Transpiration of Anatolian black pine and sessile oak forest stands in a sub-humid region of Turkey

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Ozcelik M. S., Sengonul K., 2021. Transpiration of Anatolian black pine and sessile oak forest stands in a sub-humid region of Turkey. Ann. For. Res. 64(1): 111-128.

Abstract Transpiration is a key component of the watershed water budget. Therefore, determining the transpiration of forest stands with different characteristics have been of interest for watershed hydrology and forest management practices in a wide range of environments. The objectives of this study were to compare transpiration of Anatolian black pine (Pinus nigra Arn. subsp. pallasiana (Lamb.) Holmboe) and sessile oak (Quercus petraea (Matt.) Liebl.) tree stands and to model transpiration based on the measured climatic factors. Stand transpirations were calculated from sap flow measurements made by the trunk heat balance method. We conducted an exploratory factor analysis (PCR) to detect affecting meteorological factors of stand transpiration, and we developed linear regression equations to predict transpiration of pine and oak stands. Mean daily and yearly canopy transpiration (Ec) were 1.05 mm day-1 and 378.3 mm year-1 for the pine stand and 3.52 mm day-1 and 801.7 mm year 1 for the oak stand. There was a highly positive correlation between daily stand transpiration and wind speed, global radiation, air vapour pressure deficit and air temperature, but a negative correlation with relative humidity for both stands. Soil water potential had little effect on stand transpiration. The model equations accounted for 81% of the variations in transpiration for the pine stand and 85% for the oak stand. Therefore, the transpiration of forest stands should be considered for effective vegetation management practices, as model equations to estimate the transpiration of pine and oak stands in the region.

Keywords: principal component regression, sap flow, trunk heat balance, watershed management, vegetation management.

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Manuscript received September 27, 2020; revised June 10, 2021; accepted June 10, 2021.

Introduction

Plant cover in watersheds plays an important role in hydrologic cycle by intercepting rainfall and transpiring water from the soil to the atmosphere (Edwards et al. 2015). For instance, Schlesinger and Jasecho (2014) found that about 39% of the precipitation returned to the atmosphere via transpiration. Globally, most of the transpiration takes place in forest ecosystems and, therefore, forest transpiration significantly affects the land energy balance, hydrological responses of watersheds and climate at the regional and global scales (Asbjornsen et al. 2011). The importance of freshwater supplies throughout Turkey is growing due to population increase and industrial development; therefore, accurate water budget measurements are critical to determining how the water is currently being used and how much water is available. Water consumption for different forest stands via transpiration becomes an essential issue in this frame due to its importance in the watershed water budget.

On the other hand, water use strategies and responses to the environmental factors across tree species vary according to their growth characteristics and transpiration regulation. Therefore, it is possible to see one species transpiring much more water than another species under the same site conditions (Wullschleger et al. 2001). Consequently, the growth characteristics of tree species should be taken into account when forestry activities are implemented in a watershed (Dierick & Hölscher 2009).

The relationship between the individual tree transpiration as well as stand transpiration, and the climatic factors have been of interest in recent years (Granier et al. 1996, Oren & Pataki 2001, Liu et al. 2009, Du et al. 2011, Jiao et al. 2016). Since direct transpiration studies need experimental background, specific devices and long monitoring periods in the field conditions, developing simple regression models based on meteorological parameters can be beneficial

tools for predicting transpiration within the watershed water cycles. Multivariate analyses such as multiple linear regression, stepwise regression and principal component regression analyses have been used to determine the relationship between sap flow and climatic variables in previous studies (O'Brein et al. 2004, Deng et al. 2015, Pei et al. 2019) and some equation models are available based on the climatic factors for some regions to predict tree-and stand-scale forest transpiration (O'Brein et al. 2004, Whitley et al. 2008, Bosch et al. 2014).

Sap flow method was used on different plant species with various aims worldwide under different climatic conditions, and it is the most common approach for transpiration measurements (Poyatos et al. 2016). Since sap flow through tree trunks countervails transpiration on a daily and seasonal basis, the method allows measuring whole tree crown transpiration (Köstner 2008). Sap flow method has some advantages compared to other methods. This method can be used to separate tree transpiration from evapotranspiration (Wilson et al. 2000), measures the water consumption of individual trees as well as forest stands in multiple time scales (Cermak et al. 2004) and perform well in heterogeneous topography (Martin et al. 2007). Moreover, long-term monitoring of forest transpiration and distinguishing intra and interannual variability is possible with the sap flow method (Granier et al. 1996).

On the other hand, there are still some uncertainties for the sap flow method, and there are intra and inter method variabilities to be considered when using sap flow methods (Flo et al. 2019). For instance, it is suggested to use species-specific calibration equations for some methods such as thermal dissipation (TD) and heat field deformation (HFD) methods to increase their accuracy (Fuchs et al. 2017). The sensor length also needs to be considered so that sensors are not placed in non-conductive tissue (Renninger & Schafer 2012). The trunk heat balance (THB) method used in the present

study, on the other hand, does not require specific calibration (Kucera & Urban 2012).

Pine-oak ecosystems are distributed globally, and they dominate the forest ecosystems particularly in the Mediterranean, as pure stands and mixed stands (Sheffer 2012). Despite existing in the same ecosystems, they differ in leaf types, anatomy, hydraulic conductivity for water transport, and pines are evergreen, whereas oaks are mostly deciduous, suggesting that they have different strategies for using water (Renninger et al. 2015). Studies have been conducted to understand how these differences affect transpiration, water use efficiency, resource use and drought response among pine-oak ecosystems worldwide (Kolb & Stone 2000, Poyatos et al. 2008, Sanchez-Costa et al. 2014, Aguade et al. 2015, Renninger et al. 2015). However, there is still a lack of information about the transpiration and water usage differences about pine and oak stands in Turkey, where it has a rich collection for both species.

Anatolian black pine (Pinus nigra Arn. subsp. pallasiana (Lamb.) Holmboe) is one of the most common and economically important natural conifer species growing in Turkey (Deligoz & Carus 2006). Black pine grows on all kinds of parent materials within the Euro-Siberian, Mediterranean and Irano-Turanian floristic regions of Turkey and establishes habitats ranging from semi-arid to sub-humid climatic zones. Its distribution ranges from the sea level in the Black sea coast to 2000 m high in the mountainous areas (Atalay & Efe 2012) and covers 1,396,511 ha as productive high forest and 807,870 ha as degraded high forest. It is also one of the most used species in afforestation works in Turkey (Karadag 1999).

Eighteen oak species naturally growing in Turkey make it the richest habitat of *Quercus* species in the western Palaearctic (Ugurlu et al. 2012). Oak forests cover approximately 26% of which corresponds to 5,886,195 ha forested areas in Turkey (GDF 2015). Oak species have a great diversity in North-Western Turkey, and

sessile oak (*Quercus petraea* (Matt.) Liebl.) is one of the widespread among oak species (Uslu & Bakıs 2012). According to climate types, sessile oak populations are primarily distributed in sub-humid regions of Turkey (Yucedag & Gailing 2013).

Several studies were conducted about forestry practices and their effect on watershed hydrology in the last couple of decades in the Belgrad Forest (Serengil et al. 2007a, Serengil et al. 2007b, Gokbulak et al. 2016, Yurtseven et al. 2017, Yurtseven et al. 2018, Erdogan et al. 2018), the response of soil moisture and soil temperature to vegetation change from forest to herbaceous vegetation (Ozkan & Gokbulak 2017), effects of forest canopy cover on water chemical quality (Eisalou et al. 2013) and calculation of evapotranspiration with catchment water balance equation (Ozhan et al. 2010). Ozhan (1982) reported that 28.3% of the precipitation returns to the atmosphere via interception in pine stands and 15.6% in oak stands in the Belgrad Forest. Therefore, to decrease interception Cepel (1986) suggested that priority should be given to broad-leaved species in the watersheds which supply freshwater for domestic use. However, these researchers did not consider the transpiration of the compared species. Although these studies made an enormous contribution to understanding the effect of watershed management practises on watershed hydrology in the study site, transpiration measurements were not directly carried out at the tree and stand scale.

Therefore, the main goals of this study were to compare transpiration of pure Anatolian black pine and sessile oak stands growing in the same climatic and topographic conditions with direct measurements to evaluate their role in watershed management practices. Moreover, we aim to determine the correlation between stand transpiration and climatic factors for the study sites and present simple mathematical models for estimating canopy transpirations according to the measured meteorological variables representing the study site and

similar sites in the region. The study results gave further information for the transpiration of forest stands in Turkey and provided the scientific base for decision-makers for better and effective vegetation management strategies in the watersheds.

Material and Methods

Study site and stand characteristics

The study site was Atatürk Arboretum within the borders of Belgrad Forest - Istanbul (41° 09' $48'' - 41^{\circ}$ 10' 55" N, 28° 57' 27" -28° 59' 27" E). Two forest stands next to each other (< 200 m linear distance) were selected as representative

of resinous (Pinus nigra Arn. pallasiana subsp. (Lamb.) Holmboe) and broad-leaved (Quercus petraea (Matt.) Liebl.) tree species (Fig. 1). Both stands have similar site characteristics: aspect. elevation from sea level, soil. topography, and climate. In the site, mean annual precipitation is around 1180 mm, and mean annual temperature is 12.8°C. August is the warmest month with a mean temperature of 21.8°C, and January is the coldest month with a mean temperature of 4.7°C. The soils are usually shallow, medium to good permeability rates and clay loam in texture with high matter. organic The parent material is Neocene loamy, gravelly deposits (Serengil et al. 2007a). The elevation from the sea level is 90 m.

The basal area and density were 54.8 m² and about 975 trees per ha in the pine stand, while they were 57.78 m² and about 1500 trees per ha in the oak stand, respectively. Mean tree

height was 14.5 m, with a mean diameter of 25.2 cm at breast height in the pine plot, whereas it was 16.1 m with a mean diameter of 20.7 cm at breast height in the oak stand. The overall topography of the stands was flat. The pine plot had dense understory vegetation, mainly consisting of *Erica arborea* L. and *Pteridium aquilinum* (L.) Kuhn.

In contrast, there was no understory vegetation in the oak plot. The study period covered two consecutive calendar years between 1.1.2016 and 1.1.2018. Six sample trees representing each stand were selected based on the "quantiles of total" method briefly described in Cermak et al. (2004). The information about sampled trees was given in Table 1.

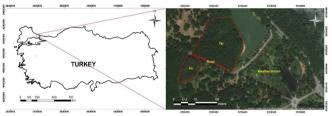


Figure 1 Location of the study site.

Table 1 Stand characteristics of the *Pinus nigra* and *Quercus* petraea experimental plots.

| Species/ | DBH (cm) | Height (m) | Bark Thickness | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|--|--|--|
| Tree ID | | Treight (III) | (cm) | | | |
| Pinus nigra A | rn. subsp. <i>pallasi</i> | ana (Lamb.) | Holmboe | | | |
| P1 | 19.5 | 14.5 | 2.3 | | | |
| P2 | 23 | 16.5 | 2.7 | | | |
| P3 | 25.5 | 14 | 3.1 | | | |
| P4 | 29 | 15.5 | 3.4 | | | |
| P5 | 32 | 17 | 3.7 | | | |
| P6 | 40 | 16.5 | 3.9 | | | |
| Stand Mean | 25.2 ± 6.9 | 14.5 ± 1.8 | / | | | |
| Quercus petraea (Matt.) Liebl | | | | | | |
| Q1 | 15.5 | 20 | 0.8 | | | |
| Q2 | 21 | 17.5 | 1.2 | | | |
| Q3 | 24 | 18 | 1.5 | | | |
| Q4 | 28 | 19.5 | 1.5 | | | |
| Q5 | 34 | 18.5 | 1.8 | | | |
| Q6 | 35 | 18 | 1.8 | | | |
| Stand Mean | 20.7 ± 7.5 | 16.1 ± 3.3 | / | | | |

Meteorological observations

Data for wind speed (U, m s⁻¹), air temperature (T_{air}, °C), air relative humidity (RH, %), precipitation (mm) and global radiation (RN, W m⁻²) were collected automatically with two weather stations during the study period. The first one (combination of Minikin ERi and Minikin RTHi, EMS Brno, Brno, Czech Republic) was located at 2 m height in a bare open space close to the study area (<200 m in the linear distance) (Fig. 1) and the second one (Campbell Scientific GRWS 1000, Logan, U.S.A) was located 5 km away from the study area. Data were recorded with 5 minutes intervals, and mean daily values were calculated as an average of all measurements. The air vapor pressure deficit (VPD) was estimated by combining the air temperature and relative humidity according to the following equation (Campbell & Norman 1998):

$$VPD = 0.611 \times exp^{\frac{17.502T}{240.97 + T}} (1-RH)$$
 (Eq.1)

where VPD is air vapor pressure deficit (kPa), T is air temperature (°C), and RH is the air relative humidity (%).

Soil water potential (SWP) (Ψ , bar) was recorded at three soil depths (10, 25 and 50 cm) under the forest canopies with 60-minute intervals using three calibrated gypsum blocks (Delmhorst Inc, New Jersey, U.S.A) and Microlog SP3 data logger (EMS Brno, Brno, Czech Republic) for each stand. Mean daily SWP was calculated by averaging overall measurements from three sensors.

Sap flow measurements

Six sap flow sensors (EMS 81, EMS Brno, Brno, Czech Republic) functioning according to the trunk heat balance method were used for each stand to determine transpiration of the sampled trees (Cermak et al. 1973, Kucera et al. 1977). This method consisted of three heated electrodes, and one central nonheated (reference) electrode placed 10 cm below the upper electrodes. The amount of

current electricity given to the system changes in relation to the sap flow rate to keep the temperature difference at 1 K between the reference and heated electrodes and needle type thermocouples with three measurement points of each were placed in the electrodes to record the temperature difference. An insertion tool supplied by the producer was used to place electrodes into the tree trunks, and it secures that the insulation on the electrodes covered the bark layer and phloem. Electrodes with different lengths were used for the pine (8 cm long) and oak trees (6 cm long), ensuring that electrodes encompassed the entire sapwood of the oak trees and covering most of the sapwood depth in pine trees. Tree trunks were covered with a reflective shield after installing the sensors to isolate the created field of temperature around the sensors from the sun's convective heat loss and effects. The method calculates the heat balance of a defined heated space according to the equation below (Cermak et al. 2004):

$$Q = \frac{P}{Cw \times d \times \nabla T} - \frac{Z}{Cw}$$
 (Eq. 2)

where O is the sap flow rate (kg s⁻¹ cm⁻¹), P is the power of heat input (W), $\nabla'T$ is the temperature difference in the measuring points (K), cw is the specific heat of water (J kg⁻¹ K⁻¹), and d is the circumferential distance covered by the electrodes (cm). Z / Cw symbolizes the heat loss determined under conditions where there is no sap flow (i.e. 03:00 a.m.), and therefore any heat loss from the system is addressed to the conduction through the wood tissue. Since the THB method yields sap flow of as kilograms, the Q of the measured area was multiplied with the length of the circumference of the xylem at the height of the installation to calculate total tree water use (Cermak et al. 2004).

Scaling up sap flow to stand transpiration

Stand transpiration (E_c) can be summarized as the total water uptake by all trees divided

by the stand area. To calculate stand-level transpiration, we selected the at breast height (DBH) as the biometric parameter of the sampled trees and the entire stand. Stand transpiration was calculated by considering the diameter classes as in common in forest inventories. Firstly, the sap flow of six sampled trees for both stands were used based on the DBH of the sampled trees and the diameter distribution of the trees in their stands separately, according to the methodology described in Cermak et al. (2004). Secondly, a linear regression was developed between DBH and E (tree transpiration, kg tree⁻¹) from the trees under study (Fig. 3a and 3b). Then, the daily water consumption of all trees (E) in the study area was calculated using the distribution of trees per hectare according to DBH and the obtained regression equations. Finally, Ec was related to total stand area (mm day⁻¹). EMS Mini32 (version 10.2.10.0, EMS Brno, Brno, Czech Republic) was used to convert the data logger values into sap flow (kg h⁻¹), and Microsoft EXCEL software was used as an addition for the calculations of the scaling-up process of the sap flow data to the stand transpiration.

Statistical analyses

The Pearsons's correlation coefficients were applied between the hourly mean of stand transpiration and meteorological factors (i.e. U, Tair, RH, RN, VPD) with soil water potential (SWP). An independent sample t-test was conducted to examine whether there was a statistically significant difference between the means of annual water consumptions of the two forest stands. Correlation analyses and t-test were performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences 21.0 (SPSS IBM Corp.; Armonk, NY, USA).

Principle component regression analyses (PCR) were performed by following the steps described in Mevik & Wehrens (2007) in the ("pls") package of R (R Core Team

2020, Vienna Australia, version 3.6.3) to model the relationship between the daily sum of transpiration and the daily mean meteorological factors beside soil water potential. PCR in the ("pls") package is the combination of two statistical methods: principal component analysis (PCA) and the multiple linear regression analysis (Mevik & Wehrens 2007). In the present study, PCA was conducted to remove the collinearity between the explanatory variables since all the environmental factors strongly related. Using PCA, a series of related parameters (e.g. RH and VPD) reduced to a series of unrelated parameters. Root mean squared error of prediction (RMSEP) and the coefficient of determination (R²) were used to determine the number of principal components included in the multiple regression analyses. The PCA analyses and multiple linear regression model predictions were obtained with ten-fold crossvalidation. The factor scores that come out of the PCA used in the multiple linear regression analysis and the measured water consumption of pine stand (EcPn) and oak stand (EcQp) were separately chosen as the response variables; whereas U, RN, Tair, RH, VPD and SWP were selected as the explanatory variables in the multiple linear regression analyses. The models were defined as follows in this study:

 $E_c = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots + \beta_n X_n$ (Eq.3) Ec is the response variable (stand transpiration), X_p , $X_2 \dots X_n$ are explanatory variables (U, RN, Tair, RH, VPD and SWP), β_0 is the constantcoefficient and β_1 , β_2 are vectors of predictor variables derived by the multiple linear regression analyses.

The two calendar years data set was cleared to two vegetation periods (May 1 to November 1) for correlation and PCR analyses. The purpose of this clearance was to ensure that the foliation in the oak stand was completed. The November data was not included in the analysis because of the leaf senescence of oak trees in the first week of November.

Results

Environmental variables

The daily mean air temperature was 13.4°C. and the maximum air temperature was reached 36.6°C in September 2017. Global radiation showed similarity for both study years, and the mean global davtime radiation was 351 W m-2 during the study period. Mean daily

relative humidity was 79.1%, and wind speed was 0.5 m s⁻¹. Annual precipitation was 1085.4 mm in 2016 and 1049.3 mm in 2017, slightly lower than the long term average of 1184 mm. The

rainfall with the highest intensity was recorded in September with 2017 mm precipitation within 6 hours. The mean daily air vapour pressure deficit was 0.3 kPa, and reached kPa. maximum at 16:00 on the same day when the maximum air temperature was observed. Mean water potentials were -3.7 bar in 2016 and -3.2 bar in 2017 for the pine plot, and they were -2.5 bar in 2016 and -2.1 bar

in 2017 for the oak plot (Table 2).

The meteorological data recorded during the study period were within the data collected from a weather station near the study site for 37 years monitoring

Table 2 Mean values (mean ± standard deviation) of some climate variables measured in the study site.

| Variable - | During the | Long term | |
|---|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| variable | Mean ± SD* | Range | average |
| Air temperature (°C) | 13.4 ± 8.2 | -11.6 – 36.6 | 12.8 |
| Global Radiation (W m ⁻²)** | 351 ± 209 | 3.3 - 1008 | / |
| Relative Humidity (%) | 79.1 ± 17.6 | 18.6 - 100 | 78.8 |
| Wind Speed (m s ⁻¹) | 0.5 ± 0.4 | 0 - 5.7 | 1.8 |
| Daily precipitation (mm)*** | 2.9 ± 7.7 | 0 - 62.7 | 3.0 |
| Soil water potential (bar) (Pn) | -3.6 ± 4.3 | -0.15 14.5 | / |
| Soil water potential (bar) (Qp) | -2.1 ± 3.9 | -0.1514.3 | / |

*Standard deviation. ** Global radiation in the column represents the mean daytime radiation. *** Daily precipitation data were obtained by dividing annual precipitation by 365. /: No data were obtained for this period. Pn: black pine stand, Qp: sessile oak stand.

period from 1970 to 2006. The meteorological parameters followed a similar trend in both study years but showed significant variations within the years (Fig. 2).

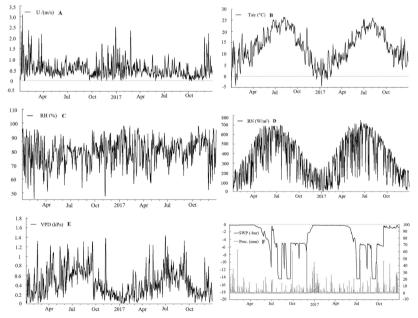


Figure 2 Temporal pattern in meteorological parameters during the study period in the study site. A: U (m/s), B: Tair (°C), C: RH (%), D: RN (W/m²), E: VPD (kPa), F: SWP (bar) and precipitation (mm).

Sap flow and canopy transpiration of black pine stand

The diurnal pattern of the measured sap flow in the six sampled pine trees was similar, but there were significant differences in the maximum values due to the size of the trees. Results showed that there was a strong correlation between the tree diameter and sap flow rate for pine stand (r = 0.95, p < 0.05) (Fig. 3a). The minimum sap flow rates were observed for the P1, and the maximum sap flow rates were

observed for the P6 (Fig. 4). The mean daily sap flow of the sampled trees varied between 3.7 kg and 28.7 kg, while the daily maximum was reached up to 76.3 kg during the study period. The mean daily canopy transpiration of the stand was 1.05 mm and varied between 0.04 mm and 3.22 mm (Table 3). Half of the annual transpiration (50%) occurred in the summer season, whereas only 4.5% took place in the winter season. Mean annual stand transpiration was 378.3 mm and changed between 396 mm in 2016 and 360 mm in 2017 (Fig. 5).

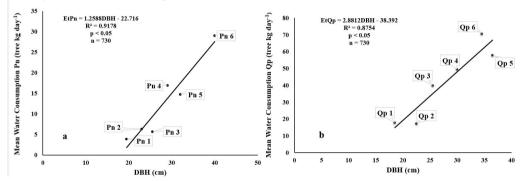


Figure 3 Relationship between DBH and mean daily transpiration of sample trees (kg tree day¹) in black pine (a) and sessile oak (b) stands (Et: tree transpiration, Pn: black pine, Qp: sessile oak).

Table 3 The canopy transpiration of the experimental plots

| Transpiration (Ec) of the experimental stands (mm) | Mean daily Ec | The range for daily Ec | Annaul Ec | Ec in Winter | Ec in Spring | Ec in Summer | Ec in Autumn |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Pn | 1.05 ± 0.8°* | 0.04 - 3.22 | 378.3 ± 29.1* | 17.26 ± 0.3* | 90.0 ± 16.8* | 188.8 ± 14.7* | 82.3 ± 2.1* |
| Qp | $3.52 \pm 2.1^{b*}$ | 0.02 - 8.4 | 801.7±150.7* | / | 147.2 ± 44.2* | $478.3 \pm 95.4*$ | $176.2 \pm 10.2*$ |

^{*} Standard deviation; means with different superscript letters are significantly different (P<0.001, n=730); Pn: black pine, Qp: sessile oak.

Sap flow and canopy transpiration of sessile oak stand

Similarly to the pine stand, there was a strong correlation between diameter and sap flow in the oak stand (r = 0.93; p<0.05) (Fig. 3b). Therefore, the minimum sap flow was observed in Q1 with a daily mean of 17.7 kg and the maximum was observed on Q6 with a daily mean of 70.4 kg (Fig. 4.). Recorded maximum

daily sap flow was 162.4 kg. Mean daily, and annual canopy transpirations from the oak stand were 3.52 mm, and 801.7 mm, respectively, and daily stand transpiration showed changes between 0.02 and 8.4 mm (Fig. 5). More than half of the annual canopy transpiration for oak stand occurred in the Summer months, 19% in Spring, while 21% in Autumn (Table 3). The canopy transpiration sharply decreased with defoliation in the first week of November.

Independent sample t-test results showed that there was a statistically significant difference in the scores of the black pine (Mean = 1.05, Standard

Deviation = 0.80, n = 730) and sessile oak (Mean = 3.52, Standart Deviation = 2.1, n = 730) stand canopy transpirations; F = 232.4, P < 0.001.

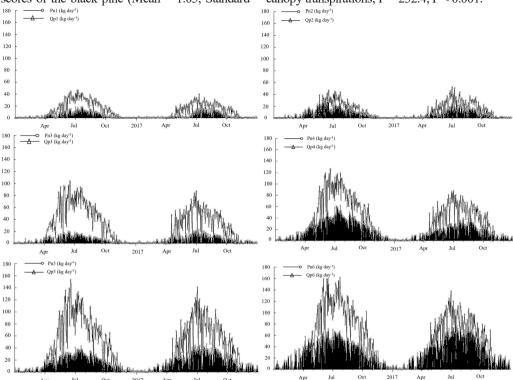


Figure 4 Daily water consumptions of sampled pine and oak trees according to the stand diameter classes. (Pn: pine, Qp: oak).

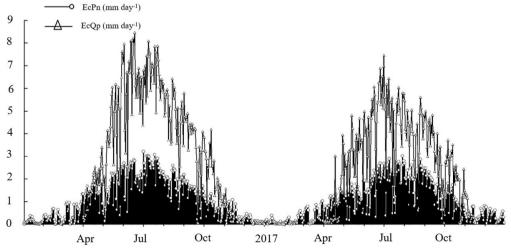


Figure 5 Canopy water consumptions (Ec) of pine and oak stands during the study period. (Pn: pine stand, Qp: oak stand).

Correlation between canopy transpiration and meteorological factors

The Pearson's correlation coefficients between hourly canopy transpiration and the climatic factors are presented in Table 4. Stand canopy transpiration positively correlates with U, Tair,

Table 4 Correlation coefficients between canopy transpiration and meteorological factors in black pine and sessile oak stands.

| a | EcPn | U | Tair | RH | RN | VPD | SWP |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------|--------|---------|-------------|
| EcPn | 1 | | | | | | |
| U | 0.65** | 1 | | | | | |
| Tair | 0.69** | 0.64** | 1 | | | | |
| RH | -0.79** | -0.74** | -0.67** | 1 | | | |
| RN | 0.83** | 0.69** | 0.61** | -0.68** | 1 | | |
| VPD | 0.82** | 0.77** | 0.81** | -0.97** | 0.71** | 1 | |
| SWP | -0.06** | -0.04** | -0.35** | 0.09** | 0.01 | -0.17** | 1 |
| b | EcQp | U | Tair | RH | RN | VPD | SWP |
| | | - | 1 **** | 1411 | 141 | VID (| 3 * * 1 |
| EcQp | 1 | | | | 10.1 | VID | 3 11 1 |
| EcQp U | | 1 | | | Terv | VID | 3111 |
| | 1 | 1 0.57** | 1 | | - KIV | VID | 3,441 |
| U | 1 0.68** | 1 | | 1 | TO TO | YID | 3111 |
| U Tair | 1 0.68** 0.69** | 1 0.57** | 1 | | 1 | VID. | |
| U Tair RH | 1 0.68** 0.69** -0.81** | 1 0.57** -0.66** | 1 -0.64** | 1 | · · | 1 | |

a: pine stand data, b: oak stand data (**Significant at P<0.01).

RN and VPD but negative correlation with RH for both stands. According to the correlation analyses, soil water potential had little effect on stand transpirations. However, these effects were statistically significant. It can be further seen that canopy transpirations had the highest correlation coefficients with global radiation, air vapour pressure deficit and air temperature in both stands.

Modelling stand transpiration with PCR analyses

Principal component regression analysis with ten-fold cross-validation was applied to the daily of stand canopy transpiration and mean daily climatic factors for both stands. The first and second principal explained components 95.7% and 4.2% variations of the data, respectively, for both data sets. Ec. RN and VPD were loaded most strongly to the principal components (Fig.

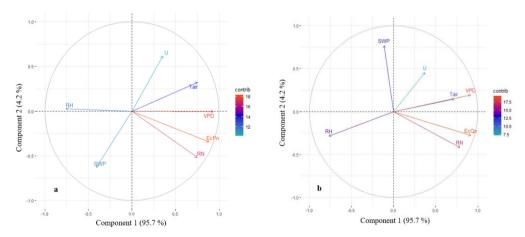


Figure 6 Contribution of the factors to the principal components. a: pine stand; b: oak stand.

The number of principal components (PC) to be used in the model predictions was determined according to the root mean squared error of prediction (RMSEP) and the coefficient of determination (R²). Since no significant contributions were determined after the second PC in the pine stand data and after the fifth PC in oak stand data, two PCs for pine stand and five PCs for oak stand were used further to fit linear models between canopy transpiration and meteorological factors (Fig. 7).

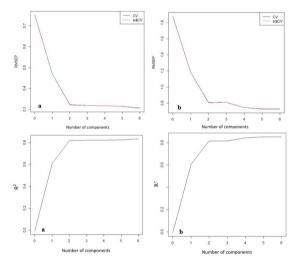


Figure 7 Root mean squared error of prediction (RMSEP) and coefficient of determination (R²) values of the predicted principal components (a: pine stand data, b: oak stand data).

The following multiple-linear regression equations were obtained based on the factor scores that came out of the PCA analyses:

$$EcPn = -0.184 - 0.00000282 \times U + 0.0000487 \times Tair + 0.0000255 \times RH + 0.0054 \times RN + 0.00086 \times SWP + 0.0011 \times VPD (R^2 = 0.81; n = 368)$$
 (Eq. 4)
 $EcQp = 1.679 + 0.00729 \times U + 0.084 \times Tair - 0.031 \times RH + 0.012 \times RN - 0.0638 \times SWP + 0.00158 \times VPD (R^2 = 0.85; n = 368)$ (Eq. 5)

where, *EcPn* is the canopy transpiration of the pine stand (mm day⁻¹), *EcQp* is the canopy transpiration of the oak stand (mm day⁻¹),

U is the wind speed (m s⁻¹), Tair is the air temperature (°C), RH is the relative humidity (%) RN is the solar radiation (W m⁻²), SWP is the soil water potential (bar) and VPD is the air vapour pressure deficit.

The relationships between measured and predicted values for linear equations are shown in (Fig. 8), which suggests that both equations could predict the stand transpiration successfully. In general, there is no systematic error in prediction, as revealed

by the distribution of error around the 1:1 lines. The correlation coefficients (r) between measured and predicted canopy transpirations in pine and oak stands were 0.90 and 0.92, respectively.

Discussion

Comparison of black pine and sessile oak stand transpirations

The first aim of this study was to compare transpirations of pine and oak stands in the same site conditions. The results are consistent with Wulschlegger et al. (1998), which summarizes the water use of 67 species belonging to 35 genera and indicates that the daily water consumption of trees via transpiration generally varies between 10 kg and 200 kg. The daily mean transpiration of the individual Anatolian Black pine trees

ranged from 4.17 kg to 28.95 kg, and the daily maximum reached up to 76 kg in the present study. Compared to our results, less daily transpiration rates were reported for Scots pine (*P. sylvestris* L.) in Norway (13.1 kg) (Cermak et al. 1995); in Germany (25 kg) (Köstner et al. 1996), in Sweden (25 kg) (Cienciala et al. 2002) and a dry valley of Austria (25.4 kg) (Wieser et al. 2014). In contrast, higher transpirations were found in other studies. For instance, Loustau et al. (1996) reported 275 kg daily water consumption via transpiration for maritime pine (*P. pinaster* Ait.) in Portugal.

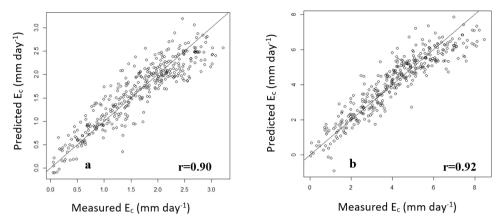


Figure 8 Relationship between measured and predicted values for canopy transpirations in pine (a) and oak (b) forest canopies.

As seen from these previously conducted studies, results vary from region to region because of differences in the tree species' climate conditions and development stages. These studies were conducted either in colder temperature or arid or semi-arid conditions. However, the daily transpiration of Anatolian Black pine showed more similarity with the results of the study carried out by Luis et al. (1995) in Mediterranean climate conditions. They found that daily transpiration for Canarian Island pine (*P. canariensis* C. Sm.) varied between 18.2 kg and 47.5 kg. These values were lower than the values mainly reported from the Mediterranean ecosystem.

Canopy transpiration of pine stand ranged from 0.04 to 3.22 mm with a daily mean of 1.05 mm, and it is within the range reported in the literature. Pallardy et al. (1995) reported 1-6 mm day⁻¹ water consumption of evergreen coniferous forest stands in the vegetation period. Scots pine consumed 0.45 mm per day regarding the pine species, and this amount corresponded to 20% of the potential evapotranspiration in the study site (Cermak et al. 1995). In another study, 1.8 mm daily transpiration was found for Jack pine (*P. banksiana* Lamb.) by Saugier et al. (1997) and 0.80 mm daily average and 253 mm total water

consumption for Canarian Island pine by Luis et al. (1995).

Compared with values reported in the literature, the daily transpiration of Anatolian black pine stand appears among the results both obtained from coniferous species and pine species. Our results suggest that the water consumption of Anatolian black pine growing in a sub-humid climate of Istanbul is higher than Scots pine and lower than the maritime pine, according to results. On the other hand, these results could be representing the upper edge for the water consumption of Anatolian black pine because of the sub-humid climate and the higher precipitation in the study site.

Numerous reports can be found in the literature on the transpiration of different oak species. Renninger and Schafer (2012) observed 29.2 kg daily maximum transpiration on chestnut oak (*Quercus prinus* L.) and 41.6 kg on black oak (*Q. velutina* Lam.) growing in the same site. Wullschleger et al. (2001) state that white oak (*Q. alba* L.) consumes a maximum of 76 kg of daily water while the red oak (*Q. rubra* L.) growing in the same site has a maximum daily consumption of 46 kilograms via transpiration. Breda et al. (1993) reported an extreme value of 10 kg daily maximum water consumption for pedunculate oak (*Q. robur* L.) in aridity stress. On the

other hand, Cermak et al. (1982) reported another extreme of 400 kg daily maximum water consumption in a floodplain forest for the same species. Nizinski and Saugier (1989) found 288.4 mm annual transpiration of a sessile oak (*Q. petraea* (Matt.) Liebl.) stand. The daily water consumption of sessile oak trees and the annual stand transpiration in the present study is consistent with the results of other studies. However, the transpiration rates of oaks showed a wide range based on the tree and stand structures, meteorological and topographic conditions.

Our results showed that oaks transpire more water than pines both at the tree and stand scale basis. In individual tree transpiration, oaks consumed 2 to 3 times more water than pines in the same diameter class. On a stand scale. the oak stand consumed 2.7 times more water than the pine stand, especially in the summer season when the water demand was maximum because of the lowest air humidity and the highest air temperatures (Fig. 4). Considering the ratio of transpiration of the stands to annual precipitation, it is seen that the Anatolian black pine stands returned approximately 36% of the annual precipitation, and the sessile oak stand 83% of the annual precipitation via transpiration in 2016. These values were calculated as 34% and 66%, respectively, in 2017.

Compared to pine trees, higher water consumption of oak species can be attributed to different wood structure, root system, leaf type and shapes of these trees. Gymnosperms regarded as more advanced than the angiosperms in the evolutionary aspect; therefore, broad-leaved species has better growth rates in the areas with good growing conditions and high precipitation, such as in the study site (Becker et al. 1999). In addition, sessile oak is a ring-porous species and has a more advanced water transport system than pines (Granier et al. 1994). The second important factor is the difference in the leaves of trees. Renninger et al. (2015) found

that oak leaves used ten percents more water and had higher transpiration rates per unit leaf area. McCulloh et al. (2010) indicated that ring-porous species (e.g. oaks) had the highest leaf-specific hydraulic conductivity while conifers (e.g. pines) had the lowest leafspecific conductivity among various tree types. Besides, embolism causes the loss of 50% of hydraulic conductivity in conifers because of the most significant "safety margin" between minimum in situ water potential and the actual water potential they had (Choat et al. 2012). Breda et al. (1993) indicated that sessile oak has a very effective root system, and they could pull water from deeper groundwater sources compared to pines (Renninger et al. 2015).

The implication of tree and stand transpirations to watershed management practices

Watershed management practices may include structural engineering practices, vegetation management practices, or both, depending on problems in the watershed (Ozhan 2004). Vegetation management practices are generally carried out to increase the water yield and quality of the water in the watershed (Bosch & Hewlett 1982). Since it is impossible to change the topography and climatic conditions in a watershed by human actions to a large extent, water yield can be increased to some degree with vegetation management. It is suggested by Cepel (1986) to prefer broad-leaved species to coniferous species because of the lower interception rates (Ozhan 1982) for increasing water yield in a watershed. The water loss via transpiration in the oak stand was much higher than the pine stand in the present study. Hence the suggestion of preferring broadleaved species to the coniferous species to increase water yield in a watershed should be reconsidered by considering the transpiration of both stands, especially in Marmara Region.

Removal or thinning of the vegetation cover is another approach for increasing water yield

in the streams. Bosch and Hewlett (1982) suggested that at least 20% of the vegetation cover should be removed to observe an increase in the streams for the watersheds similar to the study site. Serengil et al. (2007b) stated that 11% thinning of the forest cover increased at least 8 mm in the winter season water yield in Belgrad Forest in Istanbul, However, selecting the tree species according to their water use could improve the effectiveness of the thinning practices. For the study area, it can be interpreted that selecting oaks rather than pines for thinning practices could save more water from increasing water yield in the watersheds. In addition, the correlation between DBH and daily mean sap flow specifies that most of the transpiration in the stand was made by the trees with larger trunk diameters (Fig. 3a and 3b). Therefore it can be suggested that to increase water yield in the watersheds, trees with small diameter sizes should be maintained as long as soil erodilibility and topographical conditions permit.

Correlation between stand transpiration and the meteorological factors and modelling stand transpiration with PCR

Many studies evaluated relationships between the sap flow and the meteorological parameters of the study sites. However, results are not mainly consistent since many factors play an essential role in transpiration, and the main factors may vary. In our experiment, the Pearson's correlation analyses showed that Ec of both pine and oak stands had a significantly higher positive correlation with RN, VPD, Tair and U, but a significantly negative correlation with RH in hourly timescale (Table 4). In other words, RN was the most effective factor, significantly increasing water consumption; while RH was the most effective variable. significantly decreasing water consumption in both stands. The correlation between SWP and stand transpiration was not strong,

while it was statistically significant in both stands. These results are consistent with the results of the study by Guney et al. (2019) that photosynthetic active radiation and VPD were the most effective factors on the daily transpiration in *Cedrus libani*. Wieser et al. (2012) and Zimmermann et al. (2000) indicated that irradiance and air vapor pressure were the most effective factors influencing whole tree water consumption in *P. cembra* and *P. sylvestris*.

On the contrary, Granier et al. (1996) and Oren et al. (1999) stated that stand transpiration was closely dependent on air vapor pressure deficit and less correlated to the global radiation for several species in a natural rainforest and in a flooded Taxodium distichum forest. These differences can be explained as there was no soil water limitation in the studies, as mentioned earlier, and the meteorological conditions were far from the similarity with much higher temperature and precipitation rates than this study. Although it is known that global radiation, VPD and soil moisture content are the main drivers controlling transpiration (Meinzer et al. 2013), soil water potential had the most negligible impact on the canopy transpiration compared to other factors. This might be due to limited soil depth for SWP sensors measuring only the topsoil (50 cm maximum), and the trees would reach deeper horizons to take water.

Principal component regression analyses showed that the canopy transpiration of the pine and oak stands could effectively modelled based on the climatic factors in the study site (Fig. 8). The models performed well, explaining 81% and 85% (Eq. 4 and 5) of the variance in the pine and oak species, respectively. The responses of the stands to the meteorological factors were similar, although their differences in morphology, anatomy and adaptation to the study site indicate that climatic conditions may strongly influence the water loss of canopy irrespective of species characteristics (O'Brein et al. 2004).

Conclusion

Tree transpiration (E_i) and stand transpiration (E) of the oaks (O. petraea) were two times greater compared to those for pines (*P. nigra*) in sub-humid climate conditions in Istanbul. Solar radiation and air vapor pressure deficit were the strongest influencers and soil water potential was the weakest; however, this influence was statistically significant. Finally, to predict canopy transpiration of pine and oak stands based on the meteorological variables, we developed two simple models for watershed hydrology practices in the region. The results suggest that the water consumption of forest stands should be considered for water conservation aims in the watershed management practices. Decisions should be made regarding the total water loss via transpiration and interception together.

Acknowledgements

The study was financed by the Istanbul University Scientific Research **Projects** Unit with project number 52494. The authors are grateful to Mr Jiří Kučera from Environmental Measuring Systems (Brno, Czech Republic) and Prof. Jan Čermák from Mendel University (Brno, Czech Republic) for their help and contribution in the design of the study, obtaining the necessary sensors and field measurements. The authors thank Mr Sebahattin Serhat Turgut for his help in PCR analyses; they also thank Prof. Ferhat Gokbulak from Istanbul University for his helpful comments on the manuscript.

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