



**JUSCELINA ARCANJO DOS SANTOS**

**FISIOLOGIA DE FLORESTAS PLANTADAS NO BRASIL: EFEITOS CLIMÁTICOS  
E GENÉTICOS**

**LAVRAS – MG  
2022**

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Tese apresentada à Universidade Federal de Lavras, como parte das exigências do Programa de Pós-Graduação em Engenharia Florestal, área de concentração em Silvicultura e genética florestal, para a obtenção do título de Doutor.

**Dr. Otavio Camargo Campoe  
Orientador**

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**JUSCELINA ARCANJO DOS SANTOS**

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E GENÉTICOS**

**ECOPHYSIOLOGY OF PLANTED FORESTS IN BRAZIL: CLIMATE AND  
GENETIC EFFECTS**

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2022**

*A minha minha mãe, minha irmã e meus amados  
sobrinhos, por todo amor e carinho.*

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*“Quanto mais me aprofundo na Ciência mais me aproximo de Deus”.*

Albert Einstein

## RESUMO

A fotossíntese e a condutância estomática são processos essenciais no funcionamento dos ecossistemas. A fotossíntese é o processo chave no ciclo do carbono, sendo que essa troca de carbono e água pela planta é regulada pelos estômatos, processo que é responsável por equilibrar a captação fotossintética de CO<sub>2</sub> contra a necessidade de controlar a perda de água das folhas. Estes processos influenciam a eficiência do uso da água das plantas, o crescimento, a distribuição da vegetação no ecossistema e a produtividade das florestas. Entender como estes processos fisiológicos são influenciados por fatores ambientais e genéticos, fornece informações para melhorar a simulação da produtividade das florestas e também para entender como as plantas irão se comportar em cenários futuros de mudanças climáticas. Dentro deste contexto, este trabalho tem o objetivo de modelar a capacidade fotossintética e a condutância estomática das florestas de eucalipto e pinus no Brasil em dois artigos. No primeiro artigo utilizamos o modelo de Farquhar et al. (1980) para obter os parâmetros Vcmax, Jmax e Jmax/Vcmax, e analisamos a influência da idade, das variáveis temperatura de crescimento, isto é, a temperatura média da média diária aos 10 e 30 dias antes da medição de fotossíntese e precipitação total aos 10 e 30 dias, além de avaliar a influência dos grupos climáticos de eucalipto e das diferentes espécies de pinus nestes parâmetros. Nossos resultados mostram que a capacidade fotossintética das florestas apresenta diferenças entre os grupos funcionais, as variáveis temperatura de crescimento e precipitação aos 10 e 30 dias antes da coleta de dados influenciou os parâmetros fotossintéticos, sugerindo aclimatação da fotossíntese foliar. A idade da população influenciou a capacidade fotossintética ao longo do crescimento. Florestas mais velhas possuem maior Jmax. Não houve diferenças entre os grupos climáticos subtropical e tropical, demonstrando uma adaptação dos genótipos às condições ambientais do Brasil. O segundo artigo investiga o desempenho de três modelos de condutância estomática (BB, BBL e USO) para identificar o melhor modelo, além de analisar como a condutância estomática e a eficiência do uso da água varia entre os grupos funcionais e entre genótipos nas plantações florestais brasileiras. Nossos resultados, revelaram que os modelos BBL e USO tiveram melhor desempenho nos dados das florestas do Brasil. As espécies do grupo pinus tiveram o maior parâmetro de resposta da condutância estomática (g1) e, consequentemente, a menor eficiência no uso da água quando comparado aos genótipos do grupo eucalipto. Dentro do grupo de eucalipto, os genótipos de apresentaram diferenças nas respostas estomáticas, indicando que além das características do genótipo, as condições climáticas locais também podem ter influenciado a variação em g1. Encontramos nestes dois artigos parâmetros fotossintéticos Vcmax, Jmax, Jmax/Vcmax e parâmetro de resposta estomática (g1) modelado pelos três modelos de gs, mais utilizados nos modelos de vegetação global e modelos baseados em processos para vários genótipos de eucalipto e pinus. Nosso estudo ampliará o banco de dados de parâmetros fisiológicos para as florestas plantadas do Brasil possibilitando o uso em estudos de modelagem global da vegetação.

**Palavras-chave:** Fotossíntese, condutância estomática, modelagem ecofisiológica, eucalipto, pinus

## ABSTRACT

Photosynthesis and stomatal conductance are essential processes in the functioning of ecosystems. Photosynthesis is the key process in the carbon cycle, and this exchange of carbon and water exchange by the plant is regulated by the stomata, a process that is responsible for balancing the photosynthetic uptake of CO<sub>2</sub> against the need to control the loss of water from the leaves. These processes influence the water use efficiency of plants, growth, the distribution of vegetation in the ecosystem and the productivity of forests. Understanding how these physiological processes are influenced by environmental and genetic factors provides information to improve the simulation of forest productivity and also to understand how plants will behave in future climate change scenarios. Within this context, this work aims to model the photosynthetic capacity and stomatal conductance of eucalypt and pine forests in Brazil in two articles. In the first article, we used the model by Farquhar et al., (1980) to obtain the parameters Vcmax, Jmax and Jmax/Vcmax, and we analyzed the influence of age, growth temperature, this is, at the average temperature of the daily average 10 and 30 days before the photosynthetic measurement, and precipitation variables, and climatic groups on these parameters for the two functional groups (pine and eucalypt). Our results show that the photosynthetic capacity of forests presents a difference between the functional groups, the variables growth temperature and precipitation at 10 and 30 days before data collection influenced photosynthetic parameters, suggesting acclimatization of foliar photosynthesis. Age os stand influenced photosynthetic capacity throughout the rotation. Older forests have higher Jmax. There were no differences between the subtropical and tropical climate groups, demonstrating an adaptation of the genotypes to the environmental conditions of Brazil. The second article investigates the performance of three stomatal conductance models (BB, BBL and USO) to identify the best model, in addition to to analyze how stomatal conductance and water use efficiency vary between functional groups and between eucalypt genotypes in Brazilian forest plantations. Our results revealed that the BBL and USO models performed better in the Brazilian forestry data. The species of the pine group had the highest stomatal conductance response parameter (g1) and, consequently, the lowest efficiency in water use when compared to the genotypes of the eucalypt group. Within the eucalypt group, the genotypes of showed differences in stomatal responses, indicating that in addition to the genotype characteristics, local climatic conditions may also have influenced the variation in g1. We found in these two articles photosynthetic parameters Vcmax, Jmax, Jmax/Vcmax and stomatal response parameter (g1) modeled by the three gs models, most used in global vegetation models and process-based models for various eucalyptus and pine genotypes. Our study will expand the physiological parameters database for planted forests in Brazil, making it possible to use them in global vegetation modeling studies.

Keywords: Photosynthesis, stomatal conductance, ecophysiological modeling, eucalypt, pine

## LISTA DE SIGLAS

Aci	Curvas de resposta da fotossíntese às concentrações de CO <sub>2</sub>
Amax	Taxa máxima de assimilação de CO <sub>2</sub>
Anet	Taxa líquida de assimilação de CO <sub>2</sub>
APAR	Radiação fotossinteticamente ativa absorvida
BB	Modelo de Ball-Woodrow-Berry
BBL	Modelo de Ball-Berry-Leuning
Ca	Concentração ambiente de CO <sub>2</sub>
Ci	Concentração de CO <sub>2</sub> nos espaços intercelulares
ESMs	Modelos de Sistema terrestre
FvCB	Modelo de fotossíntese de Farquhar, von Caemmerer & Berry 1980
GPP	Produção primária bruta
GVMs	Modelos de vegetação global
g1	Parâmetro de inclinação do modelo de condutância estomática
Jmax/Vcmax	Relação entre Jmax:Vcmax
Jmax	Taxa potencial máxima de transporte de elétrons
Jmax_25	Taxa potencial máxima de transporte de elétrons padronizada a 25°
LAI	Índice de área foliar
LUE	Eficiência do uso da luz
PBMs	Modelos baseados em processos
PFTs	Tipos funcionais de plantas
PPFD	Densidade de fluxo de fótons fotossintéticos
Prec <sub>10</sub>	Precipitação total aos 10 dias antes da coleta de dados
Prec <sub>30</sub>	Precipitação total aos 30 dias antes da coleta de dados
RMSE	Erro quadrático médio
Rubisco	Enzima ribulose-1,5-bisfosfato carboxilase
T growth	Temperatura de crescimento
T <sub>mean10</sub>	Média da temperatura média diária 10 dias antes da coleta de dados
T <sub>mean30</sub>	Média da temperatura média diária 30 dias antes da coleta de dados
TBMs	Modelos da biosfera terrestre

TPU	Taxa de utilização da triose fosfato
USO	Modelo unificado de otimização estomática
Vcmax	Taxas máximas de carboxilação de Rubisco
Vcmax <sub>25</sub>	Taxas máximas de carboxilação de Rubisco padronizada a 25°
VPD	Déficit de pressão de vapor
VpdL	Déficit de pressão de vapor entre a folha e ar
WUE	Eficiência do uso da água

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**PRIMEIRA PARTE**

## 1 INTRODUÇÃO

A fotossíntese é o processo chave associado ao crescimento das plantas, portanto o estudo de seus principais mecanismos e sua resposta complexa a diversos fatores é fundamental para entender como as plantas funcionam sob condições de estresse e esclarecer se há espaço para melhorar produtividade florestal (LI, et al., 2013; NADAL; FLEXAS, 2019; SANDS; LANDSBERG, 2002). A troca de carbono e água realizada pela planta é regulada pelos estômatos, processo que é responsável por equilibrar a captação de CO<sub>2</sub>, contra a necessidade de controlar a perda de água das folhas (HÉROULT et al., 2013). É este processo que influencia a eficiência do uso da água (WUE) das plantas, o crescimento, a distribuição da vegetação no ecossistema e a produtividade das florestas (WANG et al., 2018).

Avaliar estes processos fisiológicos e os fatores ambientais e genéticos que podem influenciar a capacidade fotossintética das plantas, podem fornecer informações para melhorar a simulação da produtividade das florestas e também para entender como as plantas irão se comportar em cenários futuros de mudanças climáticas. Entender sobre as limitações fotossintéticas também são úteis em estratégias de melhoramento de espécies florestais tendo em vista que um objetivo chave da silvicultura é desenvolver genótipos com alta capacidade fotossintética e maior eficiência do uso da água o que é influenciado pela taxa de fotossíntese líquida e condutância estomática (YANG et al., 2018).

Modelar a capacidade fotossintética e a condutância estomática é fundamental para prever as respostas da vegetação e assim desenvolver estratégias para adoção de espécies e genótipos na silvicultura em cenários atuais e futuros. Uma forma de estimar as respostas fotossintéticas e determinar os fatores e os parâmetros importantes que podem promover limitações na fotossíntese máxima é a utilização de dados de trocas gasosas. Medições de trocas gasosas foliares (CO<sub>2</sub> e H<sub>2</sub>O) desempenham um papel central na ecofisiologia vegetal uma vez que contribuem para o entendimento das diferentes respostas nas taxas de fotossíntese e transpiração entre as espécies. Estas medições também são utilizadas para modelar a resposta das plantas às mudanças no meio ambiente como alterações na temperatura, umidade do ar e luminosidade (DUURSMA, 2015).

Para entender os fatores que influenciam a capacidade fotossintética, modelos de fotossíntese são utilizados para obter parâmetros que limitam o processo bioquímico: Vcmax (taxas máximas de carboxilação de Rubisco), Jmax (taxa potencial máxima de transporte de elétrons) e TPU (utilização da triose fosfato) e modelos de condutância estomática aplicados

para entender o comportamento dos estômatos nas diferentes condições ambientais, além de fornecer o parâmetro que explica o comportamento estomático ( $g_1$ ), proxy padronizado para comparar a eficiência no uso da água (WUE) dos diferentes tipos funcionais de planta (PFTs). Os parâmetros  $V_{cmax}$  e  $J_{max}$  e  $g_1$  são amplamente utilizados para parametrização de modelos de sistema terrestre (ESMS) os quais são ferramentas usadas para prever o balanço de carbono (C) da vegetação terrestre futuro e modelos baseados em processos (PBMs) que simulam processos fisiológicos que influenciam o crescimento e como esses processos são influenciados pelo ambiente (FRANKS et al., 2018; MEDLYN et al., 2011).

Estudos que investigam a capacidade fotossintética e o comportamento estomático visando obter parâmetros fisiológicos ainda são incipientes no Brasil. Portanto investigar a ecofisiologia das florestas plantadas é necessário e fundamental para ampliar o conhecimento sobre o comportamento das plantas diante das condições ambientais, além de fornecer parâmetros utéis em modelagem global da vegetação. Dentro deste contexto, este trabalho tem o objetivo de modelar a capacidade fotossintética e condutância estomática das florestas de eucalipto e pinus no Brasil em dois artigos. No primeiro artigo, utilizamos o modelo de Farquhar et al. (1980) para obter os parâmetros  $V_{cmax}$ ,  $J_{max}$  e a relação  $J_{max}/V_{cmax}$  e analisamos a influência da idade, da temperatura de crescimento e precipitação aos 10 e 30 dias antes da coleta de dados, além de avaliar a influencia dos grupos climáticos de eucalipto e das diferentes espécies de pinus nestes parâmetros fotossintéticos e o segundo artigo investiga o desempenho de três modelos de condutância estomática (BB, BBL e USO) além de analisar como a condutância estomática e a WUE varia entre os diferentes genótipos nas plantações florestais brasileiras.

## 2 REFERENCIAL TEÓRICO

### 2.1 Modelagem da fotossíntese

A fotossíntese é o processo chave no ciclo do carbono terrestre (PRENTICE et al., 2001; DE KAWUE et al., 2015) e a modelagem deste processo de forma precisa é fundamental para entender o funcionamento dos ecossistemas vegetais e também para projetar a resposta da biosfera às mudanças ambientais (FRIEDLINGSTEIN et al., 2014). Diversos fatores influenciam a fotossíntese, podendo citar a temperatura, a concentração de CO<sub>2</sub>, variação na radiação absorvida e as características bioquímicas das células (TAIZ; ZEIGER, 2013; DE PURY; FARQUHAR, 1997). A fotossíntese é composta por processos biológicos interconectados localizados em diferentes compartimentos da célula (SHARKEY et al., 2007).

Existem três principais processos que controlam a resposta da fotossíntese, nomeadamente processos bioquímicos, respiratório e estomático (LIN et al., 2012). Estes processos incluem o transporte de CO<sub>2</sub> através dos estômatos, os quais incluem o componente difusional que compreende a trajetória do CO<sub>2</sub> da atmosfera (Ca) até a cavidade subestomática (Ci) e finalmente no cloroplasto (Cc) (NADAL; FLEXAS, 2019). O componente bioquímico é caracterizado pela assimilação fotossintética por meio da fixação do CO<sub>2</sub> no ciclo de Calvin (SHARKEY, 2016; NADAL; FLEXAS, 2019). As variáveis ambientais tais como a intensidade da luz e da temperatura, podem ter efeitos diferentes em cada um destes processos (SHARKEY et al., 2007; LARCHER, 2006).

A maioria dos esforços tem se concentrado nos processos bioquímicos que influenciam a fotossíntese (LIN et al., 2012). O modelo de fotossíntese de Farquhar, von Caemmerer e Berry foi desenvolvido em 1980 (modelo FvCB) para descrever os processos bioquímicos da fotossíntese e tem sido o modelo mais utilizado para entender as respostas da fotossíntese à variação ambiental (FARQUHAR; VON CAEMMERER; BERRY, 1980). Este modelo permite que medições de trocas gasosas sejam interpretadas em termos de processos bioquímicos e biofísicos (SHARKEY, 2016). O modelo FvCB fornece métricas comparáveis da capacidade fotossintética, prevendo a resposta da fotossíntese às mudanças na concentração de CO<sub>2</sub> dentro do espaço aéreo da folha (Ci) (DUURSMA, 2015). As equações que descrevem o modelo seguem abaixo:

(1)

$$A_n = \min (A_c, A_j) - R_d$$

$$A_c = V_{CMAX} \frac{C_i - \Gamma^*}{C_i + K_c(1 + \frac{O_i}{K_0})}$$

$$A_j = J \frac{C_i - \Gamma^*}{4(C_i + 2\Gamma^*)}$$

Onde:

**$A_c$**  e  **$A_j$**  ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ): Taxa de assimilação limitada pela atividade da Rubisco e pelo transporte de elétrons (regeneração da ribulose-1,5-bisfosfato, RuBP) respectivamente

**$R_d$**  ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ): Respiração mitocondrial sob condição de iluminação

**$V_{CMAX}$**  ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ): Atividade catalítica máxima da Rubisco

**$C_i$**  e  **$O_i$** : concentrações de  $\text{CO}_2$  e  $\text{O}_2$  no espaço intercelular respectivamente ( $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ )

**$\Gamma^*$** : Ponto de compensação de  $\text{CO}_2$  na ausência de respiração mitocondrial

**$K_c$**  e  **$K_o$** : São os coeficientes de Michaelis-Menten para  $\text{CO}_2$  e  $\text{O}_2$ , respectivamente ( $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ )

**$J$**  ( $\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ): taxa potencial de transporte de elétrons, relacionada à densidade de fluxo de fótons fotossinteticamente ativa incidente ( $Q$ ) por:

$$\theta J^2 - (\alpha Q + J_{MAX}) J + \alpha Q J_{MAX} = 0 \quad (2)$$

Onde:

**$J_{MAX}$** : Taxa potencial de transporte de elétrons ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )

**$\theta$** : Curvatura da curva de resposta à luz (sem unidade)

**$\alpha$** : rendimento quântico do transporte de elétrons  $\text{mol e}^- \text{ mol}^{-1}$

O modelo estima a taxa de fotossíntese com base nas propriedades da enzima ribulose-1,5 bisfosfatocarboxilase/oxigenase (Rubisco) em três fases distintas. Na primeira fase a taxa de fotossíntese é limitada pela atividade da rubisco e ocorre quando a concentração de  $\text{CO}_2$  é baixa, ou seja, a enzima não atingiu a velocidade máxima ( $V_{max}$ ) por falta de substrato (TAIZ; ZEIGER, 2013; SANDS; LANDSBERG, 2002). Esta fase ocorre normalmente quando as concentrações de  $\text{CO}_2$  são inferiores a 20 Pa (~200 ppm) (SHARKEY et al., 2007)

Na fase 2, a fotossíntese é limitada pela capacidade do ciclo de Calvin regenerar a molécula aceptora ribulose – 1,5 bisfosfato (RuBP) que depende do transporte de elétrons ( $J_{max}$ ) (TAIZ; ZEIGER, 2013; LANDSBERG; SANDS, 2011). A fotossíntese limitada por regeneração de RuBP inclui as condições em que a intensidade da luz limita a taxa de fotossíntese e geralmente ocorre em concentrações de CO<sub>2</sub> superiores a 30 Pa (200 ppm) (SHARKEY et al., 2007; LANDSBERG; SANDS, 2011).

A terceira fase ocorre quando as reações do cloroplasto têm uma capacidade maior que a capacidade da folha de usar os produtos dos cloroplastos, principalmente, mas não exclusivamente, a triose fosfato. Este terceiro estado é chamado de limitação do uso de fosfato de triose (TPU). Nessa condição, a fotossíntese não responde ao aumento de CO<sub>2</sub>, nem é inibida pelo aumento da concentração de oxigênio (SHARKEY et al., 2007).

As curvas de resposta da fotossíntese a diferentes concentrações de CO<sub>2</sub> (A-ci) permitem correlacionar esses três mecanismos que podem limitar a taxa de fotossíntese em diferentes concentrações de CO<sub>2</sub> no mesofilo (SHARKEY, 2016) e são importantes em estudos de ecofisiologia vegetal, pois fornecem informações mecanicistas sobre as limitações bioquímicas subjacentes da assimilação do carbono que podem variar de acordo com o genótipo (STINZIANO et al., 2017). A assimilação de CO<sub>2</sub> é modelada usando a simples suposição de que a taxa de fotossíntese (A) sem as limitações seria 100%, mas é reduzida por essas três condições bioquímicas.

Visando entender como o clima afeta a produtividade das plantas, e também prever como o aquecimento do clima pode influenciar captação de CO<sub>2</sub>, os modelos do sistema terrestre (ESMs) e os modelos baseados em processos (PBMs) geralmente incorporam como componente o modelo de Farquhar para quantificar os fatores limitantes (V<sub>cmax</sub>,  $J_{max}$  e TPU) as taxas de fotossíntese (FRANKS et al., 2018).

Os modelos de sistema terrestre integram processos biogeoquímicos e biogeofísicos da superfície terrestre com modelos físicos de clima, têm sido amplamente utilizados para demonstrar a importância dos processos da superfície terrestre na determinação do clima e para destacar as grandes incertezas na quantificação dos processos da superfície terrestre (FRIEDLINGSTEIN et al., 2006; LI et al., 2015; FRANKS et al., 2018). Já os modelos baseados em processos basicamente simulam processos fisiológicos que influenciam o crescimento e como esses processos são influenciados pelo ambiente. Esses modelos podem explicar as interações entre as espécies, os processos e as condições ambientais consideradas no modelo (PRETZSCH; FORRESTER; RÖTZER, 2015). Na literatura existem diversos

modelos que se baseiam em processo fisiológicos podendo citar o CABALA (BATTAGLIA et al., 2004), FOREST-BGC (RUNNING; COUGHLAN, 1988; RUNNING; GOWER, 1991), 3-PG (LANDSBERG; WARING, 1997) e o MAESTRO/MAESPA (WANG; JARVIS, 1990; BALDWIN et al., 2001; DUURSMA; MEDLYN, 2012). Estes modelos geralmente utilizam parâmetros específicos para os grupos funcionais de plantas, pois há uma grande variação na resposta fotossintética de cada tipo funcional de planta.

Existem diversos fatores que se correlacionam com as variações nos parâmetros Vcmax e Jmax, por exemplo os fatores morfológicos como a fenologia foliar (WU et al., 2017), ontológicos (idade da folha) (ALBERT et al., 2018), características genéticas das espécies (MEDLYN et al., 2002; LIN et al., 2013), clima de origem das espécies (BERRY; BJÖRKMAN, 1980) e a nutrição das florestas. Esses fatores estão normalmente associados à variação no conteúdo de nitrogênio foliar e ou teor/proporção de clorofila nas folhas (LIN et al., 2013; HASPEN et al., 2017).

A variabilidade entre espécies, dentro do mesmo grupo funcional também foi verificado por Croft et al. (2017). Os autores ainda relataram que a correlação entre o conteúdo de clorofila da folha e o Vcmax foi maior que a correlação entre o conteúdo de nitrogênio foliar e o Vcmax, sugerindo que a clorofila é um *proxy* mais confiável para estimativas de Vcmax em modelos de sistemas terrestres. A menor correlação entre o nitrogênio da folha foi possivelmente devido à dinâmica da partição de nitrogênio que envolve a distribuição de nitrogênio foliar entre *pools* fotossintéticos e não fotossintéticos (HIKOSAKA et al., 1997; CROEF et al., 2017). A partição muda com o tempo e com as espécies, de acordo com a demanda e fatores como otimização do crescimento e fatores ambientais (CROFT et al., 2017).

Com relação aos fatores climáticos, a temperatura de crescimento (temperatura predominante antes da medição de fotossíntese) e umidade do solo são fatores que influenciam na variação de Vcmax e Jmax (SMITH e DUKE, 2018). Lin et al. (2013) encontraram valores de Vcmax e Jmax a uma temperatura padrão (25°) significativamente mais elevadas em espécies de origem mais quente como o *Eucalyptus melliodora* do que em espécies de origem mais fria como *E. dunnii*. Os autores atribuíram estas diferenças no teor de nitrogênio foliar que podem ter sido causadas por diferenças na área foliar do dossel. Espécies de clima quente mantêm uma área foliar por árvore mais baixa do que as espécies de clima frio (BATTAGLIA et al., 1998; LIN et al., 2013).

Estudos avaliando a aclimatação e adaptação da fotossíntese forneceram evidências da aclimatação da fotossintética à temperatura de crescimento (temperatura média 30 dias antes da

coleta) (KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019). No estudo de Kumarathunge et al. (2019) a temperatura ótima da fotossíntese mostrou uma tendência de aumento com o aumento da temperatura de crescimento. No entanto, ao avaliar os parâmetros Jmax e Vcmax ( $25^{\circ}$ ) nenhuma correlação foi detectável entre a temperatura de crescimento e o Vcmax. Já o Jmax mostrou uma forte diminuição com o aumento da temperatura de crescimento. Por outro lado estudos de Smith e Duke, (2018) revelaram que temperaturas mais altas podem diminuir a capacidade fotossintética, especialmente durante épocas de baixa disponibilidade de água.

Embora a fotossíntese seja altamente sensível a mudanças de temperatura, que é impulsionada pela sensibilidade à temperatura de Vcmax e Jmax e o grande número de pesquisas sobre este assunto, o efeito do aumento da temperatura, tanto a curto como a longo prazo nas limitações bioquímicas da fotossíntese ainda não é totalmente claro ou generalizável (KATTGE; KNORR, 2007; STENFANSKI et al., 2019).

## **2.2 Modelagem da condutância estomática**

Os estômatos tem a função de controlar as trocas de  $\text{CO}_2$  e  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  entre plantas e a atmosfera (BUCKLEY, 2019; BUCKLEY; MOTT, 2013), regulam o processo de fotossíntese e transpiração (TARIN et al., 2019), afetam a produtividade e o potencial hídrico da planta e a eficiência do uso da água (MEDLYN et al., 2017). Diversos fatores bióticos e abióticos afetam a resposta dos estômatos, por exemplo, potencial hídrico da folha, temperatura, radiação e déficit de pressão de vapor (DPV) (TARIN et al., 2019, MEDLYN et al., 2011; TUZET et al., 2013).

A sensibilidade da condutância estomática aos fatores ambientais é uma preocupação constante na fisiologia vegetal, principalmente a sensibilidade ao estresse hídrico (DAMOUR et al. 2010). Diante das mudanças climáticas previstas para as próximas décadas, é fundamental prever os efeitos dos eventos de seca e elevadas concentrações de  $\text{CO}_2$  nos ecossistemas terrestres (DAMOUR et al., 2010; MEDLYN et al., 2011).

Diversos modelos ao nível da folha foram desenvolvidos visando modelar a condutância estomática ( $g_s$ ) em função de fatores ambientais como  $\text{CO}_2$ , luz, temperatura (JARVIS, 1976) umidade relativa (BALL et al., 1987), déficit de pressão de vapor (LEUNING, 1995) e potencial hídrico do solo (TUZET et al., 2003). Em uma revisão proposta por Damour et al., (2010) ele destacou mais de 30 modelos de condutância estomática já desenvolvidos. Os modelos de  $g_s$  basicamente se dividem em três abordagens: abordagem empírica; mecanicista (baseados em

processos) e a abordagem de otimização econômica (BUCKLEY; MOTT, 2013; LU et al., 2018).

A abordagem empírica é a mais utilizada nos modelos de gs, por ser a mais simples e fácil de implementar em muitas condições (BUCKLEY; MOTT, 2013; BALL et al., 1987; LEUNING, 1995). O modelo empírico concentrava-se na previsão, em vez de explorar os mecanismos pelos quais os estômatos respondem ao ambiente, porque o conhecimento desses mecanismos na época era bastante limitado (BUCKLEY; MOTT, 2013). Os modelos mecanicistas são mais complexos matematicamente e são mais adequados para investigar os processos celulares e subcelulares envolvidos na detecção ambiental, transdução de sinal e movimentos de íons. Estes modelos foram cruciais para compreender como funcionam os estômatos (BUCKLEY; MOTT, 2013; LU et al., 2018). A terceira abordagem é a otimização econômica baseada na teoria de que as plantas tendem a maximizar a assimilação de CO<sub>2</sub> para uma quantidade fixa de perda de água ou tendem a minimizar a perda de água para uma quantidade fixa de assimilação de CO<sub>2</sub>, desenvolvida por Cowan e Farquhar (1977).

Além de serem utilizados para estudar o comportamento estomático das diferentes espécies nos diferentes ambientes (HEROULT et al., 2013; WANG et al., 2018; ZHOU et al., 2013 ) os modelos de gs também são utilizados como componentes de modelos ESMs como o CABLE (DE KAUWE et al., 2015), o modelo “Community Land Model” (BONAN et al., 2014) e os modelos baseados em processos como o modelo de absorção de radiação no dossel-MAESPA (DUURSMA; MEDLYN, 2012).

Os modelos de gs que mais se destacam são o modelo Ball-Woodrow-Berry- BWB (1987), modelo Ball-Woodrow-Berry modificado por Leuning- BBL (1995) e o modelo de otimização estomática desenvolvido por Medlyn et al. (2011).

### **2.2.1 Modelo de Ball-Woodrow-Berry (BWB)**

O modelo Ball-Woodrow-Berry também conhecido como modelo BWB foi desenvolvido em 1987, e assume que a condutância estomática está fortemente acoplada a taxa de fotossíntese (BALL et al., 1987). Este modelo baseia-se na teoria de que os estômatos ajudam a manter uma concentração intercelular de CO<sub>2</sub> estável, mantendo assim uma relação linear com a fotossíntese líquida, ou seja, o modelo prevê que a condutância estomática é igual a zero quando a fotossíntese líquida é igual à zero (WANG et al., 2018; DAMOUR et al., 2010). Esta relação linear acontece porque os estômatos se abrem e fecham para manter uma relação quase

constante entre a concentração de CO<sub>2</sub> intercelular e ambiental podendo variar em função da umidade do ar (WONG et al., 1979; HOSHIKA et al., 2017).

De forma resumida o modelo de Ball–Woodrow–Berry propõe a resposta da condutância estomática à umidade relativa do ar, ao CO<sub>2</sub> e a fotossíntese (HOSHIKA et al., 2017; DAMOUR et al., 2010), dessa forma todos os fatores que reduzem a taxa de fotossíntese causarão uma redução na condutância estomática. Estes fatores são modelados através da dependência da fotossíntese (BALL et al., 1987).

A expressão empírica desenvolvida para o modelo BWB de gs segue abaixo:

$$(3) \quad g_s = m + \frac{A_n H_s}{C_s} + g_0$$

Onde:

$A_n$ : taxa de assimilação líquida de CO<sub>2</sub>

$H_s$ : umidade relativa do ar na superfície da folha

$C_s$ : Concentração atmosférica de CO<sub>2</sub> na superfície da folha

$g_0$ : parâmetro ajustado

$m$ : é a inclinação da relação entre  $g_s$  e ( $A_n H_s C_s$ ) determinados por meio de regressão linear.

O modelo Ball–Woodrow–Berry é um dos modelos de condutância estomática mais utilizado nos diversos estudos de ecofisiologia e são utilizados em tanto em florestas (STIZIANO et al., 2018; HOSHIKA et al., 2015), como em culturas agrícola como arroz (MASUTOMI et al., 2019); tomate (WEI et al., 2018). Este modelo apresenta diversas vantagens, como a facilidade de calcular como a condutância estomática se correlaciona com a capacidade fotossintética e a concentração de CO<sub>2</sub> no ambiente (BALDOCCHI, 2008).

Outra vantagem do modelo é a facilidade de parametrização e implementação em grandes escalas, por exemplo, podem ser utilizados como componentes de modelos ESMs (MEDLYN et al., 2011). O modelo BWB tem sido muito utilizado na escala da folha, mas também pode ser extrapolado para a escala do campo ou da floresta (DAMOUR et al. 2010). Este modelo também é utilizado em estudos que visam avaliar os impactos das mudanças climáticas e os prejuízos causados na produtividade das florestas.

Apesar de ser amplamente utilizado, o modelo BWB também teve algumas críticas por parte dos pesquisadores. As principais críticas ao modelo foram: a primeira é que o modelo não simula corretamente a fotossíntese líquida ( $A_n$ ) e o  $gs$  quando a concentração de CO<sub>2</sub> na

superfície foliar ( $C_s$ ) é igual ao CO<sub>2</sub> no ponto de compensação ( $\Gamma$ ). Quando o  $C_s = \Gamma$ , a fotossíntese e o  $g_s$  deveriam ser respectivamente igual a 0 e  $g\theta$  (LEUNING, 1990; DAMOUR et al. 2010).

A segunda crítica foi o fato de que no modelo proposto por Ball-Woodrow-Berry os estômatos respondem a umidade relativa do ar e não ao déficit de pressão de vapor (DPV) (LEUNING, 1995). Os pesquisadores Aphalo e Jarvis (1991) mostraram que o DPV era mais adequado do que umidade relativa do ar para descrever a resposta de  $g_s$ , o que pode ser compreendido, considerando que estas variáveis são relacionadas por uma equação derivada da equação de difusão de vapor de água no ar como é descrita a seguir.

(4)

$$E = \alpha(g_s^{-1} + g_b^{-1})^{-1} \cdot VPD$$

Onde:

$g_b$ : condutância da camada limite ao vapor de água

$\alpha$  e  $g_b$ : parâmetros físicos dependentes da pressão atmosférica temperatura, velocidade do vento e arquitetura da planta.

O modelo BWB também foi criticado por apresentar baixo desempenho em espécies de plantas C3 em concentrações sub-ambientais de [CO<sub>2</sub>], quando as taxas de fotorrespiração aumentam (LEUNING 1990; WEBER, GATES, 1990; MINER et al., 2017). Diante dessas críticas contra a primeira versão do modelo de Ball-Woodrow-Berry (1987), o pesquisador LEUNING propôs algumas modificações e o modelo ganhou uma nova versão que ficou conhecida como modelo de Ball-Berry-Leuning (LEUNING, 1990; LEUNING 1995).

### 2.2.2 Modelo de Ball - Berry -Leuning (BBL)

Estudando o comportamento dos estômatos e da fotossíntese em florestas de *Eucalyptus grandis* na Austrália, Leuning testou o modelo de Ball-Woodrow-Berry (1987) e percebeu que o modelo BWB não poderia ser usado para determinar o comportamento estomático em baixas concentrações de CO<sub>2</sub> e a condutância estomática não podia ser simulada com precisão quando ( $C_s$ ) atinge o ponto de compensação de CO<sub>2</sub> (LEUNING, 1990).

Diante destas observações ele propôs uma versão modificada com um novo ajuste na equação, a partir da inserção do termo ( $C_s - \Gamma$ ) no denominador, o qual foi denominado de

função de restrição estomática. Essa função mostra que existe um ponto de compensação do CO<sub>2</sub> para assimilação fotossintética, o qual é definido como a concentração de CO<sub>2</sub> na qual há um balanço entre a fotossíntese bruta e respiração, ou seja, não há fotossíntese líquida (LEUNING, 1990).

A nova equação descreveu o  $g_s$  sob uma ampla gama de fatores ambientais, melhorando ainda mais a correlação já existente. A expressão modificada foi combinada com o modelo de fotossíntese de Farquhar e von Caemmerer (1980) visando obter um modelo integrado de fotossíntese, CO<sub>2</sub> intercelular e condutância estomática (LEUNING, 1990). Quando as condutâncias estomáticas foram plotadas utilizando o índice estomático modificado verificou-se que os dados foram melhor ajustados quando comparado com a equação original de Ball-Berry (1987), obtendo uma dispersão reduzida e a linearidade melhorada. A equação modificada segundo Leuning (1990) segue abaixo:

(5)

$$g_s = m + \frac{A_n H_s}{C_s - \Gamma} + g_0$$

Onde:

$\Gamma$  = ponto de compensação do CO<sub>2</sub>

$A_n$  = fotossíntese líquida

$h_s$  = umidade relativa do ar na superfície da folha

$C_s$  = Concentração atmosférica de CO<sub>2</sub> na superfície da folha

O uso do termo ( $C_s - \Gamma$ ) no denominador da equação modificada por Leuning (1990) descreveu melhor a resposta do  $g_s$  do que apenas a utilização da variável ( $C_s$ ), como proposto na equação de Ball-Woodrow-Berry. Esta modificação melhorou a equação porque possibilita contabilizar corretamente a  $A_n \rightarrow 0$  quando ( $C_s \rightarrow \Gamma$ ) em vez de ( $C_s \rightarrow 0$ ) (LEUNING, 1990). Esta equação prevê que a condutância estomática aumente em função da taxa de assimilação de CO<sub>2</sub> ( $A_n$ ) e da umidade relativa do ar na superfície da folha ( $h_s$ ) quando o ( $C_s$ ) é mantido constante. A condutância estomática diminuirá com aumento da concentração ambiental de CO<sub>2</sub>, desde que a taxa de fotossíntese aumente mais lentamente que o ( $C_s$ ) (LEUNING, 1990; LEUNING, 1995).

Mais tarde, Leuning (1995) propôs uma nova modificação na equação e argumentou que a abordagem original do modelo Ball–Woodrow–Berry era insuficiente para sua aplicação em experimentos que estavam sendo realizados na Austrália. Ele substituiu a variável umidade relativa ( $H_s$ ) pela função de Lohammer que utiliza o DPV como uma proxy para a transpiração. A equação de Lohammer foi desenvolvida inicialmente para analisar medições de folhas em campo, causada em grande parte por mudanças na temperatura das folhas, em vez de mudanças na umidade absoluta do ar (LOHAMMER et al., 1980).

Leuning (1995) argumentou que a umidade relativa não é uma variável independente válida, pois as plantas devem responder a um potencial que gere perda de água, como uma diferença de pressão de vapor (DPV) (LEUNING, 1995; BALDOCCHI, 2008). Ele considerou duas formas alternativas para a dependência do DPV, a primeira foi uma dependência por meio de uma função linear e a segunda a partir de uma função hiperbólica. A função hiperbólica proporcionou um melhor ajuste aos dados experimentais em vez da função linear da umidade relativa como formulado originalmente no modelo Ball-Berry (LEUNING, 1995; MEDLYN et al. 2011).

A abordagem proposta por Leuning (1995) assume que a condutância estomática e a taxa de transpiração são linearmente relacionadas (LEUNING, 1995; MOTT; PARKHURST 1991). O modelo resultante proposto por Leuning (1995) também conhecido por BBL (1995) tem o seguinte formato:

(6)

$$g_s = g_0 \frac{mA_n}{(C_s - \Gamma)(1 + \frac{D}{D_0})}$$

A principal diferença entre a modificação proposta por Leuning (1990) e Leuning (1995) é que a resposta de umidade na equação 4 é em função da umidade relativa do ar diferente da equação 5 que mostra a resposta em função do déficit de pressão de vapor (DPV) (LEUNING, 1995; DEWAR 2002).

A equação original de Ball–Woodrow–Berry (equação 2) foi muito criticada por que muitos pesquisadores argumentavam que a  $g_s$  é dependente do DPV e da transpiração em vez da umidade relativa como proposto no modelo original. No entanto segundo Baldocchi (2008), é possível derivar uma relação entre DPV e umidade relativa, o que torna esta crítica ilusória.

Outra abordagem é que esta crítica parece ser consequência apenas de resultados sob condições de seca no solo e certas condições atmosféricas (BALDOCCHI, 2008).

Estudos realizados por Zhang et al., (2017) confirmaram que a condutância estomática ( $gs$ ) pode ser prevista com precisão se os parâmetros no modelo forem ajustados considerando às condições de água no solo e que o declínio nos parâmetros induzido pelas condições de seca deve ser considerado, caso contrário, a  $gs$  pode ser superestimada.

Diversos estudos apresentam resultados diferentes com relação a melhor aplicabilidade dos modelos de condutância estomática (WANG et al., 2016; WANG et al., 2018; HOSHIKA et al., 2017; LU e WANG, 2018). Selecionar um modelo de  $gs$  com base nos dados de pesquisa existente pode ser um problema uma vez que a precisão destes modelos pode ser afetada por diferentes fatores, como as diferentes espécies, regiões de teste, condições ambientais e escalas de tempo (GAO et al., 2016; WANG et al., 2018).

Tanto o modelo de Ball-Woodrow-Berry quanto o modelo Ball-Berry modificado por Leuning mostrou boa concordância com as observações em diversos tipos de vegetação (BALL et al., 1987; LEUNING, 1995; LU e WANG, 2018; MASUTOMI et al., 2019; HOSHIKA et al., 2015; ZHANG et al., 2017). Esses dois modelos são amplamente utilizados porque são fáceis de parametrizar além de apresentarem facilidade de uso, alto poder explicativo e precisão preditiva em várias condições experimentais (MEDLYN et al., 2011; DAMOUR et al., 2010).

O modelo de Ball-Berry-Leuning (1995) também tem sido utilizado em estudos de previsão dos impactos das mudanças climáticas nos ecossistemas. Lu e Wang (2018) estudaram três modelos de  $gs$ , o modelo Ball-Berry-Leuning e dois modelos de otimização (modelo de limitação de Rubisco e modelo de limitação de regeneração da RuBP) com dados obtidos em experimentos sob CO<sub>2</sub> instantâneo, dados de ambiente semi-controlado e dados de experimento- FACE (Experimentos de enriquecimento em larga escala de CO<sub>2</sub> ao ar livre). Os resultados indicaram que o modelo Ball-Berry-Leuning e o modelo de limitação de regeneração da RuBP tiveram desempenho semelhante. O desempenho semelhante destes modelos pode ser explicado porque o modelo RuBP foi derivado estruturalmente do modelo clássico de Ball-Berry, no entanto foi baseado na teoria de otimização da condutância estomática (MEDLYN et al., 2011; LU; WANG, 2018). Os resultados deste trabalho ainda mostraram que outros fatores como os diferentes grupos funcionais (C3 e C4) podem afetar significativamente o desempenho do modelo (LU; WANG, 2018).

## **2.2. 3 Modelo unificado de otimização estomática (USO)**

Uma alternativa aos modelos propostos Ball-Woodrow-Berry (BWB) (1987) e Ball-Berry-Leuning (BBL) (1995) é o modelo unificado de otimização estomática (USO) proposto por Medlyn et al. (2011). O modelo de otimização USO baseia-se na teoria do comportamento estomático ideal desenvolvido por Cowan e Farquhar (1977). A abordagem da otimização dos estômatos postula que os estômatos devem agir para maximizar o ganho de carbono (fotossíntese,  $A$ ) e ao mesmo tempo, minimizar a perda de água ( $E$ , transpiração). Esta teoria foi matematicamente expressa como o custo marginal da água por unidade de ganho de carbono e é obtida quando a seguinte expressão é minimizada:

$$(7) \quad E - \lambda An$$

Onde  $\lambda$  (mol H<sub>2</sub>O mol<sup>-1</sup>C) é um parâmetro que representa o custo marginal da água em relação ao ganho de carbono pela planta. Essa teoria foi posteriormente combinada com o modelo de fotossíntese desenvolvido por Farquhar-von Caemmerer (1980) para obter duas expressões quadráticas para o  $C_i$  (carbono interno) ideal (ARNETH et al., 2002). As diferentes expressões são obtidas de acordo com o fator limitante da fotossíntese que pode ser a atividade da enzima Rubisco ou a regeneração da ribulose 1,5-bisfosfato RuBP.

O modelo assume que a fotossíntese é limitada pela regeneração da RuBP conforme está descrito na seguinte equação:

$$(8) \quad A = \frac{J}{4} \frac{C_i - \Gamma^*}{C_i + 2\Gamma^*} - R_d$$

Onde:

$J$  : é a taxa de transporte de elétrons,

$\Gamma$  : CO<sub>2</sub> no ponto de compensação na ausência de respiração no escuro

$R_d$ : taxa de respiração no escuro

$C_i$ : concentração intercelular de CO<sub>2</sub>

E também pode ser limitada pela taxa de carboxilação conforme a equação:

(9)

$$A = V_{cmax} \frac{C_i - \Gamma^*}{C_i + K_m} - R_d$$

$V_{cmax}$ : taxa máxima de atividade da Rubisco

$K_m$ : coeficiente Michaelis-Menten para a cinética da Rubisco

A equação geral do modelo de otimização estomática unificado (USO) foi proposto por Medlyn et al. (2011) conforme a equação 9 (MEDLYN et al., 2011).

(10)

$$g_s^* \approx 1.6 \left( 1 + \frac{g_1}{\sqrt{D}} \right) \frac{A}{C_a} + g_0$$

Onde:

$A$ : taxa de assimilação líquida

$C_a$  e  $D$ : são a concentração de CO<sub>2</sub> e déficit de pressão de vapor na superfície da folha respectivamente.

O modelo USO combina a abordagem dos modelos empíricos (BWB e BBL) e a abordagem da teoria de otimização dos estômatos em um único modelo, por isso considera-se que este modelo é análogo aos modelos empíricos amplamente utilizados. O parâmetro  $g_1$  do modelo USO é significativo, ou seja, tem implicações biológicas e pode ser útil para descrever estratégias de uso da água pelas plantas (MEDLYN et al., 2011). O  $g_1$  pode ser visto como um proxy padronizado para comparar a eficiência no uso da água WUE dos diferentes tipos funcionais de planta (PFT) e condições ambientais (LIN et al., 2015; MEDLYN et al., 2017).

Este parâmetro pode ser obtido ajustando-se os dados da mesma maneira que normalmente é feito nos modelos empíricos, no entanto no modelo de otimização (USO) o  $g_1$  é proporcional ao termo  $\sqrt{\Gamma^*} \lambda$  e aumenta com o custo marginal da água do ganho de carbono ( $\lambda$ ) e com o ponto de compensação de CO<sub>2</sub> ( $\Gamma$ ) (Equação 9) (HEROULT et al., 2013; MEDLYN et al., 2011; WANG et al., 2018 ).

(11)

$$g_1 \propto \sqrt{\Gamma^*} \lambda$$

A simulação do comportamento estomático sob diversas condições ambientais é importante para caracterizar os mecanismos de resposta dos ecossistemas vegetais às mudanças climáticas e também para prever os ciclos de carbono e água no contexto das mudanças climáticas (MEDLYN et al., 2011; WANG et al., 2018). A formulação do modelo USO proposto por Medlyn et al. (2011), tem potencial significativo para interpretar e prever diferenças nas estratégias de uso de água das plantas e o comportamento estomático entre as espécies em resposta a diversas condições ambientais, incluindo o aumento de CO<sub>2</sub> na atmosfera contribuindo para melhorar as simulações do ciclo do carbono e o uso da água em grandes escalas (MINER et al., 2017).

Variações climáticas na umidade do solo causadas por períodos de estresse hídrico podem afetar a condutância estomática e consequentemente afetam a simulação dos ciclos de carbono e água. Neste contexto, o estudo de modelos de condutância estomática apropriados para condições de seca são importantes para prever os efeitos das mudanças climáticas (MEDLYN et al., 2011; MEDLYN et al., 2017; WANG et al., 2018). O modelo USO foi utilizando em diversos estudos para investigar a resposta das plantas as condições de seca com diversas espécies (HEROULT et al., 2013; ZHOU et al., 2013; WANG et al., 2018; MEDLYN et al., 2017)

Heroult et al. (2013), ao testar a hipótese de que o parâmetro  $g_1$  pode variar entre as espécies, avaliaram quatro espécies de eucalipto originárias de diferentes zonas climáticas e relataram fortes diferenças no comportamento estomático entre as espécies arbóreas, com redução significativa no parâmetro  $g_1$  durante um período de seca em espécies de eucaliptos originárias de zonas úmidas mas não em espécies de origem sub-úmida. No mesmo sentido, estudos conduzidos por Zhou et al. (2013) modelando a resposta estomática e não estomática de diferentes espécies as condições de seca também relataram variação no parâmetro  $g_1$  das espécies.

O modelo USO também é utilizado para estudar a eficiência no uso da água (WUE) das plantas. Tarin et al. (2019), avaliando a resposta do  $g_1$  como proxy da WUE em um ecossistema de *Acacia spp.* na Austrália, em várias escalas espaciais e temporais relataram que o parâmetro  $g_1$  obtido tanto por meio da abordagem de medições de fluxo como pelo método de troca de gases foliares são altamente responsivo à disponibilidade de água. Os autores ainda apontam que a variação sazonal e anual no parâmetro  $g_1$  destaca a preocupação de que o uso de forma generalizada de valores constantes de  $g_1$  não é uma opção confiável para parametrizar os modelos climáticos globais.

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**SEGUNDA PARTE- ARTIGOS**

**ARTIGO 1 - CLIMATIC VARIABLES AND STAND AGE INFLUENCE  
PHOTOSYNTHETIC CAPACITY OF FOREST PLANTATIONS IN BRAZIL**

## Climatic variables and stand age influence photosynthetic capacity of forest plantations in Brazil

**Abstract:** Realistic representations of plant carbon exchange processes are necessary to understand the growth and productivity of forests and to understand how plants will behave in future climate change scenarios. These processes are known to vary over depending on environmental and genetic factors. Here, we used the model by Farquhar et al., (1980) to obtain the parameters Vcmax, Jmax and Jmax/Vcmax, and we analyzed the influence of age, growth temperature and precipitation variables and climatic groups on these parameters for the two functional groups (pine and eucalypts). Our results show that the photosynthetic capacity of forests has a difference between the functional groups, the variables growth temperature and precipitation at 10 and 30 days before physiological measurements influenced photosynthetic parameters, suggesting its acclimatization to the environment. The age of the stand influenced photosynthetic ability. Older forests showed an increasing trend in Jmax. There were no differences between the subtropical and tropical climatic groups, demonstrating an adaptation of the genotypes to the environmental conditions of Brazil. The values of Vcmax, Jmax and Jmax/Vcmax parameters provided in this study expand the database of photosynthetic parameters and can be widely used in modeling studies of planted forests in Brazil.

**Keywords:** gas exchange, genetic variation, photosynthesis, productivity, temperature, acclimation.

### 1. Introduction

Forest plantations with species of the genera *Eucalyptus* and *Pinus* represent a large percentage of planted forests in the world. *Eucalyptus* forests cover more than 20 million hectares in more than 90 countries around the world, with the majority in Brazil (7.47 million ha), India (3.9 million ha) and China (4.5 million ha) (FERREIRA et al., 2018; IGLESIAS-TRABADO;WILSTERMANN 2009, IBA 2021). These forests play an important role in providing raw material to meet the global demand for wood and also for the conservation of native forests. Projections indicate that this global demand will increase in future scenarios, making it essential to develop better management strategies (PAQUETTE; MESSIER, 2010; CHRISTINA et al., 2015).

For better strategies to be developed, it is important to understand the processes that influence tree growth and development, tree-environment interactions, and forest function at the ecosystem-scale. Photosynthesis is a key determinant of tree carbon (C) uptake and growth, and represents the largest flux of C between vegetation and the atmosphere (DE KAWUE et al., 2015; PRENTICE et al., 2001; BEER et al., 2010, IPCC 2013). Understanding the factors that influence photosynthesis is important in ecophysiological modeling of forests, which aims to understand the factors that influence forest growth through process-based models (PBMs) (LANDSBERG; SANDS, 2011; CHRISTINA et al., 2016) and also to study the prediction of photosynthetic fluxes under climate change scenarios (MEDLYN et al., 2011; FRIEDLINGSTEIN et al., 2014; IPCC 2014). The main tools used to predict the carbon C balance of vegetation in future scenarios are the Earth System Models (ESMs) and Global Vegetation Models (GVMs) (KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019, SMITH; DUKES, 2018).

These models incorporate the biochemical model of photosynthesis proposed by Farquhar *et al.*, (1980), also known as FvCB (DE KAWUE et al., 2015). The FvCB model defines the biochemical limitations of photosynthesis: the maximum rate of Rubisco carboxylation ( $V_{cmax}$ ), the maximum rate of electron transport for RuBP regeneration ( $J_{max}$ ), and the rate of triose phosphate utilization (TPU). Net photosynthesis is also determined by stomatal limitations of  $\text{CO}_2$  diffusion, mesophyll conductance to  $\text{CO}_2$ , and the rate of leaf respiration. The two major biochemical processes thought to limit photosynthesis are  $V_{cmax}$  and  $J_{max}$  (LIN et al., 2012). TPU limitation is not normally used in models as it rarely limits photosynthesis under field conditions (SHARKEY, 1985; ELLSWORTH et al., 2015; DE KAWUE et al., 2015; KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019; STEFANSKI et al., 2019). The FvCB model assumes that mesophyll conductance is infinite, and  $C_i$  equals the  $[\text{CO}_2]$  at the site of  $\text{CO}_2$  fixation in the chloroplast. Although many studies have shown this assumption to be incorrect, leading to inaccurate estimates of photosynthesis in the field, ‘apparent’ rates of  $V_{cmax}$  and  $J_{max}$ , which incorporate both biochemical capacity and mesophyll conductance, are still widely used in larger-scale vegetation models (LIN et al., 2013)

Photosynthetic parameters can vary between species and plant growth conditions due to adaptation and acclimation to environmental conditions (KATTGE; KNOOR 2007, SMITH; DUKE, 2018). Adaptation occurs at the population-level and is a long-term evolutionary response the environment. Differences in temperature adaptation among populations or species are sometimes observed when populations differ in the temperature response of photosynthesis. For example, cool-origin populations sometimes show higher A and  $V_{cmax}$  than warm-origin

populations when compared at a common growth and measurement temperature (OLEKSYN et al., 1998; SILIM et al., 2010; ASPINWALL et al., 2017). Acclimation occurs within individuals and can happen within days to weeks (KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019). Photosynthetic acclimation to an increase in growth temperature is much more diverse than its response to rising CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and cannot be described in terms of simple up- or down-regulation (WAY; YAMORI 2014). Temperature acclimation can be inferred from several different responses (WAY; YAMORI 2014). Typically, acclimation responses involve at least one of the following: 1) changes in the short-term temperature optimum of net photosynthesis, V<sub>cmax</sub>, or J<sub>max</sub>, 2) changes in net photosynthesis at warmer or colder growth temperatures relative to some standard growth temperature, or 3) changes in V<sub>cmax</sub> or J<sub>max</sub> at standard temperature (25 °C) with changes in growth temperature. Typically, V<sub>cmax</sub> or J<sub>max</sub> at 25 °C decline with increasing growth temperature (SMITH; DUKES, 2018).

Although most land surface models use specific parameters for plant functional groups (PFTs), there is still a misuse of these parameters. In a review prepared by Rogers (2013), when analyzing variation in V<sub>cmax</sub> for 16 plant functional groups (PFTs) used in 10 ESMs, the author reported that in many cases, parameterization was based on limited data sets and poorly defined coefficients that were used to adjust model parameters and set PFT-specific values for V<sub>cmax</sub>. An important conclusion of Rogers (2013) is that databases need additional data from a wider range of species (representing different PFTs) and growth conditions to reduce uncertainty in the parameterization of photosynthetic processes in larger-scale models.

The models used to project future climate change are highly sensitive to parameterization, so abiotic responses such as environmental conditions must be accurately represented. Temperature and water availability influence plant physiological performance on multiple spatial and temporal scales (STEFANSKI et al., 2019). However, photosynthesis and respiration are known to respond to environmental conditions on timescales close to weeks, rather than decades (KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019; SMITH; DUKES, 2018; KATTGE; KNOOR 2007; BATTAGLIA et al., 1998).

Several studies have investigated the influence of growth temperature, i.e. the ambient temperature days before measurements, on the photosynthetic capacity of plants aiming to understand temperature acclimation (MEDLYN et al., 2002; KATTGE; KNOOR 2007; SMITH; DUKES, 2018; KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019). Smith and Dukes (2018) reported that the previous week's temperature and soil moisture at the time of measurement were a better predictor of photosynthetic capacity than long-term climate (SMITH; DUKES, 2018). The

authors also highlight the plasticity of plant photosynthesis and the rapid acclimatization of photosynthesis to changes in environmental conditions. There is evidence that photosynthetic capacity varies with plant growth temperature, enabling plants to carry out photosynthesis more efficiently (KATTGE; KNOOR, 2007). Aspinwall et al. (2016) also observed that *E. tereticornis* demonstrated acclimation of leaf photosynthesis and respiration to seasonal temperature changes that was consistent under current and + 3°C warmer climate, indicating that observations of thermal acclimation to prevailing seasonal temperature changes may be used to infer photosynthetic and respiratory responses of trees to climate warming.

There is also clear evidence that soil moisture can modulate the effects of climate warming on photosynthesis (REICH et al., 2018). As the seasonal differences in precipitation alters soil moisture availability we evaluate total precipitation as an indicative of soil moisture (ROSENTHAL et al., 2014). In addition to climatic factors, several studies have reported that leaf phenology (WU et al., 2017), ontological factors (leaf age) (ALBERT et al., 2018), genetic characteristics of species (MEDLYN et al., 2002; LIN et al., 2013), climate of origin of species (BERRY; BJÖRKMAN, 1980; ASPINWALL et al., 2017) and forest nutrition (BAHAR et al., 2016) can strongly influence Vcmax and Jmax. It is possible the models could be improved by incorporating information about these factors, especially if they explain significant variation in photosynthetic parameters.

Previous studies on *Pinus* stand shown that photosynthetic capacity does not change with age, but net photosynthesis declines with age because stomatal limitation increases (DRAKE et al., 2010). However, it is known that plants have morphological variations over the growing season, for example, the photosynthetic parameters vary with leaf age (ALBERT et al., 2018), which covaries with leaf traits over the growing season (NIINEMETS, 2012; SONG et al., 2021). Other factors as leaf nitrogen content (HIKOSAKA, 2005), Leaf quantity (i.e., canopy leaf area index, LAI), quality (i.e., per-area photosynthetic capacity), and longevity all influence the photosynthetic seasonality of tropical evergreen forests (WU et al., 2017). The study by Albert et al. (2018) revealed that stomatal conductance and biochemical parameters of photosynthesis were higher for recently matured leaves than for old leaves.

Studies of photosynthetic temperature acclimation of planted forests in Brazil are still incipient. Evaluating the response of photosynthetic capacity of planted trees under environmental conditions is essential to provide reliable estimates of the parameters Vcmax and Jmax for the genus *Eucalyptus* and *Pinus*. In this study we evaluated photosynthetic parameters from experiments under field environmental conditions planted in different locations in Brazil,

with different species/ genotypes of the genus *Eucalyptus* and *Pinus*, and with different ages. Our specific aim were to determine the role of stand age, the climatic origin of genotypes *Eucalyptus*, differ among species of *Pinus* and prevailing climatic conditions (growth temperature and precipitation) on Vcmax, Jmax in planted forests of *Eucalyptus* and *Pinus* in Brazil. For this, we test three hypotheses: Our first hypothesis is that short-term environmental variables as growth temperature and precipitation have a significant effect on photosynthetic capacity of forests of *Eucalyptus* and *Pinus* in Brazil. These results can provide parameters for a robust representation of photosynthetic acclimation in GVMs and also to provide parameters for parameterization of process-based models such as MAESTRA/MAESPA (DUURSMA; MEDLYN, 2012) used in ecophysiological modeling studies. Our second hypothesis was the age of the stand influences the parameters Vcmax and Jmax, as the morphological characteristics change along the plant's growth cycle, which can consequently alter the photosynthetic capacity. Finally, our third hypothesis was that species of cool-origin of genus eucalypts have greater photosynthetic than species of warm-origin.

## 2. Material and Methods

### 2.1 Dataset

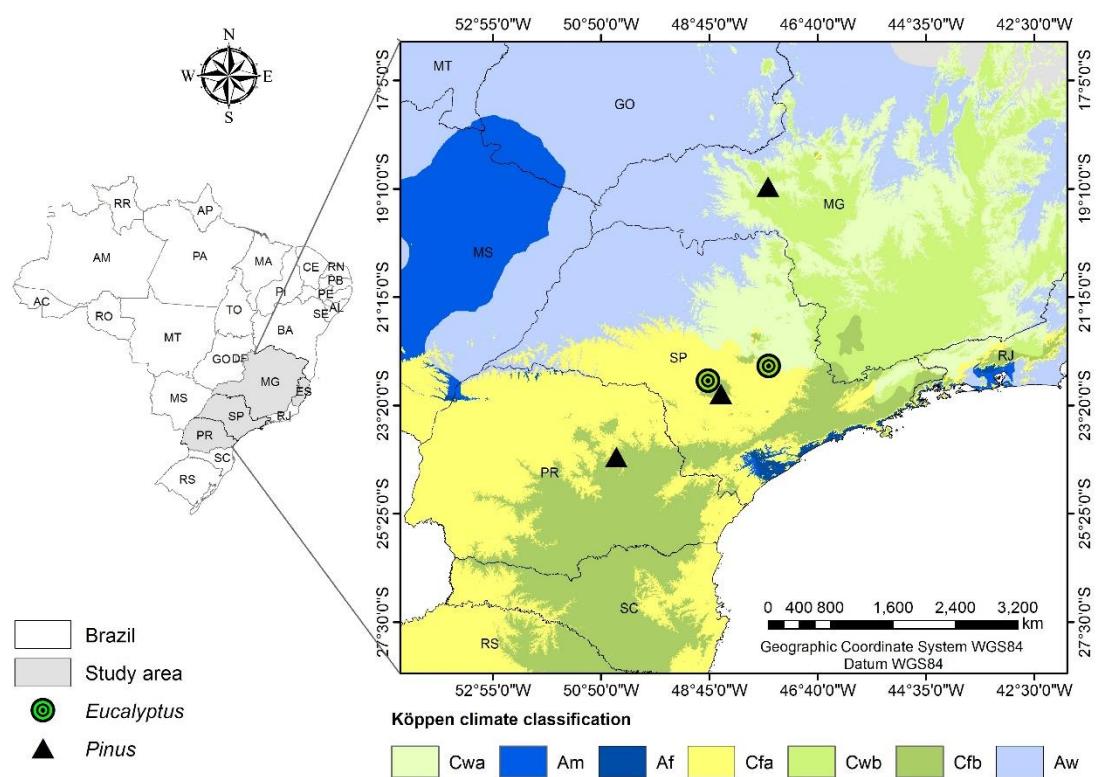
We compiled a database consisting of leaf photosynthetic CO<sub>2</sub> response measurements (A-C<sub>i</sub> curves hereafter) evaluated at different climatic conditions. The database covers species or genotypes of the genus *Eucalyptus* and species of the genus *Pinus* from 11 experiments conducted in different locations in Brazil. Each experiment was carried out independently, with different planting densities, fertilization regimes and specific silvicultural treatments (references in Table 1). All A-C<sub>i</sub> curves were measured under field conditions.

We obtained 535 A-C<sub>i</sub> curves measurements of upper canopy leaves from eucalypt and pine. The A-C<sub>i</sub> curves of eucalypt species were obtained from 8 different experiments. In three experiments (1, 6 and 7) two campaigns were carried out in the same stand but at different stand ages (Table 1).

The genotypes of eucalypt were classified into two climatic groups (subtropical and tropical). The genotypes were classified according to the climate of the genotype origin region in Brazil and on the Köppen climate classification (ALVARES et al., 2013). This climatic

classification was based on the classification proposed by BINKLEY et al., 2017 on the TECHS Brazil project (table 2).

A-Ci curves for species in the genus pine were obtained in 3 experiments (ID12 to 14). Datasets ID12 and ID13 are part of the same experiment, but as the species are different (*P. taeda* e *P. caribaea*), we described with different IDs. The age of eucalypt ranged from 12 to 84 months. For species of pine, the age ranged from 36 to 60 months. All data that are part of the database are original data. The distribution of the experiments in Brazil is on the map (Figure 1).



**Figure1.** Map showing the location of experiments in Brazil where photosynthetic parameters were determined.

**Table 1.** Experimental metadatasets used in this study.

Species/genotype	Experiment ID	Age (months)	Nº of curves	Site of Location (city and state)	Lat. (°S)	Long. (°W)	Tmean (C°)	Rainfall (mm)	Reference
<i>E.grandis</i>	1	64	7	Itatinga-SP	-22.97	-48.73	19.5	1268	Campoe <i>et al.</i> (2013)
<i>E.grandis</i>	2	78.7	30	Itatinga-SP	-22.97	-48.73	20.5	1903	Campoe <i>et al.</i> (2013)
<i>Eucalyptus sp</i>	3	10	15	Piracicaba-SP	-22.7	-47.64	19.5	1098	Binkley <i>et al.</i> (2017)
<i>E.urophylla</i>	4	12	7	Itatinga-SP	-22.97	-48.73	19.5	2063	Unpublished data
<i>E. grandis x E. urophylla</i>	5	84	8	Itatinga-SP	-22.97	-48.73	19	1568	Unpublished data
<i>E.grandis</i>	6	30	35	Itatinga-SP	-22.97	-48.73	18.5	912	Christina <i>et al.</i> (2016)
<i>E.grandis</i>	7	20	66	Itatinga-SP	-23.03	-48.63	18.5	912	Christina <i>et al.</i> (2015)
<i>E.grandis</i>	8	32	65	Itatinga-SP	-23.03	-48.63	18.5	1075	Christina <i>et al.</i> (2015)
<i>E.grandis</i>	9	12	21	Itatinga-SP	-23.03	-48.63	21.7	1713	Battie-Laclau <i>et al.</i> (2014)
<i>E.grandis</i>	10	22	24	Itatinga-SP	-23.03	-48.63	19.0	1568	Battie-Laclau <i>et al.</i> (2014)
<i>Eucalyptus spp.</i>	11	16	50	Piracicaba-SP	-22.71	-47.63	21.6	1070	Marrichi <i>et al.</i> (2005)
<i>P.taeda</i>	12	60	47	Itatinga-SP	-23.05	-48.64	18.5	912	Carneiro, (2013)
<i>P.caribaea</i>	13	60	56	Itatinga-SP	-23.05	-48.64	18.5	912	Carneiro, (2013)
<i>P.taeda</i>	14	36	4	Telêmaco Borba-PR	-24.05	-50.07	18.5	1597	Carneiro, (2013)
<i>P.caribaea</i>	15	60	12	Nova Ponte-MG	-19.03	-47.13	21.4	1517	Carneiro, (2013)

ID: identification of each experiment

Age: months after planting of each experiment.

Nº of curves: number of A-Ci curves measured in each experiment.

Lat e long: latitude (South) and longitude (west) of the experiment location in decimal degrees

Tmean: observed mean annual temperature during the year of data sampling

Rainfall: observed accumulated rainfall during the year of data sampling

**Table 2.** Climatic type, genotypes of *Eucalyptus* and climatic type of the breeding region.

Climatic type	Species or genotypes	Climate of the clone origin region*
Subtropical	<i>E.dunnii</i>	Temperate oceanic climate (Cfb)
	<i>E.grandis</i>	Temperate oceanic climate (Cfb)
	<i>E.grandis</i>	Tropical with dry-winter (Aw)
	<i>E.saligna</i>	Temperate oceanic climate (Cfb) humid subtropical with dry winter and hot summer (Cwa)
Tropical	<i>E.urophylla</i>	Tropical with dry-winter (Aw)
	<i>E.grandis x E.urophylla</i> ,	Tropical with dry-winter (Aw)
	<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	Tropical with dry-winter (Aw)
	<i>E.grandis</i>	Tropical without dry season (Af)
	<i>E.grandis x E. camaldulensis</i>	Tropical with dry summer (As)

\*Köppen climatic classification (ALVARES et al., 2013b).

## 2.2. Estimation of apparent Vcmax, Jmax from traditional response curves (A-Ci-TRAD)

The response of net CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation rate ( $A_{net}$ ) ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) at a predetermined set of CO<sub>2</sub> various concentrations ( $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ) under saturating light intensity (photosynthetic photon flux density (PPFD) using portable photosynthesis systems are known as photosynthetic-CO<sub>2</sub> response curves or A-ci curves. The A-Ci curves are used to estimate the maximum rate of Rubisco carboxylation (Vcmax) and the maximum rate of electron transport (Jmax) according to Farquhar *et al.* (1980).

The traditional method for completing one A-Ci curve begins with a measurement of  $A_{net}$  at ambient CO<sub>2</sub> concentration (400  $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ), which activates Rubisco (LONG; BERNACCHI, 2003). The measurements then progress through a series of stepwise changes in CO<sub>2</sub> concentration spanning subambient (usually ranges from 40 to 400  $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ) to superambient CO<sub>2</sub> concentration (usually 400-2000 ppm  $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ) (LONG; BERNACCHI, 2003; COURSOLLE et al., 2019). Changes in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> are accomplished by triggering step changes in the reference CO<sub>2</sub> concentration. Measurements must be conducted in saturating irradiance conditions between 1000 and 2000  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  (DE KAUWE *et al.*, 2015)

At each reference CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, the atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> (sample) outside the leaf and the intercellular CO<sub>2</sub> ( $C_i$ ) are recorded once  $A_{net}$  has reached a predetermined level of stability; usually when the stability coefficient is reduced to less than 0.5%. The time required to reach stability varies but is usually between 4 and 10 minutes. The time required to complete one Aci-

curve can take from 30 min to more than 60 min (depending on the number of CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations measured and the system used) (COURSOLLE et al., 2019).

In this study we used the traditional A–Ci method for all datasets. Measurements were taken on fully expanded upper canopy (sun-lit) leaves, healthy and free of pathogens. Measurements were taken in the morning with RH higher than 50% aiming to avoid stomatal open limitation. Measurements were made at saturating irradiance conditions (photosynthetic photon flux density-PPFD) between 1600 and 2000 μmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, using a portable photosynthesis system with standard 2x3 cm leaf chamber with a red-blue LED light source (LI-6400, Li-Cor Biosciences, Lincoln, NE, USA). The concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> used ranged between 400 and 1500 ppm of CO<sub>2</sub> (400, 300, 250, 200, 150, 100, 75, 50 ppm and then 400, 600, 800, 1000, 1300 ppm). The A-Ci curves measured at leaf temperatures ranging from 12 to 38°C. To access the canopy of trees and take measurements, we installed scaffolding towers located between the rows of trees within the stand.

## 2.3 Data analyses

### 2.3.1 Model Farquhar (1980) – FvCB

We used the model of Farquhar, Caemmerer & Berry (1980) to characterize photosynthetic biochemical component processes. The widely used formulation and parameterization of the FvCB model is of the form:

$$A_n = \min (A_c, A_j) - R_d \quad (1)$$

$$A_c = V_{CMAX} \frac{C_i - \Gamma^*}{C_i + K_c(1 + \frac{O_i}{K_0})} \quad (2)$$

$$A_j = J \frac{C_i - \Gamma^*}{4(C_i + 2\Gamma^*)} \quad (3)$$

where  $A_c$  and  $A_j$  (μmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) are the assimilation rate limited by Rubisco activity and by electron transport (regeneration of ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate, RuBP), respectively,  $R_d$  (μmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) is the mitochondrial respiration under illumination condition,  $V_{CMAX}$  (μmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) is the maximum rate of Rubisco carboxylation,  $C_i$  and  $O_i$  are the CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the intercellular space (μmol mol<sup>-1</sup>),  $\Gamma^*$  is the CO<sub>2</sub> compensation point in the absence of

mitochondrial respiration ( $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ); KC and KO are the Michaelis–Menten coefficients for  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$ , respectively ( $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ), and J (c) is the potential rate of electron transport, related to the incident photosynthetically active photon flux density ( $Q$ ) by:

$$\theta J^2 - (\alpha Q + J_{MAX}) J + \alpha Q J_{MAX} = 0 \quad (4)$$

where  $J_{MAX}$  is the maximum rate of electron transport for RuBP regeneration electron ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ),  $\theta$  is the curvature of the light response curve (unitless) and  $\alpha$  the quantum yield of electron transport ( $\text{mol e- mol}^{-1}$ ).

We parameterized Eqns 1–4 using the fitacis function within the PLANTECOPHYs package (DUURSMA, 2015) in R version 4.1.0 (R Development Core Team, 2012), with the default settings. We standardized Vcmax and Jmax estimates to 25 °C. Rd value was estimated from the fit to the A-Ci curve. We did not measure mesophyll conductance and rely on the simplifying assumption that Ci equals the  $[\text{CO}_2]$  in the chloroplasts (as in Farquhar *et al.*, 1980). Therefore, our estimates of Vcmax and Jmax are ‘apparent’ rates that reflect both biochemical limitations of photosynthesis and mesophyll conductance (e.g., SALMON *et al.*, 2020).

For each curve, we calculated the ratio of Jmax to Vcmax at 25 °C ( $J_{MAX}/V_{cmax}$ ) by dividing Jmax by Vcmax. To assess the quality of the data, we assessed all A-Ci curves using the selection criteria, described in the topic below (DUURSMA, 2015; DE KAWUE *et al.*, 2015).

### 2.3.2 Curve selection criteria

Before fitting FvCB model we checked the dataset in two steps. First, we analyzed the raw data to identify possible errors made during measurements. Second, we analyzed the data after fitting the A-ci curves. In the first step we eliminated data that were outside the range of reasonable values and deleted measurements negative Ci values and eliminated incomplete curves with only a few observations. We selected only data where measurements were first conducted at ambient  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration ( $400 \mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ) and saturating irradiance conditions ( $1500 - 1800 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ).

In the second phase of data checking, after fitting the FvCB model, we analyzed the ACi curves. We check if the photosynthesis saturates with Ci and if Ci reaches high enough values for reasonable estimates of Jmax ( $> 800 \text{ ppm}$ ) (Duursma, 2015). When there is no  $\text{CO}_2$

saturation, the Jmax estimate may be underestimated, i.e. where there is no clear photosynthesis plateau at high Ci values, the Jmax estimates should be excluded from the dataset. The curves used to estimate parameters ( $V_{cmax}$  and Jmax) were screened to exclude ‘bad’ measurement curves based on the traditional  $A-C_i$  fitting approach, ‘bad’ being defined according to the following criteria of De Kauwe et al. (2015) with adaptations. The R<sup>2</sup> was reduced to 0.8 in some dataset containing small samples. Follow all the criteria used in this study:

- (i) The first obtained measurement was at an ambient CO<sub>2</sub> concentration < 300 or > 400 μmol mol<sup>-1</sup>?
- (ii) The FvCB model did not fit?
- (iii) The fitted function had R<sup>2</sup> < 0.8?
- (iv) The RMSE was greater than 20?
- (v) Parameter values are > 500?
- (vi) Are parameter values negative?

All curves that followed the criteria above were eliminated from this study. As a metric for evaluating the error of the A-C<sub>i</sub> curves, we used the RMSE (root mean square error) and the R<sup>2</sup> (coefficient of determination). We only used curves with RMSE<20 and R<sup>2</sup>>8. Curves with negative parameters and with very high values (greater than > 500) were considered as outliers and were eliminated. After screening, the dataset contained a total of 447 A-C<sub>i</sub> curves measured at leaf temperatures ranging from 12 to 38°C. A total of 88 curves were eliminated using the criteria (ii), (iii) and (iv), (v), (vi) which corresponded respectively 13%, 2%, < 1%, <1%.

### **2.3.3 Meteorological data**

Meteorological data were obtained from automatic weather stations located close to the experiments (approximately 500 meters). To determine the influence of plant growth temperature on photosynthetic parameters we used the mean air temperature for 10 (10d) and 30 days (30d) before gas exchange measurements. Previous studies that have evaluated the influence of prevailing growth temperature have calculated mean growth temperature for time periods ranging from 3 to 30 days. The 10d and 30d mean provides information about the average temperature close to the measurements and over the previous month (KATTGE; KNORR, 2007; KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019). The 10d and 30 d growth temperatures were

based on previous studies that investigated the influence of short-term climate on plants. (MEDLYN et al., 2002; KATTGE; KNOOR 2007; SMITH; DUKES, 2018; KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019). We also analyzed the influence of total precipitation for 10 and 30 days before gas exchange measurements on parameters.

## 2.2 Analyses of age, climate and origin effects

Initially, we analyzed the effects of the functional group (eucalypt vs. pine), age, and prevailing air temperature ( $T_{mean10}$  and  $T_{mean30}$ , respectively) and total precipitation at 10 and 30 dias before gas exchange measurements ( $Prec_{10}$  and  $Prec_{30}$ , respectively) on parameters  $V_{cmax}$ ,  $J_{max}$  and  $J_{max}/V_{cmax}$  (all standardized at 25 °C) using mixed generalized linear models (GLMM).

First, we build a global model in the form:  $Y \sim Group * (t\_mean10 + tmean30 + tmean\_day + prec\_10 + prec\_30) + age + (1| Experiment) + (1|Site)$ , with all continuous variables interacting with the categorical variable "Group". We include "Experiment" and "Site" as the random variables to control dependence between curve measurements performed in the same experiment and at the same collection site. From this global model, we obtained all submodels with combinations of uncorrelated variables ( $r < |0.6|$ ) using the dredge function of the MuMIN package (Bartón, 2020).

We selected the best models based on the AIC (Akaike Information Criterion), considering a difference criterion of 4 in relation to the best model (AICc - Burnham et al., 2011), and than were submitted to the multi-model inference (BURNHAM et al., 2011) using the model.avg function of the MuMIN package (BARTÓN, 2020) to obtain the average coefficients of the explanatory variables and their significance. The three variables were worked on in the Gaussian family of residue distribution (ln transformation for the two first), also meeting the criteria of homoscedasticity and normality of residues, in addition to not showing spatial autocorrelation by the correlog function of the ncf package (BJORNSTAD, 2008).

After obtaining the significance of the variables, the models obtained for each variable were submitted to a Least Square means (Lsmeans) test using the lsmeans function from the lsmeans package (LENTH, 2018), to compare means between functional groups at the significance level of 0.05.

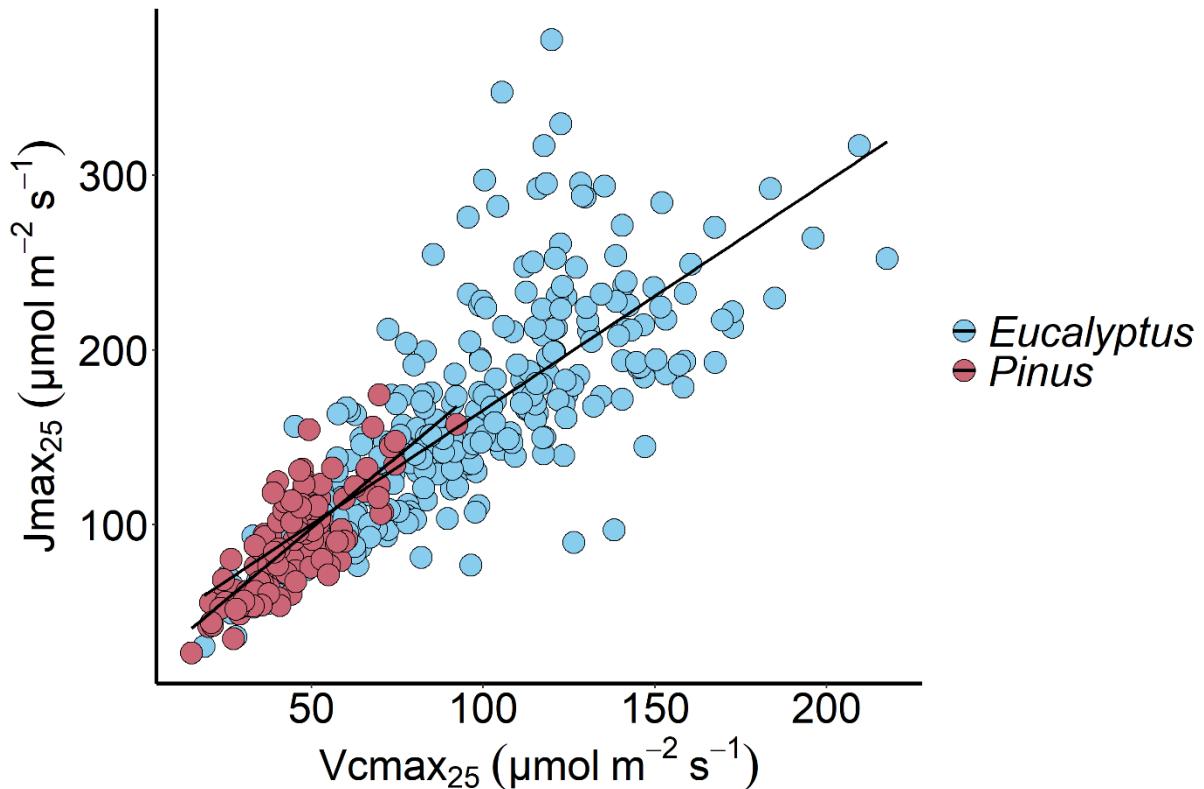
Then, we made a subset of the data corresponding to each of the functional groups (eucalypt vs. pine) for internal comparisons in relation to the climatic groups (tropical and

subtropical) and *Pinus* species (*P. taeda* and *P. caribaea*) for each variable physiological. In each case, we build a generalized linear model in the form  $y \sim \text{category} + (1|\text{Experiment}) + (1|\text{Site})$ , where “category” refers to the categorical explanatory variable of each functional group (climate group for eucalypt and species for pine), also including the experiment and the site as random factors to control the possible dependence between curves performed in the same experiment and on the same sites. The model was then submitted to a Least Square means (Lsmeans) test using the lsmeans function from the lsmeans package (LENTH, 2018), to compare means between categories in each functional group and their combinations at a significance level of 0.05. All analyzes were performed in R software (R Core Team, 2020).

### 3. Results

#### 3.1 Climatic and age influence on parameters

We found significant differences between the functional groups in Vcmax and Jmax, with significantly higher values observed for eucalypt, but with no significant difference for the ratio of the two variables (Jmax/Vcmax) (Table 4). For all parameters, no significant interactions were found between group and climatic variables, indicating that groups responded similarly with climatic variables. The relationship between Jmax and Vcmax (both at 25 °C) of the pine and eucalypt planted forests under the environmental conditions of Brazil is show in Figure 2.



**Figure 2:** Relation between Jmax ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and Vcmax ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) values standardized at 25 °C across *Eucalyptus* and *Pinus* species in Brazil. The black line does not represent a statistical analysis, it is only a visual resource.

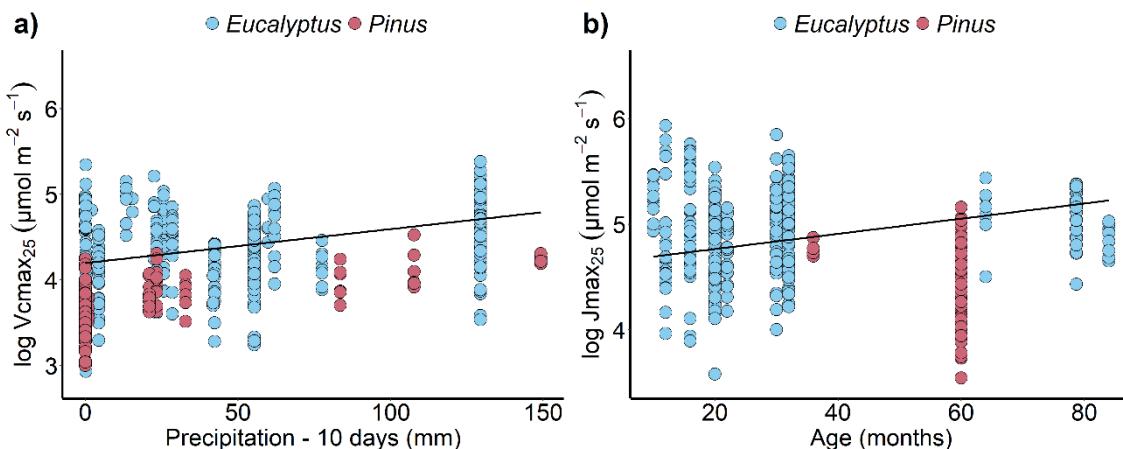
Vcmax was positively associated only by Prec<sub>10</sub> (Fig 3-a), while Jmax was significantly positively influenced by all climatic variables (Prec<sub>10</sub>, Prec<sub>30</sub>, T<sub>mean10</sub> and T<sub>mean30</sub>) (Fig 4) and by age (Fig 3-b). Thus, Jmax values are higher in older trees and when collected in warmer and humid climates (Table 5). The Jmax/Vcmax ratio was positively associated with T<sub>mean30</sub> (Fig 5 - b; Table 5) and significantly negatively influenced by Prec<sub>10</sub> (Fig 5-a; Table 5). Thus, Jmax/Vcmax had higher values at high temperatures, but with lower precipitation rates. We found no significant effect of the variable mean temperature of the day before collection (T<sub>mean\_day</sub>) in the model.

**Table 4:** Average values and standard errors obtained by *Lsmeans* for physiological variables in each functional group. Treatments followed by the same letter within rows are not significantly different according to LsMeans test at 0.05 of significance level. Original data of Vcmax Jmax were transformed by natural logarithm to be analyzed, but the estimated means were transformed back to be present in this table

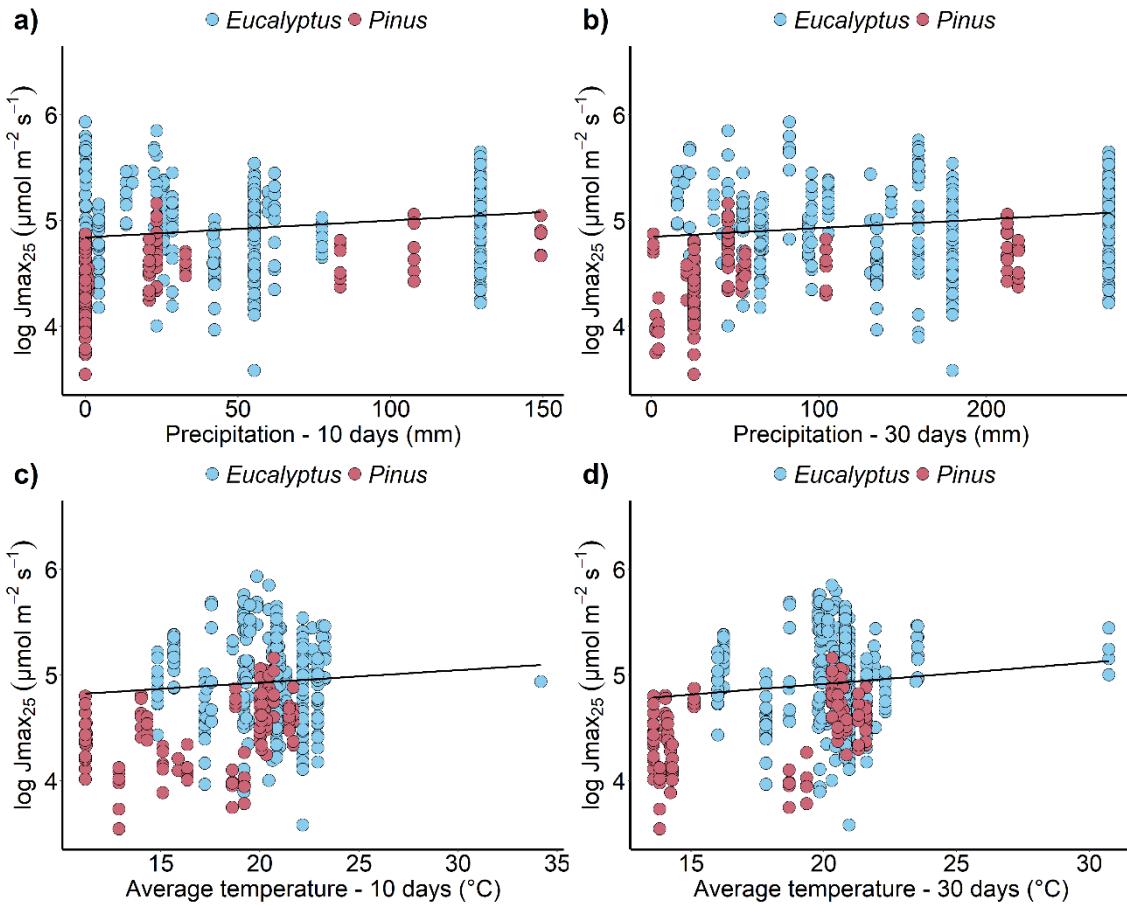
Variables	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>Pinus</i>
Vcmax ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )	$89.5 \pm 9.86$ a	$43.7 \pm 8.17$ b
Jmax ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )	$153.3 \pm 15.9$ a	$79.2 \pm 13.9$ b
Jmax/Vcmax	$2.12 \pm 0.19$ a	$1.83 \pm 0.12$ a

**Table 5:** Estimates and p-values of significance for the continuous variables with significative effects on physiological variables. Note that the first value before “/” is the estimate of relation and the second value is p-value of significance. The interaction between functional group and continuous variables is not included due to not being significative for any variable. Empty cell represents variables with no significative influence and/or were not selected in the final result.

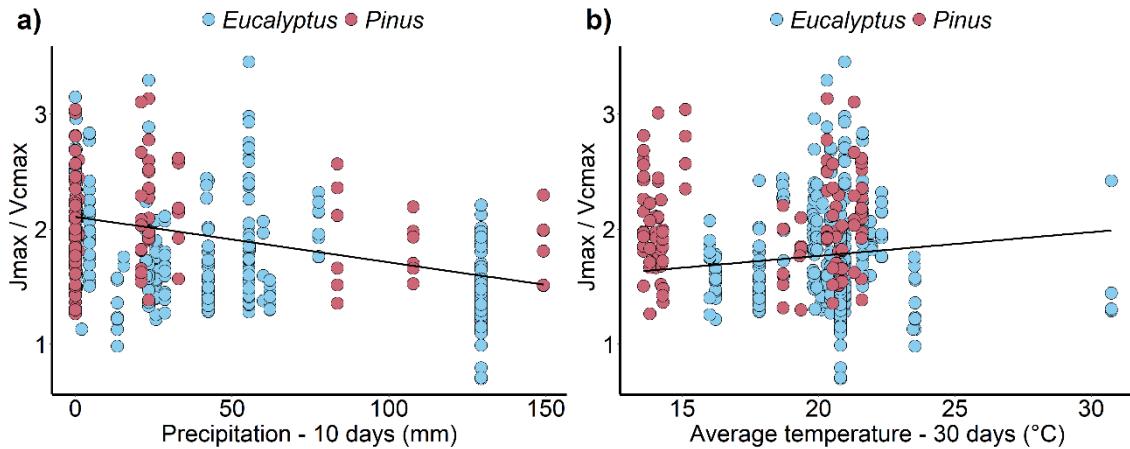
Variables	Age	Prec 10	Prec 30	T mean 10	T mean 30
Vcmax		0.17 / <0.001			
Jmax	0.15 / 0.03	0.06 / 0.007	0.06 / 0.03	0.07 / <0.001	0.11 / <0.001
Jmax/Vcmax		- 0.17 / 0.001			0.11 / <0.001



**Figure 3:** Relation between natural logarithm of Vcmax ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) standardized at 25 °C and the precipitation (mm) in the 10 days before the collection (a); and relation between natural logarithm of Jmax ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and the age (months) of plants in the collection time (b). The black line represents the estimate of relation between variables obtained by generalized linear models. The different colors of functional groups (*Eucalyptus* and *Pinus*) are just for better views. No significant differences between the functional groups.



**Figure 4:** Relation between natural logarithm of  $J_{max}$  ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) standardized at  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the precipitation (mm) in the 10 days before the collection (a), precipitation (mm) in the 30 days before the collection (b), average temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) in the 10 days before the collection (c) and average temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) in the 30 days before the collection (d). The black line represents the estimate of relation between variables obtained by generalized linear models. The different colors of functional groups (*Eucalyptus* and *Pinus*) are just for better views. No significant differences between the functional groups.



**Figure 5:** Relation between natural  $J_{\text{max}}/V_{\text{cmax}}$  and the precipitation (mm) in the 10 days before the collection (a); and average temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) in the 30 days before the collection (b). The black line represents the estimate of relation between variables obtained by generalized linear models. The different colors of functional groups (*Eucalyptus* and *Pinus*) are just for better views. No significant differences between the functional groups.

### 3.3 Climatic group and species influence on physiological variables

Comparing the physiological parameters in relation to climatic groups of eucalypt genotypes (subtropical and tropical) no significant differences were found ( $V_{\text{cmax}}$ ,  $J_{\text{max}}$  and  $J_{\text{max}}/V_{\text{cmax}}$ ). For species of the genus *Pinus* (*P. taeda* and *P. caribaea*), we found significant differences for the parameters. The parameters  $V_{\text{cmax}}$ ,  $J_{\text{max}}$  and  $J_{\text{max}}/V_{\text{cmax}}$  were higher in *P. taeda* than *P. caribaea* (Table 6).

**Table 6:** Average values and standard errors obtained by *Lsmeans* for physiological variables in categories of each functional group. Treatments followed by the same letter in the columns are not significantly different according to LsMeans test at 0.05 of significance level. Original data of  $V_{\text{cmax}}$  and  $J_{\text{max}}$  were transformed by natural logarithm to be analyzed, but the estimated means were transformed back to be present in this table.

Group	Category	$V_{\text{cmax}} (\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1})$	$J_{\text{max}} (\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1})$	$J_{\text{max}} / V_{\text{cmax}}$
Eucalyptus	Subtropical	$99.0 \pm 16.96 \text{ a}$	$186 \pm 28.2 \text{ a}$	$1.86 \pm 0.18 \text{ a}$
	Tropical	$84.2 \pm 7.61 \text{ a}$	$146 \pm 10.6 \text{ a}$	$1.82 \pm 0.11 \text{ a}$
Pinus	<i>P. taeda</i>	$43.8 \pm 5.04 \text{ a}$	$101.5 \pm 11.7 \text{ a}$	$2.22 \pm 0.21 \text{ a}$
	<i>P. caribaea</i>	$34.9 \pm 4.00 \text{ b}$	$73.1 \pm 1.99 \text{ b}$	$2.04 \pm 0.21 \text{ b}$

## 4. Discussion

### 4.1 Intergroup differences in photosynthetic biochemistry

We investigated the photosynthetic capacity of the eucalypt and pine group in a dataset from several experiments under field conditions in Brazil, and found clear differences in parameters Vcmax, Jmax and Jmax/Vcmax between groups. There are several factors that correlate with variations in photosynthetic parameters, including temperature (KATTGE; KNORR, 2007), CO<sub>2</sub> concentration (AINSWORTH; LONG, 2005), light gradient (Niinemets et al., 1999), phenology (WU et al., 2017), leaf age (ALBERT et al., 2018) and characteristics of plant functional groups, for example genotype or species (MEDLYN et al., 2002; LIN et al., 2013). These factors are typically associated with variation in leaf nitrogen content (LIN et al., 2013; ROGERS, 2013; MEDLYN et al., 1999), leaf physiology of each functional group and photosynthetic capacity, which can be altered by enzyme activation states and other processes (REICH et al., 1991, STINZIANO et al., 2017; VON CAEMMERER, 2000).

The eucalypt group had an average of Vcmax = 89.5 µmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and Jmax = 153.3 µmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, values higher than the pine group (Vcmax = 43.7 µmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and Jmax = 79.2 µmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) (Table 2). The differences in the parameters of the eucalypt and pine groups confirm the need to always use specific parameters for functional groups in the modeling of planted forests. Differences between functional groups have also been observed in other studies (KATTGE; KNORR, 2009, MEDLYN et al., 2002).

The higher rates in eucalypt group parameters are likely explained by differences in leaf nitrogen content. Vcmax and Jmax have positive correlations with soil nutrients P and N, widely used in Eucalyptus planted forests (BAHAR et al., 2016; WALKER et al., 2014). Higher rates of Vcmax and Jmax were found in *Eucalyptus* species with higher leaf nitrogen (LIN et al., 2013, HÉROULT et al., 2013).

The variations in leaf and soil P play a key role in modulating the photosynthetic capacity. Studies shows reduced Vcmax and reduced N allocation to Rubisco under P-limited conditions (WARREN; ADAMS, 2002; BAHAR et al., 2016). Differences in leaf traits such as leaf chlorophyll concentration and leaf mass per area also are related to photosynthetic capacity (SONG et al., 2021).

Conifers and angiosperms differ in a variety of vegetative traits, for example, stomatal densities and gas exchange (LUSK et al., 2003). Lusk et al. (2003) revealed that when

angiosperms and conifers were compared to a common leaf nitrogen concentration, a large difference in photosynthetic capacity per unit leaf mass was found, indicating that the angiosperms obtained a higher rate of photosynthetic return per unit of biomass or mole of nitrogen invested in leaf tissue. The differences in photosynthetic performance of evergreen angiosperms and conifers were partly attributable to variation in stomatal conductance. Conifer xylem typically has a lower specific conductivity than angiosperm xylem, as a result of greater hydraulic resistance in narrow-diameter tracheids than in vessels (WANG et al., 1992; CASTRO-DIEZ et al., 1998; LUSK et al. 2003). Evergreen conifers and angiosperms therefore do appear to show co-ordinated differences in photosynthetic, stomatal and vascular traits (LUSK et al., 2003). According to the authors although photosynthetic differences can be partly explained by differences in leaf thickness, they may also be linked to greater hydraulic capacity of vessels, enabling angiosperms to develop higher stomatal conductance and sustain higher transpiration rates

#### **4.2 Climatic influence on physiological variables**

The parameter  $V_{cmax}$  was positively associated  $Prec_{10}$ , and  $J_{max}$  was associated positively with all climatic variables ( $Prec_{10}$ ,  $Prec_{30}$ ,  $T_{mean10}$  and  $T_{mean30}$ ). Despite both parameters was influenced by  $Prec_{10}$ , the  $J_{max}$  was more sensitive to climate variables. These results indicated an increase in photosynthetic capacity by  $J_{max}$  with an increase in growth temperature and an increase in the precipitation rate before gas exchange measurements ( $Prec_{10}$ ). Environmental variables including temperature, water availability, and light influence the photosynthesis process (SMITH; DUKE, 2018). Therefore, it is essential to understand how biotic and abiotic factors can be incorporated into global modeling studies. Previous studies show that temperature and water availability influence plant physiological performance at multiple spatial and temporal scales (STEFANSKI et al., 2019; SMITH; DUKE, 2018; KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2018; WANG et al., 2017).

The higher rates of  $V_{cmax}$  and  $J_{max}$  in response to  $Prec_{10}$  suggest that photosynthesis capacity were affected by changes in short-term climatic variables. It is known that photosynthetic rates are not only determined by biochemical processes, but also by the stomatal conductance to  $CO_2$  (MEDLYN et al., 2002). The higher rates of  $V_{cmax}$  and  $J_{max}$  in response to increased precipitation is likely explained by water availability that resulted in lower water stress and consequently greater stomatal opening, even at high temperatures. Some studies indicating that drought decreases both  $V_{cmax}$  and  $J_{max}$  (GE et al., 2012; SMITH; DUKES,

2018) and others showing that plants in both wet and dry conditions showed that Jmax and Vcmax decrease with subsequent soil drying (MARTIN-ST.PAUL et al., 2012)

Reich et al. (2018), studied effects of climate warming on photosynthesis in boreal tree species revealed that in moist soils, the angiosperm species showed higher maximum carboxylation capacity at 25 °C (Vcmax-25) when grown at increased temperature compared to ambient temperatures. This higher maximum carboxylation capacity in well-watered, warmed angiosperms assessed at a standardized temperature is indicative of an acclimation response (upregulation of Vcmax-25) to growth in elevated temperatures. In moist soils, the species had strong increases in Anet and gs in warmed conditions likely because of both higher carboxylation capacity (greater Vcmax-25) and higher carbon demand for photosynthate and warmed plants had a photosynthetic advantage because of less biochemical limitation (that is, higher Vcmax). Overall, warming stimulates photosynthesis in moist soils, but not otherwise. The likely mechanisms suggest that warmed plants did not have greater stomatal sensitivity to soil water deficits as such.

With changes in growth temperature many plants show considerable phenotypic plasticity in their photosynthetic characteristics (HIKOSAKA et al., 2005). What must be understood is that the interaction between water availability must be considered when assessing the photosynthetic capacity response to acclimation (SMITH; Duke, 2018). In our study, we did not evaluate photosynthesis under drought conditions, we investigated the influence of short-term climatic variables, growth temperature and precipitation as a metric of water availability on the photosynthetic capacity of the eucalypt and pine functional groups. Evidence that changes in the temperature response of photosynthesis are mainly driven by the acclimation of photosynthetic biochemistry to growth temperature was provided in the studies by KUMARATHUNGE et al. (2019). However, these authors, found no detectable correlation between T° growth and rate of Vcmax, but the rate of Jmax showed a strong decrease.

Smith and Duke (2018) revealed that warmer temperatures could decrease photosynthetic capacity, especially during times of low water availability. Our analysis contradicts this result, revealing higher values of Jmax at higher temperatures and under higher precipitation rates. Our hypothesis is that the increase of Jmax was influenced by the natural association of the growth temperature and water availability variables, since the parameters responded positively to the increase in precipitation (Prec<sub>10</sub>, Prec<sub>30</sub>) (Fig. 4a; 4b)

Higher temperatures increase transpirational demand for water, which can only be met if water is available (SMITH; DUKE, 2018; HATFIELD; PRUEGER 2015). Dry conditions

lead to greater downregulation under high temperatures resulting in decrease photosynthetic capacity (SMITH; DUKE, 2018). Our results revealed that there was no down-regulation of photosynthetic capacity under warmer temperatures, because precipitation before gas exchange measurements (10 and 30 days) influenced soil moisture and water availability for plants. Thus, the higher growth temperatures together with the high precipitation showed an up-regulation, reflecting in greater photosynthetic capacity.

The  $J_{max}/V_{cmax}$  ratio was negatively influenced by  $Prec_{10}$  and positively influenced by  $T_{mean30}$  (Figure 5; Table 5). The increase in the  $J_{max}/V_{cmax}$  ratio in response to growth temperature ( $T_{mean30}$ ) was driven by the increase in  $J_{max}$  at higher growth temperatures. A higher  $J_{max}/V_{cmax}$  ratio suggests a greater allocation of resources for electron transport in relation to carboxylation (SMITH; DUKE, 2018).

The reduction of  $J_{max}/V_{cmax}$  at higher precipitation values is correlated with the increase in photosynthetic capacity by  $V_{cmax}$  in response to water availability. The precipitation positively influenced both  $V_{cmax}$  and  $J_{max}$  (Fig. 3 - a; Fig. 4 - a and b). However, the reduction of  $J_{max}/V_{cmax}$  in response to precipitation may have been more impacted by the  $V_{cmax}$  parameter (see coefficients in Table 5).

Water availability influences stomatal processes, favoring the transport of  $CO_2$ , which may have resulted in higher Rubisco carboxylation ( $V_{cmax}$ ) in relation to electron transport ( $J_{max}$ ). Probably,  $V_{cmax}$  did not experience a non-biochemical limitation, for example, stomatal closure, in conditions with greater precipitation. Rubisco carboxylation ( $V_{cmax}$ ) is limited by the supply of  $CO_2$ , for which the stomata are primarily responsible (STENFANSKI et al., 2019). The  $J_{max}$  is mainly limited by the rate of electron transport regulated by the light intensity (STENFANSKI et al., 2019; SHARKEY et al., 2007).

There is a discrepancy between our results and studies that found a decrease in the  $J_{max}/V_{cmax}$  ratio at higher growth temperatures (KATTGE; KNORR, 2009, MEDLYN et al., 2002). Photosynthetic acclimation to temperature appears to be species-specific and plant functional type (PFTs) (SCAFARO et al., 2017). Although photosynthesis is highly sensitive to temperature changes, which is driven by the temperature sensitivity of  $V_{cmax}$  and  $J_{max}$  and the large body of research on this subject, the effect of increasing temperature in both the short and long term on the biochemical limitations of photosynthesis is not yet fully clear or generalizable (KATTGE; KNORR, 2007; STENFANSKI et al., 2019).

### 4.3 Age influence

We found evidence that age positively influences the photosynthetic parameters of pine and eucalypt group. Older forests showed an increasing trend in Jmax ((Fig. 3–b; Table 5). These differences can be attributed to nutrient content in leaves and differences in light availability within the stand. In addition to nitrogen being strongly correlated with photosynthetic capacity as previously mentioned (STINZIANO et al., 2017), other nutrients such as potassium also demonstrated a positive effect on the photosynthetic parameters of planted forests (CHRISTINA et al., 2015; BATTIE-LACLAU et al., 2013).

Increased photosynthetic capacity is also related to canopy and stand scale variables (BINKLEY et al., 2010). The plant's architecture changes throughout the development cycle with variation in the canopy and consequently in gas exchange. Modifications in leaf size, leaf area per tree, leaf area index, spatial distribution of leaf area in the canopy, leaf inclination angles, optical properties and crown dimensions result in different light and carbon absorption capacities (LE MAIRE et al., 2019; TARVAINEN et al., 2016). These differences result in variations in APAR and LUE, and influence the photosynthetic capacity of plants. Canopy-scale variables like leaf area index in conjunction with the Vcmax parameter have already been incorporated into vegetation models, aiming to more accurately estimate carbon and water fluxes (WANG *et al.*, 2019).

Studies in eucalypt stands showed that LUE increased with age (Le Maire et al., 2019). Older Forests probably acquired strategies that resulted in a higher LUE, so they tended to increase in Jmax. Our results corroborate the study by Smith and Duke (2018), when evaluating the drivers of photosynthesis, also reported that adult trees tend to have greater photosynthetic capacity than juvenile trees, possibly as a result of differences in light availability. Plants or leaves grown in high light environments have greater photosynthetic capacity than those grown in low light environments (BOARDMAN, 1977; NIINEMETS et al., 2014; SMITH; DUKES, 2018).

On the other hand, our results diverge from those found by Delzon et al. (2005). When evaluating the photosynthetic capacity in conifer stands at different ages (10, 32, 54 and 91 years), they reported that the parameters Vcmax and Jmax did not show any change with increasing age, however, the authors observed that the 32 years stand old had higher Vcmax, suggesting that photosynthetic capacity may be higher at younger stages due to initial fertilization. Although our results suggest that age is a variable that influences the tree's photosynthetic capacity in the forest stand, further studies should be conducted to investigate

whether the variable should be considered in terrestrial system models. Although our results suggest that age is a variable that influences photosynthetic capacity, more studies should be conducted to investigate whether the variable should be considered in Earth system models.

Our dataset has data from eucalypt experiments with age ranges ranging from 12 months to 84 months, whereas the dataset for the pine group has only two ages 36 and 60 months (Table 1). Although both groups responded in a similar way (positive age influence) more studies should be conducted in the pine group with different ages. In order to have more conclusive results with the conifer group, it is ideal that the data have a greater range of ages. Assessing the photosynthetic capacity along a growth rotation in planted forests deserves attention to understand the mechanisms that drive the variability in photosynthetic parameters.

#### **4.4 Climatic group and species influence on parameters**

We found no significant differences between subtropical and tropical climate types for genotypes of the eucalypt group (Table 6). Based on evidence that suggests many species are adapted to their thermal environment of origin, (BERRY; BJORKMAN, 1980), our hypothesis was that species of cool-origin of genus eucalypt have greater photosynthetic than species of warm-origin. However, our hypothesis was not confirmed for eucalyptus genotypes of tropical origin planted under environmental conditions in Brazil.

Although the species are adapted to the climate of origin, these species too exhibit the capacity to adjust the temporal variations in the temperature of their environment (KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019; VALLADARES et al., 2014). Therefore, it is essential to study the acclimatization and adaptation processes and their contribution to vegetation modeling studies. In contrast to our studies, which revealed that genotypes of subtropical origin had photosynthetic capacity similar to tropical genotypes, Lin et al. (2013) found significantly higher  $V_{cmax}$  and  $J_{max}$  rates in species originating from warm climates than in species from cold weather.

The non-significant difference in photosynthetic capacity between tropical and subtropical groups of the eucalypt may be related to short-term acclimatization processes, as well as long-term processes, such as genetic adaptation of species (KUMARATHUNGE et al., 2019; YAMORI et al., 2014; ). Could be a thermal adaptation of the tropical group to the environmental conditions of Brazil, resulting in a photosynthetic capacity similar to the subtropical group. Since adaptation is a process that takes many generations to occur

(Kumarathunge et al., 2019). Given the complexity of the photosynthesis temperature response and little information on a global scale (MERCADO et al., 2018; STINZIANO et al., 2017b) we suggest a better investigation of the acclimation and adaptation process of genotypes of eucalyptus in Brazil.

We testes differ among species of pine and found significant differences in the photosynthetic capacity of species from the pine group (*P. taeda* and *P. caribaea*) (Table 6). The parameters Vcmax, Jmax and the Jmax/Vcmax ratio were higher for *P. taeda* (Table 6). The rates of Vcmax ( $43.8 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and Jmax ( $101.5 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) for *P. taeda* in Brazilian stands were higher than the values found by Aspinwall et al. (2011) in forests in North Carolina (Vcmax:  $19.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  and Jmax:  $23.0 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ). The Vcmax and Jmax values of *P. taeda* (Vcmax:  $43.8 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ; Jmax  $101.5 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and *P. caribaea* (Vcmax:  $34.9 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ; Jmax:  $73.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) found in this study, also differed from the values of other species of the genus *Pinus*, for example *Pinus densiflora* (Vcmax:  $61.6 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ; Jmax:  $91.0 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ), *Pinus sylvestris* (Vcmax:  $87 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ; Jmax:  $146 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ); *Pinus radiata* (Vcmax:  $34.4 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ; Jmax:  $75.4 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) (HAN, 2011; TAVAINEN et al., 2016; BOWN et al., 2009). As mentioned above, the species have different photosynthetic characteristics, so it is essential for studies to make available data on forest species, to expand databases of parameters used in terrestrial system models.

Studies suggest that anatomical changes such as needle length and number of needles per fascicle are correlated with the physiological capacity of the leaves of species of the genus *Pinus* (INGWERS et al., 2016; WANG et al., 2019b). *Pinus taeda* usually has 3 needles per fascicle, however fascicles with two, four and five needles are also found (INGWERS et al., 2016). Investigating the photosynthetic capacity of needles in *P. taeda*, Ingwers et al. (2016) reported that Vcmax was significantly higher in needles of fascicles that had four needles than needles that belonged to fascicles with three leaves. These differences in Vcmax can be explained by the higher concentration of nitrogen in the leaf, although these relationships still remain uncertain (HAN, 2011; INGWERS et al., 2016). Assessing the influence of morphological characteristics of species of the *Pinus* genus on photosynthetic capacity should be better represented in modeling studies.

## 5. Conclusion

Our results suggest that the photosynthetic capacity of planted forests in Brazil has differences between functional groups. The parameters Vcmax, Jmax, and the Jmax/Vcmax ratio were higher in eucalypt than pine. The differences in photosynthetic capacity between groups can be related to differences in vegetative traits, for example, stomatal densities and gas exchange and leaf traits such as leaf chlorophyll concentration and leaf mass per area. The short-term climate through the variables growth temperature and precipitation at 10 and 30 days before data collection influenced the photosynthetic parameters, suggesting acclimation of leaf photosynthesis. Although the age of the population influences the photosynthetic capacity along the rotation, we suggest that more studies be carried out, mainly for the conifer group. We found evidence that the climatic groups of eucalypt do not show differences in photosynthetic capacity, demonstrating an adaptation of genotypes from the tropical group to environmental conditions in Brazil. *Pinus taeda* showed superiority in relation to *Pinus caribaea*. The values of parameters Vcmax, Jmax and Jmax/Vcmax found in this work expand the database of photosynthetic parameters and can be widely used in modeling studies of planted forests in Brazil.

## 6. Acknowledgements

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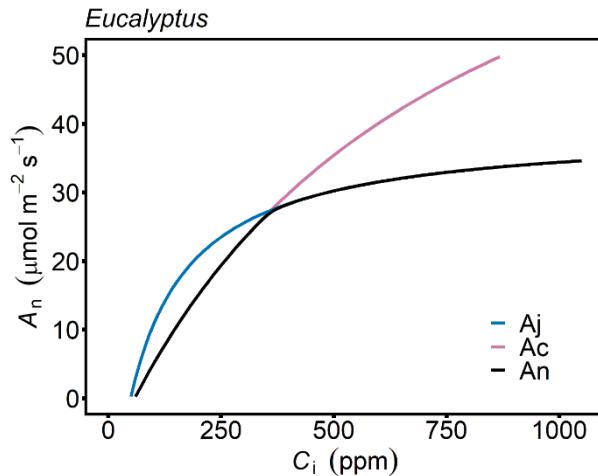
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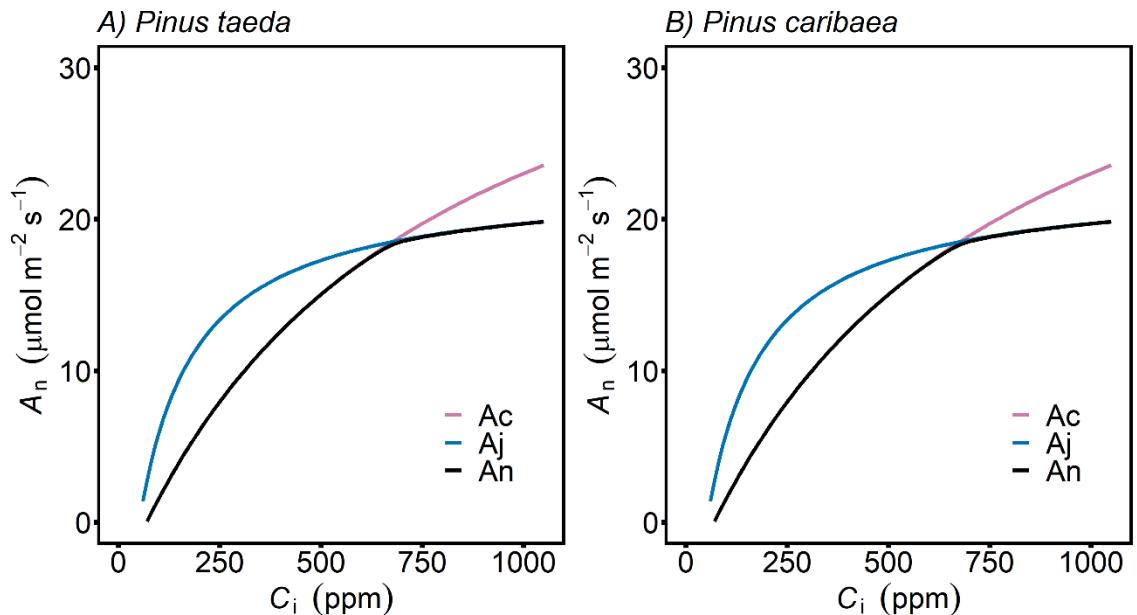
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## 8. Supplementary material

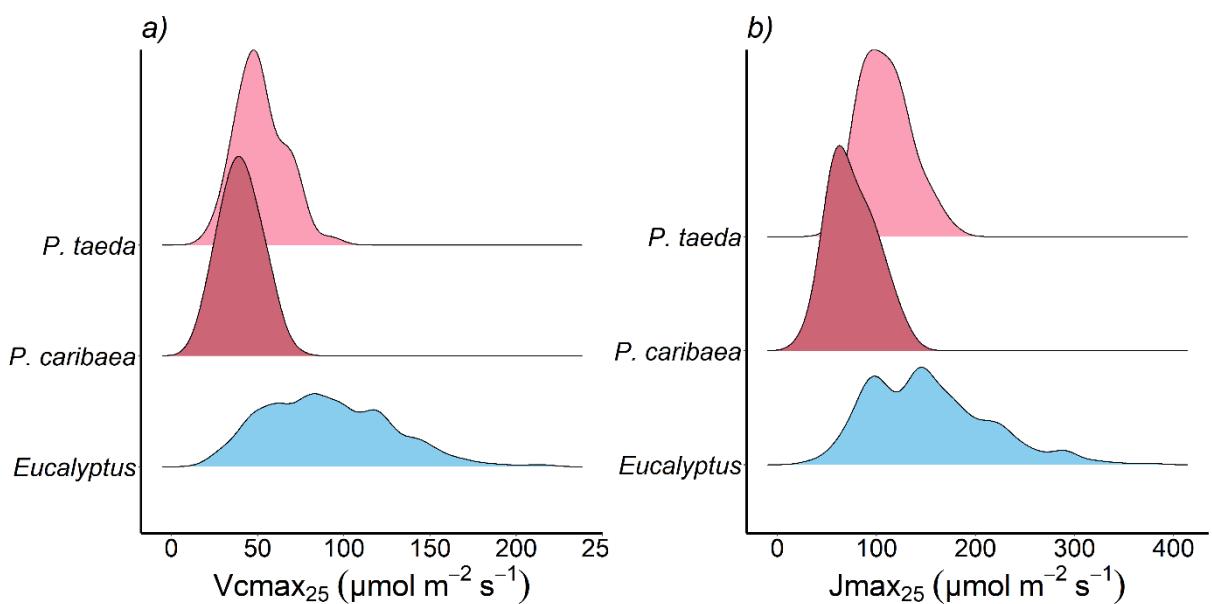


**Figure 6:** CO<sub>2</sub> response curve as modelled with the FvCB model to *Eucalyptus* genus. No significant differences were found between climatic groups (tropical and subtropical) **An**: Net rate of CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation; **Ac**: The assimilation rate limited by Rubisco activity, **Aj**: The

assimilation rate limited by electron transport (regeneration of ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate, RuBP).



**Figure 7:** CO<sub>2</sub> response curve as modelled with the FvCB model to *Pinus* species. a) *Pinus taeda*; b) *Pinus caribaea*. **An**: Net rate of CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation; **Ac**: The assimilation rate limited by Rubisco activity, **Aj**: The assimilation rate limited by electron transport (Regeneration of ribulose-1, 5-bisphosphate, RuBP).



**Figura 8.** a) Distribution of the Vcmax for *Pinus taeda*, *Pinus caribaea* and *Eucalyptus*. b) Distribution of the Jmax for *Pinus taeda*, *Pinus caribaea* and *Eucalyptus*. Vcmax e Jmax standardized at 25 °C.

**Tabela 7.** Details of the number of curves in each data set, fitted curves and curves eliminated by verification criteria

ID	Genotype	Initial curves	Adjusted curves	Eliminated curves	(%)
1	<i>E.grandis</i>	37	30	7	19
2	<i>E.grandis</i>	7	7	0	0
3	<i>E.spp</i>	49	15	34	69
4	<i>E. grandis x E. urophylla</i>	8	7	1	12
5	<i>E.grandis</i>	9	8	1	11
6	<i>E.grandis</i>	36	35	1	3
7	<i>E.grandis</i>	72	66	6	8
8	<i>E.grandis</i>	72	65	7	10
9	<i>E.grandis</i>	28	21	7	25
10	<i>E. spp</i>	24	24	0	0
11	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	57	50	7	12.
12	<i>P.taeda</i>	48	47	1	2
13	<i>P.caribaea</i>	56	56	0	0
14	<i>P.taeda</i>	7	4	3	43
15	<i>P.caribaea</i>	25	12	13	52
Total		<b>535</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>16</b>

ID: identification of each experiment

Vcmax: maximum carboxylation rate of the Rubisco enzyme

Jmax: maximum electron transport rate

SE: error estimate of Vcmax and Jmax parameters

Range: range of parameters for the dataset

Jmax/Vcmax: Jmax and Vcmax ratio

**Table 8.** Estimates of the parameters Vcmax, Jmax standardized at 25 °C the error estimate (SE), data range and the Jmax/Vmax ratio for each dataset that make up the database.

ID	Nº of curves	Genotype	Vcmax	SE(Vcmax)	Range(Vcmax)	Jmax	SE(Jmax)	Range (Jmax)	Jmax/Vcmax
1	7	<i>E.grandis</i>	97.12	3.25	49.64 - 140.61	170.53	3.83	90.27 - 230.31	1.79
2	30	<i>E.grandis</i>	105.99	5.46	47.94 - 153.24	168.32	8.68	84.15 - 217.64	1.63
3	15	<i>E.spp</i>	132.50	34.84	91.97 - 172.55	183.72	16.50	139.58 - 237.01	1.42
4	7	<i>E. grandis x E. urophylla</i>	113.39	17.15	70.72 - 141.62	277.11	32.60	124.59 - 377.44	2.43
5	8	<i>E.grandis</i>	64.53	5.80	48.73 - 86.62	129.52	6.35	104.72 - 152.56	2.03
6	35	<i>E.grandis</i>	93.30	6.32	36.71 - 158.87	153.70	4.21	54.79 - 347.29	1.65
7	66	<i>E.grandis</i>	75.75	7.83	25.64 - 130.00	134.18	4.23	35.91 - 254.53	1.80
8	65	<i>E.grandis</i>	110.09	19.96	34.41 - 217.64	157.70	3.11	68.00 - 284.09	1.47
9	21	<i>E.grandis</i>	60.38	17.39	26.63 - 83.51	95.59	10.09	52.78 - 150.51	1.64
10	24	<i>E. spp</i>	61.50	3.71	26.97 - 97.14	122.29	4.03	65.22 - 173.32	2.07
11	50	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	90.18	3.91	18.76 - 209.51	180.30	5.67	30.35 - 316.91	2.04
12	47	<i>P.taeda</i>	52.39	2.34	24.89 - 92.36	108.24	2.88	61.10 - 174.33	2.12
13	56	<i>P.caribaea</i>	42.00	4.04	20.14 - 69.58	80.69	3.52	34.62 - 132.31	1.96
14	4	<i>P.taeda</i>	44.16	1.04	38.93 - 46.82	118.17	3.14	109.96 - 130.91	2.69
15	12	<i>P.caribaea</i>	30.85	3.54	15.10 - 54.98	51.50	3.28	26.68 - 71.36	1.74

**ARTIGO 2 - COMPARING OF STOMATAL CONDUCTANCE MODELS IN  
BRAZILIAN FOREST PLANTATIONS**

## Comparing of stomatal conductance models in Brazilian forest plantations

**Abstract:** Several leaf-level models have been developed to model stomatal conductance ( $gs$ ) in response to environmental factors such as CO<sub>2</sub>, light, temperature, vapor pressure deficit. We studied the applicability of three common stomatal conductance models including Ball-Woodrow-Berry (BB), Ball-Berry-Leuning (BBL) and unified stomatal optimization (USO) models to identify the best model using data obtained from planted forests in Brazil, in addition to analyzing how stomatal conductance and water use efficiency vary between functional groups (angiosperm and gymnosperm) and between eucalyptus genotypes. The BBL and USO models performed better comparing to BB model. Both the USO model and the BBL model showed good fits ( $R^2$  ranging from 0.41 to 0.95) with the evaluated metrics. From 22 genotypes tested, three did not fit the BBL model. The USO model had good metrics and fit all datasets. The species of the pine group had the highest slope parameter of  $gs$  model ( $g_1$ ) and, consequently, the lowest efficiency in water use when compared to eucalyptus group. Eucalyptus genotypes showed differences in stomatal responses, indicating that in addition to the genotype characteristics, local climatic conditions may also have influenced the variation in  $g_1$ .

### 1. Introduction

Stomata regulate the exchange of carbon and water between plants and the atmosphere (COWAN; FARQUHAR, 1977; WU et al., 2019; MEDLYN et al., 2011; BUCKLEY, 2019), and play a critical role in leaf physiology, balancing the need for photosynthetic CO<sub>2</sub> uptake against the need to control water loss from leaves (HÉROULT et al., 2013; KATUL, LEUNING; OREN 2003). Additionally, at large scales, control of stomatal aperture regulates regional and global biogeochemical cycles of carbon, water, and energy, and influences the climate through vegetation-mediated climate feedbacks (LIN et al., 2015; WU et al., 2019). Stomatal conductance has been a topic of plant ecophysiological research because it affects water use efficiency (WUE), plant growth, vegetation distribution and ecosystem function and ultimately plant productivity (MEDLYN et al., 2011; WANG et al., 2018).

Understanding the WUE is helpful to forecasting the responses of terrestrial vegetation to global climate change and to the adoption of adaptive strategies (LI et al., 2019). Models that simulate stomatal conductance have become the most effective and appropriate tools for

studying this important physiological process activity (MEDLYN *et al.*, 2011). Several leaf-level models have been developed to model stomatal conductance ( $gs$ ) in response to environmental factors such as  $\text{CO}_2$ , light, temperature (Jarvis, 1976), relative humidity (BALL *et al.*, 1987), VPD (LEUNING, 1995), and soil hydraulic potential (TUZET *et al.*, 2003). A review conducted by Damour *et al.* (2010) highlighted more than 30 stomatal conductance models developed. The  $gs$  models are basically divided into three approaches: empirical (data-based); mechanistic (process-based); and economic optimization (optimization-based) (DAMOUR *et al.*, 2010; BUCKLEY; MOTT, 2013; LU *et al.*, 2018).

Three previously models of  $gs$  are widely used in forestry research (FRANK *et al.*, 2018; LIN *et al.*, 2013; BONAN *et al.*, 2014; MEDLYN *et al.*, 2017). These include the phenomenological Ball–Berry (BB; BALL; WOODROW; BERRY, 1987), Ball–Berry–Leuning (BBL; LEUNING, 1995) models, and the optimality-based unified stomatal optimization model (USO; MEDLYN *et al.*, 2011). Ball *et al.* (1987) developed one of the most commonly used models of  $gs$ , known as BB or BWB (DAMON *et al.*, 2010). The BB method assumes that stomatal conductance is strongly correlated with assimilation rate (WONG *et al.*, 1979) because stomata open and close to keep a nearly constant ratio between intercellular and ambient  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration (HOSHIKA *et al.*, 2017). This ratio may vary with atmospheric humidity. Therefore, Ball *et al.* (1987) elaborated a model that links stomatal conductance to leaf photosynthesis, vapor pressure deficit, and  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration at the leaf surface (Hoshika *et al.*, 2017). The BB model is classified as a semi-empirical model approach i.e. built on physiological hypotheses but still combined with empirical functions (DAMOUR *et al.*, 2010).

The BBL model was developed from modifications to the BB model equation. Leuning (1995) modified the equation incorporating an empirical dependence on leaf-to-air vapor pressure deficit (VPD) to a proxy for transpiration. An alternative to the BB and BBL semi-empirical approach models is the optimal stomatal conductance model (USO) proposed by Medlyn *et al.* (2011). The USO model is based on a theory of optimal stomatal behavior was developed by Cowan & Farquhar (1977). This theory postulates that stomata should act to maximize carbon gain (photosynthesis, A) while minimizing water loss (transpiration, E). These models are widely used because they are straightforward to parameterize from leaf-scale data, are easy to implement at large scales (MEDLYN *et al.*, 2011).

The representation of stomatal conductance ( $gs$ ) is a fundamental component of Earth system models (ESMs) and Process-based models (PBMs). Earth system models (ESMs) are essential tools for understanding and predicting the global implications of large-scale

environmental perturbations (FRANKS et al., 2018; BONAN; DONEY, 2018). These models integrate biogeochemical and biogeophysical land-surface processes with physical climate models. Within the biogeophysical components of land-surface processes,  $gs$  plays a pivotal role because it is a key feedback route for carbon and water exchange between the atmosphere and terrestrial vegetation. Process-based models (PBMs) are used to understand how plants respond to environmental change and can be used as a research tool to clarify interactions among environmental drivers, plant and canopy structure, leaf physiology, and soil water availability and their combined effects on water use and carbon uptake (MEDLYN et al., 2012; WILLIAMS et al., 2001). The BB, BBL and USO models are the most used in ESMs and PBMs, however each model prefers a stomatal conductance model based on the approach.

Many ESMs at present use an empirical stomatal model to predict  $gs$ , for example, the CABLE model (WANG et al., 2011) uses the empirical stomatal model of Ball-Berry-Leuning (1995) but has been tested with the USO model (DE KAUWE et al., 2015b), the CLM 4.0 (OLESON et al., 2013) model uses the empirical stomatal model of Ball et al. (1987), the MAESPA (DUURSMA; MEDLYN, 2012) has the option to use the three models (BB, BBL and USO). Moreover, Studies have revealed that the accuracy of stomatal conductance models is affected by the plant species, test regions, environmental conditions, and time scales (GAO et al., 2016; WU et al., 2019, WANG et al., 2014; HÉROULT et al., 2013). Thus, selecting an appropriate stomatal conductance model based on the existing research data can be problematic (WANG et al., 2014; WANG et al., 2018).

Brazil is a world reference for forest plantation productivity, with high annual production volumes of wood per area and a short cycle. In 2020, the total area of planted trees totaled 9.55 million hectares, with the majority of planted trees were eucalyptus species, with 78% of the area and 7.47 million hectares, and 18% pine species with 1.7 million hectares (IBA, 2021). However, studies of modeling the stomatal conductance of planted forests in Brazil are still incipient, so it is necessary and fundamental to develop studies that aim to obtain physiological parameters explaining the stomatal behavior and water use efficiency under environmental conditions in Brazil.

In this study, we compiled a database of eucalypt and pine measurements of  $gs$  and photosynthesis suitable for estimating model parameters. We employed models of stomatal conductance to obtain parameters that can be used in ESMs and PBMs models. The goal of this study was to compare the performance of three stomatal conductance models (BB, BBL and

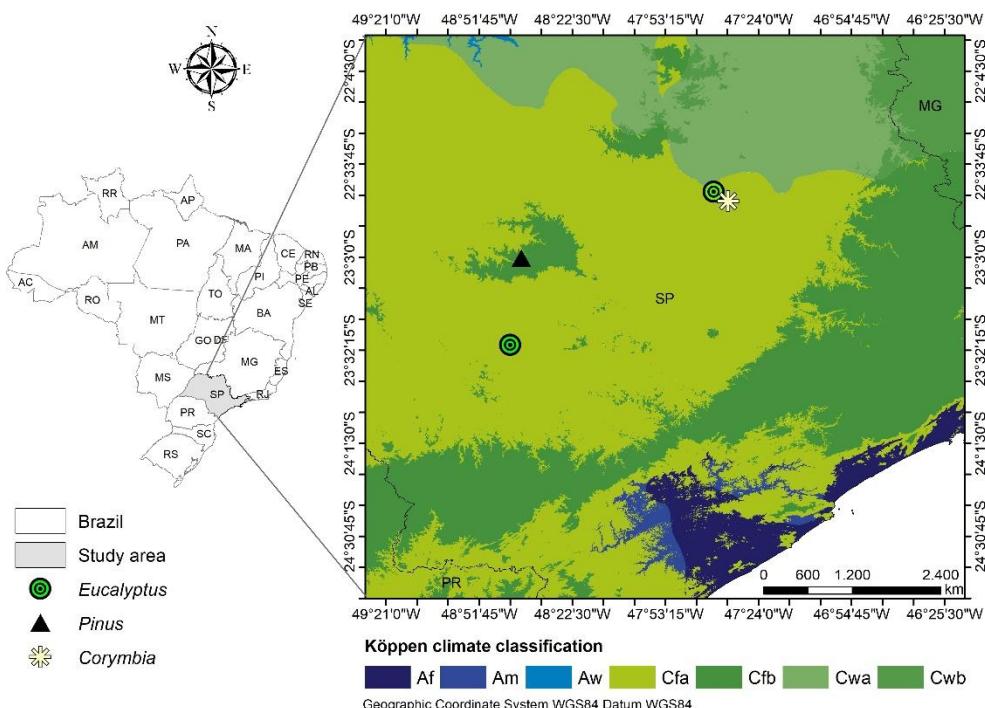
USO), and explore the underlying response of stomatal conductance should vary between functional groups (pine and eucalypt) in Brazilian forest plantations.

## 2. Material and Methods

### 2.1 Datasets

We combined leaf level gas exchange measurements from 22 genotypes covering 20 genotypes of *Eucalyptus* and 2 species of *Pinus* in Brazilian forest plantations. These data were taken from 4 experiments in São Paulo state, Brazil. Each experiment was carried independently, with different spacings, fertilization and specific silvicultural treatments. The Distribution of the experiments is on the map (Figure 1). The age of eucalypt genotypes ranged from 6 to 36 months. The age of pine species were 60 months. In most cases, measurements were under ambient field conditions except for one dataset obtained in nursery conditions (ID 3). These datasets were obtained through partnerships with projects that aim to study the ecophysiology of planted forests in Brazil.). Each genetic material was described by a clone code and sites/experiments were describes as ID. For more details on these sites as historic mean annual air temperature, rainfall, latitude, longitude see table 1.

**Figure1.** Map showing the location and distribution of experiments in São Paulo state - Brazil



## 2.2 Measurements of leaf gas exchange

Measurements of leaf stomatal conductance response to VPD (vapor pressure deficit) were made using the LI-6400 portable photosynthesis system (Li-Cor Inc., Lincoln, NE, USA). These data are measurements on upper-canopy leaves during the growing season. The 3–5 individuals for each clone were selected to measure leaf stomatal conductance response, with fully developed and sun-exposed leaves. The measurements were carried out between 8:00 am and 3:00pm in order to capture VPD variation throughout the day. The measurements were made under a wide range of environmental conditions on sunny days, with leaf temperatures ranging 18–36°C and VPD ranging from <1 to 5kPa.

## 2.3 Stomatal conductance models

The parameter  $g_1$  was estimated from leaf gas exchange data using three common models to describe the coupled  $gs$ –A relationship to environmental variables. The  $gs$  models fitted were described as BB, BBL e USO. We chose these models because they are the most used in ecophysiology studies, in addition to their simplicity, versatility, and broad success in LSMs.

The BB model (BALL et al., 1987) is formulated as follows:

$$(1) \quad g_s = g_0 + g_1 \left( \frac{A_n H_s}{C_a} \right)$$

where  $g_0$  and  $g_1$  are fitted parameters,  $A_n$  is net assimilation rate ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ),  $H_s$  is relative humidity at the leaf surface (dimensionless) and  $C_a$  is atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration at the leaf surface ( $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ).

The BBL model (LEUNING, 1995) is an alternative way to relate  $gs$  to the environment incorporating an empirical dependence on leaf-to-air vapor pressure deficit ( $D$ , kPa) as follows:

$$(2) \quad g_s = g_0 + g_1 \frac{A_n}{(C_a - \Gamma^*)(1 + \frac{D}{D_0})}$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the CO<sub>2</sub> compensation point of assimilation in the presence of dark respiration. This model has three empirically fitted parameters, g<sub>0</sub>, g<sub>1</sub> and D<sub>0</sub>.

The USO model as follows is an optimality model developed by Medlyn et al. (2011), with the slope parameter of g1.

$$(3) \quad g_s^* \approx 1.6 \left( 1 + \frac{g_1}{\sqrt{D}} \right) \frac{A}{C_a} + g_0$$

Where A is the net assimilation rate ( $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ), and C<sub>a</sub> ( $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$ ) and D (kPa) are the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and VPD at the leaf surface, respectively. The model parameter g1 (kPa<sup>0.5</sup>) represents normalized plant WUE.

## 2.4 Statistical analyses

We first tested each dataset for each of the three models of stomatal conductance (BB, BBL e USO) to estimate the parameter g1. We fitted these gs models using the *fitBB* function within the PLANTECOPHYS package (DUURSMA, 2015) in R version 4.1.0 (R Development Core Team, 2012). The fitBB function provides an interface to non-linear or linear regression to fit one of three stomatal conductance models. The R2 (coefficient of determination), root mean square error (RMSE) and Akaike information criterion (AIC) were used to evaluate the performance of models. The RMSE reflects the difference between simulated and measure. The smaller the value, the better the model's performance. The AIC can be used to compare the overall performance of the models with different numbers of parameters and give the ranking of the model simulation results. A smaller AIC value means a better simulation performance of model.

We selected model USO model to analyze the stomatal behavior across genotypes and the water use efficiency. The parameter g1 by USO model is a proxy for the efficiency of water use. We also calculated the slope parameter of the unified stomatal optimization model (USO; MEDLYN et al., 2011) for each genotype of dataset.

The regression slope between stomatal conductance (gs) and the USO model index ( $1.6 \times (A/C_a \times \sqrt{D})$ ) is almost linearly proportional to the stomatal slope of the USO model. For a given CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation rate (A), atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration (C<sub>a</sub>), and leaf-to-air vapor

pressure deficit ( $D$ ) a higher regression slope (and thus stomatal slope) means that plants maintain a higher  $g_s$  to keep the same photosynthetic rate. As such, the stomatal slope parameter is an indicator of intrinsic plant water use efficiency, and a greater stomatal slope equates to a lower intrinsic water use efficiency (WU et al., 2019)

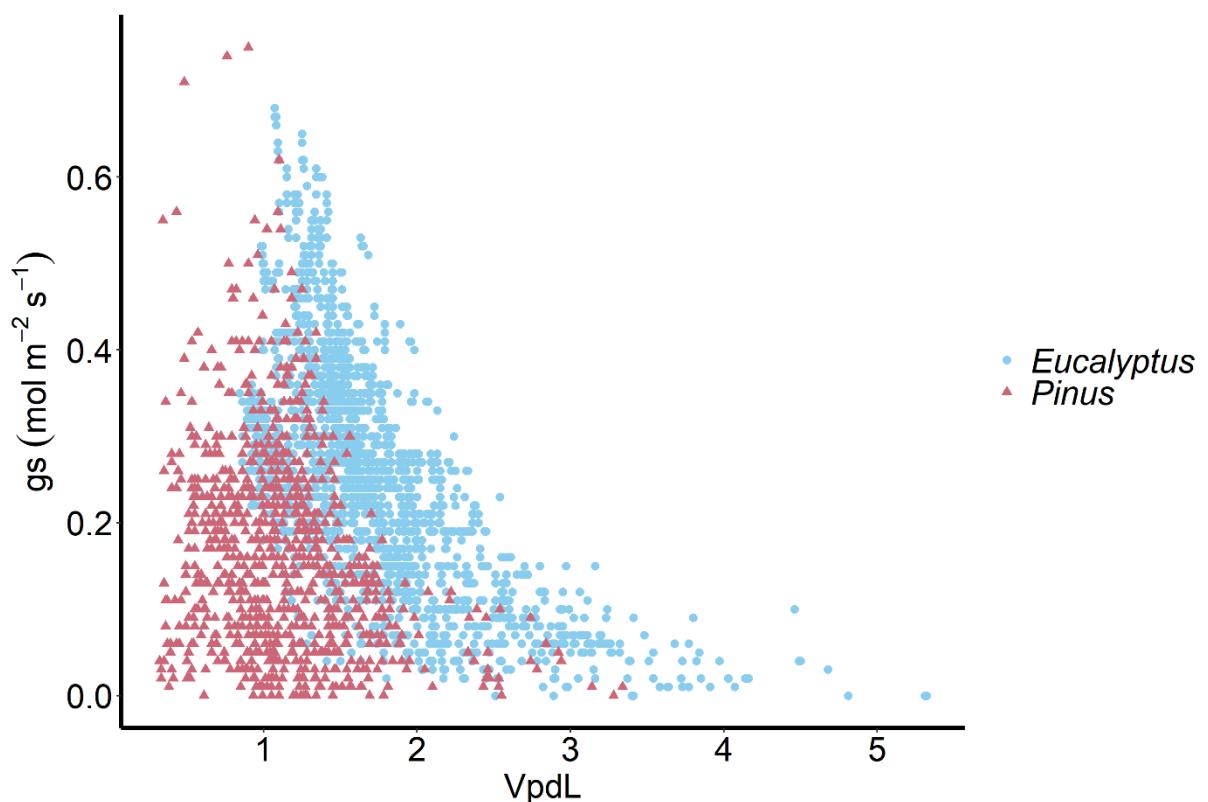
**Table 1.** Details of experimental data sets used in this study

Species/genotype	Clone	Experiment ID	Site of Location (city and state)	Age (months)	Condition	Tmean (C°)	Rainfall (mm)	Lat. (°S)	Long. (°W)	Reference
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E1	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	Field	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Marrichi et al. (2005)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E2	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	Field	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Marrichi et al. (2005)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E3	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	Field	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Marrichi et al. (2005)
<i>E.grandis</i> x <i>E.urophylla</i>	UG1	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	Field	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Marrichi et al. (2005)
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U1	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	Field	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Marrichi et al. (2005)
<i>E.grandis</i>	G1	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	Field	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Marrichi et al. (2005)
<i>E.grandis</i>	G2	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	Field	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Marrichi et al. (2005)
<i>E. grandis</i> x <i>E. camaldulensis</i>	GC	2	Buri-SP	14,7	Field	20.5	1180	-23,51	-48,7	Binkley et al. (2017)
<i>E. grandis</i> x <i>E. sp</i>	GS	2	Buri-SP	14,7	Field	20.5	1180	-23,51	-48,7	Binkley et al. (2017)
<i>E. grandis</i> x <i>E.urophylla</i>	UG2	2	Buri-SP	14,7	Field	20.5	1180	-23,51	-48,7	Binkley et al. (2017)
<i>E. grandis</i> x <i>E.urophylla</i>	UG3	2	Buri-SP	14,7	Field	20.5	1180	-23,51	-48,7	Binkley et al. (2017)
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U2	2	Buri-SP	14,7	Field	20.5	1180	-23,51	-48,7	Binkley et al. (2017)
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U3	2	Buri-SP	14,7	Field	20.5	1180	-23,51	-48,7	Binkley et al. (2017)
<i>E. urophylla</i> x <i>E. brassiana</i>	UB	2	Buri-SP	14,7	Field	20.5	1180	-23,51	-48,7	Binkley et al. (2017)
<i>E.urophylla</i> x <i>E.grandis</i>	UG4	3	Buri-SP	14,7	Field	20.5	1180	-23,51	-48,7	Binkley et al. (2017)
<i>E.urophylla</i>	U4	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	Nursery	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Unpublished data
<i>C. citriodora</i>	CC	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	Nursery	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Unpublished data
<i>E.crebra</i>	CB	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	Nursery	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Unpublished data
<i>E.grandis</i>	G3	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	Nursery	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Unpublished data
<i>E.longirostrata</i>	LG	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	Nursery	21.1	1253	-22,71	-47,63	Unpublished data
<i>P. caribaea</i>	PC	4	Itatinga -SP	60	Field	22,5	1350	-23,05	-48,64	Carneiro, (2013)
<i>P. taeda</i>	PT	4	Itatinga -SP	60	Field	22,5	1350	-23,05	-48,64	Carneiro, (2013)

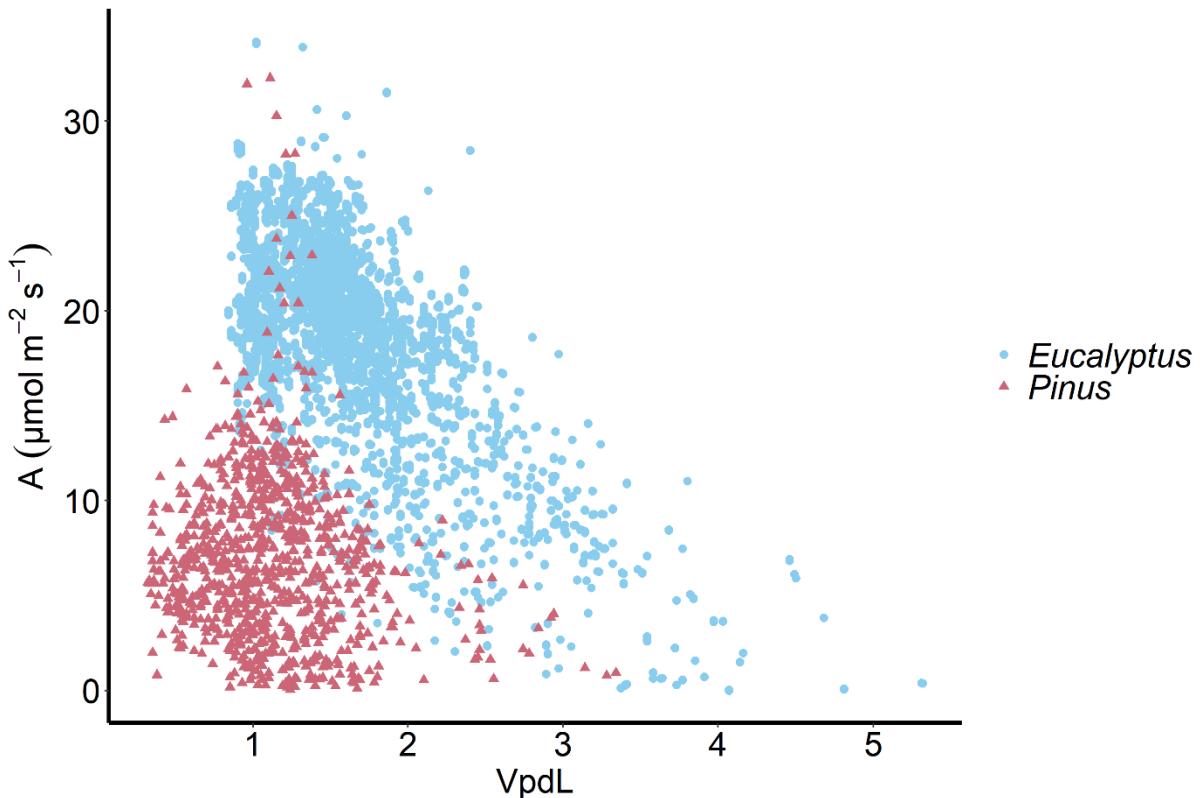
### 3. Results

#### 3.1 Leaf gas exchange

Stomatal conductance ( $gs$ ) and photosynthesis (A) was coupled with VpdL for 20 *Eucalyptus* genotypes and 2 species of *Pinus* (Figure 1 and 2). The leaf gas exchange showed a clear decline in both A and  $gs$  with increasing VpdL. The prevailing pattern regarding the relationship between  $gs$  and atmospheric water content is that increasing vapor pressure deficit (VPD) leads to reduction of stomatal conductance (LI et al., 2019). These correlation between  $gs$ /VpdL reveals the different behaviors of the genotypes. We observed in figure 1 that at low VpdL values there was a reduction in  $gs$  for pine (PC, PT) indicating a lower stomatal control. This stomatal sensitivity at higher VpdL resulted in the highest slope between the  $gs$  and Medlyn index, indicating a low water use efficiency as shown in Figure 4.



**Figure 1.** Relationship between stomatal conductance to water ( $gs$ ) with (leaf-air vapor pressure deficit - VpdL) for functional groups (pine and eucalypt) in Brazil forest.



**Figure 2.** Relationship between photosynthesis (A) with (leaf-air vapor pressure deficit (VpdL) for functional groups (pine and eucalypt) in Brazil forest.

### 3.2 Fits derived from the BB, BBL, and USO models

Values of  $g_1$  estimated using the three  $gs$  models (BB, BBL and USO) for each clone and metrics calculated are described in Table 2. Both the USO model and the BBL model showed good fits ( $R^2$  ranging from 0.41 to 0.95) with the evaluated metrics. The BBL model was the best fit for some datasets (E1, E3, G1, UG2, GC, U2, UG3, GS, U4, LG, CB and PT). From 22 genotypes, three did not fit the BBL model (U3, CC, and G3). The USO model had good metrics and fit all datasets. The  $R^2$  value fitted by the BBL model ranged 0.47 to 0.95. The five genotypes (E3, U1, GC, UG3, and UB) had  $R^2$  less than 0.6.

The  $R^2$  value fitted by the USO model ranged from 0.43 to 0.95, and five genotypes also had  $R^2$  less than 0.6 (E3, U1, GC, UG3 and GS). From five genotypes with  $R^2$  less than 0.6 by model USO, four (E3, U1, GC, UG3) are the same genotypes that had  $R^2$  less than 0.6 fitted by model BBL.

Although the BB model presented good fits for some datasets ( $R^2$  ranged 0.31 to 0.86, eight genotypes E3, U1, UG2, GC, UB, GS, PC, PT had  $R^2$  less than 0.6) the performance was inferior to the BBL and USO model. Among these models, the BB formulations use relative

humidity (RH) while the BBL and USO formulations represent  $gs$  responses to vapor pressure deficit (VPDL). (Table 2)

**Table 2.** Fitted coefficients (g1) of the Ball-Berry (BB), Ball-Berry-Leuning (BBL) and Medlyn (USO) stomatal conductance models for 20 *Eucalyptus* genotypes and 2 species of *Pinus*. The model results are shown below including the statistic metrics for model performance ( $R^2$ , RMSE, and AIC).

Genotype	Clone	ID	Condition	Age (months)	gs models	g1± SE	R <sup>2</sup>	RMSE	AIC
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E1	1	field	36	BBL	7.19 ± 0.92***	<b>0,94</b>	<b>0,016</b>	<b>-281</b>
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E1	1	field	36	BB	9.31 ± 0.22***	0,87	0,025	-236
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E1	1	field	36	USO	1.85 ± 0.05***	0,94	0,017	-280
<i>E.grandis</i> x <i>E.urophylla</i>	UG1	1	field	36	BBL	4.16 ± 0.34 ***	<b>0,95</b>	<b>0,012</b>	<b>-305</b>
<i>E.grandis</i> x <i>E.urophylla</i>	UG1	1	field	36	BB	7.59 ± 0.12***	0,94	0,014	-289
<i>E.grandis</i> x <i>E.urophylla</i>	UG1	1	field	36	USO	1.42 ± 0.04***	<b>0,95</b>	<b>0,012</b>	-304
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E2	1	field	36	BBL	16. 6 ± 15.18ns	0,85	0,057	-138
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E2	1	field	36	BB	8.62 ± 0.39***	0,70	0,081	-103
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E2	1	field	36	USO	2.67 ± 0.12 ***	<b>0,87</b>	<b>0,053</b>	<b>-145</b>
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E3	1	field	36	BBL	8.36 ± 2.91**	<b>0,47</b>	<b>0,066</b>	<b>-128</b>
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E3	1	field	36	BB	6.26 ± 0.23***	0,31	0,076	-114
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E3	1	field	36	USO	1.85 ± 0.094***	0,46	0,067	-127
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U1	1	field	36	BBL	10.56 ± 2.20***	0,55	0,045	<b>-170</b>
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U1	1	field	36	BB	16 ± 0.28***	0,41	0,052	-156
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U1	1	field	36	USO	4.87 ± 0.10***	<b>0,57</b>	<b>0,044</b>	-173
<i>E.grandis</i>	G1	1	field	36	BBL	13.05 ± 3.97**	<b>0,78</b>	<b>0,067</b>	<b>-96,6</b>
<i>E.grandis</i>	G1	1	field	36	BB	10 ± 0.36***	0,69	0,079	-82,9
<i>E.grandis</i>	G1	1	field	36	USO	3.3 ± 0.12	0,77	0,068	-94,8
<i>E.grandis</i>	G2	1	field	36	BBL	3.30 ± 0.12***	0,41	<b>0.05</b>	<b>-156</b>
<i>E.grandis</i>	G2	1	field	36	BB	10.88 ± 0.42***	<b>0,62</b>	0,086	-92,9
<i>E.grandis</i>	G2	1	field	36	USO	3.21 ± 0.12***	0,83	0,056	-133
<i>E.urophylla</i> x <i>E.grandis</i>	UG2	2	field	14,7	BBL	8.21 ± 0.47***	<b>0,73</b>	<b>0,039</b>	<b>-2421</b>

<i>E.urophylla x E.grandis</i>	UG2	2	field	14,7	BB	$10.11 \pm 0.06^{***}$	0,57	0,049	-2117
<i>E.urophylla x E.grandis</i>	UG2	2	field	14,7	USO	$2.54 \pm 0.021^{***}$	0,72	0,040	-2401
<i>E. grandis x E. camaldulensis</i>	GC	2	field	14,7	BBL	$18.4 \pm 2.61^{***}$	<b>0,58</b>	<b>0,075</b>	<b>-1413</b>
<i>E. grandis x E. camaldulensis</i>	GC	2	field	14,7	BB	$13.16 \pm 0.10^{***}$	0,56	0,077	-1374
<i>E. grandis x E. camaldulensis</i>	GC	2	field	14,7	USO	$3.89 \pm 0.03^{***}$	0,57	0,076	-1396
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U2	2	field	14,7	BBL	$15.82 \pm 1.99^{***}$	<b>0,86</b>	<b>0,021</b>	<b>-2401</b>
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U2	2	field	14,7	BB	$8.99 \pm 0.09^{***}$	0,77	0,027	-2124
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U2	2	field	14,7	USO	$2.03 \pm 0.03^{***}$	0,84	0,023	-2305
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U3	2	field	14,7	BBL	-	-		
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U3	2	field	14,7	BB	$10.84 \pm 0.08^{***}$	0,79	0,047	-1485
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U3	2	field	14,7	USO	$3.48 \pm 0.03^{***}$	<b>0,87</b>	<b>0,037</b>	<b>-1699</b>
<i>E. grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG3	2	field	14,7	BBL	$7.05 \pm 8.03$	<b>0,55</b>	<b>0,031</b>	<b>-2561</b>
<i>E. grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG3	2	field	14,7	BB	$8.32 \pm 0.05^{***}$	0,23	0,041	-2214
<i>E. grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG3	2	field	14,7	USO	$2.35 \pm 0.01^{***}$	0,43	0,035	-2406
<i>E. grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG4	2	field	14,7	BBL	$6.55 \pm -0.43^{***}$	<b>0,72</b>	<b>0,031</b>	<b>-1996</b>
<i>E. grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG4	2	field	14,7	BB	$9.19 \pm 0.06^{***}$	0,60	0,037	-1987
<i>E. grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG4	2	field	14,7	USO	$2.20 \pm 0.021^{***}$	0,71	<b>0,031</b>	-1991
<i>E. urophylla x E. brassiana</i>	UB	2	field	14,7	BBL	$8.41 \pm 0.38^{***}$	<b>0,60</b>	<b>0,046</b>	<b>-2082</b>
<i>E. urophylla x E. brassiana</i>	UB	2	field	14,7	BB	$11.46 \pm 0.10^{***}$	0,39	0,059	-1788
<i>E. urophylla x E. brassiana</i>	UB	2	field	14,7	USO	$3 \pm 0.02^{***}$	<b>0,60</b>	<b>0,046</b>	-2058
<i>E. grandis x E.sp</i>	GS	2	field	14,7	BBL	$3.00 \pm 0.02$	<b>0,60</b>	<b>0,047</b>	<b>-2058</b>
<i>E. grandis x E.sp</i>	GS	2	field	14,7	BB	$9.68 \pm 0.10^{***}$	0,51	0,054	-1260
<i>E. grandis x E.sp</i>	GS	2	field	14,7	USO	$2.92 \pm 0.04^{***}$	0,51	0,054	-1260
<i>E.urophylla</i>	U4	3	nursery	6	BBL	$9.27 \pm 2.38^{***}$	<b>0,8</b>	<b>0,028</b>	-593
<i>E.urophylla</i>	U4	3	nursery	6	BB	$7.09 \pm 0.20^{***}$	0,7	0,036	-530
<i>E.urophylla</i>	U4	3	nursery	6	USO	$1.82 \pm 0.07^{***}$	0,78	0,030	<b>-578</b>
<i>C.citriodora</i>	CC	3	nursery	6	BBL	-			
<i>C.citriodora</i>	CC	3	nursery	6	BB	$8.86 \pm 0.23^{***}$	0,62	0,66	-375

<i>C.citriodora</i>	CC	3	nursery	6	USO	$2.36 \pm 0.08$ ***	<b>0,73</b>	<b>0,05</b>	<b>-428</b>
<i>E.crebra</i>	CB	3	nursery	6	BBL	$10.01 \pm 2.01$ ***	<b>0,90</b>	<b>0,027</b>	<b>-422</b>
<i>E.crebra</i>	CB	3	nursery	6	BB	$8.34 \pm 0.19$ ***	0,86	0,033	-386
<i>E.crebra</i>	CB	3	nursery	6	USO	$2.35 \pm 0.07$ ***	0,90	0,029	-408
<i>E.grandis</i>	G3	3	nursery	6	BBL	-			
<i>E.grandis</i>	G3	3	nursery	6	BB	$8.25 \pm 0.33$ ***	0,6	0,042	-515
<i>E.grandis</i>	G3	3	nursery	6	USO	$2.43 \pm 0.12$ ***	<b>0,72</b>	<b>0,035</b>	<b>-570</b>
<i>E.longirostrata</i>	LG	3	nursery	6	BBL	$11.4 \pm 2.07$ ***	<b>0,9</b>	<b>0,033</b>	<b>-588</b>
<i>E.longirostrata</i>	LG	3	nursery	6	BB	$7.66 \pm 0.15$ ***	0,83	0,044	-502
<i>E.longirostrata</i>	LG	3	nursery	6	USO	$1.92 \pm 0.05$ ***	0,9	0,035	-571
<i>P. caribaea</i>	PC	4	field	60	BBL	$12.20 \pm 0.87$ ***	0,65	<b>0,055</b>	<b>-1345</b>
<i>P. caribaea</i>	PC	4	field	60	BB	$11.87 \pm 0.25$ ***	0,59	0,059	-1268
<i>P. caribaea</i>	PC	4	field	60	USO	$4.30 \pm 0.10$ ***	<b>0,66</b>	0,057	-1325
<i>P. taeda</i>	PT	4	field	60	BBL	$23.44 \pm 3.31$ ***	<b>0,67</b>	<b>0,07</b>	<b>-1135</b>
<i>P. taeda</i>	PT	4	field	60	BB	$13.28 \pm 0.24$ ***	0,56	0,082	-991
<i>P. taeda</i>	PT	4	field	60	USO	$4.96 \pm 0.09$ ***	0,66	0,071	-1121

\*\*\*: ( $p < 0.001$ )

\_ : Data no fitted

### 3.3 Comparison of stomatal responses across genotypes (g1 - USO model )

The table 3 and figure 3 shows the coefficients g1 fitted by only model USO for 20 genotypes of *Eucalyptus*, 2 species of *Pinus* in Brazilian forest plantations. The USO model had the highest slope parameter for species *Pinus Taeda* ( $g1 = 4.96 \pm 0.09$ ) and the lowest slope parameter for genotype *E. grandis x E. urophylla* ( $1.42 \pm 0.04$ ). The parameter g1 of the eucalypt group ranged from 1.42 to 4.87. The group pine ranged from 4.30 to 4.96. Overall, the species of the pine had higher slope parameter than the eucalypt group. Only one genotype from the eucalypt (*E. urophylla*) had g1 close to pine values (Table 3)

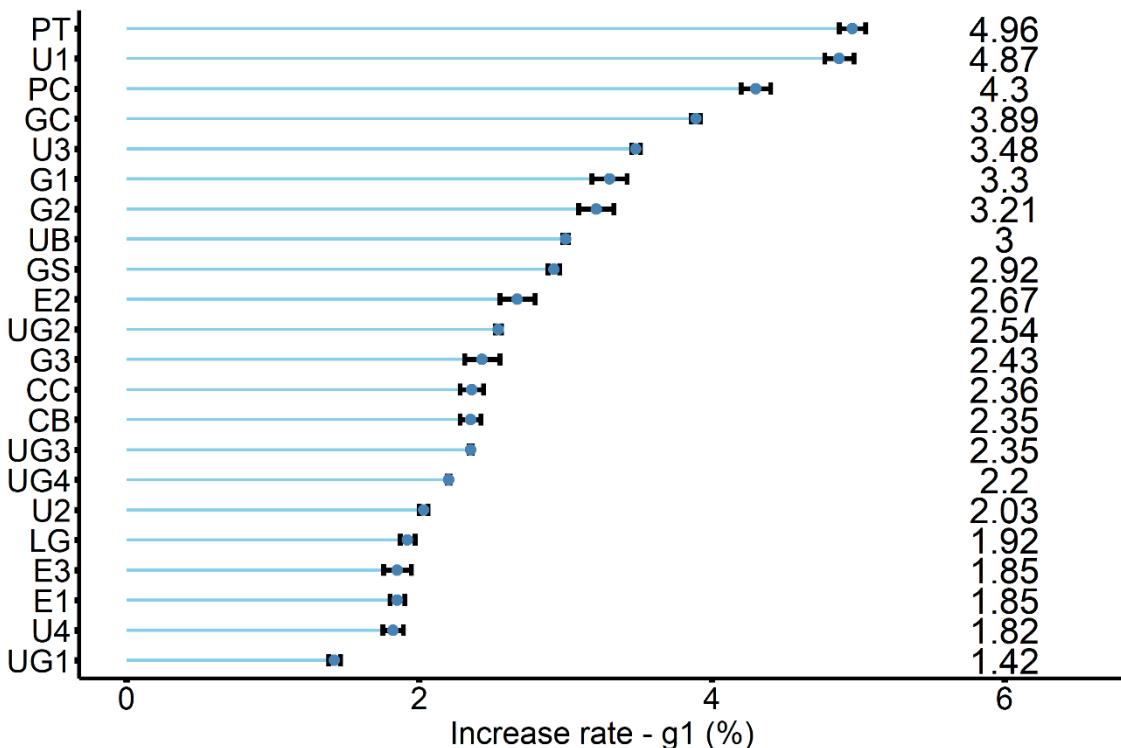
The USO model had the highest slope parameter for the genotypes UB, G2, G1, U3, GC, U1, PC and PT ( $g1 > 3$ ) and the lowest slope parameter for the genotypes UG1, U4, E1, E3, LG ( $g1 < 2$ ), with intermediate slopes for other genotypes (U2, UG4, UG3, UG2, GS). We observed that within datasets the parameter g1 varied between the genotypes (Figure 3).

We also identified that for the same genotype, the parameter g1 varies between experiments: *Eucalyptus grandis*, genotypes G2 ( $3.21 \pm 0.12$ ) and G3 ( $g1 = 2.43 \pm 0.12$ ) present in ID 1 and 3, *E. grandis x E. urophylla*, genotype UG1 ( $g1 = 1.42 \pm 0.04$ ) and UG4 ( $g1 = 2.20 \pm 0.021$ ) present in ID 1 and 2 and the *E. urophylla*, genotype U2 ( $g1 = 2.03 \pm 0.03$ ), U3 ( $3.48 \pm 0.03$ ) and U4 ( $1.82 \pm 0.07$ ) present in ID 2 and 3. (Table 3).

**Table 3.** Fitted coefficients (g1) of the Medlyn (USO) stomatal conductance model and statistics

<b>Genotype</b>	<b>Clone</b>	<b>ID</b>	<b>Location (site)</b>	<b>Age (months)</b>	<b>g1± SE</b>	<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>RMSE</b>
<i>E.grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG1	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	1.42 ± 0.04***	0.95	0.012
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E1	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	1.85 ± 0.05***	0.94	0.017
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E3	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	1.85 ± 0.094***	0.46	0.067
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	E2	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	2.67 ± 0.12 ***	0.87	0.053
<i>E. grandis</i>	G2	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	3.21 ± 0.12***	0.83	0.056
<i>E. grandis</i>	G1	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	3.3 ± 0.12	0.77	0.068
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U1	1	Piracicaba- SP	36	4.87 ± 0.10***	0.57	0.044
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U2	2	Buri-SP	14.7	2.03 ± 0.03***	0.84	0.023
<i>E. grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG4	2	Buri-SP	14.7	2.20 ± 0.021***	0.71	0.031
<i>E. grandis x E.urophylla</i>	UG3	2	Buri-SP	14.7	2.35 ± 0.01***	0.43	0.035
<i>Europhylla x E.grandis</i>	UG2	2	Buri-SP	14.7	2.54 ± 0.021***	0.72	0.04
<i>E. grandis x E.sp</i>	GS	2	Buri-SP	14.7	2.92 ± 0.04***	0.51	0.054
<i>E. urophylla x E. brassiana</i>	UB	2	Buri-SP	14.7	3 ± 0.02***	0.60	0.046
<i>E. urophylla</i>	U3	2	Buri-SP	14.7	3.48 ± 0.03***	0.87	0.037
<i>E. grandis x E. camaldulensis</i>	GC	2	Buri-SP	14.7	3.89 ± 0.03***	0.57	0.076
<i>Europhylla</i>	U4	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	1.82 ± 0.07***	0.78	0.03
<i>E.longirostrata</i>	LG	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	1.92 ± 0.05***	0.9	0.035
<i>E.crebra</i>	CB	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	2.35 ± 0.07***	0.9	0.029
<i>C.citriodora</i>	CC	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	2.36 ± 0.08 ***	0.73	0.05
<i>E. grandis</i>	G3	3	Piracicaba- SP	6	2.43 ± 0.12***	0.72	0.035
<i>P. caribaea</i>	PC	4	Itatinga -SP	60	4.30 ± 0.10***	0.66	0.057
<i>P. taeda</i>	PT	4	Itatinga -SP	60	4.96 ± 0.09***	0.66	0.071

\*\*\*: (p &lt; 0.001)

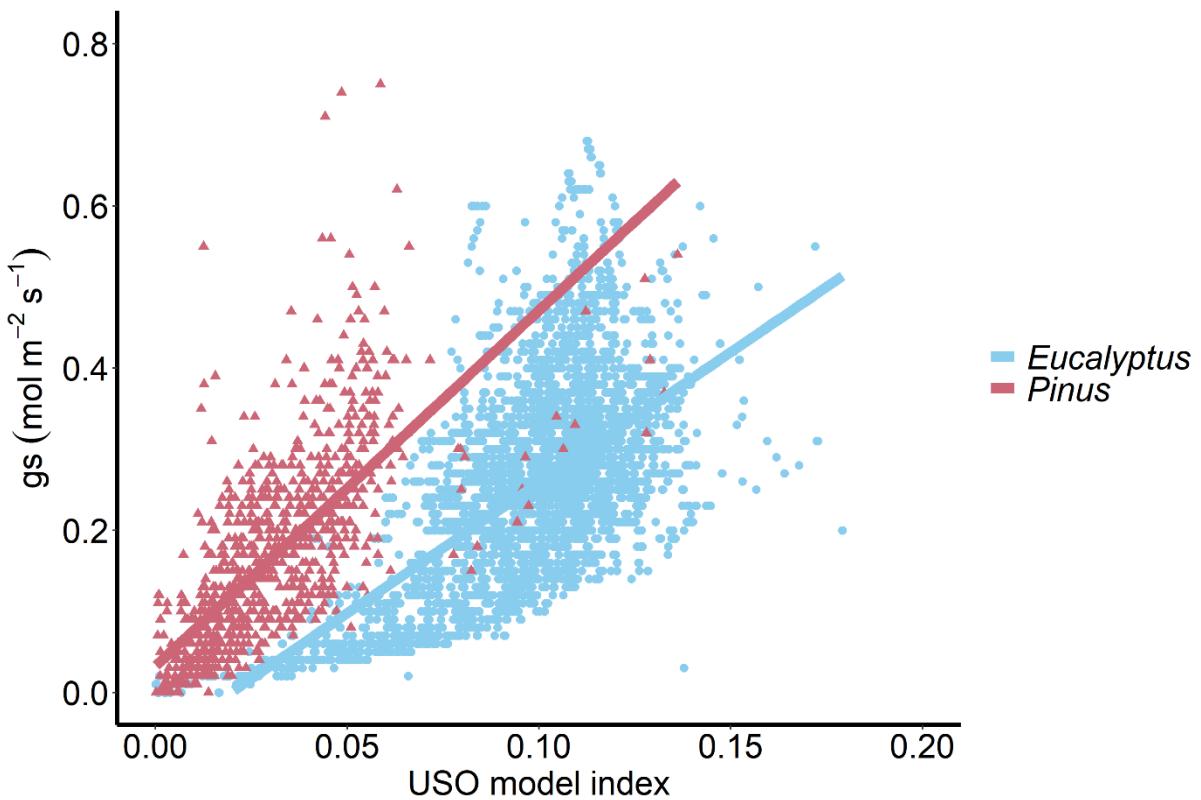


**Figure 3.** USO model coefficients ( $g_1$ ) derived from leaf-level measurements on from 20 *Eucalyptus* genotypes and 2 species of *Pinus* in Brazilian forest plantations.

### 3.3 USO model index

The Stomatal conductance ( $gs$ ) was coupled with USO model index for all genotypes of dataset (Figure 4). The relationship between USO model index of group pine and  $gs$  has higher regression slope (and thus stomatal slope) than the group of eucalypt. As such, the stomatal slope parameter is an indicator of intrinsic plant water use efficiency, and a greater stomatal slope equates to a lower intrinsic water use efficiency. This type of plot can therefore be used as a simple way of visualizing the fit of USO model.

The slope of this plot varies principally with  $g_1$ , although it also depends slightly on the range of DPV in the measurements. Differences in slope can be used to help visualize differences in  $g_1$  among datasets. The figure 4 shows that the slope of the relationship (and therefore  $g_1$ ) clearly differs among functional groups (pine and eucalypt).



**Figure 4.** Relationship between stomatal conductance with the slope parameter of the unified stomatal optimization model (USO model index) for functional groups (pine and eucalypt) in Brazil forest.

#### 4. Discussion

Understanding abiotic and biotic controls of  $gs$  and exploring accurate representation of  $gs$  in ESMs and PBMs has been a core focus in plant physiology ecology. In this study, we investigated the modeling of  $gs$  using data from 20 genotypes of *Eucalyptus* and 2 species of *Pinus* in the Brazil forest. We demonstrated that in planted forests the models that represent  $gs$  response to vapor pressure deficit (i.e. models, BBL and USO) performed better than the model based on RH (i.e. BB). Additionally, we demonstrated variation in the slope parameter ( $g_1$  by model USO) across genotypes, indicating differences in water use efficiency. We also estimated the USO model index as an indicator of intrinsic plant water use efficiency.

##### 4.1 Modelling stomatal conductance - BB, BBL, and USO models

The stomatal conductance is influenced by multiple environmental factors, and the dominant factors are different depending on the environmental conditions, which affects the performance of stomatal conductance models (WANG et al., 2018). In our study, the performance of BB model was inferior to the BBL and USO model. Several studies revealed the differences on responses of conductance models (WANG et al., 2018, ANDEREGG *et al.*, 2017, WU et al., 2019, HÉROULT et al., 2013).

Unlike the BB model that  $gs$  response to relative humidity, the BBL and USO model represents  $gs$  response to the vapor pressure deficit. Despite the different approaches, these models are derived from leaf-level physiological theory and their simplicity, versatility, and broad success observations in simulating leaf gas exchange have encouraged their use in LSMs.

The study of Frank et al. (2018), evaluated empirical and optimal approaches to modeling  $gs$  in ESMs by undertaking a detailed comparison of BB and USO model at multiple scales (leaf to land surface), in forest sites in North America, revealed that the BB and USO models both exhibit high-quality fits to leaf gas exchange data in a coupled leaf photosynthesis-conductance model and also in the land surface model - CLM5. Accord to authors, the absence of any significant difference in the performance of BB or MED in the coupled photosynthesis-conductance leaf model or the CLM5 model is consistent with the similarities in their capacity to describe the fundamental correlation between  $gs$  and photosynthesis in leaf gas exchange measurements.

The inclusion of environmental factors has been studied in several studies aiming to improve the accuracy of models (WANG et al., 2018; WU et al., 2019, ZHANG et al., 2017; JI et al., 2016). The study carried out by Wu et al. (2019) in forests of Panama revealed that the inclusion of leaf water potential did not improve model performance and that the models that represent the response of  $gs$  to steam pressure deficit performed better than corresponding models that respond to relative humidity. Despite not including environmental variables in the models tested here, the results observed by Wu et al., 2019 were similar to those found in our study, the BBL and USO model were better performance than BB.

Our results also corroborate the study by Héroult et al. (2013), when evaluating the *Eucalyptus* species originating from different climate zones in Australia comparing the two  $gs$  models (BBL and USO), showed that Goodness-of-fit was similar between the empirical BBL model and the USO model among the species.

Wang et al. (2018), also studied the inclusion of variables for improves the prediction of different stomatal conductance models (BB, BBL, USO, and Jarvis), and showed that, the incorporating water response function improved the performance of the Jarvis, BB, and USO models, but negatively affected the BBL model under varying moisture conditions. These results reveal that models of stomatal responses are complex, and that the accuracy of these models can be affected by different factors, such as different species, test regions, environmental conditions, and time scales (ANDEREGG et al., 2017; HÉROULT et al., 2013; WANG et al., 2018).

Several studies show different results using stomatal conductance models (WANG et al., 2016; WANG et al., 2018; HOSHIKA et al., 2017; LU and WANG et al., 2018). Therefore, it is essential to assess the accuracy of models for a particular study region. The performance of these models can be affected by different factors, such as different species, test regions, environmental conditions and time scales (GAO et al., 2016; WANG et al., 2018). Providing a database of  $g_1$  from planted forests in Brazil, well-fitted by three models will expand the possibilities of studies with models ESMs and PBMs.

#### **4.2 Stomatal responses across PFTs (Gymnosperm and Angiosperms)**

The stomatal responses varied across genotypes of this study and between PFTs (Pine and eucalypt). The USO model had the highest slope parameter ( $g_1$ ) for the gymnosperm group (*Pinus* sp.). Studies performed by Lin et al. (2015), evaluating the optimal stomatal behavior around the world found a clear pattern of  $g_1$  variation among different PFTs, with trees angiosperms (3.97) having the largest  $g_1$  than gymnosperm (2.35). Although there are differences in  $g_1$  of PFTs found by Lin et al. (2015) meta-analysis and our results, the  $g_1$  range for the most genotypes in this study is within the range of  $g_1$  for tropical forest (4.43). Angiosperm trees would have larger  $g_1$  than gymnosperms due to their higher sapwood permeability, which yields a lower carbon cost of construction per unit water transported (Lin et al., 2015). This discrepancy between our study and the Lin et al. (2015) may be a consequence of the limited of gymnosperm data in our database of the 22 datasets, 20 are from the eucalypt group and only 2 from the pine group (Table 1).

On another hand, a study by Hasper et al. (2017), using 21 tree species surveyed in tropical central Africa, the  $g_1$  for gymnosperms (3.45) was not lower than that for angiosperms

(3.33), similar to our study. One explanation for these results is that gymnosperm and angiosperm trees may have similar g1 if measured in similar climates, at least in the tropics (HASPER et al., 2017). The g1 parameter values for the *Pinus* species of our study (4.30 to 496) are close to those derived for *Pinus taeda* ( $g1 = 5.08 \pm 0.49$  - R2: 17%) in Medlyn et al. (2011). However, for two species here (*P. taeda* and *P. caribae* - R2: 66% - table 3), the USO model was better fitted than *Pinus taeda* in North Carolina, USA. These findings suggest that our results could be broadly applicable to other forests in the tropics.

The original optimization theory predicts that stomata are regulated so as to maximize photosynthesis minus the carbon cost of transpiration. From this premise, the model predicts that gs should be related to photosynthesis, vapor pressure deficit, and atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, with a single slope parameter, g1. The model also predicts that g1 should be inversely related to plant water-use efficiency (WUE) (LIN et al., 2015; MEDLYN et al., 2011; MEDLYN et al., 2017). The parameter g1 is then a measure of WUE that can be directly compared across datasets (MEDLYN et al., 2017). The differences in WUE between the eucalypt and pine groups can be easily visualized in Figure 4. As g1 was highest in gymnosperms, consequently, this group had lower intrinsic water use efficiency (Figure 4).

#### **4.3 Water-use efficiency and g1 across genotypes of *Eucalyptus***

We observed a large variation in the slope parameter across 20 genotypes of eucalypt group ( $g1 = 1.42$  to 4.87) (Table 3). Our observed g1 range is similar to the g1 range (2.46 to 5.17) of *Eucalyptus* species in Australia (HÉROULT et al., 2013), and also encompasses g1 (4.27) found by Gimeno et al. (2016) in native *Eucalyptus* woodland. On the other hand, our range of g1 was lower than the values found by Medlyn et al. (2011) in *Eucalyptus delegatensis* ( $g1: 6.06$ ) and  $g1(5.67)$  in eucalypt forests found by Yang et al. (2019), both in Australia using the USO approach.

The stomatal behavior is known to vary with environmental factors and with plant traits associated with hydraulic function (LIN et al., 2015; HÉROULT et al., 2013, TUZET et al., 2003). The variation in the g1 parameter across genotypes of eucalypt and among datasets can be associated by local condition climatic and adaptation of species to the climate of origin. Héroult et al. (2013) found differences among contrasting species in the same genus at the same site for species of eucalyptus. The USO model had the highest g1 parameter for humid-zone

species and the lowest g1 parameter for sub-humid climate species that are drought tolerant, suggesting implications for species selections for plantations in these climatic regions (HÉROULT et al., 2013).

Long-standing theory of stomatal behavior suggests that species from more arid habitats that experience frequent droughts are expected to have more conservative stomatal behavior and more efficient use of water per unit carbon gain than species adapted to moist habitats (HÉROULT et al., 2013; COWAN; FARQUHAR 1977; ORIANS; SOLBRIG 1977).

Among the genotypes UG1, U4, E1, E3, LG that had  $g1 < 2$ , genotypes UG1 (*E. grandis* x *E. urophylla*) and U4 (*E. urophylla*) should be emphasized because they had the lowest values of g1 of the dataset, so higher WUE. These genotypes were planted at the site of Piracicaba (ID 1) (Table 1). This result is compatible with recommended for planting. Under humid subtropical with dry winter and hot summer (Cwa climate type), the most recommended genetic materials are the hybrid *E. urophylla* x *grandis* (urograndis) and *E. urophylla* (GONÇALVES et al., 2013). The *E. urophylla* x *grandis* is the genetic material most planted in Brazil since its edaphoclimatic adaptation is compatible with the regions where the largest plantation areas are located. *E. urophylla* has high adaptability to several regions and has been widely hybridized with *E. grandis*, aiming to obtain materials tolerant to droughts and resistant to eucalypt canker (GONÇALVES et al., 2013)

Although the aim of this study was not to analyze changes in the parameter g1 in response to climatic variables, we can observe differences in g1 when the same genetic materials were planted in different locations. It is important to be clear that genetic materials do not correspond to the same genotypes. *Eucalyptus grandis* (G2 and G3) in ID1 and 3, *E. grandis* x *E. urophylla* (UG1 and UG4) in ID1 and 2, and the *E. urophylla* (U2, and U3, U4) in ID 2 and 3 (Table 3) had differences in g1. These results could be associated with the influence of the climatic variables of each location.

The variation in WUE, and therefore in g1 in responses to climatic conditions as growth temperature water availability has been studied (LIN et al., 2015; GIMENO et al., 2016). Gimeno et al. (2016) analyzing the conserved stomatal behavior under variations conditions in *Eucalyptus* forest did not find a statistically significant trend of g1 in response to changing water availability but suggest that g1 could increase with temperature, entailing a greater marginal water cost of carbon gain under a warmer climate.

Lin et al. (2015) analyzed if low soil water availability should increase WUE, so lower g<sub>1</sub>, and if g<sub>1</sub> should increase with growth temperature. The results demonstrated different degrees of responses in g<sub>1</sub> between moisture index and temperature. In a warm/wet environment, g<sub>1</sub> is higher. However, in a warm/dry environment, g<sub>1</sub> would increase to a smaller degree than in a warm/wet environment. One of the reasons for the increase in g<sub>1</sub> with growth temperature is that the viscosity of water decreases with increasing temperature, making it less costly to transport water, leading to an increased g<sub>1</sub> (PRENTICE et al., 2014; LIN Et al., 2015)

Our results suggest that more studies should be carried out to investigate the influence of local climatic conditions on the g<sub>1</sub> parameter of Brazil forest. It is important to understand whether differences in g<sub>1</sub> were more influenced by the genotype or by local weather conditions.

## 5. Conclusion

The BBL and USO models had the best performance for the Brazilian forest plantations of eucalypt and pine. The genotypes of the eucalypt group had differences in stomatal responses, indicating that in addition to the genotype characteristics, the local climatic conditions may also have influenced the variation in g<sub>1</sub>. Our study made available a database of g<sub>1</sub> obtained by the three most used models in ESMS and PBMs models, making it possible to expand studies of stomatal conductance modeling in planted forests in Brazil.

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### 3. CONSIDERAÇÕES FINAIS

Encontramos neste estudo parâmetros fotossintéticos  $V_{cmax}$ ,  $J_{max}$  e parâmetros que explicam o comportamento estomático ( $g_1$ ) a partir de um extenso conjunto de dados fisiológicos das florestas plantadas de eucalipto e pinus no Brasil. Nossa estudo amplia o banco de dados de parâmetros fisiológicos para as florestas plantadas do Brasil, possibilitando o uso destes parâmetros em estudos de modelagem ecofiosológica, que ainda são incipientes nas florestas brasileiras. Nós modelamos os parâmetros mais utilizados para parametrização dos modelos baseados em processos e para os modelos globais da vegetação que estudam o crescimento e a distribuição dos ecossistemas florestais nas condições climáticas atuais e em cenários futuros. Fornecemos aqui, parâmetros específicos para os dois gêneros (*Eucalyptus* e *Pinus*) mais plantados no Brasil, obtidos sob diferentes condições climáticas. O uso específico destes parâmetros para os gêneros *Eucalyptus* e *Pinus* fornece informações precisas sobre a capacidade fotossintética e a eficiência do uso da água e melhoram a simulação da produtividade florestal. Nós também fornecemos aqui, informações sobre a influência climática na capacidade fotossintética destas florestas, esclarecendo a importância de considerar as variáveis temperatura e precipitação ao modelar os processos fotossintéticos. Essas informações melhoraram a compreensão sobre o comportamento dos diferentes genótipos nas diferentes condições climáticas, para desenvolver melhores estratégias de gestão das florestas plantadas.