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# Isolation of b-glucans from selected Basidiomycetes strains grown in olive oil mill wastewater

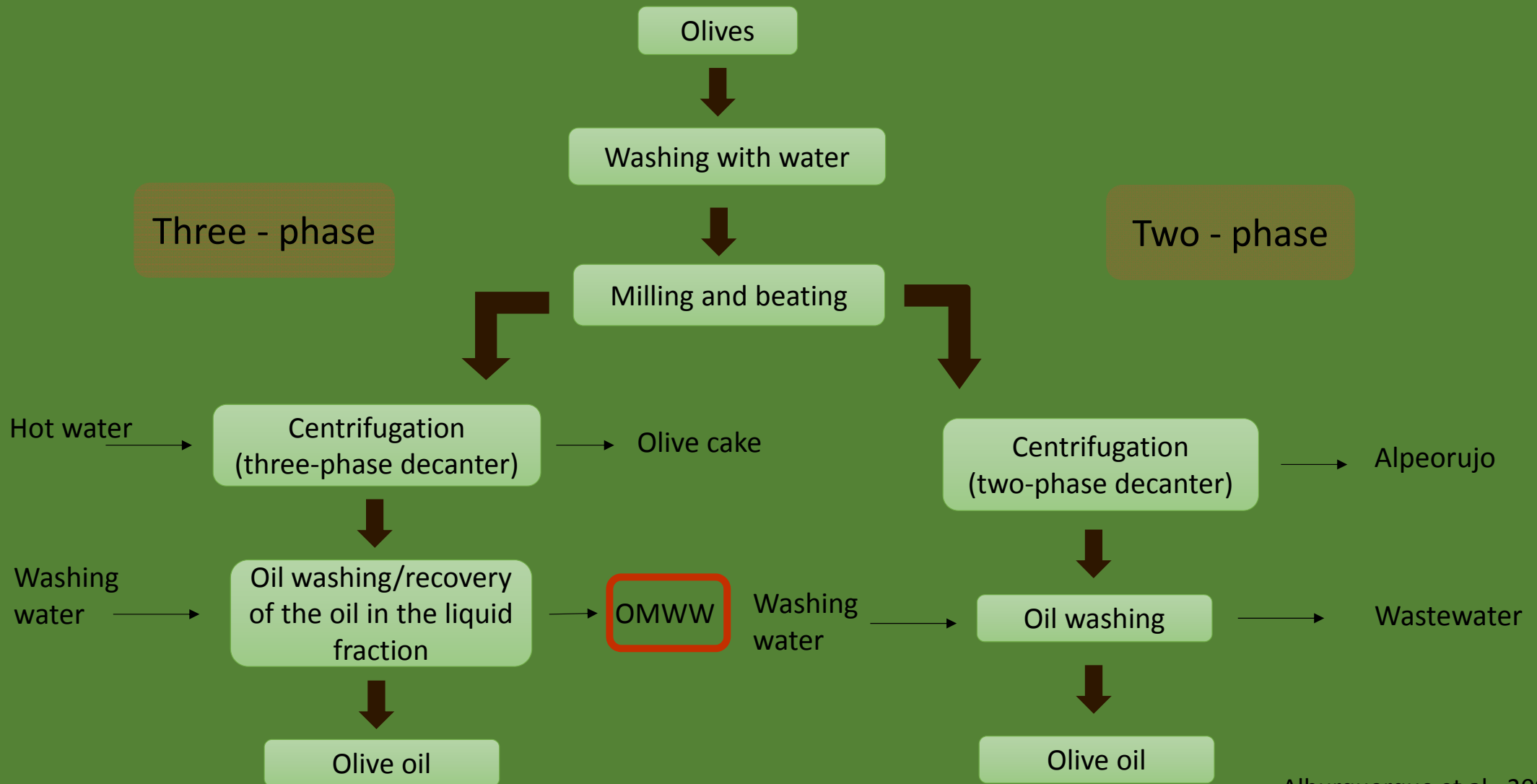
A. Zerva<sup>1</sup>, L.-M. Papaspyridi<sup>1</sup>, G. Mousavi<sup>1</sup>, P. Christakopoulos<sup>2</sup> and E. Topakas<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Biotechnology Laboratory, School of Chemical Engineering, National Technical University of Athens, 5 Iroon Polytechniou Str., Zografou Campus, Athens 15780, Greece

<sup>2</sup>Biochemical and Chemical Process Engineering, Division of Sustainable Process Engineering, Department of Civil, Environmental and Natural Resources Engineering, Luleå University of Technology, SE-97187 Luleå, Sweden

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# Olive oil production



# Olive oil mill wastewater

- Dark liquid with strong odor
- High organic load
- High concentration of (poly)phenols
- High phytotoxicity
- Toxicity against soil microorganisms
- Deposition in landfills and evaporation



Environmental and aesthetic  
degradation of the deposition area



OMWW properties	
pH	5.00 ± 0.07
Proteins (g L <sup>-1</sup> )	0.90 ± 0.19
Total N (g L <sup>-1</sup> )	5.00 ± 0.07
Total phenolics (g L <sup>-1</sup> )	3.88 ± 0.92
Total solids (g L <sup>-1</sup> )	43.67 ± 5.43
TOC (g L <sup>-1</sup> )	28.58 ± 3.00

Ntougias, S., et al. (2013).



## Basidiomycetes wood-rot fungi

- Potent degraders of lignocellulose
- Degradation of OMWW



Oxidation of (poly)phenols



Decrease of toxicity, colour

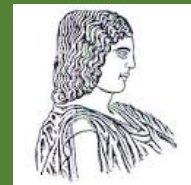
- Production of a variety of valuable products

Enzymes

Secondary metabolites

**Polysaccharides**

**( $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ - glucans)**



AUA, Faculty of crop science,  
Associate Prof. G. Zervakis

*Pleurotus citrinopileatus*



*Pleurotus ostreatus*



*Ganoderma lucidum*



## Glucans

- Polysaccharides from glucose monomers
- Different bonds among glucose units and branches result in a variety of glucans
- In fungal cell walls, glucans are usually in complex with chitin or proteins
- Basidiomycetes also produce secreted glucans
- $\alpha$ - D- glucans are linear polymers
- $\beta$ - D- glucans usually branched chains

## Biological activities of glucans

- Antitumor
- Immuno-stimulating
- Anti-bacterial, antifungal, antiviral
- Lower blood cholesterol

## Aim of the study

- Biological treatment of OMWW with the use of wood-rot fungi
  - Valorization of the waste through the production of high added-value products
- Decolourization
  - Phenols degradation
  - Polysaccharides ( $\beta$ -glucans)

# Experimental procedure

Mushrooms grown in two different media:

## Defined medium

- Xylose 57 g L<sup>-1</sup>
- Yeast extract 30 g L<sup>-1</sup>
- K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> 1 g L<sup>-1</sup>
- MgSO<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>7</sub> 0.2 g L<sup>-1</sup>

## OOMW medium

- OOMW 50 % (v/v)
- Yeast extract 30 g L<sup>-1</sup>
- Potassium phosphate buffer 100 mM, pH 6



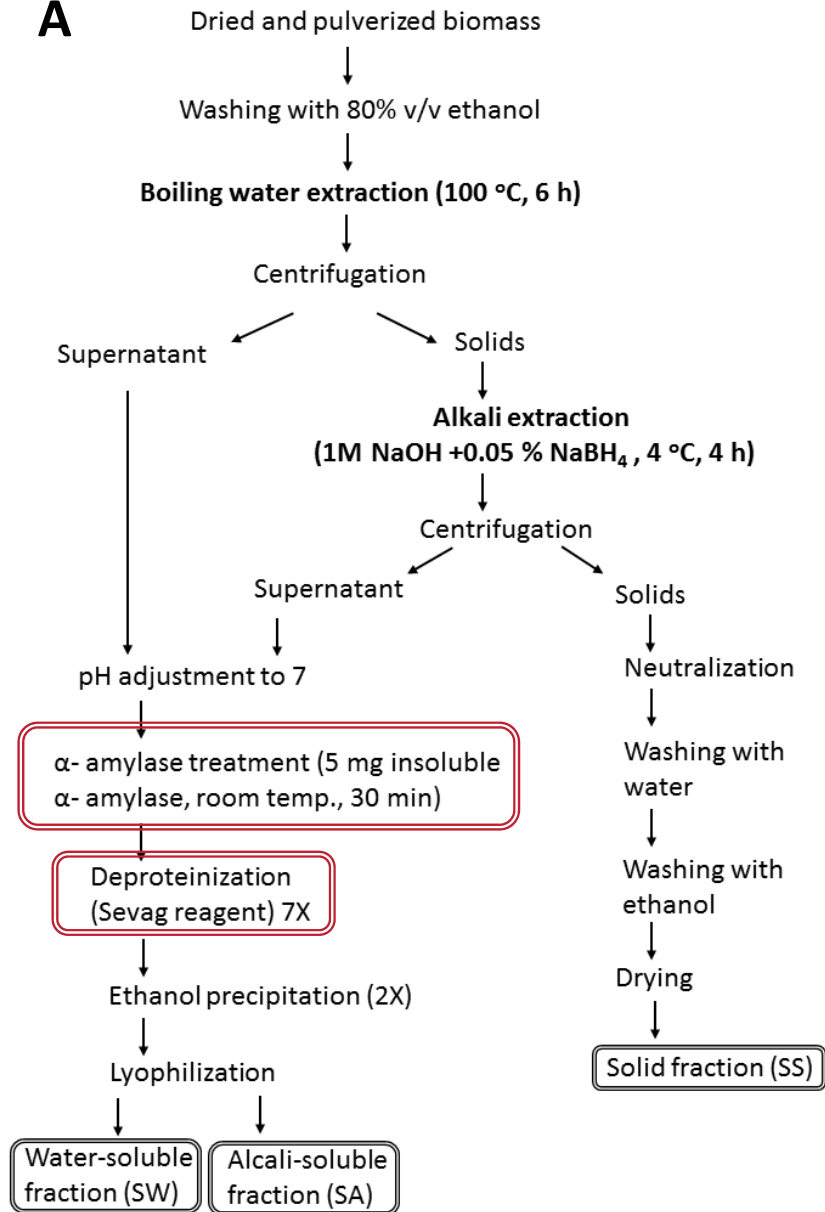
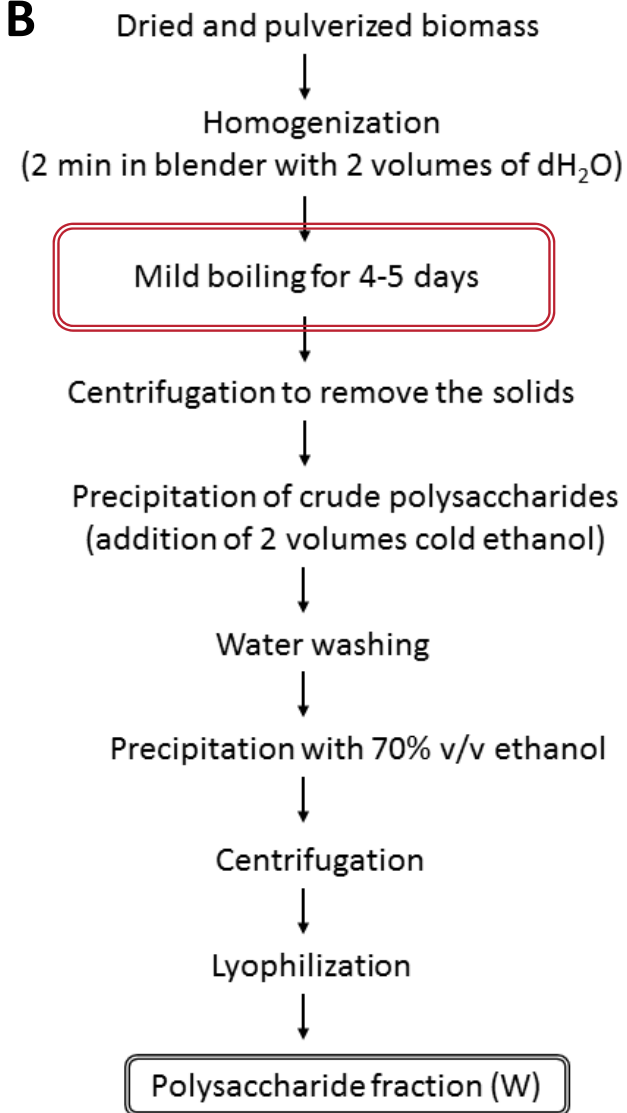
EPS were isolated from the extracellular fluid with ethanol precipitation

Biomass polysaccharides were purified following one of two protocols, A (Synytsya et al., 2009), or B (Wei et al., 2008).

Glucan content in crude and purified fractions was measured with the Yeast and Mushroom beta-glucan Assay kit from Megazyme®



Synytsya, A., Míčková, K., Synytsya, A., Jablonský, I., Spěváček, J., Erban, V., Kovářiková, E., Čopíková, J.: Glucans from fruit bodies of cultivated mushrooms *Pleurotus ostreatus* and *Pleurotus eryngii*: Structure and potential prebiotic activity. Carbohydr. Polym. 76(4) 548-556 (2009). Wei, S., Helsper, J. P. F. G., Van Griensven, L. J. L. D.: Phenolic Compounds Present in Medicinal Mushroom Extracts Generate Reactive Oxygen Species in Human Cells In Vitro. Int. J. Med. Mushrooms. 10(1), 1-13 (2008).

**A****B**

## *P. ostreatus*

**Table 1:** Glucan composition of the isolated fractions from the *P. ostreatus* cultures. The isolation was performed following Protocol A.

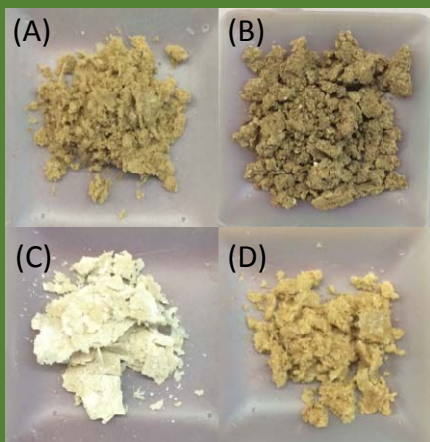
- Phenolics reduction: 43.6%
- Decolourization: 11.1%

Defined medium cultures	Crude biomass (% w/w)	Water-soluble fraction (% w/w)	Purification (fold)	Yield (%)	Alkali-soluble fraction (% w/w)	Purification (fold)	Yield (%)	EPS (% w/w)
<b>Total glucans</b>	8.6	20.4	2.36	21.1	16.4	1.9	1.7	4.6
<b>α- glucans</b>	3.3	11.1	3.29	29.3	11.0	3.3	3	0.27
<b>β- glucans</b>	5.3	9.4	1.77	15.8	5.4	1.0	0.9	4.3
<b>OOMW cultures</b>								
<b>Total glucans</b>	7.6	34.7	4.6	28.6	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	1.9
<b>α- glucans</b>	1.1	3.0	2.7	16.9	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	0.5
<b>β- glucans</b>	6.5	31.7	4.9	30.9	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	1.5



# *P. citrinopileatus*

Significant decolourization and phenols reduction was not observed



Fractions obtained after Protocol A purification of  $\beta$ -glucans from *P. citrinopileatus* biomass grown in OOMW. A) Water-soluble fraction, B) Solid fraction C) Alkali-soluble fraction a, D) Alkali – soluble fraction b.

**Table 2:** Glucan composition of the isolated fractions from the *P. citrinopileatus* cultures. The isolation was performed following both Protocols A and B.

Defined medium cultures	Crude biomass (% w/w)	Water-soluble fraction (% w/w)	Purification (fold)	Yield (%)	Alkali-soluble fraction (% w/w)	Purification (fold)	Yield (%)	EPS (% w/w)
<b>Total glucans</b>	6.5	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	6.6
<b><math>\alpha</math>-glucans</b>	0.6	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	0.45
<b><math>\beta</math>-glucans</b>	5.9	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	6.2
<b>OOMW cultures</b>								
<b>Total glucans</b>	14.1 <sup>1</sup> 7.5 <sup>2</sup>	13.1 <sup>1</sup> 31.7 <sup>2</sup>	0.93 <sup>1</sup> 4.2 <sup>2</sup>	0.6 <sup>1</sup> 1.8 <sup>2</sup>	23.8 <sup>1</sup> 1.7 <sup>1</sup>	1.7 <sup>1</sup> 1.5 <sup>1</sup>		n.d.
<b><math>\alpha</math>-glucans</b>	3.1 <sup>1</sup> 1.7 <sup>2</sup>	6.3 <sup>1</sup> 15.7 <sup>2</sup>	2.03 <sup>1</sup> 9.4 <sup>2</sup>	1.3 <sup>1</sup> 5.2 <sup>2</sup>	2.2 <sup>1</sup> 0.7 <sup>1</sup>	0.7 <sup>1</sup> 0.6 <sup>1</sup>		n.d.
<b><math>\beta</math>-glucans</b>	10.9 <sup>1</sup> 5.9 <sup>2</sup>	6.8 <sup>1</sup> 16.0 <sup>2</sup>	0.62 <sup>1</sup> 2.7 <sup>2</sup>	1.4 <sup>1</sup> 1.5 <sup>2</sup>	21.6 <sup>1</sup> 2.0 <sup>1</sup>	2.0 <sup>1</sup> 1.8 <sup>1</sup>		n.d.

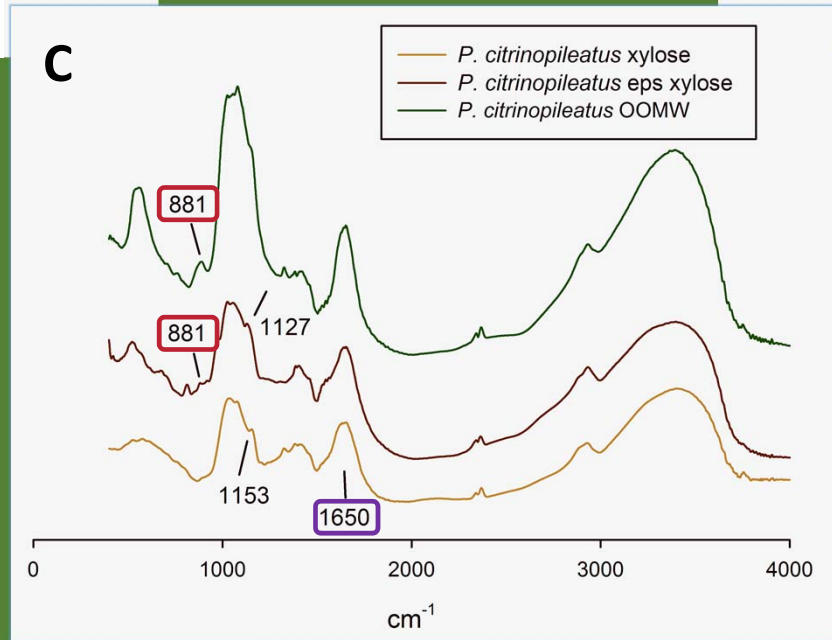
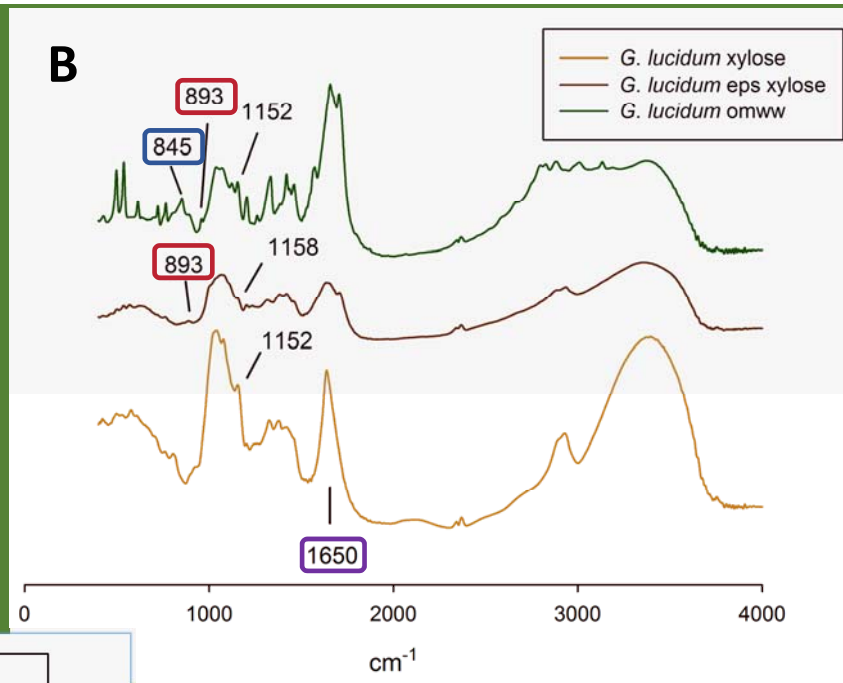
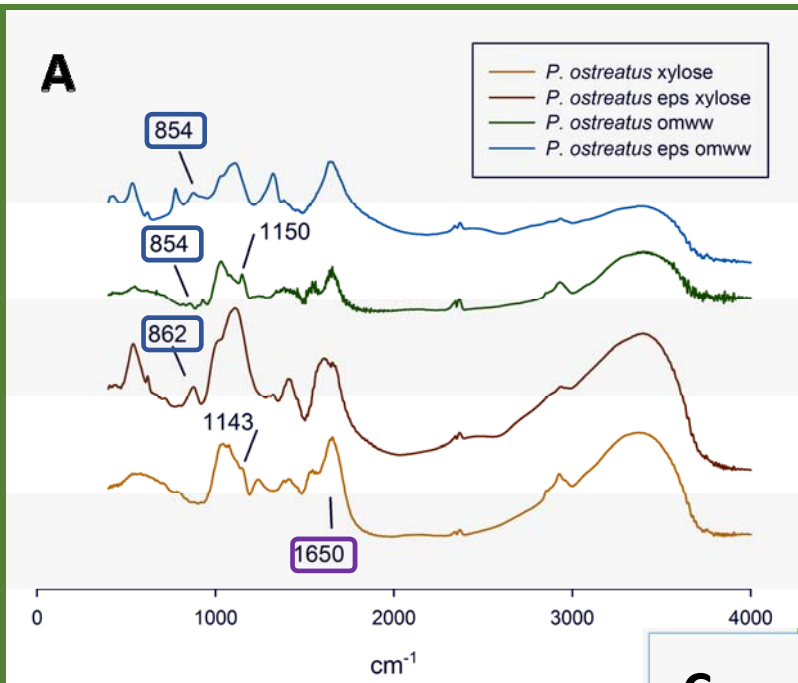
<sup>1</sup> Results from purification protocol A, <sup>2</sup>Results from purification protocol B, n.d. not detected.

## *G. lucidum*

**Table 3:** Glucan composition of the isolated fractions from the *G. lucidum* cultures. The isolation was performed following Protocol B.

- Phenolics reduction: 19.4%
- Decolourization: 47.5%

Defined medium cultures	Crude biomass (% w/w)	Isolated polysaccharides (% w/w)	Purification (fold)	Yield (%)	EPS (% w/w)
Total glucans	6.2	49.1	7.9	36.3	37.9
$\alpha$ - glucans	0.8	0.5	0.6	2.9	0.3
$\beta$ - glucans	5.4	48.6	9.0	41.2	37.6
<b>OOMW cultures</b>					
Total glucans	5.5	14.9	2.7	14	n.d.
$\alpha$ - glucans	0.1	0.6	5.0	28.1	n.d.
$\beta$ - glucans	5.4	14.3	2.6	14.0	n.d.



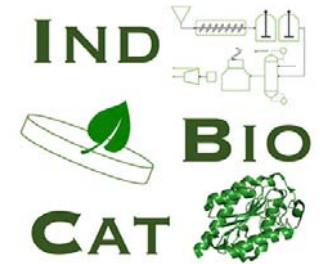
## Conclusions

- Satisfactory biomass growth in OOMW, nitrogen- supplemented medium from all three strains
  - Submerged fermentation is faster than solid state approaches.
  - *G. lucidum* produced gel-like EPS, consisting mainly of beta-glucans.
  - The two purification protocols tested did not appear to be very different in terms of yield and product recovery
- 
- Time-consuming and costly steps of  $\alpha$ -amylase and Sevag treatments could be omitted, without significant loss
  - Protein contamination was evident in the FT-IR spectra of all samples → proteoglycans?
  - Overall, the combination of Basidiomycete OOMW treatment and concomitant production of glucans with pharmaceutical and nutritional value could lead to the valorization of the liquid waste.

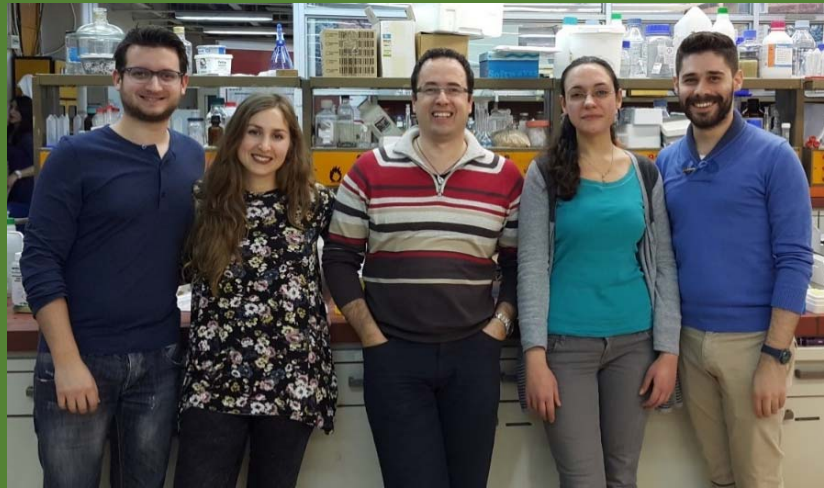


# NTUA IndBioCat Group

<http://www.chemeng.ntua.gr/indubiocat/index.html>



**Evangelos Topakas,  
Assistant Professor**



**PhD candidates:**  
A. Zerva, C. Katsimpouras  
M. Kanelli, E. Nikolaivits

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Thank you for  
your  
attention!