

Intensifying biological treatment through selection processes



WEBINAR

14 December 2021 | 14:00 GMT

iwa-network.org/webinars

WEBINAR INFORMATION

- This webinar will be **recorded and made available “on-demand”** on the IWA website.
- Following the webinar, you will be sent a **post-webinar email** with the on-demand recording, presentation slides, and other information.



- **‘Chat’ box**: please use this for general requests and for interactive activities.
- **‘Q&A’ box**: please use this to send questions to the panelists.
(We will answer these during the discussions or in a Q&A report shared after the session)

Please Note: Attendees’ microphones are muted. We cannot respond to ‘Raise Hand’.

NUTRIENT REMOVAL AND RECOVERY SPECIALIST GROUP



A screenshot of the IWA Connect website's 'Nutrient Removal and Recovery' Specialist Group page. The page has a dark header with a landscape image and navigation tabs: 'Timeline', 'Group members', 'Pages', and 'Documents'. Below the header, there's a section for 'About: Specialist group' with a 'Show more' link. A user profile section shows a post by Rachna Sarkari from November 1st, titled 'Upcoming IWA Webinar - Intensifying biological treatment through selection processes', scheduled for 14 DECEMBER 2021 at 14:00 (London Time). The post text mentions a webinar organized by the Specialist Group on Nutrient Removal and Recovery (NRR) on Tuesday 14 December 2021 at 15:00 Amsterdam (CEST), 14:00 London (BST), 09:00 New York (EDT), and 21:00 Beijing (CST), with a 'Register Now!' link. To the right, there are sections for 'Group committee' (listing AS, BB, DG and 14 others), 'Group members' (listing AA, AM, AH, AW and 2752 others), 'Sub groups' (listing NRR Management Committee), and a 'Calendar' section.

The Nutrient Removal and Recovery (NRR) SG focuses on cutting edge fundamental and applied research in nutrient removal and recovery technologies, and applications of those technologies in the design, operation, and optimisation of wastewater treatment systems.

Join the NRR group on IWA Connect!

<https://iwa-connect.org/group/nutrient-removal-and-recovery/timeline>

AGENDA

- Welcome, housekeeping rules, introduction
[Pusker Regmi and Krishna Pagilla](#)
- A Remembrance of Prof. David Jenkins
[JB Neethling, Paul Pitt and Sarah Jenkins Muren](#)
- Biomass Form and Function Relationships in AS Process
[Krishna Pagilla and Andrew Schuler](#)
- Classification of bacteria to solve foaming and separation problems
[Krishna Pagilla](#)
- Consideration of biomass density to improve activated sludge settling
[Andrew Schuler](#)
- *Q&A with audience*
- Biological selection of granules in continuous flow systems
[Mari Winkler](#)
- Biological architecture for flocs and granules in continuous flow systems
[Pusker Regmi](#)
- *Q&A with audience*
- Final remarks and conclusion
[JB Neethling](#)

MODERATORS AND PANELISTS



JB Neethling
HDR
Wastewater
Treatment and
Effluent
Management



Krishna Pagilla
University of
Nevada



Andrew Schuler
University of
New Mexico



Mari Winkler
University of
Washington



Pusker Regmi
Brown and
Caldwell,
Washington DC



Paul Pitt
Hazen and
Sawyer

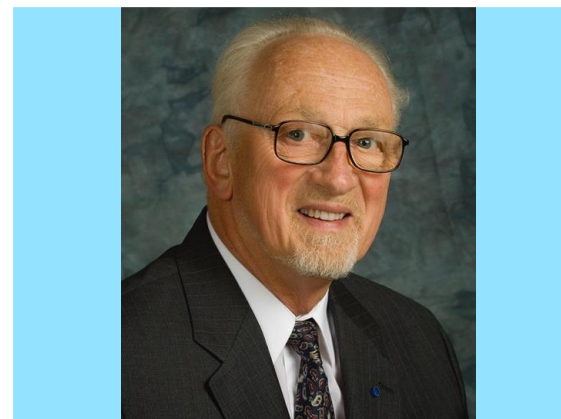


**Sarah Jenkins
Muren**
*Daughter of late
Prof. David
Jenkins*

A Tribute to Professor David Jenkins (1935-2021)

EDUCATOR, SCIENTIST, COLLEAGUE, FRIEND

inspiring change



David Jenkins (1935-2021)

Educator
Scientist
Colleague
Friend

Sarah Muren, JB Neethling, Paul Pitt
Andrew Schuler, James Barnard, B Narayanan, Krishna Pagilla



PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



PhD, Kings College, 1960
Began as faculty at UC Berkeley in 1963
National Academy of Engineering
Berkeley Citation Award
Gordon Maskew Fair Medal, Water
Environment Federation
George Bradley Gasgoine Medal, Water
Pollution Control Federation
Simon Freeze Award and Lectureship, ASCE
Harrison Prescott Eddy Medal, Water
Environment Federation (3x)
**International Water Association
Samuel H. Jenkins Outstanding Service
Award**

BORN INTO A LEGACY



David



David

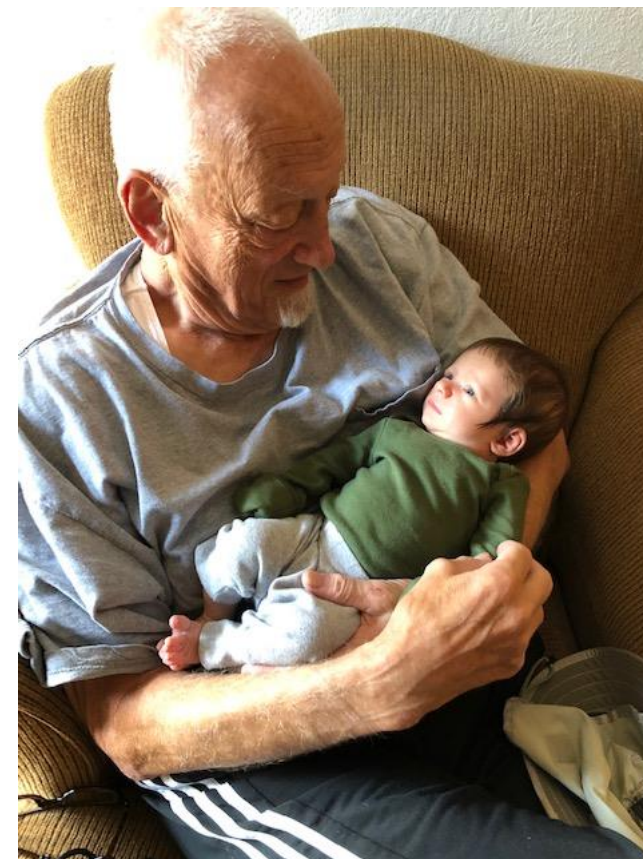
Samuel H. Jenkins
father



Olive Jenkins
mother

DAVID AND JOAN: A TRUE PARTNERSHIP

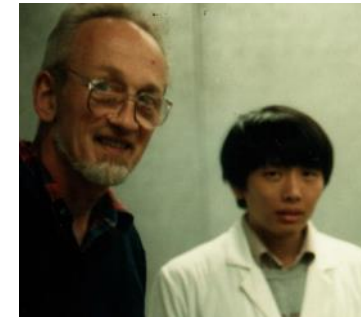
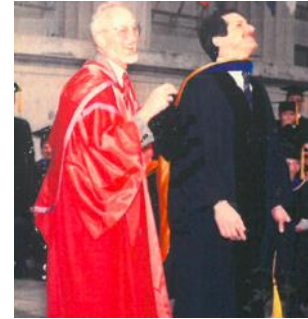


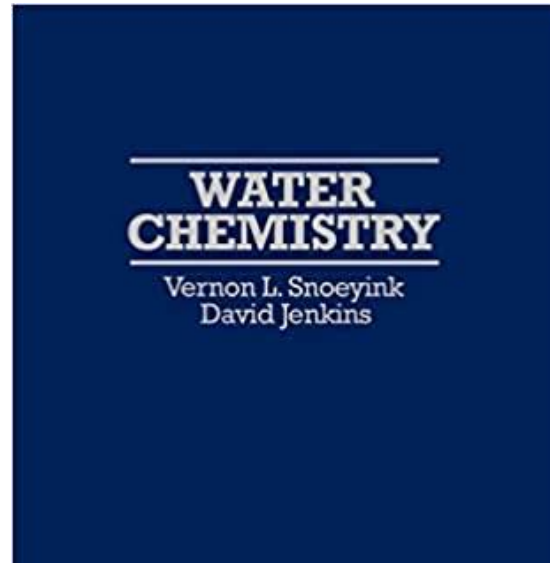
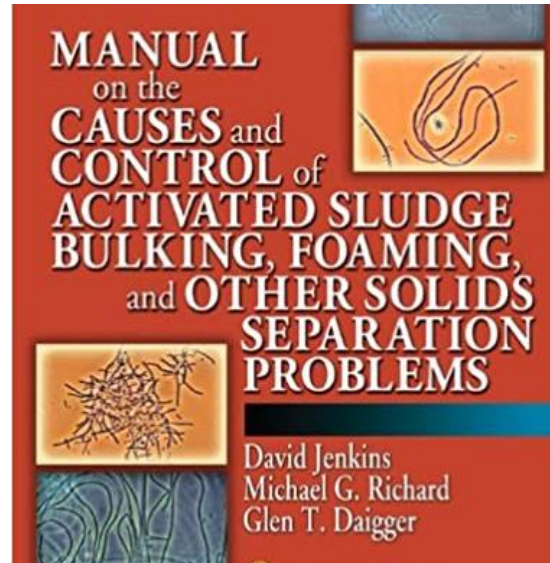


A PART OF THE FAMILY



DAVID THE EDUCATOR





Major areas of contribution the Floc Doc

- Water chemistry
- Selectors, foaming and bulking
 - Chemical P removal
- Biological nutrient removal
- Troubleshooting activated sludge problems around the world!

Biomass Form and Function Relationships in AS Process

KRISHNA PAGILLA, PHD, PE
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO, USA

ANDREW SCHULER, PHD, PE
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO



University of Nevada, Reno



WHAT IS INTENSIFICATION?

The term “**Intensification**” originates in chemical engineering, where we find many definitions:

“Process intensification involves design of novel reactors of increased volumetric productivity and selectivity and reduced energy use without sacrificing product quality and safety.”

P.A. Ramachandran, R.V. Chaudhari, in *Encyclopedia of Sustainable Technologies*, 2017

“Any chemical engineering development that leads to a substantially smaller, cleaner, safer, and more energy efficient technology”

Stankiewicz and Moulijn, 2000, *Chemical Engineering Progress*, Jan 2000.

- We propose: “Any engineering development that leads to a smaller system, better effluent quality, and/or improved energy efficiency.”

WHAT IS INTENSIFICATION?

- Intensification typically involves increasing volumetric rates mass removal/(reactor volume*time).

$$\text{Volumetric rate} = \text{specific rate} * \text{biomass concentration}$$

$$\text{mg contaminant}/(\text{L} * \text{d}) = \text{mg contaminant}/(\text{mg biomass} * \text{d}) * \text{mg biomass}/\text{L}$$

- We can therefore think of intensification as including 2 components:
 - Increasing specific rates (contaminant removal/(biomass*time)) [Kinetic acceleration]
 - Increasing biomass concentration (mass biomass/time) [Densification] (more on this later)

Progression of wastewater treatment

Intensity



Required bioreactor volume



Contaminant concentrations



1900

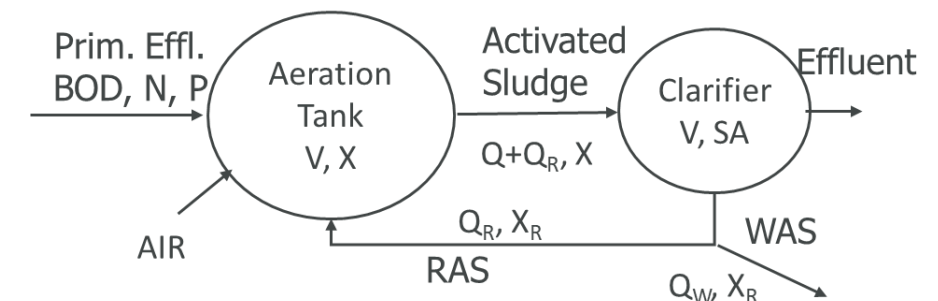
2021

Intensification over the years

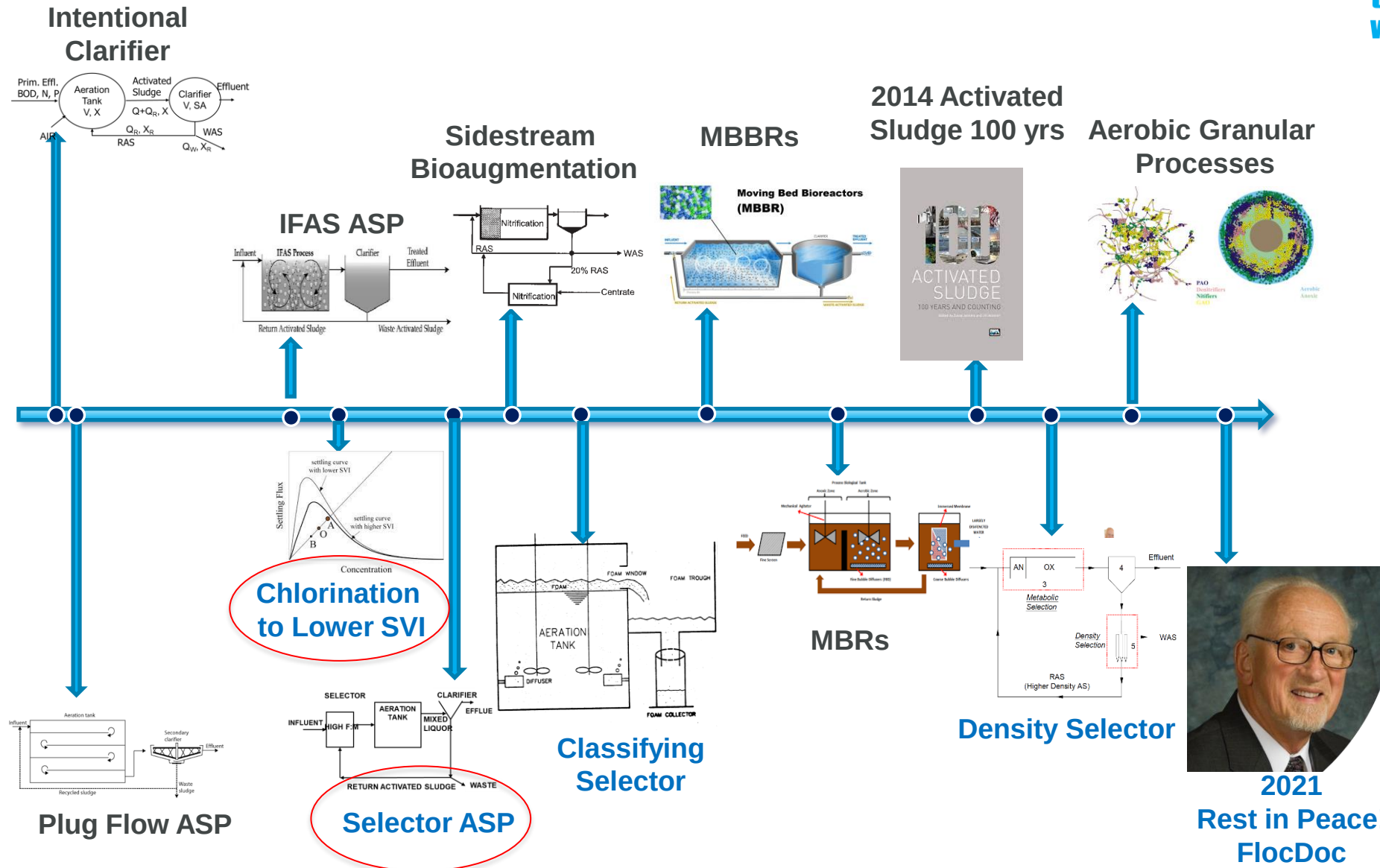
- Dilution is solution to pollution!
 - Discharge sewage to rivers, lakes, ponds and lagoons – natural assimilation by **suspended and attached biomass**
- Drip sewage over rocks for BOD removal by **attached biomass**
 - Early trickling filters
- **Aerate** sewage in tanks and **settle** the biomass
 - Arden and Lockett Activated Sludge Process
- Introduce **clarifier or settling tank** following the aeration tank to recycle biomass
 - Classical activated sludge process and its modifications
- Make it more mechanical and advanced for resource recovery
 - e.g., AGS, MBRs, MBBRs, C/N/P recovery ASPs

Intensification of Activated Sludge Process

- Add clarifier and biomass recycle
- Pure oxygen instead of air
- Plug flow versus CSTR
- High biomass conc/Flux rates
- Integrated fixed film systems
- Increase settleability of biomass
- Sidestream bioaugmentation
- Surface wasting to eliminate oaming
- Membrane bioreactors/MBBRs
- Density selection through hydrocyclones
- Granular processes



Developments in Intensification and/or Densification of Activated Sludge Process



Classifying Bacteria to Solve Foaming and Separation Problems

KRISHNA PAGILLA, PHD, PE
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO, USA



University of Nevada, Reno



In Memory of Prof. David Jenkins

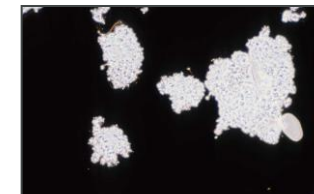
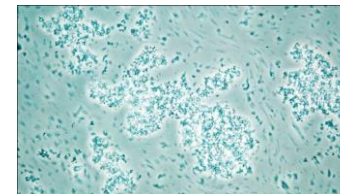
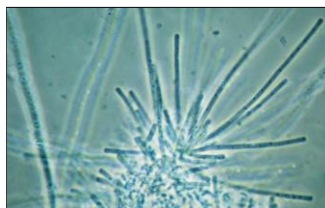
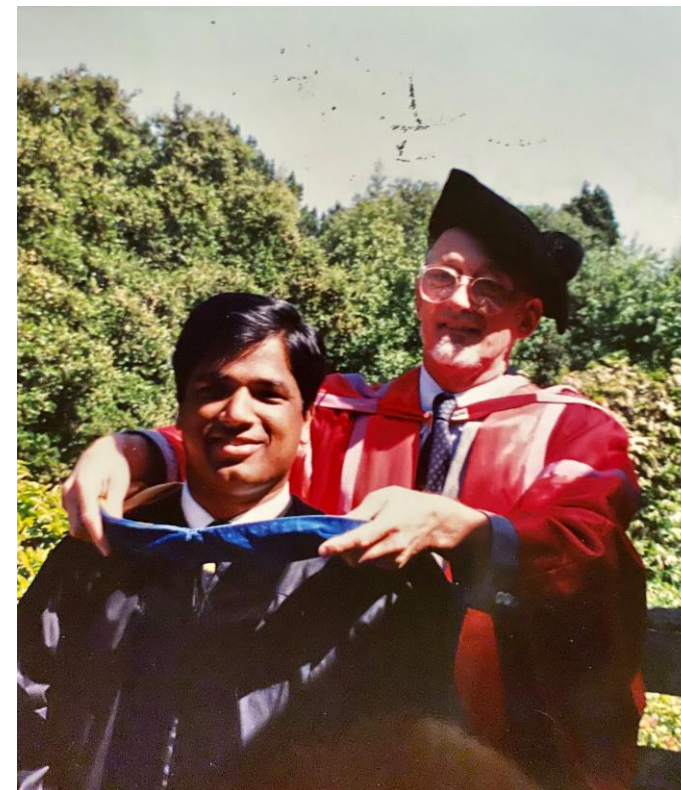


David Jenkins
1935 -2021

“Floc-Doc”
UC Berkeley 1962-

My time at Berkeley –
1989 – 1994

Activated Sludge,
Filaments, Flocs,
Microscopy, Selectors,
Selective Wasting,
Waste Sludge
Chlorination, EBPR,
Water Chemistry



Activated Sludge Foaming and Bulking

- **BULKING**

- TOO MANY FILAMENTS
- HIGH SVI, CLEAR SUPERNATANT

- **PIN POINT FLOC**

- LACK OF FILAMENTS
- LOW SVI, TURBID EFFLUENT

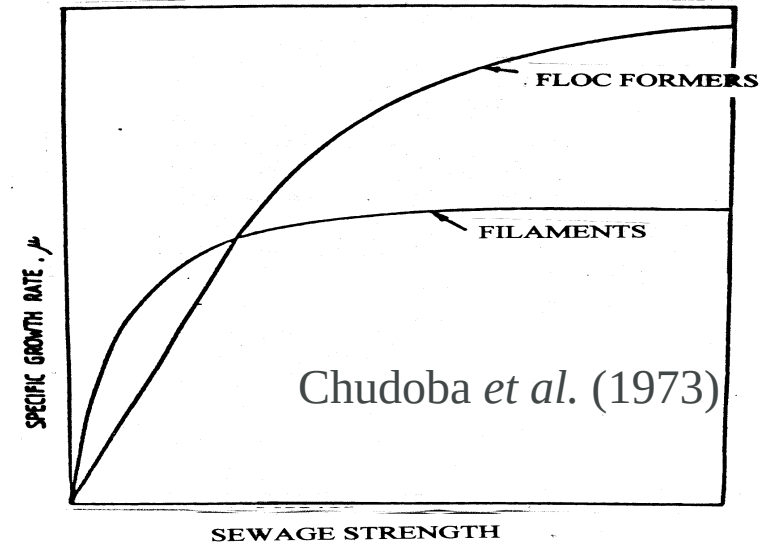
- **RISING SLUDGE**

- DENITRIFICATION PRODUCING NITROGEN GAS
- LARGE CLUMPS OF RISING SLUDGE
- HIGH SOLIDS INVENTORY IN CLARIFIER

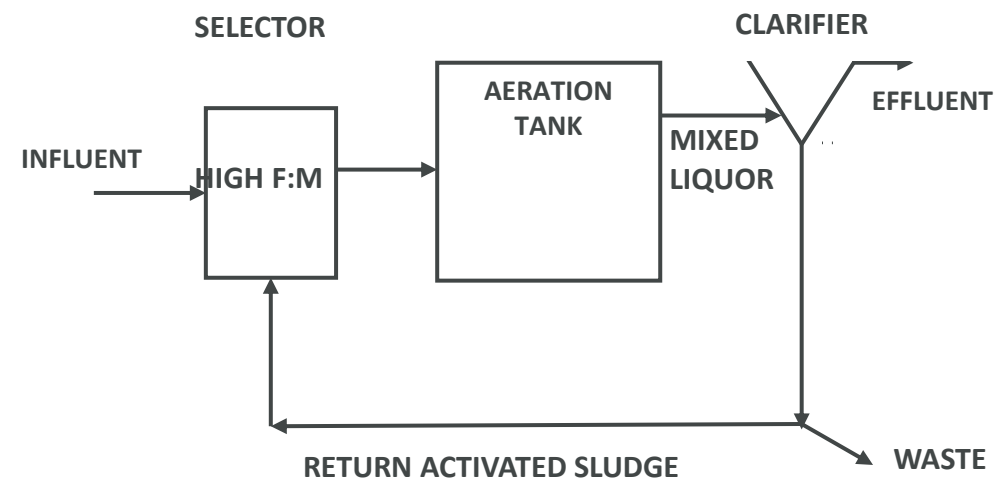
- **FOAMING**

- CHOCOLATE-COLORED STABLE FOAM
- *GORDONIA* OR *MICROTHRIX* BACTERIA
- SMALLER FILAMENTOUS BACTERIA (<50 μm)

Jenkins *et al.* (1993)



Kinetic/Metabolic Selectors



Activated Sludge Foaming and Control



Gordona amarae



Activated Sludge Foam



Microthrix parvicella

FOAMING EFFECTS

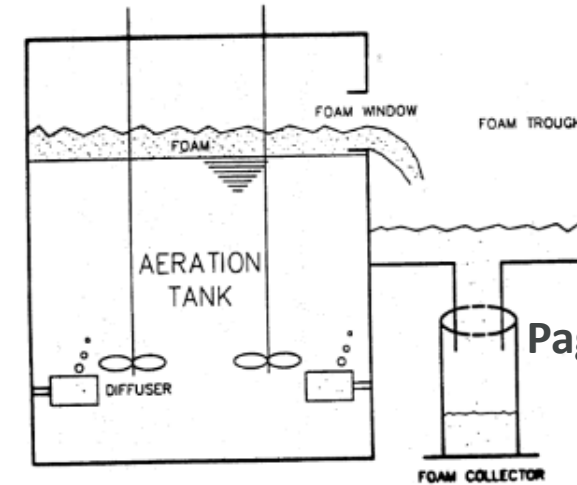
- Loss of Foam Solids – High Eff TSS
- Low MLSS in Aeration Tanks (Densification Loss)
- Foam in Aeration Tanks – Low Oxygen Transfer
- Scum/Sludge Pump Cavitation
- Anaerobic Digester Foaming
- Unsafe and Unsightly Conditions Due to Foam

BULKING VERSUS FOAMING ISSUES

- Activated Sludge Foaming - Excessive *Gordona* or *Microthrix*
- Filamentous Bulking Control Strategies Do Not Work
- *Gordona* Are Embedded in the Flocs (Not Extended Out) and Chemical Treatment Does Not Work
- Biological Selectors Do Not Work Well
- *Gordona* Foaming is Common Even Low Mean Cell Residence Time
- Foam Trapping Enables *Gordona*/*Microthrix* Persistence in AS

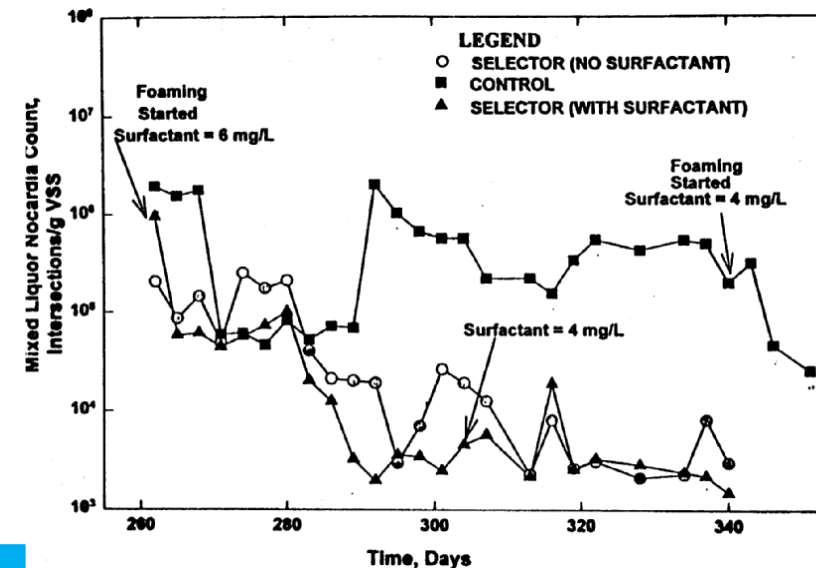
Classifying Selector for Foaming Control

- Works on the Principle of Selective Foam Wasting From the Surface of the Tank _ Selecting Out Nuisance Organisms
- Waste Foam at a Faster Rate Than Accumulation/Growth Rate
- Foam Solids SRT or MCRT is Higher than Activated Sludge SRT
- Do Not Recycle Foam to the Plant or Feed to the Digesters (Foam Trapping)
- Best to have the Classifying Selector System on RAS and Aeration Tank Mixed Liquor Channels

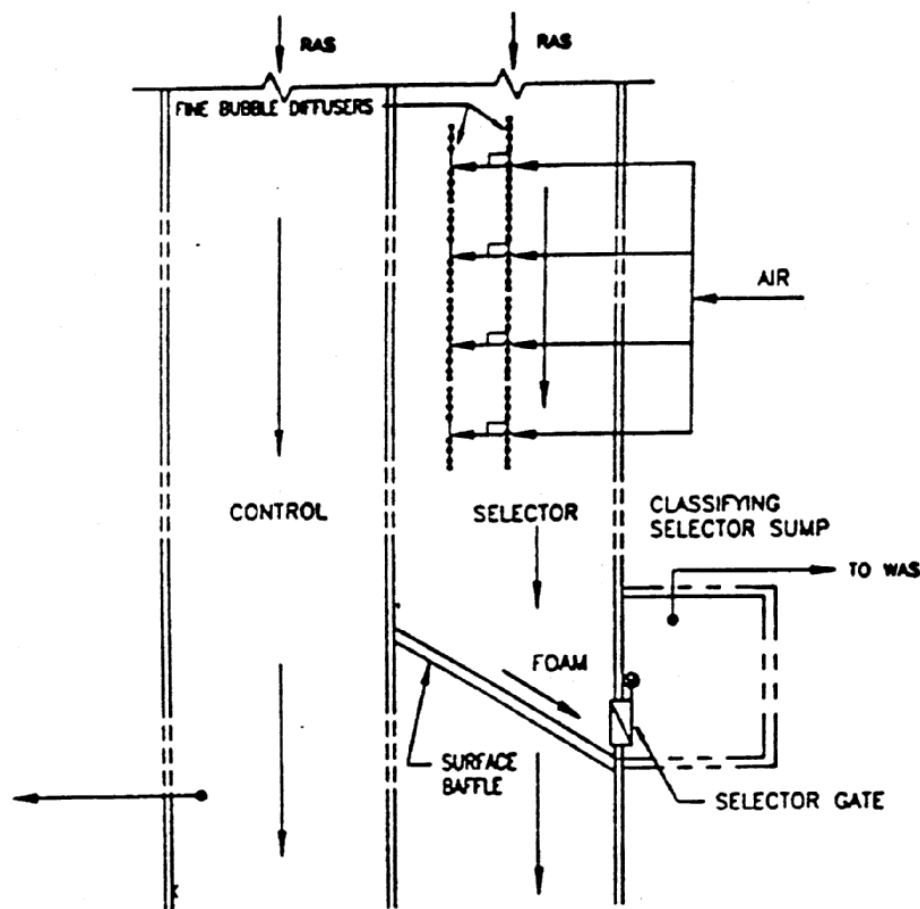


Lab Scale Classifying Selector

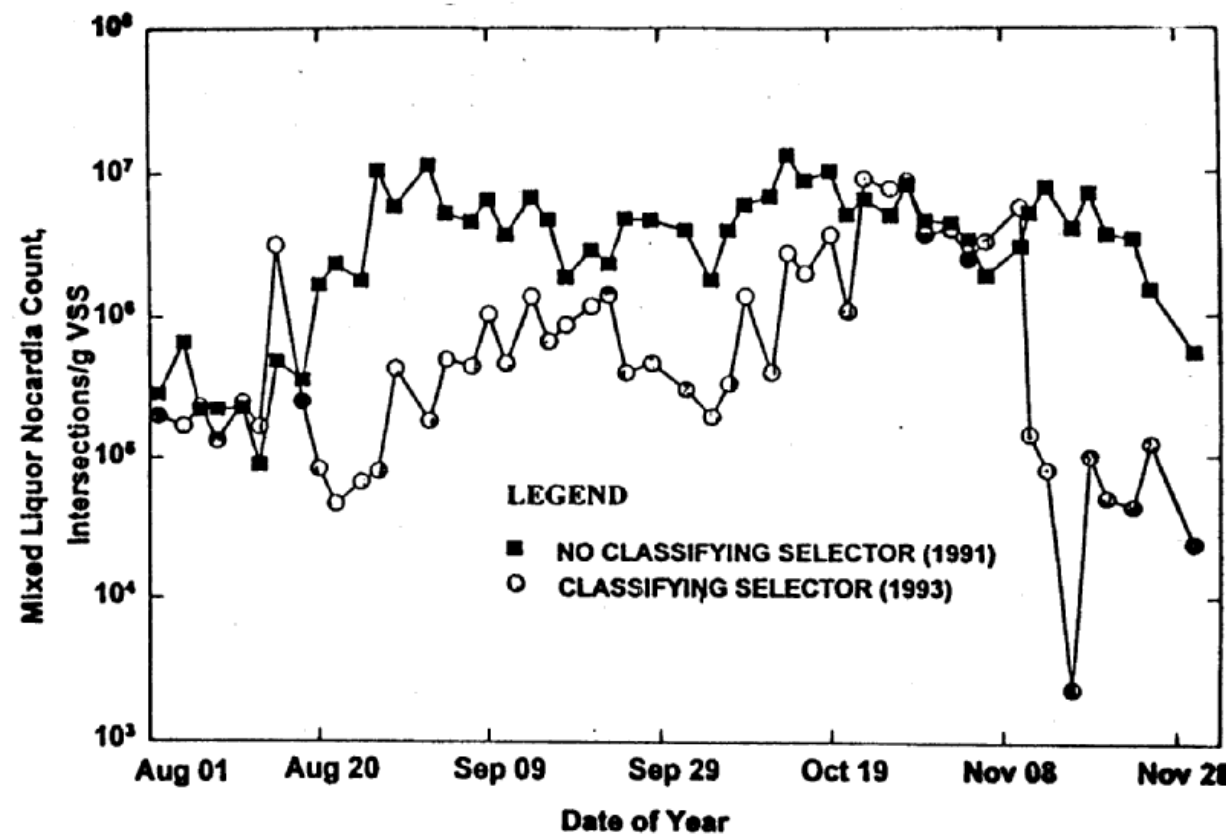
Pagilla et al., 1996, WER



Full Scale Classifying Selector for Foaming Control

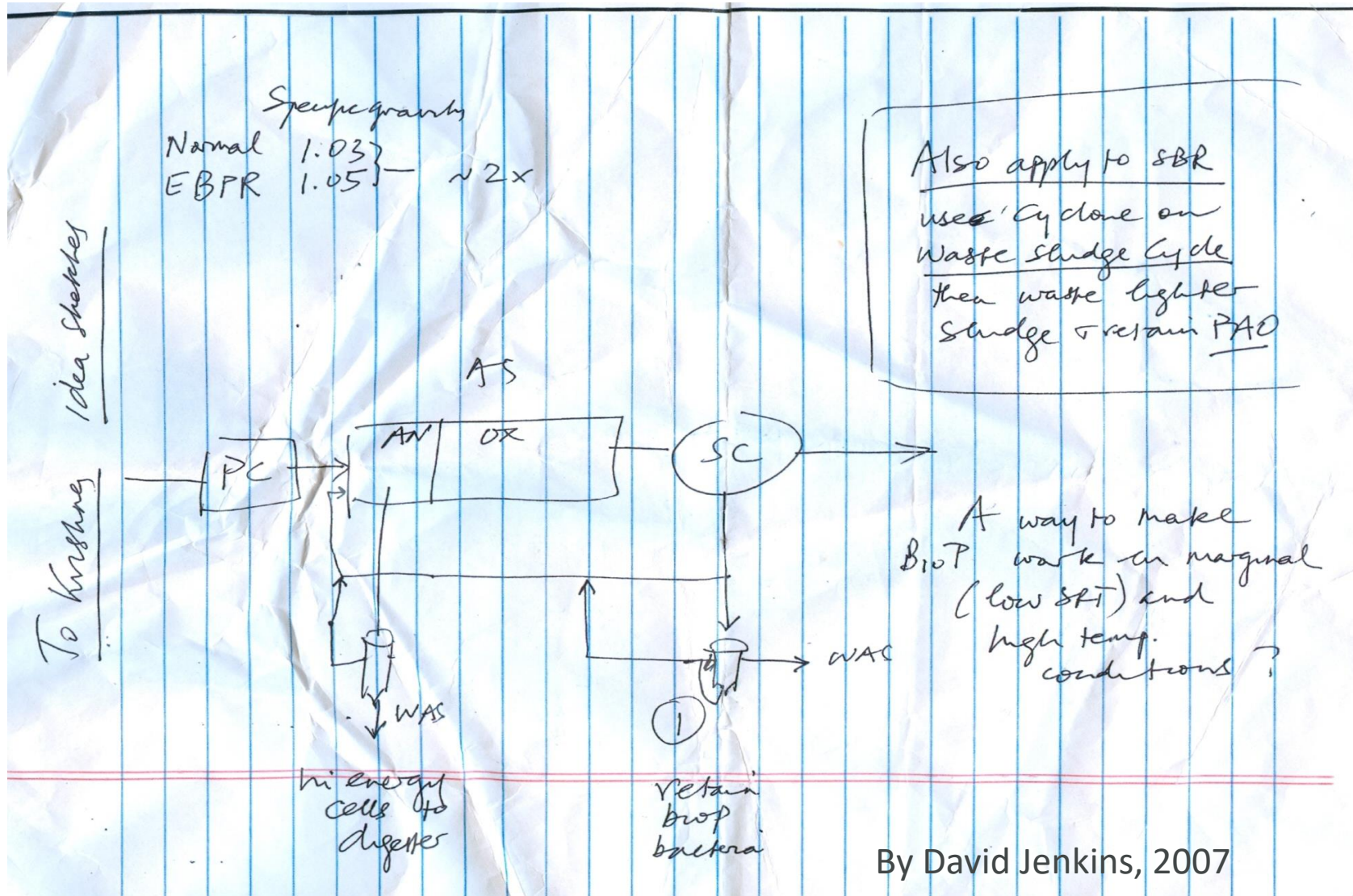


Full Scale Classifying Selector



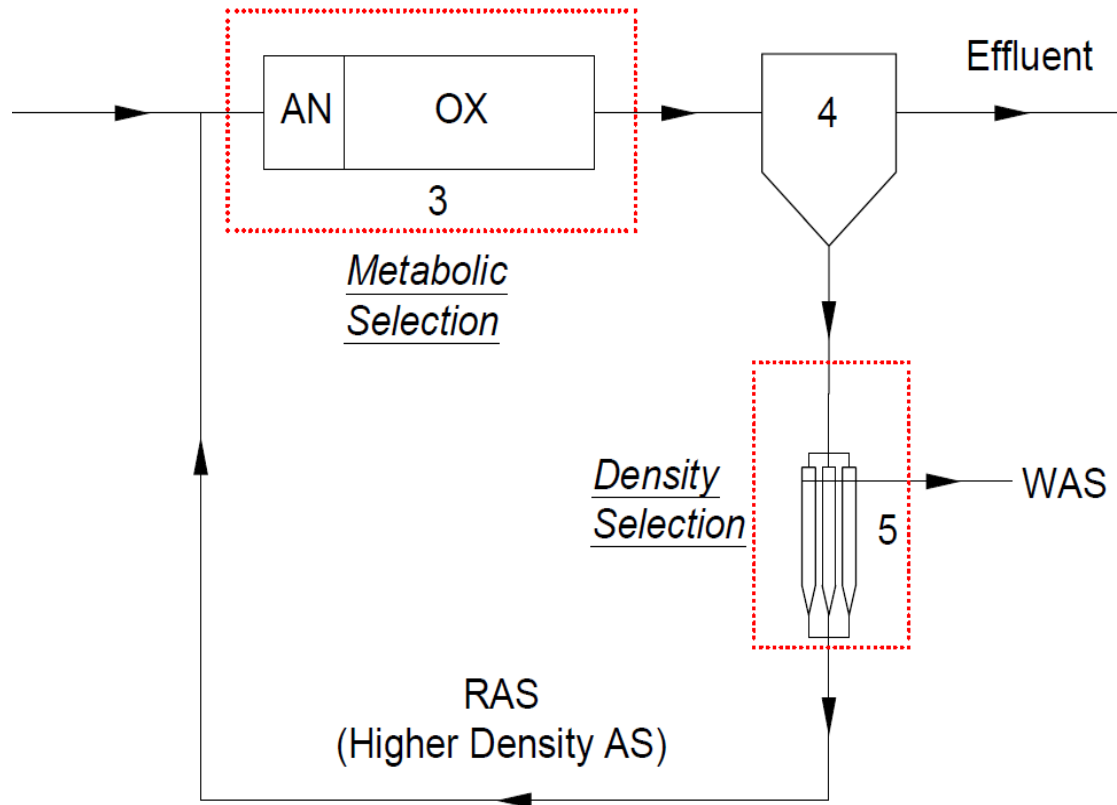
Pagilla et al., 1996, WER

Density Selector for PAOs in Enhanced Biological P Removal – Classification Again!

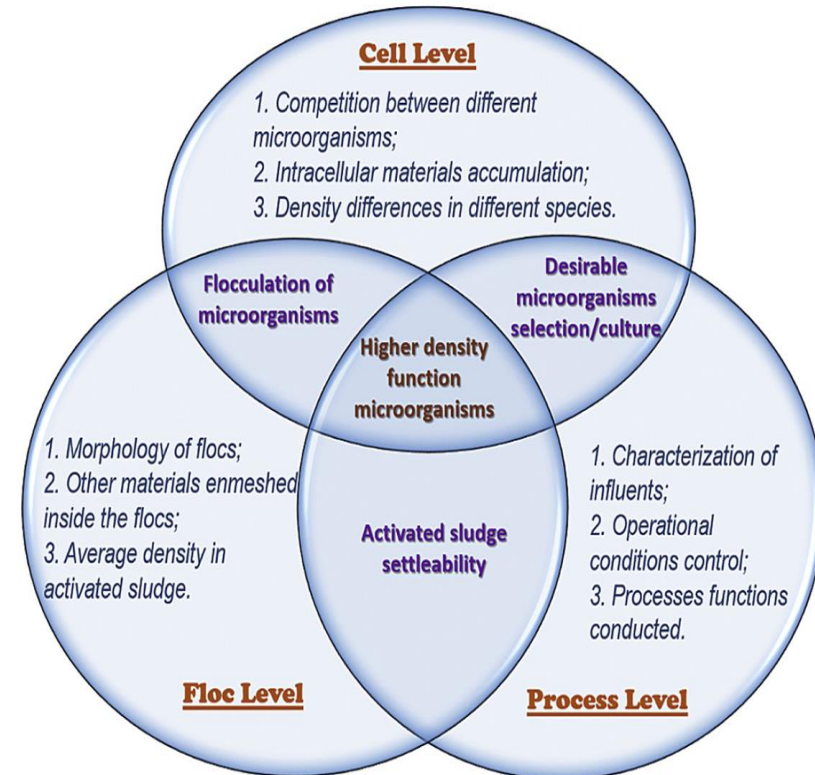


By David Jenkins, 2007

Biomass Density- Function Relationships in AS Process

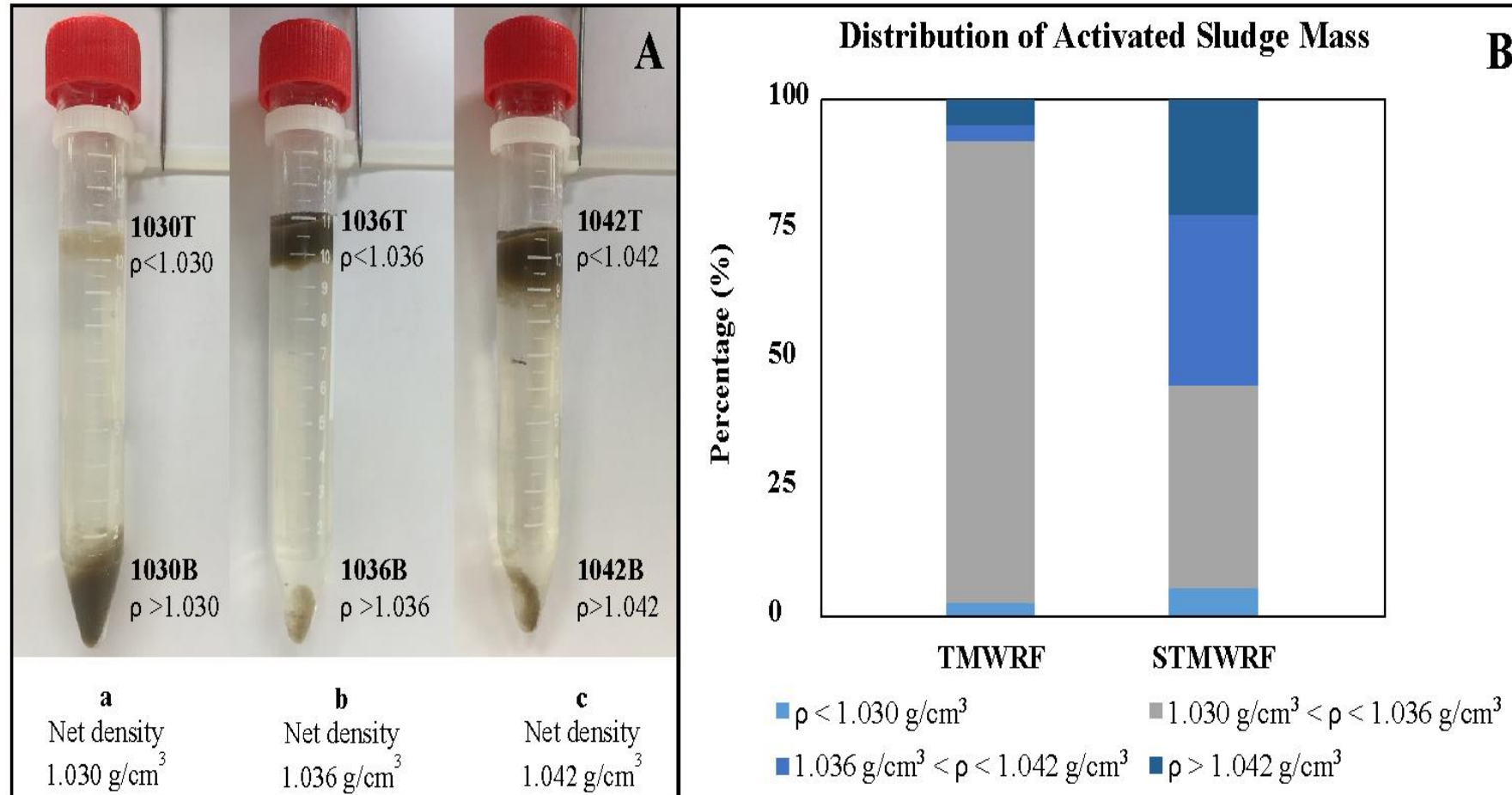


Density Selector for AS Biomass



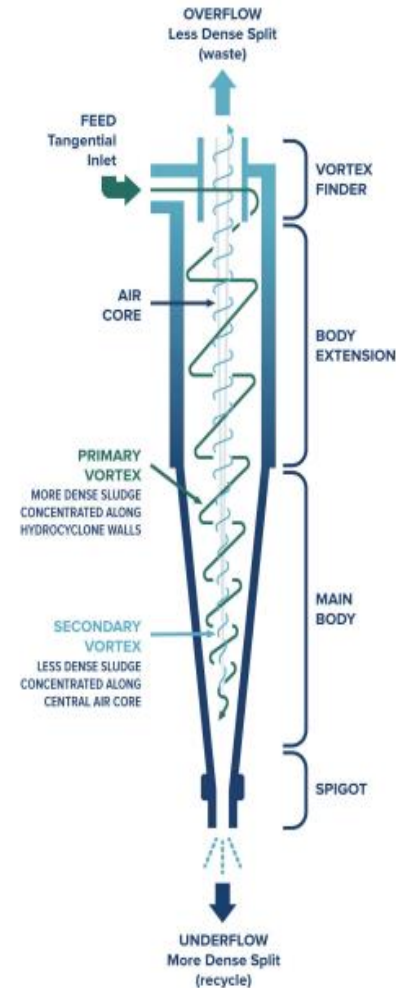
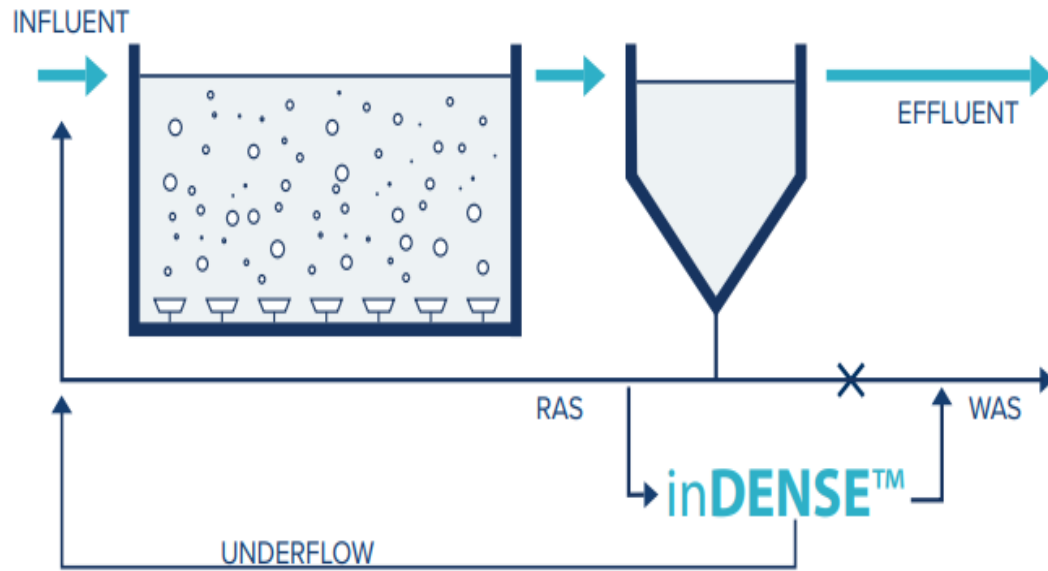
Li and Pagilla 2017, Water Res.

Biomass Separation by Percoll (Density) Method



Li et al., 2020, IJERPH

inDENSE Process (World Water Works)



More Possibilities for Selection

- Membranes
- Packed Bed Granular Reactor (?)
- Anaerobic Carbon Capture
- Electrochemical Systems
- What drives future developments in densification and intensification?
 - Net-zero emissions, resource recovery?

IWA-LET.ORG



The 17th IWA Leading Edge Conference on Water and Wastewater Technologies (LET 2022)

March 27 – April 2, 2022

Nugget Resort, Reno-Sparks, Nevada, USA

University of Nevada, Reno



Co-Hosts

University of Nevada, Reno
Nevada Water Innovation Institute
International Water Association



University of Nevada, Reno

Lake Tahoe

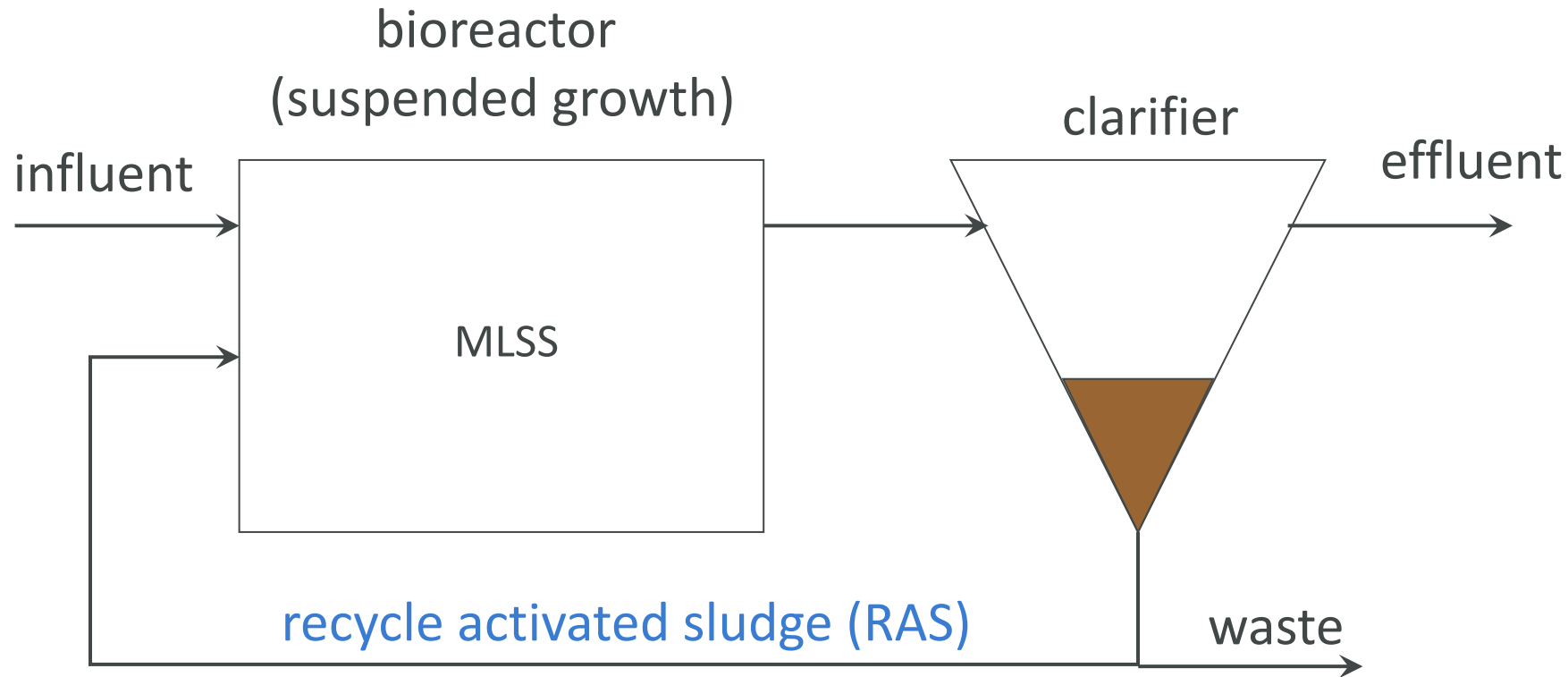


Consideration of biomass density to improve activated sludge settling

ANDREW SCHULER, PHD, PE
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO



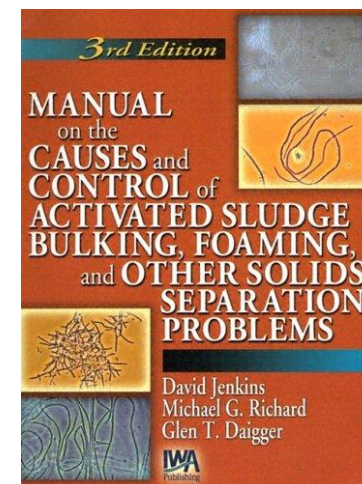
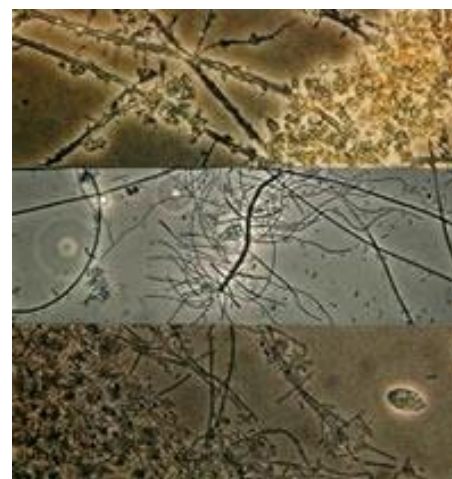
SETTLING AND INTENSIFICATION



Better settling → more concentrated RAS → greater clarifier capacity
→ increased mixed liquor suspended solids (MLSS)

“CONVENTIONAL” FACTORS KNOWN TO AFFECT SETTLING

- Filaments!
- Floc shape, size
- Process parameters:
 - Dissolved oxygen, F/M ratio, pH, temperature, etc.



MOTIVATION: CONSIDER THE FORCES ON A SETTLING FLOC

Driving force:

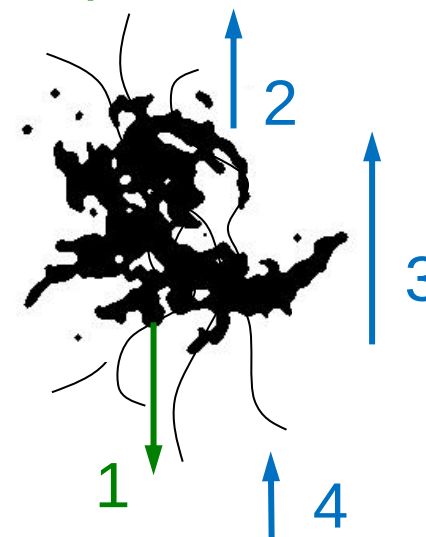
1. Weight of floc (density - previously neglected)

Resistance forces:

2. Weight of displaced H_2O

3. Drag forces
(viscous, momentum)

4. Compressive resistance
(floc deformation)

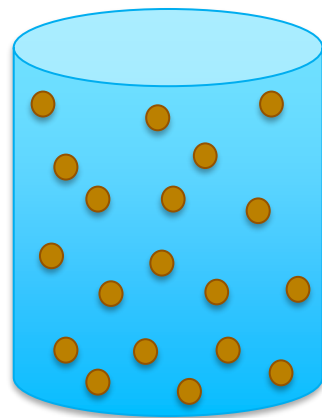


Filaments

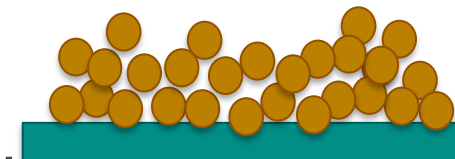
LET'S DEFINE SOME TERMS

- **Density** = mass/volume... but which volume?
- 1. Mass per **bulk volume** = concentration

a dense solution
(high concentration)



a dense biofilm
(high local concentration)

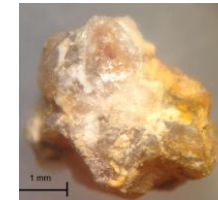


- **Densification** commonly used to mean **increasing concentration**
(an unfortunate term!)

ALTERNATIVE DEFINITION: PARTICLE DENSITY

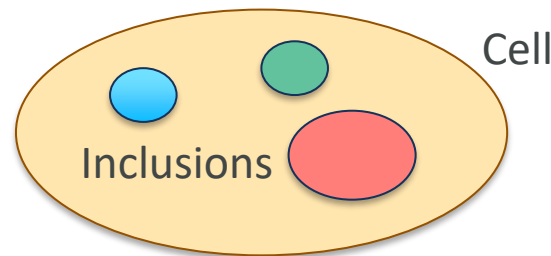
- 2. In physics, materials science etc.:

Density (ρ) = mass/particle volume



ρ sand = 2.65 g/cm³

- In our world: ρ = mass/cell, floc, or other biomass volume

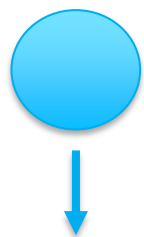


In this talk “density” means particle density

- Densification** $\neq$ increasing particle density

ANOTHER TERM: BUOYANT DENSITY

- The simplest case: discrete settling velocity of a sphere (Stokes):



$$v = \frac{d^2 (r_P - r_L) g}{18m}$$

buoyant density =
particle density (ρ_p) - liquid density (ρ_L)

$\rho_L = 1$ g/mL in our case

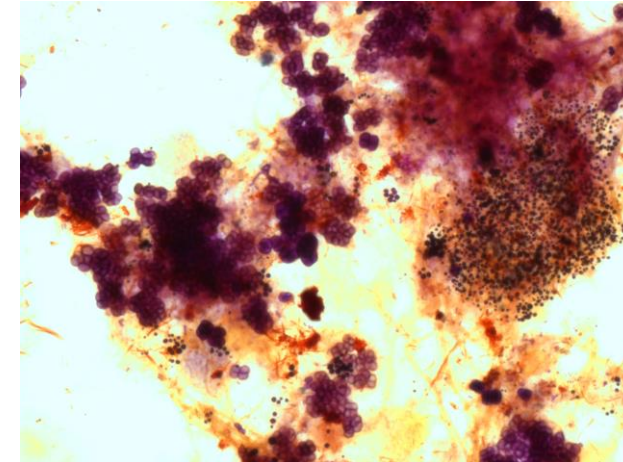
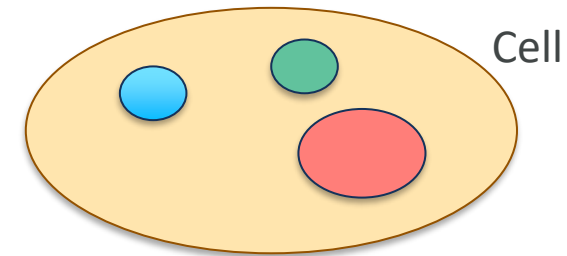
Buoyant density = net driving force of sedimentation

Linear relationship:

If you double buoyant density, you double settling velocity (true for discrete, hindered, and compression settling).

WHY WOULD BIOMASS DENSITY VARY?

- Microbial storage products are more dense than typical biomass
 - Typical activated sludge ~ 1.03-1.06 g/mL*
 - Polyphosphate density ~ 1.23 g/mL

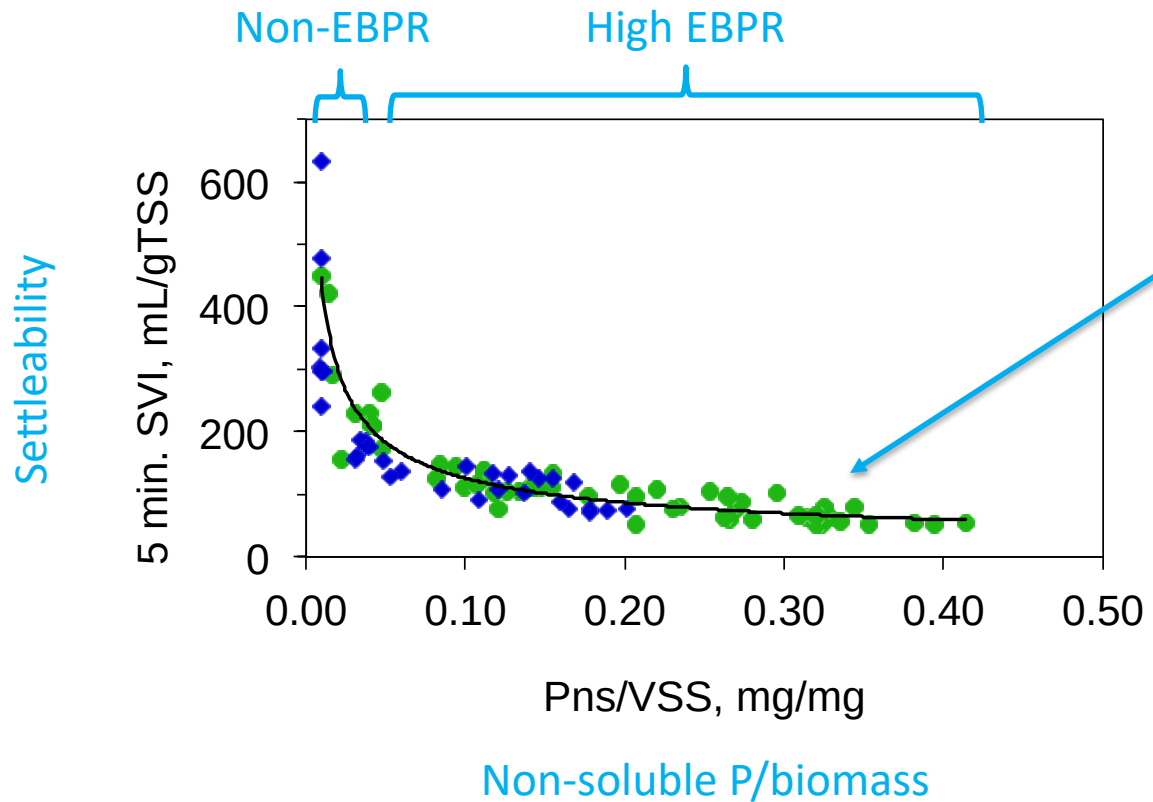


Neisser (polyphosphate) stain of activated sludge floc

*Dammel and Shroeder, 1991, *Water Res.* 25(7) 841-845



THE BEGINNING: SERENDIPITOUS OBSERVATIONS IN PAO/GAO LAB STUDY (PHD WITH JENKINS)



Daily manual wasting from reactors:
Enhanced Biological Phosphorus Removal
(EBPR) biomass settled like a rock!



Non-EBPR

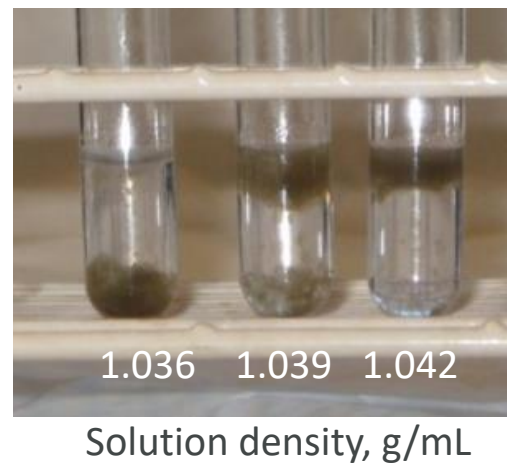
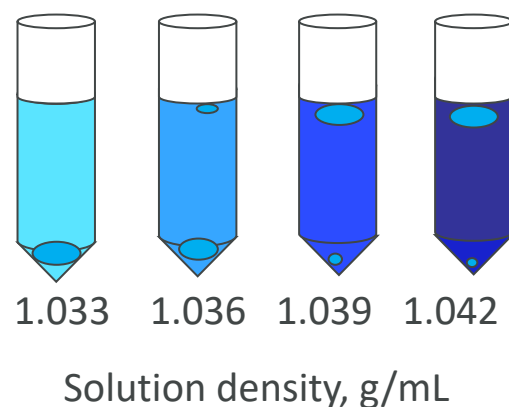


EBPR

Schuler, Jenkins, and Ronen (2001) Microbial storage products, biomass density, and settling properties of enhanced biological phosphorus removal activated sludge, *Wat. Sci. Technol.* 43(1) pp 173-180.

DEVELOPMENT OF DENSITY MEASUREMENT METHOD

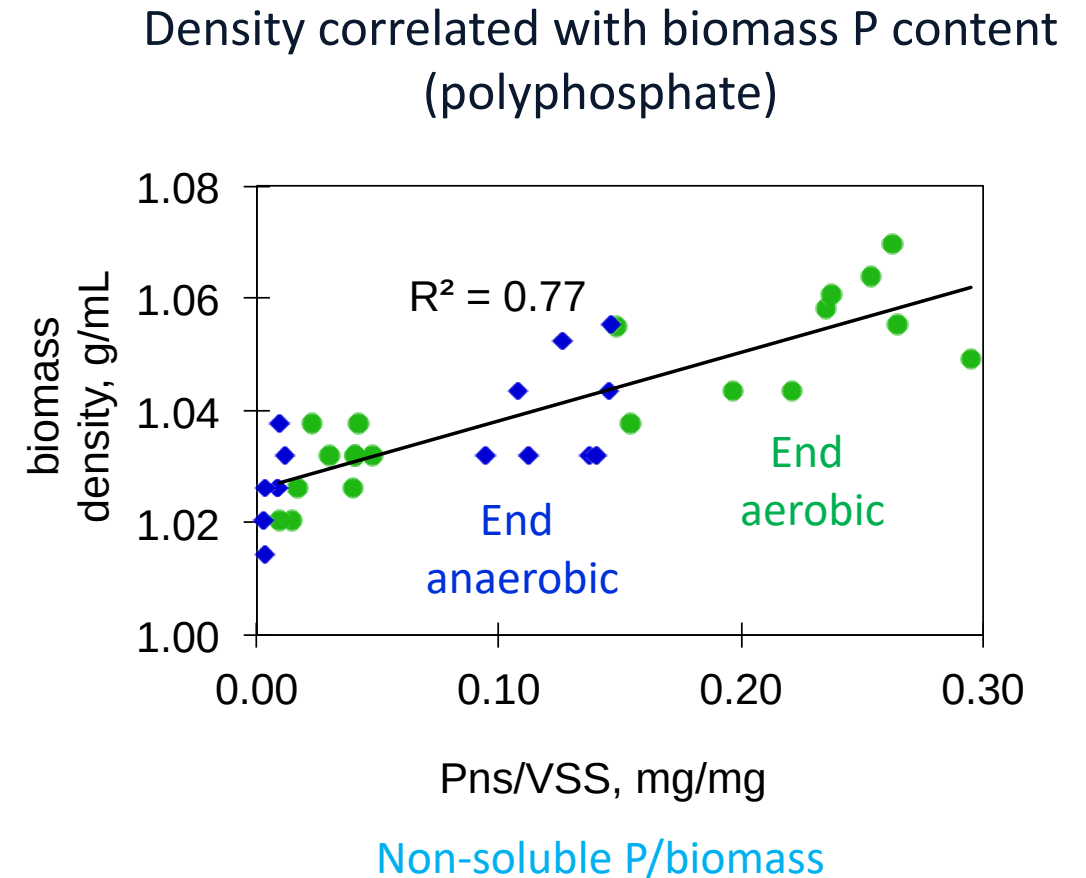
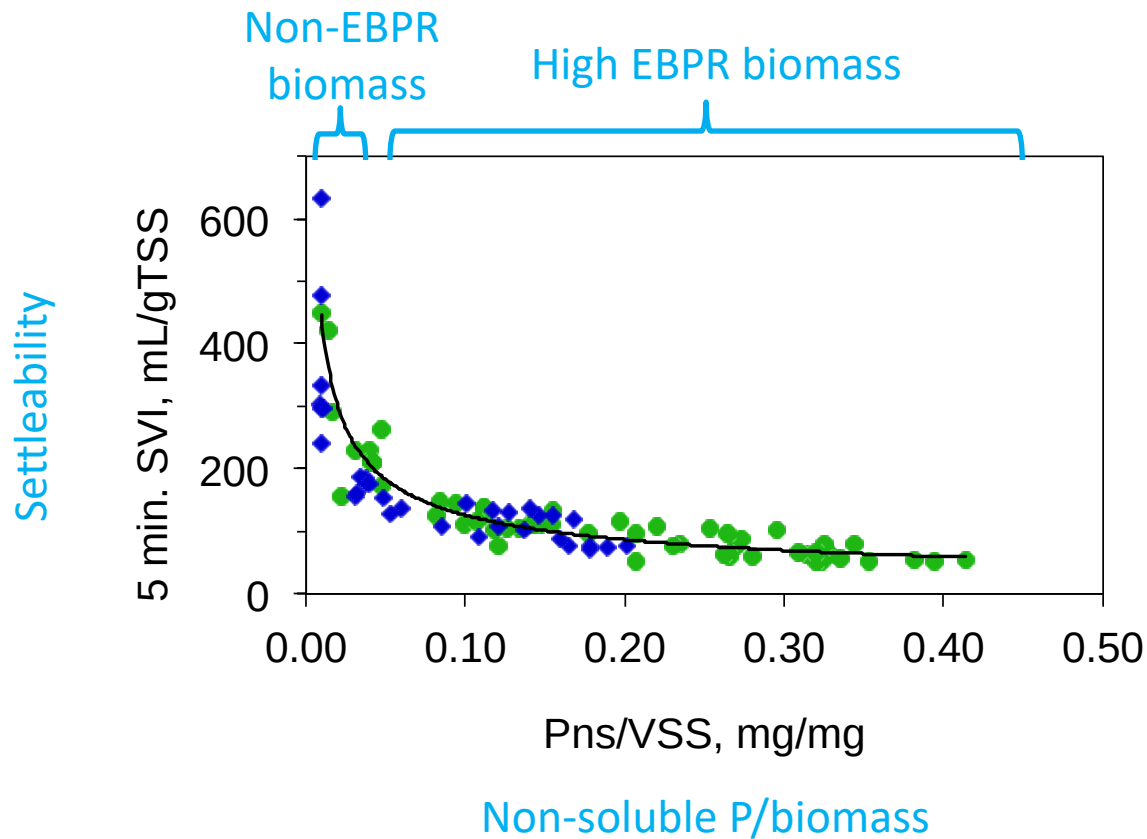
- Series of solutions with a range of densities (dilutions of **silica particle solution Percoll**), add biomass and centrifuge (improvement on gradient method).



- Interpolate biomass density

Jang, H., A.J. Schuler (2007). The case for variable density: A new perspective on activated sludge settling. *Water Environ. Res.* 79(11): 2298-2303.

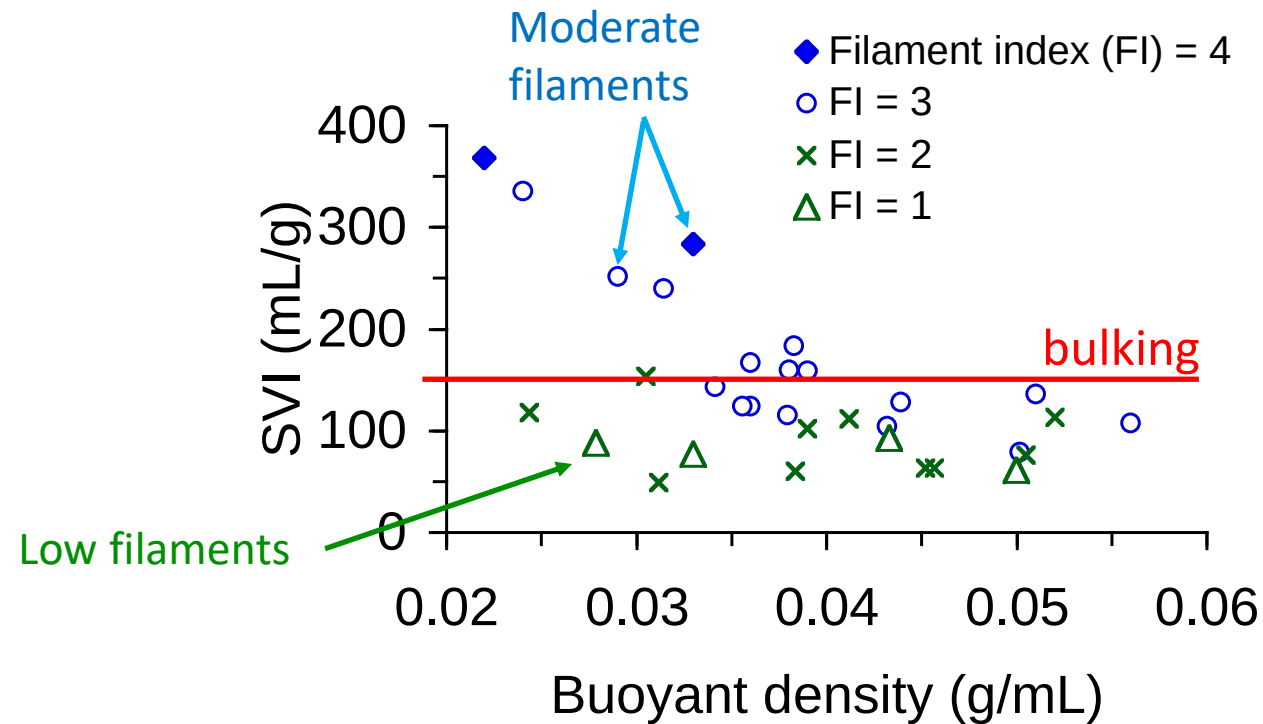
THE BEGINNING: SERENDIPITOUS OBSERVATIONS IN PAO/GAO LAB STUDY (THESIS WITH JENKINS!)



Schuler, Jenkins, and Ronen (2001) Microbial storage products, biomass density, and settling properties of enhanced biological phosphorus removal activated sludge, *Wat. Sci. Technol.* 43(1) pp 173-180.

FILAMENTS AND DENSITY ARE SYNERGISTIC

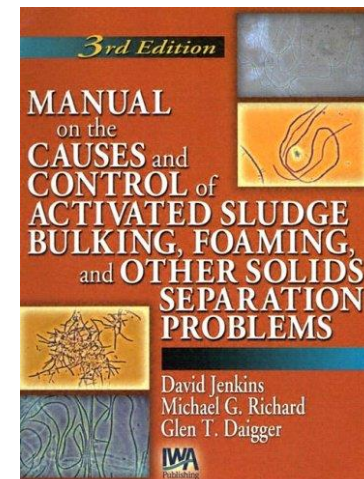
17 FULL SCALE SYSTEMS



Filament Index Scale

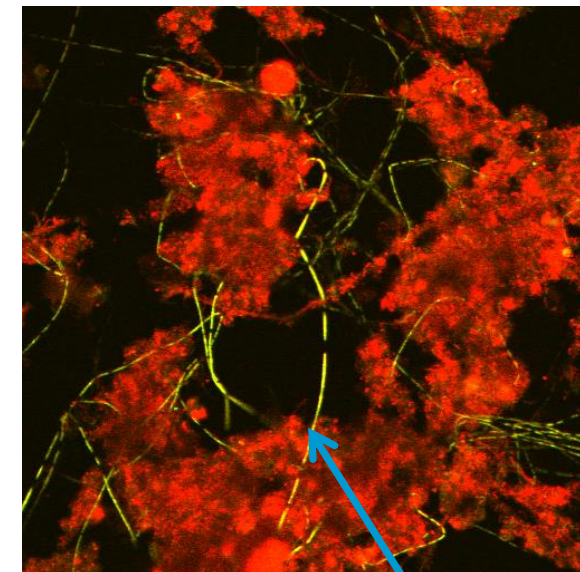
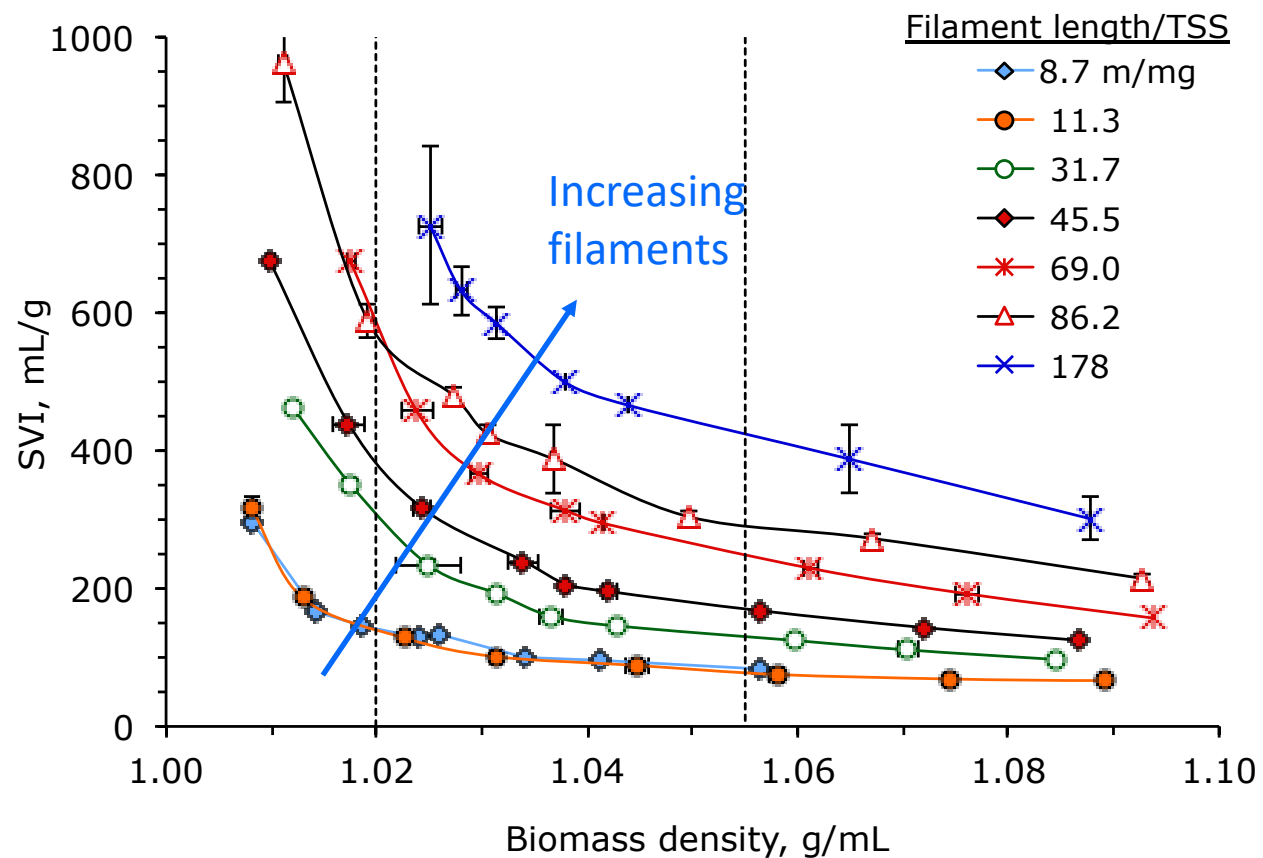
- 0: none
 1: few
 2: some
 3: common
 4: very common
 5: abundant
 6: excessive

- Low filaments: density has weak effect
- Moderate filaments (3 or 4): strong effect



Schuler and Jang (2007). Causes of variable biomass density and effects on settling in full scale biological wastewater treatment systems. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 41(5); 1675-1681.

QUANTIFYING COMBINED FILAMENT AND DENSITY EFFECTS ON SETTLING



Lab reactors enriched for *Sphaerotilus natans*

Density varied with synthetic microspheres. Filaments measured with hemacytometer.

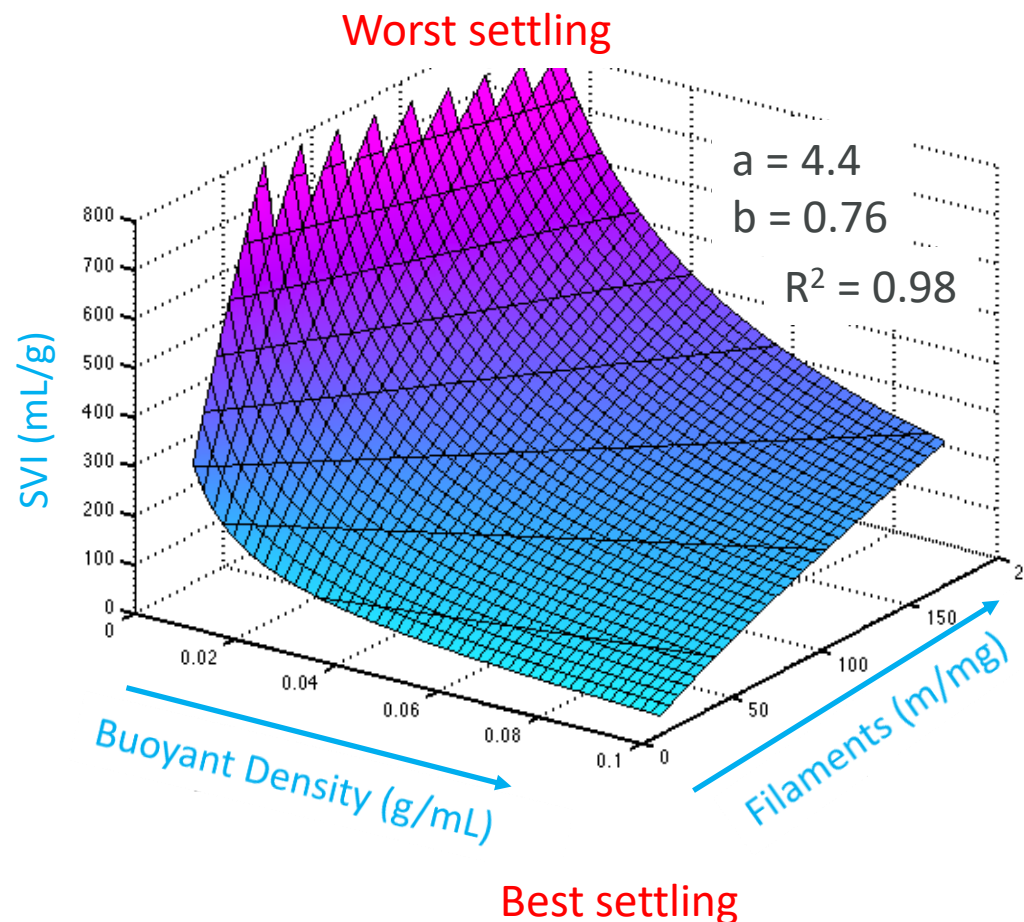
Jassby, D., Y. Xiao, A.J. Schuler (2014). Biomass density and filament length synergistically affect activated sludge settling: Systematic quantification and modeling. *Water Res.* 48:457-465.

CONSIDERATION OF DENSITY ENABLED DEVELOPMENT OF MATHEMATICAL MODEL TO PREDICT SVI

Proposed model

$$SVI = \frac{a + F^b}{BD}$$

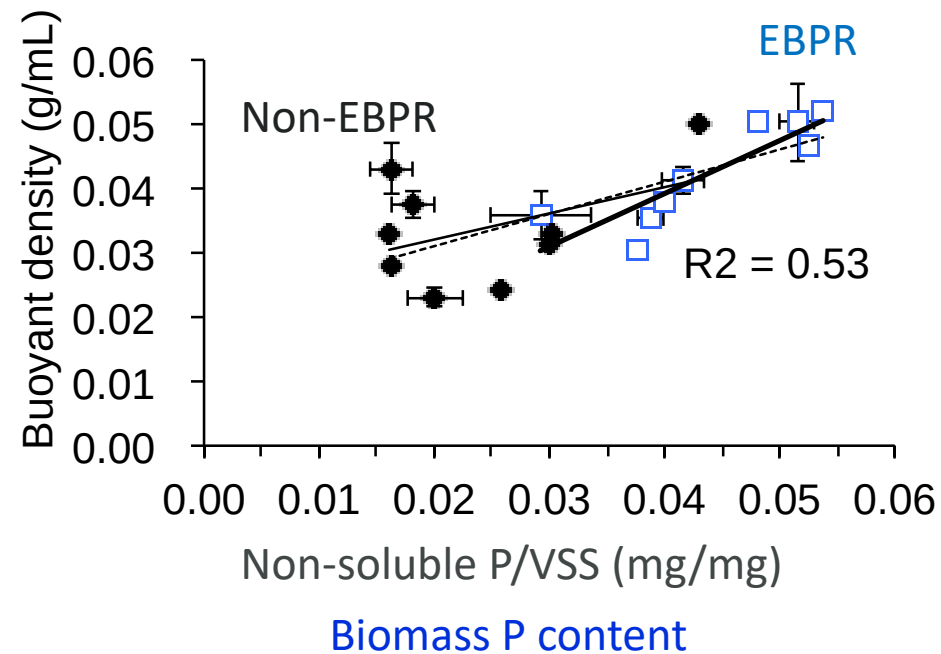
a,b – constants
F – filament content (m/mg)
BD – buoyant density (g/mL)



Jassby, D., Y. Xiao, A.J. Schuler (2014). Biomass density and filament length synergistically affect activated sludge settling: Systematic quantification and modeling. *Water Res.* 48:457-465.

WHAT DETERMINES DENSITY IN FULL SCALE SYSTEMS?

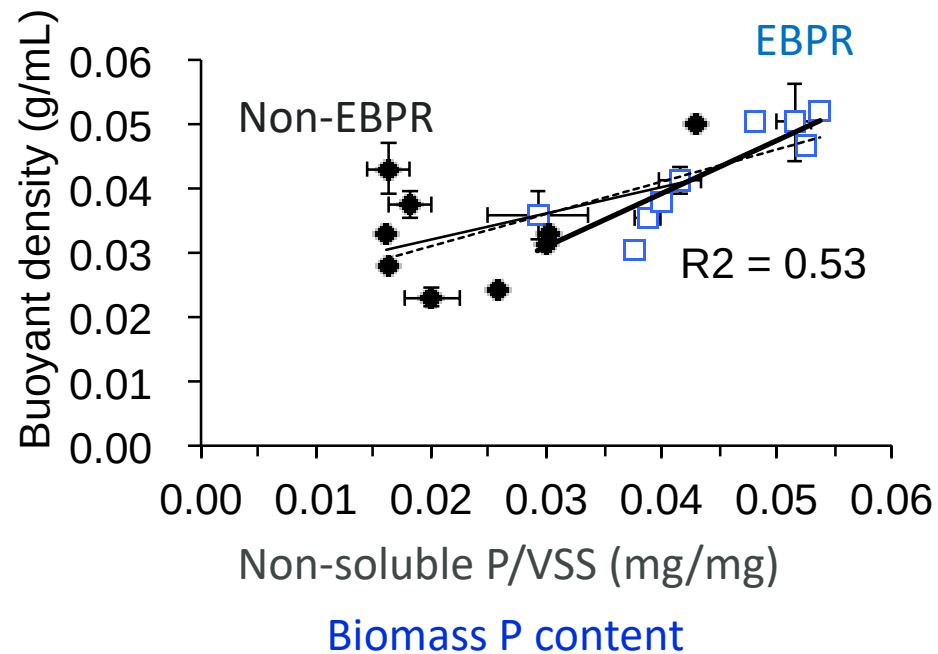
17 full scale systems



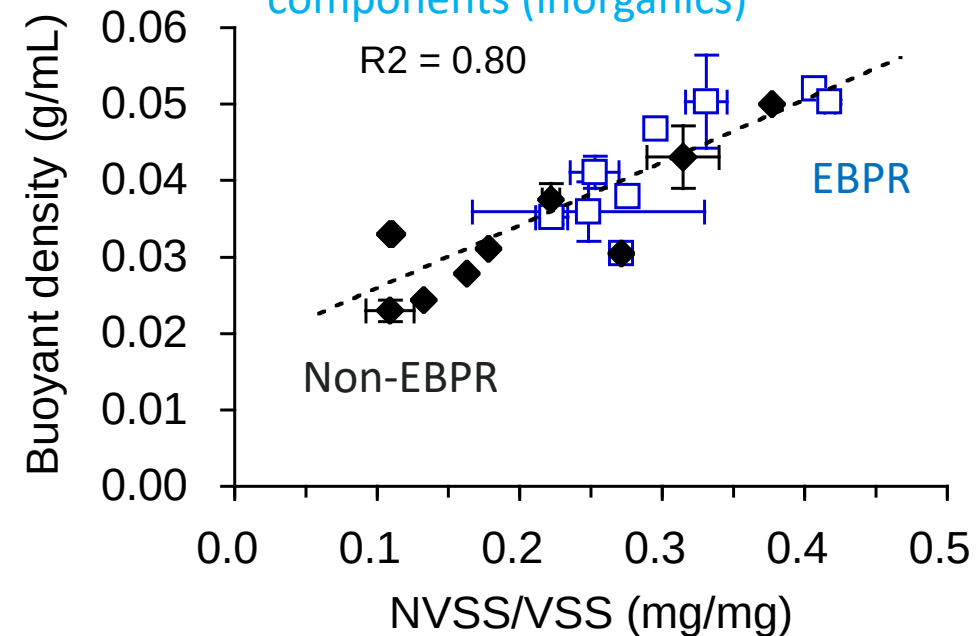
Schuler and Jang (2007). Causes of variable biomass density and effects on settling in full scale biological wastewater treatment systems. Environ. Sci. Technol. 41(5); 1675-1681.

WHAT DETERMINES DENSITY IN FULL SCALE SYSTEMS?

17 full scale systems

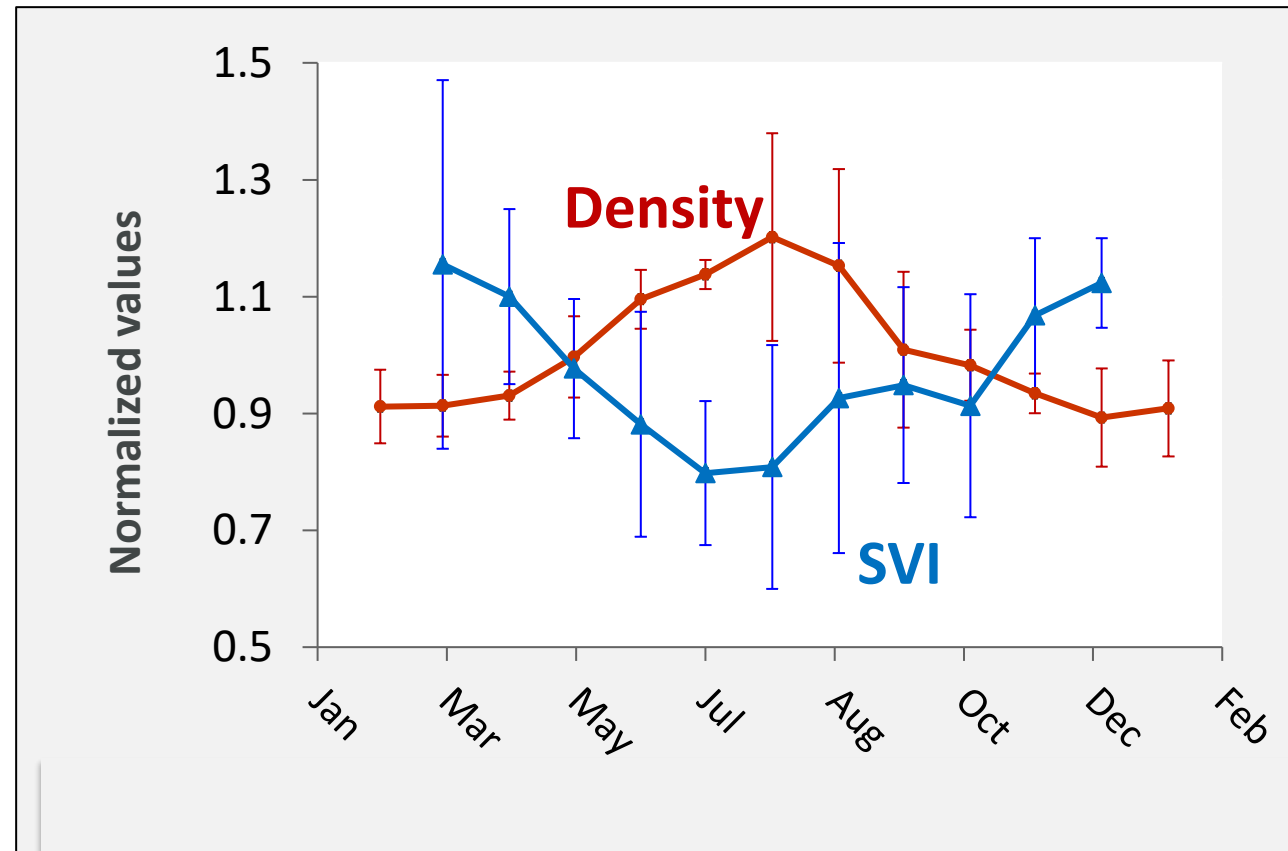


NVSS a better predictor of density than biomass P: includes other high density components (inorganics)



NVSS = non volatile SS = TSS - VSS
“inorganic” fraction of biomass
includes polyphosphate

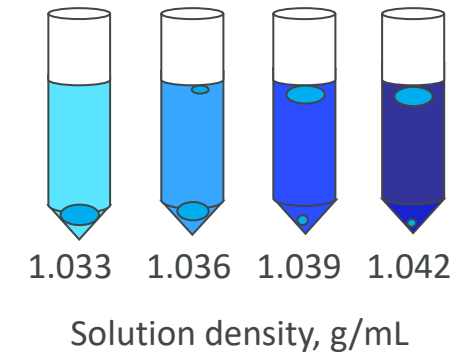
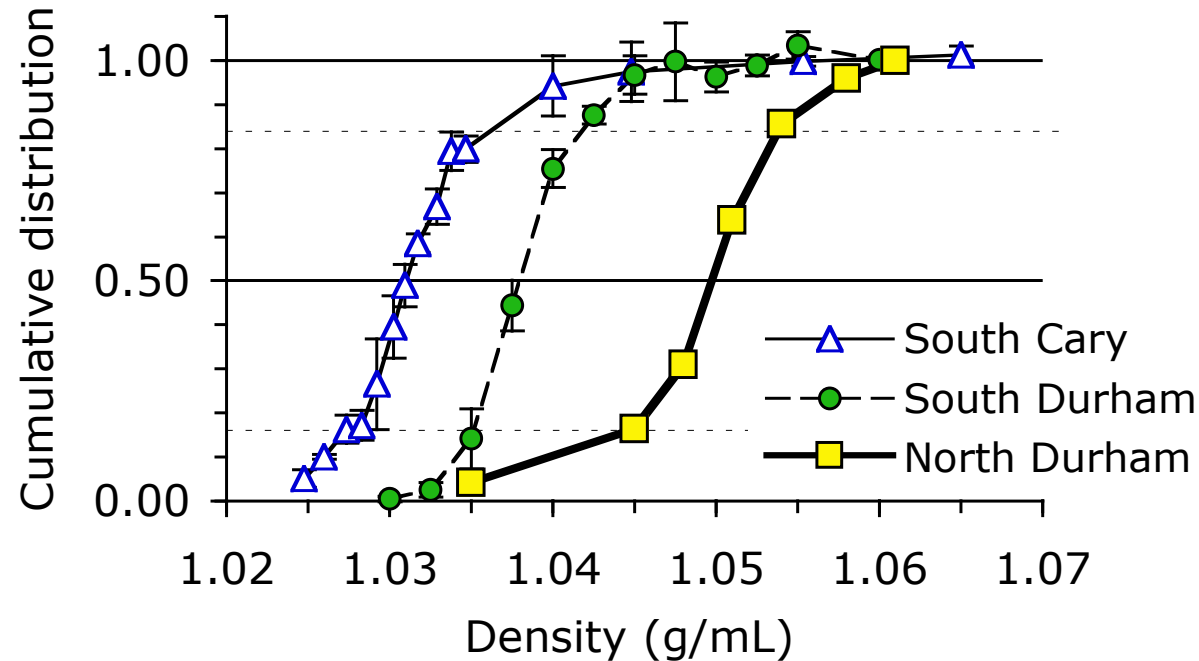
SEASONAL VARIATIONS: LOW BUOYANT DENSITY MAY EXPLAIN POORER WINTER SETTLING



Averages of
4 full scale plants
In New Mexico

Jones, P.A., and A.J. Schuler (2012). The role of changing biomass density in process disruptions affecting biomass settling at a full scale domestic wastewater treatment plant. *ASCE J. Environ. Eng.* 138(1): 67-73.

BIOMASS DENSITY VARIES BETWEEN PLANTS, AND WITHIN SAMPLES AS WELL.

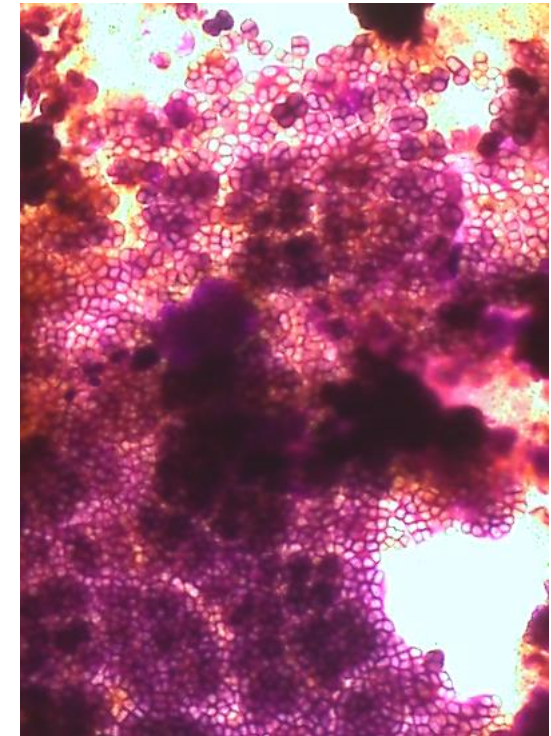


Some flocs have more PAOs than others.

Opportunity to physically select for high density fractions (cyclone).

CONCLUSIONS

- Don't confuse biomass density with concentration density.
- Biomass density works synergistically with filament content to effect settling.
- Improved settling → increase clarifier capacity → densification/intensification
- Anaerobic selectors (EBPR) not only reduce filaments, they increase density. SRT increases density in non-EBPR systems.
- Still more to learn!



Q&A Discussion

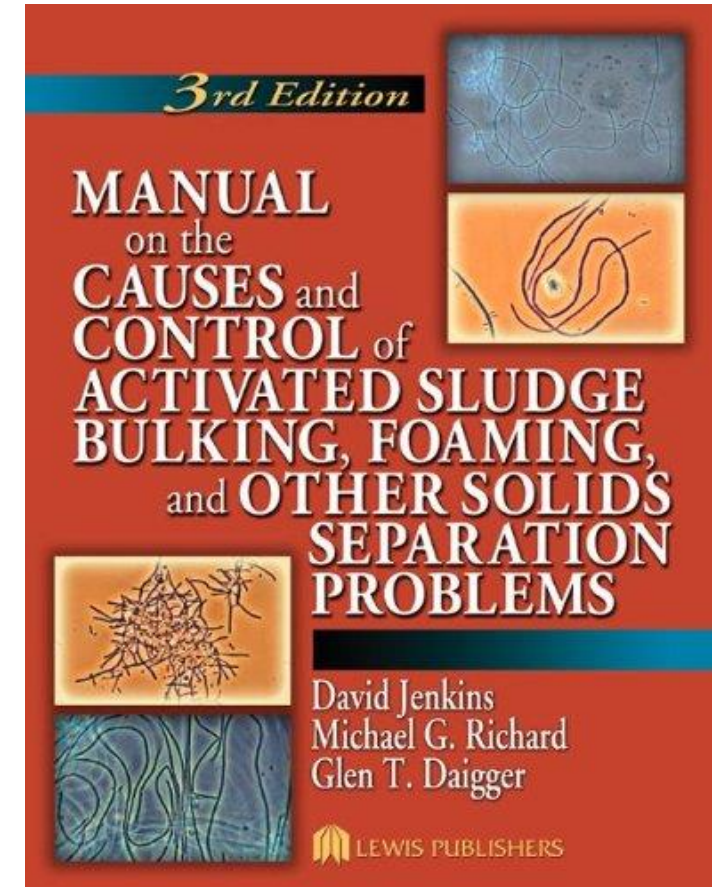
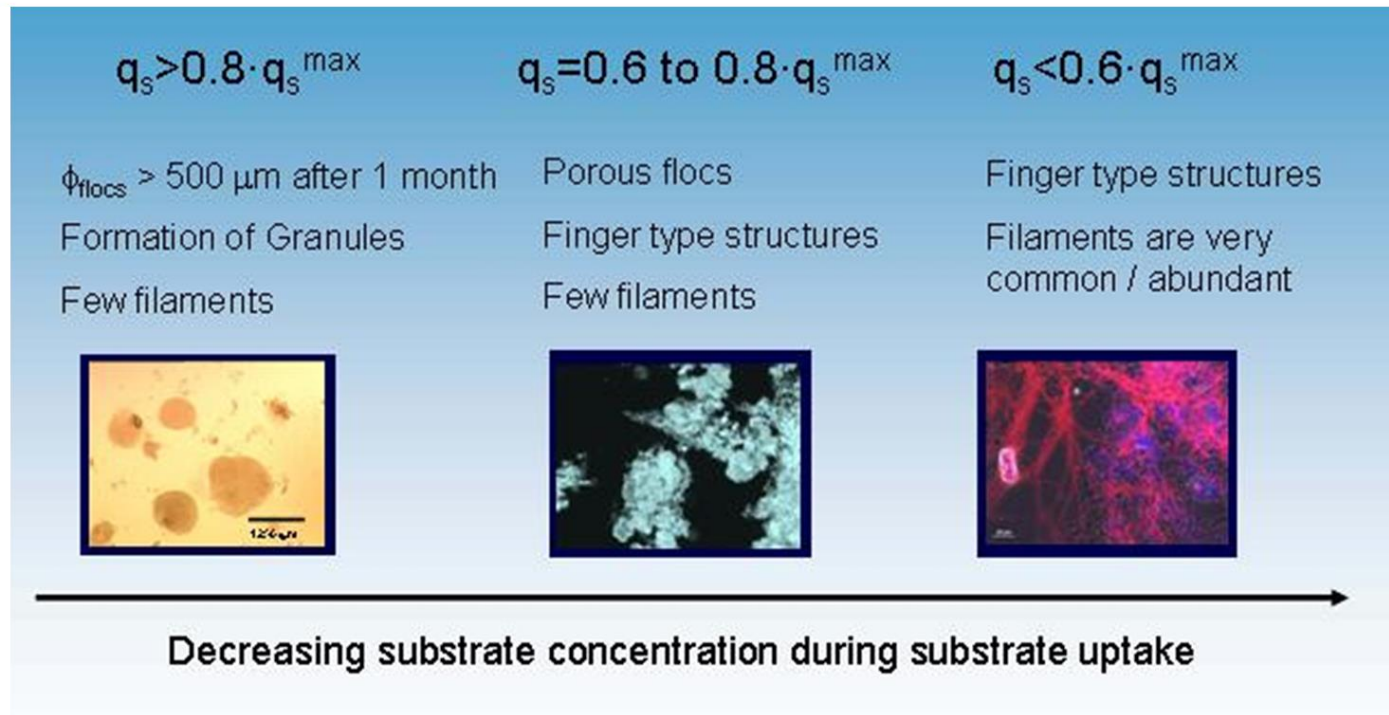
MODERATORS: PUSKER REGMI AND KRISHNA PAGILLA

Biological selection of granules in continuous flow systems

MARI WINKLER –UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON



GRANULES, FLOCS, AND FILAMENTS



UPGRADING EXISTING WRRFS FOR NITROGEN REMOVAL – HIGH CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Nitrogen removal requires SRT 2-3 times that for BOD removal which requires greater tank volume

West Point Treatment Plant

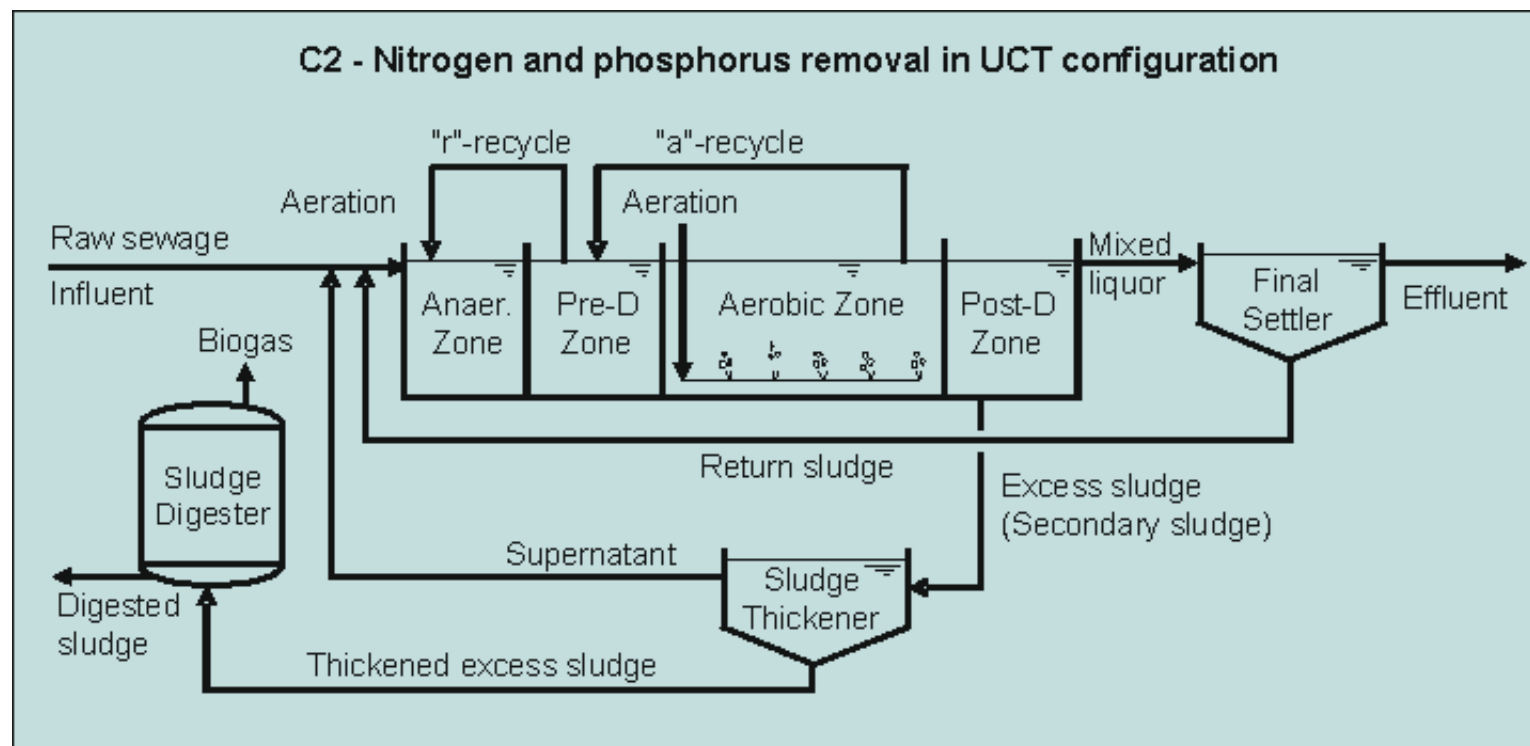


South Treatment Plant



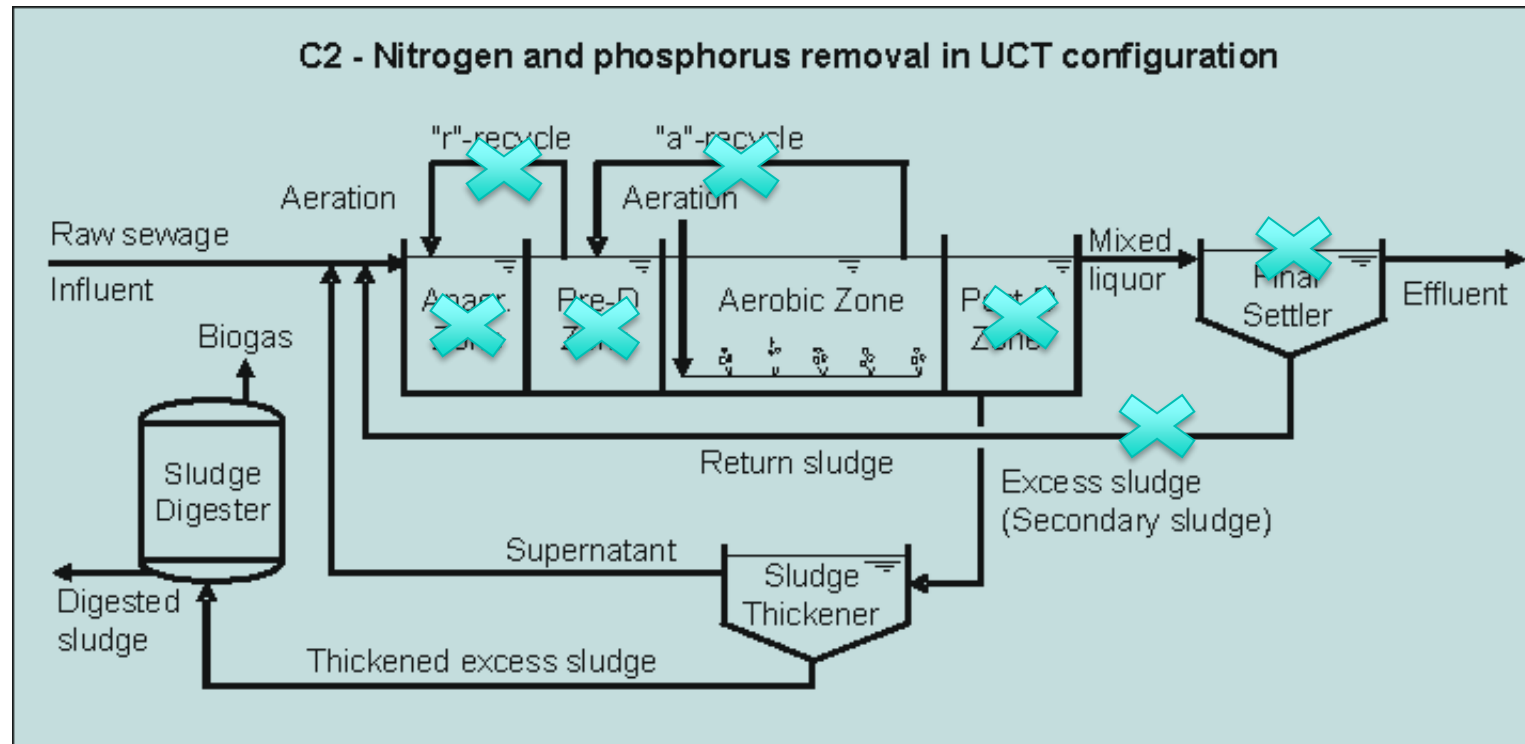
CONVENTIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Biological nutrient removal in activated sludge requires many compartments and circulation flows



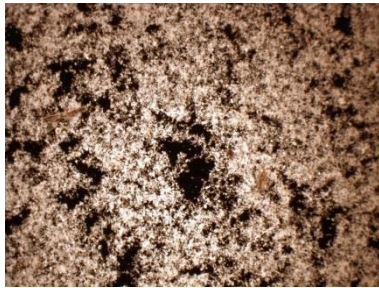
NEREDA® COMPARED WITH CONVENTIONAL TREATMENT

75% reduction in space, simulators N,C,P removal, less energy due to less recycling, more efficient aeration



GRANULE SELECTION CRITERIA

activated sludge

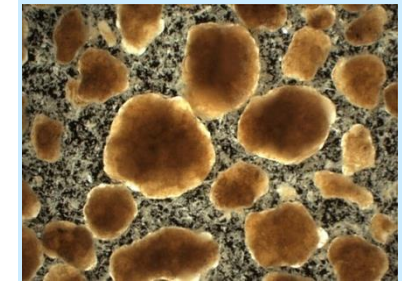


Encourage change in biomass structure

transformation

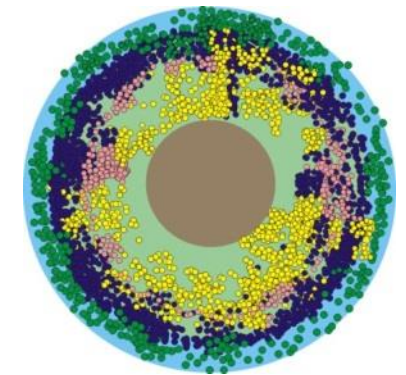
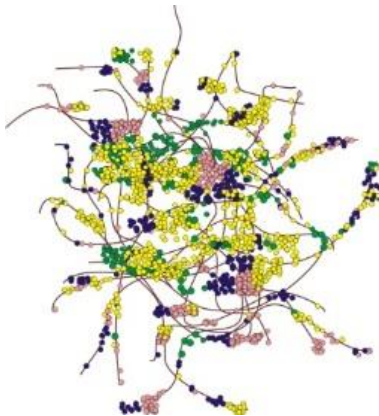


aerobic granules



Main selection principles

- Short settling time
- Anaerobic period promotes slow growers
 - P removal possible
- High shear
 - smooth granules
- Low DO-> more anoxic volume fraction
 - Good denitrification



AEROBIC GRANULAR SLUDGE

Aerobic Granular
Sludge (AGS)

Activated
Sludge

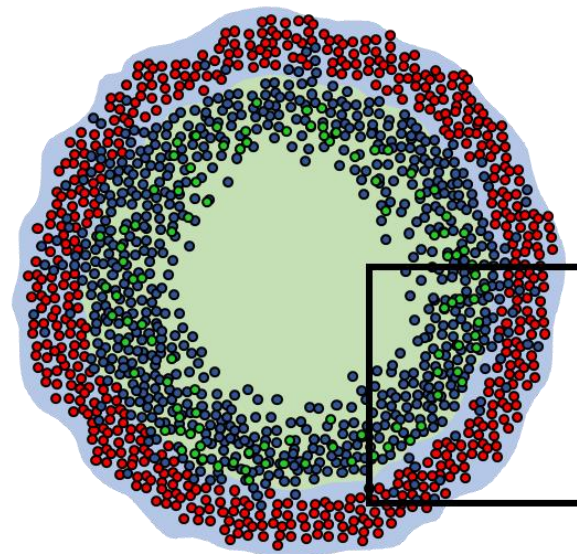
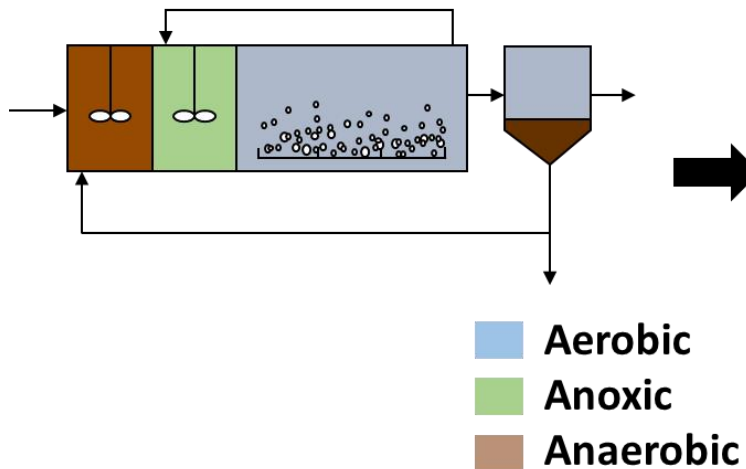
Image Copyright Royal HaskoningDHV

PAO = Polyphosphate accumulating organisms

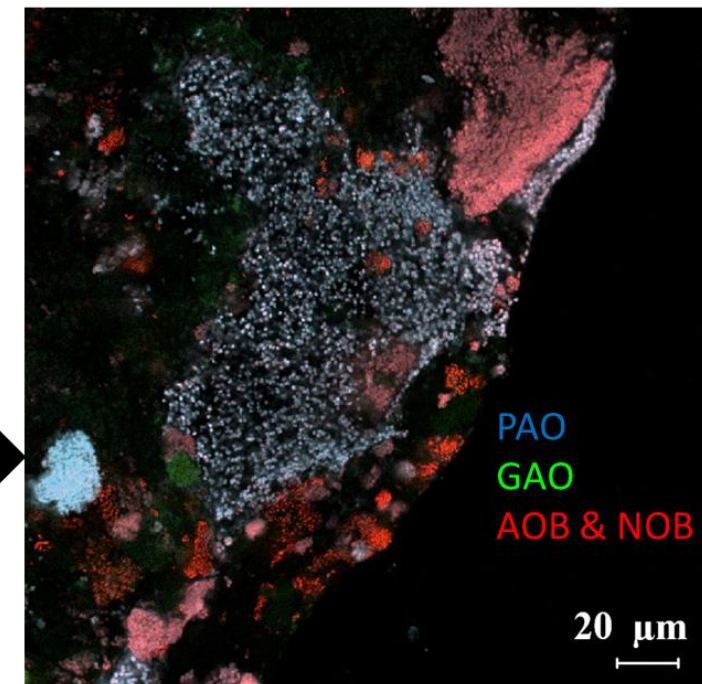
GAO = Glycogen accumulating organisms

AOB = Ammonia oxidizing bacteria

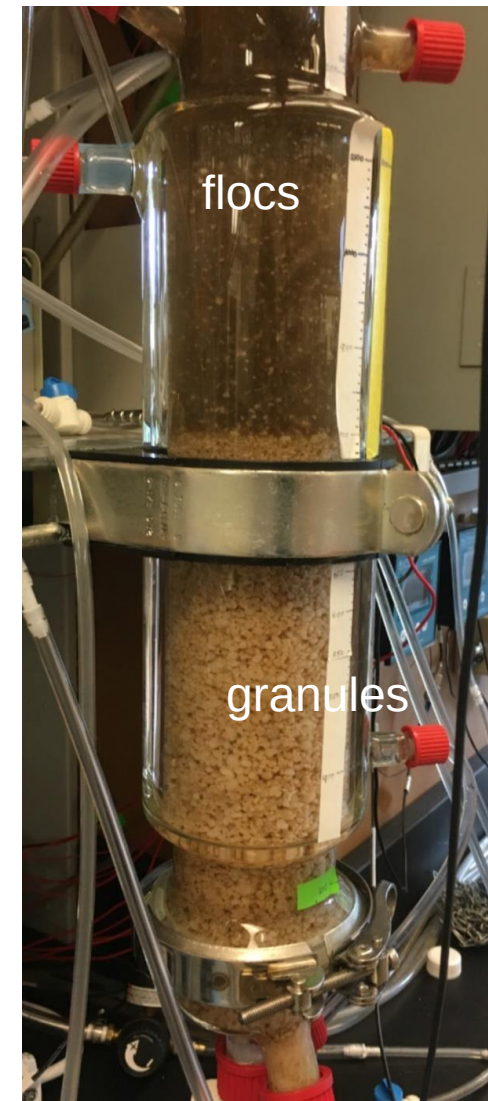
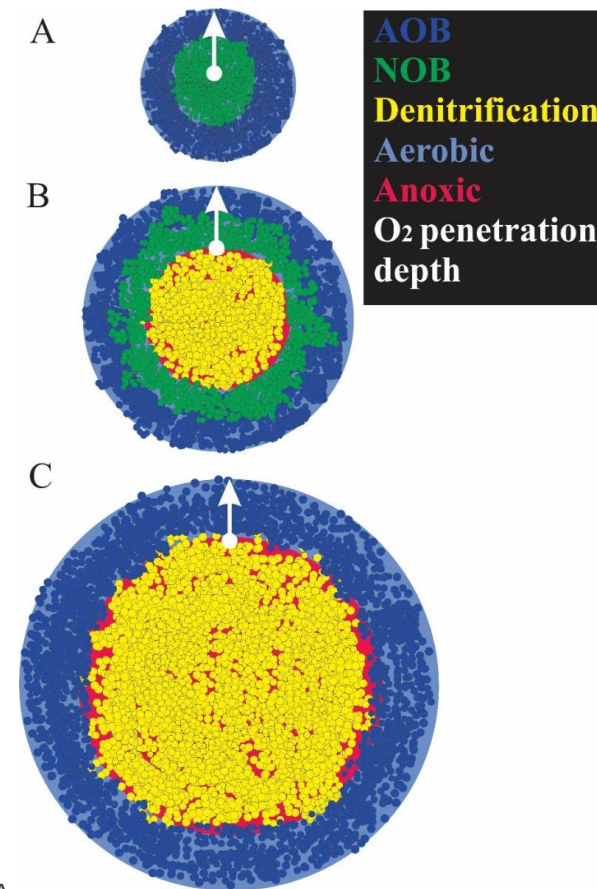
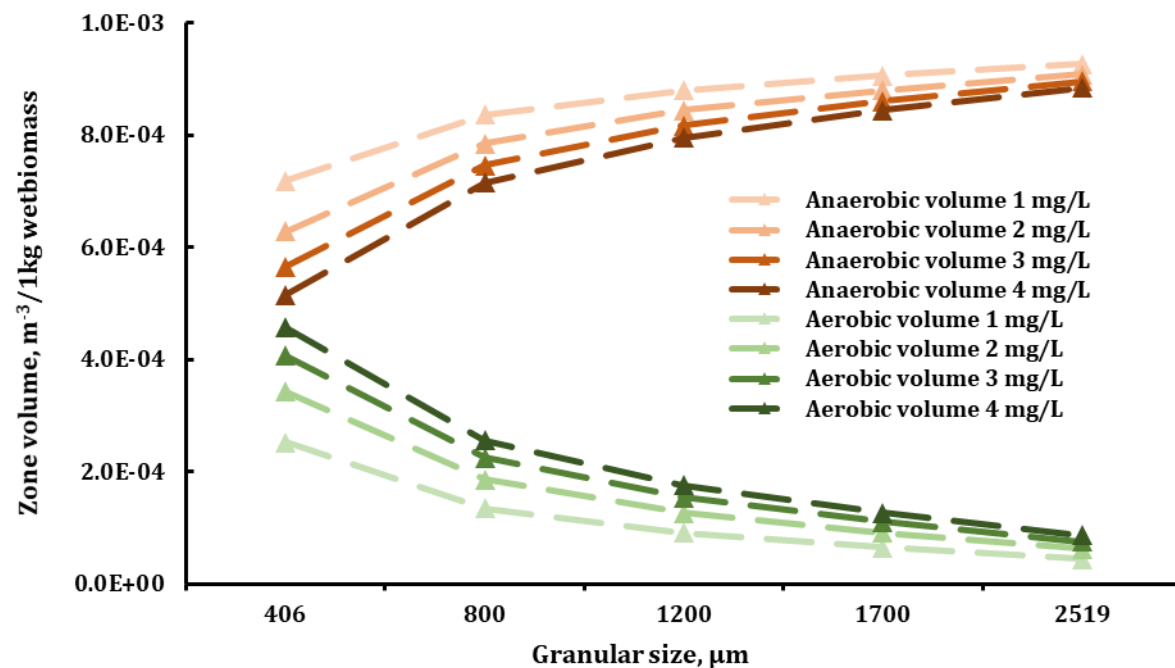
NOB = Nitrite oxidizing bacteria



Different redox zones exist
within one granule



MICROBIAL COMMUNITY COMPOSITION IN SMALL AND BIG GRANULES



Nguyen Quoc, B., Armenta, M., Carter, J.A., Bucher, R., Sukapanpotharam, P., Bryson, S.J., Stahl, D.A., Stensel, H.D. and Winkler, M.K.H., 2021. An investigation into the optimal granular sludge size for simultaneous nitrogen and phosphate removal. *Water Research*, 198, p.117119

Implementation of Aerobic Granular Sludge in Continuous Flow Activated Sludge (CFAS) Plants

Aerobic granular sludge SBRs

- Sequencing batch operations
- High anaerobic F/M Ratio
- Short settling time



Image Copyright Royal HaskoningDHV

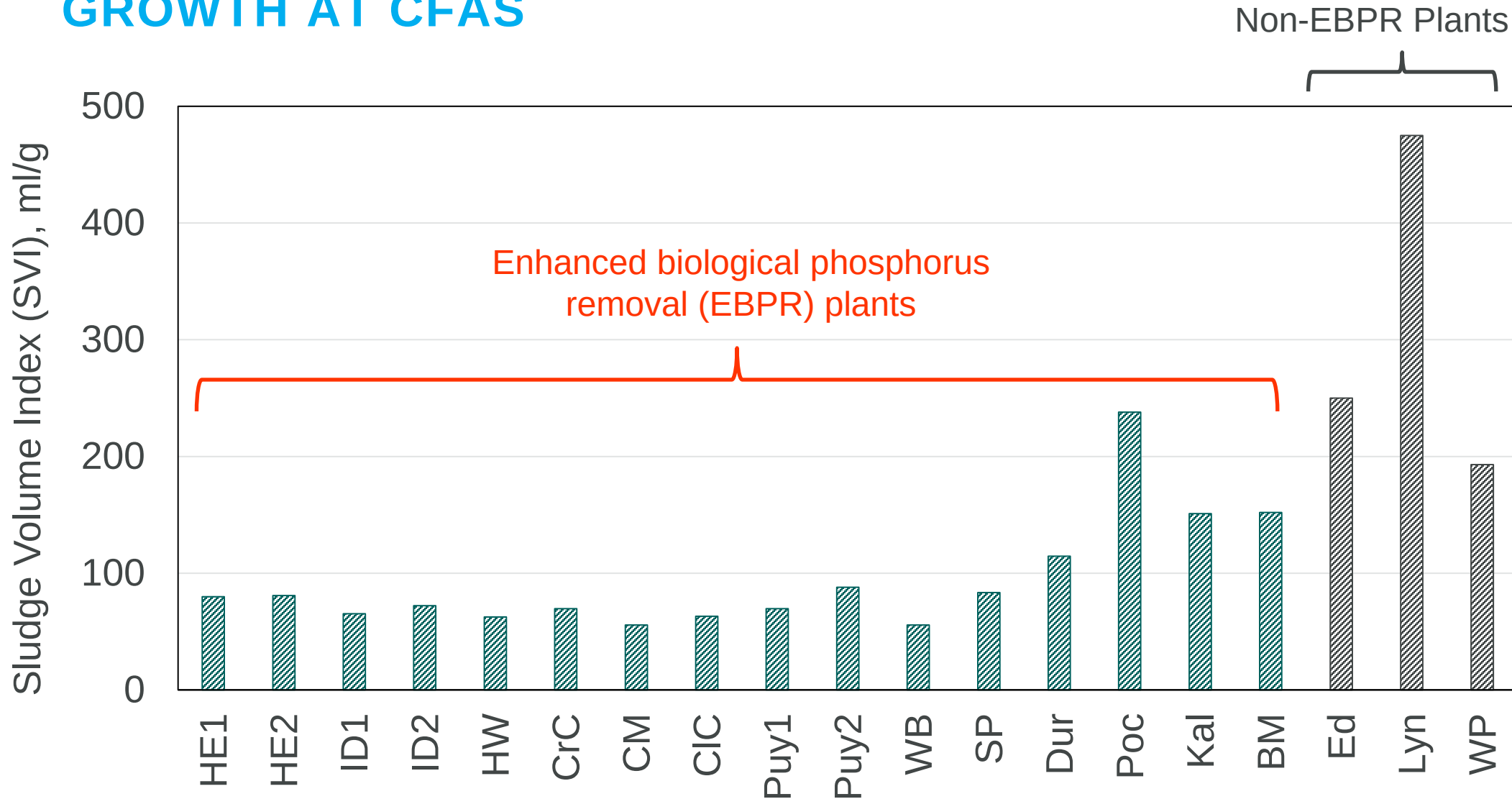
Conventional activated sludge

- Continuous flow
- Can have high anaerobic F/M with selector
- No settling selection



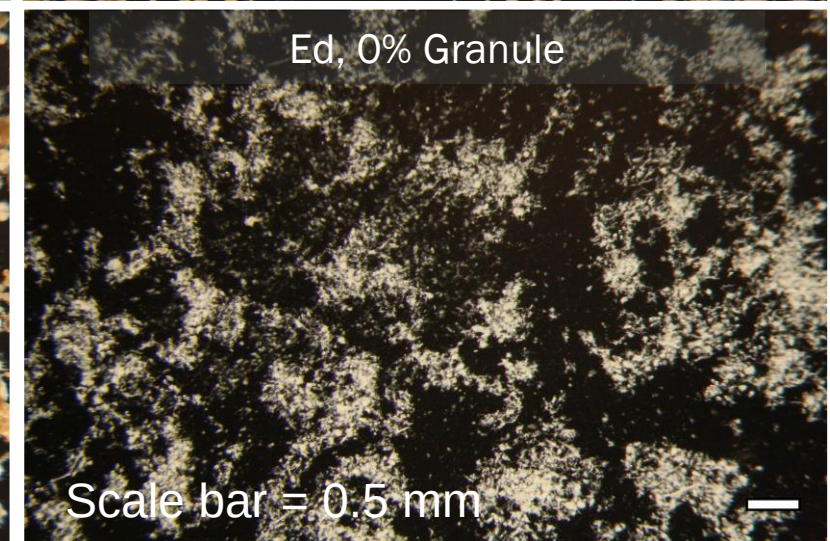
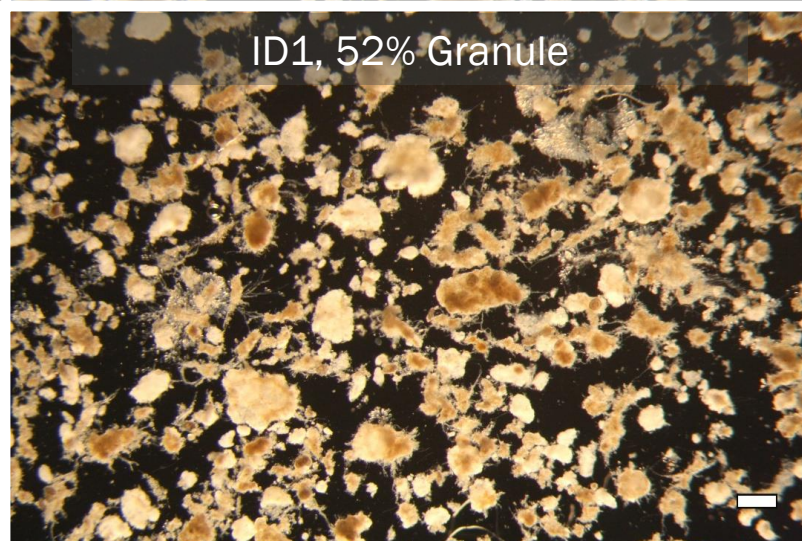
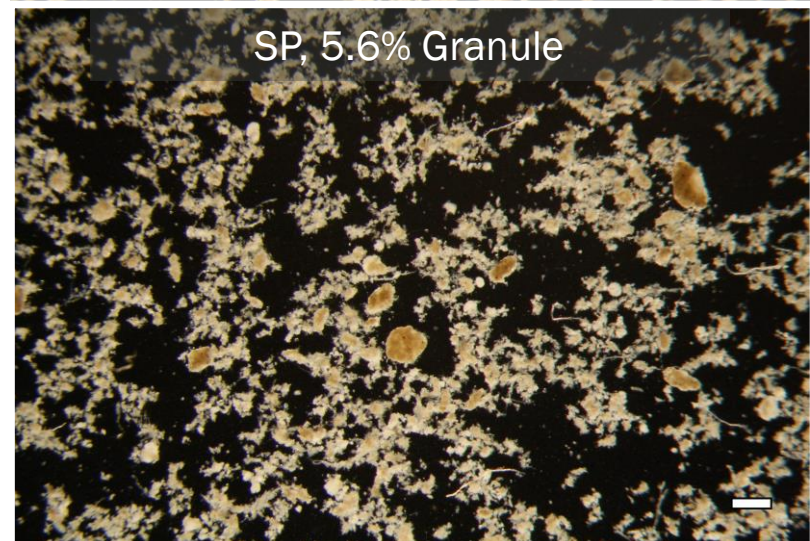
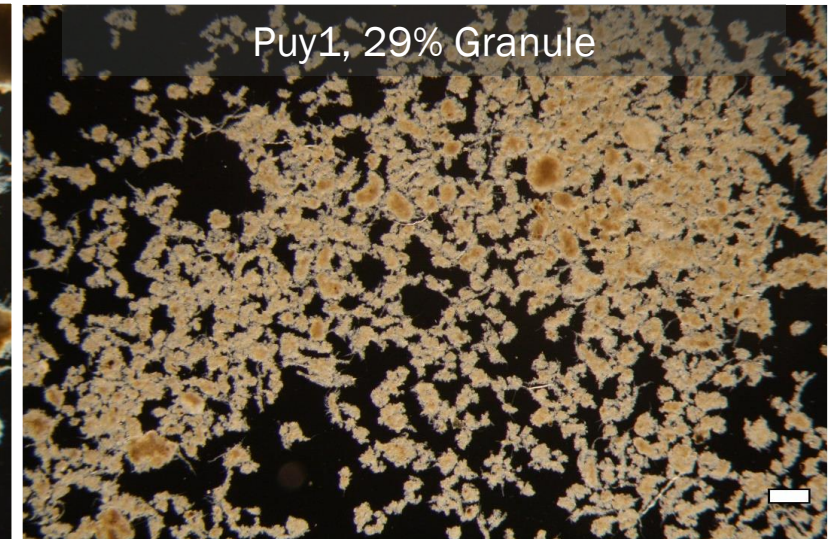
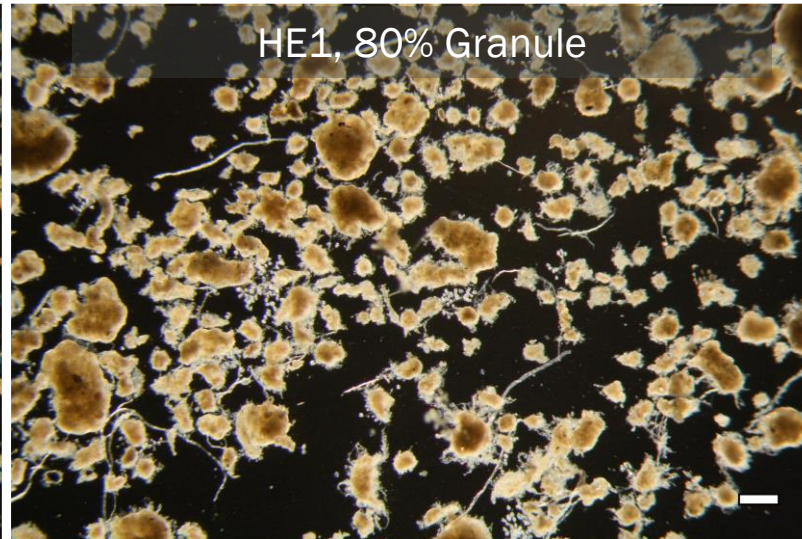
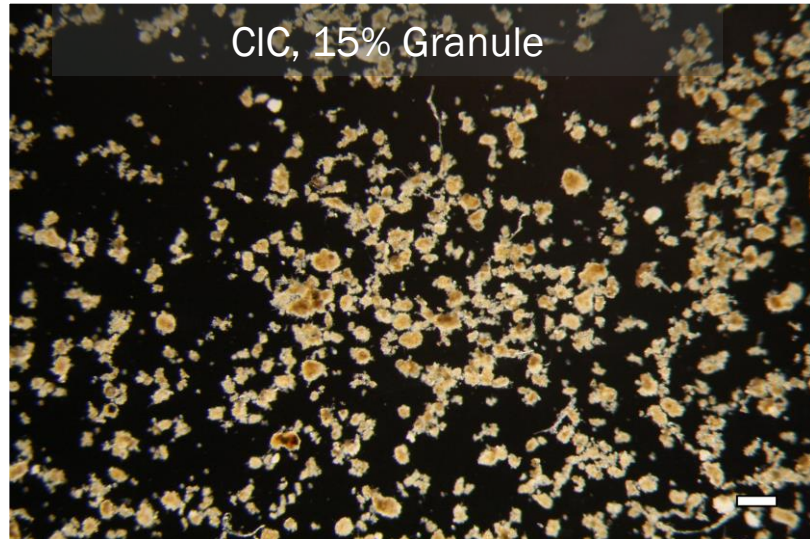
Image Copyright King County

SELECTION FACTORS LEADING TO GRANULE GROWTH AT CFAS

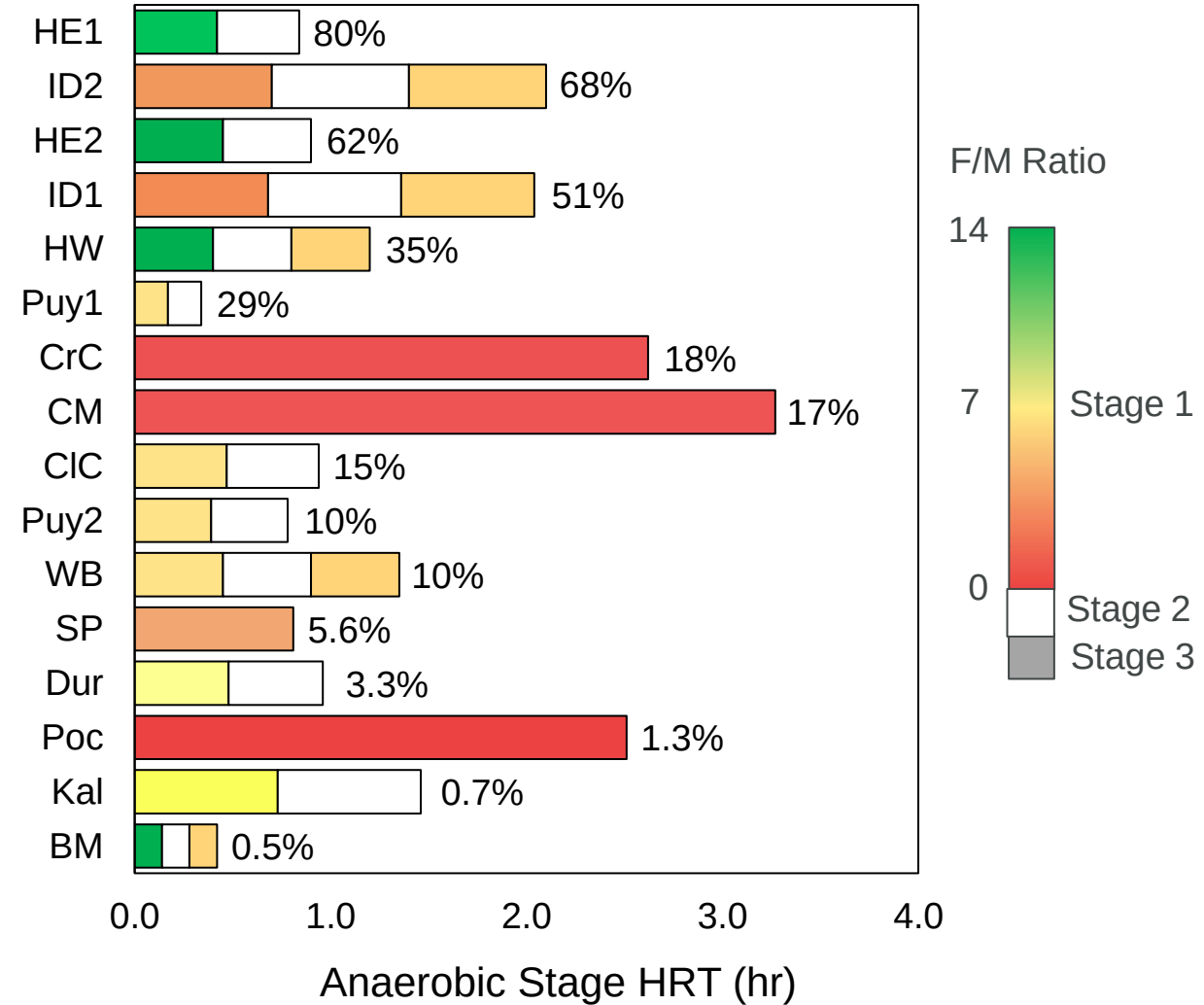
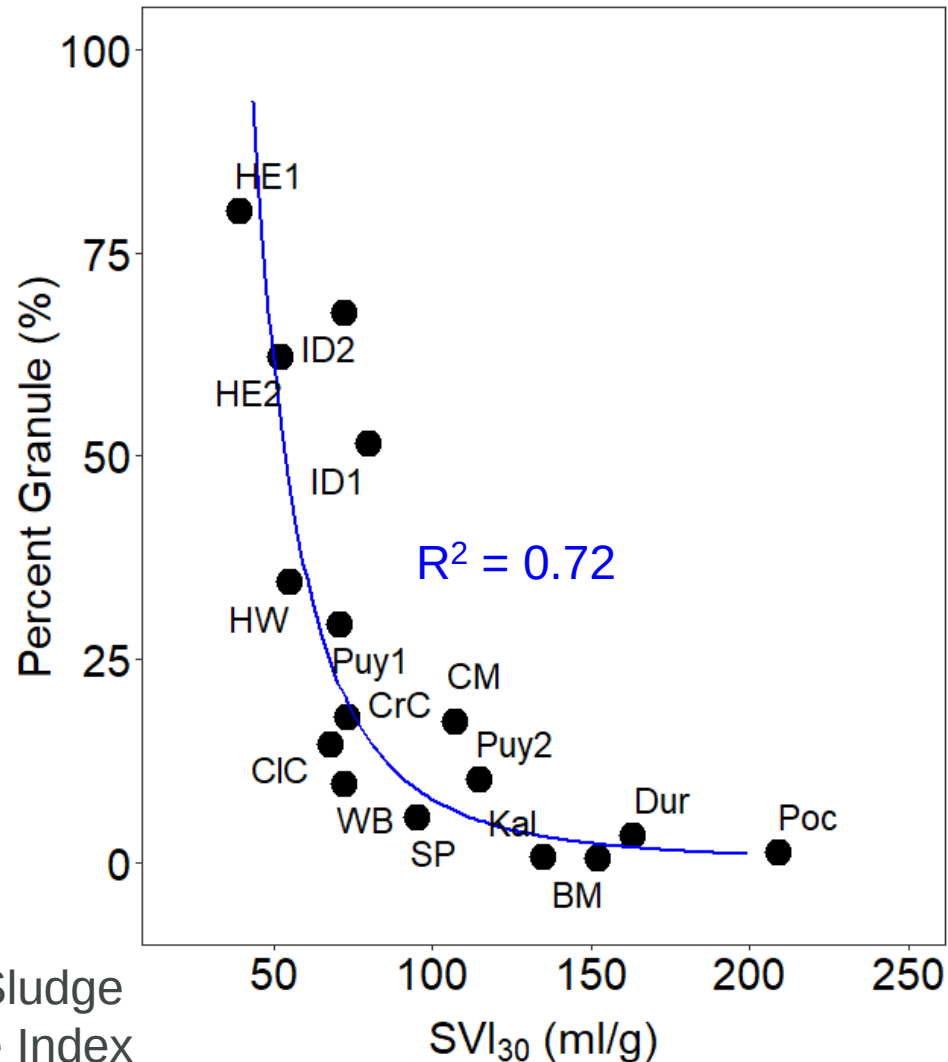


Wei, S. P., Stensel, H. D., Nguyen Quoc, B., Stahl, D. A., Huang, X., Lee, P.-H., Winkler, M.-K.H., 2020. Flocs in disguise? High granule abundance found in continuous-flow activated sludge treatment plants. Water Research

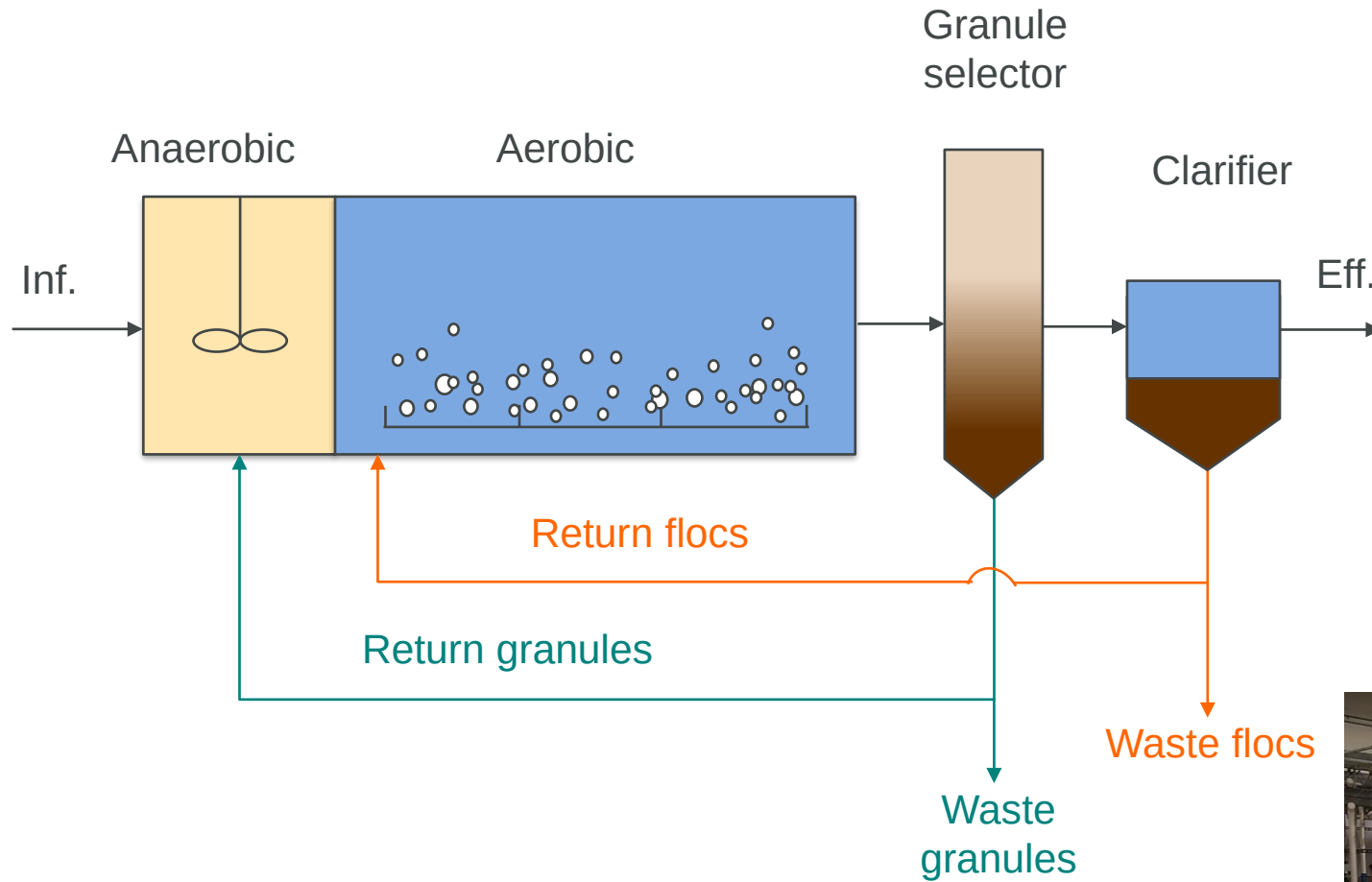
SELECTION FACTORS LEADING TO GRANULE GROWTH AT CFAS



SELECTION FACTORS LEADING TO GRANULE GROWTH AT CFAS



CONCEPTUAL SCHEME FOR INTEGRATING AGS IN CFAS SYSTEM



Options for granule / floc separation

- Hydrocodone
- Surface wasting
- Hydraulic separator
- Rotating drum
- Sieve / grit
- Maybe magnets?



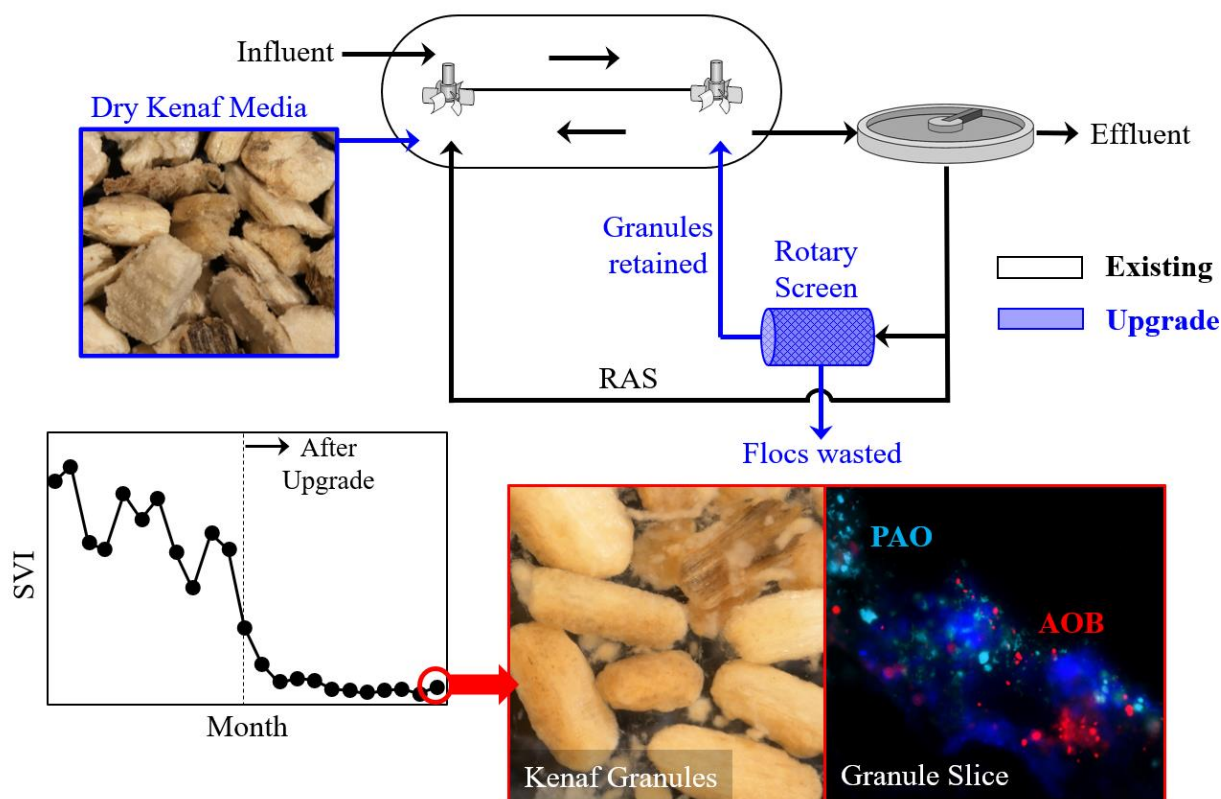
David Stensel



KENAF MOBILE ORGANIC CARRIER

Moorefield Advanced Nutrient WWTP

Edmonds, Snohomish County, WA



Benefits

- Up to 75% lower footprint
- Adds N/P removal with only a few retrofits
- Lower chemical usage due to alkalinity gain through denitrification

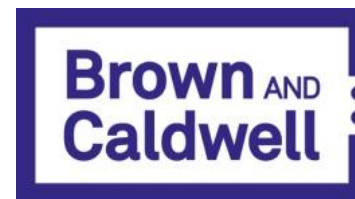
Wei, S. P., Winkler M-K. H. et al. "Application of Aerobic Kenaf Granules for Biological Nutrient Removal in a Full-scale Continuous Flow Activated Sludge System." Chemosphere

THANK YOU!



BIOLOGICAL ARCHITECTURE FOR FLOCS AND GRANULES IN CONTINUOUS FLOW SYSTEMS

PUSKER REGMI, PHD, PE, BCEE
BROWN AND CALDWELL, UNITED STATES



THE QUEST

“

If you want to discourage filamentous organism growth, you have to change the **nature** of the floc-forming microorganisms

- David Jenkins



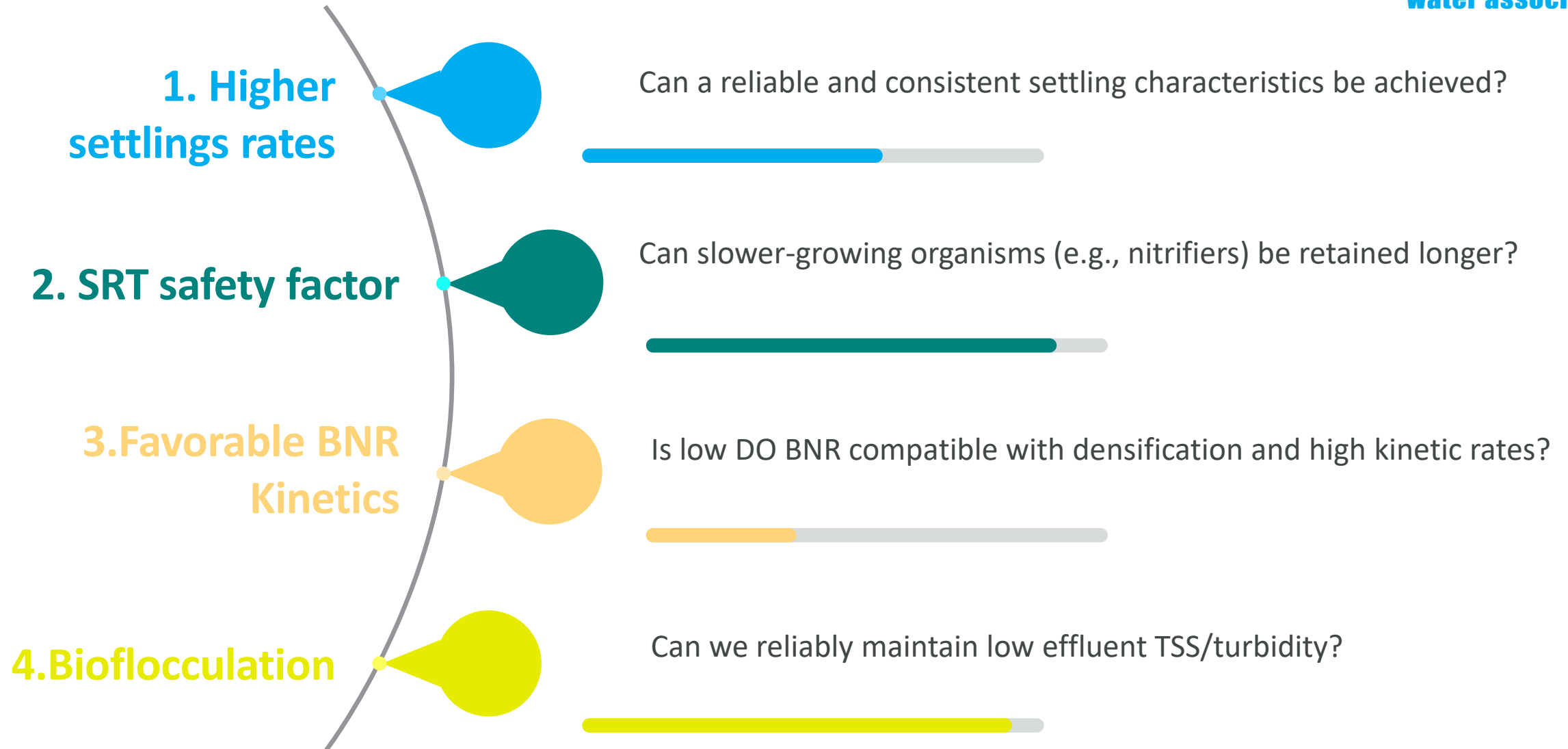
What is this **nature**? Granules or a hybrid of filaments-flocs-granules

?

AGENDA

- How should we design and operate brownfield continuous flow BNR facilities for densification?
- How do learnings from Dr. Jenkins make us rethink BNR applications?

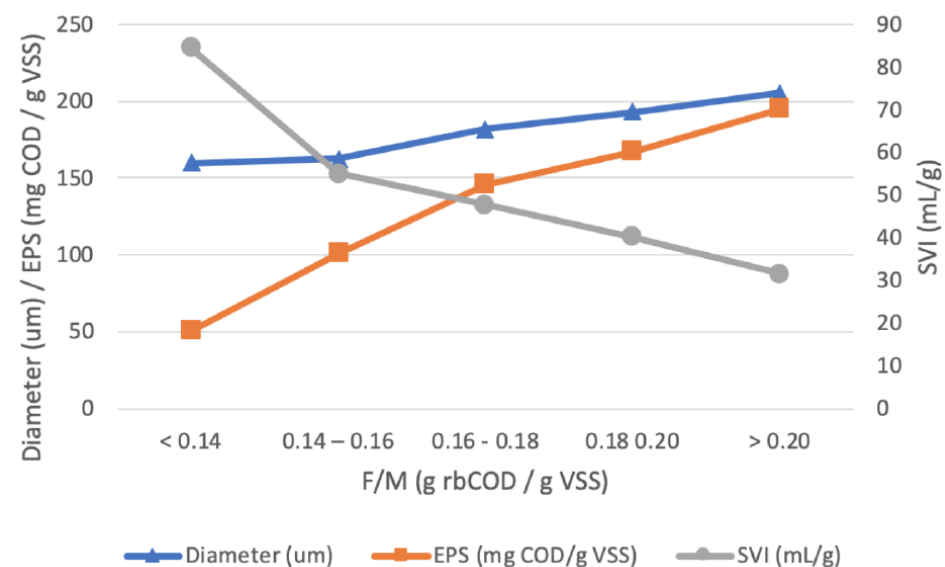
CONSIDERATIONS FOR BROWNFIELD APPLICATIONS



BIOLOGICAL SELECTION FOR SLUDGE DENSIFICATION

- Complete uptake of rbCOD in selector zone
- Selector F/M ratio of ~ 0.2 g rbCOD/g VSS-d (WERF UR1R4) (**Feast**)
- Extended famine conditions that encourage bacteria for storing energy compounds (**Famine**)
- In many conventional BNR systems:

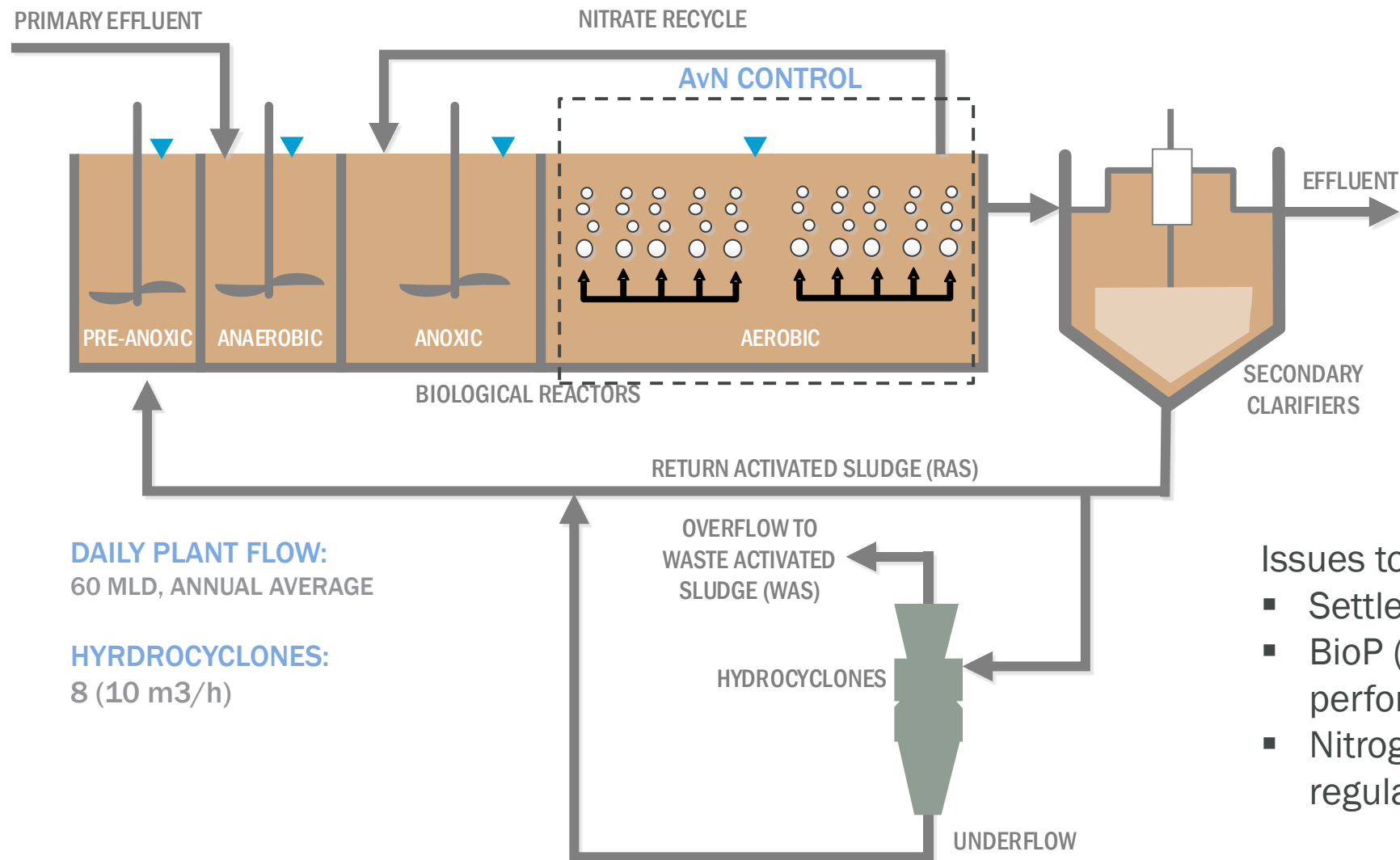
Selector size and conditions are more or less fixed, resulting in a non-ideal environment for sludge densification



Source: Sturm et al. (2019)

AVN CONTROL + HYDROCYCLONE (PUEBLO, CO)

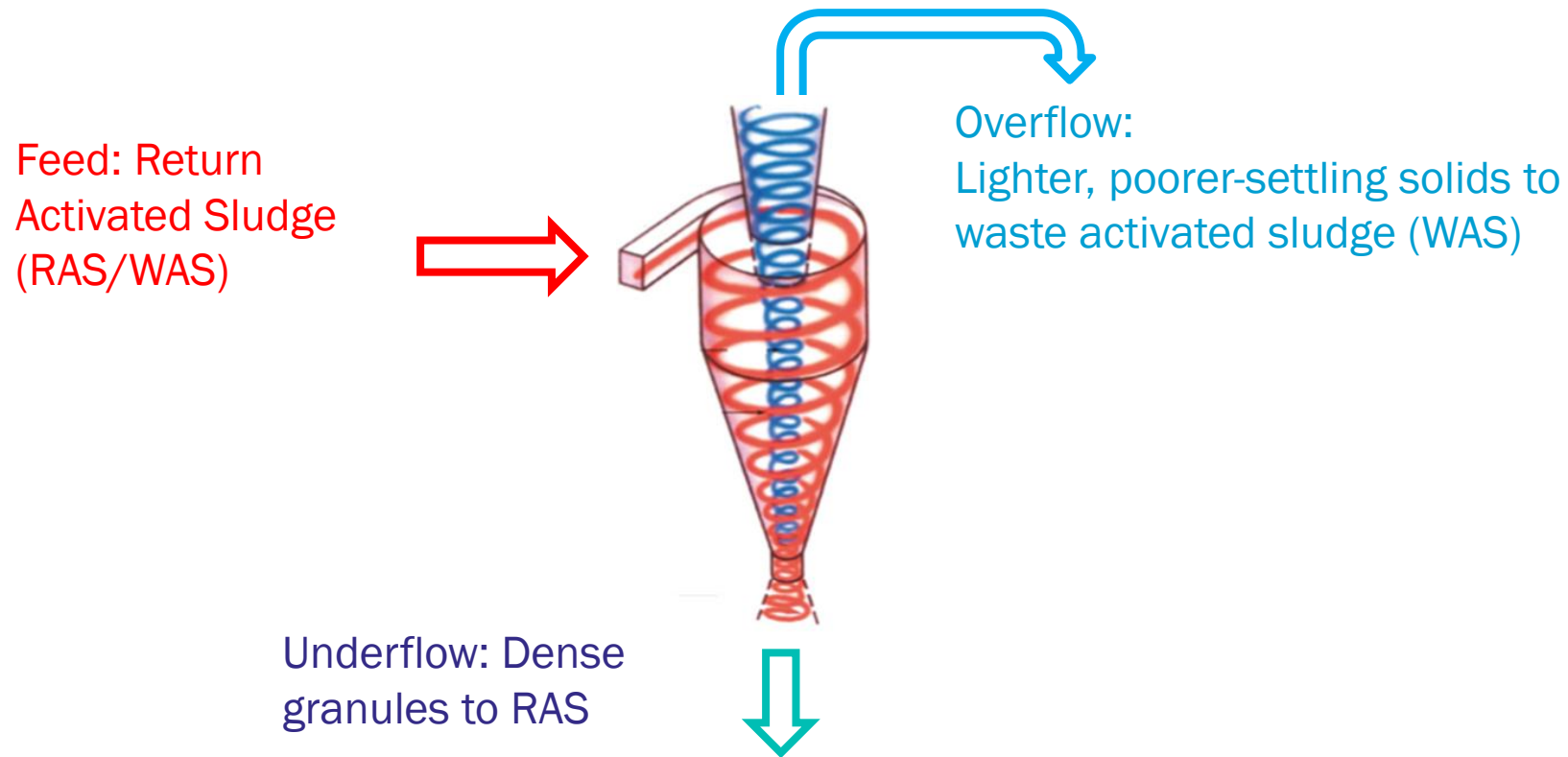
JOHANNESBURG PROCESS



Issues to be addressed:

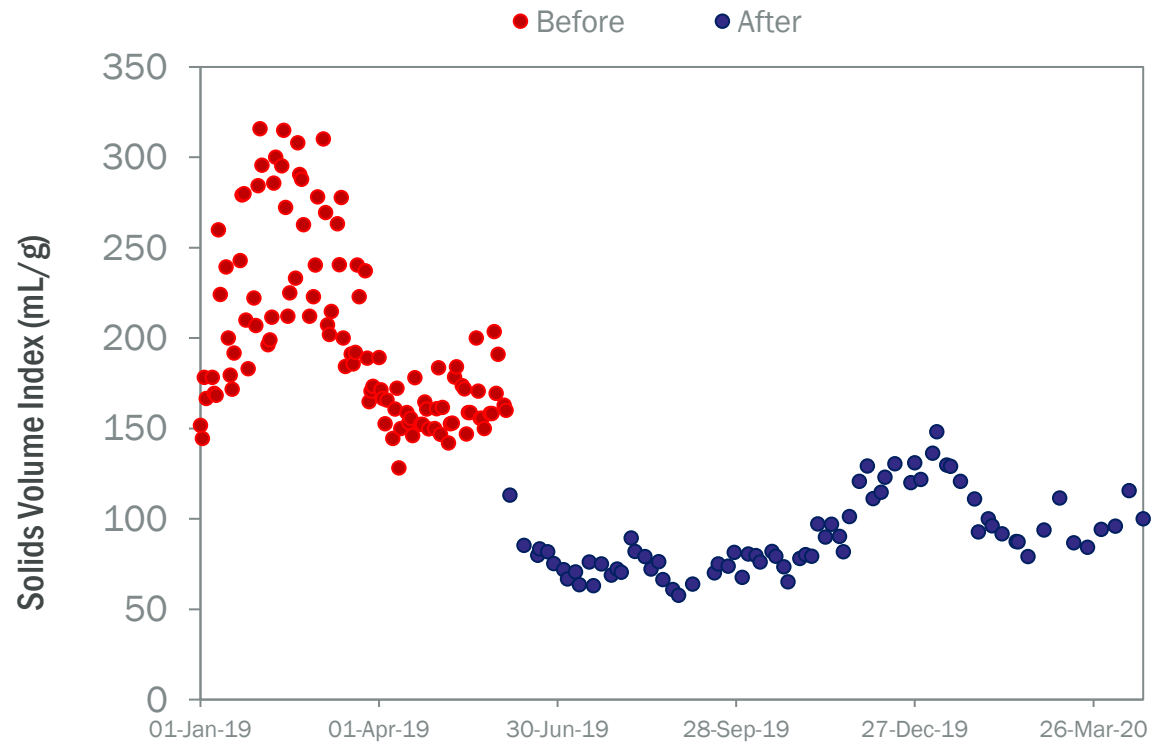
- Settleability
- BioP (winter performance)
- Nitrogen removal (new regulation)

EXTERNAL (PHYSICAL) SELECTOR - HYDROCYCLONE



inDENSE skid from World Water Works

1. HIGHER SETTLING RATES



Before:

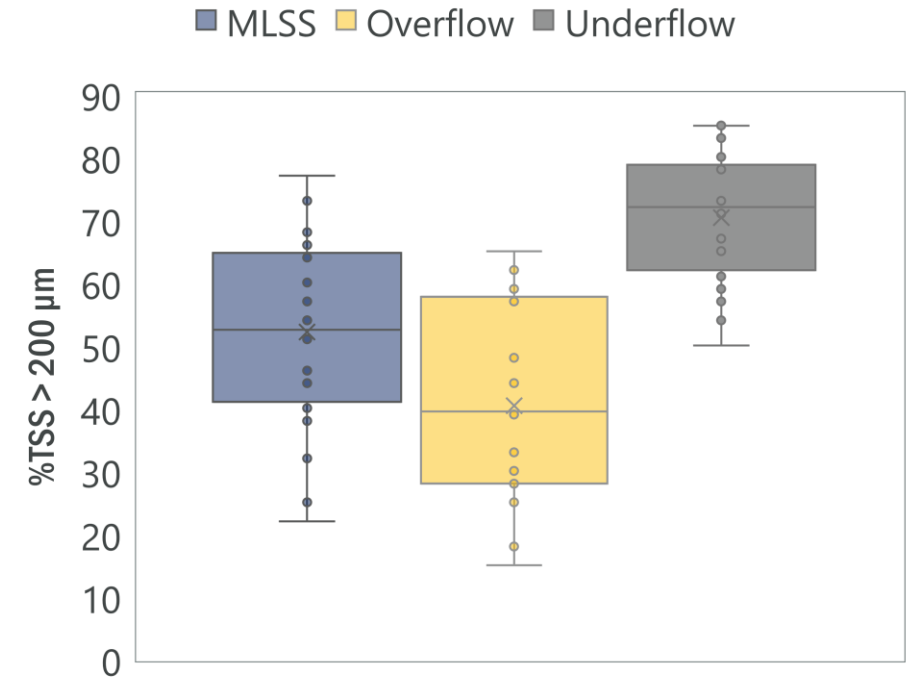
50th Percentile = 184 mL/g

90th Percentile = 284 mL/g

After:

50th Percentile = 90 mL/g

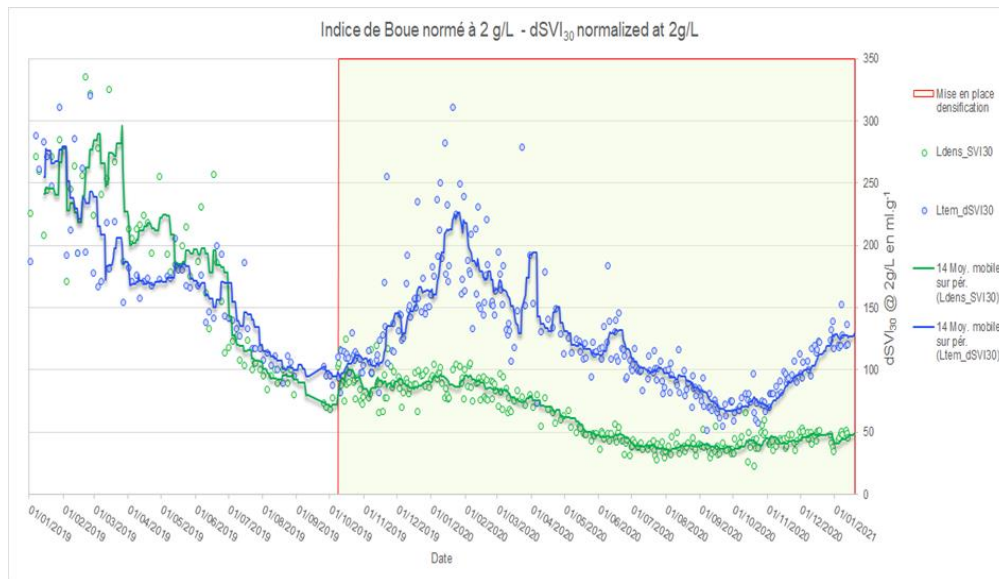
90th Percentile = 130 mL/g



Regmi et al. (2021) in revision Water Research

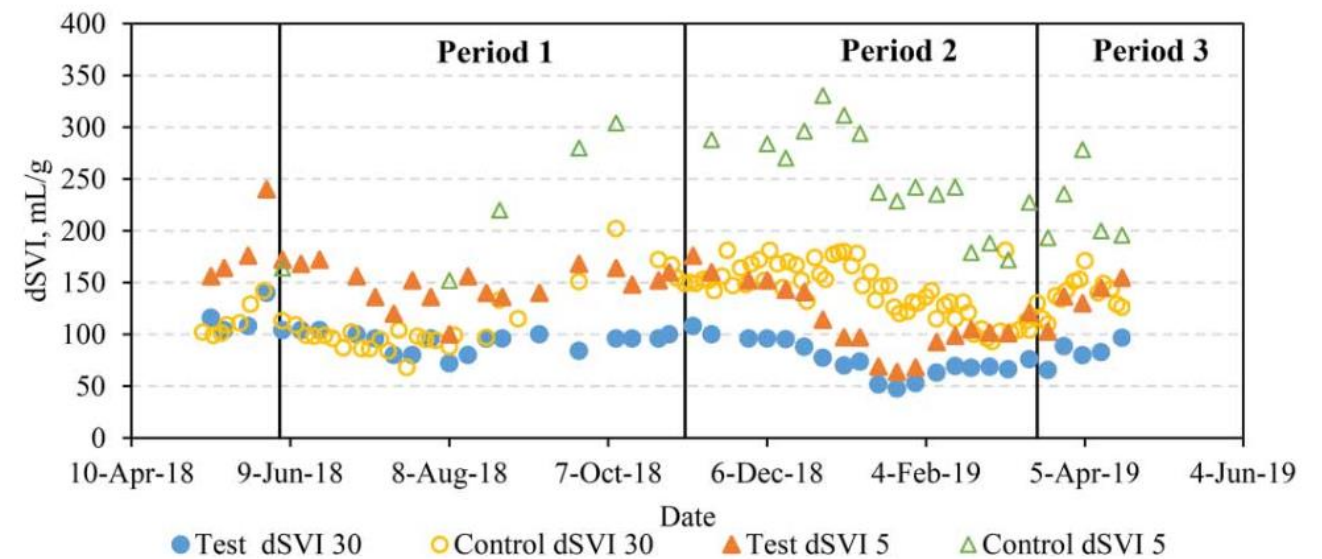
FROM OTHER FACILITIES

Dijon, France



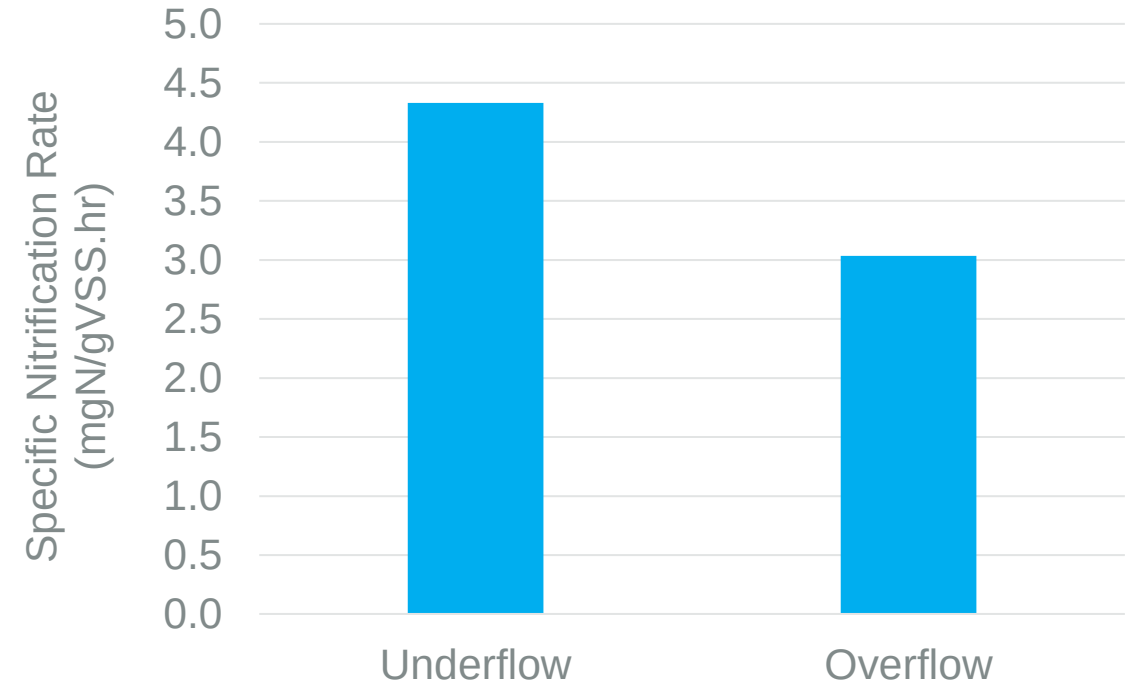
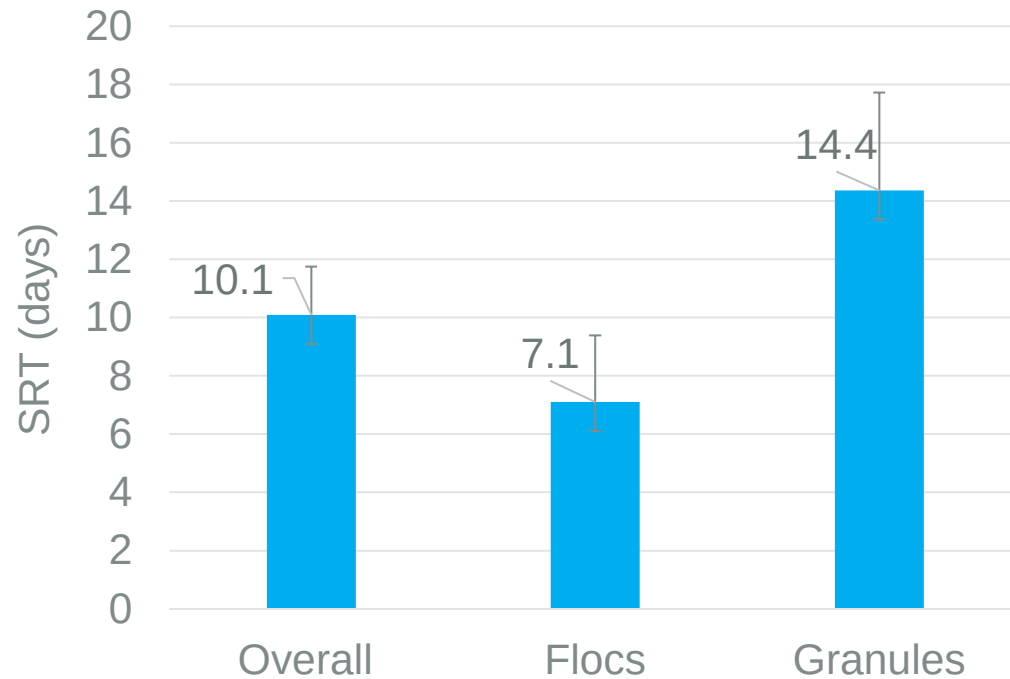
Roche et al. (2021)

Denver, CO, USA



Avila et al. (2020)

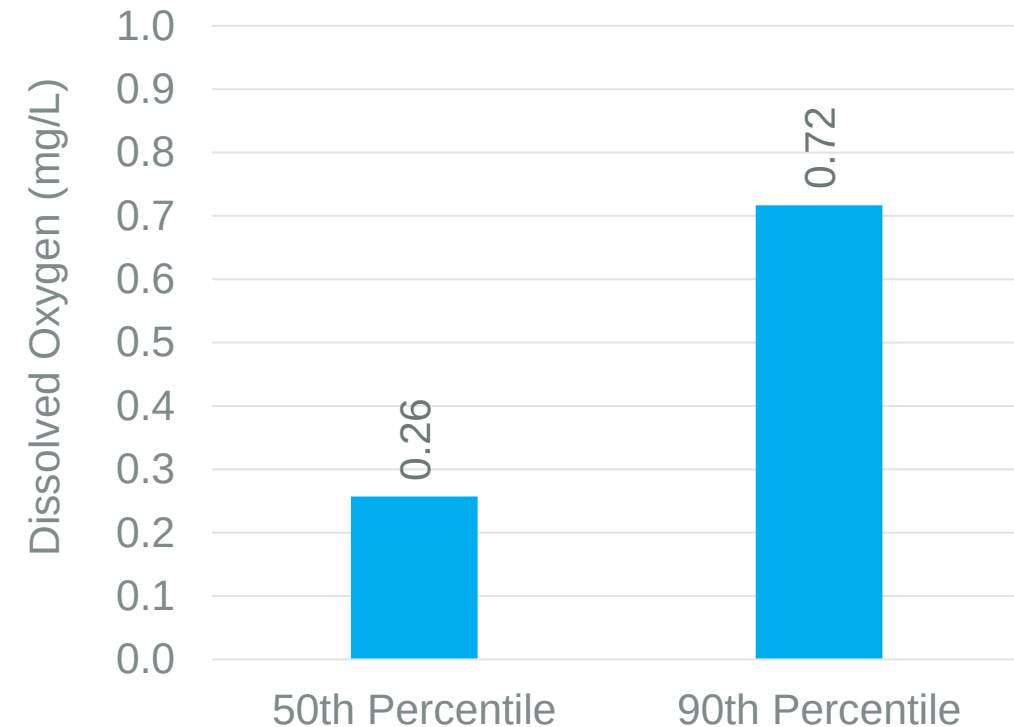
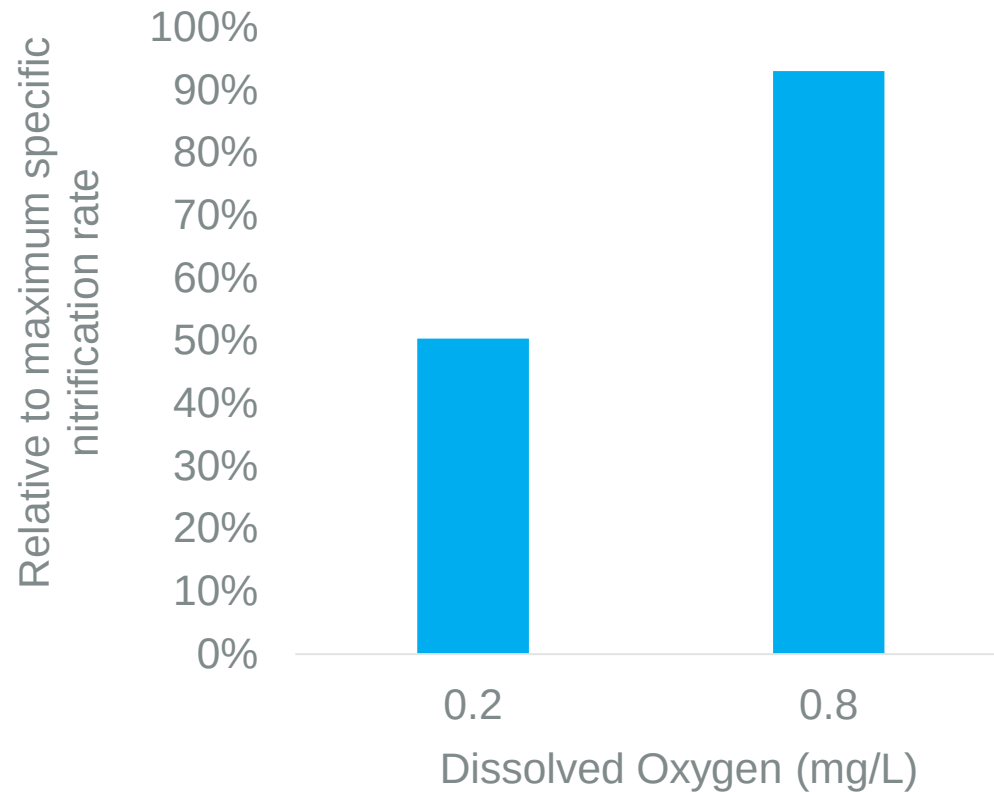
2. SRT SAFETY FACTOR



Nitrifiers in the granules experience longer SRT, leading to enrichment?

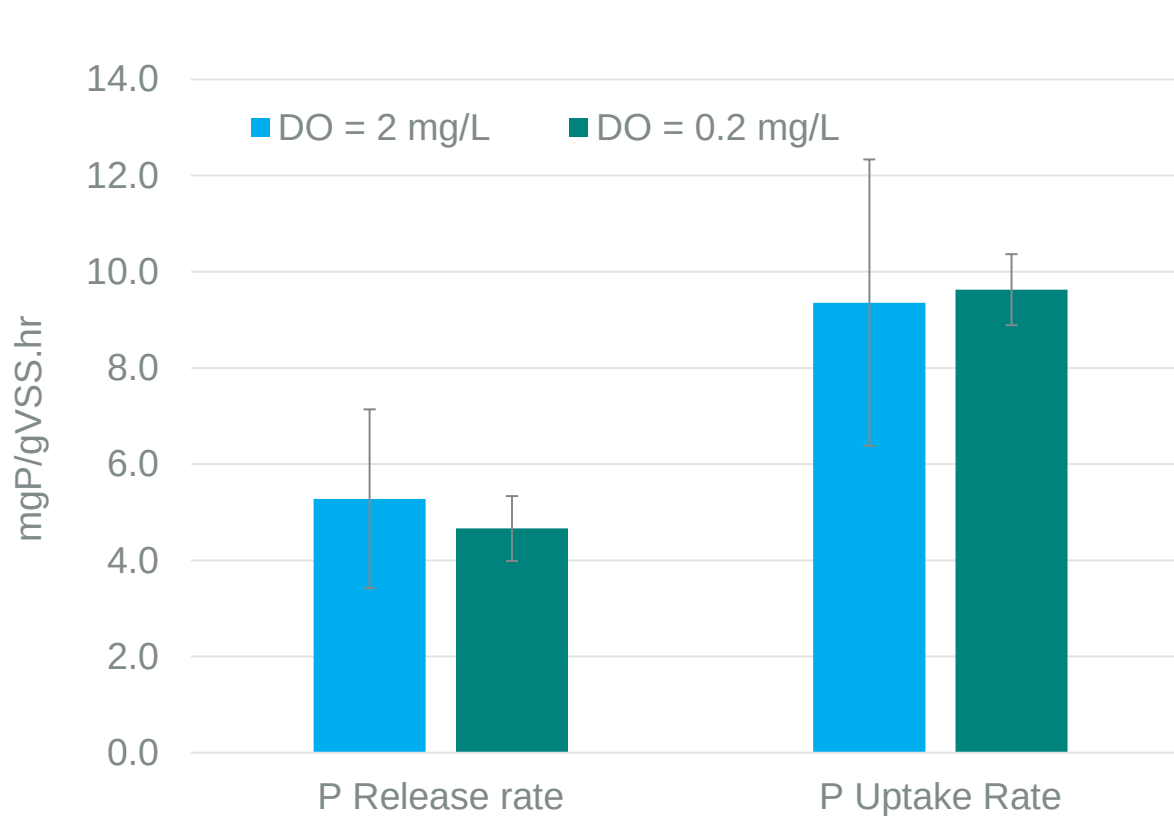
Regmi et al. (2021) in revision Water Research

3. FAVORABLE BNR KINETICS

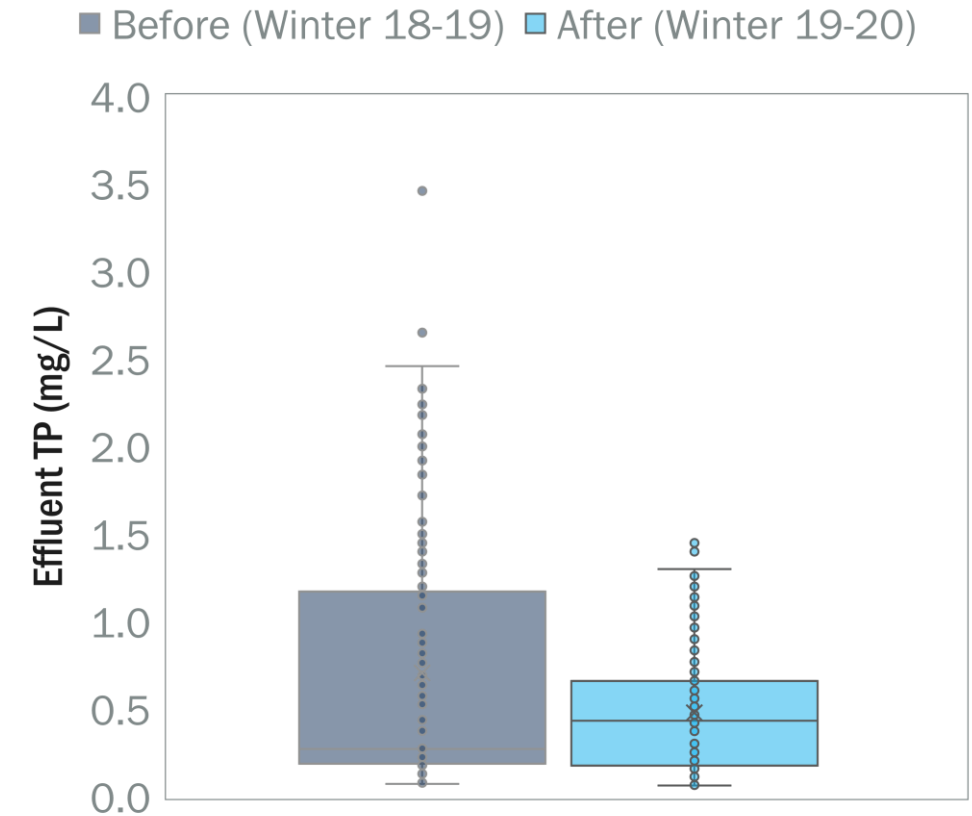


- High nitrifier oxygen affinity resulted in low DO operation
- >30% aeration energy savings was realized compared to conventional high DO operation (AvN control was used)

Low DO P uptake and more stable bioP

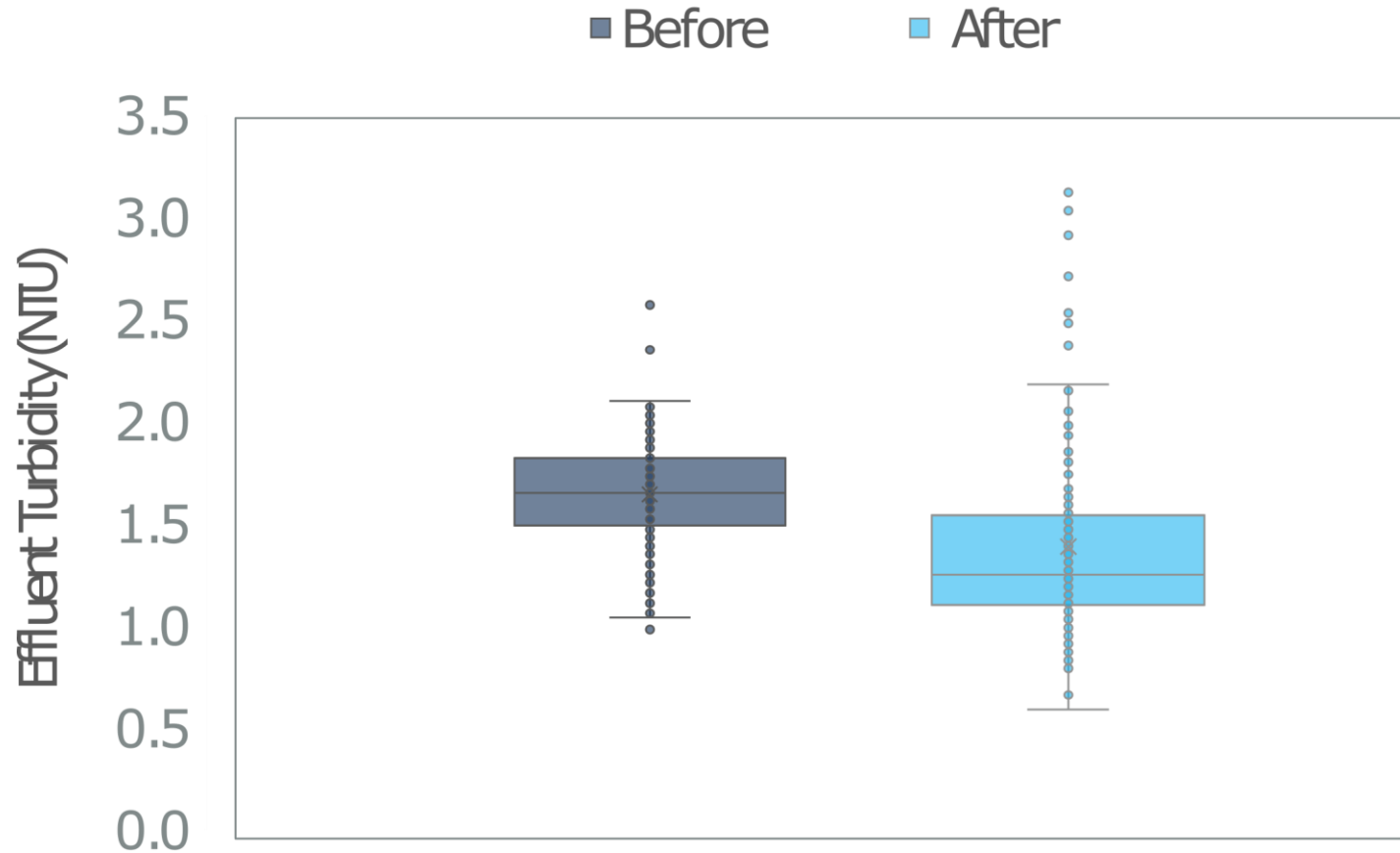


Low DO didn't hinder P uptake



Better bioP in winter

4. GOOD BIOFLOCCULATION

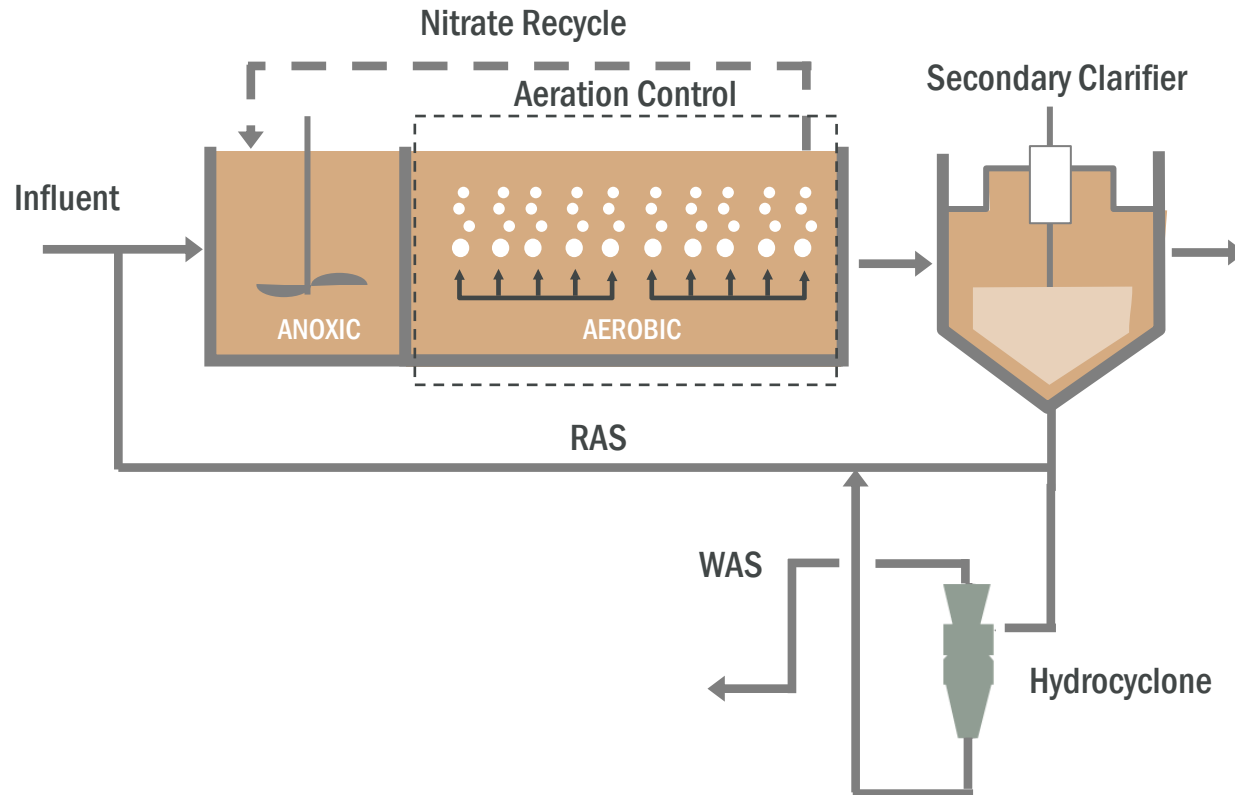


- Densification didn't increase the effluent solids
- Hybrid filament-floc-granule matrix was able to trap smaller fines from escaping

Regmi et al. (2021) in revision Water Research

KEEPING IT SIMPLE!

A|SND + Physical selector



Aeration control

- SND
- Lowers O_2 and NO_3 back to the pre-anoxic zone

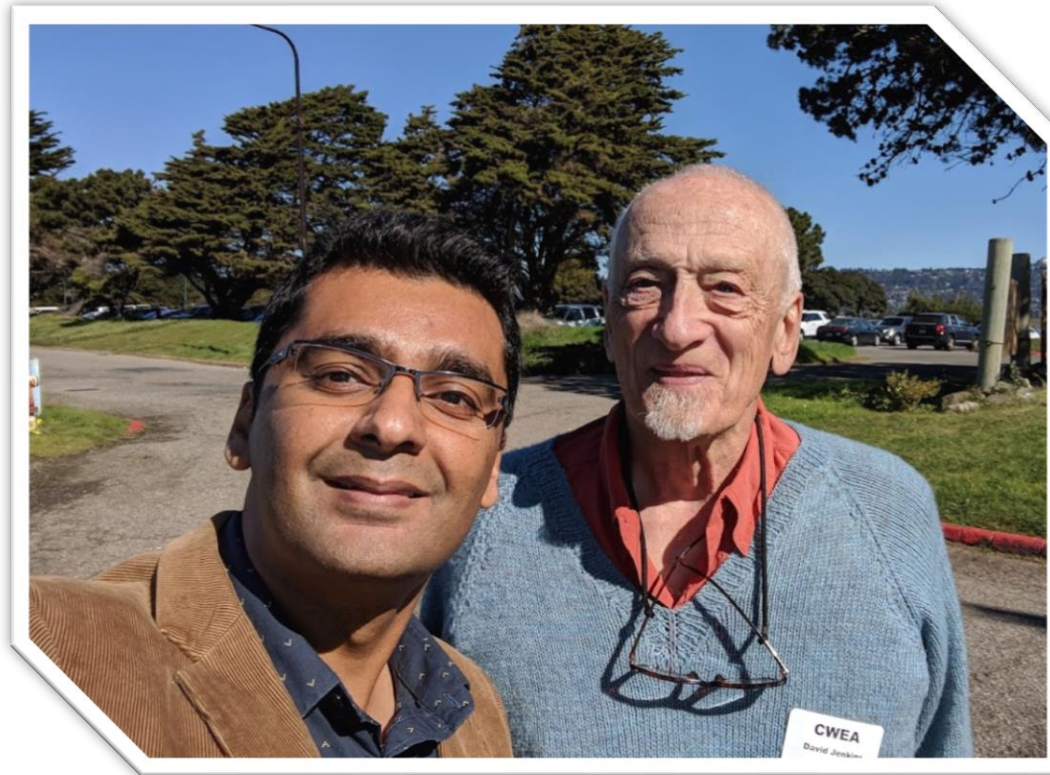
Physical selector

- Retain beneficial functional group

Nitrate recycle control

- Control the electron acceptor in the anoxic zone to favor storage

REMEMBERING FLOC DOC



The picture was taken after the CWEA workshop at Berkley, CA in February of 2018

Q&A Discussion

MODERATORS: PUSKER REGMI AND KRISHNA PAGILLA

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