

Interactive comment on “Branch xylem density variations across Amazonia” by S. Patiño et al.

S. Patiño et al.

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Errata (5th paragraph page S2430) in the text -Responses to I. Wright Referee 1 (IW)- Part of the paragraph was missing. Here it is complete

Answer SP:

There are few things regarding this point. We collected terminal branches with approximately the same basal diameter (0.8–1.5 cm) and length (approx. 1.5 m) from three positions on the trees: upper, middle and lower crown. We did not examine the variation of xylem density from the tip to main trunk. We agree that many (but not all) tropical trees show an increase of density going down from the tip towards the main trunk. But as mentioned above we compared only external/terminal branches at three positions on the crown. Interestingly there was no statistical difference on twig density between the tree positions. One would have expected perhaps lower density for lower (shaded) branches. Because when one compares leaves at the three positions, sunny leaves (from upper branches) have about 10 percent more leaf mass per unit area

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(LMA, kg m⁻²) than lower branches and there is no difference between upper and middle, at least within our dataset. This is an old known trend for leaves. In the reviewed manuscript we present the results of the ANOVA comparing branches from upper and lower crown. This information is used to sustain the point that the data from Guyaflux, French Guiana has no bias as was suggested by Anonymous Referee 2.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 5, 2003, 2008.

BGD

5, S2526–S2527, 2008

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