

Use of Solar Induced Fluorescence to Assess Vegetation Photosynthesis

Christian Frankenberg, Philipp Köhler



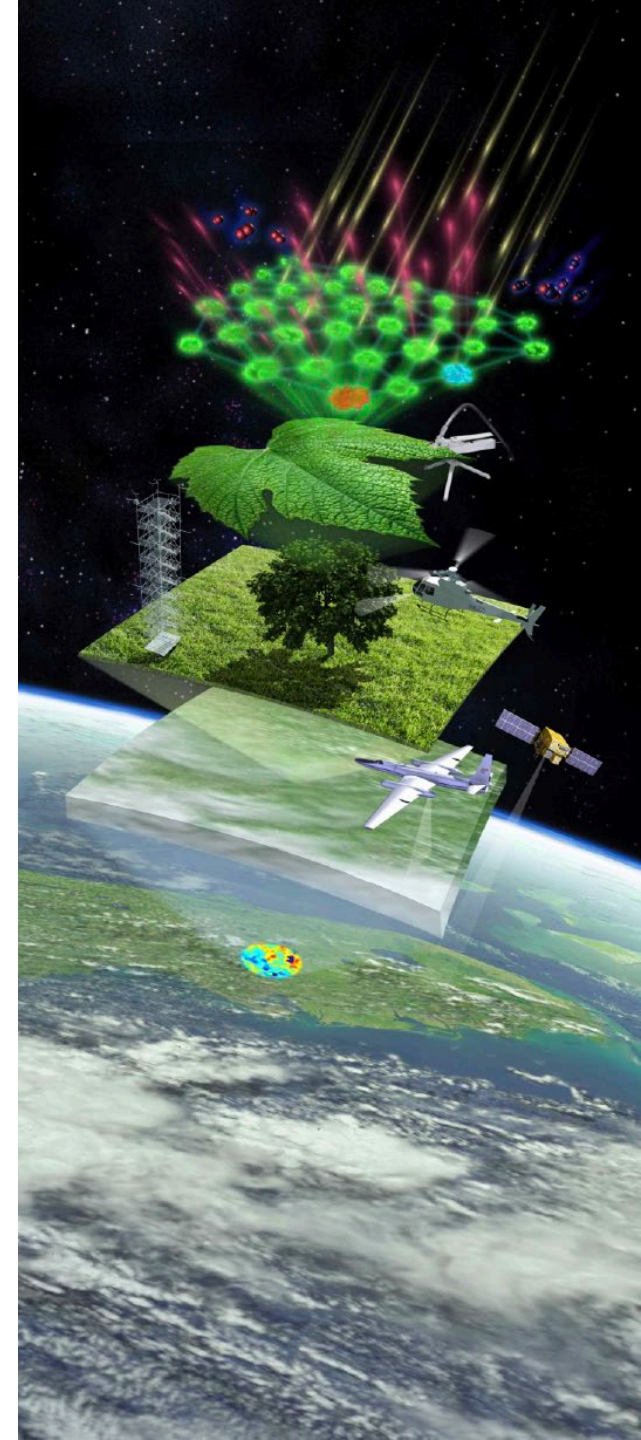
Webinar Agenda

- Here: A primer into Solar Induced Chlorophyll Fluorescence
- Later:
- Overview of different satellite-derived SIF datasets
- Their characteristics
- Where they can be accessed
- Demo with OCO-2 data showing participants how to open, interpret, and analyze the data to identify vegetation stress
- Q&A session



Part 1

- Introduction to SIF
- Active Fluorometry and solar induced fluorescence
- How do we measure fluorescence?
- Limitations of using SIF



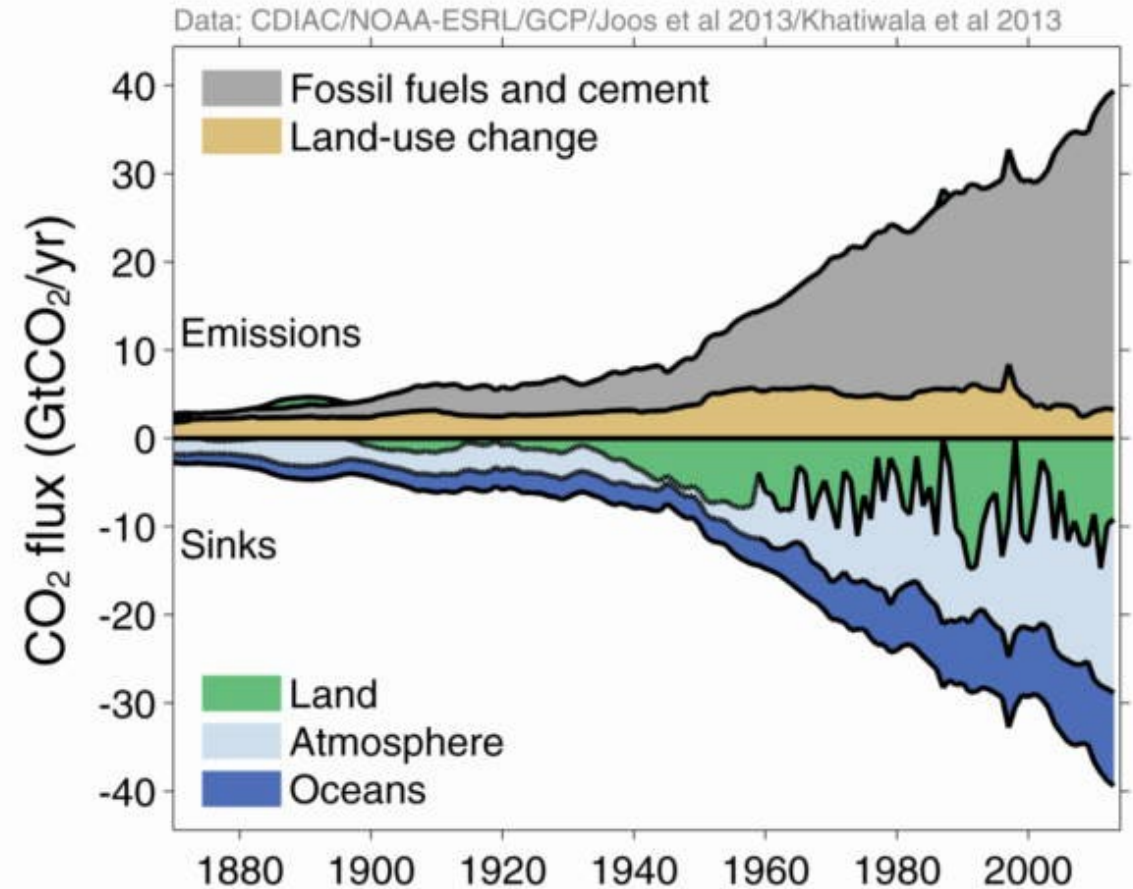
Learning Objectives

- Understand the basic concepts of SIF
- How is SIF related to photosynthesis and electron transport?
- What is the difference between PAM fluorescence and SIF?
- Know how to interpret the measurements and apply them
- Be able to access, open, and analyze SIF data



Motivation

- The Global Carbon Cycle
- Photosynthesis (gross CO₂ uptake) is the largest sink for Carbon in the Earth's atmosphere. Its future will determine whether plants will continue to do us a favor by taking up CO₂.



Introduction to Solar Induced Chlorophyll Fluorescence

- A small fraction of the absorbed light is being re-emitted as fluorescence (>700nm, just tiny overlap with the visible spectral range).
- This happens even for dissolved chlorophyll solution (e.g., in alcohol). See figure on the right.



Introduction to Solar Induced Chlorophyll Fluorescence

- During photosynthesis, a small fraction of energy is reemitted as light (fluorescence).
- Remote sensing instruments include a measurement region that reveals this signal.
- This measurement is more directly tied to plant health and activity than traditional measurements like greenness.

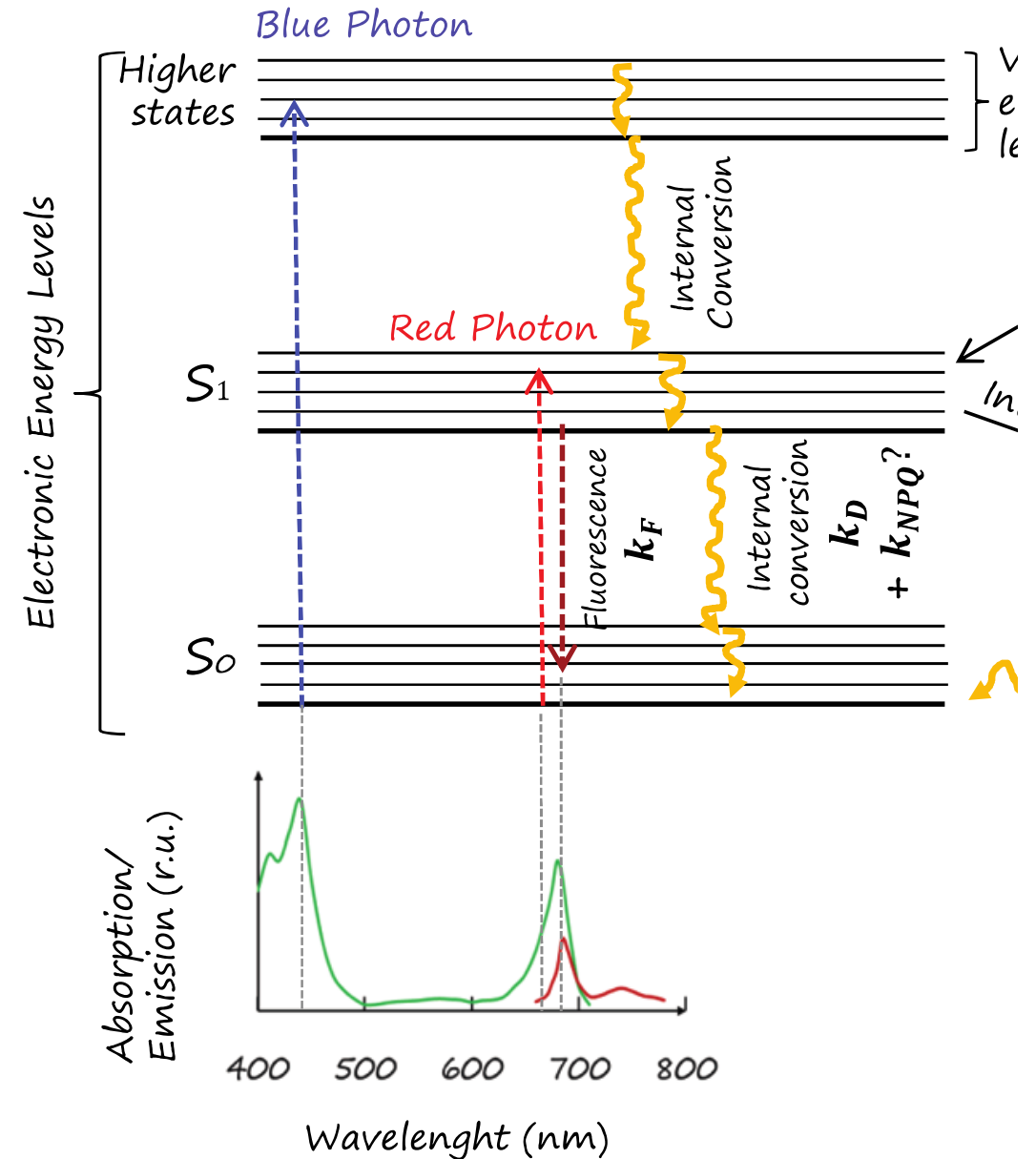
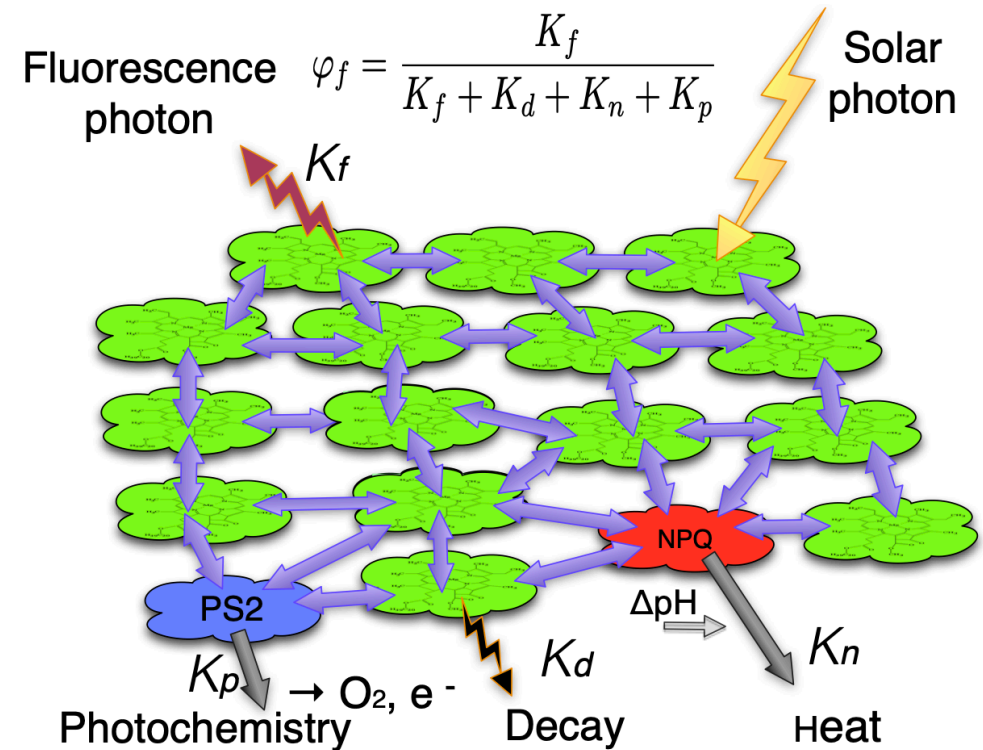


Fig. 3. Idealized Jablonski diagram illustrating the energy partitioning of absorbed blue light, an electron from the ground state is raised to a higher energy state. The
 Porcar-Castell et al 2014, review initiated at KISS

Introduction to Solar Induced Chlorophyll Fluorescence

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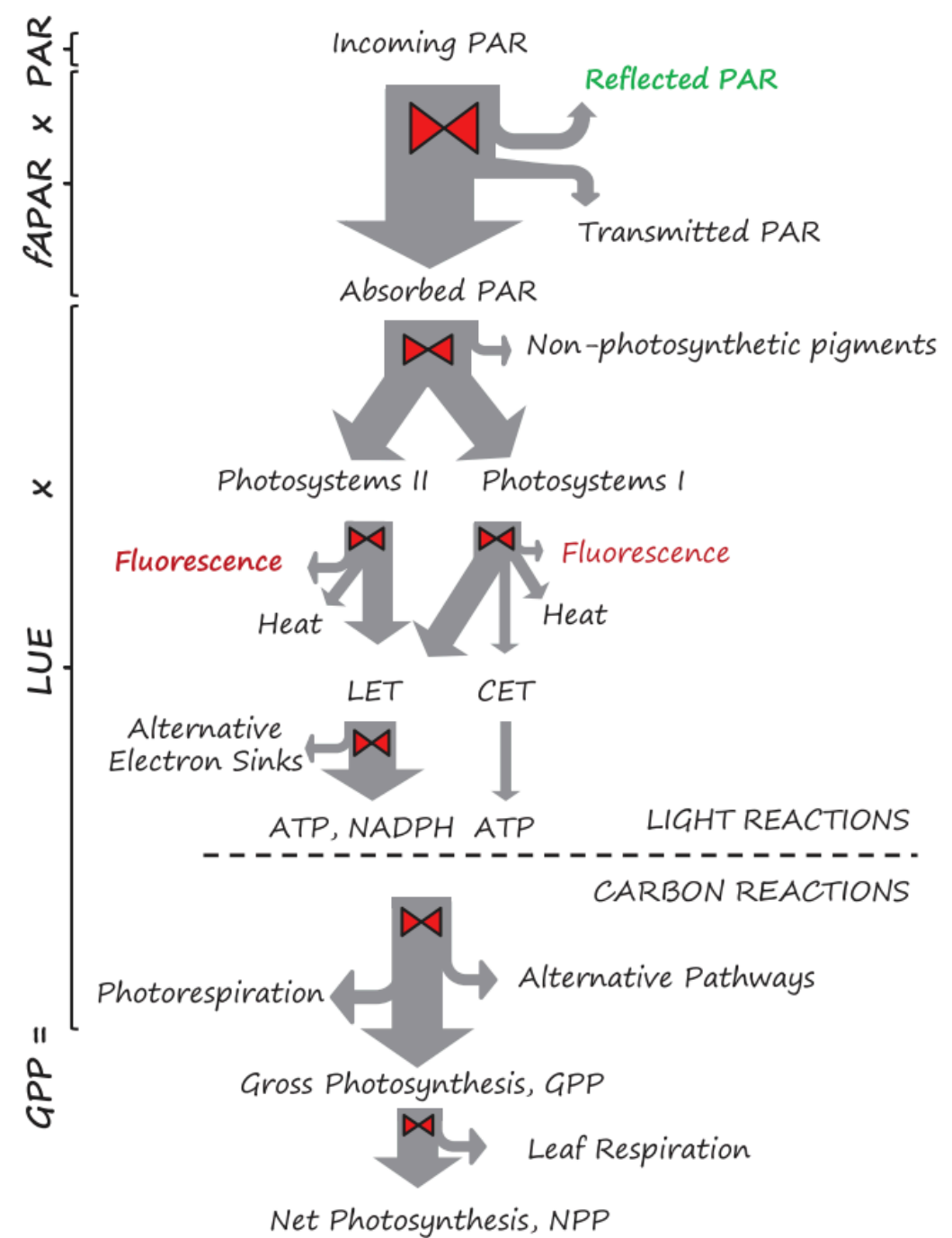
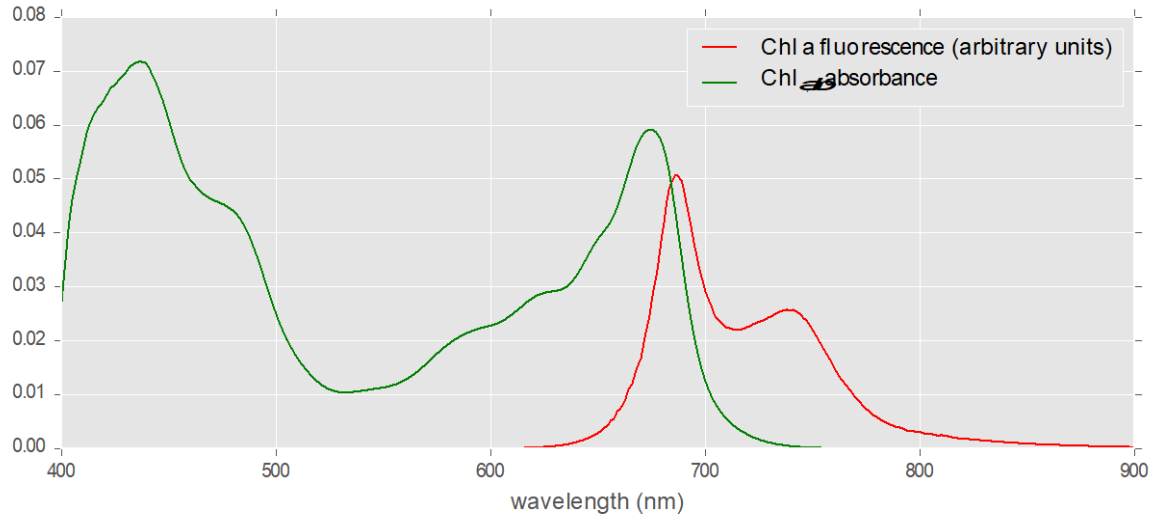


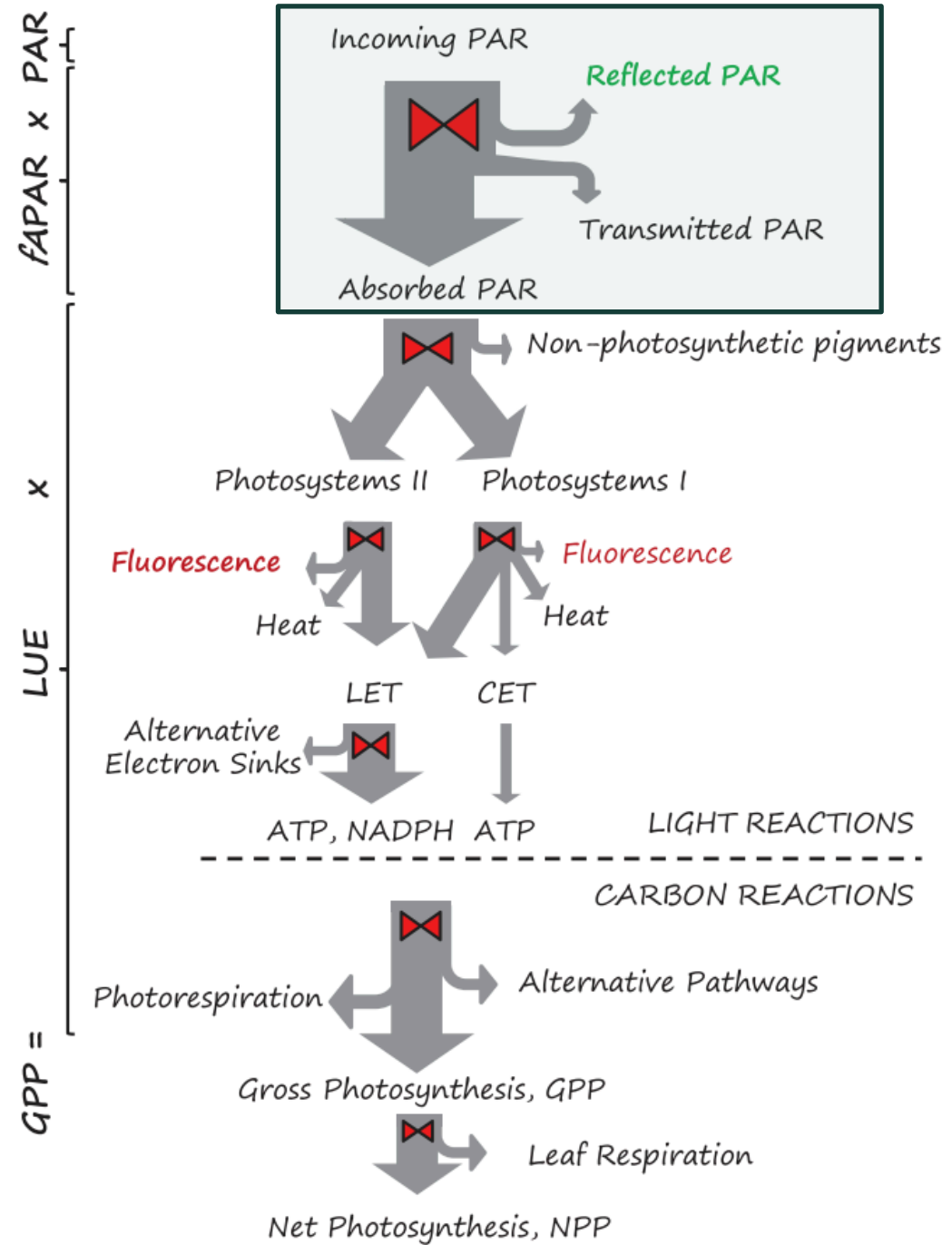
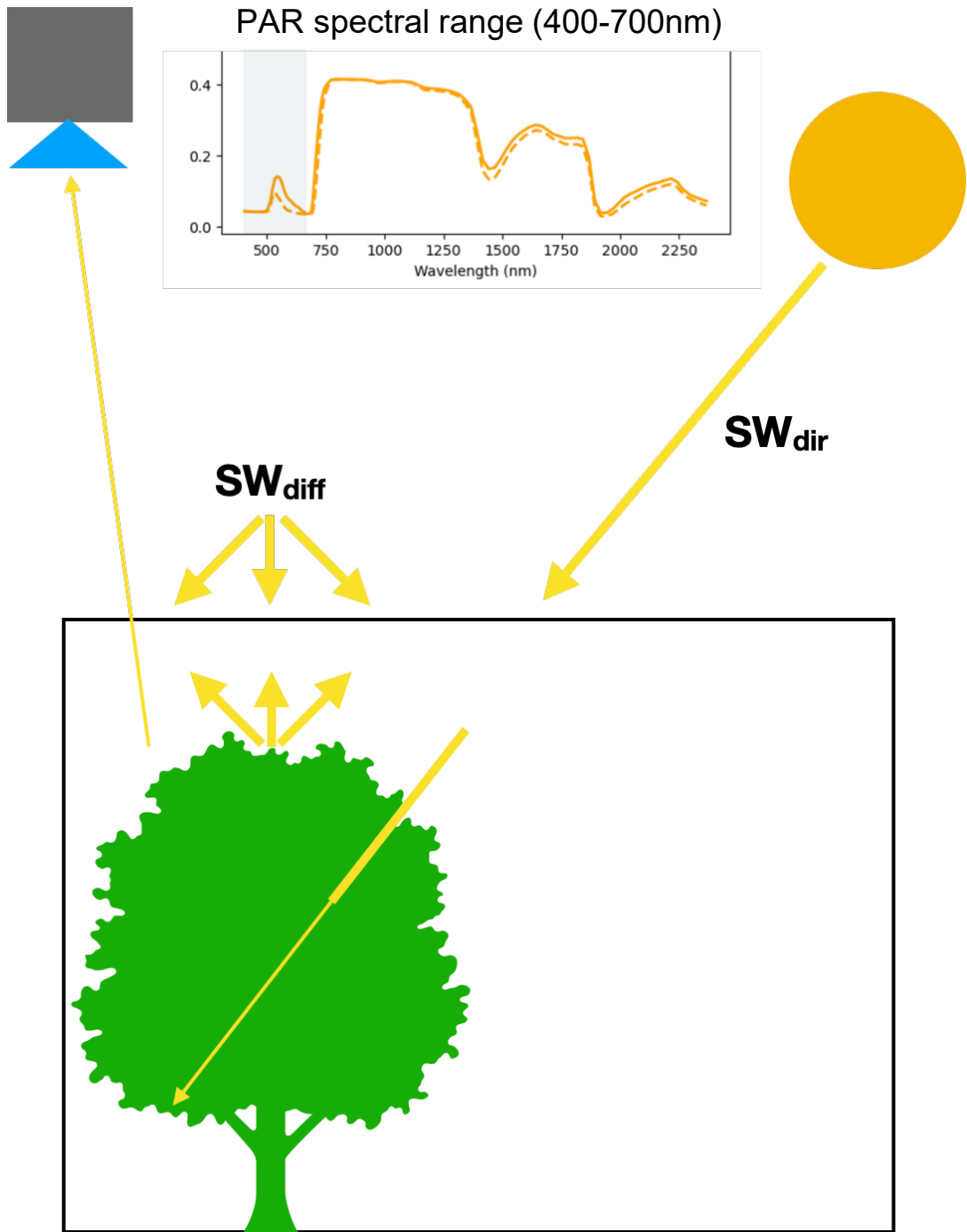
from Frankenberg, Berry, Guanter, Joiner (2012)

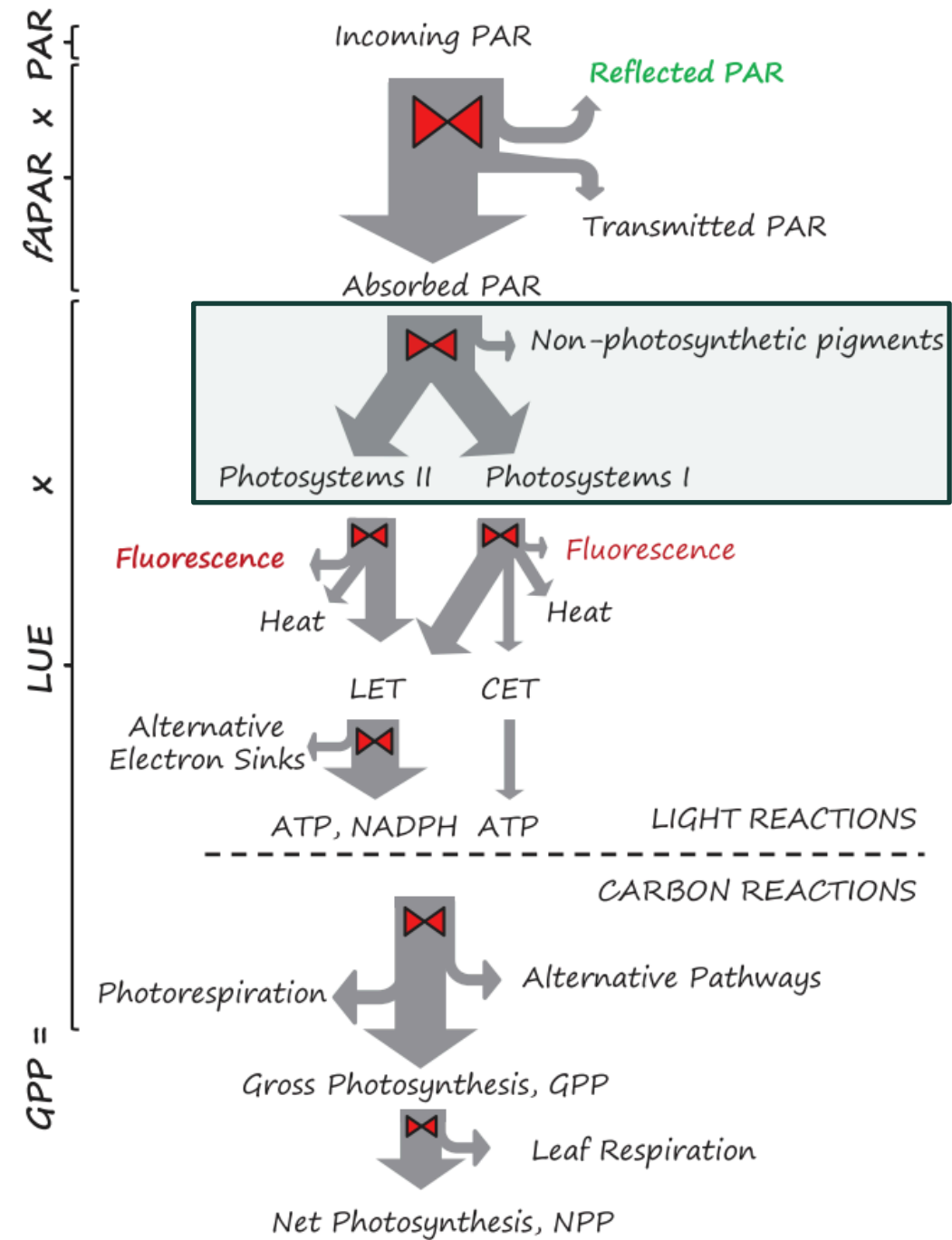
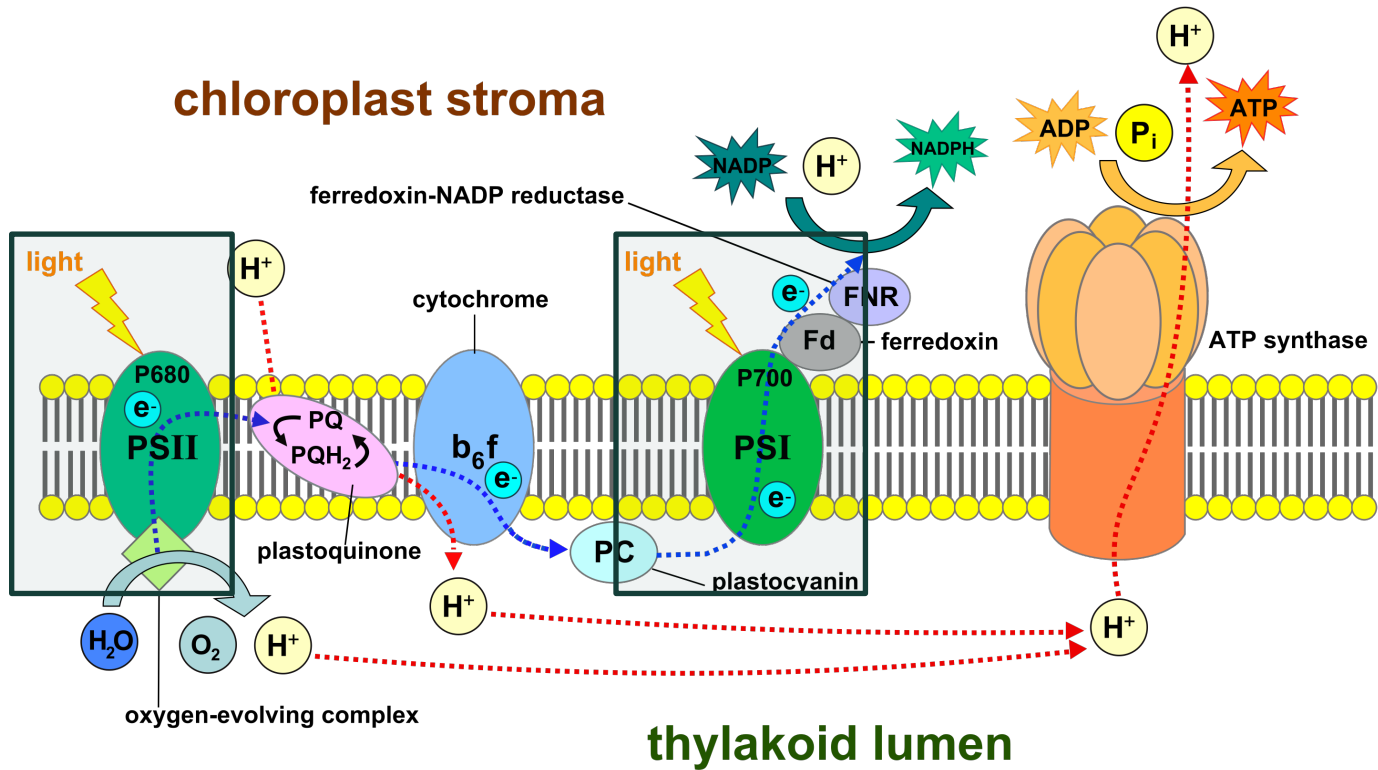
DARWIN REVIEW

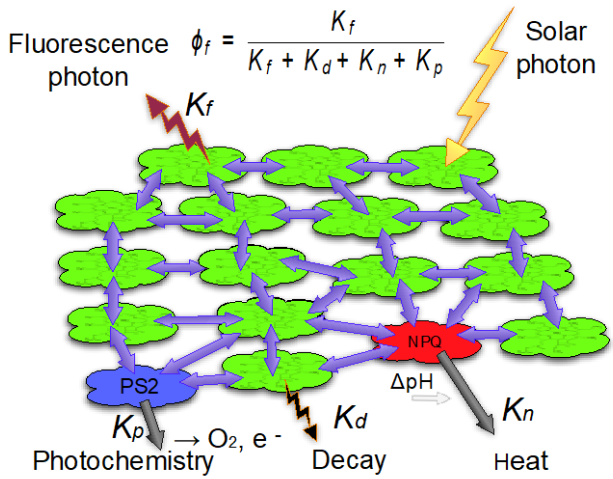
Linking chlorophyll *a* fluorescence to photosynthesis for remote sensing applications: mechanisms and challenges

Albert Porcar-Castell^{1,*}, Esa Tyystjärvi², Jon Atherton¹, Christiaan van der Tol³, Jaime Flexas⁴, Erhard E. Pfündel⁵, Jose Moreno⁶, Christian Frankenberg⁷ and Joseph A. Berry⁸







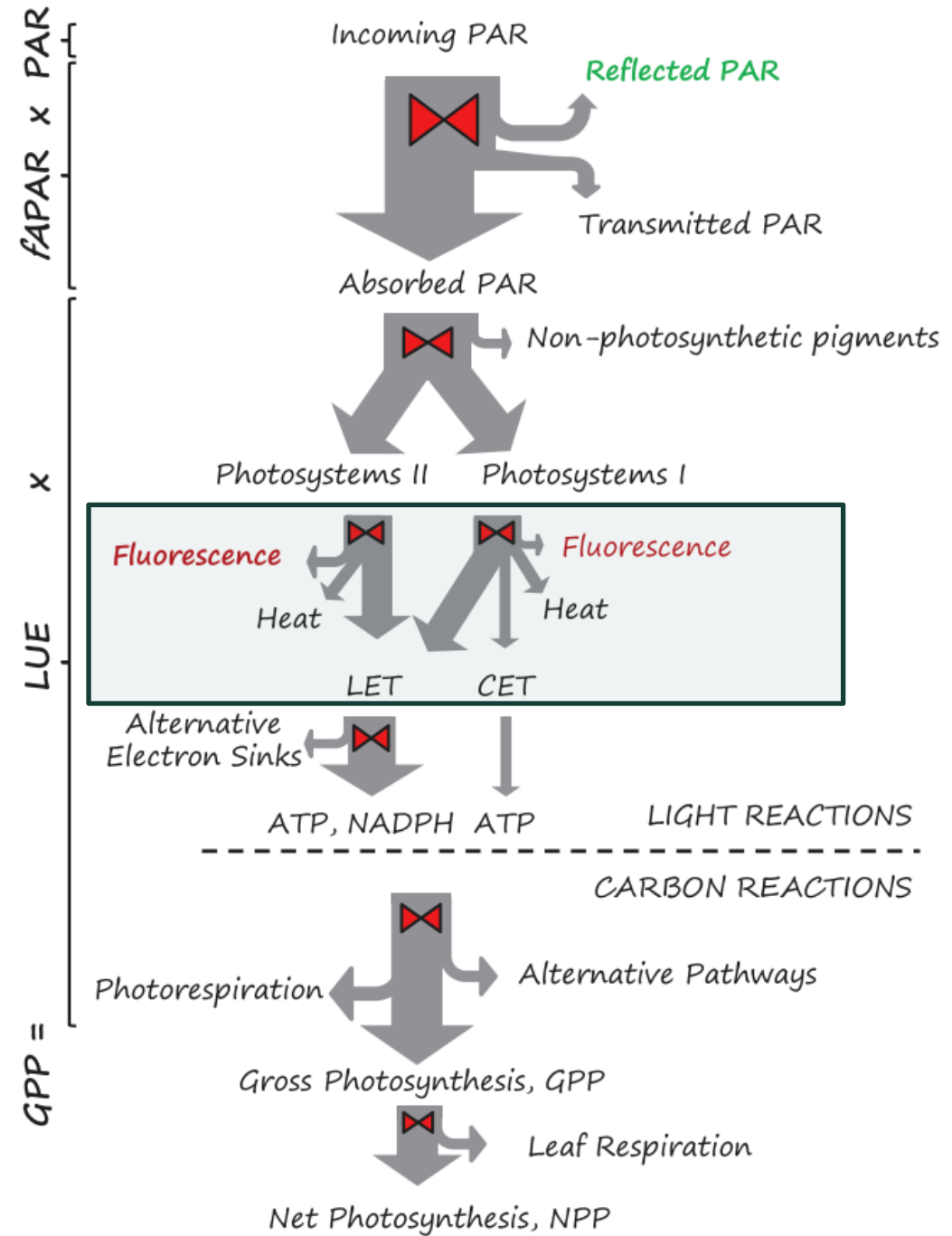


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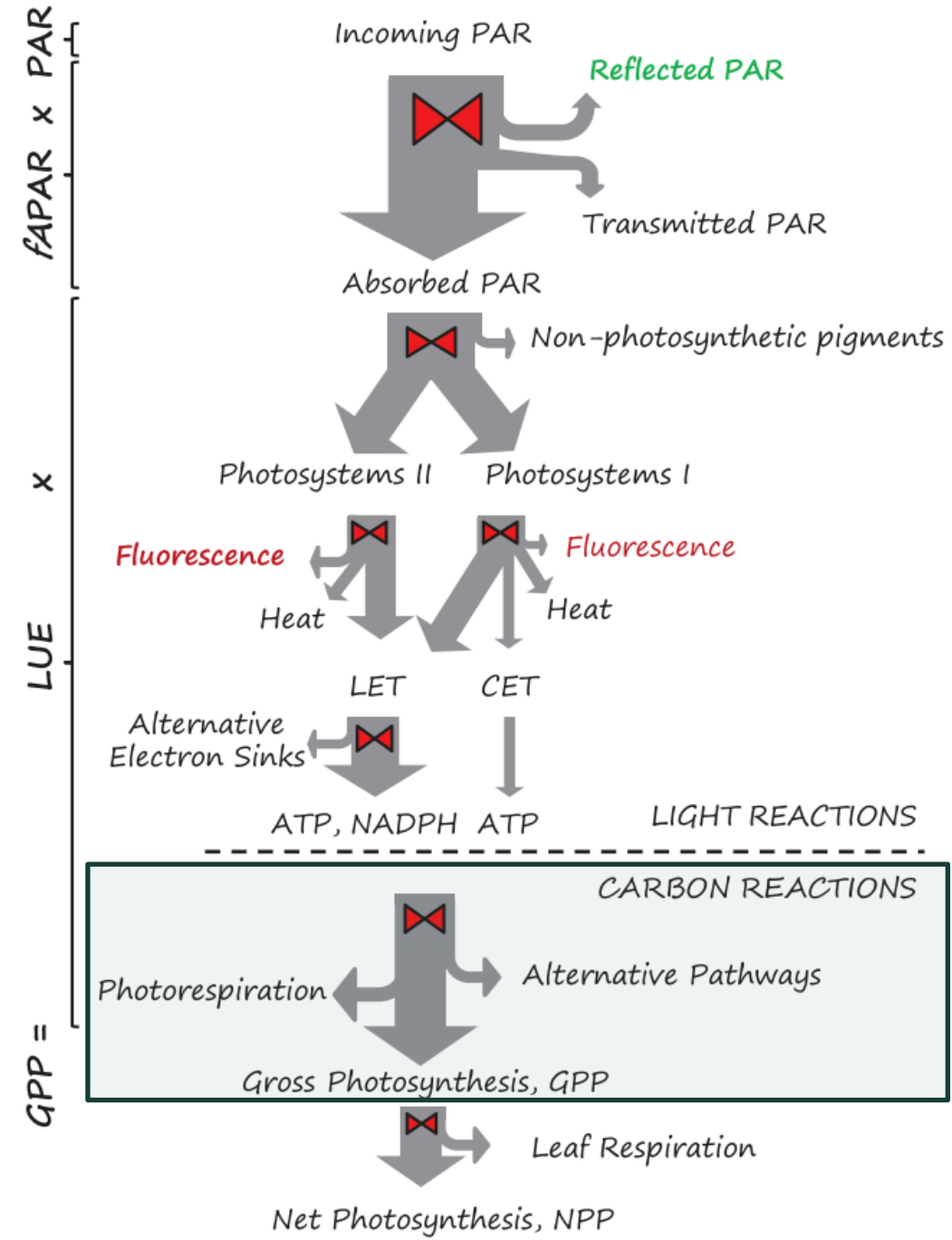
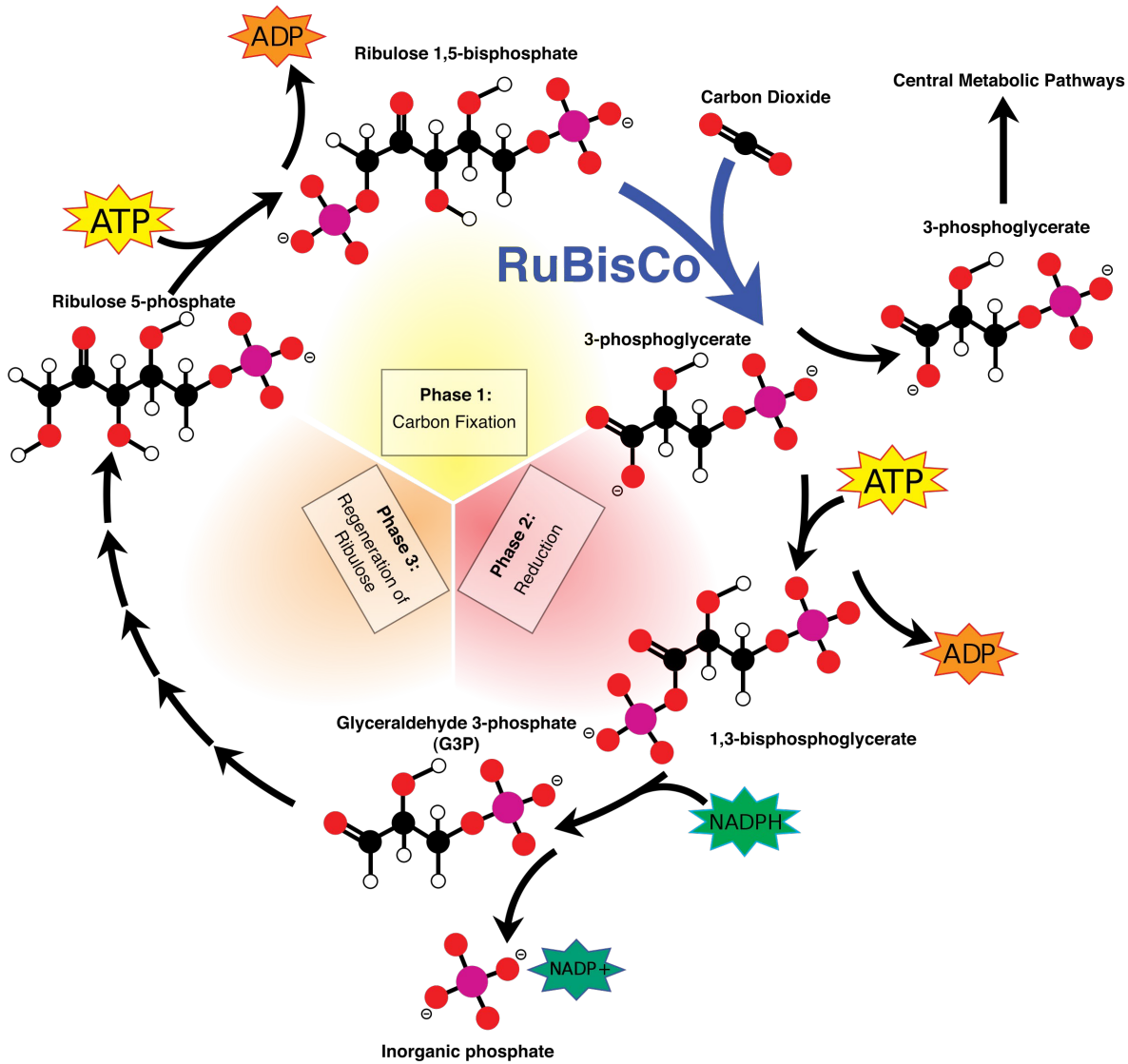
Fluorescence yield

$$\Phi_f = \frac{K_f}{K_f + K_p + K_n}$$

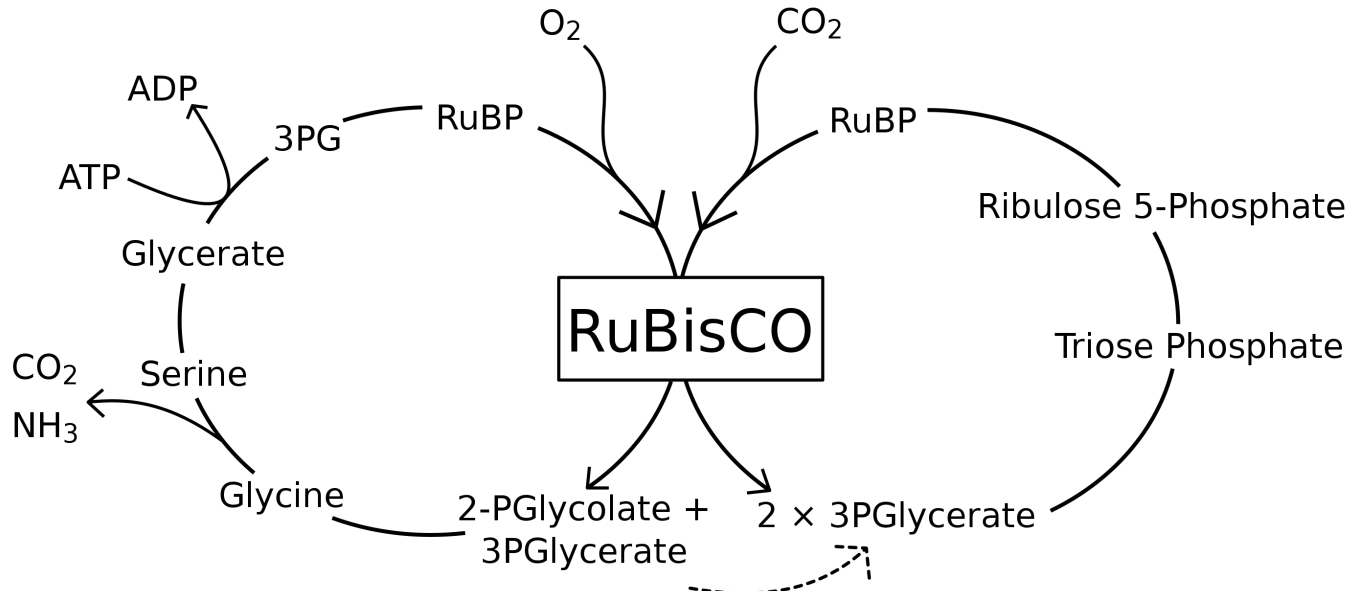
- | Rates for:
- | Fluorescence
- | Photosynthesis
- | Heat quenching (NPQ)



Calvin-Bassham-Benson Cycle

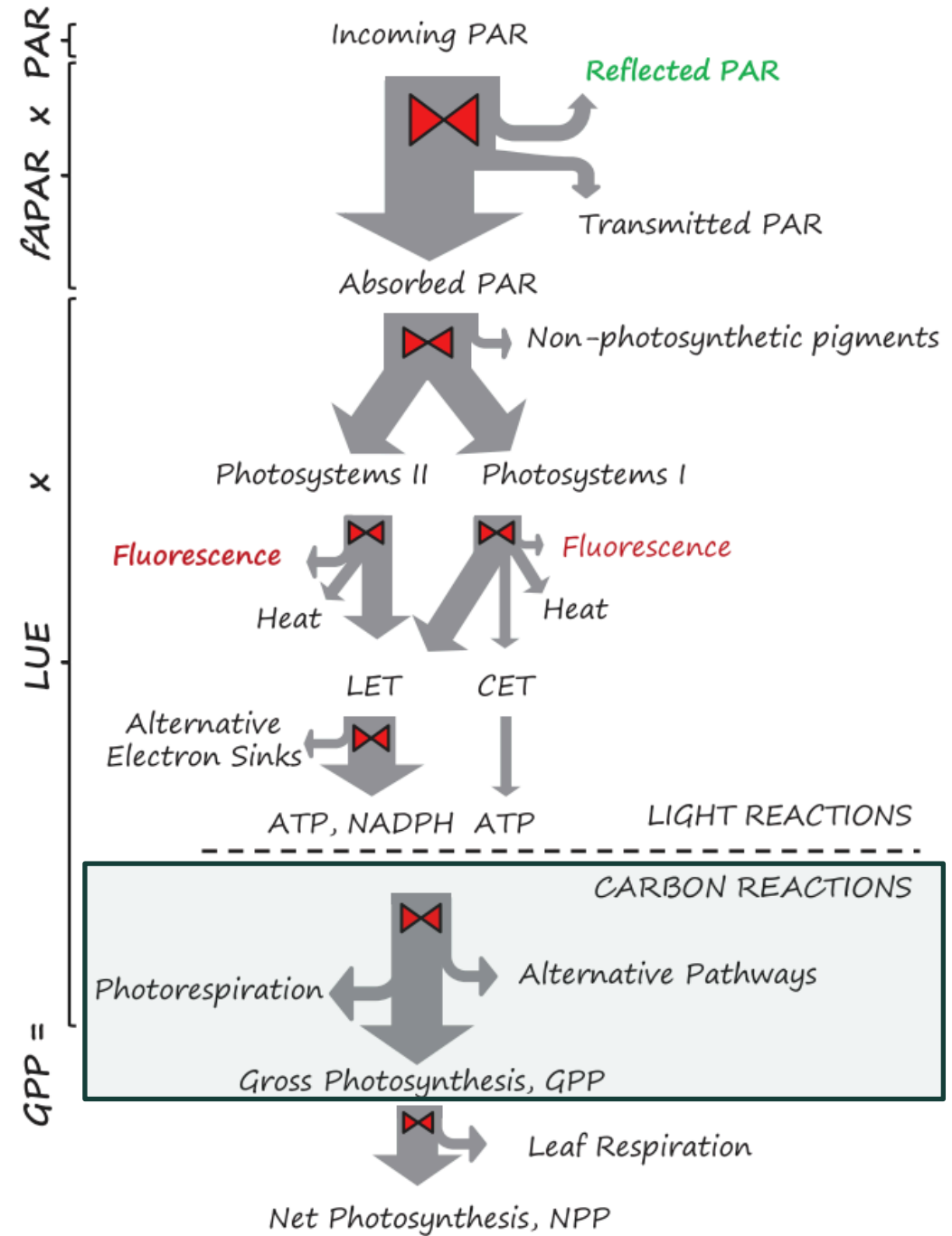


Loss through Photorespiration



Photorespiration

Calvin Cycle



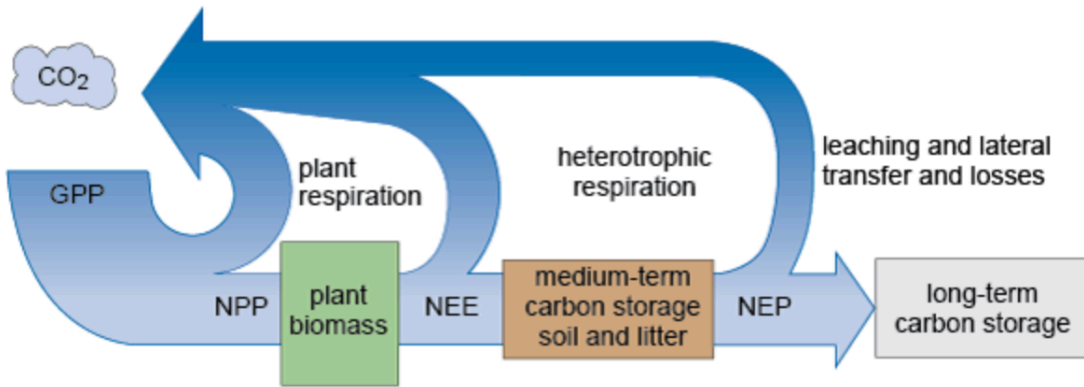
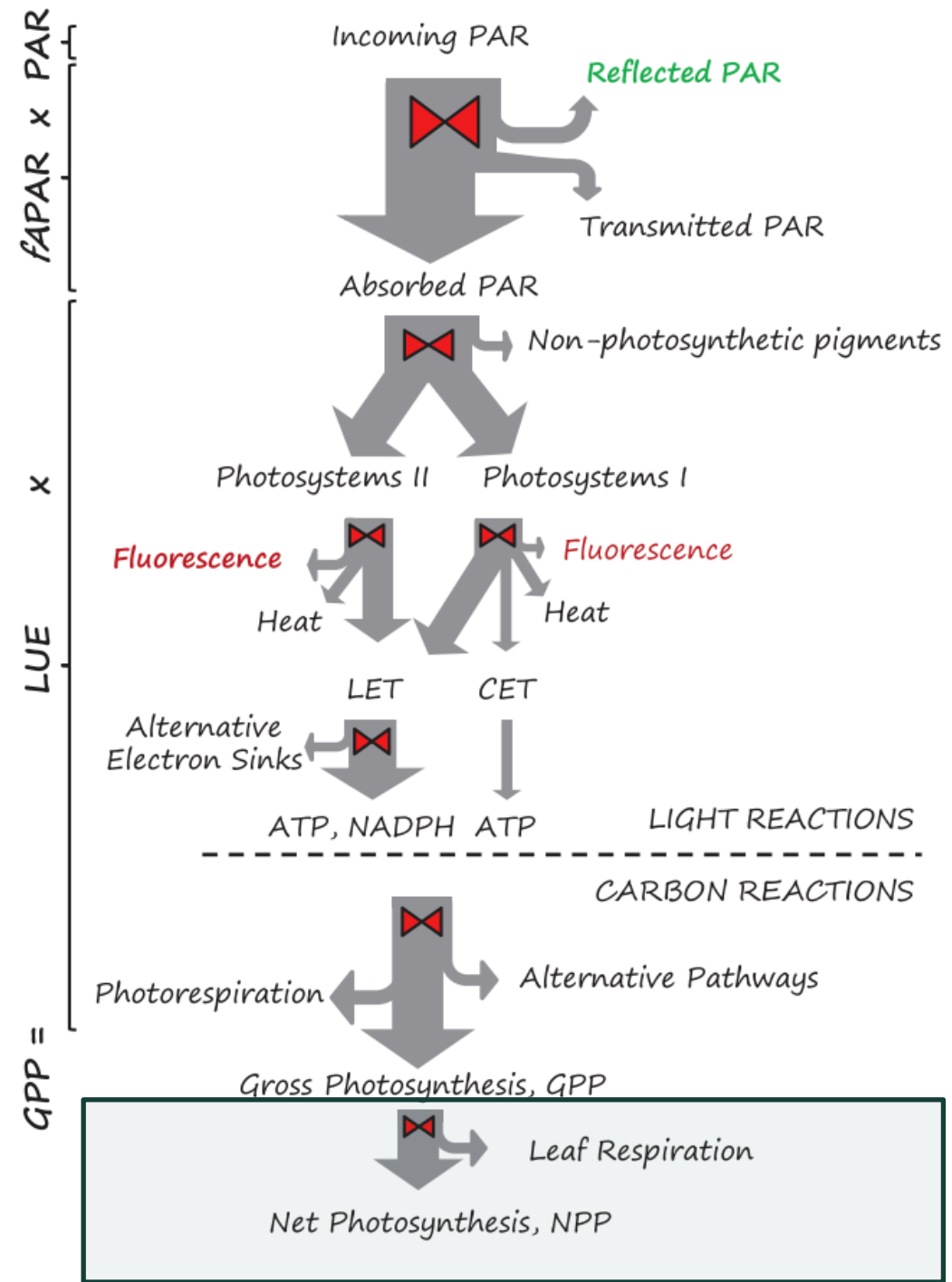
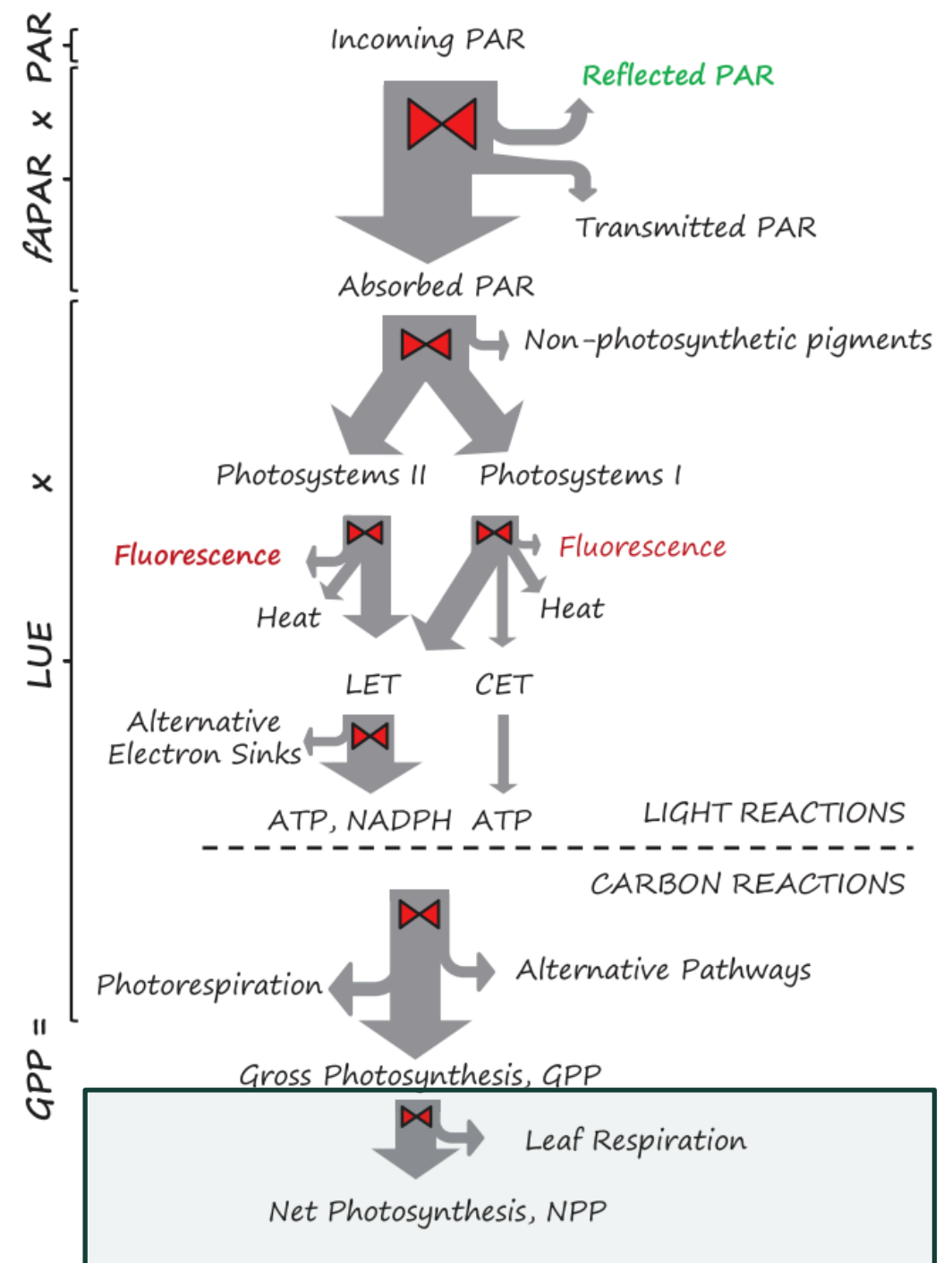
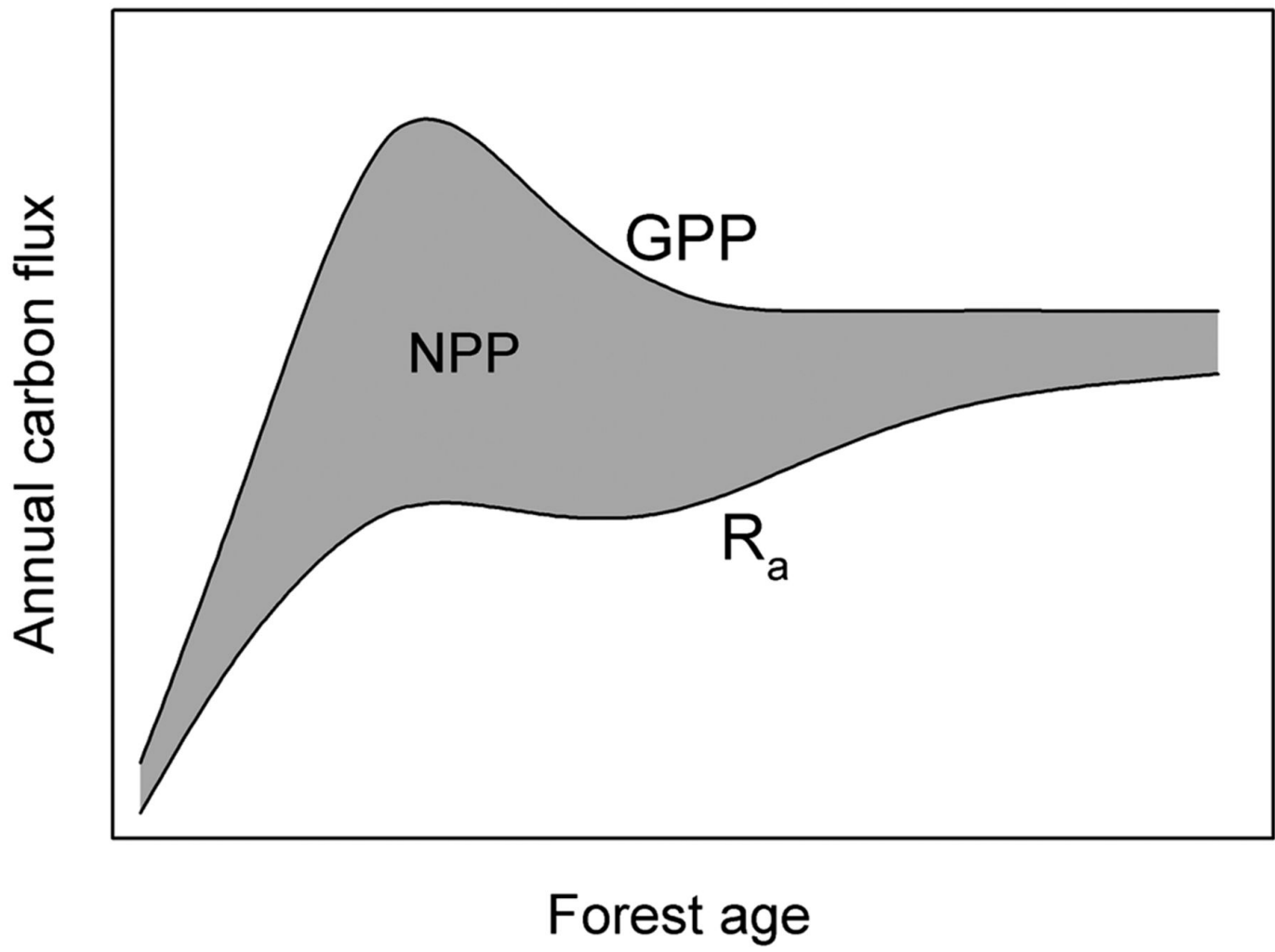


Figure 2.2.21 Net ecosystem production (NEP) is equal to net ecosystem exchange (NEE) minus losses from leaching and including any losses or gains from lateral carbon transfers. NEP is equivalent to the amount of carbon accumulated in ecosystem organic matter (alive and dead) over the period of time in question (normally 1 year).



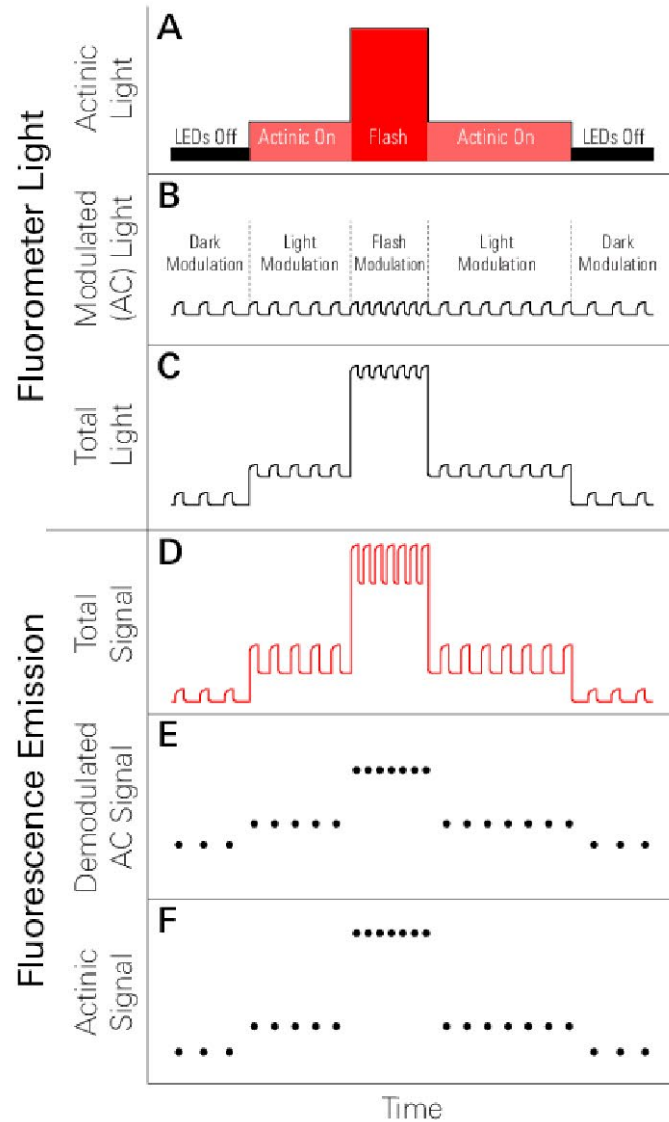


So, what can fluorescence teach us about photosynthesis?

- Let's start with active methods that have been used for decades
- ... and then move on to solar-induced fluorescence and what we can learn from that (and what the difference is to active methods)



Active Fluorometry (Decades of Research)

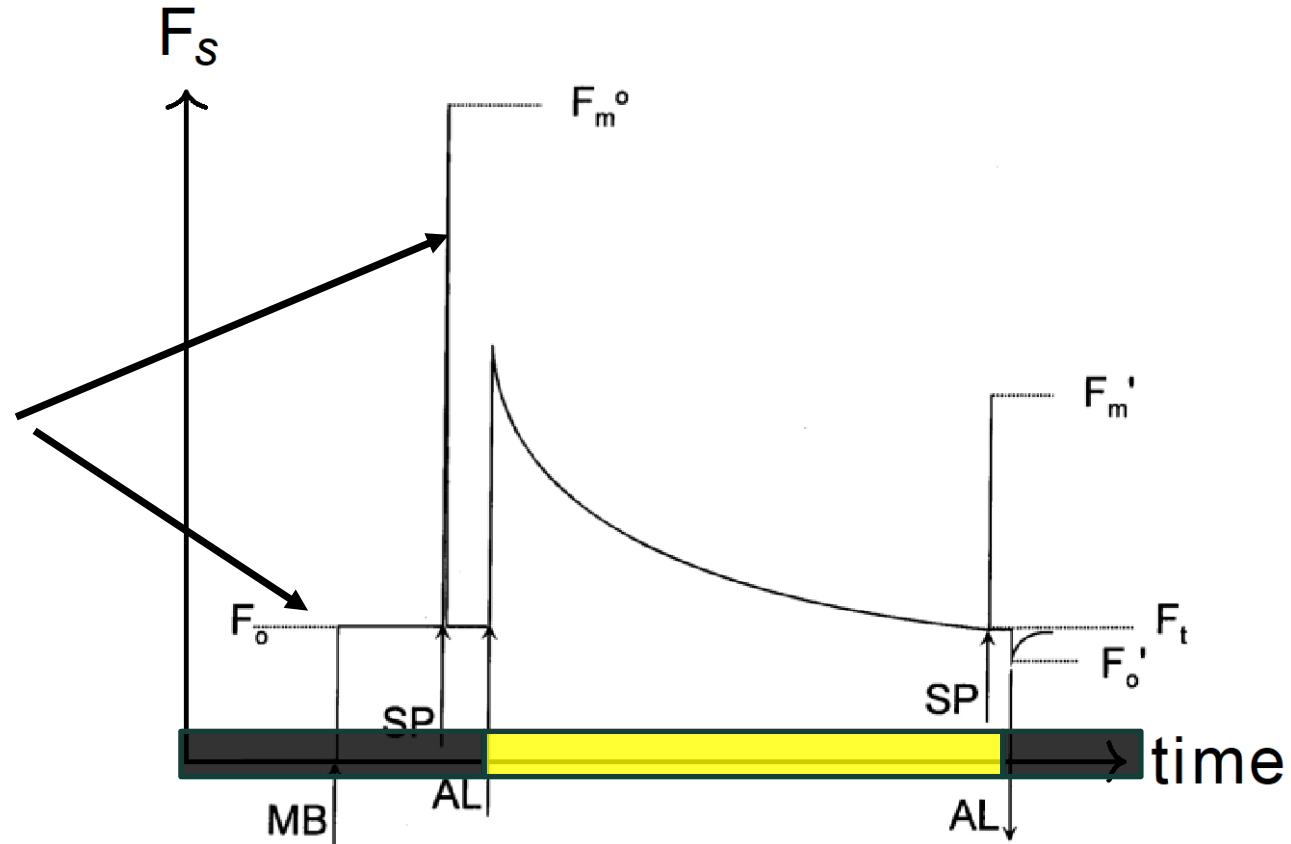


The Power of Active Fluorometry

► Fluorescence yield

$$\Phi_f = \frac{K_f}{K_f + \cancel{K_p} + \cancel{K_n}}$$

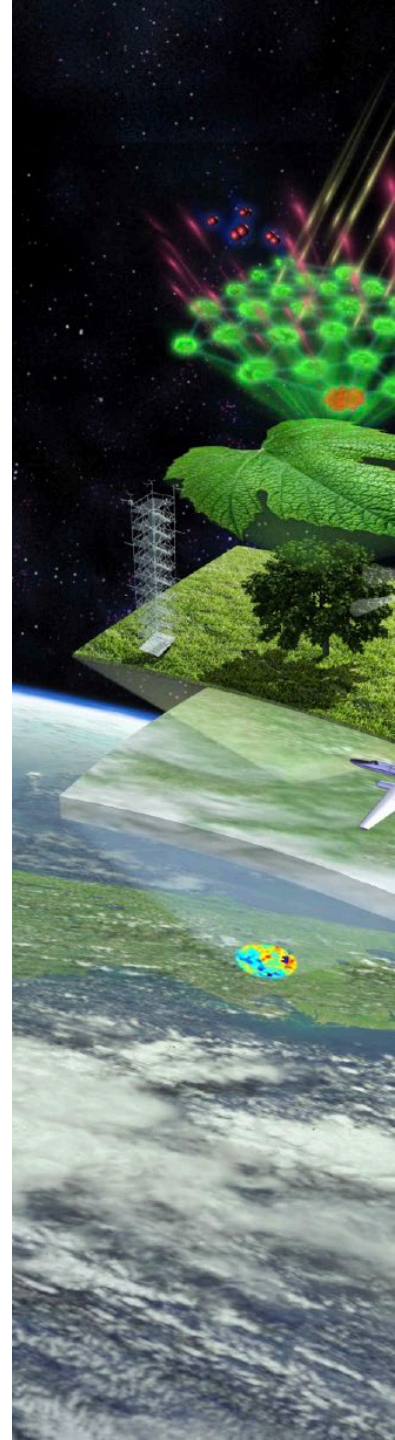
- Rates for:
- Fluorescence
- Photosynthesis
- Heat quenching (NPQ)



from Maxwell & Johnson 2000

AL=Actinic Light (moderate light was turned on " and off #)

SP = Saturating Pulse (strong pulsed light at each ")



The Power of Active Fluorometry

► Fluorescence yield

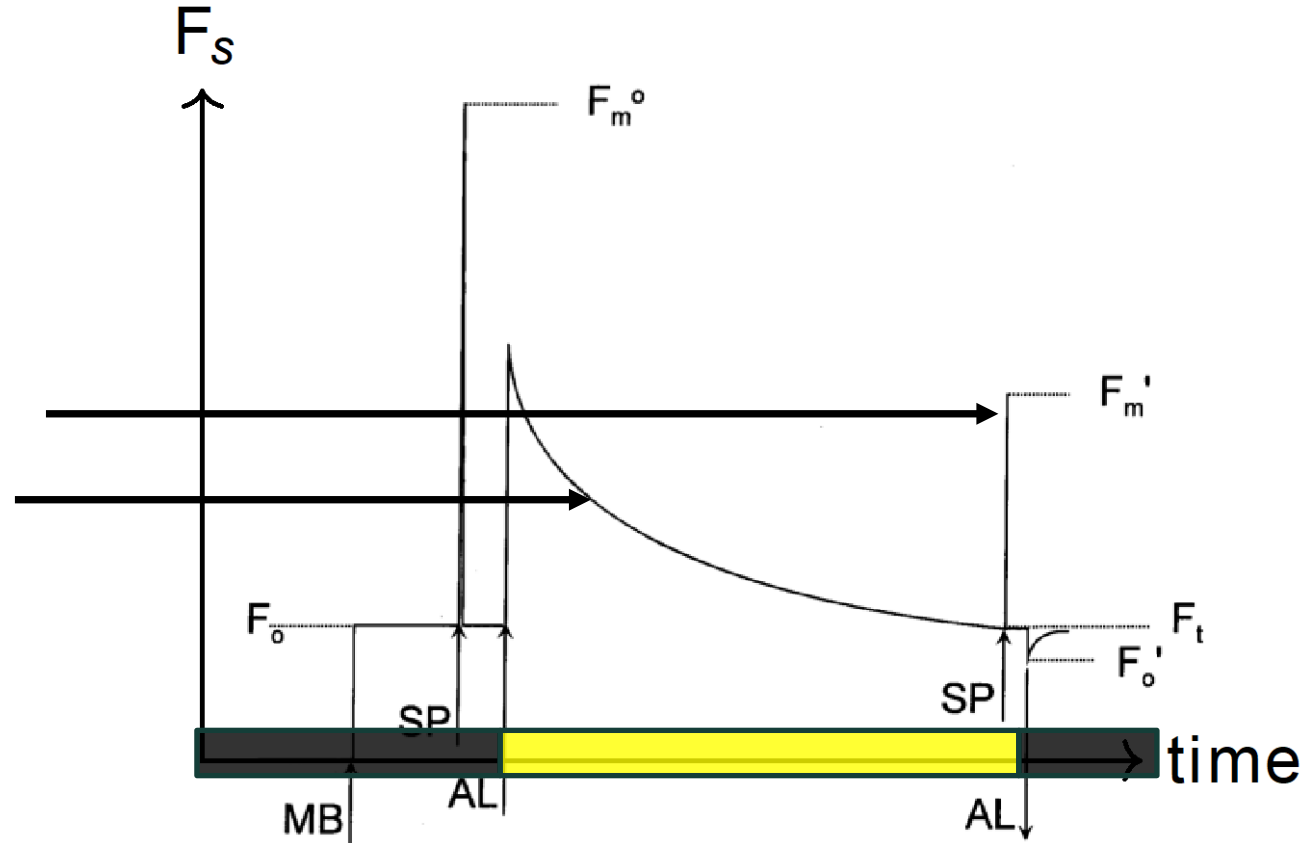
$$\Phi_f = \frac{K_f}{K_f + \cancel{K_p} + K_n}$$

► Rates for:

► Fluorescence

► Photosynthesis

► Heat quenching (NPQ)



from Maxwell & Johnson 2000

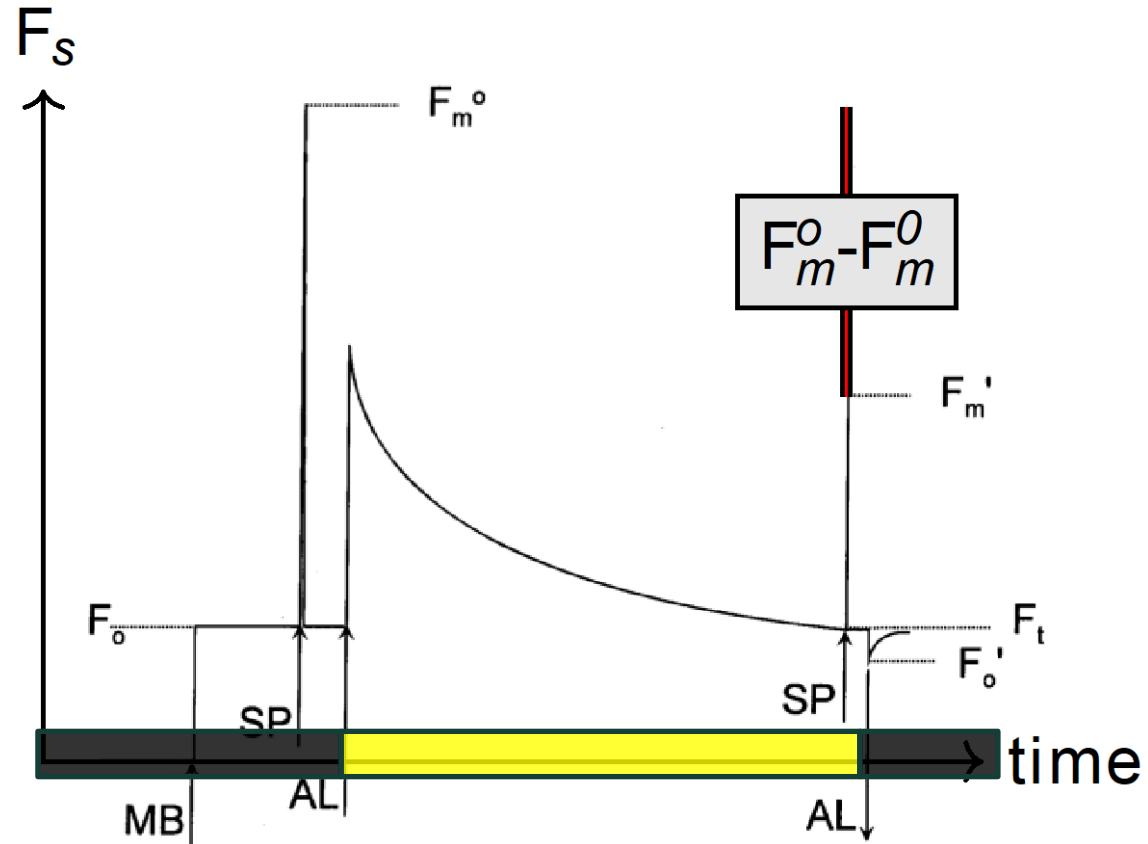
AL=Actinic Light (moderate light was turned on " and off #)

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The Power of Active Fluorometry

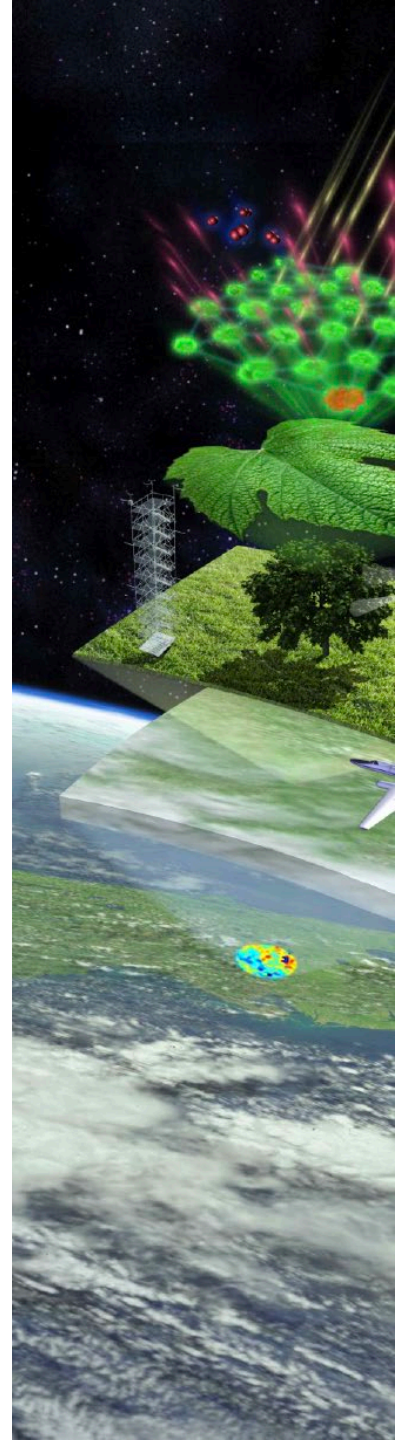
$$NPQ = (F_m^0 - F_m') / F_m^0$$



from Maxwell & Johnson 2000

AL=Actinic Light (moderate light was turned on " and off #)

SP = Saturating Pulse (strong pulsed light at each ")



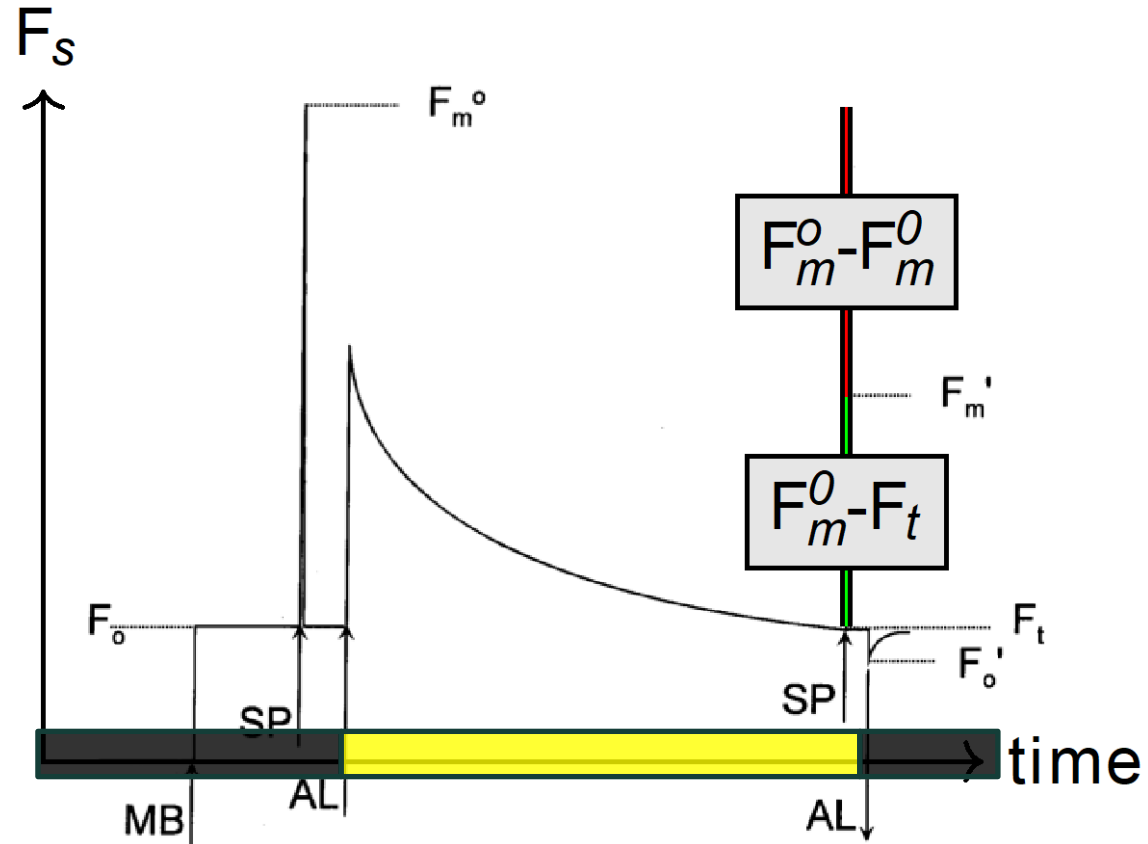
The Power of Active Fluorometry

$$| \text{NPQ} = (F_m^0 - F_m') / F_m^0$$

$$| \Phi_{PSII} = (F_m^0 - F_t) / F_m^0$$

Genty, Briantais, Baker (1988), > 5000

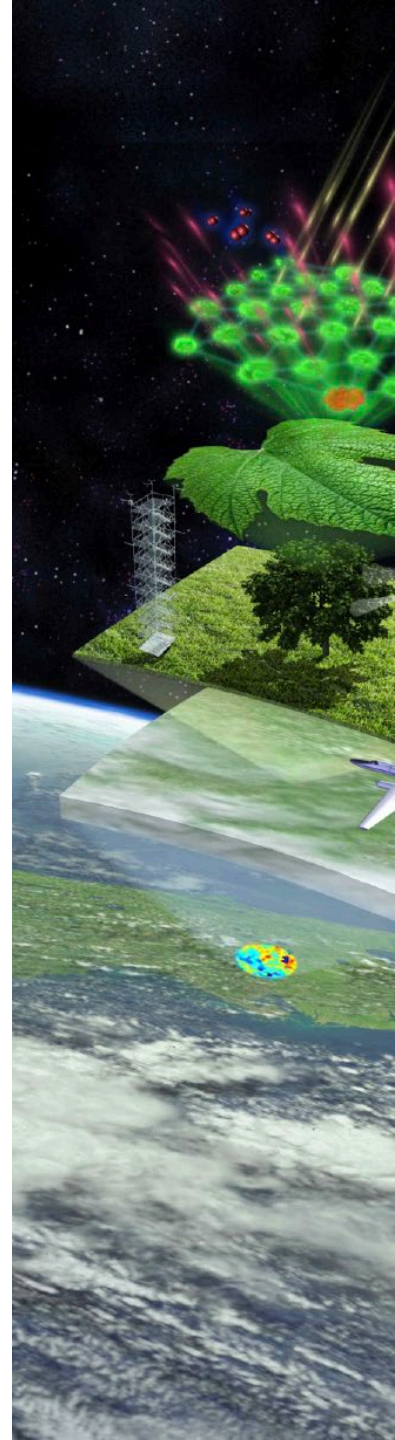
citations



from Maxwell & Johnson 2000

AL=Actinic Light (moderate light was turned on " and off #)

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The Power of Active Fluorometry

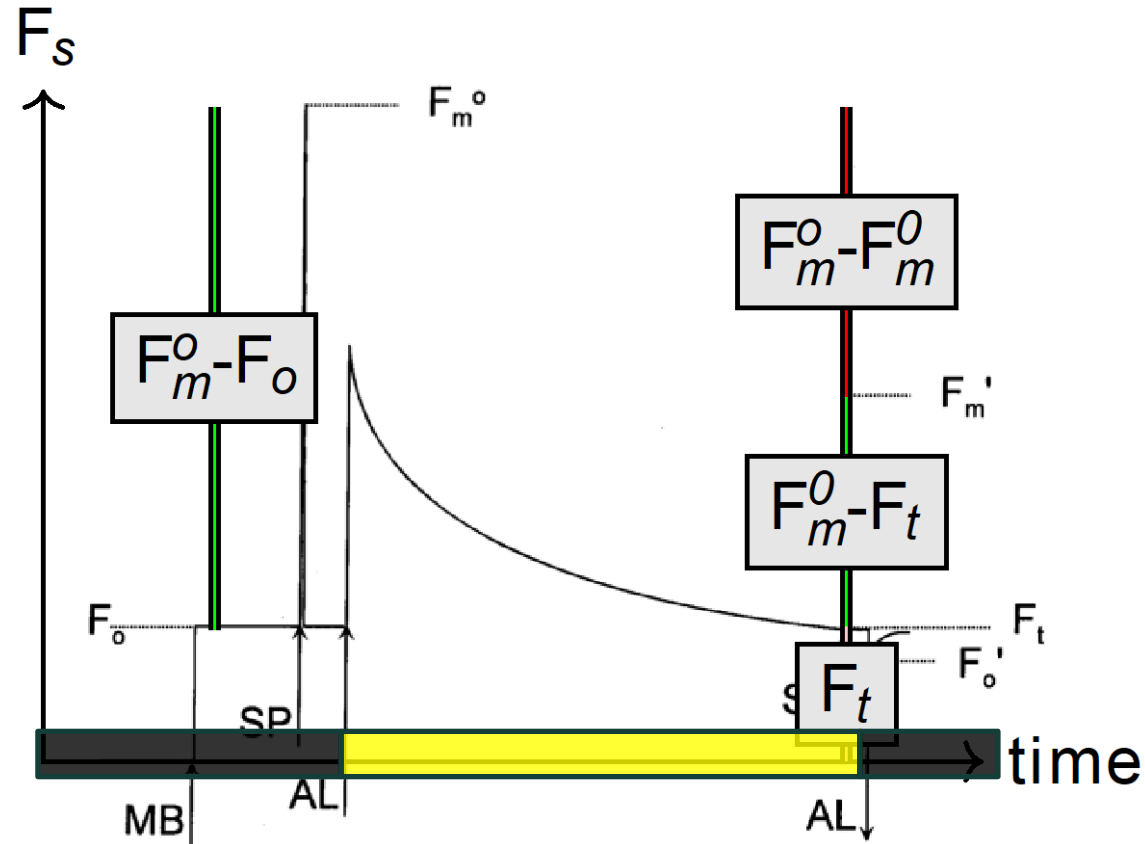
I
$$NPQ = (F_m^0 - F_m) / F_m^0$$

I
$$\Phi_{PSII} = (F_m^0 - F_t) / F_m^0$$

Genty, Briantais, Baker (1988), > 5000 citations

I maximum PSII yield

$$= (F_m - F_o) / F_m$$



from Maxwell & Johnson 2000

AL=Actinic Light (moderate light was turned on " and off #)

SP = Saturating Pulse (strong pulsed light at each ")

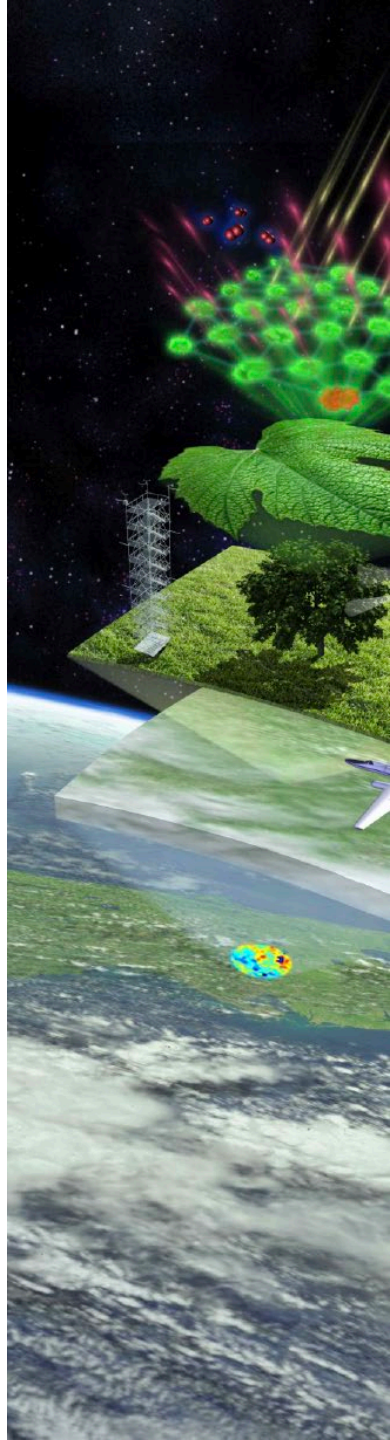


The Power of Active Fluorometry

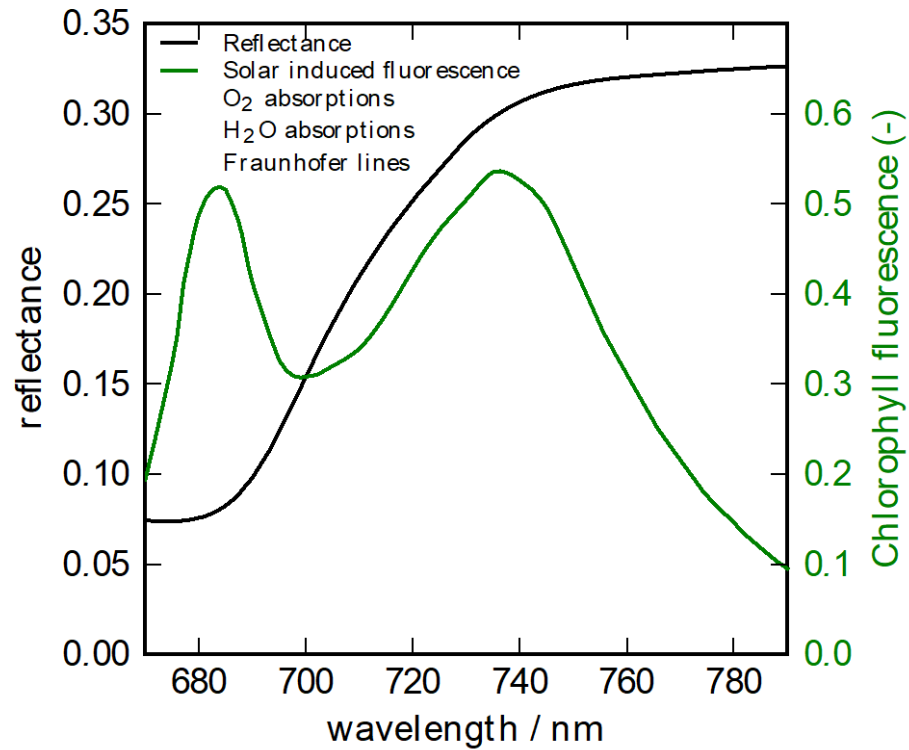
With active fluorescence, the efficiency of PSII and hence electron transport can be directly calculated with

$$J = \Phi_{PSII} * APAR * \beta$$

with β being the fraction of light absorbed by PSII (re PSI, often just assumed to be 0.5 on average)



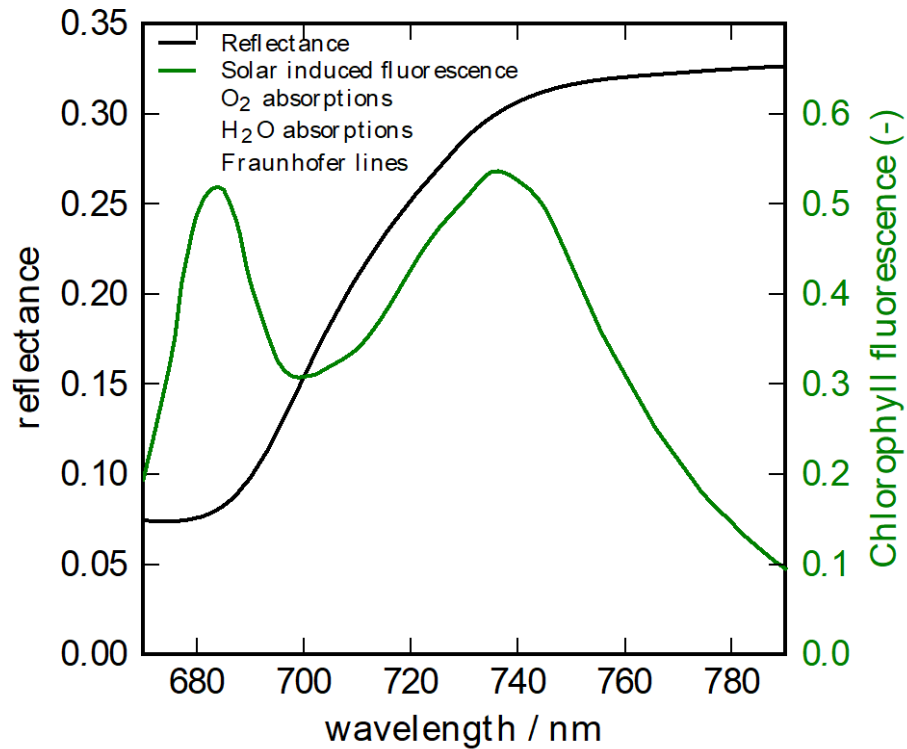
SOLAR INDUCED FLUORESCENCE (ABSOLUTE)



$$\text{SIF} = \text{PAR} \cdot f_{\text{PAR}} \cdot \Phi_f$$

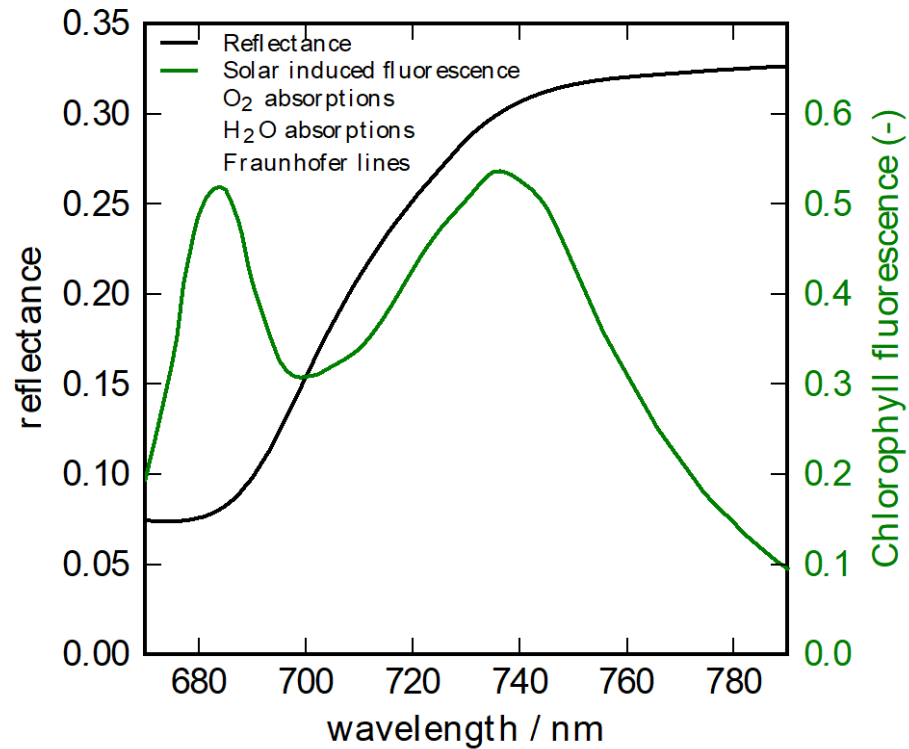
SOLAR INDUCED FLUORESCENCE (ABSOLUTE)

I Photosynthetically Active Radiation



$$\text{SIF} = \text{PAR} \cdot f\text{PAR} \cdot \Phi_f$$

SOLAR INDUCED FLUORESCENCE (ABSOLUTE)

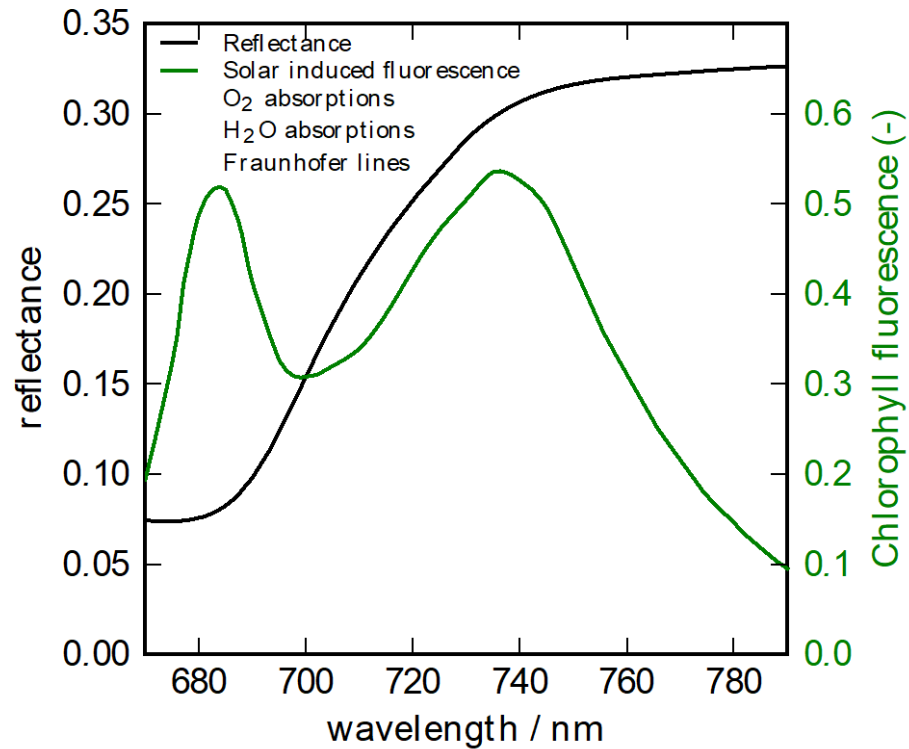


I Photosynthetically Active Radiation

$$\text{SIF} = \text{PAR} \cdot f\text{PAR} \cdot \Phi_f$$

I Fraction of PAR absorbed

SOLAR INDUCED FLUORESCENCE (ABSOLUTE)



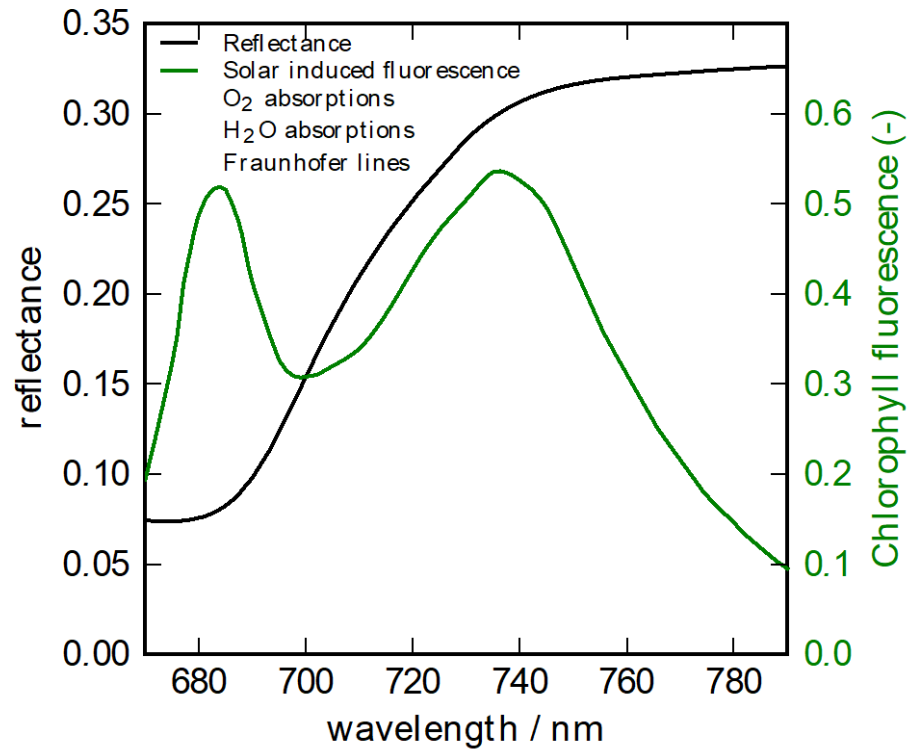
| Photosynthetically Active Radiation

$$\text{SIF} = \text{PAR} \cdot \text{fPAR} \cdot \Phi_f$$

| Fraction of PAR absorbed

| fPAR can be estimated from NDVI (with some caveats!)

SOLAR INDUCED FLUORESCENCE (ABSOLUTE)



| Photosynthetically Active Radiation

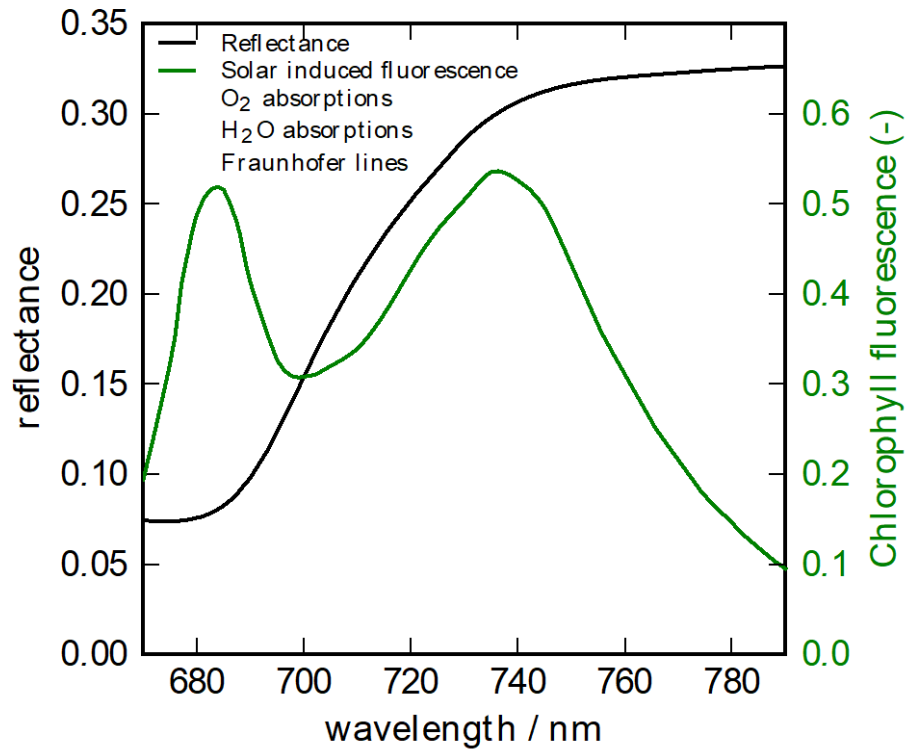
$$\text{SIF} = \text{PAR} \cdot f\text{PAR} \cdot \Phi_f$$

| Fraction of PAR absorbed

| $f\text{PAR}$ can be estimated from NDVI (with some caveats!)

$$\text{GPP} = \text{PAR} \cdot f\text{PAR} \cdot \Phi_p$$

SOLAR INDUCED FLUORESCENCE (ABSOLUTE)



| Photosynthetically Active Radiation

$$\text{SIF} = \text{PAR} \cdot f\text{PAR} \cdot \Phi_f$$

| Fraction of PAR absorbed

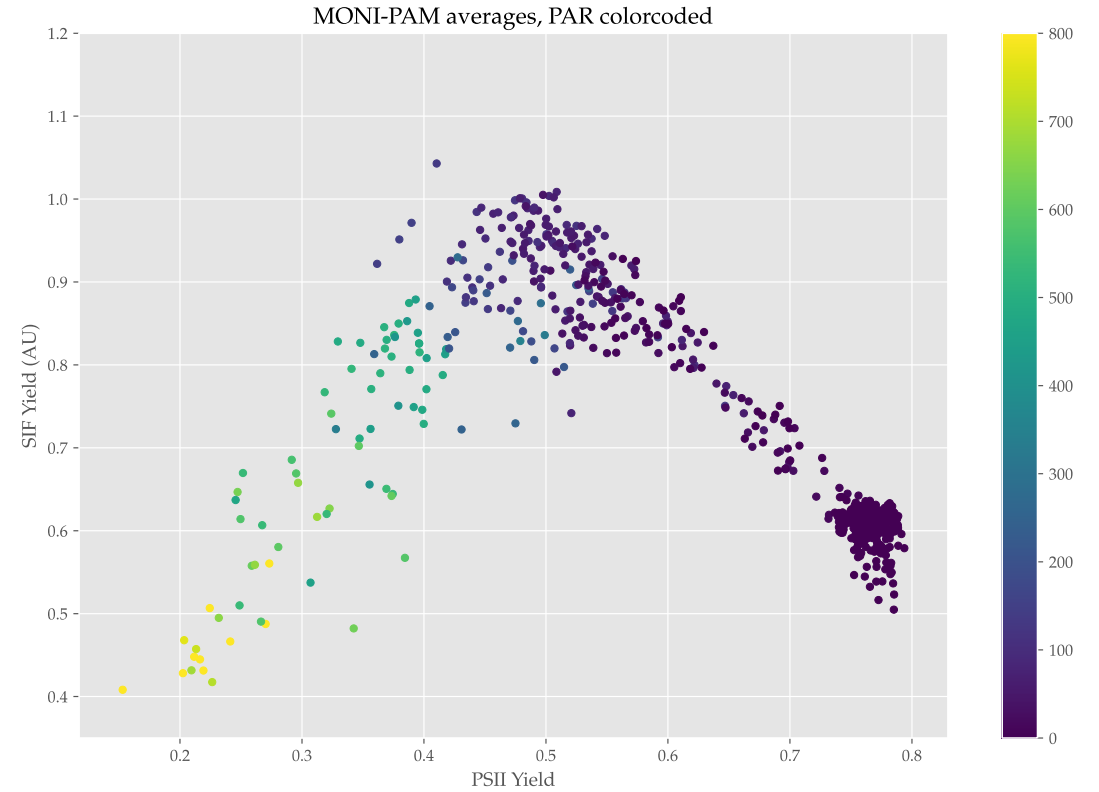
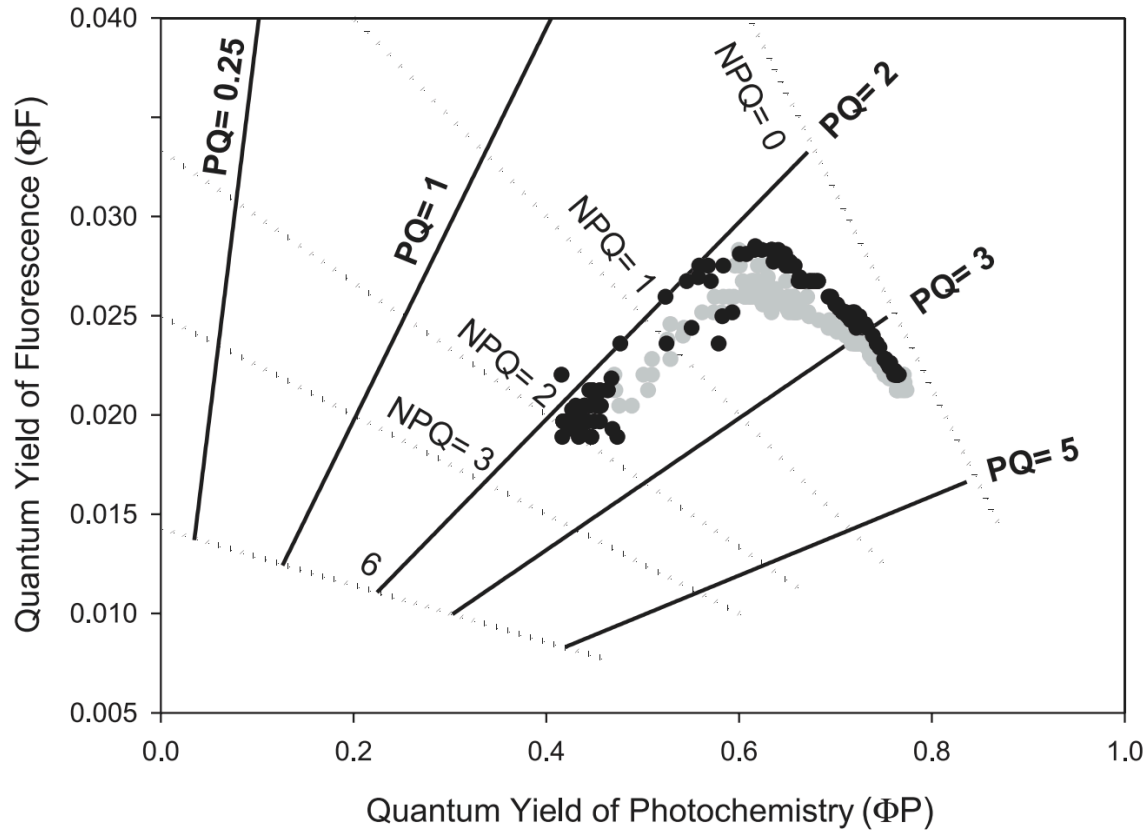
| fPAR can be estimated from NDVI (with some caveats!)

$$\text{GPP} = \text{PAR} \cdot f\text{PAR} \cdot \Phi_p$$

$$\text{GPP} = \text{SIF} \cdot \Phi_p / \Phi_f$$

The Relationship Between Fluorescence and Photosynthesis Yields

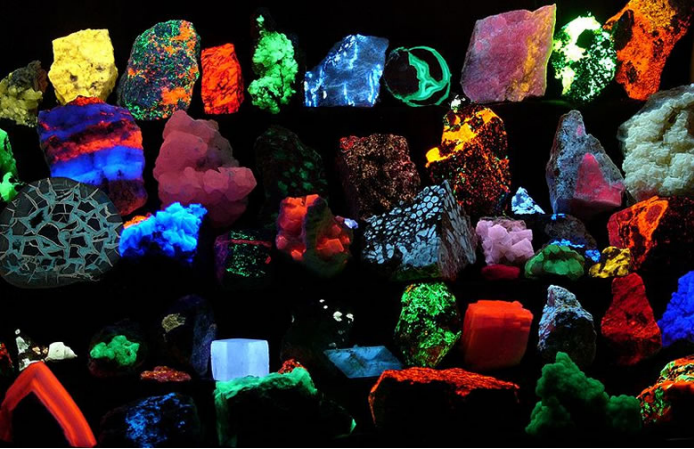
4086 | Porcar-Castell *et al.*



How do we measure SIF?

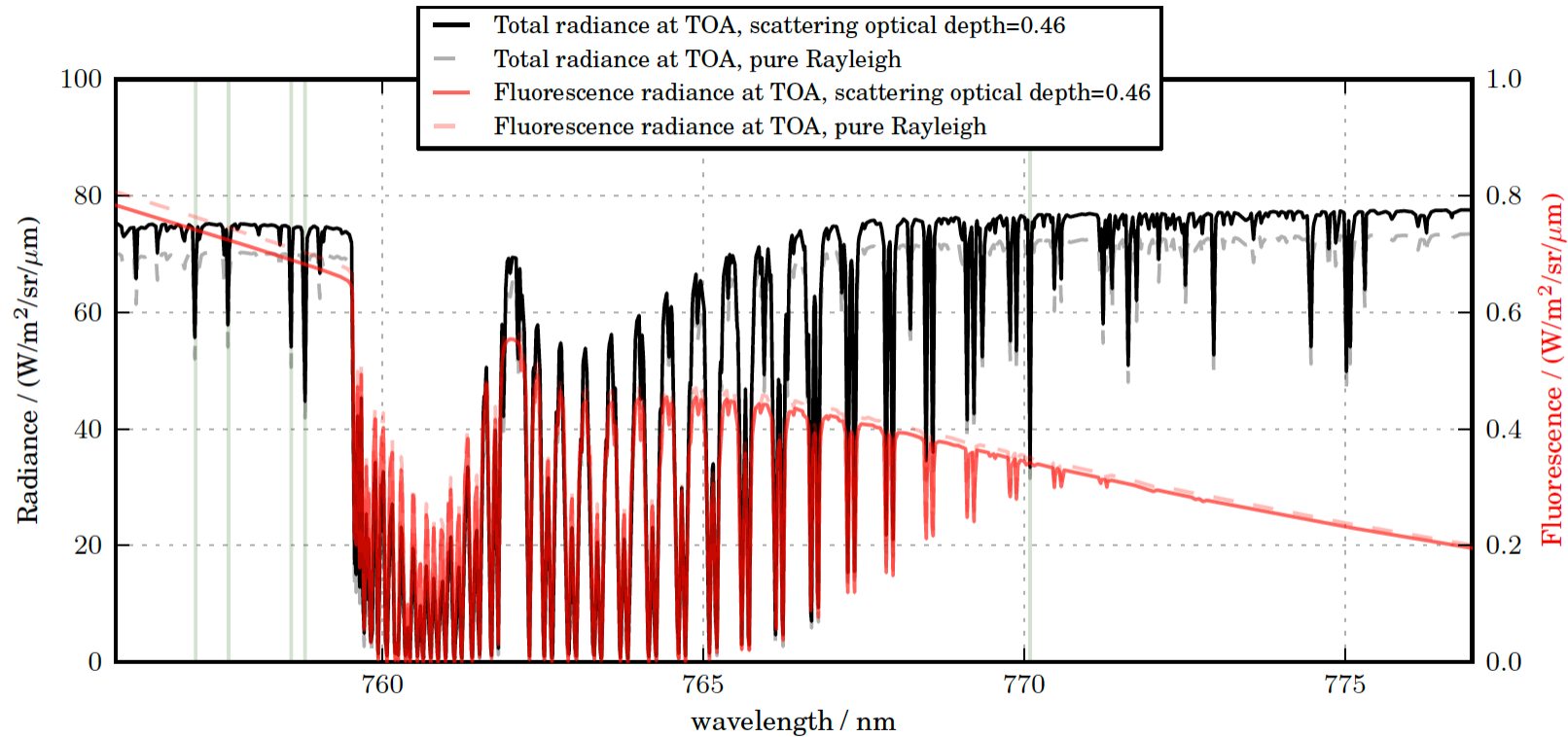
- From the theory of what SIF means to the means of measuring it





How do you measure this faint glow remotely?

(It adds just about 1% to the total signal. Think of it like turning on a lightbulb in a sunny room.)



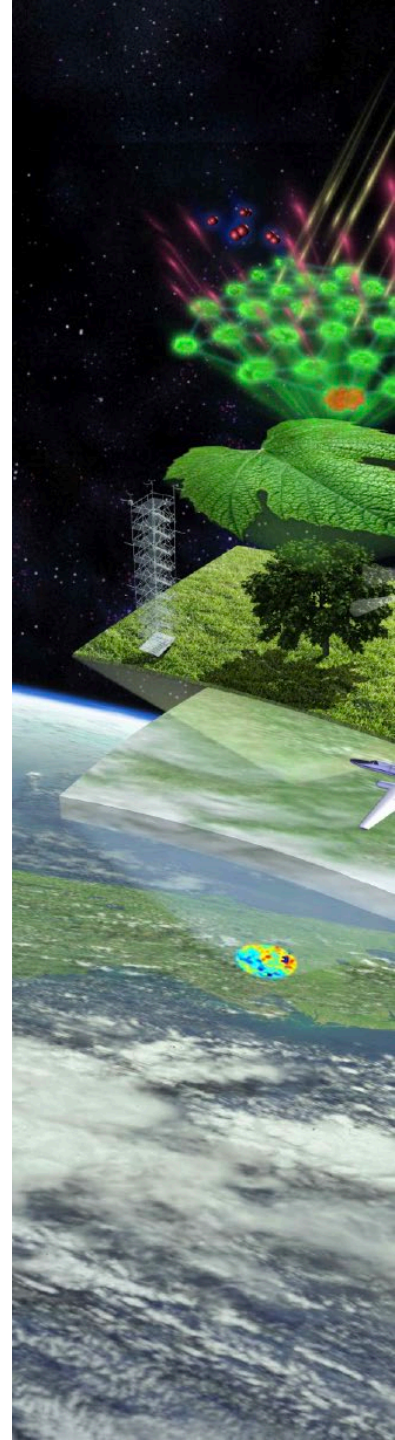
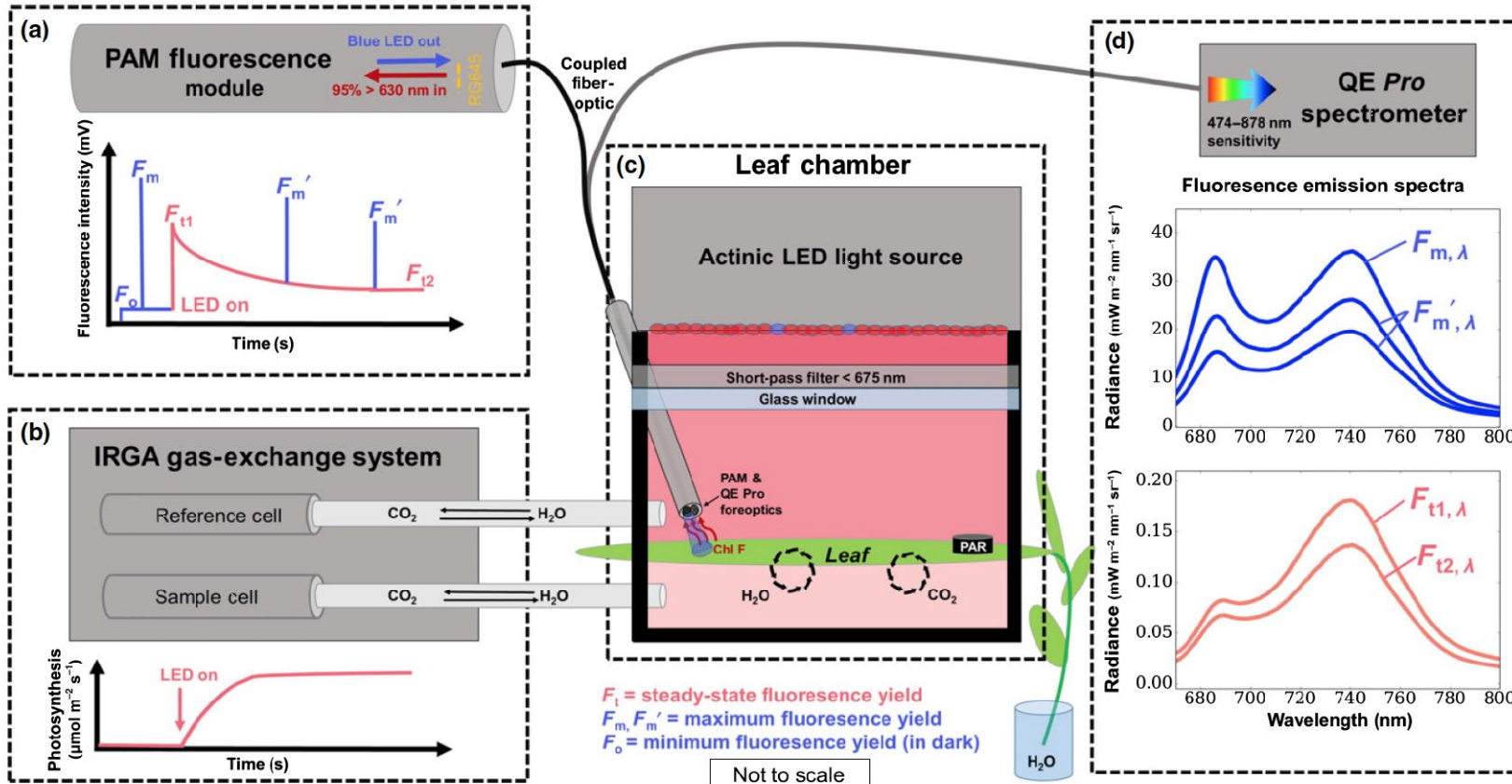
Frankenberg et al, AMT (2012)



Methods

Connecting active to passive fluorescence with photosynthesis: a method for evaluating remote sensing measurements of Chl fluorescence

Troy S. Magney¹, Christian Frankenberg^{1,2}, Joshua B. Fisher¹, Ying Sun^{1,3}, Gretchen B. North⁴, Thomas S. Davis⁵, Ari Kornfeld⁶ and Katharina Siebke⁷



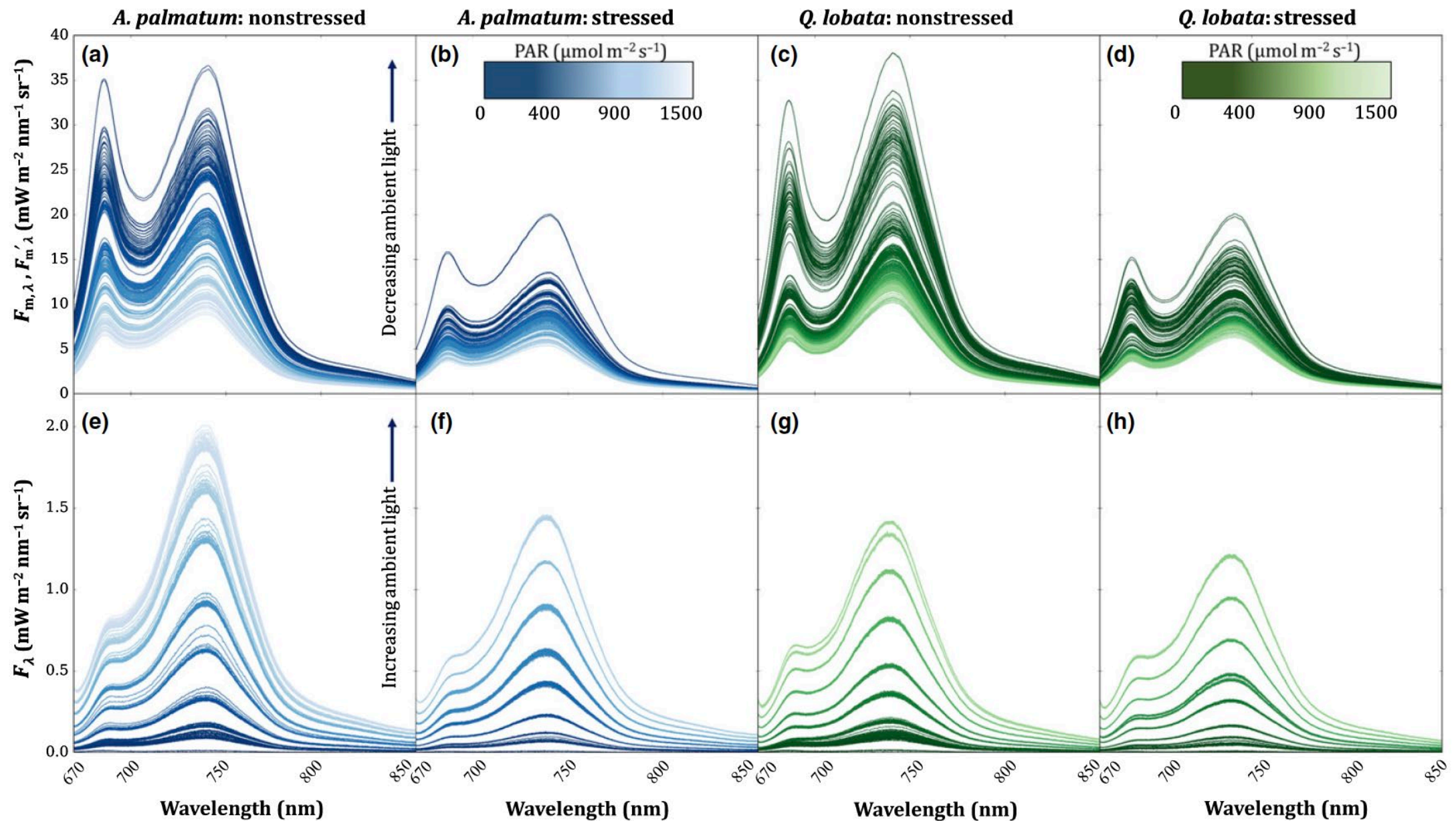
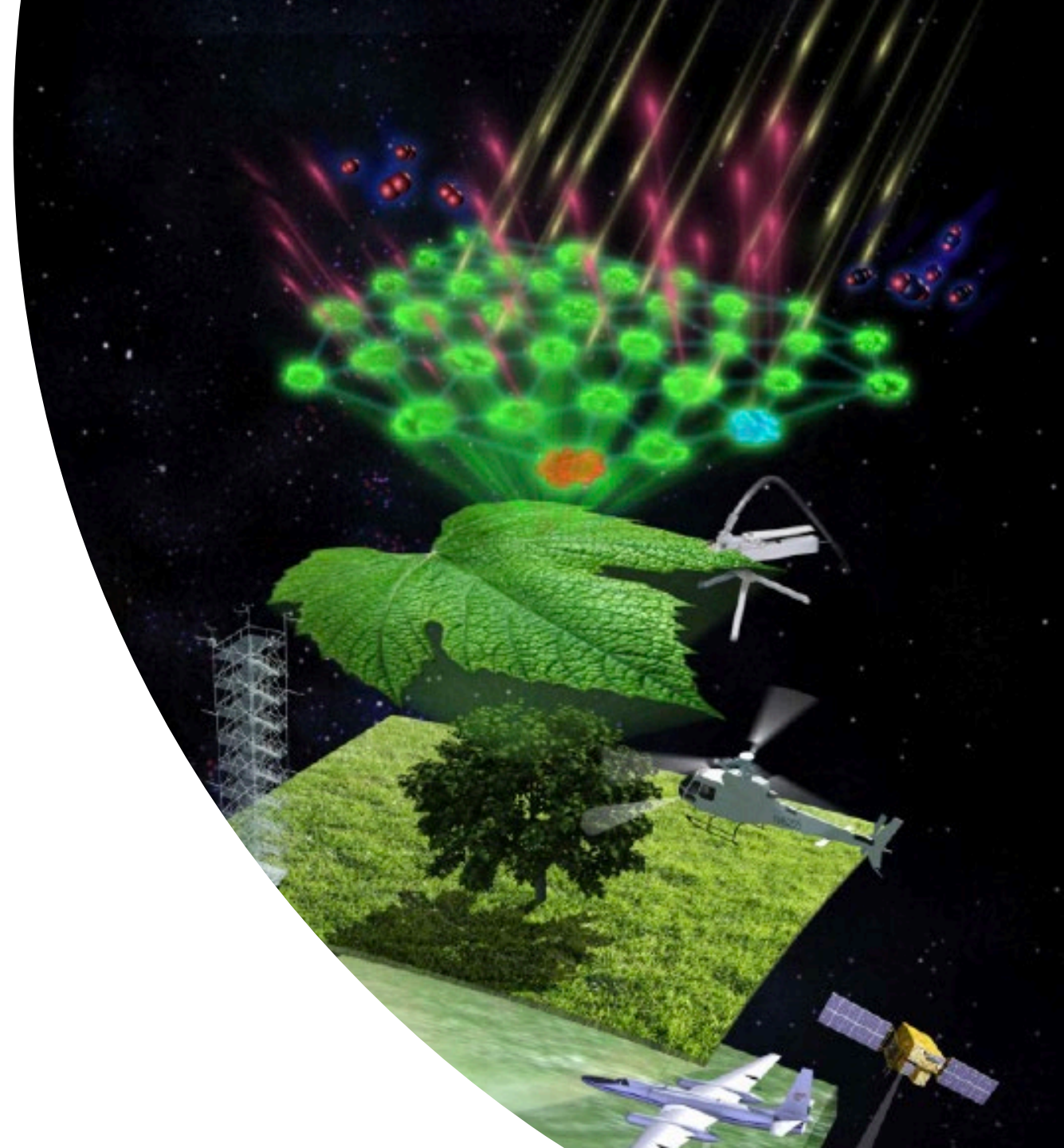


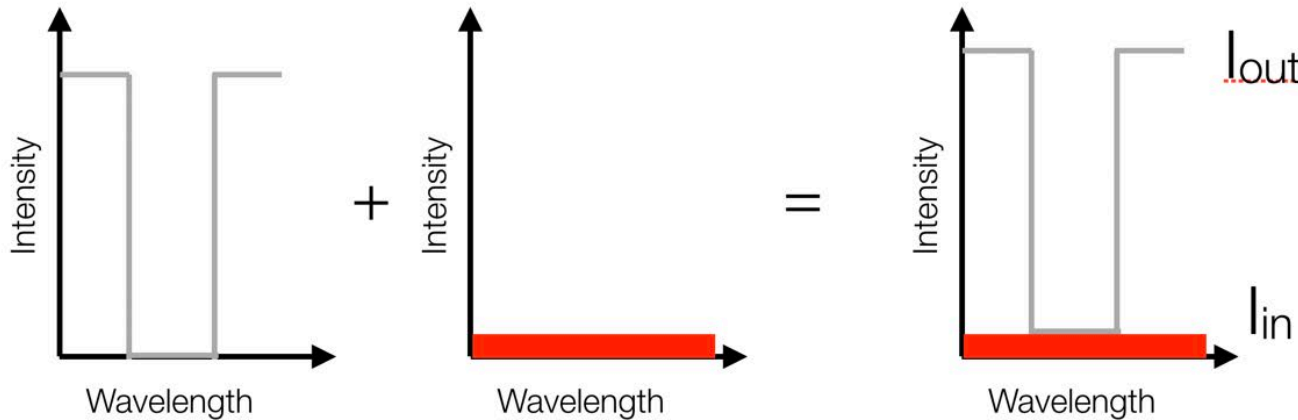
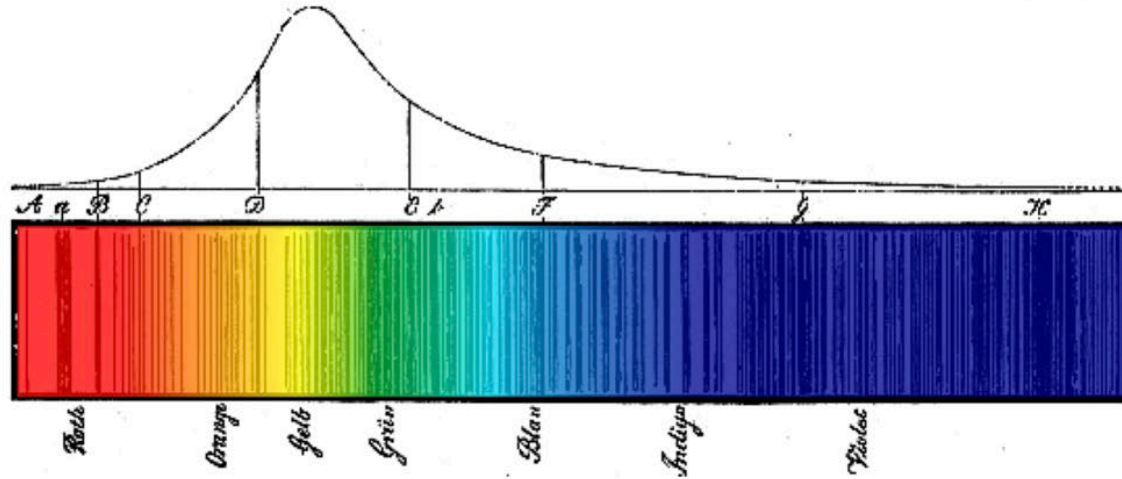
Fig. 4 Maximal fluorescence emission derived from the saturation pulse ($F_{m,\lambda}$ and $F'_{m,\lambda}$) (a–d) and actinic light-induced fluorescence emission (F_{λ}) (e–h) among *Acer palmatum* (blues) leaves under nonstressed (a, e) and stressed (b, f) conditions; and *Quercus lobata* (greens) leaves under nonstressed (c, g) and stressed (d, h) conditions. Color ramp is indicative of incident photosynthetically active radiation (PAR, $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) exposure during light response curve – lighter colors indicate greater PAR, and darker colors represent less incident PAR.

**We need a
curtain!**



We can use a “dark room” in spectral space!

The sun provided us with lots of (imperfect) band-pass filter!!

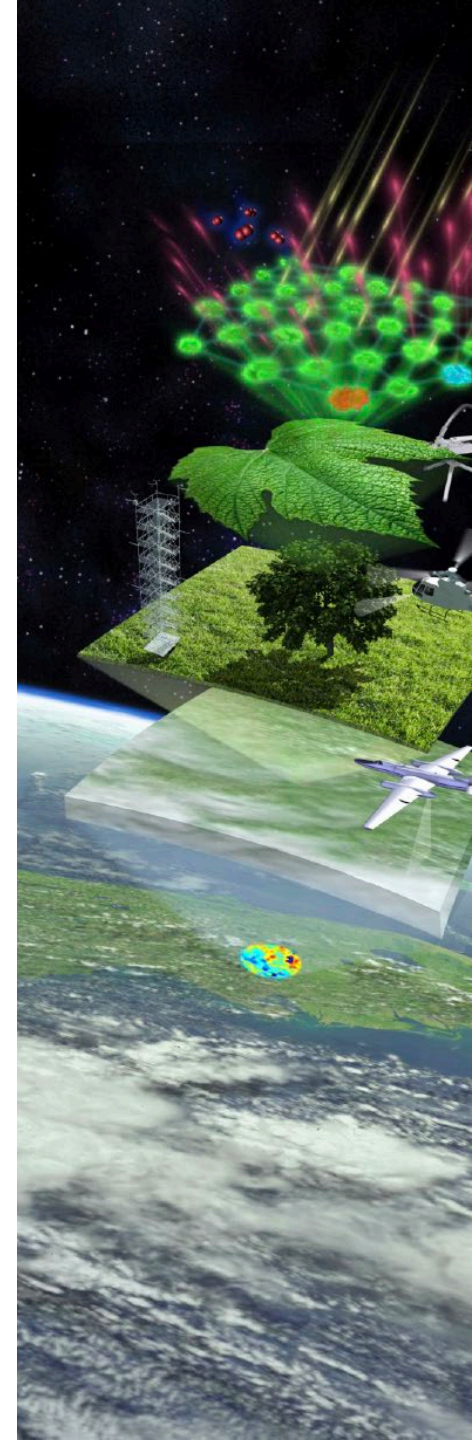
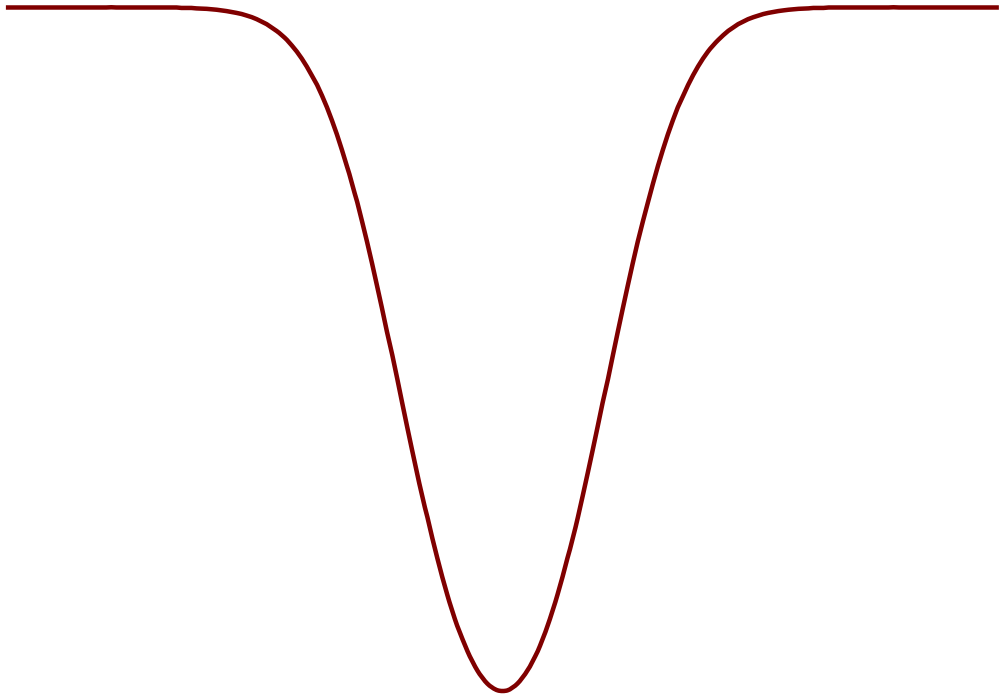


I_{in}/I_{out}
changes!



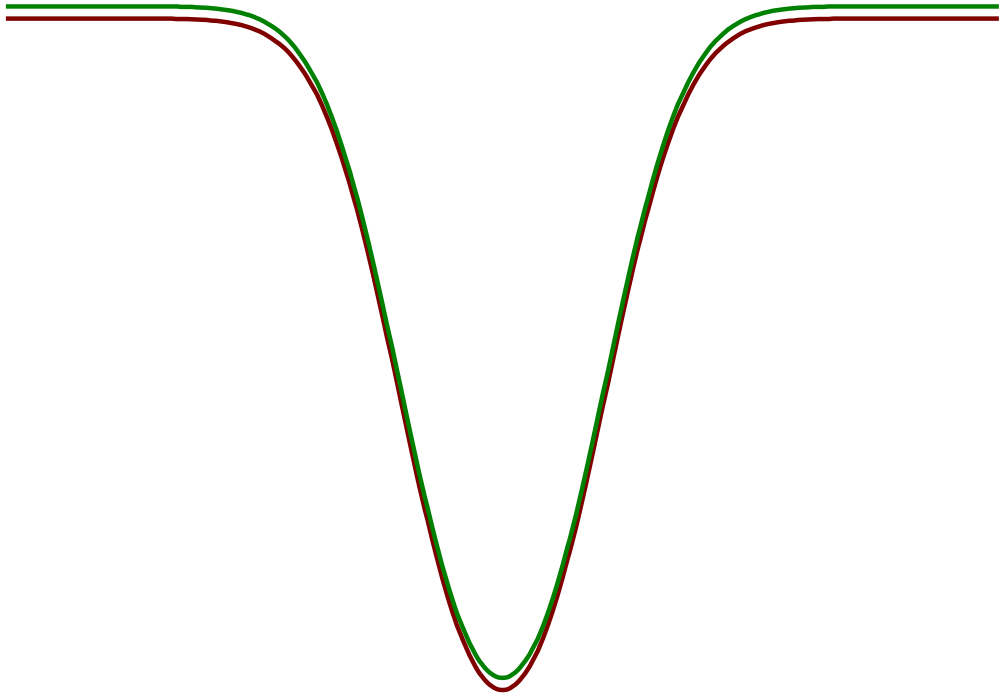
Impact of Fluorescence on Fraunhofer Line

- ▶ Made-up Fraunhofer line



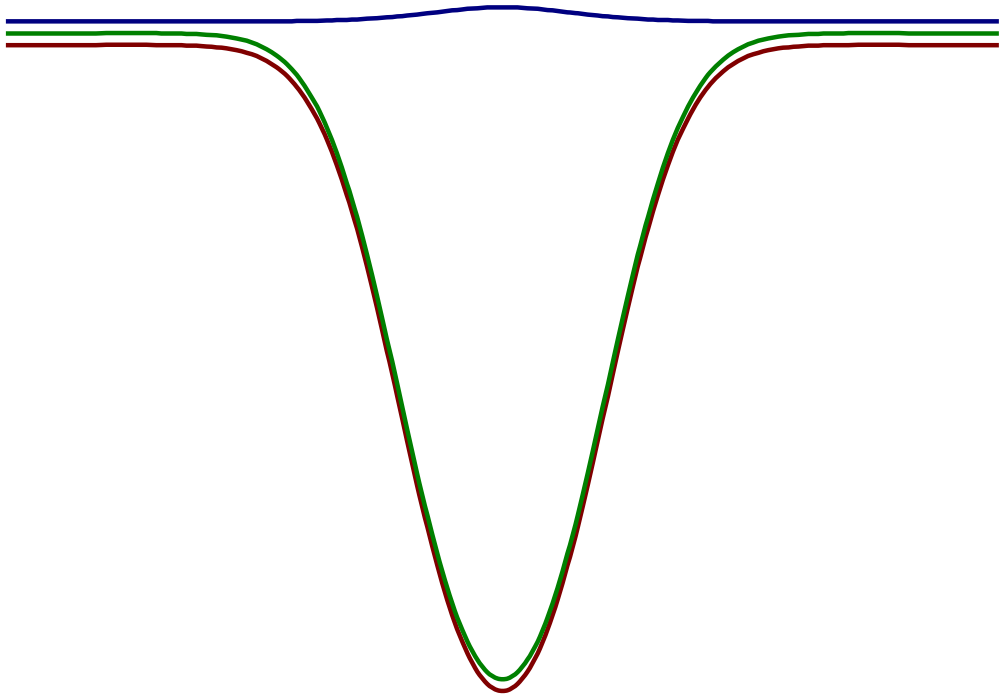
Impact of Fluorescence on Fraunhofer Line

- ▶ Made-up Fraunhofer line
- ▶ Fluorescence term added

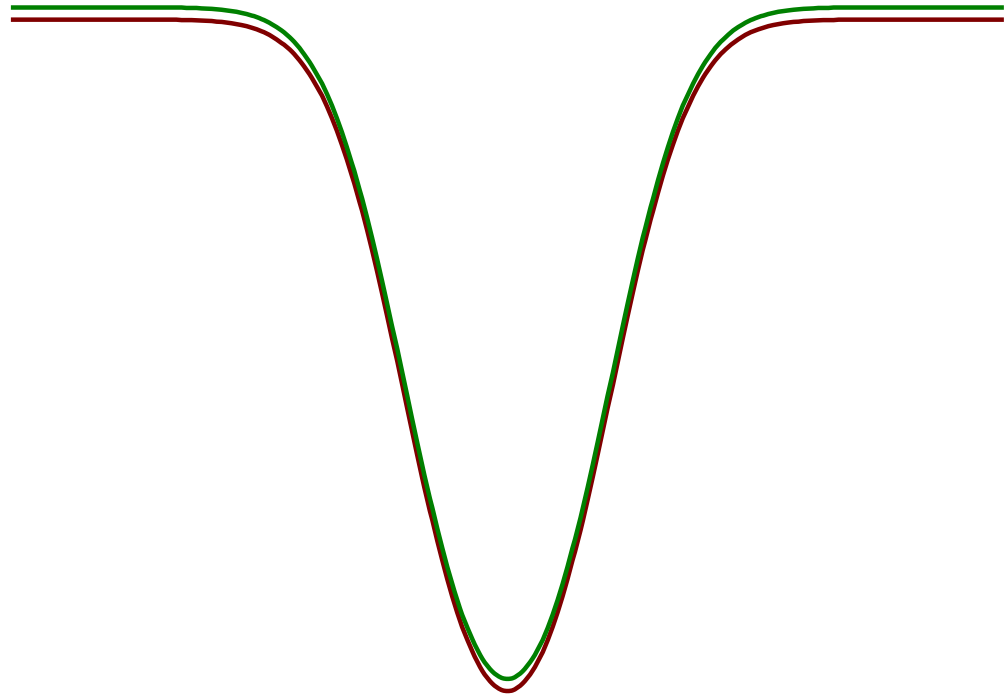


Impact of Fluorescence on Fraunhofer Line

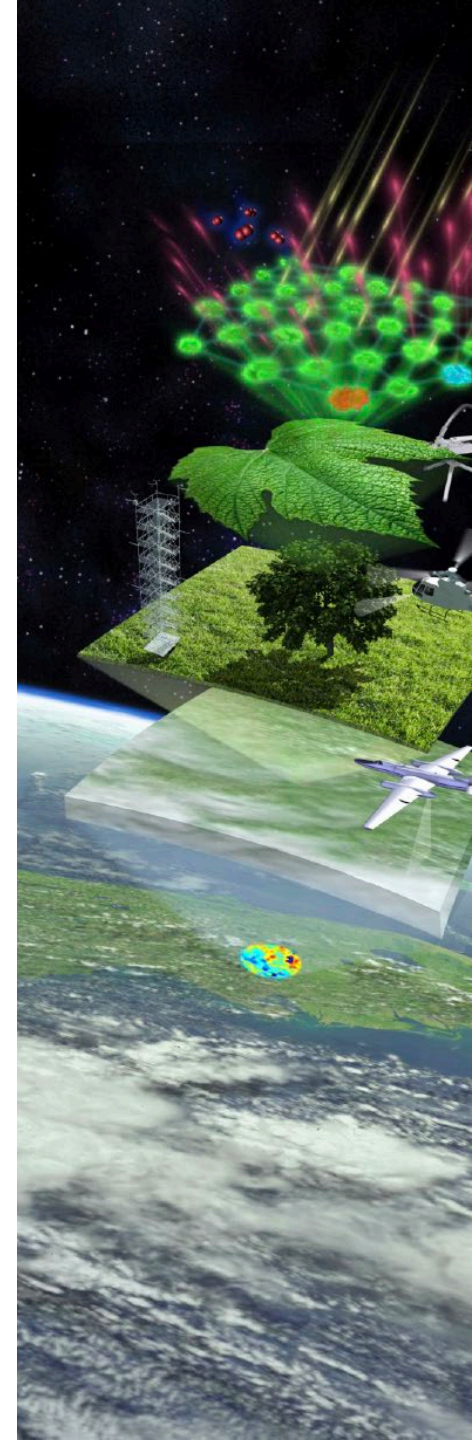
- ▶ Made-up Fraunhofer line
- ▶ Fluorescence term added
- ▶ Ratio of the spectra with and without fluorescence



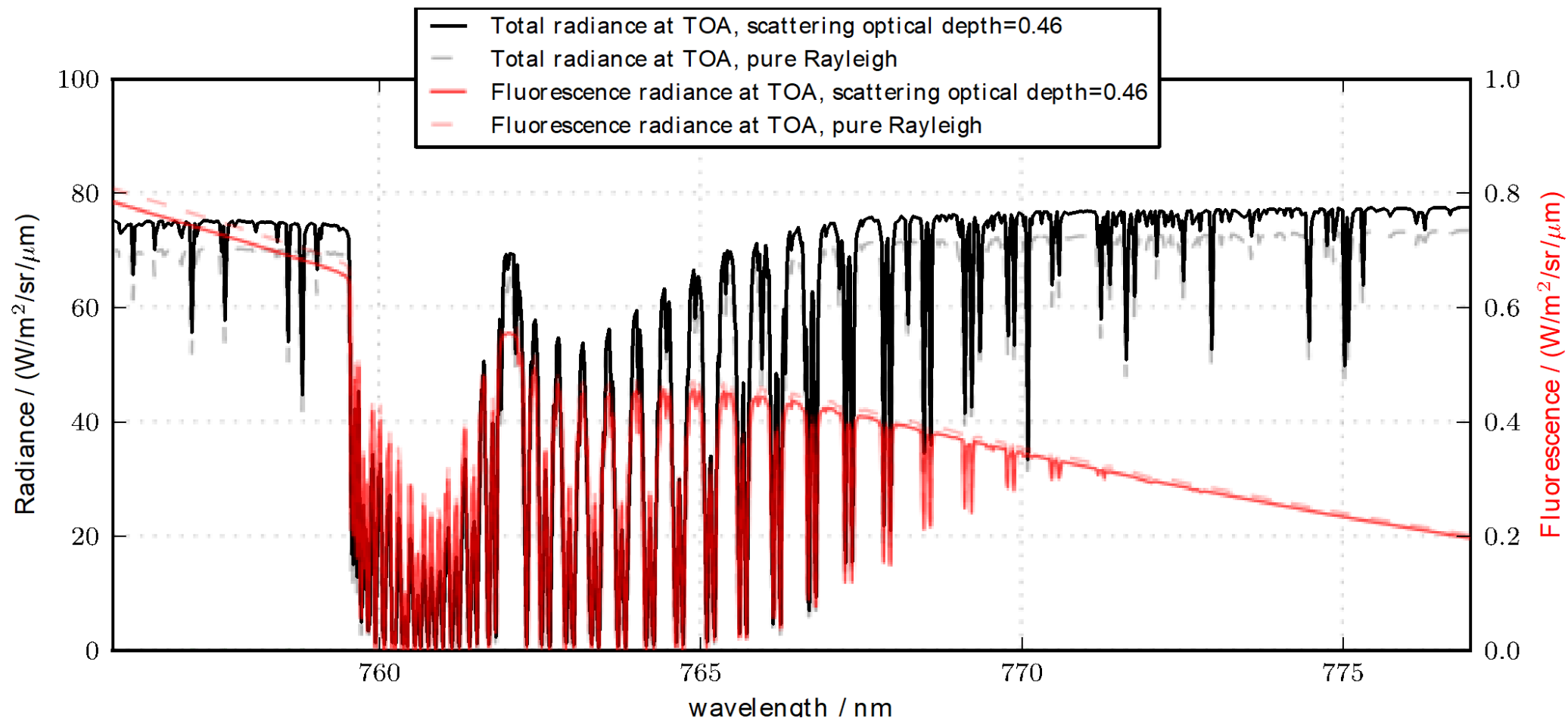
Impact of Fluorescence on Fraunhofer Line



- ▶ Made-up Fraunhofer line
- ▶ Fluorescence term added
- ▶ Ratio of the spectra with and without fluorescence
- ▶ By fitting this *in-filling*, we can derive the fluorescence emission. In principle, it doesn't matter whether we are looking at a leaf, a tree, an ecosystem or a hemisphere, the total emission measurement should be unbiased.



Background: Measuring Fluorescence



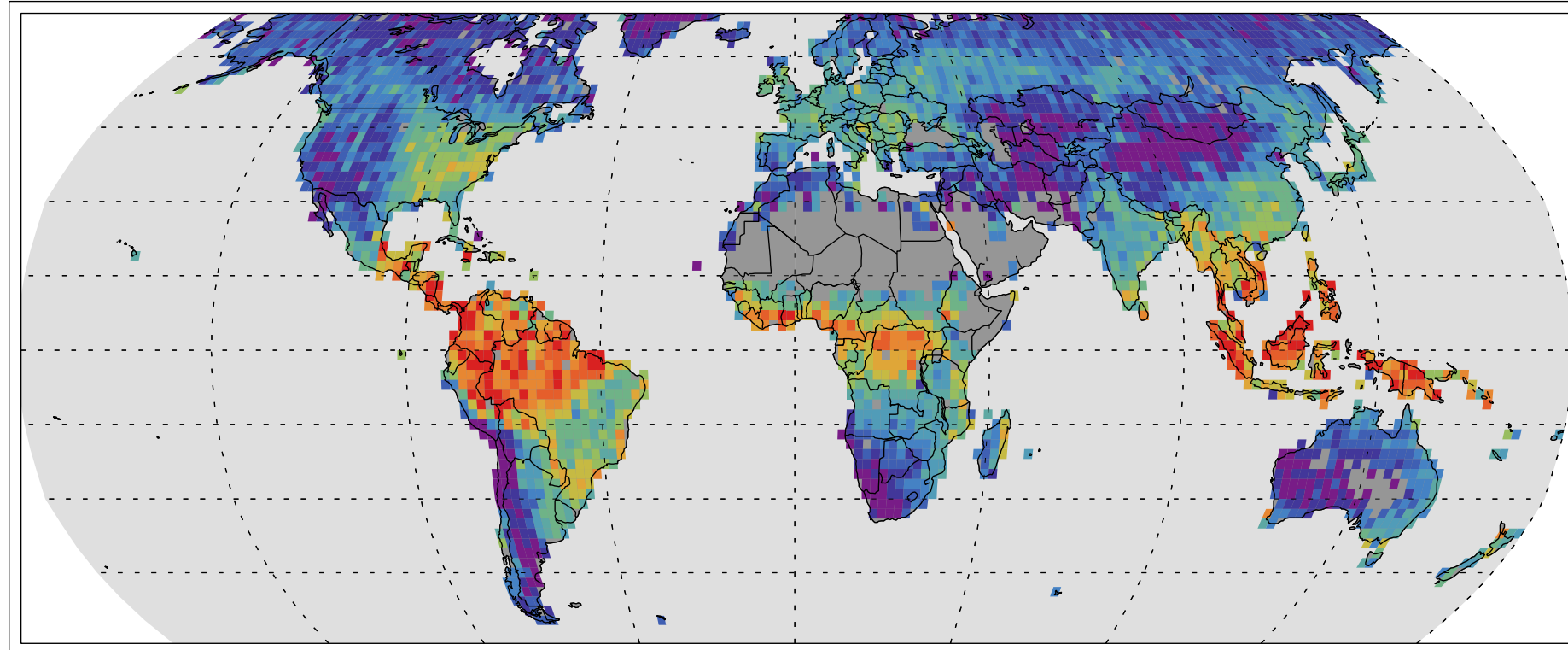
Frankenberg, O'Dell, Guanter, et al (2011)

Chlorophyll fluorescence remote sensing from space in scattering atmospheres: Implications for its retrieval and interferences with atmospheric CO₂ retrievals.



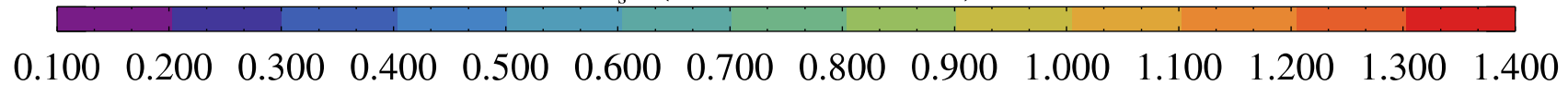
History or Evolution of SIF Measurement

Joiner et al, Frankenberg et al



GOSAT

$F_s / (\text{W m}^{-2} \text{ micron}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1})$

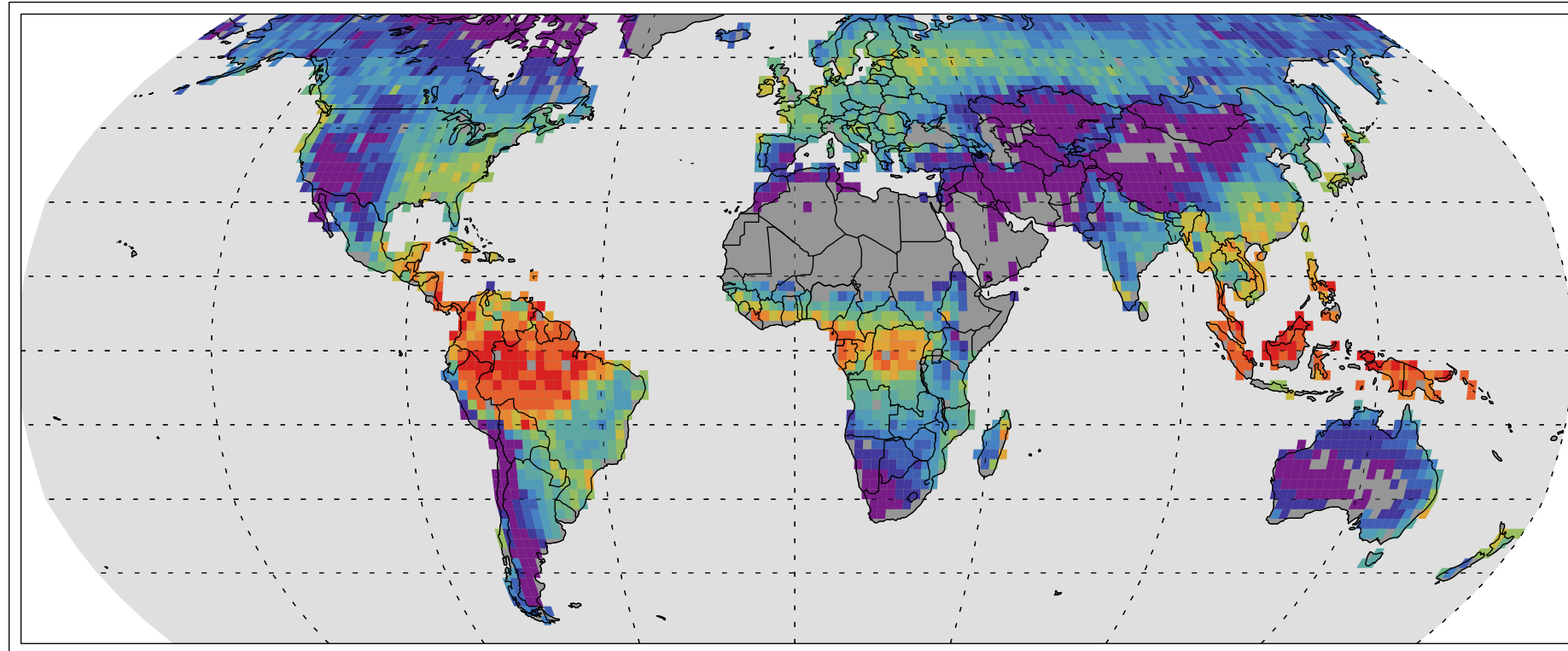


Frankenberg et al, GRL (2011b)



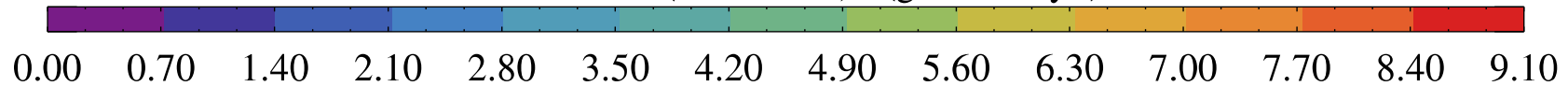
History or Evolution of SIF Measurement

Joiner et al, Frankenberg et al



GOSAT

Model GPP (MPI-BGC) / ($\text{gC m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$)



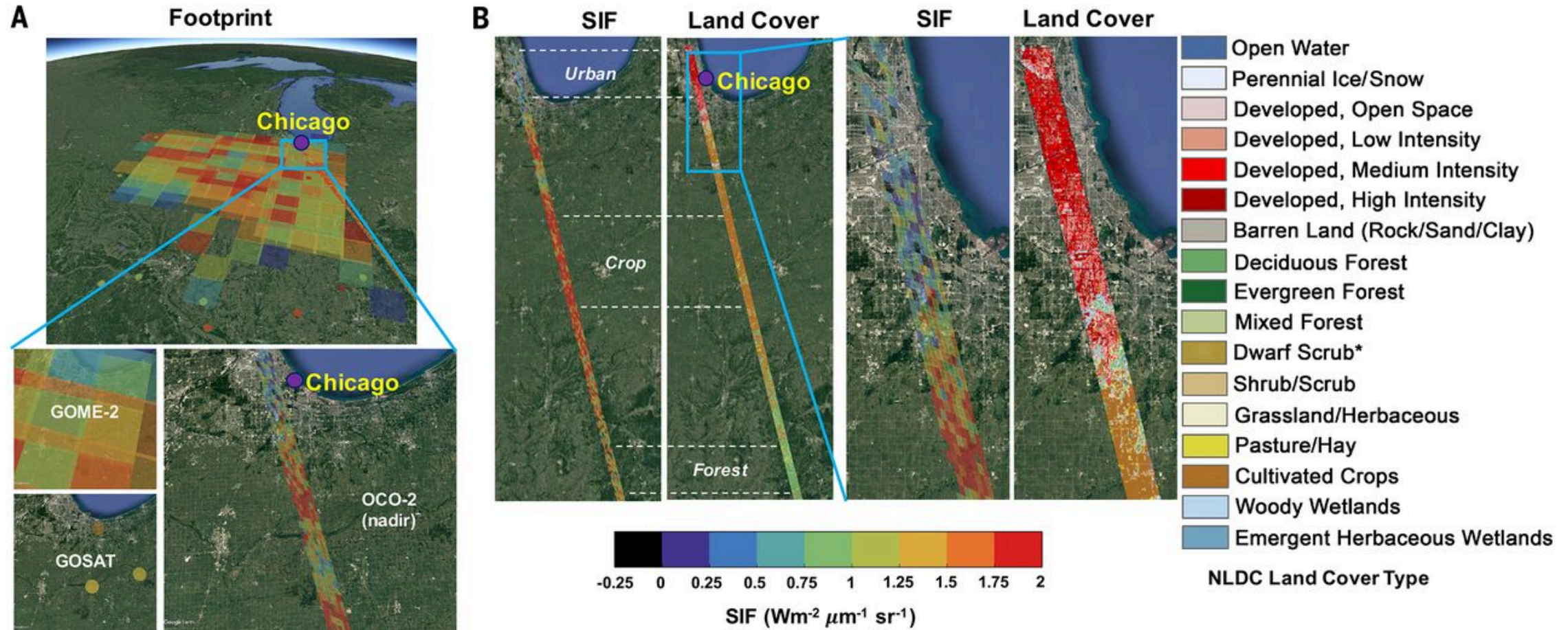
Frankenberg et al, GRL (2011b)



History or Evolution of SIF Measurement

Sun et al

OCO-2

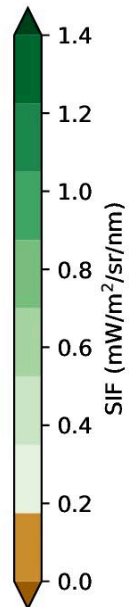
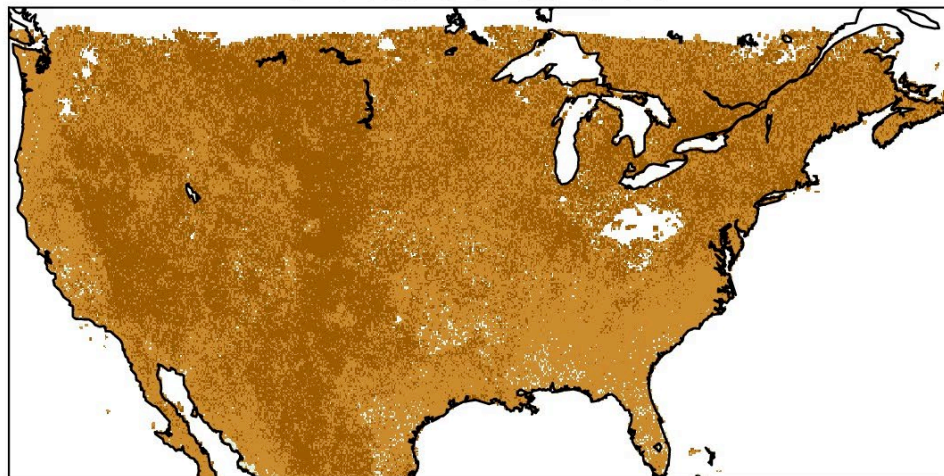


History or Evolution of SIF Measurement

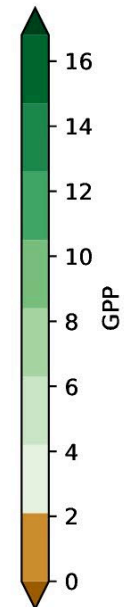
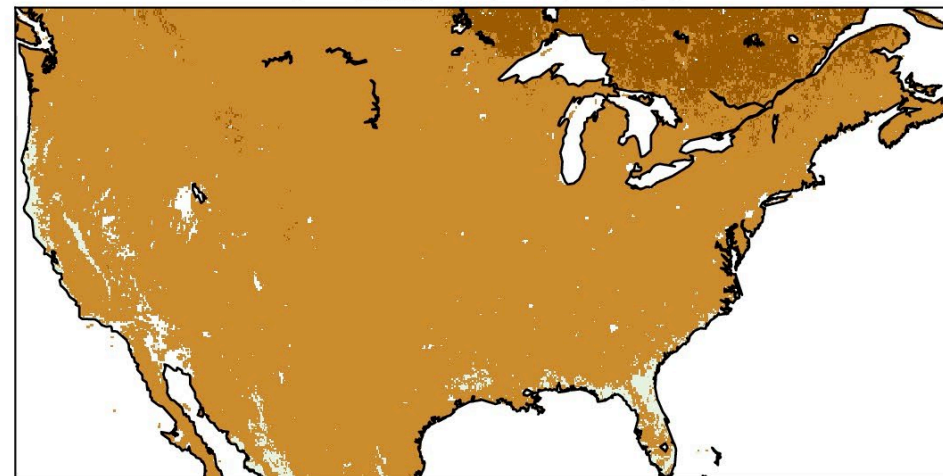
Koehler et al

TROPOMI

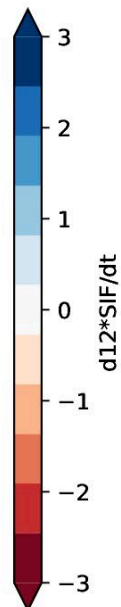
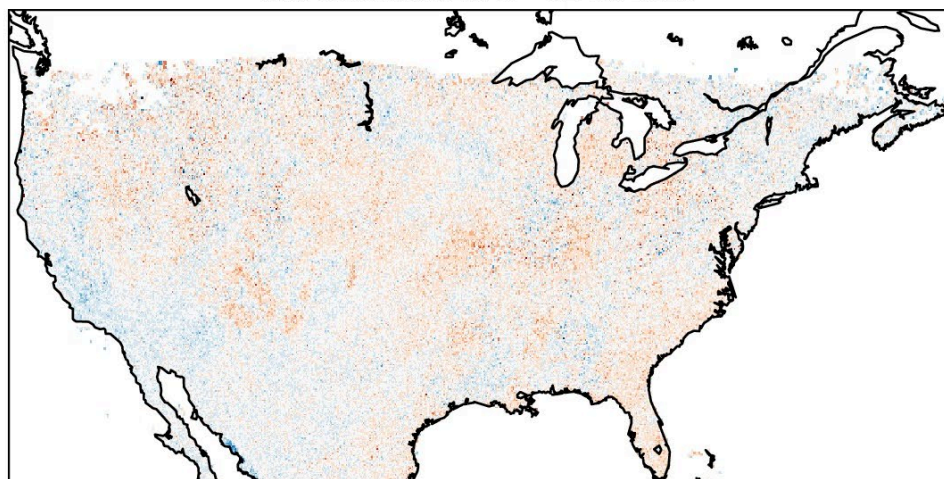
SIF 01/09/2018 - 01/17/2018



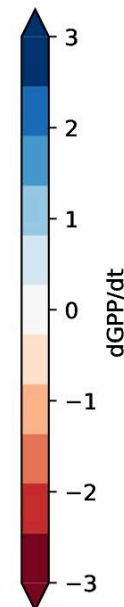
GPP 01/09/2018 - 01/17/2018



dSIF/dt 01/09/2018 - 01/17/2018



dGPP/dt 01/09/2018 - 01/17/2018

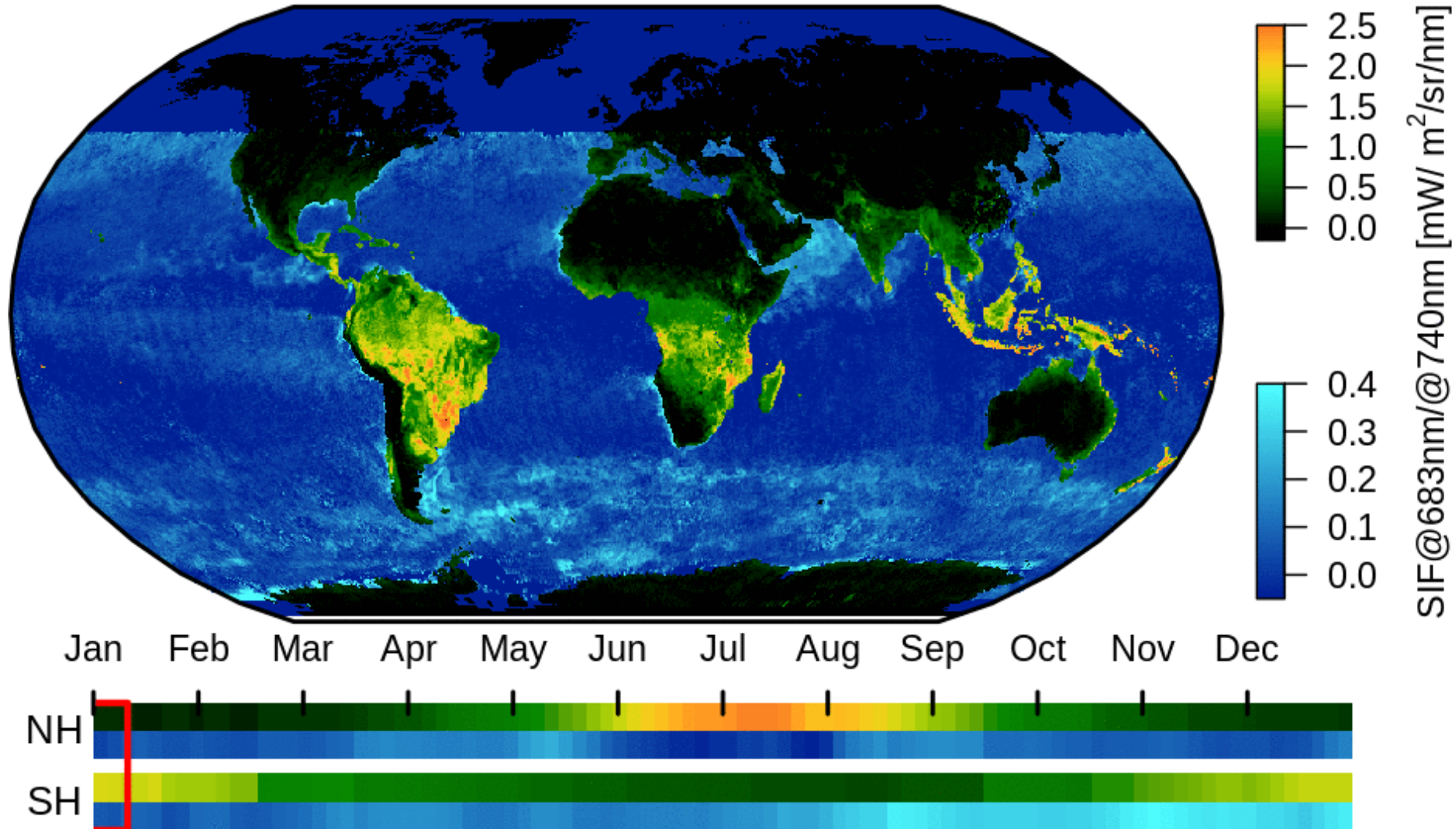


History or Evolution of SIF Measurement

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2019

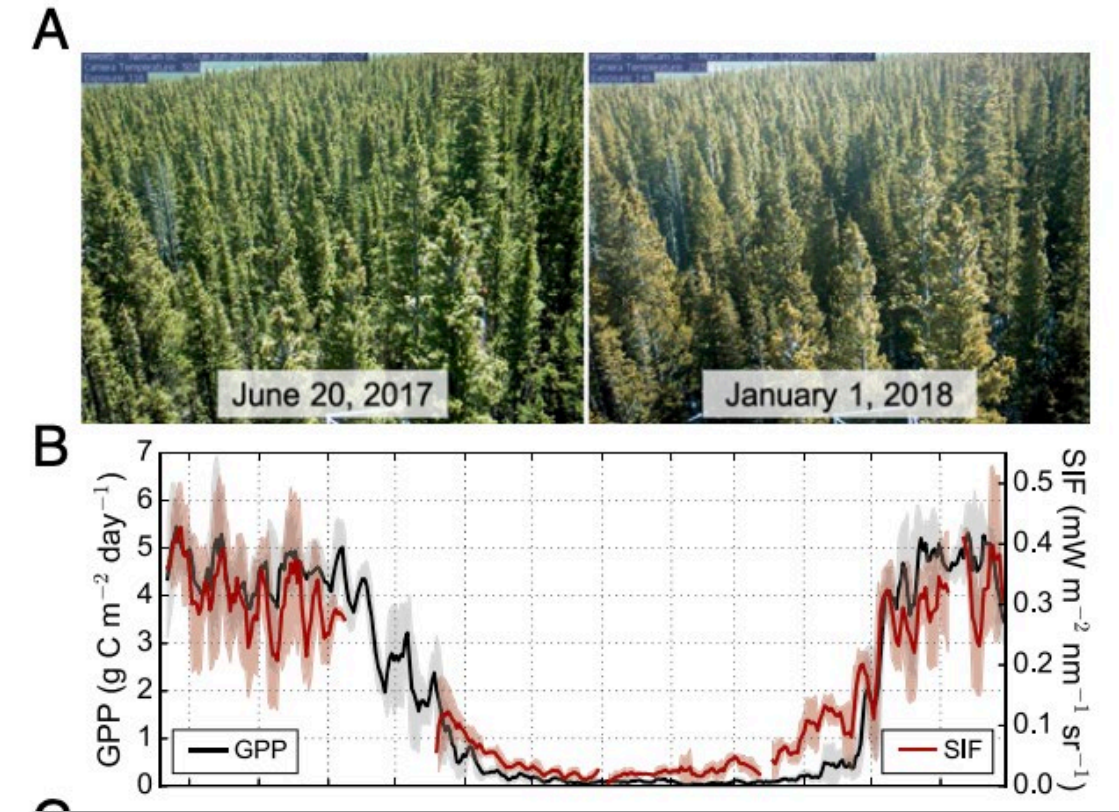


Now we can measure it from towers as well! (e.g. evergreens)



Mechanistic evidence for tracking the seasonality of photosynthesis with solar-induced fluorescence

Troy S. Magney^{a,b,1}, David R. Bowling^c, Barry A. Logan^d, Katja Grossmann^{e,2}, Jochen Stutz^e, Peter D. Blanken^f, Sean P. Burns^{f,9}, Rui Cheng^a, Maria A. Garcia^c, Philipp Köhler^a, Sophia Lopez^d, Nicholas C. Parazoo^b, Brett Raczka^c, David Schimel^b, and Christian Frankenberg^{a,b,1}



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3.10 - Solar Induced Chlorophyll Fluorescence: Origins, Relation to Photosynthesis and Retrieval

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Volume 231, 15 September 2019, 111177

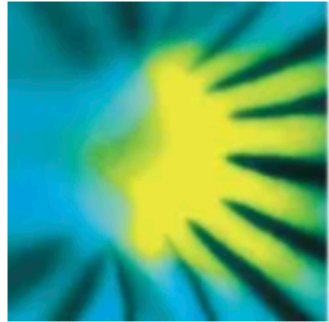


Remote sensing of solar-induced chlorophyll fluorescence (SIF) in vegetation: 50 years of progress

Gina H. Mohammed ^a  , Roberto Colombo ^b, Elizabeth M. Middleton ^c, Uwe Rascher ^d, Christiaan van der Tol ^e, Ladislav Nedbal ^d, Yves Goulas ^f, Oscar Pérez-Priego ^g, Alexander Damm ^{h, i}, Michele Meroni ^j, Joanna Joiner ^c, Sergio Cogliati ^b, Wouter Verhoef ^e, Zbyněk Malenovský ^k, Jean-Philippe Gastellu-Etchegorry ^l, John R. Miller ^m, Luis Guanter ⁿ, Jose Moreno ^o ... Pablo J. Zarco-Tejada ^{j, r, s, t}



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First published: 18 March 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/nph.15796> | Citations: 36



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On the Covariation of Chlorophyll Fluorescence and Photosynthesis Across Scales

Troy S. Magney , Mallory L. Barnes, Xi Yang

First published: 23 November 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.1029/2020GL091098>



Limitations and Caveats of using SIF

- Aggregated in time and space, GPP and SIF show surprisingly good linear correlations!
- SIF is not directly measuring GPP, especially on short time-scales (e.g. diurnal cycle) or down-regulation due to stress, the linear relationship can break down
- We still have lots to learn about the relation of PSII and fluorescence yields
- Fluorescence retrievals are no easy and data is noisy! Noise should be handled properly → Beware of the meaning of r^2 in the presence of precision errors!
- We need to understand fully WHY it works so well at coarser spatial and temporal scales.
- Remember, SIF is mostly a proxy for the electron transport rate (as both are driven by absorbed light), how this is used to fix carbon is an entirely different story (i.e. C3 and C4 photosynthetic pathways have a different SIF-GPP relationship).



Next Steps and Future Uses for SIF

- More research needed on SIF-GPP relations from the leaf through the canopy
- Sustained non-photochemical quenching and SIF needs to be properly understood and characterized
- Combine measurements of SIF with other metrics to break the caveats in its analysis (e.g. through measuring transpiration, photochemical reflectance index, etc)
- Towards diurnal cycles from space? What can we learn from SIF at shorter time-scales?
- Use SIF at different spectral positions?
- FLEX, a dedicated Fluorescence mission
<https://earth.esa.int/eogateway/missions/flex>
- Be innovative!

