

## Division: Chlorophyta (green algae)

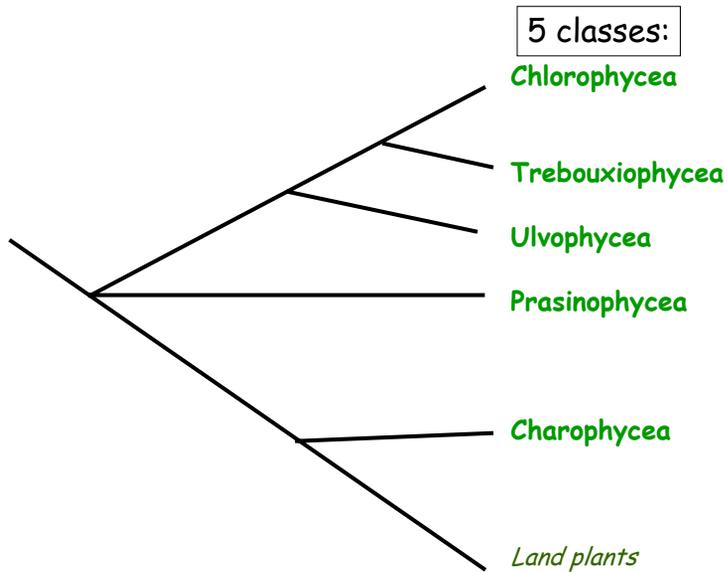


~ 16,000 species  
~ 90% freshwater

## General Green Characteristics.....

- 1) Pigments: chl a,b  
carotenoids: B-carotene, **lutien**, violaxanthin, **neoxanthin**
- 2) Chloroplast structure:
  - envelope:
  - thylakoids:
- 3) Storage product:
- 4) Flagella:

## Phylogenetics of Chlorophyta (morphological, molecular data)



2

## Classes.....

**Chlorophyceae** = freshwater

**Trebouxiophyceae** = freshwater and soil

**Ulvophyceae** = marine macroalgae

**Prasinophyceae** = primarily marine flagellates, some freshwater;  
modern representatives of earliest green algae

**Charophyceae** = freshwater; all terrestrial plants are derived from  
Charophycean class

3

## Distinguishing among classes based on...

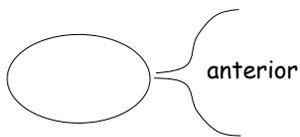
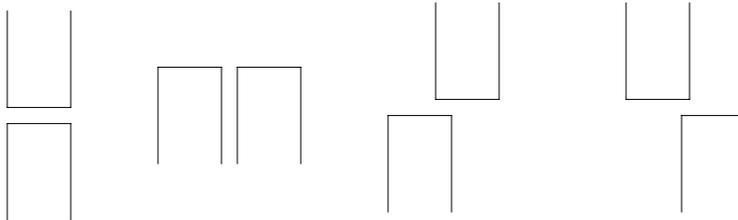
1. How flagella are attached/constructed:
  - basal bodies orientation
  - microtubule roots
2. Cell covering:
  - scales vs. cell wall
3. How cells actually divide:
  - aspects of mitosis and cytokinesis

4

## Distinguishing among classes based on...

1. How flagella are attached/constructed
  - basal bodies orientation
  - microtubule roots

opposite      parallel      clockwise      counterclockwise

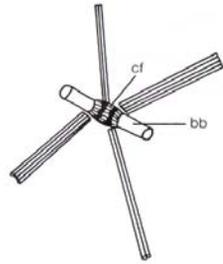


swimming direction

5

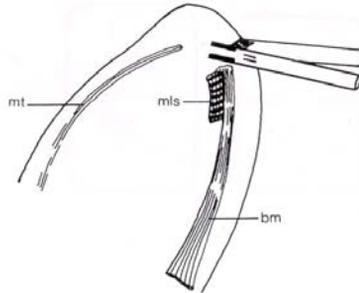
## Distinguishing among classes based on...

1. How flagella are attached/constructed
  - basal bodies orientation
  - microtubule roots



a

cruciate



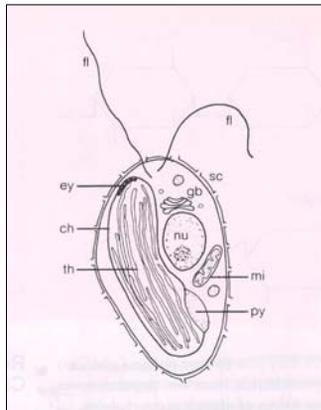
b

broad-band

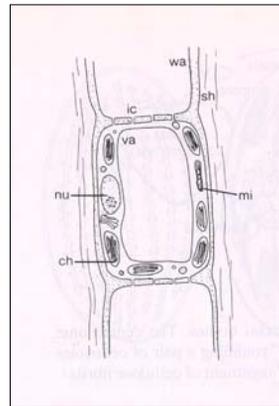
6

## Distinguishing among classes based on...

2. Cell covering
  - scales vs. cell wall



Scales are made of complex polysaccharides secreted from golgi



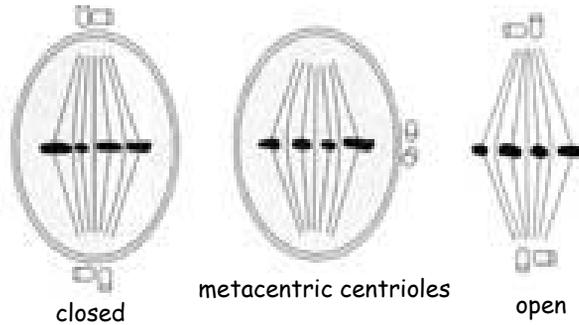
Cell wall = usually cellulose

7

## Distinguishing among classes based on...

### 3. How cells actually divide: (aspects of mitosis and cytokinesis)

- open vs. closed mitotic spindle
- phycoplast vs. phragmoplast
- furrowing vs. cell plate formation in center of cell

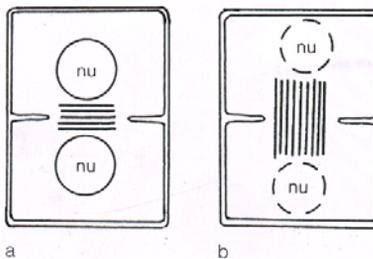


8

## Distinguishing among classes based on...

### 3. How cells actually divide: (aspects of mitosis and cytokinesis)

- open vs. closed mitotic spindle
- phycoplast vs. phragmoplast
- furrowing vs. cell plate formation in center of cell



**Phycoplast:** microtubules parallel to dividing plane

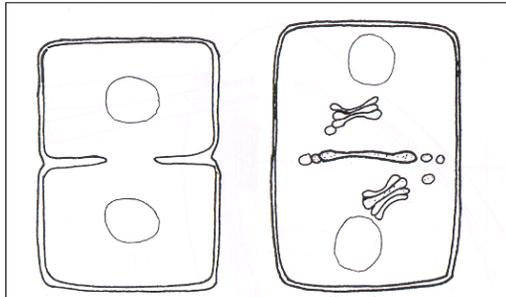
**Phragmoplast:** double microtubules perpendicular to dividing plane

9

## Distinguishing among classes based on...

### 3. How cells actually divide: (aspects of mitosis and cytokinesis)

- open vs. closed mitotic spindle
- phycoplast vs. phragmoplast
- furrowing vs. cell plate formation in center of cell



furrowing = most algae

cell plate formation = a few algae and land plants

10

## Morphology

### Chlorophyta.....

- easiest **division** to identify **visually**
- usually bright, grass-green color

Except.....



Snow algae



*Trentepohlia* parasitic  
on Monterey Cypress



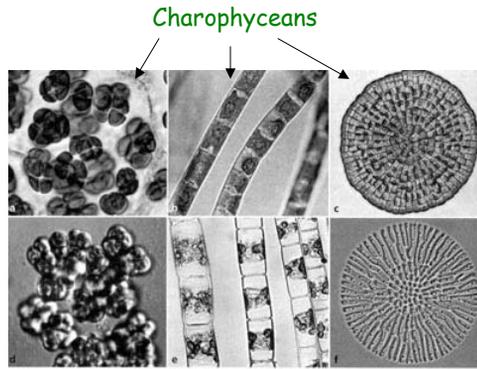
*Dunaliella*

11

# Morphology

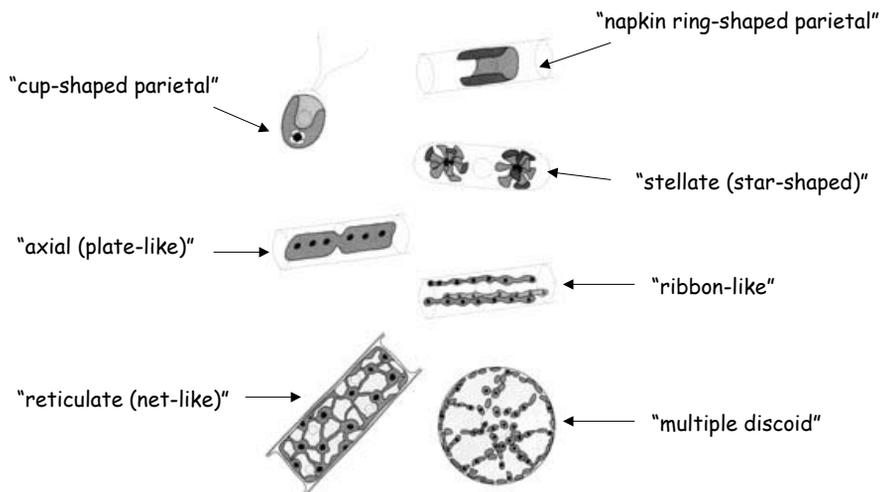
For classes.....  
 .....any easy "rules" using external thallus morphology?

- Prasinophyceans are all unicells, but...



Chlorophyceae    Ulvophyceae    Ulvophyceae

## Diversity in chloroplast shape.....



## Algal Life Cycles

### General Terms.....

Isogamy - sexual fusion between **flagellated gametes** that are **similar** in size and shape

Anisogamy - sexual fusion between **flagellated gametes** of distinctly **different** sizes

Oogamy - sexual fusion between a **flagellated gamete** (sperm) and **non-flagellated gamete** (egg)

Sporophyte - spore-producing phase in alternation of generations

Gametophyte - gamete- producing phase in alternation of generations

14

## Green Algal Life Cycles

Three main patterns:

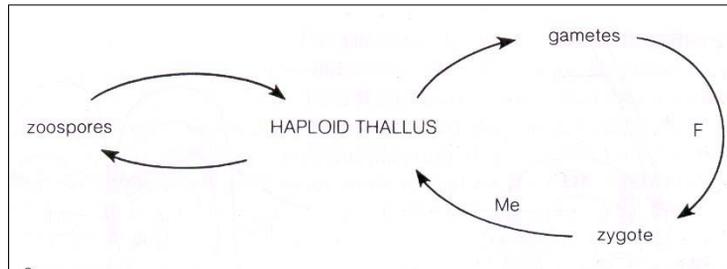
- 1) Haplontic
- 2) Diplontic
- 3) Alternation of Generations
  - Isomorphic
  - Heteromorphic

15

## Green Algal Life Cycles

Three main patterns:

- 1) Haplontic
- 2) Diplontic
- 3) Alternation of Generations
  - Isomorphic
  - Heteromorphic

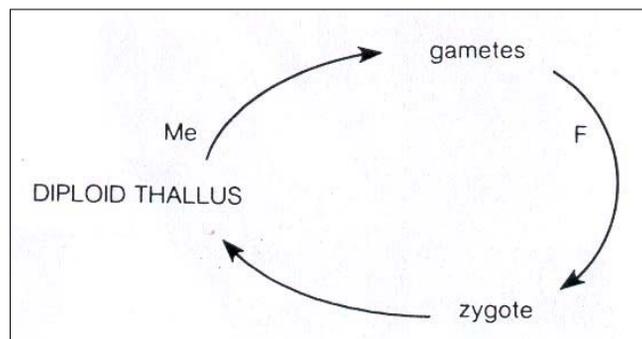


16

## Green Algal Life Cycles

Three main patterns:

- 1) Haplontic
- 2) Diplontic
- 3) Alternation of Generations
  - Isomorphic
  - Heteromorphic



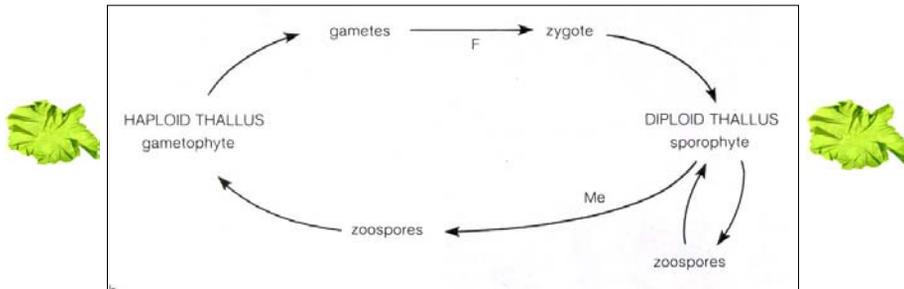
"animal-like" life history

17

## Green Algal Life Cycles

Three main patterns:

- 1) Haplontic
- 2) Diplontic
- 3) Alternation of Generations
  - Isomorphic
  - Heteromorphic

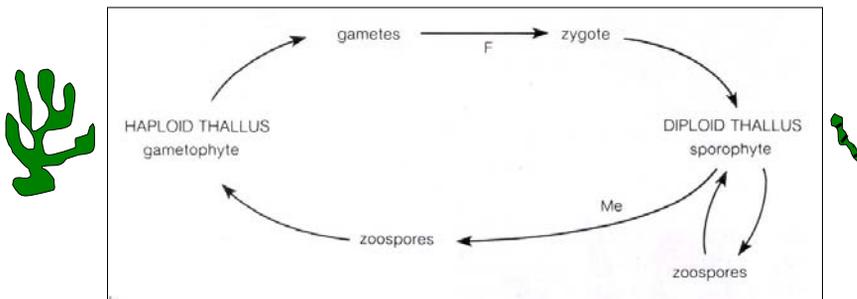


18

## Green Algal Life Cycles

Three main patterns:

- 1) Haplontic
- 2) Diplontic
- 3) Alternation of Generations
  - Isomorphic
  - Heteromorphic



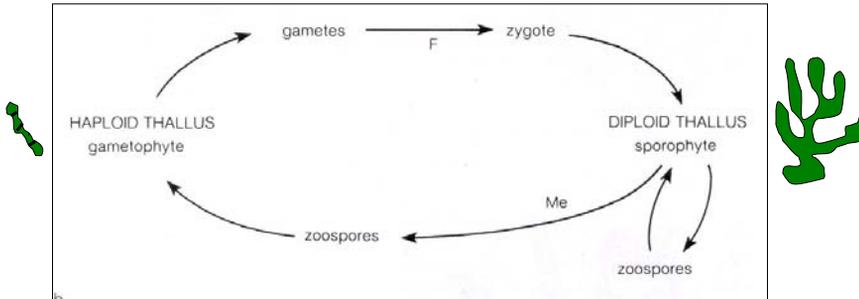
"haplodiplontic"

19

## Green Algal Life Cycles

Three main patterns:

- 1) Haplontic
- 2) Diplontic
- 3) Alternation of Generations
  - Isomorphic
  - Heteromorphic

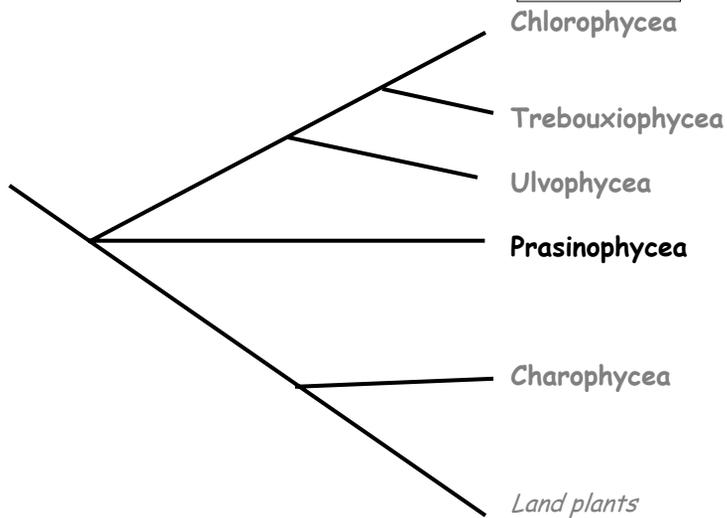


"diplohaplontic"

20

## Chlorophyte Diversity.....

5 classes:



21

## Class Prasinophyceae:



1. How flagella are attached/constructed:
  - basal bodies orientation = variable
  - microtubule roots = variable
2. Cell covering:
  - scales vs. cell wall = scales
3. How cells actually divide:
  - spindle = open or closed
  - microtubule organization = phragmoplast or phycoplast
  - division by = furrow

22

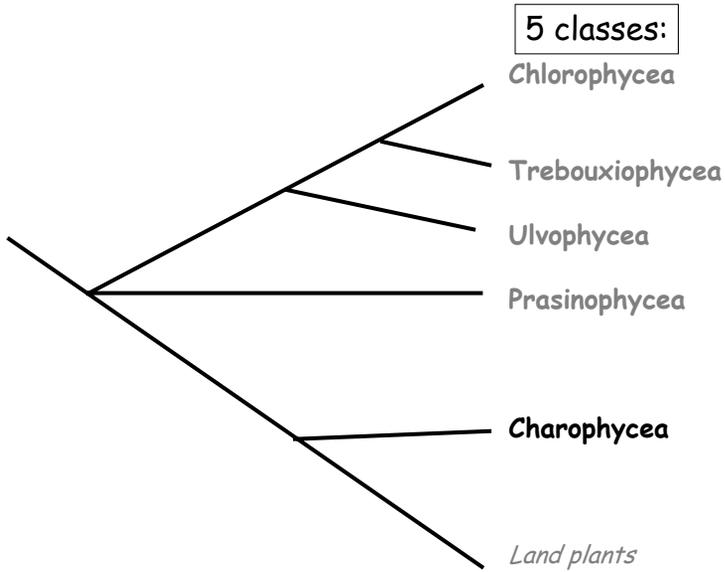
## Class Prasinophyceae:



- ✓ modern representatives of ancestral green
- ✓ unicells, mostly marine flagellates
- ✓ one plastid with one pyrenoid
- ✓ haplontic, isogamous reproduction
- ✓ mostly asexual

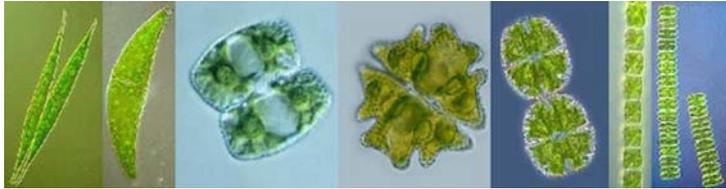
23

## Chlorophyte Diversity.....



24

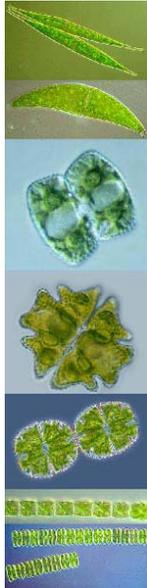
## Class Charophyceae:



1. How flagella are attached/constructed:
  - basal bodies orientation = parallel
  - microtubule roots = broad band
2. Cell covering:
  - scales vs. cell wall = wall
3. How cells actually divide:
  - spindle = open
  - microtubule organization = phragmoplast
  - division by = furrow

25

## Class Charophyceae:



✓ most closely related to terrestrial plants

✓ usually unicells or filaments, but sometimes colonies and more complex forms

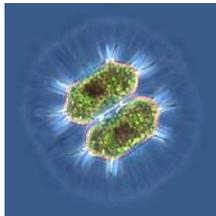
✓ freshwater

✓ haplontic, oogamous reproduction

✓ dormant zygotes

26

## Class Charophyceae:



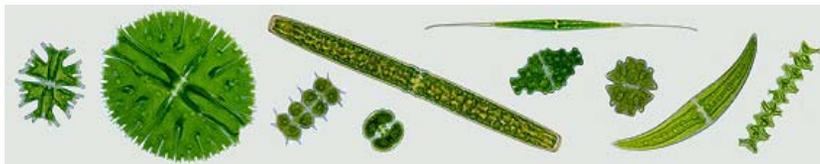
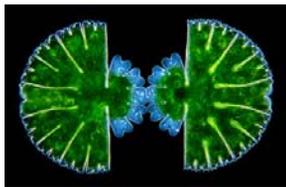
### desmids.....

• 2 semi-cells that are mirror images

• asexual fragmentation; sexual conjugation

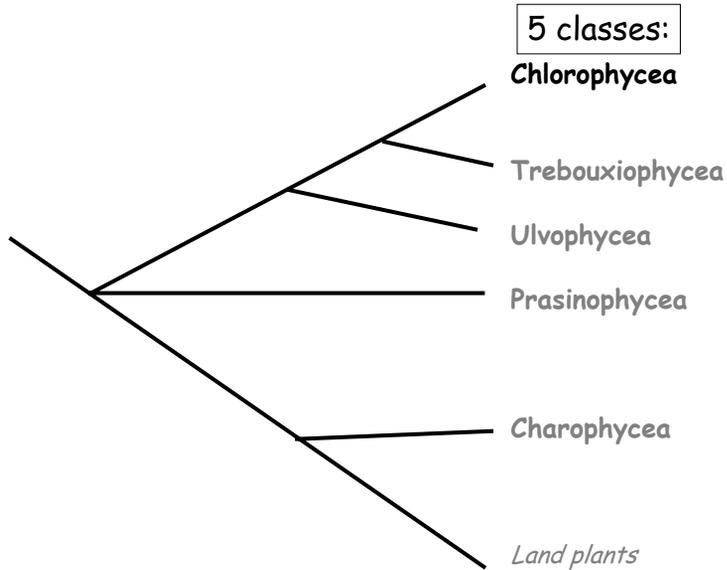
• new half is a different age

• movement through mucilage secretion



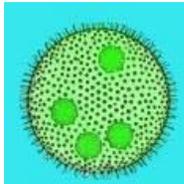
27

## Chlorophyte Diversity.....



28

## Class Chlorophyceae:



1. How flagella are attached/constructed:
  - basal bodies orientation = clockwise
  - microtubule roots = cruciate
2. Cell covering:
  - scales vs. cell wall = wall
3. How cells actually divide:
  - spindle = closed
  - microtubule organization = phycoplast
  - division by = furrowing

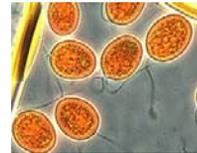
29

## Class Chlorophyceae:

- ✓ 7000+ spp
- ✓ mostly freshwater
- ✓ unicells, colonies, coenocytes, filaments,
- ✓ haplontic life history, with "hypnozygote" = thick walled resting stage
- ✓ isogamous, anisogamous, and oogamous species

### Celebrity genera:

*Chlamydomonas*, *Volvox*, *Dunaliella*



30

## *Chlamydomonas*- algal lab rat

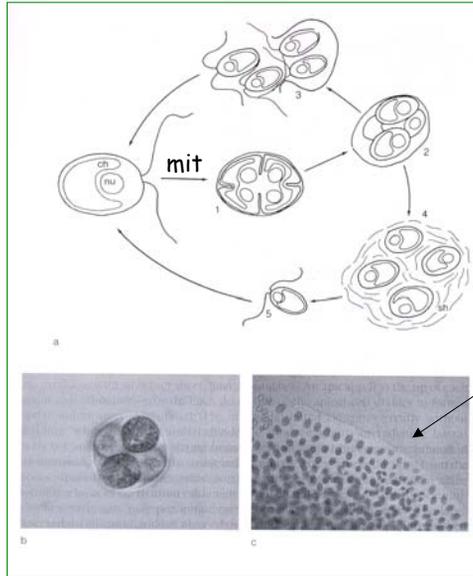


- cup-shaped chloroplast, orange eyespot
- scientists sequenced and mapped genome in 2003
- used as a model to determine how gene expression works
- use mutations to determine where genes are on chromosomes

31

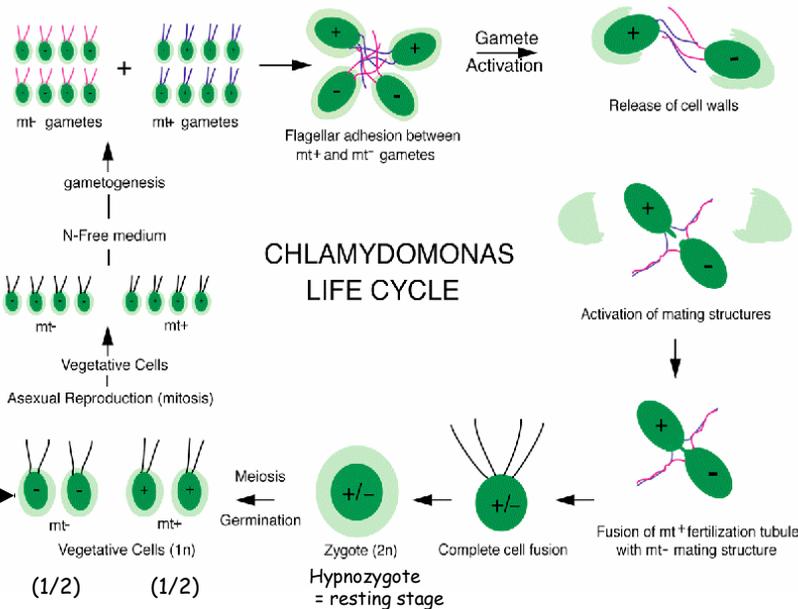
*Chlamydomonas* life history.....

usually asexual...

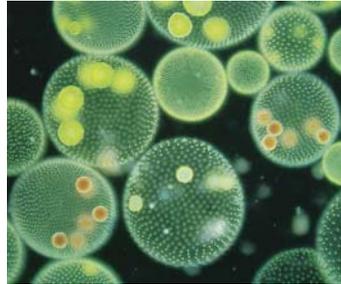
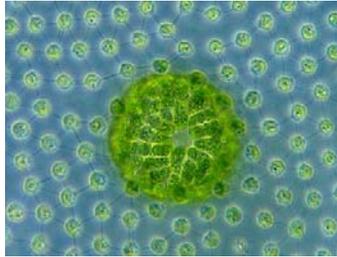


"palmelloid stage"  
→ formed under moist but not fluid conditions

sexual reproduction in unfavorable conditions.....



## Volvox.....

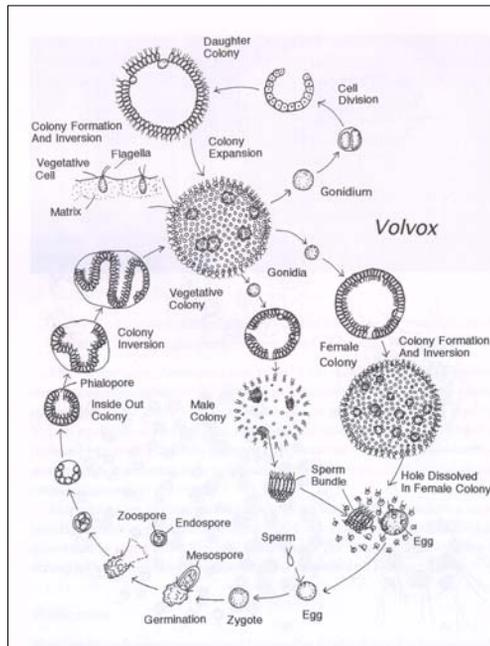


- spherical colonies of 500 - 40,000 cells
- each colony contains a large number of somatic cells and a small number of reproductive cells

34

## Volvox life history...

- oogamous
- haplontic
- gonidium = a cell that divides to form a daughter colony
- meiospore = spore formed from meiosis
- zoospore = spore with flagella



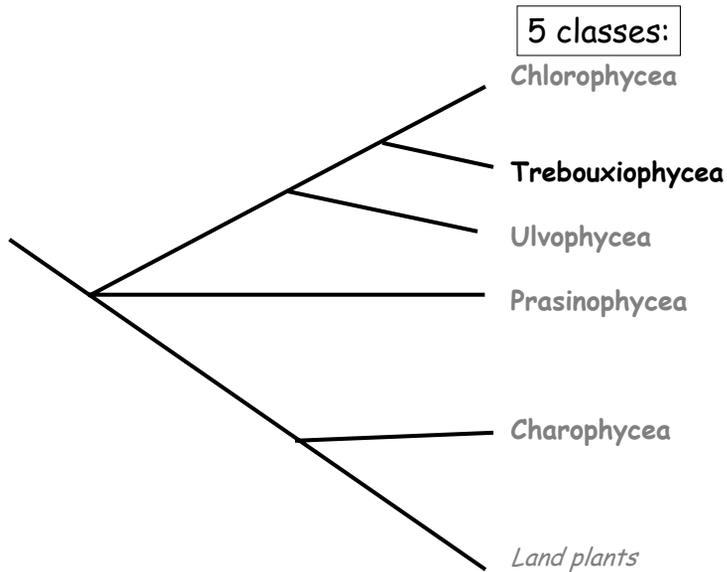
35

*Dunaliella*.....

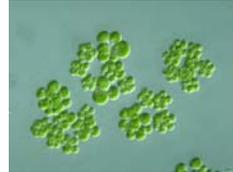


- common in salt ponds
- packed with beta-carotene to protect from UV irradiance
- commercial value (beta-carotene) = used for food coloring and in pharmaceuticals

**Chlorophyte Diversity**.....



## Class Trebouxiophyceae:



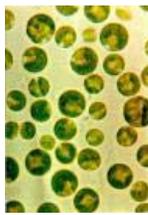
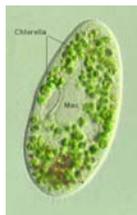
1. How flagella are attached/constructed:
  - basal bodies orientation = counterclockwise
  - microtubule roots = cruciate
2. Cell covering:
  - scales vs. cell wall = wall?
3. How cells actually divide:
  - spindle = closed; **metacentric**
  - microtubule organization = phycoplast
  - division by = furrow

38

## Class Trebouxiophyceae:

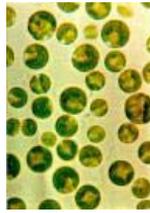
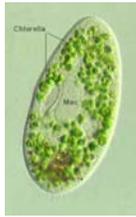
- ✓ freshwater and terrestrial algae
- ✓ unicells, filaments, blades

### Celebrity genus: *Chlorella*



39

## *Chlorella.....*



- unicellular
- endosymbiont in freshwater animals;
- used by *Melvin Calvin* to investigate carbon fixation in plants (Calvin cycle)
- marketed as a dietary supplement

### Health Benefits:

- Help your body remove the heavy metals and other pesticides in your body
- Improve your digestive system, including decreasing constipation
- Focus more clearly and for greater duration
- Balance your body's pH
- Help Eliminate bad breath