## **BIOPHYSICS IN AND FOR AFRICA**



## Biophysics in Africa

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## Modelling of plasmon-enhanced fluorescence in a single light-harvesting complex near a gold nanorod

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LHCII — the main light-harvesting complex of plants and green algae — is the most abundant membrane protein on earth. Here, we investigate theoretically the effect of exciton-plasmon coupling on LHCII's fluorescence quantum yield and compare our modelling results to experimental data where plasmon-enhanced fluorescence has been reported in an LHCII–gold nanorod system. One of the models relies on the modified Gersten-Nitzan approach; the other is based on classical plexcitonics. We show that the latter is more robust and leads to more

realistic enhancement factors.

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