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Leaf water maintains daytime transpiration in young *Cryptomeria japonica* trees

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Abstract

Compared with stem water storage, leaf water storage is understudied although it may be important for alleviating water stress by contributing quickly and directly to transpiration demand. To quantify the relative contribution of stem versus leaf water storage to daily water deficit, we measured diurnal changes in transpiration rate, sap-flow velocity, and stem radius of 10-year-old *Cryptomeria japonica* D. Don trees. We assumed that the duration of time lags between transpiration rate and sap-flow velocity reflected stored water in the stem and leaf and that stem volume change represented water content of elastic tissue. The relationship between fresh mass and water potential of the whole tree indicated that the study trees had capacity to store, on average, 91.4 ml of water per kg⁻¹ fresh mass at turgor loss. Leaves, sapwood, and elastic tissue contributed around 51%, 29%, and 20% of stored water, respectively. During morning, transpiration rates were higher than sap-flow velocity suggesting depletion of stored water. During the first 2 hr after onset of transpiration, stored water contributed more than 100% of whole-tree transpiration. Depletion of leaf water (P_{Leaf}) and sapwood water (P_{Sap}) coincided with the onset of transpiration and became maximum around 15:00. Depletion of elastic tissue water (P_{Elastic}) lagged behind that of P_{Leaf} and P_{Sap} by 1–2 hour indicating that replenishment of stored water occurs late in the day when low leaf water potentials resulting from day-time transpiration drive water uptake. Maximum depletion of P_{Leaf} was about 1–3 times and 5–10 times that of P_{Sap} and P_{Elastic} , respectively. The contribution of P_{Leaf} to total daily transpiration was 5–8%, while those of P_{Sap} and P_{Elastic} were 3–4% and 0.7–1%, respectively. Our results suggest the importance of leaf water storage in maintaining daily transpiration in young *C. japonica* trees.

Keywords: hydraulic capacitance, sap flow, transpiration, water-relations

1 22 **Introduction**

2
3 23 Foliar water storage is an important mechanism for maintaining physiological function, especially in arid
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5 24 environments (Chaves et al. 2002, Von Willert et al. 1990). Succulent plants survive dry periods by using water
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7 25 stored in thick leaves (Ogburn and Edwards, 2010, 2012, Ripley et al. 2013, Vendramini et al. 2002). In tall trees,
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9 26 treetop leaves experience similarly water-stressed environments with high levels of solar radiation and
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11 27 evapo-transpirational demand. Tall trees often experience water deficit during the day when transpiration rate in the
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13 28 canopy (water demand) is higher than the sap flow rate in the stem (water supply) (Meinzer et al. 2006). In tall trees,
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15 29 water stored in sapwood, is important for compensating this deficit (Waring and Running 1978; Meinzer et al. 2003,
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17 30 Phillips et al. 2003) and maintaining daytime transpiration rates (Goldstein et al. 1998). Estimates of the
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19 31 contribution of sapwood water storage to daily transpiration vary widely among species (e.g., Waring et al. 1979;
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21 32 Lostau et al. 1996; Goldstein et al. 1998; Kobayashi & Tanaka 2001) and with tree size (Phillips et al. 2003).
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23 33 Although much lesser in amount compared to sapwood, water may also be stored in phloem elastic tissues (Cermak
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25 34 et al. 2007). Collectively, stem water storage may play a significant role in buffering decreases in xylem water
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27 35 potentials during periods of high transpiration (Holbrook and Sinclair 1992).

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31 36 Recent studies have suggested that water stored in leaves may contribute more quickly and directly to
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33 37 transpiration demand in trees (Zweifel et al. 2001, Ishii et al. 2014, Azuma et al. 2016). In six-year-old potted trees
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35 38 of *Picea abies* L., water stored in leaves contributed eight times more water to daily transpiration than that in the
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37 39 stem (Zweifel et al. 2001). It was recently found that tree-top leaves of *Sequoia sempervirens* (D. Don) Endl., the
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39 40 world's tallest species, have capacity to store nearly five times the daily transpiration demand and this may
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41 41 compensate for hydraulic constraints on leaf photosynthesis with increasing height by decreasing reliance on root
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43 42 water supply (Ishii et al. 2014). In addition to the thick parenchyma, leaves of *S. sempervirens* have transfusion
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45 43 tissue, which are unique to gymnosperms, surrounding the vascular bundle (Oldham et al. 2010). The amount of
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47 44 transfusion tissue in the leaf increases with increasing height suggesting it may function as sites for foliar water
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49 45 storage (Ishii et al. 2014). A similar mechanism for foliar water storage was also discovered in the tallest trees in
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51 46 Japan, 50-m *Cryptomeria japonica* D. Don (Azuma et al. 2016). There are a few hydraulic plant models which
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53 47 include water storage dynamics in crown and stem (e.g. Zweifel et al. 2007), and compared with stem water storage,
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55 48 foliar water storage in trees is understudied and the relative contribution of stem versus leaf water storage to daily
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57 49 water use in trees is not well understood.

The objective of this study was to quantify the relative contribution of stem versus foliar water storage to daytime water deficit in a young conifer tree. We made simultaneous measurements of leaf transpiration rate, sap-flow velocity, and stem volume changes (mainly induced by bark (phloem, cambium, and parenchyma) swelling and shrinkage; Zweifel et al. 2000) using 10-year-old *C. japonica* trees. We also combined these measurements with whole-tree pressure-volume analysis to show how water stored in stem and leaf are depleted and replenished during the course of a sunny day.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted in the nursery field of Kyushu University, Japan (33°37.9' N, 130°25.6'E, 11 m ASL). Mean annual temperature and precipitation are 16.9 °C and 1707 mm, respectively for 2005–2014. Three 10-year-old trees of *C. japonica* (Shakain cultivar) were used in the experiment (Table 1). The trees were grown inside a scaffolding tower at 1-m spacing and branches were pruned to 50% of tree height at 9 years. The trees were watered twice per day starting from one-month prior to the experiment to maintain moist soil conditions.

Diurnal measurements of whole tree water use

We made diurnal measurements on a sunny day (10 Aug., 2015). The maximum and minimum air temperature and mean relative humidity (RH) on this day, obtained from a temperature/humidity sensor (Ondotori Jr. RTR-53, T and D Inc., Japan) in the nursery field, were 33.7°C, 24.7°C, and 67.6%, respectively.

We accessed the crown of the sample trees using the scaffolding and selected three current-year shoots near the treetop for measurement of leaf transpiration rate (T_{Leaf} , $\mu\text{gH}_2\text{O cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$) using a leaf porometer (LI1600, Li-Cor Inc, Lincoln, NE, USA). Immediately after each transpiration measurement, we measured bulk leaf water potential (Ψ_{Leaf} , MPa) of near-by current-year shoots using the pressure chamber (Model 600, PMS Instruments, Corvallis, OR, USA). Transpiration and water potential measurements were made every hour from 4:00 (predawn) to 6:00 of the next day.

We measured sap-flow velocity using Granier-type sap-flow sensors (SFS2 Type M sensor, Climatec, Tokyo, Japan) installed on the stem of each tree at 1-m height above ground. To measure changes in stem volume, we installed digital dendrometers (Model ID-C112P, Mitutoyo, Tokyo, Japan) at five heights on the stem of each tree to measure diurnal changes in stem radius (ΔR , mm). Sap-flow velocity and stem radius were recorded every 30s

1 78 and 5 min, respectively using a data logger. The distance between points of measurement were nearly equal for the
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3 79 three trees, so we could not analyze differences in time-delay in relation to distance.
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5 80 On the next sunny day (14 Aug., 2015), all three trees were cut while suspended from the scaffolding and
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7 81 the cut base was immediately submerged and recut in a large bucket filled with water. The bucket was covered with
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9 82 plastic to prevent surface evaporation. To estimate whole-tree transpiration rate (T_{Tree} , $\mu\text{ gH}_2\text{O cm}^{-2}\text{ s}^{-1}$), the
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11 83 transpired water was replenished every 30 min (suspended cut tree method, Takizawa et al. 1996). The total volume
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13 84 of replenished water from 4:00 to 4:00 of the next day was assumed to represent cumulative daily transpiration
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15 85 (ΣT_{Tree} , ml day^{-1}). Diurnal changes of sap-flow rates were measured using the same methods as above.
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17 86
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20 87 *Whole-tree and leaf pressure-volume relationship*
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22 88 The relationship between bulk leaf water potential and water content of the stem and leaves was estimated in a
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24 89 whole-tree pressure-volume (WTPV) experiment. After allowing the suspended trees to rehydrate overnight, we
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26 90 moved the trees to a dark shed adjacent to the nursery. The trees were laid on a digital scale (SE-60KBM, A&D
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28 91 Company Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) and allowed to dry while their weight was measured the nearest 10 g. We made
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30 92 repeated measurements of whole-tree water potential (Ψ_{Tree} , MPa) using a pressure chamber (Model 600, PMS
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32 93 Instruments, Corvallis, OR, USA) by sampling 10-cm-long shoots from upper, middle, and lower crown. We also
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34 94 made measurements on an additional branch next to the lower-crown sample, which was covered with a black
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36 95 plastic bag. Upon obtaining values similar to the uncovered shoots, we assumed that water potential was uniform
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38 96 within the tree (Ritcher 1973) and used the mean of the four shoots in our pressure-volume analysis. Measurements
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40 97 were taken every two hours on the first, second and third day and once per day there after until turgor loss point was
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42 98 reached in 10 days. To measure changes in stem volume during the WTPV experiment, stem radius was measured
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44 99 using digital dendrometers as described above.
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47
48 100 Concurrently with WTPV, leaf pressure-volume (LFPV) relationships were obtained using the bench
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50 101 drying approach to the pressure-volume technique (Tyree and Hammel 1972; Schulte and Hinckley 1985) for three
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52 102 foliated shoots sampled from each tree comprising second- and current-year internodes. Bulk leaf water potential
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54 103 (Ψ_{Leaf} , MPa) and fresh weight were measured repeatedly by pressure chamber.
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57 104 After the WTPV experiment, each tree was separated into leaf, branch, and stem and these were oven
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59 105 dried to constant weight to obtain dry masses (g, Table 1). Similarly, leaf dry masses (g) were obtained after the
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LFPV experiment. To compare hydraulic properties between whole-tree and leaves, water potential at turgor loss point ($\Psi_{w,tlp}$, MPa), relative water content at turgor loss point (RWC_{tlp}), saturated osmotic potential ($\Psi_{o,sat}$, MPa), and bulk modulus of elasticity ($\epsilon = (\Delta \text{turgor pressure} / \Delta RWC) RWC_{tlp}$, MPa; Warren-Wilson 1967) were obtained from the WTPV curve and LFPV curves of three shoot samples for each study tree..

Data analysis

Whole-tree water use

Sap-flow velocity (U , $\text{m}^3 \text{m}^{-2}$) was estimated using the following equation (Granier, 1987):

$$U = 0.119K^{1.231} \quad [1]$$

Where K is calculated from the temperature difference between the two probes at time i (Δt_i , $^{\circ}\text{C}$) and maximum (Δt_{\max} , $^{\circ}\text{C}$).

$$K = (\Delta t_{\max} - \Delta t_i) / \Delta t_i \quad [2]$$

We calculated cumulative daily sap-flow rate (U_{Day} , $\text{m}^3 \text{m}^{-2}$) for each tree on 14 Aug and obtained the correction coefficient (a) for converting cumulative daily sap-flow rate to cumulative daily transpiration ($\Sigma T_{\text{Tree}} = a U_{\text{Day}}$, ml day^{-1}). This correction coefficient was used to estimate ΣT_{Tree} of each tree from sap-flow measurements on 10 Aug. Similarly, we assumed that the relationship between whole-tree transpiration rate and leaf transpiration rates is constant during the course of the day and used the relationship between cumulative daily transpiration in whole-tree and cumulative daily transpiration of leaf, ($\Sigma T_{\text{Tree}} = b \Sigma T_{\text{Leaf}}$, ml day^{-1}) to obtain hourly estimates of whole-tree transpiration rate from measurements of leaf transpiration rates ($T_{\text{Tree}} = b T_{\text{Leaf}}$, $\mu \text{gH}_2\text{O cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$).

Whole-tree water storage

During the WTPV experiment, whole-tree mass decreased with decreasing Ψ_{Tree} reflecting depletion of whole-tree stored water (M_T , ml). We estimated the breakdown of storage depletion among leaves and stem (sapwood and elastic tissue) as described below. Heartwood had not developed in the study trees.

Stem volume was calculated from stem radius measurements assuming a truncated cylindrical cone (Huber method).

Water content of elastic tissue ($M_{\text{Elastic}, S}$, ml) was calculated as the difference between measured (V_i , ml) and maximum (V_{Max} , ml) stem volume (Zweifel et al. 2000).

$$M_{\text{Elastic}, S} = V_{\text{Max}} - V_i \quad [3]$$

Since branches also have elastic tissue, first we calculated branch volume from diameter and length of branches measured in 2014 and then converted this to water content of elastic tissue ($M_{\text{Elastic, B2014}}$, ml kg⁻¹) using the ratio between volume and radius change of the stem, assuming stem and branches are similarly elastic. For each study tree, water content of elastic branch tissue ($M_{\text{Elastic, B}}$, ml kg⁻¹) was calculated using the ratio between stem diameter at breast height (DBH) in 2014 and 2015, assuming similar diameter growth rate of stem and branches. The sum of $M_{\text{Elastic, S}}$ and $M_{\text{Elastic, B}}$ was considered as the total water content of elastic tissue (M_{Elastic} , ml kg⁻¹)

$$M_{\text{Elastic}} = M_{\text{Elastic, S}} + M_{\text{Elastic, B}} \quad [4]$$

Measurements of leaf water content obtained from LFPV experiment were multiplied by the ratio between leaf dry mass of the whole-tree and LFPV shoot sample to estimate changes in whole-tree leaf water content with Ψ_{Tree} . (M_{Leaf} , ml), assuming similar relationships between Ψ_{Tree} and M_{T} as Ψ_{Leaf} and M_{Leaf} .

Sapwood water content (M_{Sap} , ml) was calculated by subtracting M_{Elastic} and M_{Leaf} from M_{T} .

$$M_{\text{Sap}} = M_{\text{T}} - (M_{\text{Elastic}} + M_{\text{Leaf}}) \quad [5]$$

Diurnal change in water storage

We used the relationship between Ψ_{Tree} and M_{Leaf} and M_{Sap} described above to estimate diurnal changes in water storage of leaf and sapwood (P_{Leaf} and P_{Sap}) on Aug 10 from measurements of Ψ_{Leaf} . Here, we assumed that depletion of P_{Leaf} and P_{Sap} was 0 when Ψ_{Leaf} is highest (Ψ_{pd} in Figure 1) and that water depletion increased with decreasing Ψ_{Leaf} (Ψ_{mid} in Figure 1 represents maximum water depletion). Water storage of elastic tissue (P_{Elastic}) was calculated from stem radius measurements on Aug 10 by same calculations as for P_{Elastic} of whole-tree water storage. The hourly rate of change in P_{Leaf} , P_{Sap} , and P_{Elastic} (ΔP_{Leaf} , ΔP_{Sap} , and $\Delta P_{\text{Elastic}}$, ml hr⁻¹) were calculated and their sum was assumed to be the hourly rate of change in whole-tree water content ($\Delta P_{\text{Tree}} = \Delta P_{\text{Leaf}} + \Delta P_{\text{Sap}} + \Delta P_{\text{Elastic}}$, ml hr⁻¹). And the sum of the hourly negative changes (water storage depletion) from 4:00 to 4:00 of the next day represented cumulative daily water content of leaf, sapwood, elastic tissue, and whole-tree to T_{Tree} (ΣP_{Leaf} , ΣP_{Sap} , $\Sigma P_{\text{Elastic}}$, and ΣP_{Tree} , ml day⁻¹).

Water storage estimation of leaf and stem elastic tissue of larger trees

To estimate contribution of leaf versus stem water in larger trees, we calculated stored water from published data (Iehara et al. 2003, Tange et al. 1987, Watanabe and Mogi 2007) on leaf mass and stem volume of mature *C.*

japonica stands (DBH = 19–62 cm, 45–126 years old, $n=22$, see Supplementary Table 1). Water storage estimation of leaf were calculated by multiplying daily maximum change of leaf water content per leaf dry mass in this study by leaf mass data of larger trees, assuming same diurnal patterns of leaf water potential as in this study. Stem volume was calculated as in this study using estimated of stem radius (r_h) at height (h) obtained from relative stem curve ($r_h = 2.01909 \cdot X_h - 1.95113 \cdot X_h^2 + 0.85429 \cdot X_h^3$, where X_h is relative height (h / tree height), Shizuoka Prefectural Forestry Technology Center 1999). As bark thickness increases very little in trees over 20cm DBH (Davis and Hofstetter 2014), stem radius change was assumed to be constant (150 μm) based on data from a large *C. japonica* tree (DBH = 43.5 cm, height = 18.8 m, Maruyama et al. 1986) for calculating water storage estimation of stem elastic tissue.

Results

Diurnal patterns

Figure 2a shows the diurnal change in temperature, calculated VPD (vapor pressure deficit), and PPFD (photosynthetic photon flux density) on 10 Aug. Transpiration rates (T_{Leaf}) of the three trees began to increase around 7:00, reached peak values between 13:00–16:00, decreased thereafter, and ceased around 21:00 (Figure 2b). Leaf water potential (Ψ_{Leaf}) was highest at 7:00 and lowest at 15:00, after which, it began to recover (increase, Figure 2c). Ψ_{Leaf} continued to recover after transpiration ceased at 21:00. Stem radius change (ΔR) was smallest at 9:00 and largest at 16:00, after which it became smaller (Figure 2d). Maximum and minimum values of ΔR occurred 1–2 hr after those of Ψ_{Leaf} . Hysteresis was observed in the diurnal course of T_{Leaf} in relation to Ψ_{Leaf} , such that Ψ_{Leaf} was higher in the morning when T_{Leaf} increased compared to the afternoon when T_{Leaf} decreased (Figure 3).

Static change of stored water

Figure 4 shows the whole-tree and leaf pressure-volume curves for Tree 2 as an example of three study trees. Water potential at turgor loss point ($\Psi_{w,tlp}$), relative water content at turgor loss point (RWC_{tlp}), saturated osmotic potential ($\Psi_{o,sat}$), and bulk modulus of elasticity (ϵ), which were obtained from WTPV curve of each tree, were higher than the average values obtained from the LFPV curves (Table 2).

Based on WTPV experiment, we calculated storage depletion (cumulative loss of stored water per kg fresh weight) of the whole tree, leaves, and stem (sapwood and elastic tissue) (Figure 5). Whole-tree storage depletion

1 190 averaged 91.4 ml kg⁻¹ at whole-tree turgor loss point in the three trees. Of this, stored water in the leaves, sapwood,
2
3 191 and elastic tissue contributed around 51%, 29%, and 20%, respectively.
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7 193 *Diurnal depletion and replenishment of stored water*
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9 194 We estimated the diurnal pattern of depletion and replenishment of stored water in leaf and stem on 10, Aug. by
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11 195 combining results of WTPV experiment and diurnal measurements. Whole-tree water loss due to transpiration (T_{Tree})
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13 196 started around 7:00, was greatest between 12:00–15:00, and ceased around 21:00 (Figure 6a). Coinciding with
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15 197 transpiration, depletion of leaf water (P_{Leaf}) began around 7:00. P_{Leaf} was lowest around 15:00, but recovered rapidly
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17 198 thereafter (Figure 6b). P_{Leaf} continued to be replenished after sunset. Depletion of sapwood water (P_{Sap}) began
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19 199 around 7:00 and was lowest at 15:00, but recovered rapidly thereafter. P_{Sap} continued to be replenished after sunset
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21 200 (Figure 6c). Depletion of elastic tissue water ($P_{Elastic}$) lagged behind that of leaf water by 1 to 2 h, and began around
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23 201 9:00. $P_{Elastic}$ was lowest at 16:00, but was replenished during the night (Figure 6d). Maximum depletion of P_{Leaf} was
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25 202 about 1–3 times that of depletion of P_{Sap} and 5–10 times that of $P_{Elastic}$ (note difference of Y-axis ranges for Figs 6b,
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27 203 c, and d). Between 7:00–9:00, stored water (ΔP_{Tree}) contributed an average of 101% of whole-tree water loss (Table
28
29 204 3, Figure 6a). Replenishment of stored water coincided with the decrease in whole-tree water loss, as a result stored
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31 205 water contribution became negative after 15:00 (Table 3, Figure 6a). These results indicated that replenishment of
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33 206 stored water occurs in late afternoon when low leaf water potentials resulting from day-time transpiration drive
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35 207 water uptake. Then, cumulative daily water content in whole-tree ($\sum P_{Tree}$) contributed around 10% of daily total
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37 208 water loss from the three trees (Table 4). For the segmental breakdown of $\sum P_{Tree}$, cumulative daily water content of
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39 209 leaf ($\sum P_{Leaf}$) contributed 5.3–7.8% of daily total water loss from the three trees, while cumulative daily water
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41 210 content of sapwood ($\sum P_{Sap}$) contributed 2.9–4.4% and cumulative daily water content of elastic tissue ($\sum P_{Elastic}$)
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43 211 contributed 0.7–1.0% (Table 4).
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51 213 *Water storage estimation of leaf and stem of large trees*
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53 214 In larger trees, water storage estimation of leaf and stem elastic tissue were estimated to increase with DBH (Figure
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55 215 7, $R^2=0.66$, $p<0.001$ and $R^2=0.98$, $p<0.001$, respectively). Water storage estimation of leaf was, on average 250%
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57 216 (maximum 530%) of elastic tissue, although this ratio was not correlated with DBH.
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59
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Discussion

In the three study trees, depletion and replenishment of stored water corresponded to the diurnal pattern of transpiration. Hysteresis in the relationship between leaf transpiration rate and bulk leaf water potential indicated that leaf water potential does not increase promptly in response to decreasing transpiration rate in the afternoon. We inferred that delayed recovery of leaf water potential in the afternoon drives replenishment of stored water and that water potential of the transpiration stream recovers gradually as stored water is replenished. We found that stored water contributed 100% of outflow for approximately 2 hour after transpiration began in the morning, indicating that stored water plays an important role in maintaining transpiration rates in early morning before sap-flow rates begin to increase. Thus, replenishment of stored water in the afternoon is important to prepare for transpiration demand of the following morning. The contribution of stored water to total daily transpiration was about 10%, which agrees with previous results obtained for six-year-old *P. abies* saplings and neotropical canopy trees (Zweifel et al. 2001, Meinzer et al. 2004). However, Zweifel et al. (2001) found that stored-water contribution varied from 10% on a sunny day to 65% on an overcast day, suggesting that it varies depending on total daily transpiration.

We found that, as xylem water potential decreased, leaf water was depleted in similar or slightly greater amounts than stem water. Past studies have suggested that stored water in sapwood plays an important role in maintaining hydraulic status of trees (Waring et al. 1979, Phillips et al. 2003, Cermak et al. 2007). However, Jarvis (1975) speculated that if water is withdrawn from woody tissue, cavitation rather than stem shrinkage would occur because woody tissue is inelastic. It has recently been suggested that there is significant radial water movement between the bark and the xylem tissue via symplastic water transport in ray parenchyma, which is facilitated by aquaporin (Steppe et al. 2012, Pfautsch et al. 2015). Zweifel et al. (2000) found that water stored in sapwood is not utilized at xylem pressure potentials greater than -2.3 MPa, and that water stored in bark (cambium, phloem, and parenchyma) contribute more to total daily transpiration in young *P. abies*. In *Pinus densiflora* Sieb. et Zucc., 90% of diurnal stem radius change was attributable to bark, while the xylem contributed only 10% (Maruyama et al. 1986). Therefore, our measurements of stem radius change are likely to reflect changes in bark water content. Bark water content contributes only 6 and 14% of stem water content in young *P. abies* and old *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Mirb.) Franco trees, respectively (Zweifel et al. 2001, Cermak et al. 2007), suggesting it may be a small pool for stored water. In agreement with our estimates, the contribution of bark water to total daily transpiration is estimated to be less than 2% in *Fagus sylvatica* L. (Betsch et al. 2011) and 5% in mature *P. abies* (Zweifel and Hasler 2001).

1 246 On the other hand, studies on *Larix* spp. and *P. abies* have shown that the major part of internally stored
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3 247 water is withdrawn from the foliage (e.g., Schulze et al. 1985, Edwards et al.1986). More recent studies on water
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5 248 storage mechanisms indicate that leaf water contributes directly to leaf transpiration, while a large pressure
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7 249 difference is needed to draw stem water into the transpiration stream (Zweifel et al. 2001, Edwards et al. 1986).
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9 250 The hydraulic segmentation hypothesis (Zimmerman 1983, Tyree and Ewers 1991, Sack and Holbrook 2006)
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11 251 postulates that because of the terminal status in the transpiration stream, leaves may act as control valves for
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13 252 species with high stem hydraulic conductivity, or a low safety margin against water stress (Pivovarovoff et al. 2014).
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16 253 For such species, maintenance of leaf water status is important for keeping stomata open and avoiding carbon
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18 254 starvation during drought (McDowell 2011, Sevanto et al. 2014). Our study showed that hydraulic properties
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20 255 measured at whole-tree and leaf levels are different. At the leaf level, osmoregulatory capacity was higher, while
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22 256 turgor loss point, relative water content at turgor loss, and bulk modulus of elasticity were lower compared to
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24 257 measurements at the whole-tree level. This suggested that leaves regulate water flow and define the hydraulic
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26 258 safety margin of the whole tree (Pivovarovoff et al. 2014). In 10-year-old trees of *Populus deltoides* Bartr., water
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28 259 stored in one-year-old twigs contributes to alleviating daytime water deficit (Lo Gullo and Salleo 1992). Our study
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30 260 showed that, in young *C. japonica* trees, leaf water responds quickly and directly to daytime transpiration demand
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32 261 to maintain whole-tree hydraulic conductance. Even in short-stemmed woody plants, there may be a considerable
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34 262 delay between water loss from leaves and water uptake by roots (Cermak et al. 2007). Conifers have high hydraulic
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36 263 resistance to water flow, resulting in considerable delays in water uptake (Matsumoto et al. 1992). Therefore, it is
37
38 264 likely that leaf water plays an important role for avoiding water stress and maintaining leaf water status in *C.*
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40 265 *japonica* trees.
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44 266 In large trees, water stored in sapwood may amount to as much as 50% of daily transpiration demand
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46 267 (Holbrook and Sinclair 1992, Kobayashi and Tanaka 2001, Waring et al. 1979), and is considered important for
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48 268 compensating hydraulic limitation of physiological function (Meinzer et al. 2003, Phillips et al. 2003) and
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50 269 maintaining daytime transpiration rates (Goldstein et al. 1998). Our calculations suggest water depletion of leaf and
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52 270 stem elastic tissue increase with DBH, assuming same diurnal patterns of leaf water potential and stem radius
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54 271 changes in larger trees. Although our results suggest water storage estimation of leaf is higher than that of elastic
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56 272 tissue, stem water storage is likely to be greater for large trees if including sapwood water storage is considered,
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58 273 because increasing reliance on sapwood water storage corresponds to increasing sapwood volume relative to leaf
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area with increasing tree size (Phillips et al. 2003). Also, for larger trees, heartwood would become much more important for water storage. We postulate that, stem water may be a long-term reserve for use under severe water stress, while leaf water supports daily and immediate transpiration demand.

Our methods for measuring whole-tree pressure-volume relationships and diurnal patterns of depletion/replenishment of stored water are widely applicable to trees of various species. The only constraint is that the study trees would need to be small enough to be placed on a scale for continuous measurement of fresh weight. Leaf and stem water contents for larger trees can be estimated based on leaf mass and stem radius under the same assumptions as in this study. In the WTPV experiment, we assumed that stem xylem pressure potential (XPP) was equal to leaf water potential, and calculated sapwood water content as the difference between total and leaf plus elastic water contents. In standing trees, however, stem XPP shows less diurnal variation and lags behind leaf water potential (McCutchan and Shackel 1992). In our study, the diurnal variation in sapwood water content may be over-estimated because our calculations are based on the diurnal pattern of leaf water potential. Thus, it is possible that water stored in leaf and elastic stem tissue may contribute more to whole-tree transpiration than our estimates.

Conclusion

In this study, we quantified the relative contribution of foliar water storage versus stem to daytime water deficit in three 10-year-old *C. japonica* trees. Whole-tree pressure-volume experiment showed that leaves contributed around half of whole-tree stored water (Figure 5). In diurnal measurements of whole tree water use, maximum depletion of leaf water (P_{Leaf}) was higher than that of sapwood and elastic tissue (mainly bark) water (P_{Sap} and P_{Elastic}) (Figure 6). Then, cumulative daily water content in whole-tree ($\sum P_{\text{Tree}}$) contributed around 10% of daily total water loss ($\sum T_{\text{Tree}}$), of which 5.3–7.8% was contributed by leaves ($\sum P_{\text{Leaf}}$) (Table 4). Despite the small number of trees sampled, these results suggested the importance of leaf water storage in maintaining daily transpiration in young conifer trees.

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1 414 **Figure legends**

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5 416 Figure 1. Example from Tree 1 of the relationship between whole-tree water potential (Ψ_{Tree}) and depletion of leaf and

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7 417 sapwood water (M_{Leaf} and M_{Sap}) obtained from the whole-tree pressure-volume experiment (left). This

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9 418 relationship was used to estimate diurnal change in P_{Leaf} and P_{Sap} from measurements of Ψ_{Leaf} on a sunny day,

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11 419 (10 Aug., 2015, right).

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16 421 Figure 2. Diurnal changes of air temperature, vapor pressure deficit (VPD), and photosynthetic photon flux density

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18 422 (PPFD) in the nursery field (a), diurnal patterns of leaf transpiration rate (T_{Leaf}) (b), leaf water potential

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20 423 (Ψ_{Leaf}) (c), and stem radius change (ΔR) (d), for the three study trees on a sunny day (10 Aug., 2015). Lines

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22 424 in (c) and (d) are same as in (b). Black arrows and dotted lines indicate the time of day when maximum and

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24 425 minimum values, respectively, were observed for Ψ_{Leaf} and ΔR .

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29 427 Figure 3. Hysteresis curves of diurnal course of leaf transpiration rate (T_{Leaf}) in relation to bulk leaf water potential

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31 428 (Ψ_{Leaf}) on a sunny day (10 Aug. 2015).

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35 430 Figure 4. Example from Tree 2 of whole-tree and bulk-leaf pressure-volume curves.

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40 432 Figure 5. Example from Tree 3 of the relationship between whole-tree water potential (Ψ_{Tree}) and storage depletion

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42 433 (cumulative loss of stored water per 1 kg fresh mass) for whole-tree, leaf, sapwood, and elastic tissue

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44 434 obtained from the whole-tree pressure-volume experiment.

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48 436 Figure 6. Diurnal patterns of whole-tree water loss (T_{Tree} , thick lines) and the hourly rate of change in whole-tree

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50 437 water storage (ΔP_{Tree} , narrow lines) (a), and depletion of leaf (b), sapwood (c), and elastic tissue (d) water

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52 438 (P_{Leaf} , P_{Sap} , and P_{Elastic} , respectively) for the three study trees on 10 Aug., 2015. Legends of (b), (c), and (d)

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54 439 are same as (a). Black arrows and dotted lines indicate times when maximum and minimum values,

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56 440 respectively, were observed for P_{Leaf} , P_{Sap} , and P_{Elastic} .

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442 Figure 7. Water storage estimation of leaf and stem elastic tissue in larger trees in relation to DBH.

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Table 1. Diameter at breast height (DBH), tree height, and fresh and dry masses of the three study trees of *Cryptomeria japonica*.

		Tree1	Tree2	Tree3
DBH (cm)		6.1	7.2	6.6
Tree height (m)		6.1	6.3	5.6
Fresh mass (g)		22400	35300	25900
Dry mass (g)	Leaf	3200	5200	4000
	Stem	4100	6300	4400
	Branch	800	1400	1100
	Total	8100	12900	9500

Table 2. Hydraulic properties of whole-trees and leaves: water potential at turgor loss point ($\Psi_{w,tlp}$), relative water content at turgor loss point (RWC_{tlp}), saturated osmotic potential ($\Psi_{o,sat}$), and bulk modulus of elasticity (ε) obtained from whole-tree and leaf pressure volume curves (WTPV and LFPV, respectively). Values for leaf were the mean and standard errors of bulk-leaf measurements made on three foliated shoots per tree.

Hydraulic properties	WTPV			LFPV					
	Tree1	Tree2	Tree3	Tree1		Tree2		Tree3	
$\Psi_{w,tlp}$ (MPa)	-1.2	-1.2	-1.3	-2.0	±0.15	-1.7	±0.10	-2.0	±0.48
RWC_{tlp}	0.87	0.84	0.84	0.73	±0.04	0.75	±0.02	0.75	±0.03
$\Psi_{o,sat}$ (MPa)	-0.88	-0.88	-1.0	-1.3	±0.12	-1.2	±0.34	-1.4	±0.61
ε (MPa)	6.1	5.1	5.8	3.6	±0.56	3.6	±1.84	4.1	±1.15

Table 3. Contribution (%) of the hourly rate of change in whole-tree water content (ΔP_{Tree}) to whole-tree transpiration rate (T_{Tree}) of the study trees at each time interval on 10 Aug., 2015. Negative values represent replenishment of water storage.

Time	$\Delta P_{\text{Tree}}/T_{\text{Tree}}(\%)$			
	Tree1	Tree2	Tree3	average
7:00 to 9:00	142.4	79.9	80.3	100.9
9:00 to 11:00	35.4	37.6	26.4	33.1
11:00 to 13:00	15.1	9.4	13.4	12.6
13:00 to 15:00	3.8	5.6	2.3	3.9
15:00 to 17:00	-14.4	-24.4	-41.0	-26.6
17:00 to 19:00	-51.3	-61.3	-51.6	-54.7
19:00 to 21:00	-75.0	-31.9	-189.9	-99.0

Table 4. Cumulative daily transpiration ($\sum T_{\text{Tree}}$) and water contents ($\sum P$ for leaf, sapwood, elastic tissue, and whole-tree) of the study trees on 10 Aug., 2015. Number in parentheses represents their contributions to water depletion (% relative to $\sum T_{\text{Tree}}$).

	tree1		tree2		tree3	
Transpiration (ml day ⁻¹)	10841.3		17014.3		11624.2	
Water content (ml day ⁻¹)						
Leaf	572.8	(5.3)	1327.0	(7.8)	762.1	(6.6)
Sap	457.1	(4.2)	487.8	(2.9)	509.6	(4.4)
Elastic	74.6	(0.7)	130.1	(0.8)	112.9	(1.0)
Tree	1104.2	(10.2)	1734.7	(10.4)	1257.8	(10.9)

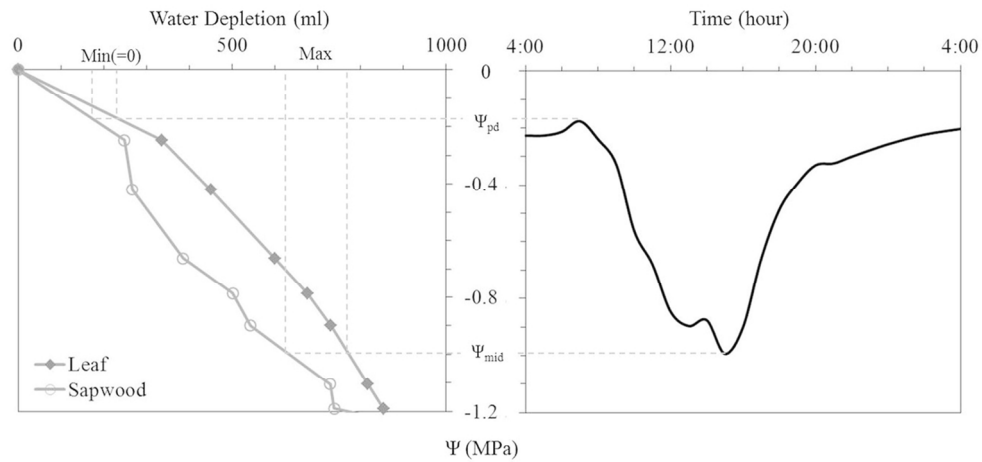


Figure 1. Example from Tree 1 of the relationship between whole-tree water potential (Ψ_{Tree}) and depletion of leaf and sapwood water (M_{Leaf} and M_{Sap}) obtained from the whole-tree pressure-volume experiment (left). This relationship was used to estimate diurnal change in P_{Leaf} and P_{Sap} from measurements of Ψ_{Leaf} on a sunny day, (10 Aug., 2015, right).

110x52mm (300 x 300 DPI)

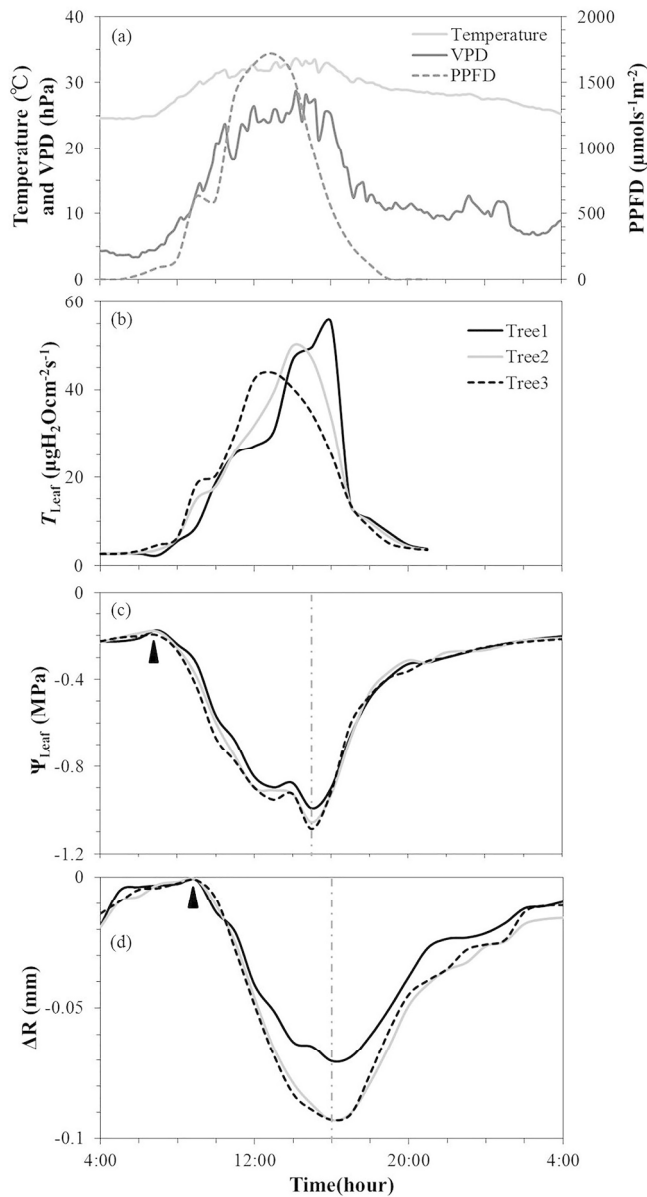


Figure 2. Diurnal changes of air temperature, vapor pressure deficit (VPD), and photosynthetic photon flux density (PPFD) in the nursery field (a), diurnal patterns of leaf transpiration rate (T_{Leaf}) (b), leaf water potential (Ψ_{Leaf}) (c), and stem radius change (ΔR) (d), for the three study trees on a sunny day (10 Aug., 2015). Lines in (c) and (d) are same as in (b). Black arrows and dotted lines indicate the time of day when maximum and minimum values, respectively, were observed for Ψ_{Leaf} and ΔR .

211x388mm (300 x 300 DPI)

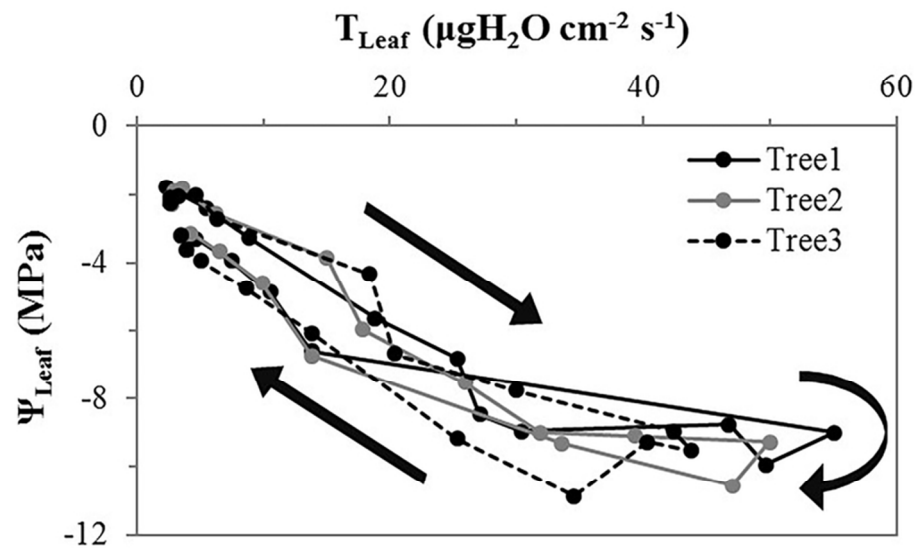


Figure 3. Hysteresis curves of diurnal course of leaf transpiration rate (T_{Leaf}) in relation to bulk leaf water potential (Ψ_{Leaf}) on a sunny day (10 Aug. 2015).

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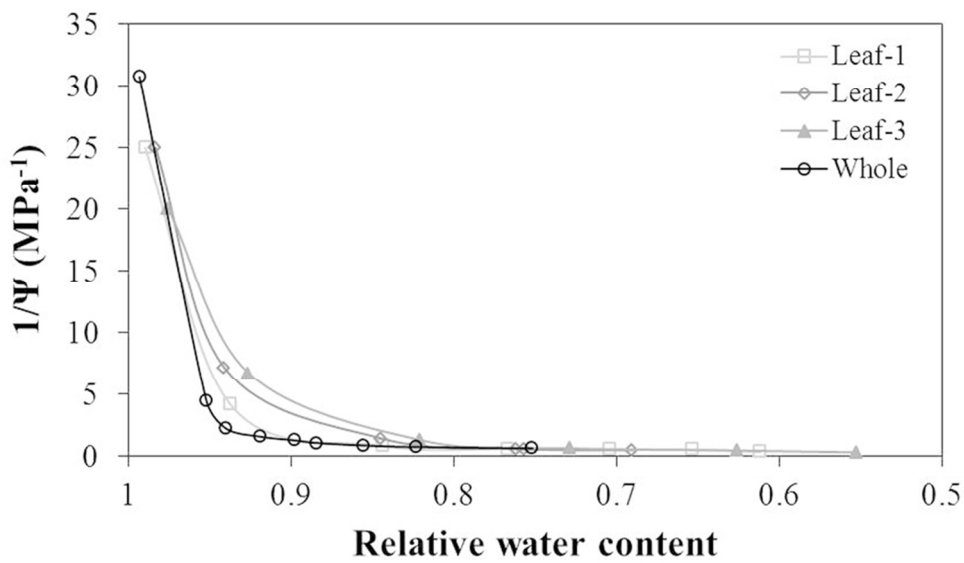


Figure 4. Example from Tree 2 of whole-tree and bulk-leaf pressure-volume curves.

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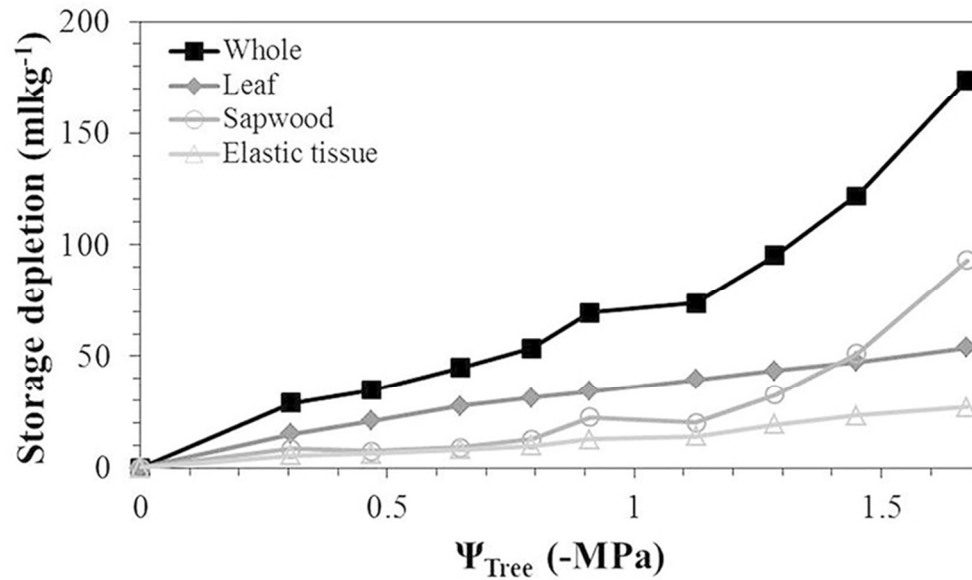


Figure 5. Example from Tree 3 of the relationship between whole-tree water potential (Ψ_{Tree}) and storage depletion (cumulative loss of stored water per 1 kg fresh mass) for whole-tree, leaf, sapwood, and elastic tissue obtained from the whole-tree pressure-volume experiment.

72x42mm (300 x 300 DPI)

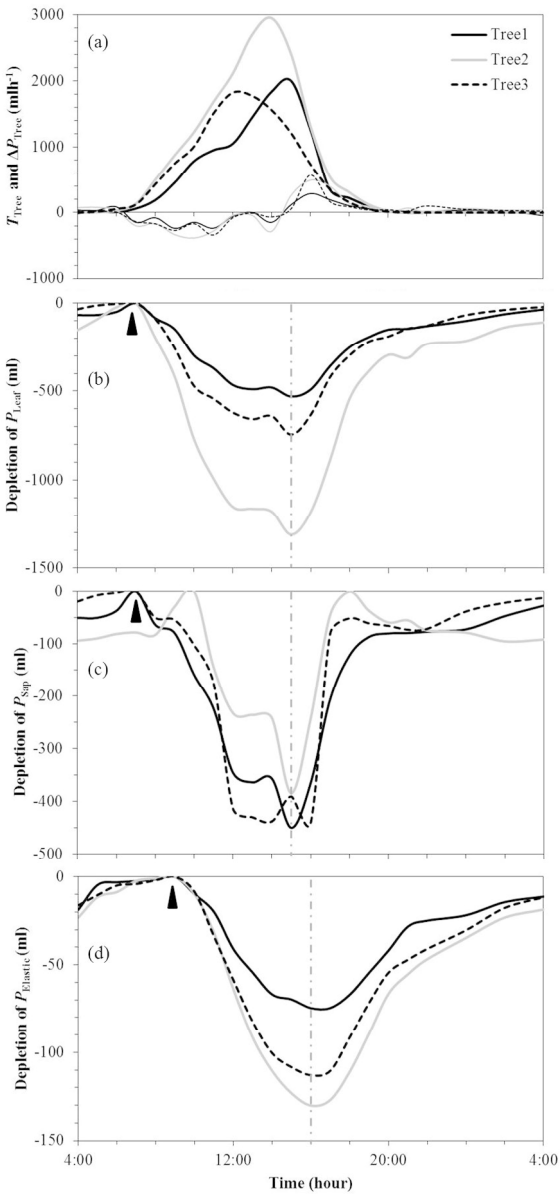


Figure 6. Diurnal patterns of whole-tree water loss (T_{Tree} , thick lines) and the hourly rate of change in whole-tree water storage (ΔP_{Tree} , narrow lines) (a), and depletion of leaf (b), sapwood (c), and elastic tissue (d) water (P_{Leaf} , P_{Sap} , and $P_{Elastic}$, respectively) for the three study trees on 10 Aug., 2015. Legends of (b), (c), and (d) are same as (a). Black arrows and dotted lines indicate times when maximum and minimum values, respectively, were observed for P_{Leaf} , P_{Sap} , and $P_{Elastic}$.

309x650mm (300 x 300 DPI)

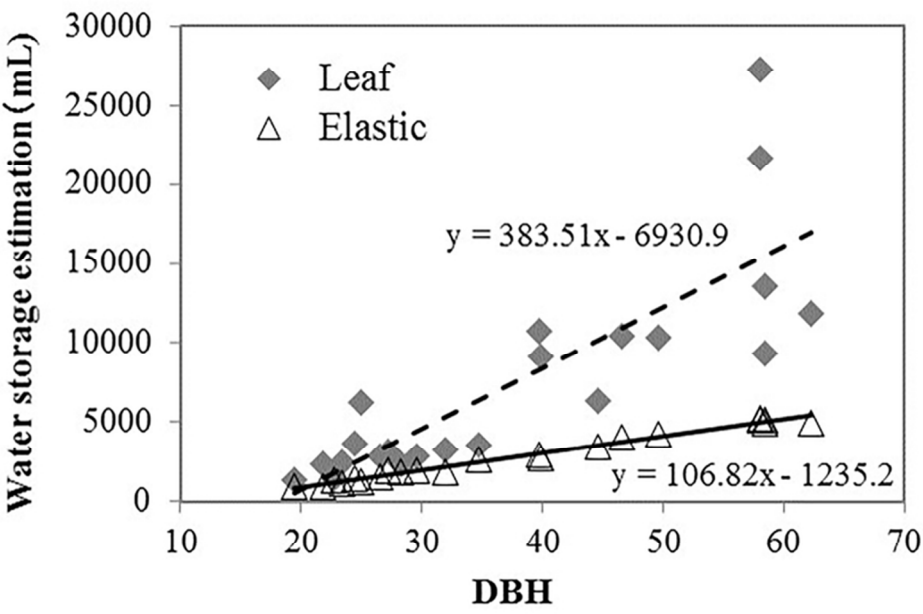


Figure 7. Water storage estimation of leaf and stem elastic tissue in larger trees in relation to DBH.

70x46mm (300 x 300 DPI)