

Article



# **Carbon Content of Amazonian Commercial Tree Boles: Implications for Forest Management**

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Abstract: Reliable values for carbon content in trees are essential for quantifying forest carbon stocks and estimating carbon dioxide emissions. This study analyzed the carbon content in the boles of commercial tree species in the Brazilian state of Acre, in the southwestern Amazon. Composite samples were prepared from wood wedges obtained along each individual's commercial bole (the trunk from the point of cut to the first significant branch). Fifty-seven trees were analyzed, spanning nine families, seventeen genera, and nineteen species in the Amazon forest. The results revealed a variation in carbon content ranging from 49.08% ( $\pm 3.36$ ) to 51.81% ( $\pm 0.6$ ), with an overall mean of 50.48% ( $\pm 0.42$ ). Handroanthus serratifolius, Astronium lecointei, and Dipteryx odorata exhibited the highest carbon contents. The statistical analysis included the calculation of 95% confidence intervals for each species, indicating the precision of the carbon content estimates. ANOVA analysis showed a large effect ( $\eta^2 = 0.83$ ), indicating that 83% of carbon variability is due to species differences, highlighting the distinct carbon profiles across species. One species (*Ceiba pentandra*) showed a significant increase in carbon with height along the bole, while the others showed varying but non-significant trends with height. Mean carbon content differed significantly (Tukey's post hoc test) among the 19 species studied, with the greatest difference between H. serratifolius and Ceiba pentandra. Although differences between species may seem small, in some cases, they can lead to considerable underestimations or overestimations of carbon stocks and emissions when extrapolated to large areas such as the Amazon. The mean carbon content measured in this study (50.48%) exceeds the 0.47 IPCC default value generally used in national reports to the Climate Convention and in various estimates of deforestation emissions and Amazon carbon stocks. This suggests that both emissions and stocks may have been underestimated.



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### 1. Introduction

To properly understand the relationship between carbon content, vegetation, and climate change, it is crucial to recognize the fundamental role that forests play in the global carbon cycle [1,2]. Carbon content refers to the amount of carbon stored in a particular material or environment [3]. In the context of vegetation, this includes the carbon contained in plants, trees, and soil [4,5]. Particularly, large trees act as significant "carbon sinks", absorbing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and storing it in their trunks, branches, and roots [6,7]. This process is essential for global climate regulation and carbon sequestration.

In forest management, large trees are often harvested for timber production, following guidelines that allow the extraction of trees with diameters at breast height (DBH) of 50 cm or greater [8,9]. This method involves removing the trunk from the forest, while the canopy and other parts of the tree remain, contributing to nutrient cycling and habitat maintenance [6,10]. Although these practices are designed to minimize environmental impact, the removal of large trees can significantly disturb the natural balance of forests and affect the ecosystem's ability to function as a carbon stock [11].

Forest management practices aim to preserve ecosystem function, but human intervention, such as selective tree harvesting for timber, inevitably alters forest dynamics [12,13]. This can result in a reduction of the forest's overall capacity to store carbon, as mature trees, which are effective at storing  $CO_2$ , are removed [14]. It is important, therefore, that such practices are conducted in a way that does not exceed the forest's natural regeneration capacity and maintains ecological balance [15,16].

The variability in carbon content observed among different species and even within a single tree, as highlighted in the study by Ma et al. 2018 [17], underscores the importance of conducting detailed research on carbon content. This variability is crucial for developing more precise and environmentally responsible forest management strategies that maximize carbon storage and help mitigate climate change [18,19].

Initiatives such as REDD (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation) and Nature-Based Projects [20,21], which currently encompass carbon credit projects intended to reduce atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations through improved management practices, reforestation, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and waste management [22,23]. These efforts are essential to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and promote environmental sustainability. However, the effectiveness of these projects fundamentally depends on a detailed understanding of carbon storage in forests and how management practices impact this storage [24]. Accurate assessments are crucial to ensure that the implemented strategies are effective and contribute significantly to global sustainability and climate stability [25]. This discussion is essential for the ongoing assessment of forest management policies and will be an important agenda item at COP 30, providing a crucial opportunity to review and reinforce global commitments towards a sustainable future.

Our study specifically examines the vertical variation in carbon content within the commercial boles of 19 tree species commercially harvested in a managed forest area in the state of Acre, Brazil. These species were selected for their ecological significance and representativeness within this managed forestry zone, providing a comprehensive view of the carbon dynamics within Amazonian forests subject to forest management. The research aims to refine our understanding of intra- and inter-species variations in carbon content, which are still poorly understood and surrounded by significant uncertainty. By

focusing on key scientific questions—what is the variation in carbon storage capacities among selected tree species in the study area, and how do these variations impact the overall accuracy and reliability of carbon stock assessments in tropical forests?—this study seeks to enhance our understanding of the role of managed Amazon forests in the global carbon cycle and inform decision-making on forestry initiatives and payment for ecosystem services [26,27].

# 2. Materials and Methods

#### 2.1. Study Area

The forest species chosen to be part of this study were large commercial species with significant timber potential. They were obtained in the Antimary I and II ranches (9°23′43″ South latitude, 67°58′50″ West longitude), located in the southwestern Amazon in the municipality of Porto Acre, Acre, Brazil (Figure 1). The vegetation at the site is classified as dryland humid forest [28–30], with a predominance of Open Forest with Bamboo, Open Forest with Palms, and Dense Forest [31–33].



Figure 1. Antimary I and II study area in the municipality of Porto Acre, Acre, Brazil.

The climate is type Am under the Köppen classification [34], with an average annual temperature of 24.5 °C [35]. Annual precipitation varies from 1750 to 2250 mm. The rainy season begins in October and lasts until May, with January to March having the greatest rainfall [35,36]. The study area has two types of soil: red argisol and dystrophic red-yellow latosol [33,37]. The predominant topography is flat, with a slope of around 5% [37]. The elevation varies between approximately 220 and 300 m above mean sea level [38].

#### 2.2. Selection and Collection of Samples of Commercial Species

We selected 19 species that are of commercial interest due to their high frequencies of occurrence (stems  $ha^{-1}$ ) and basal areas (m<sup>2</sup>  $ha^{-1}$ ), collectively accounting for 84.4% of the total commercial basal area at the research site. This selection was based on their significant timber potential and high coverage index values [39], ensuring that our findings would be applicable to the most economically and ecologically important species within the area.

The sampling protocol was carefully designed to reflect the natural distribution of these species. The number of individuals sampled per species was determined in proportion to their relative density and frequency of occurrence [40]. We sampled across a variety of diameter classes to represent the diversity within each species, with the number of trees sampled in each class mirroring the diameter distribution recorded in the company's forest inventory. In total, 57 sample trees were selected—three from each species—to ensure a diverse and representative dataset. Each tree was initially cut 30 cm above ground level to standardize the starting point of the samples, including those with buttresses. The commercial boles of these trees were systematically sectioned into logs. From each log, a disc approximately 3 cm thick was removed starting from the base and continuing every 4.30 m up the top of the commercial bole for trees with DBH greater than 80 cm and every 8.30 m for trees with DBH between 50 and 80 cm. This method ensured that the first disc was consistently taken at 30 cm above the ground for all trees.

In total, 141 discs were collected, with each tree yielding between 2 and 4 discs based on its diameter and the commercial bole's height. These discs were classified into sections labeled A, B, C, and D along the commercial bole, providing detailed samples for carbon content analysis [40]. Section A always represented the base of the bole, just 30 cm above the ground, while the heights of Sections B, C, and D varied according to the predetermined sectioning strategy of the commercial bole [41].

#### 2.3. Statistical Analysis and Tree Classification

Our study commenced with the collection of samples from the commercial boles of selected tree species, processed in a laboratory to determine carbon content using a universal analyzer (Elementar, model Vario Micro Cube, Langenselbold, Germany) [42]. This preliminary step set the foundation for our subsequent in-depth statistical analysis that was designed to explore variations in carbon storage capacities among the species and to assess the accuracy of carbon stock assessments.

We utilized both descriptive and inferential statistics to understand the variations in carbon content and other physical characteristics of tree species. Initially, for each species, we calculated the mean and standard deviation to summarize the central tendency and dispersion of carbon content. We constructed confidence intervals (95% CI) for each mean, providing a statistical range within which the true mean is likely to lie with 95% certainty [43].

We employed box plots to visually present the distribution of physical characteristics such as DBH (diameter at breast height), commercial height, basal area, and volume. These plots effectively summarize a range of data points by displaying the median, interquartile range (IQR) and potential outliers, aiding in the comparison of these metrics across different species [43,44].

In addition to descriptive statistics, we used Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) to compare the mean carbon content across multiple tree species. This statistical test for significant differences among species was complemented by the Shapiro–Wilk test to ensure data normality, aligning with the assumptions necessary for accurate ANOVA analysis [45]. During this analysis, we also carefully controlled for Type I error, ensuring the precision of our statistical inferences [46,47]. The size of the effect was calculated using eta-squared  $(\eta^2)$ , providing insight into the magnitude of the differences observed [48].

Upon identifying significant differences through ANOVA, we conducted post hoc analysis using Tukey's honest significant difference (HSD) test [47,48]. This test pinpointed specific pairs of species with statistically significant differences in carbon content, providing critical insights into species-specific characteristics that are crucial for effective carbon storage and forest management strategies.

Advanced visualizations further supported our analysis. Line graphs with error bars depicted carbon content across vertical sections (A, B, C, D) of the tree boles, utilizing repeated measures or mixed-effects models to handle data from the same trees at different heights. Additionally, density plots illustrated the distribution of carbon content percentages, offering detailed comparisons across different conditions or species [41].

# 3. Results

Fifty-seven large trees were sectioned and measured, representing nine families, seventeen genera, and nineteen species, as shown in Table 1. The mean carbon contents in the commercial boles of these trees ranged from 49.08% ( $\pm$ 3.36) to 51.81% ( $\pm$ 0.6), with an overall average of 50.48% ( $\pm$ 0.42). Among the species analyzed, *Handroanthus serratifolius* stood out with the highest carbon content at 51.81% ( $\pm$ 0.6), followed by *Astronium lecointei* with 51.71% ( $\pm$ 0.72), *Dipteryx odorata* with 51.60% ( $\pm$ 0.31) and *Cedrela odorata* with 51.60% ( $\pm$ 0.18).

| E                |  | NT | _      |      | Confidence In | Confidence Interval (95% CI) |  |  |  |
|------------------|--|----|--------|------|---------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Family           | Scientific Name                          | Ν  | x      | 5.D. | L.L.          | UL                           |  |  |  |
| Euphorbiaceae    | Hura crepitans                           | 3  | 49.706 | 1.83 | 48.16         | 51.36                        |  |  |  |
| Fabaceae         | Parkia paraensis                         | 3  | 50.53  | 0.29 | 50.32         | 50.74                        |  |  |  |
| Malvaceae        | Sterculia apetala                        | 3  | 50.39  | 0.56 | 49.98         | 50.80                        |  |  |  |
| Lecythidaceae    | Eschweilera bracteosa                    | 3  | 50.52  | 0.35 | 50.24         | 50.80                        |  |  |  |
| Lecythidaceae    | Eschweilera grandiflora                  | 3  | 50.54  | 0.58 | 50.16         | 50.92                        |  |  |  |
| Moraceae         | Castilla ulei                            | 3  | 49.98  | 0.40 | 49.63         | 50.33                        |  |  |  |
| Meliaceae        | Cedrela odorata                          | 3  | 51.60  | 0.18 | 51.46         | 51.74                        |  |  |  |
| Fabaceae         | Copaifera multijuga                      | 3  | 51.51  | 0.37 | 51.27         | 51.75                        |  |  |  |
| Fabaceae         | Dipteryx odorata                         | 3  | 51.60  | 0.31 | 51.42         | 51.78                        |  |  |  |
| Fabaceae         | Albizia niopoides                        | 3  | 49.50  | 0.43 | 49.16         | 49.84                        |  |  |  |
| Fabaceae         | Apuleia leiocarpa                        | 3  | 51.04  | 0.27 | 50.86         | 51.22                        |  |  |  |
| Fabaceae         | Barnebydendron riedelii                  | 3  | 49.57  | 0.49 | 49.18         | 49.96                        |  |  |  |
| Bignoniaceae     | Handroanthus serratifolius               | 3  | 51.81  | 0.60 | 51.37         | 52.25                        |  |  |  |
| Fabaceae         | Hymenaea courbaril                       | 3  | 50.68  | 0.25 | 50.52         | 50.84                        |  |  |  |
| Anacardiaceae    | Astronium lecointei                      | 3  | 51.71  | 0.72 | 51.18         | 52.24                        |  |  |  |
| Combretaceae     | Terminalia tetraphylla                   | 3  | 49.83  | 0.27 | 49.61         | 50.05                        |  |  |  |
| Fabaceae         | Schizolobium parahyba var.<br>amazonicum | 3  | 50.11  | 0.17 | 49.98         | 50.24                        |  |  |  |
| Malvaceae        | Ceiba pentandra                          | 3  | 49.08  | 3.36 | 47.18         | 50.98                        |  |  |  |
| Malvaceae        | Ceiba samauma                            | 3  | 49.45  | 0.21 | 49.28         | 49.62                        |  |  |  |
| N, Mean, SD & CI |  | 19 | 50.48  | 0.42 | 50.07         | 50.90                        |  |  |  |

Table 1. Variation in the carbon content in the commercial boles of large trees of the 19 species.

N = number of trees;  $\bar{x}$  = mean percent carbon content; S.D. = standard deviation; lower limit (LL) and upper limit (UL) (95% CI).

The study quantified the carbon content of each species, accompanied by the lower and upper bounds of the 95% confidence interval (Table 1). For example, for *Ceiba pentandra*, the 95% confidence interval was between 47.18% and 50.98%, indicating that, with high certainty, the true mean carbon content of this species lies within this range. Nar-

rower confidence intervals reflect greater credibility in estimates of the mean, while wider intervals indicate higher variability in the data and consequently greater uncertainty in estimates. This information is crucial for species comparisons and for assessing the precision of estimates.

# 3.1. Variability of Diameter at Breast Height (DBH, Commercial Height, Basal Area and Volume in Commercial Boles

Figure 2 presents a comparative analysis of the variables diameter at breast height (DBH) in cm, commercial height in m, basal area in m<sup>2</sup> and volume in m<sup>3</sup> of the 19 species in this study. These variables are essential for evaluating the growth, biomass and timber production potential of the sampled species. Each boxplot illustrates the median, interquartile range and outliers, highlighting the variability of each metric among the species.



**Figure 2.** Variability of diameter at breast height (DBH) in cm, commercial height in m, basal area in  $m^2$  and volume in  $m^3$  in the commercial boles of 19 forest species.

The first graph, referring to DBH in cm, indicates that most species have median values between 50 and 100 cm. Some species, such as *Ceiba pentandra* and *Hura crepitans*, stand out with significantly higher DBH values. The dispersion within certain species, shows a considerable variation in tree size.

The second graph, referring to commercial height in m, shows that most species have commercial heights ranging from 10 to 20 m. *Ceiba pentandra* has the highest commercial height, exceeding 20 m. The variation in commercial height among species reflects the heterogeneity in timber utilization, directly influencing management and exploitation decisions.

The third and fourth graphs, which represent basal area and volume, respectively, show that species such as *Ceiba pentandra* contribute significantly to the total biomass of the forest stand. The high volumes of these species indicate their commercial potential, while the lower variability in smaller species suggests a more limited contribution to timber production. These metrics are essential for forest management, allowing the identification of key species for conservation and exploitation.

#### 3.2. Variation in Carbon Content of the Commercial Bole Among Species

The Shapiro–Wilk normality test was conducted to assess the distribution of data across the species, and the results confirmed that all species exhibited normal distributions, with *p*-values greater than 0.05. An analysis of variance (ANOVA) was conducted to examine the differences in mean carbon content in the commercial boles of the 19 tree species.

The ANOVA revealed significant variations in carbon content among tree families, as detailed in Table 2, emphasizing the differences in carbon storage potential at the family level. The total sum of squares was 50.80, with 25.4 attributed to family differences and an equal amount (25.4) to residuals. The family variation had 8 degrees of freedom while the residuals had 48 degrees of freedom. The mean square for family was 3.18, substantially greater than that of the residuals (0.53), leading to an F value of 6.001. This result indicated a highly significant difference in mean carbon content among the families (p < 0.0001).

| Source of Variation | Sum of Squares | <b>Degrees of Freedom</b> | Mean Square | F     | <i>p</i> -Value |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------|
| Families            | 25.4           | 8                         | 3.18        | 6.001 | < 0.0001        |
| Residuals           | 25.4           | 48                        | 0.53        |       |                 |
| Total               | 50.8           | 56                        |             |       |                 |

Table 2. ANOVA for differences in carbon content in commercial boles among 9 tree families.

Expanding this analysis to species-level differences (Table 3), the ANOVA results further highlighted the diversity in carbon storage capabilities. The total sum of squares remained 50.80, but 41.91 was attributed to species and only 8.89 to residuals. The species variation had 18 degrees of freedom, while the residuals had 38 degrees of freedom. The mean square for species was 2.33, substantially higher than the mean square of the residuals, which was 0.23. The calculated F value for this analysis was 9.954, demonstrating a highly significant difference in mean carbon content among the species (p < 0.0001). These findings underscore the importance of species-specific characteristics in conservation strategies.

Table 3. ANOVA for differences in carbon content in commercial boles among 19 tree species.

| Source of Variation  | Sum of Squares | Degrees of Freedom | Mean Square  | F     | <i>p</i> -Value |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|-------|-----------------|
| Species<br>Residuals | 41.91<br>8.89  | 18<br>38           | 2.33<br>0.23 | 9.954 | <0.0001         |
| Total                | 50.80          | 56                 |              |       |                 |

#### Comparison Between Species Using Tukey's Post Hoc Test and Eta-Squared ( $\eta^2$ )

To complement the analysis of variance (ANOVA), Tukey's post hoc test was conducted to compare the mean carbon contents among the 19 species. The objective was to identify which pairs of species exhibit significant differences in their carbon content. The results of Tukey's test reveal significant differences between several pairs of species (Table 4). The comparisons presented in Table 4 include only those that showed statistically significant differences, with pairs displaying a *p*-value below 0.05, which indicates significant variability in carbon content among the species. The most substantial difference was observed between *Handroanthus serratifolius* and *Ceiba pentandra*, with a highly significant *p*-value of less than 0.0001. Conversely, species such as *Barnebydendron riedellii* and *Ceiba samauma* did not exhibit statistically significant differences in carbon content, as shown by their higher *p*-values. For a comprehensive overview of all species comparisons, including those that did not exhibit significant differences, readers are directed to consult the complete table available in the Supplementary Materials (Table S1).

 Table 4. Tukey's post hoc test results for species comparisons.

| No. | Species Comparison *                                   | Mean Difference | L.L. | U.L. | <i>p</i> -Value |
|-----|--|-----------------|------|------|-----------------|
| 1   | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Ceiba pentandra         | 2.71            | 1.22 | 4.20 | < 0.0001        |
| 2   | Dipteryx odorata vs. Ceiba pentandra                   | 2.52            | 1.03 | 4.01 | < 0.0001        |
| 3   | Copaifera multijuga vs. Ceiba pentandra                | 2.43            | 0.94 | 3.92 | < 0.0001        |
| 4   | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Ceiba samauma           | 2.34            | 0.85 | 3.83 | < 0.0001        |
| 5   | Astronium lecointei vs. Albizia niopoides              | 2.33            | 0.84 | 3.82 | 0.0001          |
| 6   | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Albizia niopoides       | 2.29            | 0.80 | 3.78 | 0.0001          |
| 7   | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Barnebydendron riedelii | 2.23            | 0.74 | 3.72 | 0.0002          |
| 8   | Dipteryx odorata vs. Ceiba samauma                     | 2.15            | 0.66 | 3.64 | 0.0004          |
| 9   | Cedrela odorata vs. Albizia niopoides                  | 2.10            | 0.61 | 3.59 | 0.0007          |
| 10  | Dipteryx odorata vs. Albizia niopoides                 | 2.10            | 0.61 | 3.59 | 0.0007          |
| 11  | Copaifera multijuga vs. Ceiba samauma                  | 2.06            | 0.57 | 3.55 | 0.0009          |
| 12  | Cedrela odorata vs. Barnebydendron riedelii            | 2.03            | 0.54 | 3.52 | 0.0011          |
| 13  | Dipteryx odorata vs. Barnebydendron riedelii           | 2.03            | 0.54 | 3.52 | 0.0011          |
| 14  | Copaifera multijuga vs. Albizia niopoides              | 2.01            | 0.52 | 3.50 | 0.0013          |
| 15  | Copaifera multijuga vs. Barnebydendron riedelii        | 1.94            | 0.45 | 3.43 | 0.0021          |
| 16  | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Castilla ulei           | 1.76            | 0.27 | 3.25 | 0.0081          |
| 17  | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Ceiba pentandra                 | 1.59            | 0.10 | 3.08 | 0.0260          |
| 18  | Cedrela odorata vs. Castilla ulei                      | 1.57            | 0.08 | 3.06 | 0.0304          |
| 19  | Dipteryx odorata vs. Castilla ulei                     | 1.57            | 0.08 | 3.06 | 0.0304          |
| 20  | Apuleia leiocarpa vs. Albizia niopoides                | 1.55            | 0.06 | 3.04 | 0.0346          |

Where lower limit (LL) and upper limit (UL); \* for a comprehensive view of all species comparisons, including those without sig-nificant differences, refer to the complete table provided in the Supplementary Materials (Table S1).

The eta-squared  $(\eta^2)$  for the ANOVA is 0.83, indicating a large effect, meaning that 83% of the variability in carbon content is explained by the differences between species. These results indicate that there are statistically significant differences between the mean carbon contents of the species, with some species having means distinctly different from others. The confidence intervals provide plausible ranges for the true population means of the species (Table 1).

## 3.3. Variability of Carbon Content Along the Commercial Boles

Figure 3 demonstrates the variability in carbon content across four vertical sections (labeled A, B, C, and D) of commercial tree trunks from 19 tree species. Each line represents a different species, illustrating the vertical variation in carbon content within the stem. Notably, species such as *Ceiba pentandra* show a significant increase in carbon content

from one section to the next, highlighting their unique pattern of carbon accumulation. In contrast, other species exhibit more stable or less pronounced trends in carbon content changes along the stem. This line graph is employed to clearly depict trends and differences in carbon content, making it easier to observe both general and species-specific patterns. The lines allow for direct visual comparison of carbon content across different sections and across species, effectively capturing the dynamics of carbon distribution within tree trunks.



Figure 3. Variability of carbon content along the commercial boles of 19 forest species.

Figure 4 shows the variation in carbon content (%) in five vertical sections of the commercial trunk of the trees analyzed, identified as A, B, C and D. The figure illustrates the distribution of carbon values in each section. The vertical sections are displayed on the x-axis, while the y-axis represents the carbon content in percentage, varying from 43.5% to 52.9%. In sections A and B, the trees show similar behavior, with medians close to 50.5% and relatively wide interquartile ranges. The presence of a value in section A for one species that is far below the values for other species, indicates the existence of local variability in carbon content. Section D presents a more consistent behavior, with a narrower interquartile range and a median of 51.3%. This smaller variation suggests greater uniformity in the distribution of carbon in the upper parts of the stem, indicating a stabilization in the wood composition.



**Figure 4.** Variability of carbon content in sections A, B, C and D in commercial boles of 19 forest species.

# 4. Discussion

In this study, a detailed analysis of carbon content was conducted across 57 large trees, encompassing nine families, seventeen genera, and nineteen species. The observed carbon content variation in the commercial boles of these trees ranged significantly from 49.08% to 51.81%, with an overall average of 50.48%. *Handroanthus serratifolius* stood out with the highest carbon content at 51.81%, followed by *Astronium lecointei*, *Dipteryx odorata*, and *Cedrela odorata*. Therefore, this study highlights the biological diversity and variability in carbon sequestration capacity among the species, suggesting that forest management and conservation strategies should consider these differences to optimize carbon sequestration [49].

The 95% confidence intervals for each species provide important insights into the precision of carbon estimates. For example, for *Ceiba pentandra*, the confidence interval ranged from 47.18% to 50.98%, indicating high certainty that the true average carbon content of this species lies within this range [50]. Narrower confidence intervals reflect greater credibility in average estimates, while wider intervals indicate greater variability in the data and, consequently, more uncertainty in the estimates [51].

Variations in carbon content among different species underscore the complexity of carbon management in tropical forests and the importance of approaches tailored to the specific characteristics of each species [52,53]. This biological diversity must be considered when developing strategies for forest management, ensuring that the carbon sequestration potential of each species is fully utilized [54]. Additionally, the data obtained reinforce

the need for policies based on solid scientific evidence to maximize the effectiveness of conservation and forest management initiatives.

#### 4.1. Variability in Biomass and Its Contribution to Timber Production

The variability observed in the physical dimensions of the trees, as evidenced by results for diameter at breast height (DBH), commercial height, basal area, and volume, has significant implications for sustainable forest management. Trees with larger DBH and commercial height, such as *Ceiba pentandra* and *Hura crepitans*, not only indicate maturity and structural stability but also possess a high potential for carbon storage due to their large biomass. These characteristics make them crucial for management strategies aimed at maximizing carbon storage, a key element in combating climate change.

The analysis of basal area and volume shows that certain species contribute significantly to the total biomass of the forest. These trees, due to their high volume, are of substantial commercial interest but are also important for maintaining biodiversity and ecological integrity of the forest. The management of these trees must balance timber production with environmental conservation, ensuring that extraction does not compromise the forest's regenerative capacity [55].

Specific species, such as *Ceiba pentandra*, stand out not only for their larger diameters, greater heights, and significant volumes but also for demonstrating a substantial increase in carbon content from one section to the next. This reflects a specialized adaptation to optimize light capture and photosynthetic efficiency in the canopy [56,57]. Conversely, other species, such as *Handroanthus serratifolius*, although exhibiting a similar pattern of carbon content increase, have smaller diameters and lower heights, resulting in smaller volumes but with higher carbon content than *Ceiba pentandra*.

The accumulation in the upper parts of the trunk indicates an effective carbon storage strategy, important for regulating the carbon cycle in the ecosystem. This characteristic is particularly important, considering that the 19 species analyzed exhibit various carbon storage strategies, influenced by their physical dimensions and adapted to their specific ecological conditions [58,59]. Understanding these differences is essential for developing forest management practices that respect the unique characteristics of each species, optimizing both timber production and carbon storage.

#### 4.2. Variability of Carbon Content Along the Commercial Boles Among Species

The analysis of variance (ANOVA) highlighted significant variations in carbon content among the studied species, emphasizing the diversity in their carbon storage capabilities. The marked differences between species, indicated by an F value of 9.954 and p < 0.0001, not only highlight biological heterogeneity but also have significant implications for forest resource management and conservation policy formulation [60].

The Tukey post hoc test identified significant differences in carbon content between pairs of species, providing essential insights for forest management. For example, the notable difference between *Handroanthus serratifolius* and *Ceiba pentandra* suggests that specific management strategies may be needed to optimize carbon storage in the forest for these species. The high eta-squared value ( $\eta^2 = 0.83$ ) reveals that most of the variability in carbon content is explained by differences between species, highlighting the importance of carbon models that integrate this specific variability to refine carbon estimates.

Figures 3 and 4 illustrate the variability of carbon content along different vertical sections of the commercial boles of various tree species, revealing distinct patterns of carbon accumulation. These patterns are crucial for understanding the dynamics of carbon storage in forests and their implications for forest management and conservation strategies.

The observed variability in vertical sections of the boles indicates that carbon stock estimates that overlook this variability might significantly underestimate the amount of carbon stored. This underscores the need for carbon stock models that incorporate detailed data from different parts of the trees to enhance the accuracy of estimates.

Understanding these patterns of carbon accumulation can guide forest management strategies, particularly in selecting species and harvesting practices that consider the carbon storage profile of the trees. Strategies that preserve parts of the trunk with higher carbon content can increase carbon retention in the system, significantly contributing to climate change mitigation.

The consistency observed in section D, with less variability, suggests that the wood composition stabilizes in the upper parts of the trunk, an important consideration for management strategies focused on the use of specific parts of the tree for different commercial purposes. It may also indicate that the younger parts of the trunk, which generally grow more rapidly, might play a less significant role in carbon storage compared to the lower parts.

This point is corroborated by a review by Ma et al. [17], who calculated an average carbon content of 47.9% in tree trunks on a global scale, a value lower than that for any species we studied in southwestern Amazonia. In contrast, a study near Manaus (in central Amazonia) conducted by da Silva ([61], p. 61) reported an average carbon content of 48.5% ( $\pm$ 0.3%) in the trunks of 44 trees, suggesting that carbon values can vary significantly between different regions of the Amazon, although both studies in the Amazon show higher carbon content than the 47% IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) default value [62].

#### 4.3. Implications for Climate Change Policies and Forest Management

Substantial variations in carbon content among species underscore the urgent need to adapt forest management practices and conservation strategies to optimize carbon sequestration. Incorporating detailed knowledge of each species' unique characteristics into land use and conservation policies can significantly enhance the management of forest resources, boosting the contribution of forests in combating climate change.

The carbon content data collected provide a fundamental basis for future research into species' adaptive responses in forest management areas, particularly in scenarios where trees undergo cutting and regeneration cycles ranging from 20 to 30 years [63]. Each species uniquely contributes to the biodiversity and ecological functionality of forests, and harvesting these trees can result in the loss of critical ecological functions.

The study highlights concerns about the vulnerability of species in managed areas, exemplified by mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*), which is banned from exploitation in Brazil due to its threatened status. Similarly, garapeira (*Apuleia leiocarpa*), despite its abundance in study areas, is classified as vulnerable, emphasizing the urgent need for its conservation to prevent extinction [63]. Human exploitation has globally accelerated species extinction, with events that would naturally occur once in periods of millennia recurring in just a few decades [64–66]. This acceleration not only threatens the survival of species like garapeira but also compromises the ecological integrity of their habitats.

Previous research shows that the overexploitation of key species, particularly commercial large trees that store significant amounts of carbon, results in significant ecological imbalances. By extracting the trunk and leaving only the crown and stump, the forest loses regenerative capacity [67]. This underscores the need to develop conservation strategies that not only quantify but also enhance the ecological quality of regeneration. Such strategies should focus on replenishing carbon stocks and recovering ecological diversity. Reviewing carbon estimates based on local studies is crucial, especially considering the significant impact of deforestation in the Amazon on global emissions. The data collected in this study reveal a notable discrepancy between the mean carbon content of the analyzed species, at 50.48%, and the standard value of 47% used by the IPCC [62]. This difference is particularly relevant in forest management areas, where large trees with higher basic densities (hardwood) predominate, which are directly related to biomass stocks [47,68].

To put this in perspective, the difference between the average carbon content of the 19 tree species we studied (50.48) and the IPCC standard value of 47% used in Brazil's most recent climate communication ([69], p. 161) implies 7.40% higher emissions from deforestation, or an increase of 29.42 TgCO<sub>2</sub>e (8.02 TgC) above the 397.4 TgCO<sub>2</sub>e reported in the last inventory year (2016) ([69], p. 12). The entire energy sector of Brazil, including all fossil fuel use for vehicles and electricity generation, emitted 423.6 TgCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2016 ([70], p. 12). The metropolitan area of São Paulo, the fourth largest city in the world, represents 10% of Brazil's population and approximately this percentage of its energy emissions, meaning the implicit underestimation of annual deforestation emissions due to the Amazon forest's carbon content represents approximately 68% of São Paulo's energy emissions. This merely illustrates the scale of the problem, as 19 species are insufficient to adequately characterize the Amazon Forest. However, disregarding differences in carbon content may compromise the accuracy of estimates of carbon stocks and the impact of degradation and loss of Amazon Forest on global climate.

### 5. Conclusions

This study has detailed the variability in carbon content among different tree species in the Amazon, revealing significant differences that could influence forest management strategies and climate change policies. We observed that the mean carbon content (50.48%) across the 19 species studied is higher than the IPCC's standard value of 47%, suggesting that previous estimates of carbon stocks in the Amazon might have been underestimated. This finding is crucial as it implies that current policies based on standard values may not be robust enough to capture the real contribution of tropical forests in carbon storage and climate change mitigation.

The diversity in carbon storage capacity among species underscores the need to develop forest management models that consider the specific characteristics of each species to maximize carbon storage potential. Additionally, the observed variability suggests that standard management practices may not be suitable for all species, reinforcing the importance of tailored approaches to conservation and forest management.

For the future, we recommend conducting further studies to explore more deeply the intra- and interspecific variability in carbon content in other regions of the Amazon. This will help refine carbon estimates further and develop more effective management strategies that align with global sustainability and environmental conservation goals. Finally, this study not only contributes to the scientific understanding of carbon storage in tropical forests but also provides practical insights for forest management and conservation policies that are essential for combating climate change on a global scale.

**Supplementary Materials:** The following supporting information can be downloaded at: https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/su17072960/s1, Table S1. Tukey's Post-Hoc test results for species comparisons.

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# SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

# **Carbon Content of Amazonian Commercial Tree Boles: Implications for Forest Management**

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|     | Table S1. Tukey's Post-Hoc test results for species compa   | risons          |       |       |          |
|-----|---|-----------------|-------|-------|----------|
| No. | Species Comparison  | Mean Difference | L.L.  | U.L.  | p-value  |
| 1   | Apuleia leiocarpa vs. Albizia niopoides                     | 1.55            | 0.06  | 3.04  | 0.0346   |
| 2   | Astronium lecointei vs. Albizia niopoides                   | 2.33            | 0.84  | 3.82  | 0.0001   |
| 3   | Barnebydendron riedelii vs. Albizia niopoides               | 0.07            | -1.42 | 1.56  | 1.0000   |
| 4   | Castilla ulei vs. Albizia niopoides                         | 0.53            | -0.96 | 2.02  | 0.9963   |
| 5   | Cedrela odorata vs. Albizia niopoides                       | 2.10            | 0.61  | 3.59  | 0.0007   |
| 6   | Ceiba pentandra vs. Albizia niopoides                       | -0.42           | -1.91 | 1.07  | 0.9998   |
| 7   | Ceiba samauma vs. Albizia niopoides                         | -0.05           | -1.54 | 1.44  | 1.0000   |
| 8   | Copaifera multijuga vs. Albizia niopoides                   | 2.01            | 0.52  | 3.50  | 0.0013   |
| 9   | Dipteryx odorata vs. Albizia niopoides                      | 2.10            | 0.61  | 3.59  | 0.0007   |
| 10  | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Albizia niopoides                 | 1.02            | -0.47 | 2.51  | 0.5178   |
| 11  | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Albizia niopoides               | 1.04            | -0.45 | 2.53  | 0.4730   |
| 12  | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Albizia niopoides            | 2.29            | 0.80  | 3.78  | 0.0001   |
| 13  | Hura crepitans vs. Albizia niopoides                        | 0.02            | -1.47 | 1.51  | 1.0000   |
| 14  | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Albizia niopoides                    | 1.17            | -0.32 | 2.66  | 0.2845   |
| 15  | Parkia paraensis vs. Albizia niopoides                      | 1.04            | -0.45 | 2.53  | 0.4785   |
| 16  | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Albizia niopoides | 0.62            | -0.87 | 2.11  | 0.9830   |
| 17  | Sterculia apetala vs. Albizia niopoides                     | 0.92            | -0.57 | 2.41  | 0.6768   |
| 18  | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Albizia niopoides                | 0.33            | -1.16 | 1.82  | 1.0000   |
| 19  | Astronium lecointei vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                   | 0.78            | -0.71 | 2.27  | 0.8788   |
| 20  | Barnebydendron riedelii vs. Apuleia leiocarpa               | -1.48           | -2.97 | 0.01  | 0.0528   |
| 21  | Castilla ulei vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                         | -1.01           | -2.50 | 0.48  | 0.5234   |
| 22  | Cedrela odorata vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                       | 0.55            | -0.94 | 2.04  | 0.9945   |
| 23  | Ceiba pentandra vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                       | -1.97           | -3.46 | -0.48 | 0.0018   |
| 24  | Ceiba samauma vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                         | -1.60           | -3.09 | -0.11 | 0.0249   |
| 25  | Copaifera multijuga vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                   | 0.46            | -1.03 | 1.95  | 0.9993   |
| 26  | Dipteryx odorata vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                      | 0.55            | -0.94 | 2.04  | 0.9945   |
| 27  | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                 | -0.53           | -2.02 | 0.96  | 0.9966   |
| 28  | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Apuleia leiocarpa               | -0.50           | -1.99 | 0.99  | 0.9981   |
| 29  | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Apuleia leiocarpa            | 0.75            | -0.74 | 2.24  | 0.9114   |
| 30  | Hura crepitans vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                        | -1.53           | -3.02 | -0.04 | 0.0385   |
| 31  | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                    | -0.38           | -1.87 | 1.11  | 1.0000   |
| 32  | Parkia paraensis vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                      | -0.51           | -2.00 | 0.98  | 0.9980   |
| 33  | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Apuleia leiocarpa | -0.93           | -2.42 | 0.56  | 0.6657   |
| 34  | Sterculia apetala vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                     | -0.62           | -2.11 | 0.87  | 0.9811   |
| 35  | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Apuleia leiocarpa                | -1.21           | -2.70 | 0.28  | 0.2326   |
| 36  | Barnebydendron riedelii vs. Astronium lecointei             | -2.26           | -3.75 | -0.77 | 0.0002   |
| 37  | Castilla ulei vs. Astronium lecointei                       | -1.79           | -3.28 | -0.30 | 0.0064   |
| 38  | Cedrela odorata vs. Astronium lecointei                     | -0.23           | -1.72 | 1.26  | 1.0000   |
| 39  | Ceiba pentandra vs. Astronium lecointei                     | -2.75           | -4.24 | -1.26 | < 0.0001 |
| 40  | Ceiba samauma vs. Astronium lecointei                       | -2.38           | -3.87 | -0.89 | < 0.0001 |
| 41  | Copaifera multijuga vs. Astronium lecointei                 | -0.32           | -1.81 | 1.17  | 1.0000   |
| 42  | Dipteryx odorata vs. Astronium lecointei                    | -0.23           | -1.72 | 1.26  | 1.0000   |
| 43  | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Astronium lecointei               | -1.31           | -2.80 | 0.18  | 0.1421   |
| 44  | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Astronium lecointei             | -1.28           | -2.77 | 0.21  | 0.1637   |

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| 45 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Astronium lecointei                | -0.03 | -1.52 | 1.46  | 1.0000   |
|----|---|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| 46 | Hura crepitans vs. Astronium lecointei                            | -2.31 | -3.80 | -0.82 | 0.0001   |
| 47 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Astronium lecointei                        | -1.16 | -2.65 | 0.33  | 0.3019   |
| 48 | Parkia paraensis vs. Astronium lecointei                          | -1.29 | -2.78 | 0.20  | 0.1609   |
| 49 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Astronium lecointei     | -1.71 | -3.20 | -0.22 | 0.0115   |
| 50 | Sterculia apetala vs. Astronium lecointei                         | -1.40 | -2.89 | 0.09  | 0.0840   |
| 51 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Astronium lecointei                    | -1.99 | -3.48 | -0.50 | 0.0015   |
| 52 | Castilla ulei vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                         | 0.47  | -1.02 | 1.96  | 0.9993   |
| 53 | Cedrela odorata vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                       | 2.03  | 0.54  | 3.52  | 0.0011   |
| 54 | Ceiba pentandra vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                       | -0.49 | -1.98 | 1.00  | 0.9987   |
| 55 | Ceiba samauma vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                         | -0.12 | -1.61 | 1.37  | 1.0000   |
| 56 | Copaifera multijuga vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                   | 1.94  | 0.45  | 3.43  | 0.0021   |
| 57 | Dipteryx odorata vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                      | 2.03  | 0.54  | 3.52  | 0.0011   |
| 58 | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                 | 0.95  | -0.54 | 2.44  | 0.6319   |
| 59 | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Barnebydendron riedelii               | 0.98  | -0.51 | 2.47  | 0.5862   |
| 60 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Barnebydendron riedelii            | 2.23  | 0.74  | 3.72  | 0.0002   |
| 61 | Hura crepitans vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                        | -0.05 | -1.54 | 1.44  | 1.0000   |
| 62 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                    | 1.10  | -0.39 | 2.59  | 0.3776   |
| 63 | Parkia paraensis vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                      | 0.97  | -0.52 | 2.46  | 0.5920   |
| 64 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Barnebydendron riedelii | 0.55  | -0.94 | 2.04  | 0.9948   |
| 65 | Sterculia apetala vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                     | 0.86  | -0.63 | 2.35  | 0.7814   |
| 66 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Barnebydendron riedelii                | 0.27  | -1.22 | 1.76  | 1.0000   |
| 67 | Cedrela odorata vs. Castilla ulei                                 | 1.57  | 0.08  | 3.06  | 0.0304   |
| 68 | Ceiba pentandra vs. Castilla ulei                                 | -0.95 | -2.44 | 0.54  | 0.6262   |
| 69 | Ceiba samauma vs. Castilla ulei                                   | -0.58 | -2.07 | 0.91  | 0.9903   |
| 70 | Copaifera multijuga vs. Castilla ulei                             | 1.48  | -0.01 | 2.97  | 0.0539   |
| 71 | Dipteryx odorata vs. Castilla ulei                                | 1.57  | 0.08  | 3.06  | 0.0304   |
| 72 | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Castilla ulei                           | 0.48  | -1.01 | 1.97  | 0.9988   |
| 73 | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Castilla ulei                         | 0.51  | -0.98 | 2.00  | 0.9978   |
| 74 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Castilla ulei                      | 1.76  | 0.27  | 3.25  | 0.0081   |
| 75 | Hura crepitans vs. Castilla ulei                                  | -0.52 | -2.01 | 0.97  | 0.9974   |
| 76 | '<br>Hymenaea courbaril vs. Castilla ulei                         | 0.64  | -0.85 | 2.13  | 0.9769   |
| 77 | Parkia paraensis vs. Castilla ulei                                | 0.51  | -0.98 | 2.00  | 0.9980   |
| 78 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Castilla ulei           | 0.08  | -1.41 | 1.57  | 1.0000   |
| 79 | Sterculia apetala vs. Castilla ulei                               | 0.39  | -1.10 | 1.88  | 0.9999   |
| 80 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Castilla ulei                          | -0.20 | -1.69 | 1.29  | 1.0000   |
| 81 | Ceiba pentandra vs. Cedrela odorata                               | -2.52 | -4.01 | -1.03 | < 0.0001 |
| 82 | Ceiba samauma vs. Cedrela odorata                                 | -2.15 | -3.64 | -0.66 | 0.0004   |
| 83 | Copaifera multijuga vs. Cedrela odorata                           | -0.09 | -1.58 | 1.40  | 1.0000   |
| 84 | Dipterux odorata vs. Cedrela odorata                              | 0.00  | -1.49 | 1.49  | 1.0000   |
| 85 | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Cedrela odorata                         | -1.08 | -2.57 | 0.41  | 0.4084   |
| 86 | Eschweilera grandiflora ys. Cedrela odorata                       | -1.06 | -2.55 | 0.43  | 0.4510   |
| 87 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Cedrela odorata                    | 0.19  | -1.30 | 1.68  | 1.0000   |
| 88 | Hura crepitans vs. Cedrela odorata                                | -2.08 | -3.57 | -0.59 | 0.0007   |
| 89 | Humenaea courbaril vs. Cedrela odorata                            | -0.93 | -2.42 | 0.56  | 0.6657   |
| 90 | Parkia paraensis vs. Cedrela odorata                              | -1.06 | -2.55 | 0.43  | 0.4456   |
|    |   |       |       |       |          |

| 91  | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Cedrela odorata     | -1.48 | -2.97 | 0.01  | 0.0517   |
|-----|---|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| 92  | Sterculia apetala vs. Cedrela odorata                         | -1.18 | -2.67 | 0.31  | 0.2761   |
| 93  | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Cedrela odorata                    | -1.77 | -3.26 | -0.28 | 0.0077   |
| 94  | Ceiba samauma vs. Ceiba pentandra                             | 0.37  | -1.12 | 1.86  | 1.0000   |
| 95  | Copaifera multijuga vs. Ceiba pentandra                       | 2.43  | 0.94  | 3.92  | < 0.0001 |
| 96  | Dipteryx odorata vs. Ceiba pentandra                          | 2.52  | 1.03  | 4.01  | < 0.0001 |
| 97  | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Ceiba pentandra                     | 1.44  | -0.05 | 2.93  | 0.0688   |
| 98  | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Ceiba pentandra                   | 1.46  | -0.03 | 2.95  | 0.0585   |
| 99  | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Ceiba pentandra                | 2.71  | 1.22  | 4.20  | < 0.0001 |
| 100 | Hura crepitans vs. Ceiba pentandra                            | 0.44  | -1.05 | 1.93  | 0.9997   |
| 101 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Ceiba pentandra                        | 1.59  | 0.10  | 3.08  | 0.0260   |
| 102 | Parkia paraensis vs. Ceiba pentandra                          | 1.46  | -0.03 | 2.95  | 0.0597   |
| 103 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Ceiba pentandra     | 1.04  | -0.45 | 2.53  | 0.4841   |
| 104 | Sterculia apetala vs. Ceiba pentandra                         | 1.34  | -0.15 | 2.83  | 0.1184   |
| 105 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Ceiba pentandra                    | 0.75  | -0.74 | 2.24  | 0.9054   |
| 106 | Copaifera multijuga vs. Ceiba samauma                         | 2.06  | 0.57  | 3.55  | 0.0009   |
| 107 | Dipteryx odorata vs. Ceiba samauma                            | 2.15  | 0.66  | 3.64  | 0.0004   |
| 108 | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Ceiba samauma                       | 1.07  | -0.42 | 2.56  | 0.4348   |
| 109 | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Ceiba samauma                     | 1.09  | -0.40 | 2.58  | 0.3928   |
| 110 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Ceiba samauma                  | 2.34  | 0.85  | 3.83  | < 0.0001 |
| 111 | Hura crepitans vs. Ceiba samauma                              | 0.07  | -1.42 | 1.56  | 1.0000   |
| 112 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Ceiba samauma                          | 1.22  | -0.27 | 2.71  | 0.2253   |
| 113 | Parkia paraensis vs. Ceiba samauma                            | 1.09  | -0.40 | 2.58  | 0.3980   |
| 114 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Ceiba samauma       | 0.67  | -0.82 | 2.16  | 0.9648   |
| 115 | Sterculia apetala vs. Ceiba samauma                           | 0.97  | -0.52 | 2.46  | 0.5920   |
| 116 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Ceiba samauma                      | 0.38  | -1.11 | 1.87  | 0.9999   |
| 117 | Dipteryx odorata vs. Copaifera multijuga                      | 0.09  | -1.40 | 1.58  | 1.0000   |
| 118 | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Copaifera multijuga                 | -0.99 | -2.48 | 0.50  | 0.5576   |
| 119 | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Copaifera multijuga               | -0.97 | -2.46 | 0.52  | 0.6034   |
| 120 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Copaifera multijuga            | 0.28  | -1.21 | 1.77  | 1.0000   |
| 121 | Hura crepitans vs. Copaifera multijuga                        | -1.99 | -3.48 | -0.50 | 0.0015   |
| 122 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Copaifera multijuga                    | -0.84 | -2.33 | 0.65  | 0.8050   |
| 123 | Parkia paraensis vs. Copaifera multijuga                      | -0.97 | -2.46 | 0.52  | 0.5977   |
| 124 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Copaifera multijuga | -1.39 | -2.88 | 0.10  | 0.0890   |
| 125 | Sterculia apetala vs. Copaifera multijuga                     | -1.09 | -2.58 | 0.40  | 0.4031   |
| 126 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Copaifera multijuga                | -1.68 | -3.17 | -0.19 | 0.0145   |
| 127 | Eschweilera bracteosa vs. Dipteryx odorata                    | -1.08 | -2.57 | 0.41  | 0.4084   |
| 128 | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Dipteryx odorata                  | -1.06 | -2.55 | 0.43  | 0.4510   |
| 129 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Dipteryx odorata               | 0.19  | -1.30 | 1.68  | 1.0000   |
| 130 | Hura crepitans vs. Dipteryx odorata                           | -2.08 | -3.57 | -0.59 | 0.0007   |
| 131 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Dipteryx odorata                       | -0.93 | -2.42 | 0.56  | 0.6657   |
| 132 | Parkia paraensis vs. Dipteryx odorata                         | -1.06 | -2.55 | 0.43  | 0.4456   |
| 133 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Dipteryx odorata    | -1.48 | -2.97 | 0.01  | 0.0517   |
| 134 | Sterculia apetala vs. Dipteryx odorata                        | -1.18 | -2.67 | 0.31  | 0.2761   |
| 135 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Dipteryx odorata                   | -1.77 | -3.26 | -0.28 | 0.0077   |
| 136 | Eschweilera grandiflora vs. Eschweilera bracteosa             | 0.03  | -1.46 | 1.52  | 1.0000   |
|     | 0 2   |       |       |       |          |

| 137 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Eschweilera bracteosa                 | 1.28  | -0.21 | 2.77  | 0.1695 |
|-----|--|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 138 | Hura crepitans vs. Eschweilera bracteosa                             | -1.00 | -2.49 | 0.49  | 0.5462 |
| 139 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Eschweilera bracteosa                         | 0.15  | -1.34 | 1.64  | 1.0000 |
| 140 | Parkia paraensis vs. Eschweilera bracteosa                           | 0.02  | -1.47 | 1.51  | 1.0000 |
| 141 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Eschweilera bracteosa      | -0.40 | -1.89 | 1.09  | 0.9999 |
| 142 | Sterculia apetala vs. Eschweilera bracteosa                          | -0.09 | -1.58 | 1.40  | 1.0000 |
| 143 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Eschweilera bracteosa                     | -0.68 | -2.17 | 0.81  | 0.9564 |
| 144 | Handroanthus serratifolius vs. Eschweilera grandiflora               | 1.25  | -0.24 | 2.74  | 0.1943 |
| 145 | Hura crepitans vs. Eschweilera grandiflora                           | -1.03 | -2.52 | 0.46  | 0.5008 |
| 146 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Eschweilera grandiflora                       | 0.13  | -1.36 | 1.62  | 1.0000 |
| 147 | Parkia paraensis vs. Eschweilera grandiflora                         | 0.00  | -1.49 | 1.49  | 1.0000 |
| 148 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Eschweilera grandiflora    | -0.43 | -1.92 | 1.06  | 0.9998 |
| 149 | Sterculia apetala vs. Eschweilera grandiflora                        | -0.12 | -1.61 | 1.37  | 1.0000 |
| 150 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Eschweilera grandiflora                   | -0.71 | -2.20 | 0.78  | 0.9400 |
| 151 | Hura crepitans vs. Handroanthus serratifolius                        | -2.28 | -3.77 | -0.79 | 0.0002 |
| 152 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Handroanthus serratifolius                    | -1.12 | -2.61 | 0.37  | 0.3481 |
| 153 | Parkia paraensis vs. Handroanthus serratifolius                      | -1.25 | -2.74 | 0.24  | 0.1911 |
| 154 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Handroanthus serratifolius | -1.68 | -3.17 | -0.19 | 0.0145 |
| 155 | Sterculia apetala vs. Handroanthus serratifolius                     | -1.37 | -2.86 | 0.12  | 0.1018 |
| 156 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Handroanthus serratifolius                | -1.96 | -3.45 | -0.47 | 0.0019 |
| 157 | Hymenaea courbaril vs. Hura crepitans                                | 1.15  | -0.34 | 2.64  | 0.3063 |
| 158 | Parkia paraensis vs. Hura crepitans                                  | 1.02  | -0.47 | 2.51  | 0.5065 |
| 159 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Hura crepitans             | 0.60  | -0.89 | 2.09  | 0.9870 |
| 160 | Sterculia apetala vs. Hura crepitans                                 | 0.91  | -0.58 | 2.40  | 0.7042 |
| 161 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Hura crepitans                            | 0.32  | -1.17 | 1.81  | 1.0000 |
| 162 | Parkia paraensis vs. Hymenaea courbaril                              | -0.13 | -1.62 | 1.36  | 1.0000 |
| 163 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Hymenaea courbaril         | -0.55 | -2.04 | 0.94  | 0.9945 |
| 164 | Sterculia apetala vs. Hymenaea courbaril                             | -0.25 | -1.74 | 1.24  | 1.0000 |
| 165 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Hymenaea courbaril                        | -0.84 | -2.33 | 0.65  | 0.8096 |
| 166 | Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum vs. Parkia paraensis           | -0.42 | -1.91 | 1.07  | 0.9998 |
| 167 | Sterculia apetala vs. Parkia paraensis                               | -0.12 | -1.61 | 1.37  | 1.0000 |
| 168 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Parkia paraensis                          | -0.71 | -2.20 | 0.78  | 0.9423 |
| 169 | Sterculia apetala vs. Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum          | 0.31  | -1.18 | 1.80  | 1.0000 |
| 170 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Schizolobium parahyba var. amazonicum     | -0.28 | -1.77 | 1.21  | 1.0000 |
| 171 | Terminalia tetraphylla vs. Sterculia apetala                         | -0.59 | -2.08 | 0.90  | 0.9891 |

Lower Limit (LL) and Upper Limit (UL).