

Effects of temperature and moisture variability on soil CO₂ emissions in European land ecosystems

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Content



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- **Introduction**
- **Research questions**
- **How did we do our measurements?**
- **Findings**
- **Conclusions**

Introduction

- **Climate change -> varying temperature & increase of frequency and intensity of precipitation**
 - Soil redox reactions -> control production and emission of greenhouse gases
 - Climate change research -> temperature and moisture
- **Soils influence climate by releasing CO₂**
 - by-product of decomposition of organic matter
 - Soil microbial processes that emit and consume greenhouse gases
 - Heterotrophic soil respiration (excluding autotrophic)
- **Temperature and moisture effects – generally speaking**
 - Chemical and microbial processes increase with temperature
 - Moisture content influences gas diffusivity and is important for substrate supply

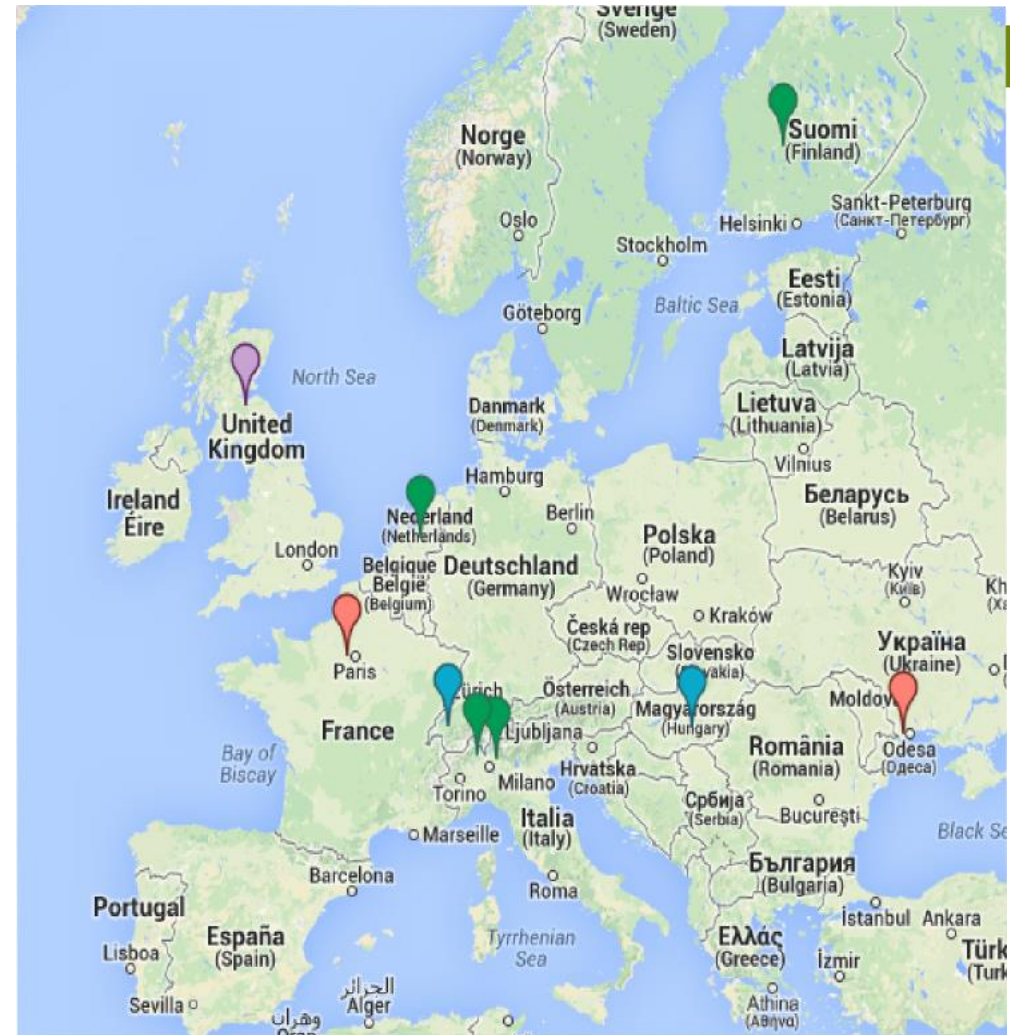
Research questions

- **At which temperature and moisture, respectively, do we see maximum CO₂ efflux?**
- **How to calculate temperature and moisture sensitivities of CO₂ efflux?**
- **What is the influence of moisture and land-use on temperature sensitivity of CO₂ efflux?**
- **What is the influence of temperature and land-use on moisture sensitivity of CO₂ efflux?**

How did we do it?



- 4 landuses
 - Forest (deciduous & coniferous), arable lands, grasslands, peat land
- Two-factorial design
 - 5 temperatures
 - 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 °C
 - 5 moisture contents
 - 5, 20, 40, 60, 80 (100) % WFPS

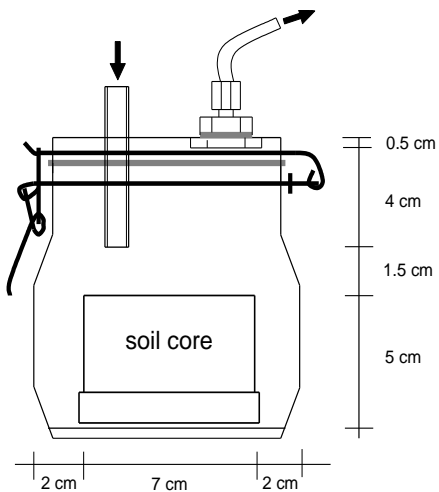


How did we do it?



Automated laboratory incubation measurement system

- 22 h continuous measurement
 - PP SYSTEMS WMA-2 infrared CO₂
- OpenChamber in incubator
 - Automated measurement system

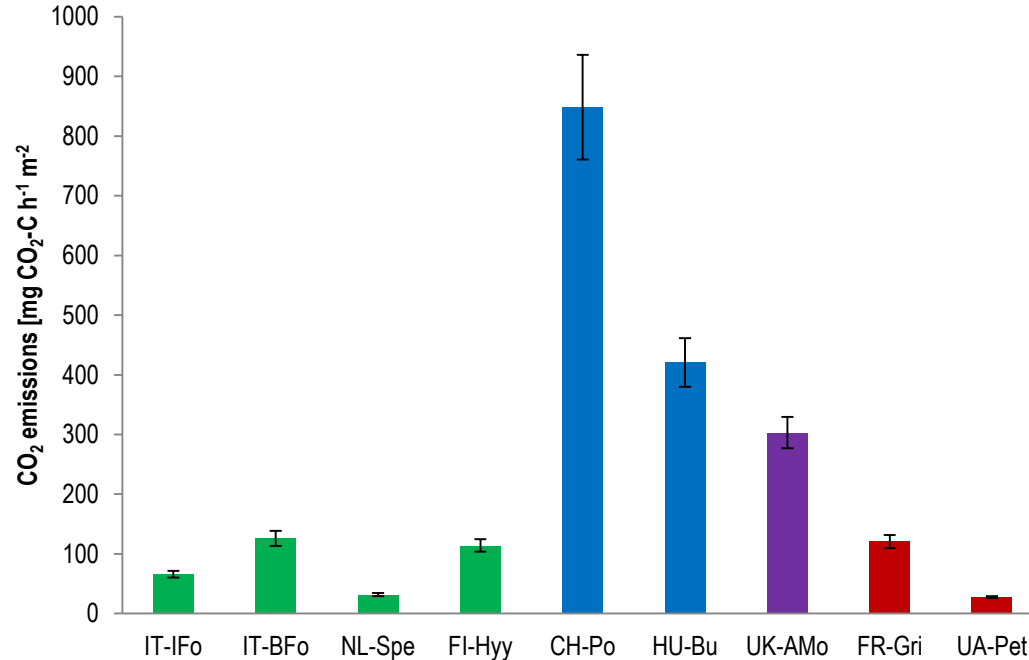


Findings

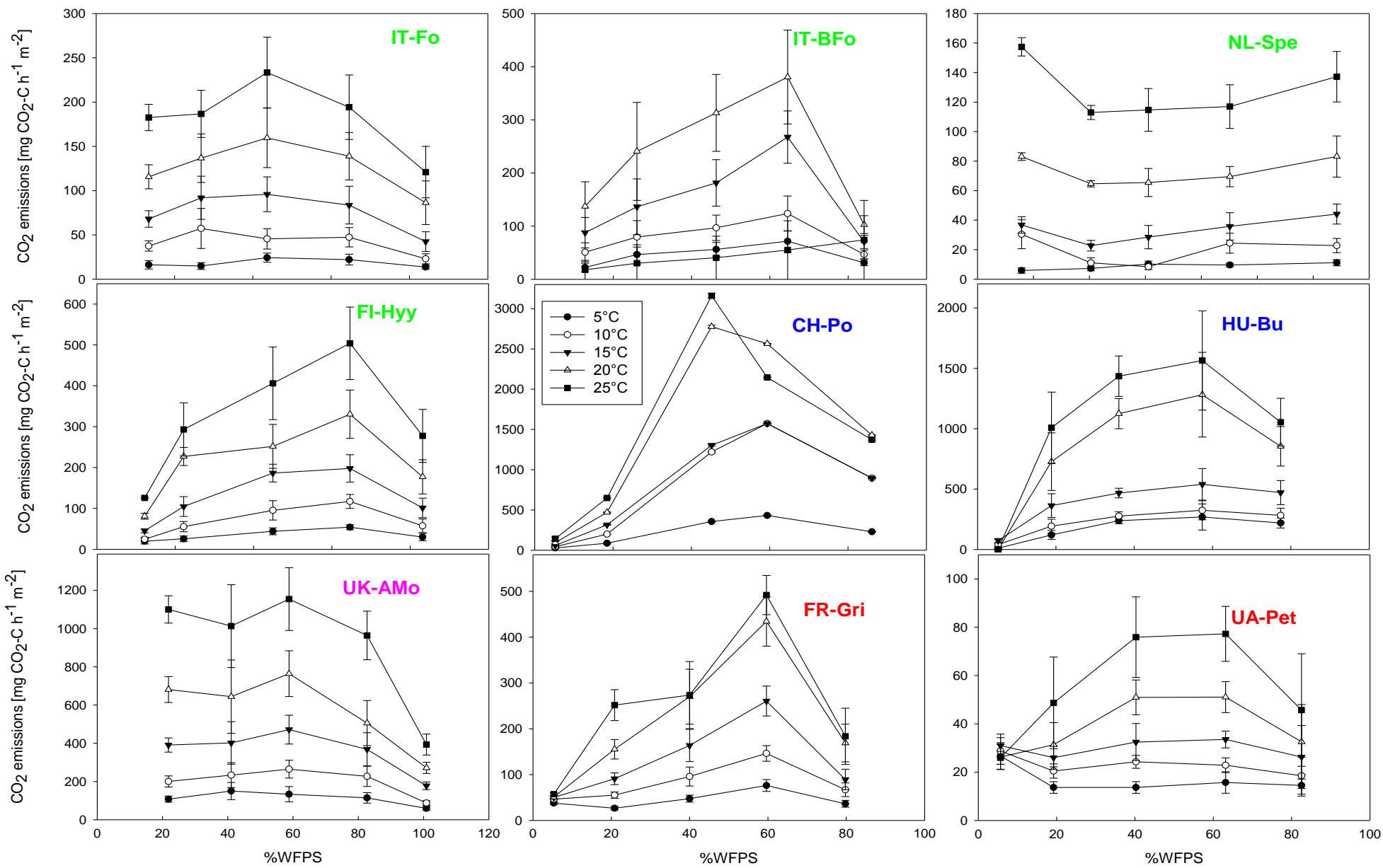


- Land-use generally had a substantial influence on carbon dioxide fluxes
 - grassland > peatland > forest = arable land

CO₂ - Mean values per site



Findings

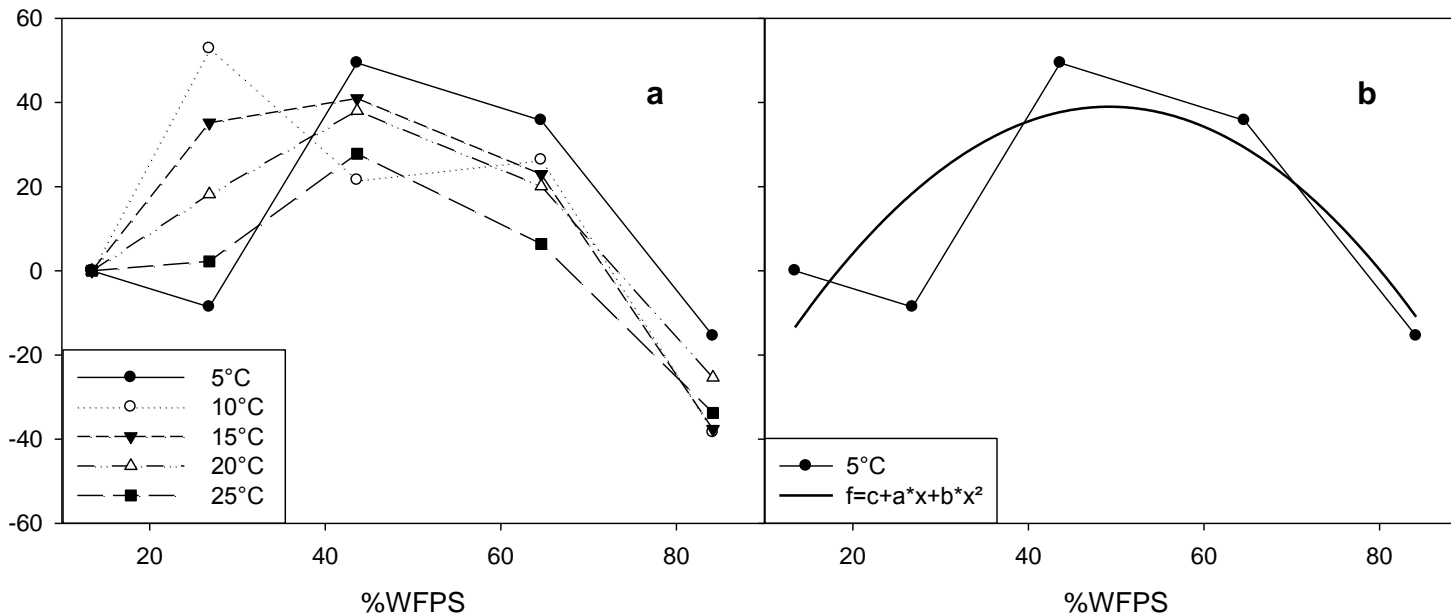


Moisture sensitivity – Slope of quadratic function



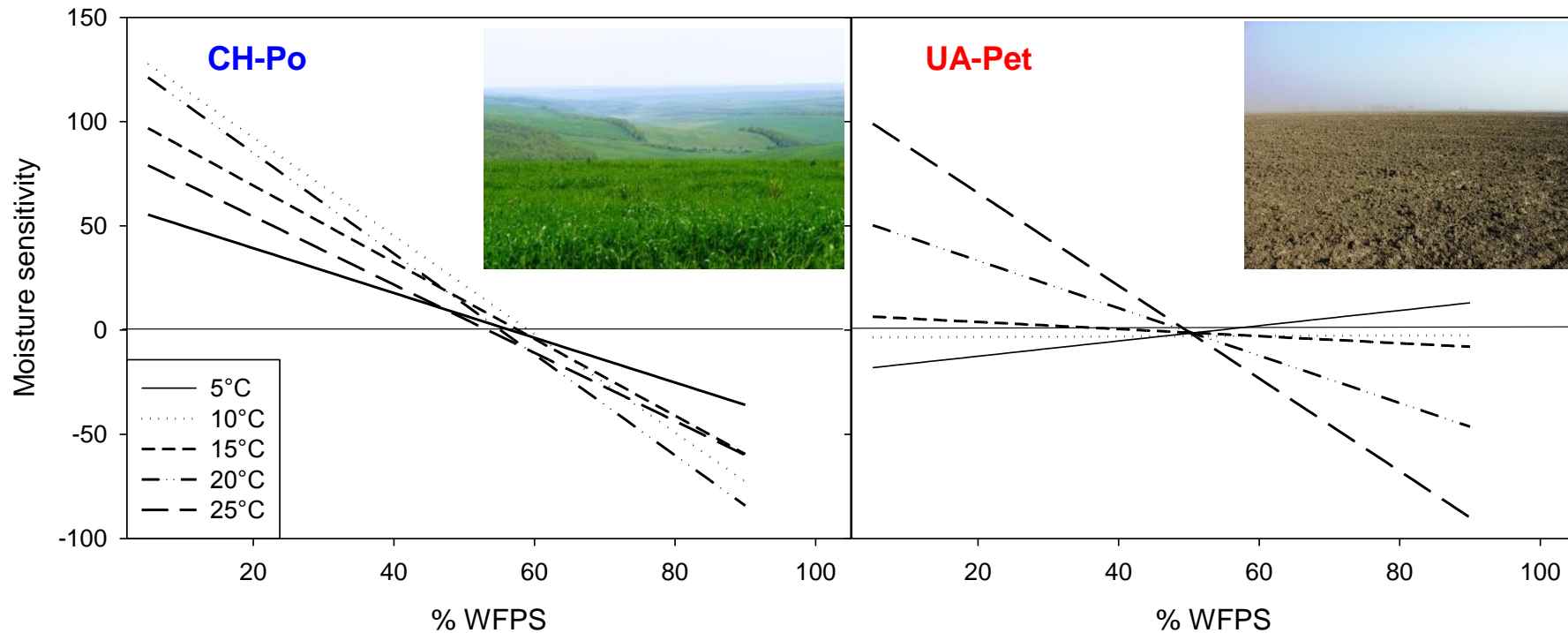
RELATIVE VALUES - FOREST - DECIDUOUS (IT)

FOREST - DECIDUOUS (IT)
Polynomial - second degree



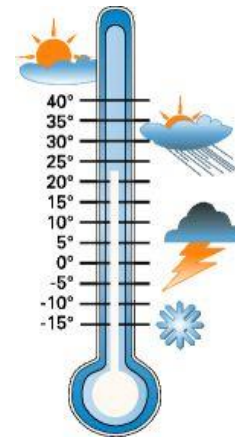
Relative CO₂ emission rates were used to exclude temperature contribution

Moisture sensitivity



Moisture sensitivities of arable soils increased with temperature

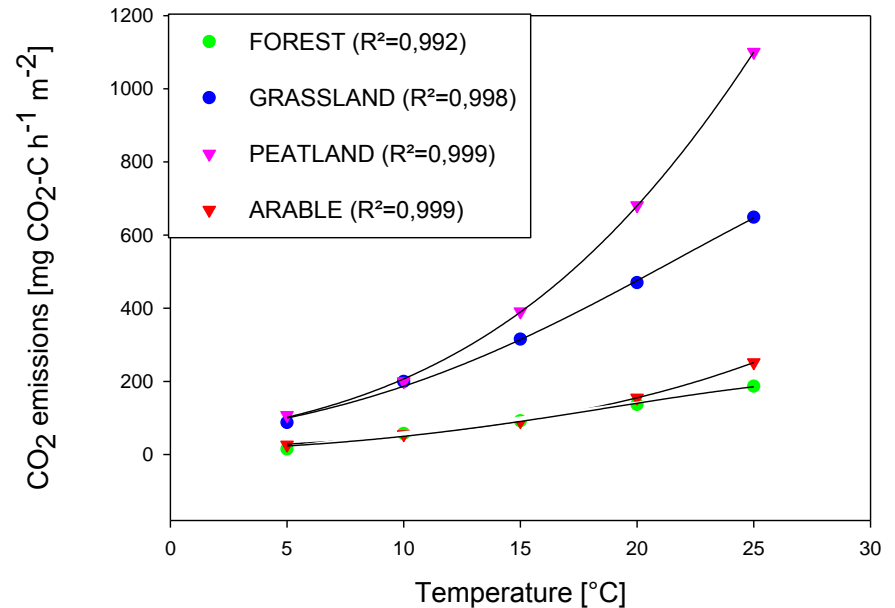
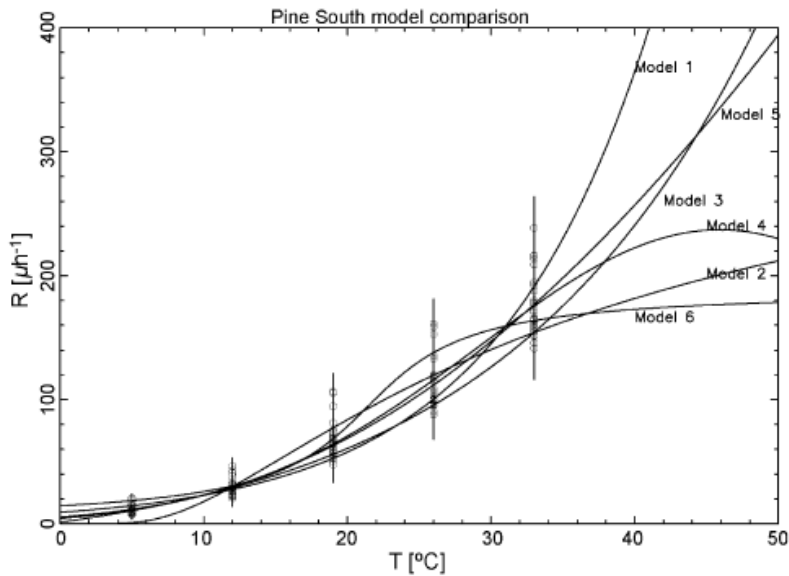
Temperature – Gaussian model



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$$R(T) = R_4 e^{a_4 T + b_4 T^2}, \quad Q_{10} = F_{T_1} / F_{T_1 - 10}$$

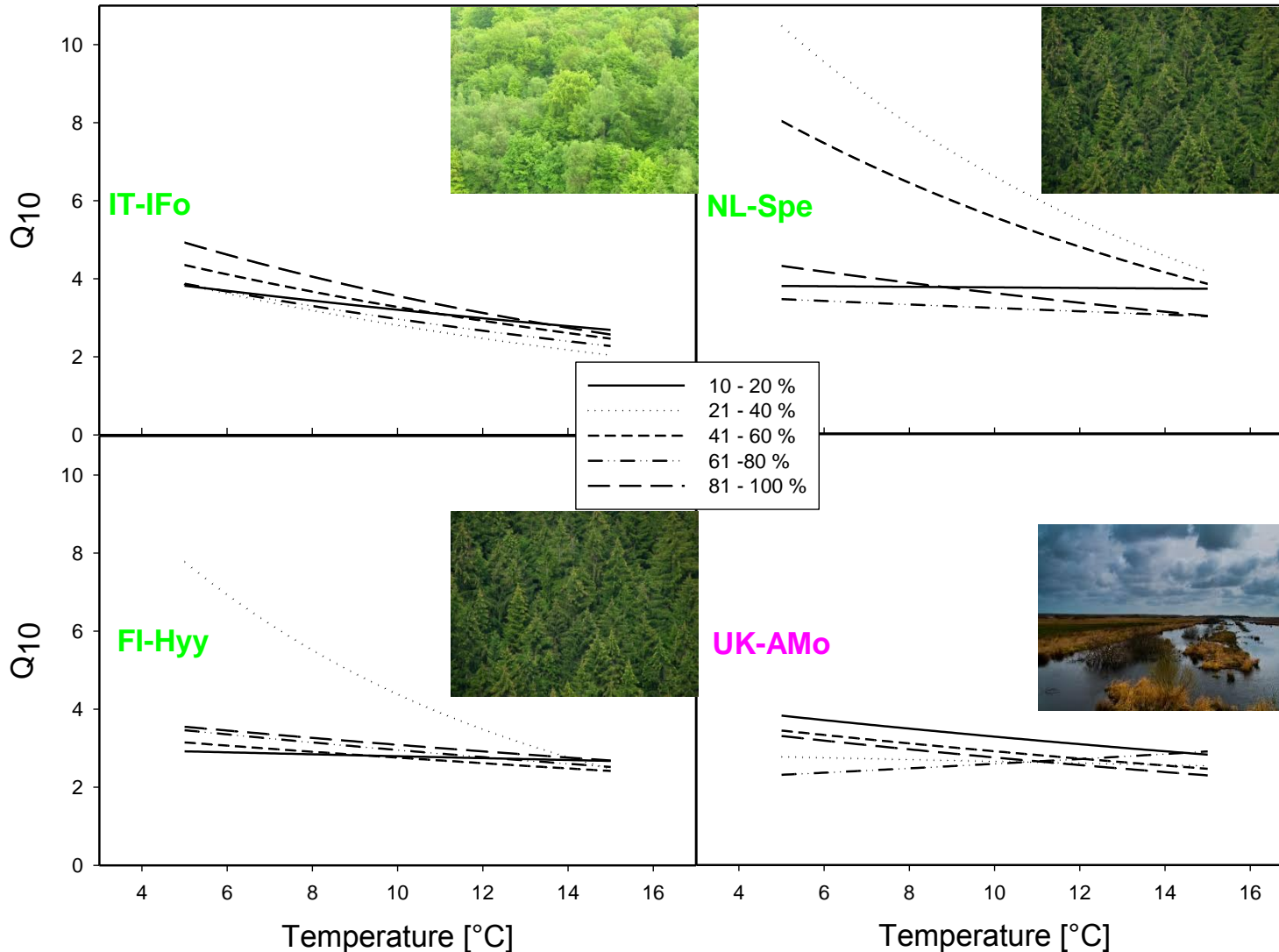
Temperature fit - Gaussian Model
~ 20 % WFPS
 $R^2 = 0,87 - 1$



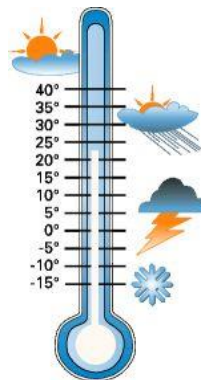
Temperature sensitivity – Q_{10}



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- Temperature sensitivity is highest under cold temperatures
- In coniferous forest sites temperature sensitivity is highest between 20-40 % WFPS
- at cold temperatures variability between Q_{10} higher



Summary



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- **Land-use, temperature and moisture content had a substantial influence on carbon dioxide fluxes**
 - Land-use - grassland > peatland > forest / arable land
 - Moisture – maximum at intermediate moisture content; decline at dry and wet conditions
 - Temperature - increase
- **Temperature sensitivity and its relations to**
 - Temperature – cold temperatures
 - Moisture – no positive or negative relationship; at cold temperatures variability between Q_{10} higher
 - Coniferous forests - Moisture range between 20 – 40 % WFPS highest temperature sensitivity
- **Moisture sensitivity and its relations to**
 - Moisture – dry and wet conditions
 - Positive relation with temperature in arable lands

Conclusions



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- **Temperature sensitivity and its relations to**
 - Temperature – cold temperatures
In cold areas (Mountains, Northern latitudes) warming will have a larger influence on CO₂ emissions.
 - Moisture – no positive or negative relationship; at cold temperatures variability between Q₁₀ higher
In cold areas (Mountains, Northern latitudes) rain events will influence temperature sensitivity.
- **Moisture sensitivity and its relation to**
 - Moisture – dry conditions and wet conditions
Increased moisture in dry areas will promote CO₂ emissions more than in moist areas.
 - Positive relation with temperature in arable lands
Irrigation of arable lands will have a higher impact on CO₂ emissions in warmer regions in the south of Europe than in the north.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

