



# Wheat starch variability in characteristics and Rheological properties : the influence of varieties, harvest years and phytotechny

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Quality of agricultural products Department

**FUSAGx** : Faculty of Agronomy  
Unité de Technologie des Industries agro-alimentaires  
Unité de Phytotechnie des Régions tempérées

**GEMBLoux - BELGIUM**

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# Project strategy

Known sample production  
(Unité de Phytotechnie FUSAGx)

3 variability sources:

- varieties
- phytotechny
- harvest dates

Enzymatic aspects  
(Dpt Qualité CRA-W)

Starch (Unité de Technologie  
des IAA FUSAGx)

- Characterisation of ground wheat
- Evaluation of  $\alpha$ -amylase activities
- Starch sensitivity to enzymatic hydrolysis

- flour characterisation
- Starch extraction
- Starch Characterisation

Common interpretation of the results

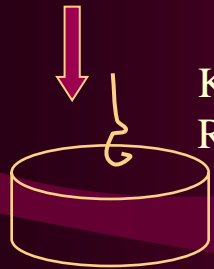
Possible specific end-uses according to the starch

# Starch : methods and analyses

## Starch isolation :

## Batter procedure

Flour + water  
(60% flour weight)



Kneading: 2 min  
Rest: 8 min

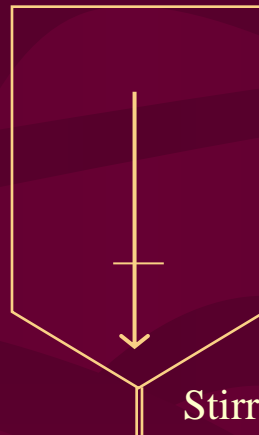


+ water (100% flour weight)

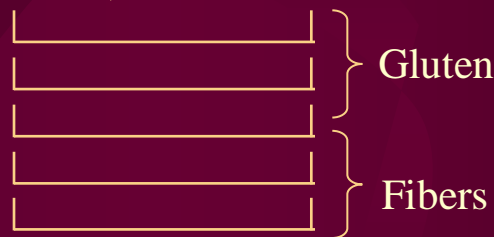


Mix: 20 min

+ water (400%  
flour weight)



Stirring to  
agglomerate the  
gluten: 35 min

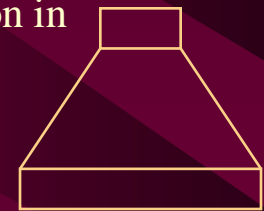


Filtration

Freeze-drying  
and storage



3 cycles of starch  
centrifugation and  
re-suspension in  
water



**Starch suspension**

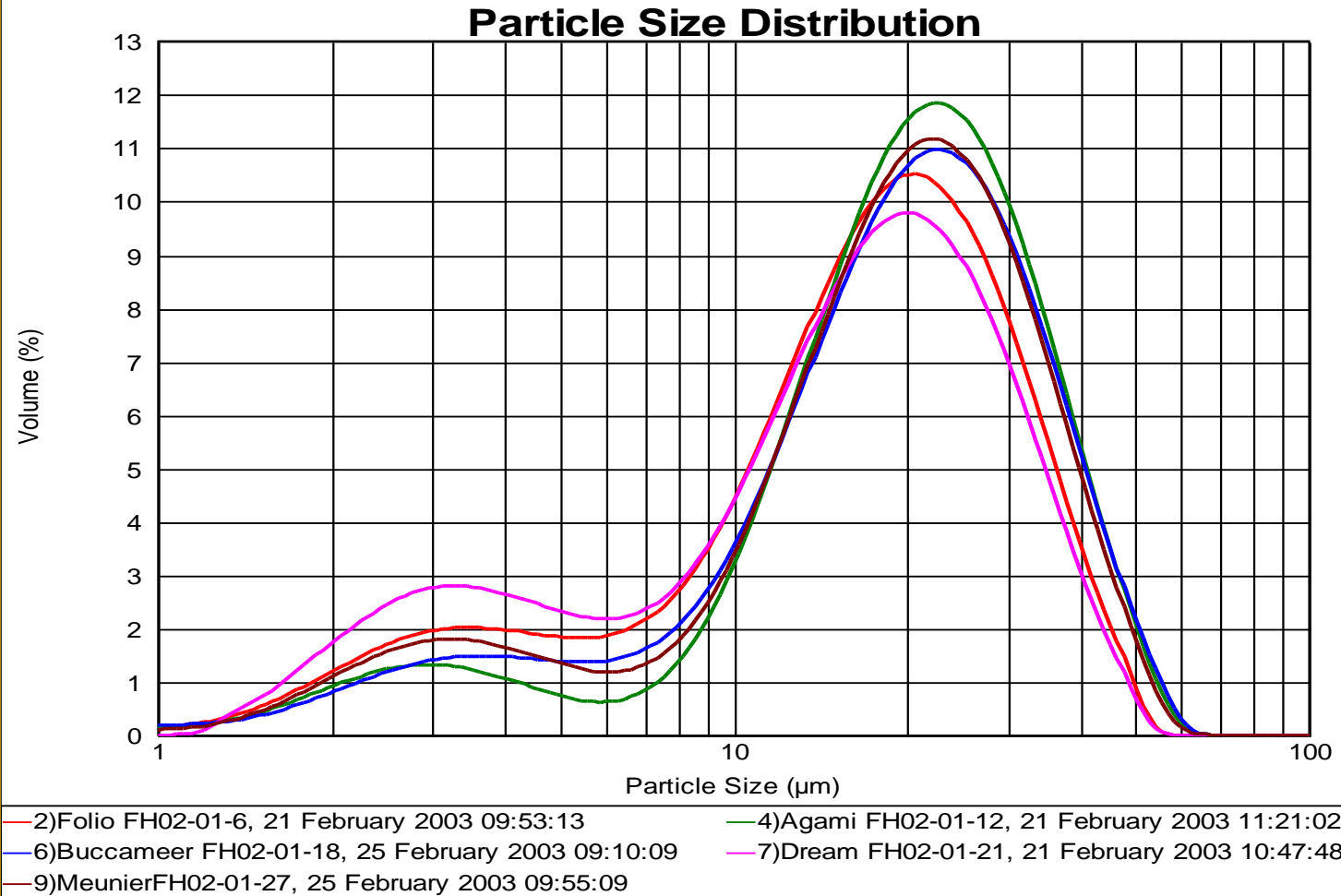
(stored 24h at 4°C)



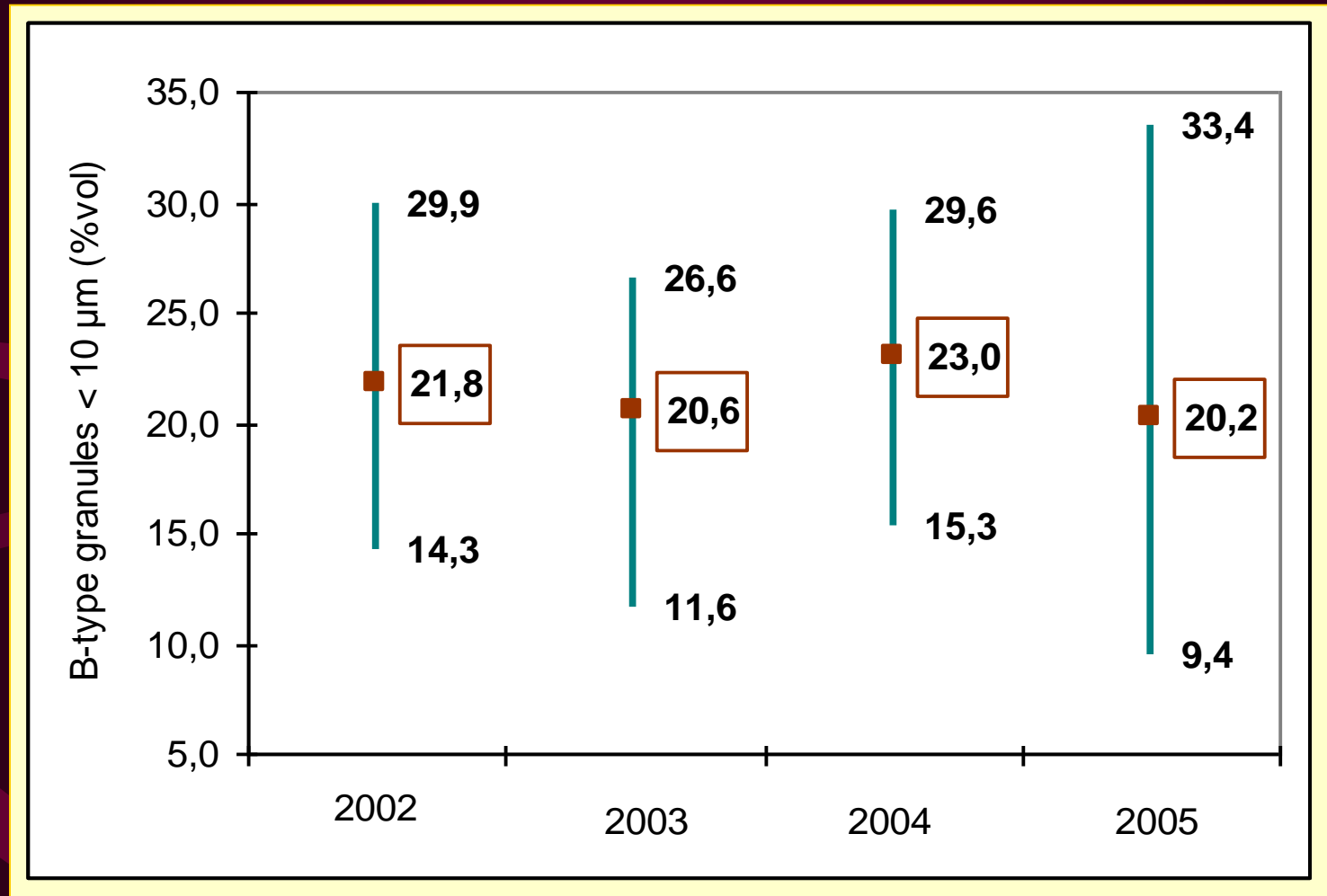
## Starch characterisation

- Dry matter (ISO n°712)
- Starch Damaged (amperometry determination by the Chopin-Dubois SD4 method, NF ISO 5530-1)
- Starch contents (polarimetry method of Ewers, ISO 10520)
- Starch viscosity (micro visco-amylograph Brabender)
  - in water suspensions
  - in a 2 mM AgNO<sub>3</sub> water solution (alpha-amylase inhibitor)
- Granule size distribution  
(laser light scattering using a Malvern granulometer)
- Amylose / amylopectin content  
(modified iodometric method of Morrisson et Laignelet, 1983)

# Starch granules : size distribution

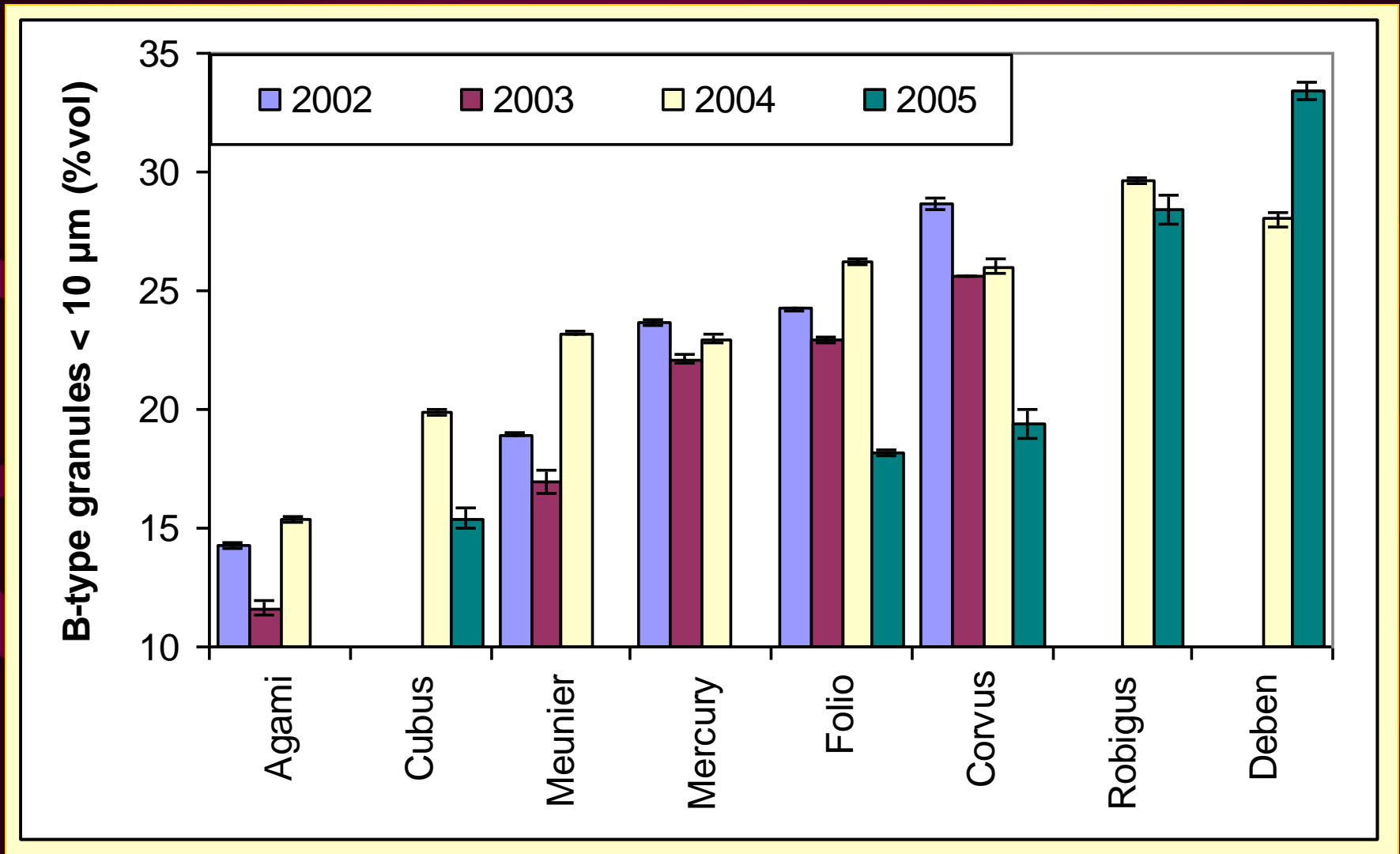


# Starch granules : size distribution (minimal, mean and maximal values, harvests 2002–2005)

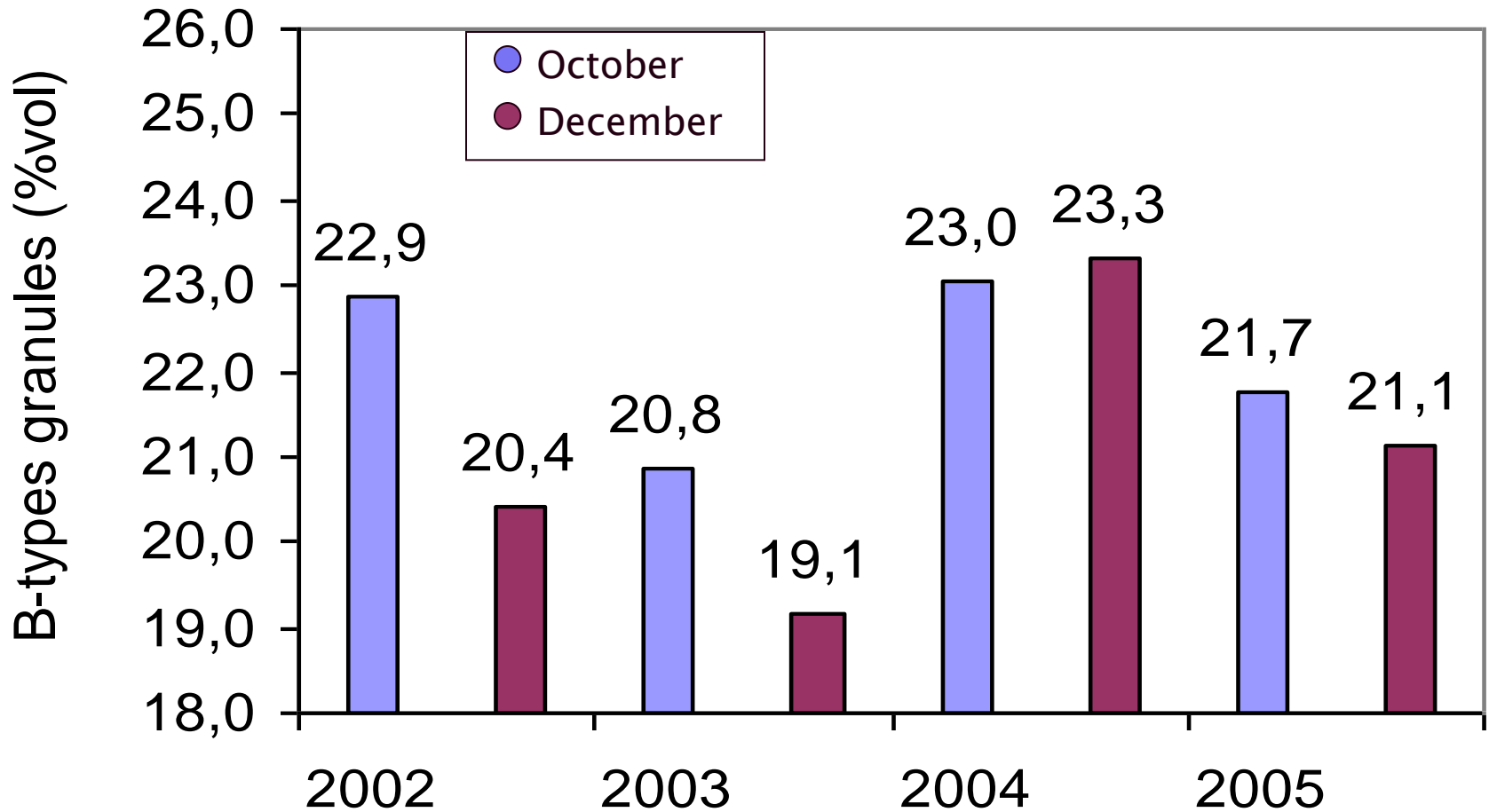


Maximum variations (B-type granules < 10 μm) : 15 to 20 % vol

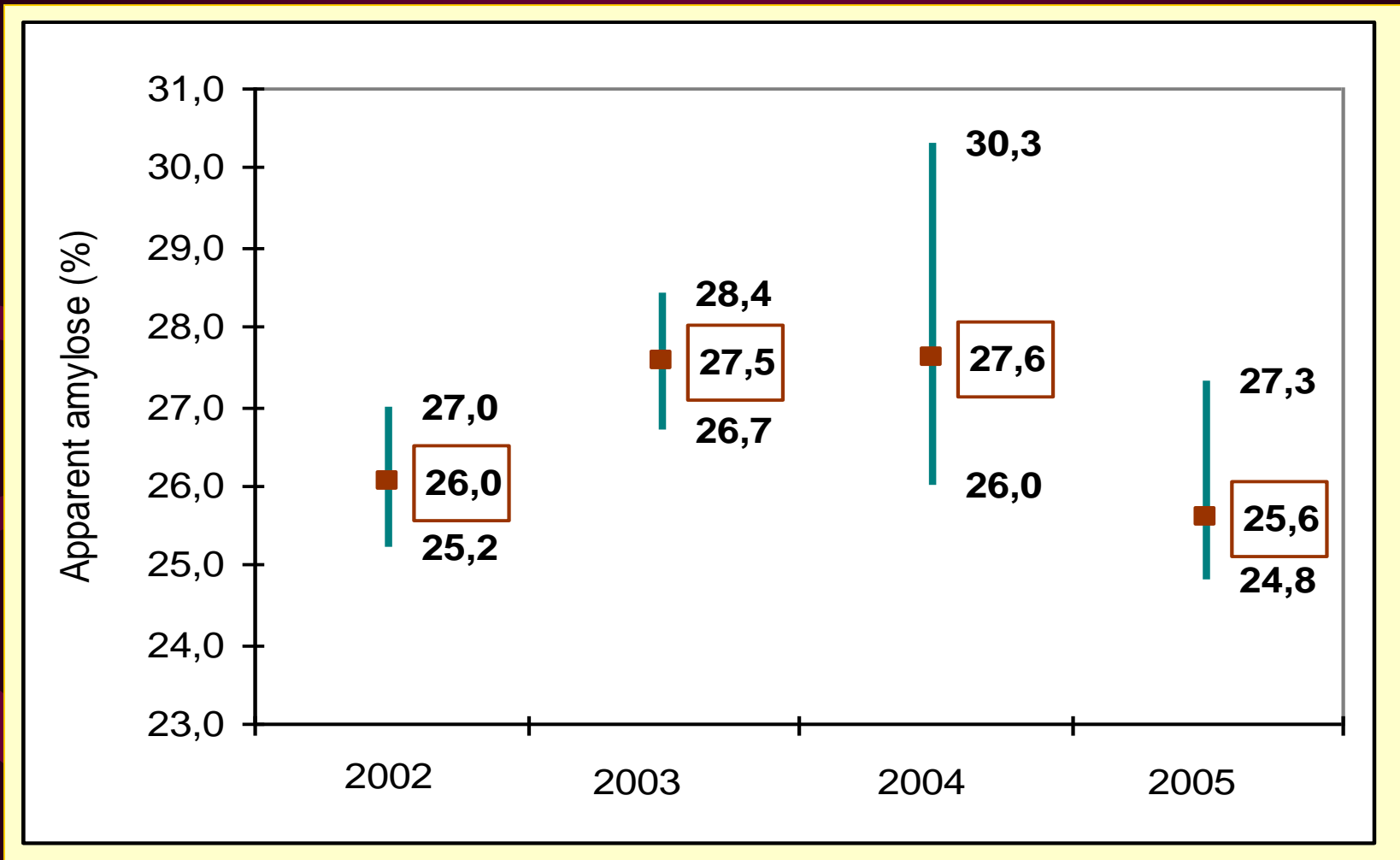
Starch granules size distribution (harvests 2002–2005)



Starch Granules size distribution (harvests 2002–2005) :  
means of the varieties under study

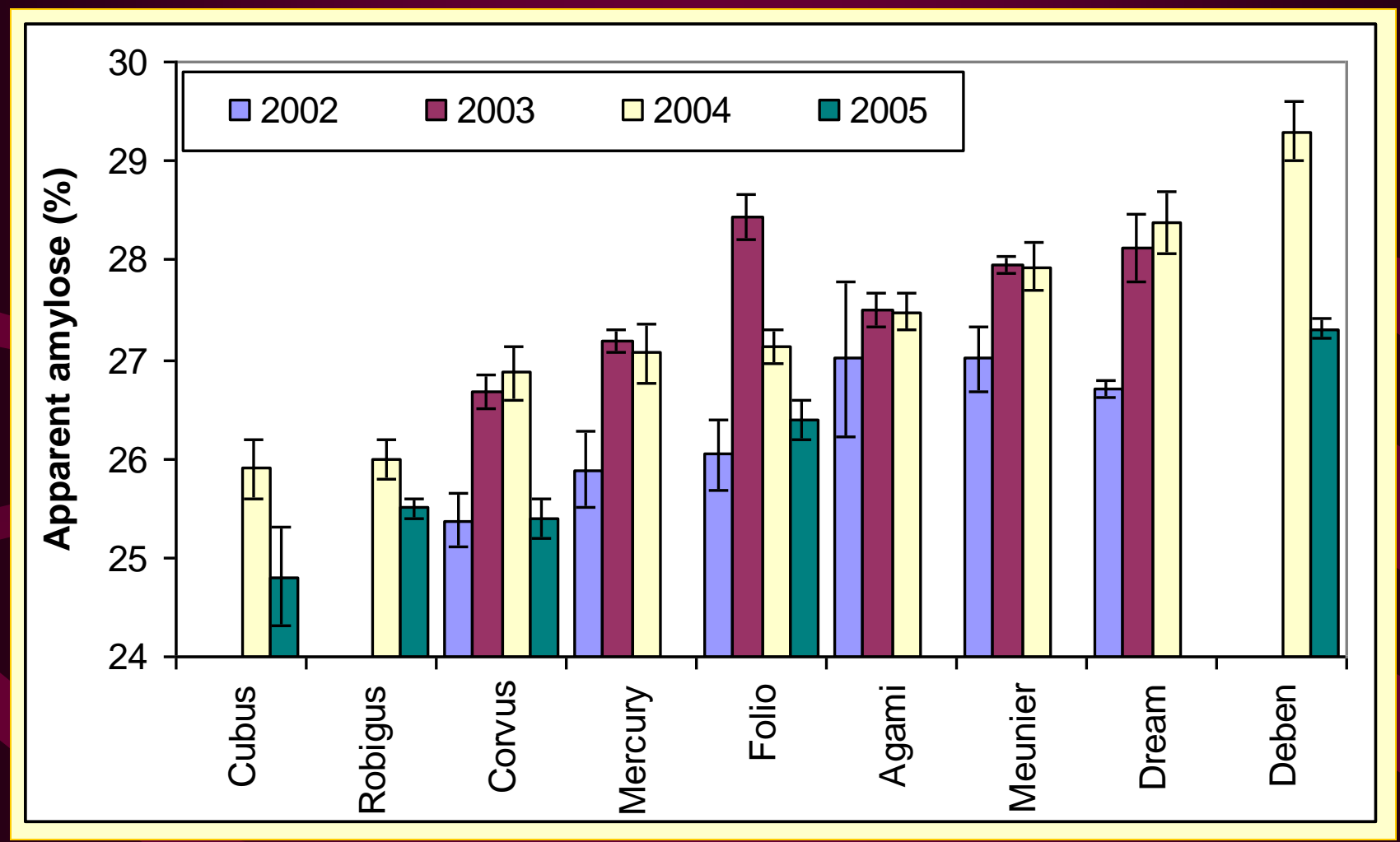


Amylose content : minimal, mean and maximal values,  
harvests 2002–2005



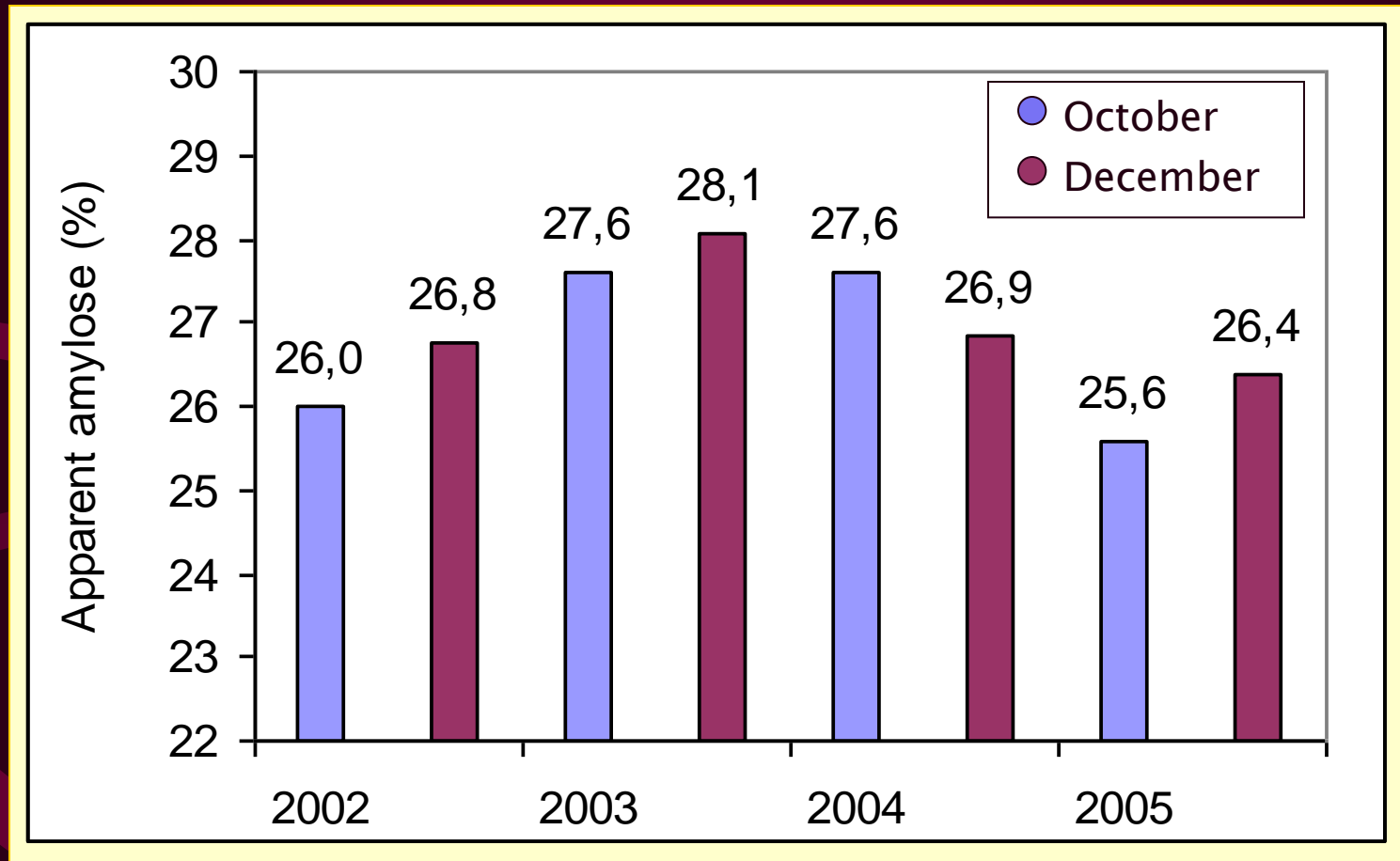
Maximum variations : 2–4% of the apparent amylose

# Amylose / amylopectin (harvests 2002–2005)



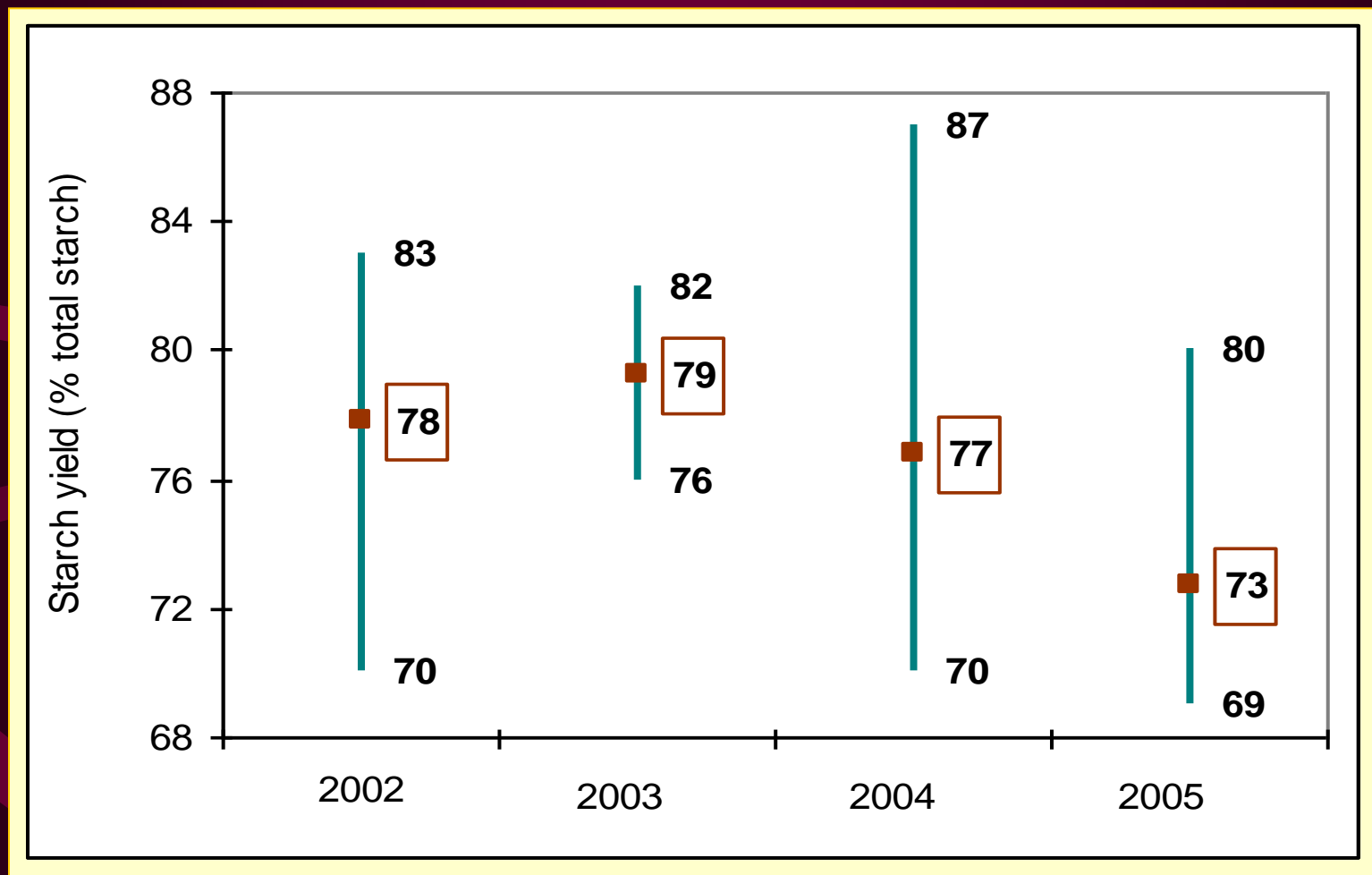
2002 et 2005 : lower apparent amylose content

**Amylose / amylopectin (harvests 2002–2005) :  
means of the varieties under study**



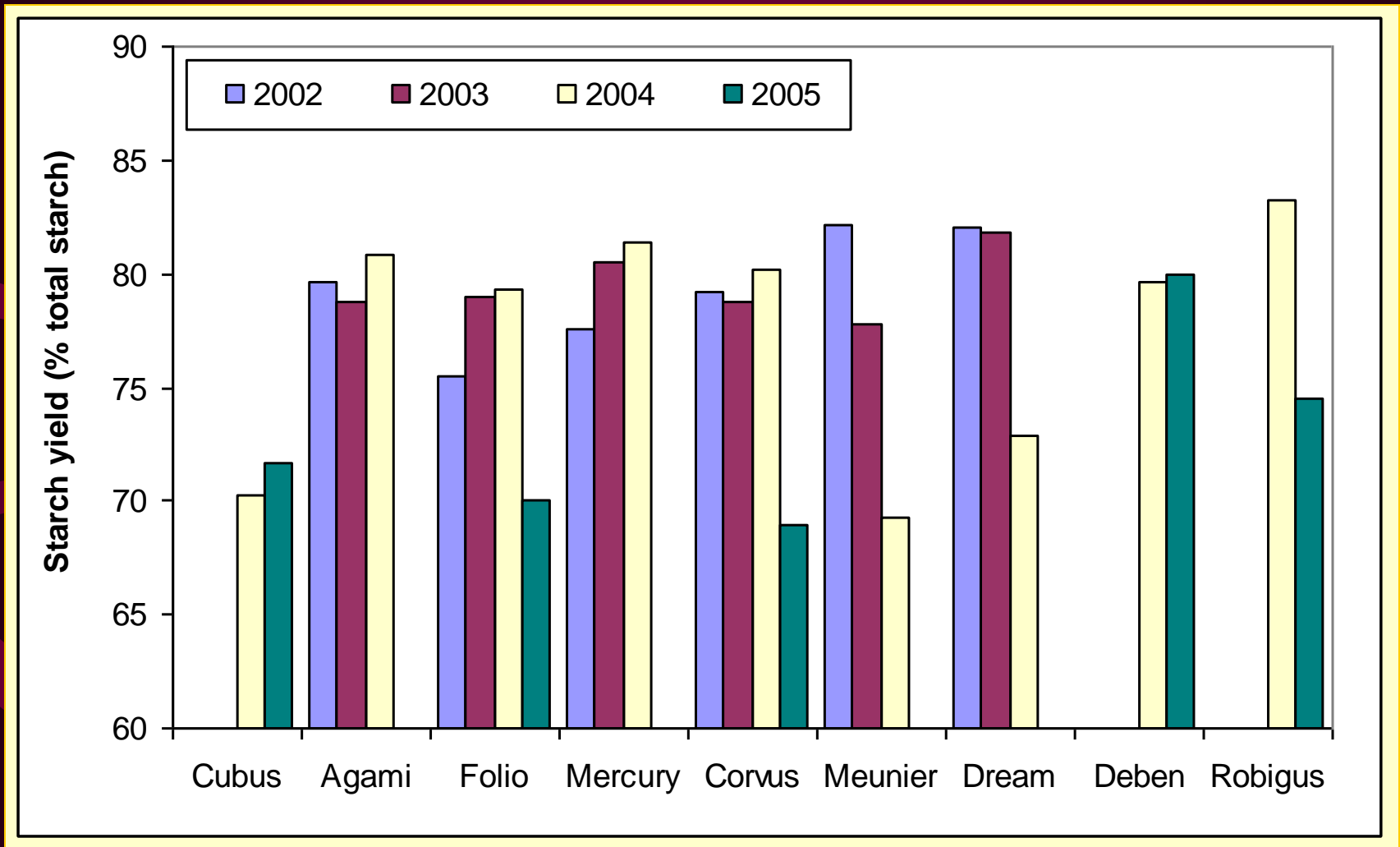
Amylose content : October < December (2002, 2003, 2005)  
( $\Leftrightarrow$  associated with higher A-granules content in December starches)

Starch yield (% starch) : minimal, mean and maximal values, harvests 2002–2005

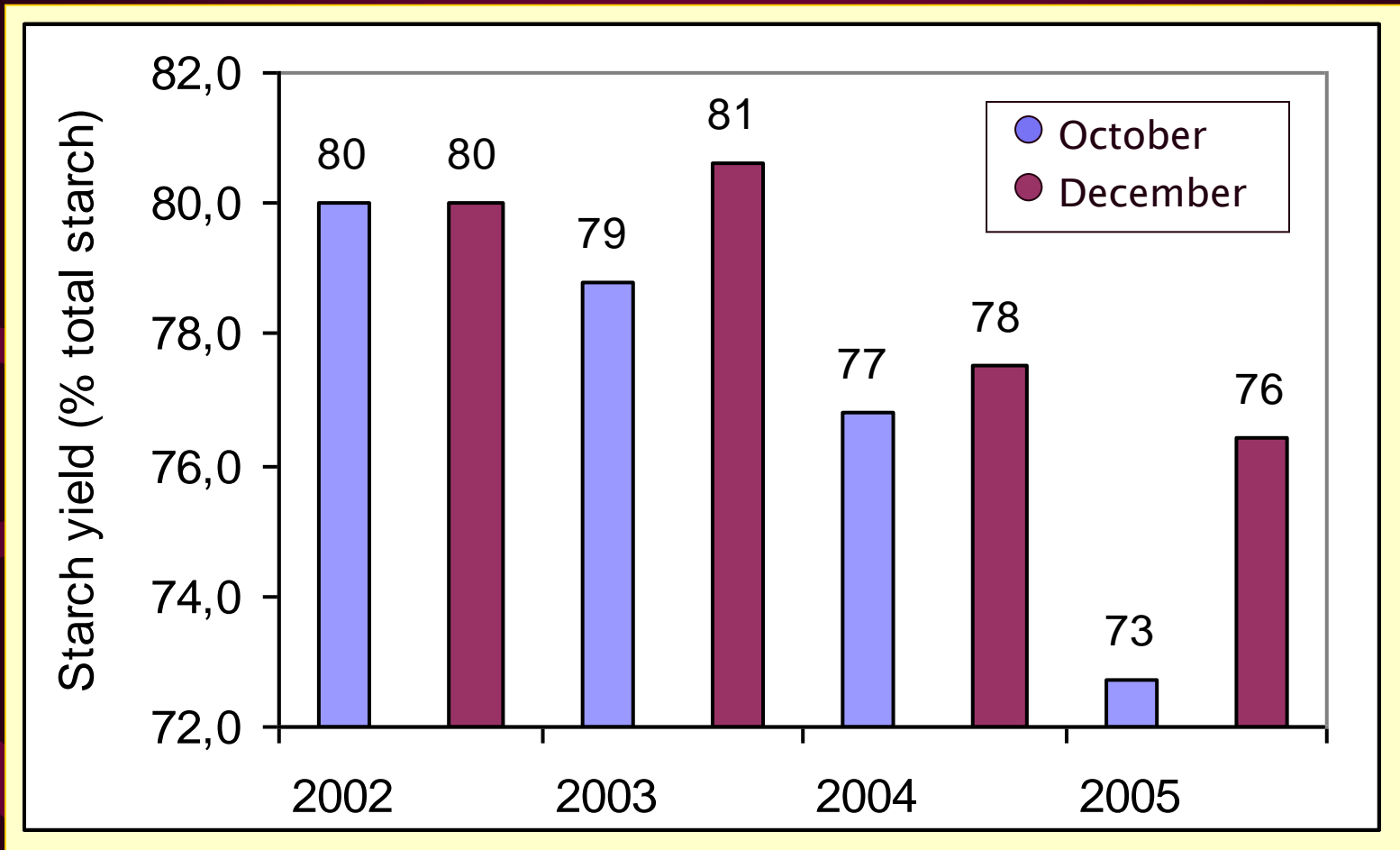


Maximum variations : 6 to 17 % of the total starch

Starch yield (harvests 2002–2005)



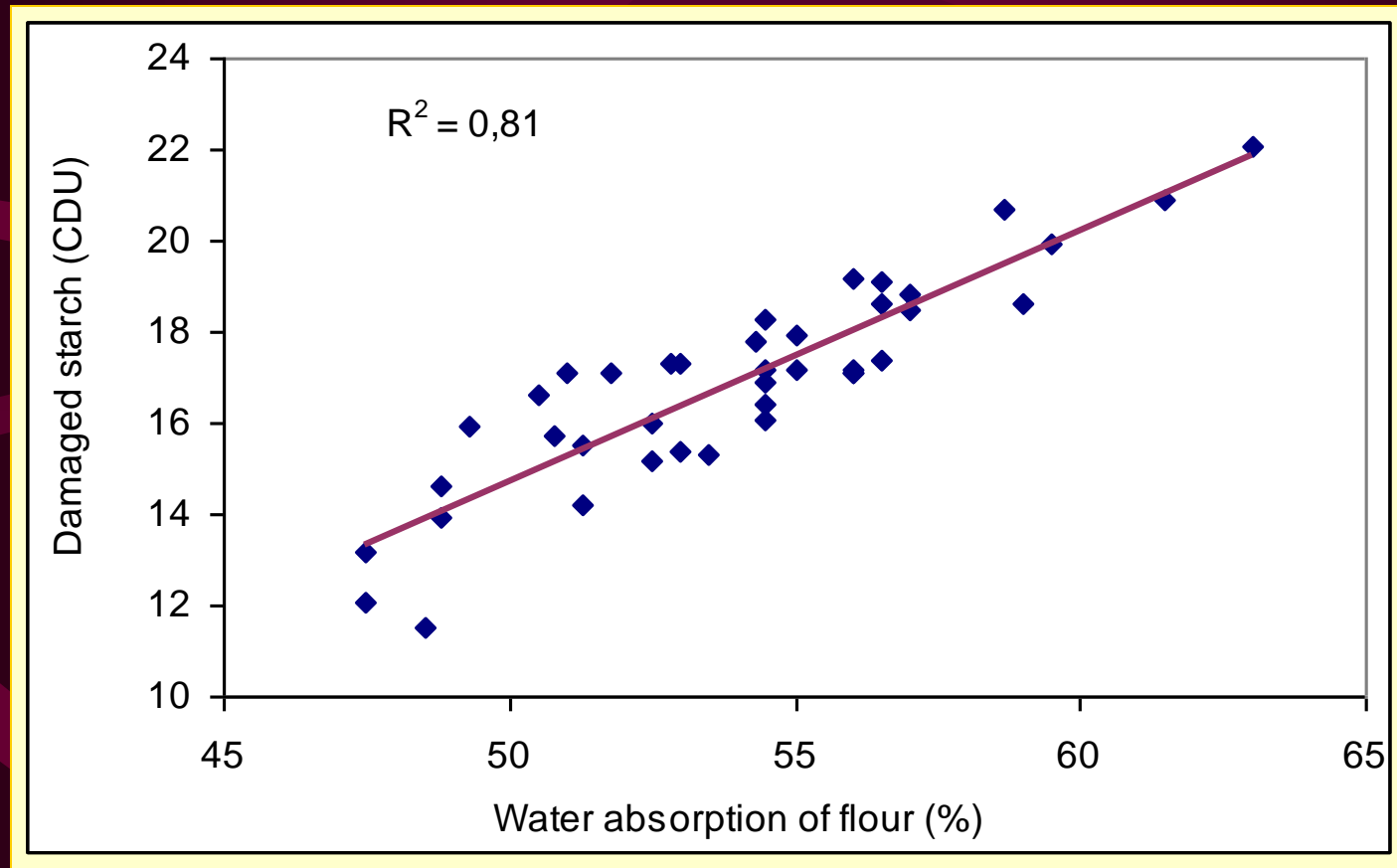
Starch yield (harvests 2002–2005) : means of studied varieties



Yield values similar in October and December (except in 2005)

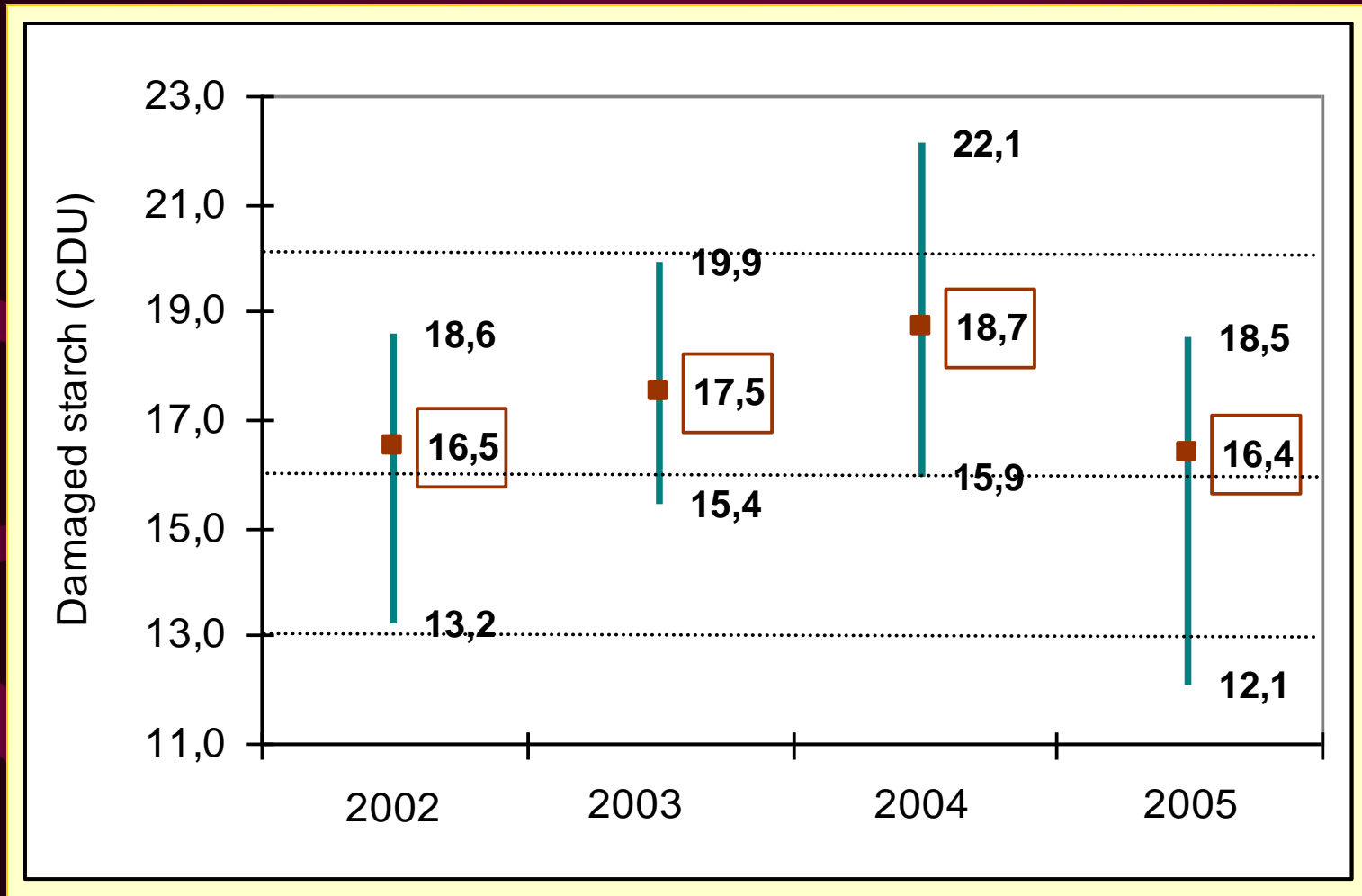
A higher damaged starch is

- correlated with a higher water absorption of flours
- more sensitive to enzymatic hydrolysis



Varieties from harvests 2002–2005

# Starch Damaged : minimal, mean and maximal values, harvests 2002-2005



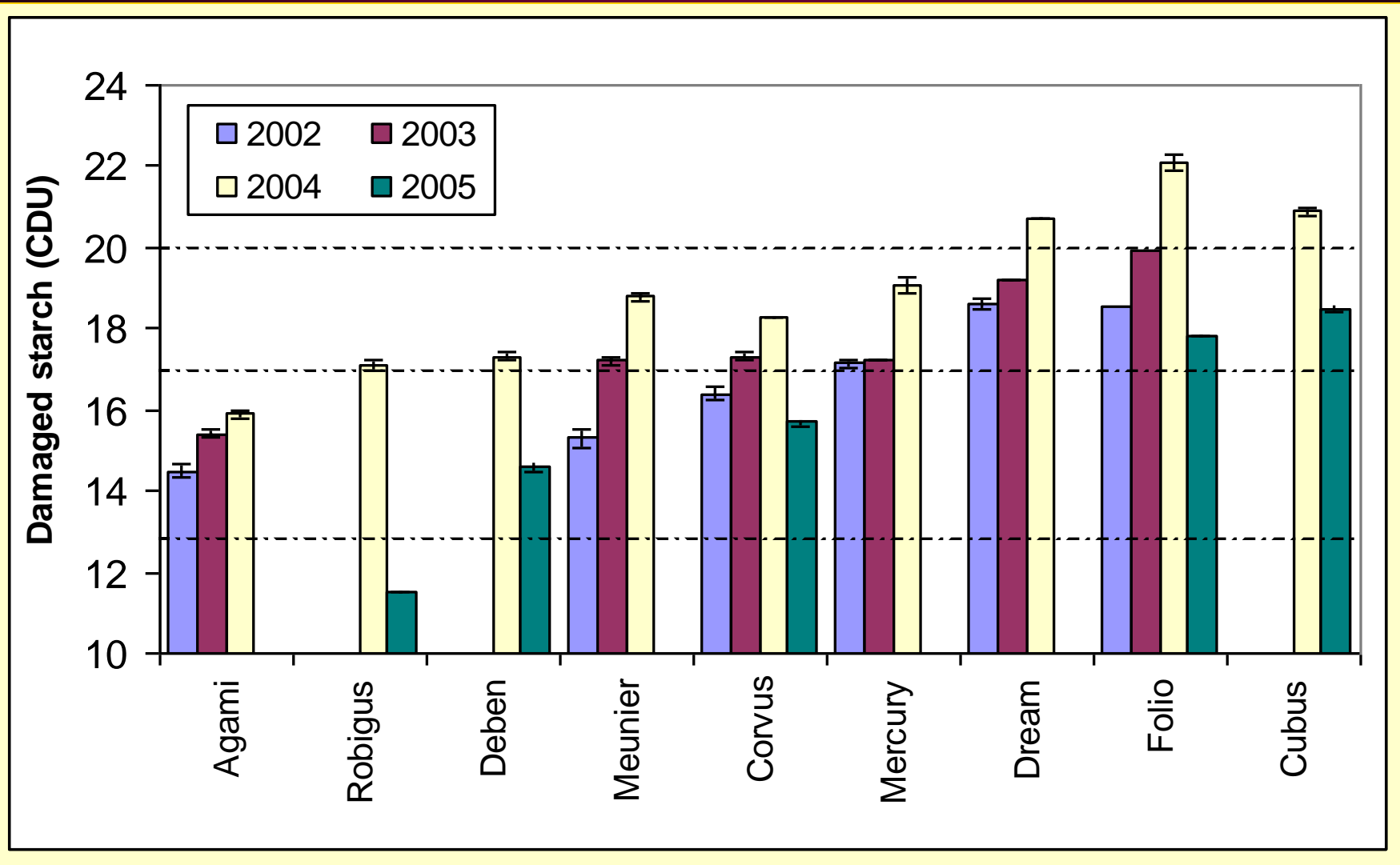
Very high



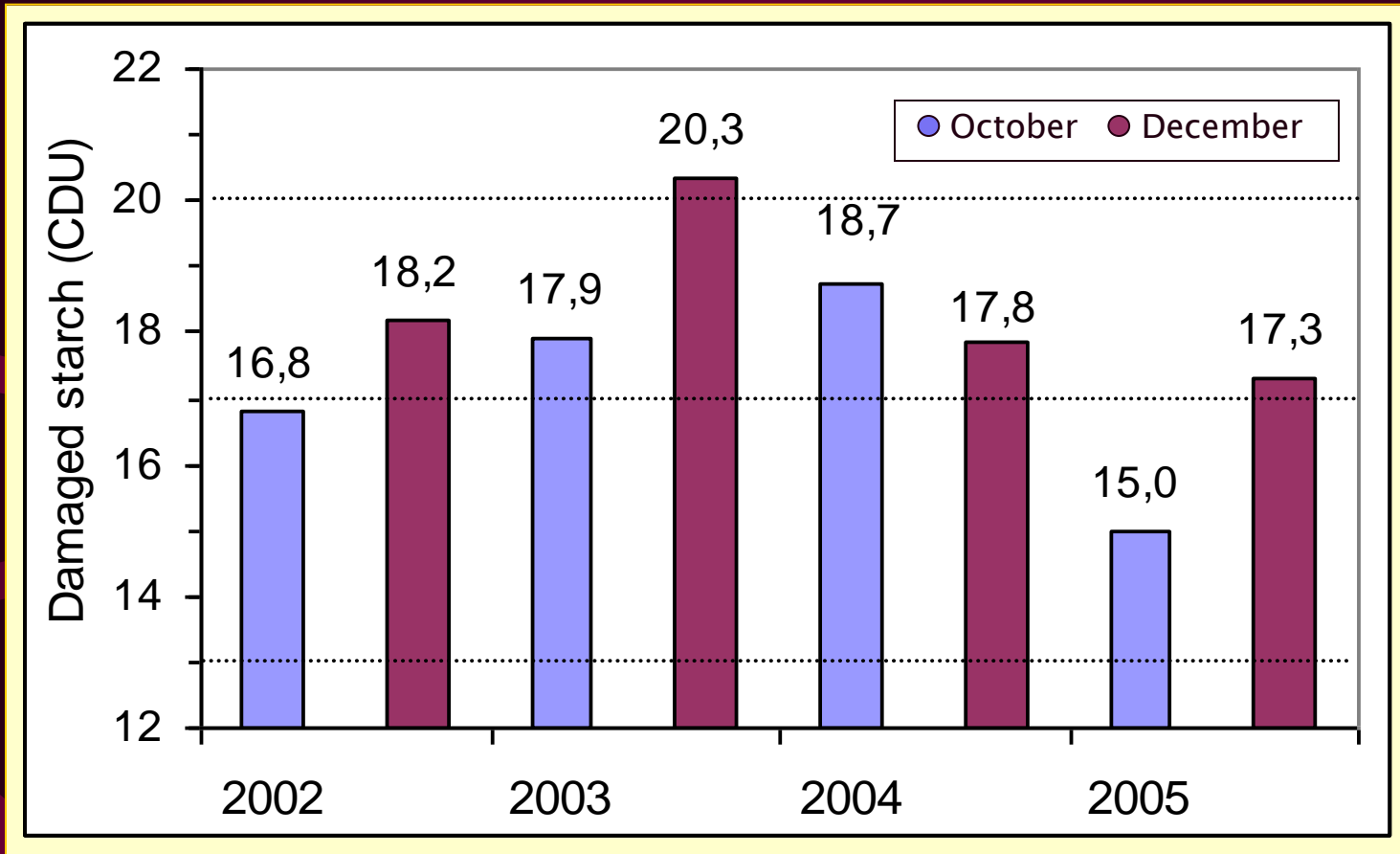
Weak

Maximum variations : 5 to 6 CDU

Starch damaged (harvests 2002–2005)



## Starch Damage (harvests 2002–2005) : means of studied varieties



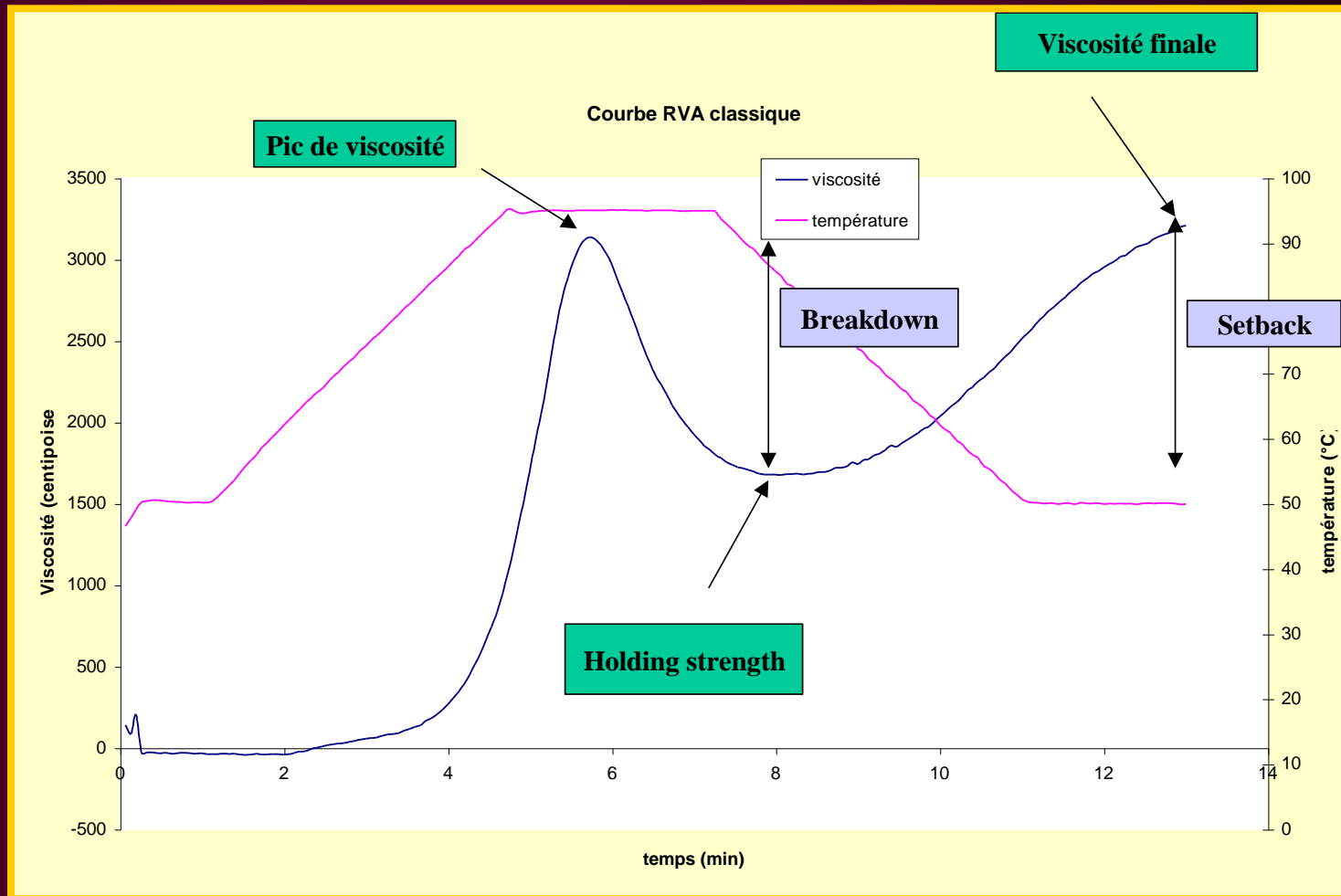
Starch damaged : october < december (2002, 2003, 2005)

(associated with higher A-granules and amylose contents in starches from December seedlings)

# Viscosity of starch and ground wheats

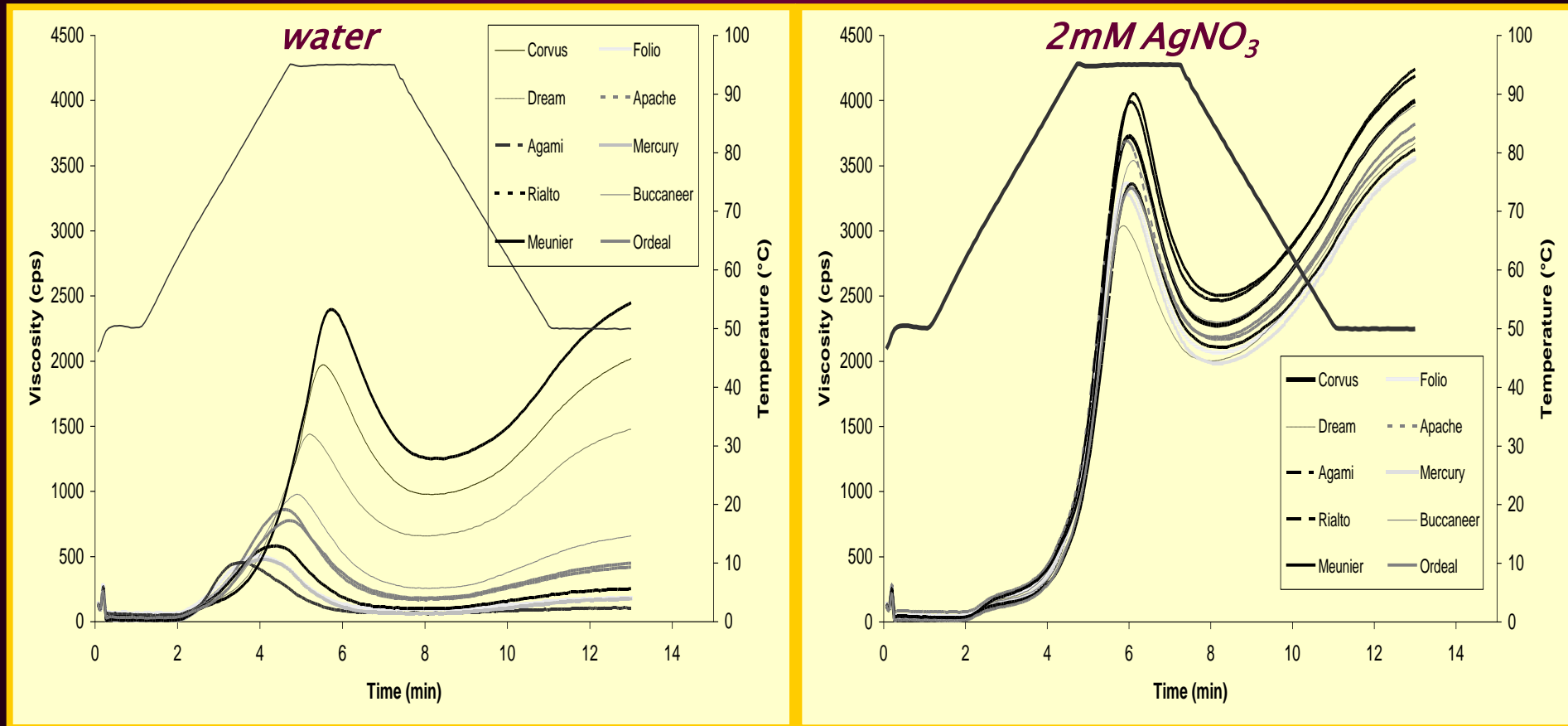
## RVA (Newport), ICC method N°162

Time of analysis :  
13 minutes



# Viscosity properties

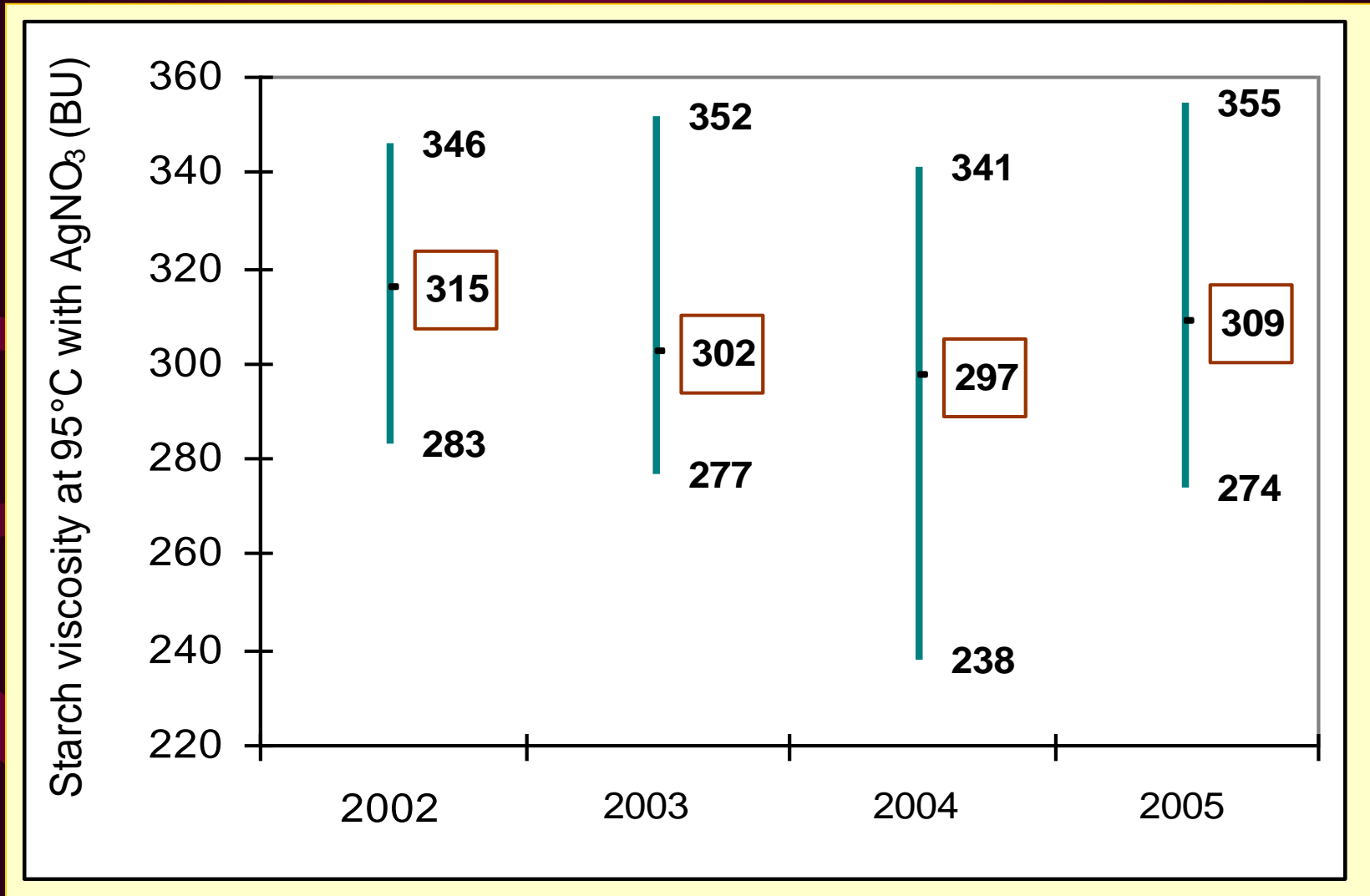
Dissociating the enzymatic and the starch contribution to viscosity  
( starch, ground wheat)



Brabender Micro-visco amylograph

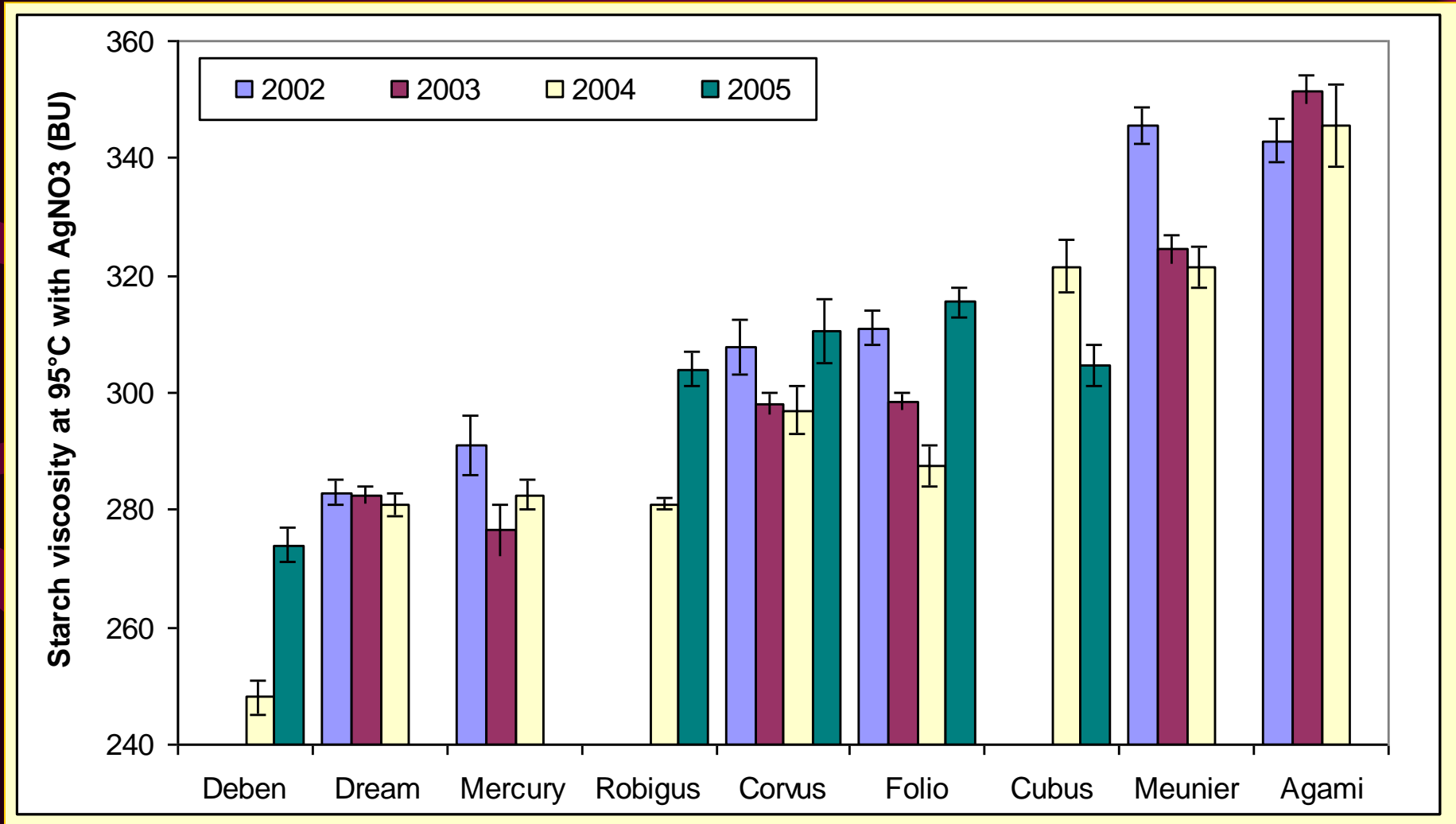
Newport Rapid Visco Analyser

Starch: Pic of viscosity at 95°C (with AgNO<sub>3</sub>) :  
minimal, mean and maximal values, harvests 2002–2005

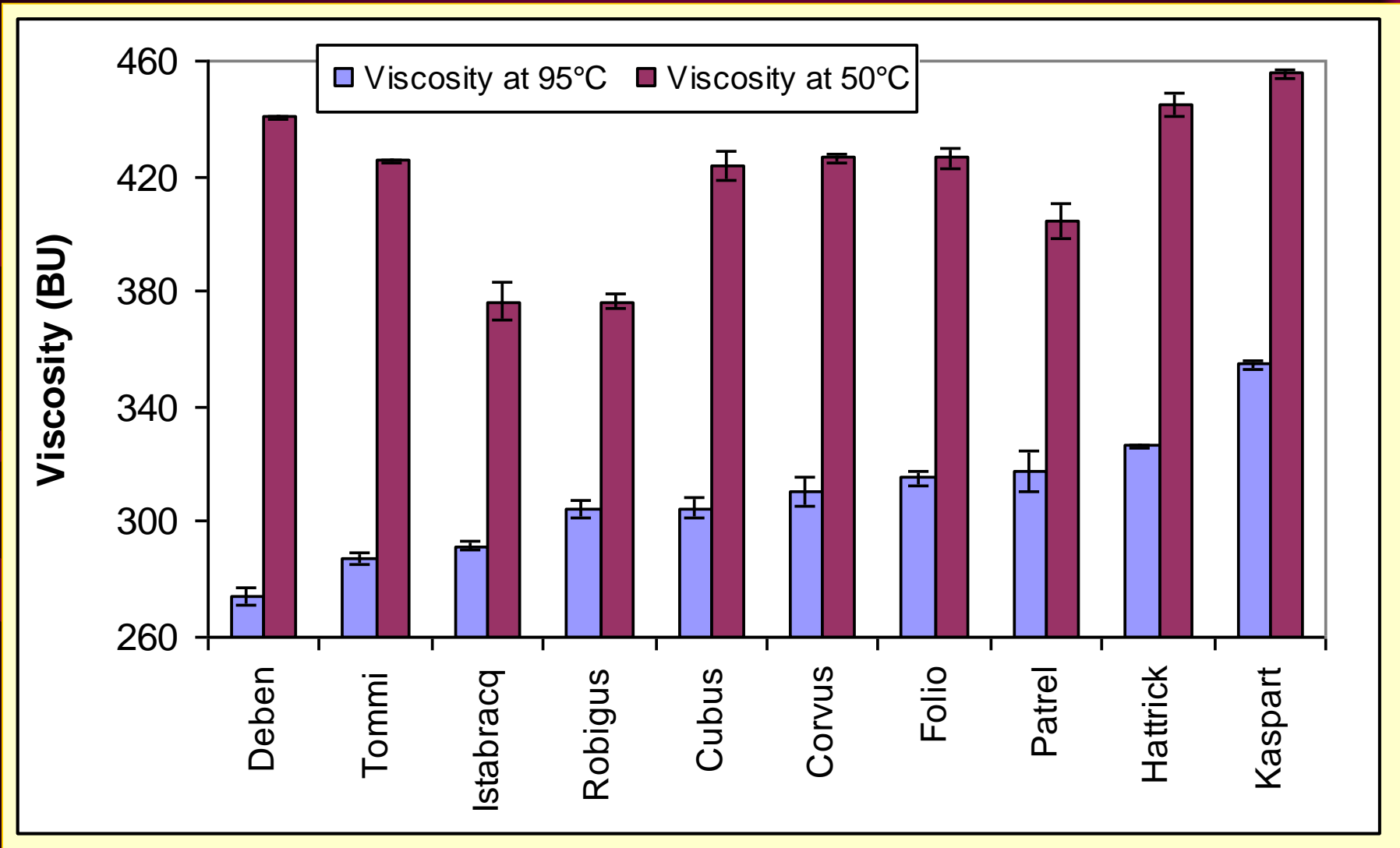


Maximum variations at 95°C : 60 to 100 BU

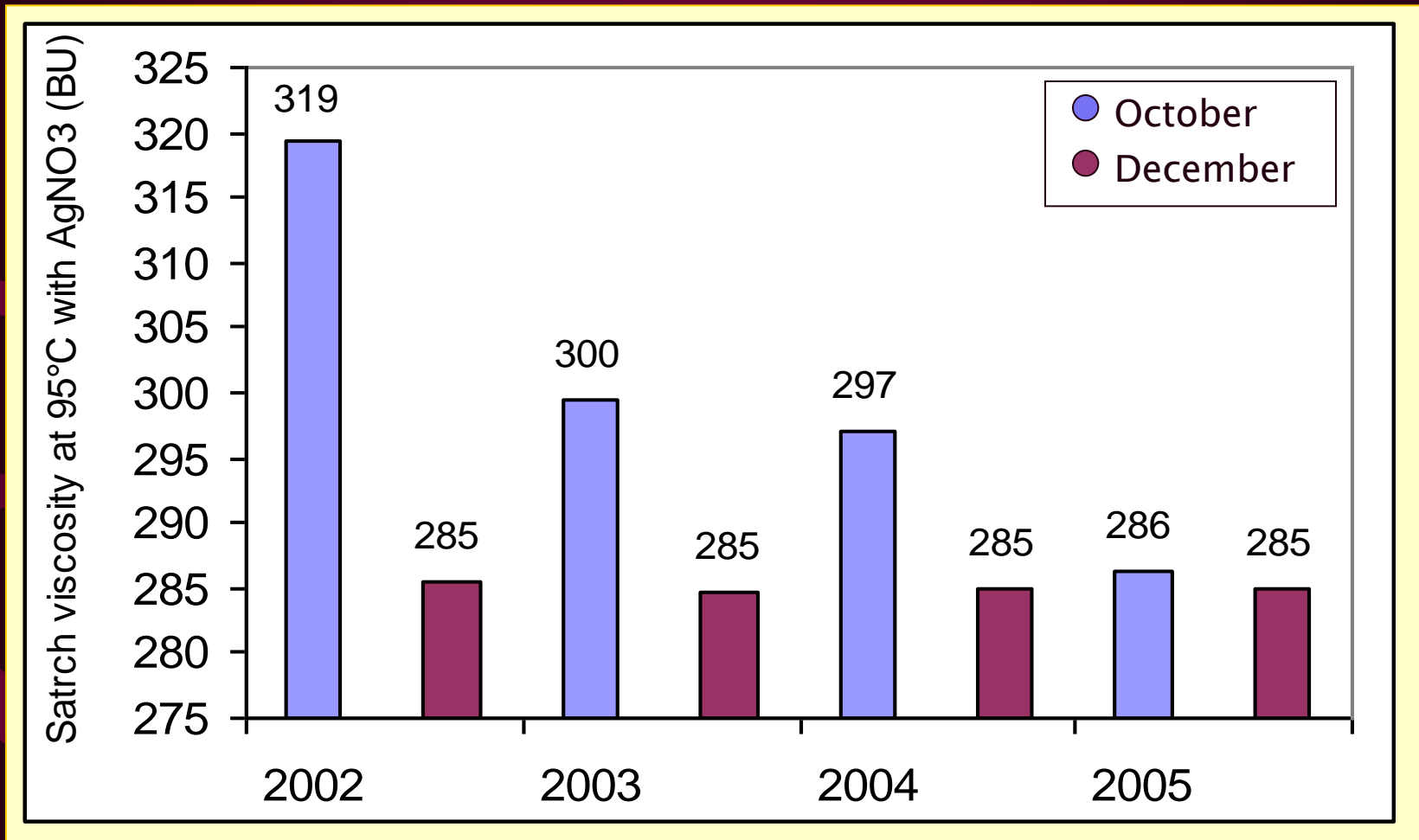
Starch pic of viscosity at 95°C (with AgNO<sub>3</sub>)  
harvests 2002 to 2005



Starch pic of viscosities at 95°C and final viscosity at 50°C  
(with AgNO<sub>3</sub>) harvest 2005

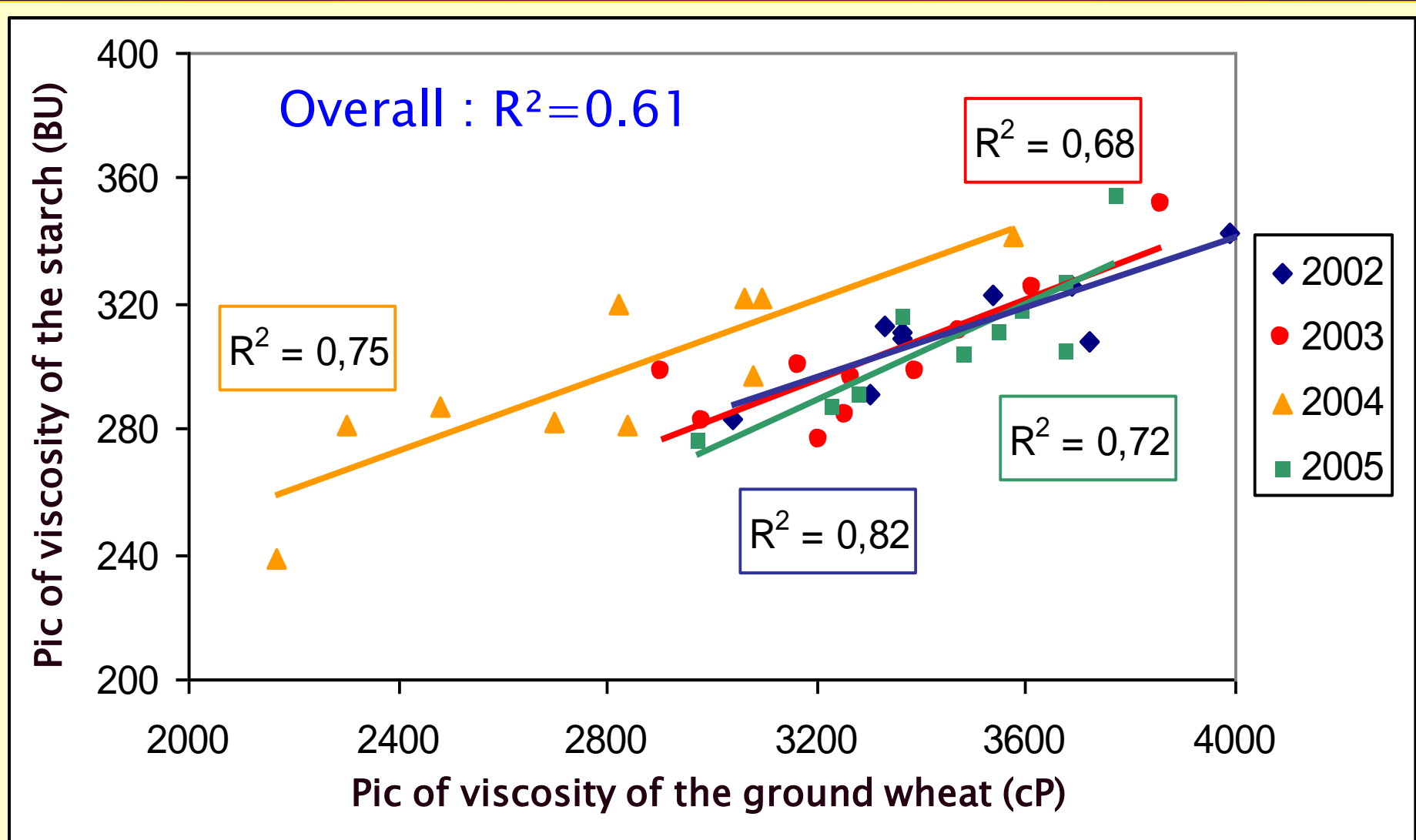


Starch : pic of viscosity at 95°C (with AgNO<sub>3</sub>) :  
mean values for the varieties under study (harvest 2002 to 2005)



October > December

# Correlations between the pic of viscosity at 95°C (with AgNO<sub>3</sub>) measured on ground wheat and on the corresponding starch (harvest 2002 to 2005)

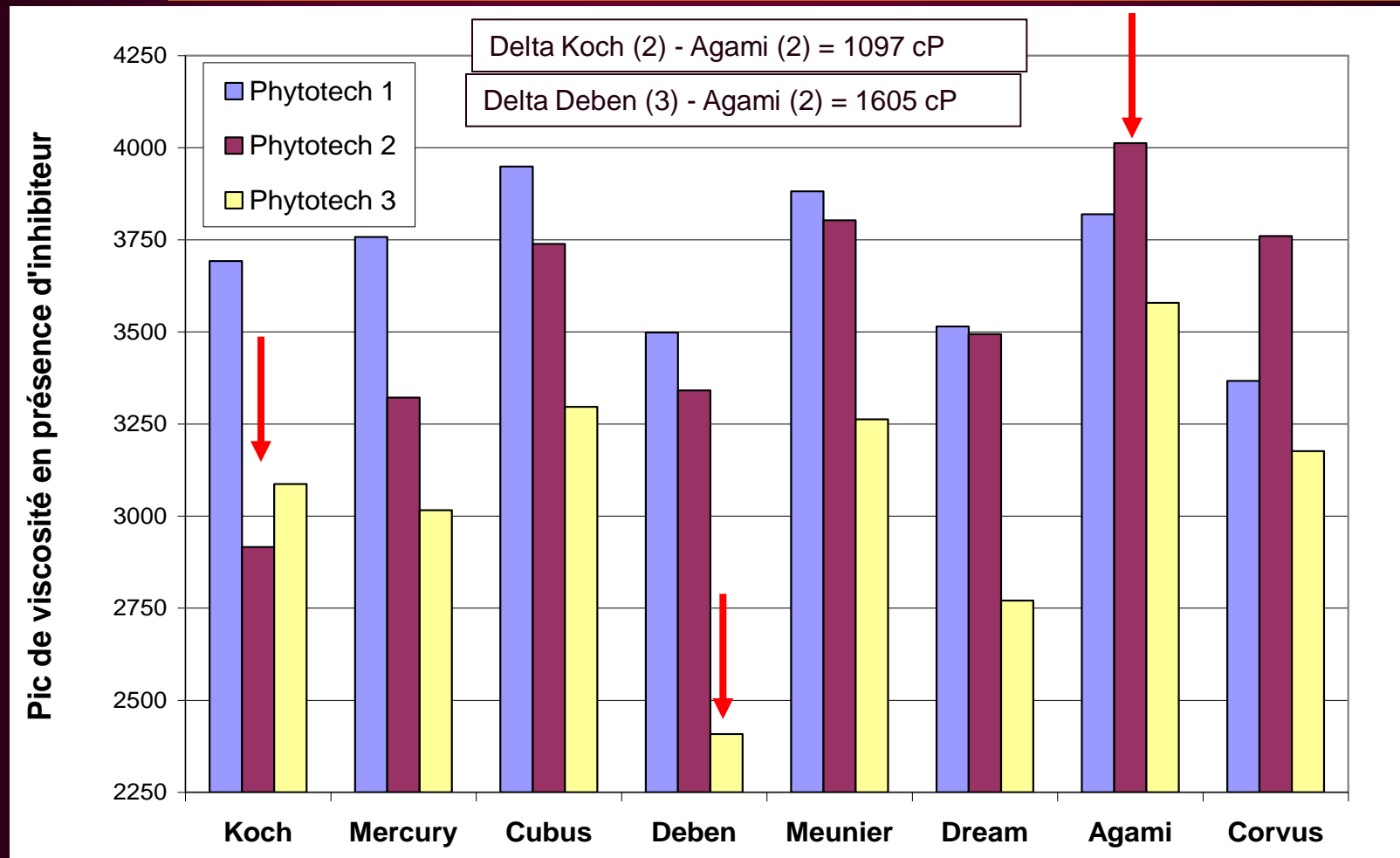


# Combined effects of the phytotechny on the pic of viscosity (95°C) ground wheats

**Phyto 1** : October seedlings, No fungicide, N fertilisation : 50-60-0

**Phyto 2**: October seedlings, fungicide, N fertilisation: 50-60-75

**Phyto 3**: December seedlings, fungicide, N fertilisation: 0-60-155



## Enzymatic effects (alpha–amylase activities)

- Indirect methods

*Hagberg Falling Number*

*Rapid Visco Analyser (ICC method N°162)*

- Direct methods for AAA

*Ceralpha Method (Megazyme, ICC N°303)*

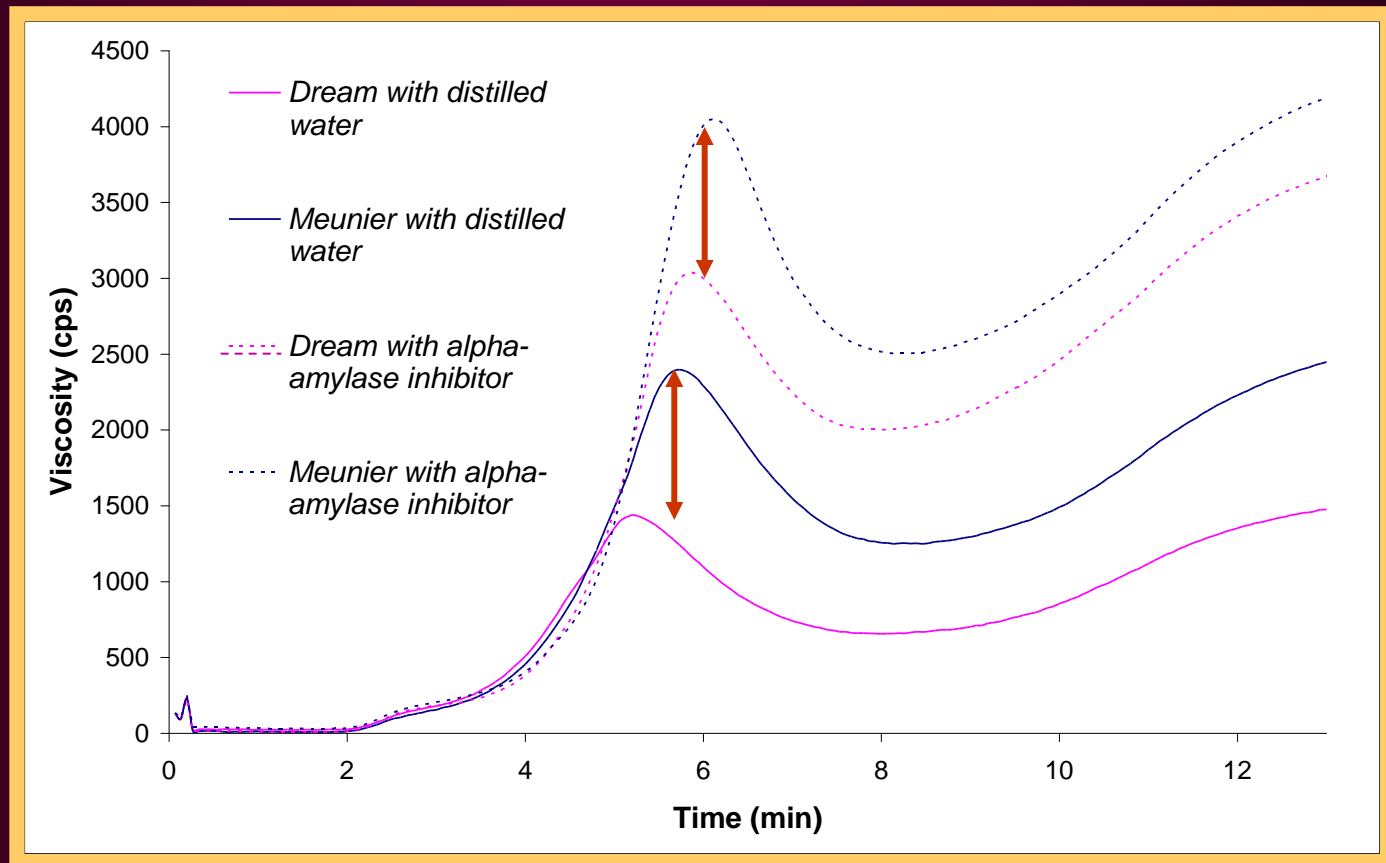
*Amylzyme Method (Megazyme, AACCC 22.05)*

# Endogenous enzymes

2 contribution : the starch, the enzymes

RVA (water– 2 mM AgNO<sub>3</sub>)

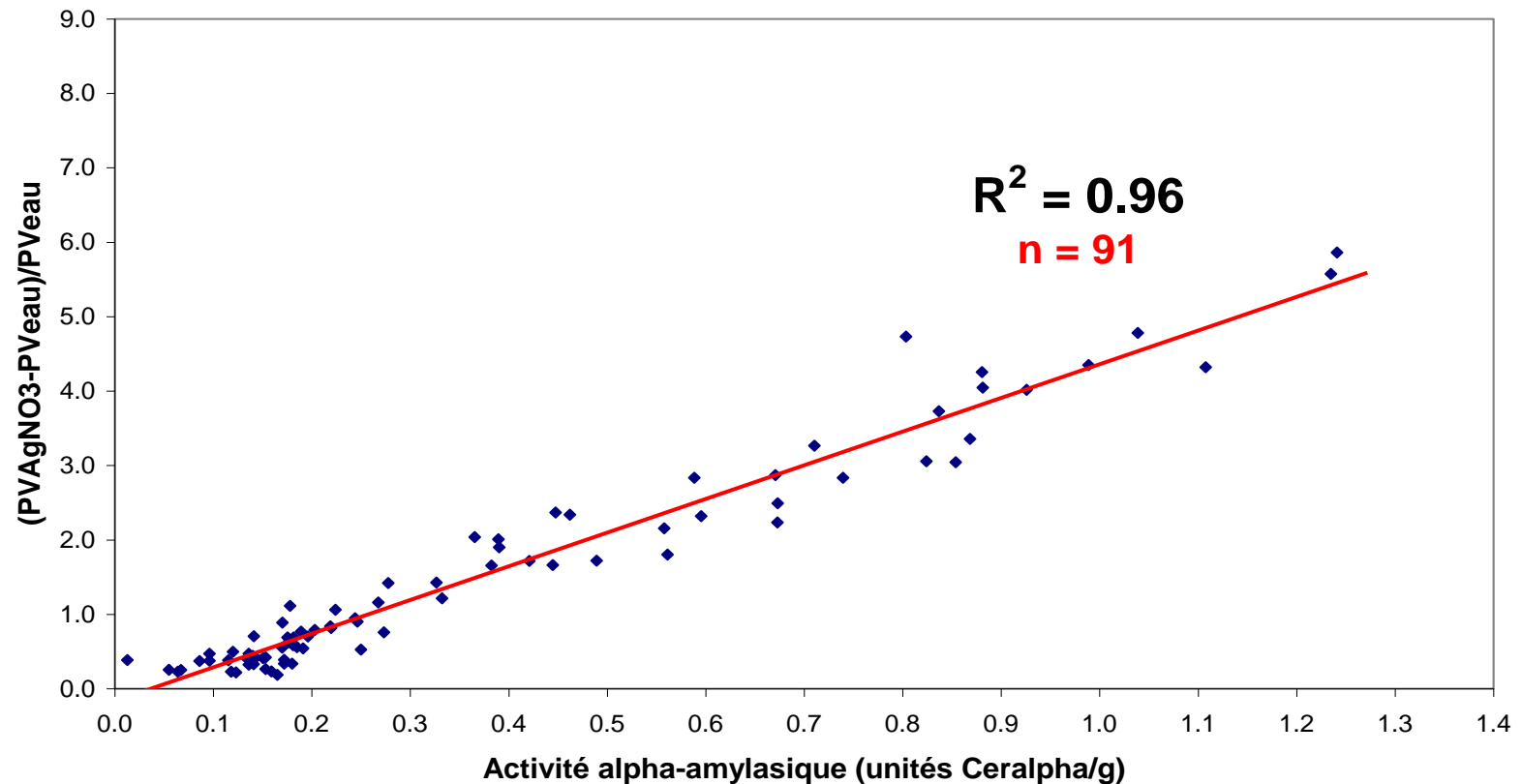
2 varieties with similar AAA



# Endogenous enzymes

Ground wheats from 2002 to 2005

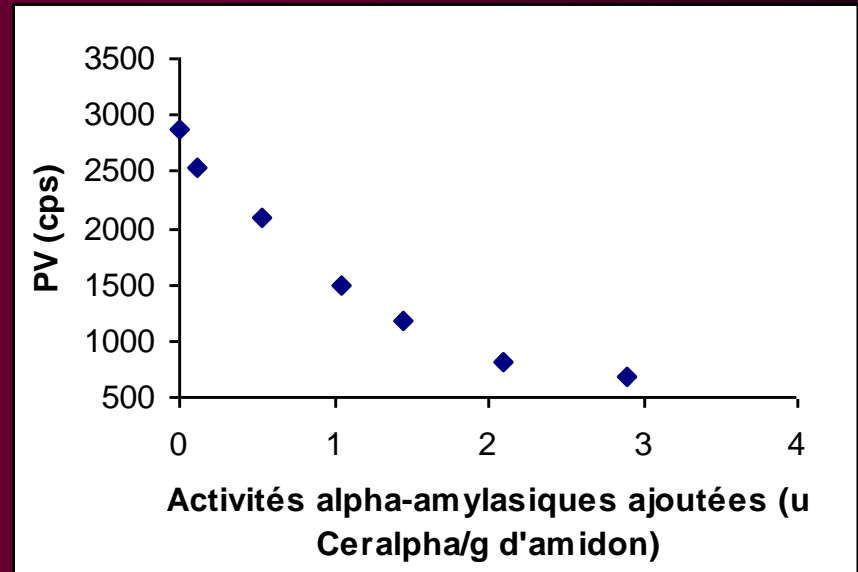
(PV AgNO<sub>3</sub> – PV water)/PV water VS AAA ceralpha



# Starch sensitivity to enzymatic hydrolysis

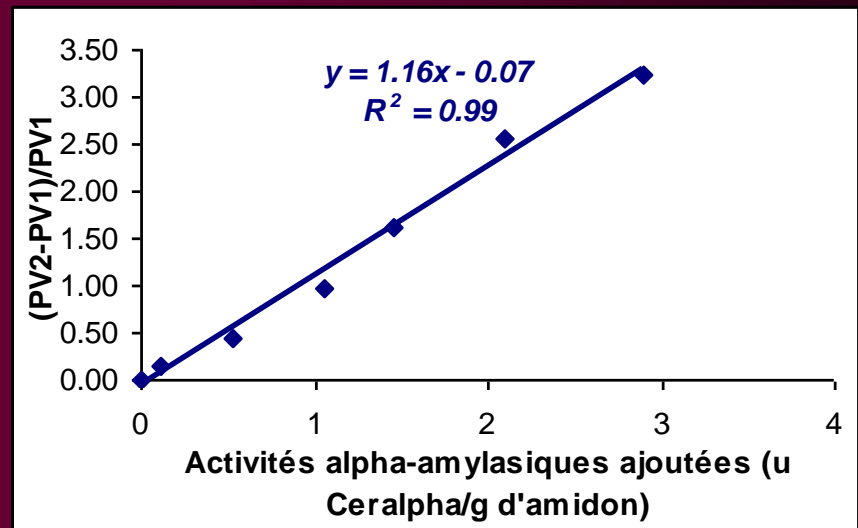
Addition of growing activities of an amylase from *Bacillus sp.*

• Pic of viscosity vs added activities



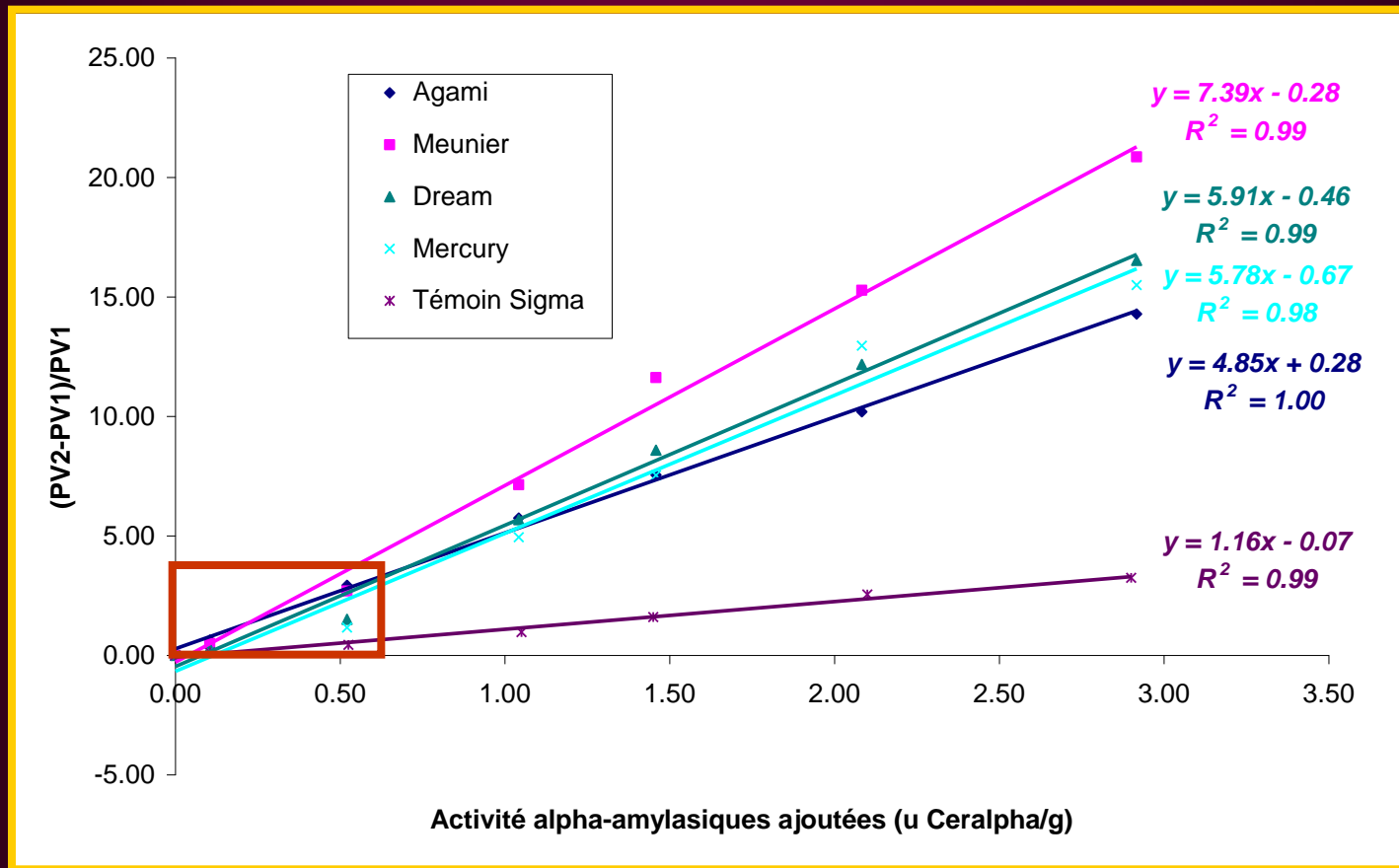
• Linearisation by using pic ratios

$$\frac{(PV_{\text{initial}} - PV_{\text{after adding AA}})}{PV_{\text{after adding AA}}}$$



# Starch sensitivity to enzymatic hydrolysis

Addition of growing activities of an amylase from *Bacillus sp.*



Slope of the regression = sensitivity to enzymes

## Conclusions and further prospects

**There is a variability in the intrinsic properties of starch  
We may not neglect it négligeable !!!**

- Genetic and phytotechnology have an influence on the characteristics of the ground wheat and the corresponding starches
- Major influence of the harvest years
- Variety is of a major concern
- It can be reinforced by the phytotechnology

**Goal : Orientation of wheat lots according to the applications**

*Many thanks  
for your attention*

## Composante amidon: résultats obtenus

- Influence importante de la variété et de la date de semis sur les propriétés intrinsèques et techno-fonctionnelles de l'amidon
- Relations entre les caractéristiques intrinsèques de l'amidon et ses propriétés de viscosité
- Relations entre les propriétés de viscosité des moutures intégrales et celles des amidons
- Méthode d'extraction de l'amidon à l'échelle du laboratoire et à l'échelle semi-pilote

# Composante enzymatique

## Alternative à l'indice de chute de Hagberg : conclusions

- Double protocole : estimation précise et rapide de l'AAA endogène des moutures intégrales
- Multiples informations : AAA et propriétés intrinsèques de gélification
- Valider le principe sur les farines blanches (augmenter la base de données) et les amidons extraits (adapter la méthode de dosage spectrophotométrique)
- N'intègre pas les aspects « cinétique d'hydrolyse/liquéfaction »  
càd que la méthode considère que les amidons ont la même sensibilité à la hydrolyse enzymatique



Investigation de cette sensibilité

# Composante enzymatique

Investigation de la sensibilité des amidons à l'hydrolyse enzymatique

2 aspects

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graph TD; A[2 aspects] --> B[Etude de la liquéfaction des amidons (Ajouts croissants d'AAA)]; A --> C[Etude de la cinétique d'hydrolyse partielle et complète des amidons];
```

**Etude de la liquéfaction  
des amidons  
(Ajouts croissants d'AAA)**

- Mesures viscosimétriques
- Applications : filière meunerie-boulangerie, IAA utilisatrices des amidons pour propriétés de texture
- En relation avec composition et structure de l'amidon

**Etude de la cinétique d'hydrolyse  
partielle et complète  
des amidons**

- Applications : Production de sirop de glucose (Amidonnerie) et bioéthanol
- En relation avec composition et structure de l'amidon