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## Appendices

### **Effect of algal species and light intensity on the performance of an air-lift-type microbial carbon capture cell with an algae-assisted cathode**

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## 21 Calculations

### 22 Determination of CO<sub>2</sub> fixation rate

23 The CO<sub>2</sub> fixation rate  $R_{CO_2}$  (mg·L<sup>-1</sup>·d<sup>-1</sup>) was calculated as <sup>1</sup>:

$$24 \quad R_{CO_2} = C_c \times P \left( \frac{M_{CO_2}}{M_C} \right)$$

25 Where  $C_c$  is the carbon content in the biomass (% w/w), which was measured by  
26 elemental analyzer (Elementar vario EL III);  $P$  is the biomass productivity (mg·L<sup>-1</sup>·d<sup>-1</sup>)  
27 <sup>1</sup>);  $M_{CO_2}$  is the molar mass of CO<sub>2</sub>; and  $M_C$  is the molar mass of carbon.

28 The biomass productivity ( $P$ , mg·L<sup>-1</sup>·d<sup>-1</sup>) was calculated using the following  
29 equation:

$$30 \quad P = \frac{\Delta X}{\Delta t}$$

31 Where  $\Delta X$  is the variation of biomass concentration (mg·L<sup>-1</sup>) with cultivation  
32 time;  $\Delta t$  is the cultivation time (d).

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43 Determination of lipid content and productivity

44 The band around 3000-2800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  of FTIR spectroscopy could well characterize  
45 the lipid content changes and thus be used to detect quantitatively the lipid content  
46 and its accuracy has been validated by traditional methods.<sup>2 3</sup> For the determination of  
47 lipid content, egg phosphatidylcholine (egg-PC) was chose as an external standard.  
48 An infrared spectrometer (Bruker VERTEX 70, Germany) was used to record the  
49 characteristic peak areas of egg-PC at 2800-3000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , yielding the calibration  
50 equation:

51 
$$A = 32.598T + 1.9709 \quad (R = 0.993).$$

52 Where  $A$  is the characteristic peak areas of lipid;  $T$  (mg) is the weight of lipid.

53 The lipid content  $L_c$  (%) was calculated by the following equation:

54 
$$L_c = \frac{T}{M} \times 100\%$$

55 Where  $T$  (mg) is the weight of lipid;  $M$  (mg) is the dry weight of microalgae.

56 The lipid productivity  $L_p$  ( $\text{mg} \cdot \text{L}^{-1} \cdot \text{d}^{-1}$ ) was calculated by the following equation:

57 
$$L_p = P \times L_c$$

58 Where  $P$  ( $\text{mg} \cdot \text{L}^{-1} \cdot \text{d}^{-1}$ ) is the biomass productivity;  $L_c$  (%) is the lipid content of  
59 microalgae.

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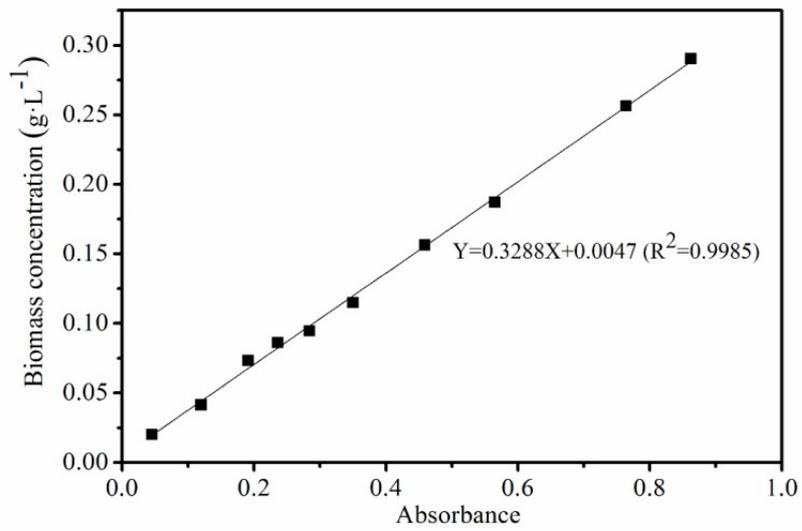
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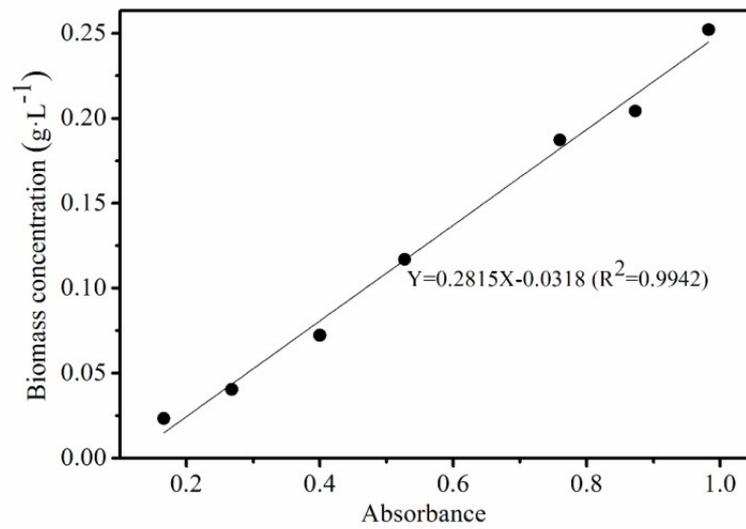
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65 A



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67 B



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69 **Figure A.1.** The standard curves for biomass concentration of *Chlorella vulgaris* (A)

70 and *Chlorella* sp. (B) against calibration of absorbance (690 nm)

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76 **Table A.1.** Power densities and lipid productivities in different reactors

Reactor type	Microalgal species	Power densities (mW·m <sup>-2</sup> )	Lipid productivities (mg·L <sup>-1</sup> ·d <sup>-1</sup> )	References
MCC	<i>Chlorella vulgaris</i>	24.4	NA	4
MCC	<i>Chlorella vulgaris</i>	14.4	NA	5
MCC	<i>Chlorella</i> sp.	3.35	NA	6
MCC	<i>Scenedismus obliquus</i>	30	NA	7
MCC	<i>Chlorella</i> + <i>Phormidium</i>	2.7	NA	8
ALMCC	<i>Chlorella vulgaris</i>	116.71	128.11	This study
ALP	<i>Chlorella</i> sp.	NA	121	9
ALP	<i>Chlorella vulgaris</i>	NA	94-146	10
ALP	<i>Chlorella sorokiniana</i>	NA	68-85	10
ALP	<i>Chlorella vulgaris</i>	NA	98	11
ALP	<i>Ankistrodesmus</i> sp.	NA	112	12

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