



Respiration

Definition:

From thermodynamic standpoint, respiration can be defined as a process in which energy is liberated

From physio-chemical standpoint, it is the oxidation of organic compounds with molecular oxygen serving as an ultimate electron acceptor

Summary:



Types of respiration:

1. Aerobic respiration: in which complete oxidation of respiratory substrate takes place in presence of oxygen resulting in the end product of carbon dioxide and water
2. Anaerobic respiration: in which incomplete oxidation of respiratory substrate takes place in the absence of external oxygen resulting in ethyl alcohol and carbon dioxide as end products

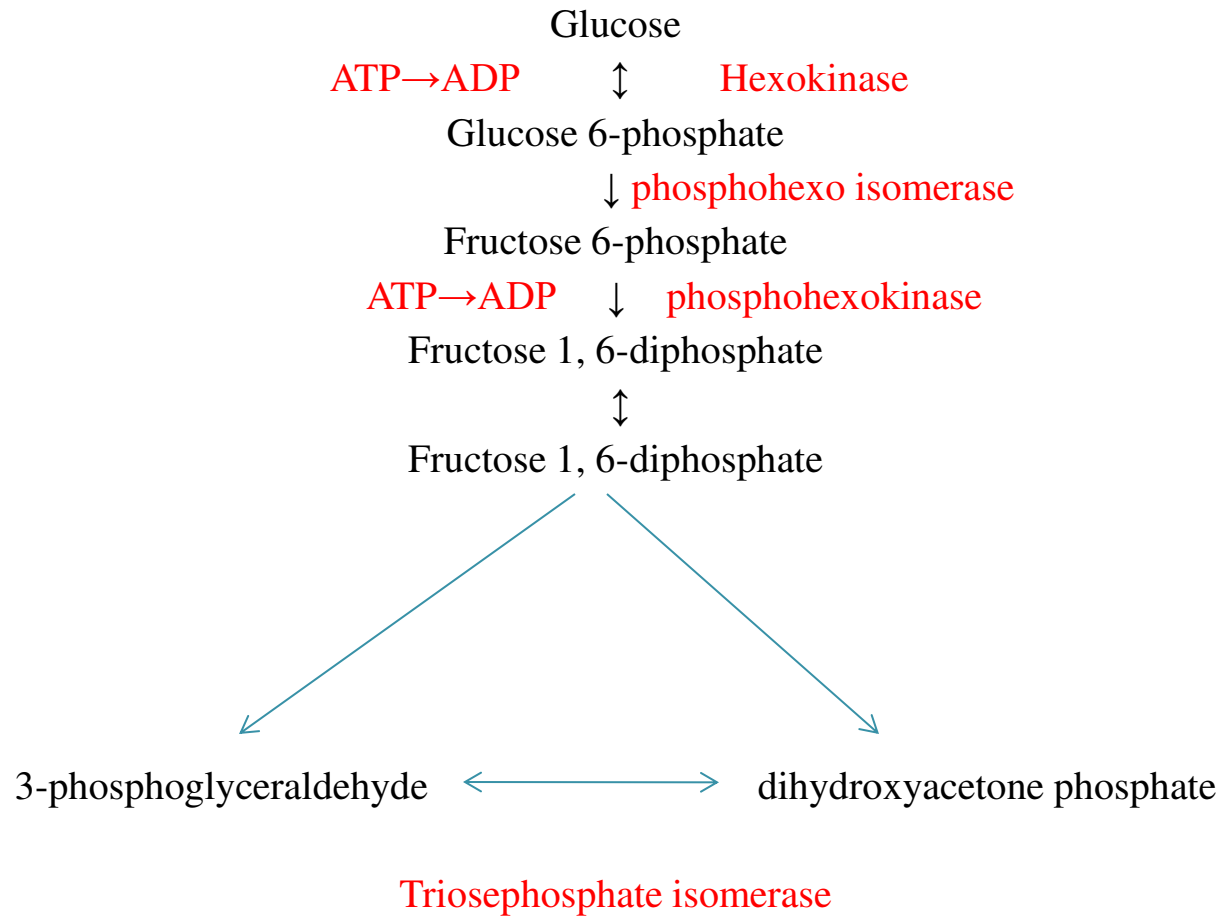
Significance:

- Respiration converts the stored potential energy into utilizable kinetic energy
- the carbon dioxide released in respiration maintain the balance of carbon cycle in nature

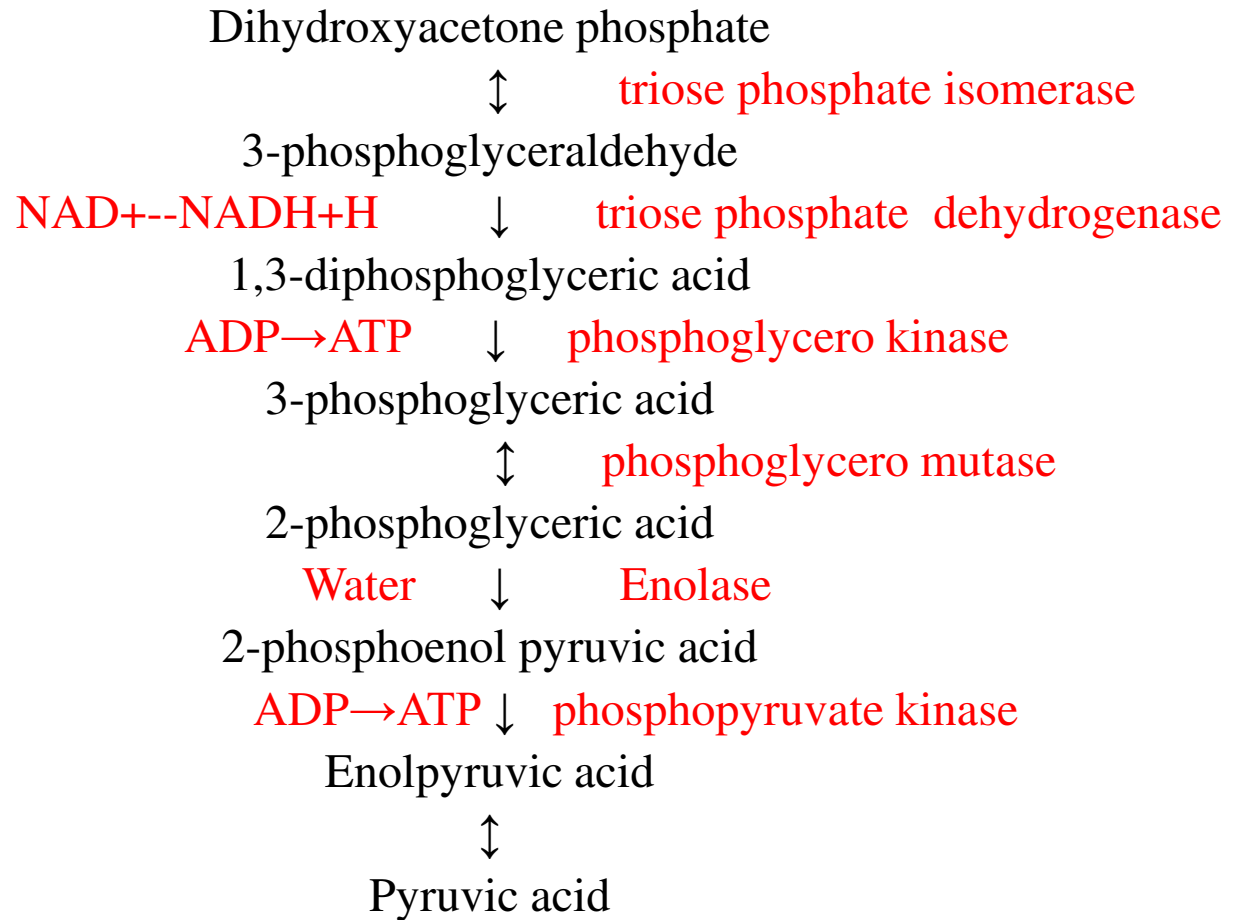
Respiratory Quotient (RQ)

It is the ratio of the volume of CO_2 evolved to the volume of O_2 taken simultaneously in the process

Glycolysis



Glycolysis



Glycolysis

Pyruvic Acid

↓ **pyruvate decarboxylase**

Thiamine pyrophosphate (TPP)

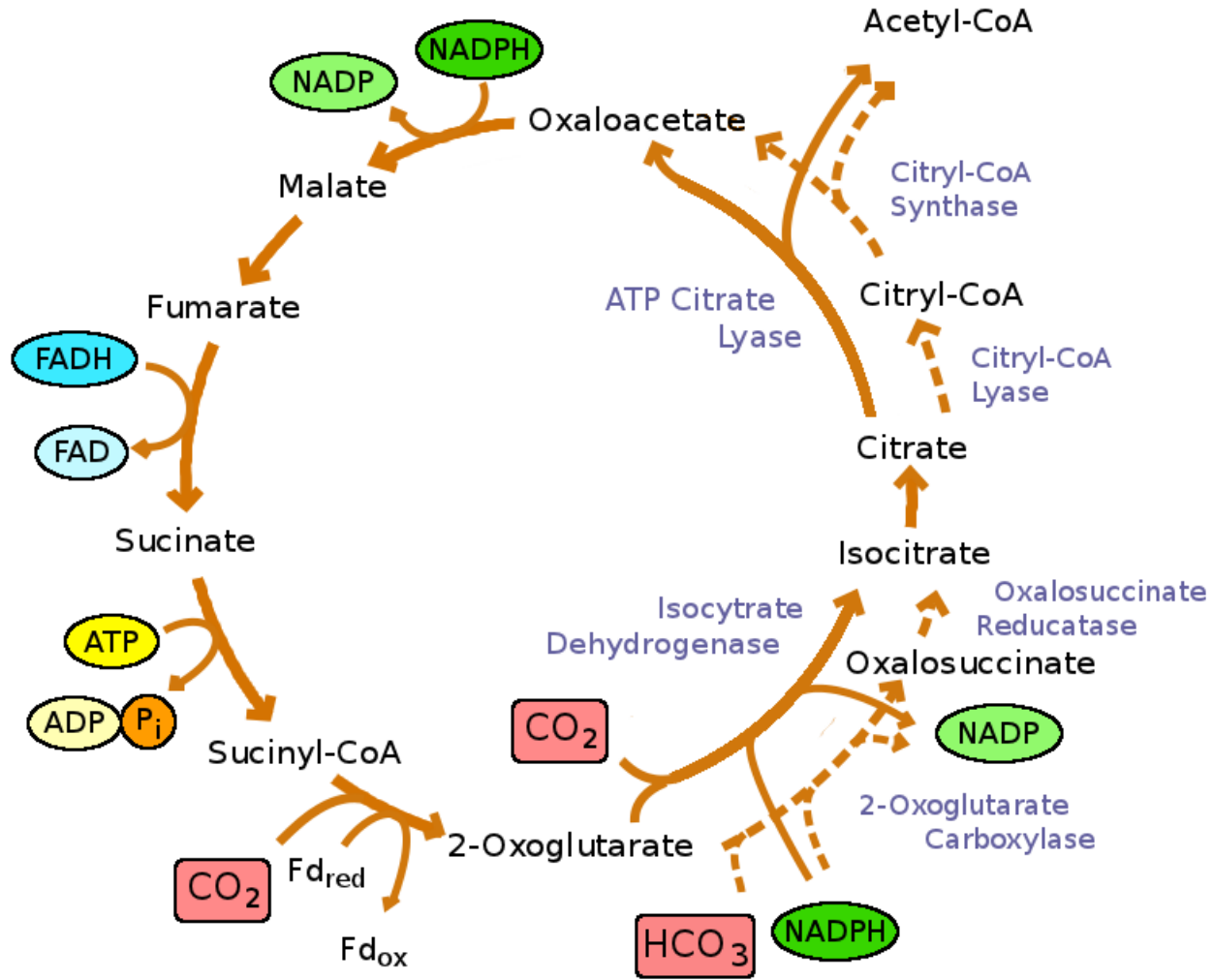
↓ **lipoate acetyl transferase**

Acetyl hydrolypoate

↓ **lipoate dehydrogenase**

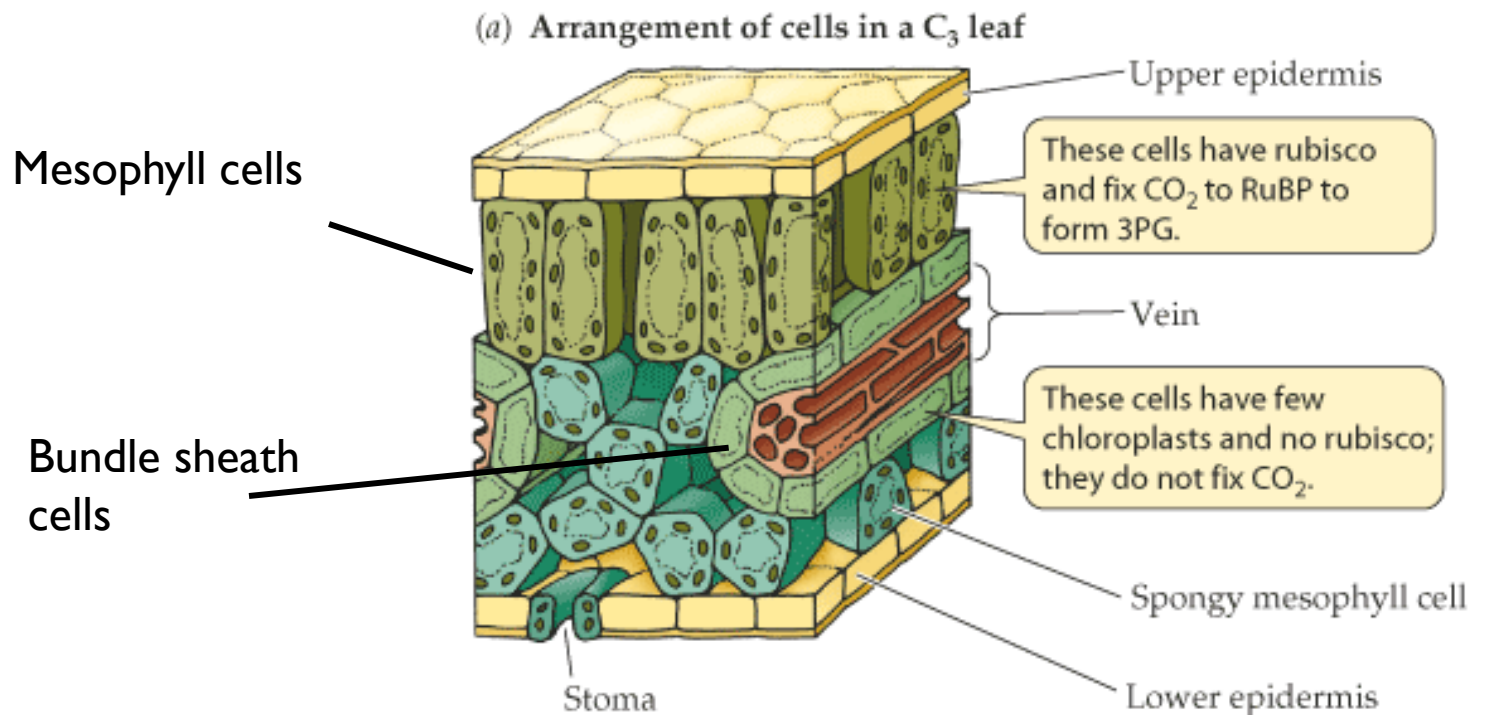
Acetyl Co-A

Krebs Cycle



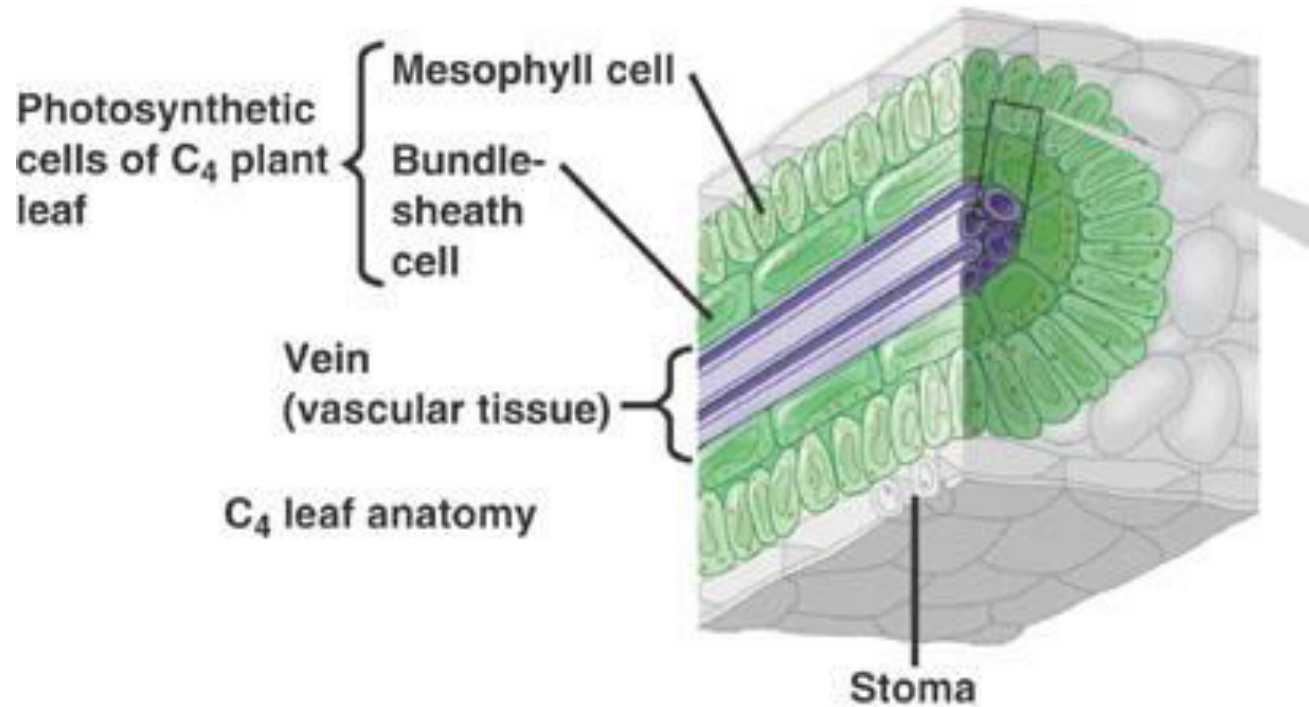
Leaf Anatomy

- In C₃ plants (those that do C₃ photosynthesis), all processes occur in the mesophyll cells.



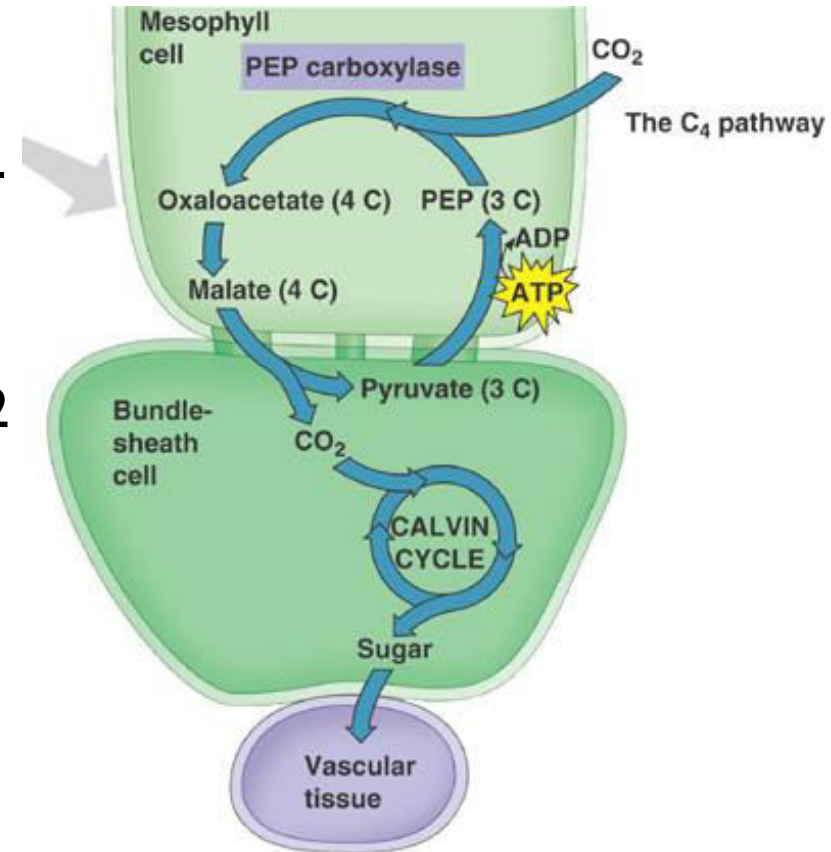
C4 Pathway

- In C4 plants photosynthesis occurs in both the mesophyll and the bundle sheath cells.



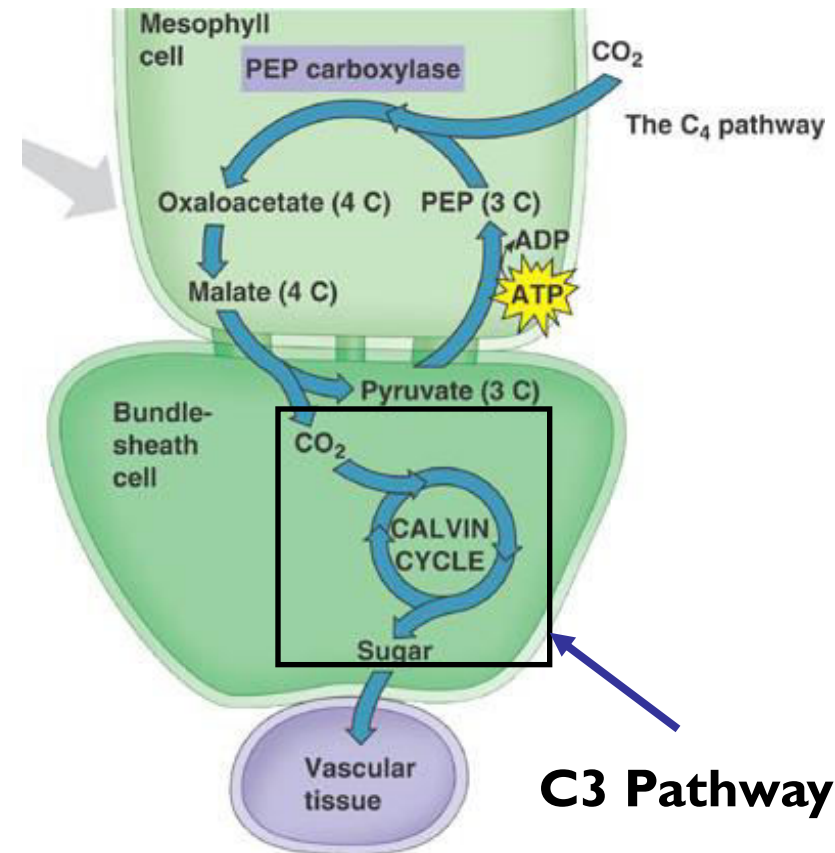
C4 Pathway

- CO_2 is fixed into a 4-carbon intermediate
- Has an extra enzyme—**PEP Carboxylase** that initially traps CO_2 instead of Rubisco—makes a 4 carbon intermediate



C4 Pathway

- The 4 carbon intermediate is “smuggled” into the bundle sheath cell
- The bundle sheath cell is not very permeable to CO_2
- CO_2 is released from the 4C malate \rightarrow goes through the Calvin Cycle

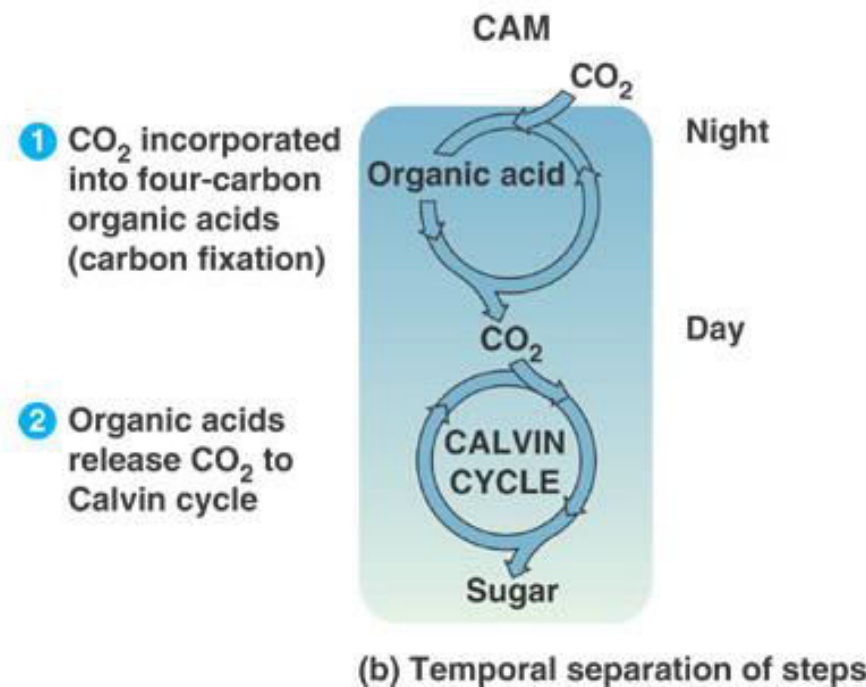


How does the C4 Pathway limit photorespiration?

- Bundle sheath cells are far from the surface— less O_2 access
- PEP Carboxylase doesn't have an affinity for O_2 → allows plant to collect a lot of CO_2 and concentrate it in the bundle sheath cells (where Rubisco is)

CAM Pathway

- Fix CO_2 at night and store as a 4 carbon molecule
- Keep stomates closed during day to prevent water loss
- Same general process as C_4 Pathway



How does the CAM Pathway limit photorespiration?

- Collects CO_2 at night so that it can be more concentrated during the day
- Plant can still do the calvin cycle during the day without losing water

Summary of C4 Photosynthesis

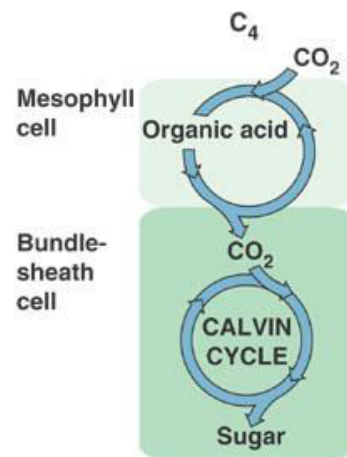
- C4 Pathway
 - Separates by space (different locations)
- CAM Pathway
 - Separates reactions by time (night versus day)



Sugarcane



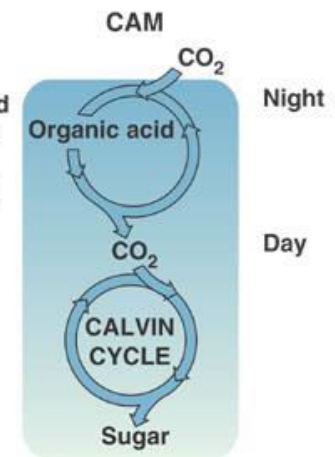
Pineapple



(a) Spatial separation of steps

1 CO₂ incorporated into four-carbon organic acids (carbon fixation)

2 Organic acids release CO₂ to Calvin cycle



(b) Temporal separation of steps