

Photosynthetic electron transfers : methods and case studies

Pierre Cardol

Research Associate
Belgian funds for research
(F.R.S.-FNRS)
Pierre.cardol@ulg.ac.be

University of Liège
Botany Institute
Belgium

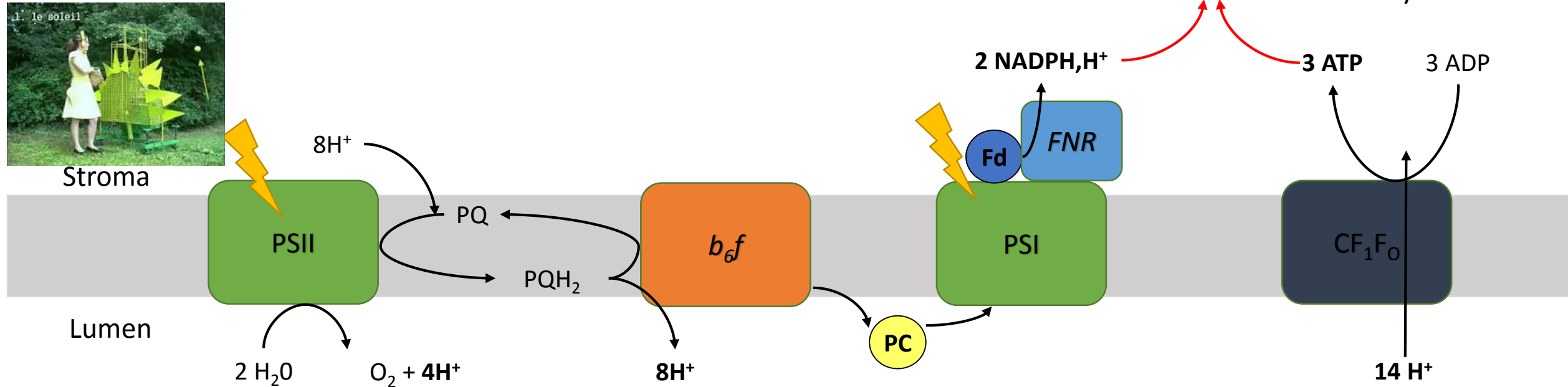
Venice, January 26th 2016



Pierre Cardol (pierre.cardol@ulg.ac.be)

Photosynthetic Electron transport rate (ETR) : Which probes ?

CO₂ fixation
Calvin Benson Bassham Cycle



$$(1) \quad \text{ETR} \quad = \quad \text{photochemical rate} \quad \times \quad \text{concentration of active photosystems}$$

$$(e^- \cdot s^{-1} \cdot \text{PS}^{-1}) \quad \quad \quad k (s^{-1}) \quad \quad \quad (e^- \cdot \text{PS}^{-1})$$

(i) ETR_{PSII} from reduced state of Q_A : Chlorophyll fluorescence

(ii) ETR_{PSI} from oxidized state of P700 : Absorption spectroscopy

(iii) ETR_{PS} from rate of membrane potential formation : Absorption spectroscopy (ECS – Giovanni Finazzi)

$$(2) \quad \text{ETR} \quad = \quad \text{rate of gas concentration exchange} \quad \times \quad \text{concentration of active photosystems}$$

$$(e^- \cdot s^{-1} \cdot \text{PS}^{-1}) \quad \quad \quad \text{moles gas} \cdot \text{L}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot n (e^- \text{ per gas molecule}) \quad \quad \quad (\text{moles PS}^{-1} \cdot \text{L})$$

(iv) ETR_{PSII} from gross O₂ oxygen evolution

(v) ETR_{PS} from gross CO₂ uptake

PSII Electron transport rate (ETR_{PSII})

(i) Principle : estimate the quantum yield of PSII (Φ_{PSII}) from Chlorophyll fluorescence

In dark-adapted cells (open PSII centers, P680 Q_A)

$$F_o = I \times \Phi_{F_o} \text{ \& } \Phi_{F_o} = F_o / I = k_f / (k_f + k_d + k_p)$$

In presence of DCMU (closed PSII centers, P680⁺ Q_A^- ; $k_p = 0$)

$$\Phi_{F_m} = F_m / I = k_f / (k_f + k_d)$$

Maximum quantum yield of PSII

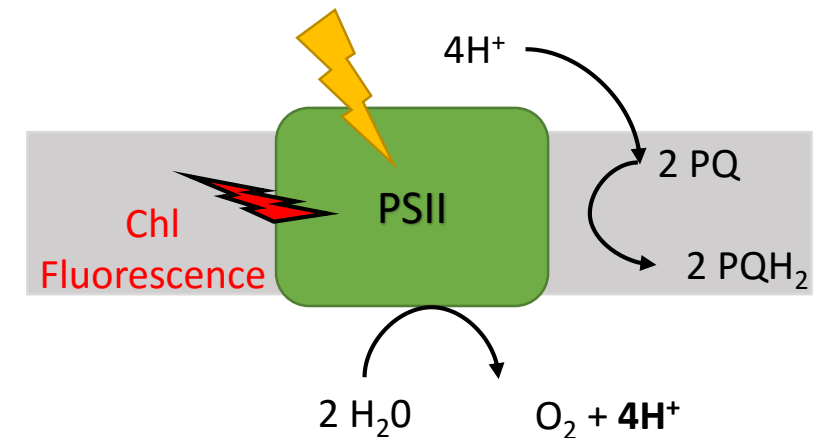
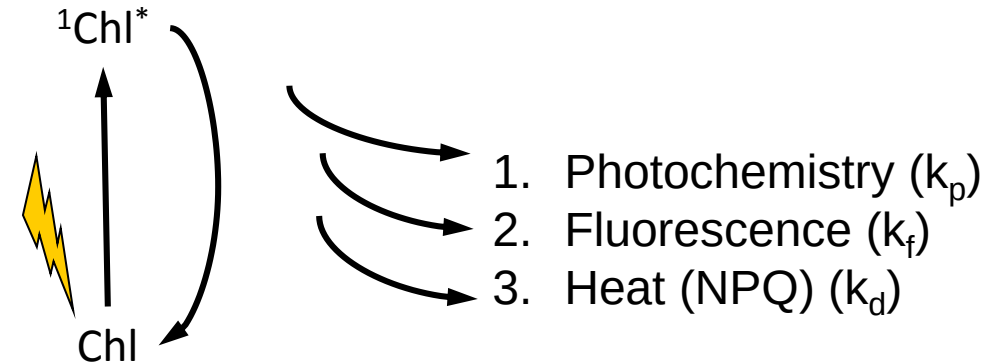
$$\Phi_{(PSII) \max} = k_p / (k_f + k_d + k_p) = (F_m - F_o) / F_m = F_v / F_m$$

At a given light intensity, the yield of PSII

$$\Phi_{(PSII)} = (F_m' - F_s) / F_m'$$

Φ_{PSII} does not take into account $F_o \rightarrow Q_p$, Photochemical quenching

$$Q_p = (F_m - F_s) / (F_m - F_o) ; \text{ in the dark : } F_s = F_o, \text{ \& } Q_p = 1$$

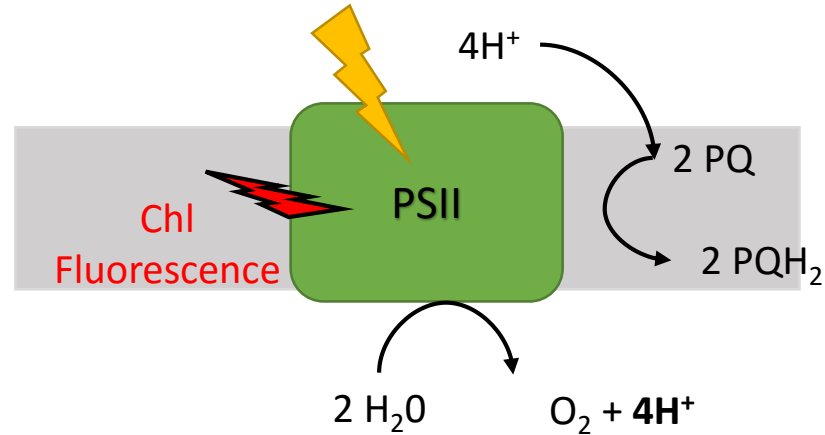


PSII Electron transport rate (ETR_{PSII})

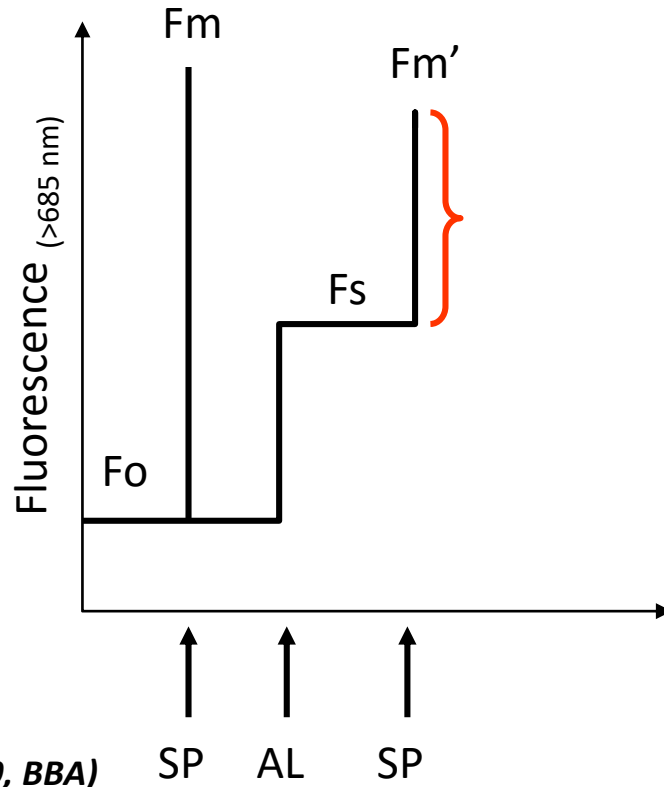
(i) Principle : estimate the quantum yield of PSII (Φ_{PSII}) from Chlorophyll fluorescence

$$\Phi_{\text{(PSII)}}_{\text{max}} = (F_m - F_o) / F_m$$

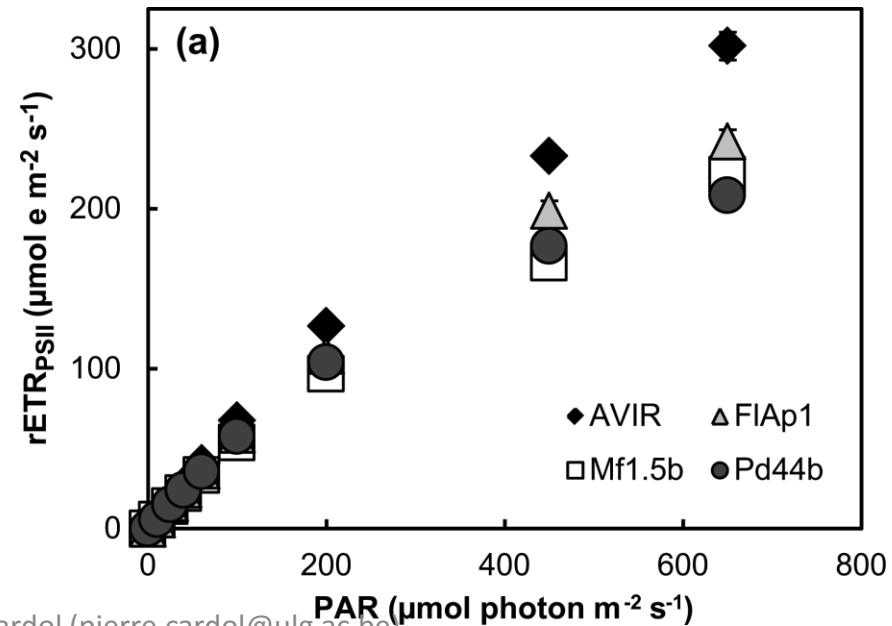
$$\Phi_{\text{(PSII)}} = (F_m' - F_s) / F_m'$$



$$\text{Relative ETR}_{\text{PSII}} = \Phi_{\text{(PSII)}} \times I$$



(Genty et al., 1989, BBA)



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(Roberty et al., 2014, New Phytol.)



JTS-10 Bio-logic



PAM, Hansatech

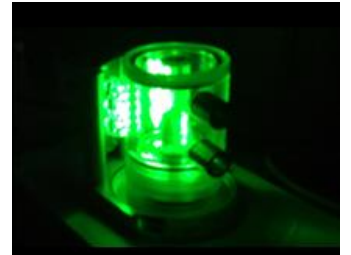
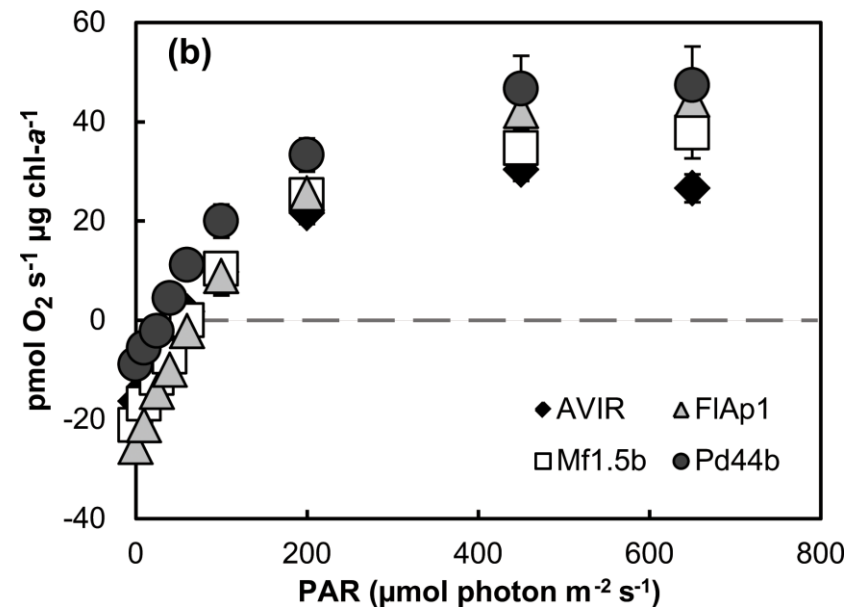
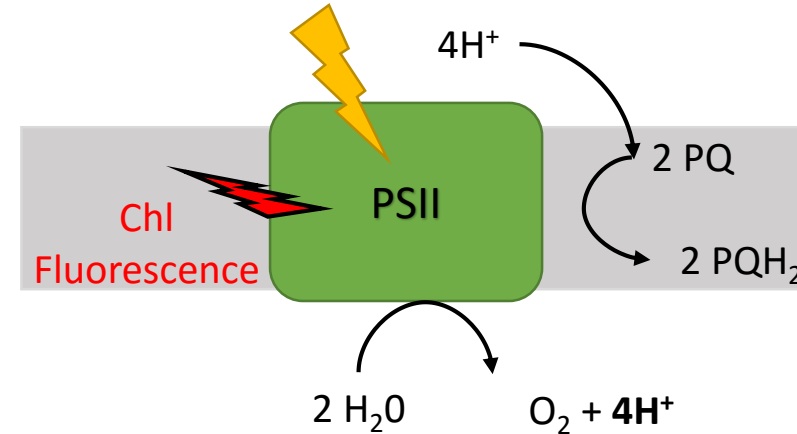
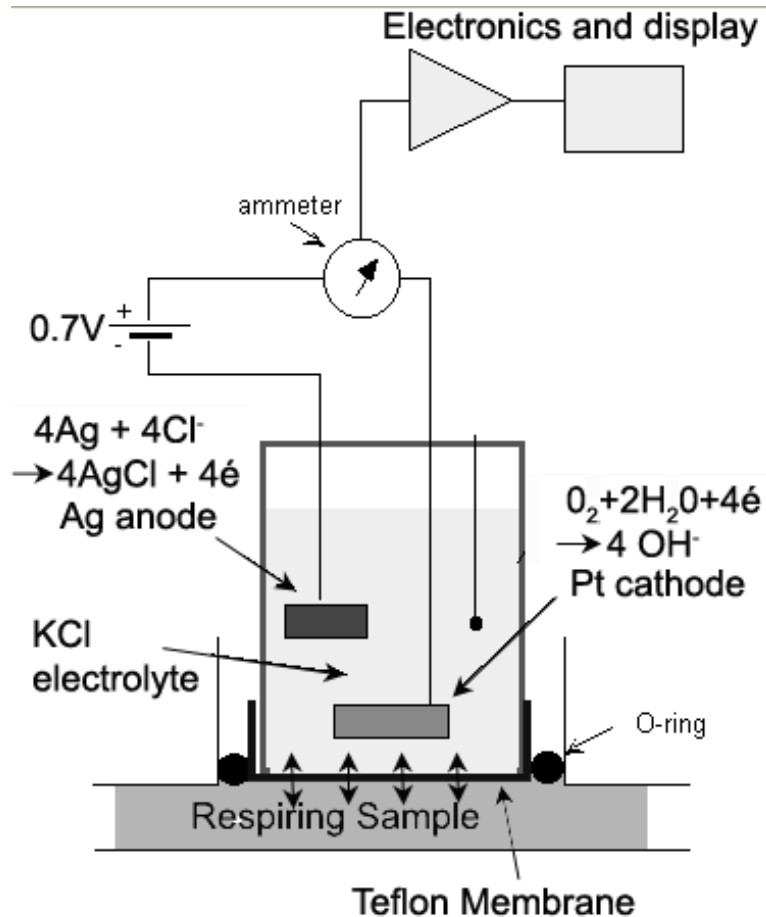


PAM, Waltz

net oxygen evolution (E_O)

$$R_{O_2} \text{ (moles } O_2 \cdot s^{-1} \cdot g \text{ chl}^{-1}\text{)}$$

(i) Principle : Amperometric measurement with a Clark electrode



Clark electrode

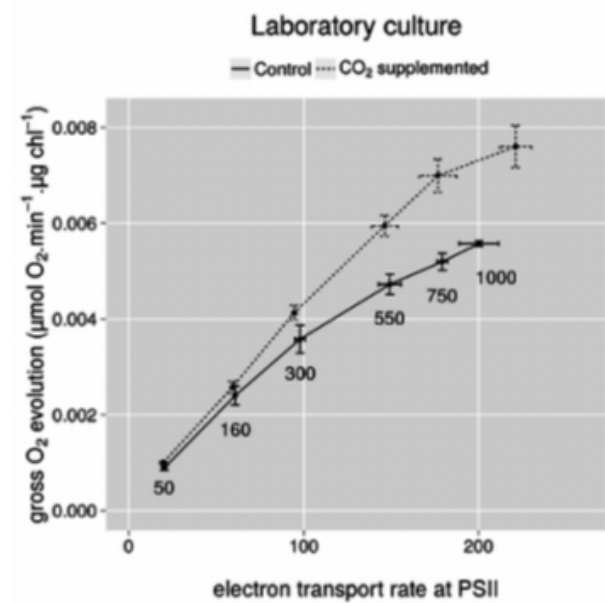
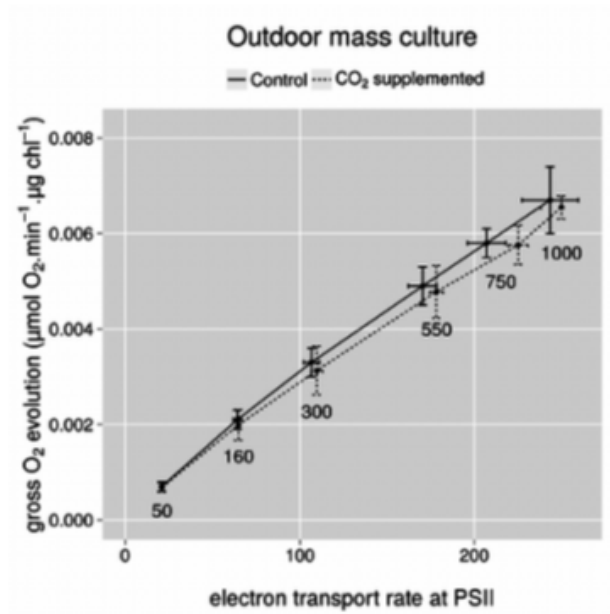


Membran-inlet
Mass spectrometry
MIMS
(e.g. Vacum, Pfeiffer)

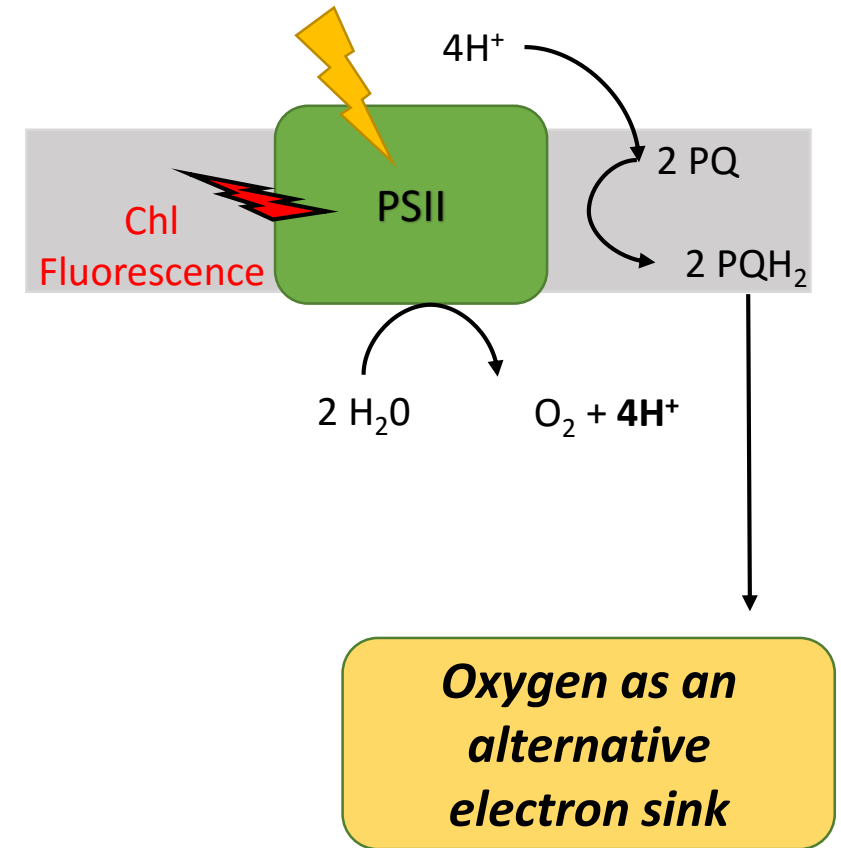


oxygen-sensitive
REDFLASH dyes
(e.g. pyroscience)

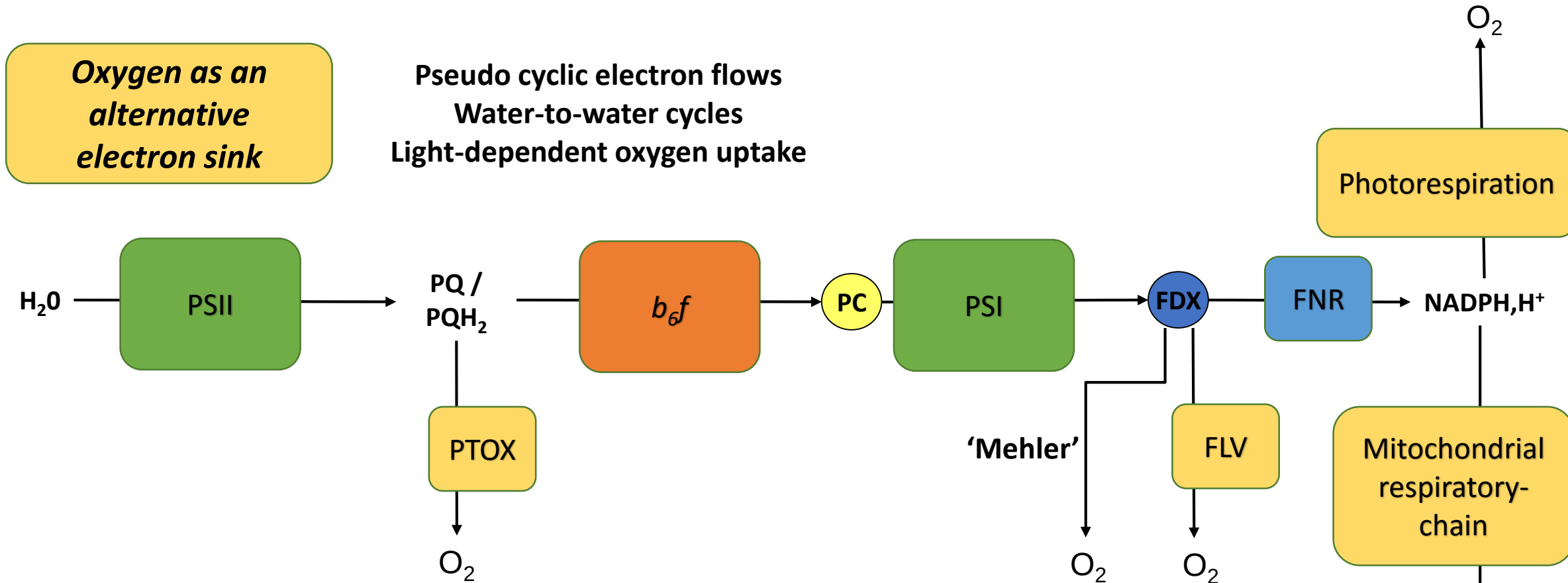
Relative PSII Electron transport rate ($rETR_{PSII}$) and oxygen exchange (R_{O_2})



(de Marchin et al., 2015, J. Biotech.)



PSII Electron transport rate (ETR_{PSII}) and light-dependent O_2 uptake



1. Chlororespiration : Plastoquinol terminal oxidase (*Bennoun, 1982; Houille-Vernes et al., PNAS, 2011*)
2. Mehler reaction : O_2^- and associated scavenging enzymes (*Mehler, 1951, Asada, 1999*)
3. Flavodiiron protein (*Allahverdiyeva et al., PNAS, 2013*)
4. Mitochondrial export (*Bailleul et al, Nature, 2015*)
5. Photorespiration

ETR_{PSII} and light-dependent O₂ uptake in the light (O_{UL})

(i) Comparison of ETR_{PSII} and R_{O2}

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ETR}_{\text{PSII}} &= E_0 \text{ (gross O}_2\text{)} \\ R_{\text{O}_2} &= E_0 - O_{\text{UL}} - O_{\text{UD}} \\ O_{\text{UL}} &= \text{ETR}_{\text{PSII}} - R_{\text{O}_2} - O_{\text{UD}} \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Discrimination of O_{UL} with oxygen Isotopes

Partial pressure of

¹⁶O₂ (P¹⁶O₂, m/z = 32) : E₀ & O_{UL}

¹⁸O₂ (P¹⁸O₂, m/z = 36) : O_{UL}

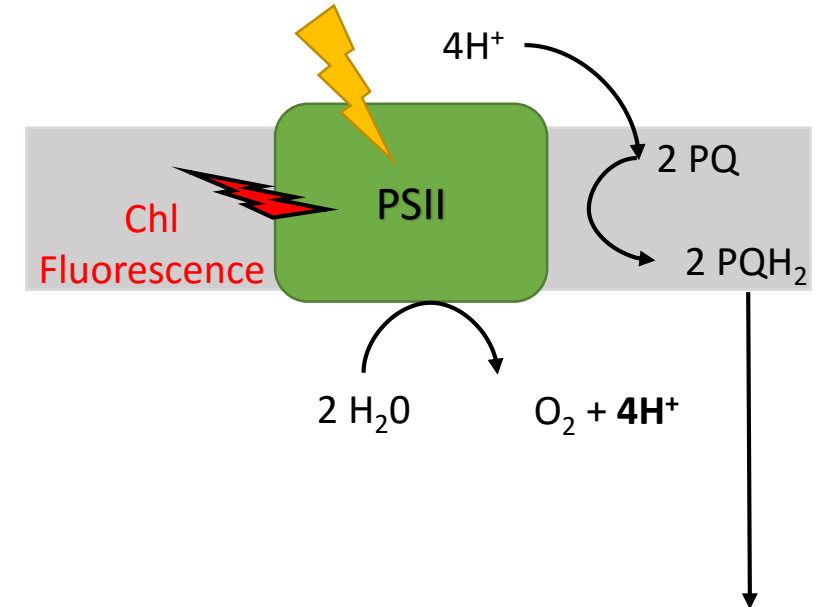
Argon (m/z = 40)

$$O_{\text{UL}} = (\Delta[^{18}\text{O}]/\Delta t + k[^{18}\text{O}]) * ([^{18}\text{O}] + [^{16}\text{O}]) / [^{18}\text{O}]$$

$$E_0 = (\Delta[^{16}\text{O}]/\Delta t + k[^{16}\text{O}]) + O_{\text{UL}} * ([^{18}\text{O}] + [^{16}\text{O}]) / [^{16}\text{O}]$$

Oxygen evolution by PSII

E₀ (μmol O₂ chl⁻¹ s⁻¹)

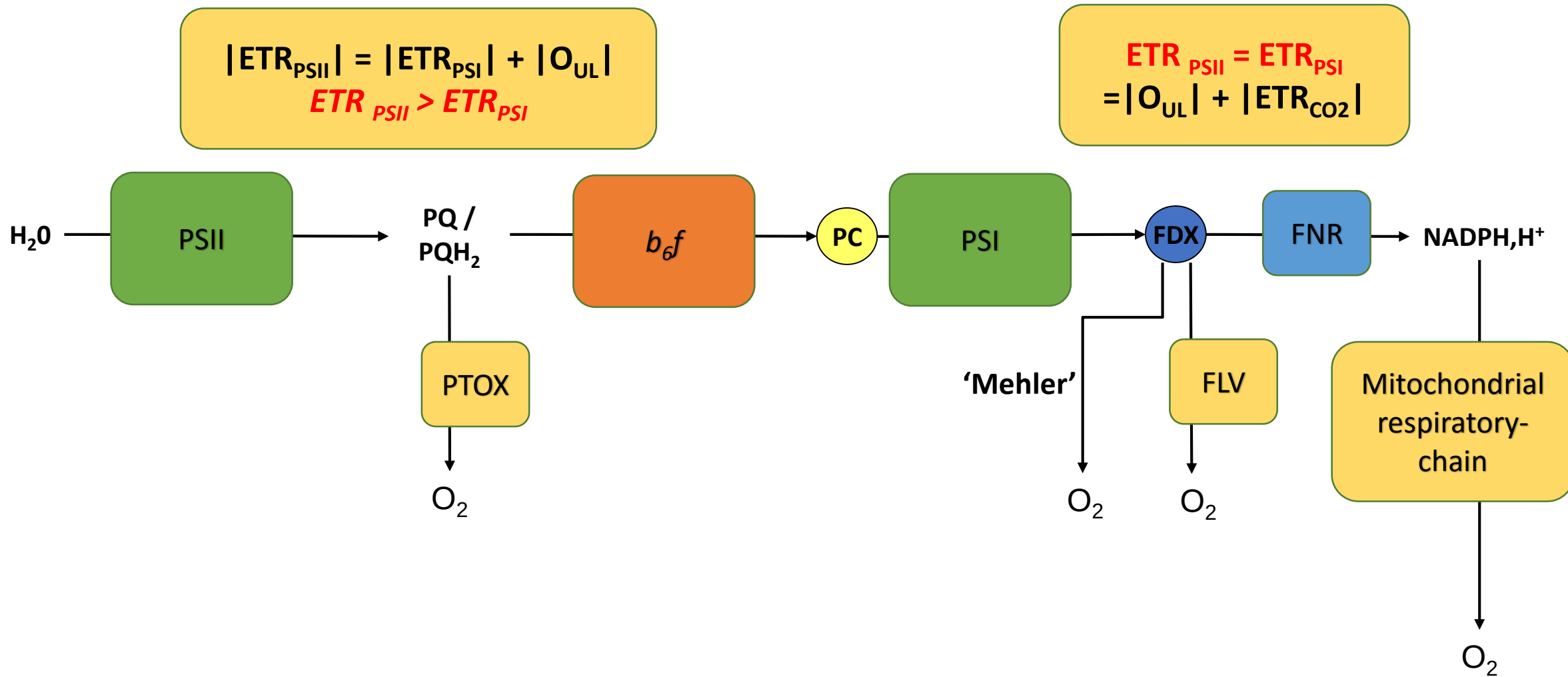


***Oxygen as an
alternative
electron sink***



Membrane-inlet
Mass spectrometry
MIMS
(e.g. Vacom, Pfeiffer)

Light-dependent O₂ uptake : site of oxygen reduction



PSI Electron transport rate (ETR_{PSI}) : probing the oxidized state of P700

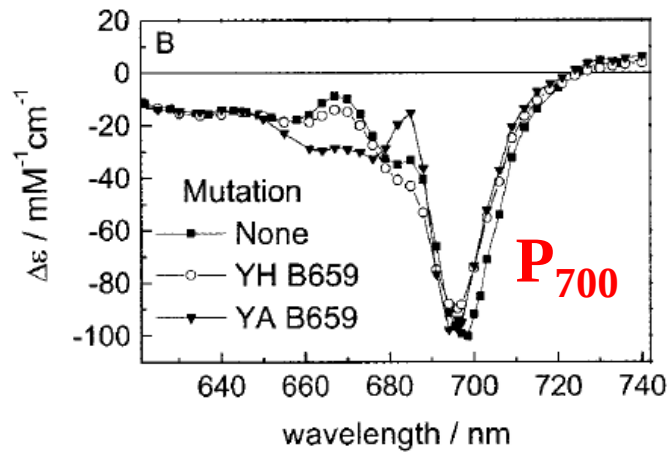
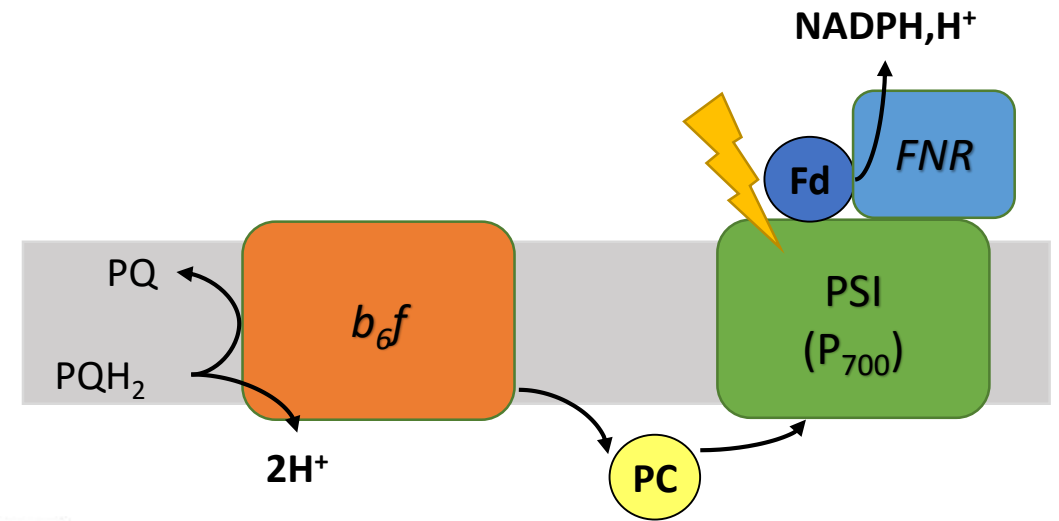


FIG. 7. Flash-induced ($P_{700}^+ - P_{700}$) absorbance difference spectra of native and mutated PS I core complexes from *C. reinhardtii* CC2696 measured at room temperature.

Samples were excited with saturating flashes of about 15 μs in duration from a xenon flash lamp. For experimental details see "Materials and Methods."

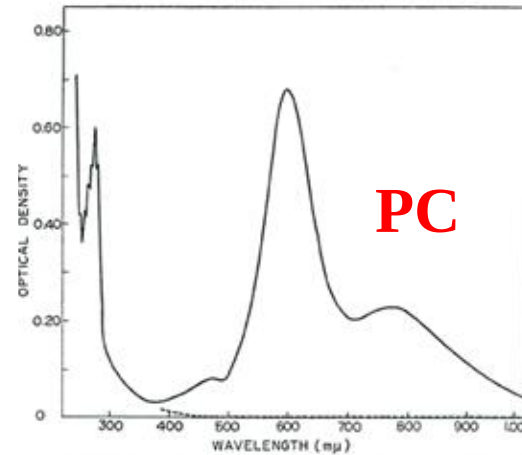


FIG. 2. Absorption spectra of the oxidized and reduced spinach plastocyanin. Solid line, oxidized form; broken line, reduced form.

$$\epsilon_{600 \text{ nm}} \approx 5 - 10 \text{ mH}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta A_{P_{700}}(740 \text{ nm}) \ll \Delta A_{P_{700}}(705 \text{ nm})$$

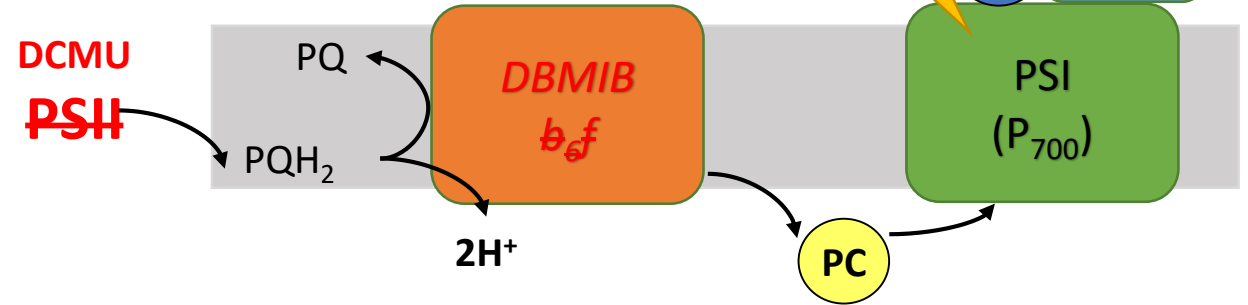
$$\Delta A_{PC}(740 \text{ nm}) \approx \Delta A_{PC}(705 \text{ nm})$$

$$\Delta A_{705 \text{ nm}} = \Delta A_{P_{700}}(705 \text{ nm}) + \Delta A_{PC}(705 \text{ nm})$$

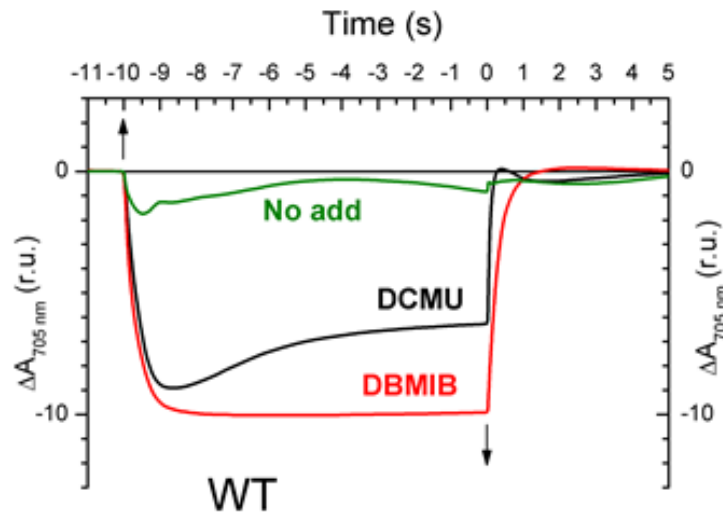
$$\Delta A_{740 \text{ nm}} = \Delta A_{P_{700}}(740 \text{ nm}) + \Delta A_{PC}(740 \text{ nm})$$

$$\Delta A_{P_{700}} \approx (\Delta A_{705 \text{ nm}} - \Delta A_{740 \text{ nm}})$$

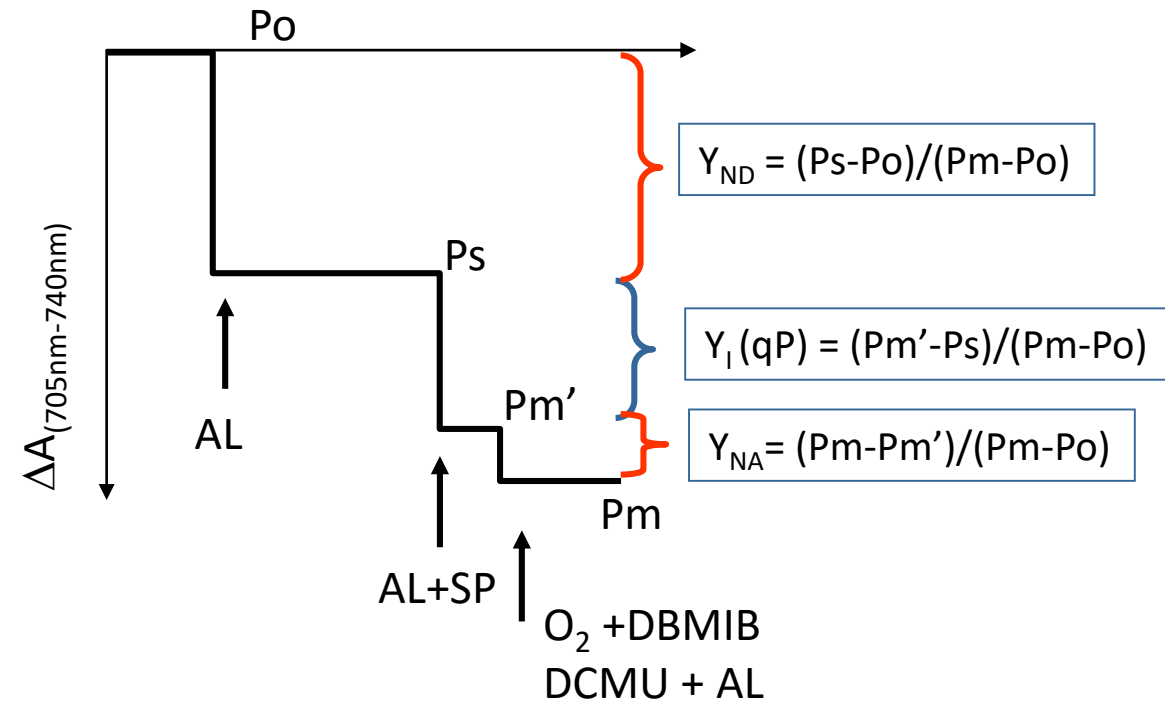
PSI Electron transport rate (ETR_{PSI}) : probing the reduced state of P700



$$\Delta A_{705\text{nm}} - \Delta A_{740\text{nm}} = \Delta A_{P700}$$



(Alric, 2010, BBA)



(Klughammer and Schreiber, 1994;
Roberty et al., 2014, New Phytol.)



JTS-10 Bio-logic

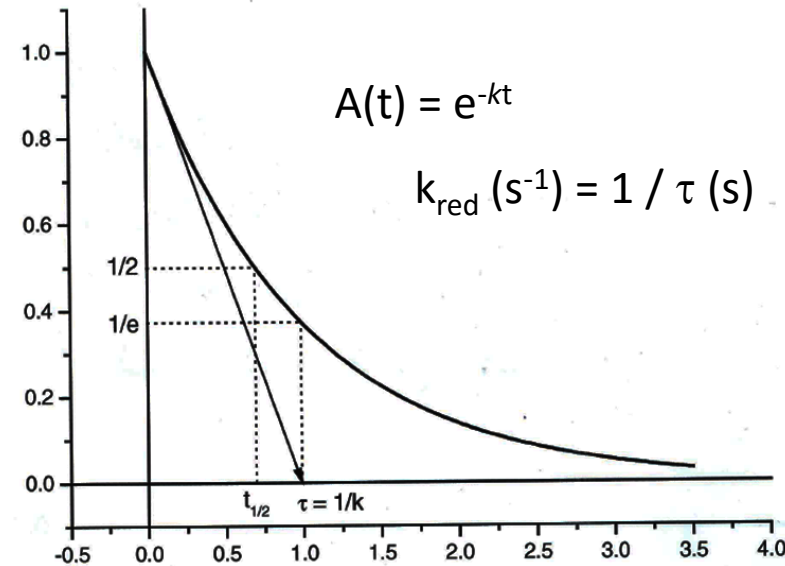
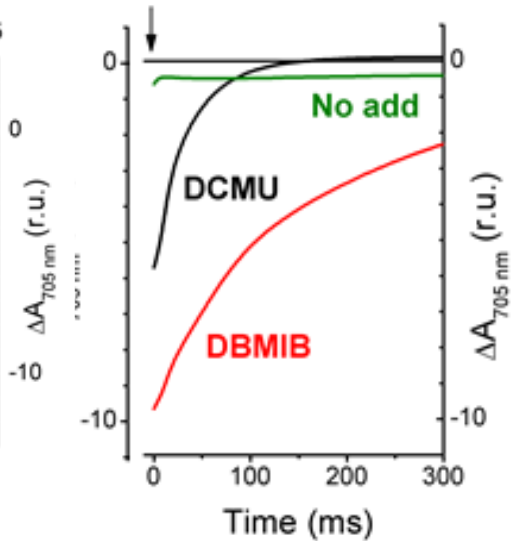
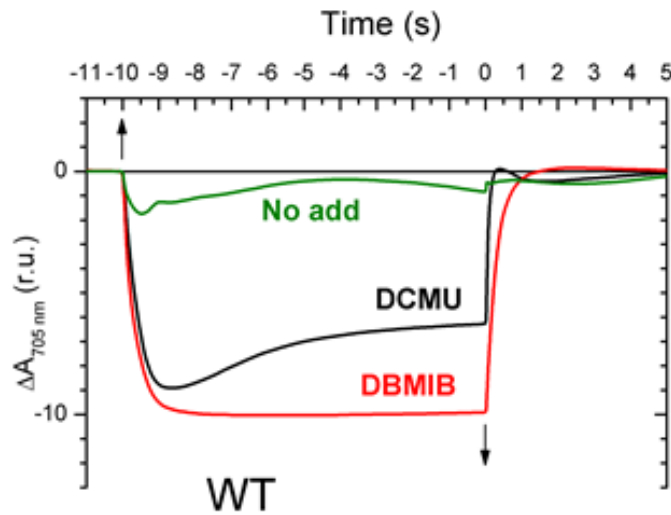
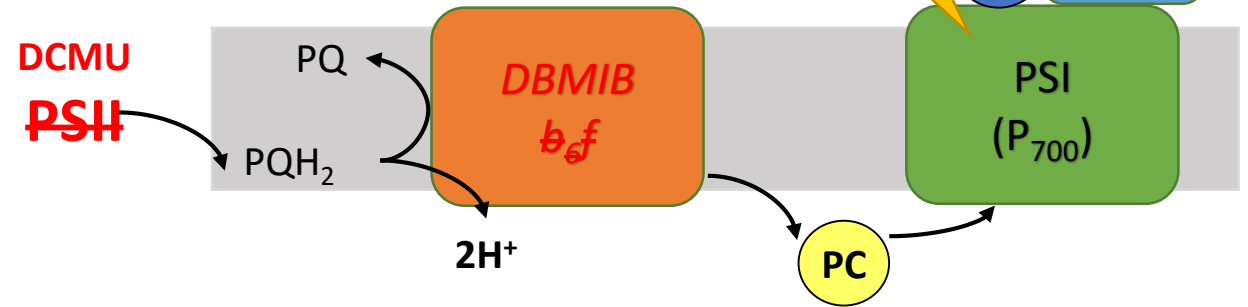


DUAL- PAM, Waltz

PSI Electron transport rate (ETR_{PSI}) : probing the reduced state of P700

$$\Delta A_{705nm} - \Delta A_{740nm} = \Delta A_{P700}$$

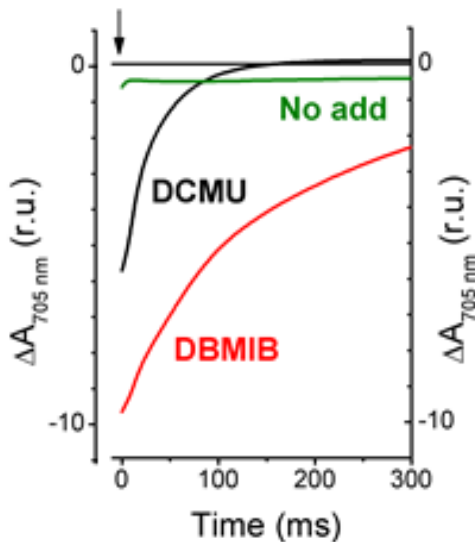
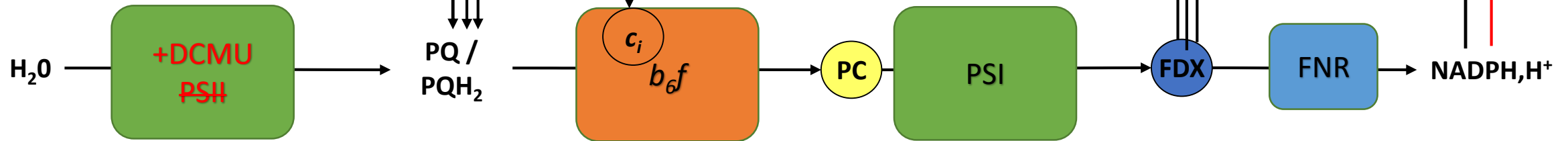
At steady state : $rate_{(ox)} = rate_{(red)}$
When switching off the light : $rate_{(ox)} = 0$
→ Access to the $k_{(red)}$



Signification of ETR_{PSI} when $ETR_{PSII} = 0$

PSI Cyclic electron flows

(Bendall and Hill, 1960)

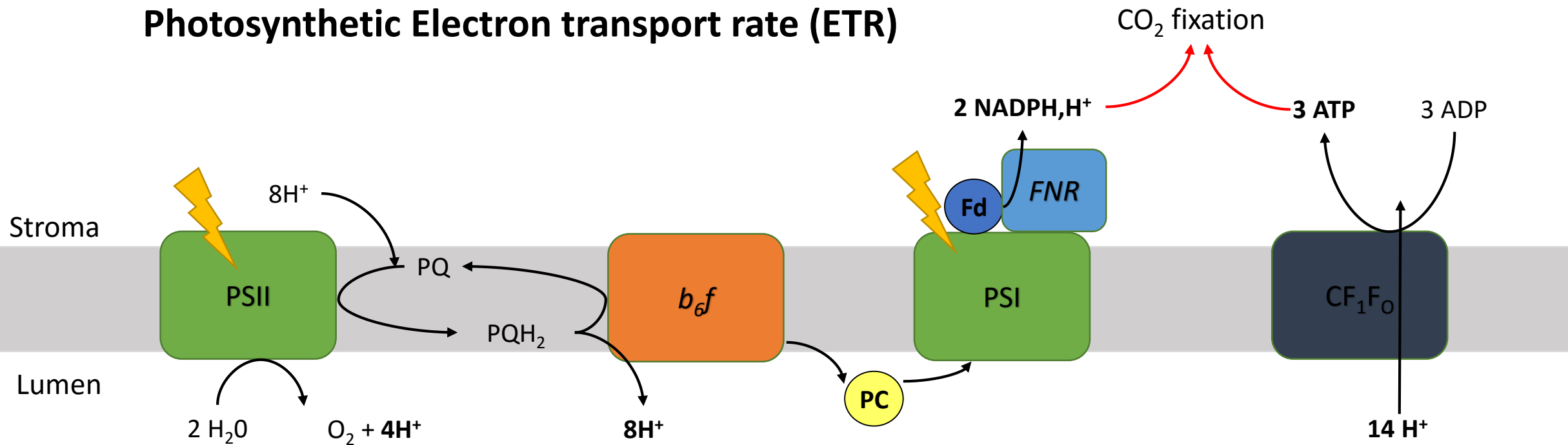


(Alric, 2010, BBA)

1. Monomeric NAD(P)H dehydrogenase (NDA2 in Chlamydomonas) (Jans et al., 2008)
2. Membrane-bound, proton pumping (?) multimeric complex :
 - 11 chloroplastic ndh subunits (Friedrich et al, 1995)
 - >15 nuclear encoded subunits : FDX binding site (T. Shikanai group)
3. Antimycin A-sensitive PGR(L1/5) : FDX:PQ oxidoreductase (Hertle et al., 2013; Sugimoto et al, 2013)
4. Reduction of heme c_i in cytochrome b_6f (Stroebe et al., 2003)

Pierre Cardol (pierre.cardol@ulg.ac.be)

Photosynthetic Electron transport rate (ETR)



1. Relative Electron transfer rates

$$rETR = qP \times I \quad (\mu\text{mol e}^- \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1})$$

$$qP_{\text{PSII}} = (F_m' - F_s) / (F_m - F_o)$$

$$qP_{\text{PSI}} = (P_m' - P_s) / (P_m - P_o)$$

$$I \quad (\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1})$$

2. Electron transfer rates

$$ETR \quad (\text{e}^- \cdot \text{PS}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1})$$

$$a. \quad rETR \times \sigma \quad (\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{PS}^{-1})$$

$$b. \quad qP \times k \quad (\text{s}^{-1})$$

k : constant rate of charge separation : *ECS measurements*

3. RC stoichiometry ($n_{\text{PSI}}/n_{\text{PSII}}$)

$$ETR_{\text{PSII}} \times n_{\text{PSII}} = ETR_{\text{PSI}} \times n_{\text{PSI}}$$

For a pure linear electron flow

ECS measurements

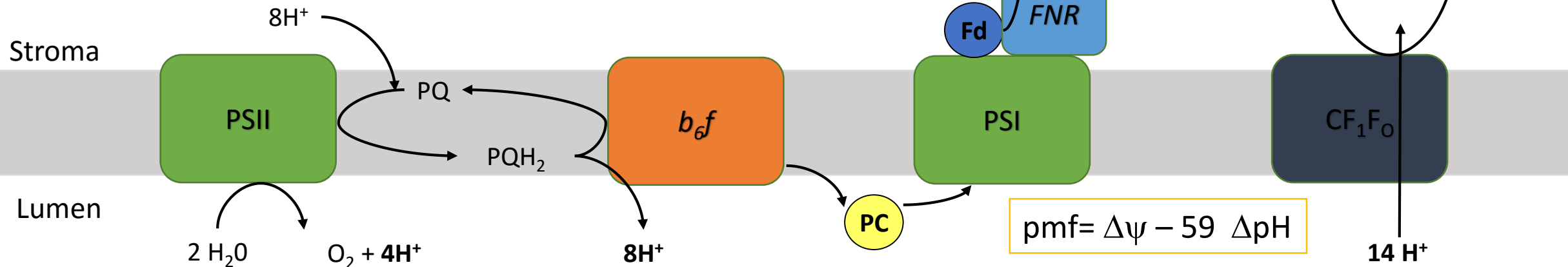
4. Oxygen evolution by PSII

$$E_0 \quad (\text{mol O}_2 \cdot \text{mol}_{\text{chl}}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1})$$

5. PSII Electron transfer rates

$$E_0 \times 4 \times (\text{mol}_{\text{chlorophyll}} / \text{mol}_{\text{PSII}})$$

Linear electron flow : Unbalanced energy supply?



Linear electron flow : 2 NADPH (4 e⁻) and 12 H⁺
ATP synthase : 14H⁺ per 3 ATP

Electron transport chain : 1.28 ATP / NADPH
CO₂ fixation : 1.5 ATP / NADPH

- Additional mechanisms coupled to photosynthetic electron transfer chain to produce 0.22 ATP / NADPH or to consume NADPH in excess
- Increase the H⁺ / e⁻ or decrease the H⁺ / ATP

Simplistic calculations :

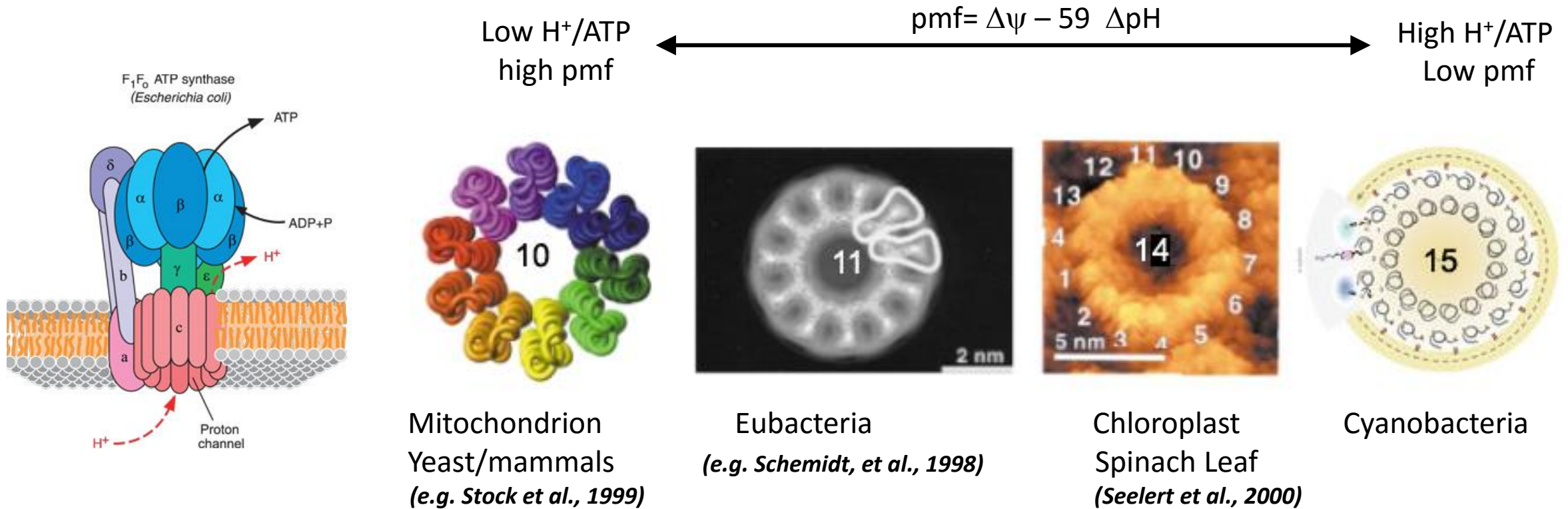
ATP-consuming processes : CCM, Photorepair, ...

membrane potential consuming processes : ion exchange (Cl⁻, ...), H⁺ leak

Whole cell metabolism based on NAD(P)H and ATP production/consumption

(i) ATP/H⁺

Modify the Coupling of ATP synthase



In spinach leaves, 80% of c₁₄ and 20% of c₁₂ (Seelert et al., Nature, 2000)

In E. coli, c₈ to c₁₄ (various authors) ; number of c subunits vary as a function of carbon source (Schemidt et al., 1998)

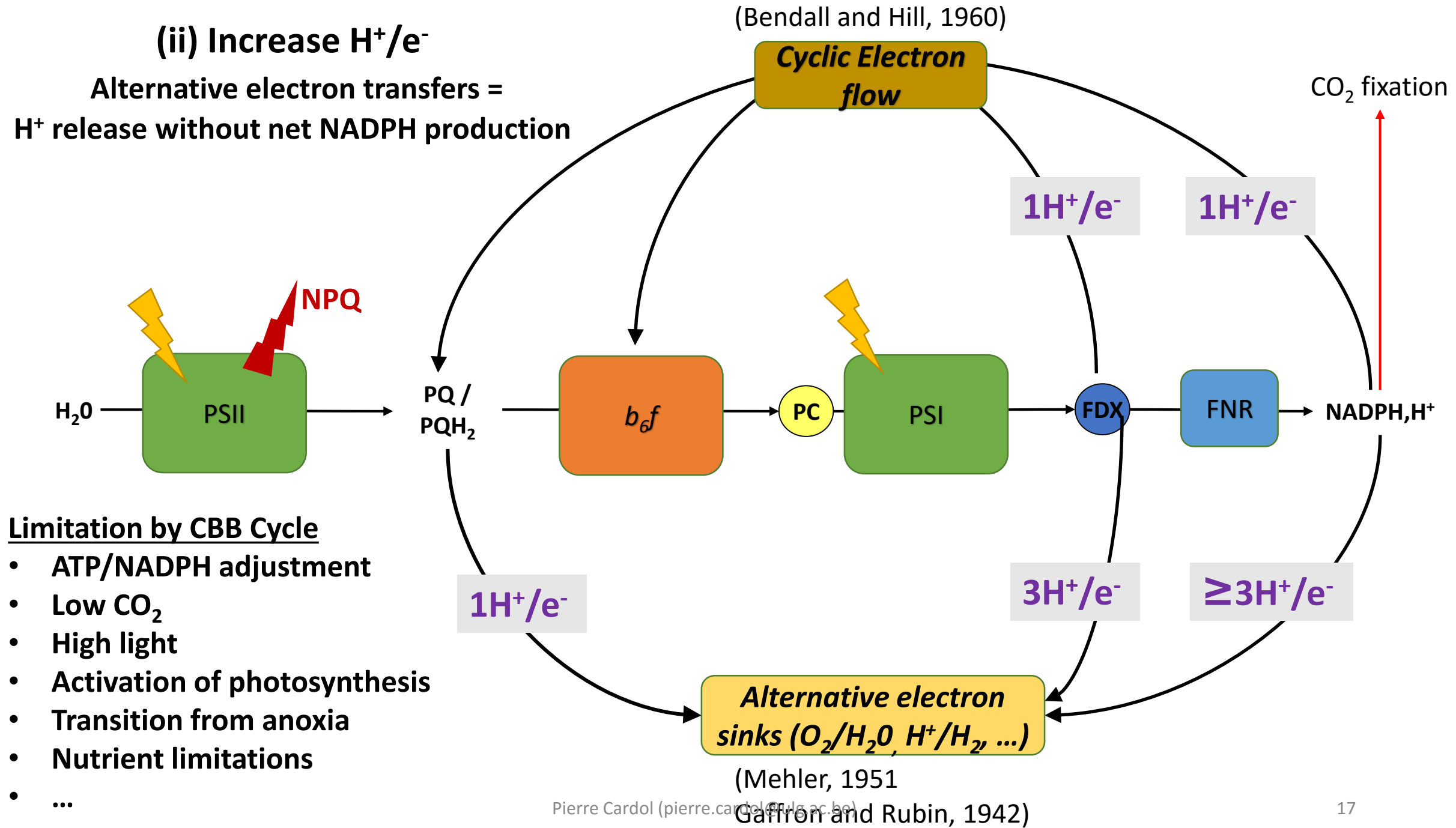
Linear electron flow : 2 NADPH (4 e⁻) and 12 H⁺

ATP synthase : 14 → 12 H⁺ per 3 ATP

Electron transport chain : 1.28 → 1.5 ATP / NADPH

(ii) Increase H^+/e^-

Alternative electron transfers =
 H^+ release without net NADPH production



Current challenges

1. All genes present (almost) in our favorite organisms (*Arabidopsis*, *Chlamydomonas*, *Synechococcus*)

3. Compensatory or complementary roles ?

- What determine their expression level ?
- Which factors govern their contribution to electron flow ?
- What is their physiological roles ?

2 . How to estimate their contribution to electron flow :

→ Biophysics *in vivo* : *fantastic tools but ...*

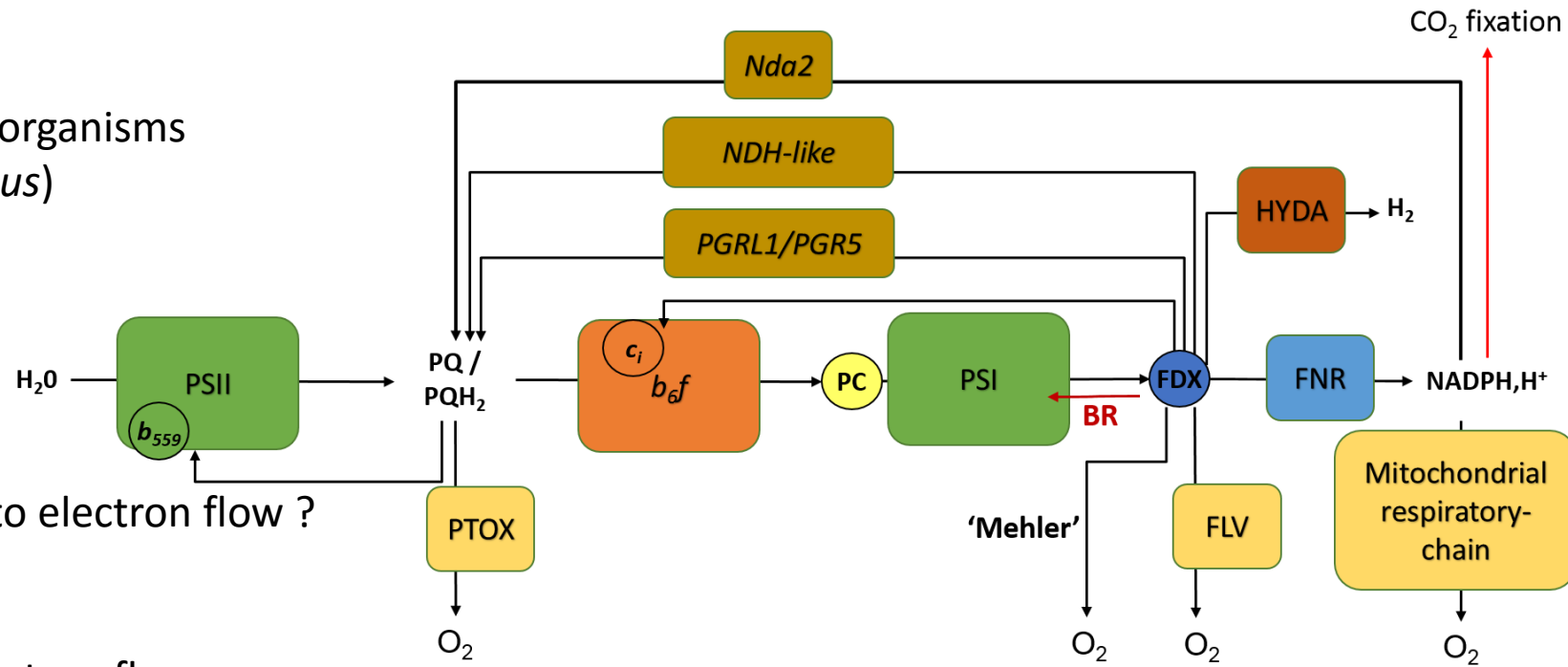
How to discriminate between the pathways ? :

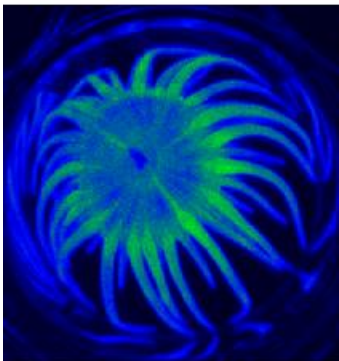
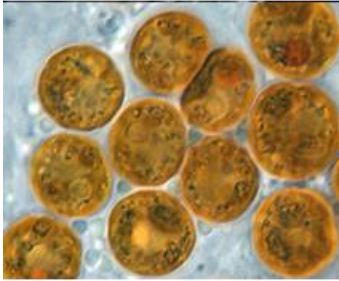
→ Use of inhibitors :-available ? specific ?

-measure of the capacity of the flow and not an *in vivo* contribution

- Lessons from genetics :
 - single mutants have often mild (or no) phenotype (*pgrl1*, *nda2*, *hydg*, *ptox2*, *ndh*,...)
 - compensatory function [e.g. *pgrl1* (Dang et al., 2014)]
 - double mutants are often more affected

[e.g *pgr5 ndh* (wang et al., 2014), *pgrl1 hydg* (Godaux et al., 2015)]





Case studies :

1. Zooxanthellae - Symbiodinium

Corals/Anemone

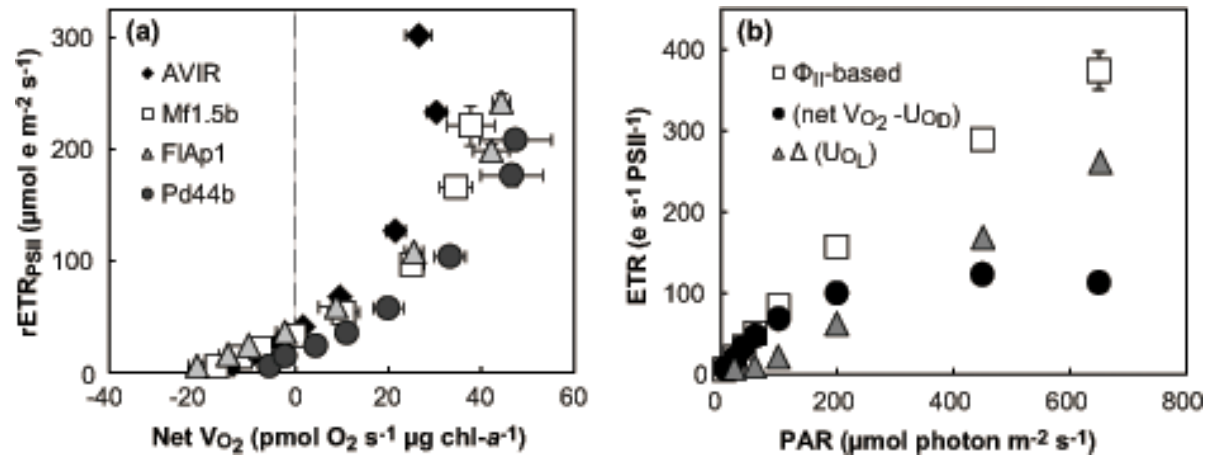
Symbiodinium sp. (zooxanthellae)

(Alveolata, Dinoflagellate)

In symbiosis with corals (*A. viridis*)

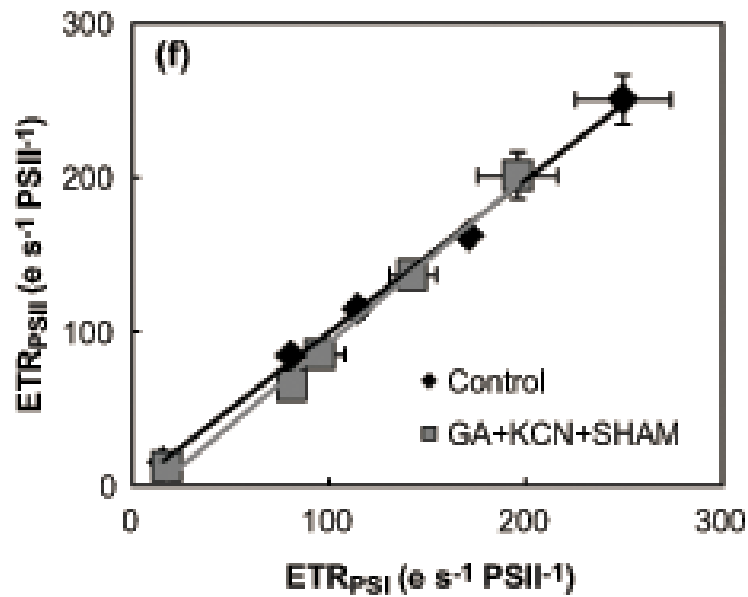
Light-dependent O_2 uptake (U_{OL}) capacity can represent up to 50% of ETR_{PSII}

(Jones et al., 1998; Leggat et al., 1999; Badger et al., 2000).



$$O_{UL} = ETR_{PSII} - R_{O_2}$$

(Roberty, 2014, New Phytologist)

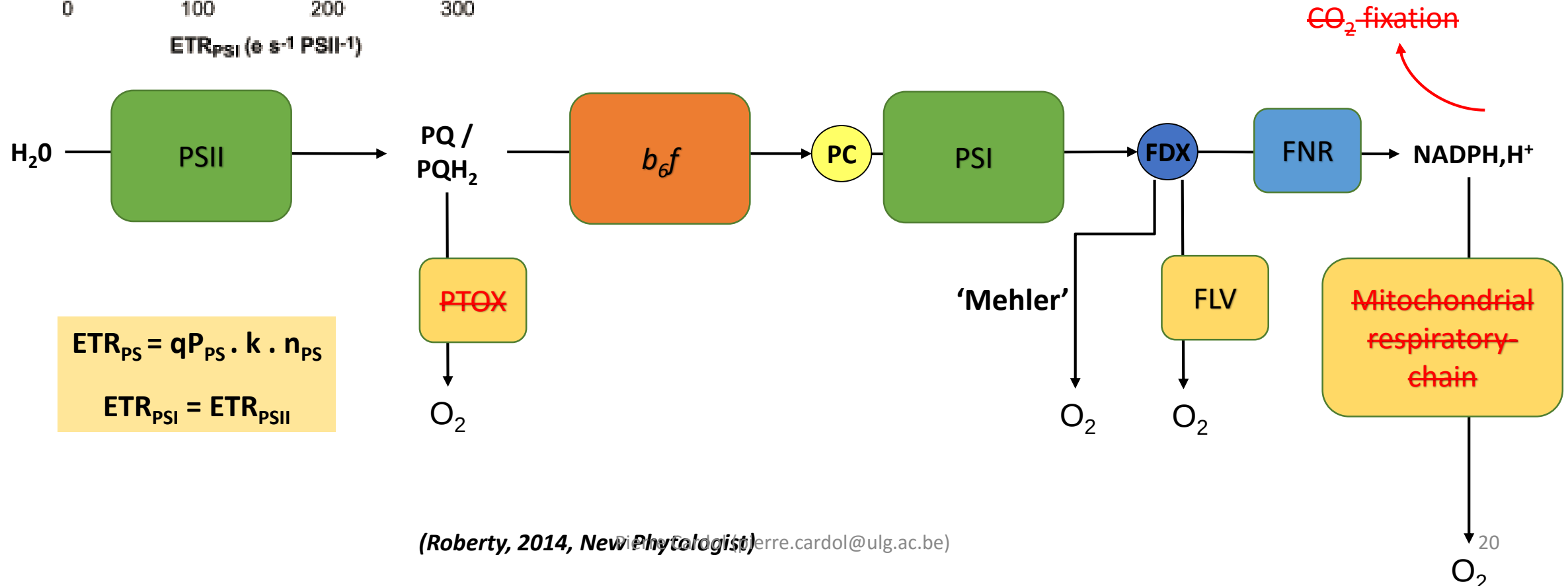


Case studies :

1. Zooxanthellae - Symbiodinium

Light-dependent oxygen uptake (O_{UL}) : Mehler-like reaction

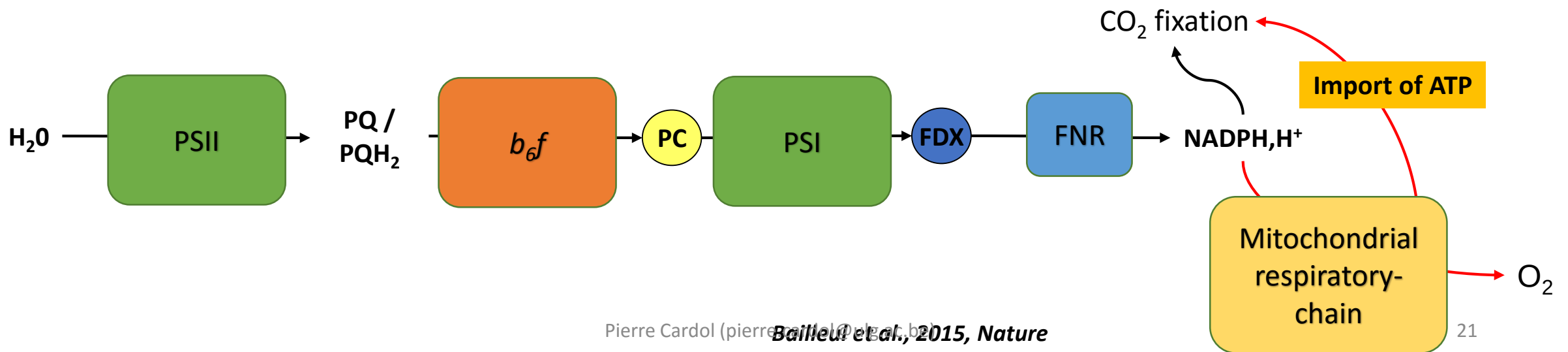
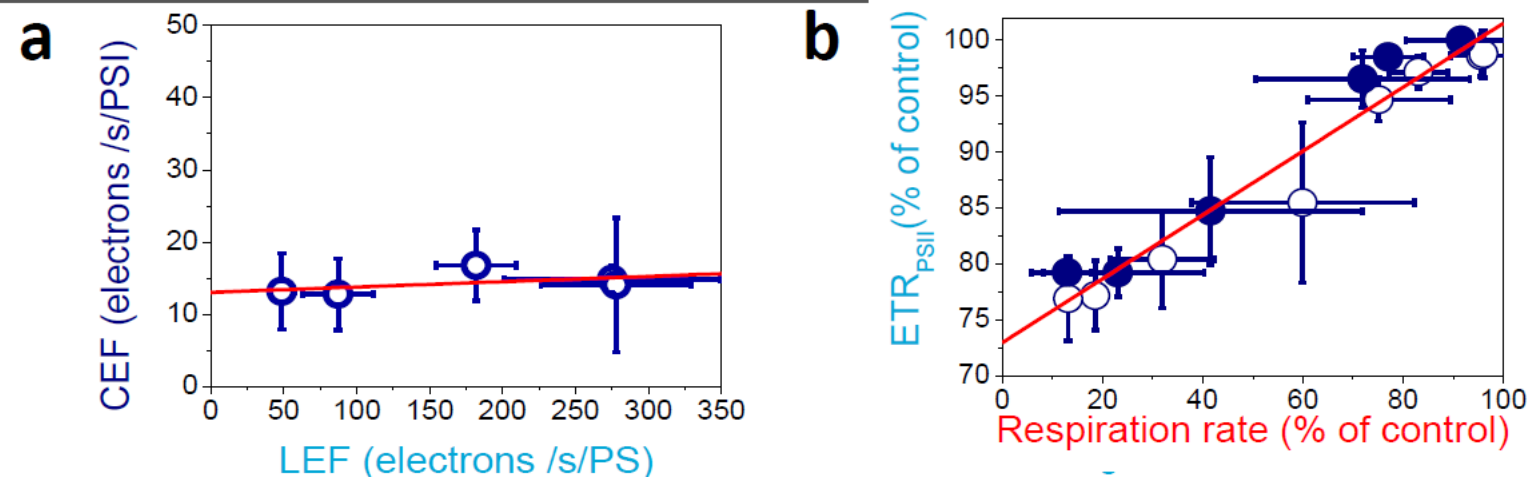
- Acts a valve for excess electron in high light
- Possible role in Δ pH homeostasis (net ATP)
- Decrease O₂ availability to prevent photorespiration





diatoms

Case studies : 2. Role of Mitochondrial respiration in photosynthesis optimization in diatoms

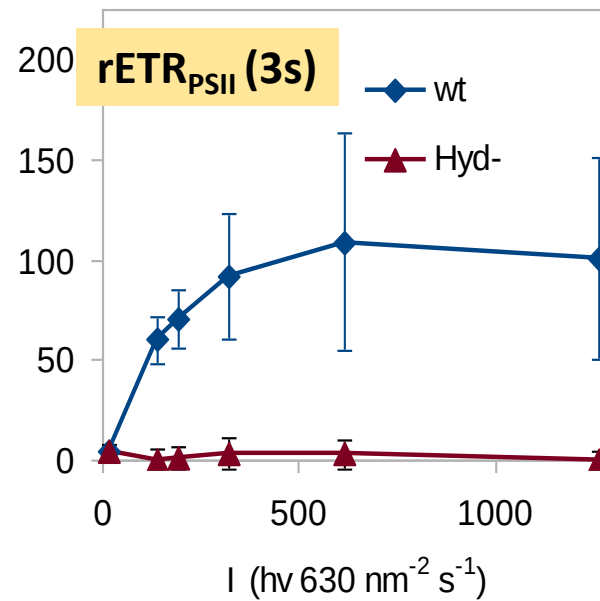




Case studies :

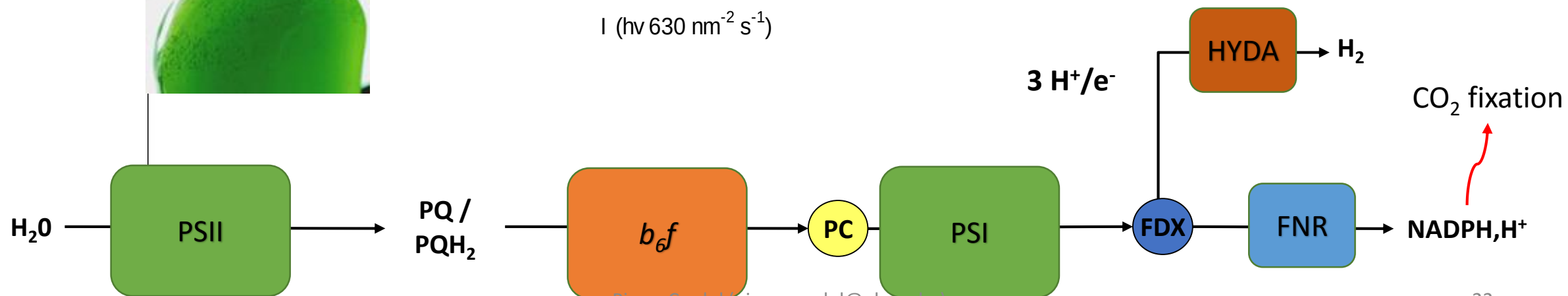
3. Photosynthesis in anoxic *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*

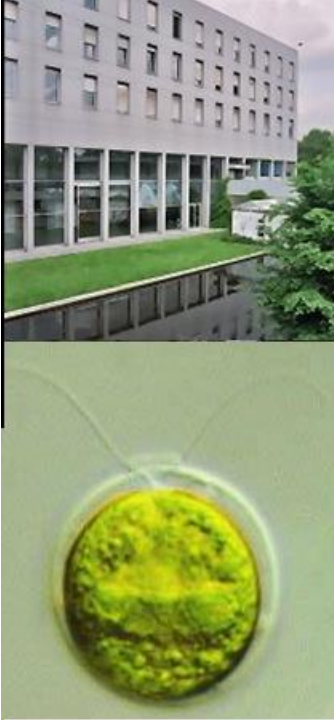
Anaerobiosis (>20h)



Selected references :

Ghysels et al., 2013, PLoS One;
Godaux et al., 2013, Int. J. Hyd. Energy;
Posewitz et al., 2004, JBC
Kessler, 1973
Ghysels et al., 2013, PLoS One





Case studies :

3. Photosynthesis in anoxic *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*

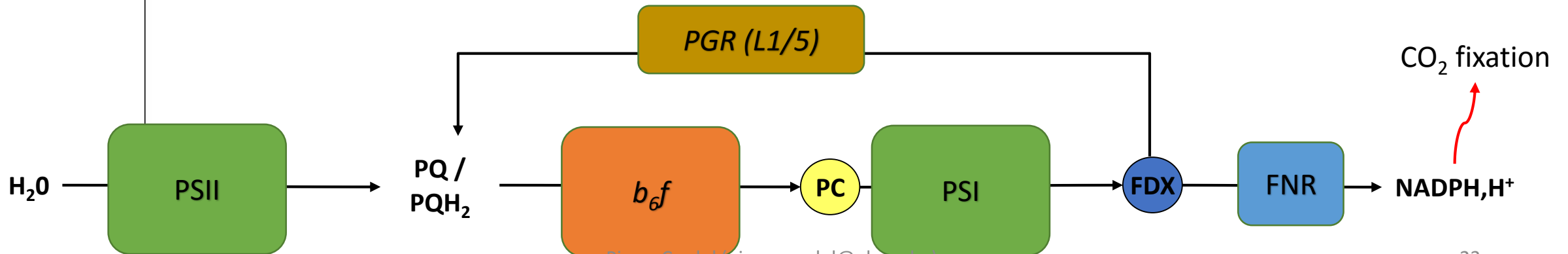
Selected references :

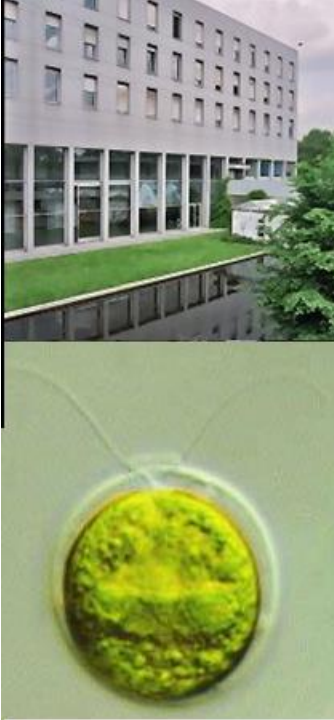
Kukuczka et al., 2014, Plant Physiol.

Johnson et al., 2014, Plant Physiol.

Tolleter et al., 2010, Plant Cell

Finazzi et al., 1999





Case studies :

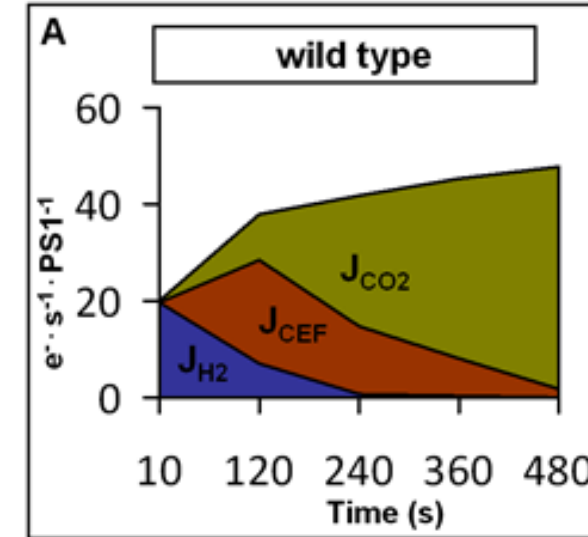
3. Photosynthesis in anoxic *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*

$$ETR_{PSII} = J_{HYD} + J_{CO_2}$$

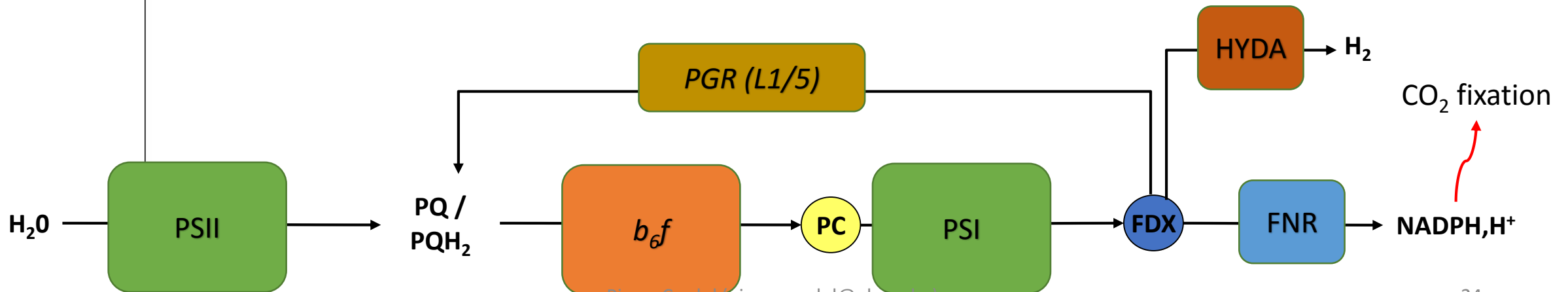
$$J_{CO_2} = ETR_{PSII} - J_{HYD}$$

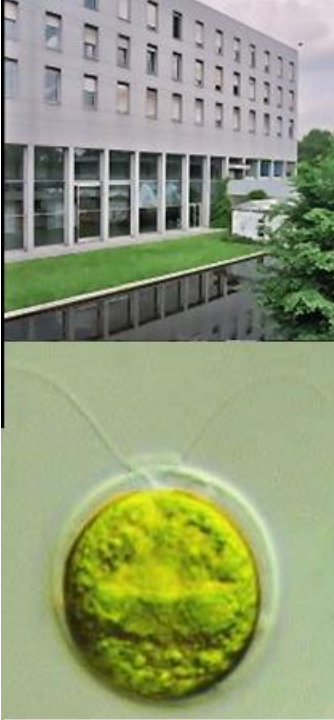
$$ETR_{PSI} = J_{HYD} + J_{CO_2} + J_{CEF-PGR}$$

$$J_{CEF-PGR} = ETR_{PSI} - ETR_{PSII}$$



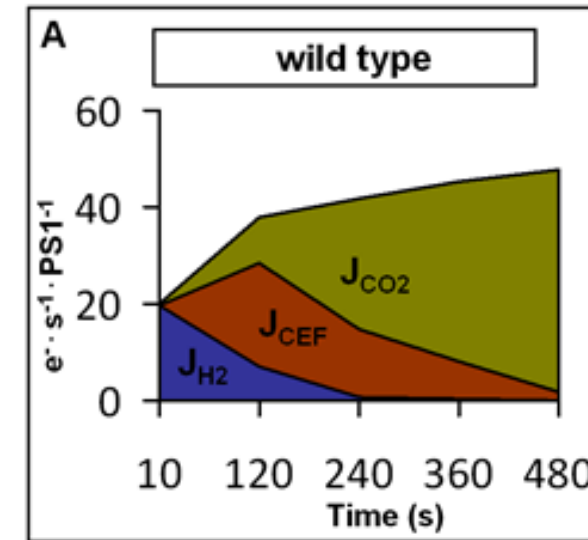
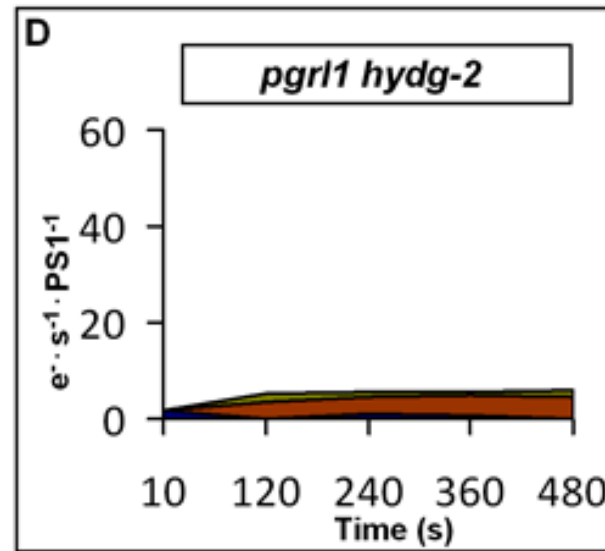
Godaux et al., 2015, Plant Physiol.





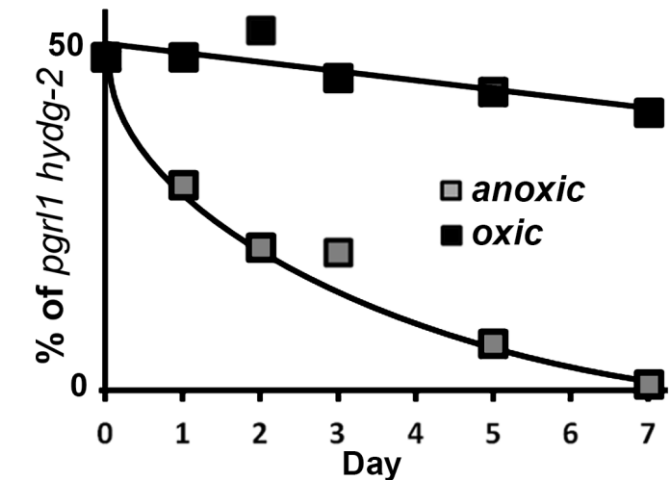
Case studies :

3. Photosynthesis in anoxic *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*



Godaux et al., 2015, Plant Physiol.

In the absence of PGRL1 and HYDA
Photosynthetic capacity cannot be
restored in anoxia





ULg, Liège

Claire Remacle

René Matagne

Marie Lapaille

Emilie Perez

Hector Miranda-Astudillo

Simon Massoz

Veronique Larosa

Nicolas Berne

Franck Fabrice

Stephane Roberty

Bart Ghysels

Denis Baurain



Institut de Biologie Physico-Chimique

Directeur Francis-André Wollman 13, rue Pierre et Marie Curie 75005 Paris tél: +33[0]1 58 41 50 00 Fax: +33[0]1 58 41 50 21

IBPC, Paris

Giovanni Finazzi (now CEA grenoble)

Jean Alric (now CEA cadarache)

Fabrice Rappaport

Benjamin bailleul

Venice, January 26th 2016



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