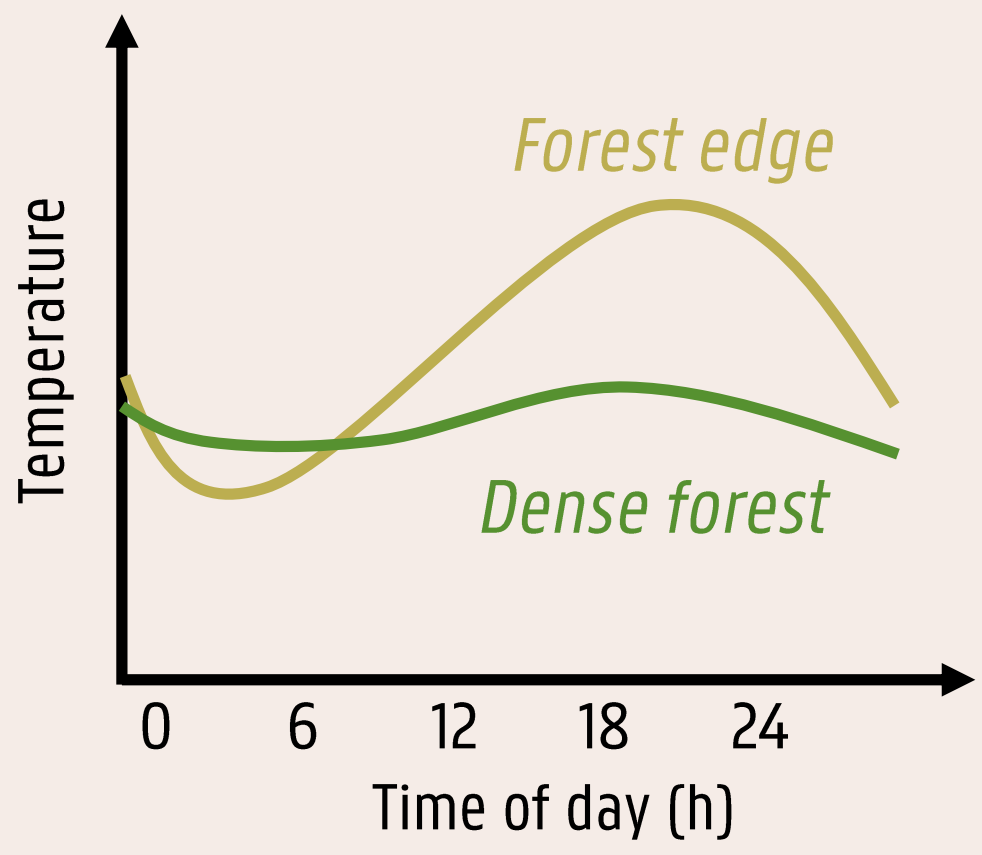


THE IMPACT OF MACROCLIMATE, MANAGEMENT AND EDGE-TO-CORE GRADIENTS ON FOREST STRUCTURE

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Background information

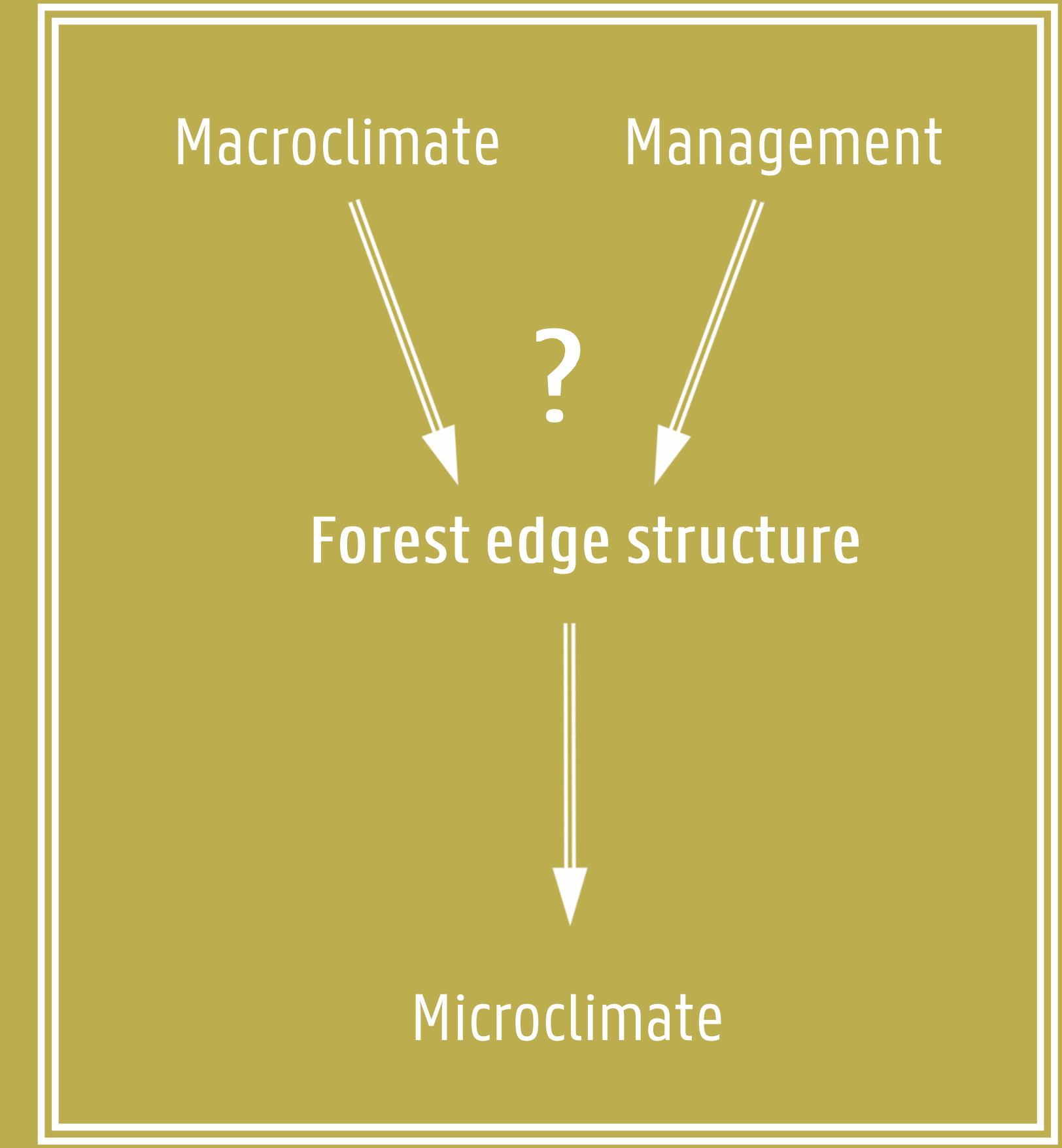
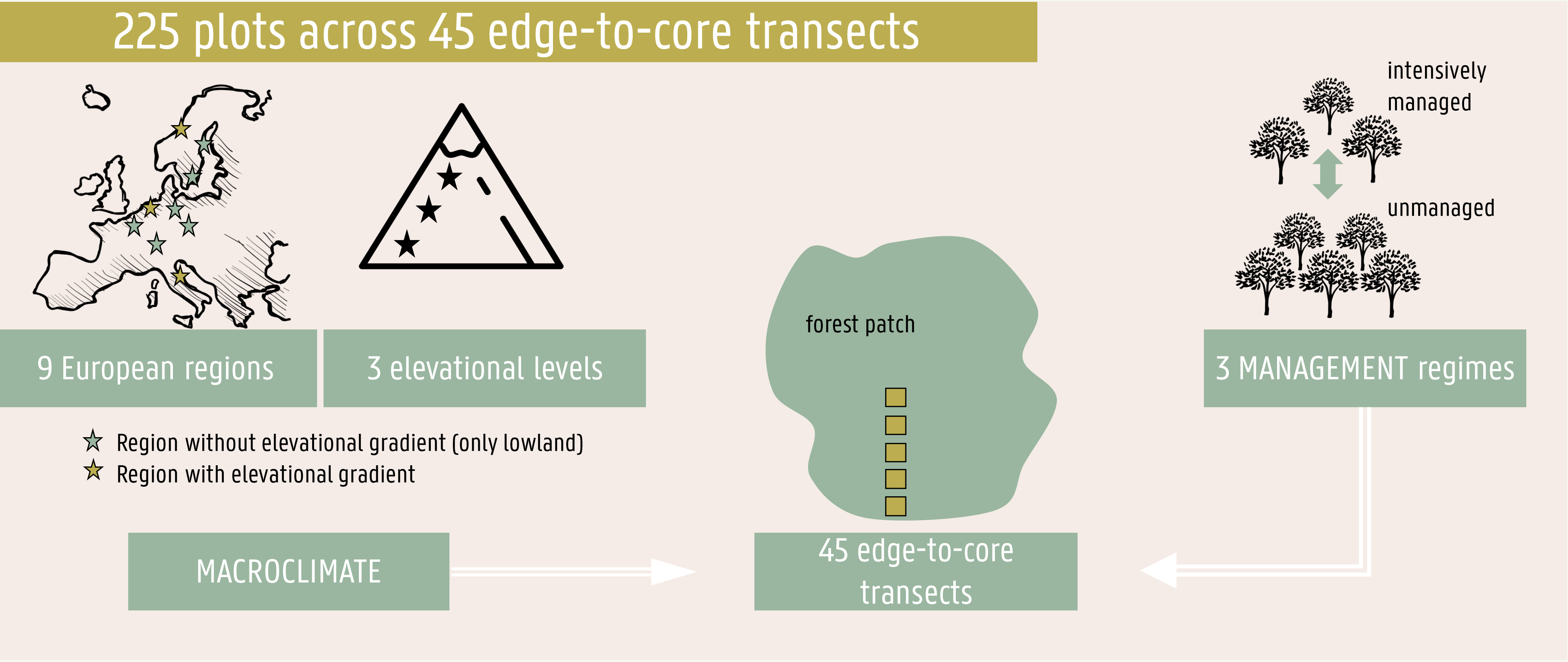
- **Forest edges** form a transition zone between forest interior and adjacent non-forest habitat. These transition zones (*within 100 m of the forest edge*) encompass approximately 20% of the remaining global forested area and are unique concerning functions, ecosystem services and structure.
- Forest edge **structure and composition** play a key role in establishing a typical forest microclimate (*the whole set of climatic parameters assessed near the ground on a small spatial scale*) which helps to buffer the effects of climate change on understorey communities. Though, **forest management** could disturb this process through the removal of structural elements.
- Before gaining insight into how edge structure shapes the microclimate we need to fully understand the **variation and the drivers of forest edge structure**.



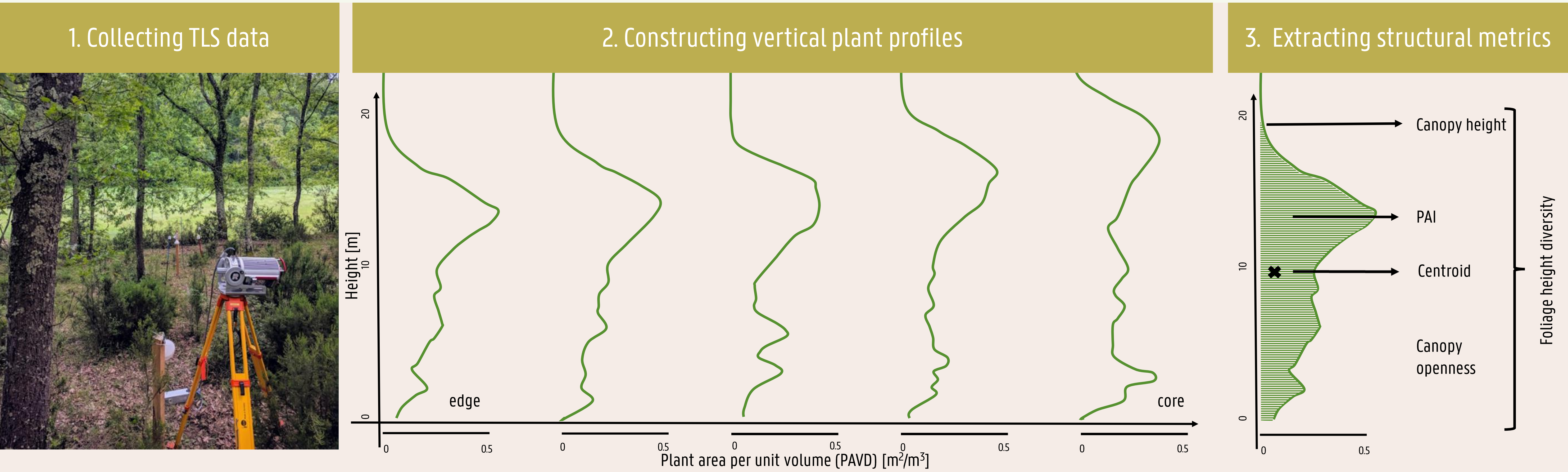
Objectives

- Understand how forest edge structure varies across Europe
- Study how structural differences modify the microclimate (*future research*)

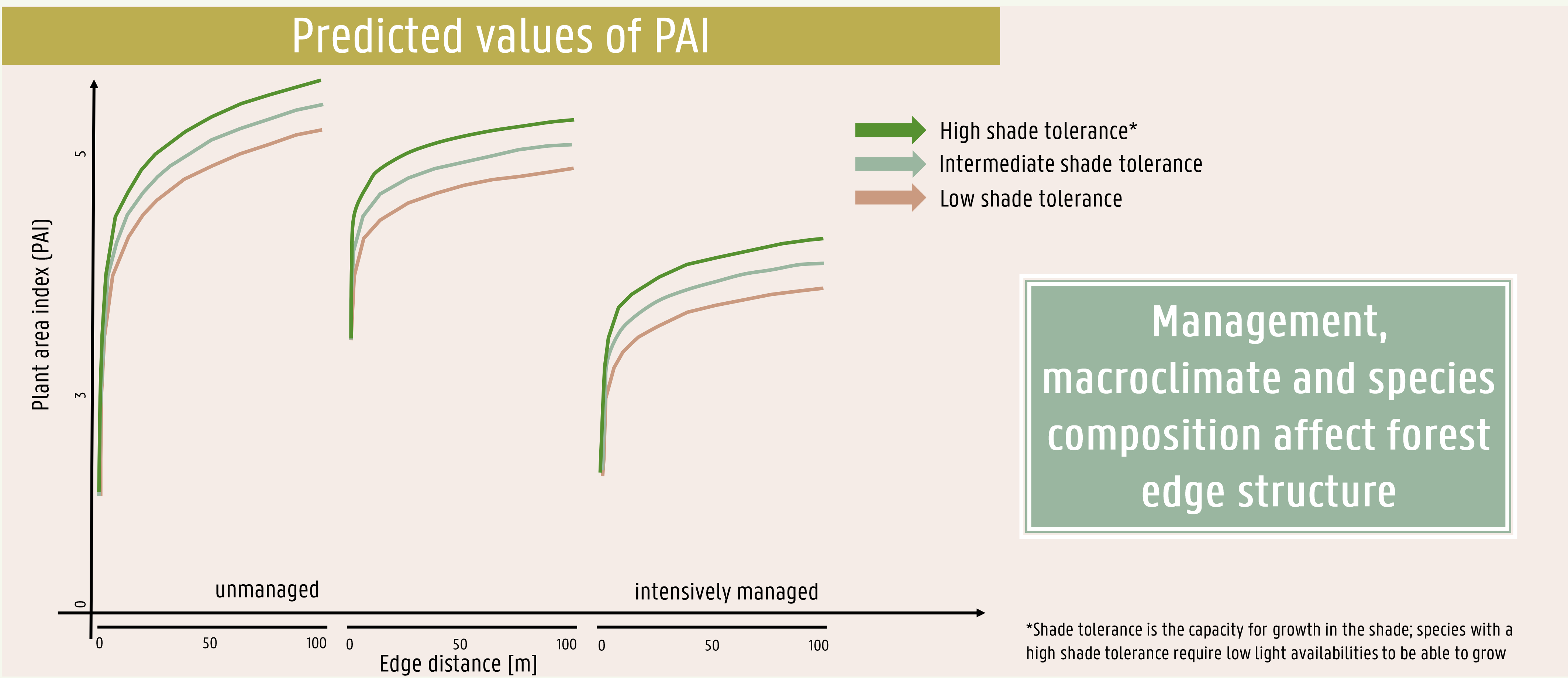
Set up



Method



Results & General conclusion



Future research

