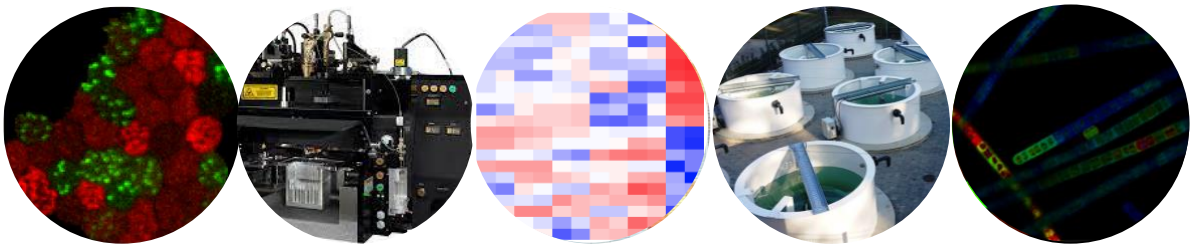
Join our team: Postdoc position on the Ecophysiology of Aquatic Cyanobacteria

Interested in climate change effects, phytoplankton ecophysiology and developing new techniques? Join our new project launched January 1st, 2024: **How to cope with a fluctuating environment: Cell-to-cell heterogeneity versus acclimation in cyanobacteria.** We are looking for a motivated postdoc to join the laboratory for Algal Ecophysiology at Centre Algatech of the Institute of Microbiology CAS in Trebon, Czechia.

THE PROJECT

Short-term fluctuations in environmental conditions such as temperature (e.g., heat waves) and carbonate chemistry (e.g., diurnal pH changes) are expected to increase with climate change. In this project, we will investigate how phytoplankton respond to fluctuations at different time scales. The project involves characterization of physiological acclimation mechanisms as well as development and application of innovative techniques to determine the role of cell-to-cell heterogeneity in this context. The selected candidate will apply transcriptomics, confocal microscopy, flow cytometry and other single-cell techniques in experiments with laboratory cultures and natural communities.



REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- A PhD with a focus on Aquatic Microbiology, Biological Oceanography, Molecular Biology or related fields
- Profound interest in fundamental ecological questions as well as in physiological mechanisms
- Experience in RNA sequencing is highly desired, expertise in advanced microscopy and/or flow cytometry are advantageous.
- Strong interest in method development and proficiency in data analysis and image processing are further benefits.
- We seek a candidate with good communication skills, who is self-motivated and able to work independently as well as in a team.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Work in a friendly international team focused on the molecular biology, ecophysiology and biophysics of photosynthesis, located at an internationally recognized center for basic and applied research on microalgae and bacteria (currently >80 employees)
- Access to cutting-edge technology (microscopy, mass spectrometry etc.), close collaboration with laboratories in Hungary (BLKI), the Netherlands (Utrecht University) and Germany (AWI), opportunities for attending international conferences

- Funding available until end of 2026, subject to satisfactory progress during an initial trial period
- Start date at the earliest convenience, preferably April 2024
- Třeboň is a small town set in a tranquil and invigorating environment located in the south of the Czech Republic close to the Austrian border, in a rural setting about 2 h from Prague and 30 min from Ceske Budejovice, surrounded by UNESCO-protected lake-land area and forests as well as historical towns. We offer assistance with the administrative aspects of moving to the Czech Republic and accommodation for the first months.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit a single pdf with a letter of motivation (max 2 pages) describing previous experience relevant to the project and current research interests, as well as a CV including publications and contact information for 2 references before February 20th, 2024 to eichner@alga.cz. Online or in-person interviews will be scheduled for the end of February.

For more detailed information or questions on the project feel free to contact the project leader Dr. Meri Eichner (eichner@alga.cz).

The Lab: https://www.alga.cz/en/c-285-ondrej-prasil-s-group.html, https://www.alga.cz/en/c-287-radek-kana-s-group.html