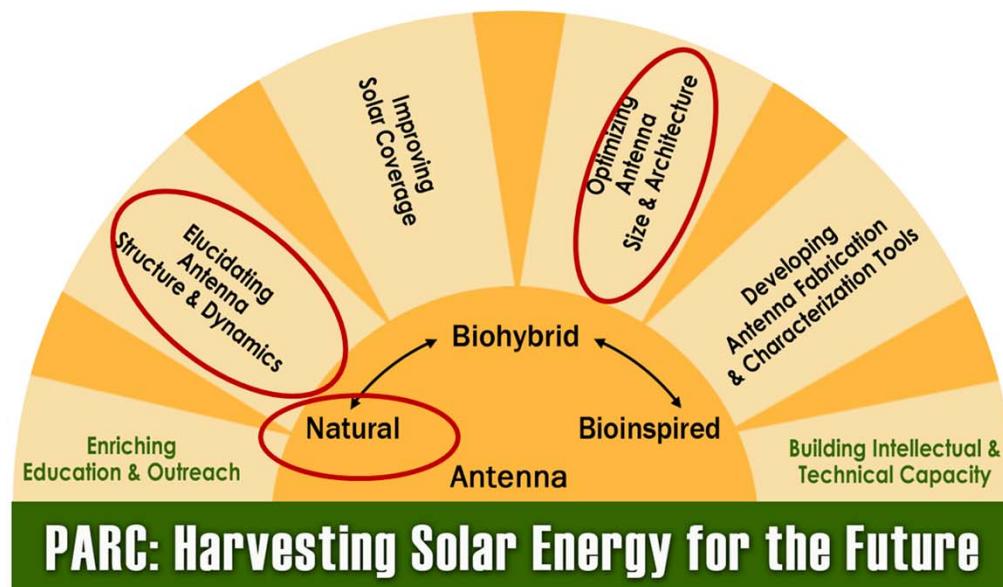


# Large-scale reorganization of thylakoid pigments in *Synechocystis* 6803 phycobilisome mutants

Aaron Collins  
Sandia National Laboratories  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 2012



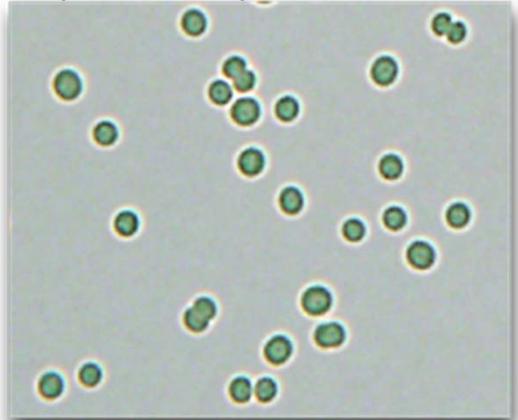
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Question – Does a diminished light-harvesting antenna change the pigment distribution and organization in thylakoid membranes?

*Synechocystis* ~1.5-2  $\mu\text{m}$



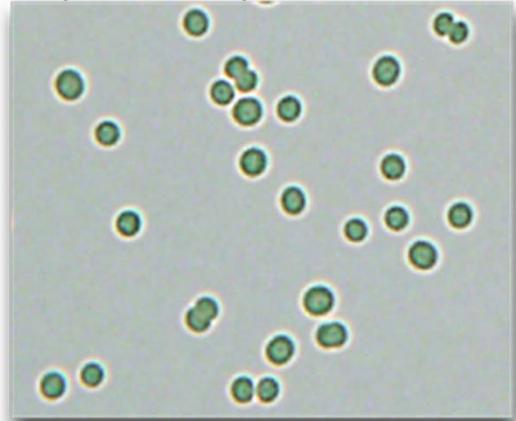
Pretty picture

Color (RGB), morphology



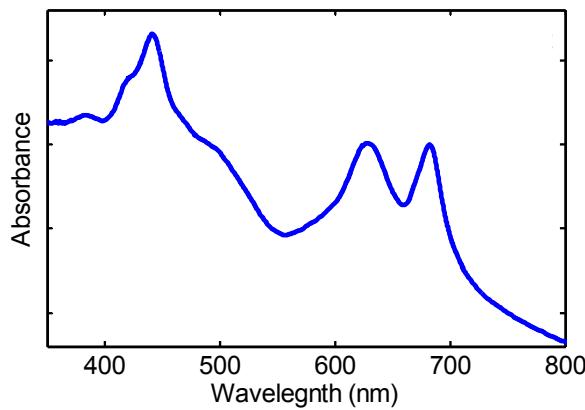
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Pretty picture

Color (RGB), morphology



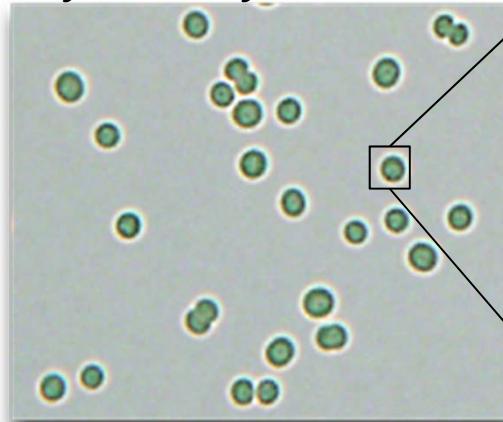
Spectral resolution

Pigment energy, spectral coverage

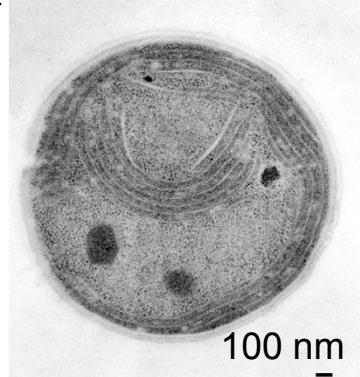


Question – Does a diminished light-harvesting antenna change the pigment distribution and organization in thylakoid membranes?

*Synechocystis*  $\sim 1.5\text{-}2 \mu\text{m}$



Thin section EM

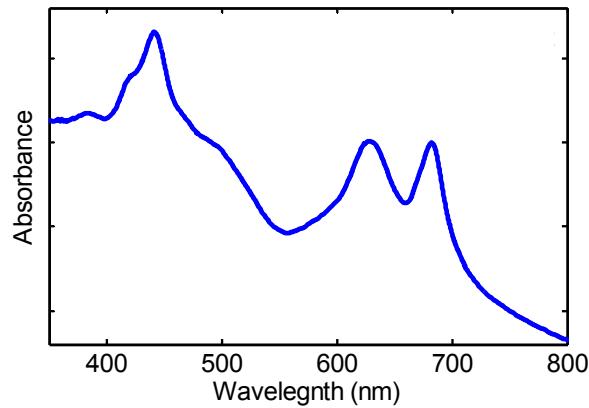


Pretty picture

Color (RGB), morphology



Spatial resolution  
Structural information

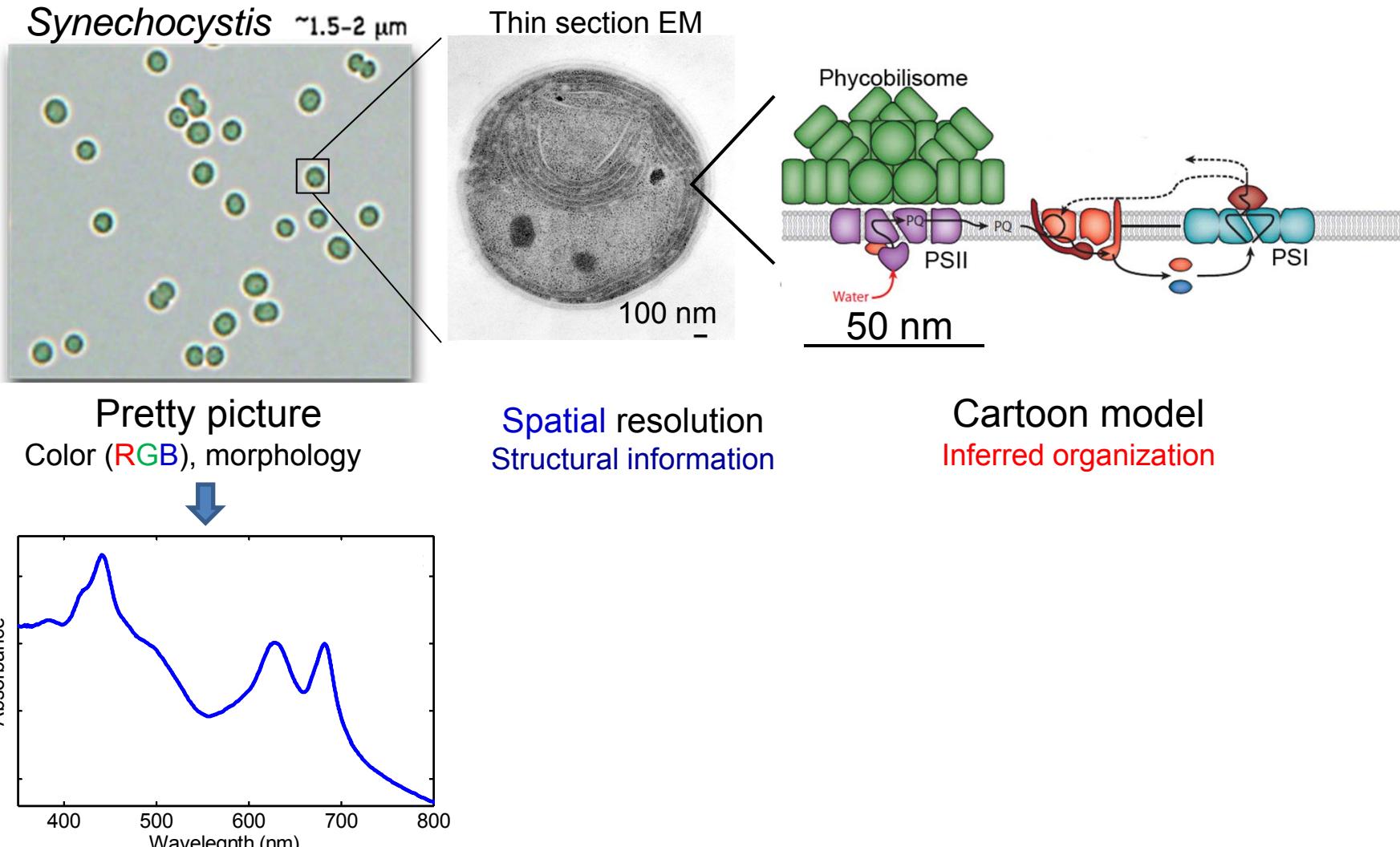


Spectral resolution

Pigment energy, spectral coverage



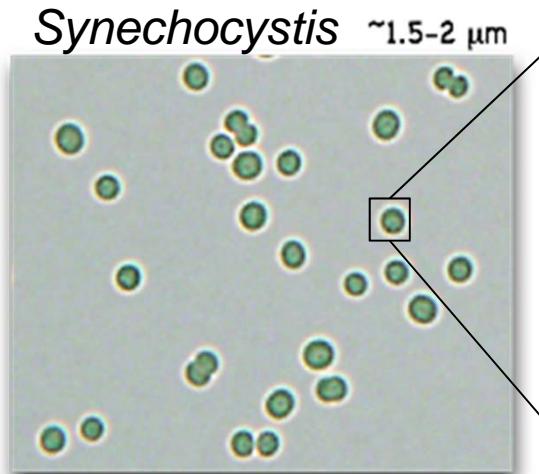
## Question – Does a diminished light-harvesting antenna change the pigment distribution and organization in thylakoid membranes?



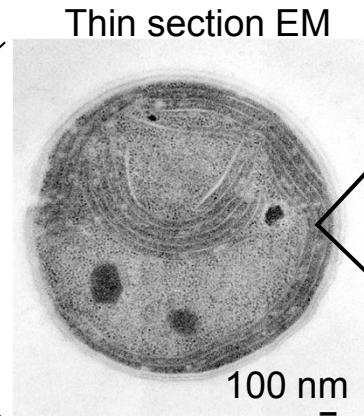
**Spectral resolution**  
Pigment energy, spectral coverage



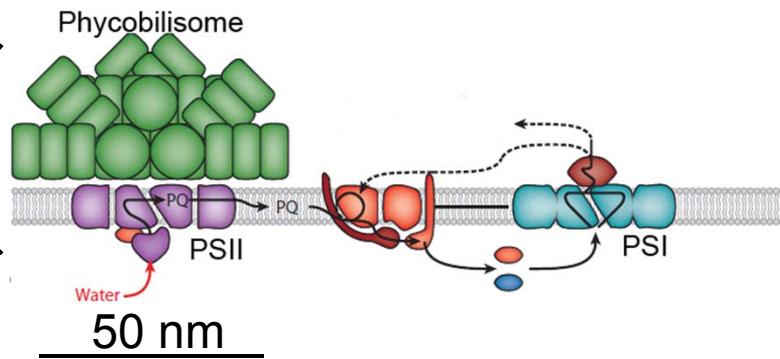
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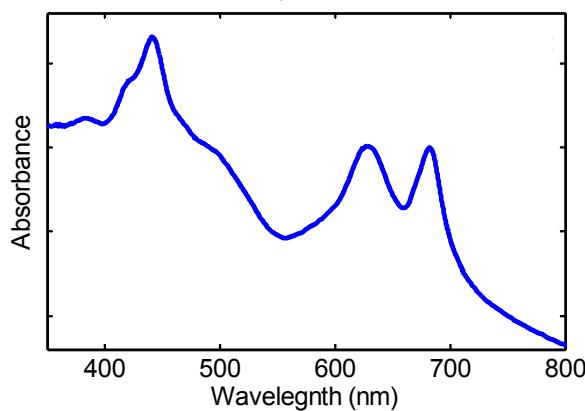
Pretty picture  
Color (RGB), morphology



Spatial resolution  
Structural information



Cartoon model  
Inferred organization

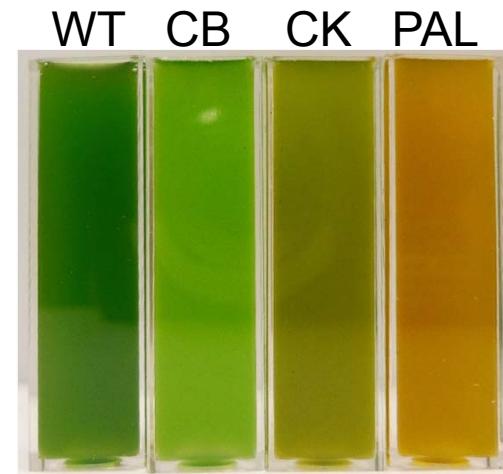
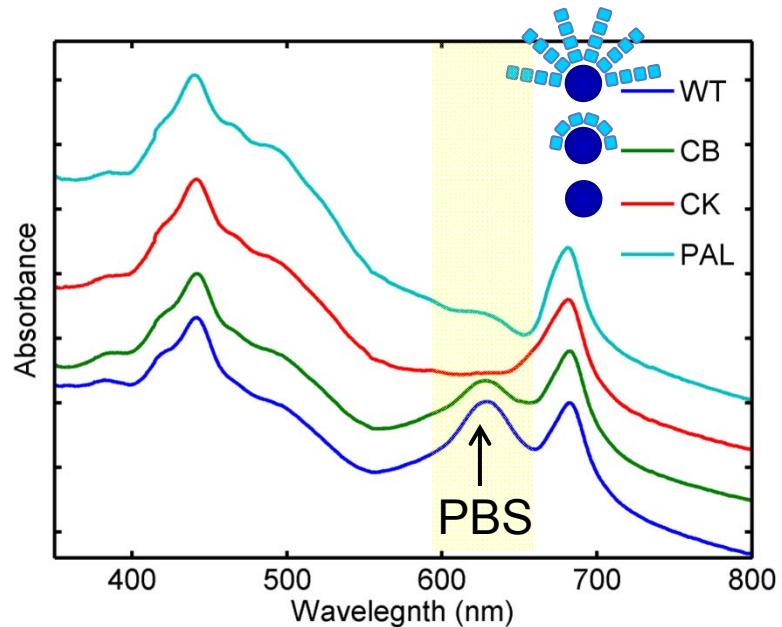
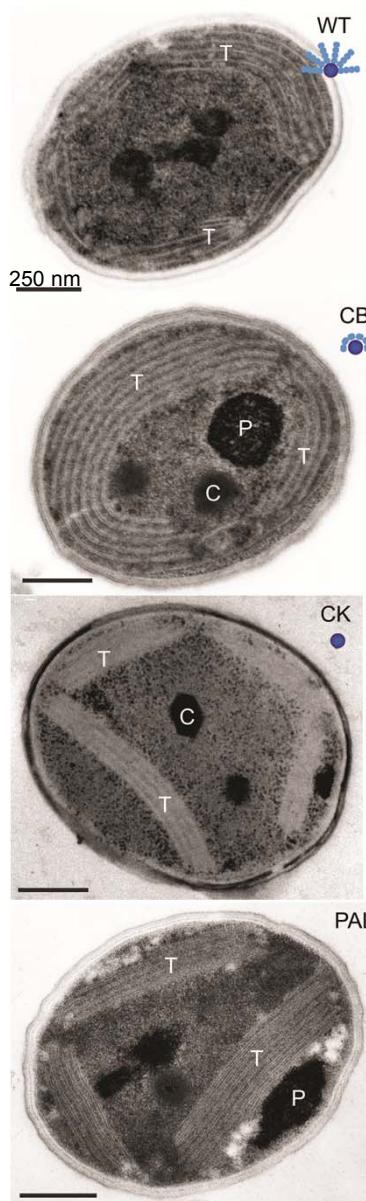
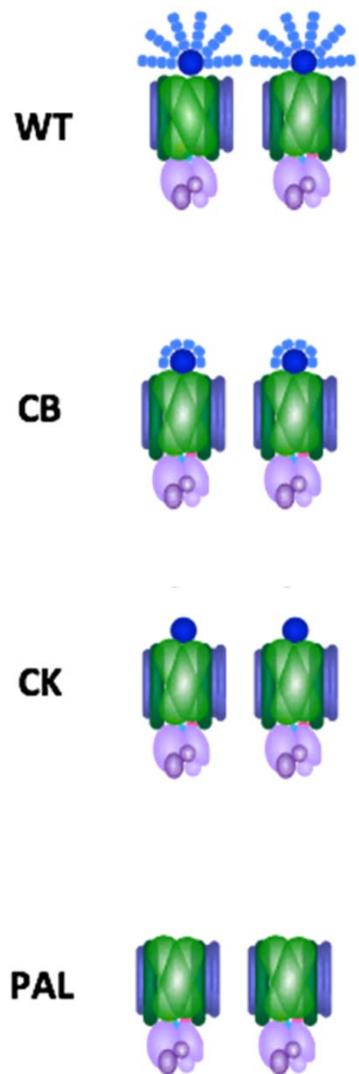


Spectral resolution  
Pigment energy, spectral coverage

Combine spatial and spectral information  
at the subcellular location using hyperspectral confocal fluorescence microscopy (HCFM)



## Synechocystis mutants – Progressive truncation of the phycobilisome antenna





## Hyperspectral Confocal Fluorescence Microscopy -



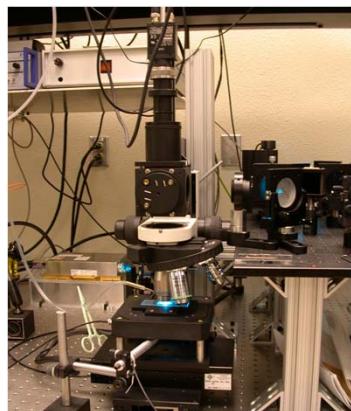
2009 R&D100  
Award Winner

M. B. Sinclair, et. al. Applied Optics,  
45, 6283-6291 (2006)

- Custom built
- Lateral res. = 250 nm
- Axial res. =  $\sim$ 0.6  $\mu$ m
- Spectral range 490-800 nm
- Spectral res. = 1-3 nm
- Acquisition rate = 4100 spectra/s



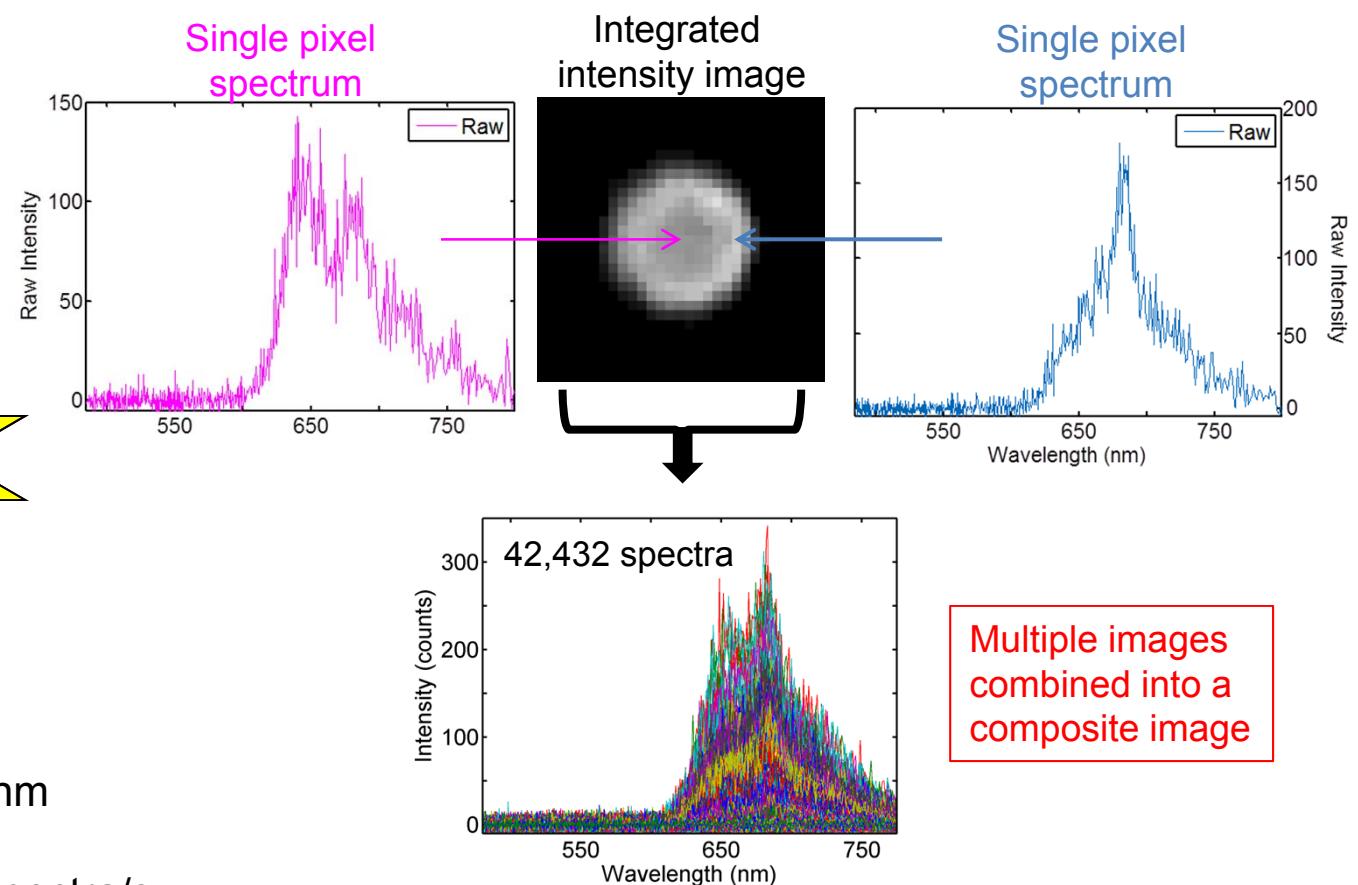
## Hyperspectral Confocal Fluorescence Microscopy - Records an entire emission spectrum at each spatial voxel



2009 R&D100  
Award Winner

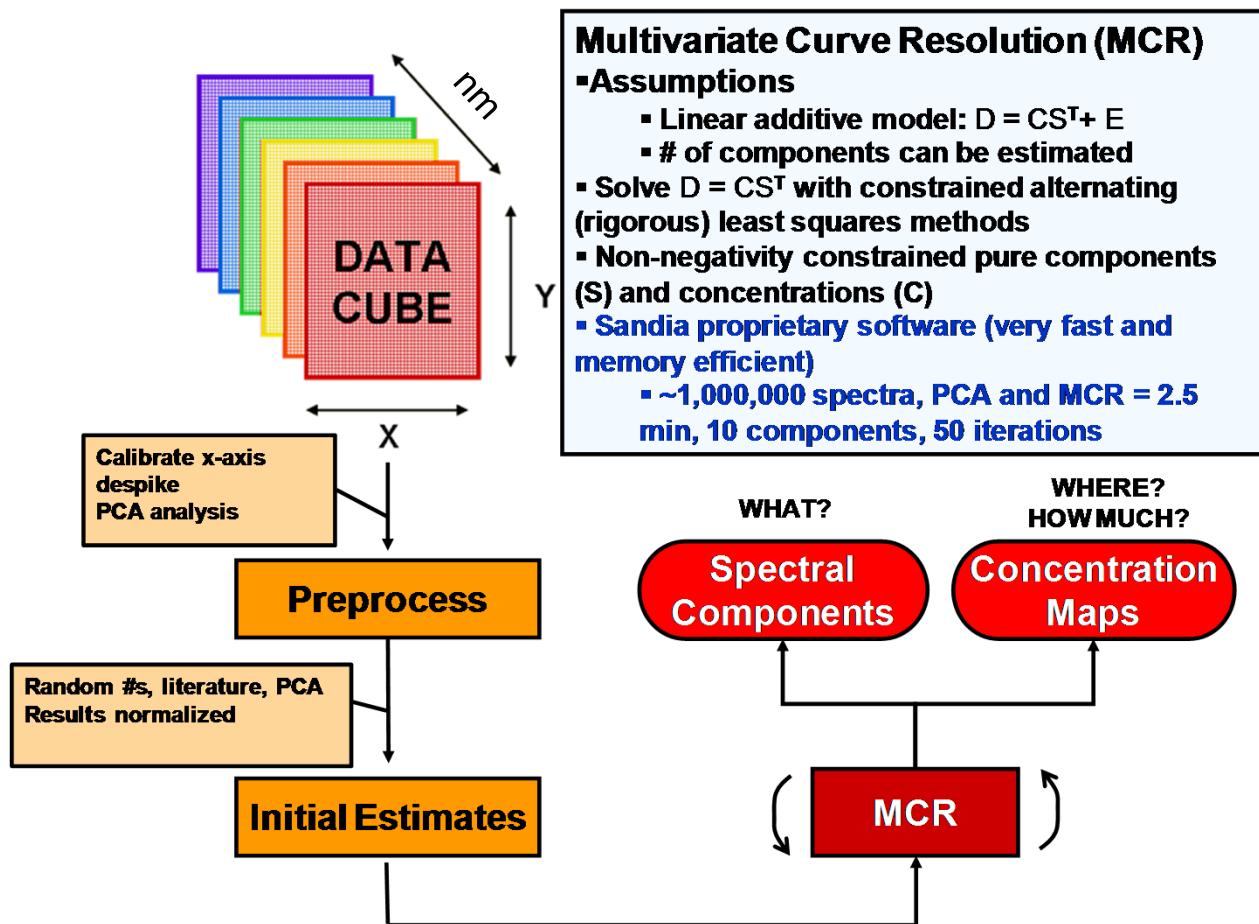
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Need a robust and efficient analysis tool  
Multivariate Curve Resolution

## Multivariate Curve Resolution – Mathematical isolation of pure spectral components and generation of independent concentration maps





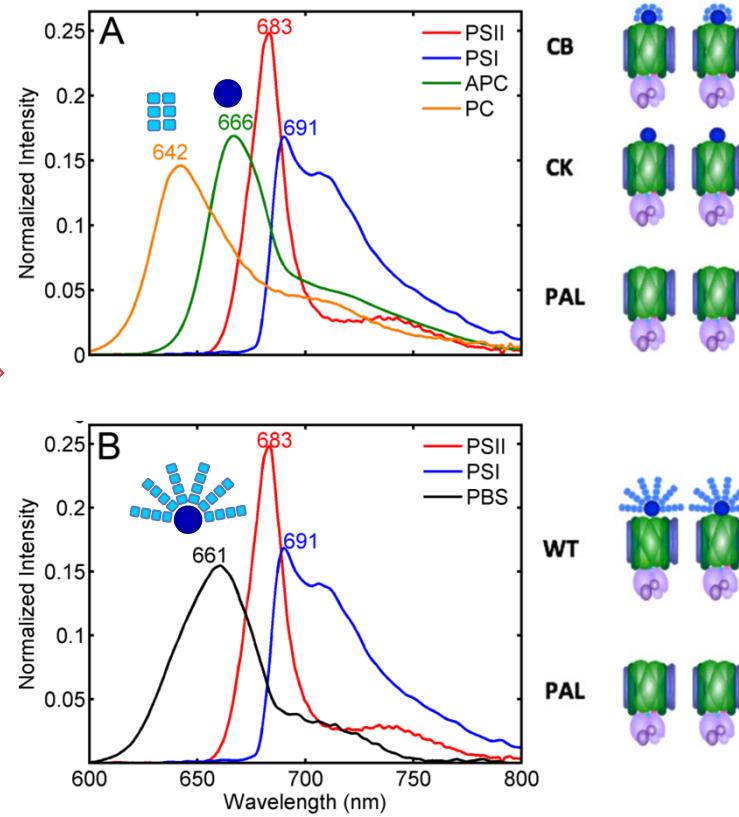
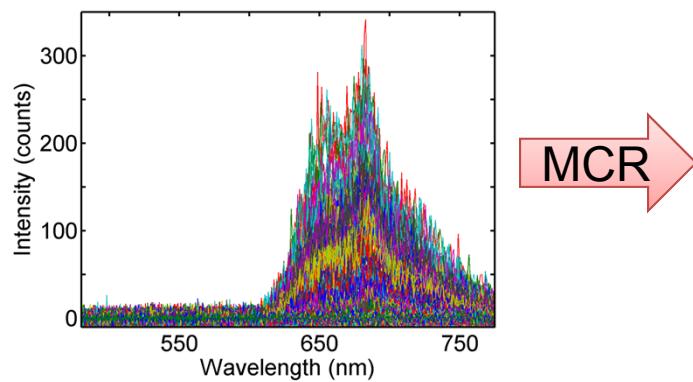
# Assignment of spectral signatures

60 images combined

2-3 biological replicates for WT, CB, CK and PAL

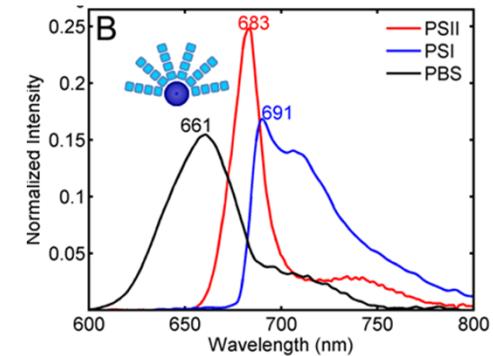
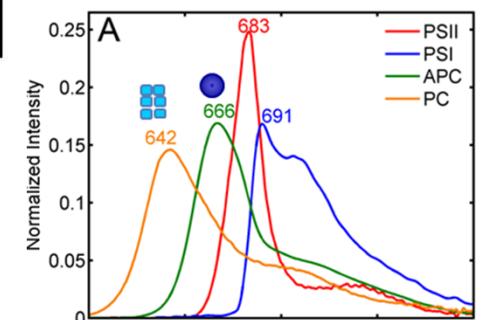
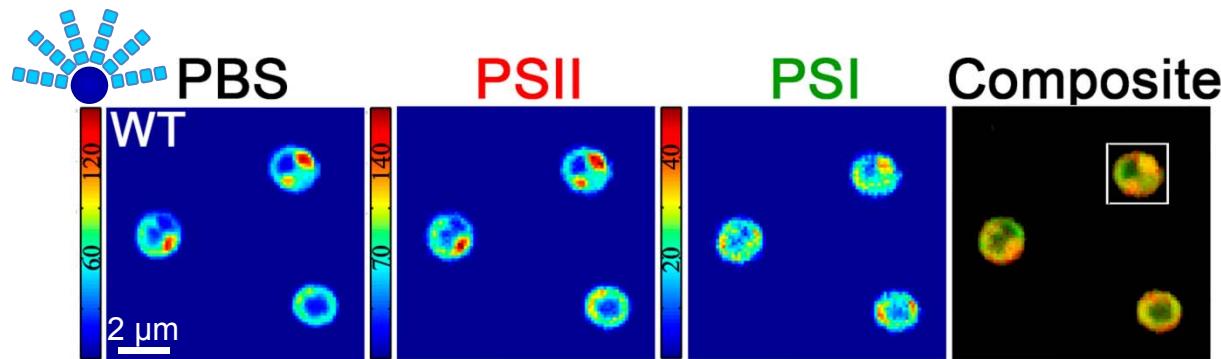
303 cells analyzed

( $2.5 \times 10^6$  spectra)



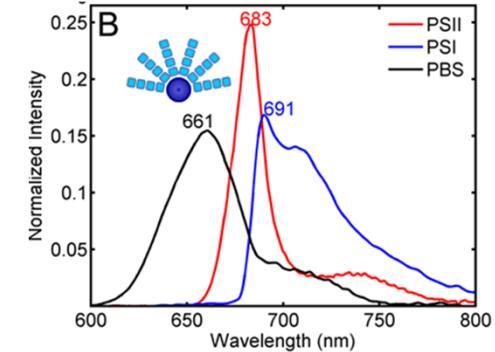
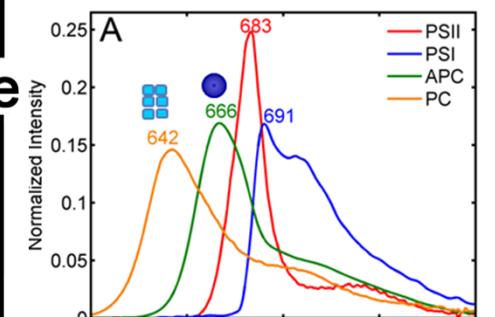
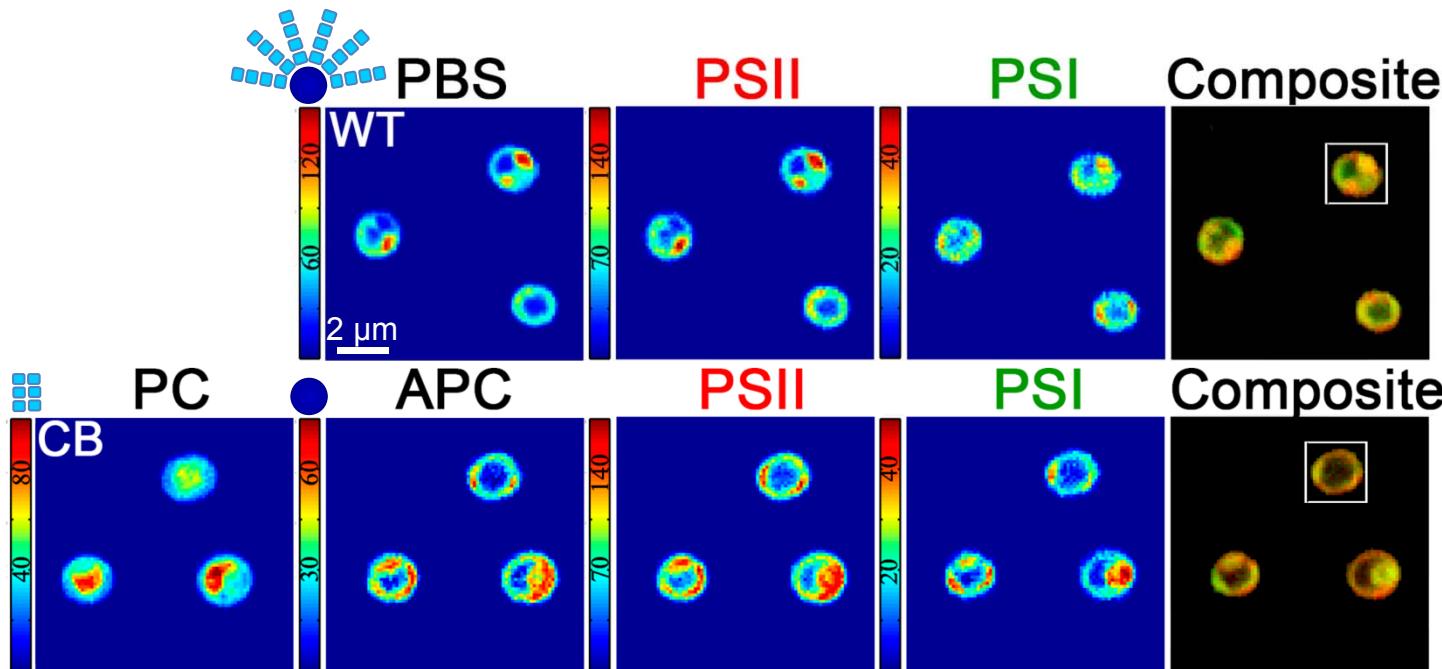


## MRC derived concentration maps – Reveals subcellular location and relative quantification of light-harvesting antenna



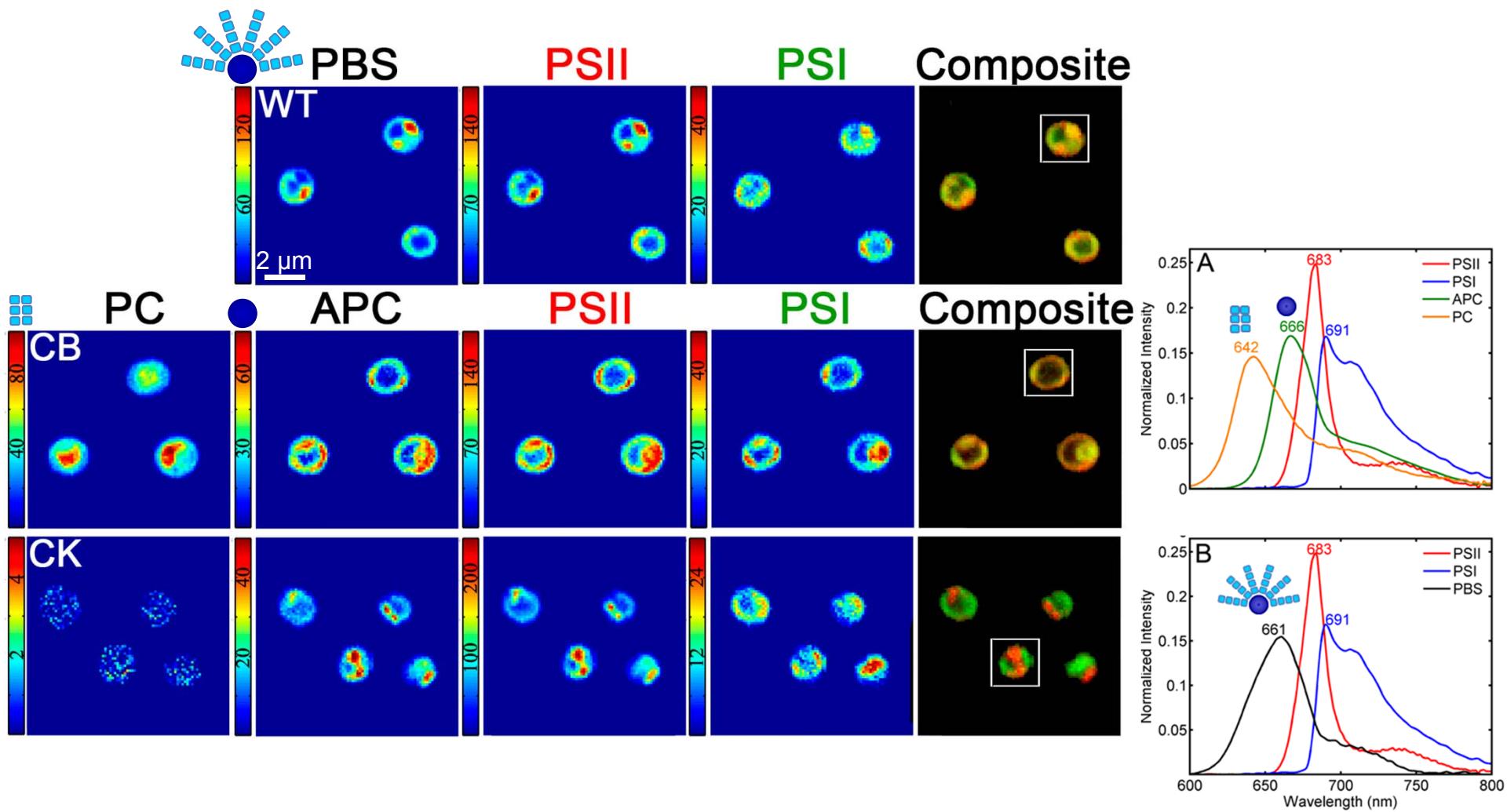


## MRC derived concentration maps – Reveals subcellular location and relative quantification of light-harvesting antenna



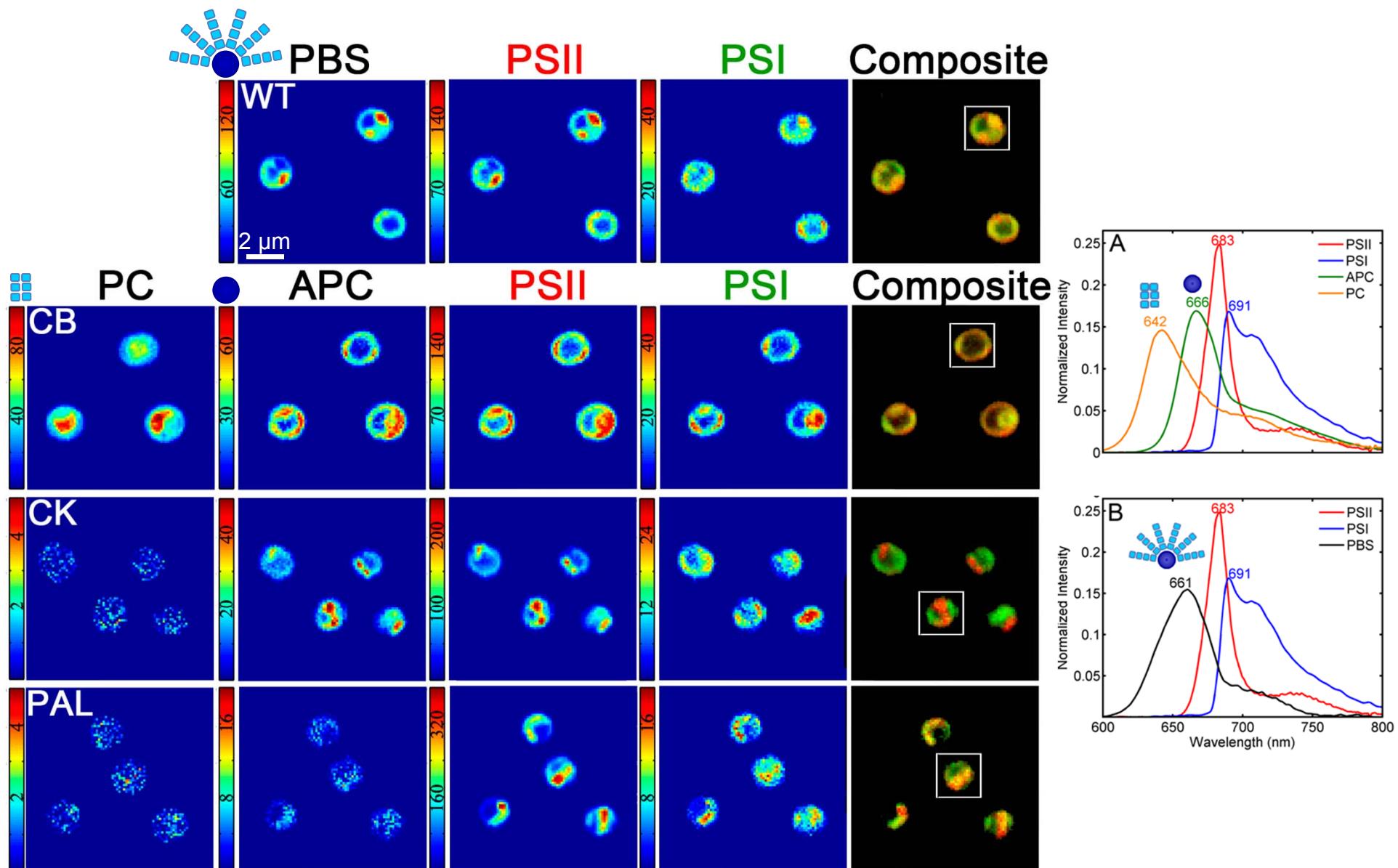


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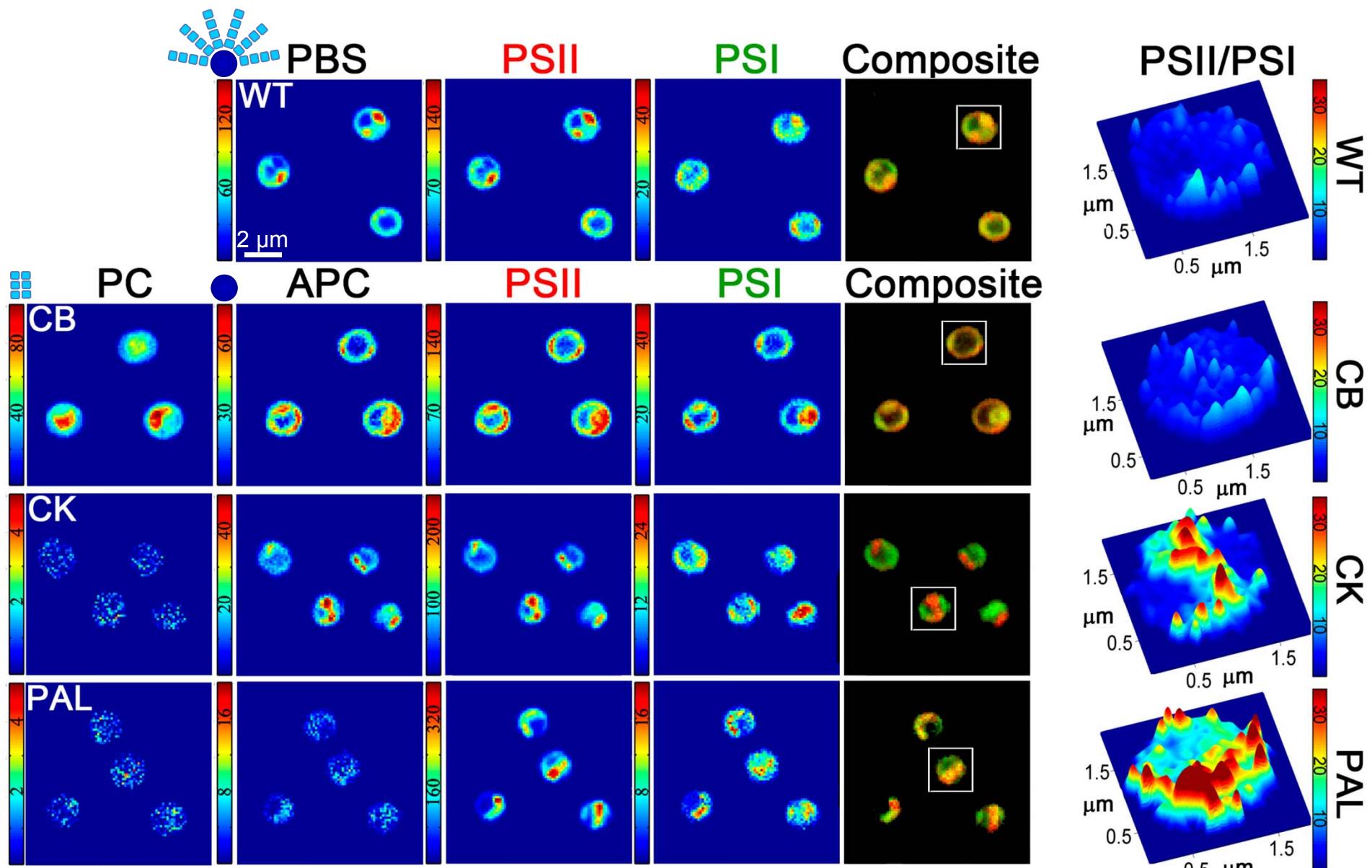


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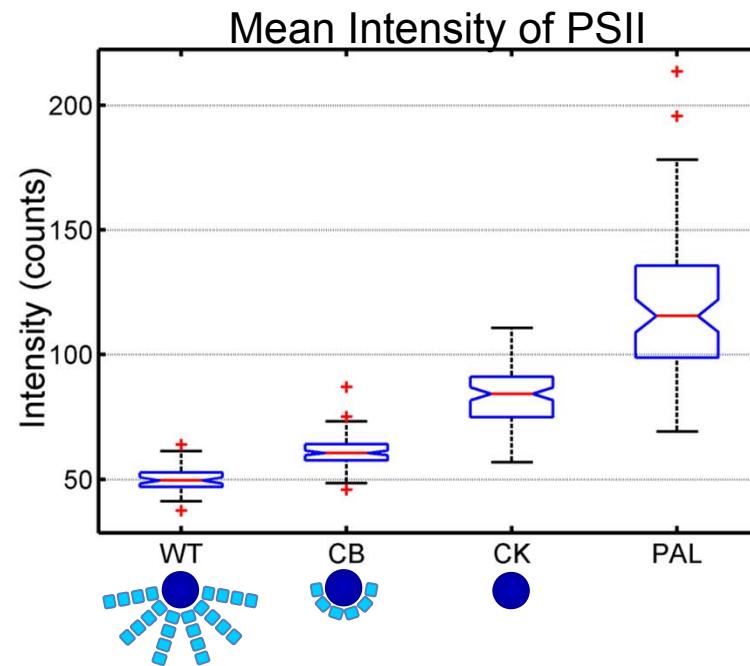
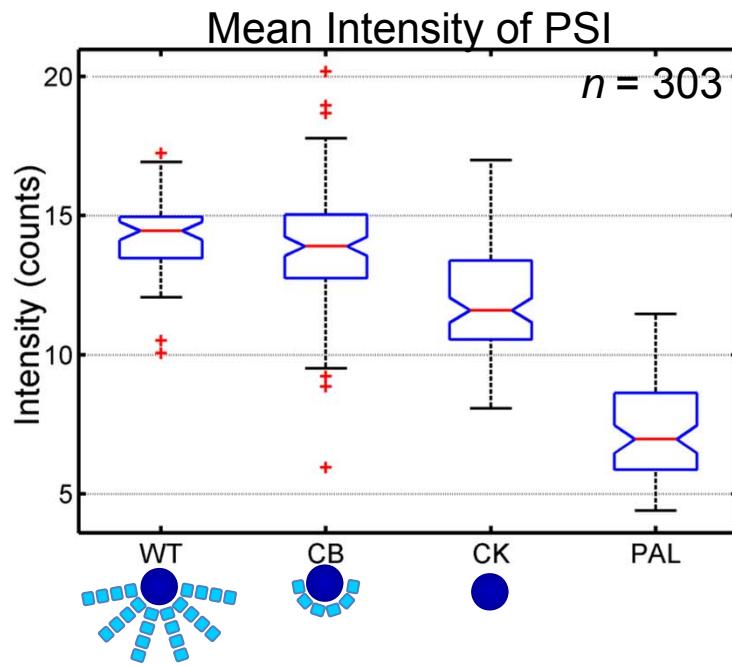


## MRC derived concentration maps – PSII/PSI ratio highlights spatial segregation of the two photosystems



## Statistical significant of component intensities

- PSI and PSII intensities were averaged on a per-cell basis
- Nested ANOVA indicated greatest variance is between strains (99% confidence)



As phycobilisome is truncated, PSII  $\uparrow$  while PSI  $\downarrow$   
 PSII and PSI are modulated in response to light sensitization



## Conclusions

- Flexibility of *Synechocystis* photosynthetic apparatus to changes in light sensitization
- Shows the importance of phycobilisome antenna to balance excitation delivery
- Unexpected spatial segregation of photosystems  
*what is the function of the PSII domains?*
- Modulation of photosystems ratio is necessary to ensure linear electron transport – proper electron flux

## Where do we go from here?

- Hyperspectral confocal fluorescence microscopy is amenable to a wide variety of systems  
*Natural, Bio-hybrid, and Biomimetic*
- Allows for elucidation of spatial-temporal-spectral relationships at diffraction limited resolution



# Acknowledgements



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Algorithm Development

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**Mark H. Van Benthem**

**Greg A. Poulter**



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University in St. Louis

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**Michelle Liberton** →



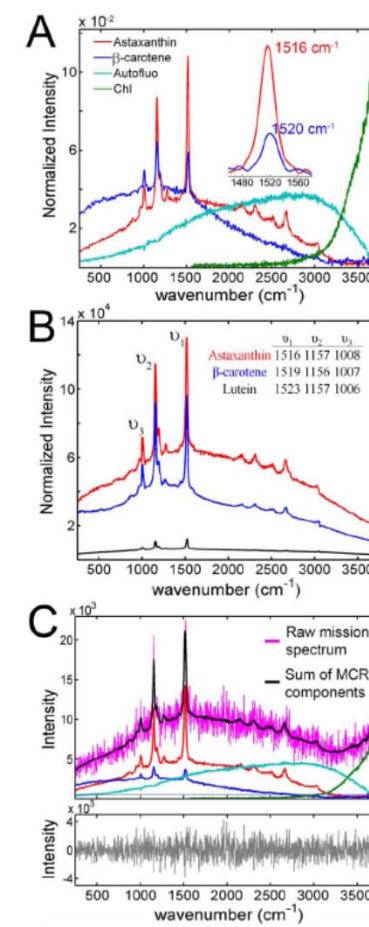
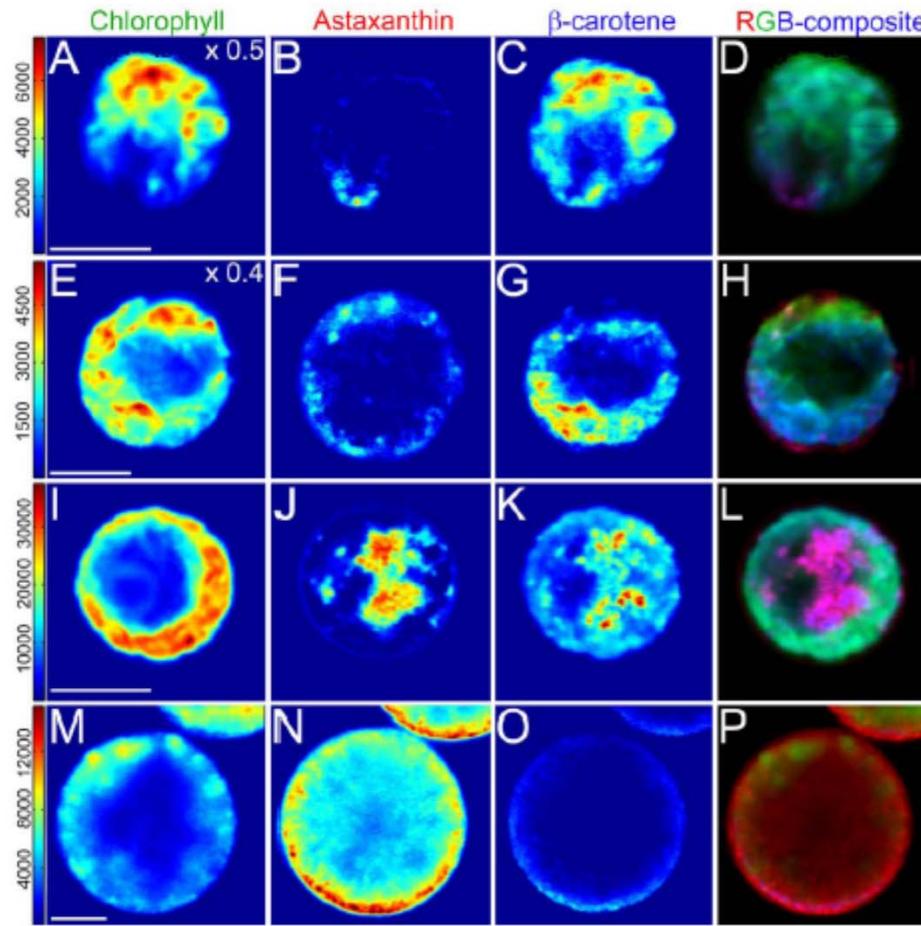
## Funding



# Carotenoid Distribution in Living Cells of *Haematococcus pluvialis* (Chlorophyceae)

Aaron M. Collins<sup>1</sup>, Howland D. T. Jones<sup>1</sup>, Danxiang Han<sup>3</sup>, Qiang Hu<sup>3</sup>, Thomas E. Beechem<sup>2</sup>, Jerilyn A. Timlin<sup>1\*</sup>

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# In vivo hyperspectral confocal fluorescence imaging to determine pigment localization and distribution in cyanobacterial cells

Wim F. J. Vermaas\*,†, Jerilyn A. Timlin‡, Howland D. T. Jones‡, Michael B. Sinclair‡, Linda T. Nieman‡§, Sawsan W. Hamad\*, David K. Melgaard‡, and David M. Haaland‡

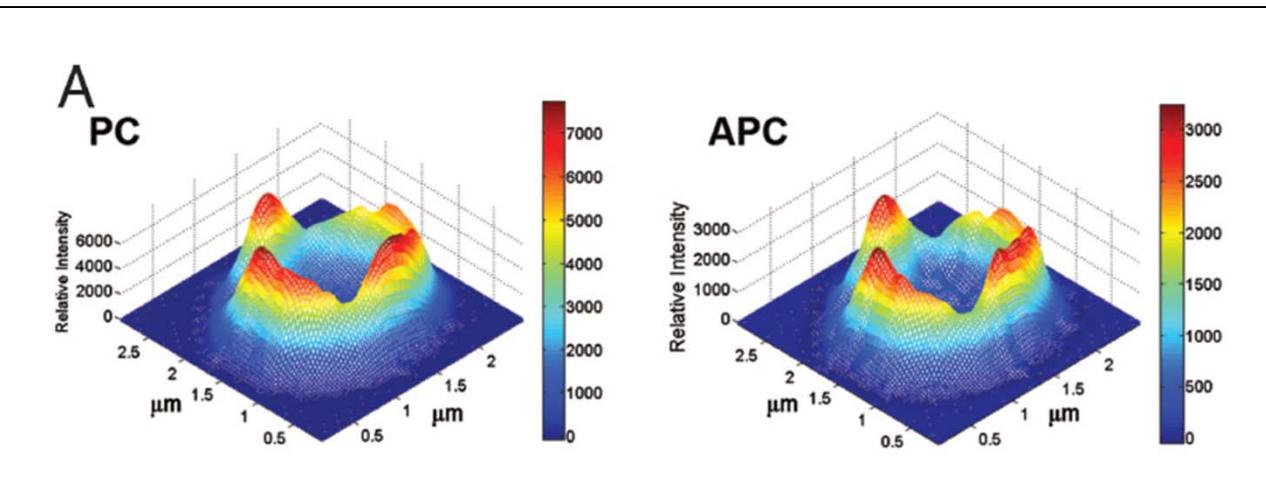
\*School of Life Sciences and Center for Bioenergy and Photosynthesis, Arizona State University, Box 874501, Tempe, AZ 85287-4501; and †Sandia National Laboratories, MS0895, Albuquerque, NM 87185

Edited by Elisabeth Gantt, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, and approved January 25, 2008 (received for review August 27, 2007)

Hyperspectral confocal fluorescence imaging provides the opportunity to obtain individual fluorescence emission spectra in small ( $\approx 0.03\text{-}\mu\text{m}^3$ ) volumes. Using multivariate curve resolution, individual fluorescence components can be resolved, and their intensities can be calculated. Here we localize, *in vivo*, photosynthesis-related pigments (chlorophylls, phycobilins, and carotenoids) in wild-type and mutant cells of the cyanobacterium *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803. Cells were excited at 488 nm, exciting primarily phycobilins and carotenoids. Fluorescence from phycocyanin, allophycocyanin, allophycocyanin-B/terminal emitter, and chlorophyll a was resolved. Moreover, resonance-enhanced Raman signals and very weak fluorescence from carotenoids were observed. Phycobilin

cytoplasmic membrane of cyanobacteria, whereas Chl is not (6, 7). Additional light-harvesting capability, primarily for PS II, is provided by phycobilisomes, which are pigment-binding complexes in the cytoplasm that associate with thylakoids to enable energy transfer to Chl (8, 9). Phycocyanin (PC), allophycocyanin (APC), and allophycocyanin-B (APC-B) are the main phycobilisome pigments in *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803 (10).

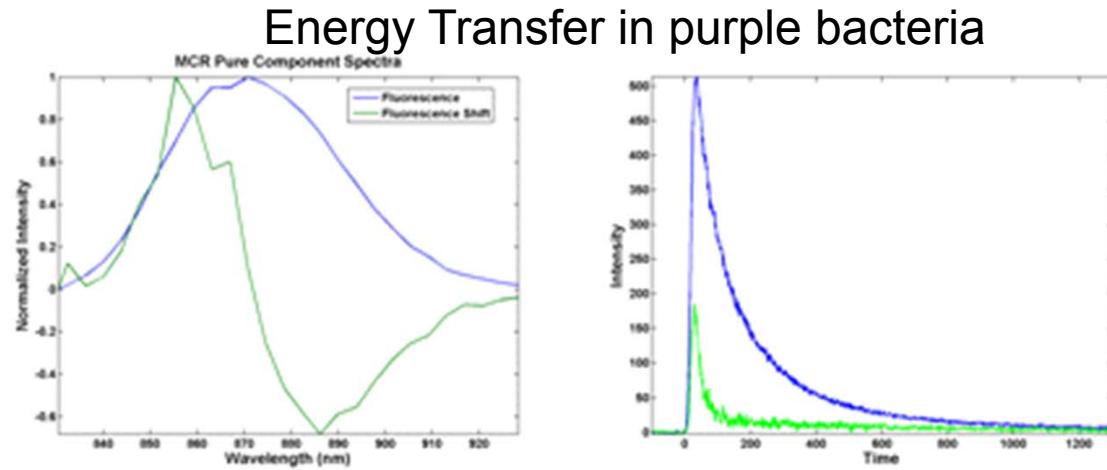
Chl and phycobilisome pigments fluoresce at room temperature with spectral maxima in the 640- to 700-nm range. PC emits fluorescence with an  $\approx 650\text{-nm}$  maximum, APC at 665 nm, and APC-B at 675 nm, and the main emission wavelength of Chl is at 685 nm (11). Phycobilisomes are highly fluorescent in isolated





# MCR and Other Modalities

Streak Camera Data



Resonance Enhanced  
Raman

