Biological Wastewater Treatment by Activated Sludge Process

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ACE CR – Association of Wastewater

Treatment Experts of the Czech Republic







BASIC TERMS

- SUBSTRATE: defined as the source of energy for living cells.
- CARBON SOURCE: synthesis of new biomass
 - inorganic x organic; external x internal
- NUTRIENTS: macro x micro
- ELECTRON ACCEPTORS: cultivation conditions anaerobic, anoxic, oxic

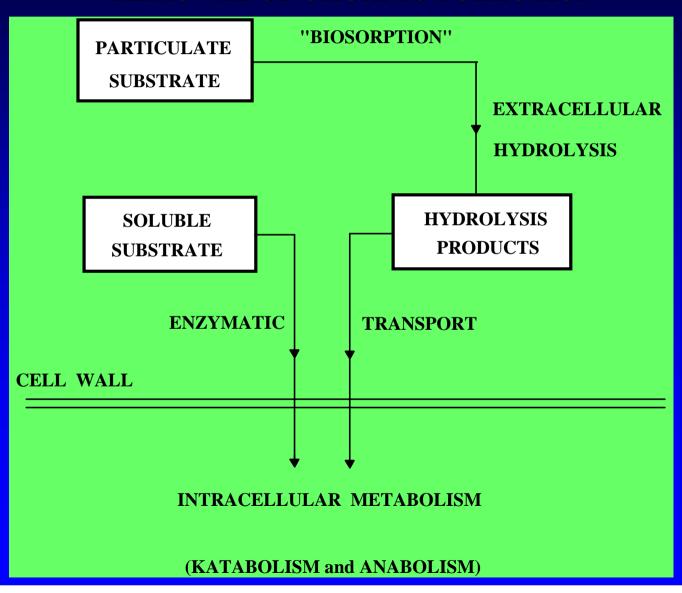


ORGANIC CARBON REMOVAL

- TRANSPORT AND "BIOSORPTION"
- ACCUMULATION AND STORAGE
- METABOLISM:
 - KATABOLISM production of energy
 - ANABOLISM synthesis of new biomass
- FERMENTATION under anaerobic cond.
- org. C REMOVAL AND EBPR



REMOVAL OF ORGANIC POLLUTION





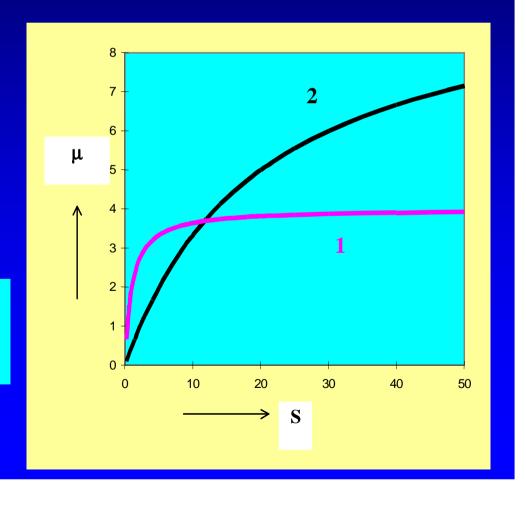
KINETIC SELECTION

1) "BALANCED GROWTH"

 $-\mu_{MAX}$ and K_S strategy

$$\mu = \mu_{MAX} \frac{S}{S + Ks}$$

- 1) K_S STRATEGY
- 2) μ_{MAX} STRATEGY

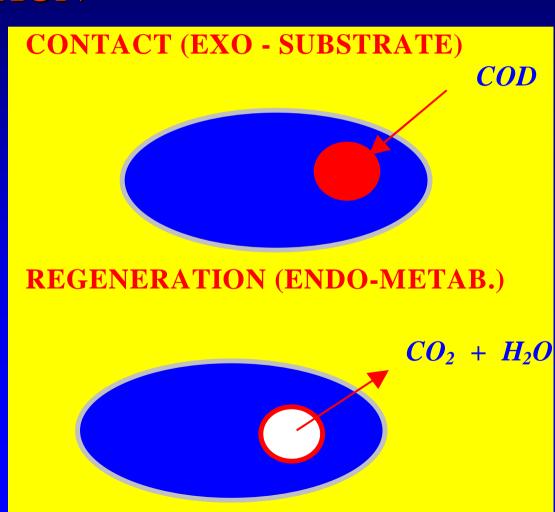




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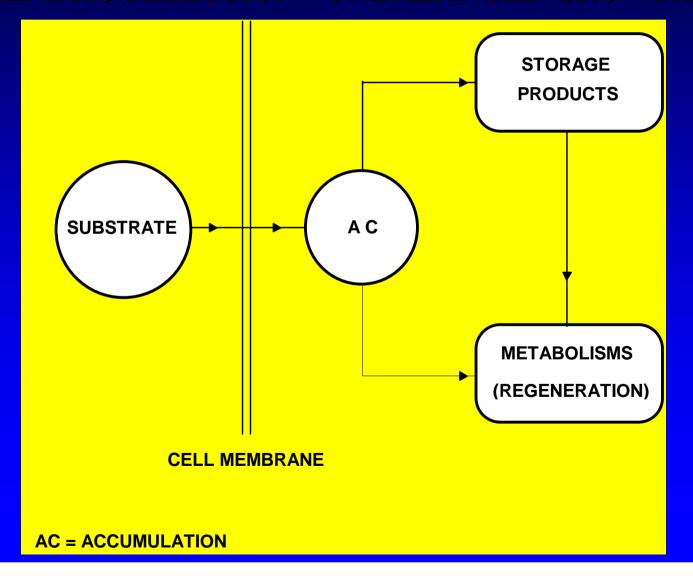
2) "UNBALANCED GROWTH"

A.S. SYSTEM WITH SUBSTRATE CONCENTRATION GRADIENT



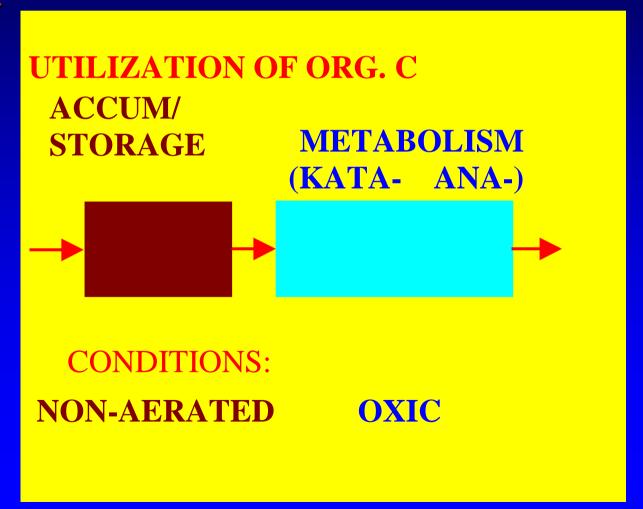


KINETIC SELECTION - UNBALANCED GROWTH



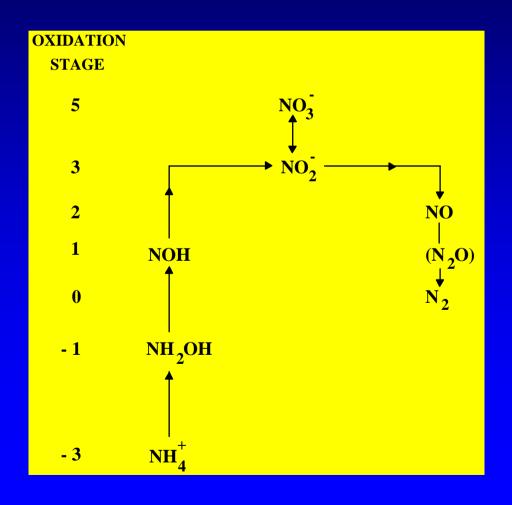


METABOLIC SELECTION





OXIC / ANOXIC CONDITIONS



NITRIFICATION:

N donor of 8 electrons

DENITRIFICATION:

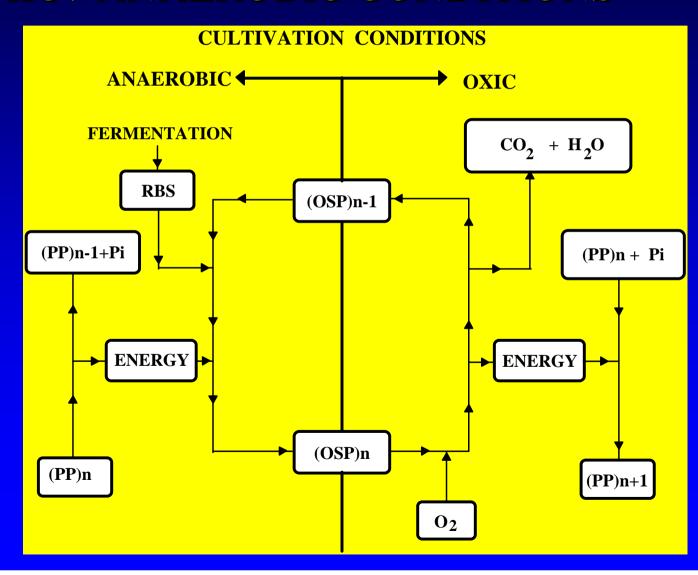
N acceptor of 5 electrons

$$(1 N = 5/4 O_2)$$

 $(1 \text{ g N} = 2.86 \text{ g O}_2)$



OXIC / ANAEROBIC CONDITIONS





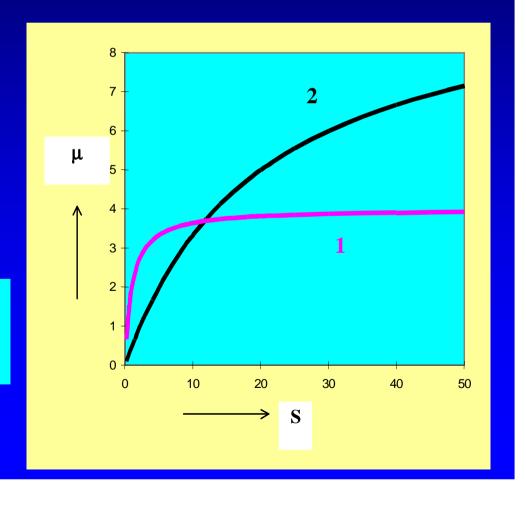
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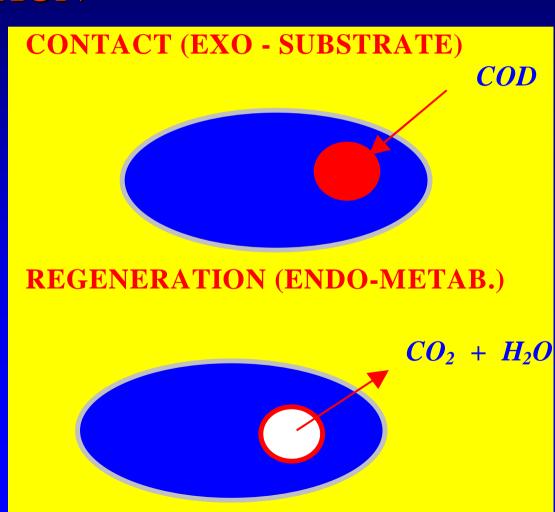




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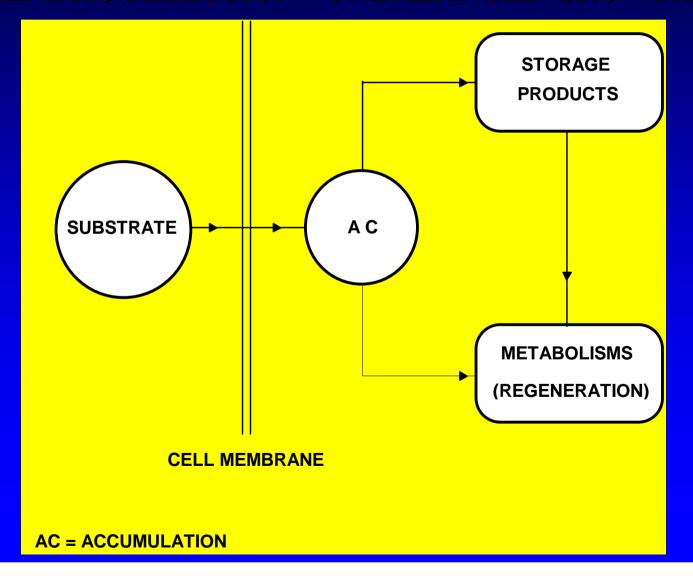
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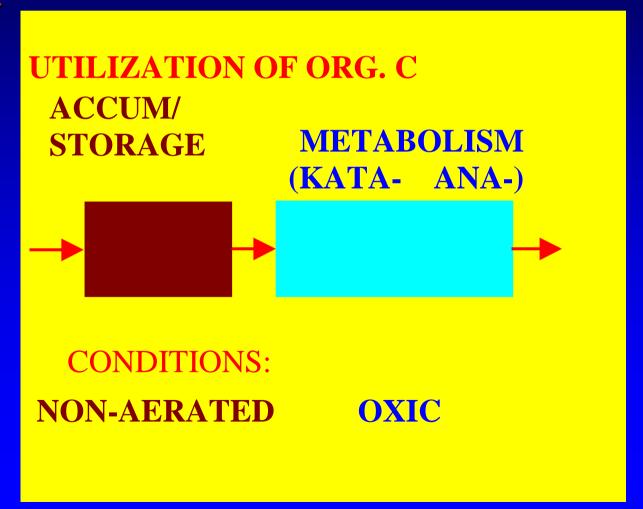


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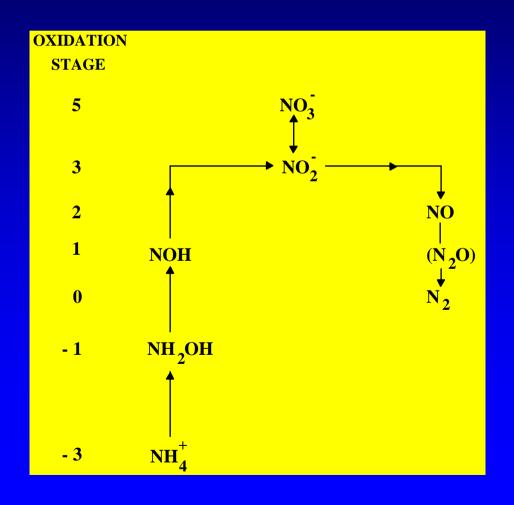


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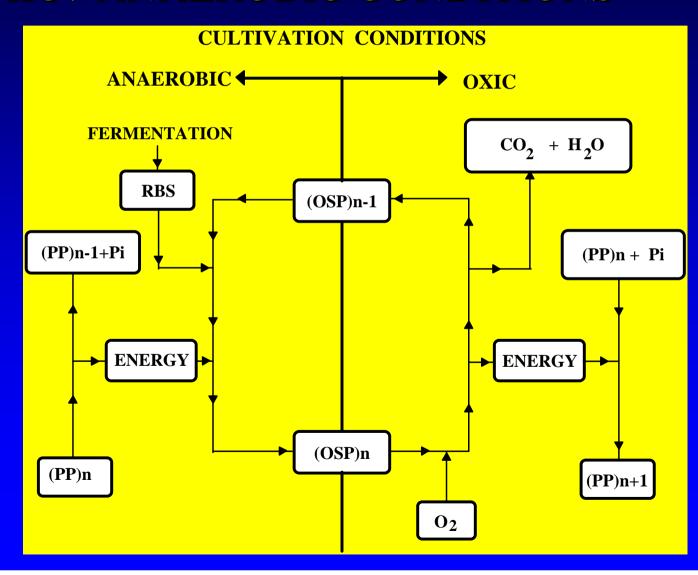
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OXIC / ANAEROBIC CONDITIONS



WELL SETTLING ACTIVATED SLUDGE

- primary condition for the separation of activated sludge from treated wastewater
- separation based on gravity sedimentation
- so far the only economically feasible option
- membrane filtration: the solution for future?

WELL SETTLING ACTIVATED SLUDGE

- settles fast, with zone settling velocities 3 m/h and more
- does not occupy an excessive volume after settling and thickening in secondary clarifier
- after sedimentation leaves a clear supernatant (X = 15 mg/l and less)
- does not rise within at least 2-3 h period after sedimentation

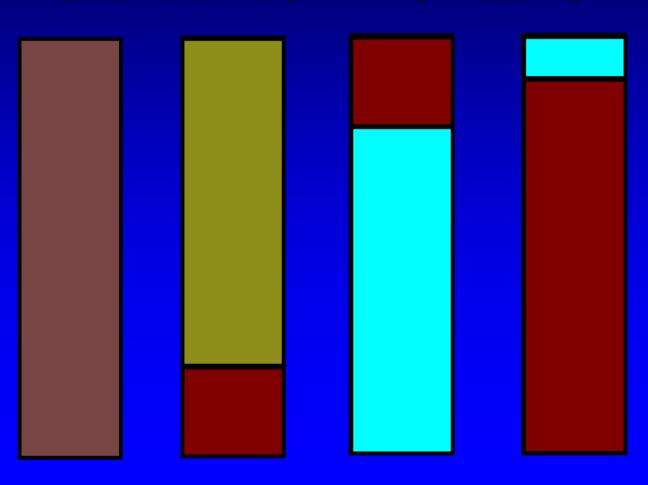
ACTIVATED SLUDGE SEPARATION PROBLEMS

- DISPERSED GROWTH
- UNSETTLEABLE MICROFLOCS

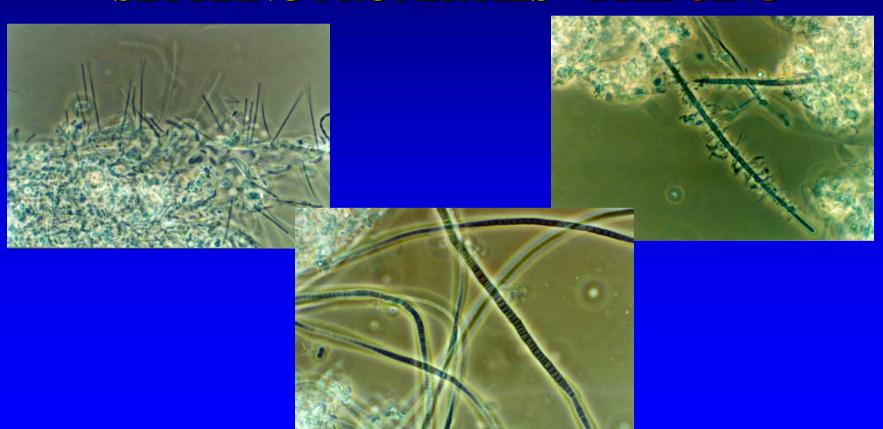
(PINPOINT FLOCS)

- RISING SLUDGE
- VISCOUS BULKING
- FILAMENTOUS BULKING
- FOAMING CAUSED BY FILAMENTS

SEPARATION PROBLEMS

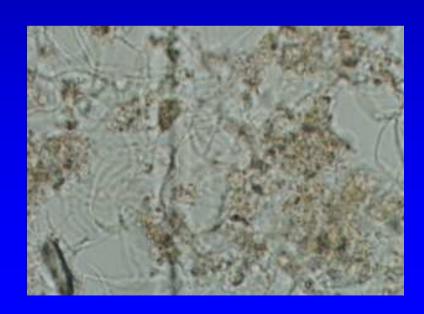


INTERFERENCE OF FILAMENTS WITH SETTLING PROPERTIES - BRIDGING



INTERFERENCE OF FILAMENTS WITH SETTLING PROPERTIES - OPEN STRUCTURE





Water sprays





Mechanical skimming

a) In connecting channels

 $\mathbf{D} > \mu - \mathbf{b}$





Mechanical skimming

b) In secondary clarifiers









Sometimes very difficult







"Travelling" scum box



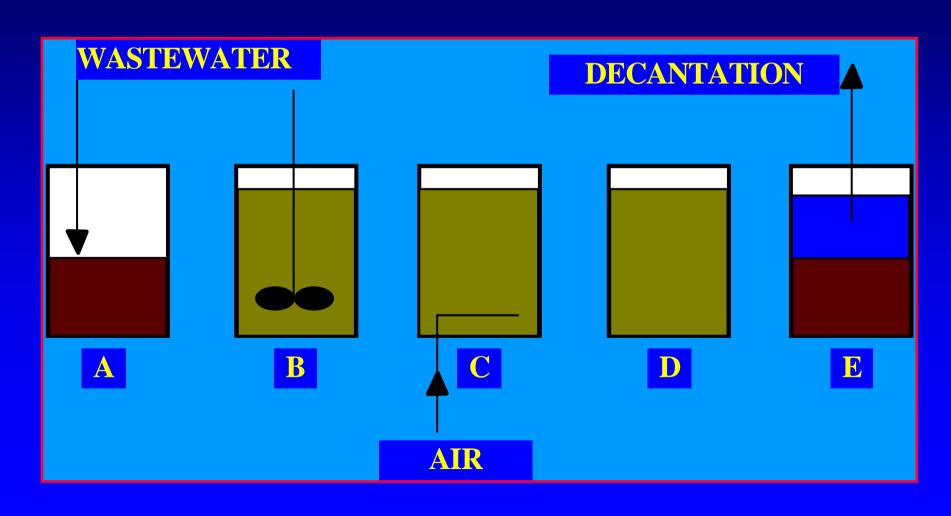


Foaming in digesters





SBR: CONFIGURATION FOR BULKING CONTROL





SBR – CAST system: contact zone





SBR – CAST system: aeration/anoxic zone





SBR – CAST system: decantation









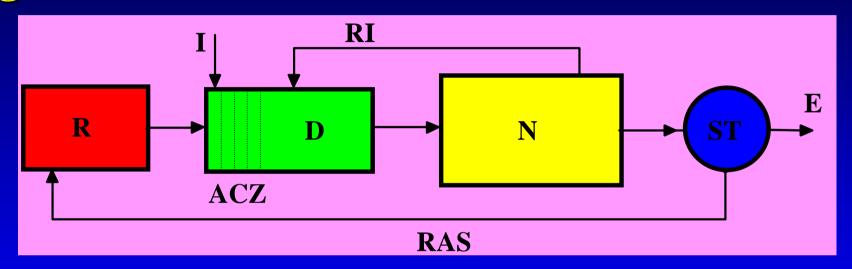
Typical wastewater treatment processes in new or upgraded WWTPs

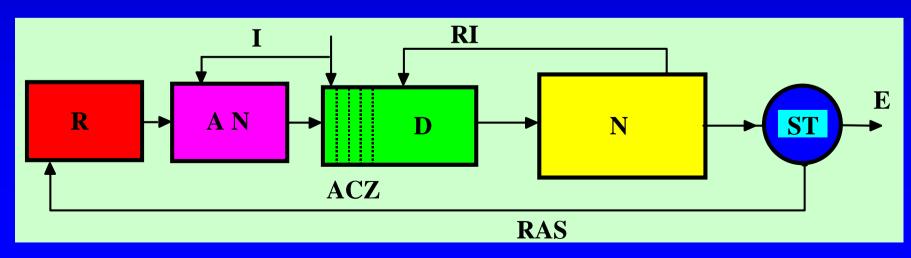
- R-D-N or R-AN-D-N Process for mediumsize and large WWTPs
- Carrousel-type D-N aeration systems with intermittent aeration and anaerobic contact zones





Regeneration zone









The Prague WWTP after upgrade:

R - ZONE

4 NEW CLARIFIERS





Examples



Pilsen WWTP under construction





Pilsen WWTP in operation, 430 000 PE







Hradec Kralove WWTP in operation, 180 000 PE, R-D-N Process





Usti nad Labem, 180 000 PE, R-AN-D-N Process







Usti nad Labem, 180 000 PE, R-AN-D-N Process









Nymburk, 35 000 PE, Carrousel plant with simultaneous N – D and bio-P removal







Melnik, 12 000 PE, Carrousel plant with intermittent aeration and bio-P removal

