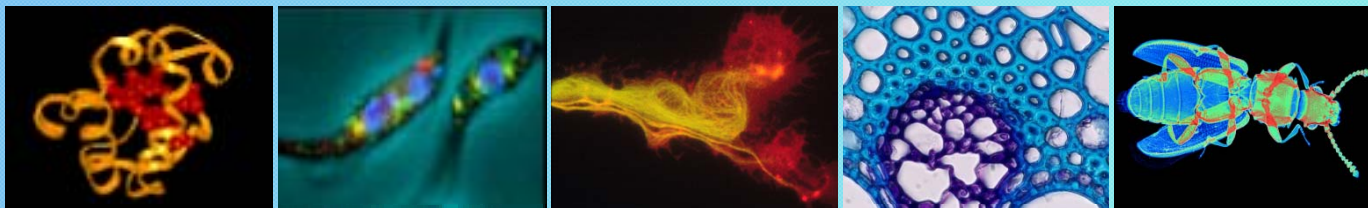


# The structure of the FtsH complex involved in Photosystem II repair in cyanobacteria

**07/08.09.2009 Plastid Preview Meeting – Cambridge**

**Marko Boehm  
Nixon Lab  
Imperial College London**



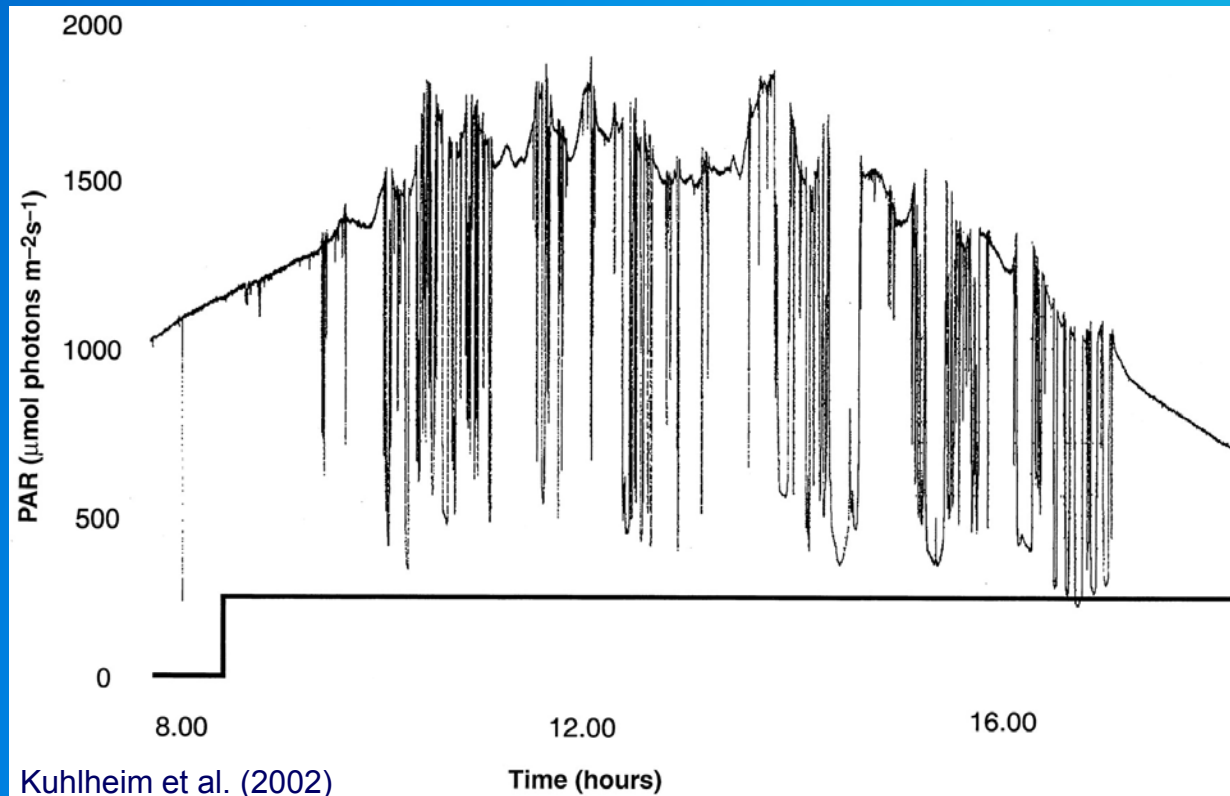


# Overview

- Introduction
- The PSII repair cycle in cyanobacteria
- D1 protein removal and degradation
  - Proteases (DegP and FtsH)
  - Notes on the mechanism
  - Isolation of the FtsH protein complex
  - Structural analysis
- The FtsH-only model

# Too much of a good thing?

- Light quantity and quality **in the field** vs **the lab** -



in the field

controlled  
conditions

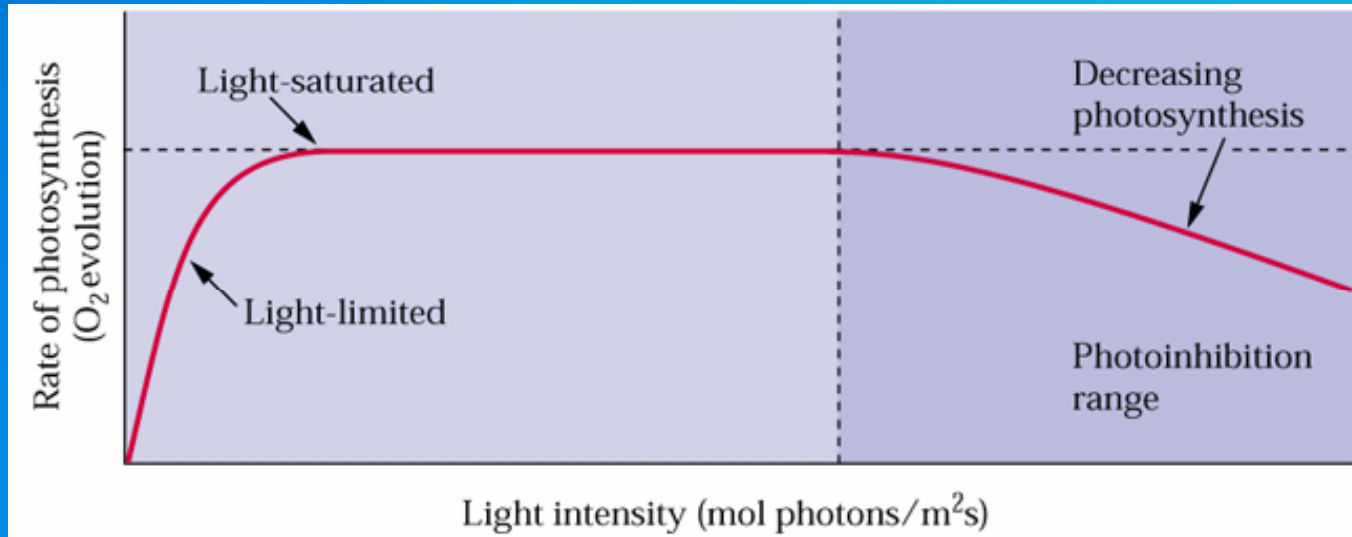


PAR – photosynthetically active radiation

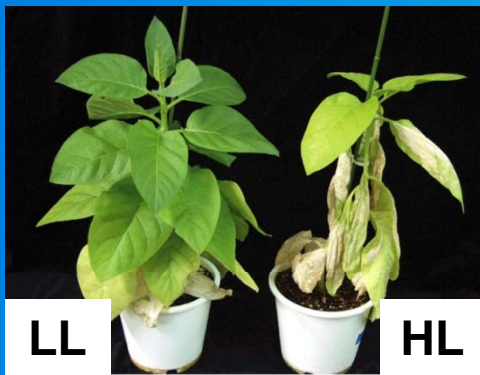


# Too much of a good thing!

- Photoinhibition: light-induced reduction of photosynthetic activity -



Biochemistry & Molecular Biology of Plants  
(Buchanan, Gruissem and Jones eds)

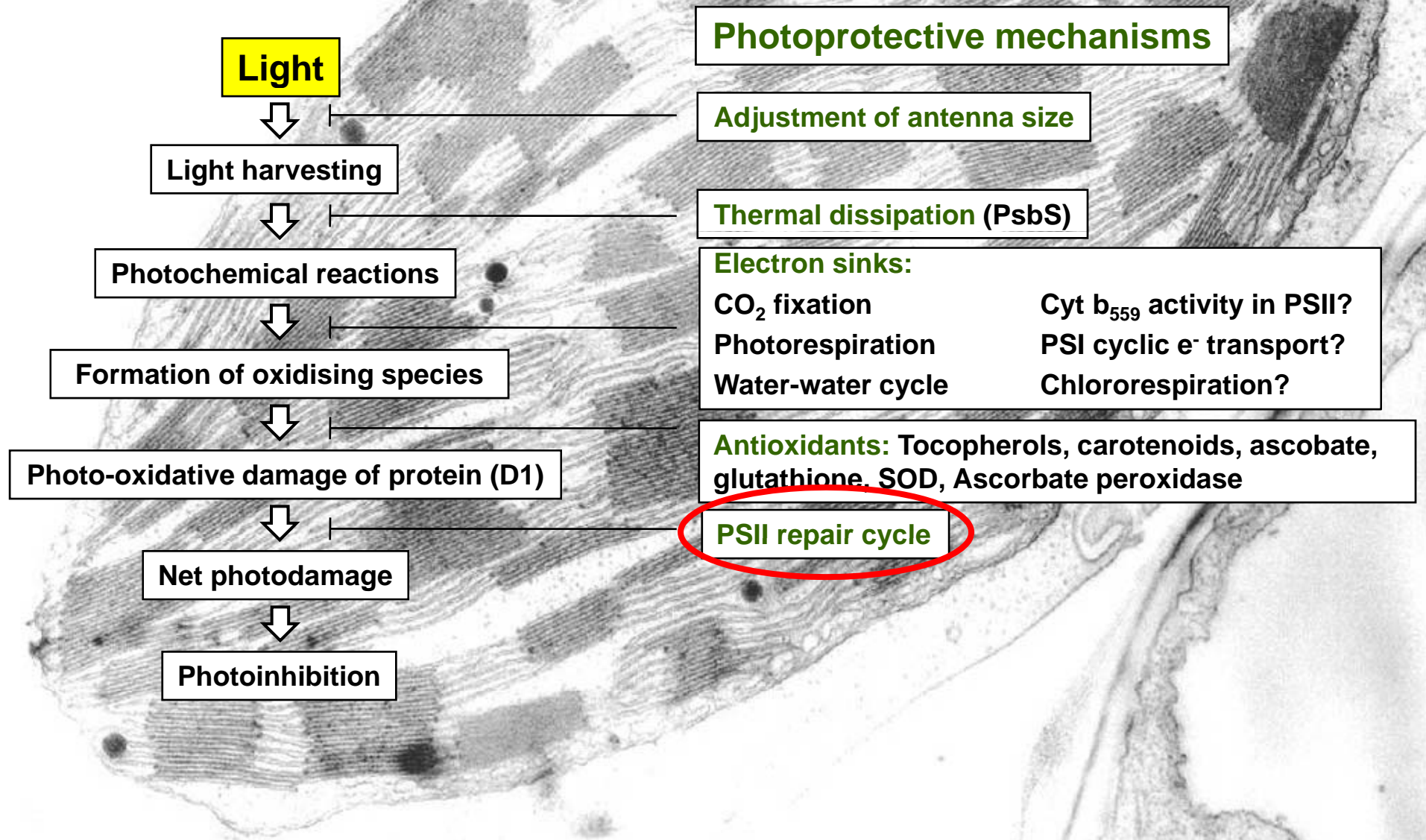


Ifuku et al. (2005)



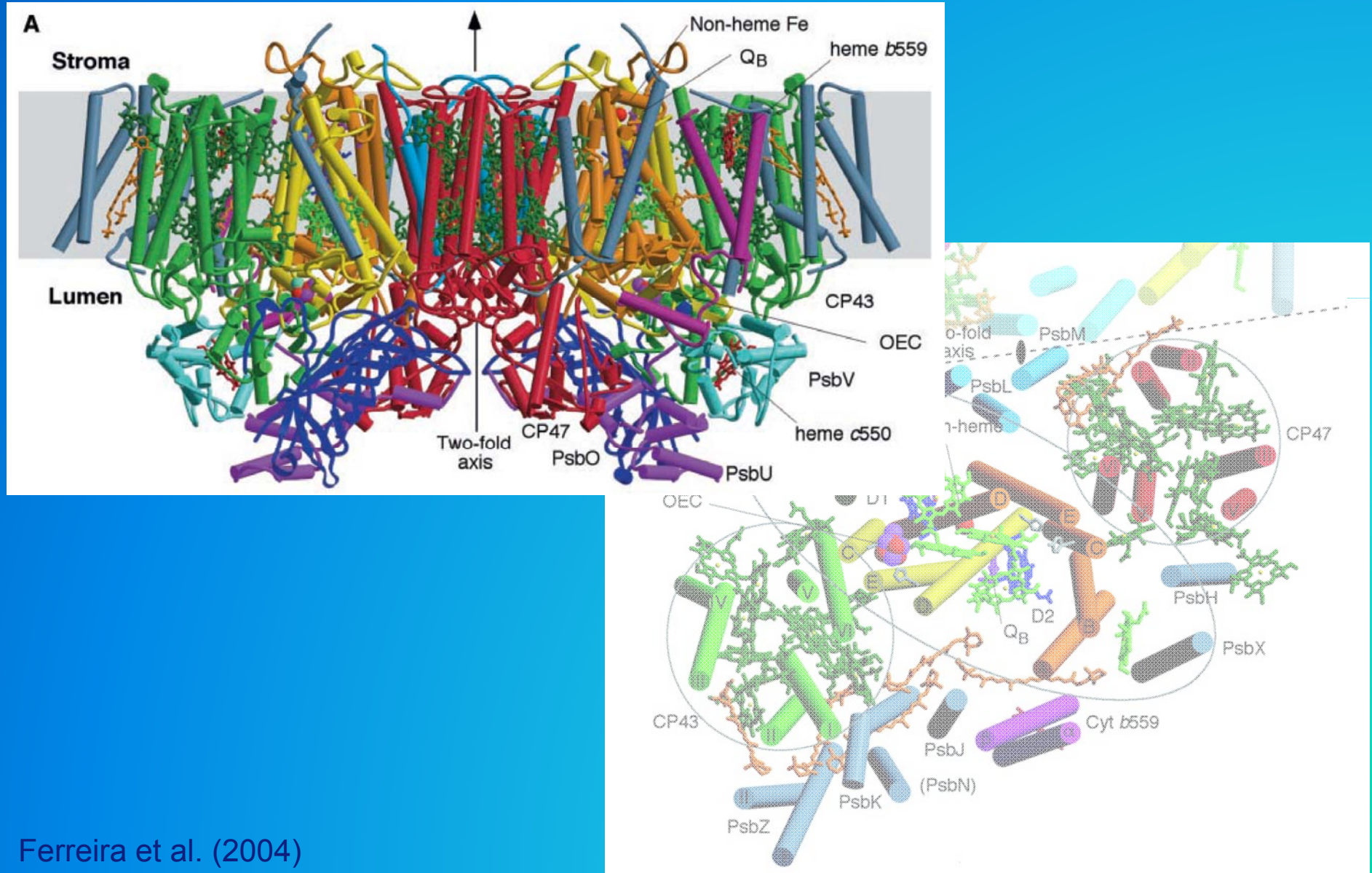
Coral bleaching

# Photoprotective mechanisms in the chloroplast





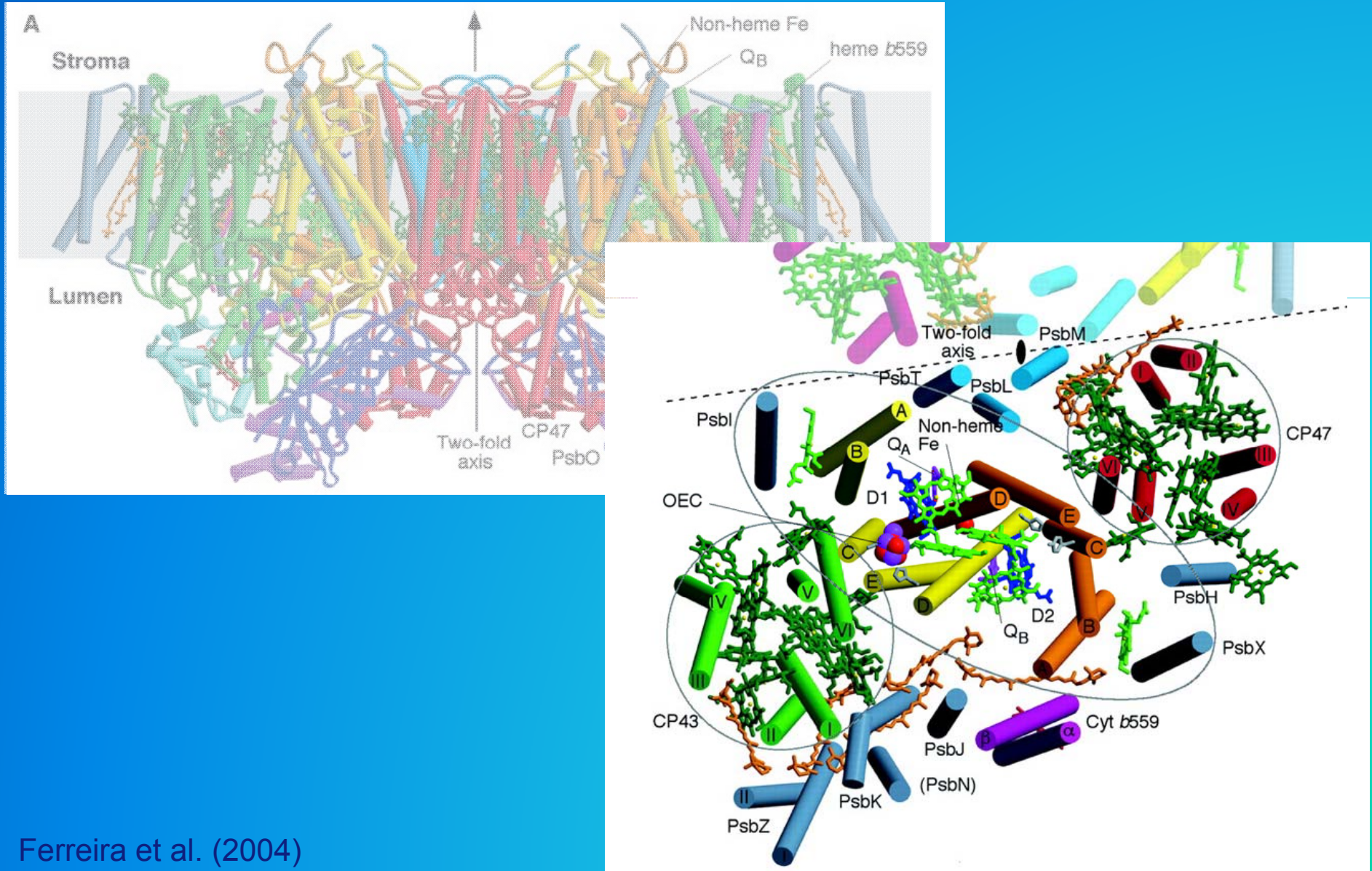
# The cyanobacterial PS II complex



Ferreira et al. (2004)

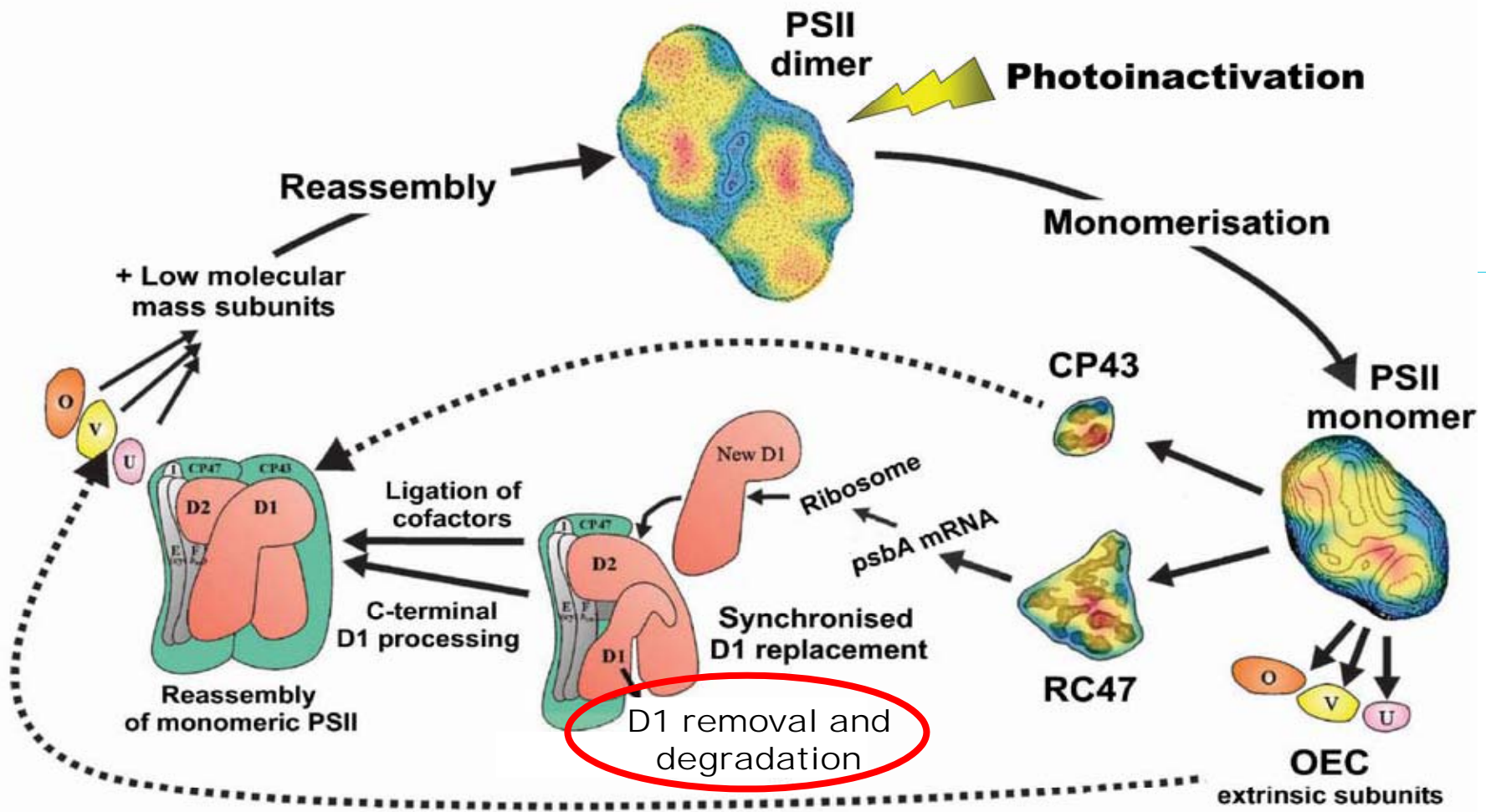


# The cyanobacterial PS II complex



Ferreira et al. (2004)

# The cyanobacterial PS II repair cycle



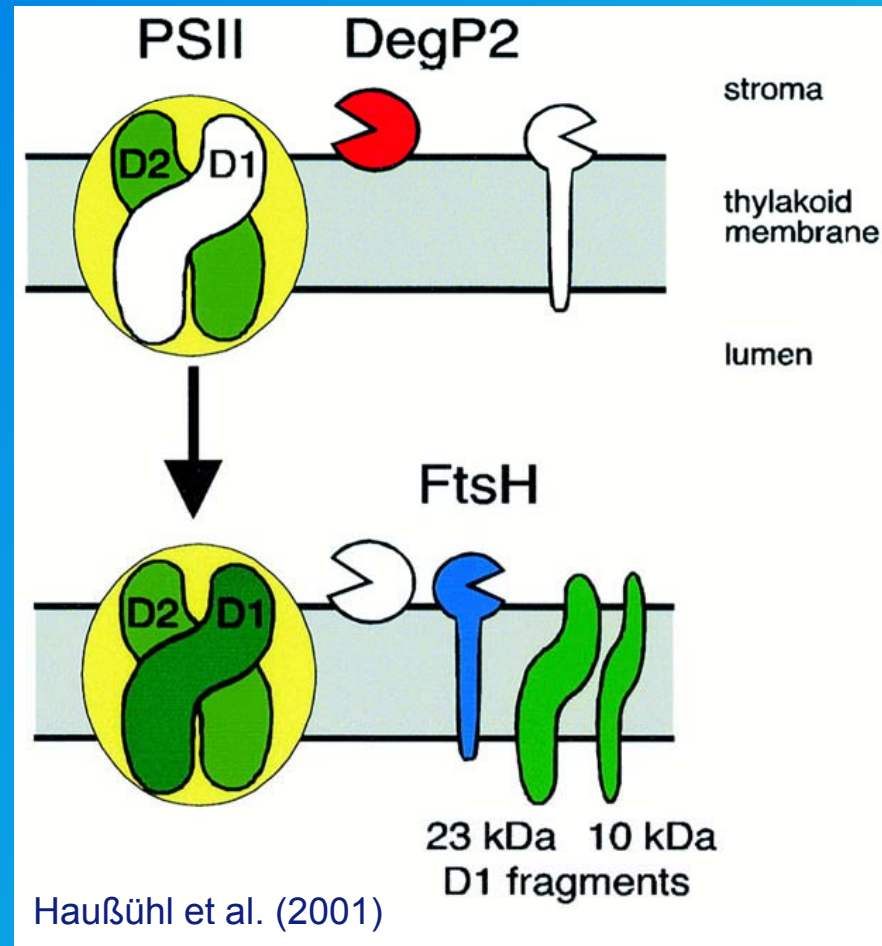
modified from Nield et al. (2005)



## Some longstanding questions concerning light-induced D1 degradation and PSII repair

- What are the proteases involved *in vivo*?
- How is damaged D1 recognised?
- What is the mechanism of degradation?
- What is the physiological relevance of reactive oxygen species in D1 degradation?
- Are there different degradation pathways depending on the type of damage (donor-side versus acceptor-side damage)?

# The DegP2/FtsH model for D1 degradation in chloroplasts

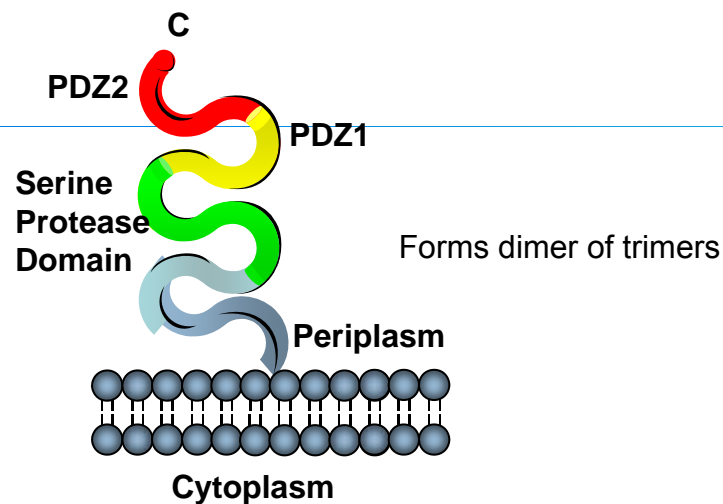


**Model based on *in vitro* experiments!**



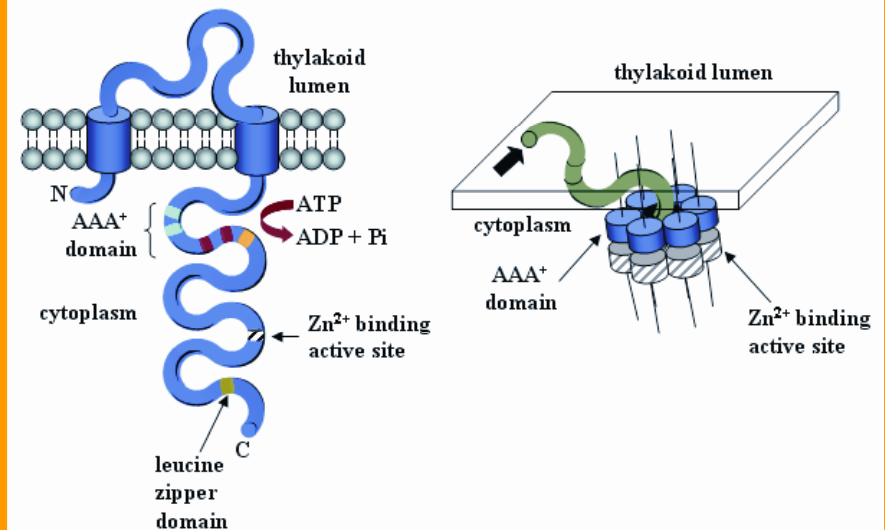
# DegP and FtsH proteases in *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803

## DegP/HtrA proteases



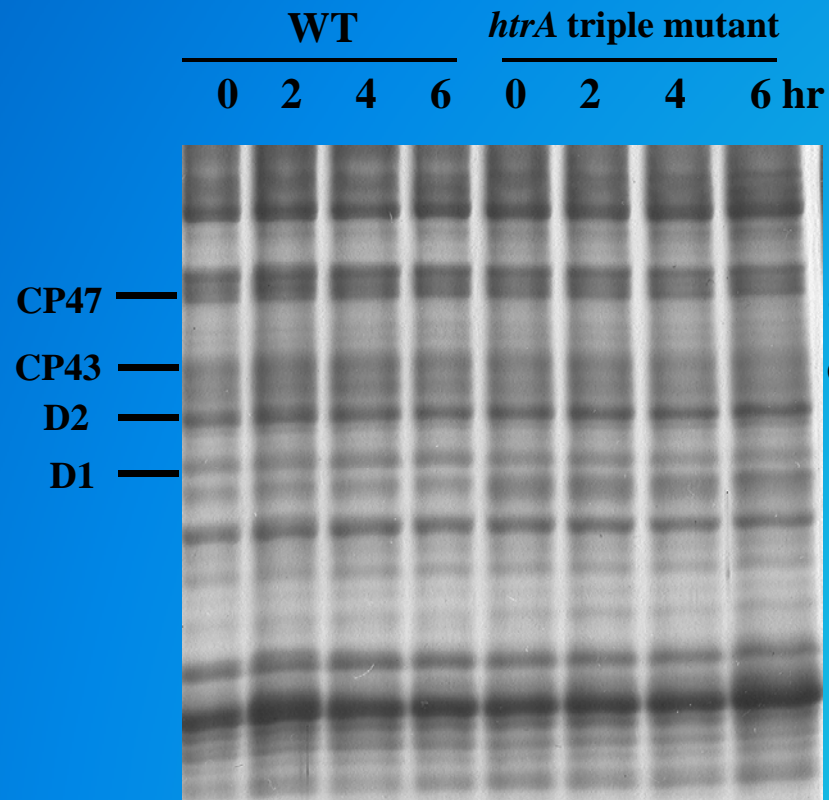
3 homologues in *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803  
(HtrA, HhoA and HhoB)

## FtsH proteases

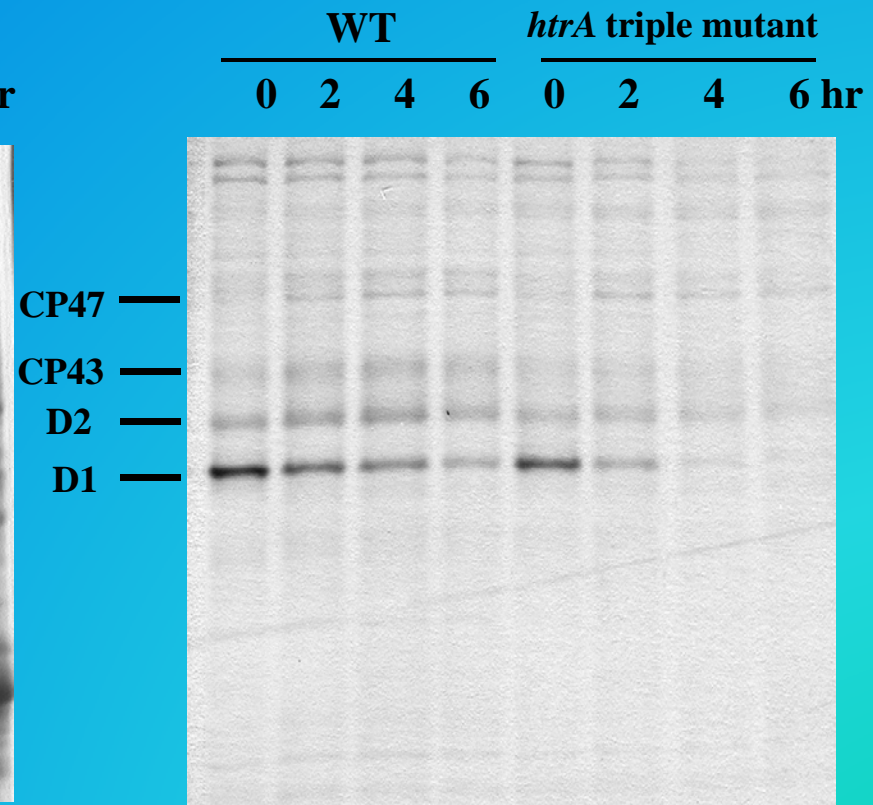


4 homologues in *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803  
slr1390 and slr1604 **vital**  
slr0228 and slr1463 **dispensible**  
(Mann et al. 2000)

# D1 turnover in the DegP/HtrA triple mutant is unimpaired



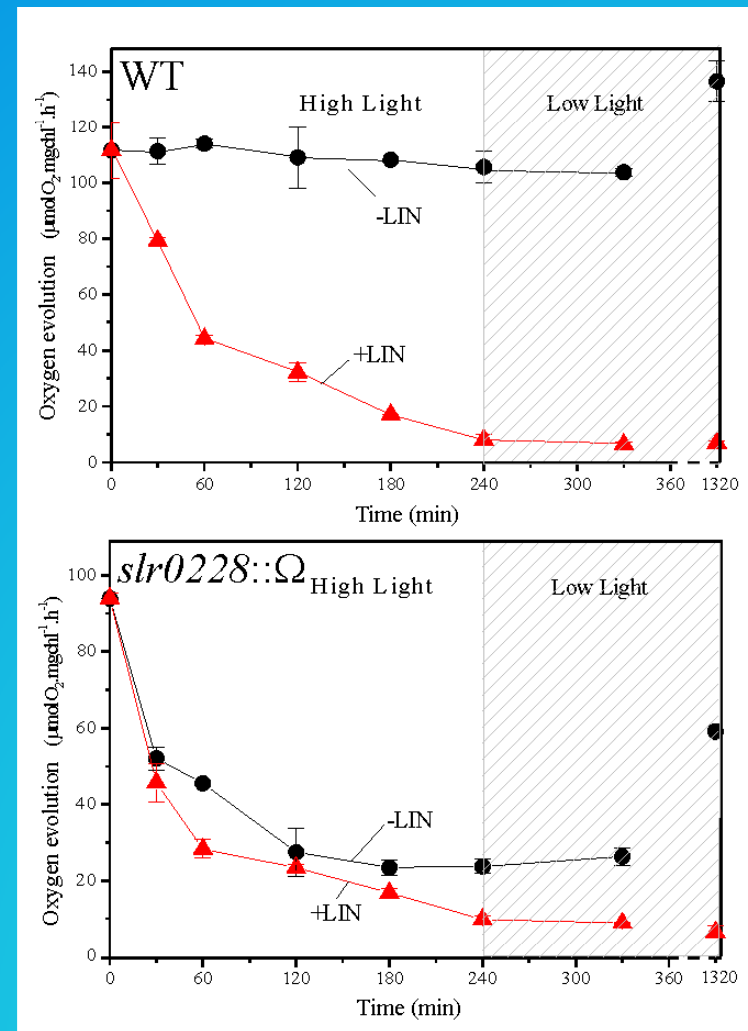
Coomassie stain



Autorad

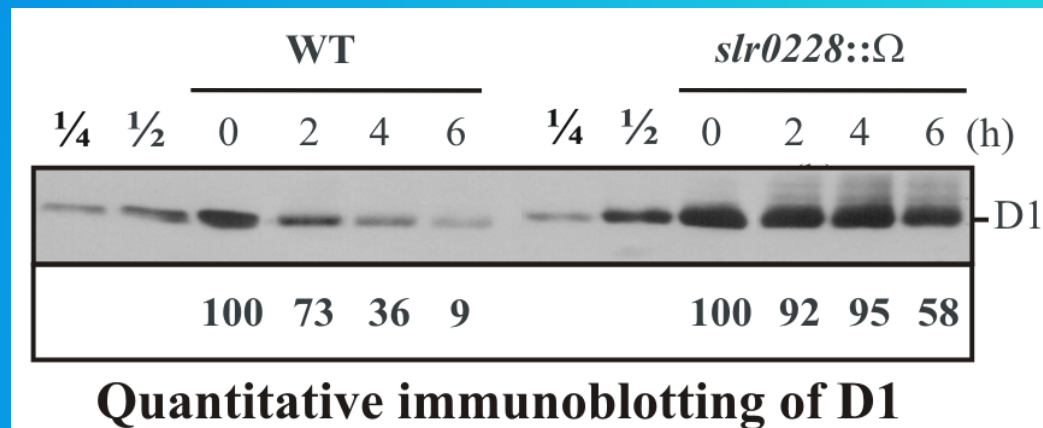
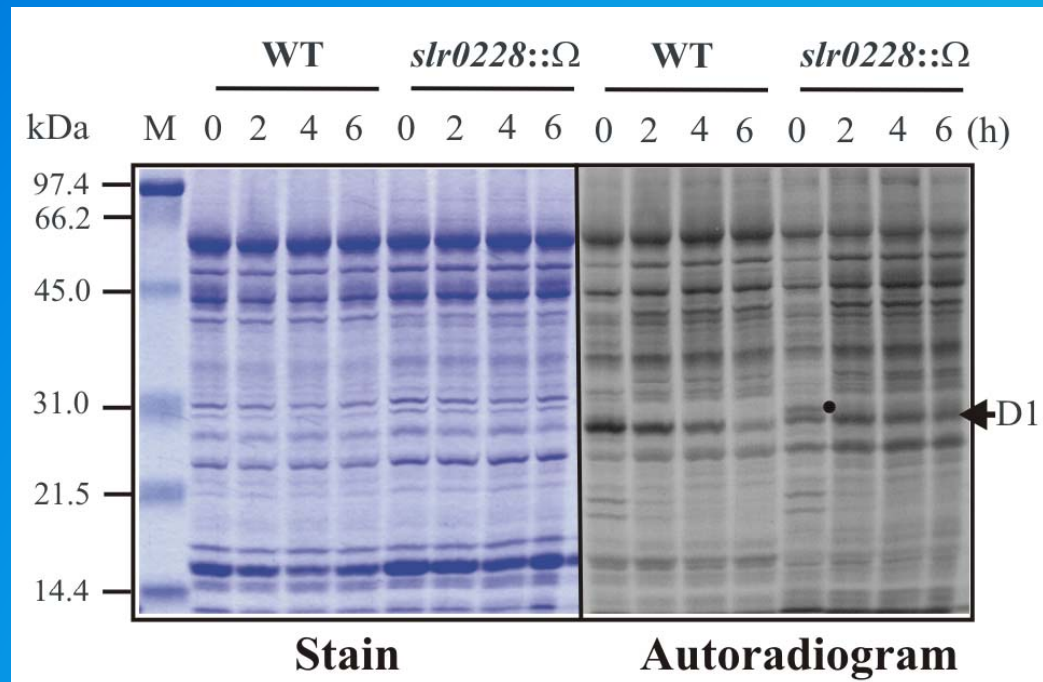


# The $\Delta 0228$ (FtsH2) insertion mutant is light sensitive and the PSII repair cycle is impaired



Silva et al. (2003)

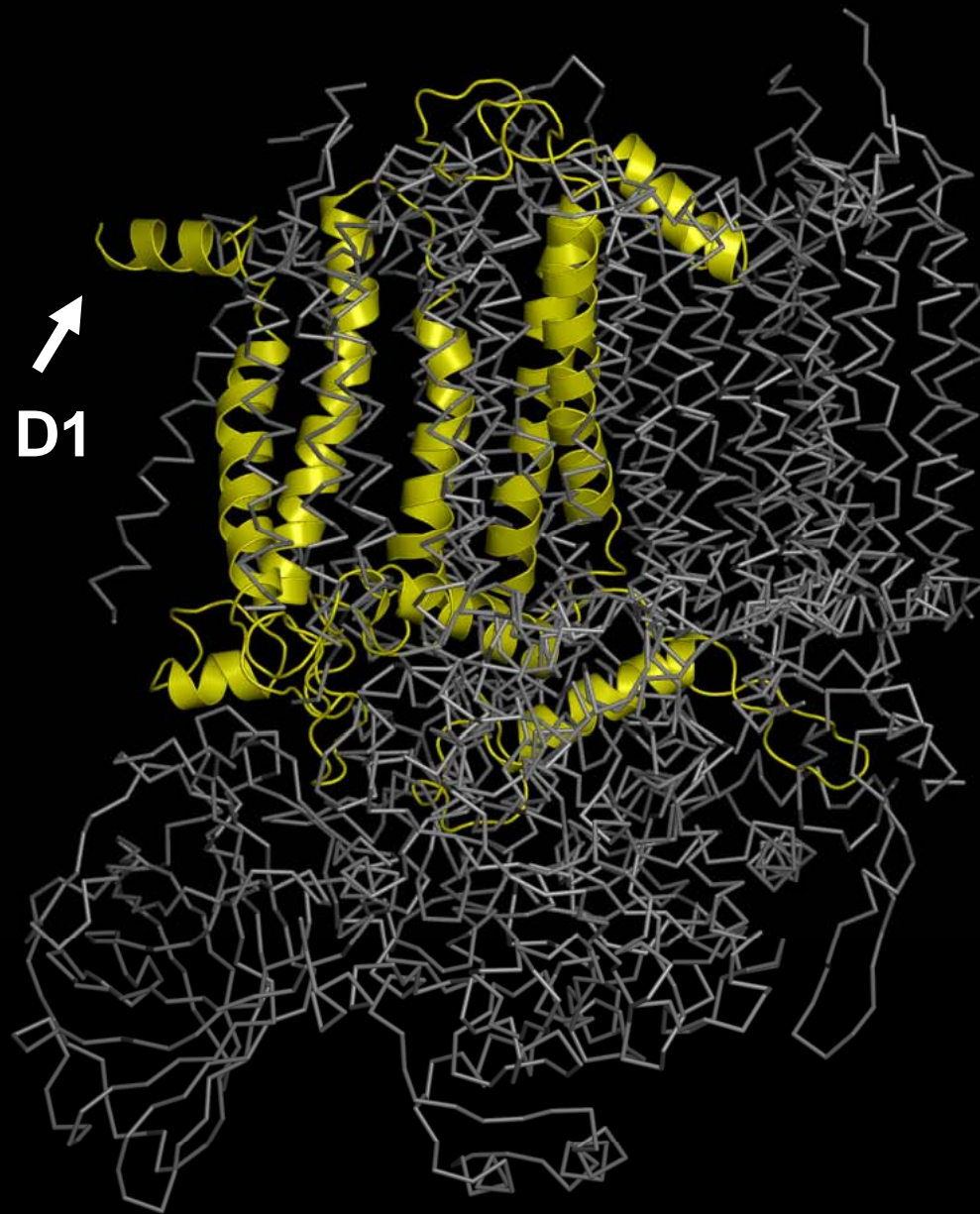
# D1 degradation is slower in the $\Delta 0228$ insertion mutant



**No D1  
fragments!**



**N-terminus of D1**



Structure of PSII from *T. elongatus* (provided by James Murray and Jim Barber)

## The A20 mutant of *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803 lacks 20 aa residues from the exposed N-terminal tail

```
D1 TOBACCO:      MTAILERRES ESLWGRFCNW ITSTENRLYI GWFGVLMIPT LLTATSVFII
                  ** * *** *** ** * *** ** * ***** ***** ***** ***
D1 S.6803 A0:    MTTTLQORES ASLWEQFCQW VTSTNNRIYV GWFGTLMIPT LLTATTTCFII
D1 S.6803 A5:      MQRES ASLWEQFCQW VTSTNNRIYV GWFGTLMIPT LLTATTTCFII
D1 S.6803 A10:      MSLWEQFCQW VTSTNNRIYV GWFGTLMIPT LLTATTTCFII
D1 S.6803 A20:      MTSTNNRIYV GWFGTLMIPT LLTATTTCFII
```



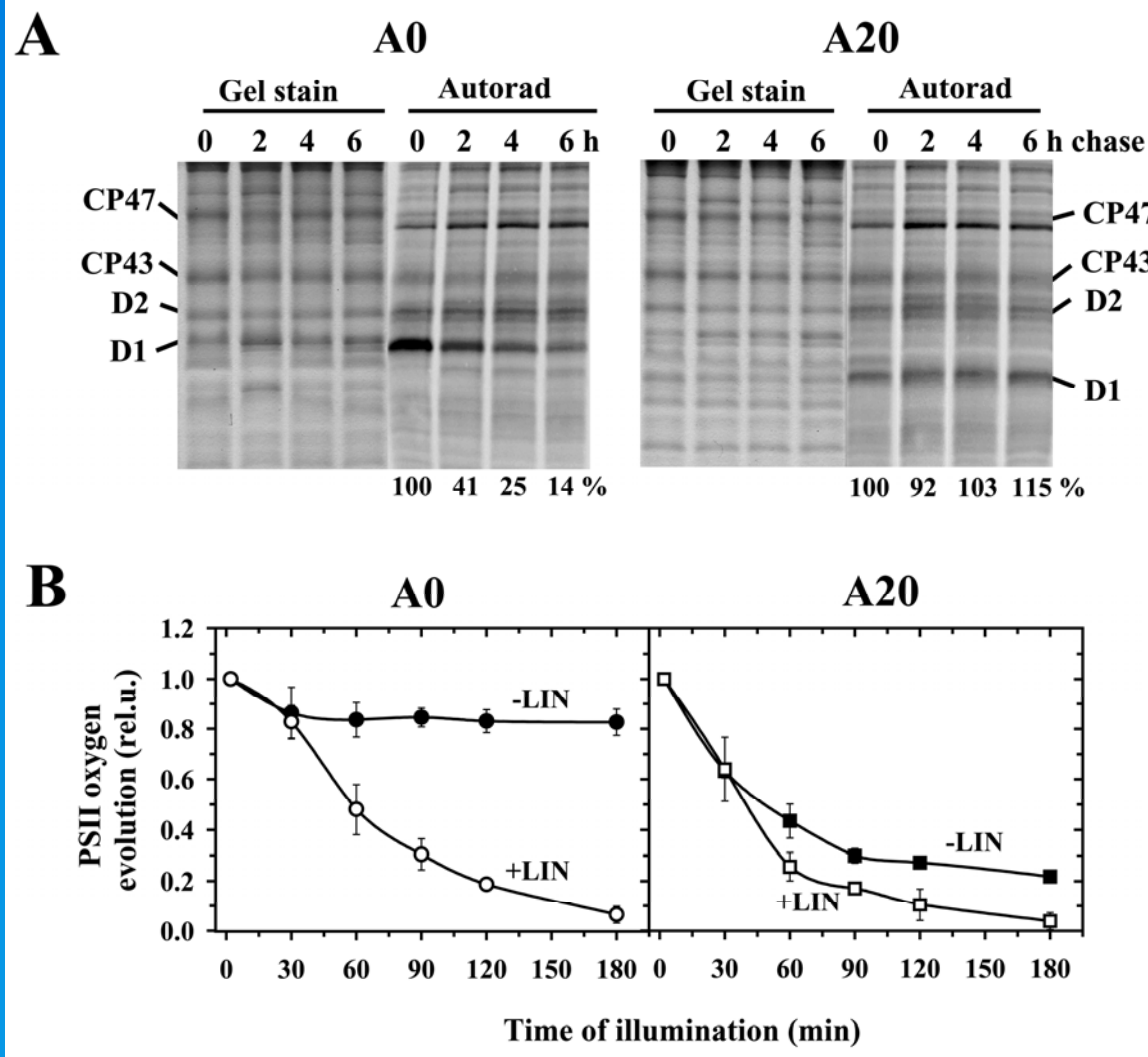
Surface  $\alpha$ -helix



Start of the first  
transmembrane  $\alpha$ -helix

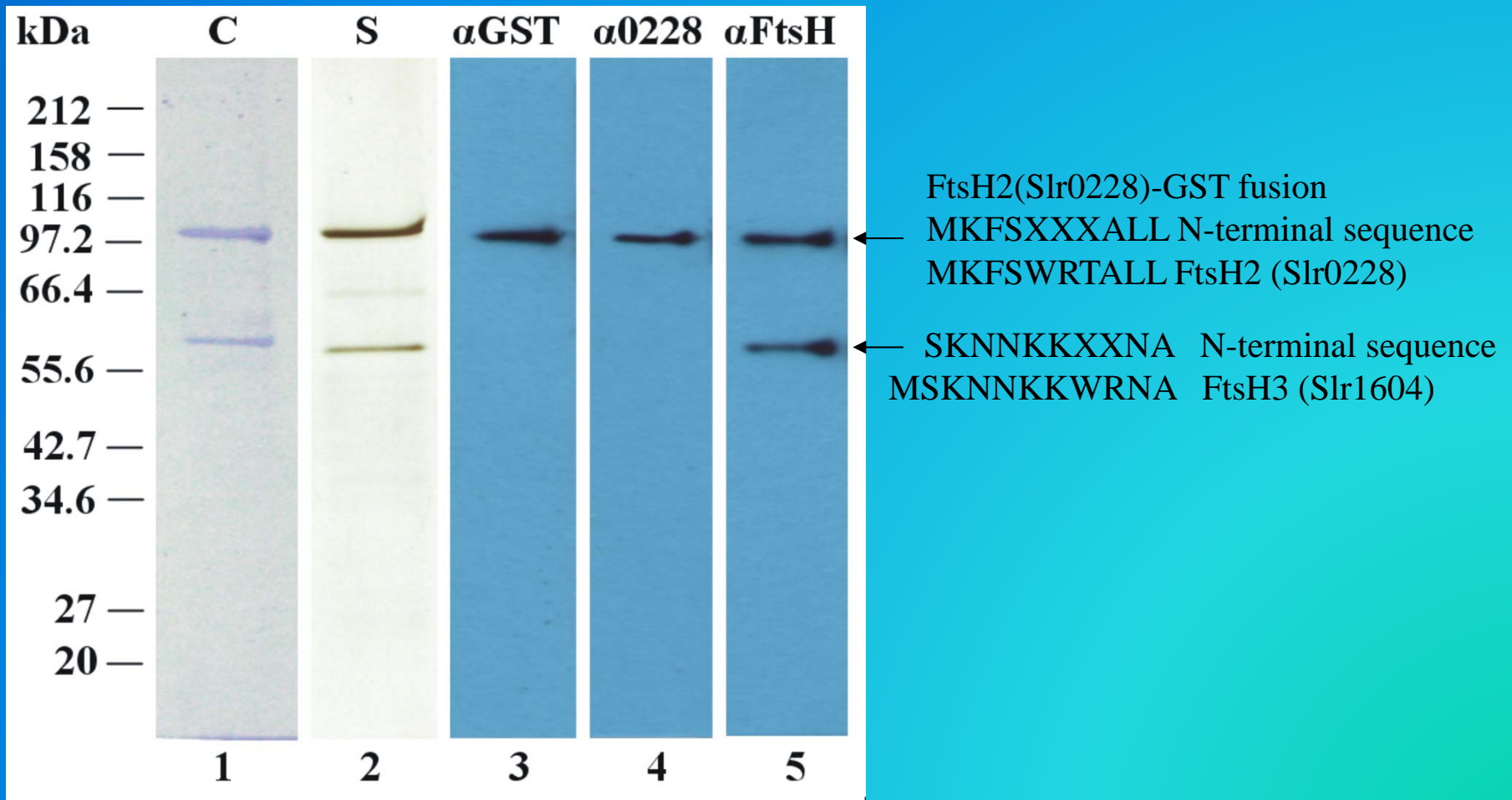
**The A20 D1 mutant is capable of assembling monomeric and dimeric PSII complexes at WT levels.**

# D1 degradation and PSII repair are inhibited in A20 at high light intensities

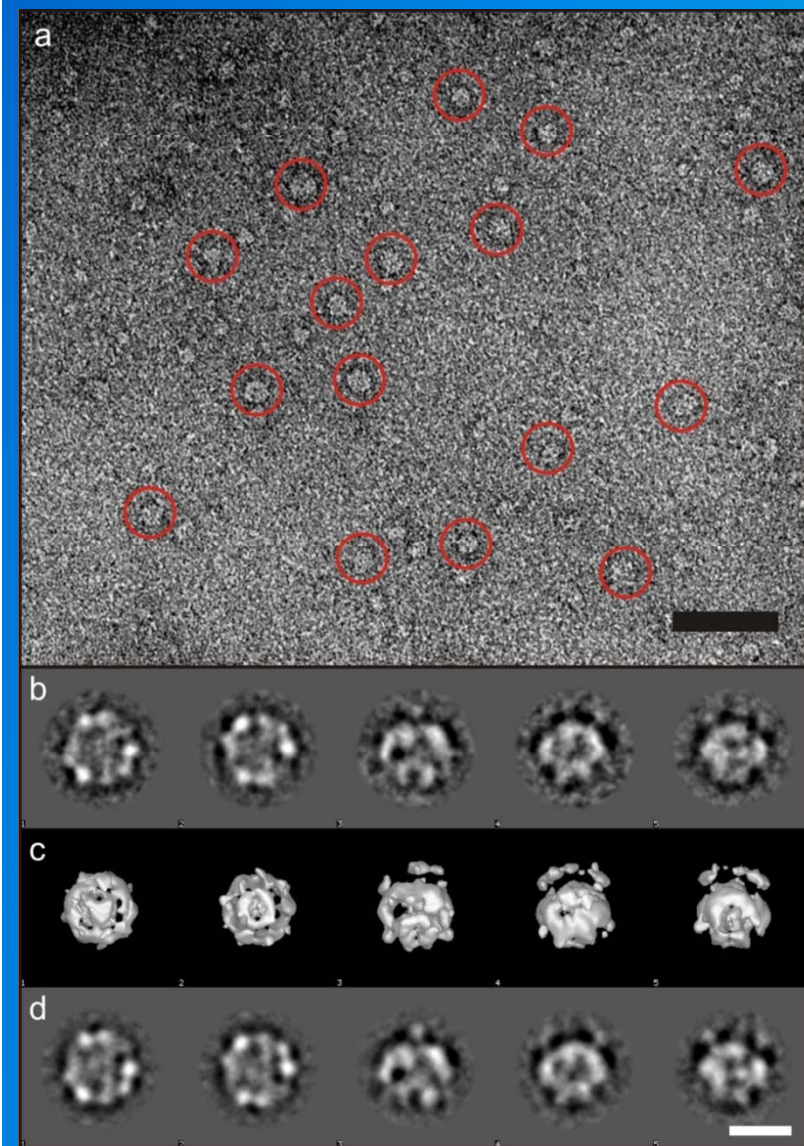




# Isolation of *in vivo* FtsH2(Slr0228)-GST fusion protein from *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803



# Electron microscopy and single particle analysis of FtsH2-GST/FtsH3 complex



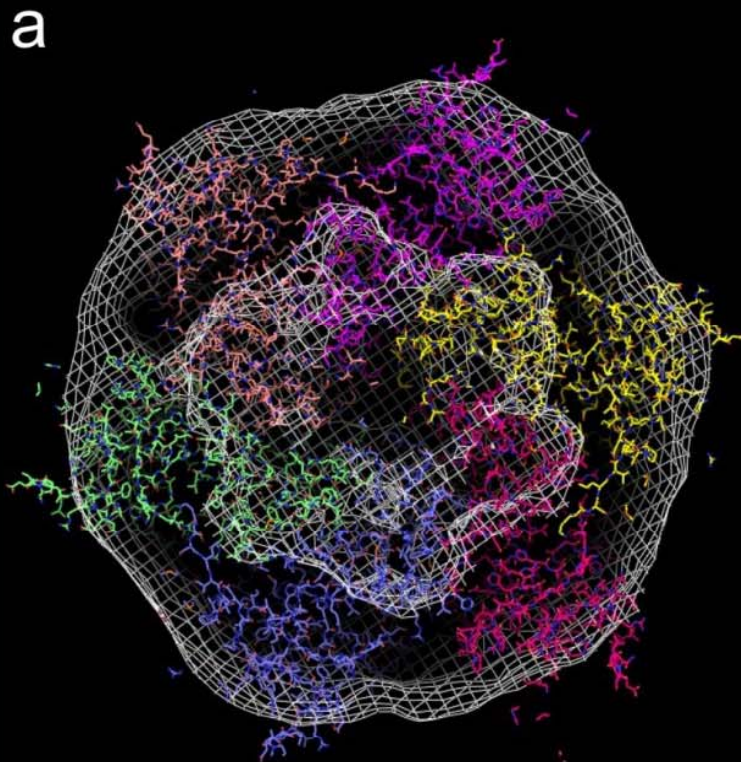
- a: negatively stained protein complexes**
- b: selection of five characteristic 2-D views**
- c: 3-D reconstruction of protein complex using 263 different class averages of 2,964 particles (at approx 26Å resolution)**
- d: surface-rendered views of final 3-D map calculated by angular reconstitution**

**Black bar 50 nm**

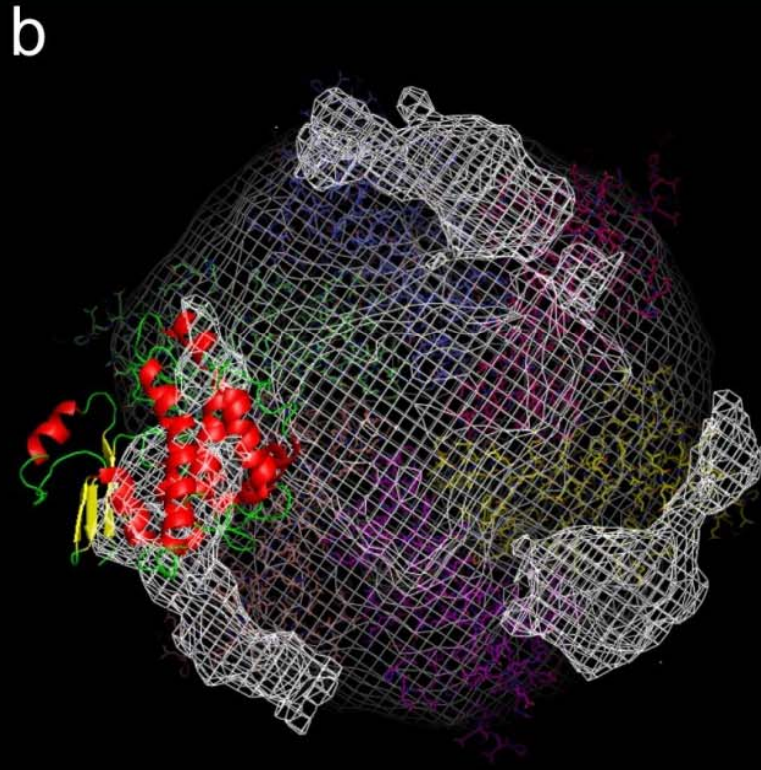
**White bar 10 nm**



# 3-D-reconstitution suggests hexameric complex with alternating FtsH2-GST and FtsH3 subunits

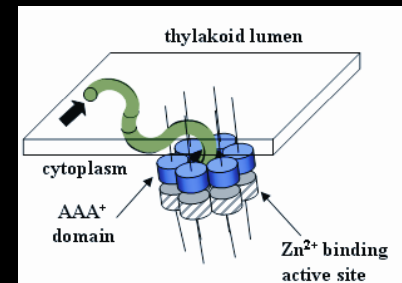


a: top view



b: bottom view

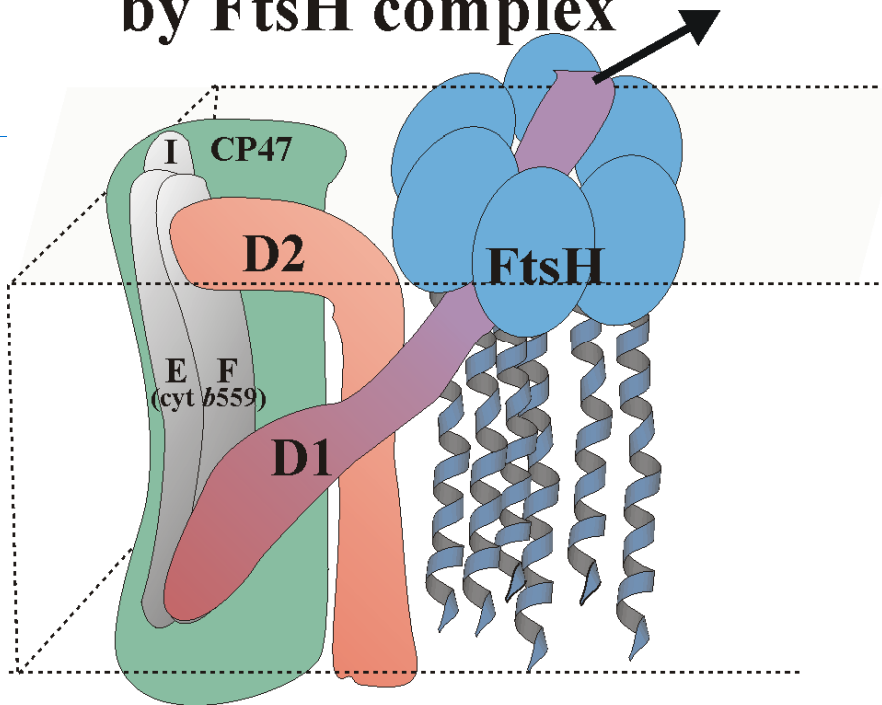
Structure of hexameric cytosolic region from *T. thermophilus* (Suno et al., 2006) + GST inserted into surface rendered model





# The FtsH-only model for D1 degradation in cyanobacteria

## Removal of damaged D1 by FtsH complex



Nixon et al., (2005)

- DegP proteases are not needed for D1 degradation.
- D1 degradation can be initiated at N-terminus (as long as greater than 20 residues).
- The FtsH2 complex is probably hexameric and might be homo- or hetero-oligomeric (FtsH3).
- Proteolysis is highly processive and is driven by ATP hydrolysis. **No breakdown intermediates.**
- D1 is triggered for degradation by destabilisation/partial unfolding. Common pathway for both donor-side and acceptor-side damage?
- Housekeeping role for FtsH. Degradation of unassembled PSII subunits and misassembled PSII complexes.



# Acknowledgements

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