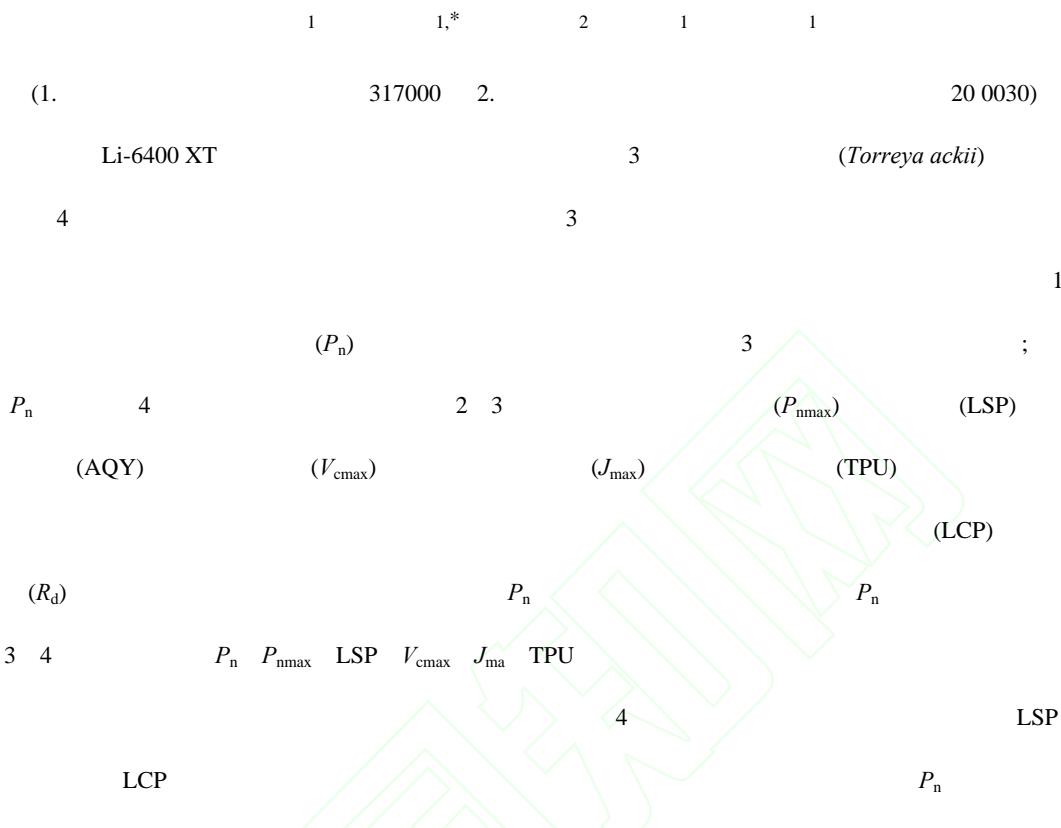


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(*Torreya jackii*)



Photosynthetic traits of the endangered plant species *Torreya jackii*

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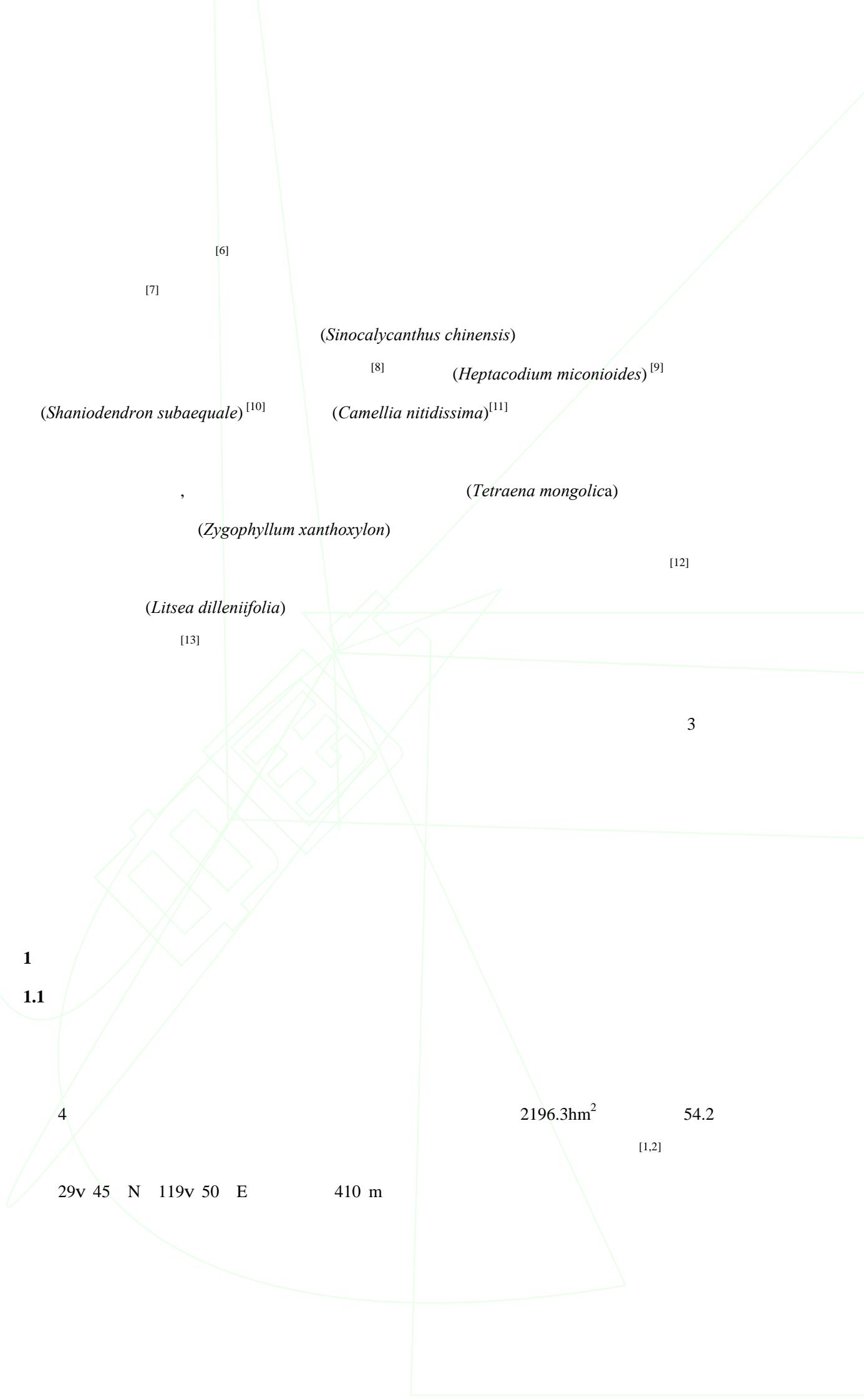
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Abstract: A portable Li-6400 XT photosynthesis measuring system (LI-COR Biosciences, Lincoln, NE, USA) was used to explore how *Torreya jackii*, an endangered species endemic to China, adapts to the environment and to illustrate and determine various photosynthetic characteristics of *T. jackii* in three natural habitats with different light conditions, specifically gap, edge and understory habitats. Also, the physiological mechanisms that have resulted in the endangered status of this species were explored to provide baseline reference data in support of

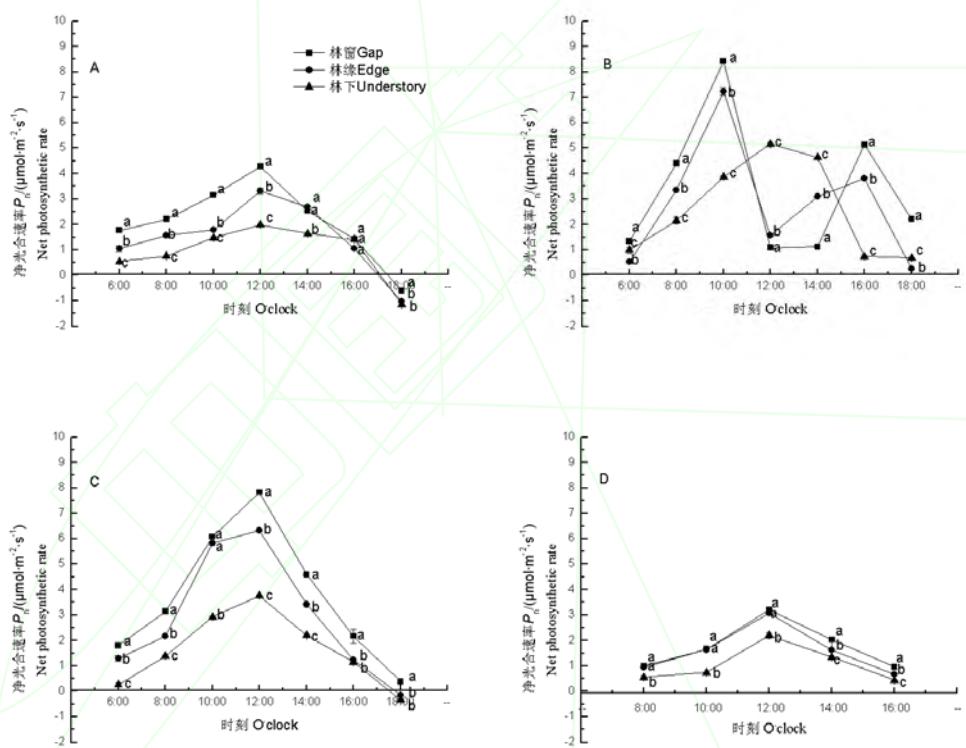
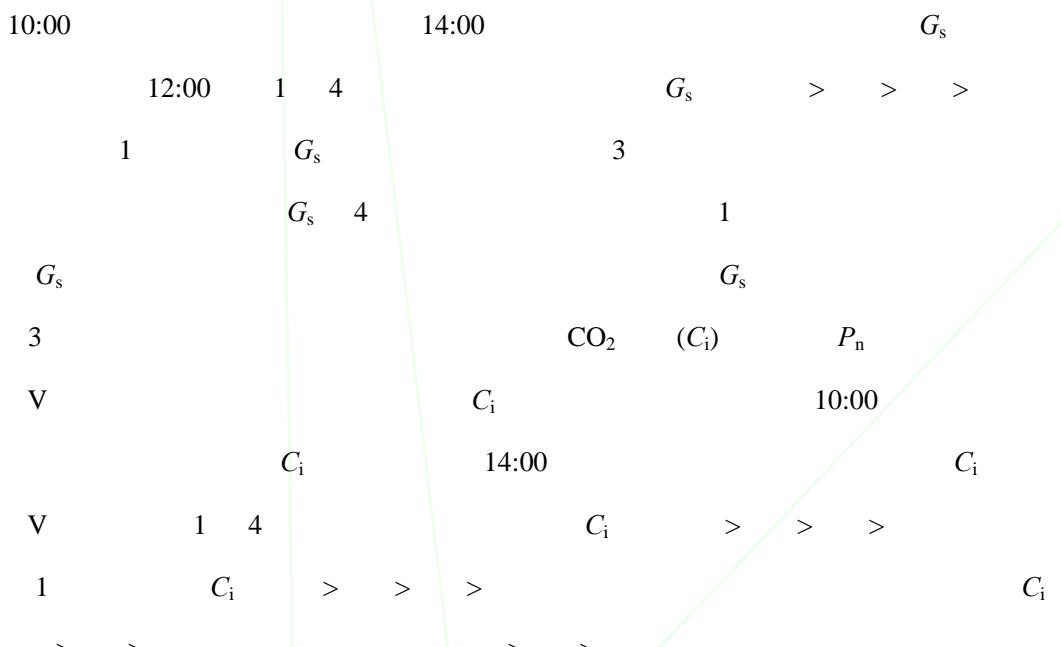
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off-site conservation and population rejuvenation of *T. jackii*. The results for *T. jackii* growing in forest gap and edge habitats show that when the diurnal variation in the photosynthetic rates in the summer is graphed, typical



1.3



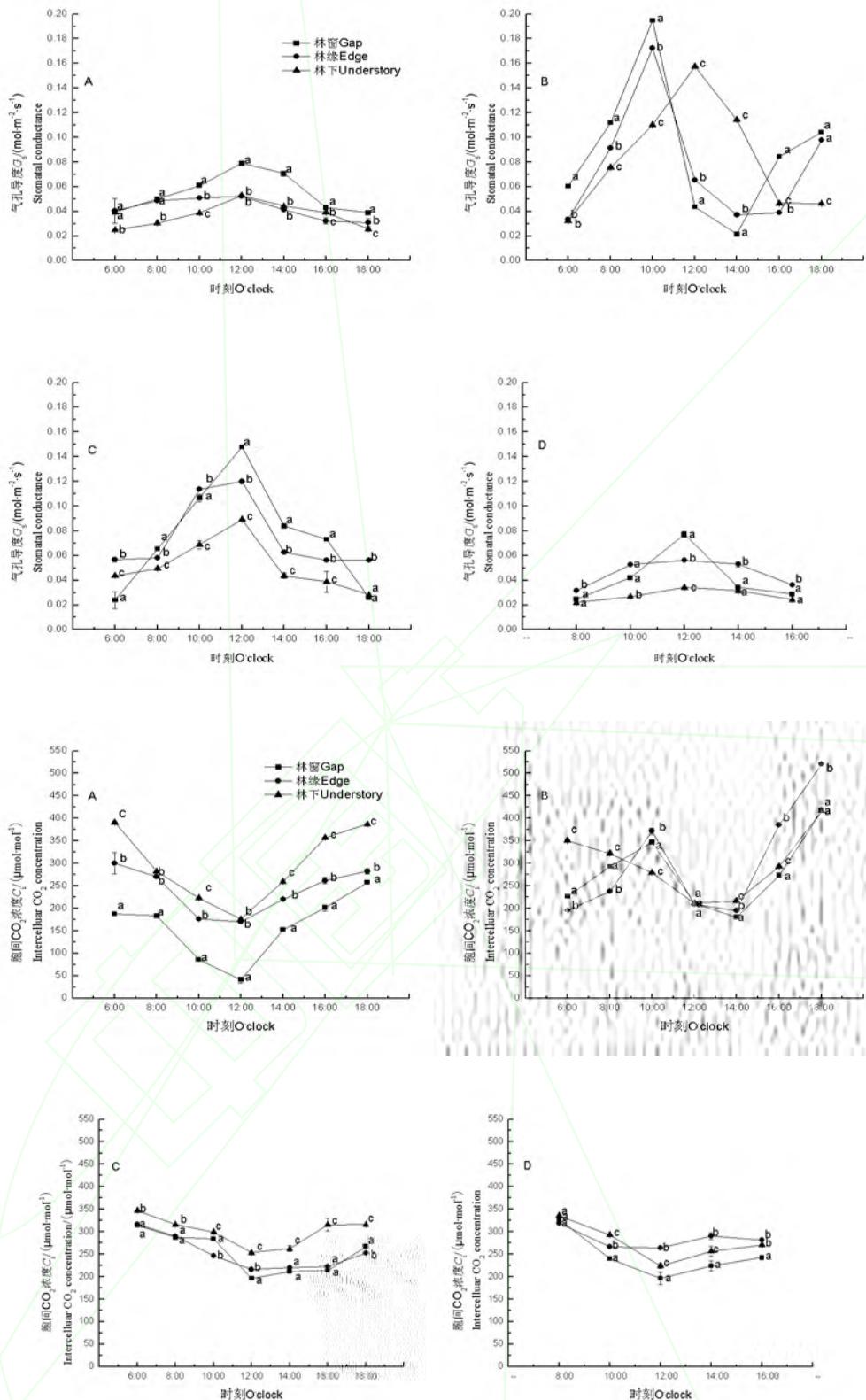
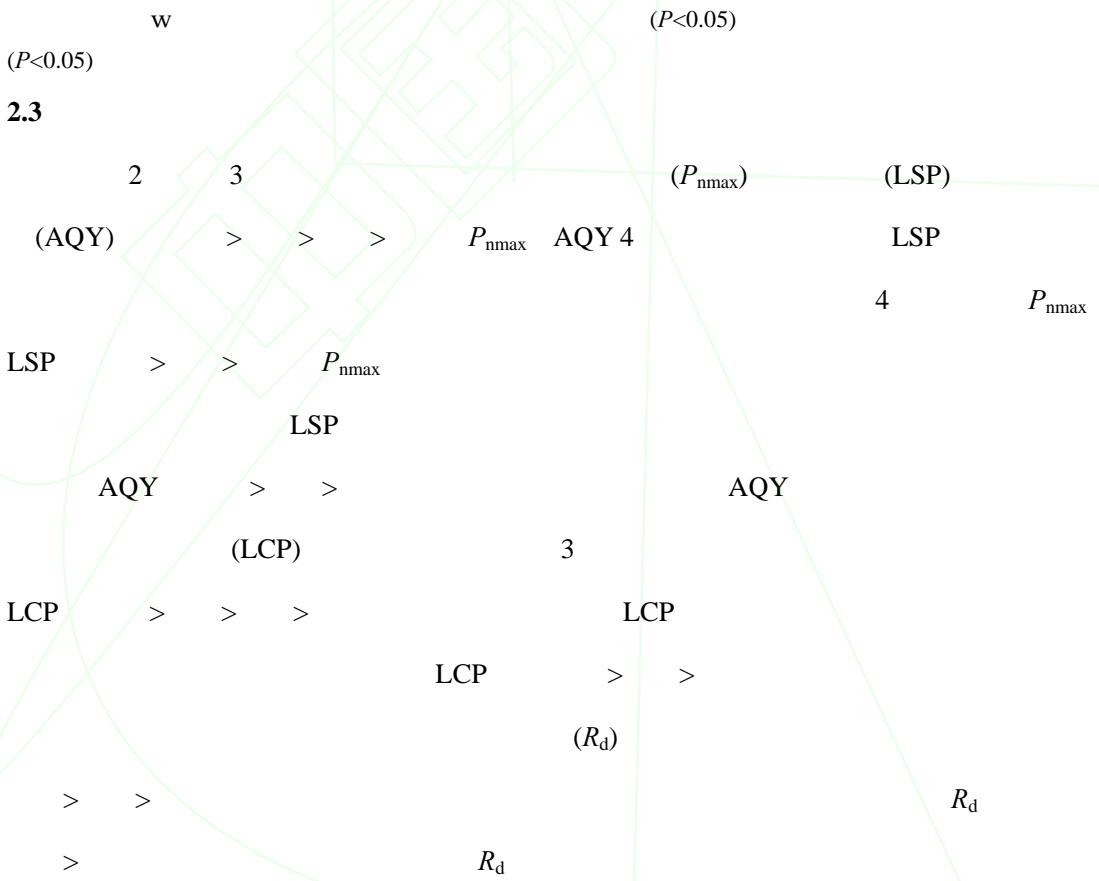


Fig. 1 Seasonal change in daily processes of net photosynthetic rate P_n , stomatal conductance G_s and intercellular CO_2 concentration of *Torreya jacki* under different habitats

W (P<0.05) A B C D 4

Table 1 Seasonal change in daily mean values of net photosynthetic rate intercellular CO₂ concentration stomatal conductance of *Torreya jackii* leaves under different habitats

| Parameters | Habitats | Seasons | | | |
|--|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | Spring | Summer | Autumn | Winter |
| (P _n) Daily mean values of net photosynthetic rate / (mol·m ⁻² ·s ⁻¹) | Gap | 2.72±0.231Aa | 4.03±0.272Ba | 4.76±0.103Ca | 1.77±0.147Da |
| | Edge | 2.08±0.170Ab | 3.81±0.181Bb | 3.79±0.153Bb | 1.58±0.084Cb |
| | Understory | 1.45±0.268Ac | 3.31±0.277Bc | 2.28±0.215Cc | 1.05±0.118Dc |
| (G _s) Daily mean values of stomatal conductance / (mol·m ⁻² ·s ⁻¹) | Gap | 0.06±0.001Aa | 0.18±0.001Ba | 0.08±0.001Ca | 0.03±0.001Da |
| | Edge | 0.04±0.003Ab | 0.12±0.004Bb | 0.07±0.002Ca | 0.03±0.001Da |
| | Understory | 0.04±0.001Ab | 0.08±0.002Bc | 0.04±0.001Ab | 0.02±0.001Cb |
| CO ₂ (C _i) Daily mean values of intercellular CO ₂ concentration / (mol·mol ⁻¹) | Gap | 132.76±4.077Aa | 260.82±1.842Ba | 238.69±1.802Ca | 245.91±6.852Da |
| | Edge | 219.74±2.746Ab | 279.90±2.735Bb | 245.01±1.279Cb | 263.07±3.163Db |
| | Understory | 259.45±1.323Ac | 264.48±2.781Bc | 289.46±4.493Cc | 276.01±4.211Dc |



| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------|
| 3 | (V_{cmax}) | (J_{max}) | (TPU) |
| > | > | V_{cmax} | |
| J_{max} | 4 | TPU | |
| V_{cmax} | > | > | |
| J_{max} | > | > | > |
| > | > | | 4 |
| | | | TPU |

2

| | | | | | |
|--|------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| electron transport /(mol · m ⁻² · s ⁻¹) | | | | | |
| (TPU) | Gap | 8.978±0.366Aa | 22.931±0.936Ba | 9.478±0.387Aa | 4.116±0.168Ca |
| Triose phosphate utilization rate /(mol · m ⁻² · s ⁻¹) | Edge | 5.285±0.215Ab | 16.025±0.654Bb | 8.826±0.360Cb | 3.965±0.171Da |
| | Understory | 4.996±0.204Ab | 12.394±0.506Bc | 6.097±0.249Cc | 2.273±0.093Db |

w
(P<0.05)

(P<0.05)

2.4

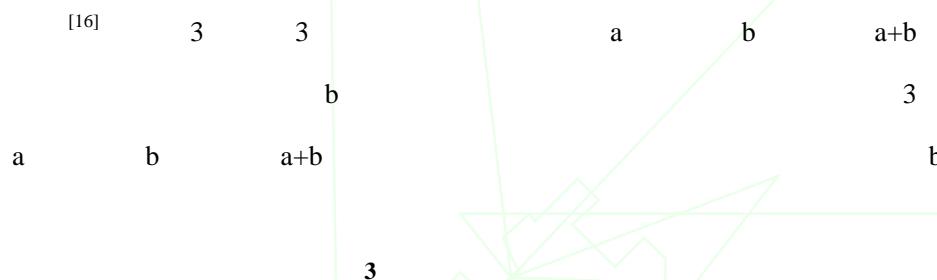


Table 3 Seasonal change in the chlorophyll content of *Torreya jackii* leaves under different habitats

| Parameters | Habitats | Seasons | | | |
|--|------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | Spring | Summer | Autumn | Winter |
| Chlorophyll a (mg·g ⁻¹) | Gap | 2.82w 0.125Aa | 3.17w 0.220Aa | 3.01w 0.338Aa | 2.53w 0.057Ba |
| | Edge | 2.97w 0.233Aab | 3.42w 0.117Aa | 3.15w 0.278Aab | 2.32w 0.150Bab |
| | Understory | 3.32w 0.172Ab | 3.83w 0.136Bb | 3.44w 0.486Ab | 2.05w 0.228Cb |
| Chlorophyll b (mg·g ⁻¹) | Gap | 0.89w 0.011Aa | 1.18w 0.127Aa | 1.04w 0.221Aa | 0.87w 0.013Aa |
| | Edge | 1.09w 0.146Ab | 1.21w 0.075Ba | 1.13w 0.050ABa | 0.77w 0.072Cab |
| | Understory | 1.15w 0.013Ab | 1.46w 0.181Aa | 1.33w 0.101Aa | 0.53w 0.031Bb |
| Chlorophyll a+b (mg·g ⁻¹) | Gap | 3.71w 0.136Aa | 4.35w 0.347Aa | 4.05w 0.559Aa | 3.40w 0.070Ba |
| | Edge | 4.06w 0.379Aab | 4.63w 0.192Ba | 4.28w 0.328Bab | 3.09w 0.222Ca |
| | Understory | 4.47w 0.185Ab | 5.29w 0.317Bb | 4.77w 0.587ABb | 2.58w 0.259Cb |

w

(P<0.05)

($P < 0.05$)

2.5

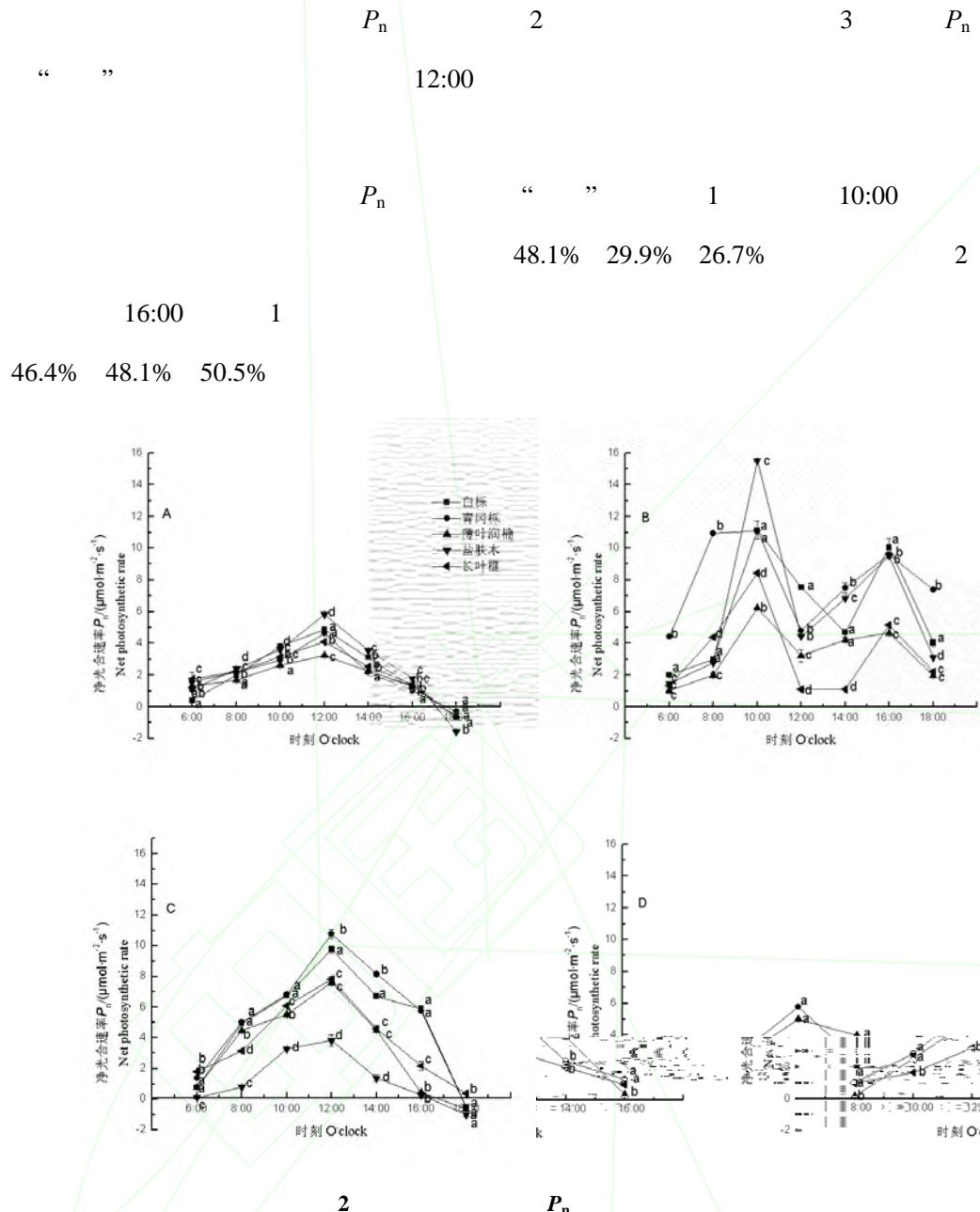
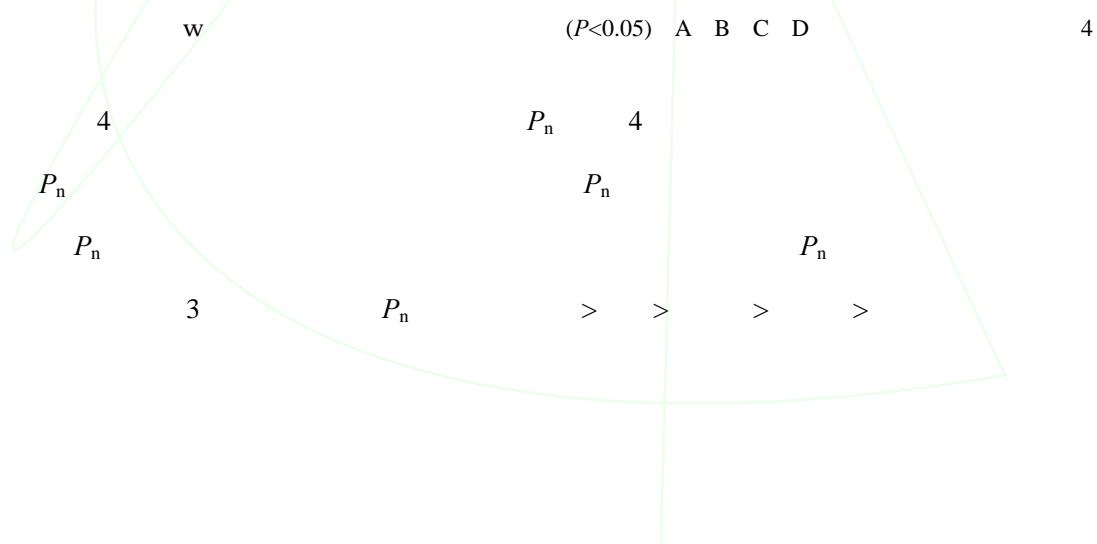


Fig. 2 Seasonal change in daily process of net photosynthetic rate of *Torreya jacki* and its accompanying species under different habitats



P_n

4

P_n

Table 4 Seasonal change in daily mean values of net photosynthetic rate of *Torreya jackii* leaves and its accompanying species under different habitats

| Parameters | Species | Seasons | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Spring | Summer | Autumn | Winter |
| P_n /(mol·m ⁻² ·s ⁻¹) | (<i>Torreya jackii</i>) | 2.72w 0.233Aa | 4.03w 0.271Ba | 4.76w 0.107Ca | 1.77w 0.146Da |
| | (<i>Cyclobalanopsis glauca</i>) | 2.97w 0.187Ab | 8.75w 0.231Bb | 7.30w 0.294Cb | 2.26w 0.057Db |
| | (<i>Machilus leptophylla</i>) | 2.33w 0.132Ac | 4.86w 0.115Bc | 3.88w 0.259Cc | 2.07w 0.510Db |
| | (<i>Quercus fabri</i>) | 2.91w 0.042Ab | 7.28w 0.307Bd | 6.60w 0.255Cd | |
| | (<i>Rhus chinensis</i>) | 3.25w 0.343Ad | 7.82w 0.046Be | 1.91w 0.041Ce | |

w
($P<0.05$)

2.6

LSP
LCP

Table 5 Seasonal change in Light saturation point and Light compensation point of *Torreya jackii* leaves and its accompanying species under different habitats

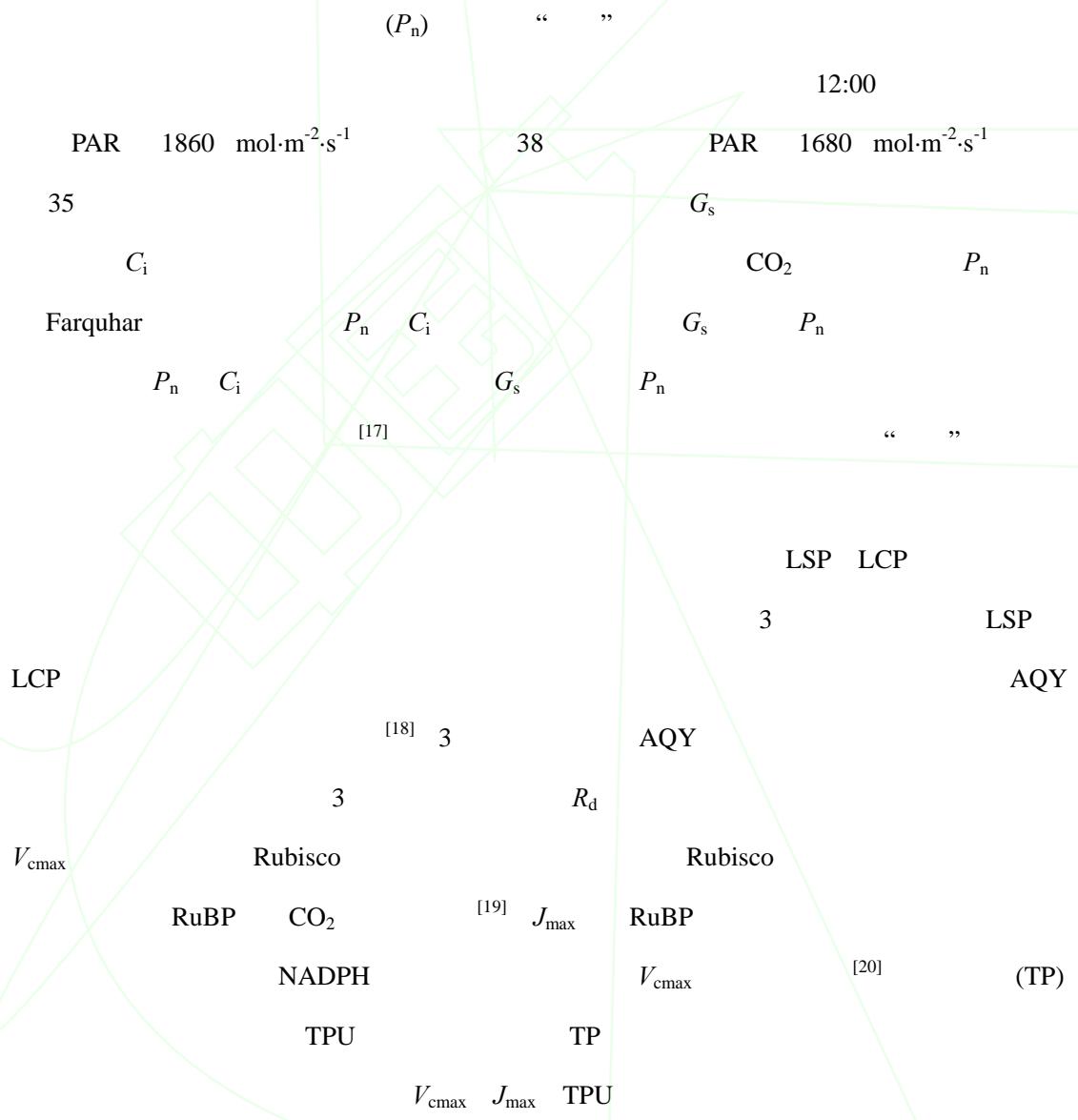
| Parameters | Seasons | Species | | | | |
|------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | <i>Torreya jackii</i> | <i>Machilus leptophylla</i> | <i>Cyclobalanopsis glauca</i> | <i>Quercus fabri</i> | <i>Rhus chinensis</i> |
| (LSP) | Spring | 462±16.819Aa | 628±25.637Ba | 752±24.494Ca | 564±23.025Da | 530±22.861Da |
| | Summer | 927±34.456Ab | 940±38.375Bb | 1288±49.499Cb | 1206±48.826Cb | 1108±45.233Db |

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| /($\text{mol} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$) | Autumn | $752 \pm 30.700\text{Ac}$ | $604 \pm 20.575\text{Ba}$ | $808 \pm 28.903\text{Cc}$ | $700 \pm 28.577\text{Dc}$ | $160 \pm 6.531\text{Ec}$ |
| | Winter | $428 \pm 17.473\text{Aa}$ | $467 \pm 6.153\text{Bc}$ | $544 \pm 9.961\text{Cd}$ | | |
| (LCP) | Spring | $10 \pm 0.408\text{Aa}$ | $18 \pm 1.306\text{Ba}$ | $13 \pm 1.469\text{Ca}$ | $18 \pm 1.143\text{Ba}$ | $18 \pm 2.776\text{Ba}$ |
| Light compensation point | Summer | $20 \pm 0.816\text{Ab}$ | $10 \pm 0.463\text{Bb}$ | $4 \pm 0.372\text{Cb}$ | $4 \pm 0.165\text{Cb}$ | $4 \pm 0.489\text{Cb}$ |
| /($\text{mol} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$) | Autumn | $14 \pm 0.571\text{Ac}$ | $8 \pm 0.489\text{Bb}$ | $8 \pm 0.177\text{Bc}$ | $25 \pm 0.255\text{Cc}$ | $30 \pm 0.326\text{Dc}$ |
| | Winter | $10 \pm 0.408\text{Aa}$ | $8 \pm 0.326\text{Ab}$ | $8 \pm 0.189\text{Ac}$ | | |

w
($P < 0.05$)

($P < 0.05$)

3



RuBP CO₂ Rubisco

NADPH

RuBP

3

LSP AQY V_{cmax}

J_{max} TPU

P_{nmax}

P_n

P_n

PAR

PAR

17% 4

LSP V_{cmax} J_{max} TPU

P_n

(*Cathaya argyrophylla*) PAR

P_n

^[21]

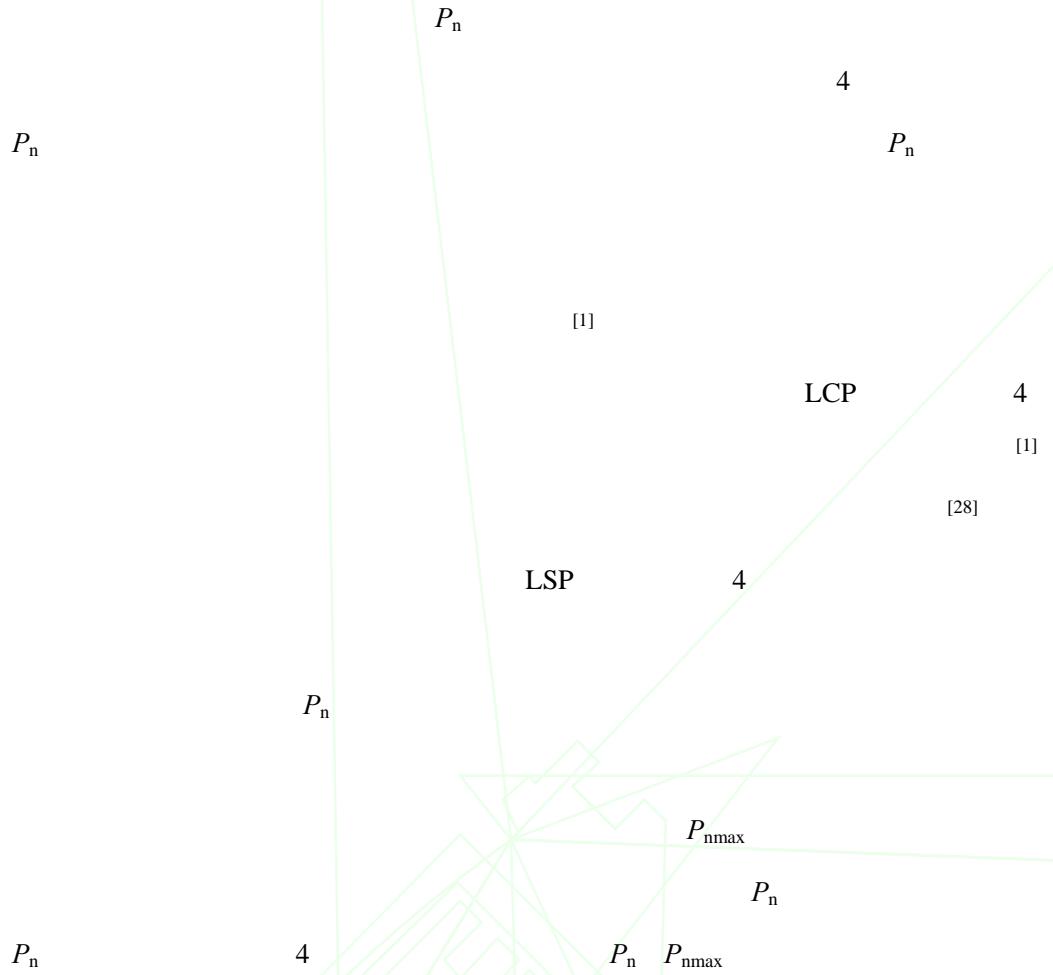
4

P_{nmax}

LCP

AQY

R_d



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