

Supporting Information

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SI Text

SI NPQ Calculation

NPQ is calculated using F_m , the fluorescence yield in the dark, and F'_m , the fluorescence yield after exposure to light:

$$NPQ = \frac{F_m - F'_m}{F'_m}. \quad [S1]$$

The fluorescence yield, F , is proportional to the integral of the time-resolved fluorescence, $F(t)$:

$$F \propto \int_0^{\infty} F(t) dt. \quad [S2]$$

Using the above definition for the fluorescence yield, and the definition for the average fluorescence lifetime (Eq. 2 in the main text), the amount of NPQ can be rewritten as follows:

$$NPQ = \frac{\tau_{avg, dark} - \tau_{avg, light}}{\tau_{avg, light}}. \quad [S3]$$

Table S1. Pigment analysis of wild type and *npq4*

Genotype	Light condition	Violaxanthin content, mmol per mol chl a	Antheraxanthin content, mmol per mol chl a	Zeaxanthin content, mmol per mol chl a
Wild type	Dark-adapted	48	0.8	0
	30 s of light	51	9.5	0
	30 min of light	20	9.1	21
<i>npq4</i>	Dark-adapted	54	2.7	0
	30 s of light	43	7.6	0
	30 min of light	20	13	21

Dark-adapted measurements are an average of two samples. Light-adapted measurements are from one sample.