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Extraction of products from algae using green solvents

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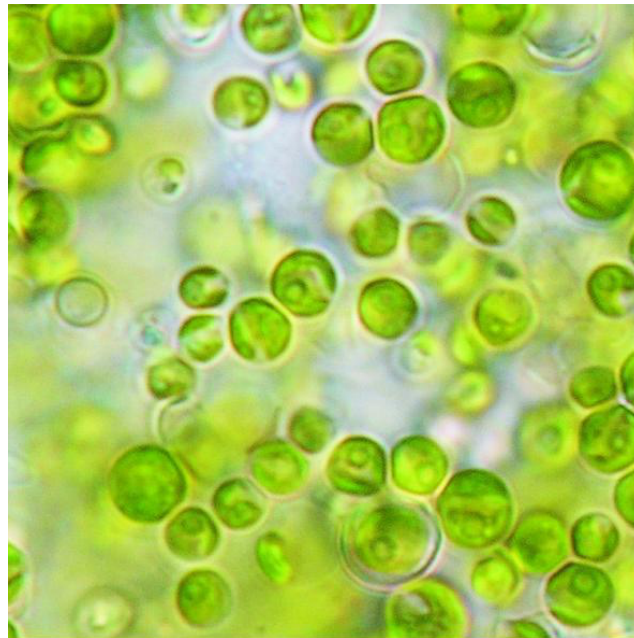
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Extraction of Products from Algae using Green Solvents

Roland Lee, Pascale Champagne and Philip G. Jessop

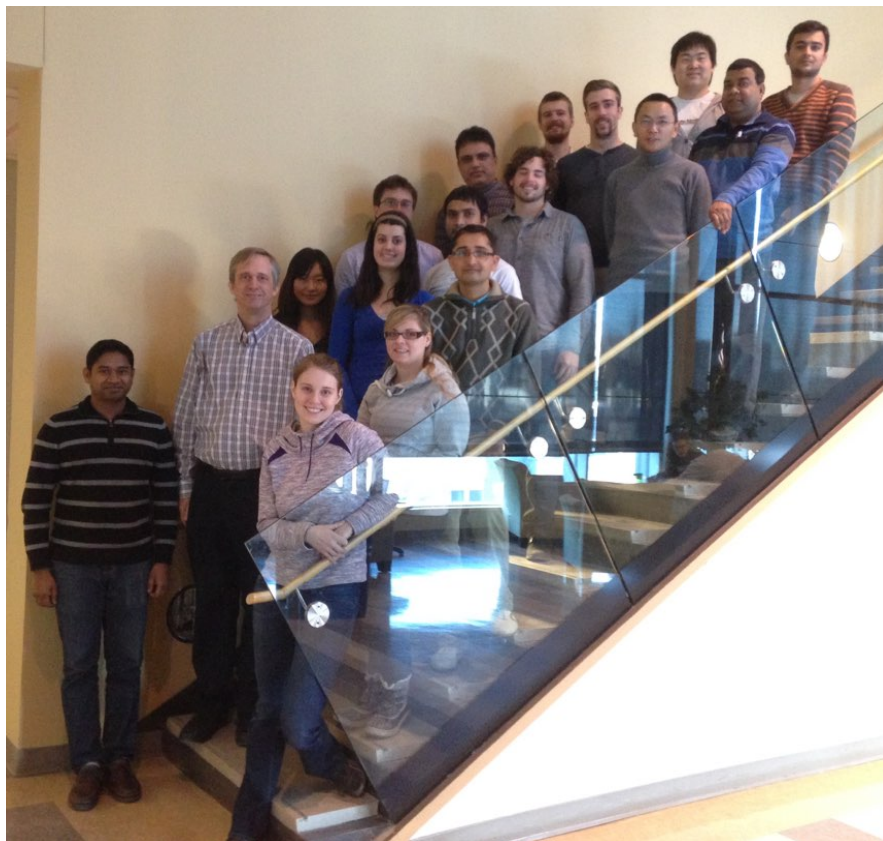
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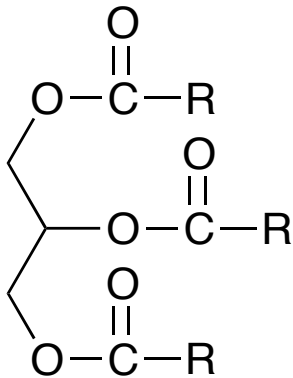
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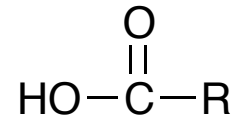
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MICROALGAE

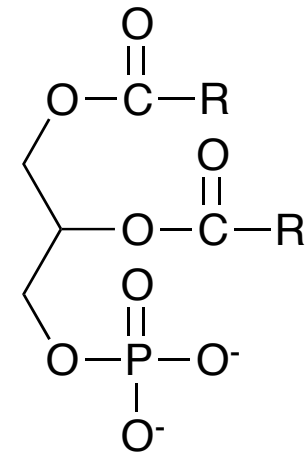
- High lipid content
- Robust
- Non-competitive (food v. fuel)
- Fast growth
- Minimal land use



Triacylglycerides (TAG)
Diacylglycerides (DAG)
Monoacylglycerides (MAG)

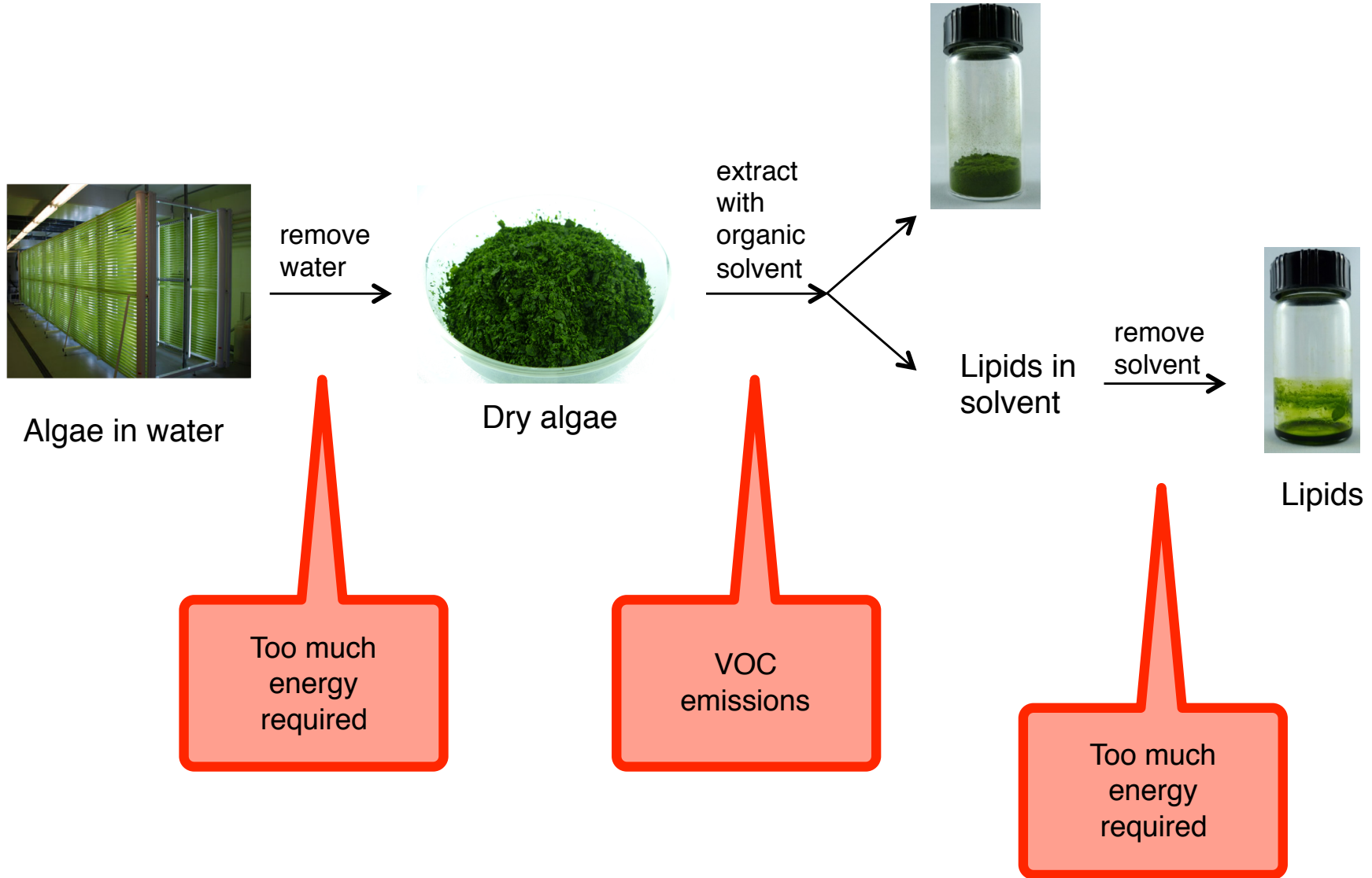


Free fatty acids (FF)

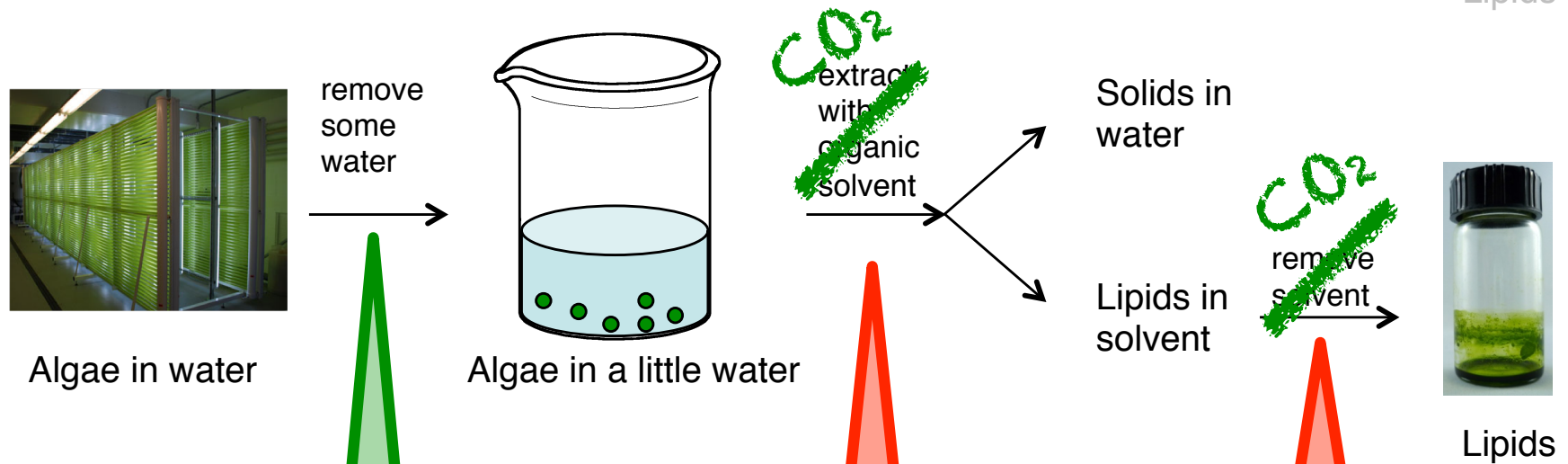


Polar lipids

LIPID EXTRACTION STRATEGY #1: EXTRACT FROM *DRIED ALGAE*



LIPID EXTRACTION STRATEGY #2: EXTRACT FROM *WET ALGAE*



Less energy required

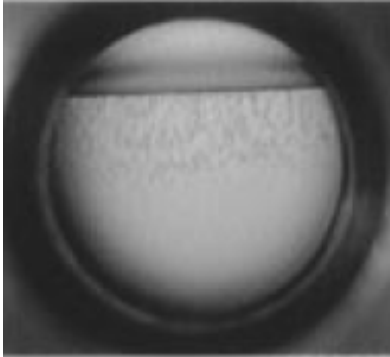
~~VOC emissions & solvent loss to water~~

Too much energy required

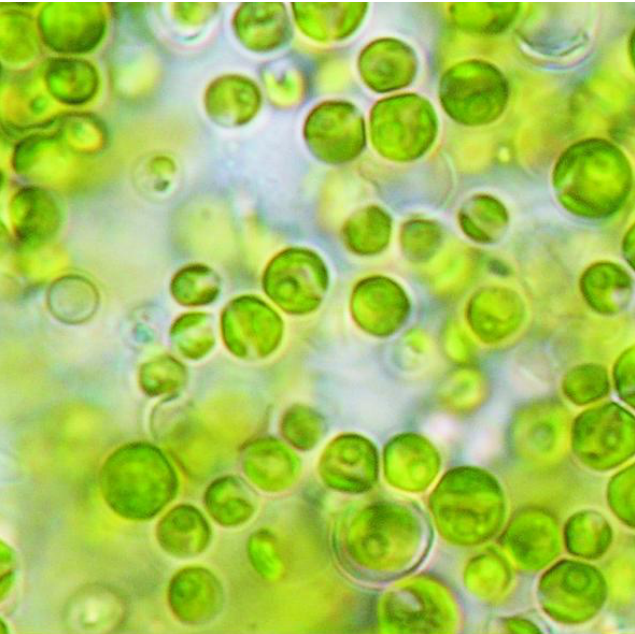
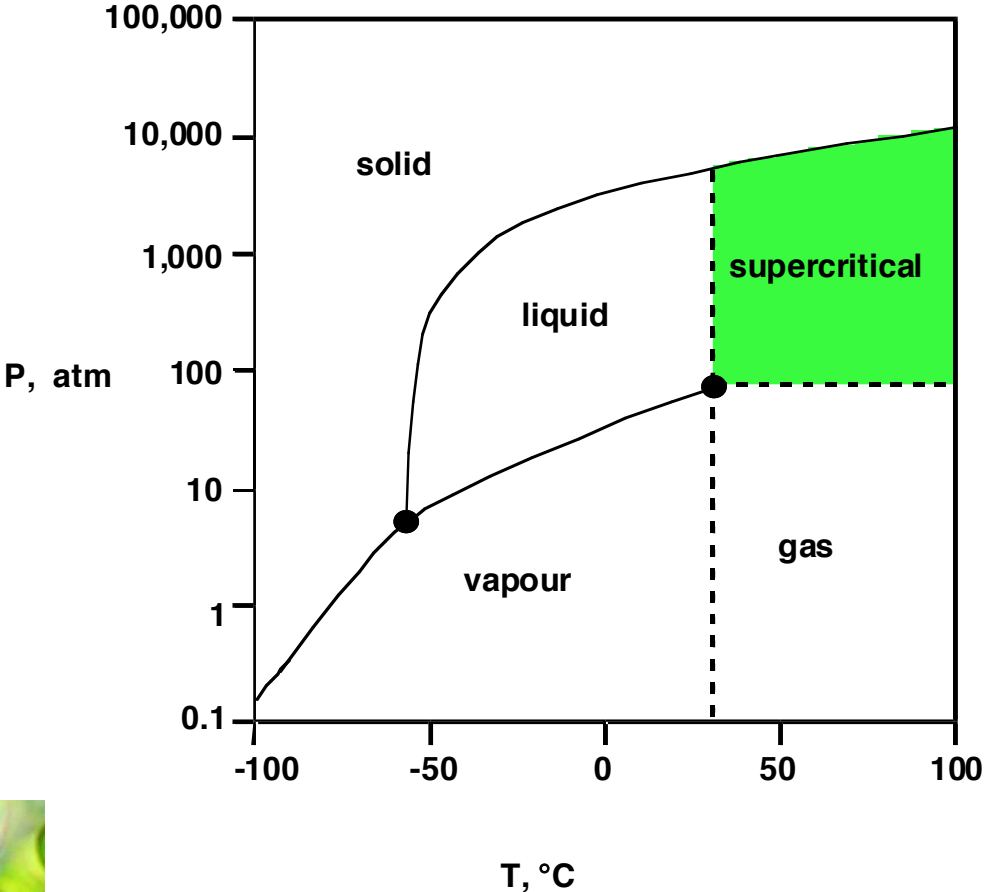
MICROALGAE EXTRACTION SOLVENTS

Solvent	Advantage	Disadvantage
chloroform/methanol (Bligh & Dyer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• high yield	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• chlorinated• flammable• polar lipids extracted
supercritical CO ₂ (Zimmerman)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• easily removed• not flammable• selective for nonpolar lipids	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• high pressure
switchable-polarity solvents (Samori)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• easily removed• not flammable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• must be dry
switchable-hydrophilicity solvents (Jessop)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• easily removed• not flammable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• poor separation

LIQUID CO₂

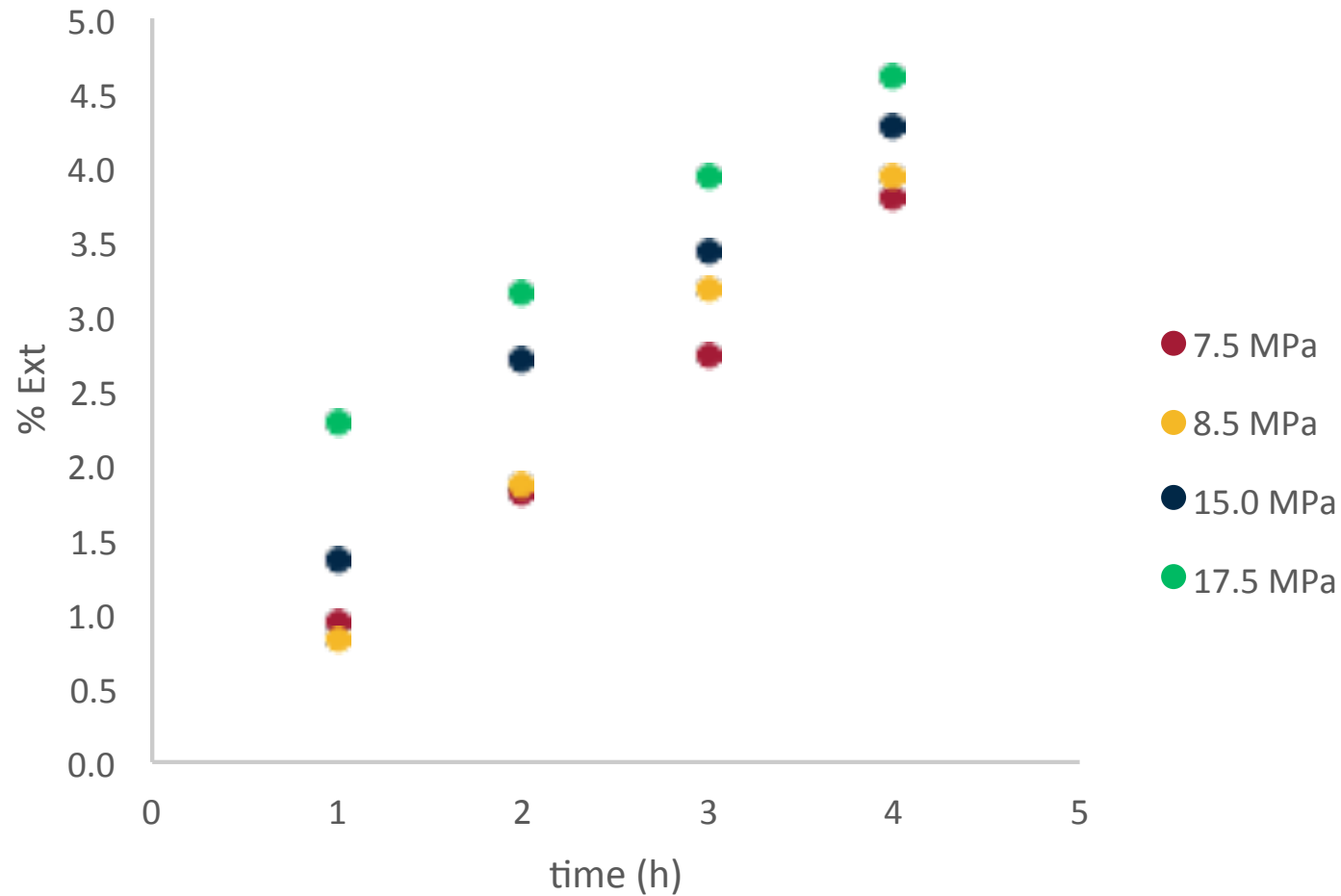


Liquid CO₂



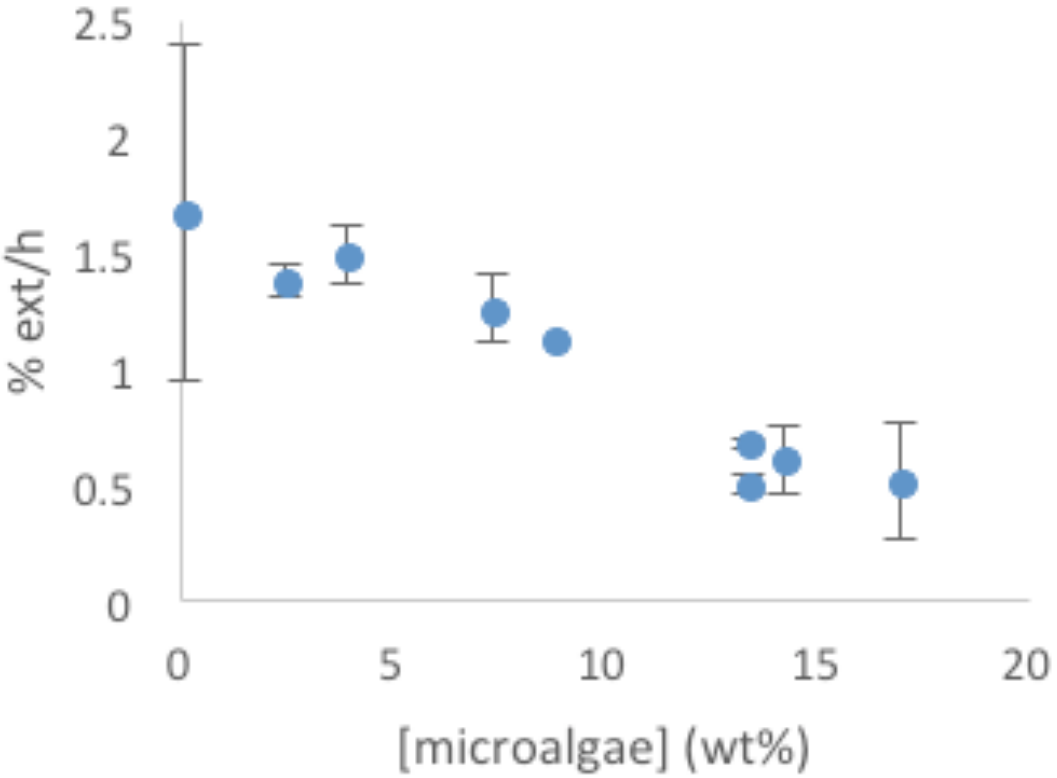
Chlorella vulgaris

EXTRACTION FROM *WET ALGAE* WITH LIQUID CO₂



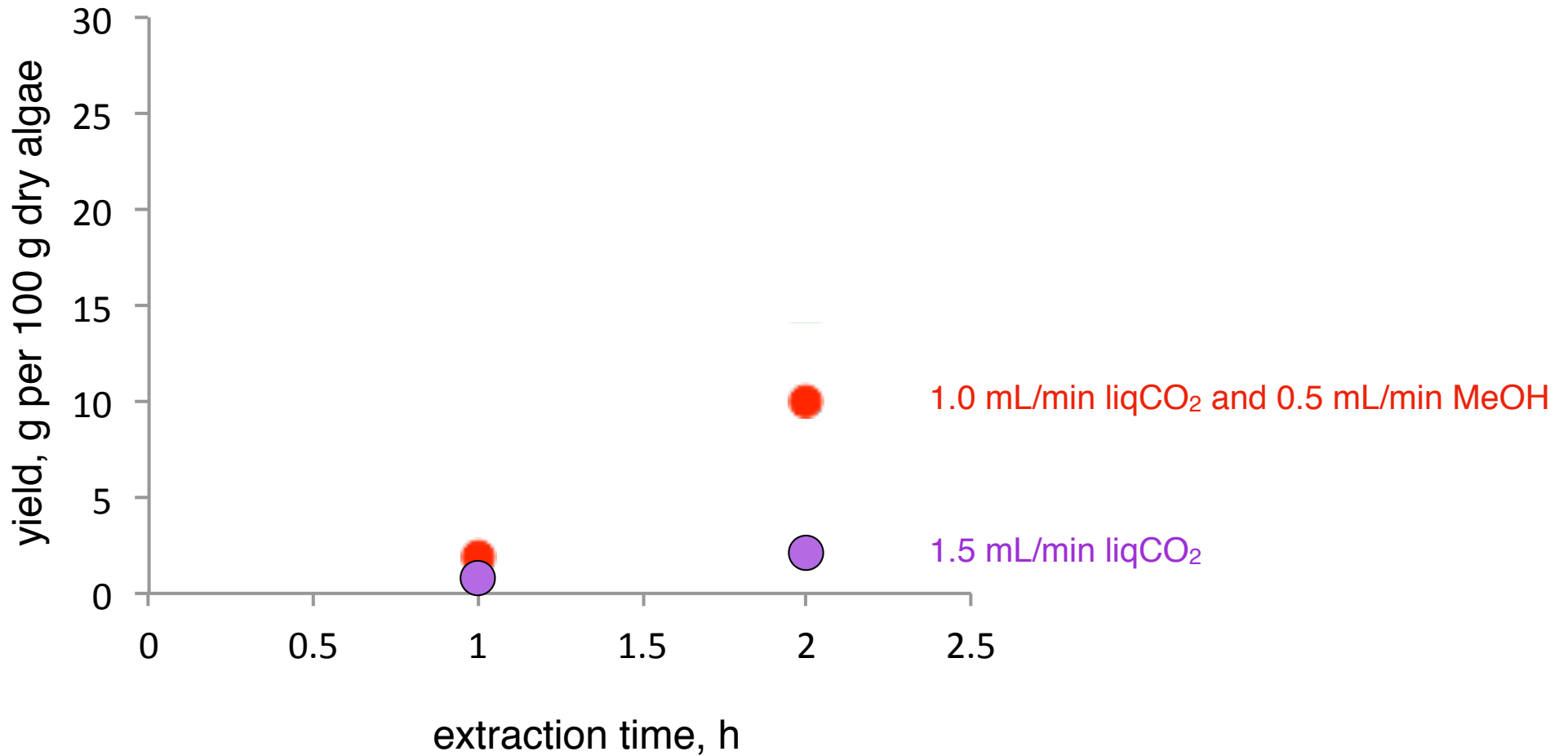
25 °C, 14.3 wt% chlorella vulgaris slurry, 1.5 mL/min of liquid CO₂

EXTRACTION FROM *WET ALGAE* WITH LIQUID CO₂



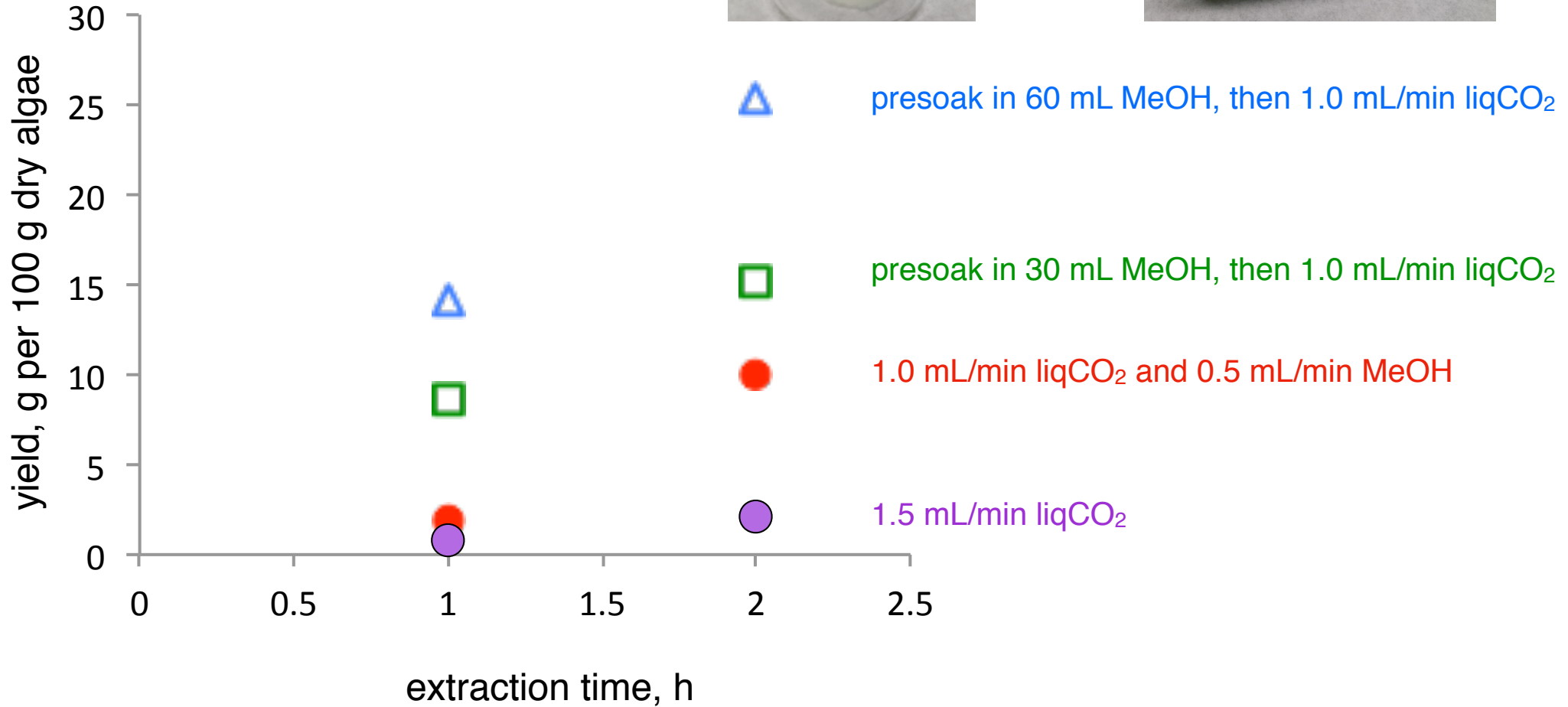
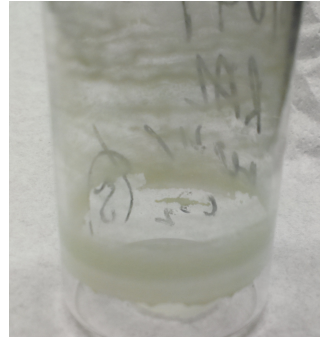
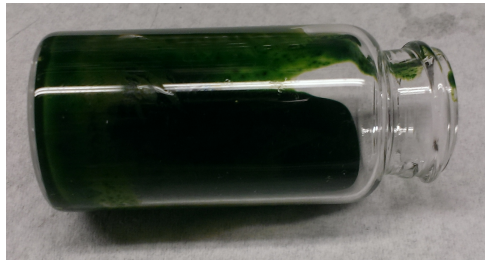
25 °C, chlorella vulgaris, 15 MPa of liquid CO₂

EXTRACTION FROM *WET ALGAE* WITH CO₂ & MeOH



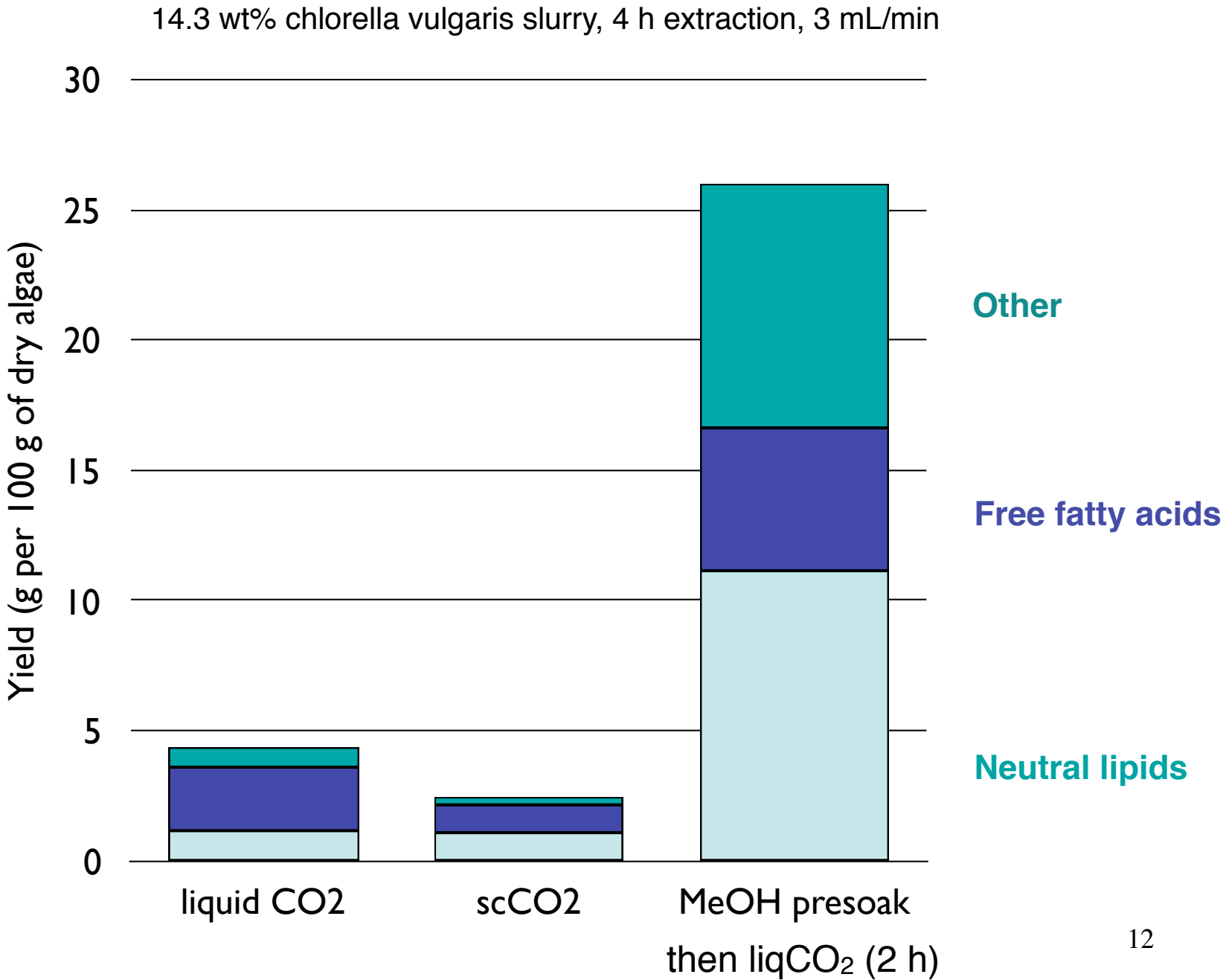
25 °C, liquid CO₂, 7.5 MPa, 14 wt% chlorella vulgaris slurry

EXTRACTION FROM *WET ALGAE* WITH CO₂ & MeOH

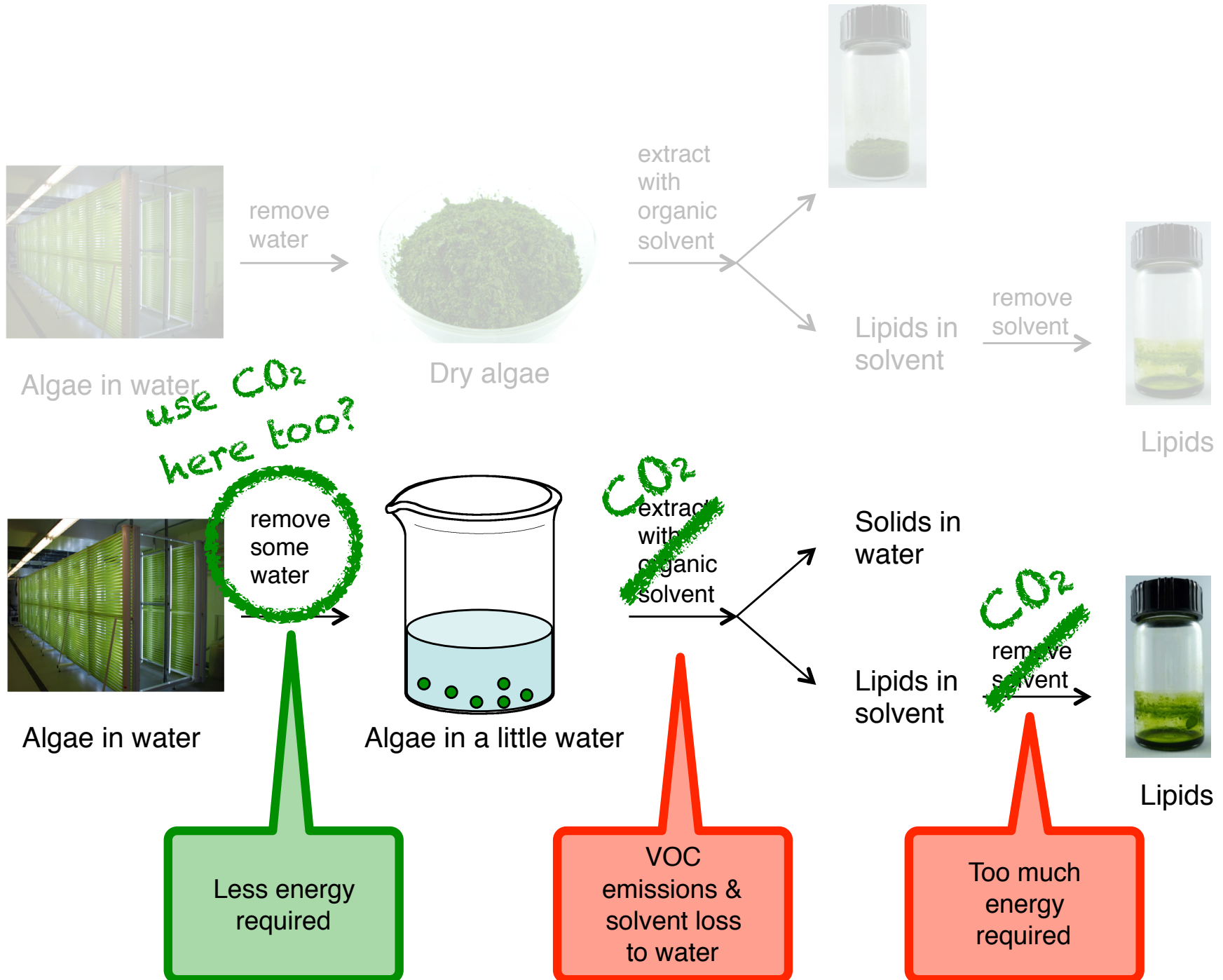


25 °C, liquid CO₂, 7.5 MPa, 14 wt% chlorella vulgaris slurry

EXTRACTION FROM *WET ALGAE*



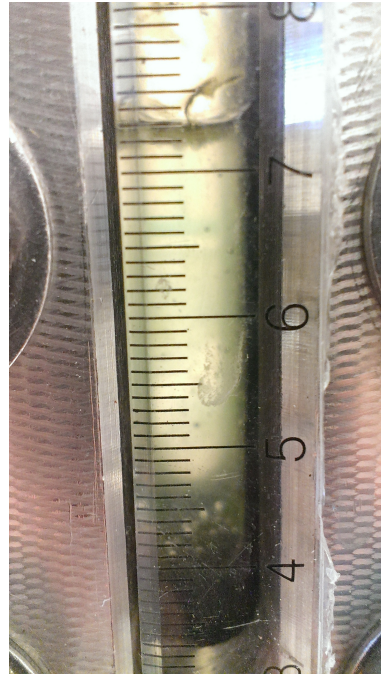
LIPID EXTRACTION STRATEGY #2: EXTRACT FROM *WET ALGAE*



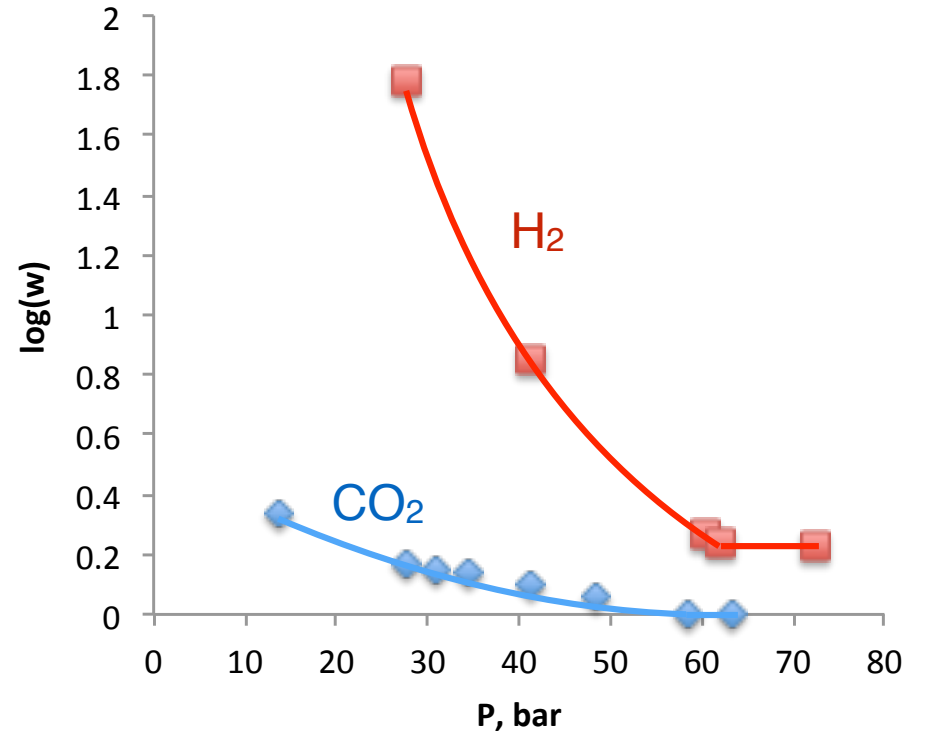
PARTIAL DEWATERING



Start



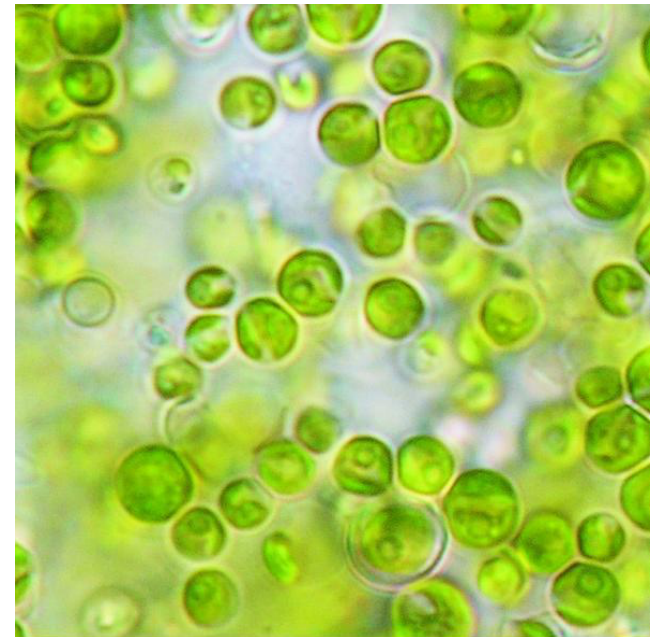
17 h at 61 bar CO₂



$$\text{stability ratio} = W = \frac{1}{\sigma} = \frac{k^*}{k_l}$$

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

- Presoaking the wet algae in MeOH followed by liqCO₂ extraction gives excellent yields, but MeOH recovery issue remains (50% loss).
- CO₂ can help the dewatering process.



CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Thank You

