

Ecotypes: populations w/ adaptations to unique environments

- Salivary amylase copy number

Temperature

- fundamental abiotic ~~gradient~~ force b/c it varies across the planet and dictates the rate at which chemical rxns can take place (enzyme activity)
- Temp. dictates water availability: the warmer the air, the more water vapor it can hold
 \hookrightarrow rate of water loss ↑ as temperatures ↑

- Plants: control temperature ~~of~~ via transpiration through leaf stomata
 - evaporation of water from plant to air
 - Evaporative cooling ~ requires a dependable water supply
- Animals:
 - Ectotherms - body temperature that is determined by environment (metabolic rate)
 - Endotherms - regulate their internal body temperature to be roughly constant (metabolic rate)

Some Terminology... all animals regulate temperature; it's just a matter of HOW

Ectotherms = animals whose temperature is regulated by external temperature

EITHER/OR

Endotherms = Animals whose temperature is not regulated by external temperature

Poikilotherms = Animals whose temperatures fluctuate

SPECTRUM

Homeotherms = Animals whose temperatures are constant

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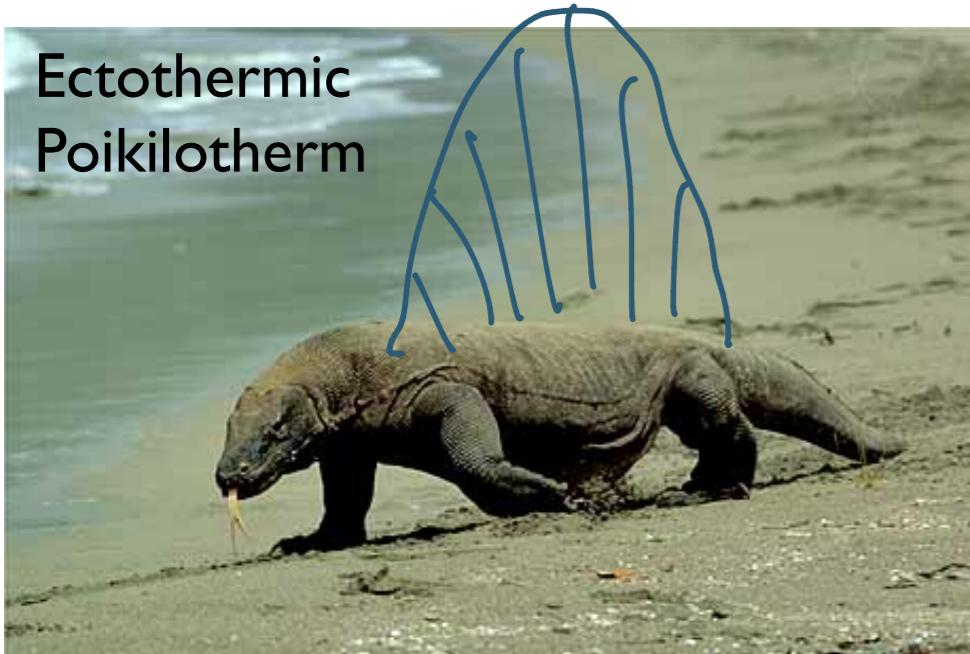
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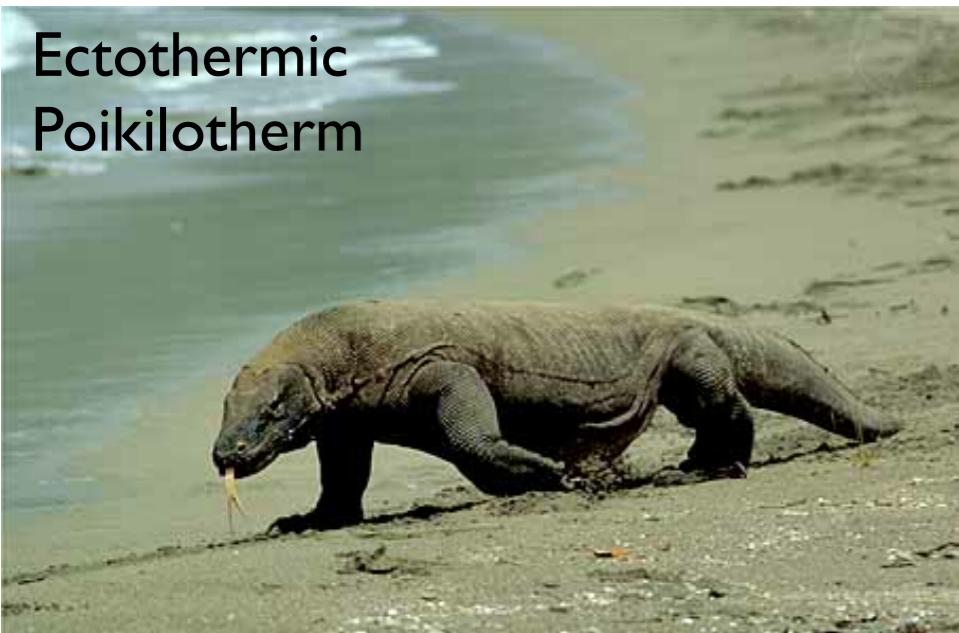
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Ectothermic Homeotherm



-behavior to
maintain constant
temperature

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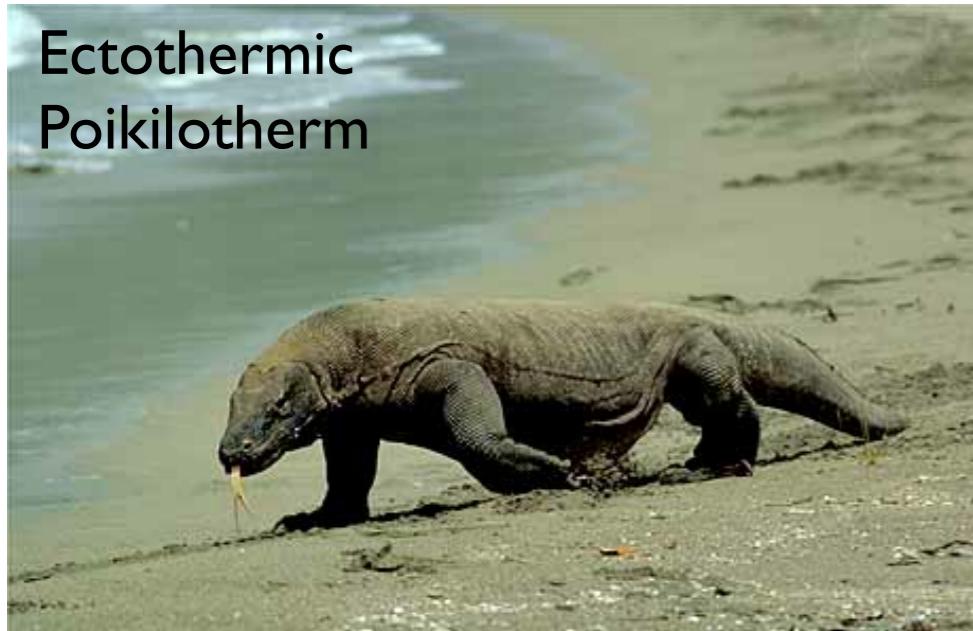
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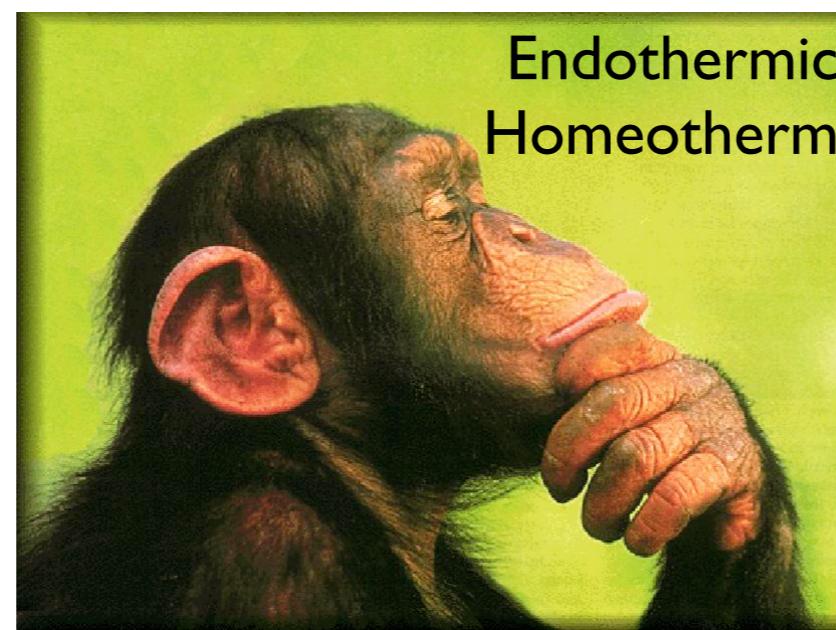
Ectothermic
Poikilotherm



Ectothermic Homeotherm



Endothermic
Homeotherm



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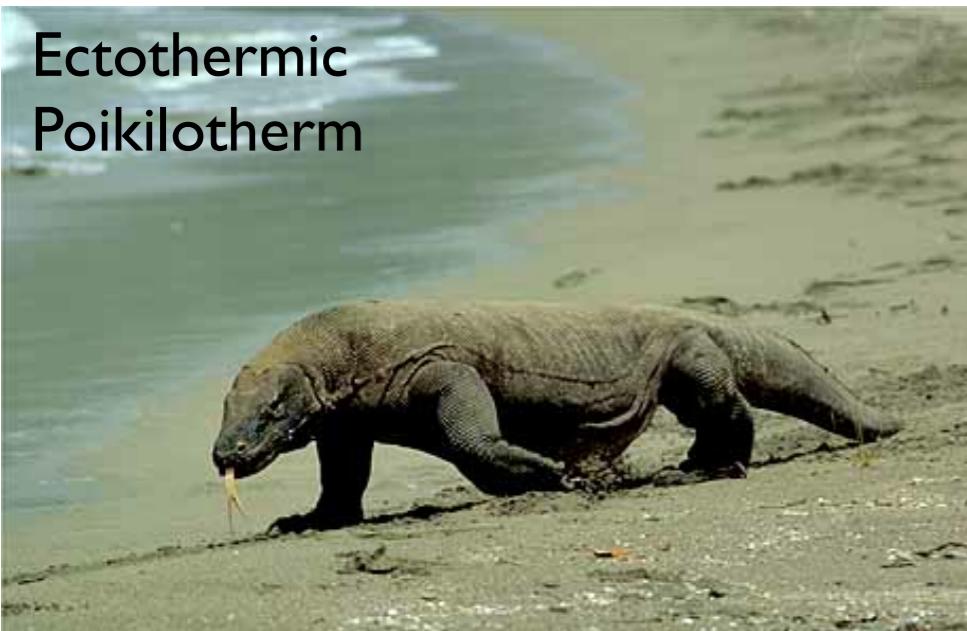
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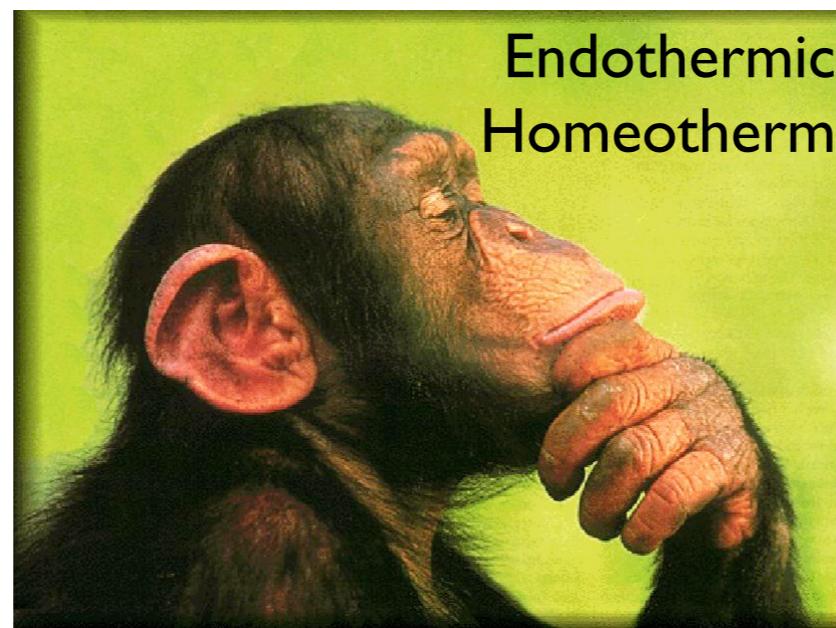
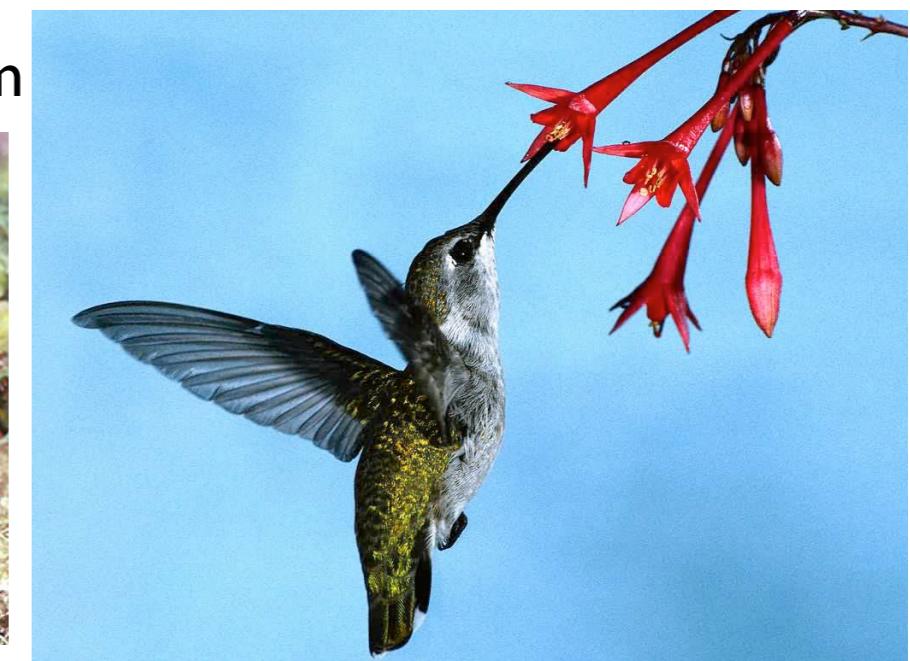
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Ectothermic Homeotherm



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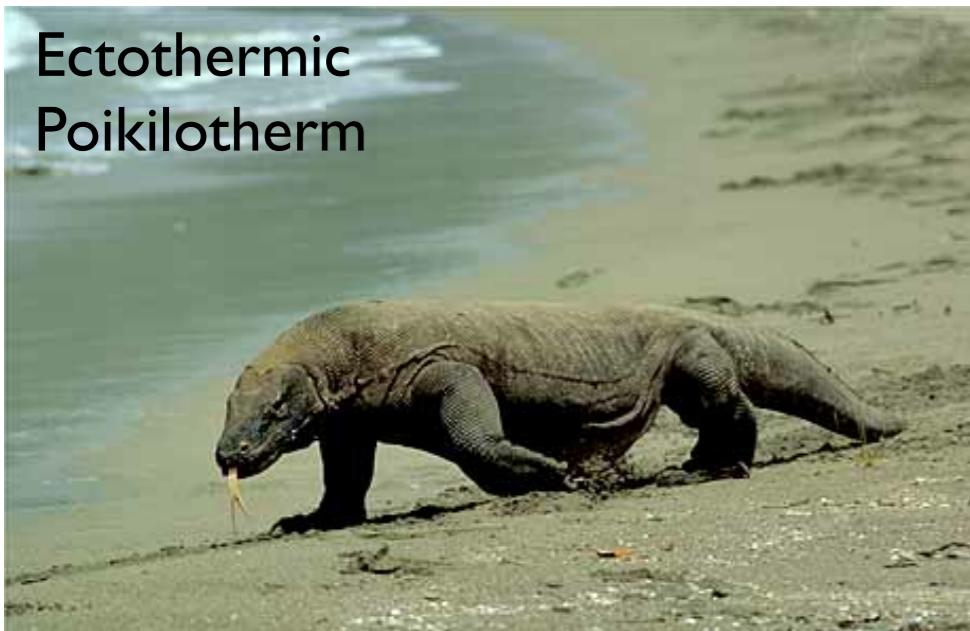
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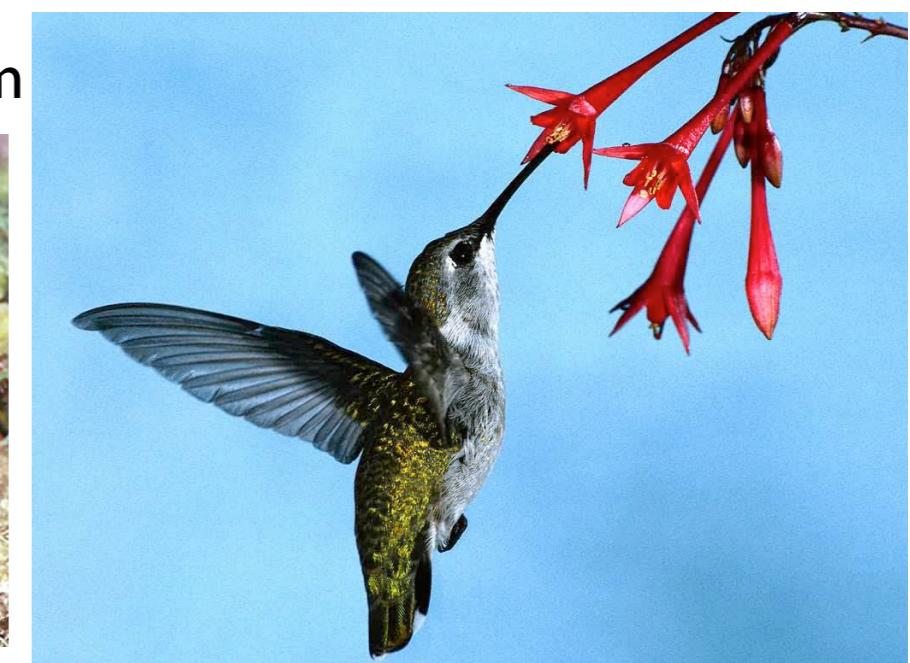
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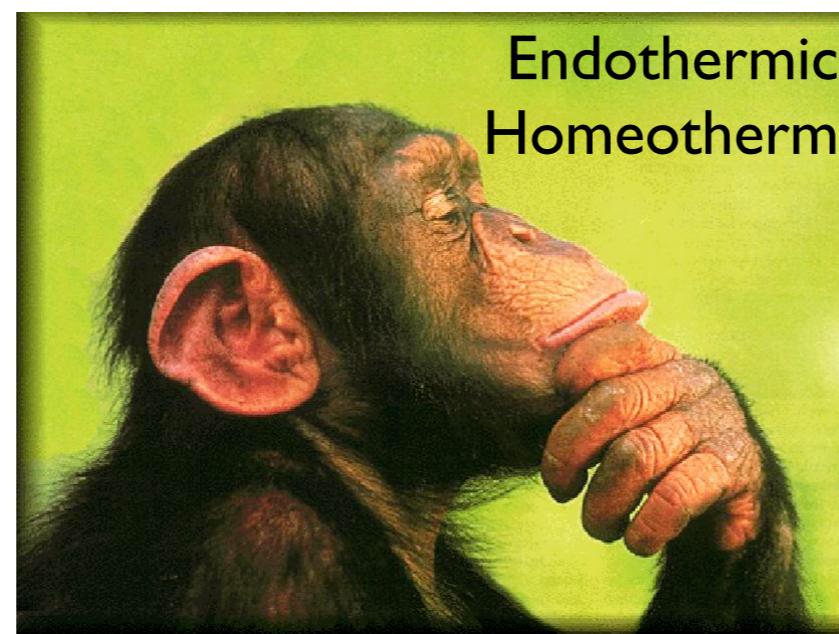


Ectothermic
Poikilotherm

Ectothermic Homeotherm



FUNCTIONALLY
homeothermic



Endothermic
Homeotherm



Endothermic Poikilotherm

Regulating your temperature - not just mammals



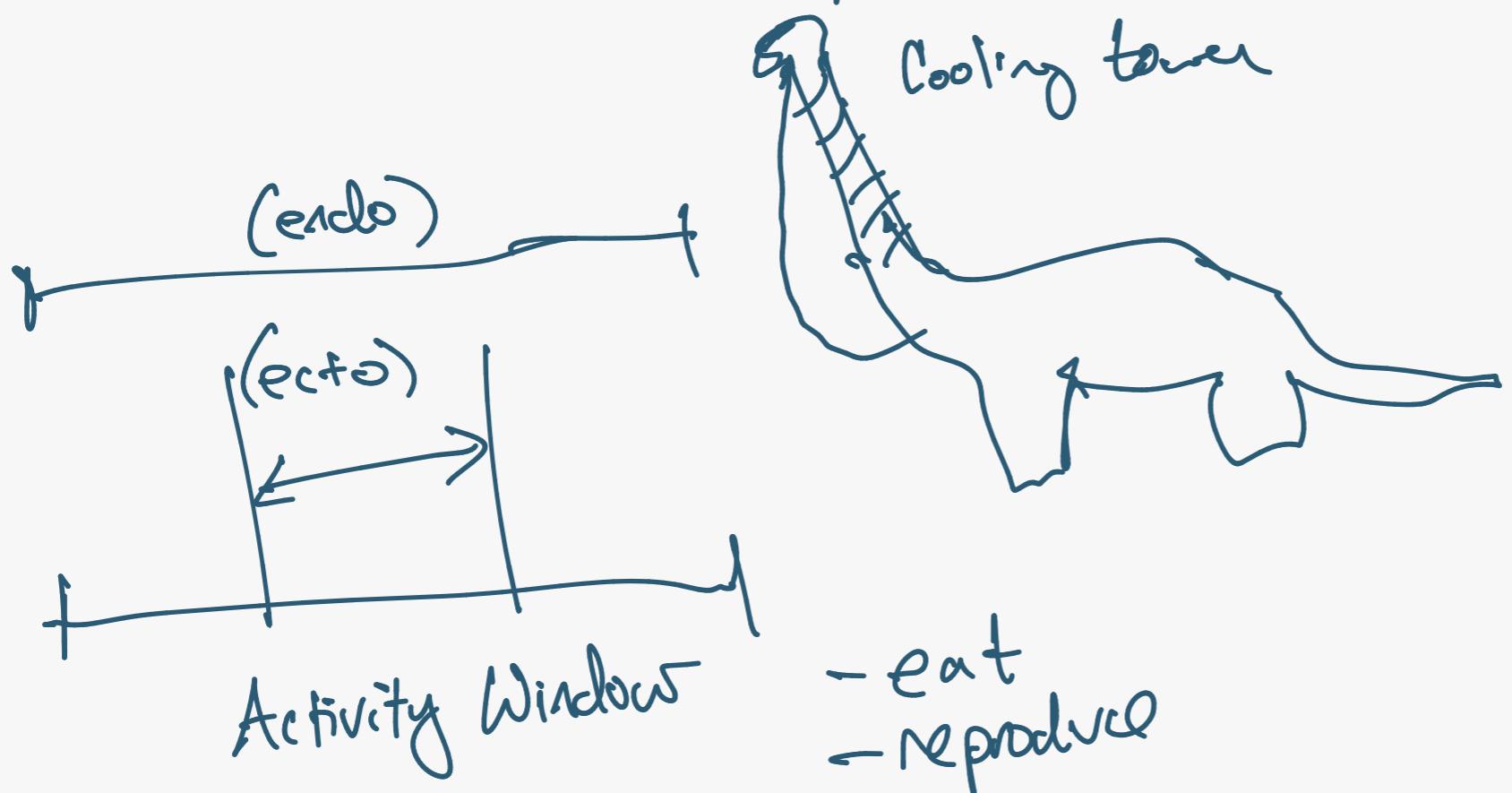
↑
← mesotherms

Endotherms must maintain metabolically generated heat

- Fur, feathers, fat
(hair)
- These tissues don't make sense on ectotherms

Gigantotherm: so much volume

- the problem is getting rid of heat



Regulating your temperature - not just animals



Eastern skunk cabbage

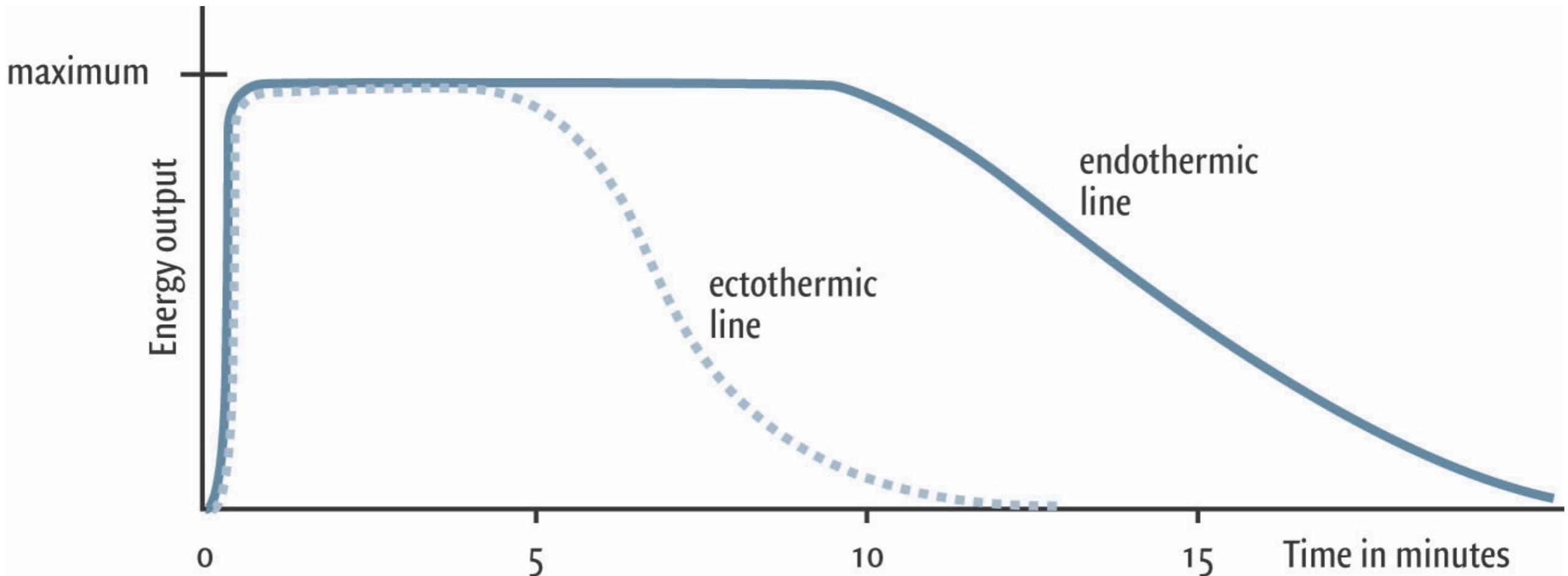


Dead horse arum lily



Carrion flower

Not just Temperature control; these ‘lifestyles’ describe the whole of metabolic processes.



Endothermy vs. Ectothermy: both have different metabolic consequences...

For a given activity, the Energy that is required for an ectotherm and an endotherm is the same, but:

- 1) an ectotherm produces less energy before it hits the ‘wall’ (where anaerobic respiration begins ~ lactic acid buildup)
- 2) an endotherm can produce energy for a longer period of time before it hits the ‘wall’. (It can produce the same amount of energy LONGER)
This is partly because an endotherm’s resting metabolic rate is HIGHER than an ectotherms

It's good to be an ectotherm because:

- 1) Energetically cheaper
Lower resting metabolic rate
- 2) Potentially higher quick bursts of energy

Costs:

Cannot expend a lot of energy for a long period of time

It's good to be an endotherm because

- 1) You can expend more energy for a longer period of time

Costs:

Energetically EXPENSIVE

Consequences:

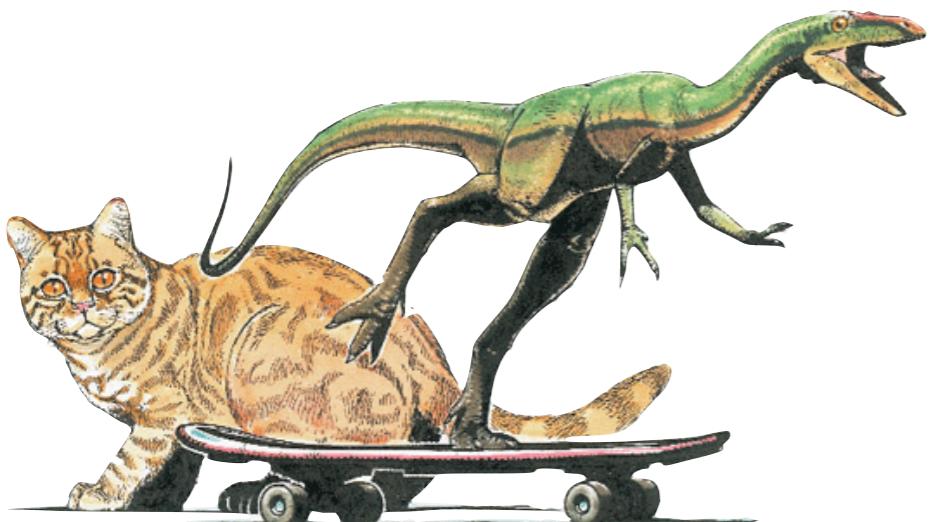
For a given 'energy landscape'
You can support more ectotherms
b/c they are more economical

Conclusion:

Endothermy is not superior.
It is just another lifestyle

Deciding Factor:

What is the best strategy for survival in a given ecological scenario? Varies from scenario to scenario



Energy

- 3 primary sources of energy

i) Sunlight

ii) Inorganic chemical cmpds

iii) Organic cmpds

{ autotrophs ← photosynthetic
chemosynthetic

— heterotrophs

- obtain energy rich material from other organisms

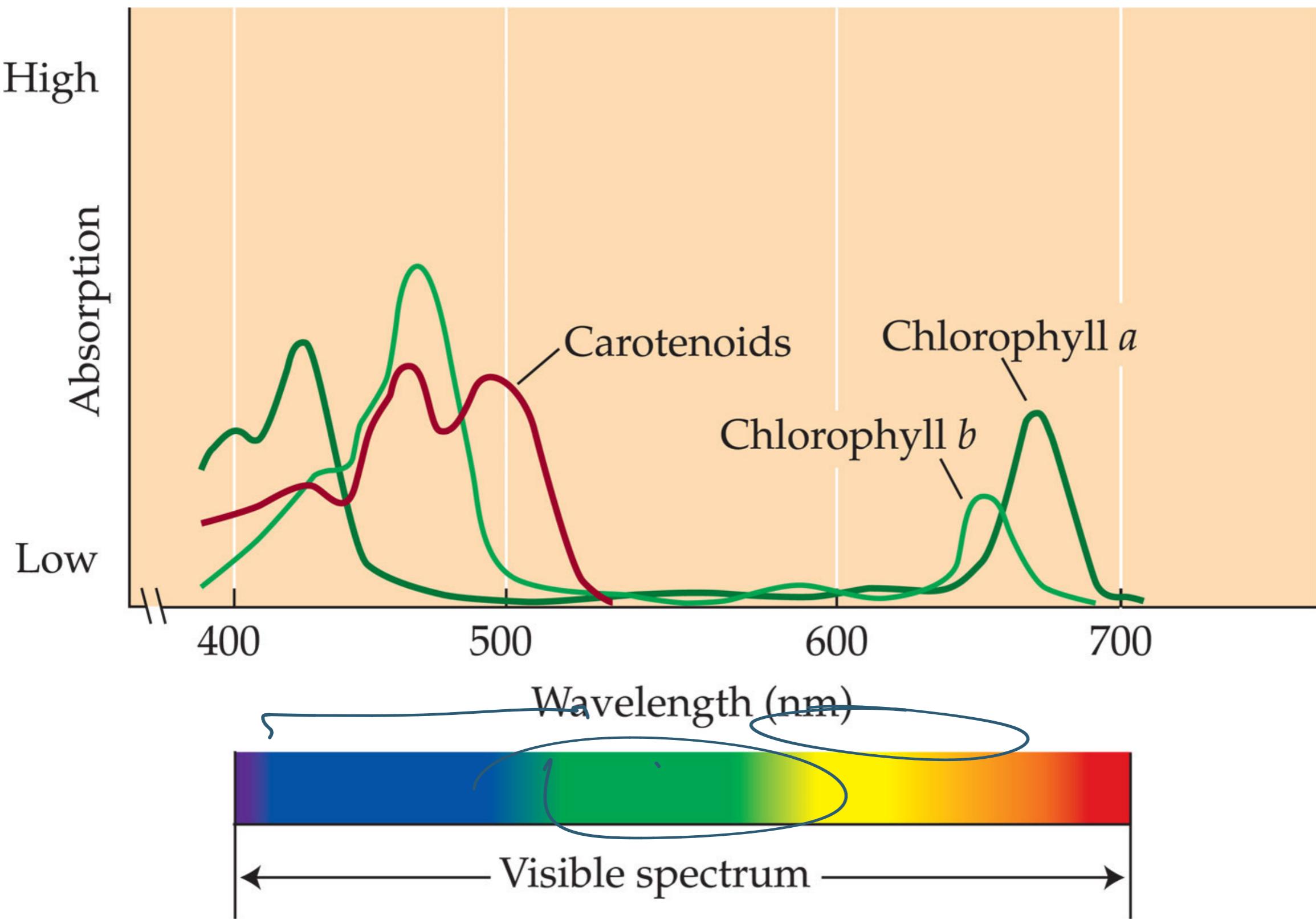
↳ Heterotrophs { carnivores
herbivores

Autotrophs

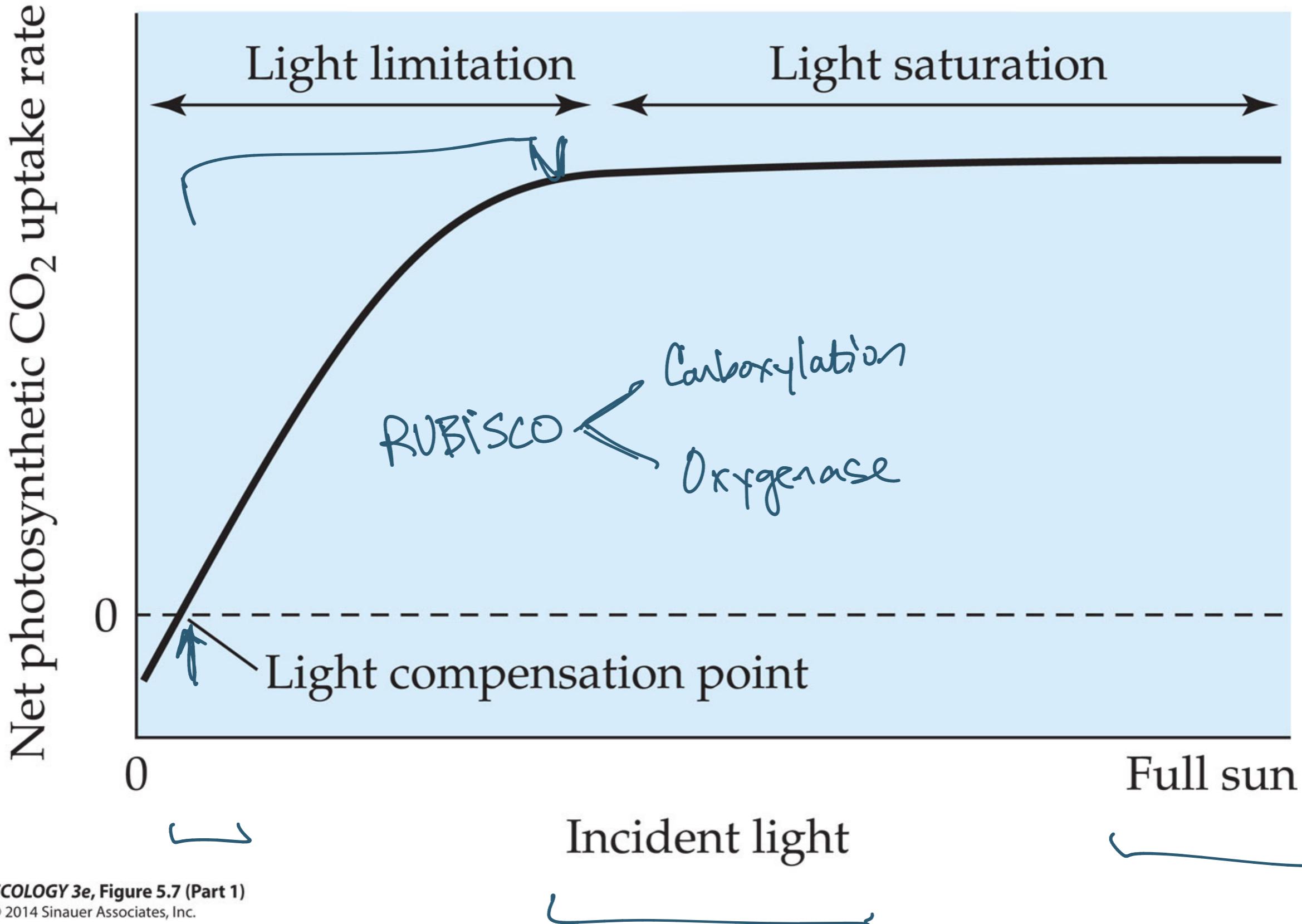
plants

↑
Reservoir (sun, inorganic chemicals)

Photosynthesis : Plants have sev. light absorbing pigments

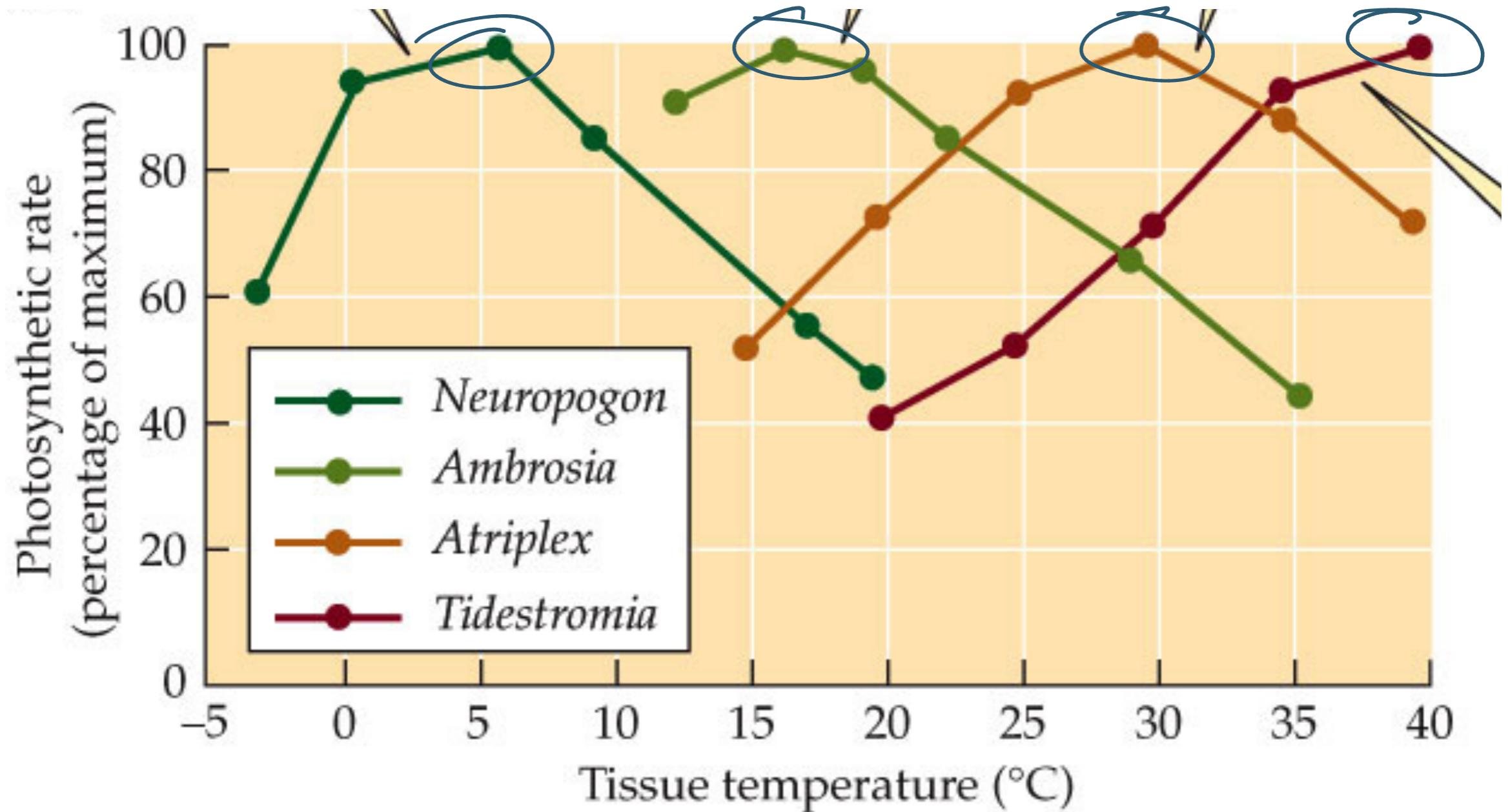


ECOLOGY 3e, Figure 5.6
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ECOLOGY 3e, Figure 5.7 (Part 1)

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Species have evolved to different conditions
So we observe different optimum temperatures
for different species

Environmental constraints have resulted in evolution of biochemical pathways that improve efficiency of photosynthesis.

1) C₃

2) C₄

3) CAM

RUBISCO: Catalyzes 2 competing rxns

- Carboxylase rxn: CO₂ taken up, sugars synthesized, O₂ released

- Oxygenase rxn: O₂ is taken up → breakdown of carbon compounds, releasing CO₂
= photorespiration

- Depends [CO₂]:[O₂] ↓
photosynthetic efficiency ↓
As Temperature ↑
photosynthetic efficiency ↓

C_3 -photosynthetic pathway ~ Evolved in high CO_2 environments

C_4 -photosynthetic pathway

C_4 plants evolved independently in 18 families

to create a miniature atmosphere w/high $[CO_2]$ with in
specialized cells \rightarrow ↑ photosynthetic efficiency
(Bundle sheath cells)

W.O.D.

C_4 (lowercase)