

# MAI WATANABE

## JSPS Overseas Restart Research Fellow

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Schänzlestr. 1, 79104 Freiburg, Germany

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**EDUCATION**      **PhD**    **The University of Tokyo**, Graduate School    2008–2012  
of Arts and Sciences  
Title: Analysis of supramolecular  
organization of photosystems.  
Advisor: Prof. Masahiko Ikeuchi

**MS**      **University of Hyogo**, Graduate School of    2006–2008  
Life Science  
Title: Reconstitution of cyclic electron  
transport in *Synechocystis* sp. PCC 6803 by a cell-  
free system.  
Advisor: Prof. Kazuhiko Satoh,  
Associate Prof. Hiroyuki Koike

**HONORS,  
AWARDS AND  
GRANTS**      **JSPS Overseas RESTART Research Fellowship** 2018–2020  
**Research Fellowships for Young Scientists by JSPS**, 2018– for  
Postdoctoral Fellow (RPD) (declined it because of another  
fellowships)  
**Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas (Japan  
Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) KAKENHI grant No.  
17H05716)** 2017–2019  
**16th International Congress on Photosynthesis** Poster award  
2013  
**13th congress of THE JAPANESE SOCIETY OF PHOTOSYNTHESIS  
RESEARCH** Poster award 2013  
**International conference Photosynthesis Research for  
Sustainability** Young talents award 2011  
**9th congress of THE JAPANESE SOCIETY OF PHOTOSYNTHESIS  
RESEARCH** Poster award 2009

**RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE**      • **Cultivation of cyanobacteria** (*Thermosynechococcus*  
*elongatus*/*Anabaena* sp. PCC 7120/*Synechocystis* sp. PCC  
6803/*Synechococcus elongatus* PCC 7942/*Synechococcus* WH  
8102/*Cyanothece* sp. PCC 8801/*Acaryochloris marina*/

*Gloeobacter violaceus* PCC 7421/ *Tolypothrix* sp. PCC 7601)

- **Cultivation of algae** (*Cyanophora paradoxa*/ *Cyanidioschyzon merolae*/*Chaetoceros gracilis*/*Thalassiosira pseudonana*/*Phaeodactylum tricornutum*)
- **DNA work** (design and construction)
- **RNA work** (preparation and Northern blotting)
- **Photosystem complex isolation and analysis**
- **Protein complex preparation and analysis**
- **spectroscopy**
- **physiology of cyanobacteria**
- **Joliot type spectroscopy** (P700 oxidation/re-reduction)
- **PAM** (P700 oxidation/re-reduction)
- **Oxygen evolving activity measurement**

**CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS  
(International)**

**Oral**

○ **Watanabe M**, Ehira S, Kondo K, Narikawa R, Ohmori M, Ikeuchi M

**“The novel antenna-photosystem I supercomplex that drives nitrogen fixation”**

Japanese-Finnish Seminar 2012, Naantali, Finland, September 2012.

**Poster**

○ **Watanabe M**, Yoshino H, Matsumura M, Okuda Y, Ikeuchi M  
**“Enhanced recovery from photosystem I photoinhibition by the assembly factor.”**

10th European Workshop on the Molecular Biology of Cyanobacteria, Romania, August 20-24, 2017

○ **Watanabe M**, Matsumura M, Yoshino H, Okuda Y, Ikeuchi M  
**“Recovery from photosystem I photoinhibition by the assembly factor.”**

17th International congress on Photosynthesis., Maastricht, The Netherlands, August 2016.

(and 12 other posters)

**RESEARCH  
JOB**

**Post-doc, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg**, Institut für Biologie III, **JSPS Overseas Research Fellowship** 2018–2020

**Post-doc, The University of Tokyo**, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, **CREST project** 2012–2018

# PUBLICATION LIST

## Published (peer reviewed)

1. Ikeda Y, Komura M, **Watanabe M**, Minami C, Koike H, Itoh S, Kashino Y, Satoh K “Photosystem I complexes associated with fucoxanthin-chlorophyll-binding proteins from a marine centric diatom *Chaetoceros gracilis*” BBA-Bioenergetics. Elsevier Ltd., 1777, pp351-361, 2008.
2. **Watanabe M**, Iwai M, Narikawa R, Ikeuchi M “Is the Photosystem II complex a monomer or a dimer?” Plant and Cell Physiology. Oxford university press., 50(9), pp1674-1680, 2009. \***Editor’s choice**
3. **Watanabe M** “High concentrations of Detergent induce a dimerization of Photosystem II!?” Photosynthesis Research (Japan). The Japanese Society of photosynthesis research, 2, pp 48-51, 2009.
4. **Watanabe M**, Kubota H, Wada H, Narikawa R, Ikeuchi M “Novel supercomplex organization of photosystem I in *Anabaena* and *Cyanophora paradoxa*” Plant and Cell Physiology. Oxford university press., 52(1), pp162-168, 2011.
5. **Watanabe M**, Sato M, Kondo K, Narikawa R, Ikeuchi M “Phycobilisome model with novel skeleton-like structures in a glaucocystophyte *Cyanophora paradoxa*” BBA-Bioenergetics. Elsevier Ltd., 1817, pp1428-1435, 2012.
6. **Watanabe M**, Kubota H, Wada H, Narikawa R, Ikeuchi M “Supercomplex organizations and evolution of Photosystems I and II (*Anabaena* sp. PCC 7120, *Cyanophora paradoxa* and *Cyanidioschyzon merolae*)” Photosynthesis Research for Food, Fuel and the Future Advanced Topics in Science and Technology in China pp13-16, 2013.
7. **Watanabe M** and Ikeuchi M “Phycobilisome: architecture of a light-harvesting supercomplex” Photosynthesis Research. Springer. 116, pp265-276, 2013. **Review**
8. **Watanabe M**, Semchonok A. T, Webber-Birungic T. M, Ehira S, Kondo K, Narikawa R, Ohmori M, Boekema J. E, Ikeuchi M “Attachment of phycobilisomes in an antenna-photosystem I supercomplex of cyanobacteria” Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 111 pp2512-2517, 2014.
9. Fujisawa T, Narikawa R, Maeda S, Watanabe S, Kanesaki Y, Kobayashi K, Nomata J, Hanaoka M, **Watanabe M**, Ehira S, Suzuki E, Awai K, Nakamura Y “CyanoBase: a large-scale update on its 20th anniversary” Nucleic acids research, 45(D1), ppD551-D554, 2016, Oxford University Press
10. Kohzuma K, Sato Y, Ito H, Okuzaki A, **Watanabe M**, Kobayashi H, Nakano M, Yamatani H, Masuda Y, Nagashima Y, Fukuoka H, Yamada T, Kanazawa A, Kitamura K, Tabei Y, Ikeuchi M, Sakamoto W, Tanaka A, Kusaba M “The non-Mendelian green cotyledon gene in soybean encodes a small subunit of photosystem II” Plant physiology, 173(4), pp2138-2147, 2017, Am Soc Plant Biol
11. Kumagai Y, Yoshizawa S, Nakajima Y, **Watanabe M**, Fukunaga T, Ogura Y, Hayashi T, Oshima K, Hattori M, Ikeuchi M, Kogure K, DeLong F. E, Iwasaki W “Solar-panel and parasol strategies shape the proteorhodopsin distribution pattern in marine Flavobacteriia” The ISME journal, 12(5), pp1329-1343, 2018, Nature Publishing Group
12. Hirose Y, Chihong S, **Watanabe M**, Yonekawa C, Murata K, Ikeuchi M, Eki T ”Diverse chromatic acclimation regulating phycoerythrocyanin and rod-shaped phycobilisome in cyanobacteria” Molecular plant, 12(5), pp715-725, 2019, Cell Press