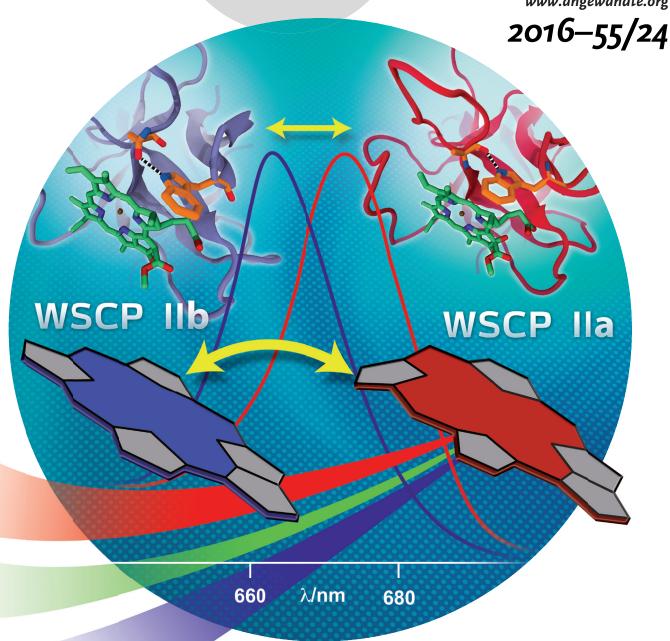
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A red bend ...

... aromatic ring deformation has long been postulated as a mechanism for tuning the absorption spectra of chlorophylls in their natural protein environment. In their Communication on page 6901 ff., D. Noy and co-workers provide the first direct demonstration of such a mechanism in the water-soluble chlorophyll binding protein (WSCP) from Brassicaceae. Changes in hydrogen bonding to a tryptophan residue reposition it to perturb the planarity of the chlorophyll macrocycle thereby causing significant absorption red shifts.

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