

# **LIGHT REACTION, PHOTOSYSTEM**

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# Light Reaction

- Also called Light Dependent Processes

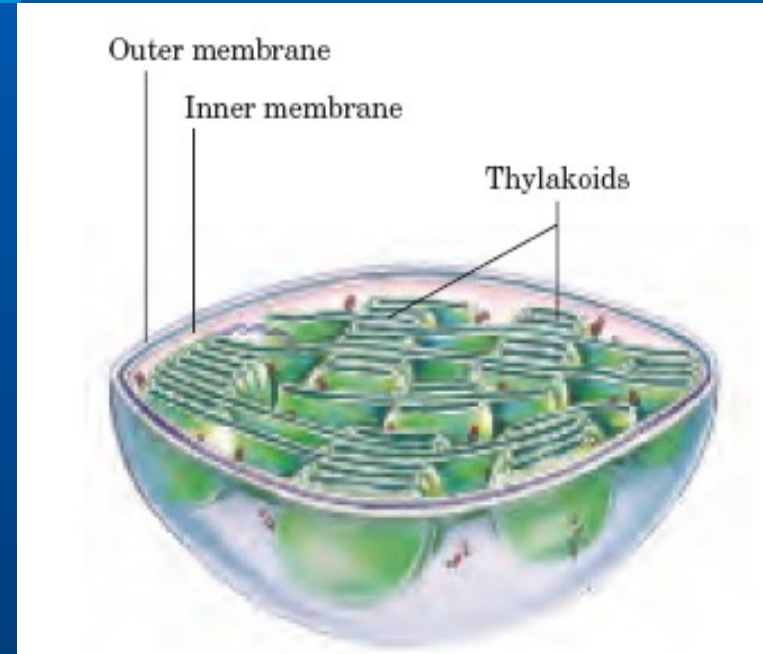
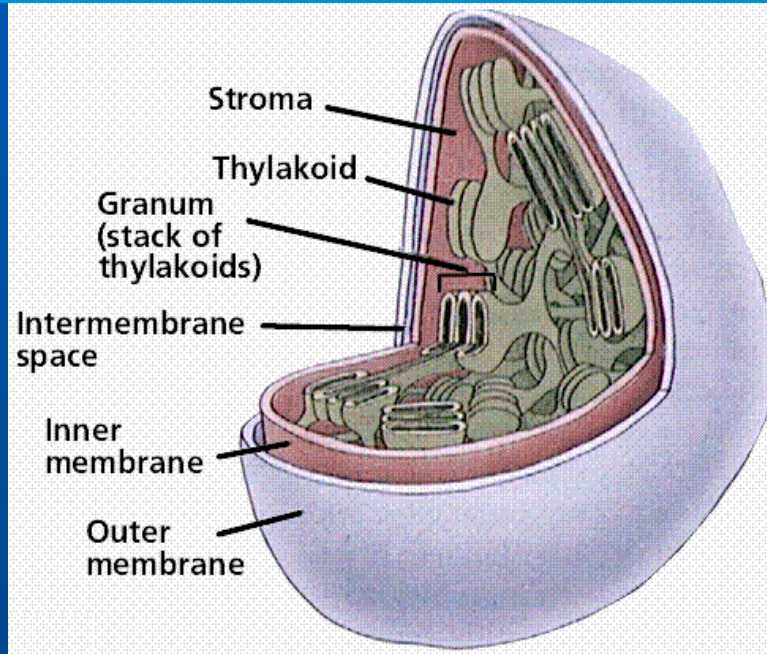
Light strikes chlorophyll in such a way as to excite electrons to higher energy state. In a series of reaction the energy is converted (along an electron transport process) into ATP and NADPH.

- The ATP and NADPH are used to make C-C bonds in the Dark Reaction

# Photosystem

- The light absorbing pigments of thylakoid are arranged in functional arrays called photosystem
- **Photosystems** are arrangements of chlorophyll and other pigments packed into thylakoids.
- Many Prokaryotes have only one photosystem, Eukaryotes have two photosystem (photosystem II & I).

# Photosystem



# Photosystem

- **Photosystem II (P680)**

Photosystem II contains chlorophyll a, as well as up to 50% chlorophyll b.

- It is needed to capture enough energy to do the biosynthetic reactions of the dark reaction.
- Its reaction center is a molecule called P680 which absorbs light maximally at 680 nm.

# Photosystem

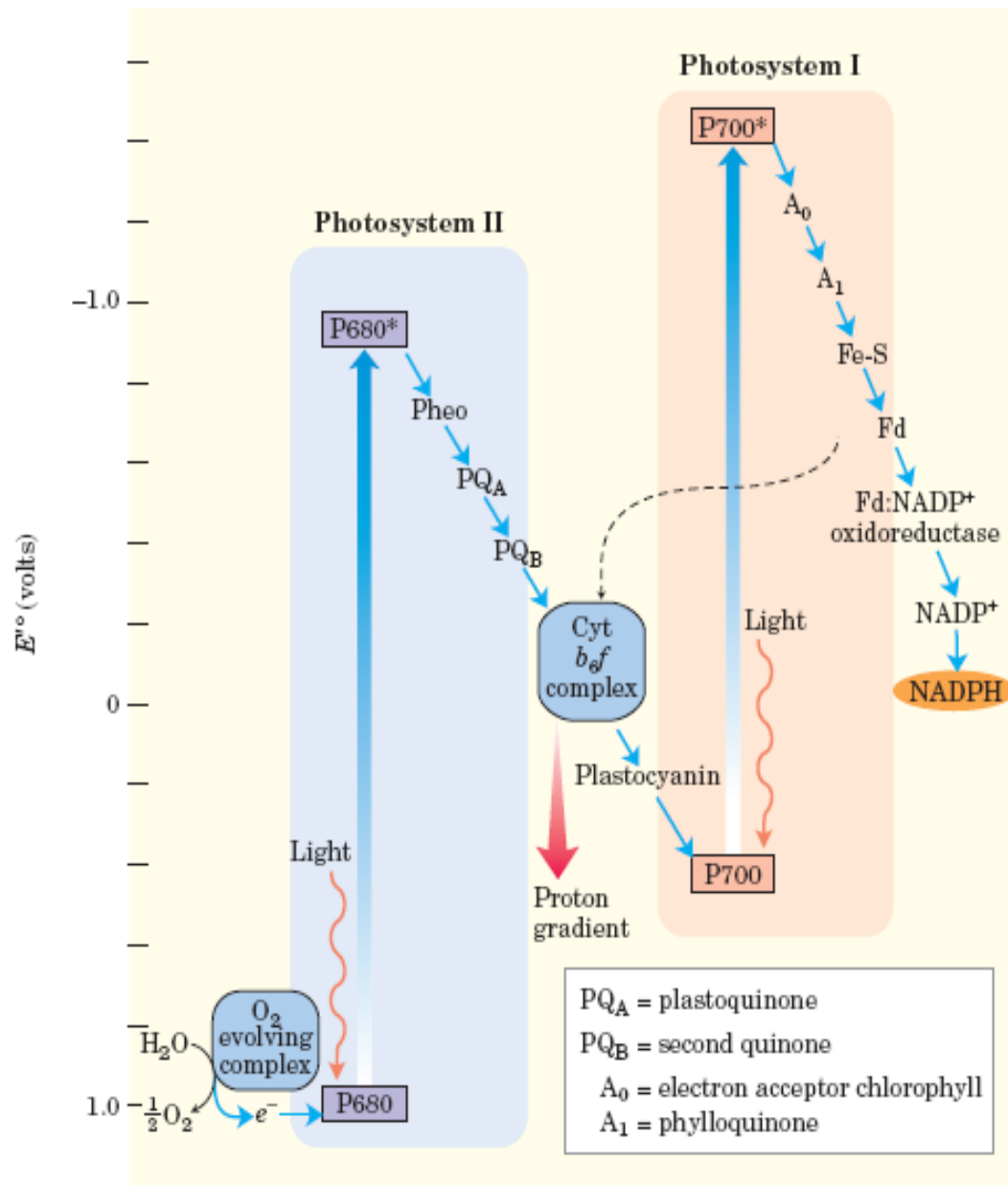
- **Photosystem I (P700)**

**Photosystem I consists largely of chlorophyll a molecules and contains no or few chlorophyll b.**

# Photosystem

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- **Photosystem I probably was the 1st to develop and can exist independently of Photosystem II to create energy for a plant. However, the enzymes it is associated with when it works independently are different than those it is associated with when it works with Photosystem II.**





# Interrelationship Between Photosystem II and I

**Electrons flow through a series of membrane  
- bound carriers including cytochromes,  
quinones, and iron-sulfur proteins, while  
protons are pumped across a membrane to  
create an electrochemical potential.**

# Photosystem II

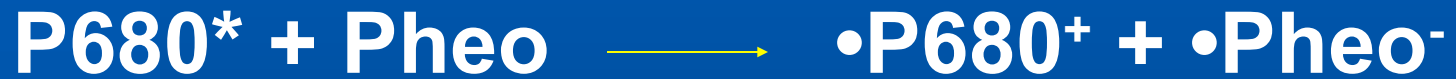
- **Photosystem II**

Excitation of its reaction center drives electrons through the Cytochrome b6f complex



the e<sup>-</sup> is transferred into pheophytin

# Photosystem II



- $\bullet\text{P680}^+$  is an oxidizing agent

the  $e^-$  that removed from P680 is replaced with an  $e^-$  obtained from oxidation of water



# Photosystem II

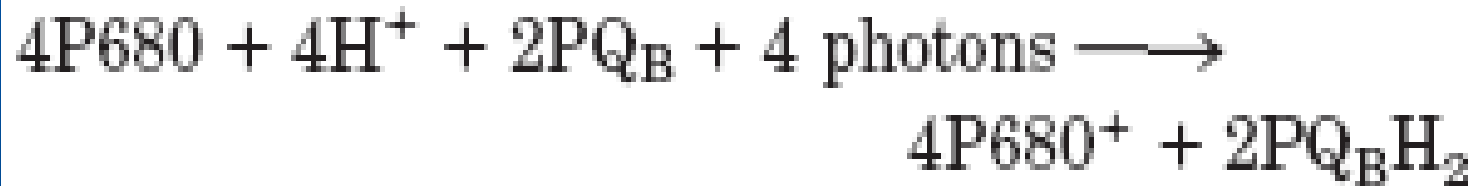
- Pheo<sup>-</sup> very rapidly passes to a protein-bound plastoquinone (PQ)



- $\text{PQ}_B\text{H}_2$  dissolved in the membrane and moves through the lipid phase of the bilayer to the cytochrome complex. And then continue transferring to the plastocyanin.

# Photosystem II

## Overall reaction in photosystem II



# Photosystem I

- Photosystem I



the  $e^-$  is transferred into an acceptor  $A_o$  (special form of chlorophyll)



# Photosystem I

- P700<sup>+</sup> (an oxidizing agent)

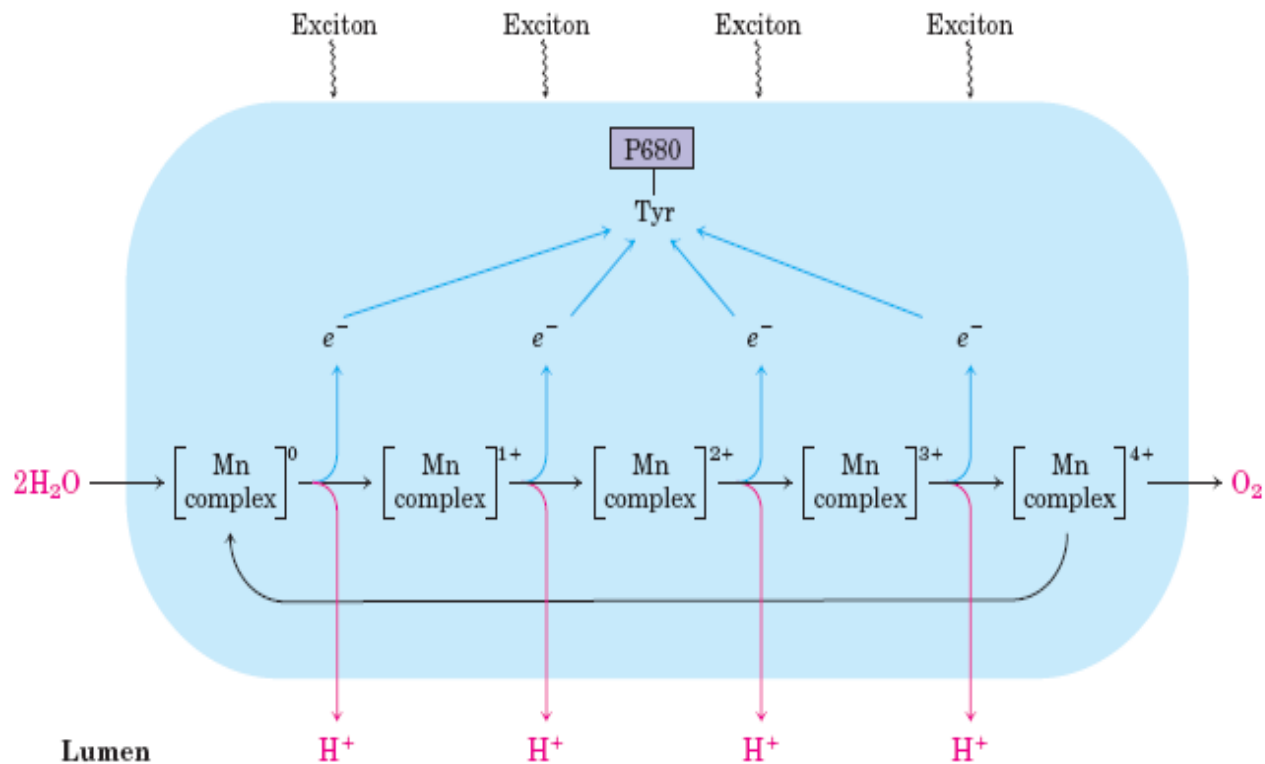
Acquires an e<sup>-</sup> from plastocyanin

- A<sub>0</sub><sup>-</sup> (a reducing agent)

e<sup>-</sup> passes into phylloquinone (A<sub>1</sub>) and then the electron moves to ferredoxin (Fd) that's donates its e<sup>-</sup> to NADP<sup>+</sup> reductase.



# Water Is Split by Oxygen-Evolving Complex

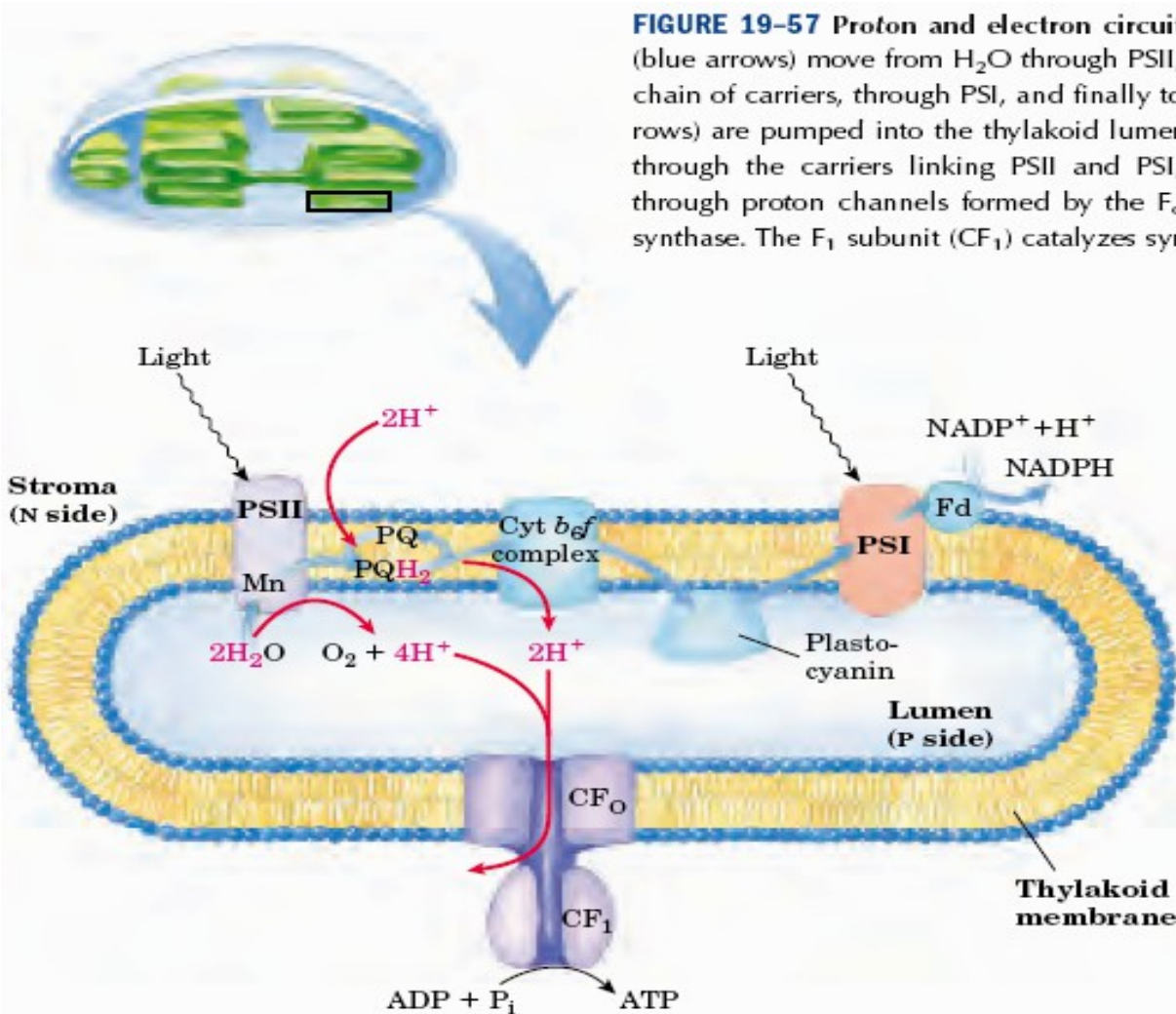


**FIGURE 19-56** Water-splitting activity of the oxygen-evolving complex. Shown here is the process that produces a four-electron oxidizing agent—believed to be a multinuclear center with several Mn ions—in the water-splitting complex of PSII. The sequential absorption of four photons (excitons), each absorption causing the loss of one elec-

tron from the Mn center, produces an oxidizing agent that can remove four electrons from two molecules of water, producing O<sub>2</sub>. The electrons lost from the Mn center pass one at a time to an oxidized Tyr residue in a PSII protein, then to P680<sup>+</sup>.



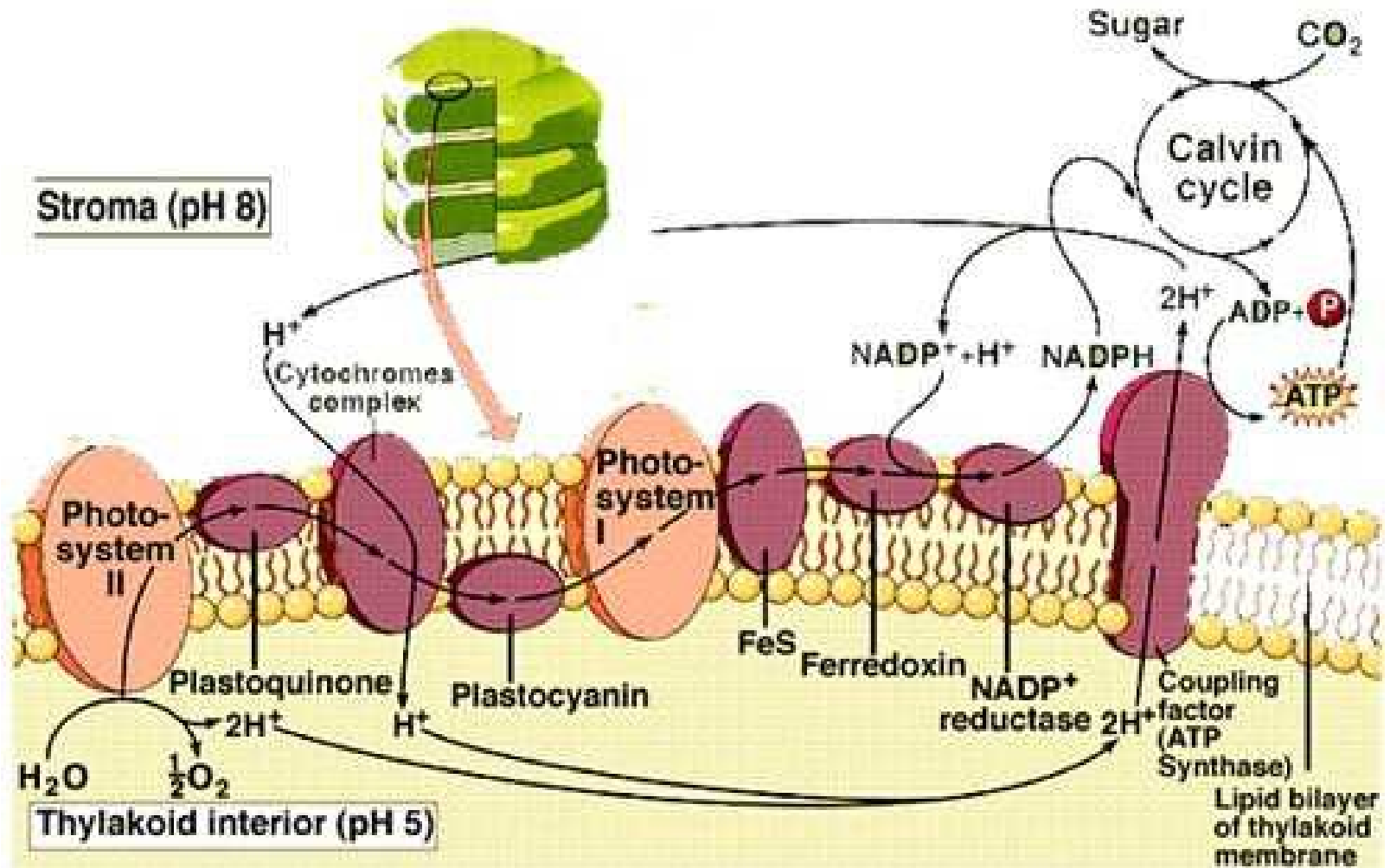
# A Proton Gradient



**FIGURE 19-57** Proton and electron circuits in thylakoids. Electrons (blue arrows) move from H<sub>2</sub>O through PSII, through the intermediate chain of carriers, through PSI, and finally to NADP<sup>+</sup>. Protons (red arrows) are pumped into the thylakoid lumen by the flow of electrons through the carriers linking PSII and PSI, and reenter the stroma through proton channels formed by the F<sub>o</sub> (designated CF<sub>o</sub>) of ATP synthase. The F<sub>1</sub> subunit (CF<sub>1</sub>) catalyzes synthesis of ATP.

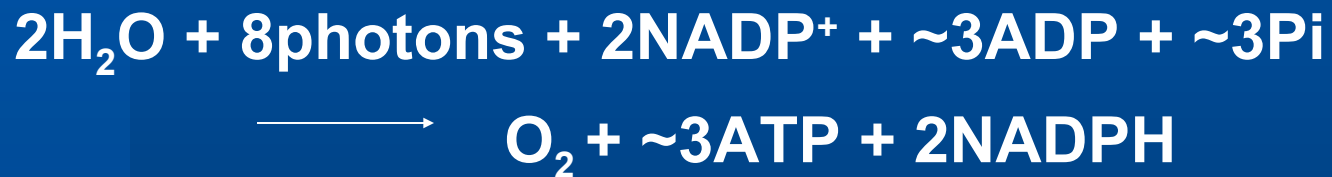
# A Proton Gradient

- **Electron flow through the cytochrome complex drives protons across the plasma membrane, creating a proton-motive force that provides the energy for ATP synthesis by an ATP synthase**
- **At least eight photons must be absorbed to drive four electrons from H<sub>2</sub>O to NADPH. The energy in eight photons is more than enough for the synthesis of three molecules of ATP.**



# A Proton Gradient

- The overall equation for noncyclic photophosphorylation :



# Reference

<http://www2.mcdaniel.edu/Biology/botf99/photo/i1ntrophoto.htm>

<http://www.cst.cmich.edu/users/baile1re/bio101fall/enzphoto/photoanima.htm>

<http://www.science.smith.edu/departments/Biology/Bio231/default.html>

<http://vcell.ndsu.nodak.edu/animations/photosynthesis>.

David L. Nelson & Michael M. Cox. 2005. Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry