

# The effect of species mixing on tree and stand growth

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<http://www.wwk.forst.wzw.tum.de/info/presentations/>

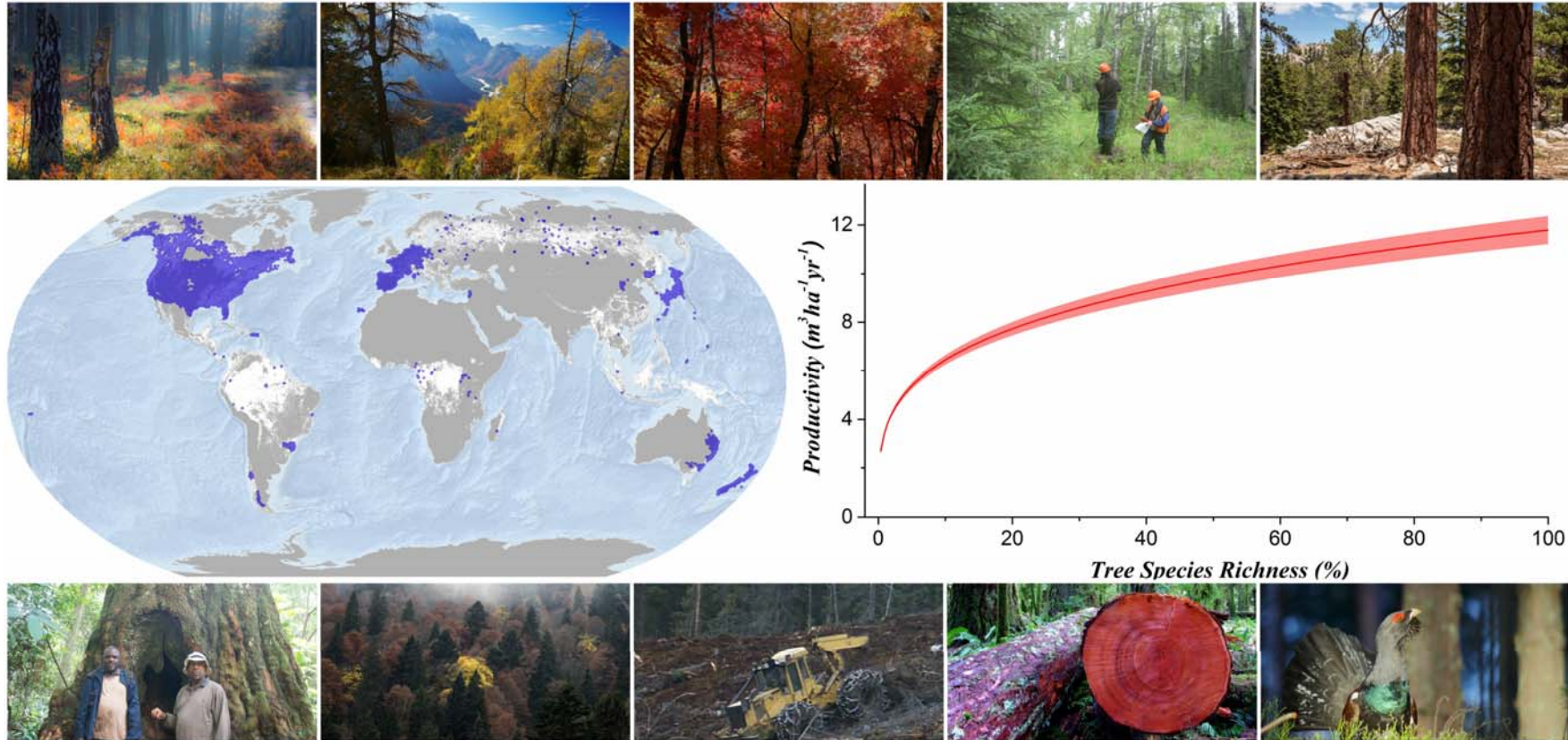


# Criteria for sustainable forest ecosystem management. Objective hierarchy for the management of municipal forest Traunstein

Criteria for sustainable forest management	Indicators	Weight (%)
Forest resources	timber resources, area of forest, extension of area	20
Health and vitality	stability, fitness, elasticity	17
Productive functions	growth, yield, net return	12
Biological diversity	habitat quality, richness flora/fauna, conservation	10
Protective functions	soil, water, climate, noise, protection	10
Socio-economic functions	employment, recreation, esthetics, proximity to nature	31



# Tree species richness and stand productivity

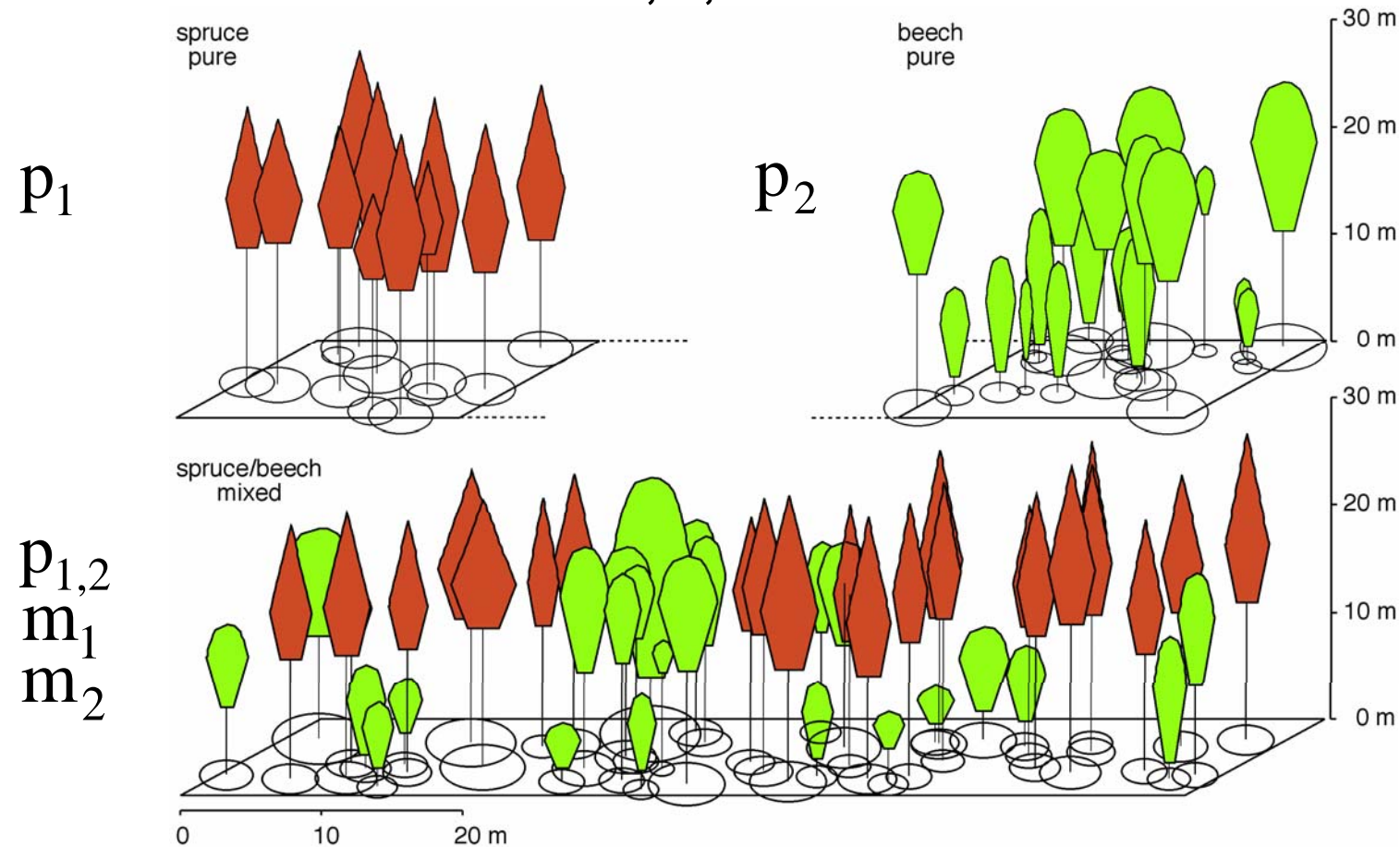


The steepest curves ( $\alpha = 0.30$ ) on highly productive sites, the lowest ( $\alpha = 0.20$ ) on poor sites. Worldwide average  $\alpha = 0.26$

# The effect of species mixing on tree and stand growth

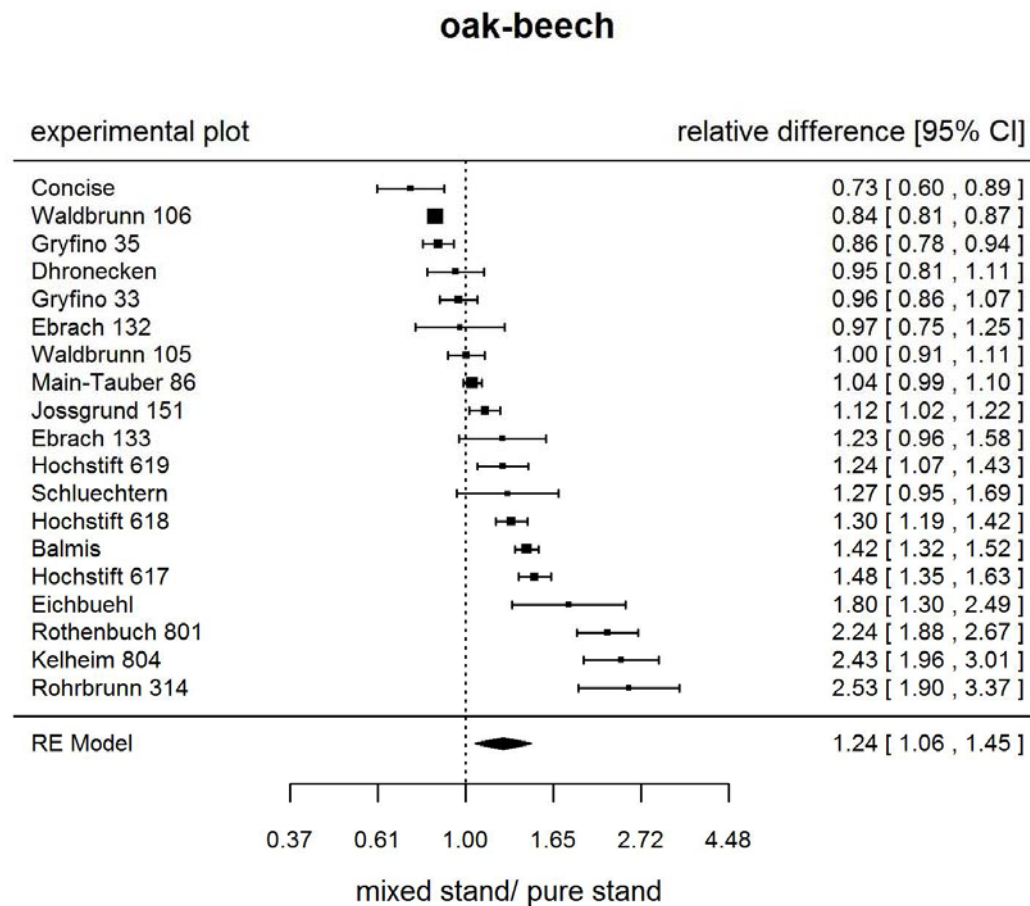
- 1 Mixing effects at the stand level
  - 2 Effects on stand density, size distribution  
stand structure
  - 3 Effects on tree allometry and allocation
- Discussion of general patterns

# Experimental setup for scrutiny of mixing effects Zwiesel 111/3,4,5 Bavarian Forest



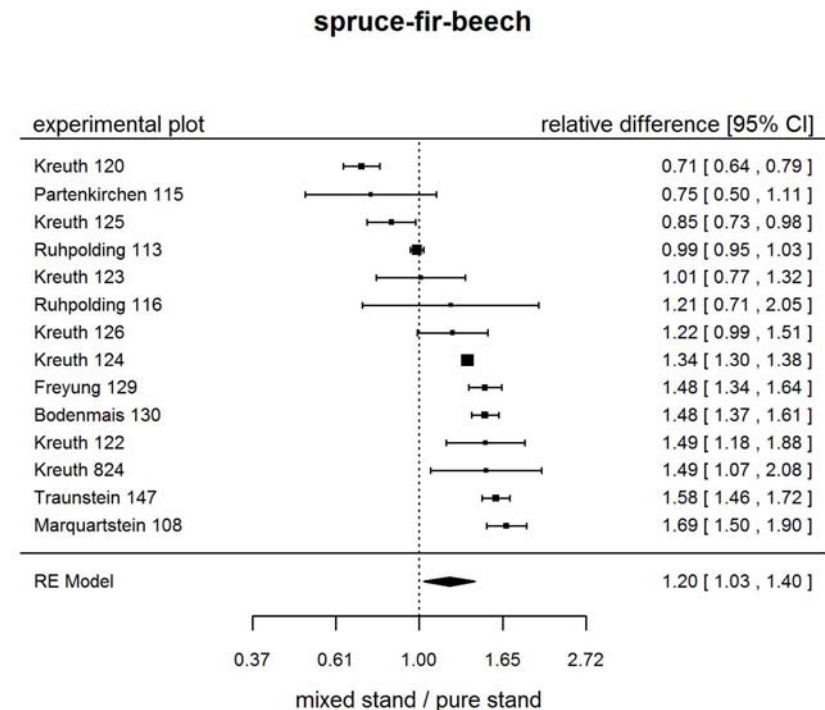
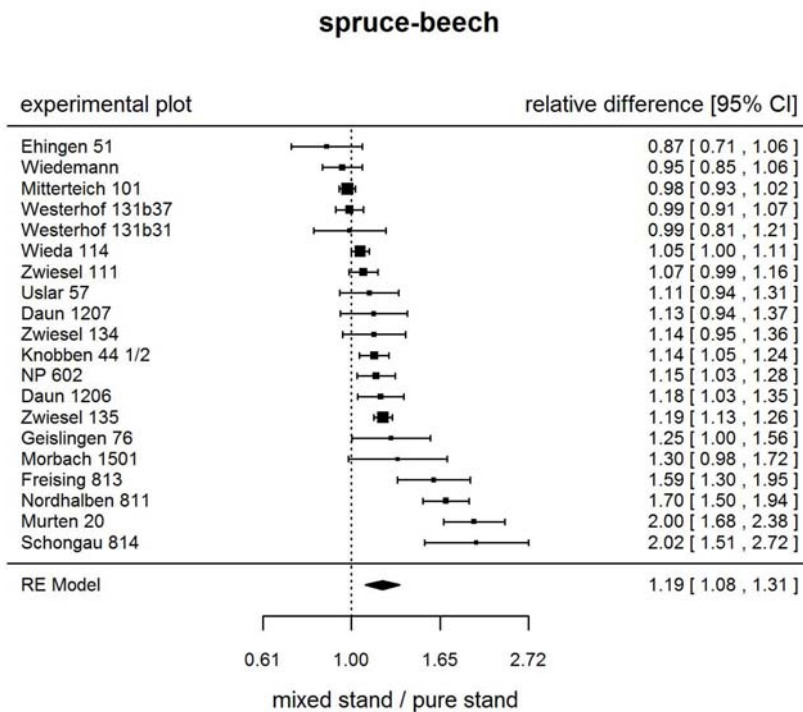
$p_{1,2}$  compared with  $p_1 \times m_1 + p_2 \times m_2$

# Meta-analysis on overyielding of mixed stands of sessile oak and European beech versus pure stands in Europe based on long-term experiments



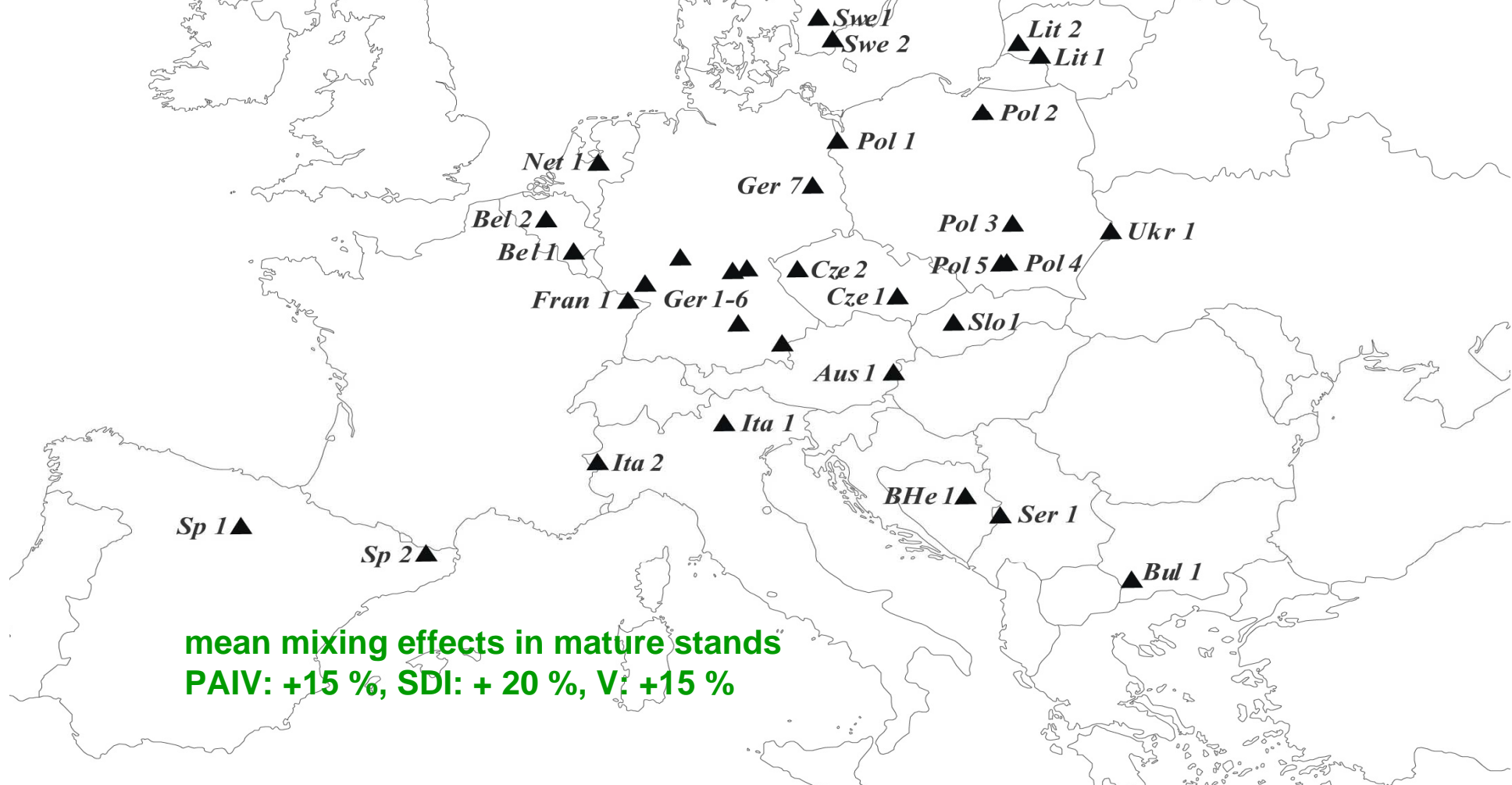


# Meta-analysis on overyielding of mixed stands of Norway spruce, European beech, silver fir in Europe based on long-term experiments





# Mixing effects on 32 triplets of Scots pine and European beech along a productivity gradient through Europe (EuMIXFOR FP 1206)

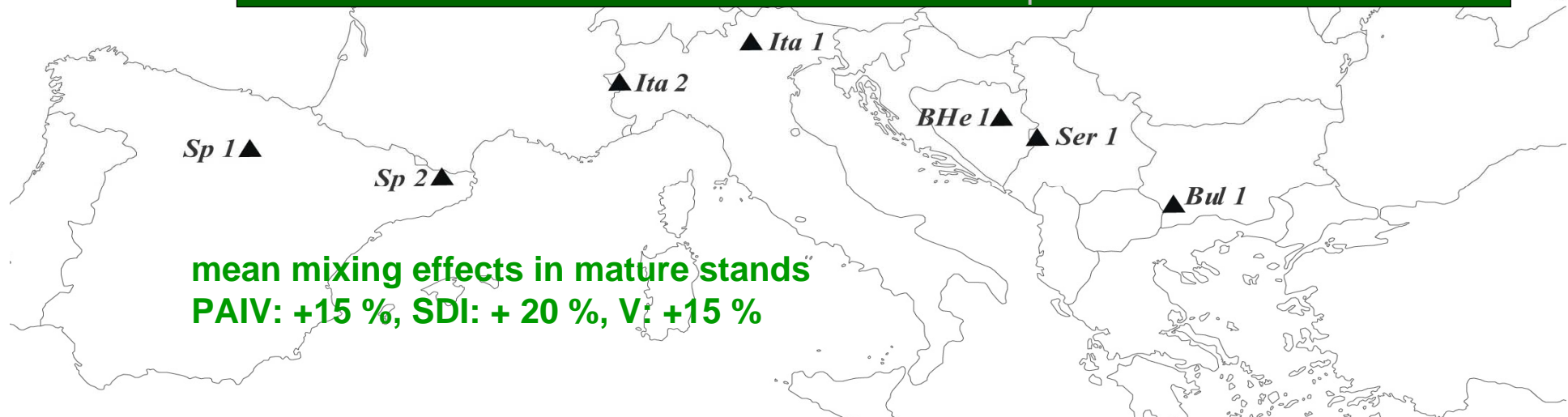


# Mixing effects on 32 triplets of Scots pine and European beech along a productivity gradient through Europe (EuMIXFOR FP 1206)



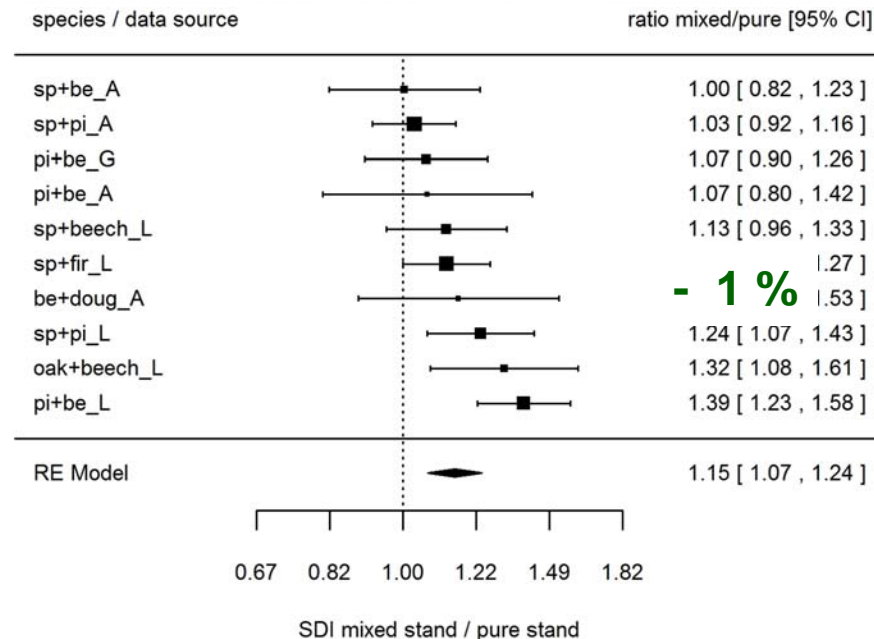
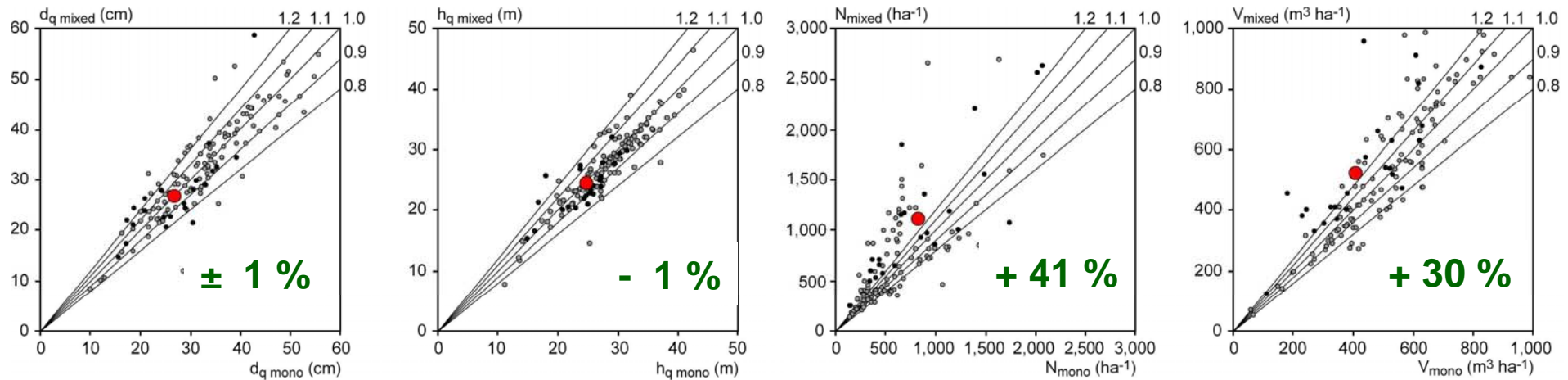
## Summary 1:

- overyielding of 15-30 % of mixed vs. pure stands
- occasionally also neutral or negative effects
- conservative correction factor:  $iv_{\text{pure}} \times 1.10 \text{ to } 1.20$

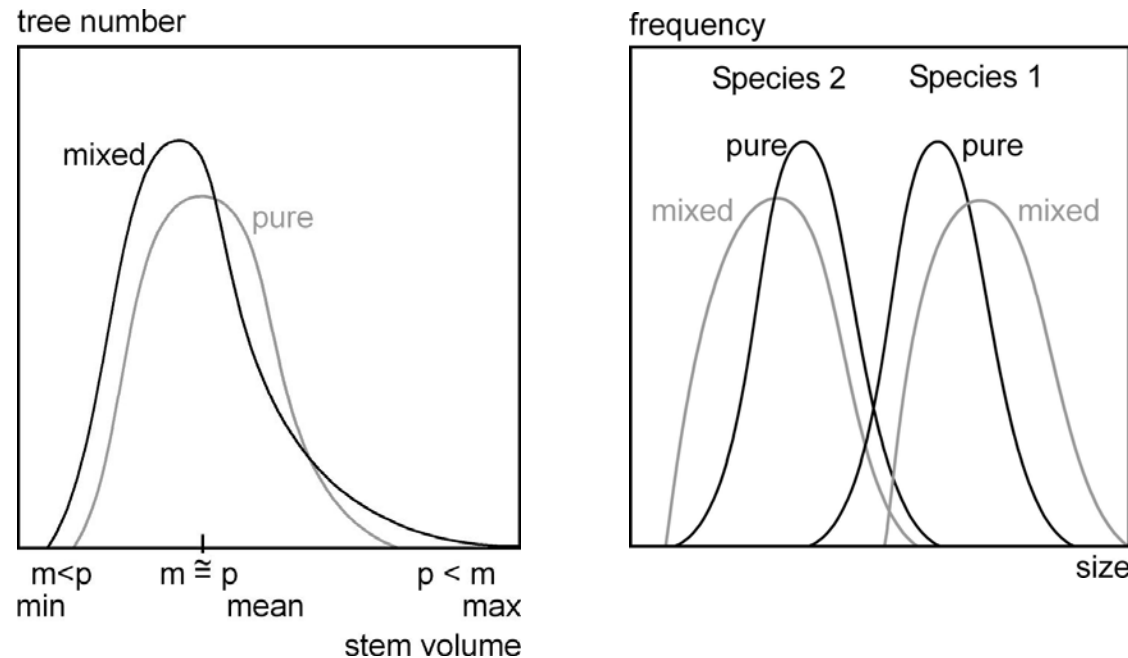


mean mixing effects in mature stands  
PAIV: +15 %, SDI: + 20 %, V: +15 %

# Mixing increases tree number and standing volume rather than mean tree diameter or height

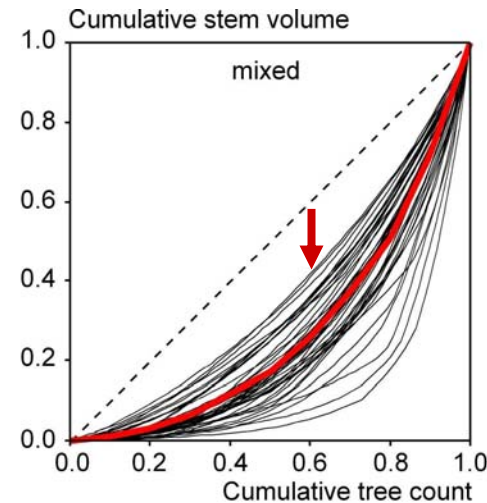
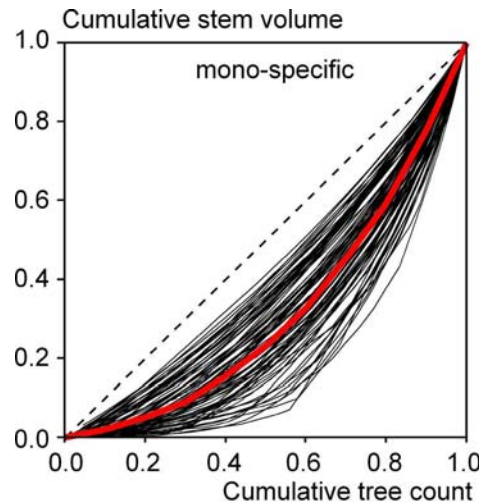


More trees, wider size range, stronger right-skewness in mixed stands; often species 1 ahead, species 2 behind the pure stand



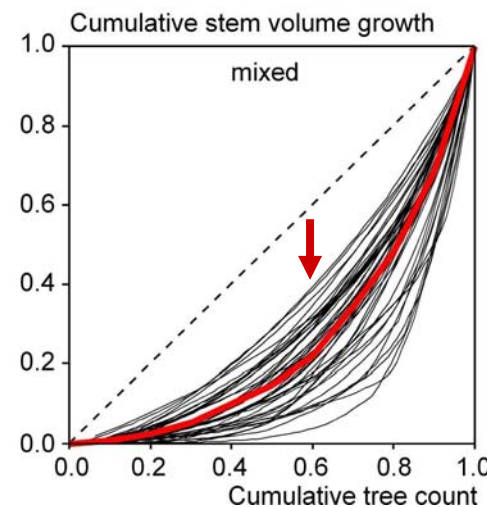
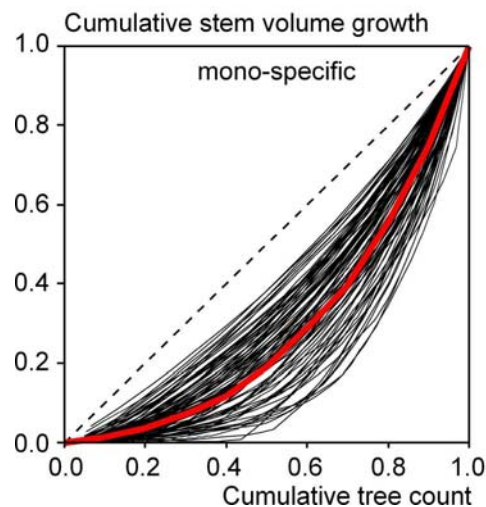


# Cumulative distribution of stem volume (above) and stem growth (below) over cumulative tree count (Lorenz-curve Gini-coefficient)



$G_v \text{ mono} = 0.35$

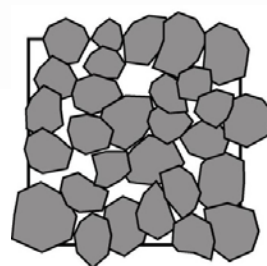
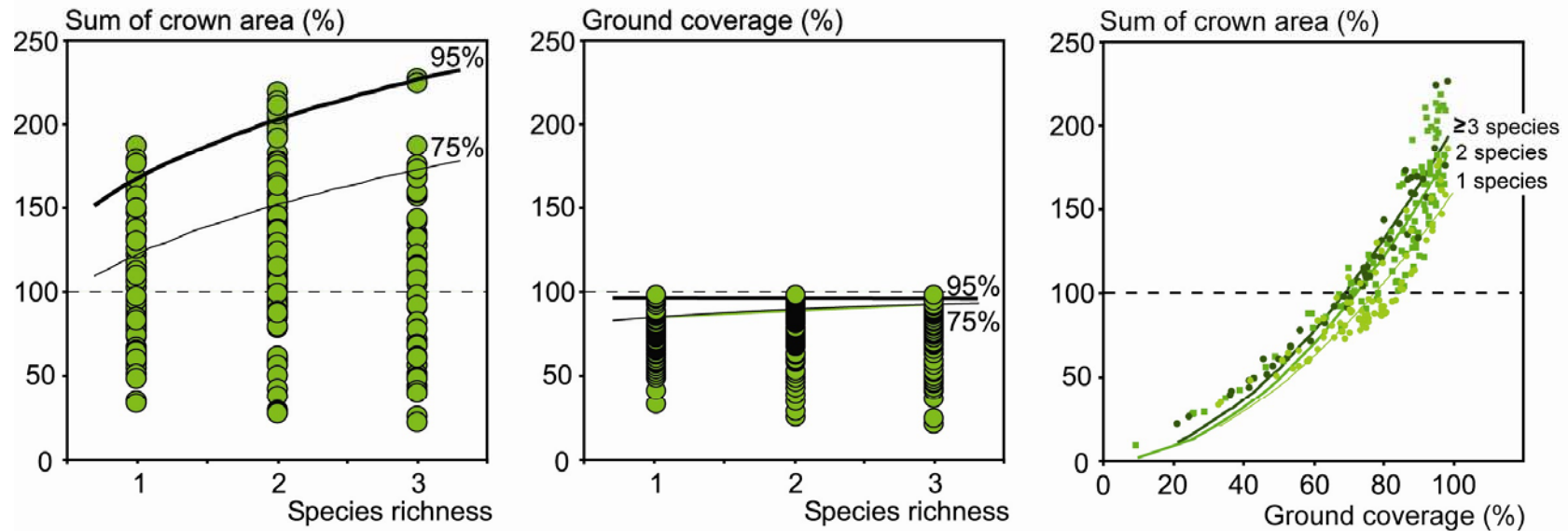
$G_v \text{ mixed} = 0.45$



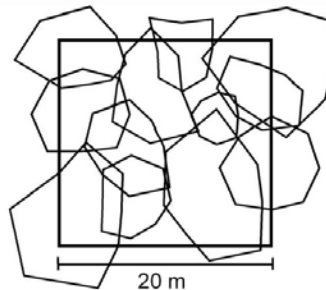
$G_{iv} \text{ mono} = 0.39$

$G_{iv} \text{ mixed} = 0.46$

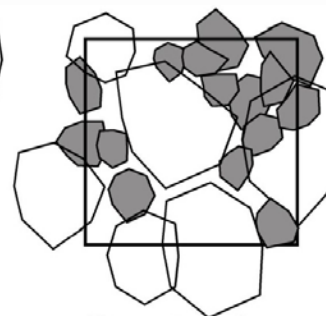
# Denser canopy space filling in mixed stands: higher sum of crown area and multiple ground coverage



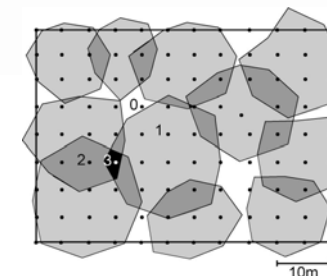
Norway spruce  
pure



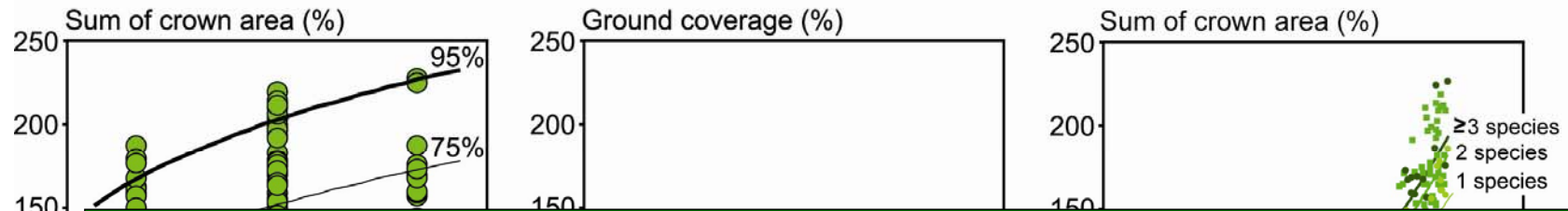
European beech  
pure



Norway spruce /  
European beech  
mixed



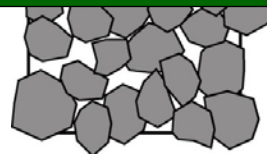
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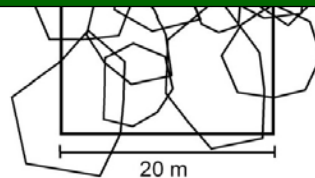
## Summary 2:

Mixed-species stands had compared with pure stands:

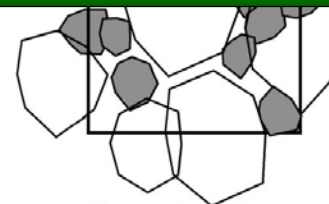
- higher stand density but similar  $d_q$ ,  $h_q$
- wider tree size range
- greater tree size inequality
- denser canopy space filling



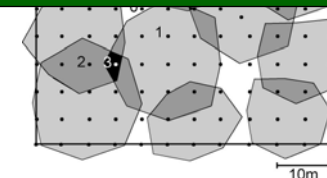
Norway spruce  
pure



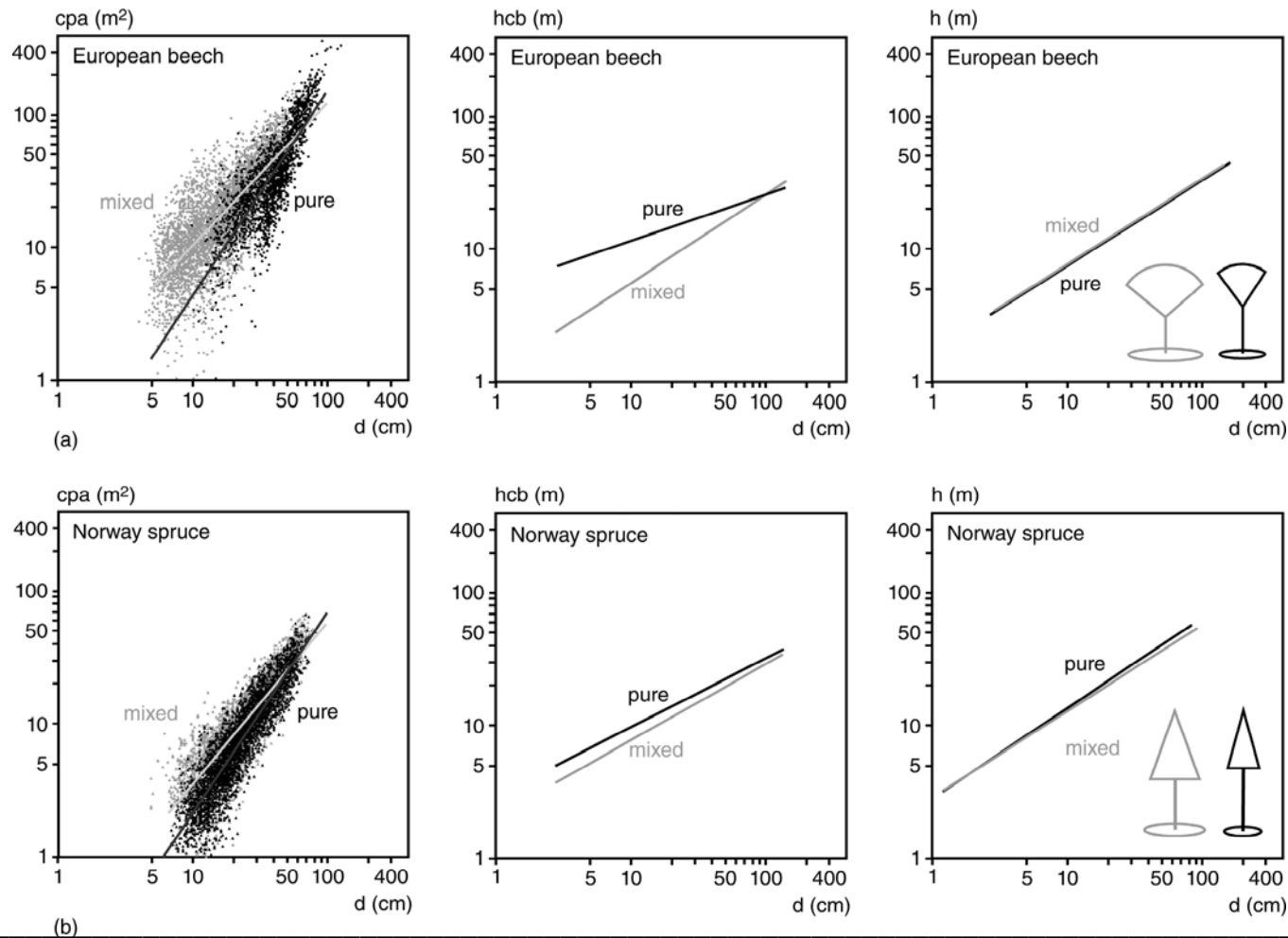
European beech  
pure



Norway spruce /  
European beech  
mixed



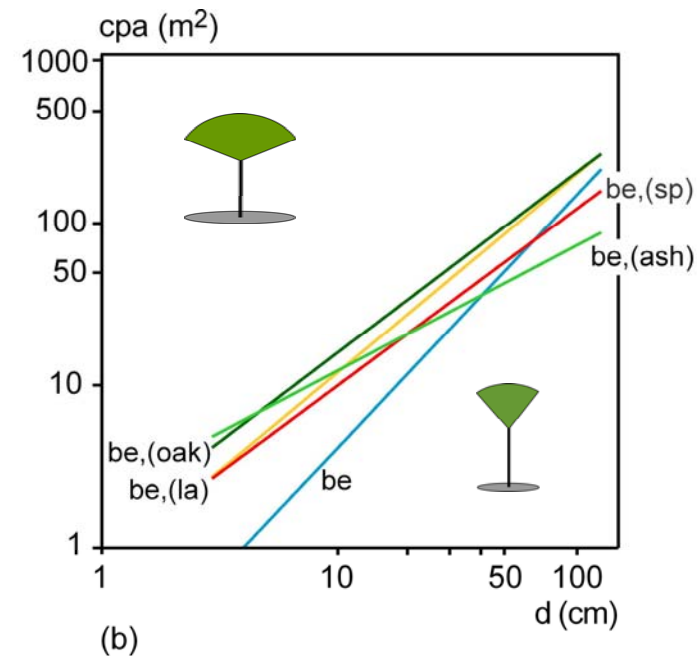
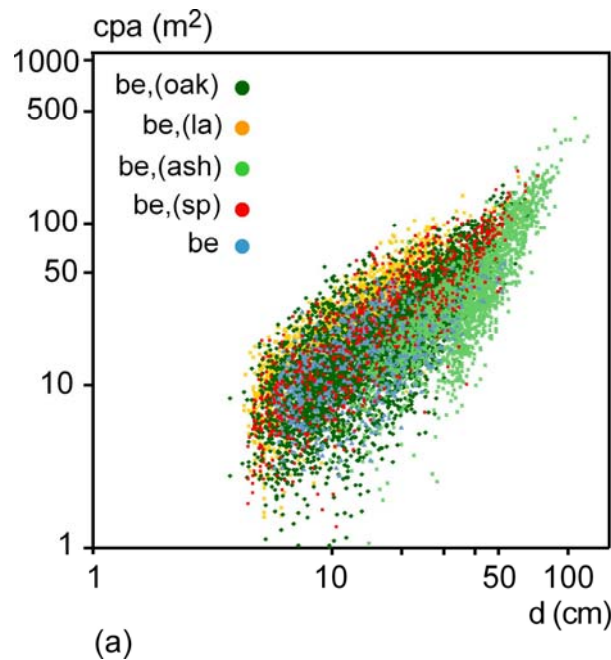
# Effect of species mixing on the crown allometry of European beech and Norway spruce



Pretzsch, H. (2014) Canopy space filling and tree crown morphology in mixed-species stands compared with monocultures. *Forest Ecology and Management*, 327: 251-264.

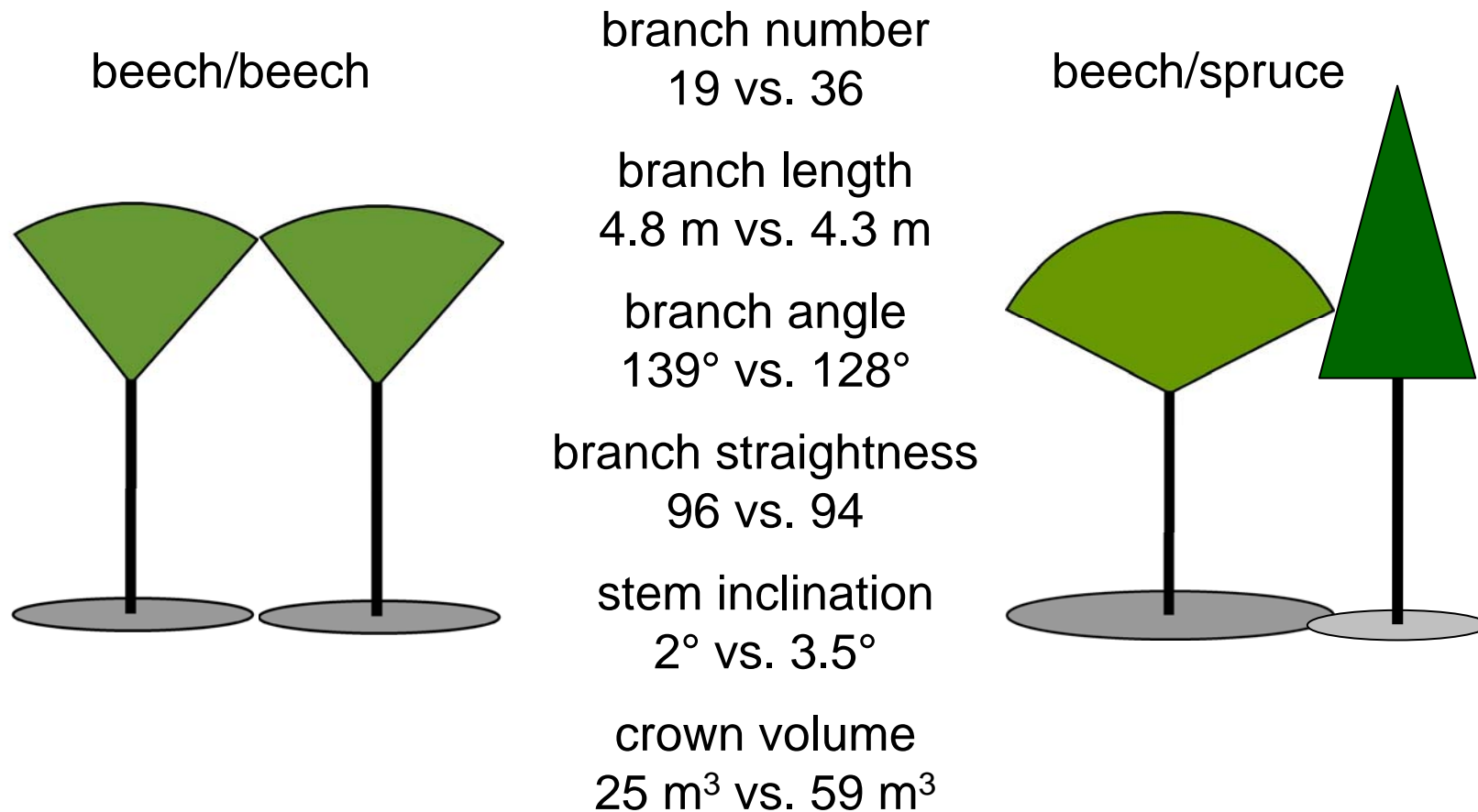


# Allometry between crown projection area and stem diameter of European in pure stands and when mixed with other tree species

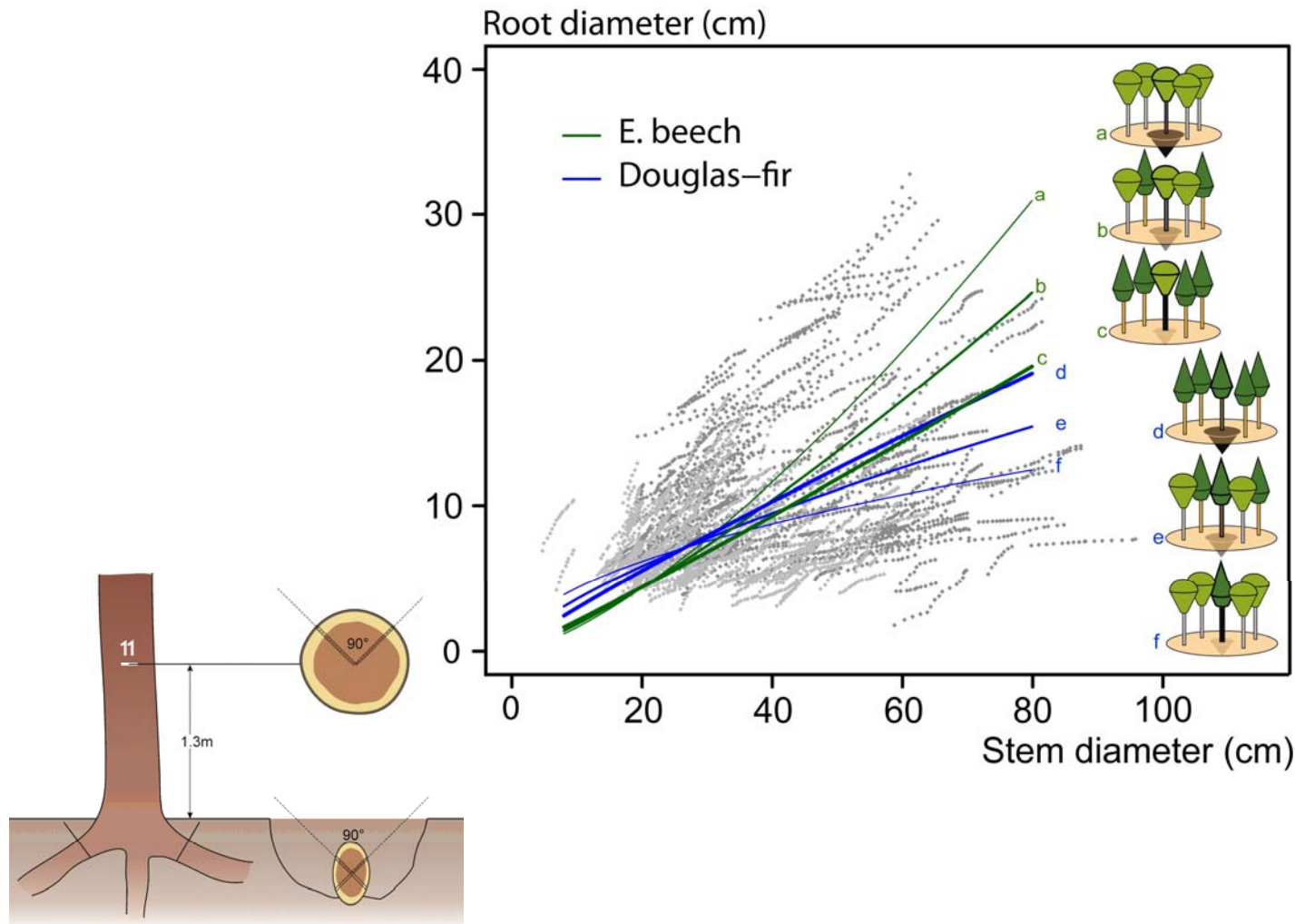


s. oak  
E. ash  
E. larch  
N. spruce

## Morphological differences in intra- vs. inter-specific environment despite of equal biomass

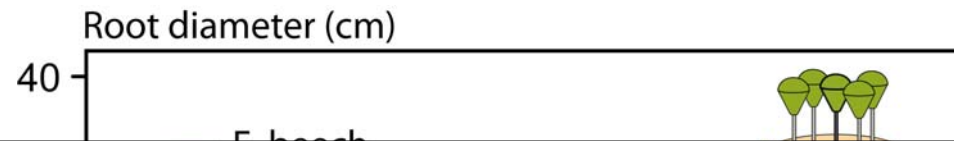


# Enhancement of shoot in relation to coarse root growth in mixed compare with mono-specific stands of European beech and Douglas-fir



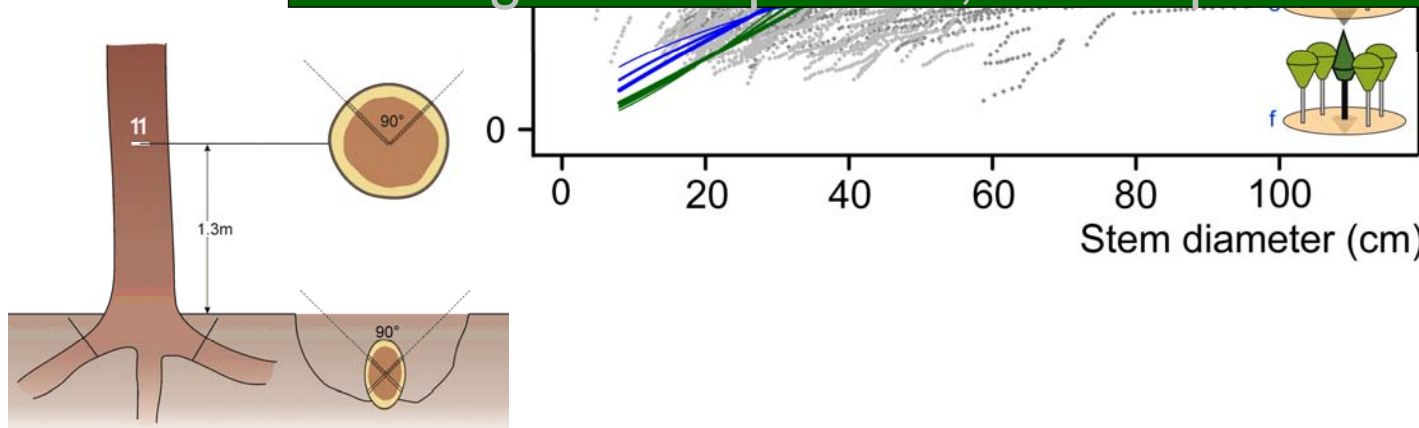
Thurm et al. (in review)

# Enhancement of shoot in relation to coarse root growth in mixed compare with mono-specific stands of European beech and Douglas-fir



## Summary 3:

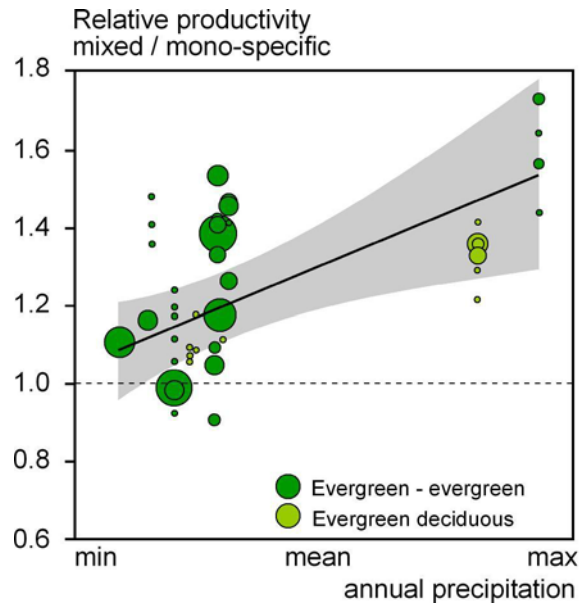
- Mixing can modify stem, crown, and root allometry
- Allometric reactions depend on both the tree species and the neighbouring species
- For E. beech neighbouring beeches are most strongest competitors, other species mean relieve



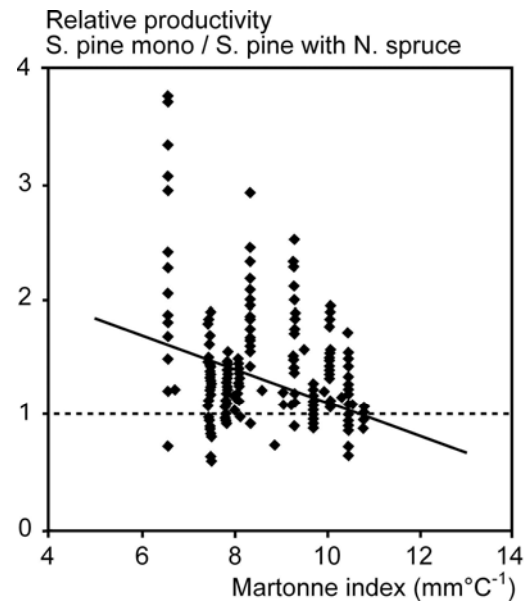
Thurm et al. (in review)



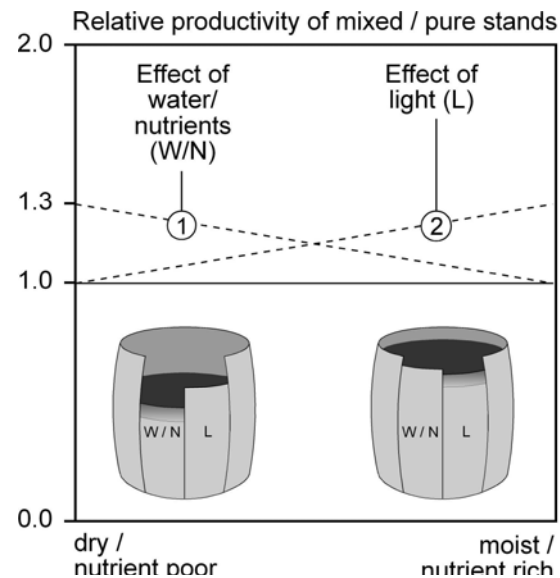
# Discussion. Mixing effect and site conditions



Gritti et al. (2016)

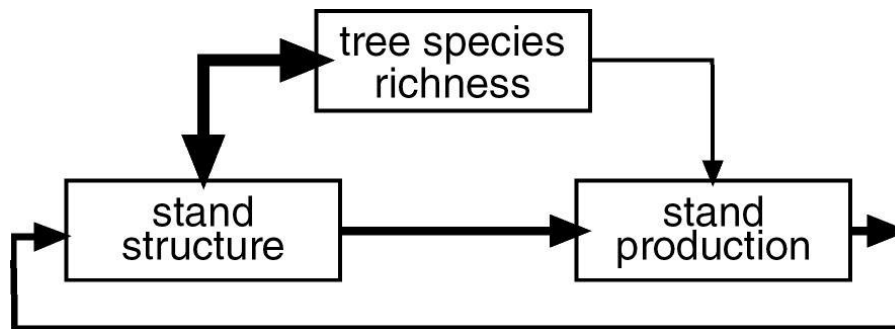
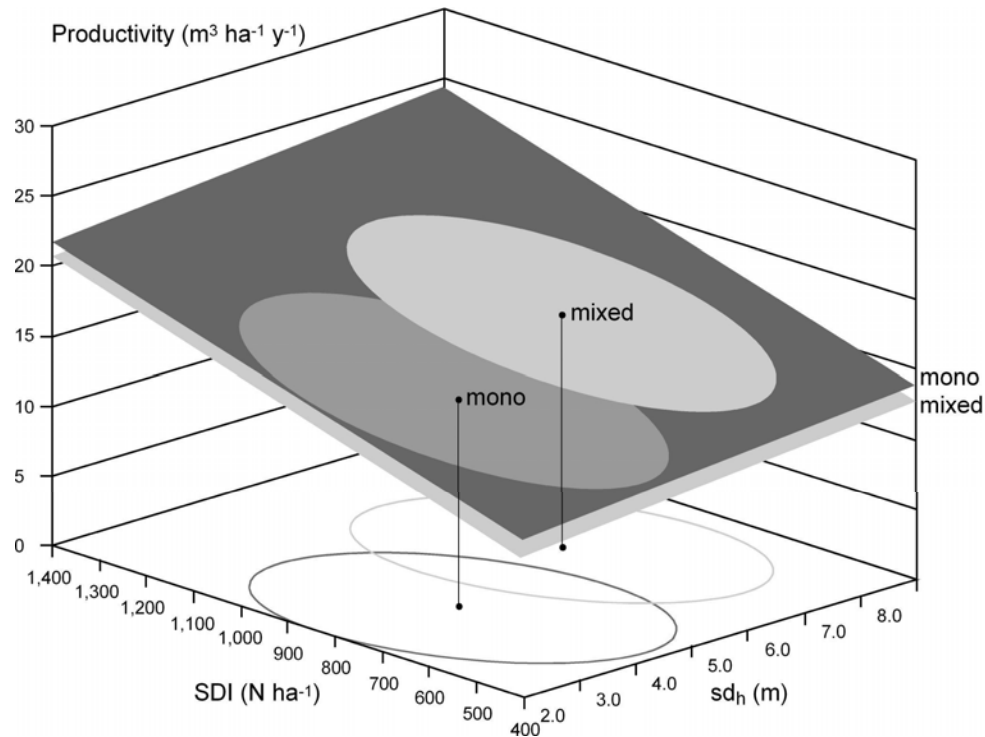


Bielak et al. (2015)



*remedy of the limiting  
factor*

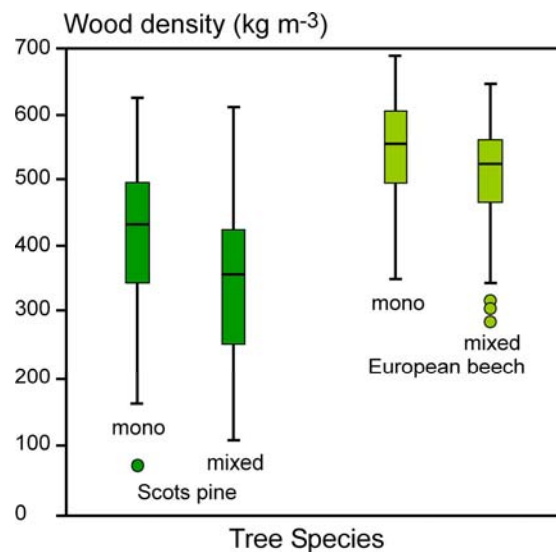
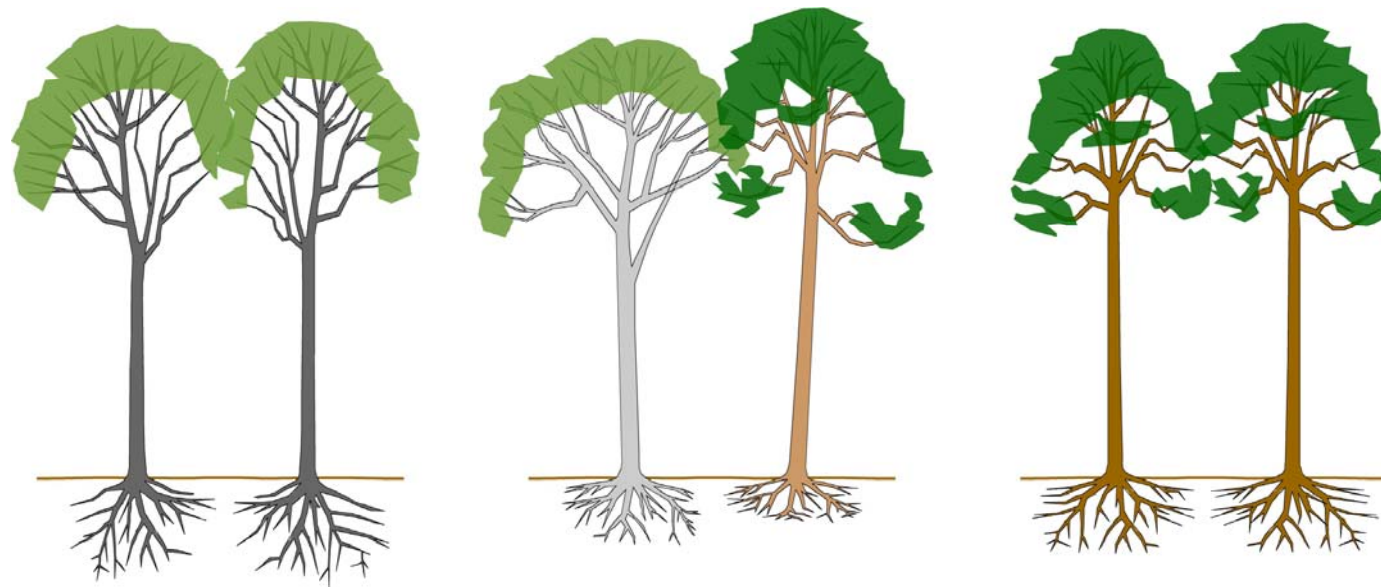
## Discussion. Mixing effect and structure



Danescu et al. 2016, Pretzsch et al. 2016

*structural heterogeneity  
drives mixing effect*

# Discussion. Mixing effect and matter allocation



Zeller et al. submitted  
Pretzsch et al. 2016

*matter partitioning  
disguises mixing effect*



An aerial photograph of a dense forest. The majority of the trees are dark green, likely conifers. In the center of the image, there is a large, irregularly shaped area where the trees have a much brighter, more vibrant green color, suggesting a different species or a younger growth. The text is overlaid on the left side of this bright green area.

Thanks for funding by

EU EuMIXFOR COST FP1206

DFG

BayStELF

BaySF



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