

**DO<sub>3</sub>SE modelling of  
soil moisture for  
forest trees**

P. Büker et al.

**DO<sub>3</sub>SE modelling of soil moisture  
to determine ozone flux to European  
forest trees**

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## Abstract

The DO<sub>3</sub>SE (Deposition of O<sub>3</sub> for Stomatal Exchange) model is an established tool for estimating ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) deposition, stomatal flux and impacts to a variety of vegetation types across Europe. It has been embedded within the EMEP (European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme) photochemical model to provide a policy tool capable of relating the risk of vegetation damage to O<sub>3</sub> precursor emission scenarios for use in policy formulation. A key limitation of regional flux-based risk assessments so far has been the approximation that soil water deficits are not limiting O<sub>3</sub> flux due to the unavailability of evaluated methods for modelling soil water deficits and their influence on stomatal conductance ( $g_{\text{sto}}$ ), and ultimately O<sub>3</sub> flux.

This paper describes the development and evaluation of a method to estimate soil moisture status and its influence on  $g_{\text{sto}}$  for a variety of forest tree species. The soil moisture module uses the Penman-Monteith energy balance method to drive water cycling through the soil-plant-atmosphere system and empirical data describing  $g_{\text{sto}}$  relationships with pre-dawn leaf water status to estimate the biological control of transpiration. We trial four different methods to estimate this biological control of the transpiration stream, which vary from simple methods that relate soil water content or potential directly to  $g_{\text{sto}}$  to more complex methods that incorporate hydraulic resistance and plant capacitance that control water flow through the plant system.

These methods are evaluated against field data describing a variety of soil water variables,  $g_{\text{sto}}$  and transpiration data for Norway spruce (*Picea abies*), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), birch (*Betula pendula*), aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and holm oak (*Quercus ilex*) collected from ten sites across Europe and North America. Modelled estimates of these variables show consistency with observed data when applying the simple empirical methods, with the timing and magnitude of soil drying events being captured well across all sites and reductions in transpiration with the onset of drought being predicted with reasonable accuracy. The more complex methods which incorporate hydraulic resistance and plant capacitance perform less

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well, with predicted drying cycles consistently underestimating the rate and magnitude of water lost from the soil.

A sensitivity analysis showed that model performance was strongly dependent upon the local parameterisation of key model drivers such as the maximum stomatal conductance, soil texture, root depth and leaf area index. The results suggest that the simple modelling methods that relate  $g_{sto}$  directly to soil water content and potential provide adequate estimates of soil moisture and influence on  $g_{sto}$  such that they are suitable to be used to assess the potential risk posed by  $O_3$  to forest trees across Europe.

## 1 Introduction

Ground level ozone ( $O_3$ ) is an important air pollutant and greenhouse gas that has been found to affect forest trees through visible injury (Schaub et al., 2010; Novak et al., 2005); changes in plant physiology and carbon allocation (Novak et al., 2007); acceleration of leaf senescence (Bussotti et al., 2011); predisposition of trees to attacks by pests and pathogens (Manning and von Tiedemann, 1995); decreasing growth, productivity and fitness of forests (Matyssek and Sandermann, 2003; Karnosky et al., 2007; Matyssek et al., 2010a,b) with possible consequences for altered carbon sequestration potentials of forest ecosystems (Sitch et al., 2007; Bytnerowicz et al., 2007). Current  $O_3$  levels across Europe are considered high enough to constitute a risk for forests across the region with further implications for agro-forestry, renewable resource management and post-Kyoto policies (Matyssek et al., 2008; Mills et al., 2011). The development of metrics to define  $O_3$  exposure in relation to plant response has been an area of intense research effort over the past 30 years in Europe (Ashmore et al., 2004), largely conducted under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP) Convention which has established an effects-based approach to air quality management (Bull and Hall, 1998). Over recent years,  $O_3$  characterization indices have moved from a concentration- to a flux-based approach defining  $O_3$  dose as the

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effective stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux or uptake accumulated over a defined growth period (Ashmore et al., 2004; Matyssek et al., 2007). For forest trees, flux-based methodologies have been established and recommended for use in risk assessment by the LRTAP Convention (Karlsson et al., 2004, 2007; Tuovinen et al., 2009; LRTAP Convention, 2010; Mills et al., 2011). Currently, these methodologies use empirically derived flux-response relationships (e.g. Karlsson et al., 2004, 2007) to establish critical levels and to estimate damage in terms of tree biomass loss resulting from stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux. Therefore, the estimation of O<sub>3</sub> flux is one crucial component necessary to assess O<sub>3</sub> risk to forest trees. The estimation of actual damage requires knowledge of the effective O<sub>3</sub> dose, i.e. the fraction of stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux that the plant is unable to detoxify without loss of vigour (cf. Musselman et al., 2006; Matyssek et al., 2008). The plants detoxification capacity is known to vary with genotype (Karnosky et al., 1998), species (Karlsson et al., 2007), tree age (Wieser et al., 2002) and diurnal (Schupp and Rennenberg, 1988; García-Plazaola et al., 1999; Peltzer and Polle, 2001; Wieser et al., 1995) and seasonal (Luwe, 1996; García-Plazaola and Becerril, 2001) conditions such that current empirical flux-based dose-response relationships may struggle to incorporate the complexities of the damage response (Musselman et al., 2006).

In this paper we focus on the estimation of the stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux component to enable an assessment of the potential for O<sub>3</sub> damage to forest trees. The model currently used to estimate O<sub>3</sub> fluxes to representative vegetation types (which include crops and semi-natural vegetation as well as forests tree species) across Europe is the DO<sub>3</sub>SE (Deposition of O<sub>3</sub> and Stomatal Exchange) O<sub>3</sub> dry deposition model (Emberson et al., 2001), which is embedded within the EMEP (European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme) photo-chemical model (Simpson et al., 2003a, 2007; Tuovinen et al., 2004). DO<sub>3</sub>SE estimates O<sub>3</sub> flux to vegetated surfaces as a function of O<sub>3</sub> concentration, meteorology and plant-specific characteristics (including phenological, physiological and structural characteristics). At the core of this model is the estimate of stomatal conductance ( $g_{sto}$ ), currently achieved using a multiplicative  $g_{sto}$  algorithm based on that originally established by Jarvis (1976) and modified for O<sub>3</sub> deposition

and risk assessment by Emberson et al. (2000a,b, 2001). This model has been parameterised for four evergreen tree species, i.e. Norway spruce (*Picea abies*), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*) and holm oak (*Quercus ilex*), and three deciduous species, i.e. birch (*Betula pendula*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and temperate oak (*Quercus robur* and *Q. pretraea*). For some of these species, climate specific parameterisations have also been established to allow for ecotypic variation in  $g_{\text{sto}}$  response to climatic variables (LRTAP Convention, 2010). The DO<sub>3</sub>SE model and its variations have been extensively evaluated for different forest species, in different countries, under a variety of seasonal conditions (e.g. Tuovinen et al., 2004; Emberson et al., 2007; Nunn et al., 2005). However, one fundamental obstacle to European-wide application of the flux modelling method has been the difficulty associated with estimating soil water status and its influence on  $g_{\text{sto}}$ .

To date, European application of the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model within the EMEP photo-chemical model for O<sub>3</sub> risk assessments has been restricted by the approximation of soil water not limiting  $g_{\text{sto}}$  and subsequent O<sub>3</sub> flux (e.g. Simpson et al., 2007), except for some sensitivity studies that have investigated the influence of soil water deficit on O<sub>3</sub> flux (e.g. Simpson et al., 2003b; Nunn et al., 2005). This is perhaps not such an issue for agricultural crops receiving irrigation. However, for forest trees this is a serious limitation to the current modelling methods, particularly in the Mediterranean region, where appropriate flux-based O<sub>3</sub> risk assessments might be compromised by the exclusion of the influence of drought on stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux (Gerosa et al., 2009). There is also evidence that soil water stress can influence detoxification rates of absorbed O<sub>3</sub> (Matussek et al., 2006, 2007). High soil moisture deficits will also lead to a reduction in O<sub>3</sub> deposition to vegetated surfaces. This can cause a build up of atmospheric O<sub>3</sub> concentrations through the removal of the vegetation O<sub>3</sub> sink (Solberg et al., 2008; Vieno et al., 2010) with consequences for other receptors, such as increased risk to human health. As such, it is imperative to develop and evaluate methods to estimate the influence of soil water status on stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux.

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Here, we describe the continued development of the DO<sub>3</sub>SE soil moisture module (Emberson et al., 2007), which now incorporates the Penman-Monteith model of transpiration (Monteith, 1965) to drive water cycling through the soil-plant-atmosphere system along with empirical data describing  $g_{\text{sto}}$  relationships with pre-dawn leaf water status to estimate the biological control of transpiration. We trial four different methods to estimate this biological control of the transpiration stream which vary from simple methods that relate soil water content ( $\theta$ ) or potentials directly to  $g_{\text{sto}}$  (denoted as  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  and  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  models) to more complex methods that incorporate hydraulic resistance (steady-state, SS) and plant capacitance (non-steady-state, NSS) to water flow through the plant system.

Evaluation of these new methods incorporated into the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model is performed against observed data collected for a number of different tree species (boreal, temperate and Mediterranean species of deciduous, coniferous and broadleaf evergreen forest types). These datasets provide seasonal observations of key parameters that are selected to indicate the level of soil drought and influence on  $g_{\text{sto}}$  occurring at each site. The soil moisture module is assessed with the aim of providing an indication as to whether this model is “fit for purpose” to estimate, at least in relative terms, the influence that soil moisture deficit may have in regulating stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux and hence O<sub>3</sub> deposition across Europe. A sensitivity analysis is also performed to establish which aspects of the model (e.g. root depth, maximum  $g_{\text{sto}}$ , leaf area index (LAI), soil texture) are most important as drivers of soil water status to target future parameterisation efforts as well as to understand the reliability with which the model can be applied to different locations and conditions.

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## 2 Methods

### 2.1 DO<sub>3</sub> SE model

DO<sub>3</sub>SE is a soil-vegetation-atmosphere-transport (SVAT) model that has been specifically designed to estimate O<sub>3</sub> deposition to European vegetation (Emberson et al., 2001). It is unique in relation to other SVAT models since it has been designed to be embedded within a complex regional scale photo-oxidant model developed by EMEP (Simpson et al., 2003a, 2007) to inform European effects-based air pollution emission reduction policy (Sliggers and Kakebeeke, 2004). This means that the modelling of gas transfer between the atmosphere and biosphere needs to be simple enough to ensure reasonable model run times, yet complex enough to incorporate the key drivers of O<sub>3</sub> flux at the European scale. The application of the model across such a large spatial region also means that the complexity of the model has to be balanced against the availability of spatial data characterising the important physical and environmental conditions that will influence O<sub>3</sub> deposition across Europe (e.g. land cover, species distribution, soil type, root depth and meteorological information).

To calculate total O<sub>3</sub> deposition DO<sub>3</sub>SE uses a standard resistance scheme to estimate the transfer of O<sub>3</sub> from an atmospheric reference height (i.e. the lowest grid level of the EMEP model) to the sites of O<sub>3</sub> deposition at the vegetated surface. Aerodynamic ( $R_a$ ), quasi-laminar boundary layer ( $R_b$ ) and surface ( $R_{sur}$ ) resistances to O<sub>3</sub> transfer are considered in the scheme.  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  are calculated according to standard methods as described in Simpson et al. (2003a).  $R_{sur}$  is calculated as a function of stomatal ( $r_{sto}$ ) and non-stomatal canopy resistances, the latter including external plant surface ( $r_{ext}$ ), aerodynamic within-canopy ( $R_{inc}$ ) and ground surface/soil resistances ( $R_{gs}$ ) for which empirical methods and constants are employed based on published literature; see Simpson et al. (2003a) and Simpson and Emberson (2006) for further details. Stomatal and external resistances to O<sub>3</sub> uptake are defined per leaf/needle area (denoted by a lower case  $r$ ) and for  $R_{sur}$  scaled according to LAI and surface area

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index (SAI), respectively.

$$R_{\text{sur}} = \frac{1}{\frac{\text{LAI}}{r_{\text{sto}}} + \frac{\text{SAI}}{r_{\text{ext}}} + \frac{1}{R_{\text{inc}} + R_{\text{gs}}}} \quad (1)$$

The LAI scaling employs a canopy light extinction model to estimate sunlit and shaded canopy fractions and hence scales stomatal resistance as a function of radiative penetration into the canopy (Norman, 1982).

The DO<sub>3</sub>SE model employs a multiplicative algorithm, based on that first developed by Jarvis (1976), modified for O<sub>3</sub> flux estimates (Emberson et al., 2000a; 2000b; 2001; 2007) to estimate leaf/needle stomatal conductance ( $g_{\text{sto}}$ , the inverse of  $r_{\text{sto}}$ ) as:

$$g_{\text{sto}} = g_{\text{max}} f_{\text{phen}} f_{\text{light}}^{\text{max}} \{f_{\text{min}}, f_T, f_D, f_{\text{SW}}\} \quad (2)$$

where the species-specific maximum  $g_{\text{sto}}$  ( $g_{\text{max}}$ ) is modified by functions (scaled from 0 to 1) to account for  $g_{\text{sto}}$  variation with leaf/needle age over the course of the growing season ( $f_{\text{phen}}$ ) and the functions  $f_{\text{light}}$ ,  $f_T$ ,  $f_D$  and  $f_{\text{SW}}$  relating  $g_{\text{sto}}$  to irradiance, temperature, vapour pressure deficit and soil water, respectively.  $f_{\text{SW}}$  can either be related to soil water potentials ( $f_{\text{SWP}}$ ) or plant available soil water expressed in volumetric terms ( $f_{\text{PAW}}$ ).  $f_{\text{min}}$  is the minimum daylight  $g_{\text{sto}}$  under field conditions, expressed as a fraction of  $g_{\text{max}}$ .

This stomatal component of the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model is the primary determinant of the absorbed O<sub>3</sub> dose; the plants internal O<sub>3</sub> detoxification capacity determines the fraction of this dose that is effective in causing plant damage. As such, this leaf-level stomatal flux module forms the basis of empirical flux-based algorithms recommended for use by the UNECE LRTAP to assess European-wide risk of O<sub>3</sub> damage (LRTAP Convention, 2010).

The use of this standard SVAT modelling scheme provides the opportunity to also model water vapour exchange since this follows very similar atmosphere-biosphere exchange pathways as those for O<sub>3</sub> (Fig. 1). This approach also allows for the estimation

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of O<sub>3</sub> flux and water vapour transfer to be performed in an internally consistent manner. All symbols and abbreviations used within the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model are presented in Table 1.

## 2.2 Soil water balance

The DO<sub>3</sub>SE soil water status module is developed based on the Penman-Monteith model of evapotranspiration, with consideration of the forest canopy and underlying soil (Monteith, 1965; Shuttleworth and Wallace, 1985). As such, soil water loss is driven by evaporative demand limited by a series of soil-plant-atmosphere resistances to water loss which define the variation in water potential ( $\Psi$ ) across the plant continuum. A simple mass balance calculation is used to estimate the soil water balance over a finite depth of soil determined by a species-specific maximum root depth ( $d_r$ ) as a function of incoming precipitation and outgoing total evapotranspiration ( $E_{at}$ ) estimated from plant transpiration ( $E_t$ ) as well as soil and intercepted canopy evaporation ( $E_s$  and  $E_i$ , respectively).

Hourly  $E_t$ ,  $E_s$  and  $E_i$  are calculated using the Penman-Monteith model (Monteith, 1965). These hourly values are then summed to provide estimates of the water vapour flux on a daily time-step. The estimates use only those resistances to mass transfer that occur between the top of the evaporative surface and the measurement height of vapour pressure deficit ( $D$ ). We assume that  $D$  is provided at the external margin of the canopy boundary layer, consistent with assumptions of constant near-surface  $D$  profiles in the EMEP model, with  $R_a = 0$ . The following formulation describes the Penman-Monteith model for  $E_t$ :

$$E_t = \frac{\Delta(\Phi_n - G) + \rho_a c_p \left( \frac{D}{R_{bH_2O}} \right)}{\lambda \left\{ \Delta + \gamma \left( 1 + \frac{R_{stoH_2O}}{R_{bH_2O}} \right) \right\}} \quad (3)$$

where  $\Delta$  is the slope of the relationship between the saturation vapour pressure and temperature,  $\Phi_n$  is the net radiation above the canopy,  $G$  is the soil heat flux,  $\rho_a$  is

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the air density,  $c_p$  is the specific heat of air,  $R_{bH_2O}$  is the boundary layer resistance to water vapour exchange,  $R_{stoH_2O}$  is the stomatal canopy resistance to transfer of water vapour,  $\gamma$  is the psychrometric constant, and  $\lambda$  is the latent heat of vaporization.

When the soil water is not limiting  $g_{sto}$ , the soil will lose moisture through evaporation from the soil surface ( $E_s$ ) at a rate defined by the Penman-Monteith equation for evaporation modified to include the resistances from the soil surface to the atmosphere:

$$E_s = \frac{\Delta(\Phi_{ns} - G) + \rho_a c_p \left( \frac{D}{R_{inc} + R_{bH_2O}} \right)}{\lambda \left\{ \Delta + \gamma \left( 1 + \frac{R_{soil}}{R_{inc} + R_{bH_2O}} \right) \right\}} \quad (4)$$

where the soil resistance term to water vapour flow ( $R_{soil}$ ) is constant at  $100 \text{ s m}^{-1}$  (Wallace, 1995) and  $\Phi_{ns}$  is the net radiation available at the soil surface estimated by

$$\Phi_{ns} = \exp(-K_a LAI) \Phi_n \quad (5)$$

where  $K_a$  is the coefficient for attenuation of available energy and is set to 0.5 for consistency with the DO<sub>3</sub>SE module estimates of canopy radiation penetration based on an assumed spherical leaf inclination distribution (Emberson et al., 2000b). When soil water is limiting  $g_{sto}$ , such that the upper soil layers are likely to have dried through evaporative water loss, the soil evaporation is assumed to be negligible and hence the term  $E_s$  is set to 0.

The total loss of soil water through  $E_{at}$  is calculated using the method of Shuttleworth and Wallace (1985) modified to incorporate resistance terms calculated with DO<sub>3</sub>SE:

$$E_{at} = C_c E_t + C_s E_s \quad (6)$$

where  $C_c$  and  $C_s$  are the coefficients of transpiration and evaporation fraction of  $E_{at}$  estimated according to

$$C_c = \left[ 1 + \frac{ZX}{Y(Z+X)} \right]^{-1} \quad (7)$$

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$$C_s = \left[1 + \frac{YX}{Z(Y+X)}\right]^{-1} \quad (8)$$

and

$$X = (\Delta + \gamma)(R_{bH_2O}) \quad (9)$$

$$Y = (\Delta + \gamma)R_{inc} + \gamma R_{soil} \quad (10)$$

$$Z = \gamma R_{stoH_2O} \quad (11)$$

Daily recharge of soil water is calculated according to total precipitation ( $P_{total}$ ) allowing for a fraction lost through interception by the canopy and subsequent evaporation ( $E_i$ ) so that  $P_{input}$  is the fraction of  $P_{total}$  that results in soil recharge:

$$P_{input} = (P_{total} - S_c) + (S_c - \min\{E_i, S_c\}) \quad (12)$$

where  $S_c$  is the external storage capacity of the canopy that determines the amount of intercepted water.  $S_c$  (in m) is defined as  $0.0001 \text{ LAI}$  using the methodology of Sellers et al. (1996) developed for a range of land cover types including broadleaf and needle leaf trees.  $E_i$  is estimated using the Penman equation for evaporation from a wet surface (Monteith, 1965):

$$E_i = \frac{\Delta(\Phi_n - G) + \rho_a c_p \left(\frac{D}{R_{bH_2O}}\right)}{\lambda(\Delta + \gamma)} \quad (13)$$

Any water remaining on the canopy at the end of the day is assumed to enter the soil system. At the start of the year, when soil water calculations are initialized,  $\theta$  (volumetric soil water content) is assumed to be equal to field capacity (FC). The volumetric FC defines the relative amount of water held by capillarity against drainage by gravity and is dependent on soil texture (Foth, 1984). At volumetric FC, the soil water storage ( $S_n$ ) term, expressed over the entire root depth ( $S_n/d_r$ ), is assumed to be at a maximum.

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Daily estimations of  $S_n$  are made according to the mass balance formulation based on those used by Mintz and Walker (1993) where the  $S_n$  changes on a daily time step according to

$$S_n = S_{n-1} + P_{\text{input}} - E_{\text{at}} \quad (14)$$

5 where  $S_{n-1}$  is the soil water storage of the previous day,  $E_{\text{at}}$  is the total water loss to evapotranspiration and  $P_{\text{input}}$  is water gained via precipitation; any excess  $P_{\text{input}}$  is assumed to be lost to run-off or percolation from the rooting zone.

Assuming a homogenous root distribution throughout the rooting zone, the physiologically relevant soil water potential ( $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$ ) can be estimated from  $\theta$  using standard  
10 soil water characterisation curves as defined by Campbell (1985).

$$\Psi_{\text{soil}} = \Psi_e \left( \frac{\theta_{\text{sat}}}{\theta} \right)^b \quad (15)$$

where  $\Psi_e$  is the soil water potential at air entry,  $\theta_{\text{sat}}$  is the volumetric soil water content at saturation, and  $b$  is an empirical parameter. Where local data are available describing the water holding properties of the soil, site-specific soil water release curves have  
15 been constructed and used in the modelling analysis (Table 2). Where no data are available, an estimate is made of the soil texture class on consultation with the holder of the site data and the most appropriate soil water release curve from sandy loam, silt loam, loam or clay loam is used; these curves were established based on parameters given in Tuzet et al. (2003) (Table 3).

### 20 2.3 Stomatal conductance ( $g_{\text{sto}}$ )

A number of different methods were assessed to infer  $g_{\text{sto}}$  from soil water status and hence determine the limiting influence on water transfer from the soil through the tree to the atmosphere. These methods were: (i)  $f_{\text{PAW}}$ ; (ii)  $f_{\text{SWP}}$ ; (iii) steady-state (SS), and (iv) non-steady-state (NSS) and are described in turn below. With the exception of

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the  $f_{PAW}$  method, all require an estimate of  $f_{SWP}$  which is derived from published data describing the relationship between  $g_{sto}$  and pre-dawn leaf water potential ( $\Psi_{leaf,pd}$ ). Here we assume that  $\Psi_{leaf,pd}$  is equivalent to  $\Psi_{soil}$ , a common assumption within soil-plant water balance calculations albeit one that becomes less robust in rapidly drying soils (Slatyer, 1967). This relationship has been defined by fitting a power regression equation to observations of  $\Psi_{leaf,pd}$  and relative maximum stomatal conductance ( $g_{max}$ ) (Fig. 2). These observations were collated from published data for boreal/temperate forest trees represented by beech, temperate oak, Scots pine, Norway spruce and for Mediterranean evergreen forest trees represented by holm oak. Since the data indicate variable tolerance to  $\Psi_{leaf,pd}$  between boreal/temperate and Mediterranean forest tree species, we have defined different  $f_{SWP}$  relationships for these two forest types as

$$f_{SWP} = \min\{1, \max\{f_{min}, 0.355(-\Psi_{leaf,pd})^{-0.706}\}\} \quad (16)$$

for boreal/temperate forest trees and

$$f_{SWP} = \min\{1, \max\{f_{min}, 0.619(-\Psi_{leaf,pd})^{-1.024}\}\} \quad (17)$$

for Mediterranean forest trees. It is assumed that  $g_{sto}$  is increasingly limited until  $f_{min}$  is reached, but that past a  $\Psi_{leaf,pd}$  of  $-4$  MPa ( $\Psi_{min}$ ) no more water can be extracted from the soil by the plant. These  $f_{SWP}$  curves are soil texture independent and correspond to an approximately linear decrease in relative  $g_{sto}$  once volumetric plant available water (PAW) falls below 25 % in boreal/temperate trees and 12 % in the Mediterranean trees, assuming a silt loam textured soil.

$f_{SWP}$ : in this approach  $g_{sto}$  is assumed to be limited directly by  $\Psi_{soil}$  according to the forest type specific  $f_{SWP}$  relationship (cf. Emberson et al., 2007). This is calculated on a daily time-step so that the soil water mass balance calculated for a given day is used to estimate  $\Psi_{soil}$  for the following day.

$f_{PAW}$ : in this approach  $g_{sto}$  is assumed to be limited by PAW expressed as a function of  $\theta$  over the root depth, where  $PAW = FC - PAW_{min}$ .  $PAW_{min}$  is the equivalent soil texture-dependant  $\theta$  at  $\Psi_{min}$ ; a linear relationship with a threshold of  $PAW = 50$  % is

used to estimate the effect of PAW on  $g_{\text{sto}}$  based on empirical data published by Domec et al. (2009). The  $\theta$  at FC and  $\text{PAW}_{\text{min}}$  are estimated according to the relevant soil water release curves for the specific site conditions. The influence of PAW on  $g_{\text{sto}}$  is calculated on a daily time-step so that the soil water mass balance calculated for a given day is used to estimate  $\theta$  and PAW for the following day.

SS: The SS model controls water flux on an hourly time-step using an estimation of leaf water potential ( $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$ ) based on the daily  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  and plant transpiration of the previous hour. The influence of  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$  on hourly  $g_{\text{sto}}$  is estimated using the forest type specific  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  relationship for  $\Psi_{\text{leaf, pd}}$ .  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$  is calculated using the standard steady-state formulation (e.g. Van den Honert, 1948; Landsberg et al., 1976; Larcher, 2003):

$$E_t = \frac{\Psi_{\text{soil}} - \Psi_{\text{leaf}}}{R_{\text{sr}} + R_{\text{p}}} \quad (18)$$

In this scheme resistances to water transfer from soil to leaf are represented by the soil-root resistance ( $R_{\text{sr}}$ ) and plant hydraulic resistance ( $R_{\text{p}}$ ) which are both assumed to be constant; xylem resistance due to drought induced embolism is not included in this scheme.  $R_{\text{p}}$  ( $\text{MPa h mm}^{-1}$ ) is parameterised according to Mencuccini and Grace (1996) for boreal/temperate forests and Lhomme et al. (2001) for Mediterranean forests as described in Table 1. The resistance to water flow from the soil to the roots ( $R_{\text{sr}}$ ) is calculated after Lynn and Carlson (1990) and Rambal (1993) according to

$$R_{\text{sr}} = \frac{k_1}{d_r K_s} \quad (19)$$

where  $k_1$  is a constant related to root density, with a value of  $3.5 \times 10^{-12}$  when  $R_{\text{sr}}$  is expressed in  $\text{MPa (mm h}^{-1})^{-1}$ ,  $d_r$  is given in m and  $K_s$  ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ) is the soil hydraulic conductivity estimated according to standard principles (e.g. Jones, 1992; Lhomme et al., 2001) by

$$K_s = K_{\text{sat}} \left( \frac{\Psi_{\text{sat}}}{\Psi_{\text{soil}}} \right)^{\frac{3}{b+2}} \quad (20)$$

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where  $K_{\text{sat}}$  is the saturated soil hydraulic conductivity and  $\Psi_{\text{sat}}$  is  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  at field saturation. To ensure internal consistency,  $K_{\text{sat}}$ ,  $b$  and  $\Psi_{\text{sat}}$  are also defined using the soil texture specific parameters of Tuzet et al. (2003) as described in Table 3 or local data where available.

$E_t$  and  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  are estimated in DO<sub>3</sub>SE on an hourly time-step so that  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$  can be calculated by re-arranging Eq. (18).

NSS: The NSS approach is similar to the SS approach in that  $g_{\text{sto}}$  is controlled by  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$ , which is estimated by  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  and the evaporative demand of the tree. Water status is linked to  $g_{\text{sto}}$  in the same way using  $f_{\text{SWP}}$ . However, the NSS model, rather than assuming instant equilibration in  $\Psi$  between soil and plant as is the case for the SS model, incorporates a lag in stomatal response by estimating a plant capacitance term, essentially allowing for variable water storage within the plant. This lag may be important in the estimation of O<sub>3</sub> deposition to plant tissue given the potential for O<sub>3</sub> concentrations to vary significantly over the course of the day.

This NSS approach is based on that of Lhomme et al. (2001) and includes both the plant capacitance as well as hydraulic resistance terms, allowing for diurnal flux of water to and from the plants water storage reservoir. Plant flux is represented as

$$E_t = \left( \frac{\Psi_{\text{soil}} - \Psi_{\text{leaf}}}{R_{\text{sr}} + R_{\text{p}}} \right) + \left( \frac{\Psi_{\text{r}} - \Psi_{\text{leaf}}}{R_{\text{c}}} \right) \quad (21)$$

where the soil-plant water flux is controlled as before and the storage-destorage flux within the plant is controlled by the reservoir potential ( $\Psi_{\text{r}}$ ) and resistance to such flux ( $R_{\text{c}}$ ). Changes in  $\Psi_{\text{r}}$  over time are determined by the plant capacitance ( $C$ ) expressed in mm MPa<sup>-1</sup> (Lhomme et al., 2001).  $C$ ,  $R_{\text{c}}$  and  $R_{\text{p}}$  are all entered as empirically derived constants (Table 1).

We assume that  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$  equilibrates with  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  overnight and hence at the start of each day the equation is initialised at  $t = 0$  as  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}} = \Psi_{\text{soil}}$ ; however, we acknowledge that in practice such equilibration is not always achieved (Sellin, 1999). The physiologically

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relevant  $\Psi_{\text{leaf,pd}}$  is calculated for each day using the bulk change in soil water over the  $d_r$  based on  $E_t$ . Changes in  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$  are calculated for each hour as

$$\Delta\Psi_{\text{leaf}} = \left[ \frac{\Psi_{\text{soil}} - \Psi_{\text{leaf}}(t) - (R_{\text{sr}} + R_{\text{p}})E_t(t)}{C(R_{\text{sr}} + R_{\text{p}} + R_{\text{c}})} \right] \Delta t - \left[ \frac{(R_{\text{sr}} + R_{\text{p}})R_{\text{c}}}{R_{\text{sr}} + R_{\text{p}} + R_{\text{c}}} \right] \Delta E_t \quad (22)$$

$$\Psi_{\text{leaf}}(t) = \Psi_{\text{leaf}}(t-1) + \Delta\Psi_{\text{leaf}} \quad (23)$$

5 where  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}(t-1)$  is the  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$  of the previous hour. As for the SS model the influence of  $\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$  on  $g_{\text{sto}}$  is made according to the forest type specific  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  relationships.

## 2.4 Phenology

For the boreal/temperate deciduous tree species, growing seasons were defined according to empirical relationships between latitude and leaf flush and fall which have  
 10 been shown to be consistent with remotely sensed data collected for Europe (LRTAP Convention, 2010). The start of the growing season (SGS) is defined as the initiation of plant physiological activity or leaf flush and is assumed to occur at year day 105 at 50° N and change by 1.5 days per degree latitude earlier moving south, and later moving  
 15 north. The end of the growing season (EGS) is defined as the onset of dormancy and is assumed to occur at year day 297 at 50° N and change by 2 days per degree latitude earlier moving north, and later moving south. The effect of elevation on phenology is incorporated by assuming a later SGS and earlier EGS by 10 days for every 1000 m  
 20 above sea level. For Mediterranean evergreen trees, a year round growth period is assumed. Estimations of LAI are based on observations of the variation of LAI over the course of the growth period and defined according to species-specific minimum and maximum LAI values. This ensures that the variation in phenology experienced across Europe is used to define species-specific annual profiles of LAI; further details are provided in LRTAP Convention (2010). For forest trees SAI is equal to LAI + 1 to account for the trunk and branches of the tree (LRTAP Convention, 2010).

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### 3 DO<sub>3</sub>SE model application and evaluation

Datasets to evaluate the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model were selected according to the following criteria: (i) they represent forest species for which it is possible to define the necessary DO<sub>3</sub>SE model parameterisation; (ii) they represent a range of different forest species functional types (e.g. conifers, deciduous and broadleaf evergreen species) and (iii) they are derived from locations covering the broad climatic regions of Europe (e.g. boreal, temperate and Mediterranean), either within Europe or from analogous sites in North America.

Ten forest datasets were found that met these criteria (site details are provided in Table 4) and were available for evaluation modelling. These datasets were collected in Sweden (Asa, Norunda), Switzerland (Davos), Germany (Forellenbach, Hortenkopf, Kranzberger Forst) and Spain (Miraflores de la Sierra, Prades) and the USA (Rhineland, WI; Strawberry Peak/Crestline, CA). These North American datasets are included in this European analysis since it was considered that the forest types and prevailing climatic conditions were similar to those found in northern Europe (Rhineland) and the Mediterranean (Strawberry Peak/Crestline).

To be suitable for DO<sub>3</sub>SE model evaluation, each dataset was required to have a complete (or near complete) complement of hourly meteorological data, ideally for a whole year or at least covering the period during which the trees were physiologically active. The required meteorological variables were: temperature ( $T$ ), precipitation ( $P$ ), wind speed ( $u$ ), vapour pressure deficit ( $D$ ), net radiation at the canopy ( $\Phi_n$ ) and fractions of direct ( $I_{dir}$ ) and diffuse ( $I_{diff}$ ) sunlight. The  $u$  data were height-corrected to represent  $u$  at canopy height. The Kranzberger Forst dataset included meteorological data from a nearby weather station (Waldklimastation Freising, S. Raspe, personal communication, 2010). The Crestline/Strawberry Peak dataset comprised soil water values from two sites and meteorological values from a weather station at a third site; soil water data from both sites are represented separately (Grulke, 1999). The meteorological data for Miraflores were recorded at the nearest weather station, all other

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datasets collected meteorological and soil water data at the same site location.

Some variables ( $T, P, u$ ) were recorded at all sites and were suitable to be used directly as model input. For most sites,  $D$  was not recorded but calculated from relative humidity and temperature using standard methods as described in Jones (1992).

$\Phi_n$ , required for estimating  $E_{at}$ , was not measured at any site and hence was estimated from total radiation ( $\Phi$ ) or photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) using a standard method (FAO, 1998). Similarly,  $I_{dir}$  and  $I_{diff}$ , required to estimate the PAR available to sunlit and shaded leaves, were derived from  $\Phi$  based on estimated atmospheric transmissivity using the method described by Jones (1992). Soil heat flux  $G$  (Eqs. 3, 4 and 9) was calculated as 10% of  $\Phi_n$ . For sites where only PAR was recorded (i.e. Davos, Hortenkopf), this was converted to  $\Phi$  before the above steps were performed.

Where meteorological data were missing for periods of a few hours, data gaps were filled using a linear interpolation between adjacent data points. For the Miraflores 2005 dataset, 14 days worth of data were not recorded (14–31 July). In this case, gap-filling of the dataset was achieved using hourly averages representing the relevant diurnal time for the periods 3–13 July and 1–10 August; it was assumed that no rain fell during this period.

For evaluation purposes, the datasets were also required to comprise frequent seasonal observations of variables describing soil water status. Suitable parameters included:  $\Psi_{soil}$ ,  $\theta$ , all recorded at specified depths, and PAW and  $\Psi_{leaf, pd}$ , which were assumed to represent the soil water status of the entire root depth. For the former, the model parameter  $d_r$  was set equivalent to the soil depth represented by the measurements; for the latter,  $d_r$  was defined either by local data or according to DO<sub>3</sub>SE default values provided in Table 2. Field data on these soil water status variables were collected in a range of units and comparisons are presented in original units to minimise errors. Ideally, since the objective of the model is to estimate  $g_{sto}$  for the calculation of stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux, observations of  $g_{sto}$ , or relevant variables, would also be available for comparison. However, such measurements were only available for a limited number of sites.  $E_t$  data comparisons are provided where possible to give an indication of the

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biological control of soil water flux from the system, though it is recognised that such comparisons are not ideal for inferring the influence of soil moisture on stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux since  $E_t$  is in part driven by the atmospheric water status whilst stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux is partly dependent upon the ambient O<sub>3</sub> concentration. For those sites where  $E_t$  or  $g_{sto}$  data do exist, totals or daily maxima respectively were compared to equivalently presented modelled values.

In the absence of local data describing soil texture, the model runs were performed with the most appropriate of the four soil textures (Table 3), defined according to site-specific information where this was available or by calibrating modelled with observed FC under conditions when it would be expected that the soil was fully recharged and precipitation moderate.

Table 2 describes the model parameterisations for each site used in this evaluation. Where possible, local parameterisations of  $g_{max}$  and LAI were used; where these were unavailable, default DO<sub>3</sub>SE model parameterisations were used based upon values given in LRTAP Convention (2010) which provide representative values for tree species in several European regions (Northern, Atlantic Central, Continental Central and Mediterranean).

One set of model runs was carried out for all sites and years for which data were available, each of the four modelling methods were applied. Figures 3 to 11 and S1 to S15 (Supplement) show the results of comparisons between the modelled and measured soil water variables in relation to local precipitation data;  $E_t$  and  $g_{sto}$  are also shown for those sites where comparable data were available.

Statistical analyses of the performance of all four models were carried out by comparing observed and modelled values of soil water (expressed as  $\theta$ ,  $\Psi_{soil}$  or PAW) using a set of statistical tests consisting of the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ), mean bias (MB), root mean square error (RMSE) and Willmott's index of agreement (IA); for definitions see Willmott (1982).

### 3.1 Sensitivity analysis

A sensitivity analysis was performed for those parameters ( $g_{\max}$ , LAI,  $d_r$  and soil texture) which were considered particularly important in determining soil water status,  $g_{\text{sto}}$  and  $E_t$ . Each parameter was altered by  $\pm 25\%$ , which kept the changes in parameters within the bounds of realistic values (Breuer et al., 2003) and also allowed an assessment of the relative importance of each parameter to the same magnitude of change. The exception to this was the assessment of the effect of soil texture, which was performed by comparing sandy loam (coarse) and clay loam (fine) parameters, representing extreme soil texture characteristics.

The accumulated Phytotoxic Ozone Dose (i.e. the accumulated stomatal flux) of  $\text{O}_3$  above a flux threshold of  $1 \text{ nmol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  per leaf area for forest trees ( $\text{POD}_1$ ; LRTAP Convention, 2010) was used to determine the sensitivity of the different parameters to  $\text{O}_3$  flux since it represents a model output parameter that integrates the soil water modelling to a single seasonal ozone flux variable. The sensitivity analysis was carried out for the Norunda site for which data were available for 1999. This dataset was chosen since it represents a year with substantial water stress at a well observed site (both in terms of soil water status and  $E_t$  variables).

## 4 Results

Figures 3 to 11 compare modelled with measured soil water variables. Depending on data availability, variables related to soil water influence on leaf conductance (i.e.  $E_t$  and  $g_{\text{sto}}$ ) are also shown. For all soil water related results (i.e.  $\theta$ ,  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  or PAW), predictions are given for all four models. For  $f_{\text{SWP}}$ ,  $E_t$  or  $g_{\text{sto}}$  predictions, only results from the best performing model for that site (according to the performance statistics provided in Table 5) are shown. Figures describing results for Asa in 2000 and Davos in 2004 are not shown in the paper due to the fact that these sites experienced no drought in these years. However, together with more detailed results from other sites,

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these findings are shown in the Supplement (Figs. S1 to S16).

One of the most important aspects of the model to evaluate is the capability of predicting the length and severity of drought periods, and the influence of such soil drought on canopy  $g_{\text{sto}}$  since this will determine stomatal  $\text{O}_3$  flux. As such, this is the aspect crucial to the  $\text{DO}_3\text{SE}$  model since it will determine the potential risk posed by  $\text{O}_3$ . Thus, when comparing modelled with observed soil water conditions, it is useful to consider the length of soil drying periods that fall below the threshold for the onset of stomatal closure since this represents the point at which  $g_{\text{sto}}$  is restricted by reduced soil water availability and therefore indicates periods when the  $\text{DO}_3\text{SE}$  model will assume soil water limited stomatal  $\text{O}_3$  flux. The effect of soil drought on canopy conductance can specifically be investigated for the Norunda, Rhinelander and Kranzberger Forst sites which provide details of observations of soil water variables as well as canopy conductance variables (either  $E_t$  or  $g_{\text{sto}}$ ). Results comparing modelled and measured variables in relation to  $P$  events are shown for each of these sites in Figs. 3 to 5.

The coniferous forest at the Swedish site Norunda experienced serious drought conditions during the summer of 1999 (Figs. 3, S10 and S11). A measured minimum  $\theta$  of approximately  $0.05 \text{ m}^3 \text{ m}^{-3}$  was fairly accurately predicted by the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$ ,  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  and NSS approach. The  $\theta$  falls below the minimum for the onset of stomatal closure for approximately 25 days from day of year 190, resulting in a strongly reduced  $E_t$  and hence stomatal  $\text{O}_3$  flux (Figs. 3 and S10). The seasonal course of the increasing drought can also be seen in the decreasing  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  values from day 150 onwards (Fig. 3). Single rainfall events ease the drought effects during the summer resulting in a temporary increase in  $E_t$ , but the soil water recharges only after heavy rainfall in late September.

The North American Rhinelander site comprised both pure aspen as well as mixed aspen-birch forest stands; parameterisations for both forest types were defined in terms of LAI and  $g_{\text{max}}$  (Table 2). The model runs for both parameterisations revealed no significant differences of soil water effects on  $g_{\text{sto}}$  in relative or absolute terms; hence Fig. 4 (and Figs. S13 and S14) only show the results for the mixed aspen-birch forest. The site remained fairly wet during the beginning of the 2006 growing season with

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no obvious effect on  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and hence  $E_t$ . However, soil water conditions in the first 65 cm of the soil became considerably drier in June, resulting in a sharp drop in  $\theta$ ,  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and, to a lesser extent,  $E_t$  (Figs. 4, S13 and S14). All four models capture the timing of the drought effect and its extent during the summer well, but underestimate and overestimate  $\theta$  in spring and autumn respectively. Also, during the earlier part of the drought period the measured maximum  $E_t$  is higher than that predicted by the model (Figs. 4 and S13). However, both measured and modelled  $E_t$  data show a dip during the driest period at around day 200.

The year 2003 was characterised by a prolonged drought period in Central Europe. This is mirrored by the fairly low  $P$  levels at Kranzberg. Measured data of  $\theta$  show a drop from 0.38 to approximately  $0.25 \text{ m}^3 \text{ m}^{-3}$  during the drought period, which is best mimicked by the NSS model, whereas the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models overestimate and the SS model underestimates the drought effect on  $\theta$ . However, all models capture the period of reduced  $\theta$  well and the match between observed and modelled  $\theta$  is satisfactory at the beginning and end of the growing period. Also, all models apart from the SS model showed a distinct drop in  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  during the drought period in late summer (Figs. 5 and S7). Up until August, modelled and observed  $g_{\text{sto}}$  tended to match each other, although by September, towards the end of the drought period, observed  $g_{\text{sto}}$  showed a clear recovery (Fig. 5), which may have been related to precipitation events during this period. Observations showed that such events only moistened the uppermost 5 cm of the soil profile. Since this is the densely rooted litter layer, wetting may have resulted in increased water availability to the plant that would have been under-represented by the soil water balance model which integrates soil moisture within the uppermost 40 cm of the profile. In addition, since all models relate  $g_{\text{sto}}$  either directly or indirectly to  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$ , they were unable to capture the observed increase in  $g_{\text{sto}}$  (Figs. 5 and S6). Discrete porometry-based measurements conducted in parallel during that period also showed some recovery in  $g_{\text{sto}}$ , although to a lesser extent than by the approach depicted in Fig. 5 (L6w et al., 2006).

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Model runs for Asa, Sweden were carried out for the year 1995 and 2000 (Figs. 6, S1 and S2). While in 2000 soil water conditions were hardly limiting  $g_{sto}$  of the Norway spruce stand (Fig. S1), in 1995 a distinct drought period in August lead to a decrease in  $\Psi_{soil}$  as depicted both in modelled and measured data (Figs. 6 and S1). The extent of the drought effect is best captured by the  $f_{PAW}$  and  $f_{SWP}$  models, whereas the SS and NSS models clearly overestimate  $\Psi_{soil}$  and predict the soil to remain far wetter. This difference between models is also mirrored by the  $f_{SWP}$ : this parameter is strongly reduced during August 1995 only in  $f_{PAW}$  and  $f_{SWP}$  model predictions.

Similar statements can be made about the Forellenbach results (Figs. 7 and S4), where in the dry year 2003 the PAW steadily decreased to a minimum of approximately 40 mm at the end of August, with an obvious limiting effect on  $g_{sto}$  starting in late July: the  $f_{PAW}$  and  $f_{SWP}$  models clearly outperformed the SS and NSS models.

Figs. 8 and S5 show the year-to-year variation in  $\theta$  for the central European mixed beech and oak forest at Hortenkopf. Observed and modelled  $\theta$  confirm the relative wetness of 2000, followed by three years of clear drought effects, with 2003 being the driest year. The  $f_{PAW}$  and  $f_{SWP}$  models perform well during all years, capturing the periods and extent of drought, expressed as  $\theta$ , well. The performance of the SS and NSS models are much less satisfactory (Fig. 8). These results are also mirrored by the diurnal course of the  $f_{SWP}$  as shown in Fig. S5. Episodic rainfall events in between periods of distinct dryness led to an almost full recharge of soil water at several times during the growing seasons 2001 and 2002, but not in 2003 ( $f_{PAW}$  and  $f_{SWP}$  models, Fig. S5).

Results of model runs for evergreen oak forest sites with Mediterranean climatic conditions (two Spanish, one Californian site) are shown in Figs. 9 to 11 (and Figs. S8, S9, S12, S13 and S16). These sites are more prone to drought conditions with the figures showing limited  $\theta$  during the summer time. The sites Miraflores de la Sierra and Prades are of particular value for this study, since they provide multi-year model input and validation data (though the latter is far from continuous), so model runs spanning more than one growing season could be assessed.



At the Miraflores site (Fig. 9), a total recharge of the soil water was experienced during the winter of 2004/2005 due to some heavy rainfall in autumn and winter (Fig. S9). In 2004, only the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  model was able to capture the very low  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  at the end of the summer, whereas in 2005 all models predicted the drought-induced low  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  for most of the summer as also observed at the site. These results are also mirrored in the seasonal course of the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  as shown in Fig. S9. During both summers, the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  dropped to its minimum value of 0.2 using the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  model (Fig. S9), leading to a reduction of  $g_{\text{sto}}$  during drought periods (results presented in Alonso et al., 2008).

In contrast, the Prades holm oak site did not experience a full recharge of soil water during the winters of 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 despite some rainfall during the autumn and winter months (Figs. 10 and S12). However, while the  $\theta$  clearly shows the missing soil water recharge at the end of 2001 and 2002, this effect actually only affects  $g_{\text{sto}}$  – expressed as the multi-annual course of  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  in Fig. S12 – when using the  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  model, i.e. with all three other models the  $g_{\text{sto}}$  is for a long time unaffected by drought at the beginning of the years 2002 and 2003. When comparing the few available measured with modelled  $\theta$  data, it seems that all models slightly underestimate the  $\theta$  during the winter months, but catch well the  $\theta$  during the drought period in 2003 (Fig. 10).

The Strawberry Peak/Crestline evergreen oak site experienced severe drought conditions in 1995 (Figs. 11 and S15). The  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models predict the decline in  $\theta$  quite well until the end of July, but afterwards overestimate  $\theta$ ; the two other models consistently overestimate the  $\theta$  at the site as compared to measured data (Fig. 11). Furthermore, the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models predict that despite an early decline in  $\theta$  from April on, only in mid June dramatic effects of drought on  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and hence  $g_{\text{sto}}$  are experienced (for the SS and NSS models, this effect appears even later in the year) (Fig. S15).

When comparing the overall performance of all four models with help of the set of statistical parameters given in Table 5, it is apparent that the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models almost always outperform the SS and NSS models, with the SS model showing on average the worst statistical agreement between observed and modelled data as indicated by

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low  $R^2$  and IA values on the one hand and comparatively high values of MB and RMSE on the other. The poorer performance of the SS and NSS model is also mirrored by the much smaller number of days when  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  is predicted to fall below 1 for these two models as compared to the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models (Table 6), suggesting a less pronounced effect of dry soil water conditions on  $g_{\text{sto}}$ . To distinguish between the performance of the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models is more difficult, since both models perform well and in a very similar fashion when applied to datasets in which clear drought conditions have been experienced (Table 6).

The results of the sensitivity analysis, performed for the Norunda site, are shown in Table 7. They reveal that a variation in the soil texture and  $g_{\text{max}}$  parameters lead to the biggest change in  $\text{POD}_1$  regardless of the model used, with clay loam as compared to sandy loam and a decreased  $g_{\text{max}}$  resulting in a smaller change in  $\text{POD}_1$  (a reduction of up to 46 %), whereas an increase in  $g_{\text{max}}$  substantially increases (up to 35 %)  $\text{POD}_1$ . In comparison, changes in  $d_r$  and LAI led to much smaller – and, depending on the model, sometimes contradictory – changes in  $\text{POD}_1$ . A reduced consistency in model predictions when using the SS and NSS model as compared to the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models also manifests itself in a larger variation in the number of days predicted with  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  less than 1 for the two former models (Table 7), further confirming the results of the statistical analysis that the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models are more reliable.

## 5 Discussion

This study has investigated four different modelling approaches that provide estimates of soil water, expressed as  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  or  $\theta$ , and its influence on  $g_{\text{sto}}$  using the  $\text{DO}_3\text{SE}$  model. This approach provides more consistency in estimates of both water vapour and ozone flux between the atmosphere and the plant system. The  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models use an empirical approach to relate soil water status to  $g_{\text{sto}}$ . The difference between these two models is the assumed relationship between soil water status and  $g_{\text{sto}}$ . The  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  model uses empirical relationships derived from data for temperate/boreal and Mediterranean

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species (Fig. 2) describing the connection between  $\Psi_{\text{leaf,pd}}$  as a surrogate for  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  (Slatyer, 1967) and leaf  $g_{\text{sto}}$ . The  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  model represents a more generic approach by relating soil water status, assessed in terms of PAW, to  $g_{\text{sto}}$ , assuming a limitation on  $g_{\text{sto}}$  once less than 50 % of PAW is available (consistent with findings published by Domec et al. (2009) for forest trees). By contrast, the SS and NSS models also use the empirical relationships of the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  approach (i.e. they relate  $\Psi_{\text{leaf,pd}}$  to leaf  $g_{\text{sto}}$ ), but in addition allow for hydraulic resistance (SS) and plant capacitance (NSS) to control water flow through the plant system.

Tables 6 and 7 provide summary statistics for the performance of all four models. Considering those sites and years for which soil water deficits occurred (defined as water deficits that resulted in some stomatal limitation for some part of the year as estimated by at least one of the models), the statistics suggest that a ranking of the models with regard to their predictive performance is  $f_{\text{PAW}} = f_{\text{SWP}} > \text{NSS} > \text{SS}$ . The  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models describe fairly consistently the highest proportion of variance ( $R^2$ - and IA-values of up to 0.94 and 0.97 respectively) and show the smallest absolute difference (fairly consistently low RMSE-values) between modelled and observed data.

The models' performances vary from site to site and year to year. In general, the  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  and  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  models (and with less frequency the NSS and SS models) capture the seasonal course of the observed soil water conditions and the magnitude of drought reasonably well. However there are some cases, especially at the beginning and the end of the growing season, where a more substantial divergence between observed and modelled data occurs. For instance model predictions for the Rhineland, Kranzberg and Forellenbach sites struggle to accurately reflect the rate with which the initial soil drying takes place, often estimating earlier and more prolonged periods of reduced soil water than actually occur.

A direct comparison of the  $f_{\text{PAW}}$ ,  $f_{\text{SWP}}$ , SS and NSS models (Figs. 3 to 11) shows that the two latter models predicted lower  $E_t$  and less dry soil water conditions (expressed as  $\theta$ ,  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  or PAW) as compared to observed data for all sites. This resulted in higher transpiration rates (e.g. Figs. S10 and S13). This finding is not surprising, given that

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the SS and NSS models introduce additional resistances to water transfer through the soil-plant-atmosphere continuum. These models were developed to account for the lag effect caused by internal plant resistance to water transfer from the soil-root to leaf-atmosphere interfaces. The water supply from the soil will not always meet the demand resulting from the driving force of a drier atmosphere, resulting in a difference between the soil water status and leaf water status. The NSS model predicts slightly drier (and therefore more realistic, as judged by observed data) soil conditions than the SS model, because the former accounts for a plant capacitance term, representing a buffering effect of water storage in trunk and branches, which causes a lag in  $g_{sto}$  response.

The application of the SS and NSS models within the DO<sub>3</sub>SE modelling scheme needs further consideration and testing since it may be that the resistance to water transport within the plant can substitute for the  $f_D$  function which is currently a component in the estimate of  $g_{sto}$ . Similar concepts have been explored for forest trees by Uddling et al. (2005) through the development of models that relate the sensitivity of  $g_{sto}$  to  $D$  to the accumulated time after sunrise with  $D$  exceeding a defined threshold, hence indirectly accounting for hydraulic resistance effects. Additionally, a sum  $D$  function developed by Pleijel et al. (2007) that is currently used in the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model for crop species (i.e. wheat and potato) is intended to account for a similar reduced water supply to the leaf. Under conditions of continuous and high  $D$  levels (most likely to occur in the late afternoon of exceptionally hot and dry days), the stomata are prevented from re-opening even if  $D$  levels decrease. Again, this limitation of  $g_{sto}$  in response to increasing  $D$  attempts to mimic severe leaf water loss and the inability of water from the soil to replenish supplies in the leaf. The subsequent reduced loss of water from the system under high  $D$  may in part explain the underestimation found in model estimates of soil drying and subsequent limitations to  $g_{sto}$ . The capacitance term in the NSS model buffers this hydraulic resistance to water loss so that the plant is able to meet  $D$ -driven transpirational demand until the plant water storage is depleted. As such, more water can be lost from this system compared to the SS system, but the inclusion

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of the hydraulic resistance term reduces water loss in comparison to the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  models.

The modelling approaches presented have been used by a number of other studies, with some favouring the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  (e.g. Gao et al., 2002; Emberson et al., 2007) and others favouring the  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  approach (e.g. Gollan et al., 1986; Grünhage and Haenel, 1997; Granier et al., 2000; Van Wijk et al., 2000; Schwalm and Ek, 2004). However, the  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  model is often favoured since  $\theta$  is much more commonly measured in ecological studies. Also, the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  model requires that the  $g_{\text{sto}}$  response to soil water stress be defined in terms of  $\Psi$  (i.e.  $\Psi_{\text{max}}$  and  $\Psi_{\text{min}}$ ), which becomes very sensitive to changes in  $\theta$  as the soil dries; hence, the modelled limitation to  $g_{\text{sto}}$  may be extremely responsive to small changes in  $\theta$  that are close to the equivalent  $\Psi_{\text{min}}$  threshold value.

Other studies that adopted the SS approach of water transfer within plant canopies include Tardieu and Davies (1993), Saliendra et al. (1995), Tardieu and Simonneau (1998) and Anderson et al. (2000), whereas for example Williams et al. (1996), Kumagai (2001) and Lhomme et al. (2001) adopted the NSS approach. The latter all state the importance of the capacitance term and hence favour this approach over the SS approach. Hunt et al. (1991) argue that SS models are sufficient for the prediction of daily totals of water uptake via roots, whereas NSS models are necessary for the assessment of the instantaneous rate of water uptake with regard to diurnal variations in the use of the water storage capacitance and transpiration rate.

A sensitivity analysis was performed to test the models' sensitivity to key model parameters. The analysis focussed on  $g_{\text{max}}$ , LAI, soil texture and  $d_r$ . These four parameters were selected because they were considered particularly important in terms of determining the availability of soil water to the plant (soil texture and  $d_r$ ) and the rate of water loss from the plant ( $g_{\text{max}}$  and LAI). From the range of frequently observed values defined for each of these parameters (Table 7), it is clear that for all four models a variation of  $g_{\text{max}}$  by 25 % leads to the largest change in  $\text{POD}_1$ , followed by soil texture,  $d_r$  and LAI. As expected, an increase in  $g_{\text{max}}$  (increased  $g_{\text{sto}}$  and hence higher  $E_t$ ) and  $d_r$  (increase in accessible water and hence enhanced water supply from root

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to plant) results in higher  $POD_1$  values, whereas the change from a sandy to clay loam soil texture (less extractable water, hence reduced accessibility to soil water leading to enhanced drought effects) reduces the  $POD_1$ . The effect of LAI on  $POD_1$  is comparatively marginal and inconsistent, which suggests that only pronounced changes in LAI (as can be found for deciduous trees as the growing season and thus foliage develops) might significantly affect the partition of the canopy into sunlit and shaded fractions with subsequent effects on the light penetration of the canopy and hence  $g_{sto}$ . These findings stress the importance of the accurate parameterisation of these key variables and especially  $g_{max}$ , as noted previously for Jarvis-type models (e.g. B ker et al., 2007).

There are a number of assumptions behind the modelling schemes used here, irrespective of the type of approach. One of the key difficulties in modelling soil water status lies in the characterisation of the soil environment, both in terms of the soil texture and subsequent soil water holding properties, but also in relation to the rooting environment, with the density and structure of roots likely to vary by species, with depth and according to the severity and evolution of drought conditions. Dynamic approaches to estimates of root depth have been attempted by other models (e.g. Jansson and Karlberg, 2004) and may be an option for future model development. There is also evidence that hydraulic redistribution of water between different parts of the soil may take place (Warren et al., 2007, Domec et al., 2010). However, given the difficulties in defining maximum root depth under optimum soil water supply, the addition of such dynamic methods may suggest accuracy in the model parameterisation which in reality is extremely hard to achieve.

All methods require knowledge of the soil texture and use soil water release curves to define the characteristics and absolute values of the different texture-related soil water properties. An argument often cited in favour of the  $f_{PAW}$  models is that they avoid issues related to soil texture since soil water status is expressed as  $\theta$ . However, these models still require that  $FC$  and  $\Psi_{min}$  be defined as absolute values, and these vary by soil texture. Saxton et al. (1986) and Warren et al. (2005) have developed means of estimating soil water releases curves based on sand, silt and clay fractions within the

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soil. However, application of these methods at particular sites is still confounded by the fact that such fractions vary both horizontally and with depth over quite short distances (cm to m). In the absence of detailed soil data, the only option is to generalise based on what data are available for a particular site or across a particular geographical region.

There are also aspects of water vapour loss from the canopy that may require further consideration. In the past the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model has tended to focus on estimating stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux and hence  $g_{\text{sto}}$  at the leaf level, and, for forest trees, a leaf that represents a mature leaf of the upper canopy. As such the model has concentrated on estimating conductance for sun leaves. However, a mature forest canopy will comprise both sun and shade leaf morphologies, and sunlit and shaded fractions. The latter will vary over the course of a day and the former over the course of a growing season, and both by species and prevailing climatic conditions. This can have important implications for canopy water loss since, when considering the entire growing season, upper canopy sun leaves will have significantly higher  $g_{\text{sto}}$  and hence water loss than lower canopy shade leaves. The DO<sub>3</sub>SE model accounts for variable sunlit and shaded leaf fractions through implementation of the canopy light extinction model (Norman, 1982). However, there is currently no allowance made for the existence of different sun and shade leaf morphologies within the canopy. This will lead to an overestimate of water vapour loss and possibly O<sub>3</sub> deposition. Such diurnal and seasonal variations in sun-lit vs. shaded foliage proportions, and hence in whole-tree transpiration, may be available from analysis of xylem sap flow assessments in tree trunks (Granier et al., 2000; Köstner et al., 2008; Matyssek et al., 2009), allowing for model validation.

The evaluations presented have shown the capability of both the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  and  $f_{\text{PAW}}$  approaches used within the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model to perform under a range of climatic conditions (from Scandinavia, through central Europe to the Mediterranean, and similar climates found in North America) and for a variety of forest species that are representative of those different climates. An important aspect of the models' performance under Mediterranean-type climates is its ability to deal with a lack of complete soil water recharge during the winter months. The results from Prades (Fig. 10), showing a water

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loss over three subsequent years without a full recharge during the winter months, suggest that the model is capable of capturing the magnitude of soil recharge and water loss over relatively long periods of time. For the more northerly temperate and boreal forests, phenology becomes especially important since this determines the time during which the forest trees are actively transpiring. Phenology, here defined as the start and end of the growing season, is calculated according to a latitude model that was derived from remotely sensed (Zhang et al., 2004) and observational data describing the onset and dieback of vegetation and leaf flushes and senescence respectively, as described and used by LRTAP Convention (2010). The importance of phenology can be seen in terms of controlling the onset and decline of transpiration, with the model seeming able to provide good estimates both of  $E_t$  as well as  $\theta$ .

This discussion has mainly focussed on aspects of water loss via the transpiration stream ( $E_t$ ), since this pathway will also be important for stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux. However, issues related to water loss from the soil ( $E_s$ ) and evaporation directly from external plant surfaces ( $E_i$ ) are also important, at least in determining the soil water balance. Modelling of the terms  $E_t$ ,  $E_i$  and  $E_s$  has been consistent through use of the Penman-Monteith approach. Yet, still some assumptions have to be made. For soils we assume a cap on the amount of water lost from this reservoir when soil water is limiting  $g_{sto}$ , such that we mimic the effect of faster soil drying in the uppermost soil layers. For future model development it may be desirable to divide the soil into two separate compartments, one that represents these uppermost layers and allows soil water status to be influenced by  $E_s$ , and the other from which gravitationally held water can only be lost via the transpiration stream. In the evaluations  $E_s$  is also tempered by the continuous presence of some LAI or SAI, which will reduce the radiation to the soil, hence limiting  $E_s$ . However, were the model to be suitable for application over bare soil, a new approach to implementing the cap to water loss via  $E_s$  would be necessary.

Other limiting factors of the model include the omission of various elements of the hydrological cycle, such as snow water and groundwater storage terms. However, for the purposes of the evaluation performed in this paper, which focussed on the



5 physiologically active plant growth period (when snow is unlikely to be present) and for site conditions which were not known to be affected by water table depth, the omission of these storage terms will have been unlikely to significantly affect the results. Further model development could investigate incorporation of these terms, though groundwater storage may be difficult to deal with in relation to regional scale applications due to limitations in data availability.

10 In relation to future model development, it is also useful to consider new techniques for model evaluation. Recently, methods have become available for validating modelled  $O_3$  flux to trees with empirical data, derived from assessing the trunk sap flow as a measure of foliage transpiration (Nunn et al., 2007; Köstner et al., 2008; Matyssek et al., 2008). Sapflow gauges can be positioned in tree crowns to distinguish water flow to various parts of the foliage, thereby allowing assessment of the total stomatal  $O_3$  uptake of the canopy. This approach provides direct estimates of stand-level stomatal  $O_3$  flux (determined using allometric tree-stand up-scaling, and provided  $O_3$  concentration is measured within the canopy boundary; cf. Wieser et al., 2008). As such, non-stomatal stand-level  $O_3$  deposition can also be derived when employing the eddy covariance approach in parallel (Nunn et al., 2010). The difference between the whole-stand  $O_3$  deposition provided by eddy covariance methodology and stomatal  $O_3$  deposition as based on the sap flow approach represents the non-stomatal  $O_3$  deposition. Such methods provide the opportunity to compare both  $E_t$  and stomatal  $O_3$  flux using complimentary measurement approaches and therefore could provide a valuable tool in future efforts to evaluate, and further develop, the  $DO_3SE$  soil moisture model.

25 The modelling performed in this study has assumed no direct effect of  $O_3$  on  $g_{sto}$ . However,  $O_3$ -induced damage to stomatal functioning (Maier-Maercker, 1997; Mills et al., 2009; Wilkinson and Davies, 2009, 2010) might well impact estimates of stomatal  $O_3$  flux. Currently, our understanding of how combinations of stress variables such as increased temperature, drought and  $O_3$  interact to influence  $E_t$  and hence water balance, both on a short-term and long-term basis, are too limited to be incorporated into modelling studies with any degree of confidence. However, observational data

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collected for a mixed deciduous forest by McLaughlin et al. (2007a) illustrate the need to consider such interactions in future research efforts. They found an increase in water use under warmer climates with higher  $O_3$  levels. These changes in water balance led to reduced growth of the mature forest trees with potential implications for the hydrology of forest watersheds (McLaughlin et al., 2007b). Such interactions and ecosystem scale responses will be important to consider in future experimental and modelling studies investigating  $O_3$  and drought interactions.

## 6 Conclusions

The present study describes the further development and evaluation of the  $DO_3SE$  soil moisture module previously described in Emberson et al. (2007). This module has been improved through incorporation of the Penman-Monteith approach to estimate  $E_t$ , thereby incorporating energy balance terms in the estimate of soil water status and subsequent effects on  $g_{sto}$  and stomatal  $O_3$  flux. Four different modelling approaches of linking soil water conditions to  $g_{sto}$  were investigated within the  $DO_3SE$  model framework.

The models (especially the  $f_{SWP}$  and  $f_{PAW}$  models) work well at the European scale for various tree species being capable of differentiating between “wet” and “dry” years and of estimating the onset of both soil drying and soil water recharge periods with a good degree of accuracy for a range of different climates typical for Europe and North America.

Both the  $f_{SWP}$  and  $f_{PAW}$  could be recommended for regional scale application. However, given that  $\theta$  tends to be more readily available for evaluation and that the simple assumption of 50 % PAW as a threshold for soil water effects on  $g_{sto}$  is easy to parameterise without losing any obvious predictive ability, we recommend the  $f_{PAW}$  approach for regional scale application. That said, the more physiologically relevant aspects of the  $f_{SWP}$  approach might make this method more suitable for application on a site-specific basis, especially where plant physiological data have been collected which

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could be used for more detailed assessment and further development of this modelling approach. Hence, we recommend that the selection of either of these modelling approaches be based upon the aims of any study and the available data.

Future model developments should focus on further evaluating the various soil moisture modelling approaches, using both sap flow and eddy covariance techniques, as well as  $\theta$  data which is starting to be made available from widespread, routine monitoring networks across Europe (e.g. FUTMON, [www.futmon.org](http://www.futmon.org)). This additional information should also allow optimisation of the parameterisation of the DO<sub>3</sub>SE soil moisture module.

In conclusion, this work represents an important step forward in being able to estimate stomatal O<sub>3</sub> flux for risk assessment through the incorporation of a robust method to incorporate the influence of soil water stress on the absorbed O<sub>3</sub> dose of forest trees.

**Supplementary material related to this article is available online at:**

**<http://www.atmos-chem-phys-discuss.net/11/33583/2011/atcpd-11-33583-2011-supplement.pdf>**

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**Table 1.** Symbols, abbreviations and parameter values.

Symbol	Parameter value	Units
$a$	Plant absorption flux	$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$b$	Texture dependent soil conductivity parameter	–
$C$	Plant capacitance	$1 \text{ (B/T)}, 0.17 \text{ (M)}$ , $\text{mm MPa}^{-1}$
$C_c$	Coefficient of transpiration fraction of $E_{\text{at}}$	–
$c_p$	Specific heat of air	$\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$
$C_s$	Coefficient of evaporation fraction of $E_{\text{at}}$	–
$d$	Soil measurement depth	$\text{m}$
$D$	Vapour pressure deficit of air	$\text{kPa}$
$d_r$	Root zone depth	$\text{m}$
FC	$\theta$ at field capacity	$\text{m}^3 \text{m}^{-3}$
$\text{PAW}_{\text{min}}$	$\theta$ at $\Psi_{\text{min}}$	$\text{m}^3 \text{m}^{-3}$
$E_{\text{at}}$	Total evapotranspiration	$\text{m day}^{-1}$
$E_i$	Evaporation from canopy	$\text{m day}^{-1}$
$E_s$	Soil surface evaporation	$\text{m day}^{-1}$
$E_t$	Plant transpiration	$\text{m day}^{-1}$
$G$	Soil surface heat flux	$\text{W m}^{-2}$
$I_{\text{dir}}$	Direct sunlight	$\text{W m}^{-2}$
$I_{\text{diff}}$	Diffuse sunlight	$\text{W m}^{-2}$
$K_s$	Soil hydraulic conductivity	$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$K_{\text{sat}}$	Soil hydraulic conductivity at saturation	$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$k_1$	Root density parameter	$3.5 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m s}^{-1}$
LAI	(Projected) Leaf area index	$\text{m}^2 \text{m}^{-2}$
PAW	Plant available soil water	$\text{m}$
$P_{\text{input}}$	Precipitation reaching the soil surface	$\text{m}$
$P_{\text{total}}$	Total precipitation	$\text{m}$
$q$	Storage/destorage flux	$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$r_{\text{sto}}$	Stomatal resistance (leaf-level)	$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$r_{\text{ext}}$	External plant surface resistance (leaf-level)	$\text{m s}^{-1}$

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**Table 1.** Continued.

$R_a$	Aerodynamic resistance		$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$R_b$	Boundary layer resistance		$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$R_{b\text{H}_2\text{O}}$	Boundary layer resistance to water vapour exchange		$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$R_c$	Storage hydraulic resistance	0.4 (B/T), 2 (M)	$\text{MPa h mm}^{-1}$
$R_{\text{gs}}$	Soil resistance to ozone		$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$R_{\text{stoH}_2\text{O}}$	Stomatal resistance to water vapour exchange		$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$R_{\text{inc}}$	In canopy resistance		$\text{m s}^{-1}$
$R_p$	Plant hydraulic resistance	5.3 (B/T), 7 (M)	$\text{MPa h mm}^{-1}$
$R_{\text{sp}}$	Soil-plant hydraulic resistance		$\text{MPa h mm}^{-1}$
$R_{\text{sr}}$	Soil-root hydraulic resistance		$\text{MPa h mm}^{-1}$
$R_{\text{soil}}$	Soil resistance to water vapour		$\text{m s}^{-1}$
SAI	Surface area index		$\text{m}^2 \text{m}^{-2}$
$S_c$	Canopy storage capacity		m
$S_n$	Soil water storage		m
$S_{n-1}$	Soil water storage of previous day		m
$\beta$	Root fraction parameter	0.97	
T	Air temperature		$^{\circ}\text{C}$
$\Delta$	Slope of the relationship between saturation vapour pressure and temperature		$\text{MPa K}^{-1}$
$\gamma$	Psychrometric constant		$\text{MPa K}^{-1}$
$\lambda$	Latent heat of vaporisation		$\text{J kg}^{-1}$
$\rho_a$	Air density		$\text{kg m}^{-3}$
$\theta$	Volumetric soil water content		$\text{m}^3 \text{m}^{-3}$
$\theta_{\text{sat}}$	Volumetric soil water content at saturation		$\text{m}^3 \text{m}^{-3}$
$\Phi_n$	Net radiation at top of canopy		$\text{W m}^{-2}$

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**Table 1.** Continued.

$\Phi_{\text{ns}}$	Net radiation at soil surface	$\text{W m}^{-2}$
$\Psi_{\text{e}}$	Soil water potential at air entry	MPa
$\Psi_{\text{leaf}}$	Leaf water potential	MPa
$\Psi_{\text{leaf,pd}}$	Pre-dawn leaf water potential	
$\Psi_{\text{min}}$	Soil water potential below which plant water uptake ceases	MPa
$\Psi_{\text{r}}$	Reservoir potential	MPa
$\Psi_{\text{sat}}$	Soil water potential at saturation	MPa
$\Psi_{\text{soil}}$	Soil water potential	MPa

N.B. B/T = boreal/temperate forest trees; M = Mediterranean forest trees.

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Table 2. DO<sub>3</sub>SE model parameterisation used for each dataset.

Site name	Country	Species	$g_{max}$ (mmol O <sub>3</sub> m <sup>-2</sup> PLA s <sup>-1</sup> )	LAI <sub>min</sub> , LAI <sub>max</sub>	Light factor, $\alpha$	$T_{min}$ , $T_{opt}$ , $T_{max}$ (°C)	$D_{min}$ , $D_{max}$ (kPa)	Soil texture curve constants $FC$ , $\Psi_s$ , $b$ , $K_{sat}$	Root depth (depth) (m)	soil Canopy height (m)	References
Asa	Sweden	Norway spruce	112	6.5, 6.5	0.006	0, 20, 35	0.8, 2.8	0.26, -0.00158, 4.38, 0.0002178 (Silt loam)	0.4	20	Karlsson et al. (2006)
Davos	Switzerland	Norway spruce	125	3.9, 3.9	0.01	0, 20, 35	0.5, 3.0	0.29, -0.00158, 4.38, 0.0002178 (Silt loam)	1.0	20	Zwiefel et al. (2005)
Forellenhach	Germany	Beech	150	0, 5.0	0.006	5, 16, 33	1.0, 3.1	0.29, -0.00158, 4.38, 0.0009576 (Silt loam)	0.9	25	Baumgarten et al. (2000)
Hortenskopf	Germany	Beech (20%) Oak (80%)	150 [214] 230 [214]	0, 6.0	0.003	0, 20, 35	1.0, 3.25	0.22, -0.00091, 3.31, 0.0009576 (Sandy/silt loam)	0.8–1.2	22 [28] 30 [28]	Werner (unpublished)
Kranzberger Forst	Germany	Beech	148	0, 5.6	0.006	8, 21, 34	1.1, 3.1	0.38, -0.00588, 7.0, 0.00016 (Silt/Clay loam)	0.8	23	Nann et al. (2005, 2007), Raspe (personal communication, <a href="#">www</a> )
Masiforest de la Sierra	Spain	Holm oak	180	1, 2.5	0.003	6, 19, 32	1.3, 3.8	0.27, -0.00158, 4.38, 0.0002178 (Sandy/silt loam)	1.5	6	Alonso et al. (2008)
Norunda	Sweden	Norway spruce (33%) Scots pine (64%)	35 [115] 160 [115]	7.1, 7.1 [4,7] 3.7, 3.7 [4,7]	0.006	0, 20, 35	0.8, 2.8	0.3, -0.005, 2.8, 0.0006576 (Sandy loam)	0.5	19 [17] 19 [17]	Lagergren et al. (2008)
Prades	Spain	Holm oak	100	2.5, 4.0	0.012	1, 23, 39	2.2, 4.0	0.37, -0.00588, 7, 0.00016 (Clay loam)	1.5 (0.9)	4	Ogaya and Peñuelas (2007)
Rhinelander	USA	Aspen	135	0, 3.6	5, 16, 33	1.0, 3.1	0.16, -0.00085, 3.25, 0.0009576 (Sandy loam)	0.65	7–8 [7.5]		King et al. (2005), Jadling et al. (2008, 2009), Rhea et al. (2010)
Strawberry Peak/Crestline	USA	Aspen-Birch mixture Evergreen oak ( <i>Quercus</i> spp.)	116 180	0, 4.4 3.5, 5	0.012	1, 23, 39	2.2, 4.0	0.26, -0.00188, 6.58, 0.0002286 (Loam)	4(4)	15	Gulike (unpublished)

N.B. Default values based on UNECE (2004) indicated in italics. For mixed canopies, weighted means for  $g_{max}$ , LAI and canopy height are used and provided in square brackets; percent coverage of species given in brackets in species column. PLA = Projected leaf area. The formulation of the functions used to define LAI,  $f_{light}$ ,  $f_{temp}$  and  $f_{VPD}$  are described in LRTAP Convention, 2010; the  $\alpha$ ,  $min$ ,  $opt$  and  $max$  values describe the specific parameters for the respective function.

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**Table 3.** Water holding characteristics of four soil texture classes, after Tuzet et al. (2003).

Soil texture	Soil texture classification	$FC_1$ , $m^3 m^{-3}$	$\Psi_e$ MPa	$b$	$K_{sat}$
Sandy loam	Coarse	0.16	-0.00091	3.31	$9.576 \times 10^{-4}$
Silt loam	Medium coarse	0.26	-0.00158	4.38	$2.178 \times 10^{-4}$
Loam	Medium	0.29	-0.00188	6.58	$2.286 \times 10^{-4}$
Clay loam	Fine	0.37	-0.00588	7	$1.6 \times 10^{-4}$

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**Table 4.** Forest datasets used to test soil water status estimates of the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model. References as in Table 2.

Site name	Country	Location	Elevation (m a.s.l.)	Species	Wind speed height (m)	Soil texture	Soil water metric	Soil water measurement depth (m)	$g_{sto}$ data	Measurement period
Asa	Sweden	57°09' N 14°45' E	285	Norway spruce	5	Silt loam	$\Psi_{soil}$ (MPa)	0.4	–	1995, 2000
Davos	Switzerland	46°48' N 09°51' E	1640	Norway spruce	30	Silt loam	$\Psi_{soil}$ (MPa)	0.1	–	2004
Forellenbach	Germany	48°56' N 13°25' E	825	Beech	51	Sandy loam	PAW (mm)	1.2	–	2003
Hortenkopf	Germany	49° 16' N 07°49' E	550	Beech and oak	10	Sandy loam	$\theta$ (%)	0.4	–	2000–2003
Kranzberger Forst	Germany	48°25' N 11°25' E	485	Beech	33	Silt/Clay loam	$\theta$ (%)	0.3	Porometer	2003
Miraflores de la Sierra	Spain	40°48' N 03°48' W	1095	Holm oak	10	Sandy/silt loam	$\Psi_{pdeaf}$ (MPa)	–	LI-COR 6400	2004, 2005
Norunda	Sweden	60°05' N 17°29' E	45	Norway spruce, Scots pine	37	Sandy loam	$\theta$ (%)	0.5	Sap flow	1999
Prades	Spain	41°12' N 00°55' E	930	Holm oak	5	Clay loam	$\theta$ (%)	0.1, 0.4	–	2001–2003
Rhinelander	USA	45°36' N 89°30' W	500	Aspen; mixed Aspen-Birch	10	Sandy loam	$\theta$ (%)	Between 0.05 and 1.3	Sap flow	2006
Strawberry Peak/Crestline	USA	34°30' N 117°18' W	1800	Evergreen oak ( <i>Quercus spp.</i> )	15	Loam	$\theta$ (%)	0.5	–	1995

Measurement height: OF = Open Field; C = within Canopy

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**Table 5.** Statistical agreement (coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ), mean bias (MB; normalised value in parenthesis), root mean square error (RMSE; normalised value in parenthesis) and Willmott's index of agreement (IA)) of measured and modelled soil water using four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{\text{sto}}$ . Results for Miraflores are not shown due to scarcity of measured data points. Metric units:  $\Psi_{\text{soil}}$  [MPa], PAW [mm],  $\theta$ [%].

Site	Year	Soil water Metric	$f_{\text{SWP}}$				$f_{\text{PAW}}$				SS				NSS			
			$R^2$	MB (NMB)	RMSE (NRMSE)	IA	$R^2$	MB (NMB)	RMSE (NRMSE)	IA	$R^2$	MB (NMB)	RMSE (NRMSE)	IA	$R^2$	MB (NMB)	RMSE (NRMSE)	IA
Asa	1995	$\Psi_{\text{soil}}$	0.48	-0.03 (14.02)	0.53 (-236.25)	0.69	0.47	0.05 (-24.41)	0.33 (-145.83)	0.78	0.57	0.20 (-90.32)	0.36 (-161.98)	0.44	0.51	0.19 (-83.15)	0.33 (-148.37)	0.50
	2000		0.02	0.02 (-54.69)	0.02 (-62.87)	0.19	0.02	0.02 (-54.89)	0.02 (-62.87)	0.19	0.04	0.02 (-64.86)	0.02 (-65.74)	0.18	0.03	0.02 (-61.43)	0.02 (-63.04)	0.19
Davos	2004	$\Psi_{\text{soil}}$	0.01	0.01 (-42.73)	0.01 (-56.79)	0.44	0.00	0.01 (-45.07)	0.01 (-58.54)	0.43	0.00	0.01 (-48.10)	0.01 (-60.67)	0.42	0.00	0.01 (-44.07)	0.01 (-57.87)	0.43
	2003	PAW	0.91	21.00 (29.98)	25.43 (36.32)	0.88	0.90	14.49 (20.89)	24.28 (34.67)	0.90	0.08	109.50 (156.34)	113.53 (162.09)	0.31	0.61	78.29 (111.78)	80.82 (115.11)	0.44
Forellenberg	2000	$\theta$	0.78	0.01 (7.40)	0.02 (8.15)	0.84	0.78	0.01 (7.40)	0.02 (9.15)	0.84	0.40	0.03 (15.59)	0.03 (17.98)	0.49	0.54	0.03 (14.13)	0.03 (16.19)	0.53
	2001		0.81	-0.02 (-16.67)	0.03 (23.31)	0.90	0.81	0.01 (4.46)	0.02 (17.00)	0.94	0.55	0.09 (74.40)	0.10 (80.67)	0.42	0.88	0.07 (57.37)	0.07 (60.98)	0.56
	2002		0.60	-0.03 (-24.91)	0.03 (27.88)	0.61	0.12	0.00 (-0.73)	0.02 (20.73)	0.58	0.00	0.09 (84.57)	0.09 (90.61)	0.25	0.04	0.05 (45.96)	0.05 (51.67)	0.39
	2003		0.94	-0.01 (-5.50)	0.02 (18.20)	0.97	0.94	0.00 (3.42)	0.01 (13.21)	0.98	0.73	0.07 (60.88)	0.08 (67.36)	0.58	0.83	0.03 (30.67)	0.04 (35.72)	0.84
Kranzberger Forst	2003	$\theta$	0.84	-0.02 (-7.18)	0.04 (12.01)	0.92	0.85	-0.02 (-8.19)	0.04 (12.41)	0.91	0.43	0.03 (8.84)	0.05 (16.53)	0.73	0.73	0.00 (0.63)	0.03 (9.87)	0.92
Norunda	1999	$\theta$	0.89	-0.02 (-12.67)	0.03 (22.52)	0.96	0.89	-0.01 (-5.97)	0.03 (18.83)	0.97	0.87	0.05 (29.84)	0.06 (38.03)	0.85	0.94	0.01 (4.78)	0.02 (14.84)	0.98
Prades	2001–2003	$\theta$	0.77	-0.03 (-13.57)	0.05 (19.24)	0.88	0.82	-0.03 (-9.82)	0.04 (15.12)	0.92	0.84	-0.02 (-6.78)	0.03 (12.49)	0.94	0.81	-0.02 (-9.73)	0.04 (15.34)	0.92
Rhineland	2003	$\theta$	0.72	0.00 (-0.56)	0.03 (19.41)	0.91	0.53	-0.01 (-9.53)	0.03 (26.80)	0.83	0.27	0.01 (4.69)	0.04 (31.56)	0.68	0.41	0.00 (-0.76)	0.04 (28.07)	0.78
Strawberry Peak/Crestline	1995	$\theta$	0.78	0.03 (18.70)	0.04 (25.74)	0.86	0.80	0.03 (19.40)	0.04 (25.84)	0.86	0.89	0.06 (41.61)	0.06 (44.09)	0.70	0.90	0.05 (36.34)	0.05 (38.73)	0.75

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**Table 6.** Modelled length and severity of the drought stress period affecting  $g_{sto}$  for all sites.  $f_{SW} < 1$  and  $f_{SW\ min}$  indicate the total days of water stress when  $\Psi_{soil} < \Psi_{max}$  and when  $\Psi_{soil} < \Psi_{min}$ , respectively.

Model		$f_{SWP}$				$f_{SWU}$				SS				NSS			
Site	Year	$f_{SW} < 1$		$f_{SWmin}$		$f_{SW} < 1$		$f_{SWmin}$		$f_{SW} < 1$		$f_{SWmin}$		$f_{SW} < 1$		$f_{SWmin}$	
		No. of days	% of total days	No. of days	% of total days	No. of days	% of total days	No. of days	% of total days	No. of days	% of total days	No. of days	% of total days	No. of days	% of total days	No. of days	% of total days
Asa	1995	34	13.9	5	2.0	45	18.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.9	0	0
	2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Davos	2004	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forellenhoch	2003	63	17.3	0	0	98	26.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hortenkopf	2001	40	21.9	0	0	88	48.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2002	59	32.2	0	0	106	57.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2003	91	49.7	3	1.6	113	61.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2.2	0	0
Kranzberger Forst	2003	108	29.6	3	0.8	164	44.9	4	1.1	0	0	0	0	57	15.6	0	0
Miraflores	2004/2005	291	39.8	124	17.0	307	42.0	51	7.0	228	31.2	101	13.8	253	34.6	104	14.2
Norunda	1999	97	49.0	14	7.1	120	60.6	1	0.5	0	0	0	0	70	35.4	0	0
Prades	2001–2003	455	43.8	96	9.2	870	83.8	55	5.3	266	25.1	16	1.5	328	31.6	22	2.1
Rhineland	2006	38	13.2	9	3.1	86	29.8	8	2.8	13	4.5	0	0	28	9.7	5	1.7
Strawberry Peak/Crestline	1995	200	54.8	146	40	212	58.1	142	38.9	150	41.1	65	17.8	161	44.1	89	24.4

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**Table 7.** Effects on changing parameters soil texture,  $g_{\max}$ , LAI and root depth on  $\text{POD}_1$  and number of days with  $f_{\text{SW}} < 1$ , therefore indicating drought conditions at Norunda 1999. Percentage change of  $\text{POD}_1$  as compared to initial parameterisation (=sandy loam) indicated in brackets. The sandy loam soil texture parameterisation represents the original parameterisation used in model runs (Tables 3 and 4).

Parameter	Value	$\text{POD}_1$ ( $\text{mmol O}_3 \text{ m}^{-2}$ )	$f_{\text{SW}} < 1$ (days)	$\text{POD}_1$ ( $\text{mmol O}_3 \text{ m}^{-2}$ )	$f_{\text{SW}} < 1$ (days)
Model		$f_{\text{SWP}}$		$f_{\text{PAW}}$	
Soil texture	Sandy loam	4.64	97	4.09	120
	Clay loam	3.19 (−31)	116	3.56 (−13)	122
$g_{\max}$ ( $\text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )	85	3.37 (−27)	79	3.11 (−24)	108
	145	5.52 (+19)	106	5.07 (+24)	131
LAI	3.5	4.70 (+1)	96	4.53 (+11)	119
	5.9	4.74 (+2)	96	4.05 (−1)	120
Root depth (m)	0.38	3.92 (−16)	104	3.43 (−16)	124
	0.63	5.25 (+13)	84	4.96 (+21)	120
		SS		NSS	
Soil texture	Sandy loam	2.79	0	3.93	70
	Clay loam	2.12 (−24)	59	2.88 (−27)	89
$g_{\max}$ ( $\text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )	85	1.50 (−46)	0	2.91 (−26)	18
	145	3.77 (+35)	36	4.71 (+20)	79
LAI	3.5	2.51 (−10)	14	3.78 (−4)	74
	5.9	3.03 (+9)	0	4.26 (+8)	61
Root depth (m)	0.38	2.37 (−15)	38	3.32 (−16)	72
	0.63	2.91 (+4)	0	4.79 (+22)	26

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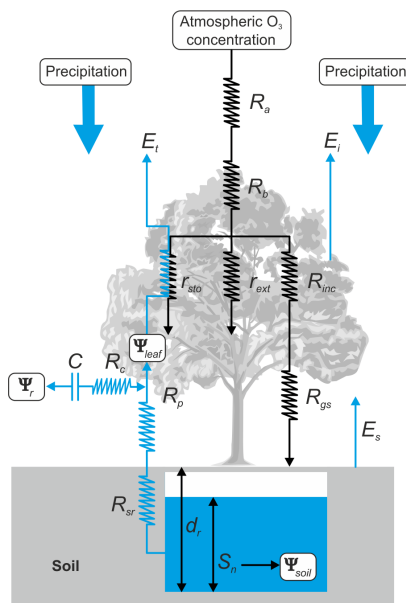
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**Fig. 1.** Schematic of resistance to O<sub>3</sub> deposition (black) and water vapour exchange (blue) in relation to the DO<sub>3</sub>SE model resistance scheme. The coupling between soil water loss and transpiration is achieved through the influence of soil drying on  $g_{sto}$  resulting in reduced transpiration. Denotation: see Table 1. Note that all possible resistances are shown in the schematic though different models will use different combinations of these resistances; the  $Rsr$  and  $Rp$  terms are specific to the SS model and the  $Rsr$ ,  $Rp$ ,  $Rc$  and  $C$  terms are specific to the NSS model. The  $f_{SWP}$  and  $f_{PAW}$  models do not use these particular terms. Further details are provided in the text.

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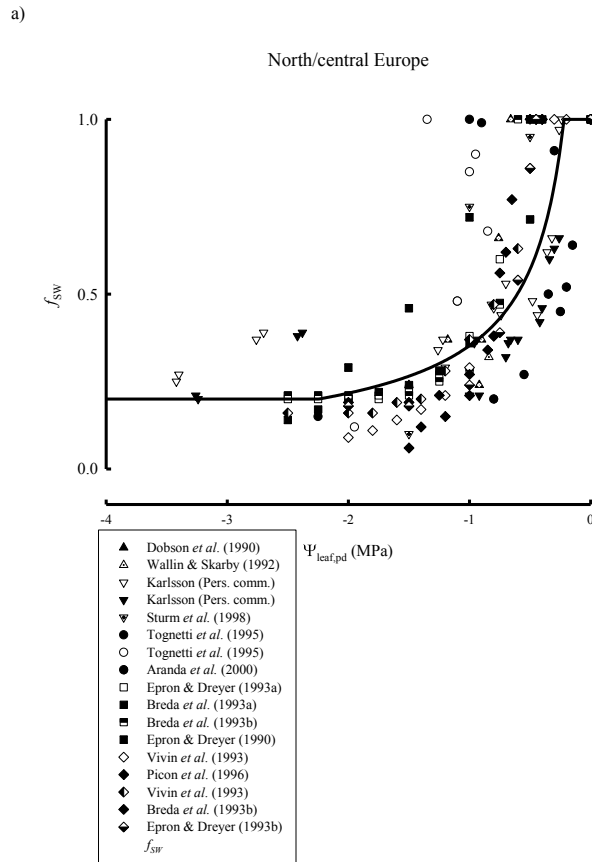
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**Fig. 2a.**  $f_{SW}$  relationships in comparison with observed data describing relative  $g$  with pre-dawn leaf water potential for (a) coniferous (Norway spruce and Scots pine) and deciduous (beech) trees in north and central Europe with  $\Psi_{max} = -0.6$  MPa;  $\Psi_{min} = -1.5$  MPa; PWP =  $-4.0$  MPa.

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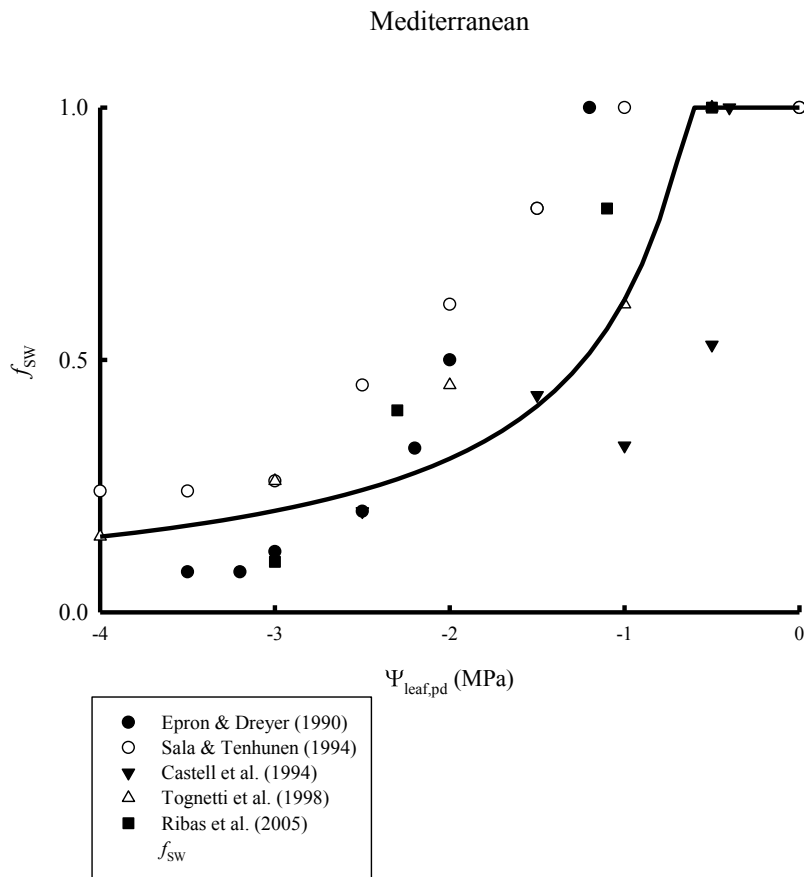
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**Fig. 2b.**  $f_{SW}$  relationships in comparison with observed data describing relative  $g$  with pre-dawn leaf water potential for **(b)** Mediterranean trees (holm oak) with  $\Psi_{max} = -0.9$  MPa;  $\Psi_{min} = -3.6$  MPa; PWP =  $-4.0$  MPa.

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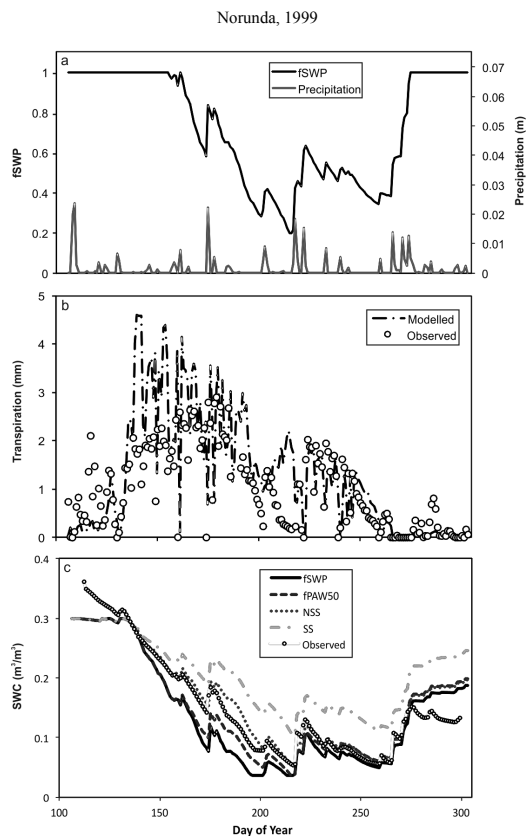
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**Fig. 3.** (a) Modelled  $f_{SWP}$  and measured precipitation for a mixed Norway spruce and Scots pine stand at Norunda in 1999 using the  $f_{PAW}$  method; (b) Observed and modelled transpiration for the same year, stand and soil water calculation method; (c) Observed and modelled soil water content (SWC) using all four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{sto}$  (see methods section for details).

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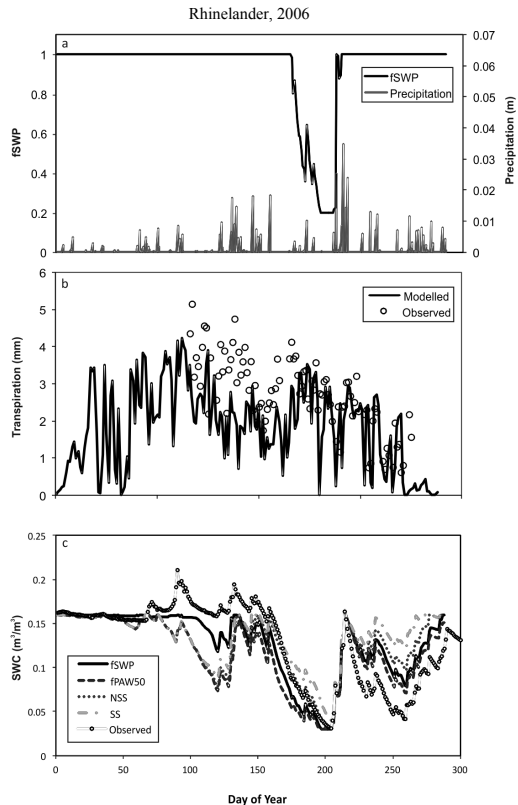
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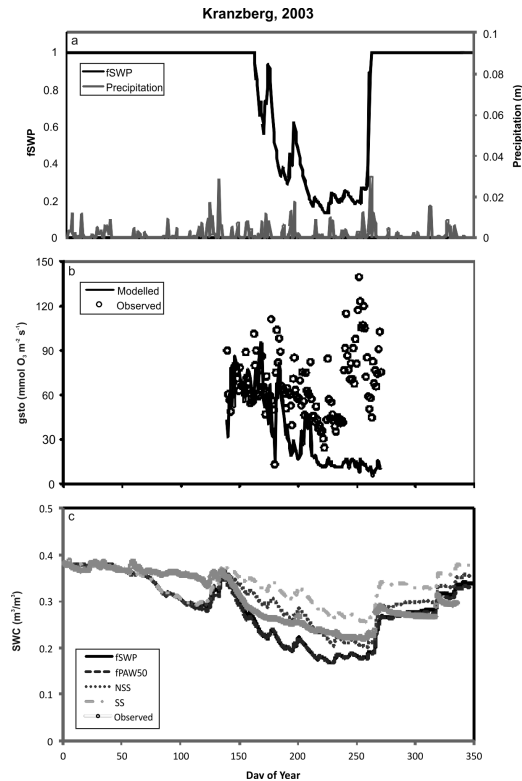
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**Fig. 4.** (a) Modelled  $f_{SWP}$  and measured precipitation for a mixed aspen-birch stand at Rhinelander in 2006 using the  $f_{SWP}$  model; (b) Observed and modelled transpiration for the same year, stand and soil water calculation method; (c) Observed and modelled soil water content (SWC) using all four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{sto}$  (see methods section for details).

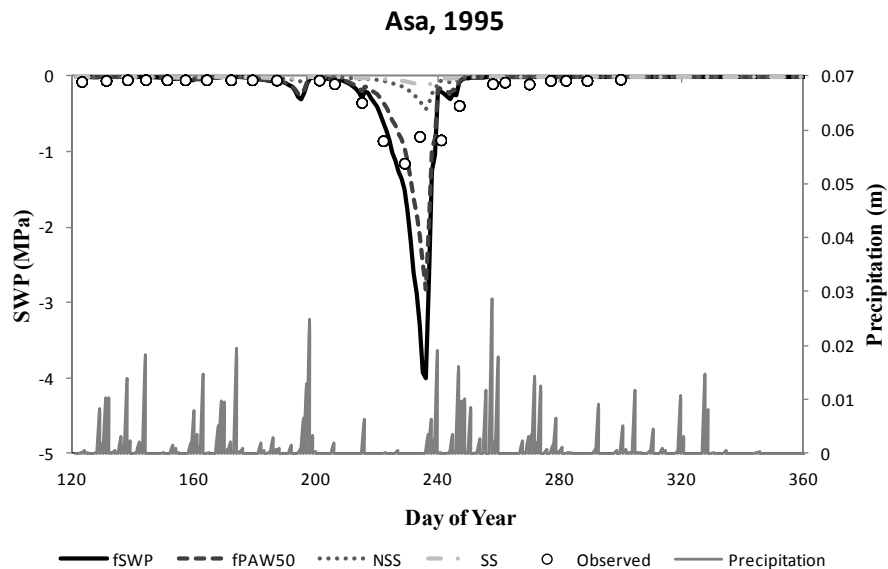
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**Fig. 5.** (a) Precipitation and modelled  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  for a beech stand at Kranzberger Forst in 2003 using the  $f_{\text{SWP}}$  model (see methods section for details); (b) Observed and modelled leaf-level  $g_{\text{sto}}$  for the same year, stand and soil water calculation method; (c) Observed and modelled soil water content (SWC) using all four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{\text{sto}}$  (see methods section for details).

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**Fig. 6.** Comparison of observed and modelled soil water potential (SWP) in 1995 for a Norway spruce stand at Asa using four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{sto}$  (see methods section for details).

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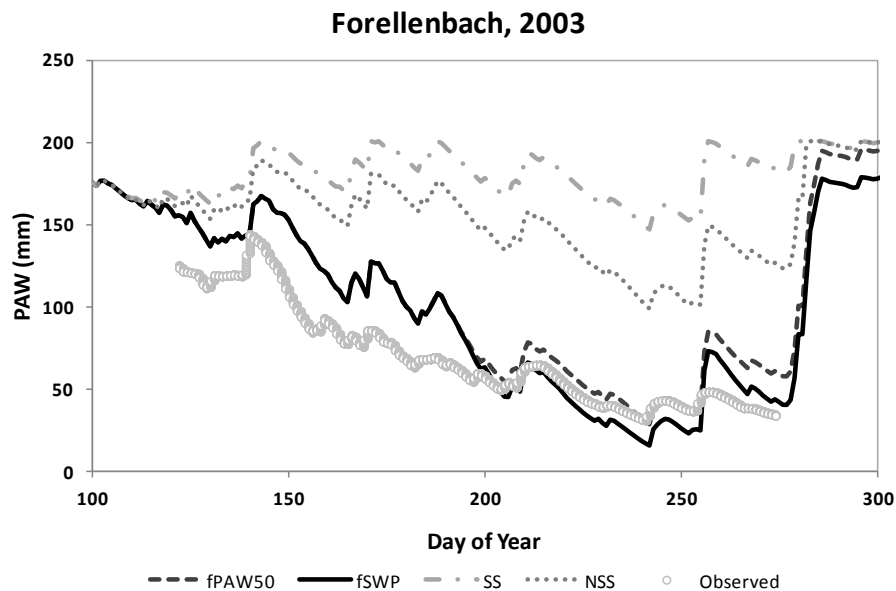
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**Fig. 7.** Comparison of observed and modelled plant available water (PAW) in 2003 for a beech stand at Forellenbach using four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{sto}$  (see methods section for details).

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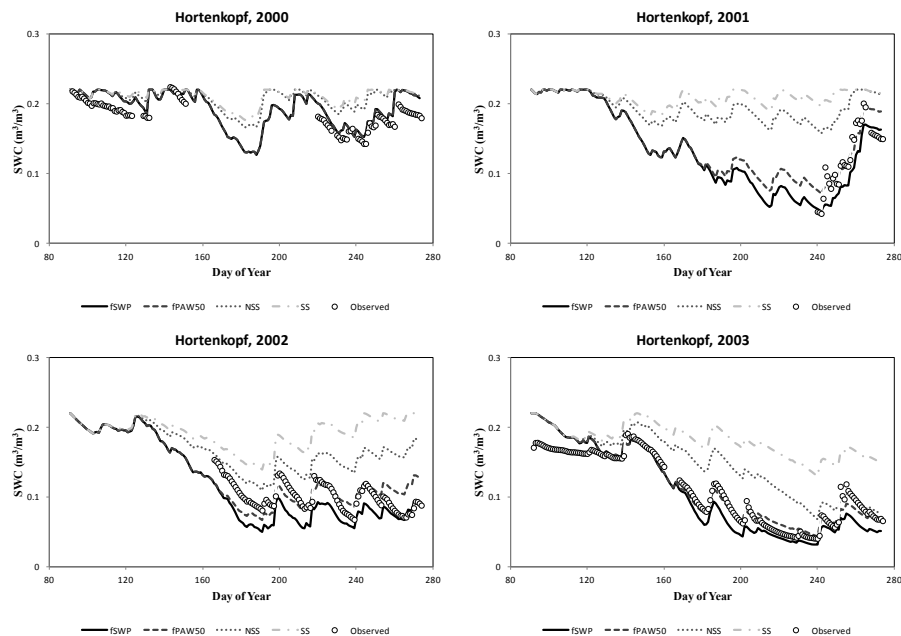
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**Fig. 8.** Comparison of observed and modelled soil water content (SWC) in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 for a mixed beech and temperate oak stand at Hortenkopf using four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{sto}$  (see methods section for details).

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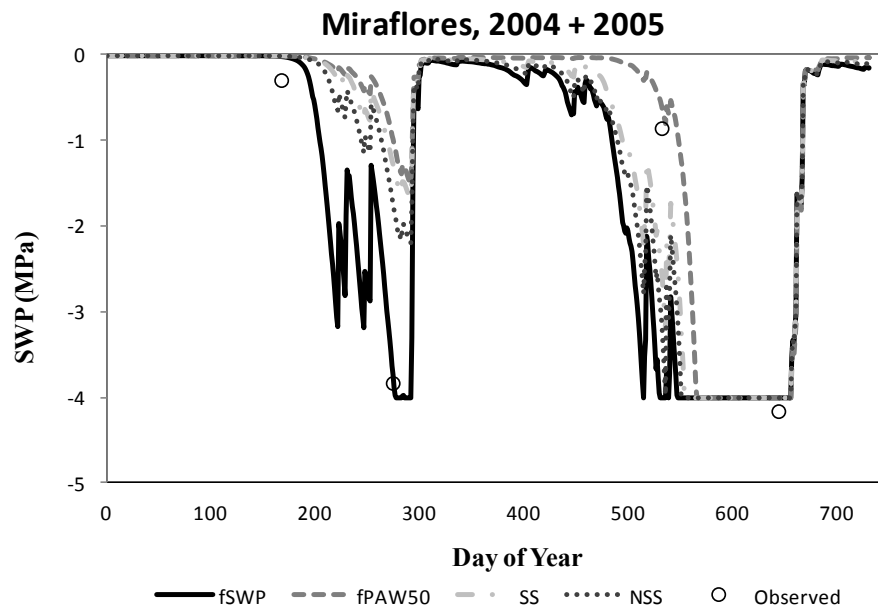
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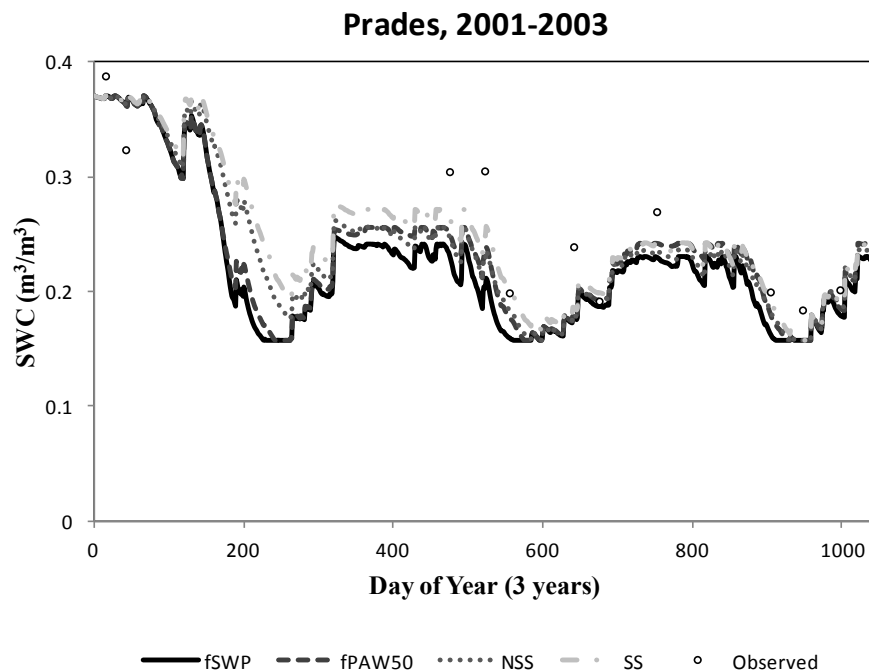


**Fig. 9.** Comparison of modelled soil water potential (SWP) and observed pre-dawn leaf water potential in 2004 and 2005 for a holm oak stand at Miraflores de la Sierra using four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{sto}$  (see methods section for details).

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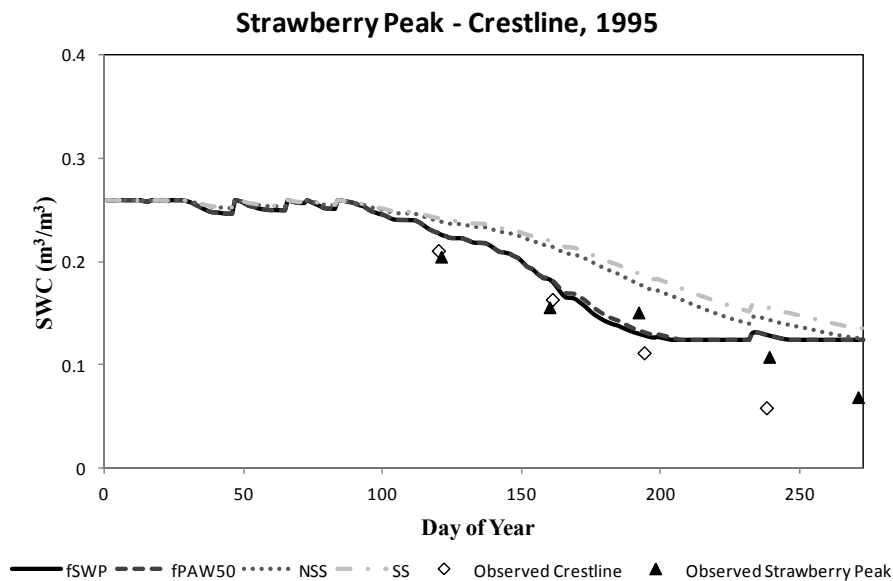


**Fig. 10.** Comparison of modelled and observed soil water content (SWC) from 2001 to 2003 for a holm oak stand at Prades using 4 methods that relate soil water to  $g_{sto}$  (see methods section for details).

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**Fig. 11.** Comparison of observed and modelled soil water content (SWC) in 1995 for a ever-green oak stand at Strawberry Peak/Crestline using four methods that relate soil water to  $g_{sto}$  (see methods section for details).

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