

C3 Ecological processes and thresholds

Overview of activities and key messages, 2015

**Gina Mills*, Lisa Emberson, Elena Paoletti, Chris
Evans, Ed Rowe, Viki Bermejo, Sue Owen
and many others**

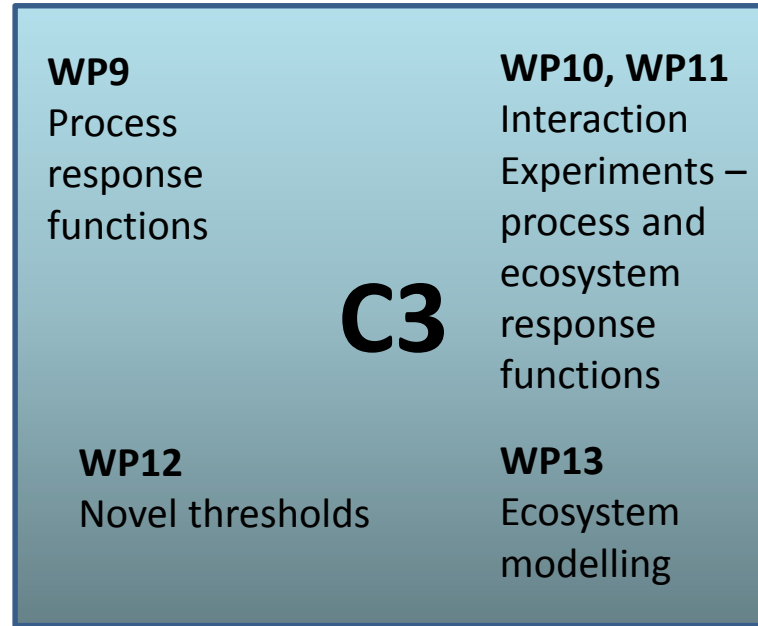
*gmi@ceh.ac.uk

C3 Overview: Content

- **Introduction – focus on interactions**
- **C3 key messages***
 - KM 1 – 4: O₃ and N interactions
 - KM 5: Aerosols
 - KM 6 – 8: Air pollution and climate change interactions
- **Remaining work**

** themes, exact wording to be discussed at this meeting*

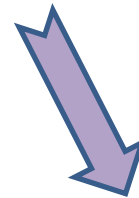
C1
**Biosphere –
atmosphere
interactions**



C4
**Regional
modelling**



**C5 Cost-benefit
analysis**



Ozone and N interactions

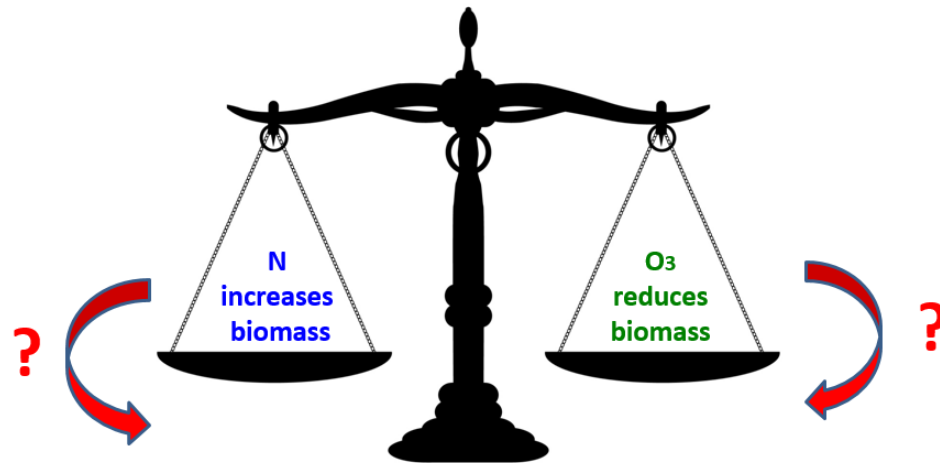
Typical N deposition effects, confirmed in WPs 9 – 11

- Stimulation of photosynthesis and stomatal conductance
- Stimulation of growth
- Change in biodiversity in favour of grasses

+

Typical ozone effects, confirmed in WPs 9 - 11

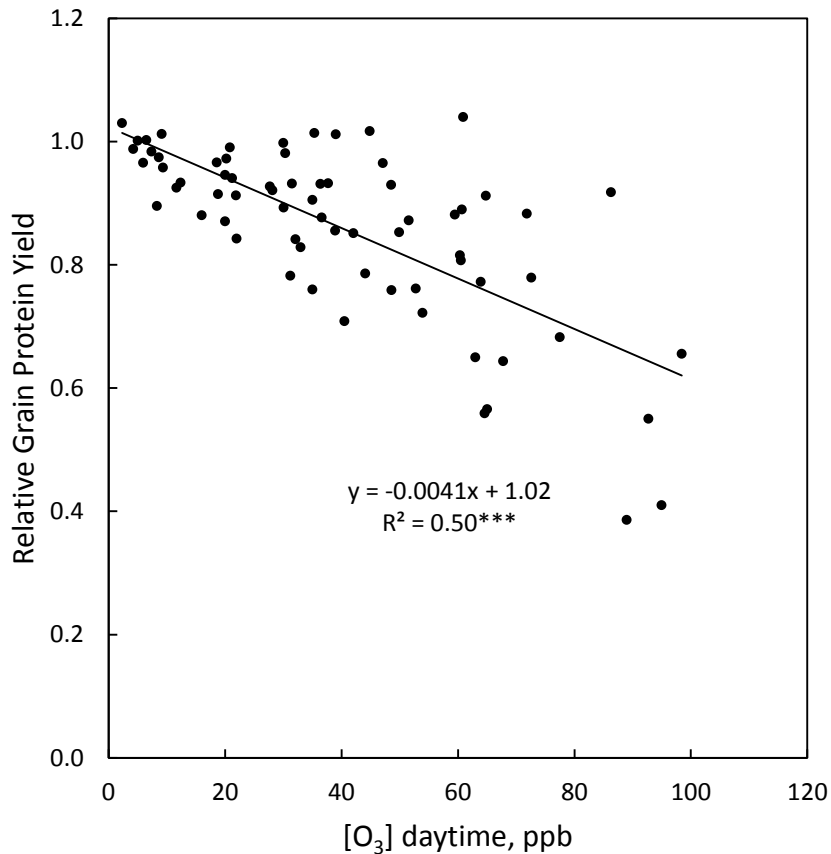
- Decrease in photosynthesis
- Decreased growth, especially roots
- Earlier and enhanced senescence



C3 Key message 1

O₃ alters N cycling

KM1a: Ozone reduces nitrogen use efficiency in crops



Hakan Pleijel et al.

- Grain protein yield strongly negatively affected by O₃ – affects fertilizer efficiency

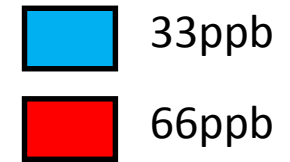
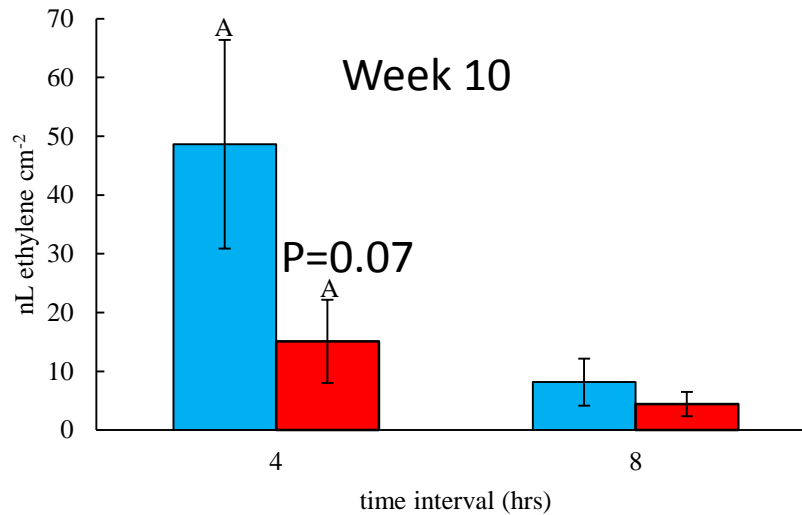
Broberg, M.C., Feng, Z., Xin, Y. & Pleijel, H. (2015). Ozone effects on wheat grain quality – a summary. *Environmental Pollution* 197, 203-213.



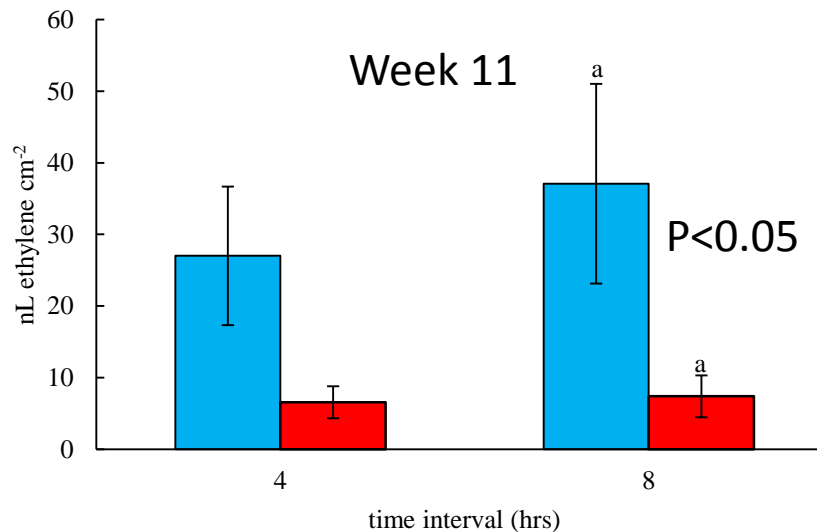
KM1b: Ozone reduces biological N fixation



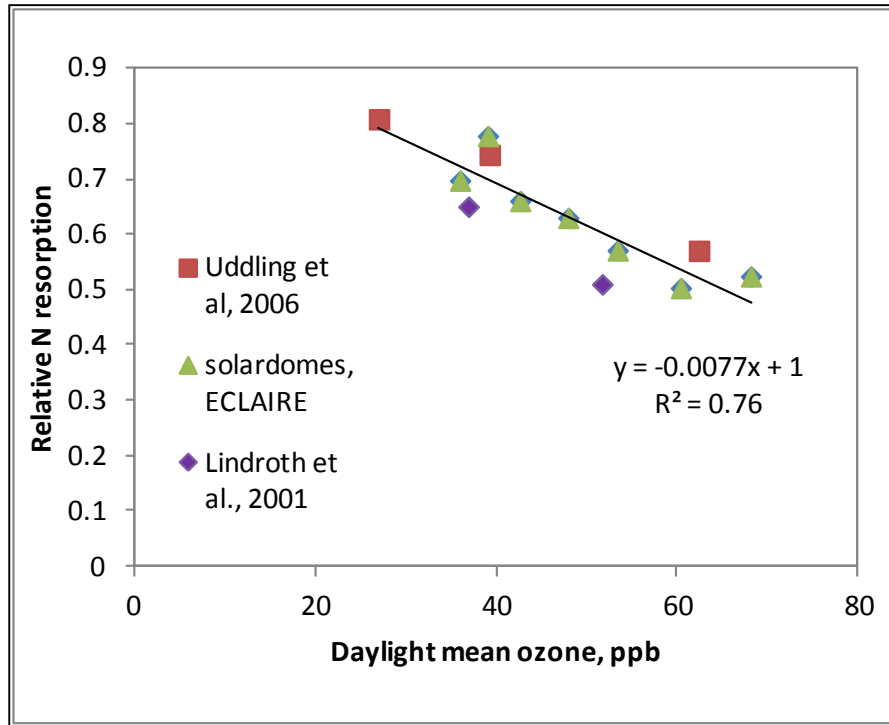
Acetylene reduction assays were used (cv 'Crusader')



Amount of ethylene evolved is proxy for nodule activity



KM1c: O₃ changes litter quality



- At higher ozone concentrations, less of the leaf N is transported back into the tree before the leaves fall
- Implications for soil processes

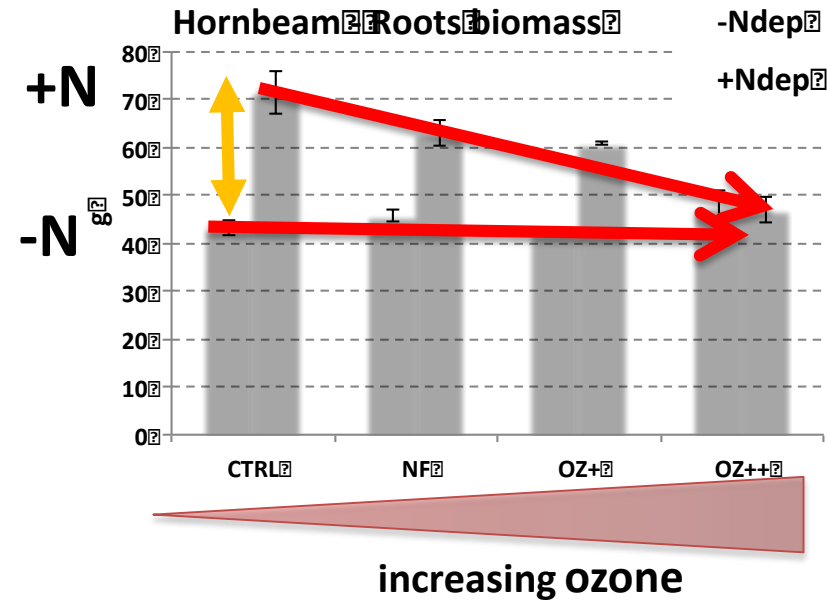
Resorption of N from leaves prior to leaf fall
Combined data set (ECLAIRE data mining)

Key message 2

Growth stimulating effects of N are lost at higher O_3

KM2a: effects on oak and hornbeam root biomass

Gerosa G., Marzuoli R., Monga R., Finco A., UNICATT, Italy

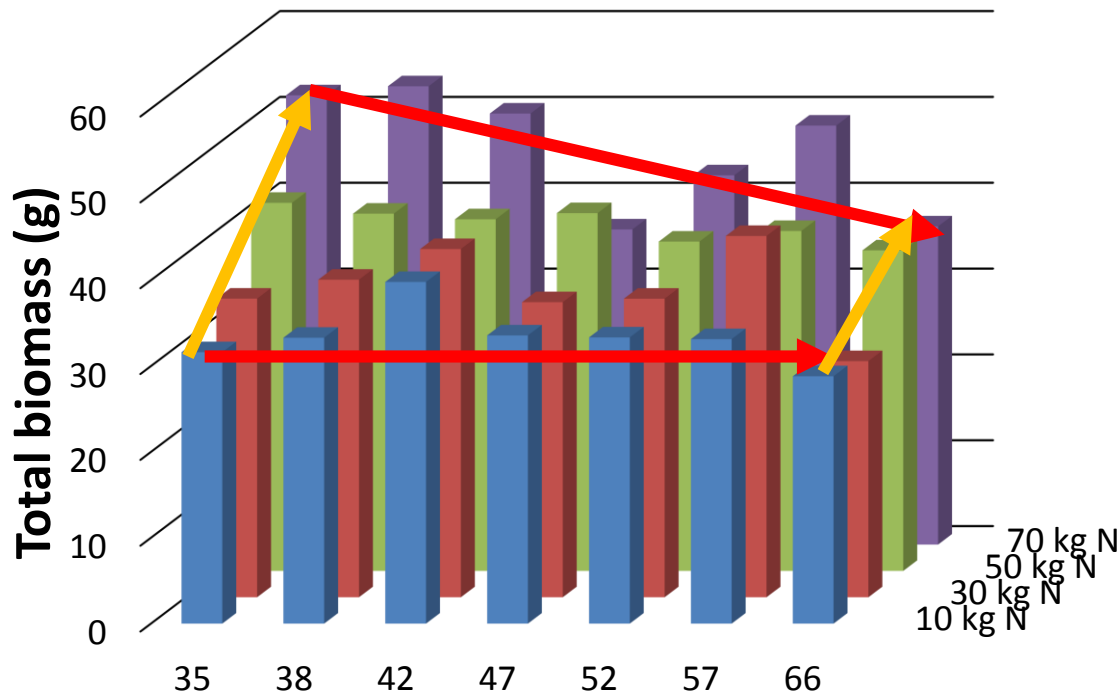


After two years of treatments:

- ❑ **Nitrogen** (70 kg ha⁻¹ y⁻¹) caused positive effects on both species. Hornbeam showed a greater stimulation than oak.
- ❑ **Nitrogen** increased hornbeam susceptibility to ozone, while it remained unaltered in oak



KM2b: effects on silver birch root biomass



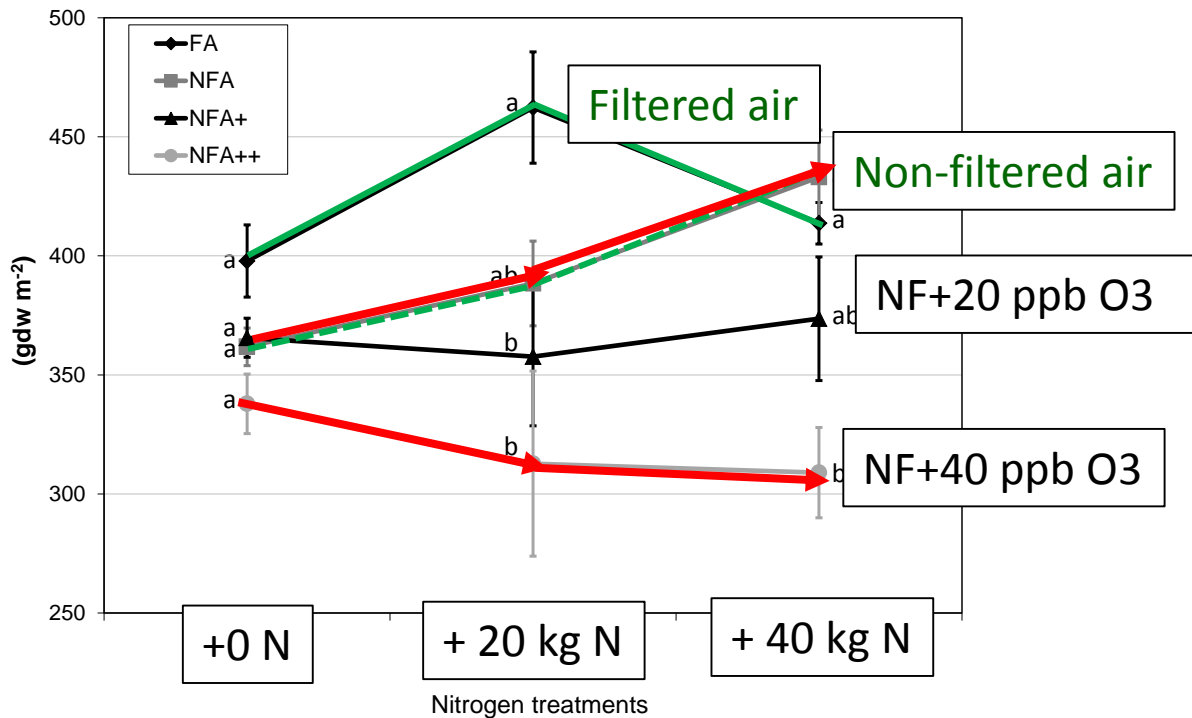
Mean 24 hour ozone (ppb; 2012 and 2013)

CEH Bangor – Felicity Hayes, Harry Harmens, Katrina Sharps, Gina Mills

- 2 year exposure of silver birch to 7 x O₃ and 4 x N
- At high ozone concentrations the stimulating effect of N was much reduced



KM2c: effects on Mediterranean annual pasture



YIELD /CANOPY SCALE:

- ✓ O_3 limited the fertilization effect of the soil N availability,
- ✓ Higher N could compensate O_3 effects on yield only when concentrations were moderate, but not under high O_3 levels

Calvete Sogo et al 2014. Atmos. Environ. 94, 1-10

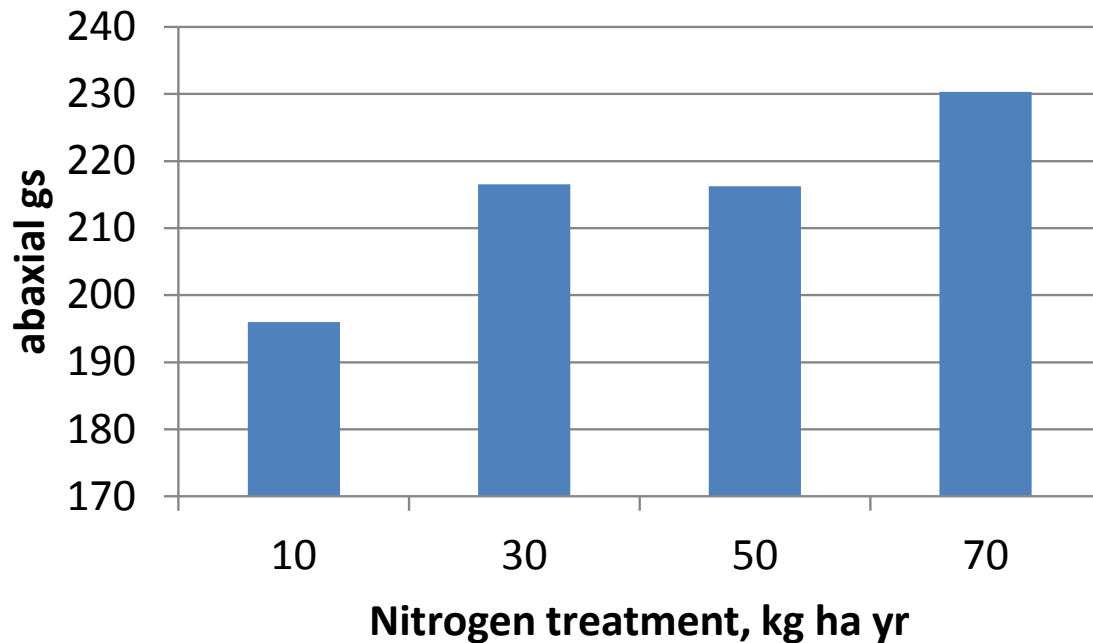


Key message 3

The direction of the O₃-N interaction is *largely* driven by effects on photosynthesis

KM3a: Enhanced N increases g_{\max}

CEH Bangor – Felicity Hayes, Harry Harmens, Katrina Sharps, Gina Mills
Solardomes experiment

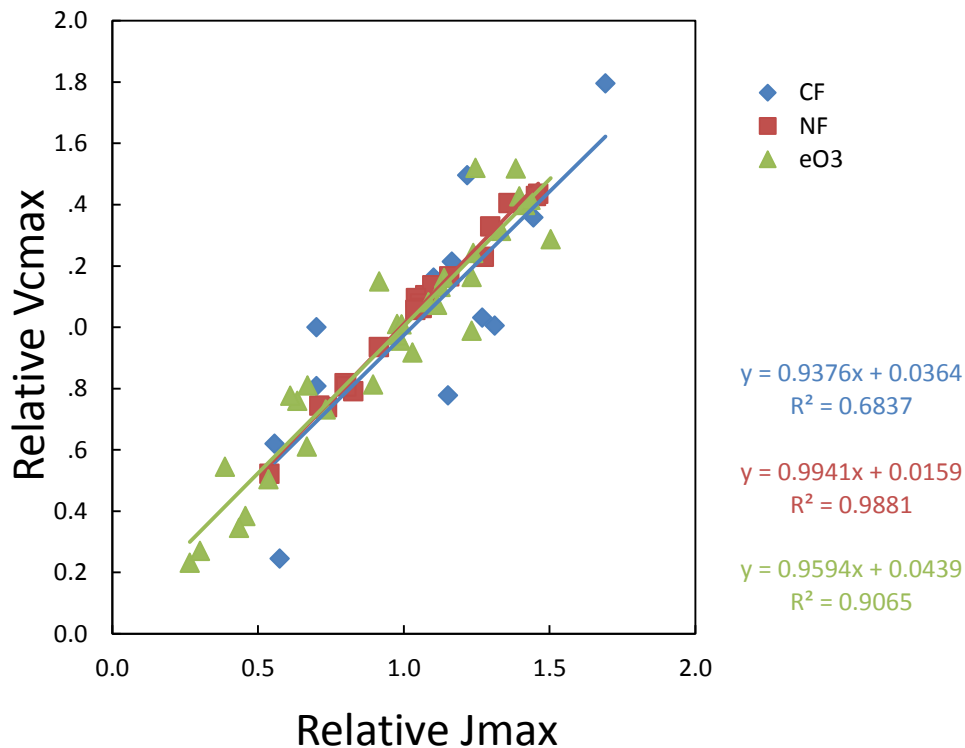
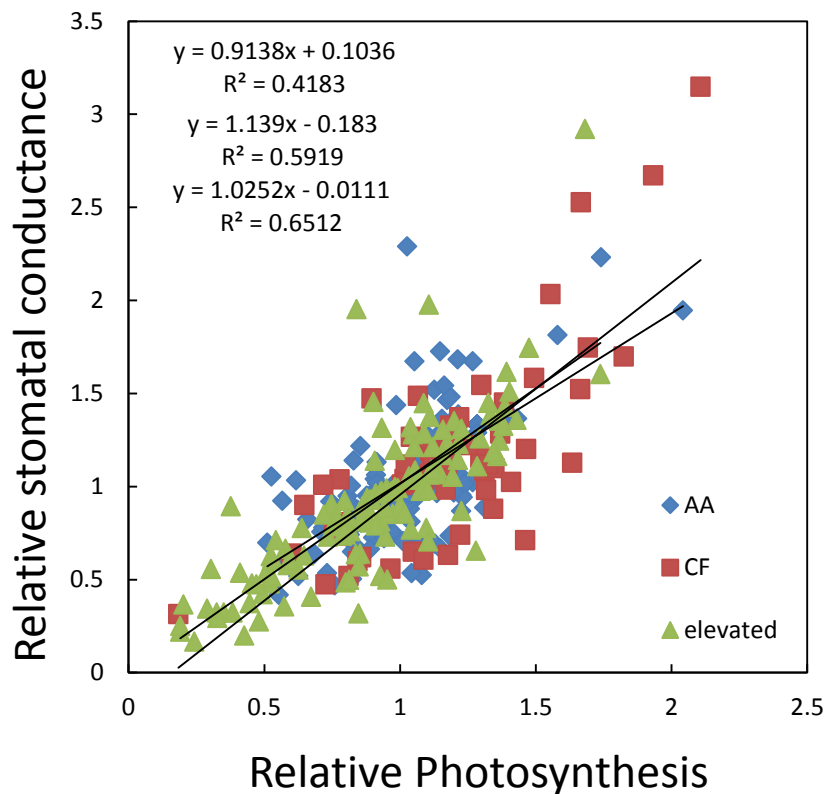


☐ Maximum Stomatal conductance increased with increasing N in silver birch



KM3b: Stable relationships for photosynthesis components

Wheat

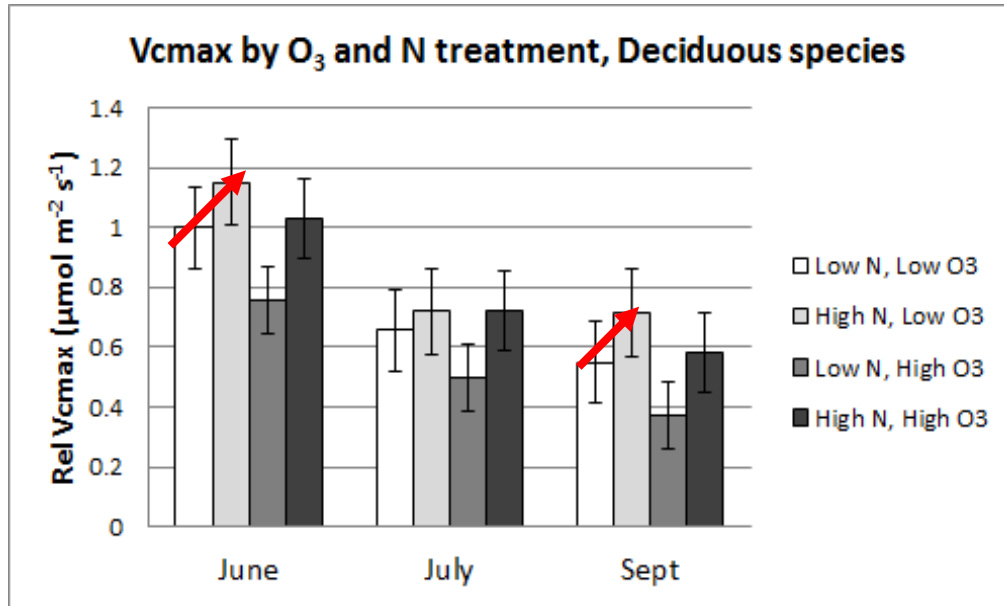


Broberg, M.C., Feng, Z., Pleijel, H. et al in progress

Vcmax = maximum rate of carboxylation
Jmax = the maximum rate of electron transport



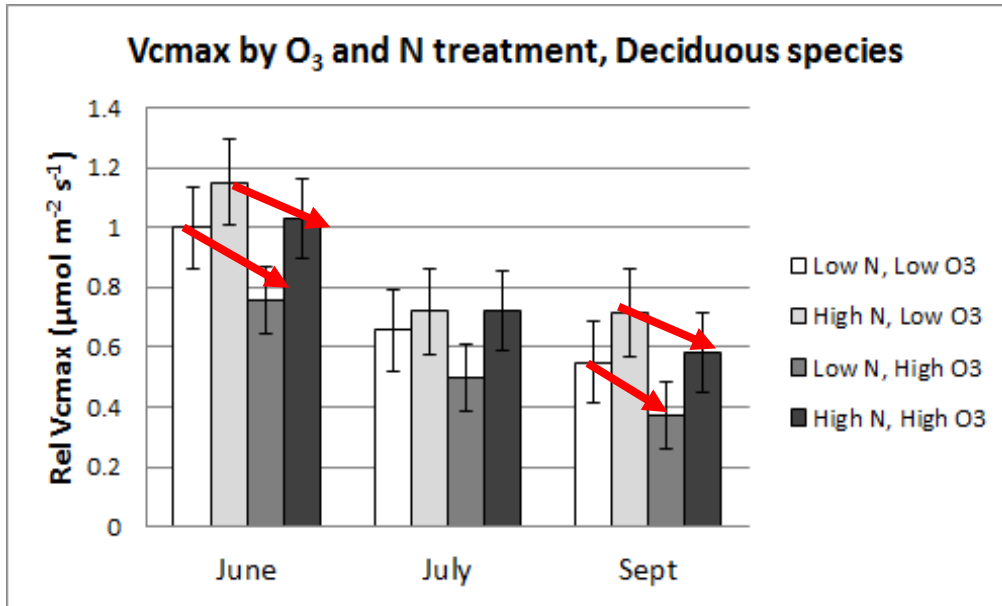
KM3c: Measured combined effects on $V_{c \max}$



□ Increasing N increased $V_{c \max}$

- Data from CEH Bangor and UNICATT, Italy
- Silver birch and hornbeam
- 10 and 70 kg N/ha/yr and 35 and 70 ppb O₃ as a 24 hour mean

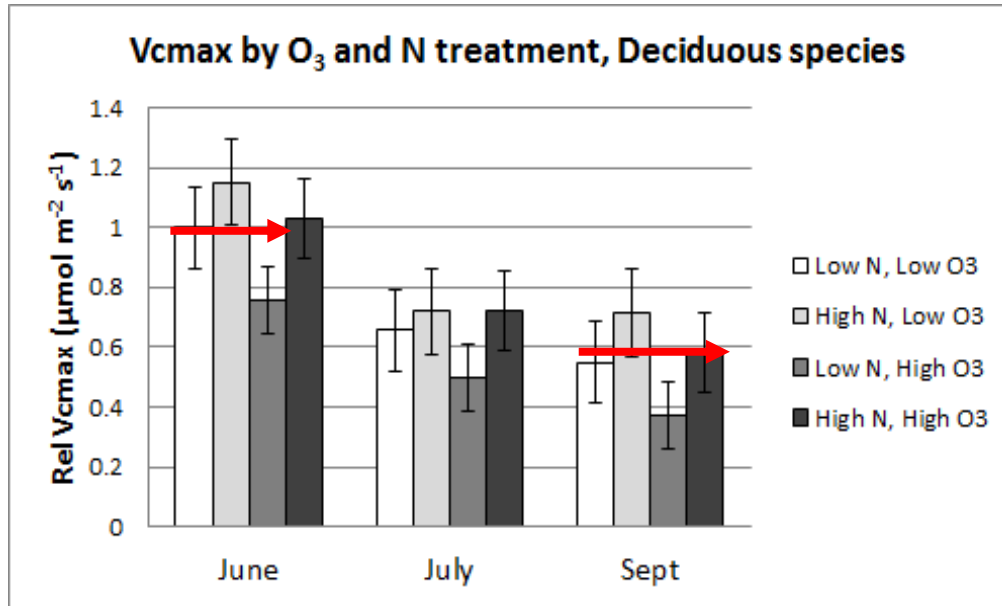
KM3c: Measured combined effects on $V_{c \max}$



- Increasing N increased $V_{c \max}$
- Increasing O₃ decreased $V_{c \max}$

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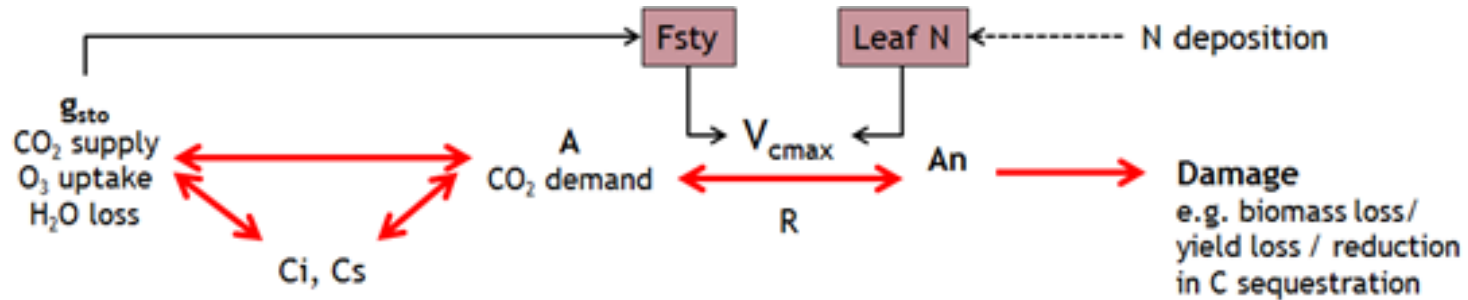
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- Data from CEH Bangor and UNICATT, Italy
- Silver birch and hornbeam
- 10 and 70 kg N/ha/yr and 35 and 70 ppb O₃ as a 24 hour mean

- Increasing N increased $V_{c \max}$
- Increasing O₃ decreased $V_{c \max}$
- Together, $V_{c \max}$ was the same as in the low N/low O₃ treatment

KM3d: New development of the DO₃SE model, combined effects of O₃ and N



- The DO₃SE model has been developed to incorporate a coupled net Photosynthesis-stomatal conductance (An-g_{sto}) model
- Leaf Nitrogen (through V_{cmax}) is central to determining net Photosynthesis (An), g_{sto} and hence O₃ uptake.
- By understanding the role that leaf N plays in altering O₃ uptake we can assess the influence combinations of leaf N and O₃ would have on DRRs
- This assumes uptake is the sole mechanism by which leaf N alters O₃ sensitivity.

Lisa Emberson, Patrick Büker, Alan Briolat

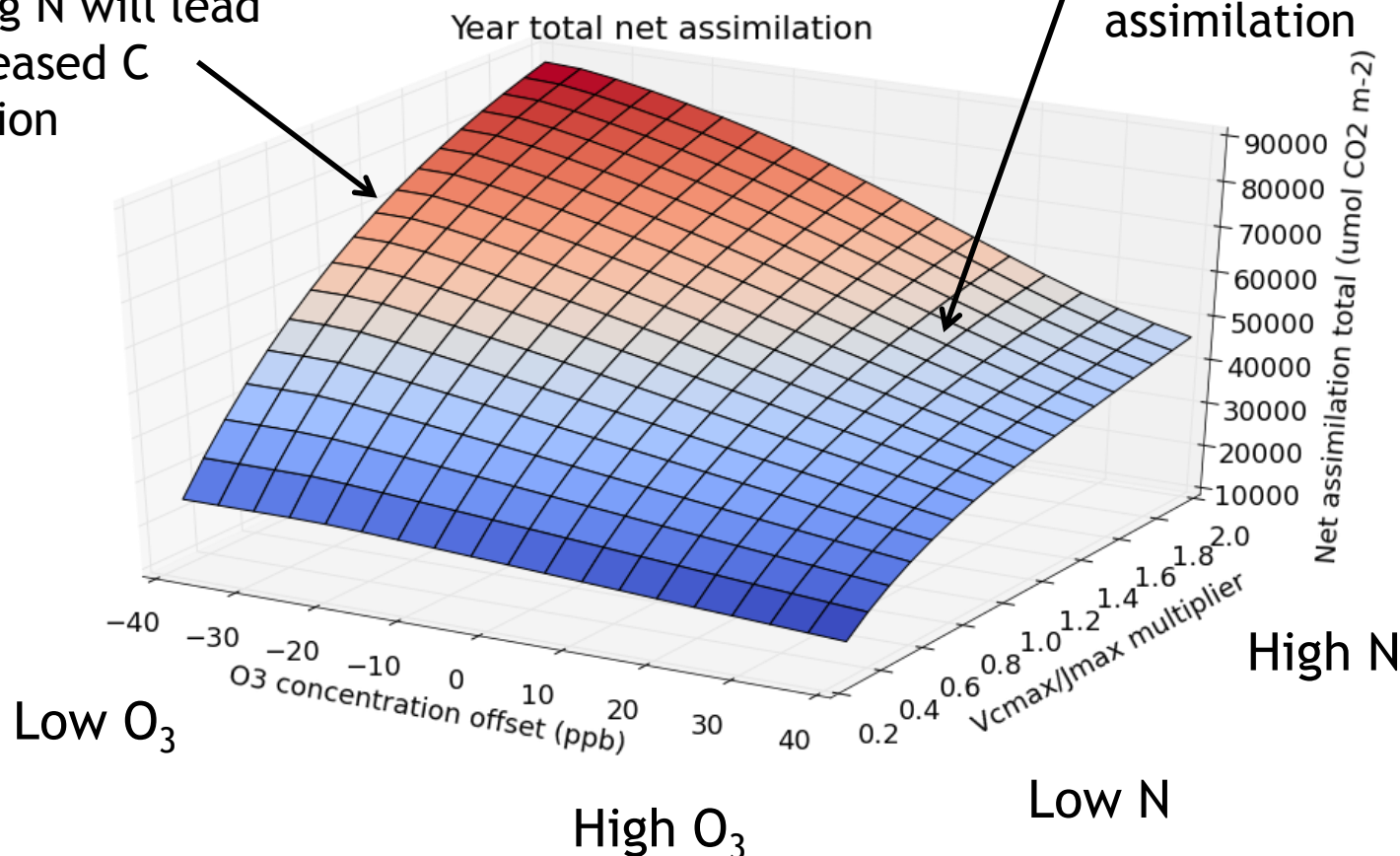
Key message 4

The combined effects of O₃ and N on ecosystems cannot be predicted by the sum of the two effects

KM4a: DO3SE-C modelling of combined effects on seasonal assimilation

Under low O_3 concentrations, increasing N will lead to a increased C assimilation

High O_3 concentrations negate the positive influence of N on C assimilation

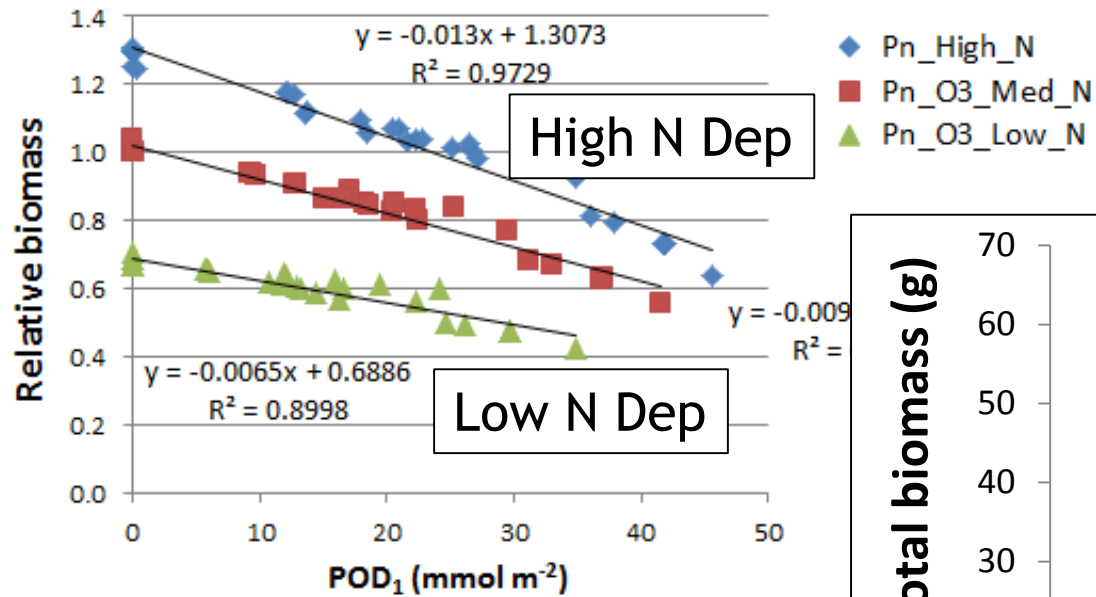


Lisa Emberson, Patrick Búker, Alan Briolat

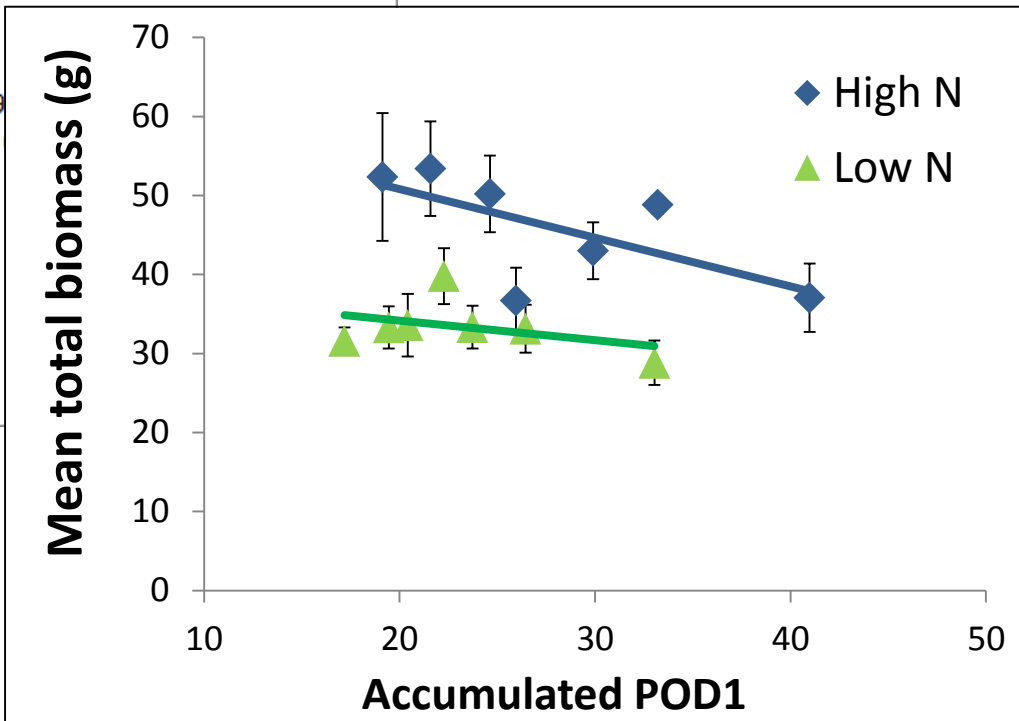
'ECLAIRE final meeting'
1-4 Sept 2015; Edinburgh

KM4b: e.g. New DRRs for low, medium and high N loads

Modelled relative biomass vs PODy including O₃ effect on literature VCmax range



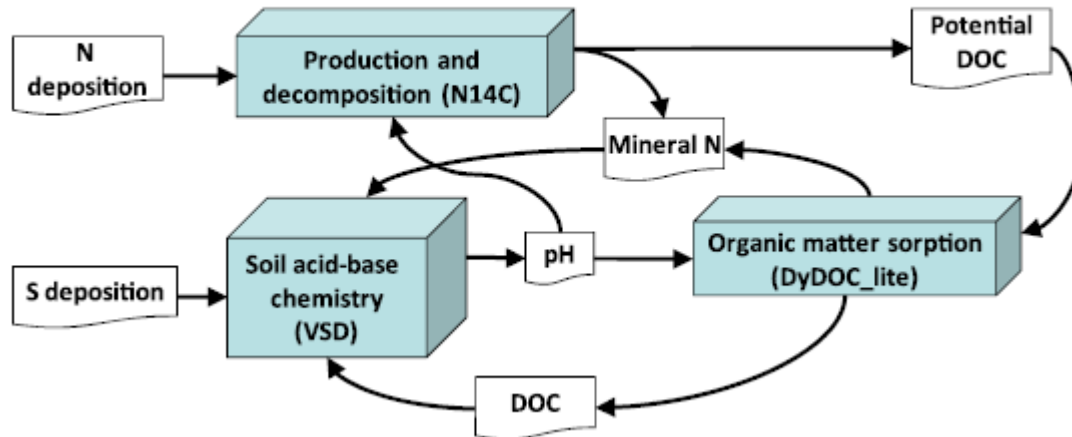
Data from solardomes



☐ High leaf N increases ozone uptake but this in turn can increase damage causing a more sensitive response

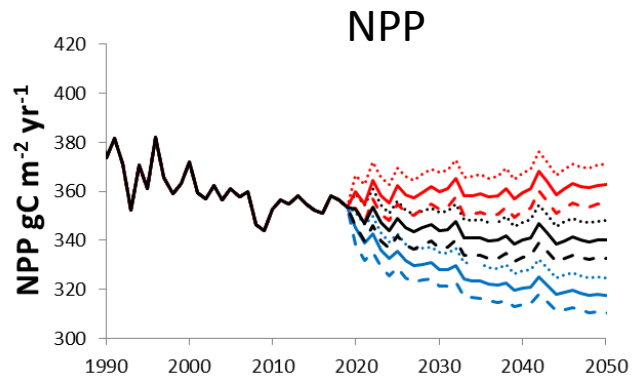
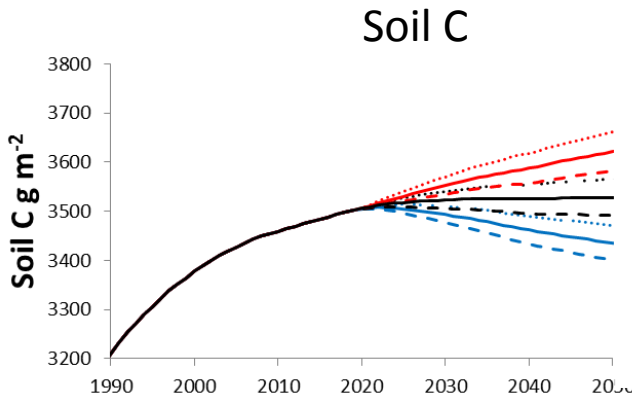
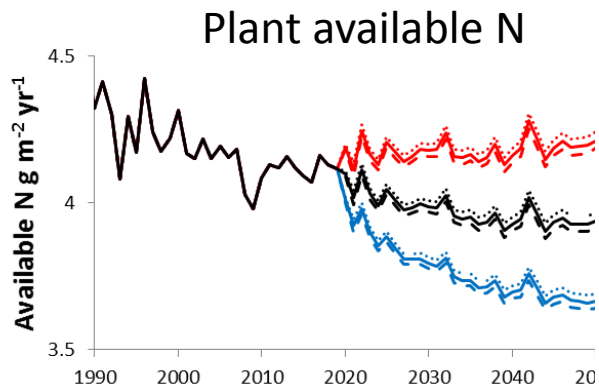
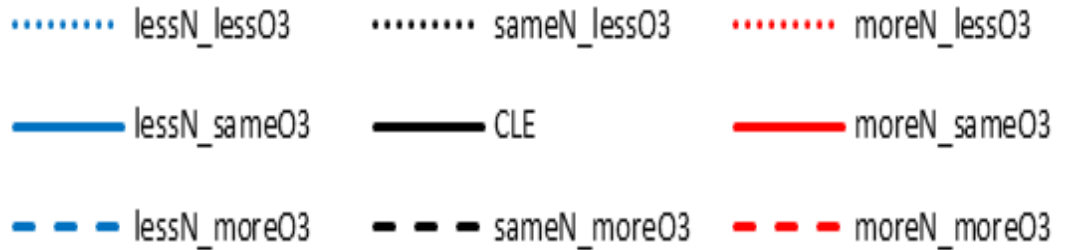
KM4c: O₃ and N in the MADOC Model

E.C. Rowe et al. / Environmental Pollution 184 (2014) 271–282



- Accounts for the flows of carbon and other elements through vegetation and soil, simulating the effects of long-term trends of large-scale ecosystem drivers
- Processes include acid-base exchange, the contribution of dissolved organic acids, and effects of ozone and nitrogen availability on plant growth and litterfall.
- It has been used to understand and explore the impacts of nitrogen and ozone pollution on plant productivity, carbon storage and water quality.

KM4d: Combined effects on Coniferous forest



- Steady decline with CLE
- N effect dominates; small O₃ effects

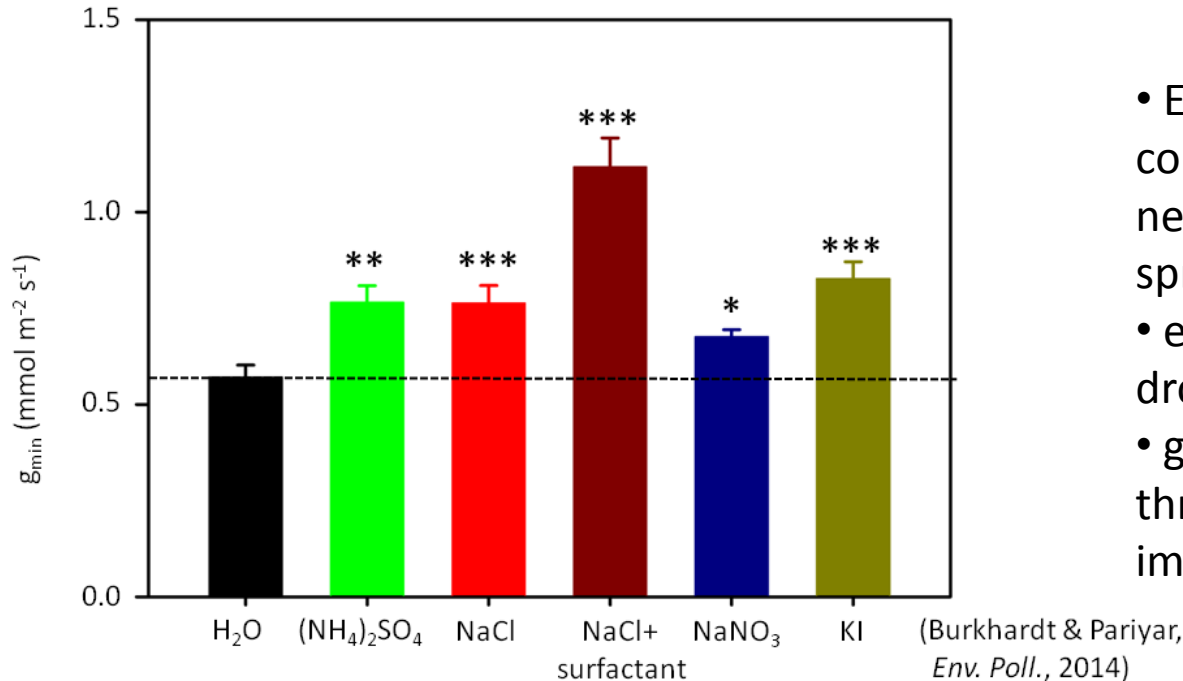
- Ozone modifies effect of N
- Biggest decrease with less N and more O₃

C3 Key message 5

Aerosols damage stomatal functioning

KM5: Aerosol impacts on plant water relations

Shyam Pariyar, Jürgen Burkhardt



- Epidermal minimum conductance (g_{\min}) of pine needles increased after salt spray treatment
- elevated g_{\min} indicates reduced drought tolerance
- g_{\min} is possibly a useful threshold parameter for aerosol impacts on plants

C3 Key message 6

Climate change will modify stomatal uptake of ozone, thereby changing the magnitude of effect

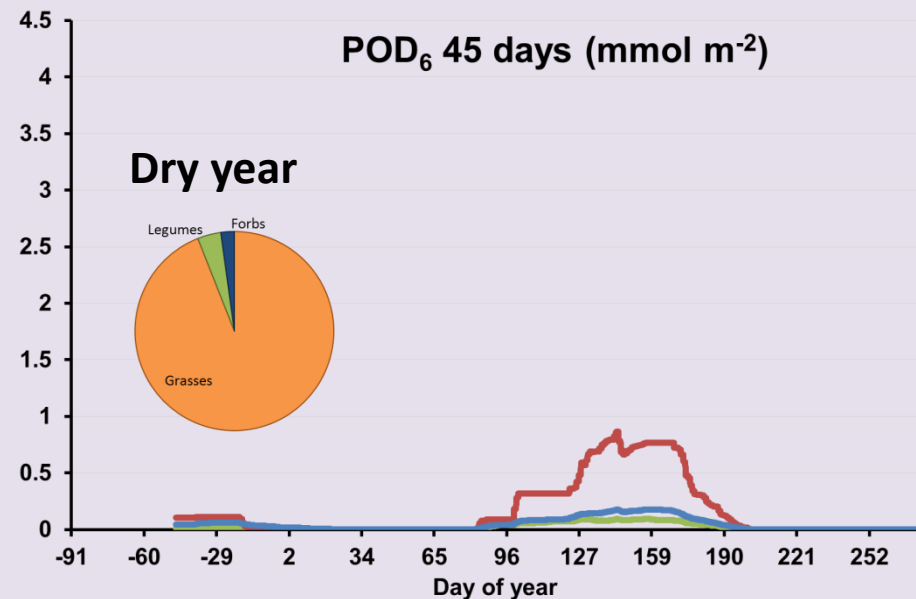
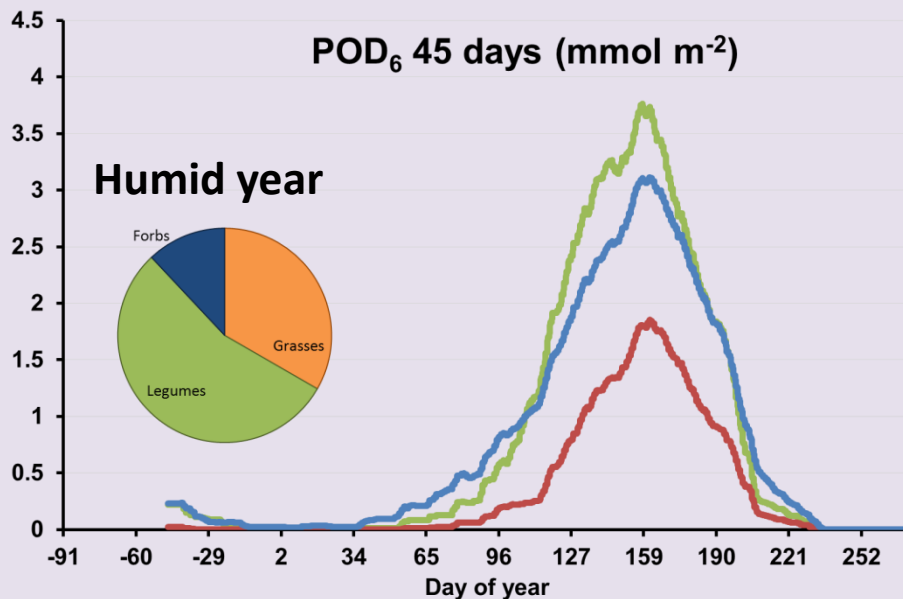
KM6a: Ozone and climate/Annual pastures



Climatic conditions change annual pastures sensitivity to O₃

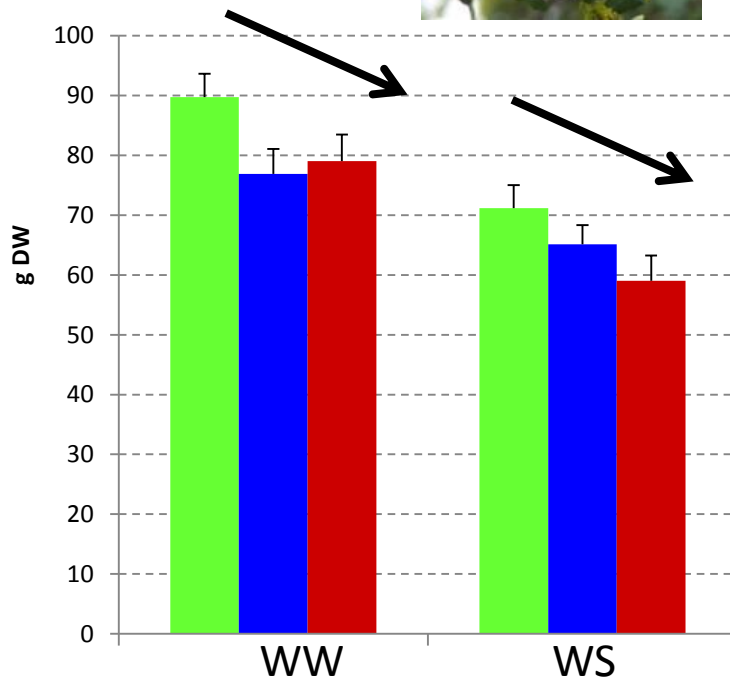
- Altering gas exchange rates; thus the ozone absorbed doses
- Changing growing seasons; thus the accumulated period for ozone absorbed doses
- Changing species composition with varying O₃ sensitivity (legumes generally more O₃ sensitive are less abundant on dry years)

Ozone absorbed doses (PODs)



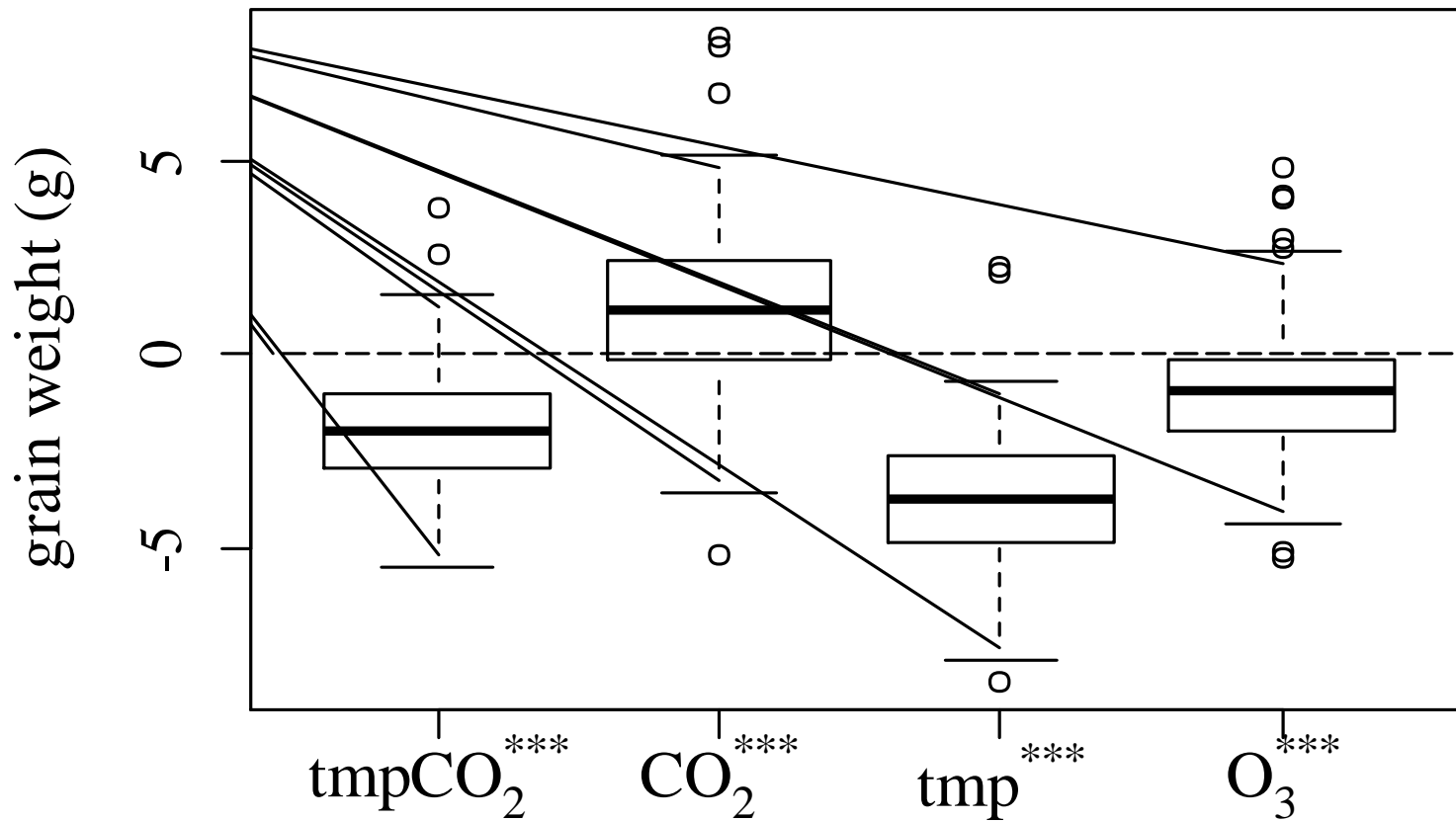
KM6b: Ozone and climate/evergreen Med. trees

Holm oak



- ❑ Water stress (WS) does not protect perennial Med trees from O_3 effects on biomass (Alonso et al., 2014, *Plant Biol.*)
- ❑ Also seen in temperate grasslands, Wagg et al, 2014, *Env. Poll.*

KM6b: Screen of 138 barley accessions



- ❑ Effects of climate change and ozone on barley, a moderately ozone-sensitive species, Ingvordsen et al. 2015, DTU

C3 Key message 7

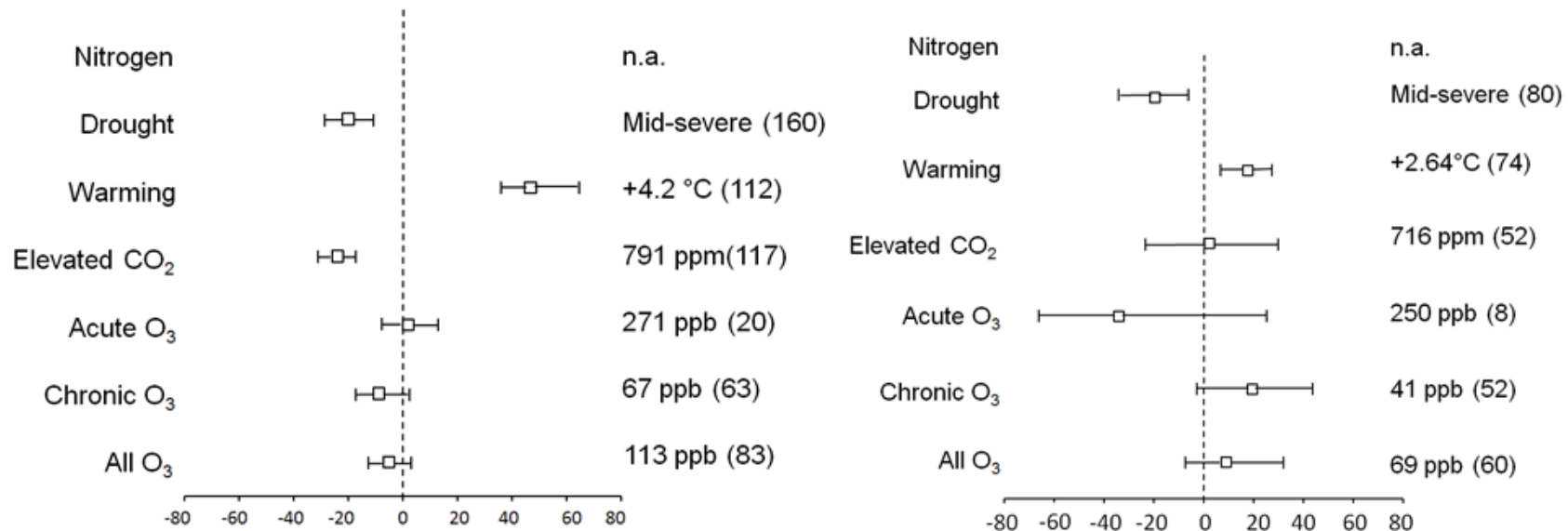
Climate change and ozone
modify BVOC release from
vegetation, with implications for
air quality

KM7a: meta-analysis of published data

□ Isoprenoids emission increases with increasing temperature, and decreases with increasing CO₂ and soil water stress.

ISOPRENE

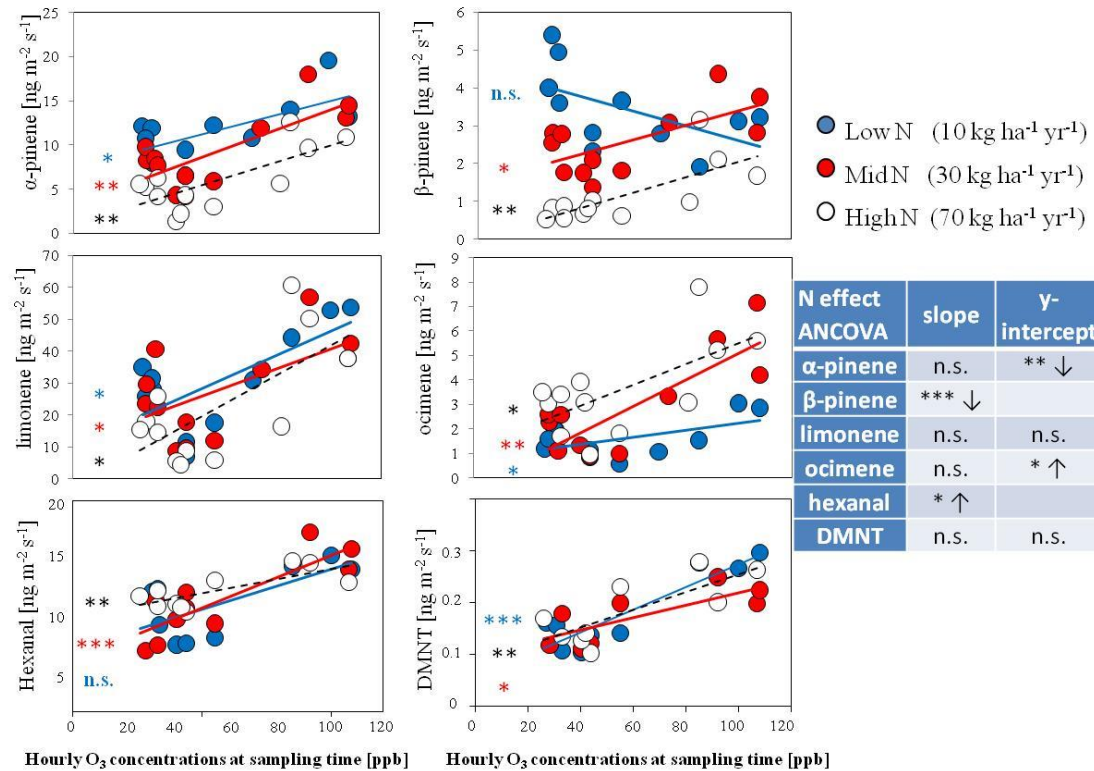
MONOTERPENES



Percent change in isoprene and total monoterpenes emission under the effect of different climate change drivers. Symbols are bracketed by 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals. Mean level of stress and number of observations (in parenthesis) are also given.

Elena Paoletti CNR, Silvano Fares CREA

KM 7c: Combined effects of O₃ and N on BVOC emissions from silver birch



Ozone stimulated emission, while nitrogen effects are compound-specific (from stimulation to inhibition), Carriero et al., Environmental Pollution, submitted

Effects of ozone (concentrations at the time of BVOC sampling) and nitrogen (weekly fertilization) on BVOC emission from silver birch saplings after two years of exposure

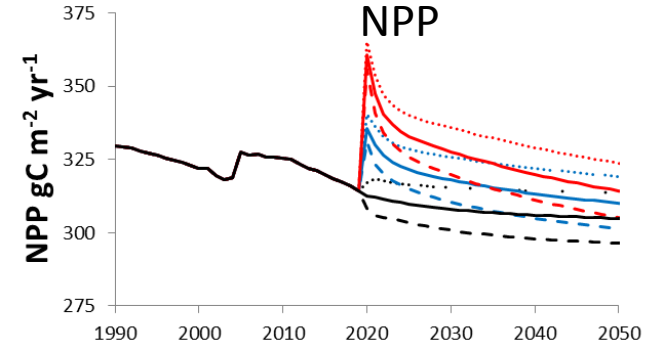
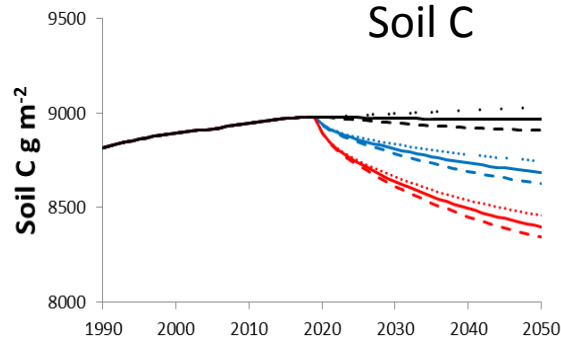
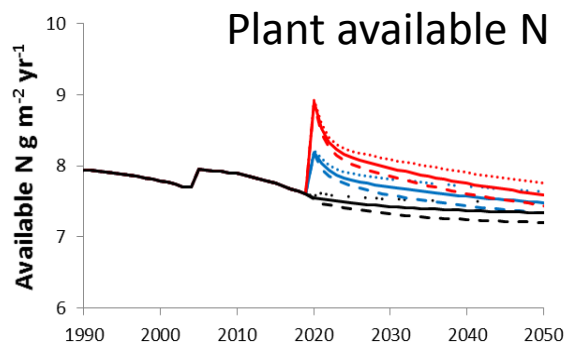
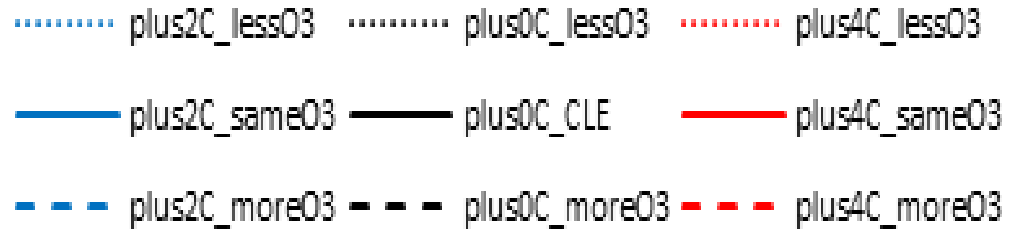


Guilia Carriero, Elena Paoletti CNR, Silvano Fares CREA, Felicity Hayes and Gina mills (CEH)

C3 key message 8

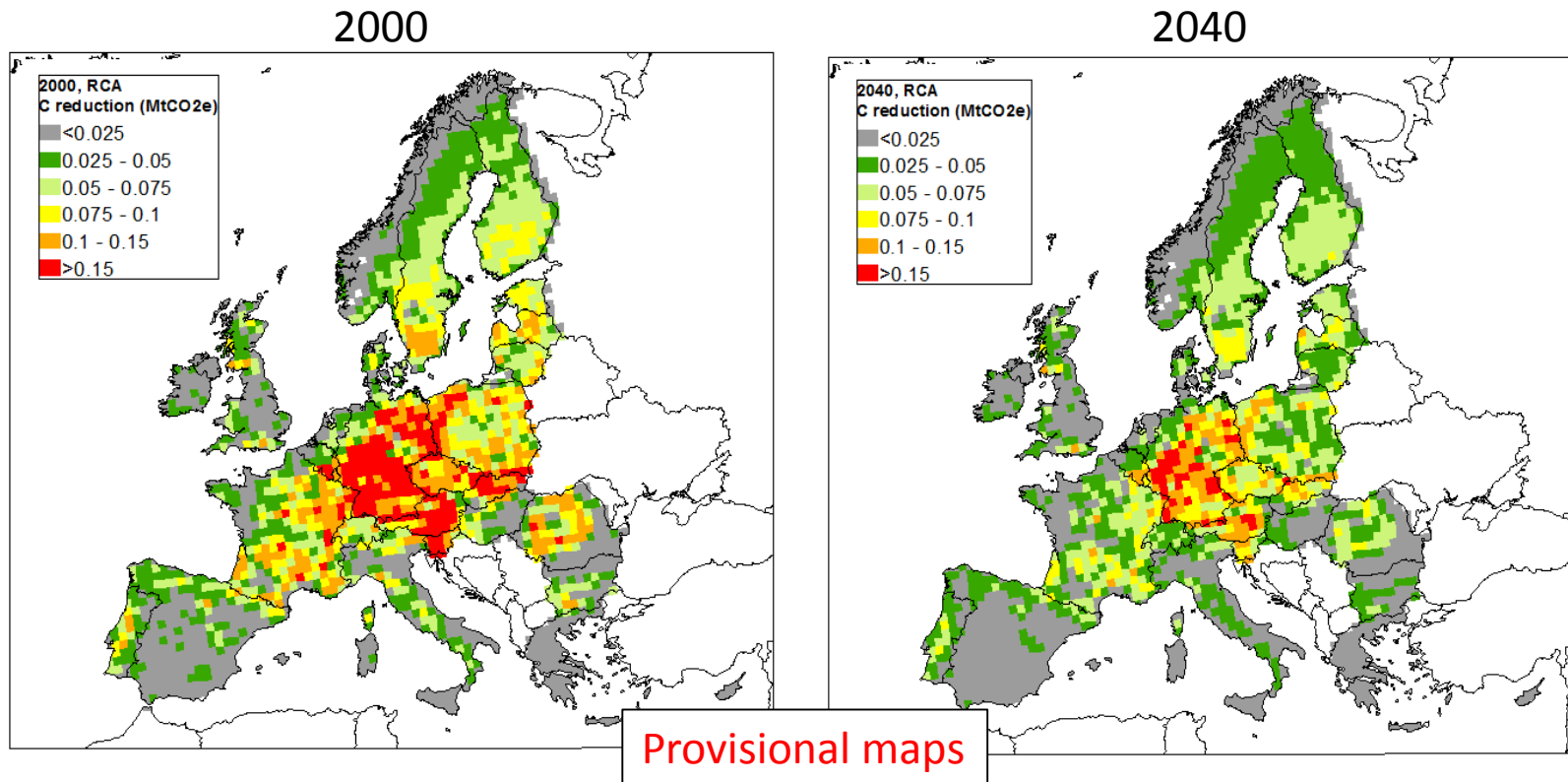
Combined effects of ozone, N
and climate change can be
predicted with C3 models ...
[message to be discussed
further at this meeting]

KM8a: Combined O3 and temperature effects – Whim bog



- ❑ Increasing temperature increases available N, reduces soil C and increases NPP
- ❑ Reducing O3 by 20% enhanced stimulating effect of temperature on available N and NPP, but reduced temperature-induced losses in soil C
- ❑ Losses in soil C made worse in +2 and +4 °C under +20% O₃

K8b: Ozone impacts on C sequestration in trees



- ❑ Response functions derived for O₃ effects on Net Annual Increment of tree species
- ❑ Maps generated for reduction in C sequestration in living biomass of trees due to ozone, relative to pre-industrial ozone

C3 Tasks for this meeting

- Review key messages and responses to ECLAIRE questions
- Novel thresholds discussion
- Remaining work
- Plans for paper writing

C3 Key messages (to date...)

1. O₃ alters N cycling
2. Growth stimulating effects of N are lost at higher O₃
3. The direction of the O₃-N interaction is driven by effects on photosynthesis
4. The combined effects of O₃ and N on ecosystems cannot be predicted by the sum of the two effects
5. Aerosols damage stomatal functioning
6. Climate change will modify stomatal uptake of ozone, thereby changing the magnitude of effect
7. Climate change and ozone modify BVOC release from vegetation, with implications for air quality
8. Combined effects of ozone, N and climate change can be predicted with C3 models ...

SPARE SLIDES FOR DISCUSSION IN C3 MEETINGS

C3 deliverables for this year

| | |
|-------|--|
| D11.4 | Measurement and parameterization of the fraction of O ₃ that is taken up by leaves due to detoxification by constitutive BVOC, under associated environmental constraints and during leaf development |
| D12.3 | Delivery of novel thresholds for key dose-response relationships for use in regional scale modelling and mapping relevant for ecosystem service assessment |
| D12.4 | Final Report describing new dose-response relationships and novel thresholds |
| D13.4 | Report on assessment of the effects of combined air pollution and climate change scenarios on ecosystem C/GHG balance, soil quality and vegetation change at all experimental sites, based on integrated models |

ECLAIRE questions

Q1: What are the expected impacts on ecosystems due to changing ozone and N-deposition under a range of climate change scenarios, taking into consideration the associated changes in atmospheric CO₂, aerosol and acidification

Q2: Which of these effects off-set and which aggravate each other, and how do the mitigation and adaptation measures recommended under climate change relate to those currently being recommended to meet air pollution effects targets?

Q3: What are the relative effects of long-range global and continental atmospheric transport vs. regional and local transport on ecosystems in a changing climate

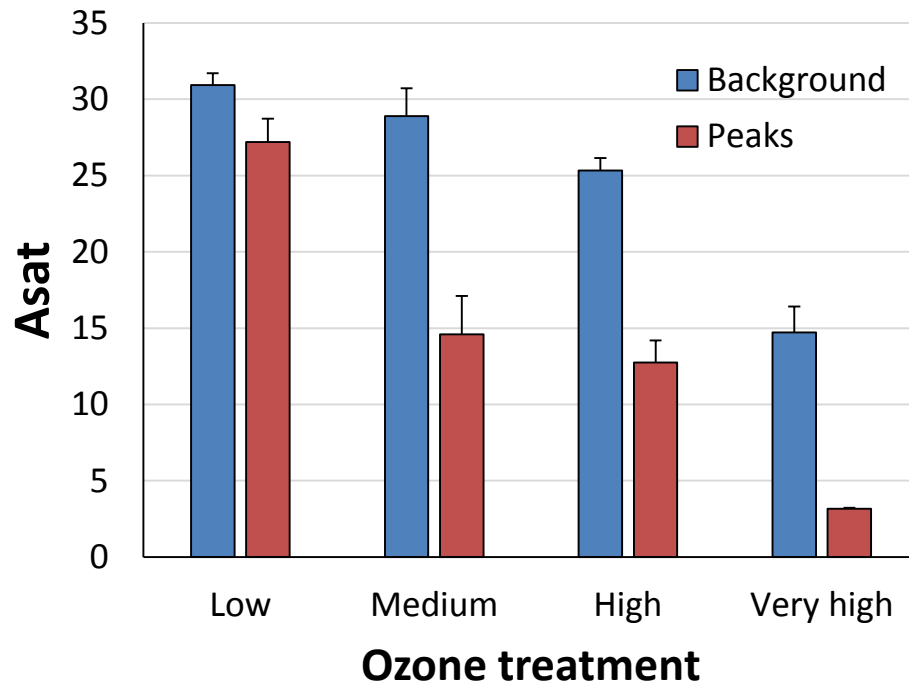
Q4: What is the relative contribution of a) climate dependence in biogenic emissions and deposition vs. b) climate dependence of ecosystem thresholds and responses in determining the overall effect of climate change on air pollution impacts?

Q5: What are the best metrics to assess O₃ and N impacts on plants and soils, when considering interactions with CO₂ and climate, and the different effects of wet vs. dry deposition on physiological responses?

Q6: Which mitigation/adaptation measures are required to reduce damage to “acceptable” levels to protect C stocks and ecosystem functioning? How do the emission abatement costs compare with the economic benefits of reduced damage

Larger effect of peak than background ozone for wheat (Skyfall)

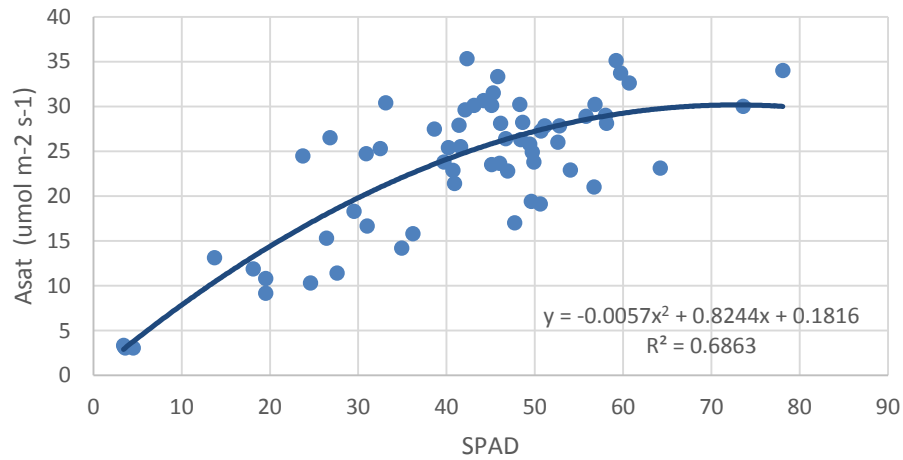
CEH Bangor – Harry Harmens, Felicity Hayes, Gina Mills
Solardomes experiment



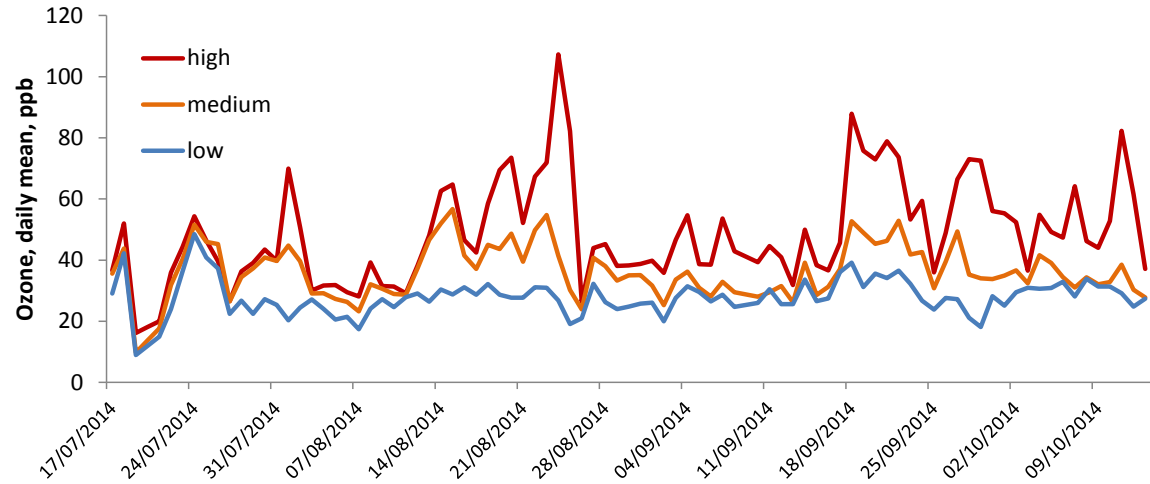
- Asat (light saturated photosynthesis) of wheat was reduced by ozone in late season (after flowering)
- The effect was larger for peaks of ozone exposure than for elevated background
- The response was partly explained by changes in chlorophyll content

SPAD vs ASAT for wheat (Skyfall)

June & July 2015 (polynomial function)



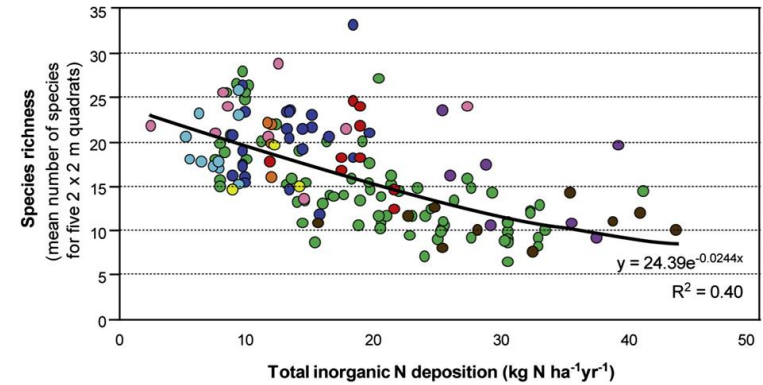
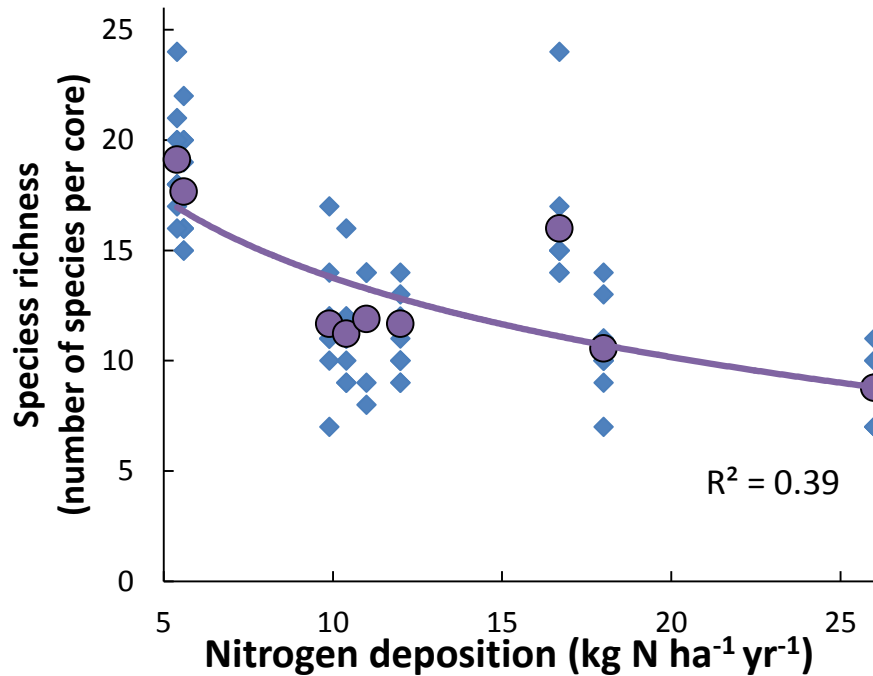
CEH Bangor: O3 and N impacts on coastal grassland



High – 48 ppb
 Medium – 36 ppb
 Low – 28 ppb



Bangor FAZE: N effects on species richness of cores



Stevens et al., 2010, *Environmental Pollution*

- Across Europe species diversity of acid grasslands decreases with increasing N deposition

- ❑ Species richness decreased with increasing N
- ❑ Pattern (and values) matched well with previous data

Many species showed increased leaf injury/senescence

Ruta graveolens

Avenula pubescens

Leontodon spp 1

Carex arenaria

Carex flacca

Hypericum perforatum

Achillea millefolium

Galium verum

Rumex spp

Luzula campestris

Leontodon spp 2

Plantago lanceolata

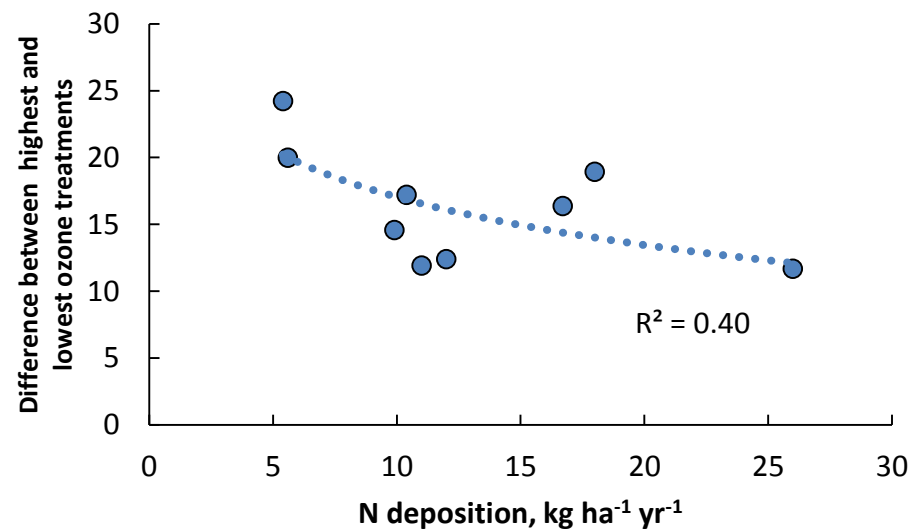
Trifolium repens

Dactylis glomerata

Senecio jacobaea

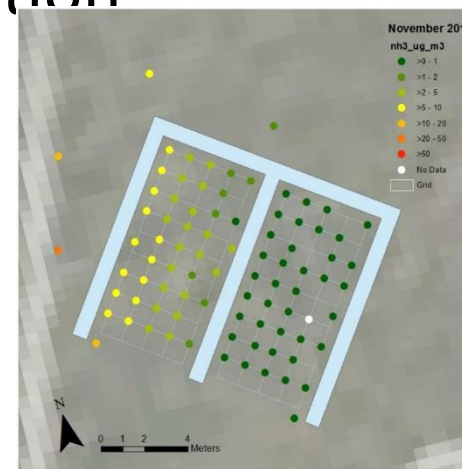
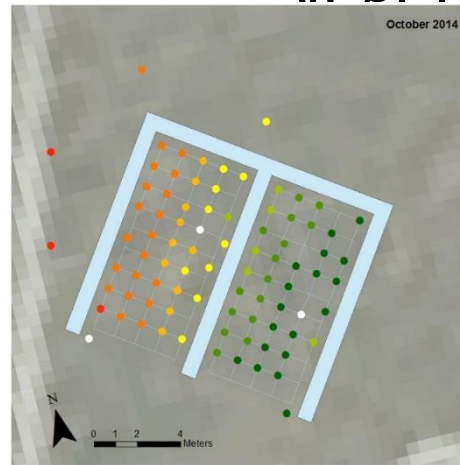
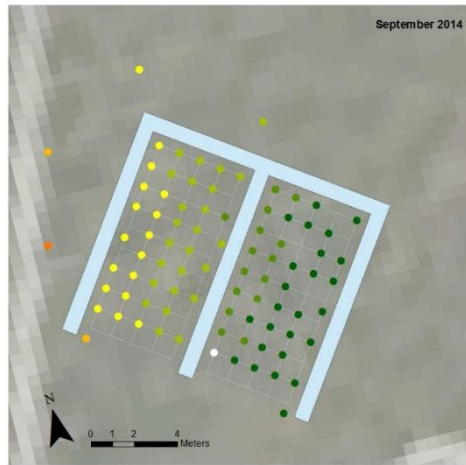
Ranunculus spp

- Per species, it is difficult to show whether N affects sensitivity to ozone, as not all species were found in all cores
- Based on mean per core (of the species that had injury/senesced leaves), high N cores were less sensitive
- But – N affected the species composition with a shift towards grasses!

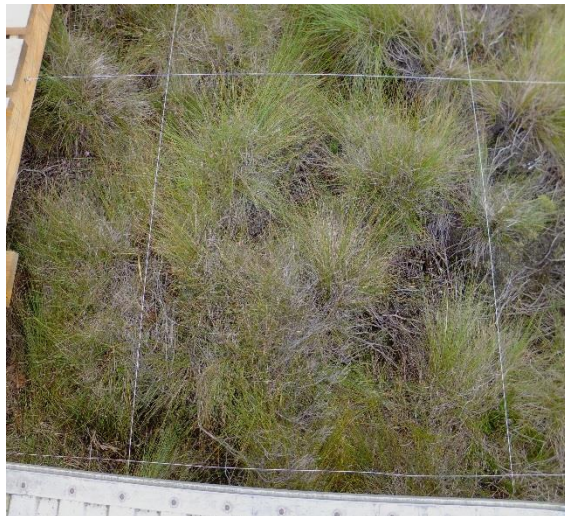


Highest - lowest ozone only

Whim ozone transect, effect of NH₃ concentrations on vegetation



NH₃ concentrations high at left side and low at right side



Effect on vegetation:

High NH₃ : mostly *Eriophorum vaginatum*

Low NH₃: mostly *Calluna vulgaris* and *Sphagnum capilliopholium*



High NH₃ concentrations

Low NH₃ concentrations

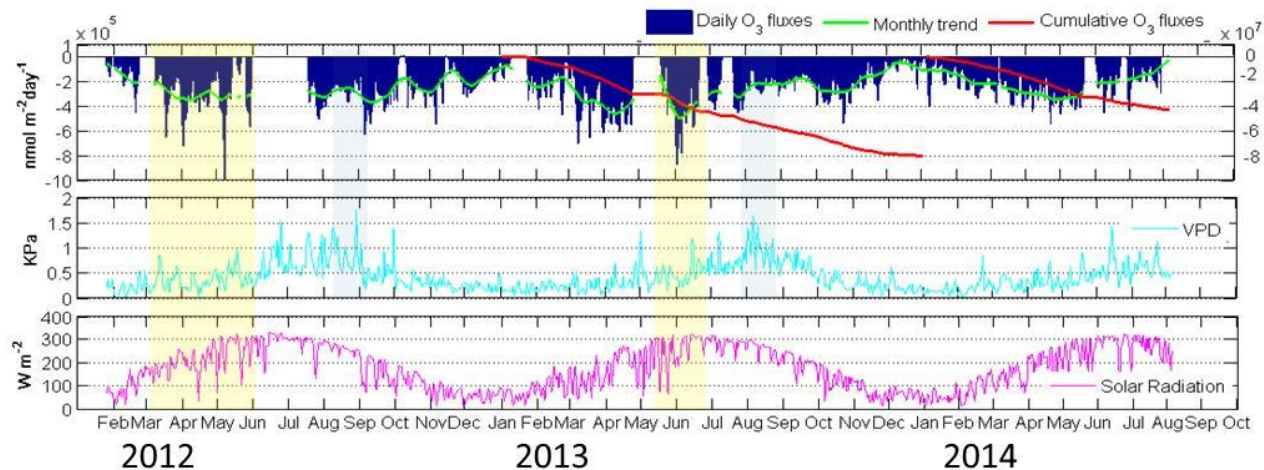
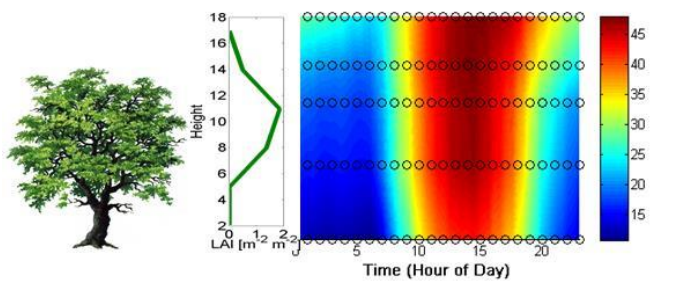
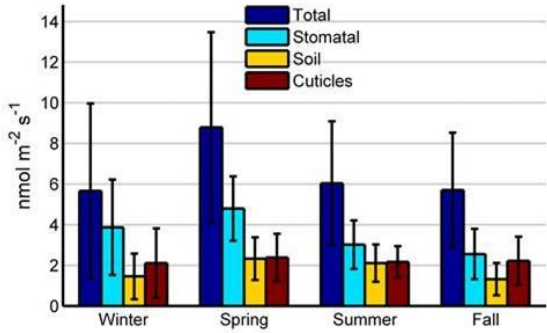


Figure 1. Profiles of ozone fluxes, vapour pressure deficit and solar radiation over a *Quercus ilex* canopy

Atmospheric O₃ concentration gradient from the soil to above the canopy

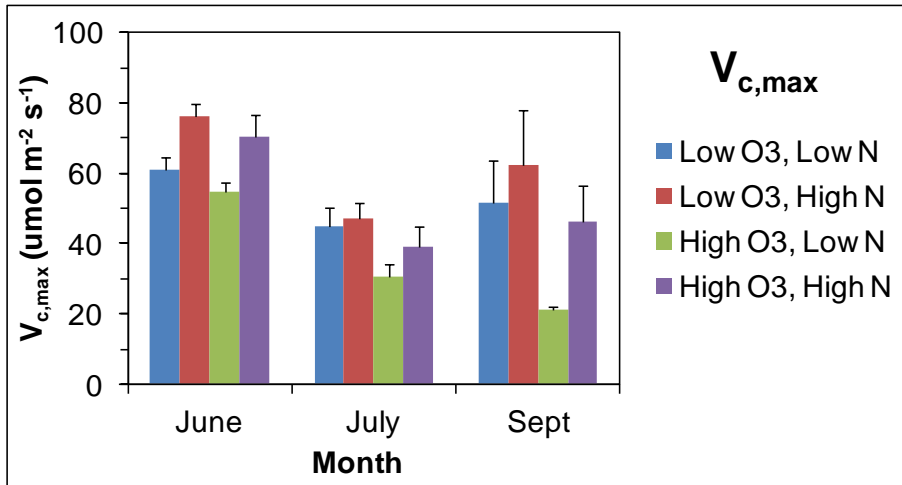


O₃ sink distribution

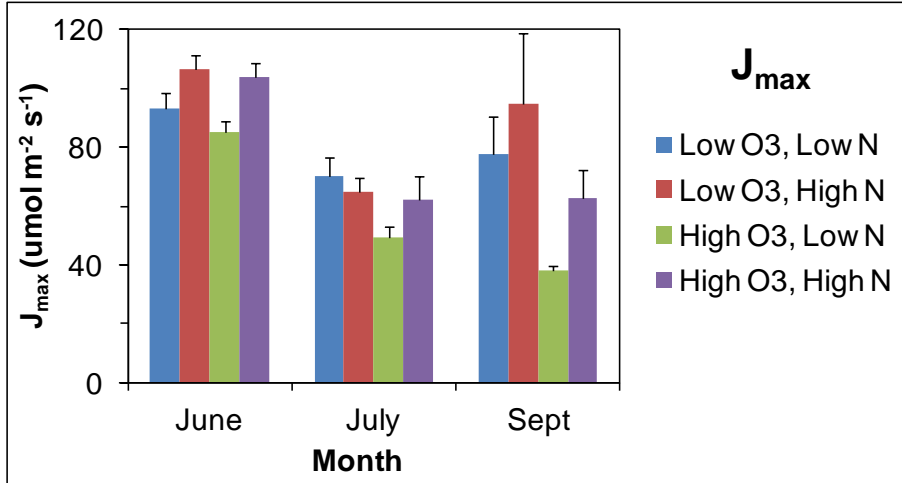


•Figure 2. Daily and vertical profile of ozone concentrations across a *Quercus ilex* canopy

Photosynthetic capacity silver birch



- ❑ High ozone reduced photosynthetic capacity, but only significantly at low N supply. This effect became more marked as the season progressed.
- ❑ Early in the season high N supply stimulated photosynthetic capacity.



$V_{c,max}$ = max. carboxylation rate allowed by Rubisco

J_{max} = max. rate of photosynthetic electron transport

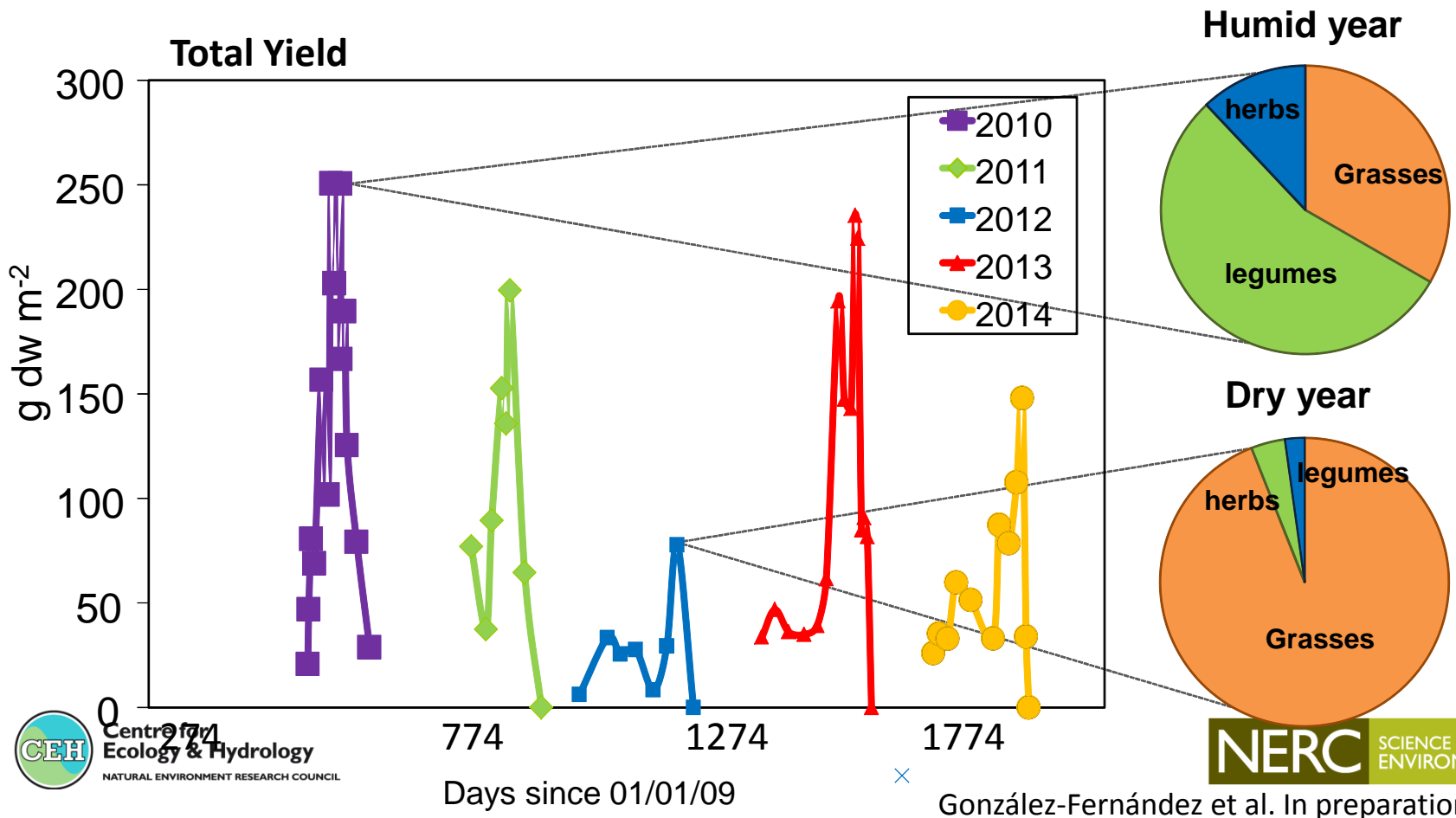


Climate/Annual pastures

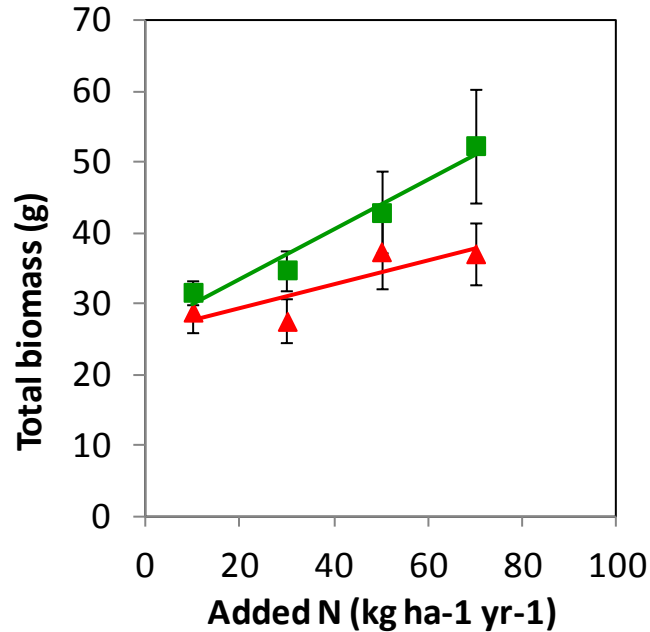


FIELD STUDIES

- ✓ High inter-annual variability on species structure and composition
- ✓ Soil moisture: key variable for growth and species structure/composition
- ✓ **Dry years: less yield and quality (less legumes)**

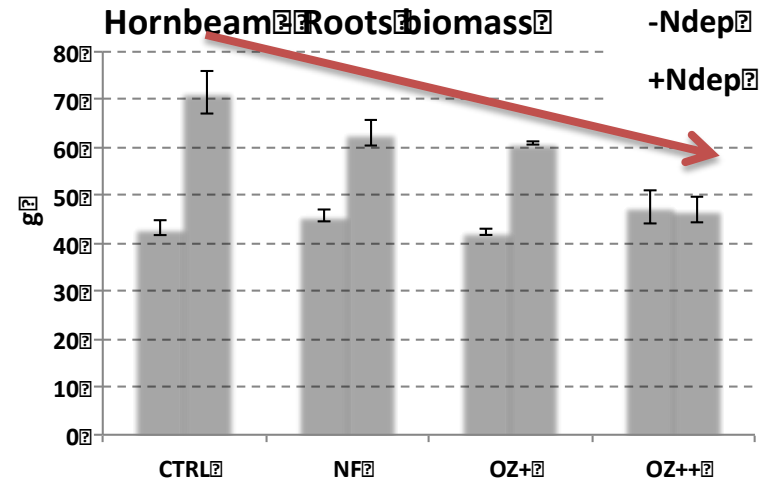


KM2 example 1 : Deciduous tree species



- Silver birch, CEH expts

Hayes et al., ECLAIRE, unpublished

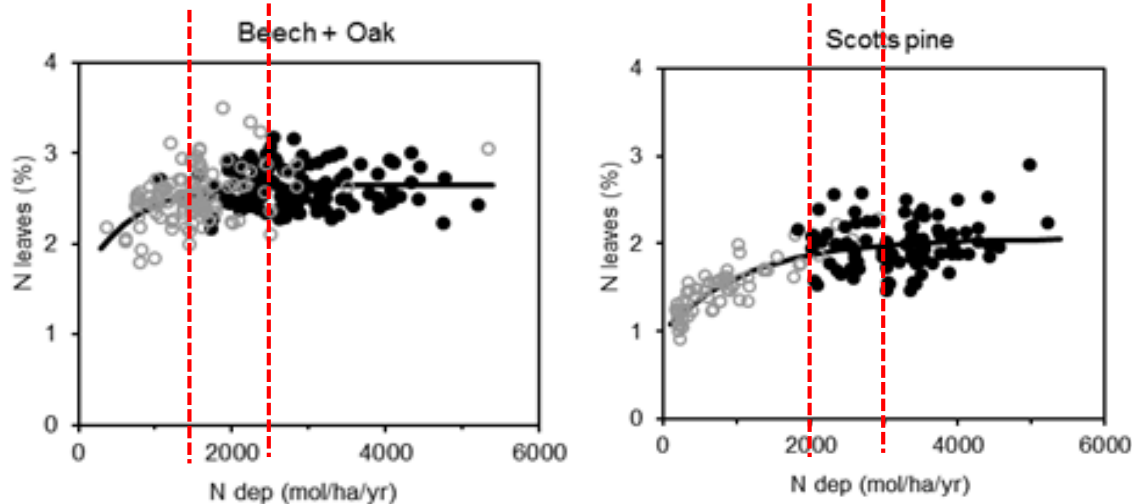


- Hornbeam, UNICATT expts

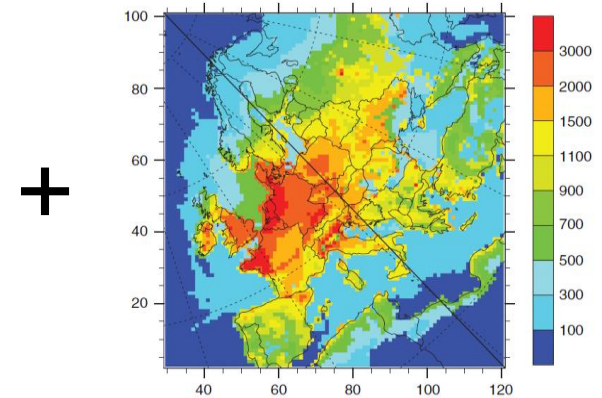
Gerosa et al., ECLAIRE, unpublished

Mapping O₃ and N risk across Europe - possible options

Relationship between N concentrations of N in leaves in beech+oak and Scots Pine from ICP forest plots. DeVries et al (2000).



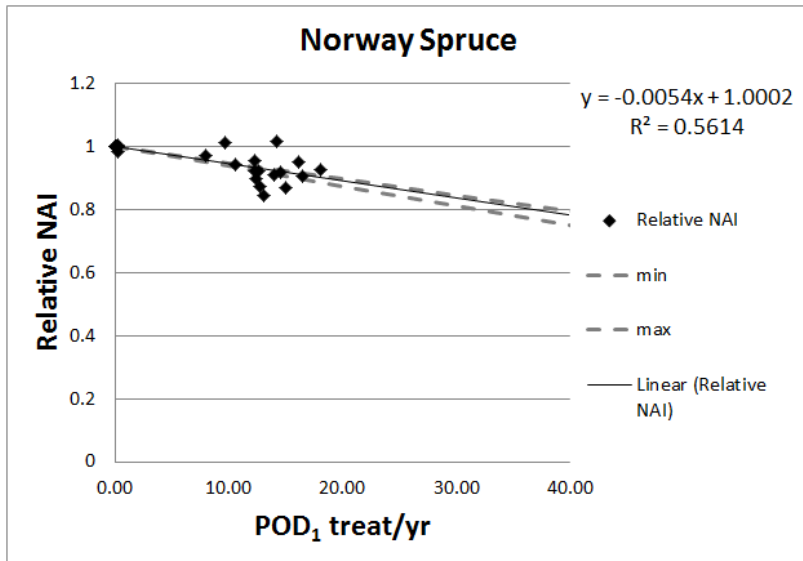
Modelled N deposition (Simpson et al 2011)



...can be used to identify low, med and high leaf N regions across Europe

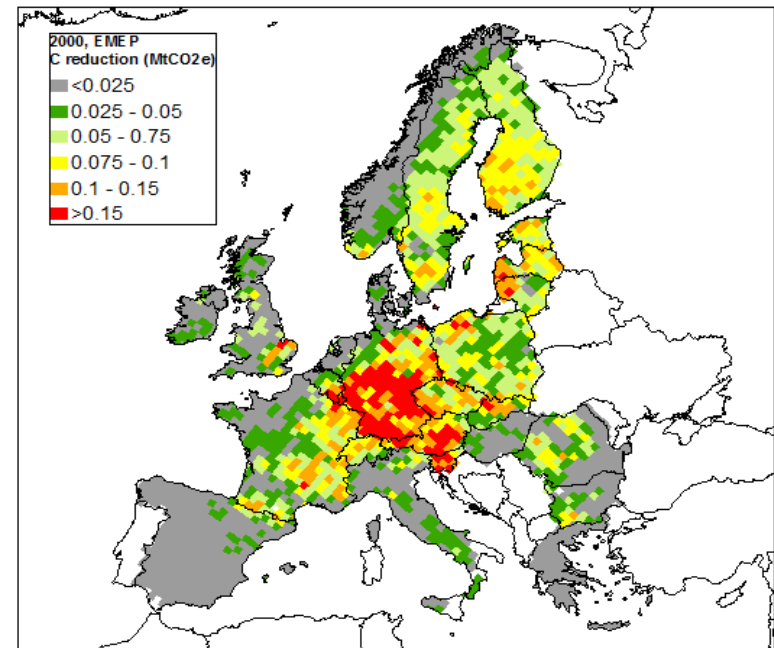
| | Coniferous (Norway spruce) | | | Deciduous (Beech/Birch) | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| | Low N | Med N | High N | Low N | Med N | High N |
| N deposition (mol/ha/yr) | < 2, 000 | 2, 000 – 3, 000 | > 3, 000 | < 1, 500 | 1, 500 – 2, 500 | > 2, 500 |
| Vcmax (μmol/m²/s) | 30 | 45 | 60 | 35 | 55 | 75 |

DO₃SE used to estimate O₃ damage on ecosystem services - C sequestration (living forest biomass)



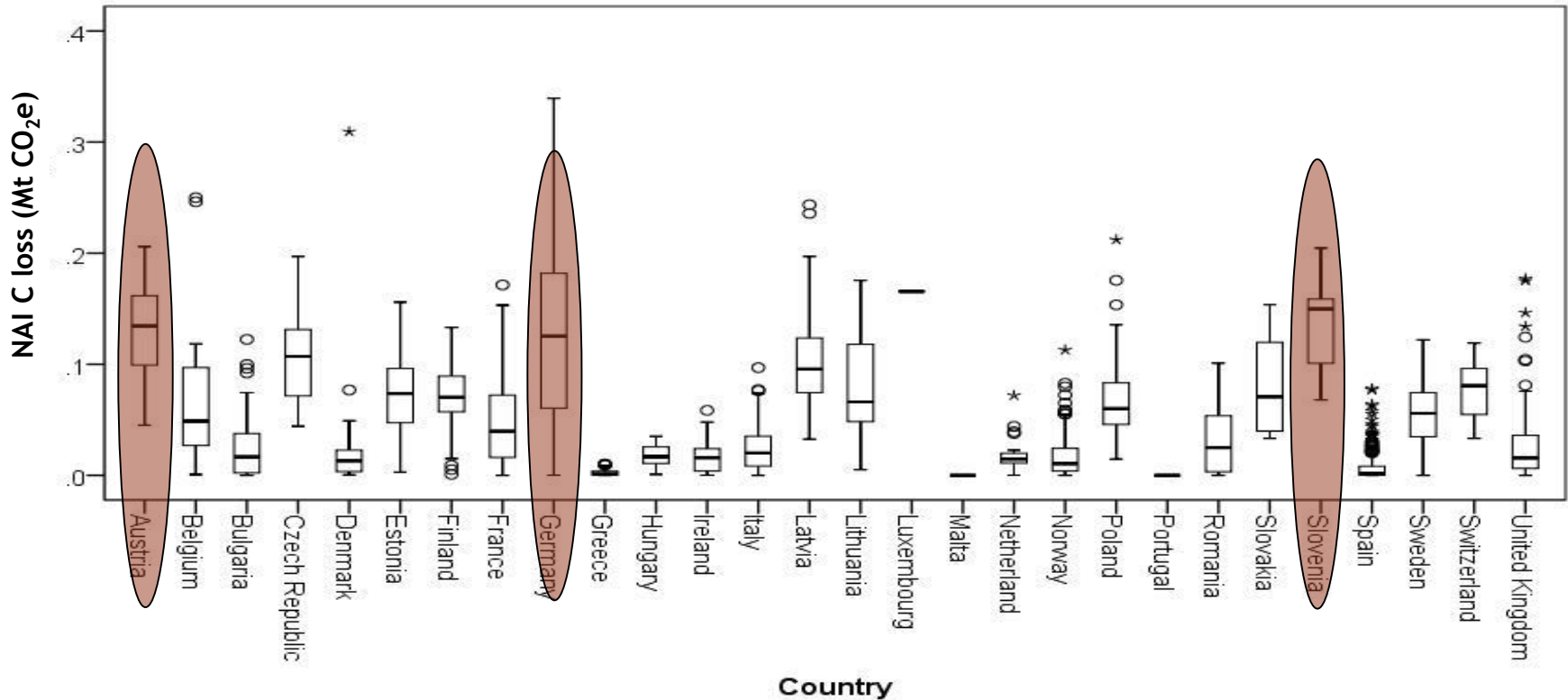
Re-analysed existing dose-response relationships (DRRs) for forest trees for a new response parameter- Net Annual Increment (NAI)

The DRRs are used with European data to estimate changes in C stock comparing current with pre-industrial O₃ concentrations



Lisa Emberson, Patrick Büker, Alan Briolat

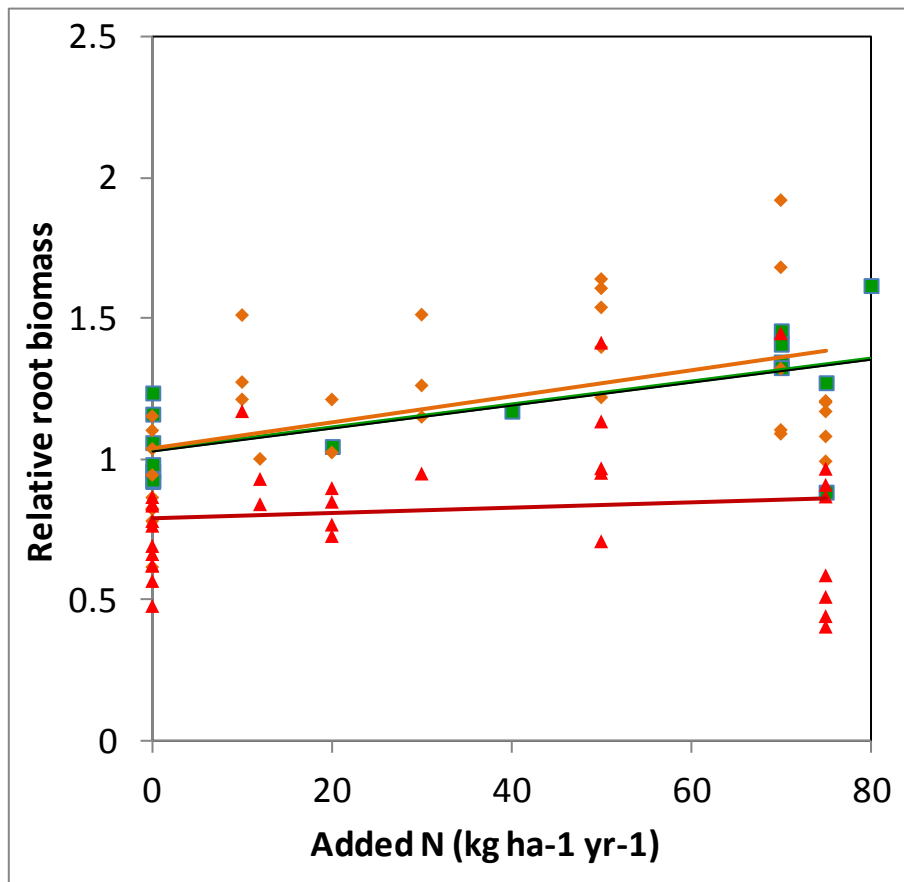
Reduction in NAI (NAI_{loss} ; Mt CO₂e) due to O₃ using 'detailed PFT' parameterisations



The countries most affected by O₃ (i.e. have greatest NAI C loss) are determined by their forest cover, size of NAI and POD_y values

Lisa Emberson, Patrick Büker, Alan Briolat

Root biomass



Significance

N effect: $p < 0.01$

O3 effect: $p < 0.01$

N x O3: ns ($p = 0.16$)

Linear DR, $p < 0.01$ for MFR and CLE; NoC ns

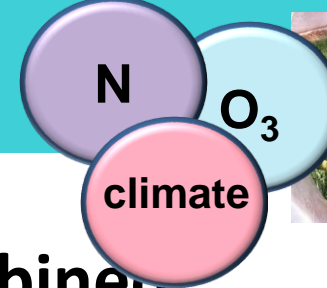
* Strong hint for loss of beneficial effect of N at high O3

- < 35 ppb, “MFR”
- ◆ 40 – 55 ppb O₃, “CLE”
- ▲ 60 – 95 ppb, no O₃ controls (“NoC”)

Katrina Sharps, Gina Mills et al., CEH





Data sources

| Sources: | Species: |
|-------------------------|--|
| Gerosa et al. (in prep) | <i>Quercus robur</i> ; <i>Carpinus betulus</i> |
| Hayes et al. (in prep) | <i>Betula pendula</i> |
| Jones et al. 2010 | <i>Carex arenaria</i> |
| Thomas et al. 2005 | <i>Picea abies</i> |
| Watanabe et al. 2008 | <i>Castanopsis siebaldii</i> |
| Wyness et al. 2011 | <i>Ranunculus acris</i> |
| Yamaguchi et al. 2007 | <i>Fagus crenata</i> |

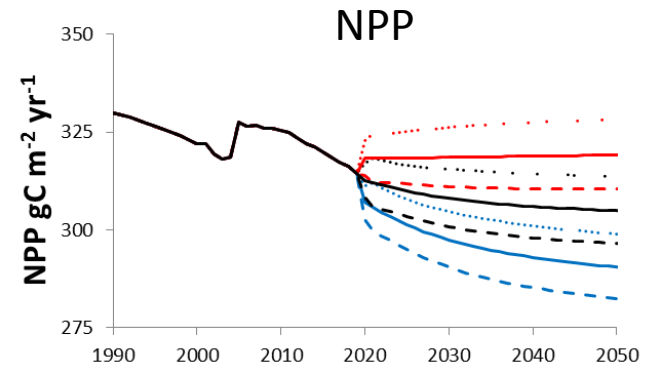
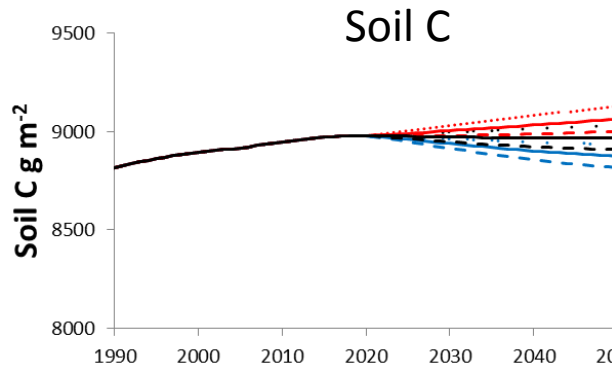
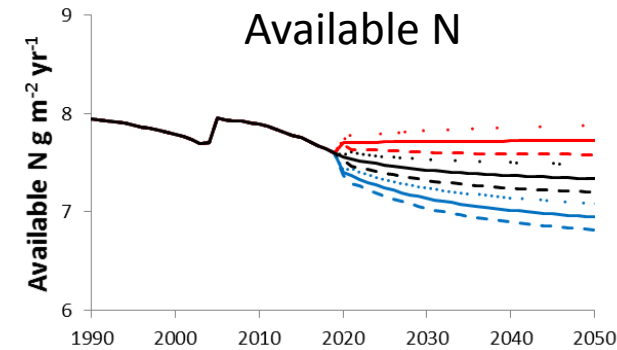
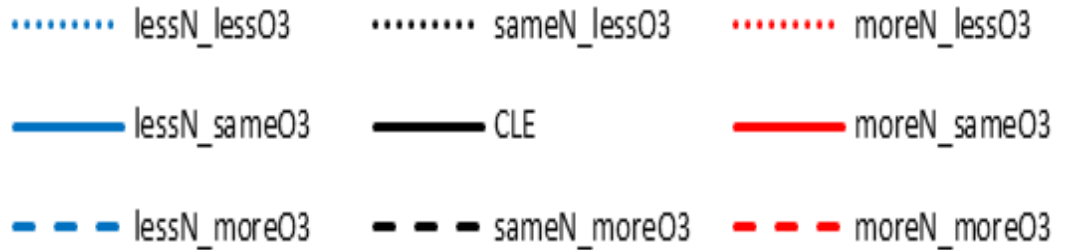


○ **How does climate change modify combined responses to O₃ and N?**

Example: Mediterranean annual pastures

| Climate | O ₃ effects | N effects |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| HUMID year (more clovers) |  Higher O ₃ flux More O ₃ sensitive spp |  Less N-sensitive spp |
| DRY year (more grasses) |  Lower O ₃ flux Less O ₃ sensitive spp |  More N-sensitive spp |

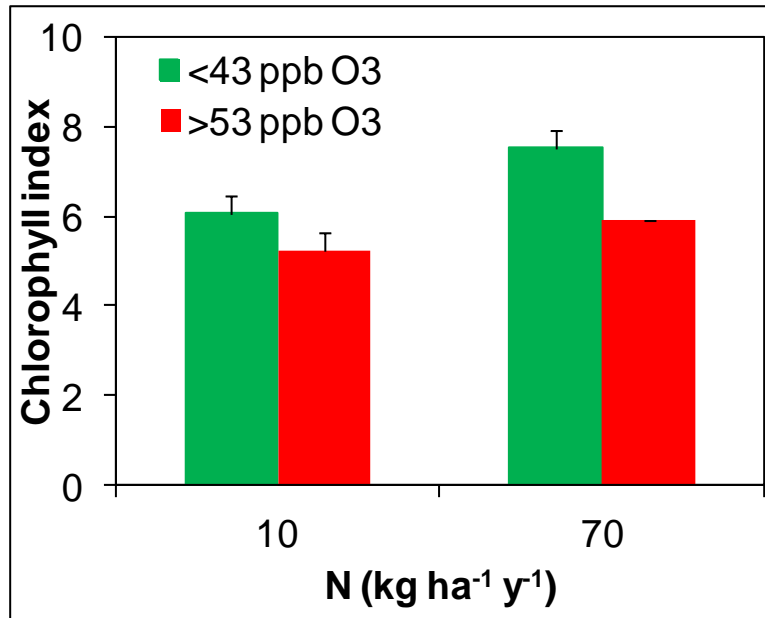
KM4e: Combined effects – Whim bog



- More pronounced separation of O₃ effects on available N
- Beneficial effects of more N on NPP lost under +20% O₃
- Available N, soil C and NPP reduced the most under 20% less N and 20% more O₃

KM1c: O₃ changes litter quality

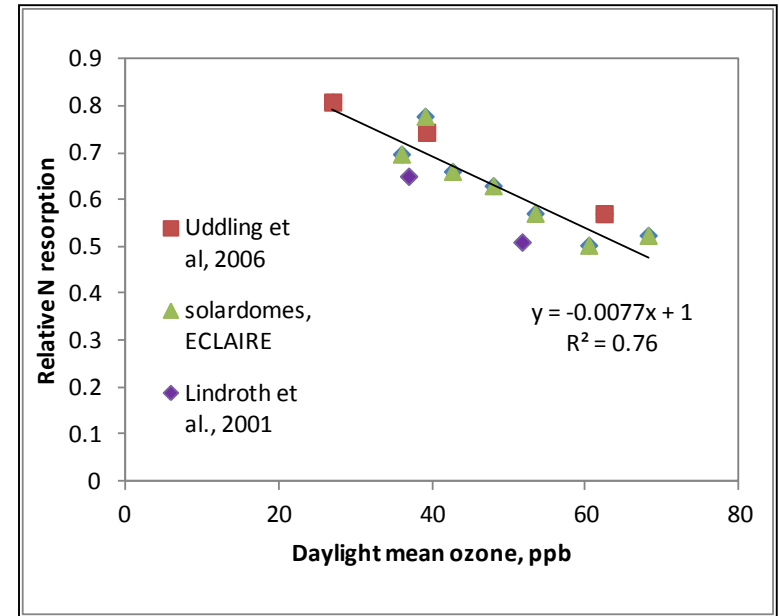
Chlorophyll content of autumn leaves



Silver birch, CEH, September 2014

- At low ozone, leaves are greener with the high N treatment
- Leaves are less green in higher O₃, and there is no beneficial effect of added N

Resorption of N from leaves prior to leaf fall



Combined data set (ECLAIRE data mining)

- At higher ozone concentrations, less of the leaf N is transported back into the tree before the leaves fall
- Implications for soil processes