

Cell growth

$$r_x = \mu x$$

$r_x$  – volumetric growth rate (gX/l.h)

$\mu$  – specific cell growth rate (h<sup>-1</sup>)

$$\mu = \frac{\mu_{\max} S}{K_s + S}$$

$\mu_{\max}$  – maximum specific cell growth rate (h<sup>-1</sup>)

Substrate consumption

$$r_s = \frac{1}{Y_{x/s}} \mu x$$

$r_s$  – volumetric rate of substrate consumption (gS/l.h)

$$V_s = \frac{r_s}{x}$$

$$V_s = \frac{1}{Y_{x/s}} \mu$$

$V_s$  – specific rate of substrate consumption (gS/gX.h)

$$r_s = \frac{v_{\max} S}{K_m + S}$$

$V_{\max}$  – maximum specific rate of substrate consumption (gS/gX.h)

Cell growth

$$r_x = \mu x$$

$r_x$  – volumetric growth rate (gX/l.h)

$\mu$  – specific cell growth rate (h<sup>-1</sup>)

$$\mu = \frac{\mu_{\max} S}{K_s + S}$$

$\mu_{\max}$  – maximum specific cell growth rate (h<sup>-1</sup>)

Substrate consumption

$$r_s = \frac{1}{Y_{x/s}} \mu x$$

$$r_s = \frac{1}{Y'_{x/s}} \mu x + m x$$

$$V_s = \frac{r_s}{x}$$

$$V_s = \frac{1}{Y_{x/s}} \mu$$

$$V_s = \frac{1}{Y'_{x/s}} \mu + m$$

$$r_s = \frac{v_{\max} S}{K_m + S}$$

$m$  – maintenance coefficient (gS/gX.h)

Product formation

## I – Product associated with growth

$$r_p = \frac{dP}{dt} = Y_{p/x} \mu x$$

$r_p$  – volumetric product production rate (gP/l.h)

$$V_p = \frac{1}{x} \frac{dP}{dt} = Y_{p/x} \mu$$

$V_p$  - specific product production rate (gP/gX.h)

Product formation

## I – Product associated with growth

$$r_p = \frac{dP}{dt} = Y_{p/x} \mu x$$

$$V_p = \frac{1}{x} \frac{dP}{dt} = Y_{p/x} \mu$$

## II – Product partially associated with growth

$$r_p = \frac{dP}{dt} = \alpha \mu x + \beta x$$

$$V_p = \frac{1}{x} \frac{dP}{dt} = \alpha \mu + \beta$$

$\alpha = Y'_{p/x}$  – true yield coefficient of product production (gP/gX)

$\beta$  = specific product formation rate due to maintenance (gP/gX.h)

$m_{p=}$   $\beta$

Product formation

## **I – Product associated with growth**

$$r_p = \frac{dP}{dt} = Y_{p/x} \mu x$$

$$V_p = \frac{1}{x} \frac{dP}{dt} = Y_{p/x} \mu$$

## **II – Product partially associated with growth**

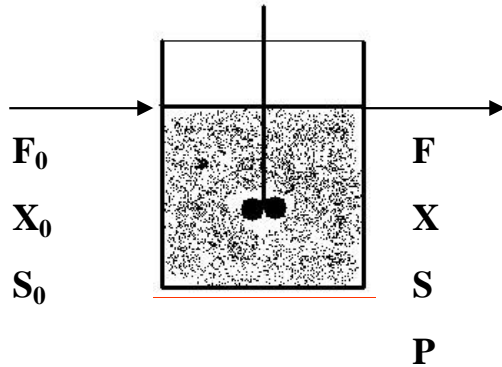
$$r_p = \frac{dP}{dt} = \alpha \mu x + \beta x$$

$$V_p = \frac{1}{x} \frac{dP}{dt} = \alpha \mu + \beta$$

## **III – Non-Growth Associated Product**

$$r_p = Ax$$

### 2.1 – Mass balance to the cell concentration



$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \underbrace{\frac{F_0}{V} x_0}_{\text{Cells entering the reactor}} - \underbrace{\frac{F}{V} x}_{\text{Cells exiting the reactor}} + \underbrace{\mu x}_{\text{Cell growth}} - \underbrace{k_d x}_{\text{Cell death}}$$

For  $x_0 = 0$  and  $\mu \gg k_d$ :

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{F}{V} x + \mu x$$

$$\frac{F}{V} = D$$

D - dilution rate ( $\text{h}^{-1}$ )

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mu x - Dx$$

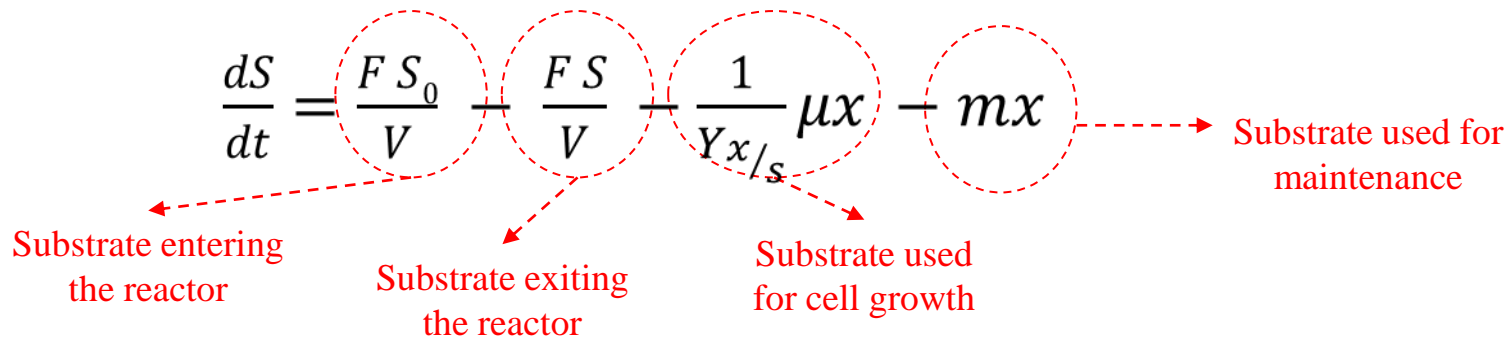
In steady state:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0$$

$$\mu = D$$

In steady state, without cell death and sterile feeding

### 2.2 – Mass balance to the substrate



$$\frac{F}{V} = D \quad \frac{dS}{dt} = D S_0 - D S - \frac{1}{Y_{x/s}} \mu x - m x$$

if  $m$  is negligible ( $m \ll \mu$ ):

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = D (S_0 - S) - \frac{1}{Y_{x/s}} \mu x$$

In steady state  $\frac{dS}{dt} = 0$

$$Y_{x/s} (S_0 - S) = x$$

### 2.3 – Relationship between substrate concentration and cell concentration with dilution rate

$$\mu = \frac{\mu_{\max} S}{K_s + S}$$

In a continuous reactor  
under steady state

$$D = \frac{\mu_{\max} S}{K_s + S} \Rightarrow S = \frac{K_s D}{\mu_{\max} - D}$$

$$Y_{x/s} (S_0 - S) = x \quad x = Y_{x/s} \left( S_0 - \frac{K_s D}{\mu_{\max} - D} \right)$$

critical washout rate  $D_c$   
(when  $x=0$  and  $D \sim \mu_{\max}$ )

$$D_c = \frac{\mu_{\max} S_0}{K_s + S_0}$$



### 2.4 – Cell Productivity

productivity  $DX$

Maximum productivity

$$D_{\max} = \mu_{\max} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{K_s}{K_s + S_0} \right)^{1/2} \right]$$

### 2.5 – Effect of the maintenance coefficient

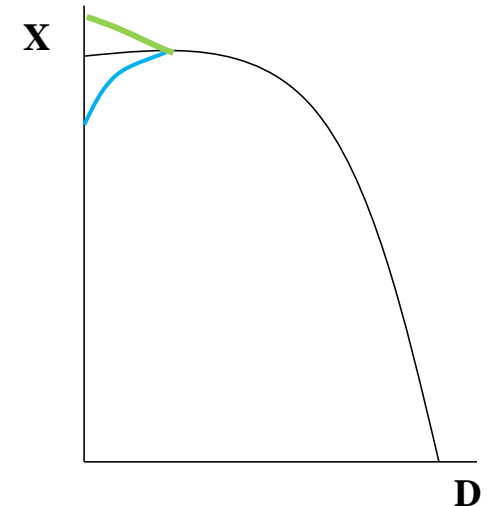
Negligible cell maintenance

$$x = Y_{x/s} \left( S_0 - \frac{K_s D}{\mu_{\max} - D} \right)$$

Considering cell maintenance

$$x = \frac{D(S_0 - S)}{\frac{1}{Y_{x/s}} D + m}$$

production of intracellular reserves



### 2.6 – Product production

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = -DP + Y_{p/x}\mu X$$

#### 2.6.1- Product associated to growth

At steady-state

$$DP = Y_{p/x}\mu X \quad (\text{Volumetric productivity (gP/l.h)})$$
$$V_p = Y_{p/x} \mu \quad (\text{Specific productivity (gP/gX.h)})$$

#### 2.6.2- Product partially associated to growth

Mass balance to the substrate:

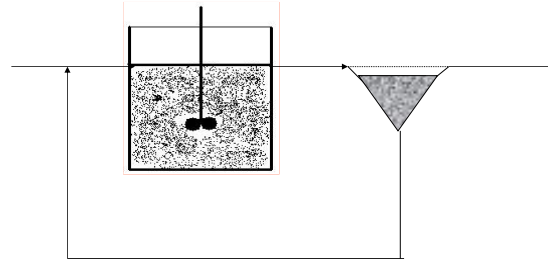
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = DS_0 - DS - \frac{1}{Y'_{x/s}}\mu X - \frac{1}{Y'_{p/s}}r_p - mX$$

$r_p$  – volumetric rate of product formation (gP/l.h)

$$DP = (Y'_{p/x} \mu + m_p) X$$

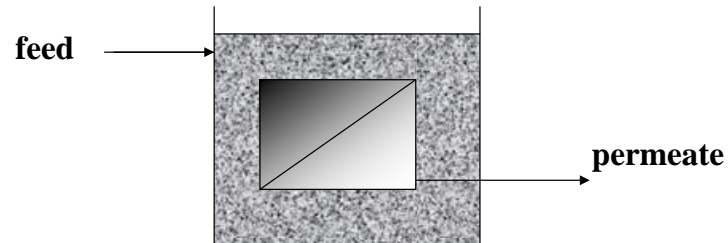
### 2.7 – Cell recirculation reactors

With a decanter

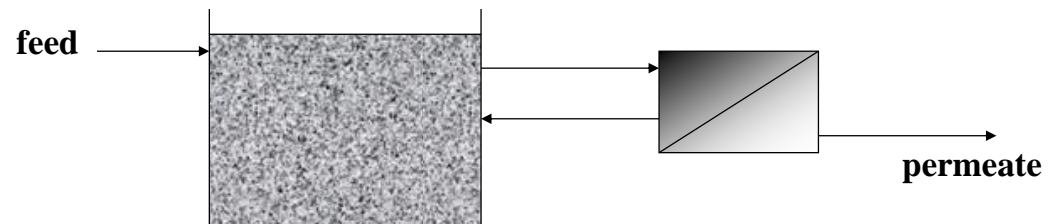


Membrane bioreactors

Submerged



With cell recirculation

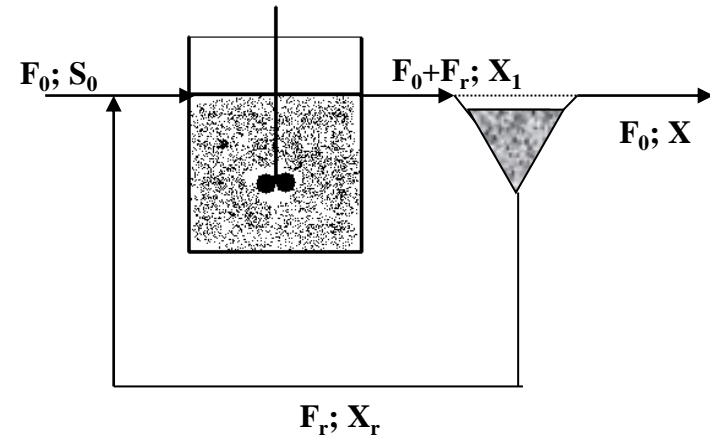


### 2.7 – Cell recirculation reactors

Balance to the biomass:

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = \frac{F_r}{V} X_r - \frac{F_0 + F_r}{V} X_1 + \mu X_1$$

Biomass entering the reactor      Biomass exiting the reactor      Cell growth



At steady-state

$$0 = F_r X_r - (F_0 + F_r) X_1 + \mu X_1 V$$

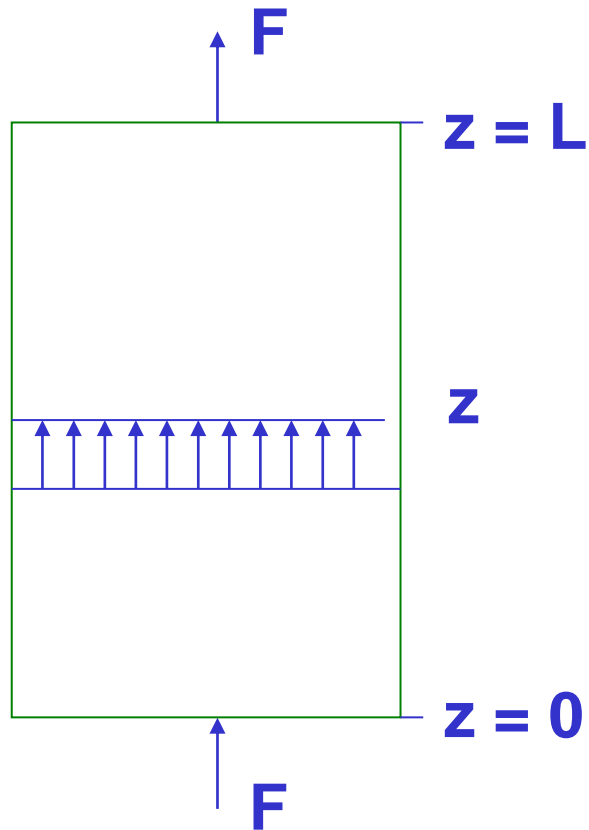
Balance to the substrate:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = D(S_0 - S) - \frac{\mu X_1}{Y_{x/s}} = 0$$

## 3.1 – Definition

**Geometry:** cylindrical column

**Operation:** Continuous



← **Recovery of the product at the top**

$z$  – position on a vertical axis (m)

$L$  - column height (m)

$F$  - fluid flow rate in ascending flow ( $\text{m}^3/\text{h}$ )

$A$  - cross section area ( $\text{m}^2$ )

$d$  - diameter of the cylindrical column (m)

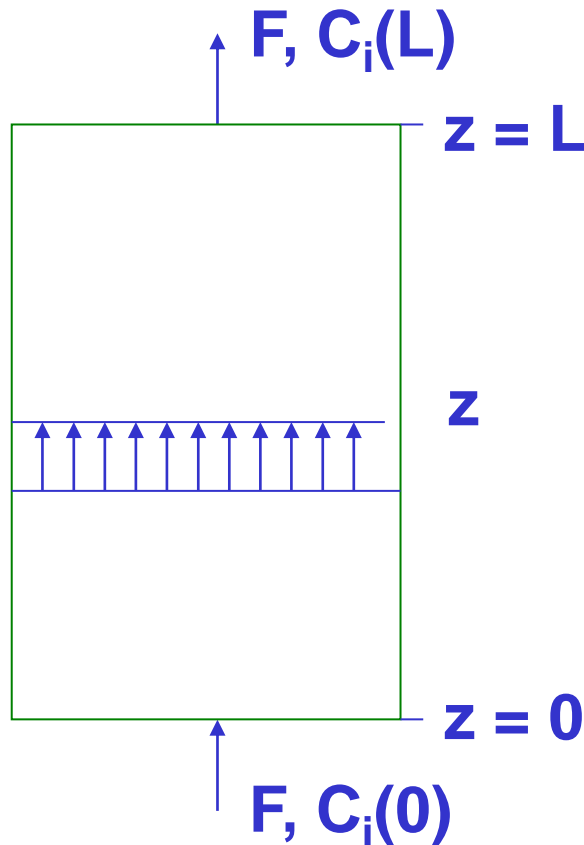
$V = AL$  - column volume ( $\text{m}^3$ )

← **Inoculation and introduction of nutrients into the base**

## 3.1 – Definition

**Geometry:** cylindrical column

**Operation:** Continuous



$C_i(0)$  - concentration of a generic  $i$  component at the base of the column ( $\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ )

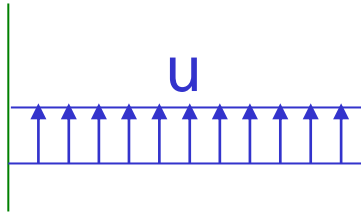
$C_i(L)$  - concentration of a generic  $i$  component at the top of the column ( $\text{Kg}/\text{m}^3$ )

$C_i(z)$  - concentration of a generic  $i$  component in a  $z$  position of the column ( $\text{Kg}/\text{m}^3$ )

$u$  - axial velocity of the fluid inside the column ( $\text{m}/\text{s}$ )

$$u = \frac{F}{A}$$

## 3.1 – Definition



Velocity profile in plug flow = **CONSTANT**

Therefore:

all fluid elements move at the same velocity  $u$ .



plug flow

$$Re = \frac{\rho u d}{\mu} > 2000$$

(N° Reynolds)

$\rho$  – Specific mass of fluid ( $\text{Kg/m}^3$ )

$u$  – axial velocity of the fluid ( $\text{m/s}$ )

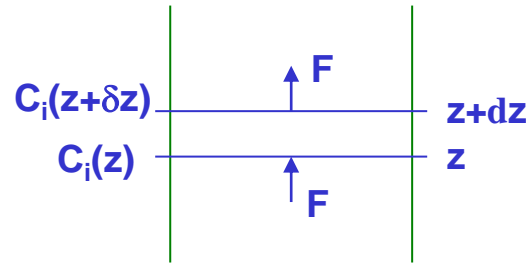
$d$  – column diameter ( $\text{m}$ )

$\mu$  – Viscosity of the fluid ( $\text{Pa.s}$ )

**PFR: TOTAL SEGREGATION  
CSTR: PERFECT MIX**

## 3.2 – Material balances

Material balance to the infinitesimal section of the column with height  $dz$  a generic 'i' component



Mass of 'i' that enters  $z$  per unit of time + Mass of 'i' produced by reaction in  $Adz$  volume per unit of time = Mass of "i" leaving  $z+dz$  per unit of time

$$FC_i(z) + r_i(z)Adz = FC_i(z+dz)$$

It's only true if  $dz$   
is infinitely small

Note:  $r_i$  – volumetric rate of  $i$  production

$$r_i = u \frac{dC_i}{dz}$$

Eq. of material  
to component 'i'  
em PFR



## 3.3 – Kinetics

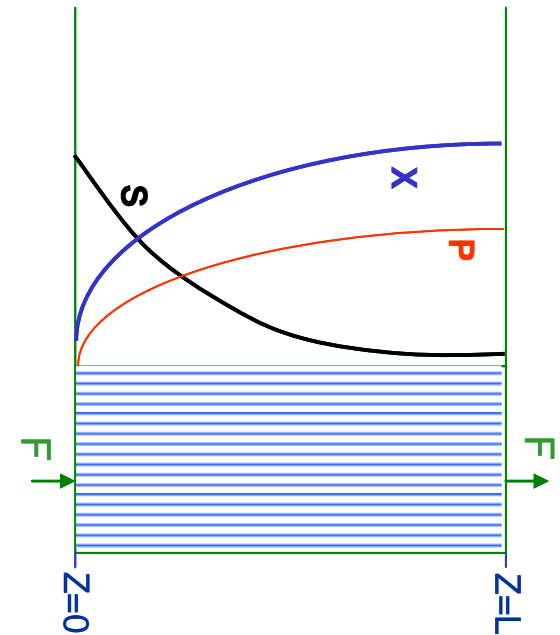
Example: product formation associated with growth (Type I)



Kinetics:     
$$\mu = \frac{\mu_{\max} S}{k_m + S} \quad (\text{assuming Monod kinetics})$$

Material balances:

$$u \frac{dX}{dz} = \mu X - k_d X - k_e X$$
$$u \frac{dS}{dz} = -\frac{\mu X}{y'_{XS}} - m_s X$$
$$u \frac{dP}{dz} = \frac{\mu X}{y'_{XP}}$$



Typical Concentration Profile  
for Type I Product

Analytical integration just for the case de  $\mu \cong \mu_{\max}$  (high excess of S)

### 3.4 – Productivity

Volumetric productivity of product

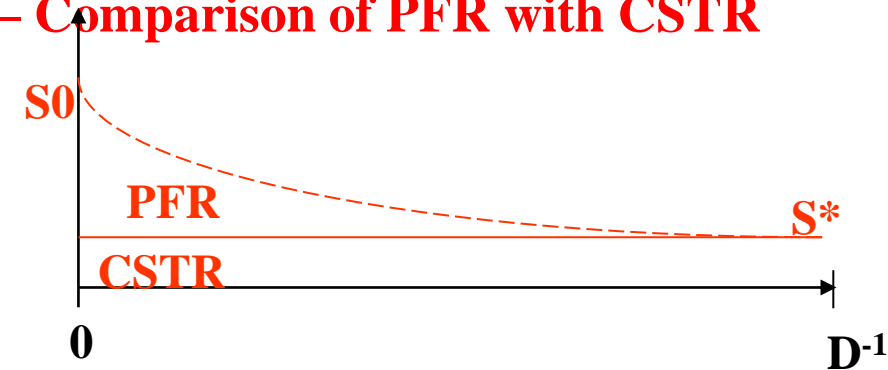
$$\text{Prod} = \frac{F P(z = L)}{V} = DP(z = L) \quad \text{g product l}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$$

F Flow rate (l/h)

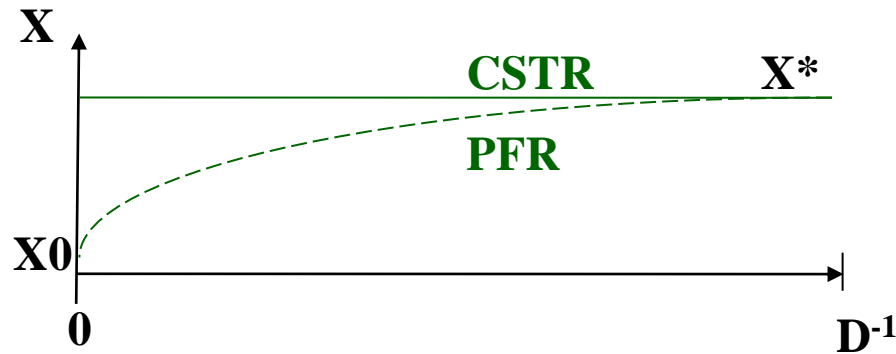
P(z=L) conc. of product at the top of the column (at the exit of the reactor) (g/l)

V reactor volume (l)

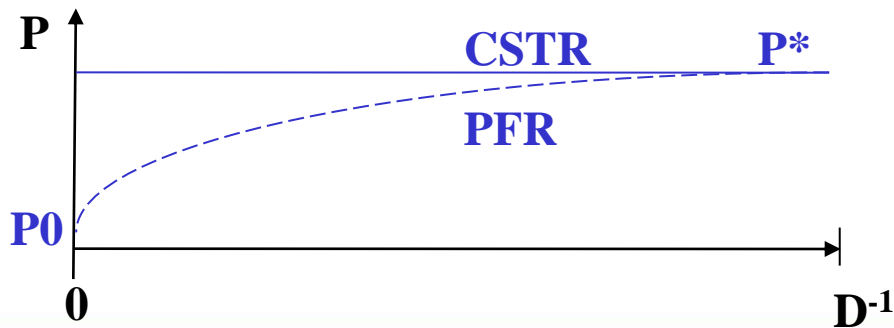
## 3.5 – Comparison of PFR with CSTR



$$S_{\text{PFR}} \geq S_{\text{CSTR}}$$



$$X_{\text{PFR}} \leq X_{\text{CSTR}}$$



$$P_{\text{PFR}} \leq P_{\text{CSTR}}$$

## 3.5 – Comparison of PFR with CSTR

Case 1: Negligible growth ( $X_{\text{PFR}} = X_{\text{CSTR}} = \text{constant over time}$ )

Kinetics	CSTR		PFR
	$V = \frac{F(S_0 - S^*)}{r_s(S^*)}$		$V = \frac{F(S_0 - S^*)}{\bar{r}_S}$
	$S_{\text{CSTR}}$	$<$	$S_{\text{PFR}}$
	$P_{\text{CSTR}}$	$>$	$P_{\text{PFR}}$
Order 0 $r_s = k_0$ (independent of S)	$=$		$=$
Order 'n' $r_s = k S^n$	---		+++
Michaelis-Menten $r_s = \frac{r_{s \max} S}{K_m + S}$	---		+++
Inhibition by S ( $S \nearrow r_s \searrow$ )	+++		---
Inhibition by product ( $P \nearrow r_s \searrow$ )	---		+++

Note: the signs “+++” refer to the best reactor and “---” to the worst reactor

### 3.5 – Comparison of PFR with CSTR

Case 2: significant cell growth (i.e. autocatalytic kinetics)

**CSTR**

$$V = \frac{F(S_0 - S^*)}{r(S^*)}$$

**X<sub>CSTR</sub>**

**PFR**

$$V = \frac{F(S_0 - S^*)}{\bar{r}_S}$$

**X<sub>PFR</sub>**

**>**

Autocatalytic

$$r_S = v_S X$$

+++

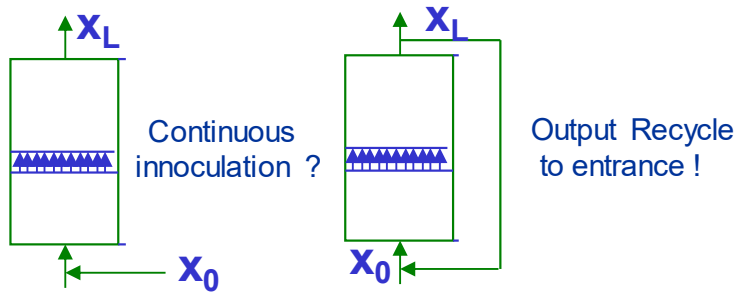
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∴ Biocatalysis with cells (bacteria, fungi, animal cell lines) CSTR tends to be more productive

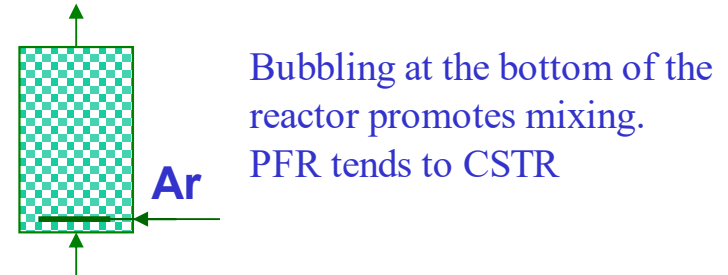
∴ Biocatalysis with enzymes PFR tends to be more productive

## 3.6 – Discussion about PFR

1. How to do Innoculation?

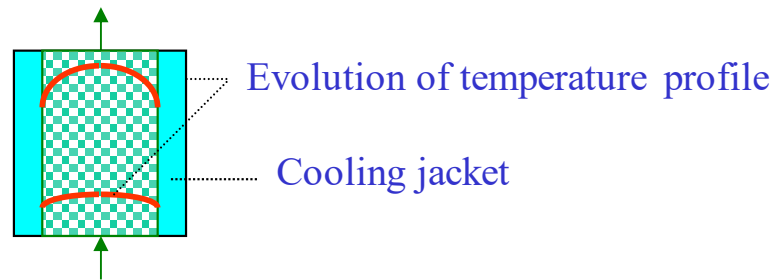


2. How to make aeration?



3. How to control temperature?

heat transport less  
efficient than in CSTR



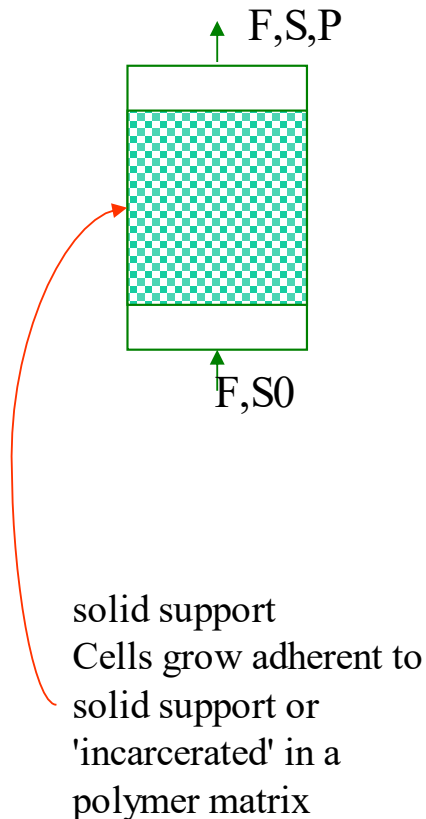
4. How to control pH?

5. How to control the concentration of any component?

PFR with cells in suspension (and remarkable cell growth) is an impractical construct. It can, however, occur in practice in association with other bioreactors (example: plug flow associated with CSTRs)

### 3.6 – Discussion about PFR

Exception: tubular bioreactor with immobilized cells (or enzymes)



- Very stable cultures that remain viable for long periods of time (months, years)
- Cells at rest (low maintenance)
- High cell density (much higher than cells in suspension). Cells grow adherent and form biofilms
- After a growth phase, cell density remains constant over time (new cells simply replace the dying cells)
- Higher dilution rates because washout cannot occur

$\mu$  negligible  
 $\Rightarrow$  kinetically favorable to the PFR  
regarding the CSTR