

# Water Balance of Selected Sites and Tree Species – Retrospect of 20 Years of Monitoring in the Federal State of Brandenburg (Germany)

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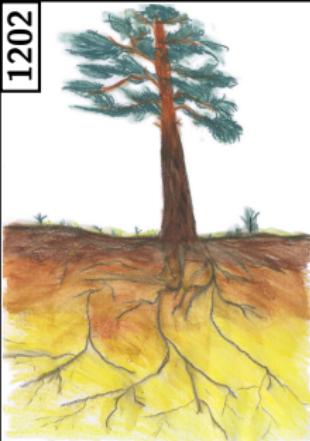
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European forests in a changing environment: Air pollution, climate change and  
forest management

7<sup>th</sup> ICP Forests Scientific Conference 21–23 May 2018 – Riga/Latvia

# Survey Sites – Soils, Stands and Ground Vegetation

1202



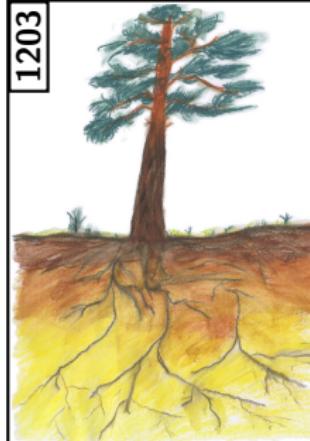
**Scots pine with deciduous understorey**

LAI(W/S) = 3,2/5,2  
RSC = 229 s m<sup>-1</sup>

**Grasses + dwarf shrubs**  
⇒**dwarf shrubs**  
LAI(W/S) = 1/2,  
RSC = 150...340...400 s m<sup>-1</sup>

**Lamellic Arenosol, Mor**  
Medium sand with loamy sand lamellae  
SWHC<sub>100</sub> = 105 mm,

1203



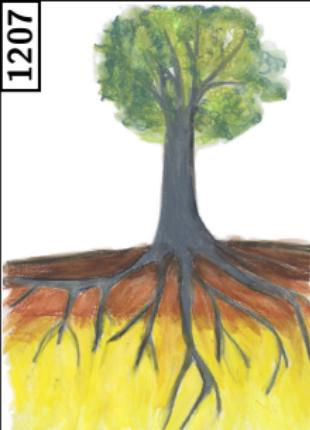
**Scots pine**

LAI(W/S) = 2,2/2,8  
RSC = 229 s m<sup>-1</sup>

**Grasses**⇒  
**grasses + dwarf shrubs**  
LAI(W/S) = 1/2  
RSC = 104...212...314 s m<sup>-1</sup>

**Albic Podzol, Mor**  
Fine sand,  
SWHC<sub>100</sub> = 79 mm,

1207

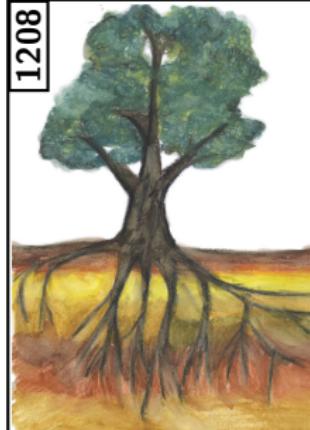


**European beech**  
LAI(W/S) = 0/5,3  
RSC = 215 s m<sup>-1</sup>

**Sparse**  
Evaporation only

**Haplic Arenosol, Moder**  
Coarse sand,  
SWHC<sub>100</sub> = 65 mm,

1208



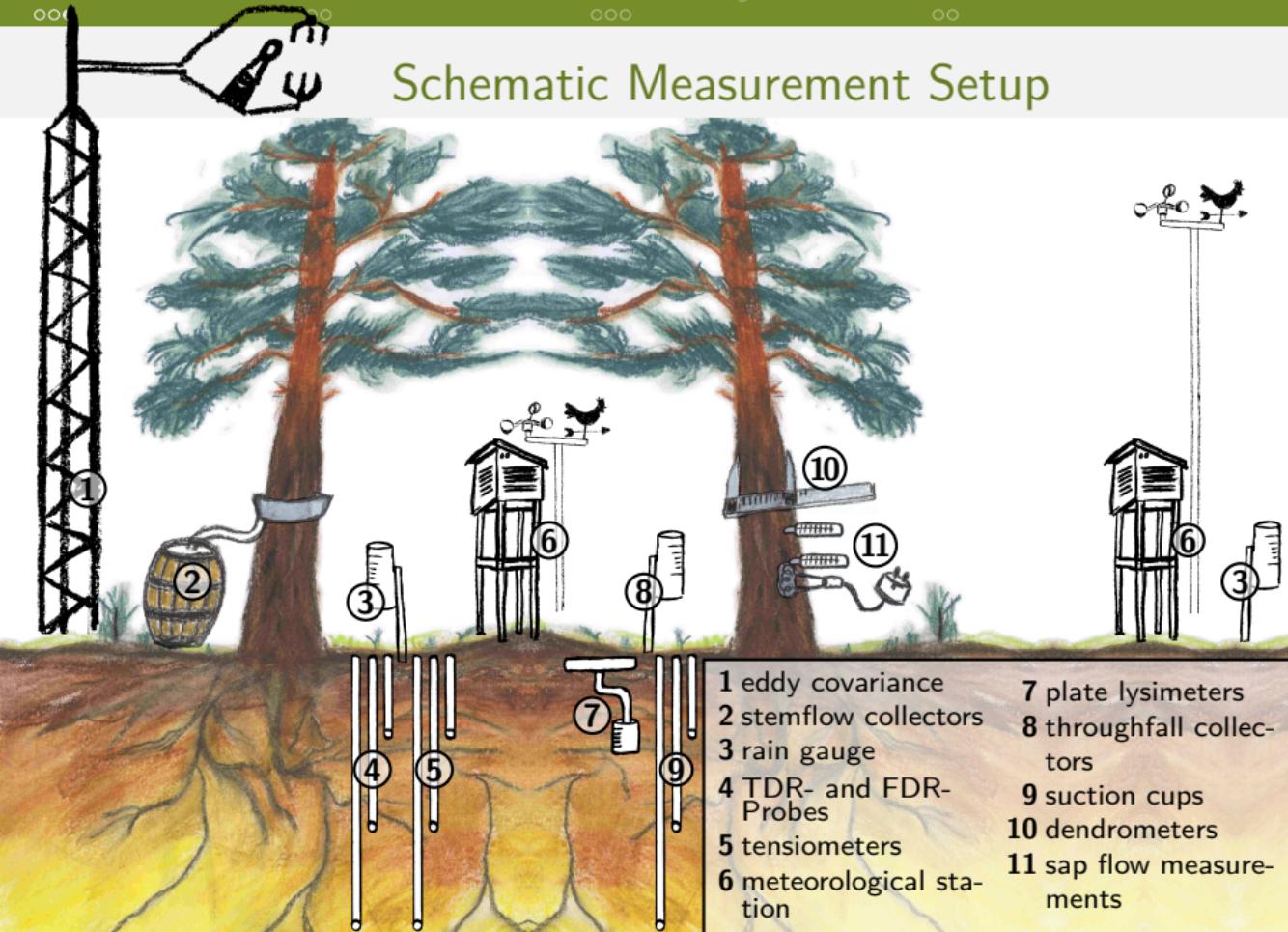
**Sessile oak**  
LAI(W/S) = 0/3,8  
RSC = 263 s m<sup>-1</sup>

**Sparse**  
Evaporation only

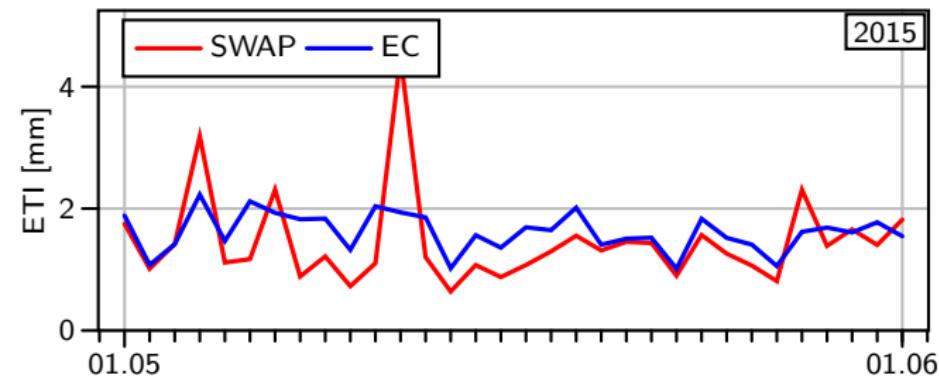
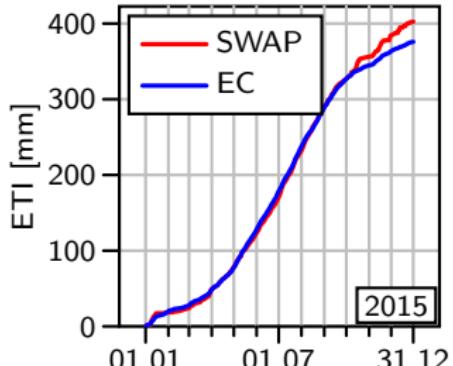
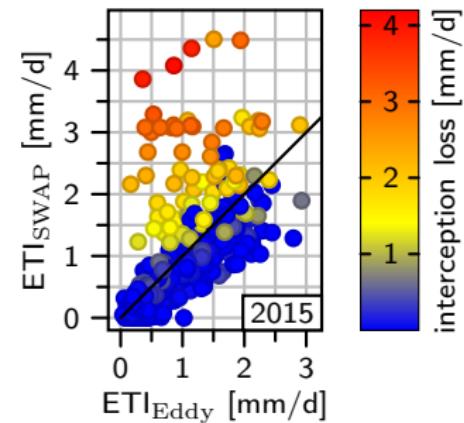
**Albic Luvisol, Moder**  
Sandy loam above loam  
SWHC<sub>100</sub> = 84 mm,

# Water Balance Modelling Using SWAP 3.2.36

- Water balance model **SWAP 3.2.36** (VAN DAM, 2000; KROES et al., 2009)
  - One-dimensional model, Richards' equation
  - Penman-Montheith equation (pot. evapotranspiration)
  - Interception losses: GASH et al. (1995) (stand) and BRADEN (1985) (ground vegetation)
  - Root water uptake / act. transpiration FEDDES et al. (1978, 2001)
  - VAN GENUCHTEN (1980) and MUalem (1976) equations for description of soil hydraulic properties (Hysteresis according to SCOTT et al. (1983))

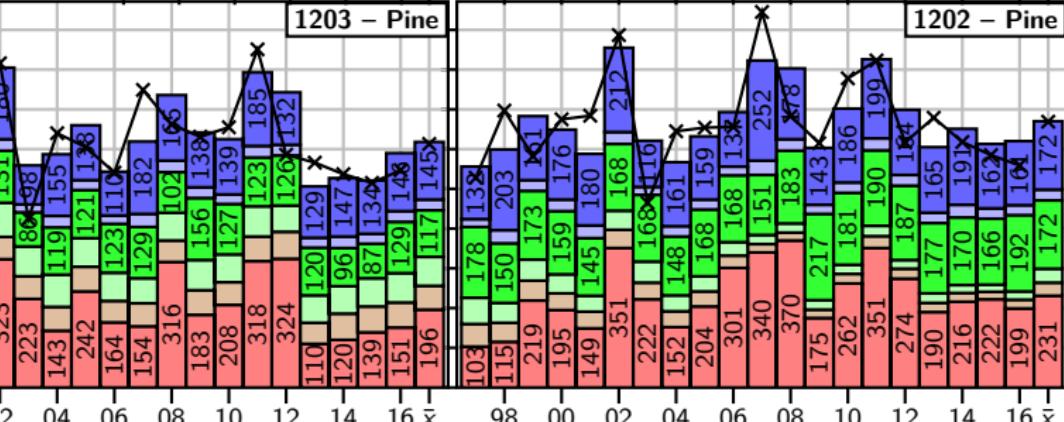
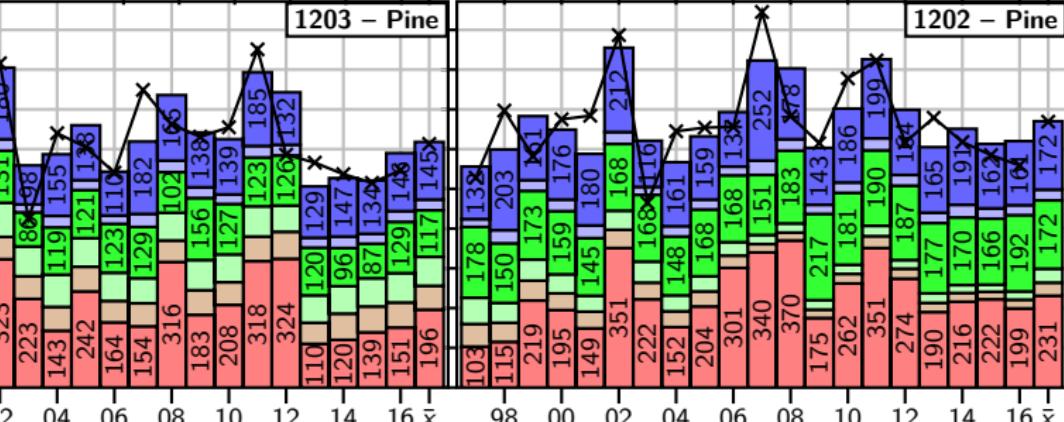
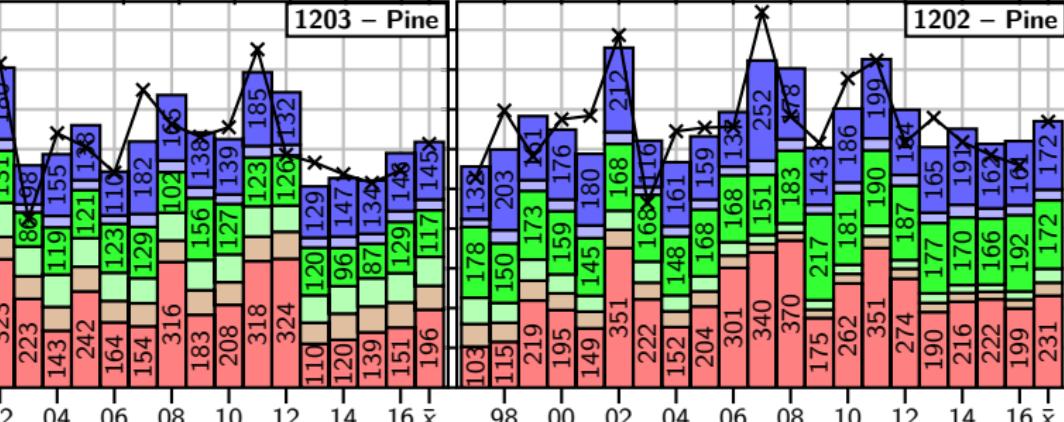
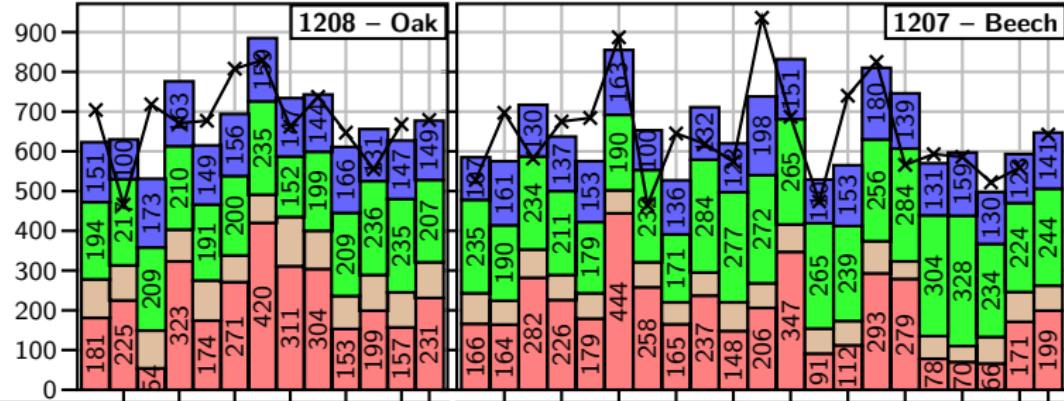


# Eddy Covariance Method – 1203 (Scots Pine)

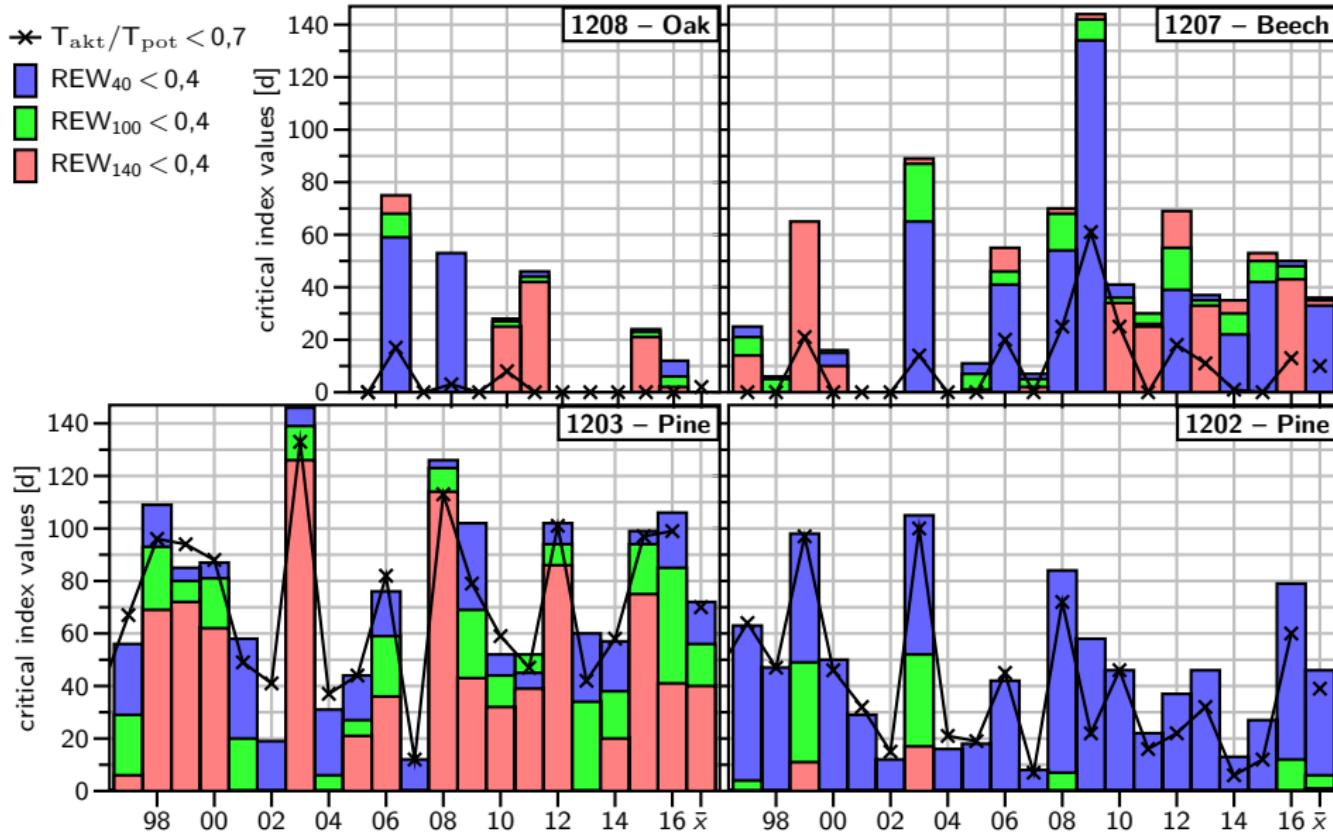


# Water Balance Components – Annual Sums [mm]

- \* precipitation
- interception loss stand
- interception loss ground vegetation
- transpiration stand
- transpiration ground vegetation
- evaporation
- deep seepage



# Number of Drought Days



# Stress Indicators Derived from Dendrometer Measurements

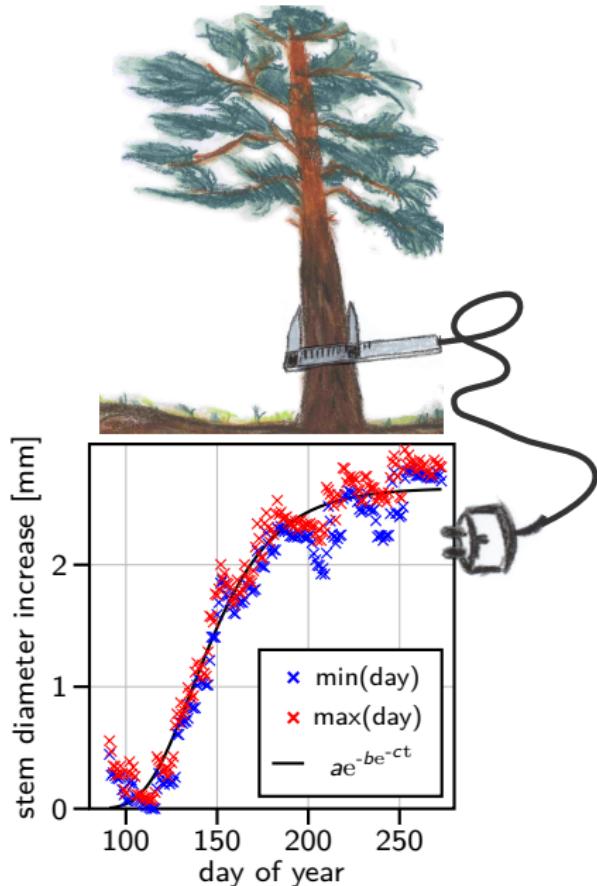
## Method of v. Wilpert (1990):

### Diurnal fluctuations ( $\Delta_d(\emptyset)$ , MDS)

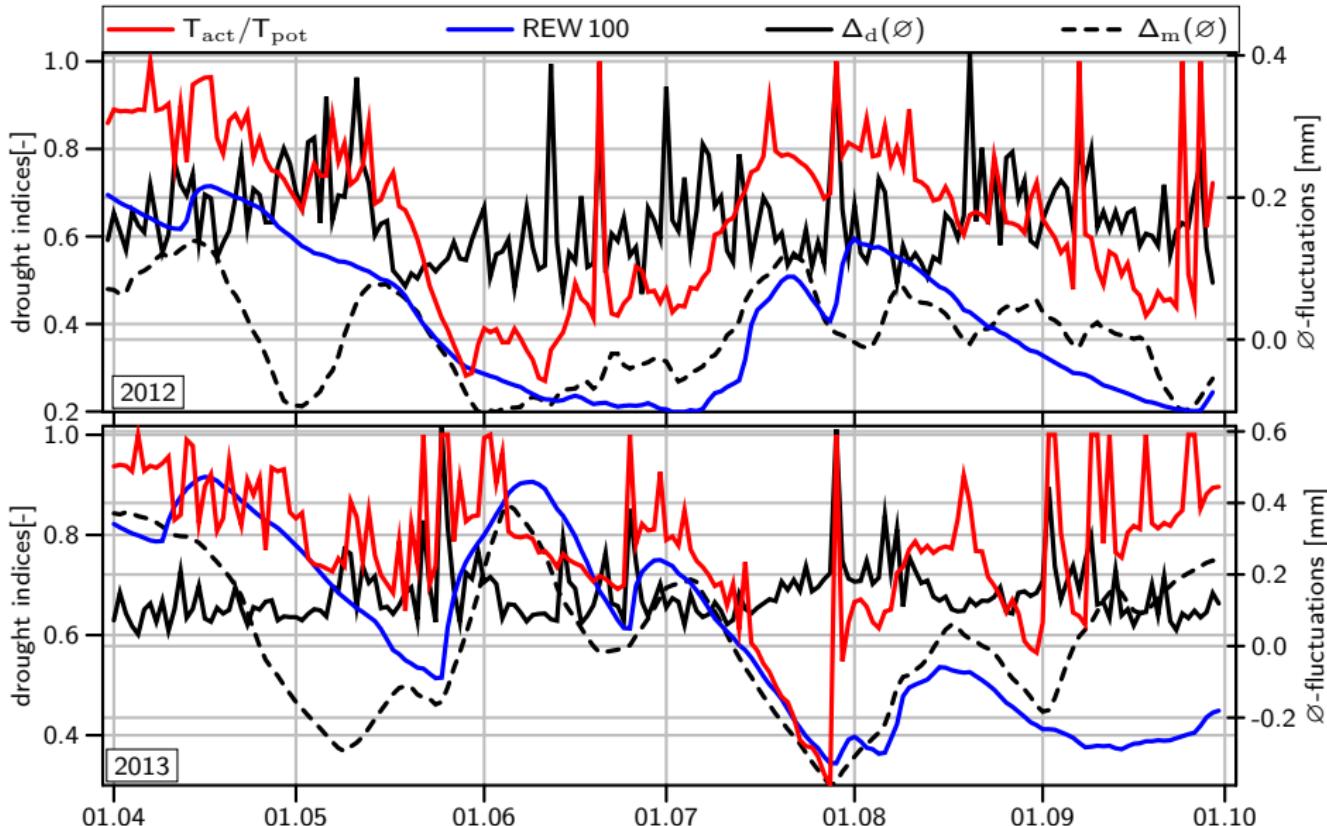
- Optimal water supply => low fluctuation (small water deficits in the tree).
- Moderate drought (and high atmospheric demand) => high fluctuation (water deficits developed during the day are compensated overnight)
- Severe drought => low fluctuation (water deficits can't be compensated overnight)

### Medium-term fluctuations ( $\Delta_m(\emptyset)$ )

- Smoothed (11-day running mean) residuals of the Gompertz curve
- Medium-term filling and emptying of the trunk reservoir => adaptation to varying levels of water supply
- Peaks at the beginning of the growing season result from a swelling phase at the start of cambial growth



# Stem Diameter Fluctuations 1203 (Scots Pine)

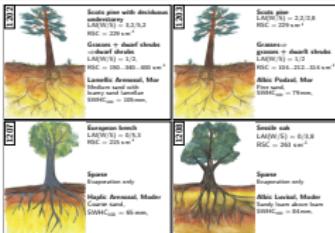


# Conclusions

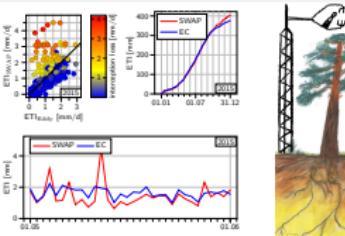
- 1 High soil water storage capacity reduces the risk of drought stress during dry periods
- 2 Compared to the variability of meteorology, the effects of tree species on water balance are relatively small and uncertain
- 3 The monitoring of drought responses with dendrometers looks promising

# Thanks for your attention!

## Survey Sites – Soils, Stands and Ground Vegetation



## Eddy Covariance Method – 1203 (Scots Pine)



## Stress Indicators Derived from Dendrometer Measurements

### Method of v. Wilpert (1990):

Diastral Fluctuations ( $\Delta_d(t)$ , NDS):

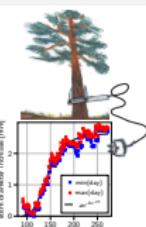
- Deficit water supply  $\Rightarrow$  low fluctuation
- Small water deficits in the soil  $\Rightarrow$  high fluctuation
- Moderate drought  $\Rightarrow$  high fluctuation (water deficits developing during the day are compensated overnight)

Sixth degree  $\Rightarrow$  low fluctuation (water deficits can't be compensated overnight)

Medium-term fluctuations ( $\Delta_m(t)$ )

- Seasonal mean (day running mean) residuals of the Gompertz curve
- Medium-term filling and emptying of the trunk reservoir  $\Rightarrow$  adaptation to varying long-term water supply

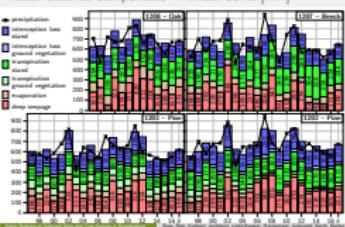
Peak at the beginning of the growing season result: from a swelling phase at the start of canopy growth



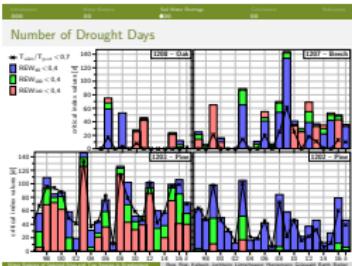
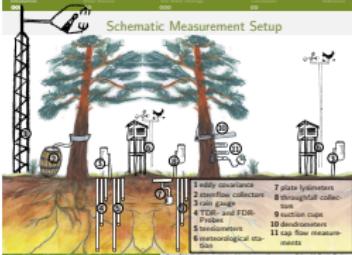
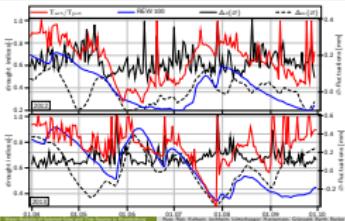
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## Water Balance Components – Annual Sums [mm]



## Stem Diameter Fluctuations 1203 (Scots Pine)



## Conclusions

- High soil water storage capacity reduces the risk of drought stress during dry periods
- Compared to the variability of meteorology, the effects of tree species on water balance are relatively small and uncertain
- The monitoring of drought responses with dendrometers looks promising

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