



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

AN ENLIGHTENING TALE ABOUT UV-B RADIATION

Marcel Jansen
University College Cork,
Ireland

Tato akce se koná v rámci projektu:

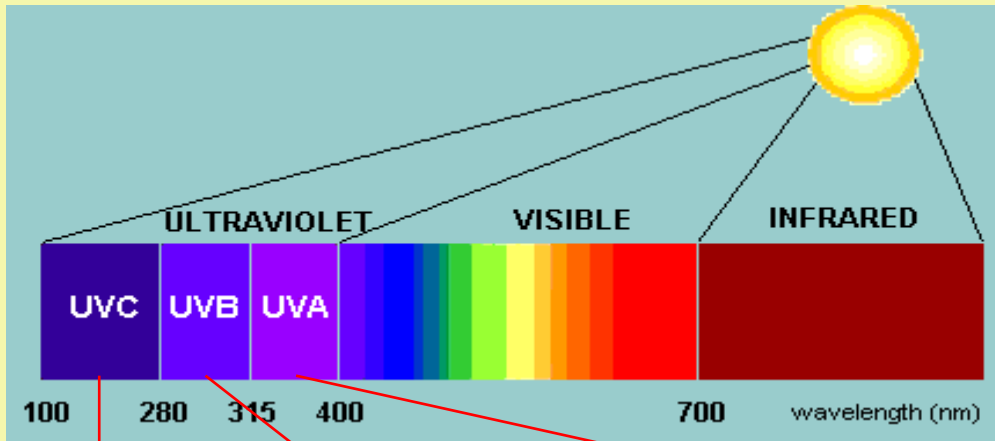
Vybudování vědeckého týmu environmentální metabolomiky a ekofyziologie a jeho zapojení do mezinárodních sítí (ENVIMET; r.č. **CZ.1.07/2.3.00/20.0246**) realizovaného v rámci Operačního programu Vzdělávání pro konkurenceschopnost.

Topics

- What is UV-B radiation?
- What does UV-B do to living organisms?
- How can one study effects of UV-B radiation on plants?
- What does UV-B radiation do to plants?
- How do plants perceive UV-B radiation?
- Why study effects of UV-B radiation?

What is UV-B radiation?

What is UV-B radiation?



- UV = natural component sunlight
- UV; wavelengths between 100 – 400nm
- UV in biosphere >~295nm



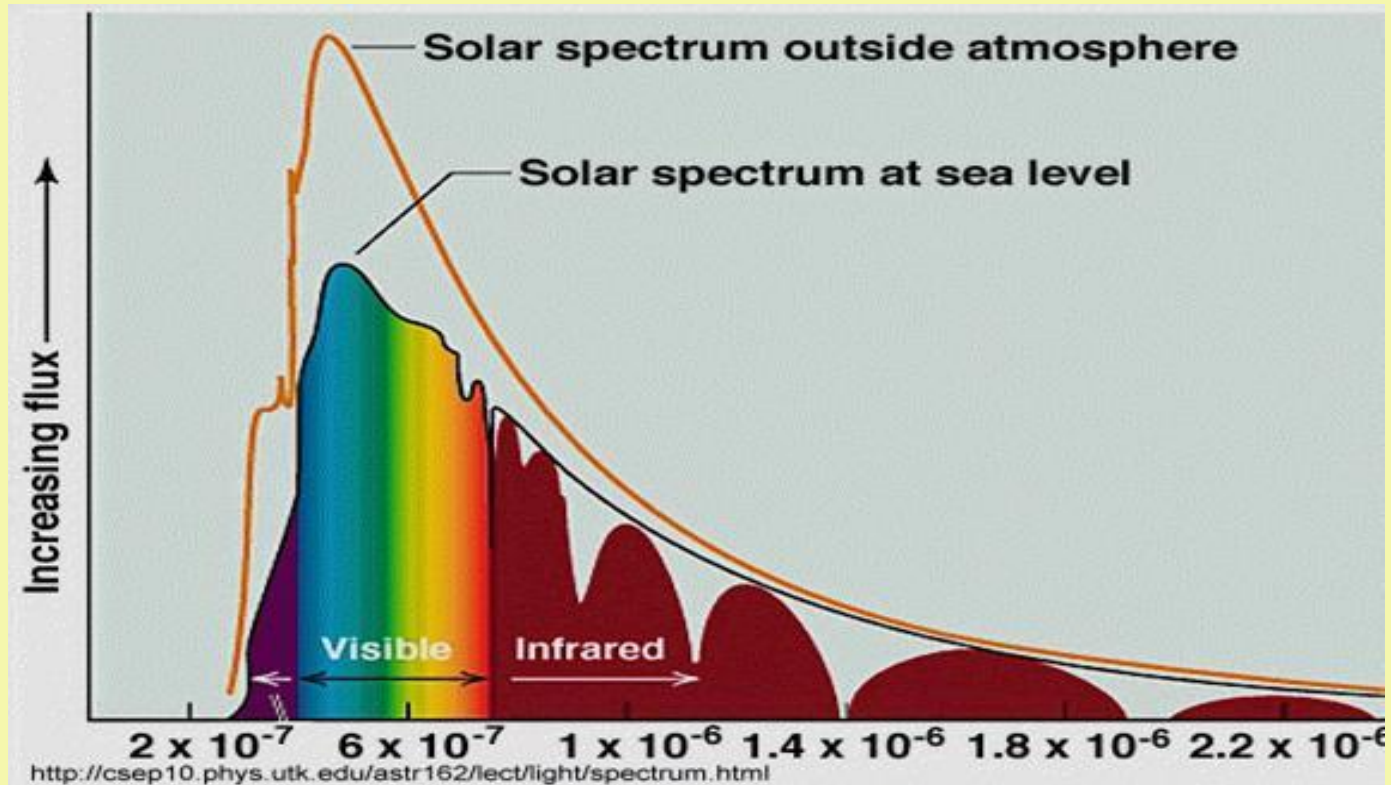
UV-B;
280 – 315nm

UV-C; 100 – 280 nm



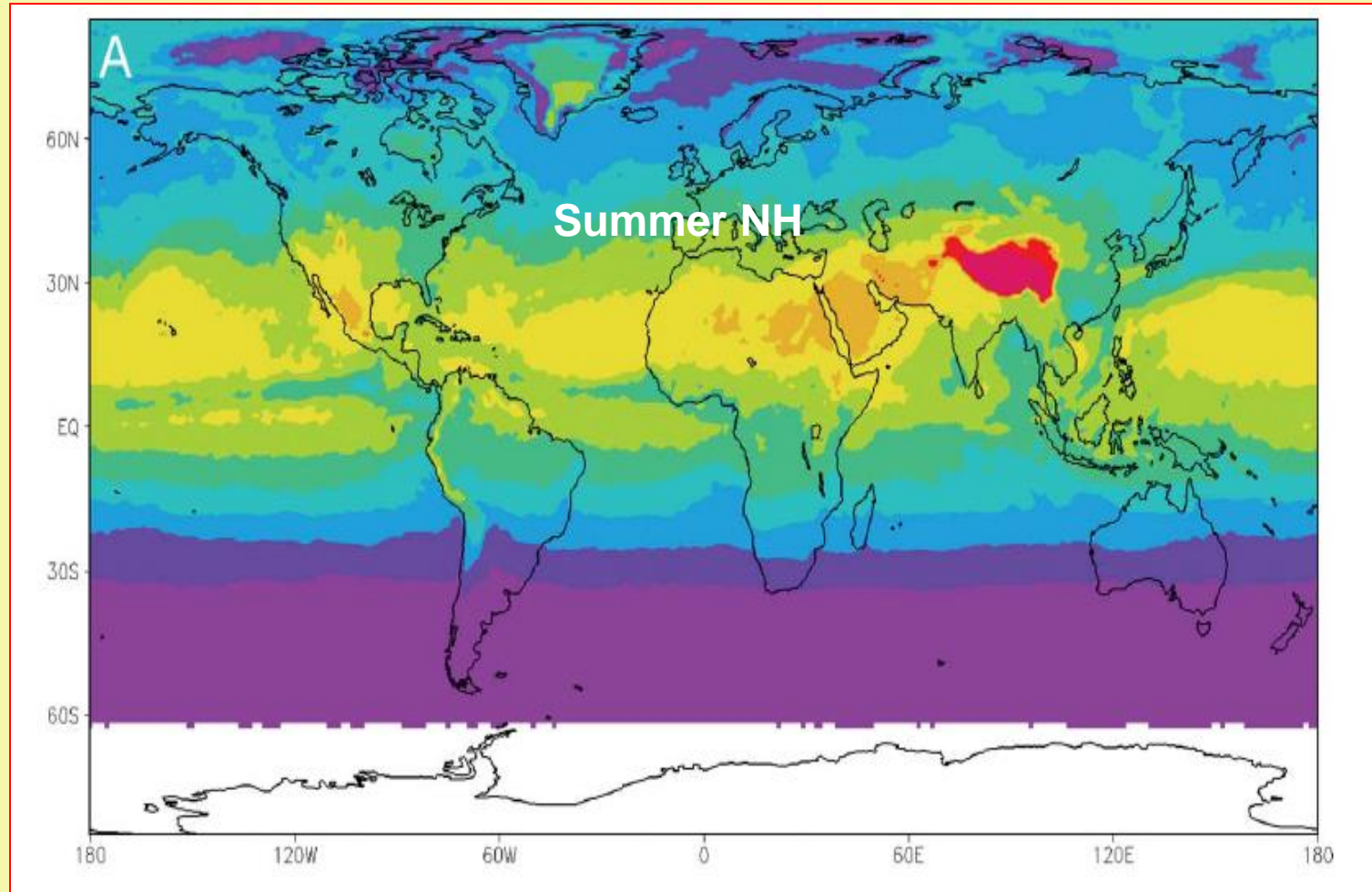
UV-A; 315 – 400 nm

Filtering of sunlight (O_3 , O_2 , H_2O and CO_2)



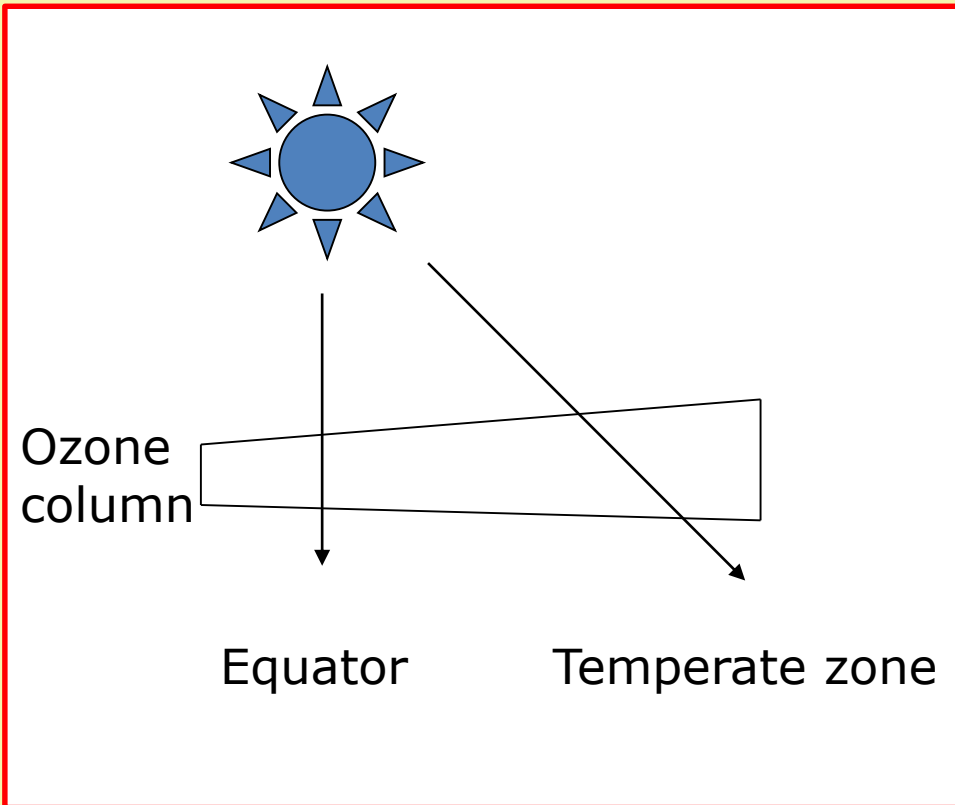
All solar UV-C, and part of solar UV-B are filtered out by the stratospheric (10-30km altitude) ozone layer

A ~6 fold latitudinal & altitudinal UV-B gradient



McKenzie, Aucamp, Bais, Björn, & Ilyas (2007)
Photochem. Photobiol. Sci 6, 218-231

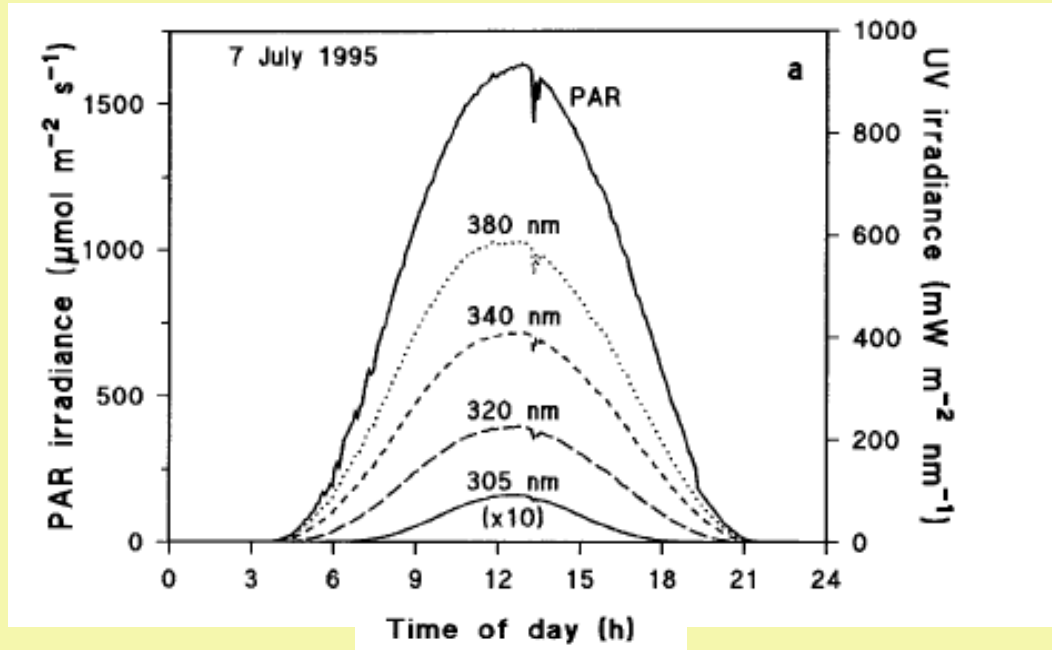
A ~6 fold latitudinal & altitudinal UV-B gradient



Most UV-B near equator

- Solar angle determines length path through ozone layer (i.e. shortest screening pathway nr equator)
- Stratospheric ozone layer thinnest near equator
- Hours of sunshine / meteorological conditions

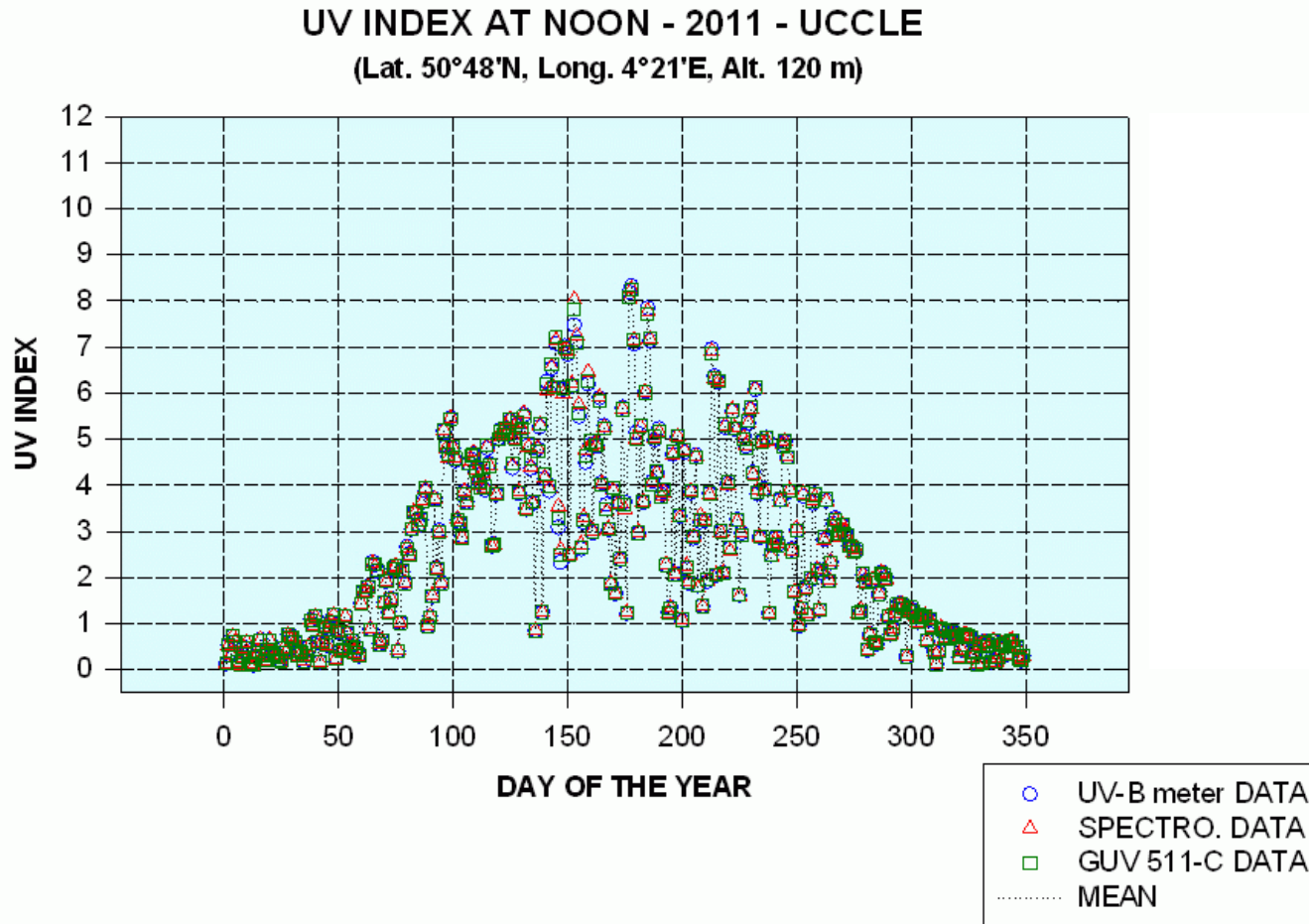
Daily/seasonal variations UV-B



Dring et al., Helgol Mar Res 2001

Solar angle (i.e. length pathway through ozone layer and atmosphere) is also responsible for relatively low levels of UV-B during dawn/dusk and winter.

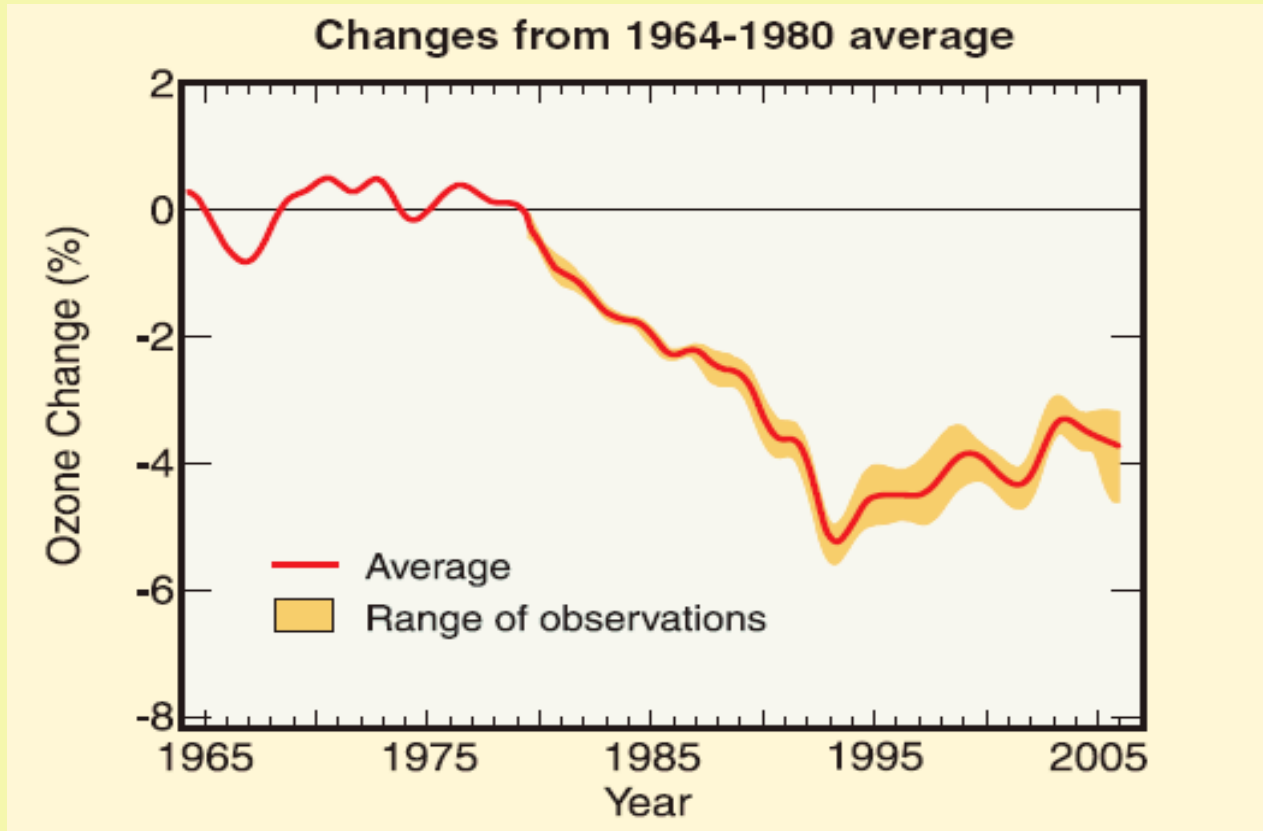
Daily/seasonal variations UV-B



UV-B doses in the
environment are highly
variable!

(experimental design?)

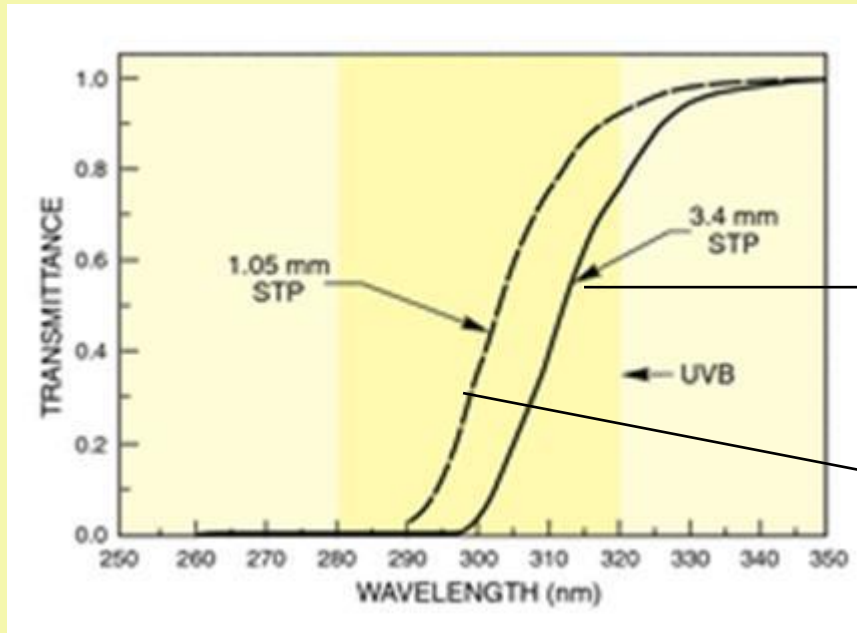
Stratospheric ozone layer depletion



Ground based measurements
60°S-60°N; WMO 2006

Ozone layer depletion

(worldwide 20-40% increases UV-B since 1980s)



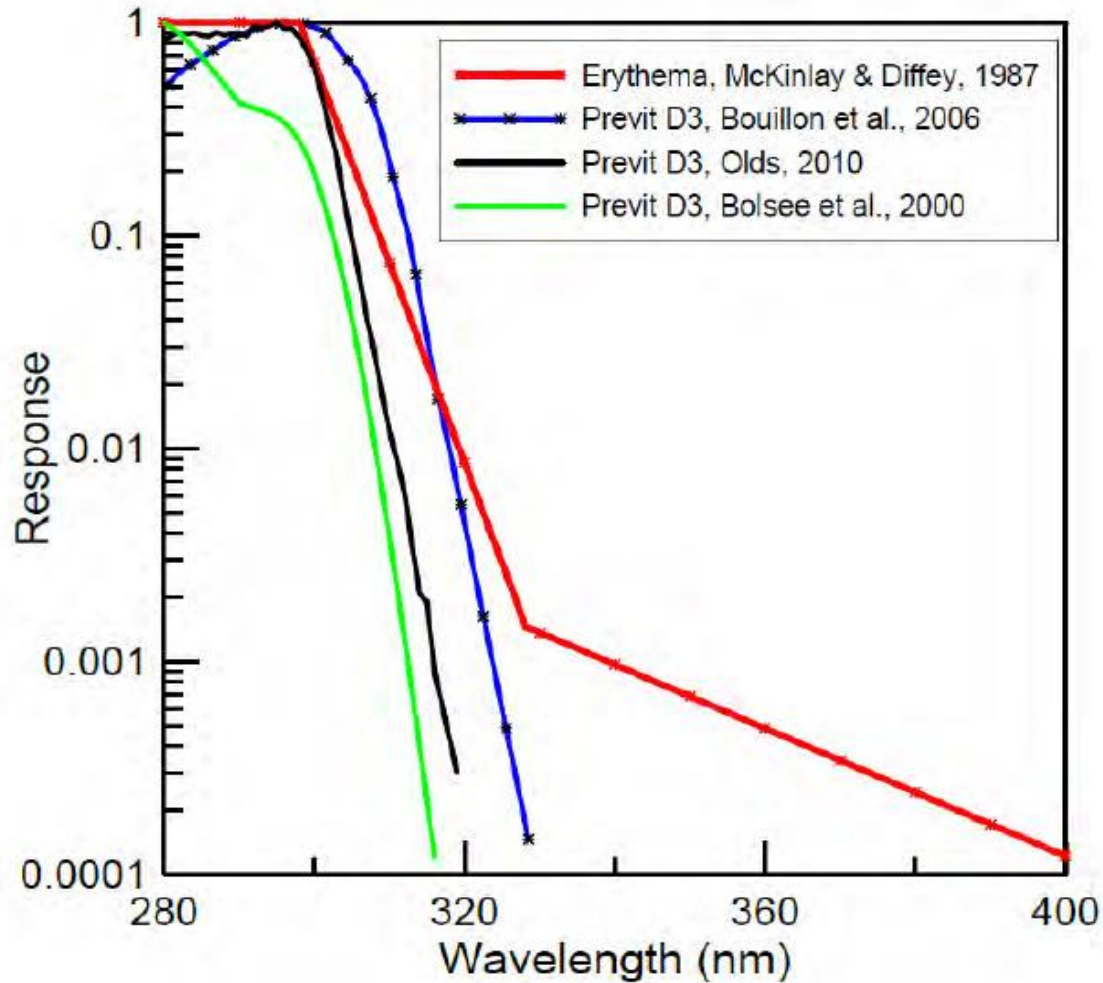
Full ozone

Depleted ozone

Consequences:

- Increase in total UV-B
- Shift spectrum towards shorter wavelengths

The shorter the wavelength, the more reactive the radiation



Biologically effects typically increase by orders of magnitude with decreasing UV-B wavelengths

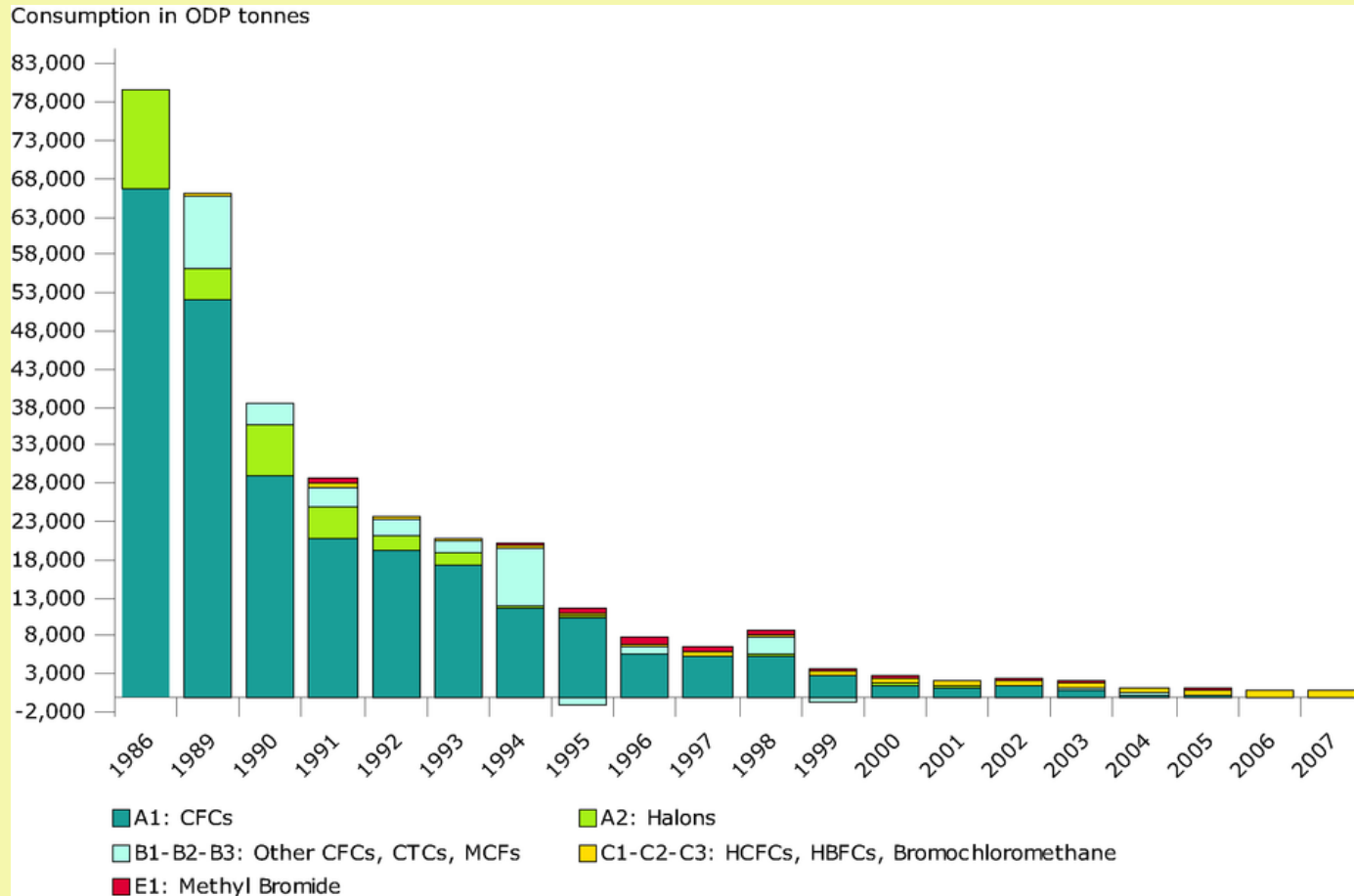
Montreal protocol



- Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1987)
- Phases out production of CFCs and related compounds

The Montreal protocol works!!!

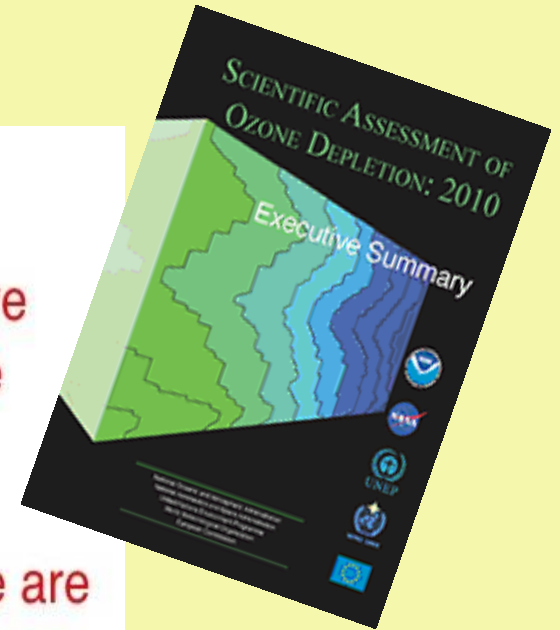
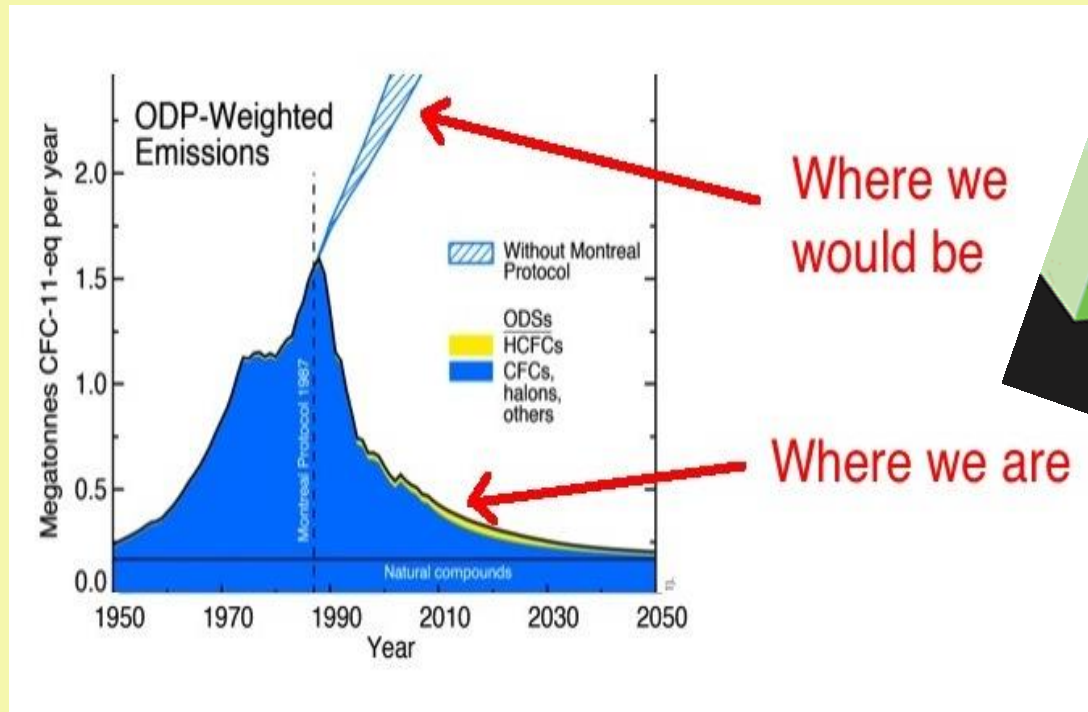
Rapidly decreasing use ozone depleting substances



European Environment Agency (2007); Production and consumption of ozone depleting substances by EU-27 (CSI 006)

The Montreal protocol works!!!

Rapidly decreasing use ozone depleting substances



The Montreal protocol works!!!

UNEP-2014 report

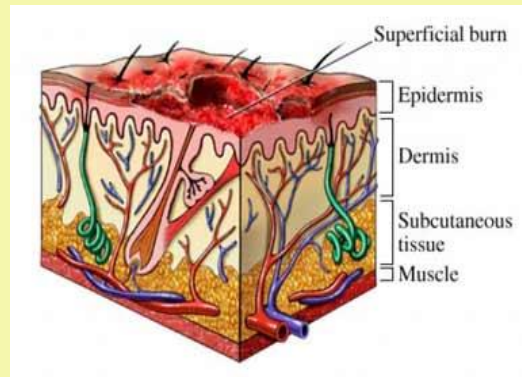
- Decrease stratospheric ozone has been halted
- Slow decline levels ozone depleting substances
- **Some evidence recovery stratospheric ozone**
- No statistically significant decrease of UV in biosphere

- **Tropospheric ozone in northern hemisphere decreases impact stratospheric ozone layer depletion**



What does UV-B do to living organisms?

UV-B - Stressor



Cellular (DNA) damage and inflammatory response

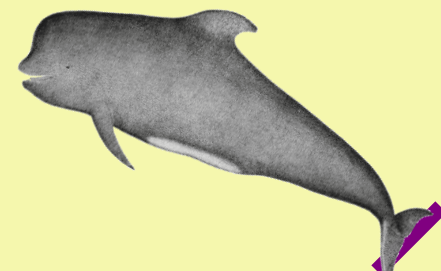
UV-B - Stressor



Domestic pig with sunburn
Commercial problem for free range /
organic farming



UV sensitivity shorn sheep



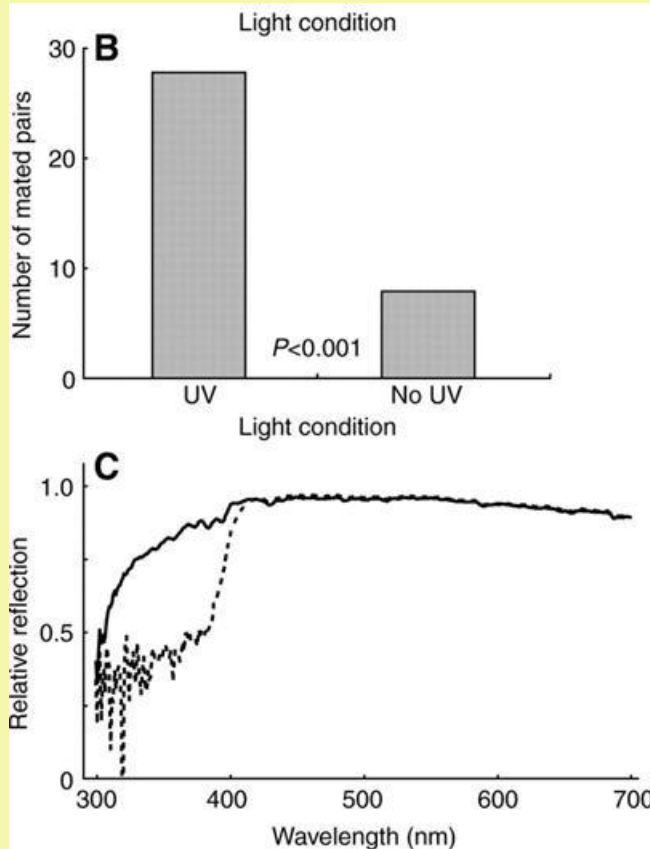
UV-B - environmental information

UV-vision based on UV-transmitting lens, and UV-sensitive cones



347 out of 968 surveyed bird species, displayed UV reflective patterns
MULLEN & POHLAND (2008), Ibis.

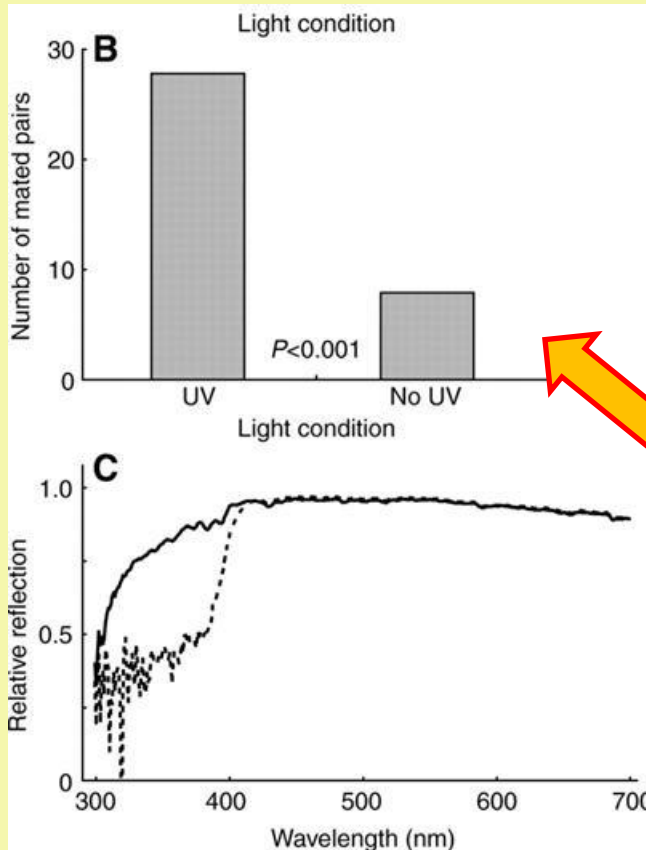
Male cabbage butterflies (*Pieris rapae crucivora*) detect UV-reflecting females easiest in a UV-rich environment



Number of mated pairs in closed arenas

Reflection of ventral side of a female hind wing in the UV-present (solid) and in the UV-absent (dotted) arenas.

Male cabbage butterflies (*Pieris rapae crucivora*) detect UV-reflecting females easiest in a UV-rich environment



Number of mated pairs in closed arenas

Reflection of ventral side of a female hind wing in the UV-present (solid) and in the UV-absent (dotted) arenas.

Horticultural importance!!!

The two-faces of UV-B photobiology



Low UV doses
Specific information / regulator

High UV doses
Stressor

The two (or three)-faces of UV-B photobiology



Photochemistry

Low UV doses
Specific information / regulator

High UV doses
Stressor



Exposure to high UV-B; an unavoidable consequence of photosynthetic life

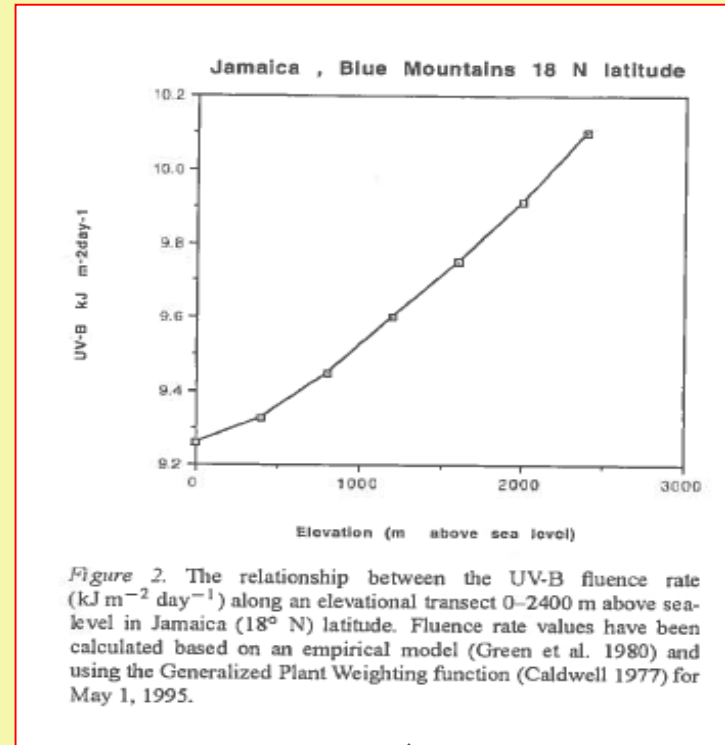


How can we study the effects
of UV-B radiation on plants?

How to study the impact of UV-B?

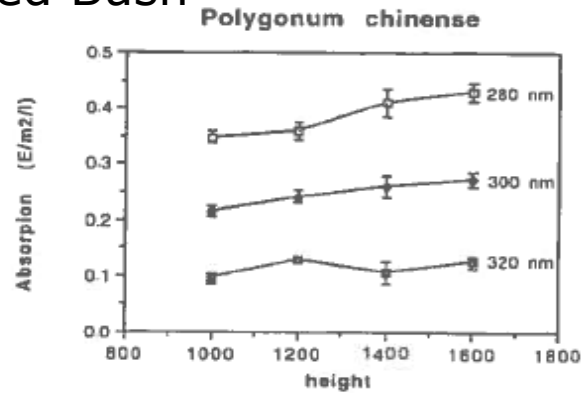
Exploiting elevational UV-gradients

Rozema et al. (1997) Plant ecology

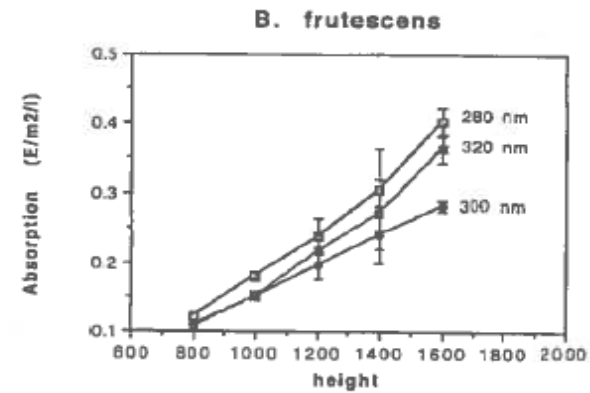


UV-B absorbing pigments along an elevational gradient

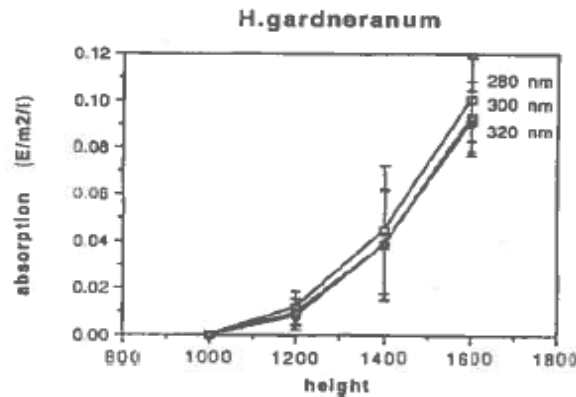
Red Bush



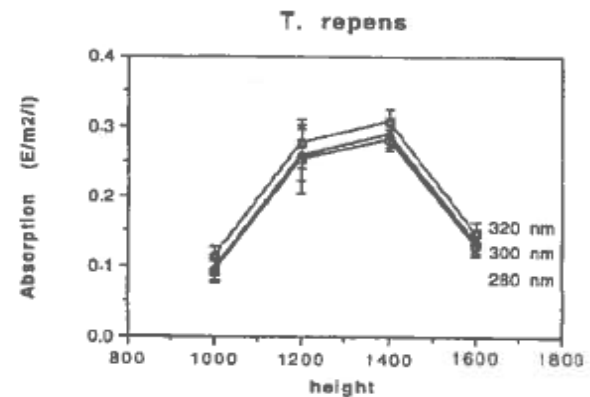
John Crow Bush



Wild Ginger

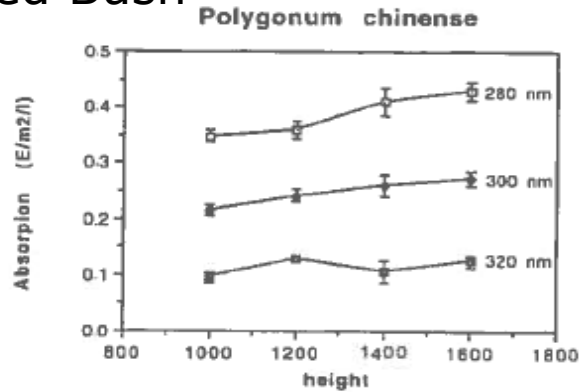


White Clover

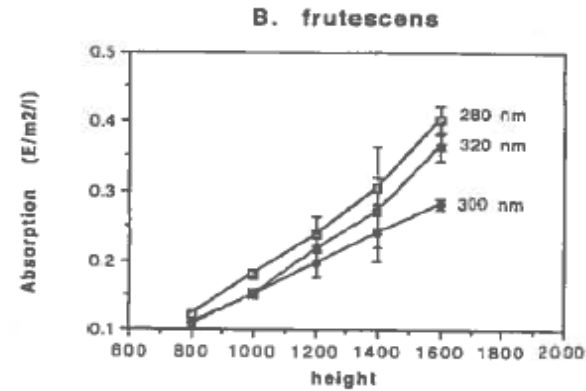


UV-B absorbing pigments along an elevational gradient

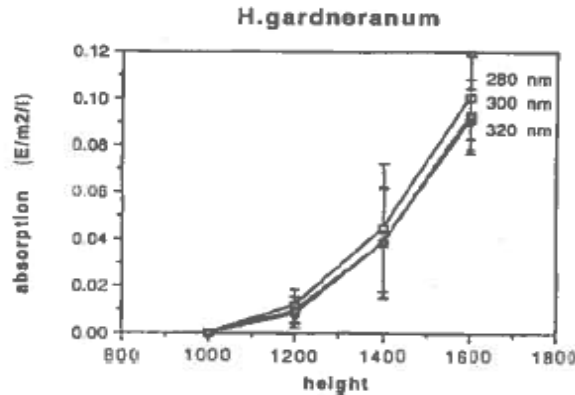
Red Bush



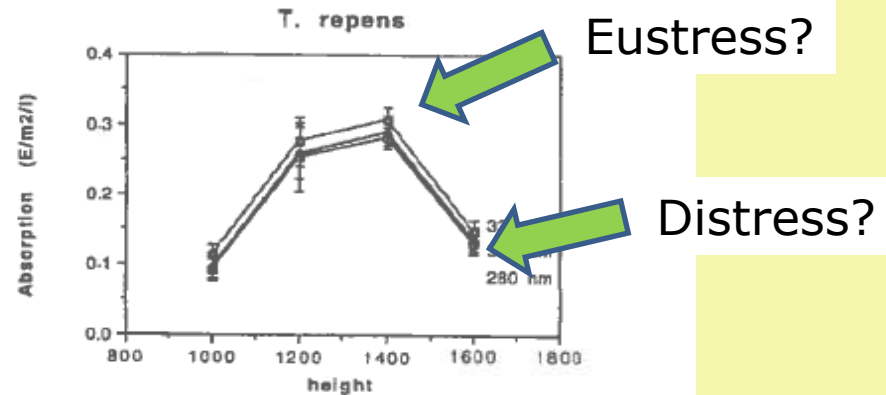
John Crow Bush



Wild Ginger



White Clover



How to study the impact of UV-B?

Exploiting elevational UV-gradients

- Difficult to pinpoint impact UV-B relative to other environmental factors
- Ecologically relevant
- **Plants grow in their natural habitat**

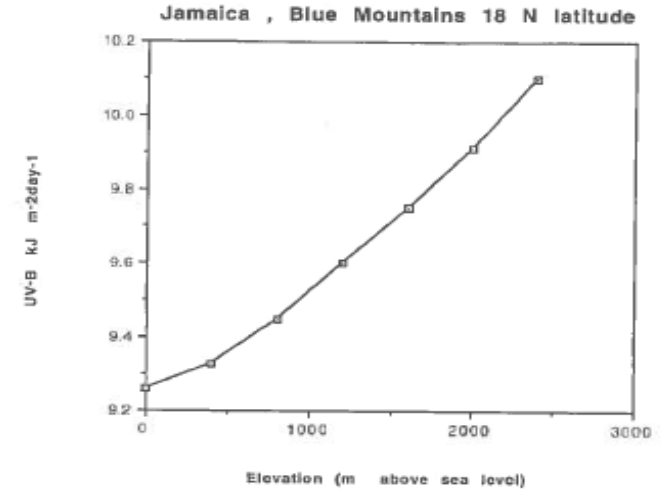
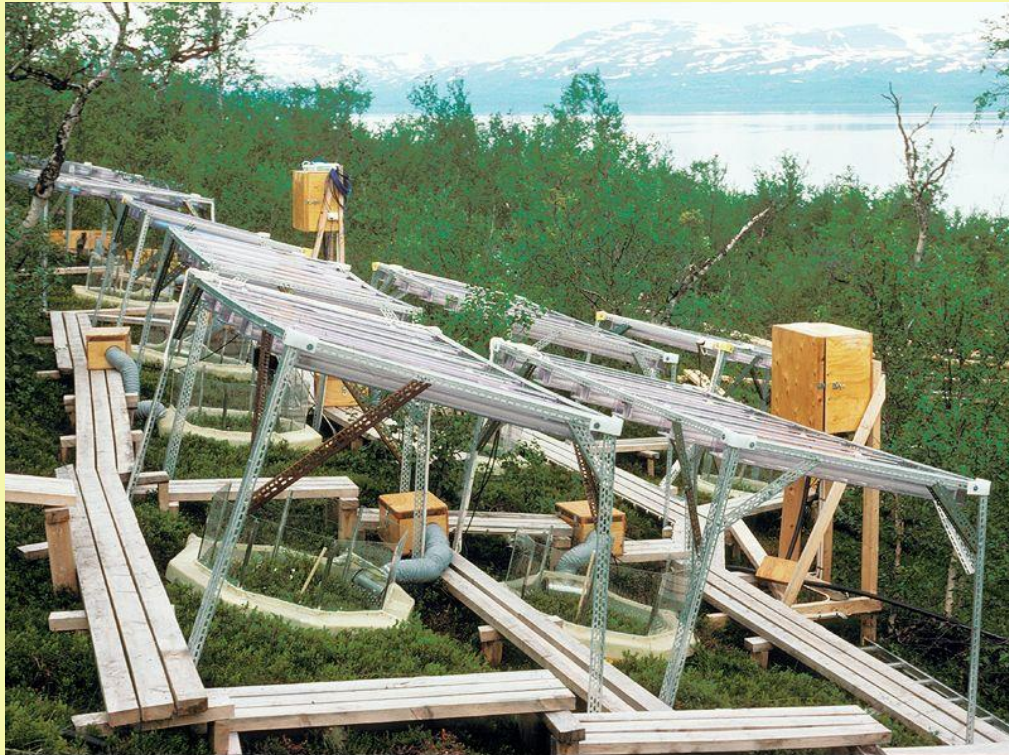


Figure 2. The relationship between the UV-B fluence rate ($\text{kJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$) along an elevational transect 0–2400 m above sea-level in Jamaica (18° N) latitude. Fluence rate values have been calculated based on an empirical model (Green et al. 1980) and using the Generalized Plant Weighting function (Caldwell 1977) for May 1, 1995.

How to study the impact of UV-B?

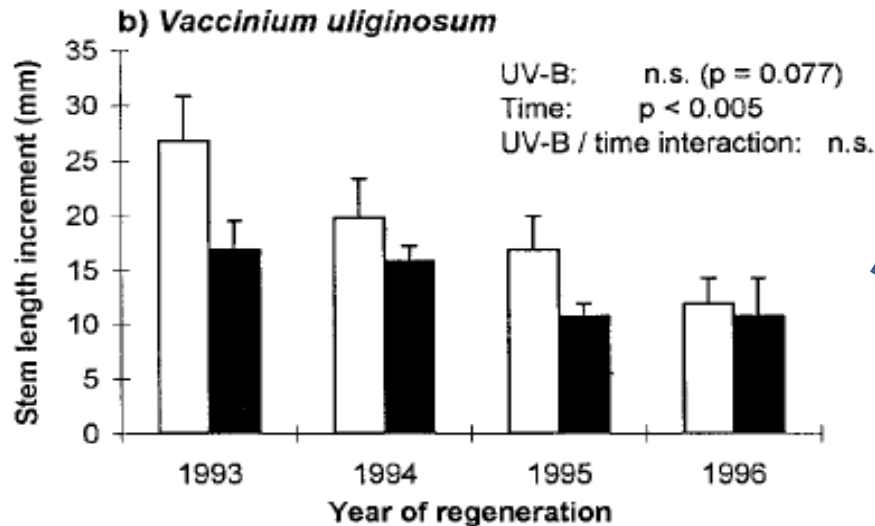
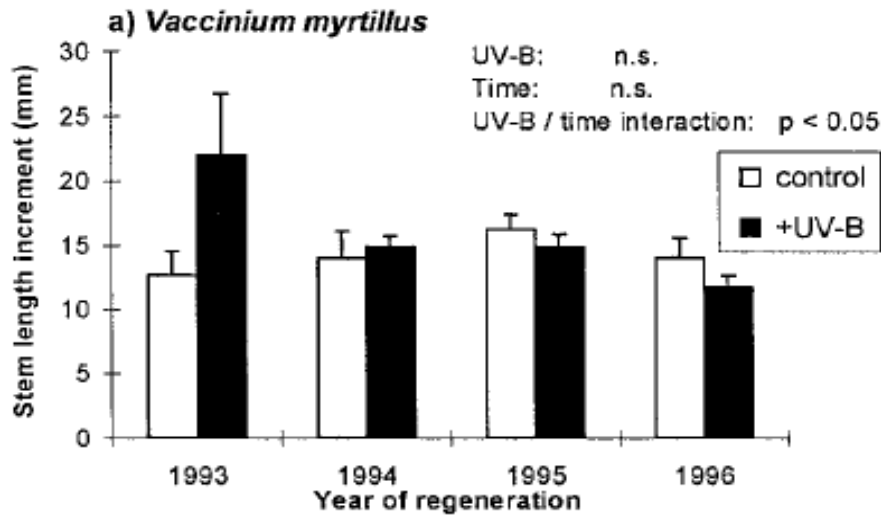


- **Long term outdoor supplementation**
- Used to study consequences increases in UV
- Proportional UV-B increases
- Realistic – can show complexity ecological role UV



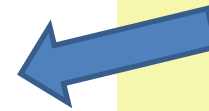
Abisko, Sweden

Real life scenario's; Abisko, Sweden



- Species specific effects
- Different effects in different years

UV-induced "dwarfing"; well established under laboratory conditions

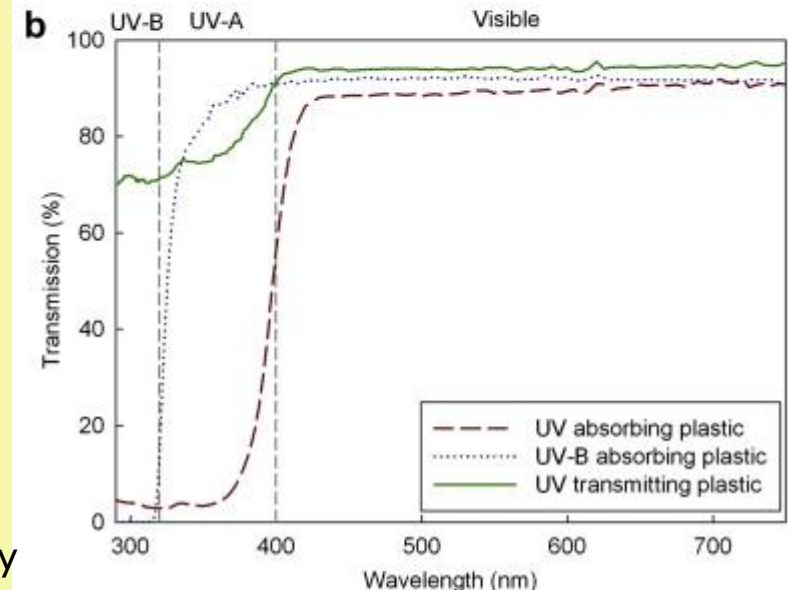


Field studies do not necessarily show
the same as laboratory studies!

Interactions with other environmental
factors modify UV-B responses

How to study the impact of UV-B?

- Long term outdoor exclusion
- Used to study consequences current UV
- Realistic – can show complexity ecological role UV
- Cheap!



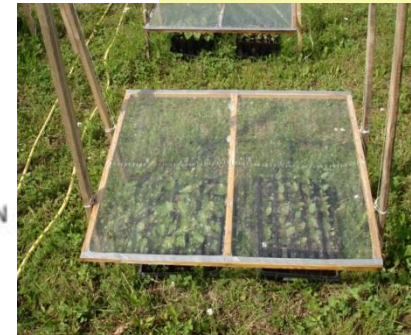


UV-exclusion studies

UV responses of *Lolium perenne* raised along a latitudinal gradient across Europe: a filtration study. David Comont, Javier Martinez Abaigar, Andreas Albert, Pedro Aphalo, David R. Causton, Felix Lopez Figueroa, Alenka Gaberscik, Laura Llorens, Marie-Theres Hauser, Marcel A. K. Jansen, Majlis Kardefelt, Paqui de la Coba Luque, Susanne Neubert, Encarnacion Nunez-Olivera, Jorunn Olsen, Matthew Robson, Monika Schreiner, Ruben Sommaruga, Ake Strid, Sissel Torre, Minna Turunen, Sonja Veljovic-Jovanovic, Dolors Verdaguer, Marija Vidovic, Johanna Wagner, Jana Barbro Winkler, Gaetano Zipoli and Dylan Gwynn-Jones



2.1 kJm⁻²day⁻¹



4.7 kJm⁻²day⁻¹

UV-exclusion studies

- UV-B reduces tiller length and increases UV-B absorbing pigments in *Lolium perenne*
- Other variations in growth due to combinations of climatic factors
- **Very significant effect of presence filter (vis a vis open control)**



How to study the impact of UV-B?

- Indoor UV-B exposure studies
- Accurate/controlled
- Environmental relevance?



Controlled, indoor experiments



30 white light bulbs (18 W)

2 UV-B bulbs

Perspex frame

Wooden frame for
cellulose acetate attachment

Heat isolation

15 white light bulbs (18 W)



control



UV-B



Helmholtz, Germany

What does UV-B radiation do
to plants?

UV-distress in plants

Inactivation photosynthesis

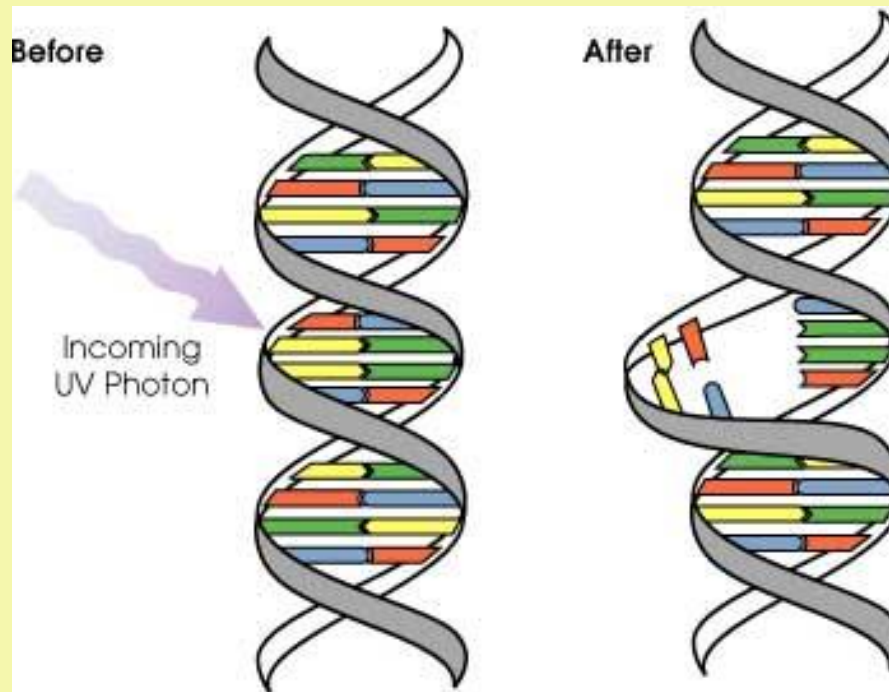
DNA damage

Oxidative stress (ROS) / membrane damage



Resulting in impaired growth

UV-stress in plants – DNA damage



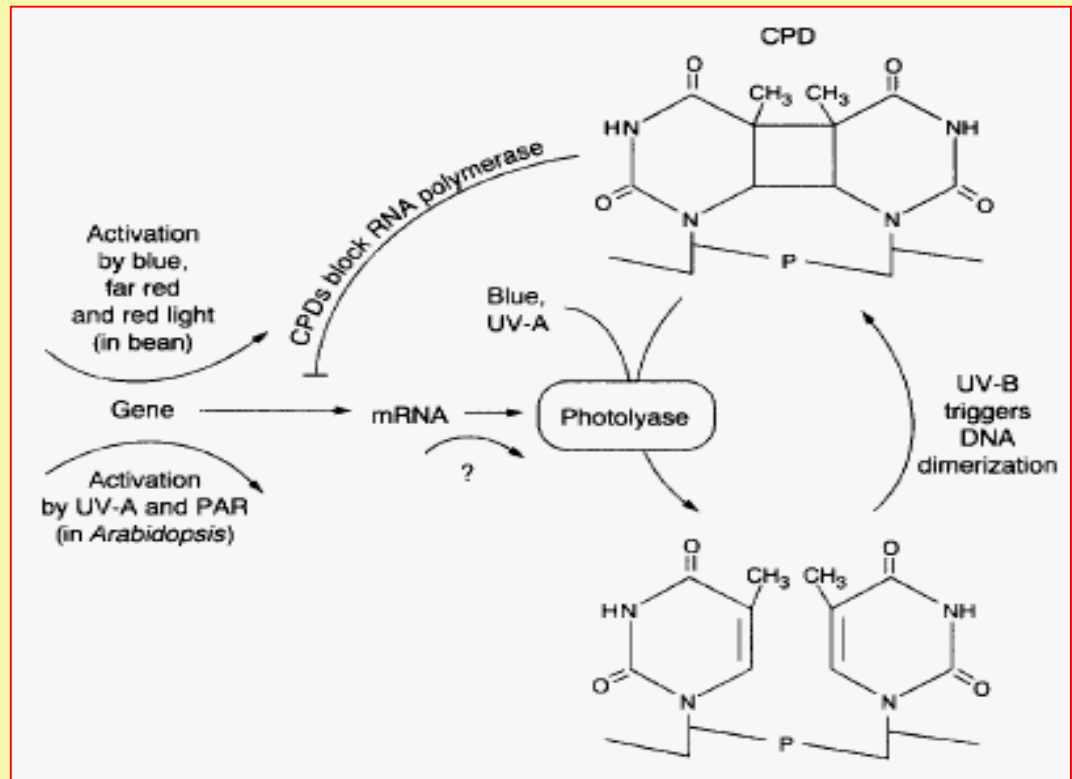
- DNA absorbs in the UV-wavelength band
- Formation Cyclobutane pyrimidine dimers (CPD) and pyrimidine (6, 4) pyrimidone dimers (6-4 PPs) through UV-driven photochemical reactions
- CPDs and 6-4 PPs block RNA and DNA polymerases

UV-stress in plants – DNA damage

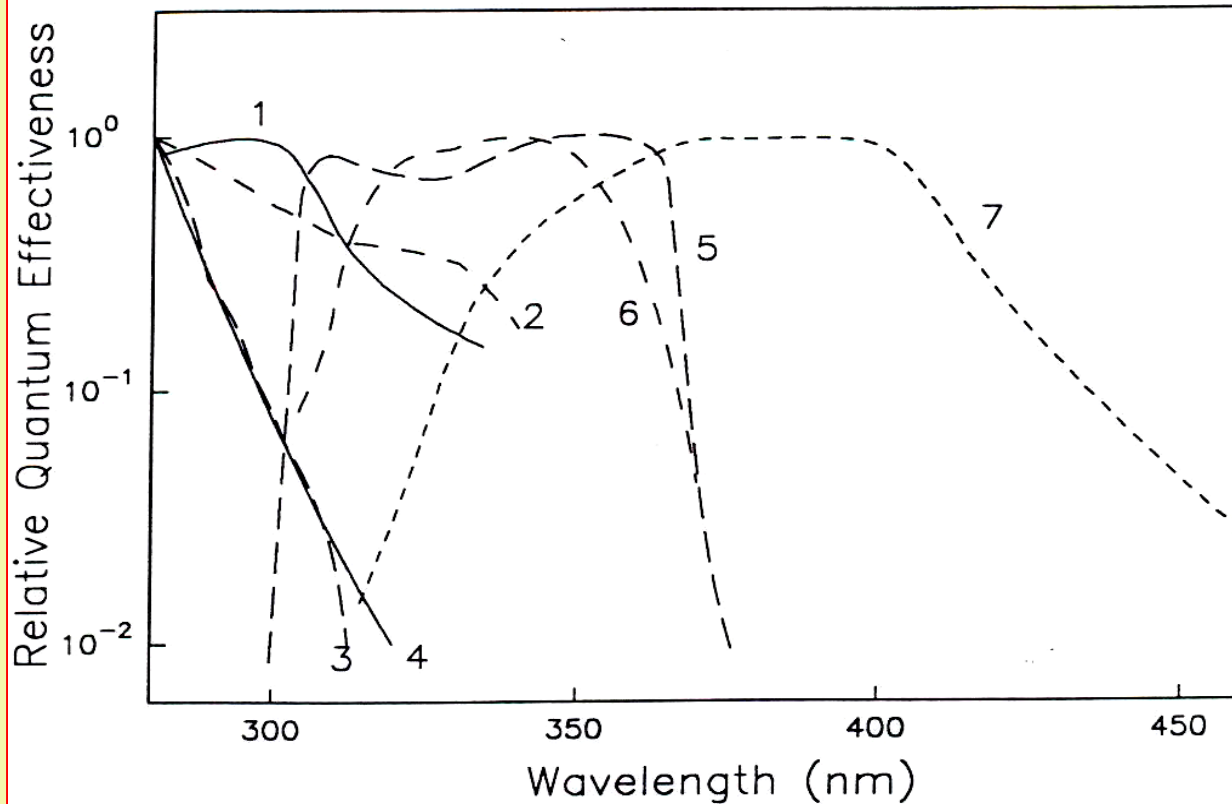
Dimers block RNA / DNA polymerases (no transcription and replication)

DNA repair by photolyases which require light (blue / UV-A) energy.

Damage and repair both driven by sunlight!



Jansen et al., 1998 TiPS



(1) flavonoid induction parsley cells

(2) inactivation photosystem II spinach

(3) DNA-dimer formation alfalfa seedlings

(4) inhibition net photosynthesis

(5) photoprotection *E. coli*

(6) carotenoid protection of UV damage *Sarcina lutea*

(7) photorepair of UV damage to DNA *E. coli*

UV-B damage depends on
balance between UV-B and
visible radiation

(level of visible radiation in growth room?)

Balancing stress & defence

UV-B

**High UV-B
=
Stress**



Balancing stress & defence

Protective responses

- UV-absorbing metabolites
 - ROS scavenging
 - Photorepair
- Plant / leaf morphology

Prevention

Repair

UV-B

High UV-B
=
Stress



Balancing stress & defence

- Protective responses**
- UV-absorbing metabolites
 - ROS scavenging
 - Photorepair
 - Plant / leaf morphology

Prevention

Repair

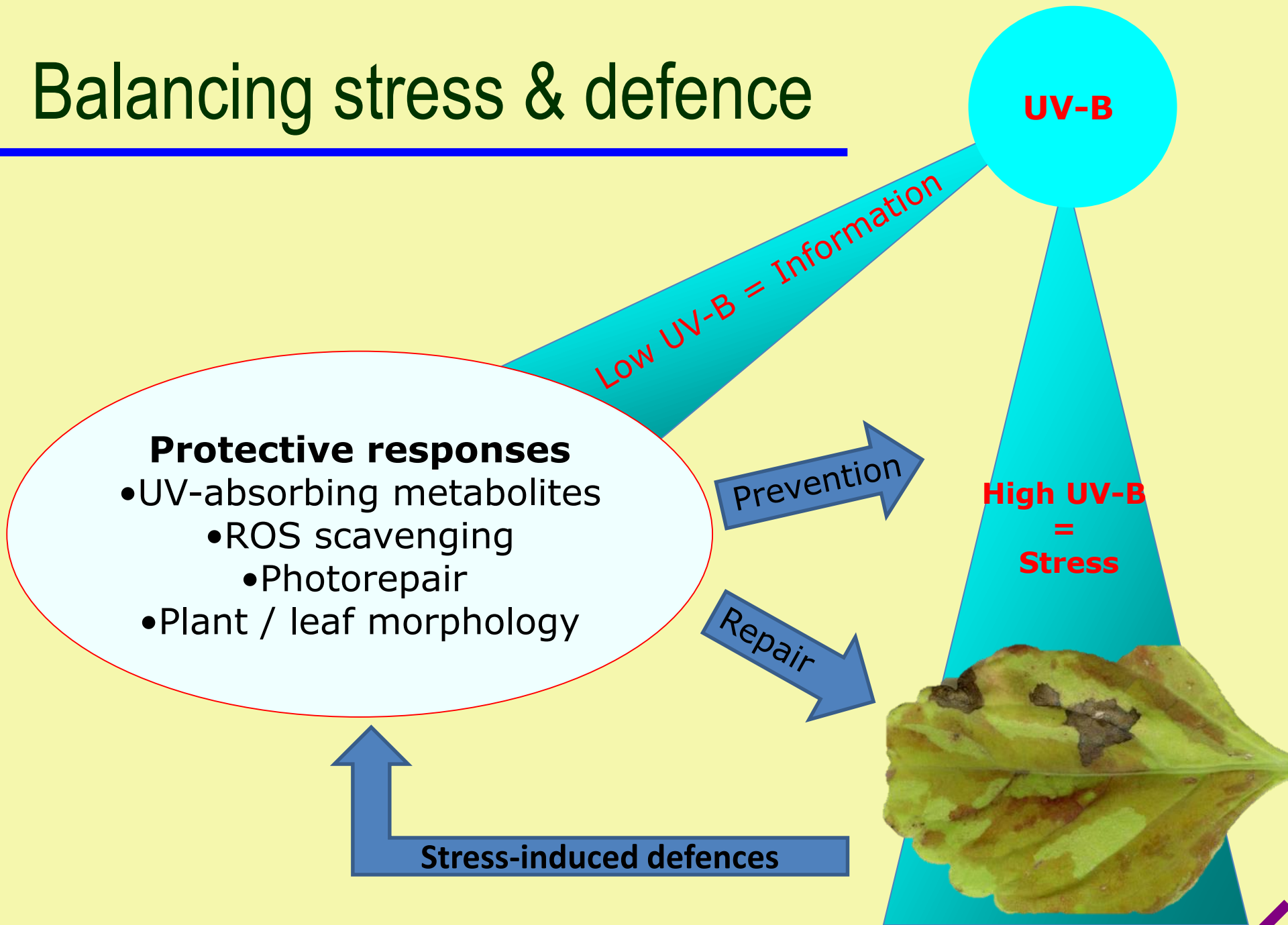
Stress-induced defences

UV-B

High UV-B
=
Stress

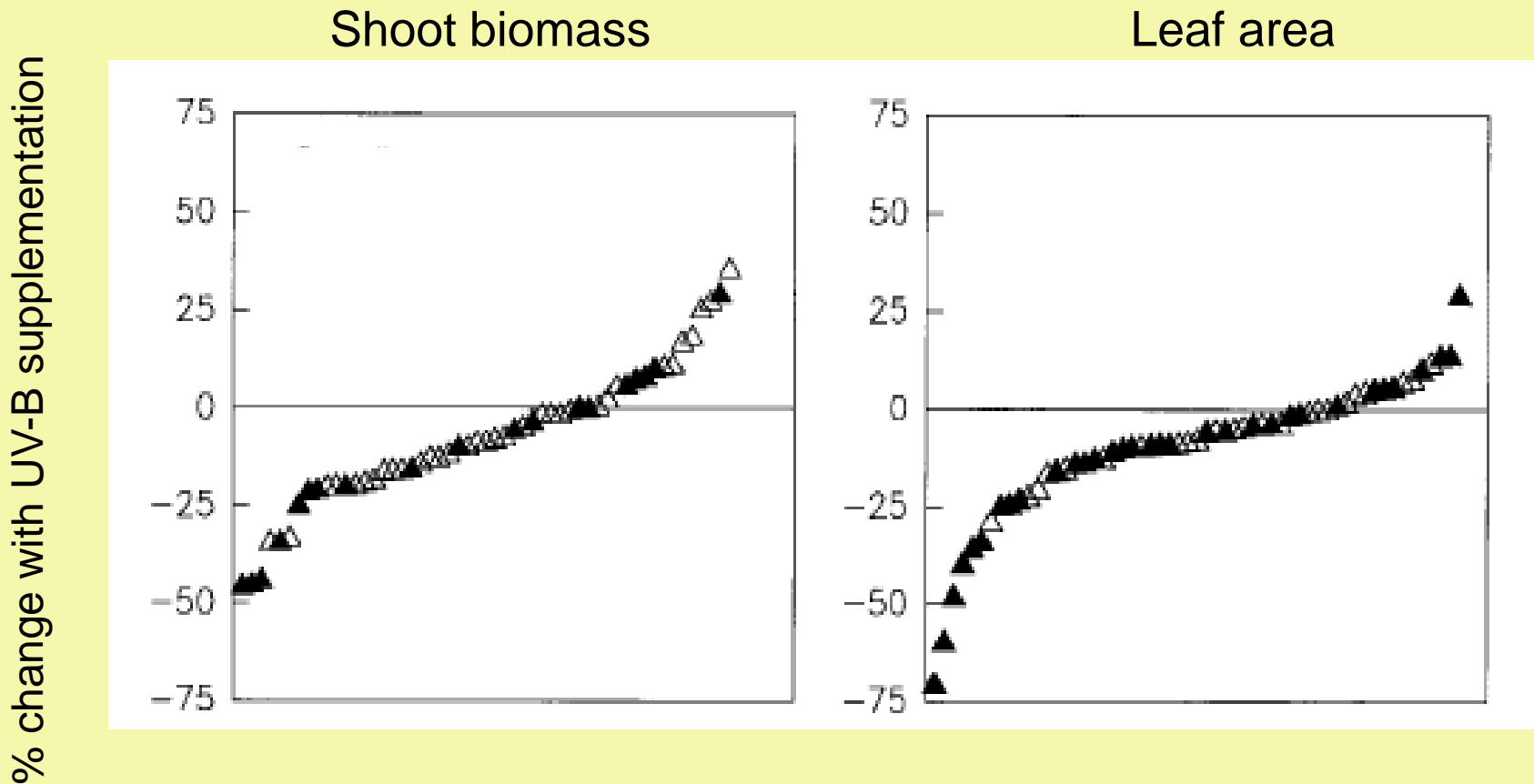


Balancing stress & defence



Due to activation defence responses plants are rarely (dis)stressed by UV-B

Meta-analysis data collected in 1990's; plant productivity under increased UV-B





UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME 2011



...inhibitory UV effects on plant growth generally small...

...UV-B radiation elicits plant acclimation responses.....

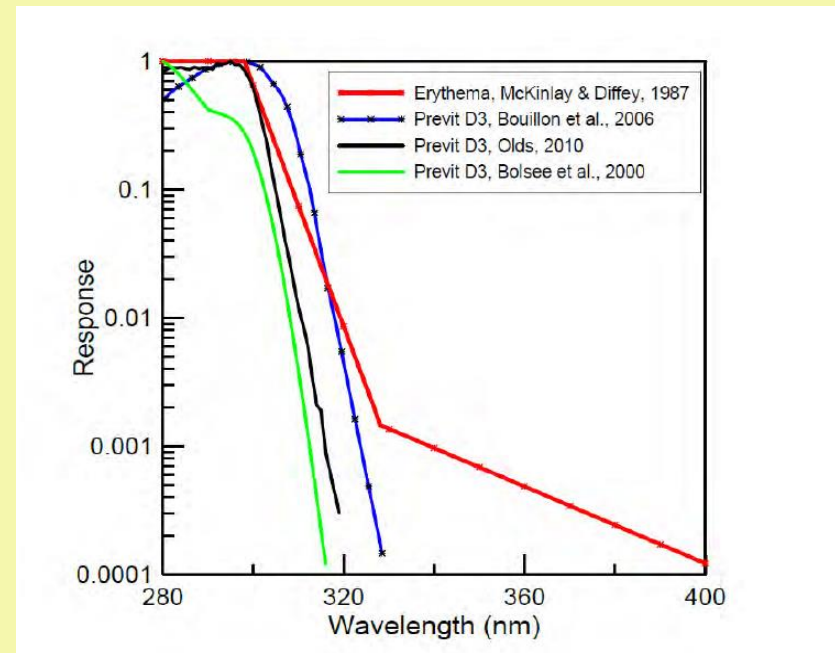
...UV-B frequently has large effects on interactions between plants and consumers



Radiation conditions decide the outcome of an experiment

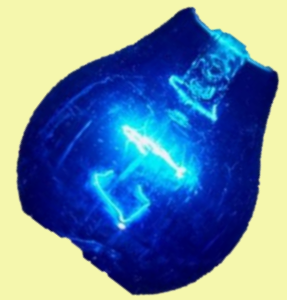
Factors that determine the validity of an UV-B experiment;

- UV-dose
- UV-spectrum
- Visible light background
- UV-B acclimation plant
- UV-B adaptation plant



Many early UV-studies are
now considered irrelevant

(for life on planet earth)



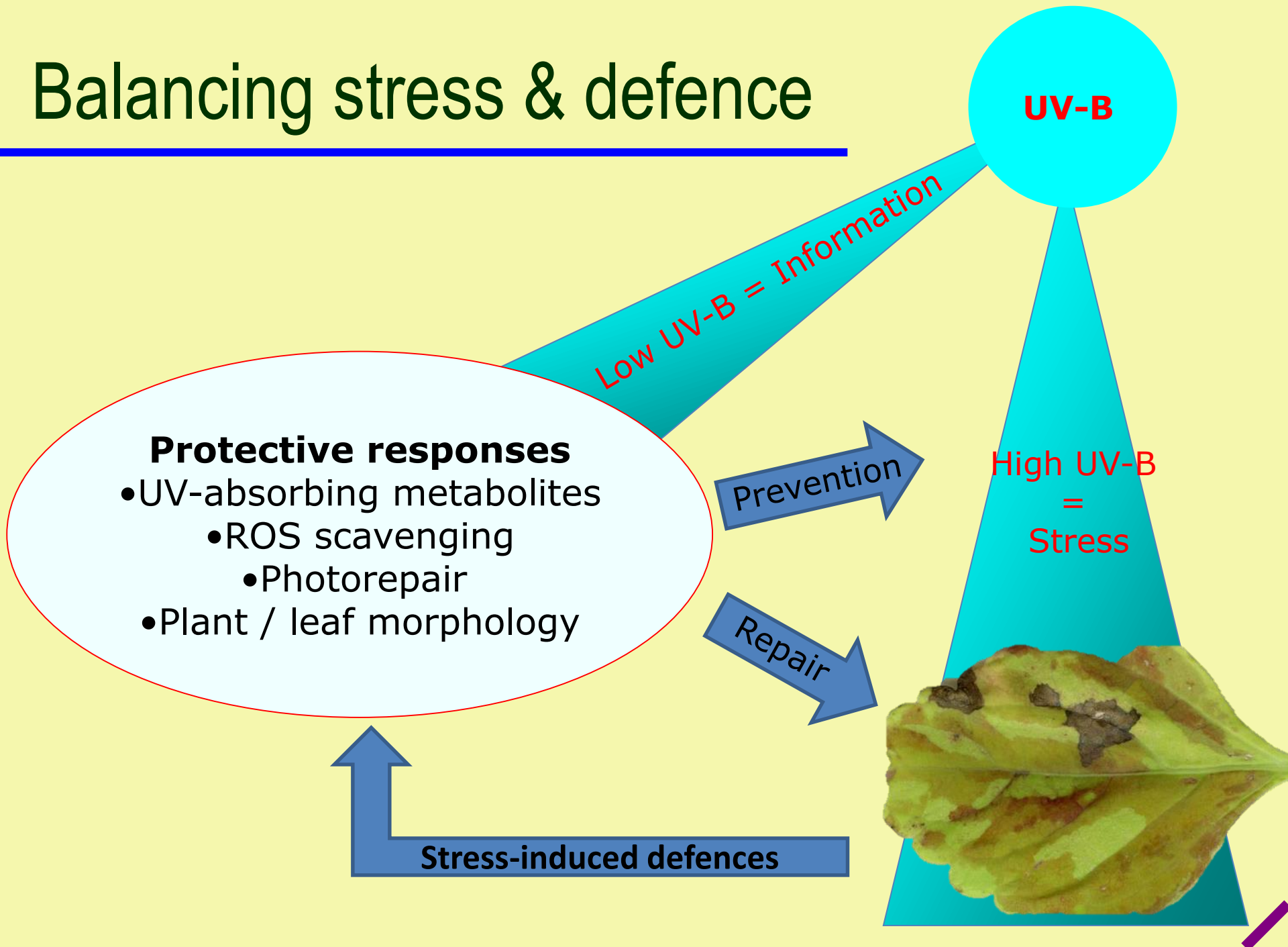
It took nearly 2 decades to develop effective UV-B exposure protocols

- Message for climate change studies?



How do plants perceive UV-B radiation?

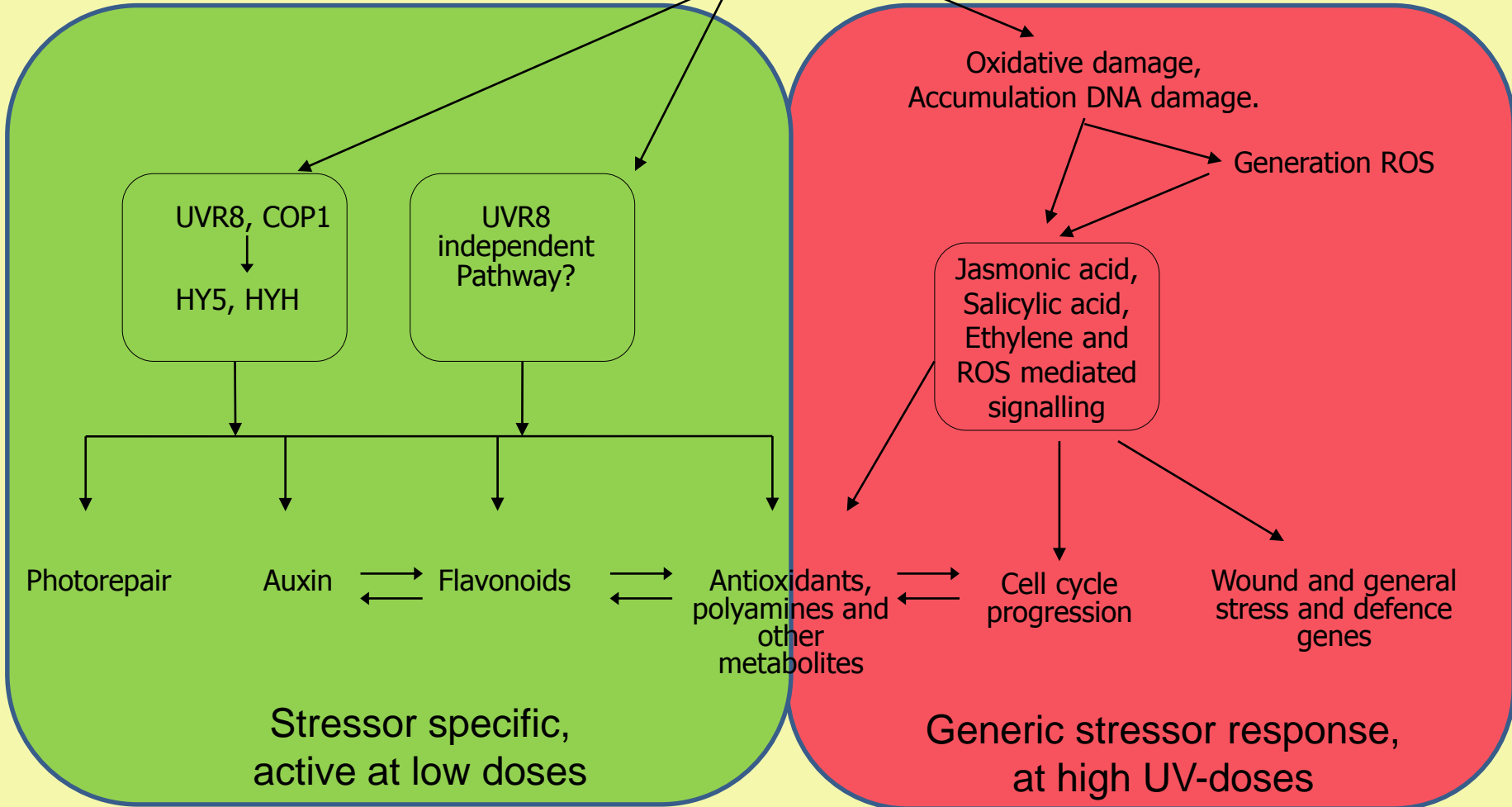
Balancing stress & defence



UV-B



UV-B perception by UV-absorbing molecules and/or putative UV-B receptor





Specific
UV-B
perception

Holy Grail
plant UV-
research

Perception of UV-B by the *Arabidopsis* UVR8 Protein

Luca Rizzini,^{1*} Jean-Jacques Favory,^{1*} Catherine Cloix,² Davide Faggionato,³
Andrew O'Hara,² Eirini Kaiserli,²† Ralf Baumeister,^{3,4} Eberhard Schäfer,^{1,4}
Ferenc Nagy,^{5,6} Gareth I. Jenkins,² Roman Ulm^{1,4,7}‡

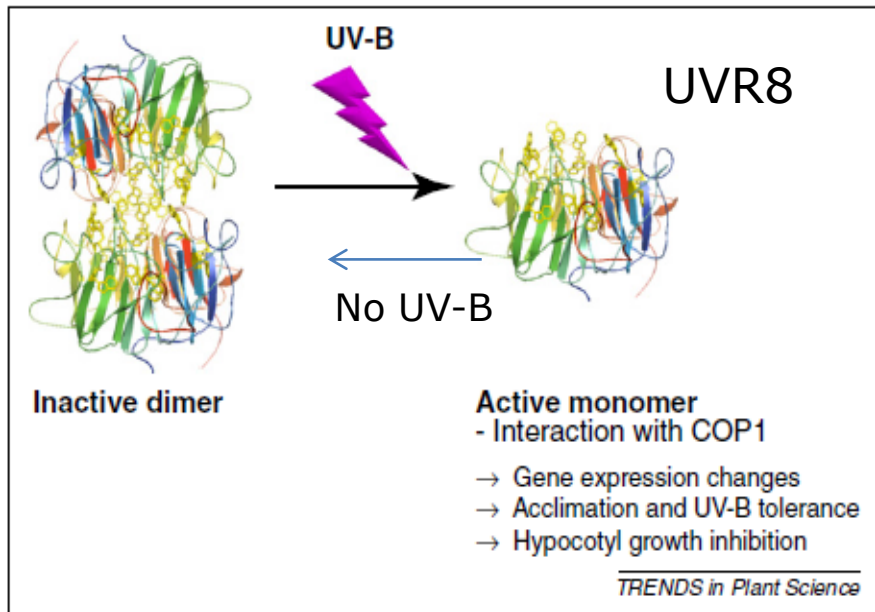
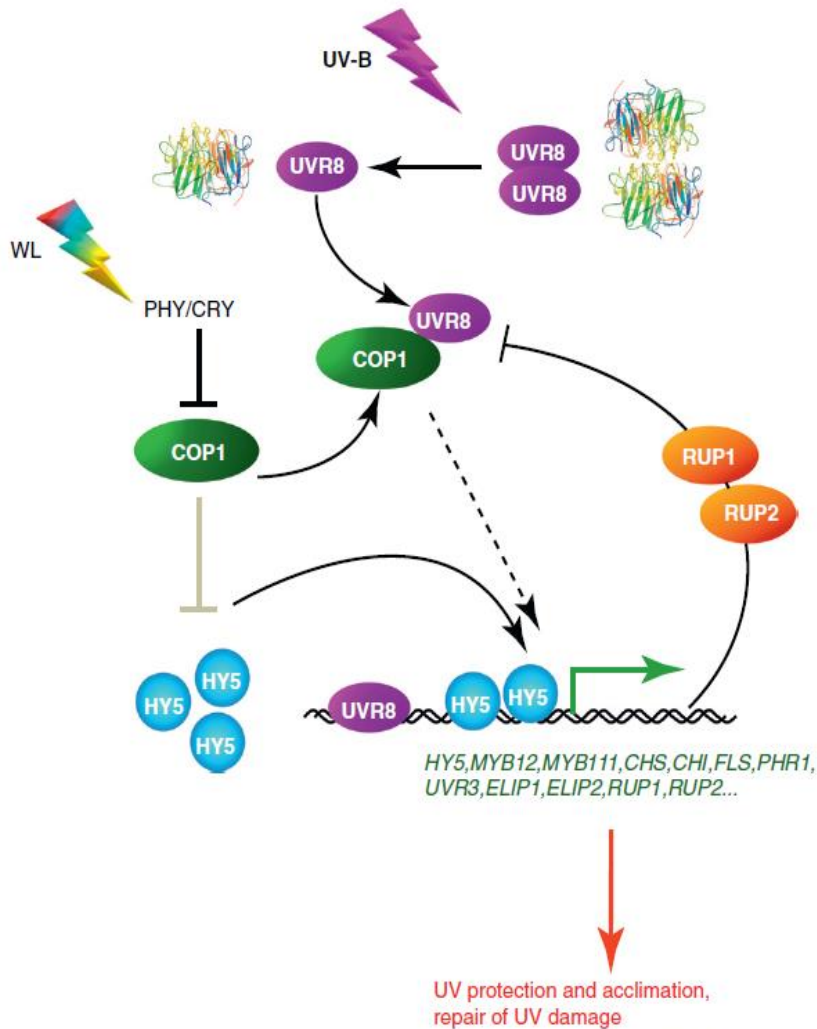


Figure 2. Model of UV-B perception by the UVR8 protein. UVR8 homodimerises in the absence of UV-B via a hydrophobic surface containing clustered tryptophans.

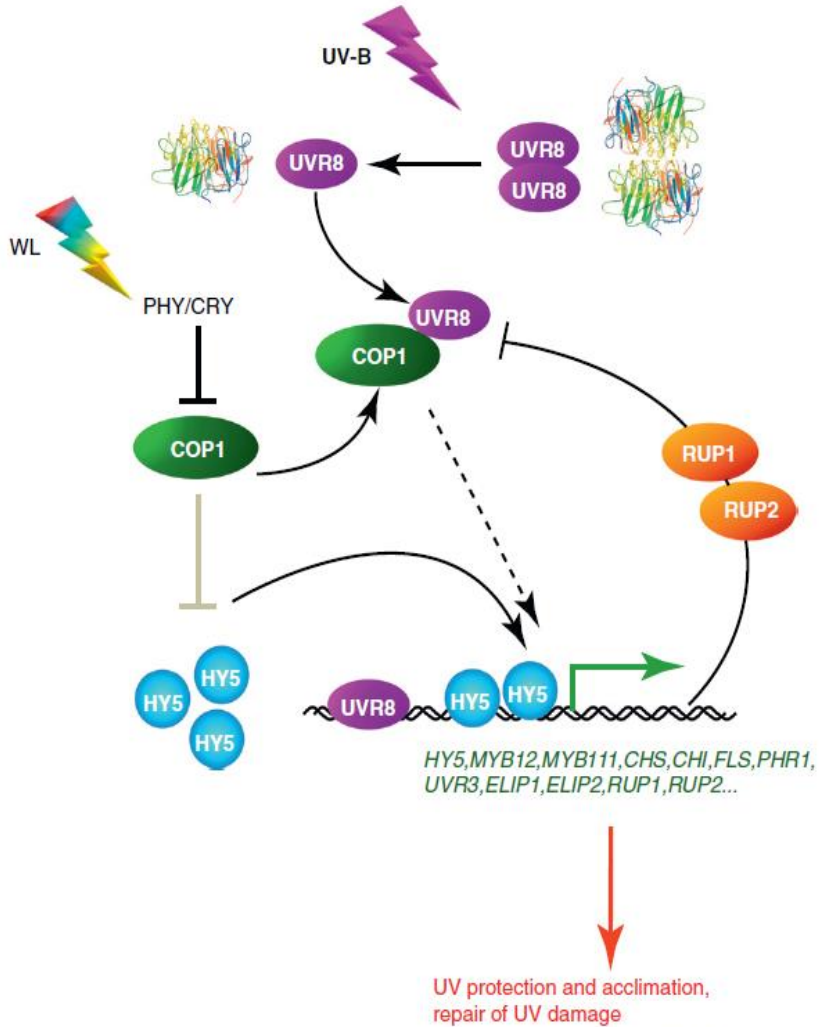
Heijde and Ulm, 2012 TiPS

- UV-B causes monomerisation UVR8
- No external chromophore, but cluster of tryptophans
- UVR8 monomer interacts with COP1 (CONSTITUTIVELY PHOTOMORPHOGENIC1)
- Altered gene-expression



- UV-B causes monomerisation UVR8
- COP1 normally blocks HY5 (ELONGATED HYPOCOTYL5) mediated gene expression
- UVR8 monomer binds COP1 facilitating HY5 mediated gene expression

TRENDS in Plant Science



TRENDS in Plant Science

- Negative feedback control via RUP1 and RUP2 (REPRESSOR OF PHOTOMORPHOGENESIS1 or 2)
- COP1 also involved in controlling R/FR and blue gene expression

Analysis of UVR8 mutants under UV shows that UVR8 is important for regulation of:

- flavonoid biosynthesis
- other secondary metabolic pathways, such as alkaloid biosynthesis
- photolyase PHR1 (DNA repair)
- protection against oxidative stress
- genes encoding signaling components, transcription factors, transporters, and proteases,
- chloroplast proteins

Brown et al., Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 102 (2005)

Low UV-B ≠ oxidative stress

Low UV-B
induced

Oxidative stress-induced

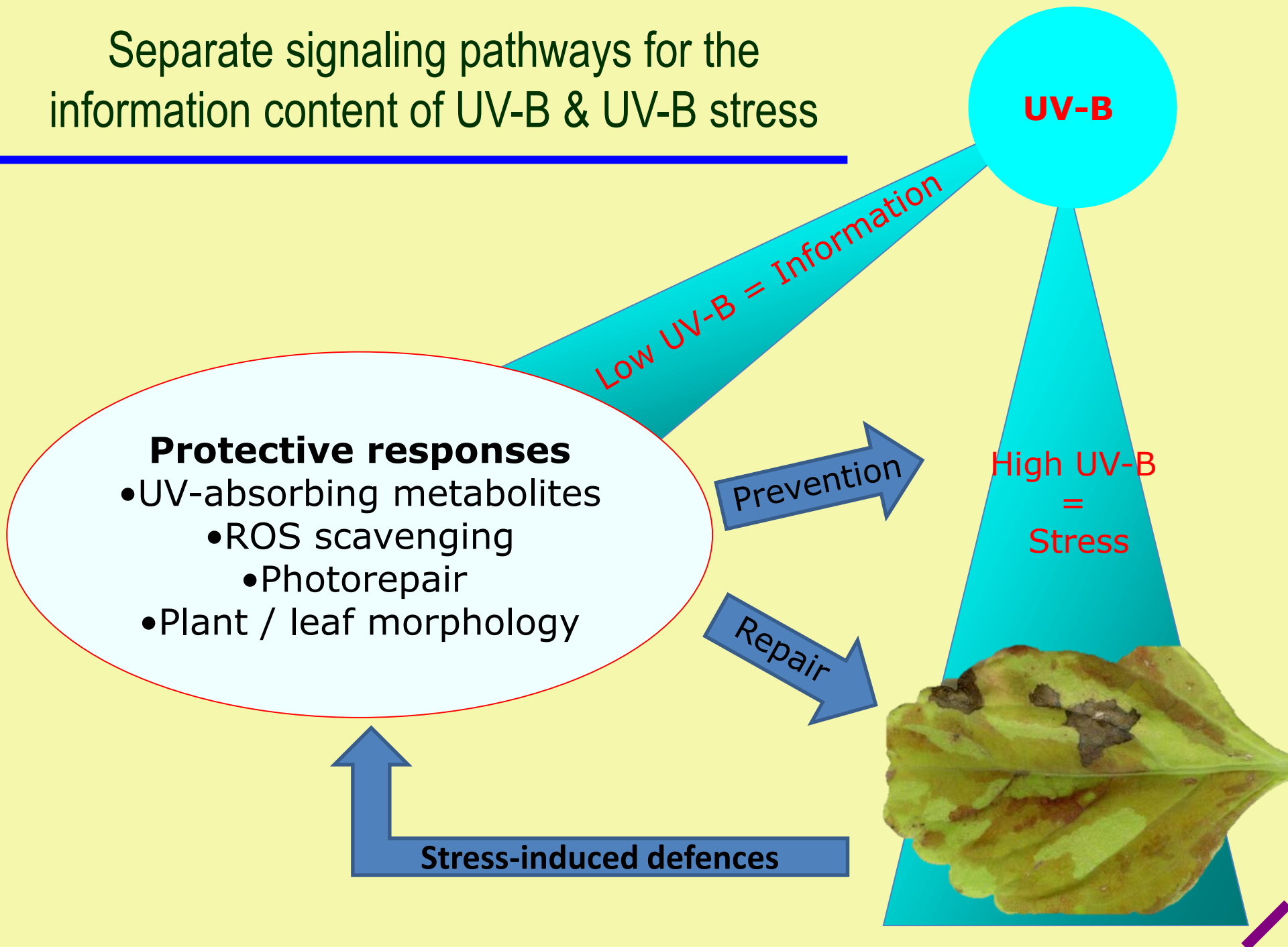


		UV-B	Ozone	Methylviologen	Norflurazon	flu mutant	H ₂ O ₂
At3g24170	Glutathione reductase (GR1)	YES	YES	No	YES	No	No
At4g31870	Glutathione peroxidase (GPX7)	YES	No	No	No	No	No
At1g28480	Glutaredoxin (GRX480)	YES	YES	YES	No	YES	YES
At4g15680	Glutaredoxin/Thioredoxin	YES	No	No	YES	YES	No
At5g17220	Glutathione transferase (GST26)	YES	No	No	YES	No	No
At2g23910	Cinnamoyl-CoA reductase	YES	YES	No	No	No	No
At1g65060	4-Coumarate-CoA ligase 3 (4CL3)	YES	No	No	YES	No	No
At5g13930	Chalcone synthase (CHS; TT4)	YES	No	No	YES	No	No
At3g55120	Chalcone isomerase (CHI; TT5)	YES	No	No	No	No	No
At5g05270	Chalcone isomerase (CHI)	YES	No	No	No	No	No
At3g51240	Flavanone 3-hydroxylase (F3H; TT6)	YES	No	No	No	No	No
At5g08640	Flavonol synthase (FLS1)	YES	No	No	No	No	No
At5g01410	Pyridoxal synthase (PDX1.3; Pyro A)	YES	No	No	No	No	No
At1g78510	Solaneyl diphosphate synthase (SPS1)	YES	no	no	no	no	no

Low UV-B (through UVR8) induces different anti-oxidant genes than ROS themselves!

Low UV-B doses cause specific acclimation, inducing a state of low alert (eustress)

Separate signaling pathways for the information content of UV-B & UV-B stress



Responses to low, chronic
UV-B doses are
functionally uncoupled
from stress responses to
high UV-B

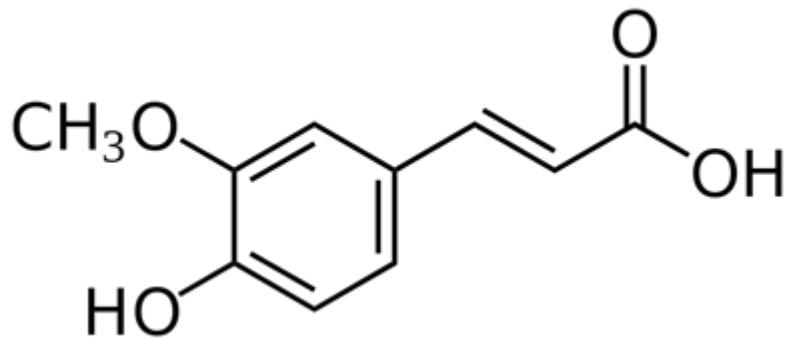
Due to activation defence
responses by low UV-B,
plants are rarely stressed by
UV-B

If there is no stress, why
study effects of UV-B
radiation?

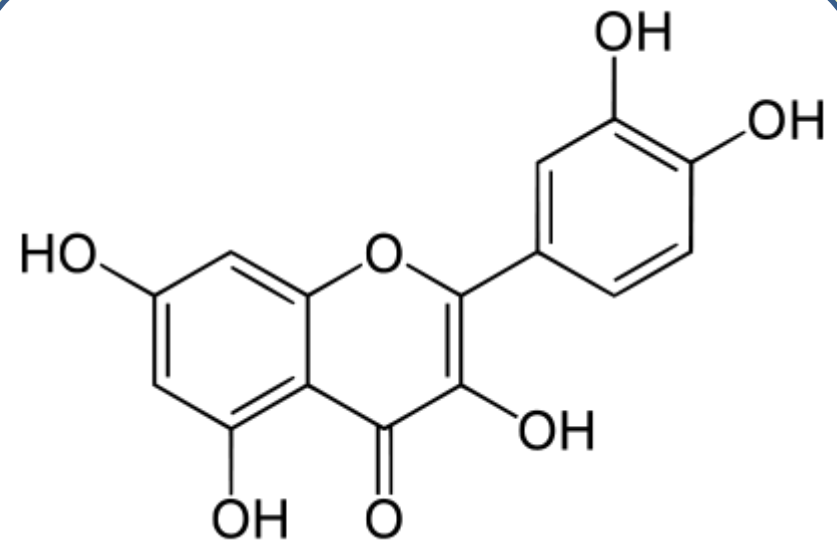
Part I

UV-B protection via phytochemicals

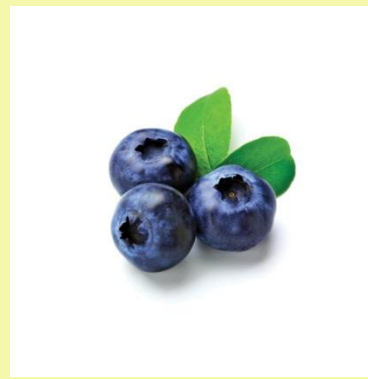
- Accumulation of simple phenolics and more complex flavonoids
 - Strong antioxidants
 - UV-B absorbers



Ferulic acid



Quercetin

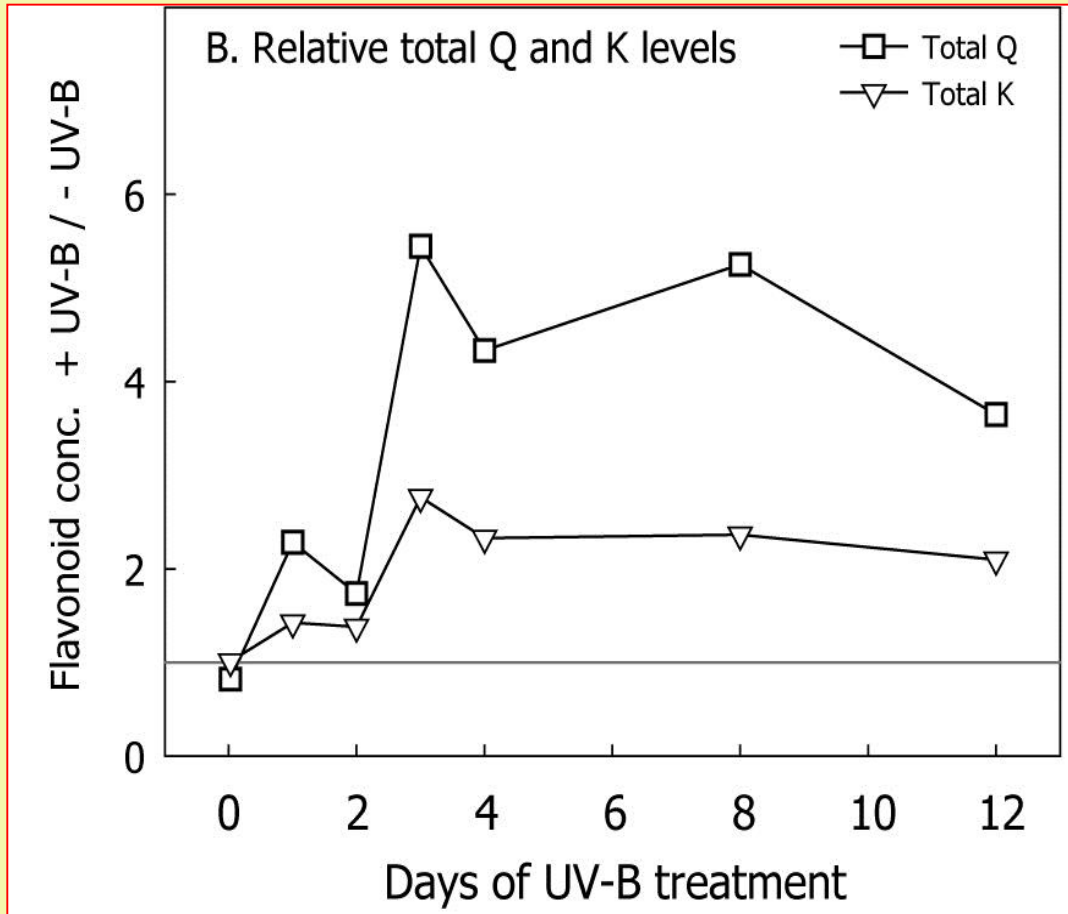


Flavonoids and related compounds are reportedly good for human consumers

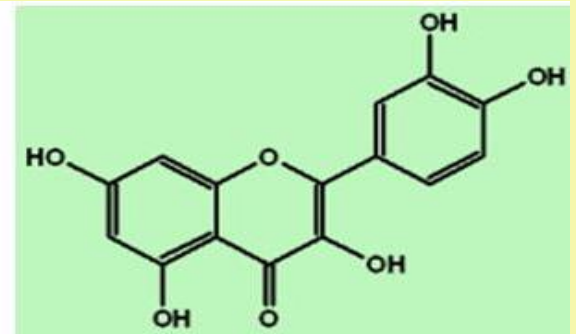
Reported anti-allergic, anti-inflammatory, anti-microbial and anti-cancer effects



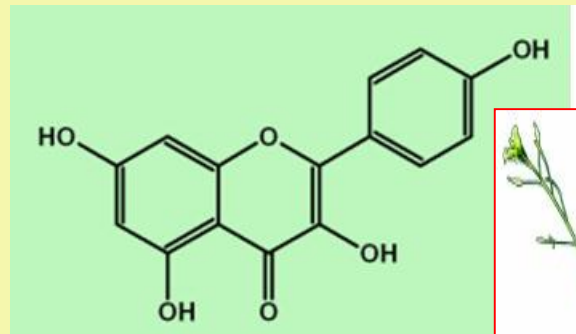
UV-B induced accumulation of flavonoids



Hectors et al., *Physiol Plant* 2014



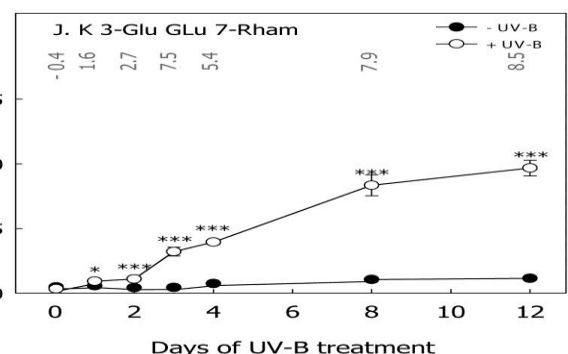
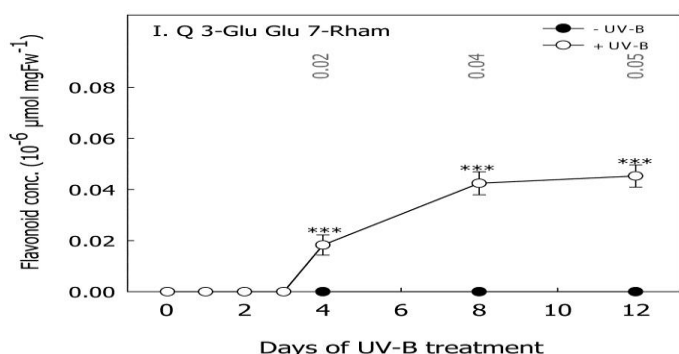
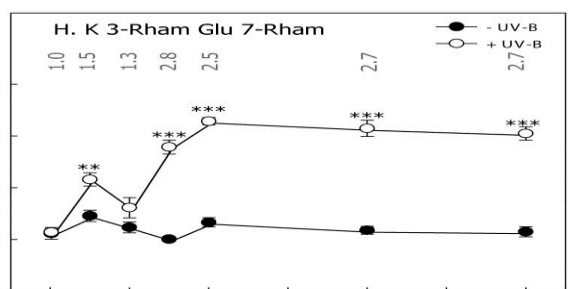
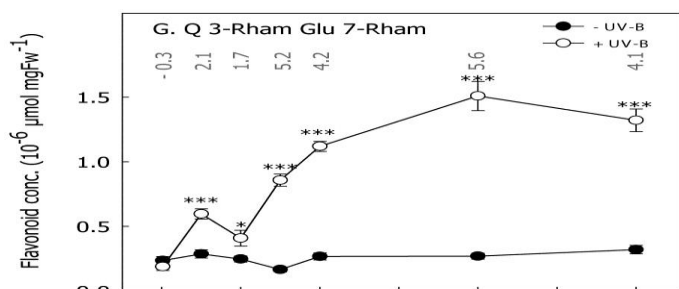
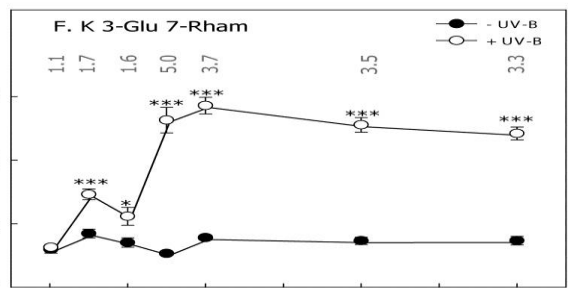
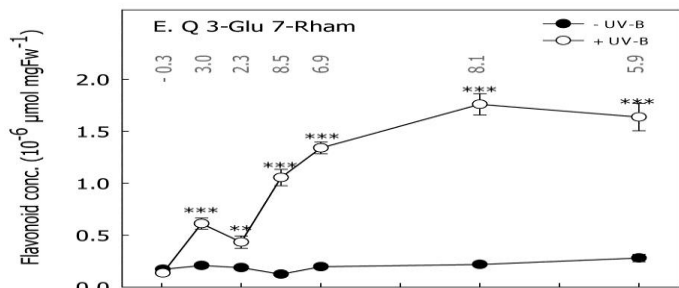
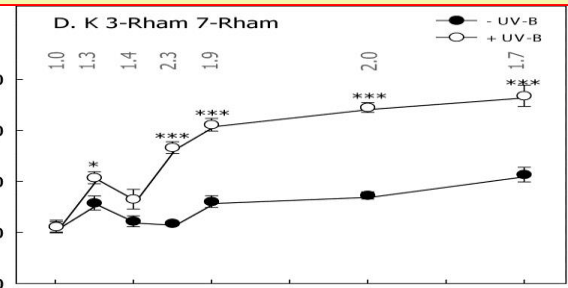
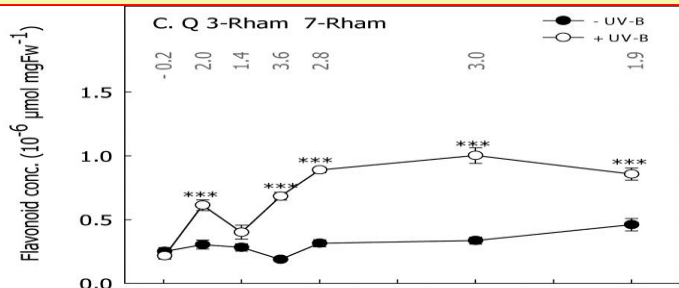
Q-Quercetin



K-Kaempferol



Acclimation: UV-B induced accumulation of flavonoids



Q-Quercetin
K-Kaempferol

Arabidopsis

Grown indoors

Upto 12 days
under 0.59 kJ
m⁻² UV_{be}

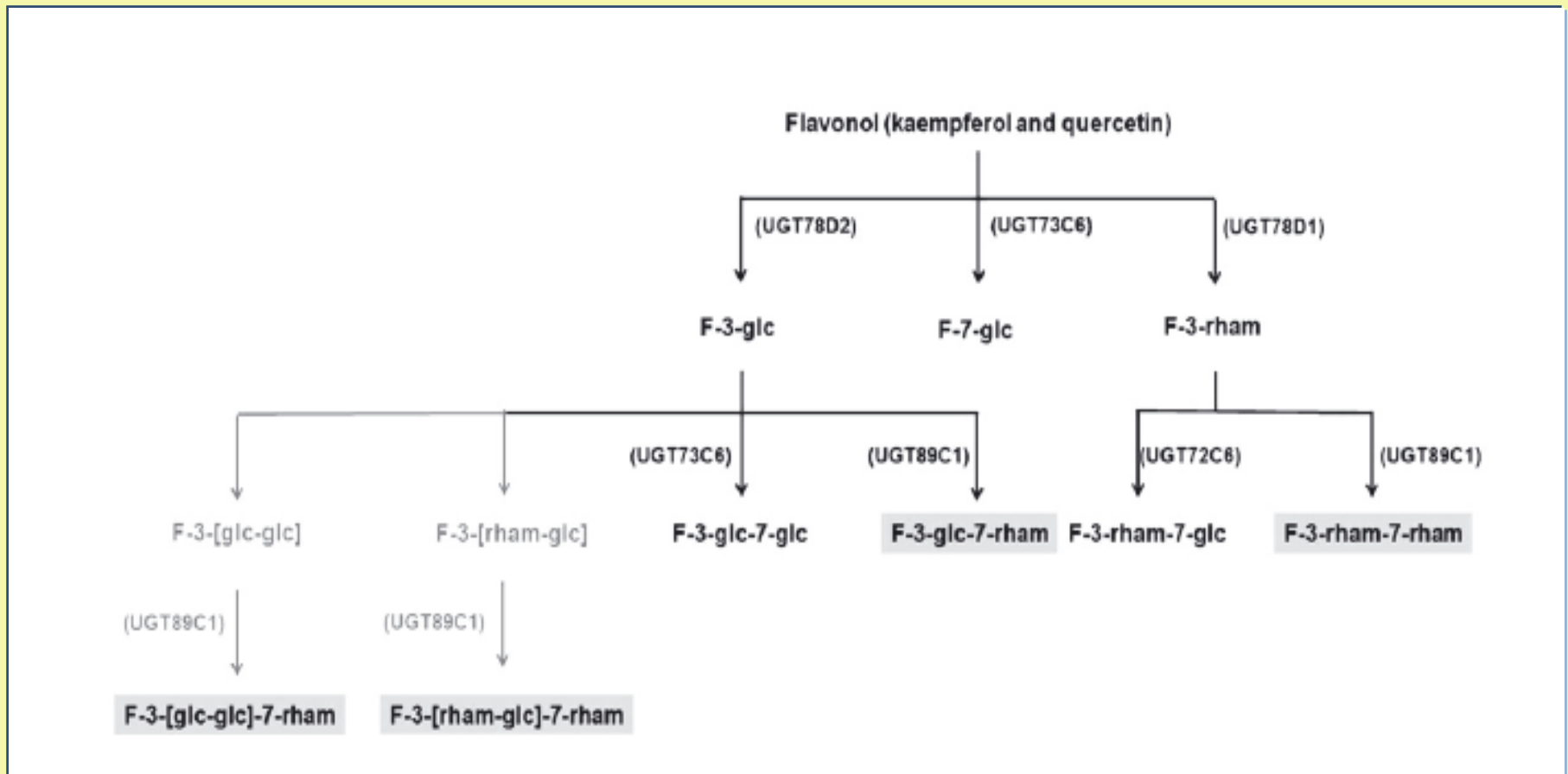


Hectors et al
(2008) New
Phytol

Accumulated flavonols, all products 7-O-Rhamnosyltransferase activity by UGT89C1 gene-product

UGT89C1 expression is induced by UV-B in a UVR8 dependent manner

Functional role: stability? cellular location? activity?



Lettuce with more intense colour Grown under UV-transparent plastics



UV-transparent
cladding

UV-blocking
cladding

UV-A transparent
cladding

Lettuce Cos grown outdoors under different cladding materials (Cork Autumn 2013)

Not just phenolics.....!



Parameters	PAR	PAR+UV-A	PAR+UV-A+B
Carotenoids ($\mu\text{g mg}^{-1}$ Total chls)			
Vialoxanthin	13.66 ± 2.41^b	17.24 ± 2.20^{ab}	25.44 ± 2.69^a
Antheraxanthin	2.88 ± 0.55	1.46 ± 0.50	3.70 ± 0.61
Neoxanthin	5.18 ± 2.41^b	9.94 ± 2.20^{ab}	16.23 ± 2.70^a
Lutein	194.55 ± 17.33^b	251.10 ± 15.82^b	334.97 ± 19.37^a
9-cis β -carotene	10.76 ± 0.73^b	10.40 ± 0.67^b	13.30 ± 0.82^a
Total β -carotene	50.64 ± 4.75^b	51.89 ± 4.34^b	67.12 ± 5.31^a

Carotenoids in *Arabidopsis thaliana* grown under PAR, PAR+UV-A and PAR+UV-A+B for 10 days.

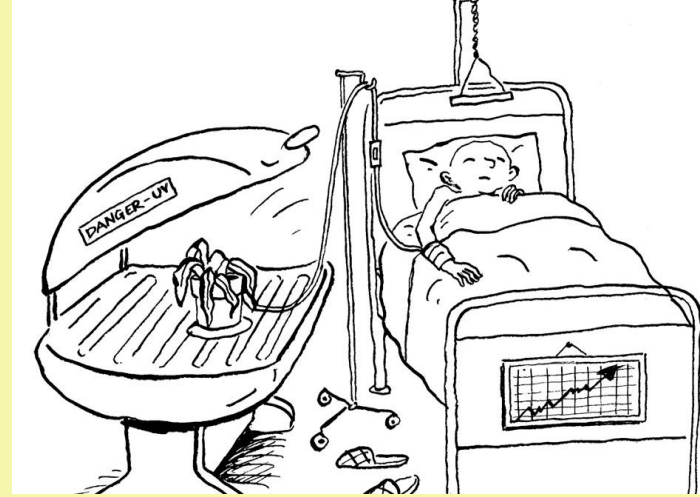


Not just phenolics.....!

UV-B induces accumulation alkaloids such as nicotine and cannabinoids (UV-screening?)

UV-B also induces:

- carotenoids (lipid soluble antioxidant)
- tocopherols (lipid soluble antioxidant)
- waxes (reflectance)
- polyamines (stress antioxidants)
- Glucosinolates (defence compounds in Brassicaceae)



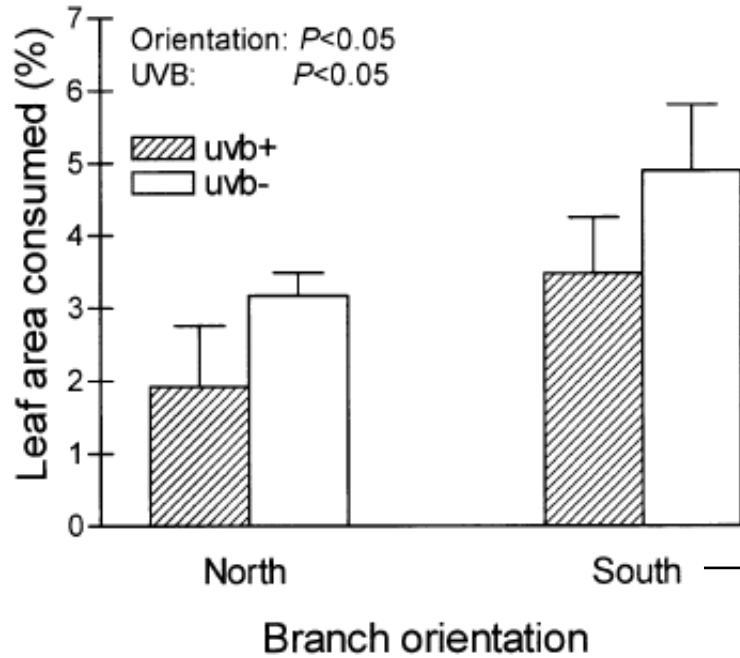
Jansen et al. (2008) Plant Science

UV-B protection: opportunities?



Using UV-B radiation to increase flavour, colour and smell of potted herbs

UV-acclimation & herbivory



Nothofagus herbivory is affected by UV-B exposure

Lowest UV-B in Southern hemisphere

Fig. 3 Percentage of leaf area consumed by insects on north- and south-facing *N. antarctica* branches under near-ambient (uvb+) or attenuated UV-B (uvb-) radiation. Data are from the solar UV-B attenuation experiment (1998–99). Plastic filters were used to obtain the near-ambient and attenuated UV-B levels. Values represent the mean ($n = 10$) \pm SE

UV-B induced changes in
plant phytochemicals; a novel
tool for horticulture!

If there is no stress, why
study effects of UV-B
radiation?

Part II

The UV-B phenotype



Data Nigel Paul,
Lancaster, UK

UV-
transparent

UV-O \Rightarrow
UV-T for 4
weeks

UV-O \Rightarrow
UV-T for 2
weeks

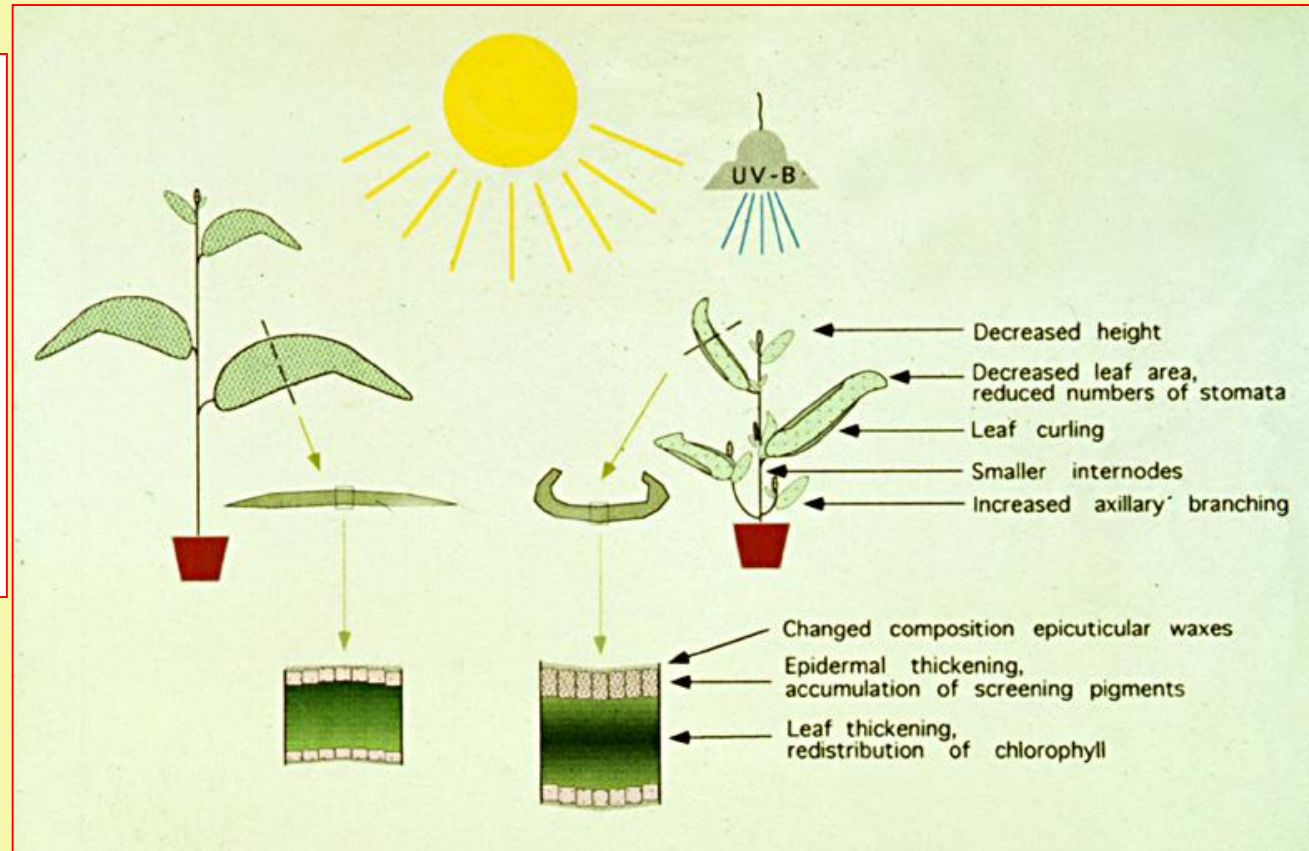
Constant
UV-opaque

Morphology
Dwarfed phenotype

Pigmentation
Flavonoids and other pigments

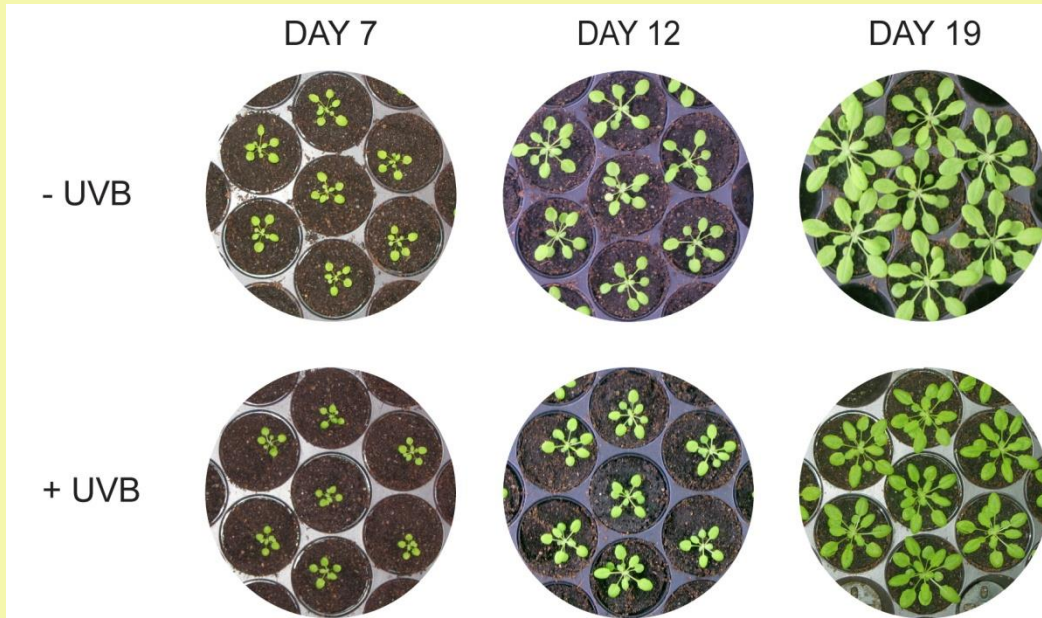
Re-interpreting UV-responses; the UV-B phenotype

Leaf area ↓ & thickness ↑
Leaf curling ↑
Hypocotyl & stem length ↓
Branching & tillering ↑
Flower number & size
Root/shoot ratio



(Jansen et al., TiPS 1998)

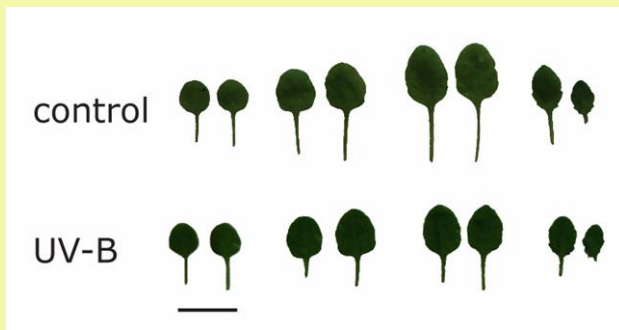
UV-B protection – III - Morphology



Trade off? ($LAR \downarrow \rightarrow RGR \downarrow$)

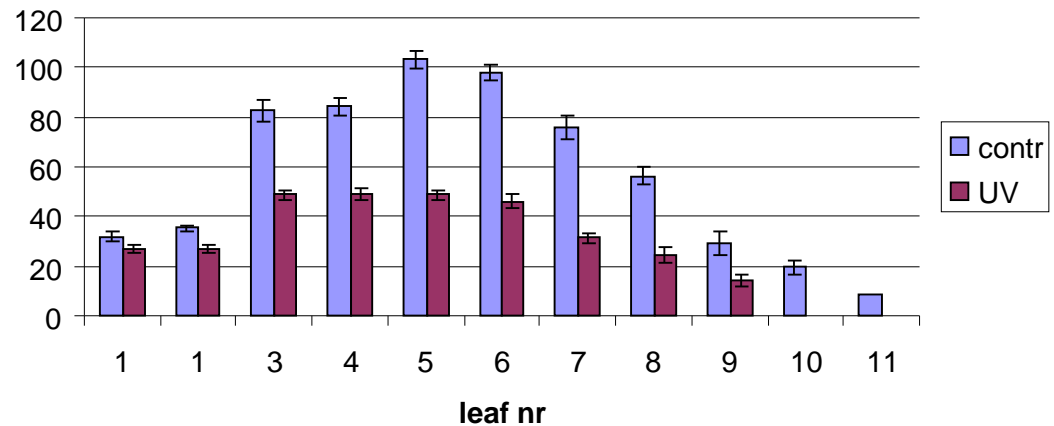
Evolutionary pressure?
Functional Role?

Self-shading???????



12 day $\uparrow \rightarrow$

area leaf (mm²)



A cellular perspective

- [Hectors & Jansen](#); inhibition cell expansion (J Exp Bot 2010)
- [Lake](#); inhibition cell division (PCE 2009)
- [Wargent](#); Inhibition cell division, but stimulation cell expansion (New Phytol 2009)
- [Staxen and Bornman](#); increased cell division (Physiol Plant 1994)

One response or mixture multiple responses?

Arabidopsis phenotype; complex dose-response

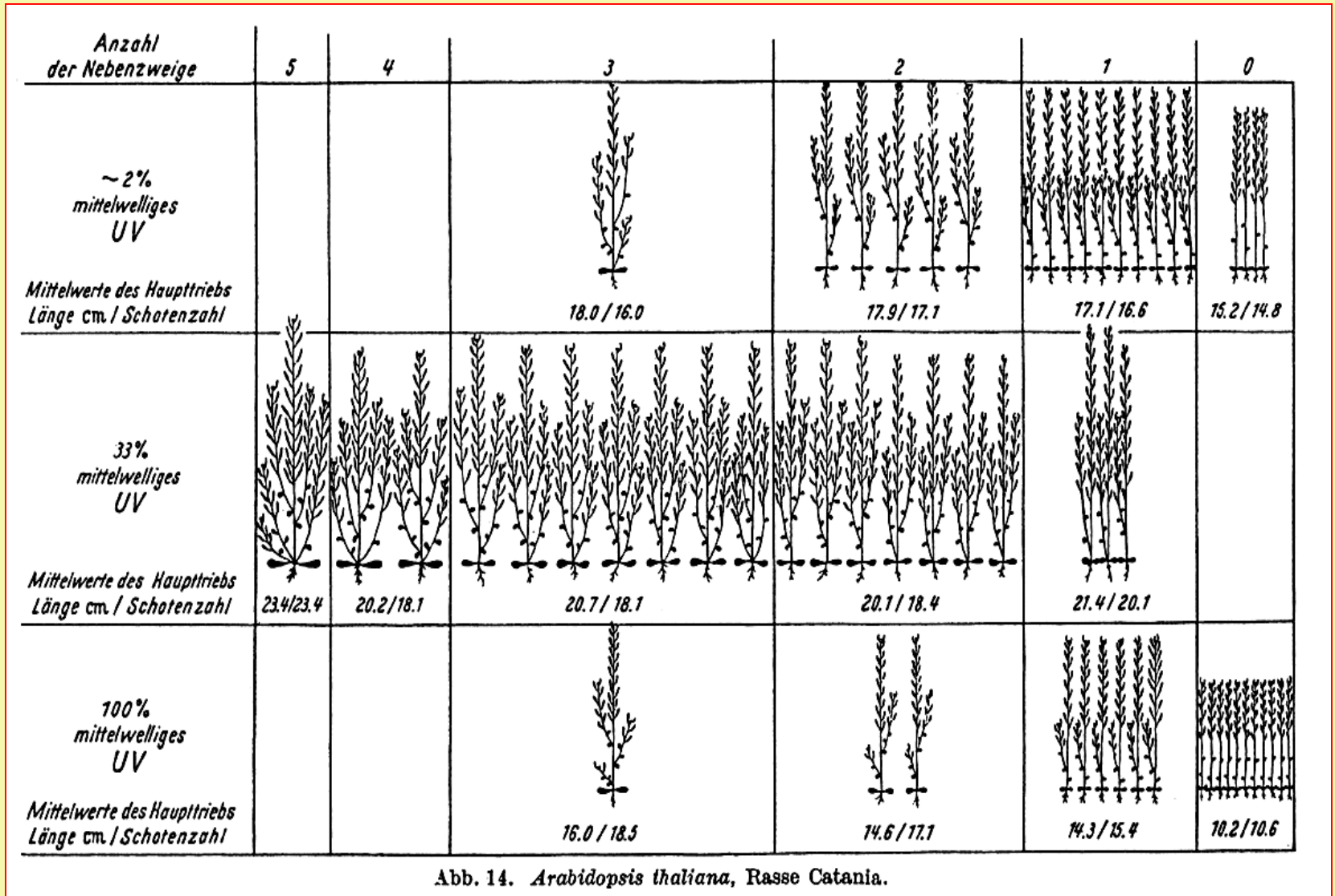


Abb. 14. *Arabidopsis thaliana*, Rasse Catania.

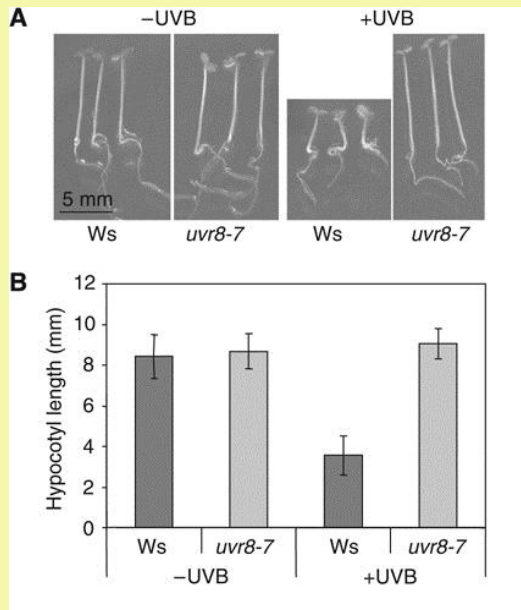
Flowering in *Silene vulgaris*; complex dose-response

	UV-B dose (kJm ⁻² UV-B _{be})	Number of flowers
Lowland population	0	197
Netherlands	6	65
	16.2	127
Highland population	0	95
Austria	6	35
	16.2	105



Van de Staaij (Rozema) et al., (1997) *Plant Ecology*, **128**, 173-179.

Phenotypic variation & molecular mechanisms?



← Inhibition elongation mediated by *uvr8*

Plants in sunlight simulators →

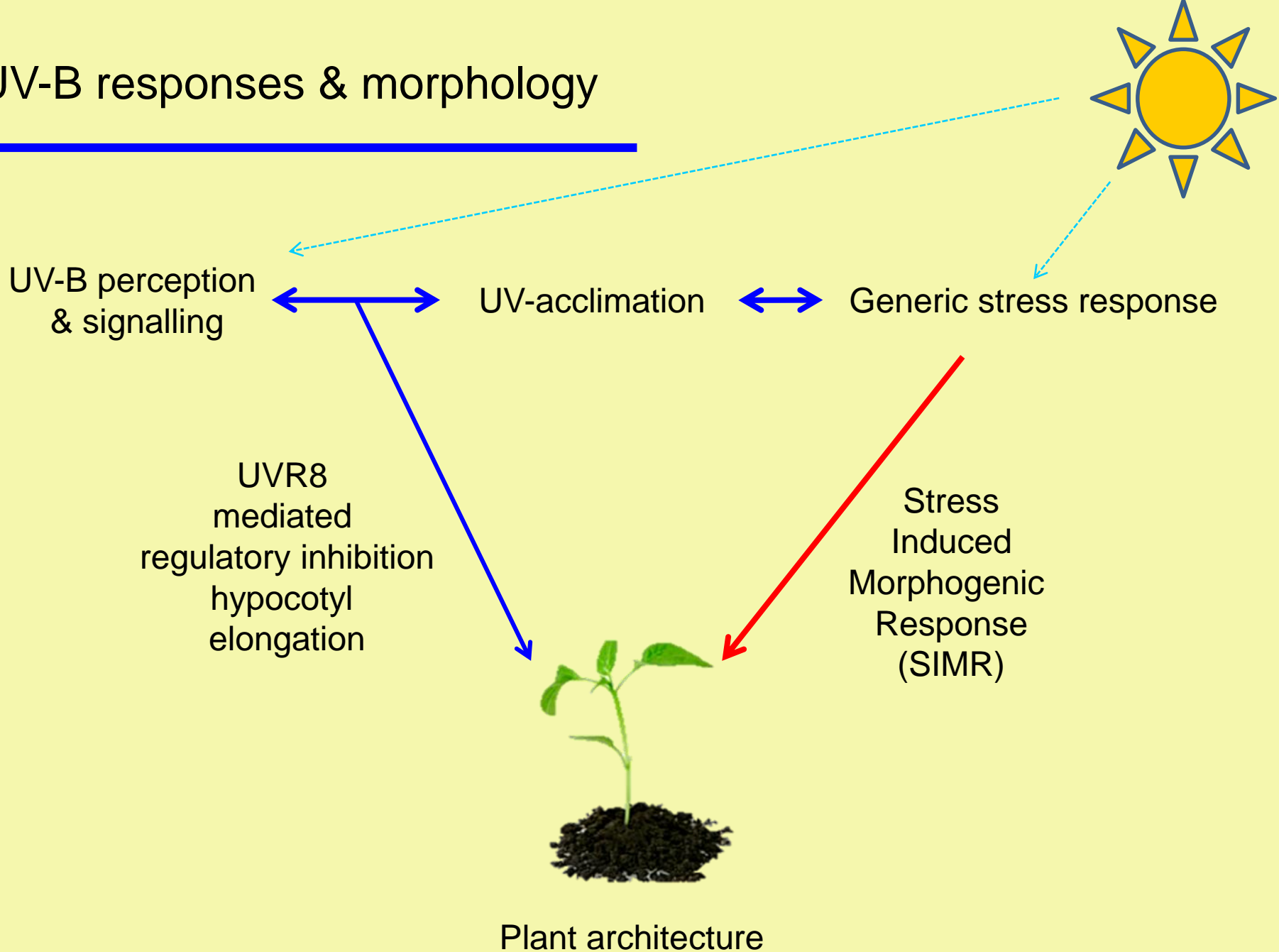


UVR8 mutants are *both* hypo- & hyper UV-B sensitive

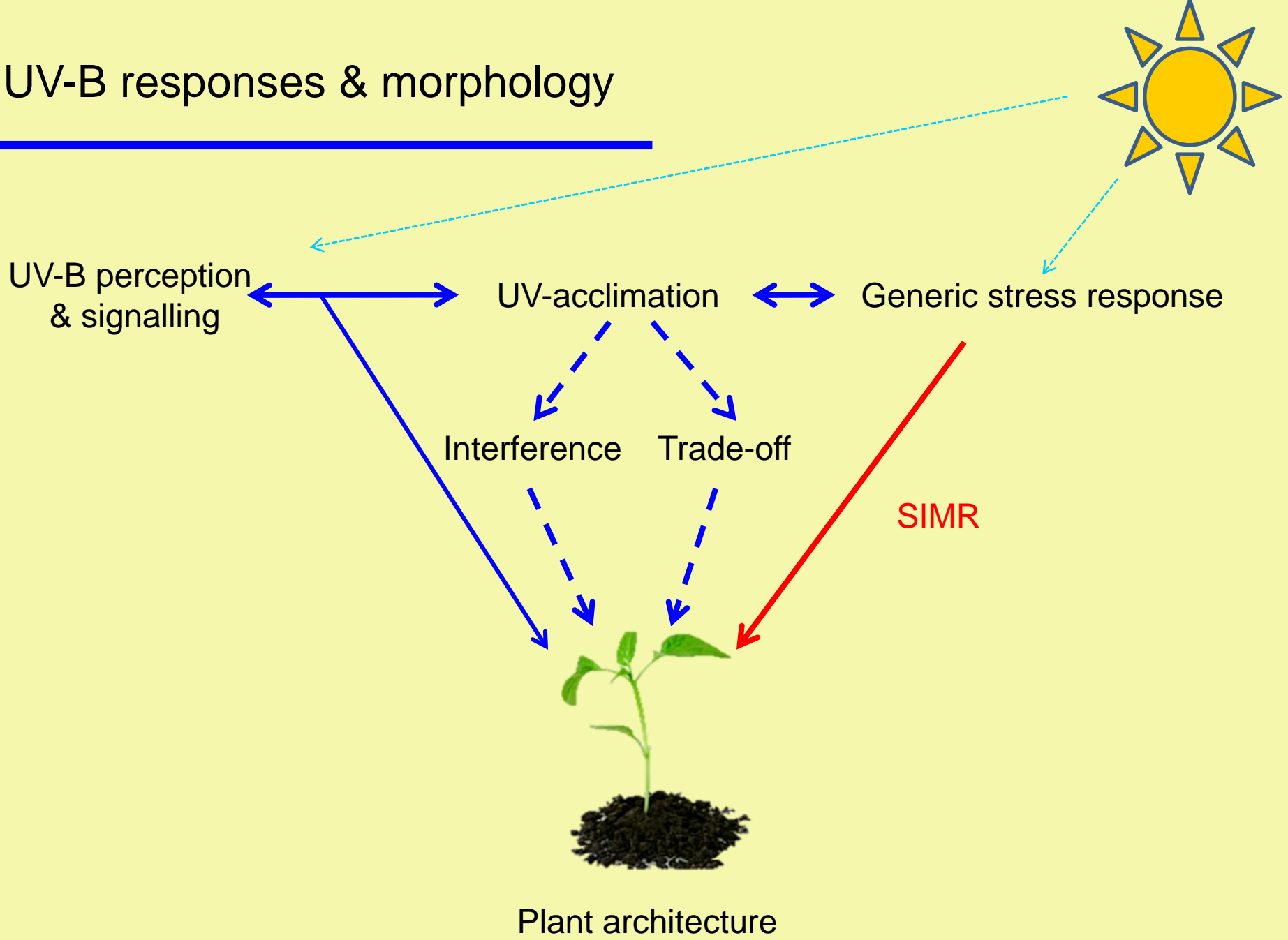
(Heijde & Ulm (2012) TiPS17, 230-237)

Favory, Jenkins, Ulm (2009). *The EMBO journal*

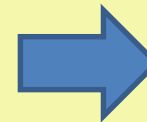
UV-B responses & morphology



UV-B responses & morphology



Size, shape and sturdiness matter!



UV-B induced stockier plant
architecture; a novel tool for
horticulture!

Why have plants evolved to exploit UV-B as a source of information?

Did early plants “evolve” recognition of UV-B radiation to fine-tune UV-B protection?

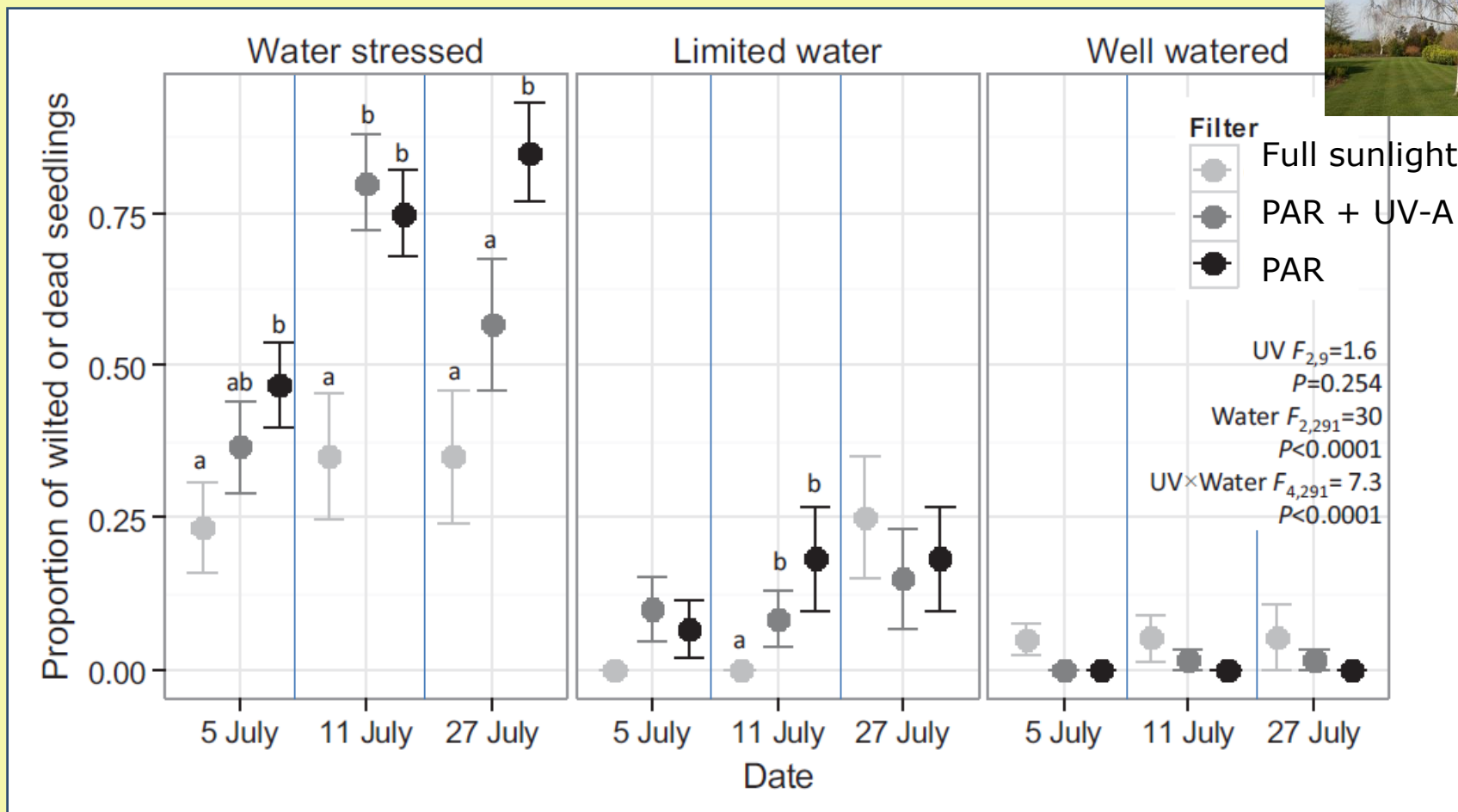


Did early algal ancestors “evolve” recognition of UV-B radiation to switch on drought and/or heat stress defences?





Has UV a functional role in drought tolerance in birch?



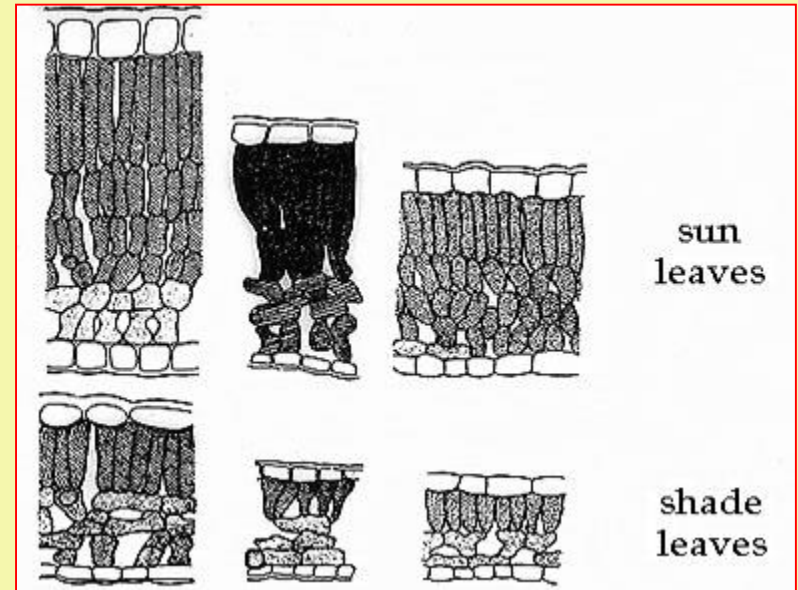
Robson et al., PCE (2014)

Are all plant UV-B responses about UV-B protection?

UV-B phenotype

- Smaller, thicker leaves
- Decreased water loss

Similar to sun/shade leaves



Are plants exploiting UV-B a proxy for e.g. high PAR, drought and/or heat?

Hypothesis:

UV-B perception has evolved into
a general source of information
about the environment

The end!