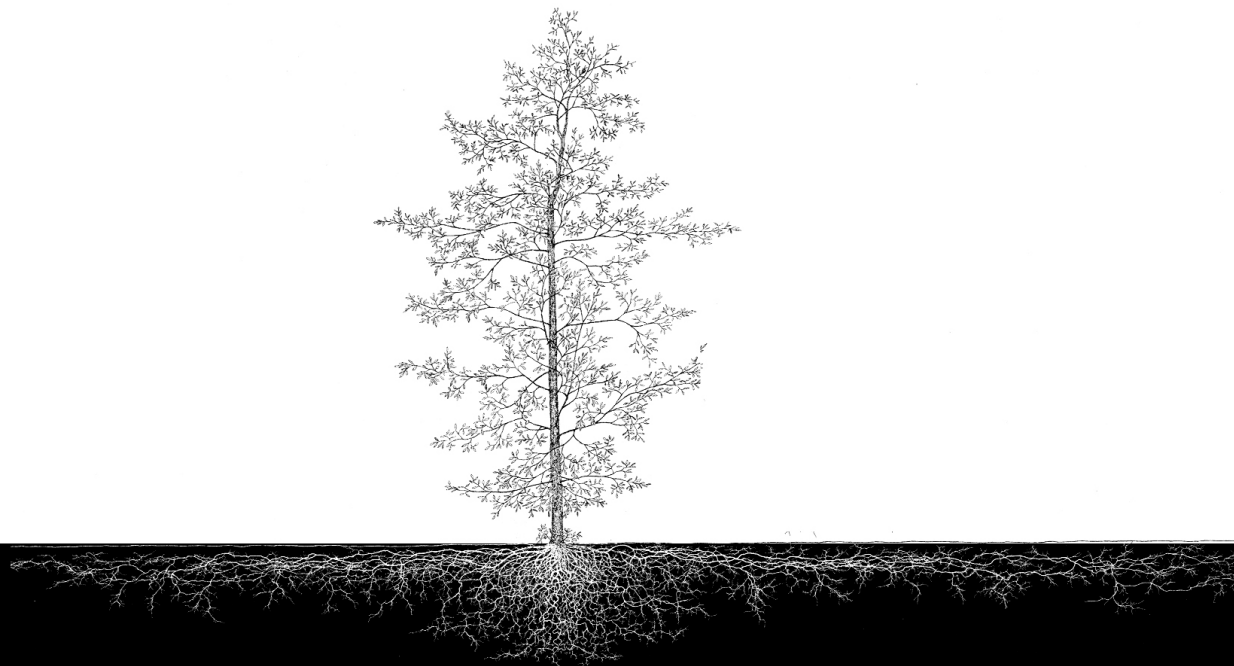


Fine root dynamics of *Fagus sylvatica*: Interacting effects of soil temperatur, drought and ozone treatment

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Department of Systematic Botany and Ecology
University of Ulm



Fine root dynamics of *F. sylvatica*

Study site and experimental setup



Fine root dynamics of *F. sylvatica*

Study site and experimental setup



2x ozone level

150 ppb maximum

Fine root dynamics of *F. sylvatica*

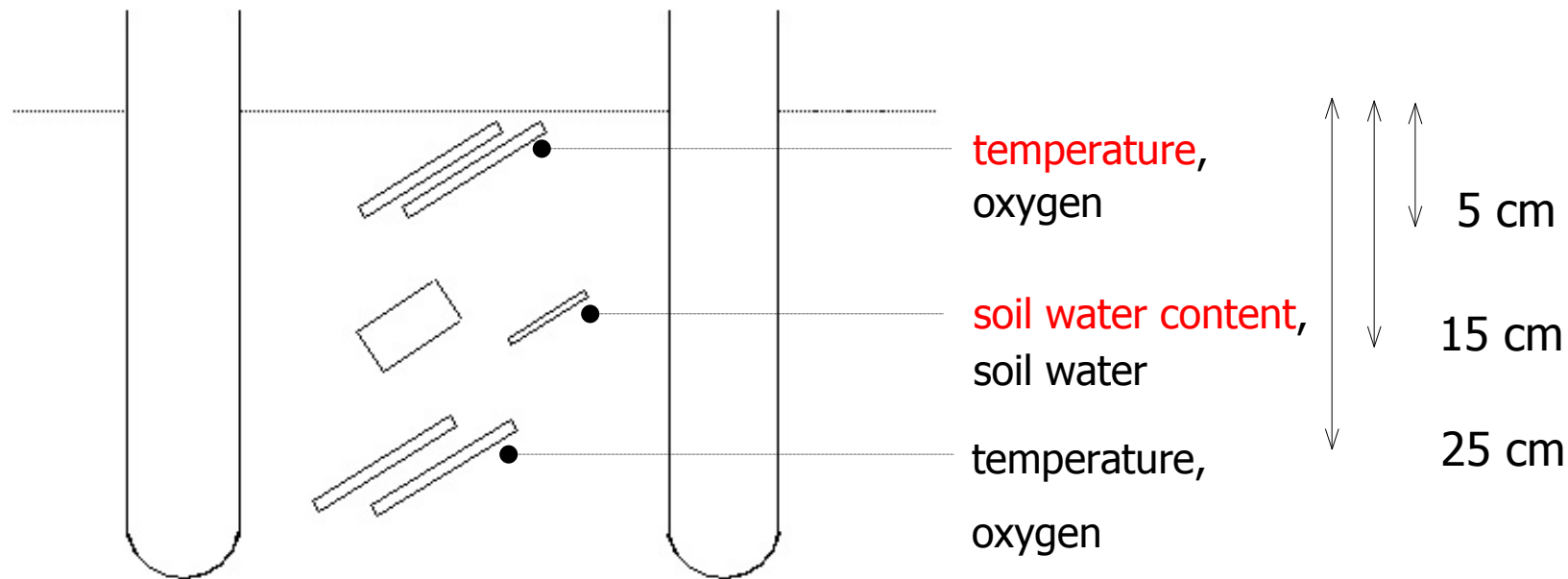
Study site and experimental setup



Fine root dynamics of *F. sylvatica*

Study site and experimental setup



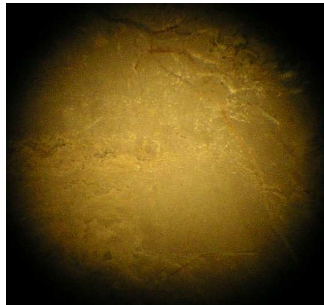


- 6 depth levels, down to 45 cm
- 4 directions → 24 images tube⁻¹

- 4 pairs plot⁻¹ (n = 4)
- more than 7000 images

Fine root dynamics of *F. sylvatica*

Study site and experimental setup



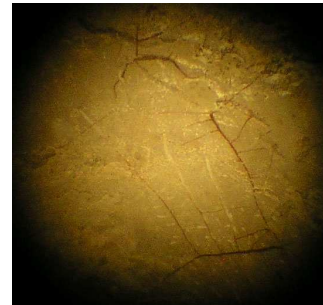
July, 17 2003



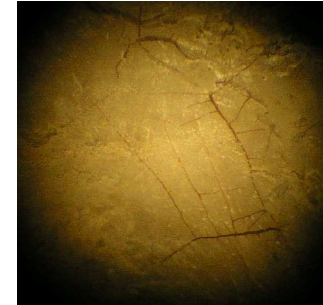
July, 26 2003



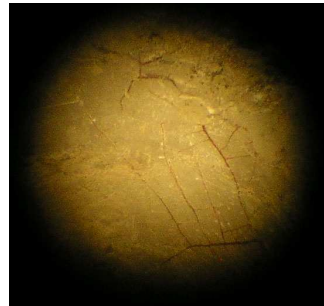
August, 08 2003



September, 10 2003



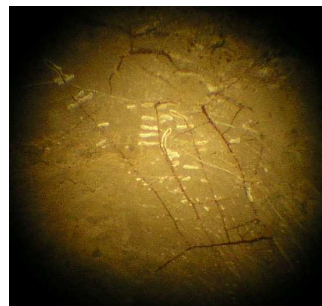
September, 25 2003



October, 09 2003



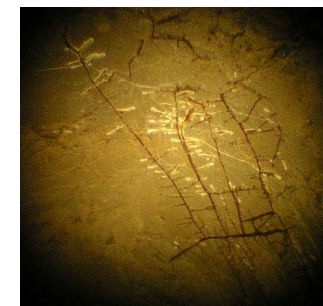
October, 23 2003



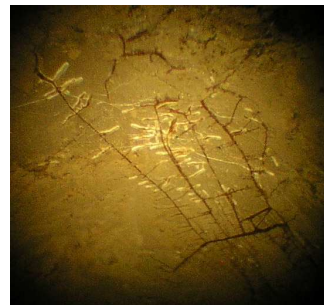
November, 27 2003



December, 28 2003



March, 17 2004



April, 09 2004



April, 28 2004



May, 11 2004



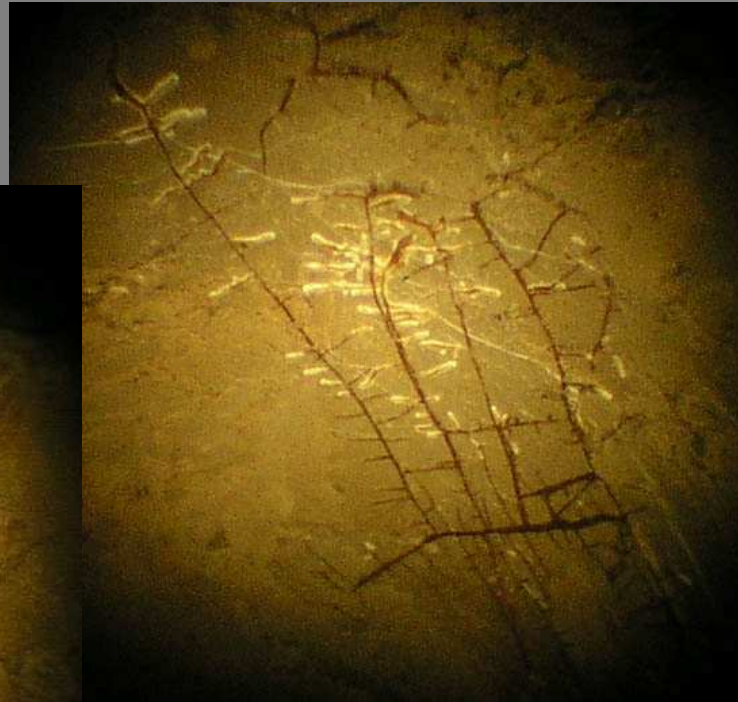
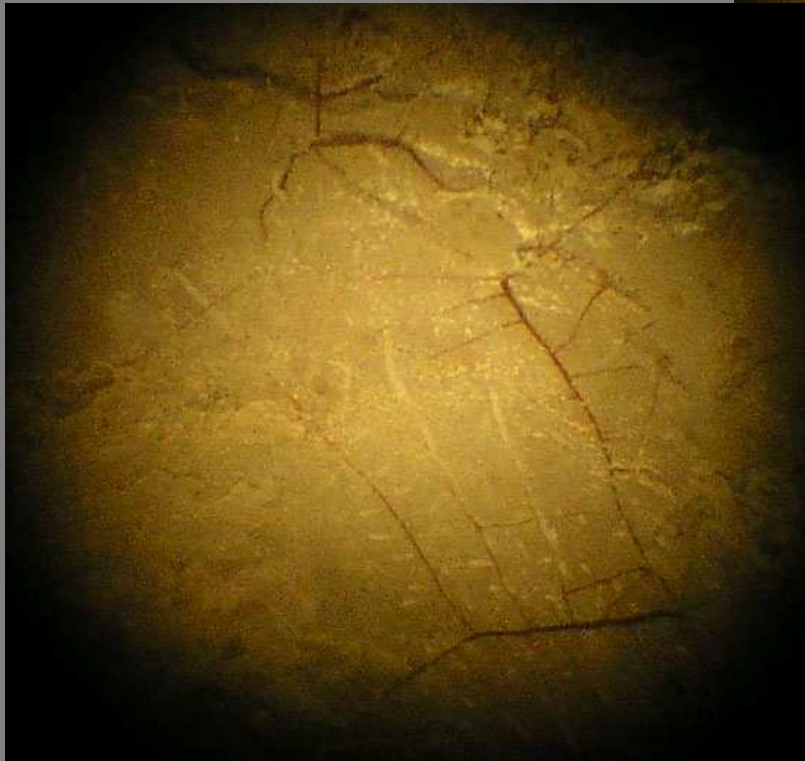
May, 26 2004



June, 15 2004

Fine root dynamics of *F. sylvatica*

Study site and experimental setup



- root density
(roots dm⁻²)
- brown (suberized) / light
coloured roots
- root appearance
(roots m⁻² d⁻¹)
- root mortality
(roots m⁻² d⁻¹)

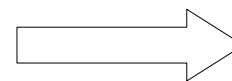


$$\Rightarrow \text{turnover coefficient} = \frac{\sum \text{roots appeared [roots m}^{-2} \text{ year}^{-1}]}{\text{mean root density [roots m}^{-2} \text{]}}$$

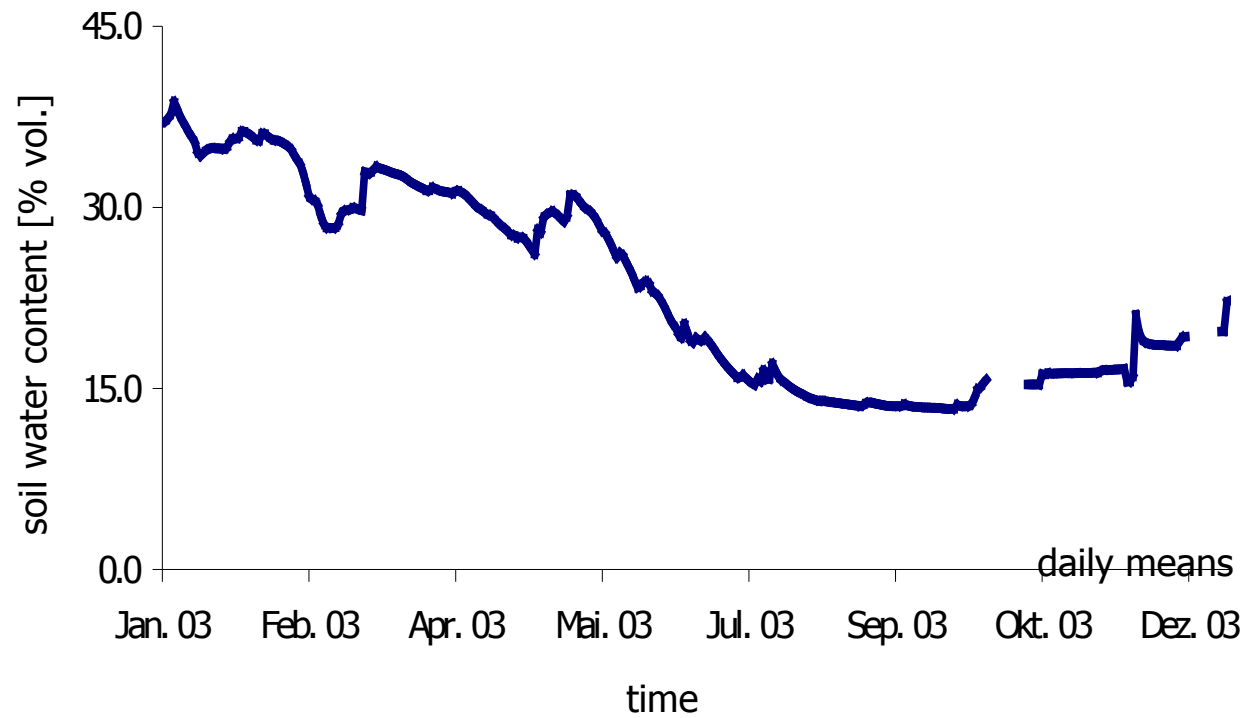
$$RI = c * N_r \quad \text{with } 3.8 \geq c \geq 1$$

Smit et al. (2000) Root Methods

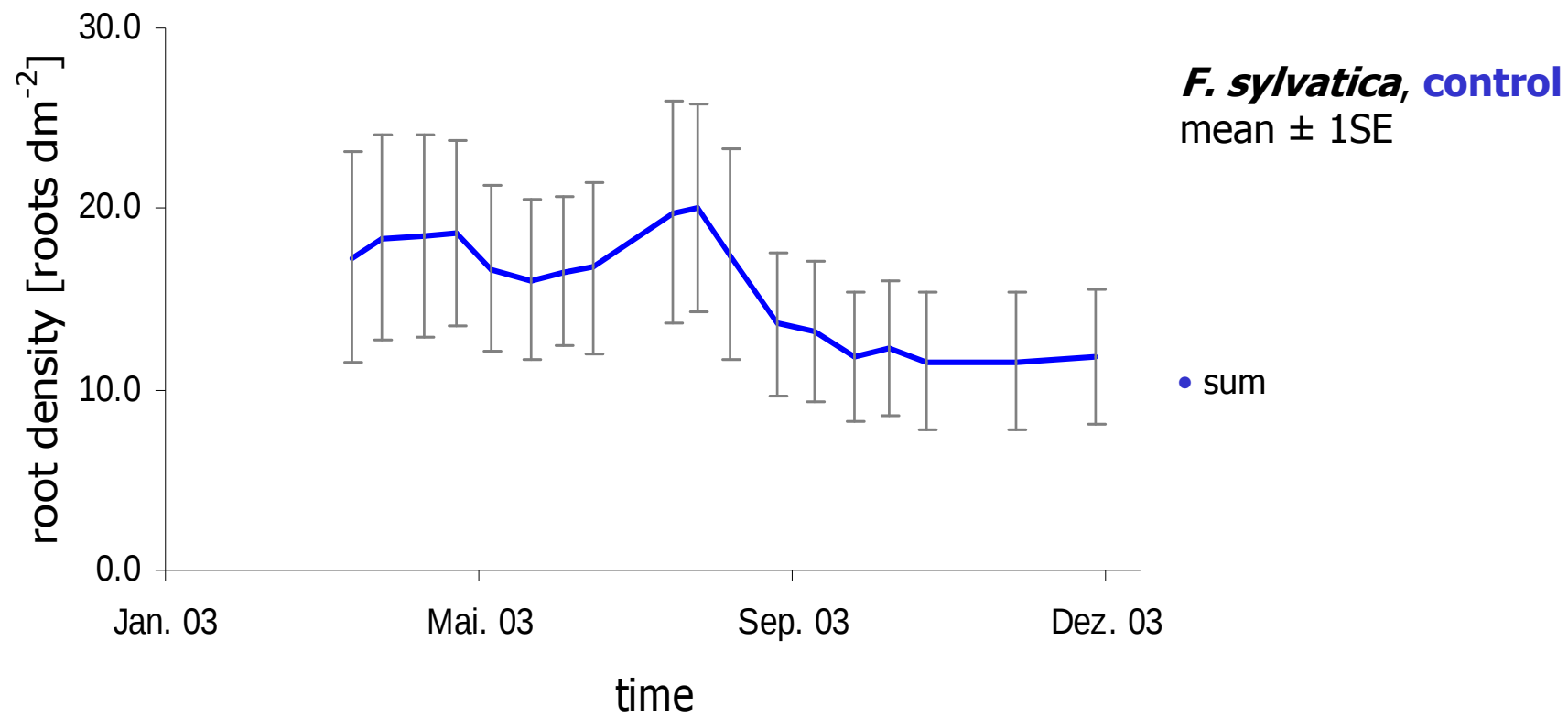
Bragg et al. (1983) Plant and Soil 73 : 435-440



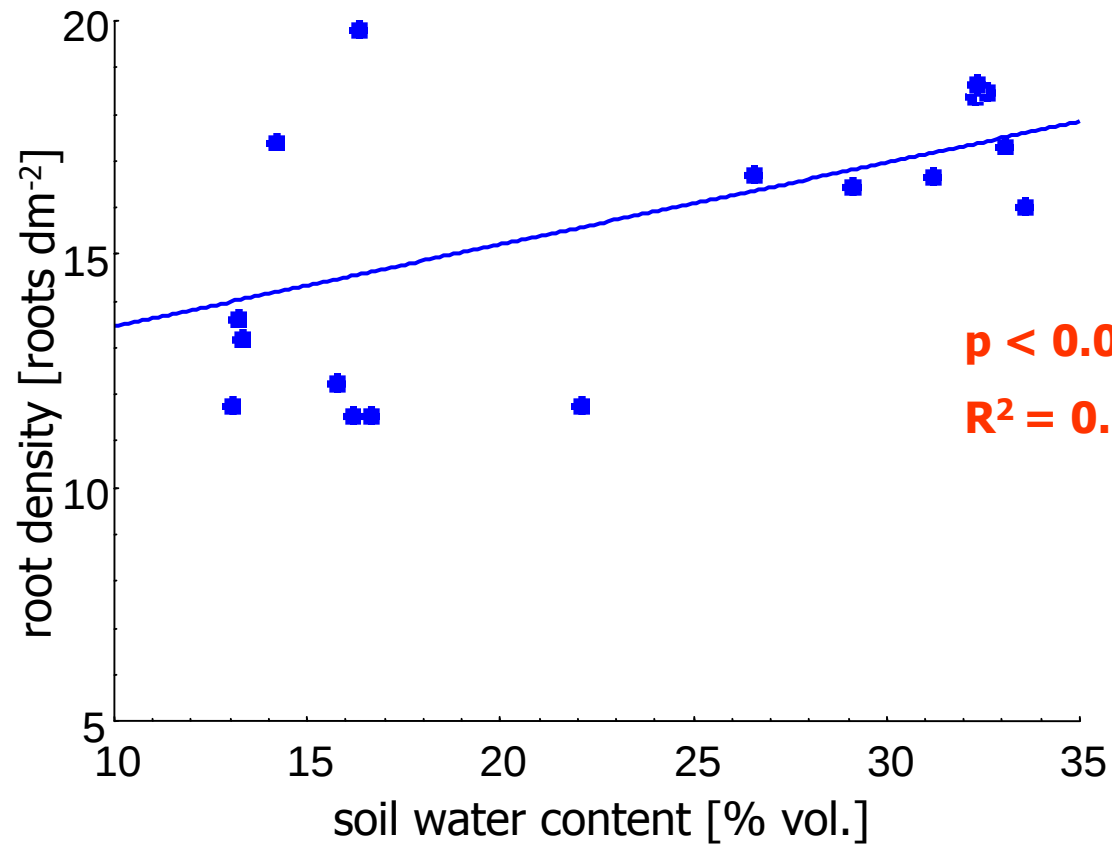
carbon investments



Results



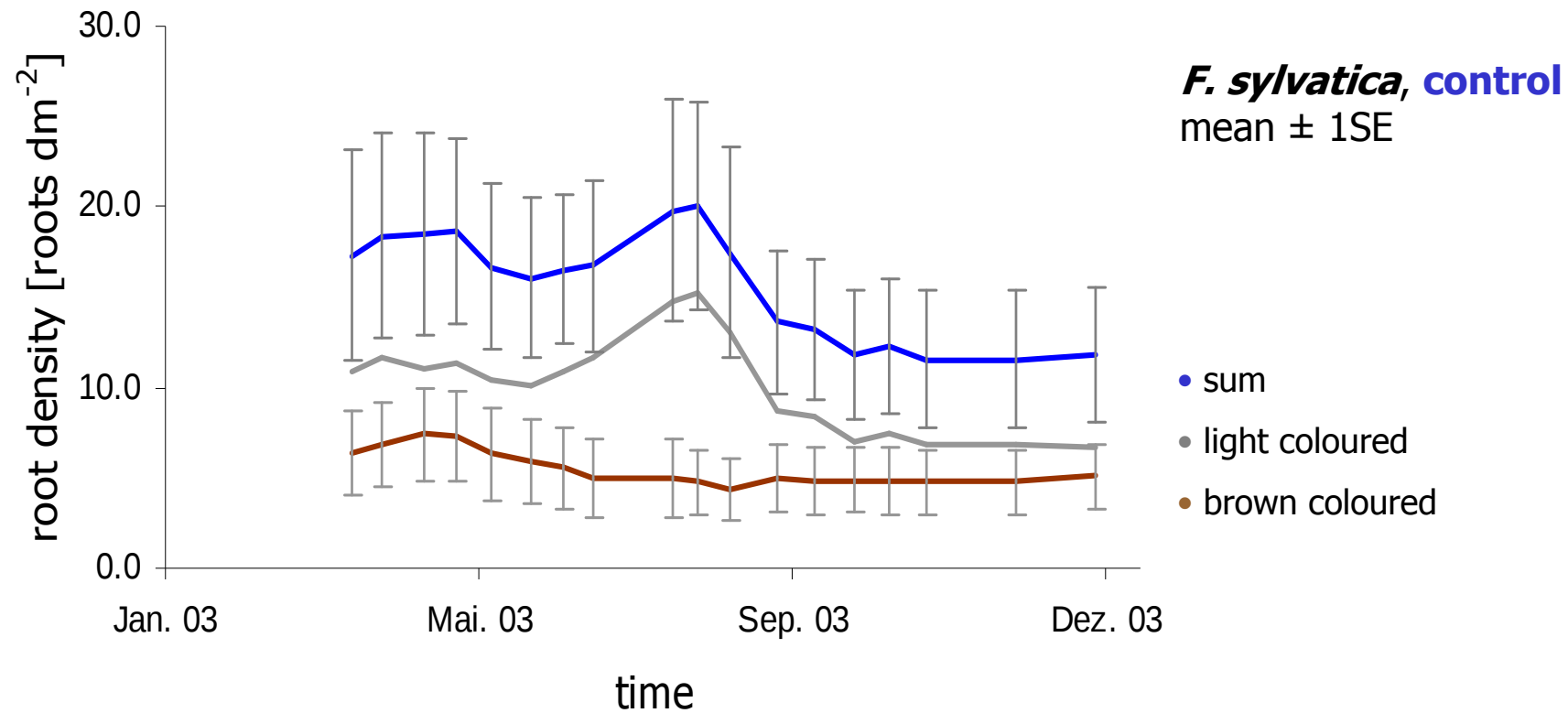
Results



F. sylvatica, control
means

$p < 0.05$
 $R^2 = 0.24$

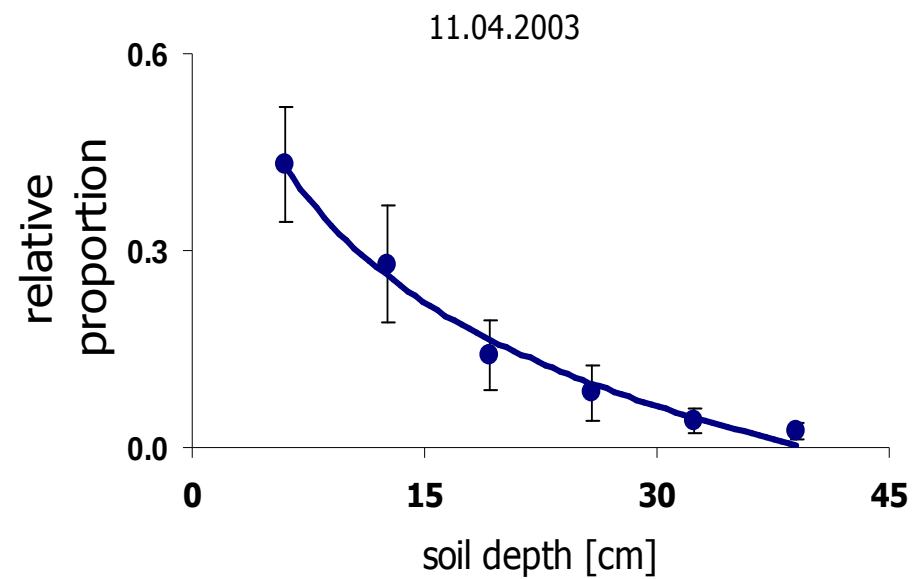
Results



Results

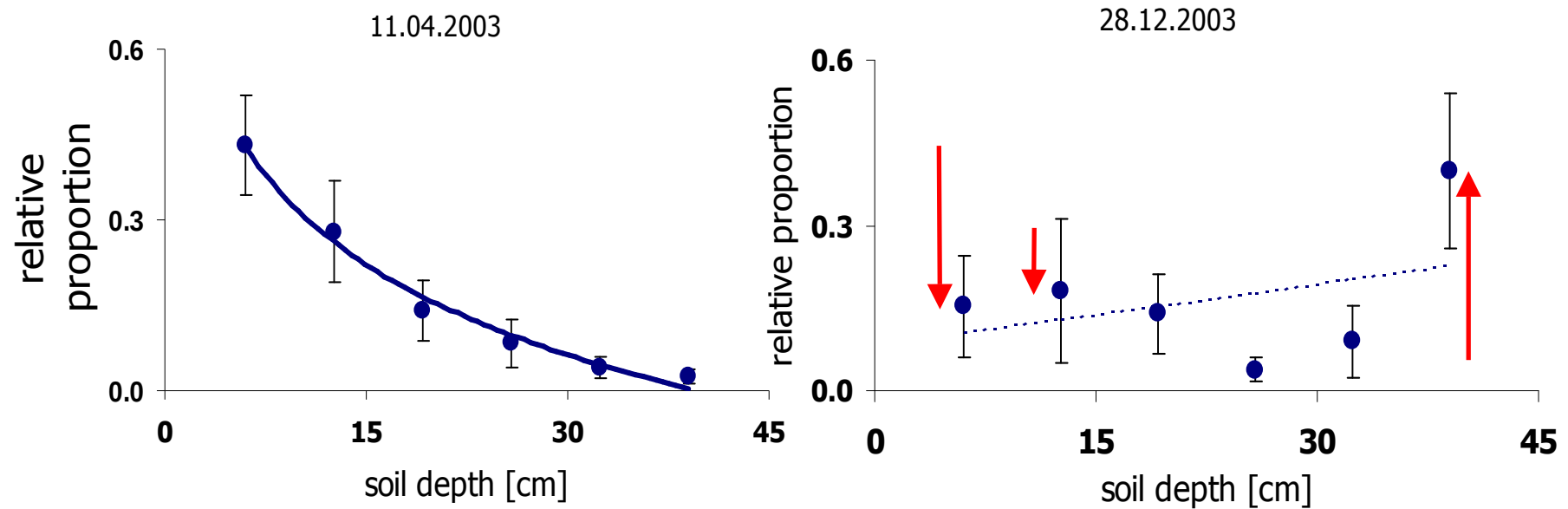
F. sylvatica, control

mean $\pm$ 1SE

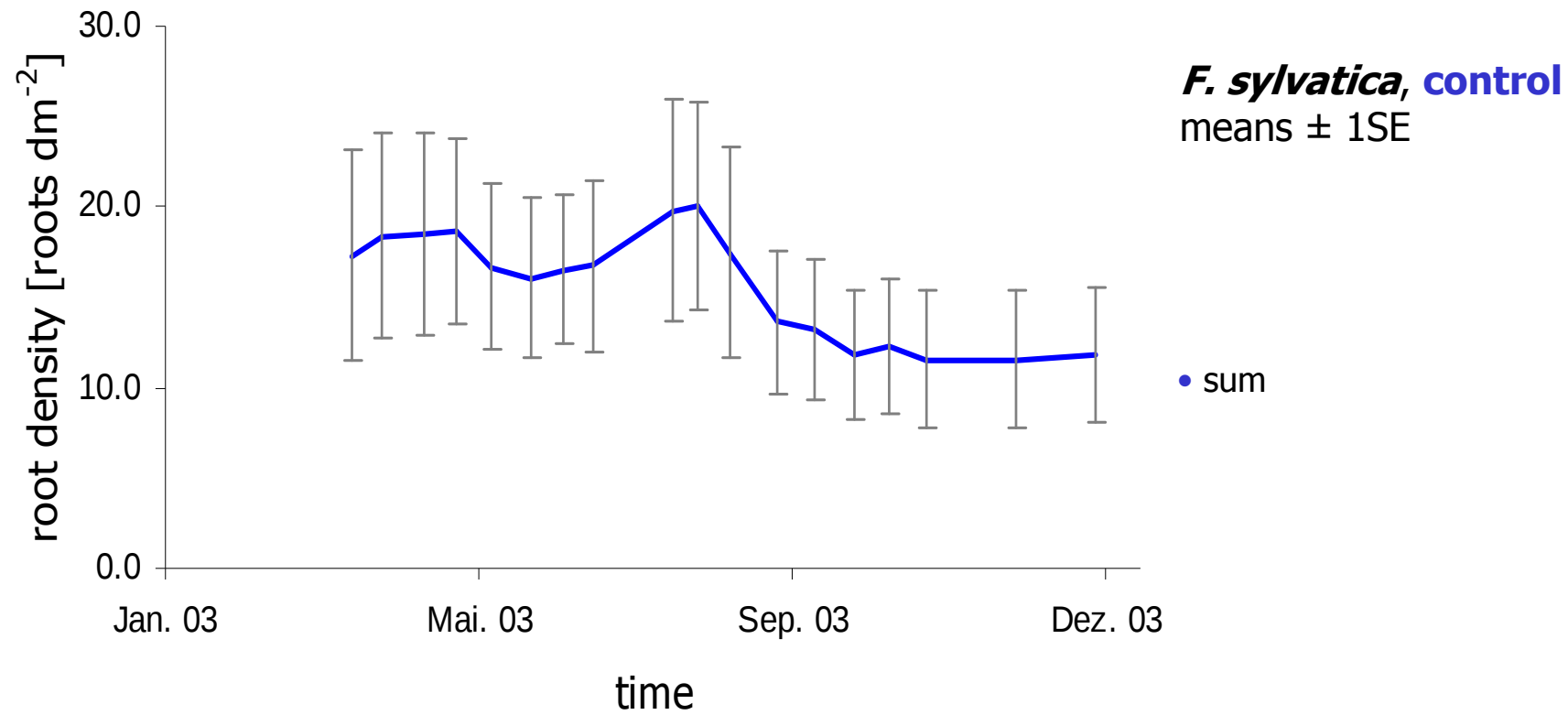


F. sylvatica, control

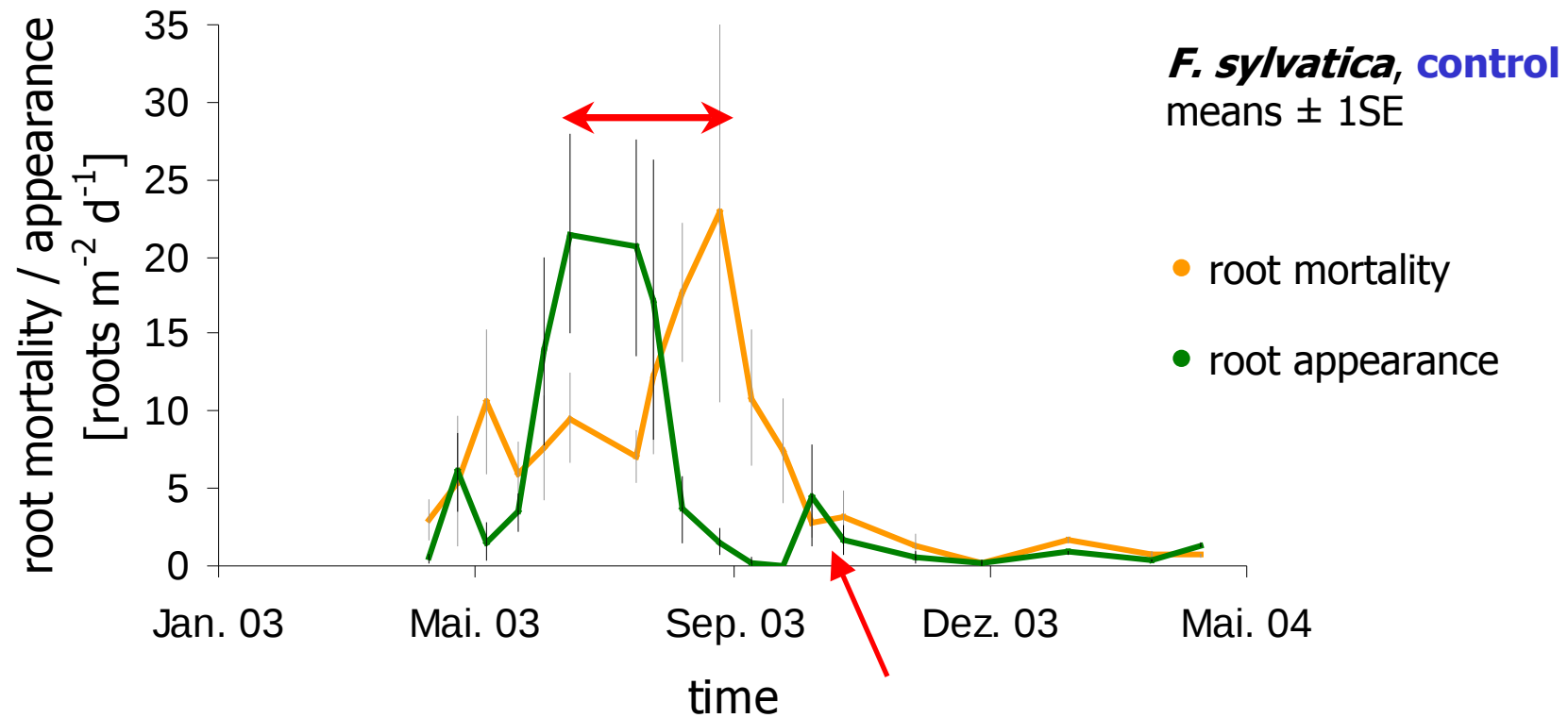
mean $\pm$ 1SE



Results



Results

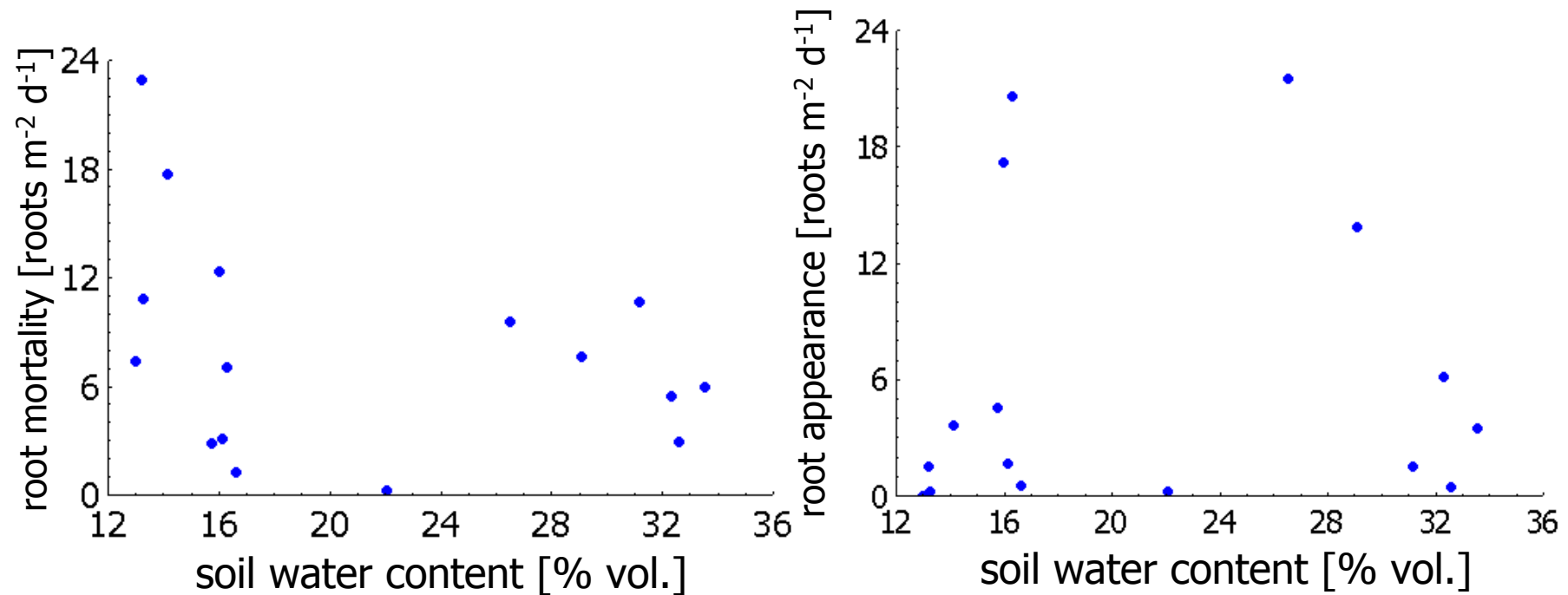


Mean turnover rate 1.3 year⁻¹

Results

F. sylvatica, control

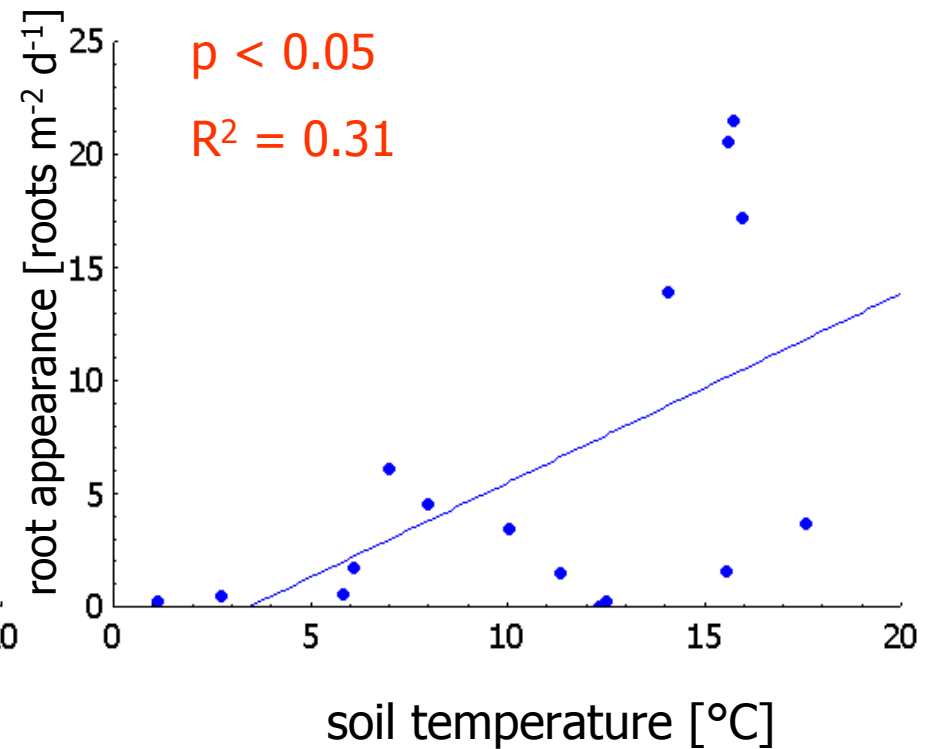
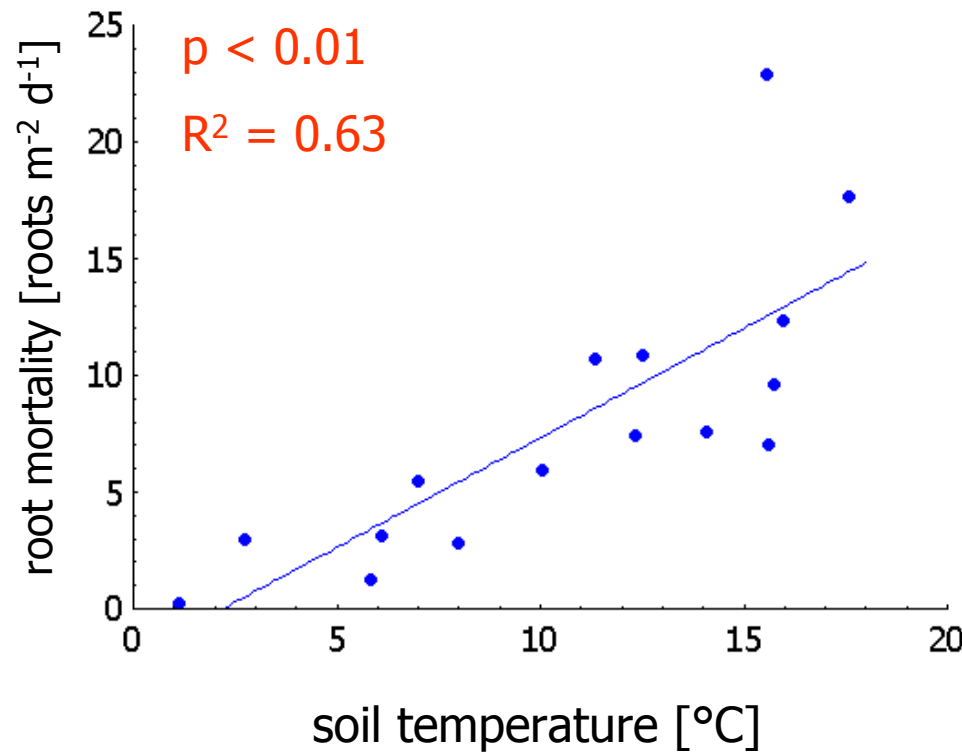
means



Results

***F. sylvatica*, control**

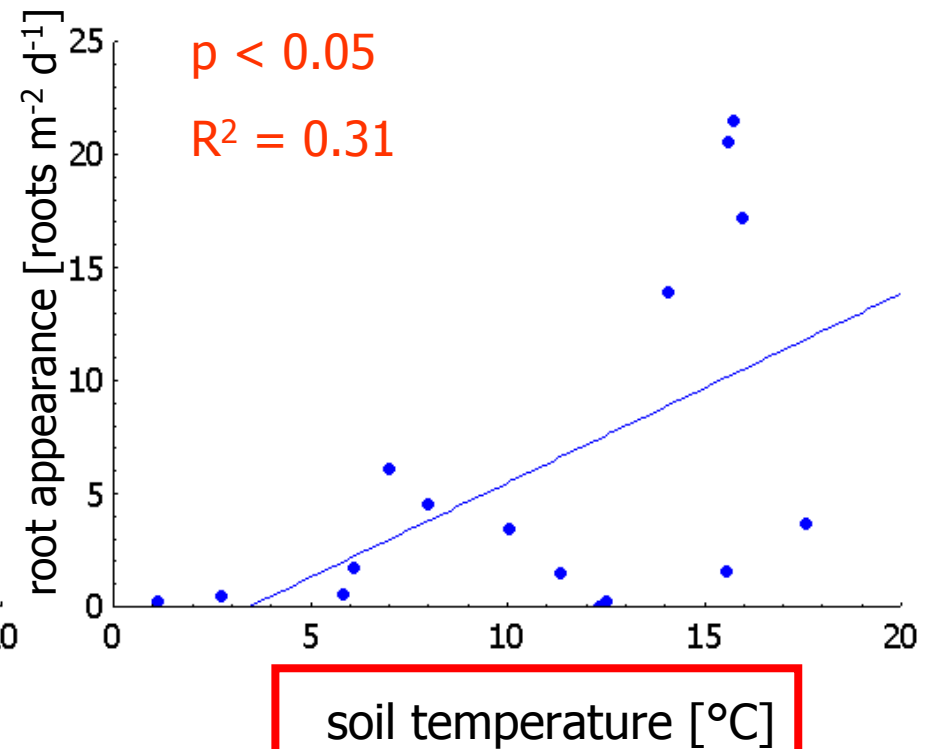
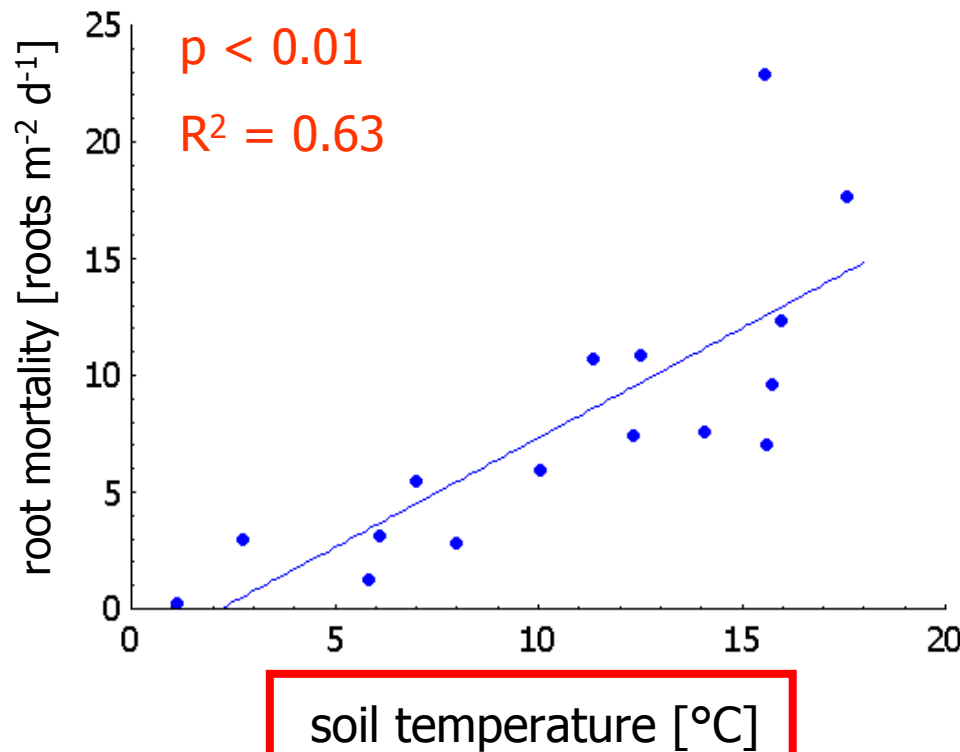
means



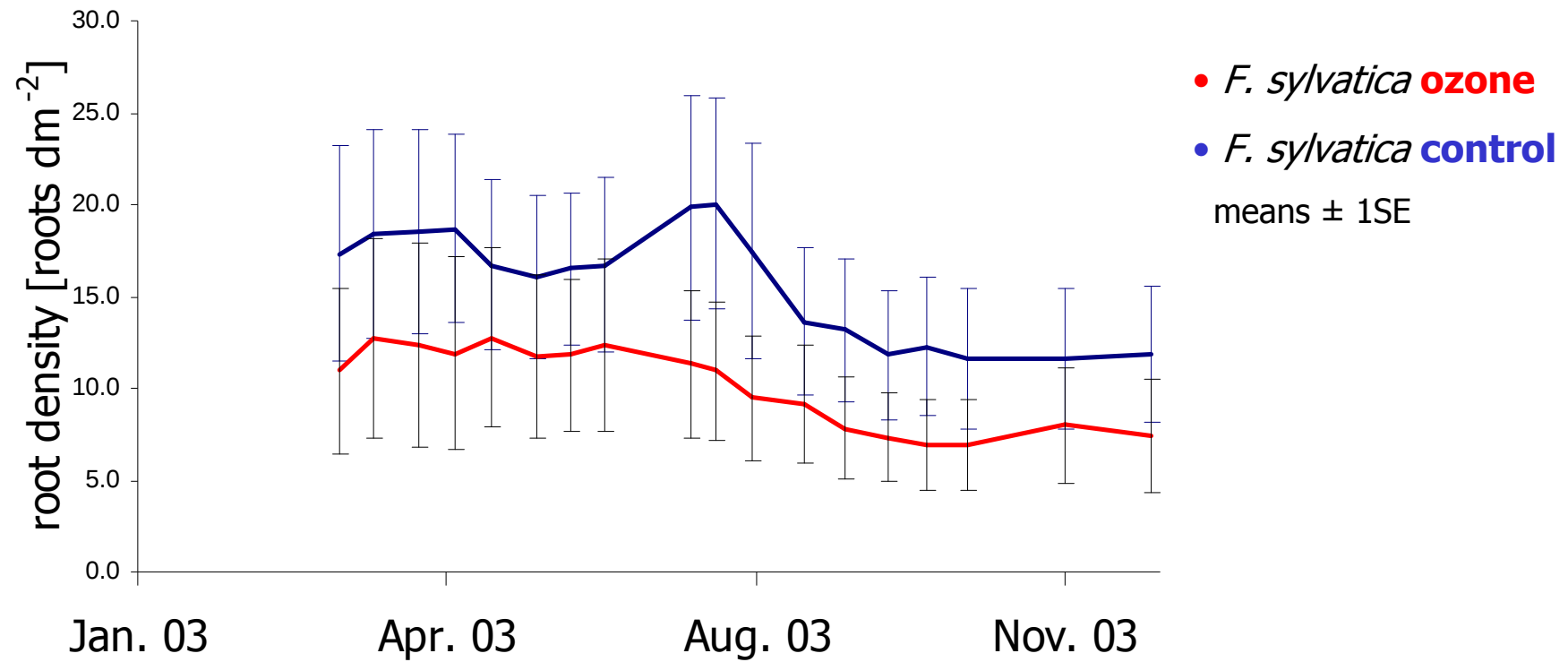
Results

F. sylvatica, control

means



Results

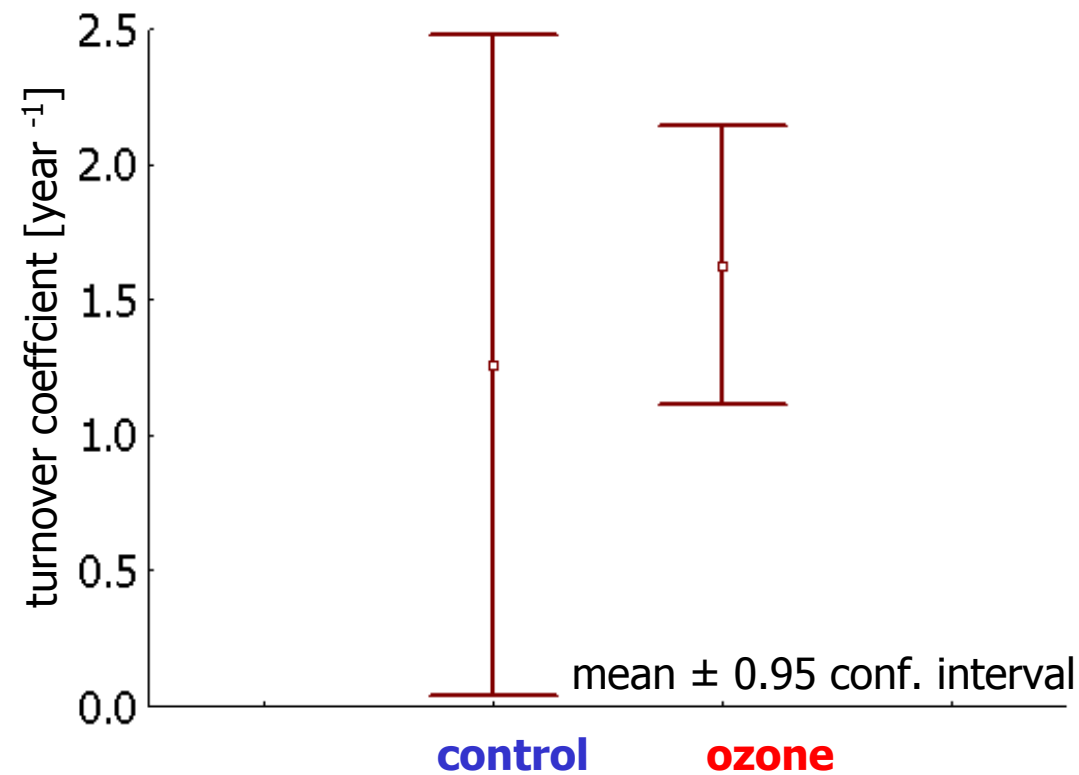


Repeated measurements ANOVA

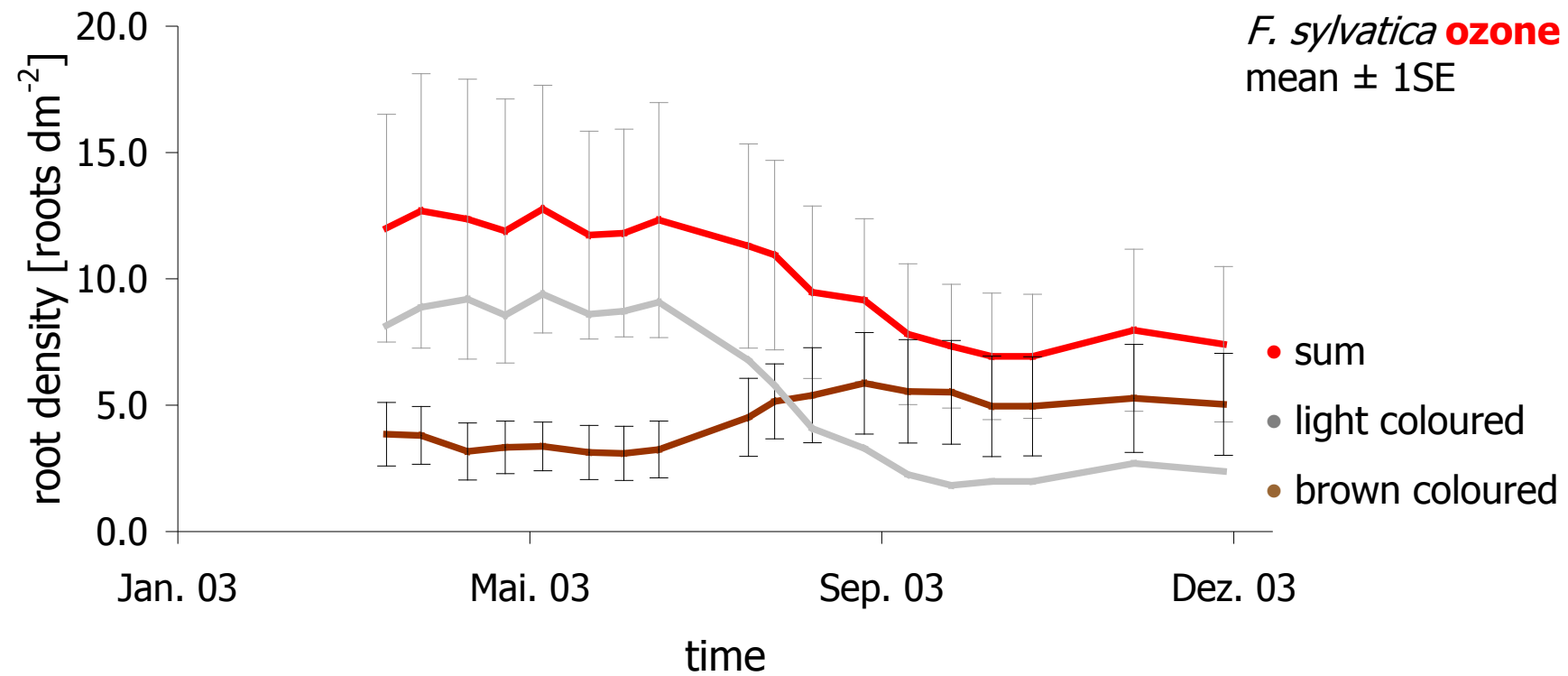
p < 0.05

Results

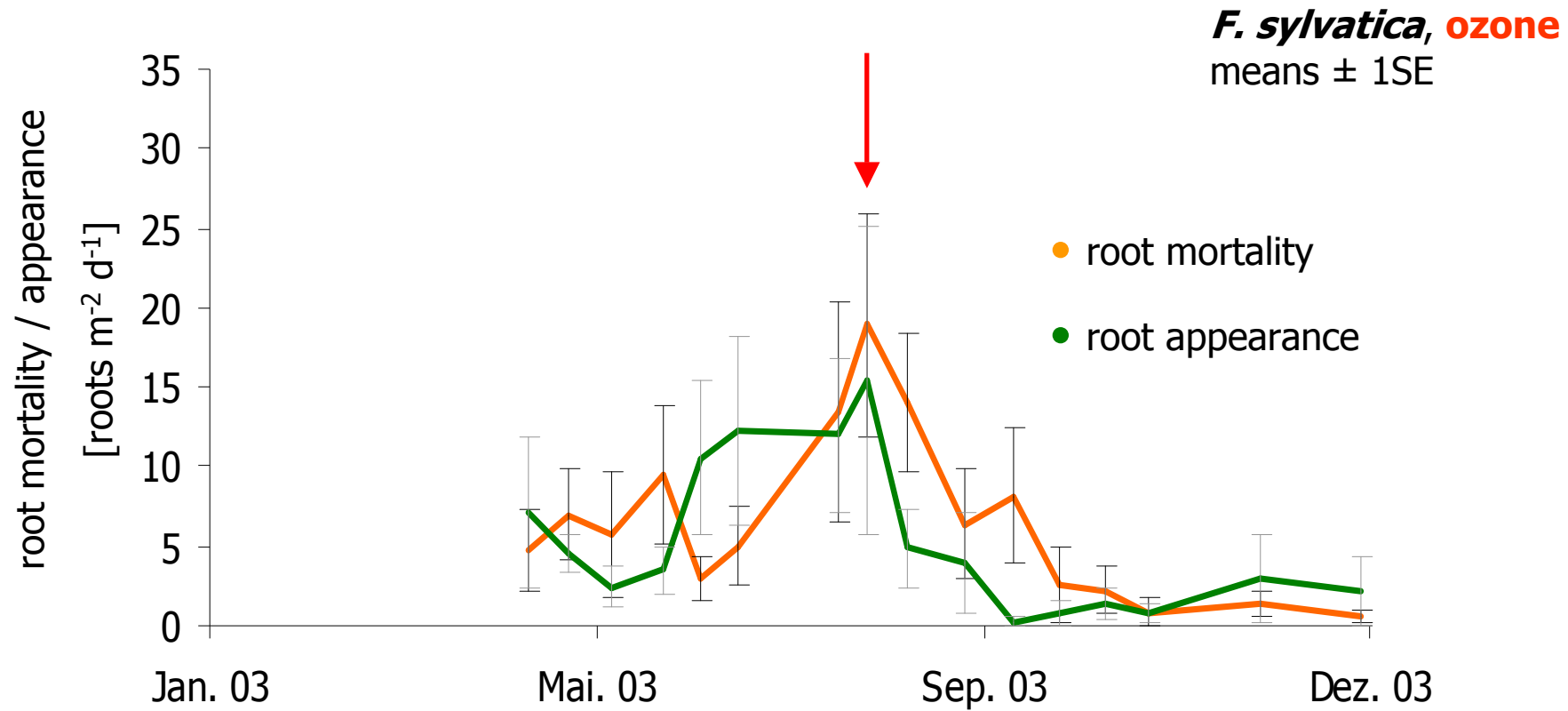
$$\text{turnover coefficient} = \frac{\sum \text{roots appeared} [\text{roots m}^{-2} \text{ year}^{-1}]}{\text{mean root density} [\text{roots m}^{-2}]}$$



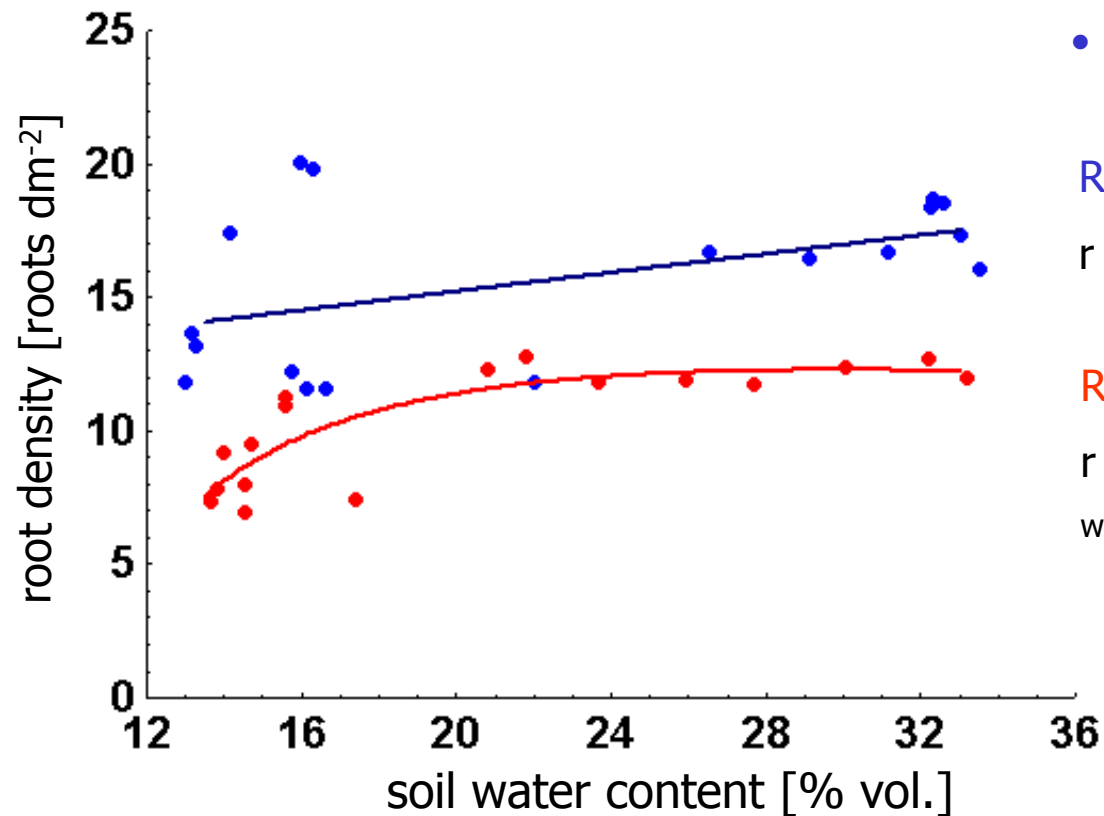
Results



Results



Results



• *F. sylvatica* **ozone**, means

• *F. sylvatica* **control**, means

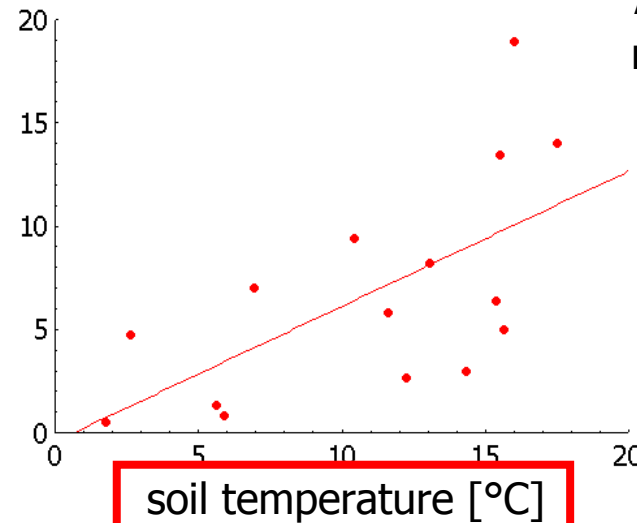
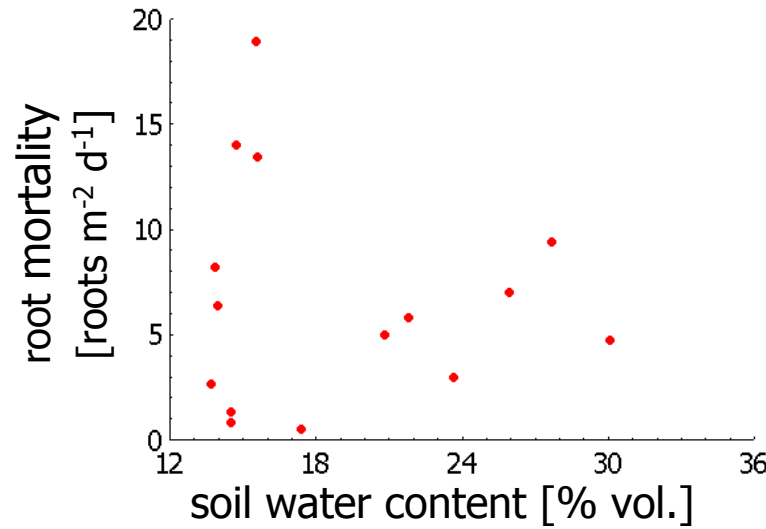
$$RD = 0.18 * w + 11.7$$

$$r = 0.49$$

$$RD = 572 * (w+31)^{-1} * \log_{10}(w-9.6)$$

$$r = 0.83$$

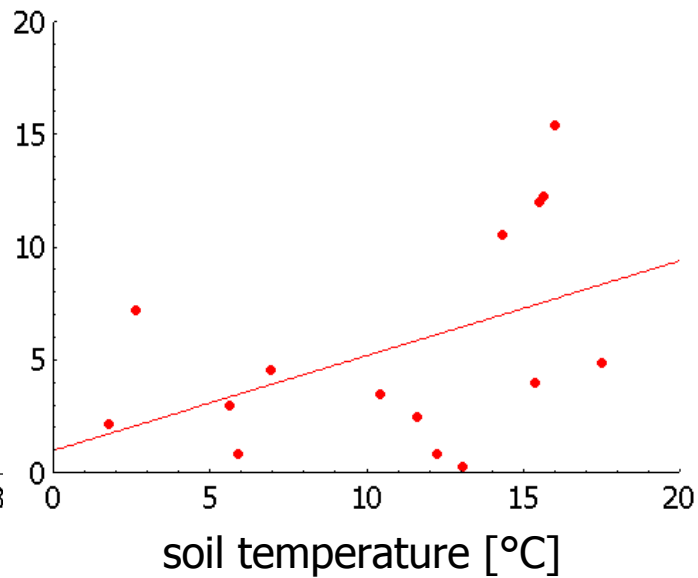
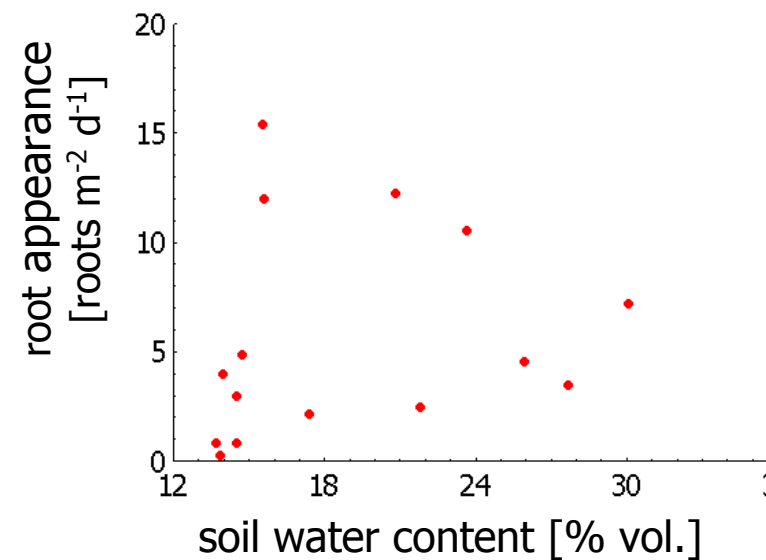
w = soil water content



***F. sylvatica*, ozone**
means

$p < 0.05$

$R^2 = 0.40$



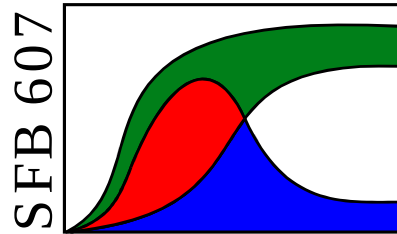
$p = 0.09$

$R^2 = 0.21$

Conclusion

- Drought reduces fine root density
- Additional impact of ozone increases susceptibility to drought
- Turnover processes are **not** influenced by soil water content
- Soil temperature is the predominant factor controlling fine root dynamics
- Impact of ozone does **not** influence turnover rate

An acknowledgements



- German Science Foundation
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- Prof. Dr. R. Matyssek and staff
- Thomas Feuerbach
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