



Figure 2. Photoelectrochemical cell.

We have recently investigated the conformational states of the Schiff base of the retinal in the protein using PCILo (perturbation configuration interaction of localized orbitals) method. We have proposed two models for the structure of the intermediate species of the photoreaction cycle^{14,15} of the purple complex. Further work on the isolation of the purple membrane from halobacteria and physico-chemical studies involving model systems are in progress. The development of a photoelectrochemical cell using isolated bacteriorhodopsin, after incorporating in synthetic membrane and attempts to improve the efficiency of the cell are contemplated. In addition, other applications of halophilic bacteria in biotechnology will be explored.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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