



How will climate change affect the relationship between tree diversity and productivity in European temperate forests?



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Species richness Functional diversity

Productivity

- Theoritical work



Hooper et al. 2005 Ecol. Monographs

- Theoritical work



Hooper et al. 2005 Ecol. Monographs

Positive relation specific richness - productivity, but not necessarily

Loreau 1998 PNAS

Combination of two effects: selection and complementarity

Loreau et al. 2001 Science



- Theoritical work
- Experimental tests

For terrestrial ecosystems = mostly grasslands



Hooper et al. 2005 Ecol. Monographs



Confirming trends predicted by theoretical works

Cardinale et al. 2007 PNAS

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Confirming trends predicted by theoretical works

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BUT

- no general pattern
- random assemblages of species
- few tested combinations
- necessarily in the short-term
- validity for other ecosystems? (such as forests...)

- Theoritical work
- Experimental tests
- Empirical measures in the field



Vila et al. 2007 Ecol. Lett.

Forests: only way to study adult trees Non random diversity

BUT confounding factors in the field...

- Theoritical work
- Experimental tests
- Empirical measures in the field
 - ➡ Relationship in the long-term?
 - ➡ Impact of environmental conditions?
 - ➡ Weak knowledge for forests...

- Theoritical work
- Experimental tests
- Empirical measures in the field
 - ➡ Relationship in the long-term?
 - → Impact of environmental conditions?
 - ➡ Weak knowledge for forests...
- Model of forest dynamics
 - independent tool to study the *diversity-productivity* relationship
 - "real" species : parameters = derived from measured traits
 - realized specific richness in the long term
 - much greater number of testable combinations

Studying the *diversity-productivity* relationship with a forest succession model

- Forest gap models: cyclical succession on small patches of land
- Basis: Theories by A.S. Watt, H.A. Gleason
- Quantitative description of tree population dynamics
- cf. Review article (Bugmann 2001)



Exploring the *sp. richness-productivity* relationship with a forest succession model



Validated along a large climatic gradient (11 sites)Parameterized for 30 tree species

→ Virtual experiments on the gradient

Virtual experiments: principle



Virtual experiments: principle



Virtual experiments: principle



Extract composition, abundance and productivity

Exploring the *sp. richness-productivity* relationship with a forest succession model

ForClim

- Validated along a large climatic gradient (11 sites)
- Parameterized for 30 tree species
- ➡ Virtual experiments on the gradient



Reducing the number of simulations
= 500 simulations max per richness level

Exploring the *sp. richness-productivity* relationship with a forest succession model



A positive trend across sites



A positive trend across sites

Realized species richness



12 13 14 15

A positive trend across sites

Realized species richness

A positive trend at each site



Diverse forests are more productive than monocultures



Diverse forests are more productive than monocultures





Transgressive overyielding

Average per site **11% of simulations**

The positive trend is caused by complementarity between species



The positive trend is caused by complementarity between species



A positive functional diversity – productivity relationship





WHY?

↗Species richness





Conclusions 1

- 1st attempt to use a forest succession model to explore the *diversity-prod*. Relationship

- Consistent results with biodiversity experiments (herbaceous species)
 - → Linking theory and experiments
 - A model with few interactions shows that a strong complementarity can emerge
 - → Importance of functional diversity
- Importance of biomass turn-over and response ability of more diverse forests



Conclusions 1

- 1st attempt to use a forest succession model to explore the *diversity-prod*. Relationship

- Consistent results with biodiversity experiments (herbaceous species)
 - → Linking theory and experiments
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 - → Importance of functional diversity
- Importance of biomass turn-over and response ability of more diverse forests
- Role of functional diversity => needs deeper exploration
- Positive *diversity-stability* relationship







Using ForClim to investigate the interplay between climate change, diversity, and forest productivity





3 RCMs 2090-2100 A1b scenario
Using ForClim to investigate the interplay between climate change, diversity, and forest productivity





3 RCMs 2090-2100 A1b scenario

KNMI – RACMO2 +3.5 °C -18% precip.

> MPI – CLM +4.2 °C -16% precip.

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SHMI – RCA30
+4.1 °C
-21% precip.
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Using ForClim to investigate the interplay between climate change, diversity, and forest productivity



Using ForClim to investigate the interplay between climate change, diversity, and forest productivity



Current conditions + 3 RCMs > 326,920 simulations

A positive impact of climate change on the *SR-Productivity* rel. across all sites

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— Current pattern

With all RCMs data, slope of the SR-Prod. rel. under CC conditions are significantly steeper than under current conditions

— MPI – CLM — Current conditions



Confirmation of the pattern (?)

Causes:

- « extension » of the relationship = « statistical effect »
- In harsher conditions diversity is more important= « diversity effect »









Conclusions 2

• 1st exploration of the impact of climate change on the diversity-productivity relationship

• Stronger impact of change in species richness on forest productivity??

Especially in sites with conditions getting harsher in the future?

• To be confirmed at the site level

What's next?

- Mechanisms? (e.g. greater complementarity between species in sites with harsher conditions?)
- Same pattern for stability in ecosystem functions?

Thanks!

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Lorenz Fahse

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Zone méditerranéenne = forts gradients environnementaux (température, précipitations, altitude)



Temp. moy annuelle



Somme Prec. annuelle





⇒ Mesure de composition de communautés, de traits des ind.
 ⇒ Validation de prédictions (composition, productivité...)
 ⇒ Implémentation var. intrasp. dans les modèles

Gradients régionaux

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Gradients locaux (altitudinaux)

Gradients régionaux

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Massif du Canigou

Massif du Ventoux





Fagus sylvatica Pinus nigra Pinus sylvestris Picea abies



Pinus nigra Pinus sylvestris Picea abies

- Mise en place de placettes pour suivi à moyen/long terme

- Elargissement...
- Autres niveaux trophiques (herbivorie, décomposition...)

Gradients locaux (altitudinaux)

Gradients régionaux



Linking climate, biodiversity and ecosystem functioning

Continental pool of species



Field sampling Data bases...

Sp. composition Diversity Fonctioning Env. conditions

Regional pool of species

Community composition

Productivity



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Field sampling Data bases...

Sp. composition Diversity Fonctioning Env. conditions

Regional pool of species

Phylogenetic overdispersion?

Community composition









Stability in productivity over time increases with species richness



- More diverse forests have a stronger temporal stability than less diverse forests

Stability in productivity over time increases with species richness



- More diverse forests have a stronger temporal stability than less diverse forests

- Diversity (SR and functional diversity) promotes temporal stability mostly because it increases species asynchrony in the community Morin *et al.* in prep.

Future project...



Future project...



Future project...



1 Better understanding what rules the diversity of woody species in forest ecosystems

Predicting the impact of climate change on the relationship between diversity and forest productivity

Taking into account the role of intraspecific variability in woody species assemblages and forest productivity

Future project...



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Future project...



Environment Distributions Biodiversity
Future project...



