

1 Coordinated downregulation of the photosynthetic apparatus as a protective mechanism
2 against UV exposure in the diatom *Corethron hystrix*

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14 **Abstract:**

15

16 The effect of ultraviolet radiation (UVR) on photosynthetic efficiency and the
17 resulting mechanisms against UV exposure employed by phytoplankton are not
18 completely understood. To address this knowledge gap, we developed a novel close-
19 coupled, wavelength-configurable platform designed to produce precise and repeatable *in*
20 *vitro* irradiation of *Corethron hystrix*, a member of a genera found abundantly in the
21 Southern Ocean where UV exposure is high. We aimed to determine its metabolic,
22 protective, mutative, and repair mechanisms as a function of varying levels of specific
23 electromagnetic energy. Our results show that the physiological responses to each energy
24 level of UV have a negative linear decrease in the photosynthetic efficiency of
25 photosystem II proportional to UV intensity, corresponding to a large increase in the
26 turnover time of quinone re-oxidation. Gene expression changes of photosystem II related
27 reaction center proteins D1, CP43 and CP47 showed coordinated downregulation
28 whereas the central metabolic pathway demonstrated mixed expression of up and
29 downregulated transcripts after UVR exposure. These results suggest that while UVR
30 may damage photosynthetic machinery, oxidative damage may limit production of new
31 photosynthetic and electron transport complexes as a result of UVR exposure.

32

33 **Keywords:** Diatom, UVR, Photosynthetic damage, Transcriptome

34 **Introduction:**

35 Diatoms are microscopic photosynthetic algae that are ubiquitous throughout the
36 surface waters of the oceans (Lohman 1960), account for roughly 40% of oceanic
37 primary production, and one-fifth of the Earth's total primary production (Falkowski and
38 Raven 2007). Diatoms also play a vital role in the global carbon cycle through their
39 uptake of dissolved CO₂ and subsequent carbon fixation that forms the base of the marine
40 food web (Armbrust 2009). Given their global distribution, diatoms have adapted to
41 survive under a variety of environmental conditions (Ligowski et al. 2012; Verde and
42 Prisco 2012; Marchetti et al. 2012). Unfavorable conditions such as nutrient limitation
43 (Allen et al. 2008; Dyhrman et al. 2012; Shrestha et al. 2012; Bender et al. 2014), varying
44 light levels (Domingues et al. 2012; Herbstová et al. 2015) and UV exposure (Wu et al.
45 2015) are commonplace. The latter is of particular interest because of the damaging
46 effects UV can have on photosynthesis as well as other metabolic pathways.

47 In phytoplankton, UV exposure can inhibit photosynthesis, based on the relative
48 dose and dose rate (Cullen and Lesser 1991). An inhibition of the photosynthetic rate
49 causes a decrease in the rate of primary production, with consequences in marine
50 ecosystems as well as terrestrial environments. Phytoplankton can also produce
51 protective compounds to combat the deleterious effects of UVR such as mycosporine-like
52 amino acids (MAAs), DNA photolyases and many more undefined compounds (Helbling
53 et al. 1996; Coesel et al. 2009). These compounds, when added to commercial products
54 such as sunscreen (Berardesca et al. 2012; Emanuele et al. 2013), show promise in
55 reducing carcinogenic effects of UV exposure in humans. Advances in this field require a
56 reliable method to induce and measure damage in a controlled laboratory setting.

57 Fluorescence kinetics measurements are a reliable estimator of photosynthetic
58 electron transport rates and photosystem II health (PSII) (Kolber and Falkowski 1993) in
59 photoautotrophic organisms. Because PSII is a target of UVR induced damage (Tevini
60 and Teramura 1989; Szilárd et al. 2007), Fast Repetition Rate Fluorometry (FRRF) has
61 been used to examine variations in several photosynthetic parameters in relation to light
62 impacts on the cell (Kolber et al. 1998). Changes in parameters such as the maximum
63 quantum yield of PSII (F_v/F_m) (Geider et al. 1993; Kolber and Falkowski 1993), the
64 turnover time of electron transport from QA \rightarrow QB (τ_1) and QB \rightarrow PQ (τ_2) (Kolber et
65 al. 1988), and the functional cross section of PSII (σ_{PSII}) -- the effective target size of the
66 PSII antenna in \AA^2 (quanta) $^{-1}$ (Kolber et al. 1998), act as proxies to monitor electron
67 transport rates and the relative health of PSII. Here we use them to monitor the rate and
68 intensity of photosynthetic damage within the cell. Changes in these parameters are a
69 function of the dose and dosage rate of absorbed radiation, as this has a direct impact of
70 the oxidation state of PSII electron transport chain.

71 In this study, the diatom *C. hystrix* (CCMP 308) was subjected to increasing
72 intensities of UVR energy ranging from 0.32 mW/cm² to 1.59 mW/cm² using a custom
73 built UVR emitter array. This gave us the ability to precisely control and measure
74 damage as a decrease in the photochemical efficiency of PSII using FRRF. F_v/F_m ,
75 σ_{PSII} , and τ were monitored hourly or bihourly to measure the UV damage to
76 PSII relative to non-irradiated conditions. Our aim was to test the UVR emitter array to
77 identify break points in photochemical efficiency, as measured by FRRF, to better
78 understand the physiological constraints of an ecologically important phytoplankton to
79 UVR exposure. Furthermore, we aimed to characterize the transcriptomic profile of *C.*

80 *hystrix* under 0.64 mW/cm² UVR intensity to reveal transcriptional responses in the
81 central metabolic pathway, photosynthetic electron transport chain (ETC), and DNA
82 repair mechanisms. This study thereby provides a comprehensive investigation of the
83 physiological and molecular stress response to UV irradiation using a UV emitter array
84 designed specifically to dose planktonic phototroph cultures with any desired UVR
85 intensity. These tools and methods, if shown to be successful, could be used to
86 manipulate organisms to better understand how they protect themselves against DNA
87 damage.

88 **Materials and Methods:**

89 *Cell Cultures*

90 *Corethron hystrix* CCMP 308 (Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, East Boothbay,
91 Maine, USA) was grown at a maintenance temperature of 14 °C under 12:12 L:D at an
92 illumination of ~40 μmol photons m⁻² s⁻¹ using white LEDs. Although 14 °C was the
93 recommended temperature for *in vitro* studies, *C. hystrix* has a much wider known
94 temperature range. Duplicate cultures were grown in L1 medium (Guillard and Hargraves
95 1993), prepared with 0.2 μm filtered surface seawater from the Gulf of Maine (Bigelow
96 Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, East Boothbay, Maine, USA). Chlorophyll pigment was
97 extracted in 90% acetone at -20 °C for 17 hours, in the dark. Following extraction,
98 fluorescence of each sub-sample was measured using a 10AU Fluorometer (Turner
99 Designs, Sunnyvale, CA, USA), and chlorophyll concentrations were calculated. Cell
100 counts were determined using a Sedgewick chamber under bright light. Specific growth
101 rates of culture replicates were estimated from the growth curves constructed from
102 chlorophyll *a* fluorescence and cell counts obtained under non-irradiating conditions.

103 Growth rate (units of doublings per day) was calculated from log-normalized exponential
104 growth phase. Growth curves were used to determine the mid-exponential phase when
105 UVR irradiation would be performed. During the UVR experiments, chlorophyll *a*
106 measurements and morphological cell counts were also collected bihourly in order to
107 changes affected by UVR.

108 *Photosynthetic Kinetics*

109 Fv/Fm, sigma, and tau measurements were monitored using a FRRF (Soliense, Inc,
110 Shoreham, NY, USA). Cell cultures, in biological duplicate, were subjected to either
111 bright white light only at $\sim 40 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{sec}^{-1}$ (control condition) or a combination of
112 bright white light ($\sim 40 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{sec}^{-1}$) and UVR exposure ranging from 0.32 mW/cm^2 to
113 1.59 mW/cm^2 (experimental condition). UVR was performed using an LED emitter
114 platform (Lumenautix Inc., Reno, NV, USA; Supplementary Fig. S1). The overall
115 experimental period consisted of both control and experimental conditions running for six
116 hours, followed by a dark period of six hours for the two conditions.

117 *NEST Configurable Emitter Array*

118 The NEST array is comprised of multiple discrete solid-state emitters operating in
119 two modes, VIS and UV connected to a control unit (Supplemental Text). The output is
120 regulated and temperature compensated for constant current DC – allowing for precise
121 control and stability of light output. Visible LEDs are blue (3), red (3) and white (6) and
122 the UV emitters (3). For this work only the UV and white LEDs were used. The white
123 LED color temperature is 3985K and the output can vary between 4 and $380 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2}$
124 sec^{-1} .

125 The LED array allows for the precise and repeatable incremental *in vitro* irradiation
126 of target organisms to determine their protective, mutative, and repair properties as a
127 function of varying levels of specific electromagnetic energy (Supplementary Fig. S1).
128 The energy categories can be adjusted incrementally and independently to affect the
129 organism's biological functions and to stress the organism to evoke specific physiological
130 responses or cause DNA / RNA mutations.

131 Net UVR organism exposure was reported from the emitter array's gross output
132 after subtracting attenuation from surface reflection, transmittance, absorption, and
133 diffusion of the quartz glass container and seawater. This attenuation was approximately
134 25% of the gross emitter output. Data were collected every hour for UVR energy
135 intensities of 0.32 and 0.64 mW/cm² (measured at 285 nm, 12 nm FWHM). At higher
136 doses of 0.96 – 1.59 mW/cm² (285 nm 12 nm FWHM), measurements were collected
137 every 30 minutes. Raw data were processed and plotted using the ggplot2 package in the
138 R environment (Wickham 2009). Rate constants for both Fv/Fm and sigma were
139 calculated using a linear regression model also using R.

140 *Illumina sequencing and Gene Expression analysis*

141 After photosynthetic kinetic measurements were made, total RNA was extracted
142 immediately in duplicate from cells in the mid-exponential phase of growth directly after
143 UVR exposure (0.64 mW/cm², experimental and control cultures), as well as directly
144 after a dark recovery period of six hours (experimental and control cultures), using the
145 Ambion ToTALLY RNA kit (Life Technologies, Grand Island, NY, USA). The same
146 experimental and control cultures in duplicate were used during both harvesting periods.
147 These extractions produced approximately ~10-12 µg of total RNA from each pellet.

148 Samples were sent for sequencing at the Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University
149 (Tempe, AZ, USA). Library preparation was fully automated and performed using the
150 Apollo 324 liquid handling platform with selection for polyA RNA. Illumina HiSeq
151 Sequencing yielded 2x100 bp paired-end reads.

152 Raw sequencing reads were uploaded to the sequencing read archive (NCBI
153 accession: SRP091884, SRX2255404) and inspected using Fastqc (Andrews 2009) to
154 determine quality, ambiguous read percentage and relative amount of sequence reads.
155 Illumina RNA sequencing resulted in an average of 19.4 million raw reads per cDNA
156 library with an average quality score of Q38 (Supplementary Table S1).

157 Raw Sequencing reads were trimmed using the sequence trimming program
158 Trimmomatic with the following options: Remove any Illumina adapter, cut off the end
159 of any read where the quality score falls below 10, use a sliding window of 5 to cut and
160 trim any base where the average quality score falls below 32 for that window and only
161 keep trimmed reads with a minimum length of 72. (Bolger et al. 2014). De-novo
162 transcript assembly was performed using Velvet (Zerbino and Birney 2008). Optimal k-
163 mer selection, as well as read coverage cutoff selection, was determined by the
164 VelvetOptimiser (Gladman and Seemann 2012). Velvet-constructed contigs were
165 assembled into full-length transcripts using the Oases transcriptome assembler, with a
166 minimum transcript length of 150 base pairs (Schulz et al. 2012). Raw sequences were
167 aligned to the assembled transcripts by Bowtie2 (Langmead and Salzberg 2012).

168 Abundances of mapped sequence reads were calculated using eXpress (Roberts and
169 Pachter 2012), providing the estimated count of reads that mapped to each individual
170 assembled transcript. Estimated counts from eXpress were normalized and counts were

171 calculated using DESeq2 (Love et al. 2014). Transcripts were considered differentially
172 expressed if their associated \log_2 fold changes were significant at (adjusted) $p < 0.05$,
173 based on the Wald test of DESeq2, while controlling for false discovery using the
174 Benjamini-Hochberg Procedure (Love et al. 2014). Based on our experimental design,
175 differential expression was compared between the UVR+white light irradiated cells
176 (experimental treatment – in duplicate) and bright white light only cells (control
177 treatment – in duplicate), directly after the six hour UVR exposure ended and also after a
178 six-hour dark recovery period.

179 *C. hystrix* is not well annotated. In order to artificially reconstruct the pathways in
180 *C. hystrix*, transcripts from our de-novo assembly were *in silico* translated and compared
181 to Uniprot proteins using Hhblits, which is part of the HH-suite software package
182 (Remmert et al. 2011; The UniProt Consortium 2017). Homologous protein homology
183 was inferred from *in silico* translations using hidden Markov model alignments from
184 Hhblits (Soding 2005). Translated transcripts were considered homologs if there was a
185 $>90\%$ probability of the translated transcript being a homolog to a Uniprot protein.

186 Subsequent classification of homologous Uniprot proteins into functional
187 annotation groups was performed by grouping Uniprot Ids based on gene ontology
188 (Ashburner et al. 2000; The Gene Ontology Consortium 2017). In the case of
189 supplemental photosynthetic electron transport, gene ontology provided a poor
190 representation of the selected pathway. For this pathway, homologous proteins from the
191 model centric diatom *Thalassiosira pseudonana* were combined with the Uniprot
192 annotations, with the understanding that this organism's annotations may have changed
193 since they were first annotated and uploaded to public databases in 2004 (Armbrust et al.

194 2004). The entire annotated *Thalassiosira pseudonana* photosynthetic electron transport
195 pathway was downloaded from the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG)
196 (Kanehisa and Goto 2000; Kanehisa et al. 2013).

197 Translated transcripts mapping to a homolog were sometimes one of several
198 contigs. To maintain consistent mapping between homologs, transcript contigs were
199 binned by functional annotation after translation. Additionally, in most cases, up and
200 downregulation variation between contigs was small, making expression patterns more
201 evident. However, on occasion, transcripts for the same functional annotation but
202 different loci were both up and downregulated. Because *C. hystrix* does not have an
203 annotated genome, binning by functional annotation produces an expression overview for
204 the homolog, which accounts for transcriptional variability. Binned isoforms were
205 visualized with a box and whisker plot using the ggplot2 package (Wickham 2009). The
206 line in the box represents the median \log_2 fold change when combining all the isoforms.
207 The hinges are the 1st and 3rd quartile.

208

209 **Results:**

210 *Chlorophyll A and Cell Counts under laboratory conditions*

211 *C. hystrix* grew at rate of 0.37 doublings per day based on chlorophyll *a*
212 concentration (linear regression equation $y=5.74 + 0.254x$, $r^2=0.991$) (Supplementary
213 Fig. S2a); this was consistent with microscopic cell counts, which produced a growth rate
214 of 0.392 doublings per day (linear regression equation $y=9.70+0.272x$, $r^2 = 0.990$)
215 (Supplementary Fig. S2b). Under UV light of different intensities, chlorophyll *a* content
216 remained relatively constant during the six-hour irradiation period (Supplementary Fig.

217 S3). Additionally, there was no significant increase in cell growth over the irradiation
218 period. However, light microscopy revealed morphologically altered cells in the UVR
219 exposed cultures compared to control cultures. The percentage of morphologically intact
220 cells was mostly constant for the lower UVR intensity levels ($0.32 - 0.64 \text{ mW/cm}^2$), with
221 a small decrease during the last two hours at 0.64 mW/cm^2 (Fig. 1). However, higher
222 intensities ($0.96 - 1.59 \text{ mW/cm}^2$) caused a pronounced decrease in the amount of
223 morphologically intact cells, especially during the last two hours of UVR exposure (Fig.
224 1).

225 *Photosystem II*

226 To monitor the changes in PSII during exposure to UVR, photosynthetic kinetic
227 measurements were recorded for *C. hystrix* using FRRF (Fig. 2). Several photosynthetic
228 parameters were derived from FRRF measurements. First, F_v/F_m empirically represents
229 the maximum quantum yield of PSII (Fig. 2A) (Geider et al. 1993; Kolber and Falkowski
230 1993). F_v/F_m is a dimensionless parameter representing how efficiently absorbed
231 photons are used for electron flow: a value of 1 represents complete absorbance
232 efficiency and 0 represents no absorbance (Suggett et al. 2009). A second parameter,
233 sigma is a proxy for the product of the optical cross section for PSII (roughly
234 proportional to the number of chlorophyll molecules per PSII), the efficiency of
235 excitation transfer from the antenna to the PSII reaction center and the quantum yield of
236 charge separation (Fig. 2B) (Mauzerall 1986; Oxborough et al. 2012).

237 F_v/F_m decreased linearly (Supplementary Table S2) with the rate of decay
238 increasing with intensity (Supplementary Fig. S4-S8, Supplementary Tables S3-S7).
239 Conversely, sigma increased linearly with increasing intensity, demonstrating an inverse

240 relationship between sigma and Fv/Fm for all doses of UVR in this study, with sigma
241 increasing and Fv/Fm decreasing as damage accumulated (Fig. 2 AB, Supplementary Fig.
242 S4-S8). At the higher UVR intensities there was a notable decrease in sigma as
243 photosynthesis became inhibited (Supplementary Table S2). Overall, UVR had a
244 powerful effect on the fluorescence kinetics of PSII, especially at the higher UVR
245 intensities (0.96 – 1.59 mW/cm²) (Fig. 2, Supplementary Tables S5-S7). For example,
246 sigma increased only 15% from the start of the UVR exposure until the end for the lowest
247 UVR intensity of 0.32 mW/cm², with the largest increase evident after three hours under
248 irradiation (Supplementary Fig. S4, Supplementary Table S3). In comparison, at 0.96
249 mW/cm², we observed a similar 15% increase in sigma within the first two hours of the
250 start UVR exposure, with a total increase in sigma of approximately 56% over the
251 irradiation period (Supplementary Fig. S6, Supplementary Table S5). Furthermore, UVR
252 intensities of 0.96 mW/cm² and 1.28 mW/cm² had very strong and similar responses. The
253 rate of change of sigma for each of these two treatments was almost identical and
254 approximately 44% faster than the rate of change observed at 0.64 mW/cm²
255 (Supplementary Table S2) and 72% faster than the rate observed at 0.32 mW/cm². At the
256 highest intensity of 1.59 mW/cm², the rate of change for sigma was slower than the rate at
257 0.96 mW/cm² and 1.28 mW/cm², likely because of extreme damage to the photosynthetic
258 reaction centers.

259 We used RNA-seq to evaluate the expression response of *C. hystrix* PSII
260 transcripts for a single UVR intensity (0.64 mW/cm²). This intensity was chosen because
261 the majority of cells remained morphologically intact throughout the six-hour irradiation
262 period (Fig. 1). There were 12 differentially expressed PSII related transcripts detected

263 directly after UVR exposure (Fig. 3, Supplementary Fig. S9). All 12 transcripts were
264 downregulated and demonstrated little variation in their fold changes, indicating a strong
265 and coordinated transcriptional response (Fig. 3, Supplementary Fig. S9, Supplementary
266 Table S8). Specific transcripts, related to proteins such as the reaction center core D1 and
267 D2 proteins were significantly downregulated (adjusted $p < 0.001$; Supplementary Table
268 S8), corresponding with observed decreases in the photosynthetic efficiency. Moreover,
269 translated transcripts mapping to cytochrome c550, cytochrome b559 and PSII PsbH
270 proteins were also strongly downregulated.

271 *Reoxidation of the Electron Acceptors*

272 There was very little change in tau 1 during the first 2.5 hours for any dose of
273 UVR (Fig. 2C). After 2.5 hours, turnover time began to increase for the larger UVR
274 doses: 0.96, 1.28, and 1.59 mW/cm² (Fig. 2). Overall, tau 1 turnover time increased from
275 26.61 μs at 0.32 mW/cm² to 1114.0 μs at 1.28 mW/cm² – an approximately 42x increase
276 (Supplementary Table S9). At the highest UVR energy (1.59 mW/cm²), tau 1 turnover
277 time initially followed the same trend as 1.28 mW/cm². However, there was a significant
278 decline in the turnover time after 5 hours (Fig. 2C, Supplementary Table S9), likely
279 because of a severe inhibition in photosynthesis.

280 Tau 2 reacted similarly to tau 1 during UVR exposure, although turnover time for
281 tau 2 was much longer, on the order of milliseconds instead of microseconds (Fig. 2D).
282 For the first two hours of irradiation, there was no significant change in the turnover rate
283 for tau 2 (Fig. 2D). After 2.5 hours, tau 2 increased with each successive increase in UVR
284 energy, with the exception of 1.59 mW/cm², which decreased after 5 hours, similar to the
285 behavior of tau 1 for the same treatment (Fig. 2D, Supplementary Table S10).

286 Photosynthetic electron transport genes are not well annotated in the Uniprot
287 database. Thus, proteins from the ubiquitous model centric diatom *T. pseudonana* were
288 combined with available Uniprot proteins to test for electron transport protein homology,
289 as the majority of the photosynthetic electron transport pathway is partially annotated by
290 KEGG (Kanehisa and Goto 2000; Kanehisa et al. 2013). Comparative transcriptomics for
291 the supplemental electron transport pathway of the Z scheme at 0.64 mW/cm² were
292 similar to the observations of PSII gene expression. There were 10 transcripts related to
293 supplemental electron transport, most of which are a subunit of the cytochrome b₆f
294 complex. Cytochrome f (*petA*), the largest subunit of the cytochrome b₆f complex (Gray
295 1992), was downregulated according to both our *T. pseudonana* custom database and
296 Uniprot database. Differential expression analysis of the 10 transcripts show nine
297 decreased in abundance and one increased, demonstrating a coordinated downregulation
298 of the supplemental electron transport genes. These results are corroborated by the
299 increases in tau 1 and tau 2 turnover times (0.64 mW/cm²).

300 *Photosystem I and RuBisCO*

301 Photosynthetic kinetic measurements for photosystem I (PSI) are not reported in
302 this study because they are outside the resolution of the current FRRF machine. However,
303 gene expression of PSI genes was analyzed for the 0.64 mW/cm² UVR treatment (Fig. 3).
304 There were 16 PSI related transcripts; 15 transcripts decreased in abundance compared to
305 non-irradiated samples after UVR exposure. Both *psaA* (Apoprotein A1) and *psaB*
306 (Apoprotein A2), which bind through hydrophobic interactions to form the core complex
307 of PSI (Falkowski and Raven 2007) were downregulated under UVR. Additionally, *psaD*
308 (PSI subunit II) transcripts, which facilitate the docking of ferredoxin and are an essential

309 component of correct PSI function, were downregulated (Hou et al. 2017). Inorganic
310 carbon fixation involves the ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase enzyme
311 (RuBisCO). Five transcripts that map to RuBisCO related proteins were downregulated
312 compared to the non-irradiated samples.

313 *Light Harvesting Complex*

314 Light harvesting complexes are photosynthetic protein complexes that harvest
315 light energy and channel it into the PSII and PSI reaction centers. In contrast to the
316 downregulation of PSII and PSI proteins, several light harvesting complex transcripts
317 were upregulated in response to UVR. There was a total of 39 transcripts that mapped to
318 light harvesting related proteins (Fig. 3, Supplementary Table S8). Approximately 54%
319 (21/39) of those transcripts were decreased in abundance compared to the non-irradiated
320 samples, including the highly conserved PSII CP43 and CP47 proteins.

321 *Metabolic Pathway Expression*

322 Glycolytic regulation in plants is accomplished by three main proteins:
323 hexokinase, phosphofructokinase and pyruvate kinase (Plaxton 1996). From the
324 glycolysis pathway, there were 24 differentially expressed transcripts mapping to eight
325 homologous Uniprot proteins. In general, glycolytic Uniprot homologous transcripts
326 showed mixed expression. Three *in silico* translated transcripts mapping to homologous
327 proteins phosphofructokinase, phosphoglycerate kinase and enolase decreased in
328 abundance directly after UVR exposure. Five *in silico* transcripts mapping to homologous
329 proteins aldolase, triosephosphate isomerase, G3P dehydrogenase, phosphoglycerate
330 mutase, and pyruvate kinase increased in abundance directly after UVR exposure (Fig. 4,
331 Supplementary Table S11). None of the transcripts in our data mapped to hexokinase

332 homologs based on the results from both HMM protein detection and BLASTX
333 (Camacho et al. 2009).

334 In the tricarboxylic acid (TCA) cycle, we observed 14 differentially expressed *in*
335 *silico* translated transcripts mapping to 5 homologous Uniprot proteins in the TCA cycle
336 (Supplementary Table S12). The rate limiting step of the TCA cycle, isocitrate
337 dehydrogenase, increased in abundance compared to non-irradiated cells, however the
338 variability between individual transcript expression was very large (Fig. 5). Similar to the
339 transcriptomic results observed in the glycolytic pathway, the overall expression of the
340 TCA cycle was mixed with the same number of up and downregulated transcripts (Fig. 5,
341 Supplementary Table S12).

342 *DNA Repair*

343 There were 70 DNA repair transcripts that were differentially expressed after
344 UVR radiation based on ontological mappings (Supplementary Table S13). Out of those
345 transcripts, 64% (45/70) were decreased in abundance compared to the non-irradiated
346 cells (Fig. 6). Transcripts that increased in abundance were related to recombinational
347 DNA repair. Nine *in silico* translated transcripts mapped to *RecA* homologs (Fig. 6), all
348 of which were increased in abundance, including a transcript with a log₂ fold change of
349 8.04 (256-fold increase) – the largest increase in abundance from the DNA repair
350 pathway over non-irradiated cells. There is also an upregulated transcript related to a
351 photolyase homolog, an enzyme that plays a crucial role in UV-induced DNA repair.

352 *Preliminary Recovery*

353 Following UVR exposure, we conducted a dark recovery period of 6 hours and
354 measured the transcriptional response. In contrast to the results seen directly after UVR

355 exposure and cellular damage, transcripts in the auxiliary metabolic pathways greatly
356 increased in abundance after dark recovery (Fig. 3-6, Supplementary Tables S14-S17).
357 Approximately 90% of the translated transcripts that mapped to homologous glycolytic
358 and TCA cycle pathway homologs increased their abundance, even after a short dark
359 recovery period of 6 hours. Many transcripts produced \log_2 fold changes greater than
360 two, with several greater than \log_2 of seven. Furthermore, we observed a notable increase
361 in the amount of DNA repair proteins that were upregulated after dark recovery (Fig. 6).
362 After UVR exposure, approximately 36% of the DNA repair transcripts were increased in
363 abundance compared to the non-irradiated cells; however, after dark recovery that
364 number increased to approximately 76% of the transcripts. It was also observed that
365 transcripts that were increased in abundance directly after irradiation seemed to further
366 increase their abundance after dark recovery.

367 **Discussion:**

368 Controlled laboratory studies describing the impact of UVR on phytoplankton
369 have the potential to improve our understanding of photosynthetic damage and repair as
370 well as general DNA damage and repair. To develop a controlled laboratory methodology
371 for studying the impacts of UVR on photosynthetic and metabolic pathways, we
372 developed a UV light emitter to deliver repeatable doses at a high resolution across a
373 wide spectrum of intensities to monitor for break points in photochemical efficiency
374 using FRRF. To test our emitter array, we selected a cosmopolitan open-ocean diatom, of
375 which members of its genus are found in the Southern Ocean where seasonal UV
376 intensity is high due to ozone depletion. For example, during the spring, pennate and
377 centric diatoms comprise a large portion of the Southern Ocean biomass, and the genus

378 *Corethron* is one of the top four genera (Vincent 1988). We chose the diatom *C. hystrix*
379 for our study.

380 *Growth Rate and Cell Morphology*

381 The growth rate for laboratory grown *C. hystrix* under normal photosynthetically
382 active radiation (PAR, $\sim 40 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) conditions was similar to published values for
383 several diatoms under analogous light levels (Gilstad and Sakshaug 1990). Higher level
384 plants, which can maintain chlorophyll levels during UVR exposure, may have a higher
385 tolerance to UVR stress as they are able to more efficiently transfer their excitation
386 energy into PSII reaction center proteins (Bornman and Vogelmann 1991; Greenberg et
387 al. 1997). Chloroplast morphology was indeed altered at UVR levels of 0.96-1.59
388 mW/cm^2 , however the largest decrease in intact chloroplasts occurred mostly during the
389 last two hours of irradiation as result of the cumulative UVR dose. Morphological
390 alterations consisted of jagged chloroplasts that migrated toward the center of the cell,
391 which could be a response similar to the “chloroplast clumping” phenomenon seen in
392 other organisms as a form of UV protection (Sharon et al. 2011).

393 *Photosynthetic Kinetics and Gene Expression*

394 Photosystem II damage was affected by both UVR intensity and time during our
395 study, with damage from the highest irradiation treatments ultimately resulting in a loss
396 of photosynthetic function – Fv/Fm becomes approximately zero (Fig. 2A,
397 Supplementary Fig. S4-S8). The observed decrease in Fv/Fm is likely caused by UVR
398 directly damaging PSII reaction centers while also increasing *C. hystrix*'s susceptibility to
399 photoinactivation (Rijstenbil 2002). We also observed a corresponding increase in sigma,
400 the functional cross section of PSII which is proportional to the amount of number of

401 chlorophyll molecules per photosystem II reaction center. This increase may be an
402 environmental adaption to the extreme conditions, where under these conditions,
403 chlorophyll molecules may be transferring their excitation energy away from the
404 damaged reaction centers and into the remaining functional reaction centers, thus
405 increasing the amount of chlorophyll molecules servicing the functional centers and
406 increasing the efficiency of energy transfer of those intact centers.

407 We observed that UVR intensity begins to have a significant effect on the
408 photosynthetic efficiency and energy transfer by 3 hours at the UV intensity of 0.64
409 mW/cm^2 . These results suggest that the time-dependent damage exceeded repair,
410 provoking an increase in photoinactivation. Furthermore, higher UV intensities (1.28 and
411 $1.59 \text{ mW}/\text{cm}^2$) accelerate photoinactivation much more rapidly, because more reaction
412 centers are being irrevocably damaged. The observed decrease in sigma after 3-4 hours
413 (Fig. 2B), for both 1.28 and $1.59 \text{ mW}/\text{cm}^2$, indicates that the majority of the reaction
414 centers have been damaged or that chlorophyll can no longer funnel the excitation energy
415 through the functional reaction centers (i.e., a loss of photosynthetic function). Thus, it is
416 clear that photosystem operation is maintained at moderate UVR intensities ($0.32\text{-}0.96$
417 mW/cm^2) but the cell can only withstand irradiation for several hours before the
418 photosystem is unable to absorb and transfer energy.

419 For various physiological processes, total dose as compared to dosage rate is
420 important as some changes are the result of a cumulative UVR effect (Frohnmeier and
421 Staiger 2003; Nawkar et al. 2013). Photosynthetic efficiency (F_v/F_m) decreased twice as
422 fast in cultures irradiated at $1.59 \text{ mW}/\text{cm}^2$ than the culture irradiated at $0.64 \text{ mW}/\text{cm}^2$.
423 Low F_v/F_m measurements represent a decrease in the efficiency of photosynthesis (i.e.,

424 dynamic photoinhibition), as seen in the coccolithophorid *Emiliana huxleyi* due to high
425 photon flux densities (Critchley 2000; Ragni et al. 2008). Environmental stressors, such
426 as high intensities of photosynthetically active radiation (PAR), adverse temperatures,
427 and water limitation, typically cause photoinhibition. Our decreased Fv/Fm
428 measurements after UVR exposure appear to mimic photoinhibition, which is possibly
429 due to direct damage to PSII by UVR. However, future applications should determine
430 whether molecular changes under a fast damage rate (high cumulative UV dose and rate)
431 are the same as those changes under a more gradual damage rate (high cumulative UV
432 dose but lower rate).

433 Photosystem II is known to be the most sensitive part of the photosynthetic
434 system to UVR exposure, especially the oxygen evolving complex (Post et al. 1996;
435 Szilárd et al. 2007). Our transcriptomic analysis shows that oxygen evolving complex
436 genes, *psbO* (PSII manganese-stabilizing protein), *psbP* (PSII oxygen evolving enhancer
437 protein) and *psbV* (cytochrome c-550), significantly decreased in abundance. *PsbP* has
438 also been discovered to have a supplemental role in stabilizing the PSII-light harvesting
439 super complexes, with decreasing levels of *psbP* producing a concurrent decrease in the
440 amount of super complexes (Ifuku and Noguchi 2016). We observed that the majority of
441 light harvesting complex transcripts decreased in abundance compared to the non-
442 irradiated controls, especially the CP43 and CP47 related transcripts (Ifuku et al. 2011;
443 Ifuku and Noguchi 2016). The CP47 chlorophyll apoprotein along with its sister protein
444 CP43 are functionally used by the cell to channel the energy from the light harvesting
445 complexes into the reaction center core, (Falkowski and Raven 2007). A previous study
446 observed that both CP47 and CP43 protein expression levels decreased in the

447 cyanobacteria *Spirulina platensis* during UVR exposure (Rajagopal et al. 2000).
448 Furthermore, the D1 reaction center protein and the aromatic tyrosine electron donors
449 have been shown to be sensitive to UVR (Vass et al. 1996; Bouchard et al. 2006). D1 is
450 one of two main reaction center proteins, while tyrosine amino acids are part of the donor
451 side of PSII absorbing energy at 285 nm, thus making them a possible target for UVR
452 irradiation (Vass et al. 1996). Transcriptome changes demonstrate that both the D1 and
453 D2 reaction center proteins, encoded by *psbA* and *psbB* respectively, mapped to
454 transcripts which decreased in abundance during UVR exposure compared to non-
455 irradiated cells. It has been determined that the overall changes in the expression of *psbA*
456 differ based on the specific organism (Surplus et al. 1998; Huang et al. 2002), however,
457 the decrease in abundance of our *psbA* transcripts during UVR was similar to the changes
458 produced by *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Surplus et al. 1998). Other PSII reaction center
459 transcripts, such as those that mapped to the cytochrome b559 protein, also displayed
460 large decreases in abundance after UVR exposure.

461 Intuitively, it would be assumed that if these subunits were being actively
462 damaged there would be an increase in their individual gene expression to help mitigate
463 and replace damaged protein subunits. UVR exposure, however, has many other cellular
464 consequences including an increased amount oxidative stress within the cell (Rijstenbil
465 2002). The Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) produced during oxidative stress can have
466 serious deleterious effects including photodamage to photosynthetic machinery, an
467 imbalance in the photosynthetic redox signaling pathways and direct inhibition of D1
468 synthesis, which is necessary for PSII repair (Gururani et al. 2015). The result of these
469 effects is increased photosynthetic photoinhibition. After UVR irradiation, we observed

470 an upregulation of transcripts related to ATP-dependent Clp proteases and cysteine
471 proteases, chloroplast specific enzymes which play a role in protein turnover, suggesting
472 the cells may indeed be dealing with an increased amount of damaged proteins (Olinares
473 et al. 2011). Additionally, ROS can also activate a signaling cascade, where receptors
474 transmit signals to regulatory molecules which decrease nuclear gene expression of
475 photosynthetic genes (Gururani et al. 2015). This likely explains why nearly complete
476 downregulation of photosynthetic genes is observed for organisms subjected to UVR
477 (Rijstenbil 2002; Gururani et al. 2015).

478 Tau is a proxy for the PSII reaction center turnover time (Kolber et al. 1988).
479 Both tau 1 and tau 2 turnover times increase significantly at UVR intensities of 0.64-1.59
480 mW/cm² (Fig. 2CD). This is because the plastoquinones QA and QB are directly
481 susceptible to UVR damage (Melis et al. 1992). Our data also illustrate that turnover time
482 corresponds to intensity (Fig. 2C-D, Supplementary Fig. S4-S8, Supplementary Tables
483 S3-S7, S9 and S10). With turnover times increasing up to 0.14 seconds for tau 2 at 1.28
484 mW/cm² (Fig. 2D), these long reoxidation times have a detrimental effect on
485 photosynthesis as excess photon energy causes a buildup of oxidative radicals, thus
486 explaining the genetic downregulation of photosynthetic genes and almost complete loss
487 of photosynthetic function at higher intensities of UVR.

488 Previously it was observed that the redox state of QA may have an effect on the
489 abundance of light harvesting complex transcript abundances (Maxwell et al. 1995). This
490 phenomenon is perhaps another driving force behind the decrease in abundance in the
491 majority of light harvesting complex transcripts. As the turnover time for QA increases
492 during UVR exposure, the cell may reduce the abundance of certain light harvesting

493 proteins in order to prevent an increase in irradiance stress and higher photoinhibition.
494 Simultaneously, the cell maybe trying to maintain the structural integrity of functional
495 reaction centers (through an increase in chlorophyll binding protein), as a way of limiting
496 damage. This type of competing self-regulation highlights the overall complexity of
497 transcriptomic regulation during UVR exposure.

498 Transcriptome analysis of supplemental photosynthetic electron transport genes
499 corresponds with our PSII expression analysis, as the majority of the transcripts were
500 downregulated compared to the control samples. Most of the transcripts in this subset of
501 data mapped to homologous cytochrome b6-f complex proteins. There are 4 major
502 subunits that make up the cytochrome b6-f complex in algae (Pierre et al. 1995). We
503 identified both of the heme-bearing subunits of the cytochrome b6-f complex, and they
504 were strongly downregulated after UVR exposure. Thus, the cell extends its protective
505 strategy to UVR exposure, using transcriptional downregulation, to complex III in the
506 photosynthetic electron transport chain.

507 Photosystem I is not directly affected by UVR and is more resistant to
508 environmental stressors such as high-light levels (Teramura and Ziska 1996; Zhang et al.
509 2016). However, with an interaction between PSII and PSI due to the photosynthetic
510 electron cascade, UVR exposure will unavoidably have a downstream impact on
511 photosystem I. The transcriptional analysis provided some insight into the health of
512 photosystem I. Of the 16 transcripts from photosystem I, 15 transcripts mapping to four
513 Uniprot homologs, decreased in abundance during irradiation. The majority of the PSI
514 transcripts map to *psaA* and *psaB* which code for PSI P700 chlorophyll *a* apoprotein A1
515 and A2 respectively. *PsaB* binds hydrophobically to *psaA* to form the major reaction

516 center of PSI (Falkowski and Raven 2007). Additionally, the PSI subunit II (*psaD*)
517 transcripts were also significantly downregulated. *PsaD* is an important protein that is
518 crucial for the stability and correct assembly of PSI while also providing a ferredoxin
519 binding site (Hou et al. 2017). The decreased abundance of *psaA*, *psaB*, and *psaD*
520 transcripts indicates that like PSII and the b_6f complex, transcriptional downregulation
521 was most likely influenced by PSII photoinhibition and oxidative stress, which means it
522 could possibly act as a secondary protective strategy to prevent increased stress and
523 photoinhibition.

524 The first stage of the photosynthetic dark reactions is the fixation of CO₂ into 3-
525 phosphoglycerate, which is catalyzed by the protein RuBisCO. RuBisCO is the most
526 abundant protein on Earth due to its crucial function combined with its inefficiency as a
527 carboxylase (Raven 2009; Raven 2013). Our data demonstrated a coordinated
528 downregulation for the transcripts mapping to the RuBisCO homologs, with all
529 transcripts decreased in abundance compared to non-irradiated cells (Fig. 3). Previous
530 research on higher order plants demonstrated that UVR exposure caused a large decrease
531 in the activity and expression of RuBisCO when compared to control samples in pea
532 leaves (Strid et al. 1990; Mackerness et al. 1999). Moreover, similar RuBisCO decreases
533 were also observed in jackbean leaves (Choi and Roh 2003). This implies that the
534 mechanism for gene expression decreases in RuBisCO expression ties directly back to the
535 activity of the RuBisCO protein as well as through direct deactivation of its synthesis,
536 similar to these previous studies (Choi and Roh 2003).

537 *Metabolic Pathway Expression*

538 UVR exposure is known to cause other metabolic gene expression changes in
539 higher level plants (Jenkins 2009). The glycolytic cycle is the first phase in the
540 catabolism of cellular carbohydrates (Nelson and Cox 2005). The TCA cycle, the second
541 phase of catabolism, is an important source of the cellular reducing agent NADH, which
542 helps generate the proton gradient that is critical for the production of ATP through
543 electron transport (Nelson and Cox 2005). In our study, a coordinated downregulation of
544 transcripts mapping to glycolysis and the TCA cycle was not observed, rather we
545 observed a mixed gene expression pattern directly after UVR exposure (Fig. 4, 5),
546 suggesting that certain enzymes may be shared between multiple pathways for other
547 purposes. Logemann et al. 2000 found that UV-induction of select primary metabolism
548 enzymes that can provide carbon substrates for the shikimate pathway, while Casati et al.
549 2003 discovered that certain primary metabolism enzymes may be induced to provide
550 energy in the form of ATP for the synthesis of molecules necessary for cell survival
551 under UVB stress (Logemann et al. 2000; Casati and Walbot 2003).

552 *DNA Repair*

553 Diatoms are subjected to high doses of UVR in their natural environment
554 (Karentz et al. 1991; Fricke et al. 2011), and the selective pressure of managing UV
555 damage may provide novel insights into mechanisms of DNA repair. Because DNA can
556 directly absorb UVR, the damaged DNA forms cyclobutane pyrimidine dimers (CPDs) or
557 pyrimidine 6-4 photoproducts (6-4PPs) (Sinha and Häder 2002). These photoproducts
558 (i.e., lesions) can cause DNA to make an unnatural conformation, arresting replication
559 (Rastogi et al. 2010). To minimize mutagenic effects, several organisms, including
560 diatoms, produce photoreactivating proteins called photolyases which directly remove the

561 deleterious dimers (Coesel et al. 2009). Our data demonstrate that a single transcript
562 mapped to a photolyase homolog, and it significantly increased in abundance directly
563 after irradiation (Fig. 6). With its important role in DNA repair, future studies should
564 identify the functional significance for this particular photolyase and how it affects the
565 overall fitness of *C. hystrix* during UVR exposure.

566 Additionally, there are times where these photoproducts can lead to secondary
567 DNA breaks, or UVR is so intense that double stranded breaks become one of the main
568 photochemical end-products (De Mora et al. 2000). With the emergence of double-
569 stranded breaks, the gene *recA* is recruited to initiate the cellular SOS response, which
570 regulates between 50 and 66 genes involved in double stranded DNA (dsDNA) repair
571 (Smith et al. 1987; Janion et al. 2002). *RecA* mediates homologous recombination repair,
572 which will function to maintain the integrity of DNA. We observed all transcripts
573 mapping to Uniprot *recA* homologs significantly increased in abundance relative to non-
574 irradiated cells (Fig. 6), implicating the activity of these enzymes in dsDNA repair during
575 our study. Furthermore, two site specific DNA-methyltransferase transcripts, which are
576 known to induce the cellular SOS response, were also significantly increased in
577 abundance directly after UVR exposure (Heitman and Model 1987) further highlighting
578 the cells adaption to managing UVR exposure.

579 *Preliminary Recovery*

580 After 6 hours of recovery in dark conditions, several photosynthetic light-
581 harvesting transcripts increased in abundance compared to the non-irradiated samples,
582 with some homologs demonstrating a reversal in expression (Fig. 3, Supplementary Table
583 S14). These results suggest that the cell is possibly trying to repair certain aspects of its

584 UV damaged photosynthetic clusters in order to survive, as photodestruction can cause a
585 complete loss of function for the complex (Lao and Glazer 1996). As the light harvesting
586 complex provides the light energy for the photosystem reaction centers, it would be
587 beneficial for the cell to repair the harvesting complex. Furthermore, homologous
588 transcripts that were part of the cytochrome b6/f complex or maintained roles in
589 photosynthetic electron transport also increased in abundance after night recovery. The
590 largest change in abundance was by a *petF* transcript, which codes for the photosynthetic
591 ferredoxin protein. This expression reversal may indicate that the cells are trying to
592 restart and repair electron transport before PAR light returns to re-energize the
593 photosynthetic system, or that ferredoxin may have a supplemental role in the defense
594 against lingering oxidative stress similar to its response after other biotic attacks (Bilgin
595 et al. 2010).

596 Moreover, despite the tremendous diversity of diatoms, with species estimates
597 ranging from 1×10^4 (Norton et al. 1996) to 2×10^5 (Allen et al. 2006), few studies have
598 focused on the potential biomedical applications of bioactive compounds produced by
599 these organisms (Coesel et al. 2009; Prestegard et al. 2009). There were two polyketide
600 synthetase transcripts which were significantly upregulated after dark recovery (Fig. 6).
601 These enzymes are important in the biosynthesis of many natural products and could be
602 involved in the production of compounds such as mycosporine-like amino acids (MAAs)
603 (Klisch 2008).

604 Still, while there was an upregulation of some transcripts during the dark recovery
605 period, many transcripts especially PSI and II transcripts, were still downregulated after
606 dark recovery (Supplementary Table S14). These results suggest that while the cell is

607 actively trying to repair its photosystem, the damage may have been severe enough that
608 recovery of the whole photosynthetic pathway was not possible during the six-hour
609 recovery period (Neale et al. 1998; Fritz et al. 2008).

610 Our emitter array produced morphological, physiological and molecular responses
611 with extremely high resolution and reproducibility. We demonstrate, based on *C. hystrix*
612 physiological measurements, that our emitter array allowed us to directly manipulate the
613 rate and intensity of photosynthetic damage based on the specific applied UVR energy
614 intensities. We were also able to modulate metabolic gene expression changes. This
615 ability to study specific physiological and molecular responses over a large spectrum of
616 UVR intensities could provide further insights into UV induced damage in other complex
617 organisms. Large-scale screening of organisms that are well adapted to high UV fluxes
618 may contain novel mechanisms or natural compounds, such as photolyases or MAAs,
619 which could increase our understanding of preventive mechanisms and possible
620 treatments resulting from DNA damage.

621

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625

626 **Compliance with Ethical Standards**

627 **Conflict of interest:** Authors Robert Read, David Vuono and Iva Neveux declare that
628 they have no conflict of interest. Authors Joseph Grzyski and Carl Staub have a conflict

629 of interest as they are co-founders of the company, EMS Genomics, that developed the
630 light engine.

631

632 **Ethical approval:** This article does not contain any studies with human participants or
633 animals performed by any of the authors.

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919 accelerates the recovery Of CO₂ assimilation in cucumber (*Cucumis sativus L.*)
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921 **Figure Legends**

922 Figure 1: Morphologically intact cells during the 6 hour UVB irradiation period.

923 Morphologically intact cells were estimated by bright light microscopy over the 6-hour
924 irradiation period. All counts were collected both the non-irradiated cells and cells under
925 5 different intensities of UVB ($0.32 \text{ mW/cm}^2 - 1.59 \text{ mW/cm}^2$). Intact cell counts were
926 collected in triplicate every 2 hours with error bars representing the standard deviation
927 between replicated counts.

928

929

930 Figure 2: **A:** F_v/F_m as a measure of the maximum quantum yield of PSII. **B:** Sigma as a
931 proxy for functional cross section and effective target size of the PSII antenna in \AA^2
932 $(\text{quanta})^{-1}$. **C:** Tau 1 turnover time. During every hour at 0.32 mW/cm^2 and 0.64
933 mW/cm^2 , and every half hour at $0.96-1.59 \text{ mW/cm}^2$ the tau 1 turnover time was
934 calculated using Fast Repetition Rate Fluorometry (FRRF). Irradiation time is on the x-
935 axis with the turnover time in μs on the y-axis. **D:** Tau 2 turnover time. During every
936 hour at 0.32 mW/cm^2 and 0.64 mW/cm^2 , and every half hour at $0.96-1.59 \text{ mW/cm}^2$ the
937 tau 2 turnover time was calculated using Fast Repetition Rate Fluorometry (FRRF).
938 Irradiation time is on the x-axis with the turnover time in μs on the y-axis. Note the drop
939 in turnover time at 1.28 and 1.59 mW/cm^2 .

940

941 Figure 3: Metabolic pathway reconstruction of the photosynthetic electron transport
942 chain. Uniprot names for each gene product correspond to heat map subplots in the order
943 shown (left- to-right for condition (directly after UVR and after dark recovery) and top-
944 to-bottom for each Uniprot name). Higher transcript abundance is represented in red

945 (upregulation), lower transcript abundance in blue (downregulation) and empty spots
946 represent a Uniprot homolog wasn't differentially expressed during that condition.

947

948 Figure 4: Box and whisker plot for Uniprot glycolysis homologs. Log₂ fold changes
949 directly after UVR irradiation are represented in the left figure – labeled “Day” – while
950 log₂ fold changes after six-hour dark recovery – labeled “Night” – are represented in the
951 figure to the right. The line within the box is the median of the log₂ fold changes for that
952 specific homolog. The hinges are the 1st and 3rd quartile. The upper whisker starts from
953 the hinge and ends at the highest value that is within 1.5 * inter-quartile range of the
954 hinge. The lower whisker extends from the hinge to the lowest value that is within 1.5 *
955 inter-quartile range. The x-axis is consistent between both figures, therefore some
956 homologs (e.g. Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase – directly after UVR irradiation) will
957 have missing data in their specific figure, as there were no differentially expressed *in*
958 *silico* translated transcripts mapping to that homolog during that time.

959

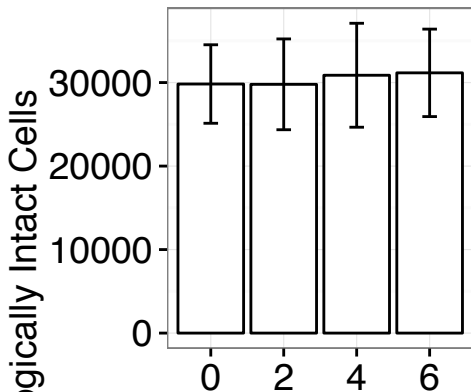
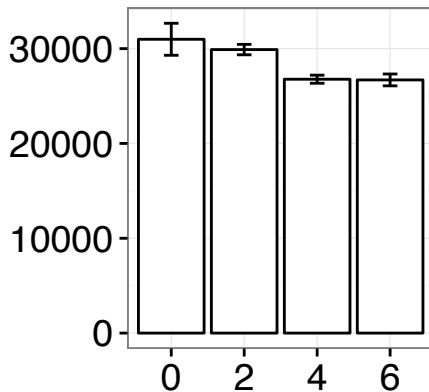
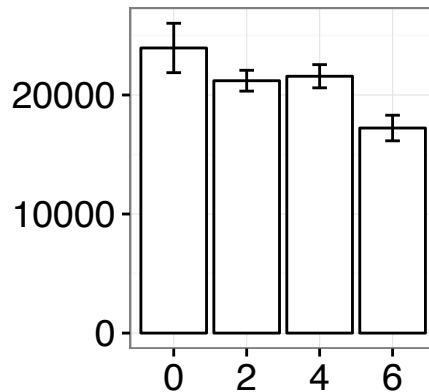
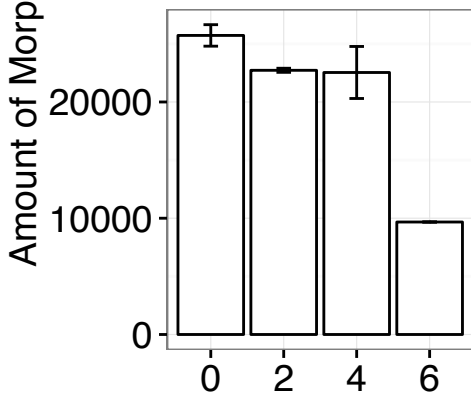
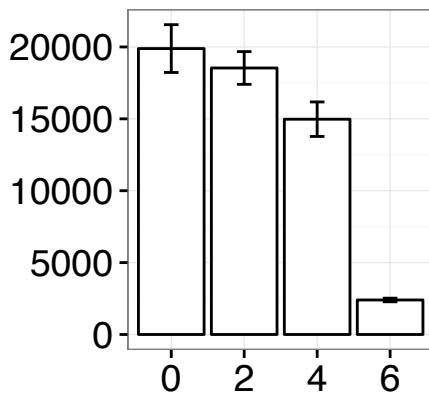
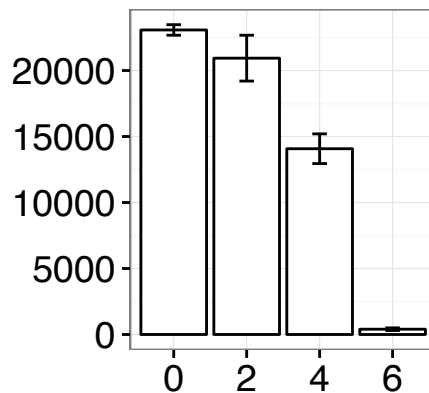
960 Figure 5: Box and whisker plot for Uniprot TCA homologs. Log₂ fold changes directly
961 after UVR irradiation are represented in the left figure – labeled “Day” – while log₂ fold
962 changes after six-hour dark recovery – labeled “Night” – are represented in the figure to
963 the right. The line within the box is the median of the log₂ fold changes for that specific
964 homolog. The hinges are the 1st and 3rd quartile. The upper whisker starts from the hinge
965 and ends at the highest value that is within 1.5 * inter-quartile range of the hinge. The
966 lower whisker extends from the hinge to the lowest value that is within 1.5 * inter-
967 quartile range. The x-axis is consistent between both figures, therefore some homologs

968 (e.g. Aconitase – directly after UVR irradiation) will have missing data in their specific
969 figure, as there were no differentially expressed *in silico* translated transcripts mapping to
970 that homolog during that time.

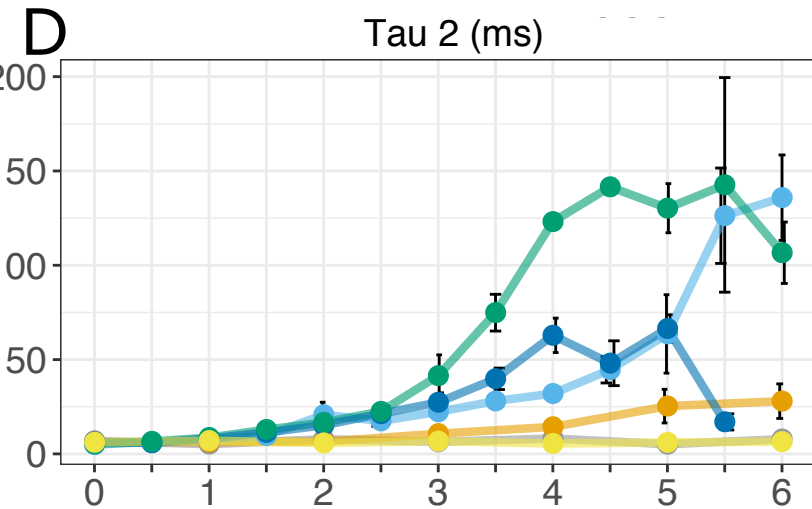
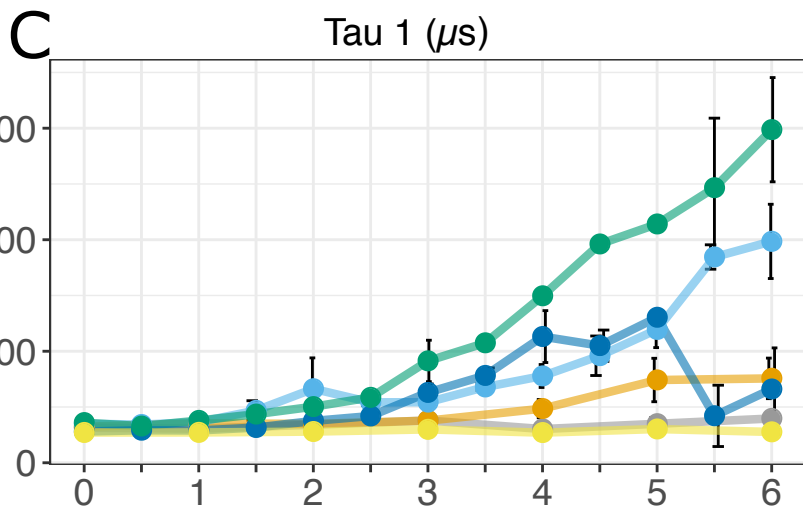
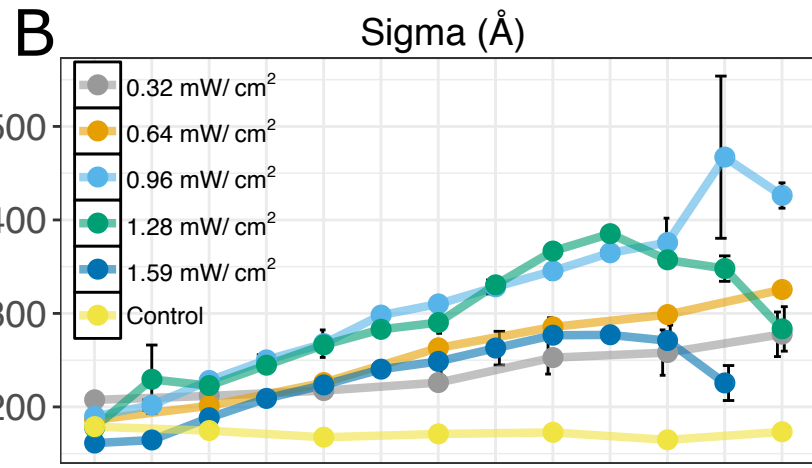
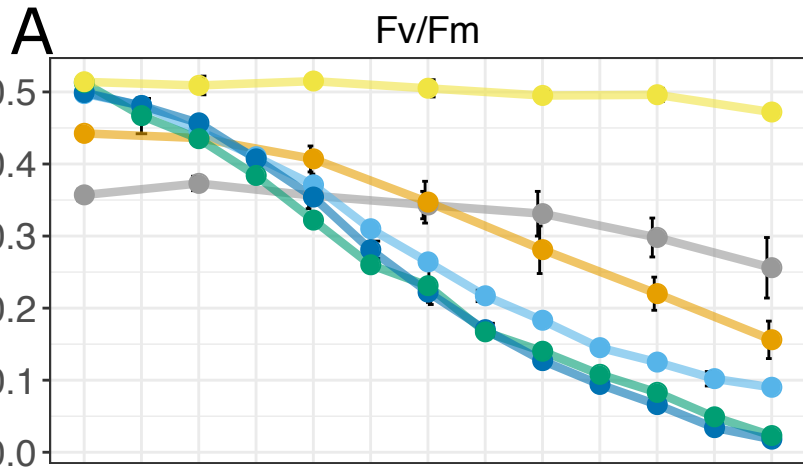
971

972 Figure 6: Box and whisker plot for Uniprot DNA repair homologs. Log₂ fold changes
973 directly after UVR irradiation are represented in the left figure – labeled “Day” – while
974 log₂ fold changes after six-hour dark recovery – labeled “Night” – are represented in the
975 figure to the right. The line within the box is the median of the log₂ fold changes for that
976 specific homolog. The hinges are the 1st and 3rd quartile. The upper whisker starts from
977 the hinge and ends at the highest value that is within 1.5 * inter-quartile range of the
978 hinge. The lower whisker extends from the hinge to the lowest value that is within 1.5 *
979 inter-quartile range. The x-axis is consistent between both figures, therefore some
980 homologs will have missing data in their specific figure, as there were no differentially
981 expressed *in silico* translated transcripts mapping to that homolog during that time.

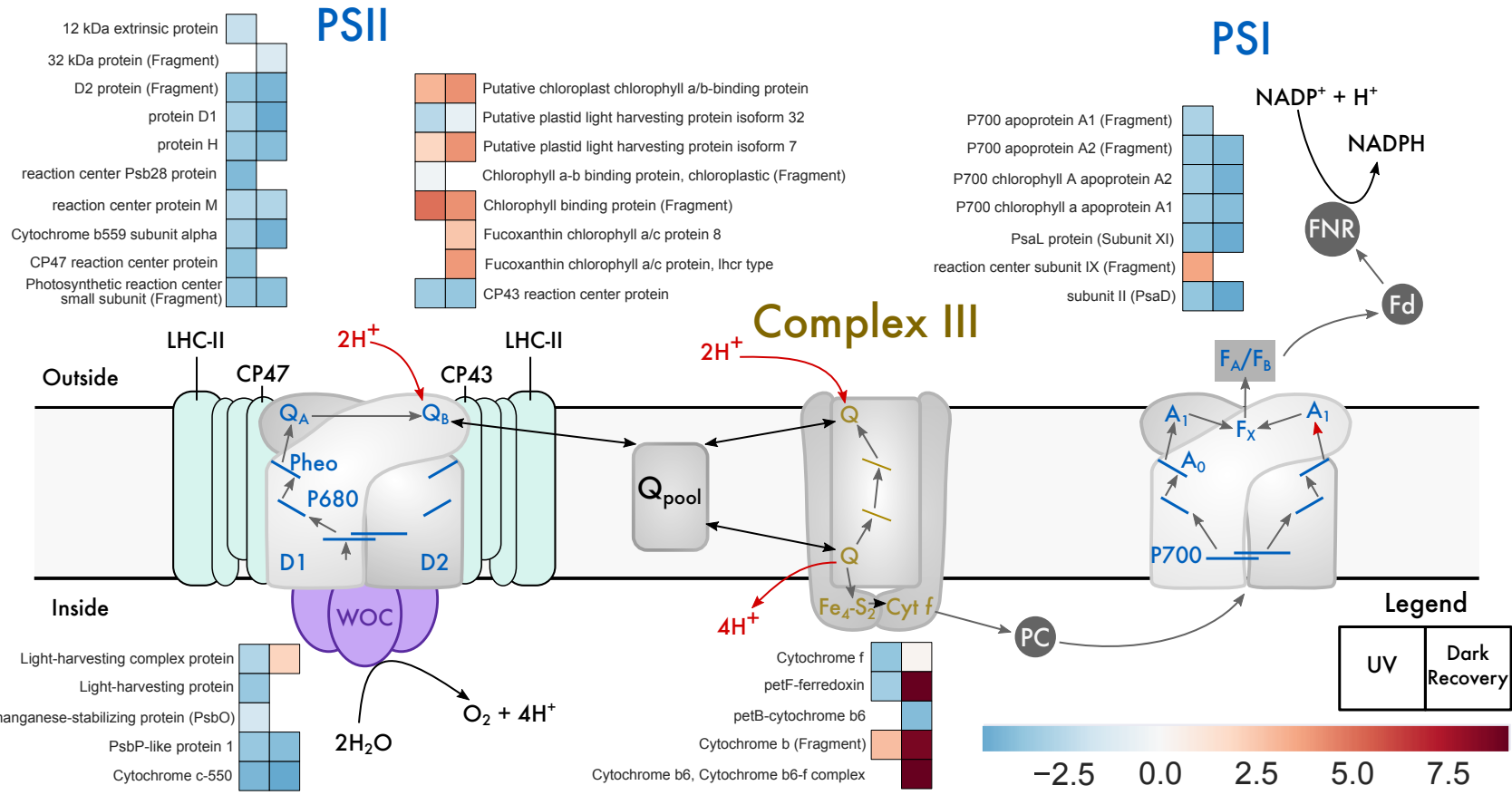
Control

0.32 mW/cm²0.64 mW/cm²0.96 mW/cm²1.28 mW/cm²1.59 mW/cm²

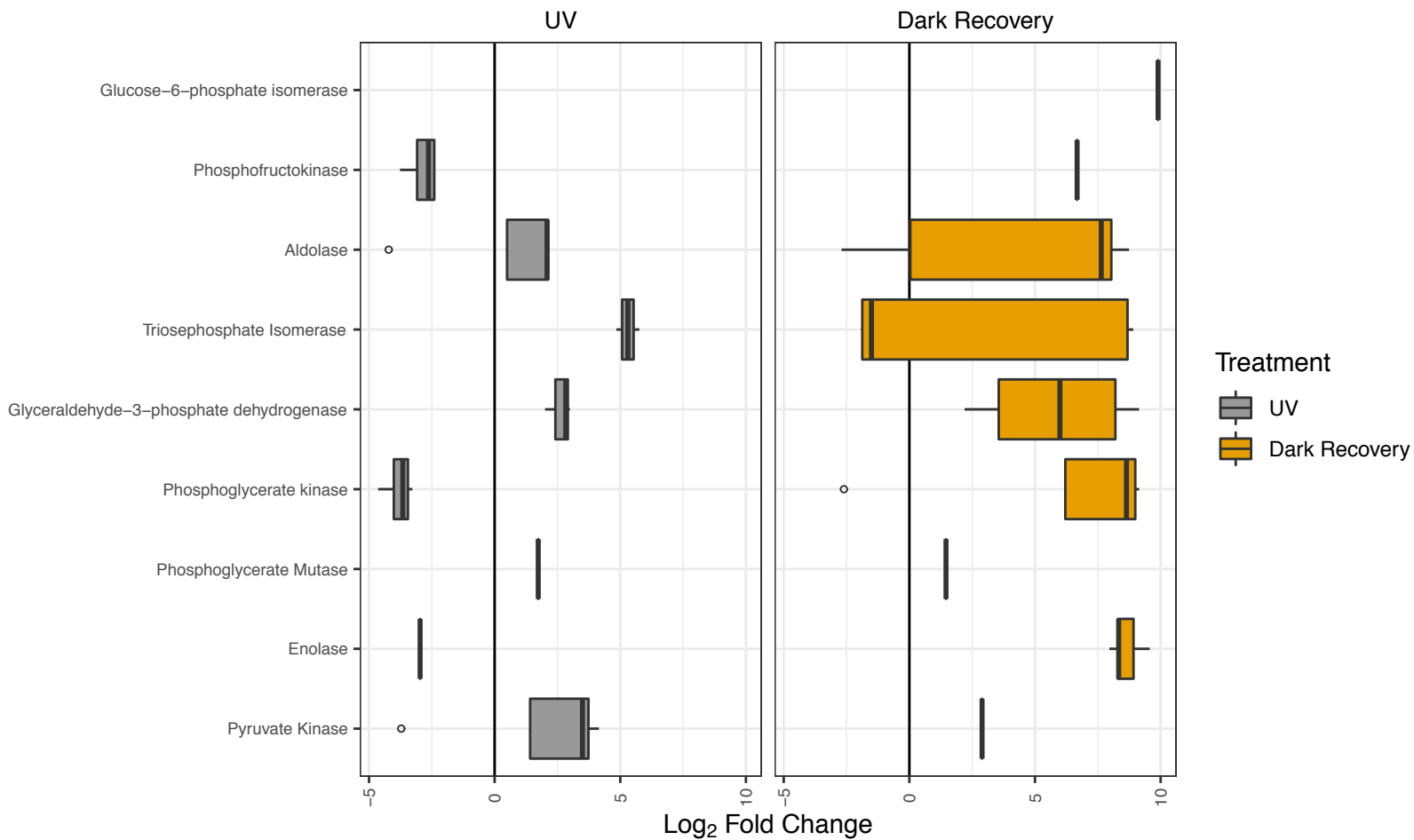
Time (hrs)



Irradiation Length (hrs)



Uniprot Homologs



Uniprot Homologs

