

# **Chemodiversity and biopotential of planktonic organisms**

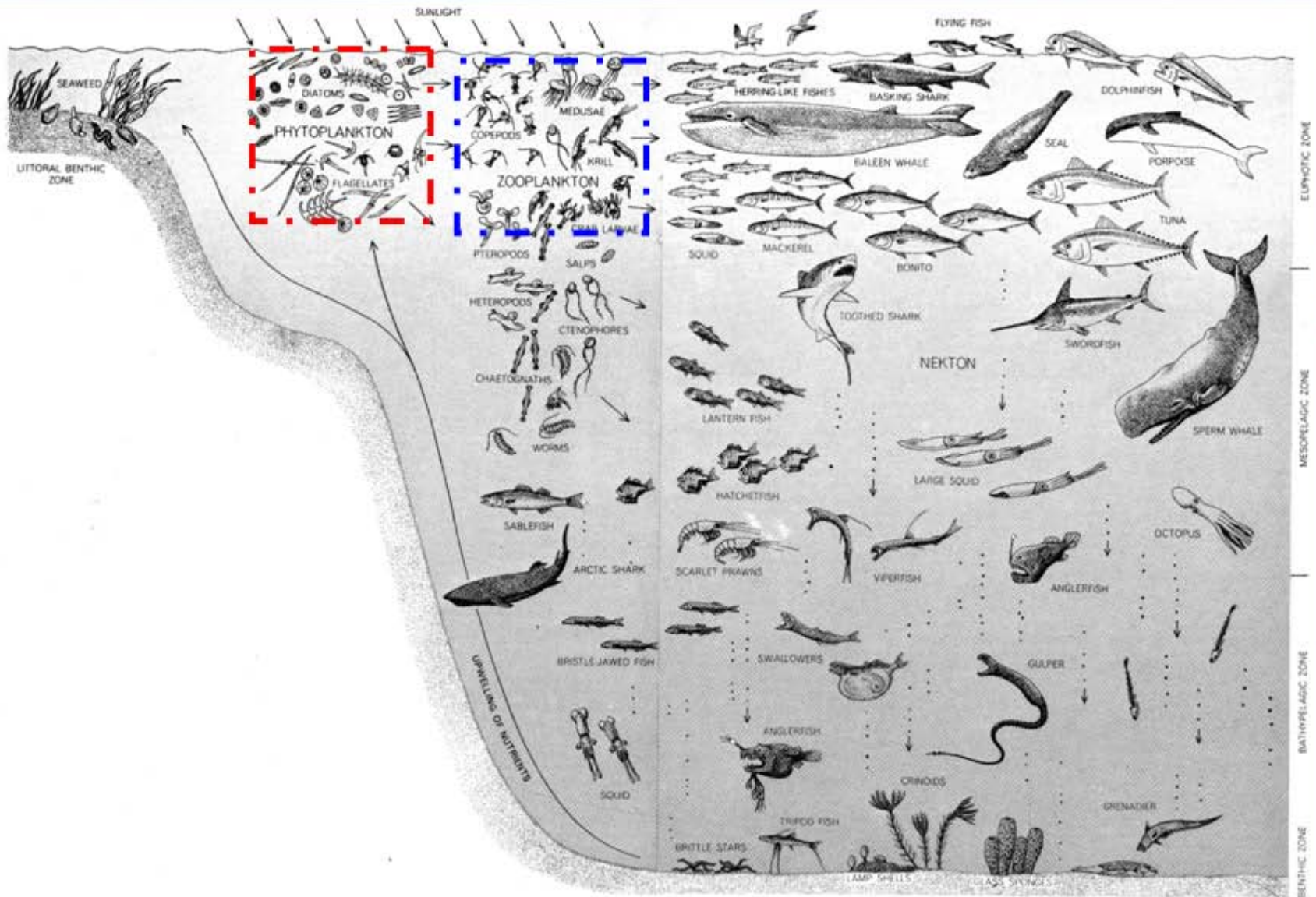
A microscopic image of a diatom chain, showing a long, thin, cylindrical structure composed of many small, repeating segments. The segments are arranged in a regular pattern, and the overall structure is surrounded by a network of fine, dark lines. The background is a deep blue color.

**Angelo Fontana, Guido Cimino, Adele Cutignano  
and Giuliana d'Ippolito  
CNR – ICB, Naples**

[afontana@icb.cnr.it](mailto:afontana@icb.cnr.it)

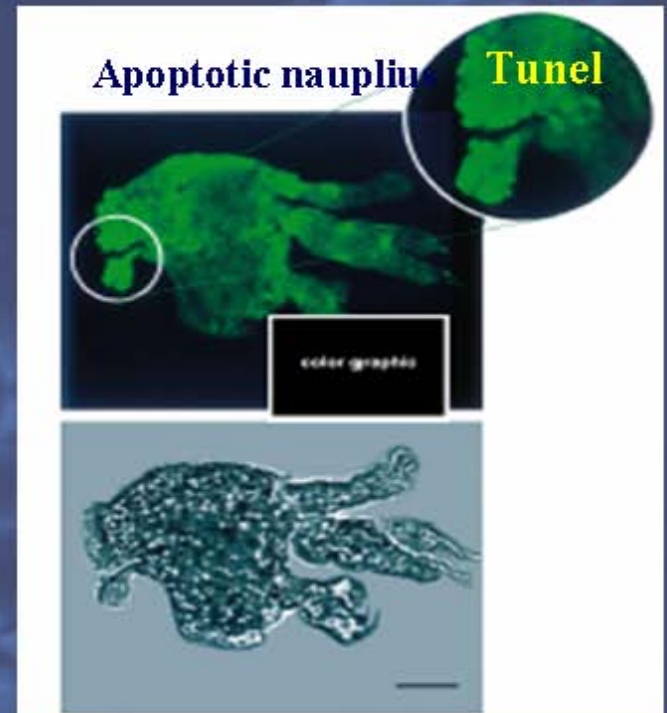
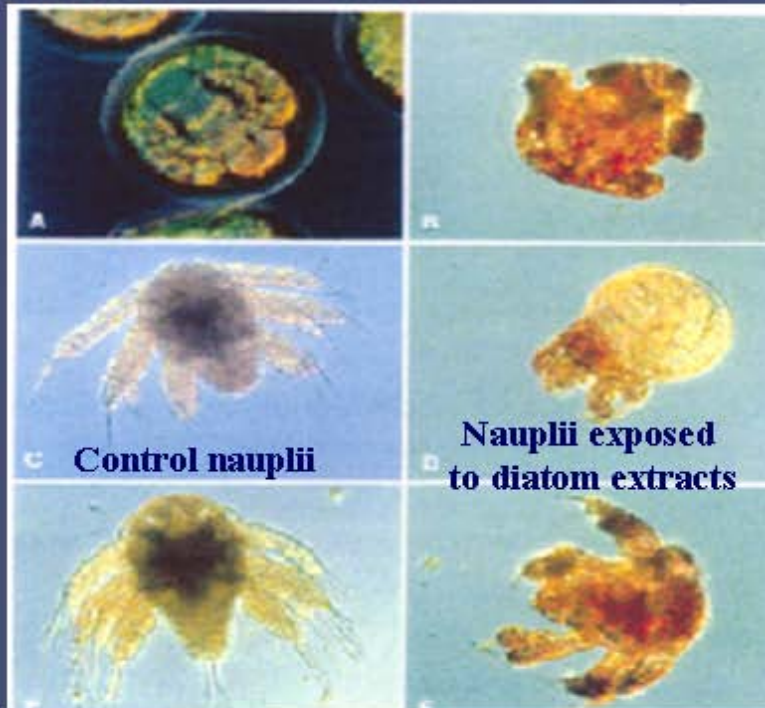
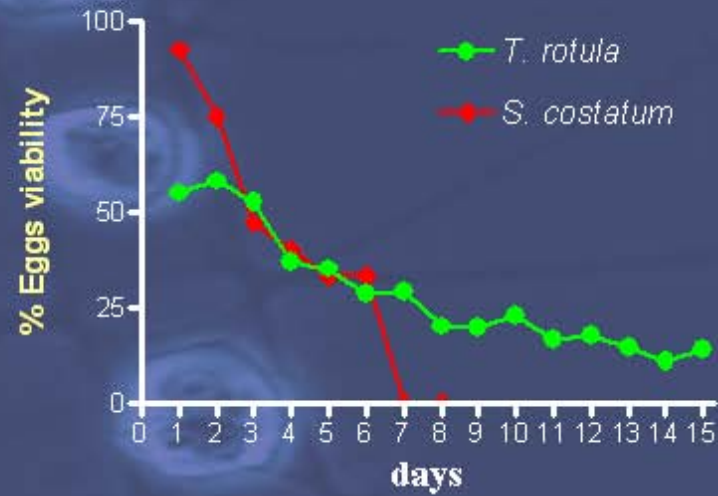


# Marine trophic chain

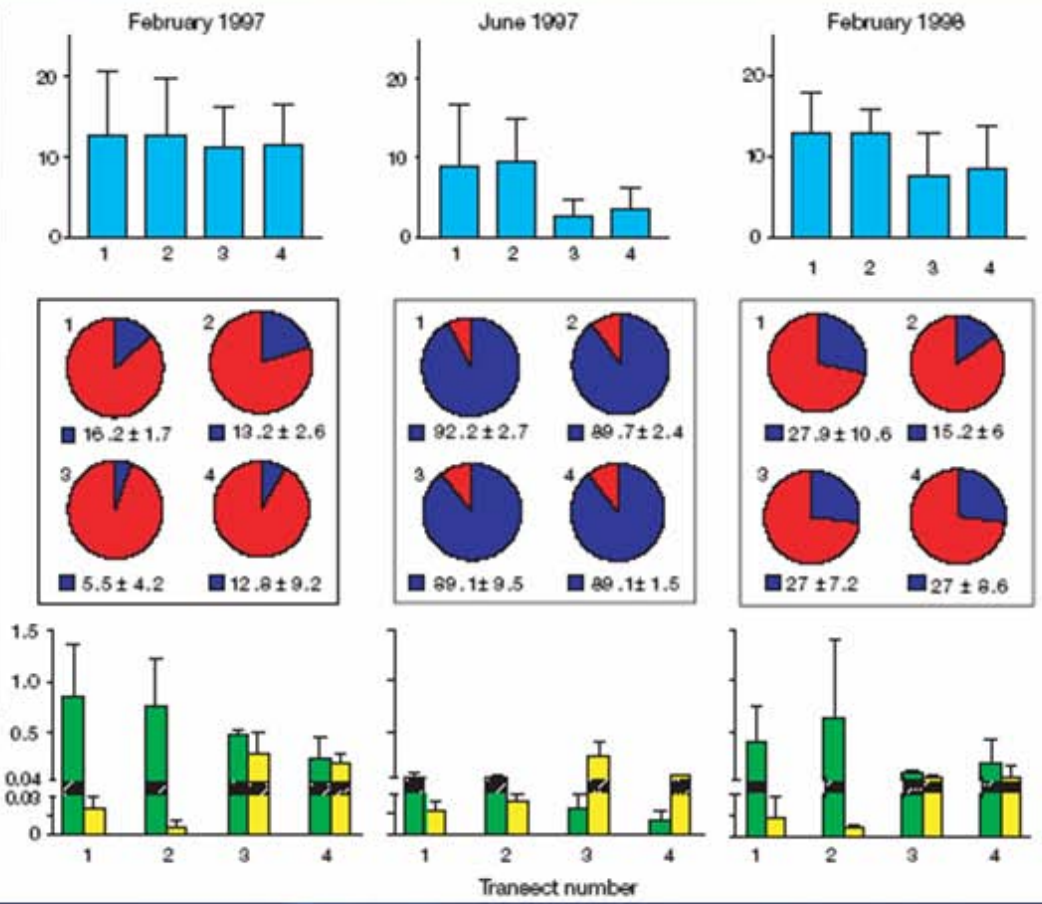
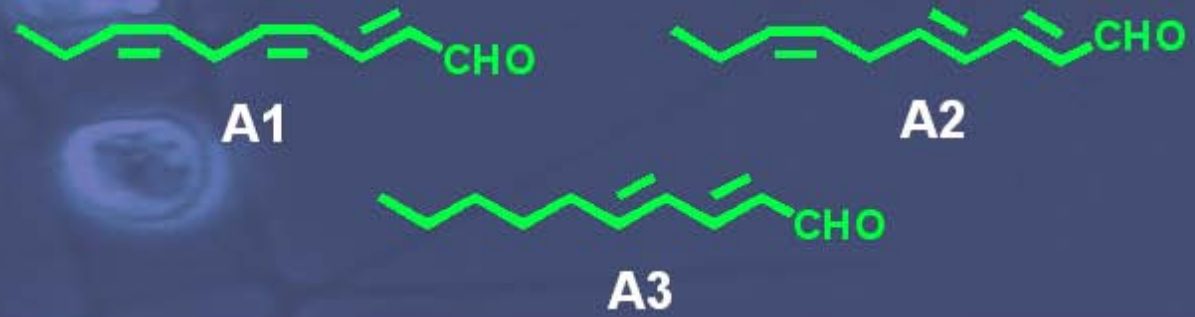


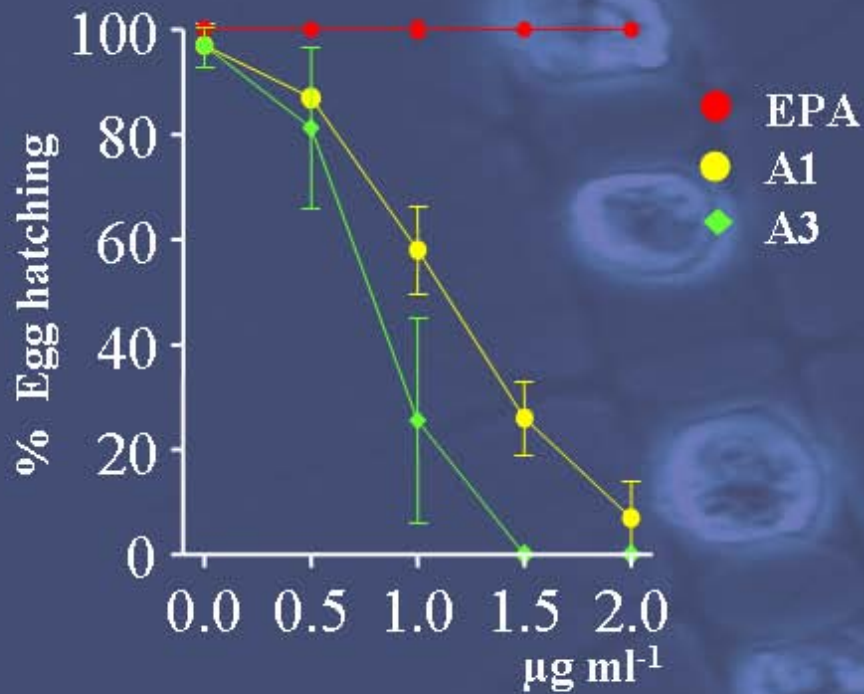
**Figure 12-6.** A sample of marine biota (organisms not drawn to scale) arranged to show the major food chain and depth relationships that link an entire ocean basin into a vast ecosystem. The diagram does not do justice to the microplankton and the "infauna" benthos, the importance of which is described in the text. The dots and downward arrows depict the "rain of organic detritus," which, as emphasized in the text, may not be the chief way in which food is transported from the euphotic zone to the deep zones. (From *The Nature of Oceanic Life*, by John D. Issacs, Copyright © 1969 by Scientific American, Inc. All rights reserved.)

# Diatom-induced toxicity on copepods

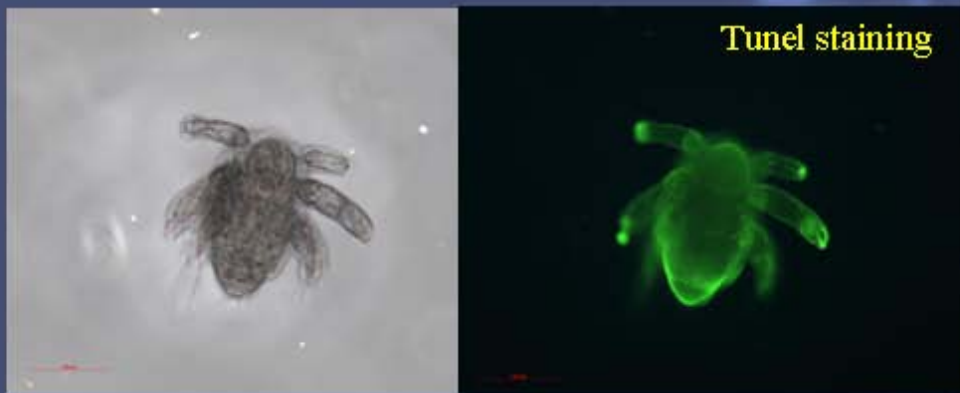
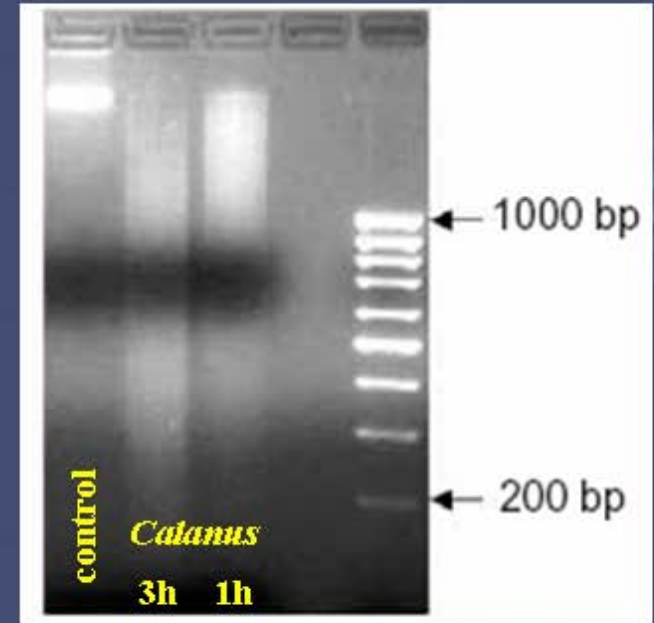






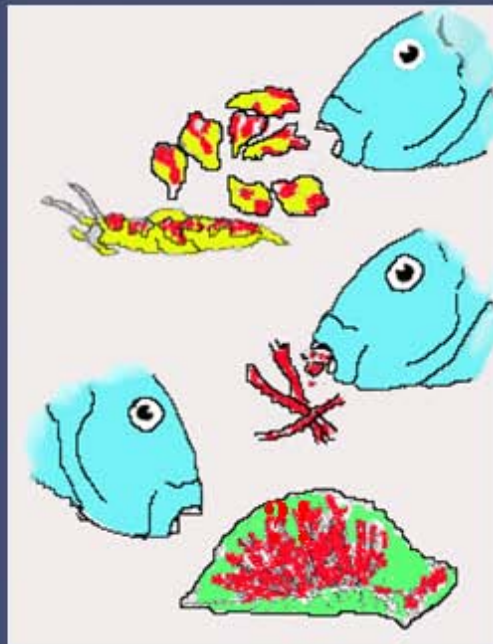


DNA laddering of copepod egg exposed to A3 (decadienal)

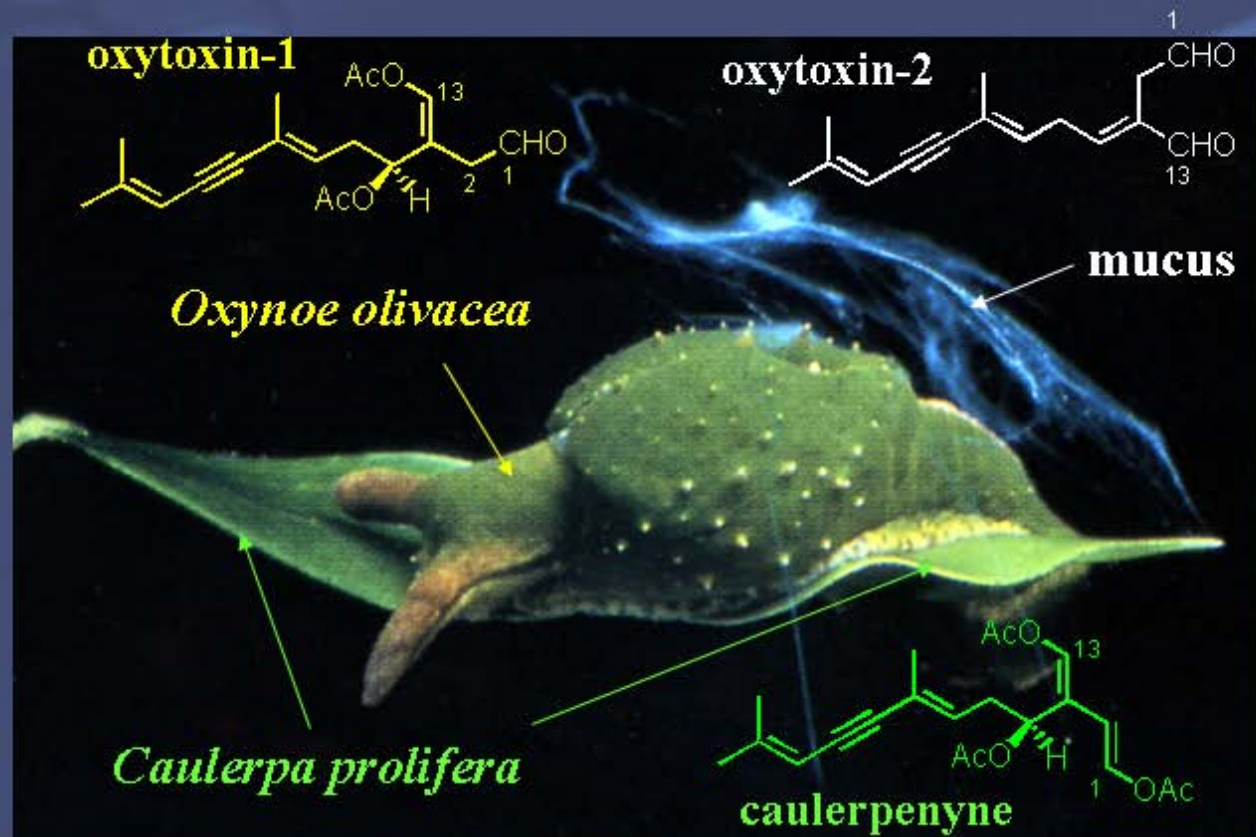


Newborn copepod nauplius exposed to A3 (decadienal)

about chemical defense ....



## Deterrence and Unpalatability

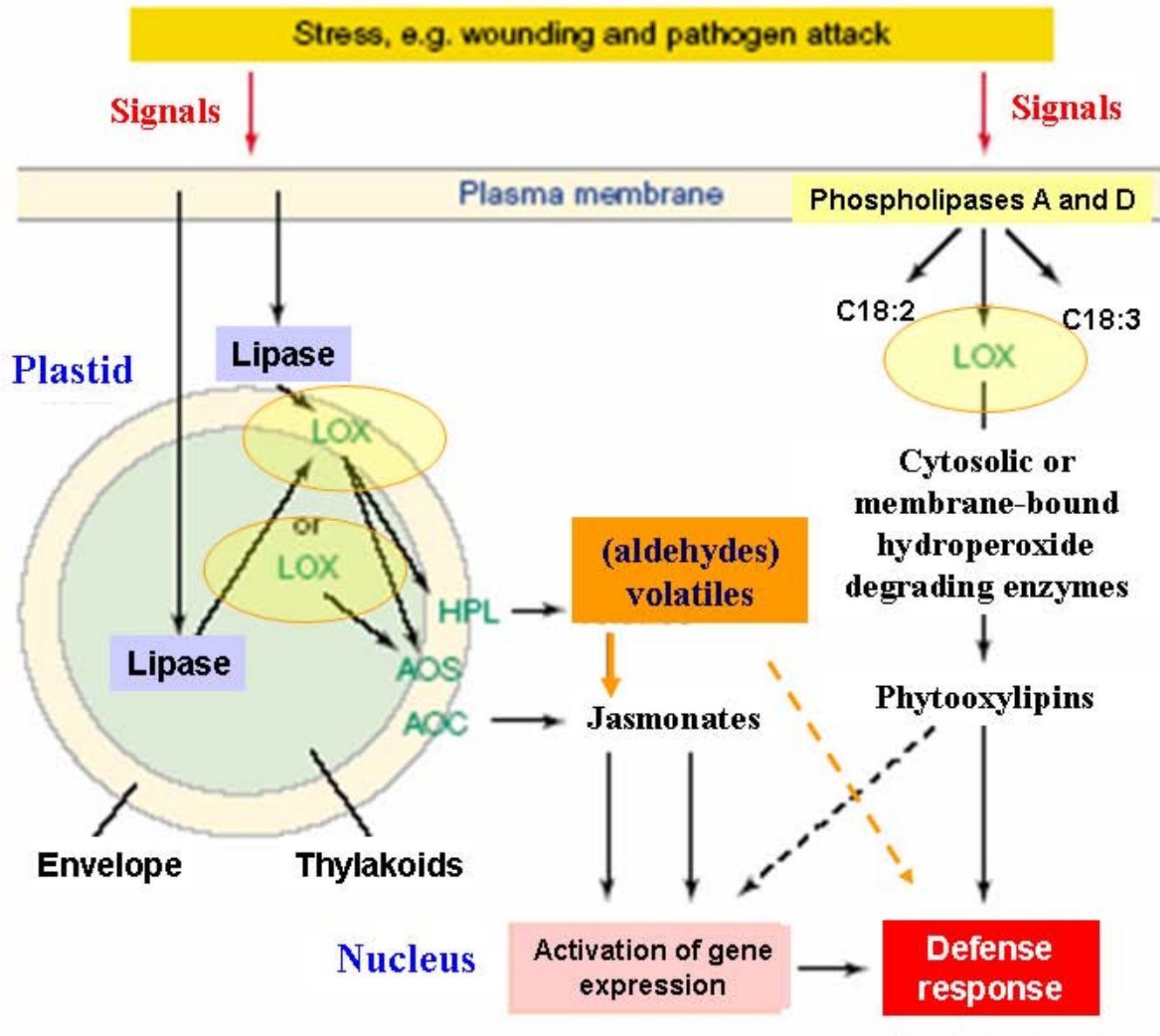




# Phycoaldehydes involved as mediators in diatom/copepod interactions

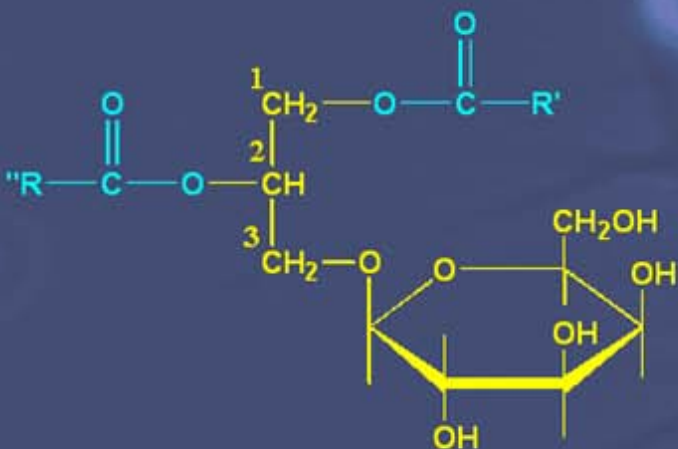


# Terrestrial plant-herbivores interaction

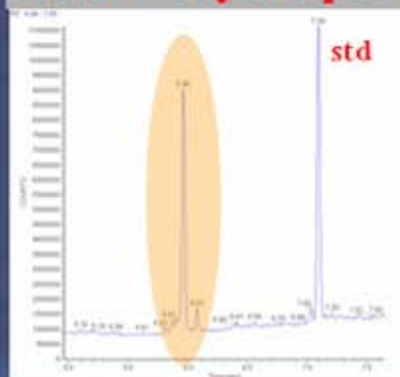




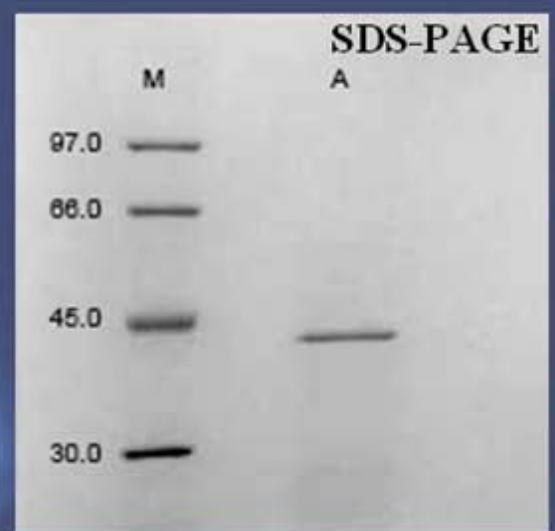
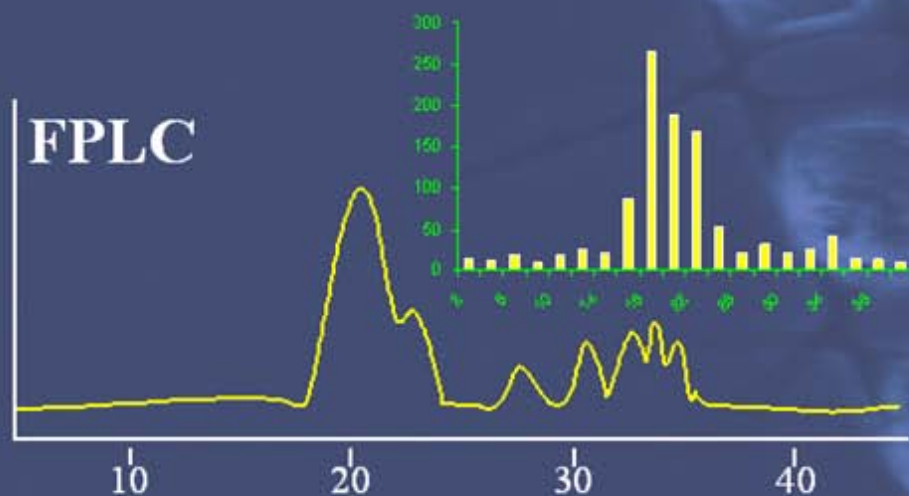
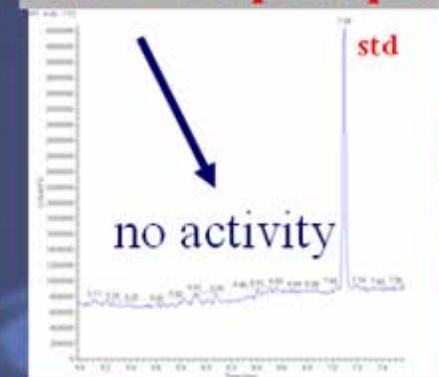
# Synthesis of phycoaldehydes is triggered by galactolipase(s)



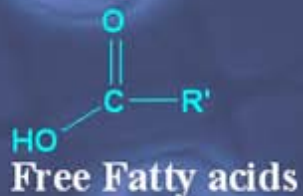
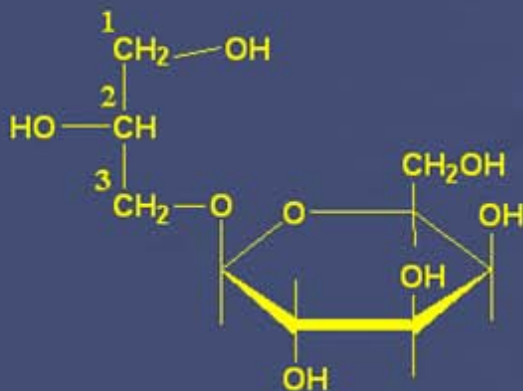
**Enz + Glycolipid**



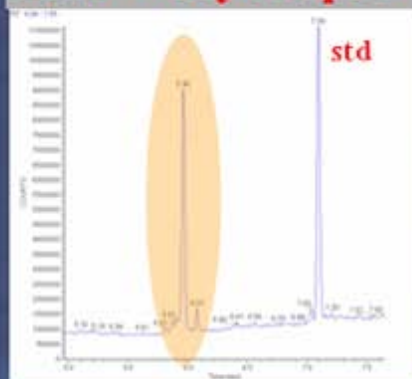
**Enz+Phospholipid**



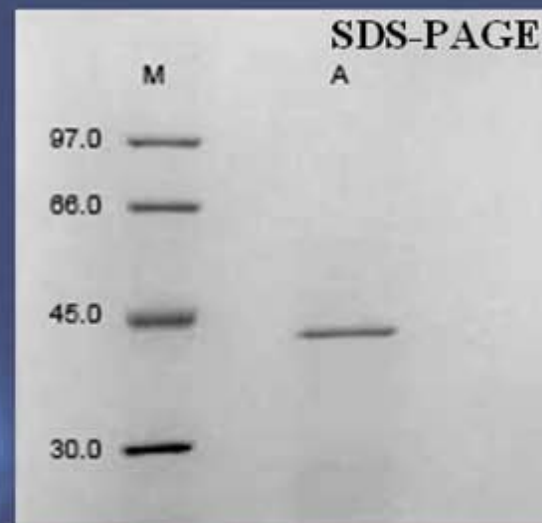
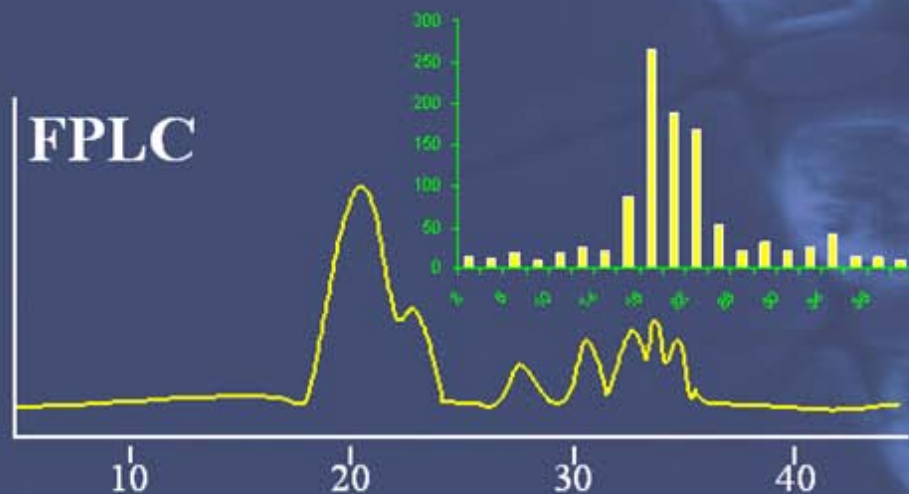
# Synthesis of phycoaldehydes is triggered by galactolipase(s)



Enz + Glycolipid



Enz+Phospholipid





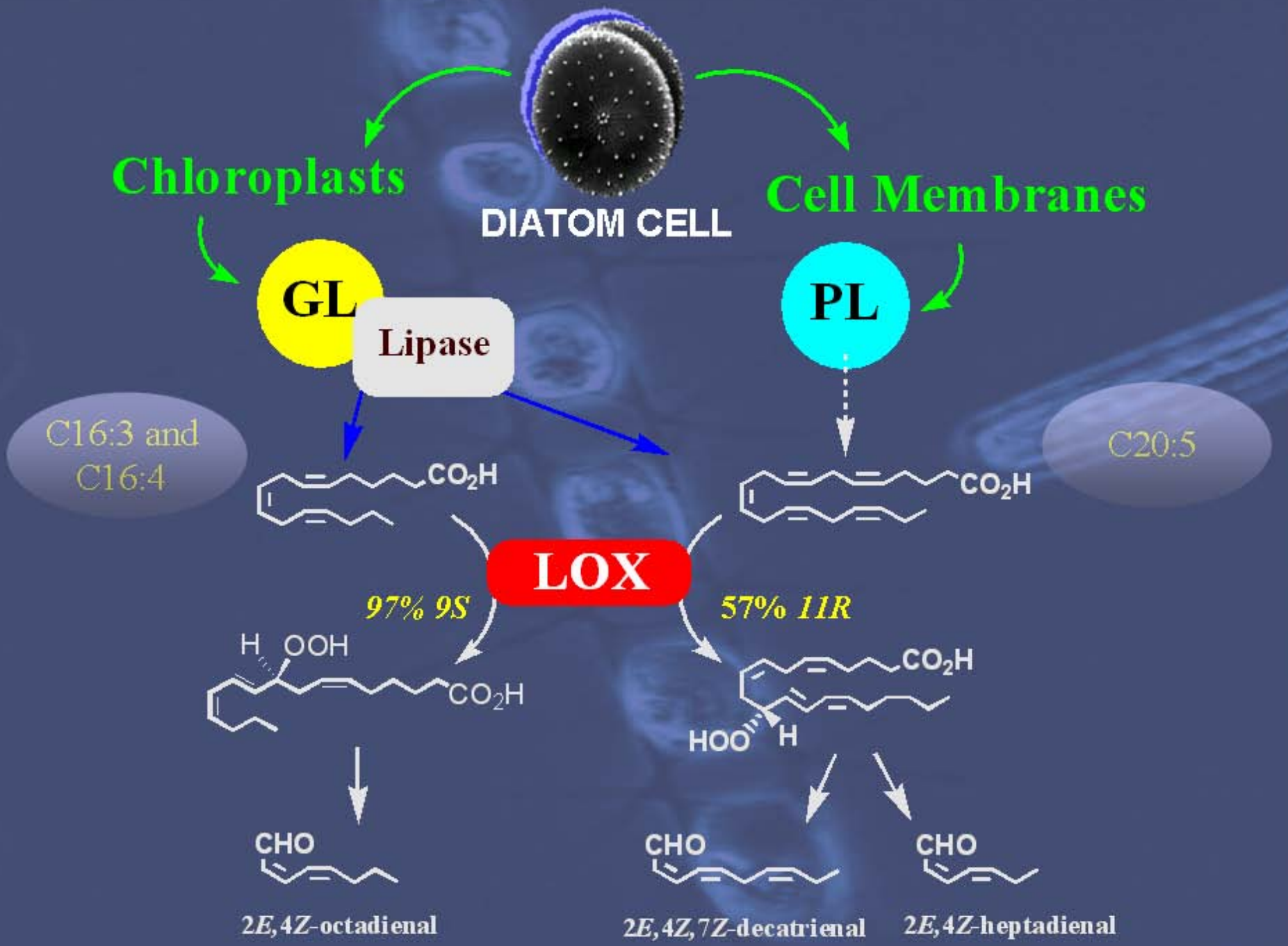
**The protein bearing most of the enzymatic activity in *T. rotula* is related to two proteins of unknown function from terrestrial plants.**

tr	(Fragment)	263 AA align
Score = 122 bits (276), Expect = 2e-27 Identities = 49/55 (89%), Positives = 52/55 (94%)		
Query: 1	GVGSGNGKAAFLNDYTKF AGV NKNVHWAGSDSKL ATELSTYATNKQPTWGK 55	
	GVGSGNGKAAFL NDYTKF AGV+NKNVHWAGSDSKL+ATELSTYA+ KQPTWGK	
Sbjct: 31	GVGSGNGKAAFLNNDYTKFQAGVTNKNVHWAGSDSKLSATELSTYASAKQPTWGK 85	

BLAST sequence alignment of protein 1.a (fragment 1-55) from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and protein 2.a (fragment 31-85) from *Hypericum perforatum*

Peptide sequences of *T. rotula* palactolipase retrieved by ESI-Q-TOF MS/MS are highlighted.

The protein, we called ThGAL1 contributes to lipid breakdown occurring during copepod grazing-induced defense and therefore provides fatty acid precursors for the synthesis of phycoaldehydes and other oxylipins. A detailed study of the expression profile of the activity is expected to reveal what triggers the synthesis of phycoaldehydes in marine diatoms. Furthermore, the use of lipases in industrial processes has steadily increasing as an alternative to chemical methods.



C16:3 and C16:4

C20:5

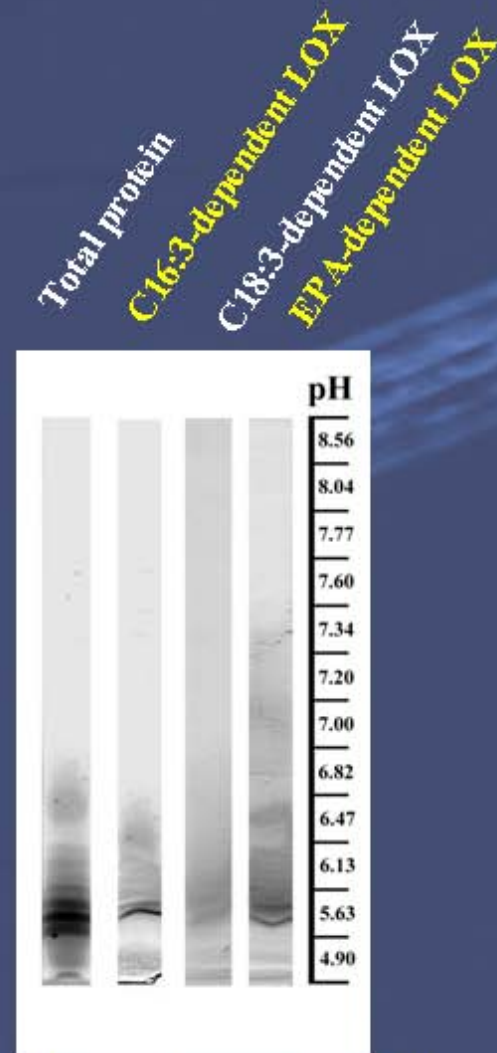
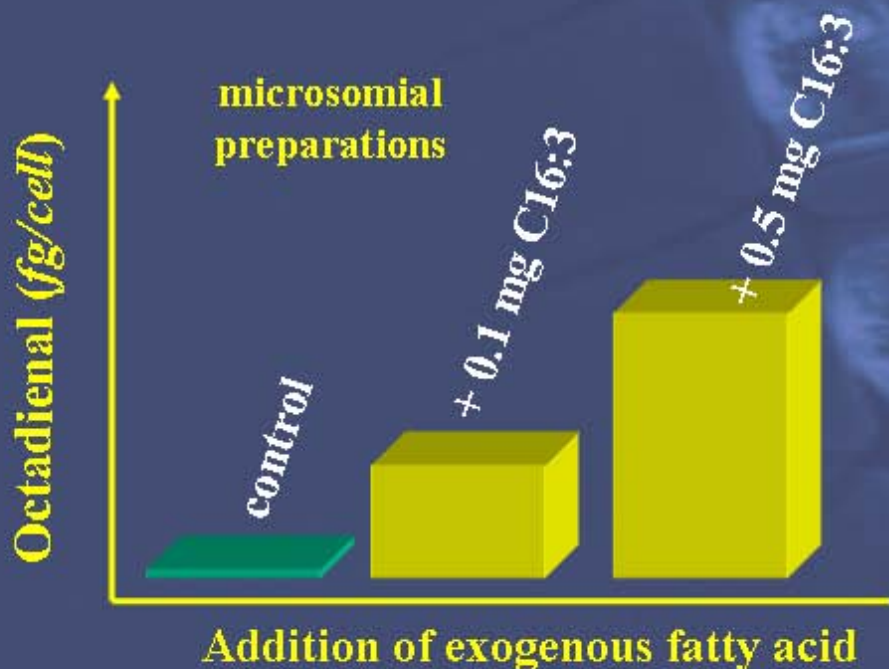
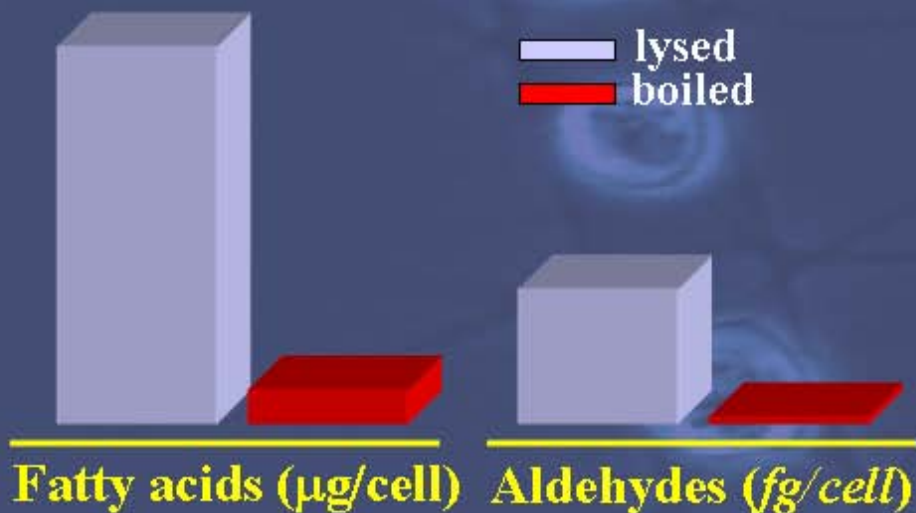
2E,4Z-octadienal

2E,4Z,7Z-decatrienal

2E,4Z-heptadienal

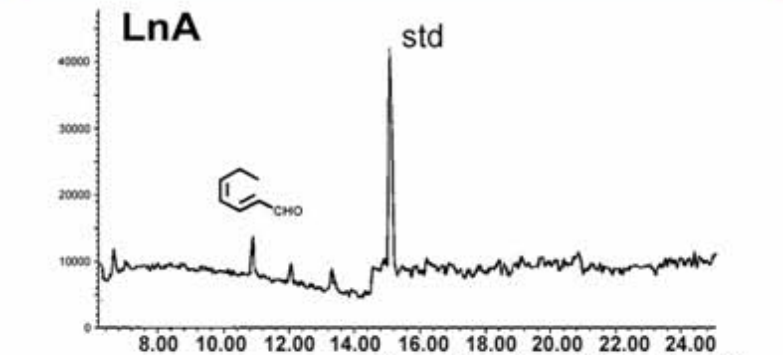
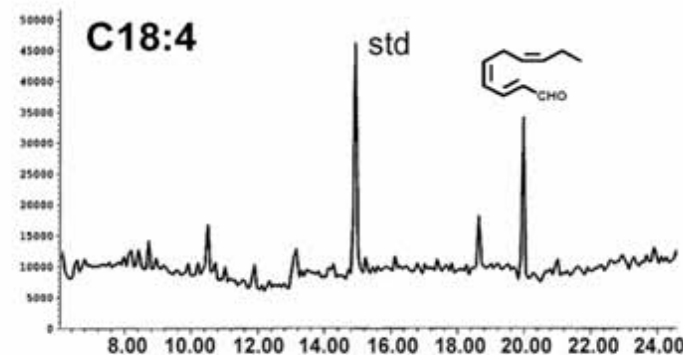
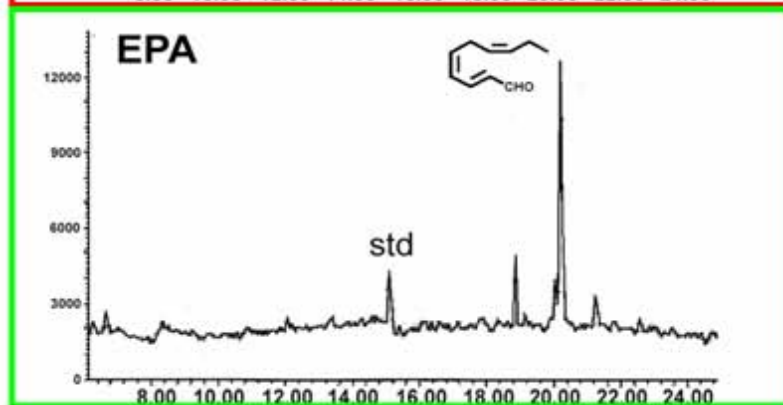
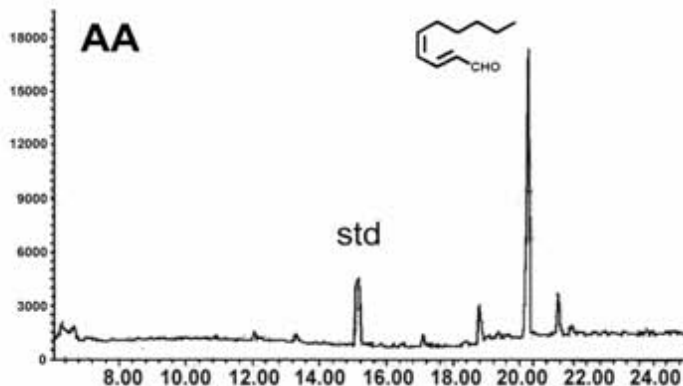
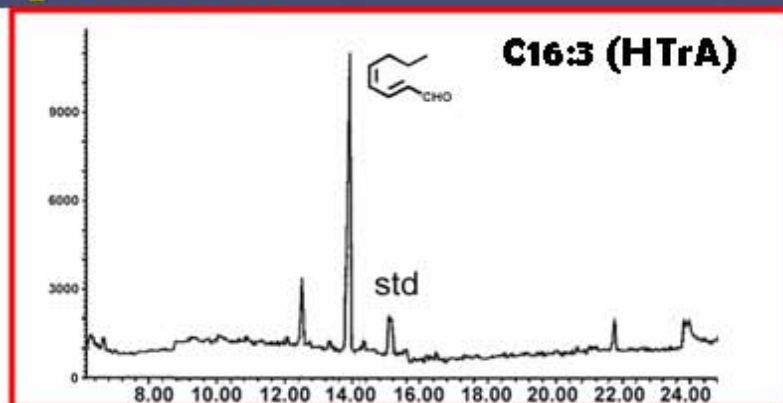
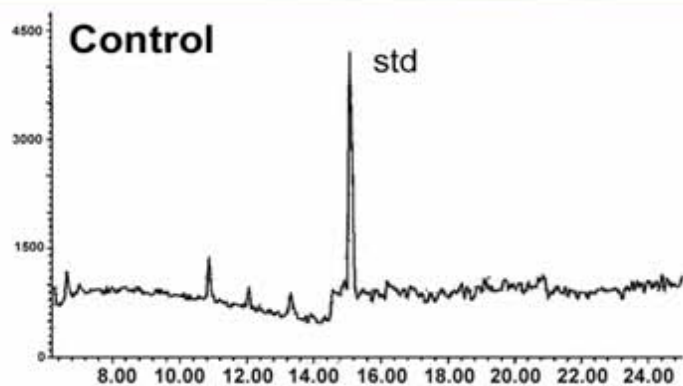


# Characterization of the LOX-activity



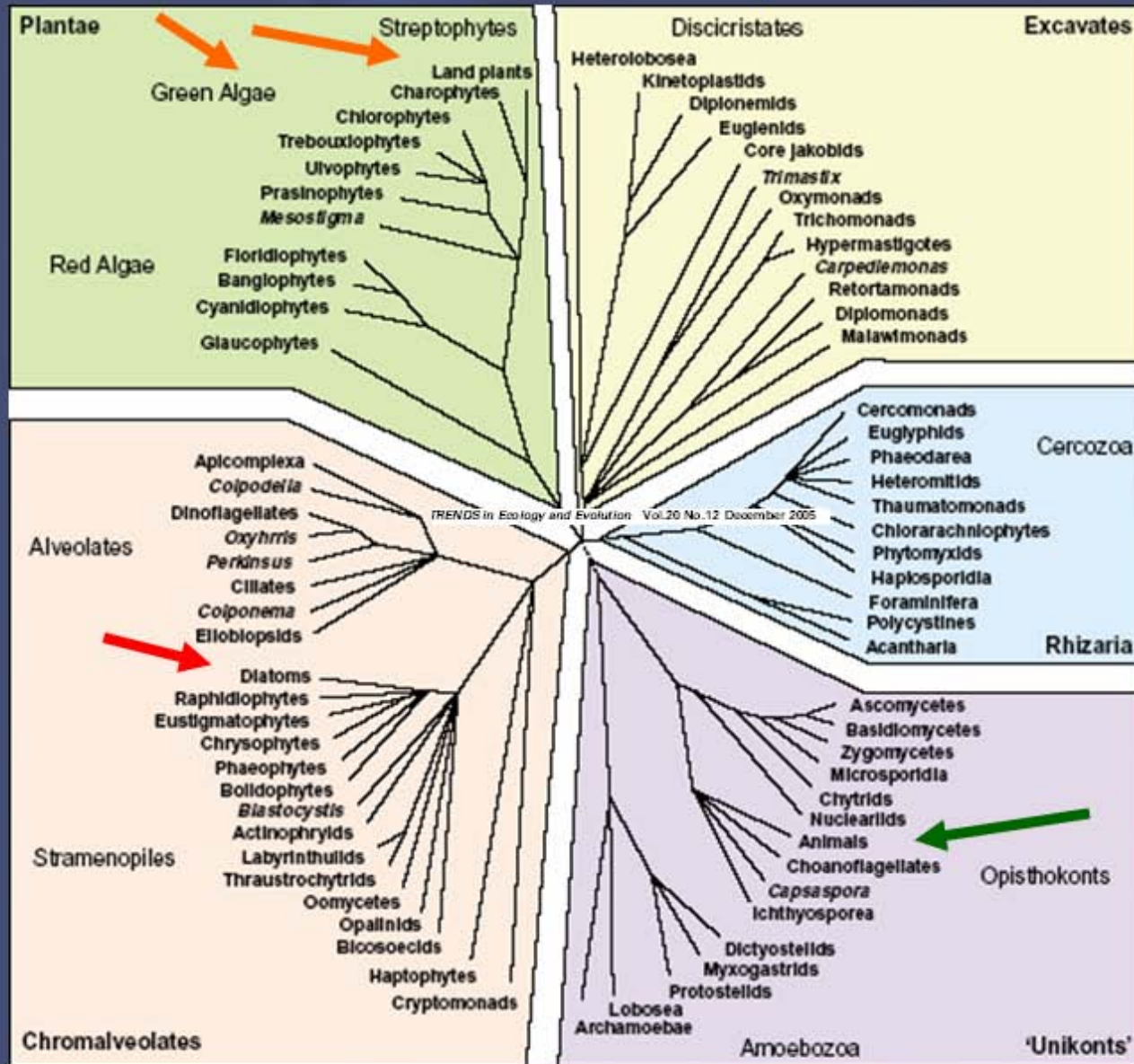
membrane-bound activity

# Synthesis of phycoaldehydes by exogenous fatty acids and diatom preparations

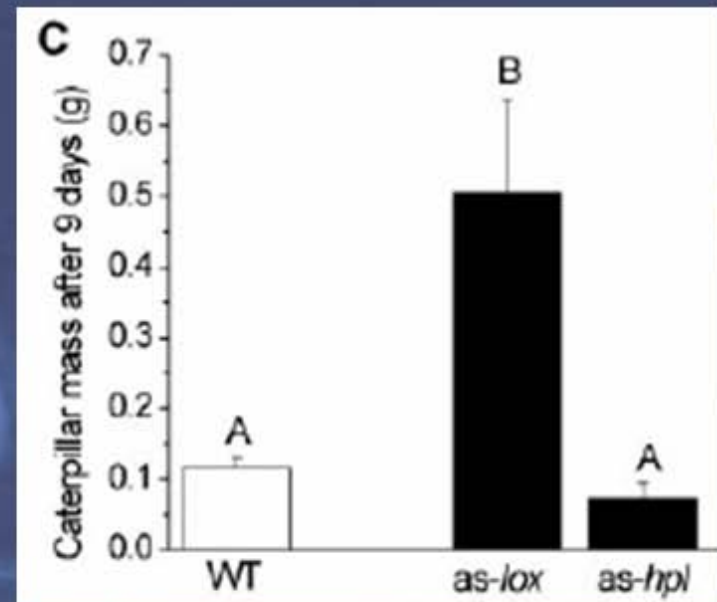
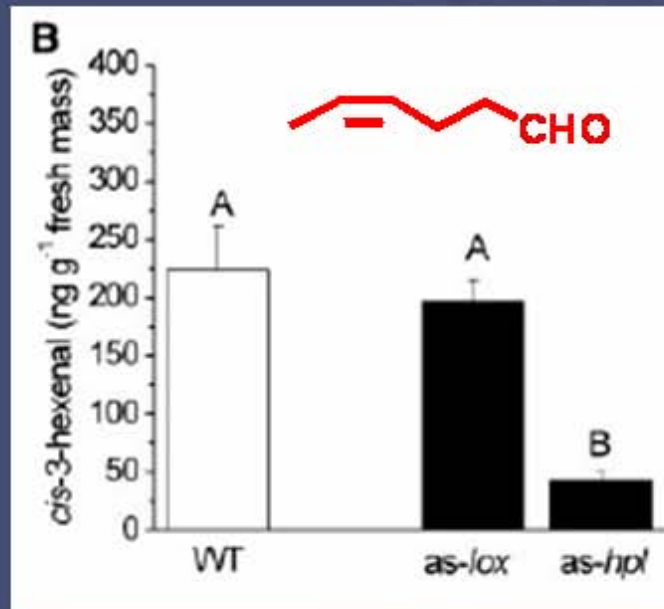




# The tree of eukaryotes

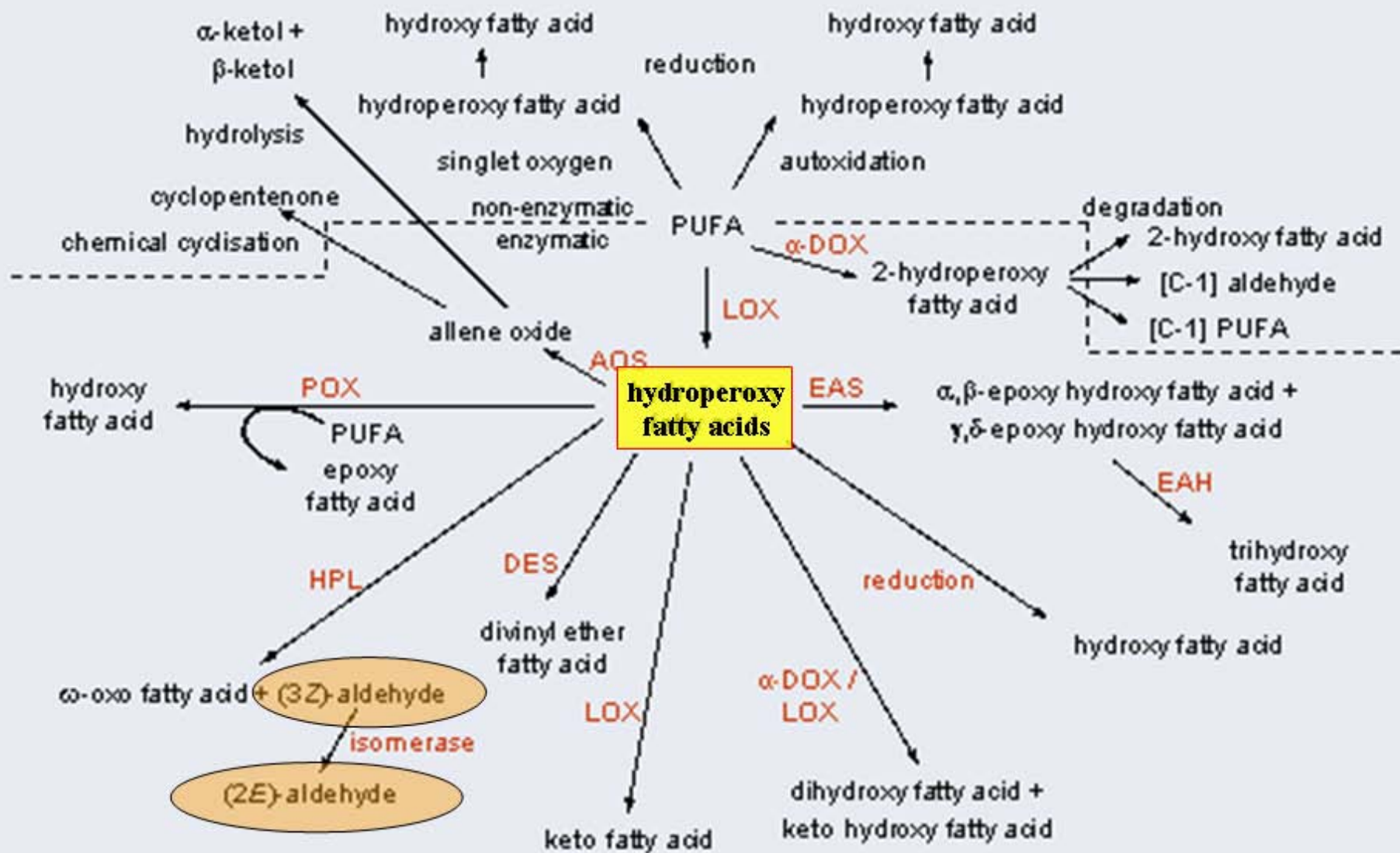


Silencing lipoxygenase (lox) and hydroperoxide lyase (hpl) genes of native tobacco, *Nicotiana attenuata*, inhibits oxylipin signaling, leading to plants that are **more vulnerable to adapted herbivores but also attracted novel herbivore species, which fed and reproduced successfully.**



..... in nature, these results show that lipoxygenase dependent signaling determines host selection for opportunistic herbivores and that induced defenses influence herbivore community composition.

# LOX-pathways in plants

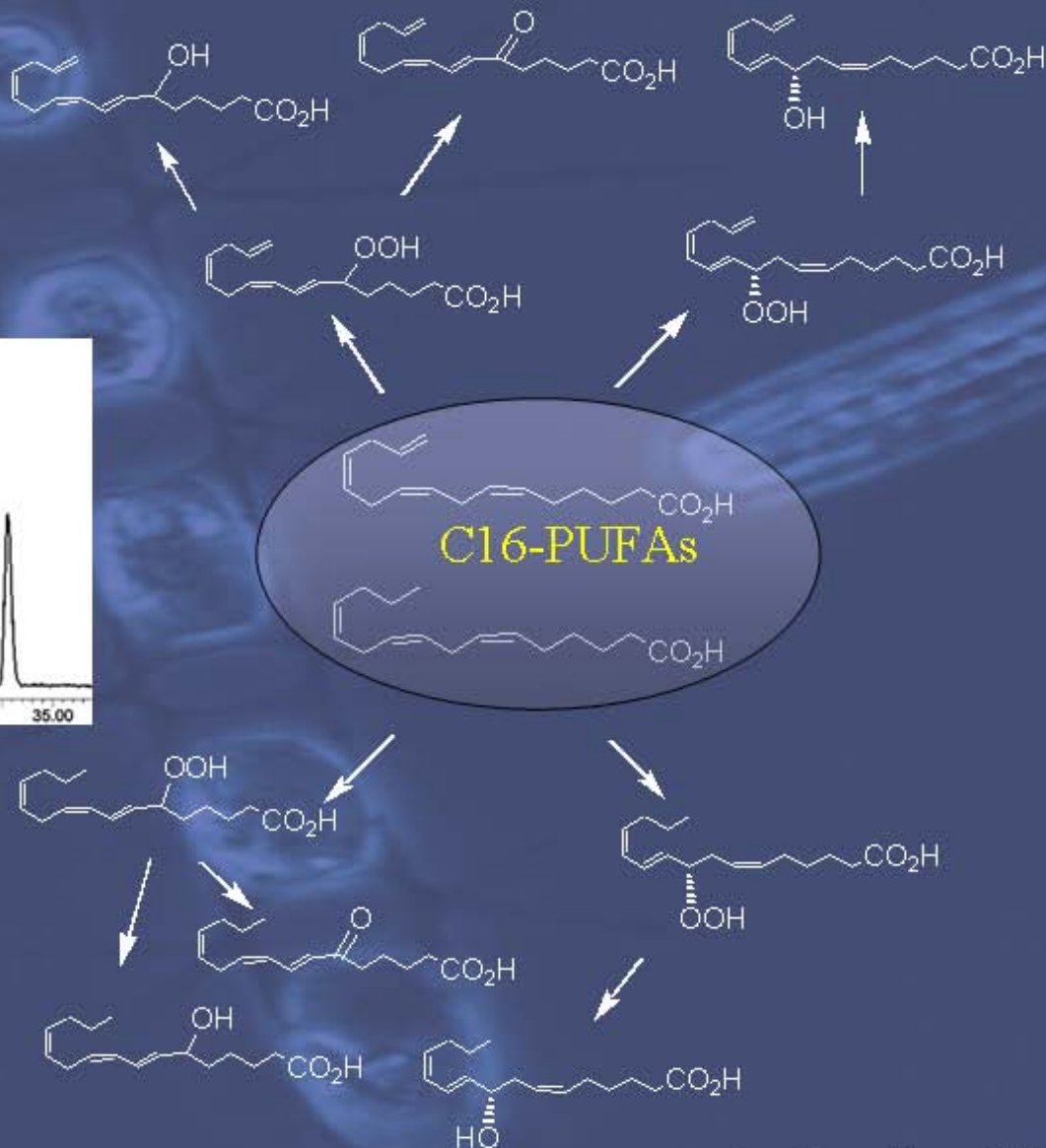
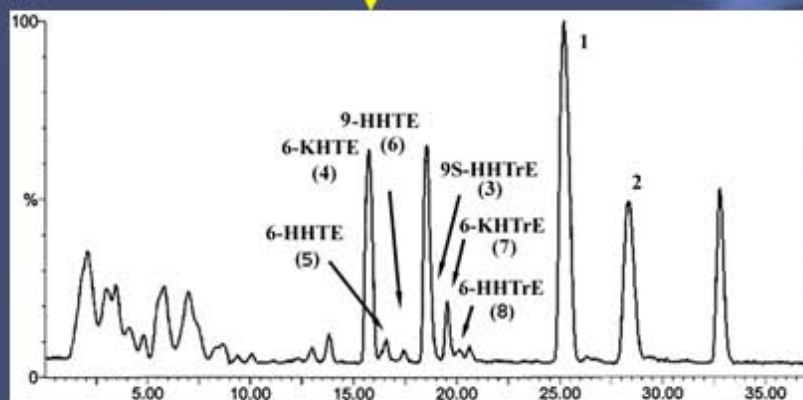




# Other Oxylipins in *Thalassiosira rotula* (lab culture)

Diatom lysate

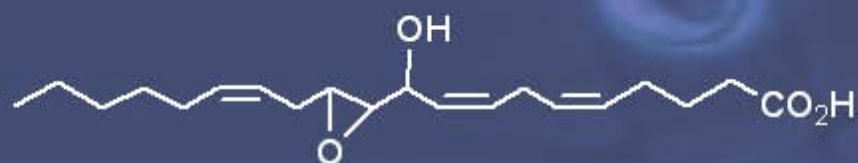
LC/MS-MS









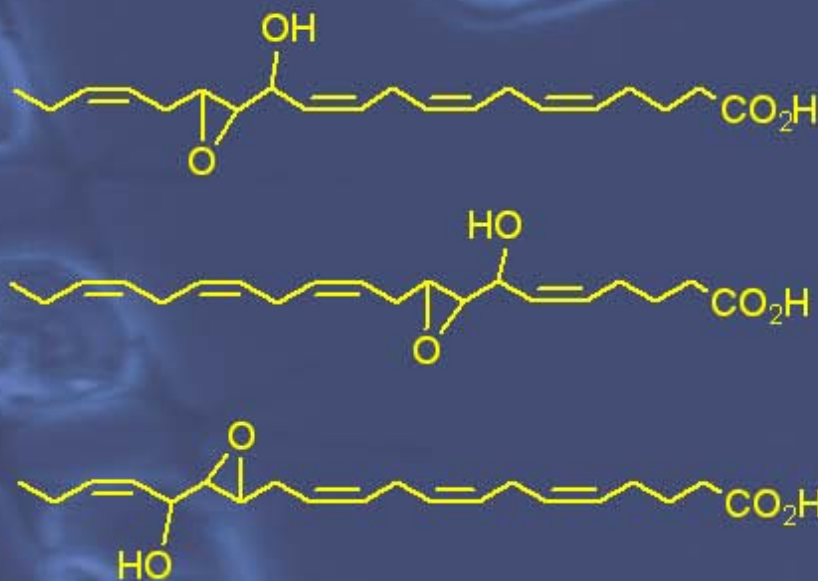


mammals

## Hepoxilin B-series

calcium release from intracellular stores by a G-protein coupled receptor-mediated action in mammalian cells

diatoms



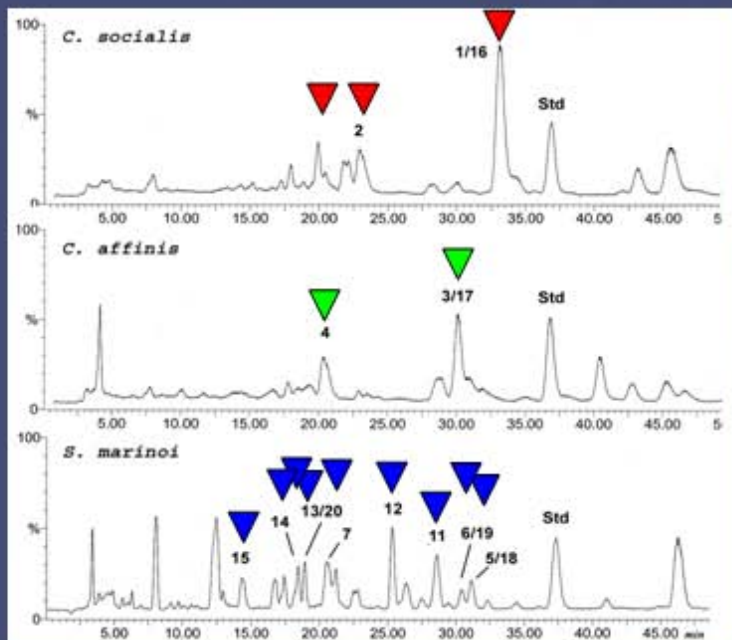
LAH

stimulus

LAH

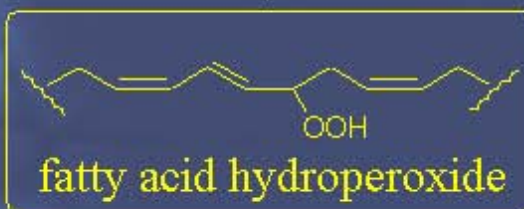
PL

MGDG



free fatty acid

LOX



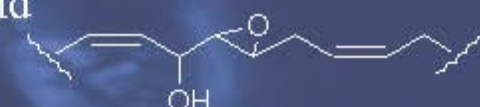
RED

HPL

EAS



hydroxy-fatty acid



epoxy-alcohol



aldehyde &  $\omega$   
oxo-acids

**Many other species show a similar complexity of metabolites and metabolisms:**

- Studies of 11 other species or strains of diatoms have been completed;
- Evidence of 8 different oxygenase pathways not always leading to aldehydes
- Large array of oxylipins, suggesting enzymatic activities other than those of *S. costatum* and *T. rotula*.
- Species-specific distribution
- C20:5 and C16:3 fatty acids largely predominant as source substrate
- Pivotal role of chloroplastic glycolipids in all studied species
- Processes detected also in phytoplankton (North Adriatic - Mediterranean Sea and Terra Nova Bay - Antarctica)

**Are these products in somehow related to diatom-induced failure of copepod reproduction?**

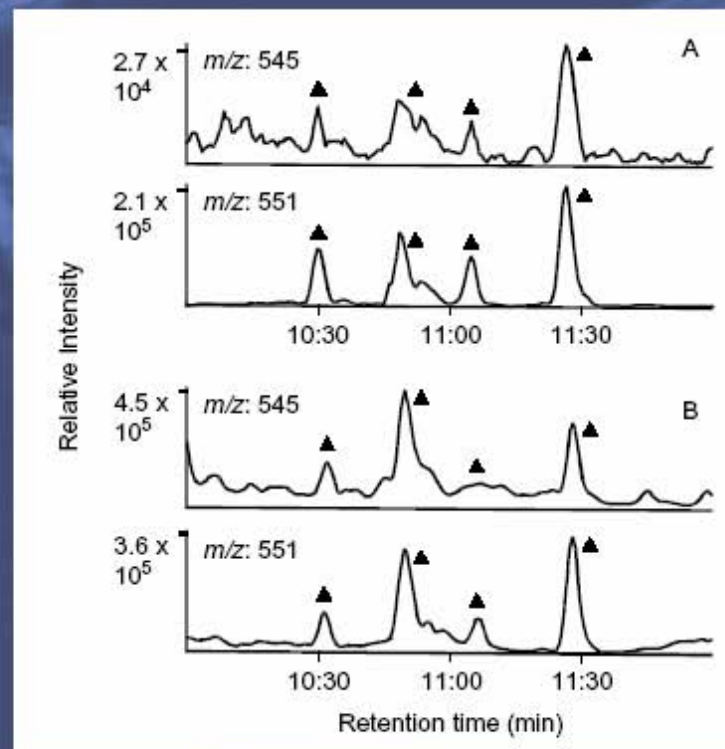


# Diet-derived oxylipins in mammals

Evidence is emerging that certain biologically active oxidized fatty acids, called phytoprostanes (PPs) may modulate the function of mammalian immune cells, displaying potent antiinflammatory and apoptosis inducing activities similar to some prostaglandins (Mediterranean Diet).

After oral consumption of vegetables rich in polyunsaturated fatty acids, PPs were absorbed, found to circulate in plasma (A) in conjugated form and excreted in free form into urine (B).

PPs detection by LC-MS in plasma (A) and urine (B)

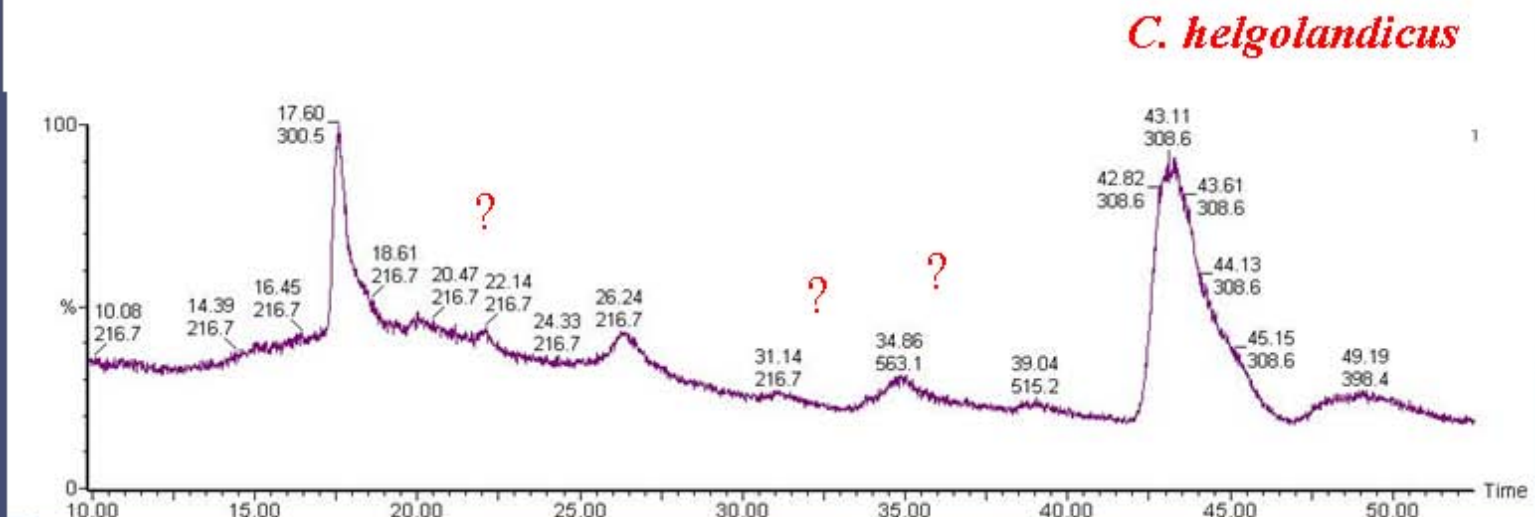
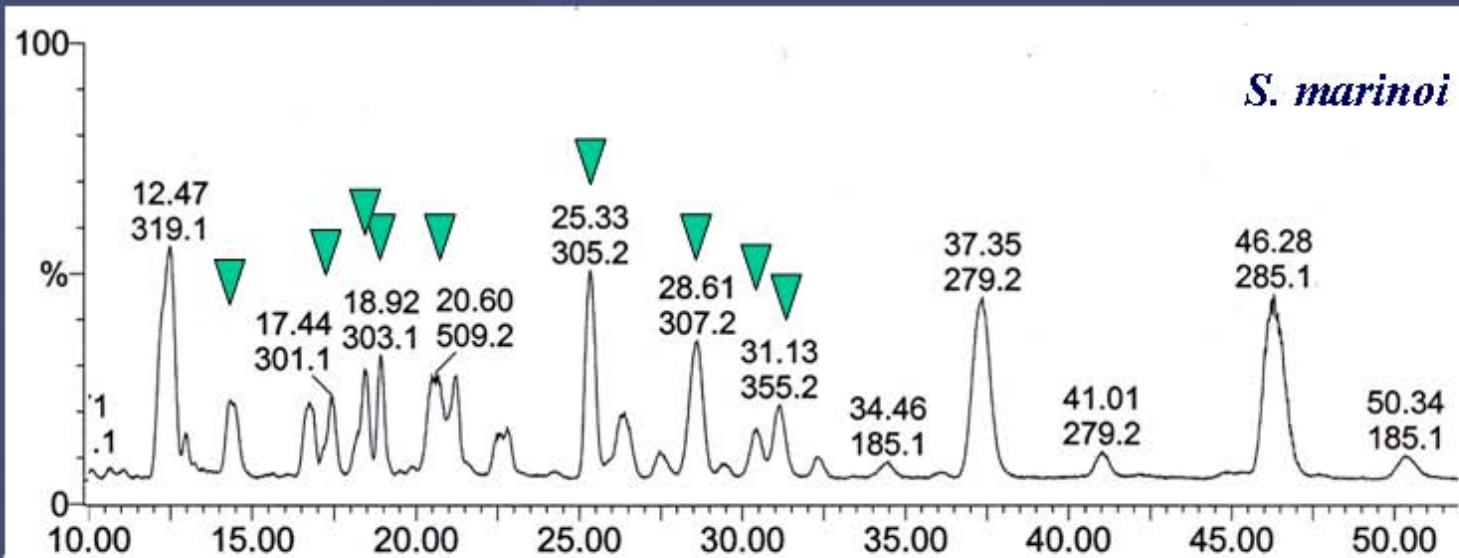


# Diet-derived oxylipins in insect larvae

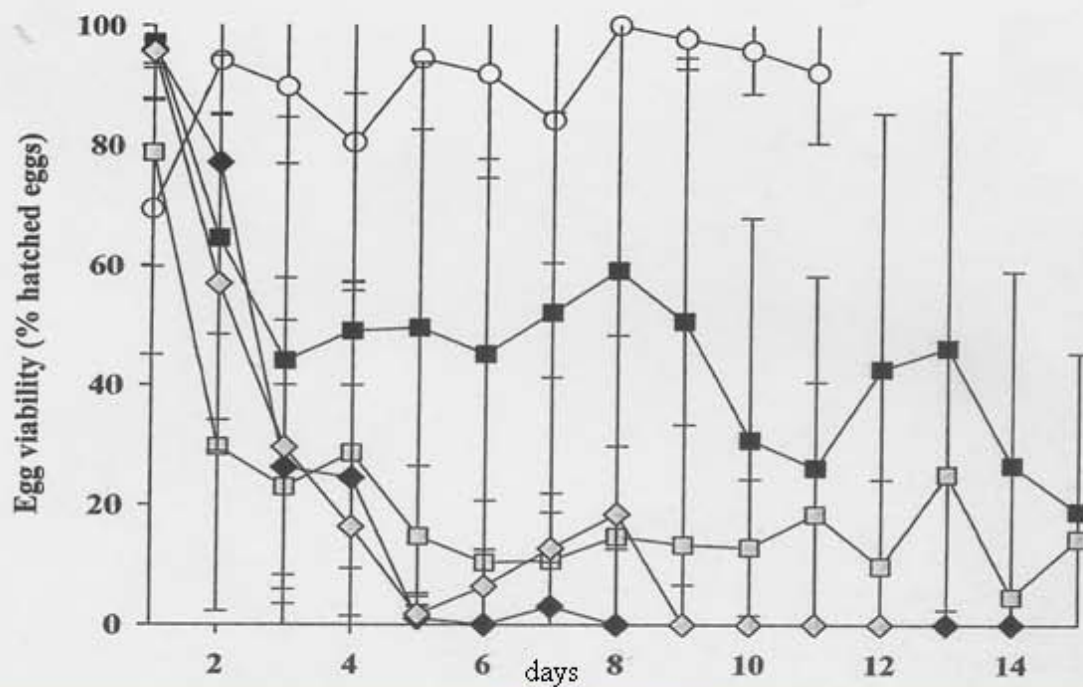
oxylipin	<i>P. lunatus</i>	<i>S. littoralis</i>	
	leaves	gut	frass
	+	+	+
	+	-	-
	-	+	+
	+	+	+
	+	-	-
	+	+	-
	+	+	+
	+	+	+
	+	-	-
	+	+	+
	+	+	+
	+	+	+
	+	+	+
	+	+	+

In response to feeding larvae of the Mediterranean climbing cutworm (*Spodoptera littoralis*), leaves of the lima bean (*Phaseolus lunatus*) produce oxylipins ..... Accordingly, the feeding insect experiences high local concentrations of oxylipins, which are taken up into the alimentary canal and are finally excreted with the feces.

# Diet-derived oxylipins in copepods







Species	phycoaldehydes	phycooxylipins
○ <i>P. minimum</i>	-	-
■ <i>T. rotula st#1</i>	+++	++
□ <i>T. rotula st#2</i>	+/-	++
◆ <i>S. costatum</i>	++	+++
◇ <i>S. pseudocostatum</i>	-	+++

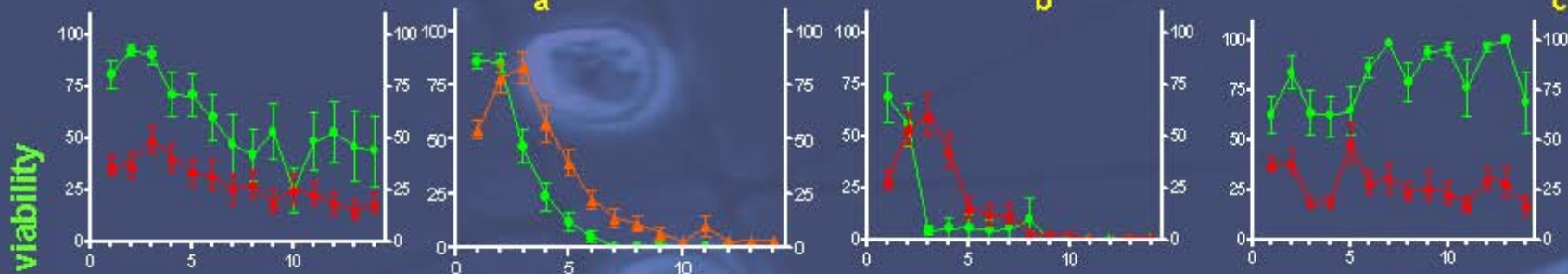
***Chaetoceros socialis***

***Chaetoceros affinis***

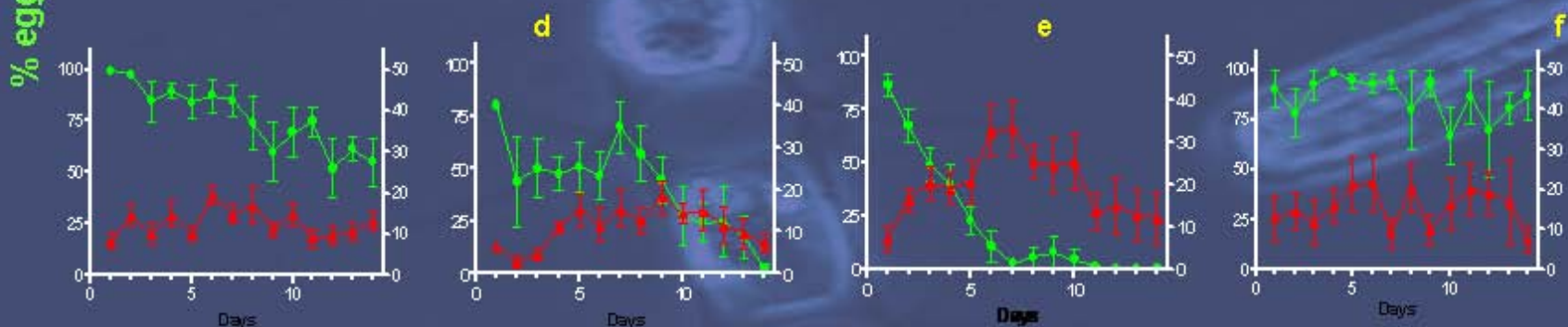
***Skeletonema marinoi***

***Procentrum minimum***

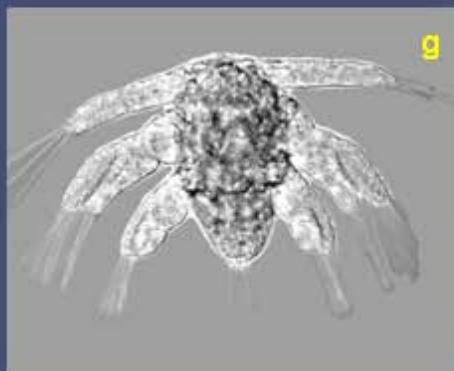
*Temora stylifera*



*Calanus helgolandicus*



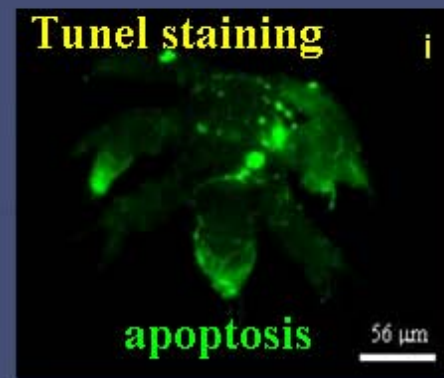
eggs female-1 day-1



**Control**



**teratogenesis**

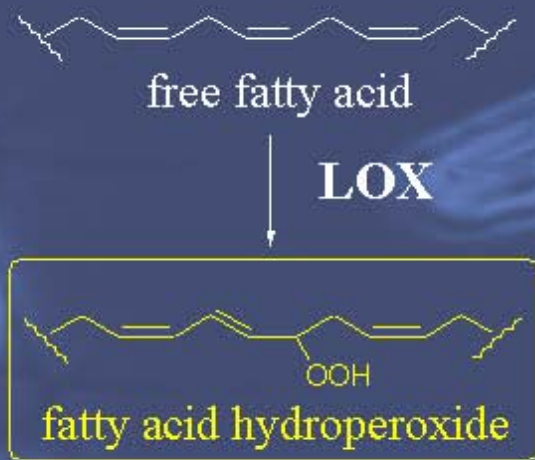
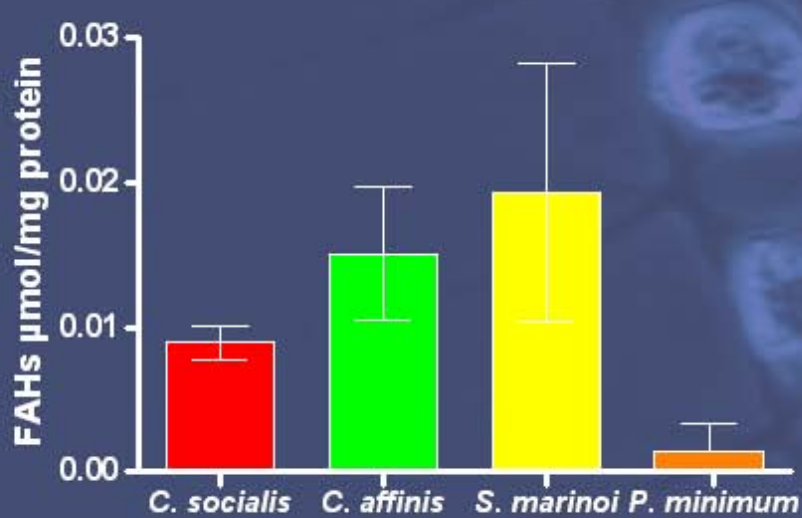
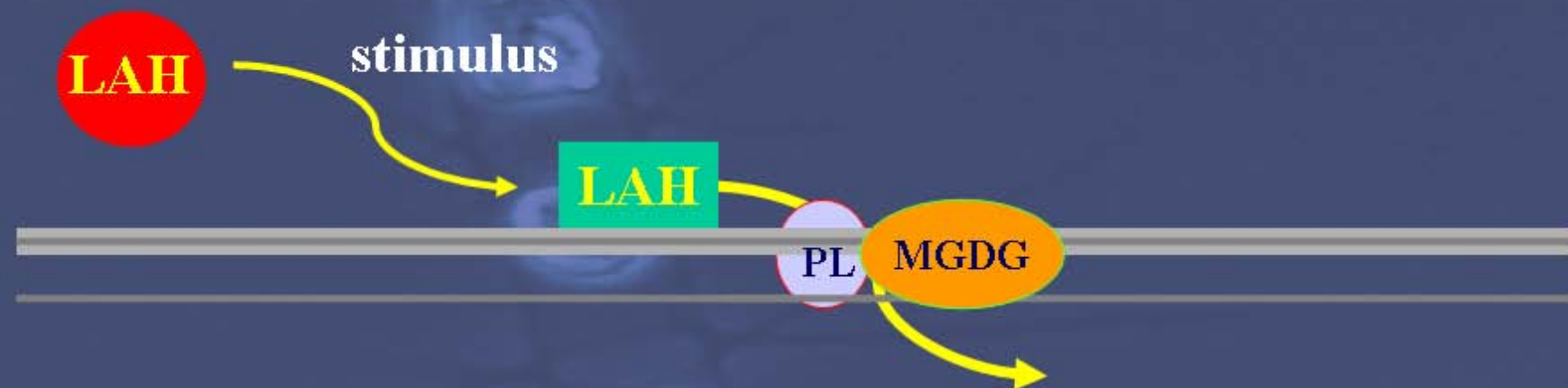


**Tunel staining**

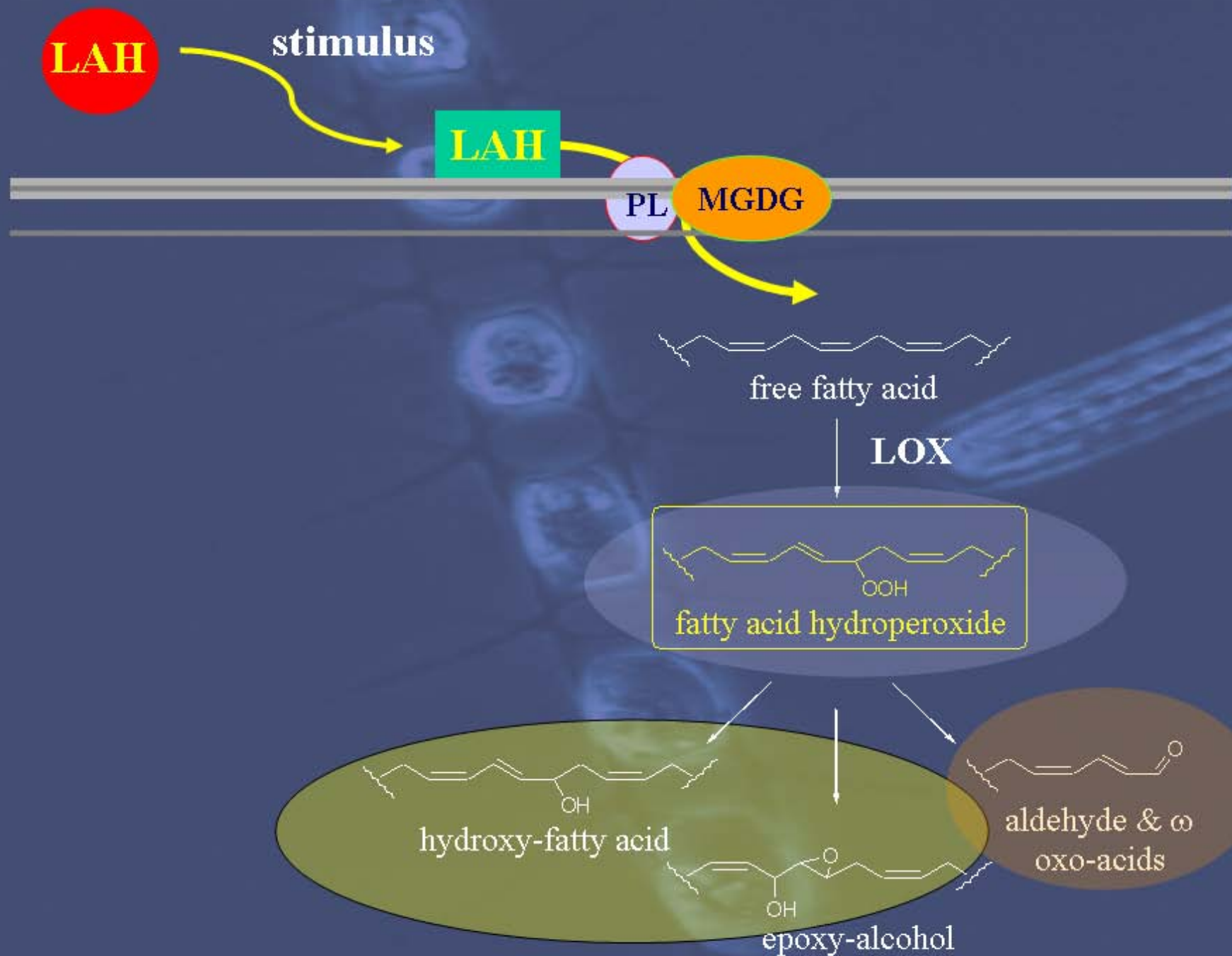
**apoptosis**

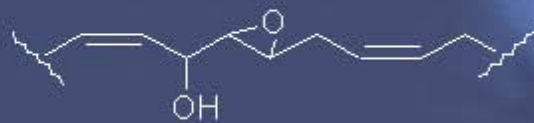
56 μm

nauplius from copepod females reared on *C. affinis*









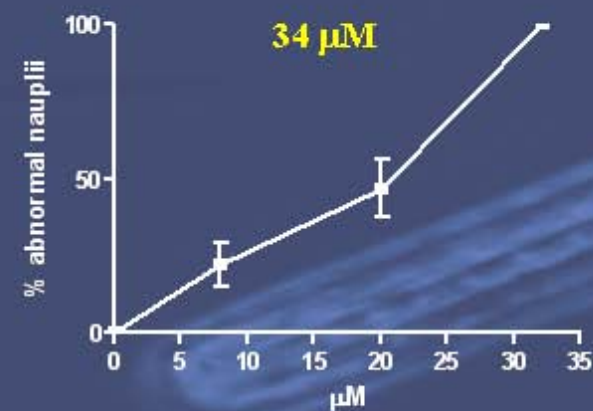
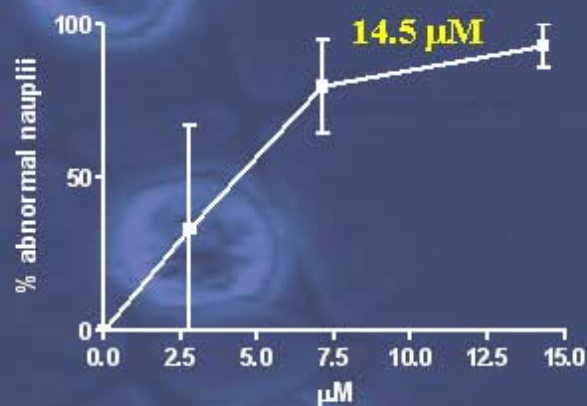
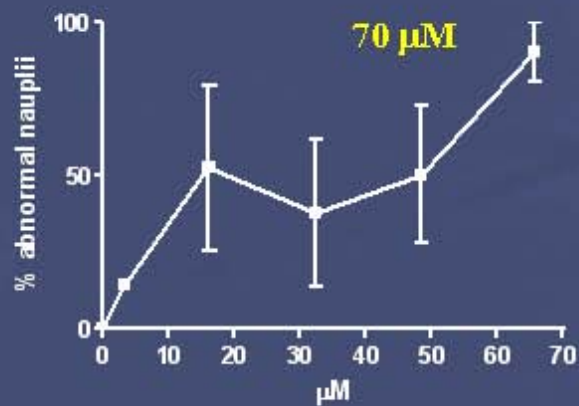
oxylipins



fatty acid hydroperoxides



aldehydes



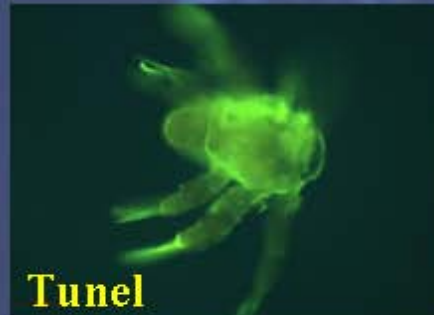
Teratogenesis



Apoptosis



Tunel

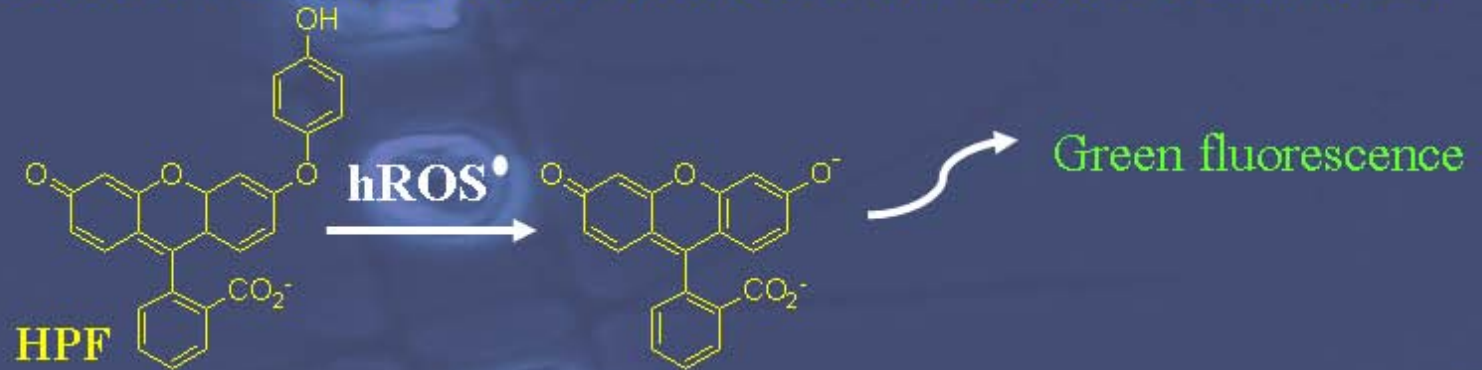


Tunel

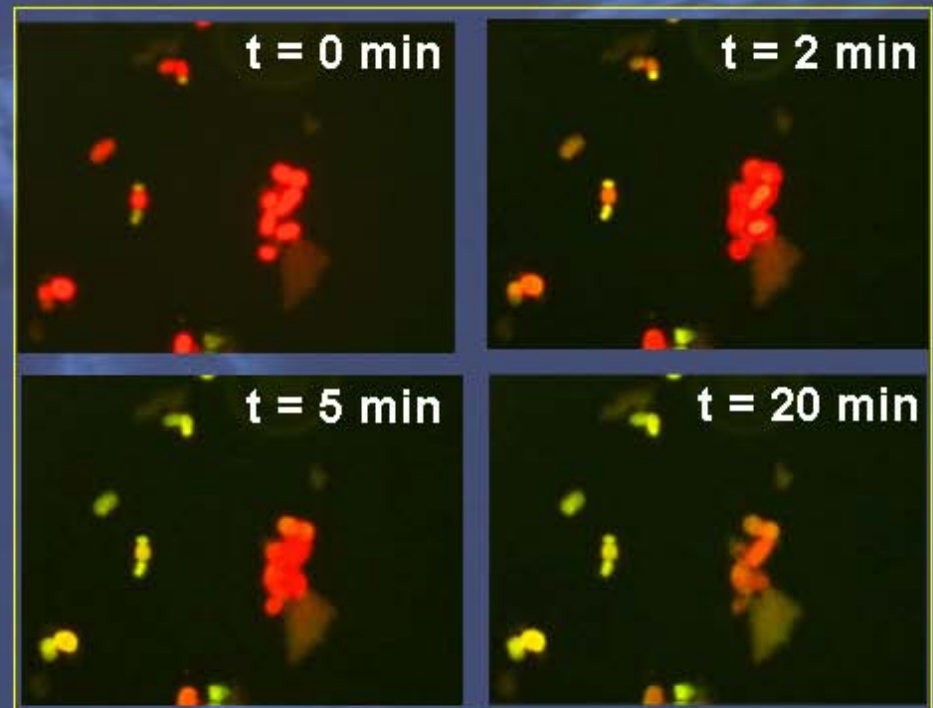


Tunel

# OXIDATIVE STRESS INDUCED BY LOX ACTIVITY



hROS (highly reactive oxygen species) induce apoptosis, DNA and protein damage



red = chlorophyll

green = ROS



# Conclusions

- **Synthesis of phycoaldehydes is essentially due to decompartmentation and mixing of substrate ( mostly, glycolipids) and enzymes;**
- **The process is triggered by a galactolipase activity (in addition to a phospholipase?) and requires lipoxygenase enzyme(s) showing high substrate affinity for chloroplast-derived C16- and C20-fatty acids;**
- **The process is dynamic and (in lab) lasts for several minutes - until glycolipids fuel the downstream oxygenase pathway;**
- **Presence of phycoaldehydes seems to be restricted to genera *Thalassiosira* and *Skeletonema*;**
- **Synthesis of aldehydes is however associated/complemented by production of other fatty acid derivatives (oxylipins), including the unstable fatty acid hydroperoxides (FAHs);**
  - **Even in absence of aldehydes, some of these metabolites (e.g., FAHs) can mimic the toxic effect (apoptosis and teratogenesis) induced on copepods by diet rich in diatoms;**
  - **LOX-dependent lipid peroxidation boosts oxidative burst, leading to synthesis of proapoptotic and teratogenic chemical radicals.**

**LAH**

**stimulus**

**LAH**

**PL**

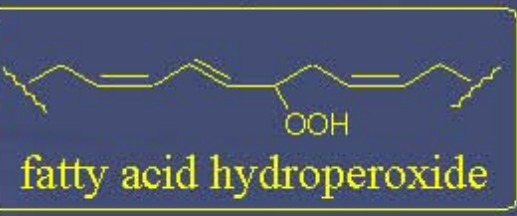
**MGDG**

Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS)

- singlet oxygen,  $^1O_2$
- hydroxyl radicals,  $\bullet OH$
- superoxide,  $O_2^{\bullet -}$
- hydroperoxides and peroxides, ROOH and ROOR

free fatty acid

**LOX**

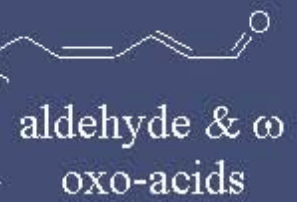
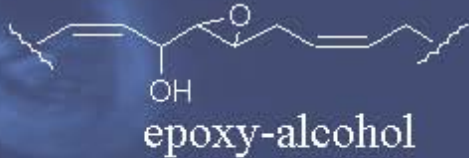


**DNA damage**

**RED**

**HPL**

**EAS**



**teratogenesis**







**Dept of Chemistry  
University of Salerno  
Aldo Spinella  
Tonino Caruso**

**Dept of Chemistry  
University of Trento  
Graziano Guella**

**University of Barcelona  
Pilar Diaz**

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