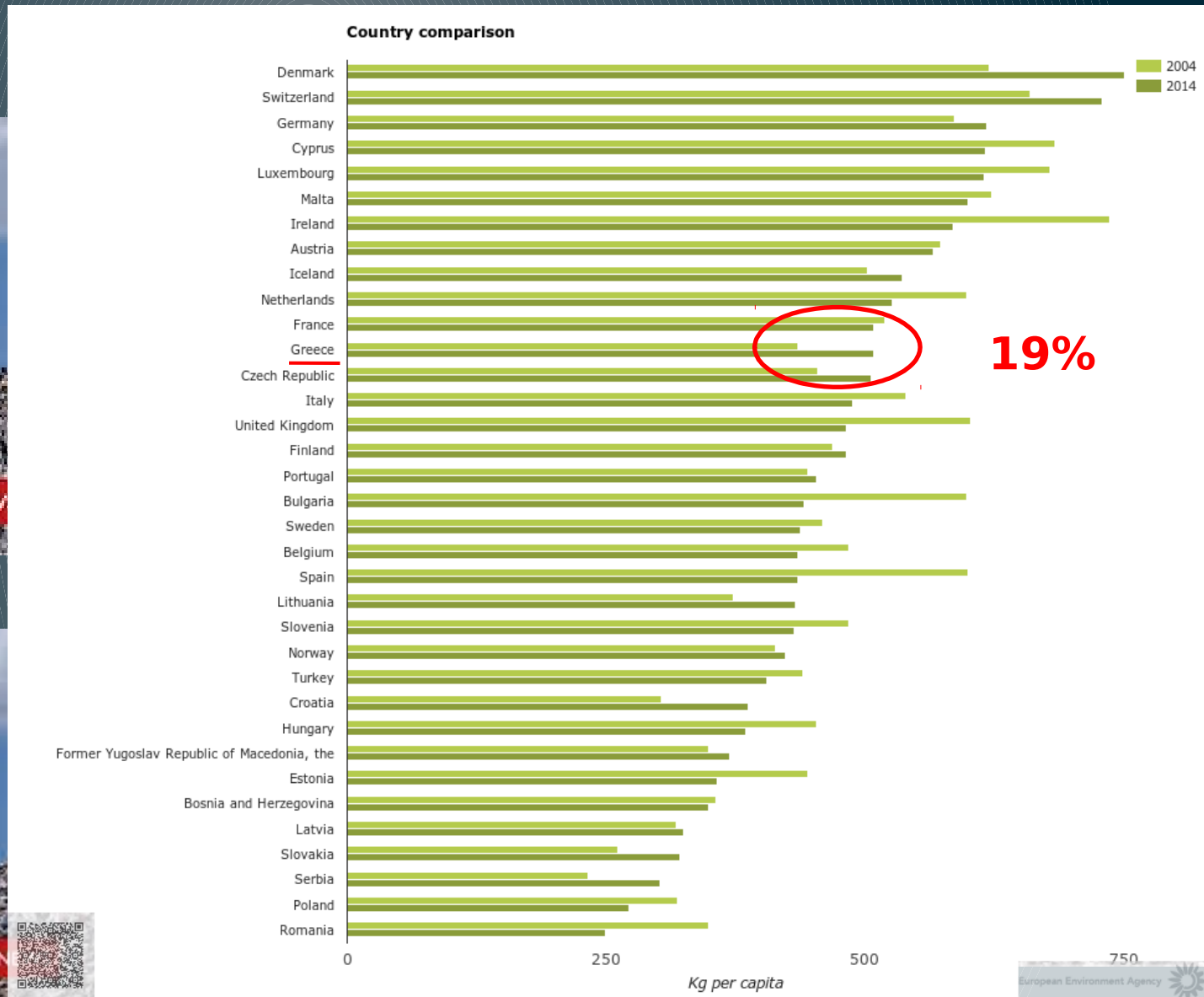




Optimization of production of DHA from *Cryptocodinium cohnii* utilizing a dark fermentation effluent

Angelina Chalima, PhD Student, National Technical University of Athens

The accumulation of waste



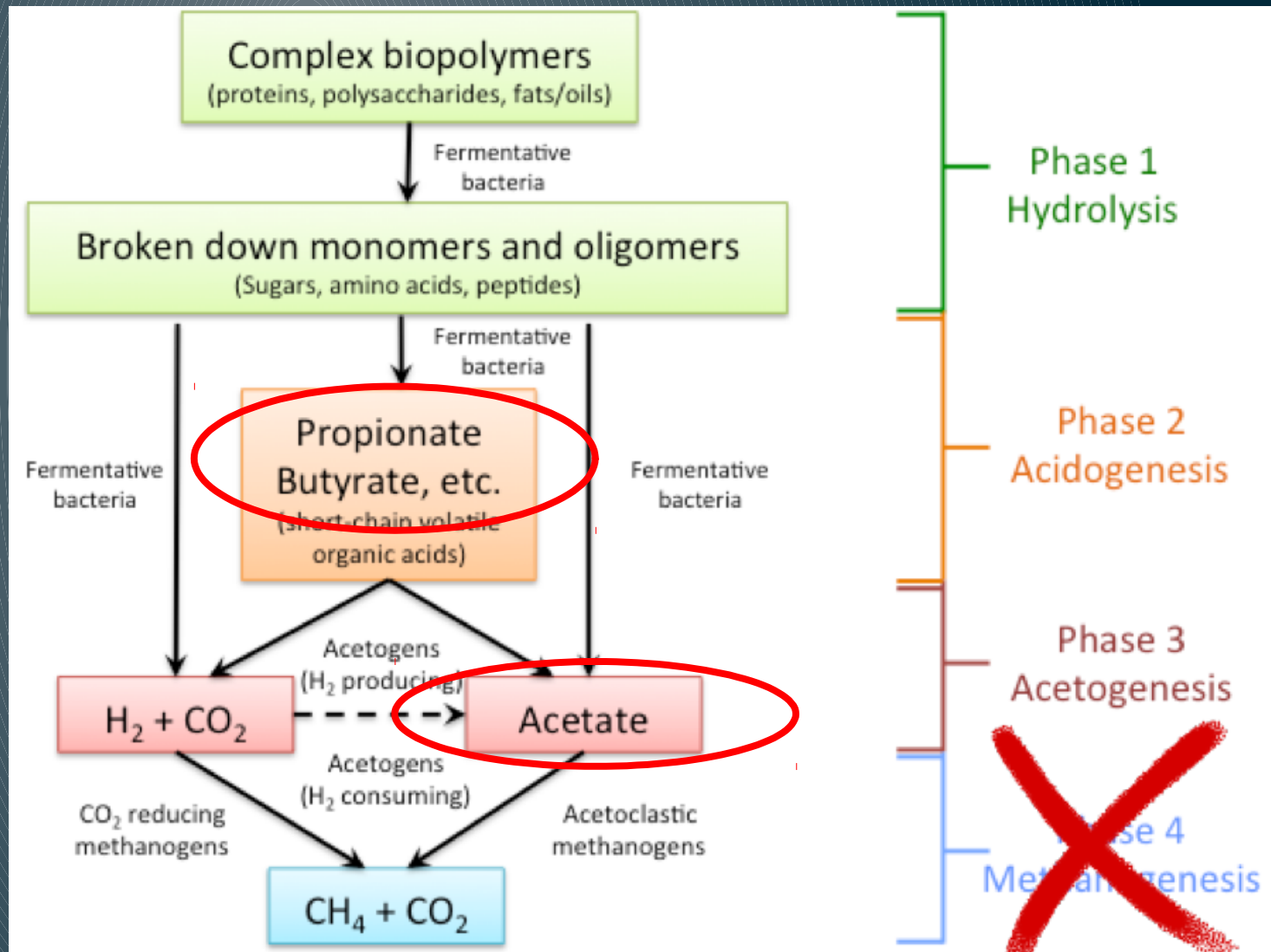
Bioconversion of biowaste to high added-value products (carotenoids, omega-3, biopolymers...)



Horizon 2020

**Volatile Fatty Acids Platform from
Biowaste by a dark fermentation
process**

Dark fermentation



8 Case Studies

- Municipal Solid Biowaste
- Sludgy Biowaste Waste Water Treatment
- Sludgy Biowaste from Food processing

- State-of-the-art & Feedstock analysis
- Analysis of market demand for improvement and new products

- Product quality Requirements
- Legal Barriers & Stimuli
- Economics & Subsidy Policy



Biowaste

Anaerobic Digestion
VFA-Platform

Continuous VFA Recovery via
membrane technology

Volatile Fatty Acids as Carbon Source

Fed-Batch Fermentation / High Volumetric Productivity

Bacteria

Oleaginous Yeast

Heterotrophic Microalgae

Development of Down-stream Procedures, Product Recovery & Purification for Final Application

PHA for Biomaterials

SCO for
Oleochemical Applications

Bioactive Omega-3 fatty acids
for Food & Nutraceuticals

Three new bio-based value chains using Municipal Solid & Sludgy
biowaste for bio-product generation.

Business Case Development

Support by
CWA, DST &
Road-Map

Integration & Optimisation using Agent Based
Modelling

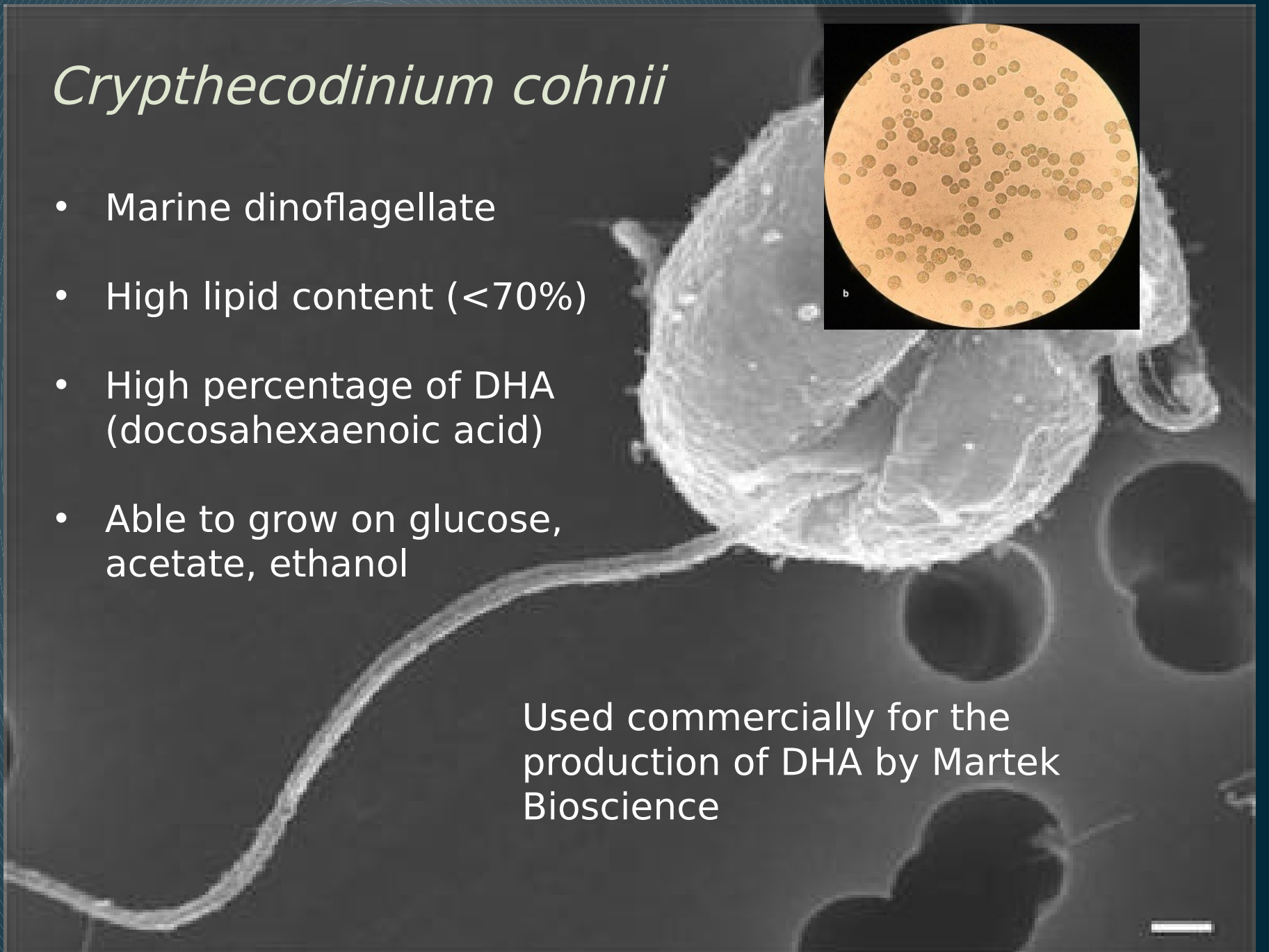
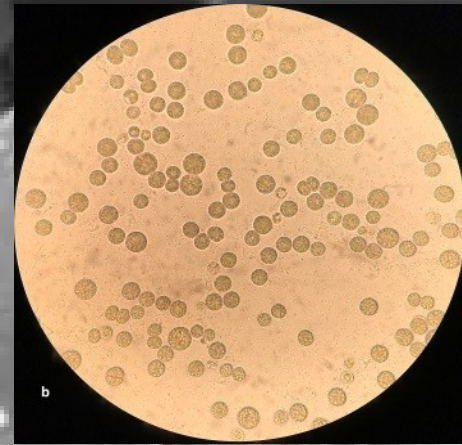
Life Cycle Assessment & Economic Feasibility Study



Cryptothecodinium cohnii

- Marine dinoflagellate
- High lipid content (<70%)
- High percentage of DHA (docosahexaenoic acid)
- Able to grow on glucose, acetate, ethanol

Used commercially for the production of DHA by Martek Bioscience

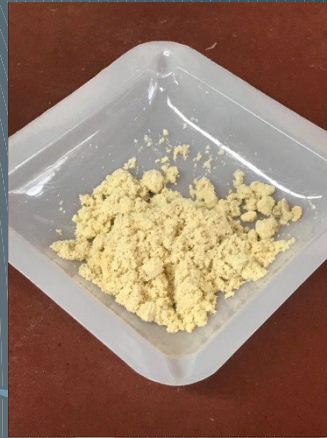


So what did
And then?
you actually
do?

We examined
We developed
C. coli and a
fermentation
growth on
protocol in an
the main VFA
actual DF
of a DF
effluent
effluent

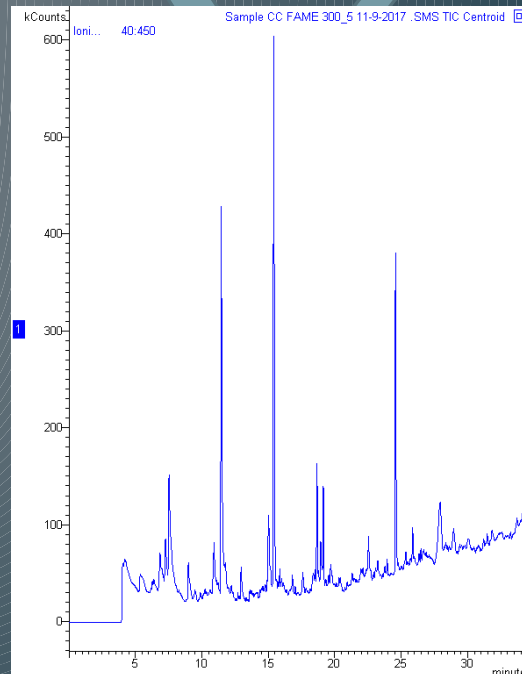


Batch cultures of the strain

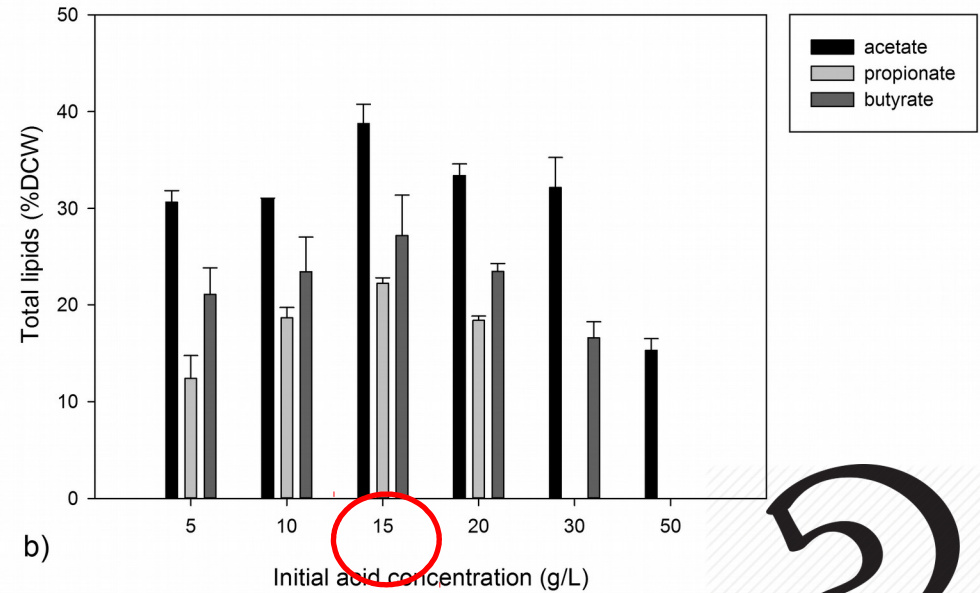
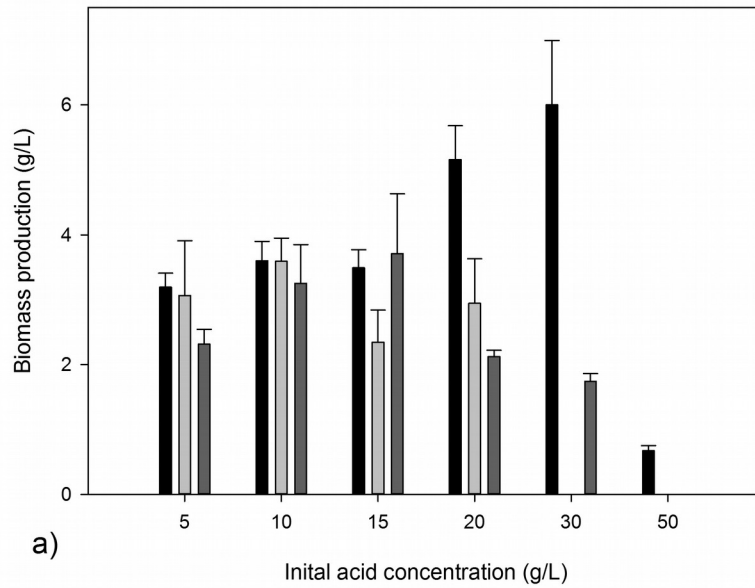


Acetic acid

Butyric acid



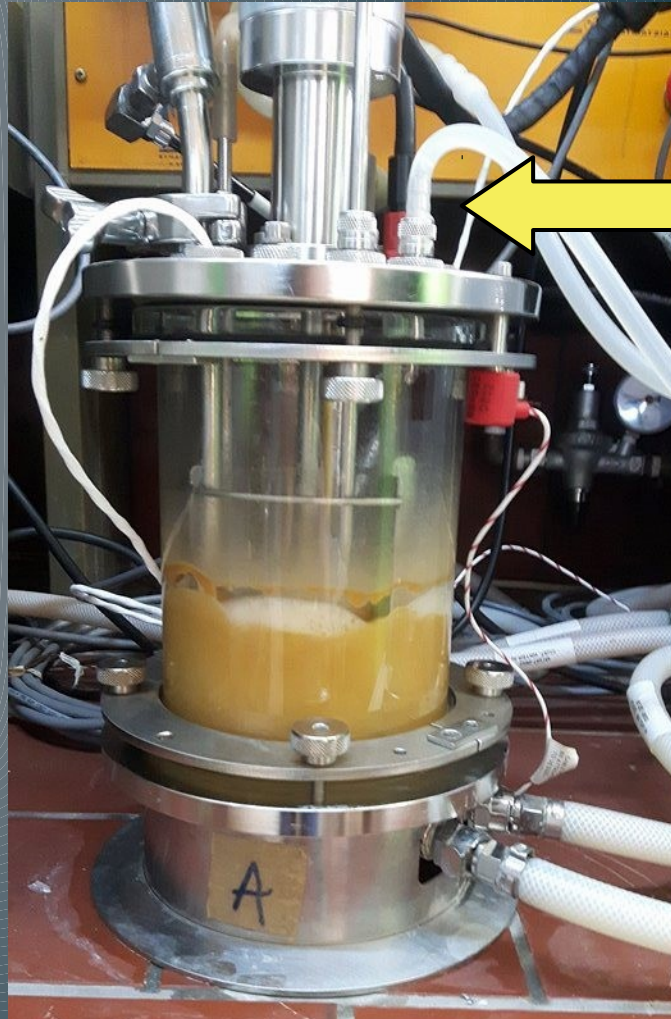
Initial
concentrations: 5-
50 g/L



Low biomass production/ Specific tolerance to each VFA/ pH rise

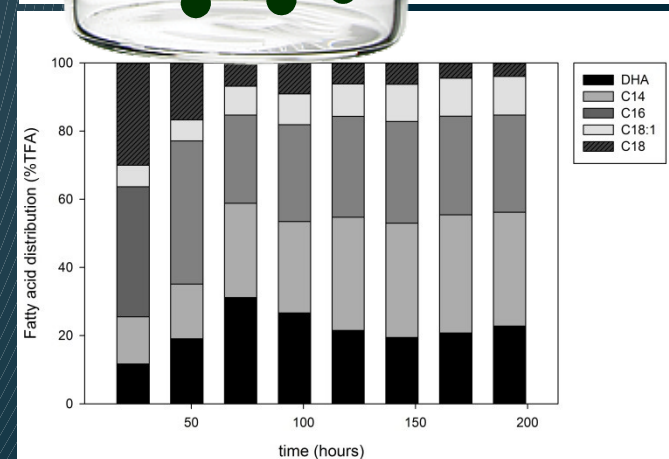
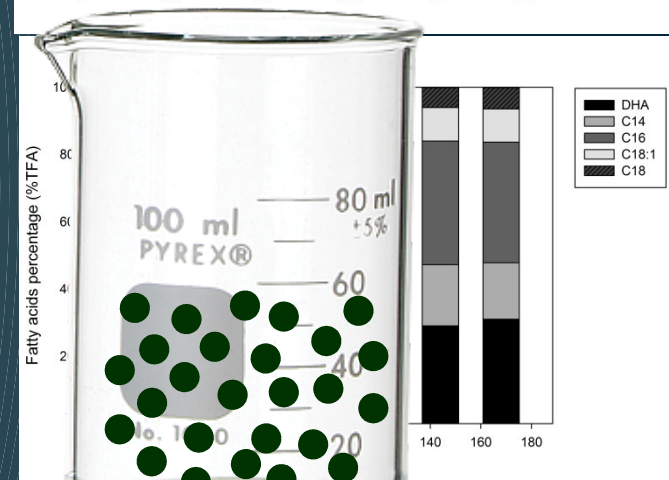
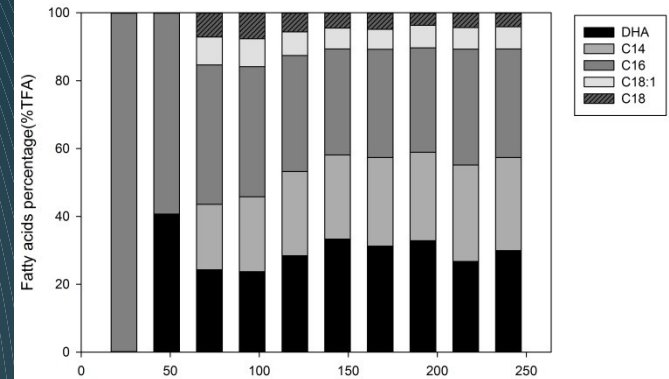
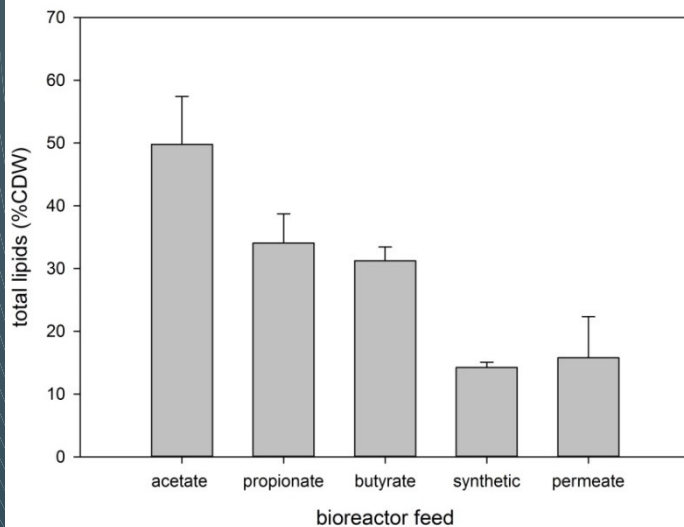
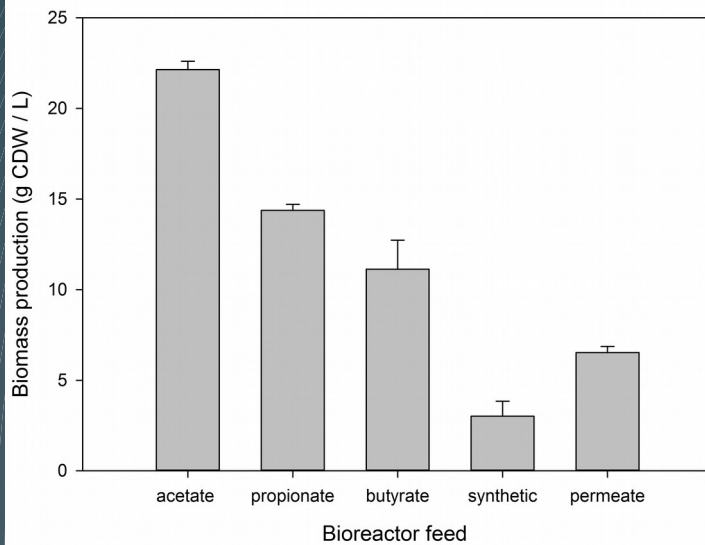
Fed-batch pH-auxostats

- 15 g/L sodium acetate
- 7.5 g/L yeast



Acetic acid (33% v/v)
Propionic acid (25% v/v)
Butyric acid (25% v/v)

DF ultrafiltered
effluent
Synthetic medium



A. Chalima, et al. Integration of a dark fermentation effluent in a microalgal-based biorefinery Applied Energy 241 (2019) 130-138

Optimization

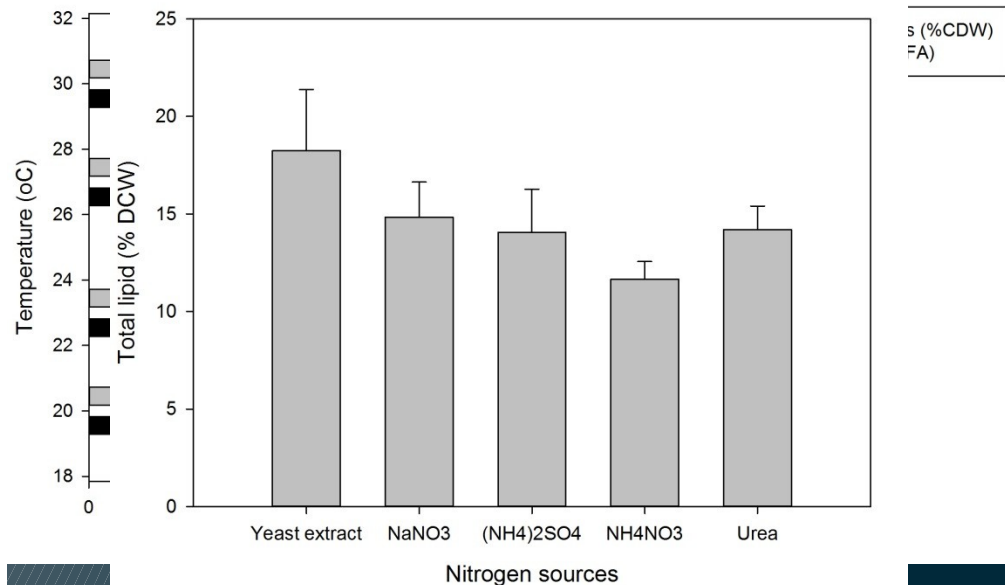
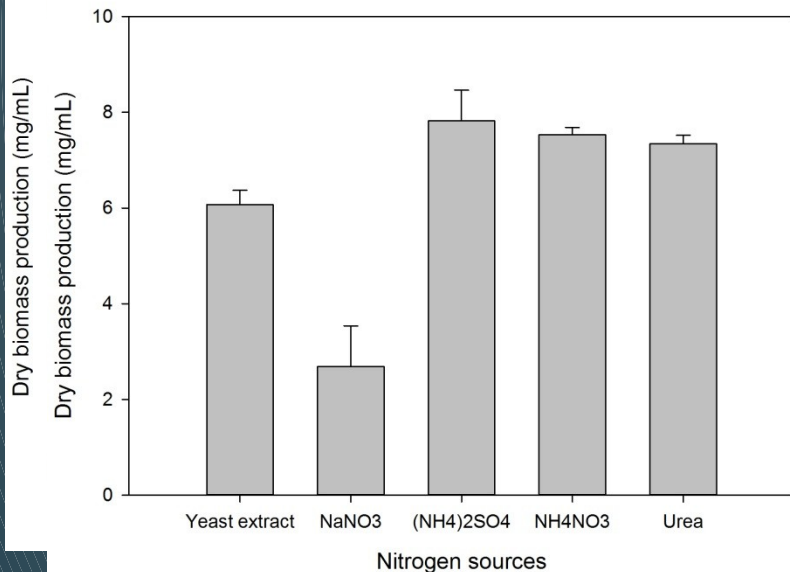
Culture conditions

Feed composition

Optimization of lipid production (1. culture conditions)

- Different Nitrogen sources

Ammonium- Urea- Yeast extract- Nitrate

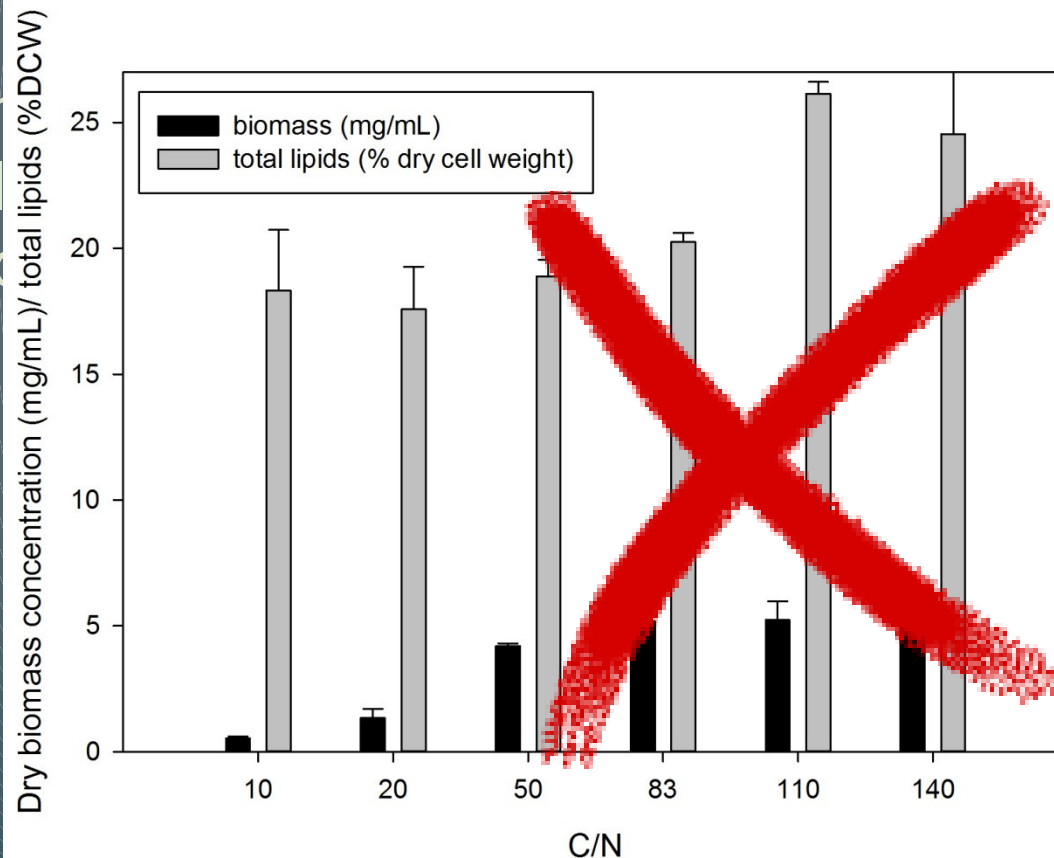


Optimization of lipid production (1. culture conditions)

- Different C/N ratio

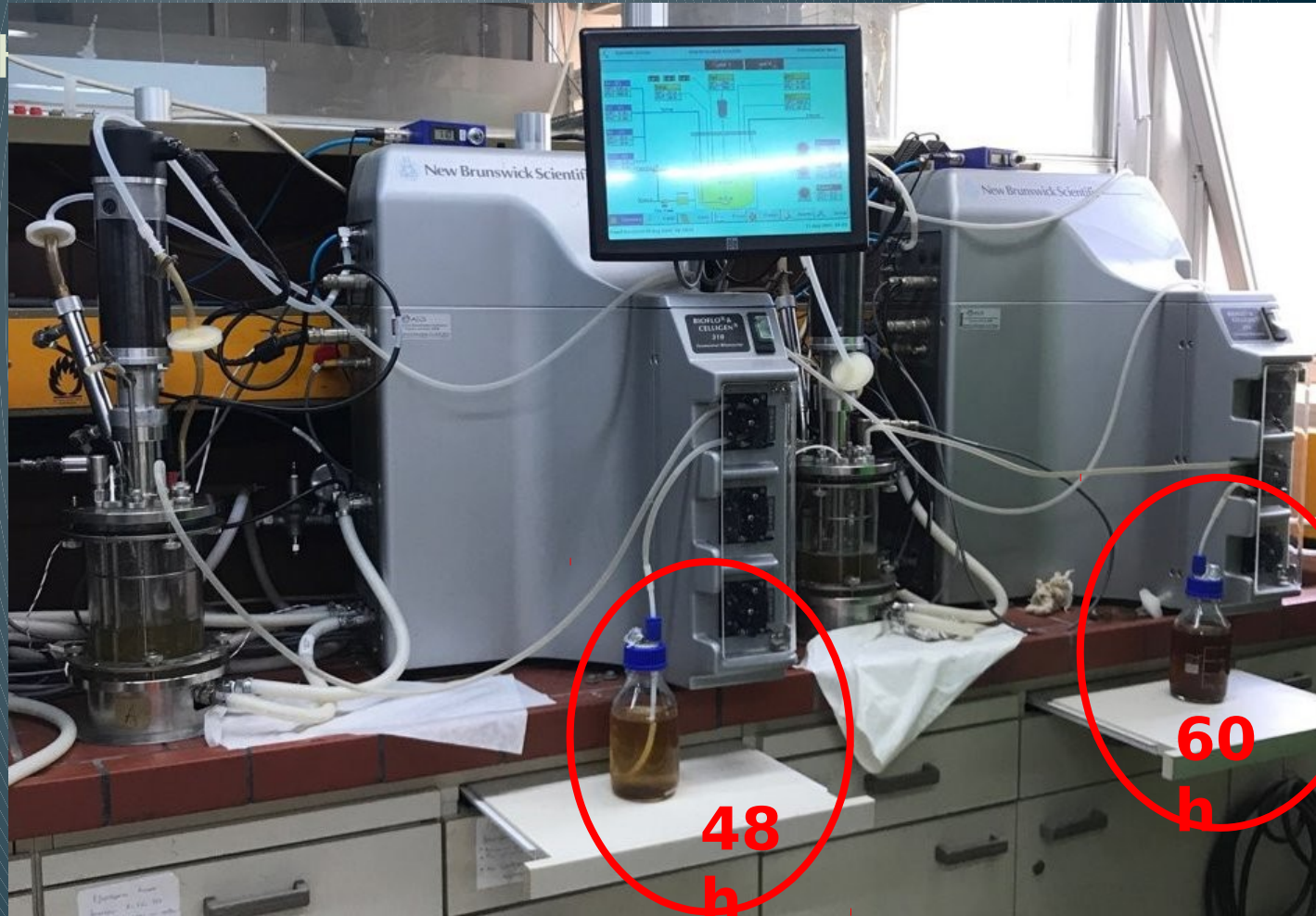
10-140

- Chemicals
Ethanol
Salicylic acid



C/N=50
DHA=36
%

Optimization of lipid production (2. Feed)



Conclusions

- Acetate, butyrate, propionate ✓
- DF effluent ✓
(utilization of total organic content)

Higher VFA concentration is favorable

- Ammonium

- 27 °C



- C/N= 110

Gazing into the future...

- Use of DF effluent as an initial medium for the bioreactors □ more efficient utilization (in progress...)
- Examination of utilization of lactic acid
- Application of a two-stage fermentation protocol

“The future starts
today, not
tomorrow...”



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Thank you very much!!

