

## 祁连山中部地区树轮宽度年表特征随海拔高度的变化

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**摘要:** 利用采自祁连山中部地区不同海拔高度的四个采样点的青海云杉树轮样芯, 分别建立了树木年轮宽度年表。发现随海拔高度的上升, 树轮宽度指数的振幅减小, 年表的平均敏感性降低, 样本间的一致性也逐步减小, 上限年表与气候因子的相关性最低, 这与目前大家普遍认同的上限树木的生长受温度控制的概念并不一致。进一步的分析表明, 年表的敏感性随海拔高度降低主要是由于该区域树木生长的限制因子是春季降水, 而降水随海拔高度的升高而增加, 从而使得春季降水对树木生长的限制作用随海拔升高而逐步减弱; 生物学指标的测定结果表明, 生长在高海拔的树木对环境的生态适应策略发生变化, 其生理代谢维持在较低水平, 以避免环境变化带来的影响, 因此生长在高海拔的青海云杉对环境变化的敏感性较差。

**关键词:** 树木年轮; 环境因子; 树轮生态学; 敏感度

## Analysis of the tree-ring width chronology of Qilian Mountains at different elevation

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**Abstract:** Tree-ring cores taken from four sites at different elevations in the middle of the Qilian Mountains, in the arid and semi-arid region of northwestern China, were used to develop four tree-ring width chronologies respectively using standard dendrochronological methods. Three of these namely Heiwa, Tianlaochi and Meiyaokou, are located in Sidalong, a catchments of the Heihe River, in the Qilian Mountains, northwestern China. These three sampling sites lie very close to each other but at the different elevation. The fourth site, Xishui, is about 60 km from Sidalong. It is the lowest elevation site and also located in the catchment of the Heihe River in the Qilian Mountains. The tree ring cores were taken *Picea crassifolia* at the four different elevations. Results indicated that with increasing altitude the chronology fluctuation decreased.

The statistical character of the chronology shows that mean sensitivity ( $M.S.$ ) and standard deviation ( $S.D.$ ) decreased with increasing elevation. In other words, the response of tree growth to environmental changes is decreased at higher elevation. The decrease of the correlation coefficients ( $R1$ ,  $R2$ , and  $R3$ ) indicates that the consistency of the tree's response to environment also decreases with altitude. The variance of the first eigenvalue ( $PC1$ ) of each chronology also decreased with altitude, showing that the information contained in the tree ring chronologies decreased. Therefore, the sensitivity and the consistency of the tree's response to the environment changes decreased with increasing altitude.

In order to understand the differing response of trees at different elevations to the environment changes, the correlation

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between the chronology indices and precipitation and between air temperature in different seasons were calculated. The results show that apart from the highest sample site at Meiyaokou, the indices of other three chronologies correlated to the spring precipitation significantly. The chronologies of Xishui and Tianlaochi showed negative correlation with summer air temperature with different level of significance. Only the chronology of the highest elevation site has no significant relationship with the meteorological data. The chronology of the low elevation site shows a stronger correlation with temperature rather than with precipitation.

These results maybe due to that the restriction effect of the precipitation decreases with increasing elevation. Because the precipitation increases with the elevation in this area, the effect of precipitation on the growth of the trees becomes weak. However, air temperature is not a restriction factor. The measured results of the biological indices indicated that the stoma density and the dry weight of the spruce leaves decreased dramatically above about 3000m. a. s. l. This is response to a reducing in metabolism rate at high elevation, in order for the trees to avoid the effects of the harsh environment as much as possible. Hence, trees growing at high elevation show low sensitivity to the climate change in the study area. This conclusion is of fundamental important for the tree-ring research in arid and semi-arid area. It is important to understand the relationship between the climate change and the growth of the trees, in order to develop an appropriate ecological model of plant environmental reactions and hence to establish a valid basis on which to reconstruct long-term climate change in the past over a large scale.

**Key words:** environmental factor; dendroecology; elevation; sensitivity

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树木的生长主要受控于两方面的因素,其一是生态因子的影响,其二是树木自身遗传因素的影响<sup>[1-2]</sup>。通过对大量年轮宽度与气候因子(主要是温度和降水)的相关分析表明,年轮宽度与气候因子有着复杂的相关关系,这种关系受气候因子之间的相互制衡和因物种而异的树木生长节律的影响<sup>[3]</sup>。目前普遍认为森林上限的树木生长主要受气温的影响而森林下限的树木生长主要受降水的影响<sup>[4]</sup>。但是在不同区域不同树种对气候变化的响应方式是否全都如此呢?目前国内外对此问题的研究十分有限。

近年来,树轮气候学被广泛用于气候变化研究,树木年轮年表不仅被用于长序列大范围的气候重建<sup>[5]</sup>,而且被用于气候变化机制的研究<sup>[6]</sup>。在国内树轮年表也被广泛用于气候的重建<sup>[7-13]</sup>。但干旱半干旱地区不同海拔高度、不同种类的树木与生态因子间的关系仍不很清楚,换而言之该区域树木生长的生物学模式常常成为大家争论的焦点。本文试图利用采自祁连山中部地区不同海拔高度的青海云杉(*Picea crassifolia*)树轮样芯就这一问题进行探讨。

## 1 采样点概况与年表的建立

青海云杉(*Picea crassifolia*)树木年轮样芯样本采自祁连山黑河流域的不同海拔高度。采样点概况见表1。

表1 采样点概况  
Table 1 Summary of the sampling locations

采样点名称 Name of the sampling sites	西水 Xishui	黑洼 Heiwa	天涝池 Tianlaochi	煤窑口 Meiyaokou
经纬度 Latitude and longitude	N38°14'/E100°10'	N38°27'/E99°57'	N38°27'/E99°57'	N38°26'/E99°57'
海拔高度 Elevation(m)	2550	2750	3100	3450
在林中的位置 Location in the forest	云杉林下限 lower part	云杉林中下部 Middle part	云杉林中上部 Middle part	云杉林上限 Upper part
采集样本量 Sample number	30	44	40	48
序列长/年 Length of the series	135	230	170	252

位于青海云杉林下限(西水采样点)的青海云杉林为灌木-青海云杉林,主林层为青海云杉,林下灌木种类较多,林相郁闭整齐,在阴坡成片分布。生长在黑洼(森林中下部)的是苔藓-青海云杉林,乔木层为青海云杉单层纯林,郁闭度0.7以上,灌木层不明显。苔藓层发育良好,盖度达90%以上,形成很厚的毡状层。森林中下部(天涝池采样点)为青海云杉和祁连圆柏的混交林,林相较开阔,林下灌木种类少,草本层主要是亚高山成分。煤窑口采样点位于青海云杉林的分布上限,多为孤立木或散生木,林间灌丛发育良好。

采用 Fritts 等的方法<sup>[14]</sup>对青海云杉树木年轮样芯进行固定、打磨、测量、交叉定年和去生长趋势后,分别建立了4个采样点树轮宽度的标准化年表。图1为4个年表的树轮指数曲线。

## 2 结果与讨论

从图 1 可看出,不同海拔高度的树轮年表具有相同的变化趋势和不同的波动特征。各曲线中主要的峰谷变化较为一致,说明不同海拔高度的青海云杉的生长受到相同的限制因子的影响,但各个曲线的波动幅度随海拔高度的上升而表现出下降的趋势,即森林下限西水的年表波动幅度最大,而森林上限煤窑口的年表波动幅度最小。各年表的统计特征和公共区间的分析结果更清楚地表现了这一特征(表 2)。

平均敏感度是度量相邻年轮之间年轮宽度的变化情况的,所以它主要反映气候的短期变化或高频变化。研究表明,平均敏感度大的样本保持的气候信息就多,而且与大气变化的关系也密切<sup>[2]</sup>。由表 2 可知,随采样点海拔高度的升高,各序列的平均敏感度(*M.S.*)、样本间的相关系数(*R1*, *R2* 和 *R3*)、第一主分量所占的方差量(*PCI*)、序列在共同区间内的共同指数值(*mean*)和标准差(*S.D.*)等均相应降低。信噪比(*SNR*)和样本对总体的解释信号(*EPS*)随在黑注序列中有所上升,但总体趋势仍表现出随海拔高度的上升而下降。上述结果说明随海拔高度的增加,各序列的平均敏感度和标准差减小,说明树木对环境变化的敏感性降低;各个样本间的相关系数减小,表明不同树木对环境变化响应的一致性降低;第一主分量所占的方差量(*PCI*)、信噪比(*SNR*)和样本对总体的解释信号(*EPS*)随海拔高度的减小则表明树轮年表所包含的主要信息随海拔高度上升而减弱。

以前的研究表明祁连山区北坡树木的生长主要受春季降水的限制<sup>[12,13]</sup>,青海云杉是一种耐寒耐旱的阴生树种,春季降水是森林下限青海云杉生长的主要限制因子。众所周知,在一定的高度范围内,随海拔高度的上升降水逐步增加,降水对树木生长的限制作用逐步减弱,因此,在没有其他限制因子出现的情况下,不同海拔高度的青海云杉年表表现出随高度上升而变幅明显减小的趋势。这与随海拔高度的升高降水逐步增加,降水对树木生长的限制作用的减弱有关。

表 2 各个年表的统计特征

Table 2 The statistic character of the chronologies from different elevations

采样点 Sampling sites	海拔 Elevation	序列长 The length of the series	<i>M.S.</i>	<i>R1</i>	<i>R2</i>	<i>R3</i>	<i>PCI</i> (%)	mean	<i>S.D.</i>	<i>SNR</i>	<i>EPS</i>
西水 Xishui	2550	135	0.297	0.690	0.680	0.824	73.13	1.014	0.354	31.659	0.969
黑注 Heiwa	2750	230	0.1843	0.651	0.645	0.851	67.42	0.990	0.257	34.322	0.972
天涝池 Tainlaochi	3100	170	0.1241	0.431	0.421	0.728	40.88	0.998	0.148	7.868	0.887
煤窑口 Meiyaokou	3450	252	0.1182	0.313	0.314	0.319	30.59	0.991	0.105	1.853	0.649

\* *M.S.* 平均敏感度, *R1* 样本间的平均相关系数, *R2* 不同树之间样本间的相关系数, *R3* 同棵树之间样本间的相关系数, *PCI* 第一主分量所占的方差量, *mean* 序列在共同区间内的平均指数值, *S.D.* 标准差, *SNR* 信噪比, *EPS* 样本对总体的解释信号

*M.S.* is mean sensitivity, *R1* is the average correlation coefficient between different cores, *R2* is the correlation coefficient between different trees, *R3* is the correlation coefficient between different samples from the same tree, *PCI* is the variance in first eigenvalue, *mean* is chronology common interval mean and *S.D.* is chronology common interval standard deviation

为了进一步分析不同海拔高度的树木对气候变化响应的差异,进一步普查分析了各年表与研究区各个时段的气温和降水间的相关关系(表 3)。分析过程中所用气象资料为距采样点较近的野牛沟、肃南和祁连的 3 点平均资料,分析发现除采样点位于森林上限的煤窑口年表外,其余 3 个年表均与春季降水成显著正相关,西水和天涝池年表还与夏季气温成负相关,相关程度不尽一致,只有云杉林上限的煤窑口年表与降水和气温无显著相关。西水年表与夏季气温的相关程度最高而与降水的相关性并不是最高,这可能是由于气象站的气温资料在一定范围内有较好的代表性,而降水资料对较大范围降水的代表性较差所致。因为其他 3 个采样点相距很近且与气象站的海拔高度相近,环境相似,而西水采样点地处海拔较低的前山地带,距气象站较远且环境差异较大。煤窑口年表与气象资料无显著相关则表明研究区上限云杉树木对气候变化不敏感。

这一结果进一步表明,在研究区处于森林上限的青海云杉树木对与气候变化很不敏感。这与目前大家普遍所认同的上限树木的生长受温度控制的概念并不一致。为什么随海拔高度的升高温度没有作为新的限制因子出现呢?不同海拔高度青海云杉的

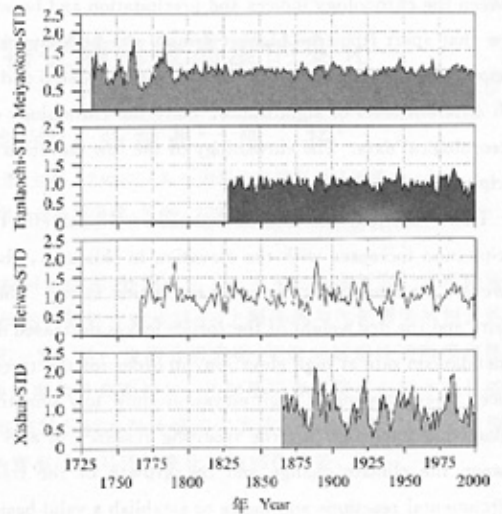


图 1 祁连山中部地区不同海拔高度的青海云杉树轮宽度年表  
Fig. 1 The *Picea crassifolia* tree ring width chronologies at different elevations in the middle part of Qilian Mts

生物学指标很好地解释了这一差异。

强维亚<sup>[15]</sup>等分析了青海云杉针叶上的气孔密度和针叶干重等生物学指标(图2),发现随海拔高度的上升的青海云杉针叶上的气孔密度增大,针叶干重增加,天涝池(2950m)的青海云杉针叶的气孔密度和针叶干重达最大值,海拔高度继续上升时,上述两项指标的测定值都随之下降。针叶干重代表青海云杉针叶中有机质含量,气孔密度则与大气二氧化碳浓度和其他环境因子密切相关,并且与植物的光合作用过程密切相关。针叶干重和气孔密度的变化,表明不同海拔高度的青海云杉生理代谢水平有所差异。森林上限的青海云杉的针叶干重最低,气孔密度也相对较低,而该采样点的大气二氧化碳浓度最低,这表明,生长在森林上限的青海云杉维持在较低的生理代谢水平,很可能有利于树木最大限度地避免环境变化带来的影响。说明随海拔高度的变化青海云杉对环境的生态适应策略发生了变化。

#### 4 结论

综上所述,在祁连山中部地区,随海拔高度的上升青海云杉生长量的年际变化减小,对气候变化的敏感性降低,森林下限的树木敏感性最高而上限树木敏感性最低,这与目前大家普遍所认同的上限树木的生长受温度控制的概念并不一致。这可能是由于对于青海云杉这样一种阴生树种,水分状况对其生长是至关重要的,而采样点地处干旱区,水分是植被生长的主要限制因子;在采样区随海拔高度的增加,降水有所增加,水分对树木生长的限制作用逐步减弱,致使树木对气候变化的敏感性减弱,因此表现出随海拔高度的增加,青海云杉树轮宽度的敏感性随之降低。生长在不同海拔高度树木的生理指标的测定结果表明,处于森林上限的树木可能采取了不同的生态适应策略,保持较低的生理代谢水平,维持自身生长,最大限度地避免了环境影响,表现出对气候变化的敏感性很低的特征,但这一结论的推广有待于在更大范围和利用不同的树种进行深入研究。总之,这一结论对于干旱半干旱地区山地树木年轮的研究提供了基础资料,有利于进一步客观认识树木生长与气候变化之间的耦合关系,建立正确的生态学模型,从而为准确可靠地重建大区域、长序列的气候变化奠定基础。

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表3 各年表与气象资料的相关关系分析结果(\*表示通过 $\alpha=0.01$ 的显著性检验)

Table 3 The result of the correlated analysis of the chronologies index and meteorology data. The asterisk (\*) represents the coefficient passed the significance test ( $\alpha=0.01$ )

采样点名称 Name of the sampling sites	西水 Xishui	黑洼 Heiwa	天涝池 Tian- laochi	煤窑口 Mei- yaokou
海拔高度 Elevation a. s. l.	2550m	2750m	3100m	3450m
4~6月降水 Precipitation during Apr. ~ June	0.318*	0.369*	0.450*	0.103
春季降水 Spring precipitation	0.148	0.489*	0.233	0.300
夏季气温 Summer temperature	-0.392*	-0.261	-0.385*	0.062

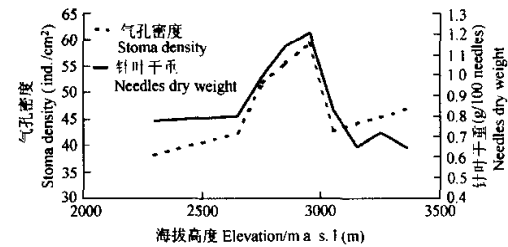


图2 不同海拔高度青海云杉针叶各种与气孔密度的变化趋势

Fig. 2 The stoma density and dry weight of the spruce needles sampled from different elevations

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