

Sustainable Textile Chemistry

Georg M. Guebitz

Graz University of Technology



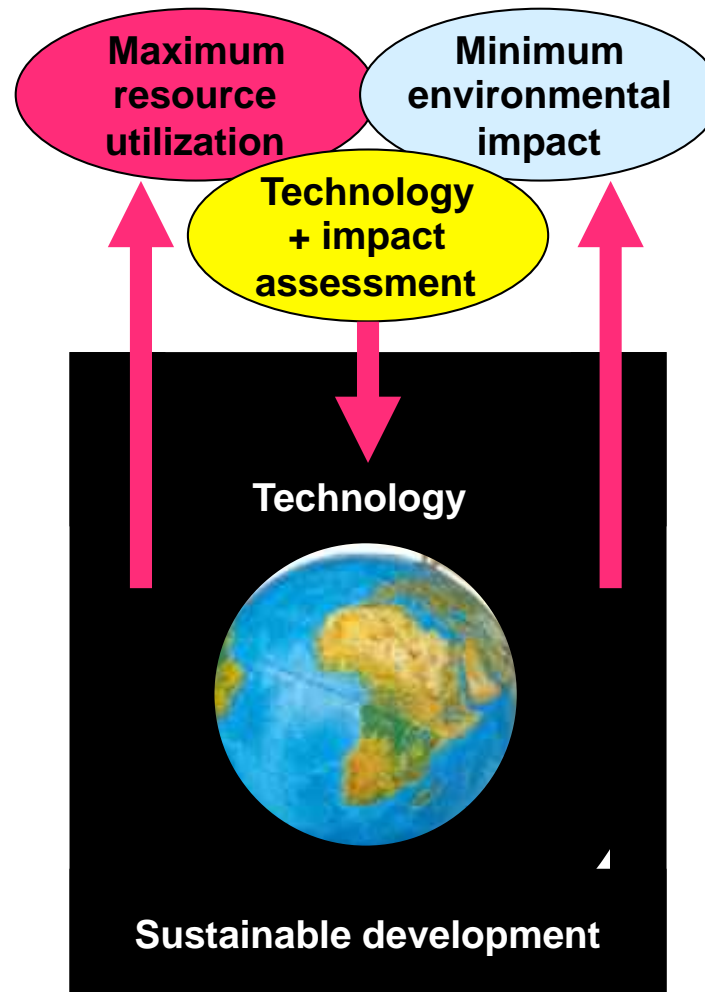
Graz

- Just 820 km from Stresa
- Academic environment
 - 4 Universities in Graz
 - 60k students out of 250k inhabitants
 - Graz University of Technology
 - Faculty Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology



Sustainable Textile Chemistry

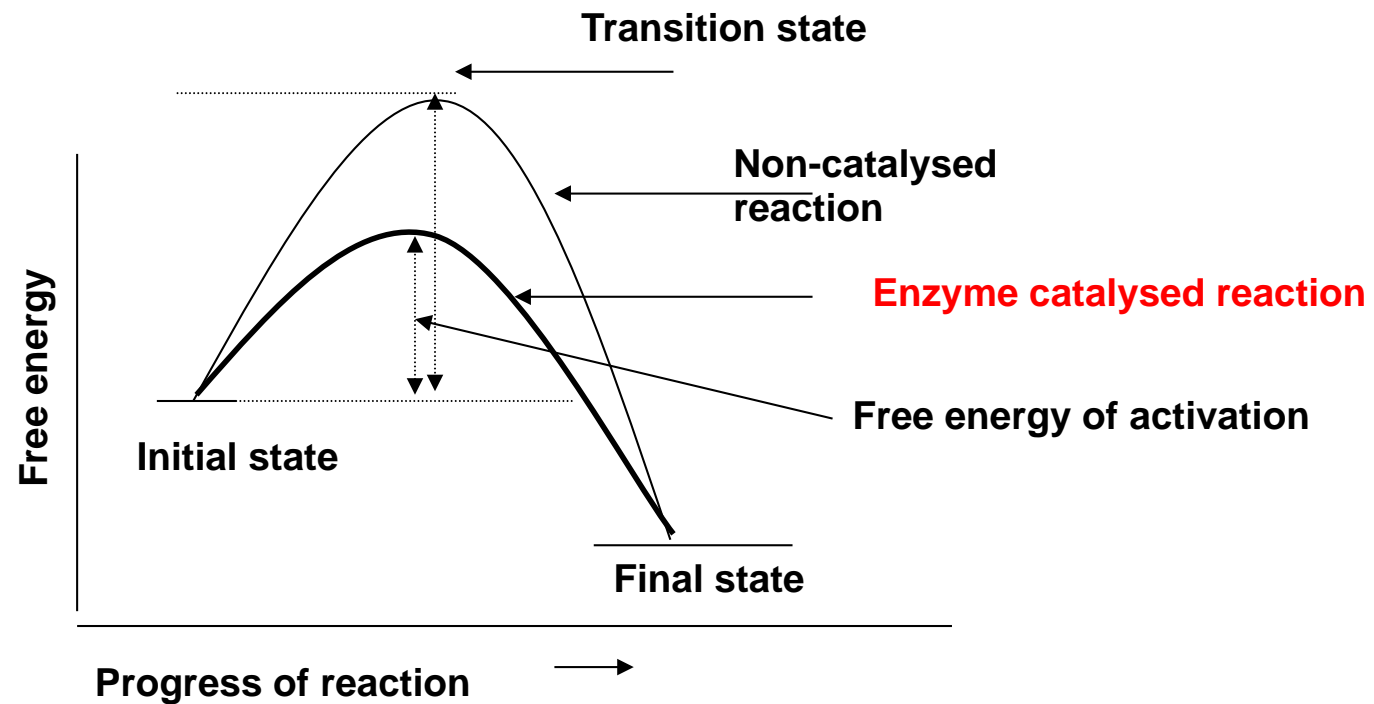
Longer lifetime
Higher functionality
Higher fastness
Covalent bonds
.....



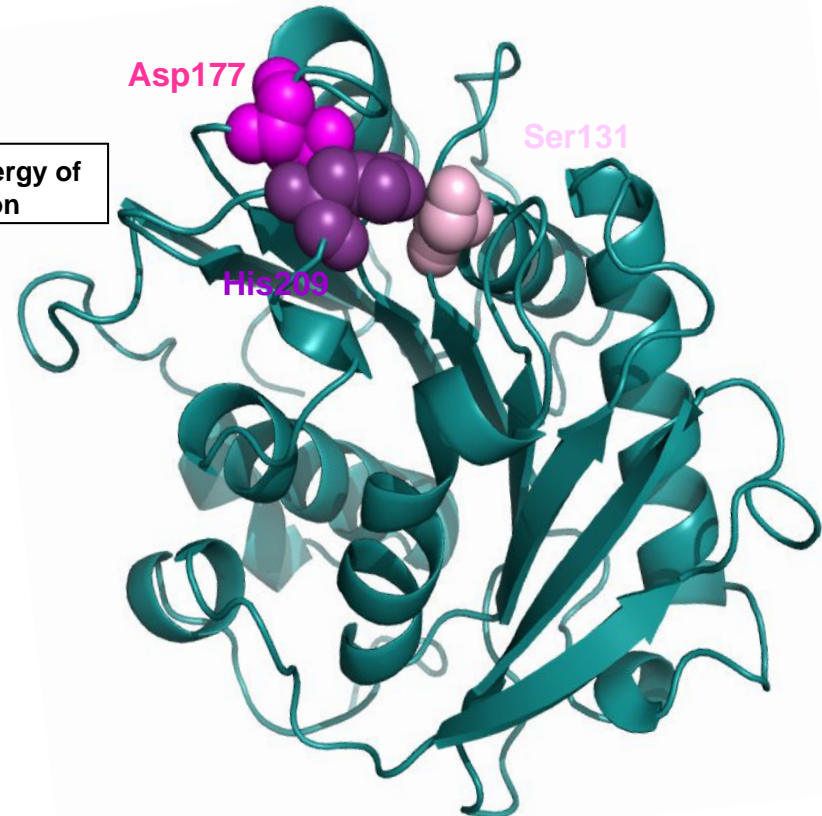
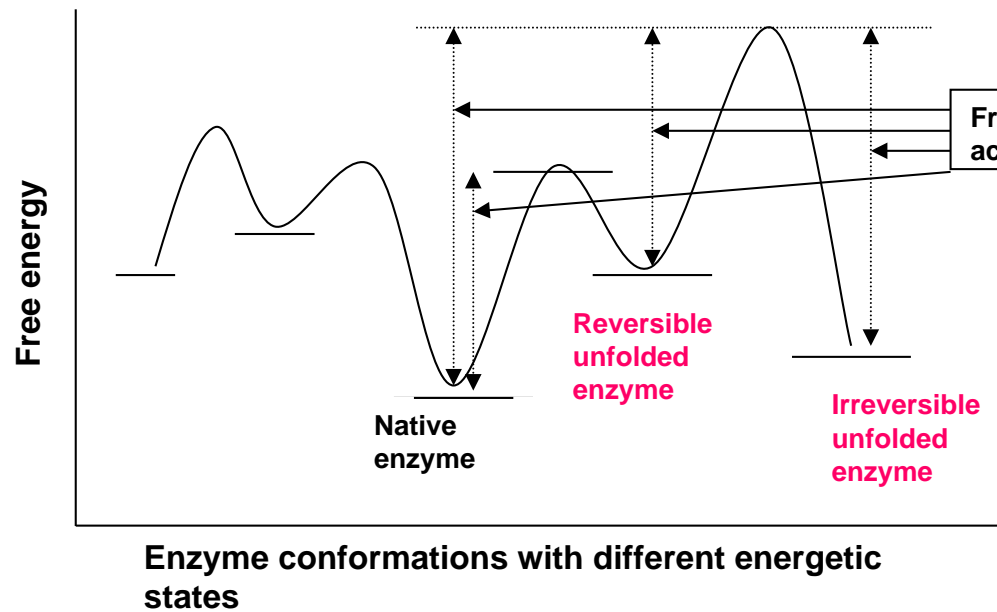
Why using enzymes?

- Enzymes are highly specific biocatalysts
 - Only catalyse certain transformations while leaving other material intact
- Avoids use of hazard chemicals
 - Enzymes work under “mild” conditions
- Enzymes are fully biodegradable
 - since they are proteins
 - Used only in catalytical amounts

Enzyme catalysis



Handling of Enzymes: Denaturation



Enzyme inactivation

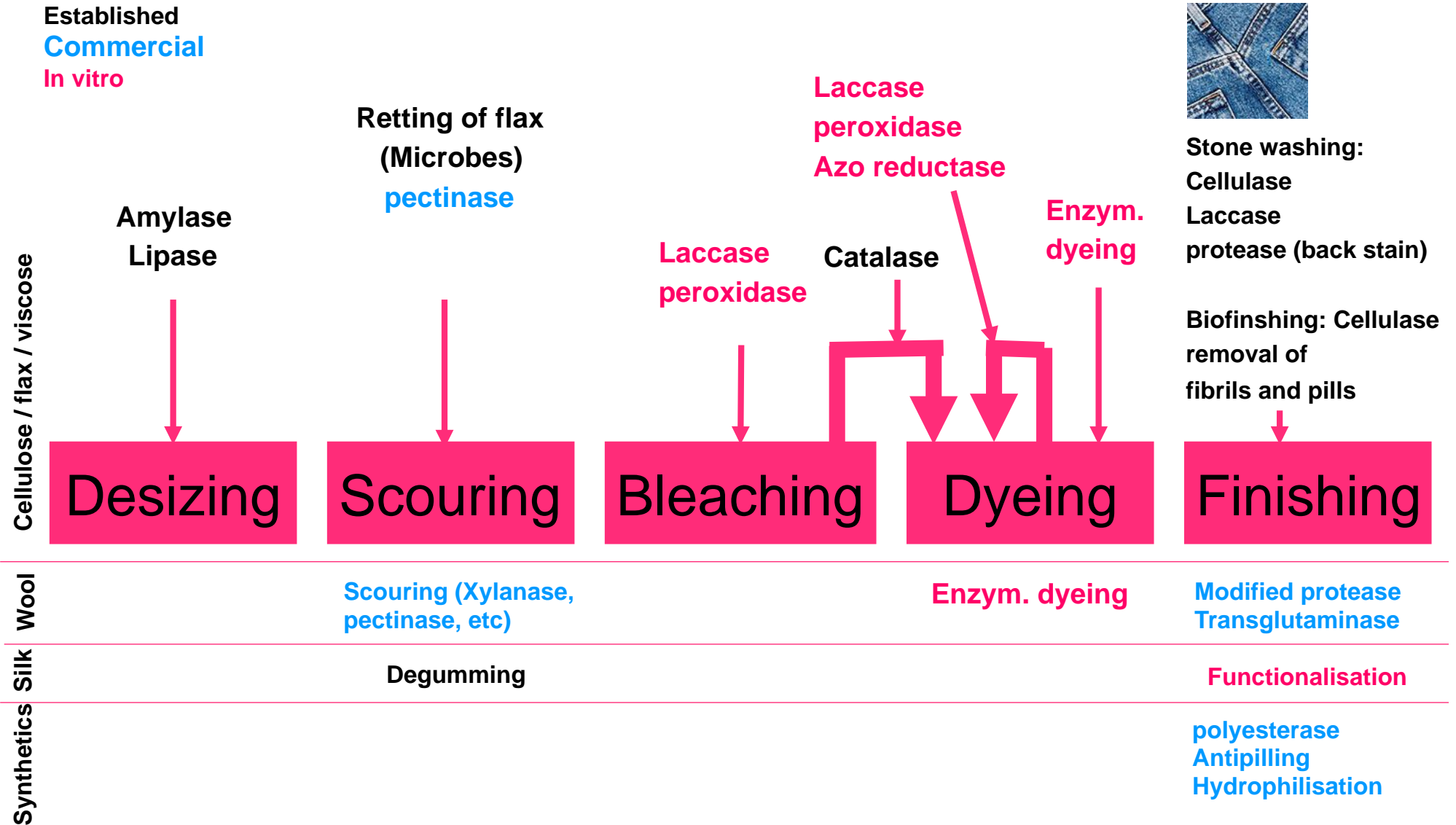
- pH / temperature
- Chemical modification: Reduction/Oxidation
- Surfactant
- Chelator
- Shear force
- Protease activity

Potential of enzymes in textile processing



Stone washing:
Cellulase
Laccase
protease (back stain)

Biofinishing: Cellulase
removal of
fibrils and pills



History & current status

- 200 M€ Enzymes in Textile processing
 - Amylase for low- or high-temperature desizing
 - Cellulase for fabric finishes

- Commercial but rarely used
 - Pectinases for bioscouring
 - Catalases to clean up bleach baths
 - Proteases for wool treatment
 - Polyesterases

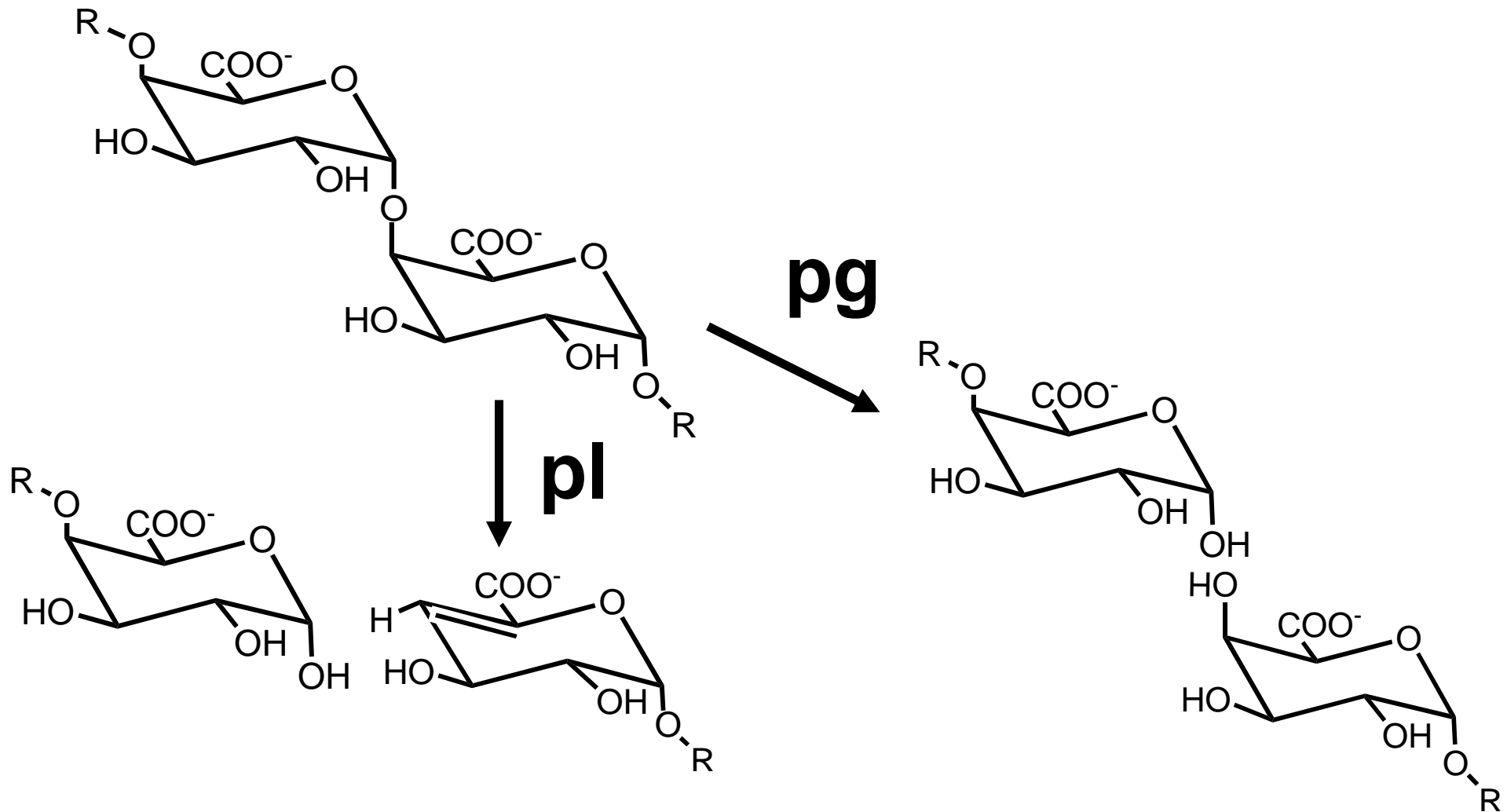
- Recent commercial developments (past 15 years)
 - > 61 EU-RTD projects (CORDIS)
 - > 1500 Scientific publications (sci-finder)

Bioscouring

- Scouring
 - Provide high and even wettability to fabrics
 - Important for dyeing
 - Removal of the non-cellulosic natural matter
 - fats, waxes, pectins and proteins

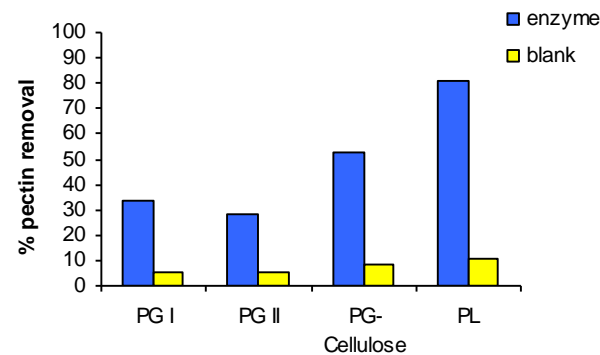
- Potential of Enzymes
 - Savings in chemicals (alkalinity)
 - Reduction of strength loss
 - Reduction of COD loads

Polygalacturonase and Pectate Lyase



Bioscouring : Status

- Endo-acting PGs more effective



- Low-temperature wax removal with cutinase or cutinase-CBD increases hydrolytic rate of pectinase

- Potential combination with biobleaching

Schnitzhofer,W., et al. Enzyme Microbial Technol. 40, 1739-1747

Klug-Santner,B.G., et al. J. Biotechnol. 121, 390-401

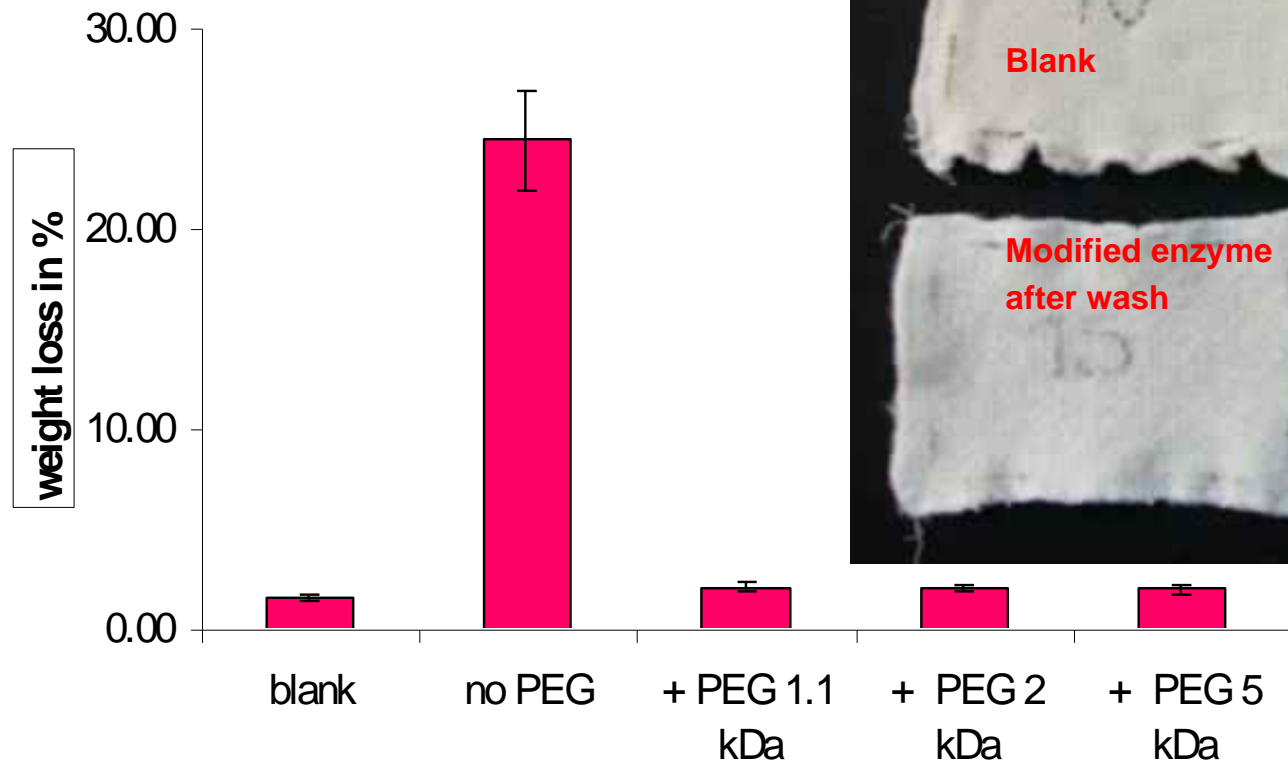
Agrawal et al. Enzyme Microbial Technol. 42,473-482

Held et al. Environ. Chem. Lett. 3, 74-77.

etc.

Commercial status: enzyme available

Wool antishrinking treatment (1)



- Weight loss decreased and Shrinkage reduced

Wool antishrinking treatment (2)

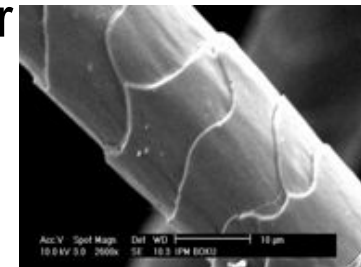
■ Status

- Process established for chemically modified enzymes
- Genetically modified enzymes available
- IPR-protected
- Pilot-trials with industry

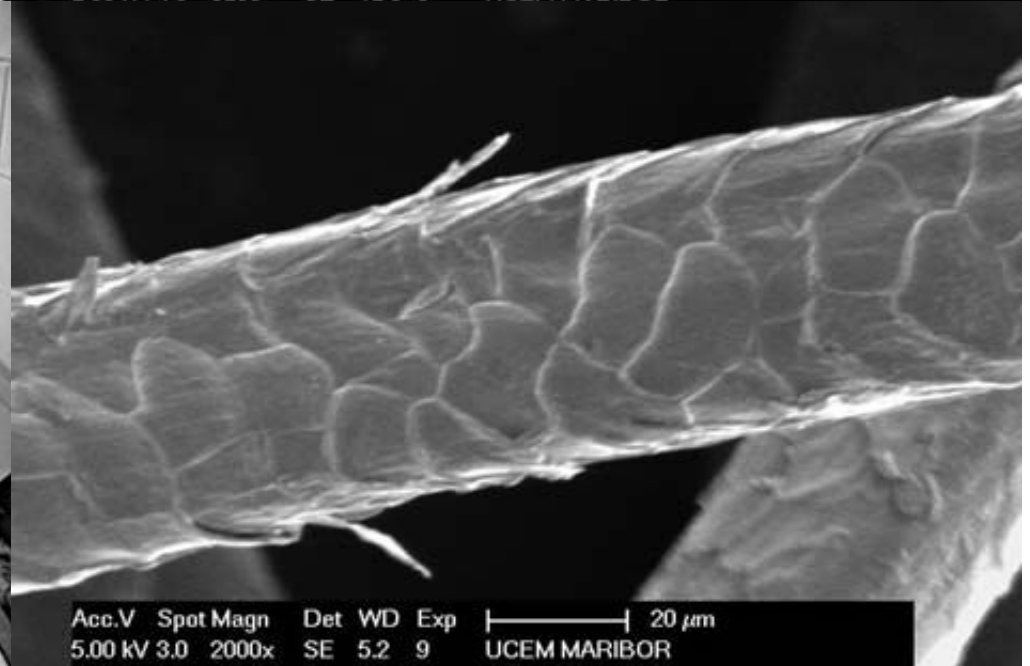
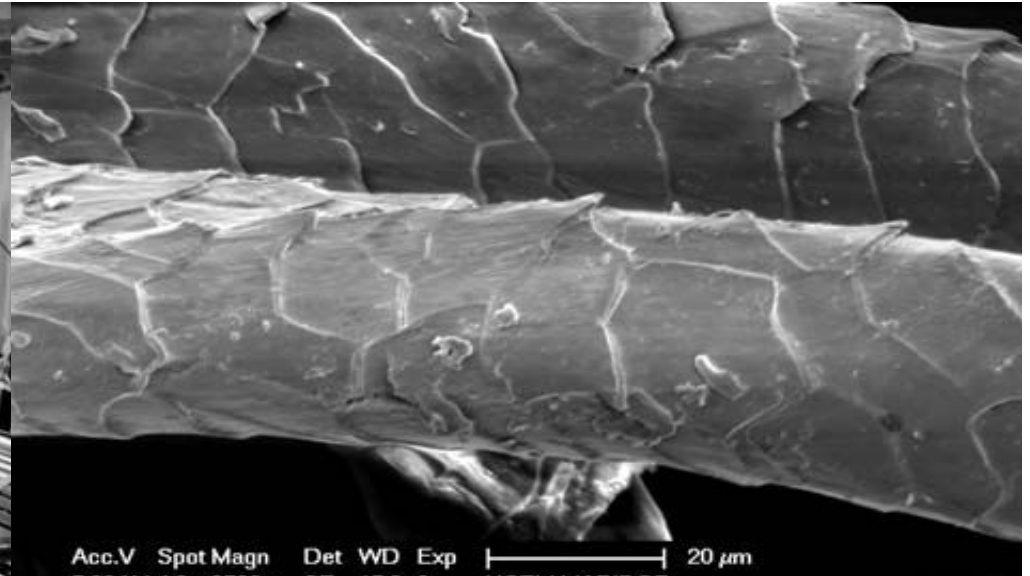


■ Implementation

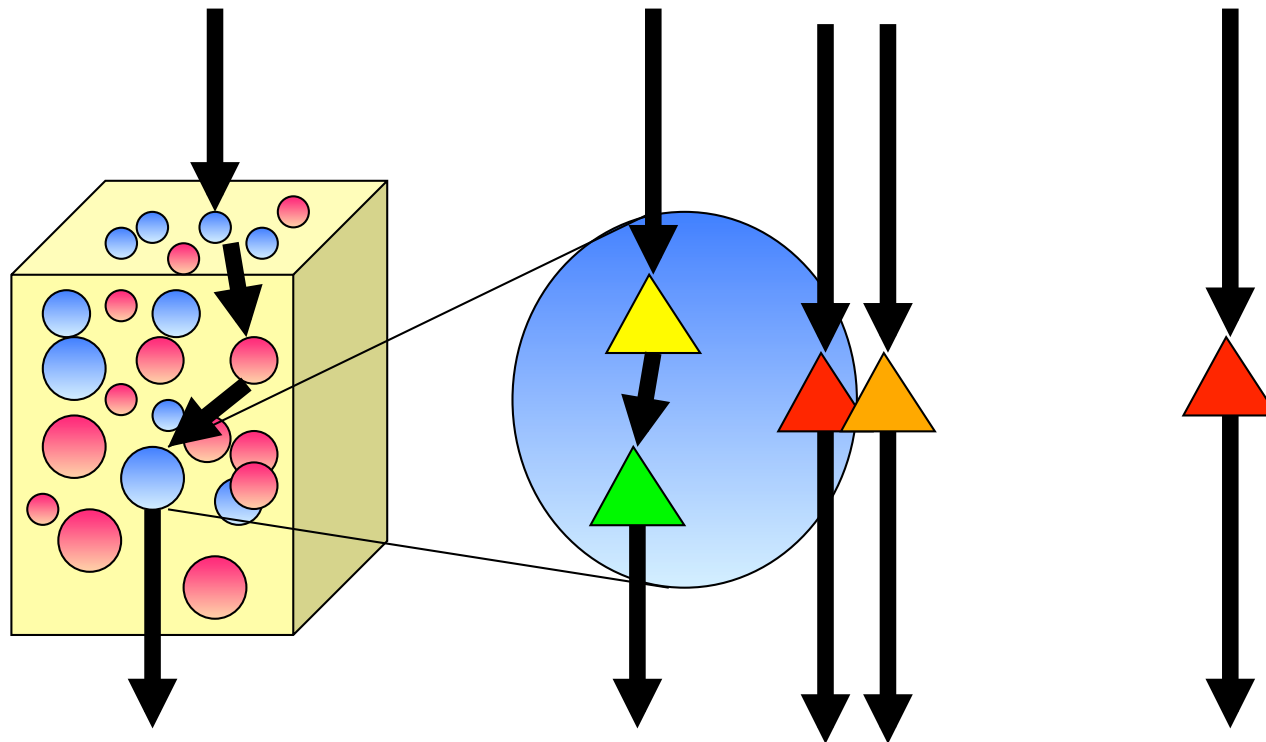
- Niche-market
- Large amounts of enzymes required for industrial trials
- big investment (relative to market) for enzyme producer
- Marketing: bio-product?



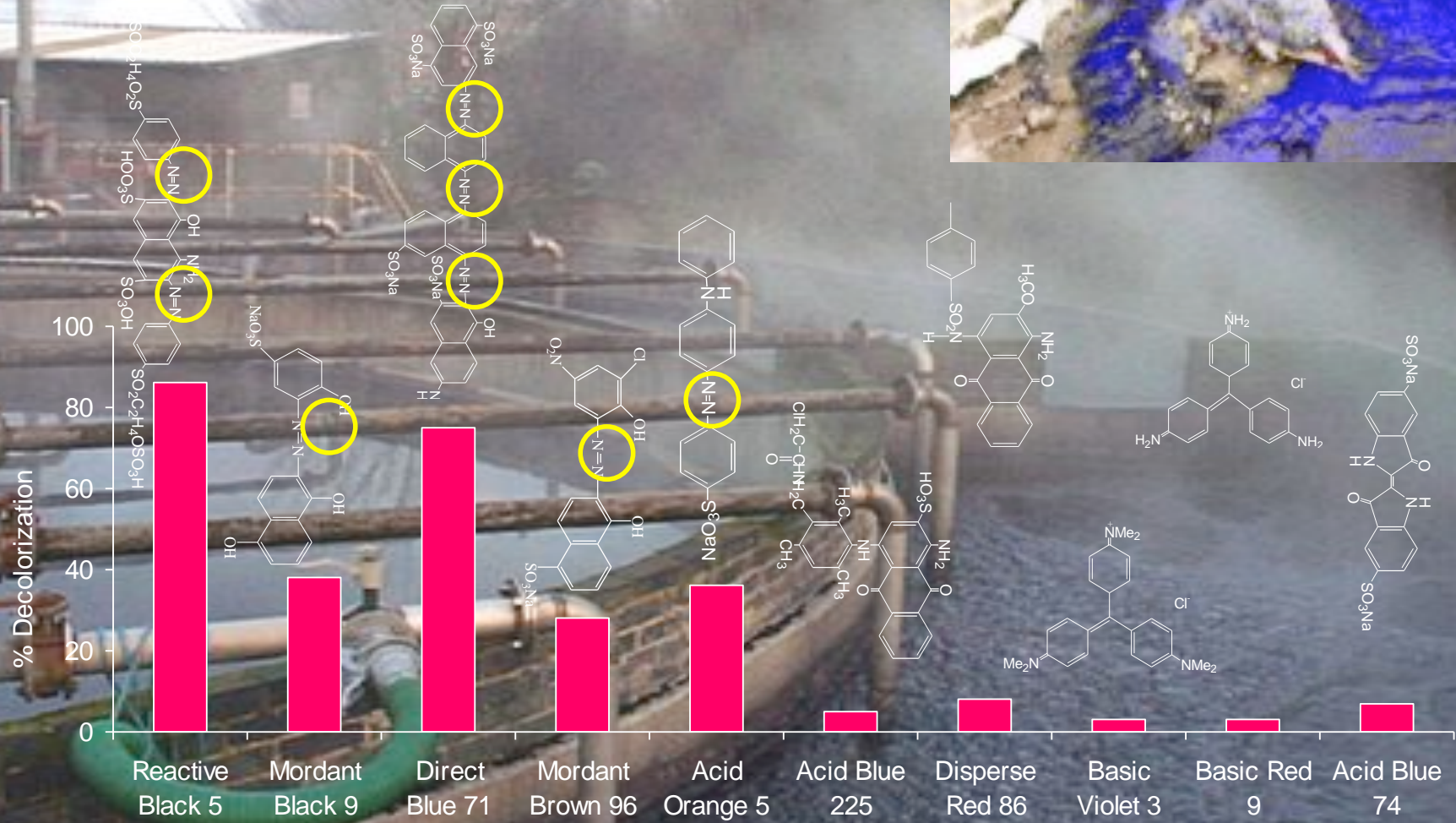
Wool antishrinking treatment (3)



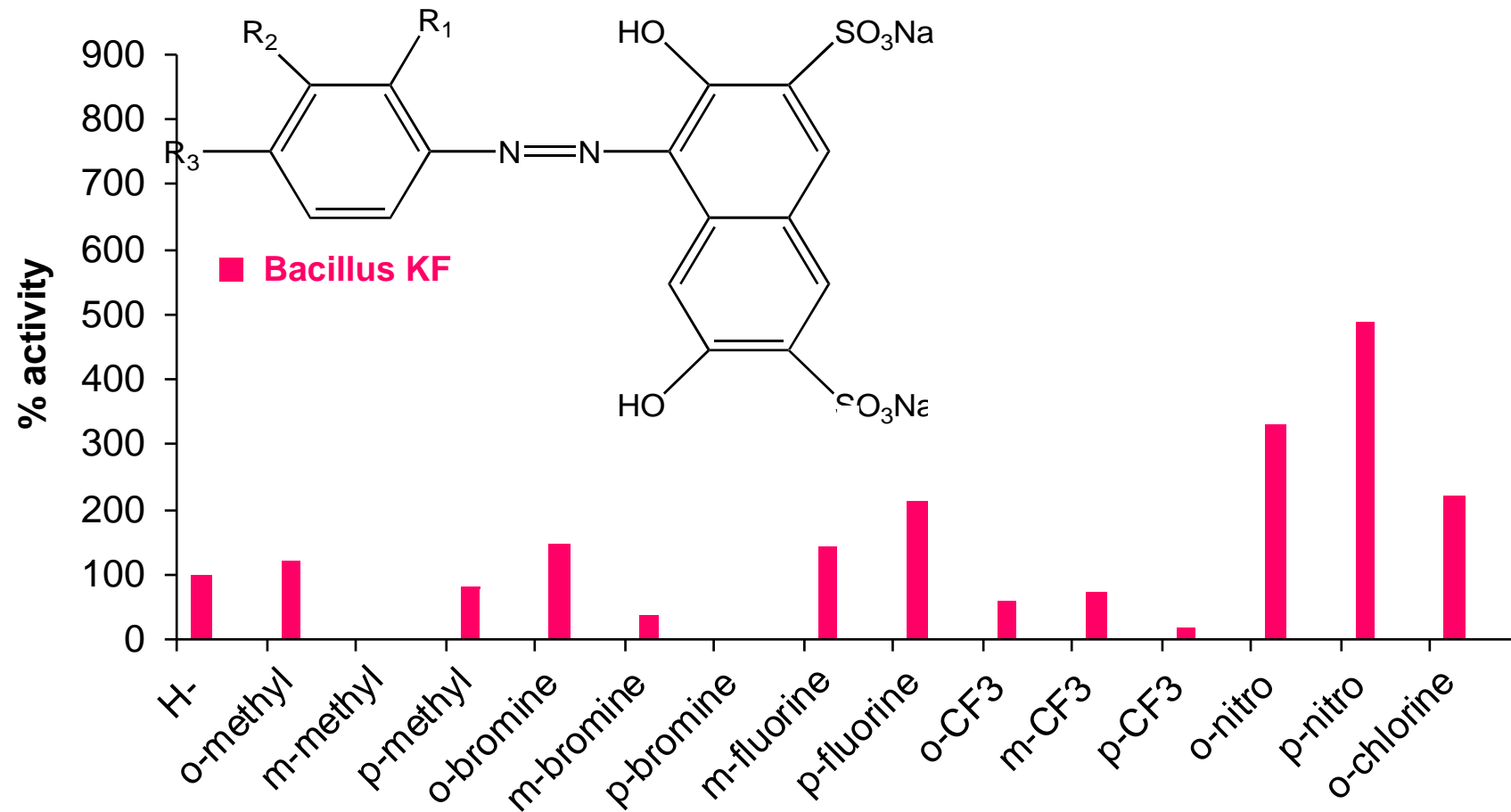
Effluent treatment



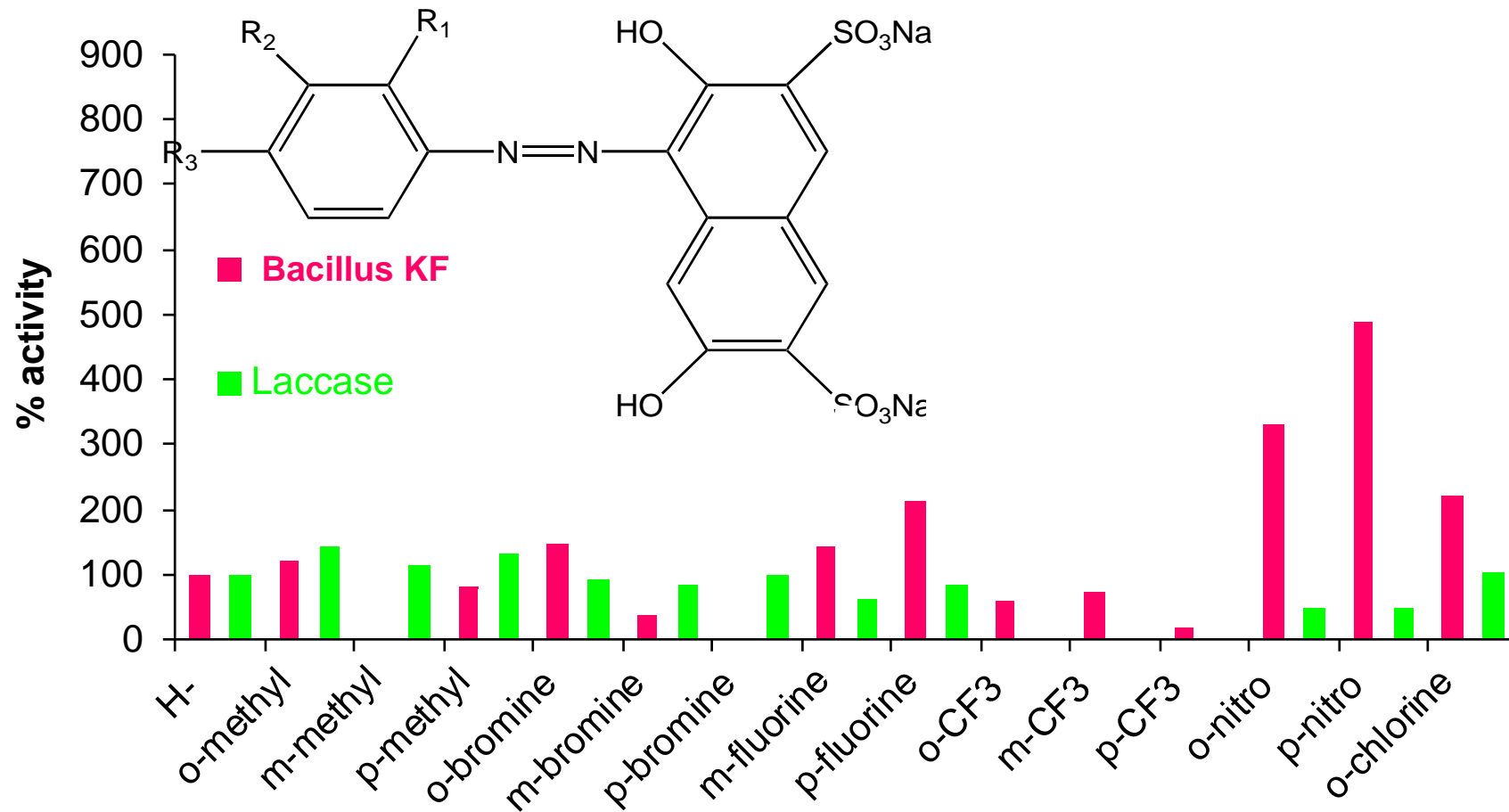
Dye decolorization



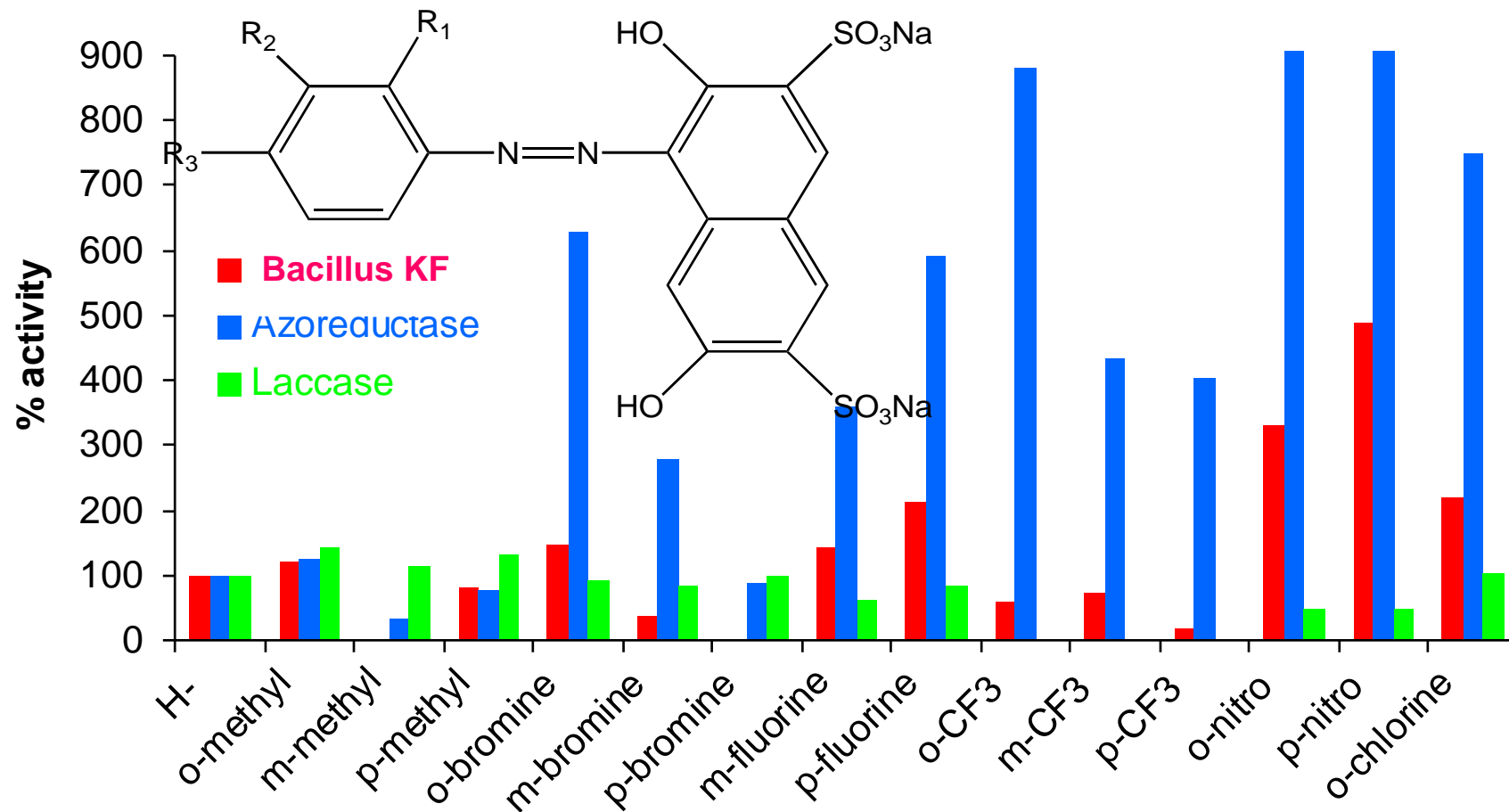
Oxidation/reduction of azo compounds



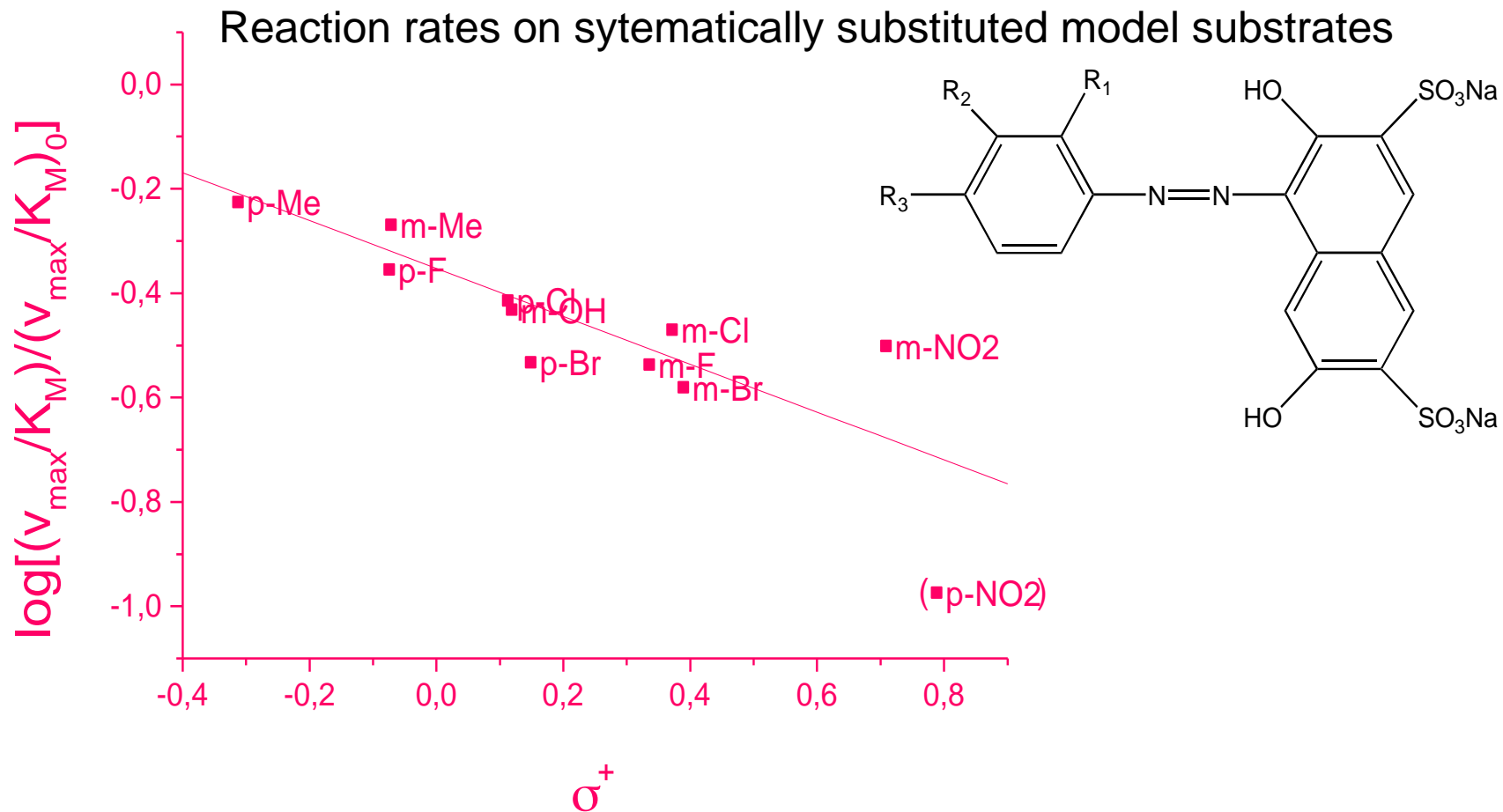
Oxidation/reduction of azo compounds



Oxidation/reduction of azo compounds



Predicting enzyme substrate specificities



Almansa, E., Kandelbauer, A., Pereira, L., Cavaco-Paulo, A., Gübitz, G.M., 2004. *Biocat. Biotrans.* 22, 315-324
 Kandelbauer, A., Maute, O., Kessler, R., Erlacher, A., Gübitz, G.M., 2004. *Biotechnol. Bioeng.* 87, 552-563
 Kandelbauer, A., Erlacher, A., Cavaco-Paulo, A., Gübitz, G.M., 2004. *Biocat. Biotrans.* 22, 331-339

Surface functionalisation of synthetics

- Synthetic polymers
 - PAN, PAT, PA, PP
 - Hydrophobic
 - Difficulties in finishing

- Surface modification
 - Low fasteness
 - Chemical process require harsh conditions
 - Damage of materials (e.g. 15 % weight loss for PET finishing)
 - Polymer bulk properties changed
 - Plasma treatment

- Enzymatic processes
 - Act only on surface
 - Mild conditions
 - Highly specific



Enzymatic surface hydrophilisation of PET

Technical materials: PVC coated PET

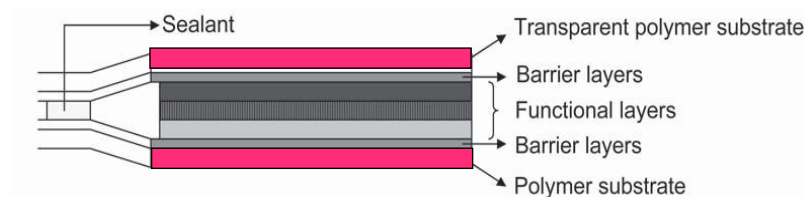
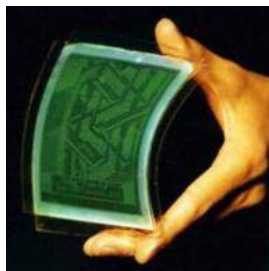


80 % reduction
of adhesives
needed

Functional sportswear



Flexible electronic devices
Enhanced bonding to PET



Enhanced:
Breathability
Moisture uptake
Antistatic behavior
Reduced pilling
Handle
Finishing fastness

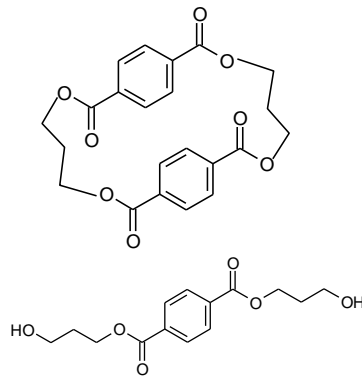
PET-hydrolases: mechanistics

Enzymes: *Thermobifida fusca*, *Beauveria brongniartii*, etc.

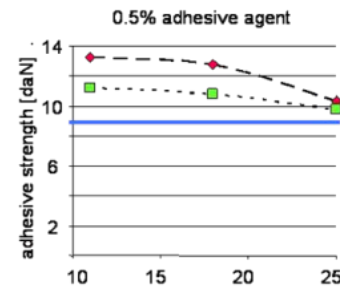
Applications: Textiles, PVC-Coating, Electronics, etc.

Polyesterases act endo-wise on PAT (XPS, MALDI, SEM)
Enzymes from different origin different substrate specificities

LC-MS (ion-trap)



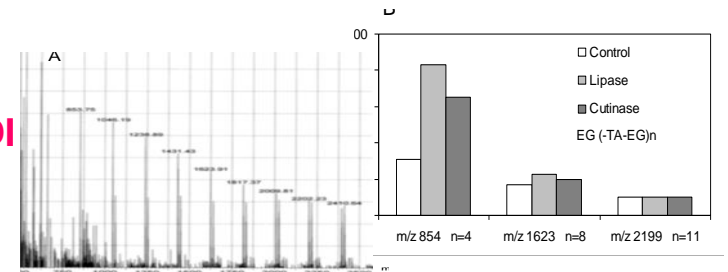
Coating



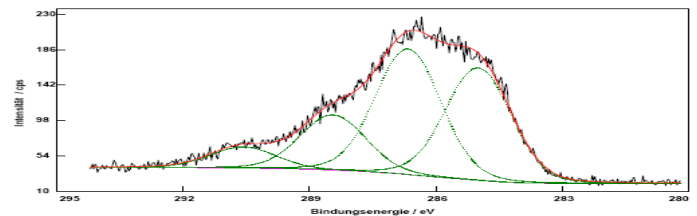
SEM



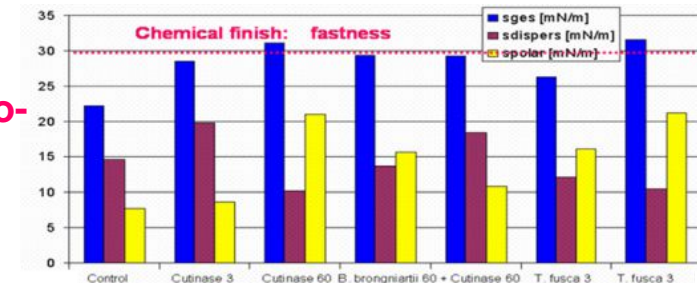
MALDI



XPS

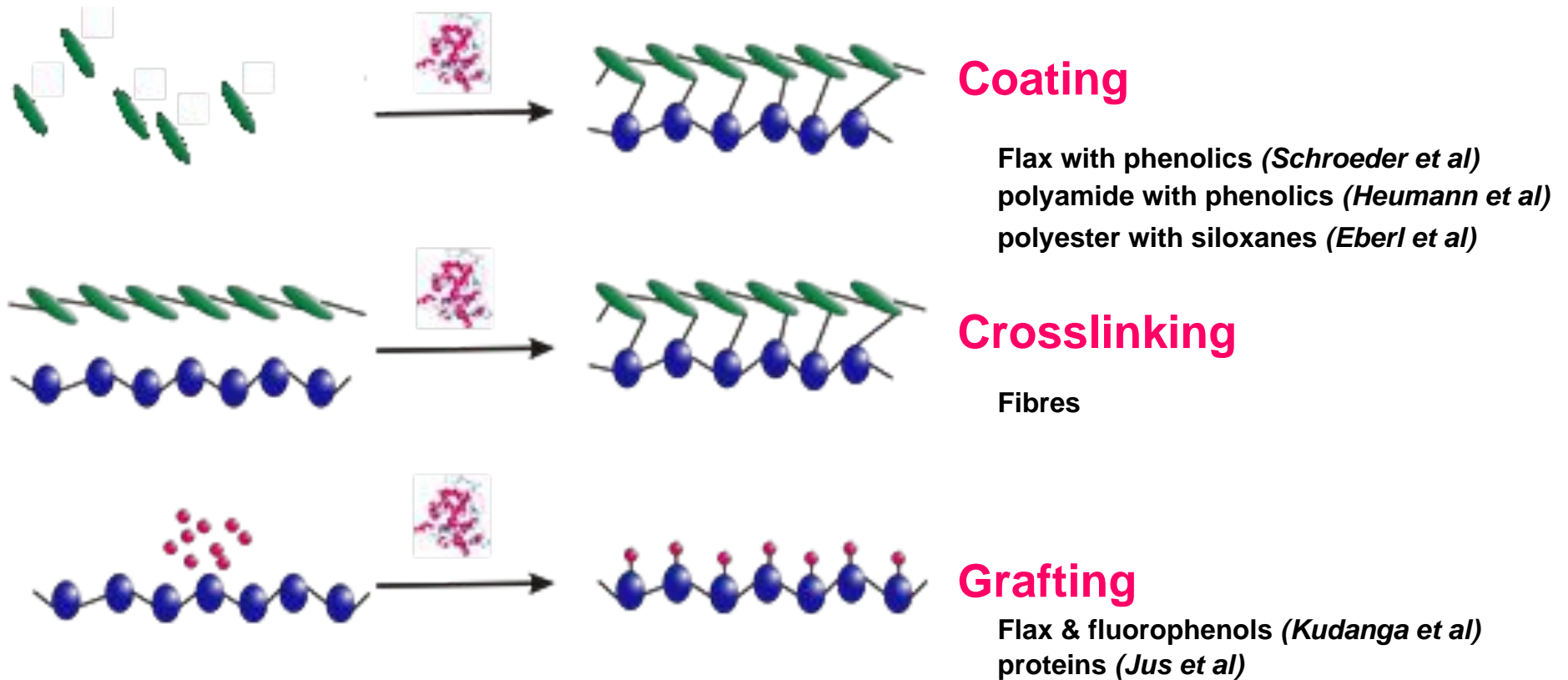


Tensiometry



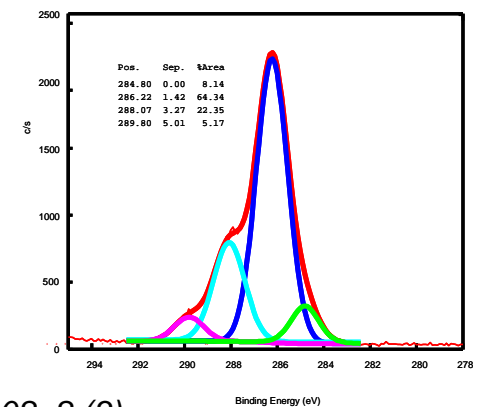
Eberl et al. 2009. J. Biotechnol. 143:207-212
 Eberl et al. 2008. J. Biotechnol. 135, 45–51
 Araujo. et al. 2007, J. Biotechnol. 128, 849-857
 Brueckner et al. 2008, J. Polym. Sci. Polym. Chem. 6435 - 6443
 Fischer-Colbrie, et al. 2004. Biocat. Biotrans. 22, 341-346.
 Heumann et al. 2006. J. Biochem. Biophys. Meth. 39, 89–99
 Almansa et al. 2008. Biocat. Biotrans. 26, 5, 365 – 370
 Liebinger et al. 2007. Biocat. Biotrans. 25, 171 - 177

Coating, grafting and crosslinking



Grafting / coating flax

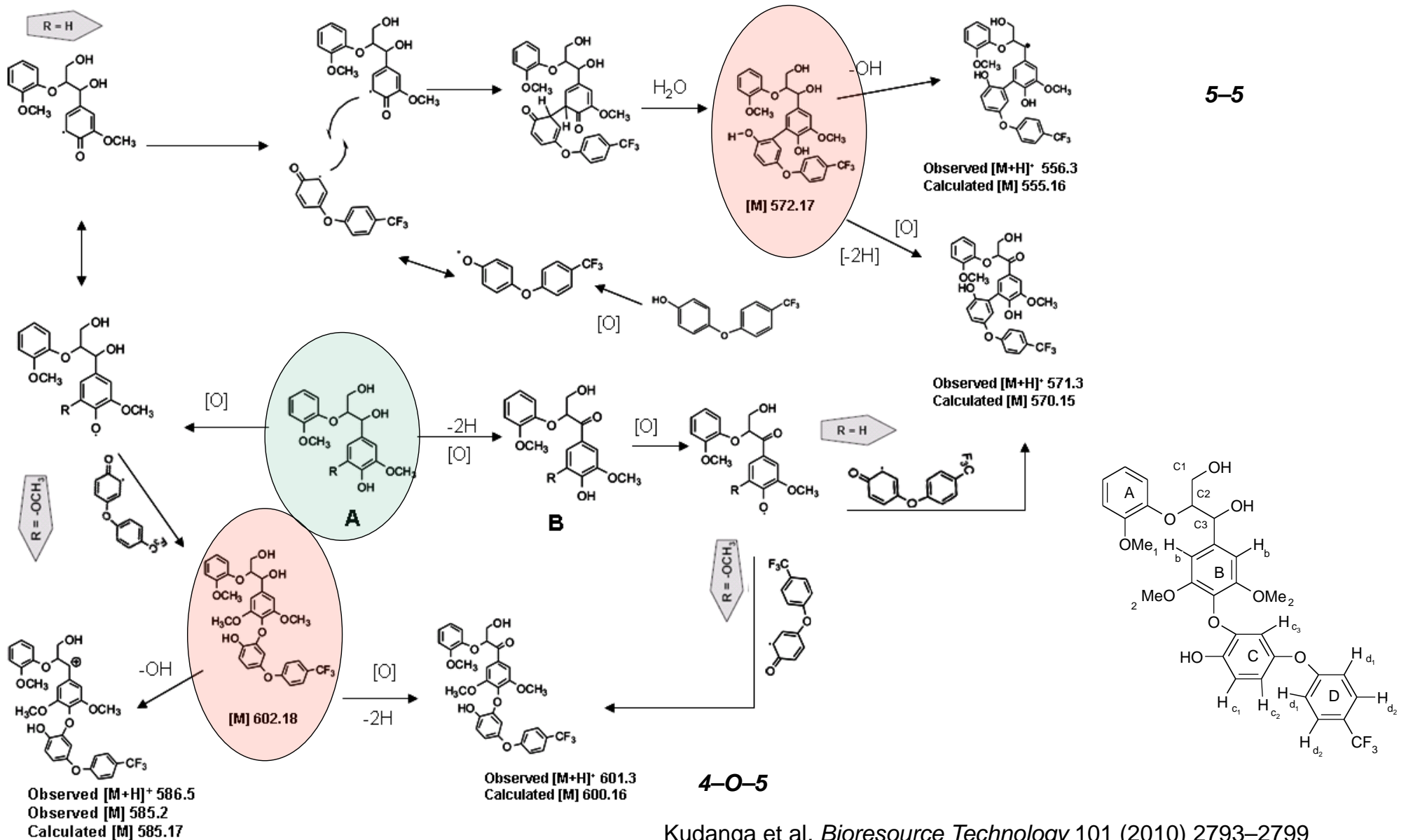
	antibacterial activities		
phenol	on fibers	on fabrics	color
hydroquinone	very good \$\$	very good \$\$	white
2-methoxy-5-nitrophenol	good *\$\$	good *\$\$	yellow
ferullic acid	very good \$\$	very good \$\$	orange
guaiacol	none	none	red
vanillin	none	none	greyish
methyl-3-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzoate	good \$\$	good \$\$	pale yellow
§ <i>B. subtilis</i> § <i>S.aureus</i> * <i>K. pneumoniae</i>			



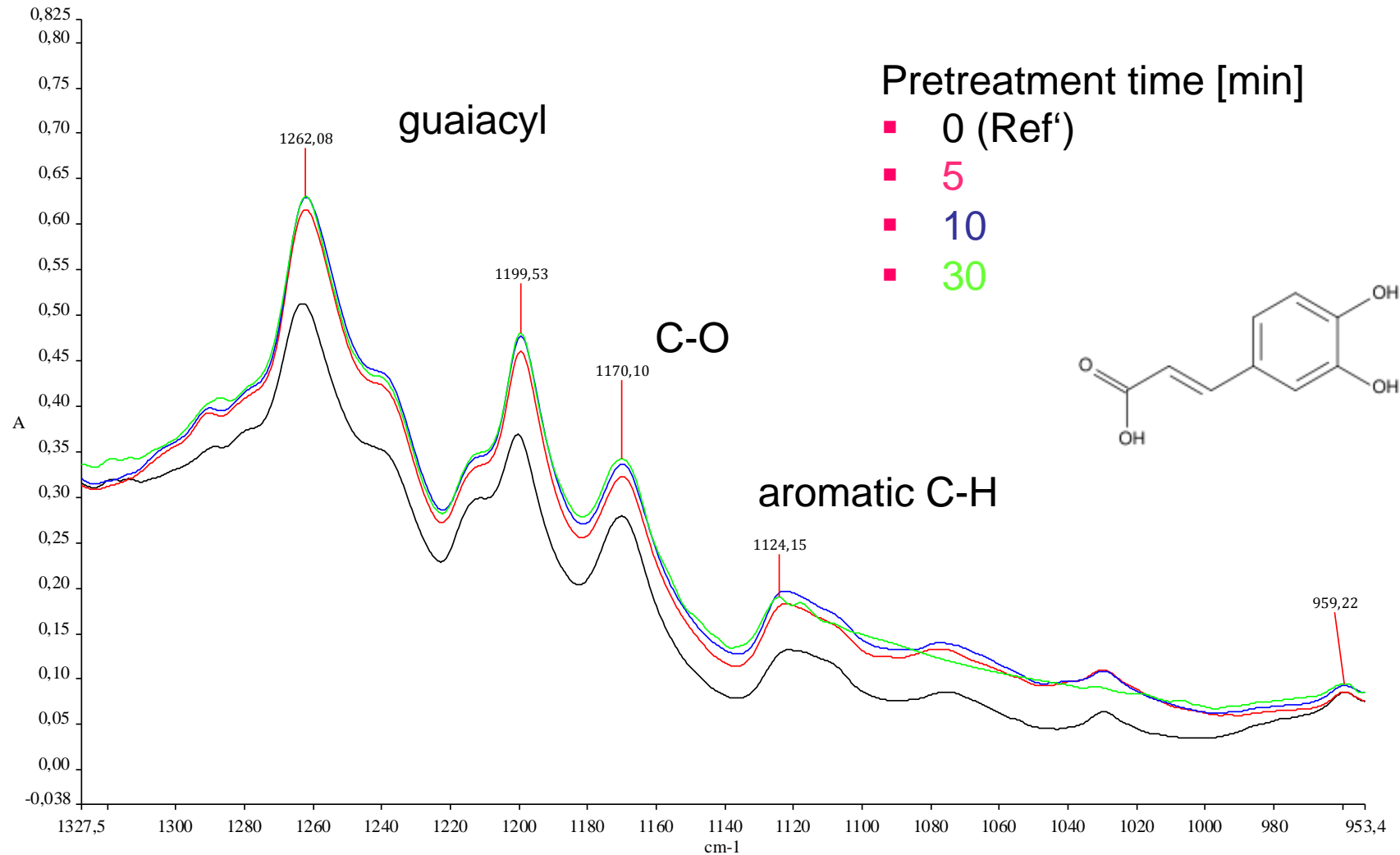
1 Schroeder, M. et al., 2007. *Biotechnol. J.* 2, 334-341.

2 S. Kim, et al., *Eng. Life Sci.* 2008, 8 (3),

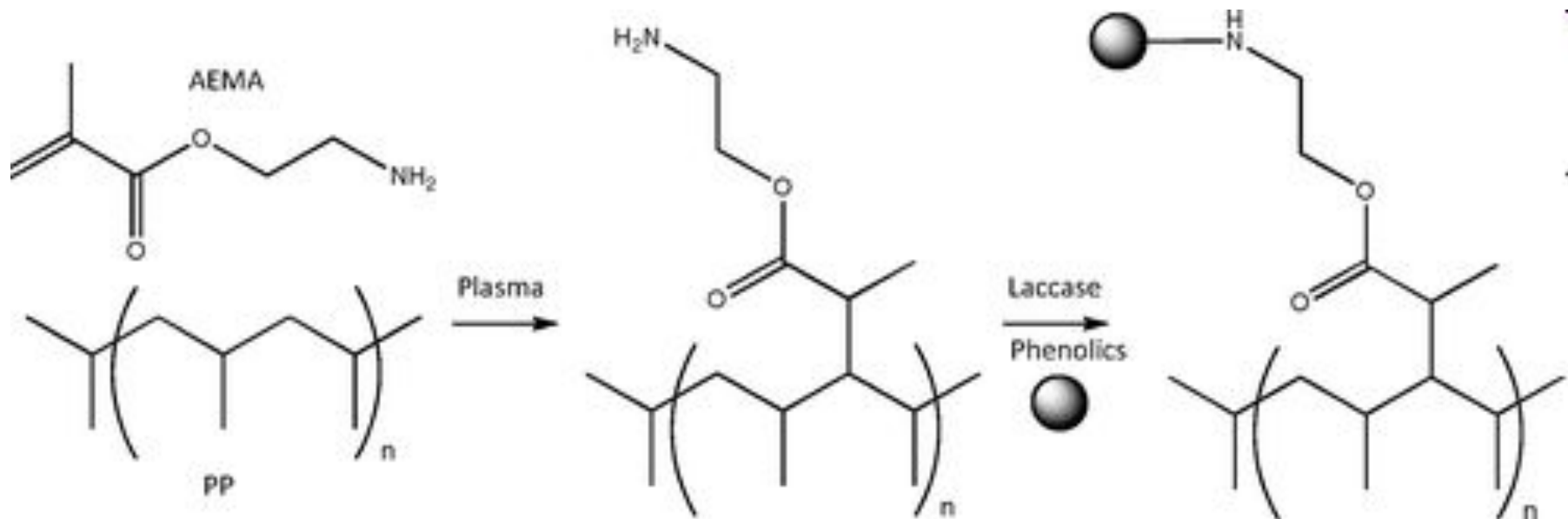
Coupling fluorophenols onto lignin moieties



Coating of activated PA with caffeic acid



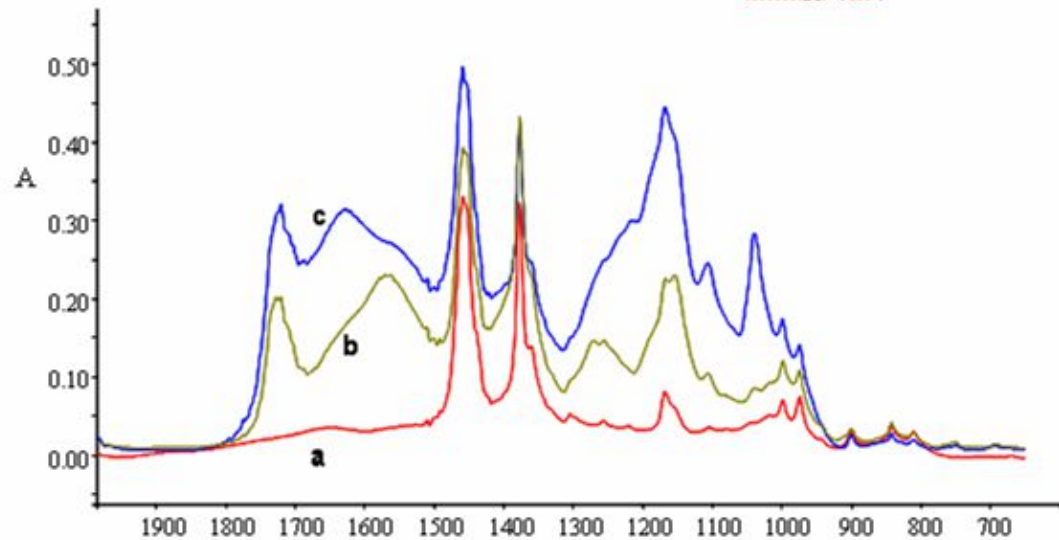
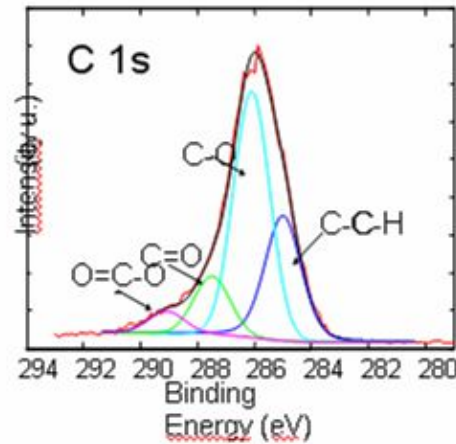
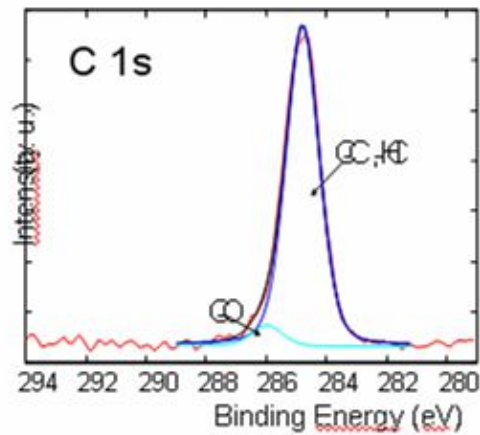
Amino functionalisation of PP



Schroeder et al.
Biomacromolecules, 2008, 9 (10), pp 2735–2741

UMaribor V. Kokol, Tectotessile, E. Fatarella

Phenol coating of polypropylene by oxidases



Schroeder, Kokol et al. Slo.PAT.2007

Conclusions

- Sustainable textile chemistry
 - Yes, enzymes can !
 - Special handling
 - Special price

- Biotech processes
 - Established/available
 - Bioscouring, Wool antishrinking, Effluent treatment
 - The future: Targeted functionalisation

Sustainable chemistry

***TU-Graz
Next generation
scientists***

