

# Single Step Organosolv Oxidative Pretreatment of Lignocelulosic Biomass Towards Enzymatic and Chemical Valorisation to High Added Value Chemicals and Food Additives

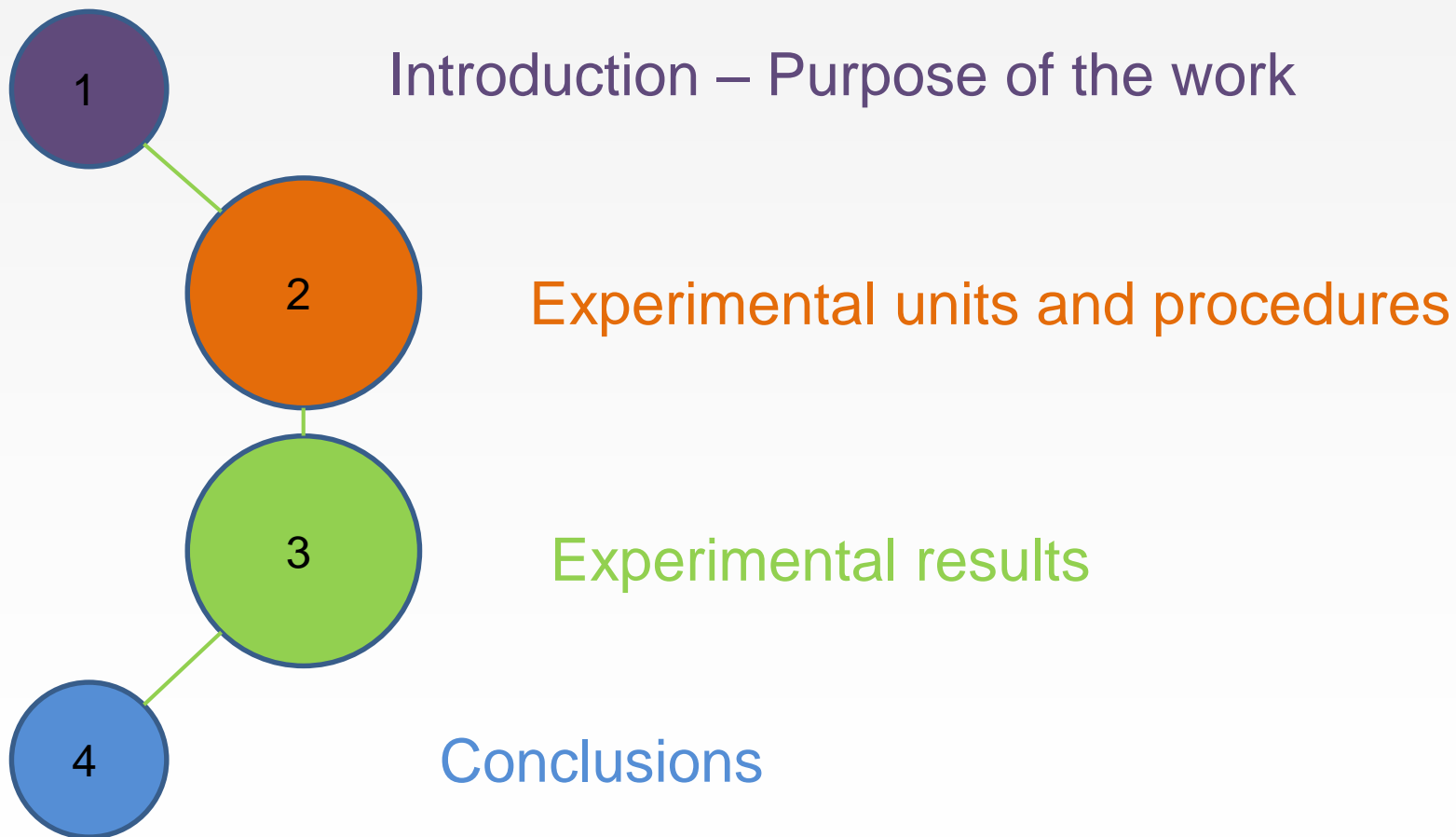
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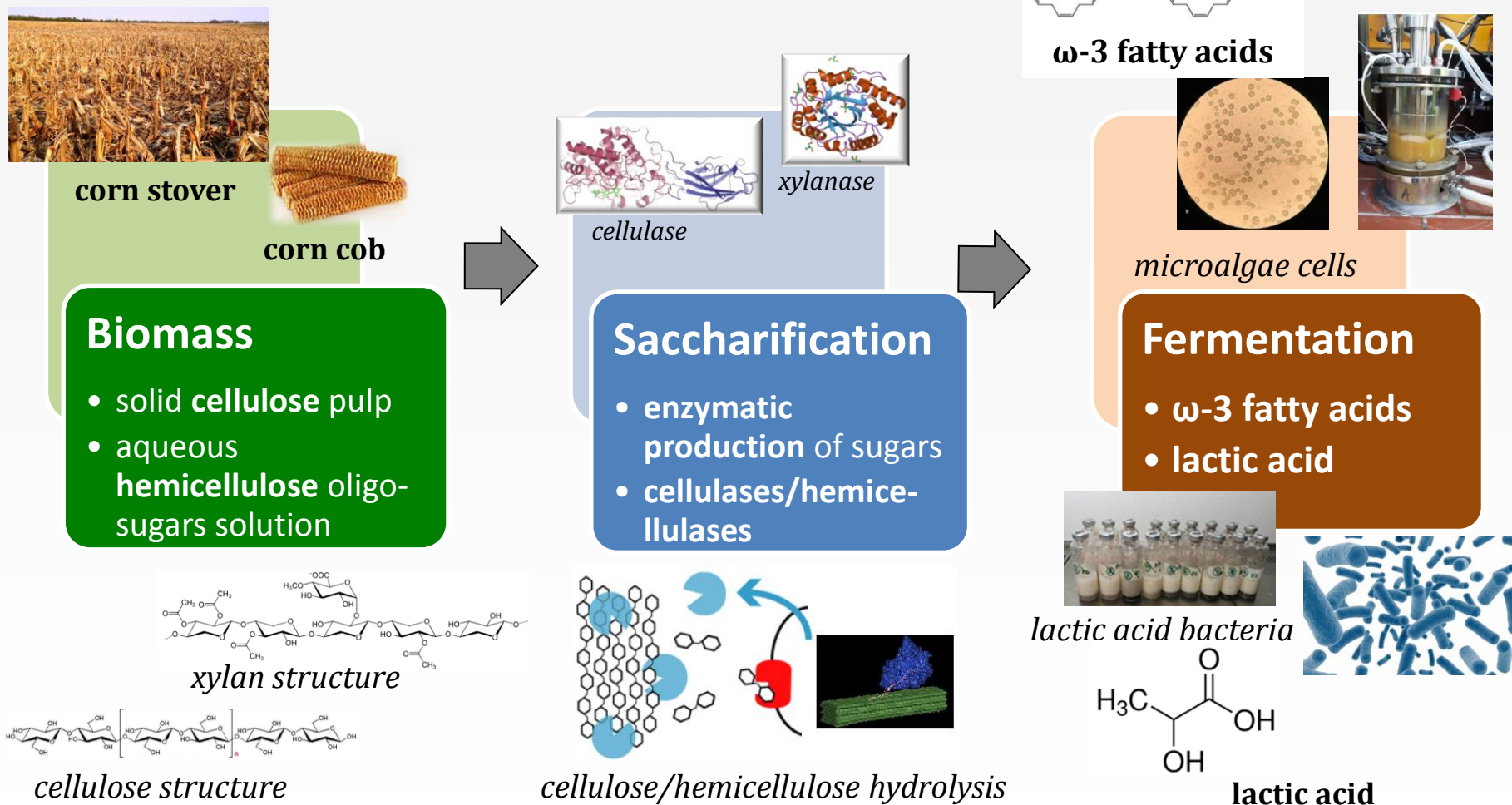
<sup>2</sup>*Biotechnology Laboratory, School of Chemical Engineering, National Technical University of Athens*

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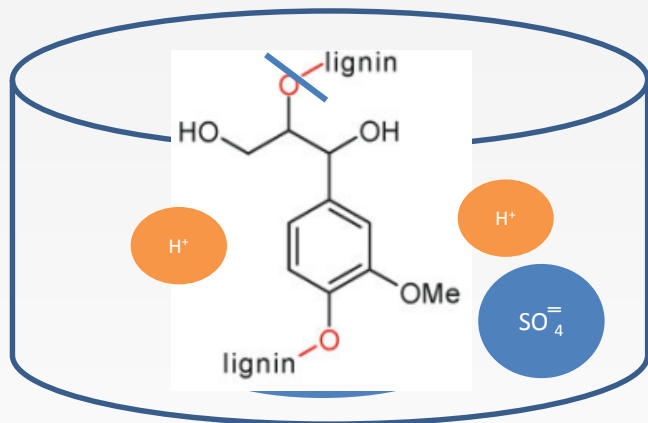
# Presentation Layout



# NoWasteBioTech Objectives



## Acid Organosolv Delignification

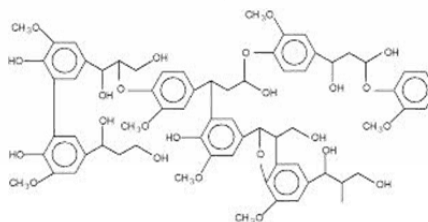


**H<sub>2</sub>O/Acetone/Lignin one phase liquid**

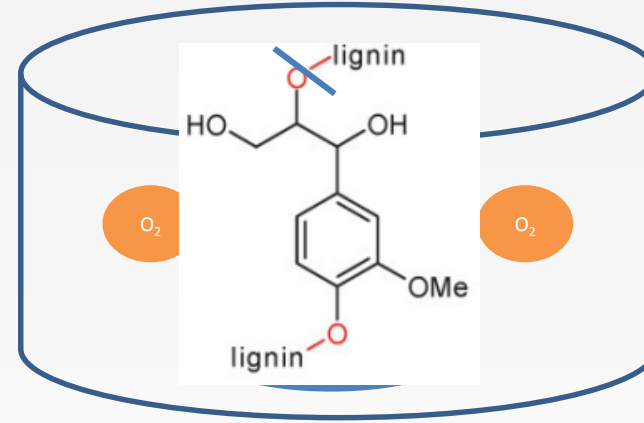
**Vacuum distillation**

**Aqueous hemicellulose  
byproducts solution**

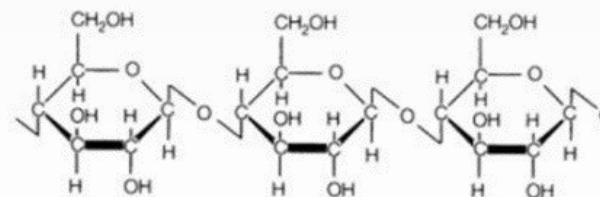
**Solid lignin**



## Oxidative Organosolv Delignification



**Solid delignified pulp**





## Experimental results – Main parameters

Biomass used was Lignocel HBS 150/500 which is a Beechwood sawdust

| Extracts | A.I. Lignin | A.S. Lignin | Cellulose | Hemicellulose |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|
| 3.7      | 21.7        | 2.5         | 47.6      | 21.2          |

### Main Parameters

☐ Solvent

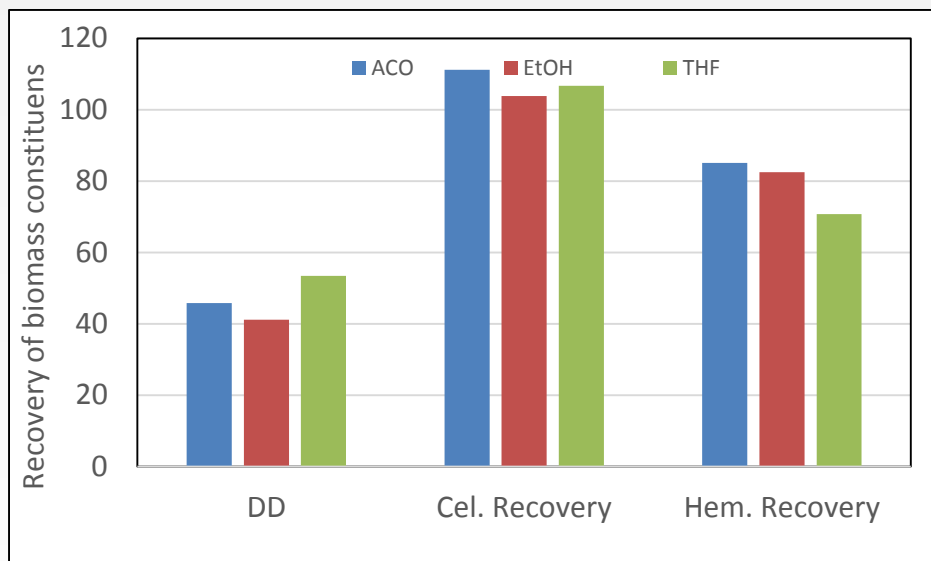
☐ Pressure

☐ Time

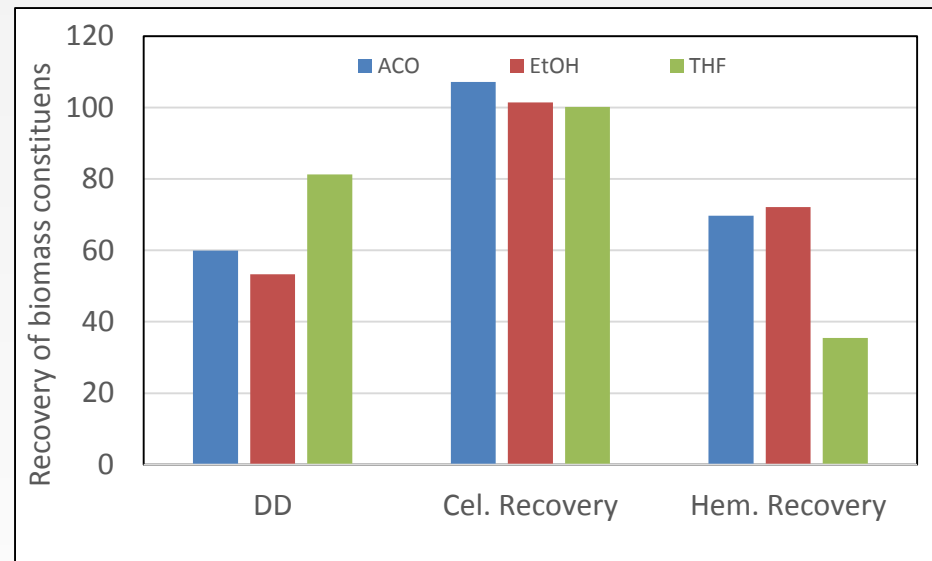
☐ Temperature

## Solvent effect

60 min



120 min



### Main Parameters

LSR=10

Solvent wt.%=50

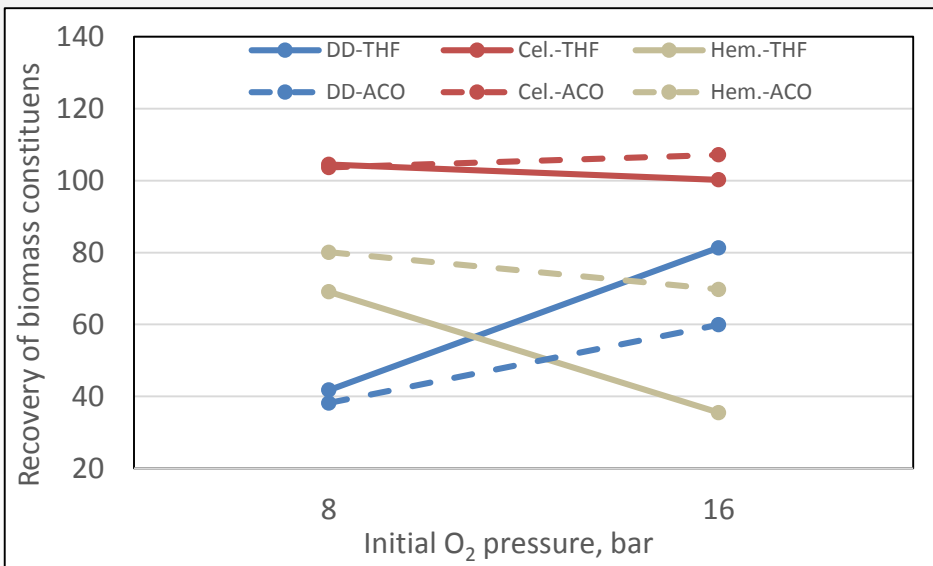
100% O<sub>2</sub> use

T=150 °C

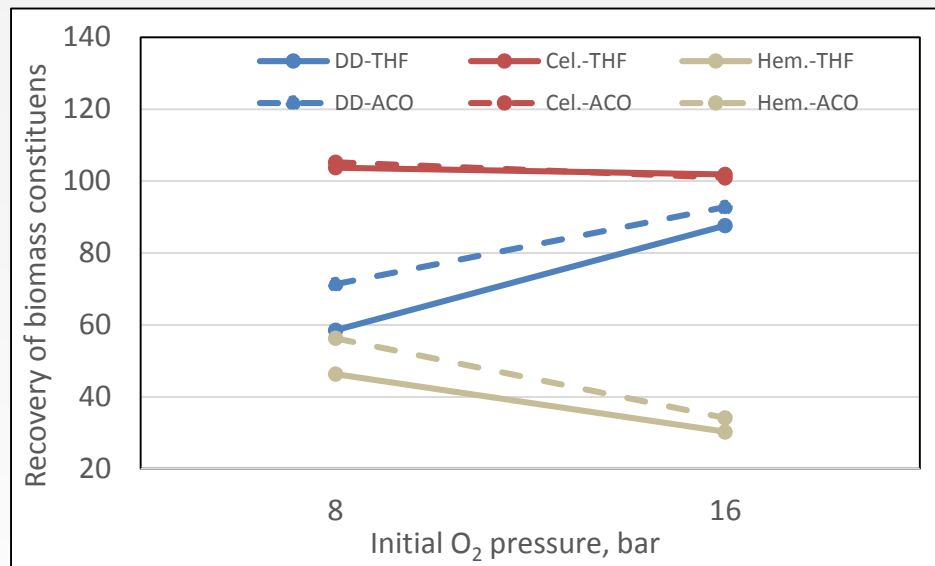
- Solvent effect is significant, Acetone and THF very efficient, EtOH does not achieve high DD at low T
- At higher reaction time, differences more pronounced
- Cellulose recovery excellent in all cases (100%)

# Pressure effect

□ T=150 °C



□ T=160 °C



## Main Parameters

□ LSR=10

□ Solvent wt.%=50

□ 100% O<sub>2</sub> use

□ t=120 min

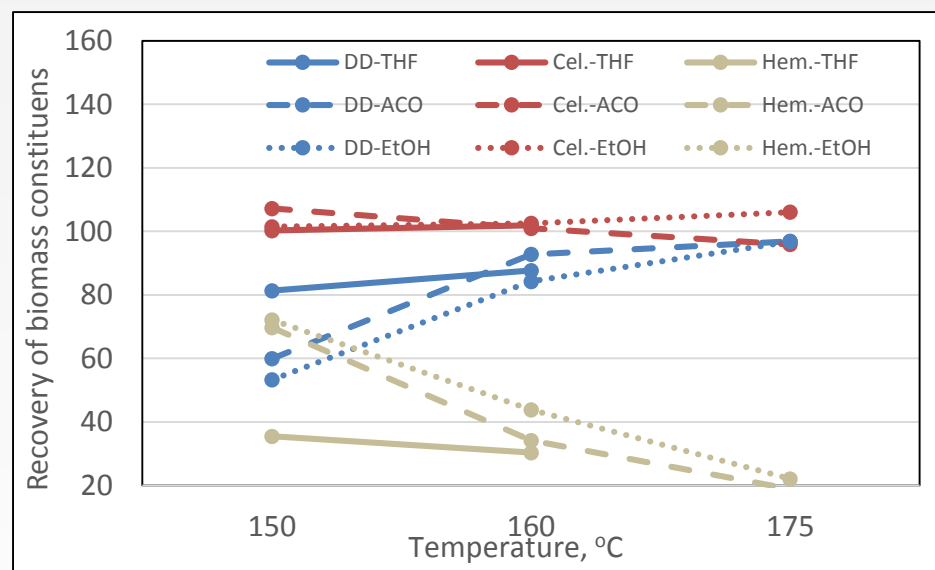
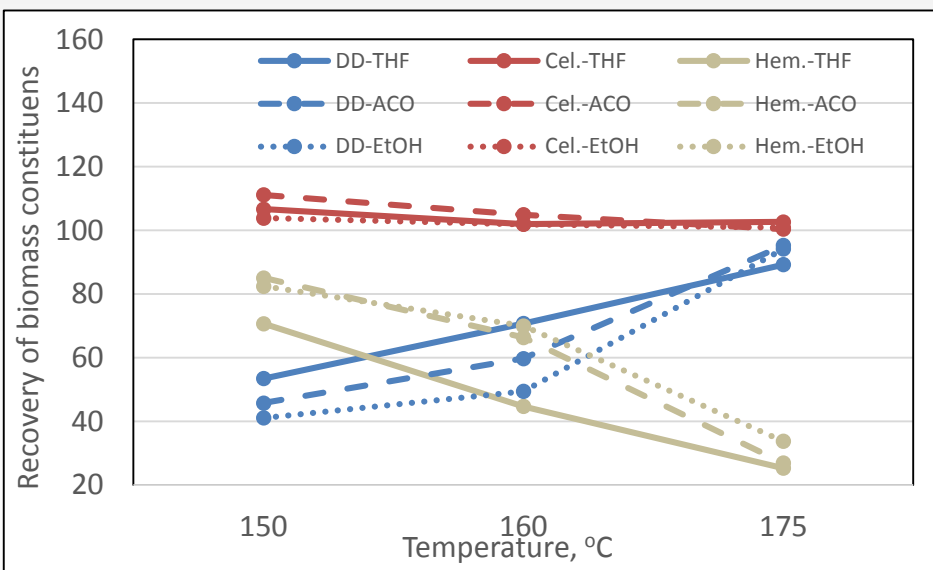
- O<sub>2</sub> pressure significantly affects delignification efficiency at both T, more so at 150 °C
- Hemicellulose is extracted along with lignin
- Cellulose recovery in the pulp at 100% in all cases



# Temperature effect

□ t=60 min

□ t=120 min



## Main Parameters

□ LSR=10

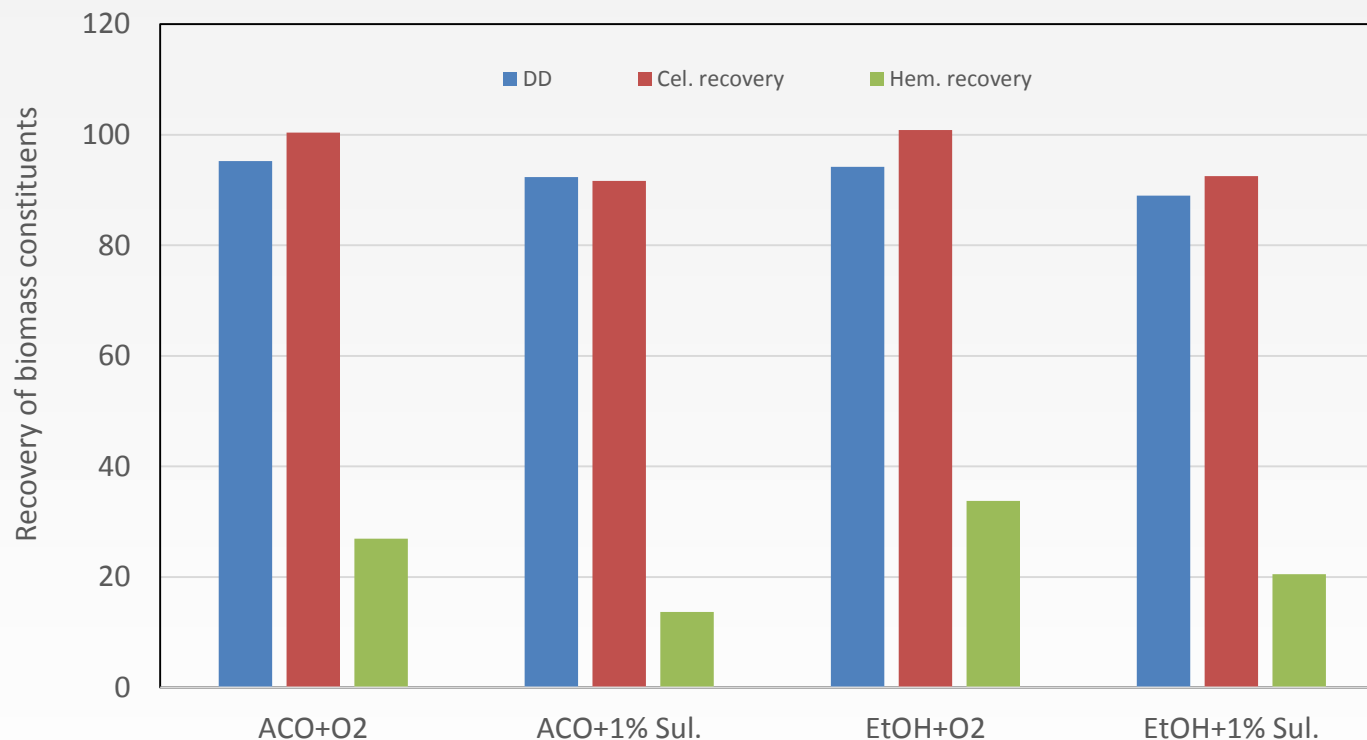
□ 100% O<sub>2</sub> use

□ t=60, 120 min

- Temperature has significant effect, especially at reaction time of 60 min
- 25 °C increase resulted in doubling of DD (~46 → 95 %) at 60 min
- At 120 min even a 10 °C increase is enough to increase DD from 60 to 92%
- Cellulose recovery at 100% regardless of T



# Acidic vs Oxidative Organosolv Delignification



## Main Parameters

- LSR=10
- Solvent wt.%=50
- T=175 °C
- t=60 min

- Use of O<sub>2</sub> instead of acids enhances delignification, up to 95% of lignin removed
- Cellulose recovery at 100% under O<sub>2</sub> delignification as opposed to ~92% under acidic delignification
- Hemicellulose recovery in pulp also increased with O<sub>2</sub> delignification due to less severe pretreatment

## Conclusions

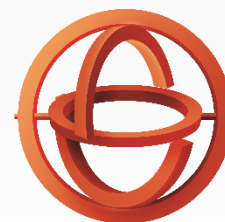
### Oxidative organosolv delignification

- Use of O<sub>2</sub> instead of acids poses some advantages such as minimization of acidic wastes that require treatment, ease in recycling O<sub>2</sub>
- Oxidative delignification was very efficient at removing lignin (>95% DD)
- Cellulose recovery in solid form at 100%
- Parameters effect is intertwined. Overall increase in temperature, O<sub>2</sub> pressure, time results in higher DD.
- Water soluble solvents such as acetone, ethanol and THF can all be efficient under different conditions.
- THF was very efficient at low T (>80% DD at 150 °C), acetone was more efficient as T increased while ethanol needed higher T to perform well.
- Produced pulps successfully fed to microalgae and LA bacteria producing FA and LA

Thank you for your attention!

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<http://nowastebiotech.cperi.certh.gr/>



**H.F.R.I.**  
Hellenic Foundation for  
Research & Innovation

This project has received funding from the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (HFRI) and the General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), under grant agreement No 1085