

# HyspIRI Research: Photosynthesis and Genetics of Aspen

Phil Townsend, Shawn Serbin, Dylan Dillaway, Eric Kruger, Mike Madritch



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DEPARTMENT OF FOREST AND WILDLIFE ECOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON





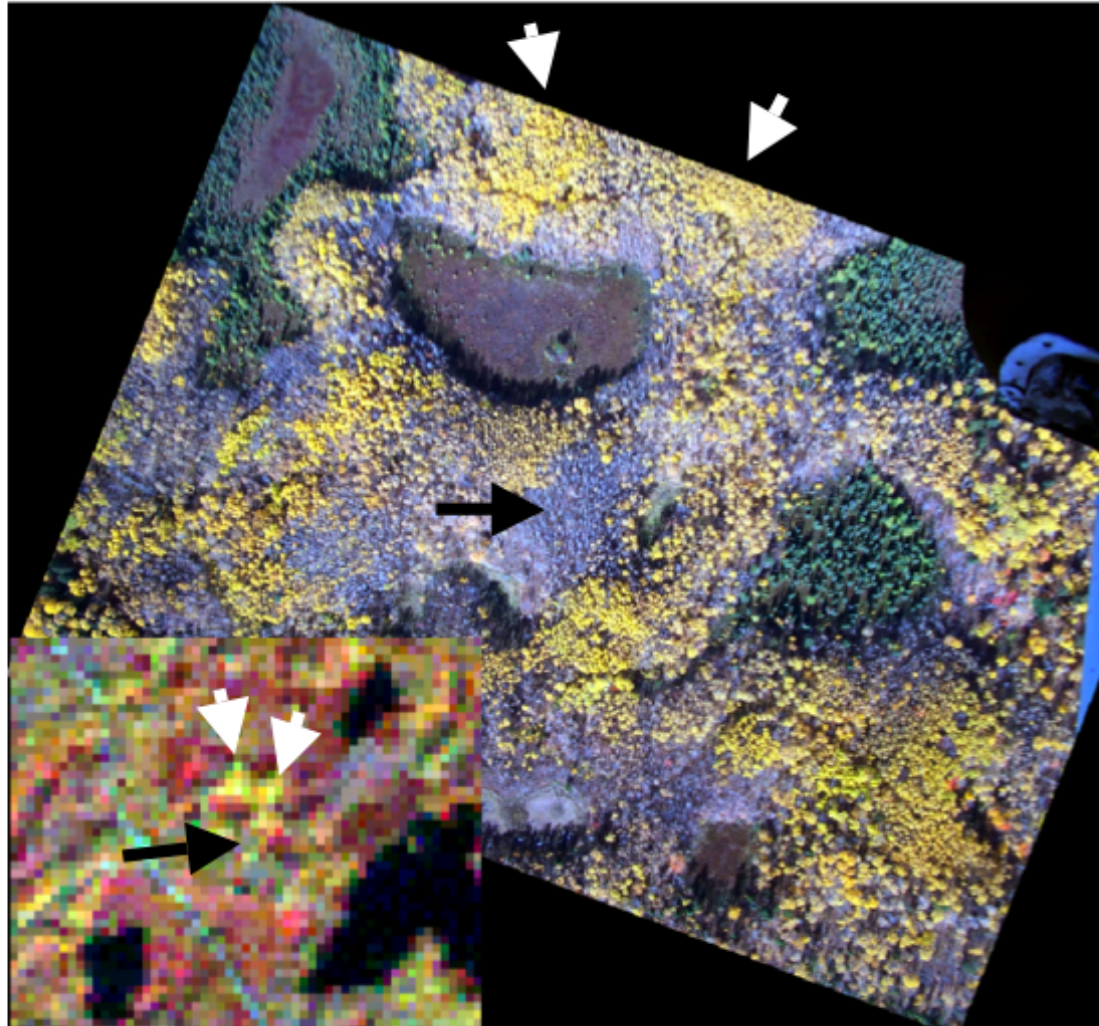
## Quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) as a model system

- Most widely distributed native tree species in North America
- Important timber species
- Early-successional
- Large, monospecific stands of genetic clones
- Genetically diverse
- Wide phenotypic variation



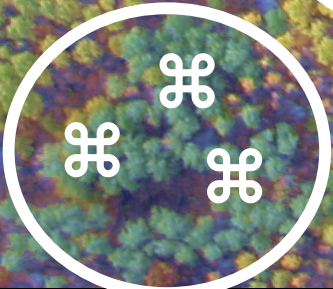


## Remote sensing of genetic diversity in aspen

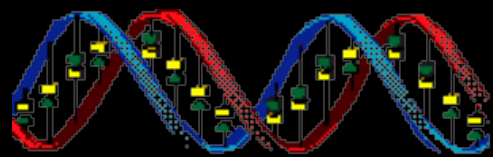


Early October Landsat and true color aerial photo  
Differing senescence among genotypes









Genotype

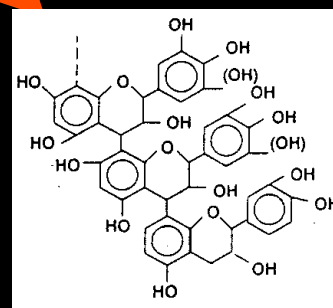


Environment

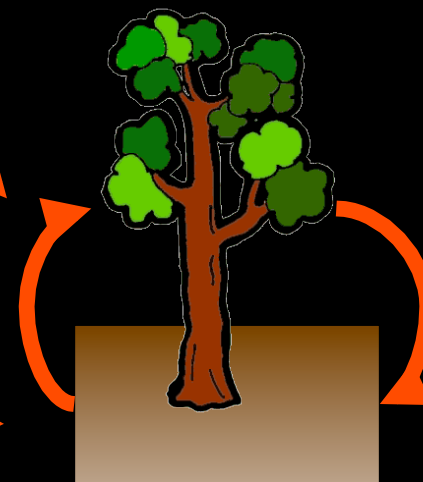
Phenotype



Litter  
Chemistry



Nutrient  
Cycles





# Remote sensing of genetic diversity in aspen

Remote Sensing

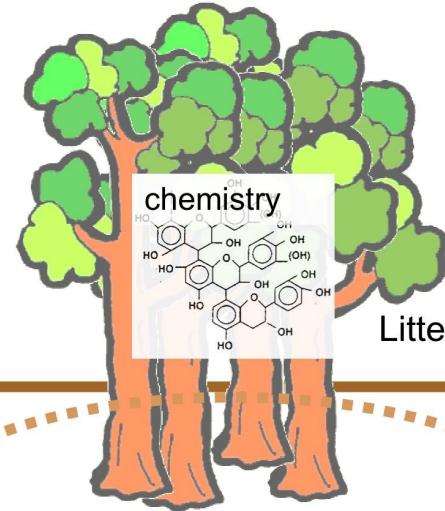
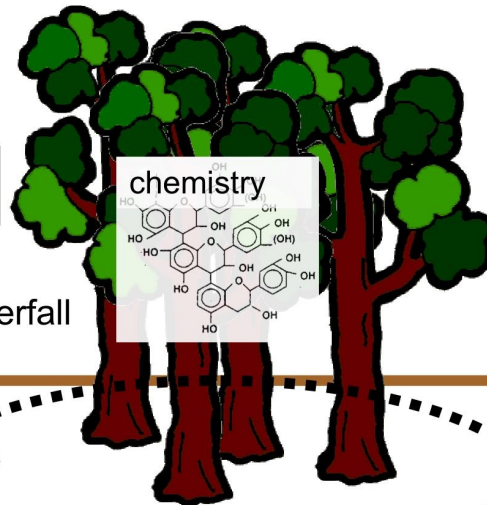
Multispectral and hyperspectral data

Genetic diversity

Aspen genotype A

Aspen genotype B

Canopy chemistry



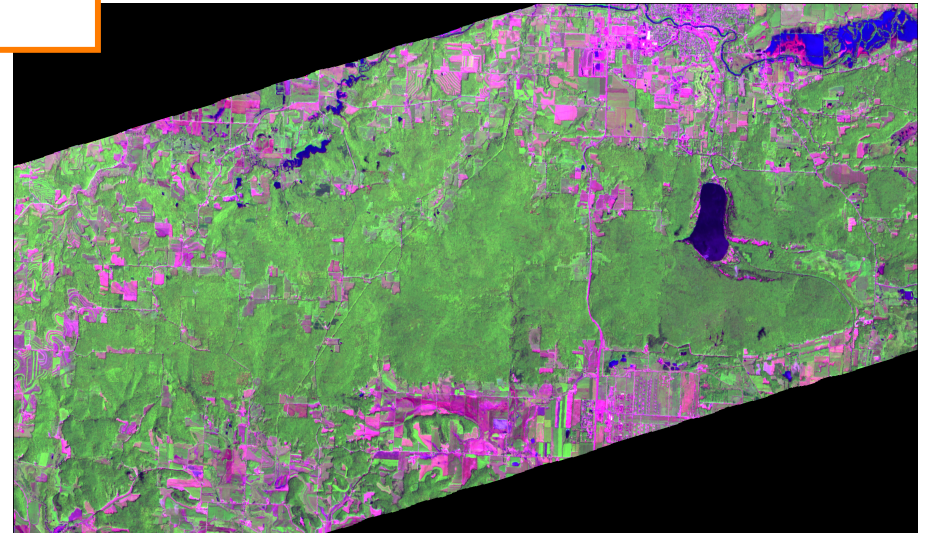
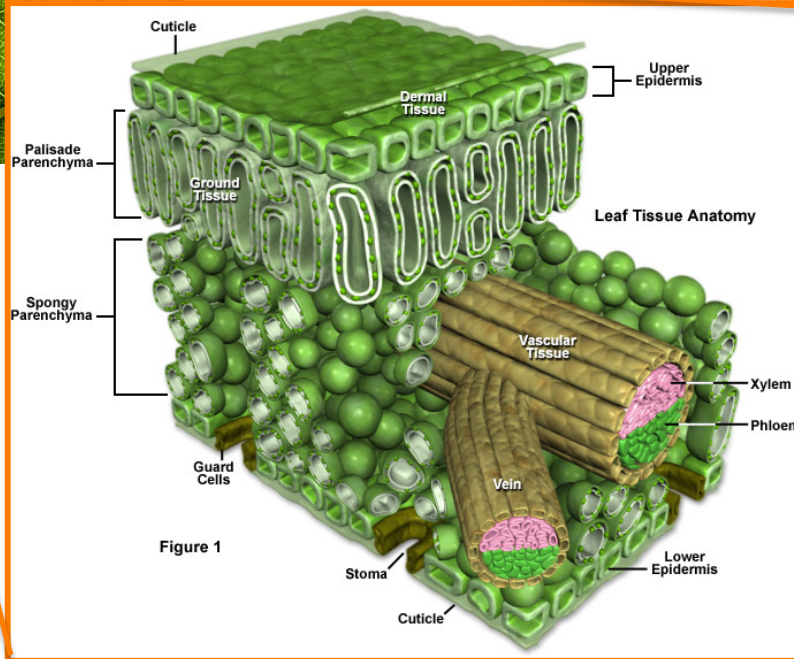
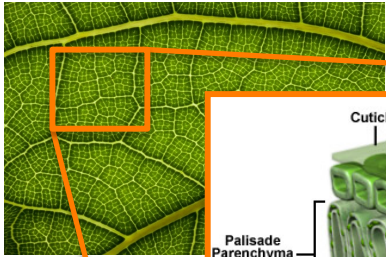
Microbial community

Genotype A microbial community

Genotype B microbial community

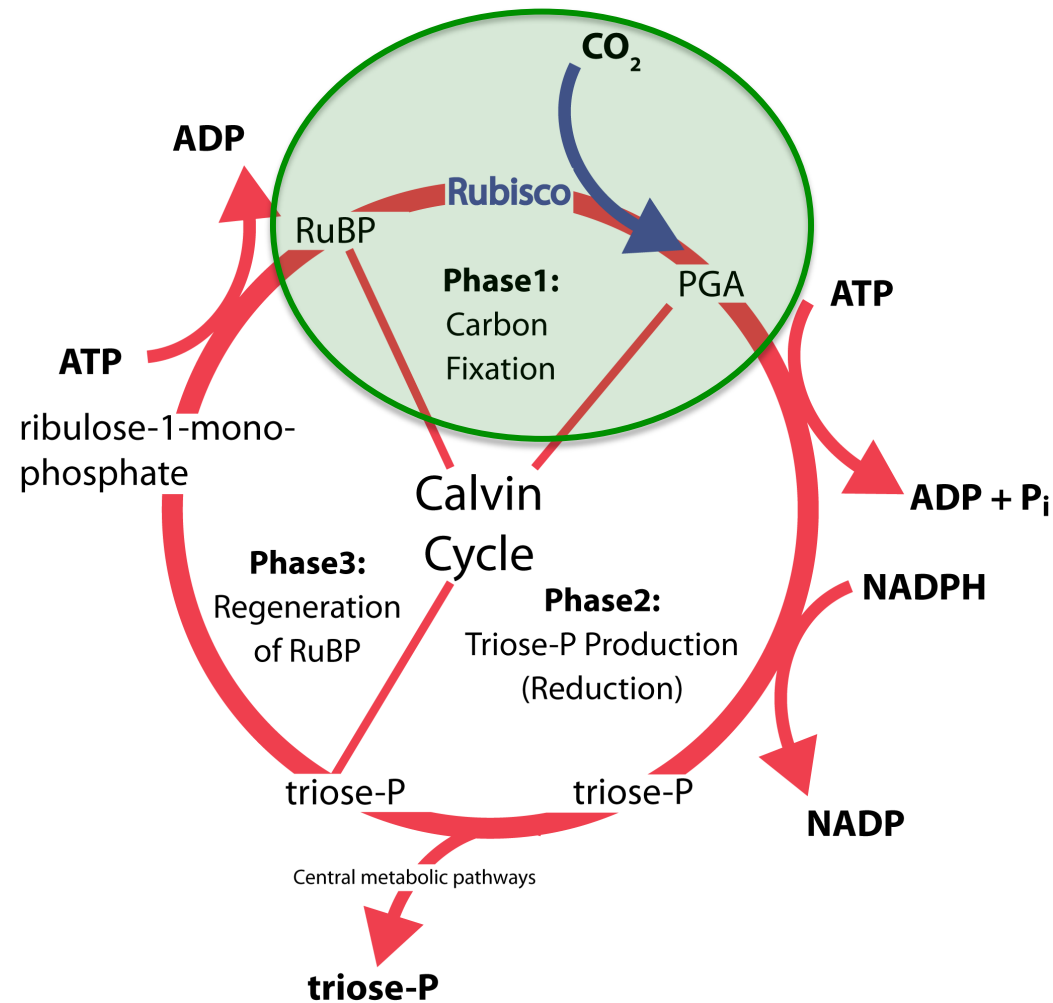


# Detection of leaf metabolic rates using spectroscopy





## V(c)max – maximum rate of carboxylation

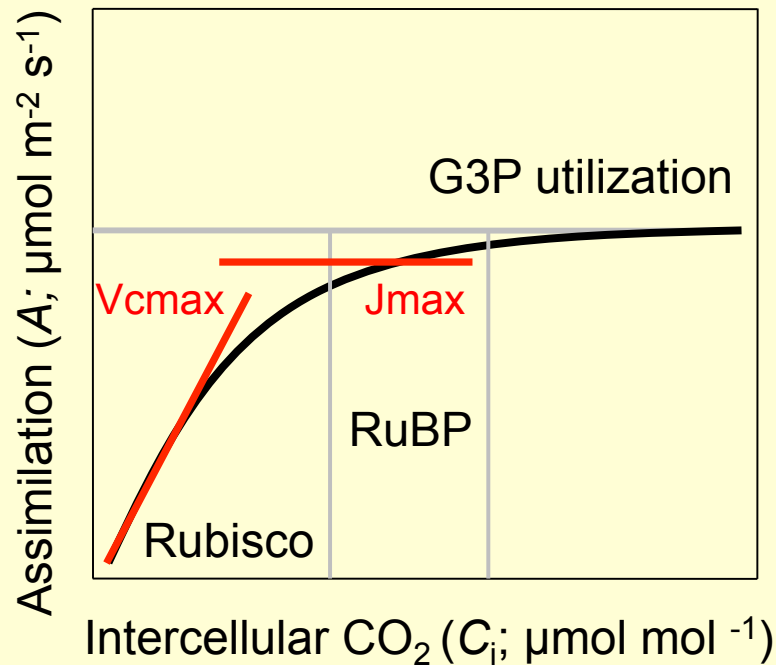


Carboxylation – initial addition of CO<sub>2</sub> to RuBP (catalyzed by RuBisCO). Energy from ATP and NADPH → triose phosphate



# Biochemical modeling of photosynthesis

$$A_n = \min(A_c, A_j, A_p) - R_d$$



- Limited by
  - Rubisco
  - RuBP regeneration
  - triose phosphate utilization (G3P)
- Determine key metabolic variables
  - **V<sub>cmax</sub>**: Rubisco activity
  - **J<sub>max</sub>**: Electron transport



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## Physiological data in glasshouse study



- Three temperature regimes
  - 13/20 °C, 18/25 °C, 23/30 °C
- Leaf gas exchange
  - $V_{cmax}$ ,  $J_{max}$ ,  $A_{mass}$ ,  $A_{area}$
- Structure and chemistry
  - SLA, Leaf N
- Leaf optical properties (350-2500 nm)



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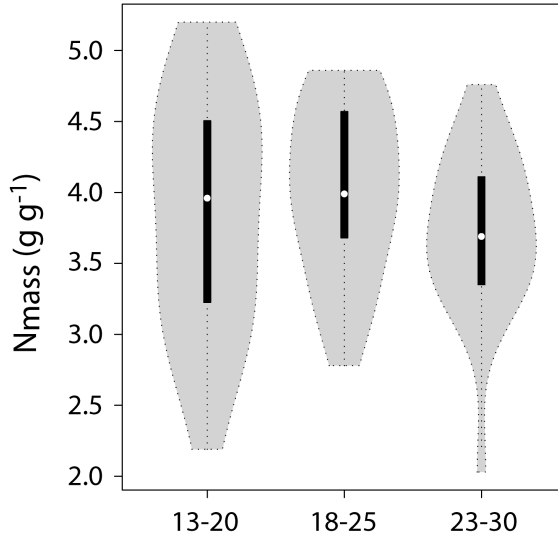
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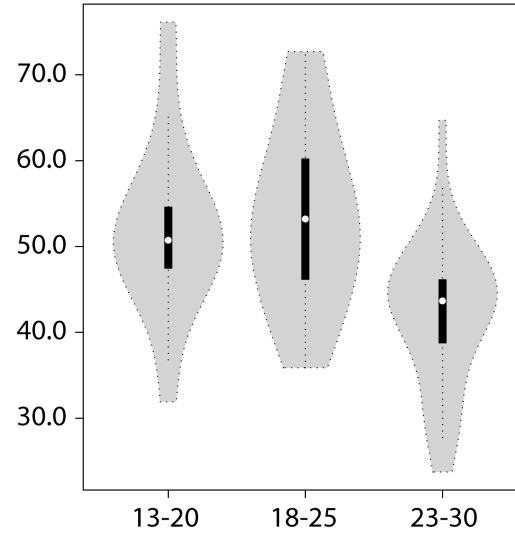


# Physiological measurements across temperature regimes

N (mass)

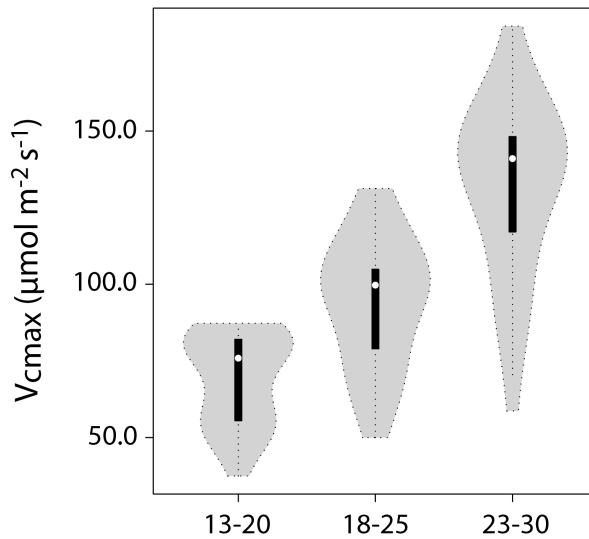


Marea (g m<sup>-2</sup>)

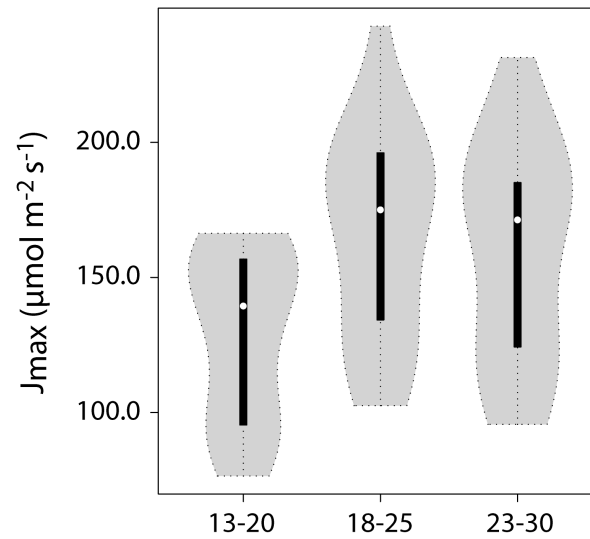


LMA

V(c)max



Jmax (μmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>)

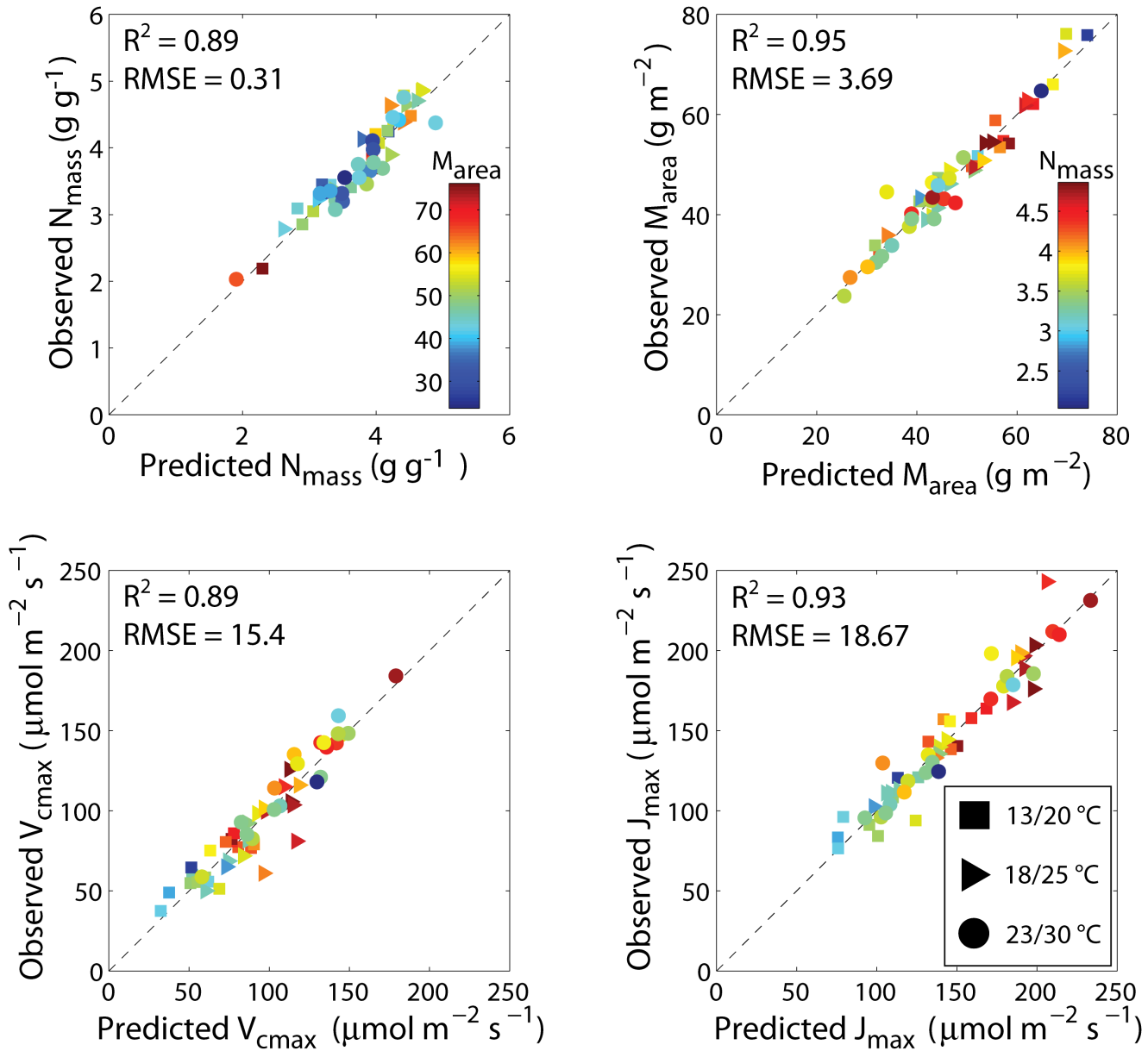


Jmax

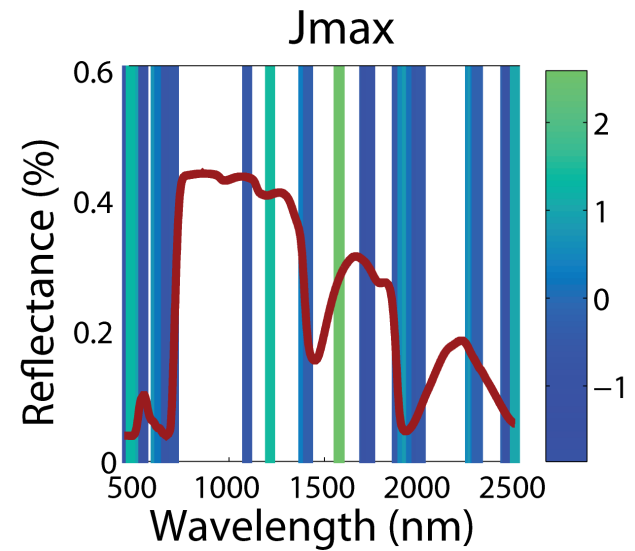
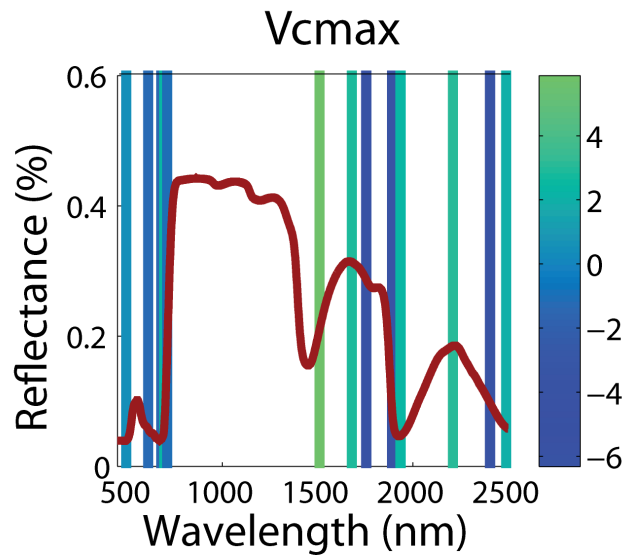
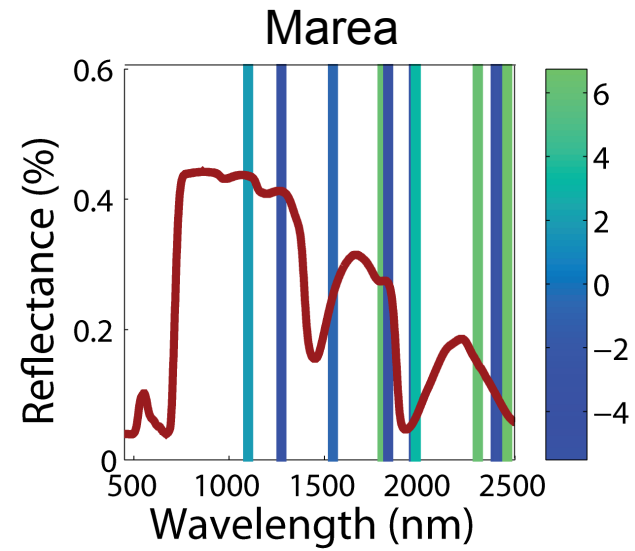
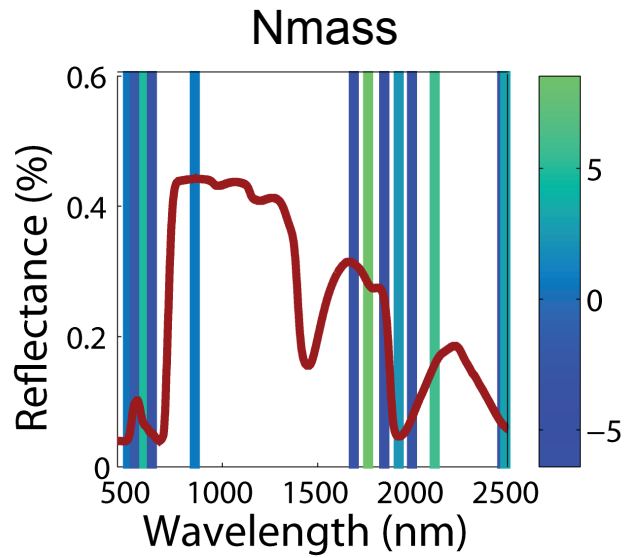
Night – Day Temperature



# Predictions using leaf spectra and PLSR

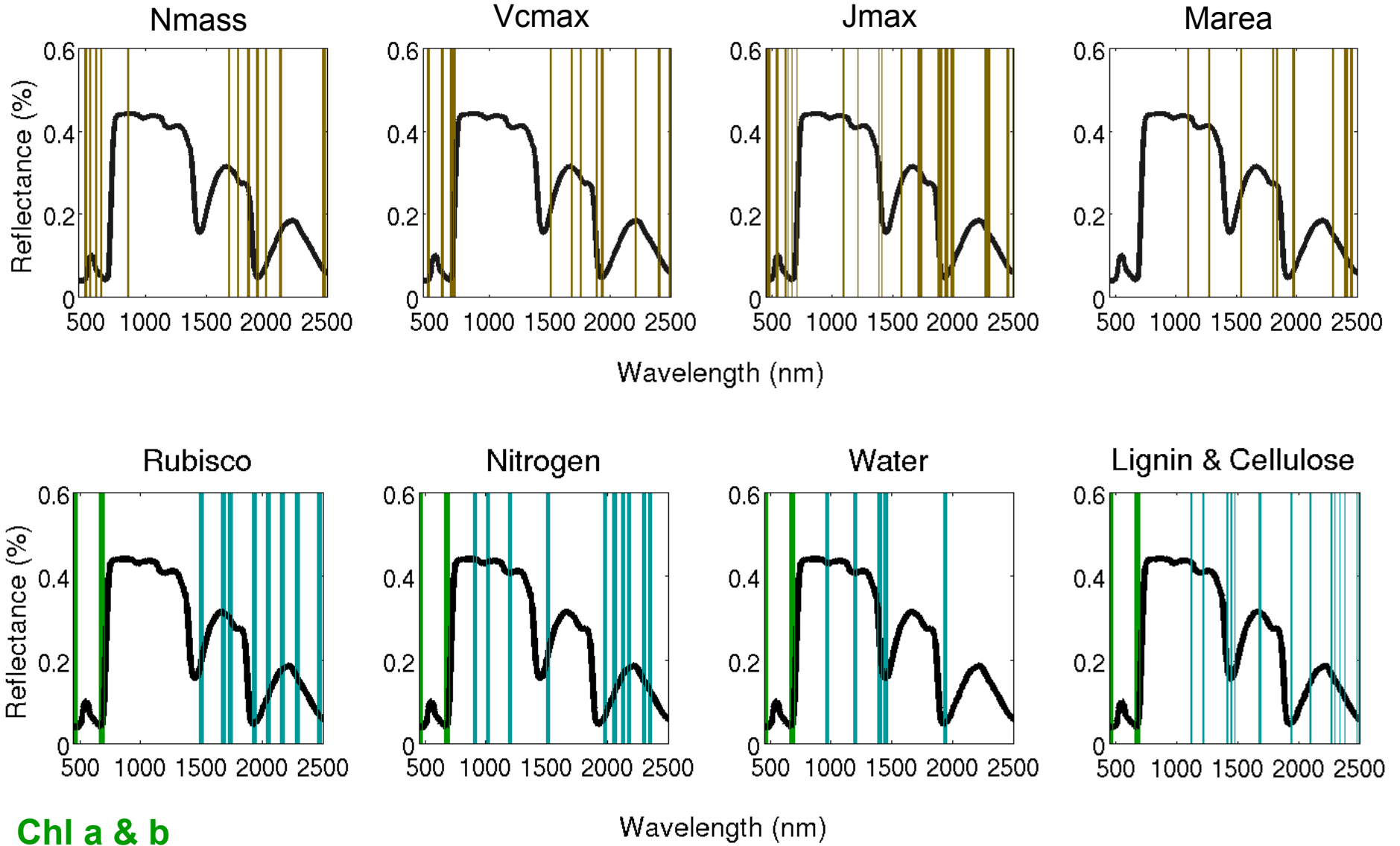


# PLSR waveband selection

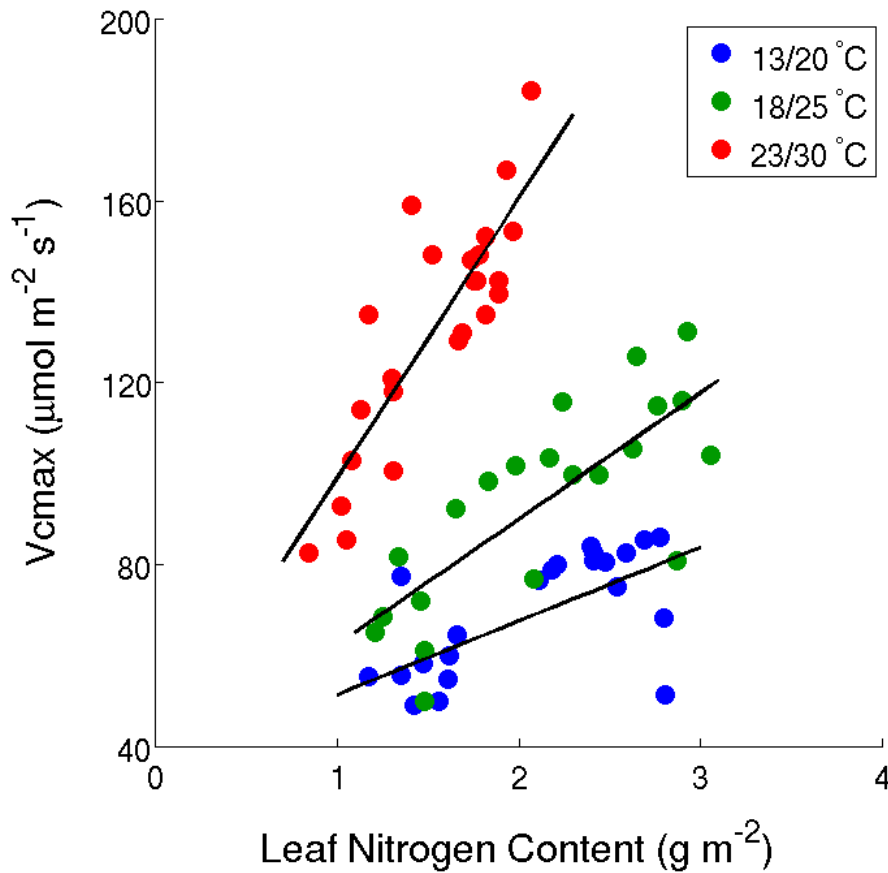




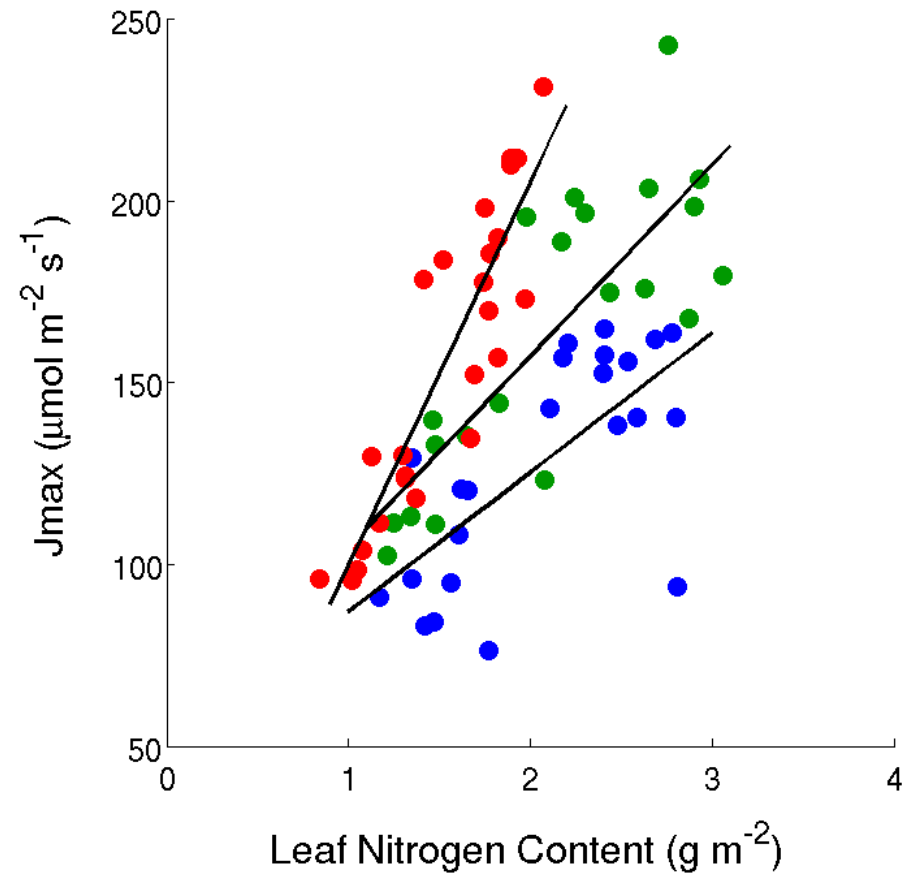
# PLSR waveband selection and the state of knowledge



# Biotron measurements show thermal effects on leaf metabolism



$$R^2 = 0.003$$

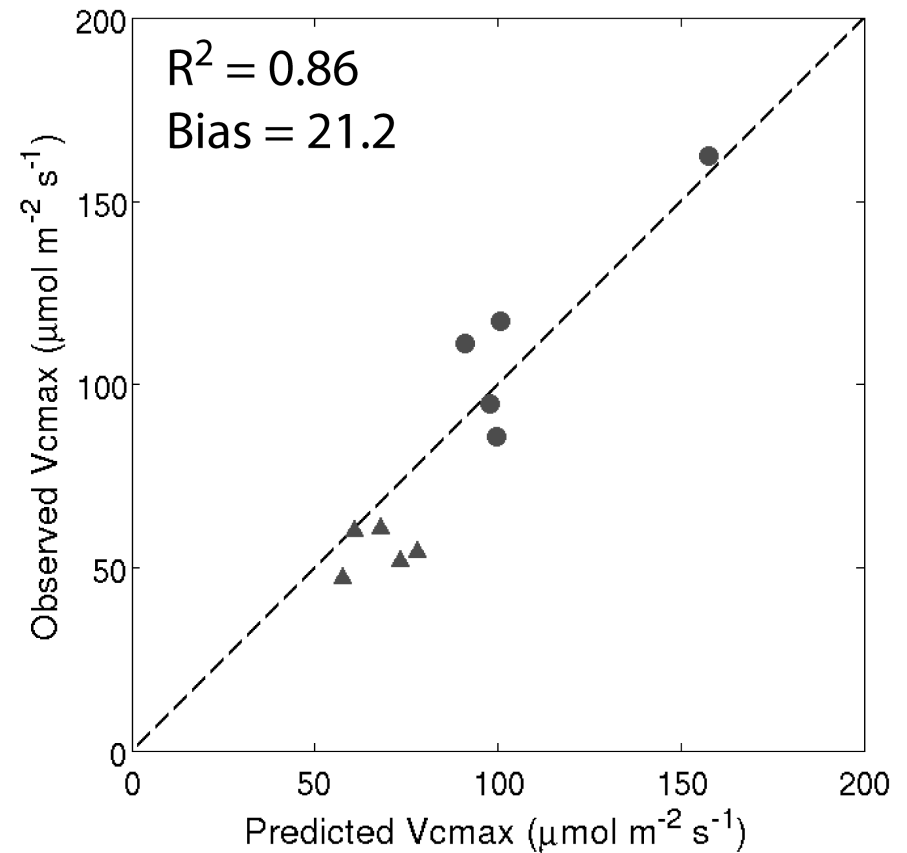
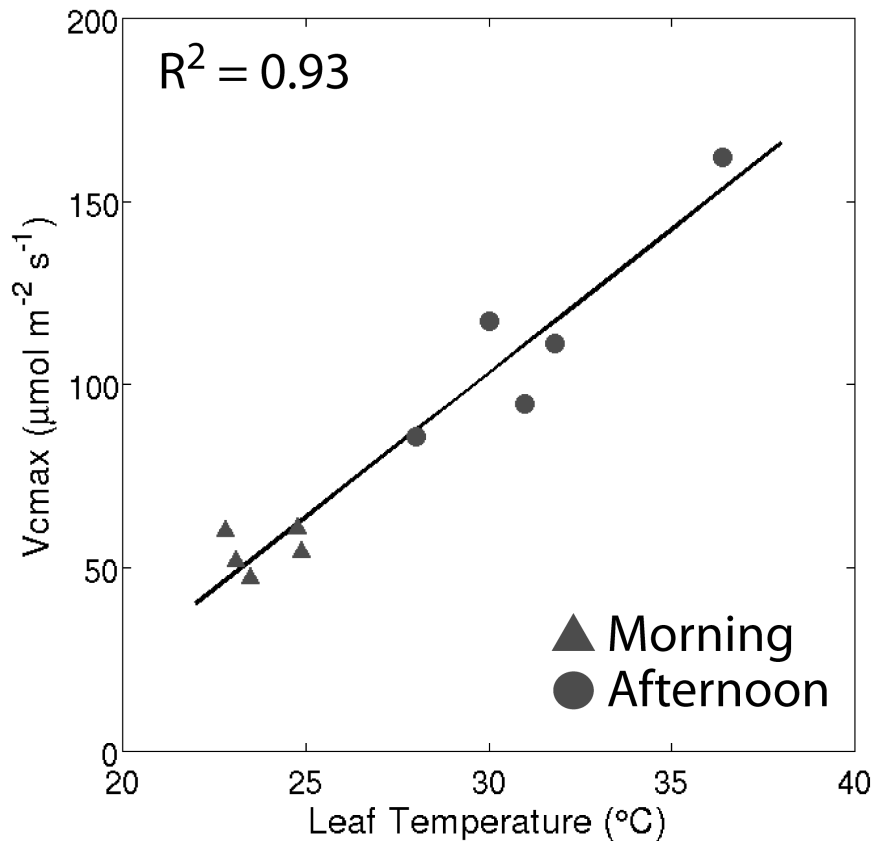


$$R^2 = 0.33$$

Pooled  $R^2$  between spectra-predicted  $V(c)\text{max}/J_{\text{max}}$  and leaf N



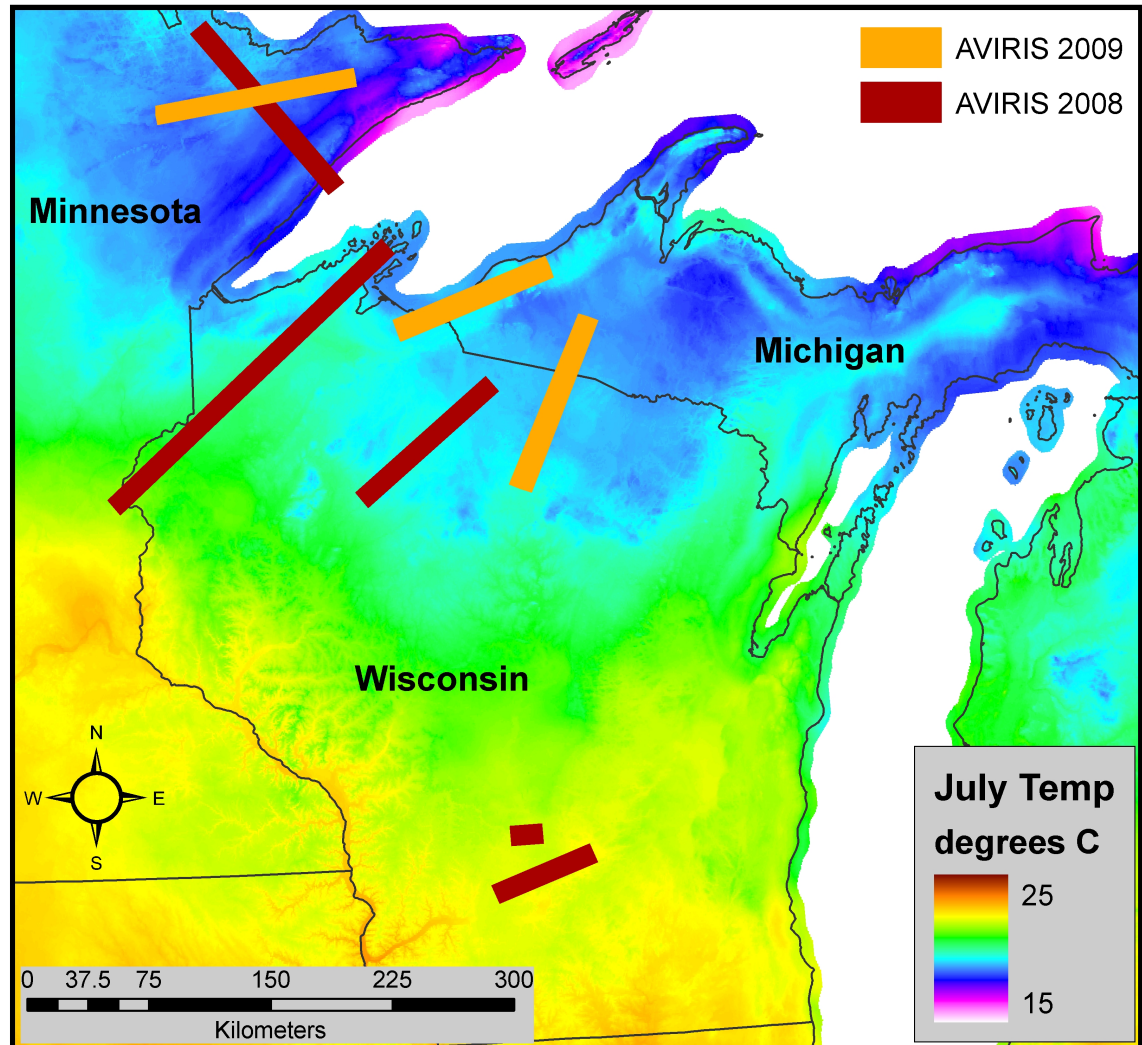
## Spectra are responsive to temp.-driven variations in metabolism



Time	$T_{\text{leaf}}$ ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	$V_{\text{cmax}}^{25}$
Morning	23.8	54.8
Afternoon	31.4	114.3

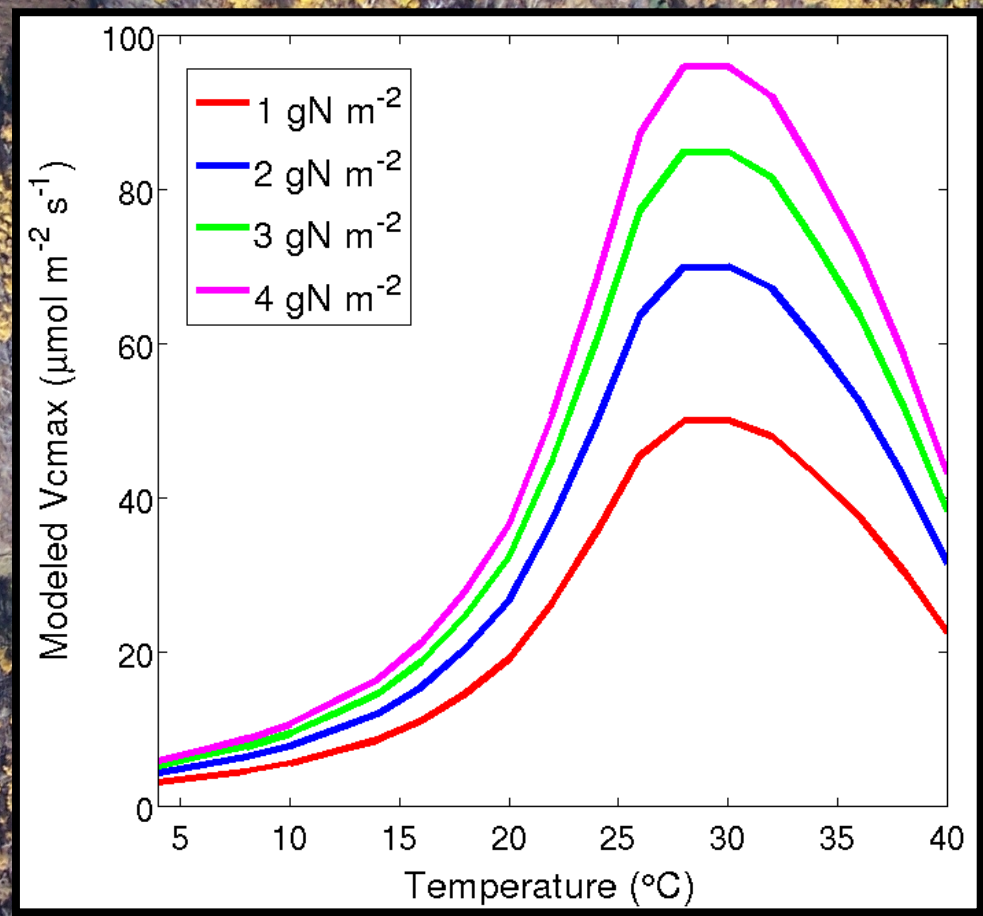
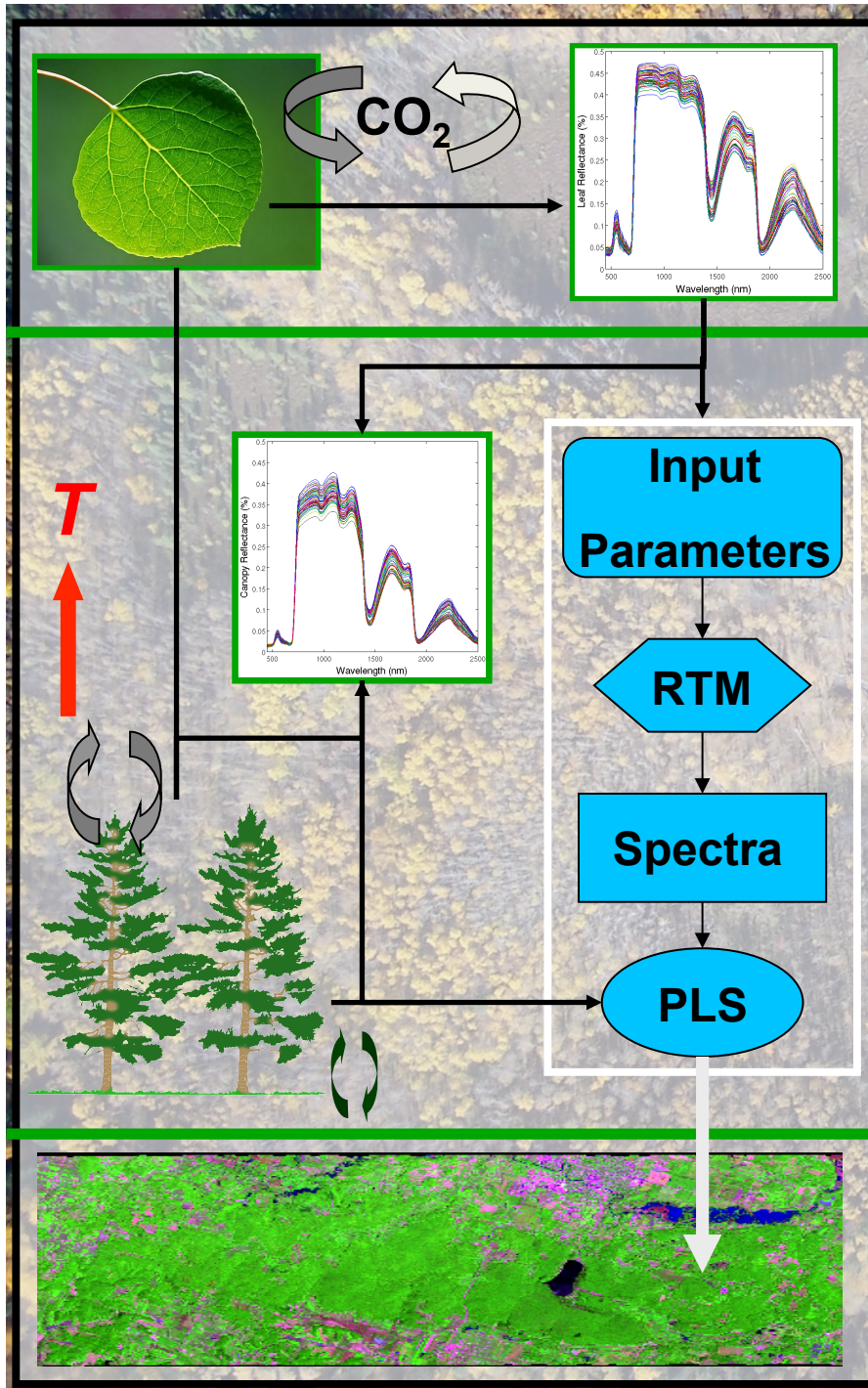
# How will climate change affect composition and metabolism?

- Hyperspectral imagery
- Field collection
  - Gas exchange
  - Spectra
  - Canopy temperature
- Examine regional trends
  - Lat/Long variation



PRISM Data: <http://www.prism.oregonstate.edu/>

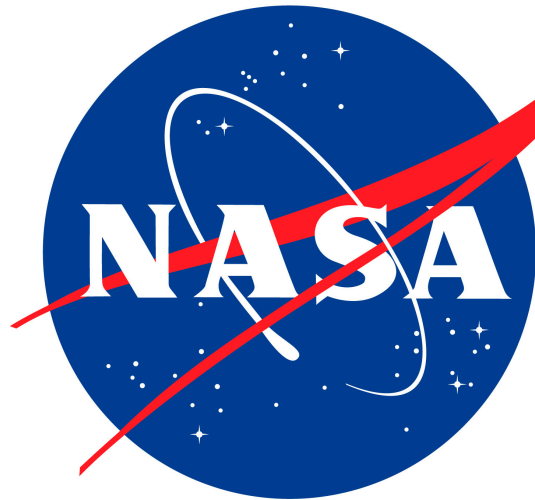




Medlyn et al., (2002); Kattge & Knorr, (2008)

## Acknowledgments

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