

## 特约评述

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## 真核微藻脂质代谢工程的研究进展和展望

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**摘要:** 真核微藻作为一类重要的生物资源, 脂质含量高, 广泛应用于能源、化工和食品等领域。然而, 真核微藻生物能源成本偏高, 其产业化应用仍然面临着一系列挑战。通过代谢工程手段改造微藻, 促进脂质的合成与积累, 可提高微藻脂质生产的经济可行性。本文介绍真核微藻脂质代谢途径和关键酶基因, 并总结了不同培养条件下代谢途径相关基因在转录水平上的变化。还探讨通过代谢工程调控脂质合成相关酶、转录因子和竞争途径等方法, 以提高微藻脂质含量和调整脂肪酸组成。通过基因组学、转录组学和蛋白质组学数据的整合分析可揭示脂质代谢中的关键节点和主效调控因子, 有助于确定代谢工程的潜在目标。此外, 基因工具和基因编辑技术的开发和拓展可显著提高转化效率, 实现对微藻底盘细胞的精准改造。通过重塑能量和碳代谢途径, 可设计优化微藻脂质生物合成过程。在微藻遗传工具、基因编辑技术、代谢通路调控和产业化等方面的进一步研究和探索对于推动微藻脂质工程的研究和发展具有重要意义。

**关键词:** 真核微藻; 生物质精制; 脂质代谢; 能量代谢; 合成生物学

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## Research progress and prospects in lipid metabolic engineering of eukaryotic microalgae

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**Abstract:** Microalgae represent a diverse group of photosynthetic organisms that are widely found in various ecosystems on the Earth. They play a crucial role in carbon dioxide bio-fixation. Apart from their efficient growth through photosynthesis, many microalgae can also grow robustly under heterotrophic and mixotrophic conditions for high biomass production. Due to their high lipid content and the presence of diverse fatty acid and lipid species, microalgae have a wide range of applications in industries of energy, chemicals, and food. However, the high production cost associated with microalgae-based bioenergy poses a significant challenge for large-scale

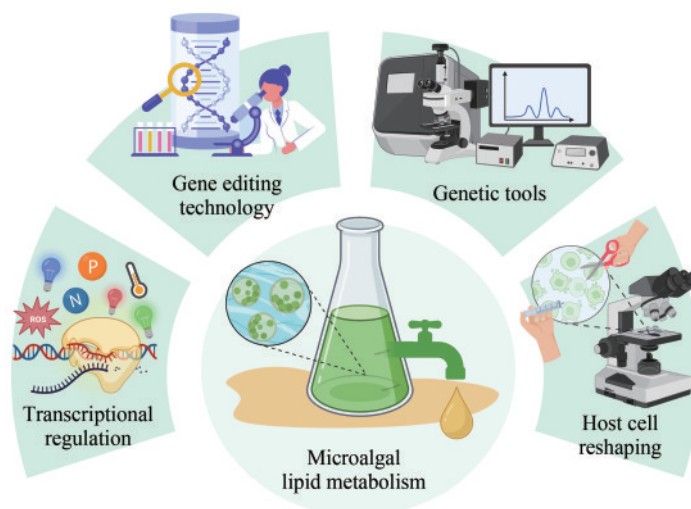
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implementation. To overcome this, there is a growing interest in engineering microalgae to enhance lipid biosynthesis and accumulation, which holds promise for improving the economic feasibility of microalgal lipid production. This requires a better understanding of lipid metabolism and regulation in microalgae. This article provides an overview of recent advances in the elucidation of lipid metabolic pathways, the roles of key enzyme genes involved in lipid metabolism, and the transcriptional regulation of lipid metabolic pathways under different cultivation conditions in eukaryotic microalgae. It also summarizes strategies for metabolic engineering aiming for manipulating lipid biosynthesis-related enzymes, transcription factors, and competing pathways to increase lipid content and/or modify fatty acid composition in microalgae. Integrated analysis of genomics, transcriptomics, and proteomics data can help identify crucial nodes and key regulators in lipid metabolism, facilitating the identification of potential targets for metabolic engineering. Furthermore, the rapid development of genetic tools and gene editing technologies has significantly improved transformation efficiency and enabled precise gene modification, providing a foundation for genetic engineering of microalgae. By reshaping energy and carbon metabolic pathways, it becomes possible to design and optimize lipid biosynthesis processes in microalgae for a better production. Further research and exploration in genetic tools, gene editing technologies, metabolic pathway regulation, and large-scale implementation are of utmost importance for driving the research and development of microalgal lipid engineering.



**Keywords:** eukaryotic microalgae; biorefineries; lipid metabolism; energy metabolism; synthetic biology

目前,化石燃料(包括煤炭、天然气和石油)约占据人类80%以上的能源需求<sup>[1]</sup>。全球对于化石燃料需求的日益增加加剧了温室气体的排放量,使得环境压力逐渐增大。此外,鉴于化石燃料的自然储量预计将于2069年至2088年之间耗竭以及人类对于资源的需求,寻找可再生的能源势在必行。生物柴油具有可再生、持久性强、环境友好等优点,发展主要经历了三代过程<sup>[2]</sup>。第一代生物柴油来源于大豆油、花生油、动物脂质等;第二代生物柴油来源于麻风树油、棕榈油等非粮油

型植物;第三代生物柴油主要来源于微藻。作为第三代的“主力军”,微藻生物质相较于已经推广的生物柴油生产体系(如大豆、油菜籽、花生等)以及其他回收油料来源(如动物脂肪和其他废弃脂质)来说具有不可替代的优势。其一,具有有效利用环境甚至改善环境的潜力。利用光合作用,微藻能合成自身所需的碳骨架,将空气中的二氧化碳(CO<sub>2</sub>)高效转化为生物量,缓解人类活动对环境所产生的额外CO<sub>2</sub>压力(图1)。微藻利用CO<sub>2</sub>的效率,预计到2050年微藻的CO<sub>2</sub>固定潜力为



图1 微藻的可持续生物炼制

Fig. 1 Sustainable biorefinery of microalgae

0.2~0.9 Gt/a<sup>[3]</sup>。其二，在同化利用环境中CO<sub>2</sub>的同时，废水中的大量氮、磷等营养元素也在微藻的生长过程中被吸收，以生物量的形式得以体现(图1)。微藻广泛分布于各种水体，如各大海洋及盐湖、淡水湖、河流，强大的环境适应性也造就了微藻在不利生长条件下保持生物活性的特点。其三，微藻比传统作物具有更高的产量。大豆、玉米的产量分别约为0.3 kg/(m<sup>2</sup>·a)和0.9 kg/(m<sup>2</sup>·a)<sup>[4]</sup>。小球藻(*Chlorella* sp.)在露天池塘中的生产力为5~7 kg/(m<sup>2</sup>·a)，在光生物反应器中约为15 kg/(m<sup>2</sup>·a)<sup>[5-6]</sup>。根据微藻的光合效率和生长速率可以计算得出，规模化培养的微藻可以产出脂质约为136 900 L/(ha·a)，比油棕种植园的脂质产量[22 780 L/(ha·a)]高出数倍<sup>[7]</sup>。

然而，最近的技术经济分析显示，藻类来源的生物燃料收益很低。有研究表明，2011年国内大规模培养雨生红球藻的生产成本为18美元/kg<sup>[8]</sup>，2016年西班牙大规模培养微藻的成本约为3.4欧元/kg<sup>[9]</sup>。2019年研究人员通过可持续的、高性能的生产过程，使脂质的生产成本降为1.6美元/kg<sup>[10]</sup>。此外，能源分析显示微藻生物燃料的成本为541欧元/GJ，但化石燃料的成本为4~11欧元/GJ<sup>[9]</sup>。在增加微藻脂质产率的同时，开发高附加值产物是提高微藻脂质生产经济可行性的关键。因此，通过代谢工程等手段合成“定制化脂质分子”可实现可持续和环境友好的脂肪酸生产；此外，作为替代策略，采用生物质精炼，例如结合其他商品使用微藻剩余组分制备化学品，

可将微生物生物质价值提高到1.85欧元/kg(图1)。脂质积累阶段，细胞中蛋白质和多糖经过中心代谢途径为脂肪酸合成和一些色素积累提供前体物质和能量<sup>[11]</sup>。有研究表明以富含蛋白质和碳水化合物的微藻为饲料的价格分别为0.75美元/kg和1.1美元/kg，将这两种物质有效转化为脂肪酸或其他高价值产物能提高微藻脂质生产收益<sup>[12]</sup>。

值得注意的是，“微藻”包括真核光合微生物和原核蓝藻，真核光合微生物包括绿藻、硅藻、甲藻、褐藻等。由于真核微藻在细胞结构和代谢分化方面比原核微藻更加多样，研究其代谢有助于深入解析脂质代谢的生物学机制，使其成为一个更具应用潜力的生物柴油和多不饱和脂肪酸(polyunsaturated fatty acid, PUFA)来源。微藻脂质生产的另一个挑战是微藻的遗传改造和代谢调控技术发展缓慢。目前，微藻遗传工程和代谢调控技术的发展比较滞后，限制了微藻种质资源的改良和性能提升。近年来，系统代谢工程将合成生物学、系统生物学和进化工程的工具和策略与传统代谢工程的相结合，用于高性能菌株的开发，高效地生产化学品和原料。其中，代谢组学检测细胞内代谢物的变化，代谢流分析技术计算细胞代谢网络流量，有助于推断产物合成的限制步骤；转录组学解析细胞代谢在基因转录表达水平上的变化，了解目标产物的转录调控因子。另外，动力学模型作为有效工具，可以反映营养消耗、细胞生长、产物积累的动态变化，预测和提升产物产量。因此，多种代谢工具的组合和优化可以建

立代谢流量、酶表达水平和代谢物浓度之间的内在关系，定量动态描述细胞中代谢变化，识别关键的调控元件并解析细胞生长和产物代谢机制。微藻作为生物柴油的重要来源，具有可再生、废物再利用率高优势，发展前景广阔。然而，微藻生产仍然面临着成本高、遗传改造和代谢调控技术的限制，以及市场竞争的挑战，需要进一步加强对微藻生产技术的研究和开发，以提高脂质合成效率，同时降低生产成本。

## 1 真核微藻脂质代谢和调控机理

### 1.1 脂质生物合成的代谢途径和关键酶基因

近年来，随着新一代测序技术的发展，不少真核微藻已经完成了基因组测序。微藻基因组信息的获取为深入了解代谢途径和工程改造提供了基础（表1）。

从理论上讲，脂肪酸合成的碳源来自两个途

径<sup>[32]</sup>：一个涉及光合作用；另一个涉及糖酵解和三羧酸（tricarboxylic acid, TCA）循环。参与脂质代谢的酶如图2所示。第一条途径发生在叶绿体中。CO<sub>2</sub>进入质体，通过卡尔文-本森-巴斯姆（Calvin-Benson-Bassham, CBB）循环转化为甘油醛-3-磷酸。然后，甘油醛-3-磷酸转化为乙酰辅酶A，后者是脂肪酸的前体。乙酰辅酶A羧化酶（acetyl-CoA carboxylase, ACCase）将乙酰辅酶A转化为丙二酰辅酶A，这一步被认为是脂肪酸从头合成的限制步骤。然后，丙二酰辅酶A:ACP转酰酶（acetoacetyl-CoA: ACP transferase, MAT）催化将丙二酰辅酶A转化为丙二酰 ACP，然后由3-酮酰基-ACP合成酶（3-ketoacyl-ACP synthase, KAS）转化为3-酮酰 ACP，并进入脂肪酸的延长和不饱和化循环。由3-酮酰基-ACP还原酶（3-ketoacyl-ACP reductase, KAR）、3-羟基酰基-ACP脱水酶（3-hydroxyacyl-ACP dehydratase, HD）和烯酰-ACP还原酶（enoyl-ACP reductase, ENR）催化的循环直到产生16个或18个碳原子的饱和脂肪酸为止。最后，酰基-酰基载体蛋白硫酰酶（acyl-

表1 微藻基因组相关信息

Table 1 The details of microalgae genome

门 (分类)	种	基因库			参考 文献
		细胞核	线粒体	叶绿体	
绿藻门	<i>Chromochloris zofingiensis</i> SAG UTEX32	SRR5310949-5310954	SRR5310949-5310954	SRR5310949-5310954	[13]
	<i>Ostreococcus tauri</i> RCC1115	NERT00000000	—	—	[14]
	<i>Botryococcus braunii</i>	MVGU00000000	KR057902.1	KM462884.1	[15]
	<i>Chlamydomonas reinhardtii</i> CC503 cw92 mt+	ABCN00000000	U03843	BK000554.2	[16]
	<i>Auxenochlorella pyrenoidosa</i> FACHB-9	ANZC00000000	—	—	[17]
	<i>Chlorella vulgaris</i>	LDKB00000000	—	AB001684.1	[18]
	<i>Floydiella terrestris</i>	ADIC01000000	—	—	[19]
	<i>Ostreococcus lucimarinus</i> CCE9901	GCA_000092065.1	—	—	[20]
	<i>Micromonas pusilla</i> CCMP1545	ACCP00000000	FJ858268.1	FJ858269	[21]
	<i>Micromonas</i> sp. RCC299	GCA_000090985.2	FJ859351.1	FJ858267.1	[21]
	<i>Volvox carteri</i> Eve	ACJH00000000	—	—	[22]
	<i>Ostreococcus tauri</i> RCC 4221	CAID00000000	CR954200.2	CR954199.2	[23]
	<i>Auxenochlorella protothecoides</i> UTEX 2341/0710	MUYL00000000 APJO00000000	—	/KC63163 4.1	[24]
硅藻门	<i>Phaeodactylum tricorutum</i> CCAP1055/1	ABQD00000000	HQ840789.1	EF067920.1	[25]
	<i>Thalassiosira pseudonana</i> CCMP1335	AAFD00000000	DQ186202.1	EF067921.1	[26]
红藻门	<i>Cyanidioschyzon merolae</i> 10D	AP006483	D89861.1	AB002583.1	[27-28]
	<i>Porphyridium purpureum</i> NIES 2140	AROW00000000	—	AP012987.1	[29]
真眼点藻门	<i>Nannochloropsis oceanica</i> IMET1	MPCS00000000.1	KC598090.1	KC568462.1	[30]
	<i>Nannochloropsis gaditana</i> CCMP526	AGNI00000000	KC012945.1	KC012944.1	[31]

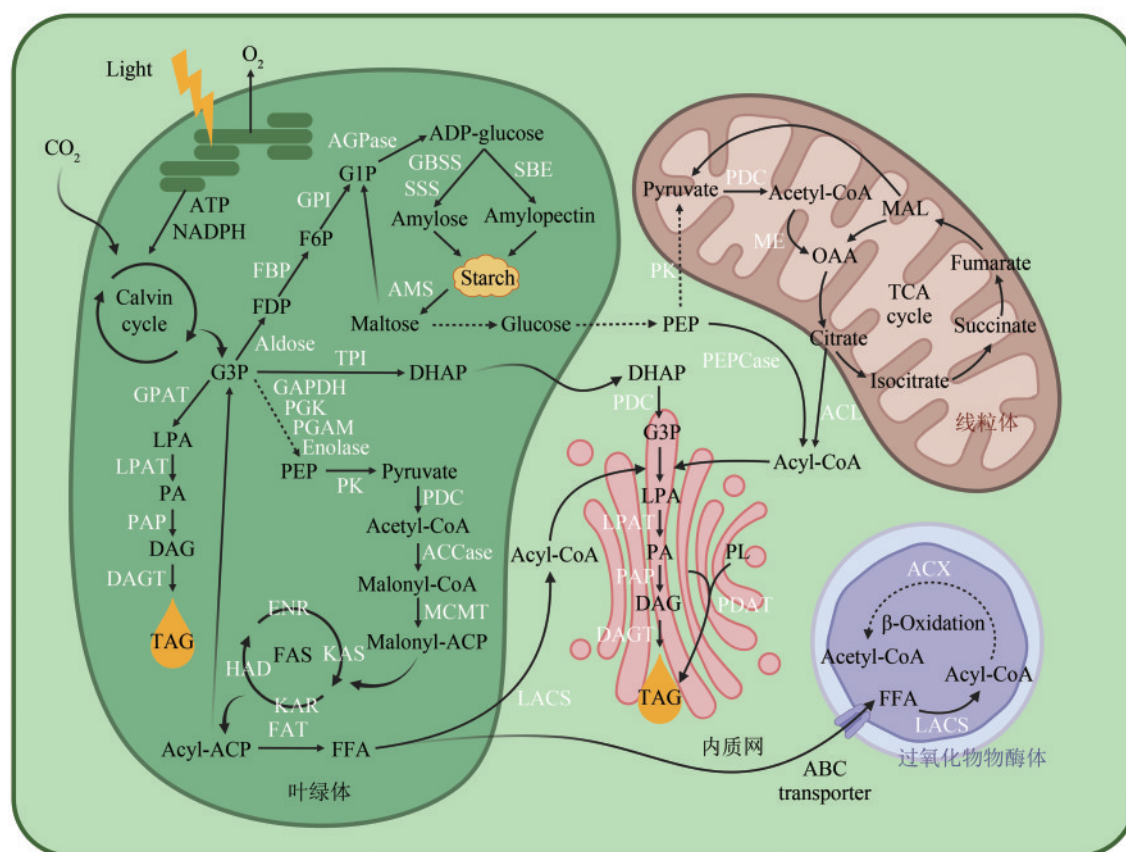


图2 微藻脂质和淀粉代谢的示意图

Fig. 2 Illustration of microalgal lipid and starch metabolism

ACP thioesterase, TE) 将脂肪酸从 ACP 中解离, 并且在叶绿体包膜中经长链酰基-CoA 合成酶 (long-chain acyl-CoA synthetase, LACS) 将脂肪酸转化为酰基-CoA。在这个过程中, 脂肪酸被释放到细胞质中用于后续的脂质合成。第二条途径涉及糖酵解和 TCA 循环的代谢途径。从培养基中获得的或在叶绿体中合成的碳水化合物通过糖酵解途径转化为丙酮酸。丙酮酸脱氢酶 (pyruvate dehydrogenase, PDH) 可以将丙酮酸催化为参与 TCA 循环的乙酰辅酶 A, 然后转化为柠檬酸。在氮缺乏条件下, 异柠檬酸脱氢酶 (isocitrate dehydrogenase, IDH) 的活性可能会被抑制, 导致柠檬酸的积累。多余的柠檬酸被分泌到细胞质中, 并由 ATP-柠檬酸裂解酶 (ATP citrate lyase, ACLY) 转化为乙酰辅酶 A, 形成丙二酰-ACP<sup>[32]</sup>。脂肪酸合成途径中, PDH、ACCase、MAT、KAS、KAR、ENR 等关键基因的调控有助于前体物质的合成从而提高三酰甘油 (TAG) 产量。

脂肪酸通过酰基转移酶在内质网和叶绿体中被用于顺序酰化。微藻 TAG 合成途径主要有两类<sup>[32]</sup>: Kennedy 途径和磷脂二酰甘油酰基转移酶 (phosphatidylglycerol acyltransferase, PDAT) 途径。在 Kennedy 途径中, 甘油醛-3-磷酸通过甘油-3-磷酸酰基转移酶 (glycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase, GPAT) 的第一次酰化反应被转化为溶血磷脂酸 (lysophosphatidic acid, LPA)。随后, LPA 作为底物参与到溶血磷脂酸酰基转移酶 (lysophosphatidic acid acyltransferase, LPAT) 的反应中, 生成磷酸二酰甘油 (phosphatidic acid, PA)。PA 被磷酸二酰甘油磷酸酶 (phosphatidic acid phosphatase, PAP) 去磷酸化后形成二酰甘油 (diacylglycerol, DAG)。最后, DAG 被甘油二酰基转移酶 (diacylglycerol acyltransferase, DGAT) 催化生成 TAG。膜脂重组可作为一种提高 TAG 产量的策略。膜脂占细胞干重的 5%~20%, 由多种甘油酯组成, 包括单半乳糖二酰基甘油 (monogalactosyl diacylglycerol, MGDG)、硫酸甘油

糖脂 (sulfoquinovosyl diacylglycerol, SQDG) 和磷脂酰甘油 (phosphatidylglycerol, PG)。在PDAT途径中, PDAT催化酰基从脂质供体MGDG、SQDG、PG直接转移到DAG用于TAG合成<sup>[32]</sup>。有研究表明, 在缺氮14 d后, 膜脂总含量从干重的7.9%下降到4.2%, 而TAG含量大幅度提高<sup>[33]</sup>。因此, TAG合成过程中GPAT、LPAT、PAP、DGAT和PDAT等关键基因的调控有助于提高脂质含量。

### 1.2 脂质生物合成的转录调控

环境条件可调控微藻脂质代谢相关基因在转录水平上的表达, 影响脂质的合成与积累 (图3)。

#### 1.2.1 营养

营养限制是以胁迫为基础的传统增产策略。由于氮、硫、磷等营养物质是蛋白质、脂质等中间产物生物合成的重要元素, 培养基中营养物质

的缺乏会导致细胞内大分子物质降解, 一方面会增加细胞内碳可利用度, 但另一方面也会导致生长迟缓甚至细胞死亡。氮饥饿是一种广泛使用的营养胁迫策略, 可用来促进细胞内淀粉和脂质的积累。氮饥饿下, 微藻会将蛋白质的碳骨架重定向到丙酮酸或者乙酰辅酶A等中心碳代谢的中间物, 用来合成淀粉和脂质。因此, 氮饥饿是诱导碳源向脂质转化的有效途径。在氮饥饿条件下, 佐夫色绿藻 [*Chromochloris zofingiensis* (原名: *Chlorella zofingiensis*)] 的淀粉分解代谢明显上调, 脂质合成基因 (*ACCase*、*MCT*、*KASI*、*KASII*、*KAR*、*HD*、*ENR*和*FAT*) 上调, 诱导产生大量的脂肪酸进入TAG合成, 并且TAG组装途径相关的基因GPAT、LPAT、DGAT等上调使TAG大量积累<sup>[34]</sup>。此外, 磷饥饿可能会通过磷脂降解增加TAG含量。在磷饥饿条件下, 莱茵衣藻 (*Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*) 中单个细胞TAG含量至少是磷充足条

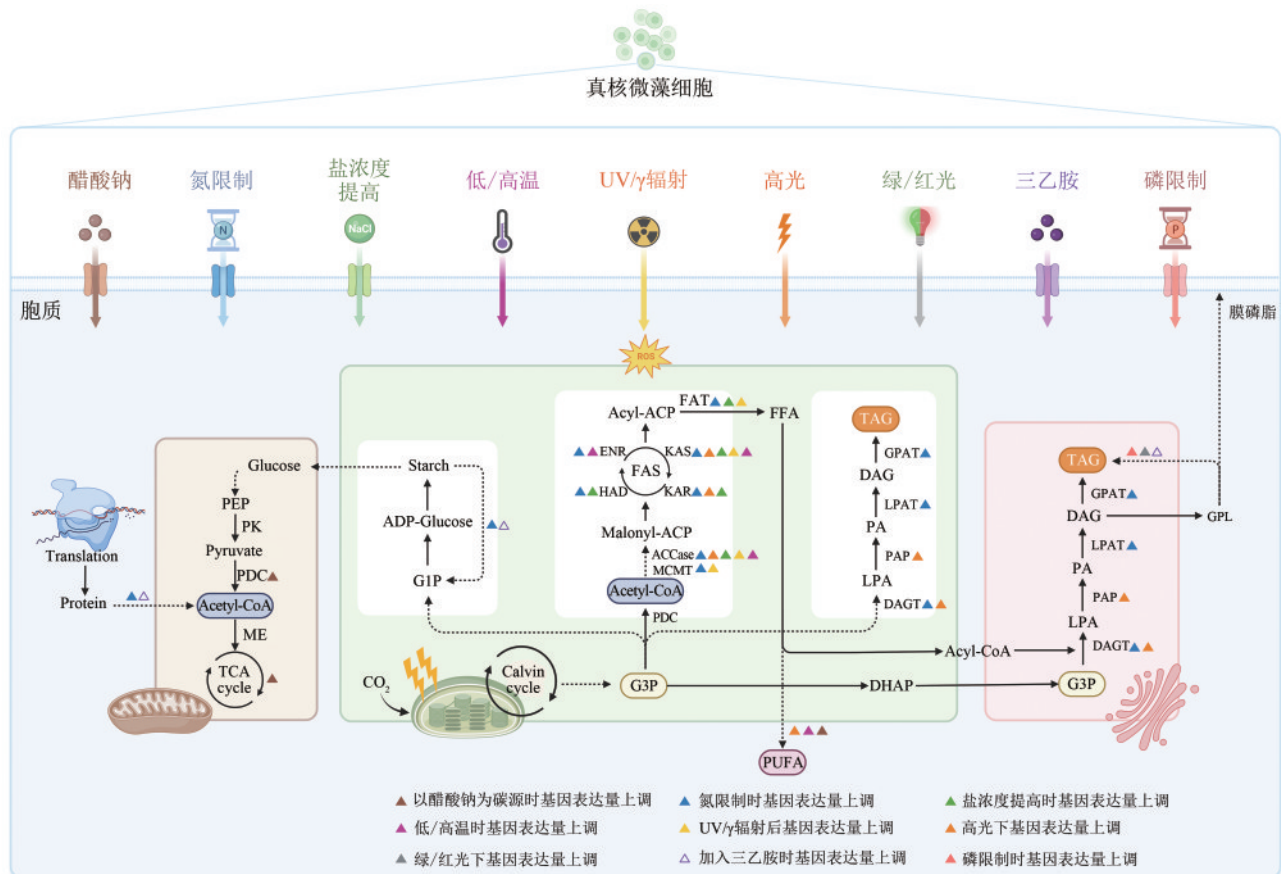


图3 环境条件影响脂质代谢相关基因在转录水平上的表达

Fig. 3 Environmental conditions affect the gene expression involved in lipid metabolism at the transcriptional level

件下的2.4倍<sup>[35]</sup>。此外,多项研究也表明磷饥饿导致细胞脂质水平升高。磷饥饿时,微拟球藻(*Nannochloropsis* sp.)中甘油磷脂合成相关的11个酶基因上调表达<sup>[36]</sup>。然而,也有研究表明在磷饥饿情况下,索氏小球藻(*Chlorella sorokiniana* SCSIO 46784)生长初期的脂肪酸合成(*KAS*、*KAR*、*HD*、*LACS*)和TAG合成(*GK*、*LPAT*、*DGAT*)相关基因下调,更多碳流进入碳水化合物和 $\beta$ -葡聚糖合成<sup>[37]</sup>。相比于氮饥饿,磷饥饿对微拟球藻中脂质合成途径的调控效果较弱,其中一些与细胞呼吸代谢的重塑有关<sup>[38]</sup>。目前关于氮、磷外其他元素胁迫的文献比较少。

### 1.2.2 光照

高光可以为微藻提供能量和产生活性氧(reactive oxygen species, ROS),促进微藻产物合成。在强光下,细胞形态改变、活性降低、分裂减慢,细胞壁增厚。在高光下,栅藻(*Scenedesmus* sp.)的脂质含量增加,与对照相比增加20.9%<sup>[39]</sup>。同样,高光下小球藻和单针藻(*Monoraphidium* sp.)中性脂质含量增加了3倍以上,它们的叶绿素、蛋白质、碳水化合物和膜脂的含量降低<sup>[40]</sup>。在高光下,湛江等鞭金藻(*Isochrysis zhangjiangensis*)中脂肪酸合成相关基因(*ACCCase1*、*KAS*、*KAR*)与TAG合成相关基因(*PAP*和*DGAT*)上调。相比于低光,高光下湛江等鞭金藻中*SAD*基因上调31倍。由于*SAD*可催化 $C_{18:0}$ -ACP脱饱和生成 $C_{18:1}$ -ACP,是莱茵衣藻和普通小球藻(*Chlorella vulgaris*)合成不饱和脂肪酸的关键酶,高光可有效改善微藻中脂肪酸组成<sup>[41]</sup>。

光质对脂质的合成也很重要。有研究采用高效和透射性能好的蓝光,在 $200\ \mu\text{mol}/(\text{m}^2\cdot\text{s})$ 下得到普通小球藻最大的脂质含量(23.5%)<sup>[42]</sup>。对比白光,绿光和红光可分别使莱茵衣藻中脂质含量提高1.35倍和3.36倍。绿光和红光显著上调磷脂合成*PGPI*基因,使得脂质的积累主要来源于磷脂合成,而不是硫脂合成<sup>[43]</sup>。同时,蓝光有助提高微藻脂质的不饱和度。微拟球藻中催化 $C_{18:0}$ 到EPA(20:5 <sup>$\Delta 5$</sup> 、 $\Delta 8$ 、 $\Delta 11$ 、 $\Delta 14$ 、 $\Delta 17$ )的合成涉及一系列脱饱和酶(FAD)和延长酶(FAE),包括 $\Delta 9$  FAD、 $\Delta 12$  FAD、 $\Delta 16$  FAD、 $\Delta 16$  FAE、 $\Delta 15$  FAD和 $\omega 3$  FAD<sup>[44]</sup>。蓝光通过强烈诱导 $\Delta 12$  FAD、 $\Delta 15$  FAD和 $\omega 3$  FAD基因的上调

表达,提高微拟球藻中EPA含量<sup>[45]</sup>。同样有研究显示,蓝光上调微拟球藻中 $\Delta 6$  FAD、 $\Delta 12$  FAD和 $\omega 3$  FAD,使得脂肪酸中EPA占比提升15.1%<sup>[46]</sup>。

### 1.2.3 温度

温度的变化会影响参与脂质合成的酶。低温和高温均有效促进脂质积累。与25℃相比,单针藻在30℃下脂质的生产率可提高7.4%<sup>[47]</sup>。栅藻NREL 46B-D3在13℃下脂肪酸合成相关基因*KAS1*、*KAS2*、*KAS3*、*ENR1*等相比于28.2℃条件上调<sup>[48]</sup>。同时,研究表明原核小球藻(*Auxenochlorella protothecoides*)在10℃和32℃下脂质含量高于28℃下的含量,并且高温效果更加显著<sup>[49]</sup>。该研究表明低温促进叶绿体脂肪酸生物合成,增强了叶绿体ACCCase和II型脂肪酸合成酶的表达。通过增加细胞质中ACCCase、I型多酮合酶和ER定位的长链酰基合成酶复合物的表达,高温激活细胞质和内质网(endoplasmic reticulum, ER)中脂肪酸的合成过程,包括PUFA和超长链脂肪酸的合成<sup>[49]</sup>。

### 1.2.4 其他条件

盐浓度、pH和ROS水平等条件也会影响脂质的合成。对比NaCl浓度为0 g/L和9 g/L转录组序列,绿球藻(*Chlorococcum sphacosum* GD)的*ACCCase*、*KAS II*、*KAR*、*HAD*、*FATA*等基因在盐胁迫条件上调,脂质含量提升25%<sup>[50]</sup>。在pH为7.5和10的条件下,对比小球藻中的转录组序列,发现脂肪酸合成过程中的*fabD*、*KAS*、*fabG*和*fabI*基因表达均在碱胁迫下增强,为TAG的合成提供了酰基池,使脂质含量增加39%<sup>[51]</sup>。其次,通过UV和 $\gamma$ 辐射,索氏小球藻中*ACCCase*、*MAT*、*KAS*、*FAD*、*AGPAT*上调伴随着ROS水平的增加,表明脂质合成与细胞内ROS的积累存在正相关<sup>[52]</sup>,但是ROS的大量积累造成的氧化损伤可能会限制脂质的进一步积累。

### 1.2.5 化学调节剂

应用化学胁迫可有效促进微藻中油脂积累。根据化学物质提高油脂积累的机制,可以将其分为三类:①直接用作代谢前体的化学物质,如醋酸钠、甘油、挥发性脂肪酸、丙酮酸等。有研究表明,在氮饥饿条件下,使用醋酸钠作为碳源可使普通小球藻的最大脂质含量达到干重的

42.5%<sup>[53]</sup>。②调节微藻代谢的植物激素和类似物，如脱落酸、腐殖酸、吡啶乙酸等。例如，在吡啶乙酸处理下，微拟球藻的油脂含量由31.05%增加到60.9%，其中EPA含量由1.87%增加到10.76%<sup>[54]</sup>。③调节生物合成途径的化学抑制剂，如三乙胺、叠氮化钠、芝麻酚等。研究表明，加入适量浓度的三乙胺可以使杜氏盐藻的油脂含量和产量分别提高20%和80%<sup>[55]</sup>。这些化学试剂可以有效提高真核微藻的油脂含量，但部分化学试剂如三乙胺可能会导致生物量的降低。因此，探索化学试剂的最优添加剂量对油脂生产有着重要意义。

## 2 真核微藻脂质代谢工程

基于微藻脂质代谢信息，利用各种代谢工程策略能有效提高微藻脂质产量和改变脂肪酸成分。这些策略方法包括过表达脂质生物合成相关的酶、阻断竞争性代谢途径、改变脂肪酸链长和脂质分泌等。

### 2.1 提高油脂含量

#### 2.1.1 过表达脂质生物合成相关酶基因

多项研究探索通过基因过表达增加脂质合成的方法。ACCase催化乙酰辅酶A的羧化，是脂质合成途径中的限制性酶。有研究显示在硅元素缺乏下，小环藻(*Cyclotella cryptica*)中ACCase水平增加了2~4倍，促进了脂质生物合成<sup>[56]</sup>。因此，后续的许多研究都集中在ACCase的过表达上，但结果并不理想。比如，将来自小环藻T13L的基因ACCase转入小环藻CYCLO1和舟形藻(*Navicula saprophila*) NAVIC1中，尽管提高了ACCase水平，但脂质含量没有变化<sup>[57]</sup>。然而，在栅藻中过表达来自酵母的ACCase基因可使总脂肪酸增加1.6倍<sup>[58]</sup>。另外，过表达微拟球藻中的MAT可以提高36%的总油脂含量<sup>[59]</sup>。乙酰辅酶A是脂肪酸合成主要前体物质，乙酰辅酶A合成酶(acetyl-CoA synthase, ACS)可催化乙酸转化为乙酰辅酶A，增加细胞内乙酰辅酶A池。在氮饥饿下，过表达莱茵衣藻中ACS基因可提高2.4倍TAG含量<sup>[60]</sup>。在裂壶藻(*Schizochytrium* sp.)中异源过表达大肠杆菌的ACS基因提高11.3%脂肪

酸含量<sup>[61]</sup>。NADPH是油脂合成的还原力，可来源于磷酸戊糖途径。在隶属于硅藻纲(Bacillariophyceae)的藻种*Fistulifera solaris*中过表达葡萄糖-6-磷酸脱氢酶(glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase, G6PD)和磷酸葡萄糖酸脱氢酶(glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase PGD)可提高1.5倍的油脂产率<sup>[62]</sup>。

Kennedy途径合成TAG中，第一步由GPAT催化，为限制步骤。在三角褐指藻(*Phaeodactylum tricorutum*)中过表达GPAT可提高中性脂含量达2倍<sup>[63]</sup>。LPAT是下一步催化酶，它在富油新绿藻(*Neochloris oleoabundans*)中的过表达显著提高总脂肪酸和TAG含量<sup>[64]</sup>。DGAT催化TAG合成的最后一步，其编码基因的过表达，如*AtDGAT1*和*SiDGAT1*，可以有效增加油含量<sup>[65-66]</sup>。在三角褐指藻中过表达DGAT2，中性脂质含量增加了35%，脂肪酸组成中PUFA的比例显著增加，特别是EPA增加了76.2%<sup>[67]</sup>。同时，五重基因(LPAT、PAP、GPDH、GPAT、DGAT)的过表达可使脂肪酸含量增加2倍。在微拟球藻中过表达DGAT2，中性脂质含量增加了69%<sup>[68]</sup>，在莱茵衣藻中过表达DGAT2-1和DGAT2-5可分别使总脂肪酸提高27%和48%<sup>[69]</sup>。

#### 2.1.2 调控转录因子

真核微藻脂质合成受到多种因子的调控，其中转录因子是最为重要的一类。转录因子是一类能够结合到基因启动子区域上来调控基因转录的蛋白质。微藻中已报道有不少参与调控脂质合成的转录因子，它们通过不同的途径调控脂质合成相关基因的表达，最终影响脂质积累。其中，PSR1、DOF、bZIP1和ZnCys等转录因子在微藻脂质合成中起着重要的作用。

PSR1是一种在衣藻中发现的脂质合成相关MYB家族的转录因子<sup>[70]</sup>。在氮、硫和磷饥饿下，敲除PSR1对TAG的积累没有影响，但PSR1的过表达可以促进脂质的合成<sup>[71]</sup>。然而，也有研究显示磷饥饿下，过表达PSR1促进莱茵衣藻的淀粉积累，降低中性脂含量<sup>[72]</sup>。DOF为植物特异性转录因子，调节细胞中的碳、氮代谢，它们包含一个共同的DNA结合结构，即一个C2-C2锌指结构，这种结构使得它们能够结合DNA上的特定序列并调节下游基因的转录。在莱茵衣藻中过表达内源DOF转录因子可使得脂肪酸含量提高23.24%<sup>[73]</sup>。

同样,在椭圆小球藻(*Chlorella ellipsoidea*)中过表达外源DOF可提高46.4%~52.9%的脂质含量<sup>[74]</sup>。在微拟球藻中,bZIP1分别上调脂质合成和下调细胞壁聚合物合成的关键基因,从而诱导脂质过度产生和分泌。其中,尿苷二磷酸葡萄糖脱氢酶通过改变细胞壁组成从而增加脂质分泌<sup>[75]</sup>。在莱茵衣藻中,bZIP1参与内质网应激反应,CrbZIP1敲低株的TAG含量相比野生型增加5.8~9.4倍<sup>[76]</sup>。ZnCys是锌簇蛋白转录因子,可以直接或间接地调节多个脂质合成相关基因的表达。有研究显示敲除微拟球藻中ZnCys编码基因可以使脂质产量从2.5 g/(m<sup>2</sup>·d)增加到5.0 g/(m<sup>2</sup>·d),生长速度未受影响<sup>[77]</sup>。对这些转录因子的深入研究,可以更好地理解微藻脂质合成的分子机制,为开发高效的微藻油脂生产策略提供理论基础。

## 2.2 改变脂肪酸成分

脂肪酸在ACP上组装完后,通过TE水解决定产生的脂肪酸的长度和类型。植物针对不同酰基链长度发展出脂酰基硫酰酶FatA和FatB,而微藻则使用一种具有广泛特异性的Fat1。在三角褐指藻中分别异源表达C<sub>12:0</sub>和C<sub>14:0</sub>偏好的FatB,可使得C<sub>12:0</sub>和C<sub>14:0</sub>占总脂肪酸的比例达到5%和12%<sup>[78]</sup>。在三角褐指藻中过表达TE可提高72%脂肪酸含量<sup>[79]</sup>。

PUFA是由16、18、20或22个碳原子组成的、含有2个及以上不饱和键的脂肪酸,主要分为 $\omega$ -3、 $\omega$ -6两种类型。微藻脂肪酸成分的改变可通过调控编码FAD和FAE基因的表达实现,包括 $\Delta 5$  FAE、 $\Delta 5$  FAD、 $\Delta 6$  FAD、 $\Delta 9$  FAD、 $\Delta 12$  FAD、和 $\omega 3$  FAD等。比如,在三角褐指藻中上调表达 $\Delta 5$  FAD使PUFAs和单不饱和脂肪酸(MUFA)含量分别增加了64%和75%<sup>[80]</sup>。在三角褐指藻中异源表达金牛鲛球藻(*Ostreococcus tauri*)来源的 $\Delta 5$  FAE,细胞中DHA含量提升了8倍;其次, $\Delta 5$  FAE和 $\Delta 6$  FAD的共表达可以进一步增加DHA水平,使其占总脂肪酸的11.4%<sup>[81]</sup>。在杜氏盐藻(*Dunaliella salina*)中过表达来自假微型海链藻(*Thalassiosira pseudonana*)的 $\Delta 6$  FAD可将EPA产量提高到21.3 mg/L,是野生型的13.3倍<sup>[82]</sup>。过表达 $\Delta 12$  FAD或 $\Delta 5$  FAD的微拟球藻中EPA含量增加了25%,但随后 $\Delta 9$  FAD和 $\Delta 12$  FAD

或 $\Delta 9$  FAD、 $\Delta 5$  FAD和 $\Delta 12$  FAD的共表达并没有进一步提高EPA含量<sup>[83]</sup>。在氮饥饿下,过表达普通小球藻的 $\omega 3$  FAD,总脂肪酸中 $\alpha$ -亚麻酸(ALA)含量增加了2.8%<sup>[84]</sup>。对GPAT和LPAT的底物偏好性研究表明,来源于三角褐指藻的GPAT和LPAT倾向将C<sub>16</sub>(与C<sub>18</sub>相比)转移到甘油骨架上<sup>[85]</sup>。此外,还可通过调控偏好特定酰基-CoA的DGAT的表达来实现在微藻TAG中富集PUFA,包括EPA<sup>[86-87]</sup>。

## 3 合成生物学赋能真核微藻脂质工程

合成生物学将工程学和生物学相结合,设计和构建新的途径乃至生物系统,以实现预期的功能。在此背景下,合成生物学赋能真核微藻脂质工程已成为当今研究的热点领域之一。

### 3.1 多组学整合探究微藻脂质代谢的关键节点和主效调控因子

多组学整合是一种将不同组学数据整合在一起,从而综合分析生物系统的方法。通过对微藻的基因组、转录组、代谢组、蛋白质组等多组学数据进行分析,可以揭示微藻脂质代谢的调控机制。通过基于UPLC/Q-TOF-MS的脂质组学分析,Lu等<sup>[88]</sup>发现22个脂质分子可作为NaCl胁迫下的生物标志物。有研究利用转录组、代谢组和代谢流分析,显示在胁迫条件下佐夫色绿藻中乙酰辅酶A在脂质合成中发挥着重要作用<sup>[89]</sup>。结合代谢流分析和靶向代谢组可以有效解析在不同条件下代谢物含量和代谢通量对脂质合成的贡献,明确关键节点和代谢物<sup>[90]</sup>。这些结果为微藻脂质代谢的分子机制研究提供了重要的参考依据。此外,研究者们还利用系统生物学方法,构建了微藻脂质代谢的代谢通路模型,预测了多个关键酶和转录因子,并通过实验验证预测结果<sup>[90]</sup>。

### 3.2 微藻遗传工具和基因编辑技术的开发拓展

目前常用的微藻转化方法包括聚乙二醇(polyethylene glycol, PEG)介导法、电穿孔、玻璃珠法、农杆菌转化法等(表2)。

表2 真核微藻转化方法和遗传工具相关信息<sup>[90]</sup>Table 2 Transformation methods and genetic tools for eukaryotic microalgae<sup>[90]</sup>

藻种	株	细胞器	转化方法	启动子	报告基因 (标记)	参考文献
<i>Chlamydomonas reinhardtii</i>	dw15.1	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>Hsp70A-RBCS2</i>	<i>ble</i>	[91]
	137c	原生质体	农杆菌转化	<i>ChlL</i>	<i>npt II</i> (GUS)	[92]
<i>Chlorella vulgaris</i>	UMT-M1	细胞核	农杆菌转化	<i>CaMV35S/OlexA-TATA</i>	<i>hpt</i> (GFP)	[93]
	CBS 15-2075	叶绿体	PEG介导	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>aph VIII</i> (EGFP)	[94]
	211/11B	细胞核	基因枪	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>npt II</i> (GUS)	[95]
<i>Chlorella ellipsoidea</i>	SD0801	细胞核	PEG介导	<i>Ubi-1 (Polyubiquitin-1)</i>	<i>ble</i> (GUS)	[96]
	Nrm-4	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>Ubi</i>	<i>npt II</i>	[97]
<i>Chlorella</i> sp.	DT	细胞核	PEG介导	<i>Actin1/CaMV35S</i>	<i>hpt</i> (GUS)	[98]
<i>Chromochloris zofingiensis</i>	ATCC 30412	细胞核	电穿孔/基因枪	<i>PDS/NIT/RBCS2</i>	<i>pds</i>	[99]
<i>Nannochloropsis</i> sp.	PP983	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>TUB</i>	<i>ble</i> (GUS)	[100]
	W2J3B	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>VCPI/2</i>	<i>ble</i>	[101]
<i>Nannochloropsis salina</i>	CCMP1776	细胞核	基因枪	<i>TUB</i>	<i>ble</i>	[102]
<i>Nannochloropsis oceanica</i>	IMET1	细胞核	电穿孔	$\beta$ -tubulin	<i>ble</i> (GUS)	[103]
<i>Nannochloropsis oculata</i>	NIES-2146	细胞核	纤维素酶预处理和电穿孔	<i>Hsp70A-RBCS2</i>	<i>CP (purple chromoprotein)</i>	[104]
<i>Nannochloropsis gaditana</i>	CCMP526	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>TUB/UEP/Hsp70A</i>	<i>ble</i>	[31]
<i>Dunaliella salina</i>	—	细胞核	农杆菌转化	<i>RBCS2/CaMV35S</i>	<i>hpt II</i> (GFP)	[105]
	UTEX-1644	细胞核	玻璃珠法	<i>Ubi-1</i>	<i>pat</i>	[106]
	L1644	细胞核	基因枪	<i>Actin</i>	<i>bar</i>	[107]
<i>Dunaliella tertiolecta</i>	—	细胞核	玻璃珠法	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>bar</i> (EGFP)	[108]
	SE0045	叶绿体	基因枪	<i>PsbD</i>	<i>ereB</i>	[109]
<i>Phaeodactylum tricornutum</i>	NR1A-0065	细胞核	基因枪	<i>DIV/FCP</i>	<i>ble</i> (EGFP)	[110]
	CCMP2561	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>FCPB</i>	<i>ble</i> (GFP/GUS)	[111]
<i>Thalassiosira pseudonana</i>	CCMP1335	细胞核	基因枪	<i>FCP2</i>	<i>ble</i> (EGFP)	[112]
<i>Haematococcus pluvialis</i>	1844	细胞核	基因枪	<i>PsaD</i>	<i>ble/pds</i>	[113]
	CCAP 34/7	叶绿体	PEG介导	<i>RBCL</i>	<i>aadA</i>	[114]
	NIES-144	细胞核	基因枪	<i>PDS</i>	<i>pds</i>	[115]
	—	细胞核	农杆菌转化	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>hpt</i> (GFP)	[116]
<i>Fistulifera solaris</i>	JPCC DA0580	细胞核	基因枪	<i>GAPDH</i>	<i>Aph VIII</i> (G418) (GFP)	[62]
	JPCC DA0580	叶绿体	基因枪	<i>CaMV35S/FCPB/RSV</i>	<i>npt II</i> (GFP)	[117]
<i>Monoraphidium neglectum</i>	SAG 48.87	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>CAB2 (Chlorophyll a/b-binding protein)</i>	<i>Aph VIII</i> (HygromycinB)	[118]
<i>Neochloris oleoabundans</i>	UTEX 1185	细胞核	电穿孔	$\beta$ 2-tubulin	<i>Hyg3</i> (HygromycinB)	[119]
<i>Botryococcus braunii</i>	UTEX572	细胞核	纤维素酶预处理和电穿孔	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>aph VIII</i>	[120]
<i>Tetraselmis chuii</i>	CCAP 66/21B	细胞核	农杆菌转化	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>ble</i>	[121]
<i>Symbiodinium</i> spp.	Mfl1.5b.1	细胞核	玻璃珠法	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>npt II</i>	[122]
<i>Lobosphaera incisa</i>	SAG 2468	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>RBCS</i>	<i>ble</i>	[123]
<i>Isochrysis</i> sp.	H-13	细胞核	农杆菌转化	<i>LAT</i>	<i>pds</i>	[124]
<i>Parachlorella kessleri</i>	—	细胞核	农杆菌转化	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>hpt</i>	[125]
<i>Fistulifera</i> sp.	JPCC DA0580	细胞核	基因枪	<i>FCPB</i>	<i>npt II</i>	[117]
<i>Aurantiochytrium</i> sp.	KRS101	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>GAP</i>	<i>CYH</i>	[126]

续表

藻种	株	细胞器	转化方法	启动子	报告基因 (标记)	参考文献
<i>Scenedesmus obliquus</i>	FSP-3	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>CaMV35S</i>	<i>CAT</i>	[127]
<i>Schizochytrium</i> sp.	TIO1101	细胞核	农杆菌转化	<i>TEF1/CaMV35S</i>	<i>npt II</i>	[128]
<i>Platymonas subcordiformis</i>	—	细胞核	玻璃珠法	<i>CaMV35S</i>	—	[129]
<i>Porphyridium</i> sp.	—	叶绿体	基因枪	<i>AHAS</i>	<i>AHAS</i>	[130]
<i>Arthrospira</i> sp.	PCC9438	细胞核	电穿孔	<i>CAT</i>	<i>CAT</i>	[131]

微藻细胞膜阻止外来DNA进入细胞内,原生质体的形成对于建立稳定的转化方法非常重要。PEG介导法在细菌、酵母和植物中广泛应用,具有对细胞损伤小和对设备要求不高等优点<sup>[90]</sup>。衣藻的细胞壁由糖蛋白组成,多糖水解酶对原生质体的生成效果不佳。研究表明,自溶酶是一种在配子生成过程中活跃的羟脯氨酸特异性蛋白酶,可以用于原生质体的生成<sup>[132]</sup>。小球藻的细胞壁由糖聚合物组成,可以被糖消化酶分解。根据坚硬壁中的主要糖分为两类:一类具有葡萄糖、甘露糖;另一类具有葡萄糖胺。通过与不同的多糖水解酶混合物孵育,已经成功实现了不同小球藻物种的原生质体生成<sup>[96, 133]</sup>。电穿孔法将质粒DNA通过施加高电压的电脉冲引入受体细胞,其原理是当细胞置于极高的电场中时,细胞膜变得可渗透,使得胞外分子可以扩散进入细胞。该方法可以一次处理数百万个细胞、细胞毒性低、没有生物或化学副作用,并且比PEG介导法的转化效率更高<sup>[134]</sup>。玻璃珠法利用玻璃珠的物理摩擦和振动来引起细胞膜的破裂,并加入PEG作为辅助剂,以增加DNA的吸附和渗透效果,使外源DNA顺利进入目标细胞。与电穿孔法相比,该方法具有效率高、易操作和破坏性小的优点,缺点是只有原生质体或无细胞壁突变体可以有效转化,限制了其应用范围<sup>[135]</sup>。然而,以上方法存在一些局限性,如转化效率低、不可控、难以定向整合等,制约了微藻基因组编辑的广泛应用。与植物和动物相比,微藻的遗传工具和基因编辑技术还不太成熟,目前仅限于实验室研究。因此,需要开发更加高效、精准的基因编辑技术,如RNA干扰(RNA interference, RNAi)、锌指核酸酶(zinc finger nucleases, ZFN)、转录激活样效应子核酸酶(transcription activator-like effector nucleases, TALEN)和CRISPR-Cas9等,它们能够高效、精

准地编辑微藻的基因,进而实现对微藻脂质代谢的调控。RNAi机制是一种利用双链小RNA(double-stranded small RNA, dsRNA)高效、特异地降解细胞内同源信使RNA(mRNA)的技术。mRNA的降解有助于削弱目标基因表达。RNA介导的沉默已被用作敲降多种目标基因的反向遗传工具。平台WMD3可用于miRNA的设计。除了在莱茵衣藻中的应用外,稳定的RNAi基因沉默已经在微拟球藻<sup>[103]</sup>、隶属于双星藻纲(Zygnematophyceae)的藻种*Penium margaritaceum*<sup>[136]</sup>和杜氏盐藻<sup>[137]</sup>等中建立。ZFN是一种名为Fok I内切酶组成的蛋白质核酸酶<sup>[138]</sup>。两个Fok I结构域通过二聚作用激活,切割DNA并形成双链断裂。ZFN被用于切割突变体衣藻中的*cop3*基因,使得氨基糖苷3-磷酸转移酶VIII的功能得到恢复<sup>[139]</sup>。TALEN的DNA结合能力模拟真核生物的转录因子,激活目标基因。Daboussi等<sup>[140]</sup>于2014年首次成功应用TALEN技术进行三角褐指藻的基因编辑,其中56%和27%的菌落分别展示了有针对性的突变或有针对性的基因插入。TALEN也被用于敲除三角褐指藻中脲酶基因来破坏其功能<sup>[141]</sup>。CRISPR-Cas9利用CRISPR序列和Cas9蛋白质共同作用,通过引导RNA(gRNA)的匹配性,使Cas9蛋白质能够定位到目标DNA上并引发DNA双链断裂,从而实现基因的精确编辑和修饰。目前,CRISPR-Cas9系统已被用于提高莱茵衣藻<sup>[142]</sup>、杜氏盐藻<sup>[143]</sup>、普通小球藻<sup>[144]</sup>和微拟球藻<sup>[145]</sup>的脂质产量。为了提高生物量和光合生产力,CRISPR-Cas9系统被用于精确和连续地删除微拟球藻的非必需区域<sup>[146]</sup>,以及敲除莱茵衣藻的两个基因<sup>[147]</sup>。

此外,开发基于元件和模块的微藻遗传工具也是一个重要的方向。元件和模块是基因表达调控的基本单位,可以通过组合优化实现对目标基因表达的精准调控。近年来,越来越多的基因元

件和模块被发现并应用于微生物代谢工程中，如启动子和未翻译区域、密码子选择、选择标记等。启动子、5' UTR和3' UTR以及编码序列构成了典型的表达载体。启动子可以分为组成型启动子和诱导型启动子。诱导型启动子必须在特定条件下被激活。Rubisco由8个大亚基(rbcL)和8个小亚基(rbcS)组成。其中，rbcS的基因表达受到光的调控。rbcS启动子驱动着核酸酶小亚单位的表达，以及硝酸还原酶启动子。在佐夫色绿藻中，将rbcS启动子与PDS基因的第二个内含子融合可以提高转基因的表达<sup>[99]</sup>。类似地，在莱茵衣藻中，将rbcS启动子与热休克蛋白70A融合也实现了转化效率的提高<sup>[148]</sup>。通过优化外源基因的密码子，可以明显提高表达效率，并减少对基因沉默的敏感性<sup>[149]</sup>。已经建立了几个密码子优化的数据库和优化工具，提供了大量不同物种的密码子使用频率和偏好信息，通过选择适应宿主的优化密码子序列，可以提高异源蛋白的表达水平和翻译效率，从而改善基因表达的效果<sup>[133]</sup>。选择标记基因通过在转基因细胞或生物中引入对特定选择压力具有抗性的基因，实现对转基因细胞或生物的筛选和分选，包括除草剂抗性标记基因、抗生素抗性标记基因和光合标记基因等<sup>[90]</sup>。来自吸水链霉菌(*Streptomyces hygroscopicus*)的bar基因编码磷酸胺乙酰转移酶，被认为具有耐立克霉素(Liberty和Basta等)的潜力，已成功用作杜氏盐藻的标记基因<sup>[150]</sup>。来自印度链霉菌(*Streptoalloteichus hindustanus*)的ble基因，能使微藻对糖肽类抗生素产生抗性，并已应用于微拟球藻<sup>[101]</sup>和莱茵衣藻<sup>[151]</sup>。

目前，一些遗传工具基于Golden Gate Assembly、Gibson Assembly等原理提供了快速、高效的基因组装方法，构建出多种不同的基因组合和回路。其中，MoClo Toolkit是由模块化的DNA片段组成的系统，每个模块具有特定的功能，例如启动子、编码序列和终止子，具有高度可扩展性和灵活性，成功应用于莱茵衣藻<sup>[152]</sup>。对于微藻脂质工程而言，需要针对微藻代谢途径和转录调控网络进行深入挖掘，发掘合适的元件和模块，利用高效的遗传工具组合优化，以实现微藻脂质代谢途径的精准调控。

### 3.3 微藻底盘细胞的系统改造和设计优化

通过基因组精简和优化，可以抑制其他代谢途径，从而释放底盘细胞的能量和碳源，使其更加集中于脂质合成。乙酰辅酶A和NADPH是合成脂质的重要前体和还原力。研究显示佐夫色绿藻<sup>[153]</sup>、平滑菱形藻(*Nitzschia laevis*)<sup>[154]</sup>和湛江等鞭金藻<sup>[41]</sup>在胁迫条件下，细胞内蛋白质降解为脂质合成提供更多乙酰辅酶A。在氮饥饿下，敲除淀粉合成途径相关的葡萄糖焦磷酸化酶和异麦芽糖酶的编码基因的莱茵衣藻实验株，与野生型菌株相比TAG含量更高<sup>[155]</sup>。因此，调控细胞内主要碳储存物质代谢可有效提升脂质合成能力。在微藻中，NADPH主要是从光合作用和糖酵解途径产生的。第一，通过干扰叶绿体氧化还原状态以增加NADPH可能会在短期内增强脂质生物合成。例如，通过调节PGR5/PGRL1蛋白来限制Mehler反应，形成NADPH汇以促进脂质生物合成<sup>[156]</sup>。第二，研究显示过表达来自磷酸戊糖途径的G6PD具有提高微藻中脂质含量的潜力<sup>[62, 157]</sup>。此外，通过乙醛酸支路激活磷酸烯醇丙酮酸/苹果酸盐/柠檬酸盐循环可以将1 mol NADH转化为1 mol NADPH，代价是1 mol三磷酸腺苷(adenosine triphosphate, ATP)。第三，通过引入NADP<sup>+</sup>-依赖性的甘油醛-3-磷酸脱氢酶(glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, GPD)直接将过量的NADH转化为NADPH。然而，在微藻中，关于NADP<sup>+</sup>-依赖GPD的信息很少。调节NADPH代谢可能导致还原当量的不平衡条件，对细胞有害，甚至通过产生高水平的ROS诱导细胞凋亡。电化学系统可以在还原当量不平衡的条件下控制代谢途径<sup>[158]</sup>。目前，微藻中的电化学系统已经应用于通过改变NADH/NAD<sup>+</sup>来提高产物产量<sup>[159]</sup>。

通过调控细胞CBB和TCA循环提高细胞生物量也可有效提高油脂产量。CBB循环是一个氧化还原调节的过程，在调节细胞代谢中发挥重要作用。在CBB循环中，大多数酶反应是由硫氧还蛋白(thioredoxin, TRX)控制的。TRX可激活RPE、RPI、TPI、PGK等15种酶<sup>[160]</sup>。同时，Rubisco激活酶和CP12也受TRX的调控。为提高CBB循环效率，常用的策略是降低Rubisco的氧亲

和力或提高 Rubisco 的催化速率<sup>[161-162]</sup>。TCA 循环可执行两种功能，主要取决于终端的电子受体是否可用<sup>[163]</sup>。TCA 循环可分为从草酰乙酸到琥珀酰辅酶 A 的还原支和从柠檬酸到 2-酮戊二酸的氧化支。当 NAD<sup>+</sup> 可用于电子传递时，TCA 循环将底物氧化为 CO<sub>2</sub> 并产生 NADH。否则，TCA 循环作用产生合成代谢的中间体，如柠檬酸、L-谷氨酸等。然而根据实际数据分析，TCA 循环的中间物产量低于理论最高产量，表明碳在 TCA 循环中的周转率是受限的<sup>[163]</sup>。调控 TCA 循环一般以消耗能量为代价，将碳分配到目标产物中。替换电子受体 NAD<sup>+</sup> 来降低反应的吉布斯自由能，可能会使反应更容易发生<sup>[164]</sup>。在 TCA 循环中，乙醛酸分支可以在不消耗能量的情况下产生琥珀酸，在还原支和氧化支之间架起桥梁。因此，上调微藻中的乙醛酸分支可以增强碳在 TCA 和 CBB 循环中的周转，从而提高固碳效率<sup>[165]</sup>。

## 4 结论与展望

随着全球能源需求的不断增长和化石燃料资源的日益枯竭，可再生的微藻作为一类备受关注的生物质资源，受到越来越多的政府政策支持以及研究者和公众的关注。微藻的许多优势，如高效的光合作用、快速生长、适应性强、不占用耕地等，使其成为一种理想的生物燃料来源。微藻脂质代谢工程旨在利用微藻的高效光合作用和底盘代谢途径，优化脂质生产过程，以实现微藻的可持续利用和经济价值的最大化。近年来，通过遗传工具和基因编辑技术，已成功地开发了一系列工程微藻，其脂质含量和产量得到了显著提高。通过优化光合作用、细胞呼吸代谢途径、碳源和能量通路等方面，可进一步提高微藻脂质生产的效率和产量，使其有潜力成为生物燃料、食品和高值化合物的重要来源。

然而，在微藻脂质代谢工程和应用中还存在着一些挑战和问题。首先，微藻生长周期相对较长，脂质积累量不够高，且产量波动较大。为了解决这个问题，可以通过改变培养条件、优化营养物质的供应和调节光照强度、波长等手段，促进微藻的生长并增加脂质的产量。其次，微藻的

脂质合成途径十分复杂，需要深入了解微藻的代谢调控机制。微藻脂质的合成涉及到碳源和能量通路、酶的催化反应、底盘代谢途径等多个方面，可以通过系统生物学的方法，结合代谢组学、转录组学和蛋白质组学等技术手段，全面了解微藻的代谢网络和相关调控机制，揭示关键节点和主效调控因子，进行代谢通路的优化和调控。目前，微藻的遗传转化效率相对较低，限制了代谢工程在微藻中的应用。基因编辑技术的发展也是必不可少的，CRISPR/Cas9 系统已经被广泛应用于基因编辑领域，但在微藻中的应用相对滞后且不够成熟。因此，需要针对微藻开发出更高效、特异性更强的基因编辑工具，以便更精确地操控微藻的脂质代谢通路。此外，还可以探索开发新的遗传工具和使能技术，实现微藻基因组的有效精简和基因表达的精细调控。尽管微藻脂质代谢工程在实验室中取得了一些令人鼓舞的成果，但要将其应用于产业化生产还需要克服一系列挑战，包括工程藻株的稳定性和潜在的生物安全问题、微藻培养的大规模扩展、高效的收获和提取技术、产品的精细加工等。最后，需要开发适配于微藻的全生命周期评估方法和体系，为微藻工程在产业化应用中的可行性和可持续性提供科学的指导。

## 符号说明

- ACCase——乙酰辅酶 A 羧化酶 (acetyl-CoA carboxylase)
- ACLY——ATP-柠檬酸裂解酶 (ATP citrate lyase)
- ACS——乙酰辅酶 A 合成酶 (acetyl-CoA synthase)
- ALA—— $\alpha$ -亚麻酸 (alpha-linolenic acid)
- ATP——三磷酸腺苷 (adenosine triphosphate)
- CBB——卡尔文-本森-巴斯姆 (Calvin-Benson-Bassham)
- DAG——二酰甘油 (diacylglycerol)
- DGAT——甘油二酰基转移酶 (diacylglycerol acyltransferase)
- dsRNA——双链小 RNA (double-stranded small RNA)
- ENR——烯酰-ACP 还原酶 (enoyl-ACP reductase)
- ER——内质网 (endoplasmic reticulum)
- FAB——脂肪酸生物合成 (fatty acid biosynthesis)
- FAD——脱饱和酶 (fatty acid desaturase)
- FAE——延长酶 (fatty acid elongase)
- FAT——脂肪酸合酶 (fatty acid synthase)
- G6PD——葡萄糖-6-磷酸脱氢酶 (glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase)
- GK——葡萄糖激酶 (glucokinase)

GPAT——甘油-3-磷酸酰基转移酶(glycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase)

GPD——甘油醛-3-磷酸脱氢酶(glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase)

gRNA——引导RNA(guide RNA)

HD——3-羟基酰基-ACP脱水酶(3-hydroxyacyl-ACP dehydratase)

IDH——异柠檬酸脱氢酶(isocitrate dehydrogenase)

KAR——3-酮酰基-ACP还原酶(3-ketoacyl-ACP reductase)

KAS——3-酮酰基-ACP合成酶(3-ketoacyl-ACP synthase)

LACS——长链酰基-CoA合成酶(long-chain acyl-CoA synthetase)

LPA——溶血磷脂酸(lysophosphatidic acid)

LPAT——溶血磷脂酸酰基转移酶(lysophosphatidic acid acyltransferase)

MAT——丙二酰辅酶A:ACP转酰酶(acetoacetyl-CoA:ACP transferase)

MGDG——单半乳糖二酰基甘油(monogalactosyldiacylglycerol)

MUFA——单不饱和脂肪酸(monounsaturated fatty acids)

NAD——烟酰胺腺嘌呤二核苷酸(nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide)

NADH——还原型烟酰胺腺嘌呤二核苷酸(reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide)

NADP——烟酰胺腺嘌呤二核苷酸磷酸(nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate)

NADPH——还原型烟酰胺腺嘌呤二核苷酸磷酸(reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate)

PA——磷酸二酰甘油(phosphatidic acid)

PAP——磷酸二酰甘油磷酸酶(phosphatidic acid phosphatase)

PDAT——磷脂二酰甘油酰基转移酶(phosphatidylglycerol acyltransferase)

PDH——丙酮酸脱氢酶(pyruvate dehydrogenase)

PDS——植物脱饱和酶(phytoene desaturase)

PEG——聚乙二醇(polyethylene glycol)

PG——磷脂酰甘油(phosphatidylglycerol)

PGD——磷酸葡萄糖酸脱氢酶(phosphogluconate dehydrogenase)

PUFA——多不饱和脂肪酸(polyunsaturated fatty acid)

RNAi——RNA干扰(RNA interference)

ROS——活性氧(reactive oxygen species)

SQDG——硫酸甘油糖脂(sulfoquinovosyldiacylglycerol)

TAG——三酰甘油(triacylglycerol)

TALEN——转录激活样效应子核酸酶(transcription activator-like effector nuclease)

TCA——三羧酸循环(tricarboxylic acid)

TE——酰基-酰载体蛋白硫酯酶(acyl-ACP thioesterase)

TRX——硫氧还蛋白(thioredoxin)

ZFN——锌指核酸酶(zinc finger nuclease)

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