



## Kinetics of growth responses of a root encountering an obstacle

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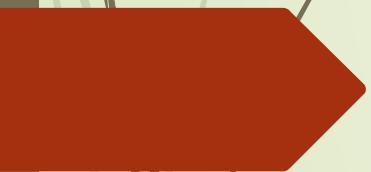
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A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of several thin, curved lines of varying colors (brown, tan, light gray) that curve upwards and outwards from the bottom left corner, creating a sense of motion or growth.

# Kinetics of growth responses of a root encountering an obstacle

A solid red arrow points to the right, positioned vertically along the left edge of the slide.

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Evelyne KOLB, UMR PMMH

# Root responses to axial mechanical resistance

Soil is heterogeneous ➤ interfaces, obstacles

Macroscopic responses

- growth reduction or stop
- or root bending and growth axis reorientation

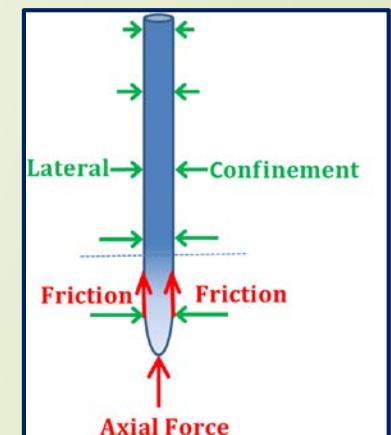
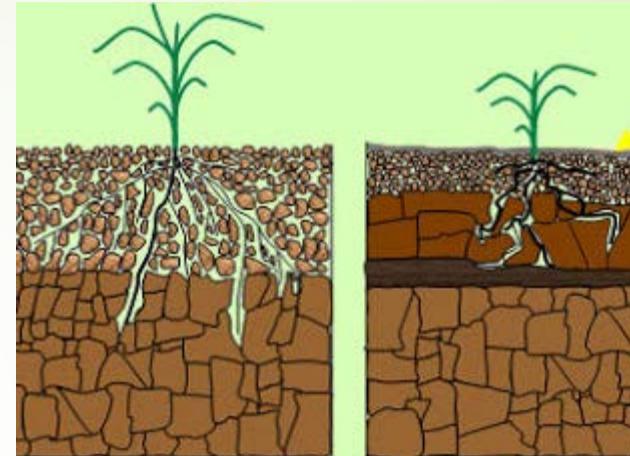


Cellular responses:

- ↗ osmotic pressure ➤ ↗ Turgor pressure ➤ counteracts soil pressure
- ↗ mucilage exudation ➤ reduces soil-root frictions ➤ favours penetration
- ↗ growth in diameter ➤ resistance to bucking ➤ favours penetration
- Cell wall properties , ...



Sensing, signaling and molecular responses



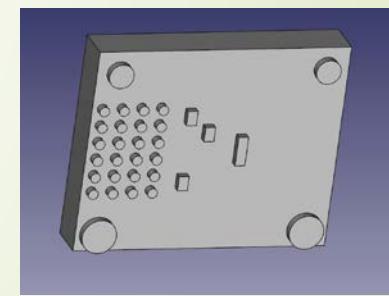
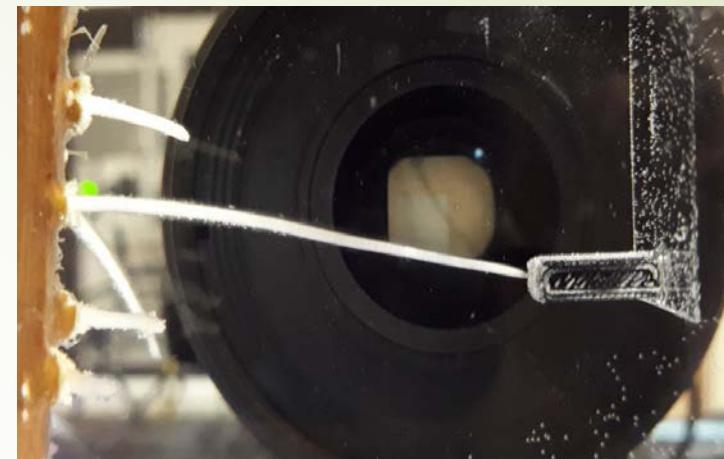
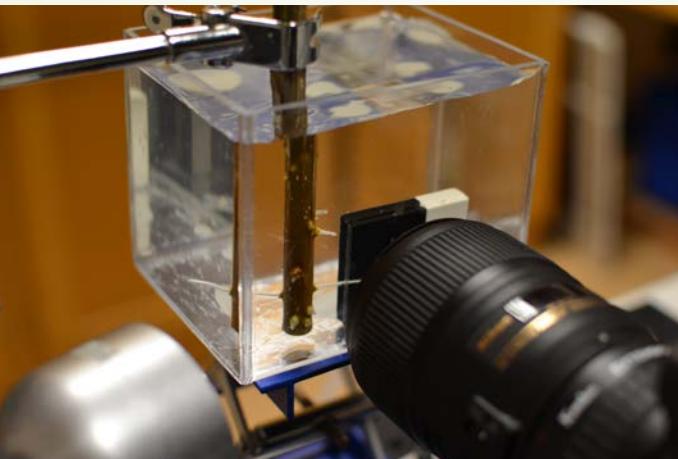
# Questions

- ▶ How sensitive is root growth to an axial contact / pressure ?
  - ▶ What is the minimum force that reduces root growth rate?
  - ▶ How fast is axial growth rate reduced?

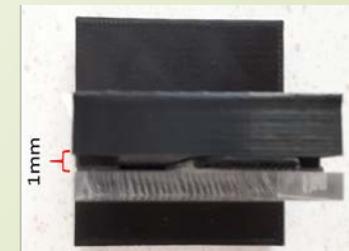
# Adventitious root of poplar cutting as a model



- Hydroponics
- Plagiotropic
- Fast growing



- Sandwich system to keep the root in the focal plan
- Back and obstacles from 3D printing
- Channels to brace the root

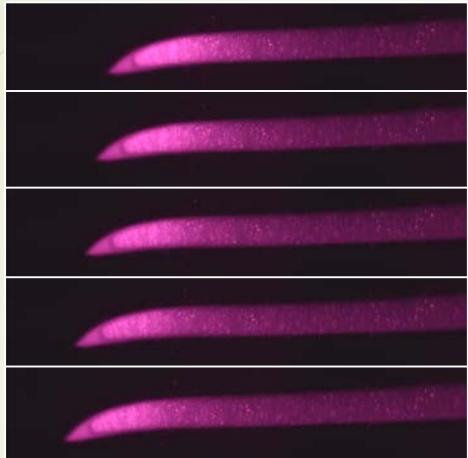


# Spatial characterisation of growth with kinematics

5

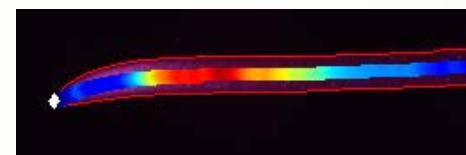
- time-lapse photography :  $dt=6'$
- high resolution :  $2\mu\text{m} / \text{pixel}$

IR light



$dt=6'$

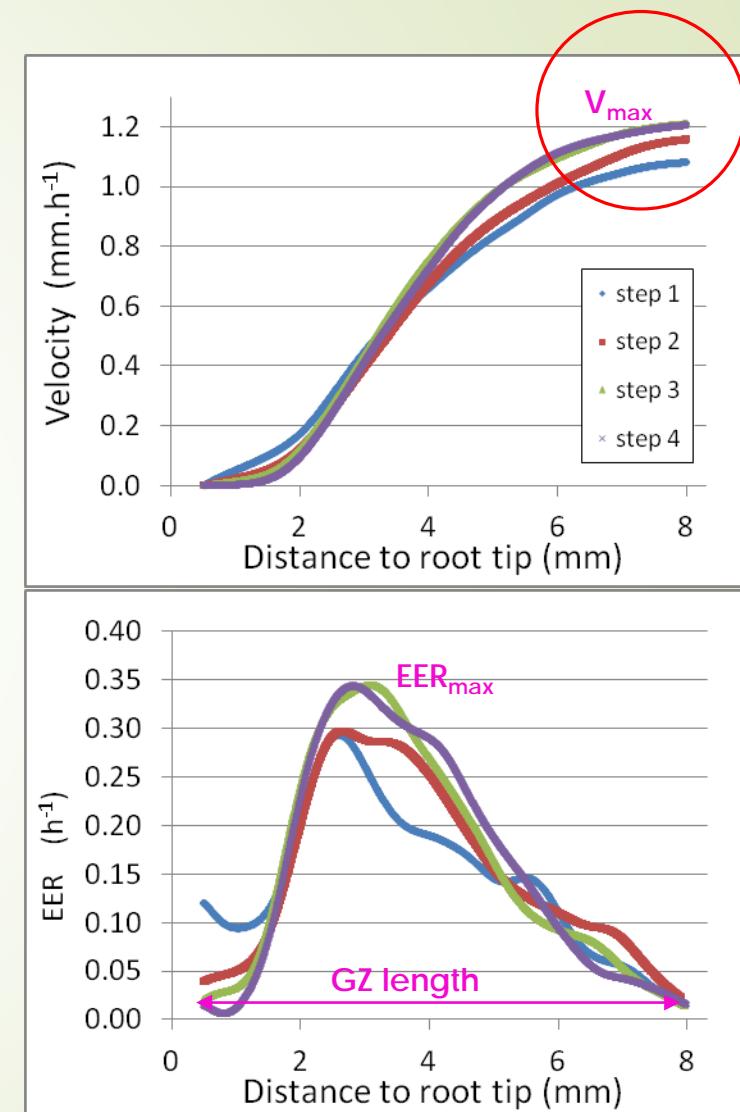
particule image  
velocimetry  
&  
kinematics

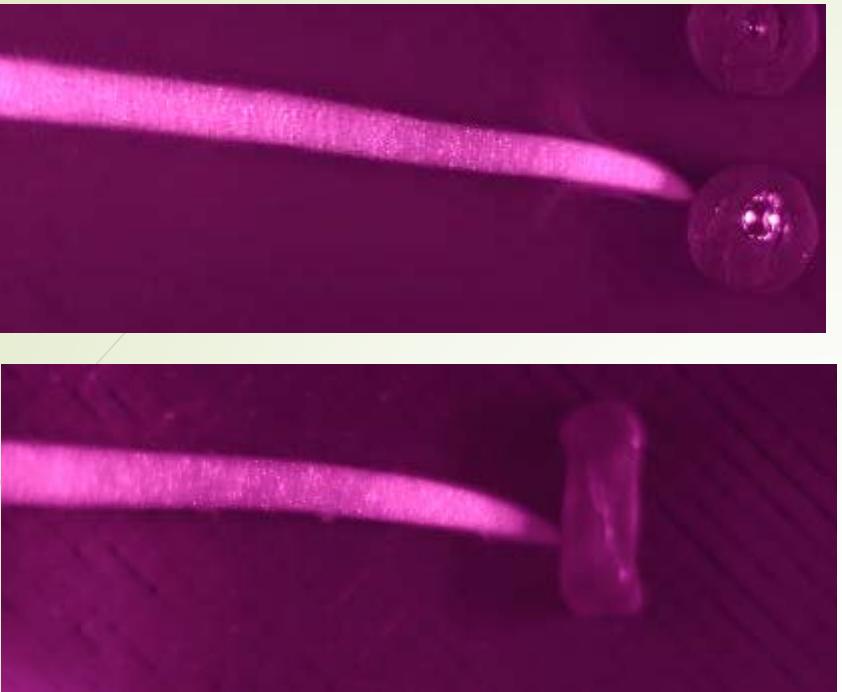


Kymorod, Bastien et al, 2016

## GROWTH COMPONENTS

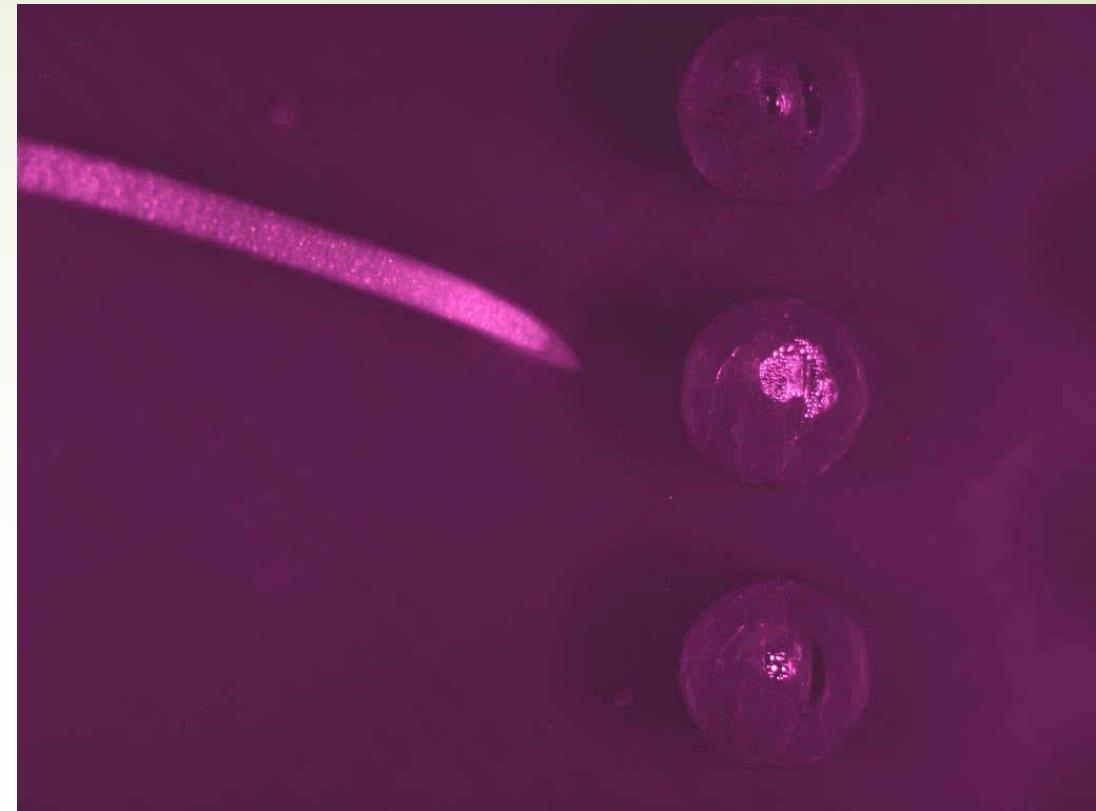
- Root growth rate = maximal Velocity ( $V_{\max}$ )
- Maximal Elemental Elongation Rate ( $EER_{\max}$ )
- Growth Zone length (GZ)

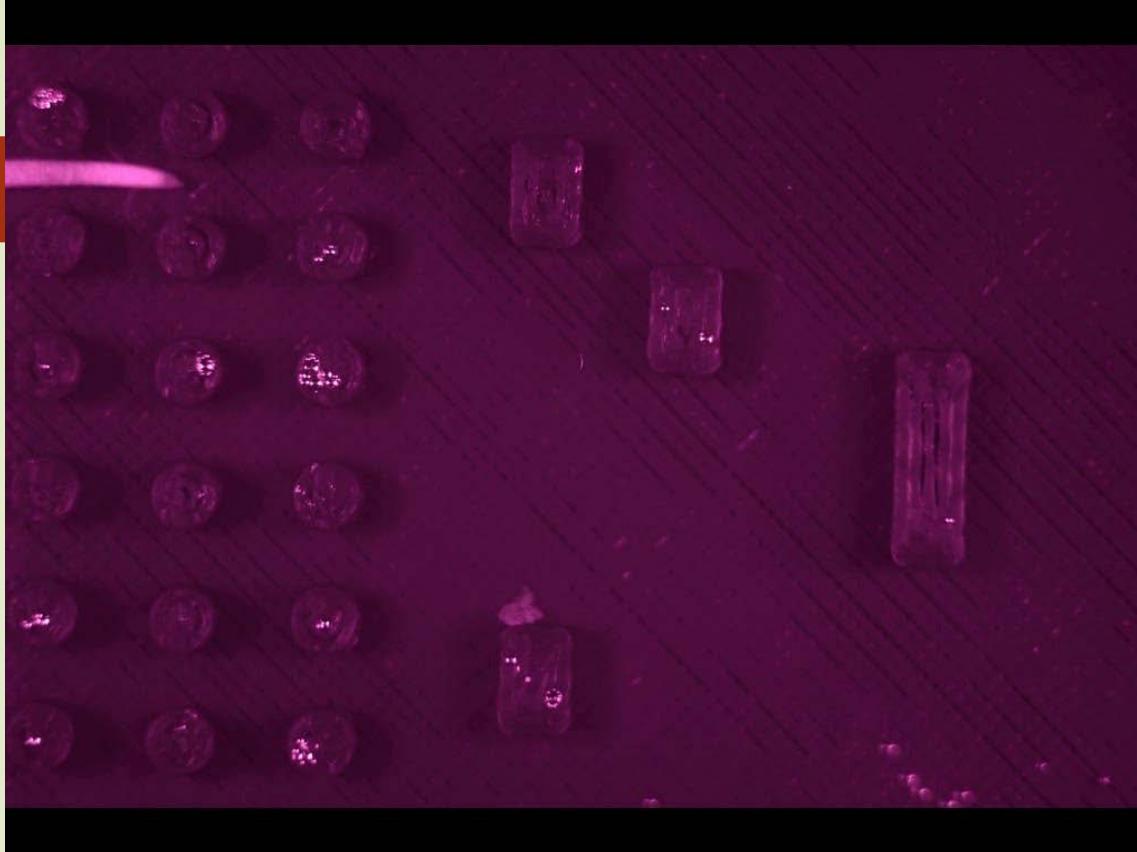




- The sandwich system keeps the root in the focal plan but root is free (not braced)
- Obstacle = 2mm diameter circle or 3 mm long flat

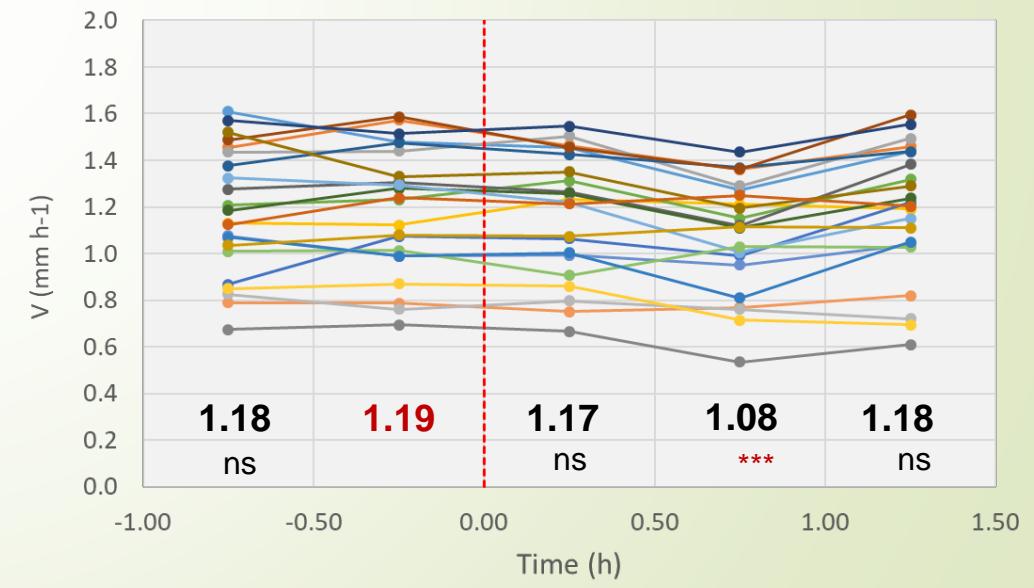
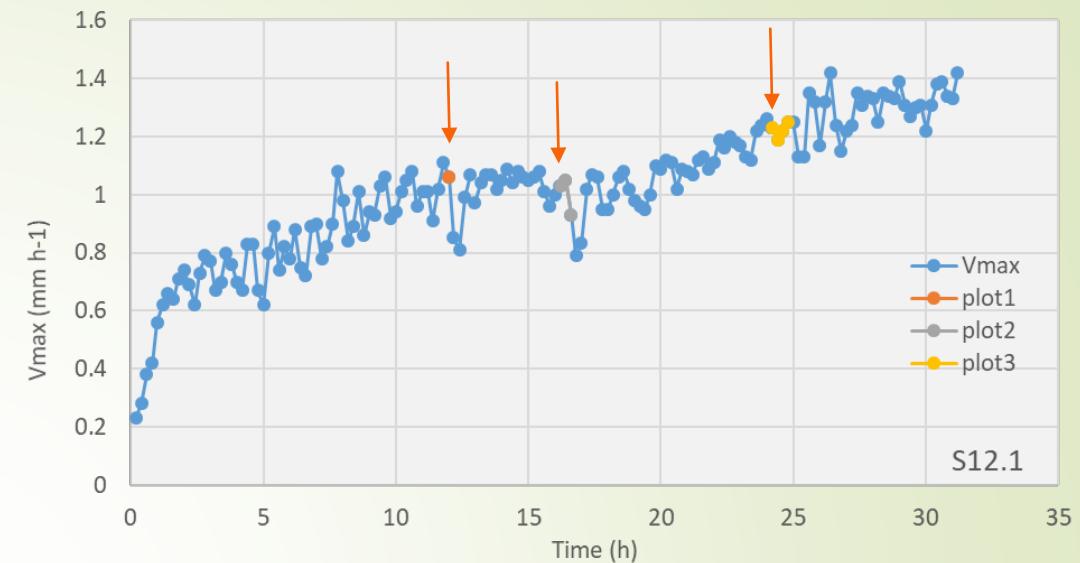
If the root is free, a short apical touch does not affect growth rate

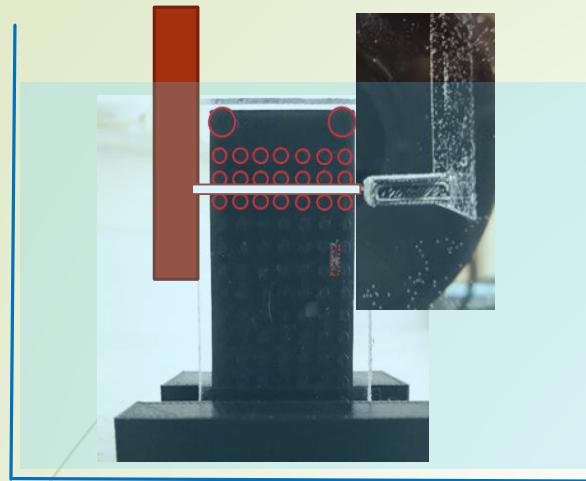




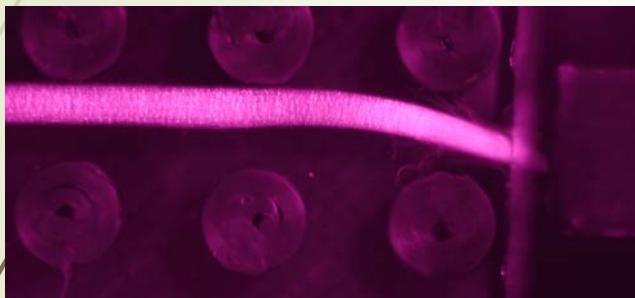
- The root is lightly braced in a channel
- Longer contact time

If the contact root-obstacle is a bit longer/stronger,  
light and delayed reduction of root growth rate



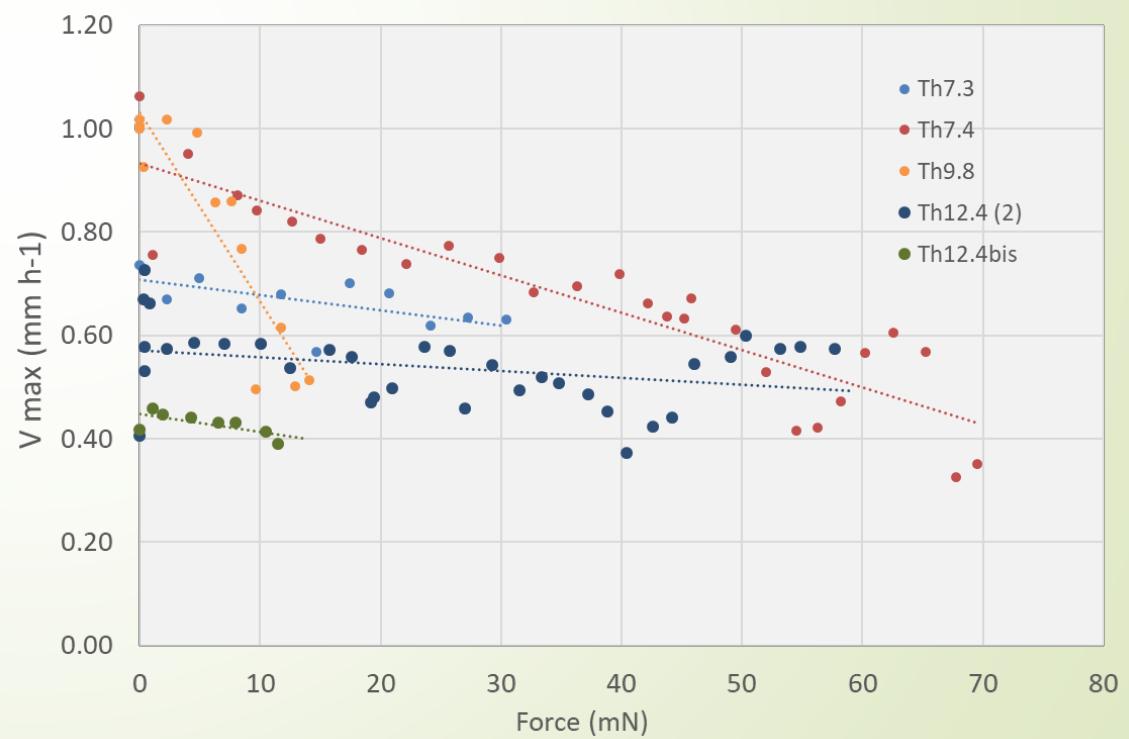
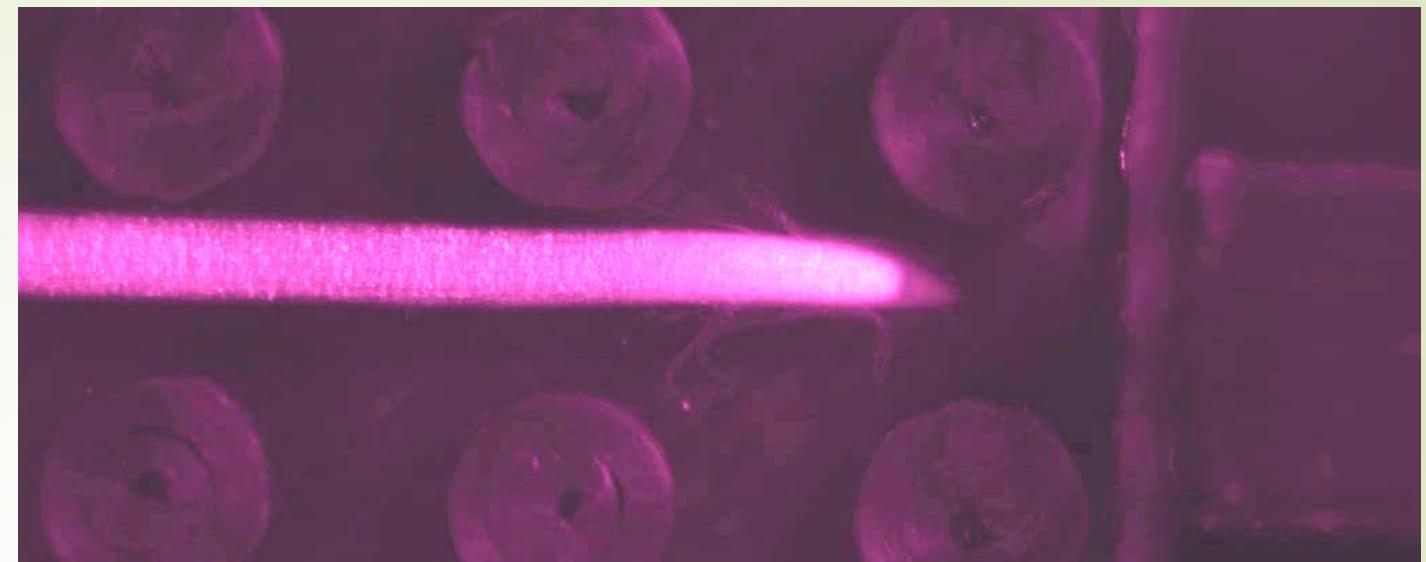


- The root is braced in a channel
- glass blade = obstacle + force sensor



**Variability among roots (diameter?)**

**Root with high growth rate more sensitive than roots with low growth rate?**





## Future

- ▶ Brace root more tightly
- ▶ Consider incidence angle
- ▶ Consider root diameter
- ▶ Use sensors with different stiffness : disentangle time and force
  
- ▶ Other growth parameters : EERmax, turgor

- ▶ Simon Berrar (Master 2)
- ▶ Antoine Cambien (Master 1)
- ▶ Thibaut Gaillet (CPP)

*Thank you for your attention*

