

# The legacy of coppicing: the present reflects the past

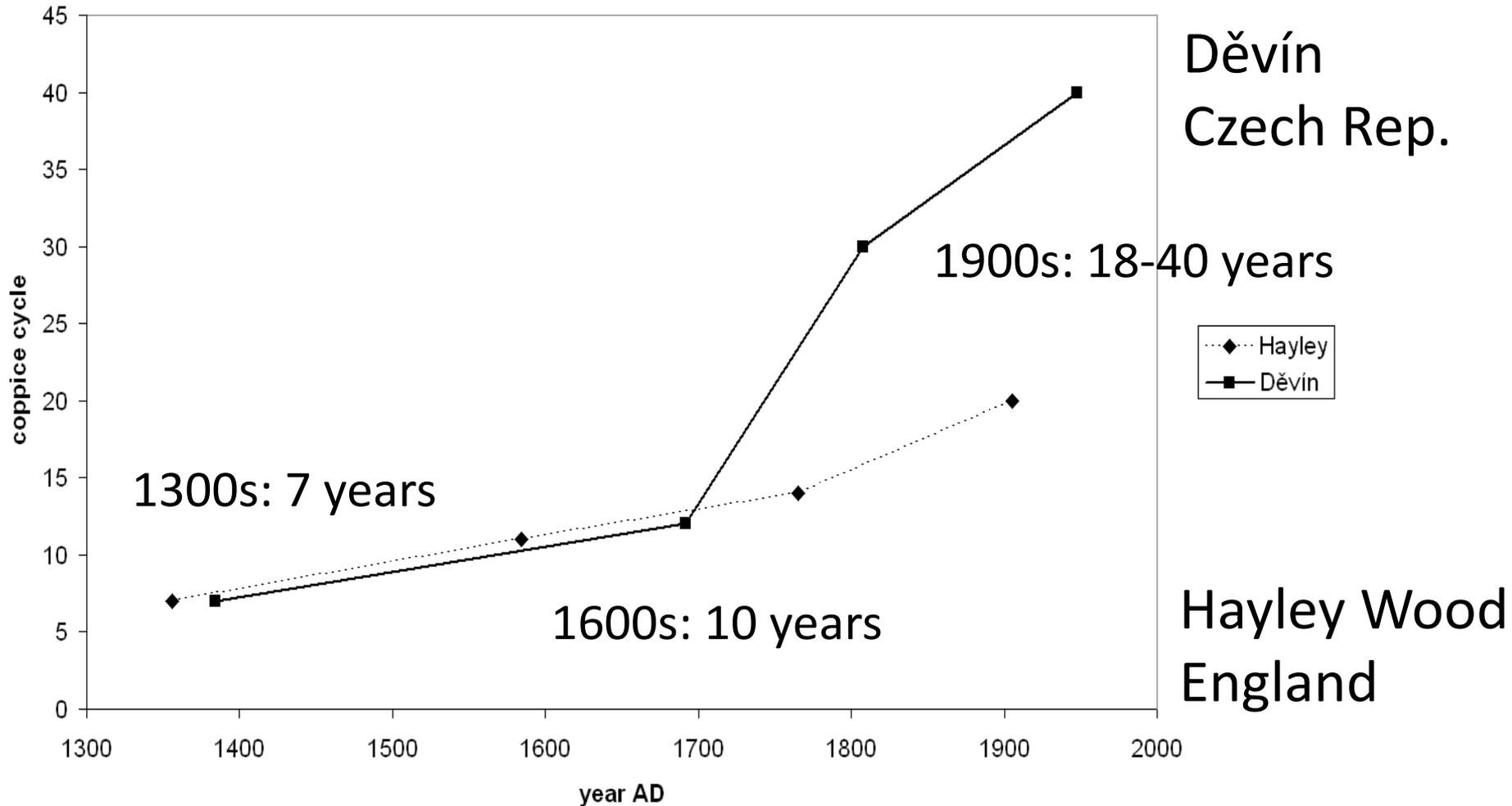
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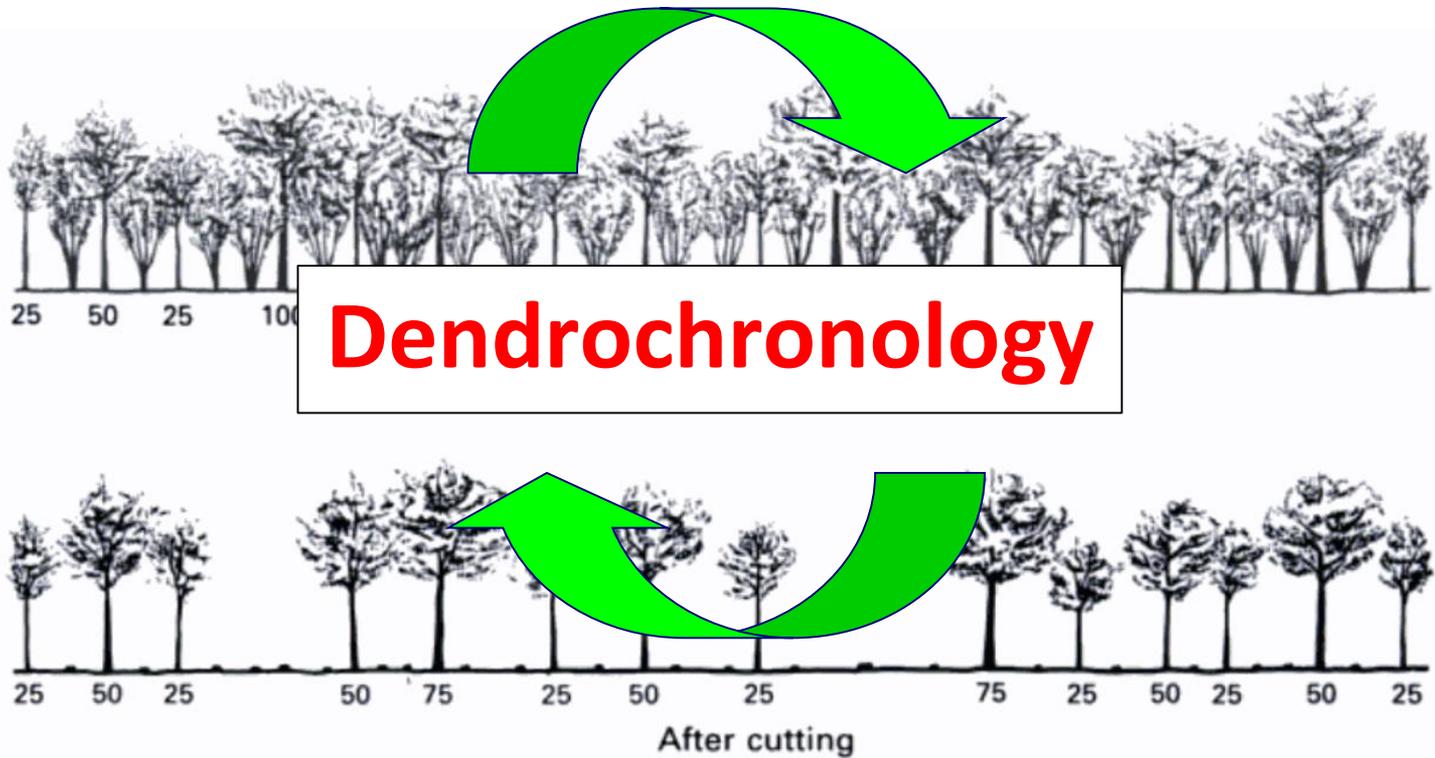


# Coppice cycle patterns across Europe





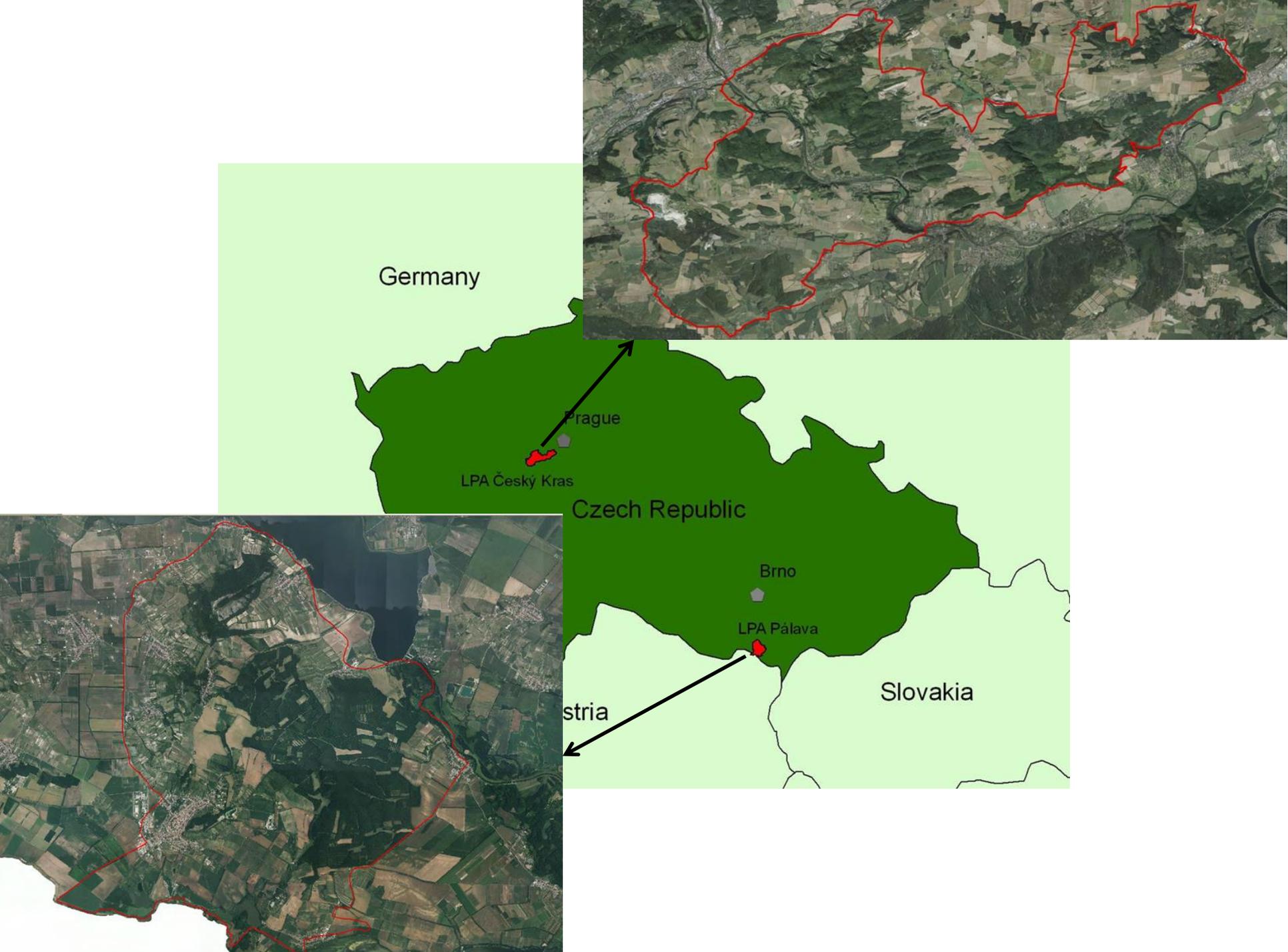
John D. Matthews: Silvicultural systems. Oxford, 2001, p. 216  
*Coppice with standards*



# Aims were to test



- use of dendroecological methods for reconstruction of coppicing history
- ability of tree-rings to reflect coppicing history
- role of competition in response of standards to coppicing
- connections between oak regeneration patterns and historical coppicing events



## Czech Karst (Český Kras)

- karst area of 128 km<sup>2</sup>,
- xerothermic to mesic forest types (38%)
- protected since 1972 – non-intervention management
- forests preserved on hills surrounded by arable fields



## Pálava

- karst area of 83 km<sup>2</sup>
- xero & thermo to mesophilous forests
- protected since 1976 (1946) - non-interv. management
- surrounded by intensive agriculture (vineyards, orchards and arable fields)
- popular tourist destination (over 80.000 visitors per year)



# Pálava site



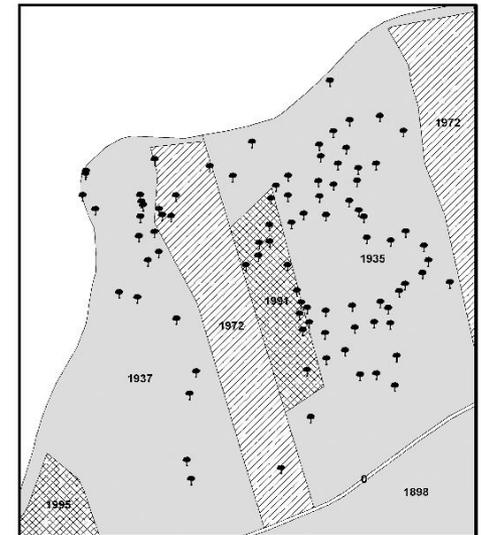
a)



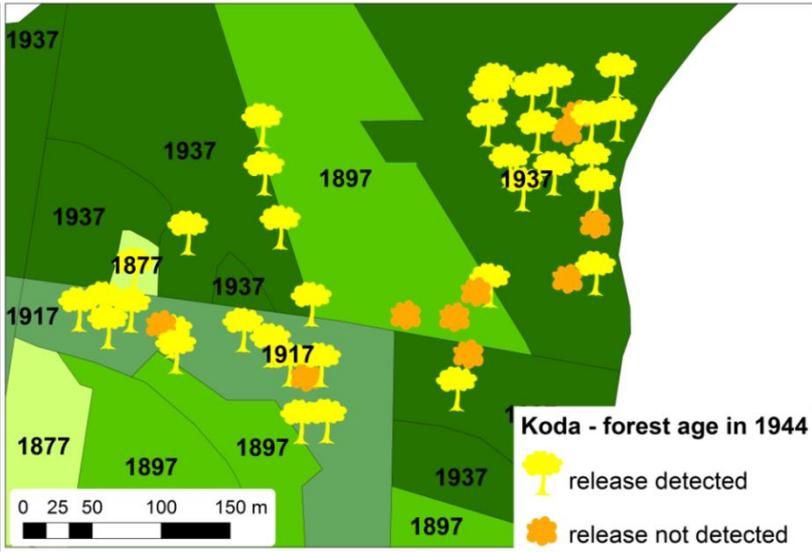
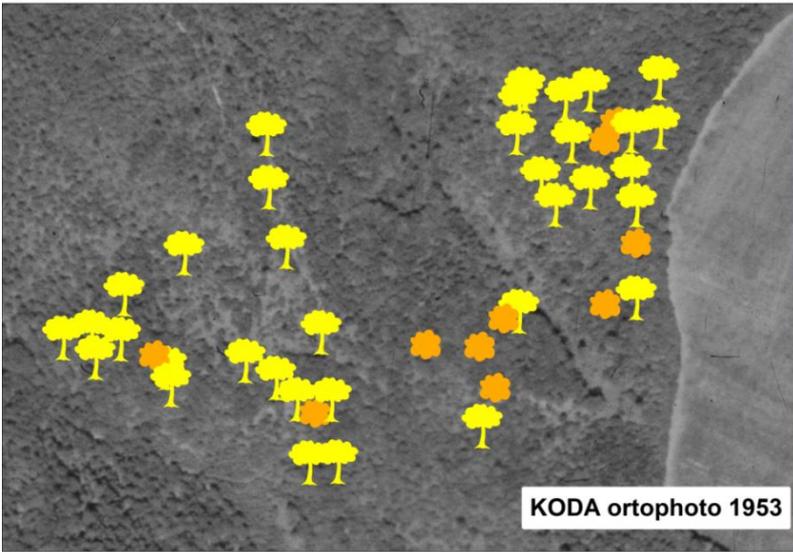
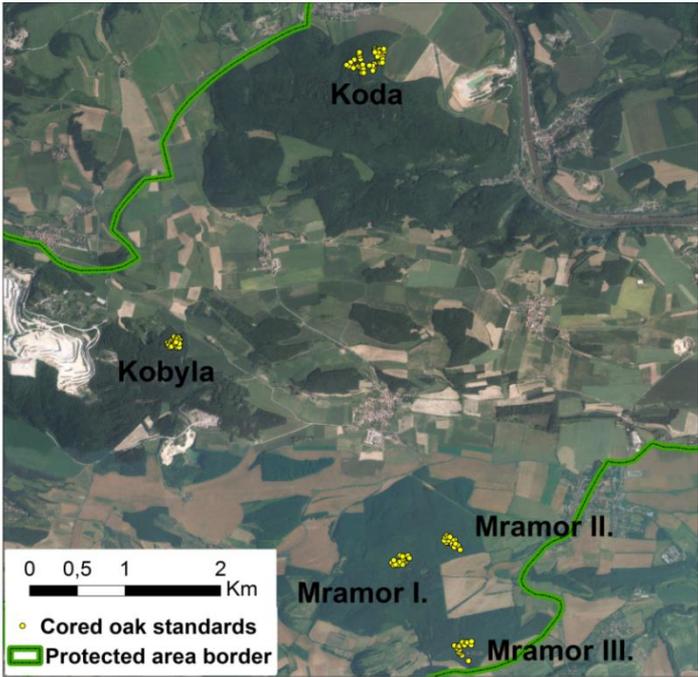
b)



c)



# Czech Karst site



# Dendrochronological analysis

- detection of radial growth **releases**
- **Boundary-line** criteria – BL calculated using large dataset of oak chronologies (used at both sites)

*GC 20 - 49.9% of BL = moderate, 50 - 100% = major release*

- **Radial-growth averaging** criteria (used at C. Karst only)

$$\%GC = ((M_2 - M_1) / M_1) * 100$$

*(GC = growth change,  $M_1$  = avg. growth of preceding 10 years,  $M_2$  = avg. growth of subsequent 10 years)*



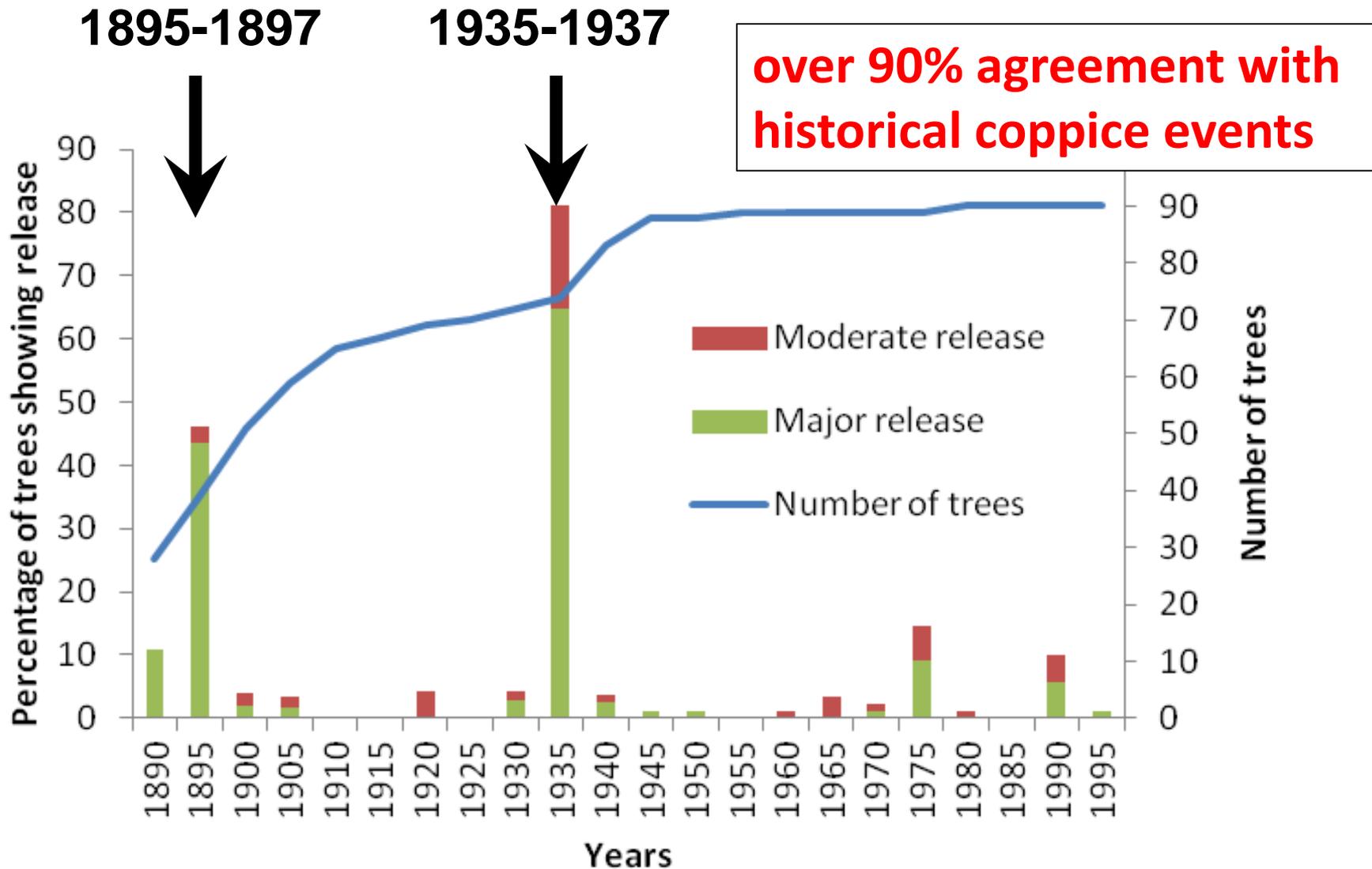
Cored oaks	Děvín	Czech Karst
Number	90	117
Age	28 - 146	90-215
DBH	144-215	111-225
No. of releases detected	126	241
Avg no. of releases per tree	1.4	2.1
Avg no. of maj. releases per tree	1	1
Proportion of trees with release	96%	94%
Proportion of major releases	72%	49%

# Comparison to forest archives

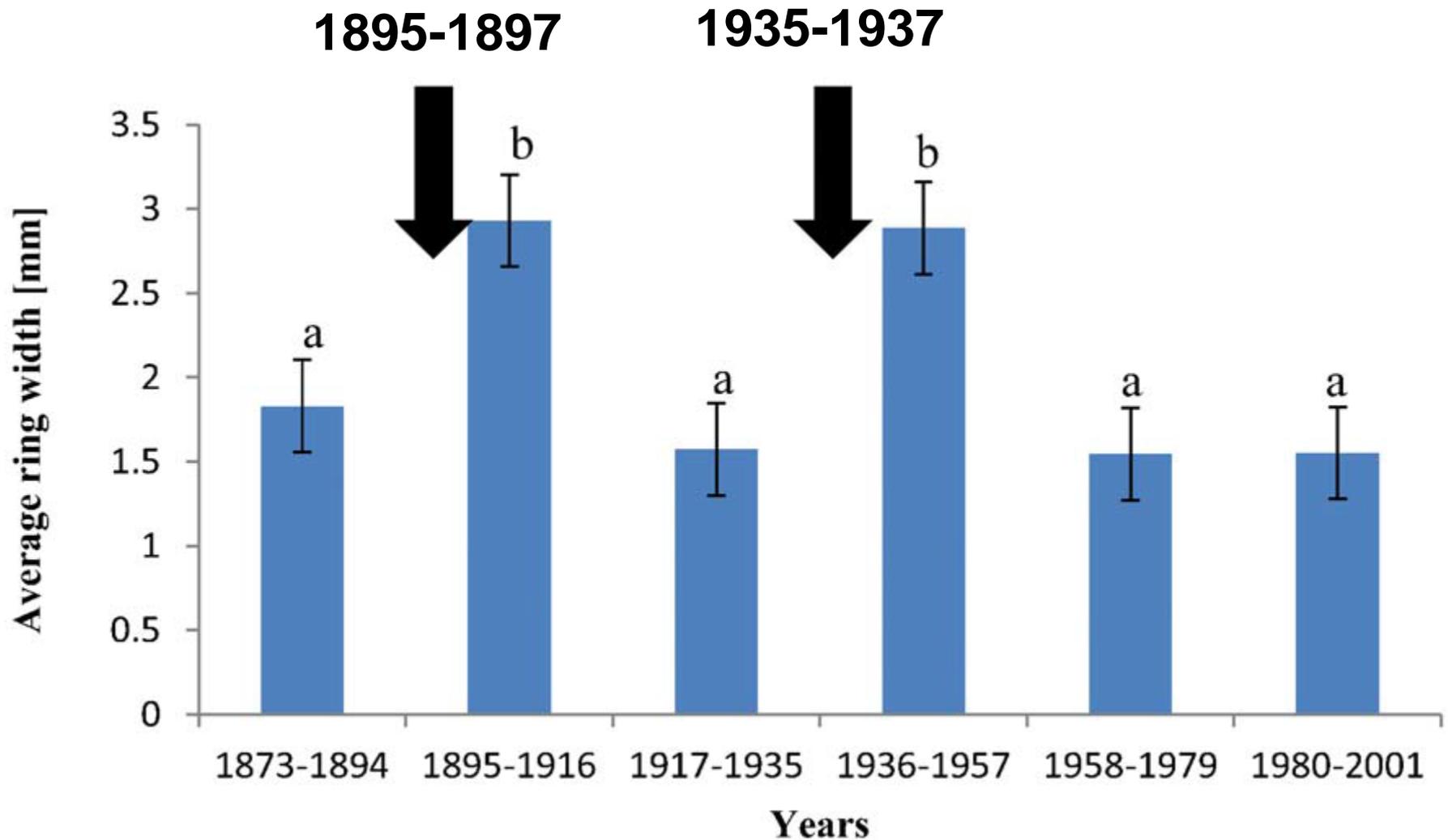
- **sensitivity** (commission error, accounting for undetected coppicing) = correctly detected/all archival coppice records
- **positive predictive power** (omission error, probability of correct detection), PPP = correctly/total detected releases
- 5-year difference allowed
- missing records ➡ releases excluded



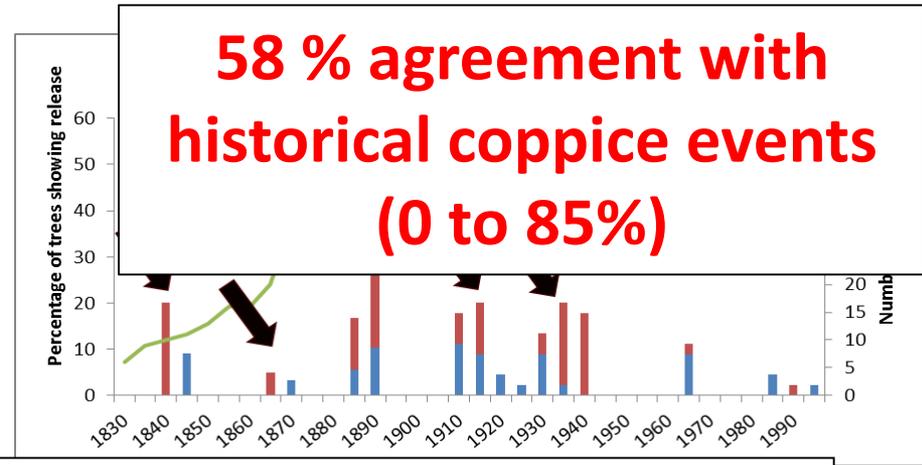
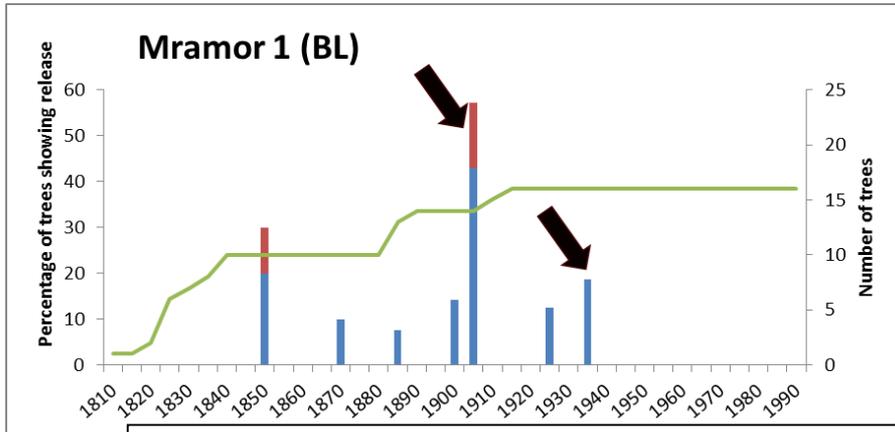
# Release in oak standards (Děvín)



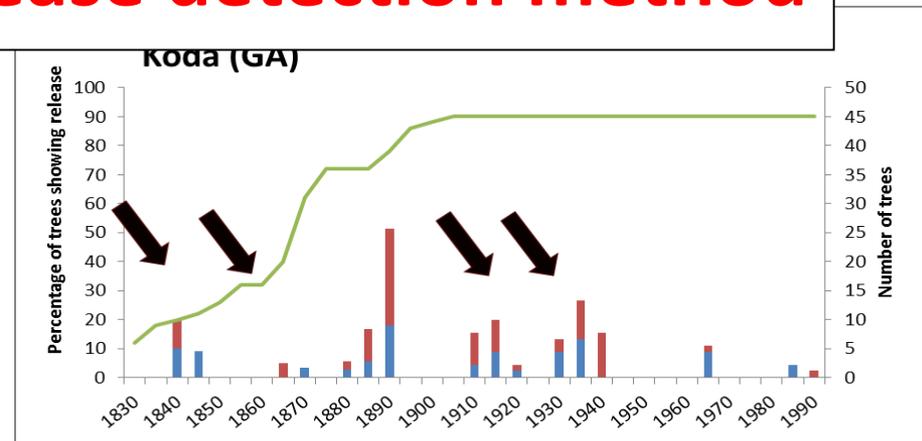
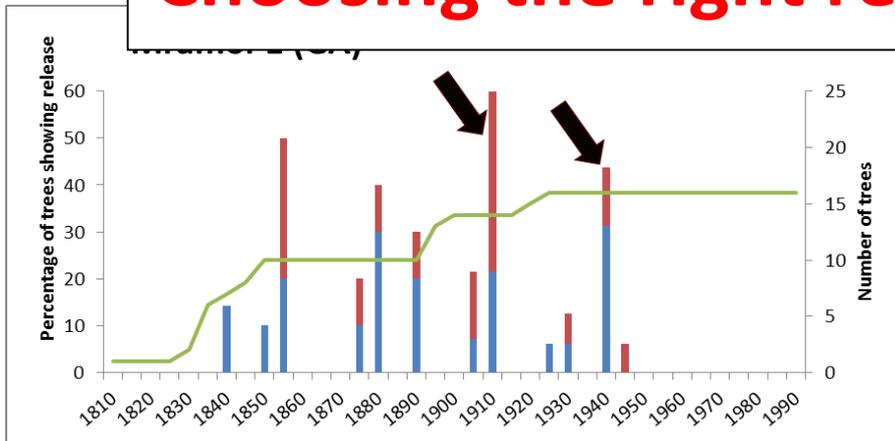
# Average annual tree-ring increment (Děvín)



# Release in oak standards (Czech Karst)



**Choosing the right release detection method**



# Accuracy of Growth averaging method

C. Karst	Detected (major/ moderate)	False det. (major/ moderate)	Not detected	PPP	PPP (major)	Sensitivity
Mramor I.	9/4	4/6	17	57%	75%	43%
Mramor II.	8/8	3/9	14	57%	73%	53%
Mramor III.	10/3	6/7	16	50%	63%	45%
Kobyla	5/10	0/11	28	58%	<b>100%</b>	35%
Koda	26/10	5/13	26	67%	82%	58%

PPP = Positive Predictive Power, probability of correct detection

Sensitivity = accounting for undetected coppicing

# Effects of competition

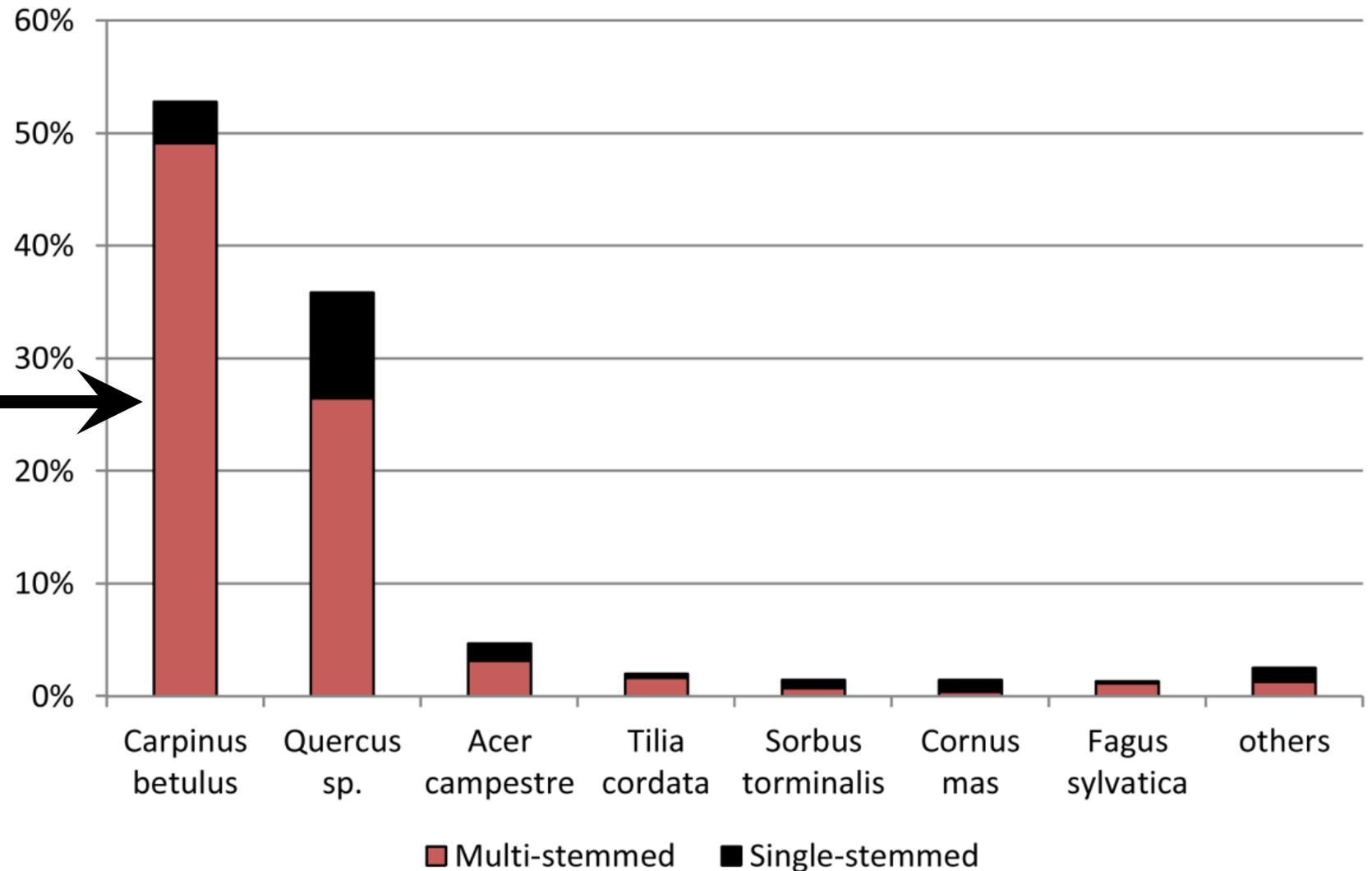
- trees of DBH > 4 cm in 10 m radius - distance, DBH



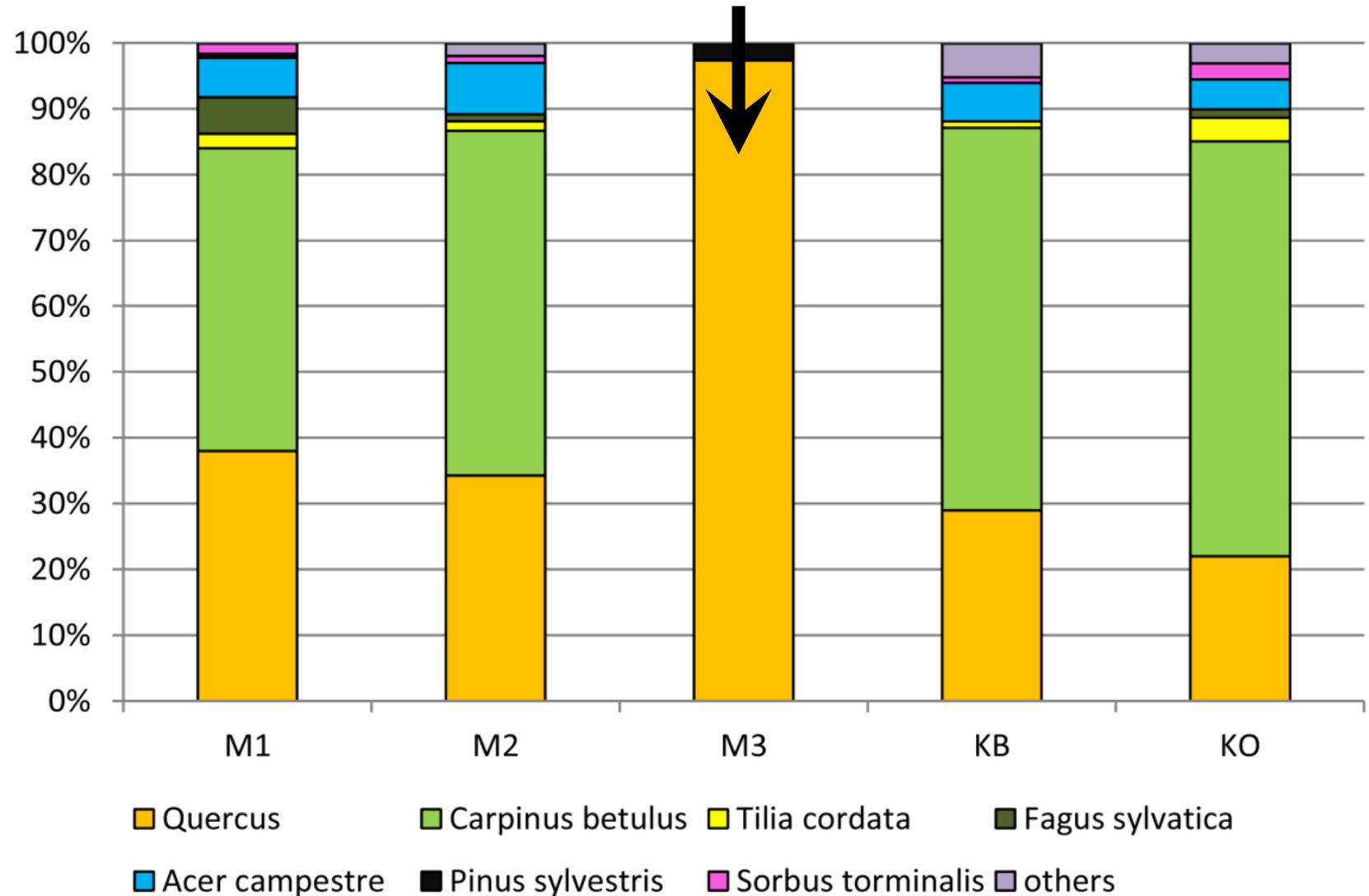
- indices of crowding intensity
- based on density (No of stems)
- size-related neighbour effect (distance-weighted basal area - DWBA)



## Neighbouring species composition within a 10 m radius (Czech Karst)



## Neighbouring species composition within a 10 m radius (Czech Karst)



Generalized linear models

Initial variables: MGR; No. neighbors and DWBA by species; age

Number of releases

age

\*\*\*

AIC: 328.1

Mean gro

AIC: -326.

Initial vari

Mean gro

AIC: -331.

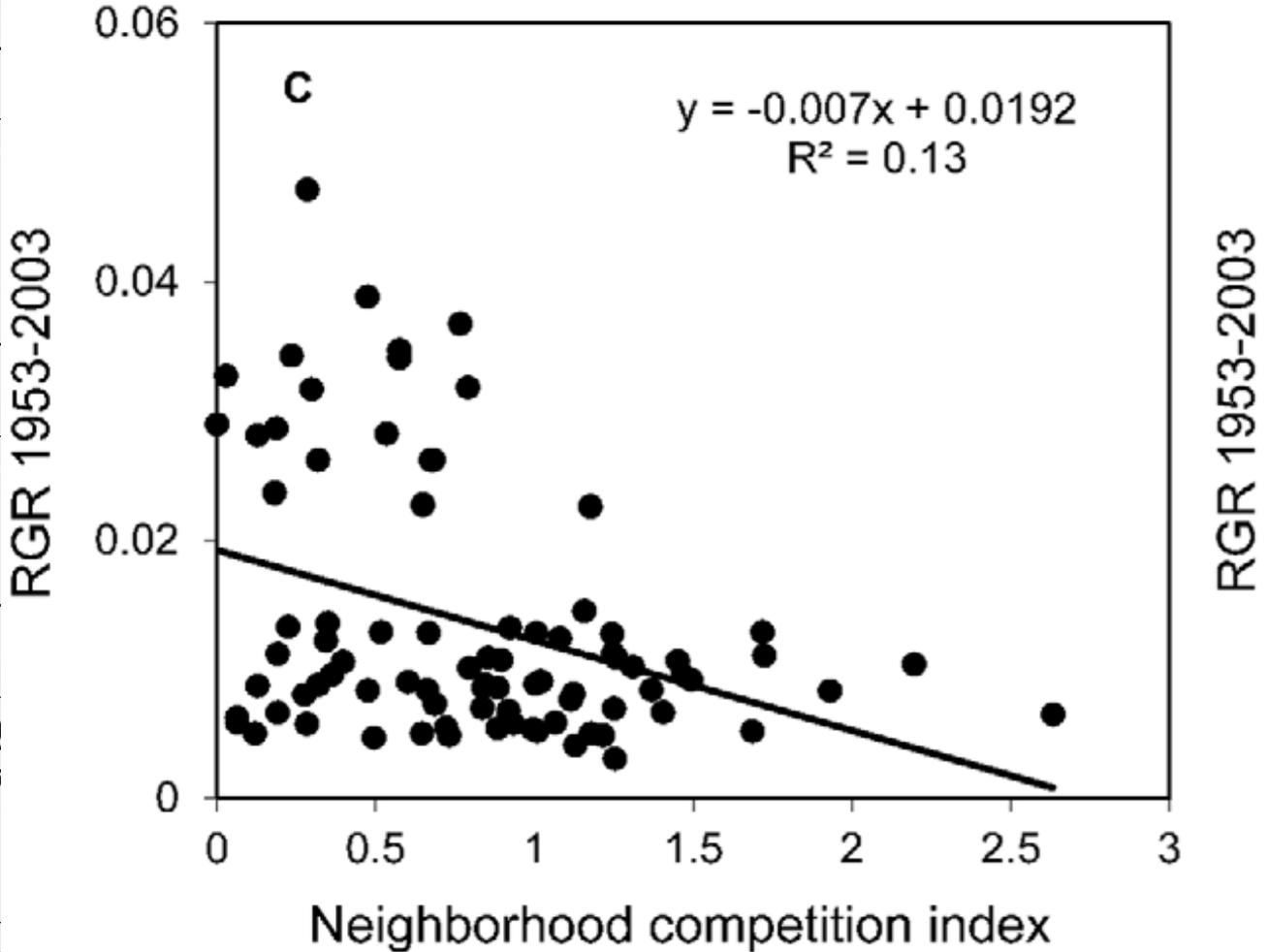
Initial vari

Sensitivity

AIC: 104.7

Positive p

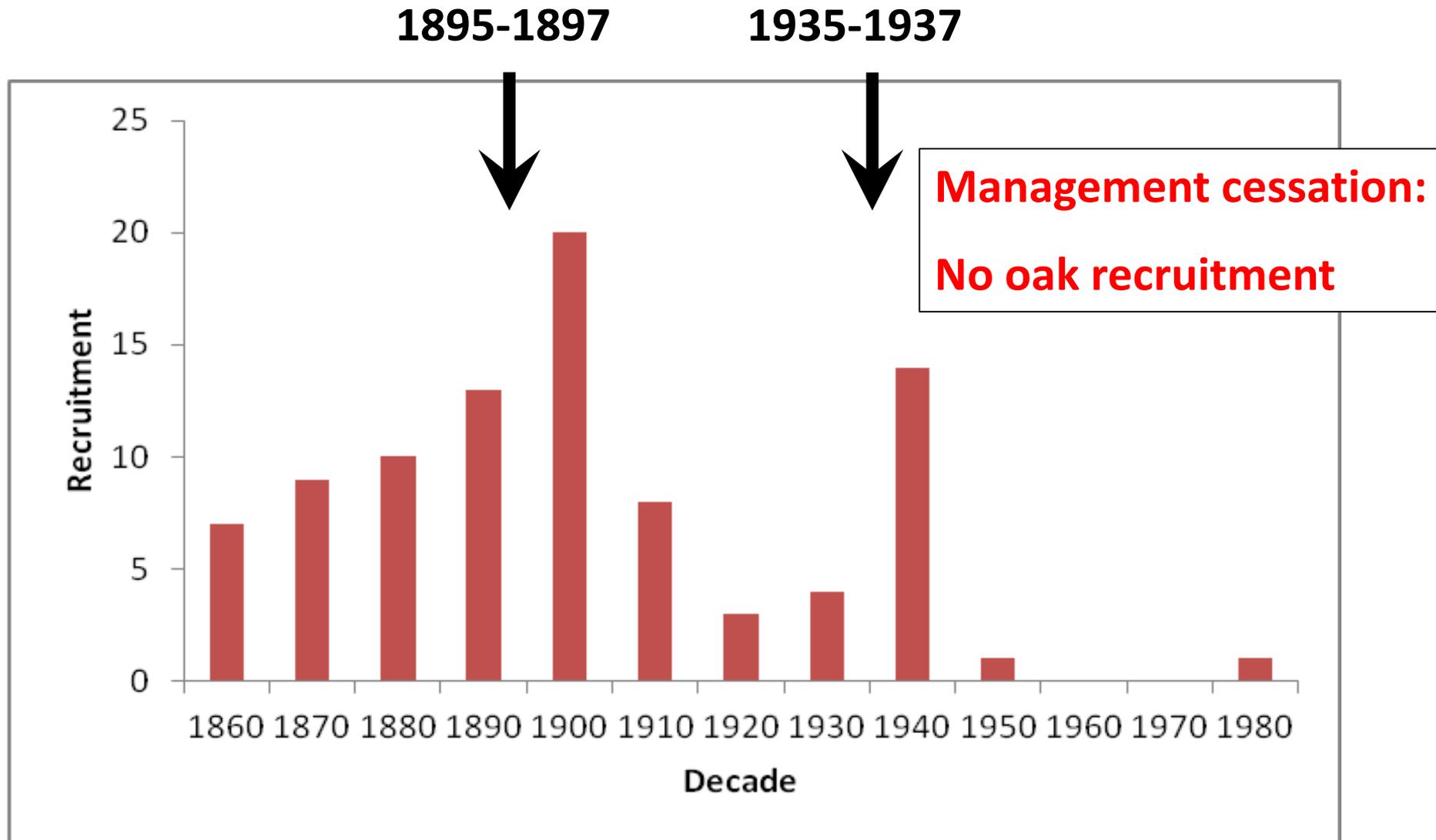
AIC: 132.47



MGC

DWBA hornbeam

# Recruitment of oak standards follows coppicing (Děvín)



Long-term woodland dynamics in Central Europe: from estimations to a realistic model (ERC, 2012-16; <http://longwood.cz>)

Coppice forests as the production and biological alternative for the future (OPVK, 2012-15; [www.coppice.eu](http://www.coppice.eu))

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## Tree-Rings Mirror Management Legacy: Dramatic Response of Standard Oaks to Past Coppicing in Central Europe

Jan Altman , Radim Hédli, Péter Szabó, Petr Mazúrek, Vladan Riedl, Jana Müllerová, Martin Kopecký, Jiří Doležal

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## Detecting Coppice Legacies from Tree Growth

Jana Müllerová , Vít Pejcha, Jan Altman, Tomáš Plener, Petr Dörner, Jiří Doležal

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