## **Table S1.** Model parameters.

The best fit between the model and the experimental data was found with this parameter set. The parameters were optimised by application of a genetic algorithm followed by a local search. Concentrations in the model are in arbitrary units, presented in the "Units" column as "[]", whereas time is measured in hours.

Parameter	Value	Units	Description
A	0.08201	h-1	Light accumulator decay/saturation timescale
$R_t$	1.0871	[]-1	Strength of repression of TOC1 by CCA1
$H_t$	2.0781	-	Cooperativity for repression of <i>TOC1</i> by CCA1
$L_t$	0.0001	-	TOC1 transcription in darkness
$R_a$	0.2311	[]-1	Strength of TOC1 transcription activation by acc
$Y_t$	0.2921	h-1	TOC1 mRNA degradation rate
$S_t$	0.7700	[]	TOC1 transcription rate scale factor
$K_{t,l}$	0.1365	h-1	Rate of TOC1 conversion to active form, light
$K_{t,d}$	0.3266	h-1	Rate of TOC1 conversion to active form, dark
$D_{t,l}$	0.4616	h-1	TOC1 degradation rate, light
$D_{t,d}$	0.3566	h-1	TOC1 degradation rate, dark
$H_c$	2.5007	-	Cooperativity for CCA1 transcription activation by TOC1
$R_{c,l}$	3.2752	[]-1	Strength of CCA1 transcription activation by TOC1, light
$H_{c,d}$	1.3856	[]-1	Strength of CCA1 transcription activation by TOC1, dark
$Y_c$	1.3308	h-1	CCA1 mRNA degradation rate
$S_c$	4.9049	[]	CCA1 transcription rate scale factor
$K_c$	10	h-1	Rate of CCA1 transport to nucleus
$D_{c,l}$	0.4242	h-1	CCA1 degradation rate, light
$D_{c,d}$	0.2694	h-1	CCA1 degradation rate, dark
$D_u$	0.1829	h-1	Luciferase degradation+deactivation rate
$Y_u$	1	h-1	Luciferase mRNA degradation rate