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### Title

Stimulation of isoprene emissions and electron transport rates as key mechanisms of thermal tolerance in the tropical species *Vismia guianensis*

### Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1q9537v8>

### Journal

Global Change Biology, 26(10)

### ISSN

1354-1013

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### Publication Date

2020-10-01

### DOI

10.1111/gcb.15213

Peer reviewed

1 **Stimulation of isoprene emissions and electron transport rates are a**  
 2 **key mechanism of thermal tolerance in the tropical species *Vismia***  
 3 ***guianensis***

4 Running Title: Temperature, isoprene, and photochemistry

5  
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Total word count (excluding summary, references and legends):	6,661	N° of figures:	6 (all in color)
Summary:	285	N° of tables:	1
Introduction:	2,036		
Material and Methods:	1,548		
Results:	1,038		
Discussion:	1,934		
Acknowledgements	105		

26

**27 Summary**

28 Tropical forests absorb large amounts of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> through photosynthesis, but high  
29 surface temperatures suppress this absorption while promoting isoprene emissions. While  
30 mechanistic isoprene emission models predict a tight coupling to photosynthetic electron transport  
31 (ETR) as a function of temperature, direct field observations of these phenomenon are lacking in  
32 the tropics and are necessary to assess the impact of a warming climate on global isoprene  
33 emissions. Here, we demonstrate that in the early successional species *Vismia guianensis* in the  
34 central Amazon, ETR rates increased with temperature in concert with isoprene emissions, even  
35 as stomatal conductance ( $g_s$ ) and net photosynthetic carbon fixation ( $P_n$ ) declined. We observed  
36 the highest temperatures of continually increasing isoprene emissions yet reported (50°C). While  
37  $P_n$  showed an optimum value of  $32.6 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$ , isoprene emissions, ETR, and the oxidation state of  
38 PSII reaction centers ( $q_L$ ) increased with leaf temperature with strong linear correlations for ETR  
39 ( $p = 0.98$ ) and  $q_L$  ( $p = 0.99$ ) with leaf isoprene emissions. In contrast, other photoprotective  
40 mechanisms, such as non-photochemical quenching (NPQ), were not activated at elevated  
41 temperatures. Inhibition of isoprenoid biosynthesis repressed  $P_n$  at high temperatures through a  
42 mechanism that was independent of stomatal closure. While extreme warming will decrease  $g_s$  and  
43  $P_n$  in tropical species, our observations support a thermal tolerance mechanism where the  
44 maintenance of high photosynthetic capacity under extreme warming is assisted by the  
45 simultaneous stimulation of ETR and metabolic pathways that consume the direct products of ETR  
46 including photorespiration and the biosynthesis of thermoprotective isoprenoids. Our results  
47 confirm that models which link isoprene emissions to the rate of ETR hold true in tropical species  
48 and provide necessary “ground-truthing” for simulations of the large predicted increases in tropical  
49 isoprene emissions with climate warming.

50

51 **Key words:** *global warming, high temperature stress, leaf gas exchange, chlorophyll*  
52 *fluorescence, fosmidomycin, electron transport rates, net photosynthesis, isoprene energetic*  
53 *requirements*

54

## 55 **1. Introduction**

56 Tropical forests absorb large amounts of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, accounting for an estimated  
57 ~34% (42 Pg C yr<sup>-1</sup>) of global terrestrial gross primary production (Beer *et al.*, 2010). However,  
58 substantial decreases in tropical forest gross primary productivity have been repeatedly  
59 demonstrated in the Amazon basin during periodic widespread drought associated with high  
60 temperature (Potter *et al.* 2011; Liu *et al.*, 2017). Therefore, the physiological mechanisms through  
61 which tropical forests respond to high temperature are critically important to understand. One such  
62 mechanism is the biosynthesis and emission of the volatile organic compound isoprene (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>),  
63 which can act as a thermotolerant and may be associated with stress protection at elevated  
64 temperatures (Jardine *et al.* 2017, Sharkey and Yeh 2001).

65 During photosynthesis, energy from absorbed light is dissipated by three processes:  
66 photochemistry, chlorophyll fluorescence, and thermal dissipation (measured as non-  
67 photochemical quenching, NPQ). The relative contribution of these three processes to total energy  
68 dissipation is highly sensitive to leaf temperature (Müller *et al.*, 2001). Chlorophyll fluorescence  
69 is light emitted at wavelengths centered on 682 nm or 740 nm (Krause & Weis, 1984) and changes  
70 in fluorescence and derived photochemical parameters during high leaf temperatures have been  
71 widely used to provide insight into photochemical metabolism (Li *et al.*, 2009). For example,  
72 variable chlorophyll fluorescence (Fv), is the difference between the maximum (Fm) and minimum  
73 fluorescence (Fo). Decreases in the ratio (Fv/Fm) of variable (Fv) to maximum (Fm) chlorophyll  
74 fluorescence have been widely used to demonstrate environmental stress effects on the quantum

75 efficiency of Photosystem II (Murchie and Lawson 2013). During the 2015/2016 El Niño Amazon  
76 drought, sun-induced fluorescence, a metric of gross primary productivity, was strongly  
77 suppressed over areas with anomalously high temperatures and decreased levels of soil moisture  
78 (Koren *et al.*, 2018). Elevated leaf temperatures strongly enhance leaf-to-atmosphere vapor  
79 pressure deficits which drives high leaf transpiration rates and reductions in plant water potentials.  
80 To avoid excessive water loss and hydraulic failure, an afternoon reduction in stomatal  
81 conductance ( $g_s$ ) is often observed, resulting in an afternoon depression of  $P_n$  during warm  
82 afternoons (Koch *et al.*, 1994; Chambers & Silver, 2004). In the Tapajos National Forest in east-  
83 central Amazon, a corresponding mid-day and post mid-day depression in net ecosystem exchange  
84 of  $\text{CO}_2$  was regularly observed using eddy covariance (Piedade *et al.*, 1994; Goulden *et al.*, 2004).

85         It has been hypothesized that reductions in  $P_n$  at high leaf temperatures in tropical species,  
86 are mainly associated with reductions in  $g_s$  rather than direct negative temperature effects on  
87 photosynthetic electron transport, or the light-independent reactions of photosynthesis (Lloyd &  
88 Farquhar, 2008). However, few experimental observations in the tropics have evaluated these  
89 hypotheses, especially in early successional species that tend to show high rates of  $P_n$ . The  
90 Neotropical early successional genera *Vismia* dominates large rainforest disturbance gaps in the  
91 Amazon Basin (Chambers *et al.*, 2009) where it helps accelerate the regeneration of secondary  
92 forests by influencing forest successional pathways (Uhl *et al.*, 1988; Zalamea & González, 2008;  
93 Brienen *et al.*, 2015). The establishment of early successional genera in secondary forests is related  
94 to their ability to maintain high  $P_n$  and growth under conditions of full sunlight and high leaf  
95 temperatures characteristic of tropical landscapes impacted by natural (Chambers *et al.*, 2009) and  
96 human (Mesquita *et al.*, 2015) disturbances. *Vismia* leaves show high rates of isoprene emissions  
97 (Jardine *et al.*, 2016), which is hypothesized to play an important role in thermotolerance of

98 photosynthesis (Singsaas *et al.*, 1997; Sharkey *et al.*, 2001; Sharkey, 2005; Sasaki *et al.*, 2007). As  
99 previously reviewed (Harley *et al.*, 1999), stimulation of isoprene production by high irradiance  
100 and warm temperatures is consistent with physiological evidence of a role in ameliorating stresses  
101 associated with warm and high-light environments.

102 Plants utilize the products of both the light (ATP and NADPH) and light-independent  
103 reactions of photosynthesis to synthesize a number of photosynthetic components and defense  
104 compounds via the isoprenoid pathway in chloroplasts (Lichtenthaler, 1987; Affek & Yakir, 2003).  
105 Tropical ecosystems are recognized as the largest source of isoprene emissions to the atmosphere,  
106 representing roughly half of the estimated global annual emissions of 440-660 Tg C yr<sup>-1</sup> (Guenther  
107 *et al.*, 2006). Isoprene biosynthesis begins with the initial condensation of pyruvate and  
108 glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate derived from the Calvin-Benson-Bassham cycle (Silver & Fall,  
109 1995). Leaf isoprene emissions are strongly stimulated by temperature (Duncan *et al.*, 2009) with  
110 global emission models predicting future increases in tropical forest isoprene emissions and their  
111 corresponding impacts on atmospheric chemistry and climate including altering the dynamics and  
112 lifetimes of atmospheric oxidants, secondary organic aerosols, and cloud condensation nuclei  
113 (Pacifico *et al.*, 2009). Isoprene emissions from terrestrial plants are completely dependent on  
114 illumination (Sanadze, 1991), including tropical trees (Jardine *et al.*, 2014), consistent with the  
115 view that the isoprenoid pathway is completely dependent on photosynthetic electron transport  
116 (Lantz *et al.*, 2019).

117 While the mechanisms of isoprene thermotolerance are under investigation, recent  
118 literature suggests that isoprene and other isoprenoids protect photosynthesis during abiotic stress  
119 by minimizing oxidative damage through a number of mechanisms including; physical  
120 stabilization of photosynthetic membranes, the consumption of photosynthetic energy and

121 reducing equivalents, direct antioxidant reactions (e.g. between isoprene and reactive oxygen  
122 species including fatty acid peroxy radicals), and potent phytohormone signaling properties of  
123 isoprene including oxidation products methyl vinyl ketone and methacrolein which activate  
124 defense gene expression (Singsaas *et al.*, 1997; Velikova *et al.*, 2008; Vickers *et al.*, 2009a, 2009b;  
125 Karl *et al.*, 2010; Jardine *et al.*, 2012; Morfopoulos *et al.*, 2014, Junker-Frohn *et al.*, 2019, Zuo *et*  
126 *al.*, 2019). For example, in *Populus nigra* and *Phragmites australis* leaves exposed to oxidative  
127 stress, reduced damage to photosynthesis, accumulation of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, and membrane denaturation was  
128 attributed, in part, to isoprene production (Velikova *et al.*, 2008). However, there is limited  
129 evidence for the occurrence of these mechanisms in the tropics where field data are scarce.

130 Leaf isoprene emissions are generally assumed to account for 1–2% of  $P_n$  at leaf  
131 temperatures below the optimum for  $P_n$ , but have been reported to represent 10% of  $P_n$  or higher  
132 at temperatures above the optimum (Harley *et al.*, 1996). While  $P_n$  in tropical trees generally have  
133 an optimum leaf temperature between 28 - 32°C, emissions of isoprene at the leaf level have been  
134 consistently shown to continue to increase up to 40°C or beyond (Alves *et al.*, 2014; Jardine *et al.*,  
135 2014, 2017a). Observations at ecosystem scales in the tropics observed the highest isoprenoid  
136 emission fluxes during the hottest period of the day (12:00h–14:00h) when  $g_s$  and  $P_n$  are reduced  
137 (Karl *et al.*, 2009; Jardine *et al.*, 2011, 2017a). Therefore, the increasing importance of isoprene  
138 emissions to plant carbon budgets under high temperatures is recognized as a consequence of both  
139 the stimulation of isoprene emissions and the suppression of  $P_n$  (Monson *et al.*, 1992). <sup>13</sup>C<sub>2</sub>  
140 labeling revealed that under optimal conditions of  $P_n$ , 70 - 90% of the carbon used for isoprene  
141 synthesis is produced from recently assimilated atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> (Delwiche & Sharkey, 1993;  
142 Affek & Yakir, 2003). In contrast, under high leaf temperatures and drought conditions where  $P_n$   
143 is suppressed, isoprene carbon sources have been shown to increasingly derive from previously

144 assimilated or stored carbon (Funk *et al.*, 2004). While a number of extrachloroplastic metabolites  
145 have been considered as ‘alternate’ carbon including pyruvate, glucose, acetate, and the C<sub>1</sub>  
146 pathway (Jardine *et al.*, 2010, 2017b; Kreuzwieser *et al.*, 2002, de Souza *et al.*, 2018), evidence  
147 using <sup>13</sup>C-labeled photorespiratory intermediates and CO<sub>2</sub>-free atmospheres suggest that re-  
148 assimilation of internal plant sources of CO<sub>2</sub> like photorespiration, respiration, and xylem-  
149 transported CO<sub>2</sub> may help explain this ‘alternate’ carbon source for isoprene and contribute to the  
150 suppression of  $P_n$  at high temperatures (Jardine *et al.*, 2014, 2017a; Garcia *et al.*, 2019; Guidolotti  
151 *et al.*, 2019). This is consistent with the recent observation that the majority of xylem-transported  
152 CO<sub>2</sub> is re-assimilated in illuminated leaves (Stutz & Hanson, 2019).

153         In addition to strong uncoupling between isoprene emissions and  $P_n$  at high temperature,  
154 elevated CO<sub>2</sub> has been widely reported to stimulate  $P_n$  while suppressing isoprene emissions  
155 (Loreto & Sharkey, 1993). While various mechanisms including a key role of extrachloroplastic  
156 intermediates have been discussed in the literature, recent evidence suggests that the elevated CO<sub>2</sub>  
157 effect is largely driven by a limited supply of energetic and reductive equivalents for isoprenoid  
158 biosynthesis generated by the photochemical phase of photosynthesis (Rasulov *et al.*, 2009, 2018;  
159 Morfopoulos *et al.*, 2014). In 2002, strong positive correlations was first described between foliage  
160 isoprenoid emissions and photosynthetic electron transport rates (ETR) in the Mediterranean trees  
161 *Quercus coccifera* and *Q. ilex* (Niinemets *et al.*, 2002a) and an early model was developed  
162 discussing light-dependent NADPH limitation of isoprenoid leaf emissions (Niinemets *et al.*,  
163 2002b). Following these initial discoveries and developments, positive linear correlation between  
164 ETR and isoprene emissions were observed at elevated CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in both *Quercus*  
165 *pubescens* and *Quercus ilex* (Rapparini *et al.*, 2004), and later a model was developed showing  
166 NADPH limitation of isoprene emissions under different light, leaf intercellular CO<sub>2</sub>



167 concentrations ( $C_i$ ) and temperature conditions (Morfopoulos *et al.*, 2013). A similar model was  
168 then used to explain how the elevated  $CO_2$  enhancement of  $P_n$ , but suppression of isoprene  
169 emission, is driven by a limited supply of NADPH for isoprenoid biosynthesis (Morfopoulos *et*  
170 *al.*, 2014), and these mechanisms were extended to include drought effects where increased  
171 isoprene emissions are maintained due to the increased ratio of ETR to  $P_n$ . (Dani *et al.*, 2015).

172       Using post-illumination isoprene bursts to estimate the pool size of the isoprene precursor  
173 dimethylallyl diphosphate (DMADP) in oak (*Quercus robur*) and poplar (*Populus deltoides*)  
174 leaves, DMADP was observed to increase with temperature up to 35°C (Li *et al.*, 2011). ETRs in  
175 many plants generally demonstrate higher optimum leaf temperatures than  $P_n$  under current  
176 atmospheric  $CO_2$  concentrations (Ishida & Toma, 1999; Himalayan & Tech, 2005; Sage & Kubien,  
177 2007) and isoprene energetic models predict a temperature optimum of isoprene emissions that  
178 closely follows the temperature optimum of ETR (a temperature optimum higher than  $P_n$  but lower  
179 than that of isoprene synthase activity) (Morfopoulos *et al.*, 2013). Thus, there is considerable  
180 evidence that the rate-limiting steps for isoprenoid biosynthesis *in vivo* depends on the availability  
181 of NADPH and ATP in the chloroplast, the direct products of ETR (Rasulov *et al.*, 2009, 2018).  
182 Unfortunately, studies with parallel measurements of ETR and isoprene emissions as a function of  
183 temperature are relatively rare and experimental data on abundant tropical species at high  
184 temperature is lacking.

185       Here we hypothesize that in early successional tropical species high temperatures will be  
186 associated with an enhanced rate of production of the energetic and reductive equivalents  
187 necessary for isoprenoid biosynthesis and generated by the photochemical phase of  
188 photosynthesis. Thus, in spite of reduced  $P_n$  at high temperatures, ETR will continue to increase at  
189 elevated temperatures together with high isoprenoid biosynthesis rates and other chloroplastic

190 NADPH/ATP consuming pathways such as photorespiration (Voss *et al.*, 2013), thereby limiting  
191 rates of NPQ at high temperatures. We also hypothesize that inhibition of isoprenoid biosynthesis  
192 would reduce  $P_n$  at high temperatures both due to the direct loss of the thermoprotective role of  
193 isoprene as well as the potential antioxidant and signaling roles of isoprene. We test these  
194 hypotheses by quantifying the suppression of  $P_n$  and  $g_s$  at high leaf temperatures together with  
195 changes in photochemical parameters of photosynthesis and isoprene emissions in the fast growing  
196 early successional species *Vismia guianensis* (Aubl.) Pers in the central Amazon. We combine gas  
197 exchange during leaf temperature response curves with chlorophyll fluorescence and isoprene  
198 emissions, and therefore simultaneously characterize the temperature sensitivities of  $P_n$ ,  $g_s$ ,  
199 isoprene emissions, and key parameters of the photochemical reactions of photosynthesis  
200 including ETR, non-photochemical quenching (NPQ), the oxidation state of PSII reaction centers  
201 ( $q_L$ ), and the maximum quantum efficiency of PSII in the dark ( $F_v/F_m$ ) and light ( $F_v'/F_m'$ ).

202 Further, by delivering a specific inhibitor of the isoprenoid pathway (fosmidomycin) to  
203 detached *V. guianensis* branches, we evaluate the impact of blocking isoprenoid production on  $P_n$   
204 at high leaf temperatures. We discuss the results in terms of thermotolerance mechanisms in  
205 tropical plants including the role of isoprene may have in supporting the upregulation of ETR  
206 rather than NPQ at high leaf temperatures. Finally, we discuss the implications for modeling of  
207 future isoprene emissions from tropical forests and interpretation of remote sensing studies  
208 tracking seasonal patterns in regional isoprene emissions, gross primary productivity, and canopy  
209 temperature.

210

## 211 **2. Materials and Methods**

### 212 **2.1 Site description**

213 Coupled gas-exchange and chlorophyll fluorescence measurements were carried out on  
214 three individuals of *V. guianensis* (Aubl.) Pers., an early successional tree species from the  
215 Hypericaceae family. Four *V. guianensis* individuals were studied in the Reserva Biológica do  
216 Cuieiras (ZF2), a primary rainforest biological reserve located approximately 60 km northwest of  
217 Manaus, in the central Amazon Basin, Brazil (Higuchi *et al.*, 1998). The *V. guianensis* individuals  
218 ranged between 1.6 m and 2.0 m in height and were exposed to full sunlight conditions throughout  
219 a large part of the day due to their presence in gap associated with the site access road.

## 220 2.2 Gas exchange data

221 The coupled leaf isoprene emissions, gas exchange, and chlorophyll fluorescence field  
222 measurements were made during October 2017 and April, May, June, July, and August of 2018.  
223 For each of the four *V. guianensis* individuals, 2-8 leaf temperature response curves were  
224 conducted between 7:00-15:00 (23 total response curves, 1-3 per day). All leaves selected for study  
225 were dark green and considered developmentally and physiologically mature, with no obvious  
226 visual problems and little herbivory. Previous research has shown that mature *V. guianensis* leaves  
227 in the central Amazon showed substantially higher rates of  $P_n$ , isoprene emissions, and  $g_s$  under  
228 standard environmental conditions than young, rapidly expanding light green leaves (Jardine *et*  
229 *al.*, 2016).

230 Gas exchange responses to leaf temperature for *V. guianensis* leaves were collected in the  
231 field using a portable photosynthesis system with a 2 cm<sup>2</sup> leaf fluorescence chamber (6400XT,  
232 Licor Biosciences) adapted for the collection of isoprene emissions by the diversion of a fraction  
233 (100 ml min<sup>-1</sup>) of the air sample leaving the leaf chamber through a clean thermal desorption tube  
234 packed with Quartzwool, Tenax TA and Carbograph 5TD adsorbents (Markes International) for  
235 10 min using a hand-held pump (APEX, Casella, USA) (Jardine *et al.*, 2015b). Each leaf placed in

236 the chamber was maintained under constant photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) of 0  $\mu\text{mol}$   
237  $\text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  for the dark temperature response curve. In a previous study at constant leaf temperature  
238 (30°C) we showed that during both the wet and dry seasons, developmentally and physiologically  
239 mature *V. guianensis* leaves reached light saturation of  $P_n$  at PAR fluxes between 750-1000  $\mu\text{mol}$   
240  $\text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  (Jardine *et al.*, 2016). Thus, we chose to conduct all leaf temperature response curves in  
241 the wet and dry seasons under the standard PAR flux of 1000  $\mu\text{mol} \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ , which also facilitates  
242 future modeling studies requiring the standard isoprene emission potential parameter, defined as  
243 the emissions under 30°C and 1000  $\mu\text{mol} \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  PAR. Throughout temperature response curves in  
244 the dark and light, the reference  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration was maintained at 400 ppm, and air flow rate  
245 entering the leaf chamber was held constant at 400  $\mu\text{mol} \text{s}^{-1}$ . Once the leaf was placed in the  
246 chamber at 0  $\mu\text{mol} \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  PAR, a black cloth was used to cover the chamber. Following a 15 min  
247 period of leaf dark adaption, the dark leaf temperature response curve was initiated to demonstrate  
248 the lack of isoprene emissions in the dark and to acquire the dark parameters of chlorophyll  
249 fluorescence. Following the completion of the dark temperature response curve, the black cloth  
250 was removed, the PAR was set at 1000  $\mu\text{mol} \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ . Following a period of light adaptation required  
251 to reach steady state gas exchange (10-40 min), the temperature response curve of the illuminated  
252 leaf was initiated. Leaf temperature response curves were generated by setting the block  
253 temperature to 25, 27.5, 30.0, 32.5, 35, 37.5, 40, and 42.5 °C, sequentially. The leaf temperature  
254 was directly measured using a leaf thermocouple mounted inside the leaf chamber.

255

### 256 **2.3 Chlorophyll Fluorescence**

257 For all leaves studied during October 2017 and April, May, June, July, and August of 2018,  
258 a leaf chamber fluorimeter (LCF 6400-40, Licor Biosciences) was used to simultaneously quantify  
259 leaf gas exchange and chlorophyll fluorescence. The fluorimeter was unavailable during the

260 isoprenoid inhibition experiments which occurred earlier during the July 2017 (see **section 2.5**).  
 261 Following leaf acclimation to each successive temperature increase, an actinic light pulse of 7,000  
 262  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (10% blue light and 90% red light), modulated at 20 KHz, was applied for 1 sec and  
 263 the average chlorophyll fluorescence signal was recorded. The average chlorophyll fluorescence  
 264 signal at each leaf temperature was used to determine minimum fluorescence ( $F_o$ ), maximum  
 265 fluorescence ( $F_m$ ), and steady-state fluorescence ( $F_s$ ). Derived photochemical parameters at each  
 266 leaf temperature were calculated according to **Eqs. 1-5** where derived parameters with prime, for  
 267 example  $F_o'$ , are values related to the data in the light and those with no prime corresponding to  
 268 data from the dark adapted leaf (Baker & Rosenqvist, 2004).

269 The electron transport rate (ETR,  $\mu\text{mol e}^- \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) was calculated according to **Eq. 1**, where  $f$  is the  
 270 fraction of the quantum absorbed and used by Photosystem II, with a value of 0.5 used for  $C_3$   
 271 plants (Earl & Tollenaar, 1998), PAR is incident photon flux density, and  $\alpha_{\text{leaf}}$  is leaf absorbance  
 272 (0.87).

273 **Eq. 1.** 
$$ETR = \left( \frac{F_m' - F_s}{F_m'} \right) f \cdot PAR \cdot \alpha_{\text{leaf}}$$

274 The redox state of  $Q_A$ , the primary electron acceptor of PSII, was determined by quantification of  
 275 the photochemical extinction coefficient ( $q_L$ ) according to **Eq. 2**.  $q_L$  is an estimate of the average  
 276 oxidation level of PSII reaction centers. which is a measure of the fraction of  $Q_A$  in an oxidized  
 277 state (Kramer & Johnson, 2004). Thus, an increase in  $q_L$  indicates that average oxidation level of  
 278 PSII increased to support, for example, an upregulation of ETR, NADPH/ATP production, and  
 279 isoprenoid biosynthesis.

280 **Eq. 2.** 
$$q_L = \frac{\frac{1}{F_s} - \frac{1}{F_m'}}{\frac{1}{F_o'} - \frac{1}{F_m'}}$$

281 Photon capture efficiency of photosynthetic reaction centers in the light was estimated according  
 282 to **Eq. 3**.

283 **Eq. 3.** Maximum quantum efficiency of PSII photochemistry of dark adapted leaves:  $\frac{Fv}{Fm}$ , and  
 284 light adapted leaves:  $\frac{Fv'}{Fm'}$

285 Finally, we estimated non-photochemical quenching (NPQ) according to **Eq. 4.**

286 **Eq. 4.**  $NPQ = \frac{Fm - Fm'}{Fm'}$

287 Immediately following the chlorophyll fluorescence measurements, isoprene emissions were  
 288 collected on a single thermal desorption tube for 10 minutes while gas exchange data were logged  
 289 simultaneously on the Li6400XT.

290

## 291 **2.4 Leaf isoprene emissions**

292 Following sample collection in the field, the thermal desorption tubes were transported to  
 293 the laboratory in Manaus, Brazil, for the analysis of adsorbed isoprene using an automated thermal  
 294 desorption system (TD-100, Thermal Desorber, Markes International, UK) coupled to a gas  
 295 chromatograph (series 7890A, Agilent Technologies, USA) and mass spectrometer (Agilent  
 296 ChemStation, Agilent Technologies, USA) (TD-GC-MS) installed at the National Research  
 297 Institute of the Amazon (INPA) (Jardine *et al.*, 2015a). The system was calibrated for isoprene  
 298 using  $m/z$  67 as the most abundant ion formed during electron impact ionization as previously  
 299 described (Jardine *et al.*, 2016). The average leaf isoprene emission rate ( $\text{nmol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) at each leaf  
 300 temperature was calculated according to **Eq. 6** where  $PA_{67}$  is the GC-MS peak area at the retention  
 301 time for isoprene (ion counts of  $m/z$  67 x min), Cal is the calibration factor determined for isoprene  
 302 ( $10^{-6}$  nL isoprene/peak area), F is the flow rate of air into the leaf chamber ( $400 \mu\text{mol s}^{-1}$ ),  $10^{-6}$  is  
 303 the factor used to convert  $\mu\text{moles}$  to moles,  $Leaf_{Area}$  is the leaf area enclosed in the chamber of  
 304  $0.0002 \text{ m}^2$ , and Volume is the total volume of air that passed through the thermal desorption tube  
 305 (1.0 L).

306 **Eq. 6.** *Isoprene emission* =  $PA67 \times Cal \times F \times 10^{-6} / (Leaf_{Area} * Volume)$

307

## 308 **2.5 Inhibition of the isoprenoid pathway with fosmidomycin**

309 In a separate experiment during July and August of 2017, we inhibited the production of  
310 leaf isoprene in *V. guianensis*, by feeding excised branches with 12.5 mM fosmidomycin. Branches  
311 were cut between 8:00h-8:30h and then immediately recut under either water (control, 4 branches,  
312 1 branch per individual) or the fosmidomycin solution (3 branches, 1 branch per individual) and  
313 allowed to transpire for 1h in full sunlight in order to ensure delivery of the inhibitor to the leaves.  
314 Previous work has shown that a low concentration of fosmidomycin (4  $\mu$ M) delivered to leaves of  
315 mid-latitude species was sufficient to inhibit leaf isoprene emissions (Sharkey & Yeh, 2001).  
316 However, in our study we found that 12.5 mM fosmidomycin solution was required to completely  
317 inhibit production of leaf isoprene in *V. guianensis*. Following inhibitor uptake, the temperature  
318 response curves of gas exchange and isoprene emissions were measured as described above with  
319 the exception that we used the standard 6 cm<sup>2</sup> leaf chamber with red and blue LED light source  
320 (6400-02B, Licor Biosciences, USA). Note that in the inhibitor experiments with detached  
321 branches, we were able to achieve higher leaf temperatures due to direct solar heating of the  
322 chamber because of cloud free conditions during the 2017 dry season.

## 323 **2.6 Statistical Analysis**

324 Statistical analysis of the 23 leaf temperature response curves included calculating the mean  
325 and confidence interval ( $\pm 2$  standard deviation) of the leaf temperature, gas exchange  
326 characteristics (e.g.  $P_n$  and  $g_s$ ), photochemical characteristics (e.g. ETR, qL,  $F_v'/F_m'$ , and NPQ),  
327 and isoprene emissions at each block temperature. Pearson product-moment correlation  
328 coefficients were determined between each possible pair of mean gas exchange and photochemical  
329 variables together with mean isoprene emissions (**Table 1**). Linear coefficients of determination

330 ( $R^2$ ) and the equations were determined during regression analysis between isoprene emissions  
331 and the photochemical parameters ETR and  $q_L$ .

332 For the isoprenoid inhibitor experiments where gas exchange and isoprene emissions were  
333 collected from 4 water-fed control branches and 3 inhibitor-fed branches, the mean and confidence  
334 interval ( $\pm 2$  standard deviation) calculations were made as a function of leaf temperature for  $P_n$ ,  
335  $g_s$ ,  $C_i$ , and isoprene emissions.

336

### 337 3. Results

#### 338 3.1 Gas exchange and photochemical parameters

339 **Figures 1-2** show mean ( $\pm 2$  standard deviations) gas exchange and photochemical  
340 parameters as a function of mean leaf temperature. As leaf temperature increased from the lowest  
341 value of  $26.7 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$  to  $32.6 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$ , net photosynthesis ( $P_n$ ) and transpiration (E) were stimulated  
342 to maximum values of  $10.2 \pm 1.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  and  $3.9 \pm 0.5 \text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ , respectively. As leaf  
343 temperatures continued to increase from  $32.6 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$  to the highest value ( $38.3 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$ ),  $P_n$   
344 decreased by 16% and reached a minimum of  $8.6 \pm 1.9 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ , while E decreased by 21% to  
345  $3.1 \pm 0.9 \text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ . In contrast,  $g_s$  continuously decreased as leaf temperature increased. At  
346 the lowest leaf temperature of  $26.7 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $g_s$  was at a maximum value of  $0.21 \pm 0.05 \text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ,  
347 while at  $38.3 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $g_s$  reached a minimum value of  $0.09 \pm 0.04 \text{mmol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ , representing a  
348 57% decline. Similarly, intracellular  $\text{CO}_2$  ( $C_i$ ) levels decreased linearly with leaf temperature,  
349 which is consistent with the decline in  $P_n$  being driven by the reduction in  $g_s$  as opposed to a decline  
350 in photosynthetic capacity (**Fig. 1**).

351 Together with isoprene emissions, two of the photochemical parameters (ETR and  $q_L$ )  
352 associated with the light reactions of photosynthesis (**Fig. 2**) were strongly stimulated by  
353 increasing temperatures with no sign of saturation or decline. A minimum ETR value of  $123.1 \pm$



354 24.5  $\mu\text{mol e}^- \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  occurred at the lowest leaf temperature ( $26.7 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ ) and continuously  
355 increased with leaf temperature to reach a maximum value of  $189.4 \pm 34.2 \mu\text{mol e}^- \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  at the  
356 highest leaf temperature ( $38.3 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$ ), representing a 54% increase. Similarly, over the same  
357 temperature range,  $q_L$  increased by 39% from  $0.39 \pm 0.06$  at the lowest leaf temperature to  $0.54 \pm$   
358  $0.05$  at the highest leaf temperature, demonstrating that the average oxidation level of PSII  
359 increased consistently as leaf temperature increased. Together with these photochemical  
360 parameters, leaf isoprene emissions were strongly stimulated by increases in leaf temperature by  
361 490% over the temperature range studied. Isoprene emissions were at a minimum of  $6.1 \pm 1.9 \text{ nmol}$   
362  $\text{m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  at the lowest leaf temperature and increased to maximum emission rate of  $29.9 \pm 3.8 \text{ nmol}$   
363  $\text{m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  at the highest leaf temperature. In contrast, NPQ was variable and did not show any clear  
364 trend with leaf temperature; NPQ was  $1.17 \pm 0.60$  at the lowest leaf temperature and  $1.32 \pm 0.81$   
365 at the highest leaf temperature (**Fig. 2**). In addition,  $F_v'/F_m'$  remained stable as leaf temperatures  
366 increased with a variation of less than 1%, with a value of  $0.57 \pm 0.02$  at the lowest leaf temperature  
367 and  $0.58 \pm 0.05$  at the highest leaf temperature (supplementary data, **figure S1**).

368 As summarized in **Table 1**, strong positive correlations (indicated with Pearson's product-  
369 moment correlation coefficient,  $r$ ) were observed between leaf isoprene emissions and  $q_L$  and ETR.  
370 Across the leaf temperature response curves, mean isoprene emissions were nearly perfectly  
371 linearly correlated with mean values of ETR ( $r = 0.98$ ) and  $q_L$  ( $r = 0.99$ ). In contrast, leaf isoprene  
372 emissions were strongly negatively correlated with  $g_s$  ( $r = -0.97$ ) and  $C_i$  ( $r = -0.97$ ). Following  
373 regression analysis, linear equations and coefficients of determination ( $R^2$ ) were determined  
374 between isoprene emissions and the photochemical parameters ETR ( $\mu\text{mol e}^- \text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and  $q_L$  as  
375 follows:

376 **Eq.7.** Isoprene emissions =  $(0.37 \pm 0.03) \text{ ETR} - 49.1 \pm 4.19$  ( $R^2 = 0.97$ )

377 **Eq.8.** Isoprene emissions =  $(126.26 \pm 6.57) q_L + 38.875 \pm 2.89$  ( $R^2 = 0.98$ )

### 378 **3.2 Isoprene inhibitor studies**

379 In order to test whether the isoprenoid pathway is necessary to maintain high  
380 photosynthetic rates at elevated temperatures, we applied the isoprenoid biosynthesis inhibitor  
381 fosmidomycin to detached branches as a solution delivered to leaves via the transpiration stream.  
382 Fosmidomycin application resulted in the complete loss of isoprene emissions at all leaf  
383 temperatures (**Fig. 3a**). In contrast, under water fed control branches, leaf isoprene emission  
384 continued to be stimulated through the highest leaf temperatures achievable ( $47.9 \pm 2.0^\circ\text{C}$ ). It  
385 should be noted, that because the inhibitor experiments occurred during the dry season with greatly  
386 reduced cloud cover, the maximum leaf temperatures achievable were much higher than in the  
387 chlorophyll fluorescence experiments (**Figs. 1-2**), which occurred during the wet season with a  
388 greater degree of cloud cover. Fosmidomycin treated branches showed reduced  $g_s$  relative to water  
389 fed controls (**Fig. 3d**). This reduction of  $g_s$  caused a temperature independent reduction in  $P_n$  in the  
390 fosmidomycin treated leaves, reducing the values by up to 40% relative to the water fed control  
391 (**Fig. 3b**). However, for both water fed control and fosmidomycin treated leaves, both  $g_s$  and  $P_n$   
392 reached steady state at each temperature throughout the leaf temperature response curve.  
393 Moreover, clear temperature dependent trends can be discerned from this dataset. For instance, at  
394 the lowest leaf temperature ( $25.4 \pm 1.2^\circ\text{C}$ ), mean  $P_n$  of fosmidomycin fed branches decreased by  
395 64% relative to water controls ( $14.3 \pm 3.8 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  under water versus  $5.2 \pm 1.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$   
396 under fosmidomycin), while at the highest leaf temperature studied ( $47.9 \pm 2.0^\circ\text{C}$ ) mean  $P_n$  of  
397 fosmidomycin fed branches decreased by 82.8% relative to water controls ( $8.7 \pm 1.5 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$   
398 versus  $1.5 \pm 1.1 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  under fosmidomycin). Intercellular  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations ( $C_i$ , **Fig. 3c**)  
399 were similar between the fosmidomycin fed branches and the water fed controls at low leaf

400 temperatures, however, they diverged at leaf temperatures above 32.5°C. Above these leaf  
401 temperatures,  $C_i$  values of fosmidomycin fed branches were higher than water fed controls in spite  
402 of the low  $g_s$  values, consistent with reduced photosynthetic capacity (**Fig. 3b**). Finally, when  $P_n$   
403 was normalized by  $g_s$ , the temperature dependent effect of the inhibitor on photosynthesis can be  
404 clearly observed ( $P_n/g_s$ , **Fig. 4**). At low temperatures,  $P_n/g_s$  was indistinguishable between the  
405 water fed control branches and the fosmidomycin fed branches ( $25.4 \pm 1.2^\circ\text{C}$ ). At high  
406 temperatures,  $P_n/g_s$  was lower in the fosmidomycin fed branches relative to the water fed controls  
407 as leaf temperature increased. The largest reduction in  $P_n/g_s$  was observed at the highest leaf  
408 temperature ( $47.9 \pm 2.0^\circ\text{C}$ ) where  $P_n/g_s$  was reduced by 35.8%. Thus, by inhibiting isoprenoid  
409 biosynthesis, photosynthetic capacity is reduced at high temperatures in *V. guianensis*.

#### 410 **4. Discussion**

411 Current mechanistic isoprene emission models predict that high temperatures are associated with  
412 an enhanced rate of the production of the energetic and reductive equivalents necessary for  
413 isoprenoid biosynthesis generated by the photochemical phase of photosynthesis. However, even  
414 though tropical forests are the largest global source of isoprene in the atmosphere, whether the link  
415 between high ETR and isoprene emission is valid in tropical trees had not been tested. We lacked  
416 a quantitative assessment of the relationship between ETR and isoprene emissions in the tropics.

417 Using coupled gas exchange, chlorophyll fluorescence, and isoprene emission observations  
418 during controlled leaf temperature response curves of *V. guianensis*, an early successional species  
419 in the central Amazon, we provide evidence that temperature induced stimulation of isoprene  
420 emissions is tightly correlated with ETR and  $q_L$ , both of which indicate a stimulation in the rate of  
421 light-dependent NADPH and ATP production in the chloroplast (Niinemets *et al.*, 2002a,b). We  
422 observed this strong temperature stimulation, and a near perfect coupling between isoprene

423 emissions and ETR and  $q_L$ , despite a decline in  $g_s$  and  $P_n$  at high temperatures. The high  
424 temperatures did not alter the maximum photochemical efficiency of PSII as demonstrated by a  
425 near constant  $F_v'/F_m'$  (supplementary data, **figure S1**) value of 0.57 over the range of the entire  
426 leaf temperature measurement regime, nor were other photoprotective mechanisms, such as NPQ,  
427 induced under these conditions. Assisted by solar heating of the leaf chamber during the Amazon  
428 dry season, leaf temperatures during controlled temperature response curves reached values up to  
429 50°C with isoprene emissions continuing to increase (see **Fig. 3**). Thus, rather than scaling down  
430 the photochemical reactions of photosynthesis at high temperatures and increasing NPQ rates, the  
431 photochemical reactions of *V. guianensis* leaves continue to increase likely through a tight  
432 coupling to increased demand by non-CO<sub>2</sub> consuming metabolic pathways for photochemically  
433 generated NADPH and/or ATP at high temperatures. This provides direct evidence that  
434 suppression of  $P_n$  at high leaf temperatures in the tropics is mainly associated with reductions in  
435  $g_s$  rather than direct negative temperature effects on photosynthesis itself (Lloyd & Farquhar, 2008)  
436 and is consistent with a previous study that observed a negative correlation between isoprene  
437 emissions and NPQ (Pollastri *et al.*, 2014). Recently, isoprene photoprotection of photosynthesis  
438 has been described through mechanisms alternative to NPQ, enabling plants to maintain a high  
439 photosynthetic rates at rising temperatures by maintaining PSII and thylakoid membrane stability  
440 (Pollastri *et al.*, 2019).

441 Notably, our results with *V. guianensis* stand in contrast to other studies including  
442 field-grown cotton plants (a non-isoprene emitter) in North America, which regularly experience  
443 temperatures of 40°C or higher during the growing season. It has been reported that components  
444 of the photosynthetic apparatus in cotton leaves experience damage at high temperatures (35–  
445 42°C) (Wise *et al.*, 2004). In a study carried out with the tropical tree *Inga edulis* in the central

446 Amazon (an isoprene emitter), it was observed that the rate of ETR declined after reaching 28-  
447 36°C (Mendes *et al.*, 2017). Similar results were found in four species in a Malaysian rainforest,  
448 where ETR declined after reaching a 35°C (Kitao *et al.*, 2000) and in a rainforest in Rwanda where  
449 three species showed a decrease in ETR at leaf temperatures beyond 30°C and other three species  
450 showed ETR declines above 35-37°C (Vårhammar *et al.*, 2015). As isoprene emissions were not  
451 quantified in these studies, further studies are needed to determine if the continuous stimulation of  
452 ETR and isoprene emissions to extreme leaf temperatures is a unique functional trait characteristic  
453 of *V. guianensis*, or also a common occurrence in other early and late successional species in the  
454 tropics that are regularly exposed to full sun and extreme daytime temperatures.

455 While the atmospheric roles of isoprene have been extensively investigated (Grosjean *et*  
456 *al.*, 1993), much less is known about its biological roles including potential direct and indirect  
457 impacts on the terrestrial carbon cycle during climate warming. Directly, leaf isoprene emissions  
458 to the atmosphere represent a small (e.g. 5% at a leaf temperature of 50°C, **Fig. 3**), but potentially  
459 important loss of carbon from tropical forests as surface temperatures increase (Harley *et al.*,  
460 1996). In addition to this direct impact on the carbon cycle through a loss of ecosystem carbon,  
461 our results are consistent with a secondary effect; isoprene production at high temperatures may  
462 minimize the suppression in  $P_n$  during high temperature extremes, and improve recovery rates  
463 once more favorable temperatures are encountered (Sharkey *et al.*, 2001). This is supported by the  
464 observations that blocking the isoprenoid pathway with fosmidomycin in *V. guianensis* repressed  
465  $P_n$  at high temperatures through a mechanism that was independent of stomatal closure (**Figs. 3-**  
466 **4**). Whether this is a consequence of the direct thermoprotective and signaling effects of isoprene  
467 itself or other isoprenoid intermediates and products, or the loss of a major chloroplastic NADPH  
468 and ATP consuming pathway at high temperatures will be a focus of future work. Although

469 fosmidomycin is considered highly specific and does not directly inhibit photosynthesis (Sharkey  
470 *et al.*, 2001), it has been shown to rapidly (with 1 hour) reduce  $P_n$ , PSII chlorophyll fluorescence,  
471  $V_{cmax}$  (the maximum rate of Ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase activity) and  $J_{max}$  (the  
472 maximum rate of photosynthetic electron transport) (Possell *et al.*, 2010). Thus, care should be  
473 taken in attributing these effects solely to a lack of isoprene as fosmidomycin negatively impacts  
474 the synthesis of numerous other isoprenoids involved in photosynthesis resulting in  
475 photoinhibition and photo-damage (Possell *et al.*, 2010). However, that the direct inhibition of  
476 photosynthetic capacity with fosmidomycin in this experiment was only observed at  
477 temperatures well in excess of the optimum  $P_n$  temperature is consistent with the role of isoprene  
478 in maintaining high photosynthetic capacity under thermal stress conditions in tropical species.  
479 A recent literature survey of tropical plants reported that maximum temperatures for  $P_n$   $\sim 1.8^\circ\text{C}$   
480 higher for isoprene-emitting species than for non-emitters, and thermal response curves were 24%  
481 wider (Taylor *et al.*, 2019). Consistent with a significant impact on the ability of tropical forests to  
482 maintain a strong carbon sink throughout the 21<sup>st</sup> century, this study suggested that isoprene  
483 emission may be an adaptation to warmer thermal niches, and that emitting species may fare better  
484 under global warming than co-occurring non-emitting species. However, the direct and indirect  
485 impacts of isoprene emission on terrestrial carbon cycling in the tropics during high temperature  
486 extremes remains to be quantified.

487       As isoprene emissions itself may represent a small fraction of ETR (Lantz *et al.*, 2019), we  
488 estimated this fraction by using the slope of the linear relationship in **Eq. 7** (0.37 nmol  
489 isoprene/ $\mu\text{mol e}^-$ ). Thus, we estimate that as temperatures vary, the percentage of electrons leading  
490 to isoprene biosynthesis is 0.037%. Thus, it is important to note that even at high temperatures,  
491 only a small fraction of the reducing equivalents generated by ETR will be directly consumed for

492 isoprene biosynthesis and the strong coupling of ETR/ $q_L$  and isoprene biosynthesis must be  
493 supported by the induction of other pathways that consume the bulk of photosynthetically-derived  
494 NADPH and ATP including the biosynthesis of non-volatile isoprenoids as well as other linked  
495 biochemical processes and pathways such as photorespiration (Voss *et al.*, 2013), the re-  
496 assimilation of respiratory and photorespiratory CO<sub>2</sub> (Garcia *et al.*, 2019), the malate valve  
497 (Rasulov *et al.*, 2018), mitochondrial respiration (Loreto *et al.*, 2007), and the alternate oxidase  
498 pathway (Atkin & Tjoelker, 2003) (**Fig. 5**). For example, as leaf temperatures increase,  
499 photorespiration rates rise faster than photosynthetic rates and an increasing proportion of the  
500 NADPH and ATP are diverted into photorespiration (Long, 1991). Moreover, as temperatures  
501 increase a large fraction of photorespiratory CO<sub>2</sub> can be re-assimilated by photosynthesis (Voss *et*  
502 *al.*, 2013) and photorespiratory intermediates are increasingly incorporated into isoprene emissions  
503 (Jardine *et al.*, 2014). Thus, despite isoprene emissions representing a small fraction of ETR (e.g.  
504 0.037%), our observations are consistent with a mechanism where isoprenoid biosynthesis  
505 operates in parallel with numerous coupled pathways which accelerate under high temperature to  
506 create a positive feedback with ETR to maintain high photosynthetic capacity.

507       Previous research suggested that large variations in isoprene emissions as a function of  
508 light, CO<sub>2</sub>, temperature and oxygen were driven by the energy status of chloroplasts (Rasulov *et*  
509 *al.*, 2009; Morfopoulos *et al.*, 2013); a result predicted by models of plant isoprene emissions based  
510 on available NADPH and ATP (Morfopoulos *et al.*, 2013, 2014). These mechanisms have been  
511 incorporated into Earth system models (Pacifico *et al.*, 2011; Harrison *et al.*, 2013) which predict  
512 regional to global emission patterns of isoprene linked to photosynthesis. Therefore, the  
513 quantitative relationship presented here between ETR and isoprene emissions from an abundant  
514 Neotropical early successional species can be used in future modeling studies to improve the

515 accuracy of simulations predicting large increases in tropical isoprene emissions associated with  
516 increased forest dynamics and climate warming.

517         The optimal temperature range for  $P_n$  has been cited as 30-31°C as typical for climax tree  
518 species in terra-firme tropical forests (Lloyd & Farquhar, 2008; Jardine *et al.*, 2017a; Slot &  
519 Winter, 2017). For example, in Panama reported optimum temperatures for  $P_n$  ranged from 28.4°C  
520 to 31.9°C without a significant difference detected between trees and lianas and dry and wet sites.  
521 Thus, *V. guianensis* appears to show a higher optimum temperature for  $P_n$  than previously reported  
522 for tropical species ( $32.6 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$ ). Moreover, isoprene emissions continued to increase through  
523 the highest temperatures obtainable by the leaf gas exchange system (wet season greater than or  
524 equal to  $38.3 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$ : **Fig. 1-2**, dry season  $48.1 \pm 2.0^\circ\text{C}$ : **Fig. 3**). Thus, *V. guianensis* shows a  
525 dramatically higher optimum temperature for isoprene emissions than reported for other species  
526 (up to 10°C higher). To our knowledge, this represents the highest reported leaf temperature by  
527 which isoprene emissions continue to be stimulated by increasing temperature. These findings  
528 suggest that the photosynthetic apparatus in *V. guianensis*, and its coupling to isoprene production,  
529 is well adapted to the extreme high temperatures regularly experienced in secondary forests, in  
530 which the leaf temperature in the middle of the day and early afternoon regularly exceeds the ideal  
531 temperature range for  $P_n$  (Doughty & Goulden, 2008), especially during the dry season and during  
532 droughts. For example, during the dry season of 2015-16 in a central Amazon rainforest, the upper  
533 canopy reached leaf temperatures  $> 45^\circ\text{C}$  with strong afternoon suppression of  $P_n$  associated with  
534 partial stomatal closure (Jardine *et al.*, 2017a). A previous study with poplar leaves observed that  
535 the temperature optimum for  $P_n$  ( $30^\circ\text{C}$ )  $<$  ETR ( $35^\circ\text{C}$ )  $<$  isoprene emissions ( $45^\circ\text{C}$ )  $<$  enzyme  
536 activity of isoprene synthase ( $50^\circ\text{C}$ ) (Monson *et al.*, 1992). Thus, in order to determine the full  
537 extent of coupling of ETR and isoprene emission, future studies using engineered gas exchange



538 systems capable of extreme leaf temperatures (e.g. 25-60°C) should be used to determine at what  
539 temperature ETR and isoprene emissions from *V. guianensis* finally begin to decline and if ETR  
540 and isoprene emissions share the same optimum leaf temperature.

541 As remote sensing of gross primary productivity using solar induced fluorescence (Yang  
542 *et al.*, 2015) and isoprene emissions (both direct isoprene observations and indirect via atmospheric  
543 formaldehyde columns measurements) (Zheng *et al.*, 2015; Fu *et al.*, 2019) are being evaluated  
544 from ecosystem to global scales, our mechanistic results may be utilized to better understand  
545 integrative studies on terrestrial carbon cycling in the tropics. For example, when atmospheric  
546 formaldehyde was used as a proxy for tropical isoprene emissions, it was found that isoprene  
547 emissions tracked the seasonal cycle of canopy temperature, but was anticorrelated with gross  
548 primary productivity (Foster *et al.*, 2014). In light of our leaf level observations, this could be  
549 explained by an increase in isoprene emissions and photochemical reactions of photosynthesis at  
550 high temperatures, but a suppression of  $P_n$  associated with partial stomatal closure.

551

## 552 **5. Acknowledgements**

553 This material is based upon work supported as part of the Next Generation Ecosystem  
554 Experiments-Tropics (NGEE-Tropics) funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of  
555 Science, Office of Biological and Environmental Research's Terrestrial Ecosystem Science  
556 Program through contract No. DE-AC02-05CH11231 to Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory,  
557 DE-AC05-00OR22725 to Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and DE-SC0012704 to Brookhaven  
558 National Laboratory. Additional funding for this research was provided by the Brazilian Conselho  
559 Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq). Logistical and scientific support  
560 is acknowledged by the Forest Management laboratory (LMF), Climate and Environment

561 (CLIAMB), and Large Scale Biosphere-Atmosphere (LBA) programs at the National Institute for  
 562 Amazon Research (INPA).

563

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## 853 7. Supplementary Material

854 Supplementary Figure S1 showing mean *V. guianensis* leaf temperature responses of fluorescence  
855 parameters including maximum quantum efficiency of PSII photochemistry in the light ( $F_v'/F_m'$ )  
856 and in the dark ( $F_v/F_m$ ) is available for download as 'FigureS1\_SuppInfo.pdf'.  
857

## 858 8. Data Availability Statement

859 The data that support the findings of this study are openly available in NGEE Tropics Data  
860 Collection at <http://dx.doi.org/10.15486/ngt/1570407>, reference number BR-Ma2. The  
861 supplementary data (Size: 11,657 KB) includes raw data obtained from the Licor 6400XT gas  
862 exchange system and the TD-GC-MS system for isoprene emission analysis and organized as  
863 follows:

### 864 Fluorescence experiment folder:

- 865 • Gas exchange data (Licor 6400XT files) including fluorescence with leaf number and  
866 date
- 867 • Isoprene data (TD-GC-MS output files) with leaf number and date

### 868 Inhibitor experiment folder:

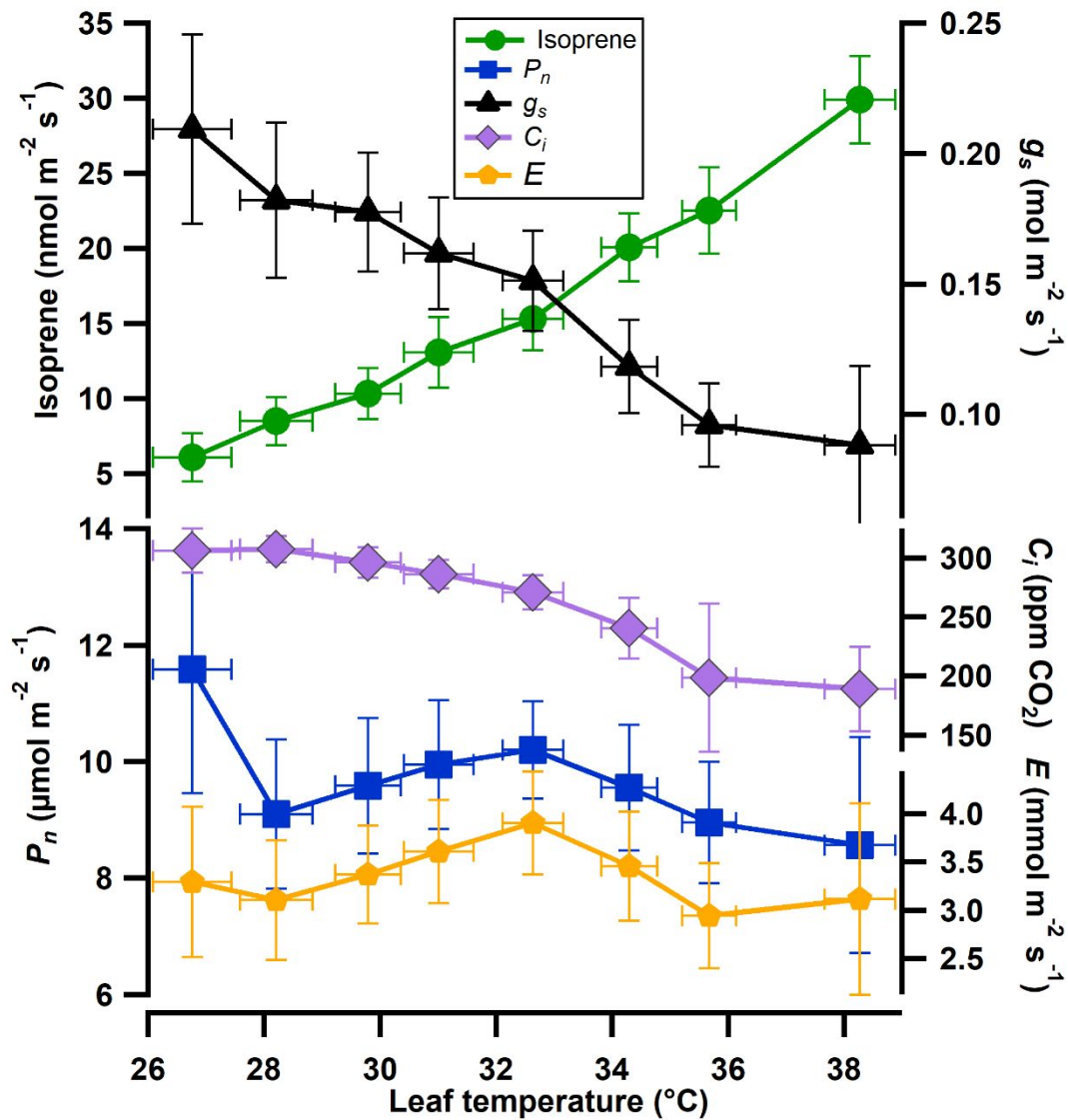
- 869 • Gas exchange data (Licor 6400XT files) and isoprene data (TD-GC-MS output files) with  
870 isoprenoid fed inhibitor: Folders separated by date
- 871 • Gas exchange data (Licor 6400XT files) and isoprene data (TD-GC-MS files) with water  
872 fed control branches: Folders separated by date

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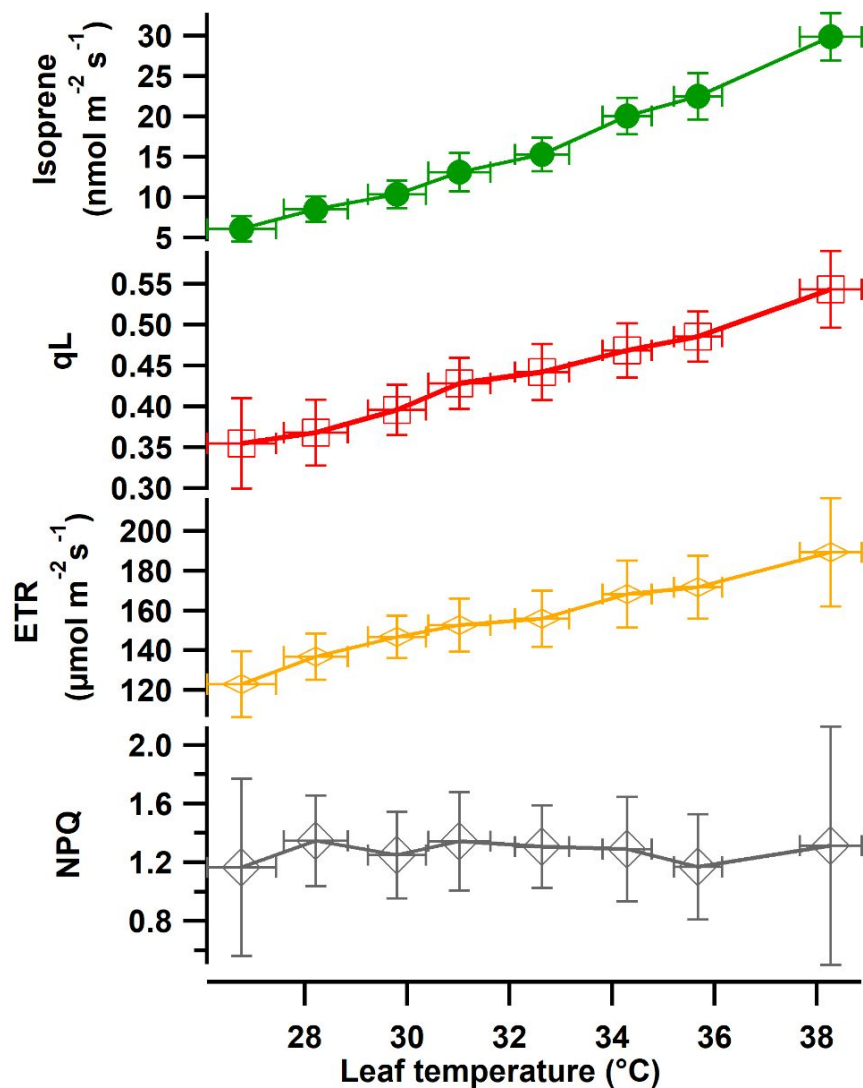
## 874 9. Figures and Tables

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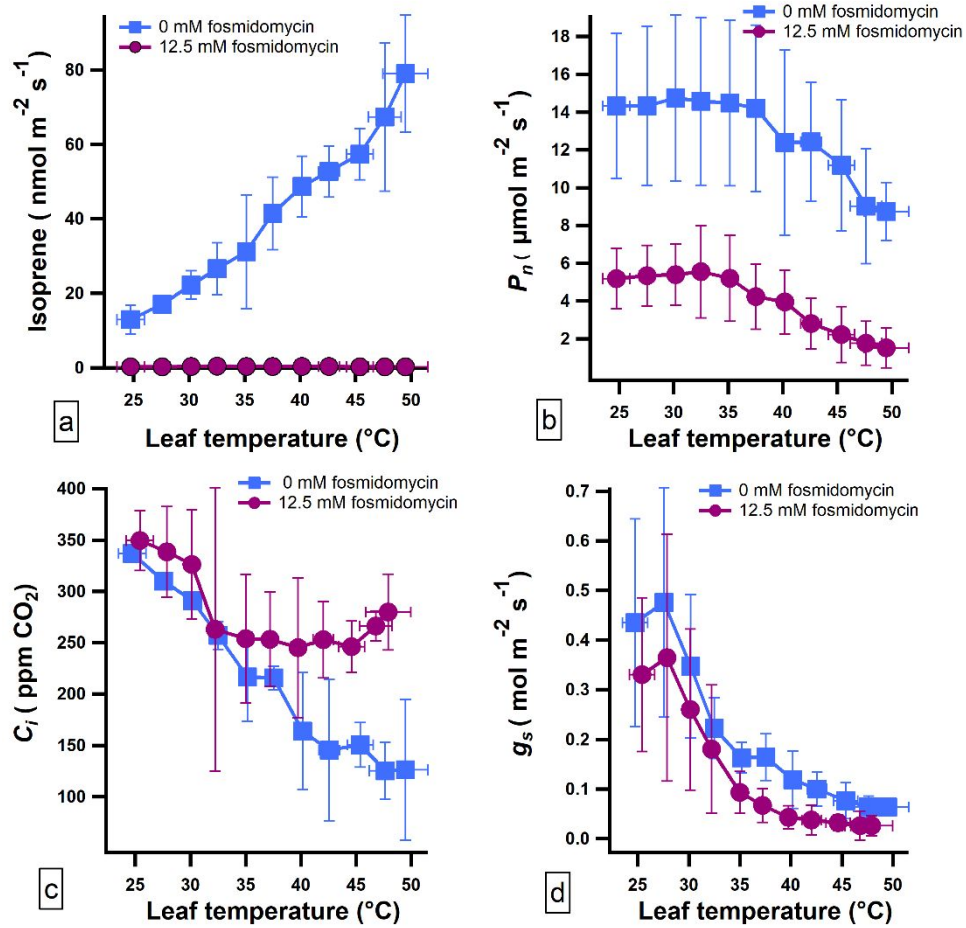
876

877 **Figure 1:** Mean response of net photosynthesis ( $P_n$ ), stomatal conductance ( $g_s$ ), internal carbon  
 878 ( $C_i$ ), transpiration ( $E$ ), and isoprene emissions to an increase in leaf temperature in *V. guianensis*.  
 879 Data shown are the mean of 23 temperature response curves collected with error bars representing  
 880  $\pm 2$  standard deviation.



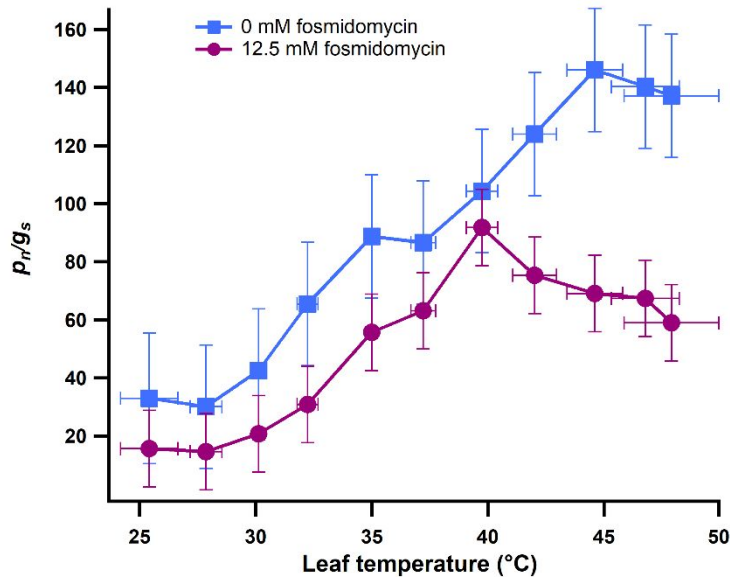
881

882 **Figure 2:** Mean *V. guianensis* leaf temperature responses of light-dependent photosynthetic  
 883 parameters including electron transfer rate (ETR), oxidation state of Q<sub>A</sub> (q<sub>L</sub>), and non-  
 884 photochemical quenching (NPQ) together with leaf isoprene emissions. Data shown are the mean  
 885 of 23 temperature response curves collected with error bars representing  $\pm 2$  standard deviation.



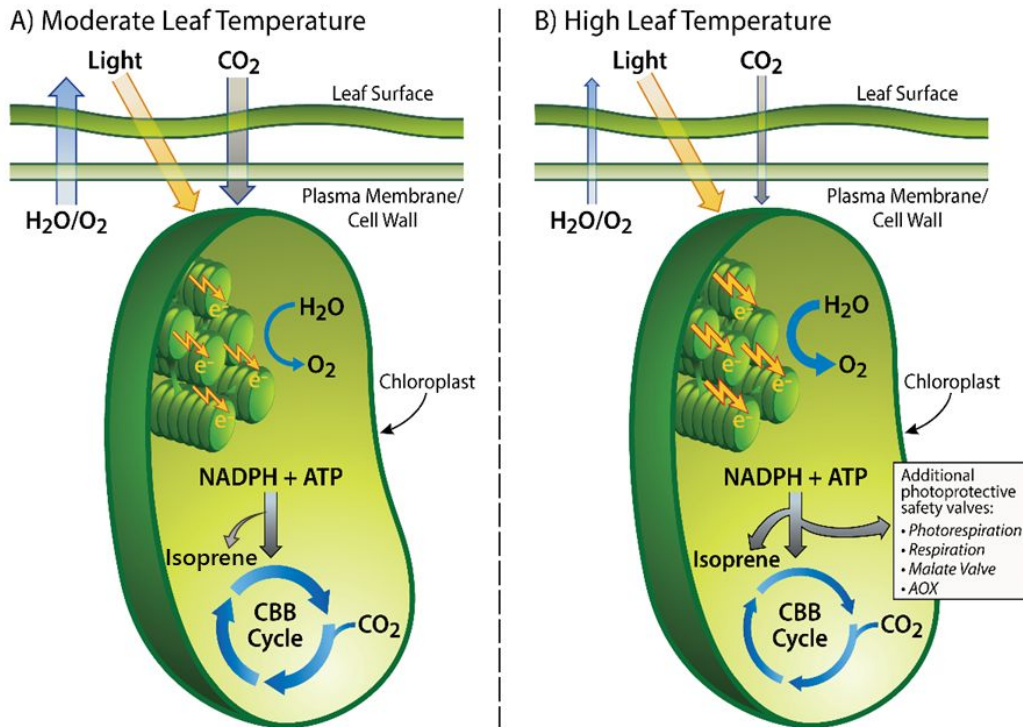
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**Figure 3:** Mean *V. guianensis* leaf temperature responses after 1 hour of branch feeding with 0 mM (blue curves with squares) and 12.5 mM (purple curves with dots) of the isoprenoid pathway inhibitor fosmidomycin showing (a) isoprene emissions, (b) net photosynthesis,  $P_n$ , (c) intercellular  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration,  $C_i$ , (d) stomatal conductance,  $g_s$ . Data shown are the mean of 3-4 temperature response curves (1 curve per leaf) with error bars representing  $\pm 2$  standard deviation.



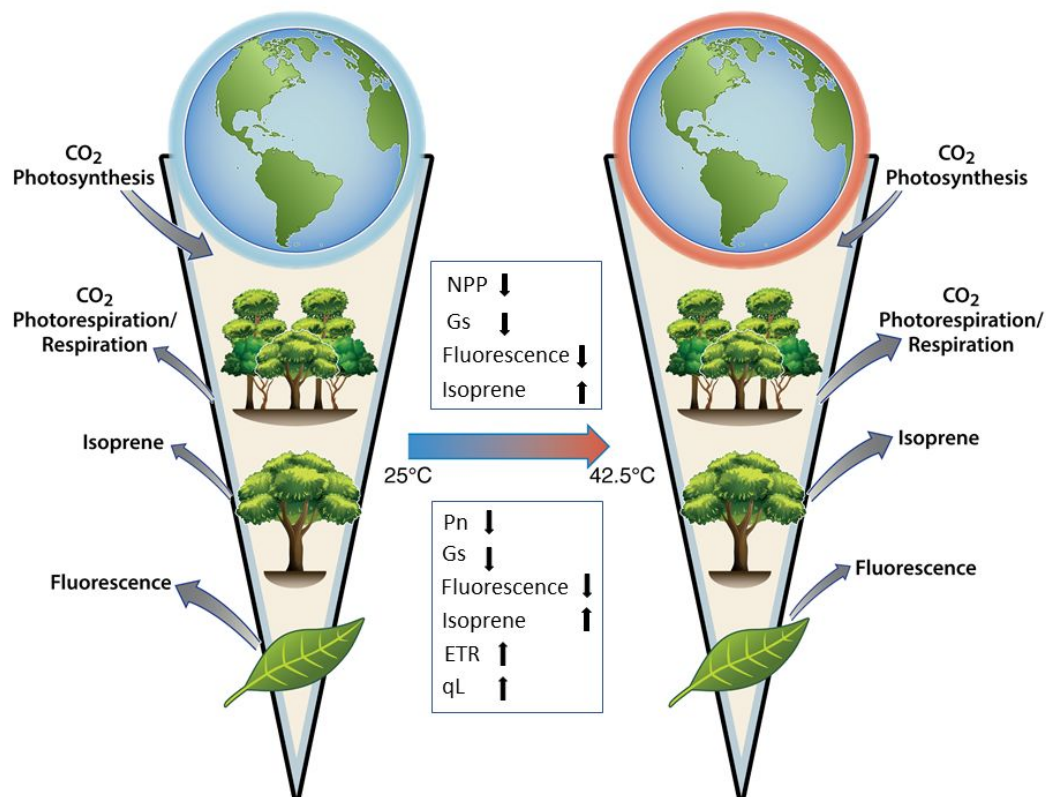
893

894 **Figure 4:** Mean *V. guianensis* leaf temperature responses after 1 hour of branch feeding with 0  
 895 mM (blue curves with squares) and 12.5 mM (purple curves with dots) of the isoprenoid pathway  
 896 inhibitor fosmidomycin showing net photosynthesis normalized to stomatal conductance,  $P_n/g_s$ .  
 897 Data shown are the mean of 3-4 temperature response curves (1 curve per leaf) with error bars  
 898 representing  $\pm 2$  standard deviation.  
 899



900

901 **Figure 5:** Proposed biochemical model of the acclimation to high temperature stress through the  
 902 consumption of photosynthetic energy (ATP) and reducing equivalents (NADPH) through the  
 903 activation of the isoprenoid pathway together in parallel with other coupled biochemical pathways  
 904 (adapted from Voss *et al.*, 2013 and Morfopoulos *et al.*, 2014). O<sub>2</sub>: oxygen; CO<sub>2</sub>: carbon dioxide;  
 905 H<sub>2</sub>O: water; ATP: adenosine triphosphate; NADPH: Nicotinamide-Adenine-Dinucleotide-  
 906 Phosphate; AOX: alternative oxidases of mitochondria.  
 907



908  
 909 **Figure 6 (Graphical Abstract):** Graphical representation the influence of proposed surface  
 910 temperature impacts on plant physiological processes influencing terrestrial ecosystem carbon  
 911 cycling from leaf to global scales. NPP: Net Primary Productivity, Gs: Stomatal Conductance,  
 912 ETR: Electron Transport Rate, qL: Fraction of PSII centers that are oxidized, CO<sub>2</sub>: carbon  
 913 dioxide.  
 914

	$P_n$	$g_s$	$Fv'/Fm'$	NPQ	ETR	Isoprene	$C_i$	$qL$
$P_n$	1	0.73	0.57	-0.38	-0.75	-0.68	0.63	-0.65
$g_s$	0.73	1	0.62	-0.05	-0.97	-0.97	0.97	-0.97
$Fv'/Fm'$	0.57	0.62	1	-0.33	-0.67	-0.53	0.46	-0.60
NPQ	-0.38	-0.05	-0.33	1	0.19	0.09	0.13	0.13
ETR	-0.75	-0.97	-0.67	0.19	1	0.98	-0.93	0.99
Isoprene	-0.69	-0.97	-0.53	0.09	0.98	1	-0.97	0.99
$C_i$	0.63	0.97	0.46	0.13	-0.93	-0.97	1	-0.95
$qL$	-0.65	-0.97	-0.60	0.13	0.99	0.99	-0.95	1

915 **Table 1:** Correlation ( $r$ ) derived between the gas exchange ( $P_n$ ,  $g_s$ , and isoprene emissions) and  
916 light-independent photosynthetic variables shown in **Figs. 1-2**.

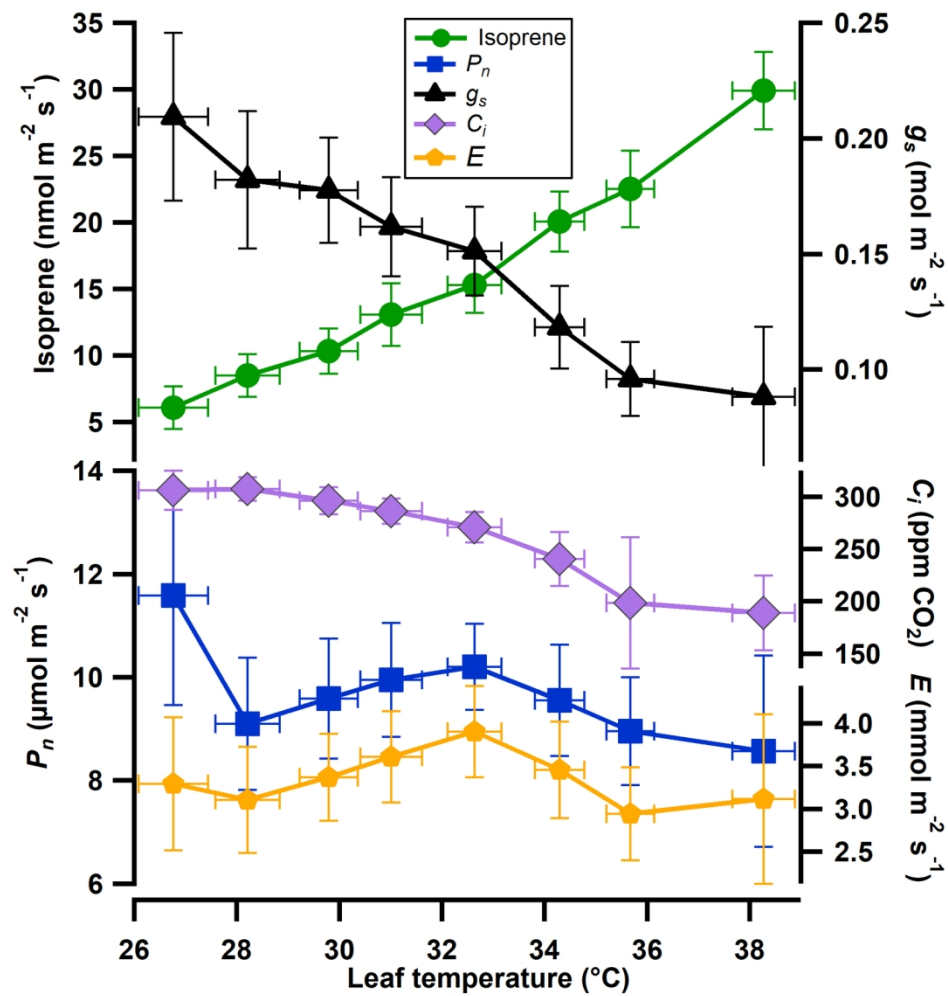


Figure 1: Mean response of net photosynthesis ( $P_n$ ), stomatal conductance ( $g_s$ ), internal carbon ( $C_i$ ), transpiration ( $E$ ), and isoprene emissions to an increase in leaf temperature in *V. guianensis*. Data shown are the mean of 23 temperature response curves collected with error bars representing  $\pm 2$  standard deviation.

152x153mm (300 x 300 DPI)



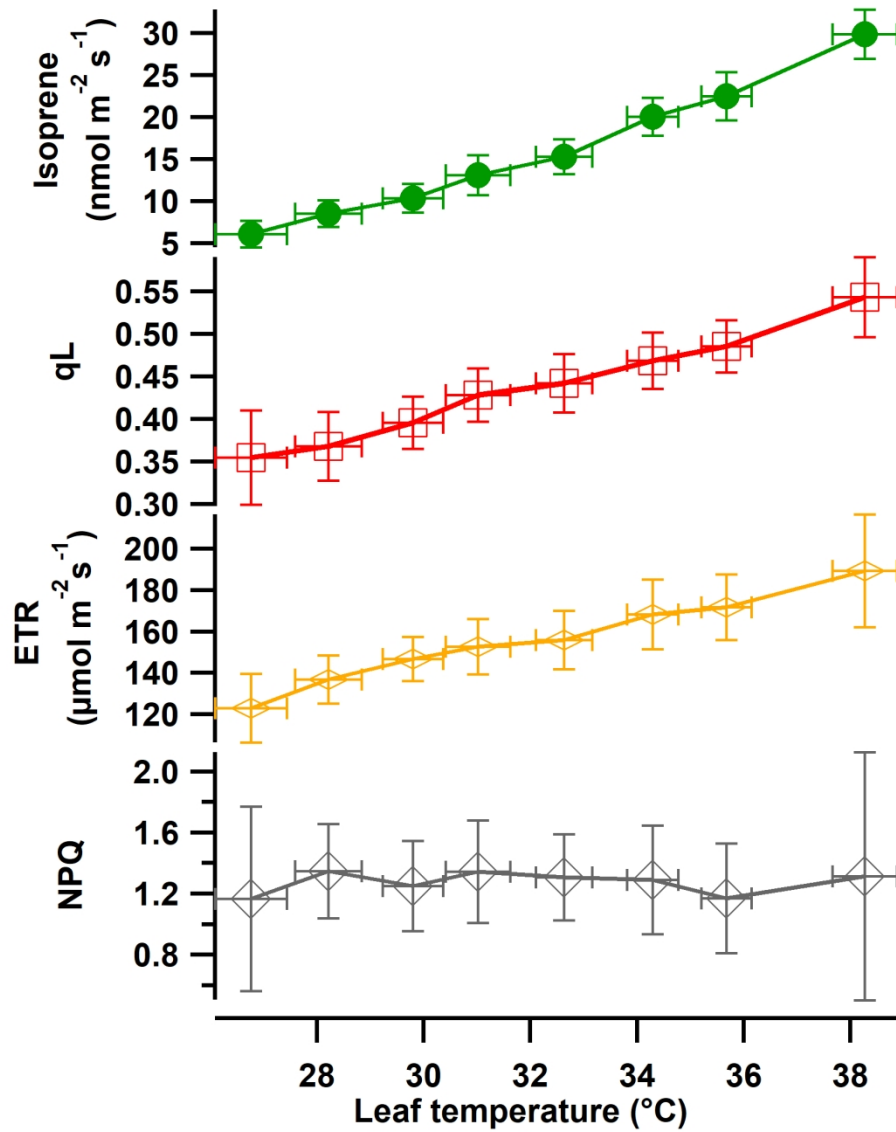


Figure 2: Mean *V. guianensis* leaf temperature responses of light-dependent photosynthetic parameters including electron transfer rate (ETR), oxidation state of QA ( $q_L$ ), and non-photochemical quenching (NPQ) together with leaf isoprene emissions. Data shown are the mean of 23 temperature response curves collected with error bars representing  $\pm 2$  standard deviation.



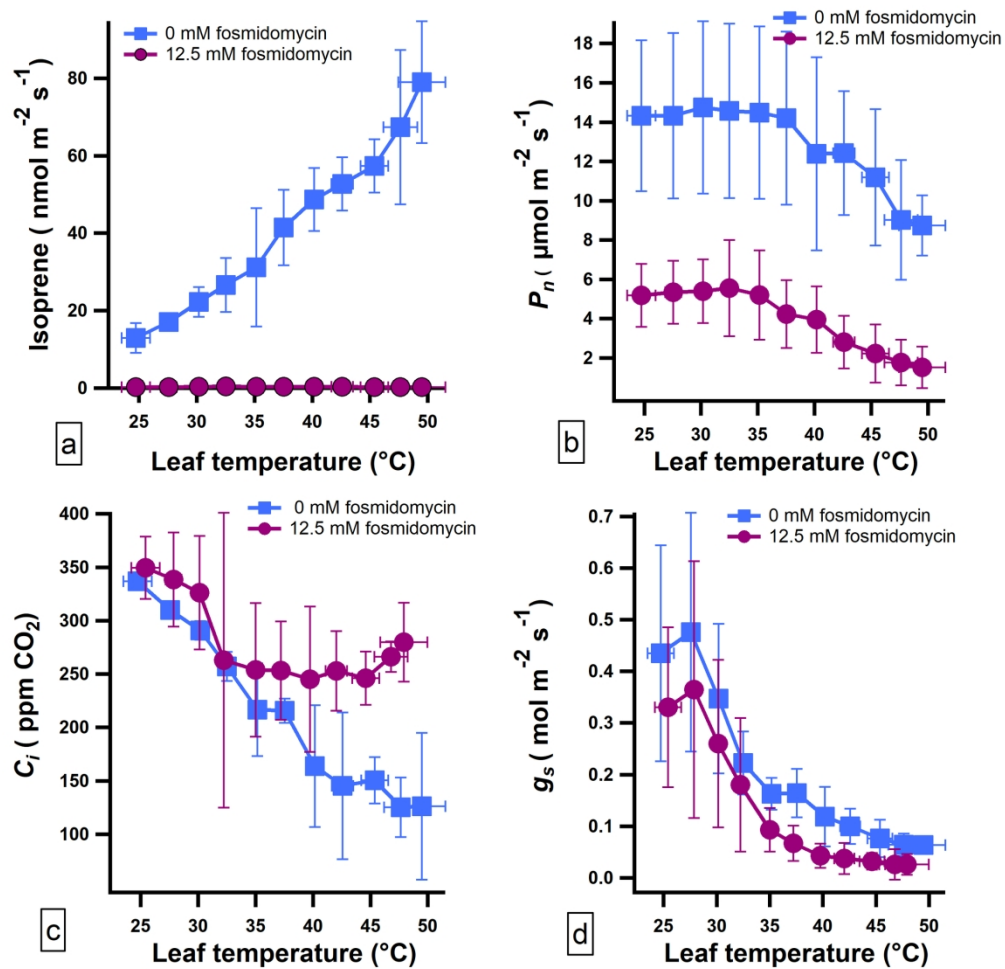


Figure 3: Mean *V. guianensis* leaf temperature responses after 1 hour of branch feeding with 0 mM (blue curves with squares) and 12.5 mM (purple curves with dots) of the isoprenoid pathway inhibitor fosmidomycin showing (a) isoprene emissions, (b) net photosynthesis,  $P_n$ , (c) intercellular  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration,  $C_i$ , (d) stomatal conductance,  $g_s$ . Data shown are the mean of 3-4 temperature response curves (1 curve per leaf) with error bars representing  $\pm 2$  standard deviation.

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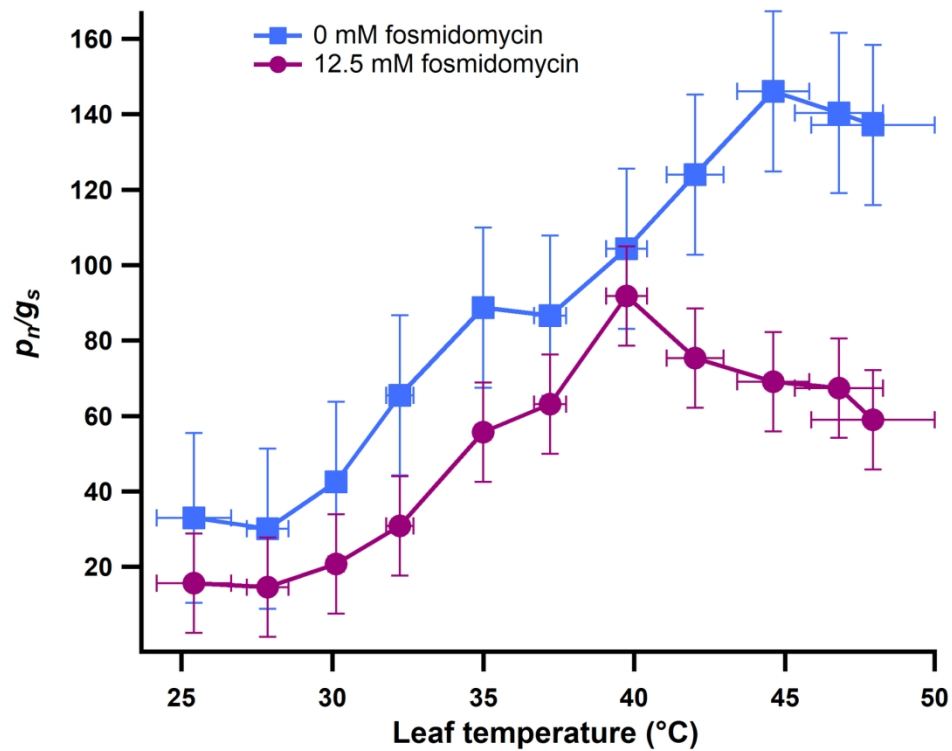


Figure 4: Mean *V. guianensis* leaf temperature responses after 1 hour of branch feeding with 0 mM (blue curves with squares) and 12.5 mM (purple curves with dots) of the isoprenoid pathway inhibitor fosmidomycin showing net photosynthesis normalized to stomatal conductance,  $P_n/g_s$ . Data shown are the mean of 3-4 temperature response curves (1 curve per leaf) with error bars representing  $\pm 2$  standard deviation.

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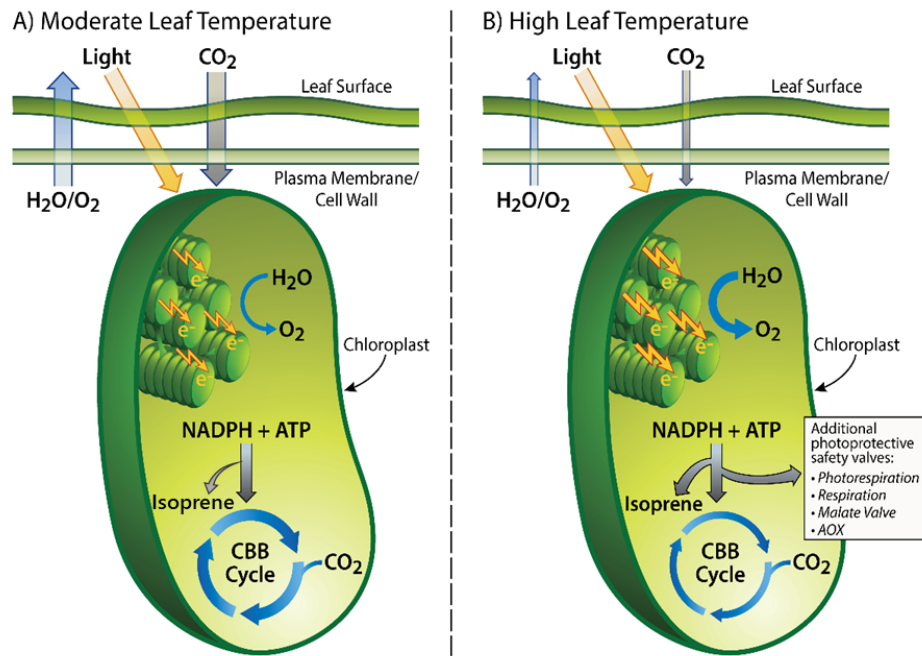


Figure 5: Proposed biochemical model of the acclimation to high temperature stress through the consumption of photosynthetic energy (ATP) and reducing equivalents (NADPH) through the activation of the isoprenoid pathway together in parallel with other coupled biochemical pathways (adapted from Voss *et al.*, 2013 and Morfopoulos *et al.*, 2014).  $\text{O}_2$ : oxygen;  $\text{CO}_2$ : carbon dioxide;  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : water; ATP: adenosine triphosphate; NADPH: Nicotinamide-Adenine-Dinucleotide-Phosphate; AOX: alternative oxidases of mitochondria.

254x190mm (96 x 96 DPI)