

# ULTIMATE

indUstry water-utiLiTy symbiosis for a sMarter wATEr society



The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation programme under grant agreement No 869318



info@greenerthangreen.co

**Greener than Green Technologies SA (GtG)**  
is active in R&D and marketing of disruptive water and wastewater remediation technologies and methodologies for the circular usage of water providing valuable tools for the transition of industries and communities towards a **circular economy** model, . In cases where high interest and **value added** compounds are present in the waste, these can be **reclaimed**, purified and reused, or can be commercially exploited, **turning waste into a resource.**

Established in 2014, we are start-up company that sprung out of pioneering university research. Our research efforts are funded by private capital as well as EU grants and we continuously seeking synergies in both the industrial and research partners. Since 2019 we are marketing and promoting in Greece and the wider southeastern European area novel and innovative environmental technologies.

The team

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# The team



**Myrto Touloupi**  
Chemist, BSc MSc



**Christophoros Christophoridis**  
Chemist, BSc MSc PhD



**Haris Magonis**  
Environmental Engineer  
MEng MSc



**Charalampos- Philip Iossifidis**  
Chemist, BSc MSc MBA



**Dimitri Iossifidis**  
Chemist, BSc MSc PhD

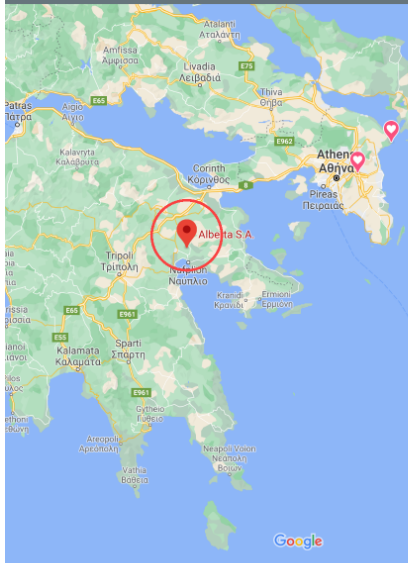


**Eri Bizani**  
Chemist, BSc MSc PhD



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# Case Study 4



- Fruit processing industry
- Nafplio, Eastern Peloponnese, Greece
- High water demand puts pressure in the aquifer
- Seasonality puts strain on the local biological treatment plant
- Under-performing biological treatment plant, leads to higher waste removal cost

Goals

The Unit

Value-added compound extraction

AOP

SBP

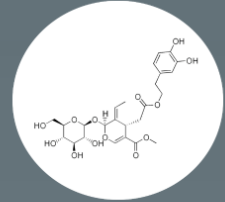


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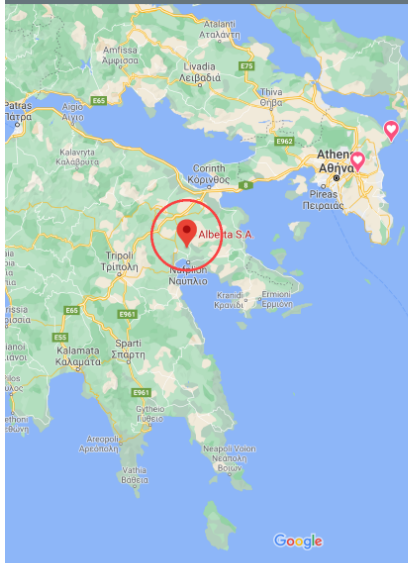
# Case Study 4 Goals

- Treat individual & final waste streams
- Isolate useful/value-added compounds (properties & market price) e.g. polyphenols, flavonoids, anthocynins etc
- Treat wastewater so it can be recycled:
  - **Irrigation of nearby orchards**
  - Reused within the plant for secondary uses or reduce the organic load sufficiently so the biological treatment plant can cope



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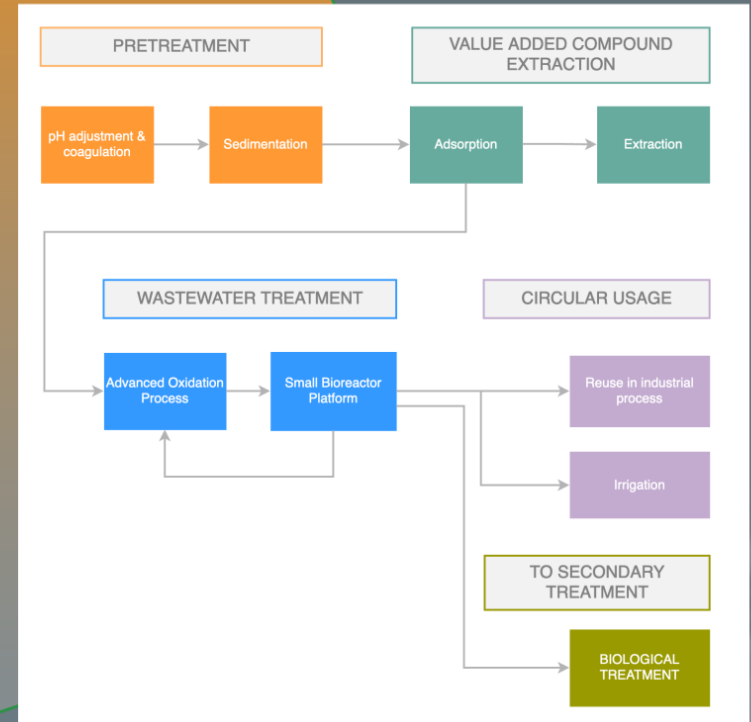
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# Unit Design



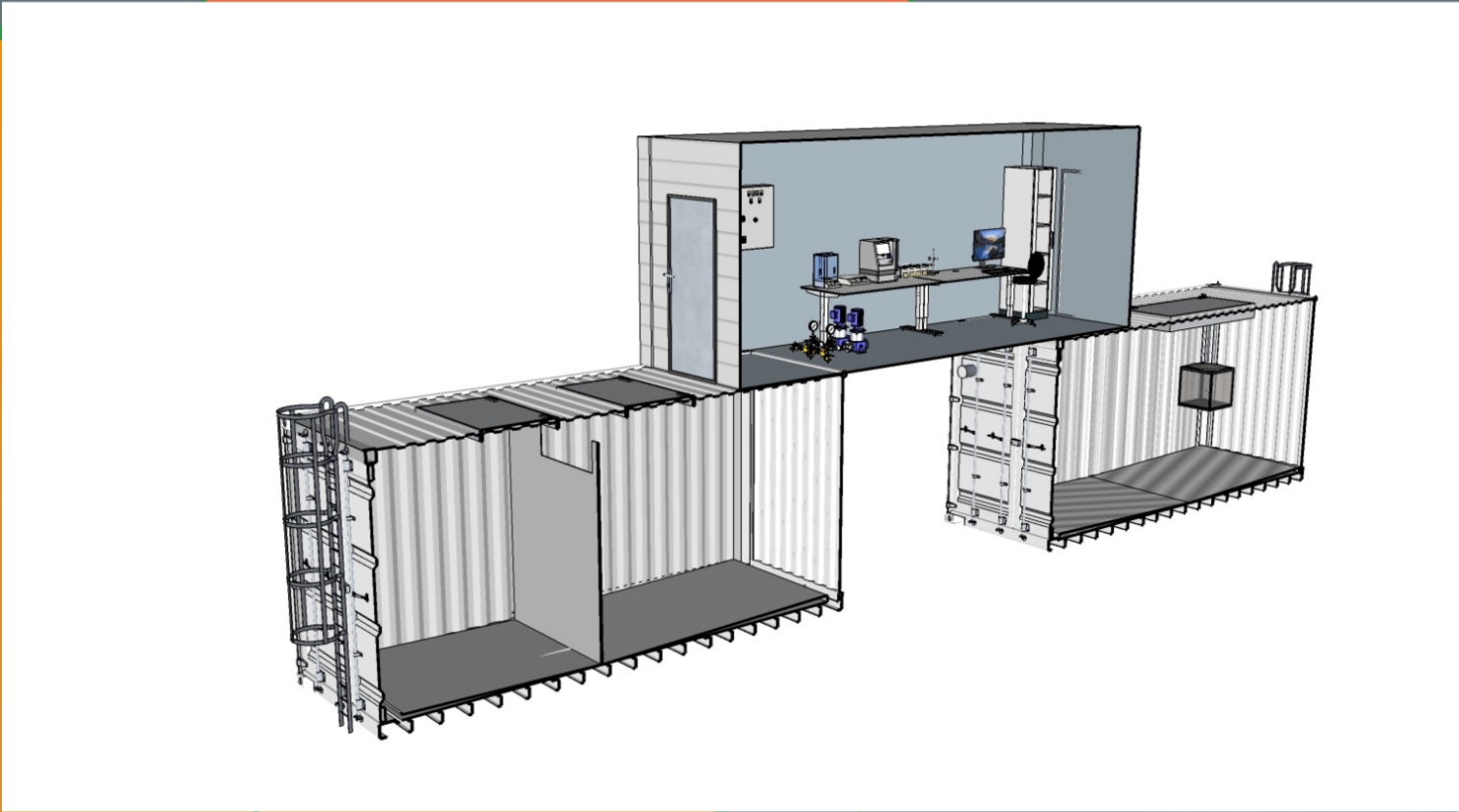
Cross-section

P&ID



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# Unit Cross-section



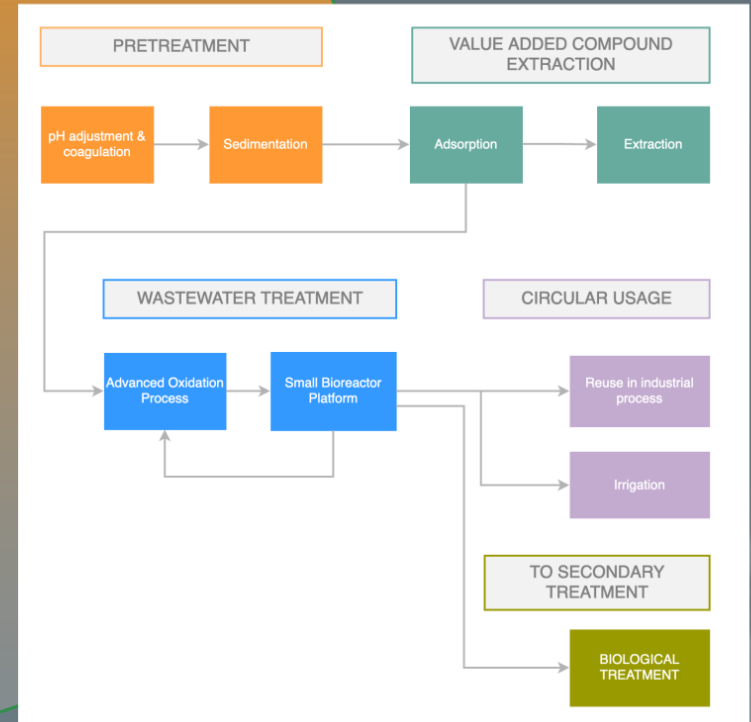
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# Unit Design



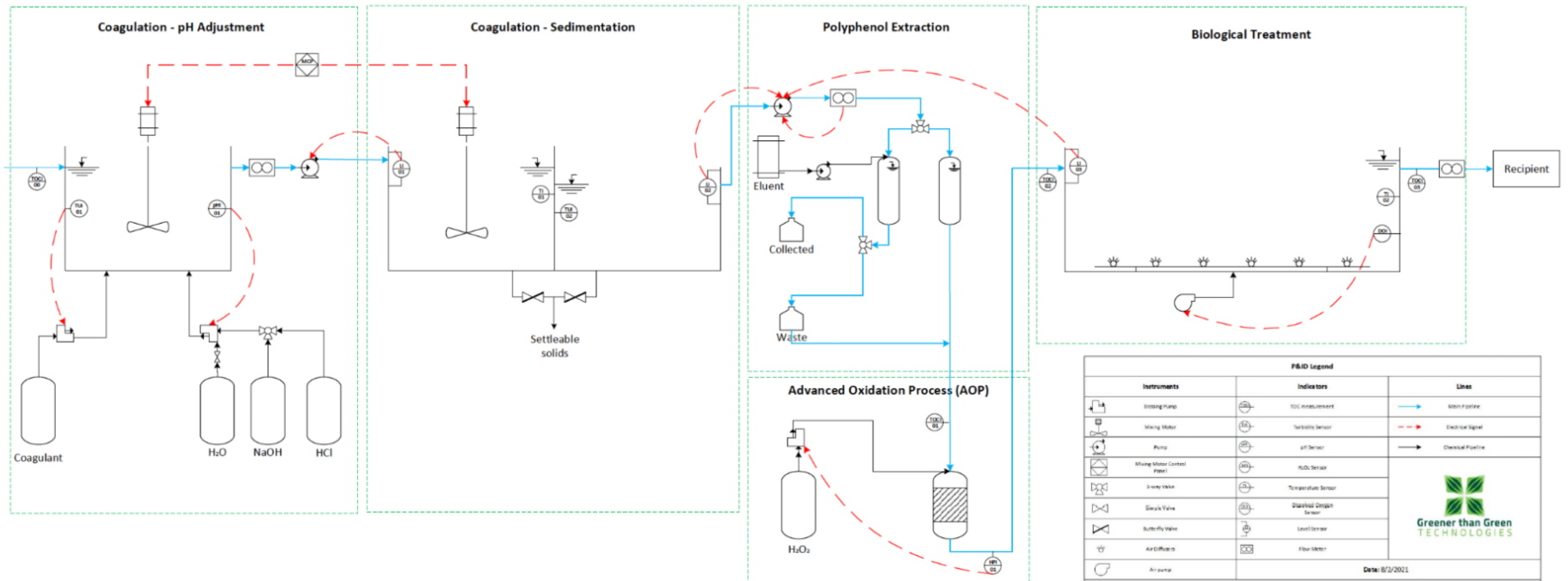
Cross-section

P&ID



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# Unit P&ID



P&ID Legend		
Instruments	Indicators	Lines



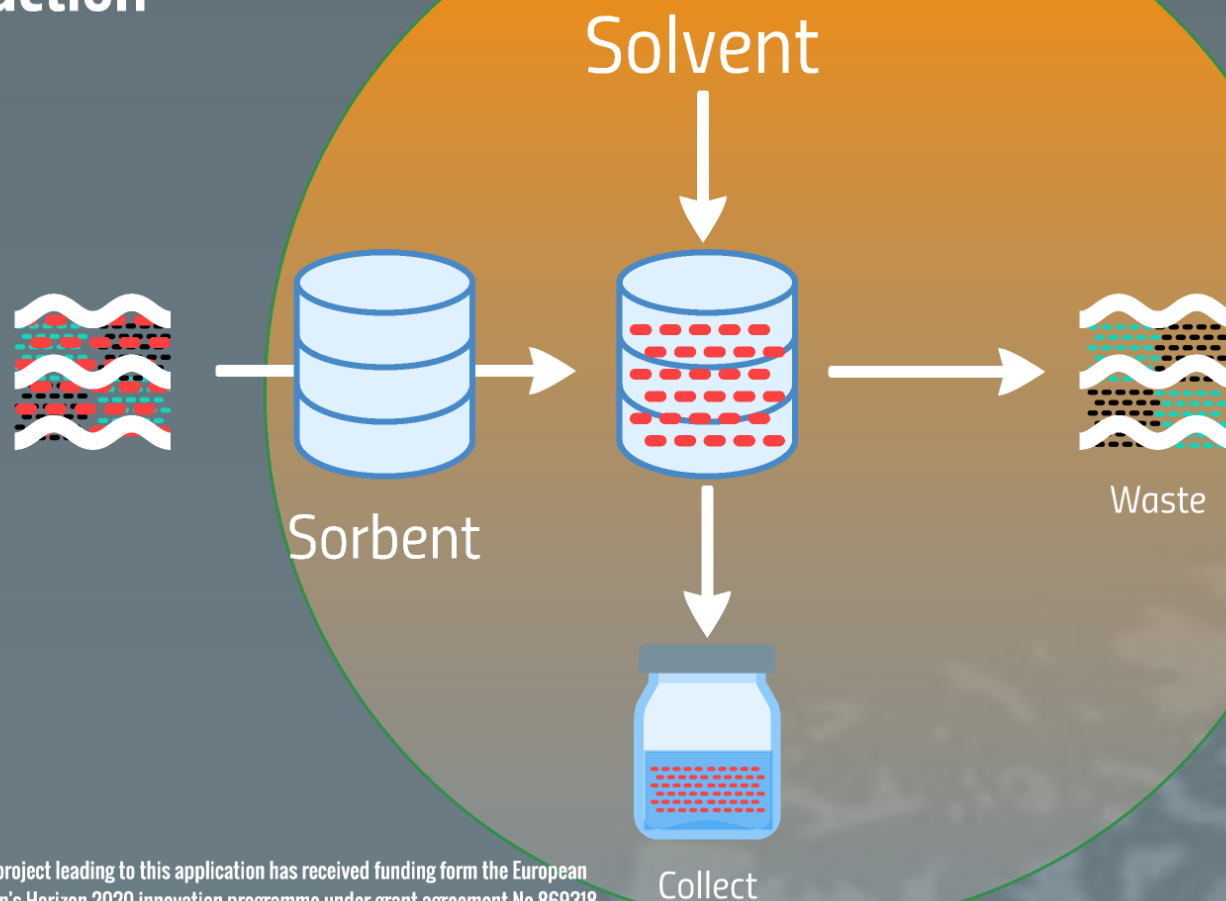
Date: 8/2/2021

Subject: Akarika M479 P&ID

P&ID for Greener than Green Technologies

Contact No: 65-532123-5521 779 | www.greenerthangreen.com | 28 Hadden Street, S15 8H Kilkenny, Greece

# Value-Added Compound Extraction



Sorbents

Extraction Solvents

Value-Added Compounds

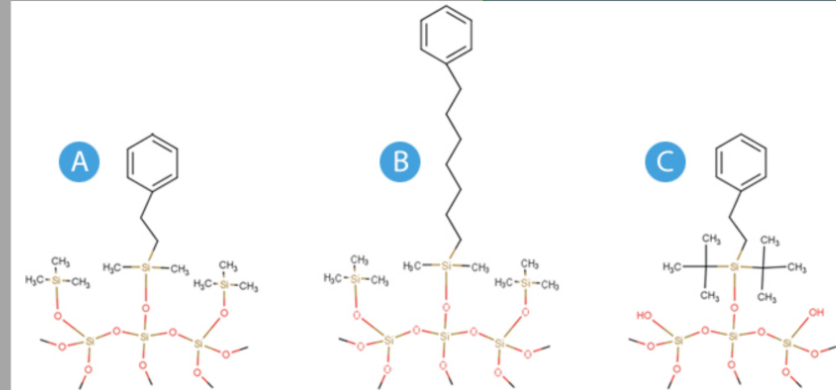
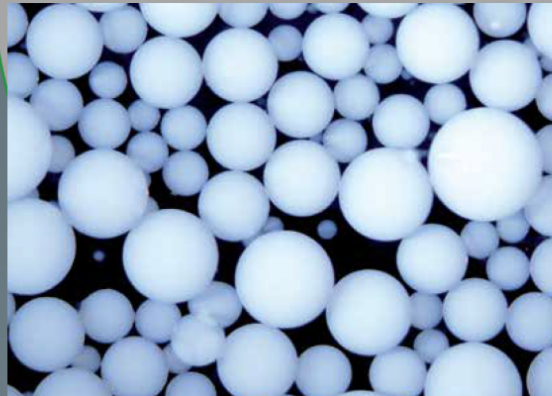
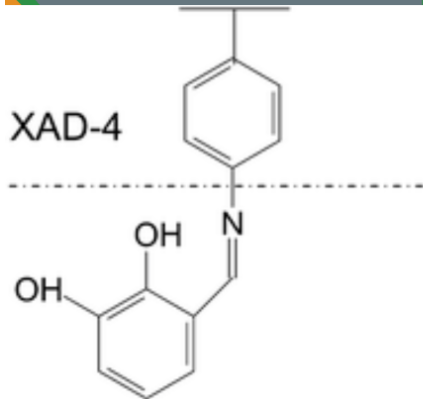
Results

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# Sorbents

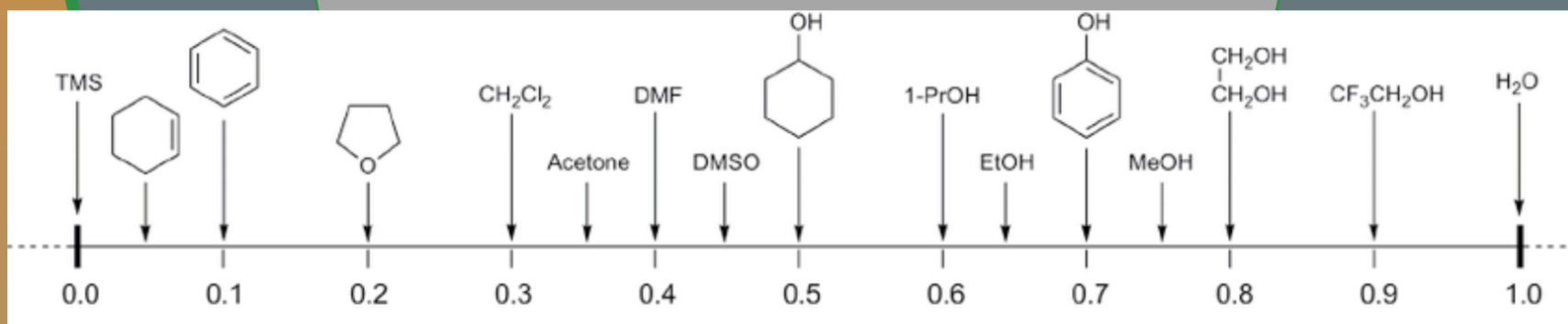
Adsorbent	Material	Structure	Particle size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Surface Area ( $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ )	Pore Size ( $\text{\AA}$ )
AmberLite™ FPX66	Resin	Aromatic	700	800	150
AmberLite™ XAD-4	Resin	Aromatic	640	750	100
? Phenyl-Hexyl	Silica	Aromatic	15	400	100



# Extraction Solvents

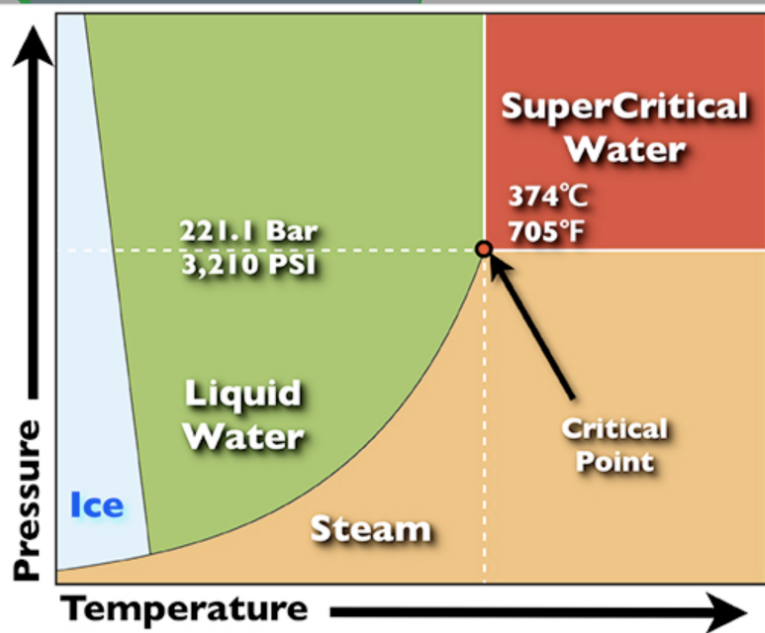
Subcritical  
Water  
Extraction

Water - cheap, inefficient, non-toxic  
Methanol - high cost, increased toxicity  
Ethanol - very high cost, lower toxicity



## SubCritical Water Extraction (SCWE)

- Temperature: 100 - 374°C
- Pressure high enough to be in the liquid phase 10-20 bar



- Efficiency
- Low cost
- Non-hazardous - green

# Value-Added Compounds

## Polyphenols:

- Naturally occurring compounds
- Complex structures containing multiple phenolic rings
- Two main classes **phenolic alcohols**, **phenolic acids**
- Further classification depending on the phenolic ring strength (phenolic acids, flavonoids, stilbins, phenolic alcohols, and lignans)

Structures

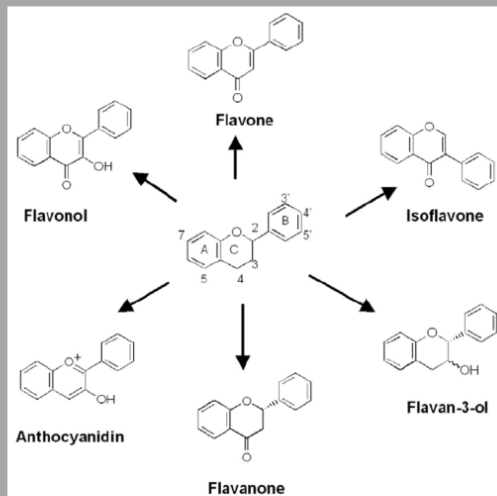
Examples



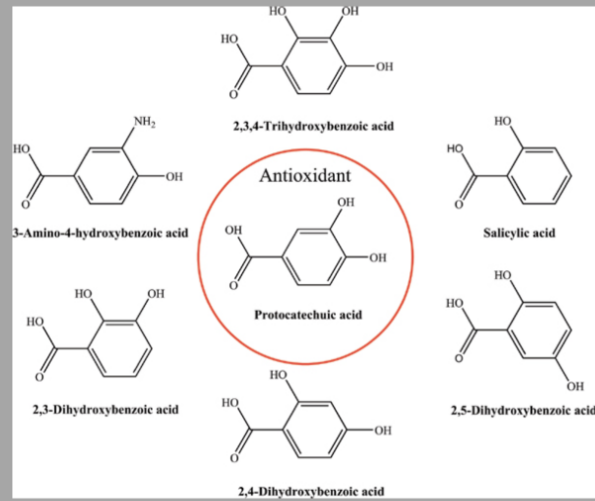
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# Structure of polyphenols

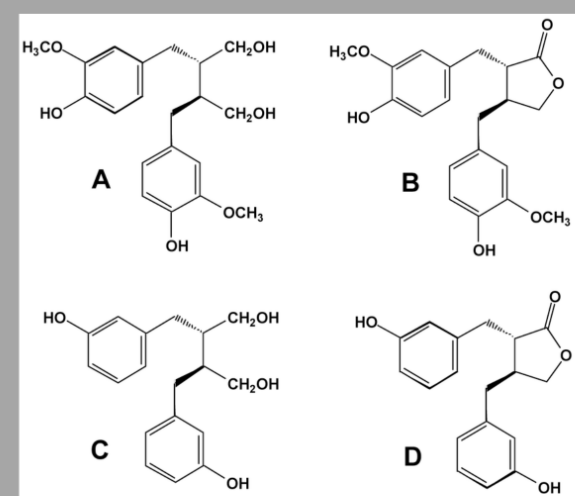
## Flavonoids



## Benzoic acids



## Lignans



# Examples of Value-Added Compounds

*"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food"*  
Hippocrates 460-377 BC

Fruit	Compound	Class	Properties & Uses	Price/g*
Orange	Hesperetin	Flavonone	Lowers cholesterols, Anticancer, Favourably favours lipids	€13
	Naringenin	Flavonone	Antioxidant	€1
	Kaempferol	Lignan	Reducing the risk of chronic diseases, especially cancer	€5.900
Redcurrant	Cyanidin 3-O-glucoside	Anthocyanin	Food colourant	€29
Beetroot	Luteolin	Flavone	Potentials for cancer prevention and therapy	€18.100
	Quercetine	Flavonoid	Anticancer activity	€9.600
Black Chokeberries	Cyanidin 3-O-arabinoside	Anthocyanin	Used as natural colorant	€84.000
Pomegranate	(+)-Catechin	Flavonol	Used in green tea extracts	€22.499
	(+)-Gallocatechin	Flavonol	Antibacterial, Antifungal, Antimalarial, Diuretic, Antiulcer, Xanthine oxidase inhibitor, Antiplasmodic...	€150.000
Carot	3,4-Dicaffeoylquinic acid	Phenolic acid	Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-cancer, DNA protective, Neuroprotective, Hepatoprotective, Anti-influenza viral activity	€374.000

\*Price of analytics standards normalised to 1g

# Results



Static Adsorption

Static  
Adsorption  
Methodology

Static  
Adsorption  
Results



Dynamic Adsorption

Dynamic  
Adsorption  
Methodology

Dynamic  
Adsorption  
Results



Recovery

Recovery

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# Static Adsorption Methodology

## Determine most suitable material depending

- Batch experiment
- Constant volume of wastewater
- Different quantities of adsorbing material
- Sampling at regular intervals

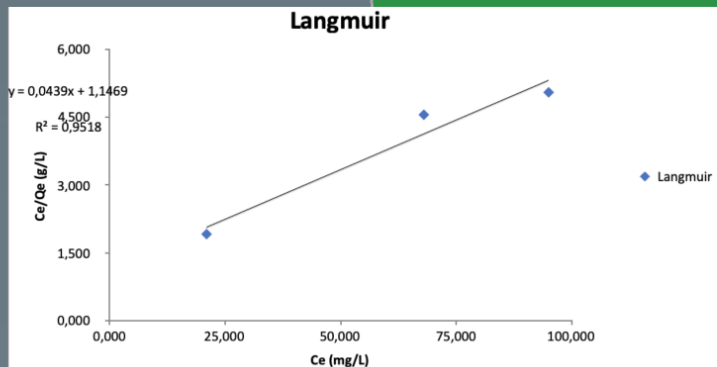
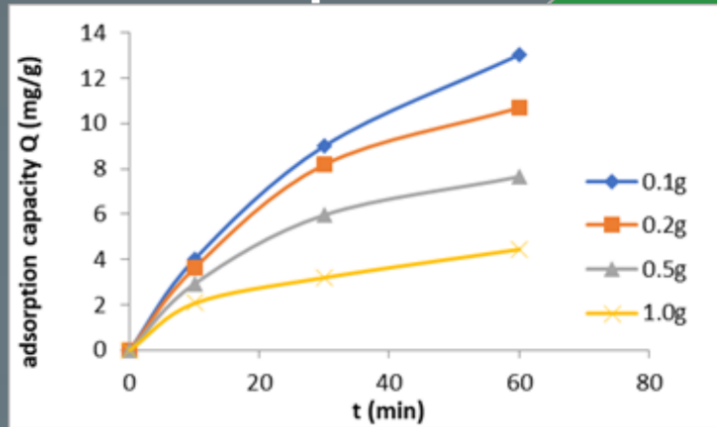


- Maximum adsorption capacity of each material
- Adsorption kinetics - how fast
- Modelling of adsorption dynamics



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# Static Adsorption Results



Maximum capacity 22,78 g/kg  
(g of polyphenol per kg of resin)

Contact time vs Adsorption %

60 min 95%

30 min 60%

Yield = 130 g/m<sup>3</sup>  
(mg of polyphenol per L of wastewater)

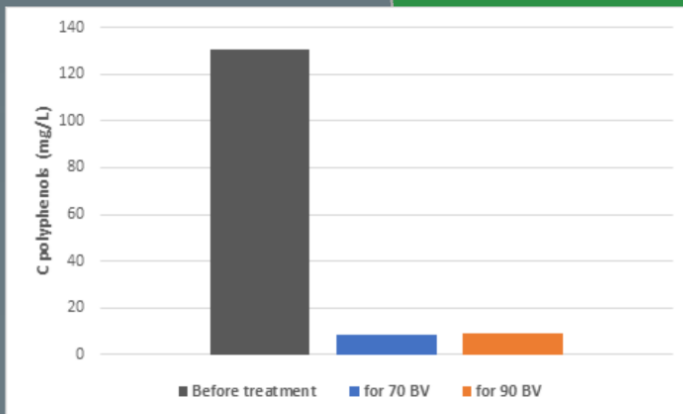
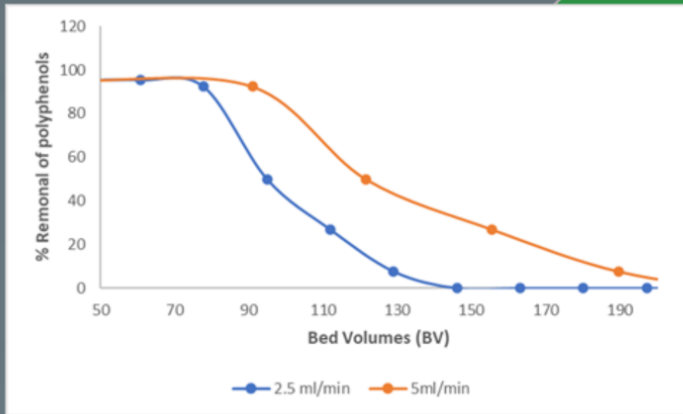
# Dynamic Adsorption Methodology

## Determine conditions for optimal recovery



- Lab simulation of real process
- Continuous process
- Wastewater flows through a packed bed
- Breakthrough curve
- Relationship between contact time and flow rate
- Optimise flow conditions & packed bed design

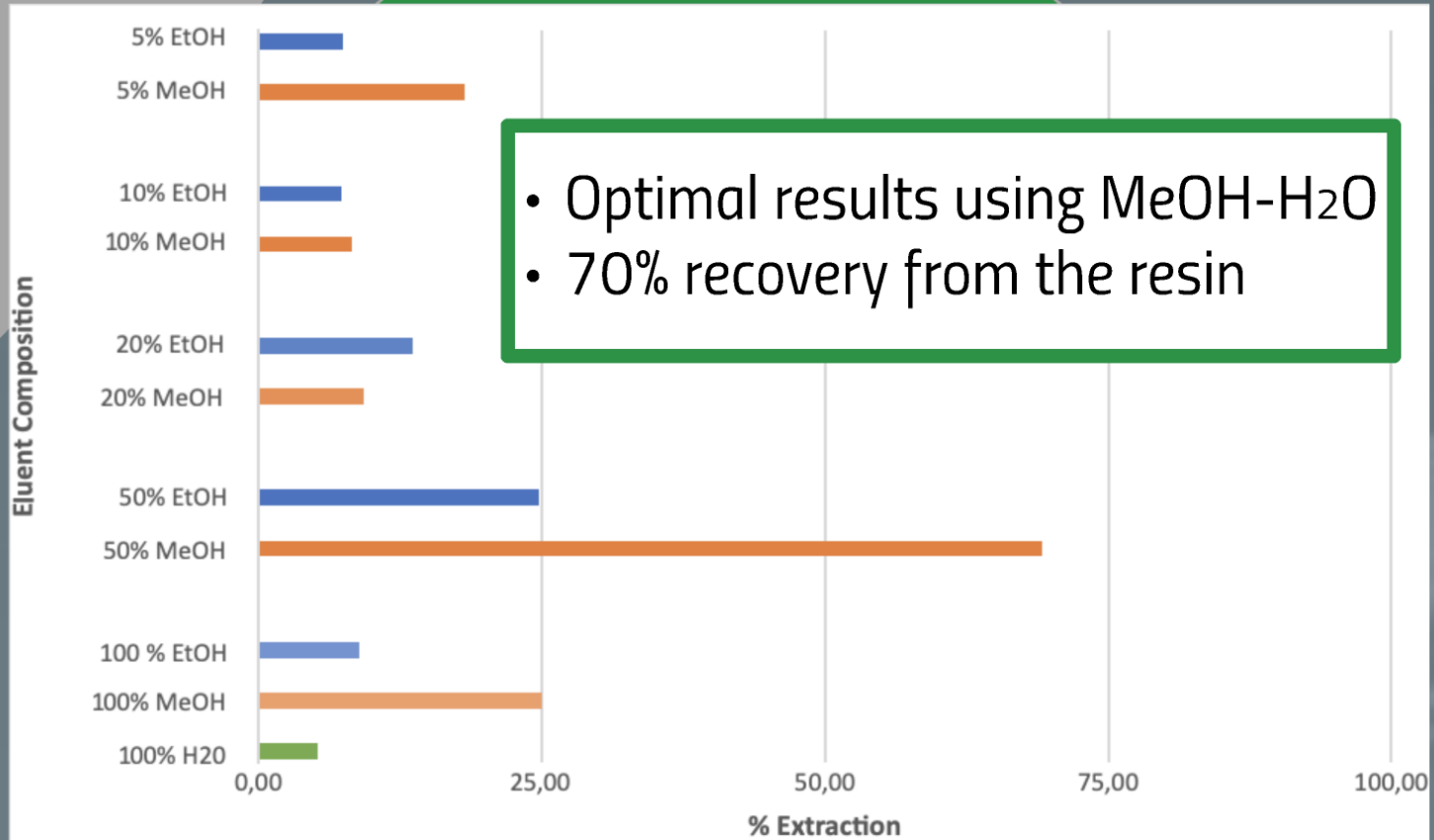
# Dynamic Adsorption Results



- The adsorbent is capable of adsorbing polyphenols for at least 10 regeneration cycles
- 1.7 m<sup>3</sup> wastewater can be treated per kg of resin per cycle

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# Recovery



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# Advanced Oxidation Process

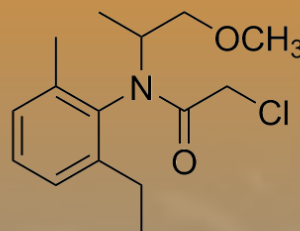
Catalyst  
or  
Oxidant

+UV

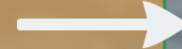


$\text{OH}^\bullet$

Hydroxyl  
radical



Pollutant



$\text{CO}_2$



Design

Results

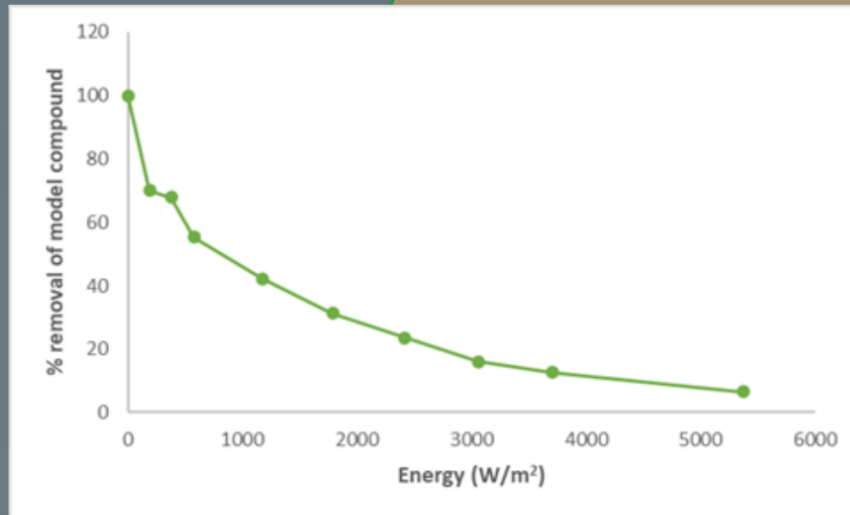
# The CPC photocatalytic reactor



- Continuous flow
- Operates under either solar or artificial light



## Degradation of model compound



Demonstrated ability  
to remove 90% of  
organic pollutants

# Small Bioreactor Platform



**SBP is a product of BioCastle, Israel**

US Patent No. US 8,673,606  
Europe Patent No. EP 2421544 (Germany,  
France, U.K, Nederland, Ireland and Switzerland)  
Australia Patent No. 2010240486  
Israel Patent No. 213072

Patented Technology by BioCastel, Israel

SBPs encapsulate bacteria within a porous membrane  
Cellulose acetate  
0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  pore

The membrane:

- keeps bacteria safe from predators and other microorganisms
- prevents biomass from escaping to the environment

Problems addressed:

Controlling the type of bacteria needed  
Defining the space they grow  
Controlling the amount of biomass

How does it  
work

Benefits

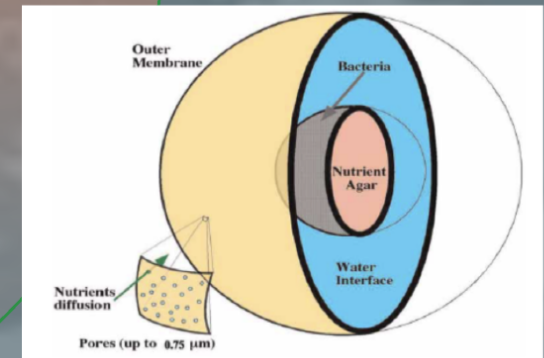
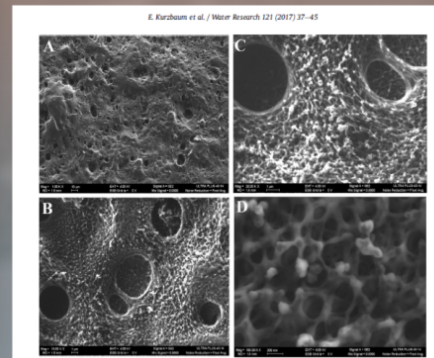
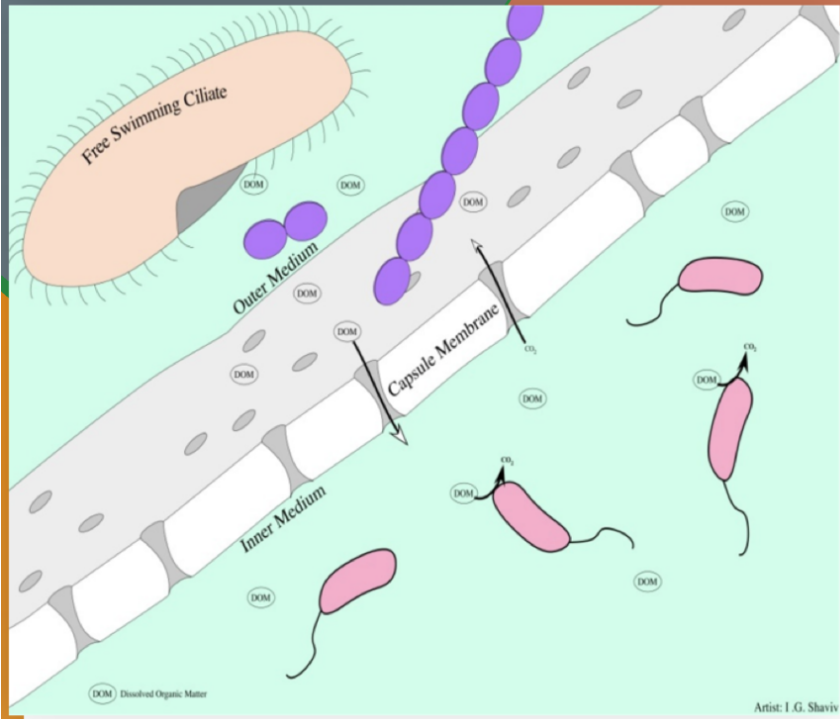
Applications

ULTIMATE

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# How does it work

- A 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  cellulose acetate membrane encapsulates bacteria keeping it safe from predators and preventing biomass to escape
- Water and dissolved pollutants migrate through the pores and are metabolised by bacteria
- After the life cycle of the bacteria, approx. two month, the cellulose acetate membrane devomposes to sugars



# Small Bioreactor Platform



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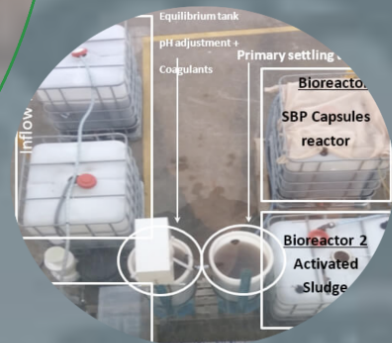
# Benefits

SBP technology addresses certain biological treatment problems:

- Control of bacteria type growth
- Control of space bacteria grow
- Control of amount of bacteria

It can be implemented:

- to assist existing biological treatment units to cope with seasonal and unexpected shock load episodes
- to increase capacity with minimal CapEx
- as a small scale standalone solution with out the need of high-cost & extensive infrastructure



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# Applications

## Sanitary wastewater treatment examples:

- A2O 5500 m<sup>3</sup>/d
- MBR 2400 m<sup>3</sup>/d
- AS 500 m<sup>3</sup>/d

Yield increase up to 15%

Increase in biodegradation rate

Increase in bioprocess stability

## Industrial wastewater treatment:

- Food waste 200 m<sup>3</sup>/d
- Winery waste 0.5 m<sup>3</sup>/d

No need for natural biomass growing and all associated infrastructure

No need for professional manpower for plant operation

No need for waste sludge transporting and associated infrastructure



# Case Study 6

Karmiel, Israel

Olive oil mill wastewater treatment

Partners: The Galilee Society, MEKOROT, GtG

Olive oil mill wastewater is rich in **polyphenols** which are toxic to bacterial and inhibit aerobic or anaerobic digestion in biological wastewater treatment plants

Goal

Polyphenol  
Extraction

Design

Lab-scale



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# Goal

To remove polyphenolic compounds from waste water:

- Low cost unit & process
- Prevent inhibition of anaerobic digestion
- Increase biogas yield
- Commercially exploit polyphenols



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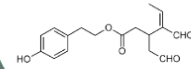


# Polyphenol Extraction

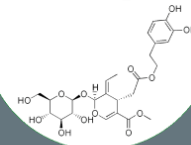
*"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food"*  
Hippocrates 460-377 BC

- Natural phytochemicals, a major class of semi-water-soluble compounds with one or more benzene rings that are generally found as glycosides
- Polyphenols from olives and grapes are probably the most studied

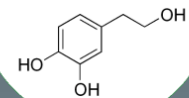
## Oleocanthal



## Oleuropein



## 3-Hydroxy tyrosol



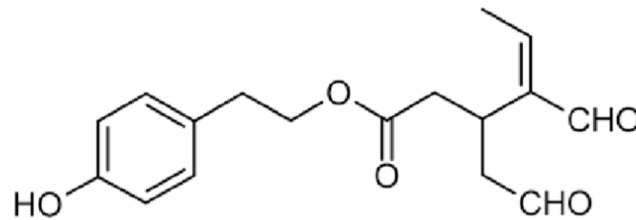
## Sorbents



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# Oleocanthal

Market value:  
€1620/g

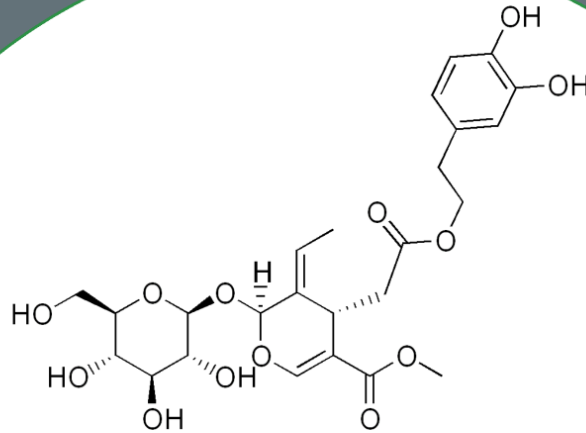


## Properties:

- Antioxidant
- Anti-inflammatory
- Anti-cancer
- Reduce risk of AD
- Reduce risk of heart disease

# Oleuropein

Market value:  
€7.240/g

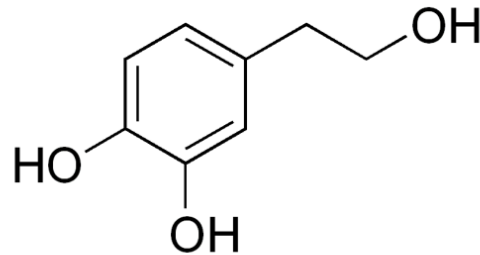


## Properties:

- Antioxidant
- Anti-inflammatory
- Anti-cancer
- Protects skin & eyes
- Protection against pathogens

## 3-Hydroxy tyrosol

Market value:  
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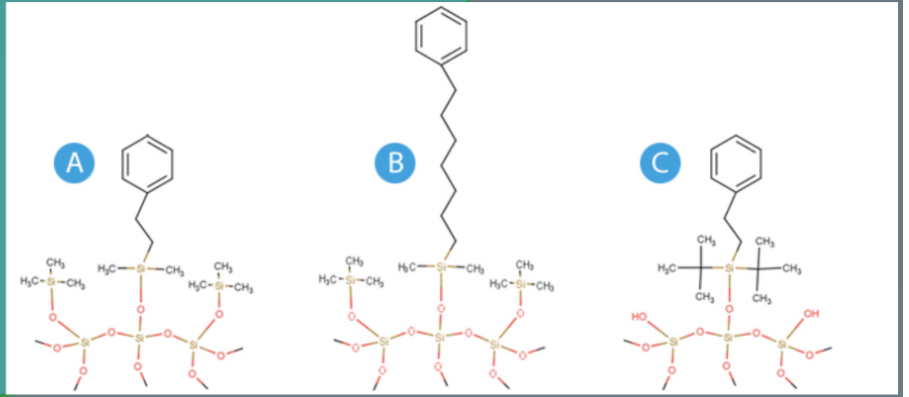
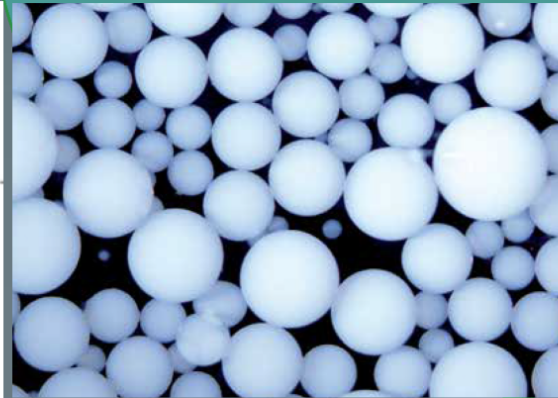
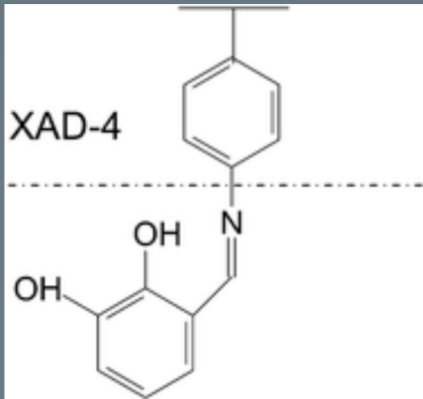


### Properties:

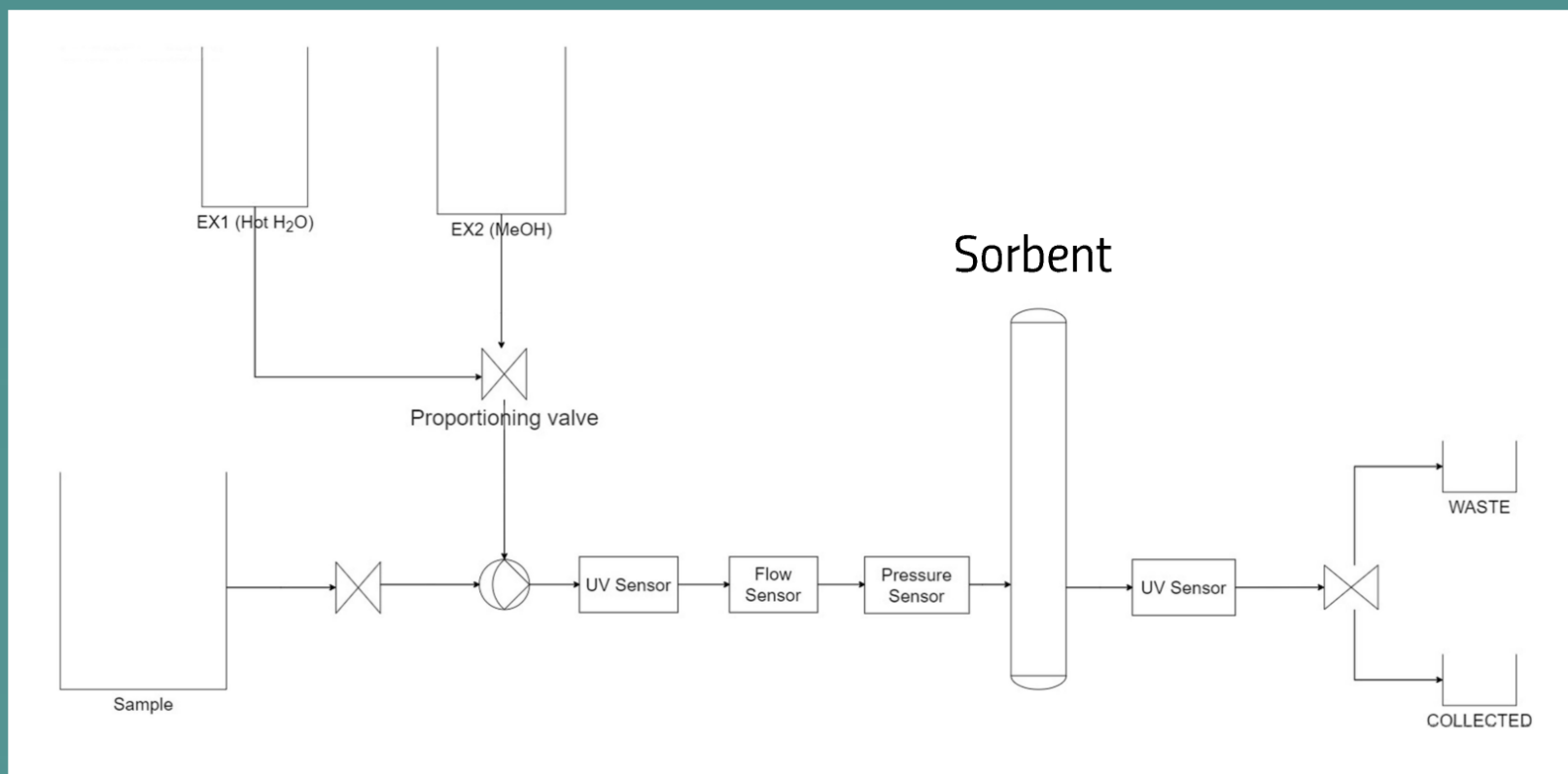
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# Sorbents

Adsorbent	Material	Structure	Particle size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Surface Area ( $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ )	Pore Size ( $\text{\AA}$ )
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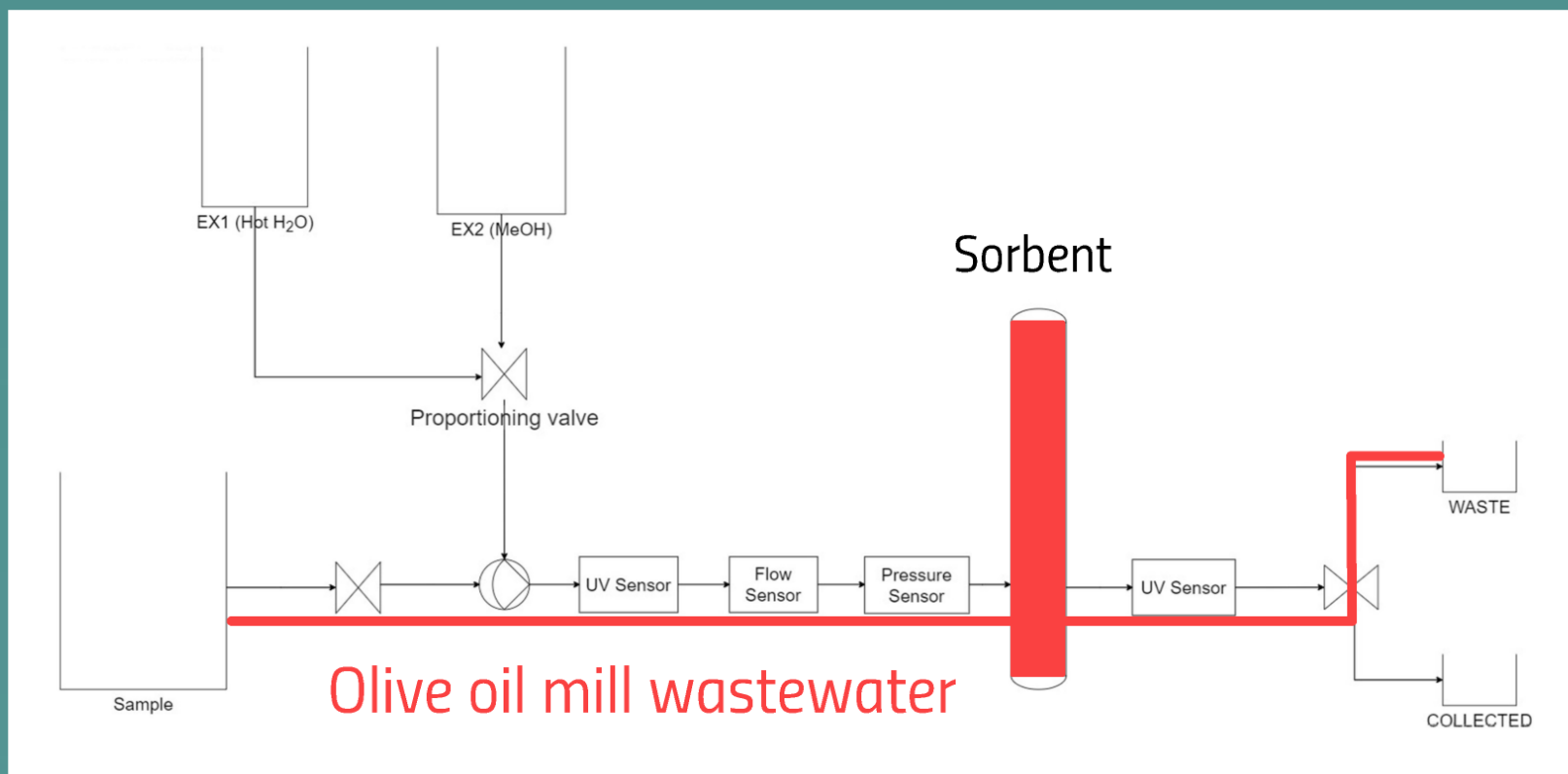
# Design



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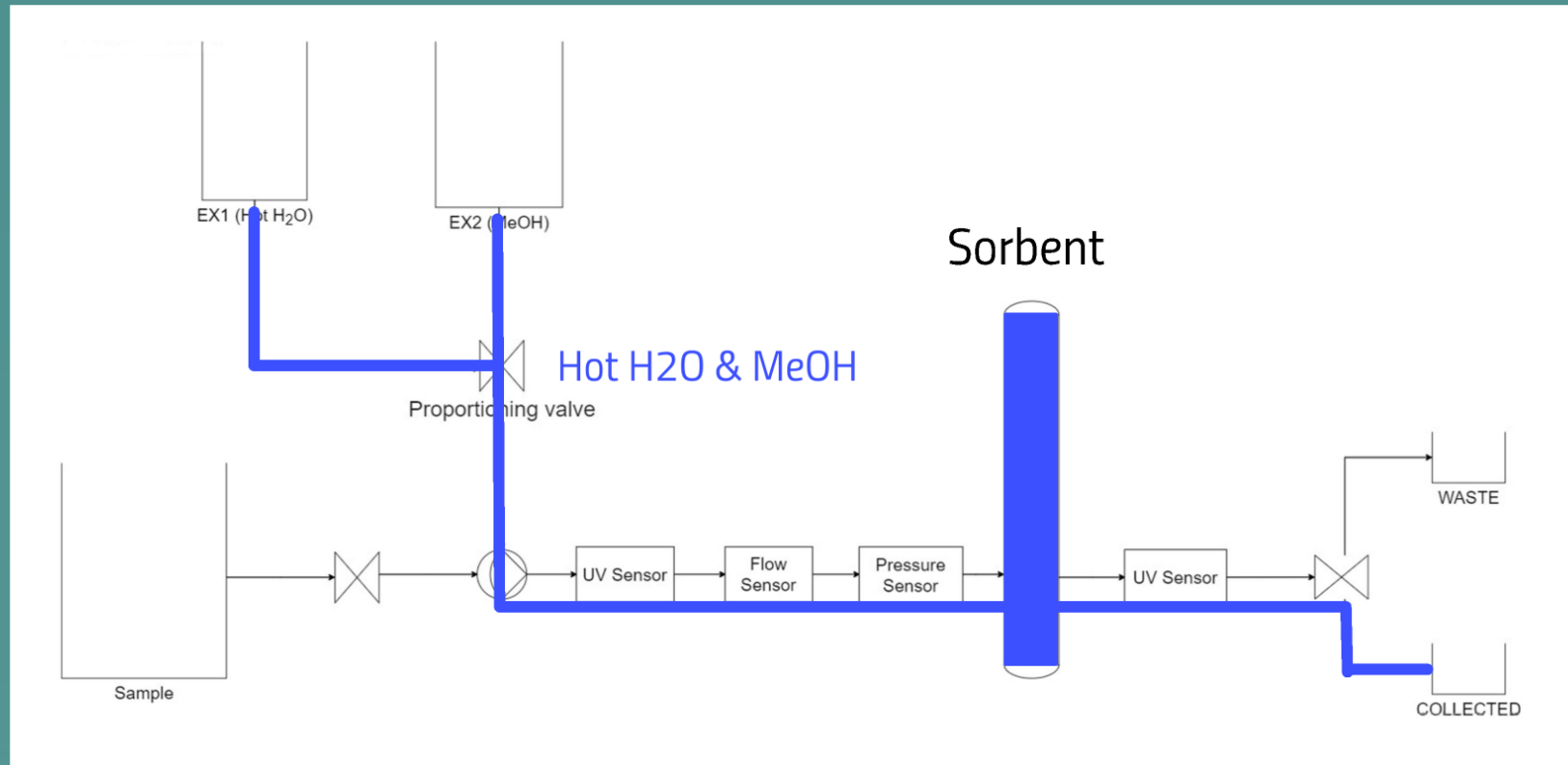


# Loading



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# Extraction



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