



Root growth, cell processes and responses to environment

Marie-Béatrice Bogalet-Triboulot

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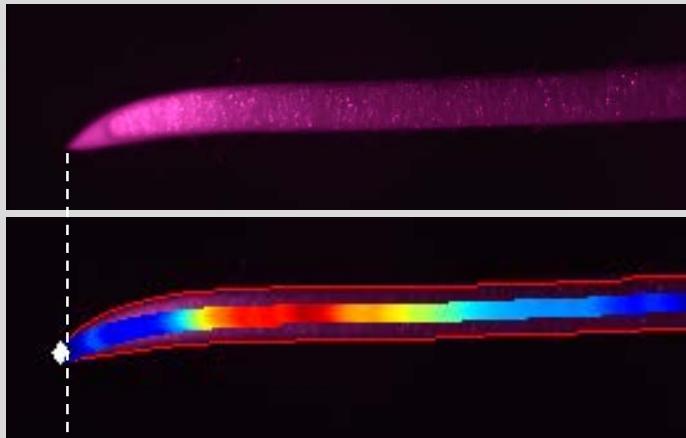
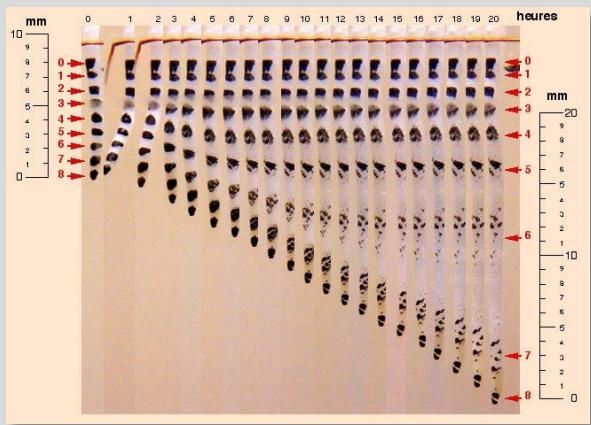


Root growth, cell processes and responses to environment



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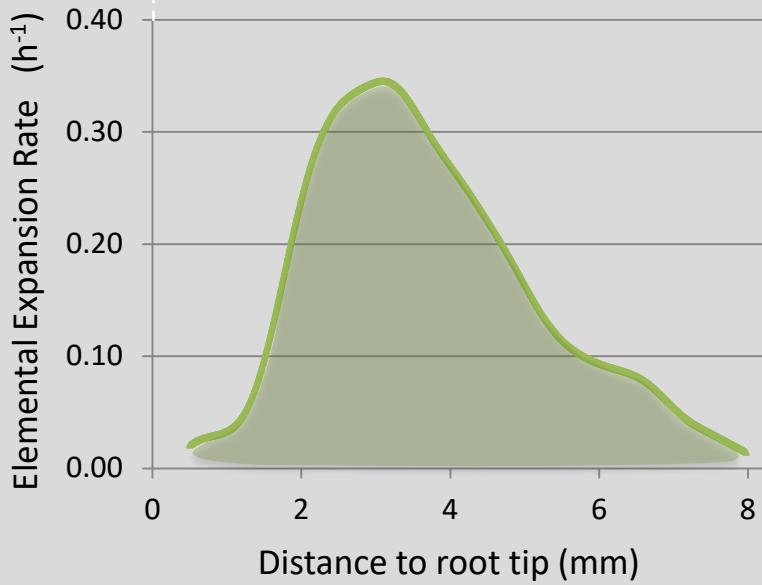
Root growth = expansion of material



- quantified by the **Elemental Expansion Rate (EER)** or strain rate

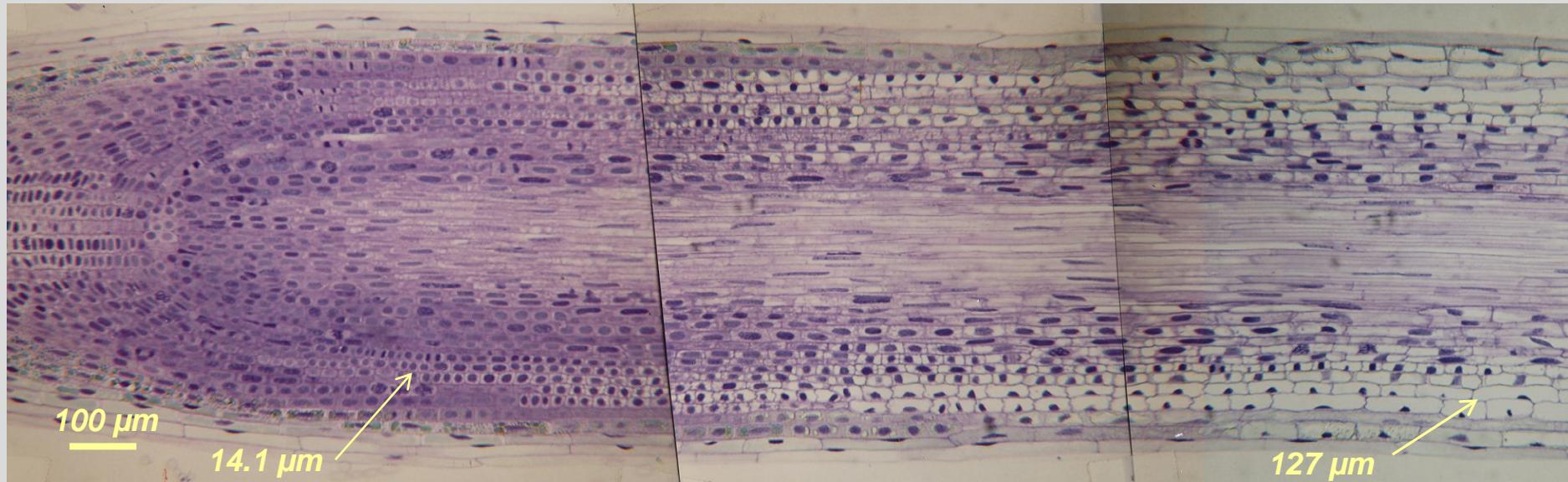
$$\text{mm mm}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$$

surface under the curve :
proportional to the
root growth rate



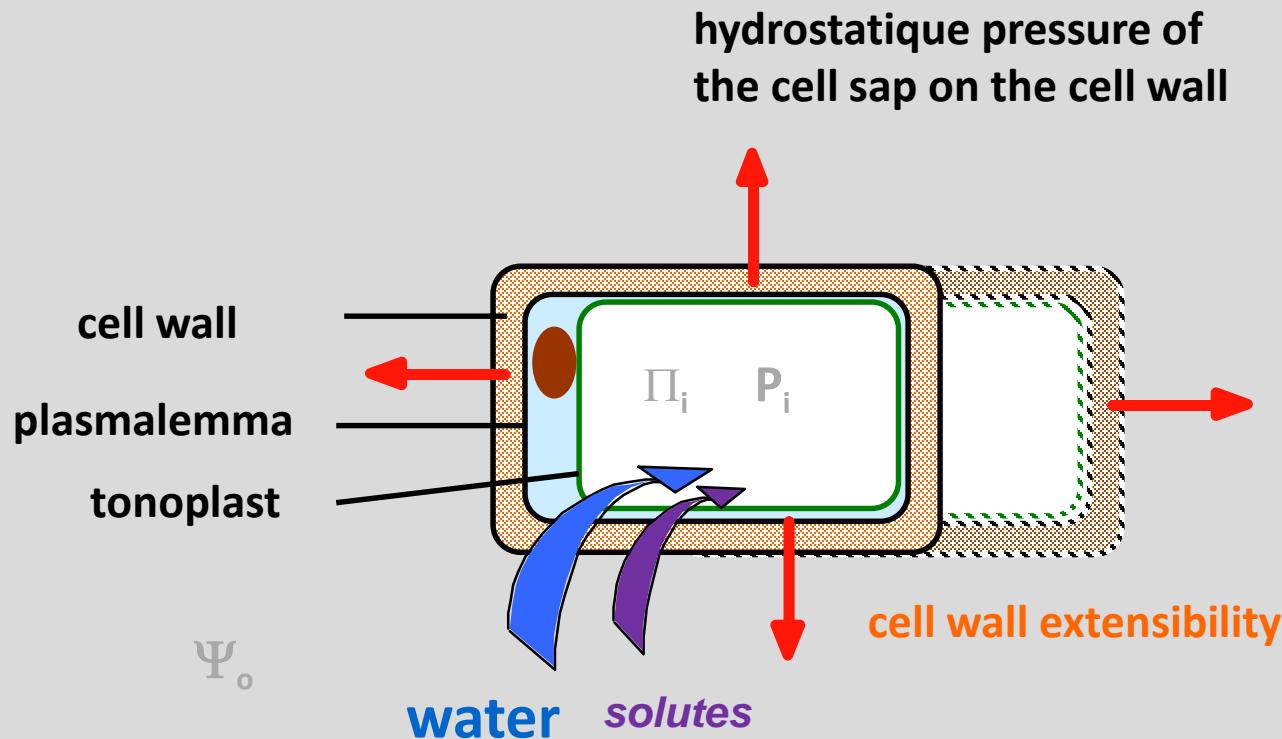
Cell elongation

Pinus pinaster root apex



Cell length : 15 μm \Rightarrow 320 μm : x 20!

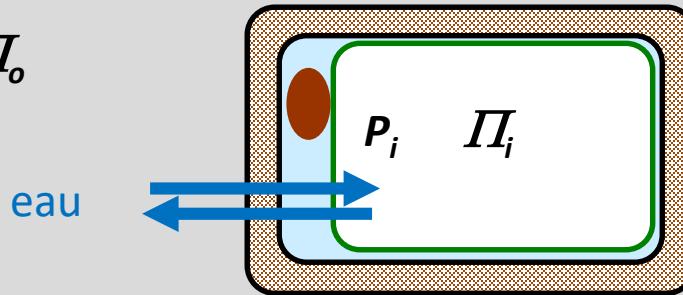
The expanding cell



- Cell wall deformation and synthesis
- Water and solutes inflow

Water flow into cell

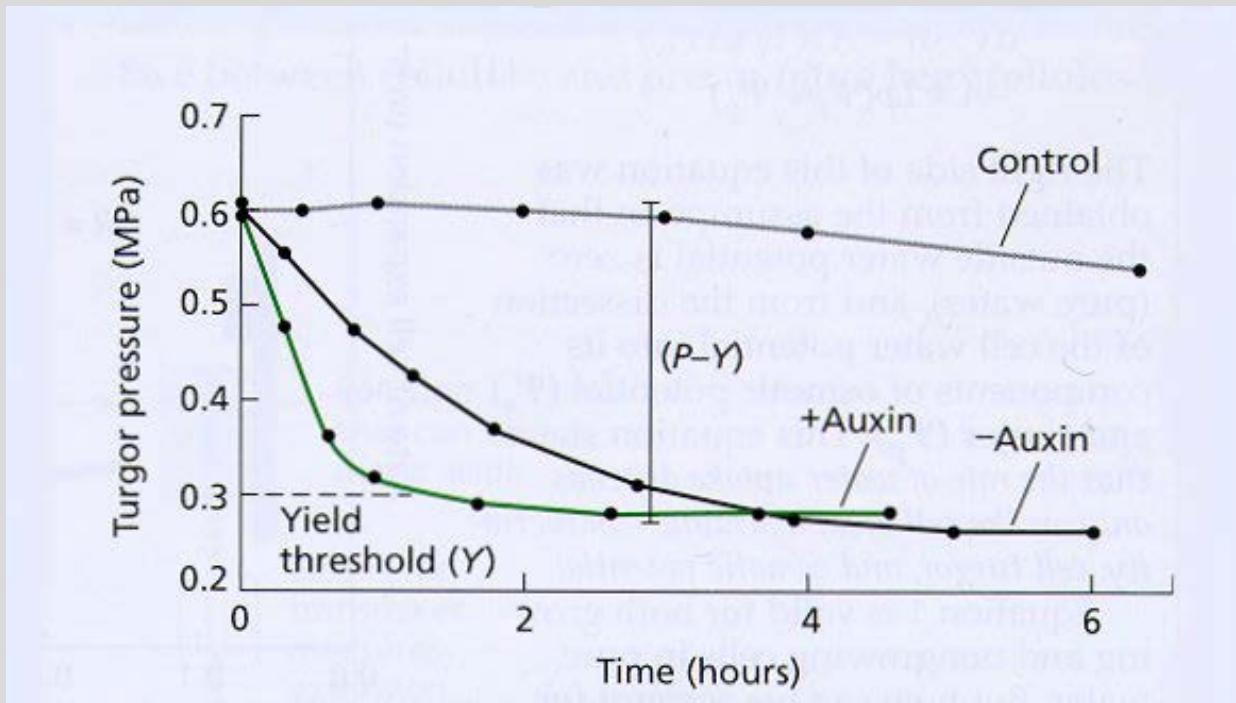
$$\Psi_o = P_o - \Pi_o \approx -\Pi_o$$



- Le potentiel hydrique de la cellule : $\Psi_i = P_i - \Pi_i$
 - P = pression de turgescence : force hydrostatique
 - Π = pression osmotique (due aux solutés dissous)
- A l'équilibre
 - $(\Delta P - \sigma \Delta \Pi) = 0 \Rightarrow J_v = 0$ flux in = flux out
 - $P_o \approx 0, P_i = \sigma \Delta \Pi$
 - origine de la turgescence : paroi rigide et milieu hypotonique
- Si déséquilibre de statut hydrique : flux directionnel
 - $J_v = Lp \cdot (\Delta P - \sigma \Delta \Pi) = Lp \cdot (P_i - \sigma \Delta \Pi)$
 - Lp = conductivité hydraulique membranaire

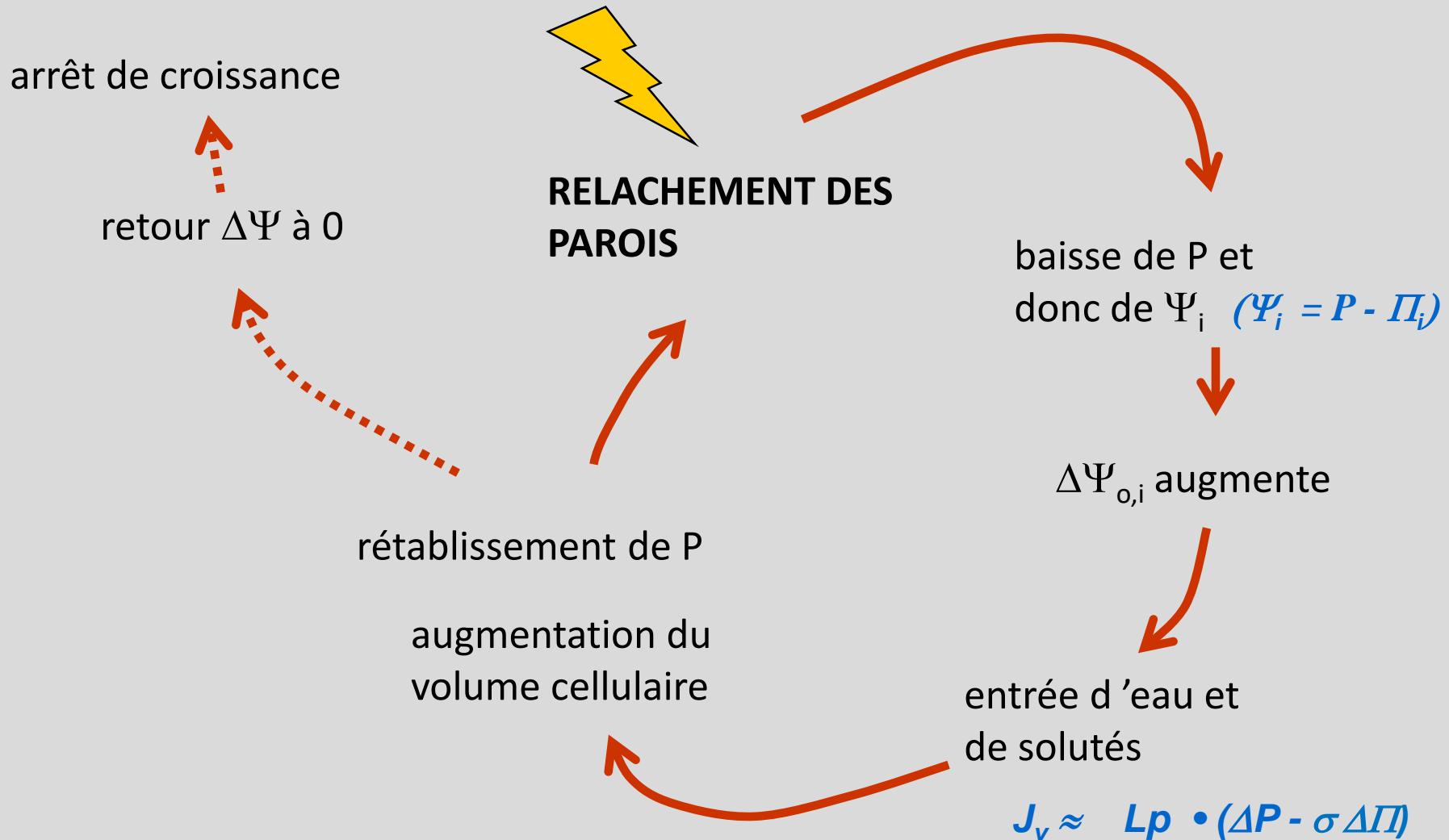
σ = coefficient de réflectivité
Si la membrane plasmique est semi-perméable :
 $\sigma \approx 1$

Cell wall relaxation reduces turgor pressure



- Excised pea growing stem segment
 - connected to a water source
 - not connected to a water source, without auxin
 - not connected to a water source, with auxin (increases cell wall relaxation)

Cell wall relaxation : the basis of cell expansion



Growth rate depends linearly on turgor pressure

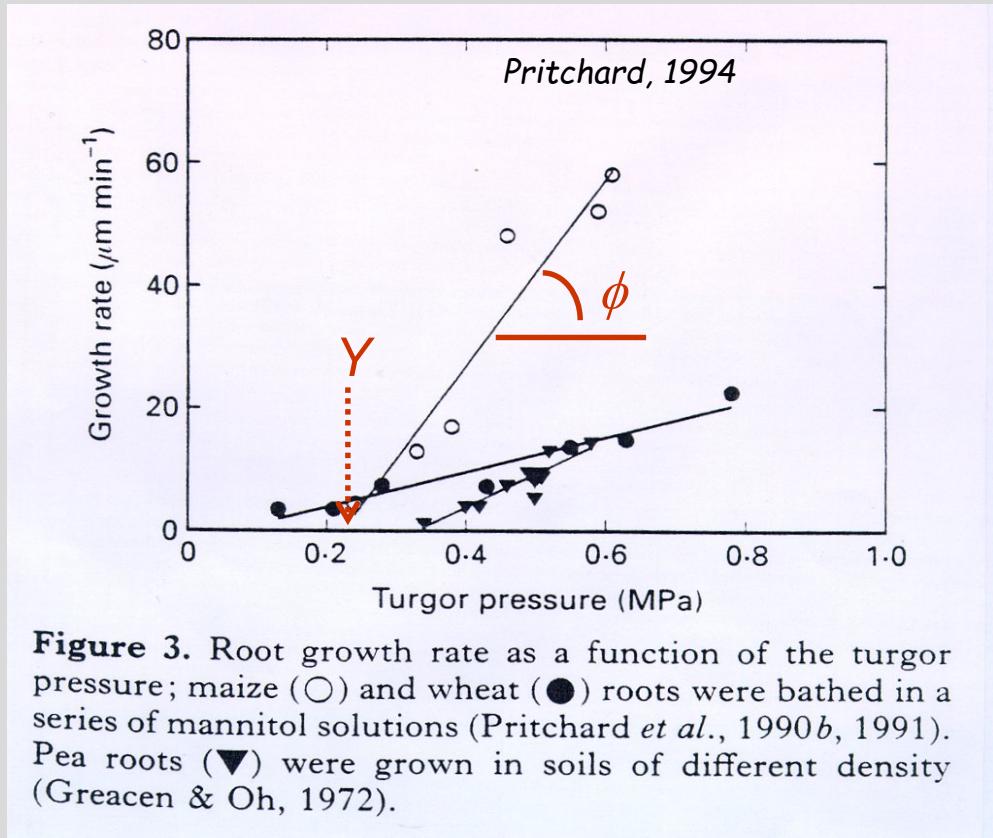


Figure 3. Root growth rate as a function of the turgor pressure; maize (○) and wheat (●) roots were bathed in a series of mannitol solutions (Pritchard *et al.*, 1990 *b*, 1991). Pea roots (▼) were grown in soils of different density (Greacen & Oh, 1972).

$$\text{Growth Rate} = \phi (P - Y)$$

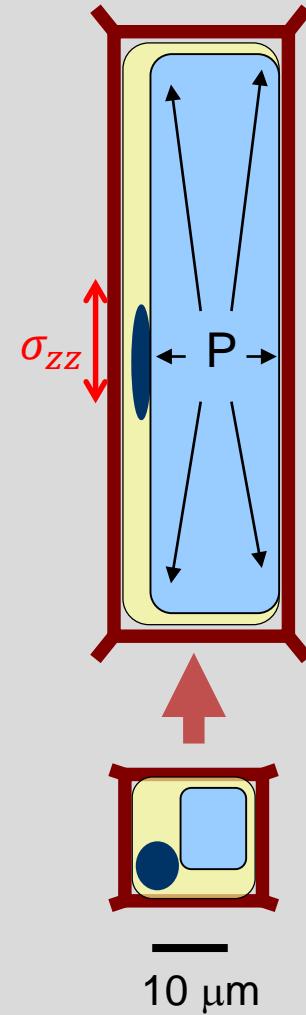
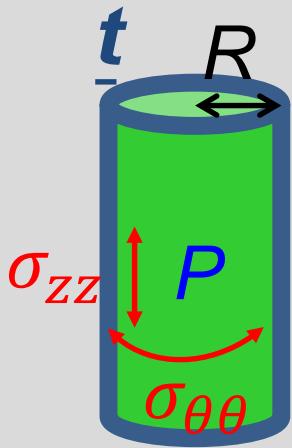
La croissance est linéairement proportionnelle à la pression de turgescence (le moteur de la croissance), au delà d'un seuil minimum

Wall tension and anisotropic growth

→ Turgor pressure P

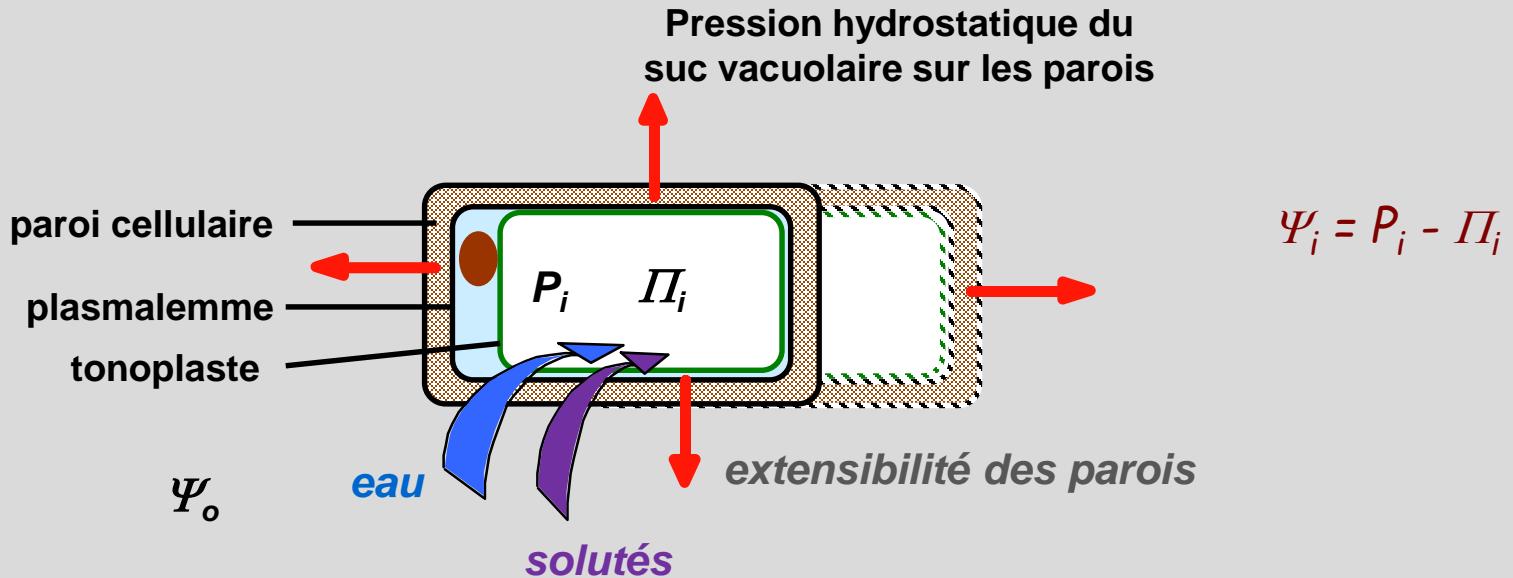
→ Wall tension σ

$$\sigma_{zz} = \frac{R}{2t} P \quad \sigma_{\theta\theta} = \frac{R}{t} P = 2\sigma_{zz}$$



- Cell wall rheological properties are different longitudinally and axially
- role of cellulose microfibrils orientation

Cell expansion parameters



- **Force motrice** du grandissement cellulaire :
 - Pression de turgescence
- **Contrôle** du grandissement cellulaire :
 - extensibilité des parois (ϕ , γ)
 - conductivité hydraulique volumique cellulaire (-> L_p)
 - Disponibilité en solutés / en eau

A biophysical model of cell expansion : Lockhart (1965)

Hydraulics

Rheology of cell walls

$$1/V \cdot (dV/dt) = L [\sigma (\Pi_i - \Pi_o) - P]$$

$$1/V \cdot (dV/dt) = \phi (P - Y)$$

$$\frac{L}{V} \cdot \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{L \phi}{L + \phi} \cdot (\sigma \Delta \Pi_{i,o} - Y)$$

If $L \gg \phi$: $L\phi/(L+\phi) \approx \phi$

Cell expansion is limited by the cell wall mechanical properties

If $L \ll \phi$: $L\phi/(L+\phi) \approx L$

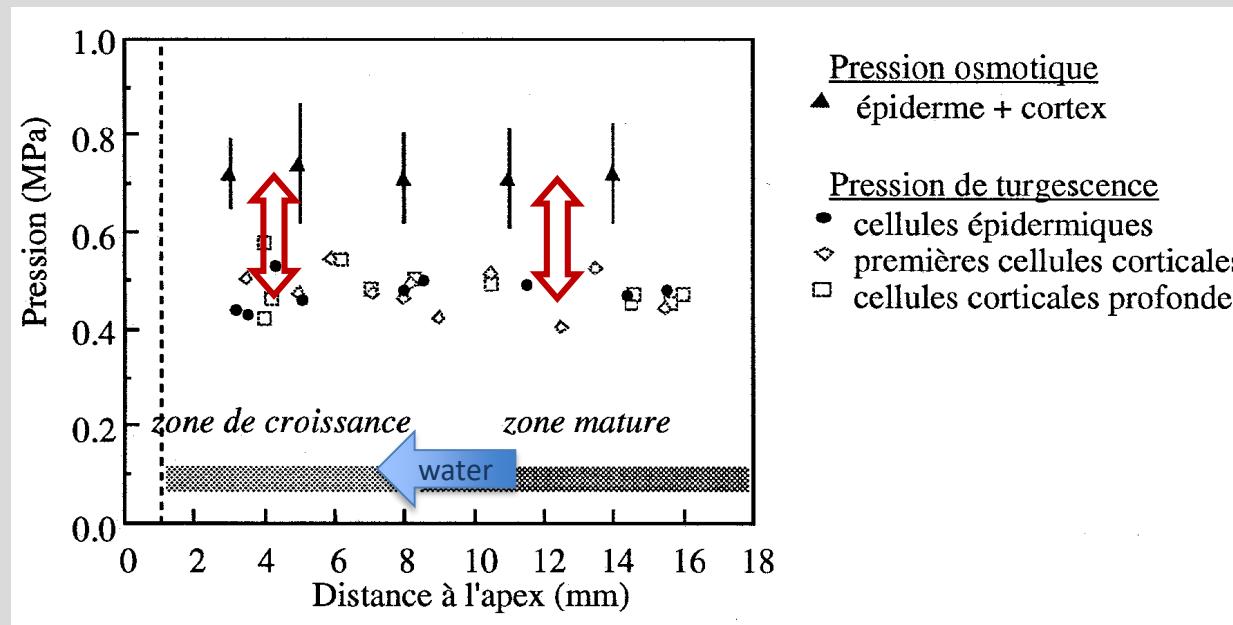
Cell expansion is limited by the membrane hydraulic conductance

Lockhart (1965)

$$\frac{1}{V} \cdot \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{L \phi}{L + \phi} \cdot (\sigma \Delta \Pi_{i,o} - Y)$$

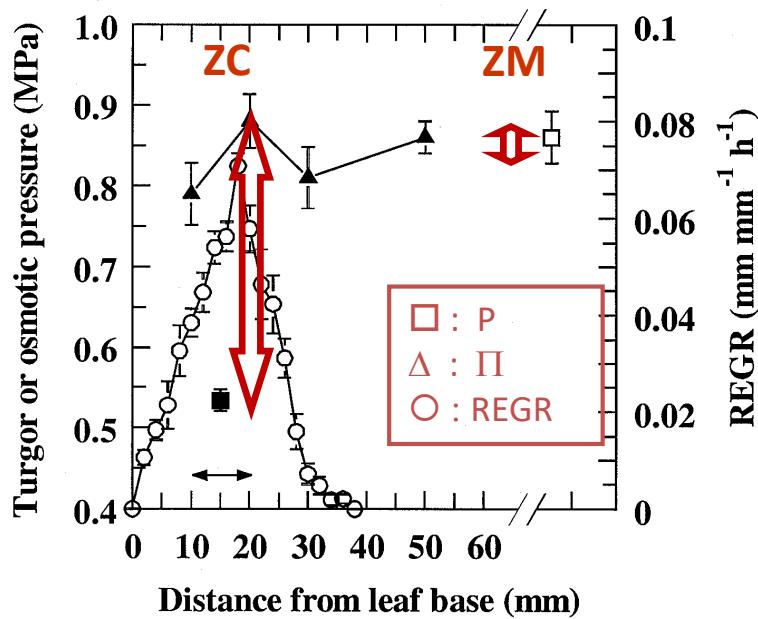
- établi pour une cellule et pour un régime stationnaire
- conceptuel mais ne reflète pas tout, ne prend pas en compte:
 - régime transitoire
 - échelle spatiale : cellule / tissu (approximation pour un tissu)

Intensité du ‘gradient de potentiel induit par la croissance’



- P et $\Pi \pm$ constant le long de la zone de croissance et au delà
- $\Psi_i \sim \Psi_o$
 - ⇒ GIWP-gradient très faible :
 - Lp non limitante
 - croissance contrôlée par propriétés mécaniques

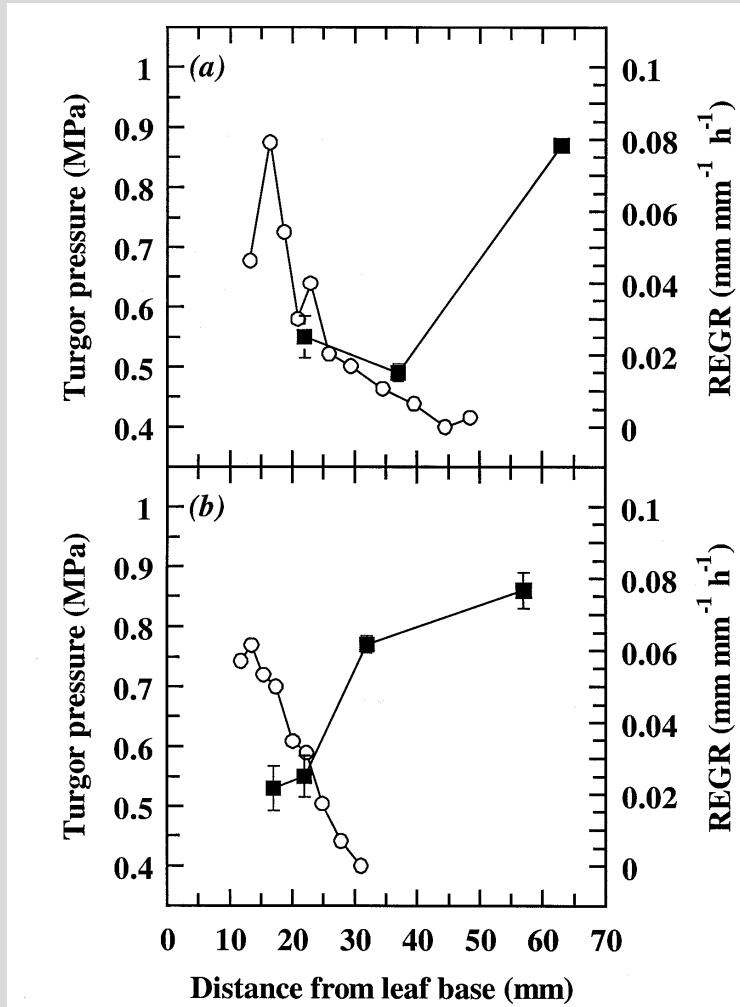
Intensité du ‘gradient de potentiel induit par la croissance’



ZC d'une feuille de fétuque

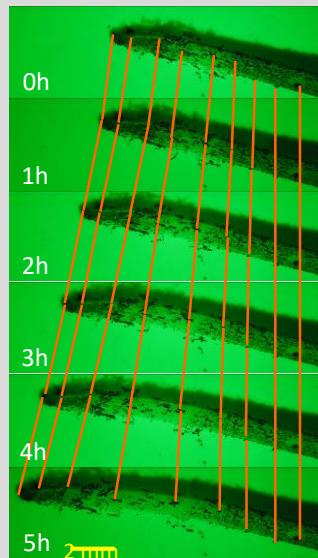
- ✓ $\Pi \sim$ constant dans ZC et ZM
- ✓ P passe de ~ 5 bars dans ZC à ~ 9 bars dans la zone mature

➡ GIWP-gradient voisin de 0.3 MPa : Lp joue un rôle dans la limitation de la croissance

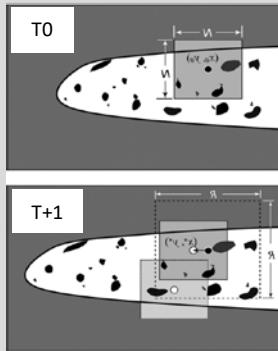


Martre et al, 1999

Spatial characterisation of growth : time lapse photography and kinematics



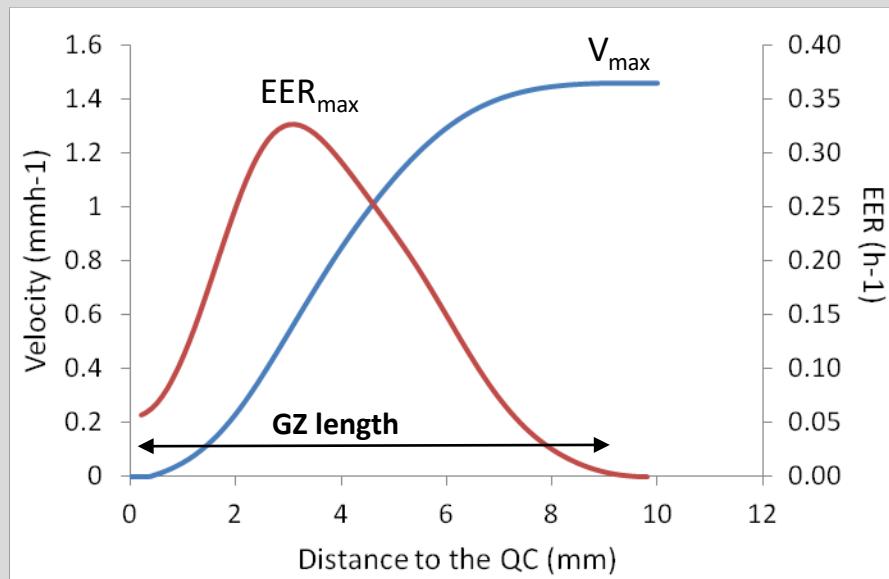
particule image
velocimetry



Kineroot - Basu *et al.*, 2007
Kymorod - Bastien *et al.*, 2016

Infra-red illumination : monitoring of natural marks

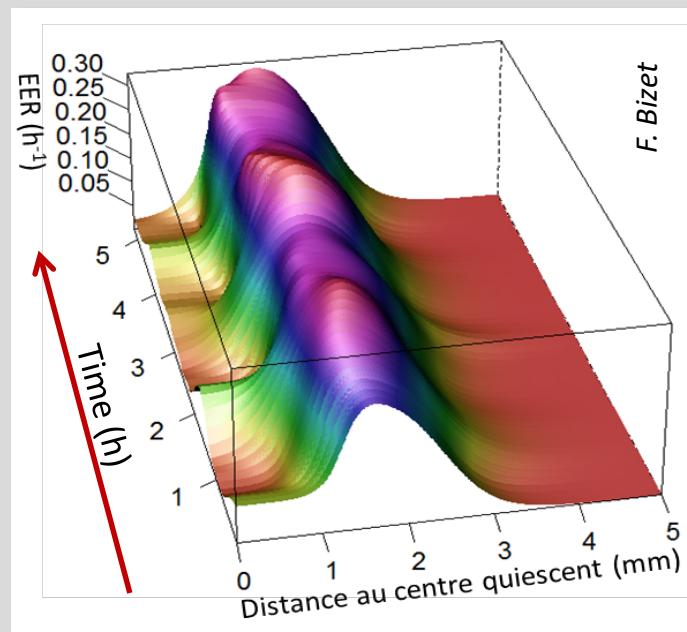
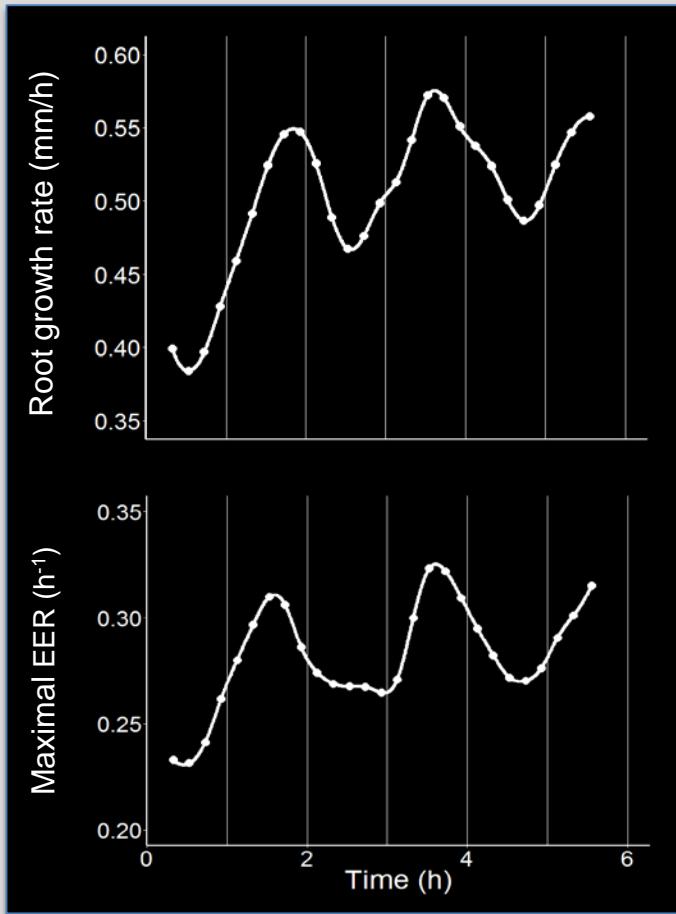
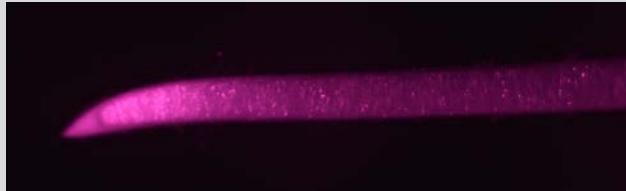
- no thigmomorphogenesis response
- renewing of marks -> long-time monitoring



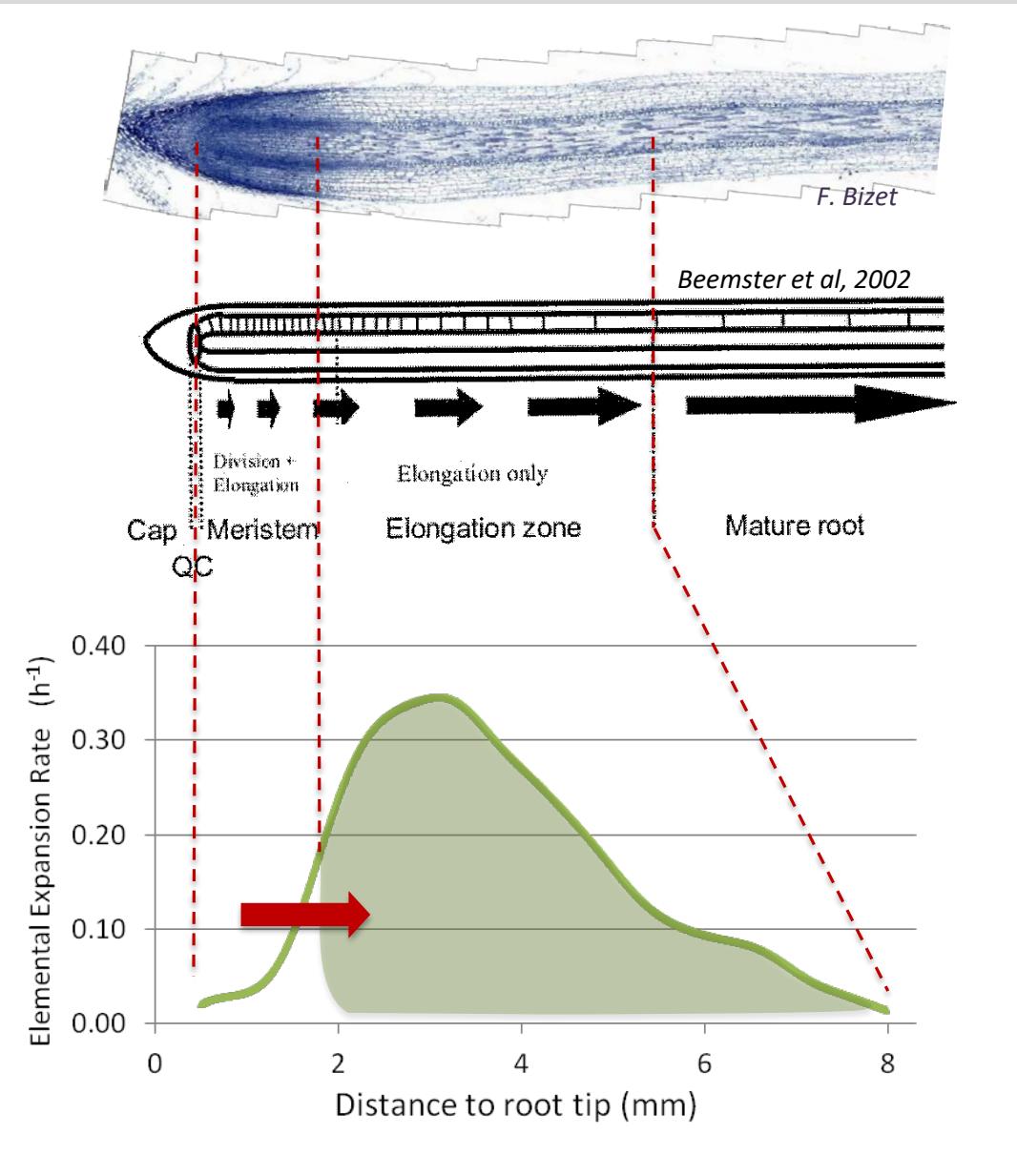
Long term monitoring highlights temporal oscillations

Infra-red illumination

- natural marks
- renewing of marks -> long-time monitoring

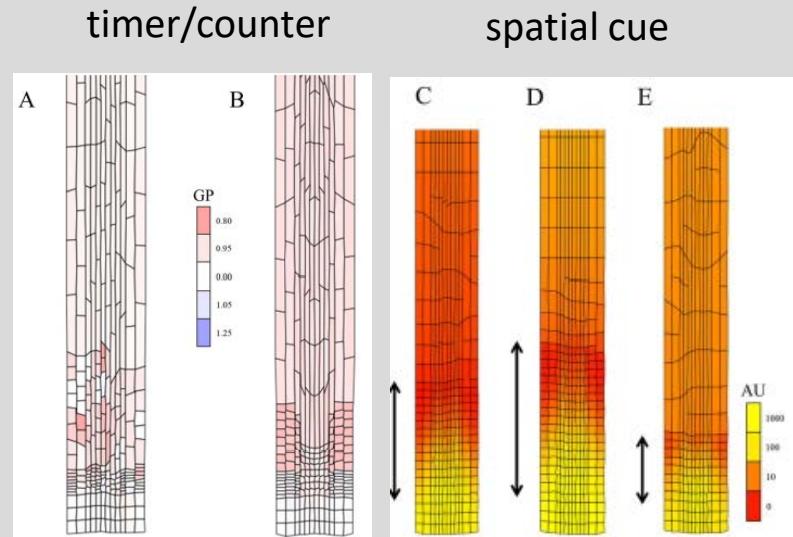
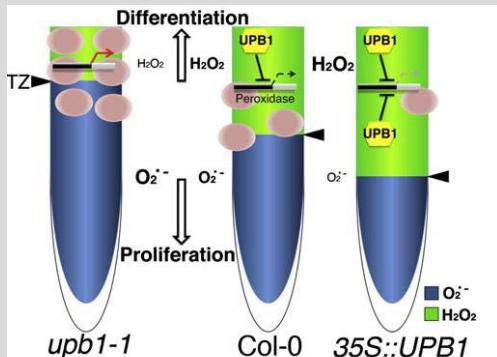
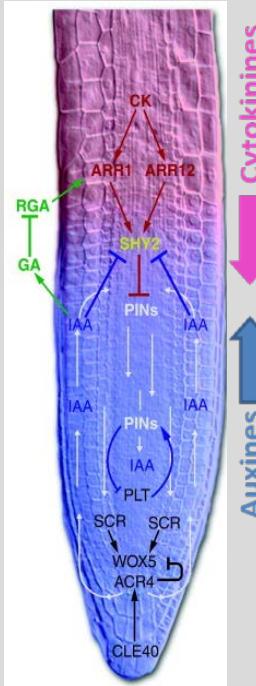


Root growth = cell production + cell elongation



- quantitatively , most of growth is due to cell elongation
 - meristem provides cells to the elongation zone
- **cell proliferation rate affects root growth rate**

Controls of transition from cell proliferation to cell expansion

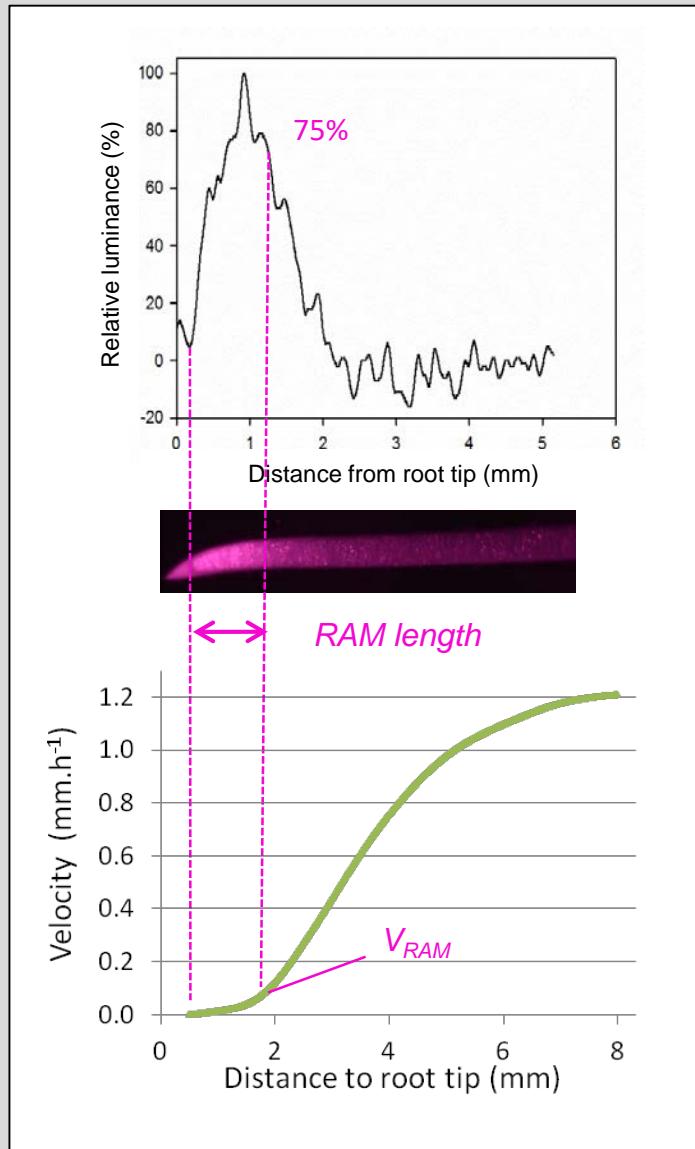


- cell-autonomous regulatory rules are insufficient to simulate smoothed developmental zones
- spatial cues solve the problem

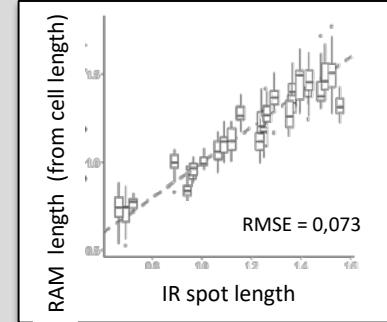
Regulation of cell status
(dividing/ expanding)

⇒ meristem size ⇒ cell proliferation rate ⇒ root growth rate

Root apical meristem characterisation

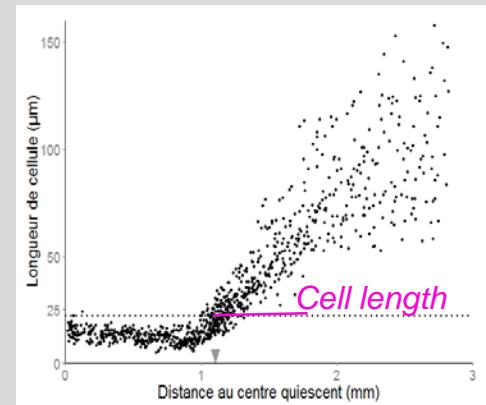


- **RAM length** determined from luminance profile (Bizet et al, 2015)



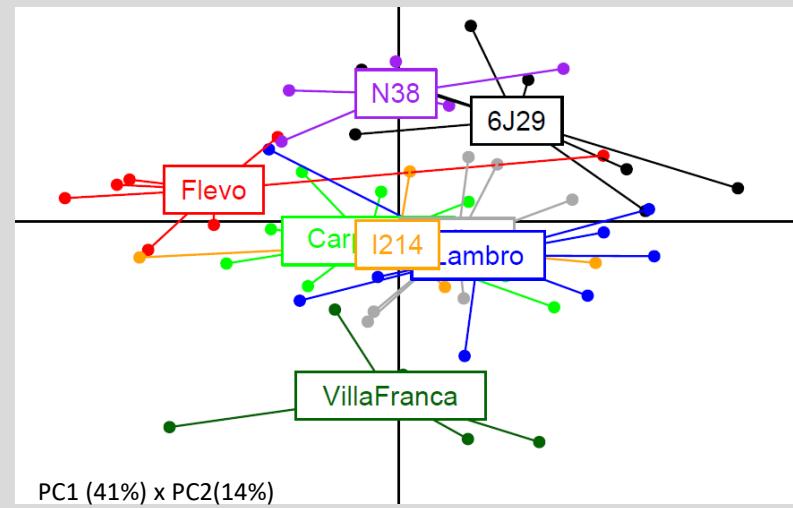
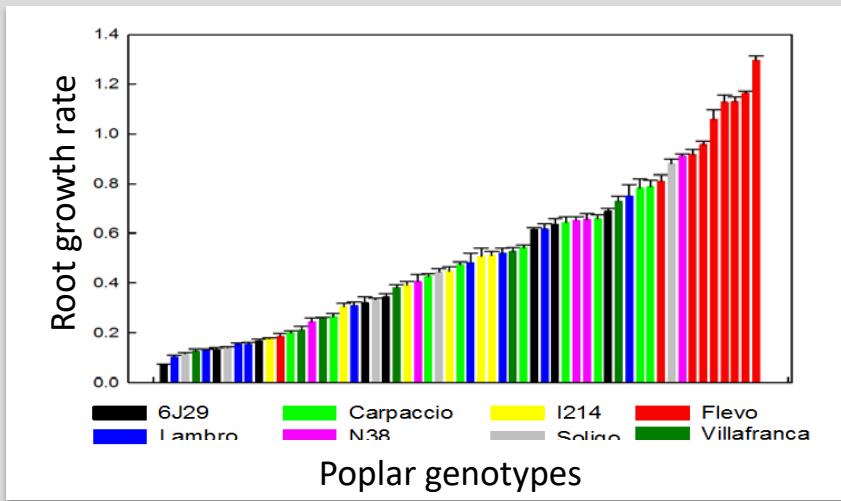
- **Cell production rate** =

$$\frac{\text{Velocity}_{RAM}}{\text{Cell length}_{RAM}}$$



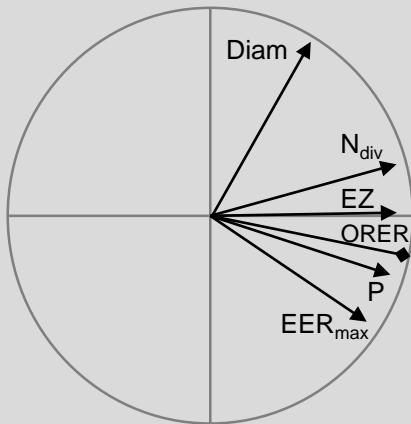
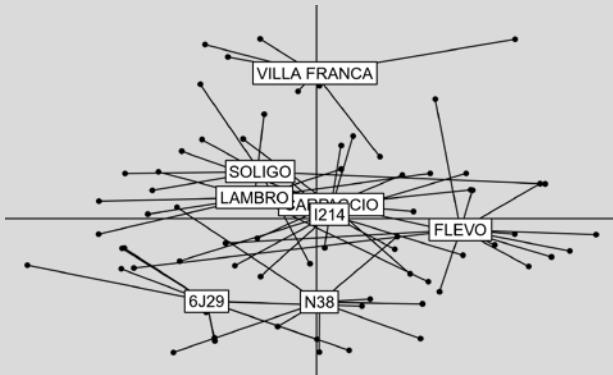
Variability of root growth components in poplar

- Inter-species variability of root growth rate is mostly explained by cell production rate (Gazquez and Beemster, 2017)
- Growth rate highly variable among roots within a root system, among species.
- origin?

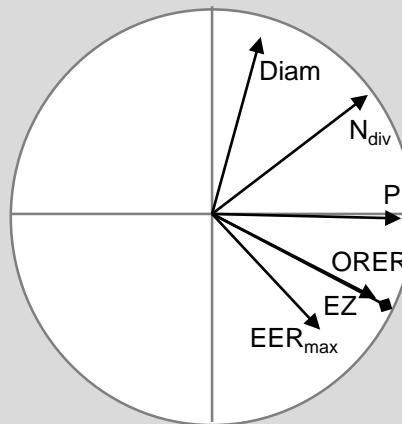
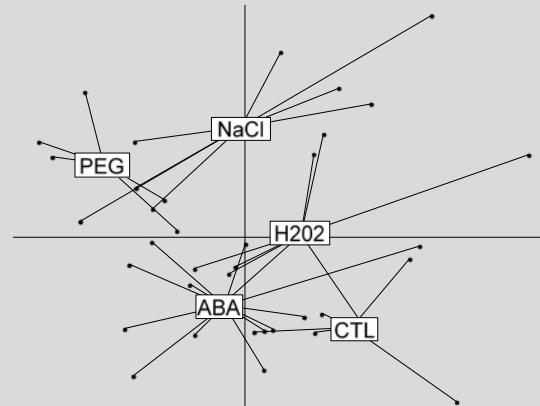


Variability of root growth components in poplar

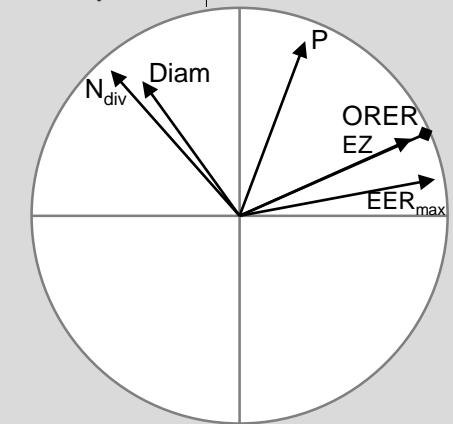
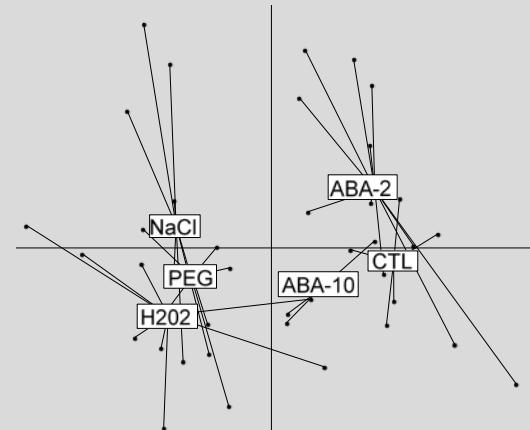
Species and cultivars



24h of chemical treatments



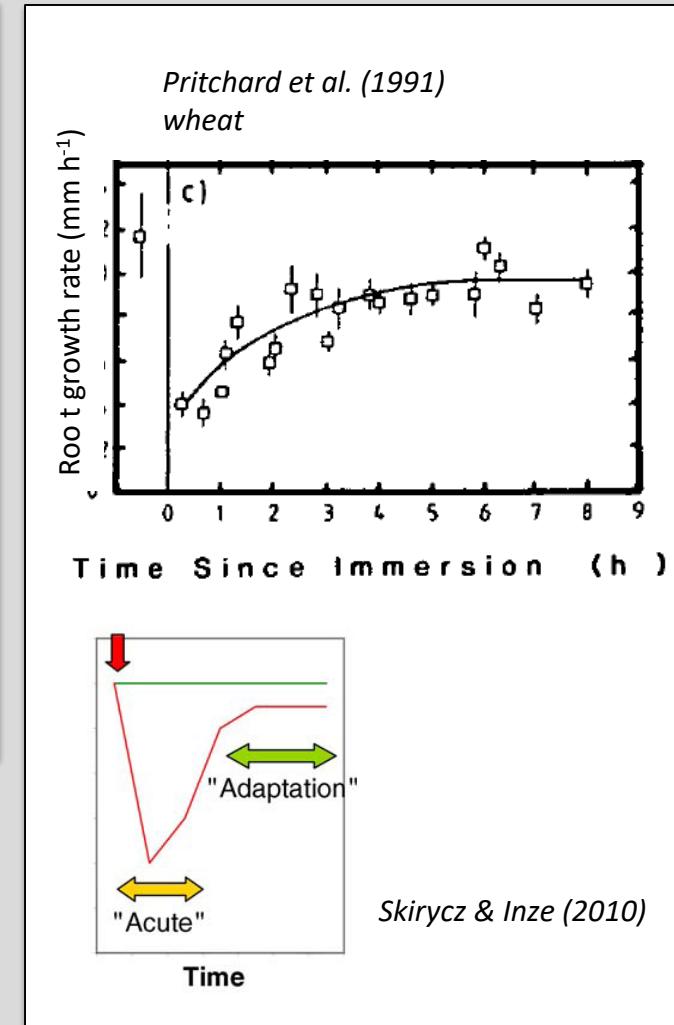
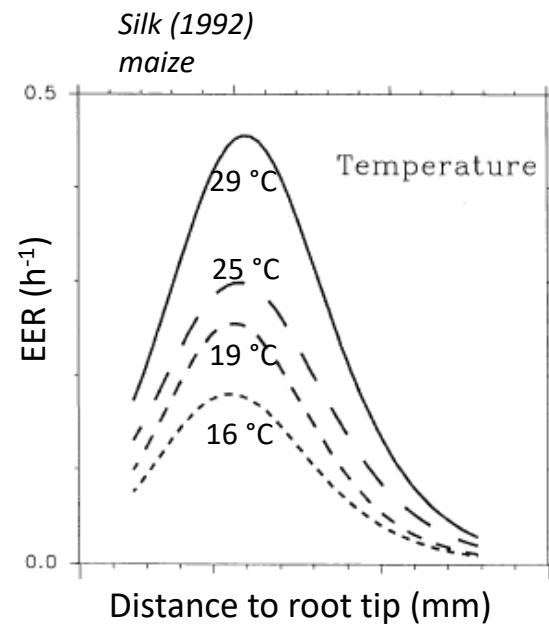
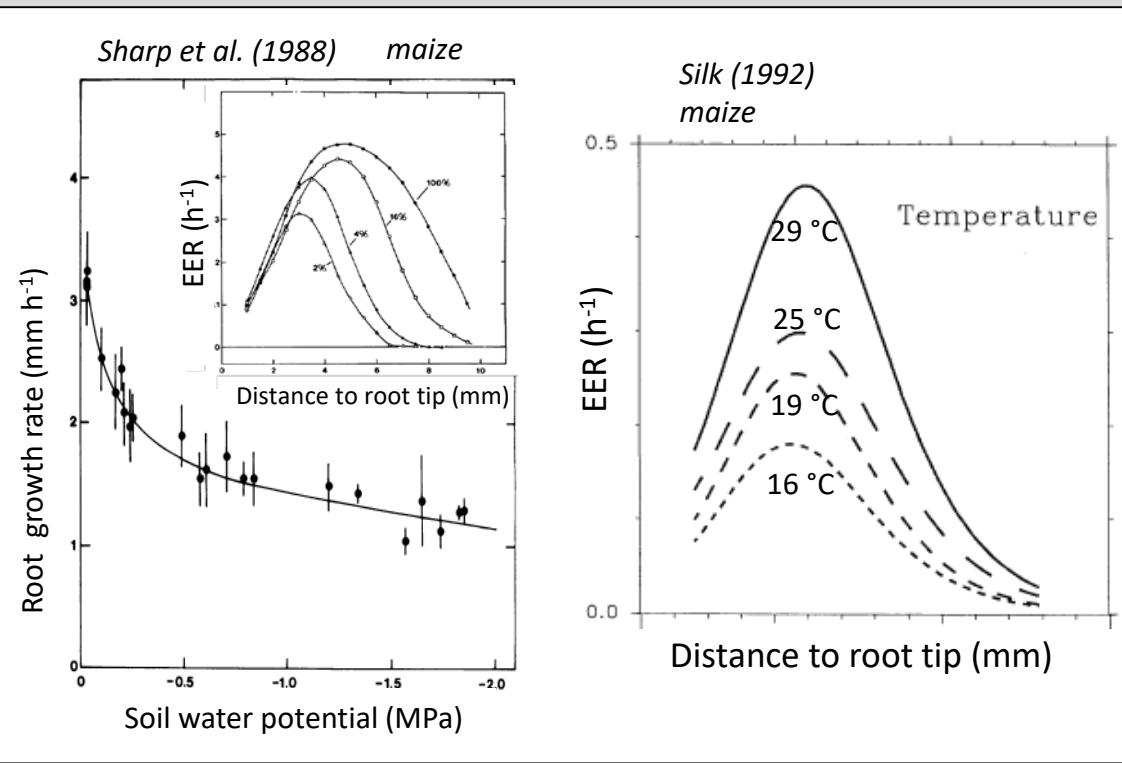
1h of chemical treatments



- All parameters correlated
- Steady state growth rate : more driven by P than EER max
- Short term response : mainly due to the high responsiveness of EER

Root growth is highly responsive to environment

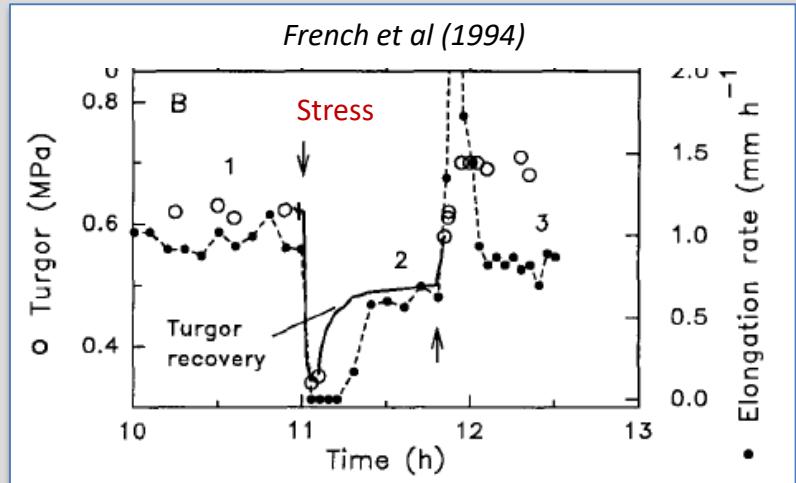
- Sensitive to water availability, nutrient availability, temperature, soil mechanical impedance, ...



steady state versus transition phase

Dynamics of root growth in response to osmotic stress

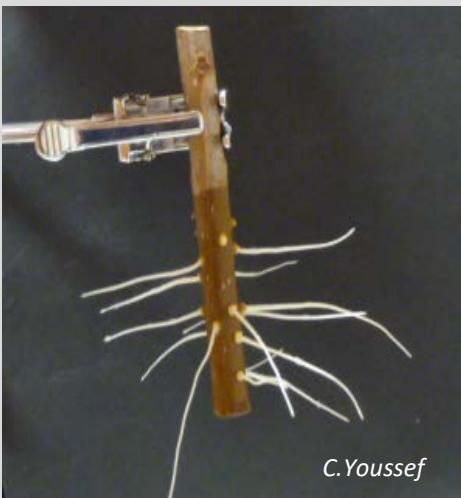
- Root growth is sensitive to water deficit
- time course of cell turgor recovery (motor of cell expansion) differs from that of growth : there are biological responses in addition to mechanical limitation



What's happen during the transition phase ?

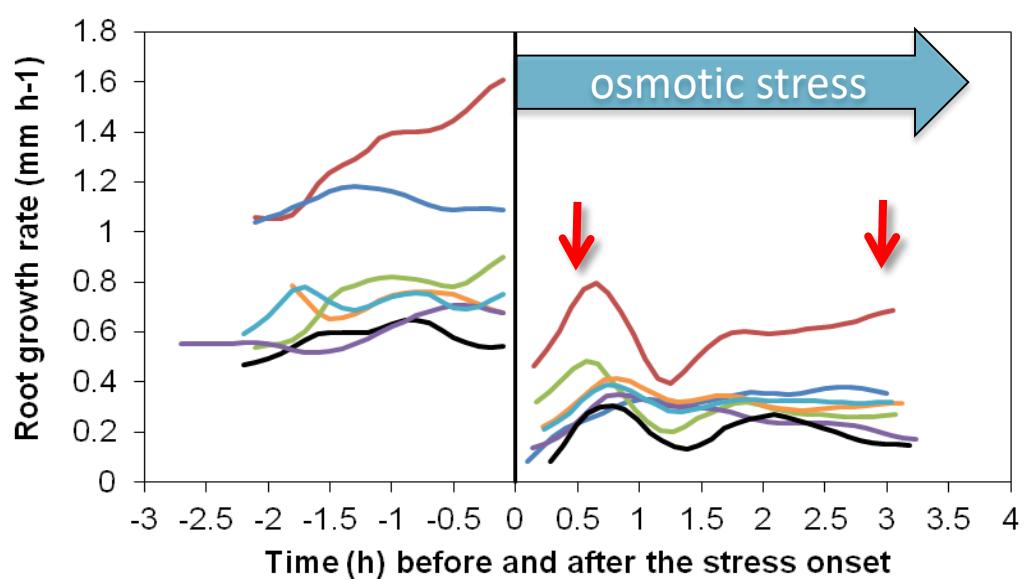
- cell proliferation rate
- cell expansion rate
- transcriptome rewiring in the division zone and the elongation zone

Poplar as a model species



- Clonal propagation
- Easy cultivation in hydroponics
- Fast adventitious rooting
- Plagiotropic roots
- Fast growing root
- Large growth zone
-> easy manipulation

Dynamics of root growth in response to osmotic stress



Populus nigra

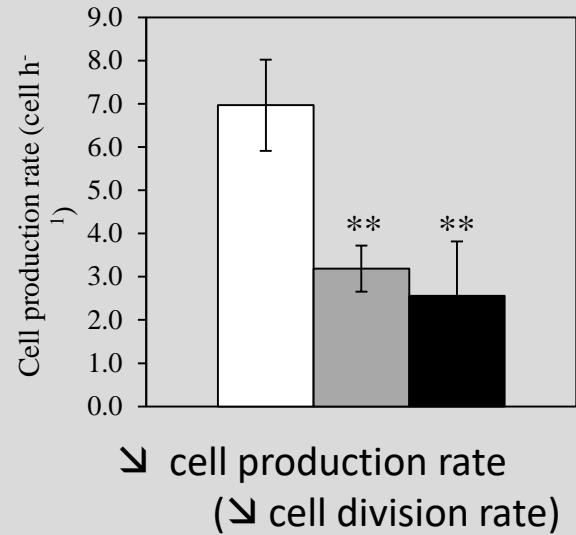
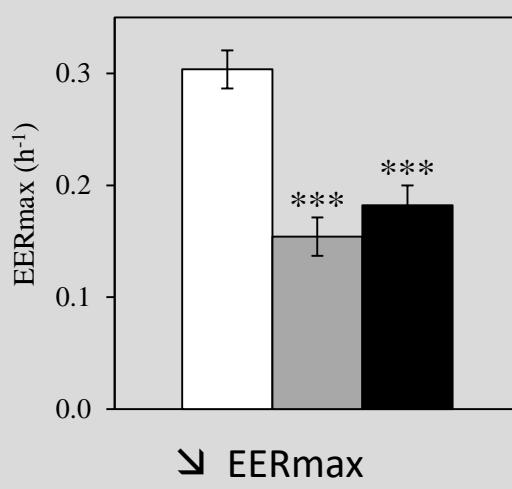
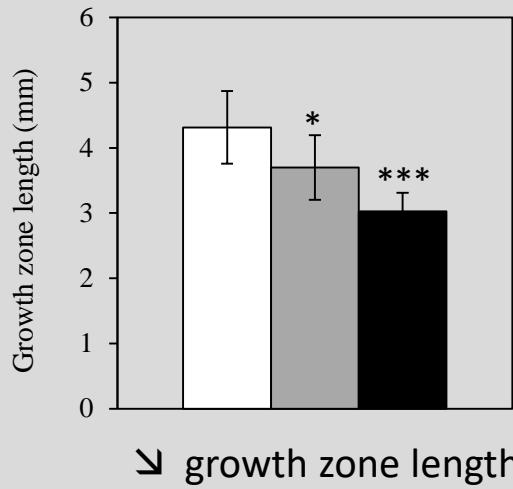
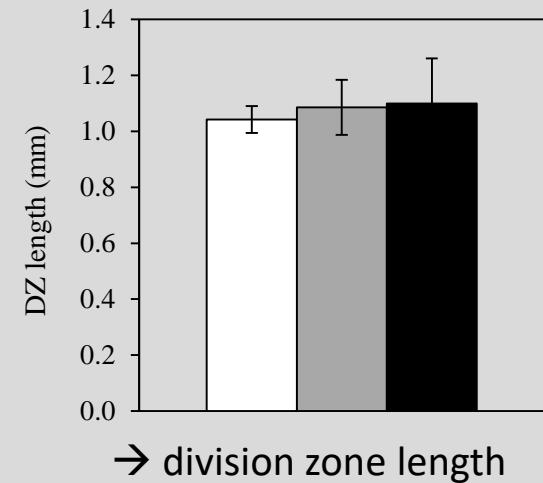
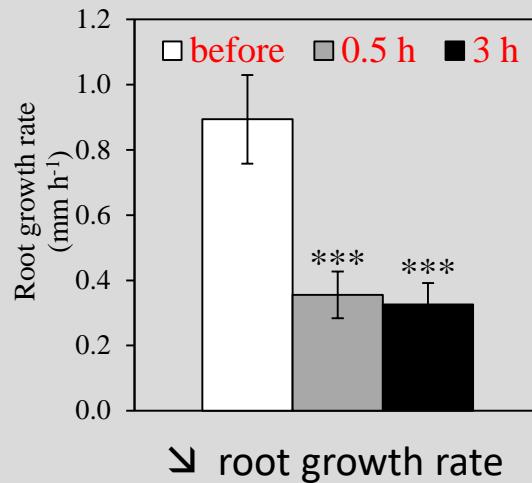
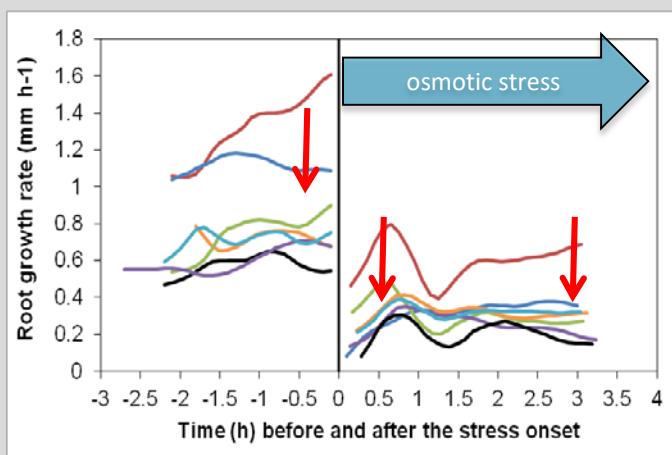
PEG 4000 g/mol ($\Psi = -0.35 \text{ MPa}$)

- strong growth reduction
- return to stable growth rate after 2 hours

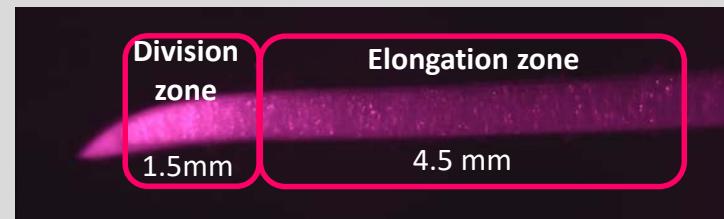
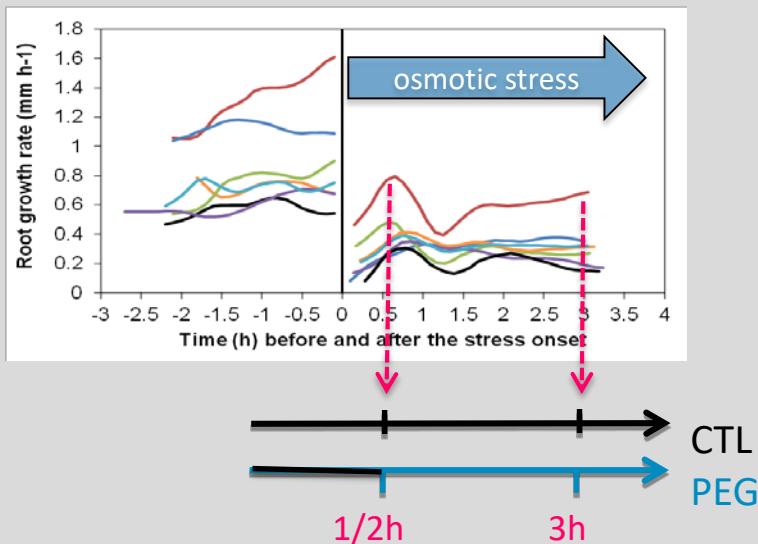
-> 2 snapshots during the transition phase, after 0.5h and 3h of stress

- kinematics -> growth components
- transcriptome in the division zone and the elongation zone

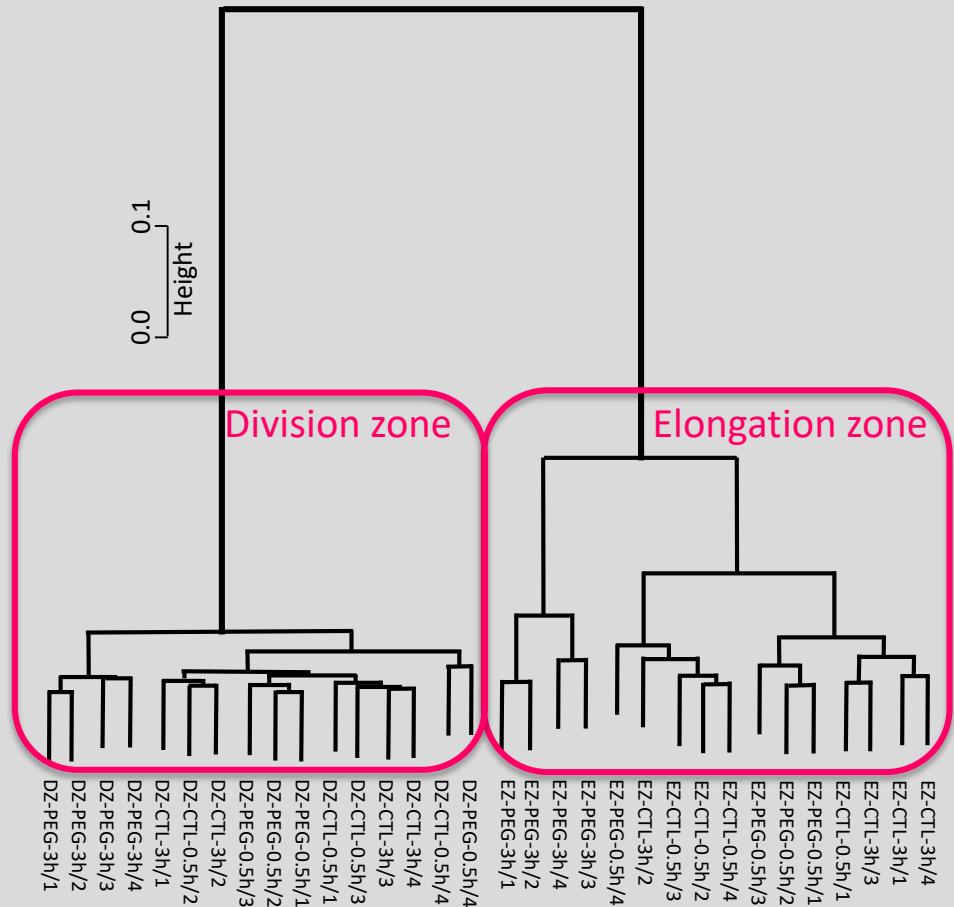
Rapid impairment of cell division & cell expansion



Dynamics of molecular controls

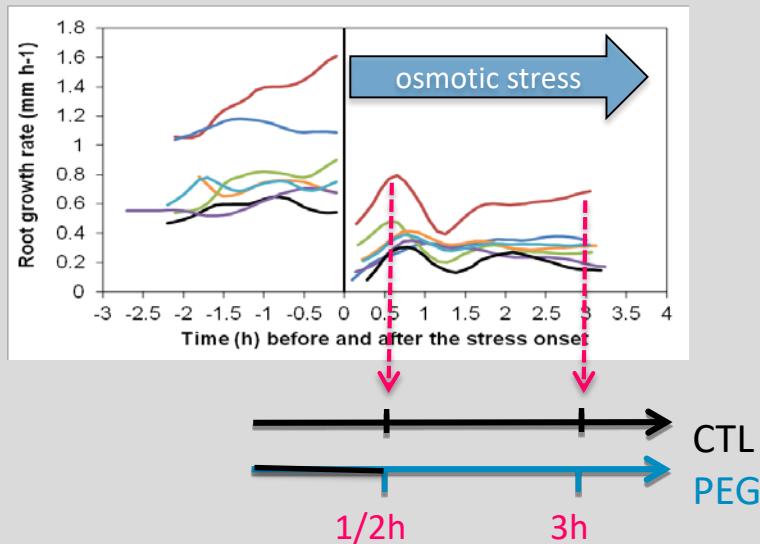


32 Libraries & RNA sequencing
30 million paired-end reads 100 bp, HiSeq 2500

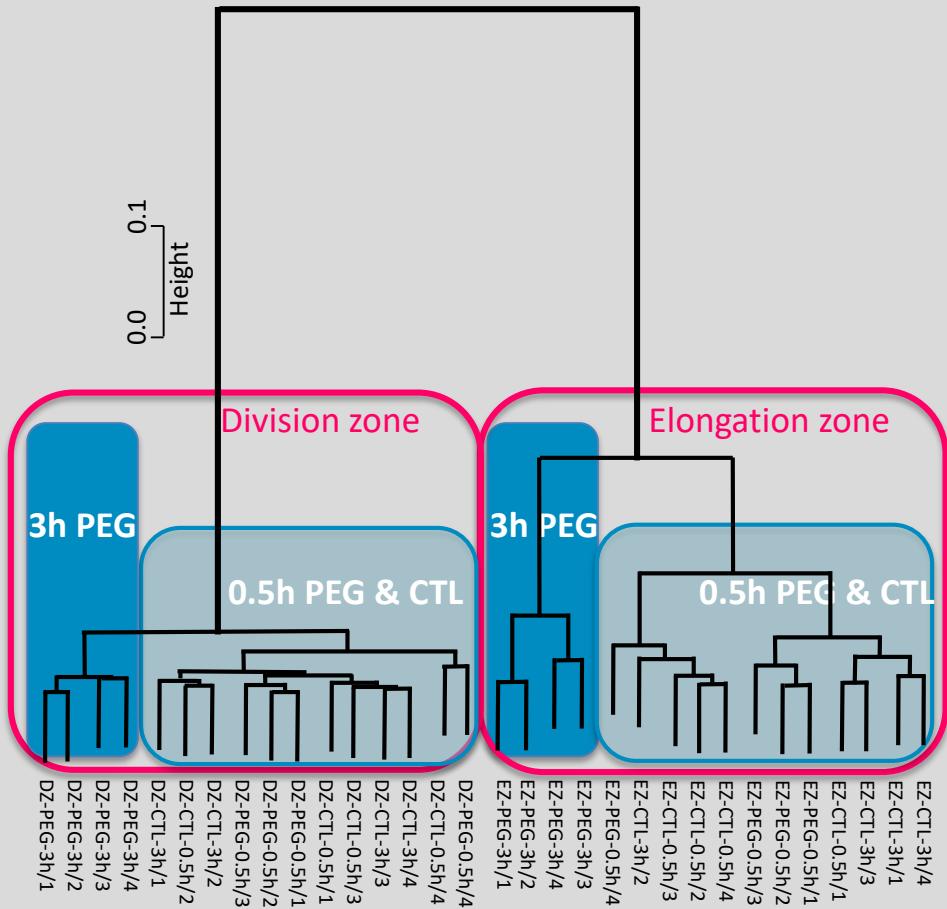
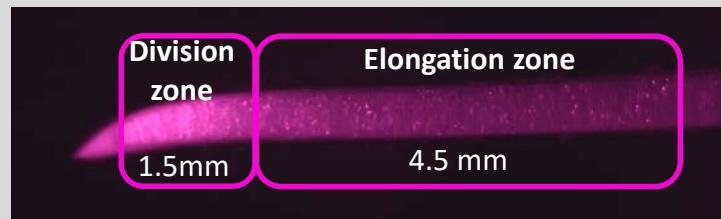


- Expression patterns are spatially structured
distinct cell process ⇔ distinct genes & GO

Dynamics of molecular controls



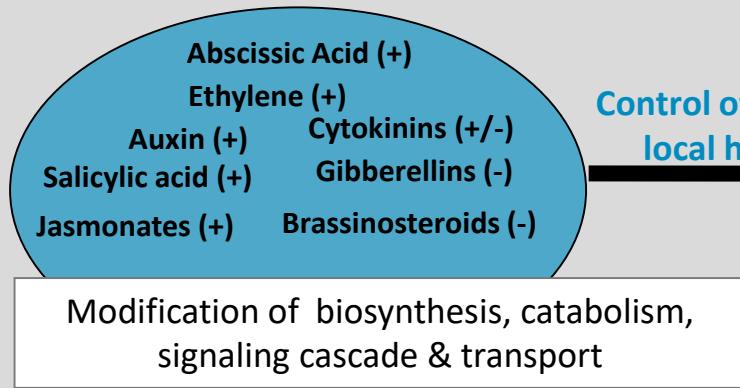
- Minor changes after 0.5h
 - Strong remodelling after 3h
 - > molecular response took time to fully deploy



Interferences between growth effectors and hormonal pathways

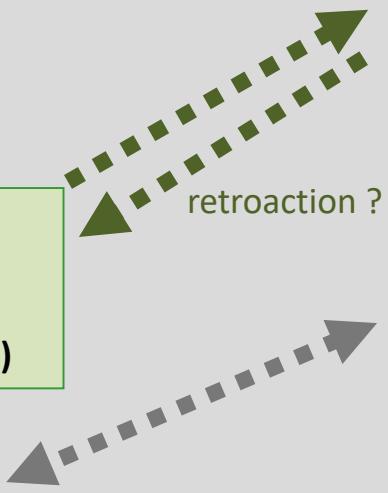
TRANSCRIPTOME remodelling & GO enrichments

- Activation of regulatory processes with a strong emphasis on genes related to **hormone pathways** (up to 20 % of DEGs)



- Promotion of growth effectors suggesting the facilitation of cell expansion

- cell wall-strengthening *XTHs* (-)
- cell wall-loosening *EXPs* (*EXPA1* and *EXPA8*) (+)
- cell wall-loosening *PECTINE LYASEs* (+)
- Membrane hydraulic conductivity : *aquaporins* (+)

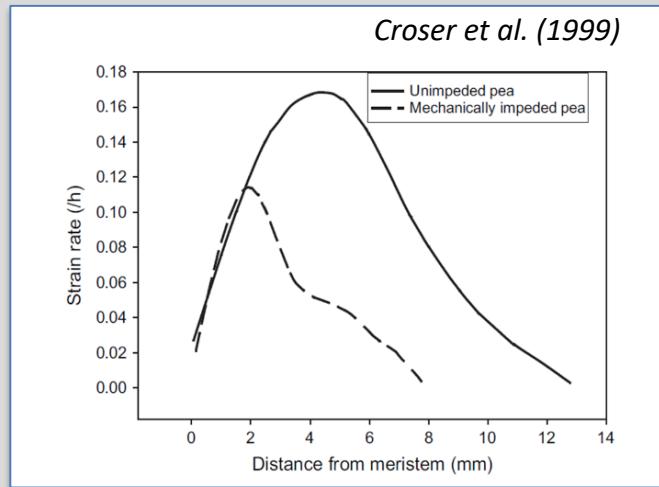


- No regulation of core cell cycle genes

- low regulation level?
- impact of expansive growth in DZ ?
- post-transcriptional regulation of cell cycle components ?
(Skirycz *et al.*, 2011)

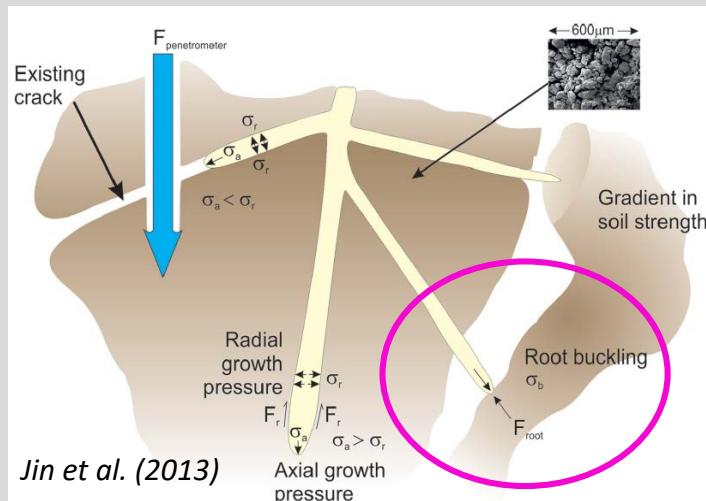
Dynamics of root growth in response to mechanical resistance

- Root growth is sensitive to soil impedance
- Reduction of cell proliferation and cell expansion rates

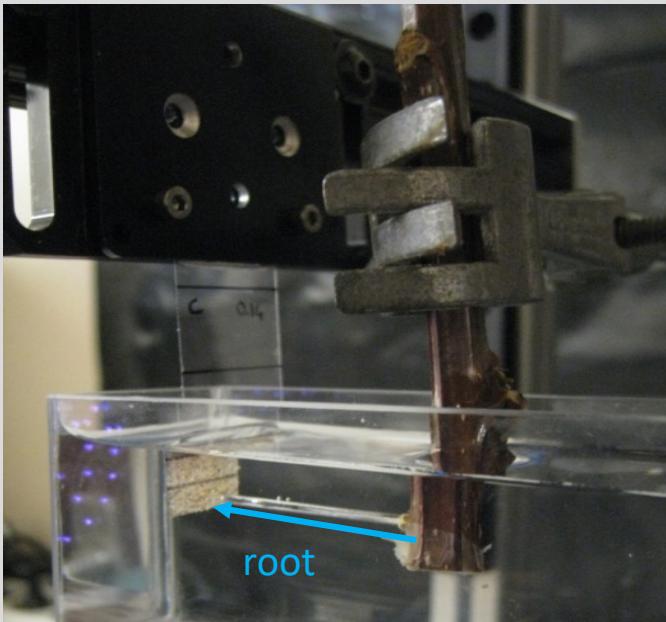
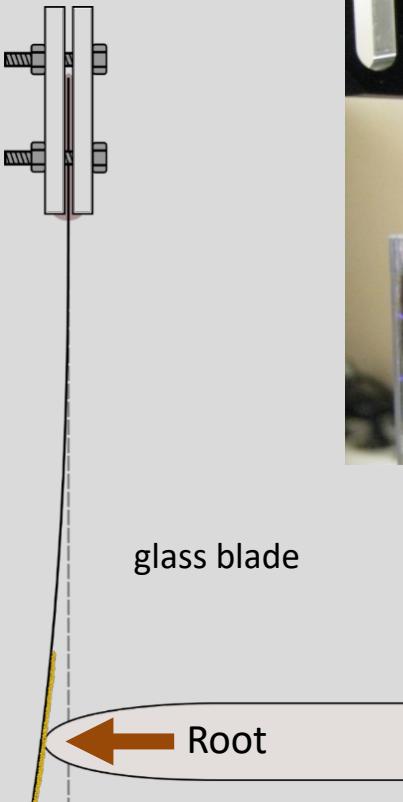


What is the growth response of a root encountering an obstacle?

- force applied by the root
- growth rate
- curvature



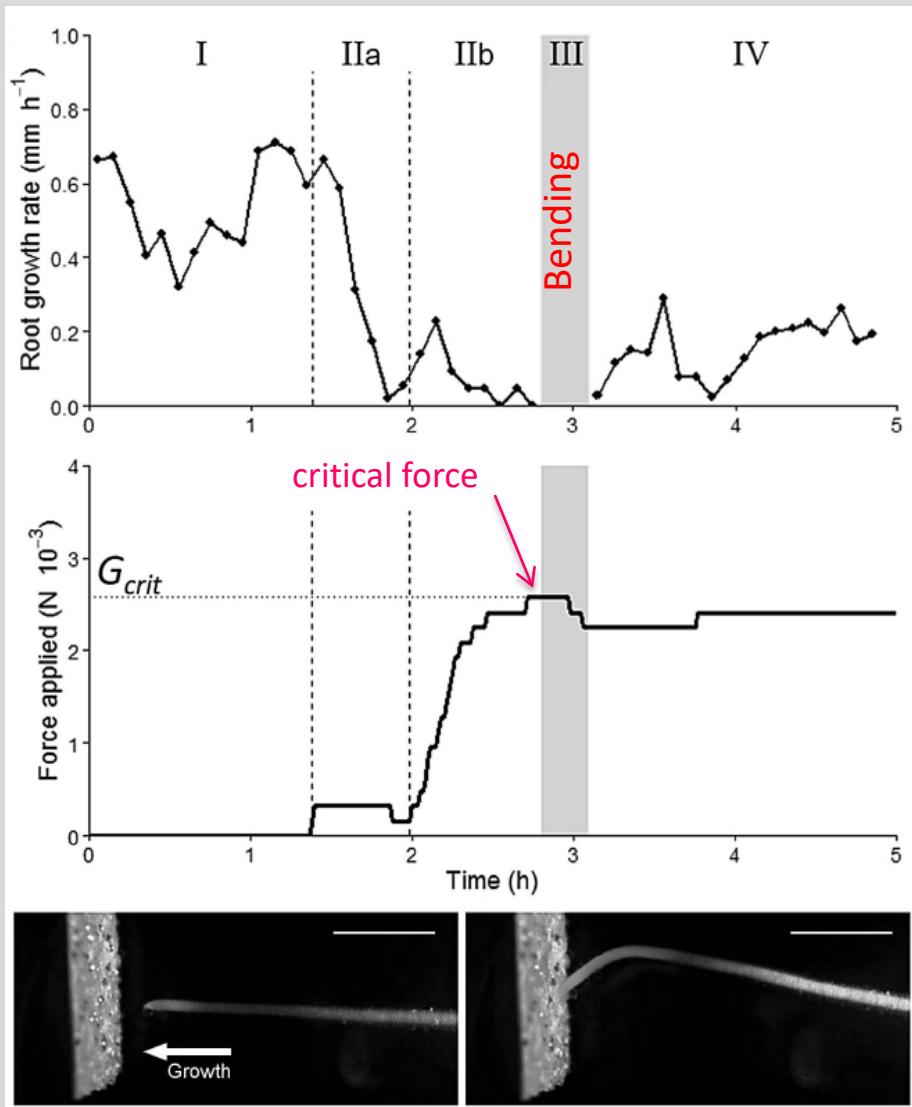
3D kinematics



- Adventitious root (*P. euramericana* cv Soligo)
- Hydroponic culture
- Obstacle = home-made submersible sensor of force
$$\text{force} = k * \text{deformation}$$
- Time-lapse photography from two orthogonal directions -> 3D kinematics

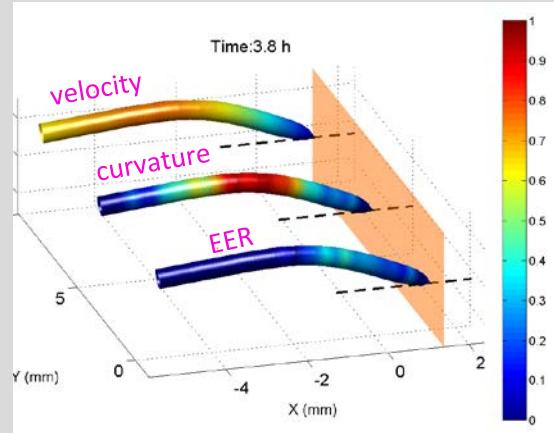
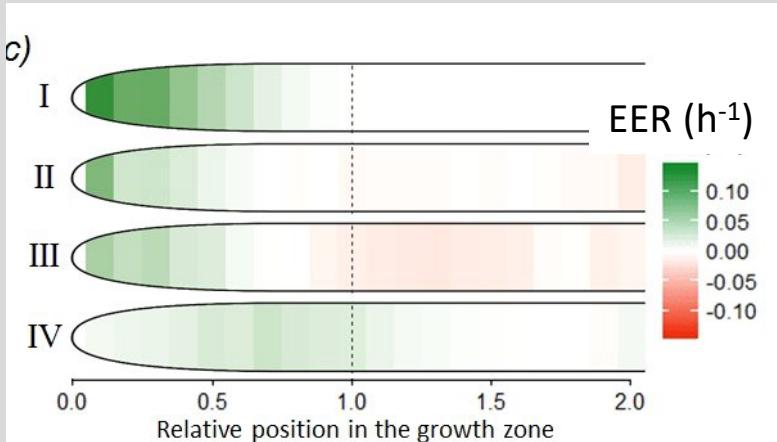
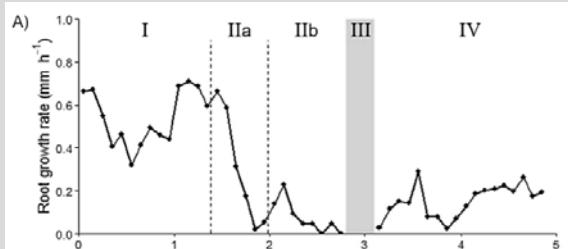
Bizet et al, 2016
J Exp Bot

Dynamics of the response



- Several consecutive phases
 - « touch » response
 - growth recovery and force build-up
 - bending of the root & the critical force is reached
 - after bending : the root continues to grow with a slower rate

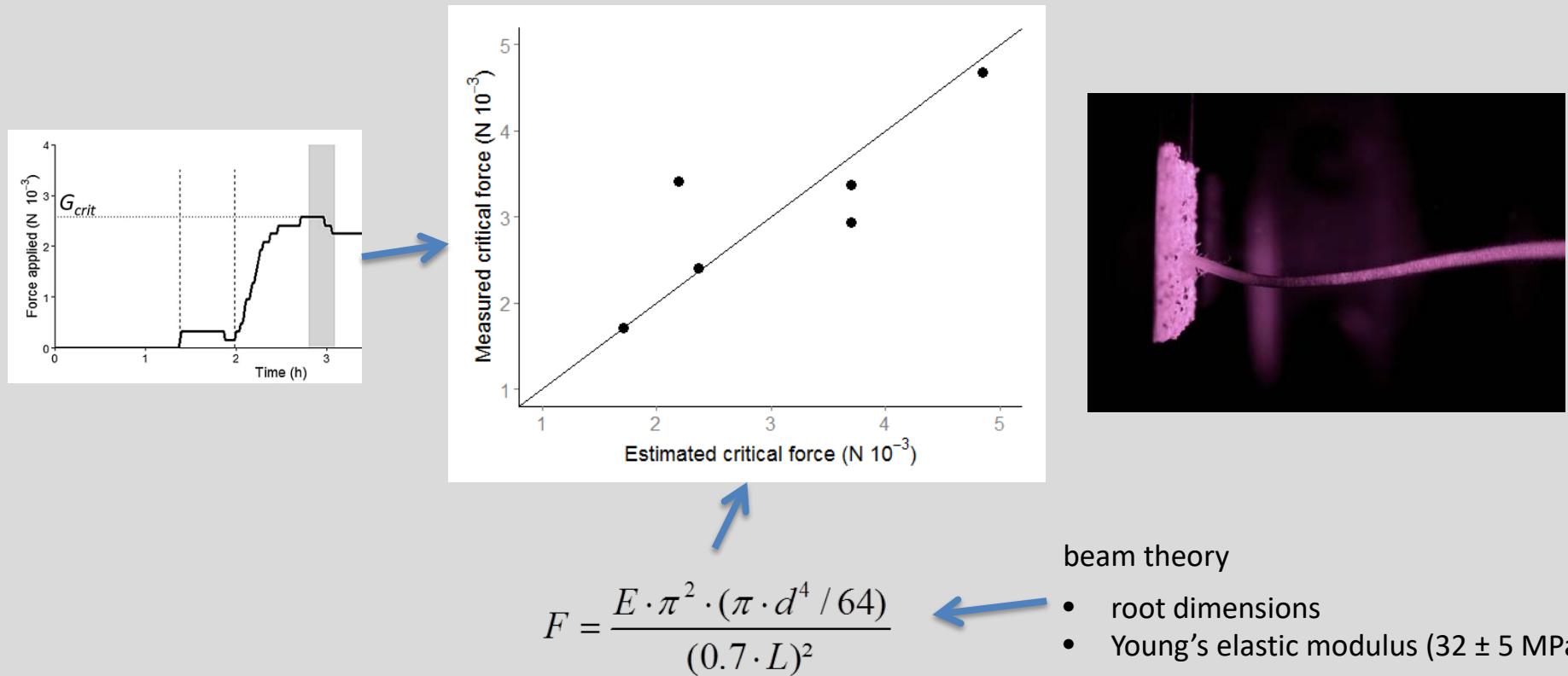
Dynamics of cell expansion



3D reconstruction is necessary because buckling does not occur in a 2D plan

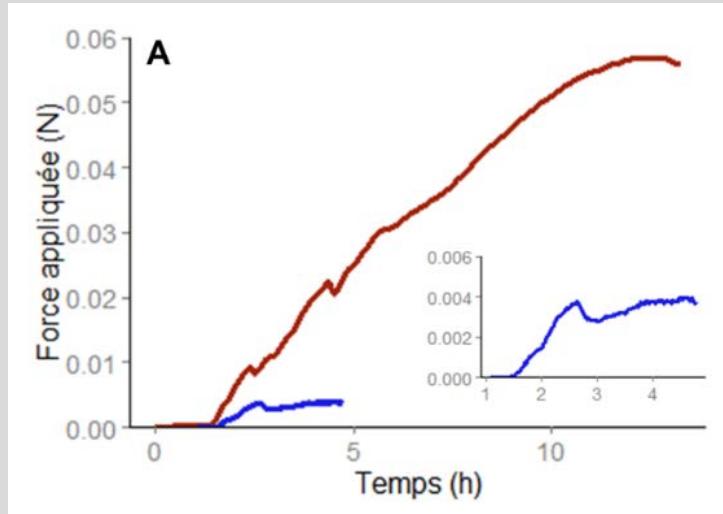
- shortening of the growth zone
- tissue contraction at the junction between elongation zone and mature zone, where curvature was maximal
= zone of mechanical weakness
- after buckling : lower cell expansion rate but longer elongation zone

Is root bending a purely mechanical phenomena?



- Bending was predicted from root mechanical properties
- No biologically mediated accommodation to mechanical forces influenced bending during this short period of time. Bending was purely mechanical = **BUCKLING**

Bracing root increases the applied force



- Lateral bracing of the root increased the force applied by the growing root by preventing buckling

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Thank you for your attention



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