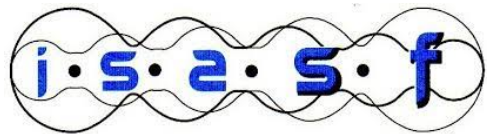


# Production of small peptides and low molecular weight amino acids by subcritical water from fish meal: Effect of pressurization agent and temperature

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# INDEX



**Introduction**



**Methodology**



**Results**



**Conclusions**



**Future work**



# INTRODUCTION

## Fish meal: marine food industry by-product

- Aquaculture and pet-food industry
  - ✓ High protein content
  - ✓ Valuable lipid fraction composition
  - ✓ High nutritional protein fraction value
  - ✓ Great amino acid profile
- Improve the use of this by-product
  - ✓ Sustainable exploiting forms



**GREEN**  
TECHNOLOGIES

# INTRODUCTION

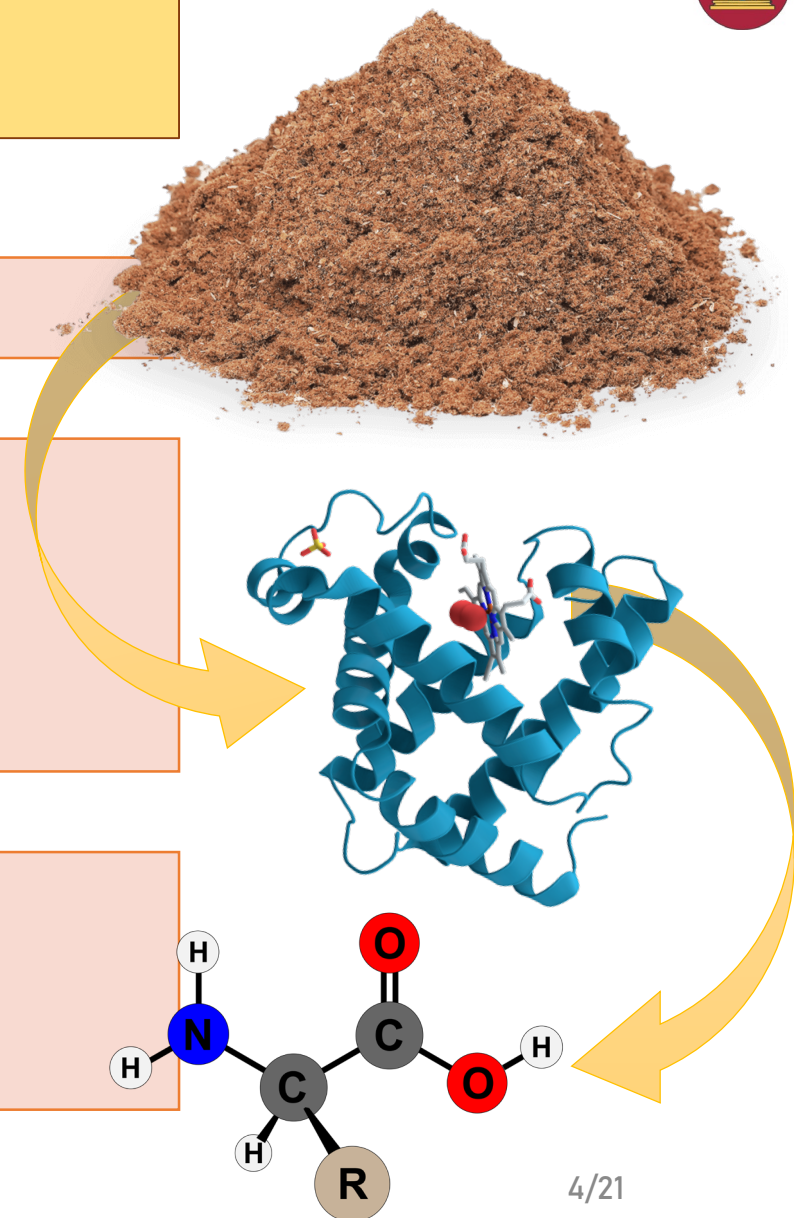
Starting from fish meal as raw material

Environmentally friendly processes

- Sustainable methodologies
- Promote green processes to obtain better products
- New functional and healthy products can be obtained

Interesting compounds

- Production of small peptides and free amino acids
- Antioxidant capacity & useful functional properties



# INTRODUCTION: Raw material



## Tuna fish meal composition



3.4%  
Moisture

21.7%  
Ash

6.5%  
Lipid

51.0% Protein  
(using N-factor)

Free AA → 5%  
(95% structural AA)

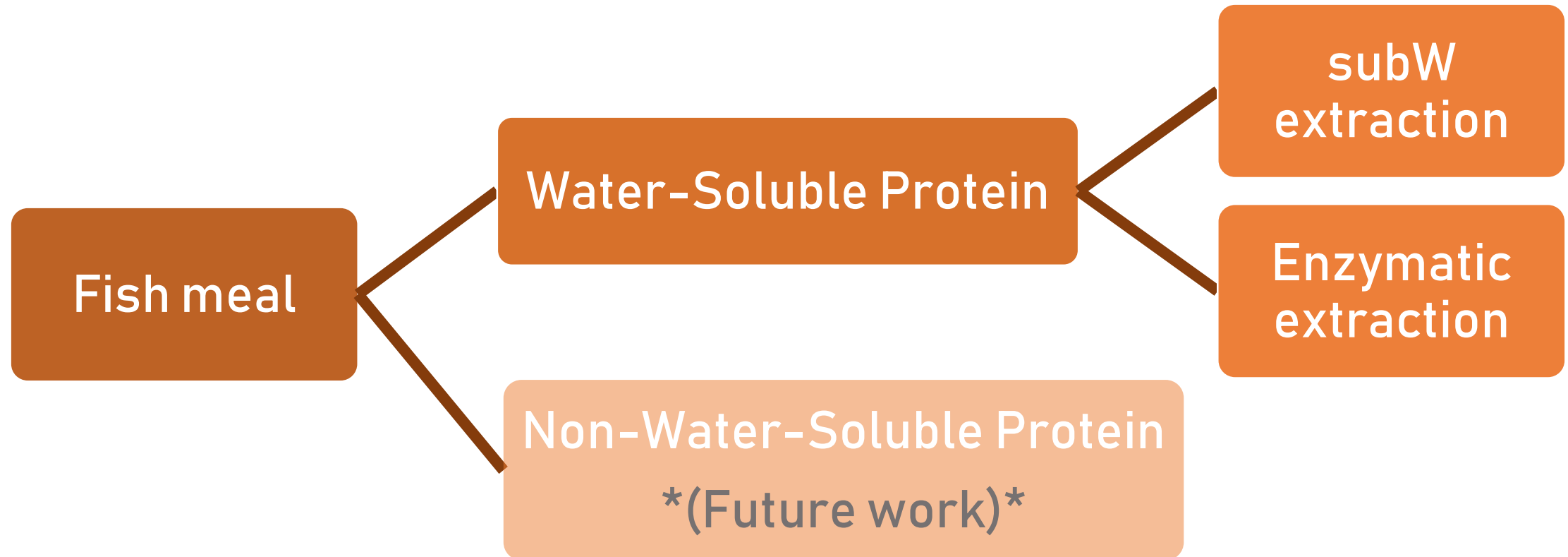


N-Factor → 5.0  
(using %N + AA profile)

10.3% elemental N  
(CHNS)

↑ AA Profile:  
12.7% Glutamic acid  
10.8% Aspartic acid  
10.3% Alanine  
9.9% Glycine

# METHODOLOGY



# METHODOLOGY

## Extraction of WSP

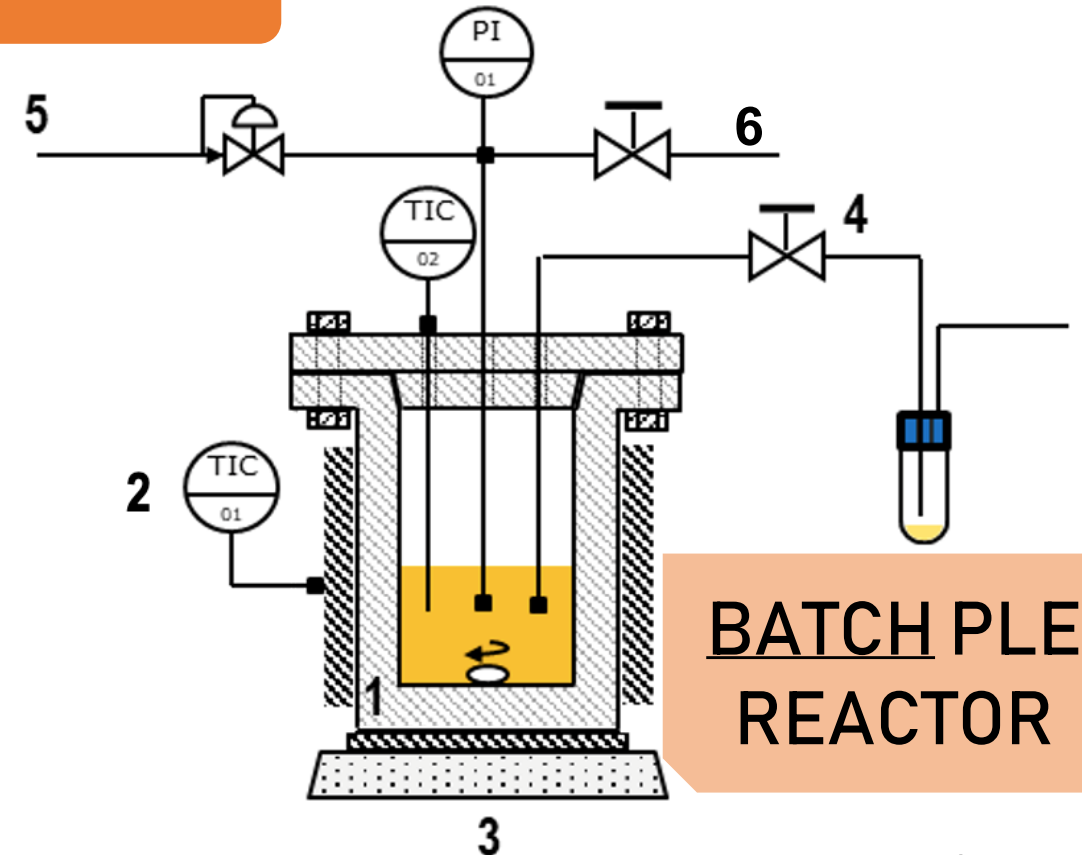
- 4, 8, 16, 24, 48 % fish meal
- 20, 50, 80 °C
- 60 min kinetics



# METHODOLOGY

## Pressurized Liquid Extractor (PLE)

1. Steel reactor
2. Ceramic resistance for reactor heating
3. Magnetic stirrer
4. Sample valve
5. Gas inlet with pressure regulator
6. Gas outlet via a purge valve





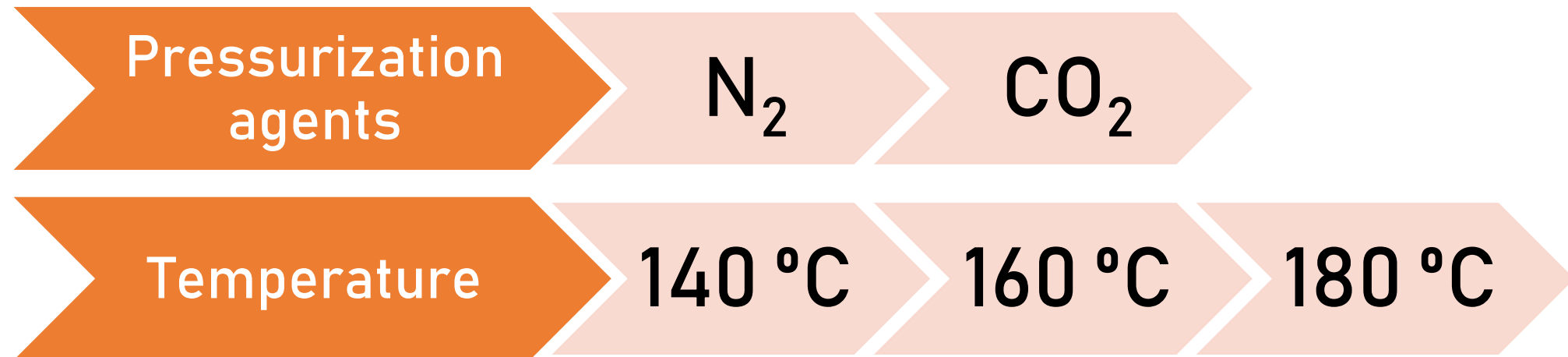
# METHODOLOGY

Pressurized Liquid Extraction (PLE) → Conditions:

▪ 200 mL WSP

▪ 50 bar (5 MPa)

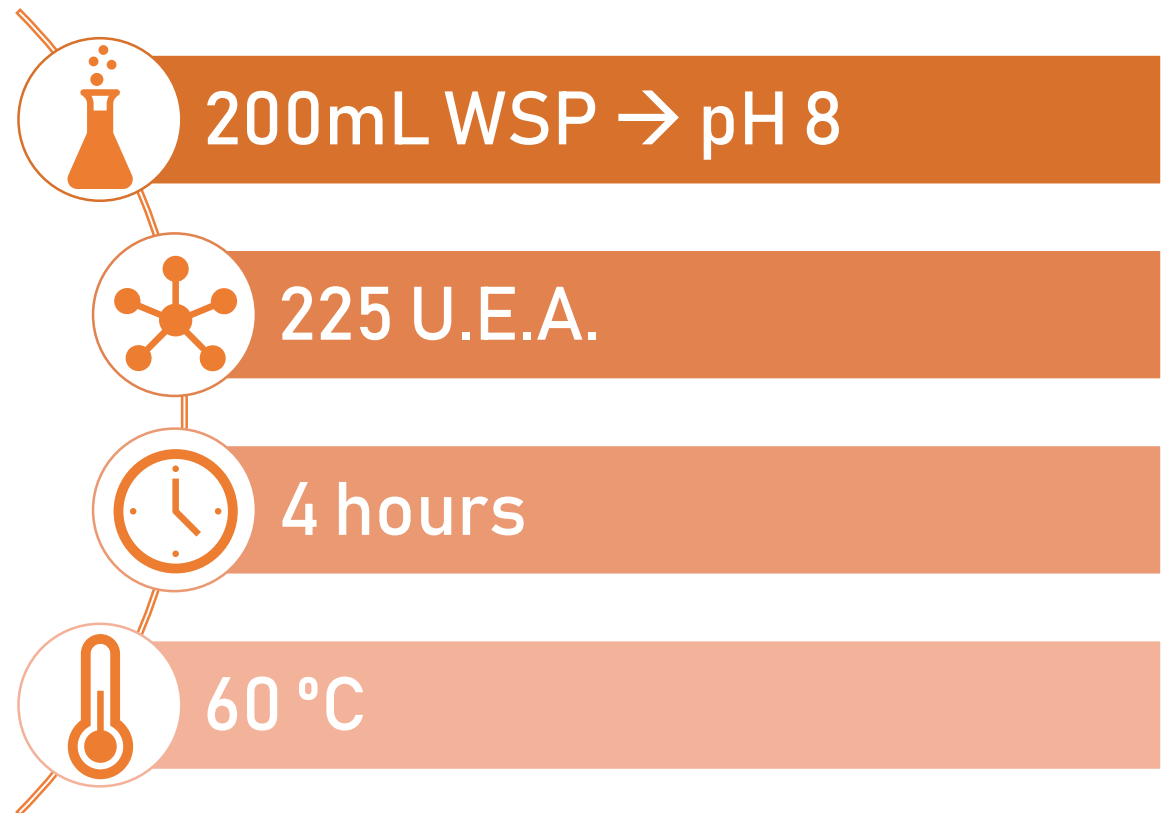
▪ 5 hours



# METHODOLOGY

## Enzymatic extraction

- Alcalase (*Novozymes*<sup>®</sup>)
- Novozym (*Novozymes*<sup>®</sup>)



# METHODOLOGY

## Analysis of the extracts

Protein (Lowry)

Total Amino groups (Ninhydrin)

Amino Acid profile (GC)

Peptide size and quantity (SEC)

Antioxidant power (FRAP/DPPH)

Surface tension (optical tensiometer)



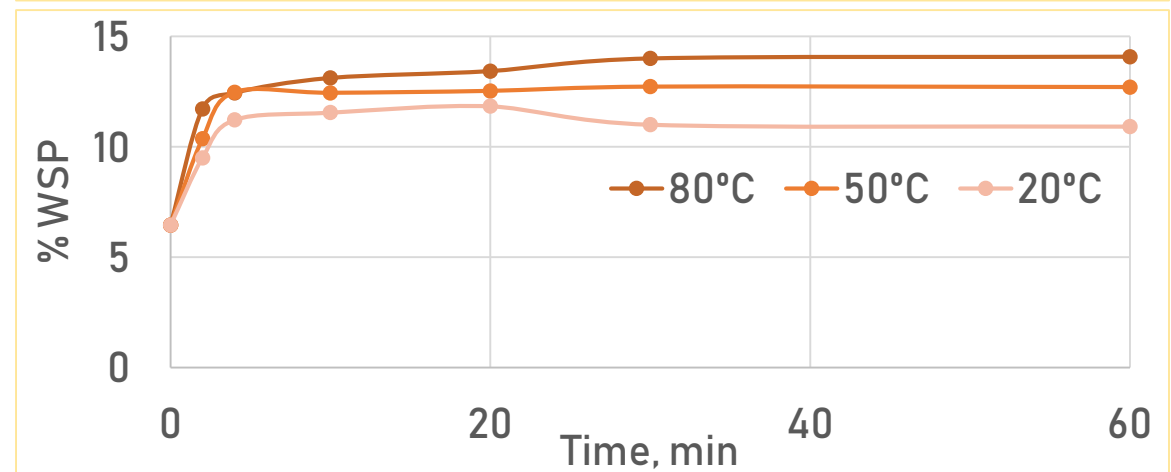
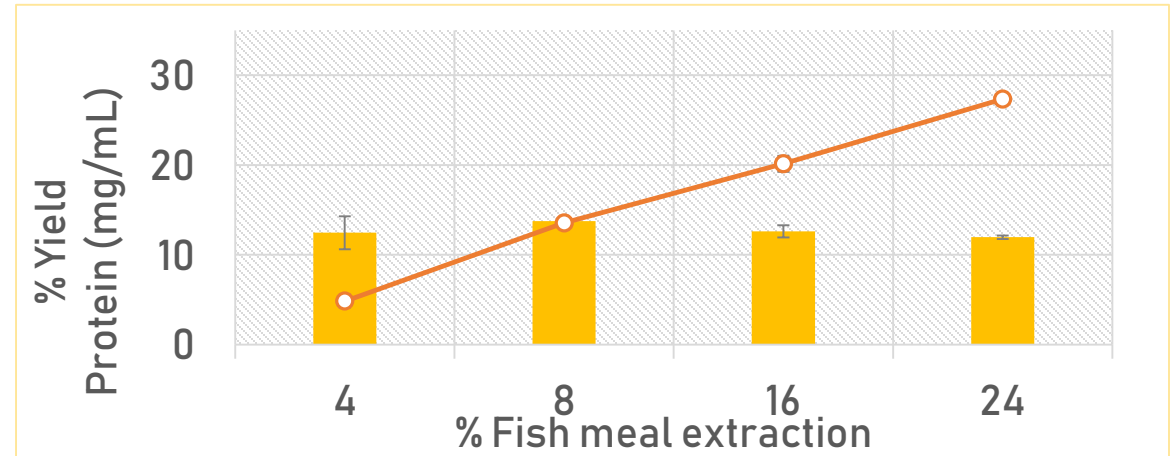
# RESULTS → WSP

## Extraction of WSP

### Optimized conditions:

- 16 % fish meal
- 80 °C
- 30 min

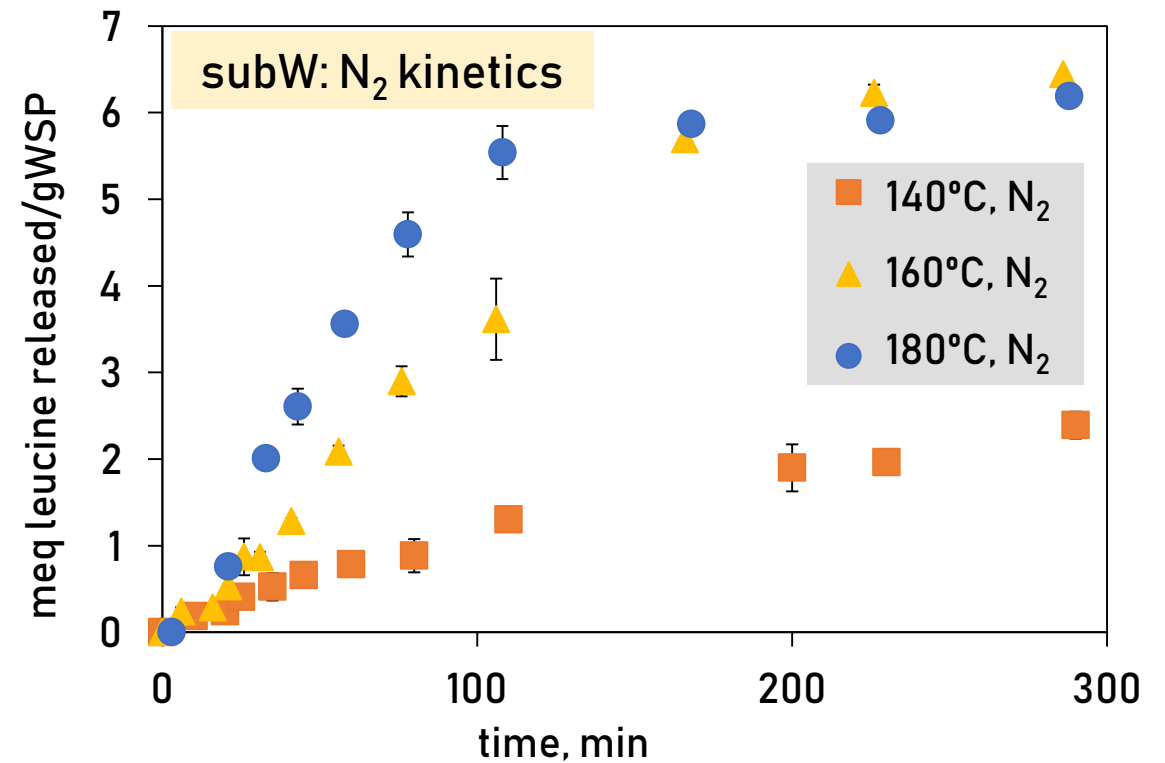
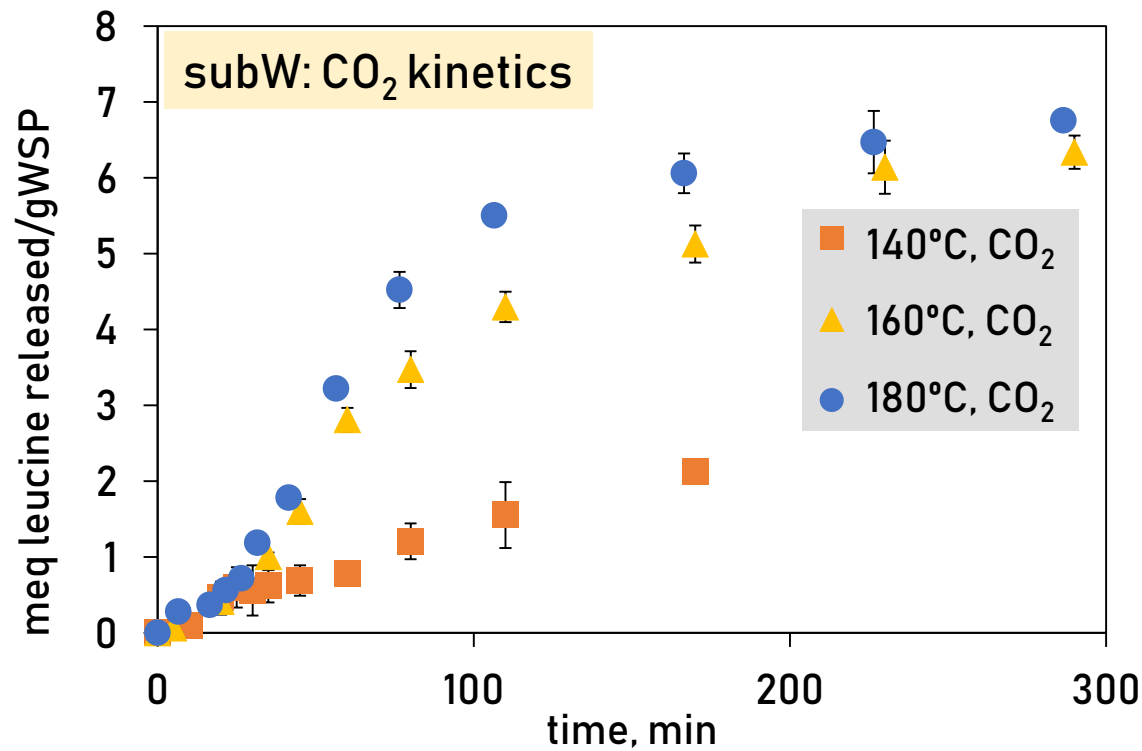
**14 % WSP (30% in protein)**



# RESULTS → Amino groups

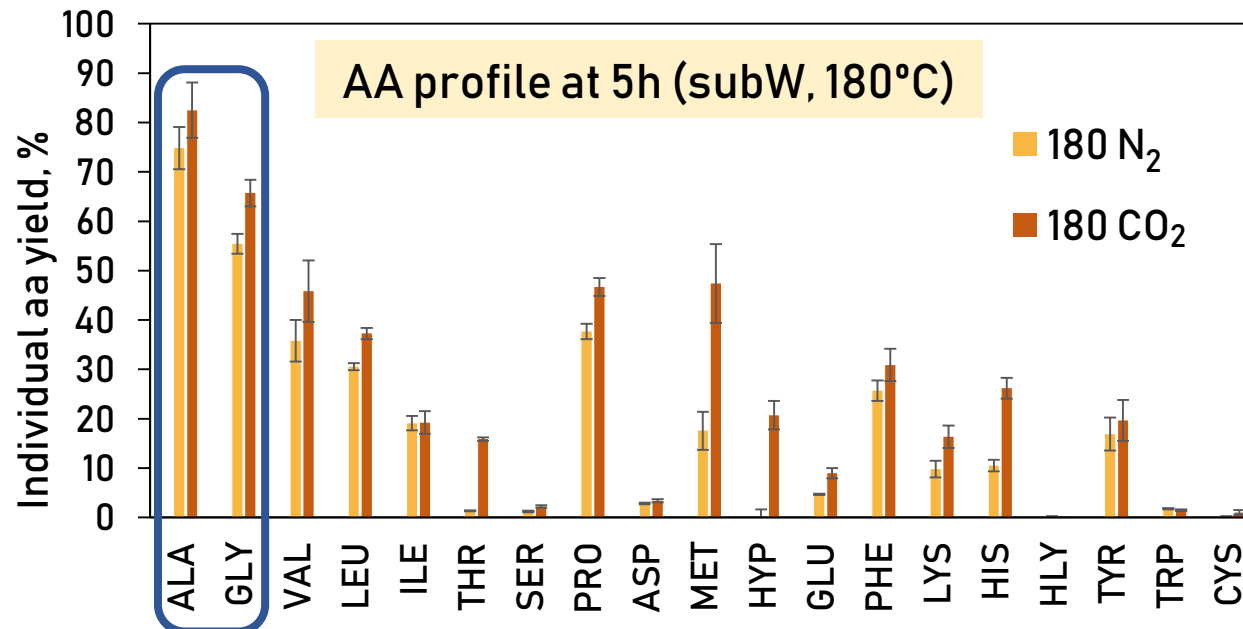
subW > enzymes

↑ Temperature (N<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>) → ↑ SSP / ↑ FAA release



# RESULTS → Amino Acids

- subW at 180°C + CO<sub>2</sub> → 344 ± 5 mg FAA/g WSP
- subW at 180°C + N<sub>2</sub> → 275 ± 3 mg FAA/g WSP



CO<sub>2</sub> → soluble



↓pH  
solution

Change  
ionic  
product

Majority FAA: low Mw

- Gly + Ala → 64% (CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Gly + Ala → 59% (N<sub>2</sub>)

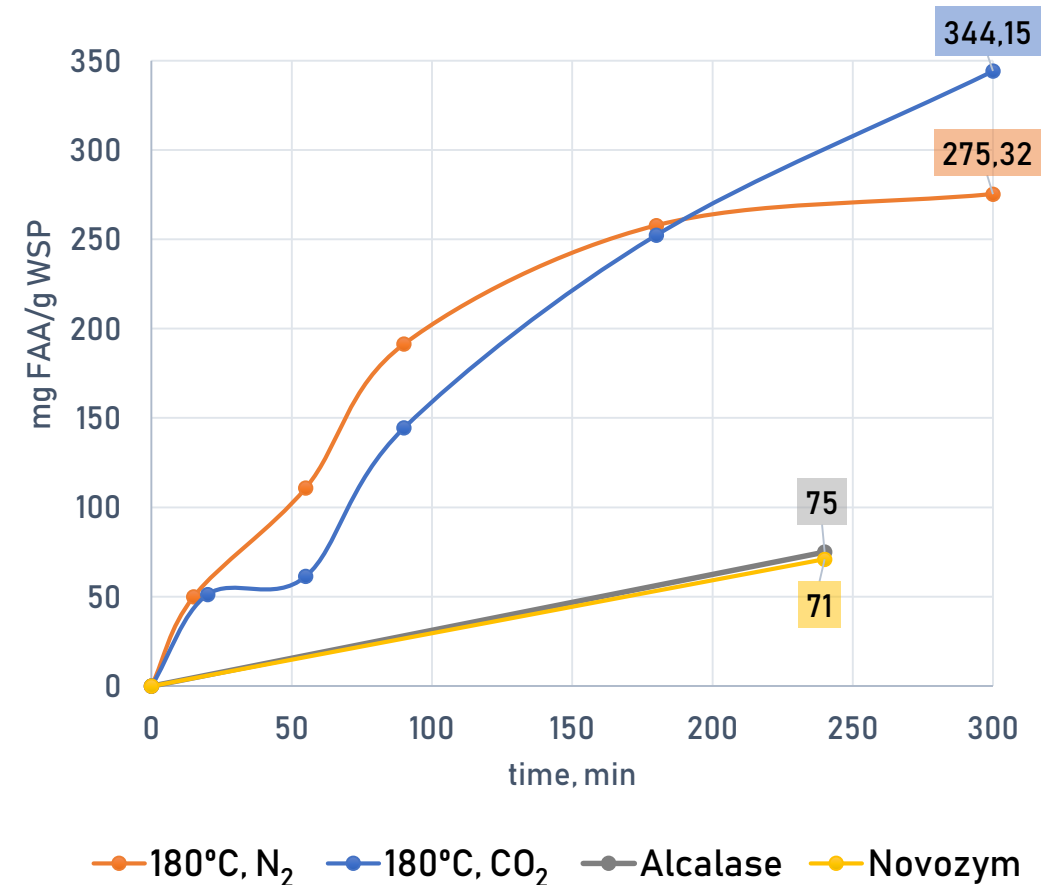
# RESULTS → Amino Acids

## subW hydrolysis

- ↑ FAA:
  - 180°C, CO<sub>2</sub> → 344 ± 5 mg FAA/g WSP
  - 180°C, N<sub>2</sub> → 275 ± 3 mg FAA/g WSP
- Glycine & Alanine → ↑ FAA yield

## Enzymatic hydrolysis

- ↓ FAA:
  - Alcalase → 75 ± 1 mg FAA/g WSP
  - Novozym → 71 ± 0.6 mg FAA/g WSP
- Histidine → ↑ FAA yield



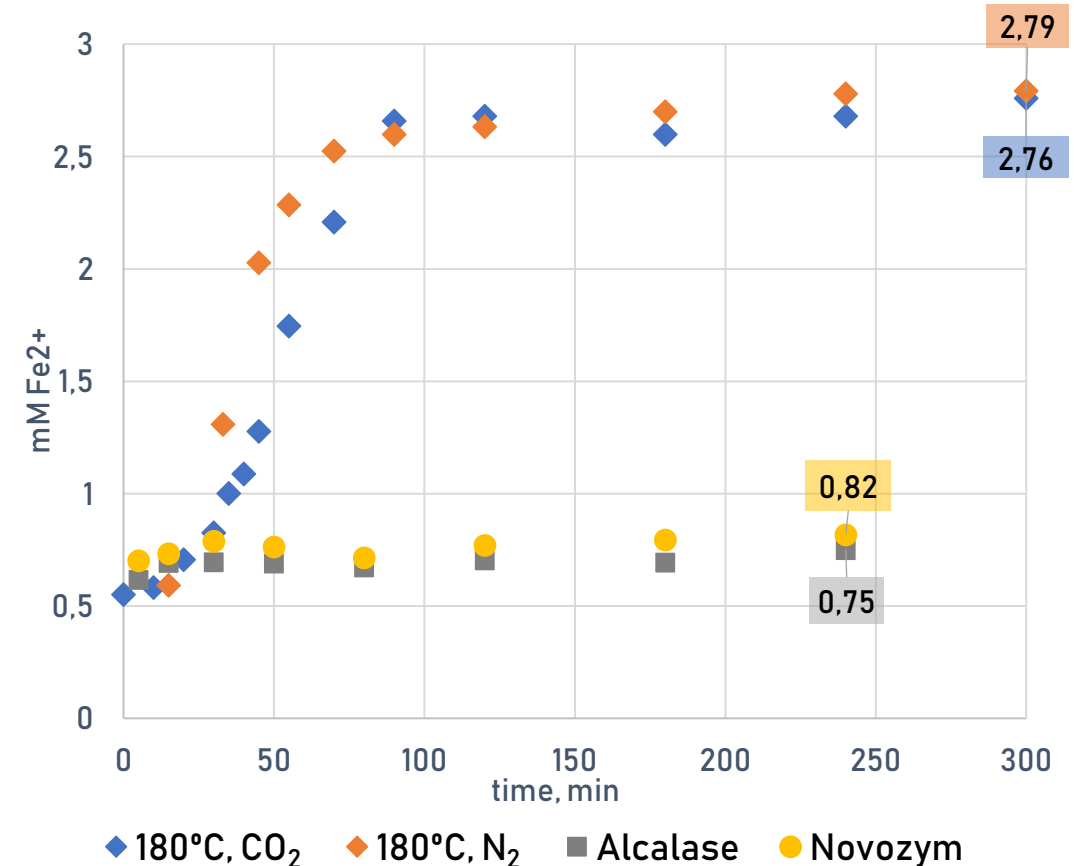
# RESULTS → Antioxidant activity

## subW hydrolysis

- ↑ Antioxidant capacity:
  - 180°C, CO<sub>2</sub> → 2.76 mM Fe<sup>2+</sup>
  - 180°C, N<sub>2</sub> → 2.79 mM Fe<sup>2+</sup>
- ↑ SSP + ↑ FAA = ↑ Antioxidant Capacity

## Enzymatic hydrolysis

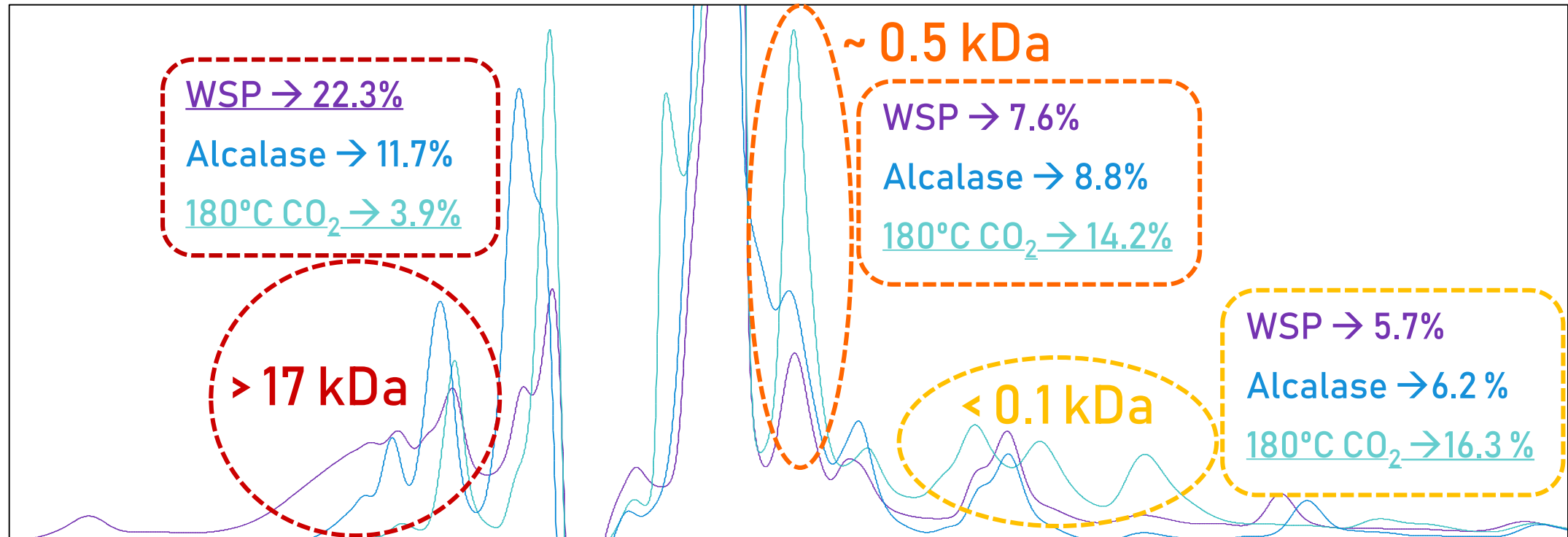
- ↓ Antioxidant capacity:
  - Alcalase → 0.75 mM Fe<sup>2+</sup>
  - Novozym → 0.82 mM Fe<sup>2+</sup>
- ↓ SSP + ↓ FAA = ↓ Antioxidant Capacity





# RESULTS → Peptide size

- Size Exclusion Chromatography (SEC)



# RESULTS → Surface tension

|                       | S.T. [mN/m] |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Water                 | 72.5 ± 0.7  |
| WSP                   | 49.3 ± 0.5  |
| Alcalase              | 56.1 ± 0.9  |
| 180°C CO <sub>2</sub> | 54.5 ± 0.5  |

Extracts decrease water S.T.

↓ S.T. → ↑ Functional properties

Emulsifying

Foaming



# CONCLUSIONS

subW is a green technology more effective than enzymes

Higher temperature (subW) → Higher protein hydrolysis

Effectiveness increased pressurizing with CO<sub>2</sub>

Higher protein hydrolysis → Higher reducing capacity

SEC confirms better hydrolysis → subW

Fish WSP + subW → ↑↑ Functional properties

# FUTURE WORK

**Analyse more functional properties**

**Non-Water-Soluble Protein (N-WSP)**

**Compare results with vegetal by-products**

# Thanks for your attention

## Acknowledgements

*This work was supported by the AEI [grant numbers PID2019-104950RB-I00, PID2020-116716RJ-I00, TED2021-129311B-I00, PDC2022-133443-I00] and the JCyL and the ERDF [grant number BU050P20]. P. Barea predoctoral contract was funded by JCyL and the European Social Fund (ESF) by ORDEN EDU/1868/2022, de 19 de diciembre.*

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