

# Analyzing the effect of species mixing on the structure and productivity of temperate forests in Europe

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

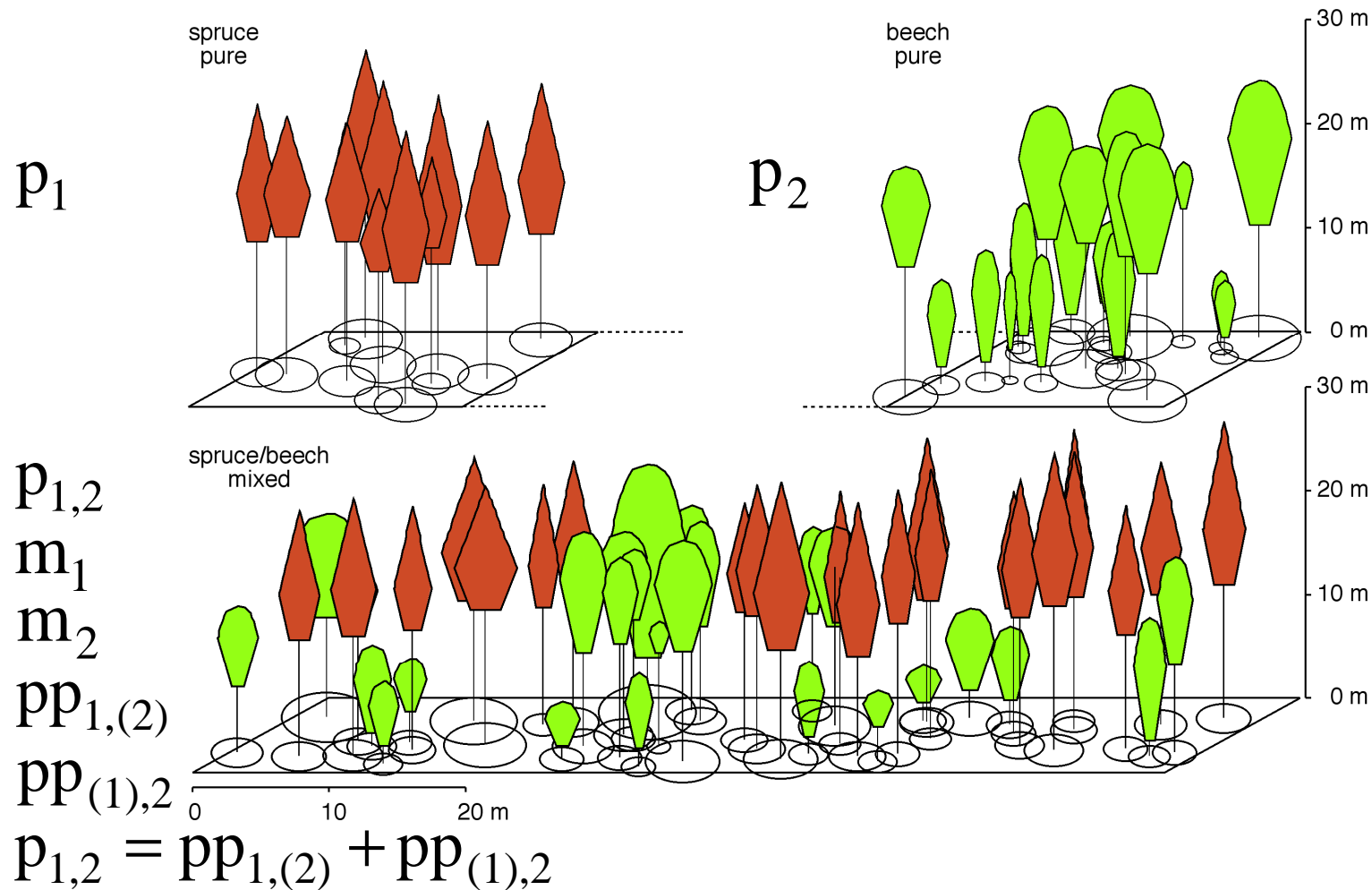








# Experimental set-up and data base for analyzing crown allometry, tree efficiency, stand productivity

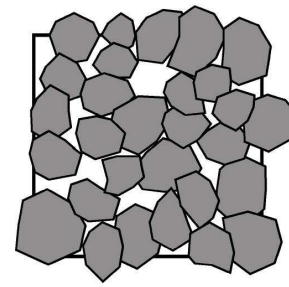
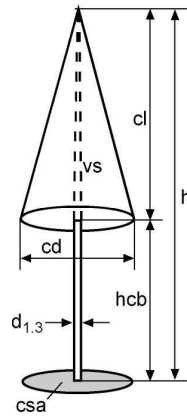


# Analyzing the effect of species mixing on the structure and productivity of temperate forests in Europe

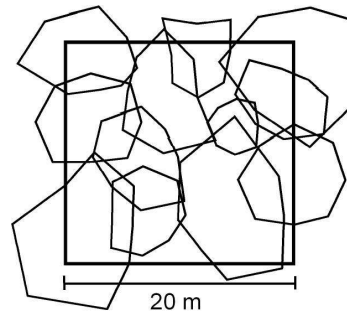
- 1 Crown and canopy structure in mixed versus pure stands
- 2 Crown and stand area efficiency in inter- vs. intra-specific neighbourhood
- 3 Over-/underyielding of mixed versus pure forests. Effect of site conditions



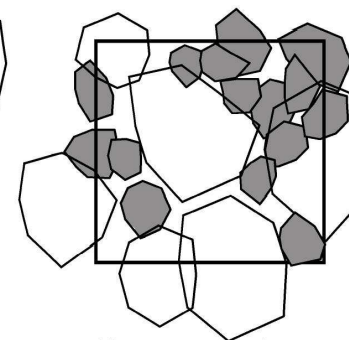
# 1 Crown maps for analyzing tree allometry in mixed versus pure stands



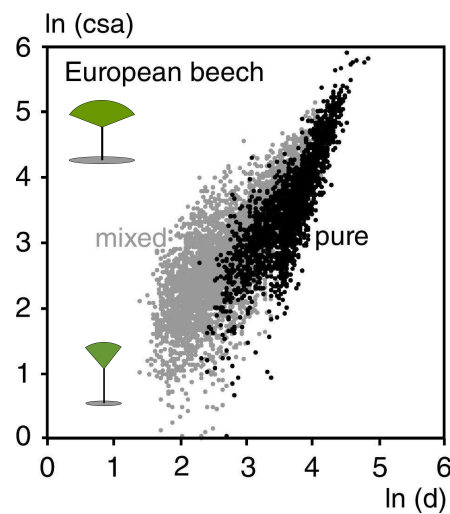
Norway spruce  
pure



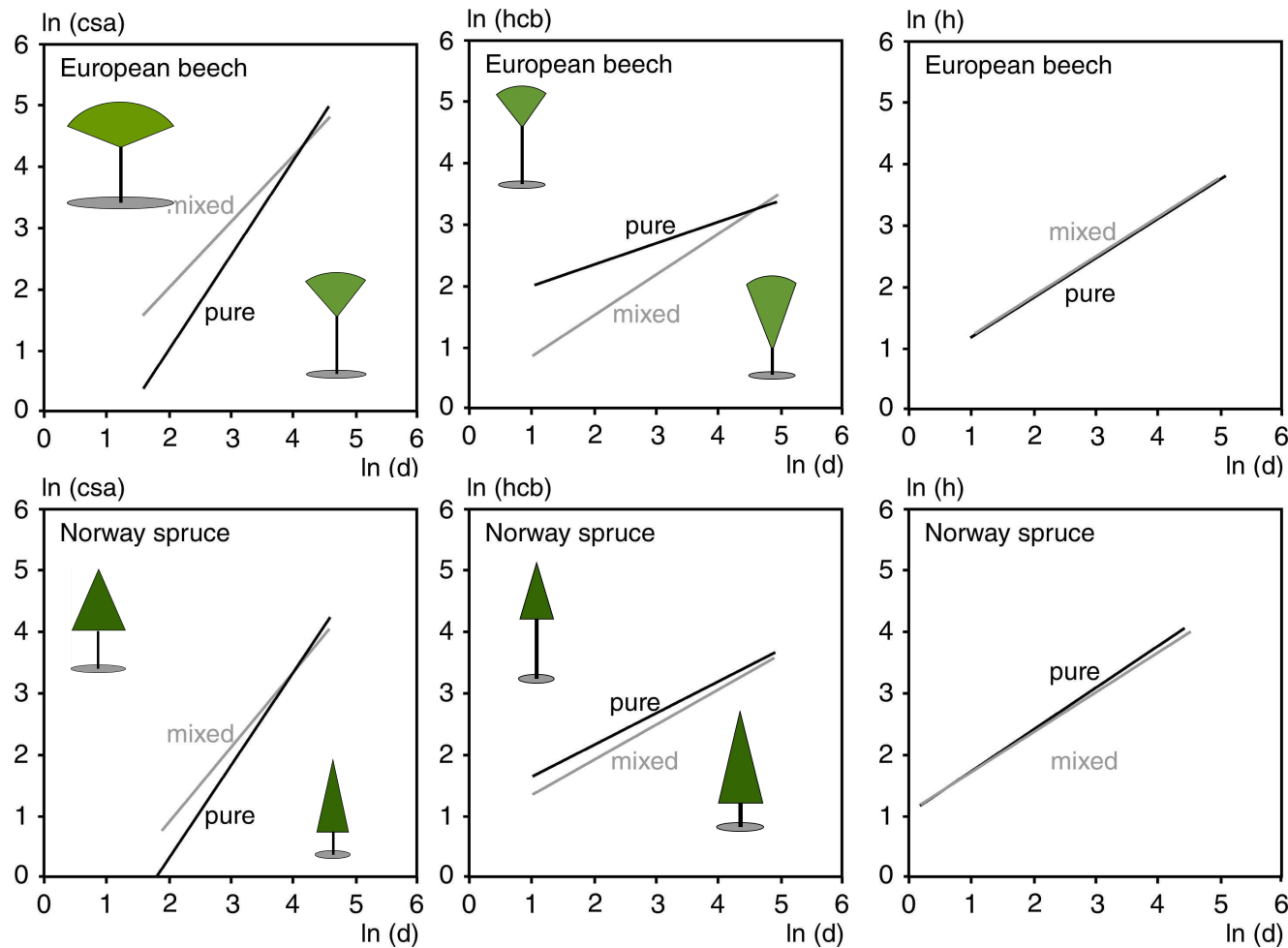
European beech  
pure



Norway spruce /  
European beech  
mixed



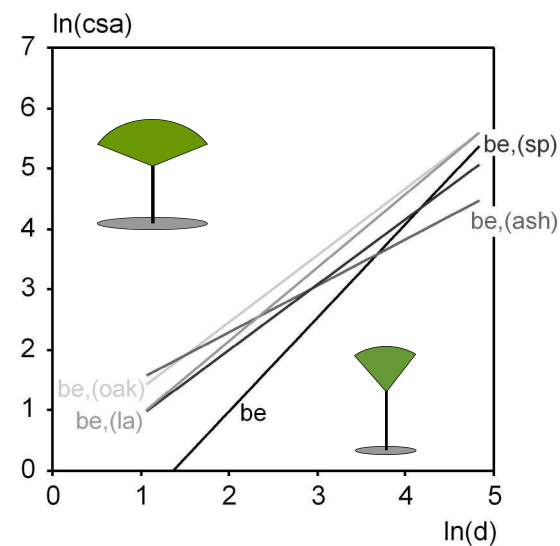
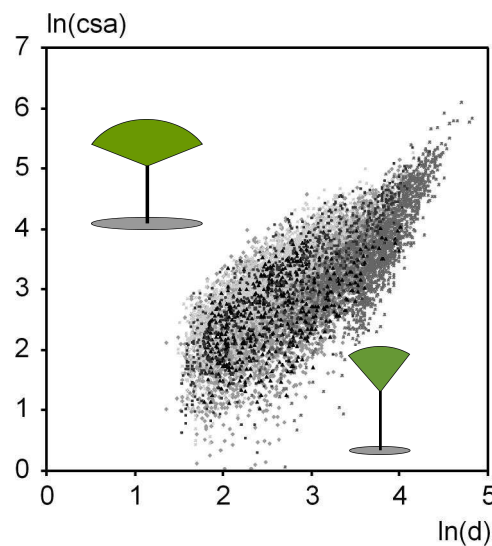
# 1 Crown allometry of beech and spruce in mixed versus pure forest stands



Bolte et al. (2004); Pretzsch und Dieler (2011); Sprauer, Schmidt, Nagel (2003)

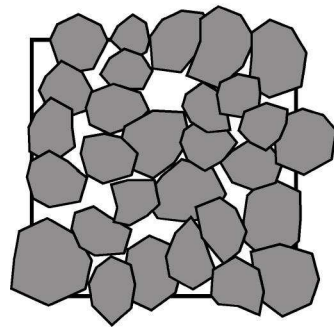


# 1 Crown expansion in mixed versus pure stands: shift of $\ln(\text{csa})$ - $\ln(d)$ allometry

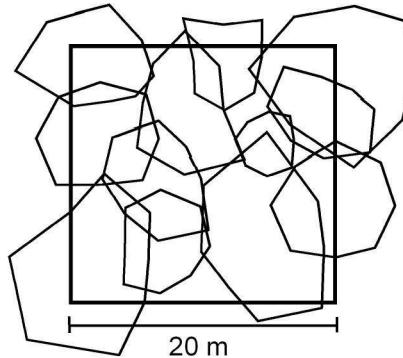


oak  
ash  
larch  
spruce

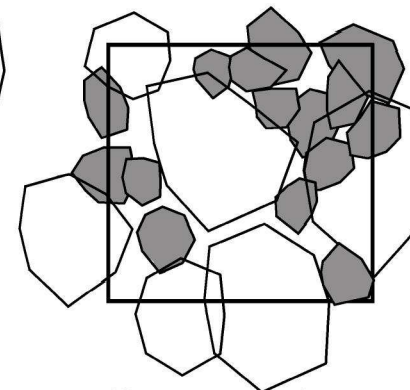
# 1 Ground coverage and sum of crown area in dependence on species richness



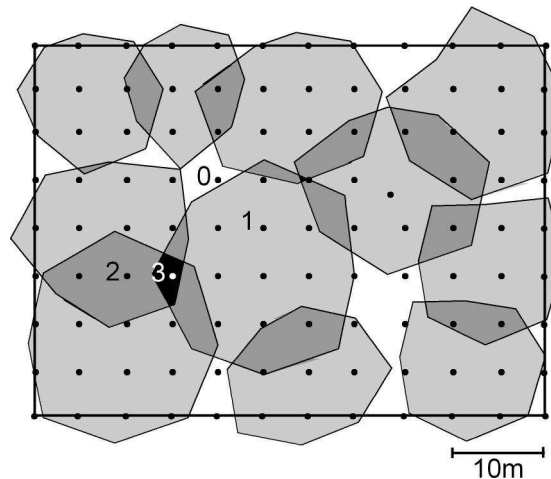
Norway spruce  
pure



European beech  
pure



Norway spruce /  
European beech  
mixed

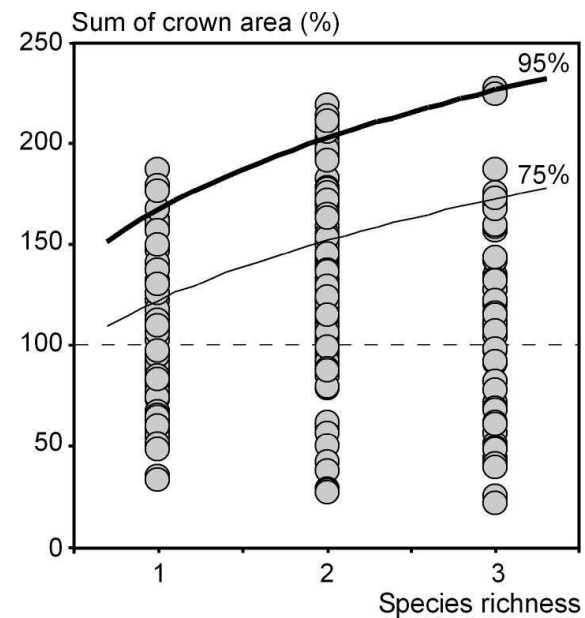
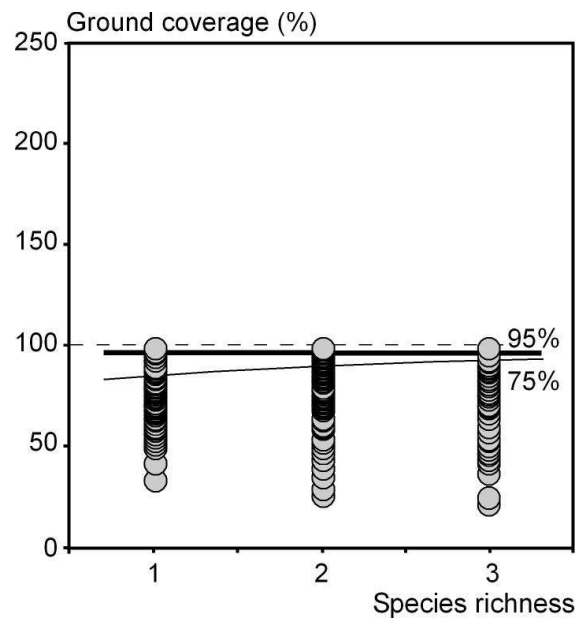


example:

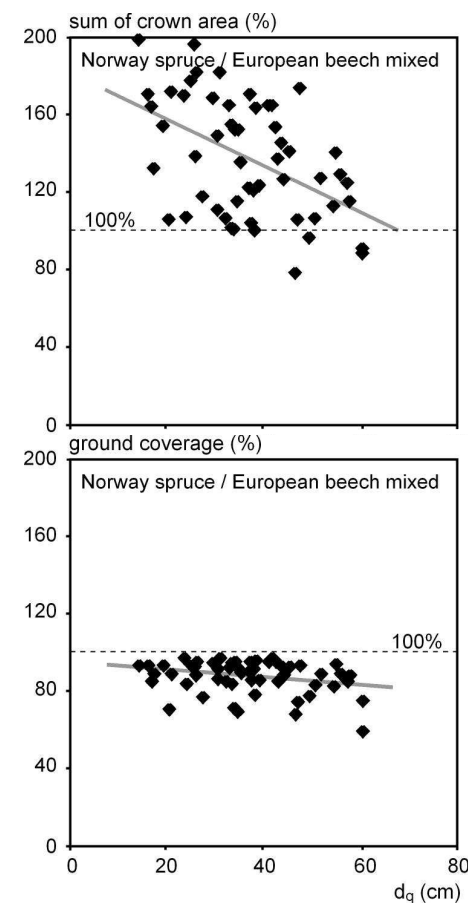
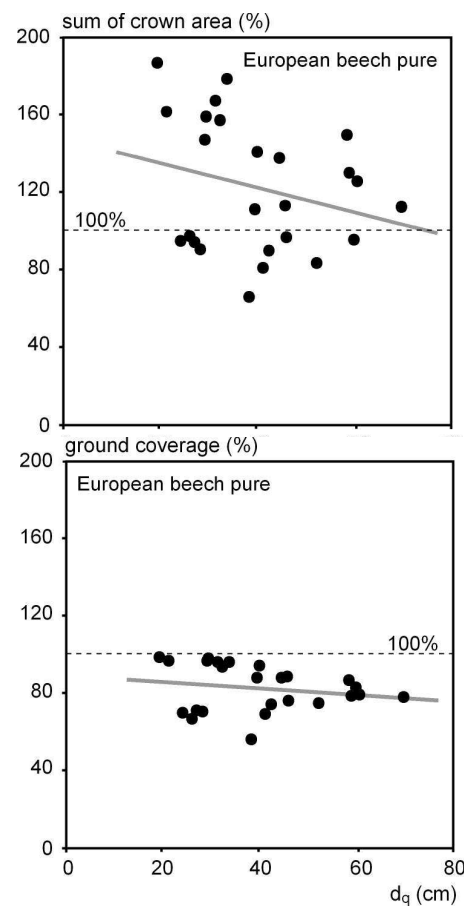
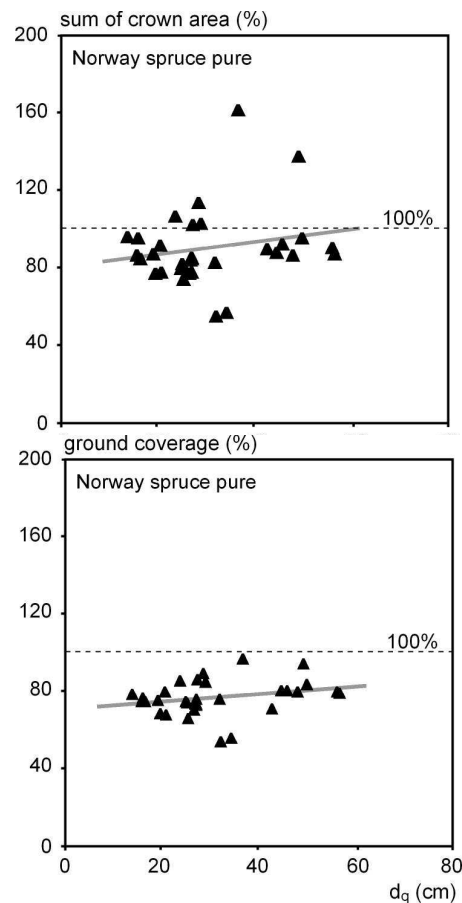
ground coverage 90 %  
sum of crown area 120 %



# 1 Ground coverage and sum of crown area in dependence on species richness

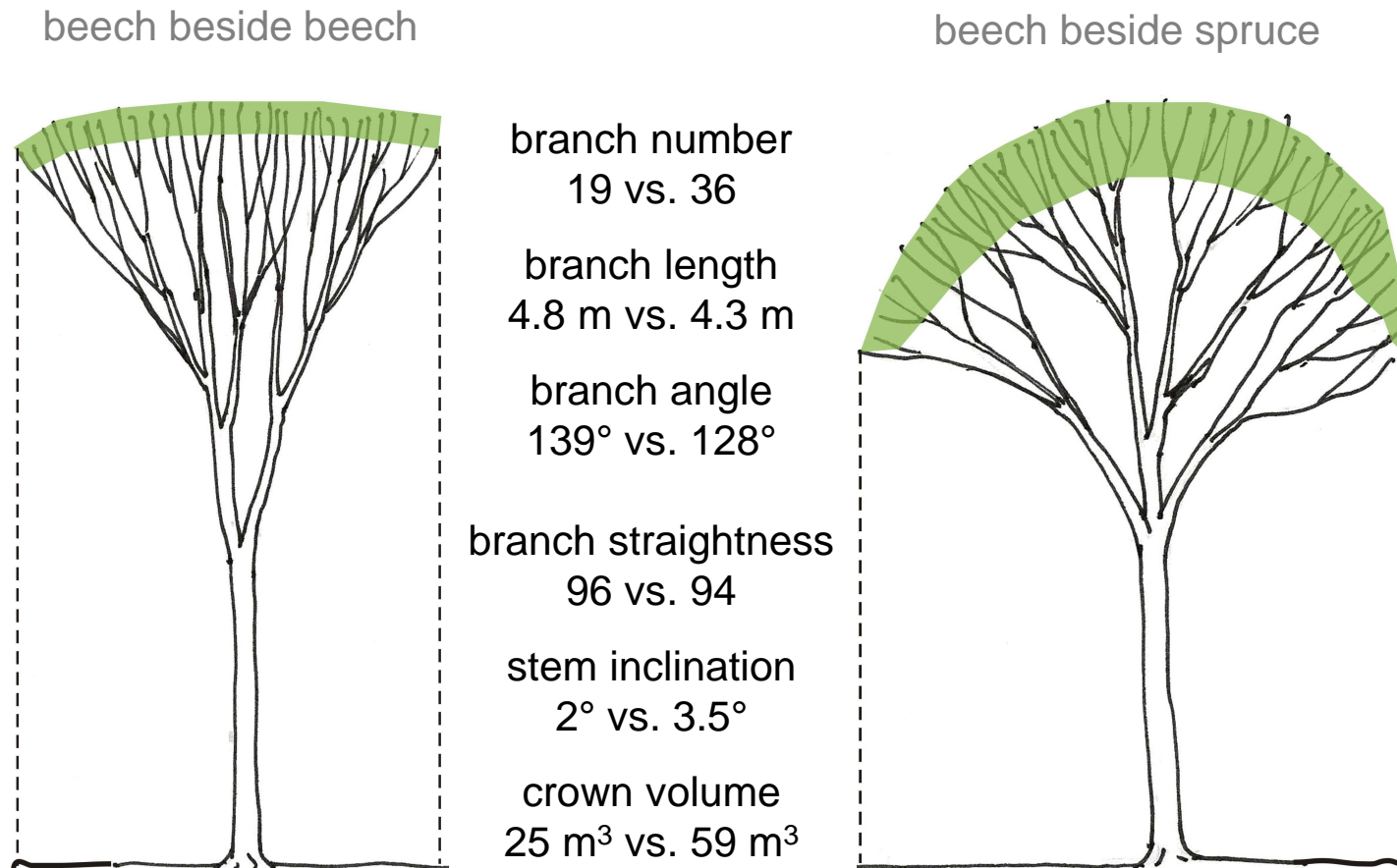


# 1 Sum of crown area (above) and ground coverage (below) for spruce and beech in pure and mixed stands during stand development

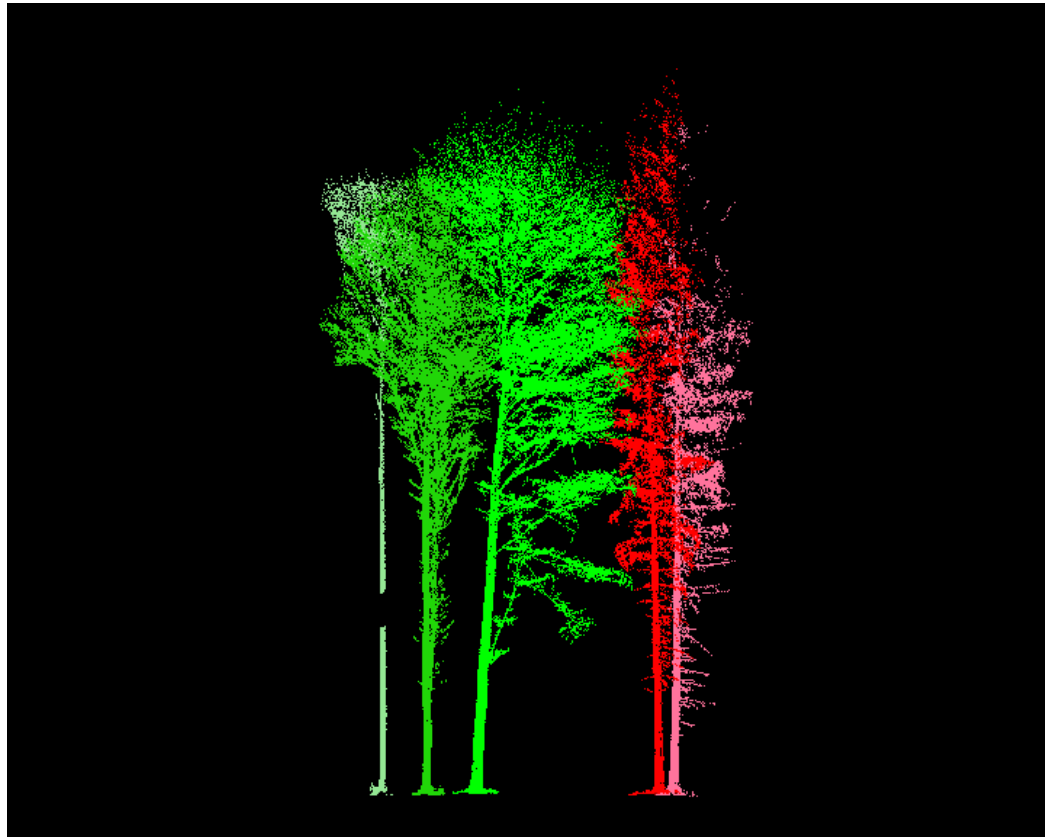




# 1 Morphological differences in intra- vs. inter-specific environment despite of equal biomass

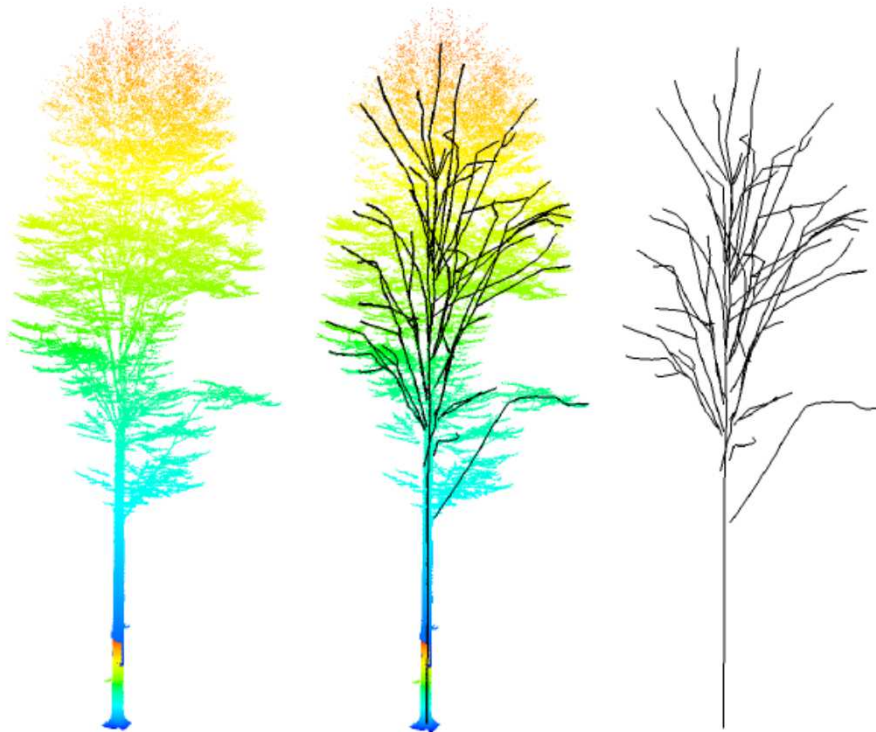


# 1 TLidar Riegl Z420i for measuring crown morphology and space occupation

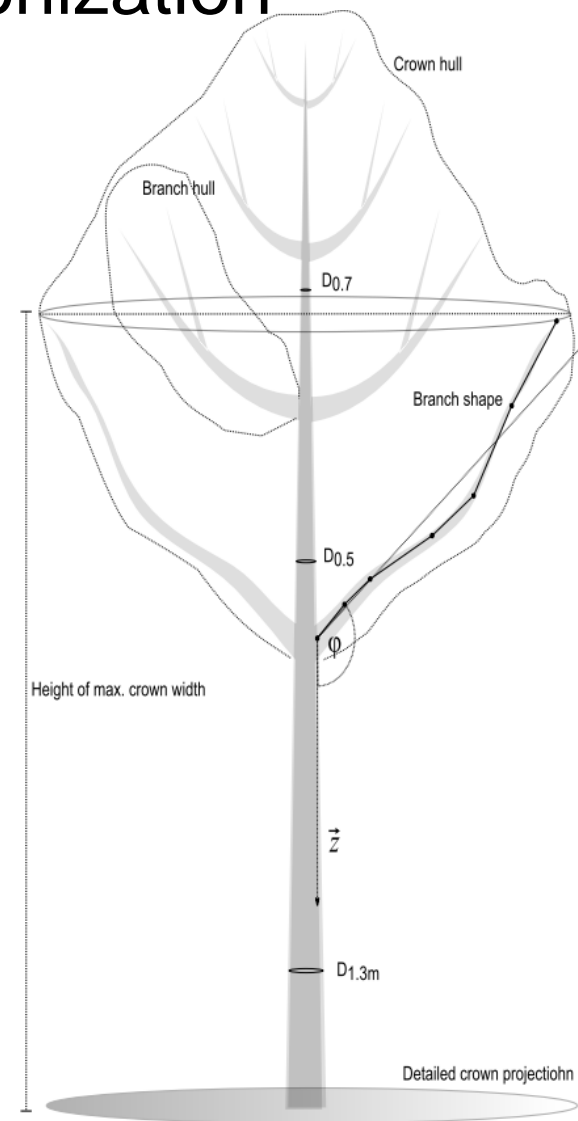


measurement range: 2 – 1,000 m, accuracy (dist 50 m): <10 mm  
minimum angle stepwidth: 0.004°, field of view: 80° × 360 °

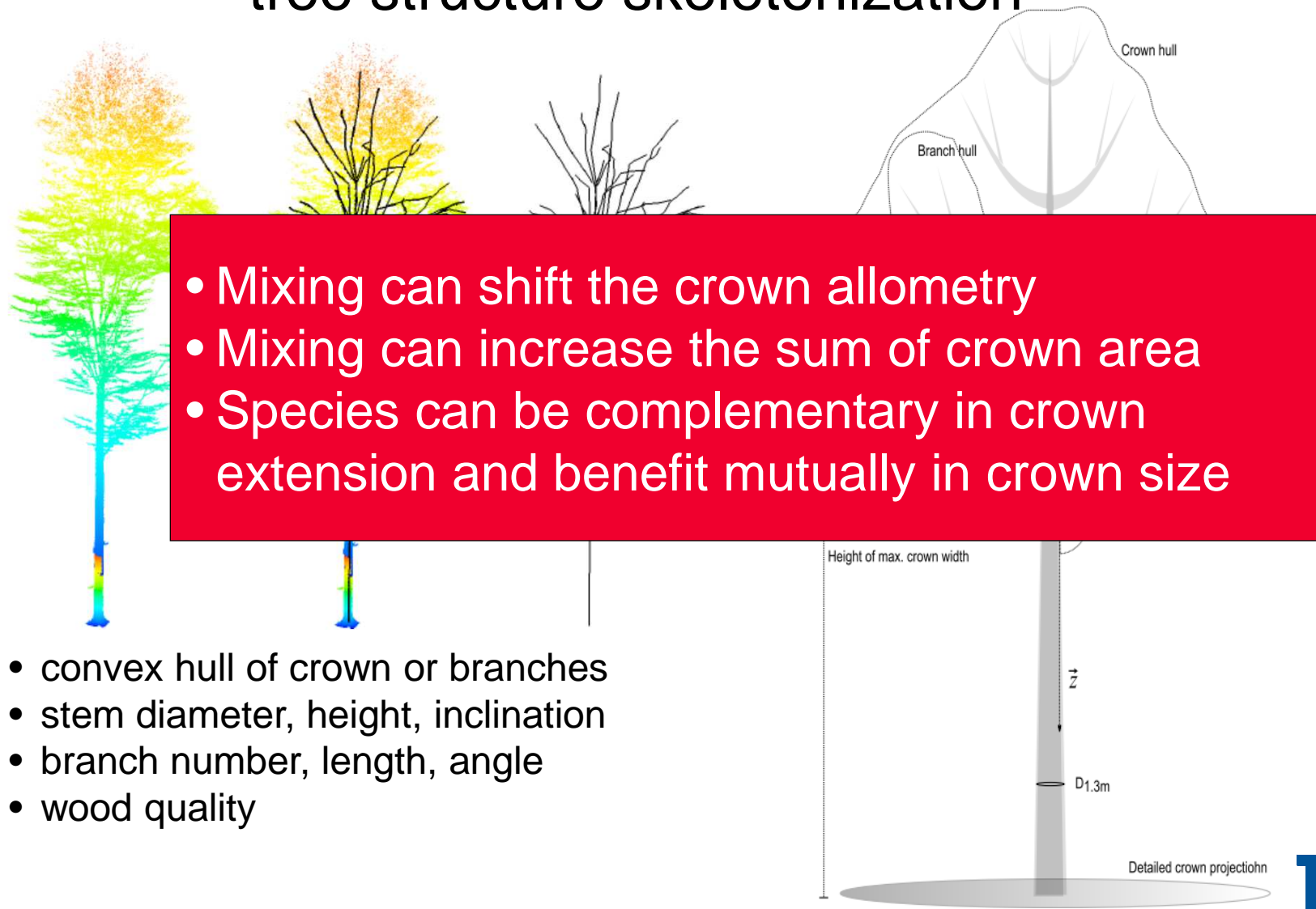
# 1 TLidar for measuring crown morphology after tree structure skeletonization



- convex hull of crown or branches
- stem diameter, height, inclination
- branch number, length, angle
- wood quality



# 1 TLidar for measuring crown morphology after tree structure skeletonization

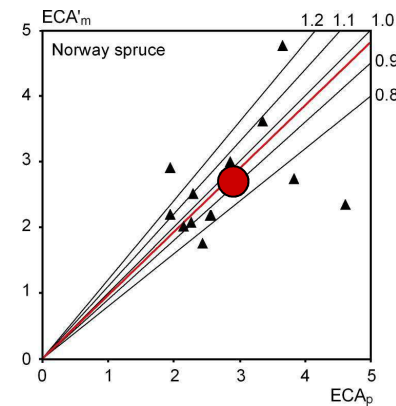
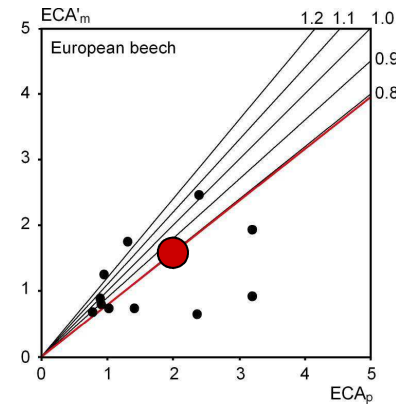
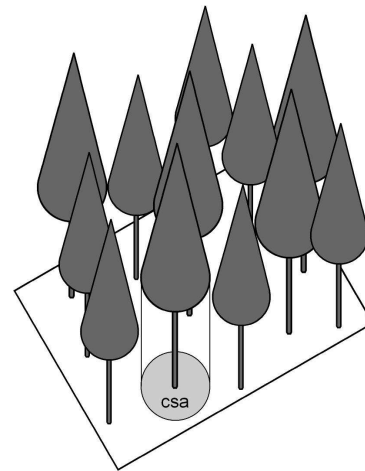




## 2 Growth efficiency at tree level: mean tree records for 12 triplets in spruce and beech NOR, FRE, SON

**iv/csa**

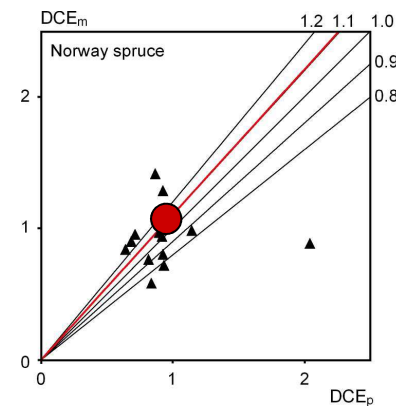
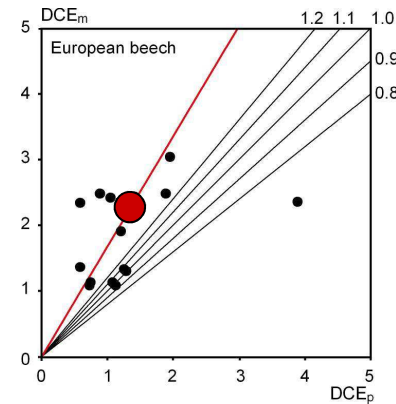
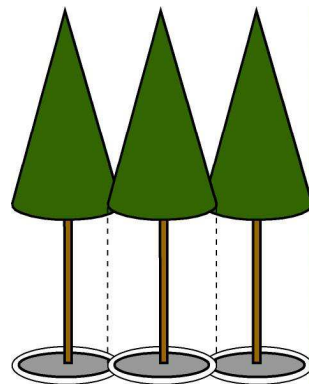
Growth  
efficiency  
of the crown  
area



## 2 Growth efficiency at tree level: mean tree records for 12 triplets in spruce and beech NOR, FRE, SON

**csa/sa**

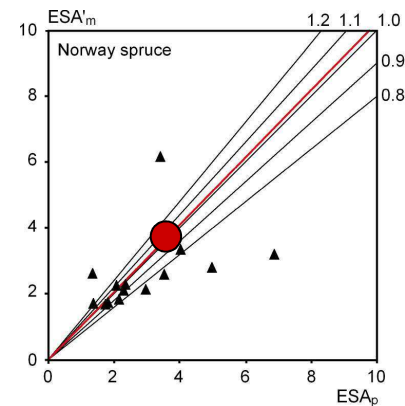
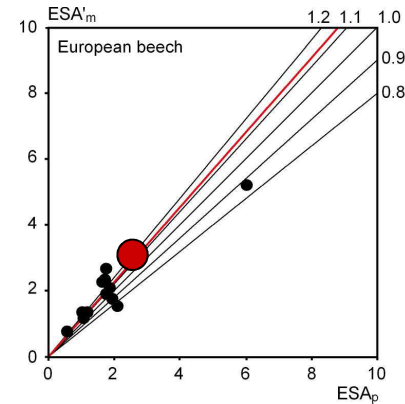
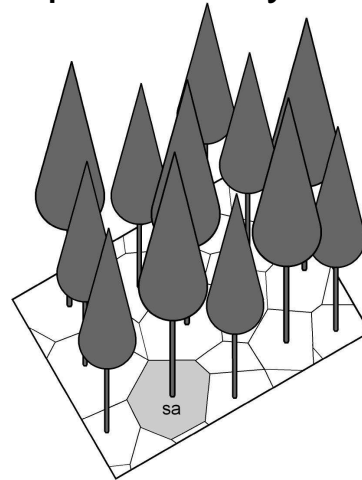
Crown  
extension  
beyond the  
tree stand  
area



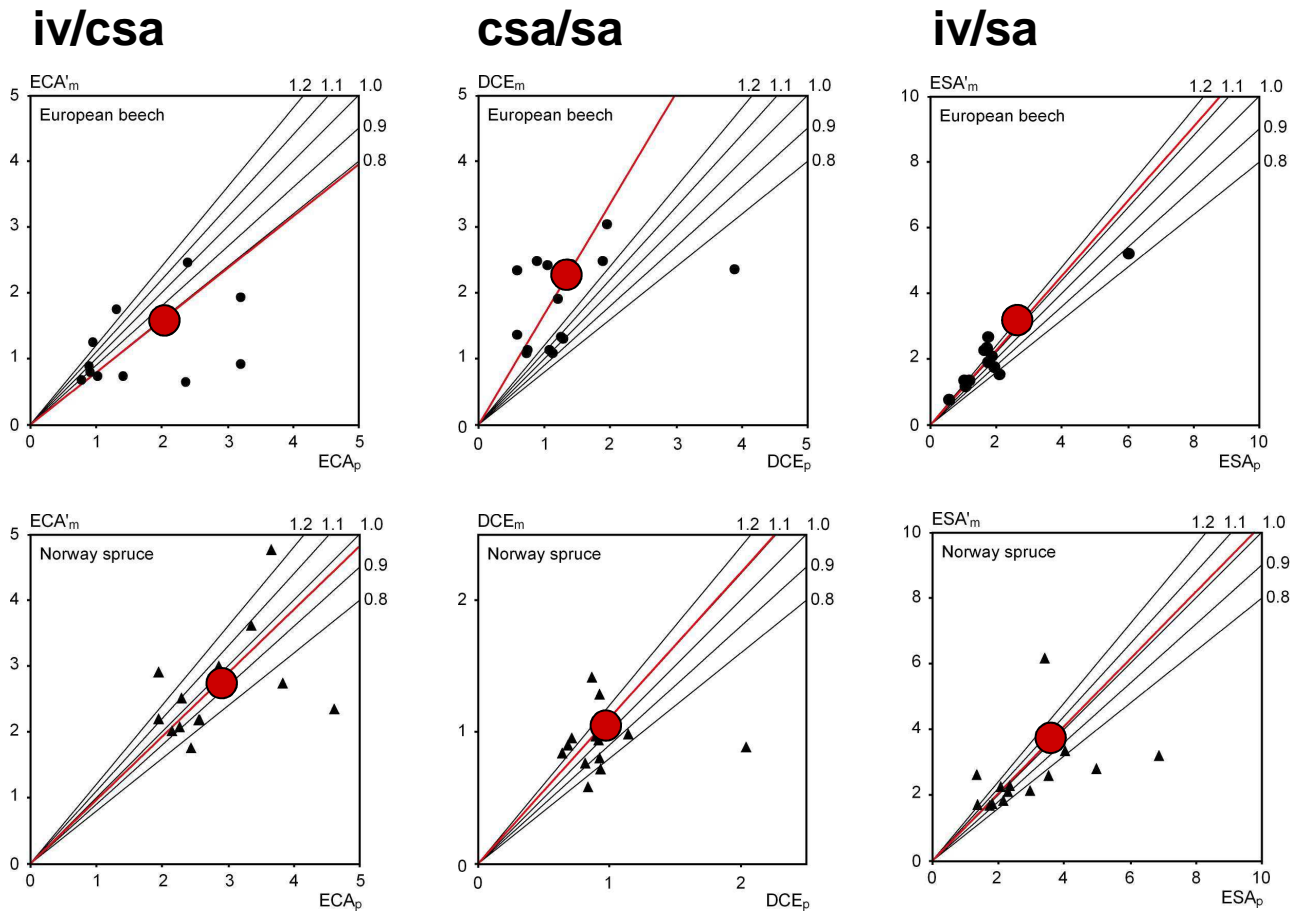
## 2 Growth efficiency at tree level: mean tree records for 12 triplets in spruce and beech NOR, FRE, SON

**iv/sa**

Growth  
efficiency  
of the growing  
area  
= productivity

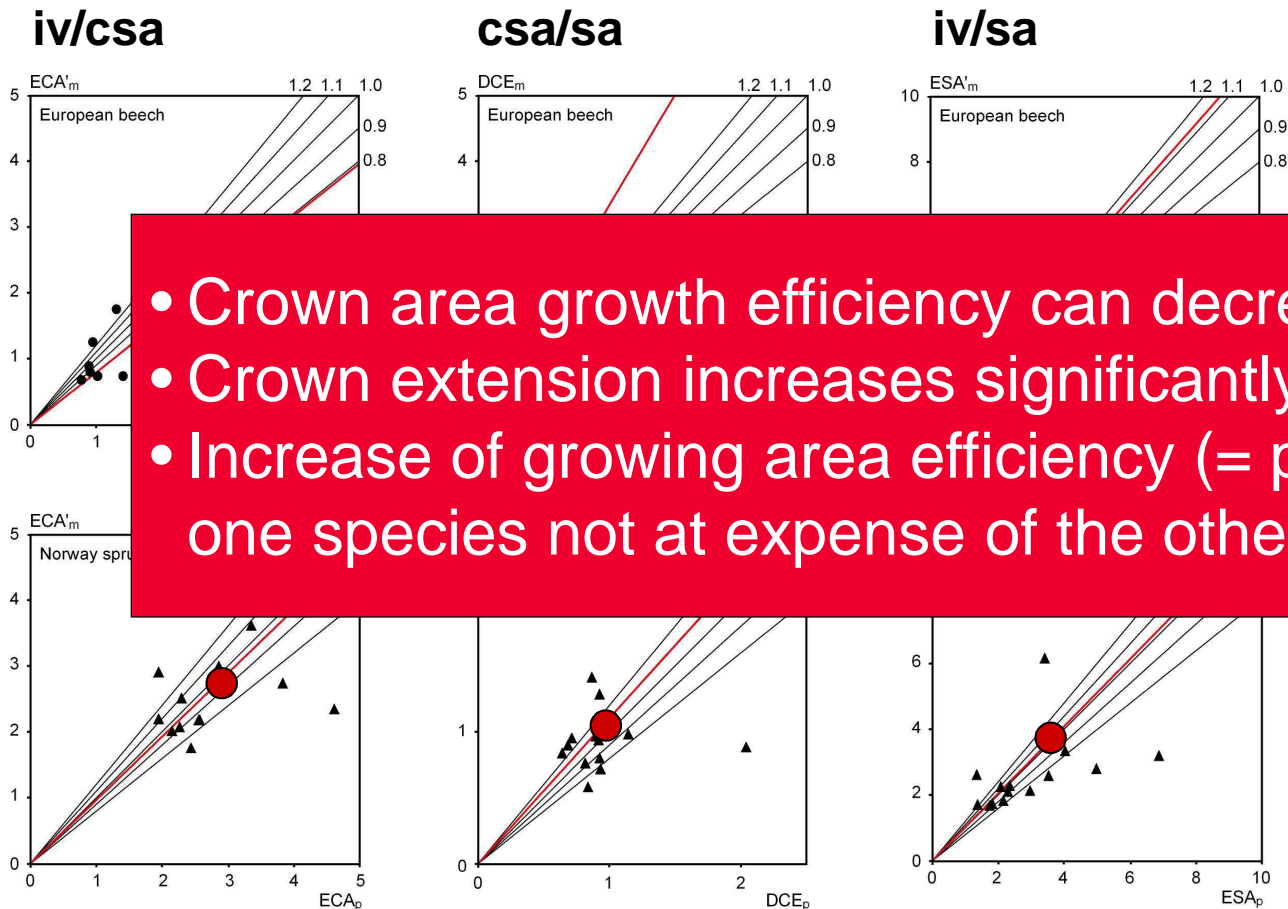


## 2 Growth efficiency at tree level: mean tree records for 12 triplets in spruce and beech NOR, FRE, SON



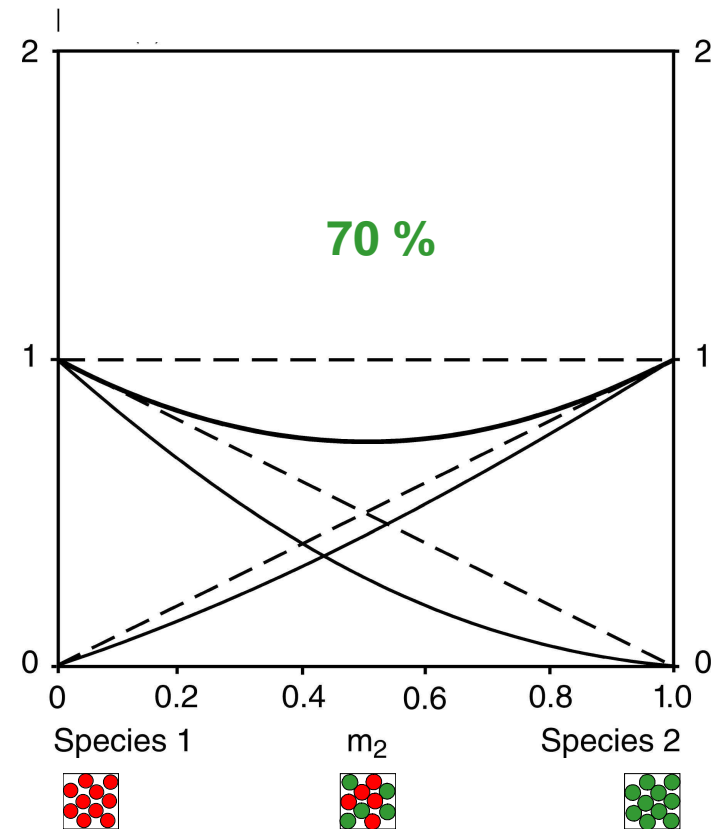
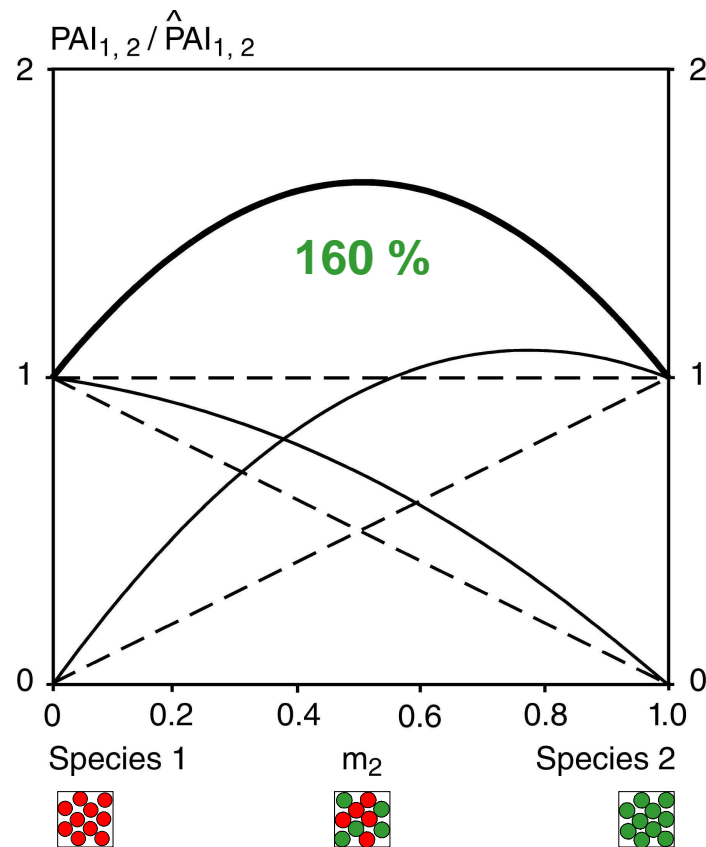


## 2 Growth efficiency at tree level: mean tree records for 12 triplets in spruce and beech NOR, FRE, SON

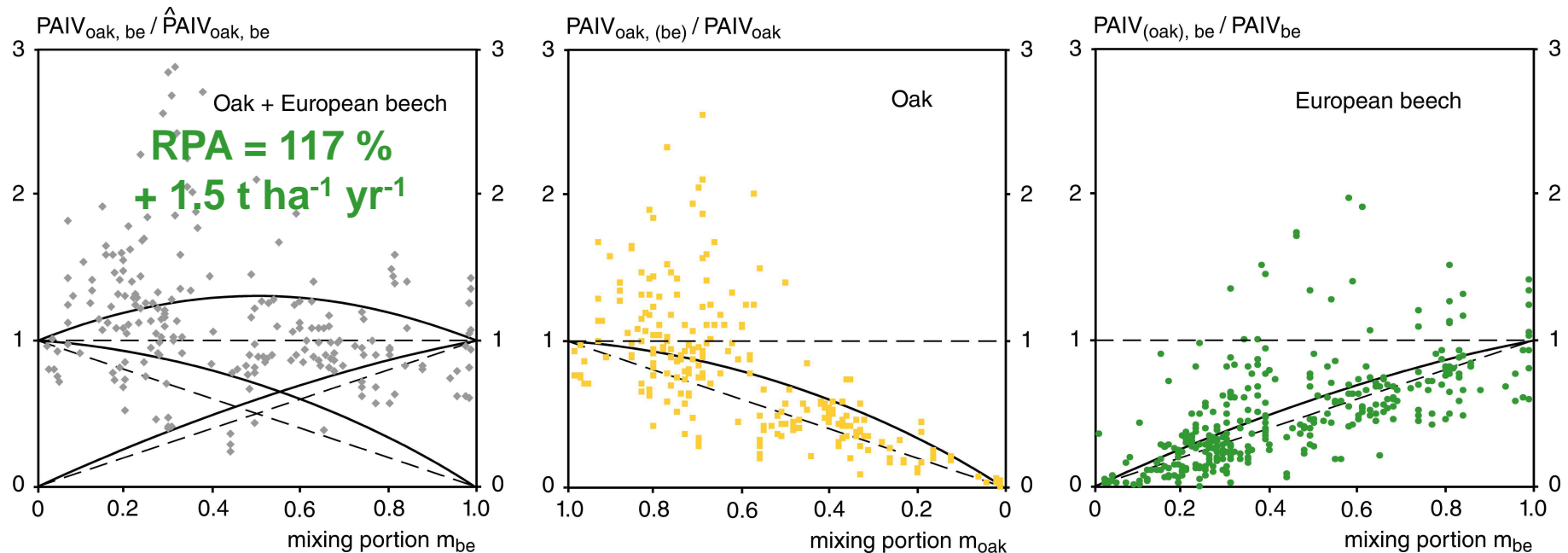


- Crown area growth efficiency can decrease
- Crown extension increases significantly
- Increase of growing area efficiency (= prod.) of one species not at expense of the other

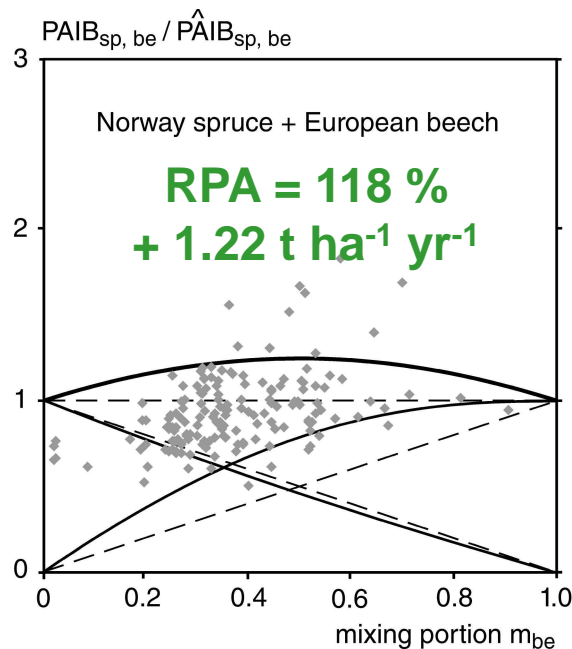
### 3 Cross diagrams for illustration of mixing effects in mixed versus pure stands: schematic example



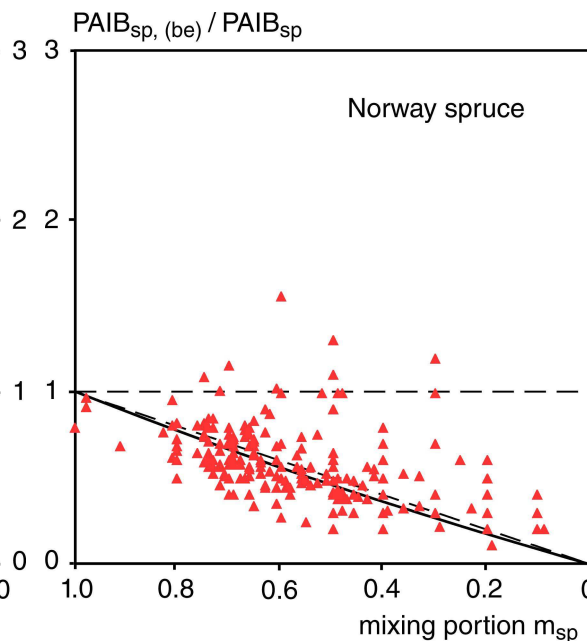
### 3 Relative productivity of mixed oak/ beech versus pure stands



### 3 Relative productivity of mixed Norway spruce/ European beech versus pure stands

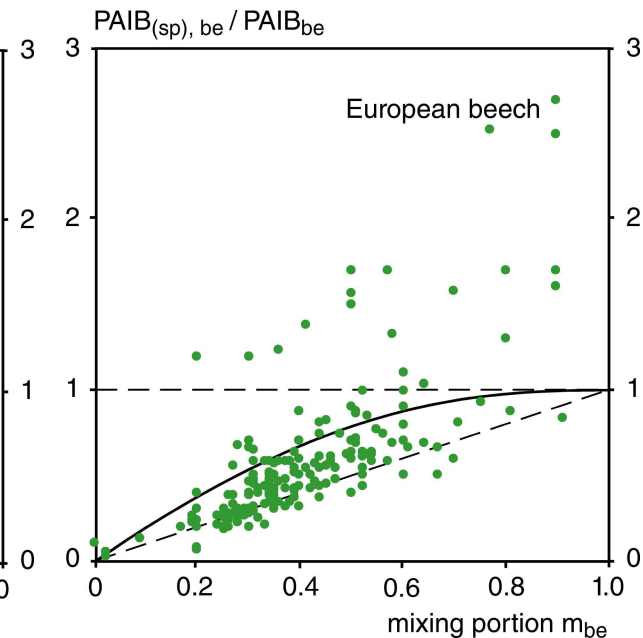


$$RP_{sp,be} = RPP_{sp,(be)} + RPP_{(sp),be}$$



$$RPP_{sp,(be)} = m_{sp} \times (1 - 0.013 \times m_{be}),$$

$n = 236, R^2 = 0.12, p < 0.05$



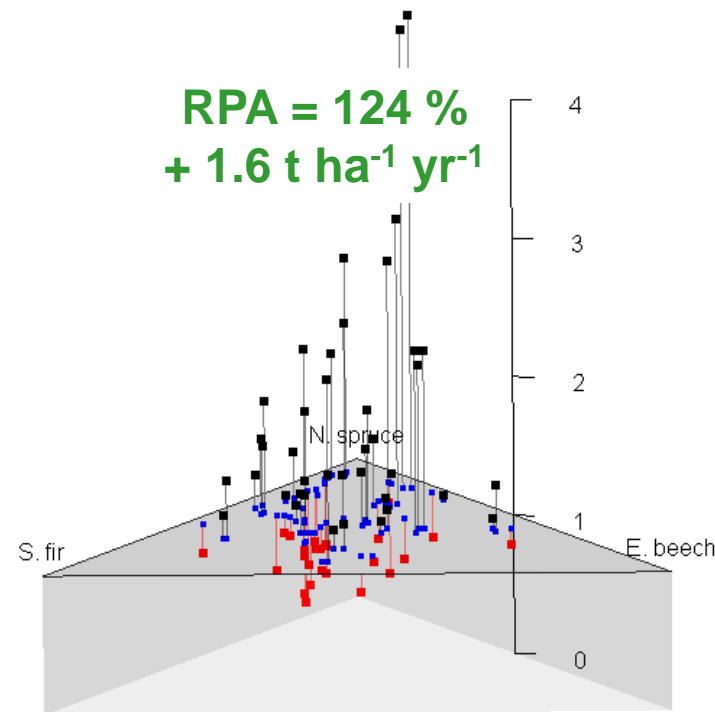
$$RPP_{(sp),be} = m_{be} \times (1 + 1.115 \times m_{sp}),$$

$n = 221, R^2 = 0.33, p < 0.001$



### 3 Productivity of mixed stands with three species versus pure stands

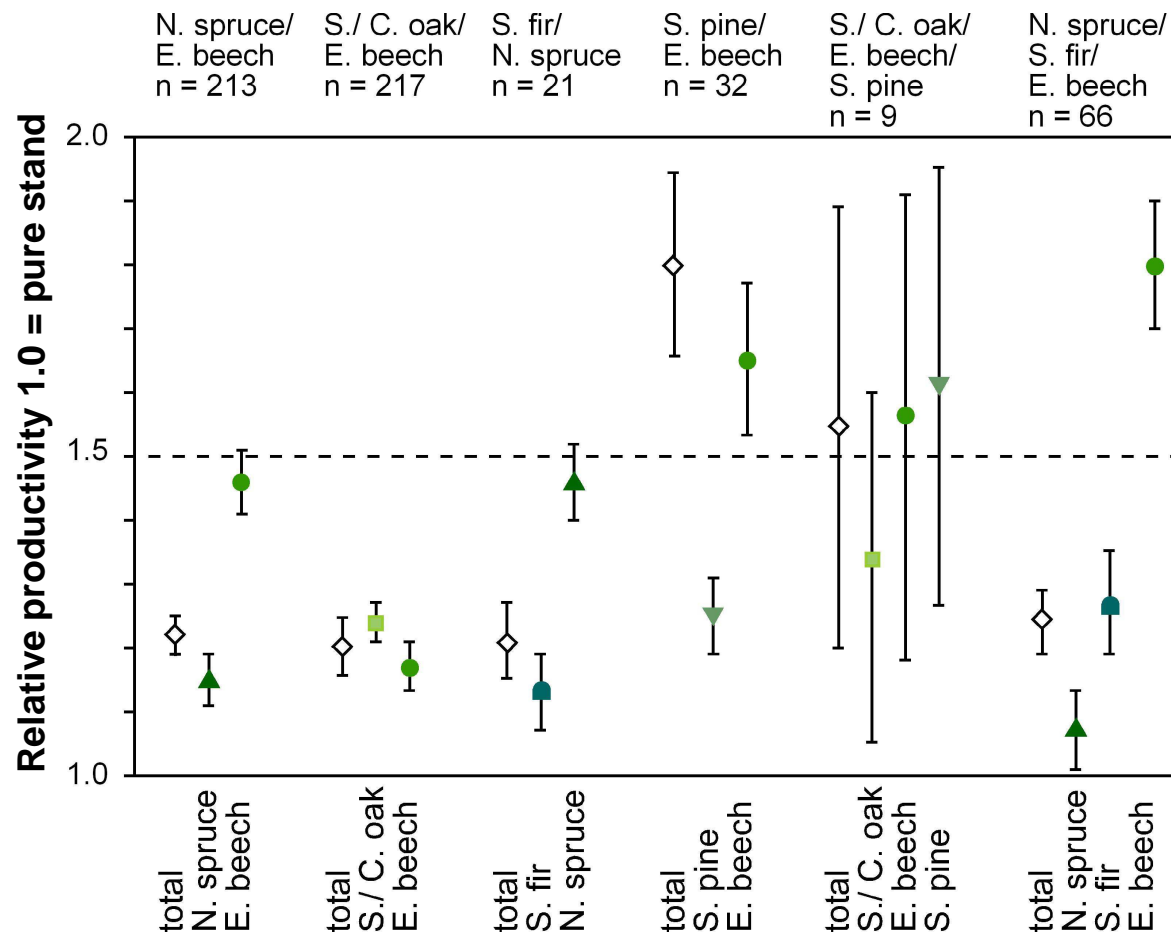
Norway spruce, Silver fir, and European beech



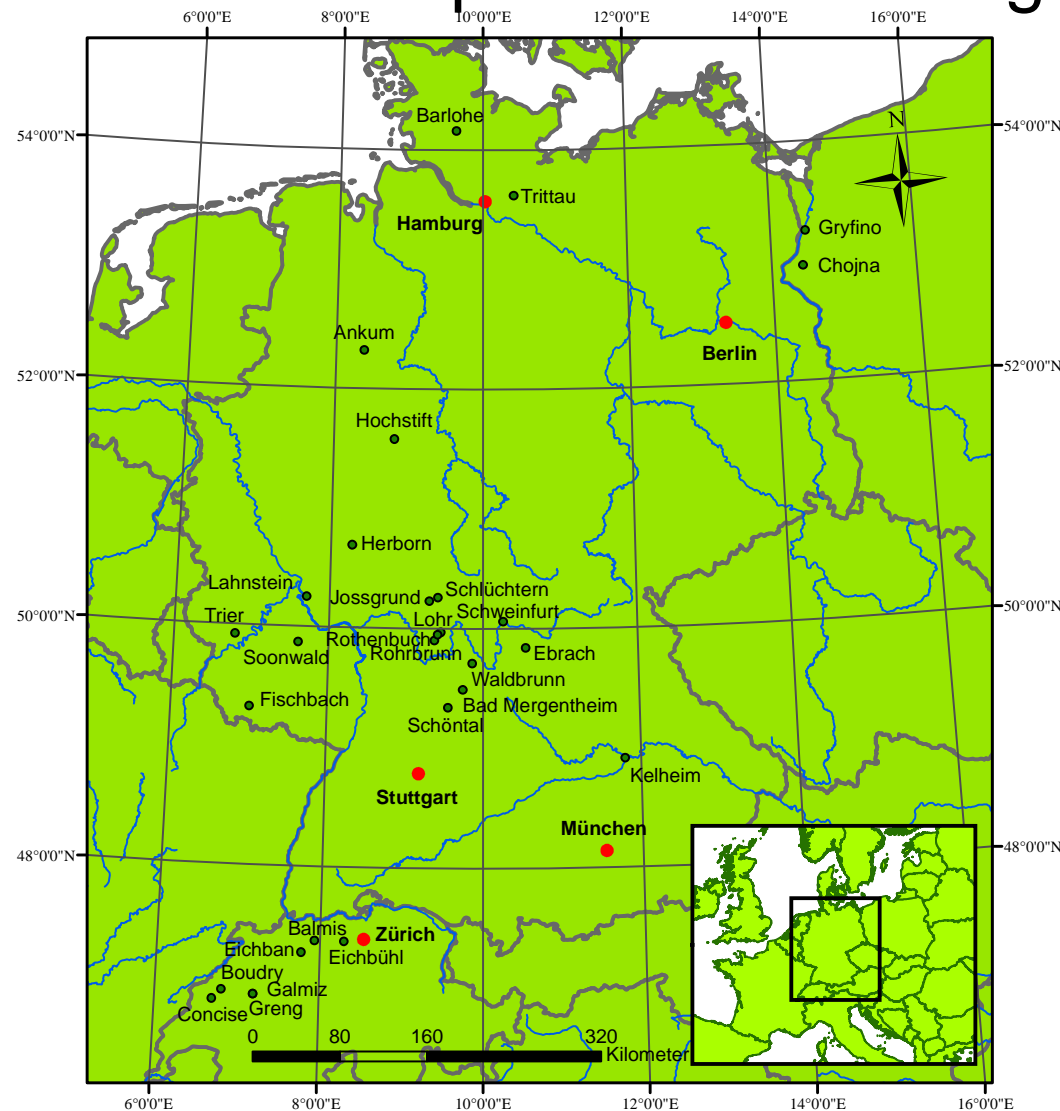
**RP: sp/fir/be 1.24 (± 0.05)**

**AP: sp/fir/be 1.60 t ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>**

### 3 Overyielding of mixed stands compared with pure stands of spruce, pine, fir beech, and, oak



# 3 Pure and mixed species stands of Sessile/Common oak and European beech along an ecological transect



**29 experiments**

**65 triplets**

**525 surveys**

**time span: 1890 - 2011**

**stand age: 17- 217**

**mean temp (°C): 6.0 - 9.5**

**precip (mm<sup>yr</sup><sup>-1</sup>): 550 - 1120**

**nut. supp.: acid - alkaline**

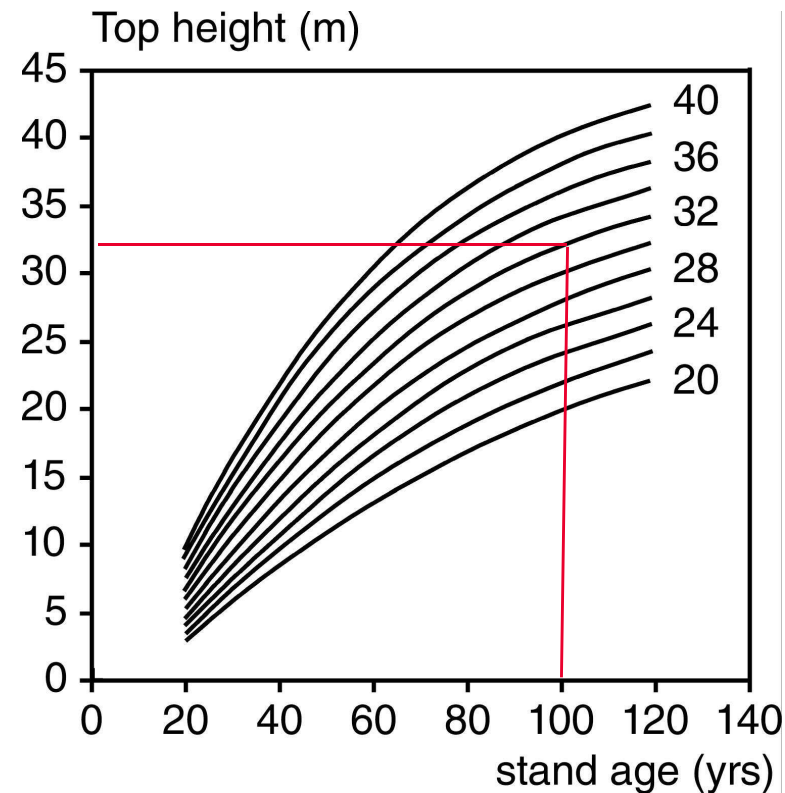
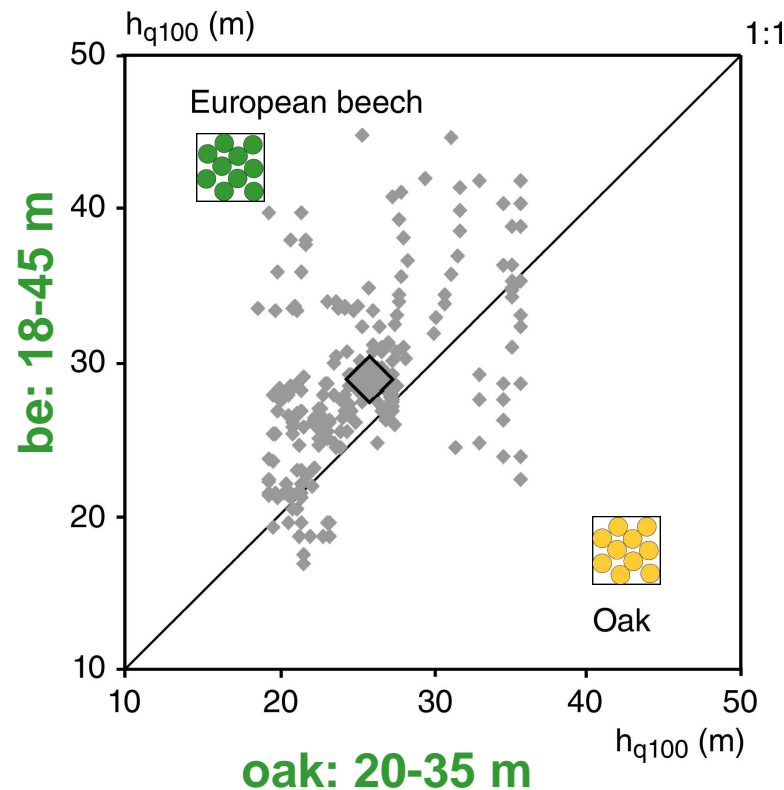
**from  $m_{\text{oak}} / m_{\text{be}}$ : 0.05:0.95**

**to  $m_{\text{be}} / m_{\text{oak}}$ : 0.95:0.05**

**from: unthinned**

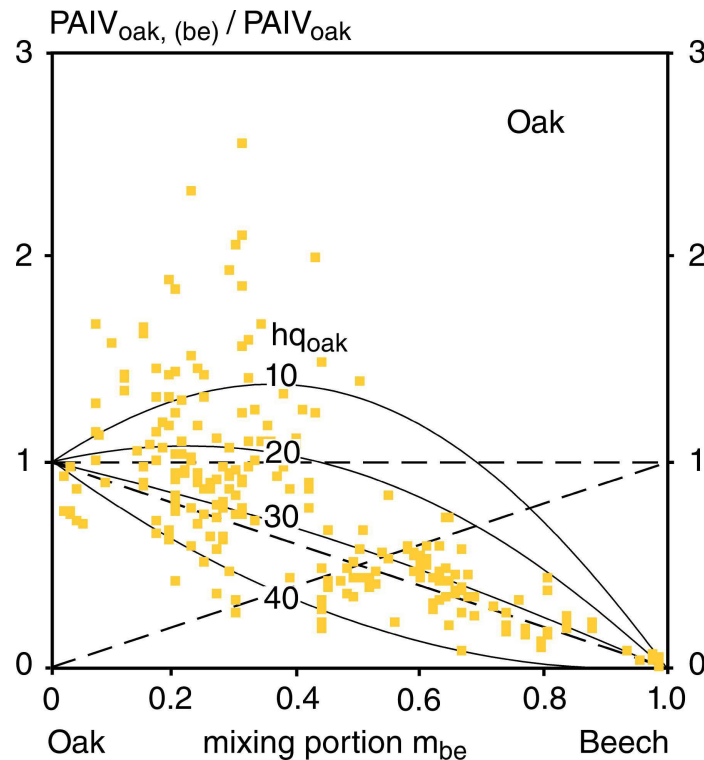
**to: heavily thinned**

### 3 Mean height of the pure oak and beech stands at age 100 as indicator for site quality



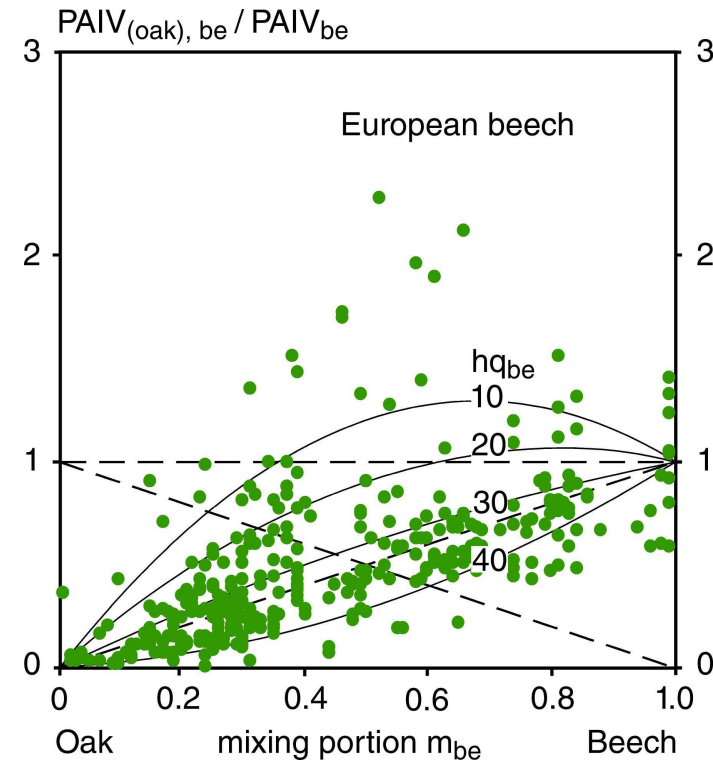


### 3 Site index (hq in m at age 100) as modifier of mixing reactions between oak and beeh



$$RPP_{oak,(be)} = m_{oak} \times (1 + 4.685 \times m_{be} - 0.145 \times m_{be} \times hq_{oak})$$

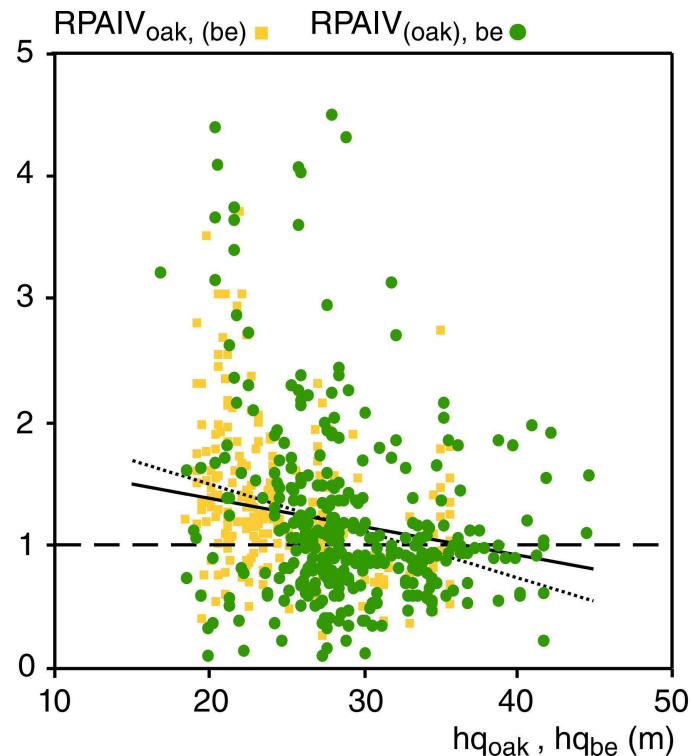
$n = 296, R^2 = 0.46, p < 0.01$



$$RPP_{(oak),be} = m_{be} \times (1 + 4.033 \times m_{oak} - 0.122 \times m_{oak} \times hq_{be})$$

$n = 428, R^2 = 0.37, p < 0.01$

### 3 Site index (hq in m at age 100) as modifier of mixing reactions between oak and beech

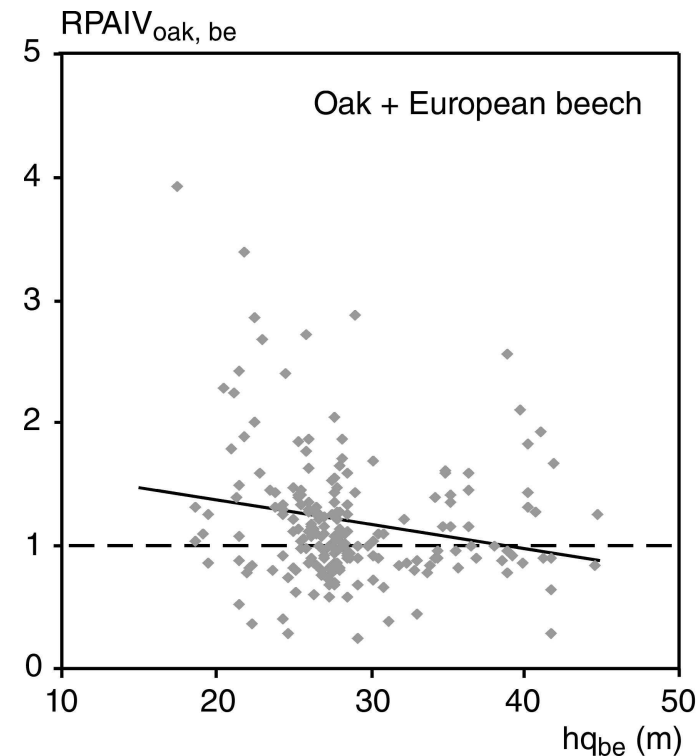


$$RP_{\text{oak},(\text{be})} = 2.250 - 0.038 \times hq_{\text{oak}}$$

$n = 289, R^2=0.14, p<0.001, ***$

$$RP_{(\text{oak}),\text{be}} = 1.841 - 0.023 \times hq_{\text{be}}$$

$n = 420, R^2=0.05, p<0.01, **$



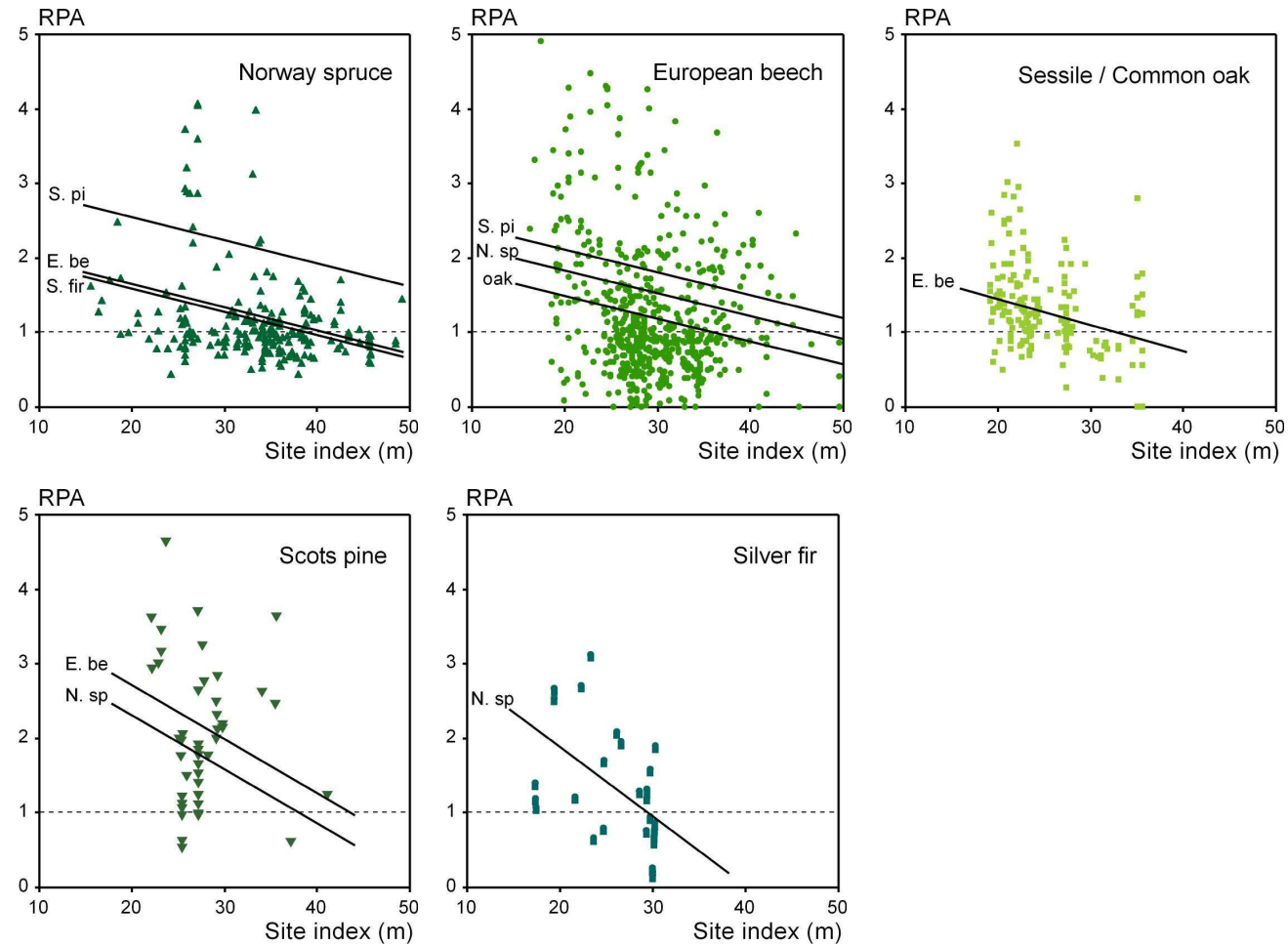
$$RP_{\text{oak},\text{be}} = 1.816 - 0.025 \times hq_{\text{oak}}$$

$n = 242, R^2=0.07$

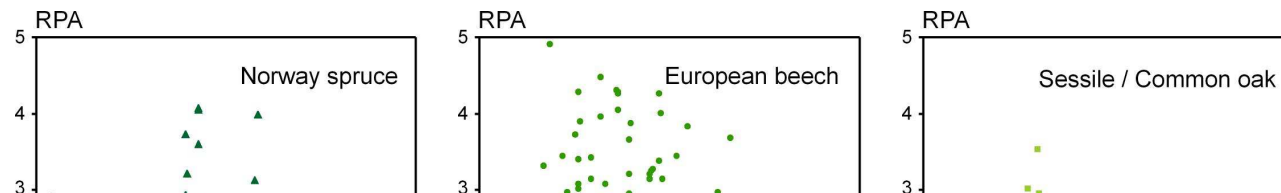
$$1.816 (\pm 0.165), p<0.001, ***$$

$$-0.025 (\pm 0.006), p<0.001, ***$$

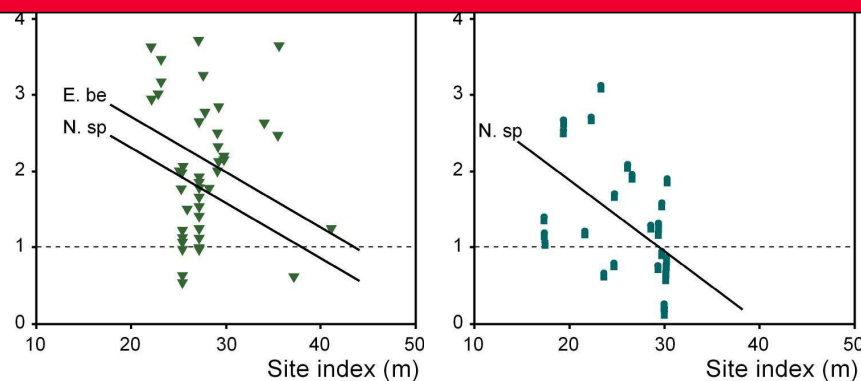
### 3 Modification of mixing effects by site conditions



### 3 Modification of mixing effects by site conditions

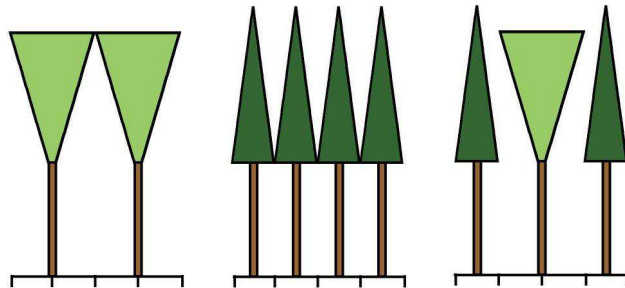


- On average 20-30 % overyielding of mixed vs. pure stands (= increased area use efficiency)
- Level of the benefit various with admixed species
- Stronger benefit on poor than on fertile sites

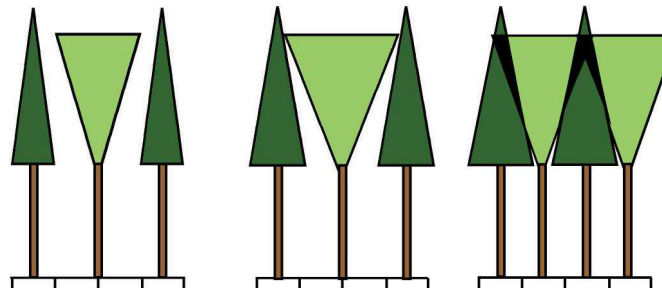


## Graphical summary: Mixing can increase crown size, canopy density, and stand productivity

Without emergent behaviour:

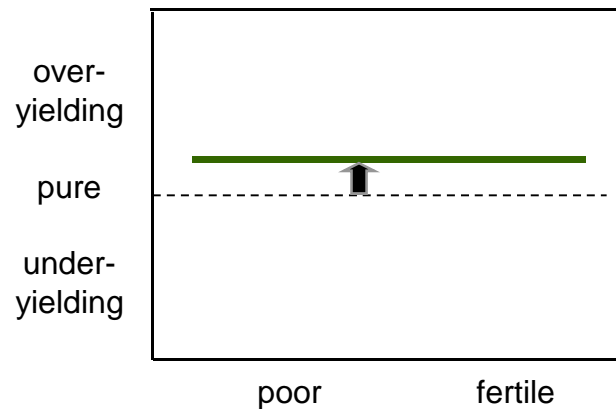


With increase of canopy space filling and stand productivity:



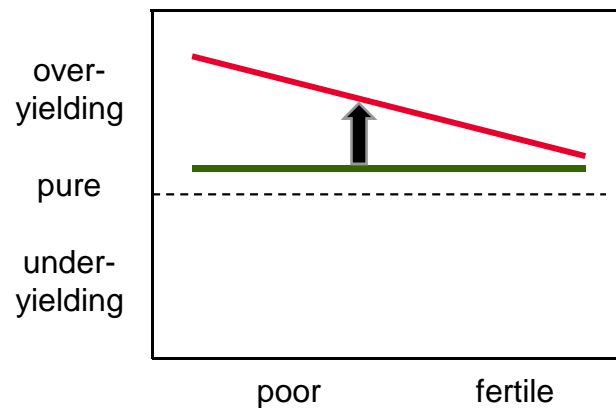


# Working hypothesis for explaining the mixing reaction patterns and for further research



## Hypotheses

Effect of crown plasticity and light use complementarity is rather independent from site conditions.

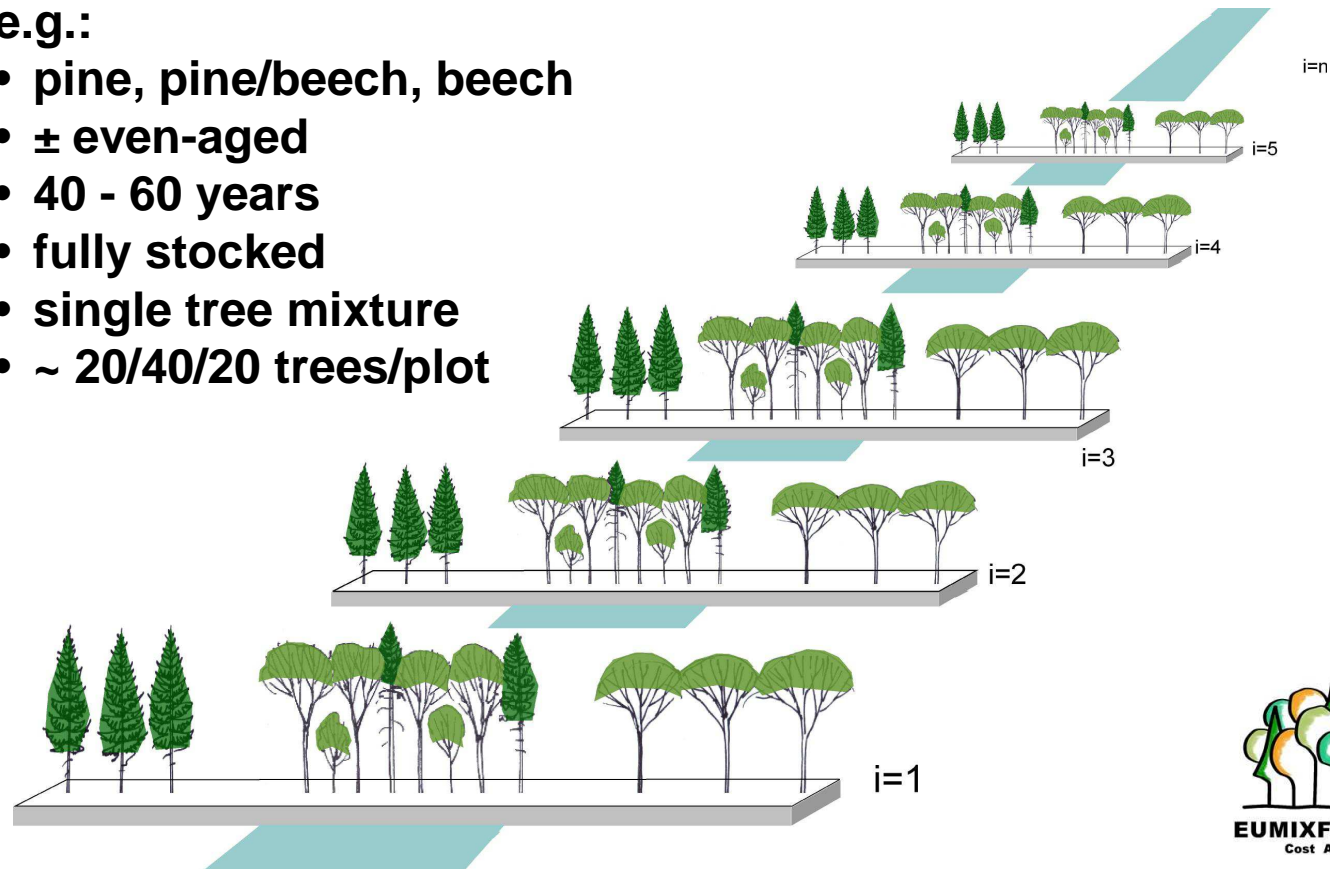


Effect on below ground resource supply higher on poor than on rich sites.

# EuMIXFOR FP1206: Proposal for a transect study

e.g.:

- pine, pine/beech, beech
- $\pm$  even-aged
- 40 - 60 years
- fully stocked
- single tree mixture
- ~ 20/40/20 trees/plot





An aerial photograph of a forest. A large, irregularly shaped area in the center is a clear-cut, showing a dense canopy of young, light-green trees. This area is surrounded by a darker, more mature forest with taller trees. The overall scene is a mix of green shades, from deep forest greens to the bright green of the clear-cut.

Thanks to:

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Kamil Bielak, Michal Zasada, Warsaw

Arkadiusz Bruchwald/Univ. Warsaw

Axel Martin Jensen, Copenhagen

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from long-term experimental plots

in pure and mixed stands to this study.

German Science Foundation for funding SFB 607 'Growth and Defence in Plants', SFB/TRR 38 'Chicken creek catchment project', PR 292/10-1 'Interaction between beech and spruce'.



# Analyzing the effect of species mixing on the structure and productivity of temperate forests in Europe

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- 3 Over-/underyielding of mixed versus pure forests. Effect of site conditions