

Table 1S. Attribution of main infrared absorption bands of EPS samples.

EPS (Exponential growth phase)	EPS (Early stationary phase)	EPS (Late stationary phase)	Band assignment
Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹)			
3342	/	3351	<i>n</i> OH
included in OH absorption band	3281	included in OH absorption band	Amide A (<i>n</i> N– H)
/	3077	/	Amide B (<i>n</i> N– H)
2927	2959, 2922, 2851	2938	<i>n</i> C–H
1730	/	1727	<i>n</i> C=O
1658	1648	1650	Amide I (<i>n</i> C=O)
1543	1542	1549	Amide II (<i>n</i> C–N)
1376	1448, 1401	1375	<i>d</i> C–H
/	1305	/	Amide III (<i>n</i> C–N)
/	1242	1244	<i>d</i> N–H
1136	1127		<i>n</i> C–O–C
1043	1070	1038	<i>n</i> C–O
867	/	811	<i>g</i> C–H
582	/	/	<i>d</i> C–X

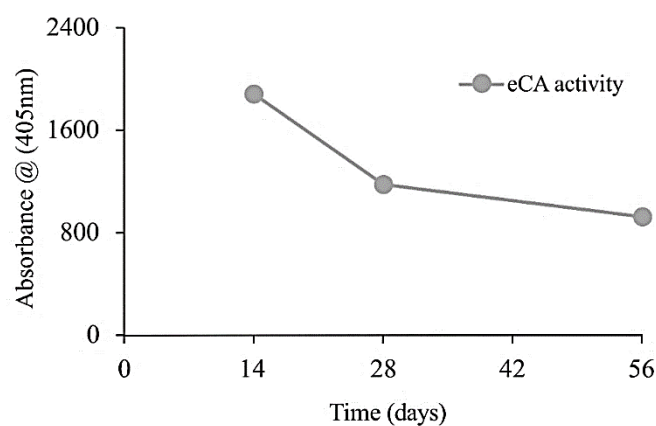


Figure 1S. Extracellular carbonic anhydrase (eCA) activity measured at days 14, 28 and 56 of *Synechococcus* PCC 7942 growth experiment.

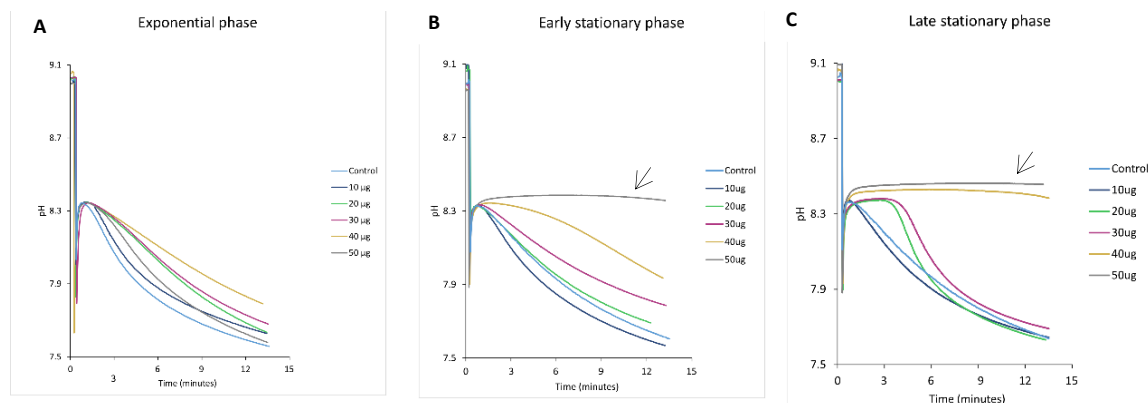


Figure 2S. Replication of the *in vitro* inhibition of calcium carbonate precipitation experiment by using EPS extracted during exponential (A), early (B) and late (C) stationary phases of *Synechococcus* growth experiment. A negative control (no EPS) and EPS extracts of concentrations of 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$ were used in the CaCO_3 inhibition assay. The decrease of pH indicates precipitation and a plateau inhibition of carbonate mineral precipitation. A larger plateau ($> 50 \mu\text{g}$) indicates stronger inhibition of calcium carbonate precipitation (e.g., see black arrows in panel B-C).

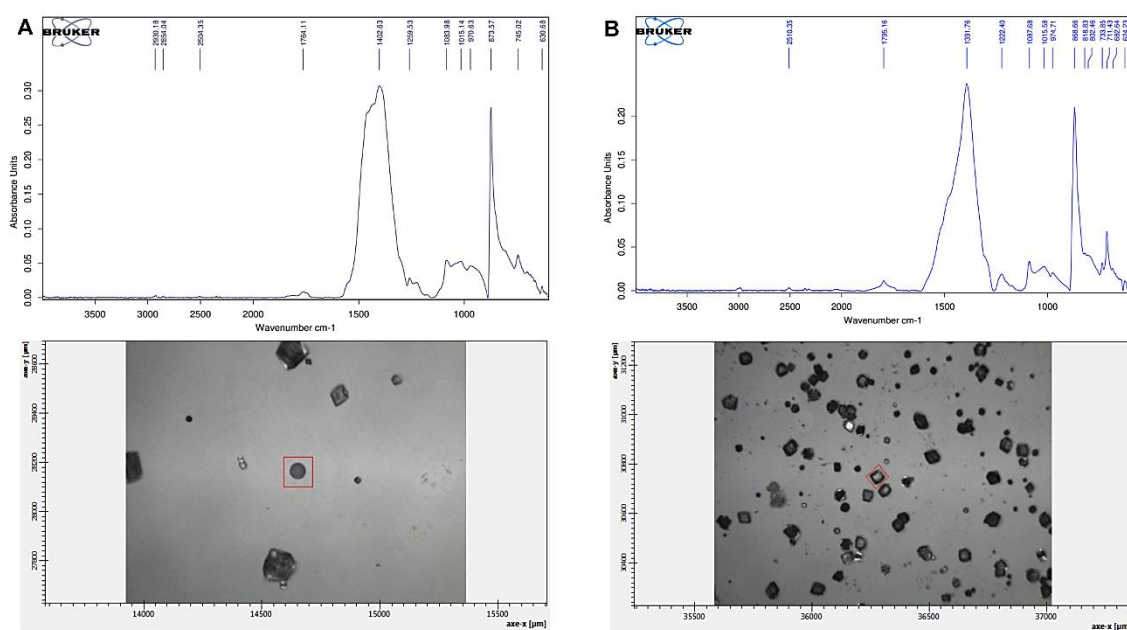


Figure 3S. FT-IR spectra of (A) vaterite and (B) calcite. The two calcium carbonate polymorphs precipitated in EPS solutions produced during two *Synechococcus* growth phases. Data shown EPS produced (A) during exponential growth phase a concentration of $3 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$ and (B) during the late stationary phase with a concentration of $36 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$.