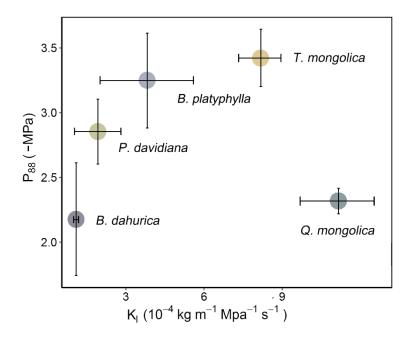
## Supplementary materials for

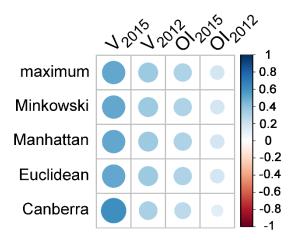
## Divergent Hydraulic Strategies Explain the Interspecific Associations of Co-Occurring Trees in Forest–Steppe Ecotone

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**Figure S1.** The relationship between stem hydraulic transportation efficiency (as measured by leaf specific hydraulic conductivity,  $K_1$ ) and safety (as measured by the water potential of stems at 88% loss of stem conductivity,  $P_{88}$ ) of all species. The error bars show  $\pm 1$  SE.



**Figure S2** Spearman correlation between the interspecific association pattern and the hydraulic tradeoff differences among species. The interspecific associations are represented by V value in *Yates* correlation coefficient and *Ochiai* index. The hydraulic tradeoff differences are calculated as Euclidean, Manhattan, Canbetta, Minkowski and maximum distances between each species pairs. The size and color of the circles show the correlation coefficients.