2013).

Since medfate's **ver. 2.1**, empirical coefficients can be species-specific and Granier *et al.* (1999) empirical equation has been generalized to:

$$\frac{Tr_{\max}}{PET} = T_{max,LAI} \cdot LAI_{stand}^{\phi} + T_{max,sqLAI} \cdot (LAI_{stand}^{\phi})^2 \quad (6.2)$$

where  $T_{max,LAI}$  and  $T_{max,sqLAI}$  are species-specific parameters (if missing, they are given default values 0.134 and -0.006, respectively).

The maximum transpiration for a given plant cohort  $i$  is calculated using the portion of  $Tr_{\max}$  defined by  $f_i$  the fraction of total absorbed SWR that is due to cohort  $i$  (see section 4.2):

$$Tr_{\max,i} = Tr_{\max} \cdot \frac{f_i^{0.75}}{\sum_j f_j^{0.75}} \quad (6.3)$$

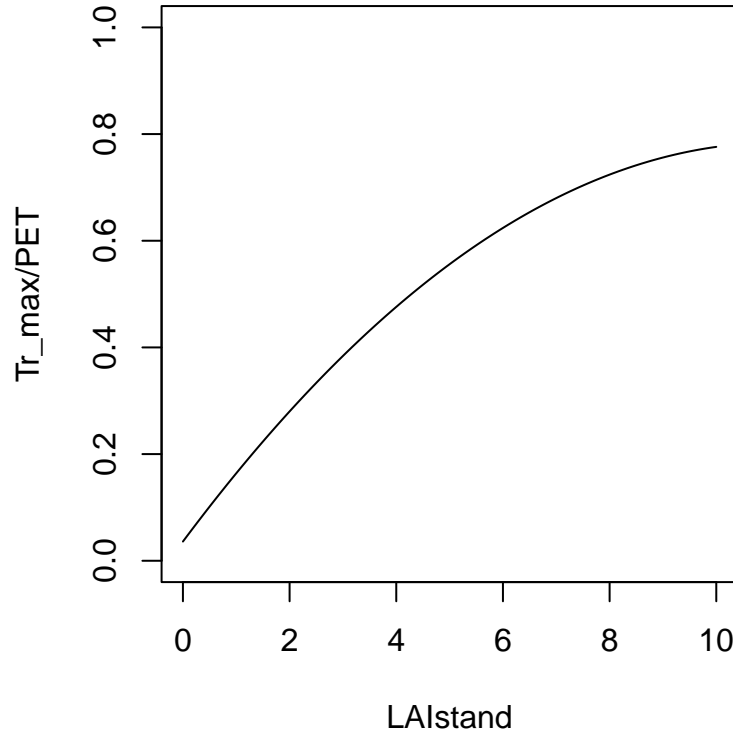


Figure 6.1: Empirical relationship between  $Tr_{\max}/PET$  and  $LAI_{stand}^{\phi}$

Before **ver 2.5.0**  $Tr_{\max,i}$  was linearly related to  $f_i$ , but an exponent 0.75 is now used to decrease *ad hoc* the proportion of transpiration corresponding to cohorts absorbing high SWR fractions with respect to those absorbing low amounts of SWR, which has been found to better match the transpiration predicted using the advanced transpiration model. Note that the actual amount of radiation energy absorbed by plants is much more difficult to determine, involving diffuse and direct radiation, as well as net long-wave radiation (see chapter 9).

### 6.1.2 Actual plant transpiration

Actual plant transpiration depends on soil moisture and is calculated for each plant cohort and each soil layer separately.  $Tr_{i,s}$  (in mm) represents the transpiration made by cohort  $i$  from layer  $s$ . Actual plant transpiration from a given layer is regulated by soil moisture and the resistance to water flow through the plant. For each plant cohort  $i$  and soil layer  $s$ , the model first estimates the a whole-plant relative water transpiration,  $K_{i,s}$ , which varies between 0 and 1 depending on  $\Psi_{extract,i}$ , the potential at which transpiration is 50% of maximum, and  $\Psi_s$ , the water potential in layer  $s$ . This relationship is modelled using a Weibull function (see function `hydraulics_psi2K()`):

$$K_{i,s} = K_i(\Psi_s) = \exp \left\{ \ln(0.5) \cdot \left[ \frac{\Psi_s}{\Psi_{extract,i}} \right]^r \right\} \quad (6.4)$$

where  $r$  is an exponent that modulates the steepness of the decrease in relative conductance when soil potential becomes negative (by default,  $r = 3$ ) and  $\ln(0.5)$  is used to ensure that  $K_i(\Psi_{extract,i}) = 0.5$  (Fig. 6.2).

Until **ver 2.5.0**, actual transpiration of plant cohort  $i$  from a given soil layer  $s$ ,  $Tr_{i,s}$ , was defined as the product of (Mouillot *et al.* 2001): the maximum transpiration of the plant cohort ( $Tr_{\max,i}$ ), the relative whole-plant transpiration ( $K_{i,s}$ ) corresponding to the species and water potential in layer  $s$ , and the propor-

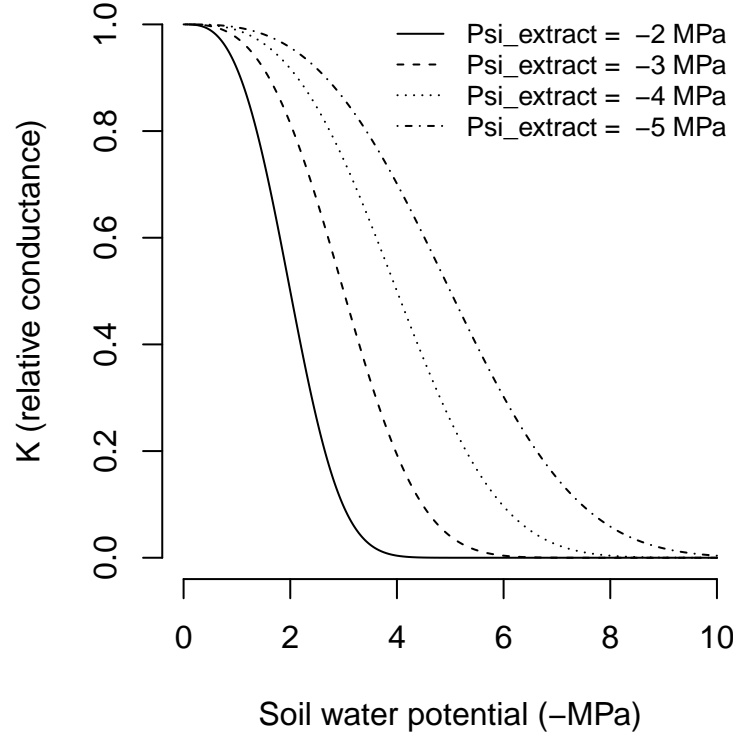


Figure 6.2: Whole-plant relative water conductance functions for different water potential values ( $r = 3$  in all cases)

tion of plant fine roots in layer  $s$ ,  $FRP_{i,s}$ :

$$Tr_{i,s} = Tr_{\max,i} \cdot K_{i,s} \cdot FRP_{i,s} \quad (6.5)$$

Since **ver 2.5.0**, this equation has been slightly modified and is now:

$$Tr_{i,s} = Tr_{\max,i} \cdot K_{i,s} \cdot \frac{K_{\text{unsat},s}^{0.5} \cdot FRP_{i,s}}{\sum_r K_{\text{unsat},r}^{0.5} \cdot FRP_{i,r}} \quad (6.6)$$

where  $K_{\text{unsat},s}$  is the unsaturated soil conductivity of layer  $s$ . This modification was introduced to allow the plant to increase the amount of water drawn from layers with higher levels of moisture in seasons where the usual water pools are depleted. This formulation decreases the differences in soil moisture between soil layers, which in the advanced model is achieved thanks to hydraulic redistribution process.

The total amount of water transpired by plants,  $Tr$  (in mm), is the sum of  $Tr_{i,s}$  values over all plant cohorts and soil layers:

$$Tr = \sum_s \sum_i Tr_{i,s} \quad (6.7)$$

Assuming no water limitations (i.e.  $K_{i,s} = 1$ ), we have that  $Tr = Tr_{\max}$ . Total stand transpiration will be lower than  $Tr_{\max}$  if soil water potential in any layer is negative enough to cause a significant reduction in whole-plant conductance. At the plant level, the transpiration of a given plant cohort will be lower than that of others if:

- The cohort is under the shade (it reduces  $f_i$  and hence  $Tr_{\max,i}$ )
- The cohort has a lower amount of leaf area (it reduces  $f_i$  and hence  $Tr_{\max,i}$ )
- The soil layers exploited by the cohort have more negative water potentials (it reduces  $K_{i,s}$ ).

### 6.1.3 Transpiration with plant water pools

Considering plant water pools (i.e. setting `plantWaterPools = TRUE` in the control parameters) involves partitioning the stand area into fractions corresponding to the abundance of each plant cohort. More specifically, the model defines as many plant water pools as plant cohorts, with proportions defined by their LAI values:

$$f_{pool,i} = \frac{LAI_i^{live}}{LAI_{stand}^{live}} \quad (6.8)$$

Overall soil moisture is then related to moisture of plant water pools by the following equation, that is fulfilled for each soil layer  $s$ :

$$W_s = \sum_i f_{pool,i} \cdot W_{i,s} \quad (6.9)$$

where  $W_{i,s}$  is the soil moisture (relative to field capacity) of layer  $s$  in the plant water pool of cohort  $i$ , i.e. under the area of the stand attributed to cohort  $i$ .

When transpiration occurs and plant water pools are considered, the model assumes that the rhizosphere of each plant cohort occupies its own water pool but may enter into the water pools under other plant cohorts. In other words, the root systems of different cohorts may overlap horizontally. A given plant cohort  $i$  will have its roots in layer  $s$  partitioned among different water pools. Let us assume that we know  $fr_{i,s,j}$ , the (horizontal) proportion of fine roots of cohort  $i$  in layer  $s$  of the water pool  $j$  (see section 2.3.5). These proportions fulfill:

$$\sum_j fr_{i,s,j} = 1 \quad \forall i, s \quad (6.10)$$

The soil moisture *sensed* by plant cohort  $i$  in layer  $s$ ,  $W_{rhizo,i,s}$  is a weighted sum of moisture in water pools, with weights being the proportion of fine roots in each pool:

$$W_{rhizo,i,s} = \sum_j fr_{i,s,j} \cdot W_{i,s} \quad (6.11)$$

This moisture determines  $\Psi_{s,i}$ , the corresponding water potential, which replaces  $\Psi_s$  in eq. (6.4), so that plant conductance depends on the soil moisture *sensed* by the rhizosphere of the plant cohort. If the (actual) transpiration of cohort  $i$  from soil layer  $s$  is  $Tr_{i,s}$ , the water extracted by transpiration from a water pool  $j$  will be:

$$Tr_{i,s,j} = \frac{fr_{i,s,j} \cdot Tr_{i,s}}{f_{pool,j}} \quad (6.12)$$

It is easy to verify that this definition ensures the fulfillment of an equation analogous to that between  $W_s$  and  $W_{s,i}$ :

$$Tr_{i,s} = \sum_j f_{pool,j} \cdot Tr_{i,s,j} \quad (6.13)$$

### 6.1.4 Plant photosynthesis

Because it is useful for growth, and for compatibility with the ‘Sperry’ transpiration mode (chapter 7), the water balance model using ‘Granier’ transpiration mode also calculates gross assimilated carbon. Assuming a constant maximum water use efficiency ( $WUE_{max}$ ), gross photosynthesis for a given plant cohort  $i$  (in  $gC \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is estimated as a function of transpiration:

$$A_{g,i} = Tr_i \cdot WUE_{max,i} \cdot (L_i^{PAR})^{WUE_{decay,i}} \quad (6.14)$$

where  $Tr_i$  is the transpiration of plant cohort  $i$ ,  $WUE_{max,i}$  is the maximum water use efficiency of the cohort (in  $gC \cdot mm^{-1}$ ) - a species-specific parameter where  $WUE$  assumed to be estimated under conditions of no water stress and maximum light availability -,  $L_i^{PAR}$  is the proportion of photosynthetically-active radiation available at the mid-crown of cohort  $i$ , according to the Beer-Lambert extinction model, and  $WUE_{decay,i}$  is



a species-specific exponent indicating how relative WUE decreases with lower light levels. The dependency of photosynthesis on drought stress is represented in the  $Tr_i$  term, whereas the reduction of photosynthesis due to low light availability (for cohorts in the understory) is represented by the reduction of relative WUE given by low values of  $L_i^{PAR}$ :

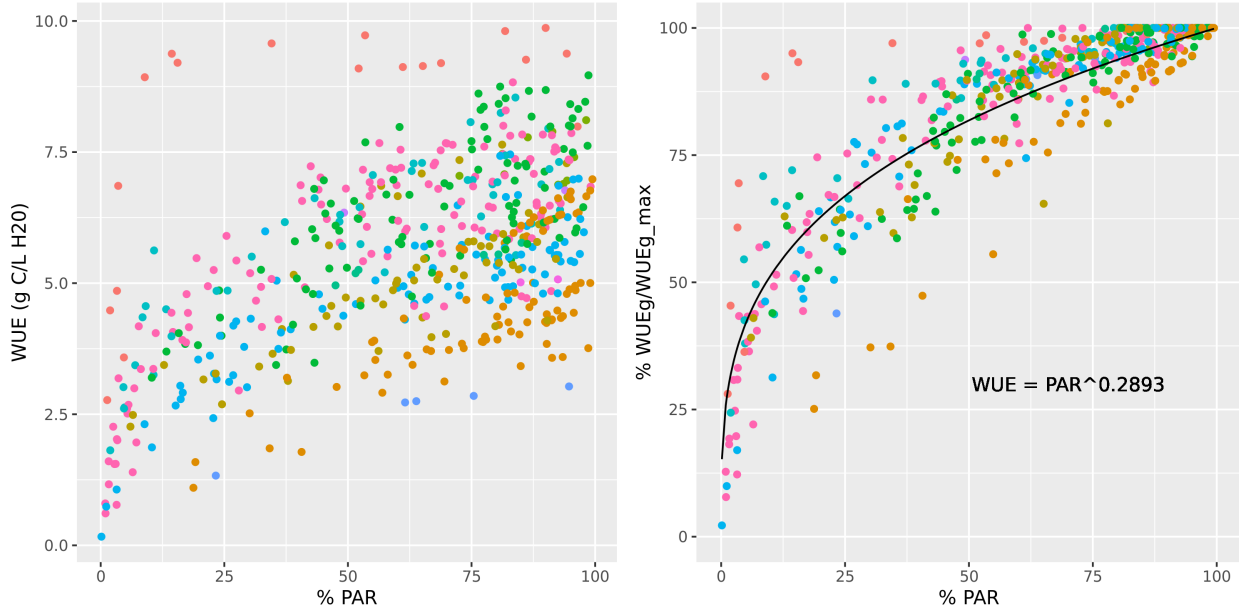


Figure 6.3: Relationship between the percentage of PAR available to a cohort and the water use efficiency (left) or the water use efficiency relative to the maximum value observed in the stand for the same species (right). WUE values were estimated using the advanced water balance model and a non-linear regression was fitted.

## 6.2 Plant drought stress

### 6.2.1 Daily drought stress and plant water potential

Similarly to Mouillot *et al.* (2002), daily drought stress of a given plant cohort  $i$ ,  $DDS_i$ , is defined as the complement of relative whole-plant transpiration and is aggregated across soil layers using the proportion of fine roots in each layer as weights:

$$DDS_i = \phi_i \cdot \sum_s (1 - K_{i,s}) \cdot v_{i,s} \quad (6.15)$$

Leaf-phenological status is included to prevent winter deciduous plants from suffering drought stress during winter. Daily drought stress values can be later used to define drought stress indices for larger temporal scales, as presented in the main text.

Granier's transpiration model does not allow estimating a water potential drop from soil to the leaf. Moreover, in a multilayered soil it is difficult to know what would be the water potential of the plant. Despite these limitations, a gross surrogate of 'plant' water potential ( $\Psi_i$ ; in MPa) may be obtained averaging whole-plant relative conductance values and inverting the relative transpiration function:

$$\Psi_i = K_i^{-1} \left( \sum_s K_{i,s} \cdot v_{i,s} \right) \quad (6.16)$$

where  $K_i^{-1}$  is the inverse of the relative whole-plant transpiration eq. (6.4) (see function `hydraulics_K2Psi()`).

### 6.2.2 Cavitation and hydraulic disconnection

The water balance model is normally run assuming that although soil drought may reduce transpiration, embolized xylem conduits are automatically refilled when soil moisture recovers (in other words, cavitation is reversible and `cavitationRefill` = "total"). It is possible to simulate irreversible cavitation by setting `cavitationRefill` = "none" or `cavitation` = "annual" in the control parameters. Any of these options cause the model to keep track of the maximum value of cavitation so far experienced using the proportion of lost conductance for the plant cohort  $i$  ( $PLC_i$ ), which is modelled also using a Weibull function:

$$PLC_i = \max \left\{ PLC_i, 1 - \exp \left\{ \ln(0.5) \cdot \left[ \frac{\Psi_i}{\Psi_{critic,i}} \right]^r \right\} \right\} \quad (6.17)$$

and then  $K_{i,s}$  cannot be larger than the one-complement of  $PLC_i$ :

$$K_{i,s} = \min\{K_i(\Psi_s), 1.0 - PLC_i\} \quad (6.18)$$

For simulations of less than one year one can use `cavitationRefill` = "none" to keep track of the maximum cavitation. However, for simulations of several years, it is normally advisable to allow recovery. If `cavitation` = "annual",  $PLC_i$  values are set to zero at the beginning of each year, assuming that embolized plants overcome the conductance loss by creating new xylem tissue.

Another optional behavior consists in allowing the plant to disconnect from the soil when its potential becomes too negative. This may be advantageous for a cavitation-sensitive plant that is competing for water with another plant with higher extraction capacity. Parameter  $K_{rootdisc,i}$  can be used to specify the minimum relative conductance value that the plant will tolerate without disconnecting hydraulically from the soil (by default  $K_{rootdisc,i} = 0$ ). If, after possibly accounting for irreversible cavitation,  $K_{i,s} < K_{rootdisc,i}$  for a given soil layer, then the model assumes that transpiration from this soil layer is absent. Moreover,  $K_{i,s}$  is assumed equal to  $K_{rootdisc,i}$  for the sake of determining plant water potential.

## Part III

# Advanced water balance modelling



## Chapter 7

# Advanced water balance model

This chapter provides an overview of a water and energy balance model, described in De Cáceres *et al.* (2021), that shares some characteristics with the basic water balance model described in previous chapters. Like the previous one, the model is run using function `spwb()`, for a set of days, or function `spwb_day()`, for a single day. Compared to the basic model, the advanced water balance model adds more detail in some processes (light extinction, plant hydraulics and photosynthesis) and incorporates others that were missing (energy balances, plant water balance and hydraulic redistribution).

The following overview is structured as in chapter 3. Process formulations shared with the basic water balance model were presented in previous chapters and will not be repeated. The chapters following this one provide a detailed description of those submodules that are exclusive of the advanced model. We recommend readers to familiarize themselves with basic water balance modelling processes before reading this and the subsequent chapters. In addition, users of this model should have a background on the processes implemented to fully understand and exploit model outputs. Since the scope of this book is focused on the model, interested readers should address relevant ecophysiological bibliography complement the material exposed here.

### 7.1 Design principles

The model performs soil/plant water balance and soil/canopy energy balance for a given forest stand and for the period corresponding to input weather data. Soil water balance is calculated on a daily step basis whereas energy balances and plant transpiration are determined at subdaily steps. The model considers only the vertical spatial dimension of the stand, and not the horizontal distribution of plants within it. Still, the forest stand is divided into: (a) canopy vertical layers; (b) plant cohorts of different species, height and leaf area index (*LAI*).

Hydrological processes are the same as in chapter 3, except for the addition of hydraulic redistribution of soil water via plant roots. The model includes water interception loss (Gash *et al.* 1995), plant transpiration, evaporation from soil (Ritchie 1972) and the partition between infiltration and runoff (Boughton 1989). Infiltration is partitioned among soil layers, depending on macroporosity, and water exceeding soil water holding capacity is lost via deep drainage. Snow pack dynamics can also be simulated.

A great deal of the complexity of the advanced model concerns the estimation of plant transpiration and photosynthesis. The model simulates stomatal regulation of gas exchange separately for sunlit and shade leaves at sub-daily steps, involving detailed calculations of hydraulics, leaf energy balance and photosynthesis (Sperry *et al.* 2017). Compared to the basic water balance model of chapter 3, the higher level of complexity of the advanced model allows a more precise estimation of photosynthesis and transpiration. Moreover, the plant hydraulics submodel generates redistribution of water among soil layers.

To calculate radiation balance and incident PAR at the leaf level, the leaf area of each plant cohort is divided into vertical layers according to its crown limits. Photosynthesis and transpiration of sunlit and shade leaves

are treated separately (De Pury & Farquhar 1997). Given an input direct and diffuse short-wave irradiance at the top of the canopy, the amount of light absorbed by sunlit leaves, shade leaves and the soil follows the model of Anten & Bastiaans (2016). The scheme for long-wave radiation transfer between the atmosphere, the different canopy layers and the soil follows the SHAW model (Flerchinger *et al.* 2009).

Energy balances are conducted at two levels: the canopy (or canopy layers) level and the leaf level. The model keeps track of temperature variation within the canopy (i.e. canopy energy balance) and in the uppermost soil surface (i.e. soil energy balance) as the result of energy exchanges between them and with the atmosphere. Heat conduction also occurs among soil layers. Energy balance can be performed assuming a single canopy layer, with soil and canopy energy balance equations being similar to those of Best *et al.* (2011) for JULES. Alternatively, energy balance can be conducted for each vertical layer following Bonan *et al.* (2014). In this case, the model allows considering within-canopy gradients in temperature, water vapor pressure, and  $CO_2$  as well as the turbulent transport of heat, water vapor and  $CO_2$  between canopy layers (Ma & Liu 2019), determined using a canopy turbulence model by Katul *et al.* (2004).

The model also performs the energy balance at the leaf level to determine transpiration (Sperry *et al.* 2017). At this scale, radiation inputs include shortwave radiation from the atmosphere absorbed by the leaf and the net balance of long-wave radiation. Leaf temperature is determined assuming that the temperature of the surrounding air is that of the canopy (or canopy layer). After determining stomatal regulation, the model up-scales the transpiration flux to the canopy (or canopy layer) scale and the corresponding latent heat is used to complete the calculation of the energy balance at the canopy (or canopy layer) level. Latent heat fluxes from evaporation from the soil and evaporation of intercepted rainfall are also included in the canopy/soil energy balances.

While plant water content is normally determined by changes in water potential values corresponding to changes in soil moisture and transpiration rates, the model can also consider an explicit water balance within the plant. In this case, the amount of water within plant compartments is explicitly tracked and the rate of extraction of soil water can be decoupled from the rate of transpiration.

Like in the basic water model, the advanced model assumes by default that soil moisture under all plant cohorts is the same (i.e. water sources corresponding to vertical soil layers are shared among cohorts). However, variations in soil moisture beneath plant cohorts (and, implicitly, horizontal variation of soil moisture) can be simulated. In this case, hydrological processes are replicated for the fraction of soil corresponding to each cohort. Transpiration of each plant cohort depends on the soil moisture beneath itself and, depending on root overlap, on the soil moisture beneath other plant cohorts.

## 7.2 State variables

The following are state variables in the model under all simulations:

- Cumulative degree days (a) to budburst, (b) to complete unfolding or (c) to senescence ( $S_{eco,d}$ ,  $S_{unf,d}$  or  $S_{sen,d}$ ; all in  $^{\circ}C$ ), are tracked by the model to determine leaf phenological status (see 4.1).
- Daily soil moisture content dynamics on each layer  $s$  are tracked using  $W_s = \theta_s(\Psi_s)/\theta_{fc,s}$ , the *proportion of soil moisture in relation to field capacity*, where moisture at field capacity,  $\theta_{fc,s}$ , is assumed to correspond to  $\Psi_{fc} = -0.033$  MPa. Note that  $W_s$  values larger than one are possible if the soil is between field capacity and saturation (which can happen if deep drainage is not allowed).
- The air temperature within the canopy ( $T_{can}$ ;  $^{\circ}C$ ) and the temperature of each soil layer  $s$  ( $T_{soil,s}$ ;  $^{\circ}C$ ) are tracked for every subdaily step.

Additional state variables depend on the activation of specific control flags (see subsection 7.5.3):

- If plant capacitance effects are considered, the model also tracks  $\Psi_{apo,stem,i}$ , the water potential of the stem apoplastic compartment, as well as the water potential of stem and leaf symplastic compartments,  $\Psi_{symp,stem,i}$  and  $\Psi_{symp,leaf,i}$  respectively.

- *If cavitation is not completely reversible*, the proportion of stem hydraulic conductance loss for each plant cohort  $i$ ,  $PLC_{stem,i}$ , becomes a state variable.
- *If plant water pools are considered*, the model also tracks  $W_{i,s}$ , the proportion of soil moisture in relation to field capacity for layer  $s$  within the areal fraction of stand covered by cohort  $i$ .
- *If multi-layer canopy energy balance is activated*, the model tracks for each vertical layer  $j \in \{1, l\}$ :
  - a. Air temperature,  $T_{air,j}$
  - b. Water vapor pressure,  $e_{air,j}$
  - c.  $CO_2$  concentration,  $C_{air,j}$ .

## 7.3 Water and energy balances

### 7.3.1 Water balance

Daily variations in soil water content ( $\Delta V_{soil}$  in mm) can be summarized as:

$$\Delta V_{soil} = Pr + Sm - In - Ru - Dd - Es - Ex \quad (7.1)$$

where  $Pr$  is precipitation as rainfall,  $Sm$  is water reaching the soil from snow melt (if snow-pack dynamics are considered),  $In$  is the interception loss (i.e., water evaporated after being intercepted by the canopy),  $Ru$  is surface runoff,  $Dd$  is deep drainage (i.e. water percolated to layers beyond soil depth),  $Es$  is evaporation from soil surface and  $Ex$  is water extraction by plants.

Although the advanced water balance model includes hydraulic redistribution, this does not change the total amount of water in the soil, so the water balance equation is very similar to that of the basic water balance model (eq.(3.1)). The only difference is that here we used plant extraction ( $Ex$ ) instead of plant transpiration ( $Tr$ ). The two quantities will be the same (i.e.  $Ex = Tr$ ) if plant capacitance effects are not considered. Otherwise the amount of water stored in the plant changes according to:

$$\Delta V_{plant} = Ex - Tr \quad (7.2)$$

While the above describes the default water balance equation, variations can occur depending on specific control flags:

- a. *If snow dynamics are considered*, the water balance of the snow pack is defined as:

$$\Delta S_{snow} = Ps - Sm \quad (7.3)$$

where  $Ps$  is precipitation as snowfall and  $Sm$  is snow melt. Evaporation from bare soil cannot occur if there is a snow pack over the soil surface (i.e., if  $S_{snow} > 0$  then  $Es = 0$ ).

- b. *If plant water pools are considered*, the water balance equation applies not only to the soil of the overall stand but also to the soil beneath each plant cohort. The fraction of stand area covered by each cohort is used to keep the water balance at the two scales aligned. Moreover, the water balances of soils beneath the different plant cohort are more or less correlated depending on root overlap.

Unlike the basic water balance, in this model water balance components contributing to latent heat ( $Es$ ,  $Tr$ ,  $In$  and  $Sm$ ) are included in the energy balance equations of the canopy and soil, therefore coupling water and energy balances.

### 7.3.2 Single-layer canopy energy balance

For the sake of performing energy balance, the canopy can be considered a single layer that exchanges energy with the soil and the atmosphere (Best *et al.* 2011). First, it absorbs shortwave radiation from the atmosphere ( $K_{abs,can}$ ) and long-wave radiation resulting from net radiation balance ( $L_{net,can}$ ). Other energy fluxes considered are convective exchanges between the canopy and atmosphere ( $H_{can,atm}$ ) and between the canopy and the soil ( $H_{can,soil}$ ). Finally, energy is released from the canopy to the atmosphere through latent heat ( $LE_{can}$ ) produced via transpiration ( $Tr$ ) and evaporation of water intercepted by the canopy ( $In$ ). Combining all energy flows (all of them in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ), the instantaneous energy balance equation for the canopy is:

$$TC_{can} \cdot \frac{\delta T_{can}}{\delta t} = K_{abs,can} + L_{net,can} - LE_{can} - H_{can,atm} - H_{can,soil} \quad (7.4)$$

where  $TC_{can}$  is the canopy thermal capacitance (in  $J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$ ).

### 7.3.3 Multiple-layer canopy energy balance

Alternatively, the model allows performing an energy balance for each vertical layer in the canopy, including its heat storage capacity (Ma & Liu 2019). The energy balance equation for canopy layer  $j$  is:

$$TC_j \cdot \frac{\delta T_{air,j}}{\delta t} = K_{abs,j} + L_{net,j} - LE_j + H_j \quad (7.5)$$

where  $K_{abs,j}$  is the short-wave radiation absorbed by leaves in the layer,  $L_{net,j}$  is the net long-wave radiation balance of the layer,  $LE_j$  is the latent heat flux and  $H_j$  is the sensible heat flux, which includes heat coming from leaves or soil surfaces as well as turbulent heat transport from adjacent layers. Finally,  $TC_j$  is the thermal capacitance (in  $J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$ ) of canopy layer  $j$ .

### 7.3.4 Soil energy balance

Like the canopy, the uppermost soil layer absorbs short-wave radiation from the atmosphere ( $K_{abs,soil}$ ) and has a net long-wave radiation balance ( $L_{net,soil}$ ). The uppermost soil layer also exchanges heat with the canopy ( $H_{can,soil}$ ) and releases energy in the form of latent heat ( $LE_{soil}$ ), which includes snow melt ( $Sm$ ) and evaporation from the soil surface ( $Es$ ). Finally, the soil layer exchanges thermal energy by conduction with the layer below ( $G_{1,2}$ ). The energy balance equation for the uppermost soil layer is:

$$TC_{soil,1} \cdot \frac{\delta T_{soil,1}}{\delta t} = K_{abs,soil} + L_{net,soil} + H_{can,soil} - LE_{soil} - G_{1,2} \quad (7.6)$$

where  $TC_{soil,1}$  is the thermal capacitance of soil layer 1 (the uppermost layer).

Instantaneous soil temperature changes on each soil layer depend on the balance between upward and downward energy flows. The downward energy flow for the uppermost soil layer depends on its energy exchanges with the canopy and the atmosphere, as shown in eq. (7.6), whereas the remaining energy flows are generated by heat conduction and depend on the temperature gradients between soil layers. The energy balance for a soil layer  $s > 1$  is:

$$TC_{soil,s} \cdot \frac{\delta T_{soil,s}}{\delta t} = G_{s-1,s} - G_{s,s+1} \quad (7.7)$$

where  $G_{s-1,s}$  is the energy inflow from layers above,  $G_{s,s+1}$  is the energy outflow towards layers below and  $TC_{soil,s}$  is the thermal capacitance of soil layer  $s$  (in  $J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$ ).

Unlike Best *et al.* (2011), the model considers the snow pack and the uppermost soil layer as a single layer in terms of energy exchange, but treats this layer differently depending on whether snow is present or not. The snow pack absorbs shortwave radiation (section 5.2) and snow melt is included as latent heat in the



energy balance, but the snow layer does not exchange long-wave radiation with the soil nor the atmosphere.  $K_{abs,soil}$  is set to zero when snow pack is present (because shortwave radiation is absorbed by snow), but the soil layer still exchanges long-wave radiation and convective energy with the canopy and the atmosphere. In addition, remember that bare soil evaporation does not occur when the snow pack is present (section 5.5).

## 7.4 Process scheduling

For every day to be simulated, the model performs the following steps:

1. Update leaf area values according to the phenology of species (sections 4.1).
2. If snow dynamics are included, increase snow pack from snow precipitation ( $Ps$ ) and decrease it following snow melt ( $Sm$ ) (section 5.2).
3. Determine rainfall interception loss ( $In$ ) and net rainfall ( $Pr_{net}$ ) (section 5.3).
4. Increase soil water content due to net rainfall ( $Pr_{net}$ ), surface runoff ( $Ro$ ) and snow melt ( $Sm$ ), after accounting for surface runoff ( $Ru$ ) and deep drainage ( $Dd$ ) (section 5.4).
5. Decrease soil water content due to bare soil evaporation ( $Es$ ), if snow is not present (section 5.5).
6. Determine subdaily air temperature and direct/diffuse irradiance variations (chapter 8).
7. Determine shortwave radiation absorbed by plant cohorts and the soil at subdaily steps (sections 9.1.3 and 9.1.4).
8. Update the water supply function of each plant cohort, according to the hydraulic model and the current soil water potential (chapter 10). If plant capacitance effects are considered, the supply function involves only the soil-to-stem part of the hydraulic pathway. Otherwise, it describes the complete soil-to-leaf pathway.
9. Determine instantaneous plant cohort transpiration, photosynthesis rates and close soil/canopy energy balance at subdaily steps (chapters 12 and 13). This involves the following actions for each subdaily step:
  - Determine long-wave radiation exchange between soil, canopy layers and atmosphere (section 9.2).
  - If plant capacitance effects are considered update the stem-to-leaf hydraulic supply function.
  - Calculate leaf energy balance and photosynthesis (for shade and sunlit leaves of each plant cohort) corresponding to each transpiration value of the supply function (section 11.1). If plant capacitance effects are considered this concerns the stem-to-leaf hydraulic supply function.
  - Determine stomatal conductance, transpiration and photosynthesis on shade and sunlit leaves of each plant cohort according to Sperry's (2017) profit maximization strategy (section 12.2).
  - Scale transpiration ( $Tr$ ) and net photosynthesis ( $A_n$ ) from sunlit/shade leaves to the plant cohort level (section 12.3).
  - If plant capacitance effects are considered perform water balance of plant compartments at high temporal resolution (1 second steps), while re-estimating the flow from the soil to the stem at each step according to changes in stem water potential (see 10.4).
  - Scale water extraction from soil layers ( $Ex$ ) to the plant cohort level.
  - Complete energy balance of the canopy and the soil, after translating plant transpiration, evaporation from bare soil, snow melt and interception loss to latent heat and calculating convective heat exchange for both the canopy and the soil. Alternatively, perform energy balance for individual canopy layers, while including turbulent heat exchange and turbulent transport of water vapor and  $CO_2$  between layers (chapter 13).
10. Determine day-level photosynthesis and transpiration from instantaneous rates and update soil moisture (section 14.1), effectively closing the soil water balance at the daily scale.
11. Determine drought stress for each plant cohort (section 14.3).

Details of the formulation of each of these processes are provided within the referred chapters and sections (some processes have been already described in previous chapters/sections).

## 7.5 Inputs and outputs

### 7.5.1 Soil, vegetation and meteorology

#### Soil

Soil input requirements are the same as for the basic water balance model and were fully described in section 2.2. Genuchten (1980) water retention curves are forced for this model, because rhizosphere conductance is modelled using van Genuchten hydraulic equations (see subsection 10.1).

#### Vegetation

Vegetation input requirements were fully described in section 2.3. Trees and shrubs do not need to be characterized with different variables in soil water balance calculations, since both kinds of cohort have a  $LAI$  value. In most cases, users only need to estimate the leaf area index corresponding to live leaves, i.e.  $LAI^{live}$ , because normally at the starting point all leaves are expanded (i.e.  $LAI^\phi = LAI^{live}$ ) and one can assume no dead leaves in the canopy (i.e.,  $LAI^{dead} = 0$ ). Vegetation characteristics stay constant during simulations using function `spwb()`, although the actual expanded leaf area ( $LAI^\phi$ ) and dead leaf area may vary if the species is winter deciduous.

#### Meteorology

The minimum weather variables required to run the model are min/max temperatures ( $T_{min}$  and  $T_{max}$ ), min/max relative humidity ( $RH_{min}$  and  $RH_{max}$ ), precipitation ( $P$ ) and solar radiation ( $Rad$ ). Wind speed ( $u$ ) is also needed for the advanced water balance model, but the user may use missing values if not available (a default value will be used in this case). Wind speed is assumed to have been measured at a specific height above the canopy (by default at 2 m). Atmospheric  $CO_2$  concentration ( $C_{atm}$ ) may also be specified, but if missing a default constant value is assumed, which is taken from the control parameters. Definitions and units of these variables were given in section 2.4.

### 7.5.2 Vegetation functional parameters

The advanced water balance model requires many functional parameters to be specified for plant cohorts. A first set of parameters refers to leaf phenology (`paramsPhenology`):

Symbol	Units	R	Description
		<b>PhenologyType</b>	Phenology type (oneflush-evergreen, progressive-evergreen, winter-deciduous, winter-semideciduous)
$LD$	years	<b>LeafDuration</b>	Leaf duration (in years).
$S_{eco,i}^*$	°C	<b>Sgdd</b>	Degree days corresponding to leaf budburst (see section 4.1.2).
$T_{eco}$	°C	<b>Tbgdd</b>	Base temperature for the calculation of degree days to leaf budburst (see section 4.1.2).
$S_{sen,i}^*$	°C	<b>Ssen</b>	Degree days corresponding to leaf senescence (see section 4.1.3).
$Ph_{sen}$	hours	<b>Phsen</b>	Photoperiod corresponding to start counting senescence degree-days (see section 4.1.3).
$T_{sen}$	°C	<b>Tbsen</b>	Base temperature for the calculation of degree days to leaf senescence (see section 4.1.3).

A second set of functional parameters relate to light extinction and water interception (`paramsInterception`):

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$k_{PAR,i}$	(unitless)	<b>kPAR</b>	Extinction coefficient for diffuse PAR
$\alpha_{SWR,i}$	[0-1]	<b>alphaSWR</b>	Short-wave radiation leaf absorbance coefficient

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$\gamma_{SWR,i}$	[0-1]	<b>gammaSWR</b>	Short-wave radiation leaf reflectance (albedo)
$s_{water,i}$	$mm\ H_2O\ LA_i^{-1}$	<b>W</b>	Crown water storage capacity (i.e. depth of water that can be retained by leaves and branches) per LAI unit

A third set includes parameters related to plant anatomic and morphological attributes (**paramsAnatomy**):

Symbol	Units	R param	Description
$H_{med,i}$	$cm$	<b>Hmed</b>	Median plant height
$1/H_{v,i}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Al2As</b>	Ratio of leaf area to sapwood area
$LW_i$	$cm$	<b>LeafWidth</b>	Leaf width
$SLA_i$	$m^2 \cdot kg^{-1}$	<b>SLA</b>	Specific leaf area
$\rho_{leaf,i}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>LeafDensity</b>	Leaf tissue density
$\rho_{wood,i}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>WoodDensity</b>	Wood tissue density

A fourth set of parameters are related to transpiration and photosynthesis (**paramsTranspiration**):

Symbol	Units	R param	Description
$g_{smin,i}$	$mol\ H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Gwmin</b>	Minimum stomatal conductance to water vapour
$g_{smax,i}$	$mol\ H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Gwmax</b>	Maximum stomatal conductance to water vapour
$J_{max,298,i}$	$\mu mol\ e \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$	<b>Jmax298</b>	Maximum rate of electron transport at 298K
$V_{max,298,i}$	$\mu mol\ CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Vmax298</b>	Rubisco's maximum carboxylation rate at 298K
$K_{stem,max,ref}$	$kg \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	<b>Kmax_stemxylem</b>	Maximum stem sapwood reference conductivity per leaf area unit
$K_{root,max,ref}$	$kg \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	<b>Kmax_rootxylem</b>	Maximum root sapwood reference conductivity per leaf area unit
$k_{leaf,max,i}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	<b>VCleaf_kmax</b>	Maximum leaf conductance (per leaf area unit)
$k_{stem,max,i}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	<b>VCstem_kmax</b>	Maximum stem conductance (per leaf area unit)
$k_{root,max,i,s}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	<b>VCroot_kmax</b>	Maximum root conductance (per leaf area unit) for each soil layer
$k_{rhizo,max,i,s}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	<b>VGrhizo_kmax</b>	Maximum hydraulic conductance of the rhizosphere for each soil layer
$c_{leaf,i}$	(unitless),	<b>VCleaf_c,</b>	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for leaves
$d_{leaf,i}$	MPa	<b>VCleaf_d</b>	
$c_{stem,i}$	(unitless),	<b>VCstem_c,</b>	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for stem xylem
$d_{stem,i}$	MPa	<b>VCstem_d</b>	
$c_{root,i}$	(unitless),	<b>VCroot_c,</b>	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for root xylem
$d_{root,i}$	MPa	<b>VCroot_d</b>	

It is important to mention that stem- and root-level hydraulic conductances (i.e.  $k_{stem,max}$  and  $k_{root,max}$ ) are not given as inputs by the user, but are the result from scaling tissue-level conductivity parameters (i.e.  $K_{stem,max,ref}$  and  $K_{root,max,ref}$ ) according to plant size (see A.4.1 and A.4.3 for details).

A fifth (final) set of parameters are related to water storage and water relations in plant tissues (`paramsWaterStorage`):

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$\epsilon_{leaf,i}$	MPa	<b>LeafEPS</b>	Modulus of elasticity of leaves
$\epsilon_{stem,i}$	MPa	<b>StemEPS</b>	Modulus of elasticity of symplastic xylem tissue
$\pi_{0,leaf,i}$	MPa	<b>LeafPI0</b>	Osmotic potential at full turgor of leaves
$\pi_{0,stem,i}$	MPa	<b>StemPI0</b>	Osmotic potential at full turgor of symplastic xylem tissue
$f_{apo,leaf,i}$	[0-1]	<b>LeafAF</b>	Apoplastic fraction in leaf tissues
$f_{apo,stem,i}$	[0-1]	<b>StemAF</b>	Apoplastic fraction in stem tissues
$V_{leaf,i}$	$l \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Vleaf</b>	Leaf water capacity per leaf area unit
$V_{sapwood,i}$	$l \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Vsapwood</b>	Sapwood water capacity per leaf area unit

Vegetation functional attributes are normally filled for each cohort by function `spwbInput()` or `forest2spwbInput()` from species identity. However, different parameters can be specified for different cohorts of the same species if desired (see section 2.3.6).

### 7.5.3 Control parameters

Control parameters modulate the overall behaviour of water balance simulations (see section 2.5). There are three **key control parameters**:

1. **transpirationMode** defines the transpiration model, which in turn defines the complexity of the water balance model. If **transpirationMode** = "Sperry" then the advanced water balance model is run. In this model, the water retention curve model is forced to be that of Van Genuchten, i.e. **soilFunctions** = "VG" (see section 2.2.2).
2. **capacitance** defines whether plant capacitance (hence, plant water balance) is considered. By default it is set to **capacitance** = FALSE.
3. **ndailysteps** defines the number of daily steps. By default **ndailysteps** = 24, so that steps are hours, but users can increase the temporal resolution, for example to half hour substeps by setting **ndailysteps** = 48.
4. **multiLayerBalance** is a boolean flag to indicate that multi-layer energy balance is desired (by default **multiLayerBalance** = FALSE).
5. **nsubsteps** defines the number of substeps for multi-layer energy balance calculations. By default **nsubsteps** = 3600, so that substeps are 1 sec if **ndailysteps** = 24.

The other control parameters relevant for the advanced water balance model are:

- **snowpack** [= TRUE]: Whether dynamics of snow pack are included (see section 5.2).
- **rockyLayerDrainage** [= TRUE]: Whether water exceeding the field capacity of the deepest layer can be drained via macropore flow towards a non-reachable compartment, only for layers with > 95% rocks (see section 5.4).
- **leafPhenology** [= TRUE]: Whether leaf phenology is simulated for winter-deciduous species (see section 4.1). If FALSE then all species are assumed to be evergreen.
- **defaultWindSpeed** [= 2.5]: Default value for wind speed (in  $m \cdot s^{-1}$ ) when this is missing.

- **windMeasurementHeight** [= 200]: Distance (in cm) above the top of the canopy corresponding to the measurement of wind speed.
- **boundaryLayerSize** [= 2000]: Size of the canopy boundary layer (in cm). The boundary layer causes the model to define vertical layers above the top of the canopy. The parameter is only relevant when multi-layer canopy energy balance is performed.
- **unlimitedSoilWater** [=FALSE]: Boolean flag to indicate the simulation of plant transpiration assuming that soil water is always at field capacity.
- **plantWaterPools** [=FALSE]: Boolean flag to indicate the simulation of water balance assuming that each cohort has its own water pools.
- **costModifier**, **gainModifier** [= 1]: Modifiers (exponents) of the gain and cost functions defined in Sperry et al. (2016) (see section 12.2).
- **cuticularTranspiration** [=TRUE]: Boolean flag to indicate the simulation of cuticular transpiration (at night or when stomata are fully closed) according to minimum stomatal conductance (see section 12.2).
- **thermalCapacityLAI** [= 1000000]: Canopy thermal capacitance per LAI unit (see section 13.1.3).
- **verticalLayerSize** [= 100]: The size of vertical layers (in cm) for leaf area distribution and light extinction calculations (see section 2.3.3).
- **cavitationRefill** [= "total"]: Controls recovery from cavitation. If "total" cavitation is completely reversible. If "none" the model operates in a irreversible cavitation mode. If "annual" plants are assumed to recover from previous drought at the first day of the year and, finally, if "rate" cavitation recovery follows a daily recovery rate (see section 12.4).
- **refillMaximumRate** [= 0.05]: Maximum rate of conduit refilling (see section 12.4).
- **klatstem** [= 0.01]: Stem symplastic-apoplastic lateral conductance (in  $\text{mmol}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{MPa}^{-1}$ ). Only relevant when **capacitance** = TRUE (see section 10.4).
- **klatleaf** [= 0.01]: Leaf symplastic-apoplastic lateral conductance (in  $\text{mmol}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{MPa}^{-1}$ ). Only relevant when **capacitance** = TRUE (see section 10.4).
- **numericParams**: A list with params for numerical approximation routines.
- **Catm** [=386]: Default atmospheric (abovecanopy)  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration (in  $\text{micromol } \text{CO}_2 \cdot \text{mol}^{-1} = \text{ppm}$ ). This value will be used whenever  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration is not specified in the weather input.
- **cochard** [=FALSE]: Boolean flag to indicate the stomatal closure when leaf water potential is below turgor loss point so that transpiration depends on cuticular properties (Martin-StPaul *et al.* 2017). In addition, a number of control parameters are used to modify how hydraulic parameters are estimated when calling function **spwbInput()**:
- **taper** [= TRUE]: Whether taper of xylem conduits is accounted for when estimating aboveground stem conductance from xylem conductivity.
- **fracRootResistance** [= 0.40]: Fraction of plant total resistance (leaf+stem+root) that corresponds to root system.
- **averageFracRhizosphereResistance** [= 0.15]: Fraction to total continuum (stem+root+rhizosphere) resistance that corresponds to rhizosphere (averaged across soil water potential values).

## 7.5.4 Model output

### 7.5.4.1 Daily output

Function `spwb` with `transpirationMode = "Sperry"` returns a list object with the following elements:

Element	Description
<b>WaterBalance</b>	Climatic input and water balance flows (i.e. net precipitation, infiltration, runoff, transpiration...). All of them in $mm = l \cdot m^{-2}$ .
<b>EnergyBalance</b>	Energy balance components (instantaneous values) for the soil and the canopy
<b>Temperature</b>	Minimum and maximum temperature values for topsoil, canopy and atmosphere
<b>Soil</b>	Soil variables for each soil layer: Moisture relative to field capacity ( $W_s$ ), water potential ( $\Psi_s$ ) and volumetric water content ( $V_s$ ).
<b>Stand</b>	Stand-level variables, such as $LAI_{stand}^\phi$ , $LAI_{stand}^{dead}$ , the water retention capacity of the canopy ( $S_{canopy}$ ) or the fraction of light reaching the ground ( $L_{ground}^{PAR}$ and $L_{ground}^{SWR}$ ).
<b>Plants</b>	Plant-level variables, such as $LAI_i^{phi}$ , plant transpiration, plant water potential, etc.
<b>SunlitLeaves</b>	Leaf-level output variables for sunlit leaves.
<b>ShadeLeaves</b>	Leaf-level output variables for shade leaves.

Compared to the output of the basic water balance 3.5.4, new output elements are produced. Many results are given as sub-elements of **Plants**, each of them a data frame with dates in rows and plant cohorts in columns:

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
<b>LAI</b>	$LAI_i^\phi$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$	Leaf area index (expanded).
<b>AbsorbedSWR</b>		MJ	Shortwave radiation absorbed per ground area.
<b>AbsorbedLWR</b>		MJ	Longwave radiation absorbed per ground area.
<b>Transpiration</b>	$Tr_i$	mm	Transpiration per ground area.
<b>GrossPhotosynthesis</b>		$g C \cdot m^{-2}$	Gross photosynthesis per ground area.
<b>NetPhotosynthesis</b>		$g C \cdot m^{-2}$	Net photosynthesis per ground area.
<b>dEdP</b>	$dE/d\Psi_i$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ $MPa^{-1}$	Derivative of the (aboveground) supply function.
<b>PlantWaterBalance</b>		mm	Internal daily plant water balance (balance of soil extraction and transpiration).
<b>LeafPsiMin</b>	$\Psi_{md,i}$	MPa	Minimum (midday) ‘average leaf’ water potential.
<b>LeafPsiMax</b>	$\Psi_{pd,i}$	MPa	Maximum (predawn) ‘average leaf’ water potential.
<b>StemPsi</b>	$\Psi_{stem,i}$	MPa	Minimum stem water potential.
<b>RootPsi</b>	$\Psi_{rootcrown,i}$	MPa	Minimum root-crown water potential.
<b>RhizoPsi</b>	$\Psi_{rootsurf,i,s}$	MPa	Minimum root surface water potential for each soil layer.
<b>StemPLC</b>	$PLC_{stem,i}$	MPa	Proportion of stem conductance loss.
<b>LeafRWC</b>	$RWC_{leaf,i}$	%	Mean leaf relative water content.
<b>StemRWC</b>	$RWC_{stem,i}$	%	Mean stem relative water content.
<b>LeafSympRWC</b>	$RWC_{leaf,i}$	%	Relative water content in the leaf symplasm.
<b>StemSympRWC</b>	$RWC_{stem,i}$	%	Relative water content in the stem symplasm.
<b>PlantStress</b>	$DDS_i$	[0-1]	Drought stress level suffered by each plant cohort (relative whole-plant conductance).

The following table describes the child elements of **SunlitLeaves** and **ShadeLeaves**, each of them a data frame with dates in rows and plant cohorts in columns:

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
LeafPsiMin	$\Psi_{md,i}^{sunlit}$ , $\Psi_{md,i}^{shade}$	MPa	Minimum (midday) (sunlit or shade) leaf water potential.
LeafPsiMax	$\Psi_{pd,i}^{sunlit}$ , $\Psi_{pd,i}^{shade}$	MPa	Maximum (predawn) (sunlit or shade) leaf water potential.
GW	$g_{w,i}^{sunlit}$ , $g_{w,i}^{shade}$	$mol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$	Stomatal conductance to water vapour.

#### 7.5.4.2 Subdaily output

Calling function `spwb_day()` with the advanced water balance model results in subdaily results for the simulated date. When running the advanced water balance model with function `spwb()` one can request subdaily results to be included with the function output. This is done via setting `subdailyResults = TRUE` in the control parameter list. In that case, the output list of `spwb()` will include an element `subdaily`, whose subelements correspond to the results of `spwb_day()` for each date simulated. Refer to the documentation of functions `spwb_day()` and `transp_transpirationSperry()` for details of subdaily output.





## Chapter 8

# Subdaily atmospheric temperature and radiation variation

After estimating leaf phenology (chapter 4) and simulating the main hydrological processes (chapter 5), the advanced water balance model (chapter 7) starts simulating *subdaily* processes, which include energy balances and photosynthesis/transpiration. In order to properly simulate these processes it is important to consider sub-daily variations in temperature and radiation. Here we detail how sub-daily estimates of above-canopy air temperature and atmospheric incoming radiation are derived from daily input values.

### 8.1 Above-canopy air temperature

Above-canopy air temperature ( $T_{atm}$ , in  $^{\circ}C$ ) diurnal variations are modeled assuming a *sinusoidal pattern* with  $T_{atm} = T_{\min}$  at sunrise and  $T_{atm} = (T_{\min} + T_{\max})/2$  at sunset. Air temperature varies linearly between sunset and sunrise (McMurtrie *et al.* 1990). Sunrise and sunset hours are determined from latitude and sun declination (see section 4.2 of the reference manual for package **meteoland**).

### 8.2 Incoming diffuse and direct short-wave radiation

Daily global radiation ( $Rad$ , in  $MJ \cdot m^{-2} \cdot d^{-1}$ ) is assumed to include both direct and diffuse short-wave radiation (SWR). Using latitude information and whether is a rainy day, this quantity is partitioned into instantaneous direct and diffuse SWR and PAR for different daily substeps. Values of instantaneous direct and diffuse SWR and PAR above the canopy ( $I_{beam}$  and  $I_{dif}$ , in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ) are calculated using the methods described in Spitters *et al.* (1986), which involve comparing daily global radiation with daily potential radiation. All these calculations are performed using routines in package **meteoland** (see details in section 4.6 of the reference manual for this package).

### 8.3 Incoming long-wave radiation

Once the above-canopy air temperature for a given time step is known, instantaneous long-wave radiation (LWR) coming from the atmosphere ( $L_{atm}$ , in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ) can be calculated following Campbell & Norman (1998):

$$L_{atm} = \epsilon_a \cdot \sigma \cdot (T_{atm} + 273.16)^{4.0} \quad (8.1)$$

where  $T_{atm}$  is air temperature,  $\sigma = 5.67 \cdot 10^{-8.0} W \cdot K^{-4} \cdot m^{-2}$  is the Stephan-Boltzmann constant and  $\epsilon_a$  is the emmissivity of the atmosphere, calculated using:

$$\epsilon_a = (1 - 0.84 \cdot c) \cdot \epsilon_{ac} + 0.84 \cdot c \quad (8.2)$$

$$\epsilon_{ac} = 1.72 \cdot \left( \frac{e_{atm}}{T_{atm} + 273.16} \right)^{1/7} \quad (8.3)$$

where  $e_{atm}$  is the average daily water vapor pressure (in kPa; see 2.4) and  $c$  is the proportion of clouds ( $c = 1$  in rainy days and  $c = 0$  otherwise).

## Chapter 9

# Radiation transfer

In the previous chapter we detailed sub-daily variation in temperature and radiation inputs. Here we deal with the absorption of diffuse and direct shortwave radiation through the canopy as well as the long-wave radiation balance for canopy layers and the soil layer. These are necessary to estimate the different components of the canopy and soil energy balances (see eqs. (7.4), (7.5) and (7.6)) as well as to determine leaf energy balance, transpiration and photosynthesis (chapters 11 and 12). Short-wave radiation (SWR) absorption can be determined for all sub-daily steps once the variation of atmospheric inputs are known. In contrast, the long-wave radiation (LWR) balance for any surface depends on its temperature and therefore, net LWR for canopy and soil layers need to be determined at each sub-daily step after closing the energy balance of the previous step (see chapter 13).

The vertical distribution of leaves in the stand is a key element of radiation transfer. As explained in section 2.3.3, the canopy is divided into vertical layers (whose size is determined by the control parameter `verticalLayerSize`), and the expanded and dead leaf area index of each cohort within each layer is determined. Let  $l$  be the number of canopy layers,  $c$  the number of plant cohorts, and  $LAI_{i,j}^{all} = LAI_{i,j}^{\phi} + LAI_{i,j}^{dead}$  be the leaf area index of cohort  $i$  in layer  $j$ .

### 9.1 Short-wave radiation

In section 8.2 we explained how the model estimates instantaneous and direct/diffuse SWR and PAR at the top of the canopy. Given an input direct and diffuse short-wave irradiance at the top of the canopy, the amount of light absorbed by sunlit leaves, shade leaves and the soil follows the model of Anten & Bastiaans (2016), which we detail in the following subsections.

#### 9.1.1 Direct and diffuse irradiance across the canopy

The average irradiance reaching the top of each canopy layer  $j$  is calculated separately for direct beam and diffuse radiation (the same equations are valid for SWR or PAR, but with different coefficients):

$$I_{beam,j} = (1 - \gamma_i) \cdot I_{beam} \cdot \exp \left[ \sum_{h=j+1}^l \sum_i^c -k_b \cdot \alpha_i^{0.5} \cdot LAI_{i,h}^{all} \right] \quad (9.1)$$

$$I_{dif,j} = (1 - \gamma_i) \cdot I_{dif} \cdot \exp \left[ \sum_{h=j+1}^l \sum_i^c -k_{d,i} \cdot \alpha_i^{0.5} \cdot LAI_{i,h}^{all} \right] \quad (9.2)$$

where  $I_{beam}$  and  $I_{dif}$  are the direct and diffuse irradiance at the top of the canopy (in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ),  $\gamma_i$  is the leaf reflectance ( $\gamma_{SWR,i}$  is an input parameter, whereas  $\gamma_{PAR,i} = 0.8 \cdot \gamma_{SWR,i}$ ),  $k_b = 0.8$  is the extinction

coefficient for direct light,  $k_{d,i}$  is the extinction coefficient of cohort  $i$  for diffuse light (i.e.  $k_{PAR,i}$  or  $k_{SWR,i}$ ) and  $\alpha_i$  is the absorbance coefficient ( $\alpha_{SWR,i}$  is an input parameter, whereas  $\alpha_{PAR,i} = \alpha_{SWR,i} \cdot 1.35$ ).

### 9.1.2 Sunlit and shade leaves

It is generally accepted that sunlit and shade leaves need to be treated separately for photosynthesis calculations (De Pury & Farquhar 1997). This separation is necessary because photosynthesis of shade leaves has an essentially linear response to irradiance, while photosynthesis of leaves in sunflecks is often light saturated and independent of irradiance. The proportion of sunlit leaves, i.e. leaves in a canopy layer  $j$  that the direct light beams (sunflecks) reach is:

$$f_{SL,j} = \exp \left( \sum_{k>j}^l \sum_i^c -k_b \cdot LAI_{i,k}^{all} \right) \cdot \exp \left( \sum_i^c -k_b \cdot 0.5 \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{all} \right) \quad (9.3)$$

From this we can derive the (expanded) leaf area of each layer that is affected by direct light beams (i.e. the amount of sunlit and shade leaves):

$$LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit} = f_{SL,j} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{\phi} \quad (9.4)$$

$$LAI_{i,j}^{shade} = (1 - f_{SL,j}) \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{\phi} \quad (9.5)$$

As an example we will consider a canopy of one species of LAI = 2, divided into ten layers with constant leaf density:

```
LAI = 2
nlayer = 10
LAIlayerlive = matrix(rep(LAI/nlayer,nlayer),nlayer,1)
LAIlayermax = matrix(rep(LAI/nlayer,nlayer),nlayer,1)
LAIlayerdead = matrix(0,nlayer,1)
kb = 0.8
kd_PAR = 0.5
kd_SWR = kd_PAR/1.35
alpha_PAR = 0.9
gamma_PAR = 0.04
gamma_SWR = 0.05
alpha_SWR = 0.7
```

This canopy definition leads to a percentage of the above-canopy irradiance reaching each layer (Anten & Bastiaans 2016). Extinction of direct radiation also defines the proportion of leaves of each layer that are affected by sunflecks (i.e. the proportion of sunlit leaves). Both outcomes are illustrated in the figure below:

### 9.1.3 Short-wave radiation absorbed by canopy elements

The amount of absorbed diffuse radiation per leaf area unit of cohort  $i$  within a given canopy layer  $j$  is calculated as:

$$\Phi_{dif,i,j} = I_{dif,j} \cdot k_{d,i} \cdot \alpha_i^{0.5} \exp \left[ \sum_h^c -k_{d,h} \cdot \alpha_i^{0.5} \cdot 0.5 \cdot LAI_{h,j}^{all} \right] \quad (9.6)$$

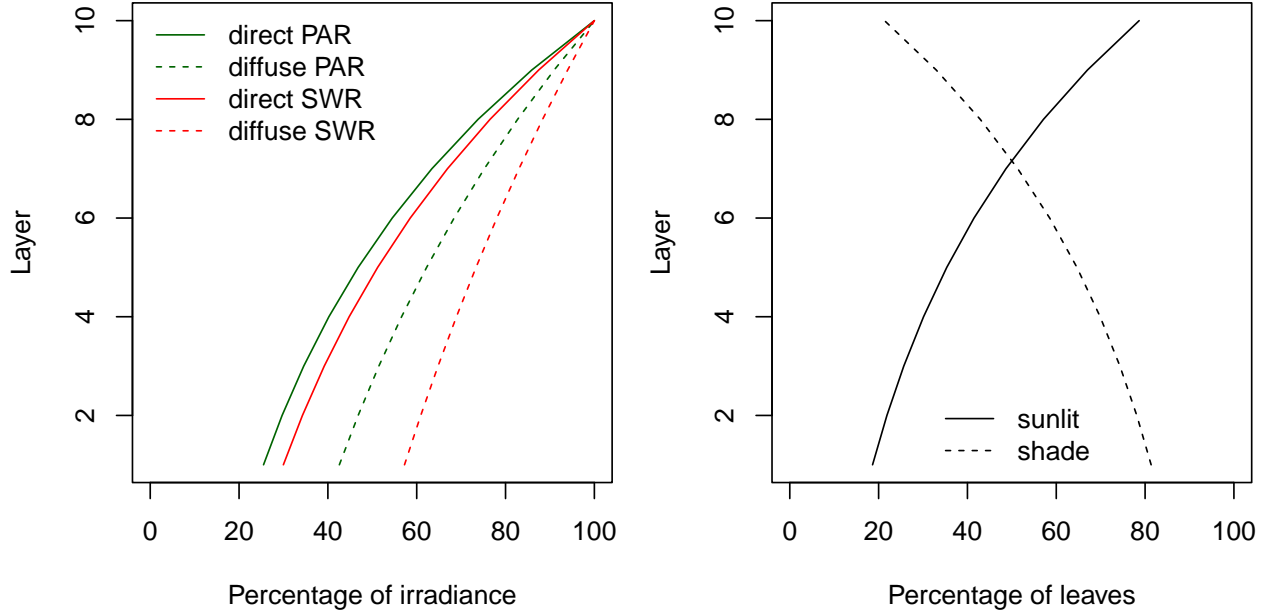


Figure 9.1: The left panel shows irradiance per layer of diffuse and direct PAR and SWR assuming a LAI of 2 equally distributed among layers (see function `light_layerIrradianceFraction()`). The right panel shows the corresponding proportions of sunlit and shade leaves in each layer (see function `light_layerSunlitFraction()`).

The amount of absorbed scattered beam radiation per leaf area unit of cohort  $i$  within a given canopy layer  $j$  is calculated as:

$$\Phi_{sca,i,j} = I_{b,j} \cdot k_b \cdot (A - B) \quad (9.7)$$

$$A = \alpha_i^{0.5} \cdot \exp \left( \sum_h^c -k_b \cdot \alpha_i \cdot 0.5 \cdot LAI_{h,i}^{all} \right) \quad (9.8)$$

$$B = \frac{\alpha_i}{(1 - \gamma_i)} \cdot \exp \left( \sum_h^c -k_b \cdot 0.5 \cdot LAI_{h,i}^{all} \right) \quad (9.9)$$

Finally, the direct radiation absorbed by a unit of sunlit leaf area of cohort  $i$  in a canopy layer  $j$  does not depend on the position of the canopy layer and is:

$$\Phi_{dir,i,j} = I_{beam} \cdot \alpha_i \cdot 0.5 / \sin \beta \quad (9.10)$$

where  $\beta$  is the solar elevation angle in radians, which changes throughout the day (see section 4.3 of the reference manual for package **meteoland**). The amount of light absorbed by sunlit/shaded foliage of cohort  $i$  in layer  $j$  per leaf area unit ( $\Phi_{i,j}^{sunlit}$  and  $\Phi_{i,j}^{shade}$ , respectively) is:

$$\Phi_{i,j}^{sunlit} = \Phi_{dif,i,j} + \Phi_{sca,i,j} + \Phi_{dir,i,j} \quad (9.11)$$

$$\Phi_{i,j}^{shade} = \Phi_{dif,i,j} + \Phi_{sca,i,j} \quad (9.12)$$

Let us show how all this works in an example. Regarding incoming light, we assume the following direct and diffuse irradiance at the top of the canopy:

```
solarElevation = 0.67
SWR_direct = 1100
```

```

SWR_diffuse = 300
PAR_direct = 550
PAR_diffuse = 150

```

Solar elevation is the angle between the sun and the horizon (i.e. the complement of the zenith angle). Under these conditions, and for the same canopy used for fig. 9.1, the amount of PAR and SWR absorbed per unit of leaf area at each canopy layer is (Anten & Bastiaans 2016):

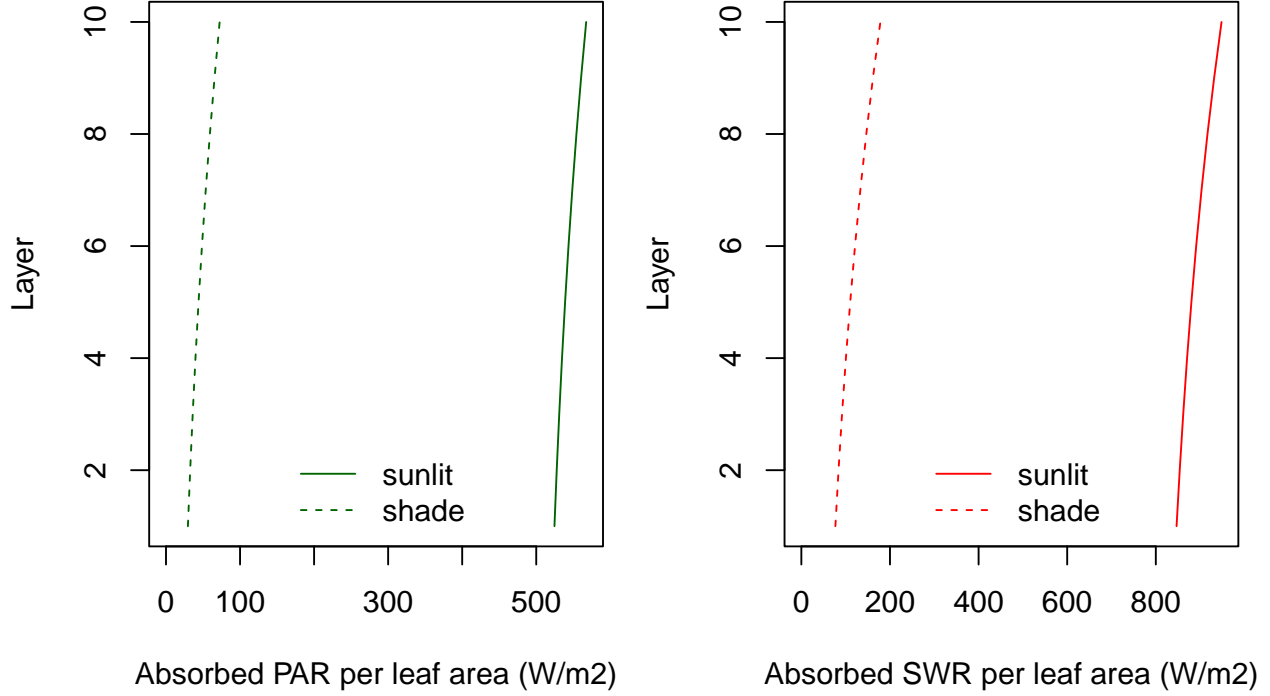


Figure 9.2: PAR (left) and SWR (right) absorbed per unit of sunlit/shade leaf area at each canopy layer ( $I_{i,j}^{sunlit}$  and  $I_{i,j}^{shade}$ , respectively; see function `light_cohortSunlitShadeAbsorbedRadiation()`).

The SWR absorbed per ground area unit by sunlit and shade foliage of cohort  $i$  in canopy layer  $j$  is:

$$K_{abs,i,j}^{sunlit} = \Phi_{i,j}^{sunlit} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit} \quad (9.13)$$

$$K_{abs,i,j}^{shade} = \Phi_{i,j}^{shade} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{shade} \quad (9.14)$$

The previous quantities can be aggregated across cohorts or layers. The SWR absorbed per ground area unit by cohort  $i$  ( $K_{abs,i}$ ) is found using:

$$K_{abs,i} = \sum_j^l K_{abs,i,j}^{sunlit} + K_{abs,i,j}^{shade} = K_{abs,i}^{sunlit} + K_{abs,i}^{shade} \quad (9.15)$$

where  $K_{abs,i}^{sunlit}$  and  $K_{abs,i}^{shade}$  are the SWR absorbed per ground area unit by sunlit and shade foliage, respectively, of cohort  $i$ . Similarly, the SWR absorbed by canopy layer  $j$  ( $K_{abs,j}$ ) is found using:

$$K_{abs,j} = \sum_i^c K_{abs,i,j}^{sunlit} + K_{abs,i,j}^{shade} \quad (9.16)$$

and the SWR absorbed by the whole canopy ( $K_{abs,ca}$ ) is:

$$K_{abs,ca} = \sum_j^l K_{abs,j} = \sum_i^c K_{abs,i} = \sum_i^c \sum_j^l K_{abs,i,j}^{sunlit} + K_{abs,i,j}^{shade} \quad (9.17)$$

### 9.1.4 Short-wave radiation absorbed by the soil

The instantaneous shortwave radiation reaching the soil is calculated separately for direct beam and diffuse radiation:

$$I_{beam,soil} = I_{beam} \cdot \exp \left[ \sum_{h=j+1}^l \sum_i^c -k_b \cdot \alpha_i^{0.5} \cdot LAI_{i,h}^{all} \right] \quad (9.18)$$

$$I_{dif,soil} = I_{dif} \cdot \exp \left[ \sum_{h=j+1}^l \sum_i^c -k_{d,i} \cdot LAI_{i,h}^{all} \right] \quad (9.19)$$

where  $I_{beam}$  and  $I_{dif}$  are the direct and diffuse irradiance at the top of the canopy,  $k_b$  is the extinction coefficient for direct light ( $k_b = 0.8$ ) and  $k_{d,i}$  is the extinction coefficient of cohort  $i$  for diffuse SWR. From these, the SWR absorbed by the soil ( $K_{abs,soil}$ ) is found by:

$$K_{abs,soil} = (1 - \gamma_{SWR,soil}) \cdot (I_{beam,soil} + I_{dif,soil}) \quad (9.20)$$

where  $\gamma_{SWR,soil} = 0.10$  is the SWR reflectance (10% albedo) of the soil.

## 9.2 Long-wave radiation

Long-wave radiation (LWR) transfer within the canopy is based on the SHAW model (Flerchinger *et al.* 2009).

### 9.2.1 Long-wave radiation balance by canopy layers

Assume canopy layers are ordered from  $j = 1$  (in contact with the soil) to  $j = l$  (in contact with the atmosphere above the boundary layer). The procedure first calculates downward LWR below each canopy layer,  $L_{down,j}$ , from  $j = l$  to  $j = 1$ . The downward LWR below layer  $j$  is calculated as:

$$L_{down,j} = \tau_j \cdot L_{down,j+1} + (1 - \tau_j) \cdot \epsilon_{can} \cdot \sigma \cdot (T_{air,j} + 273.16)^4 \quad (9.21)$$

where  $L_{down,j+1}$  is the downward LWR of the layer above ( $L_{atm}$  in the case of  $j = l$ ),  $T_{air,j}$  is the air temperature of layer  $j$ ,  $\tau_j$  is the diffuse transmissivity of layer  $j$ ,  $\sigma = 5.67 \cdot 10^{-8} W \cdot K^{-4} \cdot m^{-2}$  is the Stephan-Boltzmann constant and  $\epsilon_{can} = 0.97$  is the canopy emmissivity. Diffuse transmissivity values are defined by cohort  $i$  and layer  $j$  using:

$$\tau_{i,j} = \exp(-k_{LWR} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{all}) \quad (9.22)$$

where  $k_{LWR} = 0.7815$  is the extinction coefficient for LWR. The transmissivity of layer  $j$  is simply  $\tau_j = \sum_i^c \tau_{i,j}$ . Once we know  $L_{down,1}$  we can calculate the upwards LWR from the soil ( $L_{up,s}$ ) using:

$$L_{up,soil} = (1 - \epsilon_{soil}) \cdot L_{down,1} + \epsilon_{soil} \cdot \sigma \cdot (T_{soil,1} + 273.16)^4 \quad (9.23)$$

where  $T_{soil,1}$  is the temperature of the topmost soil layer and  $\epsilon_{soil} = 0.97$  is the soil emmissivity. Now we calculate upward LWR from  $j = 1$  to  $j = J$ :

$$L_{up,j} = \tau_j \cdot L_{up,j-1} + (1 - \tau_j) \cdot \epsilon_{can} \cdot \sigma \cdot (T_{air,j} + 273.16)^4 \quad (9.24)$$

where  $L_{up,j-1}$  is the downward LWR of the layer below ( $L_{up,soil}$  in the case of  $j = 1$ ). Once we have downward and upward LWR fluxes, we can estimate the net LWR absorbed within canopy layer  $j$  using:

$$L_{net,j} = \epsilon_{can} \cdot (1 - \tau_j) \cdot (L_{down,j} + L_{up,j} - \sigma \cdot (T_{air,j} + 273.16)^4) \quad (9.25)$$

### 9.2.2 Net long-wave radiation of the whole canopy and the soil

Net LWR can be aggregated at the scale of the whole canopy. The net LWR of the whole canopy ( $L_{net,can}$ ) is simply the sum across layers of net LWR:

$$L_{net,can} = \sum_j^l L_{net,j} \quad (9.26)$$

whereas the net LWR of the soil ( $L_{net,soil}$ ) is:

$$L_{net,soil} = \epsilon_{soil} \cdot (L_{down,1} - \sigma \cdot (T_{soil,1} + 273.16)^4) \quad (9.27)$$

### 9.2.3 Long-wave radiation balance by plant cohorts

The net LWR per leaf area unit absorbed within canopy layer  $j$  can also be decomposed among plant cohorts. The net LWR of cohort  $i$  in layer  $j$  is found using the relative proportion of light absorbed by the cohort (i.e. the complement of its diffuse transmissivity):

$$L_{net,i,j} = L_{net,j} \cdot \frac{1 - \tau_{i,j}}{\sum_h 1 - \tau_{h,j}} \quad (9.28)$$

from which we can estimate  $L_{net,i}^{sunlit}$  and  $L_{net,i}^{shade}$ , the average net LWR per leaf area unit for sunlit and shade leaves of cohort  $i$ , respectively:

$$L_{net,i}^{sunlit} = \frac{\sum_j^l L_{net,i,j} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit}}{\sum_j^l LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit}} \quad L_{net,i}^{shade} = \frac{\sum_j^l L_{net,i,j} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{shade}}{\sum_j^l LAI_{i,j}^{shade}} \quad (9.29)$$



# Chapter 10

## Plant hydraulics

The supply-loss theory of plant hydraulics, presented by Sperry & Love (2015) and used in Sperry *et al.* (2017), uses the physics of flow through soil and xylem to quantify how steady-state canopy water supply declines with drought and ceases by hydraulic failure. The theory builds on the hydraulic model of Sperry *et al.* (1998) and can be applied to different segmentations of the soil-plant continuum.

The advanced water balance model of **medfate** implements steady-state hydraulic supply functions as described in Sperry & Love (2015). The hydraulic network is described using  $(S \times 2 + 2 + 1)$  resistance elements, with soil being represented in  $S$  different soil layers. For each soil layer there is a rhizosphere element in series with a root xylem element. The  $S$  soil layers are in parallel up to the root crown. From there there are two stem xylem segments and a final leaf segment, all in series. Supply functions are used in the advanced water model to determine photosynthesis, stomatal conductance and transpiration (see chapters 11 and 12).

Sections 10.1 and 10.2 in this chapter describe in detail how hydraulic supply functions are calculated, starting from their building blocks, i.e. vulnerability curves. Although the model implements this network representation of the soil-plant continuum, simpler one-element, two-element and three-element representations are first introduced to facilitate understanding.

Plants have water within their tissues and this source of water is more readily accessible than soil water. To consider plant water storage compartments explicitly these need to be combined with supply functions in some way. In **medfate** we divide the hydraulic network into two parts: (1) the first is made of  $(S \times 2 + 1)$  elements and draws water from the soil, pouring it into the stem xylem; and (2) the second is made of  $(1 + 1)$  elements and draws water from stem xylem bringing it up to the leaves. Each part has its own supply function and the stem xylem segments exchange water with water storage compartments. Sections 10.3 and 10.4 are devoted to explain how plant water storage capacity is estimated and how it is integrated with the use of supply functions.

### 10.1 Vulnerability curves

Vulnerability curves form the basis of hydraulic calculations. Let us use  $k$  to denote hydraulic conductance, i.e. instantaneous flow rate per leaf surface unit and per pressure drop (in  $\text{mmol} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{MPa}^{-1}$ ). Each element of the hydraulic network has a vulnerability curve  $k(\Psi)$  that starts at maximum hydraulic conductance ( $k_{\max} = k(0)$ ) and declines as water pressure ( $\Psi$ ) becomes more negative.

### 10.1.1 Xylem vulnerability curves

Xylem tissues are assigned a two-parameter Weibull function as the vulnerability curve  $k(\Psi)$ :

$$k(\Psi) = k_{max} \cdot e^{-((\Psi/d)^c)} \quad (10.1)$$

where  $k_{max}$  is the maximum hydraulic conductance, and  $c$  and  $d$  are species-specific and tissue-specific parameters. Note that parameter  $d$  is the water potential (in MPa) at which  $k(\Psi)/k_{max} = e^{-1} = 0.367$ , i.e. the water potential at which hydraulic conductance is 36.7% of its maximum value. Parameter  $c$  controls the shape of the vulnerability curve (*exponential* shape with no threshold has  $c \leq 1$ ; and *sigmoidal* shape with threshold occurs when  $c > 1$ ).

The concept of vulnerability curve can be used to specify the relationship between pressure and conductance in any portion of the flow path. For example, we define the following parameter values for a stem xylem ( $k_{stem,max}$  and parameters  $c_{stem}$  and  $d_{stem}$  of the vulnerability curve):

```
kstemmax = 5.0 # mmol.m-2.s-1.MPa-1
stemc = 3
stemd = -3.0 # MPa
```

For root xylem ( $k_{root,max}$ ), we may assume a higher conductance (i.e. higher efficiency) but also higher vulnerability to cavitation (defined by parameters  $c_{root}$  and  $d_{root}$ ):

```
krootmax = 6.6 # mmol.m-2.s-1.MPa-1
rootc = 2
rootd = -2.5 #MPa
```

Leaf vulnerability curve  $k_{leaf}(\Psi)$  can be modelled using the same equation as for stem xylem:

$$k_{leaf}(\Psi) = k_{leaf,max} \cdot e^{-((\Psi/d_{leaf})^{c_{leaf}})} \quad (10.2)$$

where  $k_{leaf,max}$  is the leaf maximum hydraulic conductance. Values defined below specify higher conductance for leaves but also slightly higher vulnerability:

```
kleafmax = 10
leafc = 2
leafd = -2
```

With these parameter values, the vulnerability curves for root, stem and leaf are (see `hydraulics_xylemConductance()` and `hydraulics_vulnerabilityCurvePlot()`):

The dash-dot line between 0 and  $\Psi_{cav} = -2.5$  MPa indicates the modification of the stem xylem vulnerability curve when cavitation has occurred (i.e., previous embolism limits the maximum conductance value), as indicated in Sperry *et al.* (2017). The corresponding proportion of stem conductance loss ( $PLC_{stem}$ ) can be found using the stem vulnerability curve:

$$PLC_{stem}(\Psi_{cav}) = 1.0 - \frac{k_{stem}(\Psi_{cav})}{k_{stem,max}} = 1.0 - e^{-((\Psi_{cav}/d_{stem})^{c_{stem}})} \quad (10.3)$$

or, in R:

```
1.0 - exp(-(-2.5/stemd)^stemc)
```

```
## [1] 0.4393754
```

Although root xylem are more vulnerable to the formation of emboli for a given potential, it is generally accepted that the less negative potentials of root xylem compared to the stem lead to cavitation occurring more often in the stem. The constrain created by cavitation has an effect on the calculation of the flow rates and derived quantities (see below).

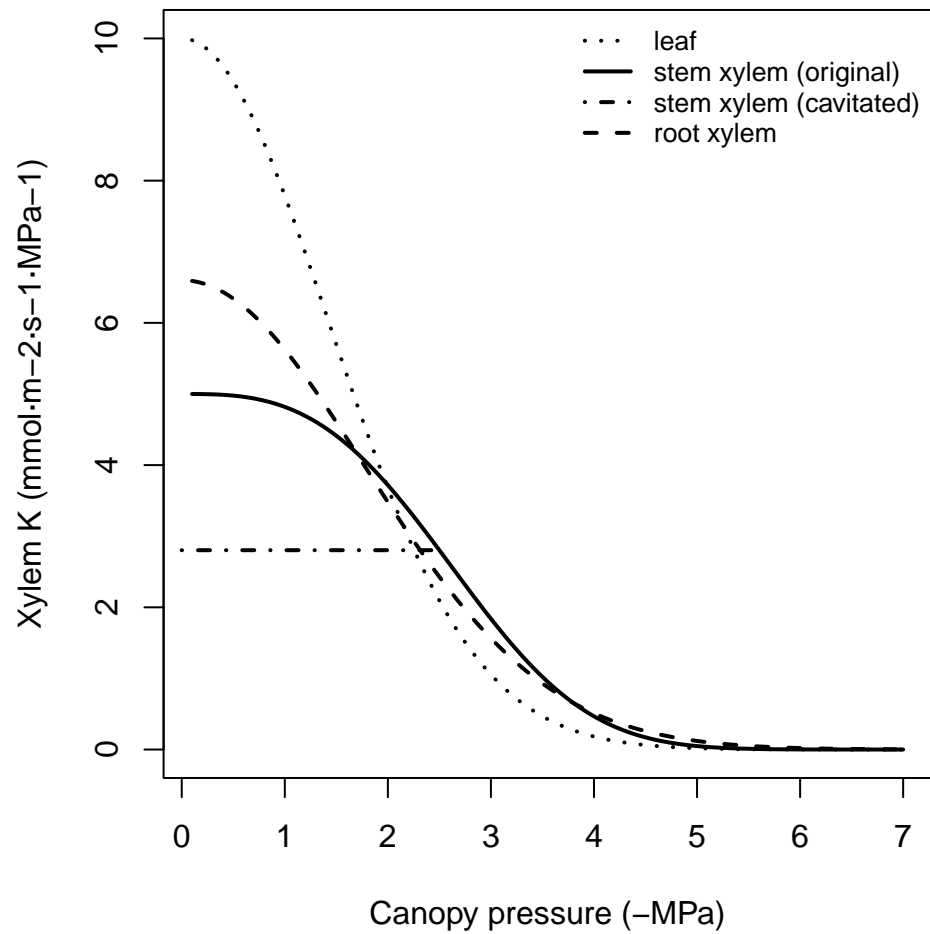


Figure 10.1: Example vulnerability curves corresponding to the parameters defined above for stem, root and leaf segments.

### 10.1.2 Rhizosphere vulnerability curve

The rhizosphere conductance function  $k_{rhizo}(\Psi)$  is modelled as a van Genuchten function (Genuchten 1980) (this choice is the reason why the water retention curve also needs to be modelled with van Genuchten):

$$k_{rhizo}(\Psi) = k_{rhizo,max} \cdot v^{(n-1)/(2 \cdot n)} \cdot ((1-v)^{(n-1)/n} - 1)^2 \quad (10.4)$$

$$v = [(\alpha \Psi)^n + 1]^{-1} \quad (10.5)$$

where  $k_{rhizo,max}$  is the maximum rhizosphere conductance, and  $n$  and  $\alpha$  are texture-specific parameters (Carsel & Parrish 1988; Leij *et al.* 1996). These are automatically set by function `soil()` when initializing soil objects (see section 2.2.3), but we can use function `soil_vanGenuchtenParamsCarsel()` to derive them from texture types:

```
textures = c("Sandy loam", "Silt loam", "Clay")
#Textural parameters
#Sandy clay loam
p1 = soil_vanGenuchtenParamsCarsel(textures[1])
p1
```

```
##      alpha      n theta_res theta_sat      Ks
##  764.983    1.890    0.065    0.410 69513.524
```

```
alpha1 = p1[1]
n1 = p1[2]
#Silt loam
p2 = soil_vanGenuchtenParamsCarsel(textures[2])
p2
```

```
##      alpha      n theta_res theta_sat      Ks
##  203.9955    1.4100    0.0670    0.4500 7077.1687
```

```
alpha2 = p2[1]
n2 = p2[2]
#Silty clay
p3 = soil_vanGenuchtenParamsCarsel(textures[3])
p3
```

```
##      alpha      n theta_res theta_sat      Ks
##  81.59819    1.09000    0.06800    0.38000 3145.40832
```

```
alpha3 = p3[1]
n3 = p3[2]
```

We can estimate maximum rhizosphere conductance values assuming that they account for an average percentage of the resistance (e.g. 15%) across the continuum (see functions `hydraulics_averageRhizosphereResistancePercent` and `hydraulics_findRhizosphereMaximumConductance()`):

```
percentResistance = 15
#Sandy clay loam
krmax1 = hydraulics_findRhizosphereMaximumConductance(percentResistance,
  n1, alpha1, krootmax, rootc, rootd, kstemmax, stemc, stemd,
  kleafmax, leafc, leafd)
krmax1
```

```
## [1] 7.375648e+14
```

```
#Silt loam
krmax2 =hydraulics_findRhizosphereMaximumConductance(percentResistance,
              n2,alpha2, krootmax, rootc,rootd, kstemmax, stemc, stemd,
              kleafmax, leafc, leafd)
krmax2
```

```
## [1] 3420747735
```

```
#Silty clay
krmax3 =hydraulics_findRhizosphereMaximumConductance(percentResistance,
              n3,alpha3, krootmax, rootc,rootd, kstemmax, stemc, stemd,
              kleafmax, leafc, leafd)
krmax3
```

```
## [1] 36831905
```

With these parameters, the resulting  $k_{rhizo}(\Psi)$  functions can be displayed using the function `hydraulics_vanGenuchtenConductance()`:

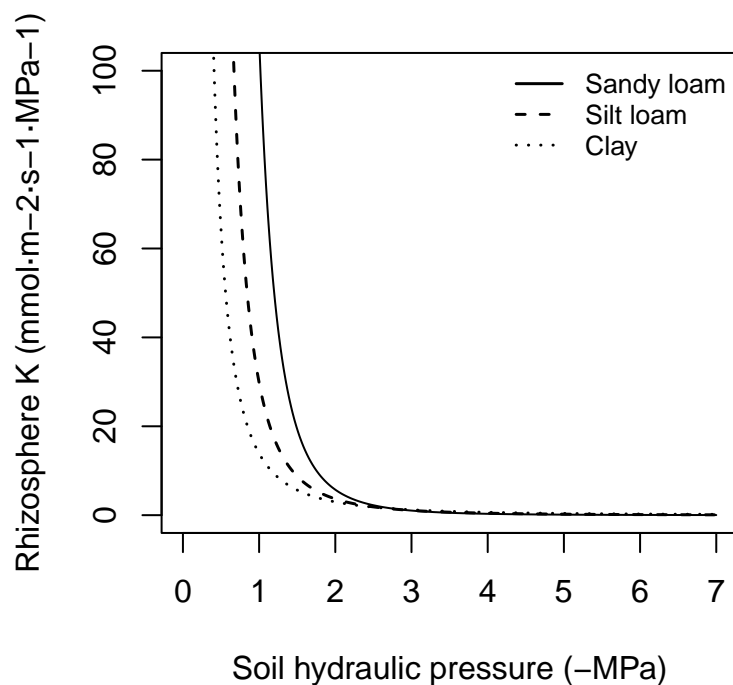


Figure 10.2: Example rhizosphere vulnerability curves (i.e. Van Genuchten functions) for three different soil textures.

### 10.1.3 Xylem sap viscosity

The ease of water flow (i.e. hydraulic conductance or resistance) is dependent on water viscosity, which fluctuates as a function of temperature and dissolved substances. Xylem sap can be considered to have

negligible amounts of solutes, but temperature is still relevant factor of viscosity. The dynamic viscosity of water  $V_w$  varies with temperature (relative to its viscosity at 20°C) according to the Vogel equation:

$$V_w(T) = \exp \left[ -3.7188 + \frac{578.919}{-137.546 + T} \right] \quad (10.6)$$

where  $T$  is the temperature of the medium in Kelvin. Temperature of segments (roots, stem, leaves) is used to correct maximum conductances simply as follows:

$$k_{max,T} = \frac{k_{max}}{V_w(T)} \quad (10.7)$$

where  $k_{max}$  is the maximum conductance describing the vulnerability curve, assumed to be determined at 20°C.

## 10.2 Supply functions

The supply function describes the steady-state rate of water supply (i.e. flow) for transpiration ( $E$ ) as a function of water potential drop. The steady-state flow rate  $E_i$  through any  $i$  element of the continuum is related to the flow-induced drop in pressure across that element ( $\Delta\Psi_i = \Psi_{down} - \Psi_{up}$ ) by the integral transform of the element's vulnerability curve  $k_i(\Psi)$  (Sperry & Love 2015):

$$E_i = \int_{\Psi_{up}}^{\Psi_{down}} k_i(\Psi) d\Psi \quad (10.8)$$

where  $\Psi_{up}$  and  $\Psi_{down}$  are the upstream and downstream water potential values, respectively. The integral transform assumes infinite discretization of the flow path.

The supply function can be defined for individual elements of the continuum or for the whole soil-plant continuum using different hydraulic networks. In the following subsections we illustrate the supply function for different cases.

### 10.2.1 Supply function for a single xylem element

In the case of a single xylem element, the supply function describes the steady-state flow rate as a function of pressure at the stem top ( $\Psi_{canopy}$ ). It can be calculated by numerical integration or approximated using an *incomplete gamma function*. The shape of the supply function starting at different root crown water potential values ( $\Psi_{rootcrown}$ ) is (see function `hydraulics_EXylem()`):

The supply function of a *rhizosphere* element relates the steady-state flow rate to the pressure inside the roots ( $\Psi_{root}$ ). It is calculated by numerical integration of the van Genuchten function, for which we use the analytical approximation of Van Lier *et al.* (2009) (see function `hydraulics_EVanGenuchten()`). In the figure below, we draw examples of the supply function for the rhizosphere. The nearly vertical lines indicate that for many values of  $E_i$  the corresponding drop in water potential through the rhizosphere will be negligible. Only for increasingly negative soil water potential values the decrease in water potential through the rhizosphere becomes relevant. Both in the case of a xylem element or a rhizosphere element the derivative  $dE_i/d\Psi$  of the supply function is equal to the corresponding vulnerability curve.

### 10.2.2 Supply function of two elements in series

Let us describe the soil-plant continuum is represented using *two* elements in series (rhizosphere + stem xylem). In this case, the supply function has to be calculated by using the previous supply functions sequentially. The  $E_i$  is identical for each element and equal to the canopy  $E$ . Since  $\Psi_{soil}$  is known, one first

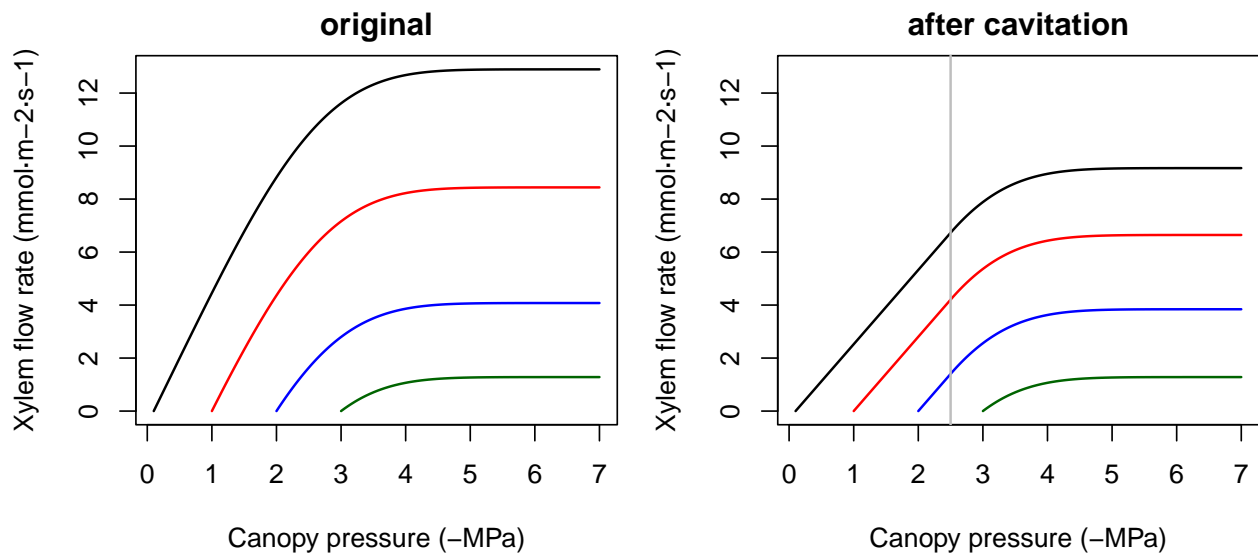


Figure 10.3: Supply function of a single xylem element starting at different root crown water potential values. Left pane shows the uncavitated supply functions and right pane shows the supply functions that are obtained in the case of a cavitated xylem (i.e. without refilling), assuming that the minimum water potential experienced so far was  $\Psi_{rootcrown}$ . Note the linear part of the flow rate between  $\Psi_{rootcrown}$  and this limit.

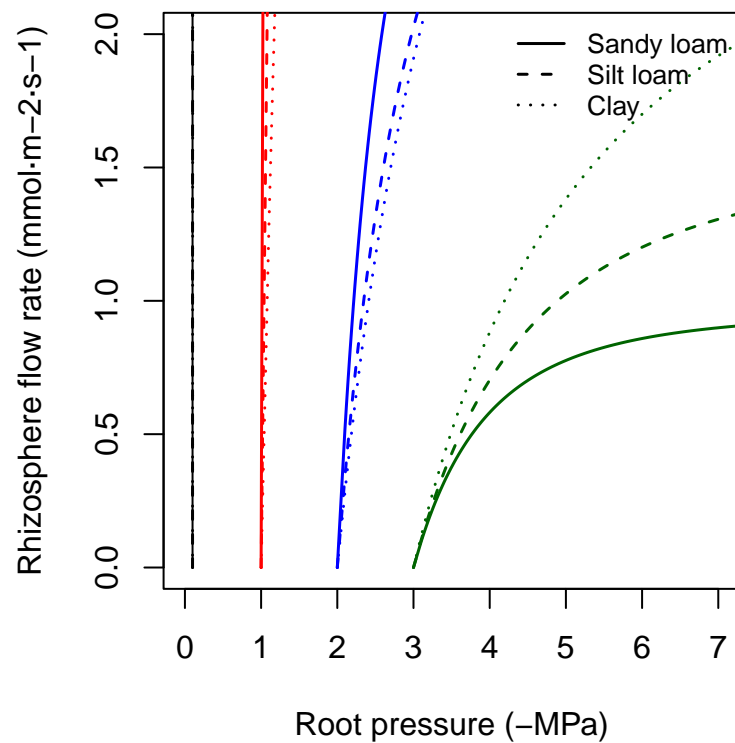


Figure 10.4: Supply functions of the rhizosphere starting at the four different values of bulk soil pressure ( $\Psi_{soil}$ ) and for the same three texture types used for vulnerability curves.

inverts the supply function of the rhizosphere to find  $\Psi_{root}$  (see function `hydraulics_E2psiVanGenuchten()`) and then inverts the supply function of the xylem to find  $\Psi_{canopy}$  (see function `hydraulics_E2psiXylem()`). The two operations can be summarized in a single supply function describing the potential rate of water supply for transpiration ( $E$ ) as function of the canopy xylem pressure ( $\Psi_{canopy}$ ), starting from different bulk soil ( $\Psi_{soil}$ ) values (see function `hydraulics_supplyFunctionTwoElements()`):

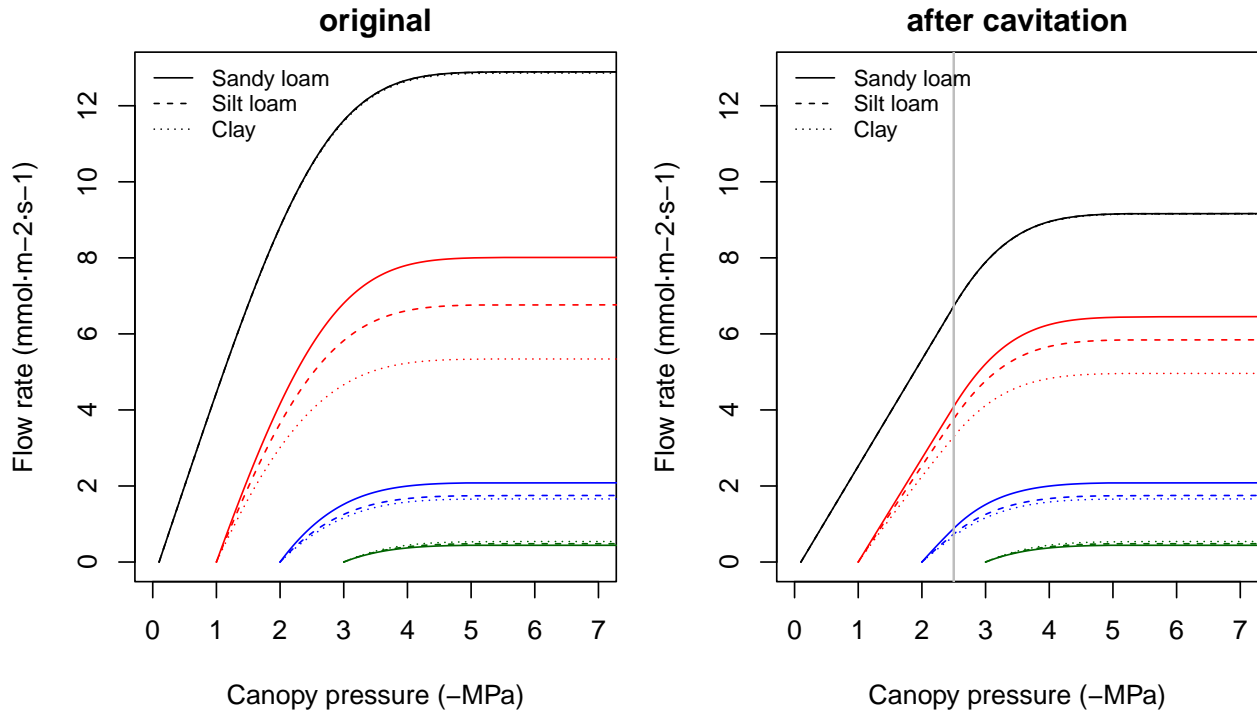


Figure 10.5: Example of two-element supply functions describing the potential rate of water supply for transpiration ( $E$ ) as function of the canopy xylem pressure ( $\Psi_{canopy}$ ), starting from different bulk soil ( $\Psi_{soil}$ ) values and for different soil textures. Left/right panel shows uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

The supply function for the whole continuum contains much information. The  $\Psi$  intercept at  $E = 0$  represents the (predawn) canopy sap pressure which integrates the rooted soil moisture profile. As  $E$  increments from zero, the disproportionately greater drop in  $\Psi_{canopy}$  results from the loss of conductance. As the soil dries the differences in flow due to soil texture become more apparent.

The derivative of the whole continuum supply function,  $dE/d\Psi$ , is not equal to either of the vulnerability curves and it has to be obtained numerically. The derivative functions corresponding to the supply functions shown in the previous figure are:

The derivative  $dE/d\Psi_{canopy}$  is the conductance if the entire continuum was exposed to  $\Psi_{canopy}$  (Sperry & Love 2015). It corresponds to the local loss of hydraulic conductance at the downstream end of the flow path. It falls towards zero for asymptotic critical values ( $E_{crit}$ ). For a cavitated system  $dE/d\Psi_{canopy}$  can be rather flat, in accordance with the close to linear part of the supply function.

### 10.2.3 Supply function of three elements in series

If the soil-plant continuum is represented using *three* elements in series (rhizosphere + stem xylem + leaf), the resulting overall conductance and resistance fractions (under wet conditions) are:

```
rstemmin = 1/kstemmax
rleafmin = 1/kleafmax
```



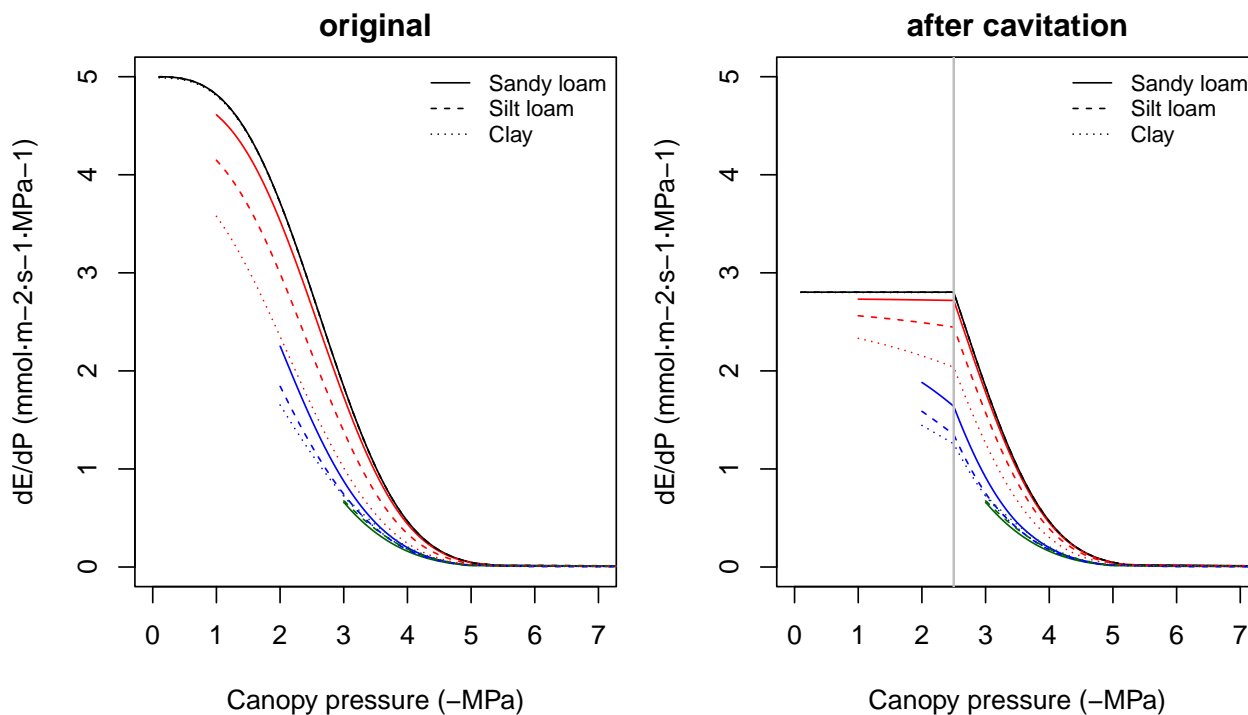


Figure 10.6: Derivatives of two-element supply functions corresponding to figure 10.5. Left/right panel shows the derivatives of uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

```
#Percentages of minimum resistance
rvec = c(rstemmin,rleafmin)
100*rvec/sum(rvec)
```

```
## [1] 66.66667 33.33333
```

```
#Maximum overall conductance
1/sum(rvec)
```

```
## [1] 3.333333
```

As before, the supply function has to be calculated *sequentially*, knowing that  $E_i$  is identical through each element. Since  $\Psi_{soil}$  is known, one first inverts the supply function of the rhizosphere to find  $\Psi_{root}$  and then inverts the supply function of the xylem to find  $\Psi_{stem}$ . Finally, one inverts the supply function of the leaf element to find  $\Psi_{leaf}$ . As before, the three operations can be summarized in a single supply function describing the potential rate of water supply for transpiration ( $E$ ) as function of the leaf pressure ( $\Psi_{leaf}$ ), starting from different bulk soil ( $\Psi_{soil}$ ) values (see function `hydraulics_supplyFunctionThreeElements()`):

Note that overall conductance and the maximum flow of the supply function are smaller in this case than in the representation using two elements in series, because we added a new resistance (leaves). While the rhizosphere component only adds a significant resistance when the soil dries, considering the leaf segment (or a root xylem segment) substantially increases the overall resistance of the continuum. Higher vulnerability of leaves also makes the curve to saturate for less negative soil water potentials. The derivative functions corresponding to the supply functions shown in the previous figure are (note the highest value being equal to the overall maximum conductance):

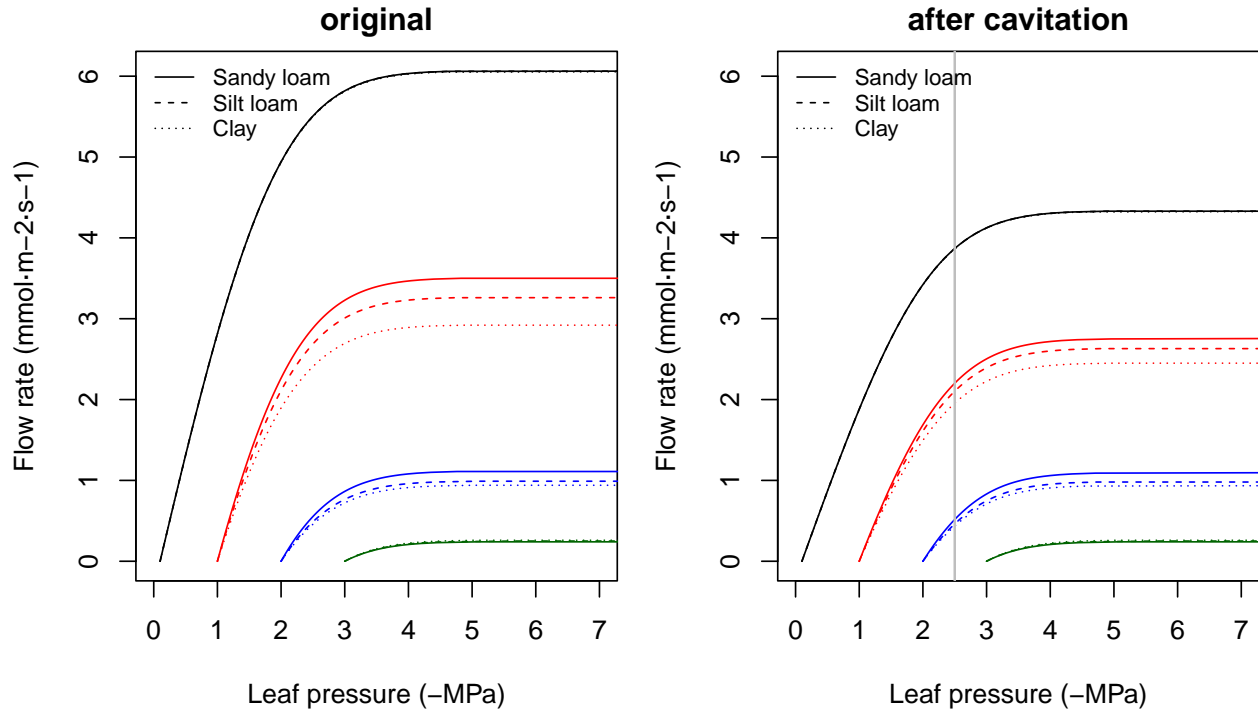


Figure 10.7: Example of three-element supply functions describing the potential rate of water supply for transpiration ( $E$ ) as function of the leaf pressure ( $\Psi_{leaf}$ ), starting from different bulk soil ( $\Psi_{soil}$ ) values and for different soil textures. Left/right panel shows uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

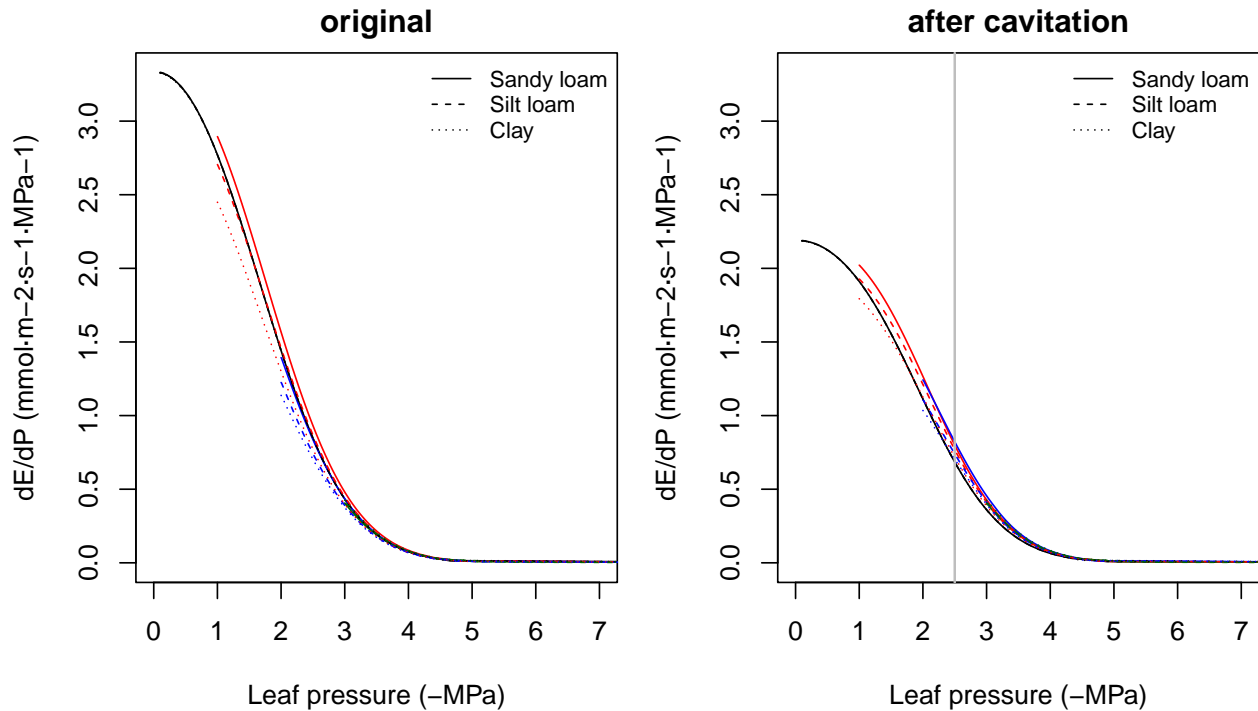


Figure 10.8: Derivatives of three-element supply functions corresponding to figure 10.7. Left/right panel shows the derivatives of uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

### 10.2.4 Supply function of a root system

So far we considered supply functions of elements in series, but resistance elements will be in parallel if the soil is represented using  $S > 1$  different layers. For each soil layer there is a rhizosphere element in series with a root xylem element. The  $S$  soil layers are in parallel up to the root crown.

Network of  $S$  rhizosphere components and root layers in parallel there are  $S + 1$  unknown pressures: the  $S$  root surface pressures ( $\Psi_{rootsurf,1}, \dots, \Psi_{rootsurf,S}$ ) and the root crown pressure at the downstream junction for all root components ( $\Psi_{rootcrown}$ ). The unknown pressures are solved, for each specified total flow value  $E$ , using multidimensional Newton-Raphson on a set of equations for steady-state flow (Sperry *et al.* 2016):

$$E_{rhizo,s} - E_{root,s} = 0 \quad (10.9)$$

$$\sum_{s=1}^S E_{root,s} - E = 0 \quad (10.10)$$

where  $E_{rhizo,s}$  and  $E_{root,s}$  are steady-state supply flows calculated using the integrals of either van Genuchten or Weibull function as vulnerability curves, respectively. In the case of rhizosphere elements,  $\Psi_{up} = \Psi_{soil,s}$  and in the case of root elements  $\Psi_{up} = \Psi_{rootsurf,s}$ . Solving the steady-state equations also provides values for flow across each of the parallel paths  $E_{rhizo,s} = E_{root,s}$ .

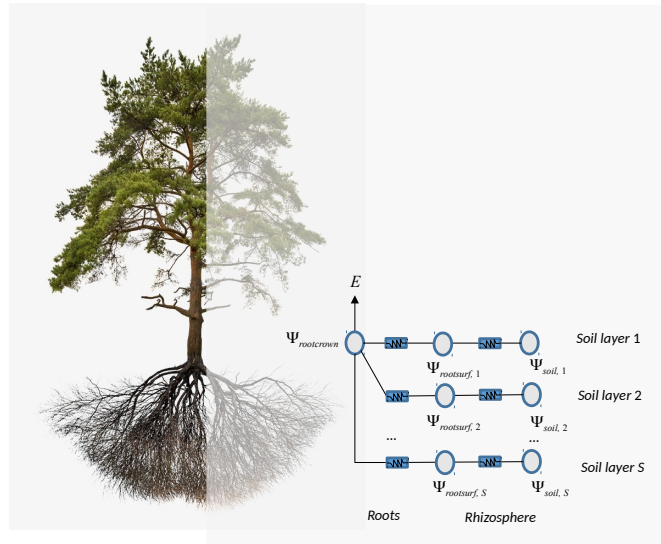


Figure 10.9: Schematic representation of hydraulics in a root network

As an example, we start by defining the water potential of three soil layers corresponding to four situations (analogously with the soil water potentials defined above):

```
psiSoilLayers1 = c(-0.3,-0.2,-0.1)
psiSoilLayers2 = c(-1.3,-1.2,-1.1)
psiSoilLayers3 = c(-2.3,-2.2,-2.1)
psiSoilLayers4 = c(-3.3,-3.2,-3.1)
```

In a network of several soil layers, one has to divide the total rhizosphere and root xylem conductances among layers. Let layer widths ( $d_s$ ) be:

```
d = c(300,700,3000) #Soil layer widths in mm
```

Now let  $FRP_1$ ,  $FRP_2$  and  $FRP_3$  be the proportion of fine root biomass in each soil layer (see section 2.3.4), which can be calculated using:

```
Z50 = 200 #Parameter of LDR root distribution
Z95 = 1200 #Parameter of LDR root distribution
FRP = root_ldrDistribution(Z50, Z95, d)
FRP
```

```
##           [,1]      [,2]      [,3]
## [1,] 0.6652935 0.2749944 0.05971209
```

In the case of the rhizosphere conductances, we can simply define them (for each soil texture type) as:

```
krhizomaxvec1 = krmx1*FRP
krhizomaxvec2 = krmx2*FRP
krhizomaxvec3 = krmx3*FRP
```

To divide maximum root xylem conductance among soil layers we need weights inversely proportional to the length of transport distances (Sperry *et al.* 2016). Vertical transport lengths can be calculated from soil depths and radial spread can be calculated assuming cylinders with volume that has to be in accordance with the xylem root conductance (TO BE DESCRIBED). The whole process can be done using functions `root_coarseRootSoilVolumeFromConductance()` and `root_coarseRootLengthsFromVolume()`:

```
rvc = c(20,50,70)
Vol = root_coarseRootSoilVolumeFromConductance(1.0, 2500,krootmax,
                                                FRP,d, rvc)
lengths = root_coarseRootLengthsFromVolume(Vol, FRP, d, rvc)
lengths
```

```
## [1] 3621.093 2768.105 4513.795
```

```
weights = lengths/sum(lengths)
```

Transport weights are quite different than the fine root biomass proportions. This is because radial lengths are largest for the first (top) layer and vertical lengths are largest for the third (bottom) layer. The root xylem conductances are (in this case they do not depend on soil texture):

```
krootmaxvec = krootmax*weights
krootmaxvec
```

```
## [1] 2.191987 1.675640 2.732373
```

Having all these maximum conductances, we can now build the supply functions for each soil texture and starting from the different soil water potential configurations (see function `hydraulics_supplyFunctionBelowground()`):

The derivative of  $dE/d\Psi_{rootcrown}$  for the supply function of the root system is again obtained numerically.

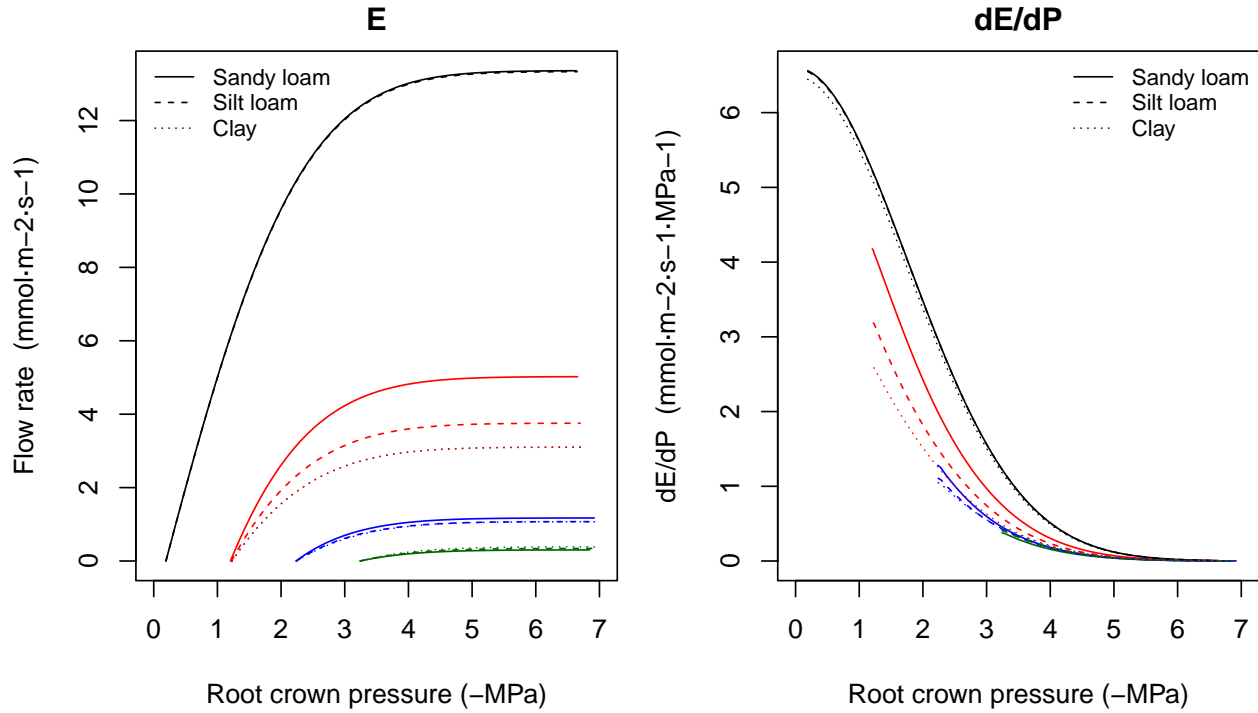


Figure 10.10: Example of supply function for a root system (left) and its derivative (right) under different soil textures and starting from different soil water potential vectors.

Solving the previous system of equations provides the water potentials in different points of the root system. Here we plot them for the results of silt loam texture and the first and last soil potential vectors defined above:

Note that when soil is not dry (first situation) pressure drop in the rhizosphere is negligible, but not the pressure drop in the root xylem. For drier soils rhizosphere becomes more relevant.

We can also plot the flow rates across each of the parallel paths (again corresponding to the results of silt loam texture and for the four soil potential vectors):

Note that the contribution of each soil layer depends on the soil conditions and the total amount of flow. For a low total flow rate some layers may have negative flows if their potential is lower than others, which in a dynamic context will cause *hydraulic redistribution* of water among soil layers.

### 10.2.5 Supply function of the soil-plant continuum

As mentioned above, **medfate** uses a hydraulic network of  $(S \times 2 + 2 + 1)$  resistance elements to represent the soil-plant continuum, with soil being represented in  $S$  different layers. As before, the  $S$  soil layers are in parallel up to the root crown and each soil layer requires at least a rhizosphere and a root segment. From the root crown there are two stem xylem elements in series and a final leaf element. The whole hydraulic network is illustrated in the figure below.

To build the supply function for the network, we proceed by calculating water potentials in the network for each value of flow. For any given  $E$  value we start by calculating flows and potentials within the root system. After that, the water potential at the mid of the stem ( $\Psi_{stem,1}$ ) is obtained using the inverse of the stem supply function and setting  $\Psi_{up} = \Psi_{rootcrown}$ , and the water potential at the upper end of the stem,  $\Psi_{stem,2}$ , is obtained similarly but setting  $\Psi_{up} = \Psi_{stem,1}$ . In both cases the maximum conductance for segments equal to  $2 \cdot k_{stem,max,i}$ . Leaf water potential ( $\Psi_{leaf}$ ) is finally obtained using the inverse of the leaf

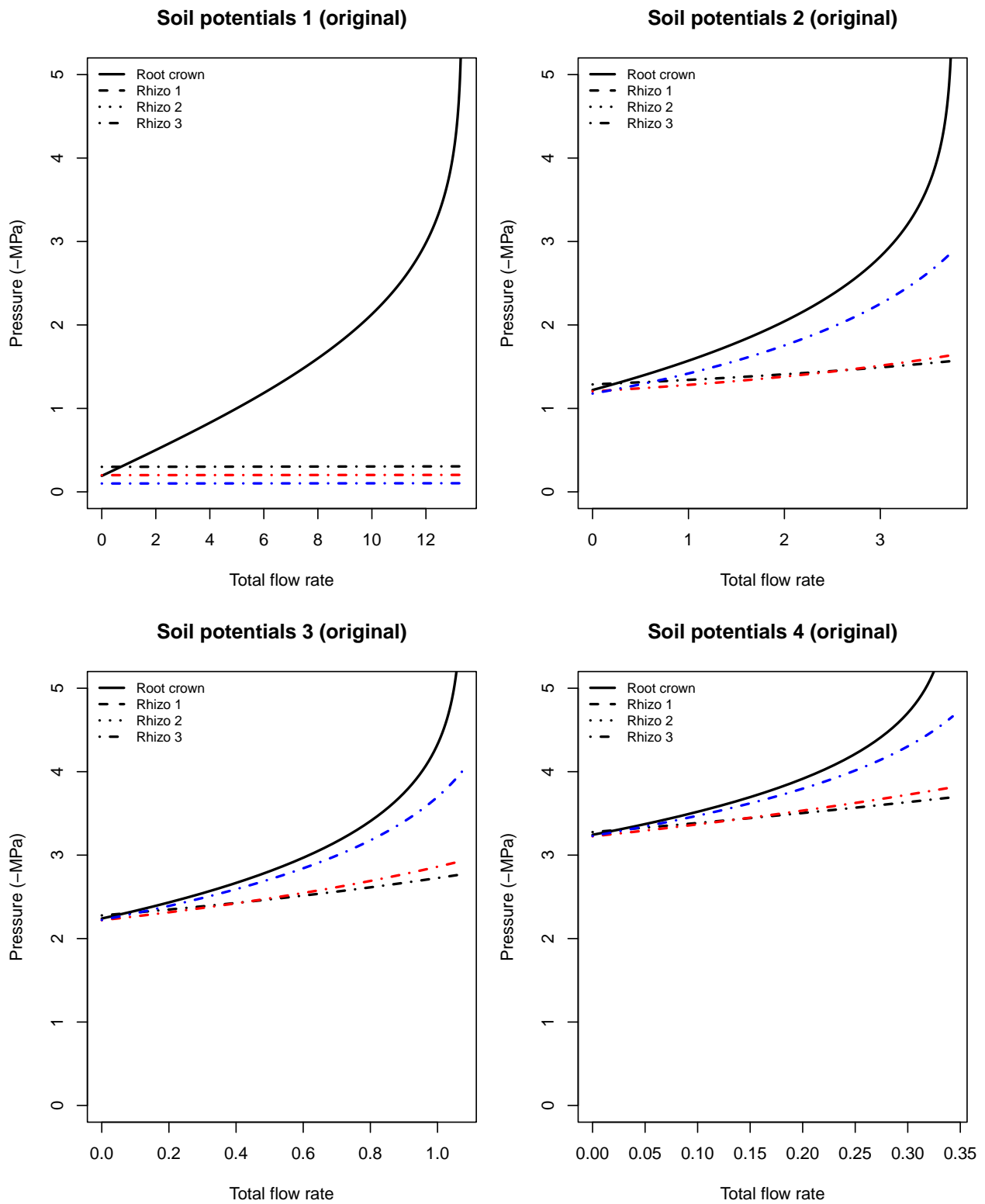


Figure 10.11: Water potentials inside fine roots and at the root crown, for overall flow rates corresponding to fig. 10.10.

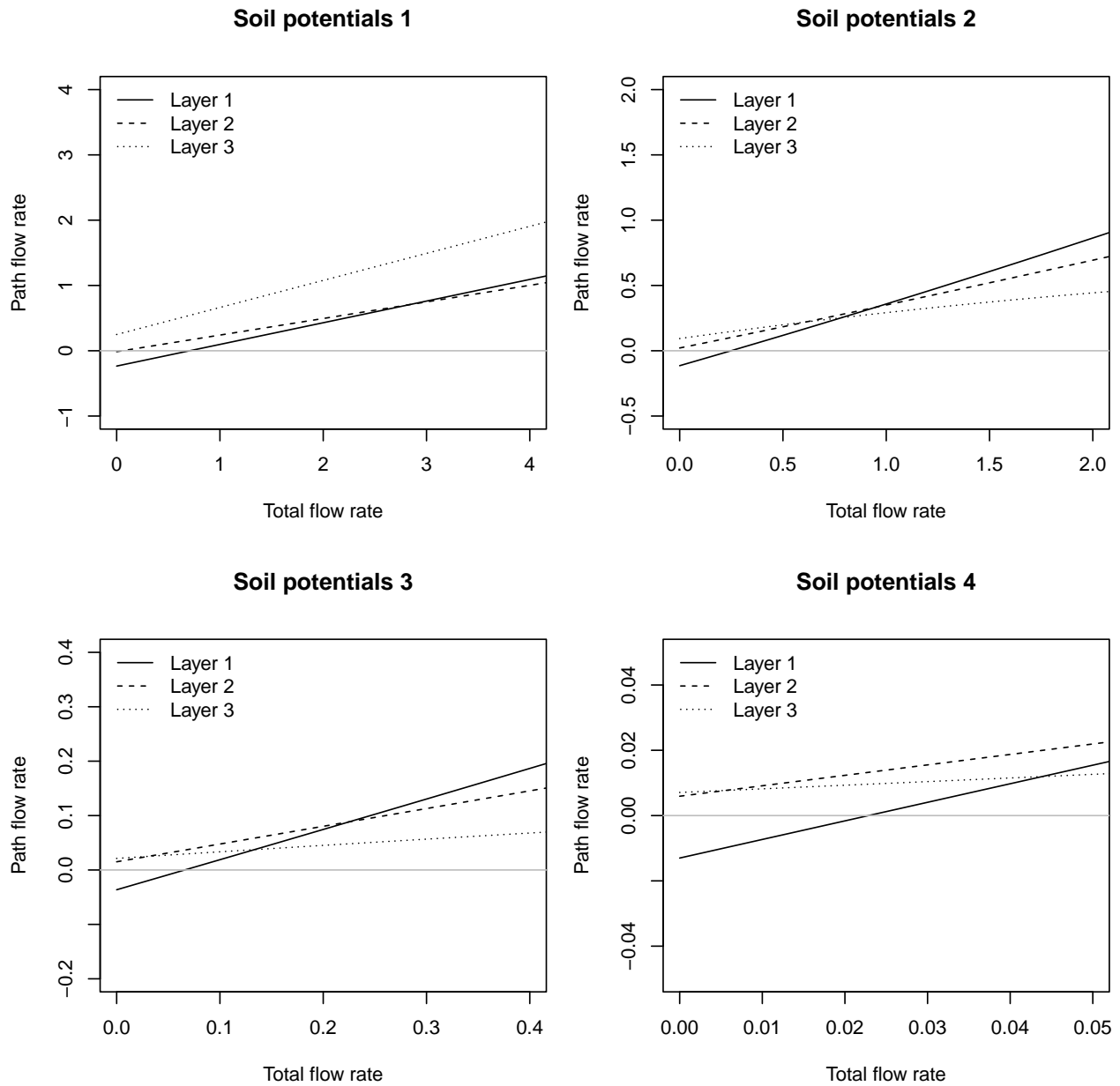


Figure 10.12: Flow rates inside roots corresponding to each soil layer, for overall flow rates corresponding to fig. 10.10.

supply function and setting  $\Psi_{up} = \Psi_{stem,2}$  and assuming a steady-state flow  $E$ . The whole supply function  $E(\Psi_{leaf})$  is obtained repeating these operations from  $E = 0$  to a critical value  $E_{crit}$ .

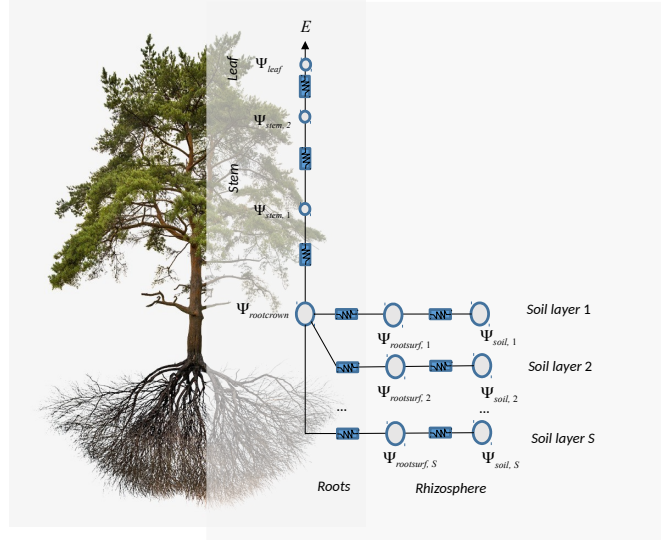


Figure 10.13: Schematic representation of hydraulics in a whole-plant network

The following figure shows network supply functions for each soil texture and starting from the different soil water potential configurations (see function `hydraulics_supplyFunctionNetwork()`):

As with previous representations of the soil-plant continuum, the derivative of  $dE/d\Psi_{leaf}$  for the network topology is obtained numerically:

As with the root system, we can know the water potentials in different points of the continuum. Here we plot them for the results of silt loam texture and the first and last soil potential vectors defined above:

A supply function of the soil-plant hydraulic network defines a set steady-state flows and corresponding water potentials given fixed values of soil moisture. Hence, supply functions need to be updated whenever soil moisture is updated, i.e. once a day in the water balance model (see subsection 7.4). This frequency should be enough in most cases, since soil water potentials change more slowly than plant water potentials.

### 10.3 Water content of plant tissues

In **medfate** the relative water content of leaves and stems is tracked explicitly. Following Martin-StPaul *et al.* (2017), we consider two kind of tissues in (leaf and stem) plant segments (Tyree & Yang 1990). The first are conduits (tracheids or vessels), which will release water due to cavitation and may be refilled with water from adjacent living tissue or upstream segments. The second source of water is formed by more elastic living cells (i.e. parenchyma) and can potentially be a large source of water during relatively high water potentials. This source can be described using the relative water content of a symplasmic tissue. When capacitance effects are not considered, the relative water content of both kinds of plant tissues follow the water potential changes dictated by supply functions and stomatal regulation. In contrast, when plant



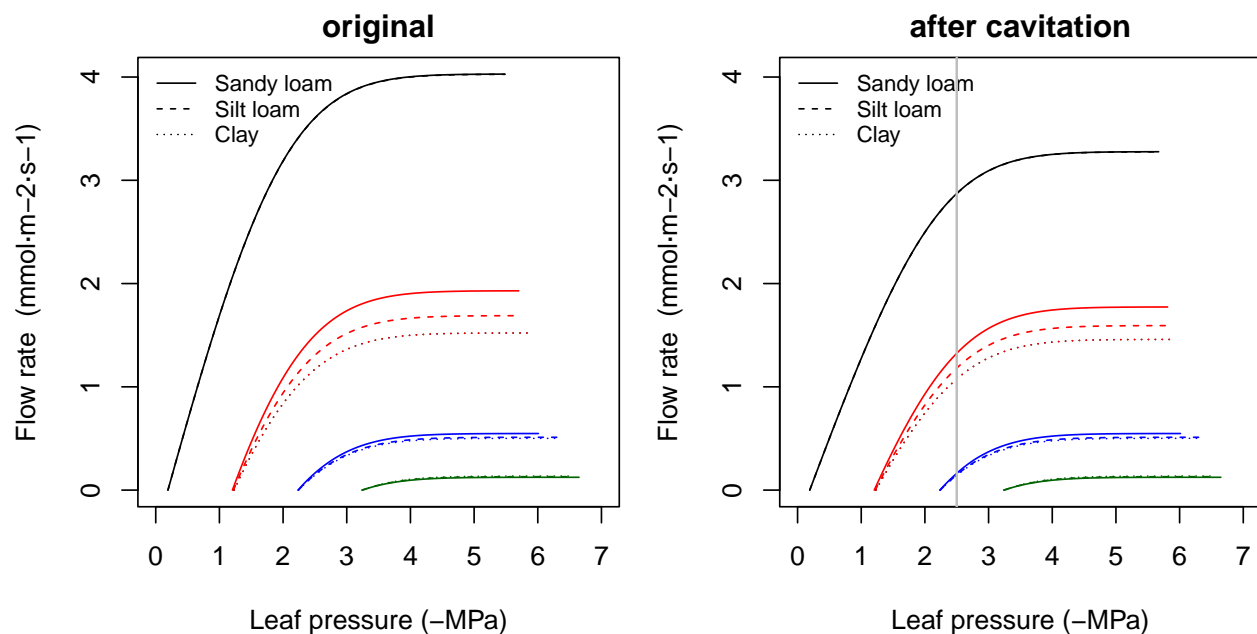


Figure 10.14: Examples of supply functions for a hydraulic network describing the potential rate of water supply for transpiration ( $E$ ) as function of the leaf pressure ( $\Psi_{leaf}$ ), starting from different bulk soil ( $\Psi_{soil}$ ) values and for different soil textures. Left/right panel shows uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

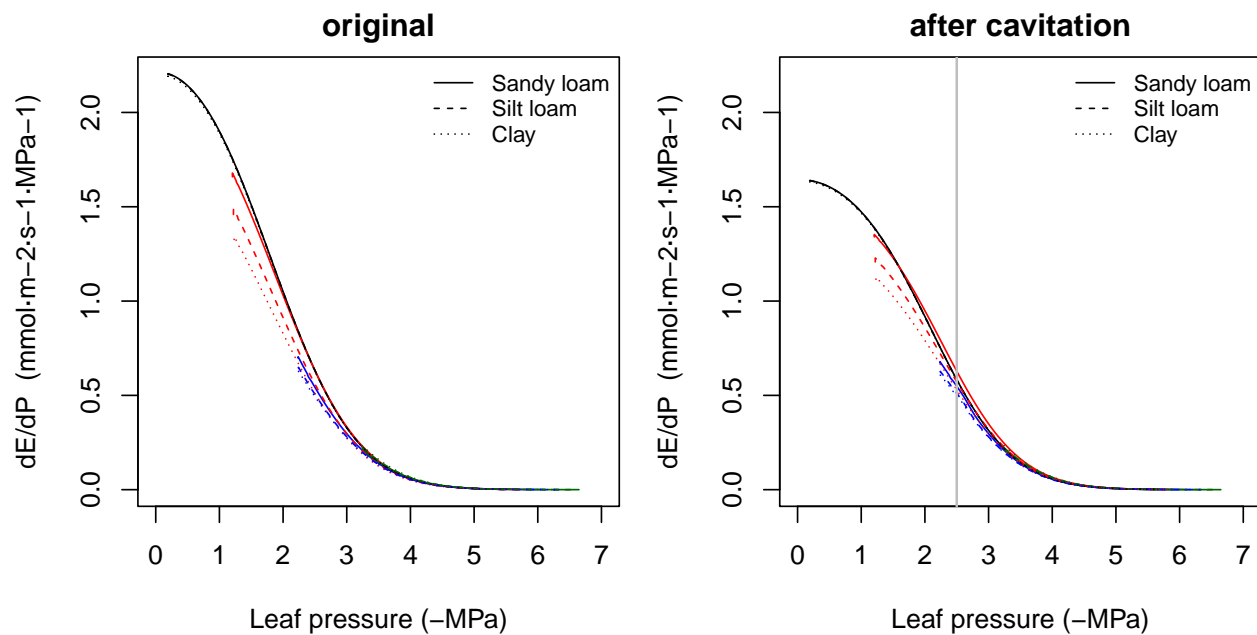


Figure 10.15: Derivatives of supply functions corresponding to figure 10.14. Left/right panel shows the derivatives of uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

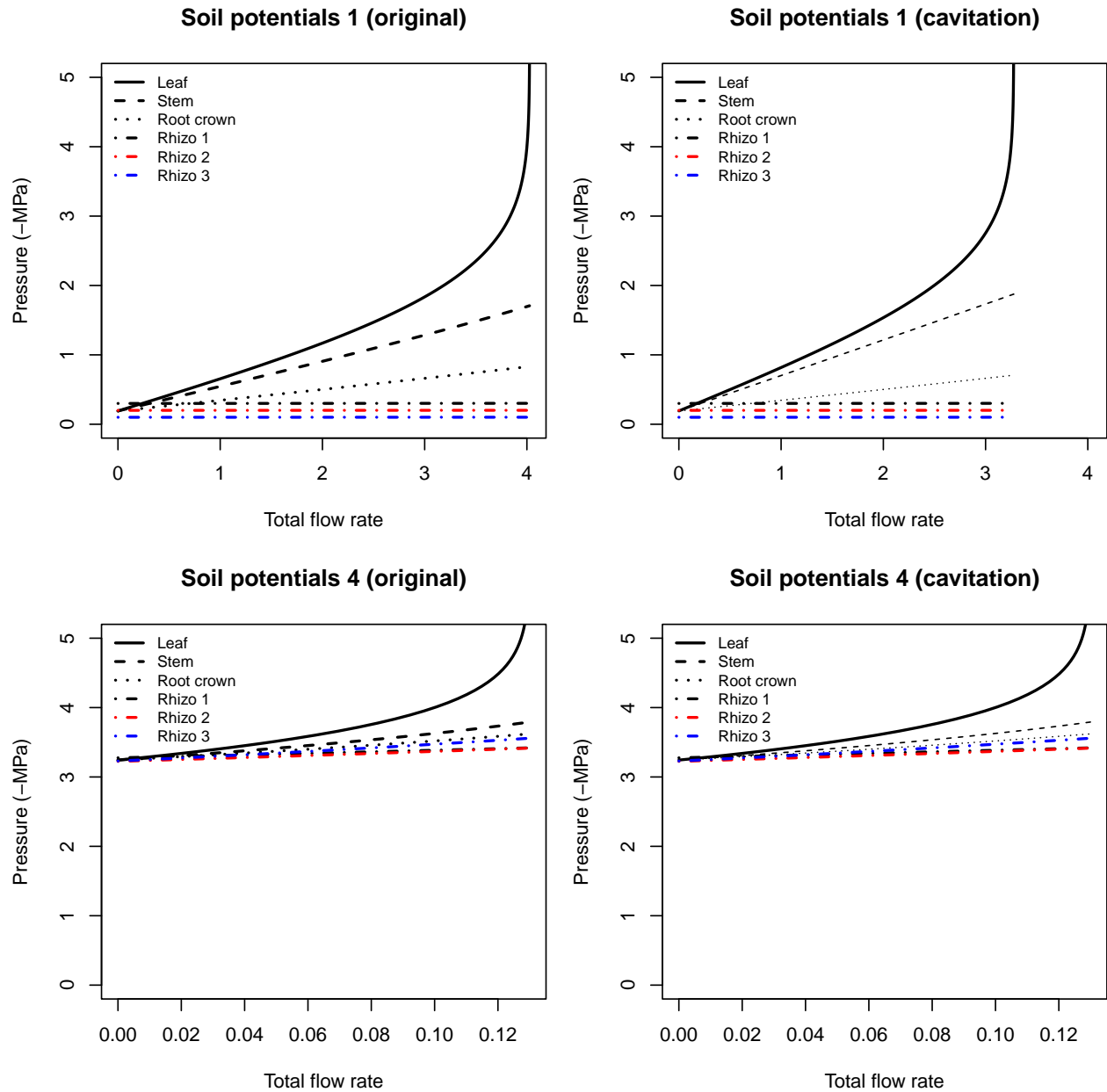


Figure 10.16: Water potential in network elements corresponding to overall flow rates of figure 10.14. Left/right panel shows the derivatives of uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

capacitance effects are considered, leaf and stem symplastic tissues have their own water potential as state variable, they exchange water with leaf and stem xylem, respectively.

A pressure-volume curve of a tissue relates its water potential against its *relative water content* ( $RWC$ ;  $kg\ H_2O \cdot kg^{-1}\ H_2O$  at saturation). Pressure-volume theory is usually applied to leaf tissues (Bartlett *et al.* 2012), but it can also be applied to other tissues such as sapwood or cambium cells.

### 10.3.1 Relative water content of symplastic tissues

For living cells, the relationship between  $\Psi$  and  $RWC$  of the symplastic fraction ( $RWC_{sym}$ ) is achieved by separating  $\Psi$  into osmotic (solute) potential ( $\Psi_S$ ) and the turgor potential ( $\Psi_P$ ):

$$\Psi = \Psi_S + \Psi_P \quad (10.11)$$

The relationship for  $\Psi_P$  is:

$$\Psi_P = -\pi_0 - \epsilon \cdot (1.0 - RWC_{sym}) \quad (10.12)$$

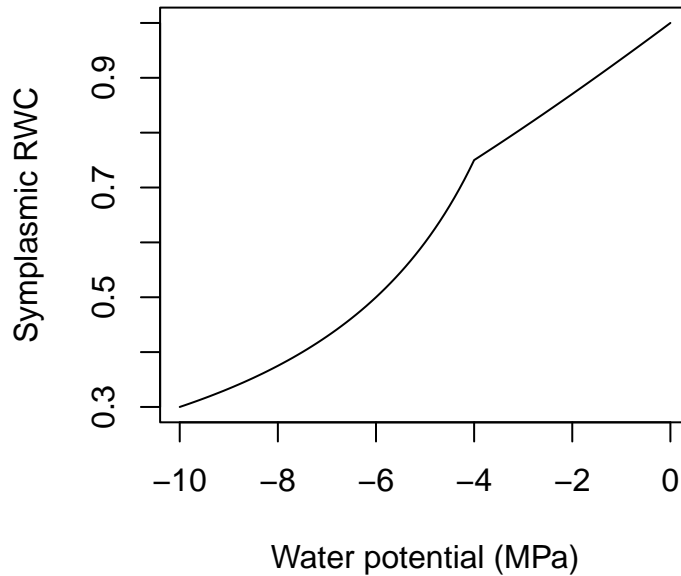
where  $\pi_0$  (MPa) is the osmotic potential at full turgor (i.e. when  $RWC_{sym} = 1$ ), and  $\epsilon$  is the modulus of elasticity (i.e. the slope of the relationship). Assuming constant solute content, the relationship for  $\Psi_S$  is:

$$\Psi_S = \frac{-\pi_0}{RWC_{sym}} \quad (10.13)$$

When  $\Psi \leq \Psi_{tlp}$ , the water potential at turgor loss point, then  $\Psi_P = 0$  and  $\Psi = \Psi_S$ . If  $\Psi > \Psi_{tlp}$  then the two components are needed. The water potential at turgor loss point ( $\Psi_{tlp}$ ) can be found by (Bartlett *et al.* 2012):

$$\Psi_{tlp} = \frac{\pi_0 \cdot \epsilon}{\pi_0 + \epsilon} \quad (10.14)$$

As an example, the following figure draws the pressure-volume curve for a tissue with  $\epsilon = 12$  and  $\pi_0 = -3.0$ MPa:



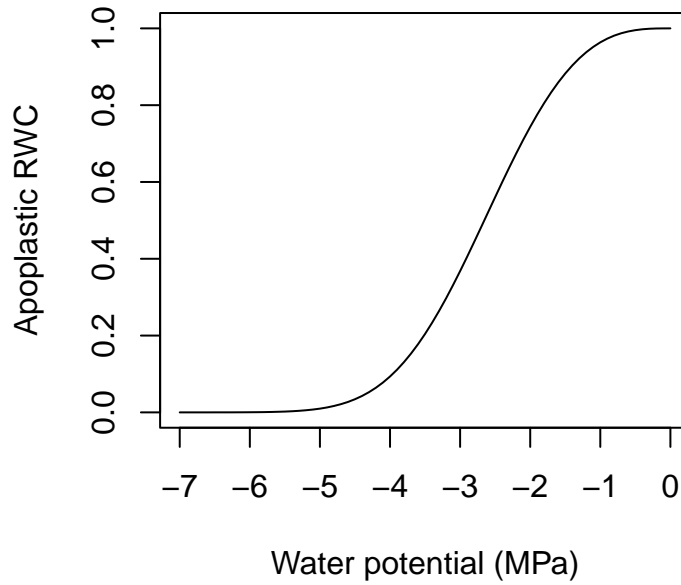
To calculate  $RWC_{sym}$  from the water potential of a tissue, the previous equations need to be combined and, after isolating  $RWC_{sym}$ , a quadratic relationship is obtained (Martin-StPaul *et al.* 2017).

### 10.3.2 Relative water content of apoplastic tissues

In **medfate** it is assumed that apoplastic water fraction of an organ corresponds to the water in its xylem conduits. Xylem conduits consist of inelastic cells that have very small changes of water volume in relation to changes in water potential. However, xylem conduits release their water to the transpiration stream following the formation of emboli. As in Hölttä *et al.* (2009), we equate the relative water content of the apoplastic reservoir of a segment (leaves or stem) to the proportion of conductance lost (relative to the maximum conductance) for a given water potential:

$$RWC_{apo}(\Psi_{apo}) = \frac{k(\Psi_{apo})}{k_{max}} = e^{-((\Psi_{apo}/d)^c)} \quad (10.15)$$

Hence we assume that the relationship between  $\Psi_{apo}$  and the relative water content follows the same function as the relationship between  $\Psi_{apo}$  and the proportion of conductance loss (i.e. the hydraulic vulnerability curve).



Since cavitation in leaves is assumed reversible we have that the relative water content of the apoplastic fraction in leaves ( $RWC_{leaf,apo}$ ) will follow the leaf xylem water potential as indicated above. In stems, however, cavitation may be non-reversible, so  $RWC_{stem,apo}$  will be dictated by the current level of embolisation, which is represented by  $PLC_{stem}$  and not by the current xylem water potential:

$$RWC_{stem,apo} = 1 - PLC_{stem} \quad (10.16)$$

If water compartments are not considered,  $PLC_{stem}$  is determined by  $\Psi_{stem,cav}$ , the minimum stem water potential experienced so far. When water compartments are considered, increases in  $PLC_{stem}$  follow decreases in stem water content and the water released can contribute to the transpirational stream (Martin-StPaul *et al.* 2017). This will be treated in the next section.

### 10.3.3 Average relative water content of a segment

The average relative water content in a given segment or organ ( $RWC$ ) can be obtained by calculating  $RWC_{apo}$  and  $RWC_{sym}$  followed by assuming a constant apoplastic fraction  $f_{apo}$ :

$$RWC = RWC_{apo} \cdot f_{apo} + RWC_{sym} \cdot (1 - f_{apo}) \quad (10.17)$$

Normally the apoplastic fraction is large ( $\sim 80\%$ ) in the stem and small ( $\sim 15\%$ ) in leaves. Hence, the relative water content in stems will be mostly dictated by the level of cavitation, whereas that of leaves will mostly follow leaf symplastic water potential and the symplastic pressure-volume curve.

## 10.4 Plant hydraulics with water compartments

Supply functions are very useful to estimate steady-state transpiration flows, i.e. situations where a constant transpiration flow through the hydraulic network generates a drop in water potential along the pathway. However, with this modelling strategy the water potential of plants is at least as negative as that of the soil. In other words, plants are hydraulically *connected* to the soil at any time. In reality, evaporation of water in leaf intercellular spaces generates a tension that is transmitted along the xylem and generating hydraulic lift. Water within xylem and adjacent tissues is a source of water more readily accessible for transpiration than soil water.

Xylem conduits are quite inelastic (i.e. they have a very high elastic modulus) so their volumetric changes following diurnal changes in flow rate and water potential are small, and hence contribute little to capacitive water storage and retrieval. In contrast, more elastic living cells in the xylem and bark can potentially be a larger source of water during decreasing water potential. In addition, as xylem conduits cavitate they become filled with water vapour or gas, and nearly all the liquid water inside is freed to the transpiration stream. Cavitation can therefore affect the water status of a plant positively in the short-term due to this capacitive effect (Hölttä *et al.* 2009).

Considering plant water compartments explicitly opens the door to simulating an effective plant disconnection from the soil, because a plant can stop drawing soil water and rely on its own water reserves. Moreover, one can estimate the time needed for plant dessication by taking into account stem and leaf water reserves, which should be greater for larger plants.

### 10.4.1 Design

To consider plant water storage compartments **medfate** uses two supply functions (black and red arrows in figure below):

1. The first supply function is made of  $(S\ddot{O}2 + 1)$  elements and draws water from the soil, pouring it into the stem xylem. This supply function is used to determine water uptake from each soil layer and defines an input instantaneous (steady-state) flow to the stem xylem compartment,  $E_{stem,in}$ .
2. The second supply is made of  $(1 + 2 + 1)$  elements (representing plant resistances) and is used to determine the rate of water flowing from stem up to the leaves for transpiration and photosynthesis, as in the model without water compartments. It defines the transpirational flow  $E_{leaf,out}$ . It needs to be build from  $\Psi_{rootsurf}$  to  $\Psi_{leaf}$  (and not from  $\Psi_{stem,1}$  to  $\Psi_{leaf}$  only) because all plant resistances are needed to determine the relationship between  $E_{leaf,out}$  and  $\Psi_{leaf}$ .

This division of water input and output from the stem allows considering the intermediate node,  $\Psi_{stem,1}$ , as the water potential of an explicit xylem water compartment from which water is drawn towards the leaves ( $E_{stem,out}$ ) and where soil water is poured ( $E_{stem,in}$ ). Following Hölttä *et al.* (2009), the xylem water compartment can be a source of water for transpiration when cavitation occurs. Following Steppe *et al.* (2006), two symplastic water reserve compartments are also included, which can also provide water for transpiration. The xylem compartment is hydraulically connected with a stem symplastic compartment (whose moisture level is represented by the state variable  $\Psi_{symp,stem}$ ). Another symplastic compartment is considered at the leaf level (whose moisture level is represented by  $\Psi_{symp,leaf}$ ) that adds or withdraws water from the transpirational stream depending on differences between leaf xylem and symplastic water potentials. As the supply function #2 assumes a steady state flow from the stem to the leaves and atmosphere, the leaf symplastic water compartment is used to modulate how much of the steady-state flow will actually be drawn

from the stem xylem compartment. In other words, the leaf lateral flow simply modifies the water demand from the leaves to the stem (i.e., it makes  $E_{stem,out}$  different from  $E_{leaf,out}$ ).

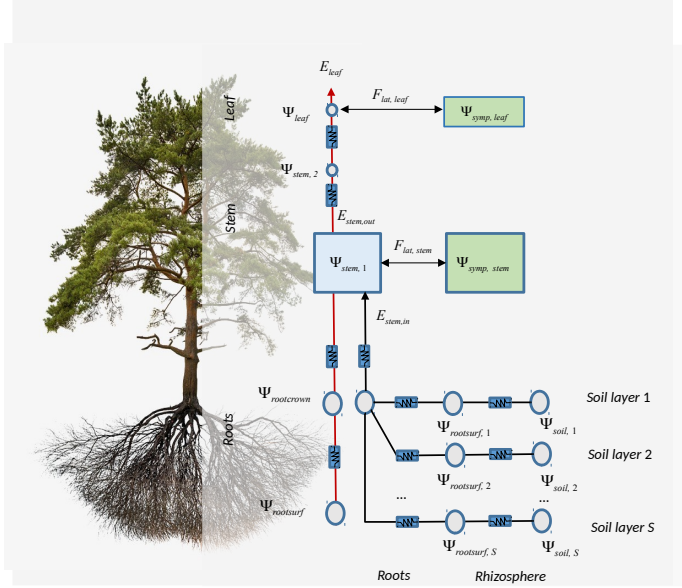


Figure 10.17: Schematic representation of hydraulics in a whole-plant network with water storage compartments

The larger the three compartments in volume, the more water the plant will be able to transpire without needing a replacement of water from the soil. In case of edaphic drought and very much reduced soil-root conductance, the plant can be disconnected hydraulically from the soil and still loose small amounts of water (through cuticular transpiration) from these compartments.

### 10.4.2 Constitutive equations

The way the previous architecture is implemented is the following. Two supply functions provide flows  $E_{stem,in}$  and  $E_{leaf,out}$ , respectively. Two instantaneous water flows,  $F_{lat,stem}$  and  $F_{lat,leaf}$ , are defined from Darcy's law:

$$F_{lat,stem} = k_{lat,stem} \cdot (\Psi_{symp,stem} - \Psi_{stem,1}) \quad (10.18)$$

$$F_{lat,leaf} = k_{lat,leaf} \cdot (\Psi_{symp,leaf} - \Psi_{leaf}) \quad (10.19)$$

$$(10.20)$$

where  $k_{lat,stem}$  and  $k_{lat,leaf}$  are the lateral (between symplastic tissues and xylem) water conductance for stem and leaves, respectively. These conductance values are defined as control parameters. The flow leaving the stem is defined by the atmospheric demand minus the water supplied from the leaf symplasmic tissues ( $F_{lat,leaf}$  can be negative):

$$E_{stem,out} = E_{leaf,out} - F_{lat,leaf} \quad (10.21)$$

And the mass balance in the stem xylem compartment is:

$$\frac{\delta m_{stem}}{\delta t} = E_{stem,in} - E_{stem,out} + F_{lat,stem} \quad (10.22)$$

However, the change in volume is composed of two terms: one arising from water movement in and out of the stem compartment and the other arising from the change in the gas volume caused by cavitation (Hölttä *et al.* 2009):

$$\frac{\delta V_{stem,apo}}{\delta t} = \frac{1}{\rho_w} \cdot \frac{\delta m_{stem}}{\delta t} + \frac{\delta V_{cav}}{\delta t} \quad (10.23)$$

where  $\rho_w$  is the density of water. If there has been an increase in  $PLC$ , this creates a source of available water proportional to this change (Hölttä *et al.* 2009):

$$\frac{\delta V_{cav}}{\delta t} = V_{stem,apo,max} \cdot \frac{\delta PLC_{stem}}{\delta t} \quad (10.24)$$

where  $V_{stem,apo,max}$  is the capacity of the stem xylem compartment. So if  $\delta PLC_{stem} = 0$ ,  $\delta V_{cav}/\delta t = 0.0$ . Since we model  $PLC$  using the vulnerability curve, the above formulation of water released by cavitation assumes that the relationship between stem water potential and the proportion of cavitated conduits follows the same function as the relationship between stem water potential and the proportion of conductance loss (i.e. the hydraulic vulnerability curve). The change in water pressure in the stem xylem compartment following the change in water volume is:

$$\frac{\delta \Psi_{stem,1}}{\delta t} = \epsilon_{xylem} \cdot \frac{1}{V_{stem,apo,max}} \cdot \frac{\delta V_{stem,apo}}{\delta t} = \epsilon_{xylem} \cdot \frac{\delta RWC_{stem,apo}}{\delta t} \quad (10.25)$$

Where  $\epsilon_{xylem} = 10^3$  MPa is the xylem elastic modulus.

The water balance equations for the symplastic compartments are simply:

$$\frac{\delta V_{stem, symp}}{\delta t} = -\frac{1}{\rho_w} \cdot F_{lat, stem} \quad (10.26)$$

$$\frac{\delta V_{leaf, symp}}{\delta t} = -\frac{1}{\rho_w} \cdot F_{lat, leaf} \quad (10.27)$$

These are completed with maximum storage capacity values of the symplastic water compartments ( $V_{stem, symp, max}$  and  $V_{leaf, symp, max}$ ), which allow determining changes in relative water content of symplastic tissues, and the corresponding pressure-volume equations relating relative water content changes with water potentials  $\Psi_{symp, stem}$  and  $\Psi_{symp, leaf}$  (see section 10.3.1).

### 10.4.3 Implementation

The dynamic system is solved in the model by time discretization. Small time steps are needed when dealing with storage compartments, which poses additional challenges. The soil-to-stem supply function only needs to be updated when soil moisture has changed substantially, i.e. at the same rate as the hydraulic system without plant compartments. However, the second supply function needs to be recalculated more often, because  $\Psi_{stem,1}$  changes faster than soil water potentials. In the model, the soil-to-stem supply function is recalculated once a day, whereas the stem-to-leaf supply function is recalculated following subdaily time steps (i.e. every  $\Delta t_{step}$ , by default  $\Delta t_{step} = 1h = 3600s$ ). Water potentials of storage compartments, and lateral flows between water compartments ( $F_{lat, stem}$  and  $F_{lat, leaf}$ ) are recalculated every 1s time step. Instantaneous transpiration rate  $E_{leaf, out}$  is considered constant within a given subdaily  $\Delta t_{step}$ , but  $E_{stem, in}$  is re-estimated every second depending on the current value of  $\Psi_{stem,1}$ . Since the soil-to-stem supply function is already defined for a range of  $\Psi_{stem,1}$  values, at each 1s time step the model only needs to determine the value of  $E_{stem, in}$  in the supply function corresponding to the current value of  $\Psi_{stem,1}$ .





# Chapter 11

## Plant photosynthesis

In chapter 10 we introduced the necessary concepts of steady-state plant hydraulics to define the *hydraulic supply function for the soil-plant continuum*. The supply function specifies the flow rate, as per leaf area, for values of leaf water potential and given a soil moisture status. In the first section of this chapter we describe leaf photosynthesis functions, which define leaf gas exchange, photosynthesis and energy balance for values of leaf water potential. This requires knowing wind, water vapor and temperature conditions of the air surrounding leaves (section 13.1.3), the short-wave radiation absorbed by leaf elements (section 9.1.3) and the leaf long-wave radiation balance (section 9.2). In the second section of this chapter we discuss how to upscale photosynthesis values to the crown level.

### 11.1 Leaf energy balance, gas exchange and photosynthesis

The supply function specifies the transpiration flow rate  $E$  for values of leaf water potential  $\Psi_{leaf}$ . If we know air temperature, water vapor pressure and the light conditions in which leaves are, we can translate the supply function into a **leaf photosynthesis function** (Sperry *et al.* 2017). In a nutshell,  $E$  from the supply function is first used to calculate leaf temperature from an evaluation of the leaf energy balance. The diffusive conductances of the leaf to  $H_2O$  and  $CO_2$  are obtained from water supply and leaf water vapor deficit. Finally, the gross/net assimilation rate is then obtained from the diffusive conductance and a modelled curve between assimilation and leaf internal  $CO_2$  concentration. The following subsections detail each of these steps separately.

#### 11.1.1 Leaf temperature

Leaf temperature ( $T_{leaf}$ ; in  $^{\circ}C$ ) can be calculated for any given flow rate  $E$  using an energy balance equation (Campbell & Norman 1998):

$$T_{leaf} = T_{air} + \frac{\Phi_{SWR}^{leaf} + L_{net}^{leaf} - \lambda_v(T_{air}) \cdot E_{two-sided}}{C_p \cdot (g_r + g_{Ha})} \quad (11.1)$$

where  $\Phi_{SWR}^{leaf}$  (in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is the instantaneous shortwave radiation absorbed per leaf area unit,  $L_{net}^{leaf}$  is the instantaneous net long-wave radiation per leaf area unit,  $E_{two-sided}$  is the flow rate  $E$  converted to  $mol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$  per two-sided leaf area basis,  $\epsilon$  is longwave radiation emissivity (0.97),  $\sigma$  is the Stephan-Boltzman constant,  $T_{air}$  is the temperature of the air surrounding the leaf (in  $^{\circ}C$ ),  $C_p = 29.3 J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot ^{\circ}C^{-1}$  is the specific heat capacity of dry air at constant pressure and  $\lambda_v(T_{air})$  is the latent heat of vaporization (in  $J \cdot mol^{-1}$ ) corresponding to  $T_{air}$  (see utility functions in the **meteoland** reference manual). If canopy energy balance is performed assuming a single canopy layer  $T_{air}$  corresponds to  $T_{can}$ , the whole-canopy air temperature resulting from the energy balance of the previous step (see section 13.1.3). If a multi-layer

canopy energy balance is used,  $T_{air}$  corresponds to  $T_{air,j}$ , the air temperature of the canopy layer  $j$  that contains the leaf. Finally,  $g_r$  and  $g_{Ha}$  are the radiative and heat conductance values (in  $\text{mol} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ), respectively (Campbell & Norman 1998):

$$g_r = \frac{4 \cdot \epsilon \cdot \sigma \cdot (T_{air} + 273.15)^3}{C_p} \quad (11.2)$$

$$g_{Ha} = 0.189 \cdot (u_{leaf}/d)^{0.5} \quad (11.3)$$

where  $u_{leaf}$  is the leaf-level wind speed (in  $\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and  $d$  is 0.72 times the leaf width (species parameter **LeafWidth** in  $\text{cm}$ ). As before,  $u_{leaf}$  corresponds to  $u_j$ , the wind-speed at the canopy layer  $j$  where the leaf is located (see 22.2).

By inspecting eq. (11.1), we can conclude that transpiration flow decreases leaf temperature, whereas radiation increases it and wind speed makes it more similar to the temperature of the surrounding air. The following figures illustrate the effect of varying wind speed and flow rate on  $T_{leaf}$  for two contrasted leaf widths (see function `biophysics_leafTemperature`):

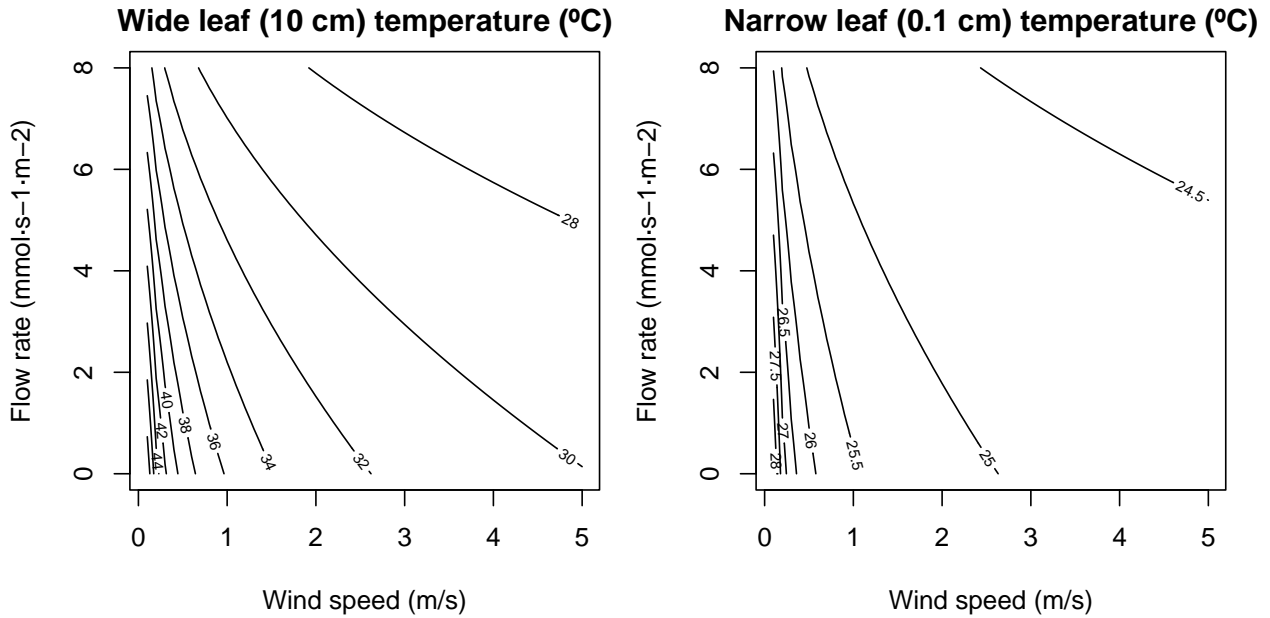


Figure 11.1: Values of  $T_{leaf}$  for two leaf widths and varying values of wind speed and flow rate, calculated for  $24^\circ\text{C}$  air temperature and  $740 \text{ W} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$  instantaneous absorbed radiation (including SWR and LWR).

Let us now fix wind speed at the leaf level to  $u_{leaf} = 2 \text{ m/s}$ . The application of the above equations to the  $E(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves corresponding to the complete hydraulic network (10.2.5) yields the following  $T_{leaf}(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves:

### 11.1.2 Leaf vapor pressure deficit

Vapor pressure deficit in the leaf ( $e_{leaf}$ , in kPa) is calculated as:

$$VPD_{leaf} = e_{leaf} - e_{air} \quad (11.4)$$

Where  $e_{air}$  is the water vapor pressure of the air surrounding the leaf (but beyond the leaf boundary layer) and  $e_{leaf}$  is the leaf vapor pressure, which can be calculated from leaf temperature ( $T_{leaf}$ ) and leaf water potential ( $\Psi_{leaf}$ ):

$$e_{leaf} = e_{sat}(T_{leaf}) \cdot \exp \left\{ \frac{2.17 \cdot \Psi_{leaf}}{T_{leaf} + 273.15} \right\} \quad (11.5)$$

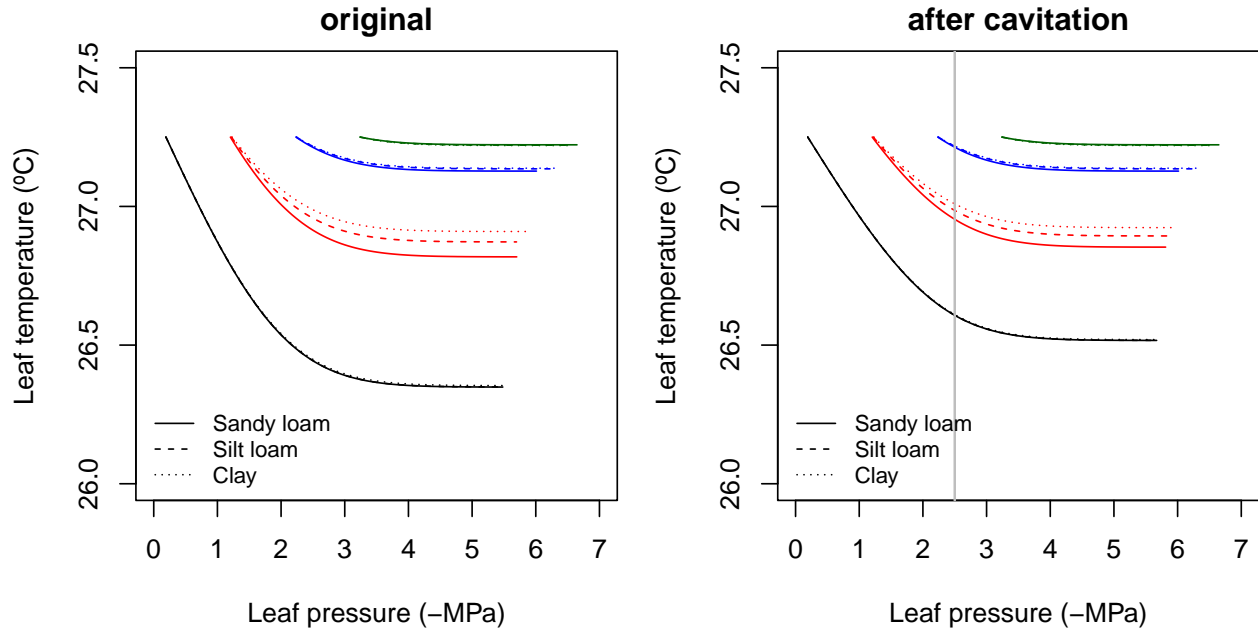


Figure 11.2: Examples of leaf temperature functions for a hydraulic network, corresponding to fig. 10.14 and for different soil textures. Left/right panel shows values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

where  $e_{sat}(T)$  is a function giving the saturated vapor pressure for temperature  $T$  (see utility functions of the **meteoland** reference manual). If a single-canopy energy balance is considered, the water vapor pressure of the air surrounding the leaf is taken as the average atmospheric water vapor pressure of the day, i.e.  $e_{air} = e_{atm}$ . When a multi-layer canopy energy balance is simulated,  $e_{air}$  will correspond to the water vapor pressure  $e_{air,j}$  of the canopy layer  $j$  where the leaf is located.

Since  $e_{leaf}$  decreases when leaf temperature decreases in eq. (11.5), increasing transpiration decreases leaf VPD as a result of decreasing leaf temperature. To illustrate this effect, let us assume the following values of relative humidity, yielding a  $e_{air} = e_{atm} = 1.91 \text{ kPa}$ :

```
RHmin = 60
RHmax = 75
VPatm = meteoland::utils_averageDailyVP(Tmin, Tmax, RHmin, RHmax)
VPatm
```

```
## [1] 1.912181
```

The application of the above equation to the  $T_{leaf}(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves of fig. 11.2 yields the following  $VPD_{leaf}(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves:

Note that the VPD decreasing curves do not start at the same  $VPD_{leaf}$  value despite corresponding to the same  $T_{leaf}$  value, because of the effect of  $\Psi_{leaf}$  on  $e_{leaf}$  in eq. (11.5).

### 11.1.3 Leaf gas exchange

Leaf diffusive conductance to water vapor ( $g_w$ ; in  $\text{mol H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ) and to carbon dioxide ( $g_c$ ; in  $\text{mol CO}_2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ) are obtained for each value of transpiration flow  $E$  (here expressed in  $\text{mol H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ )

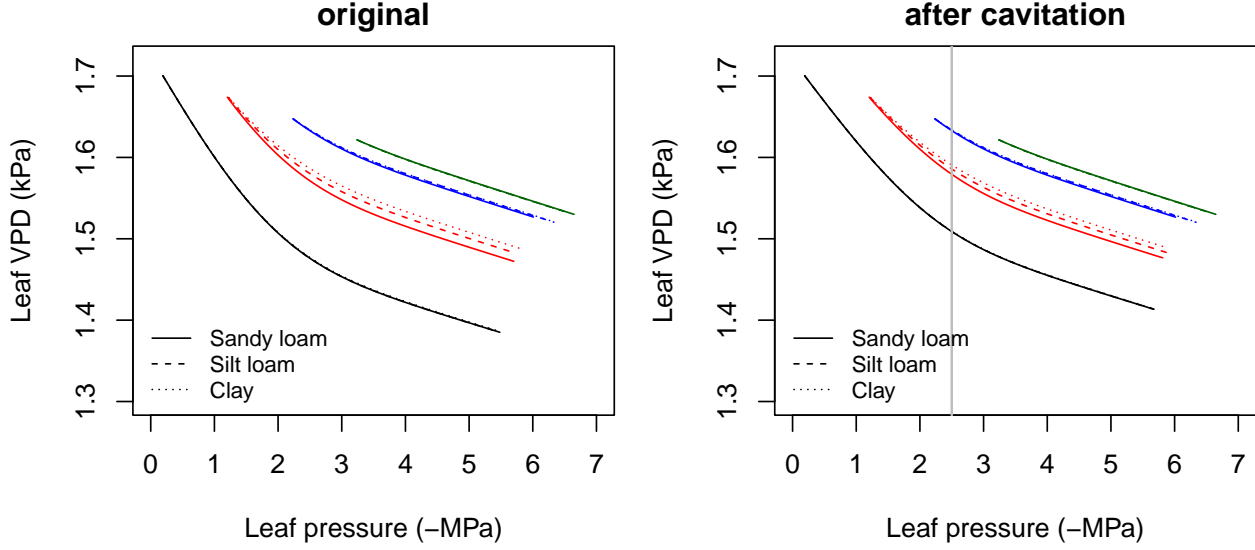


Figure 11.3: Examples of leaf vapour pressure deficit ( $VPD_{leaf}$ ) functions for a hydraulic network, corresponding to fig. 10.14 and for different soil textures. Left/right panel shows values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

and  $VPD_{leaf}$  using:

$$g_w = E \cdot \frac{P_{atm}}{VPD_{leaf}} \quad (11.6)$$

$$g_c = g_w / 1.6 \quad (11.7)$$

Diffusive conductance to water vapour is assumed to be result of stomatal ( $g_{sw}$ ) and boundary layer ( $g_{bw}$ ) conductances (both in  $mol H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ ). If we estimate  $g_{bw}$  using:

$$g_{bw} = 0.397 \cdot (u_{leaf}/d)^{0.5} \quad (11.8)$$

then, stomatal conductance is:

$$g_{sw}^{-1} = g_w^{-1} - g_{bw}^{-1} \quad (11.9)$$

Ensuring here that  $g_w \leq g_{bw}$  so that  $g_w^{-1} \geq g_{bw}^{-1}$ . The application of equations for  $g_w$ ,  $g_{bw}$  and  $g_{sw}$  to the  $VPD_{leaf}(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves yields the following stomatal conductance  $g_{sw}(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves:

In the previous figure we have indicated the thresholds of  $g_{sw,min}$  and  $g_{sw,max}$ , the species-specific minimum and maximum water vapour conductances (i.e. conductances when stomata are fully closed and fully open, respectively; see parameters **Gswmin** and **Gswmax** in **SpParamsMED**).  $g_{sw}$  cannot exceed  $g_{sw,max}$  so that some flow rates may not be possible (see stomatal regulation below). However,  $g_{sw,max}$  should quickly become non-limiting as soil dries (i.e. reducing  $E$ ) or  $VPD_{leaf}$  increases (Sperry *et al.* 2017).

#### 11.1.4 Leaf photosynthesis

Rubisco-limited photosynthesis rate  $A_c$  (in  $\mu mol CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is modelled using (Collatz *et al.* 1991; Medlyn *et al.* 2002):

$$A_c = \frac{V_{max} \cdot (C_i - \Gamma^*)}{C_i + K_c \cdot (1 + O_a/K_o)} \quad (11.10)$$

where  $V_{max}$  is Rubisco's maximum carboxylation rate (in  $\mu mol CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ ),  $C_i$  is the internal carbon dioxide concentration (in  $\mu mol \cdot mol^{-1}$ ),  $\Gamma^*$  is the compensation point (in  $\mu mol \cdot mol^{-1}$ ),  $K_c$  (in  $\mu mol \cdot mol^{-1}$ ) and  $K_o$  (in  $mmol \cdot mol^{-1}$ ) are Michaelis-Menten constants for carboxylation and oxygenation, respectively,

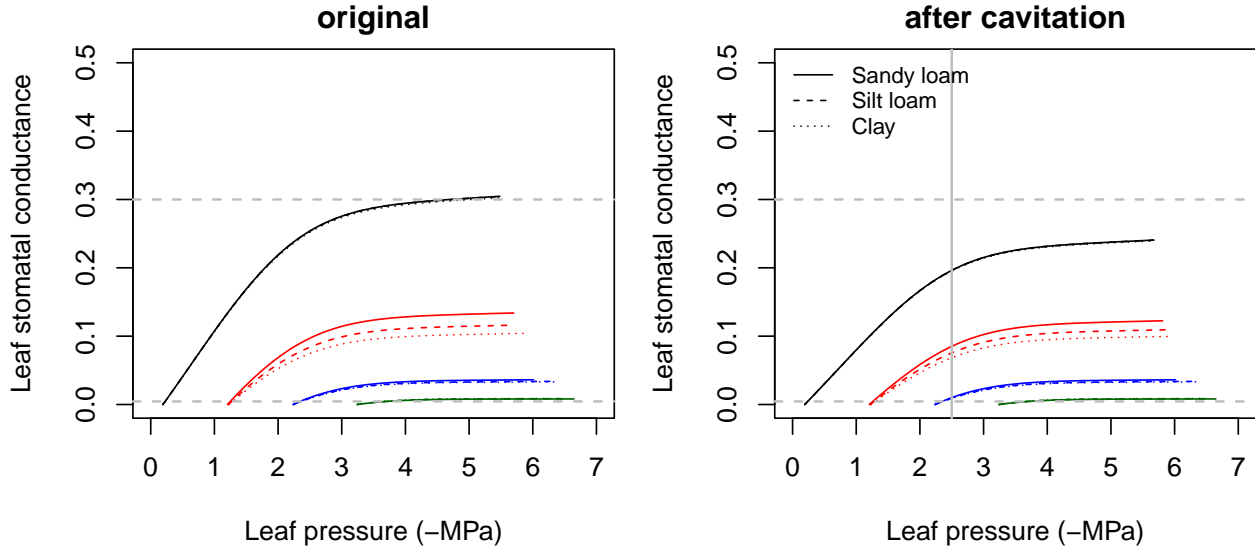


Figure 11.4: Examples of stomatal conductance to water vapour ( $g_{sw}$ ) functions for a hydraulic network, corresponding to fig. 10.14 and for different soil textures. Left/right panel shows values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions. Minimum and maximum conductance values ( $g_{sw,min} = 0.0045$  and  $g_{sw,max} = 0.3$ ) are indicated using dashed lines.

and  $O_a$  is the atmospheric oxygen concentration (i.e.  $209 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ ).  $\Gamma^*$ ,  $K_c$  and  $K_o$  depend on leaf temperature ( $T_{leaf}$ , in  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) (Bernacchi *et al.* 2001):

$$\Gamma^* = 42.75 \cdot e^{\frac{37830 \cdot (T_{leaf} - 25)}{298 \cdot R \cdot (T_{leaf} - 273)}} \quad (11.11)$$

$$K_c = 404.9 \cdot e^{\frac{79430 \cdot (T_{leaf} - 25)}{298 \cdot R \cdot (T_{leaf} - 273)}} \quad (11.12)$$

$$K_o = 278.4 \cdot e^{\frac{36380 \cdot (T_{leaf} - 25)}{298 \cdot R \cdot (T_{leaf} - 273)}} \quad (11.13)$$

Electron transport-limited photosynthesis  $A_e$  (in  $\mu\text{mol CO}_2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ) was obtained from Medlyn *et al.* (2002):

$$A_e = \frac{J}{4} \cdot \frac{C_i - \Gamma^*}{C_i + 2 \cdot \Gamma^*} \quad (11.14)$$

$$J = \frac{(\alpha \cdot Q_{PAR}^{leaf} + J_{max}) - \sqrt{(\alpha \cdot Q_{PAR}^{leaf} + J_{max})^2 - 4.0 \cdot c \cdot \alpha \cdot Q_{PAR}^{leaf} \cdot J_{max}}}{2 \cdot c} \quad (11.15)$$

where  $\alpha = 0.3 \text{ mol } e \cdot \text{mol photon}^{-1}$  is the quantum yield of electron transport,  $Q_{PAR}^{leaf}$  is the absorbed PAR photon flux density per leaf area ( $\mu\text{mol photon} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ), which is calculated from absorbed PAR per leaf area ( $\Phi_{PAR}^{leaf}$ ; in  $\text{W} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ):

$$Q_{PAR}^{leaf} = \Phi_{PAR}^{leaf} \cdot 546 \cdot 0.836 \cdot 10^{-2} \quad (11.16)$$

where 546 is the wavelength in  $\text{nm}$ .  $J_{max}$  and  $J$  are the maximum and actual rate of electron transport (both in  $\mu\text{mol } e \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and  $c = 0.9$  defines the curvature of the light-response curve. The gross assimilation rate  $A$  at a given  $C_i$  is the minimum of  $A_e$  and  $A_c$ . To obtain a smooth  $A$ -vs- $C_i$  curve we used (Collatz *et al.* 1991):

$$A = \frac{(A_c + A_e) - \sqrt{(A_c + A_e)^2 - 4.0 \cdot c' \cdot A_e \cdot A_c}}{2 \cdot c'} \quad (11.17)$$

where  $c' = 0.98$  is a curvature factor. The temperature dependence of  $J_{max}$  and  $V_{max}$  relative to  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  (i.e., relative to input parameters  $J_{max,298}$  and  $V_{max,298}$ ) is modelled using Leuning (2002) (his eq. 1 with

parameters from his Table 2). The internal  $CO_2$  concentration,  $C_i$ , needs to be known to calculate  $A$  using the previous equations. Sperry *et al.* (2016) use a second equation for  $A$  which uses  $g_c$ , the diffusive conductance to  $CO_2$  (which includes both the stomatal conductance and boundary layer conductance):

$$A = g_c \cdot (C_{air} - C_i) \quad (11.18)$$

where  $C_{air}$  is the  $CO_2$  concentration (in  $\mu mol \cdot mol^{-1}$ ) in the air surrounding the leaf (beyond the leaf boundary layer). If a single-layer canopy energy balance is used then  $C_{air} = C_{atm}$ , the atmospheric  $CO_2$  concentration (see weather input and parameter `Catm` in function `defaultControl()`), whereas if a multi-layer canopy energy balance is used  $C_{air}$  corresponds to  $C_{air,j}$ , the  $CO_2$  concentration in the canopy layer  $j$  where the leaf occurs, analogously to  $T_{air}$  and  $e_{air}$ . Combining the two equations for  $A$  and finding the root of the resulting equation using Newton-Raphson method allows determining  $C_i$  and therefore  $A$ . Thus, after defining PAR photon flux density, atmosphere  $CO_2$  concentration and maximum rate parameters:

```
Q = 2000
Catm = 386
Vmax298 = 100
Jmax298 = 1.67*Vmax298
```

one can obtain the following  $A(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves from  $T_{leaf}(\Psi_{leaf})$  and  $g_{sw}(\Psi_{leaf})$ :

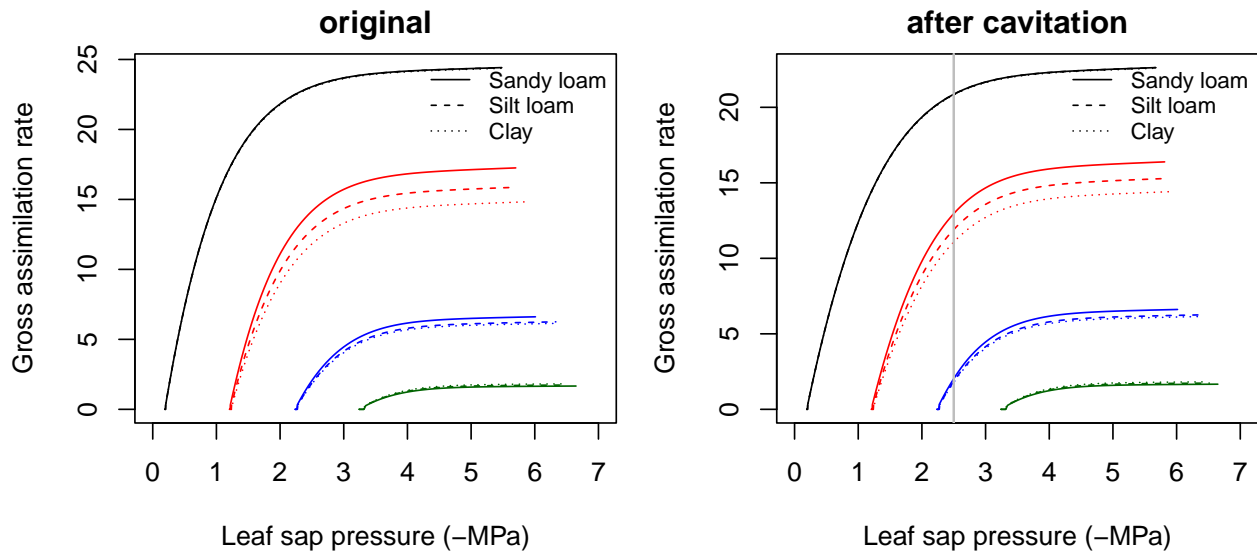


Figure 11.5: Examples of gross photosynthesis ( $A$ ) functions for a hydraulic network, corresponding to fig. 10.14 and for different soil textures. Left/right panel shows values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

Finally, leaf net photosynthesis ( $A_n$ ; i.e. accounting for autotrophic respiration) is calculated as:

$$A_n = A - 0.015 \cdot V_{max} \quad (11.19)$$

## 11.2 Crown/canopy photosynthesis

In the previous subsection we showed how to calculate photosynthesis at the leaf level, but gross or net assimilation needs to be up-scaled to the crown or canopy levels, while accounting for the variation of leaf photosynthetic conditions across canopies. In this section, we briefly describe different alternatives for canopy/crown photosynthesis and justify our modelling choice.

### 11.2.1 Multi-layer canopy photosynthesis model

Ideally, crown or canopy photosynthesis requires repeating the calculations of leaf temperature, leaf VPD, leaf gas conductance and photosynthesis for every leaf. Multi-layer canopy models, however, divide the canopy into vertical layers and determine photosynthesis for each one (and each plant species or plant cohort, if required). Multi-layer models can account for the fact that environmental variables usually vary across the crown, including direct/diffuse absorbed radiation, air temperature, wind speed, water vapor pressure and  $CO_2$  concentration. The amount of SWR and PAR absorbed per unit of leaf area at each canopy layer was shown in fig. 9.2.

Not only environmental factors, but leaves themselves may be different across canopy layers. Importantly, it is generally accepted that sunlit and shade leaves need to be treated separately (De Pury & Farquhar 1997). Separating the two kinds of leaves acknowledges that they operate at different parts of the light-saturation curve. Following De Pury & Farquhar (1997), we further assume that maximum carboxylation and electron transport rates are highest for leaves at the top of the canopy and there is an exponential decrease from there towards the bottom, where maximum rates are 50% of those at the top:

$$V_{max,298,i,j} = V_{max,298,i} \cdot \exp(-0.713 \cdot \sum_{h>i} LAI_{h,j}^{\phi} / LAI_i^{\phi}) \quad (11.20)$$

$$J_{max,298,i,j} = J_{max,298,i} \cdot \exp(-0.713 \cdot \sum_{h>i} LAI_{h,j}^{\phi} / LAI_i^{\phi}) \quad (11.21)$$

where  $LAI_{i,j}^{\phi}$  is the LAI value of the plant cohort  $i$  at a given canopy layer  $j$  and  $LAI_i^{\phi}$  is the expanded LAI of the plant cohort. The following figure illustrates this decrease for the single-species canopy example of section 9.1.3:

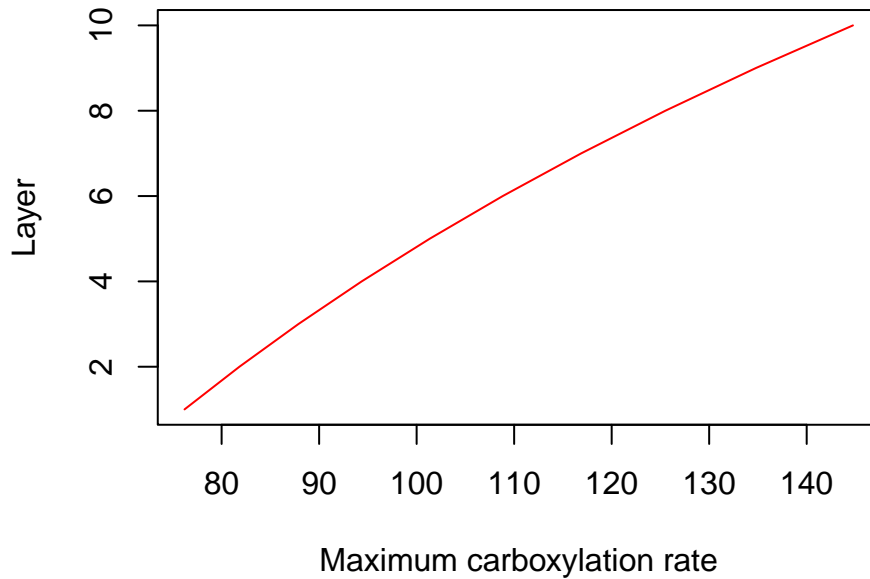


Figure 11.6: Decrease of Rubisco maximum carboxylation rate across the canopy

In a multi-layer canopy photosynthesis model, gross and net photosynthesis values (i.e.  $A$  and  $A_n$ ) are determined for sunlit and shade leaves of each cohort in each canopy layer. Then, sunlit and shade photosynthesis values should be averaged across the crown for each plant cohort. Assuming that  $\Psi_{leaf}$  is equal for all leaves across the crown, the function  $A(\Psi_{leaf})$  would be obtained for each plant cohort.

### 11.2.2 Big-leaf canopy photosynthesis model

Multi-layer canopy photosynthesis models allow evaluating leaf conditions, stomatal conductance and photosynthesis for different points of the canopy. However, this comes at high computational cost. For this reason, many models implement what is called the *big-leaf approximation*. Assuming that wind speed, temperature, water vapor pressure and  $CO_2$  concentration are similar for all leaves and that the distribution of photosynthetic capacity between leaves is in proportion to the profile of absorbed irradiance then the equation describing leaf photosynthesis will also represent canopy photosynthesis (Sellers et al. 1992).

### 11.2.3 Sun-shade canopy photosynthesis model

An alternative between multi-layer and big-leaf canopy photosynthesis models is to collapse variation of photosynthetic conditions into two leaf classes: sunlit and shade leaves. While big-leaf canopy models are known to be unaccurate under some situations, sun-shade canopy models (De Pury & Farquhar 1997) provide estimates that are close to multiple layer models (Hikosaka *et al.* 2016). The sun-shade canopy photosynthesis model was adopted here. Assuming that wind speed, temperature, water vapor pressure and  $CO_2$  concentration are similar for all leaves, sun-shade models involve the following steps:

- a. Aggregate the leaf area of sunlit/shade leaves across layers:

$$LAI_i^{sunlit} = \sum_{j=1}^l LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit} \quad (11.22)$$

$$LAI_i^{shade} = \sum_{j=1}^l LAI_{i,j}^{shade} \quad (11.23)$$

where  $LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit}$  and  $LAI_{i,j}^{shade}$  are the leaf area index of sunlit and shade leaves for cohort  $i$  in canopy layer  $j$ , from eq. (9.5).

- b. Average the SWR/PAR absorbed by leaves of each kind across layers. The average light absorbed by sunlit/shaded foliage of cohort  $i$  per ground area unit is found using:

$$\Phi_{abs,i}^{sunlit} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^l K_{abs,i,j}^{sunlit}}{LAI_i^{sunlit}} \quad (11.24)$$

$$\Phi_{abs,i}^{shade} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^l K_{abs,i,j}^{shade}}{LAI_i^{shade}} \quad (11.25)$$

where  $K_{abs,i,j}^{sunlit}$  and  $K_{abs,i,j}^{shade}$  are the light absorbed per ground area unit by sunlit/shade leaves of cohort  $i$  at layer  $j$  (see section 9.1.3). Analogous equations were already given for the net long-wave radiation balance of sunlit leaves ( $L_{net,i}^{sunlit}$ ) and shade leaves ( $L_{net,i}^{shade}$ ) in section 9.2.3.

- c. Average the maximum carboxylation (respectively, electron transport) rates across layers, again separating sunlit and shade leaves:

$$V_{max,298,i}^{sunlit} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^l V_{max,298,i,j} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit}}{LAI_i^{sunlit}} \quad (11.26)$$

$$V_{max,298,i}^{shade} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^l V_{max,298,i,j} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{shade}}{LAI_i^{shade}} \quad (11.27)$$

- d. Use  $V_{max,298,i}^{sunlit}$  as  $V_{max,298}$  in Leuning (2002) to obtain  $V_{max}$  for eq. (11.10);  $\Phi_{SWR,i}^{sunlit}$  as  $\Phi_{SWR}^{leaf}$  and  $L_{net,i}^{sunlit}$  as  $L_{net}^{leaf}$  in eq. (11.1); and  $\Phi_{PAR,i}^{sunlit}$  as  $\Phi_{PAR}^{leaf}$  in eq. (11.16) to estimate sunlit leaf photosynthesis, which can be up-scaled to the crown level multiplying by  $LAI_i^{sunlit}$ . The same would be done for shade leaves. In a sun-shade canopy model one then calls the photosynthesis function twice (i.e. once for shade leaves and once for sunlit leaves) for each plant cohort  $i$ .



### 11.2.4 Comparison of big-leaf, sun-shade and multi-canopy photosynthesis models

The figure below provides the canopy photosynthesis functions obtained using the multi-layer canopy photosynthesis model (top), a sunshade canopy photosynthesis model (center) or a big-leaf photosynthesis model (bottom). These were generated using functions `photo_multilayerPhotosynthesisFunction()`, `photo_sunshadePhotosynthesisFunction()` and `photo_leafPhotosynthesisFunction()`, respectively, and assuming homogeneous wind, temperature and water vapor pressure through the canopy. Thus, only absorbed radiation varied across layers and leaf types. Note the coincidence between the multi-layer and the sun-shade models.

### 11.2.5 Within-canopy variation in environmental conditions

When presenting the sun-shade photosynthesis model, we assumed constant wind, temperature, water vapor pressure and  $CO_2$  concentration values through the canopy. If a single-layer canopy energy balance is used,  $CO_2$  concentration and vapor pressure are assumed equal to the atmosphere (i.e.,  $e_{air} = e_{atm}$  and  $C_{air} = C_{atm}$ ), whereas air temperature is that of the canopy (i.e.,  $T_{air} = T_{can}$ ), but leaf-level wind speed ( $u_{leaf}$ ) can still be different for different canopy layers. If a multi-layer canopy energy balance is used, all four environmental variables can differ between canopy layers (i.e.  $T_{air,j}$ ,  $e_{air,j}$ ,  $C_{air,j}$  and  $u_j$ ). In the sun-shade photosynthesis model, the question arises on how to determine layer  $j$  for sunlit or shade leaves of a given cohort  $i$ . The choice is done by calculating the height corresponding to the mass center of sunlit leaves or shade leaves of each cohort  $i$ . The canopy layer  $j$  where this mass center height is contained is chosen as the layer from which environmental conditions will be taken. For any given plant cohort  $i$ , sunlit leaves will take their environmental conditions from layers above (or equal to) those corresponding to shade leaves.

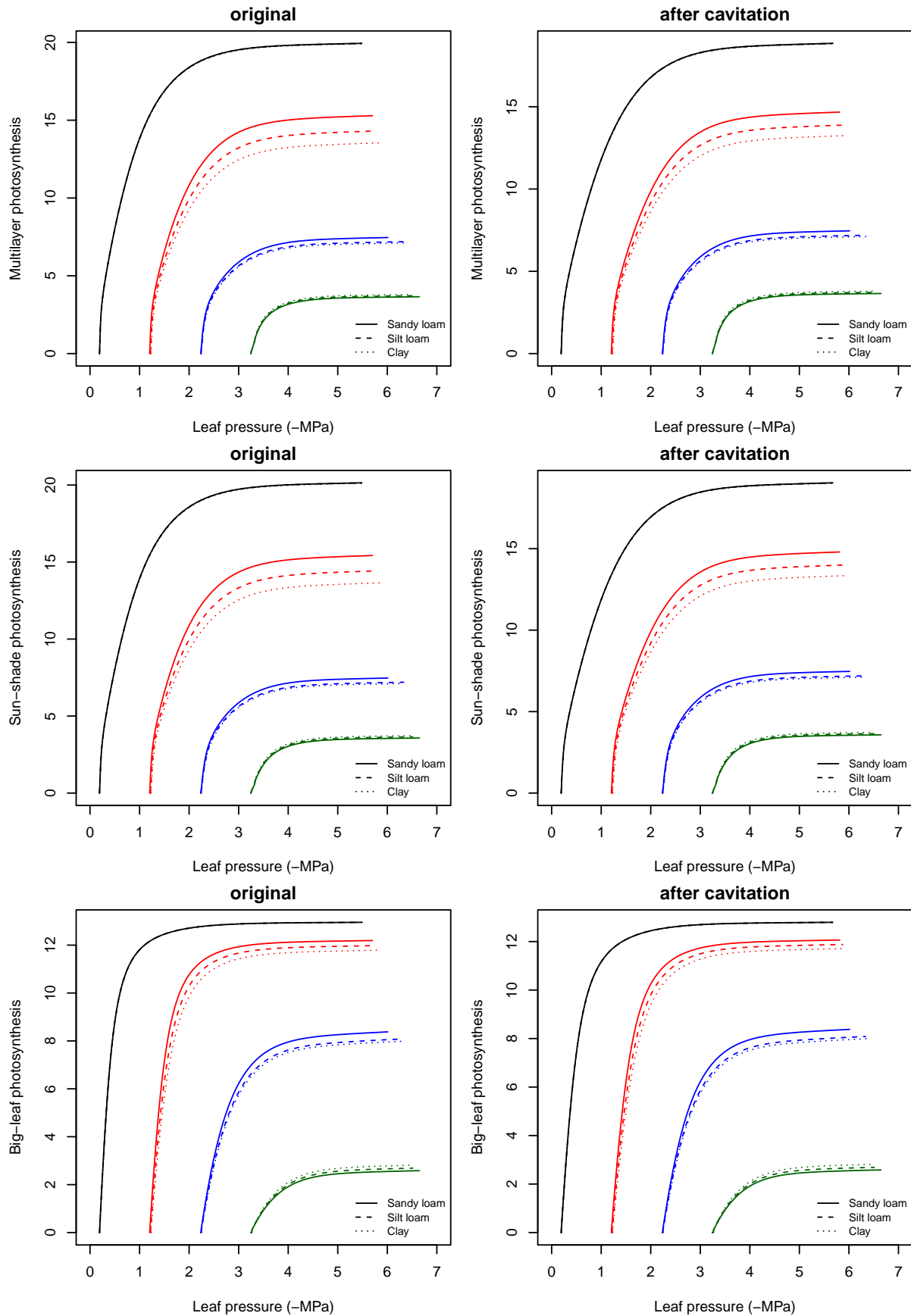


Figure 11.7: Whole-canopy photosynthesis functions obtained for a hydraulic network, corresponding to fig. 10.14 and different soil textures, using the multi-layer canopy photosynthesis model (top), a sunshade canopy photosynthesis model (center) or a big-leaf photosynthesis model (bottom). Left/right panel shows values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions.

## Chapter 12

# Transpiration and photosynthesis under Sperry's model

Plants must open their stomata to acquire  $CO_2$  and perform photosynthesis, but doing so promotes water loss. This trade-off has resulted in a tight coordination between capacity to supply and transpire water (hydraulic conductance and diffusive conductance to water vapor) and the maximum capacity for photosynthesis (carboxylation rate and electron-transport rate). For modelling purposes, this carbon-for-water trade-off means that hydraulics, stomatal conductance, transpiration and photosynthesis need to be estimated simultaneously. In chapters 10 and 11 we introduced supply and photosynthesis functions, but we did not explain how are actual transpiration and photosynthesis values determined. This is the subject of the present chapter.

The advanced water balance model adopts the framework of Sperry *et al.* (2017), who suggest estimating stomatal conductance from the instantaneous maximization of profit, defined as the difference between photosynthesis gain and hydraulic cost (both normalized for comparability). First, transpiration and photosynthesis is estimated separately for sunlit and shade leaves according to this framework. An average transpiration rate is then determined depending on sunlit/shade transpiration rates and their leaf area contributions. Finally, the instantaneous transpiration and assimilation rates of each time step are scaled to the duration of the time step and to the leaf area of the plant cohort. The following sections provide details for all these steps.

### 12.1 Water supply and sunlit/shade photosynthesis functions

Let us start by summarizing the concepts introduced in the last two chapters. The **supply function** described in chapter 10 describes the rate of transpiration flow as a function of the pressure drop between the soil and the leaf, and incorporates both soil, xylem and leaf hydraulic constrains (Sperry *et al.* 1998, 2016; Sperry & Love 2015). Here we assume that hydraulic conductance  $k$  is in  $mmol H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$  of leaf area, transpiration rate  $E_{leaf}$  in  $mmol H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$  of leaf area and leaf water potential  $\Psi_{leaf}$  is in MPa.

According to section 11.1, each  $E_{leaf}$  value implies an energy balance at the leaf level, stomatal conductance to water vapour and a particular value of leaf photosynthesis. More specifically, for each pair of  $E_{leaf}$  and  $\Psi_{leaf}$  values, we have a corresponding leaf temperature ( $T_{leaf}$ ; in  $^{\circ}C$ ), leaf-to-air vapor pressure deficit ( $VPD_{leaf}$ ; in kPa), leaf water vapor conductance ( $g_{sw}$ ; in  $mol H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ ) and, finally the leaf gross and net (i.e. after accounting for autotrophic respiration) photosynthesis assimilation rates ( $A_g$  and  $A_n$ ; both in  $\mu mol CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ ). In short, the supply function generates a **photosynthesis function**. Since the model deals with canopies and not single leaves, however, different parts of the crowns of plant cohorts may be in different canopy positions. Calculating photosynthesis at the canopy level requires dividing the

canopy into vertical layers, differentiating between *sunlit* and *shade* leaves and determining **photosynthesis functions for sunlit and shade leaves separately**, as explained in section 11.2.

## 12.2 Leaf stomatal regulation by profit maximization

Wolf *et al.* (2016) proposed the **carbon maximization criterion**, which states that at each instant in time the stomata regulate canopy gas exchange and pressure to achieve the maximum profit, which is the maximum difference between photosynthetic gains and costs, the latter associated with hydraulic vulnerability attained with low water potentials. Such approach has been shown to be supported by data from global forest biomes (Anderegg *et al.* 2018). Building on this approach, Sperry *et al.* (2017) presented a profit maximization function where hydraulic costs of opening the stomata are compared against photosynthetic gains. Details of their formulation are given in this section. Stomatal regulation is performed in **medfate** separately for sunlit and shade leaves.

### 12.2.1 Cost and gain functions

The hydraulic supply function is used to derive a transpirational *cost function*  $\theta_1(\Psi_{leaf})$  that reflects the increasing damage from cavitation and the greater difficulty of moving water along the continuum (Sperry *et al.* 2016):

$$\theta(\Psi_{leaf}) = \left[ \frac{k_{c,max} - k_c(\Psi_{leaf})}{k_{c,max} - k_{crit}} \right]^{a_\theta} \quad (12.1)$$

where  $k_c(\Psi_{leaf}) = dE/d\Psi(\Psi)$  is the slope of the supply function corresponding to (leaf) water potential  $\Psi_{leaf}$ ,  $k_{c,max}$  is the maximum slope of the supply function (which occurs when  $E_{leaf} = 0$ ), i.e. the maximum whole-plant conductance for the current soil moisture conditions, and  $k_{crit} = k_c(\Psi_{crit})$  is the slope of the supply function at  $E_{leaf} = E_{crit}$  the critical flow beyond which hydraulic failure occurs.  $a_\theta$  is an exponent that modifies the cost function, specified as a control parameter. In Sperry *et al.* (2016), this exponent was missing (i.e.  $a_\theta = 1.0$ ), and this is the default in **medfate**, but we introduced it to allow some flexibility in the gain/cost comparison (see below).

The following figures illustrate the  $\theta(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves corresponding to the supply functions:

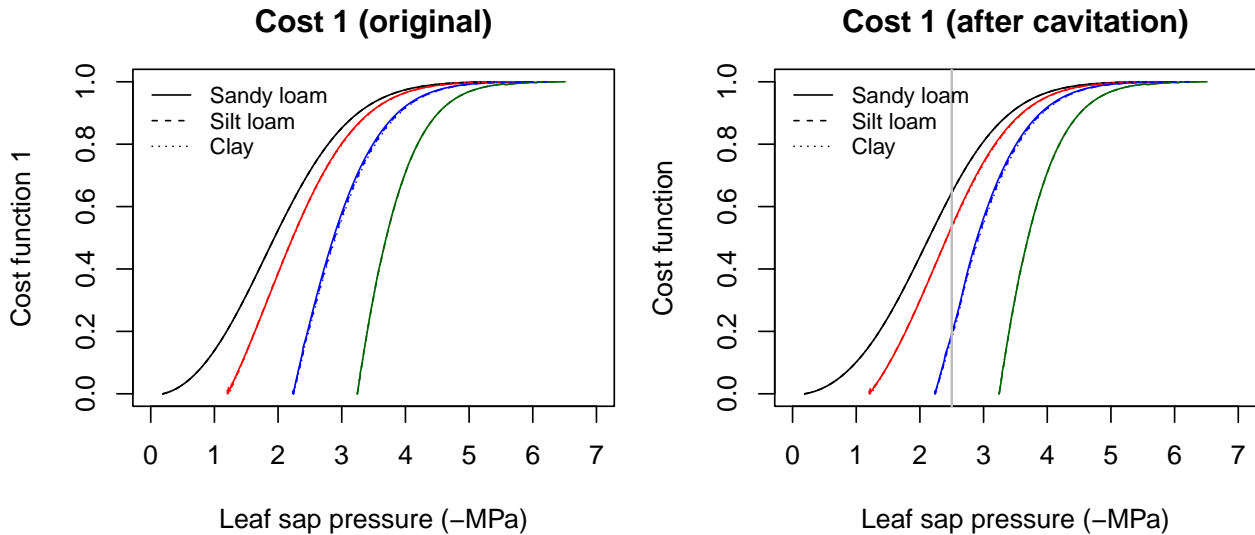


Figure 12.1: Cost functions (i.e.  $\theta(\Psi_{leaf})$ ) obtained for a hydraulic network, corresponding to fig. 10.14 and different soil textures and soil water potentials. Left/right panels show values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions, respectively. In all cases  $a_\theta = 0$ .

The normalized photosynthetic *gain function*  $\beta(\Psi_{leaf})$  reflects the actual assimilation rate with respect to the maximum (Sperry *et al.* 2016):

$$\beta(\Psi_{leaf}) = \left[ \frac{A(\Psi_{leaf})}{A_{max}} \right]^{a_\beta} \quad (12.2)$$

where  $A_{max}$  is the instantaneous maximum (gross) assimilation rate estimated over the full  $\Psi_{leaf}$  range (including values that imply a stomatal conductance larger than the maximum). Similarly to the cost function,  $a_\beta$  is an exponent that modifies the gain function, specified as a control parameter. In Sperry *et al.* (2016), this exponent was missing (i.e.  $a_\beta = 1.0$ ), and this is the default in **medfate**, but we introduced it to allow some flexibility in the gain/cost comparison.

The following figures illustrate the  $\beta(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves corresponding to the supply and assimilation functions, for either  $a_\beta = 1.0$  (top row) or  $a_\beta = 0.5$  (bottom row):

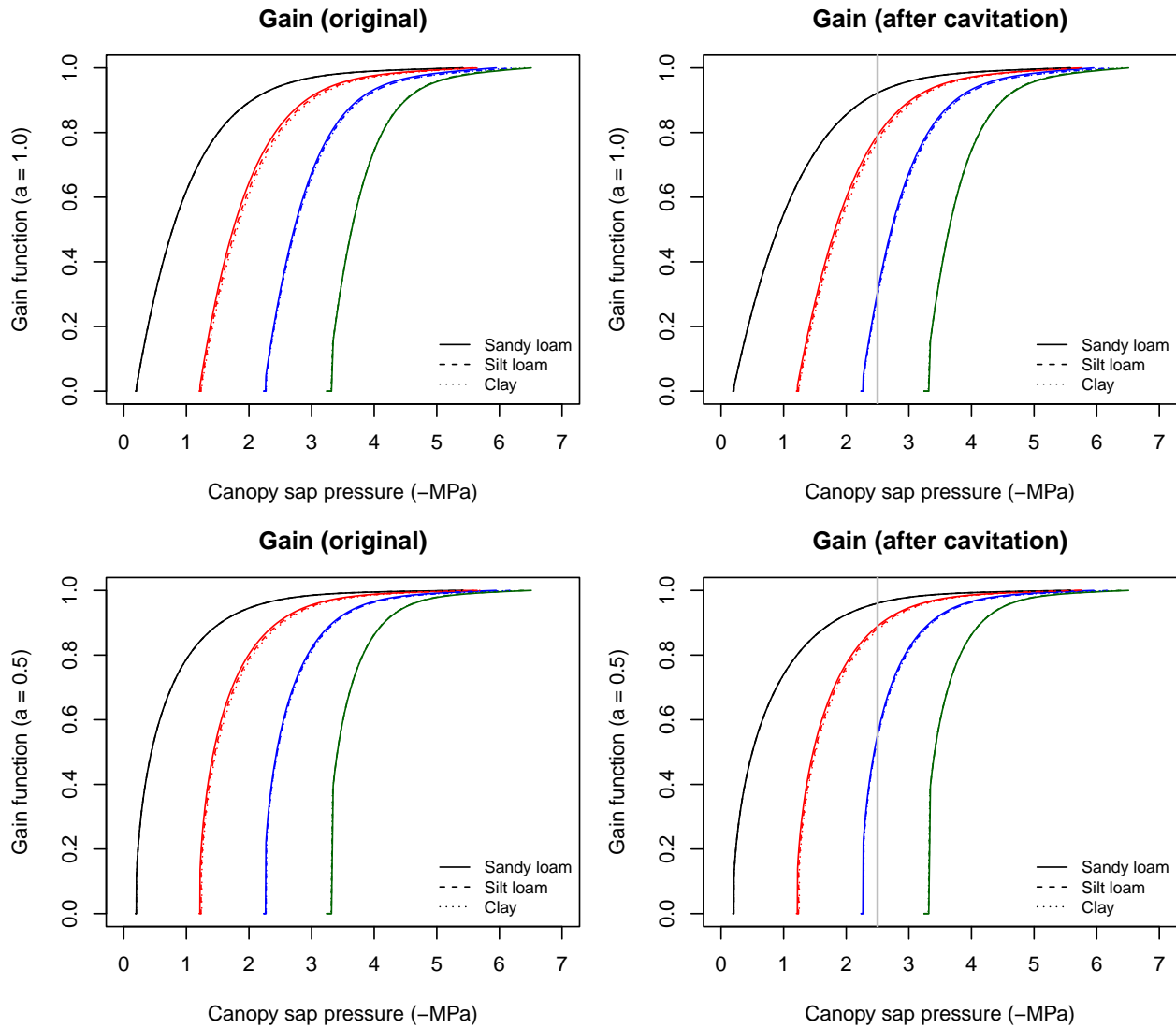


Figure 12.2: Gain function ( $\beta(\Psi_{leaf})$ ) obtained for a hydraulic network, corresponding to fig. 10.14 and different soil textures and soil water potentials. Left/right panels show values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions, respectively. Top and bottom panels correspond to  $a_\beta = 1.0$  and  $a_\beta = 0.5$ , respectively.

Note that setting  $a_\beta = 0.5$  makes gain function steeper at the beginning of the curve, hence making additional gains in photosynthesis less relevant compared to  $a_\beta = 1.0$ . This has an effect on the profit maximization

strategy presented in the next subsection.

### 12.2.2 Profit maximization at the leaf level

Sperry *et al.* (2017) suggested that stomatal regulation can be effectively estimated by determining the maximum of the *profit function* ( $Profit(\Psi_{leaf})$ ):

$$Profit(\Psi_{leaf}) = \beta(\Psi_{leaf}) - \theta(\Psi_{leaf}) \quad (12.3)$$

The maximization is achieved when the slopes of the gain and cost functions are equal:

$$\frac{\delta\beta(\Psi_{leaf})}{\delta\Psi_{leaf}} = \frac{\delta\theta(\Psi_{leaf})}{\delta\Psi_{leaf}} \quad (12.4)$$

Instantaneous profit maximization assumes a ‘use it or lose it’ reality with regards to available soil water. Because the gain function accelerates more quickly from zero and reaches 1 sooner than the cost function, their maximum difference occurs at intermediate  $\Psi_{leaf}$  values. Once  $\Psi_{leaf}$  that maximizes profit is determined, the values of the remaining variables are also determined. At this point, it may happen that  $g_{sw}(\Psi_{leaf})$  is lower than the minimum (i.e. cuticular) water vapor conductance ( $g_{sw,min}$ ) or larger than the maximum water vapor conductance ( $g_{sw,max}$ ). These thresholds need to be taken into account when determining the maximum of the profit function.

The following figures illustrate the  $Profit(\Psi_{leaf})$  curves of corresponding to the previous cost and gain curves:

Squares in the previous figures indicate the maximum profit points in each situation. The drier the soil, the closer is the maximum profit  $\Psi_{leaf}$  to soil water potential as one would expect intuitively (i.e. a smaller drop in water potential along the hydraulic pathway). Note that when the soil is very dry the squares are to the right of the true maximum. This is because the `transp_profitMaximization()` function takes into account the minimum and maximum stomatal conductance and, in this case, does not allow optimum stomatal conductances below the minimum (cuticular) value.

Differences between  $a_\beta = 1.0$  and  $a_\beta = 0.5$  can be more easily seen when plotting directly the optima in terms of both canopy sap pressure and flow rate:

When changing from  $a_\beta = 1.0$  to  $a_\beta = 0.5$  the optimum values are shifted towards less negative water potentials and, accordingly, lower transpiration rates. Hence,  $a_\beta$  allows modifying the relative weight of gains and costs.

Note that  $\theta$ ,  $\beta$  and  $Profit$  functions can be expressed as a function of stomatal conductance, instead of leaf water potential. This allows visualizing more clearly the effect of  $g_{sw,min}$  and  $g_{sw,max}$  thresholds on the maximum profit optimization strategy, as illustrated in the following figures.

## 12.3 Plant cohort transpiration and photosynthesis

In the previous section, we considered stomatal regulation at the leaf level only. At the plant cohort level, the gain function could be build from a crown photosynthesis function  $A(\Psi_{leaf})$ , as shown in section 11.2. However, applying the profit maximization approach for a single crown photosynthesis function would imply the assumption that the same stomatal aperture occurs in all leaves of the plant cohort, independently of whether they are in shade or sunlit. A more realistic approach is to determine stomatal regulation by profit maximization for sunlit and shade leaves separately. The gain function and profit maximization calculations conducted for each leaf type yield instantaneous leaf water potentials  $\Psi_{leaf}^{sunlit}$  and  $\Psi_{leaf}^{shade}$  and instantaneous flow values  $E^{shade}$  and  $E^{sunlit}$  from the supply functions. The corresponding photosynthesis functions allow determining values for leaf temperatures  $T_{leaf}^{sunlit}$  and  $T_{leaf}^{shade}$ , vapour pressure deficits  $VPD_{leaf}^{sunlit}$  and  $VPD_{leaf}^{shade}$ , stomatal conductance  $g_{sw}^{sunlit}$  and  $g_{sw}^{shade}$  and net photosynthesis rates  $A_n^{sunlit}$  and  $A_n^{shade}$ . This is a lot of

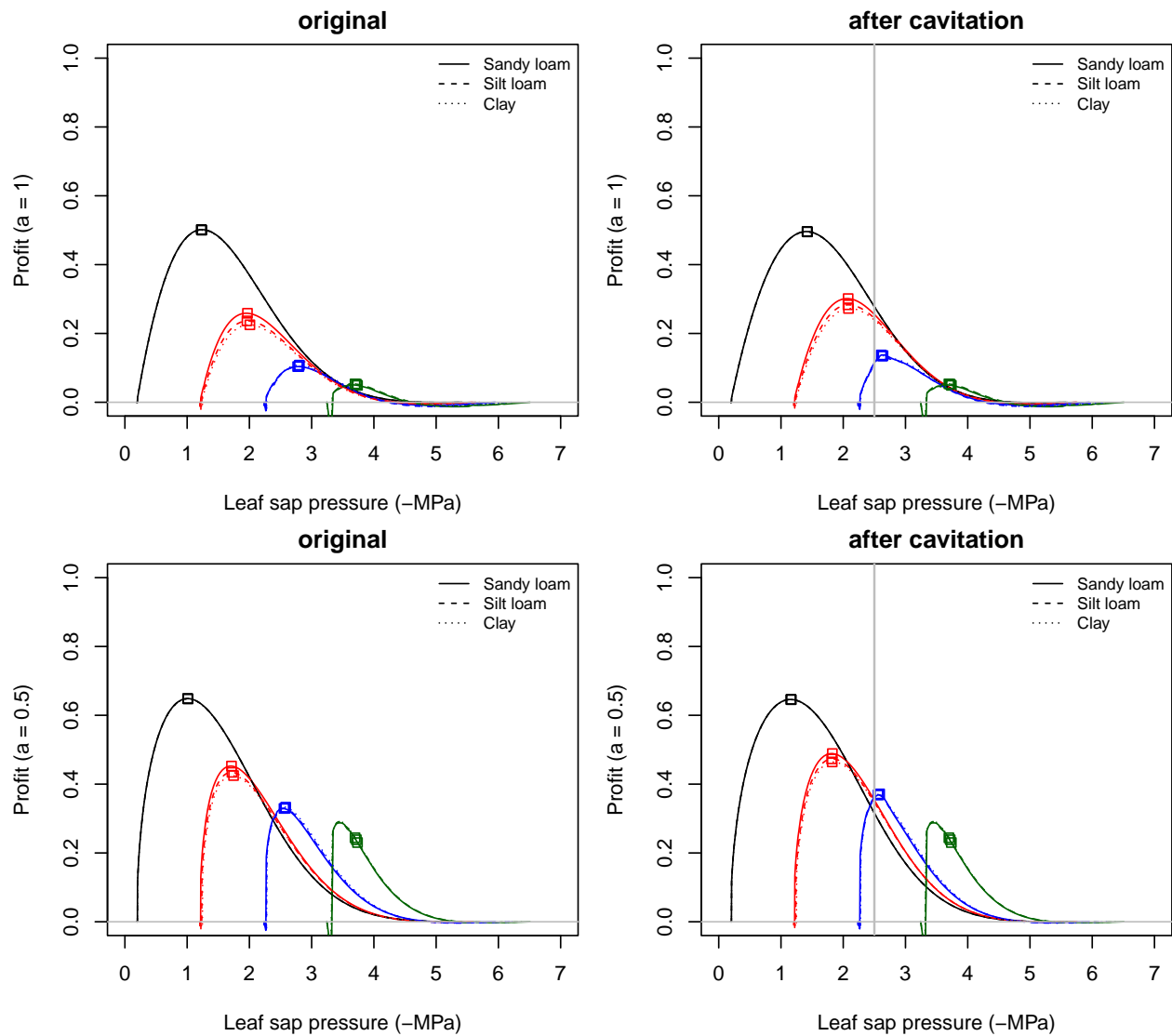


Figure 12.3: Profit functions (i.e.  $Profit(\Psi_{leaf})$ ) obtained for a hydraulic network, corresponding to fig. 10.14 and different soil textures and soil water potentials. Left/right panels show values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions, respectively. Top and bottom panels correspond to  $a_\beta = 1.0$  and  $a_\beta = 0.5$ , respectively.

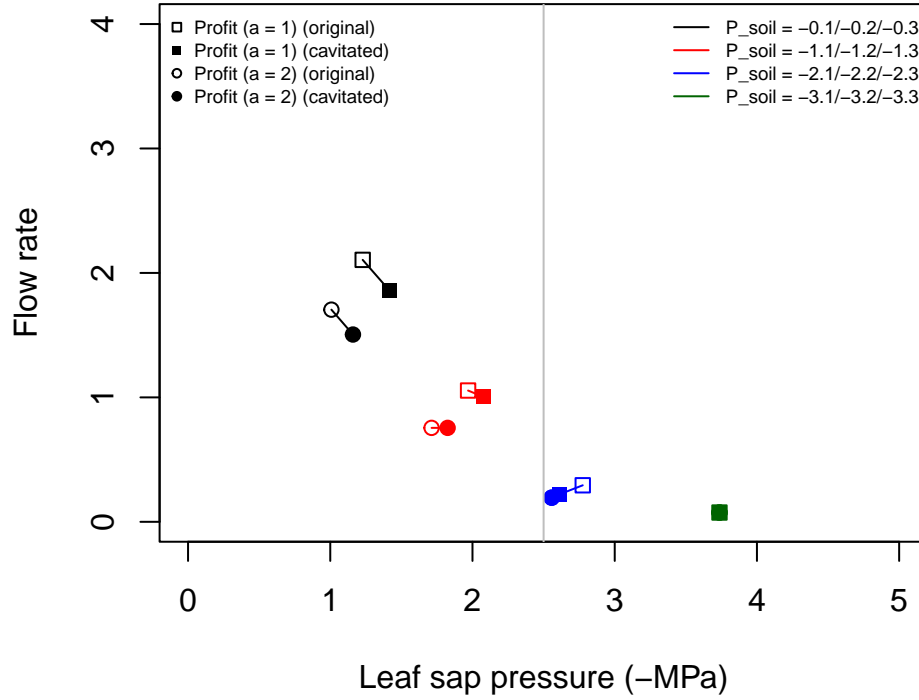


Figure 12.4: Comparison of optimum flow and water potential values under profit functions built using  $a_\beta = 1.0$  and  $a_\beta = 0.5$ , from the results of fig. 12.3.

useful information at the leaf level for each plant cohort  $i$ , but we also need transpiration and photosynthesis values at the plant cohort-level.

The average instantaneous flow rate ( $E_i^{average}$ , in  $mmol H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ ) per leaf area unit of plant cohort  $i$  is the weighed average:

$$E_i^{average} = \frac{E_i^{shade} \cdot LAI_i^{sunlit} + E_i^{sunlit} \cdot LAI_i^{shade}}{LAI_i^\phi} \quad (12.5)$$

where  $LAI_i^{sunlit}$  and  $LAI_i^{shade}$  are the cohorts LAI values for sunlit and shade leaves, from eq. (9.5), and  $LAI_i^\phi$  is the leaf area index of plant cohort  $i$ . The model then uses the hydraulic supply function to find the transpiration rate  $E_i$  numerically closest to  $E_i^{average}$  (remember that the supply function is build in discrete steps). Finding the  $E_i$  value numerically closest to  $E_i^{average}$  determines the  $E_{i,t}$  the instantaneous transpiration flow for current time step  $t$ , and also leads to setting values for  $t$  of several other variables, such as water potentials ( $\Psi_{leaf,i,t}$ ,  $\Psi_{stem,i,t}$ ,  $\Psi_{rootcrown,i,t}$ ,  $\dots$ ), the slope of the supply function ( $(dE/d\Psi)_t$ ), and instantaneous soil water extraction rates ( $E_{i,s,t}$ ).

The amount of transpiration from the plant cohort in a given time step  $t$  ( $Tr_{i,t}$ , in  $l \cdot m^{-2}$  of ground area, i.e. in mm) is:

$$Tr_{i,t} = E_{i,t} \cdot LAI_i^\phi \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot 0.01802 \cdot \Delta t_{step} \quad (12.6)$$

where 0.01802 is the molar weight (in  $kg = l$ ) of water and  $\Delta t_{step} = 86400/n_t$  the size of the time step in seconds, being  $n_t$  the number of time steps. Soil extraction rates ( $Ex$ ) are scaled to the cohort level as done for transpiration:

$$Ex_{i,s,t} = E_{i,s,t} \cdot LAI_i^\phi \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot 0.01802 \cdot \Delta t_{step} \quad (12.7)$$

If plant water storage is not considered, one should have that soil extraction equals transpiration:

$$Tr_{i,t} = Ex_{i,t} = \sum_s Ex_{i,s,t} \quad (12.8)$$



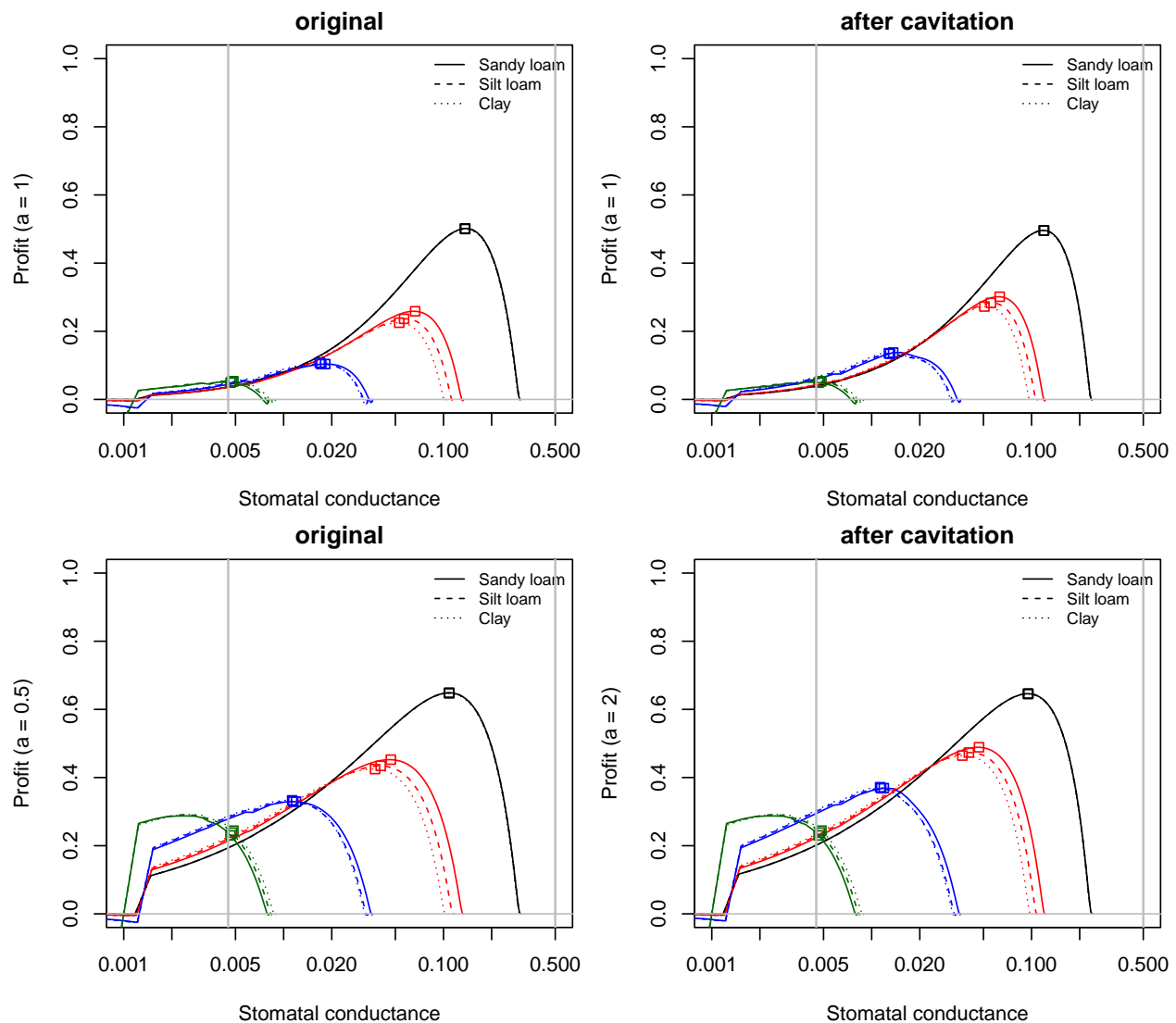


Figure 12.5: Profit function as a function of stomatal conductance, corresponding to fig. 12.3 and different soil textures and soil water potentials. Left/right panels show values for uncavitated/cavitated supply functions, respectively. Top and bottom panels correspond to  $a_\beta = 1.0$  and  $a_\beta = 0.5$ , respectively.

Instantaneous net photosynthesis per leaf area of sunlit and shade leaves in a given time step  $t$  (i.e.  $A_{n,i,t}^{sunlit}$  and  $A_{n,i,t}^{shade}$ ) are also aggregated into  $A_{n,i,t}$ , the net photosynthesis of the plant cohort  $i$  for the time step  $t$ , in  $g\ C \cdot m^{-2}$  of ground area:

$$A_{n,i,t} = (A_{n,i,t}^{sunlit} \cdot LAI_i^{sunlit} + A_{n,i,t}^{shade} \cdot LAI_i^{shade}) \cdot 10^{-6} \cdot 12.01017 \cdot \Delta t_{step} \quad (12.9)$$

## 12.4 Stem cavitation and conduit refilling

Like with the ‘Granier’ transpiration mode, the water balance model with ‘Sperry’ transpiration mode is normally run assuming that although soil drought may reduce transpiration, embolized xylem conduits are automatically refilled when soil moisture recovers (i.e. **cavitation** = "total"). Automatic refilling is always assumed for leaf and root segments, but not for stems. There are three other options to deal with stem xylem cavitation besides automatic refilling. Any of them cause the model to keep track of the proportion of lost conductance in the stem xylem of the plant cohort  $i$  ( $PLC_{stem,i}$ ) at successive time steps:

$$PLC_{stem,i,t} = \max\{PLC_{stem,i,t-1}, 1 - k_{stem,i}(\Psi_{stem})/k_{max,stem,i}\} \quad (12.10)$$

When water compartments are not considered, this equation is evaluated every hour time step, whereas it is evaluated every 1s with water compartments, as part of the constitutive equations (see 10.4.2).

For simulations of less than one year one can use **cavitationRefill** = "none" to keep track of the maximum drought stress. However, for simulations of several years, it is normally advisable to allow recovery. If **cavitation** = "annual",  $PLC_{stem,i}$  values are set to zero at the beginning of each year, assuming that embolized plants overcome the conductance loss by creating new xylem tissue. Finally, if **cavitationRefill** = "rate" the model simulates stem refilling at daily steps as a function of symplasmic water potential. First, a daily recovery rate ( $r_{refill}$ ; in  $cm^2 \cdot m^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$ ) is estimated as a function of  $\Psi_{symp,stem}$ :

$$r_{refill}(\Psi_{symp,stem}) = r_{max,refill} \cdot \max\{0.0, (\Psi_{symp,stem} + 1.5)/1.5\} \quad (12.11)$$

Where  $r_{max,refill}$  is the control parameter **refillMaximumRate** indicating a maximum refill rate. The right part of the equation normalizes the water potential, so that  $r_{refill} = r_{refill,max}$  if  $\Psi_{symp,stem} = 0$  and  $r_{refill} = 0$  if  $\Psi_{symp,stem} \leq -1.5MPa$ . The proportion of conductance lost is then updated using:

$$PLC_{stem,i} = \max\{0.0, PLC_{stem,i} - (r_{refill}/H_v)\} \quad (12.12)$$

where  $H_v$  is the Huber value in units of  $cm^2 \cdot m^{-2}$ .

# Chapter 13

## Closing energy balances

In chapter 9 we described the details of radiation energy transfer. Transpiration is an important latent heat component of the energy balance, and the details of how plant transpiration is determined were given in chapters 10, 11 and 12. This chapter explains how to calculate the remaining components of the canopy energy balance, while distinguishing between assuming a single-layer canopy or considering a multiple-layer canopy.

### 13.1 Single-layer canopy

The first part of the section describes the calculation of latent heat and convective energy exchanges between the soil, canopy and atmosphere layers. These are the remaining energy components that are needed to close the energy balances of the canopy (eq. (7.4)) and soil layers (eqs. (7.6) and (7.7)). Temperature changes applied to the canopy and soil layers are also described.

#### 13.1.1 Latent heat

Canopy exchanges of latent heat include latent heat exchanged from plant transpiration and evaporation of rain intercepted by the canopy. In the single-layer canopy energy balance, latent heat exchange for the whole canopy ( $LE_{can}$ ; in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is calculated as:

$$LE_{can} = \lambda_v(T_{can}) \cdot \left( \frac{In_t + \sum_{i=1}^c Tr_{i,t}}{\Delta t_{step}} \right) \quad (13.1)$$

where  $\lambda_v(T_{can})$  is the latent heat of vaporization at temperature  $T_{can}$  (in  $J \cdot kg^{-1}$ ),  $Tr_{i,t}$  is the amount (in  $mm = kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) of transpiration for cohort  $i$  during time step  $t$  (12.6), and  $In_t$  is the amount of intercepted water evaporated from the canopy for time step  $t$  (total daily interception  $In$  is divided into timesteps according to the proportion of shortwave radiation absorbed by the canopy at each time step).

The latent heat exchange between the soil and the atmosphere ( $LE_{soil}$ ; in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ) comes either from water evaporated from the soil surface or snow melting (both in  $mm = kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ). They do not occur simultaneously, but can be expressed in the same equation:

$$LE_{soil} = \lambda_v(T_{soil}) \cdot \left( \frac{Es_t + \lambda_f \cdot Sm_t}{\Delta t_{step}} \right) \quad (13.2)$$

where  $\lambda_v(T_{soil})$  is the latent heat of vaporization at temperature  $T_{soil}$  and  $\lambda_f = 0.33355 J \cdot kg^{-1}$  is the latent heat of fusion. As before, daily evaporation from bare soil ( $Es$ ) and snow melt water equivalent ( $Sm$ ) are divided into time steps according to the proportion of shortwave radiation absorbed by the soil layer each step.

### 13.1.2 Convective energy

Convective energy fluxes between atmosphere and the canopy ( $H_{can,atm}$ ) and between the canopy and the soil ( $H_{can,soil}$ ) are determined as follows:

$$H_{can,atm} = \frac{\rho_{atm} \cdot c_p}{r_{can,atm}} \cdot (T_{can} - T_{atm}) \quad (13.3)$$

$$H_{can,soil} = \frac{\rho_{can} \cdot c_p}{r_{can,soil}} \cdot (T_{can} - T_{soil,1}) \quad (13.4)$$

where  $\rho_{atm}$  and  $\rho_{can}$  are the air density above-canopy and inside-canopy, respectively, calculated from the corresponding temperatures (see utility functions in meteoland reference manual);  $c_p = 1013.86 \text{ J} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$  is the specific heat capacity of the air.  $r_{can,atm}$  and  $r_{can,soil}$  are the atmosphere-canopy and canopy-soil aerodynamic resistances (in  $\text{s} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$ ). These, in turn, are calculated using the FAO56 calculation procedure and canopy height, total LAI and above-canopy and below-canopy wind speeds. Wind speed below the canopy is calculated as explained in 22.2 assuming a height of 2 m.

### 13.1.3 Canopy temperature changes

After evaluating the canopy energy balance equation (7.4) one has to translate energy balance into temperature variation of the canopy. Rearranging the same equation and expressing it in discrete time steps we have:

$$\Delta T_{can} = \Delta t_{step} \cdot \frac{K_{abs,can} + L_{net,can} - LE_{can} - H_{can,atm} - H_{can,soil}}{TC_{can}} \quad (13.5)$$

where  $TC_{can}$  is the canopy thermal capacitance (in  $\text{J} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$ ) and  $\Delta t_{step} = 86400/n_t$  is the size of the time step in seconds. Canopy thermal capacitance depends on the leaf area index of the stand:

$$TC_{can} = TC_{LAI} \cdot \frac{0.8 \cdot LAI_{stand} + 1.2 \cdot (LAI_{stand}^{phi} + LAI_{stand}^{dead})}{2} \quad (13.6)$$

where  $TC_{LAI}$  is the thermal capacitance per LAI unit, which is specified by the control parameter `thermalCapacityLAI`. By using both the maximum leaf area of the stand,  $LAI_{stand}$ , and its current live/dead leaf area ( $LAI_{stand}^{phi} + LAI_{stand}^{dead}$ ) it is assumed that part of thermal capacitance corresponds to stems and branches, so that capacitance does not drop to zero for deciduous canopies.

### 13.1.4 Soil temperature changes

Analogously to the canopy, the change in temperature for a given soil layer  $s$  in the current time step is given by rearranging eq. (7.7):

$$\Delta T_{soil,s} = \Delta t_{step} \cdot \frac{G_{s-1,s} - G_{s,s+1}}{C_{soil,s}} \quad (13.7)$$

where the energy balance on each soil layer  $s$  depends on the balance between energy coming from above ( $G_{s-1,s}$ ) and energy going to below ( $G_{s,s+1}$ ) and  $C_{soil,s}$ , the thermal capacitance of soil layer  $s$ . Energy inflow to the first (uppermost) layer (i.e.  $G_{0,1}$ ) is the result of energy exchanges between the soil layer and the canopy and atmosphere, i.e. from eq. (7.6):

$$G_{0,1} = K_{soil} + L_{net,soil} + H_{can,soil} - LE_{soil} \quad (13.8)$$

Heat conduction between layers  $s$  and  $s+1$  (i.e.  $G_{s,s+1}$ ) depend on the soil temperature gradient (see function `soil_temperatureGradient()`):

$$G_{s,s+1} = \lambda_{soil,s} \cdot \frac{\delta T_{soil,s}}{\delta z} = \lambda_{soil,s} \cdot \frac{T_{soil,s} - T_{soil,s+1}}{(Z_{s-1} - Z_{s+1})/2} \quad (13.9)$$

where  $Z_{s-1}$  and  $Z_{s+1}$  are expressed in  $m$  and  $\lambda_{soil,s}$  is the *thermal conductivity* of layer  $s$ , calculated from soil moisture and texture following Dharssi *et al.* (2009) (see function `soil_thermalconductivity()`). The gradient in the lowermost layer is calculated assuming a temperature of the earth (at 10 m) of 15.5 Celsius.

Finally,  $C_{soil,s}$  the thermal capacitance of soil layer  $s$  is calculated as:

$$C_{soil,s} = VTC_{soil,s} \cdot d_s \quad (13.10)$$

where  $d_s$  is the soil width of layer  $s$  (expressed in  $m$ ) and  $VTC_s$  is the *volumetric thermal capacity* of soil layer  $s$  (in  $J \cdot m^{-3} \cdot K^{-1}$ ), calculated from soil moisture and texture following a simplification of Cox *et al.* (1999) (see function `soil_thermalcapacity()`).

## 13.2 Multi-layer canopy

A multi-layer canopy energy balance requires the calculation of sensible heat and latent heat exchanges between the air in each canopy layer and the leaves it contains. In addition, one has to consider heat exchanges between each layer and the ones below/above, derived from turbulent flow.

### 13.2.1 Latent heat

The latent heat for a given canopy layer  $j$  ( $LE_j$ ; in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ) includes transpiration and evaporation of intercepted rain, and is estimated analogously to the single-canopy case (eq. (13.1)):

$$LE_j = \lambda_v(T_{air,j}) \cdot \left( \frac{In_{j,t}}{\Delta t_{step}} + E_{j,t} \right) \quad (13.11)$$

where  $\lambda_v(T_{air,j})$  is the latent heat of vaporization at temperature  $T_{air,j}$  (in  $J \cdot kg^{-1}$ ),  $In_{j,t}$  is the intercepted water that is evaporated from the canopy layer, determined by dividing  $In_t$  among canopy layers according to the fraction of total LAI in each one:

$$In_{j,t} = In_t \cdot \frac{\sum_{i=1}^c LAI_{i,j}^\phi}{LAI_{stand}^\phi} \quad (13.12)$$

and  $E_{j,t}$  is the instantaneous transpiration rate in layer  $j$  (in  $kg H_2O \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$ ), given by:

$$E_{j,t} = 10^{-3} \cdot 0.01802 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^c E_{i,t}^{sunlit} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit} + E_{i,t}^{shade} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{shade} \quad (13.13)$$

where  $E_{i,t}^{sunlit}$  and  $E_{i,t}^{shade}$  are the instantaneous transpiration rates (in  $mmol H_2O \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$ ) of sunlit and shade leaves, respectively, of cohort  $i$  during time step  $t$ ; and  $LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit}$  and  $LAI_{i,j}^{shade}$  are the leaf area index of sunlit and shade leaves, respectively, of cohort  $i$  in layer  $j$  (9.5).

Latent heat derived from soil water evaporation of snow melting ( $LE_{soil}$ ; in  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is estimated as in the single-canopy case, using eq. (13.2).

### 13.2.2 Sensible heat between leaves and the canopy air space

The sensible heat exchanged between the air of canopy layer  $j$  and the leaves within it ( $H_{leaf,j}$ ;  $W \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is obtained using:

$$H_{leaf,j} = \sum_{i=1}^c LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit} \cdot H_{i,j}^{sunlit} + LAI_{i,j}^{shade} \cdot H_{i,j}^{shade} \quad (13.14)$$

where  $LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit}$  and  $LAI_{i,j}^{shade}$  are the leaf area index of sunlit and shade leaves of plant cohort  $i$  in layer  $j$ , respectively (see eq. (9.5)).  $H_{i,j}^{sunlit}$  and  $H_{i,j}^{shade}$  are the sensible heat exchange between layer  $j$  and sunlit or shade leaves of cohort  $i$  (Ma & Liu 2019):

$$H_{i,j}^{sunlit} = -2 \cdot C_p \cdot (T_{leaf,i}^{sunlit} - T_{air,j}) \cdot g_{Ha,i,j} \quad (13.15)$$

$$H_{i,j}^{shade} = -2 \cdot C_p \cdot (T_{leaf,i}^{shade} - T_{air,j}) \cdot g_{Ha,i,j} \quad (13.16)$$

where  $T_{leaf,i}^{sunlit}$  and  $T_{leaf,i}^{shade}$  are, respectively, the sunlit and shade leaf temperatures for cohort  $i$  (determined using eq. (11.1));  $T_{air,j}$  is the current air temperature in canopy layer  $j$ ,  $C_p = 29.37152 J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot ^\circ C^{-1}$  is the specific heat capacity of dry air at constant pressure; and  $g_{Ha,i,j}$  is the leaf boundary layer conductance for heat ( $mol \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$ ) for leaves of cohort  $i$  and wind speed in layer  $j$  (see eq. (11.3)).

### 13.2.3 Turbulent heat exchange

Turbulent heat exchanges occur between the soil and the bottom canopy layer (i.e.  $j = 1$ ):

$$H_{1,soil} = \frac{\rho_1 \cdot c_p}{r_{1,soil}} \cdot (T_{air,1} - T_{soil,1}) \quad (13.17)$$

where  $c_p = 1013.86 J \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot ^\circ C^{-1}$  is the specific heat capacity of the air,  $\rho_1$  is the air density at  $j = 1$ ,  $T_{air,1}$  is the air temperature of layer 1,  $T_{soil,1}$  is the temperature of the top soil layer and  $r_{1,soil}$  is the aerodynamic resistance between the soil and canopy layer 1 (in  $s \cdot m^{-1}$ ). The bottom layer also have turbulent heat exchanges with the layer above, determined by the canopy turbulence model. The turbulent heat flux gradient for layer  $j = 1$  is:

$$(\delta F_H / \delta z)_1 = \frac{-c_p \cdot \rho_1 \cdot (T_{air,2} - T_{air,1}) \cdot \bar{u} \bar{w}_1}{\Delta z \cdot (\delta u / \delta z)_1} - H_{1,soil} \quad (13.18)$$

where  $\Delta z$  is the size of vertical layers (in  $m$ ); and  $(\delta u / \delta z)_1$  and  $\bar{u} \bar{w}_1$  are the wind speed gradient and Reynolds stress at  $j = 1$ .

For all intermediate layers (i.e.  $1 < j < l$ ) we have turbulent exchanges with the neighboring layers  $j - 1$  and  $j + 1$ , which results in the following turbulent heat flux gradient:

$$(\delta F_H / \delta z)_j = \frac{-c_p \cdot \rho_j \cdot (T_{air,j+1} - T_{air,j-1}) \cdot \bar{u} \bar{w}_j}{2 \cdot \Delta z \cdot (\delta u / \delta z)_j} \quad (13.19)$$

And, finally, the topmost layer (i.e.  $j = l$ ) has turbulent heat exchanges with the layer below  $l - 1$  and the atmosphere, so that:

$$(\delta F_H / \delta z)_l = \frac{-c_p \cdot \rho_l \cdot (T_{atm} - T_{air,l-1}) \cdot \bar{u} \bar{w}_l}{2 \cdot \Delta z \cdot (\delta u / \delta z)_l} \quad (13.20)$$

### 13.2.4 Canopy and soil temperature changes

Evaluation of the canopy layer energy balance equation (7.5) is done taking into account that sensible heat exchange for a given layer  $j$  includes heat exchange with leaves (i.e.  $H_{leaf,j}$ ) and the turbulent heat flux gradient (i.e.  $(\delta F_H / \delta z)_j$ ), so that the variation of air temperature in layer  $j$  for a given time interval  $\Delta t_{substep}$  is:

$$\Delta T_{air,j} = \Delta t_{substep} \cdot \frac{K_{abs,j} + L_{net,j} - LE_j + H_{leaf,j} + (\delta F_H / \delta z)_j}{TC_j} \quad (13.21)$$

where  $TC_j$  is the thermal capacitance of canopy layer  $j$  (in  $J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$ ), found analogously to  $TC_{can}$  (eq. (13.6)):

$$TC_j = TC_{LAI} \cdot \frac{0.8 \cdot LAI_j + 1.2 \cdot (LAI_j^{phi} + LAI_j^{dead})}{2} \quad (13.22)$$

$\Delta t_{substep}$  is the time step for closing the energy balance, which has to be smaller than  $\Delta t_{step}$  to avoid numerical instabilities due to turbulent flow.

When simulating a multiple-layer energy balance, we have to replace  $H_{can,soil}$  by  $H_{1,soil}$  in the energy inflow of soil layer 1: (13.8):

$$G_{0,1} = K_{soil} + L_{net,soil} + H_{1,soil} - LE_{soil} \quad (13.23)$$

Soil temperature changes are estimated in the same way as for single-canopy energy balance, except that a smaller temporal step is used:

$$\Delta T_{soil,s} = \Delta t_{substep} \cdot \frac{G_{s-1,s} - G_{s,s+1}}{C_{soil,s}} \quad (13.24)$$

### 13.2.5 Within-canopy changes in water vapor and $CO_2$

Multi-layer canopy energy balance also entails the possibility of considering gradients of scalars such as water vapor or  $CO_2$ . Analogously to the turbulent heat exchange, wind turbulence leads to changes in concentration of water vapor or  $CO_2$  within canopy layers. In addition, plant physiology also alters the concentration of these gases through transpiration in photosynthesis. To model temporal changes in these scalars for canopy layers, we first have to estimate  $CO_2$  concentration in  $mg \cdot m^{-3}$  and  $H_2O$  concentration in  $kg \cdot m^{-3}$  from  $C_{air,j}$  (ppm) and  $e_{air,j}$  (kPa) using:

$$[CO_2]_j = 0.409 \cdot 44.01 \cdot C_{air,j} \quad (13.25)$$

$$[H_2O]_j = 0.622 \cdot \frac{e_{air,j} \cdot \rho_j}{P_{atm}} \quad (13.26)$$

The one-dimensional scalar flux balance for an homogeneous turbulent flow can be described by the following conservation equations (Lai *et al.* 2000):

$$(\delta[CO_2]/\delta t)_j = (\delta F_{[CO_2]}/\delta z)_j + S_{[CO_2],j} \quad (13.27)$$

$$(\delta[H_2O]/\delta t)_j = (\delta F_{[H_2O]}/\delta z)_j + S_{[H_2O],j} \quad (13.28)$$

where  $(\delta F_{[CO_2]}/\delta z)_j$  and  $(\delta F_{[H_2O]}/\delta z)_j$  are the gradients of vertical flux of  $CO_2$  and  $H_2O$  in layer  $j$ , respectively; and  $S_{[H_2O],j}$  and  $S_{[CO_2],j}$  are the source strengths for  $[H_2O]$  (in  $kg H_2O \cdot m^{-3} \cdot s^{-1}$ ) and  $[CO_2]$  (in  $mg CO_2 \cdot m^{-3} \cdot s^{-1}$ ) in layer  $j$ , respectively, which derive from transpiration (source of water) and photosynthesis (sink of  $CO_2$ ):

$$S_{[H_2O],j} = \frac{(In_{j,t}/\Delta t) + E_{j,t}}{\Delta z} \quad (13.29)$$

$$S_{[CO_2],j} = -\frac{A_{n,j,t}}{\Delta z} \quad (13.30)$$

where  $E_{j,t}$  and  $A_{n,j,t}$  are the instantaneous transpiration and photosynthesis rates in layer  $j$ . The former was already defined in eq. (13.13), whereas the latter ( $A_{n,j,t}$  in  $mg CO_2 \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$ ) is defined analogously:

$$A_{n,j,t} = 10^{-3} \cdot 44.01 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^c A_{n,i,t}^{sunlit} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit} + A_{n,i,t}^{shade} \cdot LAI_{i,j}^{shade} \quad (13.31)$$

where  $A_{n,i,t}^{sunlit}$  and  $A_{n,i,t}^{shade}$  are the instantaneous net photosynthesis rates (in  $\mu mol CO_2 \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$ ) of sunlit and shade leaves, respectively, of cohort  $i$  during time step  $t$ ; and  $LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit}$  and  $LAI_{i,j}^{shade}$  are the leaf area index of sunlit and shade leaves, respectively of cohort  $i$  in layer  $j$  (9.5). For the special case of the lowest canopy layer, water vapor needs to include the evaporation from soil, i.e.:

$$S_{[H_2O],1} = \frac{((In_{1,t} + E_{s,t})/\Delta t) + E_{1,t}}{\Delta z} \quad (13.32)$$

For any layer  $1 < j < l$  the gradients of vertical scalar fluxes are found using:

$$(\delta F_{[H_2O]}/\delta z)_j = -\frac{c_p \cdot \rho_j \cdot ([H_2O]_{j+1} - [H_2O]_{j-1}) \cdot u\bar{w}_j}{2 \cdot \Delta z \cdot (\delta u/\delta z)_j} \quad (13.33)$$

$$(\delta F_{[CO_2]}/\delta z)_j = -\frac{c_p \cdot \rho_j \cdot ([CO_2]_{j+1} - [CO_2]_{j-1}) \cdot u\bar{w}_j}{2 \cdot \Delta z \cdot (\delta u/\delta z)_j} \quad (13.34)$$

whereas for the bottom layer ( $j = 1$ ) we have:

$$(\delta F_{[H_2O]}/\delta z)_1 = -\frac{c_p \cdot \rho_1 \cdot ([H_2O]_2 - [H_2O]_1) \cdot u\bar{w}_1}{\Delta z \cdot (\delta u/\delta z)_1} \quad (13.35)$$

$$(\delta F_{[CO_2]}/\delta z)_1 = -\frac{c_p \cdot \rho_1 \cdot ([CO_2]_2 - [CO_2]_1) \cdot u\bar{w}_1}{\Delta z \cdot (\delta u/\delta z)_1} \quad (13.36)$$

and for the top layer ( $j = l$ ) we have:

$$(\delta F_{[H_2O]}/\delta z)_l = -\frac{c_p \cdot \rho_l \cdot ([H_2O]_{atm} - [H_2O]_{l-1}) \cdot u\bar{w}_l}{2 \cdot \Delta z \cdot (\delta u/\delta z)_l} \quad (13.37)$$

$$(\delta F_{[CO_2]}/\delta z)_l = -\frac{c_p \cdot \rho_l \cdot ([CO_2]_{atm} - [CO_2]_{l-1}) \cdot u\bar{w}_l}{2 \cdot \Delta z \cdot (\delta u/\delta z)_l} \quad (13.38)$$

Equation (13.28) is solved via discretization both in terms of space (vertical layers) and time, the latter using  $\Delta t_{substep}$  as for the energy balance.



# Chapter 14

## Day-level results

In the preceeding chapters we detailed how the model performs canopy and soil energy balances for subdaily time steps and how transpiration and photosynthesis values are determined for any given substep. This chapter indicates how these are aggregated at the daily scale and how other day-level model outputs are calculated.

### 14.1 Photosynthesis and transpiration

Cohort's transpiration  $Tr_{i,t}$  (eq. (12.6)) are added across subdaily steps to yield daily transpiration ( $Tr_i$ , in  $mm\ H_2O$ ):

$$Tr_i = \sum_{t=1}^{n_t} Tr_{i,t} \quad (14.1)$$

An the same for water extraction  $Ex_{i,s,t}$  for each soil layer  $s$  (eq.(12.7)):

$$Ex_{i,s} = \sum_{t=1}^{n_t} Ex_{i,s,t} \quad (14.2)$$

$Ex_{i,s}$  are subtracted from the water content of the corresponding soil layer, closing the soil water balance of the day (eq. (7.1)).

Daily values of net carbon assimilation for plant cohorts are obtained similarly.  $A_{n,i,t}$  (eq. (12.9)) are added across subdaily steps to obtain  $A_{n,i}$ , the daily net assimilation at the cohort level (in  $g\ C\ m^{-2}$ ):

$$A_{n,i} = \sum_{t=1}^{n_t} A_{n,i,t} \quad (14.3)$$

### 14.2 Plant water potentials and relative water contents

Because the model determines optimum transpiration for every subdaily time step, this leads to a daily sequence of leaf water potential ( $\Psi_{leaf,i,t}$ ), stem water potential ( $\Psi_{stem,i,t}$ ), root crown water potential ( $\Psi_{rootcrown,i,t}$ ) and root surface water potential ( $\Psi_{rootcrown,i,s,t}$ ) values for each plant cohort  $i$  (and soil layer  $s$  in the last case). The model defines the following daily water potentials for every cohort  $i$ :

- *Pre-dawn leaf water potential* ( $\Psi_{pd,i}$ ): the maximum of  $\Psi_{leaf,i,t}$  values.
- *Pre-dawn shade leaf water potential* ( $\Psi_{pd,i}^{shade}$ ): the maximum of  $\Psi_{leaf,i,t}^{shade}$  values.

- *Pre-dawn sunlit leaf water potential* ( $\Psi_{pd,i}^{sunlit}$ ): the maximum of  $\Psi_{leaf,i,t}^{sunlit}$  values.
- *Mid-day leaf water potential* ( $\Psi_{md,i}$ ): the minimum of  $\Psi_{leaf,i,t}$  values.
- *Mid-day shade leaf water potential* ( $\Psi_{md,i}^{shade}$ ): the minimum of  $\Psi_{leaf,i,t}^{shade}$  values.
- *Mid-day sunlit leaf water potential* ( $\Psi_{md,i}^{sunlit}$ ): the minimum of  $\Psi_{leaf,i,t}^{sunlit}$  values.
- *Stem water potential* ( $\Psi_{stem,i}$ ): the minimum of  $\Psi_{stem,i,t}$  values.
- *Root-crown water potential* ( $\Psi_{rootcrown,i}$ ): the minimum of  $\Psi_{rootcrown,i,t}$  values.
- *Root surface water potentials* ( $\Psi_{rootsurf,i,s}$ ): the minimum of  $\Psi_{rootsurf,i,s,t}$  values for each soil layer  $s$ .

Analogously, relative water content of stems and leaves is known for every subdaily time step, which results in a daily sequence of leaf relative water content ( $RWC_{leaf,i,t}$ ) and stem relative water content ( $RWC_{stem,i,t}$ ). These are summarized at the daily level for each plant cohort  $i$ :

- *Leaf relative water content* ( $RWC_{leaf,i}$ ): the mean  $RWC_{leaf,i,t}$  values.
- *Stem relative water content* ( $RWC_{stem,i}$ ): the mean of  $RWC_{stem,i,t}$  values.

Finally, the daily sequence of slopes of the supply function ( $dE/d\Psi_{i,t}$ ) is also averaged at the daily level:

- *Slope of the supply function* ( $dE/d\Psi_i$ ): the mean  $dE/d\Psi_{i,t}$  values.

### 14.3 Plant drought stress

In order to have an estimate of daily drought stress for the plant cohort, the model uses the stem vulnerability curve of the plant to find the conductance relative to maximum stem conductance and turns it into its complement:

$$DDS_i = \phi_i \cdot \left( 1.0 - \frac{k_{stem,i}(\Psi_{rootcrown,i})}{k_{max\ stem,i}} \right) = \phi_i \cdot \left( 1.0 - e^{-(\Psi_{rootcrown,i}/d_{stem})^{c_{stem}}} \right) \quad (14.4)$$

where  $\phi_i$  is the leaf phenological status. Note the use of  $\Psi_{rootcrown,i}$  (and not  $\Psi_{leaf,i}$ ) to determine drought stress index. Thus the model tracks the degree of conductance decrease at the beginning of the stem as a measure of drought stress. This choice makes daily drought stress values of the Simple and Complex transpiration modes more comparable (because leaf mid-day water potentials are usually much more negative than soil water potentials) and is a sensible choice if one wants to run the model in irreversible cavitation mode (see below).

## Part IV

# Forest growth modelling



# Chapter 15

## Forest growth model

This chapter provides an overview of a forest growth model, which builds on the previous two models and allows simulating carbon and water balance as well as growth and mortality on a daily step basis for a given forest stand and for the period corresponding to input weather data. The model is run using function `growth()`, for a set of days, or function `growth_day()`, for a single day.

The forest growth model can be run in two different levels of complexity, depending on the water balance submodel employed (basic and advanced, corresponding to chapters 3 and 7). In this and the following chapters, we indicate those design and formulation elements where the forest growth model building on the basic water balance differs from that building on the advanced one.

The information provided in the current chapter should be enough to understand what the growth model does, but the reading previous chapters and the following ones should provide a more detailed understanding on how the different processes are designed and formulated.

### 15.1 Design principles

#### 15.1.1 Overview

Like in the preceding models, the physical structure of the stand is represented in one (vertical) dimension (i.e. the horizontal coordinates of plants are not explicit). The model is *cohort-based*, meaning that similar plant individuals are represented using a single entity with average characteristics (e.g. tree height and diameter at breast height) and a density variable is used to scale from individual level to the cohort level. Processes are performed either at the cohort level (water balance, photosynthesis, or plant mortality) or at the “average” individual level (carbon balance, tissue growth and senescence). Water fluxes, soil water balance and plant photosynthesis processes follow the design of the soil water balance model and will not be repeated here (see chapters 3 and 7). The growth model tries to reproduce the physiological processes that modulate leaf area changes, sapwood area changes and fine root area changes (the latter only under the advanced water balance submodel), while accounting for both source and sink limitations to tissue growth. Formation of new sapwood leads to diameter and height increases, so that physiological processes involve structural changes. Since the model does not implement all processes and drivers (such as nutrient availability) potentially affecting growth, user input parameters are used to empirically constrain growth rates and plant size, i.e. maximum relative sapwood area growth rates, maximum plant height and diameter-height ratios. The forest growth model also implements tree mortality, which reduces cohort density. A baseline mortality rate is incremented either because of exhaustion of carbon reserves (i.e. plant starvation) or dehydration of plant tissues (i.e. plant desiccation).

### 15.1.2 Carbon compartments, transport and carbon balance

Three *carbon compartments* are considered separately: **leaves**, **sapwood** (including stem, branches and coarse roots) and **fine roots**. Each compartments has one or more *carbon pools* where carbon is in different form. Carbon pools are differentiated between **structural** and **labile**. In turn, labile carbon involves **metabolic** and **storage** (Richardson *et al.* 2013; Dietze *et al.* 2014), with a conversion rate regulated by the need to maintain, as much as possible, an equilibrium in the amount of metabolic carbon to sustain cell metabolism and for osmotic purposes.

Details of the carbon pools in different compartments are as follows (Fig. 15.1):

- **Structural carbon** corresponds carbon forming cell membranes, cell walls and the cytosolic machinery (in the case of living cells). The amount of structural carbon in a given compartment is used to determine *maintenance respiration* costs (together with labile carbon), and the structural carbon per tissue unit determines *growth respiration* costs. Structural carbon occurs in the three compartments, *leaves*, *sapwood* and *fine roots*, which however have different maintenance and growth costs. Sapwood carbon includes branches, stem and coarse roots. Only live (parenchymatic) sapwood cells, accounting for between 5 and 40% of sapwood volume (Plavcová & Jansen 2015), contribute to estimate sapwood maintenance respiration costs. Structural carbon is lost via tissue senescence (in the case of sapwood due to conversion to heartwood).
- **Metabolic carbon** is a labile carbon form assumed to correspond to **sugars** (e.g., glucose or fructose) used to sustain cell functioning (i.e. provide carbon for maintenance respiration). Moreover, changes in metabolic carbon are coupled to variations in osmotic potential. Metabolic carbon occurs in leaves and sapwood compartments only. *Leaf metabolic carbon* is generated from photosynthesis or leaf starch degradation and used in different functions, including leaf maintenance respiration and export to sapwood via phloem transport. An excess of leaf metabolic carbon can inhibit photosynthesis. Sugar concentration in the phloem is assumed to be (passively) in equilibrium with leaf metabolic sugar concentration. *Sapwood metabolic carbon* comes from phloem transport, or sapwood starch degradation, and is used to directly sustain maintenance respiration of sapwood and fine roots.
- **Storage carbon** is a labile carbon form assumed to loosely correspond to **starch**. *Leaf storage carbon* is intended to represent short-term storage (mainly starch within chloroplasts) and its inclusion in the model follows the need to buffer daily variations in leaf metabolic carbon as well as in the corresponding leaf osmotic potential. *Sapwood storage carbon* in parenchymatic tissues of branches, stems and coarse roots conforms a much larger carbon pool and is intended to serve as carbon source for growth and long-term (seasonal and inter-annual) storage (Plavcová & Jansen 2015).

Different processes contribute to the carbon balance of structural and labile compartments:

- Carbon balance of **labile carbon pools** is performed by considering **photosynthesis**, **maintenance respiration**, **growth costs**, **sugar-starch conversion**, **root exudation** and **phloem transport**. Photosynthesis estimates come from the water balance submodel. Growth carbon costs and maintenance respiration rates are calculated at the individual level, by estimating the respiration of leaves, sapwood and fine root compartments. Maintenance respiration of leaves and sapwood depends on both structural and metabolic carbon, whereas only structural carbon counts for fine root maintenance respiration because they lack labile carbon pools. Sapwood maintenance respiration and growth costs depend on sapwood area, stem height and coarse root length. Any surplus in leaf or sapwood storage carbon is assumed to be diverted towards **root exudation**. Hence, root exudation is not a process competing for metabolic carbon, but only a consequence of plant C storage capacity being surpassed (Prescott *et al.* 2020).
- Biomass balance in **structural pools** comes from the interplay between **growth** (i.e. new tissue formation) and **senescence** (see below). Structural growth rates are lower than growth costs for labile pools, since growth costs also include growth respiration costs. During leaf senescence it is assumed that non-structural carbon sources (i.e. labile carbon pools) are recycled and relocated to sapwood storage. Analogously, when sapwood is converted into heartwood, labile carbon in the protoplasm of parenchyma cells is assumed to be re-absorbed by neighboring living cells as storage (Spicer 2005).

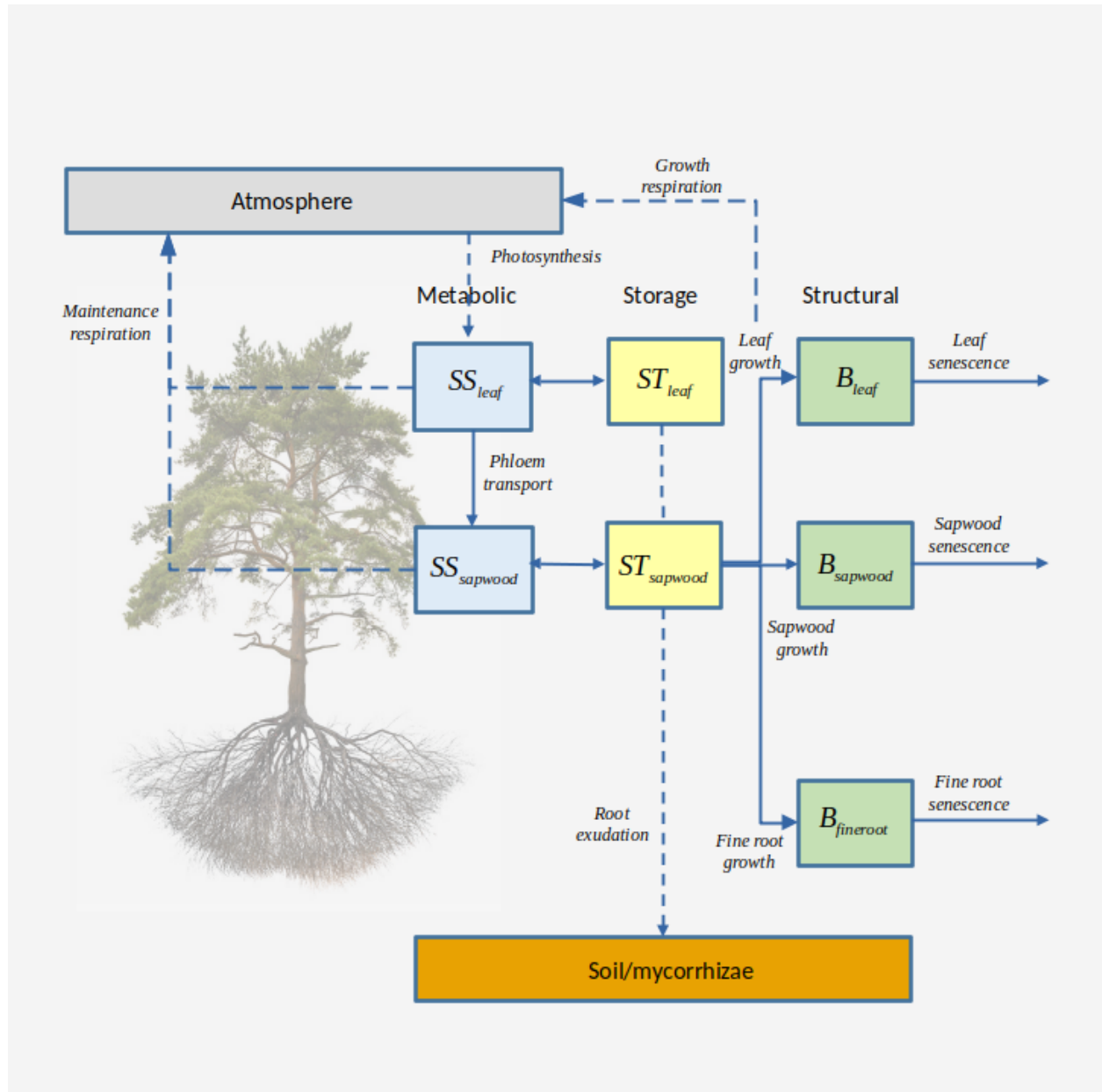


Figure 15.1: Schematic representation of carbon compartments, carbon pools and carbon balance components (translocation of reserves during senescence not included)

Further design details and formulation regarding the estimation of carbon pool sizes and carbon balance components are given in chapter 16.

### 15.1.3 Tissue growth, senescence and allocation

The forest growth model allows simulating the variation of leaf area, sapwood area and fine root area via the following processes:

- i. **Leaf growth:** Whereas in the water balance models expanded leaf area corresponded to the portion of live leaf area that was unfolded according to the phenological status (see 4.1), in the growth model expanded leaf area results from explicit simulation of growth. However, leaf phenology submodel still controls the duration of phenophases corresponding budburst, leaf development and senescence. Leaf area growth occurs during *leaf unfolding* periods only, whereas *bud formation* periods are required to update the target leaf area (in accordance to an allocation strategy, see below).
- ii. **Leaf senescence:** Leaf senescence (and the corresponding increases in dead leaf area) can occur in the model due to *leaf aging* in evergreen species, due to *programmed leaf senescence* in deciduous species, due to a *negative leaf metabolic carbon balance* or due to *leaf dessication* (i.e. low leaf relative water content).
- iii. **Sapwood growth:** Formation of sapwood area can only occur if unfolded leaves are present, assuming that hormonal signals controlling cambium division are mainly synthesized within leaves. Sapwood formation is modelled as a radial file of cells issued from cambium cell divisions and which progressively undergo enlargement and maturation (Friend *et al.* 2019). Volume increases of cells in the radial file are translated into ring area increases and, after comparing them to maximum ring area increases, are ultimately translated into sapwood area increases (see 17.1.3).
- iv. **Sapwood senescence:** Losses in sapwood area (i.e. conversion to heartwood) can occur via tissue *aging* (i.e. assuming a daily rate of conversion) or stem *cavitation*, which also reduces the area of sapwood that is effectively functional for water transport. Similarly to 3-PG (Landsberg & Waring 1997) we assume that the relative turnover rate of sapwood is smallest for young plants, and it increases up to a maximum value. However, recent reviews indicate that heartwood formation should be viewed as an active developmental program during which a conductive but vulnerable sapwood is transformed in a non-conductive but durable heartwood (Spicer 2005).
- v. **Fine root growth:** Fine root growth can in principle occur any time of the year (i.e. the model does not explicitly consider root phenology), but since fine root biomass targets depend on leaf area, seasonal fine root area patterns will follow phenological changes in leaf area.
- vi. **Fine root senescence:** Fine root senescence occurs via *aging* with a turnover rate depending on soil temperature.

Formation of new leaf, sapwood and fine root tissues is determined taking into account both source (i.e. sapwood storage carbon availability) and sink (i.e. biophysical constraints on plant tissue expansion) limitations (Fatichi *et al.* 2014; Guillemot *et al.* 2015; Körner 2015). Temperature and turgor sink limitations are implemented following Cabon *et al.* (2020a) and Cabon *et al.* (2020b). These authors developed their approach for tracheid production and enlargement only, whereas we apply it to different kinds of tissues. Growth controls include also the effect of detecting low levels of metabolic carbon in the stem (by default 50% of equilibrium concentration), which allows stopping growth to use available carbon for maintenance respiration.

Two options are possible regarding the **allocation** of new structural carbon to leaves vs sapwood:

1. *Stable Huber value:* In this strategy, growth of leaf area and sapwood area need are coordinated so that the ratio of sapwood area to leave area (i.e. Huber value) is in dynamic equilibrium around its initial value. To this aim, increases in leaf area are scheduled whenever the current Huber value is larger than the target (i.e. there is an excess of sapwood area). This approach is similar to the LPG model (Sitch *et al.* 2003), where different turnover rates are applied for different tissues, but then the



model tries to satisfy the pipe model (Shinozaki *et al.* 1964) by allocating C where it is more limiting. Note that in this strategy the whole-plant conductance will progressively decrease with the increase in plant height, because of the increase in the length of stem xylem pathway.

2. *Stable whole-plant conductance*: Ratios of sapwood area to leaf area (i.e. Huber values) can vary within species, due to environmental conditions (Mencuccini & Grace 1995). In this allocation strategy, growth of leaf area, sapwood area and height needs to be coordinated so that whole-plant conductance (i.e. from roots to leaves) is in dynamic equilibrium around its initial value. Increases in leaf area are scheduled whenever the current whole-plant conductance is above the target value. In this strategy, the Huber value will tend to increase with the increase in plant height, thereby increasing the sapwood respiratory demands.

Pursuing a stable Huber value is the only strategy available when running the growth model along with the basic water balance submodel, but the two strategies are possible when simulating growth along with the advance water balance. Fine root area growth is only modelled when simulating growth with advance water balance. Fine root area growth is coordinated with the formation of the other tissues via the need to ensure an *average resistance fraction in the rhizosphere*, which is used to define the fine root area target and, hence, the allocation to fine roots.

The growth rates in all three compartments are modulated by parameters specifying *maximum daily growth rates relative to the amount of sapwood area*. However, since leaf and fine root area targets are constrained by the amount of sapwood area via allocation rules, the relative growth rate for sapwood area also indirectly determines the growth rates of leaves and fine roots at seasonal and annual scales, hence determining the whole-plant growth rate.

Further details and formulation of growth, senescence and allocation are given in chapter 17.

### 15.1.4 Coordination between water and carbon balances

When using the advanced water balance submodel, the growth model allows coordinating several aspects of carbon and water balances through different state variables (Fig. 15.2):

- a. Transpiration and photosynthesis are coordinated via the *stomatal regulation* submodel (see chapter 11).
- b. Hydrostatic water potential of leaf symplastic tissues influences the turgor pressure necessary for leaf growth (17.1.2), while (metabolic) leaf sugar concentration determines changes in osmotic potential at full turgor and hence, the relative water content of leaf symplastic tissue.
- c. Analogously, water potential of stem symplastic tissues determines the turgor in the cambium and the sapwood formation rate (17.1.3), while the sugar concentration in the sapwood determines the osmotic potential at full turgor of stem symplastic tissues and its relative water content.
- d. Leaf growth and senescence influence hydraulic conductances of several tissues (fine roots, coarse root sapwood and stem sapwood), as they are defined on a leaf area basis (17.3.1).
- e. Sapwood growth and senescence influence hydraulic conductance of stems via changes in sapwood area, and indirectly those of coarse roots and the rhizosphere (17.3.1).
- f. Fine root biomass dynamics determines fine root distribution and rhizosphere conductance across soil layers (17.3.1).

### 15.1.5 Plant mortality

Multiple mechanisms determine plant survival or mortality under drought (McDowell *et al.* 2008). However, hydraulic failure is widely recognized as one of the key mechanisms of drought-induced mortality in woody plants. Lethal water potential have been defined as a critical threshold beyond which trees are unable to recover from drought, even after rewatering. Experimental work by Urli *et al.* (2013) determined that

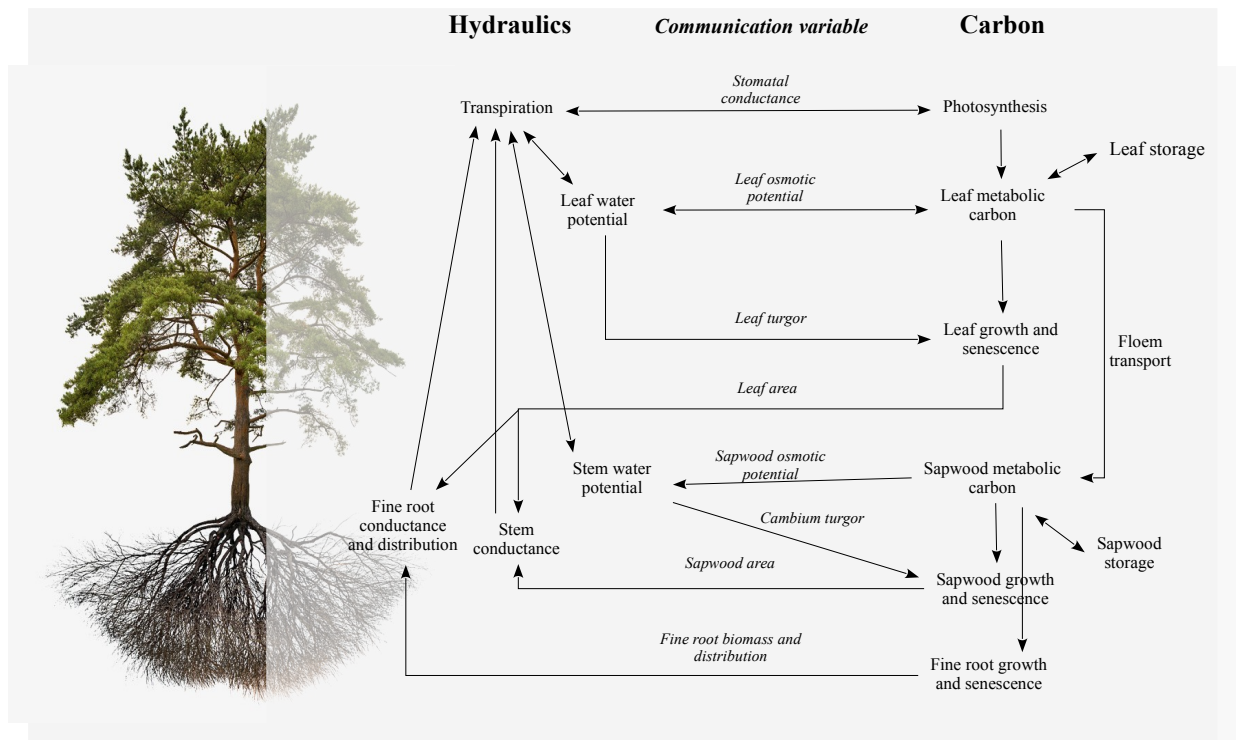


Figure 15.2: Schematic representation of relationships between water balance (advanced model) and carbon balance. Relationships within water or carbon balances have been omitted

irreversible damage in angiosperm saplings occurred only after 88% losses in stem hydraulic conductance. Similarly, Hammond *et al.* (2019) found probability of mortality to strongly increase beyond 80% of loss in hydraulic conductivity in saplings a gymnosperm species. In a multi-species synthesis, Adams *et al.* (2017) assessed found that all studied species showed at least 60% or higher loss of xylem hydraulic conductivity, whereas evidence for carbon starvation was more common for gymnosperms. While loss of hydraulic function seems ubiquitous in drought-related mortality, not all researchers agree that hydraulic failure be the primary cause of mortality. Körner (2019) argued that hydraulic failure often correlates with a critical degree of tree dehydration and that the disruption of capillary continuum from soil to the root because of soil dehydration is more important because it forces trees to drop their leaves and rely on their own water reserves. Trees will die when the symplast surpasses its dehydration tolerance, and Körner (2019) considers xylem embolism as a byproduct rather than the cause of critical tree dehydration under severe drought, so that mechanistic models should focus on the dehydration process. Other authors have stressed the importance of the interplay between water reserves and water loss rates through cuticle after stomatal closure (Blackman *et al.* 2016; Martin-StPaul *et al.* 2017). Regardless of causality, loss of hydraulic function could still be a good indicator of mortality likelihood. However, recently Martínez-Vilalta *et al.* (2019) suggested use the relative water content as an indicator of mortality risk, as it integrates several aspects related to hydraulics, stomatal responses and carbon economy during drought.

Dynamic vegetation models implement mortality processes in very different ways, from purely-empirical to process-based (Hawkes 2000; Keane *et al.* 2001; Bugmann *et al.* 2019). The fact that proximal causes of mortality are complex, co-occurring, interrelated and variable has prompted the question of whether a mechanistic approach will improve prediction ability (Adams *et al.* 2013). In medfate, woody plants are assumed to die at a constant basal rate due to processes not included in the model (e.g. biotic attacks). Importantly, mortality rates are assumed to increase whenever physiological thresholds presumed to lead to plant mortality are surpassed (Hawkes 2000). The model allows plants to die from either *starvation* (if metabolic carbon is exhausted) or *dessication* (tissue dehydration) (McDowell *et al.* 2008; McDowell 2011). Allowing for starvation is important to simulate death due to shading by other plant cohorts, whereas plant dessication is important to deal with drought impacts.

Following Martínez-Vilalta *et al.* (2019), we use the relative water content (RWC) in the stem symplastic tissues as the stress variable increasing mortality likelihood under drought. Whereas the stem symplastic pressure-volume curve is always used to determine RWC from the stem water potential, in the basic water balance model the latter is assumed to be equal to the estimated plant water potential (i.e.  $\Psi_{sym,stem} = \Psi_{plant}$ ; see 6.2.1). Moreover, in the advanced water balance model there is no distinction between stem apoplastic and symplastic (i.e. parenchymatic) water potentials (i.e.  $\Psi_{sym,stem} = \Psi_{apo,stem}$ ) unless plant water compartments are explicitly simulated. The critical threshold is specified in the control variable `mortalityRWCThreshold`, set to 30% by default. Note that most studies focus on leaf RWC, for which Kursar *et al.* (2009) indicate ranges between 16% and 61%, and Körner (2019) advocates for values around 50%.

We use the amount of metabolic sugar in the stem as indicator of starvation. Martínez-Vilalta *et al.* (2016) found that plants can have very distinct amounts of non-structural carbon concentration but minimum seasonal values are around 46% of maximum values. Accordingly, we define the indicator of starvation in relative terms (see control variable `mortalityRelativeSugarThreshold`, set to 30% by default) with respect to the stem equilibrium sugar concentration.

With respect to intra-cohort variability, the model can be run assuming that all individuals within plant cohorts are functionally equal, so that mortality applies to the entire plant cohort. Alternatively, mortality can be applied to a fraction of the plant cohort, in proportion to the mortality likelihood, which implicitly acknowledges intra-cohort differences. As common in other models, mortality process can be simulated in a deterministic or stochastic fashion.

Details of the implementation of plant mortality are given in chapter 17.

### 15.1.6 Tree diameter, tree height and shrub cover updates

Update of stand structure is conducted once every simulated year. Tree diameter increment follows the creation of sapwood area, whereas sapwood area decreases do not affect diameter, as they imply conversion to heartwood. Tree height increments are estimated from diameter increments following diameter-height ratios that are modulated by the proportion of light available to the plant cohort, as frequently done in forest gap models (Lindner *et al.* 1997). Tree crown ratios are updated using static allometric relationships, whereas shrub height and cover are estimated from new leaf area values by inverting static leaf biomass allometries.

Further details and formulation of structural update are given in chapter 17.5.

## 15.2 State variables

Many state variables are inherited by the corresponding water balance model and depend on its level of complexity (see 3.2 and 7.2). Several *cohort-level state variables* were treated as fixed parameters in the water balance models. For each plant cohort  $i$ :

- Leaf area index of live leaves,  $LAI_i^{live}$ .
- Diameter at breast height for trees,  $DBH_i$  (cohort average).
- Percent cover of shrubs,  $Cover_i$ .
- Plant height,  $H_i$  (cohort average).
- Crown ratio,  $CR_i$ .
- The proportion of fine roots,  $FRP_{i,s}$ , in each soil layer  $s$ .
- The radial length of coarse roots  $L_{radial,i,s}$  in each soil layer  $s$ .

Additional *individual-level state variables* are needed in growth model simulations:

- Sapwood area,  $SA_i$  ( $cm^2$ ).
- Leaf area,  $LA_i$  ( $m^2$ ).
- Fine root biomass  $B_{fineroot,i,s}$  ( $g\ dry$ ) in each soil layer  $s$ .
- Sugar concentration in leaves,  $SS_{leaf,i}$  ( $mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ ).
- Starch concentration in leaves,  $ST_{leaf,i}$  ( $mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ ).
- Sugar concentration in sapwood (stem, branches and coarse roots),  $SS_{sapwood,i}$  ( $mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ ).
- Starch concentration in sapwood (stem, branches and coarse roots),  $ST_{sapwood,i}$  ( $mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ ).

Note that  $LA_i$  is the same state variable as  $LAI_i^{live}$ , but expressed at the individual level, because the density of individuals in the cohort does not change during the simulation. Other functional variables can be derived from the previous state variables and, hence, do not need to be treated as state variables themselves:

- Leaf biomass ( $B_{leaf,i}$ ; in  $g\ dry$ ) from  $LA_i$ .
- Sapwood biomass ( $B_{sapwood,i}$ ; in  $g\ dry$ ) from  $SA_i$ ,  $H_i$  and  $FRP_{i,s}$  and  $L_{radial,i,s}$ .
- Leaf storage volume ( $V_{storage,leaf,i}$ ; in  $L$ ) from  $B_{leaf,i}$ .
- Sapwood storage volume ( $V_{storage,sapwood,i}$ ; in  $L$ ) from  $SA_i$ ,  $H_i$  and  $FRP_{i,s}$  and  $L_{radial,i,s}$ .
- Fine root area ( $FRA_{i,s}$ ; in  $m^2$ ) in each soil layer  $s$ , from  $B_{fineroot,i,s}$ .

Belowground variables (fine root biomass, fine root distribution and radial length of coarse roots) are only considered dynamic when simulating growth with advance water balance.

## 15.3 Mass and energy balances

### 15.3.1 Water and energy balance

Since the growth model builds on soil and plant water balance models, the water and energy balances explained in sections 3.3 or 7.3 (depending on `transpirationMode`) also hold for this model.

### 15.3.2 Labile carbon balance

The model performs daily carbon balance of *labile carbon* in leaves and sapwood (stem, branches and coarse roots) for each plant cohort. In each of these two compartments carbon balance is performed for the two labile carbon forms, dissolved sugars (i.e. *metabolic carbon*) and starch (i.e. *storage carbon*). In the following all carbon flows (i.e. the components of right hand side of equations) are assumed to be in units of  $g\text{ gluc} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$ . At the leaf level, the carbon balance equations for dissolved sugars and starch are ( $i$  subscripts omitted):

$$\Delta SS_{leaf} \cdot V_{storage,leaf} = A - M_{leaf} - F_{phloem} - SC_{leaf} - TS_{leaf} \quad (15.1)$$

$$\Delta ST_{leaf} \cdot V_{storage,leaf} = SC_{leaf} - TT_{leaf} - RE_{leaf} \quad (15.2)$$

where  $A$  is (gross) photosynthesis,  $M_{leaf}$  is leaf maintenance respiration,  $F_{phloem}$  is the sugar flow via phloem towards the stem and roots,  $SC_{leaf}$  is the conversion from leaf sugar to leaf starch,  $TS_{leaf}$  and  $TT_{leaf}$  are the translocation of leaf sugars and starch into sapwood storage, respectively, during leaf senescence (see (15.6) below) and  $RE_{leaf}$  is the root exudation of leaf carbon.

The corresponding carbon balance equations for sapwood dissolved sugars and starch are:

$$\Delta SS_{sapwood} \cdot V_{storage,sapwood} = F_{phloem} - M_{sapwood} - M_{fineroot} - G_{leaf} - G_{fineroot} \quad (15.3)$$

$$-SC_{sapwood} - TS_{sapwood} \quad (15.4)$$

$$\Delta ST_{sapwood} \cdot V_{storage,sapwood} = SC_{sapwood} + TS_{leaf} + TT_{leaf} + TS_{sapwood} \quad (15.5)$$

$$-G_{sapwood} - RE_{sapwood} \quad (15.6)$$

where  $F_{phloem}$  is the sugar inflow via phloem transport,  $M_{sapwood}$  is the sum of maintenance respiration of branches, stem and coarse roots,  $M_{fineroot}$  is the maintenance respiration of fine roots,  $G_{leaf}$ ,  $G_{sapwood}$  and  $G_{fineroot}$  are the carbon costs of forming new leaves, sapwood or fine roots (respectively),  $SC_{sapwood}$  is the conversion of sapwood sugar to sapwood starch,  $TS_{sapwood}$  is the translocation of sapwood sugars into starch during leaf senescence and  $RE_{sapwood}$  is the root exudation of sapwood carbon.

If we define  $S_{labile}$  as the total amount of labile carbon in the plant (in  $g\text{ gluc}$ ):

$$S_{labile} = (SS_{leaf} + ST_{leaf}) \cdot V_{storage,leaf} + (SS_{sapwood} + ST_{sapwood}) \cdot V_{storage,sapwood} \quad (15.7)$$

then labile carbon balance at the plant level reduces to:

$$\Delta S_{labile} = A - M - G - RE \quad (15.8)$$

where  $M = M_{leaf} + M_{sapwood} + M_{fineroot}$  is plant-level maintenance respiration,  $G = G_{leaf} + G_{sapwood} + G_{fineroot}$  is plant-level growth costs and  $RE = RE_{leaf} + RE_{sapwood}$  is plant-level root exudation.

### 15.3.3 Biomass balance

In addition to changes in labile carbon pools, the model also implements changes in the size of carbon compartments (leaves, sapwood and fine roots), as a result of the interplay between growth and senescence

processes. Hence, we can define the following structural equations:

$$\Delta B_{leaves} = B_{leaves,growth} - B_{leaves,senescence} \quad (15.9)$$

$$\Delta B_{sapwood} = B_{sapwood,growth} - B_{sapwood,senescence} \quad (15.10)$$

$$\Delta B_{fineroot} = B_{fineroot,growth} - B_{fineroot,senescence} \quad (15.11)$$

where all variables would be in units of  $g\ dry \cdot day^{-1}$ . And the following equation defines the structural biomass balance at the plant level:

$$\Delta B_{structure} = \Delta B_{leaves} + \Delta B_{sapwood} + \Delta B_{fineroot} \quad (15.12)$$

The biomass balance at the **individual level** is completed if we add the labile biomass balance to the structural biomass balance:

$$\Delta B_{plant} = \Delta B_{structure} + \Delta S_{labile} \quad (15.13)$$

At the **cohort level**, however, we need to take into account that some individuals will die, so that the biomass balance needs to incorporate mortality losses:

$$\Delta B_{cohort} = \Delta B_{plant} \cdot N_{cohort} - B_{mortality} \quad (15.14)$$

where  $N_{cohort}$  is the initial cohort density (before mortality occurred) and  $B_{mortality}$  is the biomass loss due to mortality of individuals, which in order to close the balance has to be defined as:

$$B_{mortality} = (B_{plant} + \Delta B_{plant}) \cdot N_{dead} \quad (15.15)$$

where  $N_{dead}$  is the density of dead individuals and  $B_{plant}$  is the initial plant biomass.

## 15.4 Process scheduling

Growth simulations are conducted in **daily** time steps. Depending on the transpiration mode (**Granier** or **Sperry**) the actual steps conducted are different (see subsections below).

### 15.4.1 Basic scheduling

For every day to be simulated, first executes soil water balance, transpiration and photosynthesis calculations by calling the basic water balance model (3.4). After that, the model performs the following steps for each plant cohort:

1. Determine the amount of live structural biomass (in leaves, sapwood and fine root compartments), storage volume (in leaves and sapwood) and storage capacity (16.1).
2. Calculate gross photosynthesis per individual ( $A$ ), maintenance respiration for leaves ( $M_{leaf}$ ), sapwood ( $M_{sapwood}$ ) and fine roots ( $M_{fineroot}$ ) (16.2).
3. If phenology indicates leaf unfolding, evaluate leaf temperature and turgor sink limitations, growth costs ( $G_{leaf}$ ) and leaf area increase (17.1.2).
4. If sapwood growth is permitted, evaluate sapwood temperature and turgor sink limitations, growth costs ( $G_{sapwood}$ ) and sapwood area increase (17.1.3).
5. Update changes in sugar and starch compartments due to photosynthesis, maintenance respiration and growth. Apply transfer from leaf metabolic to sapwood metabolic carbon (16.2.4) and conversions between storage and metabolic carbon (16.2.5).
6. Determine leaf senescence due to aging or cavitation effects (17.2.1).
7. Determine sapwood area senescence by aging (17.2.2).
8. Evaluate labile carbon translocation due to senescence ( $TS_{leaf}$ ,  $TT_{leaf}$  and  $TS_{sapwood}$ ), adding the resulting carbon to the starch sapwood pool.

9. Move any surplus in storage carbon to root exudation ( $RE_{leaf}$  and  $RE_{sapwood}$ ). This completes the daily carbon balance for leaf labile pools (15.2), sapwood labile pools (15.6), and plant-level labile carbon (15.8).
10. Update leaf area, sapwood area and derived variables (e.g., leaf area index and Huber value) (17.3.1).
11. Determine if plant death by starvation or desiccation occurred (17.4).
12. If phenology indicates bud formation, update the leaf area target (17.3.2).
13. Translate sapwood area growth into structural variables (i.e., plant height, tree DBH, tree crown ratio and shrub cover), (17.5) and update storage volumes and the concentration of labile pools.

### 15.4.2 Advanced scheduling

For every day to be simulated, the model first executes soil water balance, energy balance, transpiration and photosynthesis calculations in subdaily times steps, by calling the advanced water balance model (7.4). After that, the model performs the following steps for each plant cohort:

1. Determine the amount of live structural biomass (in leaves, sapwood and fine root compartments), storage volume (in leaves and sapwood) and storage capacity (16.1).
2. For every **subdaily** step, perform carbon balance as follows:
  - a. Calculate gross photosynthesis per individual ( $A$ ) and maintenance respiration for leaves ( $M_{leaf}$ ), sapwood ( $M_{sapwood}$ ) and fine roots ( $M_{fineroot}$ ), taking into account both live structural biomass and labile sugar biomass (see 16.2).
  - b. If phenology indicates leaf unfolding, evaluate temperature and turgor sink limitations for growth of leaves, estimate growth costs ( $G_{leaf}$ ) and record leaf area increases (17.1.2).
  - c. If sapwood growth is permitted, evaluate temperature and turgor sink limitations for growth of sapwood, estimate growth costs ( $G_{sapwood}$ ) and record sapwood area increases (17.1.3).
  - d. Evaluate temperature and turgor sink limitations for growth of fine roots, estimate growth costs ( $G_{fineroot}$ ) and record fine root biomass increases (17.1.4).
  - e. Evaluate phloem transport ( $F_{phloem}$ ) and sugar-starch dynamics in the leaf and sapwood compartments **at 1s time steps** (16.2.4), including photosynthesis, maintenance respiration and growth respiration as well as diversion towards root exudation if maximum leaf or sapwood starch capacity is attained ( $RE_{leaf}$  and  $RE_{sapwood}$ ). This completes the sub-daily carbon balance for plant-level labile carbon (15.8).
3. Determine leaf senescence due to aging or cavitation effects (17.2.1).
4. Determine sapwood area senescence by aging (17.2.2).
5. Evaluate labile carbon translocation due to senescence ( $TS_{leaf}$ ,  $TT_{leaf}$  and  $TS_{sapwood}$ ), adding the resulting carbon to the starch sapwood pool. This completes the daily carbon balance for leaf labile pools (15.2), sapwood labile pools (15.6).
6. Apply growth and senescence (17.2.3).
7. Update leaf area, sapwood area, fine root biomass and distribution. Update derived variables (e.g., leaf area index, Huber values, hydraulic conductance of stems, roots and rhizosphere, osmotic potential at full turgor of leaves and sapwood) (17.3.1).
8. Determine if plant death by starvation or desiccation occurred (17.4).
9. If phenology indicates bud formation, update the leaf area target (17.3.2). Update the fine root biomass target, according to the hydraulic conductance in the rhizosphere (17.3.2).
10. Translate sapwood area growth into structural variables (i.e., plant height, tree DBH, tree crown ratio and shrub cover), (17.5) and update storage volumes and the concentration of labile pools.

## 15.5 Inputs and outputs

### 15.5.1 Soil, vegetation and meteorology

#### Soil

Soil input requirements are the same as for the basic water balance model and were fully described in section 2.2. Genuchten (1980) water retention curves are forced for this model, because rhizosphere conductance is modelled using van Genuchten hydraulic equations (see subsection 10.1).

#### Vegetation

Vegetation input requirements were fully described in section 2.3. Trees and shrubs do not need to be characterized with different variables in soil water balance calculations, since both kinds of cohort have a  $LAI$  value. In most cases, users only need to estimate the leaf area index corresponding to live leaves, i.e.  $LAI^{live}$ , because one can assume no dead leaves in the canopy (i.e.,  $LAI^{dead} = 0$ ). Note that vegetation characteristics are modified by simulations in this model.

#### Meteorological input

Weather input data must include variables calculated at the **daily** scale. The variables required by function `growth()` depend on the transpiration mode, similarly to function `spwb()`. We recommend meteorological input to be generated using package **meteoland** (De Cáceres *et al.* 2018).

### 15.5.2 Vegetation functional parameters

The growth model requires many functional parameters to be specified for plant cohorts. Some of them depend on whether the basic or advanced water balance is adopted. Here we report functional parameters needed in addition to those necessary for the water balance submodel.

A first set of parameters refers to anatomical features (**paramsAnatomy**):

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$H_{max,i}$	cm	<b>Hmax</b>	Maximum plant height
$H_{med,i}$	cm	<b>Hmed</b>	Median plant height
$1/H_{v,i}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>A12As</b>	Leaf area to sapwood area ratio
$SLA_i$	$m^2 \cdot kg^{-1}$	<b>SLA</b>	Specific leaf area
$LW_i$	cm	<b>LeafWidth</b>	Leaf width
$\rho_{leaf,i}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>LeafDensity</b>	Leaf tissue density
$\rho_{wood,i}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>WoodDensity</b>	Wood tissue density
$\rho_{fineroot,i}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>FineRootDensity</b>	Fine root tissue density
$f_{conduits}$	[0-1]	<b>conduit2sapwood</b>	Proportion of sapwood corresponding to xylem conduits (the remaining corresponds to parenchymatic tissues)
$SRL$	$cm \cdot g^{-1}$	<b>SRL</b>	Specific root length
$RLD$	$cm \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>RLD</b>	Fine root length density (i.e. density of root length per soil volume)
$r_{6.35}$		<b>r635</b>	Ratio between the weight of leaves plus branches and the weight of leaves alone for branches of 6.35 mm

A second set of parameters refers to allometric coefficients needed for structural updates (**paramsAllometries**).

Symbol	Units	R param	Description
$a_{ash}$		<b>Aash</b>	Coefficient relating the square of shrub height with shrub area



Symbol	Units	R param	Description
$a_{bsh}, b_{bsh}$		Absh, Bbsh	Coefficients relating crown volume with dry weight of shrub individuals
$a_{cr}, b_{1cr}, b_{2cr}, b_{3cr}, c_{1cr}, c_{2cr}$		B1cr, B2cr, B3cr, C1cr, C2cr	Coefficients to calculate crown ratio of trees
$a_{cw}, b_{cw}$		Acw, Bcw	Regression coefficients used to calculate the crown width of trees (as intermediary step to obtain the crown ratio).

A third set of parameters refers to growth parameters (`paramsGrowth`).

Symbol	Units	R param	Description
$MR_{leaf}$	$g\ gluc \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	RERleaf	Leaf respiration rate at 20 °C
$MR_{sapwood}$	$g\ gluc \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	RERSapwood	Living sapwood (parenchymatic tissue) respiration rate at 20 °C
$MR_{fineroot}$	$g\ gluc \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	RERfineroot	Fine root respiration rate at 20 °C
$RGR_{leaf,max}$	$m^2 \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	RGRleafmax	Maximum leaf area daily growth rate, relative to sapwood area
$RGR_{sapwood,max}$	$cm^2 \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	RGRsapwoodmax	Maximum daily sapwood relative growth rate (in sapwood area basis)
$RGR_{fineroot,max}$	$g\ dry \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	RGRfinerootmax	Maximum daily fine root relative growth rate
$SR_{sapwood}$	$day^{-1}$	SRsapwood	Daily sapwood senescence rate
$SR_{fineroot}$	$day^{-1}$	SRfineroot	Daily fine root senescence rate
$f_{HD,min}$	$cm \cdot cm^{-1}$	fHDmin	Minimum height-to-diameter ratio
$f_{HD,max}$	$cm \cdot cm^{-1}$	fHDmax	Maximum height-to-diameter ratio

Vegetation functional attributes are normally filled for each cohort by function `growthInput()` or `forest2growthInput()` from species identity. However, different parameters can be specified for different cohorts of the same species if desired (see section 2.3.6).

### 15.5.3 Control parameters

Control parameters modulate the overall behaviour of growth simulations (see section 2.5). Parameters controlling water balance have been already described in sections 3.5.3 and 7.5.3. Here we only mention those control parameters specific to the `growth()` function.

First, there are flags that regulate the application of processes:

- `allowDessication [=TRUE]`: Boolean flag to indicate that mortality by dessication is allowed.
- `allowStarvation [=TRUE]`: Boolean flag to indicate that mortality by starvation is allowed.
- `allowDefoliation [=TRUE]`: Boolean flag to indicate that complete drought-driven defoliation is allowed.

- **sinkLimitation** [=TRUE]: Boolean flag to indicate that temperature and turgor limitations to growth are applied.
- **shrubDynamics** [= TRUE]: Boolean flag to allow the application of demographic processes to shrubs.
- **nonStomatalPhotosynthesisLimitation** [=TRUE]: A flag to apply limitations of photosynthesis when leaf sugar levels become too high (only for **transpirationMode** = "Sperry").

An important parameter concerns the allocation strategy:

- **allocationStrategy** [= "Plant\_kmax"] defines the allocation strategy (investment in leaf area vs. sapwood area) of the growth model. If **allocationStrategy** = "Plant\_kmax" then the target leaf area is set to maintain the input whole-plant maximum conductance. If **allocationStrategy** = "A12As" then the target leaf area is set to maintain the input Huber value.

A number of control parameters regulate carbon balance:

- **phloemConductanceFactor** [= 0.2]: Factor to transform stem xylem conductance to phloem conductance (only for **transpirationMode** = "Sperry").
- **nonSugarConcentration** [=0.25]: A constant specifying non-sugar (inorganic) solute concentration ( $\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ ) in cells.
- **equilibriumOsmoticConcentration** [= c(leaf = 0.8, sapwood = 0.6)]: Equilibrium osmotic concentrations ( $\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ ) for leaf and sapwood cells. The difference between leaf and sapwood values helps maintaining phloem transport. The equilibrium sugar concentration is found using **equilibriumOsmoticConcentration** - **nonSugarConcentration** and defaults to [= c(leaf = 0.55, sapwood = 0.35)].
- **minimumRelativeSugarForGrowth** [= 0.25]: Minimum concentration of metabolic sugar relative to equilibrium sugar concentration for growth to occur in different tissues. This value (by default 50%) should always be larger than **mortalityRelativeSugarThreshold** [= 0.3], so that growth stops before starvation, and smaller than 1 (i.e. 100%), so that growth occurs under normal metabolic status.
- **respirationRates** [= c(leaf = 0.00260274, sapwood = 6.849315e-05, fineroot = 0.002054795)]: Maintenance respiration rates for different tissues (in  $g \text{ gluc} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$ ). These are default values used when maintenance respiration rates are not specified via species-specific **SpParams**.
- **senescenceRates** [= c(sapwood = 0.0001261398, fineroot = 0.001897231)]: Relative senescence rates ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ) for sapwood and fine roots. Default are equivalent to 4.5% and 50% annual turnover for sapwood and fine roots, respectively. Leaf senescence rates depend on leaf lifespan (i.e. leaf duration) for evergreen species.
- **constructionCosts** [= c(leaf = 1.5, sapwood = 1.47, fineroot = 1.30)]: Construction costs, including respiration and structural carbon, per dry weight of new tissue ( $g \text{ gluc} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1}$ ).
- **maximumRelativeGrowthRates** [= c(leaf = 0.01, sapwood = 0.005, fineroot = 0.1)]: Maximum leaf growth rate relative to sapwood area ( $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$ ), maximum sapwood relative growth rate ( $\text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$ ) and maximum fine root growth rate relative to sapwood area ( $g \text{ dry} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$ ). These are default values used when relative growth rates are not specified via species-specific **SpParams**.

Finally, we have the following options regarding mortality:

- **mortalityMode** [= "density/deterministic"]: String describing how mortality is applied. Current accepted values are combinations of "cohort" vs "density" (for whole-cohort mortality vs reduction of stem density) and "deterministic" vs. "stochastic".
- **mortalityBaselineRate** [= 0.005]: Deterministic proportion or probability specifying the baseline reduction of cohort's density occurring in a year (for **mortalityMode** = "density/deterministic" or "density/stochastic").

- **mortalityRelativeSugarThreshold** [= 0.3]: Threshold of stem sugar concentration relative to equilibrium values (by default 30%), resulting in an increased mortality rate/probability whenever levels are below.
- **mortalityRWCThreshold** [= 0.3]: Threshold of stem relative water content resulting in increased mortality rate/probability whenever levels are below.

## 15.5.4 Model output

### 15.5.4.1 Daily output

Function **growth** returns a list object with the following elements:

Element	Description
<b>WaterBalance</b>	Climatic input and water balance flows (i.e. net precipitation, infiltration, runoff, transpiration...). All of them in $mm = L \cdot m^{-2}$ .
<b>EnergyBalance</b>	Energy balance components (instantaneous values) for the soil and the canopy
<b>BiomassBalance</b>	Stand-level biomass balance components
<b>Temperature</b>	Minimum and maximum temperature values for topsoil, canopy and atmosphere
<b>Soil</b>	Soil variables for each soil layer: Moisture relative to field capacity ( $W_s$ ), water potential ( $\Psi_s$ ) and volumetric water content ( $V_s$ ).
<b>Stand</b>	Stand-level variables, such as $LAI_{stand}^\phi = LAI_{stand}^{live}$ , $LAI_{stand}^{dead}$ , the water retention capacity of the canopy ( $S_{canopy}$ ) or the fraction of light reaching the ground ( $L_{ground}^{PAR}$ and $L_{ground}^{SWR}$ ).
<b>Plants</b>	Plant-level variables, such as $LAI_i^{phi}$ , plant transpiration, plant water potential, etc.
<b>SunlitLeaves</b>	Leaf-level output variables for sunlit leaves ( <b>transpirationMode</b> = "Sperry").
<b>ShadeLeaves</b>	Leaf-level output variables for shade leaves ( <b>transpirationMode</b> = "Sperry").
<b>LabileCarbonBalance</b>	A list with the daily results of labile carbon balance components and carbon pools.
<b>PlantBiomassBalance</b>	A list with the daily results of biomass balance components for plant cohorts.
<b>PlantStructure</b>	A list with daily results of plant compartment sizes, in terms of area and biomass.
<b>PlantGrowth</b>	A list with daily results of growth rates for leaf, sapwood and fine roots.

Elements **WaterBalance** to **ShadeLeaves** are equal to the output of function **spwb** and were described in previous chapters (see 3.5.4 and 7.5.4).

The following table describes the child elements of **LabileCarbonBalance**, each of them a data frame with dates in rows and plant cohorts in columns:

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
<b>GrossPhotosynthesis</b>	$\frac{dS_i}{dt}$	$g \text{ gluc} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily gross photosynthesis per dry weight of living biomass.
<b>MaintenanceRespiration</b>	$R_{sp}/B_i$	$g \text{ gluc} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily maintenance respiration (including leaves, sapwood and fine roots) per dry weight of living biomass.
<b>GrowthCosts</b>	$G_i/B_i$	$g \text{ gluc} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily growth costs (including leaves, sapwood and fine roots) per dry weight of living biomass.
<b>RootExudation</b>	$RE_i$	$g \text{ gluc} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily root exudation per dry weight of living biomass.
<b>CarbonBalance</b>	$\Delta S_i/B_i$	$g \text{ gluc} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1}$	Daily labile carbon balance (eq. (15.8)) per dry weight of living biomass.

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
SugarLeaf	$SS_{leaf,i}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$	Sugar concentration in leaves.
StarchLeaf	$ST_{leaf,i}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$	Starch concentration in leaves.
SugarSapwood	$SS_{sapwood,i}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$	Sugar concentration in sapwood.
StarchSapwood	$ST_{sapwood,i}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$	Starch concentration in sapwood.
SugarTransport	$F_{phloem}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot s^{-1}$	Average instantaneous rate of carbon transferred between leaves and stem compartments via phloem.
LeafPIO	$\pi_{0,leaf,i}$	$MPa$	Osmotic potential at full turgor of symplastic leaf tissue.
StemPIO	$\pi_{0,stem,i}$	$MPa$	Osmotic potential at full turgor of symplastic stem tissue.

The following table describes the child elements of **PlantCarbonBalance**, each of them a data frame with dates in rows and plant cohorts in columns:

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
StructuralBiomassBalance		$g\ dry \cdot m^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily structural biomass balance.
LabileBiomassBalance		$g\ dry \cdot m^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily labile biomass balance.
PlantBiomassBalance		$g\ dry \cdot m^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily plant biomass balance.
MortalityBiomassLoss		$g\ dry \cdot m^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily biomass loss due to mortality.
CohortBiomassBalance		$g\ dry \cdot m^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	Daily cohort biomass balance (includes plant biomass balance and mortality).

The following table describes the child elements of **PlantStructure**, again each of them a data frame with dates in rows and plant cohorts in columns:

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
LeafArea	$LA_i$	$m^2$	Daily amount of leaf area for an average individual.
SapwoodArea	$SA_i$	$cm^2$	Daily amount of sapwood area for an average individual.
FineRootArea	$FRA_i$	$m^2$	Daily amount of fine root area for an average individual.
FineRootBiomass	$B_{fineroot,i}$	$g\ dry \cdot ind^{-1}$	Daily fine root biomass for an average individual.

The following table describes the child elements of **PlantGrowth**, again each of them a data frame with dates in rows and plant cohorts in columns:

Element	Symbol	Units	Description
LAgrowth	$\Delta LA_i / SA_i$	$m^2 \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	Leaf area growth relative to sapwood area for an average individual.
SAgrowth	$\Delta SA_i / SA_i$	$cm^2 \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	Leaf area growth relative to sapwood area for an average individual.
FRAgrowth	$\Delta FRA_i / SA_i$	$m^2 \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	Fine root area growth relative to sapwood area for an average individual (only for <code>transpirationMode = "Sperry"</code> ).

#### 15.5.4.2 Subdaily output

As with function `spwb()`, subdaily output can also be generated with function `growth()`. This is done via setting `subdailyResults = TRUE` in the control parameter list. In that case, the output list of `growth()` will include an element `subdaily`, whose subelements correspond to the results of `growth_day()` for each date simulated. Refer to the documentation of functions `growth_day()` for details of subdaily output.



## Chapter 16

# Carbon pools and components of carbon balance

### 16.1 Size of carbon pools

Biomass of leaves, sapwood and fine roots is needed in the model to estimate respiratory costs and the size of the C storage pools.

#### 16.1.1 Leaf structural, metabolic and storage biomass

The live leaf area  $LA^{live}$  per individual (in  $m^2$ ) is:

$$LA^{live} = 10000 \cdot LAI^{live} / N \quad (16.1)$$

where  $N$  is the density of the cohort and  $LAI^{live}$  is the leaf area index. Structural leaf biomass per individual ( $B_{leaf}$ ;  $g\ dry\ ind^{-1}$ ) is the result of dividing live leaf area by  $SLA$  ( $m^2 \cdot kg^{-1}$ ), the specific leaf area of the species:

$$B_{leaf} = 1000 \cdot LA^{live} / SLA \quad (16.2)$$

where a factor 1000 is used to convert from kg to g. Hence, only expanded leaf area has respiratory cost (i.e. winter resistance buds do not). Leaf storage volume for an individual ( $V_{storage,leaf}$ ; in  $L \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) is:

$$V_{storage,leaf} = LA^{live} \cdot V_{leaf} \quad (16.3)$$

where  $V_{leaf}$  is the water storage capacity of leaf tissue per leaf area unit (in  $L \cdot m^{-2}$ ) (see A.4.5). Leaf storage volume is necessary to estimate the biomass of metabolic (sugars) or storage (starch) from the concentration of these substances in leaves ( $SS_{leaf}$  and  $ST_{leaf}$ , which are expressed in  $mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ ), and conversely. For example:

$$B_{sugar,leaf} = SS_{leaf} \cdot V_{storage,leaf} \cdot m_{gluc} \quad (16.4)$$

where  $m_{gluc}$  is the molar mass of glucose. To estimate leaf starch storage capacity, the model assumes that up to 10% of leaf tissue volume can be occupied with starch, so that the leaf starch storage capacity ( $ST_{leaf}^{max}$ ; in  $mol \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) is:

$$ST_{leaf}^{max} = 0.1 \cdot 1000 \cdot \frac{V_{storage,leaf} \cdot \rho_{starch}}{m_{starch}} \quad (16.5)$$

where  $\rho_{starch}$  is the density of starch and  $m_{starch}$  is its molar mass.

### 16.1.2 Sapwood structural, metabolic and storage biomass

Sapwood volume ( $V_{sapwood}$ ; in  $L \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) is defined as the product of sapwood area and the sum of aboveground height and belowground coarse root length:

$$V_{sapwood} = 1000 \cdot SA \cdot (H + \sum_s FRP_s \cdot L_s) \quad (16.6)$$

where  $SA$  is sapwood area,  $H$  is plant height,  $FRP_s$  is the proportion of fine roots in soil layer  $s$  and  $L_s$  is the coarse root length in layer  $s$  (all lengths expressed here in  $m$ ). Sapwood structural biomass per individual ( $B_{sapwood}$ ;  $g \text{ dry } ind^{-1}$ ) represents the sapwood biomass of sapwood of trunks, branches and coarse roots. It is defined as the product of  $V_{sapwood}$  and wood density ( $\rho_{wood}$ ;  $g \text{ dry } cm^{-3}$ ):

$$B_{sapwood} = 1000 \cdot V_{sapwood} \cdot \rho_{wood} \quad (16.7)$$

While  $B_{sapwood}$  represents the structural sapwood biomass, it cannot be used to estimate sapwood respiration, since only xylem axial or radial parenchymatic rays (and not dead cells like tracheids or vessels) contribute to sapwood respiration. Hence, it is useful to estimate sapwood living biomass using:

$$B_{living, sapwood} = 1000 \cdot V_{sapwood} \cdot \rho_{wood} \cdot (1 - f_{conduits}) \quad (16.8)$$

where  $f_{conduits}$  is the fraction of sapwood volume that corresponds to dead conducts, being the complement of the fraction of parenchymatic tissue. The volume available for metabolic or storage carbon within sapwood is limited by both the sapwood fraction that corresponds to parenchyma and wood porosity (i.e.  $(1 - (\rho_{wood}/1.54))$ ). Sapwood storage volume ( $V_{storage, sapwood}$ ; in  $L \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) is:

$$V_{storage, sapwood} = V_{sapwood} \cdot (1 - (\rho_{wood}/1.54)) \cdot (1 - f_{conduits}) \quad (16.9)$$

Analogously to leaf carbon,  $V_{storage, sapwood}$  is used to estimate the biomass of metabolic (sugars) or storage (starch) from the concentration of these substances in sapwood ( $SS_{sapwood}$  and  $ST_{sapwood}$ , which are expressed in  $mol \text{ gluc} \cdot L^{-1}$ ), and conversely. For example:

$$B_{sugar, sapwood} = SS_{sapwood} \cdot V_{storage, sapwood} \cdot m_{gluc} \quad (16.10)$$

where  $m_{gluc}$  is the molar mass of glucose. To estimate sapwood storage capacity, the model assumes that up to 50% of volume of parenchymatic cells can be occupied with starch, so that the sapwood starch storage capacity ( $ST_{sapwood}^{max}$ ; in  $mol \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) is:

$$ST_{sapwood}^{max} = 0.5 \cdot 1000 \cdot \frac{V_{storage, sapwood} \cdot \rho_{starch}}{m_{starch}} \quad (16.11)$$

### 16.1.3 Fine root structural biomass

The fine root compartment does not have labile carbon (i.e. the model supplies labile carbon for fine roots from sapwood compartment), so that only the structural biomass of fine roots needs to be estimated. If growth is simulated using the basic water balance model, the biomass of fine roots per individual ( $B_{fineroot}$ ;  $g \text{ dry } ind^{-1}$ ) is assumed half of biomass:

$$B_{fineroot} = B_{leaf}/2 \quad (16.12)$$

Hence, in this model fine-root maintenance respiration costs are also influenced by leaf-phenological status (Sitch *et al.* 2003). When growth is simulated using the advanced water balance model, fine root length per area in each soil layer ( $FLA_s$ ;  $m \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is estimated from rhizosphere conductance, assuming a cylindrical flow geometry in the rhizosphere. Then fine root biomass per individual ( $g \text{ dry } \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) is calculated using:

$$B_{fineroot} = \sum_s B_{fineroot, s} = \sum_s \frac{10000 \cdot FLA_s}{N \cdot 0.01 \cdot SRL} \quad (16.13)$$



where  $N$  is the density of individuals and  $SRL$  ( $cm \cdot g\ dry^{-1}$ ) is the specific root length. One of the model output variables is fine root area in each soil layer ( $FRA_s$ ), which is calculated from  $B_{fineroot}$  using:

$$FRA_s = 10^{-4} \cdot B_{fineroot,s} \cdot 2.0 \cdot \frac{\pi \cdot SRL}{\rho_{fineroot}} \quad (16.14)$$

where  $\rho_{fineroot}$  is fine root tissue density ( $g\ dry \cdot cm^{-3}$ ).

#### 16.1.4 Total living biomass

Total living biomass per individual (i.e. not accounting for heartwood or xylem conduits) is:

$$B_{total} = B_{leaf} + B_{living,sapwood} + B_{fineroot} + \\ + B_{sugar,leaf} + B_{starch,leaf} + B_{sugar,sapwood} + B_{starch,sapwood}$$

$B_{total}$  is used to express carbon balance components per dry weight of living biomass in the model output, which allows a better comparison across plant cohorts of different size and species.

## 16.2 Components of labile carbon balance

Here we provide the details of labile carbon balance calculations, i.e. how the components of eqs. (15.2) and (15.6) are determined.

### 16.2.1 Gross photosynthesis

The soil water balance submodel provides values of photosynthesis calculated at the plant cohort level, but note that the user output of function `spwb` and `pwb` refers to net photosynthesis ( $A_n$ ) after accounting for an estimate of leaf respiration. In the basic water balance model there is no way to make the distinction between gross and net photosynthesis, so we will assume here that  $A_g = A_n$  (in  $g\ C \cdot m^{-2}$ ) as calculated in section 6.1.4. In the advance water balance model the output is also net photosynthesis, but the distinction is possible (see section 11.1). In any case, here we start with a  $A_g$  value in units of carbon per ground area unit, i.e.  $g\ C \cdot m^{-2}$ , and to enter the carbon balance we need scale photosynthesis to units of glucose per individual ( $A$ ; in  $g\ gluc \cdot ind^{-1}$ ). This is done using:

$$A = \frac{10000 \cdot A_g}{N} \cdot \frac{m_{gluc}}{m_{carbon} \cdot 6} \quad (16.15)$$

where  $N$  is the density of individuals per hectare,  $m_{gluc}$  is the glucose molar mass and  $m_{carbon}$  is the carbon molar mass.

### 16.2.2 Maintenance respiration

Maintenance respiration (in  $g\ gluc \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) is calculated for each of the three compartments (leaves, sapwood, and fine roots) individually (Mouillot *et al.* 2001). The model uses a  $Q_{10}$  relationship with temperature, which means that for every 10 °C change in temperature there is a  $Q_{10}$  factor change in respiration. Baseline maintenance respiration rates per dry biomass ( $MR_{leaf}$ ,  $MR_{sapwood}$  and  $MR_{fineroot}$  for leaves, parenchymatic sapwood and fine roots, respectively; in  $g\ gluc \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$ ) are can be specified via control parameters (defaults for all species) or via species-specific parameters and should refer to 20 °C:

$$M_{leaf} = (B_{leaf} + B_{sugar,leaf}) \cdot MR_{leaf} \cdot Q_{10}^{(T_{mean}-20)/10} \quad (16.16)$$

$$M_{sapwood} = (B_{living,sapwood} + B_{sugar,sapwood}) \cdot MR_{sapwood} \cdot Q_{10}^{(T_{mean}-20)/10} \quad (16.17)$$

$$M_{fineroot} = B_{fineroot} \cdot MR_{fineroot} \cdot Q_{10}^{(T_{mean}-20)/10} \quad (16.18)$$

where  $T_{mean}$  is the average daily temperature (in °C). The same equations are used for growth simulations with the basic or advanced water model, the only differences being that in the latter the daily rates are divided by the number of subdaily steps and, hence, subdaily temperature variation is taken into account.

### 16.2.3 Growth respiration

Construction costs per unit dry weight of new tissue ( $CC_{leaf}$ ,  $CC_{sapwood}$  and  $CC_{fineroot}$  for leaves, sapwood and fine roots; in  $g\ gluc \cdot g\ dry^{-1}$ ) are specified as control parameters (i.e. they are not species-specific). These unitary costs include both the carbon used in respiration during growth and structural carbon. Given an increase in leaf area  $\Delta LA$ , leaf growth respiration is:

$$G_{leaf} = \Delta LA \cdot CC_{leaf} \cdot 1000 / SLA \quad (16.19)$$

Analogously, given an increase in sapwood area  $\Delta LA$ , sapwood growth respiration is:

$$G_{sapwood} = \Delta SA \cdot CC_{sapwood} \cdot (H + \sum_s FRP_s \cdot L_s) \cdot \rho_{wood} \quad (16.20)$$

Finally, and given an increase in fine root biomass  $\Delta B_{fineroot}$ :

$$G_{fineroot} = \Delta B_{fineroot} \cdot CC_{fineroot} \quad (16.21)$$

### 16.2.4 Phloem transport

When growth is simulated using the basic water balance model, phloem transport between leaf and sapwood ( $F_{phloem}$ ) is simply modelled as the flow needed to make the concentration of metabolic carbon equal in both compartments. When the advanced water balance submodel is used,  $F_{phloem}$  is modelled following Hölttä *et al.* (2017). Specifically, the instantaneous phloem flow per leaf area basis ( $mol\ gluc \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$ ) depends on  $k_{phloem}$ , i.e. the phloem conductance per leaf area basis ( $L \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1} \cdot s^{-1}$ ), sap viscosity relative to water and the difference in turgor between the sieve cells of leaf and sapwood compartments.  $k_{phloem}$  is estimated as linear function of stem maximum conductance,  $k_{stem,max}$ :

$$k_{phloem} = f_{phloem} \cdot k_{stem,max} \quad (16.22)$$

where factor  $f_{phloem}$  is specified by the control parameter **phloemConductanceFactor**. Sap viscosity is calculated following Först *et al.* (2002), which takes into account temperature and the average sugar concentration between the two compartments (no phloem flow can occur if temperature is below zero). Turgor in sieve cells of each compartment depends on symplastic water potential and osmotic water potential, with Van't Hoff's equation being used to calculate the osmotic water potential, based on temperature, sugar concentration and the concentration of other solutes (control parameter **nonSugarConcentration**). Note that here leaf or sapwood sugar concentration is modulated to account for the effect of the relative water content of the compartment on osmotic water potential.

### 16.2.5 Sugar-starch dynamics

When growth is simulated using the basic water balance submodel, sugar-starch dynamics ( $SC_{leaf}$  and  $SC_{sapwood}$ ) are simply defined as the conversion between metabolic and storage carbon needed to keep the sugar concentration equal to an equilibrium required for metabolic functioning, which is specified by control parameters **equilibriumOsmoticConcentration** (including two values, for leaves and sapwood respectively) and **nonSugarConcentration**. For example, if leaf osmotic equilibrium concentration is  $0.8\ mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$  and non-sugar concentration is  $0.3\ mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ , the model will simulate sugar-starch dynamics to stabilize sugar concentration in leaves to  $0.5\ mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ . A lower equilibrium osmotic concentration is required for sapwood, by default  $0.6\ mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ , so that sugar equilibrium concentration is  $0.1\ mol\ gluc \cdot L^{-1}$ . That

lower equilibrium concentrations are required for sapwood than for leaves is necessary to sustain the phloem transport of sugars from leaves towards sapwood.

When growth is simulated using the basic water balance submodel, sugar-starch dynamics are similar to the previous case, in the sense that equilibrium sugar concentrations are sought for leaves and sapwood. However, instantaneous conversion rates are calculated depending on equations regulating starch synthesis (occurring when sugar concentration is higher than the equilibrium concentration) and starch hydrolysis (occurring when sugar concentration is lower than the equilibrium concentration). Synthesis is modelled as a Michaelis-Menten function, whereas hydrolysis rate is simply a linear function of starch concentration. Maximum synthesis rates and hydrolysis linear factors are larger (i.e. faster sugar-starch dynamics) in leaves than sapwood.

### 16.2.6 Root exudation

Surplus in leaf or sapwood storage carbon is diverted towards root exudation ( $RE_{leaf}$  or  $RE_{sapwood}$ ). Hence, root exudation is not a process competing for metabolic carbon, but only a consequence of plant C storage capacity being surpassed (Prescott *et al.* 2020). Root exudation may happen in the model when growth is restricted due to sink limitations but photosynthesis continues and storage carbon levels have attained the storage capacity in the leaf compartment ( $ST_{leaf} > ST_{leaf}^{max}$ ) or the sapwood compartment ( $ST_{sapwood} > ST_{sapwood}^{max}$ ).



# Chapter 17

## Growth, senescence and mortality

### 17.1 Growth

#### 17.1.1 Temperature and turgor sink limitations

Sink limitations due to temperature and turgor effects on growth are modelled following Cabon *et al.* (2020a) and Cabon *et al.* (2020b). These authors suggested equations to model sink limitations on cambium cell division and tracheid expansion, but we apply the same approach for simulating growth of leaves, sapwood and fine roots. Cell relative expansion rate ( $r_{cell}$ ) is central to the approach by Cabon *et al.* and is defined as the relative time derivative of cell volume:

$$r_{cell} = \frac{dV}{Vdt} \quad (17.1)$$

Cabon *et al.* (2020a) first suggested to model the dependence of  $r_{cell}$  on cell turgor using Lockhart's equation:

$$r_{cell}(\Psi, \pi_0) = \phi_{max} \cdot (\Psi - \pi_0 - Y_P) \quad (17.2)$$

where  $\Psi$  is the water potential,  $\pi_0$  is the osmotic water potential at full turgor,  $Y_P$  is the turgor yield threshold and  $\phi_{max}$  is the maximum cell wall extensibility. Later, Cabon *et al.* (2020b) suggested to account for both turgor and temperature limitations on  $r_{cell}$  using the following expanded equation:

$$r_{cell}(T, \Psi, \pi_0) = \phi_{max} \cdot (\Psi - \pi_0 - Y_P) \cdot \frac{f_{met}(T_K)}{f_{met}(288.15)} \cdot f_{micro}(T, T_{thr}) \quad (17.3)$$

where  $T$  is temperature,  $f_{met}(T_K)$  is a function modulating the effect of temperature  $T_K$  in Kelvin, on metabolic rate, and  $f_{micro}(T, T_{thr})$  is a sigmoidal function modulating the effect of temperature on microtubule stability, depending on a temperature threshold  $T_{thr}$ . Function  $f_{met}(T_K)$  is defined as:

$$f_{met}(T_K) = \frac{T_K \cdot \exp \left\{ \frac{\Delta H_A}{R^n \cdot T_K} \right\}}{1 + \exp \left\{ \frac{\Delta S_D}{R^n} \cdot \left( 1 - \frac{\Delta H_D}{\Delta S_D \cdot T_K} \right) \right\}} \quad (17.4)$$

where  $R^n$  is the ideal gas constant,  $\Delta H_A = 87500$  the enthalpy of activation and  $\Delta H_D = 333000$  and  $\Delta S_D = 1090$  the enthalpy and entropy difference (respectively) between the catalytically active and inactive states of the enzymatic system).

Scaling from the cell to the tissue level is conducted by assuming that maximum cell-level expansion rates correspond to maximum tissue-level relative growth rates.

### 17.1.2 Leaf growth

Leaf area increment  $\Delta LA$  only occurs when phenological state is *unfolding*, and is defined as the minimum of three values expressing three corresponding constraints:

$$\Delta LA = \min(\Delta LA_{alloc}, \Delta LA_{source}, \Delta LA_{sink}) \quad (17.5)$$

First,  $\Delta LA_{alloc}$  is the maximum leaf area increment allowed by the leaf area target set by the allocation rule,  $LA^{target}$ , in comparison with current leaf area  $LA^{live}$ :

$$\Delta LA_{alloc} = \max(LA^{target} - LA^{live}, 0) \quad (17.6)$$

Remember that leaf area target is updated during *bud formation* (see 17.3.2).

Second,  $\Delta LA_{source}$  represents the leaf area increment expected given carbon source limitations and is calculated:

$$\Delta LA_{source} = \frac{\max(SS_{sapwood} - SS_{leaf,growth}, 0) \cdot m_{gluc} \cdot V_{sapwood,leaf}}{1000 \cdot CC_{leaf}/SLA} \quad (17.7)$$

where  $SS_{sapwood}$  is the current concentration of sapwood metabolic sugar,  $SS_{leaf,growth}$  is the minimum concentration required for growth (specified in control vector `minimumSugarForGrowth`),  $V_{storage,sapwood}$  is the sapwood storage volume,  $m_{gluc}$  is glucose molar mass and the denominator contains the construction costs per leaf area unit, see eq. (16.19).

Finally,  $\Delta LA_{sink}$  represents the leaf area increment expected by taking into account the maximum leaf tissue growth rate relative to sapwood area ( $RGR_{leaf,max}$ ; in  $m^2 \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$ ) and the relative cell expansion rate given  $T_{day}$ ,  $\Psi_{symp,leaf}$  and  $\pi_{0,leaf}$ :

$$\Delta LA_{sink} = SA \cdot RGR_{leaf,max} \cdot \frac{r_{cell}(T_{day}, \Psi_{symp,leaf}, \pi_{0,leaf})}{r_{cell,max}} \quad (17.8)$$

where cell relative expansion rate is divided by the maximum relative cell expansion rate  $r_{cell,max} = r_{cell}(25, 0, -2)$  so that  $RGR_{leaf,max}$  is attained when sink conditions are optimal. Other parameters for eq. (17.3) are  $\phi_{max} = 0.5$ ,  $Y_P = 0.05 MPa$  and  $T_{thr} = 5^\circ C$ .

### 17.1.3 Sapwood growth

Sapwood area increment  $\Delta SA$  can only occur if  $LA^{live} > 0$ . Unlike leaf area or fine root biomass, it is not explicitly constrained by any allocation rule. However, newly assimilated carbon is preferentially allocated to leaves and fine roots because sapwood growth depends on storage reserves and not on metabolic carbon.  $\Delta SA$  is defined as the minimum of two values expressing source and sink constraints:

$$\Delta SA = \min(\Delta SA_{source}, \Delta SA_{sink}) \quad (17.9)$$

$\Delta SA_{source}$  represents the sapwood area increment expected given carbon source limitations and is calculated using:

$$\Delta SA_{source} = \frac{\max(ST_{sapwood} - SS_{sapwood,growth}, 0) \cdot m_{gluc} \cdot V_{storage,sapwood}}{CC_{sapwood} \cdot (H + \sum_s FRP_s \cdot L_s) \cdot \rho_{wood}} \quad (17.10)$$

where  $ST_{sapwood}$  is the current starch concentration,  $SS_{sapwood,growth}$  is the minimum concentration required for growth (specified in control vector `minimumSugarForGrowth`),  $V_{storage,sapwood}$  is the sapwood storage volume,  $m_{gluc}$  is glucose molar mass and the denominator contains the construction costs per sapwood area unit, see eq. (16.20).

Sink limitations to sapwood growth are simulated using a set of  $N_c = 10$  cambium cells that undergo division and the new cells are added to a ring (i.e. a vector) of vessels that later suffer enlargement and maturation (Friend *et al.* 2019). Assuming that cambium cell volume must double before division, that cell-doubling time is the variable limiting cell division and that each division instantly results in a cell exiting the cambium

and initiating differentiation into a vessel, production rate ( $PR_{cambium}$ ) of new vessels cells can be related to the cambial cell expansion rate  $r_{cambium}$  such that (Cabon *et al.* 2020b):

$$PR_{cambium} = \frac{N_c}{\ln(2)} \cdot r_{cambium} \quad (17.11)$$

where  $r_{cambium} = r_{cell}(T_{day}, \Psi_{symp,stem}, -0.8)$ , with other parameters of eq. (17.3) being  $\phi_{max} = 0.13$ ,  $Y_P = 0.05 MPa$  and  $Y_{thr} = 8$  °C. The ring growth model is implemented at daily time steps and daily  $PR_{cambium}$  values are accumulated (i.e.  $P_{cambium,t} = P_{cambium,t-1} + PR_{cambium,t}$ ). A new vessel is formed and added to the ring every time  $P_{cambium}$  advances one integer. All vessel cells in the ring undergo daily enlargement following eq. (17.3), again with  $Y_P = 0.05 MPa$  and  $Y_{thr} = 8$  °C. During cell later stages of enlargement, the cell wall becomes thicker and more rigid as a consequence of cell wall deposition. Consequently,  $\phi_{max} = 0.13$  for newly formed cells, but then variations in  $\phi_{max}$  are modelled as (Cabon *et al.* 2020a):

$$\frac{d\phi_{max}}{\phi_{max} \cdot dt} = s \cdot r_{cell} - h \cdot \frac{f_{met}(T_K)}{f_{met}(288.15)} \quad (17.12)$$

where  $s = 1.8$  and  $h = 0.043 \cdot 1.8$  are a softening factor and a constant hardening rate, respectively, and the hardening rate is modulated by temperature effects. Cell radial diameter is initially  $8.3\mu m$  and tangential diameter is assumed constant and equal to  $20\mu m$ , so that volume increases in ring cells can be translated to daily ring area increases,  $\Delta A_{ring}$  (in  $\mu m^2$ ). Assuming that the maximum relative sapwood growth rate  $RGR_{sapwood,max}$  corresponds to a maximum rate of daily ring area increase, we have that the daily increase in sapwood area according to sink limitations,  $\Delta SA_{sink}$ , is:

$$\Delta SA_{sink} = SA \cdot RGR_{sapwood,max} \cdot \frac{\Delta A_{ring}}{\Delta A_{ring,max}} \quad (17.13)$$

where  $\Delta A_{ring,max} = N_c \cdot 950 \mu m^2 \cdot day^{-1}$ , which was obtained by simulating a ring growth under optimum temperature ( $T_{day} = 30$  °C) and water ( $\Psi_{symp,stem} = -0.033 MPa$ ) conditions and observing the steady-state ring area increase.

### 17.1.4 Fine root growth

Fine root growth is only modelled when simulating growth with the advanced water balance submodel (when using the basic water balance submodel fine root respiration costs are proportional to leaf respiration costs).

Fine root biomass increment is modelled for each soil layer separately, and is defined analogously to leaf area increment:

$$\Delta B_{fineroot} = \min(\Delta B_{fineroot,alloc}, \Delta B_{fineroot,source}, \Delta B_{fineroot,sink}) \quad (17.14)$$

First,  $\Delta B_{fineroot,alloc}$  is the maximum fine root biomass increment allowed by the biomass target set by the allocation rule,  $B_{fineroot,target}$  (see 17.3.2), in comparison with current biomass,  $B_{fineroot}$ :

$$\Delta B_{fineroot,alloc} = \max(B_{fineroot,target} - B_{fineroot}, 0) \quad (17.15)$$

Second,  $\Delta B_{fineroot,source}$  represents the biomass increment expected given carbon source limitations and is calculated:

$$\Delta B_{fineroot,source} = \frac{\max(SS_{sapwood} - SS_{fineroot,growth}, 0) \cdot m_{gluc} \cdot V_{storage,sapwood}}{CC_{fineroot}} \quad (17.16)$$

where  $SS_{sapwood}$  is the current sapwood concentration of metabolic sugar,  $SS_{fineroot,growth}$  is the minimum concentration required for fine root growth (specified in control vector `minimumSugarForGrowth`),  $V_{storage,sapwood}$  is the sapwood storage volume,  $m_{gluc}$  is glucose molar mass and  $CC_{fineroot}$  is the construction costs per fine root biomass unit.

Finally,  $\Delta B_{fineroot,sink}$  represents the biomass increment expected by taking into account maximum tissue growth rate ( $RGR_{fineroot,max}$ ; in  $g\ dry \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$ ) and the relative cell expansion rate given temperature ( $T_{day}$ ), water potential in the rhizosphere ( $\Psi_{rhizo,s}$ ) and the stem osmotic potential at full turgor ( $\pi_{0,stem}$ ):

$$\Delta B_{fineroot,sink} = B_{fineroot} \cdot RGR_{fineroot,max} \cdot \frac{r_{cell}(T_{day}, \Psi_{rhizo,s}, \pi_{0,stem})}{r_{cell,max}} \quad (17.17)$$

cell relative expansion rate is divided by the maximum relative cell expansion rate  $r_{cell,max} = r_{cell}(25, 0, -2)$  so that  $RGR_{fineroot,max}$  is attained when sink conditions are optimal. Other parameters for eq. (17.3) are like for leaf growth,  $\phi_{max} = 0.5$ ,  $Y_P = 0.05\ MPa$  and  $T_{thr} = 5^\circ C$ .

## 17.2 Senescence

### 17.2.1 Leaf senescence

Leaf senescence can occur due to two processes: aging or desiccation. Senescence due to advanced leaf age is assumed to be programmed (Ca<sup>2+</sup> accumulation?). In deciduous species all live leaf area turns to death leaf area when the phenology submodel indicates it (4.1.3). In evergreen species the proportion of leaf area that undergoes senescence each day is determined by the species-specific leaf duration parameter ( $LD$ ):

$$p_{aging,leaf} = \frac{1}{365.25 \cdot LD} \quad (17.18)$$

Senescence due to drought effects occurs as a consequence of stem cavitation. The model then determines the leaf area corresponding to the current level of cavitation:

$$LA^{cavitation} = (1 - PLC_{stem}) \cdot LA^{target} \quad (17.19)$$

if  $LA^{cavitation} < LA^{live}$  then the corresponding proportion  $p_{cavitation,leaf}$  is estimated. The maximum of  $p_{aging,leaf}$  and  $p_{cavitation,leaf}$  is applied as a reduction of leaf area. If growth is simulated using the advanced water model, it also checks whether the relative water content in leaves becomes less than 50% (i.e.  $RWC_{leaf} < 0.5$ ) and, if this happens, the plant cohort is completely defoliated.

### 17.2.2 Sapwood senescence

Prentice *et al.* (1993) assumed a constant annual rate of 4% for the conversion from sapwood to heartwood. Similarly, Sitch *et al.* (2003) assumed a sapwood annual turnover rate of 5% for all biomes. A reasonable value for maximum daily senescence rate would be (assuming an annual rate 4.5%):

$$1 - 0.955^{(1/365)} = 0.0001261398 \quad (17.20)$$

The actual proportion of sapwood area that is transformed into heartwood daily is:

$$p_{aging,sapwood} = \frac{0.0001261398}{1 + 15 \cdot e^{-0.01 \cdot H}} \quad (17.21)$$

where 0.01 is a constant causing shorter plants to have slower senescence rates. It is important to mention that, while stem cavitation  $PLC_{stem}$  reduces the amount of functional sapwood in with respect to hydraulics, it does not increase the rate of sapwood senescence, because xylem vessels are already dead cells. Hence, when xylem embolism occurs air bubbles are formed within vessels but surrounding parenchymatic cells (as well as the storage carbon they contain) are unaffected.



### 17.2.3 Fine root senescence

Fine root senescence only occurs when modelling growth with the advanced water balance. Aging is the only process leading to fine root senescence. Default daily turnover proportion for fine roots,  $p_{aging,fineroot,25}$  is specified via the control parameters **turnoverRates**, which are assumed to correspond to a temperature of 25 °C. Actual turnover proportion for a given soil layer ( $p_{aging,fineroot}$ ) decreases linearly with soil temperature down to zero at 5 °C:

$$p_{aging,fineroot} = p_{aging,fineroot,25} \cdot \frac{\max(T_{soil,s} - 5, 0)}{20} \quad (17.22)$$

Default values for  $p_{aging,fineroot,25}$  are set to produce an annual 50% turnover of fine roots.

## 17.3 Update of plant traits and allocation targets

### 17.3.1 Plant traits

Multiple anatomic and physiological parameters are updated every day after applying changes in the size of leaf, sapwood and fine root compartments, which creates a feedback to those hydraulic and physiological processes simulated in the water balance submodel (15.1.4). Hence, the growth model allows emulating plant acclimation to environmental cues, mediated by growth and senescence of plant tissues.

First leaf area index ( $LAI^{live}$ ) is updated from leaf area ( $LA^{live}$ ) inverting eq. (16.1). The Huber value ( $H_v$ , the sapwood area to leaf area ratio; in  $m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is affected by changes in  $LA^{live}$  and sapwood area  $SA$ :

$$H_v = \frac{SA/10000}{LA^{live}} \quad (17.23)$$

When simulating growth with the basic water balance model, leaf area index and Huber value are the only plant traits affected by changes in the size of carbon compartments. It is only when we simulate growth with the advanced water balance model that we get a real sense of plant acclimation.

By definition, fine root biomass changes in each soil layer ( $B_{fineroot,s}$ ) lead to updates in the proportion of fine roots in each layer ( $FRP_s$ ):

$$FRP_s = \frac{B_{fineroot,s}}{\sum_l B_{fineroot,l}} \quad (17.24)$$

Stem maximum conductance per leaf area unit ( $k_{stem,max}$ ; in  $mmol \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$ ) is determined as a function of species-specific xylem conductivity ( $K_{xylem,max}$ ; in  $kg \cdot m^{-1} \cdot s^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$ ), leaf area, sapwood area and tree height (Christoffersen *et al.* 2016):

$$k_{stem,max} = \frac{1000}{0.018} \cdot \frac{K_{xylem,max} \cdot (SA/10000)}{(H/100) \cdot LA^{live}} \cdot \chi_{taper} \quad (17.25)$$

where  $\chi_{taper}$  is a factor to account for taper of xylem conduit with height (Savage *et al.* 2010; Christoffersen *et al.* 2016), 0.018 is the molar weight of water (in  $kg \cdot mol^{-1}$ ). Both an increase in  $SA$  or a decrease in  $LA^{live}$  (i.e. an increase in  $H_v$ ) increase  $k_{stem,max}$  and, hence, alleviate drought effects (i.e. a lower decrease in water potential across the stem for the same flow). In contrast, an increase in plant height will decrease stem conductance and increase drought stress. Changes in stem maximum conductance has cascade effects on root maximum conductance. First, coarse root minimum resistance is defined as a fixed proportion of whole-plant minimum resistance, so an increase in stem maximum conductance will increase whole-plant conductance and coarse root conductance,  $k_{root,max}$ .

Rhizosphere maximum conductance per leaf area unit in a given soil layer  $s$  ( $k_{rhizo,max,s}$ ; in  $mmol \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$ ) depends on fine root biomass in this layer ( $B_{fineroot,s}$ ) and on leaf area (i.e.  $LA^{live}$ ). The equations regulating these relationships are modulated by several soil and species parameters, such as soil saturated hydraulic conductance, species-specific root length, root length density and density of fine roots.

The proportion of conductance loss due to cavitation ( $PLC_{stem}$ ) is reduced whenever sapwood area growth occurs (provided control parameter `cavitationRefill` = "growth"):

$$PLC_{stem,t+1} = \min(PLC_{stem,t} - \frac{\Delta SA}{SA}, 0) \quad (17.26)$$

This allows a progressive increase in functional sapwood area.

Update of osmotic water potentials at full turgor in leaf and stem symplastic tissues ( $\pi_{0,leaf}$  and  $\pi_{0,stem}$ ) are determined from  $SS_{leaf}$  and  $SS_{sapwood}$ , respectively, following Van't Hoff's equation:

$$\pi_{0,leaf} = -(SS_{leaf} + SI) \cdot R^n \cdot 293.15 \quad (17.27)$$

$$\pi_{0,stem} = -(SS_{sapwood} + SI) \cdot R^n \cdot 293.15 \quad (17.28)$$

where  $SI$  is the concentration of inorganic solutes (a constant),  $R^n = 0.008314472 \text{ MPa} \cdot \text{L} \cdot \text{K}^{-1} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$  is the perfect gas constant and  $293.15\text{K}$  is the temperature of reference.

If photosynthesis limitations are included, the model starts to limit photosynthesis  $SS_{sugar,leaf} > 0.5 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  and decreases linearly to zero  $SS_{sugar,leaf} > 1.5 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ .

### 17.3.2 Leaf area and fine root biomass targets

Leaf area target ( $LA_{target}$ ) is updated when phenological phase is *bud formation*. If the allocation strategy pursues a *stable Huber value*, the model tries to bring  $H_v$  close to an initial value  $H_{v,target}$ , and the leaf area target is defined as:

$$LA_{target} = \frac{SA}{10000 \cdot H_{v,target}} \quad (17.29)$$

Note that the specification of  $LA_{target}$  will cause sapwood area increases to be followed by leaf area increases, as long as  $H_v > H_{v,target}$ . On the contrary, if  $H_v < H_{v,target}$  then leaf area growth is inhibited and sapwood area growth will progressively increase  $H_v$ .

If the allocation strategy pursues a *stable whole-plant conductance*, the model tries to keep  $k_{plant}$  close to an initial value  $k_{plant,target}$ , and here the leaf area target is defined as:

$$LA_{target} = LA^{live} \cdot \frac{k_{plant,max}}{k_{plant,target}} \quad (17.30)$$

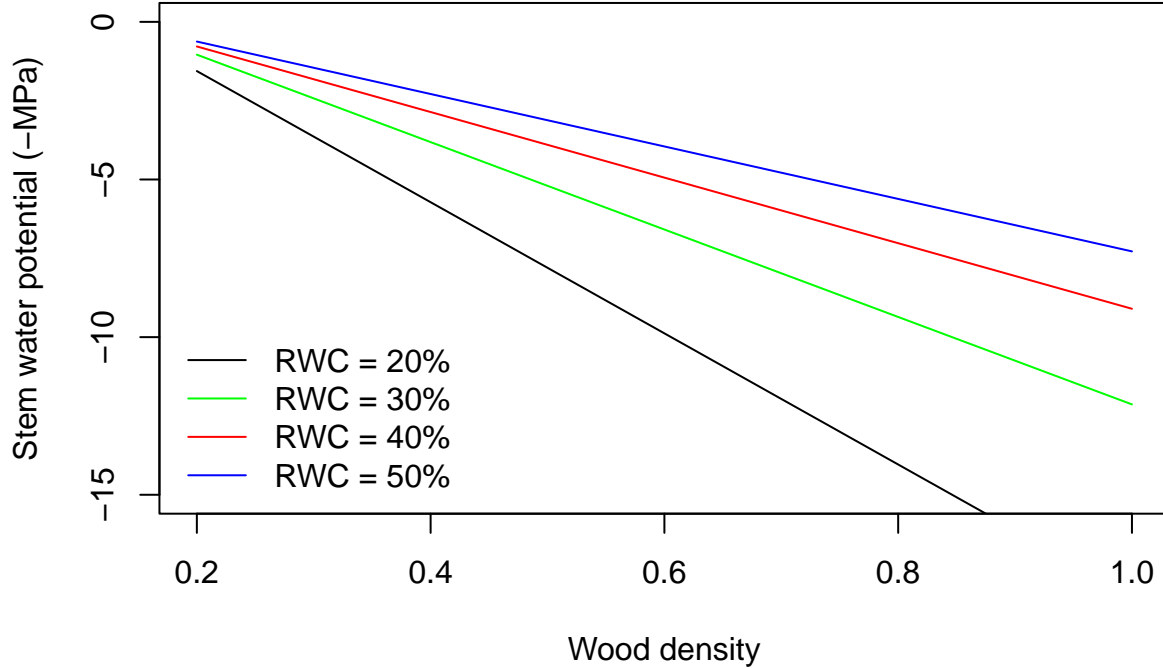
In this strategy, increases in leaf area will be scheduled whenever the current whole-plant conductance is above target value (i.e.  $k_{plant,max} > k_{plant,target}$ ). Analogously to the previous strategy, if  $k_{plant,max} < k_{plant,target}$  then leaf area growth is inhibited and sapwood area growth will progressively increase  $k_{plant,max}$ .

While leaf area target depends on the allocation strategy, the target of fine root biomass for any given soil layer  $s$  ( $B_{fineroot,target,s}$ ) directly follows changes in maximum whole-plant conductance. The average resistance in the rhizosphere is assumed to correspond to a fixed percentage of total soil-plant resistance. Hence, changes in the conductance of leaves, stem or coarse roots will entail a variation in the absolute rhizosphere maximum conductance to be targeted ( $k_{rhizo,max,target,s}$ ), which in turn will determine  $B_{fineroot,target,s}$ . For example  $k_{rhizo,max,target,s}$  will increase as a consequence of sapwood area growth. The model thus first estimate  $k_{rhizo,max,target,s}$  for each layer  $s$  and then translates  $k_{rhizo,max,target,s}$  values to  $B_{fineroot,target,s}$  using the relationships based on soil saturated hydraulic conductance, species-specific root length, root length density and density of fine roots mentioned above.

## 17.4 Plant mortality thresholds

Plant cohorts can die from either *starvation* (if metabolic carbon is exhausted) or *dessication* (tissue dehydration). When simulating growth with the basic water balance submodel, starvation occurs if  $SS_{sapwood} \leq 0$

and, since plant water balance is not explicitly modelled, dessication is determined if  $PLC_{stem} \geq 0.5$ . When simulating growth with the advanced water balance submodel, starvation occurs also if  $SS_{sapwood} \leq 0$ , but in this case a better indicator of dehydration can be used, the stem symplastic relative water content  $RWC_{stem, symp}$ . Dessication is determined in this case if  $RWC_{stem, symp} \leq 0.5$ .



## 17.5 Update of structural variables

### 17.5.1 Tree diameter, height and crown ratio

In the case of tree cohorts, the new sapwood area ( $\Delta SA$ , in  $cm^2$ ) is translated to an increment in DBH ( $\Delta DBH$ , in cm) following:

$$\Delta DBH = 2 \cdot \sqrt{(DBH/2)^2 + (\Delta SA/\pi)} - DBH \quad (17.31)$$

Furthermore, the model assumes that increments in height are linearly related to increments in diameter through a function  $f_{HD}$  (Lindner et al. 1997):

$$\Delta H = f_{HD} \cdot \Delta DBH \quad (17.32)$$

Hence,  $f_{HD}$  represents the height increment (in cm) per each cm of diameter increment. It was customary in forest gap models to prevent height from being larger than a species-specific value  $H_{max}$ , so that beyond some point trees only grew in size by increasing their diameter. Moreover, light conditions influence growth in height with trees living under the shade of others generally showing larger increases in height than trees living in open conditions. Hence, our formulation for  $f_{HD}$  is (Lindner et al. 1997; Rasche et al. 2012):

$$f_{HD} = [f_{HD, \min} \cdot L^{PAR} + f_{HD, \max} \cdot (1 - L^{PAR})] \cdot \left(1 - \frac{H - 137}{H_{\max} - 137}\right) \quad (17.33)$$

where  $f_{HD, \min}$  would be the height-diameter ratio for a tree of 137 cm height growing in full light and  $f_{HD, \max}$  would be the same ratio for a tree of the same height growing in the shadow, and  $L^{PAR}$  is the proportion of photosynthetically active radiation available at mid-crown height (4.2). This formulation seems slightly

easier to calibrate than that presented in Rasche *et al.* (2012).  $H_{\max}$  could be dependent on environmental conditions, but we skip this here, because environmental conditions already affect growth rate and carbon balance.

After updating tree diameter ( $DBH$ ) and tree height ( $H$ ), the model updates tree crown ratio ( $CR$ ) by applying allometric relationships that take into account tree size and competition (see details in 20.2.3).

### 17.5.2 Shrub height and cover

Since shrub structural variables are height and cover, shrub growth is done in a way somewhat different from trees. Shrubs are often multi-stemmed (some trees also are), so that increases in sapwood area are not easily related to diameter growth. Since leaf biomass is related to sapwood area, one may model shrub growth assuming an allometric relationship between phytovolume of individual shrub crowns and photosynthetic biomass. This strategy entails that shrubs may grow or shrink in size depending on their C balance, in the same way that tree crowns would become denser or sparser depending on their C balance. Hence, shrubs can be understood as crowns in the floor.

Starting from live leaf area ( $m^2 \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) we can calculate the foliar weight per shrub individual (in  $kg \cdot ind^{-1}$ ):

$$W_{leaves} = \frac{LAI^{live}}{(N/10000) \cdot SLA} \quad (17.34)$$

An allometric relationship relating the biomass of leaves plus small branches and crown phytovolume ( $PV$ ; in  $m^3 \cdot ind^{-1}$ ) can be drawn from fuel calculations:

$$W_{leaves+branches} = W_{leaves} \cdot r_{6.35} = a_{bsh} \cdot PV^{b_{bsh}} \quad (17.35)$$

where  $a_{bsh}$  and  $b_{bsh}$  are allometric relationships and  $r_{6.35}$  is a species-specific ratio relating the dry weight of leaves plus small branches to the dry weight of leaves. Inverting this relationship we obtain an expression of shrub crown phytovolume:

$$PV = \left[ \frac{W_{leaves} \cdot r_{6.35}}{a_{bsh}} \right]^{1/b_{bsh}} \quad (17.36)$$

Phytovolume is defined as the volume occupied by the shrub individual, i.e.:

$$PV = (A_{sh}/10000) \cdot (H/100) \quad (17.37)$$

where  $A_{sh}$  is the area of a single shrub individual (in  $cm^2$ ). If we use the following quadratic relationship between  $A_{sh}$  and  $H$ :

$$A_{sh} = a_{ash} \cdot H^{b_{ash}} \quad (17.38)$$

we can calculate shrub height from phytovolume using:

$$H = \left[ \frac{10^6 \cdot PV}{a_{ash}} \right]^{1/(1+b_{ash})} \quad (17.39)$$

Finally, the new value for shrub cover (in percent) can be obtained from  $H$  and  $N$  (in  $ind \cdot ha^{-1}$ ):

$$Cover = 100 \cdot (N/10000) \cdot (A_{sh}/10000) = \frac{N \cdot a_{ash} \cdot H^2}{10^6} \quad (17.40)$$

Note that crown ratio for shrubs is assumed constant in the model. Like for trees, shrub height is limited to a maximum height  $H_{\max}$ . However, unlike trees, shrubs are not allowed to continue growing once this maximum size is attained.

## Part V

# Forest dynamics modelling



# Chapter 18

## Forest dynamics model

This chapter provides an overview of a forest dynamics model, which builds on the previous models and allows simulating the recruitment, growth, mortality and management of woody plant cohorts in a forest stand. The model is run using function `fordyn()` for a set of years.

### 18.1 Design principles

The design of the forest dynamics model is to a large degree inherited from the water balance and growth models it builds on. Readers should refer to former sections to learn the design of the basic water balance (see 3.1), advanced water/energy balance (see 7.1) or growth/mortality processes (see 15.1). Recruitment and forest management are explicitly simulated at the level of `fordyn()` and hence will be the focus of this section.

#### 18.1.1 Recruitment

Recruitment of saplings involves a number of processes (flowering and polinisation, fruit/seed production, dispersal, storage, seed predation, germination, seedling establishment and survival until the sapling stage). All these processes have their own biotic and abiotic drivers (Price *et al.* 2001), so that modelling becomes a challenging task. Processes leading to recruitment are frequently extremely simplified or their mechanisms ignored in many forest models (Price *et al.* 2001). The design of the forest dynamics model with respect to recruitment follows that of many gap models. Local seed production is considered in a binary way, where plants are considered fertile and able to produce viable seeds if they reach a given height (different for shrubs and trees). Alternatively, the user can specify a set of species whose seeds arrive to the target stand via dispersal processes. Actual recruitment depends on a set of regeneration *thresholds* are used to determine whether recruitment of new saplings occurs. Typically, regeneration thresholds concern environmental conditions, although some models also consider ungulate browsing (Wehrli *et al.* 2007). In our case we focus on three environmental drivers limiting the transition from seedlings to saplings:

1. Tolerance to low temperatures, indicated by the mean temperature of the coldest month.
2. Drought tolerance, indicated by the annual moisture index (annual precipitation divided by annual evapotranspiration).
3. Shade tolerance, indicated by the percentage of photosynthetic active radiation reaching the ground.

A target species will recruit on a given year if current conditions for all three environmental indicators are above the species tolerance thresholds. Recruitment densities and plant size of recruited individuals are specified via species parameters.

### 18.1.2 Forest management

Forest management is an optional process in `fordyn()` simulations. Furthermore, management actions need to be defined in an external function to be supplied by the user. This design was chosen because there are multiple potential management strategies, and different traditions are followed in different countries. To work properly within `fordyn()` simulations, the supplied management function needs to accept a `forest` object as input, as well as a list of management parameters, and it has to return the reduction in tree density, the reduction in shrub cover and the management parameters to be applied in subsequent calls.

Although the former design allows users to tailor management functions to their simulation needs, the package includes `defaultManagementFunction()` to facilitate the simulation of these process in many situations, and which is briefly described here. The function implements two different management models:

- *Irregular management*: An uneven-aged stand is managed using thinning operations each time a threshold value of a chosen stand-level metric (such as basal area or Hart-Becking index) is trespassed. Thinning operations can focus on trees of specific diameter classes.
- *Regular management*: An even-aged (monospecific) stand is managed in cycles where thinning (preparatory) cuts are followed by final (regeneration) cuts. Thinning operations are similar as those of irregular management. One or several final cuts can be scheduled, the first starting whenever mean diameter surpasses a chosen threshold, and the following after a chosen number of years. Optionally, tree planting (of a chosen species) can be scheduled to occur after the last final cut.

The former models apply cuts on tree cohorts irrespective of their species. The default management function applies shrub clearing each time there is an operation on trees, resulting in removal of any shrub cover above a given maximum value.

## 18.2 State variables

The main state variables of the forest dynamic model are those conforming the structure and composition of the forest stand, i.e. the set of woody cohorts (either trees or shrubs) and their attributes (height, density, DBH, cover, etc.). Since the model performs calls to the `growth()` model, many other state variables are defined for intra-annual simulations (see 15.4). When including forest management action, additional state variables may be defined as management parameters.

## 18.3 Process scheduling

The `fordyn()` model divides the period to be simulated in years, which is the top-level time step of simulations. Given an input `forest` object, the function first initializes the input for function `growth()`. For each year to be simulated the model performs the following steps:

1. Calls function `growth()` to simulate daily water/carbon balance, growth and mortality processes (sub-daily processes may also be involved in `transpirationMode = "Sperry"`). See section 15.4 for details of growth scheduling.
2. If a management function is supplied, calls this function and apply the resulting reductions in tree density and shrub cover.
3. Removes plant cohorts whose remaining density (ind. per hectare) is lower than a specified threshold (see control parameter `minimumCohortDensity`).
4. Simulates recruitment (for species present in the stand or specified via control parameter `seedRain`).
5. Merges surviving cohorts with recruitment in the `forest` object and prepares the input of function `growth()` for the next annual time step.
6. Store current status of the `forest` object and update output tables/summaries.



## 18.4 Inputs and outputs

An important difference between `fordyn()` and the previous simulation functions is that it does not require a specific input object, as in `spwb()` or `growth()` functions. In other words, soil, vegetation, meteorology and control inputs are directly introduced as parameters to the function call to `fordyn()`.

### 18.4.1 Soil, vegetation and meteorology

#### Soil

Soil input requirements are the same as for the former models and were fully described in section 2.2.

#### Vegetation

Unlike the former models, vegetation input for `fordyn` are objects of the class `forest`, which were described in section 2.3.2.

#### Meteorological input

Weather input data must include variables calculated at the **daily** scale. The variables required by function `fordyn()` depend on the transpiration mode, similarly to the previous simulation model functions. We recommend meteorological input to be generated using package `meteoland` (De Cáceres *et al.* 2018).

### 18.4.2 Vegetation functional parameters

The forest dynamics model requires many functional parameters to be specified for plant cohorts. Some of them depend on whether the basic or advanced water balance is adopted, whereas others are inherited from the growth model. Here we report functional parameters needed in addition to those necessary for the growth model (see 15.5.2).

All of them concern the simulation of recruitment and are specified in the species parameter table (i.e. `SpParams`).

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$H_{seed,i}$	cm	SeedProdMinH	Minimum height for seed production
$TCM_{recr,i}$	°C	MinTempRecr	Minimum average temperature (Celsius) of the coldest month for successful recruitment
$MI_{recr,i}$		MinMoistureRecr	Minimum value of the moisture index (annual precipitation over annual PET) for successful recruitment
$FPAR_{recr,i}$	%	MinFPARRecr	Minimum percentage of PAR at the ground level for successful recruitment
$DBH_{recr,i}$	cm	RecrTreeDBH	Recruitment DBH for trees
$H_{tree,recr,i}$	cm	RecrTreeHeight	Recruitment height for trees
$N_{tree,recr,i}$	ind · ha <sup>-1</sup>	RecrTreeDensity	Recruitment density for trees
$Cover_{shrub,recr,i}$	%	RecrShrubCover	Recruitment cover for shrubs
$H_{shrub,recr,i}$	cm	RecrShrubHeight	Recruitment height for shrubs
$Z50_{recr,i}$	mm	RecrZ50	Soil depth corresponding to 50% of fine roots for recruitment
$Z95_{recr,i}$	mm	RecrZ95	Soil depth corresponding to 95% of fine roots for recruitment

### 18.4.3 Control parameters

Control parameters modulate the overall behavior of `fordyn` simulations, which extend the parameters used for growth simulations (see section 15.5.3). First, there are parameters that regulate the application of recruitment and the removal of cohorts with few individuals:

- **applyRecruitment** [= TRUE]: Boolean flag to indicate that recruitment is allowed.
- **recruitmentMode** [= "deterministic"]: String describing how recruitment is applied. Current accepted values are "deterministic" or "stochastic."
- **removeDeadCohorts** [= TRUE]: Boolean flag to indicate the removal of cohorts whose density is too low.
- **minimumCohortDensity** [= 1]: Threshold of density resulting in cohort removal.

Next, a few parameters control the production of seeds in a qualitative way:

- **seedRain** [= NULL]: Vector of species codes whose seed rain is to be simulated. If NULL the species identity of seed rain is taken from species currently present in the forest stand and with minimum size (see below).
- **seedProductionTreeHeight** [= 300]: Default minimum tree height for producing seeds (when species parameter **SeedProductionHeight** is missing).
- **seedProductionShrubHeight** [= 30]: Default minimum shrub height for producing seeds (when species parameter **SeedProductionHeight** is missing).

Then we have default parameters determining whether recruitment occurs:

- **minTempRecr** [= 0]: Default threshold of minimum average temperature of the coldest month necessary for recruiting (when species parameter **MinTempRecr** is missing).
- **minMoistureRecr** [= 0.3]: Default threshold of minimum moisture index (annual precipitation over annual ETP) necessary for recruiting (when species parameter **MinMoistureRecr** is missing).
- **minFPARRecr** [= 10]: Default threshold of minimum fraction of PAR (in %) reaching the ground necessary for recruiting (when species parameter **MinFPARRecr** is missing).

Finally, there are a set of parameters specifying default values for recruited cohort attributes:

- **recrTreeDBH** [= 1]: Default DBH (cm) for recruited trees (when species parameter **RecrTreeDBH** is missing).
- **recrTreeDensity** [= 100]: Default density (ind · ha<sup>-1</sup>) for recruited trees (when species parameter **RecrTreeDensity** is missing).
- **recrTreeHeight** [= 100]: Default height (cm) for recruited trees (when species parameter **RecrTreeHeight** is missing).
- **recrShrubCover** [= 1]: Default cover (%) for recruited shrubs (when species parameter **RecrShrubCover** is missing).
- **recrShrubHeight** [= 100]: Default height (cm) for recruited shrubs (when species parameter **RecrShrubHeight** is missing).
- **recrTreeZ50** [= 100]: Default value for Z50 (mm) in recruited trees (when species parameter **RecrZ50** is missing).
- **recrShrubZ50** [= 50]: Default value for Z50 (mm) in recruited shrubs (when species parameter **RecrZ50** is missing).
- **recrTreeZ95** [= 1000]: Default value for Z95 (mm) in recruited trees (when species parameter **RecrZ50** is missing).
- **recrShrubZ50** [= 500]: Default value for Z95 (mm) in recruited shrubs (when species parameter **RecrZ50** is missing).

#### 18.4.4 Model output

Element	Description
<b>StandSummary</b>	A data frame with stand-level summaries (leaf area index, tree basal area, tree density, shrub cover, etc.) at the beginning of the simulation and after each simulated year.
<b>SpeciesSummary</b>	A data frame with species-level summaries (leaf area index, tree basal area, tree density, shrub cover, etc.) at the beginning of the simulation and after each simulated year.
<b>CohortSummary</b>	A data frame with cohort-level summaries (leaf area index, tree basal area, tree density, shrub cover, etc.) at the beginning of the simulation and after each simulated year.
<b>TreeTable</b>	A data frame with tree-cohort data (species, density, diameter, height, etc.) at the beginning of the simulation (if any) and after each simulated year.
<b>DeadTreeTable</b>	A data frame with dead tree-cohort data (species, density, diameter, height, etc.) at the beginning of the simulation and after each simulated year.
<b>CutTreeTable</b>	A data frame with cut tree-cohort data (species, density, diameter, height, etc.) per each simulated year.
<b>ShrubTable</b>	A data frame with shrub-cohort data (species, density, cover, height, etc.) at the beginning of the simulation and after each simulated year.
<b>DeadShrubTable</b>	A data frame with dead shrub-cohort data (species, density, cover, height, etc.) at the beginning of the simulation (if any) and after each simulated year.
<b>CutShrubTable</b>	A data frame with cut shrub-cohort data (species, density, cover, height, etc.) per each simulated year.
<b>ForestStructure</b>	A list with the <code>forest</code> object of the stand at the beginning of the simulation and after each simulated year.
<b>GrowthResults</b>	A list with the results of calling function <code>growth</code> (i.e., see 15.5.4) for each simulated year.
<b>ManagementArgs</b>	If management is considered, a list of management arguments to be used in another call to <code>fordyn()</code> .

## 18.5 Process details

At the end of a given year, the model first determines the *seed rain* in the stand by determining which cohorts have heights above maturity thresholds for trees (control parameter `seedProductionTreeHeight`) and shrubs (control parameter `seedProductionShrubHeight`). Additionally, the user can impose a seed rain arriving to the stand via dispersal processes, which are not explicitly modelled.

Actual *sapling recruitment* depends on environmental conditions in the stand. Specifically, the model calculates, for the year that ended, the mean temperature of the coldest month ( $TCM$ ), the moisture index ( $MI$ ) and the fraction of photosynthetic active radiation reaching the ground, given the current structure ( $FPAR$ ). These values are compared to species specific parameter thresholds  $TCM_{recr}$ ,  $MI_{recr}$  and  $FPAR_{recr}$ . More specifically, a given species  $i$  will recruit if and only if  $TCM > TCM_{recr,i}$ ,  $MI > MI_{recr,i}$  and  $FPAR > FPAR_{recr,i}$ .

Tree recruitment density, diameter and height are determined by control parameters `recrTreeDensity`, `recrTreeDBH` and `recrTreeHeight`, respectively; whereas cover and height of shrub recruitment is determined by control parameters `recrShrubCover` and `recrShrubHeight`. If stochastic simulation of recruitment is requested, then density values are considered mean values of a Poisson distribution.



## Part VI

# Landscape processes



# Chapter 19

## Watershed hydrology

This chapter describes the distributed watershed water balance model implemented in function `wswb` of package `medfateland`.

### 19.1 Design principles

Watersheds are described in raster (i.e. gridded) mode, each cell representing a patch of vegetation (or another land cover) in a catchment. Watershed water balance simulations extend the simulation of soil water balance to the landscape scale. Hence, the design of most vertical hydrological processes is the same as those of forest water balance. However, additional water compartments and processes are represented in watershed water balance simulations. Each cell in the watershed may include the following: a snowpack compartment, one or several soil layers (including a rocky layer down to several meters depth), and a groundwater compartment assumed to be beyond the reach of plant roots. Similar to other models such as TETIS (Francés *et al.* 2007), three lateral flows are considered between adjacent cells:

- (a) Overland surface flows from upper elevation cells.
- (b) Lateral saturated soil flows (i.e. interflow) between adjacent cells.
- (c) Lateral groundwater flow (i.e. baseflow) between adjacent cells.

Overland surface flows are modeled following T-HYDRO Ostendorf & Reynolds (1993). Subsurface flows, including both soil saturated flow and groundwater flow, are modeled following the kinematic wave approach of DSHVM Wigmosta *et al.* (1994).

Split-parameter parametrization following Francés *et al.* (2007).

### 19.2 State variables

Distributed simulation of rainfall-runoff processes implies that state variables are defined for each cell of the watershed. For this kind of simulations, state variables describing the water content of different compartments are the most important. In the case of *wildland* and *agricultural* cells these are:

- $W_s$ , the proportion of soil moisture in relation to field capacity for each soil layer  $s$  in the cell.
- $S_{snow}$  the snow water equivalent (mm) of the snow pack storage over the cell surface.
- $S_{aquifer}$  the water content (mm) in the cell's aquifer beyond the reach of plant roots.

Additional cell state variables in *wildland* cells concern the water status (or other state variables) of plant cohorts in the cell, and they were described in chapters 3 and 7. In the case of cells of other land cover types (i.e. *rock*, *artificial* or *water*) soils are not defined, and so are soil state variables.

## 19.3 Water balance

In distributed watershed simulations water balance can be defined both at the cell level and at the watershed level.

### 19.3.1 Cell level water balance

At the cell level, daily variations in water content can occur in the *snowpack*, *soil* or *groundwater* compartments:

1. Variations in snowpack water equivalent content follows eq. (3.2).
2. Variations in soil water content ( $\Delta V_{soil}$ ) need to account for additional flows and are summarized as (compare to (3.1)):

$$\Delta V_{soil} = Pr + Sm + Ro + Ad - In - Ru - Dd - Es - Tr + \Delta S_{sat} \quad (19.1)$$

where  $Pr$  is precipitation as rainfall,  $Sm$  is snowmelt,  $Ro$  is surface *runon* water entering the cell from neighboring cells at higher elevation,  $Ad$  is aquifer discharge,  $In$  is rainfall interception loss,  $Ru$  is cell surface runoff,  $Dd$  is deep drainage towards the aquifer,  $Es$  is soil evaporation,  $Tr$  is plant transpiration and  $\Delta S_{sat}$  is the variation in soil water content derived from the balance between saturated soil lateral inputs and outputs.

3. Variations in the aquifer water content of a cell are summarized by:

$$\Delta S_{aquifer} = Dd - Ad - \Delta S_{base} \quad (19.2)$$

where  $\Delta S_{base}$  is the variation in water content of the aquifer derived from the balance between groundwater lateral inputs and outputs.

### 19.3.2 Watershed water balance

At the watershed level, separate water balances can again be defined for the average water content of snow pack, soil or groundwater compartments. These result from averaging water balances across cells. Additionally, a water balance is defined regarding the overall water content in the watershed.

1. Changes in the average snow pack water equivalent over cells is the result of balancing precipitation as snow ( $Ps$ ) and snow melt ( $Sm$ ), both flows averaged over cells:

$$\Delta \hat{S}_{snow} = \hat{P}s - \hat{S}m \quad (19.3)$$

where  $\hat{P}s$  and  $\hat{S}m$  are the average snow fall and snow melt over cells.

2. Changes in the average soil moisture ( $\Delta \hat{V}_{soil}$ ) are the result of pooling soil inputs and outputs over cells, which yields:

$$\Delta \hat{V}_{soil} = \hat{P}r + \hat{S}m + \hat{A}d + \hat{R}o - \hat{R}u - \hat{I}n - \hat{D}d - \hat{E}s - \hat{T}r \quad (19.4)$$

where  $\hat{P}r$ ,  $\hat{A}d$ ,  $\hat{R}o$ ,  $\hat{R}u$ ,  $\hat{I}n$ ,  $\hat{D}d$ ,  $\hat{E}s$  and  $\hat{T}r$  are the average (over cells) of precipitation (including rain and snow), aquifer discharge, lateral surface water input (runon), runoff, rainfall interception loss, deep drainage, soil evaporation and plant transpiration, respectively. Lateral saturated soil flows are not included as they cancel out at the watershed level.



3. Changes in the average of cell aquifer water content ( $\Delta\hat{S}_{aquifer}$ ) are the result of balancing deep drainage ( $Dd$ ) from soils and aquifer discharge ( $Ad$ ):

$$\Delta\hat{S}_{aquifer} = \hat{D}d - \hat{A}d \quad (19.5)$$

4. If we integrate the three water compartments, water balance at the watershed level is given by:

$$\Delta S_{watershed} = \hat{P}r - \hat{I}n - \hat{E}s - \hat{T}r - \hat{E}x \quad (19.6)$$

where  $\Delta S_{watershed} = \Delta\hat{S}_{snow} + \Delta\hat{V}_{soil} + \Delta\hat{S}_{aquifer}$  is the change in water content in the watershed and  $\hat{E}x$  is the water exported as runoff from cells without neighbors (i.e. catchment outlet cells).

## 19.4 Process scheduling

For every day to be simulated, the model performs the following steps:

1. Calculation of soil and groundwater hydraulic heads for each cell (see 19.6.1).
2. Calculation of soil and groundwater lateral flows between adjacent cells, according to hydraulic gradients (see 19.6.1).
3. Apply changes in cell soil moisture content due to soil lateral flows (i.e. determine  $\Delta S_{sub}$  for each cell), including the possibility of a return flow to the surface if the soil becomes saturated (i.e. saturation excess flow).
4. Apply changes in cell aquifer water content, including the possibility of discharge from the aquifer to the soil and a saturation excess flow (eq. (19.2)).
5. Determine remaining cell flows by processing watershed cells in order of decreasing elevation (i.e. cells at higher elevation are processed before cells at lower elevation). For each cell to be processed:
  - a. Determine snowpack dynamics, rainfall interception loss, infiltration and runoff, transpiration, soil evaporation processes as described in 3.4, while including saturation excess flow as well as potential runon ( $Ro$ ) from upslope cells as additional water inputs.
  - b. Distribute surface runoff among cells downhill (19.6.2). If a cell does not have downhill neighbors (i.e. outlet cell) its runoff becomes water exported from the watershed.

The steps listed in the previous steps refer to cells whose land cover is either *wildland* or *agricultural*. In contrast, *rock* and *artificial* cells lack a soil object defined, so that snow pack dynamics is still processed in these cells, but all runon or rainfall input becomes runoff to be passed downhill, and when the level of the aquifer reaches the surface any discharge also becomes runoff. In the case of *water* cells, which also lack a soil, snow pack dynamics is also processed, but all liquid water inputs are poured onto the aquifer water content, and runoff can still occur when the aquifer reaches the surface.

## 19.5 Inputs and outputs

### 19.5.1 Gridded inputs

Hydrological distributed models demand large amounts of data, information and parameters in order to accurately represent the spatial variability of the main hydrological processes and weather inputs. As mentioned in design principles, watersheds are described in raster (i.e. gridded) mode, each cell representing a patch of vegetation (or another land cover) in a catchment. Rasters do not need to be (should not be) complete, since the model is intended to be used on individual catchments with defined boundaries.

Given a set of grid cells representing the watershed at a given spatial resolution, the following information needs to be specified:

1. Land cover type for all cells, with pixels classified into *wildland* (forests, shrublands or grasslands), *agriculture*, *rock* (for rock outcrops), *artificial* (for urban areas) or *water* (for water bodies).
2. Topography, i.e. elevation, slope and aspect for each cell.
3. For each *wildland* cell, a description of plant cohorts in terms of a *forest* object (see 2.3.2).
4. For each *wildland* and *agriculture* cell, a data frame of soil physical properties or an initialized soil object (see 2.2.3).
5. Bedrock hydraulic conductivity and depth to unaltered bedrock for all cells.

### 19.5.2 Watershed meteorology input

Simulation of watershed hydrology requires specifying weather variables for all cells and the simulation period considered. Function `wswb` allows weather to be specified in three ways:

- If a single data frame of daily weather is provided, the model assumes that all watershed cells experience the same weather.
- If an object of class `SpatialPixelsMeteorology` is provided, the model will read daily weather grids from that object (see documentation of package `meteoland`).
- If an object of class `MeteorologyInterpolationData` is provided, the model will call function `interpolationpixels` from package `meteoland` (see package documentation) every day to be simulated.

### 19.5.3 Watershed hydraulic correction parameters

Distributed hydrological models suffer from the need to specify many parameters. Frances et al. (2007) demonstrated that by using a proper parameter structure, it is possible to obtain an excellent automatic calibration of a distributed conceptual model while maintaining the spatial variability of parameters. In particular, they showed how to define effective model parameters for those quantities normally estimated at the point scale, so that model parameters and estimates usually suffer from being *uncommensurable*. Effective model parameters can in this situation be defined as a *correction function* of the corresponding hydrological characteristic. If the correction function takes into account the model and input errors, the temporal and spatial scale effects and also the hydrological characteristics estimation error, it is reasonable to assume the correction function for each parameter will be common to all cells within the watershed. Frances et al. (2007) suggest using a correction factor for each hydraulic parameter, in a strategy called *split-parameter*. From the calibration point of view, a very important consequence of the split-parameter approach is that the number of variables to be adjusted is reduced dramatically.

Our model follows Frances et al. (2007) in that correction factors are defined for three hydraulic parameters with spatial variation across the watershed:

- $K_{drain}$  vertical saturated soil conductivity for deep drainage.
- $K_{sat}$  horizontal saturated soil conductivity for soil lateral flows.
- $K_{base}$  bedrock conductivity for groundwater lateral flows.

The effective model parameter for each of these is defined for the spatial (depending on the grid resolution) and temporal (daily) scales of the model. Each effective parameter is split into the input value, assumed to have been estimated at a given spatial and temporal scale, and the corresponding correction factor, i.e.  $R_{drain}$ ,  $R_{sat}$  and  $R_{base}$ . The values for these correction factors should be the target of calibration procedures, assuming that the spatial heterogeneity of effective parameters is adequately covered by the soil and bedrock spatial inputs.

### 19.5.4 Model outputs

Distributed hydrological models can produce very detailed spatial and temporal outputs, hence consuming lots of memory resources. While the model runs at a daily scale, function `wswb` can be asked to retain spatial outputs and summaries at coarser temporal scales (i.e. weekly, monthly, etc.). The output of function `wswb` is an S3 list of the same class name with the following data elements:

Element	Description
<code>WatershedBalance</code>	Data frame with averaged (over cell) components of the watershed balance corresponding to each summary.
<code>WatershedSoilBalance</code>	Averaged (over cell) components of the watershed balance, including only cells that have defined soils (i.e. <i>wildland</i> and <i>agriculture</i> cells), corresponding to each summary.
<code>CellBalance</code>	Gridded data with the water balance components at each cell, corresponding to each summary.
<code>CellState</code>	Gridded data with the water status at each cell, corresponding to each summary.
<code>DailyRunoff</code>	A matrix with daily runoff (in m3/day) at each of the outlet cells of the landscape.

## 19.6 Process details

### 19.6.1 Subsurface flows

Both soil saturated lateral flow and groundwater lateral flow follow the saturated subsurface flow model of Wigmosta et al. (1994), which is based on a kinematic wave approximation. Each grid cell can exchange water with its eight adjacent neighbors. Local hydraulic gradients are approximated by local ground surface slopes, so that each cell will generally receive water from its upslope neighbors and discharge to its downslope neighbors. The rate of saturated flow from cell  $i$  to its downgradient neighbors is equal to (Wigmosta & Lettenmaier 1999):

$$q_{ij} = -T_i \cdot \tan(\beta_{i,j}) \cdot w_j \quad \beta_{i,j} < 0 \quad (19.7)$$

$$q_{ij} = 0 \quad \beta_{i,j} \geq 0 \quad (19.8)$$

where  $q_{i,k}$  is the flow rate from cell  $i$  in the direction towards neighbor  $j$ ,  $T_i$  is the transmissivity at cell  $i$ ,  $\beta_{i,j}$  is the water table slope in the direction of  $j$ . The transmissivity function for soil saturated lateral flow in cell  $i$  ( $T_{sat,i}$ ) is specified using:

$$T_{sat,i} = \frac{R_{sat} \cdot K_{sat,i} \cdot Z_{soil,i}}{n_{sat}} \cdot (1 - Z_{wt,i}/Z_{soil,i})^{n_{sat}} \quad (19.9)$$

where  $K_{sat,i}$  is the saturated conductivity of the first (top) soil layer in cell  $i$ ,  $Z_{soil,i}$  is the soil depth at cell  $i$ ,  $Z_{wt,i}$  is the water table depth at cell  $i$  and  $n_{sat}$  is a power exponent.  $R_{sat}$  is a correction factor (a watershed parameter) for the fact that  $K_{sat,i}$  is assessed from soil samples, whereas the parameter in the model is defined at the scale of a grid cell (Francés *et al.* 2007). The transmissivity function for groundwater lateral flow in cell  $i$  ( $T_{base,i}$ ) is analogous:

$$T_{base,i} = \frac{R_{base} \cdot K_{base,i} \cdot Z_{bedrock,i}}{n_{base}} \cdot (1 - Z_{aquifer,i}/Z_{bedrock,i})^{n_{base}} \quad (19.10)$$

where  $K_{base,i}$  is the bedrock conductivity at cell  $i$ ,  $Z_{bedrock,i}$  is the depth of the unaltered bedrock,  $Z_{aquifer,i}$  is the depth of the aquifer water table and  $n_{base}$  is again a power exponent.

Saturated lateral flow inputs and outputs for a given cell  $i$  are balanced to determine increase or decrease in soil moisture:

$$\Delta S_{sat,i} = \sum_j q_{sat,ji} - \sum_j q_{sat,ij} \quad (19.11)$$

and the same occurs for groundwater lateral flows and aquifer balance:

$$\Delta S_{base,i} = \sum_j q_{base,ji} - \sum_j q_{base,ij} \quad (19.12)$$

### 19.6.2 Overland flows

To simulate surface runoff routing from one cell to the other, the approach of Ostendorf & Reynolds (1993) is used, as in SIERRA (Mouillot *et al.* 2001). Overland water lateral transport for a given day occurs instantaneously (i.e. no velocities are calculated) and depends on topography only. The model determines cell neighbors following the queen rule (up to eight neighbors per cell). The proportion of surface water runoff of cell  $i$  that will be added to the infiltration input (runon) of a neighboring cell  $j$  is Ostendorf & Reynolds (1993):

$$q_{ij} = \frac{\Delta z_{ij}/L_{ij}}{\sum_j \Delta z_{ij}/L_{ij}} \quad (19.13)$$

if  $\Delta z_{ij} = z_i - z_j > 0$ , that is, if the difference in elevation between the two cells is positive (i.e. if  $z_j < z_i$ ). Otherwise there is no overland transport from  $i$  to  $j$ , i.e.  $q_{ij} = 0$ .  $L_{ij}$  indicates the distance between cell  $i$  and  $j$  (which depends on cell size and on whether the neighboring cell  $j$  is diagonal to cell  $i$ ). The summation of the denominator is done only for neighbors at lower elevation, so that  $\sum_i q_{ij} = 1$ . The table of  $q_{ij}$  values is calculated when initializing distributed watershed objects.

Every day, cells are processed in order from higher to lower elevation. After the daily water balance of a given cell  $i$ , water runoff  $Ru_i$  is divided among the neighboring cells at lower elevation. The runon of a neighbor  $j$ ,  $Ro_j$  is updated as:

$$Ro_j = Ro_j + Ru_i \cdot q_{ij} \quad (19.14)$$

Note that a given cell  $j$  can receive overland flow from more than one neighbor.

### 19.6.3 Watershed runoff

A special situation arises when processing cells that do not have downhill neighbors defined (i.e. where  $q_{ij} = 0$  for all  $j$ ), either because they are in flat surfaces or at the watershed boundary. In both cases, these cells should correspond to water bodies or streams connecting to the catchment outlet. Hence, these cells are called *outlet cells* in the model, and the runoff they generate becomes watershed runoff.

## Part VII

# Static modules



## Chapter 20

# Allometric models

The purpose of this chapter is to describe how certain plant structural attributes are estimated in **medfate** using allometric relationships. These static models are used to initialize vegetation input parameters from forest plot data before simulations (in functions **forest2spwbInput()** and **forest2growthInput()**), to update vegetation structure during growth simulations or to calculate foliar biomass for fuel assessments.

### 20.1 Input data

#### 20.1.1 Forest plot data

As explained in section 2.3, **medfate** has been specially designed to work with forest inventory plots with data in form of plant cohorts. The tree/shrub cohort attributes required to apply allometric models are the following:

Symbol	Units	R	Description	trees	shrubs
$SP_i$		<b>Species</b>	Species identity	Y	Y
$H_i$	cm	<b>Height</b>	Average tree or shrub height	Y	Y
$N_i$	ind $\hat{u}ha^{-1}$	<b>N</b>	Density of tree individuals	Y	N
$DBH_i$	cm	<b>DBH</b>	Tree diameter at breast height	Y	N
$Cover_i$	%	<b>Cover</b>	Shrub percent cover	N	Y

Most allometric functions require data in form of a **forest** object (see section 2.3.2).

#### 20.1.2 Species parameters

The following table shows the allometric coefficients needed for the calculations detailed in this chapter.

Symbol	Units	R param	Description
$a_{fbt}, b_{fbt}, c_{fbt}, d_{fbt}$		<b>a_fbt, b_fbt, c_fbt, d_fbt</b>	Coefficients to calculate foliar biomass of an individual tree
$a_{ash}, b_{ash}$		<b>a_ash, b_ash</b>	Coefficients relating the square of shrub height with shrub area
$a_{bsh}, b_{bsh}$		<b>a_bsh, b_bsh</b>	Coefficients relating crown volume with dry weight of shrub individuals

Symbol	Units	R param	Description
$a_{cr}, b_{1cr}, b_{2cr}, b_{3cr}, c_{1cr}, c_{2cr}$		a_cr, b_1cr, b_2cr, b_3cr, c_1cr, c_2cr	Coefficients to calculate crown ratio of trees
$cr$	[0-1]	cr	Ratio between crown length and total height for shrubs
$r_{6.35}$		r635	Ratio between the weight of leaves plus branches and the weight of leaves alone for branches of 6.35 mm
$SLA$	$m^2 \cdot kg^{-1}$	SLA	Specific leaf area

## 20.2 Allometric relationships

### 20.2.1 Leaf biomass

Leaf biomass calculations are done differently for trees and shrub cohorts. They are calculated from **forest** objects using function `plant_foliarBiomass()`.

#### Tree cohorts

Foliar biomass for a single tree of cohort  $i$  ( $FB_{tree,i}$ ; in  $kg$ ) is calculated using:

$$FB_{tree,i} = a_{fbt} \cdot DBH_i^{b_{fbt}} \cdot e^{c_{fbt} \cdot BAL_i} \cdot DBH_i^{d_{fbt} \cdot BA_{sup}} \quad (20.1)$$

where  $DBH_i$  is the diameter of the tree (in  $cm$ ),  $BAL_i$  is the cumulative basal area ( $m^2 \cdot ha^{-1}$ ) of trees having a larger diameter, and  $a_{fbt}$ ,  $b_{fbt}$ ,  $c_{fbt}$  and  $d_{fbt}$  are species-specific regression coefficients. The foliar biomass of the whole tree cohort ( $FB_i$ ; in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is obtained multiplying tree foliar biomass by tree density ( $N_i$ ; in  $ind. \cdot ha^{-1}$ ):

$$FB_i = FB_{tree,i} \cdot (N_i/10000) \quad (20.2)$$

#### Shrub cohorts

To calculate the leaf biomass of a shrub cohort, we first determine  $A_{sh,i}$ , the area (in  $cm^2$ ) occupied by one average individual of height  $H_i$  (in  $cm$ ), using the relationship:

$$A_{sh,i} = a_{ash} \cdot H_i^{b_{ash}} \quad (20.3)$$

where  $a_{ash}$  and  $b_{ash}$  are species-specific parameters. The model then estimates the dry weight of leaves and branches up to 6.35mm in diameter ( $B_{sh,i}$ , in  $kg$ ) of this average individual (i.e. fine fuel biomass), using an allometric relationship with shrub crown phytovolume assuming a cylinder (in  $cm^3$ ):

$$B_{sh,i} = a_{bsh} \cdot (A_{sh,i} \cdot H_i \cdot cr_i)^{b_{bsh}} \quad (20.4)$$

where  $a_{bsh}$  and  $b_{bsh}$  are species-specific parameters and  $cr_i$  is the crown ratio (a value between 0 and 1, the ratio between crown length and total height). Shrub density ( $N_i$ ; in  $ind. \cdot m^{-2}$ ) can be grossly estimated from percent cover ( $C_i$ , in percent) and  $A_{sh,i}$  (in  $cm^{-2}$ ):

$$N_i = \frac{C_i/100}{A_{sh,i}/10000} \quad (20.5)$$

The fine fuel biomass of a shrub cohort ( $W_i$ , in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is simply the product of  $B_{sh,i}$  ( $kg$  of dry weight) and  $N_i$ :

$$W_i = B_{sh,i} \cdot N_i \quad (20.6)$$

Foliar biomass (in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) can be obtained using the species-specific ratio  $r_{6.35,i}$ :

$$FB_i = W_i/r_{6.35,i} \quad (20.7)$$

If not known,  $r_{6.35,i}$  can be set to a default value of 2 (equivalent to 50% of weight corresponding to leaves).



### 20.2.2 Leaf area and LAI

Leaf area index ( $LAI$  in  $m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$ ) of a given cohort  $i$  can be calculated from its foliar biomass (in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) by using a *specific leaf area* coefficient ( $SLA$ , in  $m^2 \cdot kg^{-1}$ ) that in **medfate** is species-specific:

$$LAI_i = FB_i \cdot SLA \quad (20.8)$$

The leaf area ( $LA$  in  $m^2$ ) of an individual of the cohort is found by dividing it by plant density ( $N_i$ , in  $ind. \cdot ha^{-1}$ ) and multiplying by 10000  $m^2 \cdot ha^{-1}$ :

$$LA_i = 10000 \cdot LAI_i / N_i \quad (20.9)$$

LAI values are calculated from **forest** objects using function **plant\_LAI()**.

### 20.2.3 Crown vertical dimensions

Crown base height, i.e. the height where the first living branch of trees or shrubs occurs, is an important parameter to know the vertical distribution of leaves (see section 2.3.3). Crown base height of a plant cohort  $i$  (i.e.,  $H_{crown,i}$ , in  $cm$ ) is related to the total height of the cohort ( $H_i$ , in  $cm$ ) and its crown ratio ( $CR_i$ ), which is the ratio between crown length and plant height:

$$H_{crown,i} = (1 - CR_i) \cdot H_i \quad (20.10)$$

In the case of shrubs the crown ratio  $CR_i$  is normally an input (species-specific) parameter ( $cr$ ). In the case of trees, the crown ratio is modelled as a function of tree size and stand competition, following a modification of the logistic equation of Hasenauer & Monserud (1996) :

$$CR_i = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(a_{cr} + b_{1cr} \cdot HD_i + b_{2cr} \cdot (H_i/100) + b_{3cr} \cdot DBH_i^2 + c_{1cr} \cdot BAL_i + c_{2cr} \cdot \ln(CCF_i))}} \quad (20.11)$$

where  $HD_i = H_i / (100 \cdot DBH_i)$  is the height to diameter ratio (in  $m \cdot cm^{-1}$ ),  $H_i$  is the tree height,  $DBH_i$  is the diameter,  $CCF_i$  is the crown competition factor and  $a_{cr}$ ,  $b_{1cr}$ ,  $b_{2cr}$ ,  $b_{3cr}$ ,  $c_{1cr}$  and  $c_{2cr}$  are species-specific parameters. The crown competition factor is in turn calculated using (Krajicek *et al.* 1961):

$$CCF_i = \sum_i N_i \cdot \pi \cdot (CW_i/2)^2 / 100 \quad (20.12)$$

where  $N_i$  is the tree density and  $CW_i$  is the crown width (in  $m$ ) assuming an open-grown tree, estimated from an allometric relationship with tree diameter:

$$CW_i = a_{cw} \cdot DBH_i^{b_{cw}} \quad (20.13)$$

where again  $a_{cw}$  and  $b_{cw}$  are species-specific parameters.

Crown ratios can be calculated from forest objects using function **plant\_crownRatio()**. Similar calculations are performed to estimate crown length and crown base height, with functions **plant\_crownLength()** and **plant\_crownBaseHeight()**, respectively.



# Chapter 21

## Post-simulation procedures

### 21.1 Live fuel moisture content

Given an average relative water content ( $RWC$ ) of a plant organ, its live fuel moisture content ( $LFMC$  in  $gH_2O \cdot g^{-1}$  of dry tissue) can be calculated using:

$$LFMC = RWC \cdot \Theta \cdot \frac{\rho_{H_2O}}{\rho} = RWC \cdot LFMC_{max} \quad (21.1)$$

where  $\Theta$  is the tissue porosity ( $cm^3$  of water per  $cm^3$  of tissue),  $\rho$  is the density of the tissue and  $\rho_{H_2O}$  is the density of water. In practice estimates of maximum fuel moisture content  $LFMC_{max}$  are easier to obtain than porosity estimates, so it is more straightforward to estimate  $LFMC$  as the product of  $RWC$  and  $LFMC_{max}$ .

In medfate,  $LFMC$  estimates are assumed to correspond to fine fuels (i.e. leaves and twigs of  $< 6.5$  mm) but are estimated from leaf water content. The relative water content of leaves, and hence its  $LFMC$ , are estimated using (see 10.3.3):

$$LFMC = (RWC_{apo,leaf} \cdot f_{apo,leaf} + RWC_{sym,leaf} \cdot (1 - f_{apo,leaf})) \cdot LFMC_{max} \quad (21.2)$$

where  $RWC_{apo,leaf}$  and  $RWC_{sym,leaf}$  are the relative water content of apoplastic and symplastic leaf tissue and  $f_{apo,leaf}$  is the fraction of apoplastic tissue in leaves.

The package allows estimating  $LFMC$  from the output of `spwb()` or `growth()` using function `moisture_cohortFMC()`, but the post-processing function performs slightly different calculations depending on the complexity of the water balance. Basic soil water balance produces, among other outputs, the daily water potential of each plant cohort,  $\Psi_{plant}$  (representing an weighted average of soil layer water potentials using fine root distribution as weights) and an estimate of the level of stem cavitation,  $PLC_{stem}$ . Daily  $LFMC$  estimates can be obtained from this output if we use  $RWC_{apo,leaf} = 1 - PLC_{stem}$  and calculate  $RWC_{sym,leaf}$  from  $\Psi_{plant}$  using symplasmic leaf pressure-volume curves (see 10.3.1). When using basic water balance, function `moisture_cohortFMC()` takes daily values  $\Psi_{plant}$  and  $PLC_{stem}$  from the simulation output, but parameters  $\pi_{0,leaf}$ ,  $\epsilon_{leaf}$  (i.e. pressure-volume curve parameters),  $f_{apo,leaf}$  and  $LFMC_{max}$  are drawn from the data frame `SpParams` of species parameter values. Unlike the basic water balance, the advanced water balance explicitly tracks the water potential in different plant segments and distinguishes between apoplastic and symplastic tissues. In this case,  $RWC_{apo,leaf}$  and  $RWC_{sym,leaf}$  are obtained directly from the plant water balance, and only  $LFMC_{max}$  is drawn from the data frame `SpParams`.

### 21.2 Water use efficiency



## Chapter 22

# Wind extinction

In this chapter we describe a few wind extinction models that are implemented in **medfate**. Wind extinction is relevant: (a) to determine convective heat exchanges between the soil and the canopy; (b) to estimate wind speed and energy balance at the leaf level for different plant cohorts; and (c) for fire behaviour calculations.

### 22.1 Wind speed at the top of the canopy

Input wind speed ( $u$ ) is assumed to represent the speed of wind at 6 m (20 feet) above the canopy. Following Albini & Baughman (1979) the wind speed (in  $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) at the top of the canopy is:

$$u_{top} = \frac{(1.01857 \cdot u) \cdot 0.4265092 \cdot H_{canopy}}{\log(20 + 1.181102 \cdot H_{top})} \quad (22.1)$$

where  $H_{top}$  is the canopy top height in  $m$ .

### 22.2 Wind extinction profile

The wind extinction profile, i.e the wind speed at any height  $z$  in  $m$ , can be calculated following Massman (1987):

$$\beta_{stand} = \frac{4.0 \cdot 0.2 \cdot LAI_{stand}^{phi}}{0.16 \cdot 1.5^2} \quad (22.2)$$

$$u(z) = u_{top} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\cosh(\beta_{stand} \cdot z / H_{top})}{\cosh(\beta_{stand})}} \quad (22.3)$$



## Chapter 23

# Fuel characteristics and fire behaviour

### 23.1 Overview

Functions `fuel_FCCS()` and `fire_FCCS()` allow calculating potential fire behaviour for forest inventory plots. Formulation of fuel characteristics and fire behaviour is an adaptation of the Fuel Characteristics Classification System [FCCS; Prichard *et al.* (2013)]. In FCCS, fuelbed is divided into six strata, including canopy, shrub, herbaceous vegetation, dead woody materials, leaf litter and ground fuels. All except ground fuels are considered here. The intensity of burning depends on several factors, including topography, wind conditions, fuel structure and its moisture content, which is determined from antecedent and current meteorological conditions. A modification of the Rothermel's (1972) model is used to calculate the intensity of surface fire reaction (in  $kW/m^2$ ) and the rate of fire spread (in  $m/min$ ) of surface fires assuming a steady-state fire. Both quantities are dependent on fuel characteristics, windspeed and direction, and topographic slope and aspect. The model returns the following results: (1) Fuel characteristics by stratum; (2) Surface fire behavior (i.e. reaction intensity, rate of spread, fireline intensity and flame length); (3) Crown fire behavior; (4) Fire potential ratings of surface fire behavior and crown fire behavior.

### 23.2 Input data

#### 23.2.1 Forest plot data

As explained in section 2.3, **medfate** has been specially designed to work with forest inventory plots. The tree/shrub cohort attributes required to apply allometric models are same as for chapter 20:

Symbol	Units	R	Description	trees	shrubs
$SP_i$		<b>Species</b>	Species identity	Y	Y
$H_i$	<i>cm</i>	<b>Height</b>	Average tree or shrub height	Y	Y
$N_i$	<i>indûha</i> <sup>-1</sup>	<b>N</b>	Density of tree individuals	Y	N
$DBH_i$	<i>cm</i>	<b>DBH</b>	Tree diameter at breast height	Y	N
$Cover_i$	%	<b>Cover</b>	Shrub percent cover	N	Y

Cohorts are not distinguished for the herbaceous stratum, and the variables needed are:

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$C_{he}$	%	<b>herbCover</b>	Herbaceous percent cover
$H_{he}$	cm	<b>herbHeight</b>	Mean herb height

Finally, the model also requires the percent cover of trees in the canopy ( $C_{ca}$ ). This is easily available from forest inventory data, but could also be derived from the description of tree cohorts.

Fire behaviour functions require data in form of a **forest** object (see section 2.3.2).

### 23.2.2 Species parameters

The following functional parameters are required for each species:

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$L_{shape}$	Categorical	<b>LeafShape</b>	Leaf shape: “Broad,” “Needle,” “Linear,” “Scale,” “Spines” or “Succulent”
$L_{size}$	Categorical	<b>LeafSize</b>	Leaf size: “Small” (< 225 mm), “Medium” (> 225 mm & < 2025 mm) or “Large” (> 2025 mm)
$r_{6.35}$		<b>r635</b>	Ratio between the weight of leaves plus branches and the weight of leaves alone for branches of 6.35 mm
$\rho_{wood}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>WoodDensity</b>	Density of wood tissue
$\rho_{leaf}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<b>LeafDensity</b>	Density of leaf tissue
$\sigma_i$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-3}$	<b>SAV</b>	Surface-area-to-volume ratio of the small fuel (1h) fraction (leaves and branches < 6.35mm)
$h$	$kJ \cdot kg^{-1}$	<b>HeatContent</b>	High fuel heat content.
$LD$	years	<b>LeafDuration</b>	Leaf duration (in years)
$LI$	%	<b>PercentLignin</b>	Percentage of lignin in leaves

Leaf shape and size categories are used to determine leaf litter fuel types.

### 23.2.3 Other inputs

Other inputs may be given by expert opinion or they may be calculated from another model. Specifically, for each plant cohort (and for any day of application) the fire behaviour model requires:

- $P_{dead}$ : Proportion of the plant that is dead.
- $FMC$ : Fuel moisture content (in percent of dry weight).

Analogously, the same variables are needed for the herbaceous stratum.

- $P_{dead,he}$ : Proportion of herb fuels that respond to humidity changes as 1-h dead fuels.
- $FMC_{live,he}$ : Fuel moisture content of live herb fuels (in percent of dry weight).

The model also needs the following input parameters:

- $FMC_{dead}$ : the moisture content of 1-h dead fuels (in percent of dry weight).
- $U$ : Midflame windspeed (in  $m \cdot s^{-1}$ ).
- $S$ : Slope (in percent).



## 23.3 Fuel characteristics

### 23.3.1 Fuel strata

The Fuel Characteristics Classification System (FCCS) on which this document is based, defines six fuel strata (Prichard *et al.* 2013):

- *Canopy*: Trees, snags and ladder fuels.
- *Shrubs*: Primary and secondary layers.
- *Non-woody vegetation (herbs)*: grasses, sedges, rushes and forbs.
- *Woody fuels*: All downed and dead wood, sound wood, rotten wood and stumps.
- *Litter-lichen-moss*: Lichen, litter and moss layers.
- *Ground fuels*: Duff, basal accumulation and squirrel middens.

Shrubs, herbs and woody fuels are constitute the **upper surface fuels**, whereas herbs and woody fuels alone consitute the **lower surface fuels**. FCCS summarizes and calculates characteristics for each fuelbed stratum and layer. Our model estimates fuel loading and characteristics for canopy, shrub, non-woody vegetation, as well as fine (1h) woody fuels and litter fuels. Larger woody fuels (10h or 100h) could be considered if information about forest management actions is available. Ground fuels are not included here.

### 23.3.2 Cohort fuel loading

Here we consider as burnable fuels foliage and branches up to 6.35 mm = 0.25 in in diameter. The same consideration applies to both trees and shrubs. They are calculated from **forest** objects using function `plant_fuel()`.

#### Tree cohorts

Fine fuel loading for a tree cohort ( $W_i$ ; in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ), including its leaves and branches with diameter up to 6.35 mm = 0.25 in, is calculated from foliar biomass ( $FB_i$ , see eq. (20.2)) using:

$$W_i = r_{6.35,i} \cdot FB_i \quad (23.1)$$

where  $r_{6.35,i}$  is the ratio between the weight of leaves plus branches and the weight of leaves alone for branches of 6.35 mm in diameter for the species of cohort  $i$ . The biomass corresponding to branches of less than < 6.35 mm ( $SBB_i$ , also in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is obtained by subtraction:

$$SBB_i = (r_{6.35,i} - 1) \cdot FB_i \quad (23.2)$$

Whereas  $W_i$  is the cohort loading variable influencing fire behavior,  $FB_i$  and  $SBB_i$  are cohort variables used to estimate fine dead woody and leaf litter loadings.

#### Shrub cohorts

Our procedure to estimate shrub fuel loading differs from Prichard *et al.* (2013) because they calculate first total biomass of the shrub species and then consider the percentage of total weight that corresponds to leaves and small branches. In our case, we estimate fine fuel loading ( $W_i$ , in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) and foliar biomass ( $FB_i$ , in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) of shrubs from eqs. (20.6) and (20.7). Biomass of small branches (in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) can be obtained from :

$$SBB_i = W_i - FB_i \quad (23.3)$$

### 23.3.3 Vertical distribution of cohort fuels

Vertical distribution of fine fuels are distributed between the crown base height ( $H_{crown,i}$ ; in  $cm$ ) and the total height ( $H_i$ , in  $cm$ ) following a **truncated Gaussian distribution**, as done for the distribution of leaves (see section 2.3.3). Crown base height of trees is calculated as explained in 20.2.3. The loading of a cohort that occurs within a given height interval of limits  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  is calculated as:

$$W_i(H_1, H_2) = W_i \cdot p_i(H_1, H_2) \quad (23.4)$$

where  $p_i(H_1, H_2)$  is the proportion of the crown of cohort  $i$  that corresponds to the height interval  $(H_1, H_2)$ .

### 23.3.4 Fuel bulk density profile

Knowing at which height fuels are placed, the **fuel bulk density profile** (Reinhardt *et al.* 2006) is defined for any given interval  $(H_1, H_2)$  as the bulk density ( $kg/m^3$ ) of fine fuels corresponding to that interval:

$$BDP(H_1, H_2) = \frac{\sum_i W_i(H_1, H_2)}{H_2 - H_1} \quad (23.5)$$

Canopy bulk density normally ranges between 0 and  $0.4 kg/m^3$  (Scott & Reinhardt 2002). Sando & Wick (1972) arbitrarily defined canopy base height as the lower vertical 0.3-m section with a weight greater than  $0.01124 kg/m^3$ . A user-defined threshold  $t_{BDP}$  (in  $kg/m^3$ ) in 0.1-m sections is used to differentiate the surface fuelbed from canopy fuels. Using this threshold the model calculates the following three heights (Reinhardt *et al.* 2006):

- *Shrub stratum base height*,  $H_{sb}$  (in  $cm$ ): the minimum height between 0 and 2 m where fuel bulk density is larger than  $t_{BDP}$ .
- *Shrub stratum top height*,  $H_{st}$  (in  $cm$ ): the maximum height between 0 and 2 m where fuel bulk density is larger than  $t_{BDP}$ . With this definition  $h_s$  cannot be higher than 2 m (corresponding to fuel model 4 in Anderson 1982).
- *Canopy base height*,  $H_{cb}$  (in  $cm$ ): In terms of its consequences to crown fire initiation, canopy base height can be defined as the lowest height above the ground at which there is sufficient canopy fuel to propagate fire vertically through the canopy. It is calculated as the minimum height over  $H_{st}$  when the bulk density starts again to be larger than  $t_{BDP}$ .
- *Canopy top height*,  $H_{ct}$  (in  $cm$ ): the maximum height where bulk density is larger than  $t_{BDP}$ .
- *Canopy gap*,  $H_{gap}$  (in  $cm$ ): the difference between  $H_{cb}$  and  $H_{st}$ . The canopy gap is used to calculate crown initiation potential.

Figure 23.1 illustrates the definition and analysis of the fuel bulk density profile for a given forest stand (see function `vprofile_fuelBulkDensity()`). Following Mitsopoulos & Dimitrakopoulos (2007), a threshold  $t_{BDP} = 0.04$  is used to determine shrub and canopy heights.

### 23.3.5 Fuel loading ( $w$ ) and fuel depth ( $\delta$ )

#### 23.3.5.1 Canopy stratum

Canopy loading (in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is the sum of (tree and shrub) cohort loadings above 2 m (i.e. 200 cm):

$$w_{ca} = \sum_i w_{i,ca} = \sum_i W_i(200, \infty) \quad (23.6)$$

where  $w_{i,ca}$  is the canopy stratum loading of cohort  $i$ . Canopy depth (in  $m$ ) is defined as the average of tree (or shrub) crown lengths above 2 m, weighted by the loadings of cohorts in the canopy:

$$\delta_{ca} = \frac{1}{100} \cdot \frac{\sum_i w_{i,ca} \cdot (H_i - H_{b,i}) \cdot p_{i,ca}}{\sum_i w_{i,ca}} \quad (23.7)$$

where the proportion of a tree (or shrub) cohort in the canopy stratum is  $p_{i,ca} = p_i(200, \infty)$ .

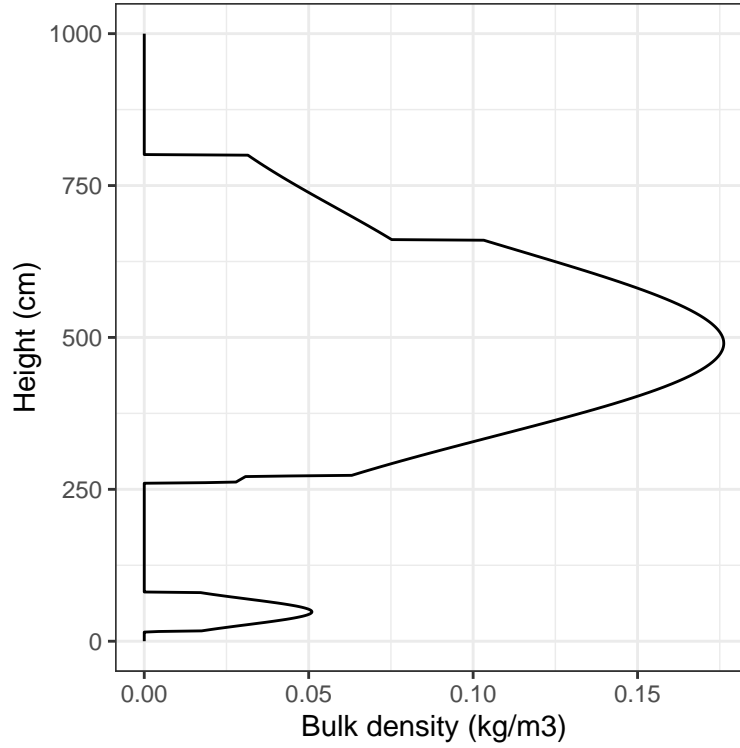


Figure 23.1: Bulk density profile of an example forest

### 23.3.5.2 Shrub stratum

Shrub loading (in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is the sum of (tree and shrub) cohort loadings between the ground and 2 m (i.e. 200 cm):

$$w_{sh} = \sum_i w_{i,sh} = \sum_i W_i(0, 200) \quad (23.8)$$

where  $w_{i,sh}$  is the shrub stratum loading of cohort  $i$ . The depth of the shrub stratum (in  $m$ ) is defined as the average of tree (or shrub) crown lengths below 2 m, weighted by the loadings of cohorts in the shrub stratum:

$$\delta_{sh} = \frac{1}{100} \cdot \frac{\sum_i w_{i,sh} \cdot (H_i - H_{b,i}) \cdot p_{i,sh}}{\sum_i w_{i,sh}} \quad (23.9)$$

where the proportion of a shrub (or tree) cohort in the shrub stratum is  $p_{i,sh} = p_i(0, 200)$ .

### 23.3.5.3 Non-woody stratum

Herb percent cover and average herb height are transformed into herbaceous loading ( $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ) using (ref piropinos):

$$w_{he} = 0.014 \cdot C_{he} \cdot (H_{he}/100) \quad (23.10)$$

The depth of the herbaceous stratum (in  $m$ ) is simply the mean height of herbs:

$$\delta_{he} = H_{he}/100 \quad (23.11)$$

### 23.3.5.4 Woody and litter strata

In FCCS (Prichard *et al.* 2013), woody surface loading includes several fuel sizes. However, when calculating surface fire behavior  $w_{wo}$  includes 100% of 1h fuels, 25% of 10h fuels and 12.5% of 100h fuels, which represents

the material available for flaming combustion. Obtaining loading estimates for 10h- and 100h-fuels is very difficult without field fuel sampling. However, we might estimate 1h woody fuels and leaf litter from standing biomass of small branches ( $< 6.35\text{mm}$ ) and leaves for trees and shrubs. Hence, our treatment of surface woody fuels includes only fine (1h) fuels.

Assuming a continuous input of litter, the variation in accumulated litter is described by a simple differential equation (Birk & Simpson 1980):

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = L - k \cdot X \quad (23.12)$$

where  $k$  is the decay constant,  $L$  is the rate of litterfall and  $X$  is the litter mass accumulated in the forest floor. Assuming that litter mass has reached a steady state,  $X$  can be estimated as the ratio between  $L$  and  $k$ . If litterfall is estimated as the total foliar biomass divided by leaf duration, the amount of steady state leaf litter corresponding to each tree and shrub cohort can be estimated using:

$$w_{li,i} = \frac{FB_i}{LD(SP_i) \cdot k_i} \quad (23.13)$$

where  $FB_i$  is the foliar biomass of cohort  $i$ ,  $LD(SP_i)$  is the species-specific average leaf duration (in years) and  $k_i$  is the rate of decay of leaves of cohort  $i$ , which is given by the regression model of Meentemeyer (1978):

$$k_i = (-0.5365 + 0.00241 \cdot AET) - (-0.01586 + 0.000056 \cdot AET) \cdot LI(SP_i) \quad (23.14)$$

where  $LI(SP_i)$  is the species-specific percentage of lignin content in leaves and AET is actual evapotranspiration (default  $AET = 1000\text{mm}$ ). Litter loadings are summed for four litter types (short pine needles, long pine needles, other conifers, broadleaves). In the case of fine dead woody materials (small fallen branches), loading of small branches is taken as woody litter and it is assumed that small branch litterfall occurs at the same time as leaf litterfall (i.e. according to leaf duration):

$$w_{wo} = \sum_i w_{wo,i} = \sum_i \frac{SBB_i}{LD(SP_i) \cdot k_{wo}} \quad (23.15)$$

where  $k_{wo} = 0.95\text{y}^{-1}$  is a constant rate of decomposition for small branches.

In FCCS, the depth of woody and LLM strata are inputs. In our case the depth of the woody and litter strata are estimated from the corresponding fuel loadings:

$$\delta_{wo} = w_{wo} / \rho_{b,wo} \quad (23.16)$$

$$\delta_{li} = w_{li} / \rho_{b,li} \quad (23.17)$$

where  $\rho_{b,wo}$ ,  $\rho_{b,li}$  are the woody and litter bulk density (in  $\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ ), respectively. Litter bulk density  $\rho_{b,li}$  is calculated as a weighted average of litter types:

$$\rho_{b,li} = \frac{\sum_k \rho_{b,k} \cdot w_{li,k}}{\sum_k w_{li,k}} \quad (23.18)$$

where  $k$  indicates litter type. The bulk density for litter types are [Prichard *et al.* (2013); Table 1]:

$$\rho_{b,shortneedlepine} = \rho_{b,longneedlepine} = \rho_{b,otherconifer} = 1.65\text{lb} \cdot \text{ft}^{-3} = 26.43\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \quad (23.19)$$

$$\rho_{b,hardwood} = 0.83\text{lb} \cdot \text{ft}^{-3} = 13.30\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \quad (23.20)$$

### 23.3.6 Other fuel characteristics

All the following characteristics are calculated in metric units (although British units are indicated to qualify specific values for compatibility).

**23.3.6.1 Particle density ( $\rho_p$ )**

Particle density is the ratio of dry weight over volume for fuel particles (in  $kg \cdot m^{-3}$ ). When species have different values, particle density averages for shrub and canopy strata can be obtained as:

$$\rho_{p,sh} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,sh} \cdot \rho_p(SP_i)}{\sum_i w_{i,sh}} \quad (23.21)$$

$$\rho_{p,ca} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,ca} \cdot \rho_p(SP_i)}{\sum_i w_{i,ca}} \quad (23.22)$$

where  $\rho_p(SP_i)$  is the species-specific particle density (in  $kg \cdot m^{-3}$ ), which can be obtained from wood tissue ( $\rho_{wood}$ ) and leaf tissue ( $\rho_{leaf}$ ) densities, using  $r_{6.35}$  to weight them:

$$\rho_p(SP_i) = 1000 \cdot (\rho_{leaf}(SP_i) \cdot f_{leaves,vol} + \rho_{wood}(SP_i) \cdot (1 - f_{leaves,vol})) \quad (23.23)$$

where  $f_{leaves,vol}$  is the volumetric fraction of leaves with respect to branchlets:

$$f_{leaves,vol} = \left[ 1.0 + (r_{6.35}(SP_i) - 1.0) \cdot \frac{\rho_{wood}(SP_i)}{\rho_{leaf}(SP_i)} \right]^{-1} \quad (23.24)$$

Dead woody and litter particle densities, i.e.  $\rho_{p,wo}$  and  $\rho_{p,li}$ , are obtained averaging wood tissue and leaf tissue densities across cohorts:

$$\rho_{p,wo} = \frac{\sum_i w_i \cdot \rho_{wood}(SP_i)}{\sum_i w_i} \quad (23.25)$$

$$\rho_{p,li} = \frac{\sum_i w_i \cdot \rho_{leaf}(SP_i)}{\sum_i w_i} \quad (23.26)$$

$$(23.27)$$

Finally, herb particle density,  $\rho_{p,he}$ , is set to a default value  $\rho_{p,he} = 400kg \cdot m^{-3} = 25lb \cdot ft^{-3}$  (Prichard *et al.* 2013).

**23.3.6.2 Particle volume ( $PV$ )**

Particle volume is defined as the volume of particles per surface area (in  $m^3 \cdot m^{-2}$ ). Is calculated as dry weight loading divided by particle density. If species have different particle density values, the particle volume for canopy ( $PV_{ca}$ ) and shrub( $PV_{sh}$ ) strata can be calculated using:

$$PV_{ca} = \sum_i PV_{i,ca} = \sum_i w_{i,ca} / \rho_p(SP_i) \quad (23.28)$$

$$PV_{sh} = \sum_i PV_{i,sh} = \sum_i w_{i,sh} / \rho_p(SP_i) \quad (23.29)$$

where  $PV_{i,ca}$  and  $PV_{i,sh}$  are the particle volume of cohort  $i$  in the canopy and shrub strata, respectively. The particle volume for woody and herb strata are simply:

$$PV_{wo} = w_{wo} / \rho_{p,wo} \quad (23.30)$$

$$PV_{he} = w_{he} / \rho_{p,he} \quad (23.31)$$

The particle volume for the litter stratum is the sum of particle volume of litter components:

$$PV_{li} = \sum_i PV_{li,k} = \sum_i w_{li,k} / \rho_{p,li} \quad (23.32)$$

### 23.3.6.3 Packing ratio ( $\beta$ )

The proportion of fuelbed stratum volume occupied by fuel particles is an important factor to predict fire behavior. At low packing ratios (low particle density) fire intensity is limited by excessive heat loss. At high packing ratios (high particle density), lack of oxygen limits combustion. The packing ratios for the canopy and shrub stratum ( $\beta_{ca}$  and  $\beta_{sh}$ ; dimensionless) are given by:

$$\beta_{ca} = \frac{PV_{ca}}{\delta_{ca}} \quad (23.33)$$

$$\beta_{sh} = \frac{PV_{sh}}{\delta_{sh}} \quad (23.34)$$

where  $w_{i,ca}$  and  $w_{i,sh}$  are the contribution of cohort  $i$  to canopy and shrub strata loading (in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ), respectively, and  $\rho_p(SP_i)$  is the particle density (in  $kg \cdot m^{-3}$ ) of fuels in cohort  $i$ . The packing ratio for the herbaceous, woody and litter strata are:

$$\beta_{he} = \frac{PV_{he}}{\delta_{he}} \quad (23.35)$$

$$\beta_{wo} = \frac{PV_{wo}}{\delta_{wo}} = \frac{\rho_{b,wo}}{\rho_{p,wo}} \quad (23.36)$$

$$\beta_{li} = \frac{PV_{li}}{\delta_{li}} = \frac{\rho_{b,li}}{\rho_{p,li}} \quad (23.37)$$

Note that the packing ratio expressions for woody and litter strata as a ratio of bulk and particle density arises as a consequence of how fuel depth and particle volume are estimated.

### 23.3.6.4 Surface-area-to-volume ratio ( $\sigma$ )

The surface-area-to-volume ratio (in  $m^2 \cdot m^{-3}$ ) for the canopy or shrub strata are calculated using weighted averages:

$$\sigma_{ca} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,ca} \cdot \sigma(SP_i)}{\sum_i w_{i,ca}} \quad (23.38)$$

$$\sigma_{sh} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,sh} \cdot \sigma(SP_i)}{\sum_i w_{i,sh}} \quad (23.39)$$

where  $w_{i,ca}$  and  $w_{i,sh}$  are the contribution of cohort  $i$  to canopy and shrub strata loading (in  $kg \cdot m^{-2}$ ), respectively, and  $\sigma(SP_i)$  is the species-specific surface-area-to-volume ratio. The surface-area-to-volume ratio of herbs is assumed constant  $\sigma_{he} = 11483m^2 \cdot m^{-3} = 3500ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3}$  and that of small (1-h) woody fuels is  $\sigma_{wo} = 1601.05m^2 \cdot m^{-3} = 488ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3}$ . The surface-area-to-volume ratio for the litter stratum is:

$$\sigma_{li} = \frac{\sum_k w_{li,k} \cdot \sigma_k}{\sum_k w_{li,k}} \quad (23.40)$$

and the surface-area-to-volume ratio for litter types are:

$$\sigma_{shortneedlepine} = 6562m^2 \cdot m^{-3} = 2000ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3} \quad (23.41)$$

$$\sigma_{longneedlepine} = 4921m^2 \cdot m^{-3} = 1500ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3} \quad (23.42)$$

$$\sigma_{otherconifer} = 8202m^2 \cdot m^{-3} = 2500ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3} \quad (23.43)$$

$$\sigma_{hardwood} = 8202m^2 \cdot m^{-3} = 2500ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3} \quad (23.44)$$

### 23.3.6.5 Fuel area index (FAI)

The fuel area index (FAI) is the total fuel surface area per unit of ground area (unitless). It is analogous to leave area index (LAI), and it is used to calculate FCCS fire potentials (Schaaf *et al.* 2007). For shrub and canopy strata, FAI is calculated as:

$$FAI_{ca} = \sum_i FAI_{i,ca} = \sum_i PV_{i,ca} \cdot \sigma(SP_i) \quad (23.45)$$

$$FAI_{sh} = \sum_i FAI_{i,sh} = \sum_i PV_{i,sh} \cdot \sigma(SP_i) \quad (23.46)$$

where  $FAI_{i,ca}$  and  $FAI_{i,sh}$  are the FAI of cohort  $i$  in the canopy and shrub strata, respectively. The FAI of herbs and woody strata are given by:

$$FAI_{he} = PV_{he} \cdot \sigma_{he} \quad (23.47)$$

$$FAI_{wo} = PV_{wo} \cdot \sigma_{wo} \quad (23.48)$$

For the litter layer, FAI is calculated as a sum of FAI for litter components:

$$FAI_{li} = \sum_k FAI_{li,k} = \sum_k PV_{li,k} \cdot \sigma_k \quad (23.49)$$

### 23.3.6.6 Moisture content (FMC)

Fuel moisture content (FMC in percent of dry weight) is averaged across cohorts composing the shrub or canopy strata, to obtain  $FMC_{live,sh}$  and  $FMC_{live,ca}$ :

$$FMC_{live,sh} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,sh} \cdot FMC_i}{\sum_i w_{i,sh}} \quad (23.50)$$

$$FMC_{live,ca} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,ca} \cdot FMC_i}{\sum_i w_{i,ca}} \quad (23.51)$$

Live fuel moisture of herb stratum ( $FMC_{live,he}$ ) is an input. The moisture of dead plant in the canopy and shrub layers ( $FMC_{dead,ca}$  and  $FMC_{dead,sh}$ ), the moisture of dead herbs ( $FMC_{dead,he}$ ), as well as that of litter ( $FMC_{li}$ ) and woody ( $FMC_{wo}$ ) strata are all assumed equal to the moisture of 1-h dead fuels, which is an input of the model.

### 23.3.6.7 Proportion of dead fuel ( $P_{dead}$ )

Woody and litter strata are dead fuels, but for canopy, shrub and herb strata the proportion of fuels that are dead are variable. The proportion of dead fuels in the herbaceous stratum ( $P_{dead,he}$ ) is an input of the model, but for the shrub and canopy strata these are calculated from the proportion of dead fuels in each cohort:

$$P_{dead,sh} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,sh} \cdot P_{dead,i}}{\sum_i w_{i,sh}} \quad (23.52)$$

$$P_{dead,ca} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,ca} \cdot P_{dead,i}}{\sum_i w_{i,ca}} \quad (23.53)$$

### 23.3.6.8 Low heat content ( $h$ )

The low fuel heat content of each surface fuel stratum (in  $kJ \cdot kg^{-1}$ ) is used for the calculation of reaction intensity. Heat content values are adjusted for live foliar moisture content in canopy, shrub and herb strata;

and are left to the default value for woody and litter strata:

$$h_{ca} = h_{ca,def} - (M_{live,ca}/100) \cdot V \quad (23.54)$$

$$h_{sh} = h_{sh,def} - (M_{live,sh}/100) \cdot V \quad (23.55)$$

$$h_{he} = h_{def} - (M_{live,he}/100) \cdot V \quad (23.56)$$

$$h_{wo} = h_{li} = h_{def} \quad (23.57)$$

where  $h_{def} = 18608 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} = 8000 \text{ Btu} \cdot \text{lb}^{-1}$  is the default low heat content value for herbs, woody and litter strata, and  $V = 2596 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} = 1116 \text{ Btu} \cdot \text{lb}$  is the latent heat of vaporisation of water. The default low heat of contents for the canopy and shrub strata ( $h_{ca,def}$  and  $h_{sh,def}$ ) are calculated as a weighted average across cohorts:

$$h_{ca,def} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,ca} \cdot h(SP_i)}{\sum_i w_{i,ca}} \quad (23.58)$$

$$h_{sh,def} = \frac{\sum_i w_{i,sh} \cdot h(SP_i)}{\sum_i w_{i,sh}} \quad (23.59)$$

where  $h(SP_i)$  is a species-specific low heat content value.

### 23.3.6.9 Reactive volume (RV)

The volume per surface unit ( $\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ ) that would be involved in flaming combustion.

$$RV_{sh} = w_{shrub}/\rho_{p,sh} \quad (23.60)$$

$$RV_{he} = w_{he}/\rho_{p,he} \quad (23.61)$$

$$RV_{wo} = w_{wo}/\rho_{p,wo} \quad (23.62)$$

$$RV_{li} = \min(w_{li}, w_{\max,li})/\rho_{p,li} \quad (23.63)$$

In the case of litter, the flame loading is limited by  $w_{\max,li}$ , the maximum loading that would be consumed in the flaming stage of combustion, calculated as a weighted average of litter types:

$$w_{\max,li} = \frac{\sum_k w_{\max,k} \cdot w_{li,k}}{\sum_k w_{li,k}} \quad (23.64)$$

where  $k$  indicates litter type. The maximum combustion loadings for litter types are [Prichard *et al.* (2013); Table 2]:

$$w_{\max,shortneedlepine} = w_{\max,otherconifer} = 0.3248 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} = 2900 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ac}^{-1} \quad (23.65)$$

$$w_{\max,longneedlepine} = 0.6496 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} = 5800 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ac}^{-1} \quad (23.66)$$

$$w_{\max,hardwood} = 0.3472 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} = 3100 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ac}^{-1} \quad (23.67)$$

### 23.3.7 Unit conversion of fuel characteristics

FCCS calculations employ empirical equations that were derived in British units system. Hence, all the fuel characteristics and model inputs that are in metric units have to be translated into British units prior to fire behaviour calculations:

- Loading:  $1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} = 0.204918 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft}^{-2}$
- Depths:  $1 \text{ m} = 3.2808399 \text{ ft}$
- Particle density and bulk density:  $1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3} = 0.06242796 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft}^{-3}$
- Particle volume and reactive volume:  $1 \text{ m}^3 \cdot \text{m}^{-2} = 3.2808399 \text{ ft}^3 \cdot \text{ft}^{-2}$
- Surface-to-area-volume ratio:  $1 \text{ m}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-3} = 0.3048 \text{ ft}^2 \cdot \text{ft}^{-3}$
- Heat content:  $1 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} = 0.429922614 \text{ Btu} \cdot \text{lb}^{-1}$
- Wind speed:  $1 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} = 2.23693629 \text{ mph}$



## 23.4 Surface fire behavior

### 23.4.1 Surface rate of spread ( $R$ )

In the Rothermel (1972) model, surface rate of spread is defined as the ratio of heat source (i.e. the surface fire energy propagated to unburned fuels) to surface fuel heat sink (i.e. the energy required to preheat fuels). Owing to the difference in packing ratio between the litter stratum and the other surface fuels, litter-dominated fuelbeds may have substantially different spread rates than other fuelbeds. For this reason, in FCCS the rate of spread (in  $ft \cdot min^{-1}$ ) is calculated separately for litter stratum and the final rate of spread is the maximum of the rate of spread of all surface fuels and that of the litter stratum. Rate of spread is also limited to a maximum based in windspeed and slope.

$$R = \min(WindSlopeCap, \max(R_{surf}, R_{litter})) \quad (23.68)$$

The surface fuel and litter fuel rates of spread are given by the application of Rothermel's (1972) equation to each case:

$$R_{surf} = \frac{I_{R,surf} \cdot \xi_{surf} \cdot (1 + \phi_W + \phi_S)}{q_{surf}} \quad (23.69)$$

$$R_{litter} = \frac{I_{R,litter} \cdot \xi_{litter} \cdot (1 + \phi_W + \phi_S)}{q_{litter}} \quad (23.70)$$

where  $I_{R,surf}$  and  $I_{R,litter}$  are the reaction intensities (in  $Btu \cdot ft^{-2} \cdot min^{-1}$ ),  $\xi_{surf}$  and  $\xi_{litter}$  are the propagating flux ratios,  $q_{surf}$  and  $q_{litter}$  are the heat sinks. Finally,  $\phi_W$  and  $\phi_S$  are the slope and wind modifiers. All of them are explained in the following sections. The maximum rate of spread calculated from windspeed and slope is:

$$WindSlopeCap = 88 \cdot U \cdot (1 + \phi_S) \quad (23.71)$$

where  $U$  is windspeed (in  $mph$ ) and 88 is a conversion factor (from  $mph$  to  $ft/min$ ).

#### 23.4.1.1 Reaction intensity ( $I_R$ )

Reaction intensity of surface fuels (in  $Btu \cdot ft^{-2} \cdot min^{-1}$ ) is calculated as the sum of component reaction intensities of the four different surface fuel strata, whereas the reaction intensity in the litter uses this strata alone:

$$I_{R,surf} = I_{R,sh} + I_{R,he} + I_{R,wo} + I_{R,li} \quad (23.72)$$

$$I_{R,litter} = I_{R,li} \quad (23.73)$$

Each component reaction intensity is calculated using:

$$I_{R,sh} = (\eta_{\beta'_{allsurf}})^{A_{sh}} \cdot \Gamma'_{max,sh} \cdot w_{sh} \cdot h_{sh} \cdot \eta_{FMC,sh} \cdot \eta_{K,sh} \quad (23.74)$$

$$I_{R,he} = (\eta_{\beta'_{lowsurf}})^{A_{he}} \cdot \Gamma'_{max,he} \cdot w_{he} \cdot h_{he} \cdot \eta_{FMC,he} \cdot \eta_{K,he} \quad (23.75)$$

$$I_{R,wo} = (\eta_{\beta'_{lowsurf}})^{A_{wo}} \cdot \Gamma'_{max,wo} \cdot w_{wo} \cdot h_{wo} \cdot \eta_{FMC,wo} \cdot \eta_{K,wo} \quad (23.76)$$

$$I_{R,li} = (\eta_{\beta'_{litter}})^{A_{li}} \cdot \Gamma'_{max,li} \cdot w_{li} \cdot h_{li} \cdot \eta_{FMC,li} \cdot \eta_{K,li} \quad (23.77)$$

In the above equations,  $w_{sh}$ ,  $w_{he}$ ,  $w_{wo}$  and  $w_{li}$  are the loadings of the corresponding shrub, herb, woody and litter strata, respectively. These quantities were defined in previous sections, as were the corresponding low heat fuel contents ( $h_{sh}$ ,  $h_{he}$ ,  $h_{wo}$  and  $h_{li}$ ). Mineral damping coefficient ( $\eta_K$ ; dimensionless) is set to the same value (corresponding to the conventional value for silica-free ash content of 1%) for all strata:

$$\eta_{K,sh} = \eta_{K,he} = \eta_{K,wo} = \eta_{K,li} = 0.42 \quad (23.78)$$

In the following subsections, we describe the calculation of the remaining variables for each stratum: reaction efficiency ( $\eta_{\beta'}$ ), Rothermel's  $A$  parameter, maximum reaction velocity ( $\Gamma'_{max}$ ) and moisture damping coefficient ( $\eta_{FMC}$ ).

### 23.4.1.2 Reaction efficiency ( $\eta_{\beta'}$ )

Reaction efficiency (between 0 and 1) represents the damping effect of inefficiently packed fuels in the reaction intensity. Because shrubs rarely burn without lower surface fuels, the reaction efficiency of the surface layer ( $\eta_{\beta'_{allsurf}}$ ) includes shrubs, herbs and woody fuels. Low surface fuels may carry flames without involving shrubs, so are assumed to burn with a single reaction efficiency ( $\eta_{\beta'_{lowsurf}}$ ) determined by the combined characteristics of herb and woody fuel strata. Both are calculated similarly:

$$\eta_{\beta'_{allsurf}} = \beta'_{allsurf} \cdot e^{1-\beta'_{allsurf}} \quad (23.79)$$

$$\eta_{\beta'_{lowsurf}} = \beta'_{lowsurf} \cdot e^{1-\beta'_{lowsurf}} \quad (23.80)$$

where  $\beta'_{allsurf}$  and  $\beta'_{lowsurf}$  are the relative packing ratios corresponding to all surface fuels and low surface fuels, respectively. Relative packing ratios ( $\beta'$ ; dimensionless) are defined as the ratio of optimum depth ( $\delta_{opt}$ ) to effective depth ( $\delta_{eff}$ ):

$$\beta'_{allsurf} = \delta_{opt,allsurf} / \delta_{eff,allsurf} \quad (23.81)$$

$$\beta'_{lowsurf} = \delta_{opt,lowsurf} / \delta_{eff,lowsurf} \quad (23.82)$$

Optimum depth is the depth (in  $ft$ ) at which fuels are optimally packed for maximum reaction intensity:

$$\delta_{opt,allsurf} = PV_{allsurf} + OptAirVol_{allsurf} \quad (23.83)$$

$$\delta_{opt,lowsurf} = PV_{lowsurf} + OptAirVol_{lowsurf} \quad (23.84)$$

where  $PV_{allsurf}$  and  $PV_{lowsurf}$  are the volume of particles (in  $ft^3 \cdot ft^{-2}$ ) for all surface fuels and low surface fuels, respectively, given by:

$$PV_{allsurf} = PV_{sh} + PV_{he} + PV_{wo} \quad (23.85)$$

$$PV_{lowsurf} = PV_{he} + PV_{wo} \quad (23.86)$$

$OptAirVol_{allsurf}$  and  $OptAirVol_{lowsurf}$  are the volume of air space (in  $ft^3 \cdot ft^{-2}$ ) between fuel particles that would result in maximum reaction intensity:

$$OptAirVol_{allsurf} = 45 \cdot (RV_{sh} + RV_{he} + RV_{wo}) \quad (23.87)$$

$$OptAirVol_{lowsurf} = 45 \cdot (RV_{he} + RV_{wo}) \quad (23.88)$$

On the other hand, effective depths of all surface fuels and low surface fuels (in  $ft$ ) are calculated as their depth, weighted by the reactive volume (and percentage cover in FCCS):

$$\delta_{eff,allsurf} = \frac{(RV_{sh} \cdot \delta_{sh}) + (RV_{he} \cdot \delta_{he}) + (RV_{wo} \cdot \delta_{wo})}{RV_{sh} + RV_{he} + RV_{wo}} \quad (23.89)$$

$$\delta_{eff,lowsurf} = \frac{(RV_{he} \cdot \delta_{he}) + (RV_{wo} \cdot \delta_{wo})}{RV_{he} + RV_{wo}} \quad (23.90)$$

Reaction efficiency of the litter stratum is determined separately from the other strata. It is defined as the average of reaction efficiency across litter types, calculated using loadings as weights:

$$\eta_{\beta'_{litter}} = \frac{\sum_k \eta_{\beta'_k} \cdot w_{li,k}}{\sum_k w_{li,k}} \quad (23.91)$$

where  $k$  indicates litter type. The reaction efficiencies of litter types are [Prichard *et al.* (2013); Table 2]:

$$\eta_{\beta'_{shortneedlepine}} = \eta_{\beta'_{otherconifer}} = 0.18 \quad (23.92)$$

$$\eta_{\beta'_{longneedlepine}} = 0.27 \quad (23.93)$$

$$\eta_{\beta'_{hardwood}} = 0.11 \quad (23.94)$$

### 23.4.1.3 Rothermel's A

A dimensionless coefficient that modifies reaction's efficiency (eq. (23.80)) to account for lower sensitivity of reaction efficiency to relative packing ratio in flash fuels:

$$A_{wo} = A_{li} = 1.0 \quad (23.95)$$

$$A_{sh} = 133 \cdot \sigma_{sh}^{-0.7913} \quad (23.96)$$

$$A_{he} = 133 \cdot \sigma_{he}^{-0.7913} \quad (23.97)$$

where  $\sigma_{sh}$  and  $\sigma_{he}$  have to be expressed in  $ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3}$ ; Values 133 and  $-0.7913$  are empirical constants (Rothermel 1972).

### 23.4.1.4 Maximum reaction velocity ( $\Gamma'_{\max}$ )

The reaction velocity (in  $min^{-1}$ ) that would exist at optimum fuelbed depth with no fuel moisture or mineral content.

$$\Gamma'_{\max,sh} = 9.495 \cdot \frac{\sigma_{sh}}{\sigma_{wo}} \quad (23.98)$$

$$\Gamma'_{\max,he} = 9.495 \cdot \frac{\sigma_{he}}{\sigma_{wo}} \quad (23.99)$$

$$\Gamma'_{\max,wo} = 9.495 \quad (23.100)$$

$$\Gamma'_{\max,li} = 15 \quad (23.101)$$

where  $\sigma_{wo} = 488 ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3} = 1601.05 m^2 \cdot m^{-3}$  is the surface-to-area-volume ratio typical of small woody fuels. In Prichard *et al.* (2013)  $\sigma_{sh}$  is defined as the average of shrub foliar surface-to-area-volume ratio and  $\sigma_{wo}$ , but in our case  $\sigma(SP_i)$  for each species includes both leaves and small branches. Eq. (23.101) represent a significant departure from Rothermel (1972) maximum reaction velocity, and are also different from Sandberg *et al.* (2007).

### 23.4.1.5 Moisture damping coefficient ( $\eta_{FMC}$ )

Moisture damping reduces reaction velocity and hence reaction intensity (eq. (23.73)). It is calculated for each stratum using the following regression equations:

$$\eta_{FMC, live, sh} = \left[ 1 - 2.59 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, sh}}{X_{live, sh}} \right) \right] + \left[ 5.11 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, sh}}{X_{live, sh}} \right)^2 \right] - \left[ 3.52 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, sh}}{X_{live, sh}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (23.102)$$

$$\eta_{FMC, dead, sh} = \left[ 1 - 2.59 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, sh}}{X_{dead, sh}} \right) \right] + \left[ 5.11 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, sh}}{X_{dead, sh}} \right)^2 \right] - \left[ 3.52 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, sh}}{X_{dead, sh}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (23.103)$$

$$\eta_{FMC, live, he} = \left[ 1 - 2.59 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, he}}{X_{live, he}} \right) \right] + \left[ 5.11 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, he}}{X_{live, he}} \right)^2 \right] - \left[ 3.52 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, he}}{X_{live, he}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (23.104)$$

$$\eta_{FMC, dead, he} = \left[ 1 - 2.59 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, he}}{X_{dead, he}} \right) \right] + \left[ 5.11 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, he}}{X_{dead, he}} \right)^2 \right] - \left[ 3.52 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, he}}{X_{dead, he}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (23.105)$$

$$\eta_{FMC, wo} = \left[ 1 - 2.59 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{wo}}{X_{wo}} \right) \right] + \left[ 5.11 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{wo}}{X_{wo}} \right)^2 \right] - \left[ 3.52 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{wo}}{X_{wo}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (23.106)$$

$$\eta_{FMC, li} = \left[ 1 - 2.59 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{li}}{X_{li}} \right) \right] + \left[ 5.11 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{li}}{X_{li}} \right)^2 \right] - \left[ 3.52 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{li}}{X_{li}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (23.107)$$

where moisture contents of extinctions were arbitrarily set to  $X_{dead, sh} = X_{dead, he} X_{wo} = X_{li} = 25$ ,  $X_{live, sh} = 180$  and  $X_{live, he} = 120$  in Sandberg *et al.* (2007). As it can be seen in the equations above, in the case of

shrub and herb strata, moisture damping of live and dead fuels are differentiated. Average values are found after accounting for the proportion of live and dead material:

$$\eta_{FMC,sh} = \eta_{FMC,live,sh} \cdot (1 - P_{dead,sh}) + \eta_{FMC,dead,sh} \cdot P_{dead,sh} \quad (23.108)$$

$$\eta_{FMC,he} = \eta_{FMC,live,he} \cdot (1 - P_{dead,he}) + \eta_{FMC,dead,he} \cdot P_{dead,he} \quad (23.109)$$

#### 23.4.1.6 Propagating flux ratio ( $\xi$ )

The propagating flux ratio (dimensionless) is the proportion of the reaction intensity (eq. (23.73)) that contributes to the forward rate of spread, estimated using an empirical regression:

$$\xi_{surf} = 0.03 + 2.5 \cdot \min \left[ 0.06, \frac{RV_{sh} + RV_{he} + RV_{wo} + RV_{li}}{\delta_{surfheatsink}} \right] \quad (23.110)$$

$$\xi_{litter} = 0.03 + 2.5 \cdot \min \left[ 0.06, \frac{RV_{li}}{\delta_{li}} \right] \quad (23.111)$$

where  $\delta_{surfheatsink}$  is the depth of surface heat sink (in  $ft$ ), which in Prichard *et al.* (2013) is calculated as the sum of strata depths weighted by their relative cover. In our case we weighted stratum depths as in the calculation of effective depth ( $\delta_{eff,allsurf}$ ), but considering all four strata:

$$\delta_{surfheatsink} = \frac{(RV_{sh} \cdot \delta_{sh}) + (RV_{he} \cdot \delta_{he}) + (RV_{wo} \cdot \delta_{wo}) + (RV_{li} \cdot \delta_{li})}{RV_{sh} + RV_{he} + RV_{wo} + RV_{li}} \quad (23.112)$$

#### 23.4.2 Heat sink ( $q$ )

Like reaction intensity, the heat sink term (in  $Btu \cdot ft^{-3}$ ) of the rate of spread equation is calculated in FCCS for each fuel stratum and then summed:

$$q_{surf} = q_{sh} + q_{he} + q_{wo} + q_{li} \quad (23.113)$$

$$q_{litter} = q_{li} \quad (23.114)$$

where the heat sink for each stratum is:

$$q_{sh} = \eta_{\beta'_{surf}} \cdot \frac{RV_{sh} \cdot \rho_{p,sh} \cdot Qig_{sh}}{\min(\delta_{sh}, 1ft)} \quad (23.115)$$

$$q_{he} = \eta_{\beta'_{lowsurf}} \cdot \frac{RV_{he} \cdot \rho_{p,he} \cdot Qig_{he}}{\min(\delta_{he}, 1ft)} \quad (23.116)$$

$$q_{wo} = \eta_{\beta'_{lowsurf}} \cdot \frac{RV_{wo} \cdot \rho_{p,wo} \cdot Qig_{wo}}{\min(\delta_{wo}, 1ft)} \quad (23.117)$$

$$q_{li} = \eta_{\beta'_{li}} \cdot \frac{RV_{li} \cdot \rho_{p,li} \cdot Qig_{li}}{\min(\delta_{li}, 1ft)} \quad (23.118)$$

Where  $\rho_{p,sh}$ ,  $\rho_{p,he}$ ,  $\rho_{p,wo}$  and  $\rho_{p,li}$  are the particle densities (in  $lb \cdot ft^{-3}$ ) of each fuel stratum; and  $RV_{sh}$ ,  $RV_{he}$ ,  $RV_{wo}$ , and  $RV_{li}$  are the reactive volumes of each fuel stratum. Unlike in Sandberg *et al.* (2007), the calculated heat sink is corrected by the reaction-efficiency term ( $\eta_{\beta'_{surf}}$ ,  $\eta_{\beta'_{lowsurf}}$  or  $\eta_{\beta'_{li}}$ ), and the effective depth of each stratum included is limited to 1ft, based on the assumption that it is not necessary to preheat more than one 1ft of depth within a stratum to achieve ignition.

Heat of pre-ignition ( $Qig$ ; in  $Btu \cdot lb^{-1}$ ) is the amount of heat required to ignite 1lb of fuel. It is calculated by stratum as a weighted average of live and dead fuels in shrubs and herbs.

$$Qig_{sh} = Qig_{live,sh} \cdot (1 - P_{dead,sh}) + Qig_{dead,sh} \cdot P_{dead,sh} \quad (23.119)$$

$$Qig_{he} = Qig_{live,he} \cdot (1 - P_{dead,he}) + Qig_{dead,he} \cdot P_{dead,he} \quad (23.120)$$

Whereas  $Qig_{live,sh}$  and  $Qig_{live,he}$  are corrected by fuel moisture,  $Qig_{dead,sh}$ ,  $Qig_{dead,he}$  and the other strata ( $Qig_{wo}$  and  $Qig_{li}$ ) are assumed a constant value:

$$Qig_{live,sh} = 250 + (V \cdot (M_{live,sh}/100)) \quad (23.121)$$

$$Qig_{live,he} = 250 + (V \cdot (M_{live,he}/100)) \quad (23.122)$$

$$Qig_{dead,sh} = Qig_{dead,he} = Qig_{wo} = Qig_{li} = 250 \quad (23.123)$$

where  $250Btu/lb$  is the heat of preignition of dry cellulose and  $V = 1116Btu/lb$  is the latent heat of vaporization.

### 23.4.3 Wind and slope coefficients ( $\phi_W$ and $\phi_S$ )

Wind and slope coefficients modify the heat source term of the rate of spread equation. Owing to differences in fuel characteristics and boundary conditions between the litter stratum and other surface fuel strata, in FCCS wind and slope coefficients are calculated separately for the litter stratum. The wind and slope coefficients terms in the rate of spread equation are a weighted average of litter and surface wind and slope coefficients using the relative contribution to reaction intensity as weights:

$$\phi_W = (1 - I_{R,litter}/I_{R,surf}) \cdot \phi_{W,surf} + (I_{R,litter}/I_{R,surf}) \cdot \phi_{W,litter} \quad (23.124)$$

$$\phi_S = (1 - I_{R,litter}/I_{R,surf}) \cdot \phi_{S,surf} + (I_{R,litter}/I_{R,surf}) \cdot \phi_{S,litter} \quad (23.125)$$

Wind coefficients are calculated using:

$$\phi_{W,surf} = 8.8 \cdot \beta_{surf}'^{-E} \cdot (U/BMU)^B \quad (23.126)$$

$$\phi_{W,litter} = 8.8 \cdot \beta_{litter}'^{-E} \cdot (U/BMU)^B \quad (23.127)$$

where  $U$  is the input midflame windspeed (in  $ft \cdot min^{-1}$ ),  $BMU = 352ft \cdot min^{-1}$  is the benchmark midflame windspeed,  $\beta_{surf}'$  is the relative packing ratio (eq. 23.82),  $B$  is the exponential response of wind coefficient to windspeed ( $B = 1.2$  in Sandberg *et al.* (2007)), and  $E$  is the exponential term representing the mild effect of large fuels in reducing the accelerating effect of wind on fire spread by attenuating wind flow, given by:

$$E = 0.55 - 0.2 \cdot \frac{FAI_{sh} + FAI_{he}}{FAI_{sh} + FAI_{he} + FAI_{wo}} \quad (23.128)$$

$E$  is assumed to be the same for both all surface fuels and litter fuels.

Slope coefficients are calculated using the empirical equation of Rothermel (1972), applied to all surface fuels and litter fuels:

$$\phi_{S,surf} = 5.275 \cdot (S/100)^2 \cdot (\beta_{sh} + \beta_{he} + \beta_{wo})^{-0.3} \quad (23.129)$$

$$\phi_{S,litter} = 5.275 \cdot (S/100)^2 \cdot \beta_{li}^{-0.3} \quad (23.130)$$

where  $S$  is the slope (in percent) and  $\beta$  is the packing ratio (not relative!) of fuels.

### 23.4.4 Fireline intensity ( $I_B$ ) and flame length ( $FL$ )

Byram's fireline intensity ( $I_B$ ) is the rate of heat release per unit of fire edge (in  $Btu \cdot ft^{-1} \cdot min^{-1}$ ), and in FCCS is calculated as (Albini 1976):

$$I_B = I_{R,surf} \cdot (R \cdot t_R) \quad (23.131)$$

where  $I_{R,surf}$  is the surface reaction intensity,  $R$  is the rate of spread and  $t_R$  is the flame residence time, which is defined as the time (in  $min$ ) fuels contribute to propagating flux and is estimated as Albini (1976):

$$t_R = 192 \cdot \frac{(I_{R,sh} \cdot RT_{sh}) + (I_{R,he} \cdot RT_{he}) + (I_{R,wo} \cdot RT_{wo}) + (I_{R,li} \cdot RT_{li})}{I_{R,surf}} \quad (23.132)$$

where  $RT$  is the reaction thickness, the approximate thickness (in  $ft$ ) of a fuel element shell that contributes to reaction intensity. In FCCS, reaction thickness is estimated as  $RT = 0.0028ft$  for thermally thick fuel elements (Sandberg *et al.* 2007). When the diameter of a fuel element is less than twice the reaction thickness, the entire fuel element contributes to reaction intensity. Reaction thickness values for each stratum are given by:

$$RT_{sh} = \min(0.0028, 2/\sigma_{sh}) \quad (23.133)$$

$$RT_{he} = \min(0.0028, 2/\sigma_{he}) \quad (23.134)$$

$$RT_{wo} = \min(0.0028, 2/\sigma_{wo}) \quad (23.135)$$

$$RT_{li} = \min(0.0028, 2/\sigma_{li}) \quad (23.136)$$

Flame length is defined as the distance (in  $ft$ ) between the flame tip and the midpoint of the flame depth at the base of the flame, and is calculated (Byram 1959):

$$FL = 0.45 \cdot (I_B/60)^{0.46} \quad (23.137)$$

where 60.0 is a factor to convert from  $Btu \cdot ft^{-1} \cdot min^{-1}$  to  $Btu \cdot ft^{-1} \cdot s^{-1}$ .

## 23.5 Crown fire behavior

Crown fire behavior is difficult to model and actual rates of spread are not possible to predict. Here we mainly follow the approach given in FCCS (Prichard *et al.* 2013), although in our case the canopy is not subdivided into layers (overstory, midstory and understory).

### 23.5.1 Crown fire rate of spread ( $R_{crown}$ )

The rate of spread of crown fires is estimated by using a modification of Rothermel's equation:

$$R_{crown} = \frac{I_{R,crown} \cdot \xi_{crown} \cdot WAF}{q_{crown}} = \frac{(I_{R,surf} + I_{R,ca}) \cdot \xi_{crown} \cdot WAF}{q_{surf} + q_{ca}} \quad (23.138)$$

where  $I_{R,surf}$  is the surface reaction intensity,  $I_{R,ca}$  is the canopy reaction intensity,  $\xi_{crown}$  is the propagating flux ratio in the canopy,  $q_{surf}$  is the surface heat sink and  $q_{ca}$  is the canopy heat sink. Note that reaction intensities and heat sinks of canopy and surface fuels are added for the application of Rothermel's equation. Other modifications include the exclusion of slope effects and the consideration of wind effects through a wind adjustment factor (WAF).

Crown propagating flux ratio ( $\xi_{crown}$ ; in  $Btu \cdot ft^{-3}$ ) represents the proportion of the crown reaction intensity that contributes to crown fire's forward rate of spread:

$$\xi_{crown} = 1 - e^{\left(-\frac{FAI_{ca}}{4 \cdot \delta_{ca}}\right)} \quad (23.139)$$

where  $FAI_{ca}$  is the fuel area index of the canopy, and  $\delta_{ca}$  is the canopy depth (in  $ft$ ). Wind adjustment factor ( $WAF$ ) is defined as:

$$WAF = \frac{U/\sqrt{U^2 + VS^2}}{BMU/\sqrt{BMU^2 + VS^2}} \quad (23.140)$$

where  $U$  is the input (midflame) windspeed (in  $ft \cdot min^{-1}$ ),  $BMU = 352ft \cdot min^{-1}$  is the benchmark windspeed and  $VS = 900ft \cdot min^{-1}$  is the vertical stack velocity.

The following two subsections detail the calculation of canopy reaction intensity ( $I_{R,ca}$ ) and canopy heat sink ( $q_{ca}$ ).

### 23.5.2 Canopy reaction intensity ( $I_{R,ca}$ )

Reaction intensity of canopy fuels (in  $Btu \cdot ft^{-2} \cdot min^{-1}$ ) is estimated as:

$$I_{R,ca} = (\eta_{\beta'_{ca}})^{A_{ca}} \cdot \Gamma'_{\max,ca} \cdot w_{ca} \cdot h_{ca} \cdot \eta_{FMC,ca} \cdot \eta_{K,ca} \quad (23.141)$$

where  $A_{ca} = 133 \cdot \sigma_{ca}^{-0.7913}$  is Rothermel's A coefficient,  $\Gamma'_{\max,ca} = 15 min^{-1}$  is the maximum reaction velocity of the canopy,  $w_{ca}$  is the loading of canopy fuels (in  $lb \cdot ft^{-2}$ ),  $h_{ca}$  is the heat content of the canopy fuels (in  $Btu \cdot lb^{-1}$ ) and  $\eta_{K,ca} = 0.42$  is the mineral damping coefficient of the canopy stratum. Moisture damping coefficient for the canopy ( $\eta_{FMC,ca}$ ) is estimated as done for shrub and herb strata:

$$\eta_{FMC, live, ca} = \left[ 1 - 2.59 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, ca}}{X_{live, ca}} \right) \right] + \left[ 5.11 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, ca}}{X_{live, ca}} \right)^2 \right] - \left[ 3.52 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{live, ca}}{X_{live, ca}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (23.142)$$

$$\eta_{FMC, dead, ca} = \left[ 1 - 2.59 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, ca}}{X_{dead, ca}} \right) \right] + \left[ 5.11 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, ca}}{X_{dead, ca}} \right)^2 \right] - \left[ 3.52 \cdot \left( \frac{FMC_{dead, ca}}{X_{dead, ca}} \right)^3 \right] \quad (23.143)$$

$$\eta_{FMC, ca} = \eta_{FMC, live, ca} \cdot (1 - P_{dead, ca}) + \eta_{FMC, dead, ca} \cdot P_{dead, ca} \quad (23.144)$$

where moisture contents of extinctions were arbitrarily set to  $X_{dead, ca} = 25$  and  $X_{live, ca} = 180$ .

The reaction efficiency in the canopy ( $\eta_{\beta'_{canopy}}$ ) represents the damping effect of inefficiently packed fuels in the canopy:

$$\eta_{\beta'_{canopy}} = \beta'_{canopy} \cdot e^{1-\beta'_{canopy}} \quad (23.145)$$

where  $\beta'_{canopy}$  is the relative packing ratio in the canopy:

$$\beta'_{canopy} = \delta_{opt, canopy} / \delta_{eff, canopy} \quad (23.146)$$

where the effective depth is  $\delta_{eff, canopy} = \delta_{ca}$  (in  $ft$ ) and the optimum canopy depth is calculated using:

$$\delta_{opt, canopy} = 0.4 \cdot FAI_{ca} + \beta_{ca} \cdot (\delta_{ca} \cdot C_{ca} / 100) \quad (23.147)$$

where  $C_{ca}$  is the percent cover of the canopy,  $FAI_{ca}$  is the fuel area index of the canopy,  $\beta_{ca}$  is the packing ratio of canopy fuels and  $\delta_{ca}$  is the canopy depth (in  $ft$ ).

### 23.5.3 Canopy heat sink ( $q_{ca}$ )

Canopy heat sink (in  $Btu \cdot ft^{-3}$ ) is estimated using:

$$q_{ca} = \frac{0.5 \cdot FAI_{ca} \cdot RT_{ca} \cdot \rho_{p, ca} \cdot Qig_{ca}}{(C_{ca} / 100) \cdot \delta_{ca}} \quad (23.148)$$

where  $C_{ca}$  is the percent cover of the canopy,  $FAI_{ca}$  is the fuel area index of the canopy,  $RT_{ca} = \min(0.0028, 2/\sigma_{ca})$  is the reaction thickness of the canopy stratum (in  $ft$ ),  $\rho_{p, ca}$  is the particle density of the canopy (in  $lb \cdot ft^{-3}$ ),  $\delta_{ca}$  is the canopy depth (in  $ft$ ) and  $Qig_{ca}$  is the heat of pre-ignition of the canopy stratum (in  $Btu \cdot lb^{-1}$ ), which is calculated as a weighted average of live and dead fuels:

$$Qig_{live, ca} = 250 + (V \cdot (M_{live, ca} / 100)) \quad (23.149)$$

$$Qig_{dead, ca} = 250 \quad (23.150)$$

$$Qig_{ca} = Qig_{live, ca} \cdot (1 - P_{dead, ca}) + Qig_{dead, ca} \cdot P_{dead, ca} \quad (23.151)$$

where  $250 Btu/lb$  is the heat of preignition of dry cellulose and  $V = 1116 Btu/lb$  is the latent heat of vaporization of water.

### 23.5.4 Fireline intensity ( $I_{B,crown}$ ) and flame length ( $FL_{crown}$ )

Byram's fireline intensity for crown fires is estimated using:

$$I_{B,crown} = I_{R,crown} \cdot (R_{crown} \cdot t_{R,crown}) \quad (23.152)$$

where  $I_{R,crown}$  is the crown reaction intensity (i.e. the sum of canopy and surface reaction intensities),  $R_{crown}$  is the rate of crown fire spread and  $t_{R,crown}$  is the flame residence time, estimated as:

$$t_R = 192 \cdot RT_{ca} \quad (23.153)$$

where  $RT_{ca} = \min(0.0028, 2/\sigma_{ca})$  is the reaction thickness of the canopy. As for surface fires, flame length is calculated using:

$$FL_{crown} = 0.45 \cdot (I_{B,crown}/60)^{0.46} \quad (23.154)$$

where 60.0 is a factor to convert from  $Btu \cdot ft^{-1} \cdot min^{-1}$  to  $Btu \cdot ft^{-1} \cdot s^{-1}$ .

## 23.6 Fire potentials

### 23.6.1 Surface fire behavior potentials

The **surface fire behavior potential** ( $SFP$ ; between 0 and 9) is an index defined as the maximum of spread potential ( $SP$ ) and flame length ( $FL$ ) potential indices (both between 0 and 9):

$$SFP = \max(SP, FP) \quad (23.155)$$

*Spread potential* is derived from  $R$  (in  $ft \cdot min^{-1}$ ), and *flame length potential* is derived from  $FL$  (in  $ft$ ), both quantities being calculated at benchmark environmental conditions:

$$SP = \min \left[ 9, R^{1/2} \right] \quad (23.156)$$

$$FP = \min \left[ 9, FL^{1/2} \right] \quad (23.157)$$

### 23.6.2 Crown fire behavior potentials

The *crown fire summary potential* ( $CPF$ ) combines three subpotentials into a single index value between 0 and 9. It places more emphasis on crown fire initiation ( $IC$ ) and rate of spread ( $RC$ ) than to crown-to-crown transmissivity ( $TC$ ):

$$CPF = 0.4286 \cdot (IC + (TC/3) + RC) \quad (23.158)$$

where 0.4286 is used to limit  $CPF$  between 0 and 9.

The *crown fire initiation potential* ( $IC$ ) represents the likelihood of a surface fire torching into single or multiple trees.  $IC$  is based on the work by Van Wagner. If  $FAI_{ca} = 0$  then  $IC = 0$ . Otherwise it is calculated as:

$$IC = \min \left[ 9, 4 \cdot \left( \frac{I_B/60}{I_c} \right)^{0.2} \right] \quad (23.159)$$

where  $I_B$  is the surface fireline intensity (60 is used to convert it to  $Btu \cdot ft^{-1} \cdot s^{-1}$ ) and  $I'$  is Van Wagner's critical fireline intensity (Scott & Reinhardt 2002):

$$I_c = 0.288894658 \cdot [0.01 \cdot (H_{gap}/100) \cdot (460 + 25.9 \cdot M_{live,ca})]^{1.5} \quad (23.160)$$

where  $M_{live,ca}$  is the moisture content of the canopy (in percent of dry weight), 0.288894658 is used to convert from  $kJ \cdot m^{-1} \cdot s^{-1}$  to  $Btu \cdot ft^{-1} \cdot s^{-1}$  and  $H_{gap}$  is the canopy gap (in  $cm$ ) determined from the analysis of the bulk density profile.



The *crown-to-crown transmittivity potential* ( $TC$ ) is set to zero if  $FAI_{ca} < TFAI/(3 \cdot \pi)$ , where  $TFAI$  is a threshold for FAI calculated as:

$$TFAI = A_q \cdot e^{-0.0019 \cdot U} \quad (23.161)$$

where  $A_q = 3.2868$  if  $\sigma_{ca} > 2000 ft^2 \cdot ft^{-3}$  and  $A_q = 2.6296$  otherwise. If  $FAI_{ca} > TFAI/(3 \cdot \pi)$ , then  $TC$  is calculated as:

$$TC = \min[9, 10 \cdot TC_q] \quad (23.162)$$

where  $TC_q$  is the efficiency of crown-to-crown heat transfer, as a proportion of maximum efficiency at 100 % canopy cover:

$$TC_q = \frac{(\max(0.0, C_{ca} \cdot WAF - 40))^{0.3}}{(100 \cdot WAF - 40)^{0.3}} \quad (23.163)$$

In this last equation 40 represents the threshold of canopy cover necessary to initiate dependent crown spread, and 0.3 is a coefficient describing the assumed effect of crown cover on transmittivity at benchmark windspeed. The canopy adjustment ratio  $WAF$  is added to modulate transmittivity depending on windspeed.

Finally, the *crown fire rate of spread potential* ( $RC$ ) is defined as:

$$RC = \min \left[ 9, 2.5 \cdot R_{crown}^{1/e} \right] \quad (23.164)$$

where  $R_{crown}$  is the rate of spread (in  $ft \cdot min^{-1}$ ) of the crown fire.

## 23.7 Unit conversion of outputs

The following factors are used to express fire behavior outputs to metric units:

- *Fire spread rates:*  $1 ft \cdot min^{-1} = 0.3048 m \cdot min^{-1}$
- *Flame length:*  $1 ft = 0.3048 m$
- *Reaction intensity:*  $1 Btu \cdot ft^{-2} \cdot min^{-1} = 11.3484 kJ \cdot m^{-2} \cdot min^{-1}$
- *Heat sink:*  $1 Btu \cdot ft^{-3} = 37.2589458 kJ \cdot m^{-3}$
- *Fireline intensity:*  $1 Btu \cdot ft^{-1} \cdot min^{-1} = 0.0576911555 kW \cdot m^{-1}$



# Appendix A

## Inbuilt parameter estimation

### A.1 Introduction

Package **medfate** has been designed to allow simulations requiring a minimum set of vegetation functional parameters. This entails that several other parameters have to be estimated automatically (via inbuilt procedures) before starting simulations. Inbuilt parameter estimation is done in functions `spwbInput()` and `forest2spwbInput()`, with the user controlling the process through the species parameter table input (e.g., `SpParamsMED`) and the object `control` (see default control values in `defaultControl()`).

### A.2 Strict, scaled and imputable parameters

Different kinds of vegetation functional parameters can be distinguished according to whether inbuilt parameter estimation is possible and how it is conducted:

- **Strictly-required parameters** are those for which there are no inbuilt estimation procedures implemented in the initialization functions. Hence, either values in the species parameter table input are non-missing or suitable values need to be specified before running simulation models. Since **medfate ver. 2.3**, only plant/leaf classification parameters and plant size parameters are strict. The remaining ones can be estimated from other parameters. This facilitates having a functional species parameter table, because only a set of parameters have to be strictly filled, from either soft trait databases or forest inventory data.
- **Scaled parameters** are functional parameters that cannot be defined at the species level, because they need to be estimated taking into account the size and structure of the plant cohort. These are not normally defined at the level of species parameter table. Specific **control** parameters are used to determine how scaling is performed.
- **Imputable parameters** parameters are those for which the initialization routines can provide default values or estimations derived from relationships with other parameters. Parameter imputation is conducted if control parameter `fillMissingSpParams = TRUE`. Sometimes, default parameter values are also specified in the **control** object.

The following tables describe how the different functional parameters are dealt with, grouped by function. Links are given to the chapter subsections where scaling and/or imputation procedures are described.

**Plant/leaf classification**

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$GF$	<b>GrowthForm</b>	Growth form, defined depending on the treatment in forest inventory plots (Tree, Shrub or Tree/Shrub)	Yes	No	No
$LF$	<b>LifeForm</b>	Raunkiaer life form	Yes	No	No
$L_{shape}$	<b>LeafShape</b>	Leaf type (Linear, Needle, Broad, Scale, Spines or Succulent)	Yes	No	No
$L_{size}$	<b>LeafSize</b>	Leaf size (Small, Medium, Large)	Yes	No	No
$L_{pheno}$	<b>PhenologyType</b>	Phenology type	Yes	No	No

### Plant size

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$H_{max}$	<b>Hmed</b>	Maximum plant height	Yes	No	No
$H_{med}$	<b>Hmed</b>	Median plant height	Yes	No	No
$f_{HD,min}$	<b>fHDmin</b>	Minimum height-to-diameter ratio	Yes	No	No
$f_{HD,max}$	<b>fHDmax</b>	Maximum height-to-diameter ratio	Yes	No	No

### Allometric coefficients

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$a_{ash}, b_{ash}$	<b>a_ash, b_ash</b>	Coefficients relating the square of shrub height with shrub area	No	No	A.3.1
$a_{bsh}, b_{bsh}$	<b>a_bsh, b_bsh</b>	Coefficients relating crown volume with dry weight of shrub individuals	No	No	A.3.1
$cr$	<b>cr</b>	Ratio between crown length and total height for shrubs	No	No	A.3.1
$a_{fbt}, b_{fbt}, c_{fbt}, d_{fbt}$	<b>a_fbt, b_fbt, c_fbt, d_fbt</b>	Coefficients to calculate foliar biomass of an individual tree	No	No	A.3.2
$a_{cr}, b_{1cr}, b_{2cr}, b_{3cr}, c_{1cr}, c_{2cr}$	<b>a_cr, b_1cr, b_2cr, b_3cr, c_1cr, c_2cr</b>	Coefficients to calculate crown ratio of trees	No	No	A.3.2
$a_{cw}, b_{cw}$	<b>a_cw, b_cw</b>	Regression coefficients used to calculate the crown width of trees	No	No	A.3.2

### Leaf phenology

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$LD$	<b>LeafDuration</b>	Average duration of leaves	No	No	A.3.7
$t_{0,eco}$	<b>t0gdd</b>	Degree days corresponding to leaf budburst	No	No	A.3.7
$S_{eco}^*$	<b>Sgdd</b>	Degree days corresponding to leaf budburst	No	No	A.3.7
$T_{eco}$	<b>Tbgdd</b>	Base temperature for the calculation of degree days to leaf budburst	No	No	A.3.7

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$S_{sen}^*$	<b>Ssen</b>	Degree days corresponding to leaf senescence	No	No	A.3.7
$Ph_{sen}$	<b>Phsen</b>	Photoperiod corresponding to start counting senescence degree-days	No	No	A.3.7
$T_{sen}$	<b>Tbsen</b>	Base temperature for the calculation of degree days to leaf senescence	No	No	A.3.7
$x_{sen}$	<b>xsen</b>	Discrete values, to allow for any absent/proportional/more than proportional effects of temperature on senescence	No	No	A.3.7
$y_{sen}$	<b>ysen</b>	Discrete values, to allow for any absent/proportional/more than proportional effects of photoperiod on senescence	No	No	A.3.7

### Plant anatomy

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$1/H_v$	<b>A12As</b>	Ratio of leaf area to sapwood area	No	No	A.3.6
$LW$	<b>LeafWidthH</b>	Leaf width	No	No	A.3.3
$SLA$	<b>SLA</b>	Specific leaf area	No	No	A.3.3
$\rho_{leaf}$	<b>LeafDensity</b>	Leaf tissue density	No	No	A.3.4
$\rho_{wood}$	<b>WoodDensity</b>	Wood tissue density	No	No	A.3.4
$\rho_{fineroot}$	<b>FineRootDensity</b>	Fine root tissue density	No	No	A.3.4
$f_{conduits}$	<b>conduit2Sapwood</b>	Proportion of sapwood corresponding to xylem conduits	No	No	A.3.6
$SRL$	<b>SRL</b>	Specific fine root length	No	No	A.3.5
$RLD$	<b>RLD</b>	Fine root length density	No	No	A.3.5
$r_{6.35}$	<b>r635</b>	Ratio between the weight of leaves plus branches and the weight of leaves alone for branches of 6.35 mm	No	No	A.3.3

### Radiation balance and water interception

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$k_{PAR}$	<b>kPAR</b>	PAR extinction coefficient	No	No	A.3.9
$\alpha_{SWR}$	<b>alphaSWR</b>	Short-wave radiation leaf absorbance coefficient	No	No	A.3.9
$\gamma_{SWR}$	<b>gammaSWR</b>	Short-wave radiation leaf reflectance (albedo)	No	No	A.3.9
$s_{water}$	<b>g</b>	Crown water storage capacity	No	No	A.3.9

### Hydraulics, transpiration, photosynthesis

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$T_{max,LAI}$	<b>Tmax_LAI</b>	Empirical coefficient relating LAI with the ratio of maximum transpiration over potential evapotranspiration	No	No	A.3.8
$T_{max,sqLAI}$	<b>Tmax_LAI<sup>2</sup></b>	Empirical coefficient relating squared LAI with the ratio of maximum transpiration over potential evapotranspiration	No	No	A.3.8
$WUE_{max}$	<b>WUE</b>	Water use efficiency	No	No	A.3.8
$\Psi_{extract}$	<b>Psi_Extra</b>	The water potential at which plant transpiration is 50% of its maximum	No	No	A.3.8
$\Psi_{critic}$	<b>Psi_Critic</b>	The water potential corresponding to 50% of stem xylem cavitation	No	No	A.3.15
$K_{rootdisc}$	<b>pRootDisc</b>	Whole-plant relative transpiration corresponding to hydraulic disconnection from the soil	No	No	A.3.10
$g_{swmin}$	<b>Gwmin</b>	Minimum stomatal conductance to water vapour	No	No	A.3.11
$g_{swmax}$	<b>Gwmax</b>	Maximum stomatal conductance to water vapour	No	No	A.3.11
$J_{max,298}$	<b>Jmax298</b>	Maximum rate of electron transport at 298K	No	No	A.3.16
$V_{max,298}$	<b>Vmax298</b>	Rubisco's maximum carboxylation rate at 298K	No	No	A.3.16
$K_{stem,max,ref}$	<b>Kmax_stem</b>	Maximum stem sapwood reference conductivity per leaf area unit	No	No	A.3.13
$K_{root,max,ref}$	<b>Kmax_root</b>	Maximum root sapwood reference conductivity per leaf area unit	No	No	A.3.13
$k_{leaf,max}$	<b>VCleaf_kmax</b>	Maximum leaf hydraulic conductance	No	A.4.2	A.3.14
$k_{stem,max}$	<b>VCstem_kmax</b>	Maximum stem hydraulic conductance	No	A.4.1	No
$k_{root,max,s}$	<b>VCroot_kmax</b>	Maximum root hydraulic conductance for each soil layer	No	A.4.3	No
$krhizo,max,s$	<b>VGrhizo_kmax</b>	Maximum hydraulic conductance of the rhizosphere for each soil layer	No	A.4.4	No
$c_{leaf}, d_{leaf}$	<b>VCleaf_c, VCleaf_d</b>	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for leaves	No	No	A.3.15
$c_{stem}, d_{stem}$	<b>VCstem_c, VCstem_d</b>	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for stem xylem	No	No	A.3.15
$c_{root}, d_{root}$	<b>VCroot_c, VCroot_d</b>	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for root xylem	No	No	A.3.15

### Plant water storage

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$\epsilon_{leaf}$	<b>LeafEPS</b>	Modulus of elasticity of leaves	No	No	A.3.12
$\epsilon_{stem}$	<b>StemEPS</b>	Modulus of elasticity of symplastic xylem tissue	No	No	A.3.12
$\pi_{0,leaf}$	<b>LeafPIO</b>	Osmotic potential at full turgor of leaves	No	No	A.3.12
$\pi_{0,stem}$	<b>StemPIO</b>	Osmotic potential at full turgor of symplastic xylem tissue	No	No	A.3.12
$f_{apo,leaf}$	<b>LeafAF</b>	Apoplastic fraction in leaf tissues	No	No	A.3.12
$f_{apo,stem}$	<b>StemAF</b>	Apoplastic fraction in stem tissues	No	No	A.3.12
$V_{leaf}$	<b>Vleaf</b>	Leaf water capacity per leaf area unit	No	A.4.5	No

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$V_{sapwood}$	<b>Vsapwood</b>	Sapwood water capacity per leaf area unit	No	A.4.5	No

**Growth**

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$MR_{leaf}$	<b>RERleaf</b>	Leaf respiration rate at 20 °C	No	No	A.3.17
$MR_{sapwood}$	<b>RERsapwood</b>	Living sapwood (parenchymatic tissue) respiration rate at 20 °C	No	No	A.3.17
$MR_{fineroot}$	<b>RERfineroot</b>	Fine root respiration rate at 20 °C	No	No	A.3.17
$RGR_{leaf,max}$	<b>RGRleafmax</b>	Maximum leaf area daily growth rate, relative to sapwood area	No	No	A.3.18
$RGR_{sapwood,max}$	<b>RGRsapwoodmax</b>	Maximum daily sapwood relative growth rate (in sapwood area basis)	No	No	A.3.18
$RGR_{fineroot,max}$	<b>RGRfinerootmax</b>	Maximum daily fine root relative growth rate	No	No	A.3.18
$SR_{sapwood}$	<b>SRsapwood</b>	Daily sapwood senescence rate	No	No	A.3.19
$SR_{fineroot}$	<b>SRfineroot</b>	Daily fine root senescence rate	No	No	A.3.19
$C_{wood}$	<b>WoodC</b>	Wood carbon content per dry weight	No	No	A.3.20

**Recruitment**

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$H_{seed}$	<b>SeedProductionHeight</b>	Height for seed production	No	No	A.3.21
$TCM_{recr}$	<b>MinTempRecr</b>	Minimum average temperature (Celsius) of the coldest month for successful recruitment	No	No	A.3.21
$MI_{recr}$	<b>MinMoistureRecr</b>	Minimum value of the moisture index for successful recruitment	No	No	A.3.21
$FPAR_{recr}$	<b>MinFPARRecr</b>	Minimum percentage of PAR at the ground level for successful recruitment	No	No	A.3.21
$DBH_{recr}$	<b>RecrTreeDBH</b>	Recruitment DBH for trees	No	No	A.3.21
$H_{tree,recr}$	<b>RecrTreeHeight</b>	Recruitment height for trees	No	No	A.3.21
$N_{tree,recr}$	<b>RecrTreeDensity</b>	Recruitment density for trees	No	No	A.3.21
$Cover_{shrub,recr}$	<b>RecrShrubCover</b>	Recruitment cover for shrubs	No	No	A.3.21
$H_{shrub,recr}$	<b>RecrShrubHeight</b>	Recruitment height for shrubs	No	No	A.3.21
$Z50_{recr}$	<b>RecrZ50</b>	Soil depth corresponding to 50% of fine roots for recruitment	No	No	A.3.21
$Z95_{recr}$	<b>RecrZ95</b>	Soil depth corresponding to 95% of fine roots for recruitment	No	No	A.3.21

**Flammability**

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
$\rho_p$	<b>PD</b>	Density of fuel particles	No	No	A.3.22
$\sigma$	<b>SAV</b>	Surface-area-to-volume ratio of the small fuel (1h) fraction (leaves and branches < 6.35mm)	No	No	A.3.22
$h$	<b>HeatContent</b>	High fuel heat content.	No	No	A.3.22

Symbol	R	Description	Strict	Scaled	Imputable
<i>LI</i>	PercentLignin	Percentage of lignin in leaves	No	No	A.3.22

### A.3 Imputation of missing values

The following figure summarizes the percentage of missing values in SpParamsMED for different model parameters and the other model parameters used for the imputation of missing values:

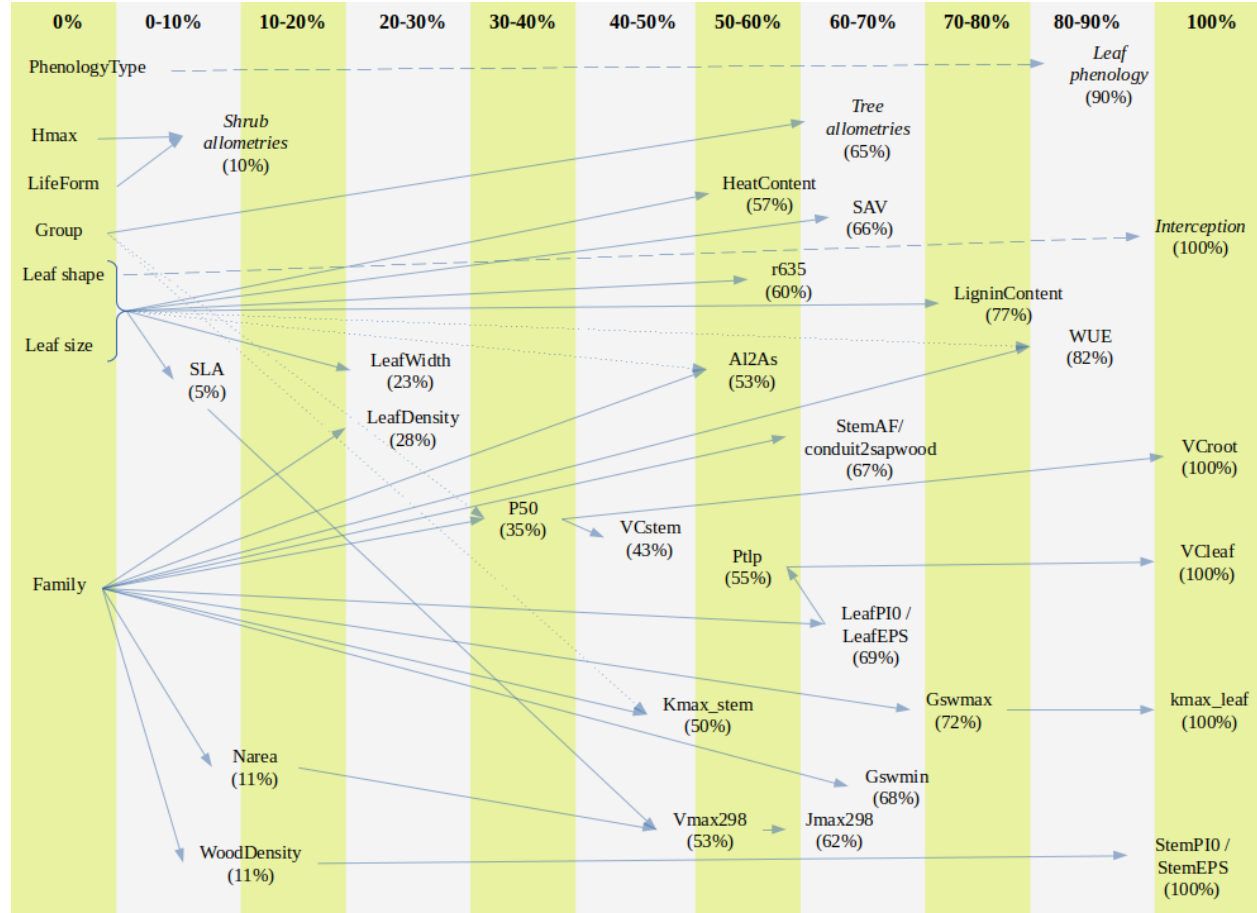


Figure A.1: Representation of imputation relationships between model parameters. The percentage of missing parameter values increases from left to right. Left-most parameters are strict.

#### A.3.1 Shrub allometric coefficients

Missing shrub allometric coefficients are filled using information from Raunkiaer's life form and maximum plant height ( $H_{max}$ ).

Life form	$H_{max}$	$a_{ash}$	$b_{ash}$	$a_{bsh}$	$b_{bsh}$	$cr$
Chamaephyte	[any]	24.5888	1.1662	0.7963	0.3762	0.8076
Phanerophyte	< 300 cm	1.0083	1.8700	0.7900	0.6942	0.6630
Phanerophyte	> 300 cm	5.8458	1.4944	0.3596	0.7138	0.7190



Life form	$H_{max}$	$a_{ash}$	$b_{ash}$	$a_{bsh}$	$b_{bsh}$	$cr$
(Hemi)cryptophyte	[any]	24.5888	1.1662	0.7963	0.3762	0.9500

Allometric coefficients were taken from De Cáceres *et al.* (2019).

### A.3.2 Tree allometric coefficients

Missing tree allometric coefficients are replaced with values depending on whether the plant species is a gymnosperm or an angiosperm:

Parameter	Gymnosperm	Angiosperm
$a_{fbt}$	0.1989	0.0709
$b_{fbt}$	1.3805	1.5120
$c_{fbt}$	-0.0363	-0.0183
$d_{fbt}$	0.066	0.0057
$a_{cw}$	0.747	0.839
$b_{cw}$	0.672	0.735
$a_{cr}$	1.995	1.506
$b_{1cr}$	-0.649	-0.706
$b_{2cr}$	-0.020	-0.078
$b_{3cr}$	-0.00012	0.00018
$c_{1cr}$	-0.004	-0.007
$c_{2cr}$	-0.159	0.000

### A.3.3 Leaf width, specific leaf area and fine foliar ratio

Leaf width ( $LW$ ), specific leaf area ( $SLA$ ) and the ratio between the weight of leaves plus branches and the weight of leaves alone for branches of 6.35 mm ( $r_{6.35}$ ) are key anatomical parameters. When missing from species parameter table, default estimates for these parameters are obtained from combinations of leaf shape and leaf size:

Leaf shape	Leaf size	$SLA$	$LW$	$r_{6.35}$
Broad	Large	16.039	6.898	2.278
Broad	Medium	11.499	3.054	2.359
Broad	Small	9.540	0.644	3.026
Linear	Large	5.522	0.639	3.261
Linear	Medium	4.144	0.639	3.261
Linear	Small	13.189	0.639	3.261
Needle	[any]	9.024	0.379	1.716
Scale	[any]	4.544	0.101	1.483

These estimates have been obtained by averaging species-level values across combinations of the categorical variables.

### A.3.4 Tissue density

Default values for the dry weight density of leaves and wood (in  $g \cdot cm^{-3}$ ) are determined from taxonomic family using an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`):

Table A.15: Default leaf density and wood density values by taxonomic family.

	LeafDensity	WoodDensity
Acanthaceae	0.3135906	0.5675880
Achariaceae	0.2552495	0.5924796
Acoraceae	0.1000000	NA
Actinidiaceae	0.4486107	0.4092320
Adoxaceae	0.4079927	0.5138423
Aextoxicaceae	NA	0.5666667
Aizoaceae	0.0552686	NA
Akaniaceae	NA	0.5547825
Alismataceae	0.1914208	NA
Altingiaceae	0.6833971	0.6010948
Amaranthaceae	0.2118762	0.5989103
Amaryllidaceae	0.1236738	NA
Anacampserotaceae	0.0250048	NA
Anacardiaceae	0.4562470	0.5710682
Anisophylleaceae	NA	0.6734780
Annonaceae	0.3765150	0.5625968
Aphloiaceae	0.4627060	0.6205200
Apiaceae	0.2760920	0.2060499
Apocynaceae	0.2979831	0.5679098
Aptandraceae	0.3318492	0.7076756
Aquifoliaceae	0.4821631	0.5579394
Araceae	0.1591792	NA
Araliaceae	0.2811635	0.4098232
Araucariaceae	0.3447902	0.4641456
Arecaceae	0.4147239	0.5909035
Aristolochiaceae	0.2681434	0.2600000
Asparagaceae	0.2160731	0.4254258
Asphodelaceae	0.4032527	0.3951990
Aspleniaceae	0.2369437	NA
Asteraceae	0.2502521	0.4434204
Asteropeiaceae	NA	0.8416964
Atherospermataceae	0.2451357	0.4767621
Athyriaceae	0.2270615	NA
Austrobaileyaceae	0.2620992	NA
Balanopaceae	NA	0.7348976
Balsaminaceae	0.4045013	0.0910834
Begoniaceae	0.1093993	NA
Berberidaceae	0.3599453	0.6852662
Betulaceae	0.4449391	0.5378818
Bignoniaceae	0.3456378	0.6250677
Bixaceae	0.4400000	0.3546357
Blechnaceae	0.2236111	NA
Bonnetiaceae	0.2797829	0.8400000
Boraginaceae	0.2848364	0.4525364
Brassicaceae	0.2413715	0.3909510
Bromeliaceae	0.1593434	NA
Brunelliaceae	NA	0.3112500
Bruniaceae	NA	0.5636500
Burseraceae	0.4332118	0.5197551
Buxaceae	0.2706294	0.7029203
Cactaceae	0.2056485	0.6187500
Calophyllaceae	0.3968216	0.6067855
Calycanthaceae	0.3356785	0.6500550
Calyceraceae	0.1689366	NA
Campanulaceae	0.2388033	0.6776629

If the family is not any of those in the table, default values are  $\rho_{leaf} = 0.7$  and  $\rho_{wood} = 0.652$ . The default value for fine root density is always  $\rho_{fineroot} = 0.165$ .

### A.3.5 Specific root length and root length density

Default values for specific fine root length and fine root length density are  $3870 \text{ cm} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$  and  $10 \text{ cm} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$ , respectively. [JUSTIFICATION MISSING]

### A.3.6 Huber value and ratio of conduits to sapwood

Missing values for **A12As**, the inverse of the Huber value ( $1/Hv$ ) are determined from taxonomic family using an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`):

If there is no information derived from taxonomic family for **A12As**, a default value is given depending on leaf shape and leaf size:

Leaf shape	Leaf size	A12As
Broad	Large	4768.7
Broad	Medium	2446.1
Broad	Small	2284.9
Linear	Large	2156.0
Linear	Medium	2156.0
Linear	Small	2156.0
Needle	[any]	2751.7
Scale	[any]	1696.6

Missing values for  $f_{conduits}$ , the fraction of sapwood corresponding to conduits are derived from taxonomic family (see table above). If information from taxonomic family is missing, default values are  $f_{conduits} = 0.7$  (i.e. 30% of parenchyma) for angiosperms, and  $f_{conduits} = 0.925$  (i.e. 7.5% of parenchyma) for gymnosperms (Plavcová & Jansen 2015).

### A.3.7 Leaf phenology

When missing, leaf duration is assigned a value of 1 year for winter-deciduous species and 2.41 years for the remaining leaf phenology types.

Default values for leaf phenological parameters are the same regardless of the leaf phenology type:

Phenology type	t0gdd	Sgdd	Tbgdd	Ssen	Phsen	Tbsen	xsen	ysen
One-flush evergreen	50	200	0	8268	12.5	28.5	2	2
Winter deciduous	50	200	0	8268	12.5	28.5	2	2
Winter semi-deciduous	50	200	0	8268	12.5	28.5	2	2
Drought deciduous	50	200	0	8268	12.5	28.5	2	2

Leaf senescence values were derived for deciduous broad-leaved forests by Delpierre *et al.* (2009).

Table A.16: Default leaf area to sapwood area (m<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>) / Huber value (cm<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>) and fraction of sapwood corresponding to conduits by taxonomic family.

	Al2As	Hv	conduit2sapwood
Acanthaceae	3070.43202	3.2568707	0.6300000
Adoxaceae	4889.57295	2.0451684	NA
Altingiaceae	5129.90090	1.9493554	0.8226667
Amaranthaceae	973.13500	10.2760665	NA
Amborellaceae	4255.31915	2.3500000	NA
Anacardiaceae	17392.13509	0.5749725	0.7155889
Annonaceae	10266.65654	0.9740269	0.5685000
Apiaceae	81.22547	123.1140916	NA
Apocynaceae	19766.80134	0.5058987	0.7112500
Aquifoliaceae	5890.90789	1.6975312	0.6528500
Araliaceae	3591.08704	2.7846721	0.7785000
Araucariaceae	3846.15385	2.6000000	0.9375000
Arecaceae	9428.35821	1.0606300	NA
Asteraceae	2423.12470	4.1269027	0.7219423
Atherospermataceae	2435.95630	4.1051640	0.7560000
Austrobaileyaceae	15384.61538	0.6500000	NA
Berberidaceae	570.09407	17.5409649	NA
Betulaceae	7591.16581	1.3173207	0.8444000
Bignoniaceae	12439.80827	0.8038709	0.6360476
Bixaceae	12274.01424	0.8147294	NA
Burseraceae	12432.79483	0.8043244	0.8204286
Buxaceae	NA	NA	0.8330000
Cactaceae	2555.33971	3.9133740	0.3636905
Calophyllaceae	2662.69155	3.7555984	0.7335000
Calycanthaceae	NA	NA	0.6535500
Cannabaceae	29402.79875	0.3401037	0.7598125
Capparaceae	26604.55487	0.3758755	0.7005000
Caprifoliaceae	7568.54261	1.3212583	NA
Cardiopteridaceae	11764.70588	0.8500000	NA
Caryocaraceae	5579.67761	1.7922182	NA
Casuarinaceae	3647.15784	2.7418610	NA
Celastraceae	8199.20056	1.2196311	NA
Chrysobalanaceae	10531.83851	0.9495018	0.5876000
Cistaceae	2129.37624	4.6962109	NA
Clusiaceae	6563.52491	1.5235716	0.5005000
Cochlospermaceae	1757.46924	5.6900000	0.7070000
Combretaceae	23650.62103	0.4228219	0.6416667
Cornaceae	7967.72047	1.2550641	0.6740000
Coulaceae	10676.38668	0.9366465	0.6520000
Cunoniaceae	4781.22975	2.0915121	0.7110000
Cupressaceae	1902.29800	5.2567999	0.9242857
Dichapetalaceae	7505.55229	1.3323470	NA
Dilleniaceae	7762.89456	1.2881793	0.5432500
Dipterocarpaceae	NA	NA	0.7043750
Ebenaceae	5273.29132	1.8963489	0.6300000
Ehretiaceae	10097.69843	0.9903247	0.6300000
Elaeagnaceae	NA	NA	0.5641000
Elaeocarpaceae	8949.89085	1.1173321	0.6970000
Ericaceae	2627.91999	3.8052909	0.7423400
Erythraliaceae	11359.73085	0.8803025	NA
Erythroxylaceae	16409.59452	0.6093996	NA
Escalloniaceae	NA	NA	0.5755000
Euphorbiaceae	9672.17177	1.0338940	0.6630417
Eupomatiaceae	12833.11560	0.7792340	0.6010000

### A.3.8 Basic transpiration and water-use efficiency

When the basic soil water balance model is used,  $T_{max,LAI}$  and  $T_{max,sqLAI}$  are species-specific parameters that regulate the maximum transpiration of plant cohorts (see 6.1.1). When these parameters are missing from `SpParams` table, they are given default values  $T_{max,LAI} = 0.134$  and  $T_{max,sqLAI} = -0.006$ , according to Granier *et al.* (1999).

When water use efficiency coefficient is missing, it is determined from taxonomic family using an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`):

If there is no information derived from taxonomic family, the following default values are assigned depending on leaf shape and leaf size:

Leaf shape	Leaf size	$WUE$
Broad	Large	3.028
Broad	Medium	3.982
Broad	Small	4.290
Linear	[any]	3.707
Needle	[any]	3.707
Scale	[any]	1.665

When missing, the water potential corresponding to 50% of transpiration ( $\Psi_{extract}$ ) is estimated by calculating the water potential corresponding to the loss leaf turgor ( $\Psi_{tlp}$ ), using equation (10.14) from Bartlett *et al.* (2012). The parameters of the leaf pressure-volume curve needed for applying equation (10.14) may be themselves estimated (see A.3.12). Note that  $\Psi_{tlp}$  has been found to be highly correlated to  $\Psi_{gs50}$ , the water potential corresponding to 50% of stomatal conductance (Bartlett *et al.* 2016).

### A.3.9 Radiation balance and water interception

Default values for radiation extinction and water interception parameters depend on the leaf shape:

Leaf shape	$k_{PAR}$	$\alpha_{SWR}$	$\gamma_{SWR}$	$s_{water}$
Broad	0.55	0.70	0.18	0.5
Linear	0.45	0.70	0.15	0.8
Needle/Scale	0.50	0.70	0.14	1.0

where  $k_{PAR}$  is the PAR extinction coefficient,  $\alpha_{SWR}$  is the short-wave radiation leaf absorbance coefficient,  $\gamma_{SWR}$  is the short-wave radiation leaf reflectance (albedo) and  $s_{water}$  is the crown water storage capacity per LAI unit.

### A.3.10 Disconnection from the soil

When missing, the relative whole-plant conductance corresponding to disconnection from the soil is set to  $K_{rootdisc,i} = 0$ , its default value.

### A.3.11 Stomatal conductance

Default values for minimum and maximum conductance to water vapour ( $g_{swmin}$  and  $g_{swmax}$ ; in  $mol\ H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ ) were defined depending on taxonomic family, from Duursma *et al.* (2018) and Hoshika *et al.* (2018), and stored in an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`):

If there is no information derived from taxonomic family,  $g_{swmin} = 0.0049$  and  $g_{swmax} = 0.200$ .

Table A.19: Default water use efficiency by family.

	WUE
Achariaceae	3.662631
Adoxaceae	2.807425
Amaranthaceae	19.004079
Amaryllidaceae	11.450560
Anacardiaceae	15.042810
Apiaceae	2.515830
Apocynaceae	28.924811
Arecaceae	3.558320
Asparagaceae	14.254229
Asteraceae	2.726027
Balsaminaceae	1.818998
Berberidaceae	3.436421
Boraginaceae	2.519816
Brassicaceae	2.881295
Burseraceae	4.390856
Campanulaceae	2.804326
Cannabaceae	31.385044
Caprifoliaceae	3.439840
Caricaceae	27.909979
Celastraceae	2.418337
Chrysobalanaceae	39.972623
Combretaceae	37.777194
Crassulaceae	2.079083
Cyperaceae	3.359358
Dipterocarpaceae	4.411412
Ebenaceae	3.719971
Ehretiaceae	32.690766
Equisetaceae	1.665034
Euphorbiaceae	17.475435
Fabaceae	10.462876
Fagaceae	2.433101
Gentianaceae	2.745562
Geraniaceae	3.248464
Grossulariaceae	2.773822
Hydrophyllaceae	2.300849
Iridaceae	2.494294
Juncaceae	2.743934
Lamiaceae	3.274608
Lauraceae	21.063694
Lecythidaceae	33.015009
Liliaceae	2.554160
Magnoliaceae	2.891305
Malvaceae	13.805421
Melanthiaceae	3.376559
Meliaceae	26.202627
Moraceae	21.714008
Myrtaceae	17.157774
Nyctaginaceae	29.192947
Oleaceae	1.970113
Onagraceae	2.900057
Orobanchaceae	0.891066
Papaveraceae	2.276780
Phyllanthaceae	9.810153
Phytolaccaceae	15.730026
Picramniaceae	29.948099

Table A.22: Default minimum and maximum conductance to water vapour by taxonomic family.

	Gswmin	Gswmax
Acanthaceae	NA	0.2500000
Altingiaceae	NA	0.5000000
Amaranthaceae	NA	0.0750000
Amaryllidaceae	0.0180400	NA
Anacardiaceae	0.0122299	0.3148333
Apiaceae	0.0015873	NA
Aquifoliaceae	0.0005740	0.2600000
Araliaceae	0.0003902	NA
Araucariaceae	0.0018786	NA
Arecaceae	0.0004500	NA
Aristolochiaceae	0.0035896	NA
Aspleniaceae	0.0082000	NA
Asteraceae	0.0105288	0.1275000
Balsaminaceae	0.0126573	NA
Berberidaceae	0.0016500	NA
Betulaceae	0.0029731	0.3965000
Boraginaceae	0.0057402	NA
Brassicaceae	0.0106600	NA
Cactaceae	0.0000243	NA
Calophyllaceae	NA	0.1350000
Cannabaceae	NA	0.3300000
Caryophyllaceae	0.0018519	NA
Cephalotaxaceae	0.0022700	NA
Cercidiphyllaceae	NA	0.4000000
Chrysobalanaceae	NA	0.1740000
Cistaceae	0.0082820	NA
Clethraceae	NA	0.2500000
Combretaceae	0.0131200	NA
Convolvulaceae	0.0041967	NA
Cornaceae	NA	0.3000000
Crassulaceae	0.0022751	NA
Cupressaceae	0.0063192	0.0840000
Cyperaceae	0.0190600	NA
Dipterocarpaceae	NA	0.3874722
Ehretiaceae	0.0065600	0.2900000
Elaeagnaceae	NA	0.1700000
Ericaceae	0.0041455	0.1723333
Euphorbiaceae	0.0026500	0.2616667
Fabaceae	0.0085178	0.3066667
Fagaceae	0.0060137	0.3127601
Geraniaceae	0.0043050	NA
Hamamelidaceae	NA	0.2600000
Juglandaceae	0.0039355	0.4900000
Krameriaceae	NA	0.1600000
Lamiaceae	0.0052377	0.7300000
Lauraceae	NA	0.2212500
Magnoliaceae	0.0038800	0.3075000
Malvaceae	0.0064056	0.5532500
Meliaceae	NA	0.1600000
Moraceae	0.0064020	0.3835000
Myristicaceae	NA	0.0880000
Myrtaceae	0.0078149	0.2310769
Oleaceae	0.0046740	NA
Onagraceae	0.0169506	NA
Oxalidaceae	0.0022524	NA

### A.3.12 Pressure-volume curves

Parameters of the pressure-volume curve (i.e.  $\pi_{0,stem}$  and  $\epsilon_{stem}$ ) for leaf and stem symplastic tissue are required for each species.

When parameters for stem tissue are missing, **medfate** estimates them from wood density following Christoffersen *et al.* (2016):

$$\pi_{0,stem} = 0.52 - 4.16 \cdot \rho_{wood} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$\epsilon_{stem} = \sqrt{1.02 \cdot e^{8.5 \cdot \rho_{wood}} - 2.89} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

while the apoplastic fraction of stem is assumed  $f_{apo,stem} = f_{conduits}$  (see A.3.6).

Default values for leaf pressure-volume parameters, i.e.  $\pi_{0,leaf}$ ,  $\epsilon_{leaf}$  and  $f_{apo,leaf}$ , are determined from taxonomic family using an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`):

If family-level values are missing, following Bartlett *et al.* (2012) average values for Mediterranean climate leaves are taken as defaults, i.e.  $\pi_{0,leaf} = -2$  MPa,  $\epsilon_{leaf} = 17$ , whereas a 29% leaf apoplastic fraction is assumed (i.e.  $f_{apo,leaf} = 0.29$ ).

### A.3.13 Stem and root maximum hydraulic conductivity

Tissue-level maximum conductivity parameters (i.e.  $K_{stem,max,ref}$  and  $K_{root,max,ref}$ ) are not direct parameters to simulation functions. Instead, they are scaled to estimate stem- and root-level hydraulic conductances (i.e.  $k_{stem,max}$  and  $k_{root,max}$ ) using plant size (see A.4.1 and A.4.3 for details).  $K_{stem,max,ref}$  and  $K_{root,max,ref}$  are supplied via species parameter table and missing values can therefore occur.

Default values for  $K_{stem,max,ref}$  are determined from taxonomic family using an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`):

If family-level values are missing, suitable  $K_{stem,max,ref}$  values are decided according to combinations of taxon group (either Angiosperm or Gymnosperm), growth form (either tree or shrub) and leaf phenology (Maherali *et al.* 2004):

Group	Growth form	Leaf phenology	$K_{stem,max,ref}$
Angiosperm	Tree	Winter-(semi)deciduous	1.58
Angiosperm	Shrub	Winter-(semi)deciduous	1.55
Angiosperm	Tree/Shrub	Evergreen	2.43
Gymnosperm	Tree	any	0.48
Gymnosperm	Shrub	any	0.24

Following Oliveras *et al.* (2003), missing values for  $K_{root,max,ref}$  are assumed to be four-times the values given or estimated for  $K_{stem,max,ref}$ .

### A.3.14 Leaf maximum hydraulic conductance

Leaf maximum hydraulic conductance ( $k_{l,max}$ , in  $mmol \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$ ) is an input parameter that should be provided for each species. When missing, leaf maximum hydraulic conductance can be estimated from maximum stomatal conductance ( $g_{swmax}$ ), following Franks (2006) (original coefficients were modified for better fit):

$$k_{l,max} = (g_{swmax}/0.015)^{1/1.3} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

Note that values for  $g_{swmax}$  may also be imputed (see A.3.11).



Table A.23: Default leaf pressure-volume parameters by taxonomic family.

	LeafPI0	LeafEPS	LeafAF
Acanthaceae	-3.395000	23.230000	0.1270000
Adoxaceae	-1.560000	12.790000	NA
Amaranthaceae	-2.250000	NA	NA
Anacardiaceae	-1.700000	12.760000	NA
Annonaceae	-2.160000	23.710000	NA
Apocynaceae	-2.390000	20.940000	NA
Aquifoliaceae	-2.300000	20.700000	0.4000000
Araliaceae	-1.528503	11.231462	0.4065000
Arecaceae	-3.400000	73.400000	0.2000000
Aspleniaceae	-1.240000	35.300000	NA
Asteraceae	-1.471389	14.491429	0.2435000
Atherospermataceae	-1.340000	8.380000	NA
Betulaceae	-1.201884	5.498667	NA
Bignoniaceae	-1.990000	17.610000	0.1770000
Boraginaceae	-1.140000	NA	NA
Brassicaceae	-1.485000	7.710000	0.2320000
Burseraceae	-1.435000	14.980000	NA
Cactaceae	NA	8.700000	NA
Cannabaceae	-1.580000	5.180000	NA
Capparaceae	-2.840000	14.750000	0.1723333
Caryocaraceae	-1.710000	11.340000	NA
Celastraceae	-2.600000	19.060000	NA
Combretaceae	-2.110000	6.830000	NA
Connaraceae	-2.250000	18.010000	NA
Convolvulaceae	-1.320000	NA	NA
Cucurbitaceae	-0.980000	NA	NA
Cupressaceae	-1.480000	12.600000	0.2720000
Dipterocarpaceae	-1.131429	23.630000	0.4634286
Dryopteridaceae	-1.425000	48.950000	NA
Ebenaceae	-2.110000	14.650000	NA
Ehretiaceae	-1.647500	11.295938	NA
Ericaceae	-1.670000	14.382000	0.4660000
Erythroxylaceae	-1.916667	16.993333	NA
Euphorbiaceae	-1.260000	17.570000	0.4745000
Fabaceae	-1.641724	13.577917	0.2609091
Fagaceae	-1.994080	18.132800	0.2206667
Geraniaceae	-0.730000	3.740000	NA
Goodeniaceae	-1.500000	NA	NA
Grossulariaceae	-1.845000	NA	NA
Hydrophyllaceae	-1.260000	NA	NA
Irvingiaceae	-1.690000	38.380000	0.4760000
Lamiaceae	-1.184000	6.120000	0.2200000
Lauraceae	-2.074728	16.763373	0.1760000
Lindsaeaceae	-1.970000	7.340000	0.1700000
Lythraceae	-1.535000	6.055000	NA
Magnoliaceae	-1.430000	9.140000	0.1560000
Malpighiaceae	-1.540000	9.450000	NA
Malvaceae	-2.110000	17.730000	NA
Melastomataceae	-1.754000	12.306667	NA
Moraceae	-1.353563	13.575000	NA
Myrtaceae	-1.852385	14.462948	0.4006000
Nothofagaceae	-1.480000	8.380000	NA
Nyctaginaceae	-1.280000	NA	NA
Oleaceae	-2.046166	14.205556	NA
Onagraceae	-1.200000	NA	NA

Table A.24: Default maximum stem hydraulic conductivity by taxonomic family.

	Kmax_stemxylem
Adoxaceae	4.0535575
Altingiaceae	0.5050000
Amaranthaceae	0.0819000
Amborellaceae	0.5400000
Anacardiaceae	4.0772016
Annonaceae	5.2706667
Apiaceae	0.5150000
Apocynaceae	2.5651667
Aquifoliaceae	0.2255757
Araliaceae	1.6809011
Araucariaceae	0.7322500
Asteraceae	0.4986571
Austrobaileyaceae	2.3000000
Berberidaceae	0.0873333
Betulaceae	2.8733374
Bignoniaceae	2.1014900
Bruniaceae	0.2515000
Burseraceae	3.4050000
Cactaceae	1.8688095
Calophyllaceae	0.8982857
Cannabaceae	4.3396105
Capparaceae	0.5572667
Caprifoliaceae	0.2521010
Caryocaraceae	1.7587273
Casuarinaceae	1.8954048
Cistaceae	0.3958482
Clusiaceae	0.5950000
Cochlospermaceae	7.7500000
Combretaceae	5.7436667
Convolvulaceae	2.2000000
Cornaceae	2.3439777
Cupressaceae	0.9325131
Daphniphyllaceae	0.4600000
Dennstaedtiaceae	21.9800000
Dilleniaceae	1.2500000
Dipterocarpaceae	8.8857143
Ebenaceae	1.5527759
Ehretiaceae	4.0924899
Ericaceae	0.6151806
Erythroxylaceae	0.5352000
Euphorbiaceae	3.3816717
Eupomatiaceae	1.1239700
Fabaceae	2.9075403
Fagaceae	2.5306061
Garryaceae	1.9333333
Gnetaceae	1.2900000
Iteaceae	0.4500000
Juglandaceae	4.2050000
Lamiaceae	4.8686077
Lauraceae	1.1201255
Lecythidaceae	6.5443450
Loranthaceae	0.2817696
Lythraceae	6.1800000
Malpighiaceae	11.0500000
Malvaceae	5.0140647

### A.3.15 Xylem vulnerability

Default values for  $\Psi_{50,stem}$  are determined from taxonomic family using an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`).

If family-level values is missing, a suitable estimate of  $\Psi_{50,stem}$  the water potential corresponding to 50% of conductance loss, can be obtained from Maherali *et al.* (2004) according to combinations of taxon group (either Angiosperm or Gymnosperm), growth form (either tree or shrub) and leaf phenology:

Group	Growth form	Leaf phenology	$\Psi_{50,stem}$
Angiosperm	Tree/Shrub	Winter-(semi)deciduous	-2.34
Angiosperm	Tree	Evergreen	-1.51
Angiosperm	Shrub	Evergreen	-5.09
Gymnosperm	Tree	any	-4.17
Gymnosperm	Shrub	any	-8.95

$\Psi_{50,stem}$  estimates are taken for parameter  $\Psi_{critic}$ , in the case of the basic water balance model.

Vulnerability curves in the advanced model need to be specified for leaves, stem and root segments via the two parameters of the Weibull function (see 10.1). When any of the parameters of the stem vulnerability curve is missing, a regression equation using data from Choat *et al.* (2012) can be used to estimate  $\Psi_{88,stem}$  from  $\Psi_{50,stem}$ :

$$\Psi_{88,stem} = -1.4264 + 1.2593 \cdot \Psi_{50,stem} \quad (A.4)$$

Finally, estimates for  $c_{stem}$  and  $d_{stem}$  are obtained from  $\Psi_{50,stem}$  and  $\Psi_{88,stem}$  via function `hydraulics_psi2Weibull()`.

Vulnerability curves for root xylem are less common than for stem xylem. If these values are missing,  $\Psi_{50,stem}$  is first estimated according to its definition and the stem vulnerability curve parameters,  $c_{stem}$  and  $d_{stem}$ . Then, a relationship from Bartlett *et al.* (2016) is used to estimate  $\Psi_{50,root}$  from  $\Psi_{50,stem}$ :

$$\Psi_{50,root} = 0.4892 + 0.742 \cdot \Psi_{50,stem} \quad (A.5)$$

Finally,  $\Psi_{88,stem}$  and the Weibull vulnerability parameters are obtained as explained for stems.

Vulnerability curves for leaf xylem are also less common than for stem xylem. If these values are missing, the water potential at turgor loss point  $\Psi_{tlp}$  is first estimated from  $\pi_{leaf}$  and  $\epsilon_{leaf}$  according to eq. (10.14). Then, a relationship calibrated with data from Bartlett *et al.* (2016) is used to estimate  $\Psi_{50,leaf}$  from  $\Psi_{tlp}$ :

$$\Psi_{50,leaf} = 0.2486 + 0.9944 \cdot \Psi_{tlp} \quad (A.6)$$

Finally,  $\Psi_{88,leaf}$  and the Weibull vulnerability parameters are obtained as explained for stems.

### A.3.16 Photosynthesis rates

Rubisco's maximum carboxylation rate at 25°C ( $V_{max,298}$ , in  $\mu mol CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$ ) is a required input parameter for each species (`Vmax298`). When missing, the work by Walker *et al.* (2014) suggests that suitable estimates can be derived from  $SLA$  and  $N_{area}$ , the latter being the nitrogen concentration per leaf area:

$$V_{max,298} = e^{1.993+2.555 \cdot \log(N_{area})-0.372 \cdot \log(SLA)+0.422 \cdot \log(N_{area}) \cdot \log(SLA)} \quad (A.7)$$

In turn, imputation for  $SLA$  is explained in A.3.3, whereas missing values for  $N_{area}$  are determined from taxonomic family using an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`):

If family-level values is missing, a default average value  $N_{area} = 1.89$  is given.

Would  $N_{area}$  and  $SLA$  values be both unavailable, a default value of  $100 \mu mol CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$  is used for  $V_{max,298}$  imputation.

Table A.26: Default stem P50 values by taxonomic family.

	P50
Adoxaceae	-3.0384833
Altingiaceae	-2.0370147
Amaranthaceae	-2.4252402
Amborellaceae	-3.0000000
Anacardiaceae	-2.6535235
Annonaceae	-2.5276068
Apiaceae	-5.7000000
Apocynaceae	-2.4864334
Aquifoliaceae	-3.6437782
Araliaceae	-1.6530859
Araucariaceae	-2.6183226
Arecaceae	-1.8100000
Asparagaceae	-1.6960000
Asteraceae	-3.2565860
Atherospermataceae	-3.0063333
Austrobaileyaceae	-0.4990000
Berberidaceae	-4.5000000
Betulaceae	-2.1017591
Bignoniaceae	-0.8616667
Boraginaceae	-3.5677066
Bruniaceae	-3.3883558
Burseraceae	-1.3054970
Buxaceae	-8.0000000
Cactaceae	-1.2875000
Calophyllaceae	-1.5400000
Calycanthaceae	-1.2808475
Canellaceae	-0.2320000
Cannabaceae	-1.5325304
Capparaceae	-2.3615234
Caprifoliaceae	-5.5144833
Caryocaraceae	-1.6766667
Casuarinaceae	-2.1750000
Celastraceae	-3.4679167
Chloranthaceae	-1.7228571
Chrysobalanaceae	-2.2000000
Cistaceae	-7.1951892
Cleomaceae	-2.1842678
Clusiaceae	-1.3172327
Cochlospermaceae	-1.4400000
Combretaceae	-1.8483333
Convolvulaceae	-1.5987102
Cornaceae	-4.1378833
Cunoniaceae	-1.1500000
Cupressaceae	-8.3049767
Daphniphyllaceae	-0.5985705
Dennstaedtiaceae	-1.9900000
Dilleniaceae	-1.4112676
Dipterocarpaceae	-0.3628571
Dryopteridaceae	-2.5797602
Ebenaceae	-1.5093287
Ehretiaceae	-2.4548812
Ericaceae	-2.8142685
Euphorbiaceae	-1.4638127
Eupomatiaceae	-0.3950000
Fabaceae	-2.3650427

Table A.28: Default nitrogen concentration per leaf area by taxonomic family.

	Narea
Acanthaceae	1.5235990
Achariaceae	1.7288785
Actinidiaceae	1.3484587
Adoxaceae	1.2186440
Aextoxicaceae	1.2732365
Alismataceae	1.7330123
Alstroemeriaceae	2.4738000
Altingiaceae	0.9559233
Amaranthaceae	2.3745113
Amaryllidaceae	1.8388342
Amphorogynaceae	1.5847246
Anacardiaceae	1.9473695
Ancistrocladaceae	0.0862839
Annonaceae	1.6333966
Apiaceae	1.9289413
Apocynaceae	1.7245418
Aptandraceae	1.9068901
Aquifoliaceae	1.5295728
Araceae	1.0357014
Araliaceae	1.5345712
Araucariaceae	2.7476120
Arecaceae	1.5917634
Aristolochiaceae	1.2337532
Asparagaceae	1.8516131
Asphodelaceae	3.3055289
Aspleniaceae	1.2133133
Asteraceae	1.6557984
Atherospermataceae	1.7763082
Athyriaceae	1.2183690
Balsaminaceae	0.7239505
Begoniaceae	0.8584200
Berberidaceae	1.4285861
Betulaceae	1.3315157
Bignoniaceae	1.9417200
Bixaceae	1.6071630
Blechnaceae	1.0147016
Boraginaceae	1.2959918
Brassicaceae	1.7614136
Bromeliaceae	1.5492581
Brunelliaceae	2.3745435
Burseraceae	1.5497694
Buxaceae	4.2116349
Cactaceae	17.5849410
Calophyllaceae	1.4824666
Calycanthaceae	0.8447253
Campanulaceae	1.6858217
Cannabaceae	1.9482350
Cannaceae	0.9264877
Capparaceae	4.4522999
Caprifoliaceae	1.1365688
Cardiopteridaceae	3.2093221
Caricaceae	1.1651147
Caryocaraceae	1.5150753
Caryophyllaceae	1.3438767
Casuarinaceae	4.0126881

When the maximum rate of electron transport at the same temperature ( $J_{max,298}$ ) is not provided by the user, it can be estimated from  $V_{max,298}$  using (Walker *et al.* 2014):

$$J_{max,298} = e^{1.197+0.847 \cdot \log(V_{max,298})} \quad (\text{A.8})$$

### A.3.17 Maintenance respiration rates

When missing at the species parameter table, maintenance respiration rates for leaves, sapwood and fine roots are taken from `control` parameters (all values in  $g \text{ gluc} \cdot g \text{ dry}^{-1} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$ ). Default values ( $MR_{leaf} = 0.00260274$ ), sapwood ( $MR_{sapwood} = 6.849315e - 05$ ) and fine roots ( $MR_{fineroot} = 0.002054795$ ) were derived from Ogle & Pacala (2009).

### A.3.18 Relative growth rates

When missing at the species parameter table, maximum relative growth rates for leaves, sapwood and fine roots are taken from `control` parameters. [JUSTIFICATION MISSING]

### A.3.19 Senescence rates

When missing at the species parameter table, senescence rates for sapwood and fine roots are taken from `control` parameters. [JUSTIFICATION MISSING]

### A.3.20 Wood carbon

Default values for  $C_{wood}$  are determined from taxonomic family using an internal data set (`medfate:::trait_family_means`): If family-level values are missing, default value of  $C_{wood} = 0.5 \text{ g C} \cdot \text{g dry}^{-1}$  is used.

### A.3.21 Recruitment

Imputation of missing values for recruitment is specified via `control` parameters. Default values are provided in 18.4.3

### A.3.22 Flammability

Default values for the surface-area-to-volume ratio ( $\sigma$ ), fuel heat content ( $h$ ) and lignin percent ( $LI$ ) are defined from leaf size and leaf shape as follows:

Leaf shape	Leaf size	$\sigma$	$h$	$LI$
Broad	Large	5740	19740	15.50
Broad	Medium	4039	19825	20.21
Broad	Small	4386	20062	22.32
Linear/Needle	Large	3620	18250	24.52
Linear/Needle	Medium	4758	21182	24.52
Linear/Needle	Small	6697	21888	18.55
Spines	[any]	6750	20433	14.55
Scale	[any]	1120	20504	14.55

Default value for the density of fuel particles ( $\rho_p$ ) is  $400 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ .

Table A.29: Default wood carbon content by taxonomic family.

	WoodC
Acanthaceae	0.4242167
Altingiaceae	0.4435000
Amaranthaceae	0.4154472
Amaryllidaceae	0.4508400
Anacardiaceae	0.4566867
Annonaceae	0.4726000
Apiaceae	0.4374312
Apocynaceae	0.4924750
Aquifoliaceae	0.4317500
Araliaceae	0.4540667
Arecaceae	0.4556000
Asparagaceae	0.4631000
Asteraceae	0.4365142
Betulaceae	0.4721962
Bignoniaceae	0.4618077
Boraginaceae	0.4153500
Brassicaceae	0.4268611
Burseraceae	0.4516289
Calophyllaceae	0.4663000
Campanulaceae	0.4498475
Cannabaceae	0.4683583
Caprifoliaceae	0.4475552
Caryophyllaceae	0.4163613
Casuarinaceae	0.4200000
Celastraceae	0.4900000
Chrysobalanaceae	0.4886000
Cistaceae	0.4698925
Clethraceae	0.4400000
Combretaceae	0.4678282
Convolvulaceae	0.4200000
Corynocarpaceae	0.4520000
Cupressaceae	0.5057017
Cyperaceae	0.4639737
Dipterocarpaceae	0.4744750
Ebenaceae	0.4828000
Ehretiaceae	0.4622000
Elaeocarpaceae	0.4350000
Ericaceae	0.4865107
Euphorbiaceae	0.4709842
Fabaceae	0.4549671
Fagaceae	0.4589593
Gentianaceae	0.4654867
Geraniaceae	0.4381400
Hydrophyllaceae	0.4700000
Hypericaceae	0.4547167
Juglandaceae	0.4771306
Juncaceae	0.4238725
Juncaginaceae	0.3987366
Lamiaceae	0.4650444
Lauraceae	0.4677907
Lecythidaceae	0.4618750
Lentibulariaceae	0.4450200
Loganiaceae	0.4943000
Lythraceae	0.4219000
Magnoliaceae	0.4500000

## A.4 Scaling size-related parameters

### A.4.1 Stem xylem maximum conductance

Estimation of maximum stem conductance ( $k_{s,max}$ , in  $mmol \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$ ) is done by function `hydraulics_maximumStemHydraulicConductance()` and follows the work by Savage *et al.* (2010), Olson *et al.* (2014) and Christoffersen *et al.* (2016). Calculations are based on tree height and two species-specific parameters: maximum sapwood reference conductivity ( $K_{s,max,ref}$ ) and the ratio of leaf area to sapwood area ( $A_l/A_s$ ; `A12As` in `SpParamsMED`), i.e. the inverse of the Huber value  $H_v$ .

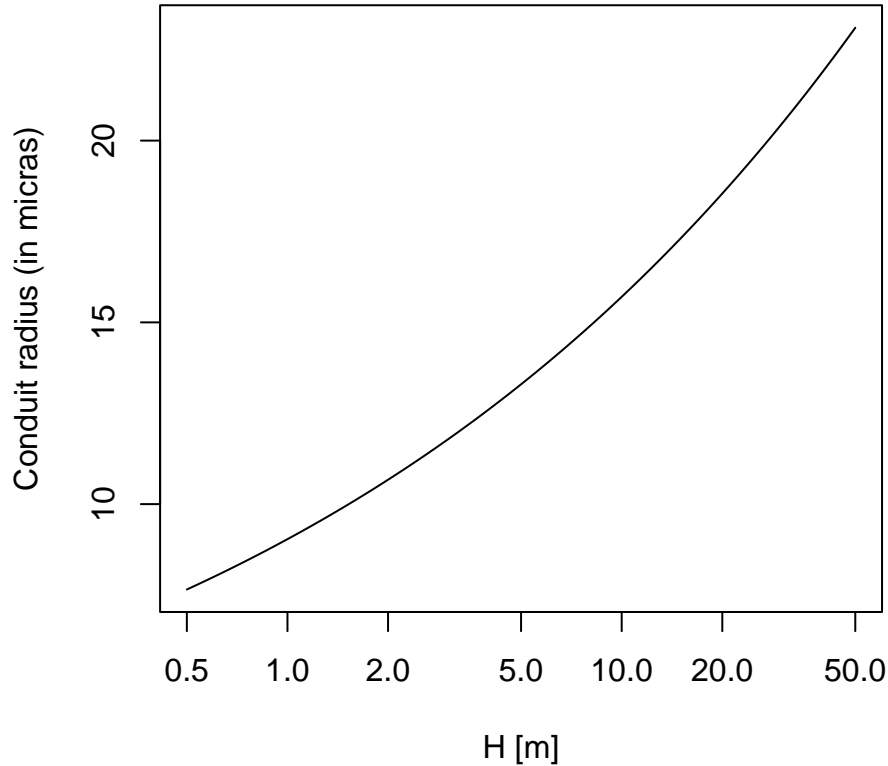
The reference value for maximum sapwood conductivity  $K_{s,max,ref}$  is assumed to have been measured on a *terminal branch* of a plant of known height  $H_{ref}$ . If our target plant is very different in height, the conduits of terminal branches will have different radius and hence conductivity. We correct the reference conductivity to the target plant height using the following empirical relationship, developed by Olson *et al.* (2014) between tree height and diameter of conduits for angiosperms and the equation described by Christoffersen *et al.* (2016):

$$2 \cdot r_{int,H} = 10^{1.257 + (0.24 \cdot \log_{10}(H))} \quad (A.9)$$

$$2 \cdot r_{int,ref} = 10^{1.257 + (0.24 \cdot \log_{10}(H_{ref}))} \quad (A.10)$$

$$K_{s,max,cor} = K_{s,max,ref} \cdot (r_{int,H}/r_{int,ref})^2 \quad (A.11)$$

Where  $r_{int,H}$  is the radius of conduits for a terminal branch of a tree of height  $H$  and  $r_{int,ref}$  is the corresponding radius for a tree of height  $H_{ref}$  ( $H$  and  $H_{ref}$  are measured in m). The form of the empirical relationship by Olson *et al.* (2014) is:



Let's consider an example for a *Quercus ilex* target tree of 4m height and where species-specific conductivity  $K_{s,max,ref} = 0.77$  is the apical value for trees of  $H_{ref} = 6.6$  m (in `medfate`, values of  $H_{ref}$  are taken from median height values; see parameter `Hmed` in `SpParamsMED`). The corrected conductivity for a tree of height 4 m will be a bit lower than that of the reference height:



```
xylem_kmax = 0.77
H = 400 # in cm
Href = 660 # in cm
f = hydraulics_referenceConductivityHeightFactor(Href, H);
f
```

```
## [1] 0.7863352
```

```
xylem_kmax_cor = xylem_kmax * f
xylem_kmax_cor
```

```
## [1] 0.6054781
```

Once the reference conductivity is corrected, the maximum stem conductance without accounting for conduit taper is:

$$k_{s,max,notaper} = \frac{1000}{0.018} \frac{K_{s,max,cor} \cdot A_s}{H \cdot A_l} \quad (\text{A.12})$$

where  $H$  is the tree height (here in m),  $A_s$  is the sapwood area,  $A_l$  is the leaf area and  $1000/0.018$  is a factor used to go from kg to mmol. The ratio  $A_l/A_s = 1/H_v$  is a fixed species parameter in soil water balance calculations (see parameter **A12As**), but becomes variable when simulating plant growth. Let's assume that *Quercus ilex* the leaf to sapwood area ratio is  $A_l/A_s = 2512$ . The maximum (leaf-specific) stem conductance without taper ( $k_{s,max,notaper}$ ) for the tree of 4 m height is then:

```
A12As = 2512

kstemmax = hydraulics_maximumStemHydraulicConductance(xylem_kmax,
    Href, A12As, H, taper = FALSE)
kstemmax
```

```
## [1] 3.347698
```

In order to consider taper of xylem conduits we calculate the whole-tree conductance per unit leaf area ( $k_{s,max,taper}$ ) as described in Christoffersen *et al.* (2016):

$$k_{s,max,taper} = \frac{1000}{0.018} \cdot \frac{K_{s,max,pet} \cdot A_s}{H \cdot A_l} \cdot \chi_{tap:notap,ag}(H) \quad (\text{A.13})$$

where  $K_{s,max,pet}$  is the conductivity at the petiole level and  $\chi_{tap:notap,ag}(H)$  is the taper factor accounting for the decrease in the xylem conduits diameter with the height, from the petiole to base of the trunk, which mitigates the negative effects of height on the hydraulic safety. The conductivity at the petiole level is obtained from  $K_{s,max,ref}$  using again:

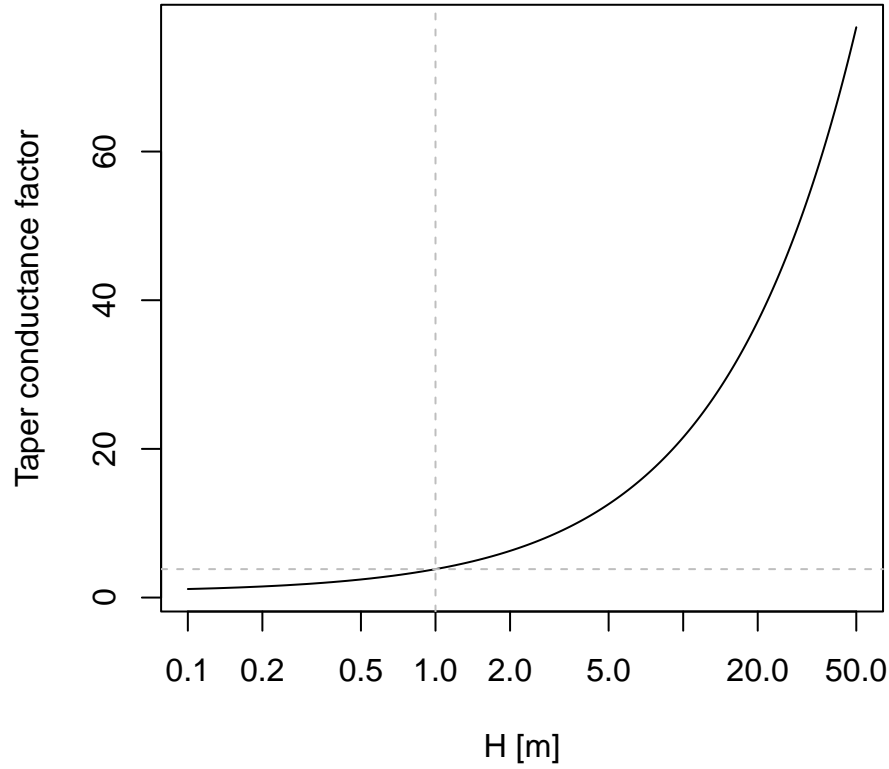
$$K_{s,max,pet} = K_{s,max,ref} \cdot (r_{int,pet}/r_{int,ref})^2 \quad (\text{A.14})$$

where  $r_{int,pet}$  is the radius of the petiole in the model of Savage *et al.* (2010). Christoffersen *et al.* (2016) use  $r_{int,pet} = 10 \mu m$  but we define it as the radius of apical conduits in a tree of 1 m height:

```
hydraulics_terminalConduitRadius(100.0)
```

```
## [1] 9.035871
```

$\chi_{tap:notap,ag}(H)$  is calculated as described in the Appendix 1 section of Christoffersen *et al.* (2016) (see also Savage *et al.* (2010)). The following figure shows the value of  $\chi_{tap:notap,ag}$  for different heights:



Note that, since  $\chi_{tap:notap,ag}(1) = 3.82$  (indicated using grey dashed lines in the last figure), the equation of maximum conductance with taper would give a higher conductance than the equation without taper for a tree of 1 m height, which is supposed to have a conductance equal to conductivity. To solve this issue we define the taper factor as  $\chi_{tap:notap,ag}(H)/\chi_{tap:notap,ag}(1)$ :

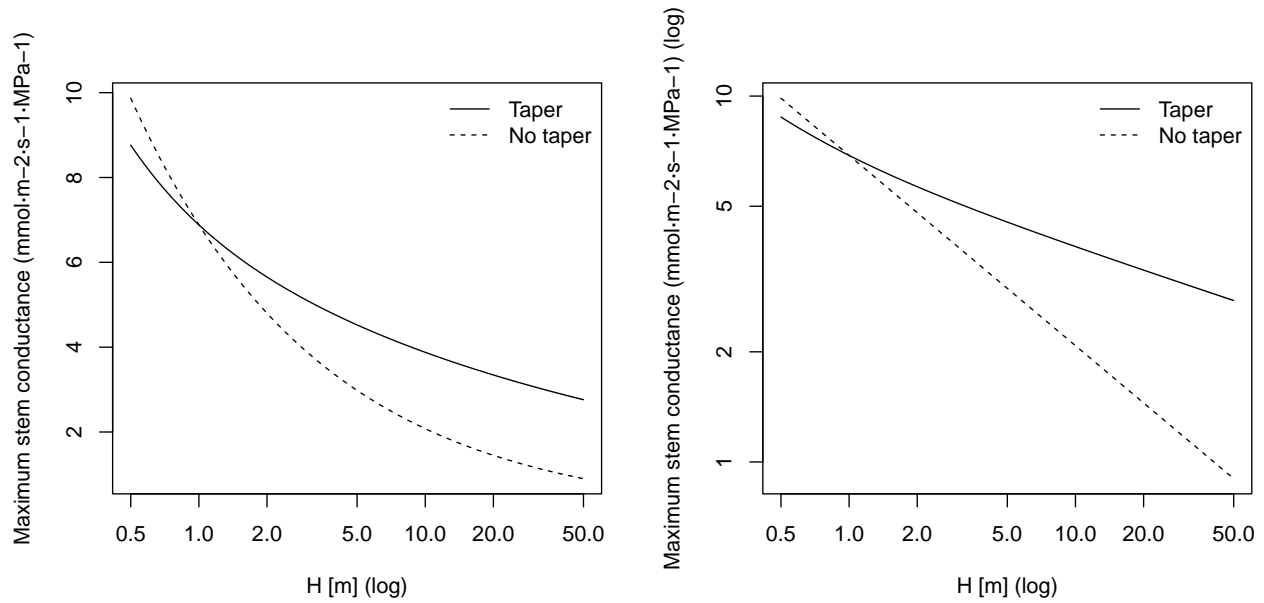
$$k_{s,max,taper} = \frac{1000}{0.018} \cdot \frac{K_{s,max,pet} \cdot A_s}{H \cdot A_l} \cdot \frac{\chi_{tap:notap,ag}(H)}{\chi_{tap:notap,ag}(1)} \quad (A.15)$$

The maximum stem conductance with taper ( $k_{s,max,taper}$ ) of a *Q. ilex* tree of 4 m height, calculated with this second equation, is:

```
kstemmax_tap = hydraulics_maximumStemHydraulicConductance(xylem_kmax,
    Href, A12As, H, taper = TRUE)
kstemmax_tap
```

```
## [1] 4.764396
```

The next two plots show the variation of  $k_{s,max}$  for *Q. ilex* depending on the tree height and with/without considering taper of conduits. The plot on the right (both axes in log) show the slope of the dependency of conductance with height in both cases:



#### A.4.2 Leaf maximum hydraulic conductance

#### A.4.3 Root xylem maximum hydraulic conductance

To obtain maximum root xylem conductance ( $k_{r,max}$ , in  $\text{mmol} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{MPa}^{-1}$ ), one option taken by Christoffersen *et al.* (2016) is to assume that minimum stem resistance (inverse of maximum conductance) represents a fixed proportion of the minimum total tree (stem+root) resistance. A value 0.625 (i.e. 62.5%) suggested by these authors leads to maximum total tree conductance for our *Q. ilex* tree being:

```
ktot = kstemmax*0.625
ktot
```

```
## [1] 2.092311
```

and the maximum root xylem conductance would be therefore:

```
krootmax = 1/((1/ktot)-(1/kstemmax))
krootmax
```

```
## [1] 5.579497
```

Now, we need to divide total maximum conductance of the root system xylem among soil layers we need weights inversely proportional to the length of transport distances (Sperry *et al.* 2017). Vertical transport lengths can be calculated from soil depths and radial spread can be calculated assuming cylinders with volume proportional to the proportions of fine root biomass. Let's assume a soil with three layers:

```
s = soil(defaultSoilParams(3))
d = s$dVec
d
```

```
## [1] 300 700 1000
```

The proportion of fine roots in each layer, assuming a linear dose response model, will be:

```
Z50 = 200
Z95 = 1500
v1 = root_ldrDistribution(Z50,Z95, d)
v1

##           [,1]      [,2]      [,3]
## [1,] 0.6661036 0.2784153 0.05548106
```

Having this information, the calculation of root length (i.e. the sum of vertical and radial lengths) to each layer ( $L_j$ ) is done using function `root_coarseRootLengths()`:

```
rfc = c(20,50,70)
Vol = root_coarseRootSoilVolumeFromConductance(1.0, 2500,krootmax,
                                                v1, d, rfc)
l = root_coarseRootLengthsFromVolume(Vol, v1, d, rfc)
l

## [1] 4503.445 3250.363 3085.055
```

where lengths are in mm. The proportion of total root xylem conductance corresponding to each layer ( $w_j$ ) is given by `root_xylemConductanceProportions()`:

```
w1 = hydraulics_rootxylemConductanceProportions(v1, l)
w1

## [1] 0.09131268 0.15767645 0.75101087
```

Xylem conductance proportions can be quite different than the fine root biomass proportions. This is because radial lengths are largest for the first top layers and vertical lengths are largest for the bottom layers. The maximum root xylem conductances of each layer will be the product of maximum total conductance of root xylem and weights:

```
w1*krootmax

## [1] 0.5094788 0.8797553 4.1902629
```

The maximum root xylem conductances of each layer would be:

```
krootmaxvec = w1*krootmax
krootmaxvec

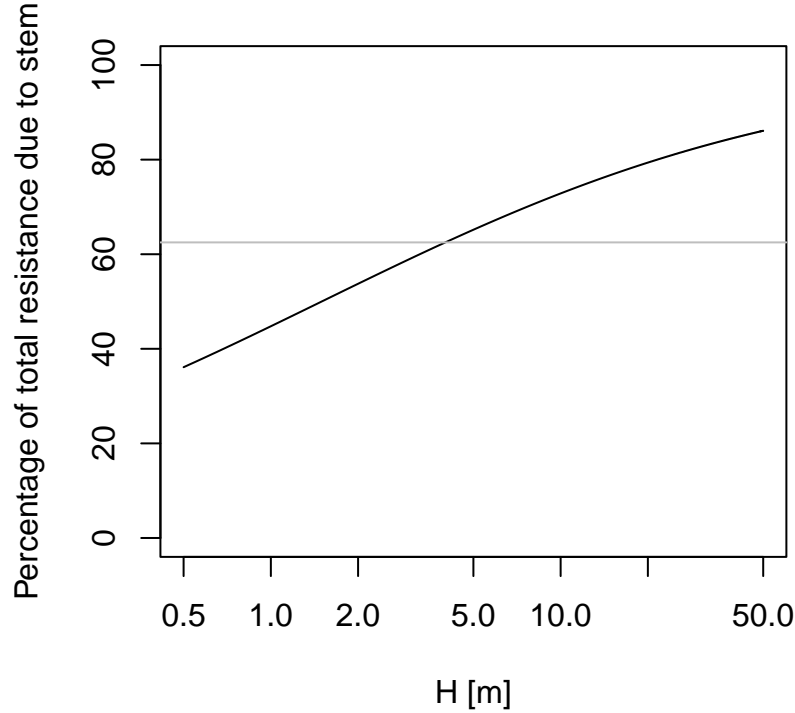
## [1] 0.5094788 0.8797553 4.1902629
```

and the fraction of total xylem resistance due to stem would be:

```
(1/kstemmax)/((1/kstemmax)+(1/krootmax))

## [1] 0.625
```

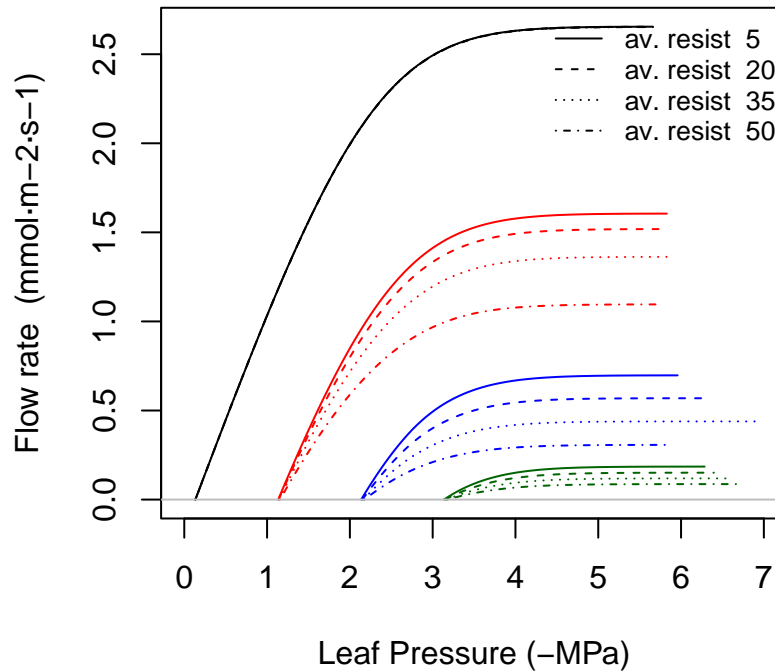
In contrast with the approach of Christoffersen *et al.* (2016), in this approach the root maximum conductance depends root length and distribution, and is not a fixed fraction of stem maximum conductance. Assuming constant root length, then the proportion of total resistance due to the stem will increase with tree height (Magnani *et al.* 2000):



where the horizontal gray line indicates the value of 62.5%. Of course rooting depth also increases with tree age, but young trees have higher root-to-shoot ratios than older ones. Hence, a root maximum conductance that is not fixed but increases with age seems a priori more realistic. Moreover, Christoffersen *et al.* (2016) justify the value of 62.5% from a study which quantified total aboveground and belowground resistance in tropical trees (Fisher *et al.* 2006) under near-saturated (wet season) conditions, but values of belowground resistance reported in this study for wet conditions and trees of 30 m height are around 13%, which equals to 87% fraction of aboveground resistance. On the other hand, while rooting depths are limited by soil depth, lateral root length increases with age and, hence, the model could be made more realistic if this is taken into account and the curve above would probably saturate at lower percentages.

#### A.4.4 Rhizosphere maximum hydraulic conductance

Maximum rhizosphere conductance ( $k_{rh,max}$ , in  $mmol \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$ ) is difficult to measure directly, as it depends on the rhizosphere (i.e. fine root) surface in each soil layer, and will probably always be a parameter to be calibrated. Instead of trying to estimate rhizosphere surface from root architecture (Sperry *et al.* 1998), we follow Sperry *et al.* (2016) and determine the maximum rhizosphere conductance in each layer from an inputted ‘average percentage rhizosphere resistance.’ The percentage of continuum resistance corresponding to the rhizosphere is calculated from the vulnerability curves of stem, root and rhizosphere at the same water potential. The average resistance is found by evaluating the percentage for water potential values between 0 and  $\Psi_{crit}$ . The following figure illustrates how the supply function, for different soil water potentials, is affected by increasing values of the average percentage of rhizosphere resistance:



Sperry *et al.* (2016) found average percentages of rhizosphere resistance around 67%, but these exceptionally-high values were probably a consequence of using an unsegmented supply function (i.e. single vulnerability curve for roots, stem and leaves). If we specify a 15% of average resistance in the rhizosphere (see parameter `averageFracRhizosphereResistance` in function `defaultControl()`), the maximum rhizosphere conductance values for the three layers are found calling:

```
krmax = rep(0,3)
krmax[1] = hydraulics_findRhizosphereMaximumConductance(15,
  s$VG_n[1], s$VG_alpha[1],
  krootmax, rootc, rootd,
  kstemmax, stemc, stemd,
  kleafmax, leafc, leafd)
krmax[2] = hydraulics_findRhizosphereMaximumConductance(15,
  s$VG_n[2], s$VG_alpha[2],
  krootmax, rootc, rootd,
  kstemmax, stemc, stemd,
  kleafmax, leafc, leafd)
krmax[3] = hydraulics_findRhizosphereMaximumConductance(15,
  s$VG_n[3], s$VG_alpha[3],
  krootmax, rootc, rootd,
  kstemmax, stemc, stemd,
  kleafmax, leafc, leafd)
krmax
```

```
## [1] 240174188 85636744 85636744
```

The values are the same because the texture of the three layers is the same in this case. If we take into account root distribution, actual maximum rhizosphere conductance values are:

```
krmax*v1
```

```
##           [,1]      [,2]      [,3]
## [1,] 159980896 23842581 4751218
```

### A.4.5 Plant water storage capacity

The water storage capacity of sapwood tissue per leaf area unit ( $V_{sapwood}$ ; in  $l \cdot m^{-2}$ ) can be estimated as the product of stem height ( $H$  in m) and Huber value ( $H_v$ ; ratio of sapwood area to leaf area in  $m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$ ) times a factor to account for the non-cylindrical shape (<http://www.fao.org/forestry/17109/en/>):

$$V_{sapwood} = 10^3 \cdot 0.48 \cdot H \cdot H_v \cdot \Theta_{sapwood} \quad (A.16)$$

$\Theta_{sapwood}$  is sapwood porosity ( $cm^3$  of water per  $cm^3$  of sapwood tissue), which can be estimated from wood density ( $\rho_{wood}$ ; in  $g \cdot cm^{-3}$ ):

$$\Theta_{sapwood} = 1 - (\rho_{wood}/1.54) \quad (A.17)$$

where the density of wood substance can be assumed to be fixed and equal to  $1.54 g \cdot cm^{-3}$  (Dunlap 1914). For example, wood densities ranging from 0.443 to  $1.000 g \cdot cm^{-3}$  result in sapwood porosity values between 0.35 and 0.71.

Water storage capacity of leaf tissue per leaf area unit ( $V_{leaf}$ ; in  $l \cdot m^{-2}$ ) can be estimated as the product of specific leaf area (SLA; in  $m^2 \cdot kg^{-1}$ ) and leaf density ( $\rho_{leaf}$ ; in  $g \cdot cm^{-3}$ ):

$$V_{leaf} = \frac{1}{SLA \cdot \rho_{leaf}} \cdot \Theta_{leaf} \quad (A.18)$$

$\Theta_{leaf}$  is leaf porosity ( $cm^3$  of water per  $cm^3$  of leaf tissue), which can be estimated from leaf density:

$$\Theta_{leaf} = 1 - (\rho_{leaf}/1.54) \quad (A.19)$$

where the density of wood substance can be assumed to be fixed and equal to  $1.54 g \cdot cm^{-3}$  (Dunlap 1914).

For example, let's calculate the stem and leaf water capacity for a Q. ilex tree of 15 m height:

```
wd = 1.0
Al2As = 2512
H = 1500 # 15 m
hydraulics_stemWaterCapacity(Al2As, H, wd)
```

```
## [1] 2.093846
```

```
ld = 0.7
SLA = 5.870
hydraulics_leafWaterCapacity(SLA, ld)
```

```
## [1] 0.1327463
```

### A.4.6 Horizontal root overlap

#### A.4.6.1 Basic water balance

A given plant cohort  $i$  will have its roots in layer  $s$  partitioned among different water pools. We thus need to define  $fr_{i,s,j}$ , the (horizontal) proportion of fine roots of cohort  $i$  in layer  $s$  of the water pool  $j$ , with the restriction that:

$$\sum_j fr_{i,s,j} = 1 \quad \forall i, s \quad (A.20)$$

It is important to realize that proper estimation of  $fr_{i,s,j}$  is challenging when we do not have explicit plant coordinates, root lateral widths, etc. For this reason, an intuitive approach is followed here based on the following two premises:

- The amount of overlap between roots of different plants should monotonically increase along with the LAI of the stand (i.e.  $LAI_{stand}^{live}$ ).
- The amount of overlap between roots of different plants at a given soil depth should increase/decrease with the vertical proportion of roots at that depth.

The specific formulation we chose for  $fr_{i,s,j}$  is:

$$fr_{i,s,j} = f_{pool,j} \cdot (1 - \exp(-f_{overlap} \cdot LAI_{stand}^{live})) \cdot \left( \frac{\sqrt{FRP_{i,s} \cdot FRP_{j,s}}}{\max_s(FRP_{i,s})} \right) \quad (\text{A.21})$$

for all  $j \neq i$ , where  $f_{overlap}$  is an overlap factor (a control parameter called `poolOverlapFactor`). For  $j = i$  then we simply have:

$$fr_{i,s,i} = 1 - \sum_j fr_{i,s,j} \quad (\text{A.22})$$

Note that if  $f_{overlap} = 0$  then  $fr_{i,s,j} = 1$  if  $j = i$  and zero otherwise (i.e. plants exploit their corresponding water pools only). For very large values of  $LAI_{stand}^{live}$  and/or  $f_{overlap}$  we have that  $(1 - \exp(-f_{overlap} \cdot LAI_{stand}^{live})) = 0$  and  $fr_{i,s,j} = f_{pool,j}$  (neglecting vertical differences), so that plants exploit the each water pool in the same proportion as the fraction of stand occupied by the pool (i.e. overlap is maximum).



# Appendix B

## Symbols

The following tables list all symbols used in this document, along with their units and definition. When symbols are input for **medfate** model functions, the R name of those parameters in the package (either in data frame **SpParamsMED**, soil input data frame, or the output of functions such as **spwbInput()**) is also indicated.

### B.1 Dimensions

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$\Delta t_{step}$	$s$	<code>86400/ndailysteps</code>	Subdaily temporal step
$\Delta t_{substep}$	$s$	<code>86400/(ndailysteps*ndailysubsteps)</code>	Subdaily substep
$c$	(count)		Number of plant cohorts
$l$	(count)		Number of vertical layers
$\Delta z$	$m$	<code>verticalLayerSize/100</code>	Width of vertical layers
$S$	(count)		Number of soil layers
$d_s$	mm	<code>widths</code>	Width of soil layer $s$
$Z_s$	mm	<code>widths</code>	Depth of soil layer $s$
$Z_{soil}$	mm		Overall soil depth

### B.2 Soils

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$P_{clay,s}$	%	<code>clay</code>	Percent of clay in soil layer $s$
$P_{sand,s}$	%	<code>sand</code>	Percent of sand in soil layer $s$
$OM_s$	%	<code>om</code>	Percentage of organic mater per dry weight in soil layer $s$
$BD_s$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	<code>bd</code>	Bulk density in soil layer $s$
$P_{rocks,s}$	%	<code>rfc</code>	Percentage of rock fragment content in soil layer $s$
$\theta_s$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$		Volumetric moisture in soil layer $s$
$\Psi_s$	MPa		Water potential in soil layer $s$
$\Psi_{fc}$	MPa		Water potential at field capacity
$A_s, B_s$			Parameters of the Saxton pedotransfer functions for soil layer $s$
$\theta_{sat,s}$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$	<code>VG_theta_sat</code>	Volumetric moisture at saturation for soil layer $s$

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$\theta_{fc,s}$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$		Volumetric moisture at field capacity (-0.033 MPa) for soil layer $s$
$\theta_{wp,s}$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$		Volumetric moisture at wilting point (-1.5 MPa) for soil layer $s$
$\theta_{res,s}$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$	VG_theta_res	Residual volumetric moisture for soil layer $s$
$n_s$		VG_n	Parameter $n$ of the Van Genuchten (1980) model for soil layer $s$
$\alpha_s$		VG_alpha	Parameter $\alpha$ of the Van Genuchten (1980) model for soil layer $s$
$K_{sat,s}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	Ksat	Saturated soil conductivity for soil layer $s$ .
$K_{unsat,s}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	Kunsat	Unsaturated soil conductivity for soil layer $s$ .
$K_{drain}$	$mm \cdot d^{-1}$	Kdrain	Hydraulic conductivity for deep drainage.
$P_{macro,s}$	%	macro	Percentage of macroporosity corresponding to soil layer $s$ .
$\gamma_{soil}$	$mm \cdot day^{-1}$	Gsoil	The maximum daily evaporation from soil
$\kappa_{soil}$	(unitless)	Ksoil	Extinction parameter to regulate the amount of water evaporated from each soil layer
$Z_{wt}$	mm		Water table depth
$V_s$	mm		Water volume in soil layer $s$
$V_{soil}$	mm		Overall water volume in the soil
$V_{fc,soil}$	mm		Water retention capacity of the whole soil
$W_s$	[0-1]	W	Proportion of moisture in relation to field capacity in soil layer $s$
$W_{i,s}$	[0-1]	W	Proportion of moisture in relation to field capacity in soil layer $s$ within fraction of stand area covered by cohort $i$
$W_{rhizo,i,s}$	[0-1]		Proportion of moisture in relation to field capacity in soil layer $s$ within the rhizosphere of cohort $i$
$S_{snow}$	mm	SWE	Snow water equivalent of the snow pack storage over the soil surface

### B.3 Plant/leaf classification

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$GF$	Categorical	GrowthForm	“Tree,” “Shrub” or “Tree/Shrub”
$LF$	Categorical	LifeForm	Raunkiaer life form
$L_{shape}$	Categorical	LeafShape	Leaf shape: “Broad,” “Needle,” “Linear,” “Scale,” “Spines” or “Succulent”
$L_{size}$	Categorical	LeafSize	Leaf size: “Small” (< 225 mm), “Medium” (> 225 mm & < 2025 mm) or “Large” (> 2025 mm)
$L_{pheno}$	Categorical	PhenologyType	Leaf phenology type

### B.4 Vegetation

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$SP_i$	(count)	Species	Species identity of cohort $i$
$A_{sh,i}$	$cm^2$	Height	Area occupied by an average shrub individual of cohort $i$
$B_{sh,i}$	$kg$		Fine-fuel biomass of an average shrub individual of cohort $i$
$H_i$	$cm$		Average tree or shrub height of cohort $i$
$H_{crown,i}$	$cm$		Crown base height (i.e. the height corresponding to the first living branch) of cohort $i$
$CCF_i$			Crown competition factor of cohort $i$
$CW_i$	$m$	CR	Crown width that a tree of cohort $i$ would have in open-ground conditions
$CR_i$	[0-1]		Crown ratio (i.e. ratio between crown length and plant height) of cohort $i$
$N_i$	$ind\ddot{u}ha^{-1}$	N	Density of tree individuals of cohort $i$
$DBH_i$	$cm$	DBH	Diameter at breast height of trees in cohort $i$
$Cover_i$	%	Cover	Percent cover of shrubs in cohort $i$
$FB_i$	$kg \cdot m^{-2}$		Foliar biomass of cohort $i$
$FB_{tree,i}$	$kg$		Foliar biomass of a single tree of cohort $i$
$\phi_i$	[0-1]		Fraction of maximum leaf area currently expanded for cohort $i$
$LAI_i^{live}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$	LAI_live	(Maximum) leaf area index (one-side leaf area per surface area of the stand) of cohort $i$
$LAI_i^{dead}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$	LAI_dead	Dead leaf area index (one-side dead leaf area per surface area of the stand) of cohort $i$
$LAI_i^{\phi}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$	LAI_expanded	Current expanded leaf area index (one-side expanded leaf area per surface area of the stand) of cohort $i$
$LAI_i^{all}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$		Total leaf area index (live or dead) of cohort $i$
$LAI_{stand}^{live}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$		Maximum leaf area index of living leaves of the stand
$LAI_{stand}^{dead}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$		Leaf area index of dead leaves of the stand
$LAI_{stand}^{\phi}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$		Current expanded leaf area index of live leaves of the stand
$LAI_{stand}$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$		Total leaf area index (live or dead) of the stand
$LA_i$	$m^2$		Leaf area of an individual of cohort $i$
$FRP_{i,s}$	[0-1]	V[i,s]	The proportion of fine roots of cohort $i$ in soil layer $s$
$FRA_{i,s}$	$m^2$		Fine root area of cohort $i$ in soil layer $s$
$L_{radial,i,s}$	$m$		Radial length of coarse roots of cohort $i$ in soil layer $s$
$W_i$	$kg \cdot m^{-2}$		Fine fuel biomass of cohort $i$
$Z_{50,i}$	$mm$	Z50	Depth above which 50% of the fine root mass of cohort $i$ is located
$Z_{95,i}$	$mm$	Z95	Depth above which 95% of the fine root mass of cohort $i$ is located

## B.5 Meteorology

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$DOY$		<b>DOY</b>	Day of the year
$T_{mean}$	$^{\circ}C$	<b>MeanTemperature</b>	Mean daily temperature
$T_{min}$	$^{\circ}C$	<b>MinTemperature</b>	Minimum daily temperature
$T_{max}$	$^{\circ}C$	<b>MaxTemperature</b>	Maximum daily temperature
$T_{base}$	$^{\circ}C$		Base temperature for calculation of $GDD$
$RH_{min}$	%	<b>MinRelativeHumidity</b>	Minimum daily relative humidity
$RH_{max}$	%	<b>MaxRelativeHumidity</b>	Maximum daily relative humidity

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$P$	$L \cdot m^{-2} = mm$	Precipitation	Precipitation (including rainfall and snow)
$Pr$	$L \cdot m^{-2} = mm$	Rainfall	Liquid water precipitation (rainfall)
$Ps$	$L \cdot m^{-2} = mm$	Snow	Snow precipitation
$PET$	$L \cdot m^{-2} = mm$	PET	Potential evapotranspiration, preferably calculated using Penman's equation
$Rad$	$MJ \cdot m^{-2}$	Radiation	Solar radiation after accounting for clouds
$u$	$m \cdot s^{-1}$	WindSpeed	Wind speed
$P_{atm}$	kPa		Atmospheric pressure
$\rho_{air}$	$kg \cdot m^{-3}$		Air density
$T_{atm}$	$^{\circ}C$	Tatm	Atmospheric (above-canopy) air temperature
$T_{can}$	$^{\circ}C$	Tcan	Canopy air temperature
$T_{air,j}$	$^{\circ}C$	Tair	Air temperature in canopy layer $j$
$T_{soil,s}$	$^{\circ}C$	Tsoil.s	Temperature of soil layer $s$
$e_{atm}$	kPa		Atmospheric (above-canopy) water vapor pressure
$e_{air,j}$	kPa	VPair	Water vapor pressure in canopy layer $j$
$C_{atm}$	kPa	Catm	Atmospheric (above-canopy) $CO_2$ concentration
$C_{air,j}$	kPa	VPair	$CO_2$ concentration in canopy layer $j$
$u_j$	$m \cdot s^{-1}$		Wind speed at canopy layer $j$

## B.6 Anatomy

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$H_v$	$m^2 \cdot m^{-2}$	1/A12As	Huber value (ratio of sapwood area to leaf area)
$LW$	$cm$	LeafWidth	Leaf width
$SLA$	$m^2 \cdot kg^{-1}$	SLA	Specific leaf area
$\rho_{leaf}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	LeafDensity	Leaf tissue density
$\rho_{wood}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	WoodDensity	Wood tissue density
$\rho_{fineroot}$	$g \cdot cm^{-3}$	FineRootDensity	Fine root tissue density
$\Theta_{sapwood}$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$		Sapwood porosity (volume of empty spaces over total volume)
$\Theta_{leaf}$	$m^3 \cdot m^{-3}$		Leaf porosity (volume of empty spaces over total volume)
$SRL$	$cm \cdot g^{-1}$	SRL	Specific root length
$RLD$	$cm \cdot cm^{-3}$	RLD	Fine root length density (i.e. density of root length per soil volume)
$r_{6.35}$		r635	Ratio between the weight of leaves plus branches and the weight of leaves alone for branches of 6.35 mm

## B.7 Radiation

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$k_{PAR,i}$	(unitless)	kPAR	PAR extinction coefficient for cohort $i$
$k_{SWR,i}$	(unitless)		SWR extinction coefficient for cohort $i$
$k_{LWR}$	(unitless)		LWR extinction coefficient
$k_b$	(unitless)		Extinction coefficient for direct light for cohort $i$

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$k_{d,i}$	(unitless)		Extinction coefficient for diffuse light for cohort $i$ (equal to $k_{PAR,i}$ or $k_{SWR,i}$ )
$\alpha_{SWR,i}$	[0-1]	alphaSWR	Short-wave radiation absorbance coefficient for cohort $i$
$\alpha_{PAR,i}$	[0-1]		PAR absorbance coefficient for cohort $i$
$\gamma_{SWR,i}$	[0-1]	gammaSWR	Short-wave radiation leaf reflectance (albedo) for cohort $i$
$\gamma_{SWR,soil}$	[0-1]		Short-wave radiation soil reflectance
$\gamma_{PAR,i}$	[0-1]		PAR leaf reflectance for cohort $i$
$L_{ground}^{PAR}$	[0-1]	LgroundPAR	Fraction of PAR reaching the ground
$L_{ground}^{SWR}$	[0-1]	LgroundSWR	Fraction of SWR reaching the ground
$I_{beam}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Instantaneous direct shortwave irradiance from the atmosphere
$I_{dif}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Instantaneous diffuse shortwave irradiance from the atmosphere
$L_{atm}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Instantaneous longwave radiation from the atmosphere
$I_{beam,j}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Instantaneous direct shortwave irradiance at the top of canopy layer $j$
$I_{dif,j}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Instantaneous diffuse shortwave irradiance at the top of canopy layer $j$
$I_{beam,soil}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Instantaneous direct shortwave irradiance reaching the soil
$I_{dif,soil}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Instantaneous diffuse shortwave irradiance reaching the soil
$LAI_{i,j}^{sunlit}$	$m^2\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Leaf area index of sunlit leaves of cohort $i$ in layer $j$ .
$LAI_{i,j}^{shade}$	$m^2\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Leaf area index of shade leaves of cohort $i$ in layer $j$ .
$\Phi_{i,j}^{sunlit}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Short-wave radiation absorbed by sunlit leaves of cohort $i$ in layer $j$ , per leaf area unit.
$\Phi_{i,j}^{shade}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Short-wave radiation absorbed by shade leaves of cohort $i$ in layer $j$ , per leaf area unit.
$K_{abs,i,j}^{sunlit}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Short-wave radiation absorbed by sunlit foliage of cohort $i$ in layer $j$ , per ground area unit.
$K_{abs,i,j}^{shade}$	$W\dot{u}m^{-2}$		Short-wave radiation absorbed by shade foliage of cohort $i$ in layer $j$ , per ground area unit.

## B.8 Water balance

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$Ps$	mm	Snow	Precipitation as snow
$Pr$	mm	Rain	Precipitation as rainfall
$Sm$	mm	Snowmelt	Snowmelt
$Pr_{net}$	mm	NetRain	Net rainfall
$In$	mm	Interception	Interception loss
$Ru$	mm	Runoff	Water exported from the stand as runoff
$Ro$	mm	Runon	Water imported to the stand as runon
$Dd$	mm	DeepDrainage	Water exported from the stand as deep drainage
$Es$	mm	SoilEvaporation	Evaporation from the soil surface
$Tr$	mm	PlantTranspiration	Plant transpiration
$Tr_i$	mm		Transpiration of plant cohort $i$

## B.9 Energy balance

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$K_{abs,can}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$	SWRcan	Atmosphere shortwave radiation absorbed by the canopy
$K_{abs,j}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$		Atmosphere shortwave radiation absorbed by canopy layer $j$
$K_{abs,soil}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$	SWRsoil	Atmosphere shortwave radiation absorbed by the soil
$L_{net,can}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$	LWRcan	Canopy net longwave radiation
$L_{net,j}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$		Net long-wave radiation of canopy layer $j$
$L_{net,soil}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$	LWRsoil	Soil net longwave radiation
$H_{can,atm}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$	Hcan	Turbulent heat exchange between the canopy and the atmosphere
$H_{can,soil}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$	Hcansoil	Turbulent heat exchange between the canopy and the soil
$H_j$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$		Sensible heat flux between canopy layer $j$ and the leaves it contains
$LE_{can}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$	LEcan	Energy released as latent heat from the canopy towards the atmosphere
$LE_j$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$		Energy released as latent heat by canopy layer $j$
$LE_{soil}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$	LEsoil	Energy released as latent heat from the soil
$TC_{LAI}$	$J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$	thermalcapacitycan	Canopy thermal capacitance per LAI unit
$TC_{can}$	$J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$		Canopy thermal capacitance
$TC_j$	$J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$		Thermal capacitance of canopy layer $j$
$TC_{soil,s}$	$J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$		Thermal capacitance of soil layer $s$
$VHC_{soil,s}$	$J \cdot m^{-3} \cdot K^{-1}$		Volumetric heat capacity of soil in layer $s$

## B.10 Forest hydrology

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$P_G$	mm		Amount of rainfall needed to saturate the canopy for a given event
$S_{canopy}$	mm	Cm	Canopy water storage capacity
$ER_{ratio}$	(unitless)		Ratio between evaporation rate and rainfall rate
$C_{canopy}$	[0-1]		Canopy cover
$PE_{soil}$	mm		Evaporation demand from the soil
$SE_{soil}$	mm		Evaporation supply from the soil
$t_{soil}$	day		Time needed to evaporate the current water deficit in the first soil layer

## B.11 Plant hydraulics

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$K_{stem,max,ref}$	$kg \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	Kmax_stemxylem	Maximum stem sapwood reference conductivity per leaf area unit
$K_{root,max,ref}$	$kg \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-1} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	Kmax_rootxylem	Maximum root sapwood reference conductivity per leaf area unit

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$k_{stem,max}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	VCstem_kmax	Maximum whole-stem conductance (per leaf area unit)
$k_{root,max}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	VCroot_kmax	Maximum root conductance (per leaf area unit)
$k_{rhizo,max}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$		Maximum rhizosphere conductance (per leaf area unit)
$k_{leaf,max}$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$	VCleaf_kmax	Maximum leaf conductance (per leaf area unit)
$c_{leaf}, d_{leaf}$	(unitless), MPa	VCleaf_c, VCleaf_d	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for leaves
$c_{root}, d_{root}$	(unitless), MPa	VCroot_c, VCroot_d	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for root xylem
$c_{stem}, d_{stem}$	(unitless), MPa	VCstem_c, VCstem_d	Parameters of the vulnerability curve for stem xylem
$\Psi$	MPa		Water potential in a given water compartment/segment
$\Psi_P$	MPa		Turgor water potential in a given water compartment/segment
$\Psi_S$	MPa		Osmotic (solute) water potential in a given water compartment
$\Psi_{cav}$	MPa		Minimum water potential experienced by xylem in previous steps (cavitation)
$\Psi_{canopy}$	MPa		Canopy water potential
$\Psi_{leaf}$	MPa		Leaf water potential
$\Psi_{rootcrown}$	MPa		Water potential at the root crown
$\Psi_{stem}$	MPa		Water potential at the end (highest part) of the stem
$PLC$	[0-1]		Proportion of conductance loss
$PLC_{stem}$	[0-1]		Proportion of conductance loss in stem xylem tissue
$p_{root}$	[0-1]	pRootDisc	Relative root conductance leading to hydraulic disconnection from a soil layer
$E_i$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Steady-state water flow through a hydraulic segment $i$
$k_i$	$mmol \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot MPa^{-1}$		Hydraulic conductance function for segment $i$
$\Psi_{up}$	MPa		Upstream water potential
$\Psi_{down}$	MPa		Downstream water potential

## B.12 Photosynthesis

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$WUE_{max}$	$g C \cdot mm^{-1}$	WUE	Maximum water use efficiency under full light and no water limitations
$WUE_{decay}$		WUE_decay	Exponent describing the decay of water use efficiency with low light levels

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$J_{max}$	$\mu\text{mol } e \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$	<b>Jmax</b>	Maximum rate of electron transport at current leaf temperature
$V_{max,298}$	$\mu\text{mol } CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Vmax</b>	Rubisco's maximum carboxylation rate at current leaf temperature
$J_{max,298}$	$\mu\text{mol } e \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$	<b>Jmax298</b>	Maximum rate of electron transport at 298K
$V_{max,298}$	$\mu\text{mol } CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Vmax298</b>	Rubisco's maximum carboxylation rate at 298K
$T_{leaf}$	$^{\circ}C$		Leaf temperature.
$u_{leaf}$	$m \cdot s^{-1}$		Leaf-level wind speed.
$VPD_{leaf}$	kPa		Leaf vapour pressure deficit.
$g_w$	$\text{mol } H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Leaf diffusive conductance to water vapor
$g_c$	$\text{mol } CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Leaf diffusive conductance to carbon dioxide
$g_{sw}$	$\text{mol } H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Leaf stomatal conductance to water vapour
$g_{sw,min}$	$\text{mol } H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Gswmin</b>	Minimum stomatal conductance to water vapour
$g_{sw,max}$	$\text{mol } H_2O \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Gswmax</b>	Maximum stomatal conductance to water vapour
$\Phi_{PAR}^{leaf}$	$W \cdot m^{-2}$		Photosynthetically active radiation absorbed per leaf area
$Q_{PAR}^{leaf}$	$\mu\text{mol photon} \cdot m^{-2} \cdot s^{-1}$		PAR photon flux density per leaf area
$A_c$	$\mu\text{mol } CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Rubisco-limited photosynthesis rate
$A_e$	$\mu\text{mol } CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Electron transport-limited photosynthesis rate
$A$	$\mu\text{mol } CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Leaf gross photosynthesis rate
$A_n$	$\mu\text{mol } CO_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Leaf net photosynthesis rate

### B.13 Plant water content

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$\epsilon_{leaf}$	MPa	<b>LeafEPS</b>	Modulus of elasticity of leaves
$\epsilon_{stem}$	MPa	<b>StemEPS</b>	Modulus of elasticity of symplastic xylem tissue
$\pi_{0,leaf}$	MPa	<b>LeafPI0</b>	Osmotic potential at full turgor of leaves
$\pi_{0,stem}$	MPa	<b>StemPI0</b>	Osmotic potential at full turgor of symplastic xylem tissue
$RWC$	[0-1]		Relative water content
$RWC_{sym}$	[0-1]		Relative water content in the symplasm fraction of a tissue
$RWC_{apo}$	[0-1]		Relative water content in the apoplasm fraction of a tissue
$V_{segment}$	$l \cdot m^{-2}$		Water capacity of a segment (leaf or stem)
$V_{leaf}$	$l \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Vleaf</b>	Leaf water capacity per leaf area unit
$V_{sapwood}$	$l \cdot m^{-2}$	<b>Vsapwood</b>	Sapwood water capacity per leaf area unit

### B.14 Stomatal regulation



Symbol	Units	R	Description
$\theta_1(\Psi_{leaf}),$ $\theta_2(\Psi_{leaf})$	[0-1]		Cost functions 1 and 2
$\beta(\Psi_{leaf})$	[0-1]		Gain function
$Profit_1(\Psi_{leaf}),$ $Profit_2(\Psi_{leaf})$	[0-1]		Profit functions 1 and 2
$E_{sunlit}$	$mmol \cdot$ $s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Instantaneous transpiration flow rate for sunlit leaves
$E_{shade}$	$mmol \cdot$ $s^{-1} \cdot m^{-2}$		Instantaneous transpiration flow rate for shade leaves

## B.15 Carbon pools

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$V_{storage,leaf,i}$	$L \cdot ind^{-1}$		Leaf (carbon) storage volume for an individual of cohort $i$
$V_{storage,sapwood,i}$	$L \cdot ind^{-1}$		Sapwood (carbon) storage volume for an individual of cohort $i$
$SS_{leaf,i}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot$ $L^{-1}$	<b>SugarLeaf</b>	Sugar concentration in leaves of cohort $i$
$SS_{sapwood,i}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot$ $L^{-1}$	<b>SugarSapwood</b>	Sugar concentration in sapwood of cohort $i$
$ST_{leaf,i}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot$ $L^{-1}$	<b>StarchLeaf</b>	Starch concentration in leaves of cohort $i$
$ST_{sapwood,i}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot$ $L^{-1}$	<b>StarchSapwood</b>	Starch concentration in sapwood of cohort $i$
$S_{plant}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot$ $ind^{-1}$		Total labile carbon storage in a plant individual
$B_{leaf}$	$g\ dry \cdot ind^{-1}$		Leaf dry biomass in a plant individual (for respiration costs)
$B_{sapwood}$	$g\ dry \cdot ind^{-1}$		Sapwood dry biomass in a plant individual
$B_{living,sapwood}$	$g\ dry \cdot ind^{-1}$		Sapwood dry biomass corresponding to (living) parenchymatic tissues in a plant individual (for respiration costs)
$B_{fineroot}$	$g\ dry \cdot ind^{-1}$		Fine root dry biomass in a plant individual (for respiration costs)

## B.16 Carbon balance

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$M_{leaf}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot$ $day^{-1}$		Leaf daily maintenance respiration in a plant individual
$M_{sapwood}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot$ $day^{-1}$		Sapwood daily maintenance respiration in a plant individual
$M_{fineroot}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot$ $day^{-1}$		Fine root daily maintenance respiration in a plant individual
$MR_{leaf}$	$g\ gluc \cdot$ $g\ dry^{-1} \cdot$ $day^{-1}$	<b>RERleaf</b>	Leaf respiration rate at 20 °C

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$MR_{sapwood}$	$g\ gluc \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	<b>RERsapwood</b>	Living sapwood (parenchymatic tissue) respiration rate at 20 °C
$MR_{fineroot}$	$g\ gluc \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	<b>RERfineroot</b>	Fine root respiration rate at 20 °C
$G_{leaf}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Leaf daily growth respiration in a plant individual
$G_{sapwood}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Sapwood daily growth respiration in a plant individual
$G_{fineroot}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Fine root daily growth respiration in a plant individual
$F_{phloem}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Daily phloem transport of sugars from leaves to sapwood
$SC_{leaf}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Daily conversion from leaf sugar to leaf starch
$SC_{sapwood}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Daily conversion from sapwood sugar to sapwood starch
$TS_{leaf}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Daily translocation of leaf sugars (prior to senescence)
$TS_{sapwood}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Daily translocation of sapwood sugars (prior to senescence)
$TT_{leaf}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Daily translocation of leaf starch (prior to senescence)
$RE_{leaf}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Daily root exudation of leaf carbon
$RE_{sapwood}$	$mol\ gluc \cdot day^{-1}$		Daily root exudation of sapwood carbon

## B.17 Growth, senescence and mortality

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$RGR_{leaf,max}$	$m^2 \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	<b>RGRleafmax</b>	Maximum leaf area daily growth rate, relative to sapwood area
$RGR_{sapwood,max}$	$cm^2 \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot day^{-1}$	<b>RGRsapwoodmax</b>	Maximum daily sapwood relative growth rate (in sapwood area basis)
$RGR_{fineroot,max}$	$g\ dry \cdot g\ dry^{-1} \cdot day^{-1}$	<b>RGRfinerootmax</b>	Maximum daily fine root relative growth rate
$LA^{target}$	$m^2$		Leaf area allocation target
$\Delta LA_{alloc}$	$m^2$		Leaf area increase dictated by the difference between leaf area allocation target and current leaf area
$\Delta LA_{source}$	$m^2$		Leaf area increase according to leaf metabolic carbon availability
$\Delta LA_{sink}$	$m^2$		Leaf area increase dictated by sink limitations (leaf relative growth rate and relative cell expansion rate)
$\Delta LA$	$m^2$		Actual leaf area increase
$\Delta SA_{source}$	$cm^2$		Sapwood area increase according to sapwood storage carbon availability

Symbol	Units	R	Description
$\Delta SA_{sink}$	$cm^2$		Sapwood area increase dictated by sink limitations
$\Delta SA$	$cm^2$		Actual sapwood area increase
$B_{fineroot,target}$	$g\ dry$		Fine root biomass allocation target
$\Delta B_{fineroot,alloc}$	$g\ dry$		Fine root biomass increase dictated by the difference between fine root biomass allocation target and current fine root biomass
$\Delta B_{fineroot,source}$	$g\ dry$		Fine root biomass increase according to sapwood metabolic carbon availability
$\Delta B_{fineroot,sink}$	$g\ dry$		Fine root biomass increase dictated by sink limitations (fine root relative growth rate and relative cell expansion rate)
$\Delta B_{fineroot}$	$g\ dry$		Actual fine root biomass increase

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