

RSPB20070417

**Electronic supplementary material A (table 2)**  
**Species-specific data**

List of study species together with taxonomical and growth form affiliation, and data source provenance (table 2). Also, scores of several estimated parameters and means of variables of interest to the study.  $\beta$  is the scaling exponent of the power relation of leaf mass and leaf area ( $LM = \alpha LA^\beta$ , calculated  $\beta$  and 95% CI limits are shown).  $R^2$  is the goodness-of-fit of the RMA regression between (log)LA and (log)LM used to estimate  $\beta$ . Sample size is the number of leaves where LA and LM were measured separately. LM, LA and SLA (specific leaf area, LA/LM) are the arithmetic means of those variables for each species.  $LA_{VAR}$  is the ratio of LA of the largest to the smallest leaf of each species.  $SLA_{VAR}$  shows the proportional change of SLA that would occur across the range of observed leaf sizes of each species (based on the ratio of the largest to the smallest leaf ) calculated from the RMA regression parameters ( $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ) obtained for each species. Growth form categories: T, tree; S, shrub; V, vine; H, herb; G, grass. Leaf habit in parentheses: (d), deciduous; (e), evergreen; (sd), semi-deciduous. See table 1 for full reference of each data source.

Table 2.

species	$\beta$ (95% CI)	$r^2$	sample size per species	LM (g)	LA (cm <sup>2</sup> )	SLA (cm <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	L <sub>AVAR</sub>	SLA <sub>AVAR</sub>	growth form	family	data source
<i>Acer negundo</i>	1.073 (0.946–1.219)	0.975	10	0.157	23.88	152.41	3.42	0.91	T(d)	Sopindaceae	Shipley
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	1.065(0.968–1.171)	0.939	30	0.178	39.54	221.82	30.11	0.80	T(d)	Sapindaceae	Roderick
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	1.134 (0.885–1.451)	0.906	10	0.033	10.02	303.39	2.85	0.87	T(d)	Sapindaceae	Reich2
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	1.19(0.982–1.442)	0.944	10	0.100	39.63	394.46	2.66	0.83	T(d)	Sapindaceae	Shipley
<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	1.14(1.045–1.243)	0.950	30	0.433	52.72	121.90	6.55	0.77	H(d)	Rosaceae	Reich4
<i>Amelanchier ovalis</i>	0.913 (0.836–0.997)	0.896	56	0.027	2.74	102.57	5.82	1.17	T(d)	Betulaceae	Roderick
<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	1.159 (0.863–1.556)	0.843	11	0.071	10.30	144.88	2.67	0.86	S(d)	Rosaceae	Milla1
<i>Anaxagorea dolichocarpa</i>	1.227(1.096–1.373)	0.955	18	0.387	47.75	123.31	3.04	0.78	S(d)	Fabaceae	Reich2
<i>Andropogon gerardi</i>	1.133 (0.952–1.348)	0.946	11	0.068	11.09	163.68	2.83	0.87	T(c)	Annaceae	Barloto
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	1.11(1.008–1.221)	0.831	75	0.132	8.36	63.53	4.22	0.85	G(d)	Poaceae	Reich2
<i>Aster azureus</i>	0.817 (0.661–1.01)	0.920	11	0.044	10.86	248.31	6.86	1.42	S(c)	Ericaceae	Milla1
<i>Aster lanceolatus</i>	1.006(0.889–1.138)	0.977	10	0.018	3.69	204.64	2.86	0.99	H(d)	Asteraceae	Reich2
<i>Bertholletia excelsa</i>	0.995(0.819–1.21)	0.932	11	3.027	240.99	79.62	3.98	1.01	H(d)	Asteraceae	Shipley
<i>Betula nana</i>	0.982 (0.788–1.222)	0.801	20	0.005	0.55	120.23	2.21	0.89	T(c)	Lecythidaceae	Reich3
<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	1.151 (0.974–1.359)	0.958	10	0.059	26.85	454.99	6.00	0.85	T(d)	Betulaceae	Shipley
<i>Betula jacquemontii</i>	1.089(0.999–1.188)	0.950	30	0.318	37.33	117.22	2.25	1.01	T(d)	Betulaceae	Roderick
<i>Betula pendula</i>	1.248(1.116–1.397)	0.820	59	0.059	7.38	125.31	2.67	0.78	S(d)	Betulaceae	Kudo
<i>Betula populifolia</i>	0.843(0.668–1.066)	0.916	10	0.069	10.79	157.40	4.68	1.27	T(d)	Betulaceae	Niinemets
<i>Bistorta bistortoides</i>	1.094 (1.014–1.18)	0.967	26	0.124	14.66	118.30	6.53	0.84	T(d)	Betulaceae	Shipley
<i>Bonafousia disticha</i>	1.07(0.804–1.425)	0.852	11	0.339	49.77	146.89	2.53	0.94	H(d)	Polygonaceae	Reich4
<i>Brachycton megaphyllus</i>	0.997 (0.868–1.144)	0.932	18	2.692	275.42	102.33	6.50	1.01	T(c)	Apocynaceae	Barloto
<i>Bromus erectus</i>	0.939 (0.907–0.974)	0.946	168	0.066	15.07	229.09	22.20	1.21	T(d)	Malvaceae	Prior
<i>Buchanania obovata</i>	1.145(1.003–1.308)	0.937	18	2.377	144.54	60.81	4.25	0.81	G(d)	Poaceae	Roumet
<i>Bupleurum fruticosum</i>	1.088 (1.049–1.128)	0.977	72	0.076	5.35	70.31	10.99	0.81	T(sd)	Anacardiaceae	Prior
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	1.224 (1.133–1.322)	0.891	75	0.020	1.27	63.97	2.83	0.79	S(c)	Apiaceae	Milla1
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	0.893 (0.79–1.009)	0.942	19	0.105	8.77	83.37	4.26	1.17	S(c)	Buxaceae	Milla1
<i>Caraiipa heterocarpa</i>	1.055(0.926–1.201)	0.843	40	0.313	45.71	146.22	9.36	0.64	T(c)	Myrtaceae	Roderick
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	1.203(1.114–1.3)	0.855	98	0.044	10.23	230.67	4.81	0.92	T(d)	Betulaceae	Williams-Liner
<i>Cassandra calyculata</i>	1.245(0.935–1.658)	0.873	10	0.021	2.06	99.54	2.18	0.83	T(c)	Clusiaceae	Reich1
<i>Cassipourea guianensis</i>	1.129 (1.032–1.236)	0.973	17	0.298	38.11	127.94	10.74	0.74	S(c)	Ericaceae	Shipley
<i>Cecropia ficifolia</i>	1.157 (1.05–1.276)	0.881	52	1.671	233.35	139.64	5.67	0.76	T(c)	Rhizophoraceae	Barloto
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	1.113(0.935–1.326)	0.954	10	0.015	2.75	181.55	2.34	0.91	T(c)	Moraceae	Reich1
<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	0.901 (0.774–1.049)	0.845	30	0.113	17.66	155.96	3.29	1.13	H(d)	Asteraceae	Shipley
<i>Cirmamomum effusum</i>	1.14(1.048–1.241)	0.823	99	0.272	34.04	125.03	6.62	0.77	T(d)	Fabaceae	Roderick
<i>Clethra mexicana</i>	0.988 (0.938–1.039)	0.935	99	0.664	63.39	95.50	32.22	1.04	T(c)	Lauraceae	Williams-Liner
<i>Clidemia sericea</i>	1.141 (0.975–1.334)	0.905	19	0.535	68.39	127.94	3.59	0.84	T(d)	Clethraceae	Williams-Liner
<i>Cochlospermum fraseri</i>	1.075(0.935–1.237)	0.930	18	0.468	77.98	166.72	3.14	0.92	T(c)	Melastomataceae	Reich1
<i>Comandra richardiana</i>	1.147 (0.843–1.561)	0.853	10	0.004	0.84	202.77	5.35	0.78	T(d)	Bixaceae	Prior
<i>Convolvulus mauritanicus</i>	1.183 (1.028–1.361)	0.868	30	0.009	2.01	231.74	2.73	0.83	H(d)	Santalaceae	Reich2

(Continued.)

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species	$\beta$ (95% CI)	$r^2$	sample size per species	LM (g)	LA (cm <sup>2</sup> )	SLA (cm <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	LA <sub>VAR</sub>	SLA <sub>VAR</sub>	growth form	family	data source
<i>Gordia sagotii</i>	0.956 (0.77–1.186)	0.928	10	1.820	216.77	119.12	4.39	1.07	H(d)	Convolvulaceae	Roderick
<i>Gordia</i> sp.	1.269 (0.981–1.641)	0.864	12	1.409	176.20	125.03	7.67	0.58	T(e)	Boraginaceae	Baraloto
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	1.313 (1.125–1.532)	0.964	10	0.130	25.00	192.75	3.30	0.69	T(e)	Boraginaceae	Baraloto
<i>Crudia bracteata</i>	1.004 (0.883–1.142)	0.949	16	0.150	26.61	177.83	4.55	0.99	S(d)	Cornaceae	Shipley
<i>Cupania scrobiculata</i>	1.211 (0.949–1.546)	0.878	12	0.425	44.06	103.75	2.59	0.82	T(e)	Fabaceae	Baraloto
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	1.002 (0.977–1.027)	0.973	169	0.101	27.10	269.15	53.27	0.99	T(e)	Sapindaceae	Baraloto
<i>Diapensia lappionica</i>	1.002 (0.811–1.239)	0.932	10	0.001	0.07	60.95	2.13	1.00	G(d)	Poaceae	Baraloto
<i>Empetrum hermaphroditum</i>	1.038 (0.854–1.261)	0.843	20	0.001	0.04	60.12	1.87	0.98	S(e)	Diapensiaceae	Roumet
<i>Eperua falcata</i>	1.028 (0.926–1.142)	0.901	39	0.244	39.08	159.96	5.06	0.96	S(e)	Ericaceae	Kudo
<i>Eperua grandiflora</i>	0.961 (0.741–1.247)	0.807	15	0.527	69.02	130.92	2.05	1.03	T(e)	Fabaceae	Baraloto
<i>Eperua leucantha</i>	1.103 (1.018–1.196)	0.945	37	0.447	63.24	141.58	5.71	0.84	T(e)	Fabaceae	Baraloto
<i>Eperua purpurea</i>	1.077 (0.988–1.173)	0.960	25	0.232	38.99	167.88	4.88	0.89	T(e)	Fabaceae	Reich1
<i>Erythrina poeppigiana</i>	1.278 (1.088–1.501)	0.947	12	0.334	68.39	204.64	3.20	0.98	T(e)	Fabaceae	Reich1
<i>Erythrophleum chlorostachys</i>	1.019 (0.845–1.23)	0.873	18	0.206	20.75	100.69	3.21	0.72	T(sd)	Fabaceae	Prior
<i>Eschweilera coriacea</i>	1.107 (0.992–1.236)	0.831	58	1.164	129.72	111.43	4.77	0.85	T(e)	Fabaceae	Reich3
<i>Eschweilera sagotiana</i>	1.109 (1–1.231)	0.863	53	1.371	127.94	93.33	4.32	0.85	T(e)	Lecythidaceae	Baraloto
<i>Eucalyptus foelscheana</i>	1.056 (0.959–1.162)	0.967	18	1.782	80.91	45.39	14.32	0.92	T(e)	Lecythidaceae	Baraloto
<i>Eucalyptus tetradonta</i>	1.071 (0.894–1.284)	0.881	18	1.462	80.91	55.34	5.83	0.91	T(e)	Myrtaceae	Roderick
<i>Eucalyptus ficifolia</i>	1.032 (0.877–1.215)	0.829	29	0.322	25.70	79.80	4.79	0.68	T(e)	Myrtaceae	Prior
<i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i>	1.242 (1.121–1.377)	0.929	30	0.583	26.00	44.57	2.84	0.93	T(e)	Myrtaceae	Roderick
<i>Fabaceae</i> sp1	1.235 (1.101–1.384)	0.899	34	1.180	155.60	131.83	3.17	0.76	T(e)	Myrtaceae	Prior
<i>Ficus racemosa</i>	1.166 (0.952–1.427)	0.852	18	0.454	69.18	152.41	2.81	0.84	T(e)	Fabaceae	Reich1
<i>Ficus scobina</i>	0.911 (0.726–1.142)	0.815	18	0.310	37.76	121.62	2.53	1.09	T(sd)	Moraceae	Prior
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	1.206 (1.083–1.343)	0.983	10	0.061	27.80	458.14	6.30	0.68	T(sd)	Moraceae	Prior
<i>Geum macrophyllum</i>	0.955 (0.776–1.175)	0.822	20	0.023	8.20	363.92	8.86	1.10	T(d)	Oleaceae	Shipley
<i>Geum rosi</i>	1.061 (0.895–1.259)	0.864	22	0.050	4.20	83.95	3.58	0.93	H(d)	Rosaceae	Shipley
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	1.002 (0.918–1.093)	0.949	30	0.162	20.37	125.60	9.35	1.00	T(d)	Ginkgoaceae	Roderick
<i>Goupta glabra</i>	1.401 (1.28–1.534)	0.958	24	0.659	83.75	127.06	5.13	0.52	T(e)	Celastraceae	Reich1
<i>Hedera helix</i>	1.025 (0.947–1.109)	0.959	30	0.115	24.49	213.80	23.81	0.92	V(e)	Araliaceae	Roderick
<i>Henriettella flavescens</i>	1.122 (1.009–1.247)	0.863	51	0.641	81.28	126.77	4.58	0.83	T(e)	Melastomataceae	Baraloto
<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>	1.764 (1.323–2.352)	0.829	12	0.319	42.07	131.83	2.12	0.56	T(e)	Euphorbiaceae	Reich3
<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>	1.061 (0.754–1.494)	0.817	10	0.022	8.83	396.28	3.74	0.92	H(d)	Asteraceae	Shipley
<i>Hypericum calycinum</i>	0.939 (0.869–1.016)	0.959	30	0.100	8.67	86.30	2.93	1.07	H(d)	Clusiaceae	Roderick
<i>Impatiens pallida</i>	1.16 (0.89–1.511)	0.892	10	0.019	15.14	803.53	2.69	0.85	H(d)	Balsaminaceae	Shipley
<i>Inga</i> sp4	1.014 (0.898–1.144)	0.856	42	0.361	43.85	121.34	4.37	0.98	T(e)	Fabaceae	Baraloto
<i>Inga stipularis</i>	1.026 (0.963–1.094)	0.963	39	0.589	58.75	99.77	4.87	0.96	T(e)	Fabaceae	Baraloto
<i>Iryanthera hostmannii</i>	1.323 (1.167–1.501)	0.906	27	0.558	61.24	109.65	4.31	0.62	T(e)	Myristicaceae	Baraloto
<i>Iryanthera sagotiana</i>	0.995 (0.899–1.101)	0.874	51	0.316	39.45	124.74	5.48	1.01	T(e)	Myristicaceae	Baraloto
<i>Jacaranda copaia</i>	1.505 (1.267–1.788)	0.870	21	0.105	20.65	197.24	6.33	0.39	T(e)	Bignoniaceae	Baraloto

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<i>Kalmia augustifolia</i>	0.778 (0.626–0.968)	0.927	10	0.031	2.84	92.47	2.31	1.20	S(e)	Ericaceae	Shipley
<i>Lecythis chirtacea</i>	1.09(0.97–1.226)	0.972	12	0.364	61.38	168.66	3.28	0.90	T(e)	Lecythidaceae	Baraloto
<i>Lecythis idatinota</i>	0.978 (0.88–1.087)	0.951	21	0.502	54.45	108.39	6.45	1.04	T(e)	Lecythidaceae	Baraloto
<i>Lepidodes capitata</i>	0.952 (0.745–1.216)	0.846	14	0.035	4.44	127.64	3.46	1.06	H(d)	Fabaceae	Reich2
<i>Licania membranacea</i>	0.92 (0.831–1.019)	0.890	45	0.532	50.82	95.50	10.85	1.21	T(e)	Chrysobalanaceae	Baraloto
<i>Licania heteromorpha</i>	1.118(1.003–1.246)	0.912	33	0.582	60.95	104.71	4.91	0.83	T(e)	Chrysobalanaceae	Reich1
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	1.018(0.981–1.057)	0.967	95	0.114	26.98	236.05	26.30	0.94	T(d)	Hamamelidaceae	Williams-Liner
<i>Lonicera implexa</i>	1.218 (1.091–1.361)	0.890	39	0.060	4.22	70.15	3.94	0.74	V(e)	Caprifoliaceae	Milla1
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	1.407 (1.037–1.908)	0.856	10	0.018	3.14	171.40	2.18	0.73	H(d)	Lythraceae	Shipley
<i>Magnolia schiedana</i>	1.159(1.091–1.233)	0.908	99	0.676	66.07	97.72	5.50	0.76	T(e)	Magnoliaceae	Williams-Liner
<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	1.154 (1.012–1.316)	0.960	13	0.034	11.80	349.14	8.66	0.72	H(d)	Liliaceae	Reich2
<i>Manihot esculenta</i>	0.991 (0.841–1.167)	0.918	16	0.358	87.10	243.22	2.52	1.01	S(e)	Euphorbiaceae	Reich1
<i>Melaleuca viridifolia</i>	0.933 (0.806–1.078)	0.924	18	0.501	21.63	43.15	5.22	0.79	T(d)	Meliaceae	Roderick
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	1.139 (1.019–1.272)	0.918	30	0.045	8.51	187.93	6.22	1.13	T(e)	Myrtaceae	Prior
<i>Miconia dispar</i>	0.821 (0.623–1.081)	0.824	13	2.415	224.91	93.11	4.94	1.33	T(e)	Melastomataceae	Reich1
<i>Miconia tchudyooides</i>	1.196(1.108–1.291)	0.926	53	1.202	143.22	119.12	5.56	0.98	T(e)	Sapotaceae	Reich1
<i>Micrantha sprucei</i>	1.213 (1.057–1.393)	0.847	35	1.205	102.80	85.31	4.97	0.71	T(e)	Euphorbiaceae	Reich1
<i>Micropholis maguirei</i>	1.014(0.908–1.132)	0.905	34	1.057	82.99	78.52	14.06	0.60	T(e)	Melastomataceae	Baraloto
<i>Myrtacea sp5</i>	0.844 (0.747–0.954)	0.900	30	0.351	56.89	162.18	3.61	1.22	T(e)	Myrtaceae	Baraloto
<i>Neea obovata</i>	1.03(0.921–1.151)	0.894	37	0.231	22.65	97.95	14.47	0.92	T(e)	Nyctaginaceae	Reich1
<i>Ocotea costulata</i>	0.874 (0.785–0.974)	0.924	29	0.557	77.27	138.68	5.58	1.24	T(e)	Lauraceae	Reich1
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	1.1 (0.915–1.323)	0.948	10	0.050	26.55	528.45	3.12	0.89	T(d)	Betulaceae	Shipley
<i>Palicoirea guianensis</i>	1.039 (0.973–1.109)	0.968	33	1.023	143.88	140.60	22.18	0.89	T(e)	Rubiaceae	Baraloto
<i>Panicum praeceocius</i>	1.063 (0.978–1.154)	0.988	11	0.007	2.22	308.32	5.43	0.90	G(d)	Poaceae	Reich2
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	1.04(0.826–1.31)	0.891	12	0.090	45.60	505.82	5.76	0.93	V(d)	Vitaceae	Reich2
<i>Paspalum virgatum</i>	1.277(1.027–1.587)	0.891	13	0.270	34.12	126.47	2.48	0.61	V(e)	Passifloraceae	Reich3
<i>Passiflora edulis</i>	1.546 (1.205–1.984)	0.823	15	0.422	92.04	218.27	2.54	0.77	G(e)	Poaceae	Reich3
<i>Pedicularis lapponica</i>	1.228 (1.058–1.425)	0.909	20	0.006	0.69	109.14	3.35	0.76	H(d)	Scrophulariaceae	Kudo
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	1.138 (1.058–1.223)	0.903	75	0.028	1.54	55.85	3.44	0.84	S(e)	Anacardiaceae	Milla1
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	1.121 (1.027–1.225)	0.857	75	0.079	6.84	86.50	3.95	0.85	S(d)	Anacardiaceae	Milla1
<i>Planchonia careya</i>	0.874 (0.708–1.079)	0.840	18	0.552	66.07	119.67	2.98	1.15	T(d)	Lecythidaceae	Prior
<i>Pogonophora schomburgkiana</i>	0.937 (0.797–1.101)	0.886	21	0.352	50.12	142.23	5.59	1.11	T(e)	Euphorbiaceae	Baraloto
<i>Polygonum sagittatum</i>	0.927 (0.768–1.12)	0.946	10	0.009	6.00	665.27	3.66	1.10	H(d)	Polygonaceae	Shipley
<i>Populus nigra</i>	1.022(1.002–1.043)	0.997	30	0.116	20.28	174.58	23.09	0.93	T(d)	Salicaceae	Roderick
<i>Populus tremula</i>	1.172 (1.111–1.236)	0.904	133	0.278	32.14	115.61	6.30	0.73	T(d)	Salicaceae	Niinemets
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	1.057 (0.818–1.366)	0.899	10	0.210	27.67	131.52	2.74	0.94	T(d)	Salicaceae	Shipley
<i>Pradosia cochlearia</i>	1.172 (1.024–1.342)	0.911	23	0.175	26.24	149.97	3.04	0.83	T(e)	Sapotaceae	Baraloto
<i>Protium opacum</i>	1.354 (1.178–1.556)	0.824	39	1.197	153.82	128.53	3.12	0.67	T(e)	Burseraceae	Baraloto
<i>Protium sp1</i>	1.266 (1.08–1.485)	0.809	33	0.830	101.86	122.74	3.46	0.72	T(e)	Burseraceae	Reich1
<i>Protium sp2</i>	1.175(1.012–1.364)	0.885	24	0.703	74.13	105.44	7.19	0.71	T(e)	Burseraceae	Reich1

(Continued.)

species	$\beta$ (95% CI)	$r^2$	sample size per species	LM (g)	LA (cm <sup>2</sup> )	SLA (cm <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	LA <sub>VAR</sub>	SLA <sub>VAR</sub>	growth form	family	data source
<i>Protium</i> sp3	1.019 (0.944–1.101)	0.956	33	0.908	79.43	87.50	3.96	0.97	T(e)	Burseraceae	Reich1
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	1.15(1.069–1.237)	0.903	75	0.057	2.87	50.12	3.71	0.91	S(e)	Fagaceae	Milla1
<i>Quercus xalapensis</i>	1.07(1.02–1.123)	0.943	100	0.141	19.54	138.68	9.15	0.57	T(d)	Fagaceae	Reich2
<i>Quercus cocifera</i>	1.069 (0.988–1.157)	0.885	75	0.029	1.45	50.58	2.86	0.85	S(e)	Fagaceae	Milla1
<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>	1.257 (1.076–1.469)	0.932	15	0.256	44.36	172.98	11.47	0.84	T(d)	Fagaceae	Williams-Liner
<i>Retinophyllum truncatum</i>	1.077 (0.98–1.183)	0.918	40	0.376	30.76	81.85	4.17	0.90	T(e)	Rubiaceae	Reich1
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	1.201 (1.081–1.334)	0.871	49	0.044	4.14	93.11	3.38	0.78	S(e)	Rhamnaceae	Castro-Díez
<i>Rhodognaphalopsis humilis</i>	0.984 (0.854–1.134)	0.922	19	0.415	28.91	69.66	5.72	1.03	T(e)	Malvaceae	Reich1
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	1.249 (1.065–1.465)	0.961	10	0.072	11.75	164.06	2.16	0.83	S(d)	Anacardiaceae	Shipley
<i>Rinorea amapensis</i>	0.974(0.854–1.111)	0.817	45	0.162	29.72	183.65	3.26	1.03	T(e)	Violaceae	Baraloto
<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	1.054 (0.975–1.14)	0.992	9	0.059	25.35	431.52	2.85	0.94	S(d)	Rosaceae	Shipley
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	1.143 (0.809–1.616)	0.813	10	0.044	15.78	357.27	1.84	0.92	S(d)	Rosaceae	Shipley
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	1.309 (1.053–1.629)	0.927	10	0.015	2.54	165.58	4.26	0.64	H(d)	Asteraceae	Shipley
<i>Ryania pyrifera</i>	0.782 (0.641–0.954)	0.857	18	0.414	56.49	136.46	4.03	1.35	T(e)	Salicaceae	Baraloto
<i>Sagotia brachysepala</i>	1.354 (1.131–1.622)	0.934	12	0.478	79.25	165.96	6.98	0.50	T(e)	Euphorbiaceae	Baraloto
<i>Salix herbacea</i>	1.133 (1.014–1.267)	0.949	20	0.008	0.88	109.40	3.11	0.78	T(d)	Salicaceae	Roderick
<i>Salix babylonica</i>	1.216 (1.108–1.335)	0.941	30	0.057	8.83	154.17	2.32	0.89	S(d)	Salicaceae	Kudo
<i>Saxifraga canaliculata</i>	1.452 (1.239–1.701)	0.805	34	0.002	0.17	72.95	2.67	0.64	S(e)	Saxifragaceae	Milla2
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	0.994 (0.708–1.396)	0.820	10	0.025	4.43	176.60	2.06	1.00	G(e)	Poaceae	Reich2
<i>Solanum crinitum</i>	1.359 (1.152–1.603)	0.909	17	0.743	113.50	152.76	1.66	0.87	H(d)	Asteraceae	Shipley
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	1.273 (1.037–1.564)	0.936	10	0.018	2.49	136.77	6.23	0.52	T(e)	Poaceae	Reich3
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	1.006 (0.794–1.276)	0.855	14	0.060	10.16	170.22	6.41	0.99	G(d)	Poaceae	Reich2
<i>Sterculia pruriens</i>	1 (0.904–1.105)	0.909	39	5.284	636.80	120.50	11.91	1.00	T(e)	Makaceae	Baraloto
<i>Symphonia globulifera</i>	0.94(0.82–1.078)	0.962	12	0.244	35.97	147.23	3.07	1.07	T(e)	Clusiaceae	Baraloto
<i>Symphonia</i> sp1	1.034 (0.898–1.191)	0.809	41	0.186	25.94	139.32	3.08	0.96	T(e)	Clusiaceae	Baraloto
<i>Syzygium suborbiculare</i>	0.966 (0.796–1.174)	0.863	18	0.822	59.98	72.95	3.77	1.05	T(sd)	Myrtaceae	Prior
<i>Tapura guianensis</i>	1.157 (0.999–1.339)	0.828	35	0.402	45.81	114.02	5.81	0.76	T(e)	Dichapetalaceae	Baraloto
<i>Taraxacum laevigatum</i>	1.106 (0.966–1.265)	0.973	10	0.027	13.52	503.50	2.37	0.91	H(d)	Asteraceae	Shipley2
<i>Terminalia ferdinandiana</i>	1.104 (0.993–1.227)	0.960	18	1.169	115.61	98.86	2.91	0.89	T(d)	Combretaceae	Prior
<i>Turpinia insignis</i>	1.108 (1.078–1.139)	0.982	98	0.230	26.49	115.08	17.36	0.73	T(e)	Staphyleaceae	Williams-Liner
<i>Unonopsis stipitata</i>	1.334 (1.187–1.499)	0.955	17	0.640	86.10	134.59	20.04	0.37	T(e)	Annonaceae	Baraloto
<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>	0.97(0.802–1.174)	0.850	20	0.004	0.20	51.64	2.72	0.86	S(d)	Ericaceae	Reich4
<i>Vaccinium myrtilus</i>	1.156 (0.913–1.462)	0.843	15	0.019	3.42	177.42	3.74	1.04	S(e)	Ericaceae	Kudo
<i>Viburnum tinus</i>	1.167 (1.067–1.277)	0.957	25	0.163	16.75	103.04	3.02	0.83	S(e)	Caprifoliaceae	Castro-Díez
<i>Vinca minor</i>	1.208 (1.087–1.342)	0.926	30	0.031	6.28	204.17	7.67	0.65	H(e)	Apocynaceae	Roderick
<i>Vismia laurifolius</i>	1.174 (1.024–1.347)	0.830	39	0.353	62.66	177.42	4.88	0.76	T(e)	Myristicaceae	Baraloto
<i>Wrightia pubescens</i>	1.11(0.977–1.26)	0.811	49	0.836	86.90	103.99	8.23	0.79	T(e)	Clusiaceae	Reich1
<i>Xanthostemon paradoxus</i>	0.776 (0.647–0.932)	0.880	18	0.134	25.88	192.75	2.34	1.21	T(d)	Apocynaceae	Prior
	1.236 (1.078–1.418)	0.933	18	1.349	98.86	73.28	2.79	0.78	T(sd)	Myrtaceae	Prior

## Electronic supplementary material B

### Statistics to calculate the effects of growth form, ecosystem of origin and phylogeny on beta scores

To investigate whether  $\beta$  differs between growth forms, we divided our set of species into trees, vines, shrubs, forbs and grasses, and each group was subsequently split into evergreen and deciduous leaf habit type. Owing to significant heteroscedasticity and unbalanced sample size between groups, we used a parameter-free Kruskal–Wallis ranks analysis to compare scaling exponents among growth forms. Similarly, we grouped our dataset as a function of the ecosystem of origin (wetlands, tundra-alpine, tropical seasonal forest, tropical rainforest, temperate forest, mediterranean shrublands or gardens) and compared the scaling exponents of each habitat by a Kruskal–Wallis test. All other statistics were performed with SPSS v.13.0.

Species are not independent observations and are related to each other through shared ancestry. To investigate the effect of common ancestry on  $\beta$  scores we proceeded as follows. Nomenclature and family affiliation of our study species were checked against the Missouri Botanical Garden's VAST nomenclatural database (W3Tropicos, <http://mobot.mobot.org/W3T/Search/vast.html>). We then built a pruned phylogenetic tree of the seed plants with the study species as terminal tips using the maximally resolved seed plant tree available in Phylomatic (<http://www.phylodiversity.net/phyloomatic/>). The resulting tree lacks an estimation of accurate distances between related nodes (i.e. assumes equal branch lengths) assuming equal branch lengths can result in biased estimates of phylogenetic distances between taxa when intervening terminal taxa are missing. Although phylogenetic independent contrasts are robust to the equal branch lengths assumption, phylogenetic signal tests are not (Ackerly 2000). Thus, we calibrated the tree by dating the nodes with the Branch Length ADJustment function (BLADJ) of the PHYLOCOM package (Webb et al. 2006). BLADJ assigns branch lengths on the basis of clade age estimates (Wikstrom et al. 2001), with undated nodes assigned equal branch lengths between nodes for which age estimates are available. We thus obtained a node-dated tree, calibrated in millions of years, which was used as the input tree in a phylogenetic signal analysis.

To test for phylogenetic inertia in the evolution of  $\beta$  scores, we used the analysis of traits (AOT) module of PHYLOCOM. AOT calculates divergence–convergence degree at each internal node of the tree. Trait means of daughter nodes are computed from the arithmetic mean of the tips of the tree that are linked by ancestry to the daughter node. Then the standard deviation between trait means of daughter nodes is used as a proxy of the degree of divergence at the focal node (i.e. divergence size). High standard deviations between daughter node arithmetic means indicate divergence, whereas the opposite indicates phylogenetic conservatism at that particular bifurcation. Significance of divergence size is estimated by randomly permuting trait values across the tips of the phylogeny. In total, 10 000 randomizations were conducted, and the placement of each node-level divergence size score within the distribution of the scores of the 10 000 randomizations was used to qualify divergence size at each node as either significant divergence (node-level divergence size at the 5% higher tail of the 10 000 values), significant conservatism (node-level divergence size at the 5% lower tail of the 10 000 values) or nonsignificant change. AOT computes tree-wide conservatism by averaging the node-level scores of divergence size, and tests its statistical significance as explained above. Phylogenetic uncertainty and the presence of polytomies in the input tree may cause biases in phylogenetically explicit analyses. Therefore, although AOT procedures are assumed to be robust to the presence of 'soft' polytomies (Webb et al. 2006), we resolved polytomies in the tree by randomly generating 100 fully resolved trees using MESQUITE (Maddison & Maddison 2006). We then re-sampled 50 of the 100 fully resolved trees randomly and run AOT again separately for each of those 50 trees. This allowed us to check the robustness to phylogenetic uncertainty of our tree-wide conservatism estimate.

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## Electronic supplementary material C

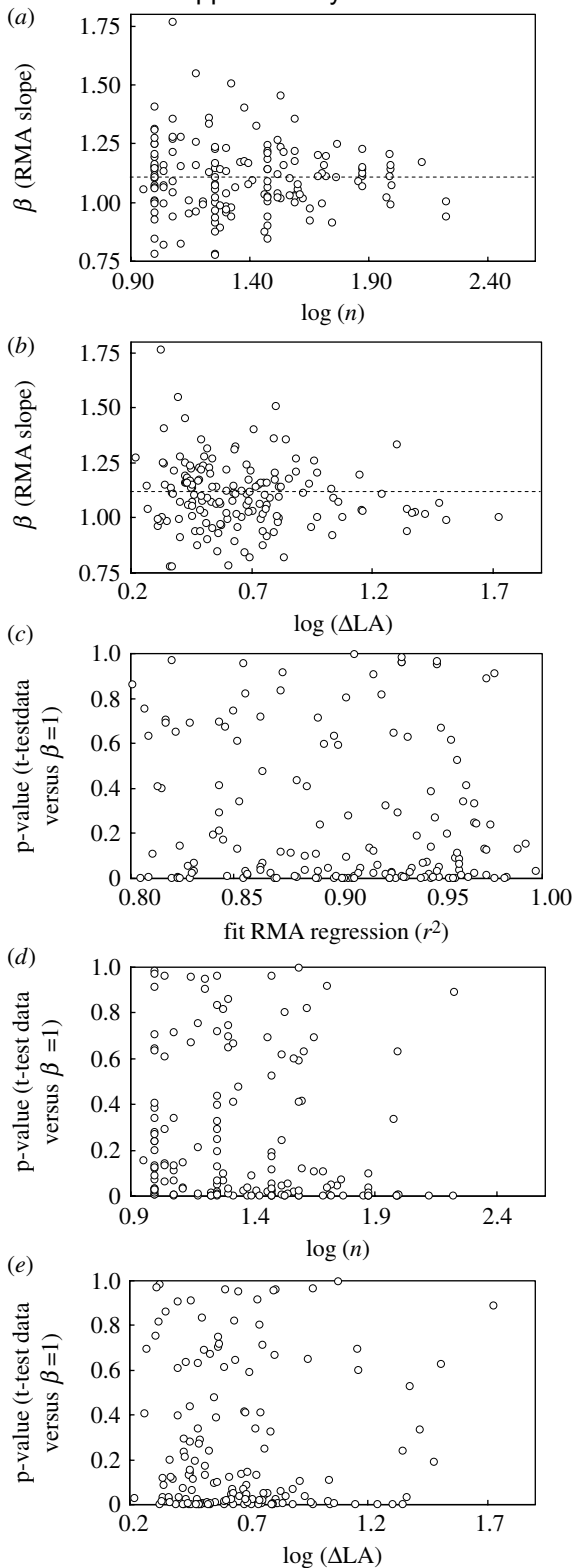


Figure 5. Scatter plots of the  $\beta$  RMA slope, and p value of the likelihood ratio test against  $\beta = 1$ , against log-scaled sample size ( $n$ ), range of leaf area variation ( $\Delta LA$ ) and goodness of fit ( $r^2$ ). Dots are species. Reference line in (a) and (b):  $\beta = 1.10$  (mean  $\beta$  of the 157 species). No simple regression model explained a significant fraction of any scatter.