

Intra-Protein Photodynamics of Photosystem II-Synthetic Hybrid Systems

Nicholas Paul, 3rd year PhD student.

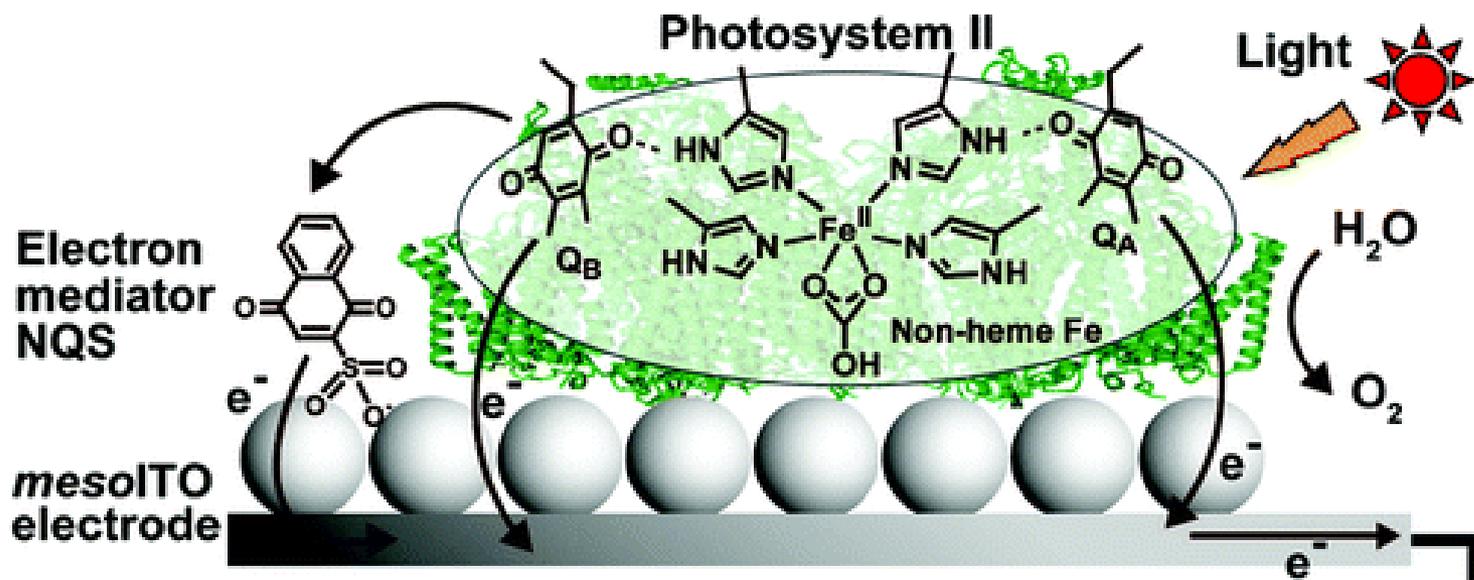
Dr Erwin Reisner and Prof Sir Richard H. Friend

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PSII-mesoITO: The Initial Idea



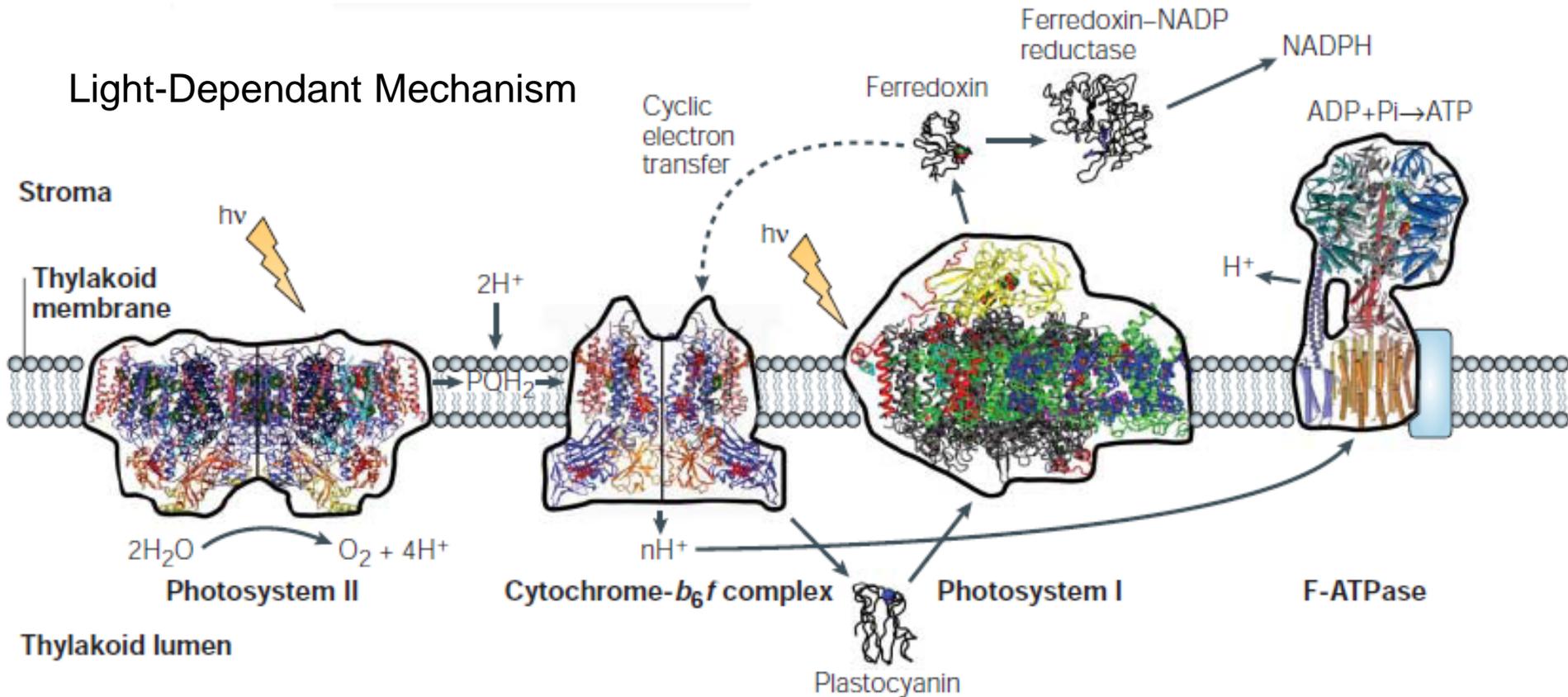
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- What is the rate/timescale of the interfacial electron transfer?
- Why does it even occur?
- What happened to the rest of the exciton and charge processes? Are they still the same or have they been altered?

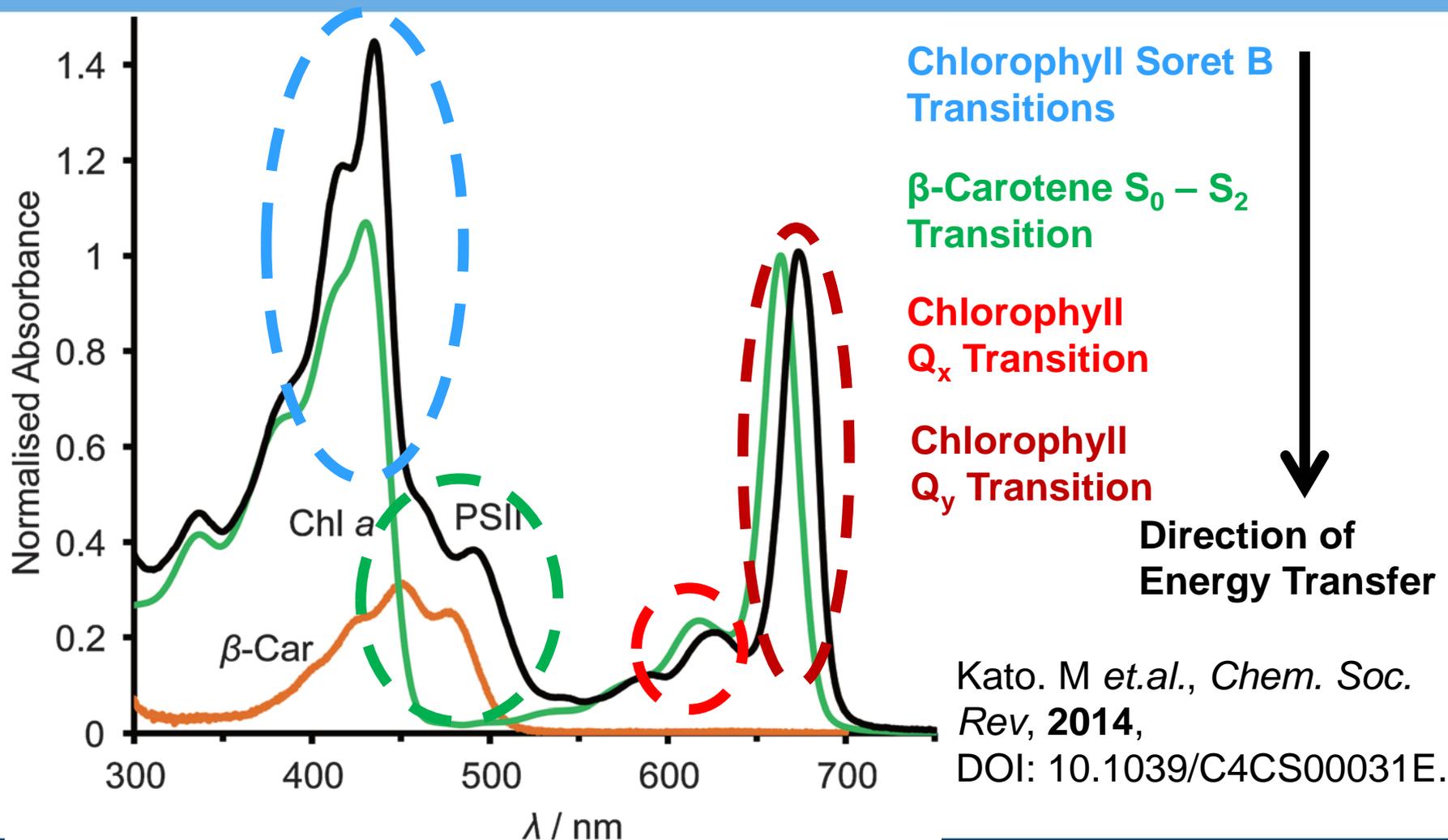
PSII: Function

Light-Dependant Mechanism

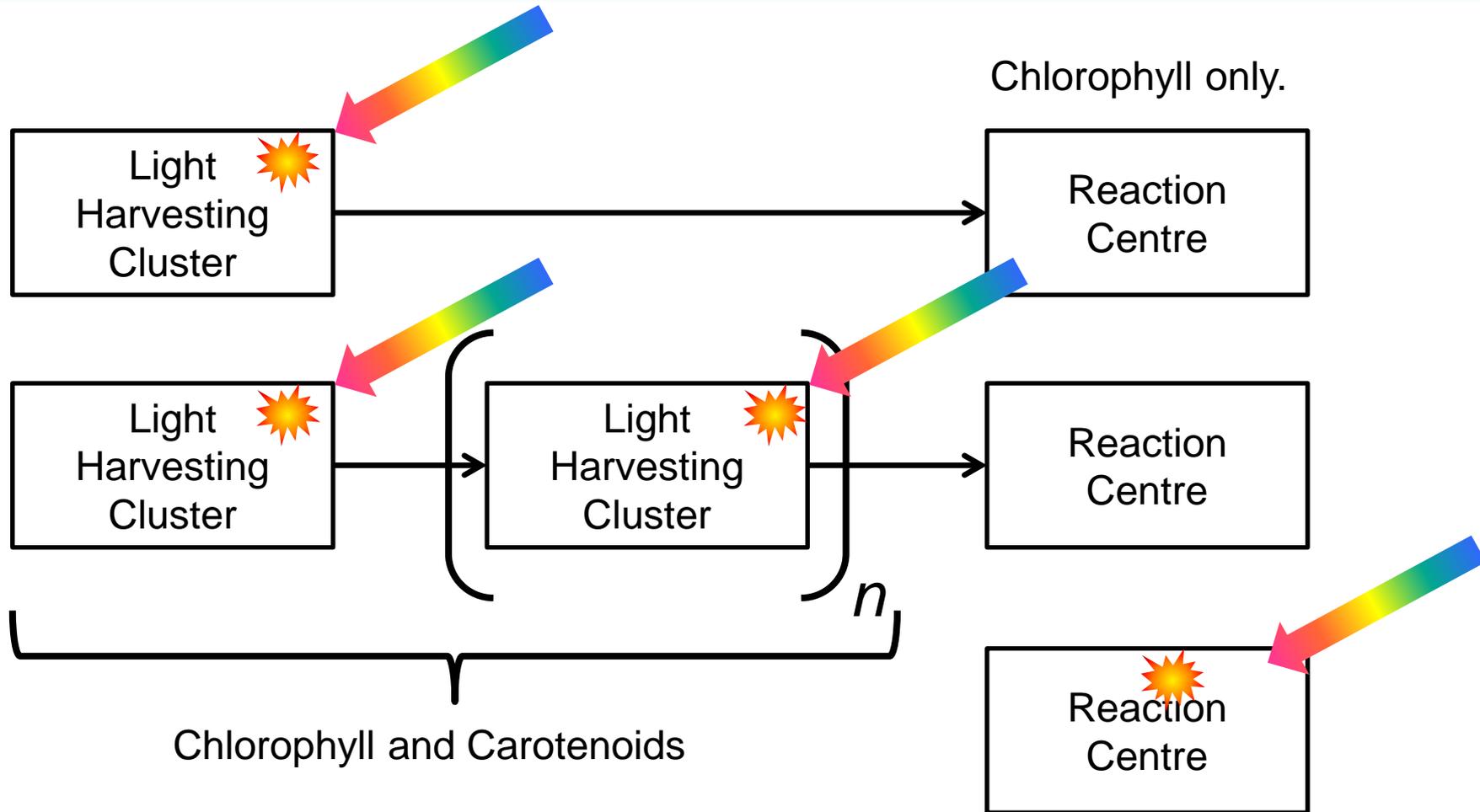


Nelson. N, *Nat. Rev. Mol. Cell. Bio*, **2004**, 5, 1-12

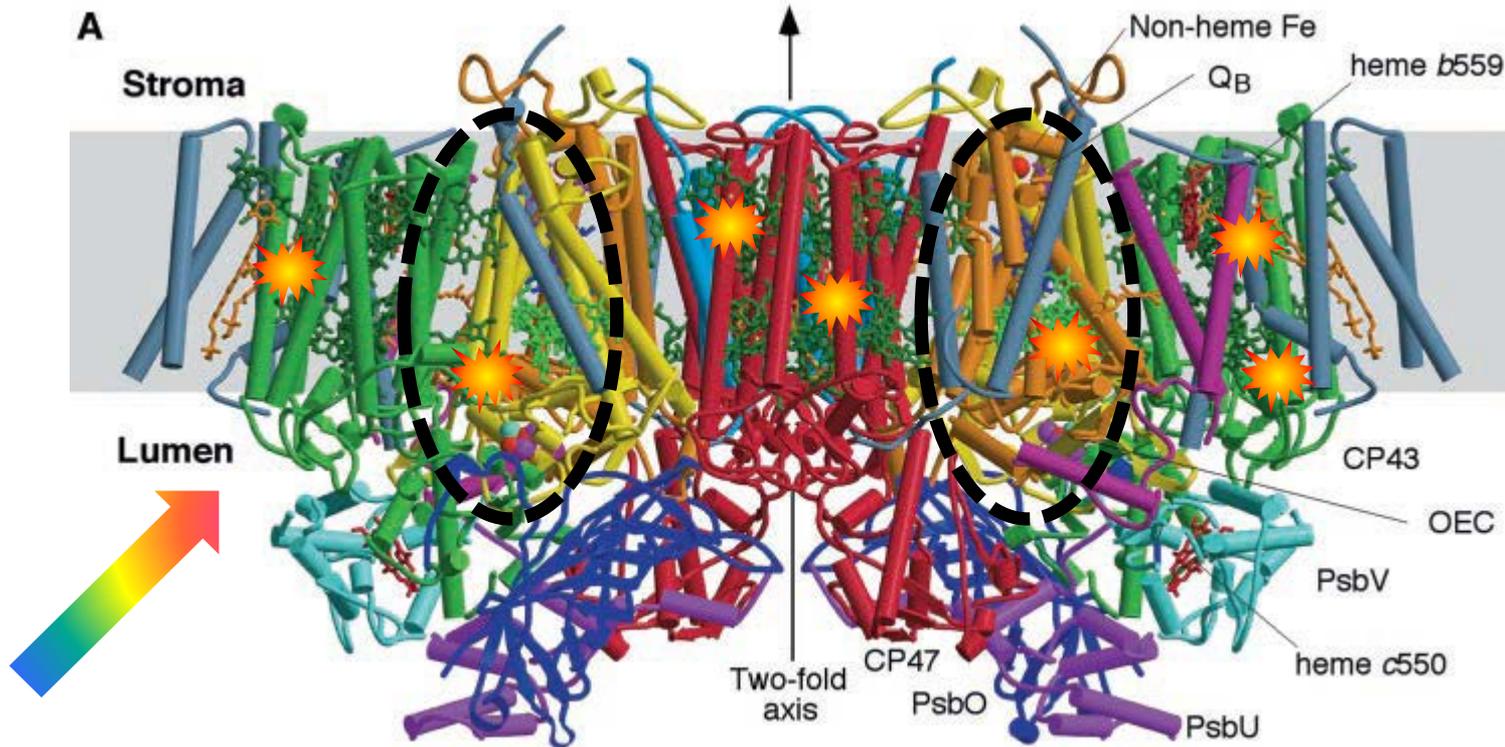
PSII: Function



PSII: Mechanism - Light Harvesting.



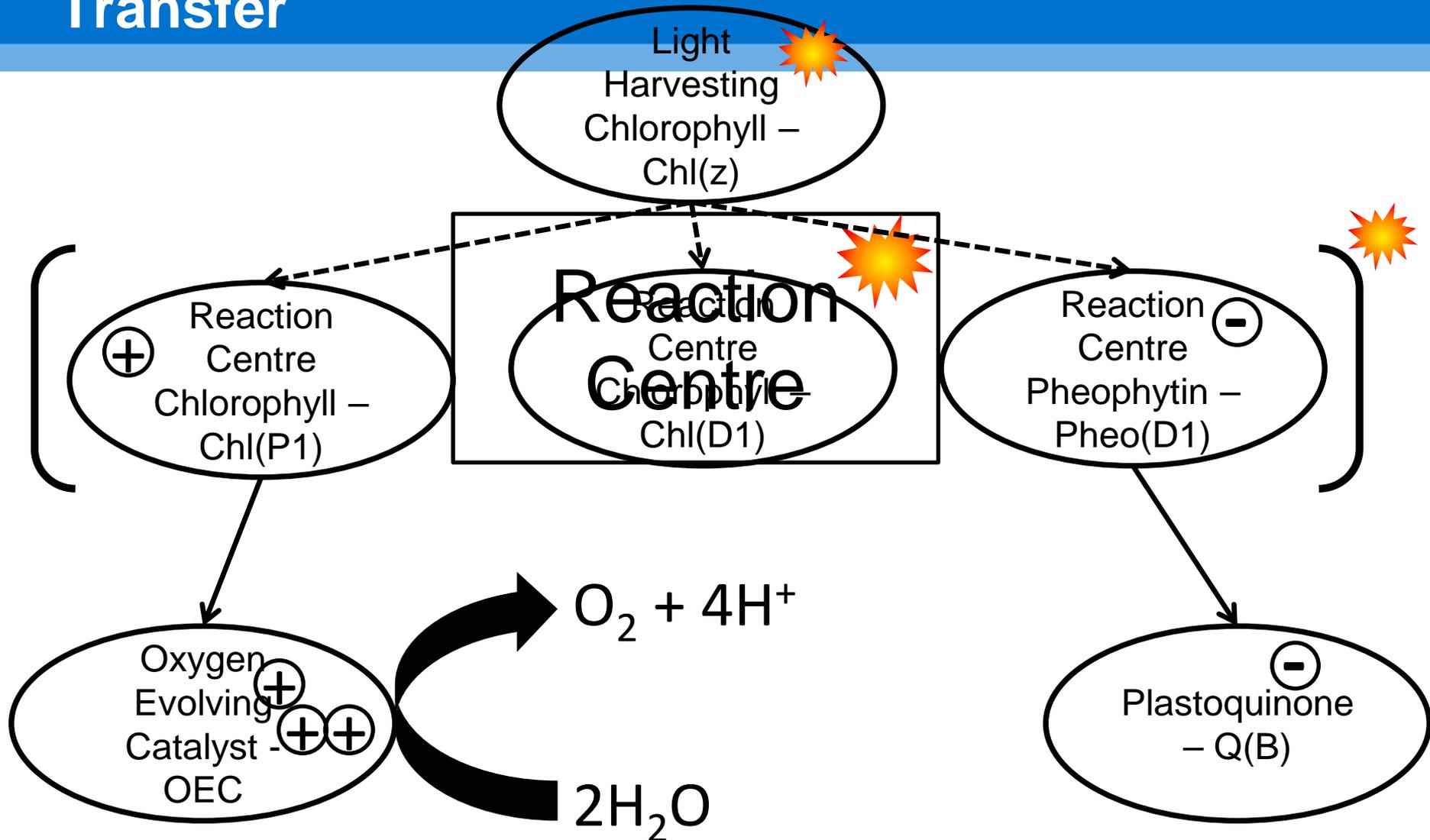
PSII: Mechanism - Light Harvesting.



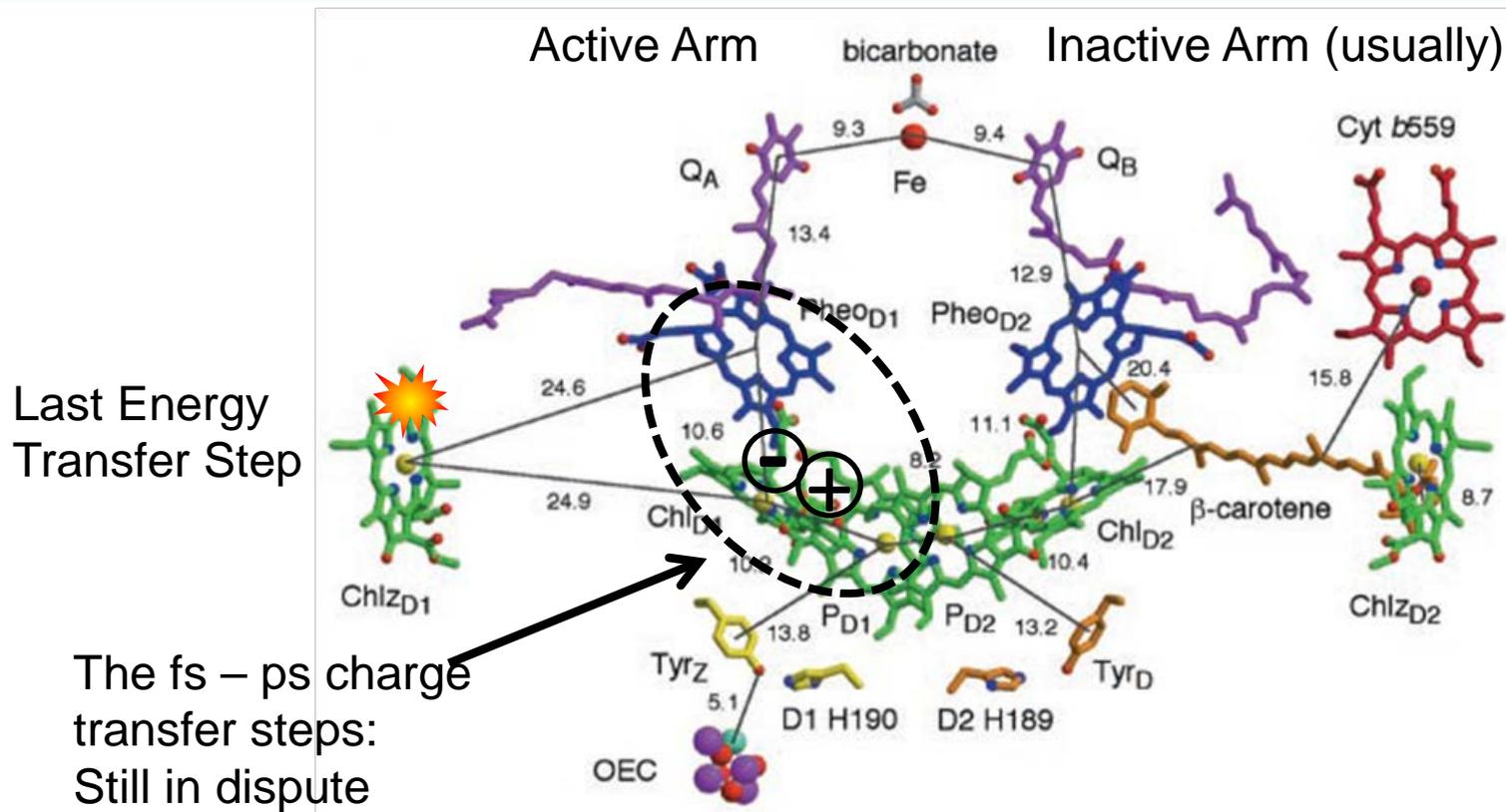
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PSII: Mechanism - Charge Generation and Transfer



PSII: Mechanism - Charge Generation and Transfer

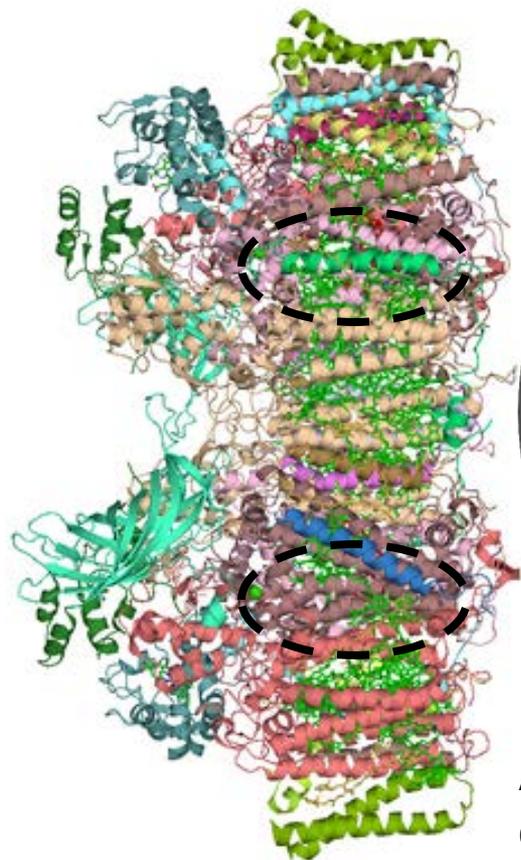


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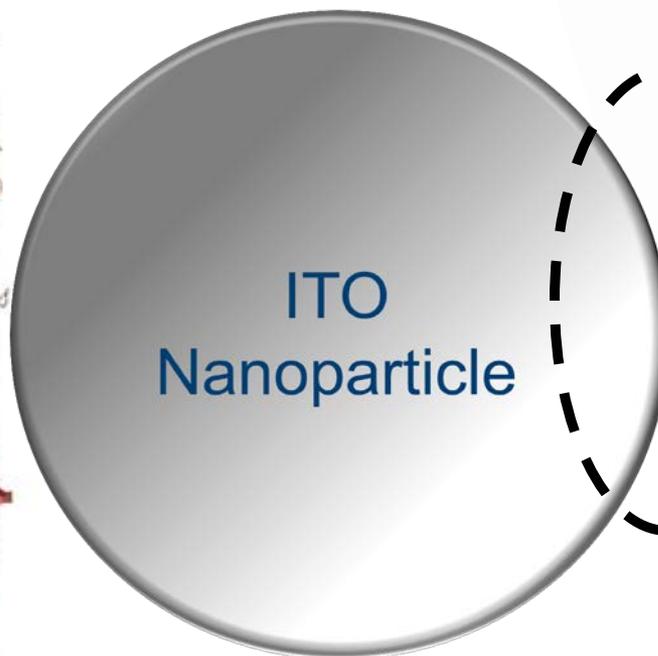
PhD Aims

1. **Perturbed intra-protein exciton and charge dynamics of PSII coupled to synthetic systems.** (*manuscript in preparation/to be submitted*).
2. Interfacial electron transfer from PSII to synthetic systems. (*manuscript in preparation*).
3. New/alternative spectroscopic techniques and data analysis methods applied to PSII.

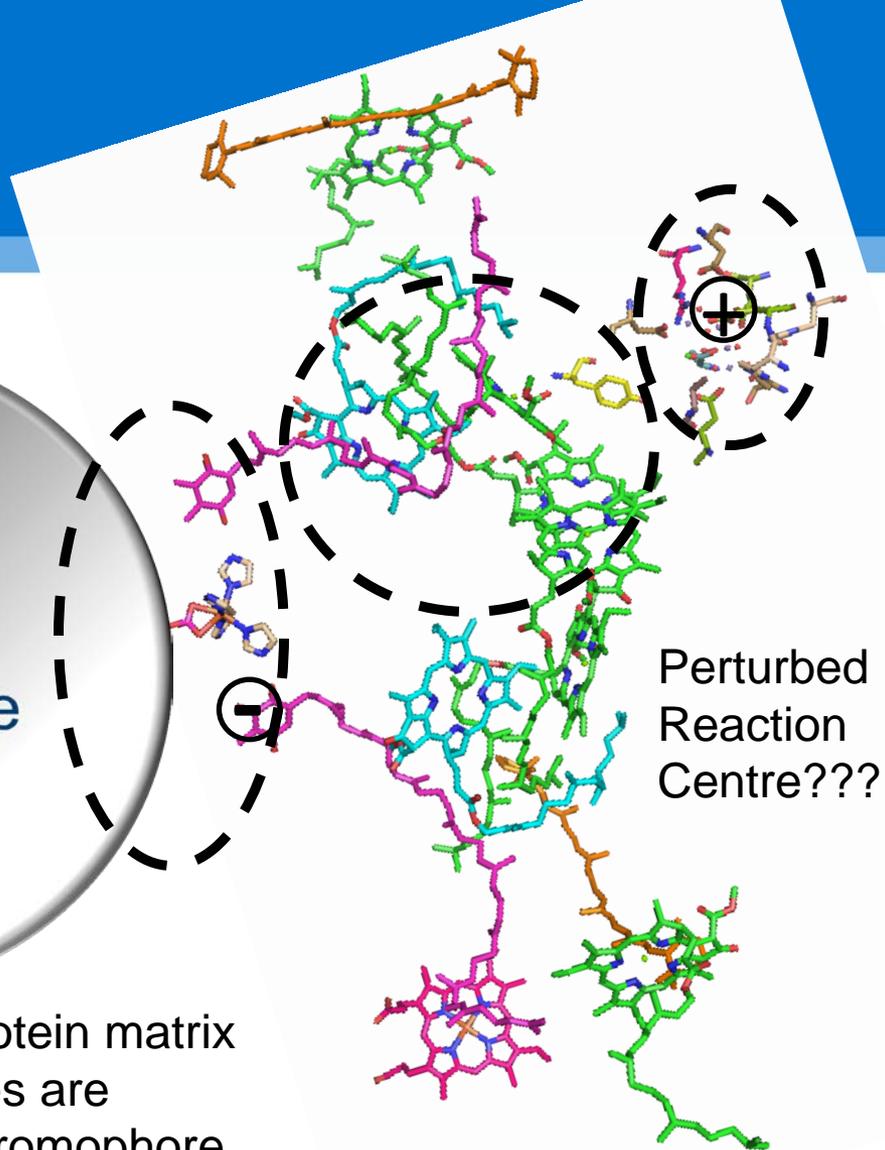
PhD Aims



Are the antenna affected???

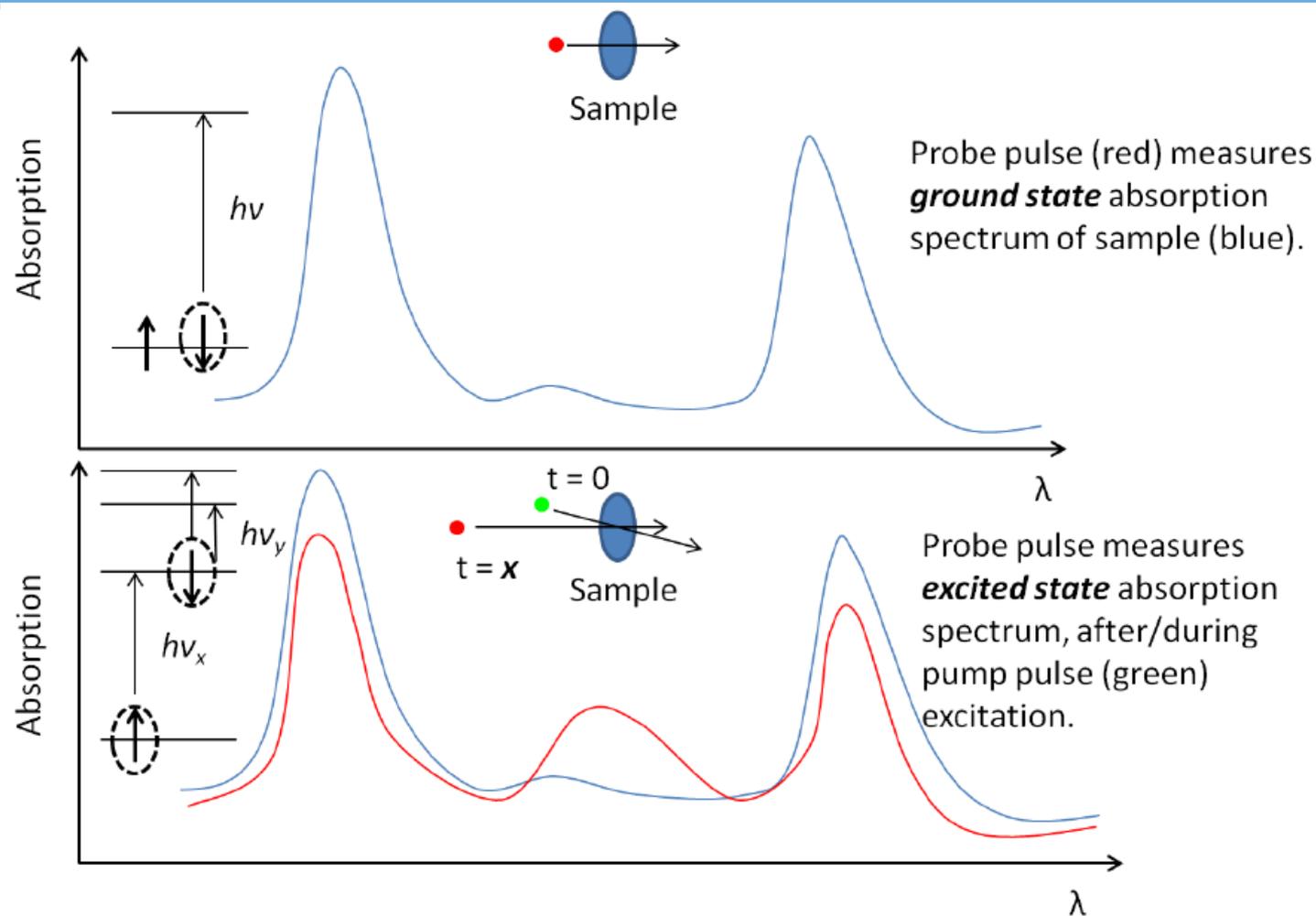


Adsorption-induced protein matrix conformational changes are predicted to reduce chromophore excitons and hinder charge transfer.



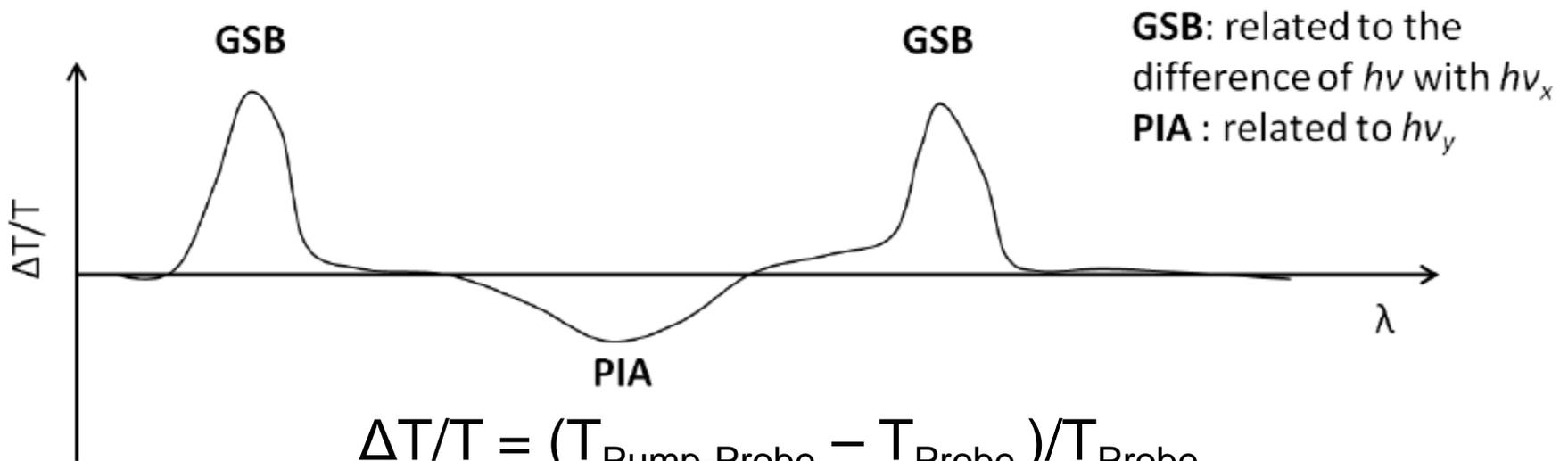
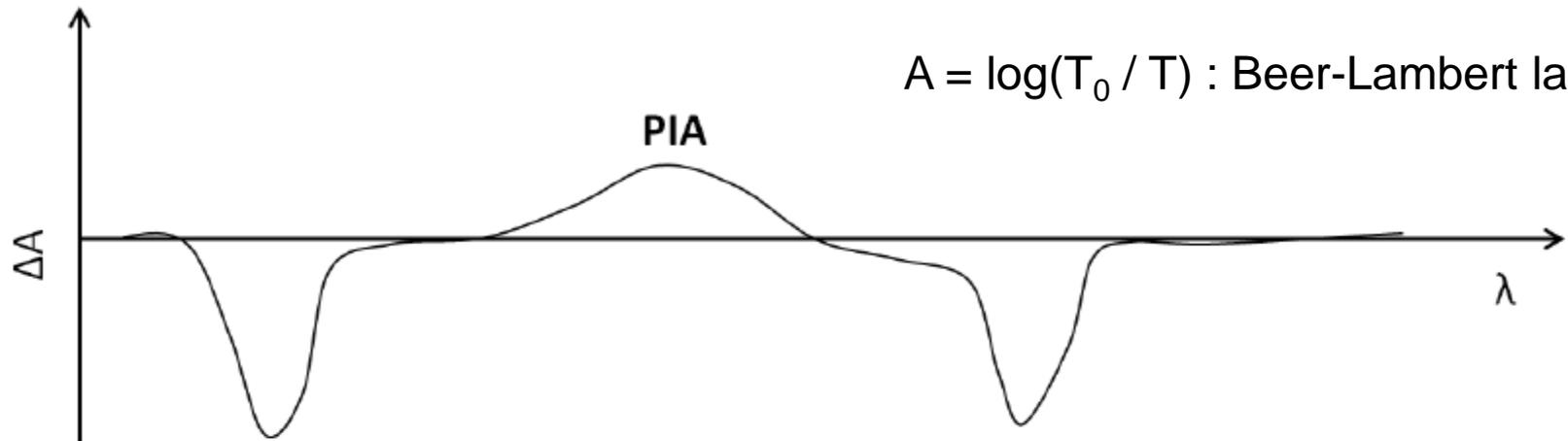
Perturbed Reaction Centre???

Transient Absorption Spectroscopy



Transient Absorption Spectroscopy

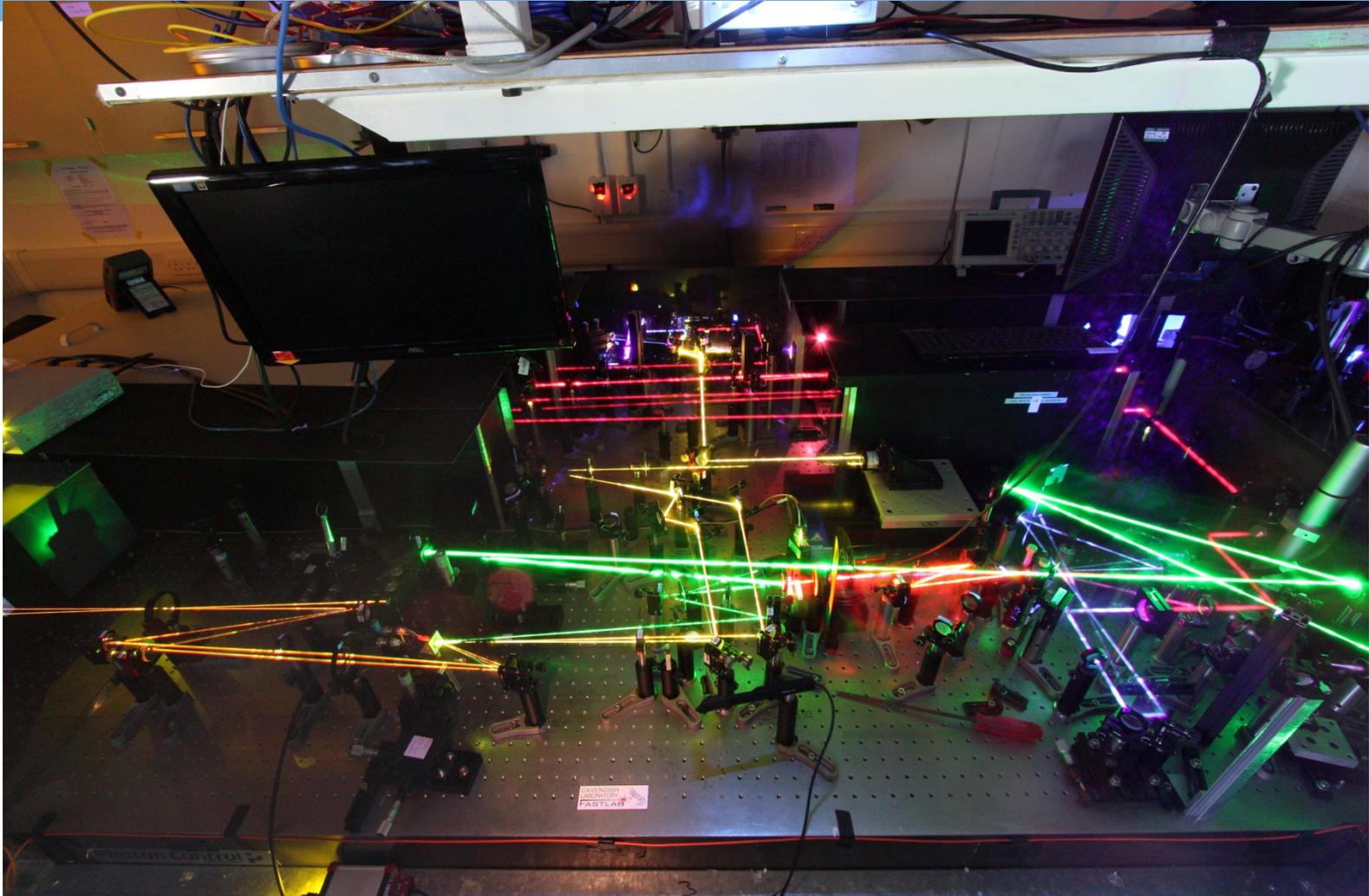
$A = \log(T_0 / T)$: Beer-Lambert law



GSB: related to the difference of $h\nu$ with $h\nu_x$
PIA : related to $h\nu_y$

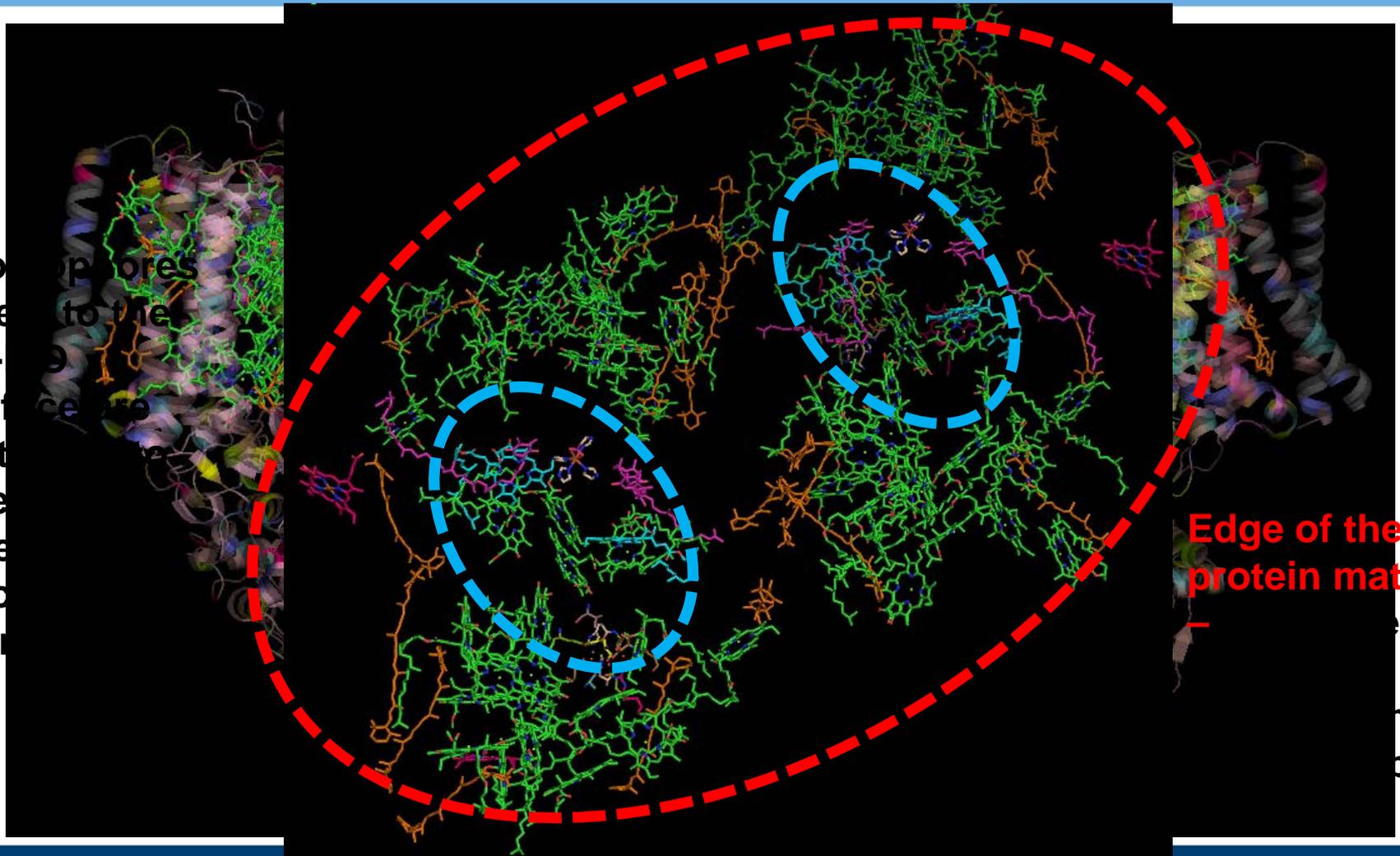
$$\Delta T/T = (T_{\text{Pump-Probe}} - T_{\text{Probe}}) / T_{\text{Probe}}$$

Transient Absorption Spectroscopy



Hypothesis

Chlorophylls
close to the
PSII-
interfere
most
suffer
protein
structure
deformation



Edge of the
protein matrix

— here

may

be

Summary

- Aggregation of PSII to synthetic substrates may indeed induce altered photodynamics.
- These effects (if observable) are likely to be localized around the protein-substrate binding interface.
- PSII chlorophyll in the antenna (and likely close to the protein shell) seem to be affected the most, or almost exclusively.
- Increased non-radiative decay of the chlorophyll singlets due to the protein-substrate adsorption seems to be the end outcome.
- The reaction centre itself appears relatively well shielded.

The Chemists

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Erwin



The Physicists

Felix

Simon

Brian



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Jenny (C)

Akshay



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Thank you for your attention!