

# Introduction to Botany. Lecture 6

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- 1 Questions and answers
- 2 Photosynthesis
  - Light stage: electron transport, synthesis of ATP and NADPH
  - Enzymatic stage: fixation of carbon dioxide



## 1 Questions and answers

## 2 Photosynthesis

- Light stage: electron transport, synthesis of ATP and NADPH
- Enzymatic stage: fixation of carbon dioxide



# Previous final question: the answer

Which conclusions can be drawn from Priestley's experiments? Please list more than one.



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Which conclusions can be drawn from Priestley's experiments? Please list more than one.

- Mouse and candle both “spend good air”
- Plant revives the air



# Photosynthesis

Light stage: electron transport,  
synthesis of ATP and NADPH



# Participants of light stage

- 1 Chlorophyll (photosystems II and I)
- 2 Light
- 3 Water
- 4 ATP synthase (ATPase)
- 5 Protons ( $H^+$ )
- 6 Hydrogen carrier ( $NADP^+$ )

**Where:** around thylakoid membrane



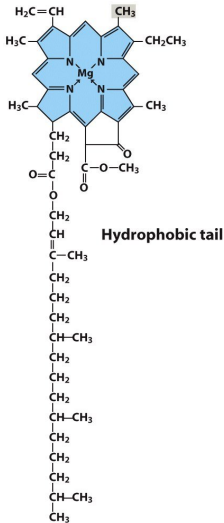
# Logic of the light stage

- 1 To assemble carbon dioxide into sugar, we need ATP
- 2 To make ATP, we need *electrical current* through the proton pump
- 3 To make this current, we need the *difference in charge* (voltage difference) between thylakoid and matrix (stroma) compartments
- 4 To make this difference, we need to *segregate ions*: positively charged (like  $H^+$ ) will go from outside and stay inside, negatively charged (like  $e^-$  and  $OH^-$ ) will go from inside and stay outside
- 5 To segregate ions, we need the energy and the energy booster. These are sun rays and chlorophyll

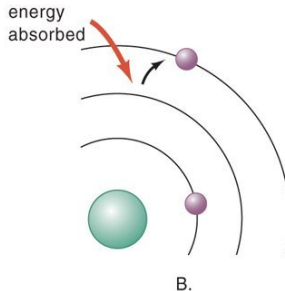
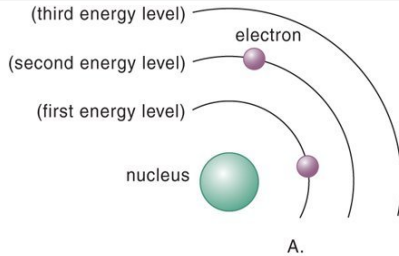




# Why chlorophyll is good for the membrane

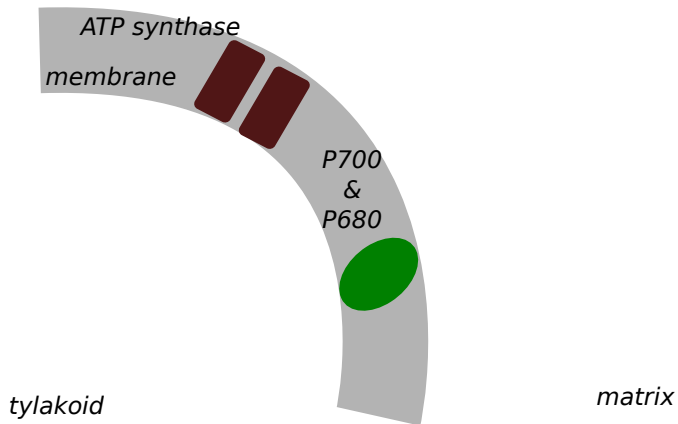


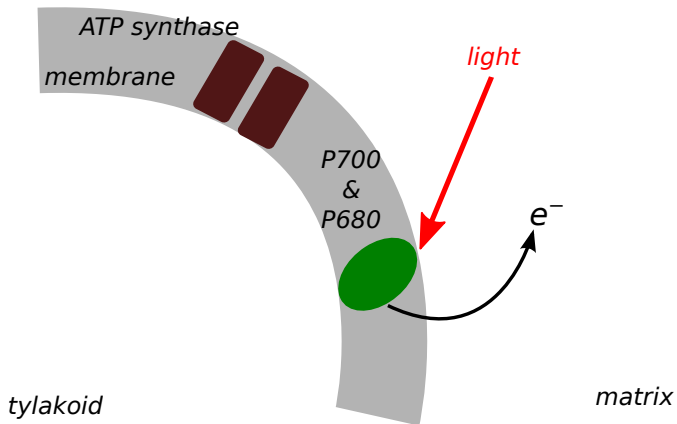
# How chlorophyll works: excitation of the electron

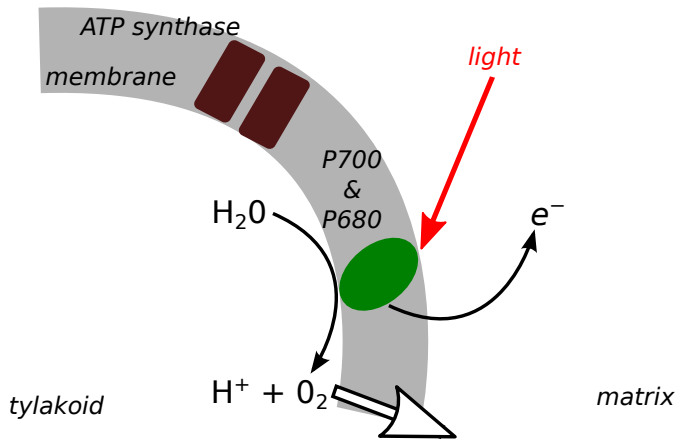


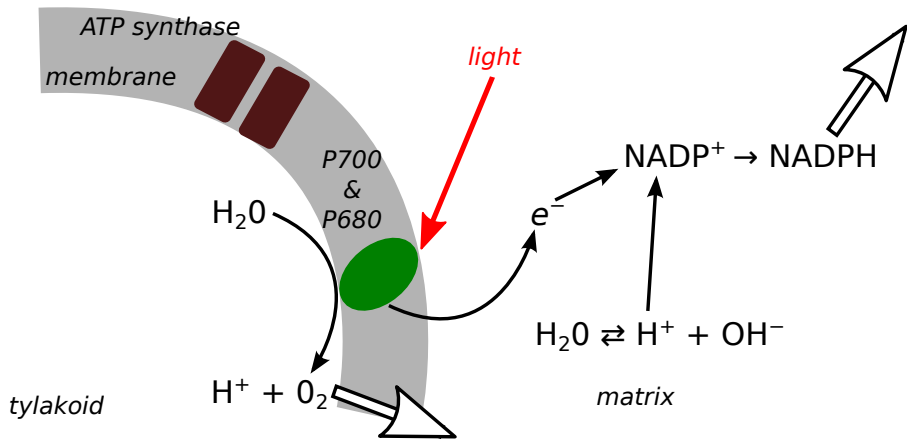
## *Scheme of light stage*

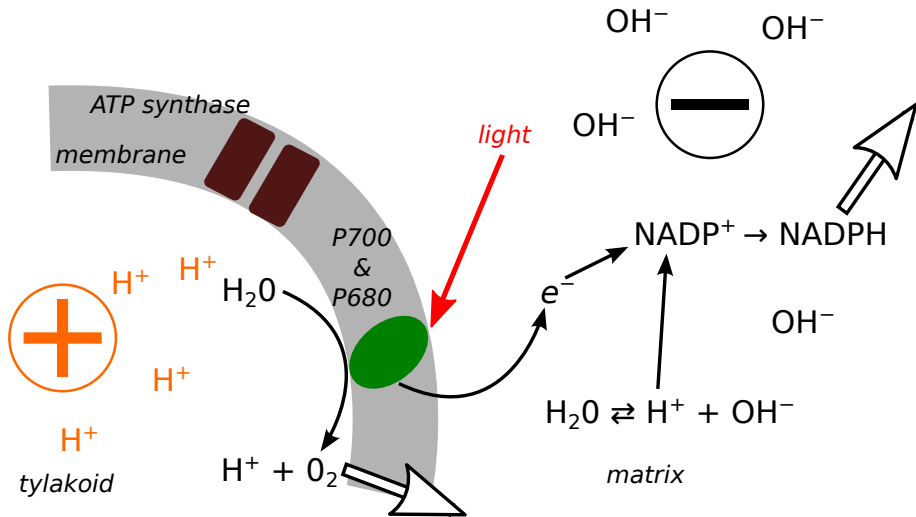




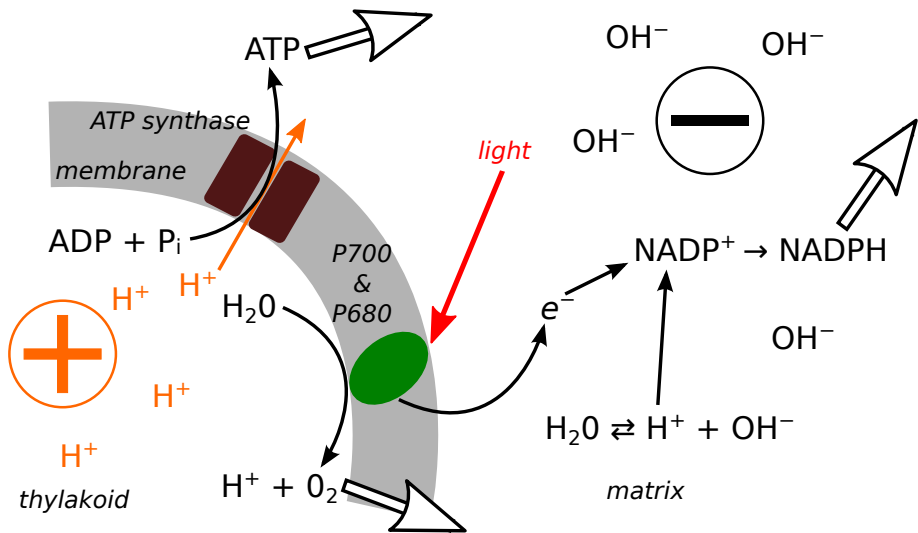












# Main events of light stage

- 1 Chlorophyll + Light  $\longrightarrow$  Electron ( $e^-$ ) + Chlorophyll<sup>+</sup>
- 2  $e^- + H^+$  (from water) + Hydrogen carrier ( $NADP^+$ )  $\longrightarrow$  NADPH  
(moves away)
- 3  $H_2O \longrightarrow H^+$  (accumulates inside) +  $e^- + O_2$
- 4  $H^+$  (inside) +  $OH^-$  (from water, located outside)  $\implies$  gradient  $\implies$   
proton pump  $\implies H_2O$   
TOGETHER WITH  
ADP +  $P_i$  (inorganic phosphate)  $\longrightarrow$  **ATP**



# Photosystems

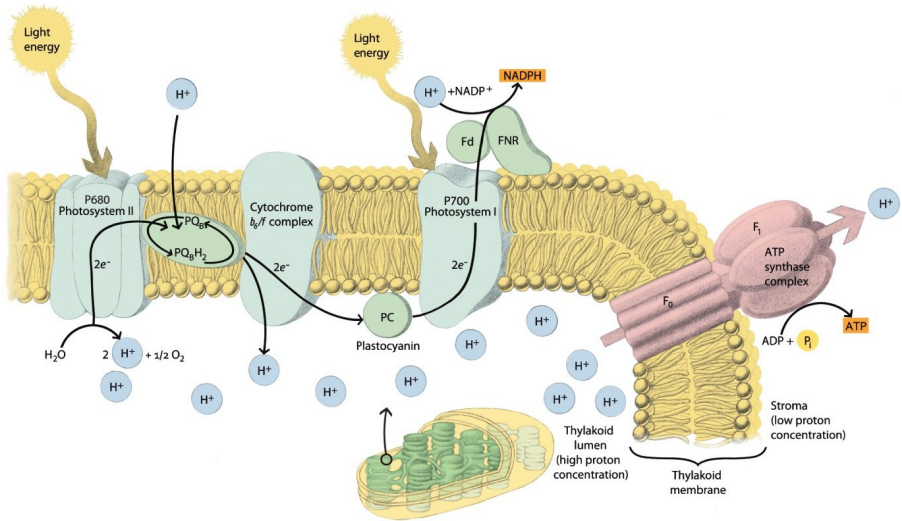
- Photosystem II ( $P_{680}$ , contains chlorophylls and carotene):
  - 1 decomposes water;
  - 2 forwards electron to Photosystem I;
  - 3 makes proton gradient
- Photosystem I ( $P_{700}$ , contains only chlorophylls) makes NADPH



## Photosystems movie



# Scheme of light stage, now with both photosystems



# Results of the light stage

At the start	At the end
H <sub>2</sub> O	H <sub>2</sub> O (result of pump) and O <sub>2</sub>
Chlorophylls	Chlorophylls
ADP and P <sub>i</sub> (inorganic phosphate)	ATP
NADP <sup>+</sup>	NADPH



# Photosynthesis

## Enzymatic stage: fixation of carbon dioxide



# Participants of enzymatic stage

- 1 Carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ )
- 2 Hydrogen carrier with hydrogen (NADPH)
- 3 Source of energy (ATP)
- 4 Ribulose biphosphate (RuBP, five-C-hydrocarbonate, "C<sub>5</sub>")
- 5 *Rubisco* and other enzymes

**Place:** in the matrix (stroma) of chloroplast



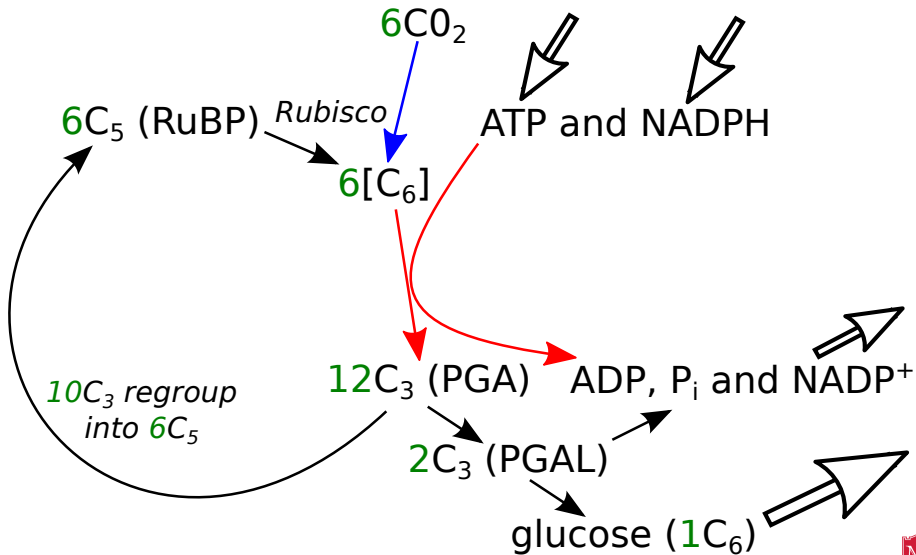


# Main events of enzymatic stage

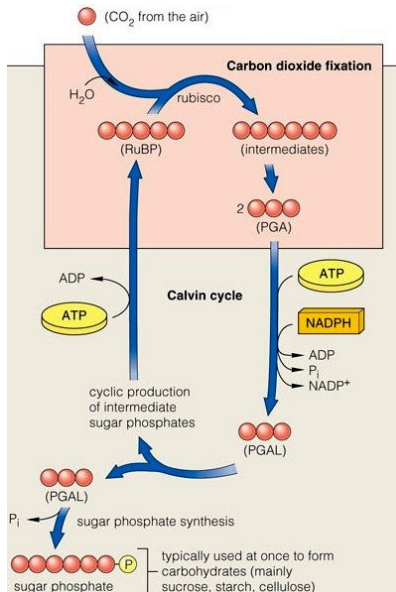
- 1  $\text{CO}_2 + \text{C}_5$  (RuBP, ribulose biphosphate)  $\xrightarrow{\text{rubisco}}$   $\text{C}_6$
- 2  $\text{C}_6 \longrightarrow 2\text{C}_3$  (PGA, phosphoglyceric acid)
- 3  $\text{C}_3 + \text{NADPH} + \text{ATP} \longrightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$  (or other organic molecules) +  $\text{C}_5 + \text{NADP}^+ + \text{ADP} + \text{P}_i$  (inorganic phosphate)
  - Organic molecules are synthesized from  $\text{C}_3$  (PGA) through energy-rich **PGAL** (phosphoglyceric aldehyde)



# Enzymatic stage: scheme



# Enzymatic stage



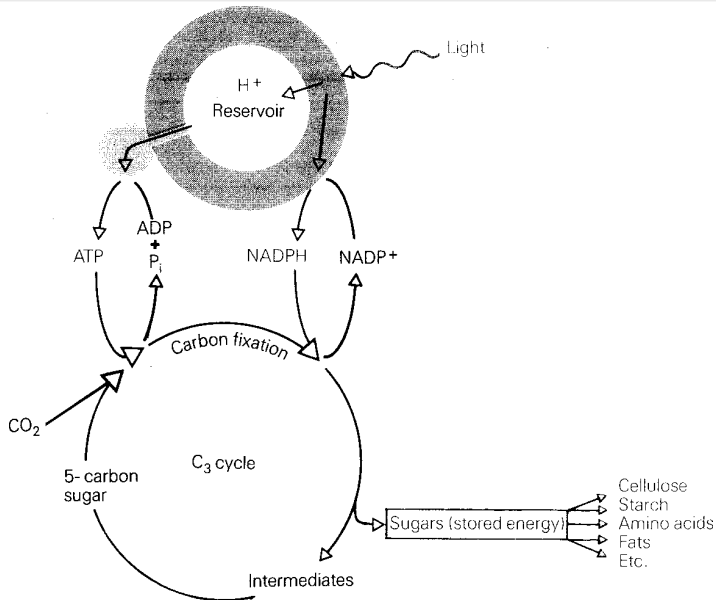
# Results of enzymatic stage

At the start	At the end
CO <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (or other organic molecules)
NADPH	NADP <sup>+</sup> (and H to organic molecules)
ATP	ADP and P <sub>i</sub> (inorganic phosphate)
C <sub>5</sub>	C <sub>5</sub>
Rubisco	Rubisco

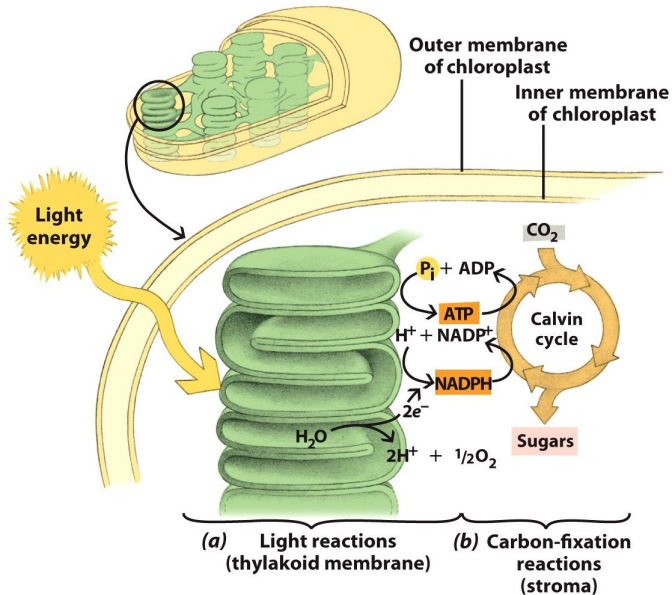
The other names for enzymatic stage are “Calvin cycle” and “C<sub>3</sub> cycle”



# Overview of photosynthesis



# Photosynthesis in the cell



## Photosynthesis movie



## Final question (4 points)

Which photosystem is responsible for every product of the light stage?





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Which photosystem is responsible for every product of the light stage?

At the end	Photosystem ...
H <sub>2</sub> O (result of pump) and O <sub>2</sub>	...
Chlorophylls	...
ATP	...
NADPH	...



# Summary

- **Photosynthesis** is a sequence of light-dependent and light-independent reactions
- **Light stage** of photosynthesis results in accumulation of energy and hydrogen, and release of oxygen
- **Enzymatic stage** of photosynthesis results in synthesis of organic molecules



# For Further Reading



A. Shipunov.

*Introduction to Botany* [Electronic resource].

2010—onwards.

Mode of access:

[http://ashipunov.info/shipunov/school/biol\\_154](http://ashipunov.info/shipunov/school/biol_154)



Th. L. Rost, M. G. Barbour, C. R. Stocking, T. M. Murphy.

*Plant Biology*. 2nd edition.

Thomson Brooks/Cole, 2006.

*Chapters 2 and 10.*

