Engineering retinal-based phototrophy via a complementary photosystem in Synechocystis sp. PCC6803
Chen, Q.

Citation for published version (APA):
Acknowledgements
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The completion of this thesis indicates the end of my journey in obtaining the PhD. It has been a long journey, full of ups and downs. Luckily, I have not traveled alone through this. No doubt that I have received loads of support and assistance in various ways from many people. At this moment of accomplishment, it is a pleasant task to convey my most heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed to this study and made it an unforgettable experience for me.

First and foremost, I would like to express my special appreciation and thanks to my promoter, Prof. dr. Klaas J. Hellingwerf. Klaas, thank you for offering me this opportunity to study and work in MMP group, particularly, for ushering me into the fantastic world of rhodopsin. Your deep insights, passionate enthusiasm and optimistic attitude in science and research inspired me at various stages of my scientific work. Moreover, thank you for your patience and willingness to share and explain the knowledge in all fields, even when you got lost in my poor English. Besides, I especially value your assistance and effort in shaping my manuscript. Although in this thesis, sadly, people can only see the final version of each chapter. I am truly surprised by how many different versions I have for each single manuscript, so that how much effort and time you spent on each of them. Plus, I highly appreciate the ‘Christmas’ dinner and ballet performance you hosted during Christmas holiday, which made the Christmas holiday warm and unforgettable, I pretty enjoyed those moments and your company.

My thanks also go to Dr. Filipe. Branco dos Santos, thank you a lot for your valuable advice and constructive criticism in my work and my thesis writing. Your high spirit and infinite passion in science always impress me. Besides, your sense of humor also makes the working atmosphere good.

I convey my special thanks to the members of my defense committee for accepting the invitation and spending the time to read my thesis on short notice.

My financial thanks go to the Chinese Scholarship Council and the University of Amsterdam for offering me this opportunity to study abroad and keeping me fed and sheltered.

I am much indebted to all the collaborators, without your support and collaboration, the completion of this thesis has not been possible. My special thanks first go to Jeroen B. van der Steen, thank you for ‘babysitting’ me in the lab in the first year and guiding me through the hardest period in our project and my PhD. Your patience, assistance, and consideration always eased my nerves when I felt nervous. My sincere gratitude goes to Jos Arents, thank you for working with me in so many experiments, shooting lots of technical troubles
Acknowledgements

and instructing me advanced lab skills. Without your help, I could not run my experiments so smoothly. Beyond that, I really appreciate your effort in my thesis cover-design, your design perfectly matched my idea and looks really cool. I also want to thank you for the ‘Christmas’ dinner that Anne and you organized, as well as the visit to your lovely home(town), that was a wonderful day.

My warm thanks go to Prof. dr. Willem J. de Grip. Wim, it is a great pleasure to collaborate and work with you in one project. I highly appreciate your effort and assistance in my work, especially the valuable suggestions and comments in experimental design and manuscript writing. Beyond that, it is also very kind of you to show your generous care on my problems outside scientific work, thank you for your kindness. My special thanks go to Srividya Ganapathy, not only for being my collaborator but also, mostly, as one of my best friends. Although we did not see each other very often, every single moment spent with you were always cheerful. Your consideration, support, and valuable friendship always warm me a lot. Your confidence and passion in science as well as open-minded outlook also truly inspire me.

I expand my thanks to Henk L. Dekker, thank you for handling the MS analysis for us, also trying to help us even when your equipment is not applicable for our sample. Aloysius F. Hartog, thank you for setting up the HPLC for us and optimizing the performance. Prof. dr. Christiane Funk and Otilia Cheregi, thank you for hosting me in Umea and showing me how to grow the precious PSI deletion strain. Christiane, thank you also for the sweet Easter gift. J. Merijn Schuurmans, thank you for the MIMS measurements, working with you is really relaxing. Davide Montesarchio, it is very nice to work with you on our mini review and good luck with your experiment. Pascal van Alphen, thank you for your help in translating my ‘summary’ into ‘samenvatting’, I am pretty sure it is a masterpiece of translation even I cannot read. Furthermore, I hope our cooperation in the new experiment will generate a big success. Wei Du, thank you for sharing your passion and experience in science, and always being willing to give me a hand. Dennis Rijnsburger, thank you for well organizing our lab, and being always patient and buying me everything I ever asked. Aniek van der Woude, thank you for making the lab more hospitable and being willing to share great techniques and protocols. My thanks also go to my master student, Sabrina, thank you for your suggestions and input in my project, I really enjoy the time we worked together.

Wei and Jeroen, I am also grateful that you accept my invitation to be my paranymphs.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Of course, above is not all. There have been too many of you to mention or too much assistance to point out. I would like to extend huge, warm thanks to: Rosanne, Andreas, Aleksandra, Orawan, Philipp, Vinod, Johan, Milou, Parsa, Joeri, Patricia, Wenyang, Alessandro, Mara, Angie, Elodie, Fede, Blai, Tania, Ruth, Nico, Hugo, Juliette, Ema, Wilmar, Sabrina, Eugenie, Pim, Juan, Soraya, Laura, Yanfang, Marloes, Zhiwei, Bhagyashree, Linli, Wishwas, Veerle, Sander and probably many more, for valuable comments, instructions on experiments, translation of my Dutch letters, as well as, your company, encouragements, hugs and kisses during lunch time, coffee break, tea time, cakes, beers (Juice for me), BBQs, Sichuan food, hotpot, movies, sushi, hamburger, parties, conferences, workshops, ect.. I also convey my sincere thanks to all of my Chinese friends: Yu Chen, Ding Qi, Chao Li, Na Li, Huiqi Yan, Zepeng Sun, Jiajia Gao, Jie Liu, Xiaolin Wu, Qianqian Zhang, Yanbang Li, Jiesen Xu, Xiang Wang, Sheng He, Yu Pan, Zhongcheng Pan, Muhe Diao, Xing Ji, Xiaolong Liu, Yongqiang Gao, Xiaotang Di, Hui Xiong, Lingxue Cao, Wei Quan, Zhongyu Lou, Yuanyuan Wang, Zhaochun Ren, Cai Fei, Chuan Wu, Shuai Liao, Ran Tao, Zhenyang Li, Wei Zeng, Jian Han, Xiaojuan Zhang, Dan Li, Shan Zhou and Yongqi Feng probably many more. It is a great pleasure to meet you all in Amsterdam, thank you for your company and nice food in all different occasions. It always alleviates my homesick when hanging out with you!

我同样要感谢我国内的老师和朋友们，尤其是吴卫老师，高峰老师，侯凯师兄，潘峰，魏超，吴英，李飞，杜娟，唐佳，罗玲，燕金宜，刘云飞，冯泽清，赵文铱，侯晟琦以及很多不能赘述的亲们，即使由于时差和距离，我们难有交集，你们依然给我了很多关心和温暖，谢谢你们来自千里之外的电话，邮件，留言，语音，明信片，这些关心和帮助一直让我很温暖。

我最想要感谢我的家人，我的爸爸妈妈，奶奶以及弟弟，出国留学于我是痛并快乐的新奇经历，于你是单纯的少了我四年多的陪伴。飞到这个陌生的国家读着一个你们只知道名字的专业，留给你们的却是难下眉头的担忧。但你们还是支持，给了我很多的自由。谢谢你们这么多年的养育和呵护。还有我的伯伯婶婶姨姨夫舅舅舅妈们干爹干妈，你们的关爱和热情体现在了一顿又一顿的火锅和一盘又一盘的香肠腊肉里，暖心暖胃，十分感激。最后，我要谢谢我的男友，刘洋，谢谢你的爱和毫无保留的付出，尤其是在最后的这段时间，担起了保镖，厨师，心灵导师，业余排版人等各种角色，各种技能都在“你帮我”，“你去学”到“你试试”之间瞬间提升，希望我们能在彼此的未来里有更多角色。

陈鹊 Amsterdam
2017.05
List of publications
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Publications:


Manuscripts: