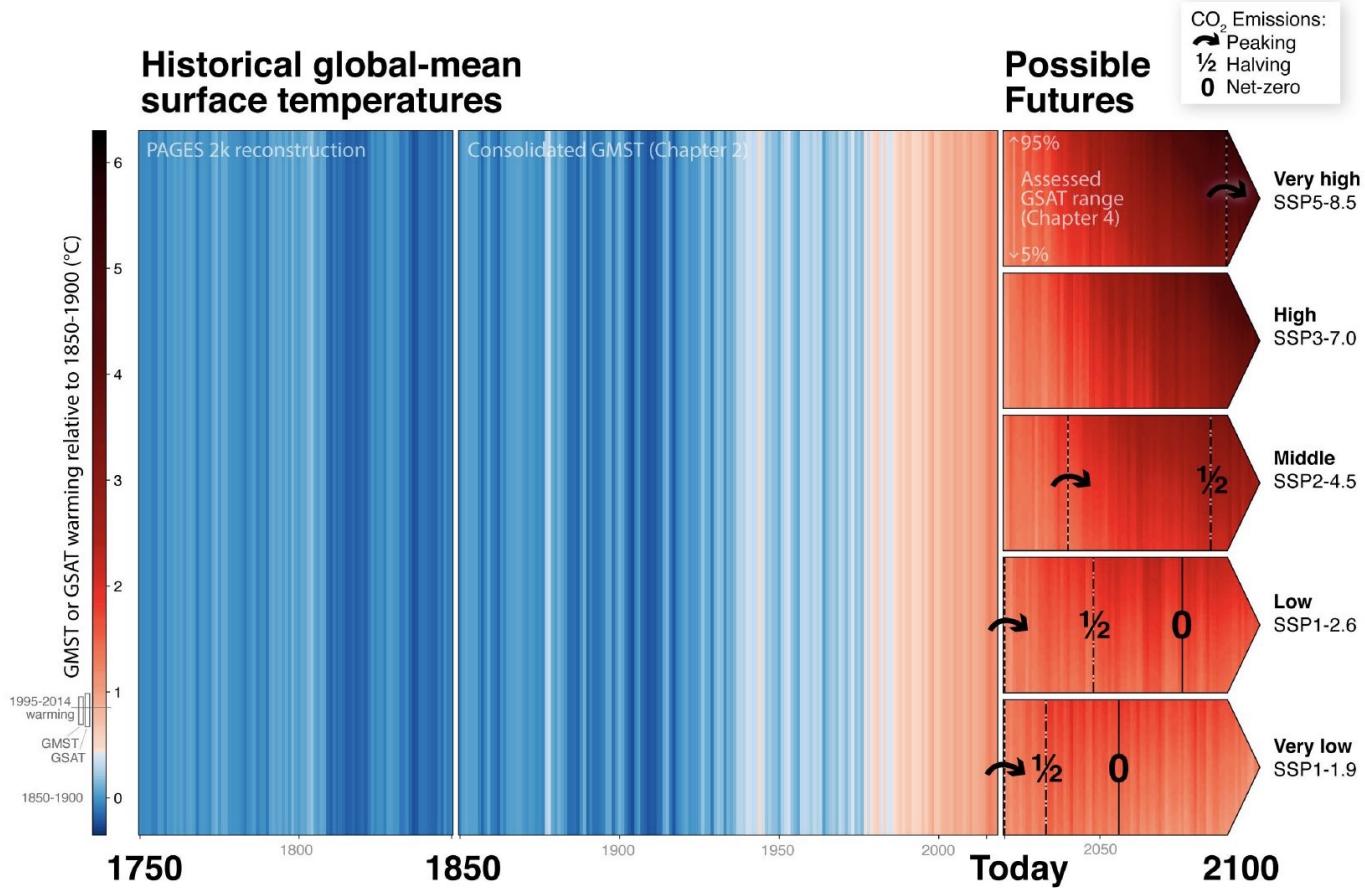


# Tree diversity increases air temperature buffering in forests

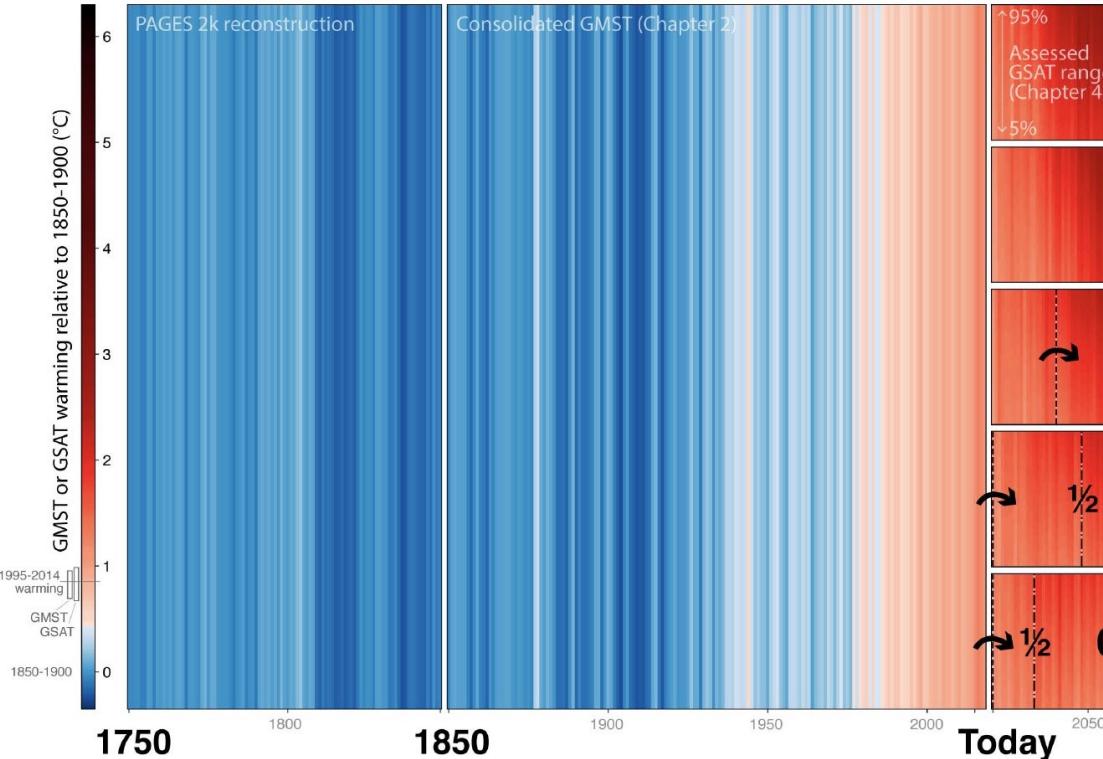
Rémy Beugnon<sup>†</sup>, Florian Schnabel<sup>†</sup>, Yang Bo<sup>†</sup>, Simone Cesarz, Nico Eisenhauer,  
Maria D. Perles Garcia, Georg Haehn, Werner Härdtle, Yuanyuan Huang, Matthias  
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Katrine A. Pietsch, Ronny Richter, Bernhard Schmid, Stefan Trogisch, Christian Wirth,  
Keping Ma\*, Helge Bruelheide\*

# INTRODUCTION: GLOBAL WARMING

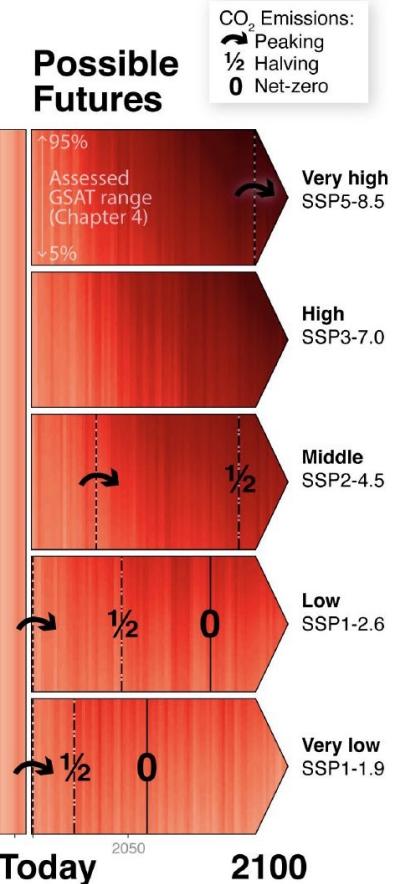


# INTRODUCTION: INCREASE OF CLIMATIC EXTREMES

Historical global-mean surface temperatures



Possible Futures



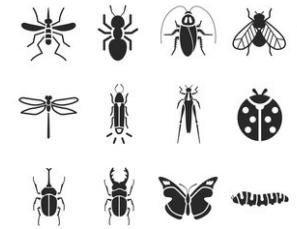
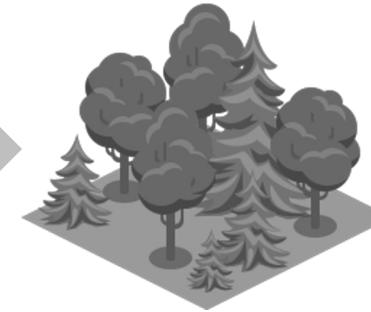
# INTRODUCTION: INCREASE OF CLIMATIC EXTREMES KILLS NATURE



# INTRODUCTION: INCREASE OF CLIMATIC EXTREMES KILLS NATURE



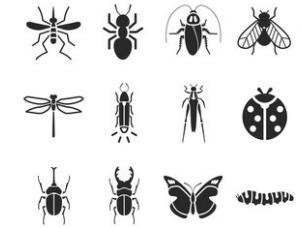
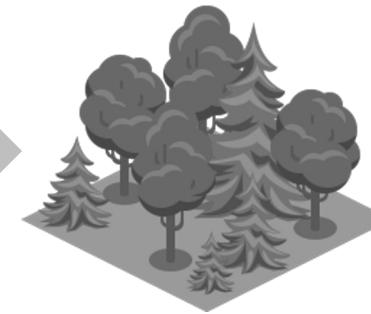
Ecosystem  
structure



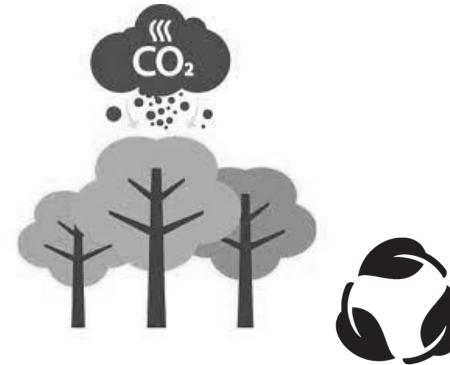
# INTRODUCTION: INCREASE OF CLIMATIC EXTREMES KILLS NATURE



Ecosystem  
structure



Ecosystem  
functions



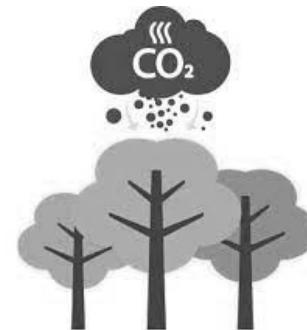
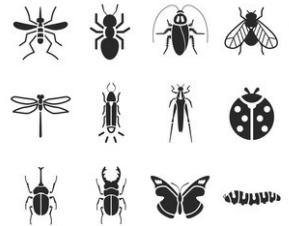
# INTRODUCTION: INCREASE OF CLIMATIC EXTREMES KILLS NATURE



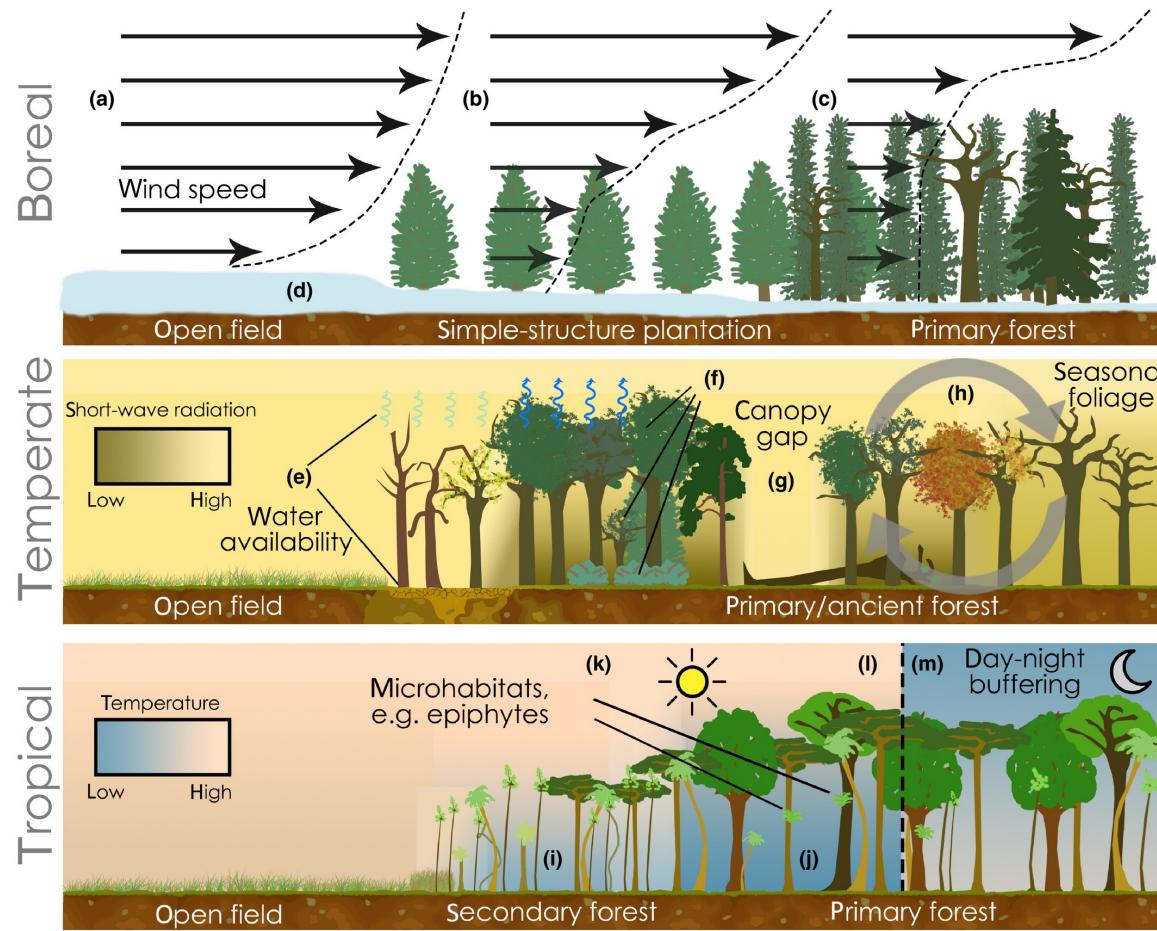
Ecosystem  
structure

Ecosystem  
functions

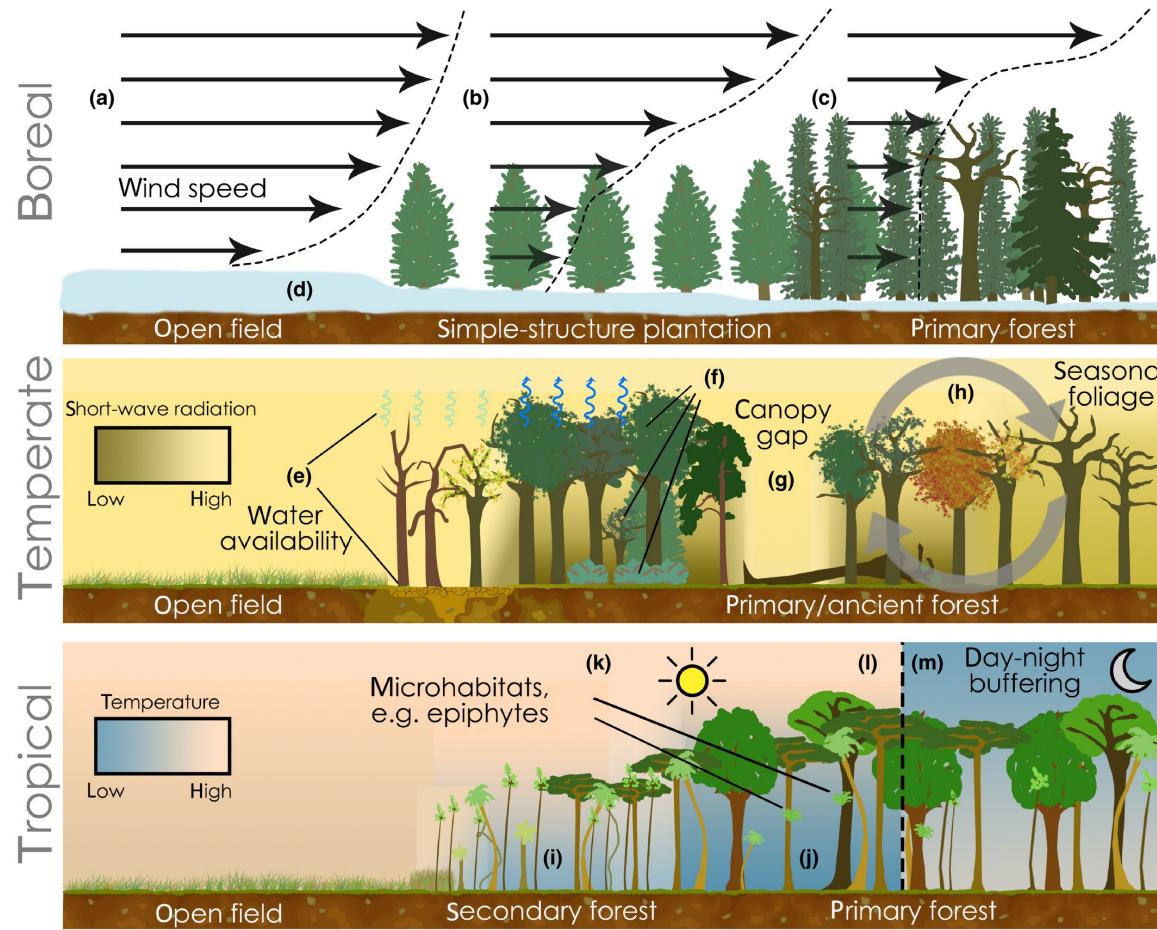
Ecosystem  
services



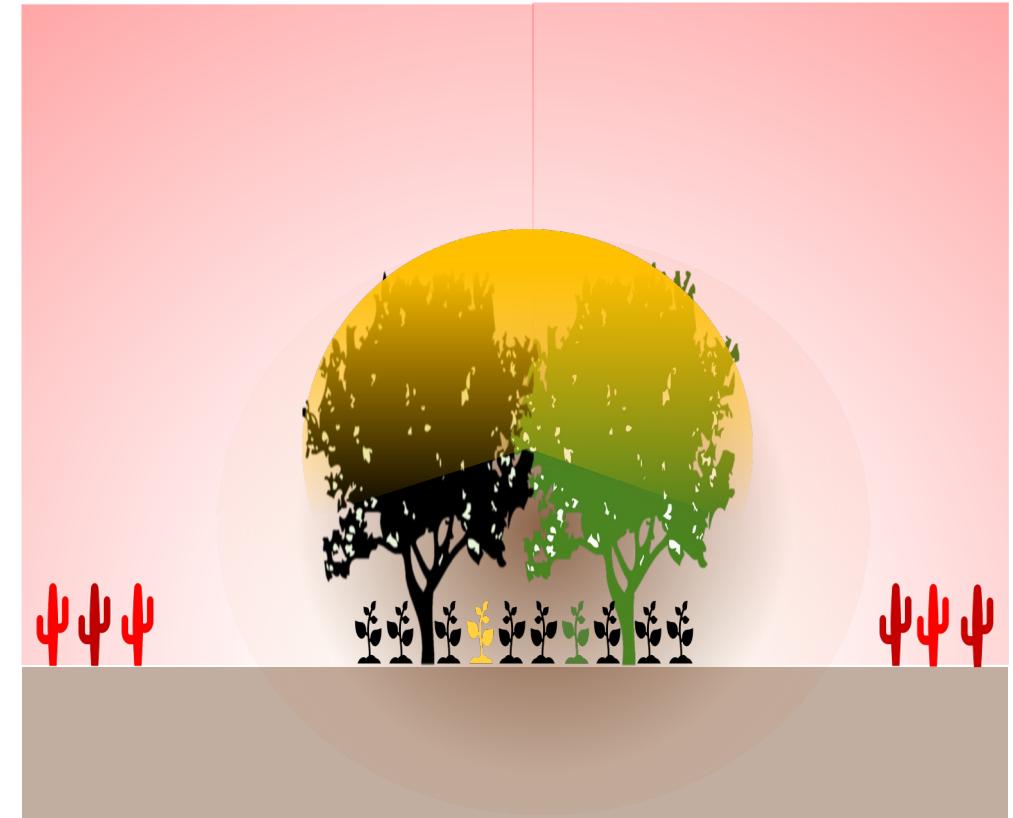
# INTRODUCTION: FOREST POTENTIAL TO PROTECT FROM MACROCLIMATIC FLUCTUATIONS



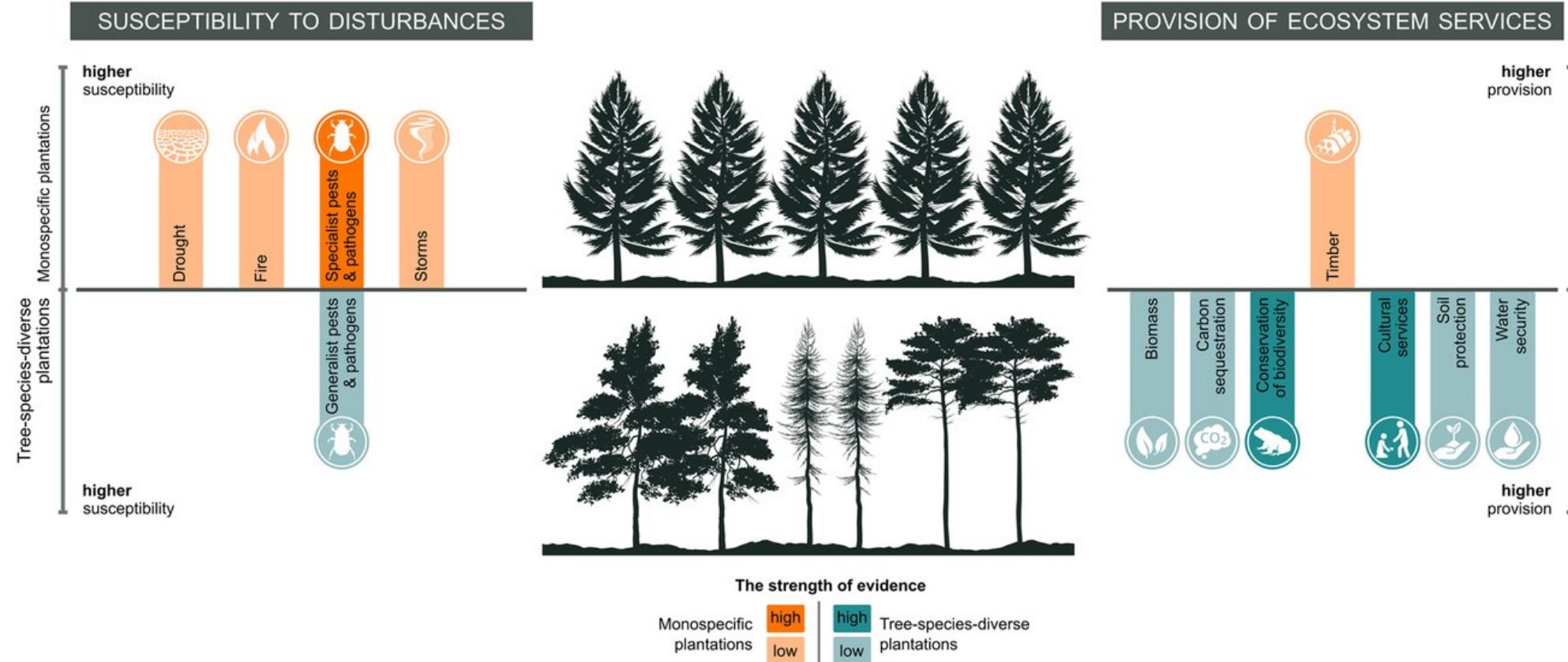
# INTRODUCTION: FOREST POTENTIAL TO PROTECT FROM MACROCLIMATIC FLUCTUATIONS



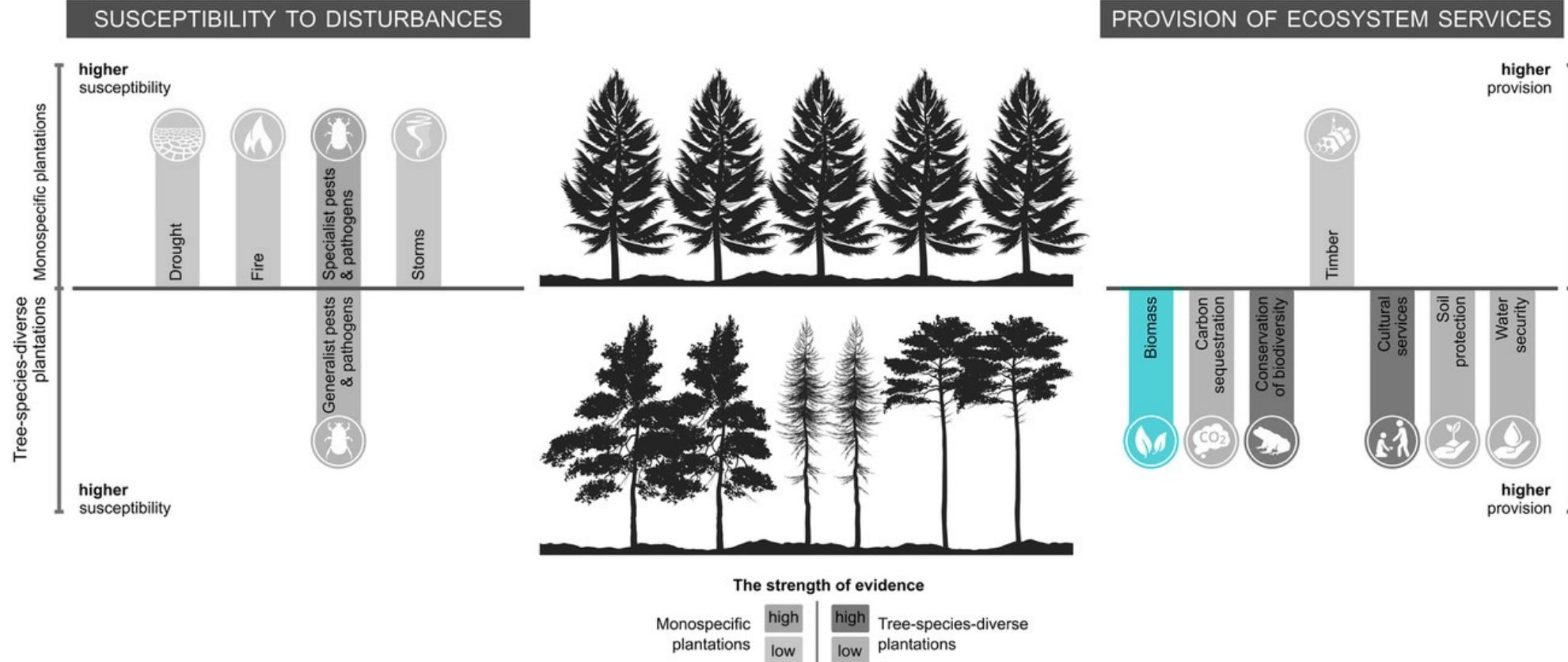
Thermal shield against climatic fluctuations



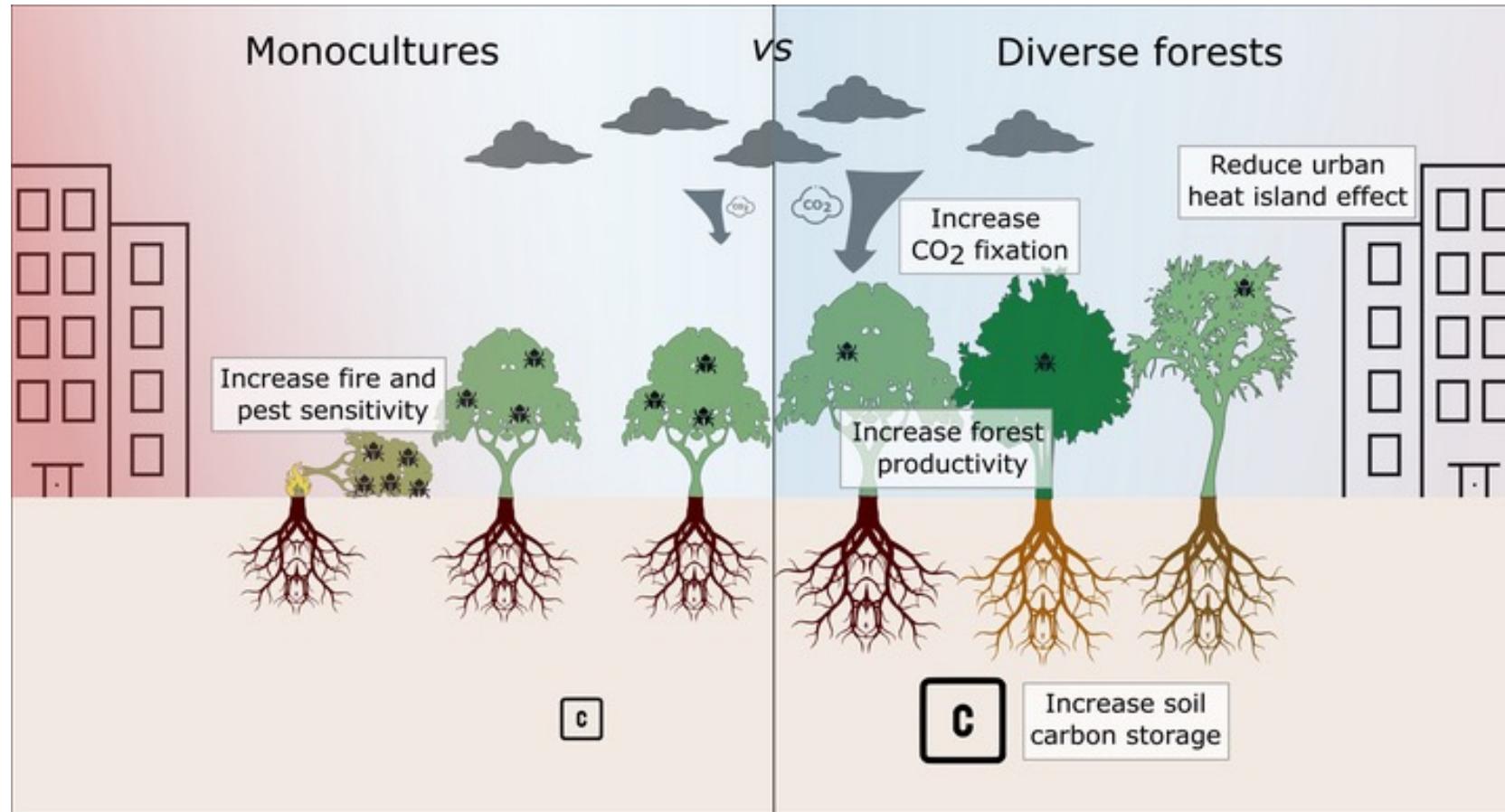
# INTRODUCTION: BENEFITS OF TREE DIVERSITY – BEF RELATIONSHIPS



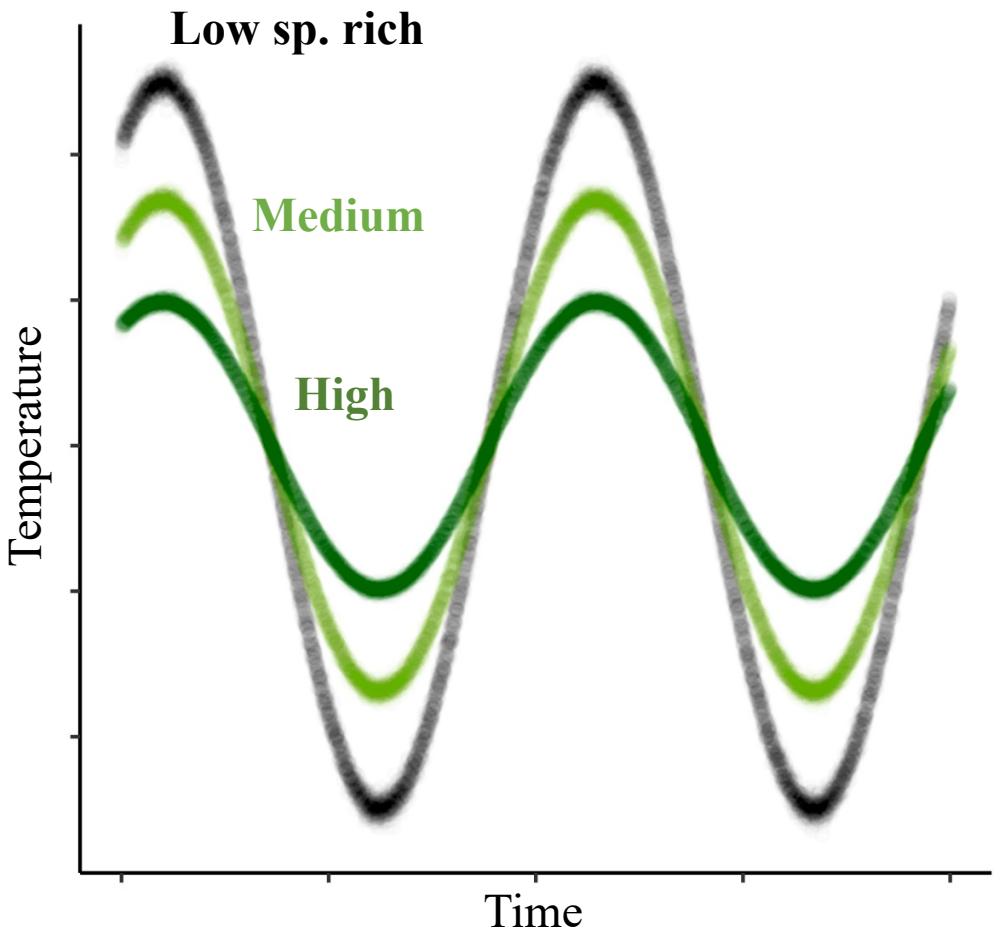
# INTRODUCTION: BUFFERING OF CLIMATIC THREATS



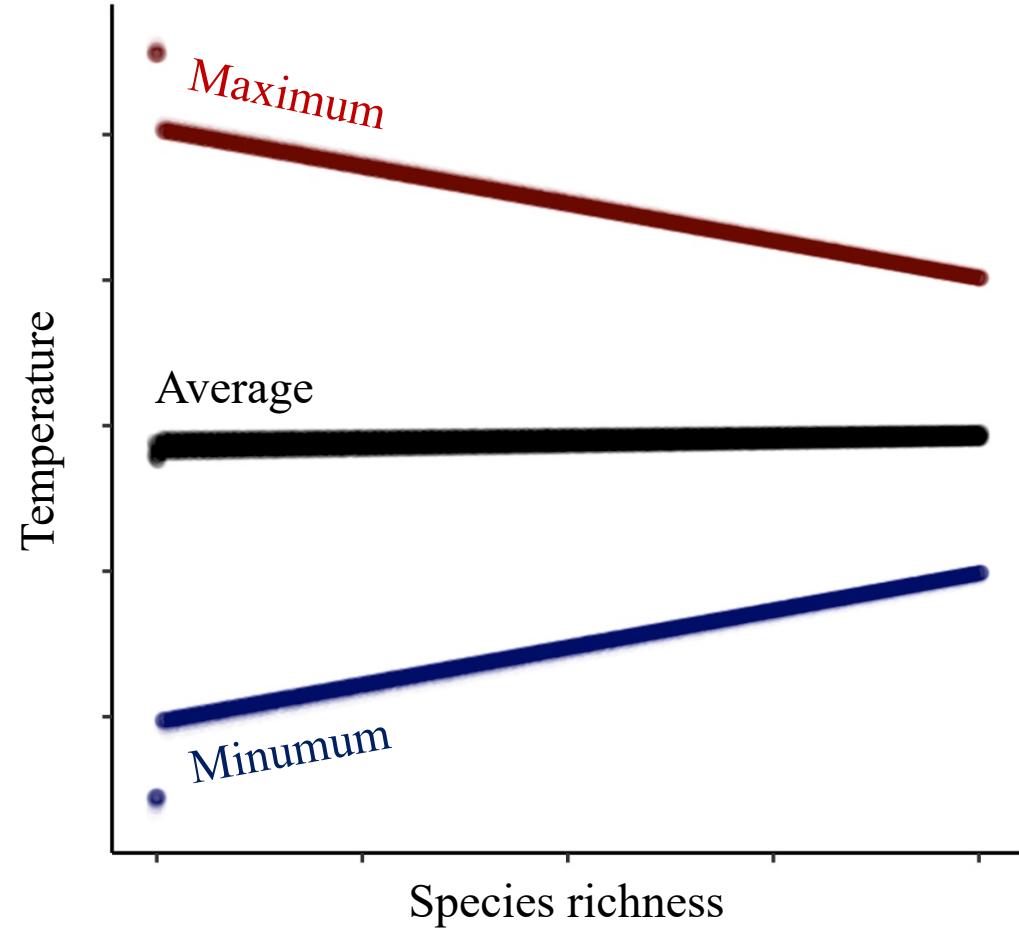
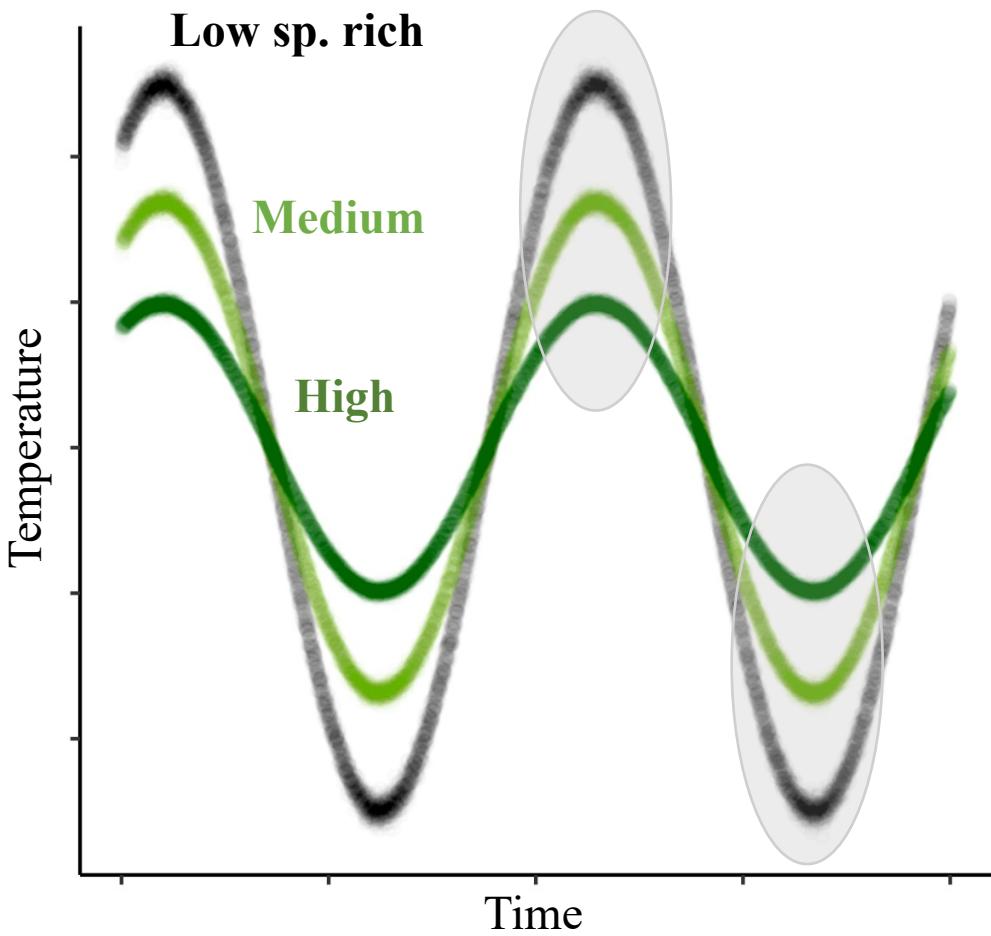
# INTRODUCTION: DIVERSITY BUFFERING OF MACROCLIMATIC FLUCTUATIONS



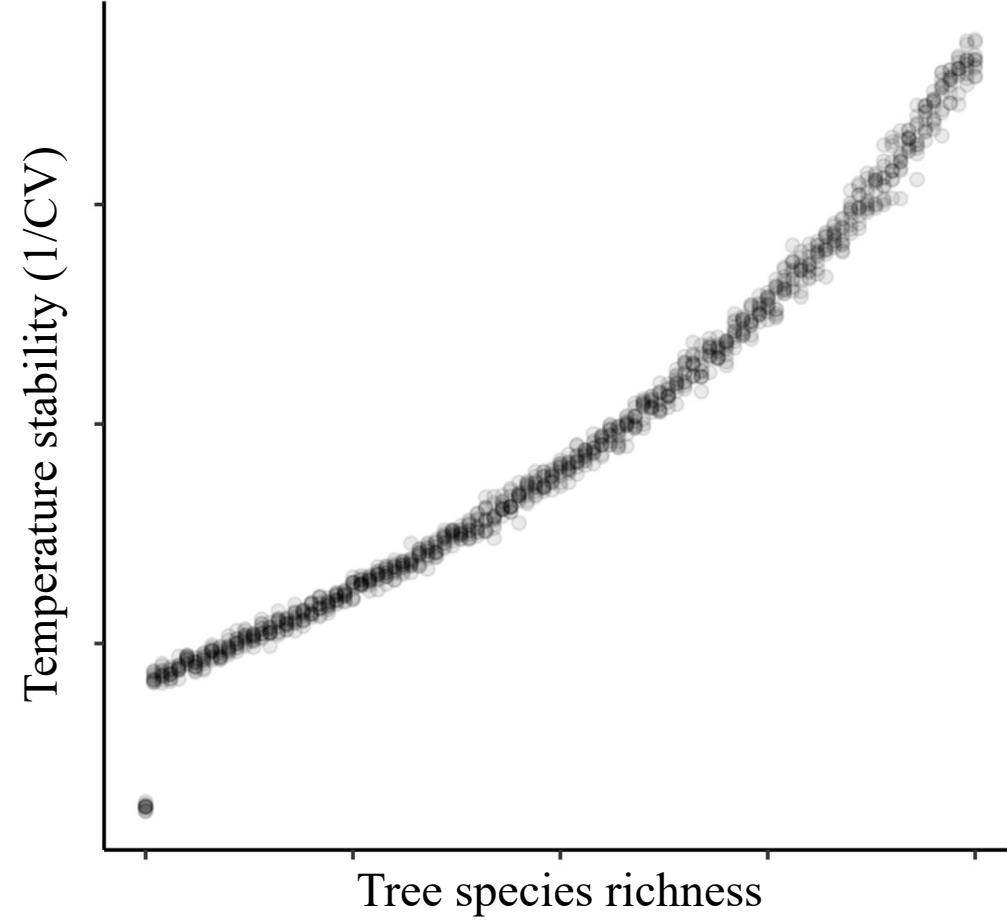
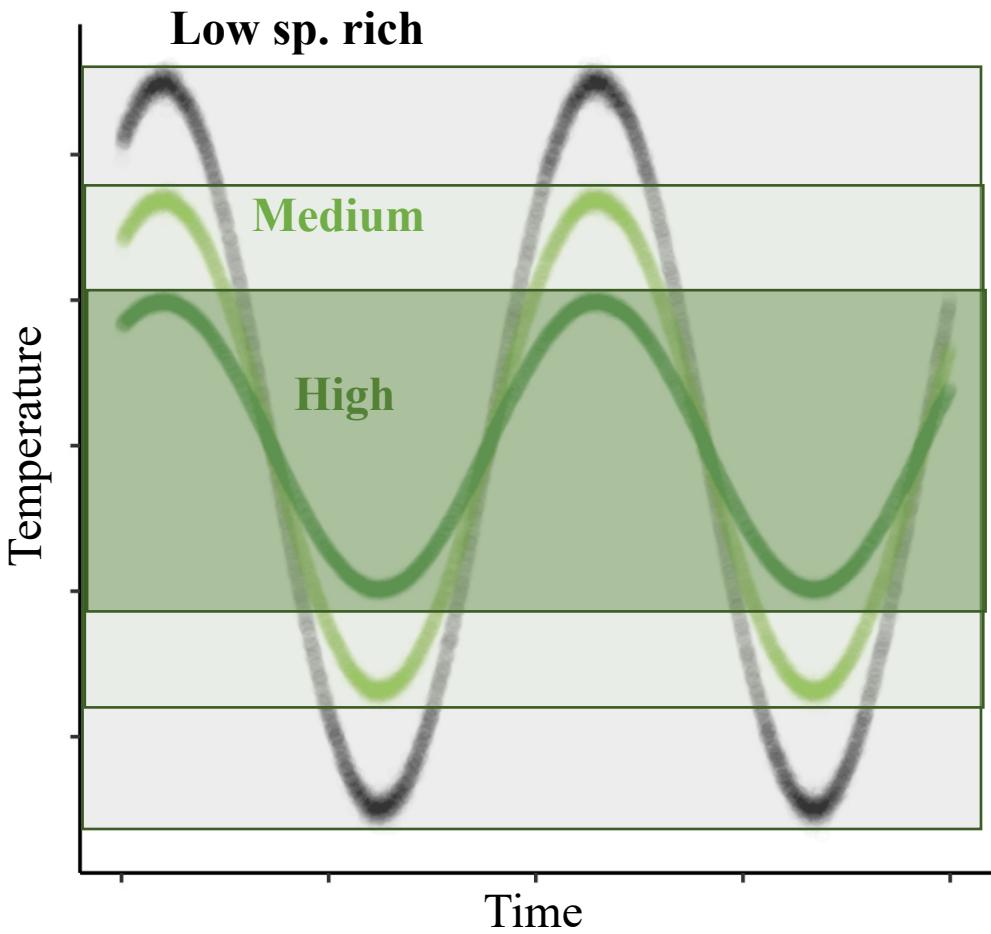
# HYPOTHESIS: TREE SPECIES RICHNESS REDUCES TEMPERATURE FLUCTUATIONS



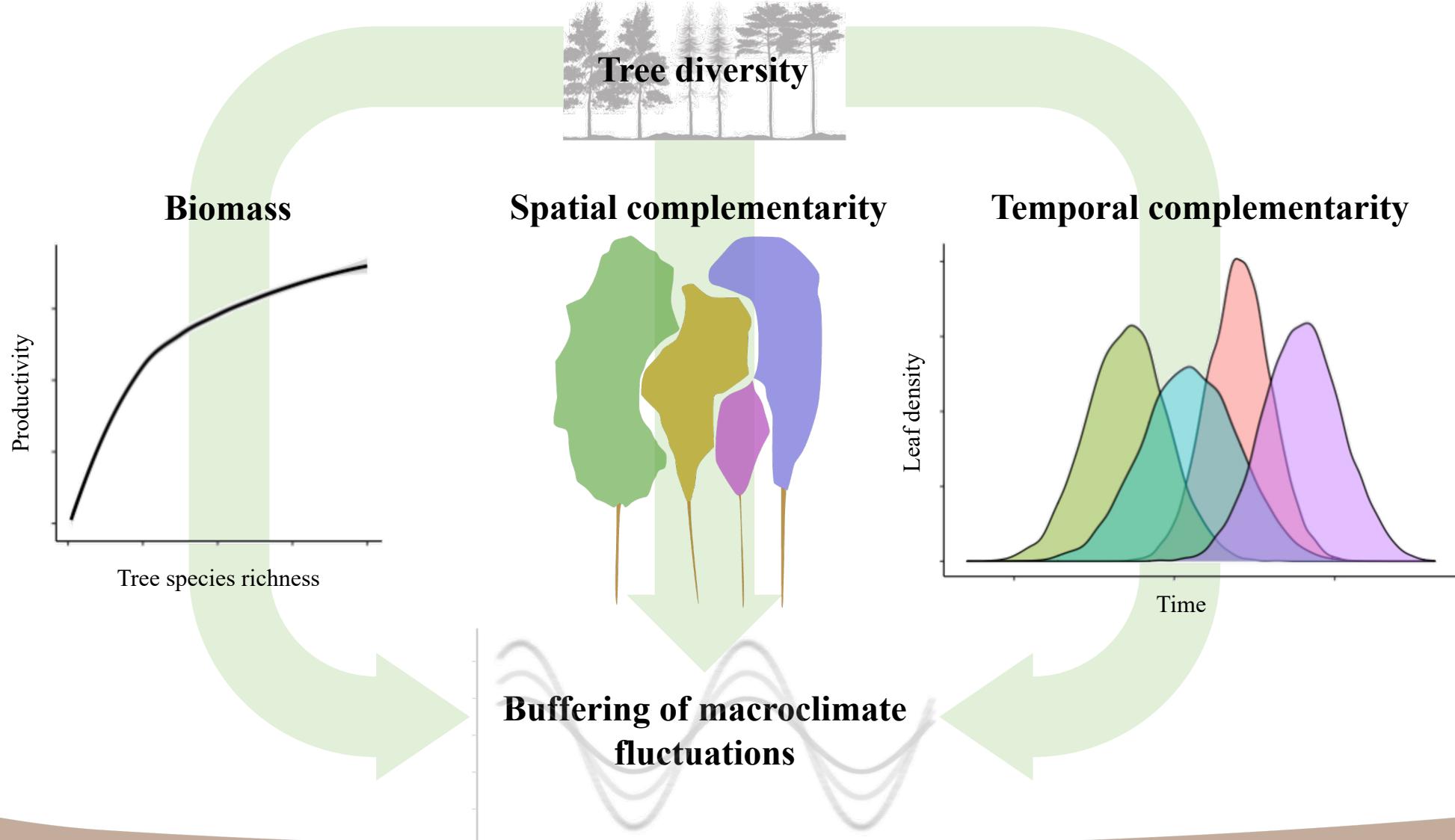
# HYPOTHESIS: TREE SPECIES RICHNESS REDUCES TEMPERATURE EXTREMES



# HYPOTHESIS: TREE SPECIES RICHNESS REDUCES TEMPERATURE FLUCTUATIONS



# HYPOTHESIS: BUFFERING MECHANISMS



# MATERIAL & METHODS: STUDY SITE



@Tobias Proß

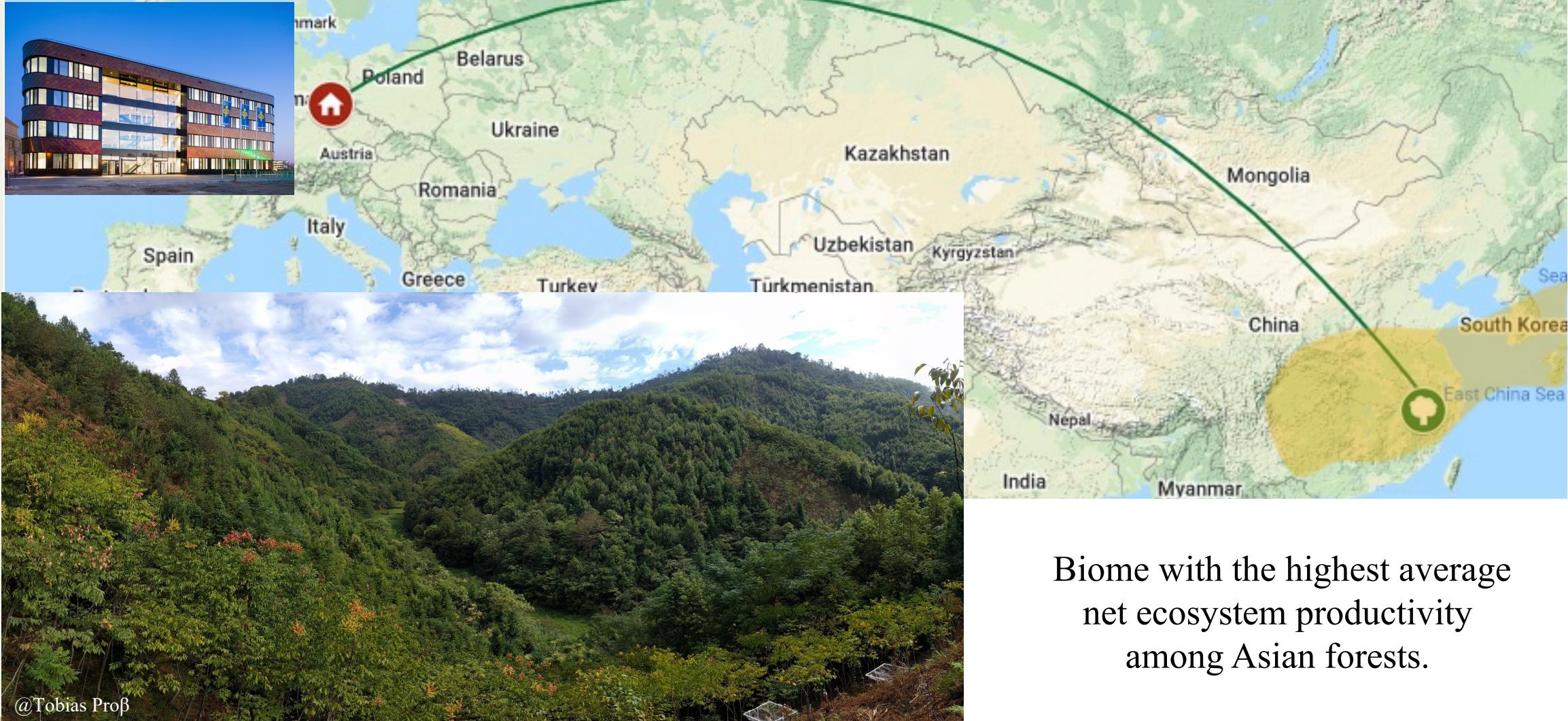
# MATERIAL & METHODS: STUDY SITE



Subtropical Chinese forests: warm,  
rainy summers and cool, dry  
winters

@Tobias Proß

# MATERIAL & METHODS: STUDY SITE



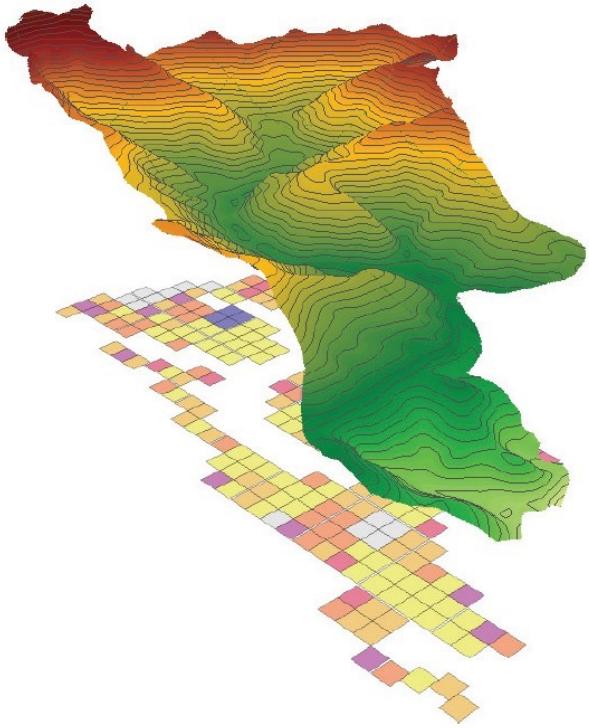
Biome with the highest average net ecosystem productivity among Asian forests.

@Tobias Proß

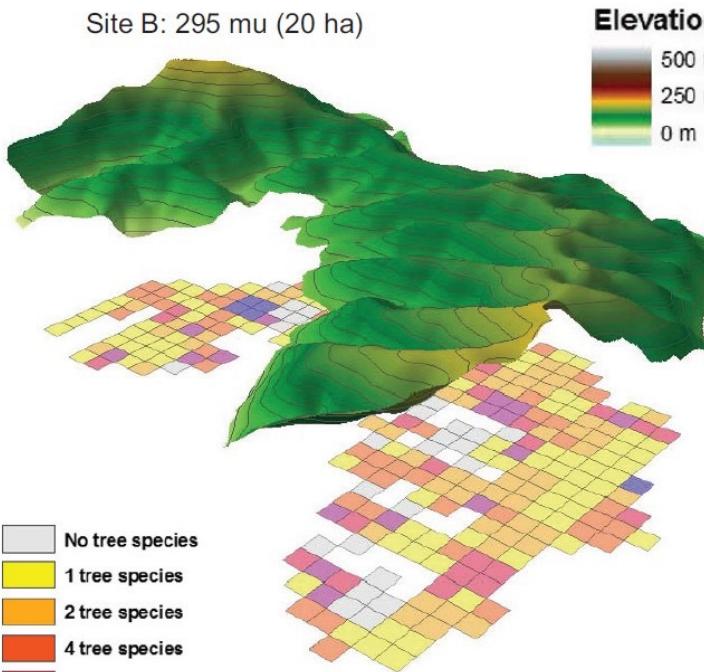
# MATERIAL & METHODS: BEF CHINA DESIGN

Bruelheide *et al.* 2014, Scholten *et al.* 2017

Site A: 271 mu (18.4 ha)



Site B: 295 mu (20 ha)



29.08-29.11° N, 117.90–117.93° E



Mean annual temperature of 16.7 °C (vs. 10.2 °C in Leipzig)



Mean annual rainfall of 1 821 mm (vs. 723 mm in Leipzig)

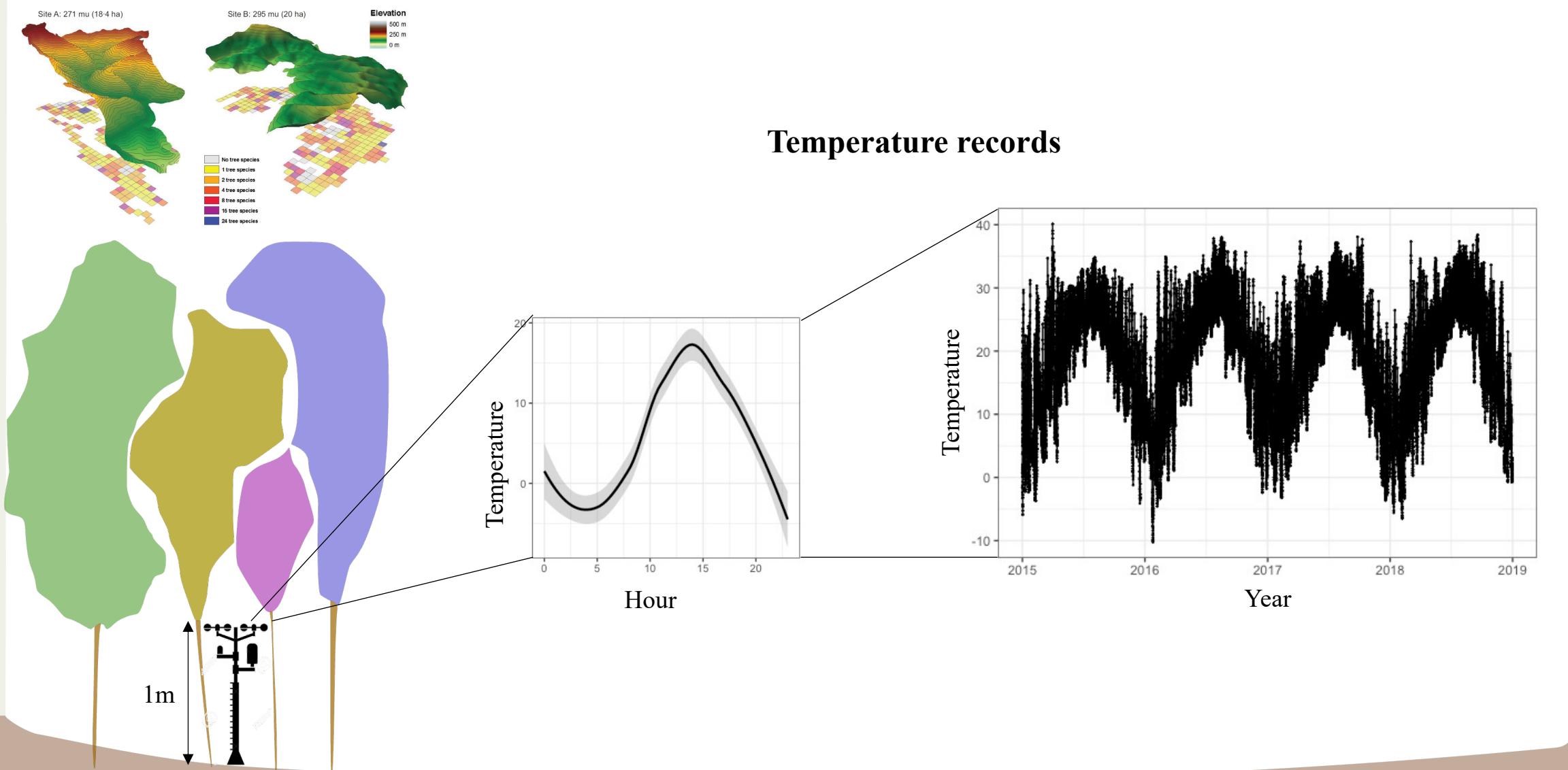


Natural vegetation:  
*Cyclobalanopsis glauca*,  
*Castanopsis eyrei*,  
*Daphniphyllum oldhamii*,  
and *Lithocarpus glaber*

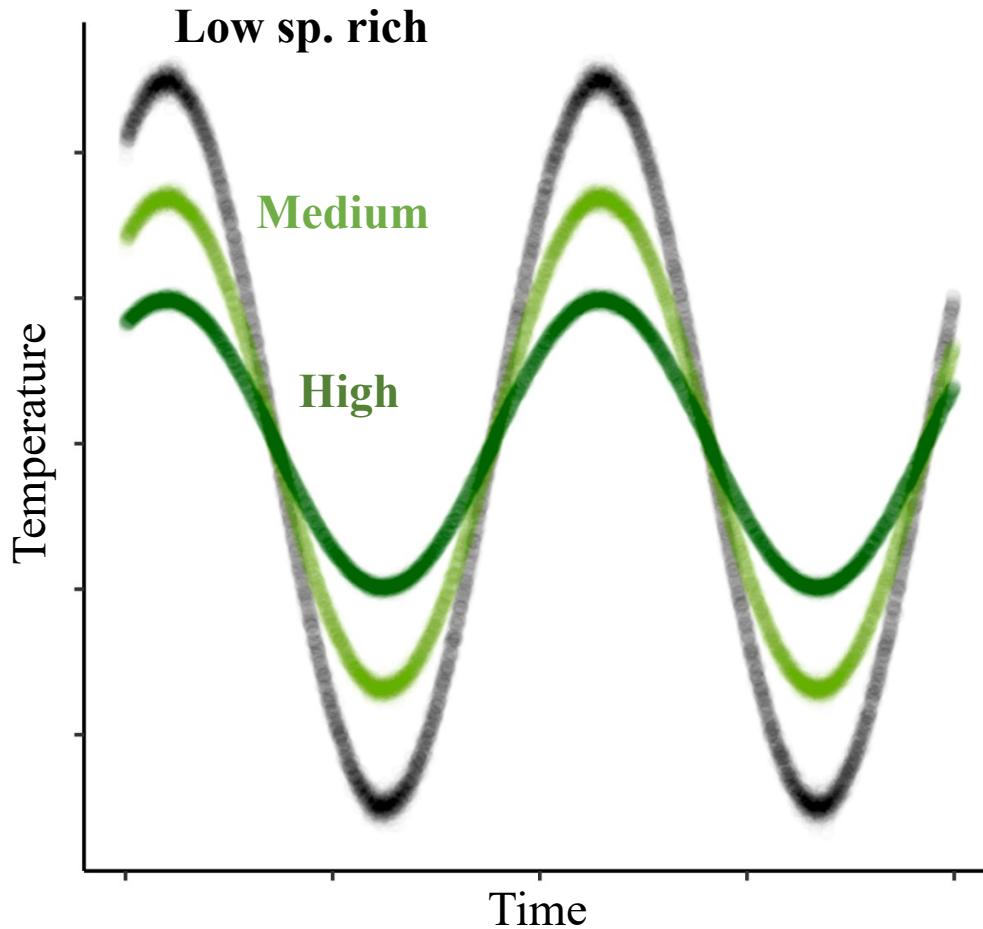


Planted in 2009 after a clear-cut of the previous commercial forests

# MATERIAL & METHODS: TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENTS



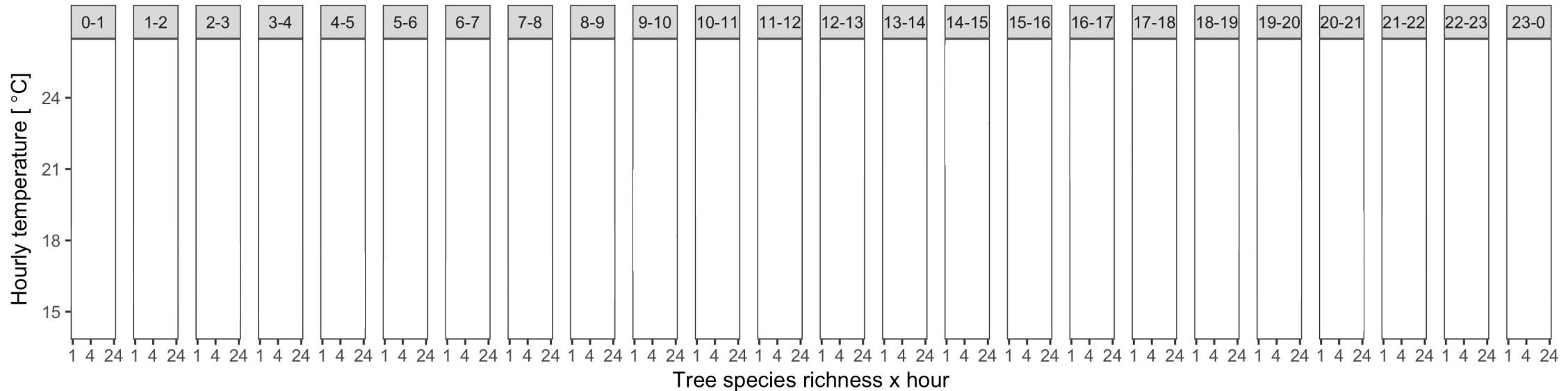
# RESULTS: TEMPERATURE DAILY FLUCTUATIONS



# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY BUFFERS TEMPERATURE FLUCTUATIONS



Daily temperature modulation

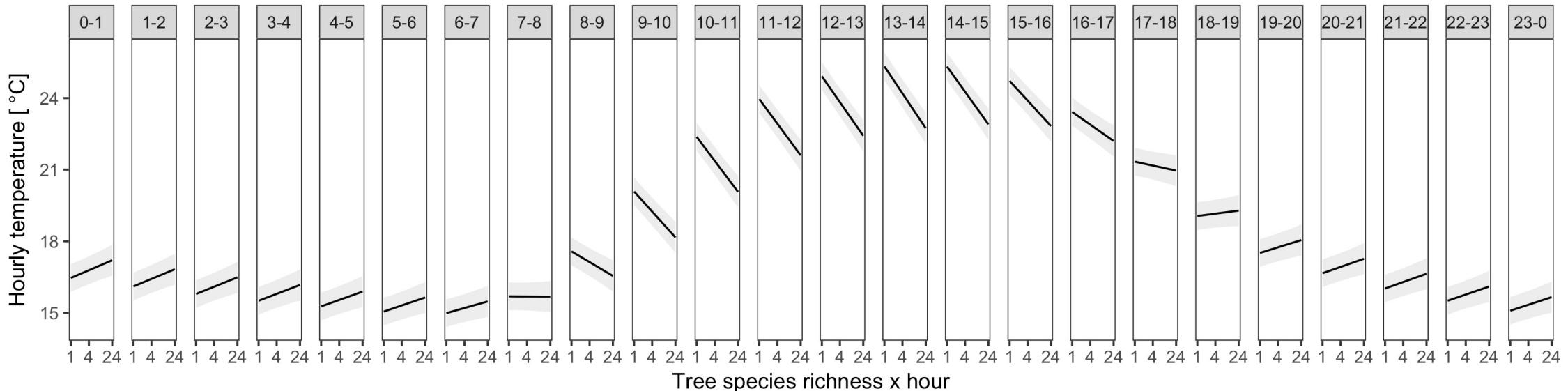


# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY BUFFERS TEMPERATURE FLUCTUATIONS

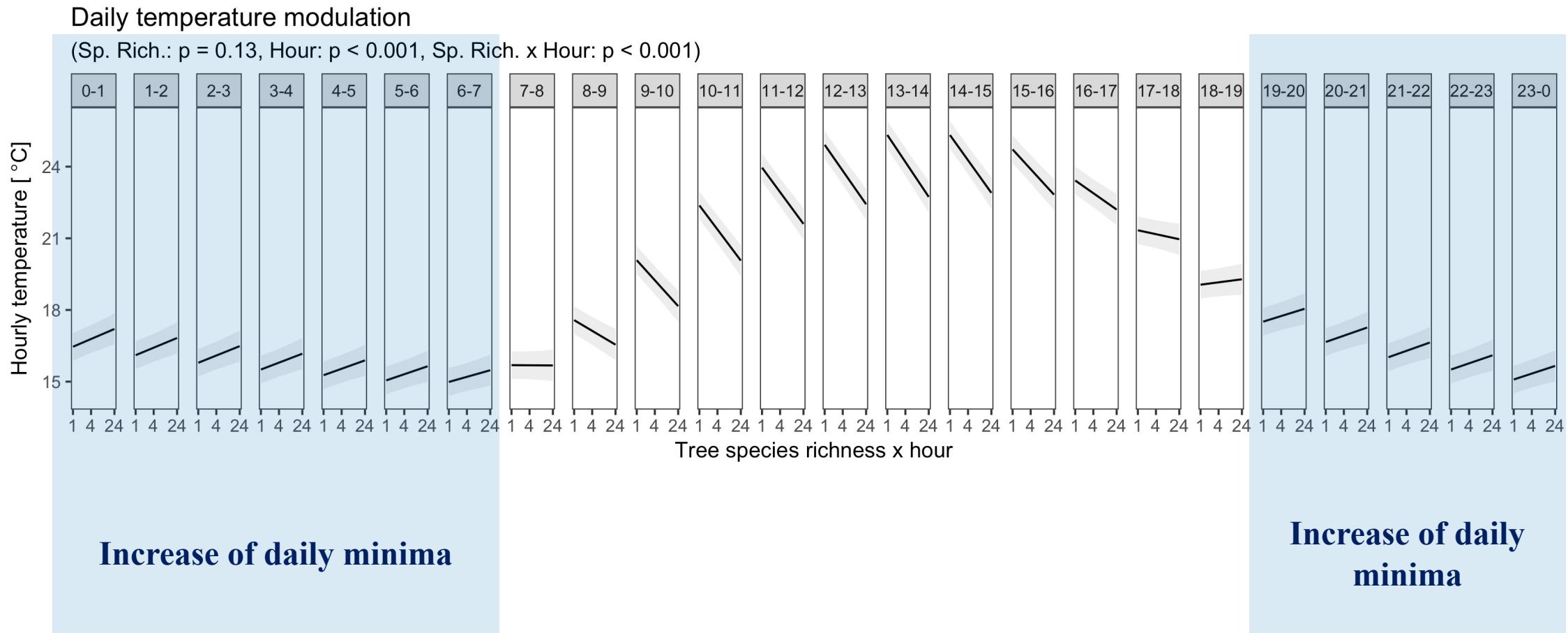


## Daily temperature modulation

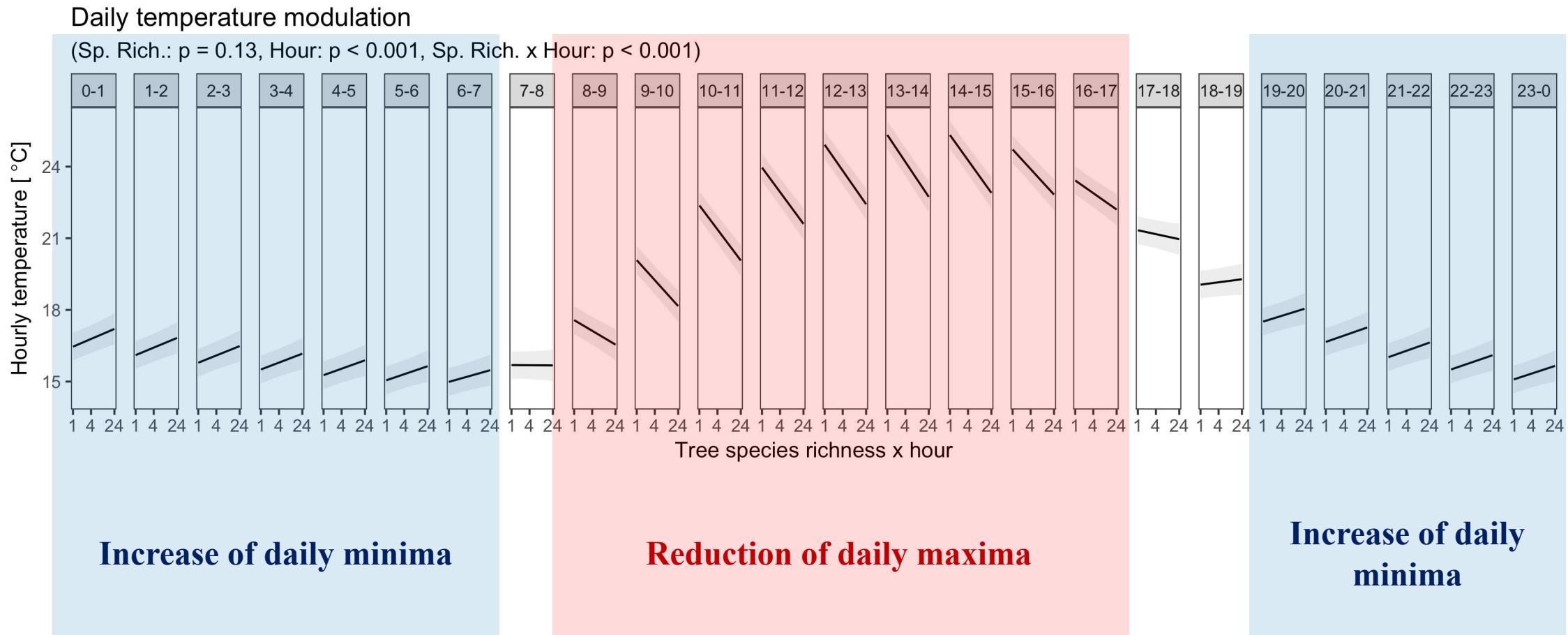
(Sp. Rich.:  $p = 0.13$ , Hour:  $p < 0.001$ , Sp. Rich. x Hour:  $p < 0.001$ )



# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY INCREASES TEMPERATURE MINIMA



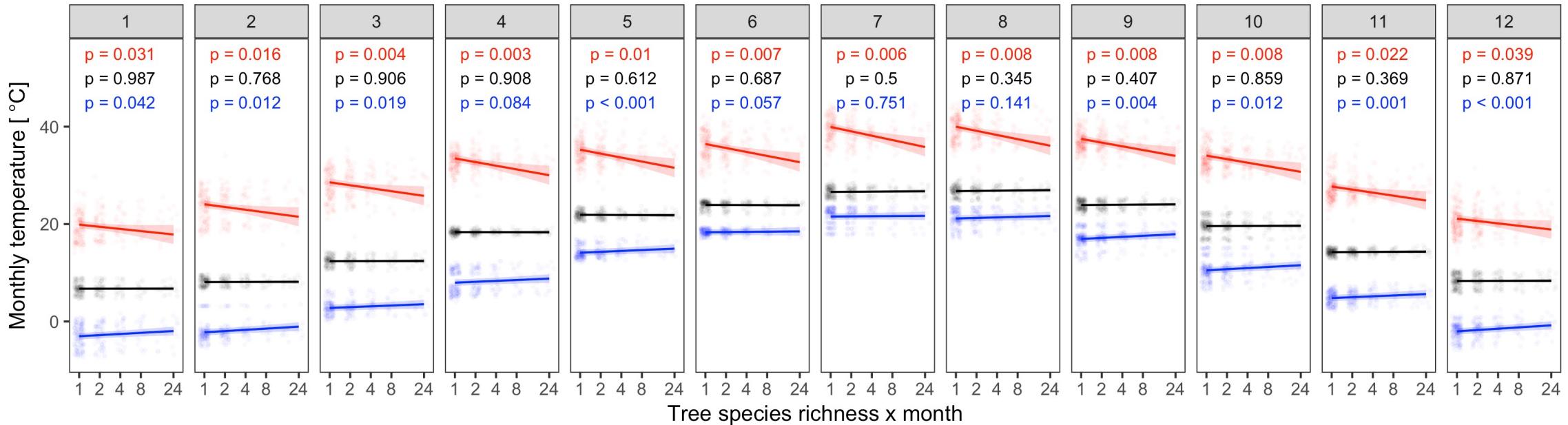
# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY DECREASES TEMPERATURE MAXIMA



# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY BUFFERS MONTHLY EXTREMES



## Monthly temperature patterns

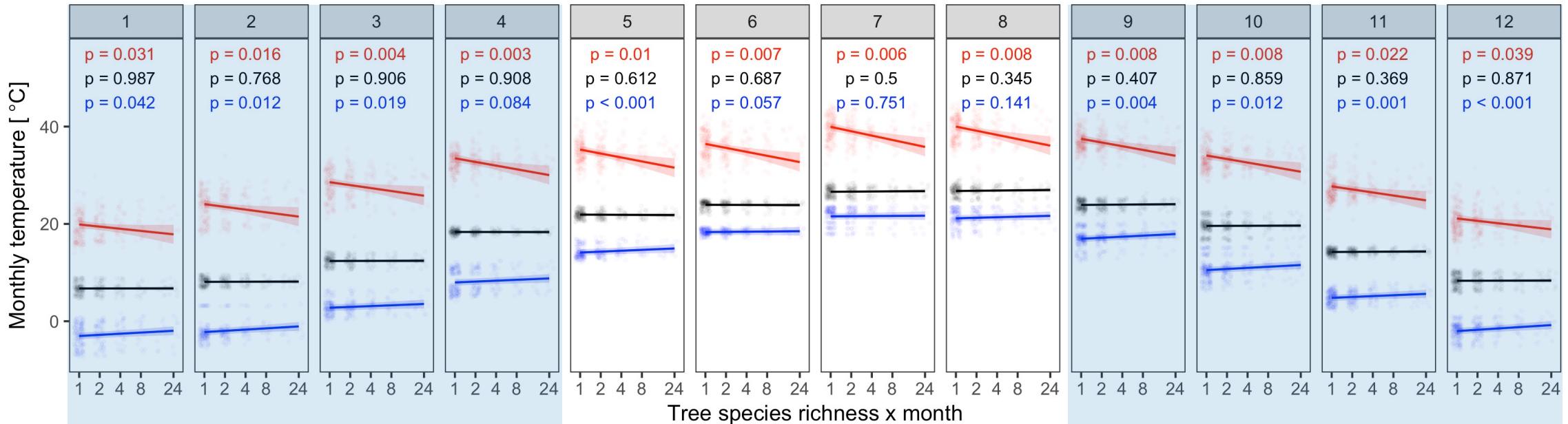


## **Reduction of temperature extrema**

# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY BUFFERS TEMPERATURE EXTREMES



Monthly temperature patterns



Strong increase of daily minima

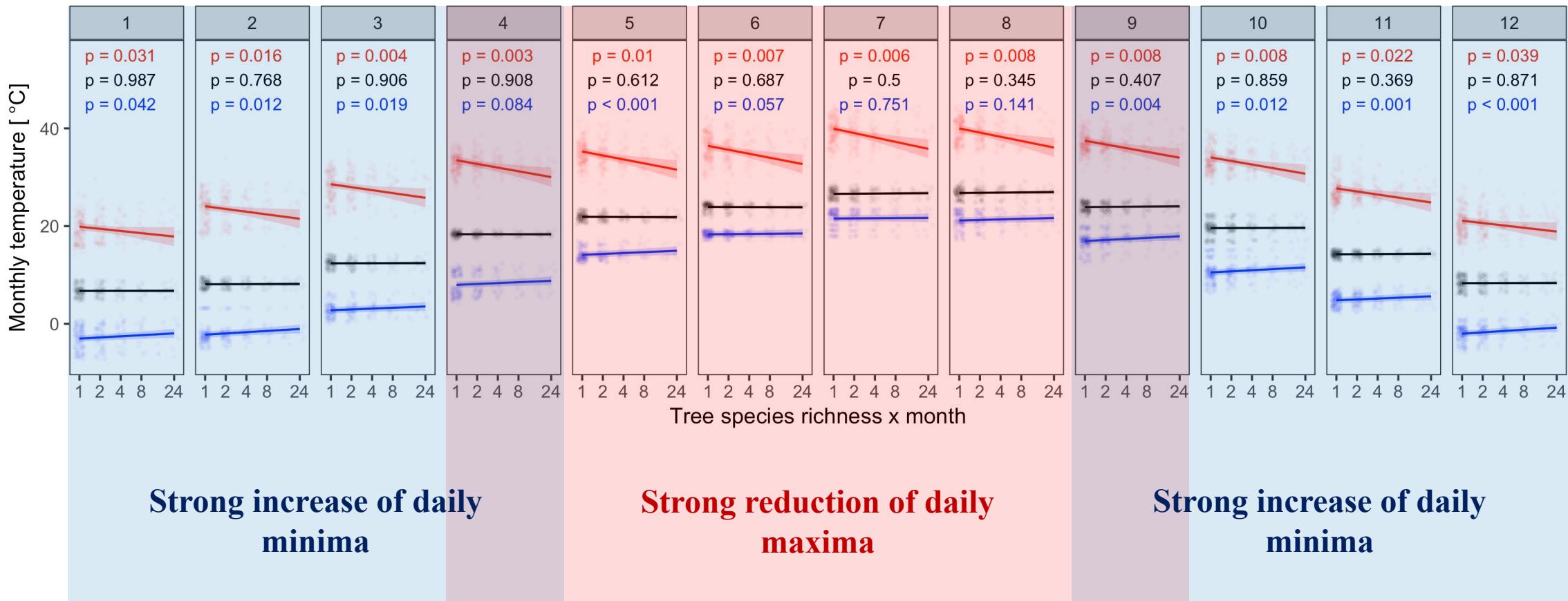
Strong increase of daily minima

Reduction of temperature extrema

# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY BUFFERS TEMPERATURE EXTREMES

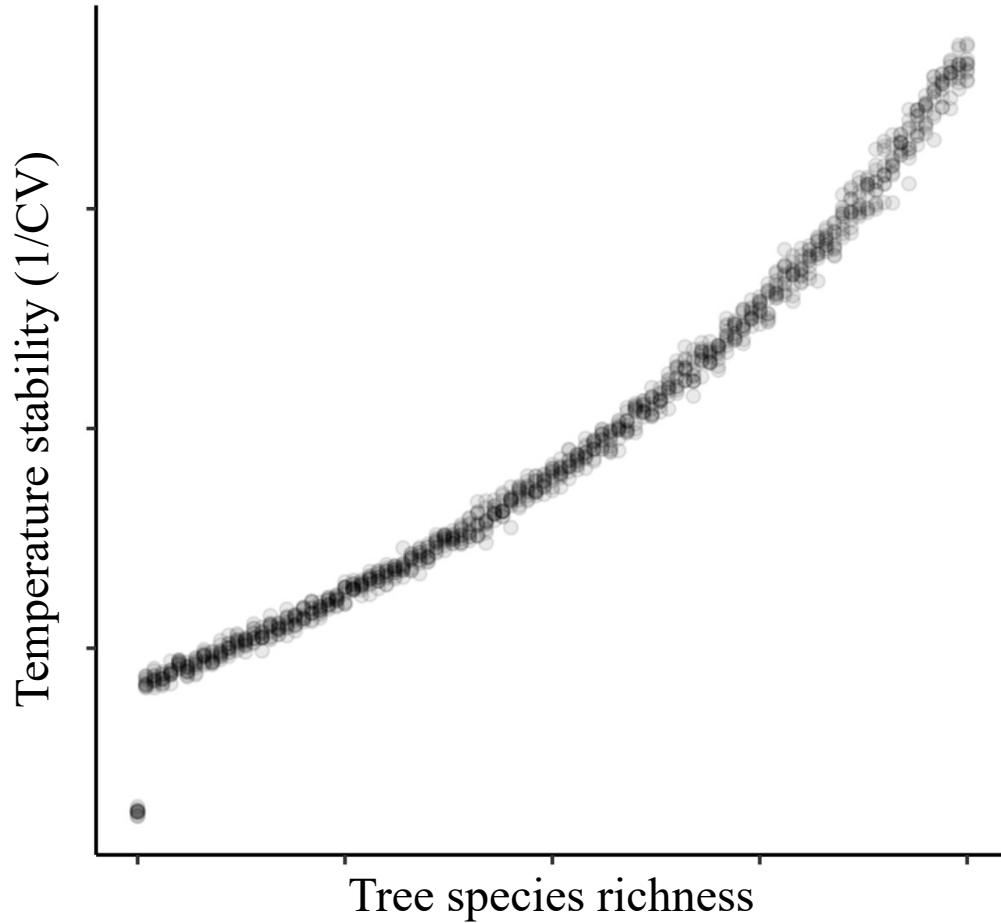


## Monthly temperature patterns



## **Reduction of temperature extrema**

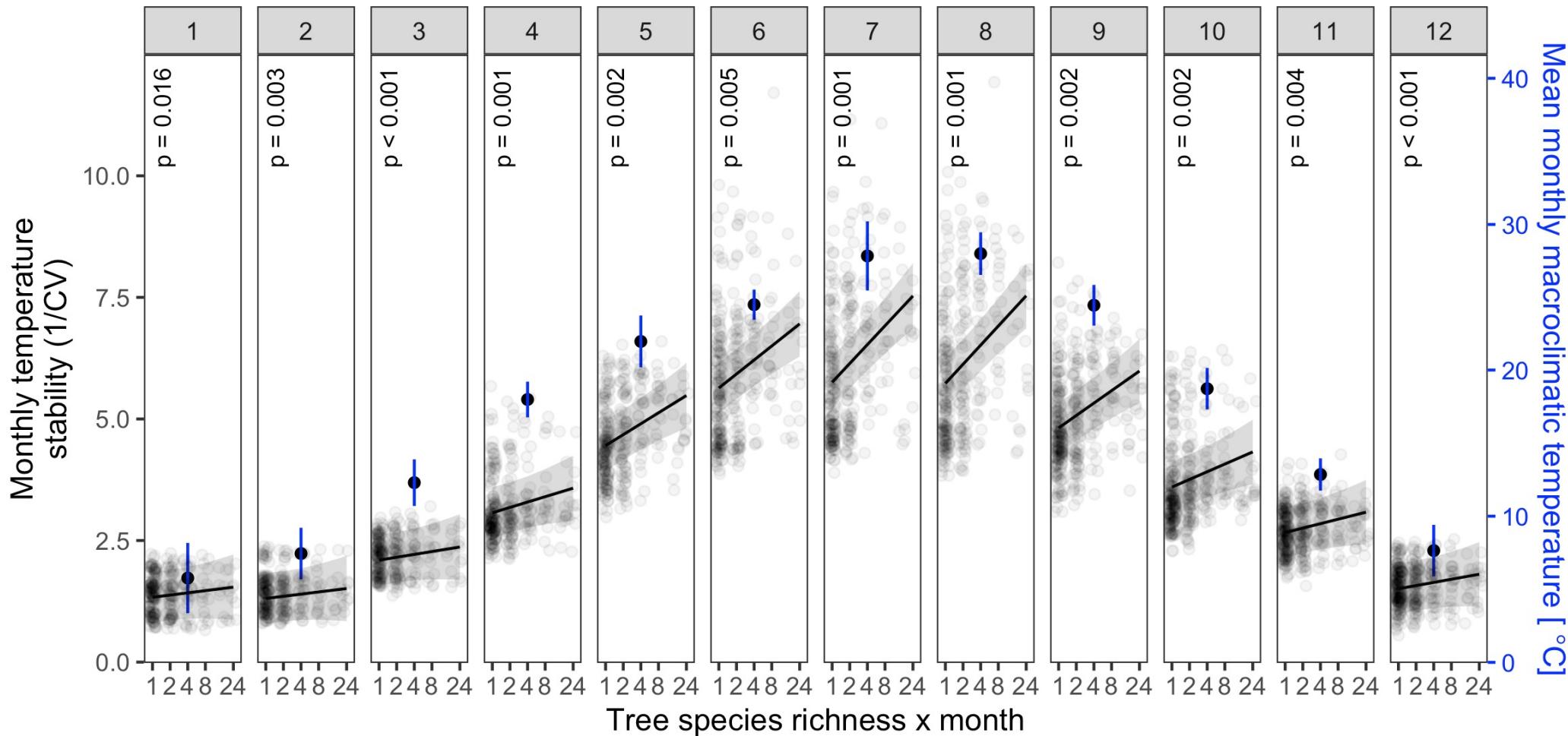
# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY EFFECT ON TEMPERATURE STABILITY



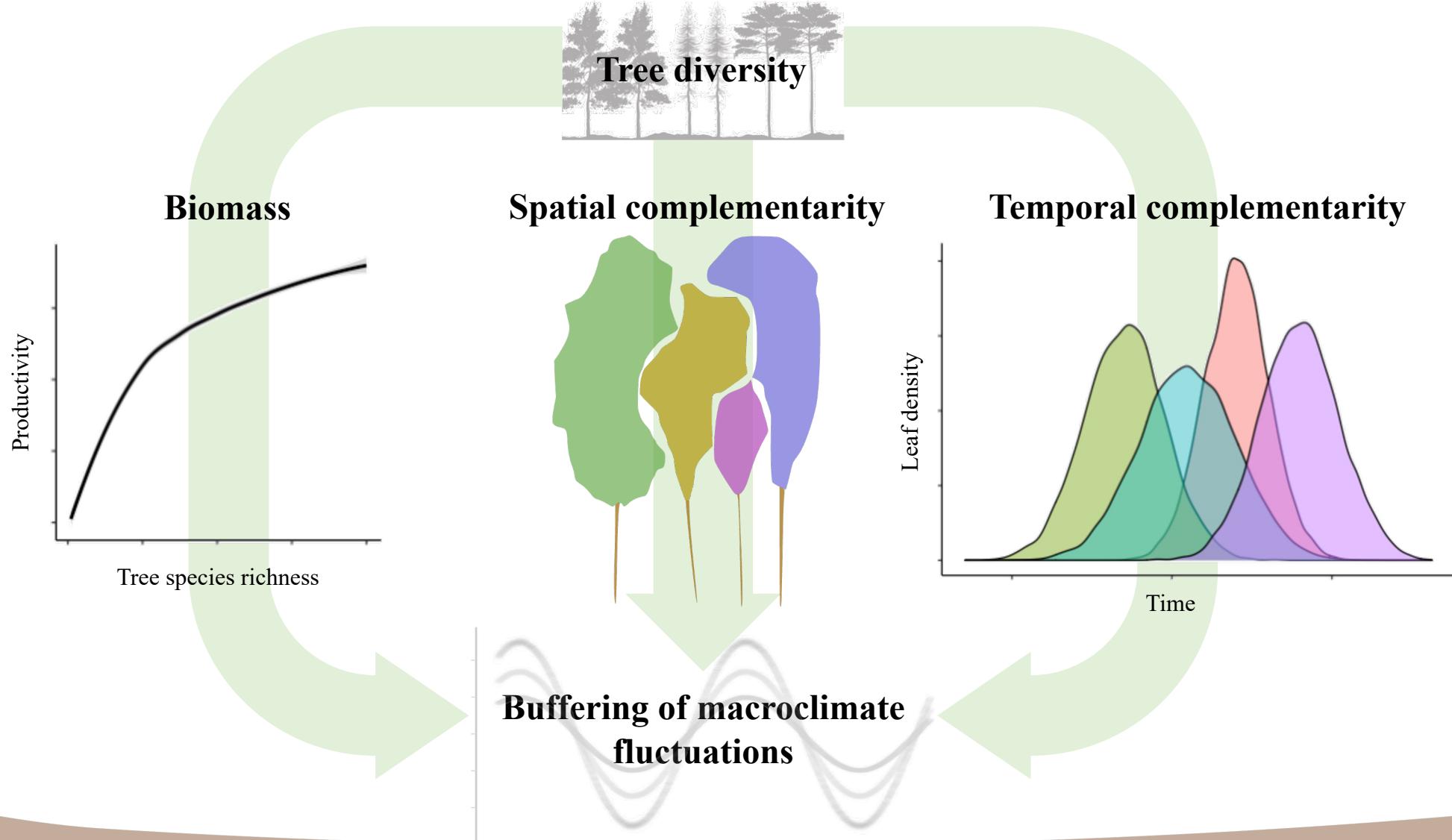
# RESULTS: TREE DIVERSITY INCREASES TEMPERATURE STABILITY



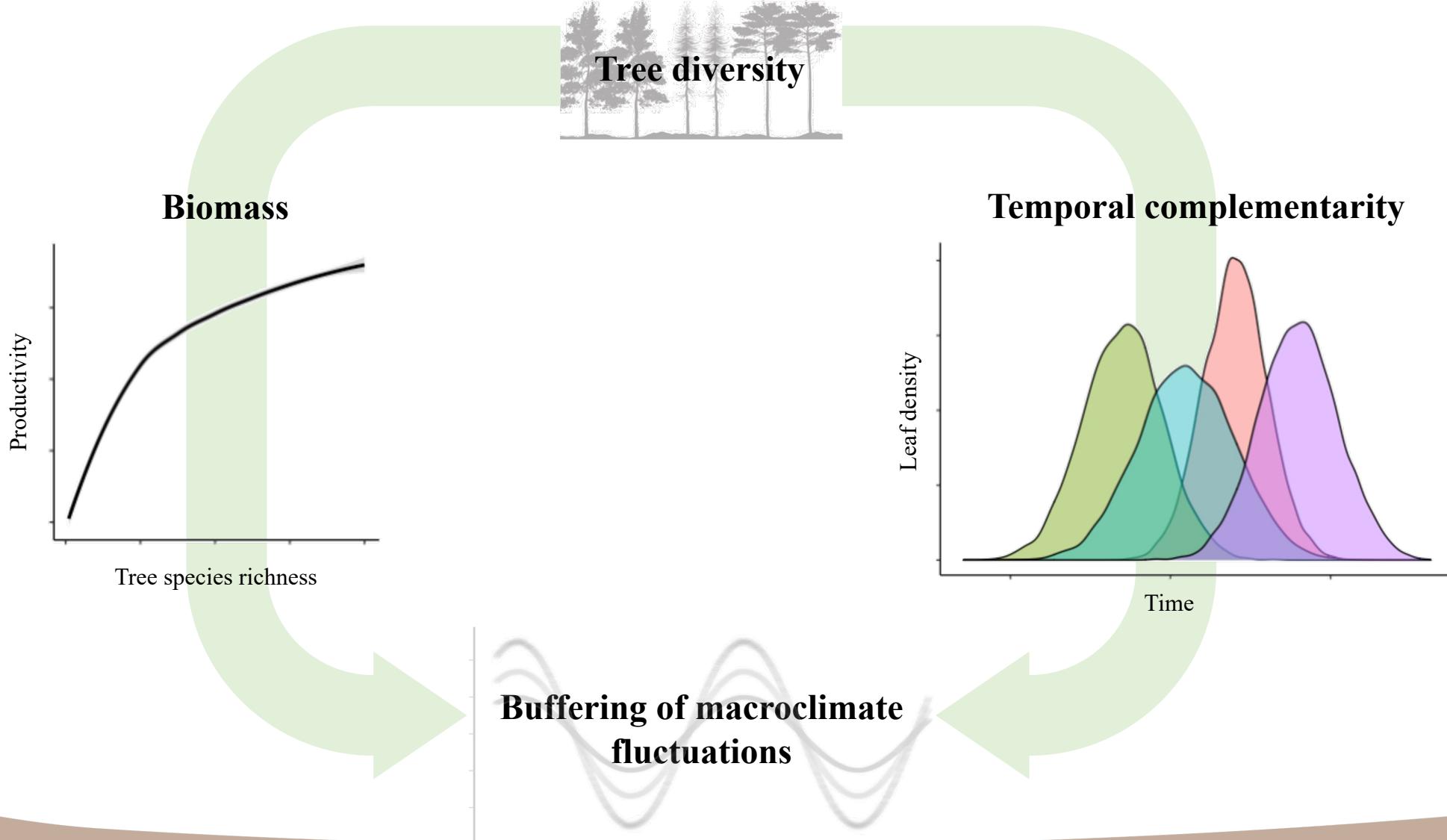
Monthly temperature buffering



# HYPOTHESIS: BUFFERING MECHANISMS



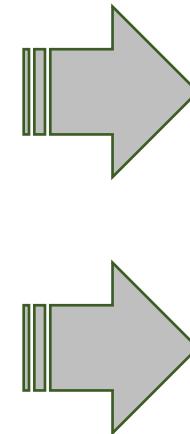
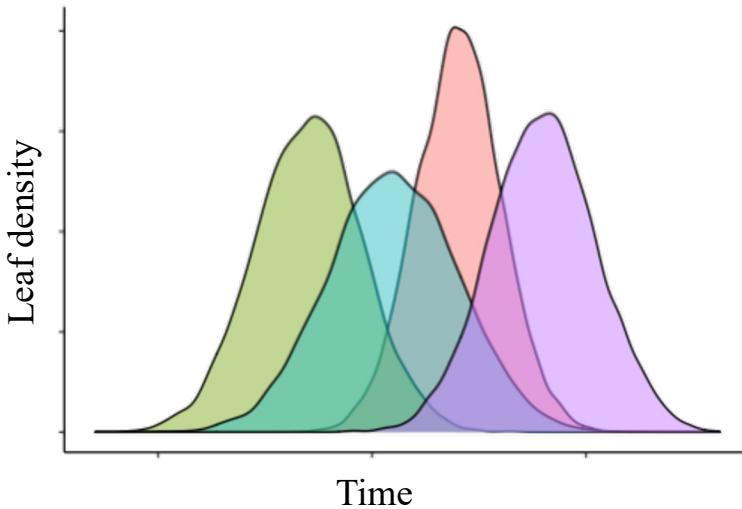
# HYPOTHESIS: BUFFERING MECHANISMS



# HYPOTHESIS: BUFFERING MECHANISMS AT MONTHLY SCALE



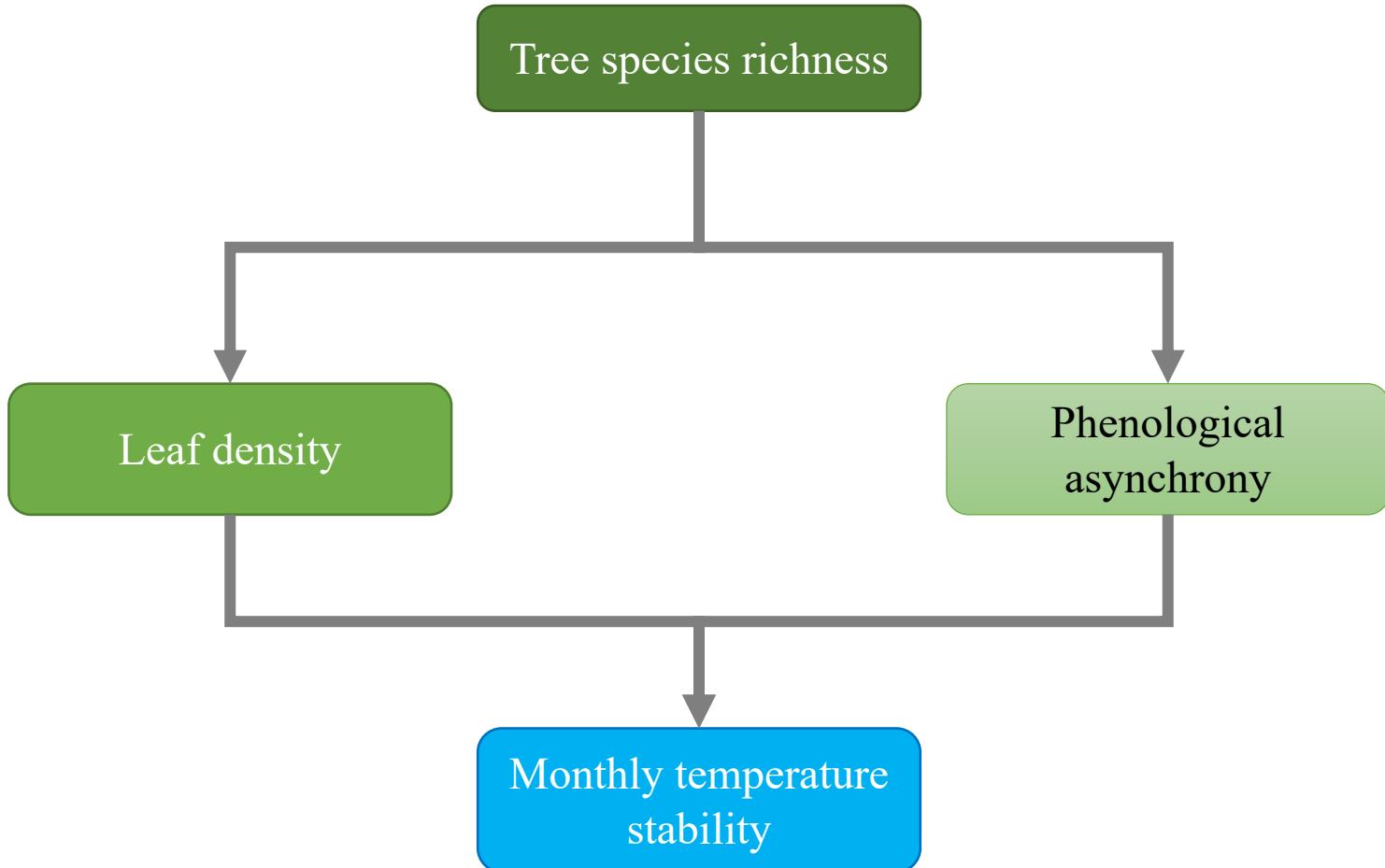
Tree leaf  
phenology  
measurements



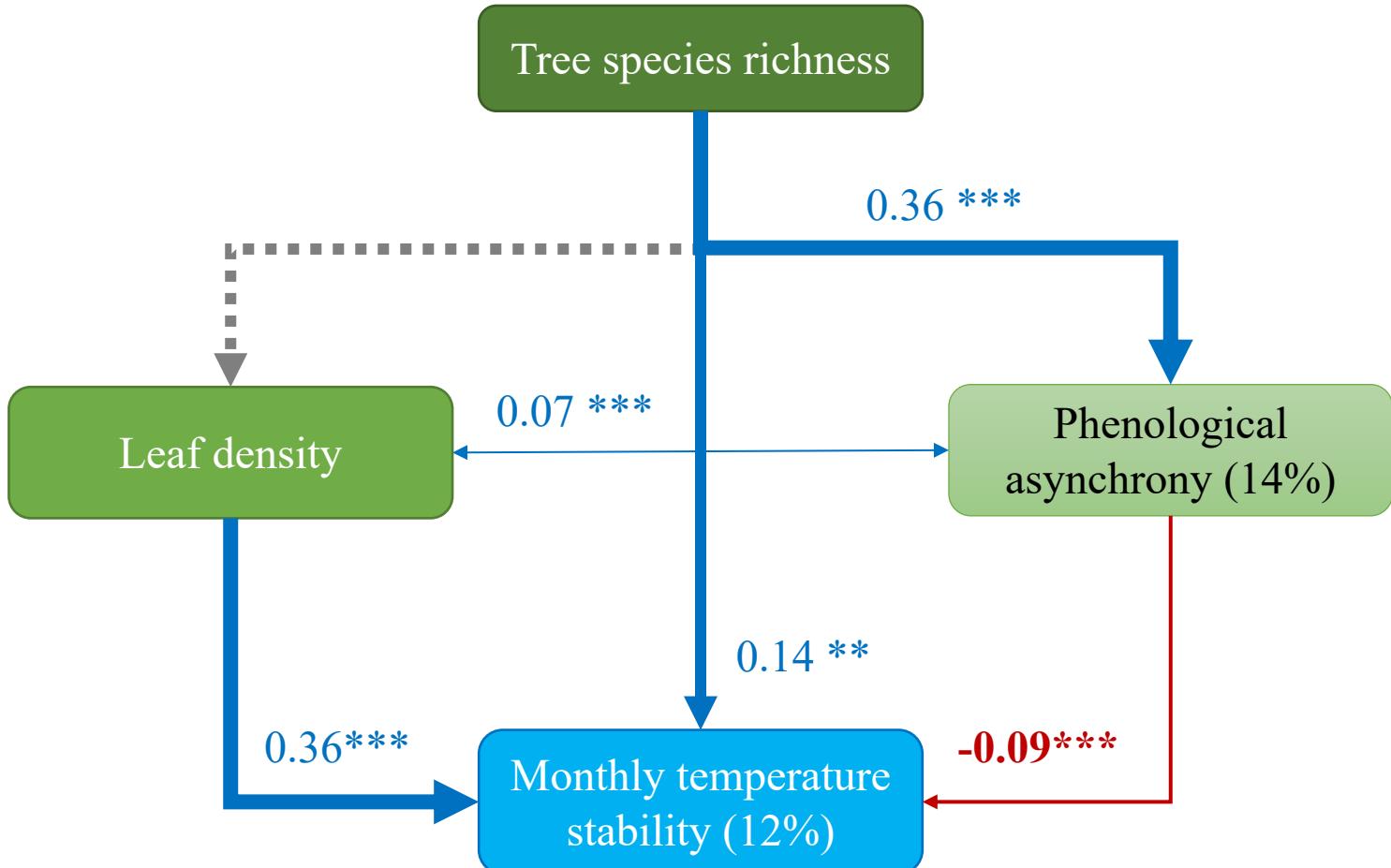
CWM of leaf density

FDis of leaf density

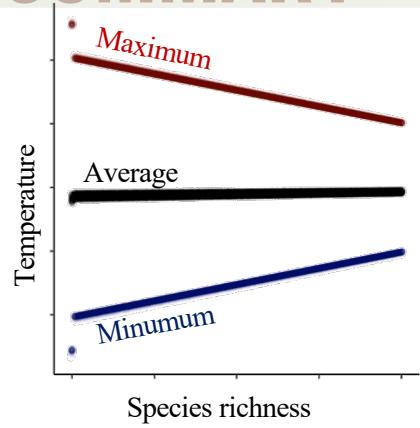
# RESULTS: MECHANISMS BEHIND TREE DIVERSITY BUFFERING OF CLIMATIC FLUCTUATIONS



## RESULTS: MECHANISMS BEHIND TREE DIVERSITY BUFFERING OF CLIMATIC FLUCTUATIONS

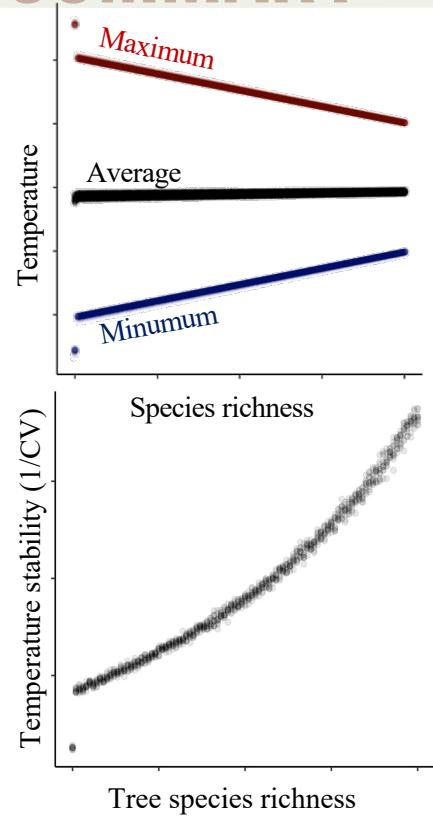


# SUMMARY



**Tree species richness reduces temperature extremes**

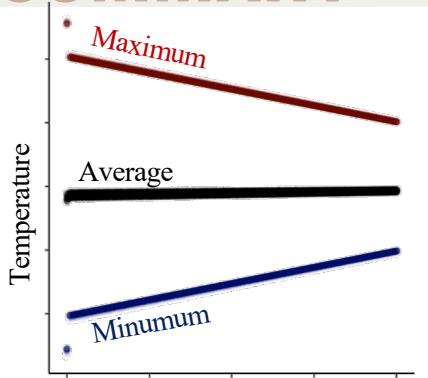
# SUMMARY



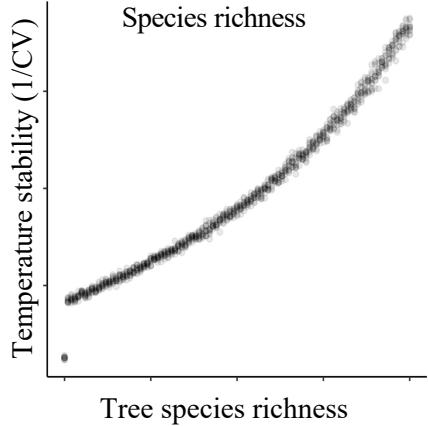
**Tree species richness reduces temperature extremes**

**Tree species richness increases temperature stability**

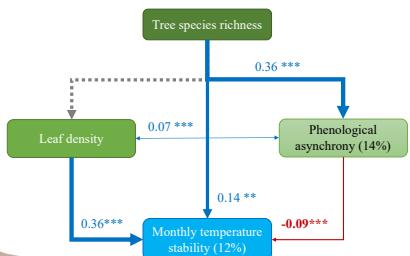
# SUMMARY



**Tree species richness reduces temperature extremes**



**Tree species richness increases temperature stability**



**Two mechanisms explaining tree species richness on monthly temperature buffering:**

- biomass production
- temporal asynchrony

# PERSPECTIVES: DIVERSE FORESTS TO PROTECT MICROCLIMATE



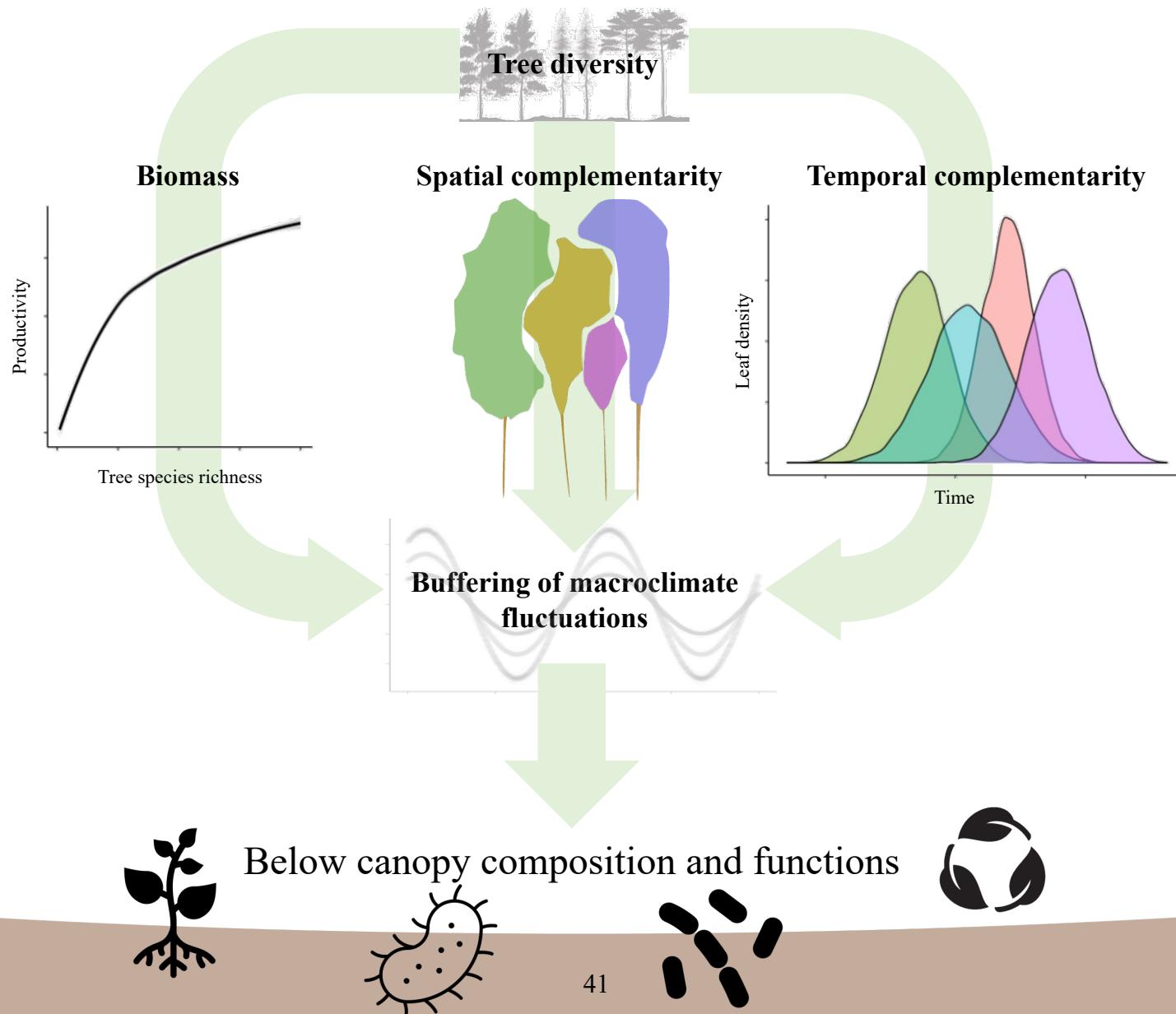
Messier et al 2019  
Beugnon et al 2021, Schnabel et al. 2021

# PERSPECTIVES: DIVERSE FORESTS TO PROTECT ECOSYSTEM FUCNTIONS



Messier et al 2019  
Beugnon et al 2021, Schnabel et al. 2021

# PERSPECTIVES: A NEW MECHANISM TO UNDERSTAND BEF RELATIONSHIPS



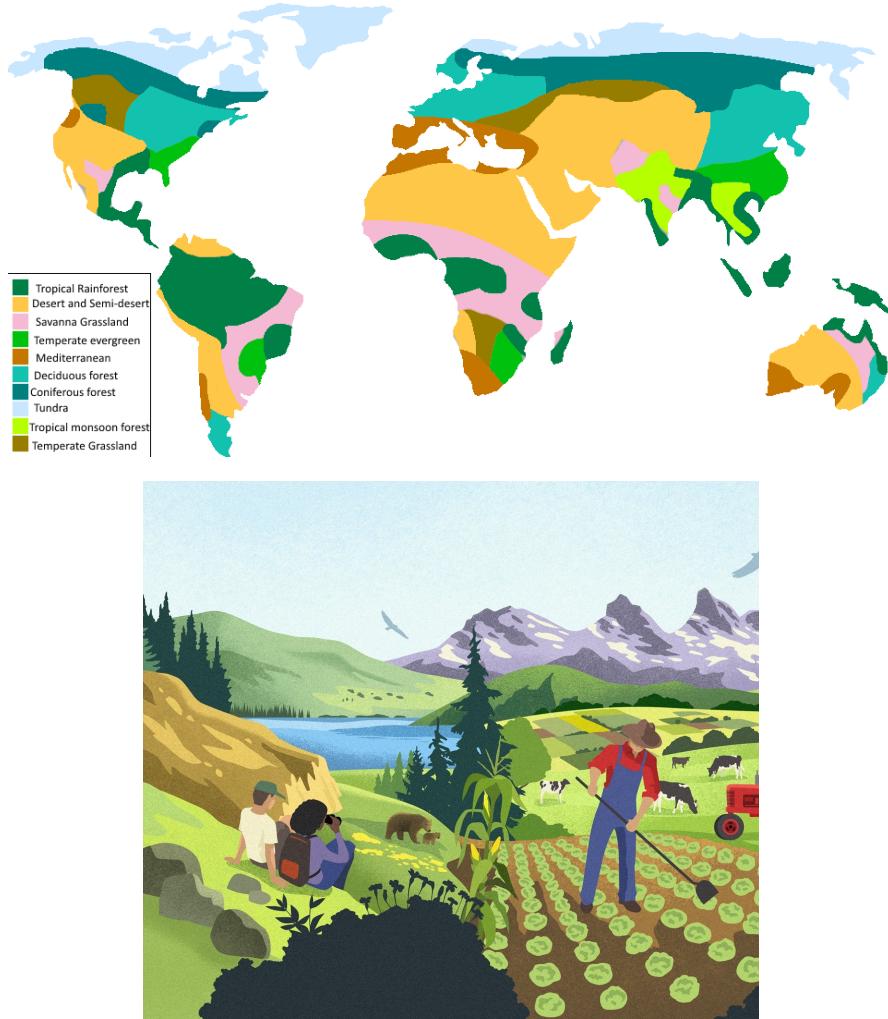
# FOLLOW UP

A global analysis ...

... across ecosystems,

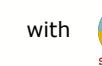
...

... across land uses



## Vegetation diversity buffers soil microclimatic extremes: phenomenon and mechanisms

Rémy Beugnon<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Jonas Lembrechts<sup>4</sup>, Nico Eisenhauer<sup>1,2</sup>, Stephan Hättenschwiler<sup>3</sup> & Manfred Wendisch<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig (Leipzig, Germany)  
<sup>2</sup> Leipzig University (Leipzig, Germany)  
<sup>3</sup> Centre d'Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolution (CEFE), CNRS (Montpellier France)  
<sup>4</sup> Research Group PLECO (Plants and Ecosystems), University of Antwerp, Wilrijk, Belgium

### Introduction

The frequency and intensity of extreme climatic events is increasing.

Belowground communities and functions are highly sensitive to changes in microclimatic conditions (Cesarz *et al.*, 2021, Gottschall *et al.*, 2019).

Vegetation has shown its potential to mitigate external macroclimatic conditions by buffering macroclimatic fluctuations (de Frenne *et al.*, 2019, 2021).

Higher vegetation diversity increases primary productivity and vegetation period (Huang *et al.*, 2018; Sapijanskas *et al.*, 2014).

Vegetation diversity should increase the buffering of macroclimatic fluctuations.

### Objectives

Here, we propose to:

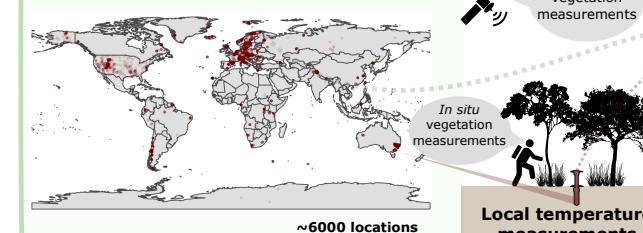
Quantify the effect of vegetation diversity on climatic buffering ...

... across ecosystems using the SoilTemp database and remote-sensing measurements of the vegetation.

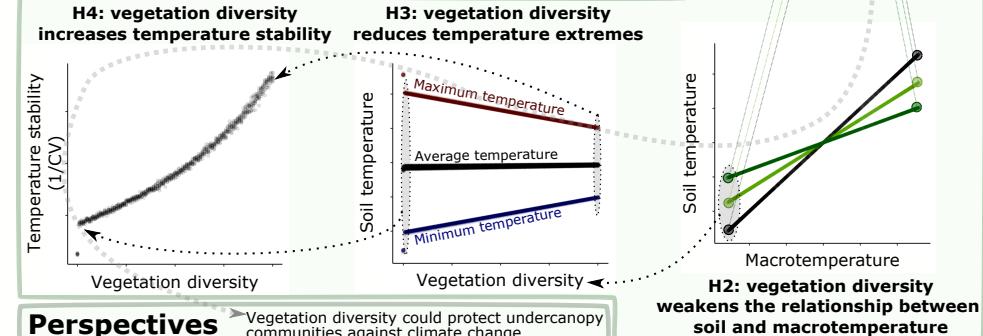
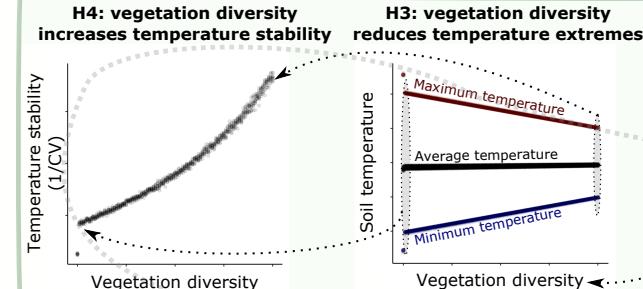
Understand the mechanisms behind vegetation diversity effects on climatic buffering using *in situ* measurements of the vegetation.

### Methods

#### Global temperature sampling



#### H4: vegetation diversity increases temperature stability



#### H3: vegetation diversity reduces temperature extremes

#### H2: vegetation diversity weakens the relationship between soil and macrotemperature

Perspectives → Vegetation diversity could protect undercanopy communities against climate change

You measured soil temperature and would like to contribute to these analyses drop us a line!

[remy.beugnon@idiv.de](mailto:remy.beugnon@idiv.de)

@BeugnonRemy



# THANK YOU



Rémy Beugnon<sup>†</sup>, Florian Schnabel<sup>†</sup>, Yang Bo<sup>†</sup>, Simone Cesarz, Nico Eisenhauer,  
Maria D. Perles Garcia, Georg Haehn, Werner Härdtle, Yuanyuan Huang, Matthias  
Kunz, Xiaojuan Liu, Nadia C. Castro Izaguirre, PA Niklaus, Goddert von Oheimb,  
Katrine A. Pietsch, Ronny Richter, Bernhard Schmid, Stefan Trogisch, Christian Wirth,  
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