

Decoupling plant economics traits and biomass carbon  
composition in wetland litter

Supplemental Material

S. M. Windecker<sup>\*ab</sup>, S. M. Trevathan-Tackett<sup>b</sup>, N. Golding<sup>a</sup>, J. A. Catford<sup>acd</sup>,  
P. I. Macreadie<sup>b</sup>, and P. A. Vesk<sup>a</sup>

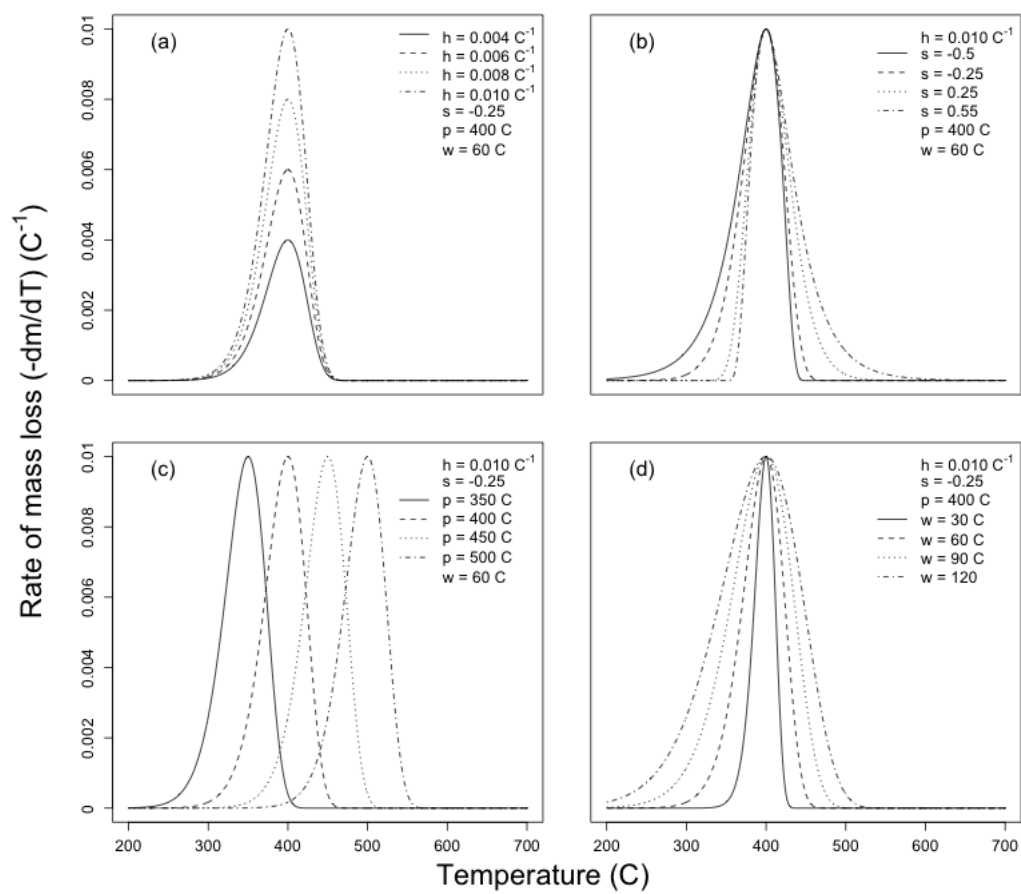
<sup>a</sup>School of BioSciences, University of Melbourne, Parkville VIC 3010, Australia

<sup>b</sup>Centre for Integrative Ecology, School of Life and Environmental Sciences,  
Deakin University, Burwood Campus, Burwood VIC 3125, Australia

<sup>c</sup>Biological Sciences, University of Southampton, Highfield Campus,  
Southampton SO17 1BJ, UK

<sup>d</sup>Fenner School of Environment and Society, Australian National University,  
Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author: sm.windecker@unimelb.edu.au



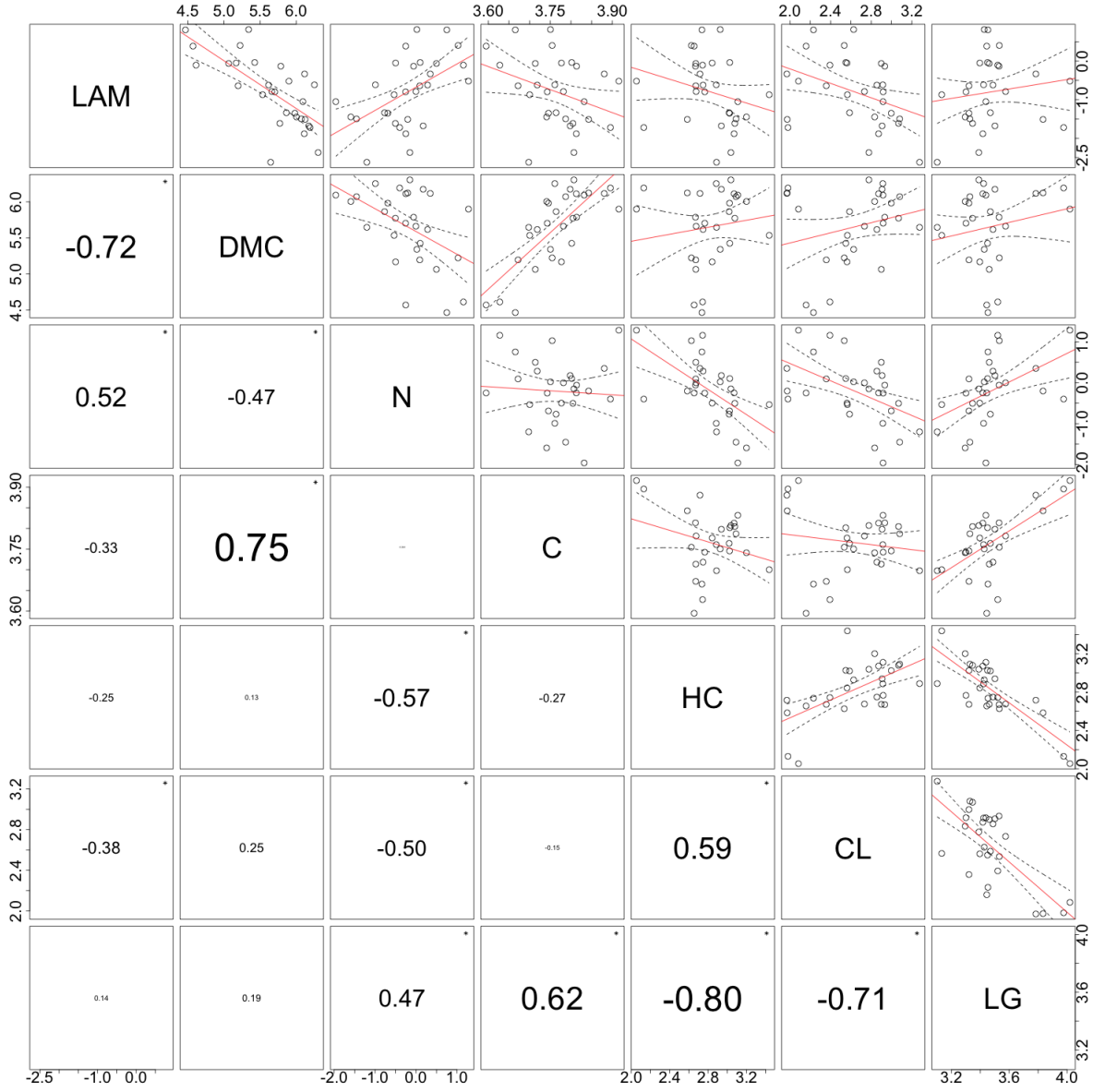
**Fig. 1.** Parametric study of the Fraser-Suzuki function for deconvolution of derivative thermogravimetric biomass curves: (a) Effect of modifying height; (b) skew; (c) position; and (d) width.

**Table 1.** GenBank Accession codes.

Species	rbcl	matK
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	NC_034985.1	NC_034985.1
<i>Alternanthera pungens</i>	AY514795.1	AY270054.1
<i>Baumea articulata</i>		AM999787.1
<i>Baumea rubiginosa</i>		AY725940.1
<i>Carex nigra</i>	FN668463.1	GQ469838.1
<i>Crassula falcata</i>	AF115594.1	
<i>Crassula helmsii</i>		KM360736.1
<i>Cynogeton procerum</i>	KF632824.1	U80713.1
<i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>	KX369451.1	HM849936.1
<i>Eleocharis acuta</i>		AM999820.1
<i>Eleocharis marginulata</i>	KC123404.1	
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	NC_022398	NC_022398.1
<i>Gahnia aspera</i>		AB369962.1
<i>Juncus maritimus</i>	JN894909.1	AY216629.1
<i>Lycopus rubellus</i>	KJ772924.1	KJ773662.1
<i>Marsilea crenata</i>	KC536646	
<i>Marsilea drummondii</i>		DQ643299.1
<i>Melaleuca leucadendra</i>		KX527090.1
<i>Melaleuca viridiflora</i>	AF184708.1	
<i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>		FM883618.1
<i>Myriophyllum exalbescens</i>		L11195.2
<i>Myriophyllum sibiricum</i>	EF178980.1	
<i>Nymphaea alba</i>	AJ627251	AJ627251
<i>Paspalum distichum</i>	FN908063.1	FN870399.1
<i>Persicaria decipiens</i>	KR734365.1	FM883624.1
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	MF035995	MF035995
<i>Restio tetraphyllus</i>	AF164379.1	AF206816.1
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	EU840458.1	JX848510.1
<i>Sphagnum australe</i>	KU725452	KU725452.1
<i>Typha domingensis</i>	HM850522.1	KJ773961.1

**Table 2.** Mantel test for the correlation between branch length distance and functional trait distances between the seven traits.

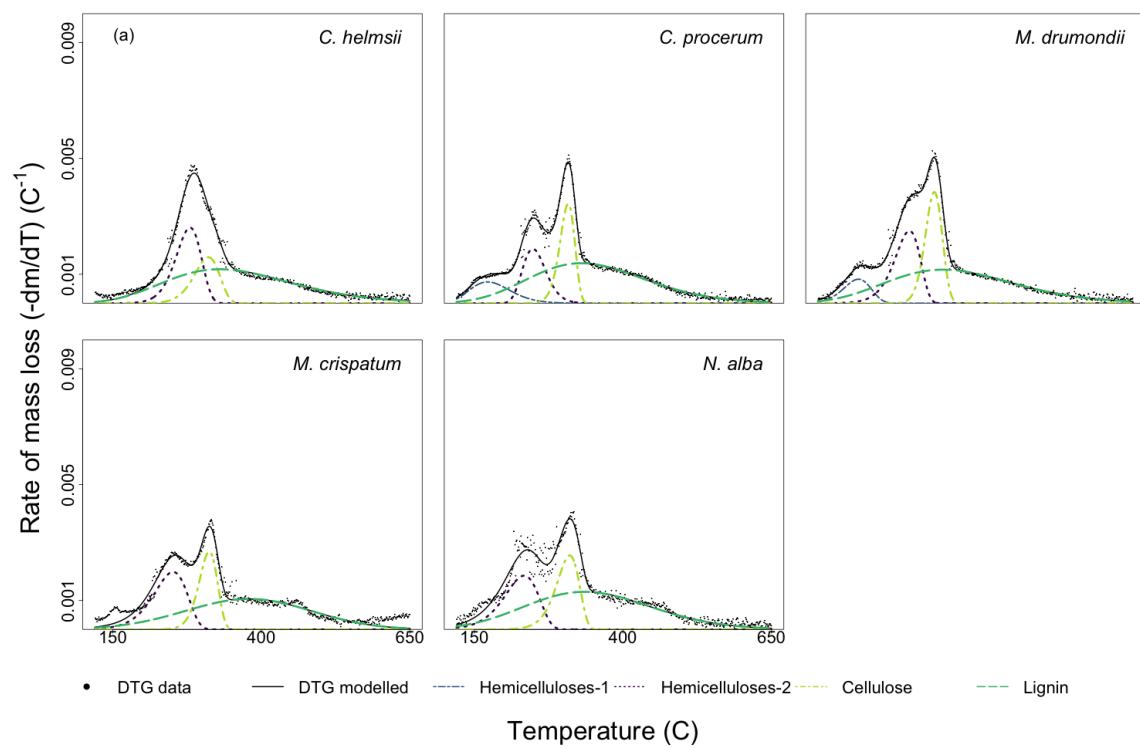
Trait	Mantel Test observation	<i>P</i> -value
<b>Litter area per mass</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>0.01</b>
Litter dry matter content	0.06	0.27
Litter nitrogen	-0.1	0.72
Litter carbon	-0.13	0.86
Litter hemicelluloses	-0.07	0.58
Litter cellulose	-0.02	0.47
Litter lignin	-0.13	0.83



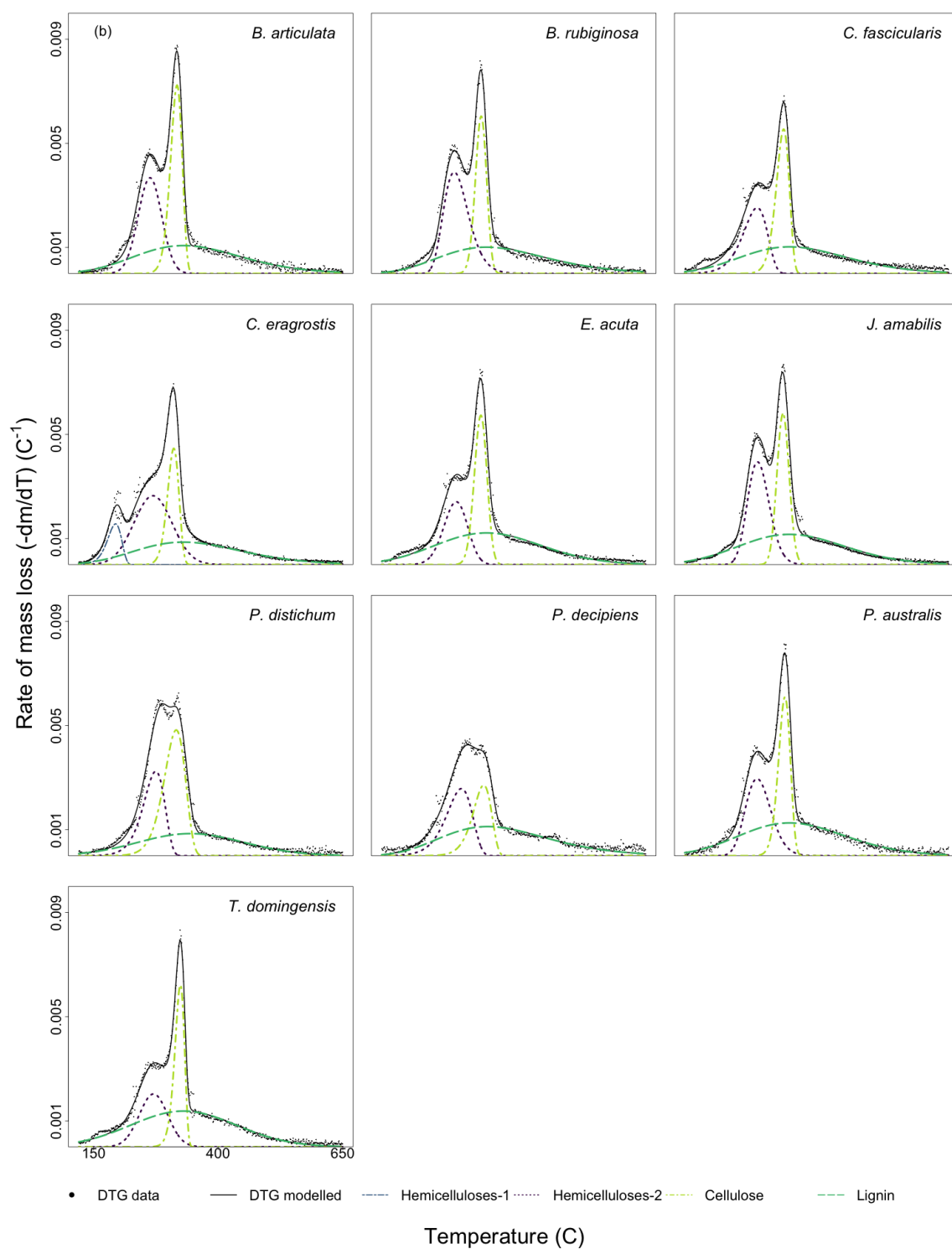
**Fig. 2.** Correlations between traits. Size of  $R^2$  listed on bottom panel proportional to weight of relationship, with star to indicate significance at  $P < 0.05$ .

**Table 3.** Principal Component Analysis axis loadings.

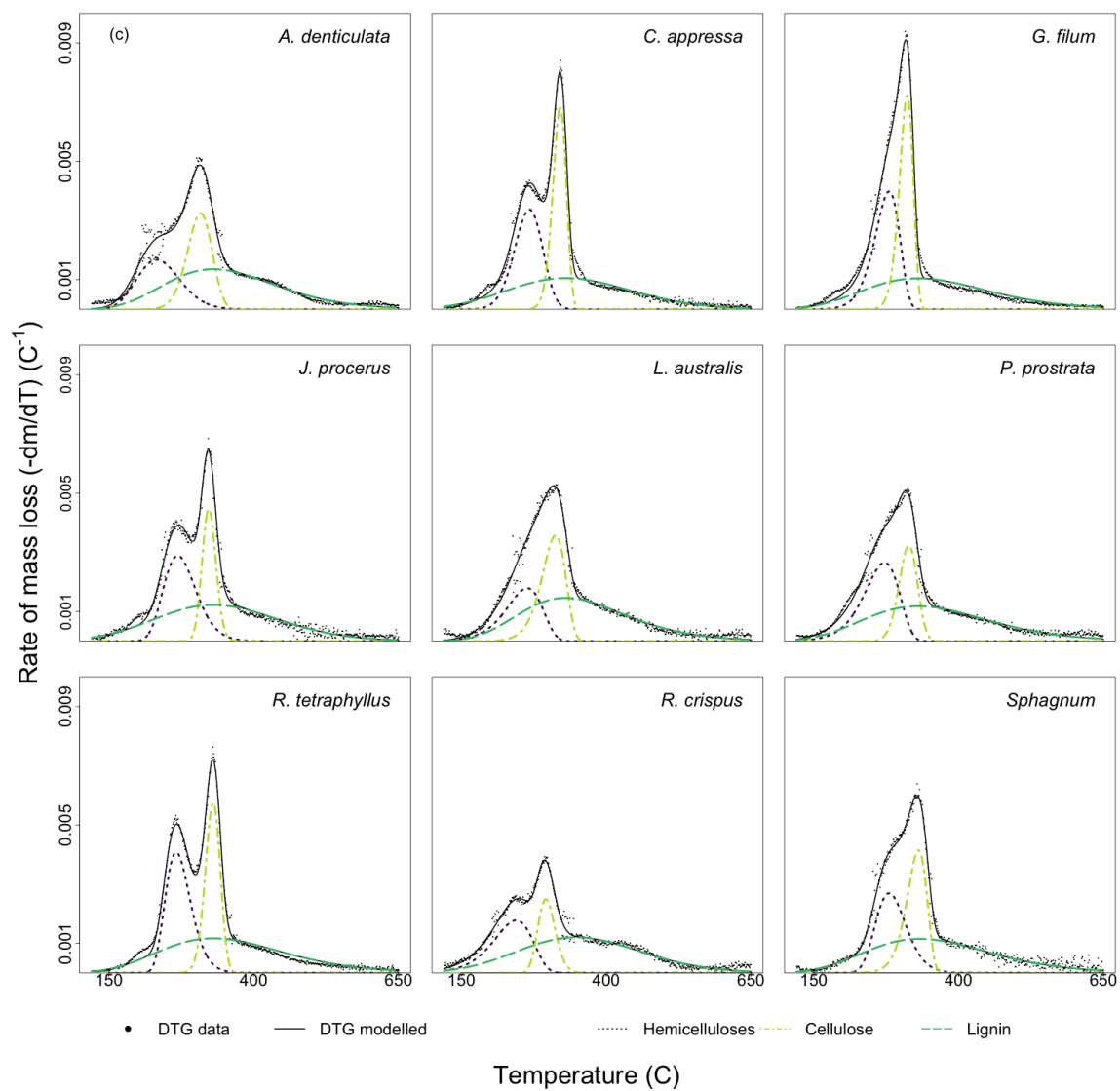
Trait	Axis 1	Axis 2
Litter area per mass	0.34	0.38
Litter dry matter content	-0.23	-0.56
Litter nitrogen	0.45	0.14
Litter carbon	0.07	-0.59
Litter hemicelluloses	-0.47	0.17
Litter cellulose	-0.46	0.07
Litter lignin	0.44	-0.37



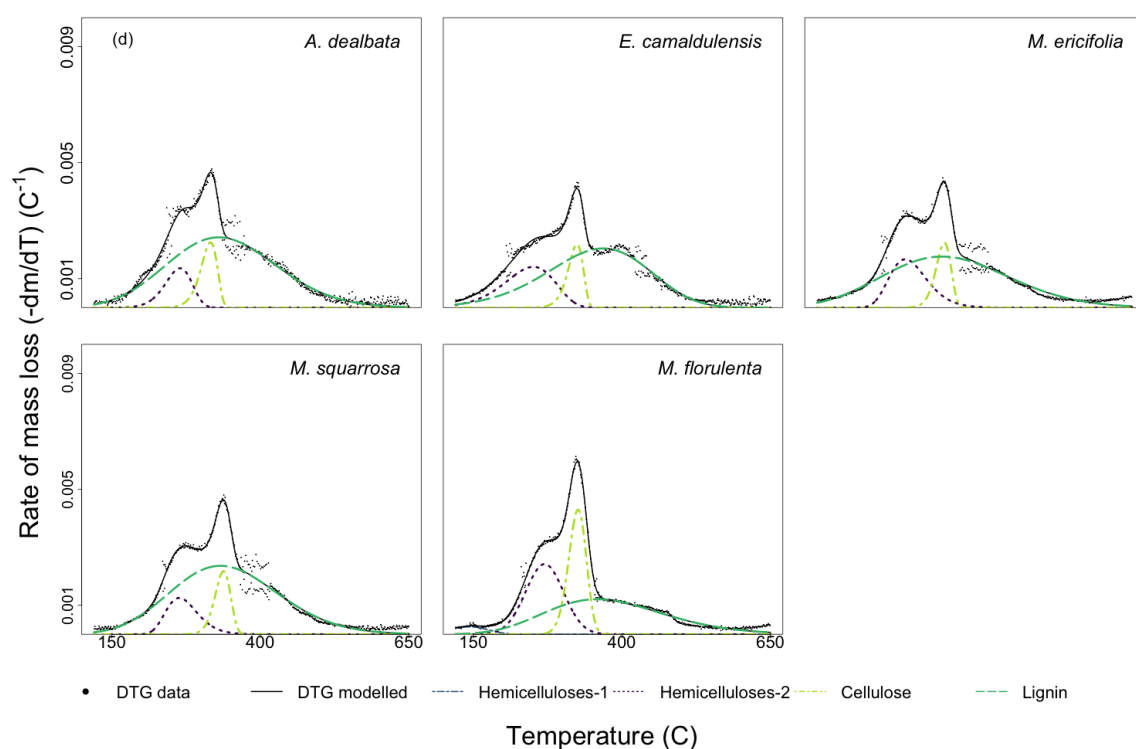
(a) DTG deconvolution for amphibious fluctuation-responders ( $n = 5$ ).



(b) DTG deconvolution for amphibious fluctuation-tolerators (n = 11).

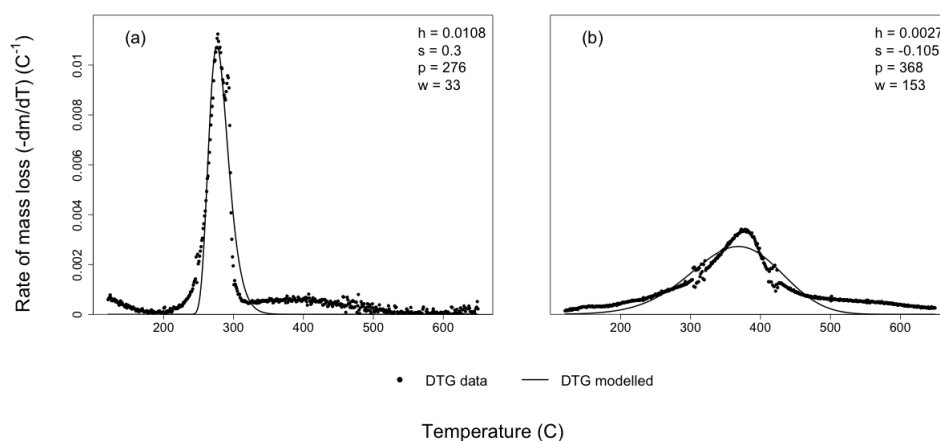


(c) DTG deconvolution for terrestrial damp species ( $n = 8$ ).



(d) DTG deconvolution for terrestrial dry species ( $n = 5$ ).

**Fig. 3.** All species first derivative thermogravimetric (DTG) deconvolutions: (a) amphibious fluctuation-responders; (b) amphibious fluctuation-tolerators; (c) terrestrial damp species; and (d) terrestrial dry species.

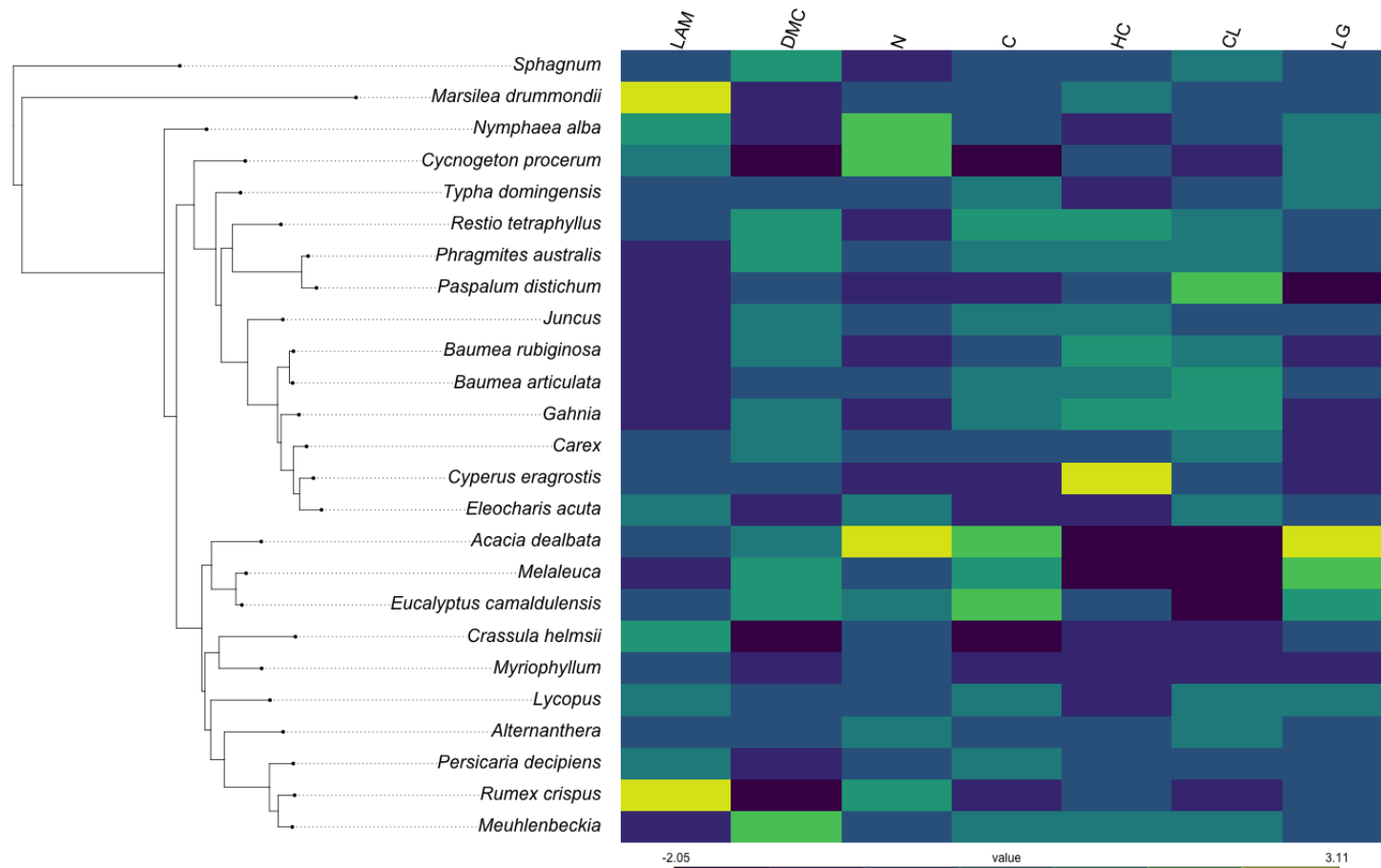


**Fig. 4.** Predicted negative derivative thermogravimetric for raw biomass samples: (a) carboxy-methyl cellulose; (b) alkali lignin.



**Table 4.** Fraser-Suzuki mixture model parameter estimates for each species.

Species	Height				Position				Skew				Width			
	HC-1	HC-2	CL	LG	HC-1	HC-2	CL	LG	HC-1	HC-2	CL	LG	HC-1	HC-2	CL	LG
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>		0.0014	0.0023	0.0024			265	316		-0.216	-0.330	0.085		53	32	217
<i>Alternanthera denticulata</i>		0.0017	0.0032	0.0014			233	308		0.134	-0.138	0.250		87	50	224
<i>Baumea articulata</i>		0.0037	0.0072	0.0011			263	317		-0.015	-0.226	0.172		55	27	250
<i>Baumea rubiginosa</i>		0.0039	0.0060	0.0010			266	320		0.250	-0.071	0.250		58	26	250
<i>Carex appressa</i>		0.0034	0.0068	0.0011			268	321		-0.115	-0.169	0.112		57	27	250
<i>Carex fascicularis</i>		0.0025	0.0055	0.0010			265	319		-0.330	-0.270	0.176		57	31	250
<i>Crassula helmsii</i>		0.0026	0.0016	0.0012			280	311		-0.249	-0.255	0.250		50	50	250
<i>Cyenogeton procerum</i>	0.0007	0.0019	0.0034	0.0014	172	248	308	330	0.200	0.200	-0.228	0.177	80	46	29	229
<i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>	0.0016	0.0026	0.0045	0.0009	194	269	311	330	-0.323	0.002	-0.202	0.200	33	90	27	250
<i>Eleocharis acuta</i>		0.0024	0.0057	0.0012			270	319		-0.079	-0.061	0.072		56	30	250
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>		0.0014	0.0022	0.0020			251	324		-0.275	-0.330	-0.165		100	30	203
<i>Gahnia filum</i>		0.0040	0.0072	0.0010			280	311		-0.303	-0.238	0.250		50	28	250
<i>Juncus amabilis</i>		0.0039	0.0058	0.0012			266	317		0.125	0.014	0.094		51	29	250
<i>Juncus procerus</i>		0.0029	0.0045	0.0012			269	322		0.219	0.054	0.100		66	28	250
<i>Lycopus australis</i>		0.0018	0.0036	0.0015			264	312		-0.330	-0.304	0.250		73	48	217
<i>Marsilea drummondii</i>	0.0008	0.0025	0.0038	0.0012	188	274	316	330	-0.201	-0.330	-0.141	0.200	54	50	34	250
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>		0.0017	0.0022	0.0018			268	334		0.250	-0.227	0.101		73	30	250
<i>Melaleuca squarrosa</i>		0.0013	0.0022	0.0024			264	338		0.250	-0.195	0.109		62	31	212
<i>Meuhlenbeckia florulenta</i>	0.0003	0.0024	0.0043	0.0012	143	270	326	358	-0.162	-0.007	-0.122	0.200	80	75	35	230
<i>Myriophyllum crispatum</i>		0.0020	0.0027	0.0011			251	312		-0.330	-0.234	-0.017		66	36	250
<i>Nymphaea alba</i>		0.0019	0.0026	0.0013			234	310		-0.330	-0.330	0.104		68	45	250
<i>Paspalum distichum</i>		0.0032	0.0048	0.0008			275	316		-0.330	-0.287	0.029		50	50	250
<i>Persicaria decipiens</i>		0.0026	0.0027	0.0011			280	325		-0.330	-0.330	0.250		60	43	250
<i>Persicaria prostrata</i>		0.0027	0.0032	0.0012			272	314		-0.330	-0.107	0.250		70	37	250
<i>Phragmites australis</i>		0.0030	0.0061	0.0013			265	321		0.143	-0.183	0.112		59	28	250
<i>Restio tetraphyllus</i>		0.0041	0.0058	0.0012			266	330		0.250	-0.103	0.250		51	30	250
<i>Rumex crispus</i>		0.0018	0.0025	0.0012			244	296		-0.330	0.128	0.102		79	35	250
<i>Sphagnum sp</i>		0.0027	0.0041	0.0011			280	331		0.203	-0.312	0.250		62	40	250
<i>Typha domingensis</i>		0.0020	0.0062	0.0014			270	324		-0.006	-0.285	0.008		67	23	250



**Fig. 5.** Phylogenetic tree of species with traits. Tree at genus level where species level sequences for *rcbL* gene unavailable. If the branch represents more than one species, the trait value was averaged among species in that genus.

**Table 5.** Hierarchical classification scheme of wetland plant species by habit and response to water. Devised by Brock and Casanova (1997).

Abbreviation	Primary category	Secondary category	Description
AR	Amphibious	Fluctuation-responders	Species which germinate in flooded conditions, grow in both flooded and damp conditions, and reproduce above the surface of the water.
AT	Amphibious	Fluctuation-tolerators	Species which germinate in damp or flooded conditions and tolerate variation in water level.
Tda	Terrestrial	Damp species	Species which germinate, grow, and reproduce on saturated soil.
Tdr	Terrestrial	Dry species	Species which germinate, grow, and reproduce where there is no surface water and water table is below the soil surface.