

Temperature sensitivity of dark CO₂ fixation in temperate forest soils

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Supplementary information

Supplementary methods

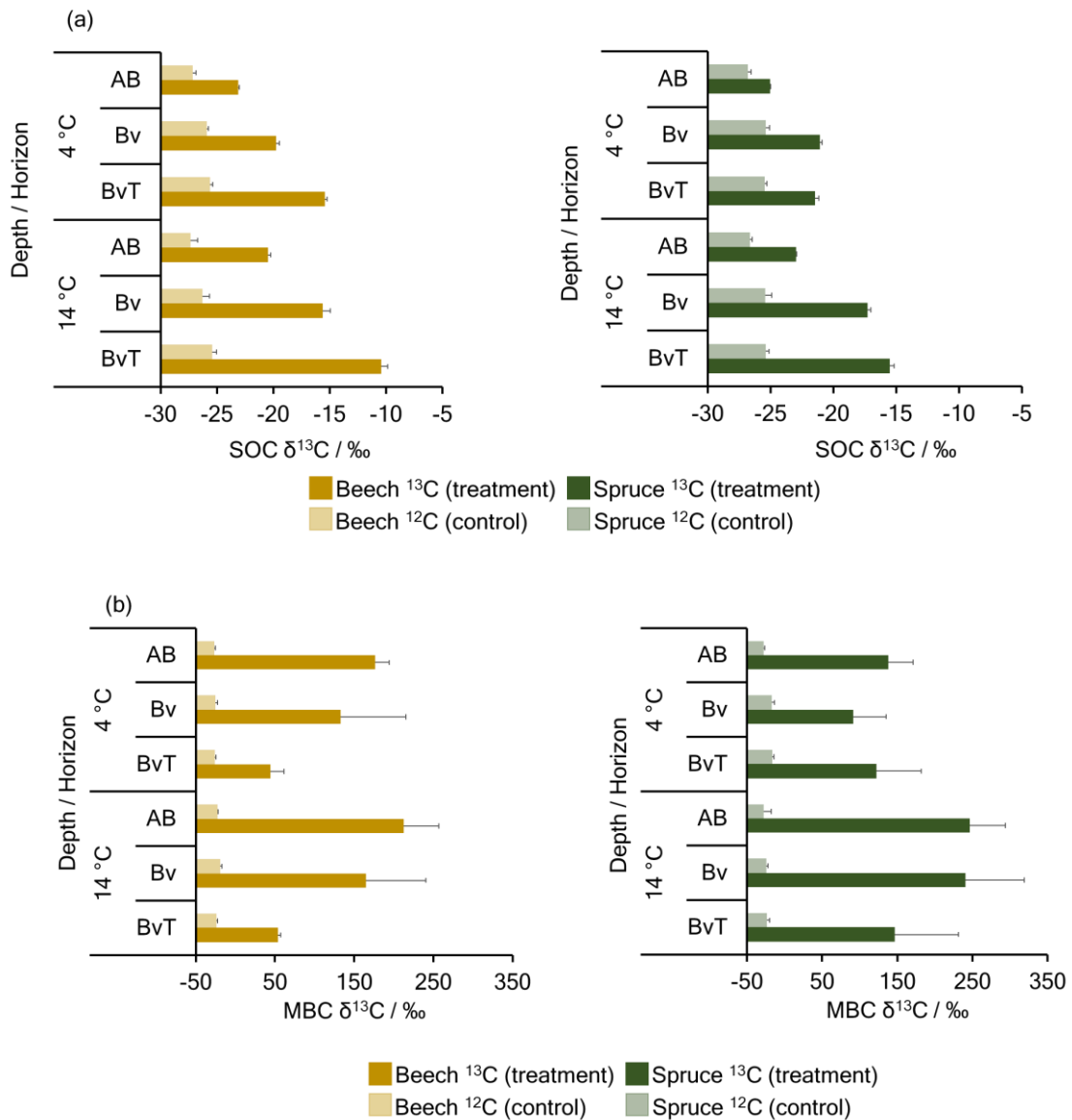
Determination of natural ¹⁴C isotope signatures of the beech and spruce soil.

15 The radiocarbon signature of the bulk soil samples was measured using the accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) with a 3-MV Tandatron ion accelerator (HVEE, Amersfoort, Netherlands) according to Steinhof et al. (2017). As with the ¹³C isotope ratios, radiocarbon ratios were reported as the ‰ deviation of the ¹⁴C/¹²C ratio but from the international oxalic acid universal standard (ox1) in Δ¹⁴C. All Δ¹⁴C value of the sample was then corrected appropriately as previously described (Trumbore, 2009; Mook and Van der Plicht, 1999). The measured bulk ¹⁴C values of the beech and spruce soils are described in Table S1.

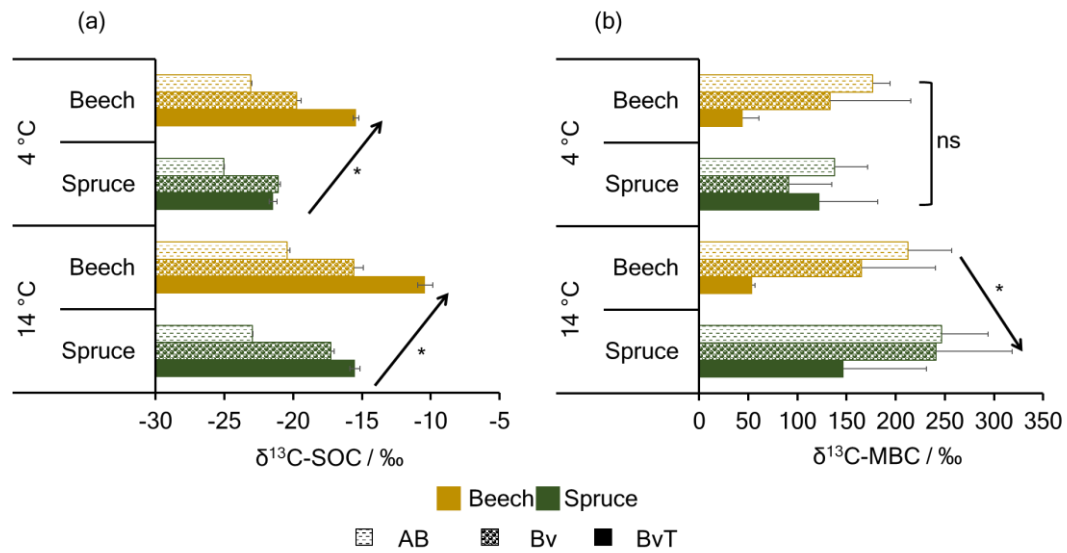
$$20 \quad \Delta^{14}C = \left[\frac{\frac{^{14}C}{^{12}C} \text{ sample} - 25}{0.95 \frac{^{14}C}{^{12}C} \text{ ox1} - 19 \times \exp\left(y \frac{-1950}{8267}\right)} \right] \times 1000$$

(S1)

Supplementary figures



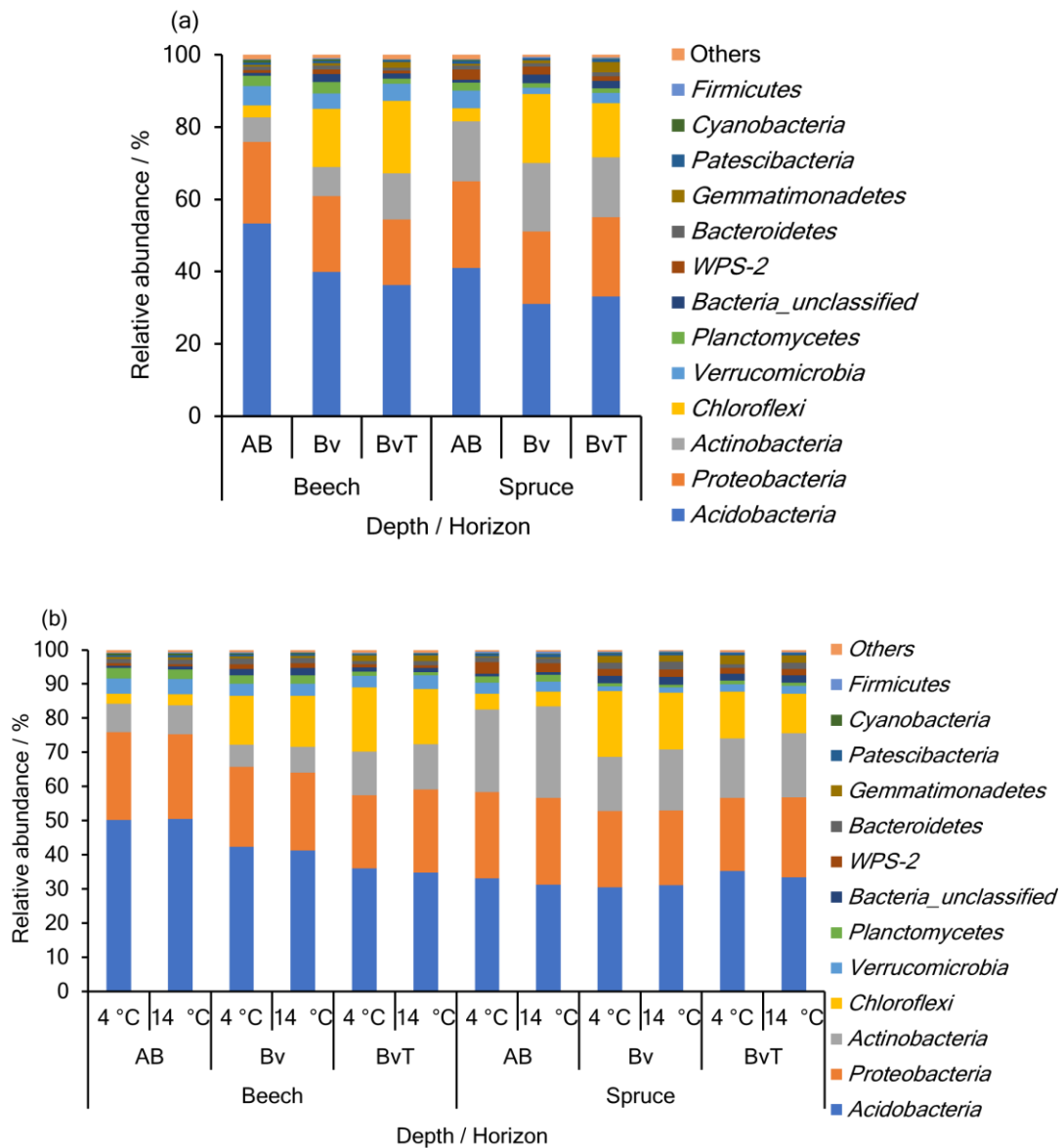
25 **Figure S1: $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ enrichment of SOC and MBC in soil microcosms supplemented with 2% $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ together with $^{12}\text{CO}_2$ labelled controls at 4 and 14 °C.** Shown are (A) ^{13}C signal in SOC and (B) ^{13}C signal in MBC after 21 days of incubation with 2% $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ at 4 and 14 °C across three horizons in beech (yellow bars) and spruce (green bars) soils. Incubations with ^{13}C labelled CO_2 (treatment) are denoted with filled bars while incubations with ^{12}C (control/natural abundance) are denoted by shaded bars. Error bars indicate the standard deviation of incubations from three replicate soil cores.



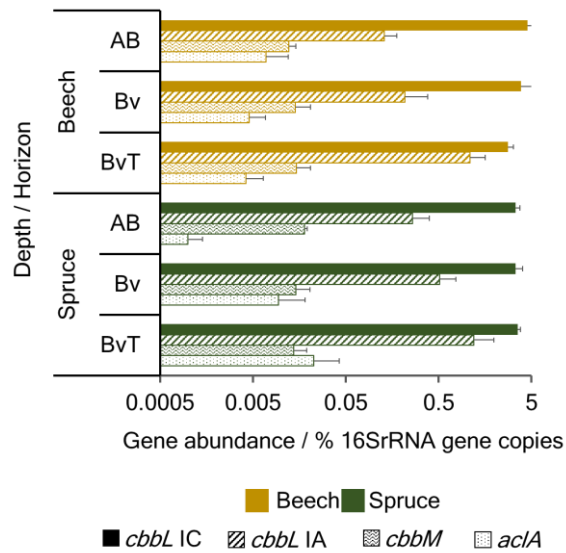
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Figure S2: $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ signals of SOC and MBC in soil microcosms supplemented with 2% $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ at 4 and 14 °C from beech and spruce soils. Shown are (A) ^{13}C signal in SOC and (B) ^{13}C signal in MBC after 21 days of incubation with 2% $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ at 4 and 14 °C across three horizons in beech (yellow bars) and spruce (green bars) soils. Error bars indicate the standard deviation of incubations from three replicate soil cores. * denote $p < 0.05$, ns denote not significant.

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40 **Figure S3: Bacterial community composition from beech and spruce soil.** Shown are phylum-level relative abundances of assigned sequences for (A) the beech and spruce bulk soils and for (B) beech and spruce soils incubated with 2% $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ at 4 and 14°C. Bar plots are represented by three replicate soil cores per depth. Taxonomic assignment of OTUs is based on the SILVA database implemented on the MOTHUR sequence analysis pipeline. Data represent 3 replicate soil cores per depth for the beech and spruce soils.



45 **Figure S4: Abundance of chemolithoautotrophic marker genes potentially involved in dark CO₂ fixation in the beech and spruce bulk soil profiles.** Shown are the abundances of RuBisCO (*cbbL IA*, *cbbL IC*, and *cbbM*) and ATP citrate lyase (*acIA*) genes in the beech and spruce bulk soils. Data acquired by qPCR. The scale on the x-axis is logarithmic (base 10). Error bars indicate the standard deviation of incubations from three replicate soil cores.

50 **Table S1: The $\Delta^{14}\text{C}$ signatures of SOC (‰) measured for soil cores obtained from beech and spruce soil plots at the Hummelshain forest.** Each reported value represents the mean of three replicate soil cores taken from bulk soils during the sampling campaign.

| Plot | Depth (Horizon) | $\Delta^{14}\text{SOC}$ (‰) |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Beech | AB | -2.68 ± 7.48 |
| | Bv | -61.00 ± 30.96 |
| | BvT | -170.10 ± 0.75 |
| Spruce | AB | 16.64 ± 18.18 |
| | Bv | -92.98 ± 28.82 |
| | BvT | -201.89 ± 76.59 |

Table S2: Geochemical properties of soil cores obtained from beech and spruce soil plots at the Hummelshain forest measured under two temperature conditions. Soil organic carbon (SOC), Total nitrogen (TN), carbon/nitrogen (C/N) ratio, microbial biomass carbon (MBC), Moisture, and 16S rRNA gene copies reported for 3 depths definitions for the beech and spruce soils at 4 and 14 °C. Each reported value represents the mean of three replicate soil cores taken after the soil incubation period.

| Depth (Horizon) | Beech | | | Spruce | | | |
|---|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | AB | Bv | BvT | AB | Bv | BvT | |
| SOC (%) | 4 °C | 0.89 ± 0.09 | 0.27 ± 0.10 | 0.12 ± 0.02 | 1.50 ± 0.05 | 0.23 ± 0.04 | 0.30 ± 0.14 |
| | 14 °C | 0.89 ± 0.1 | 0.29 ± 0.11 | 0.13 ± 0.03 | 1.56 ± 0.04 | 0.25 ± 0.05 | 0.30 ± 0.14 |
| TN (%) | 4 °C | 0.04 ± 0.003 | 0.03 ± 0.004 | 0.02 ± 0.002 | 0.07 ± 0.01 | 0.03 ± 0.002 | 0.03 ± 0.005 |
| | 14 °C | 0.04 ± 0.001 | 0.03 ± 0.003 | 0.02 ± 0.003 | 0.08 ± 0.002 | 0.03 ± 0.002 | 0.03 ± 0.003 |
| C/N ratio | 4 °C | 20.82 ± 0.64 | 10.12 ± 3.24 | 5.22 ± 0.51 | 19.99 ± 1.96 | 8.74 ± 1.37 | 9.32 ± 3.24 |
| | 14 °C | 19.81 ± 2.54 | 10.62 ± 2.82 | 5.16 ± 0.93 | 19.23 ± 0.39 | 9.12 ± 1.44 | 9.25 ± 3.55 |
| MBC (µg C gdw ⁻¹) | 4 °C | 54.91 ± 4.91 | 24.04 ± 2.61 | 12.72 ± 1.78 | 101.53 ± 19.5 | 28.97 ± 9.56 | 27.61 ± 8.50 |
| | 14 °C | 47.61 ± 2.95 | 23.90 ± 7.06 | 15.81 ± 2.51 | 73.69 ± 17.81 | 13.12 ± 3.95 | 26.62 ± 5.86 |
| Moisture (%) | 4 °C | 8.92 ± 1.68 | 11.09 ± 1.32 | 11.96 ± 2.48 | 7.71 ± 1.68 | 11.23 ± 2.83 | 11.29 ± 1.97 |
| | 14 °C | 7.49 ± 1.3 | 7.31 ± 0.44 | 10.65 ± 1.31 | 7.12 ± 1.00 | 7.42 ± 0.75 | 10.72 ± 1.07 |
| 16S rRNA (copies/gdw ⁻¹) | 4 °C | 2.96 x 10 ⁹ ± 9.69 x 10 ⁸ | 8.49 x 10 ⁸ ± 5.50 x 10 ⁸ | 1.17 x 10 ⁸ ± 4.27 x 10 ⁸ | 2.19 x 10 ⁹ ± 5.68 x 10 ⁸ | 2.76 x 10 ⁸ ± 1.32 x 10 ⁸ | 2.92 x 10 ⁸ ± 1.89 x 10 ⁸ |
| | 14 °C | 3.23 x 10 ⁹ ± 7.41 x 10 ⁸ | 8.67 x 10 ⁸ ± 4.62 x 10 ⁸ | 1.52 x 10 ⁸ ± 1.02 x 10 ⁸ | 2.54 x 10 ⁹ ± 8.84 x 10 ⁹ | 2.74 x 10 ⁸ ± 1.06 x 10 ⁸ | 2.98 x 10 ⁸ ± 1.74 x 10 ⁸ |

60 **Table S3: Derived decomposition rates and the Q_{10} for the beech and spruce soils across depth.** Decomposition rates (at 4 and 14 °C) were derived by adding the respective measured CO₂ fixation rates with the net respiration rates for all samples while the Q_{10} values were calculated as similarly done for the CO₂ fixation rates and the net respiration rates (Eq. (6) in method section 2.4). Each reported value represents the mean of three replicate soil cores taken after the soil incubation period. ND denotes values that were “not detected”.

| Plot | Depth (Horizon) | Decomposition rates ($\mu\text{g C gdw soil}^{-1} \text{d}^{-1}$) | | Q_{10} |
|--------|-----------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| | | 4 °C | 14 °C | |
| Beech | AB | 1.28 ± 0.63 | 2.92 ± 1.42 | 2.29 ± 0.02 |
| | Bv | 0.58 ± 0.49 | 1.23 ± 0.93 | 3.37 ± 1.34 |
| | BvT | ND | 0.14 ± 0.09 | ND |
| Spruce | AB | 0.91 ± 0.39 | 2.34 ± 0.92 | 2.59 ± 0.11 |
| | Bv | 0.13 ± 0.11 | 0.34 ± 0.01 | 3.89 ± 3.28 |
| | BvT | 0.41 ± 0.12 | 1.07 ± 0.07 | 2.63 ± 0.29 |

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Table S4: Primers and adapter sequences used for two-step barcoding approach for Illumina MiSeq sequencing of the bacterial 16S rRNA genes.

| Primer | Sequences (5' – 3') | References |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1st PCR step | | |
| Bact_341F | [TCGTCGGCAGCGTCAGATGTGTATAAGAGACAG] CCTACGGGNGGCWGCAG | Klindworth et al., 2013 |
| Bact_785R | [GTCTCGTGGGCTCGGAGATGTGTATAAGAGACAG] GACTACHVGGGTATCTAATCC | |
| 2nd PCR step | | |
| Index 1 | CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATAACGAGAT GTCTCGTGGGCTCGG | [i7] Illumina® |
| Index 2 | AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACAC TCGTCGGCAGCGTC | [i5] |

70 **References**

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Mook, W. G., Van der Plicht, J.: Reporting ¹⁴C activities and concentrations, *Radiocarbon*, 41, 227–239, 1999.

75 Steinhof, A., Altenburg, M., Machts, H.: Sample Preparation at the Jena 14C Laboratory, *Radiocarbon*, 59, 815–830. doi:10.1017/RDC.2017.50, 2017.

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