



Solar Energy for a Circular Economy

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SUNRISE FINLAND Stakeholder Workshop, Turku University

9 December 2019

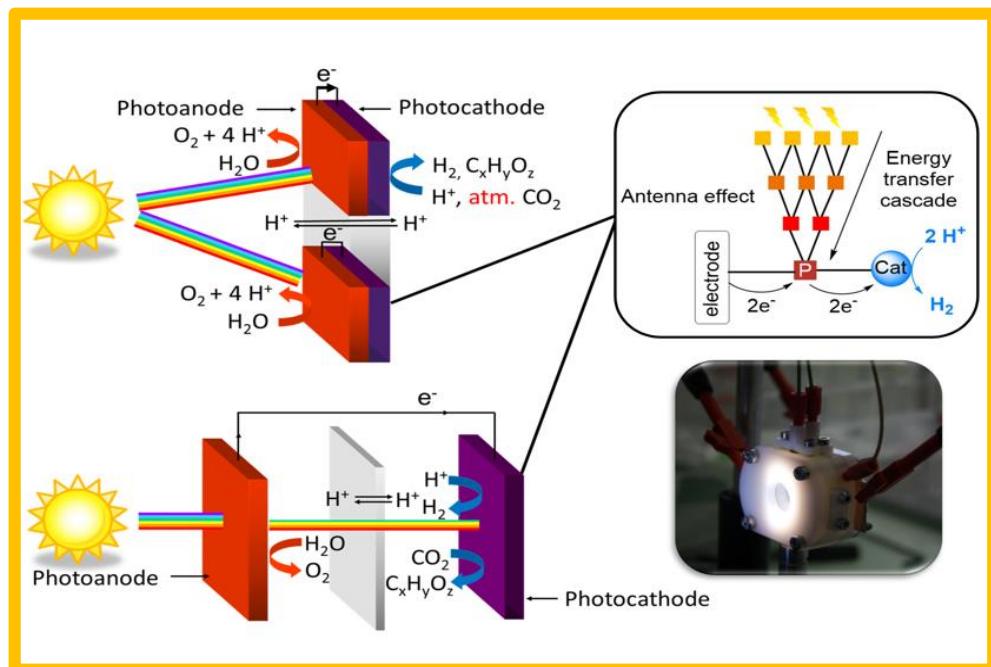
www.sunriseaction.eu



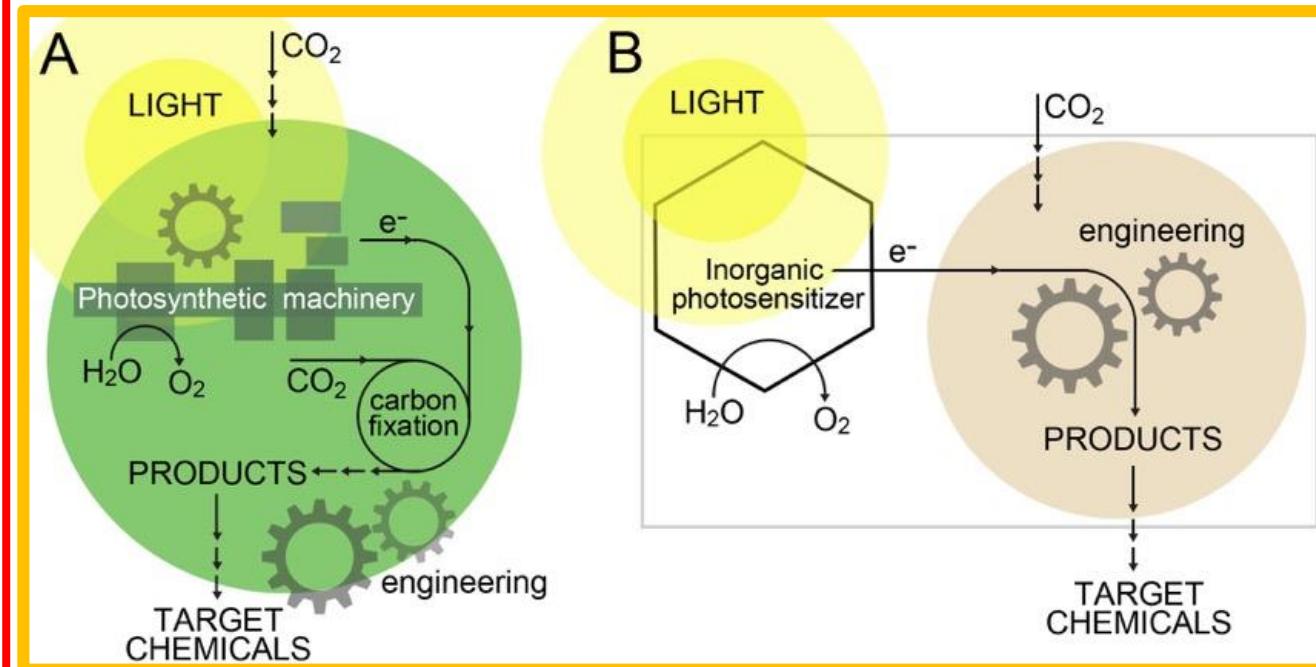
This project has received funding
from the European Union's Horizon
2020 research and innovation
programme under grant agreement
No 816336

SUNRISE: APPROACH 2 and 3

2- Direct conversion *via* integrated artificial and biomolecular photosynthetic systems



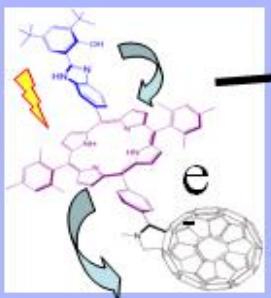
3- Direct conversion *via* biological and biohybrid systems



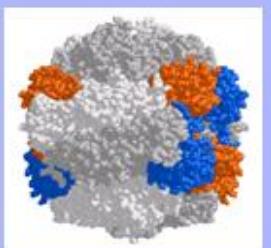
Design of an “Artificial Leaf” using solar energy to split water into Oxygen and use the Hydrogen to convert CO_2 into fuel



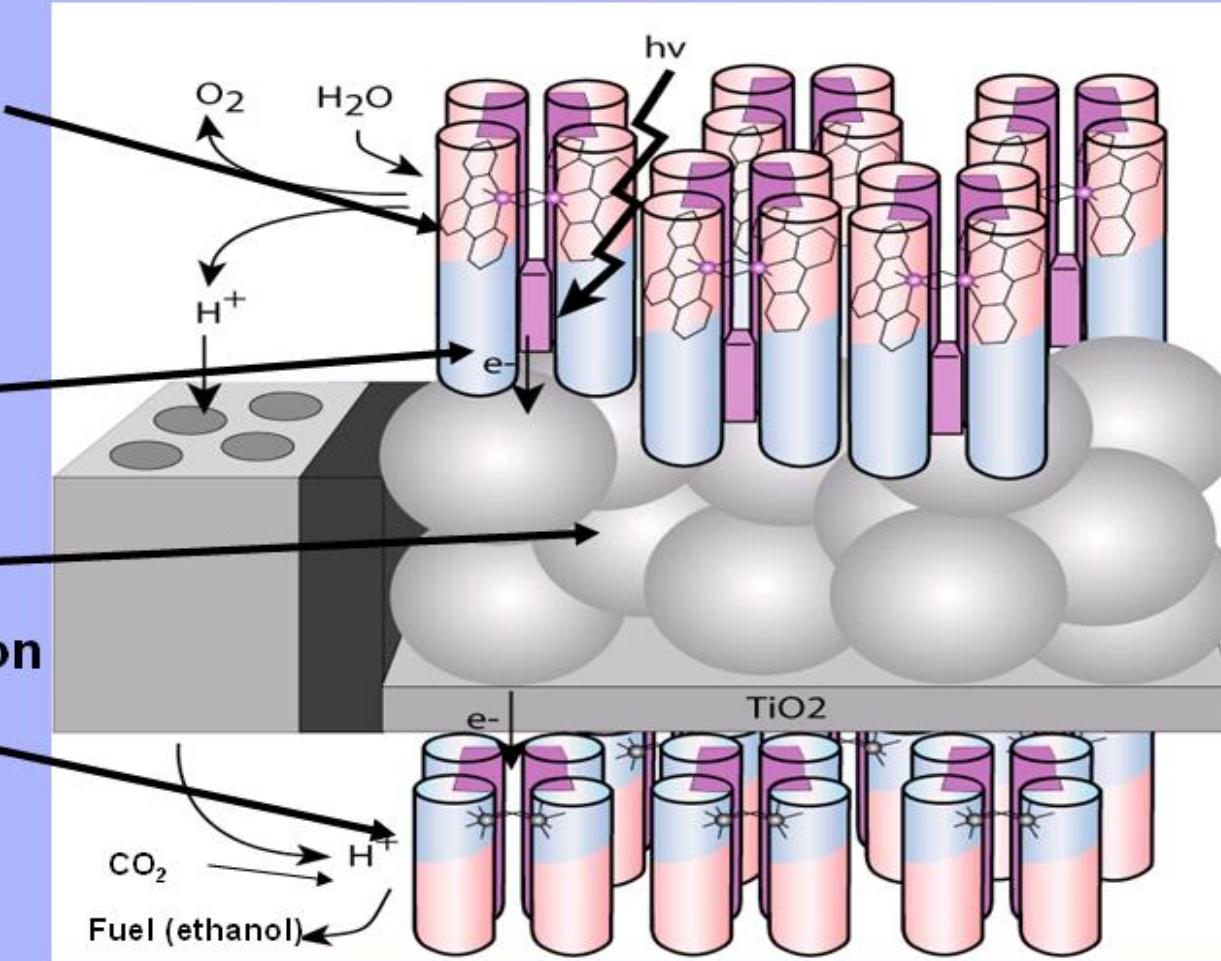
Mimic PSII



Charge separation



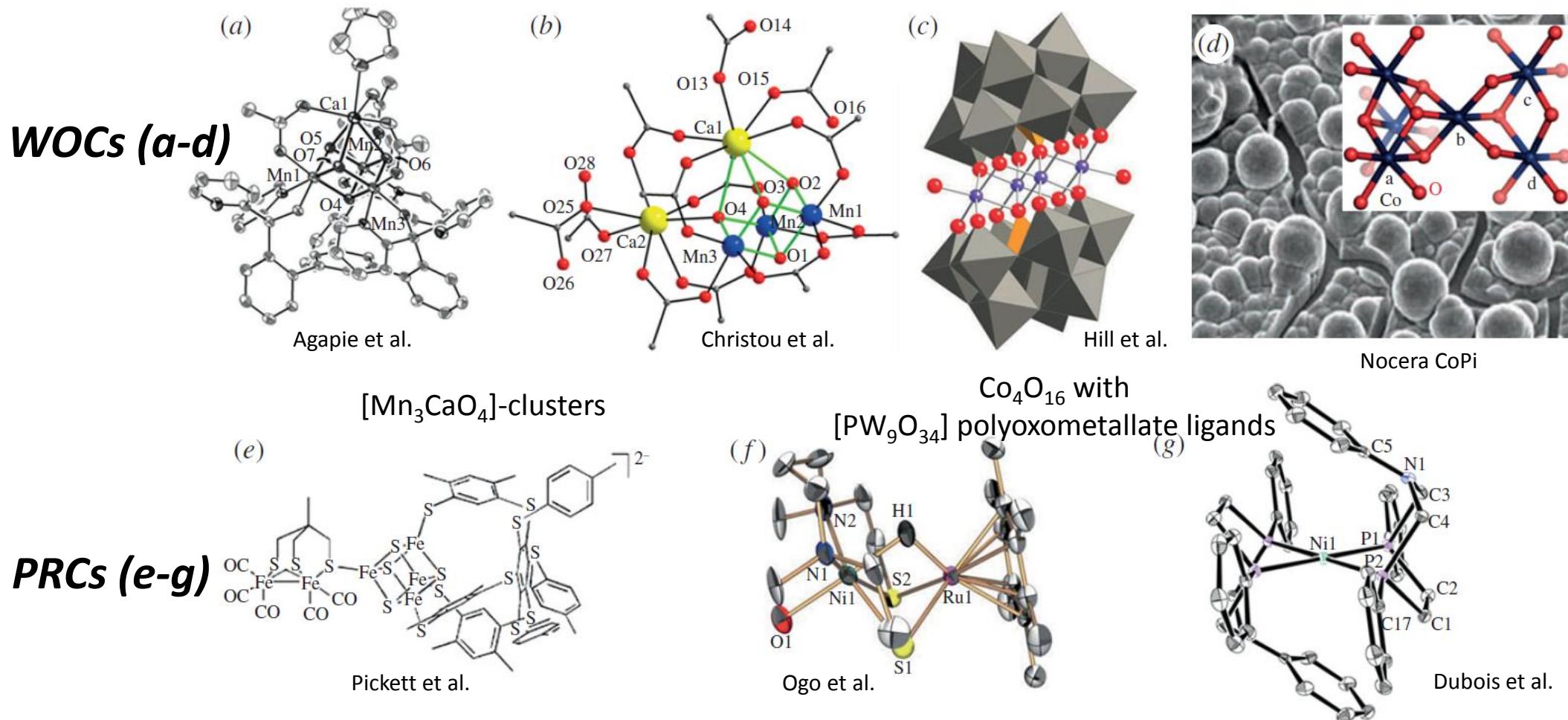
Mimic
Carboxylase



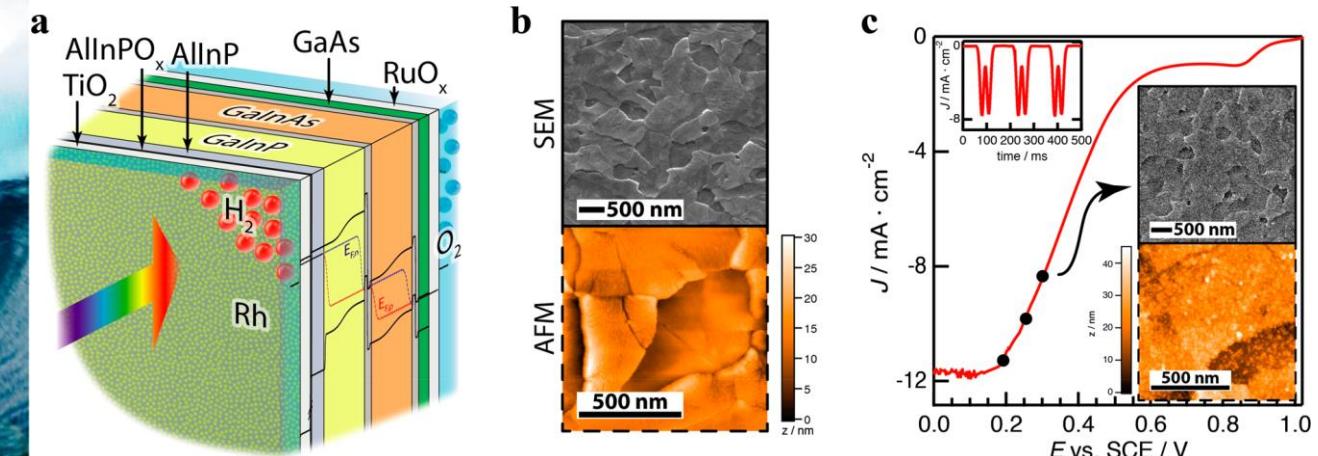
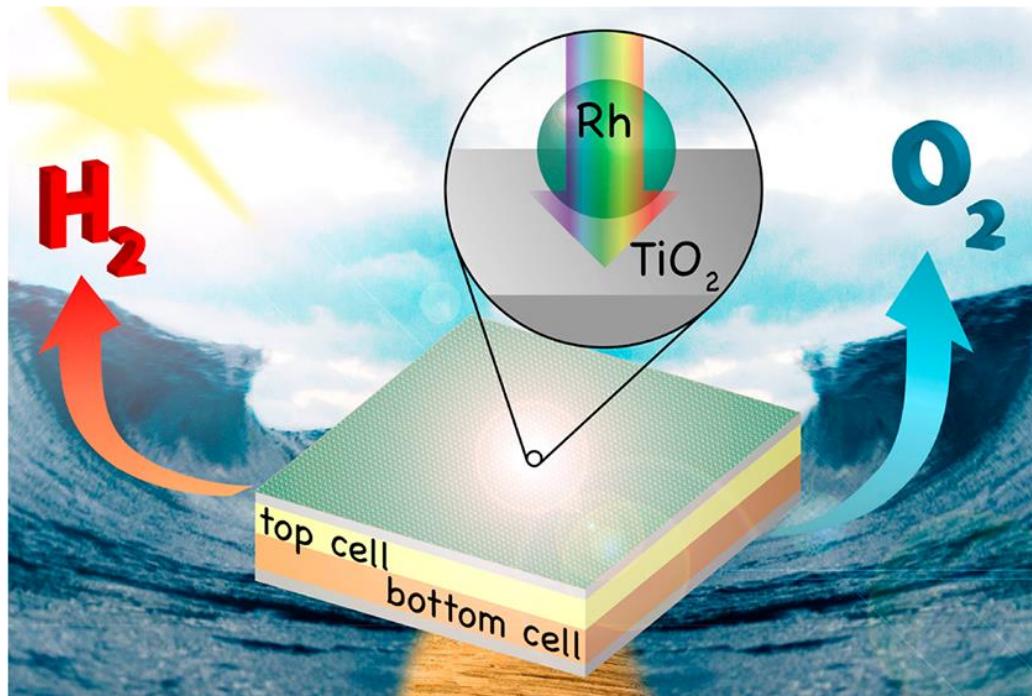
Key issues:

- Efficiency in the lab of $\geq 10\%$.
- Cheap materials stable in water
- Properly interfaced catalysts on each electrode
- Nanoscale construction of efficient DET
- Macroscaling

Challenge: Integration of catalysts with high TON and TOF and interfacing modules



SUNRISE: State of the art



STATE OF THE ART: monolithic PEC tandem heterojunction device with 19% STH efficiency,
ACS Energy Lett. 2018, 3, 1795-1800



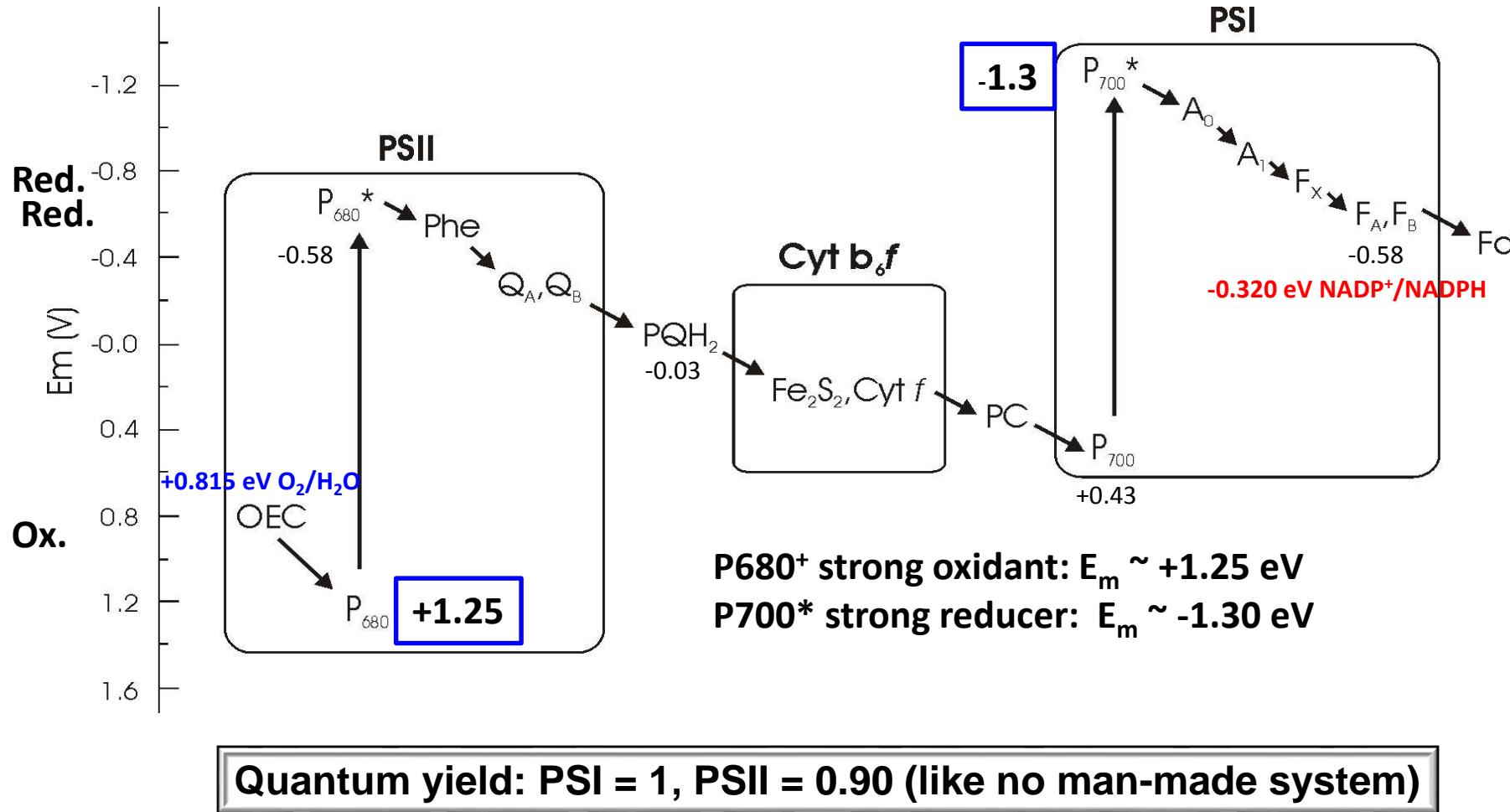
CHALLENGE:
How to construct biomolecular solar-to-fuel devices to efficiently harness, convert and store solar energy?

Biomolecular Artificial Systems

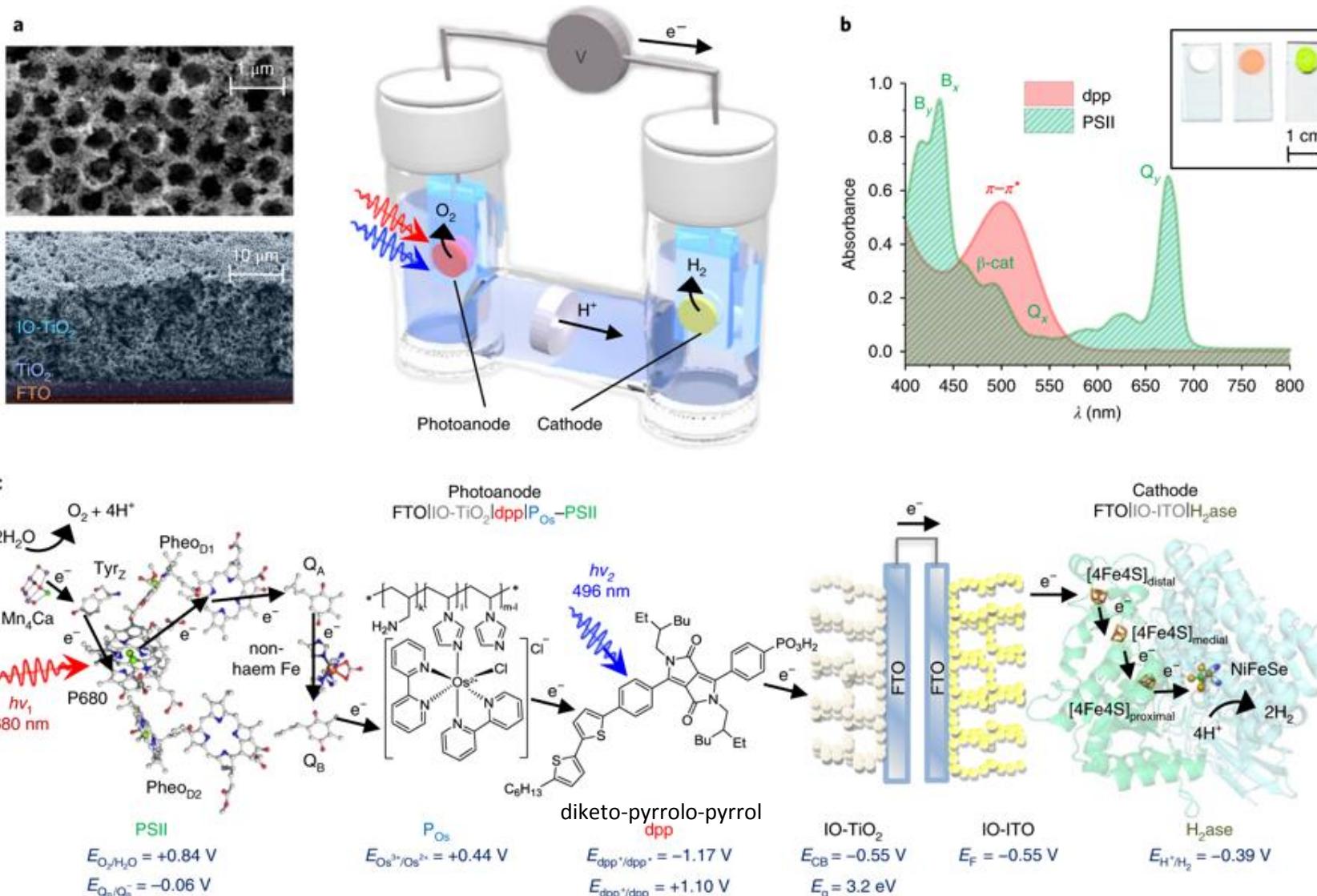
Photosystem-other enzyme (H_2 ase)-based solar-to-fuel and solar cell nanodevices:

- Optimised for energy and charge transfer (IQE ~ 100%)
- Self-assembling & self-renewing catalysts for WOR and HER/CRR
- Cheap to obtain
- Non-toxic

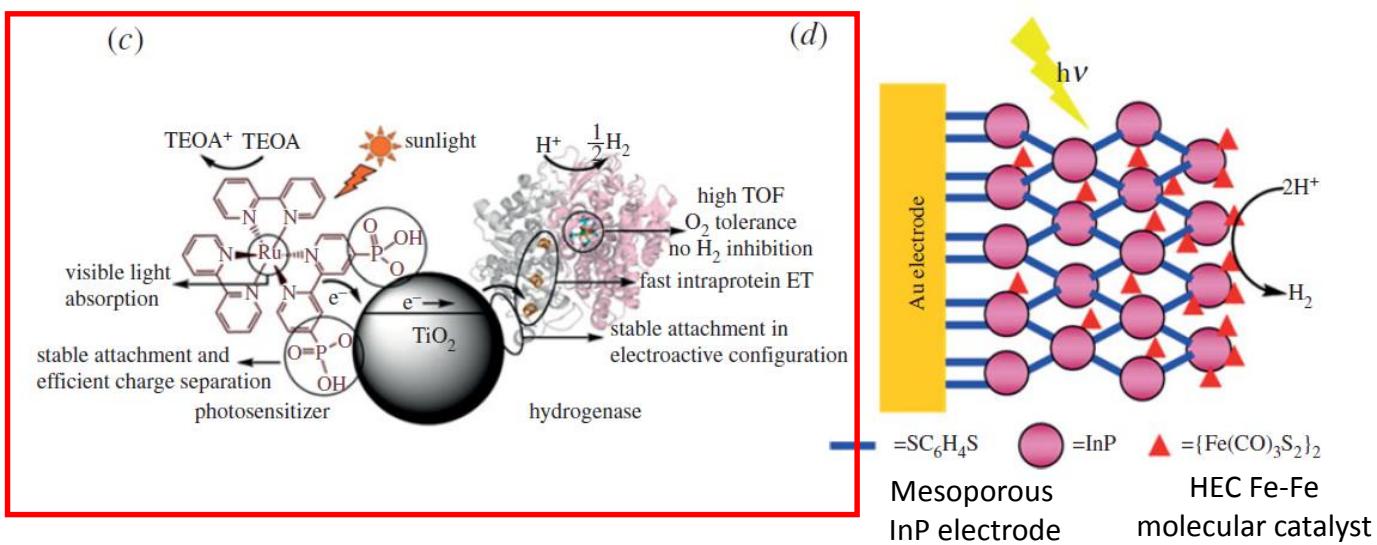
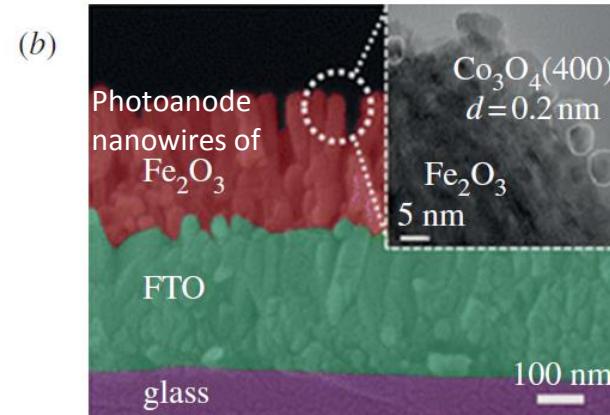
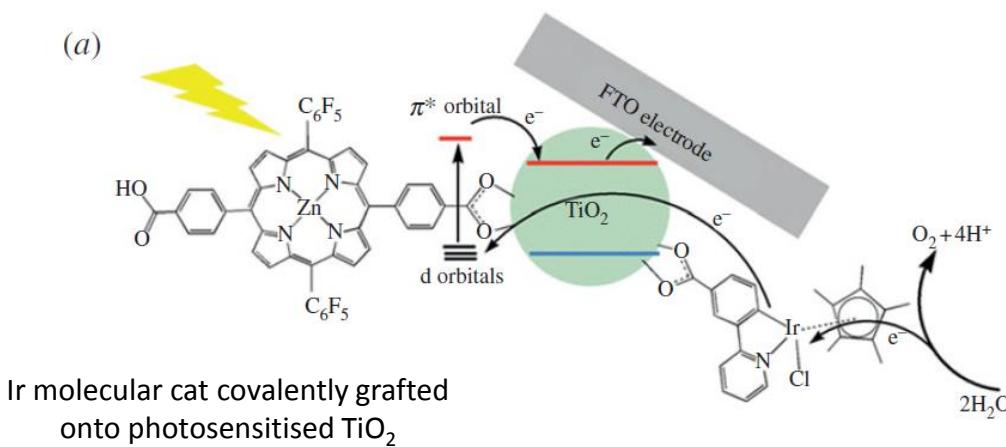
PSII and PSI as a Blueprint for APS



Biomolecular Z-scheme with PSII and hydrogenase producing H₂ with no overpotential

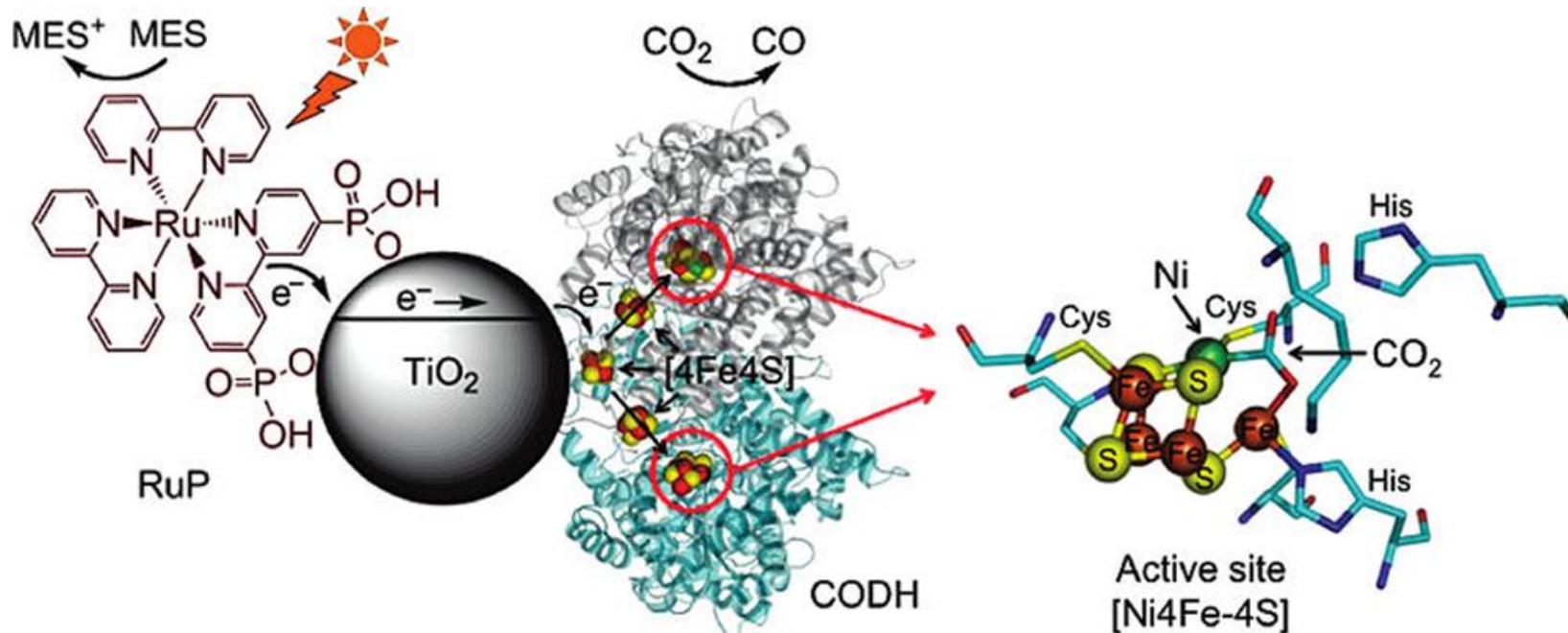


Grafting catalysts onto semiconductor substrates



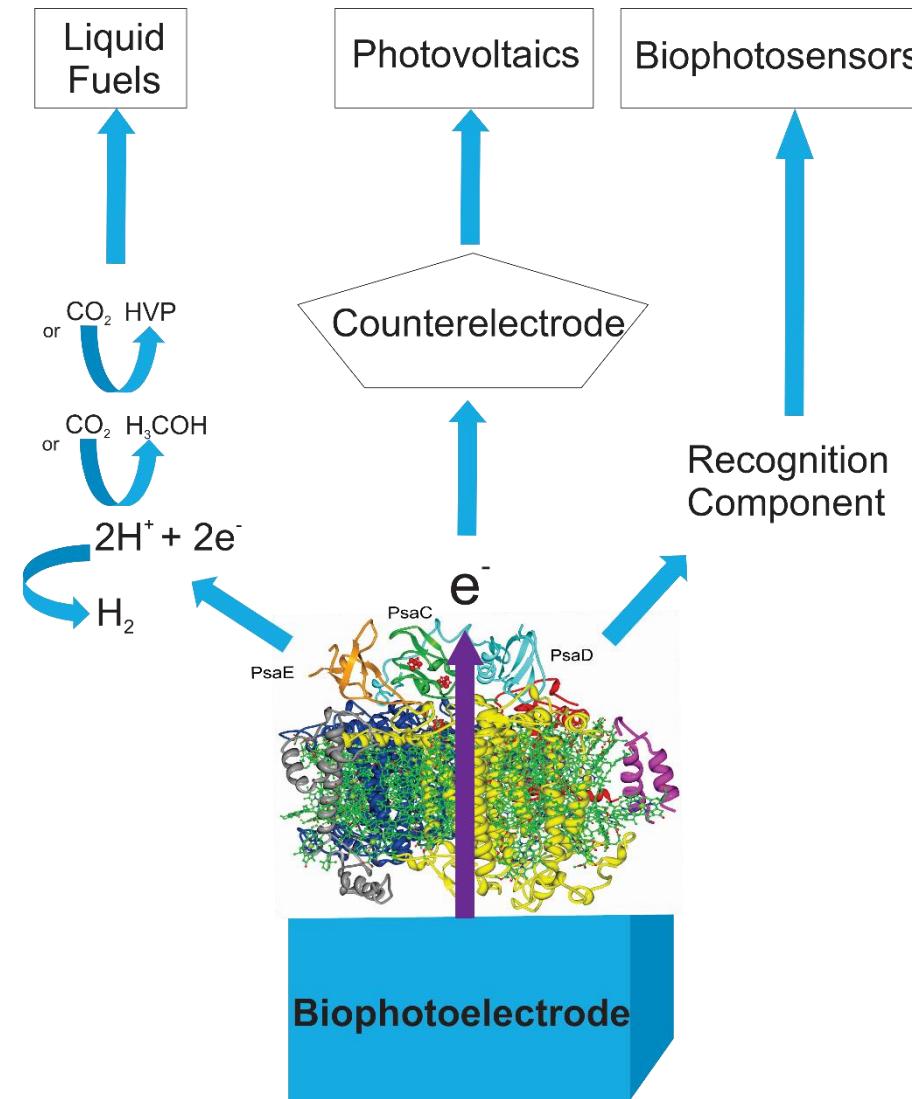
Functionalisation of TiO_2 with hydrogenase for H_2 production

Photosensitised TiO_2 /CO dehydrogenase reduces CO_2 into CO in VIS



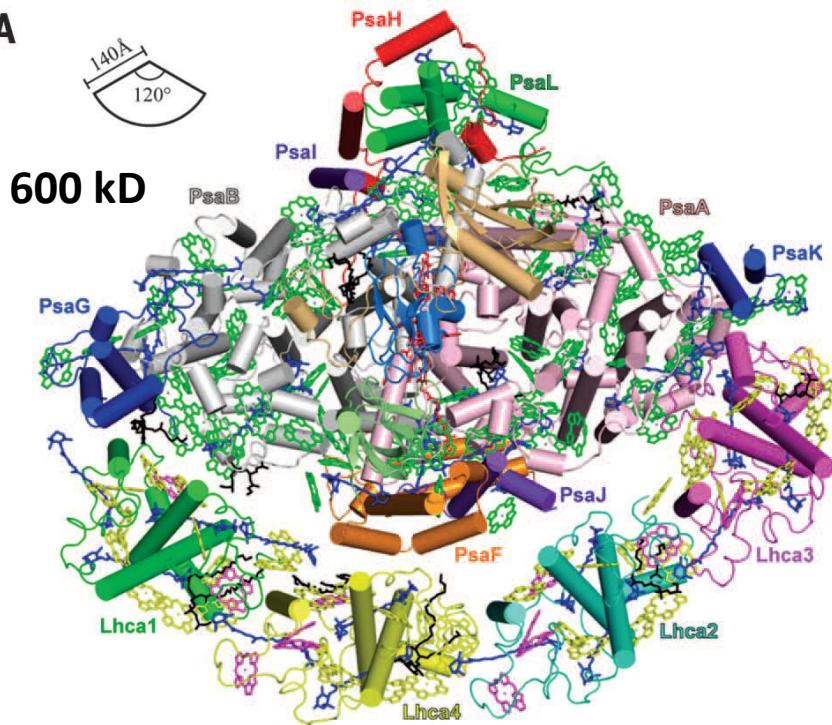
Woolerton et al (2010) Efficient and Clean Photoreduction of CO_2 to CO by Enzyme-Modified TiO_2 Nanoparticles Using Visible Light.
J. Am. Chem. Soc., 132, 2132–2133.

PSI-based Devices

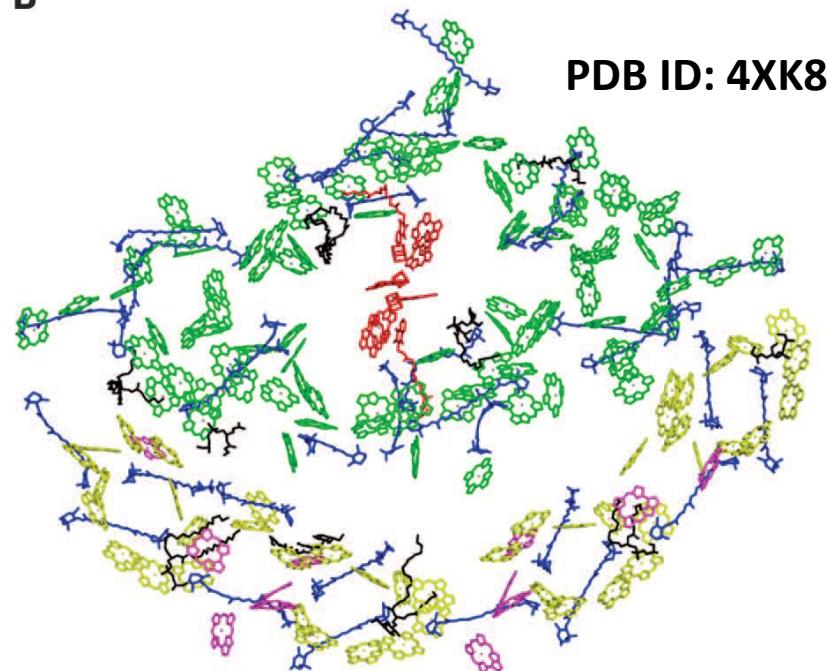


X-ray Structure of PSI-LHCl at 2.8 Å

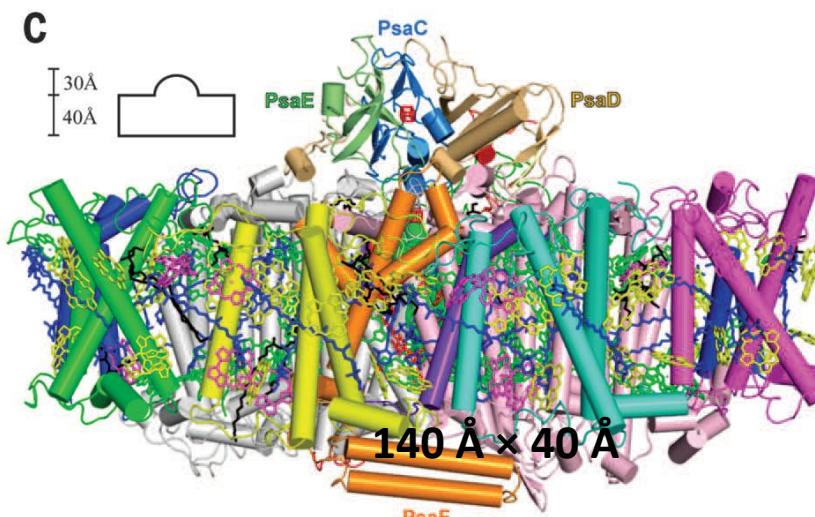
A



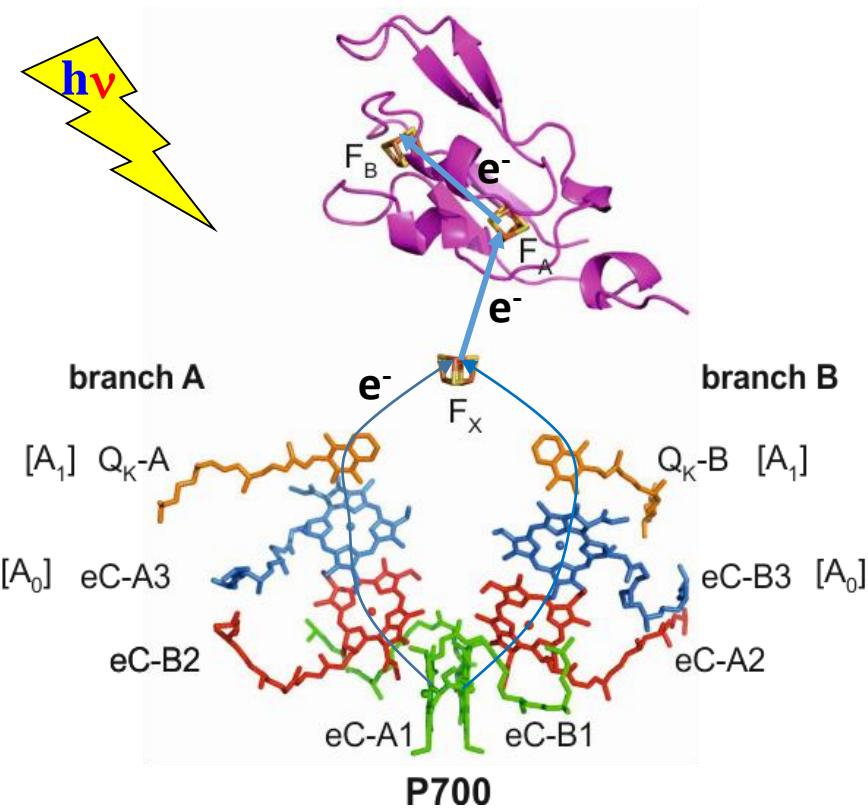
B



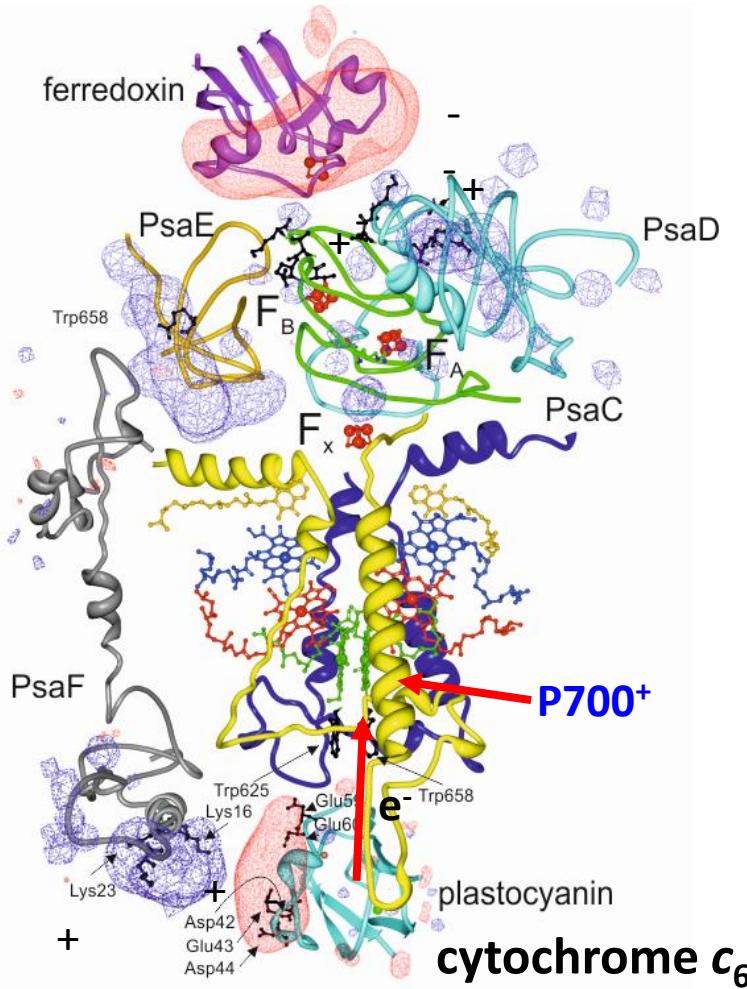
C



Charge Separation and e^- Transfer in PSI

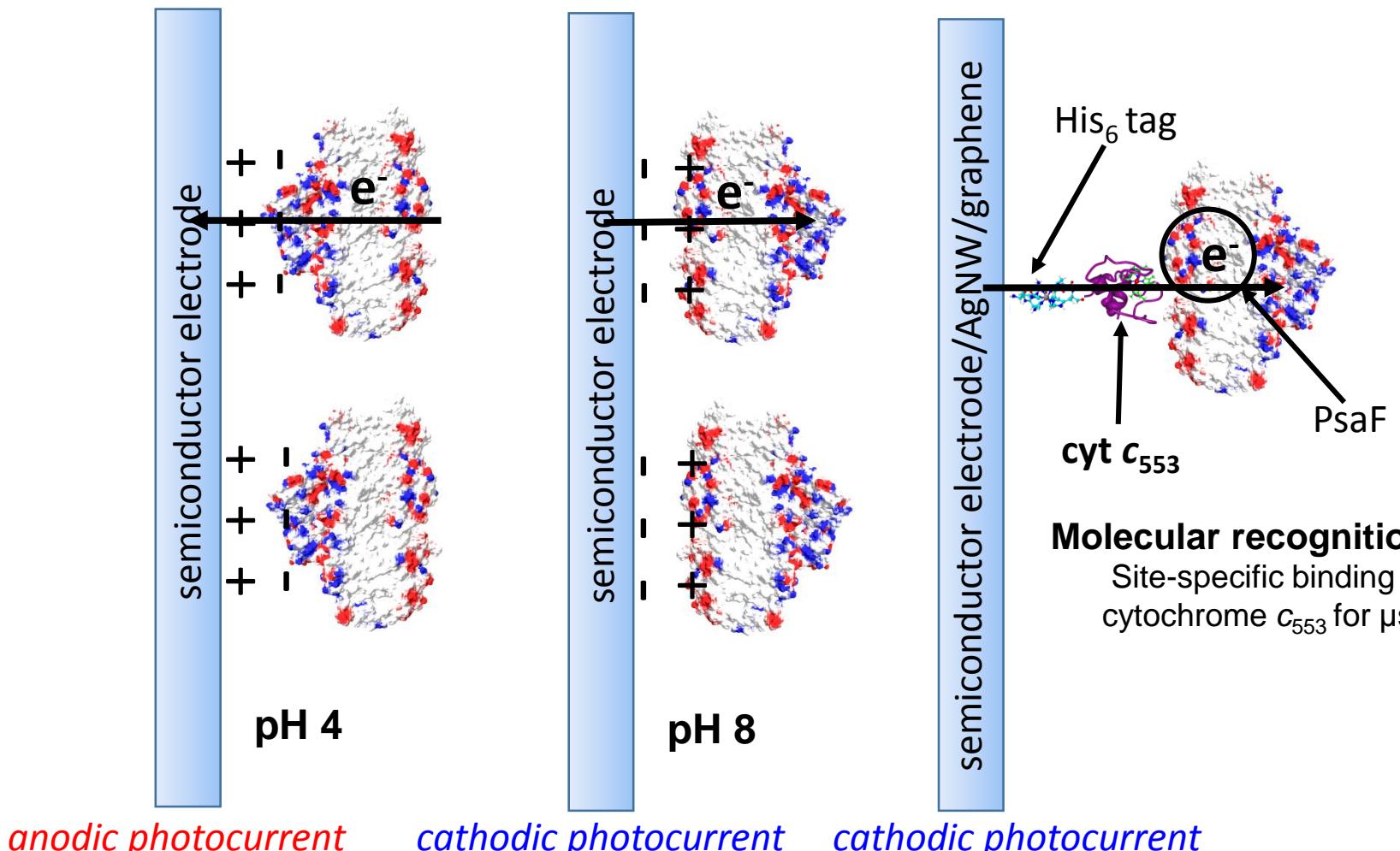


Jordan et al (2001) *Nature*, 411, 909



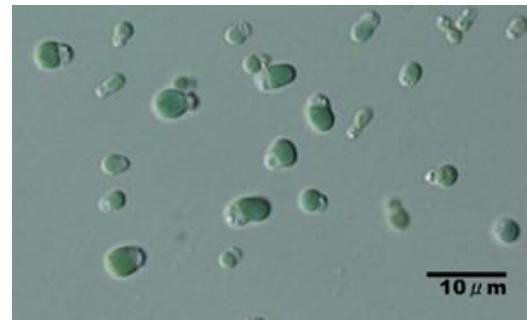
Kargul et al (2012) *J. Plant Physiol.*, 169, 1639

Critical Path: Developing strategies for oriented (bio)conjugation of PSI with the electrode surface

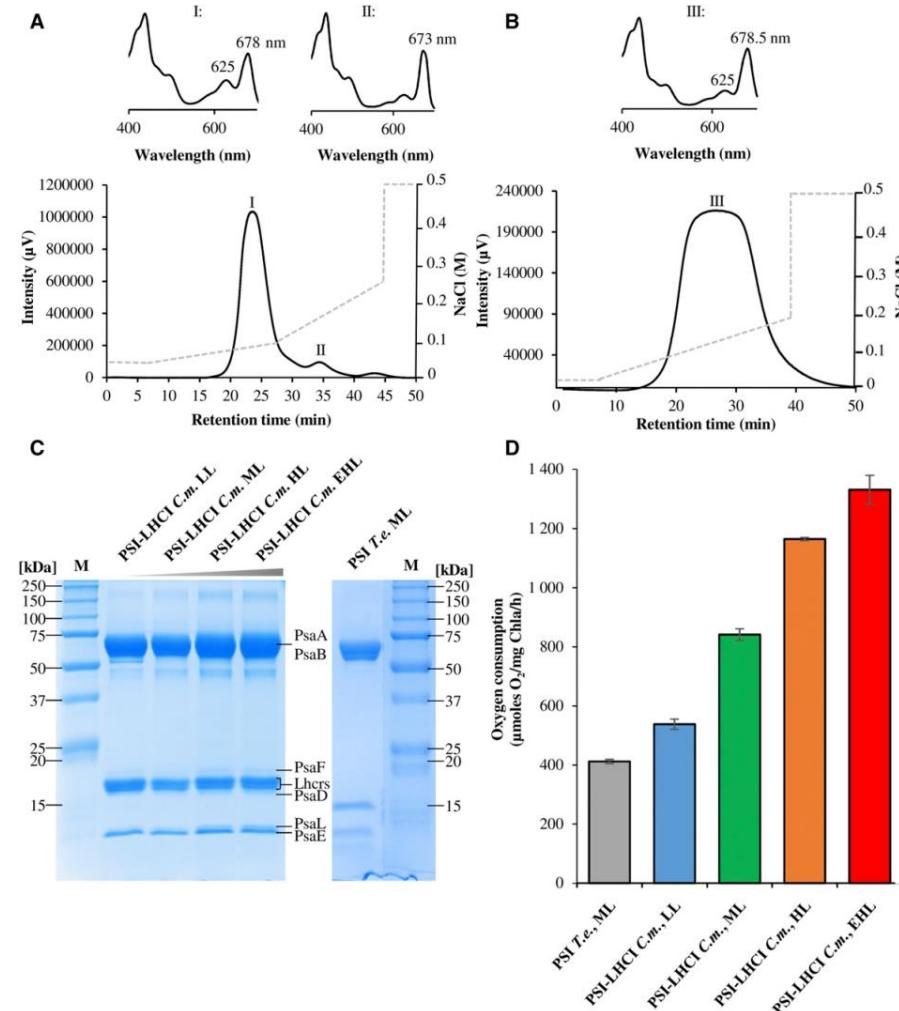


Manipulation of electrostatic interactions approach:
Inherent asymmetric charge distribution in PSI

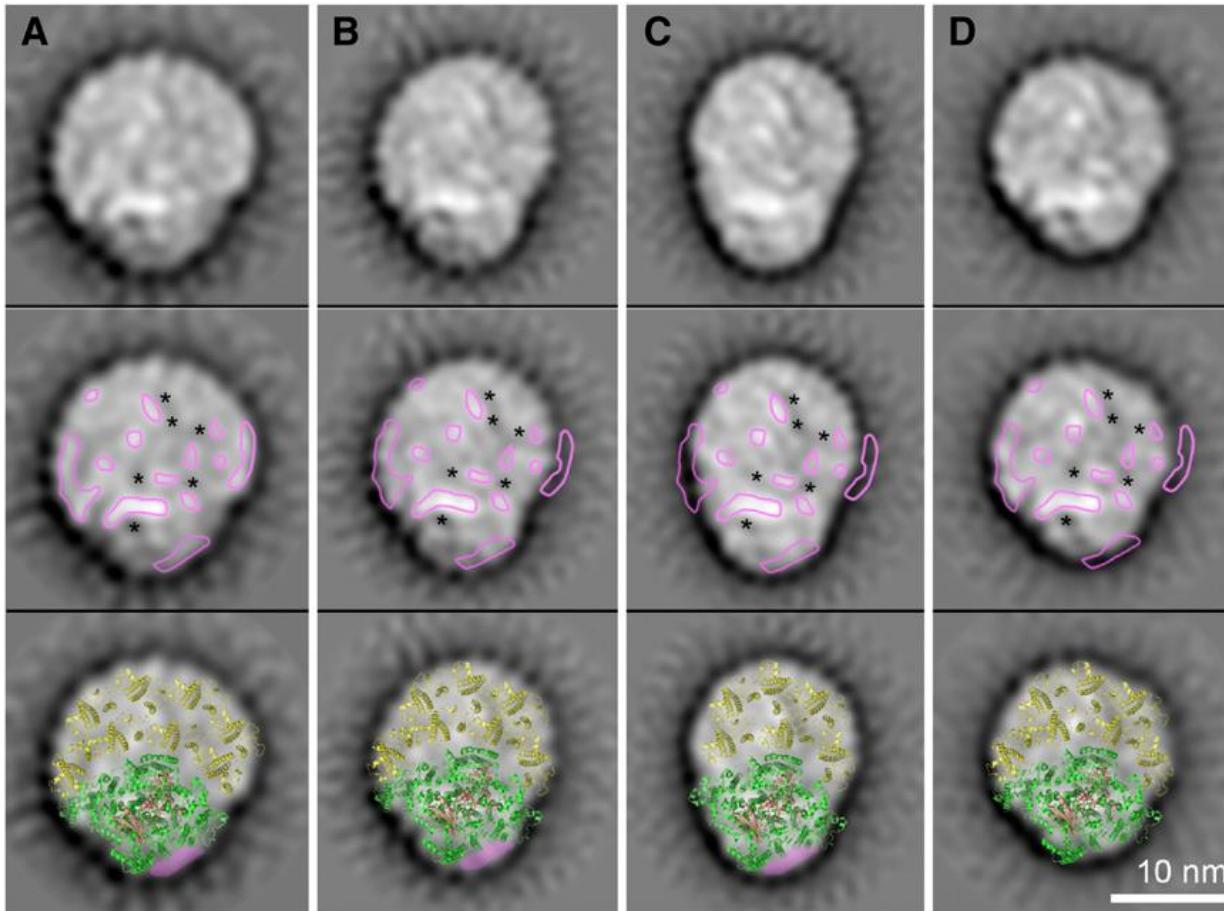
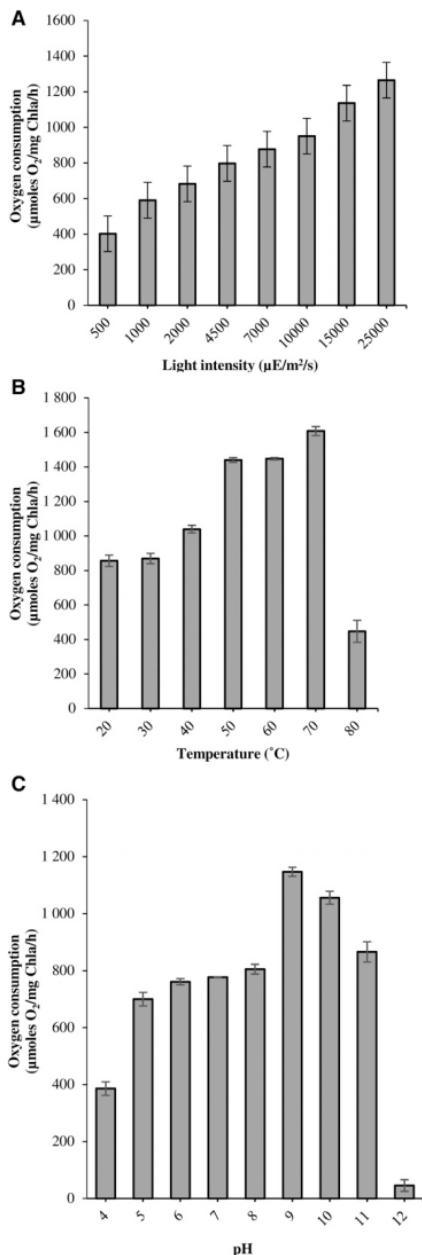
Highly robust PSI from a volcanic extremophilic red microalga *Cyanidioschyzon merolae*



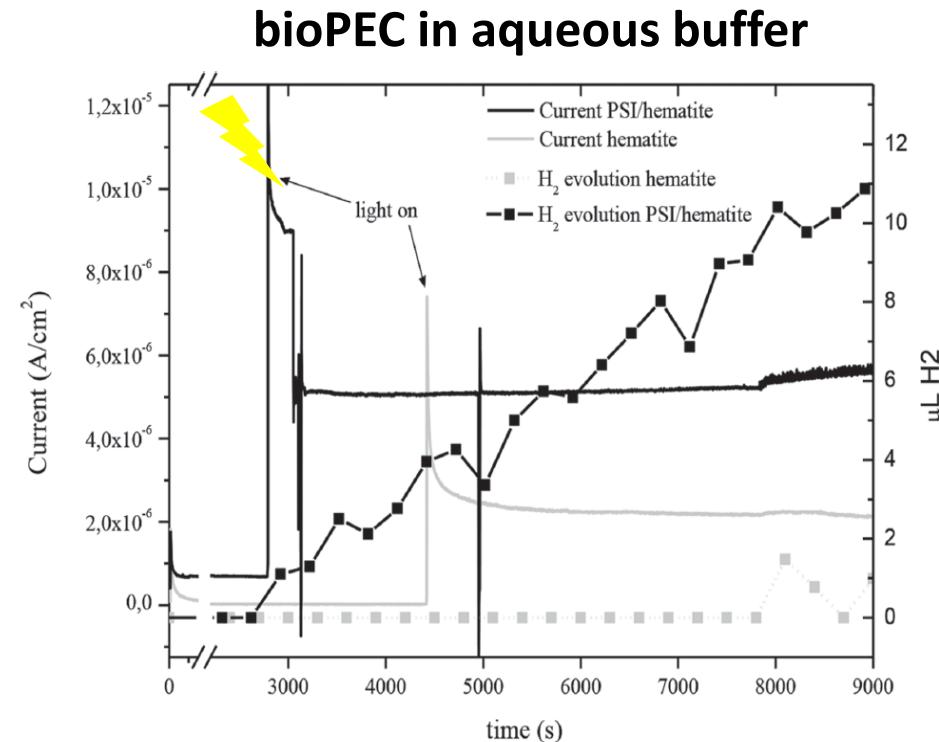
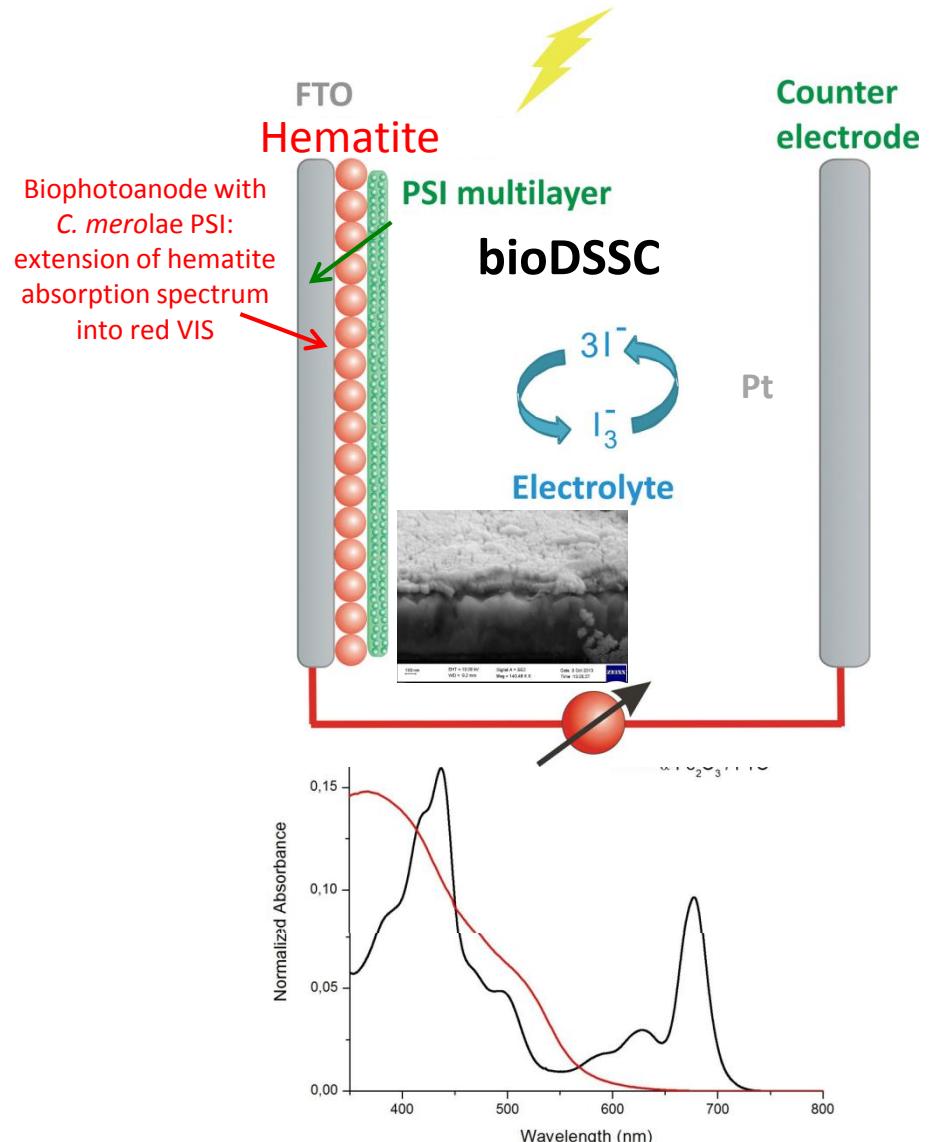
pH 2.5, 42 °C, 90 µE/m²/s



Robust PSI-LHCI from *C. merolae* operates in a broad range of conditions.

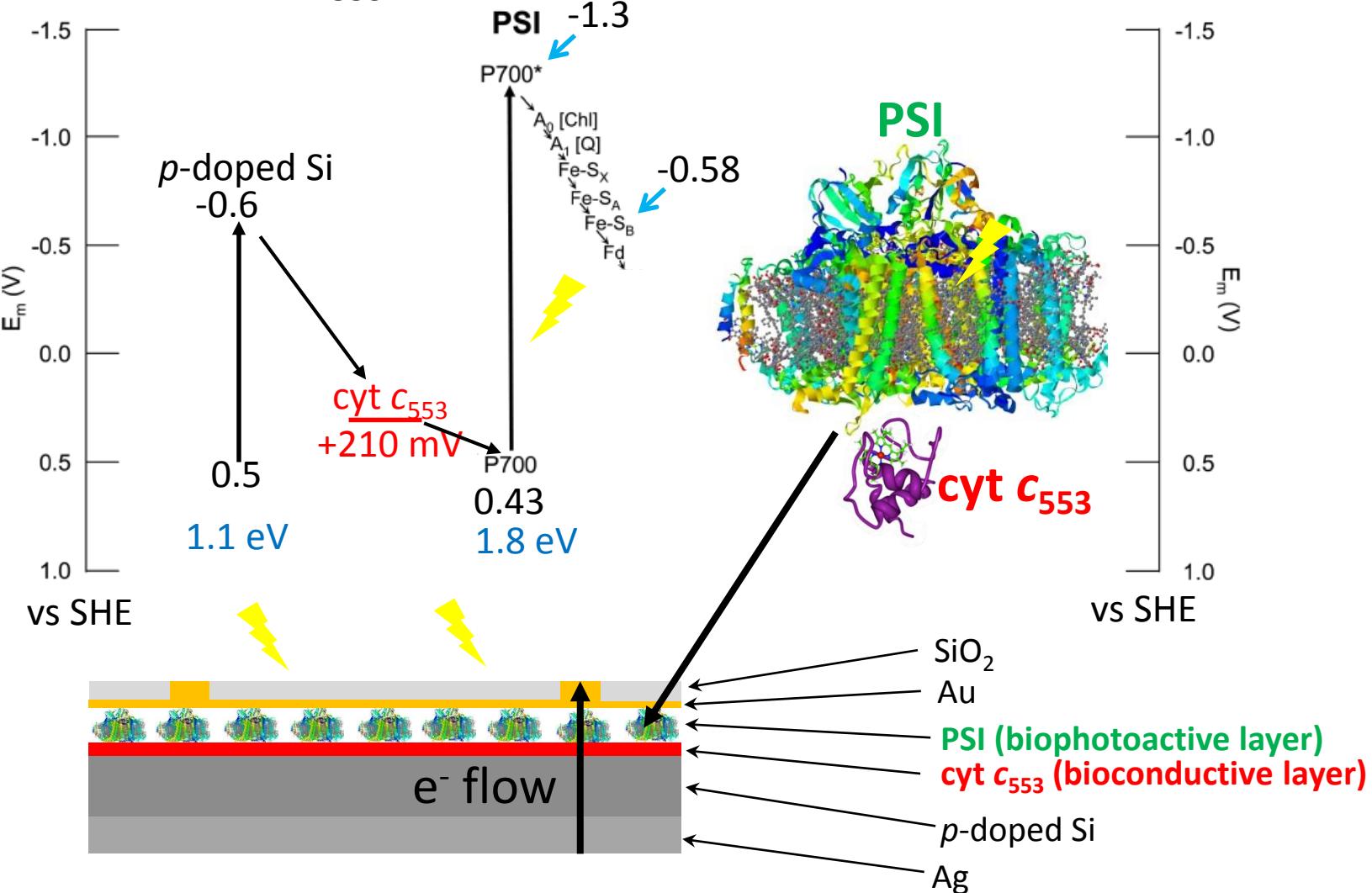


PSI-based Dye-Sensitised Solar Cell and PEC

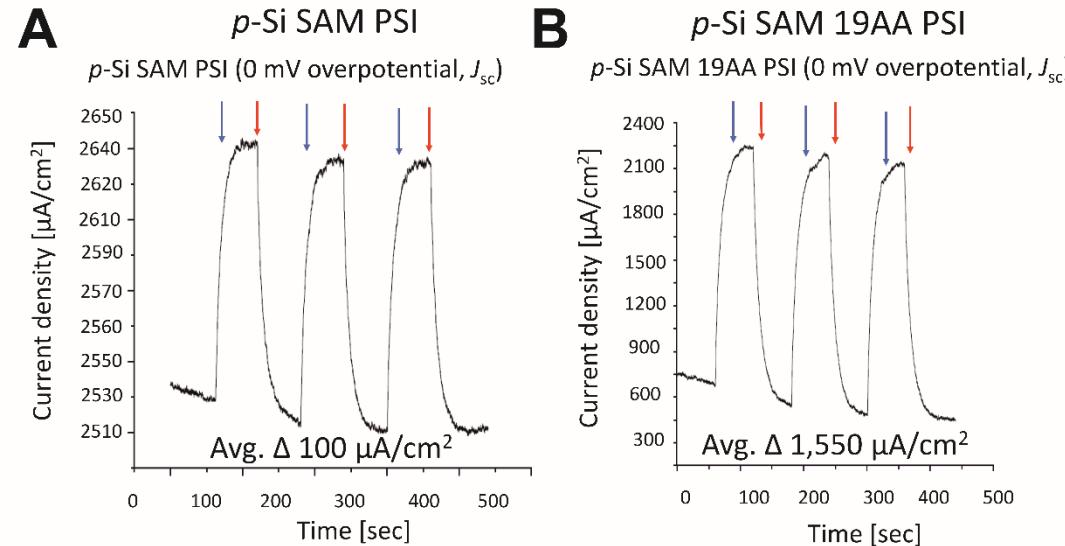
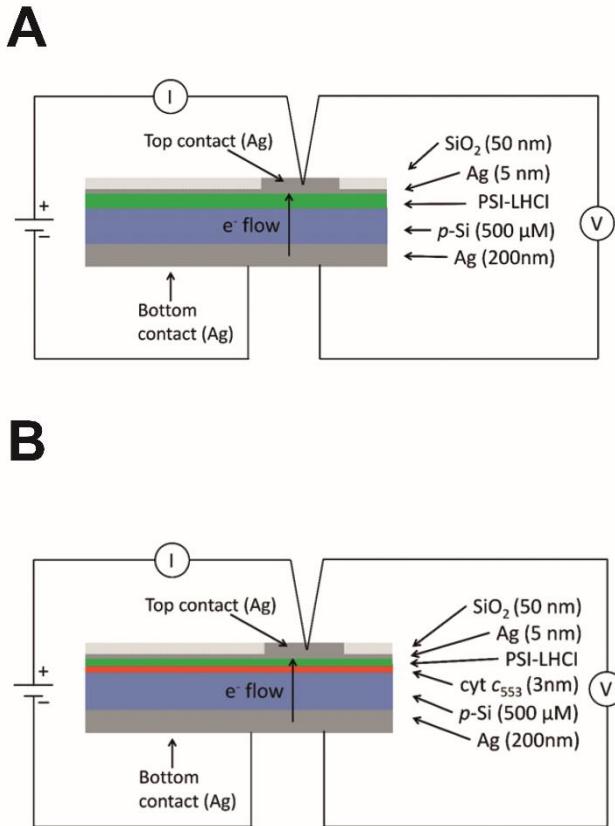


H_2 evolution rate: $744 \mu\text{moles } H_2 \text{ mg Chl}^{-1} h^{-1}$

All-Solid State *p*-doped Si-PSI Biophotoelectrode with Cytochrome *c*₅₅₃ as the Conductive Interface

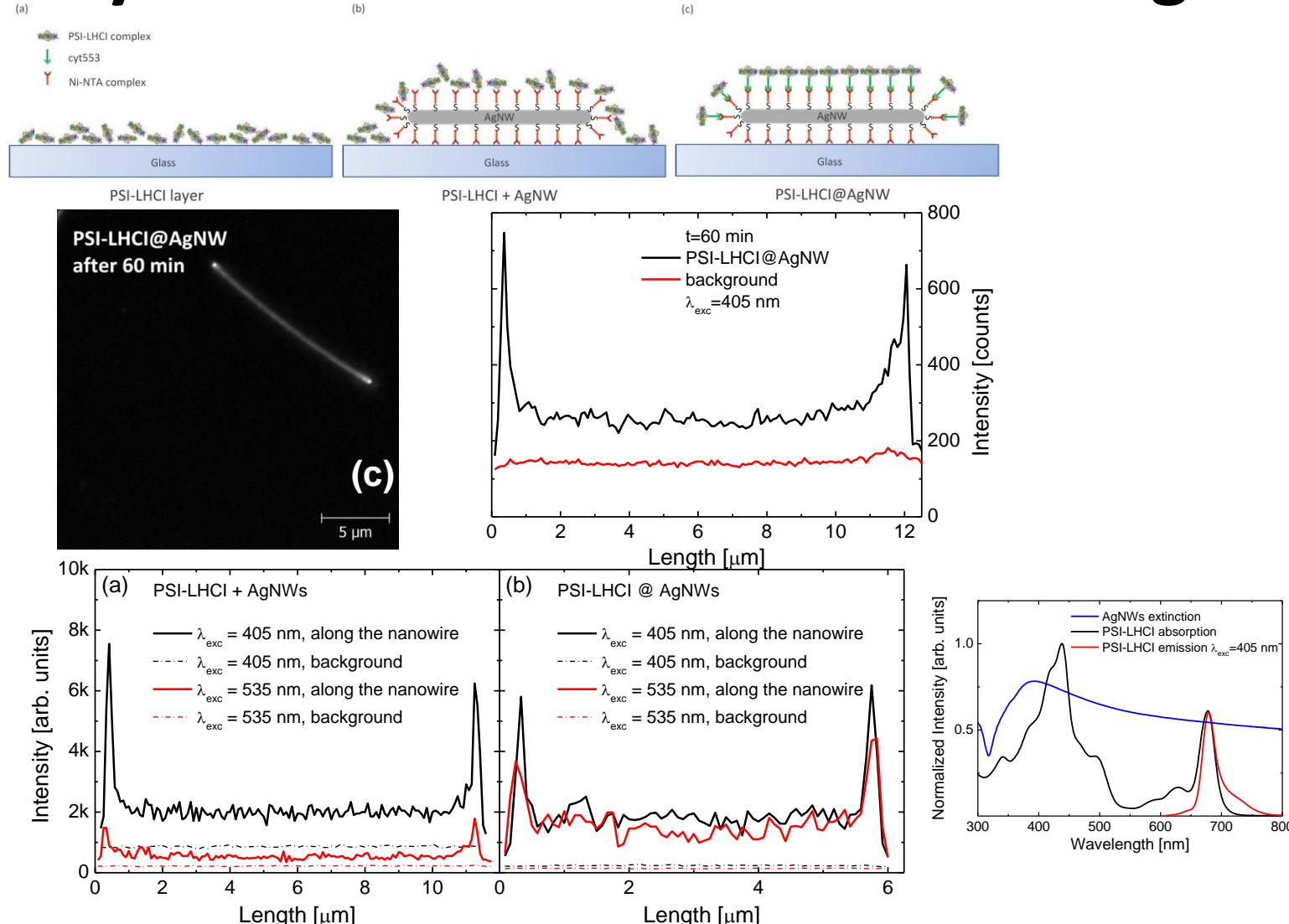


p-doped Si-PSI All-Solid-State Device

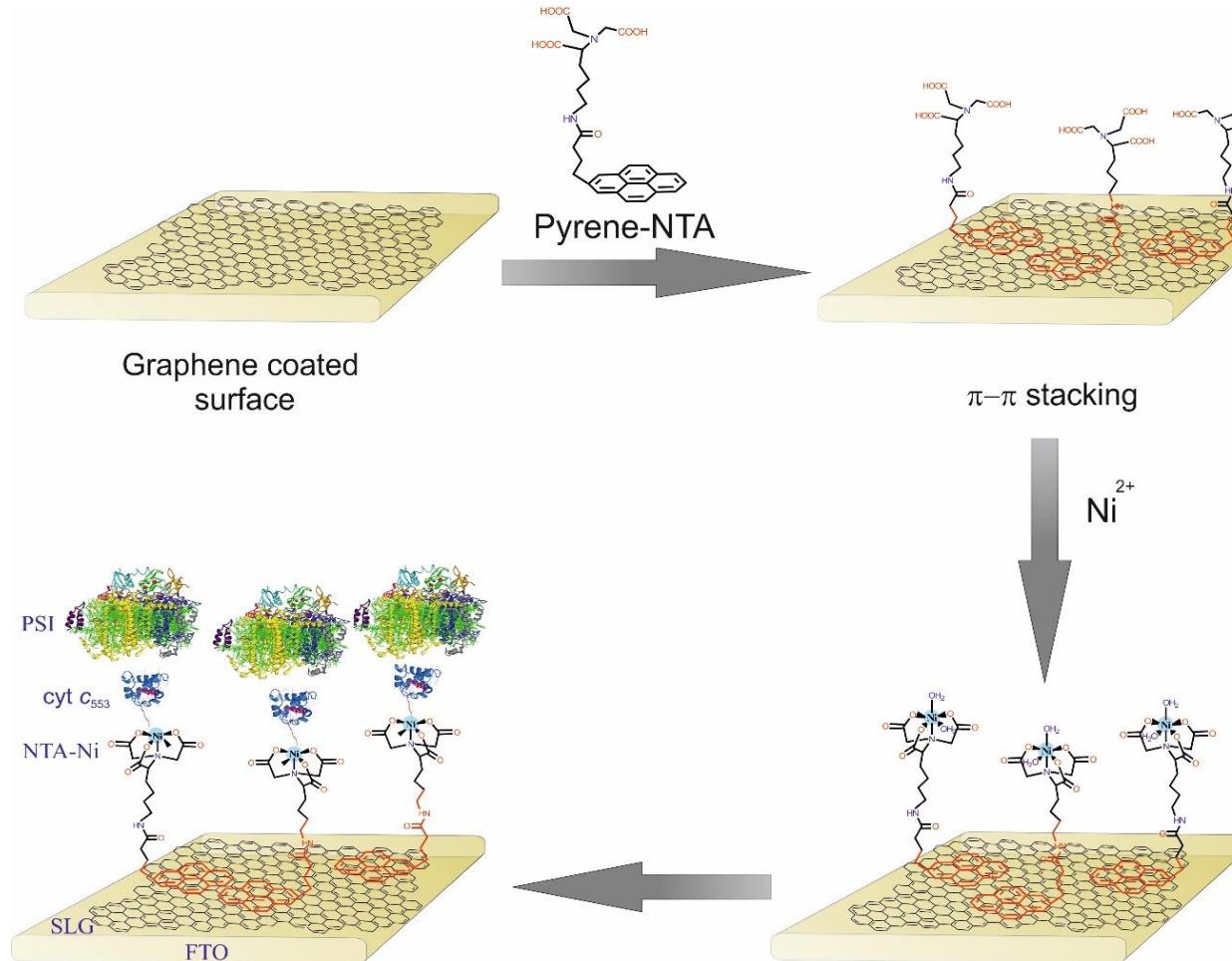


16x higher photocurrent in the presence of cyt and PSI – cyt biopassivation works!

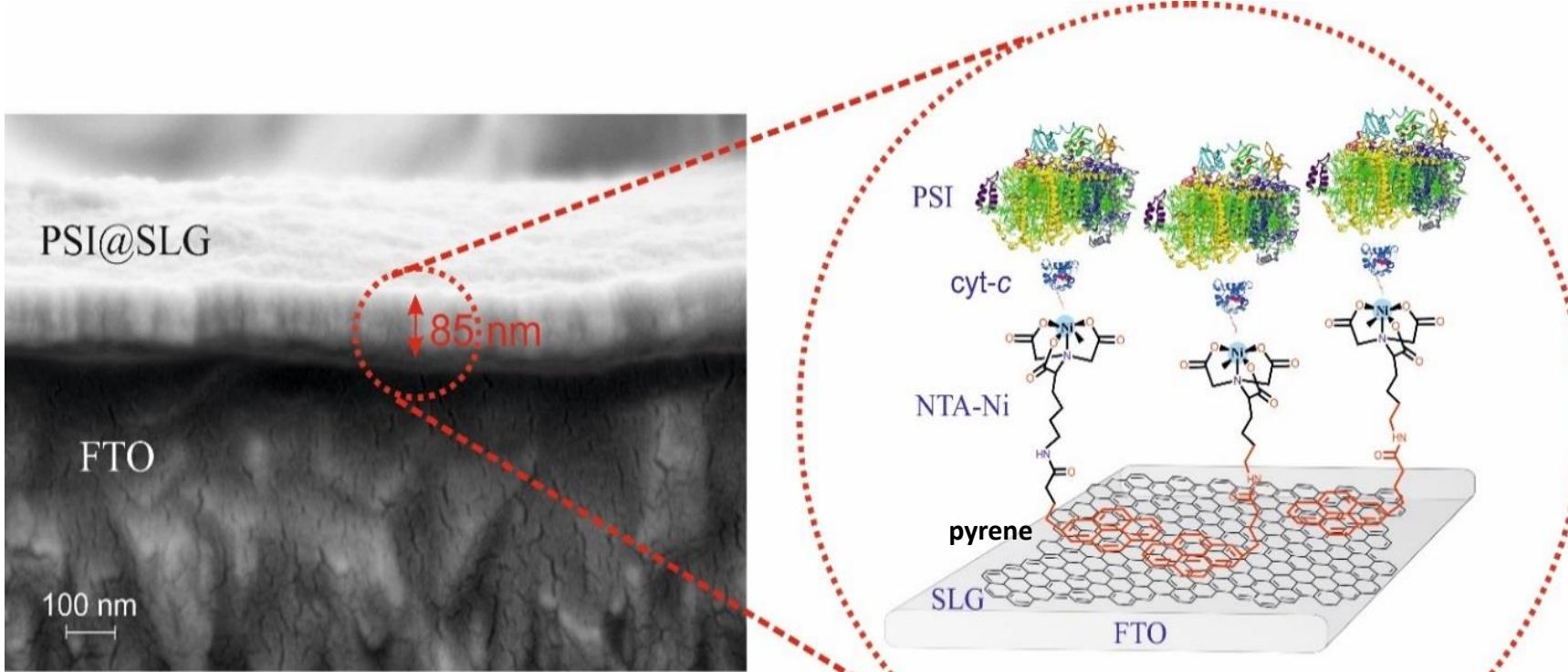
Improving Nature: Enhanced Functionality of PSI-LHCl by Plasmonic Interactions with AgNWs



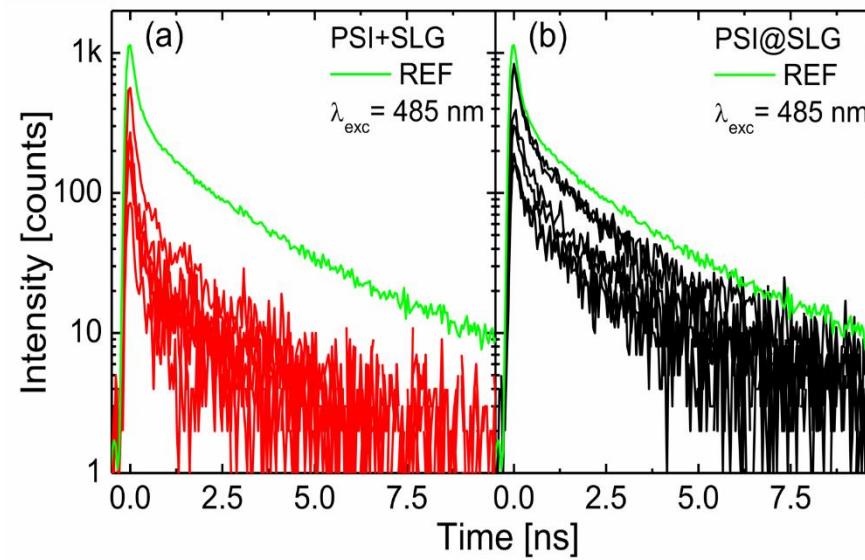
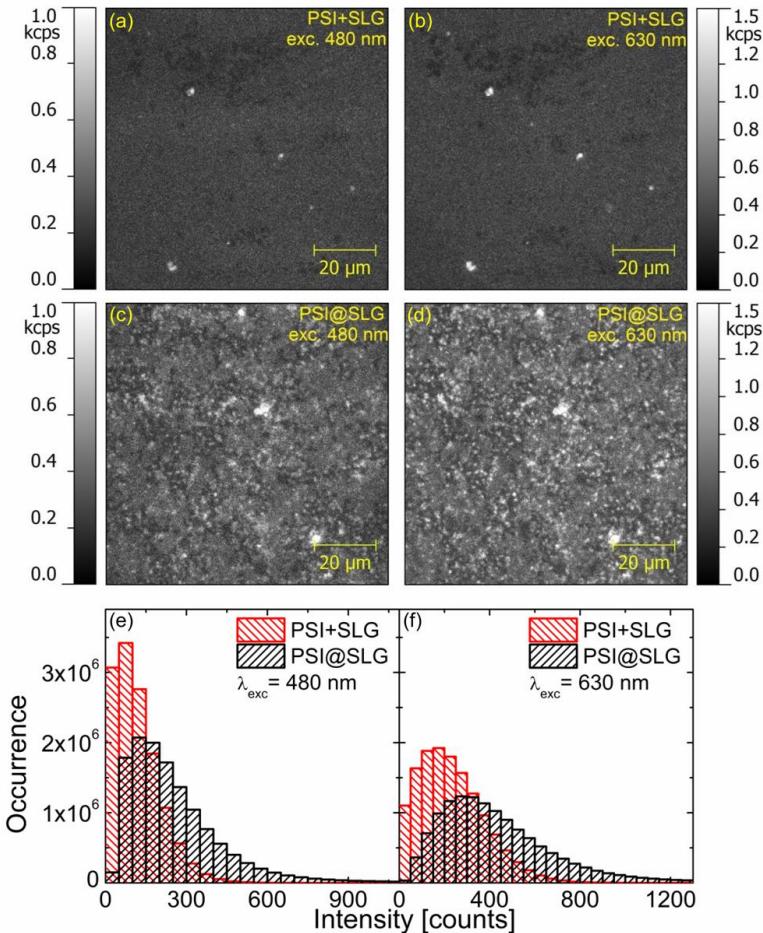
Nanostructuring of Bio-organic Interface by Molecular Recognition: pyrene-NiNTA/cytochrome c_{553}



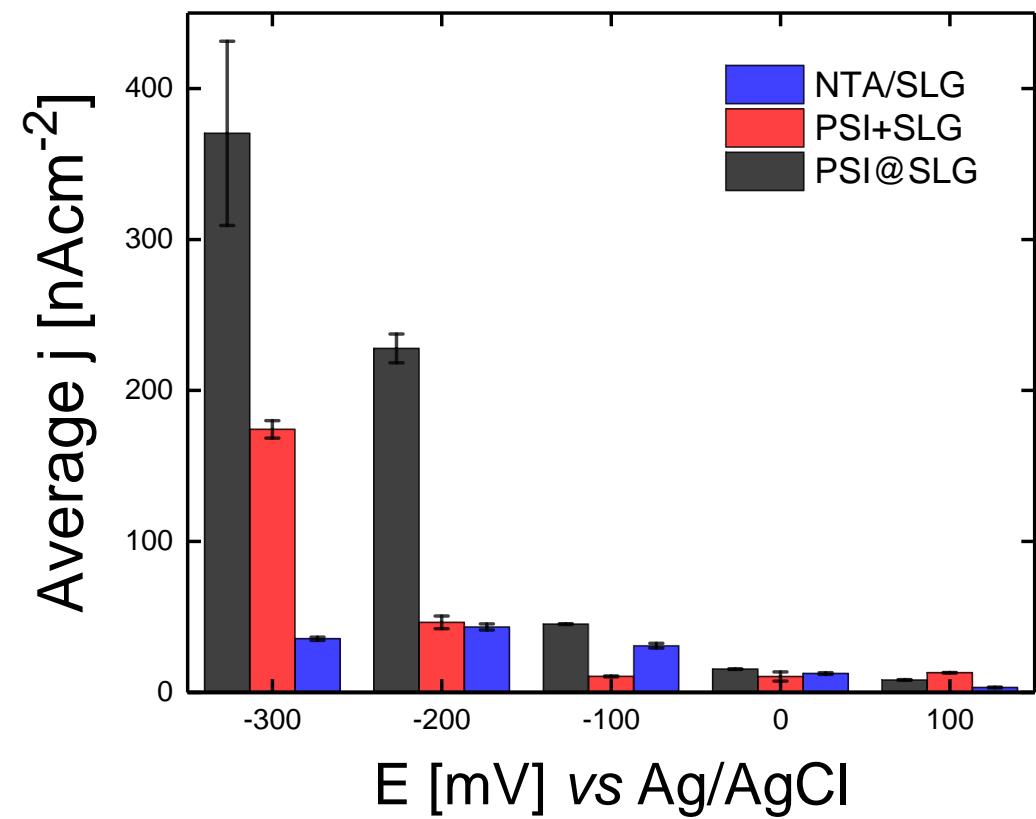
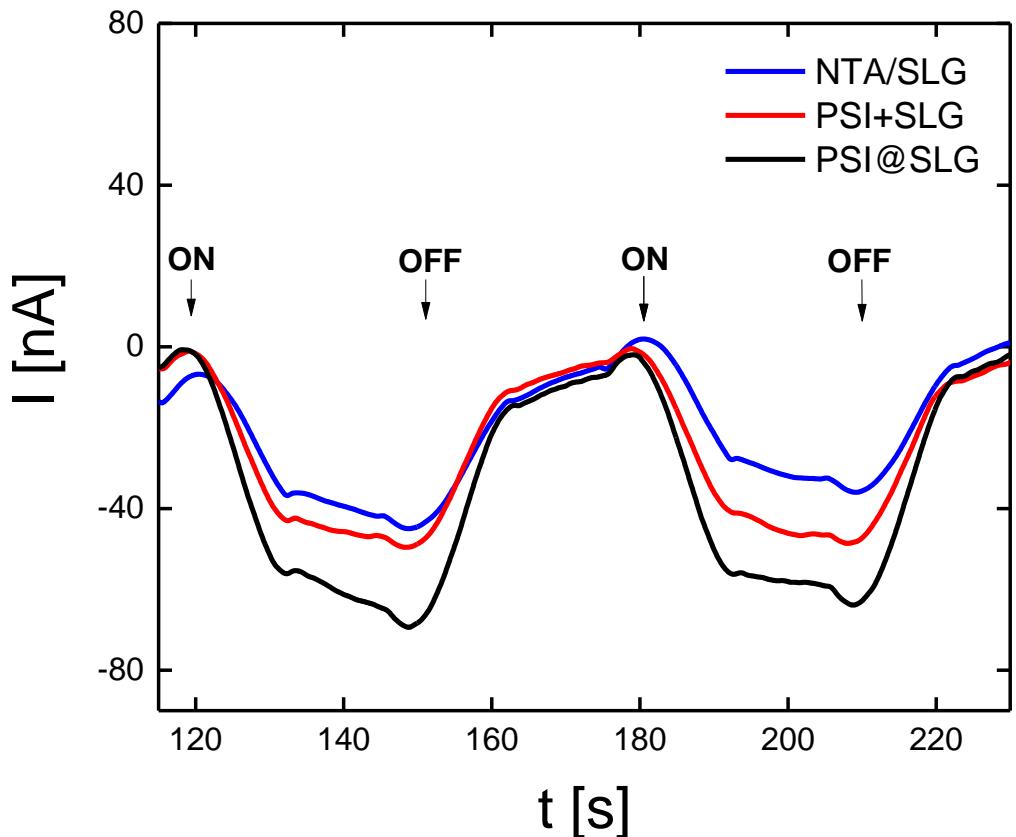
Highly Ordered PSI/cyt c_{553} /SLG Device



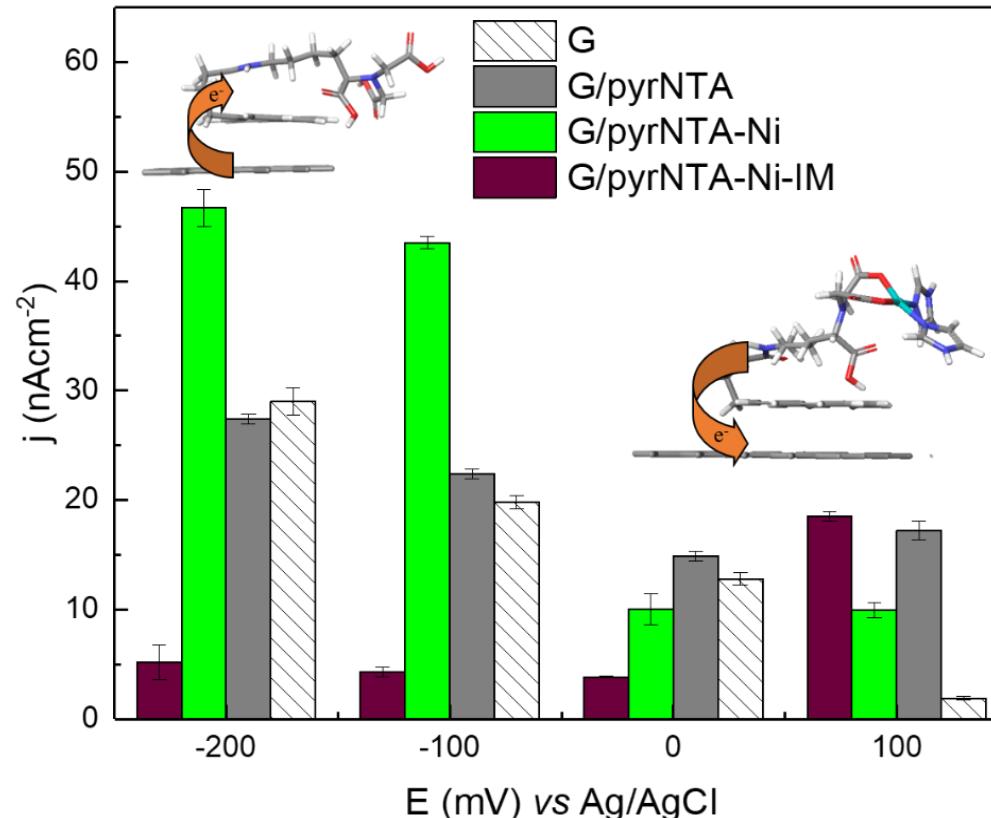
Fluorescence Intensity Mapping: uniform electrode coverage for PSI@SLG devices



Photocurrent Output from PSI-based SLG Electrodes

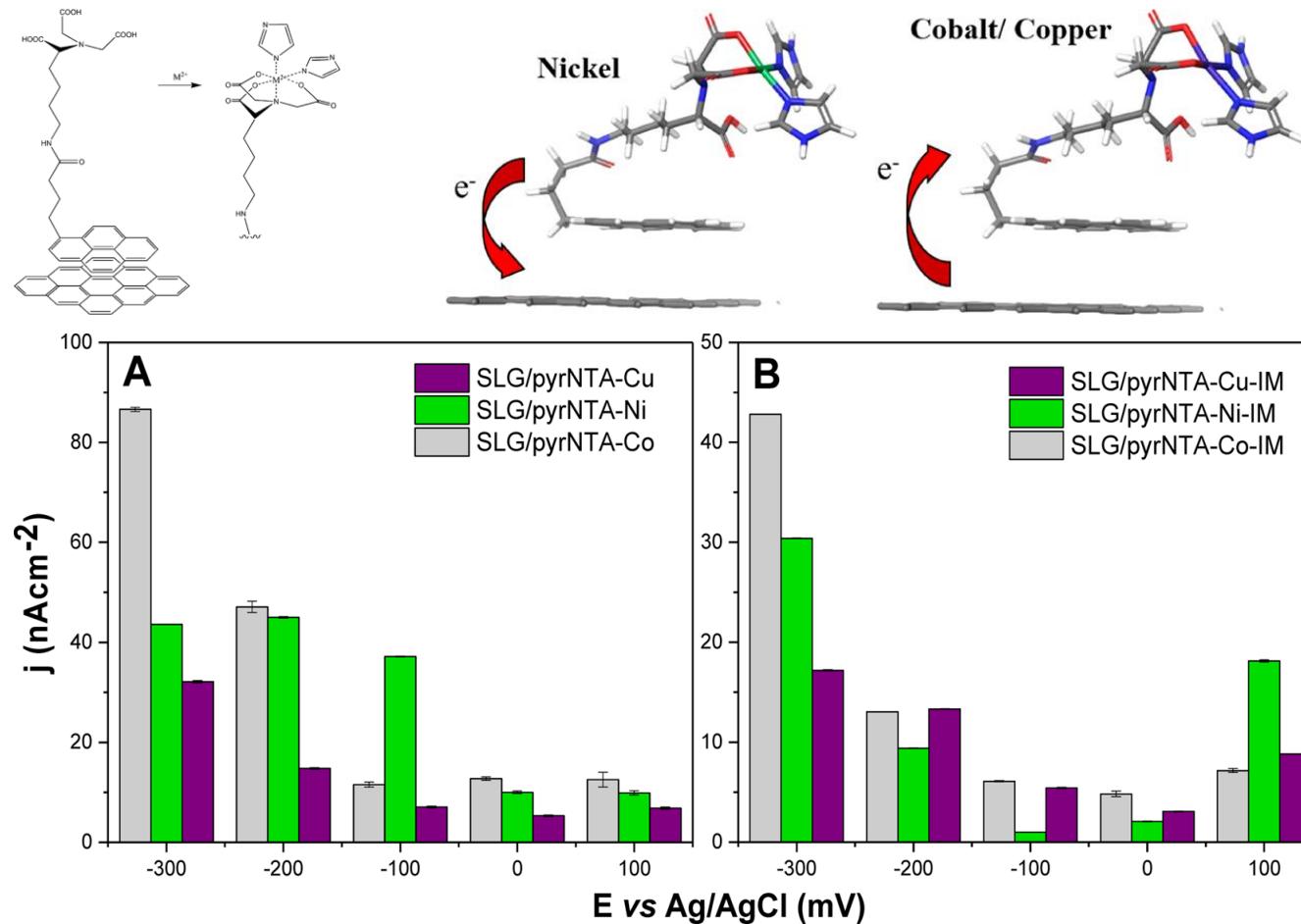


Optimisation of DET: Role of Metal Redox Centres at the Bio-organic Interface

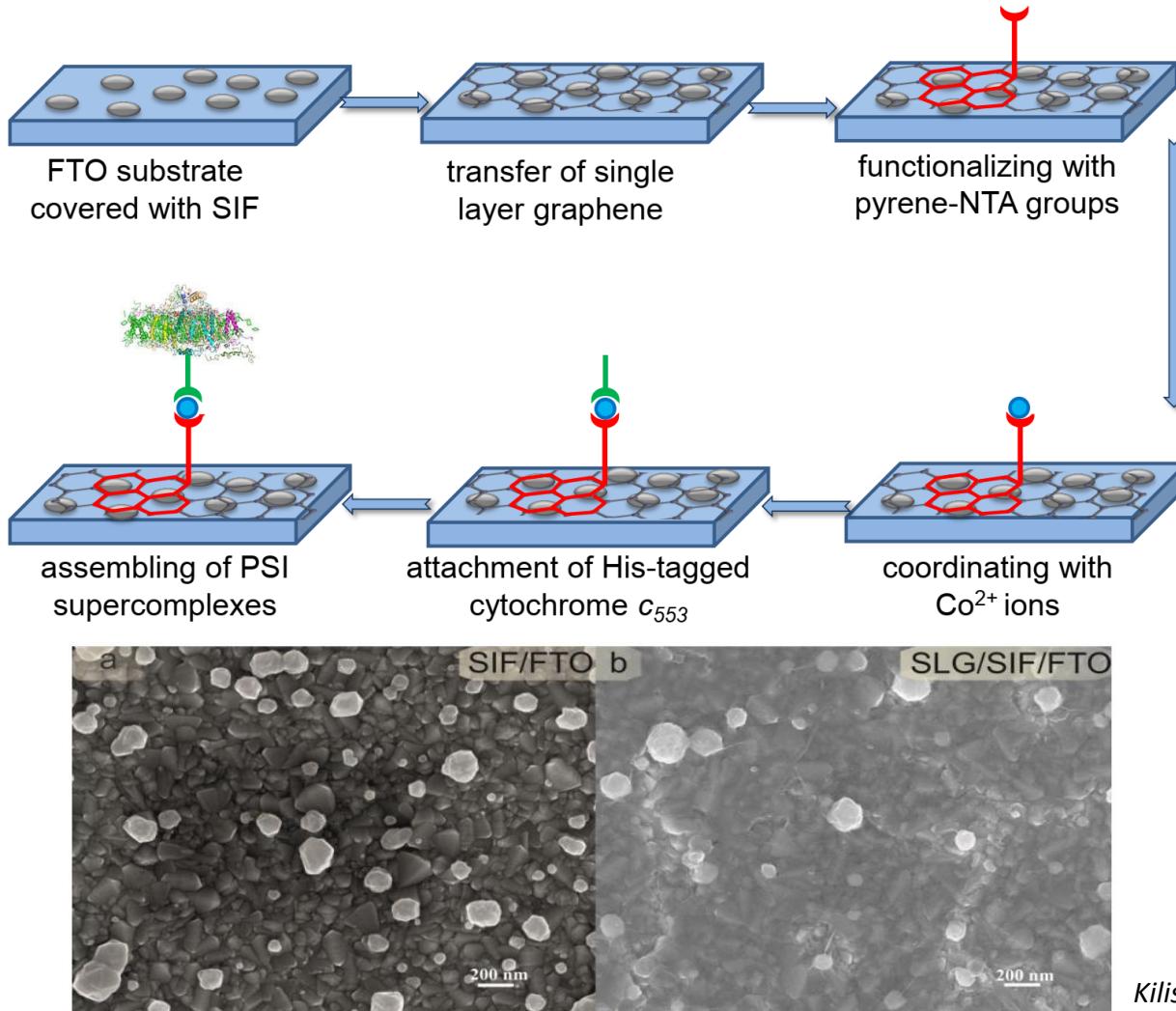


(1) Pyrene-nitrilotriacetic acid SAM enforces a direct electron transfer from graphene to SAM, (2) Addition of Ni^{2+} cation and imidazole reverses the charge transfer direction.

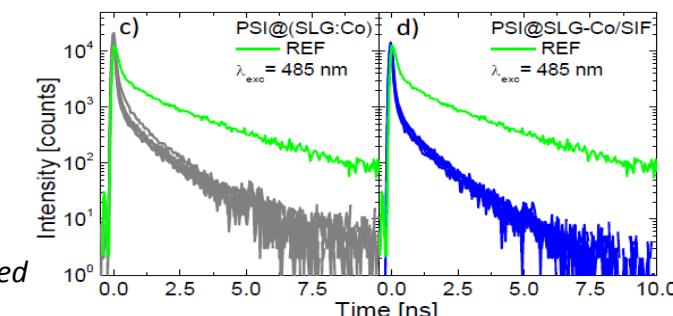
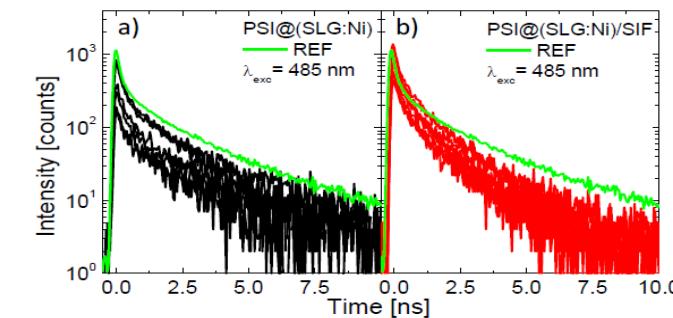
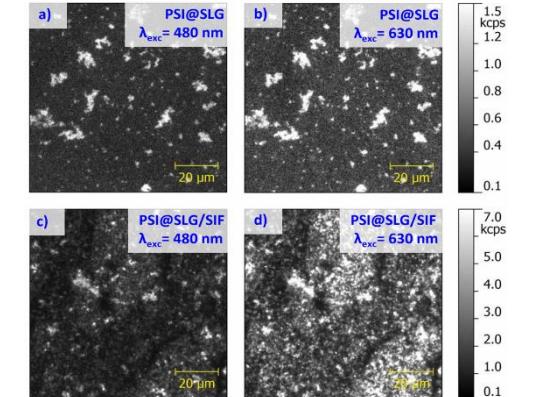
Modification of Fermi Energy Levels of Conductive Pyrene-NTA-Me²⁺ SAM



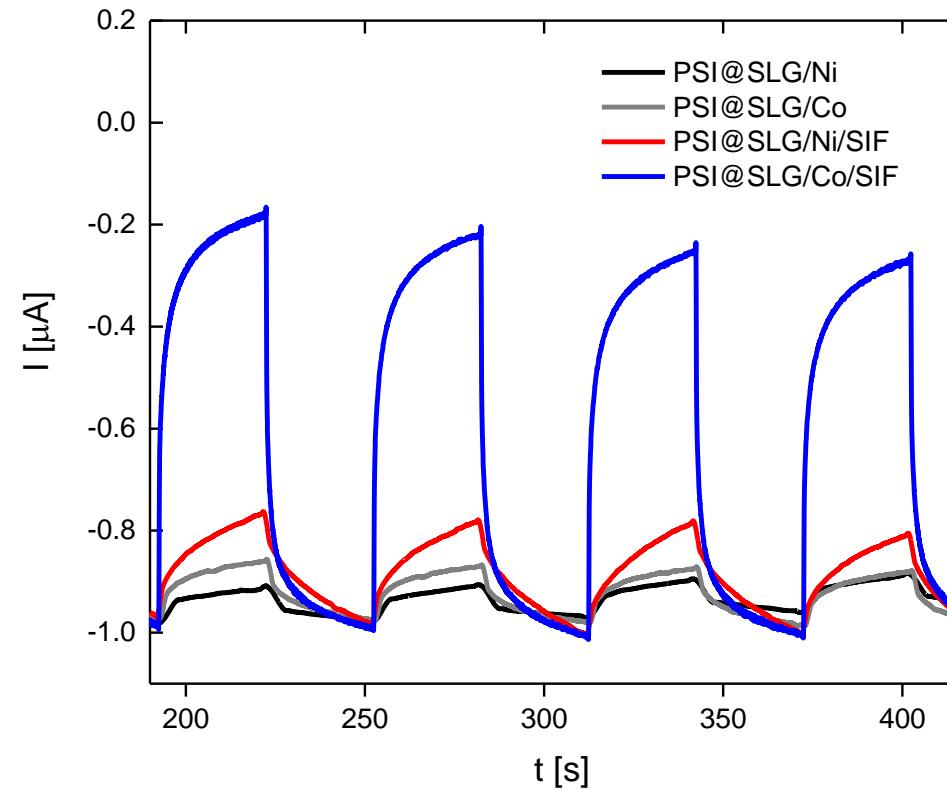
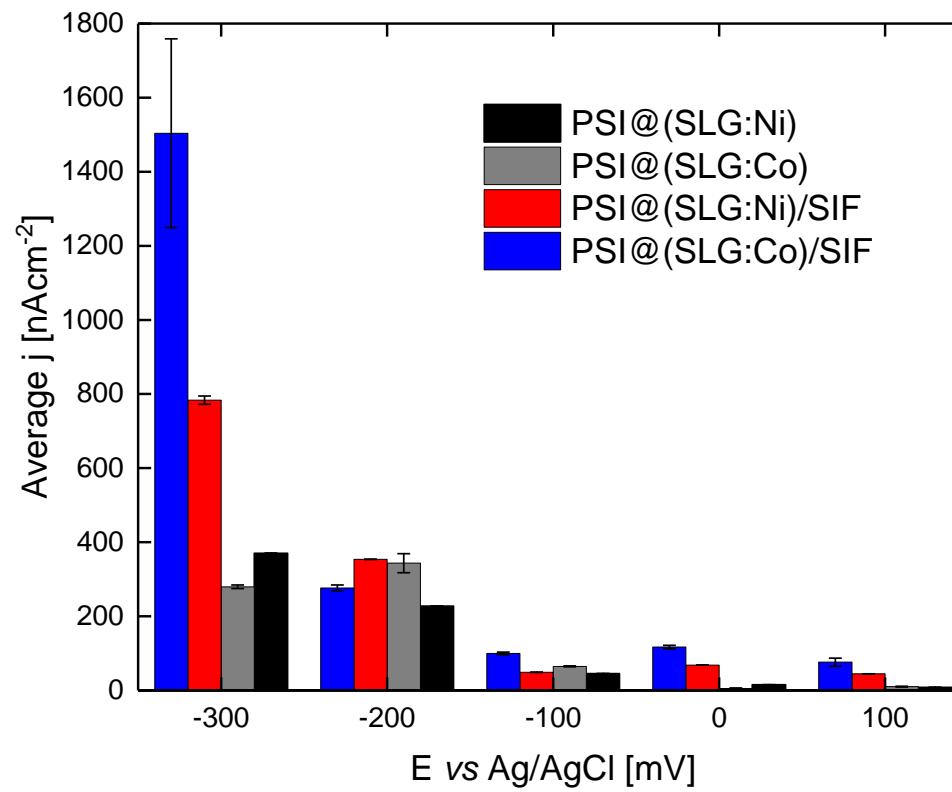
Improved Energy Transfer by Plasmonic Enhancement of Absorption and Application of Metal Centres at the Bio-organic Interface



Kiliszek et al submitted

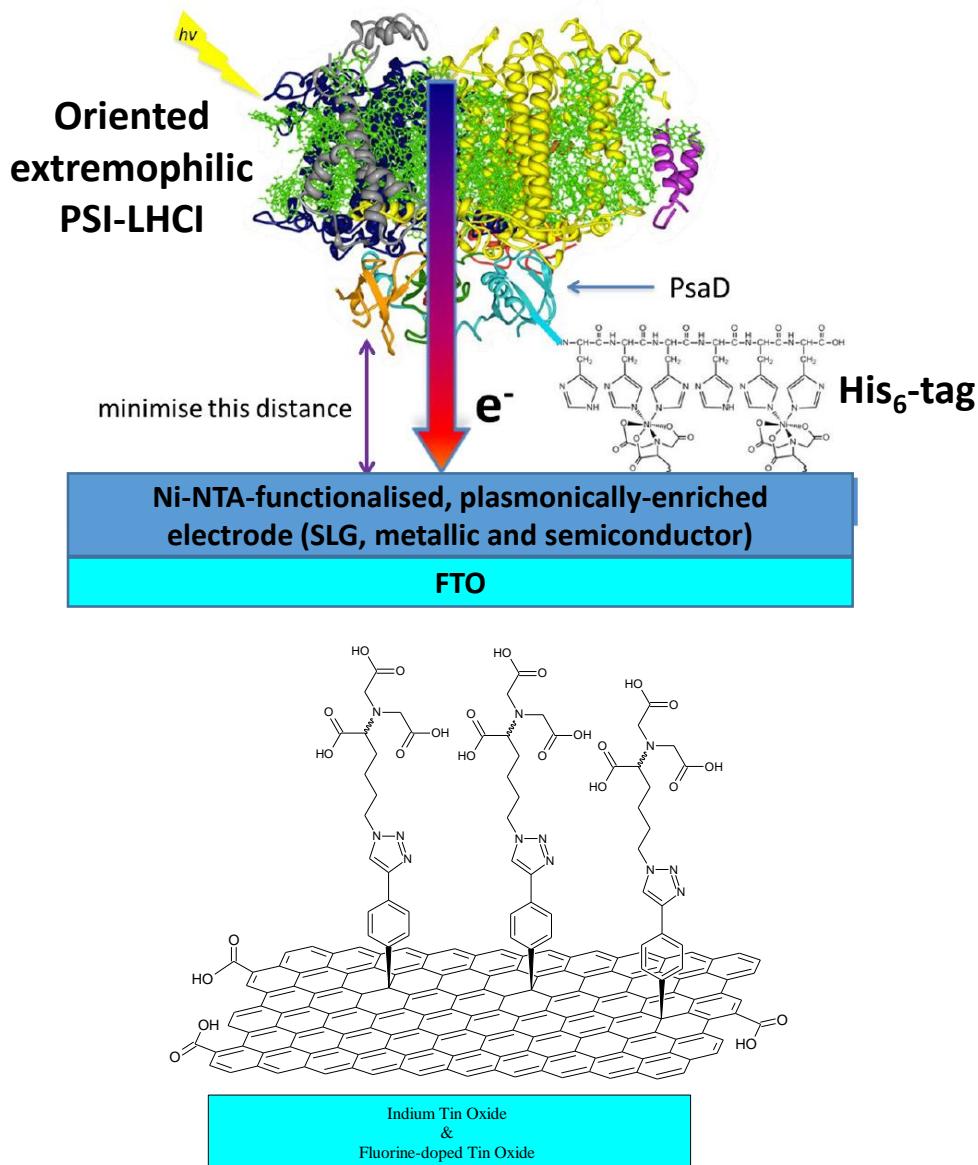


Improved Photocurrent Output by Application of Specific Redox Metal Centres and Plasmonic Nanostructures at the Bio-organic Interface



Summary:

A rational approach for construction of **novel biohybrid architectures**:



- **Attachment** ultrastable extremophilic PSI in an **oriented** manner to the functionalized graphene, metallic and semiconductor electrodes.
- Obtained **homogenous coverage** of the electrode, as well as better control of orientation of the light harvesting proteins.
- Improved performance of the biohybrid device by **plasmonic interactions** with metal nanoparticles in order to selectively enhance absorption of the light-harvesting complexes.
- Exploring the role of specific **redox metal centres** in **bio-organic interface** for power output improvement.

Acknowledgements

Warsaw (PL):

Małgorzata Kiliszek (SFL)
Patrycja Haniewicz (SFL)
Mateusz Abram (SFL)
Julian Janna Olmos
Bartosz Trzaskowski (LSSCB)
Silvio Osella (LSSCB)
Phillippe Becquet (TEMPUS)
Dominik Gront (Chem. UW)
Rafał Jurczakowski (Chem. UW)
Sławomir Sęk (Chem. UW)
Dorota Pawlak (ITME/LMT)
Jarosław Sar (ITME)

Toruń (PL):

Sebastian Maćkowski
Dorota Kowalska
Marcin Szalkowski
Kamil Wiwatowski

ITME (PL):

Marian Teodorczyk
Andrzej Dąbrowski
Grzegorz Gawlik

Uppsala (SE)

Johannes Messinger
Håkan Nilsson
Long Vo Pham

Olomouc (CZ)

Roman Kouril
Lukas Nosek

Trčboň (CZ):

Radek Kaňa
Eva Kotabová

MPSD Hamburg (DE)

Dwayne Miller
Eike-Christian Schulz
Ajay Jha

Wageningen (NL)

Herbert von Amerongen
Bart van Oort

Bologna (IT):

Andrea Barbieri
Maria Pia Gullo

Mersin (TR):

Kasim Ocakoglu
Ersan Harputlu



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Thank you!

