

ABE 580

Process Engineering of Renewable Resources

Chapter 6 Aerobic Fermentations

Aerobic Fermentations

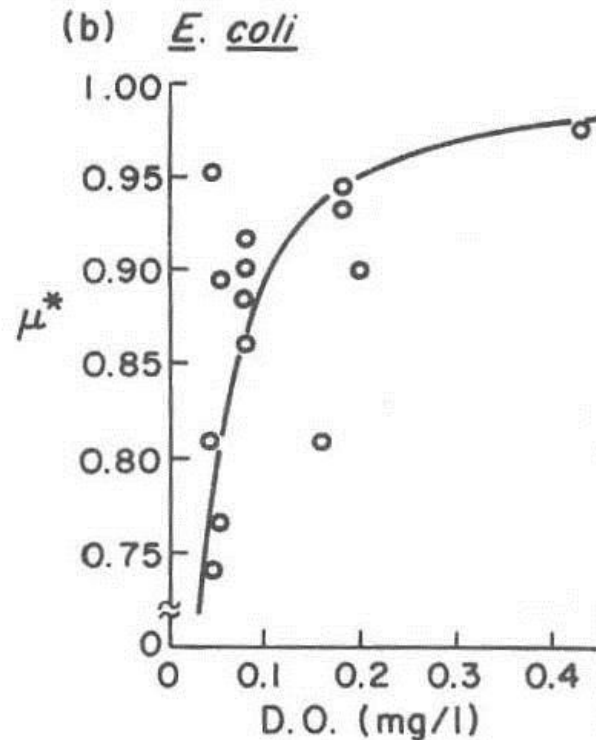
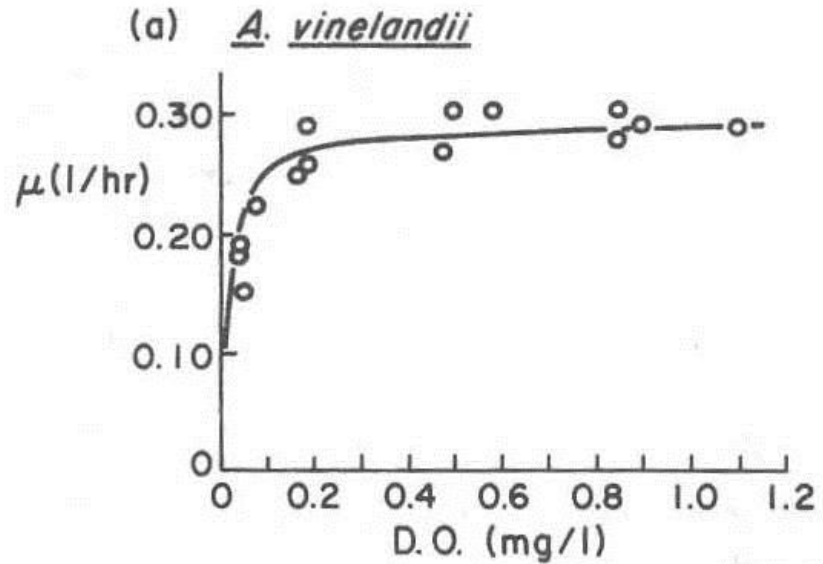
- Amino acids
- Antibiotics
- Recombinant proteins (pharmaceuticals)

Effect of DO on Cell Growth

$$\mu = \frac{\mu_{\max} \text{DO}}{K_S^{\text{DO}} + \text{DO}}$$

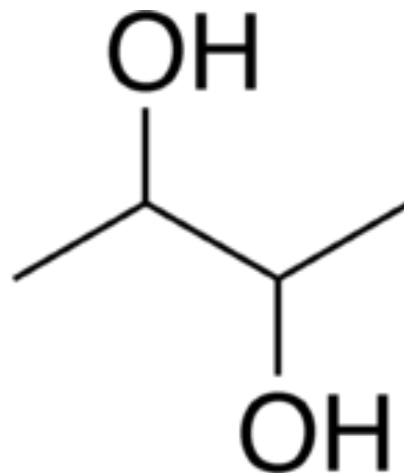
$$K_S^{\text{DO}} \ll \text{DO}$$

$$\mu \approx \mu_{\max}$$



2,3 Butanediol

- Manufacture of
butadiene rubber, plastics
(ABS – Lego bricks)



Klebsiella oxytoca ATCC 8724

- Related *Klebsiella pneumoniae*
- Hans Christian Gram invented “Gram stain” to differentiate between *Klebsiella* and *Streptococcus pneumoniae*
- Of industrial interest because it readily ferments xylose and glycerol
- Facultative Anaerobe

Cellulosic Biomass: Major Constituents

Lignin: 15%–25%

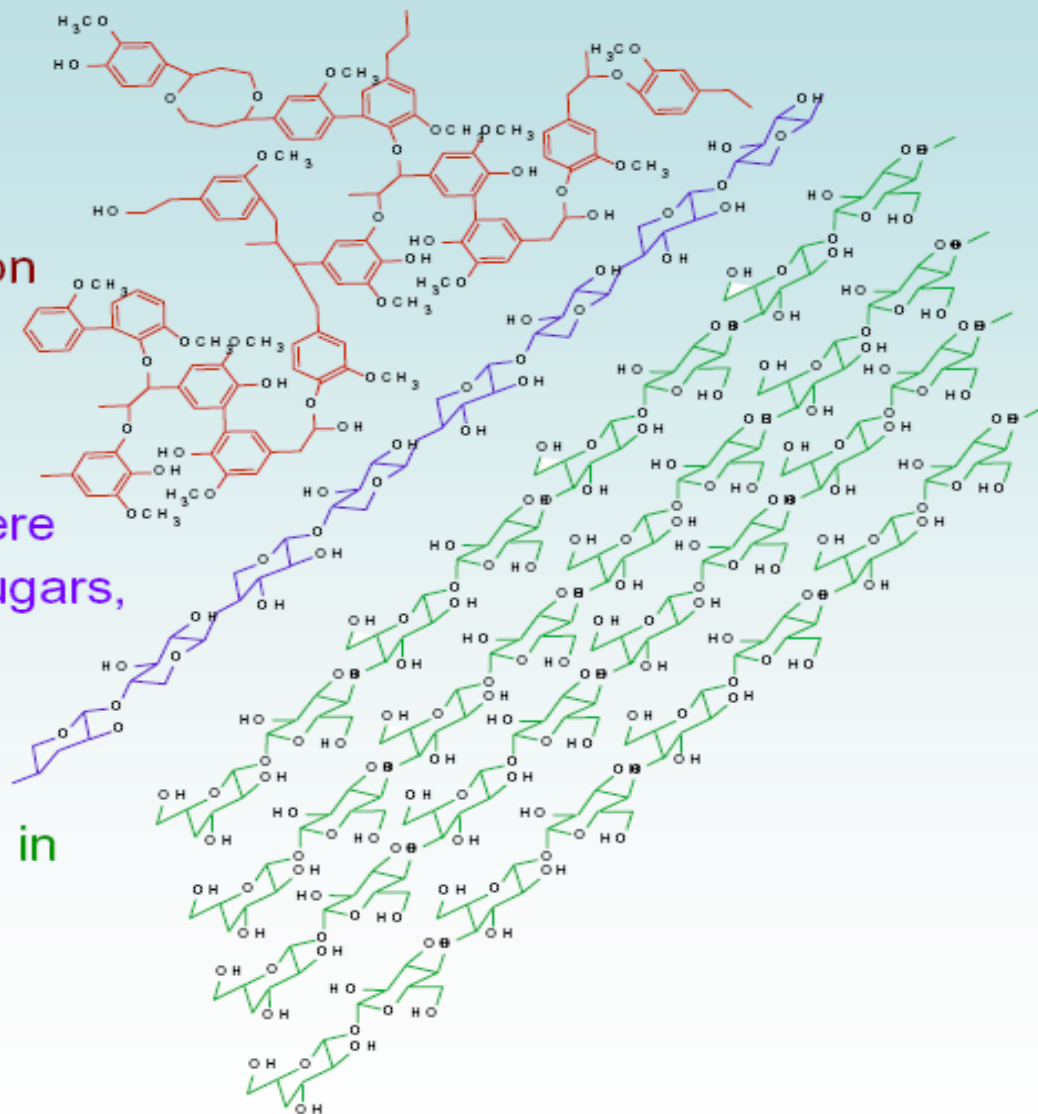
- Complex aromatic structure
- High energy content
- Resists biochemical conversion

Hemicellulose: 23%–32%

- Xylose is the second most abundant sugar in the biosphere
- Polymer of 5- and 6-carbon sugars, marginal biochemical feed

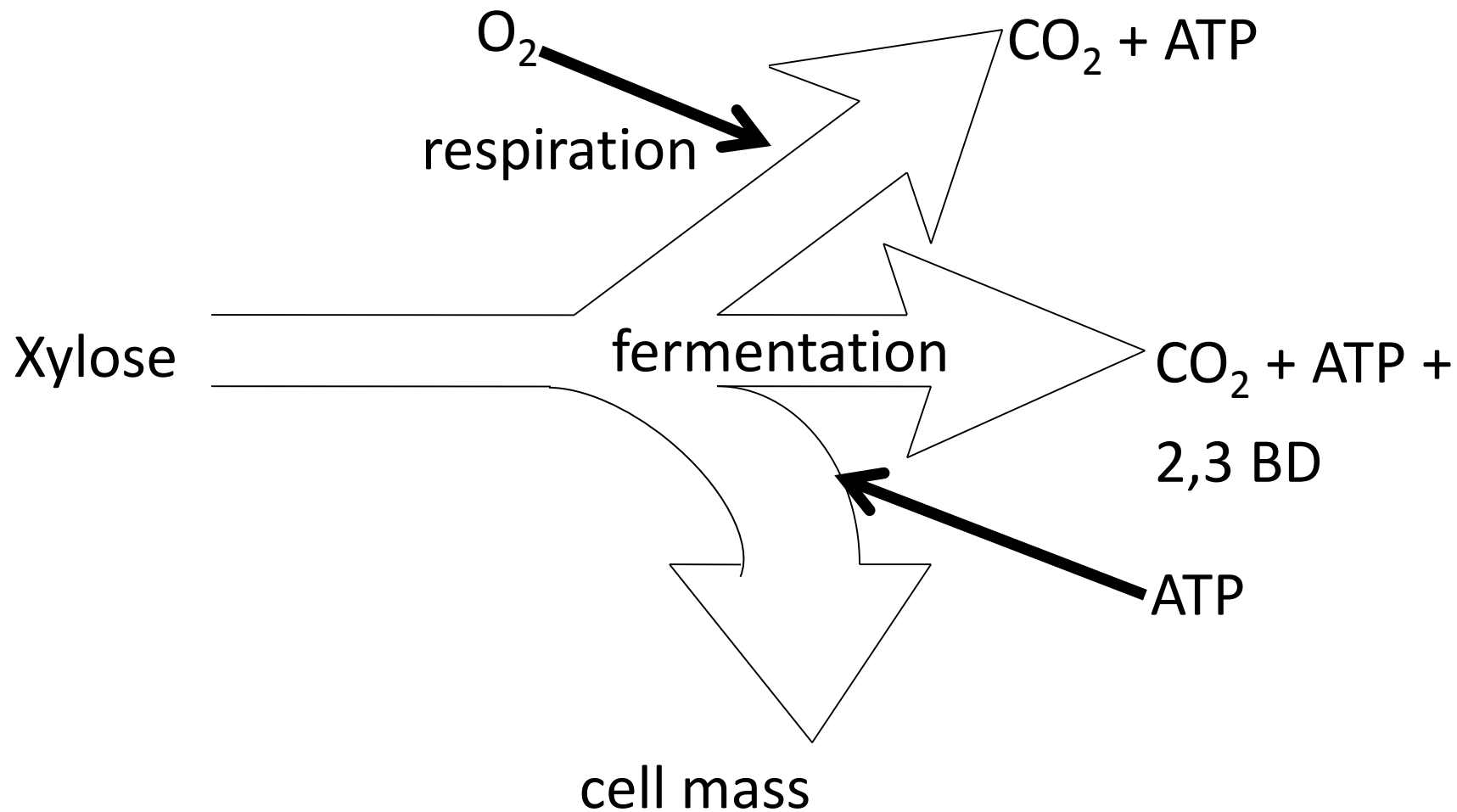
Cellulose: 38%–50%

- Most abundant form of carbon in biosphere
- Polymer of glucose, good biochemical feedstock

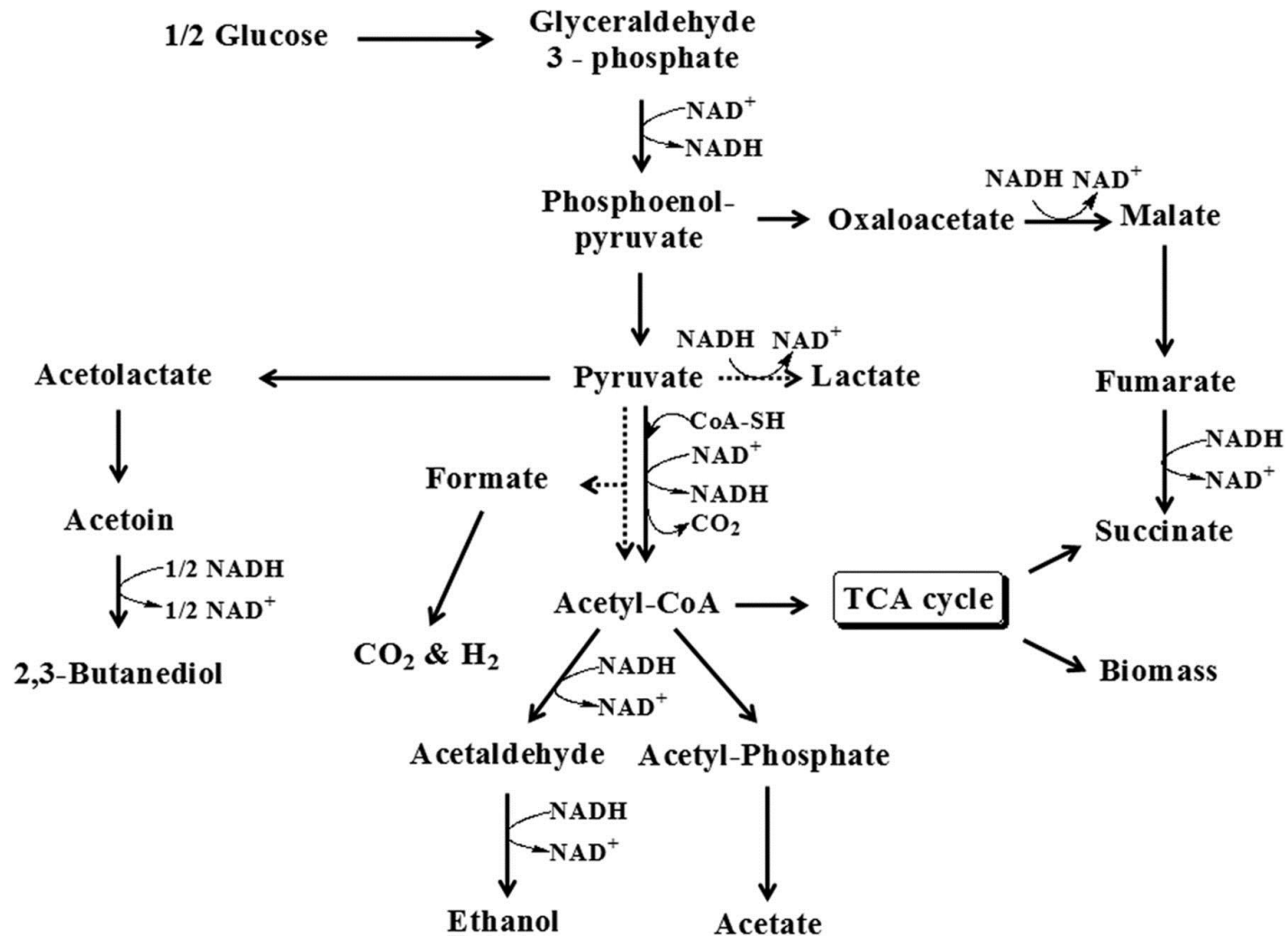


Xylose (Wood Sugar)

- $C_5H_{10}O_5$
- Pentose (5-sugar)
- In grasses (corn, wheat, rice, etc.), 40% of carbohydrate of inedible plant material



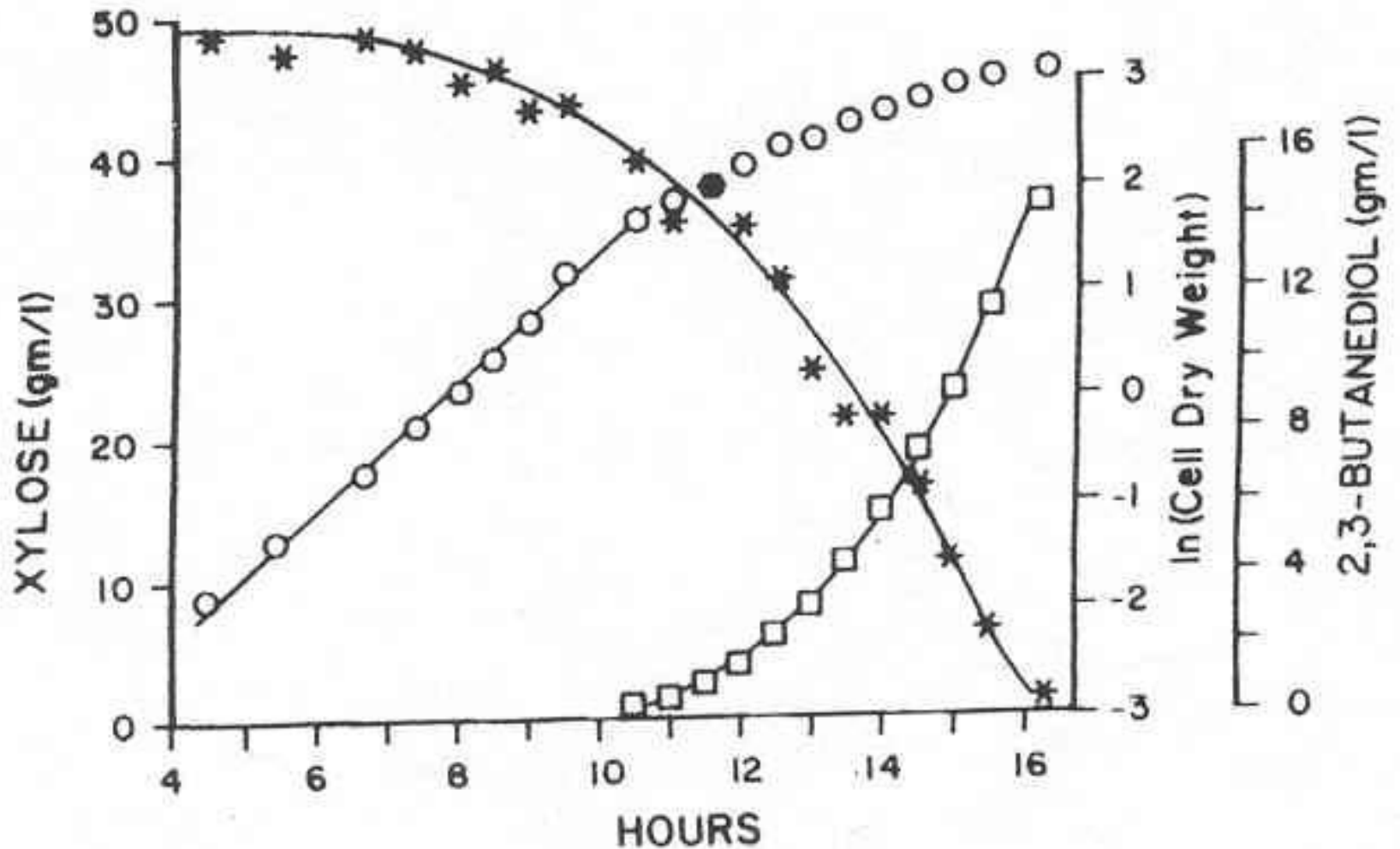
Fermentation pathways in *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and strategies for constructing the 2,3-butanediol-producing base strain.



Moo-Young Jung et al. Appl. Environ. Microbiol.
2014;80:6195-6203

Applied and Environmental Microbiology

2,3-Butanediol



Modeling Approach

- Cellular function is ATP constrained
- ATP use is prioritized: cell maintenance then cell growth
- Metabolism is regulated to maximize ATP production
- O_2 is required for maximum ATP generation
- When O_2 is limiting, anaerobic metabolism is induced to make up the ATP deficiency

2,3 Butanediol

Phases of fermentation

1. Aerobic fermentation
2. Transition from aerobic to oxygen limiting conditions
3. Oxygen limiting conditions (microaerobic or anoxic fermentation)

Terminology

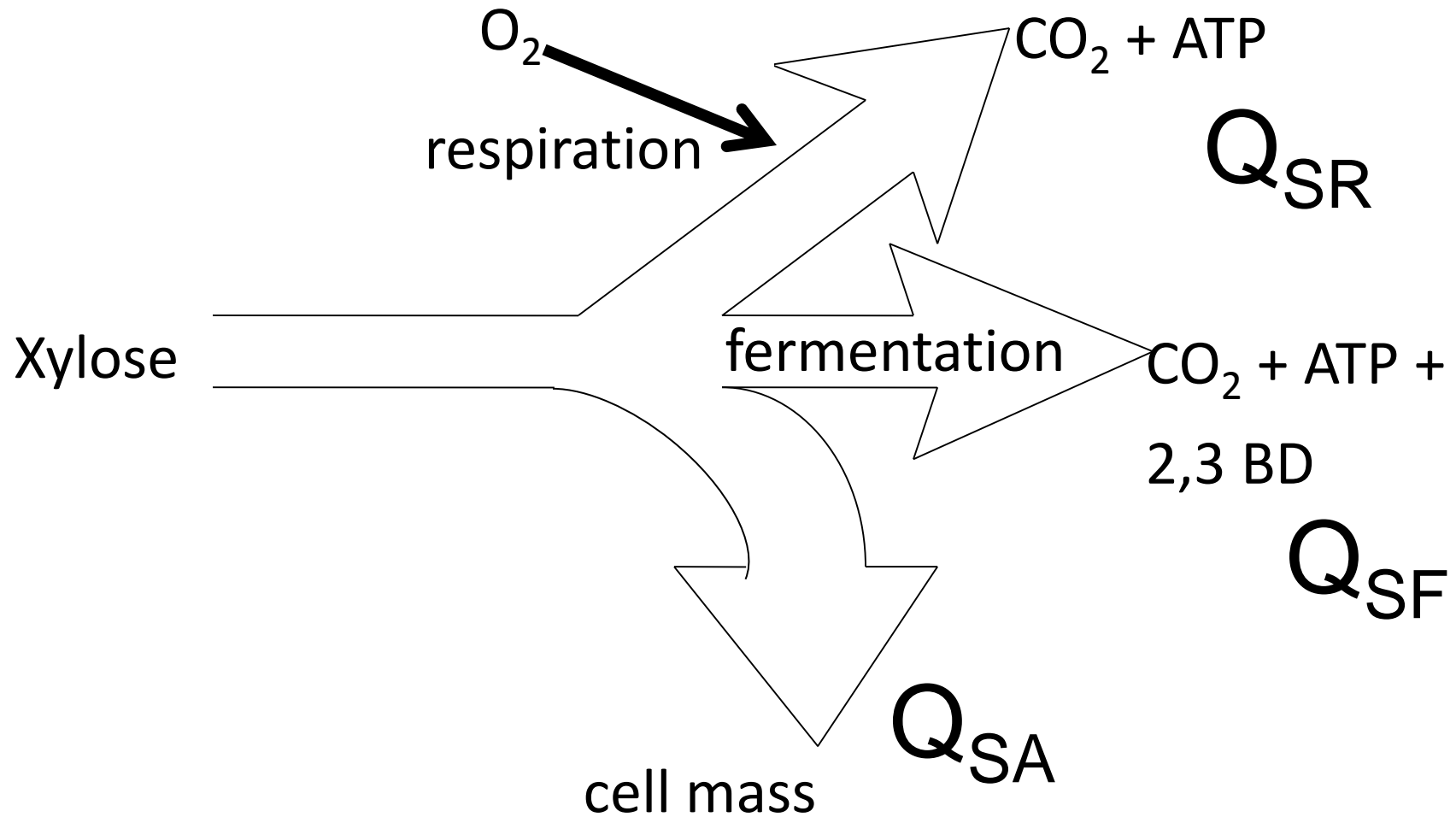
$$Q_s$$

Rate of substrate utilization
(consumption) via specific metabolism

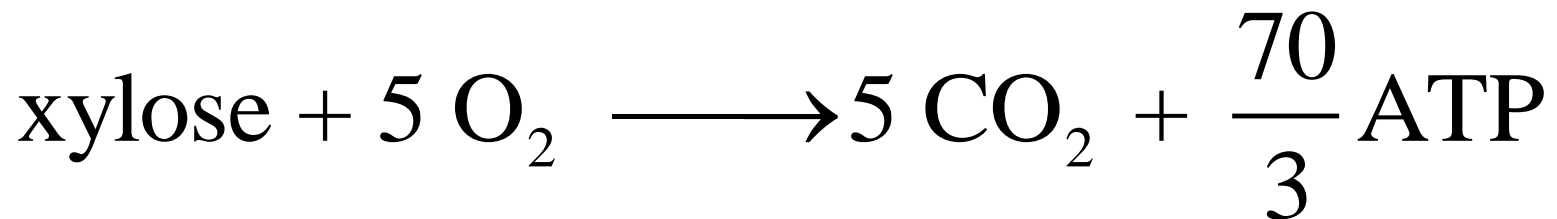
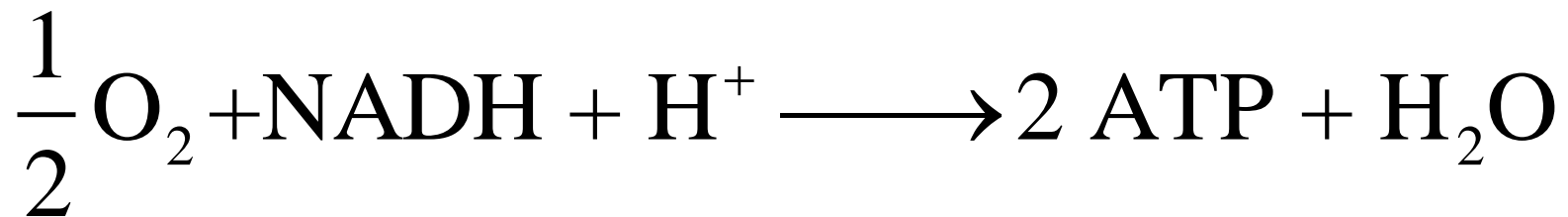
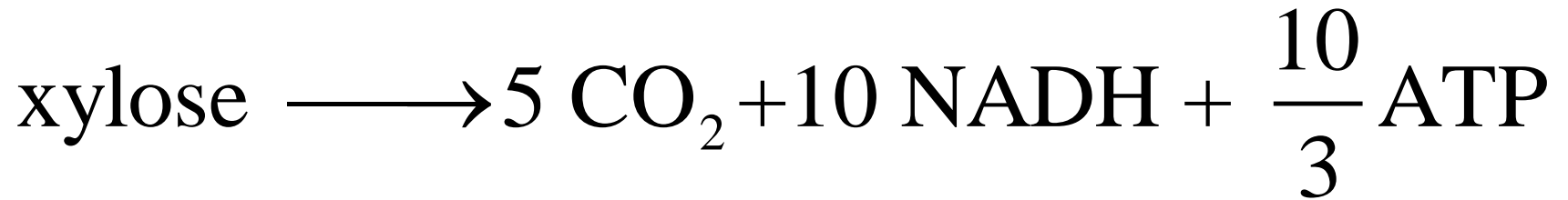
$$dS/dt = \sum (Q_{si})^* \text{mol wt.}$$

(in batch fermentation)

$$Q_{STot} = Q_{SA} + Q_{SR} + Q_{SF}$$



Stoichiometry of Respiration



$$Q_{\text{SR}} = \frac{3}{70} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \frac{1}{Y_{\text{ATP},1}} + m_{\text{el}} X \right)$$

Stoichiometry of Fermentation



Phase 1 – Aerobic Growth

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mu_{\max} X$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -(Q_{SA} + Q_{SR} + Q_{SF}) \cdot \text{mw}(\text{xylose})$$

$$Q_{Si} = \text{mol L}^{-1} \text{ hr}^{-1}$$

$$Q_{Sa} = \frac{1 \text{ mol Xylose}}{120 \text{ g Cells}} \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{120} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$Q_{Sr} = \frac{3}{70} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \frac{1}{Y_{\text{ATP},1}} + m_{e,1} X \right)$$

$$Q_{\text{Sa}} = \frac{1}{120} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$Q_{\text{SA}} = \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{L hr}}$$

$$\text{MW}_{\text{xylose}} = 150 \text{ g/mol}$$

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = \frac{\text{g}}{\text{L hr}}$$

$$Q_{\text{SA}} \frac{150 \text{ g}}{\text{mol}} = Y_{\text{S/X}} \frac{dX}{dt} = \frac{1}{120} \frac{dX}{dt}$$

$$Y_{\text{S/X}} = \frac{150}{120} = 1.25$$

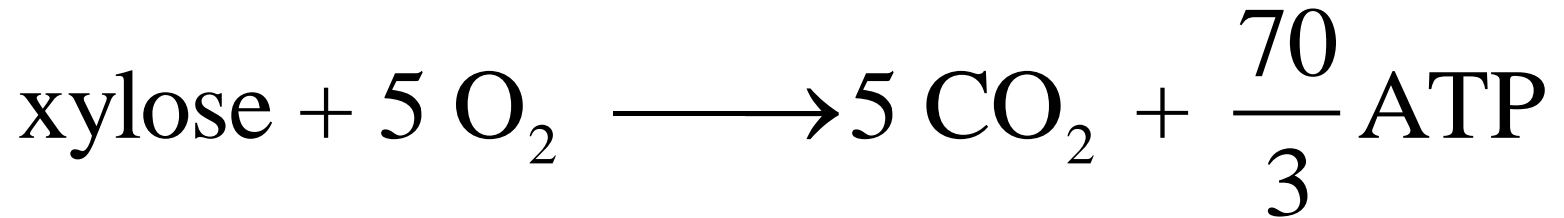
Phase 1 - Continued

$$Q_{SR} = \frac{3}{70} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} \frac{1}{Y_{ATP,1}} + m_{el} X \right)$$

$$Q_{SF} = 0$$

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

Phase 2 – When is O₂ Limiting?



$$5Q_{\text{SR}} > k_{\text{L}} a C^*$$

h: film thickness

c^* =saturation

Bulk Liquid

c

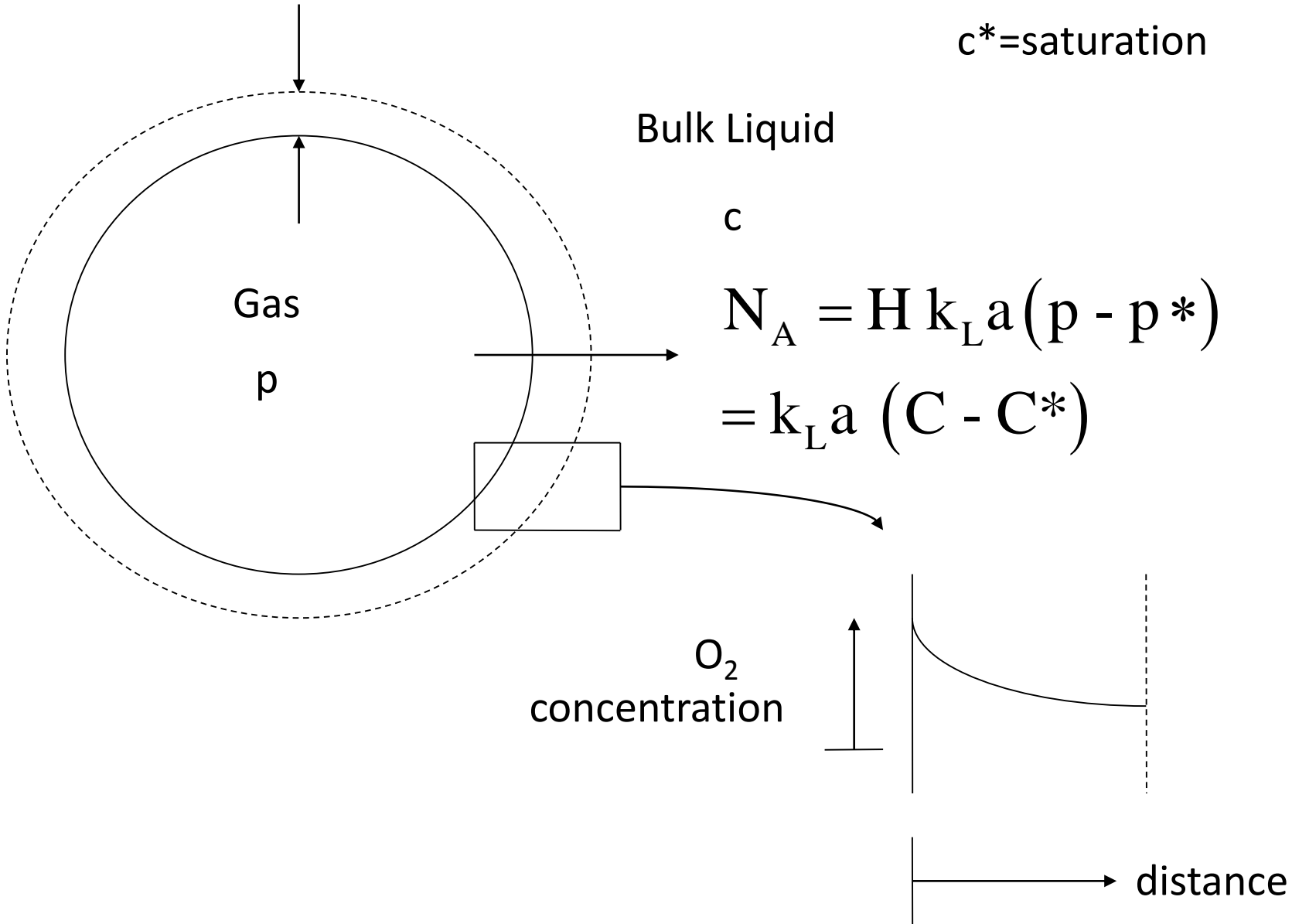
Gas

p

$$N_A = H k_L a (p - p^*)$$
$$= k_L a (C - C^*)$$

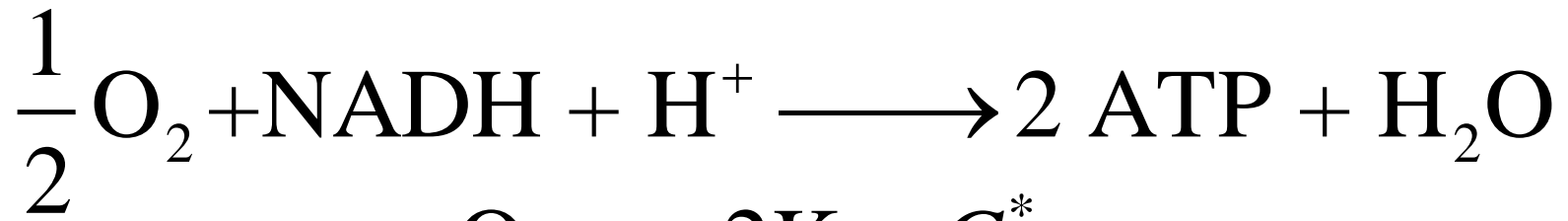
O₂
concentration

distance



When O₂ Limiting

- Metabolism is balanced so that oxidative phosphorylation (electron transport system, ETS) is saturated



$$Q_{\text{ETS}} = 2K_L aC^*$$

$$Q_{\text{ETS}} = 10Q_{\text{SR}} + \frac{5}{6}Q_{\text{SF}}$$

ATP Balance

$$Q_{SR} = \frac{1}{10} \left(Q_{ETS} - \frac{5}{6} Q_{SF} \right)$$

$$\mu_{\max} X \frac{1}{Y_{ATP}} + m_{e,1} X = \frac{10}{3} Q_{SR} + \frac{5}{3} Q_{SF} + 2Q_{ETS}$$

$$Q_{Sf} = \frac{18}{25} \left(\mu_{\max} X \frac{1}{Y_{ATP,2}} + m_{e2} X - \frac{7}{3} Q_{ETS} \right)$$

Phase 3 - Fermentation

$$Q_{\text{ETS}} = 2K_L aC^*$$

$$Q_{\text{Sf}} = \frac{18}{25} \left(\mu_{\text{max}} X \frac{1}{Y_{\text{ATP},2}} + m_{\text{e2}} X - \frac{14}{3} k_L aC^* \right)$$

$$Q_{\text{SR}} = \frac{1}{10} \left(2K_L aC^* - \frac{5}{6} Q_{\text{SF}} \right)$$

$$Q_{\text{Sa}} = \frac{1}{120} \mu_{\text{max}} X \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = (\mu_{\text{max}} - k_d P) X$$

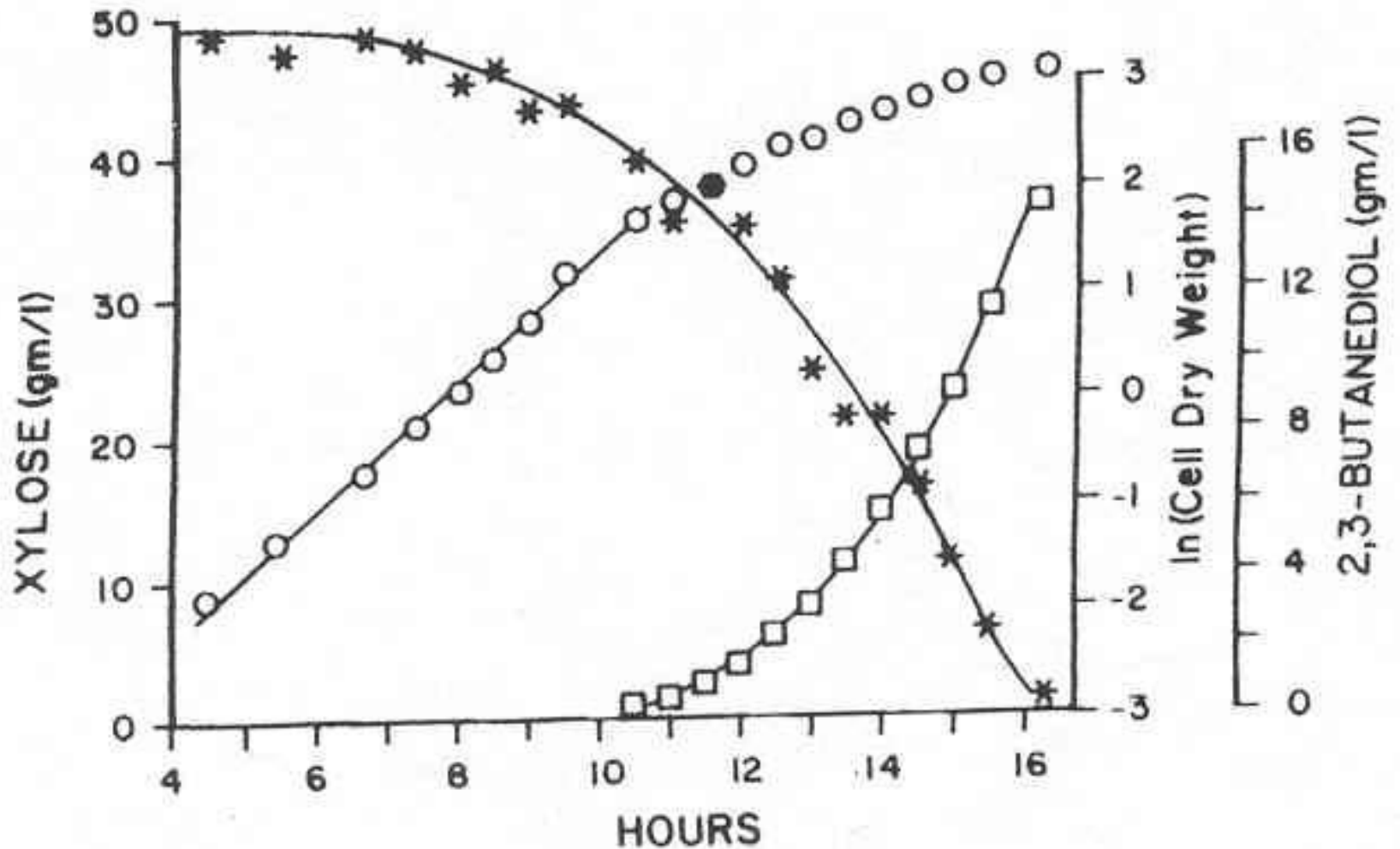
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{5}{6} Q_{sf} \text{ MW}_{2,3BD}$$

$$\text{MW}_{2,3BD} = 90 \frac{g}{mol}$$

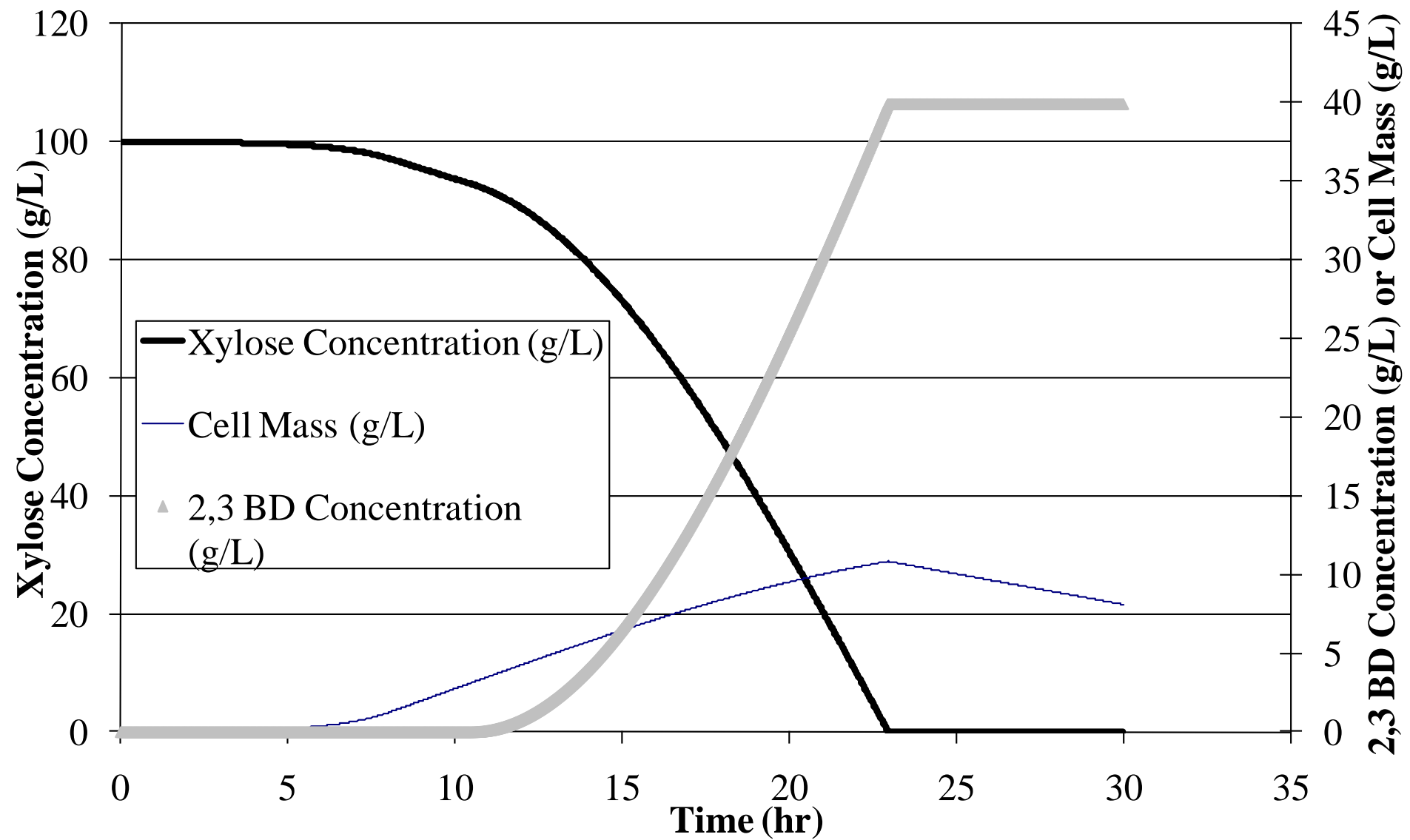
Table 6.2

	Oxygen Sufficient (i = 1)	Oxygen Limiting (i = 2)
$Y_{ATP,i}$ (g cells /mol ATP)	11.5	10.4
μ_{\max} (h ⁻¹)	0.6	0.6
m_{ei} (mol ATP/g cell - hr)	0.047	0.017
$K_L a C^*$ (mol O ₂ / L-hr)	-----	0.027
K_d -----	-----	0.0077
$x_L \text{ (gL}^{-1}\text{)} = \frac{14}{3} k_L a c^* / (m_{e1} + \mu_{\max} / Y_{ATP}^{\max}) = 1.27$		

2,3-Butanediol



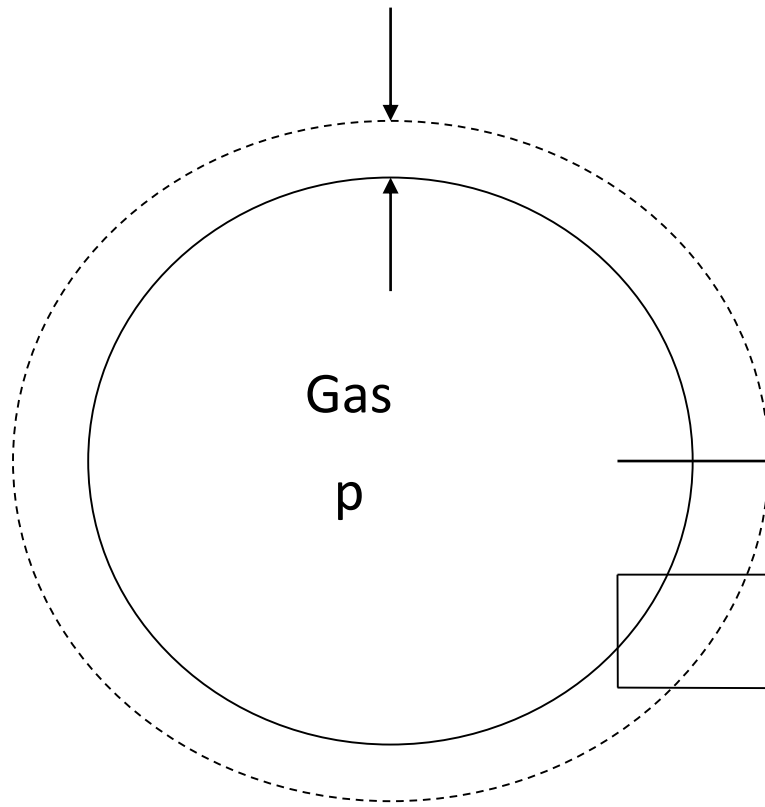
2,3 Butane Diol Production



Aeration

- Required for cellular reactions using respiration
- O₂ transfer limited by
 - Diffusivity of O₂
 - Transfer area (surface area of bubbles)
 - Concentration gradient
- Power requirements for aeration are huge!

h: film thickness



Bulk Liquid

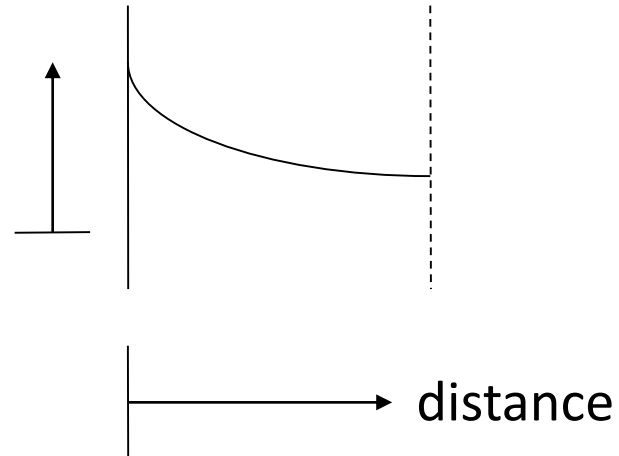
c^*

Gas

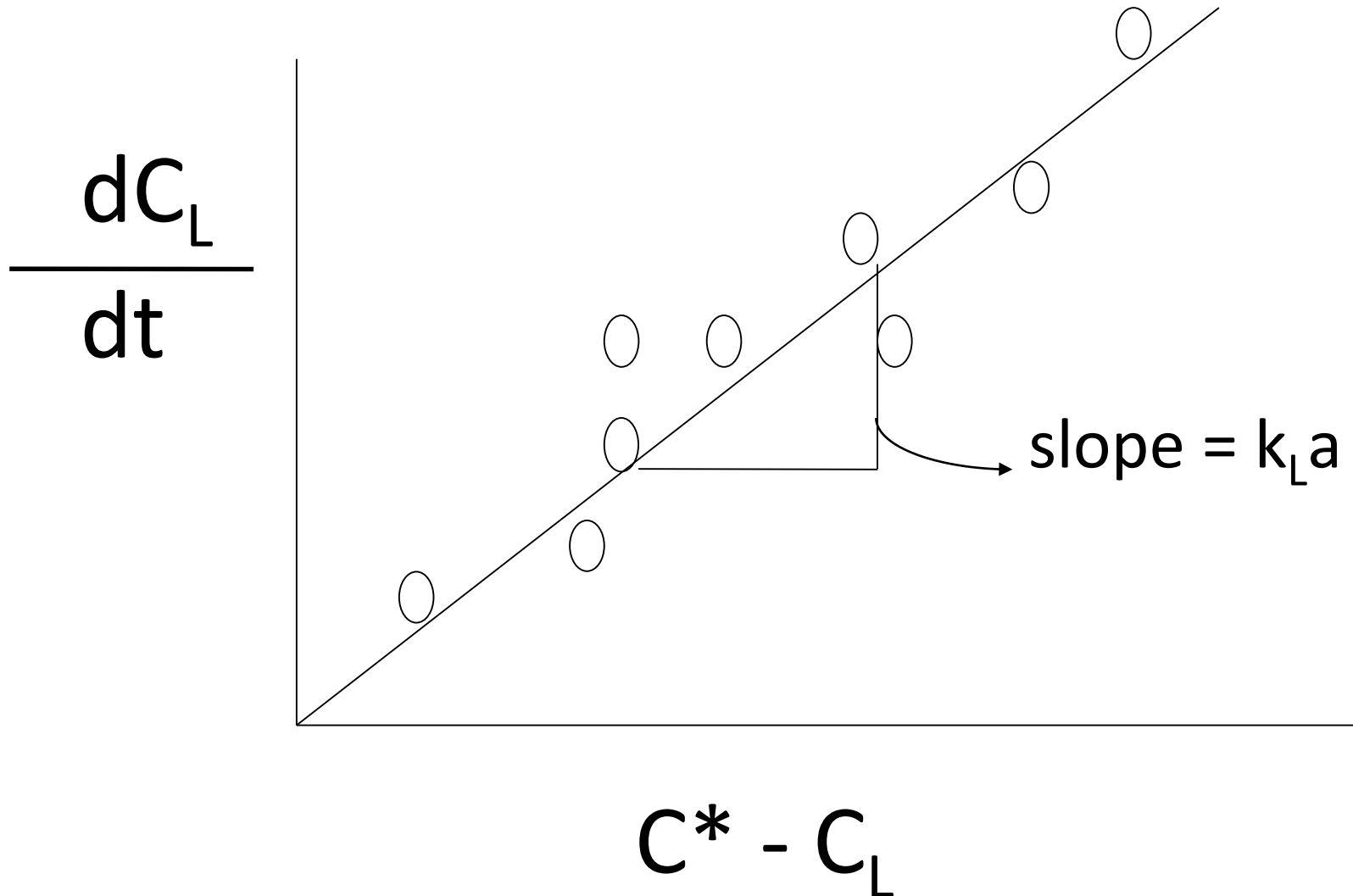
p

$$N_A = H k_L a (p - p^*)$$
$$= k_L a (C - C^*)$$

O_2
concentration



$$-N_{O_2} = \frac{dc_L}{dt} = k_L a (C^* - C_L)$$

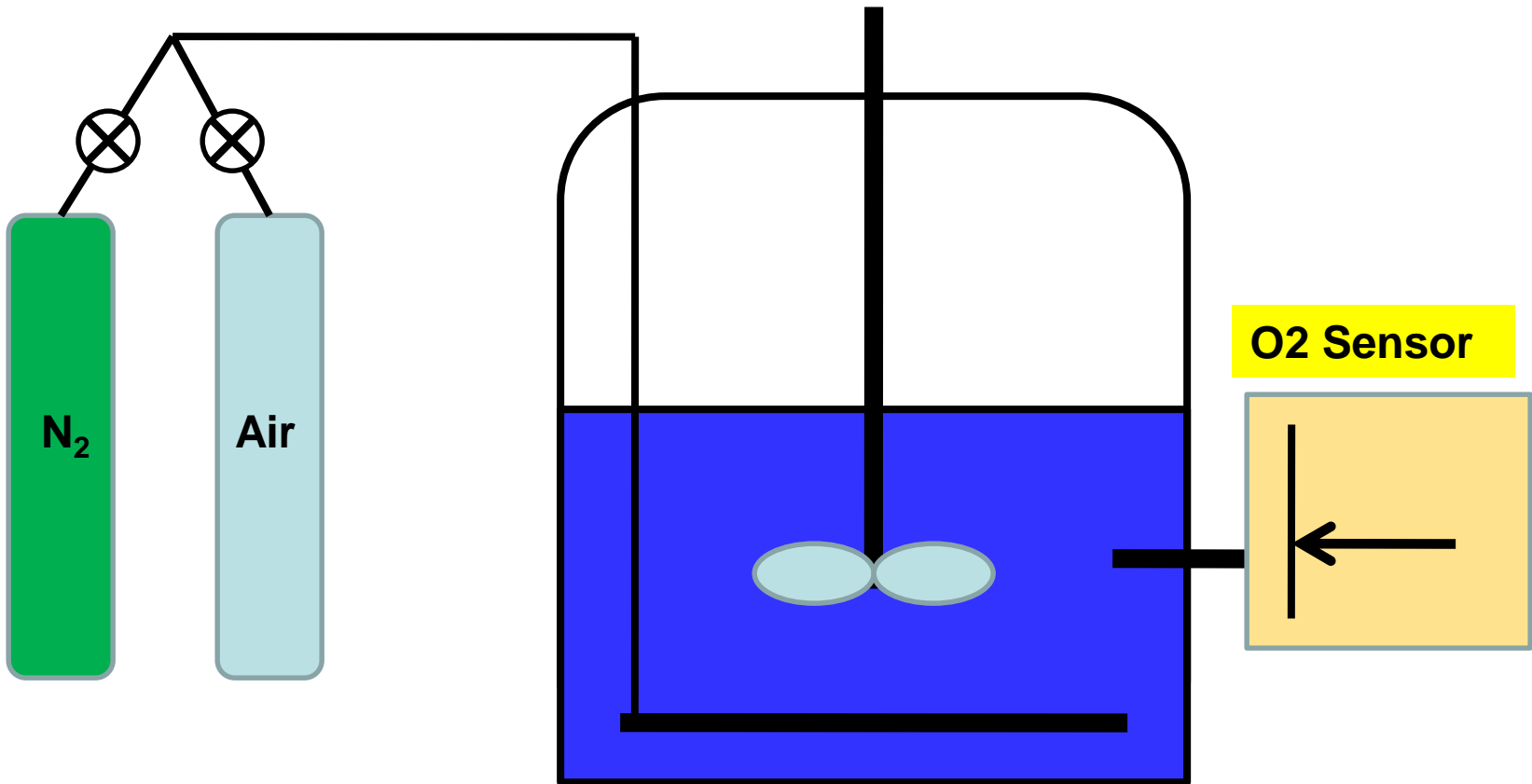


Steady State

$$k_L a (C^* - C_L) = \text{OUR}$$

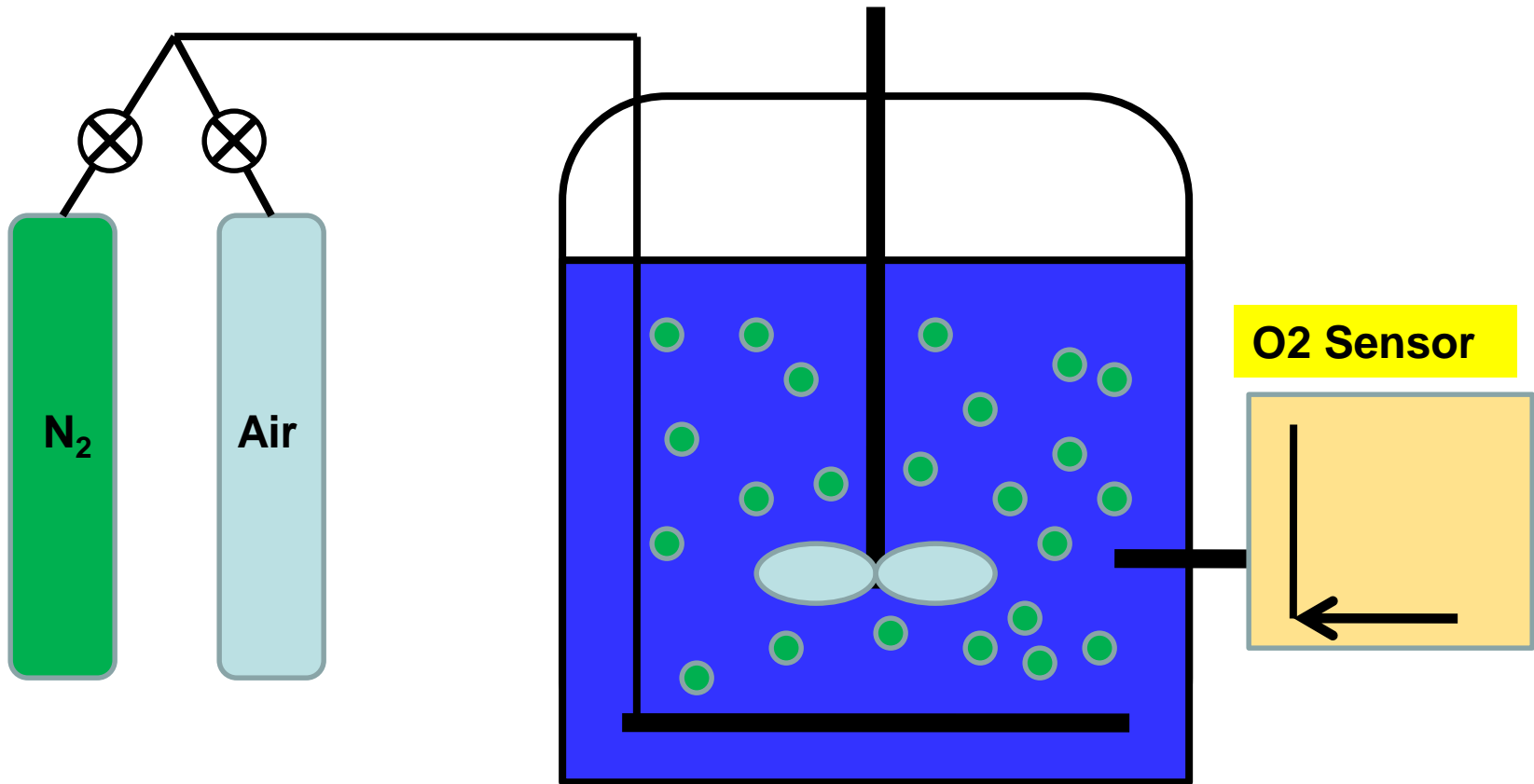
$$\begin{aligned} \text{OUR} &= \text{oxygen uptake rate} \\ &= 5Q_{\text{SR}} \end{aligned}$$

Practical $K_L a$ Measurement



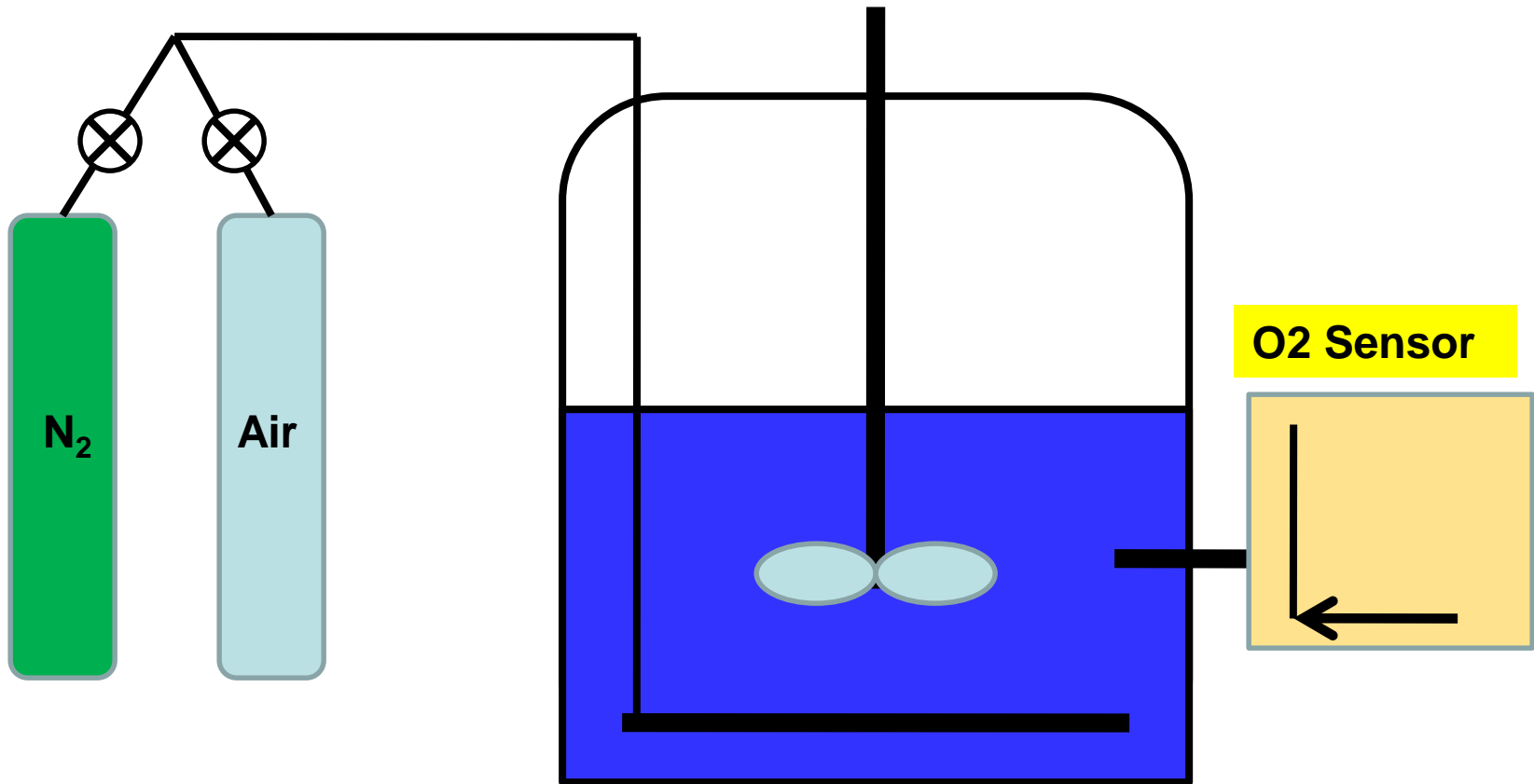
Practical $K_L a$ Measurement

1. Sparge fermenter with N_2



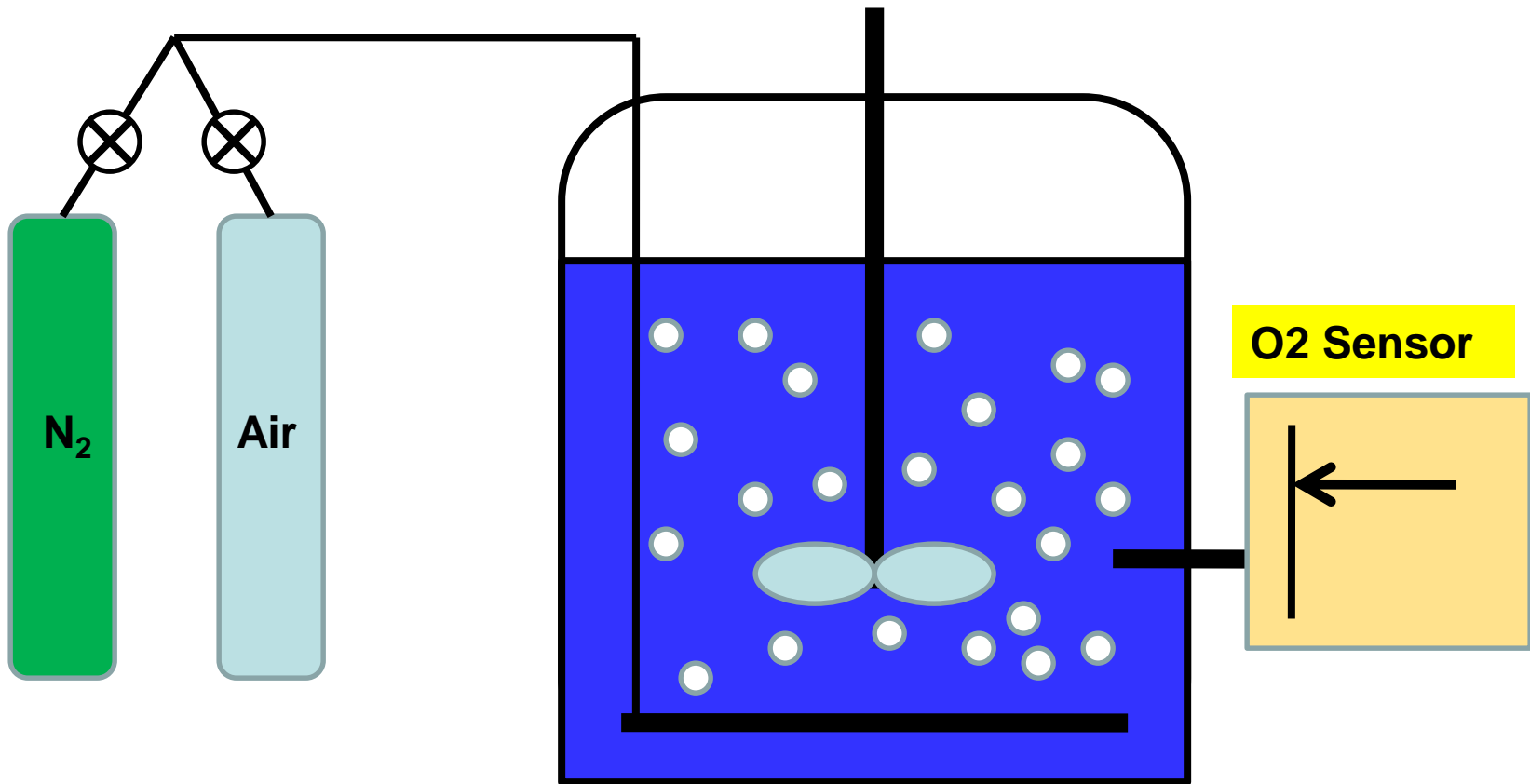
Practical $K_L a$ Measurement

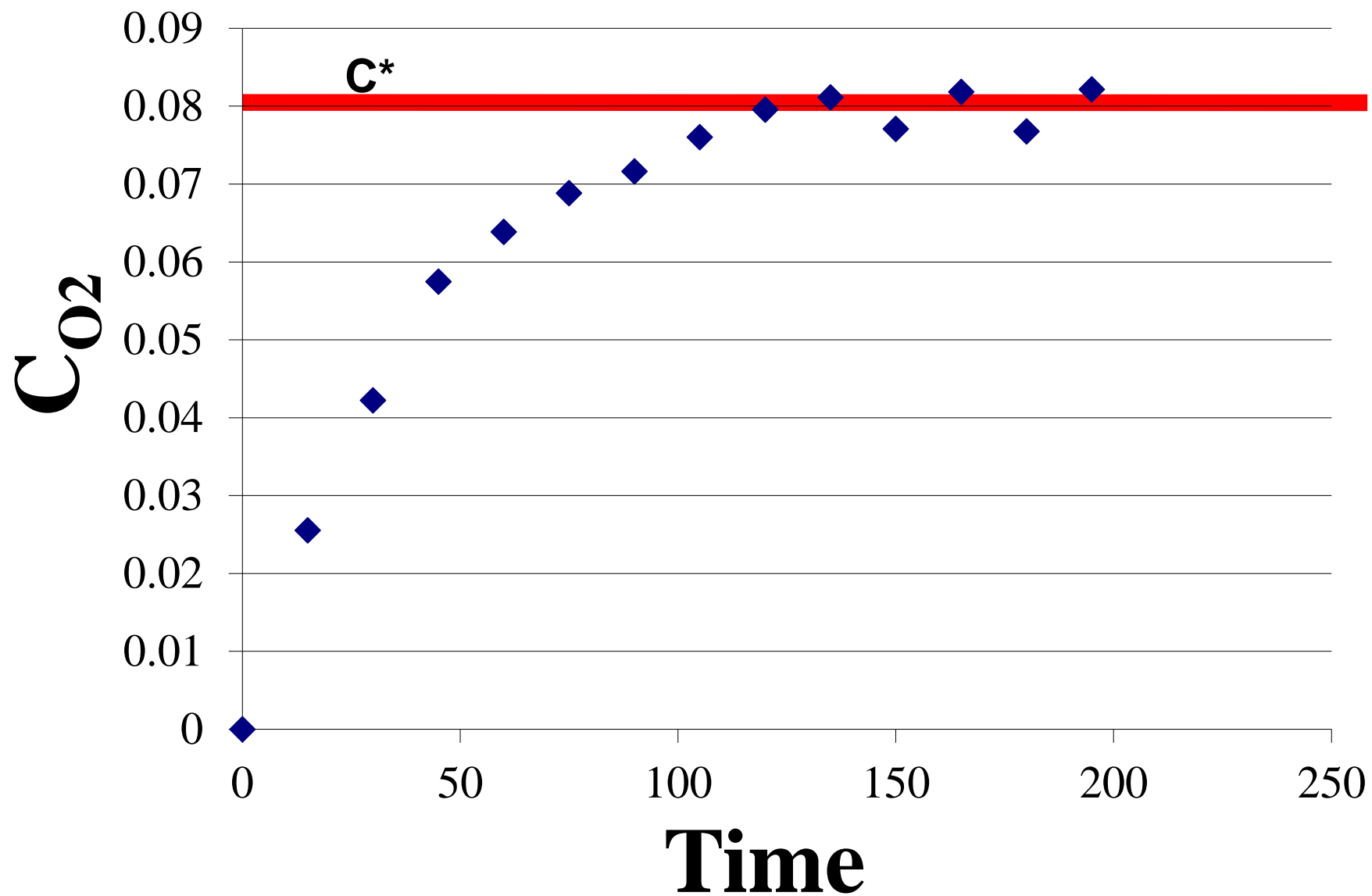
1. Stop N_2

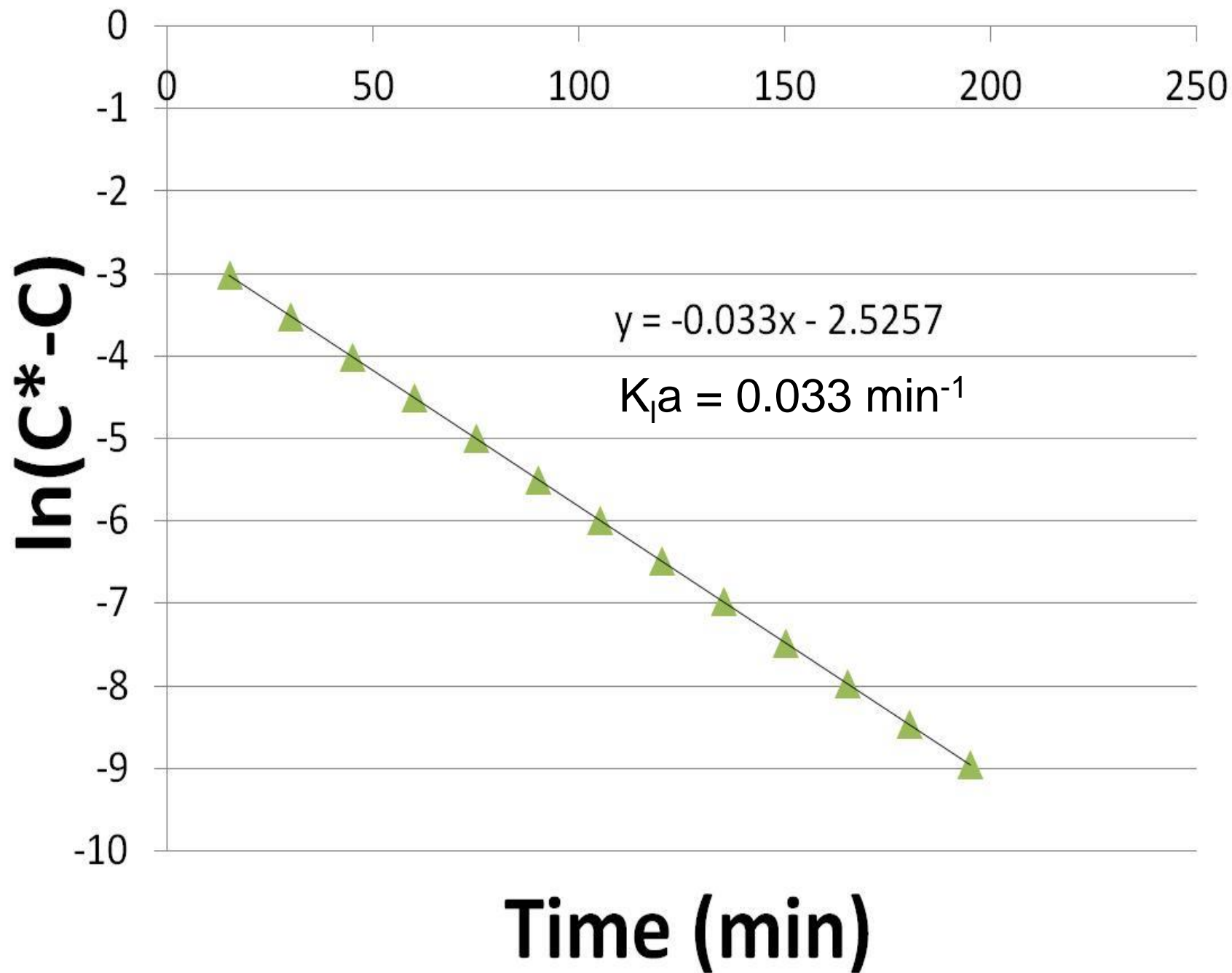


Practical $K_L a$ Measurement

1. Sparge fermenter with air – measure increase in O_2







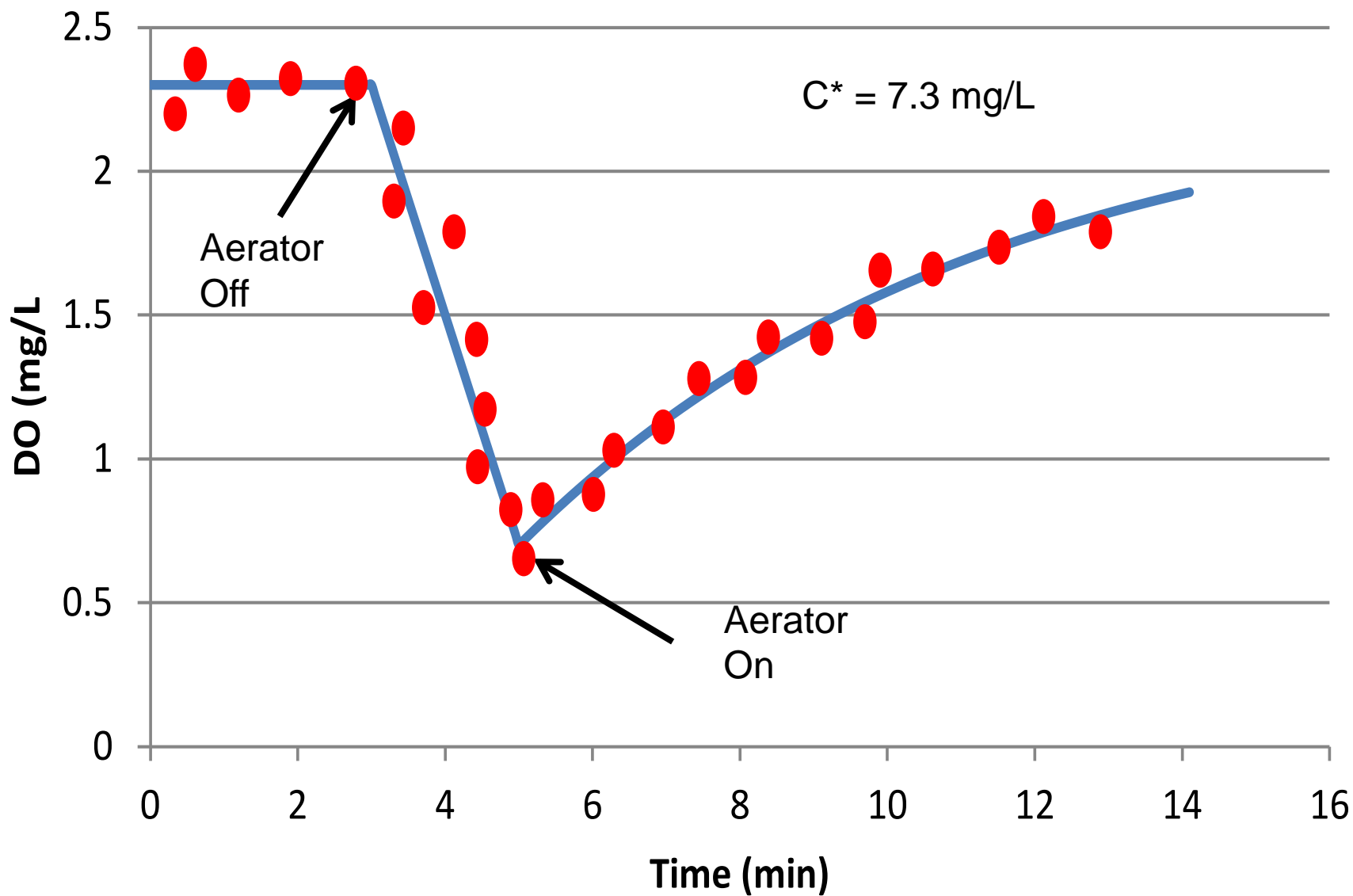
Dynamic Method

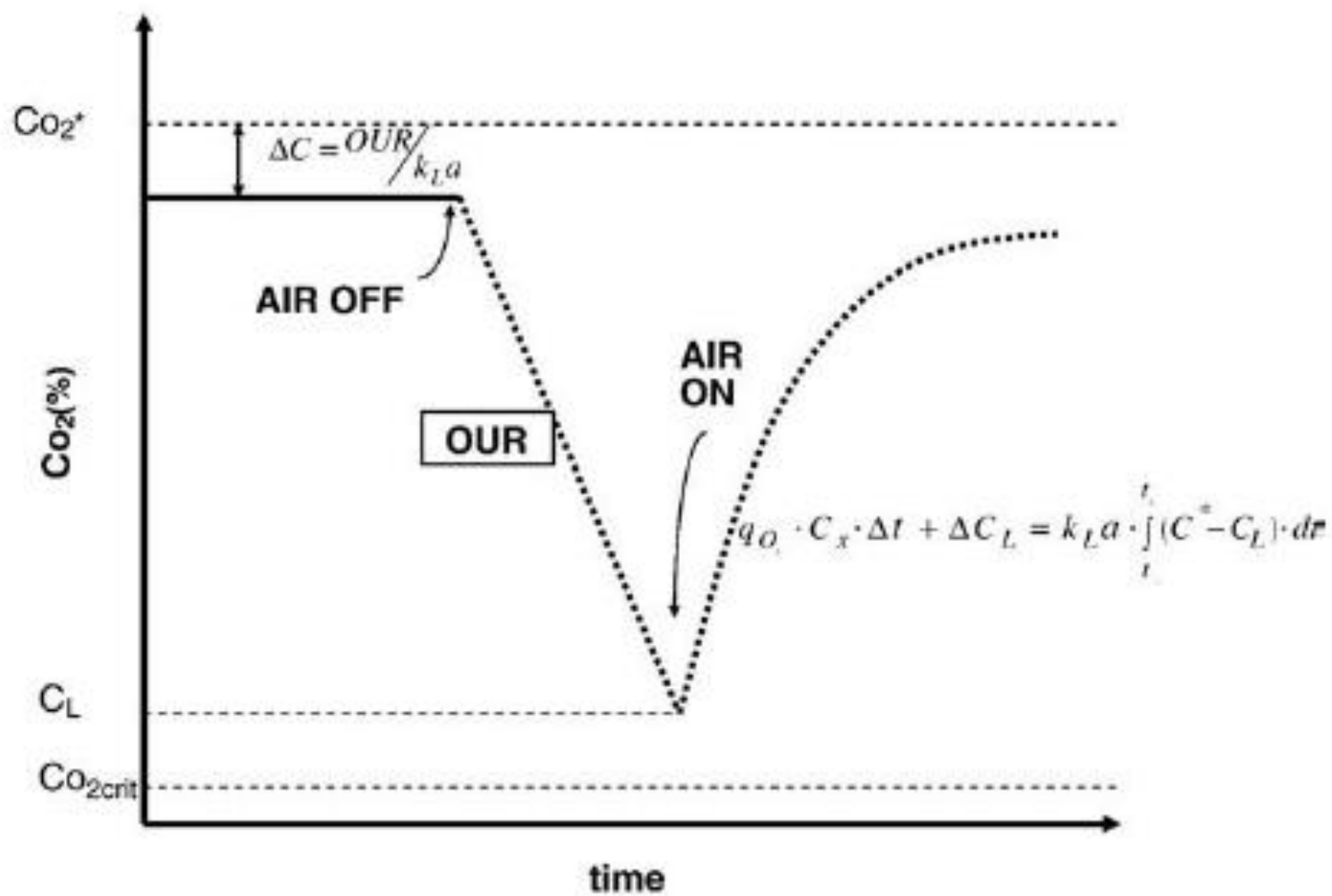
- Similar to unsteady-state method described above.
- Uses live cells in the reactor
- Procedure
 - Operate reactor aerobically
 - Turn off aeration for short period of time (2-5 minutes)
 - Turn aeration back on

Dynamic Method

$$\frac{dC_{O_2}}{dt} = OTR - OUR = k_L a (C_{O_2}^* - C_{O_2}) - q_{O_2} X$$

Assume X = constant over test (<30 minutes total)





Surface Area of Bubbles

$$a = \frac{\text{total volume of bubbles}}{\text{total volume of broth}} \frac{\text{area of bubble}}{\text{volume of bubble}}$$
$$= \frac{nF_o t_b}{V} \frac{\pi D^2}{\left(\frac{\pi D^3}{6}\right)}$$

n = number of orifices in a sparging tube

F_o = volumetric air flow rate per orifice

t_b = residence time of bubble in liquid

D = average diameter of air bubble

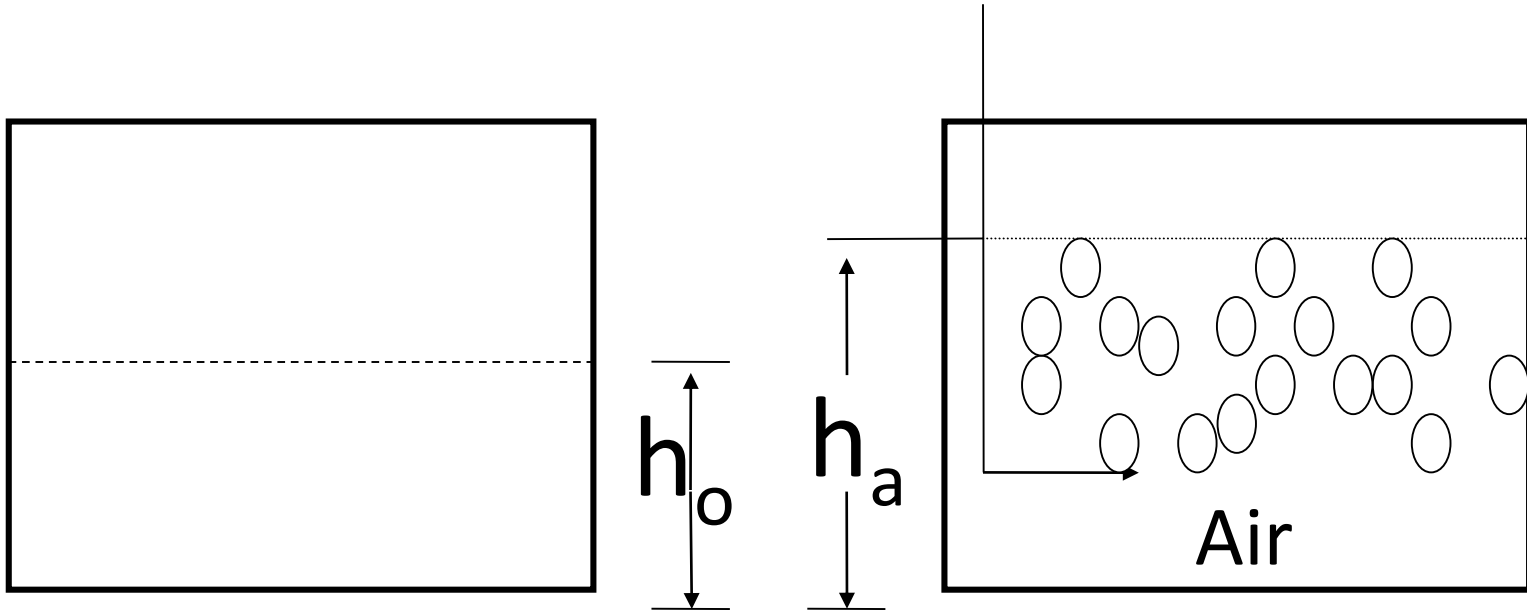
Surface Area of Bubbles

$$a = \frac{\text{total volume of bubbles}}{\text{total volume of broth}} \frac{\text{area of bubble}}{\text{volume of bubble}}$$

$$= \frac{nF_o t_b}{V} \frac{\pi D^2}{\left(\frac{\pi D^3}{6}\right)} = \frac{V_b}{V_l} \frac{\pi D^2}{\left(\frac{\pi D^3}{6}\right)}$$

$$a = H \left(\frac{6}{D} \right)$$

$$V = \pi r^2 height$$



$$H = \frac{h_a - h_o}{h_o}$$

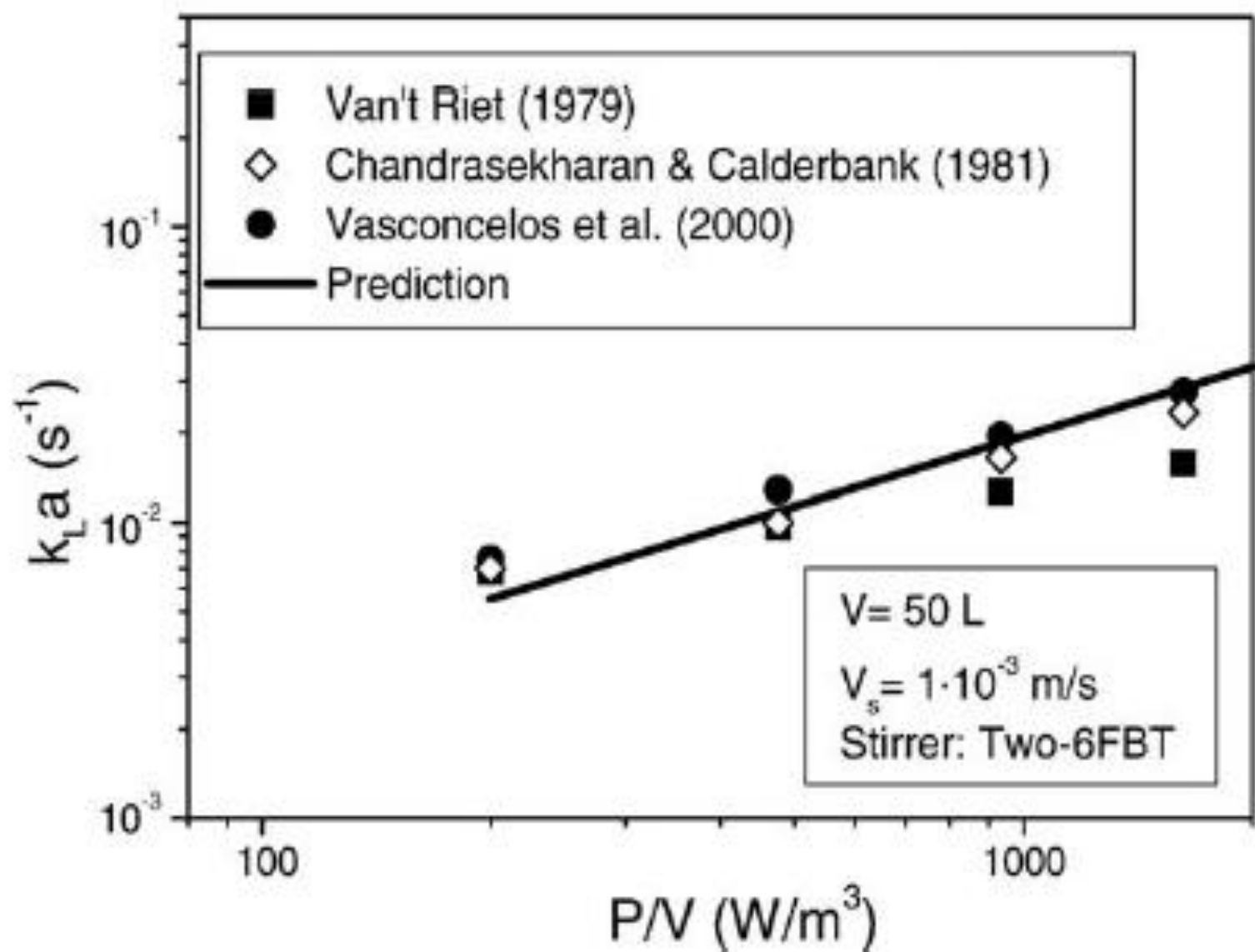
Bioreactors/Fermenters

- Mechanical Agitation
- Bubble columns
- Loop Reactors

Power for Agitation

$$k_L a \propto \left(\frac{P_g}{V} \right)^m (v_s)^n$$

- P_g = gassed power, horsepower
- V = volume of gas-liquid dispersion (aerated solution), L
- v_s = superficial gas velocity, cm/sec



$$P_g = 0.08 \left[\frac{P_o^2 N D^3}{Q^{0.56}} \right]^{0.45}$$

- P_g = gassed power, HP
- P_o = ungassed power, HP
- N = rpm of impeller (min^{-1})
- D = impeller diameter in feet
- Q = gas flow rate in ft^3/min

Michel and Miller

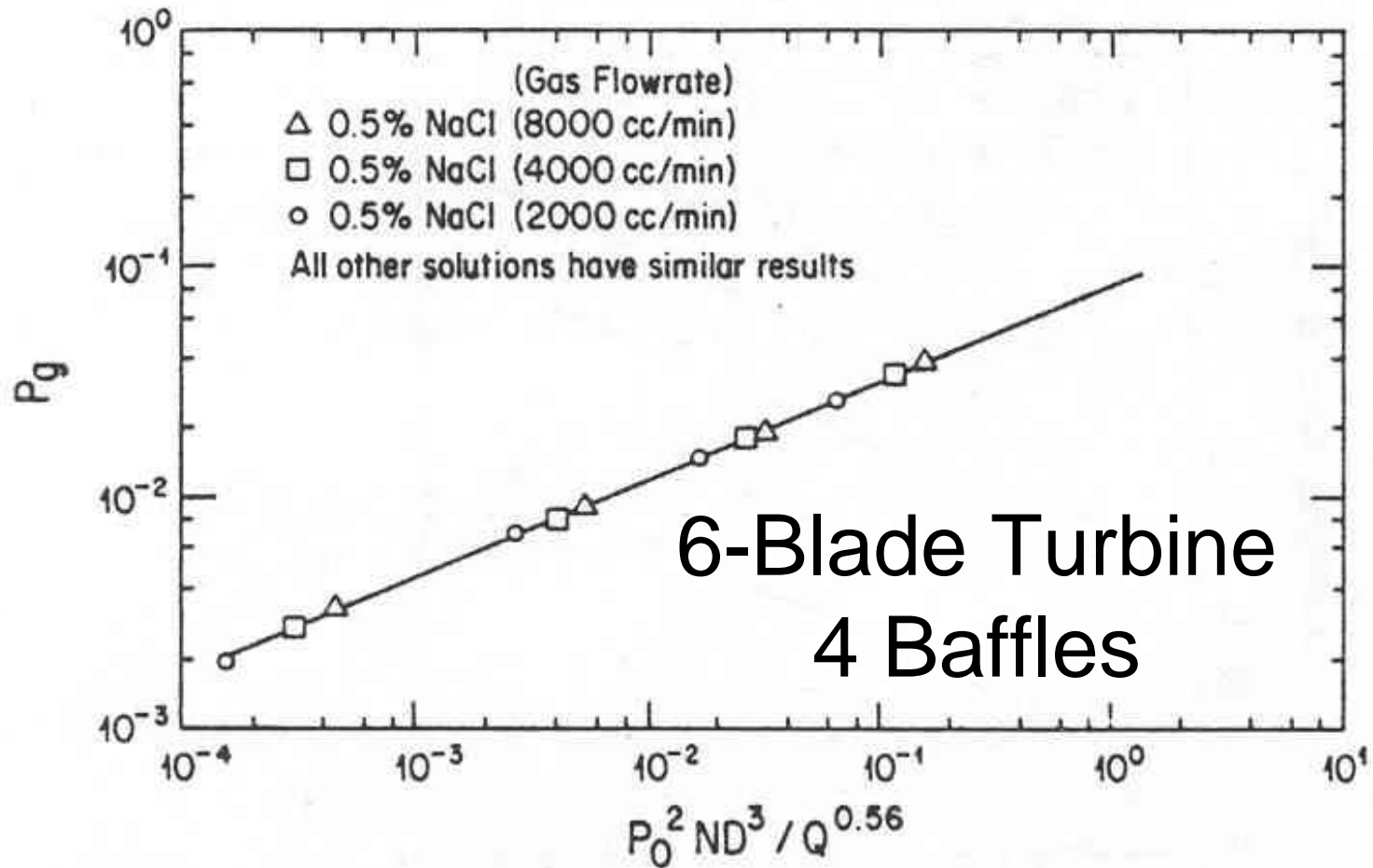
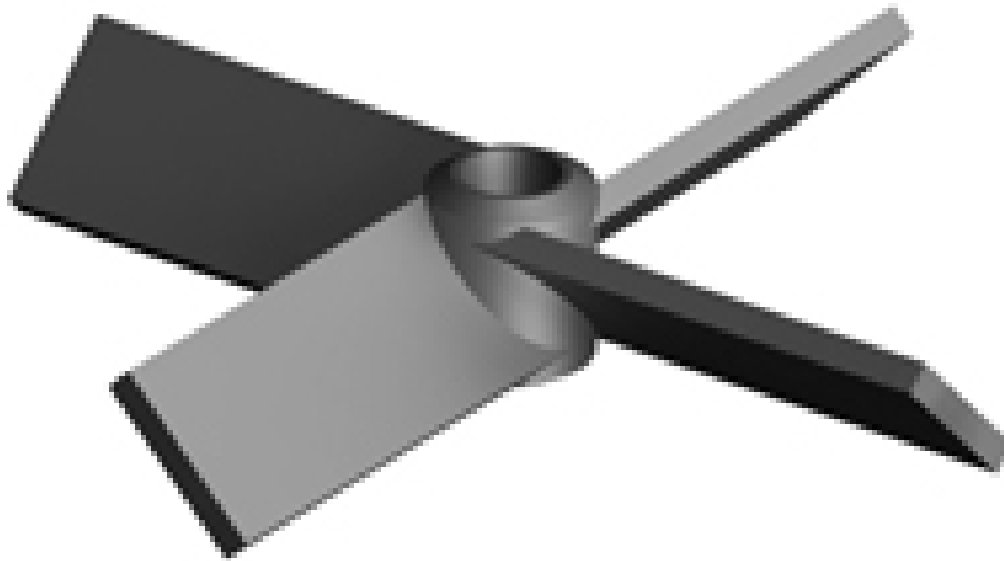
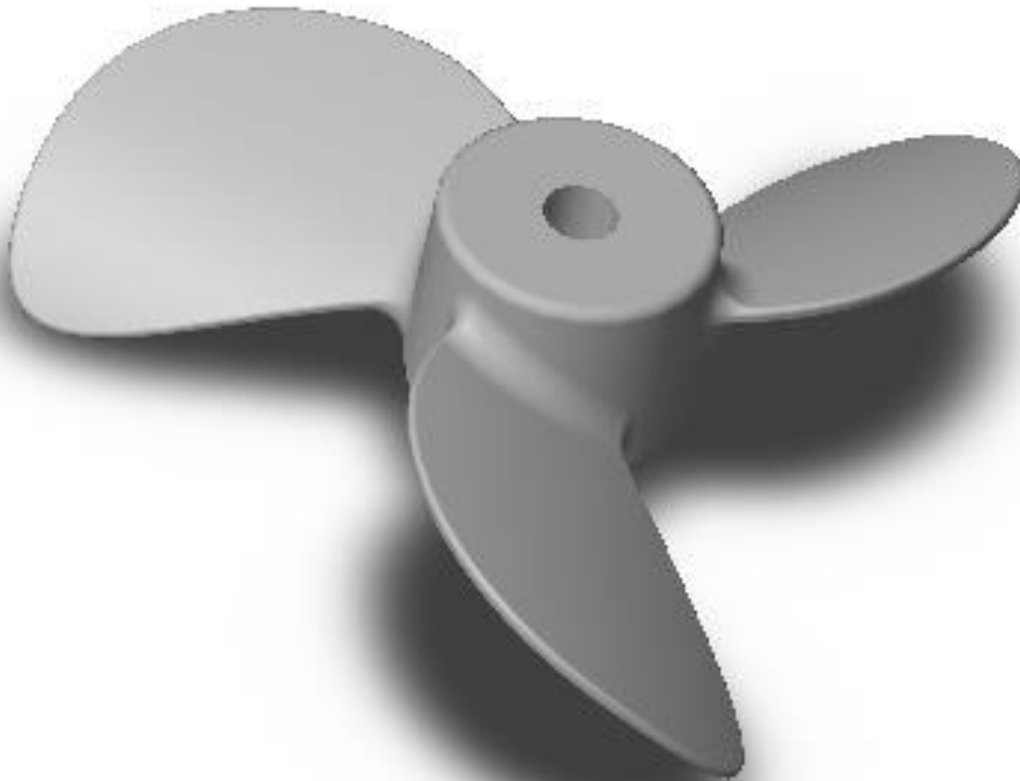


Fig. 6-11

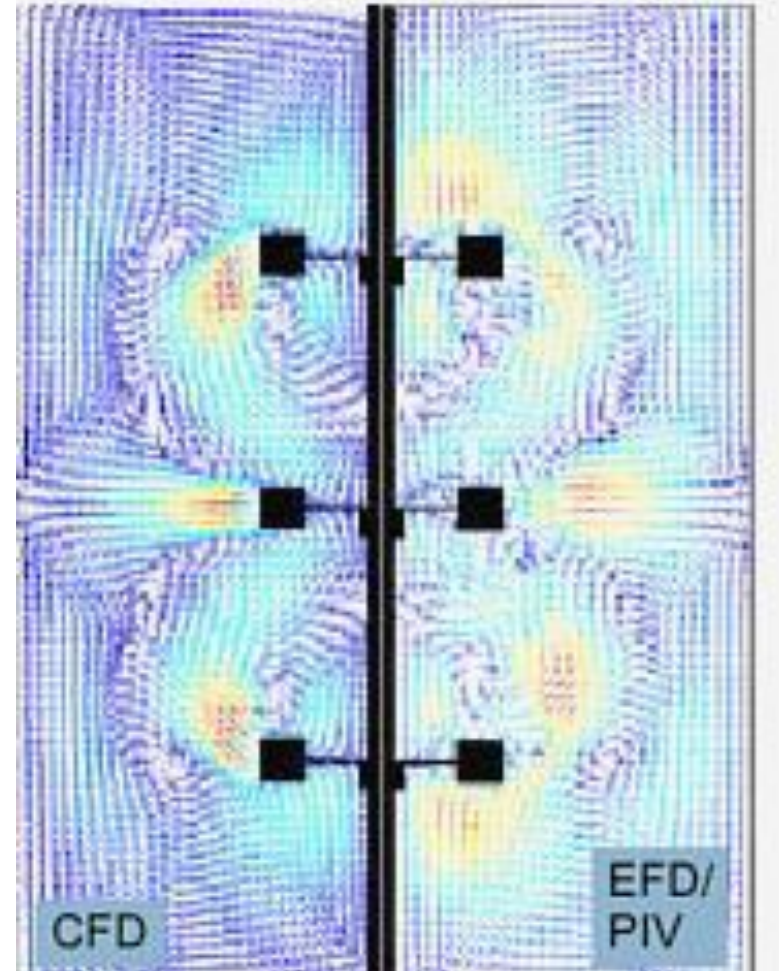
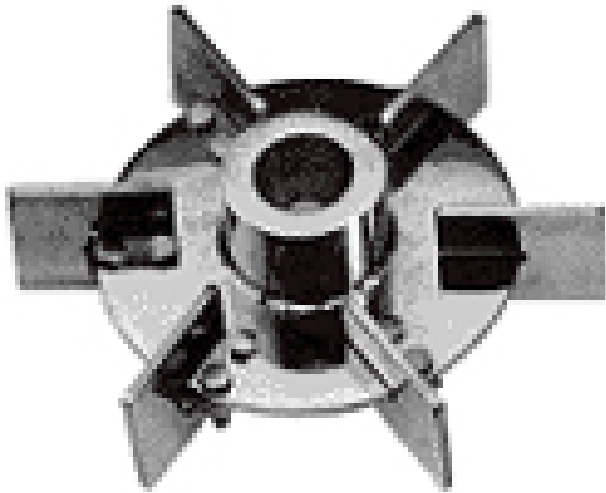
Turbine Impeller



Marine Impeller



Rushton Impeller



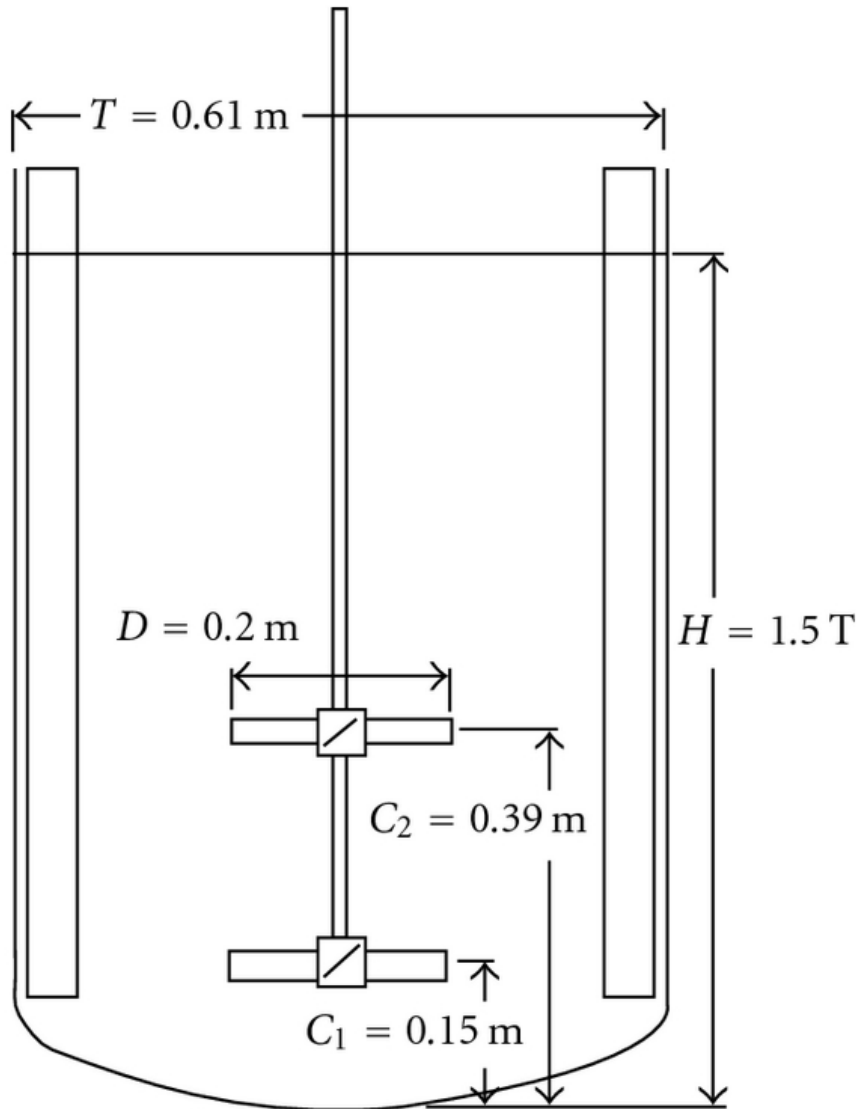
Fermenters

- Height : Diameter = 2:1 or 3:1
 - Animal cell reactors often 1:1
- Constructed from stainless steel to prevent corrosion
 - Plant and animal cell – 316L (low carbon)
- Foaming is an issue in aerated reactors
 - Working volume usually 60-75% of total volume

Stirred Tank Bioreactor



Stirred Tank Bioreactor



- Flexible operation
- High $k_L a$
- High Power
 - Up to 5 kW/m^3
- 400 m^3
(400,000 L) max

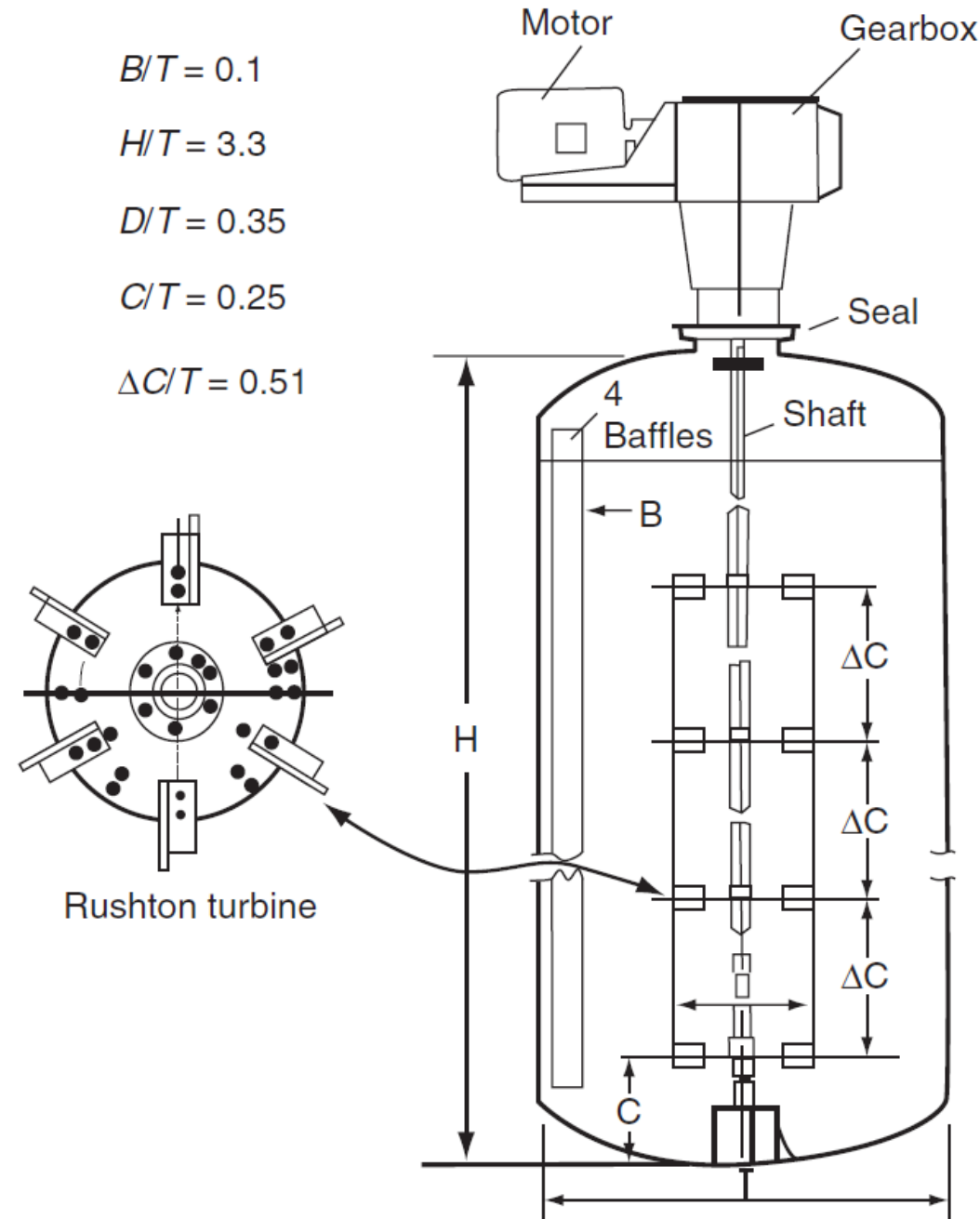
$$B/T = 0.1$$

$$H/T = 3.3$$

$$D/T = 0.35$$

$$C/T = 0.25$$

$$\Delta C/T = 0.51$$



H = Tank Height
T = Tank Diameter
D = Impeller Diameter
C = Spacing of Impeller
B = Baffle thickness

Hewitt and Nienow, Batch
and Fed-Batch
Fermentation Processes,
Advances in Applied
Microbiology, 62, 105- 135
(2007).

Design Parameters

Parameter	Symbol
Power Input	P
Volume	V
Impeller Rotation	N
Impeller Diameter	D
Density of fluid	ρ
Viscosity of fluid	μ
Gas flow rate	Q_G

Increasing Q_G

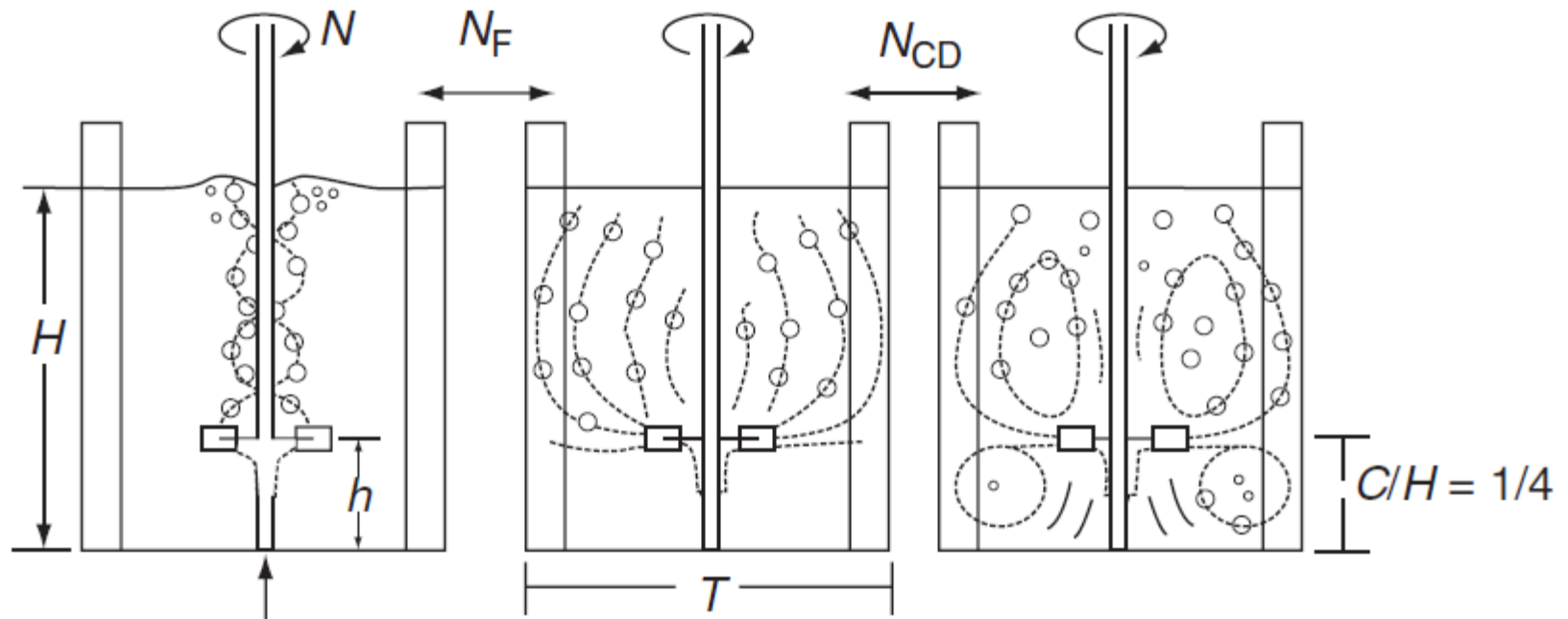
Air Flow Too High ←

Constant N

A Flooded Reactor

B Loaded Reactor

C Fully Dispersed Reactor



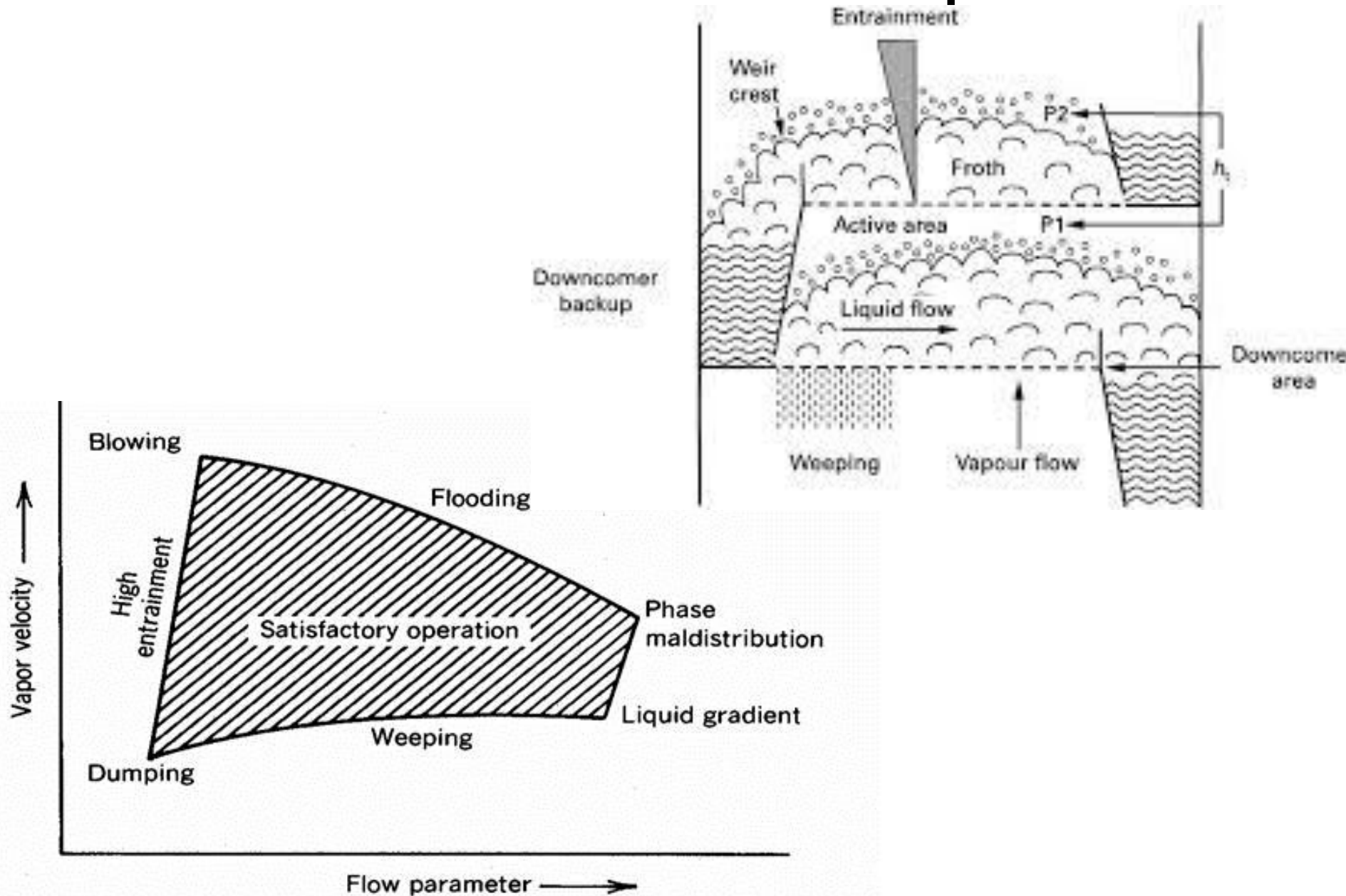
$H = T$

Rotation Too Low →

Constant Q_G

Increasing N

Similar to Distillation Operation



Rushton Impeller Flooding Limit

$$Q_{Gas}/(ND^3) = 30(D/H)^{3.5}(Fr)$$

Fr = Froude number = $N^2 D/g$ = ratio of the inertial to buoyancy forces

ND^3 = pumping rate of impellers = volume of liquid pushed by impellers = Q

Scale-Up Rules of Thumb

- Constant $P/V = \text{Constant } k_L a$
- Constant $N \cdot D = \text{Constant Shear Rate}$
- Constant $N = \text{Constant Mixing Times}$

$$P/V \propto N^3 D^2$$

$$Q \propto N D^3$$

$$P \propto N^3 D^5$$

Calculating effect of scale up difficult!

A 10x increase in volume is common for empirical testing
(e.g. 1 L to 10 L)

Table 9

Different criteria for bioreactor scale-up (adapted from Oldshue, 1966)

Variable	Value of volume at model system (2 L)	Value of volume at pilot scale (20 L)			
		Scale-up criteria			
		$P/V=C$	$\pi NT=C$	$Re=C$	$k_La=C$
T	1.0	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.14
P	1.0	10.0	4.80	0.50	13.8
P/V	1.0	1.0	0.48	0.05	138
N	1.0	0.60	0.47	0.22	0.67
$N \cdot T$	1.0	1.28	1.0	0.47	1.43
Re	1.0	2.75	2.15	1.0	3.07
k_La	1.0	0.77	0.55	0.19	1.0

Mixing in Large Scale Bioreactors

- Mixing – for O_2 transfer and nutrient and pH dispersion – is the critical issue with scale up
- Mixing rate (time) is proportional to mixing speed (N)
- Power requirement quickly outpaces ability to mix reactor

Estimating Mixing Time

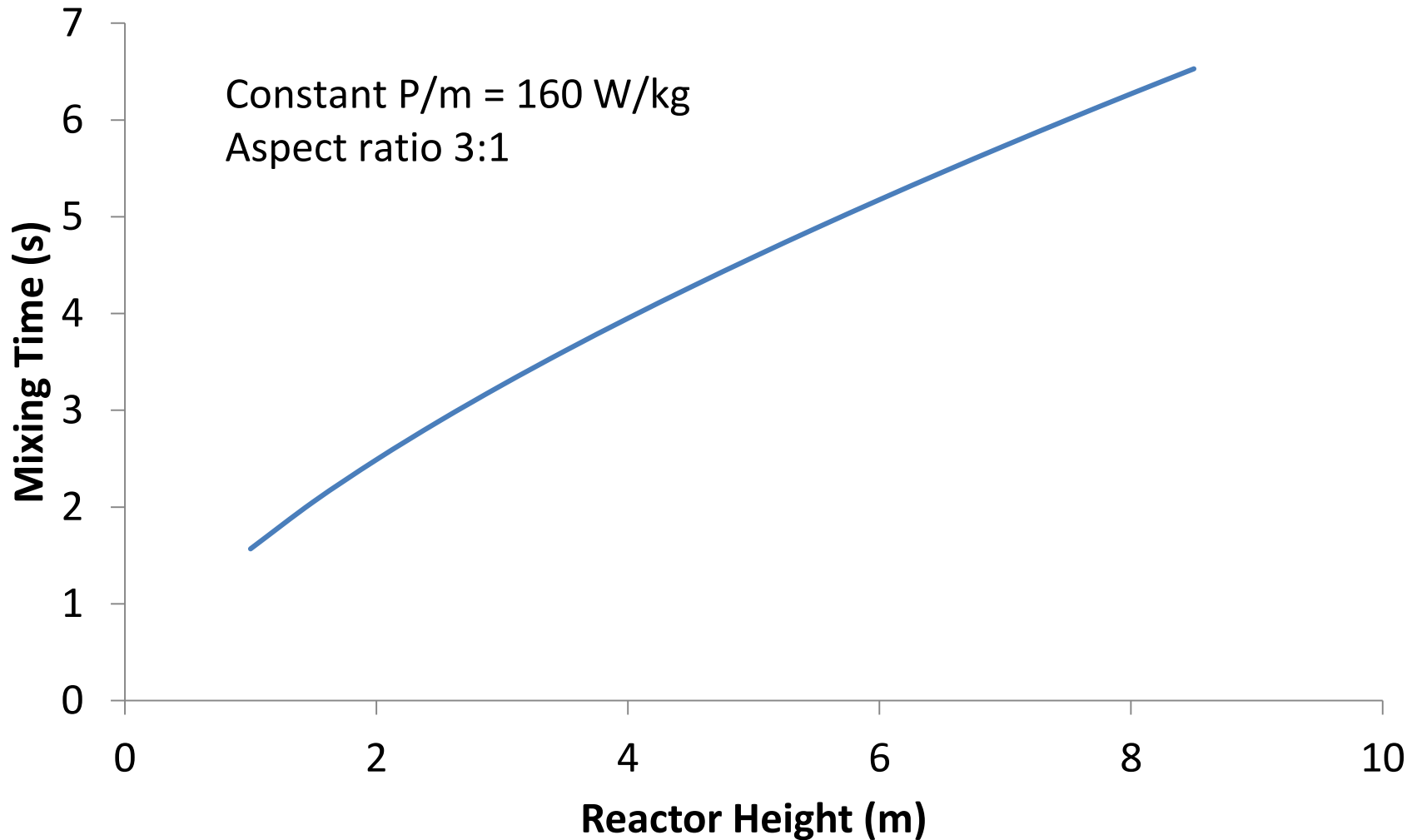
$$\theta_m (\text{s}) = 5.9 H^{2/3} (\varepsilon_T)^{-1/3} \left(\frac{D}{H} \right)^{-1/3}$$

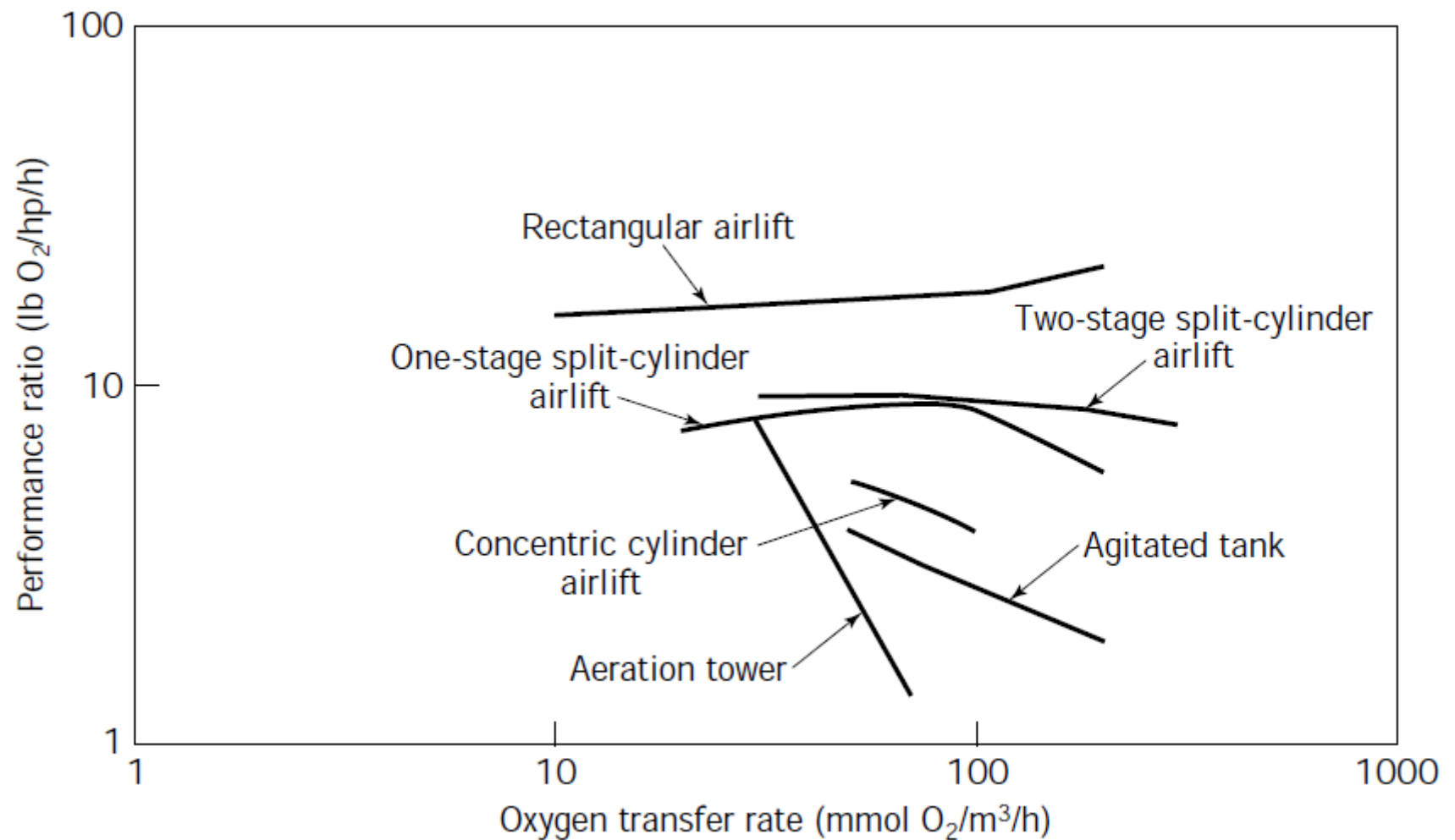
where

$$\varepsilon_T = \frac{P}{\rho V}$$

ε_t has units of W/Kg

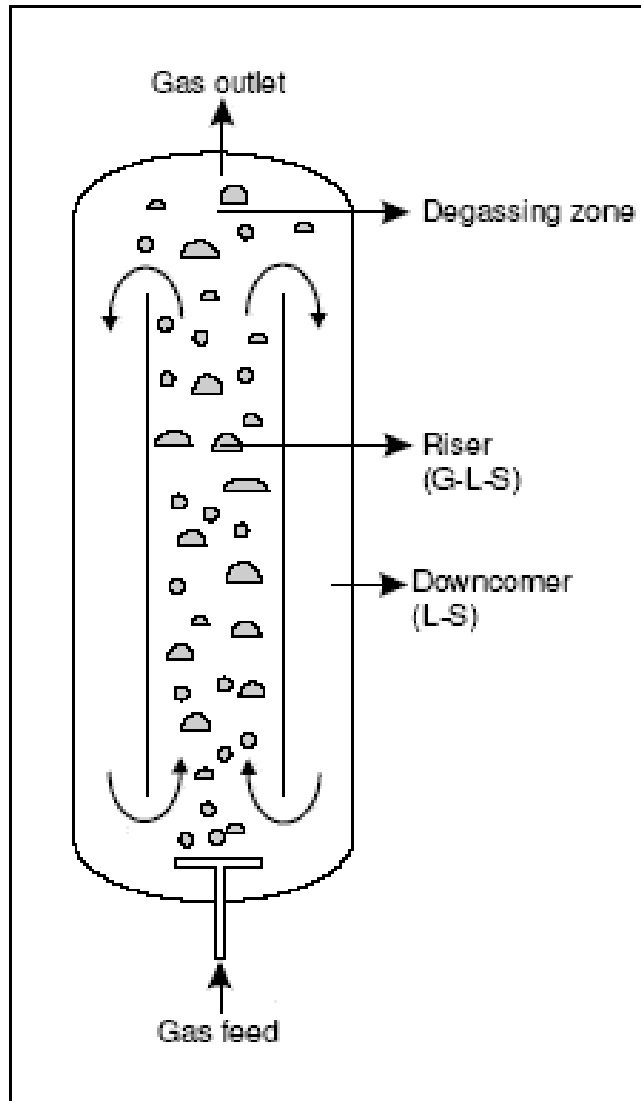
Bioreactors Mixing Time





M.E. Orazem and L.E. Erickson, *Biotechnol. Bioeng.* **21**, 69–88 (1979).

Airlift Loop Reactors

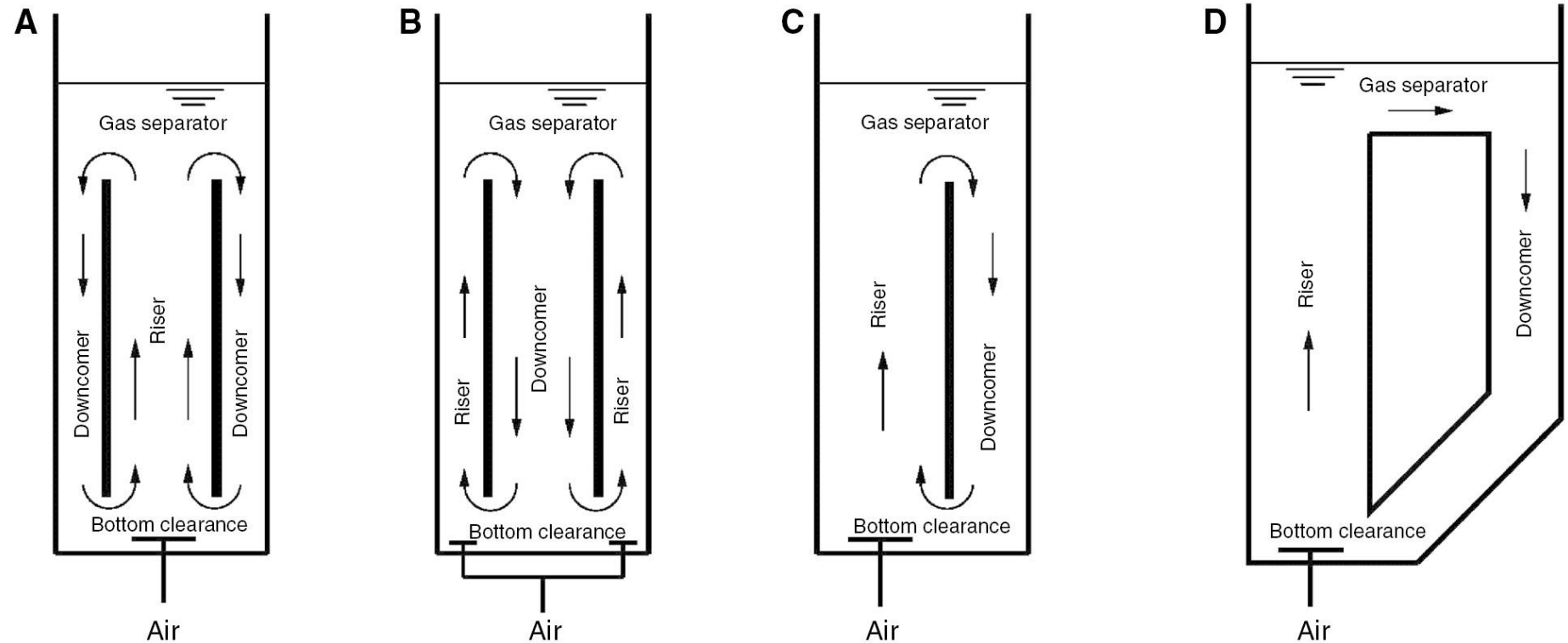


- Low shear
- Lower $k_L a$ than mechanically stirred rxtr

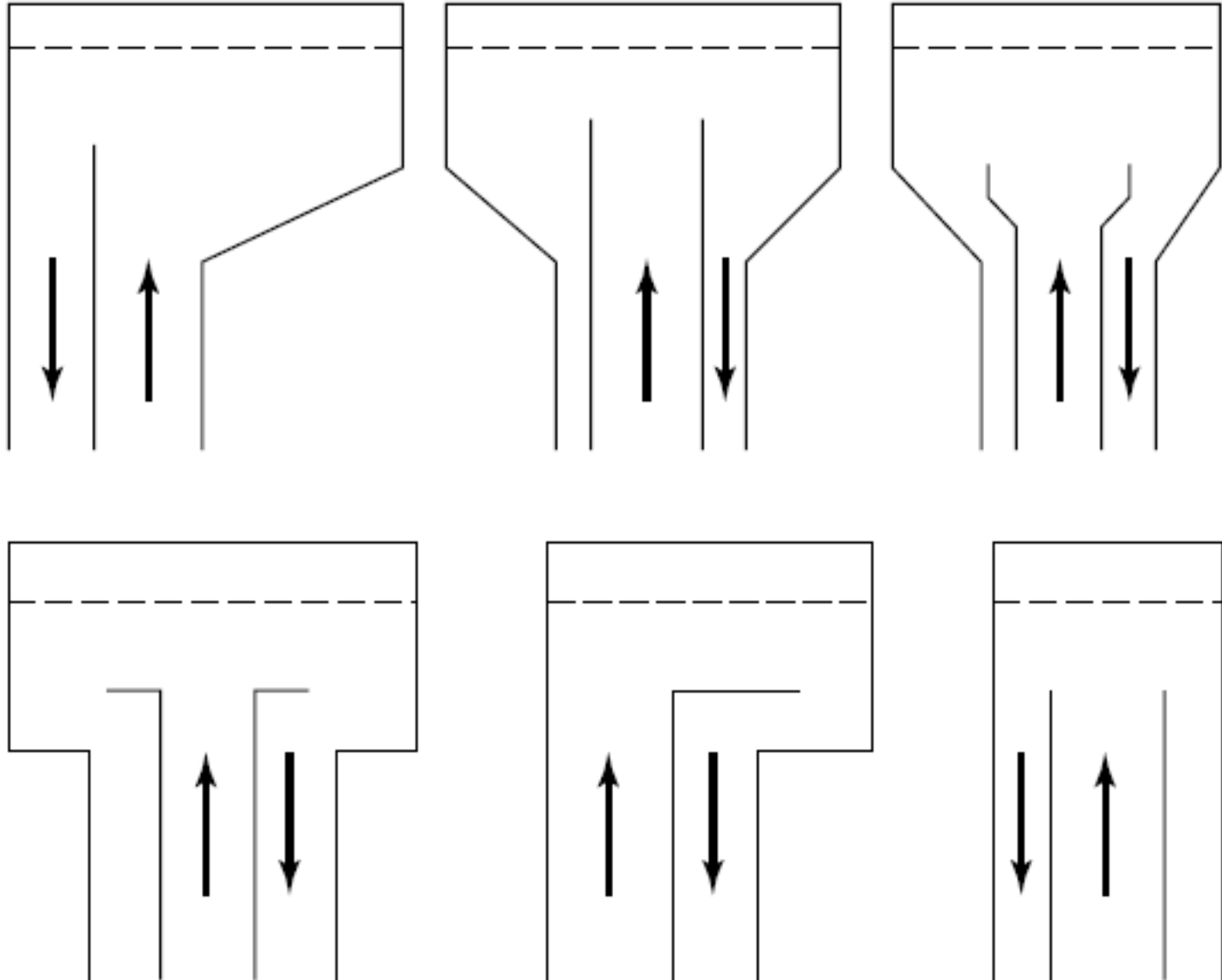
Design Variations

Internal loop airlift reactor

External loop airlift reactor



Gas separator configurations of internal-loop ALRs



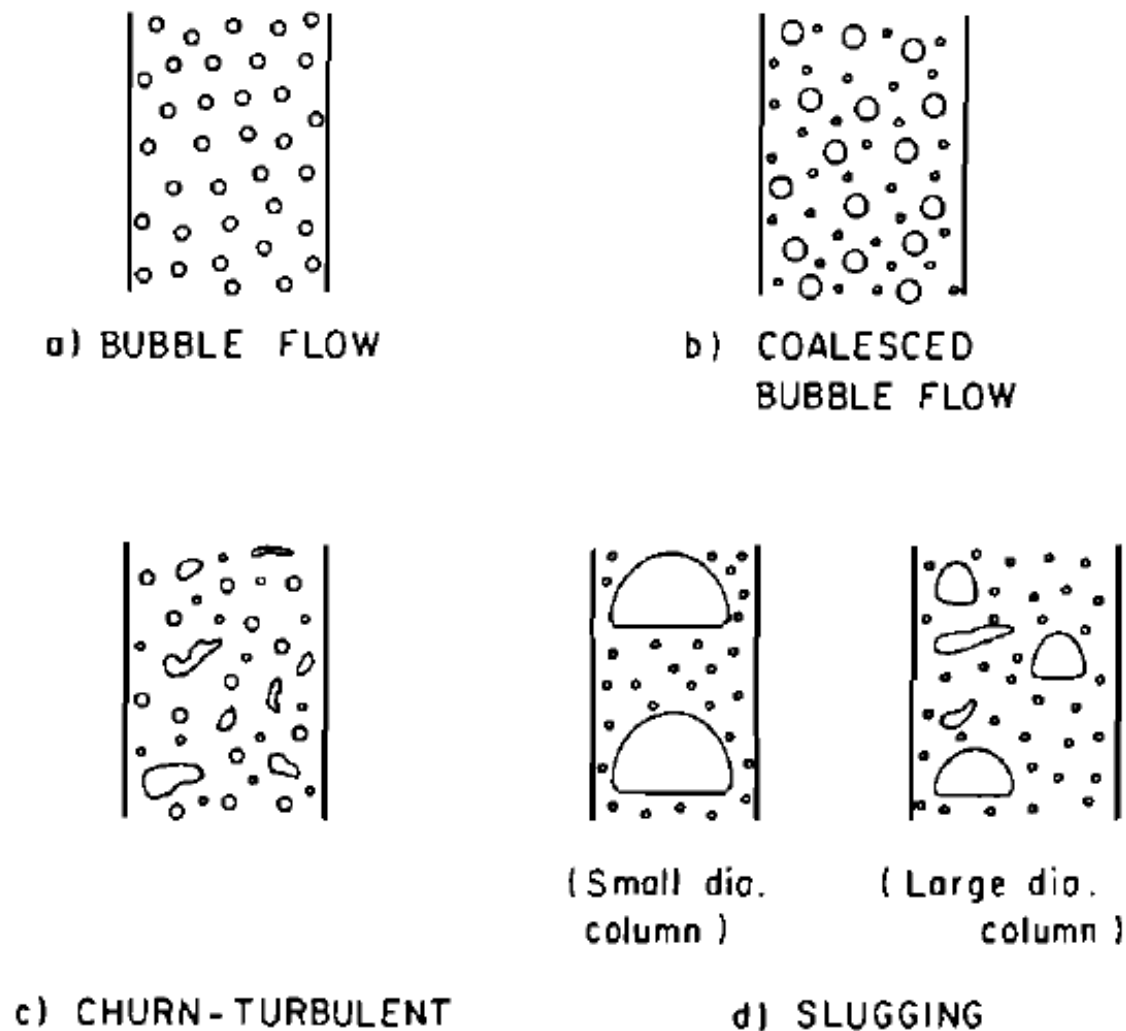


FIGURE 3 Reactor flow regimes.

M.Y. CHISTI & M. MOO-YOUNG (1987) AIRLIFT REACTORS:
CHARACTERISTICS, APPLICATIONS AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS, CHEMICAL
ENGINEERING COMMUNICATIONS, 60:1-6, 195-242, DOI: 10.1080/009864487

U_{sg} = superficial
gas velocity

U_{Lr} = superficial
liquid velocity

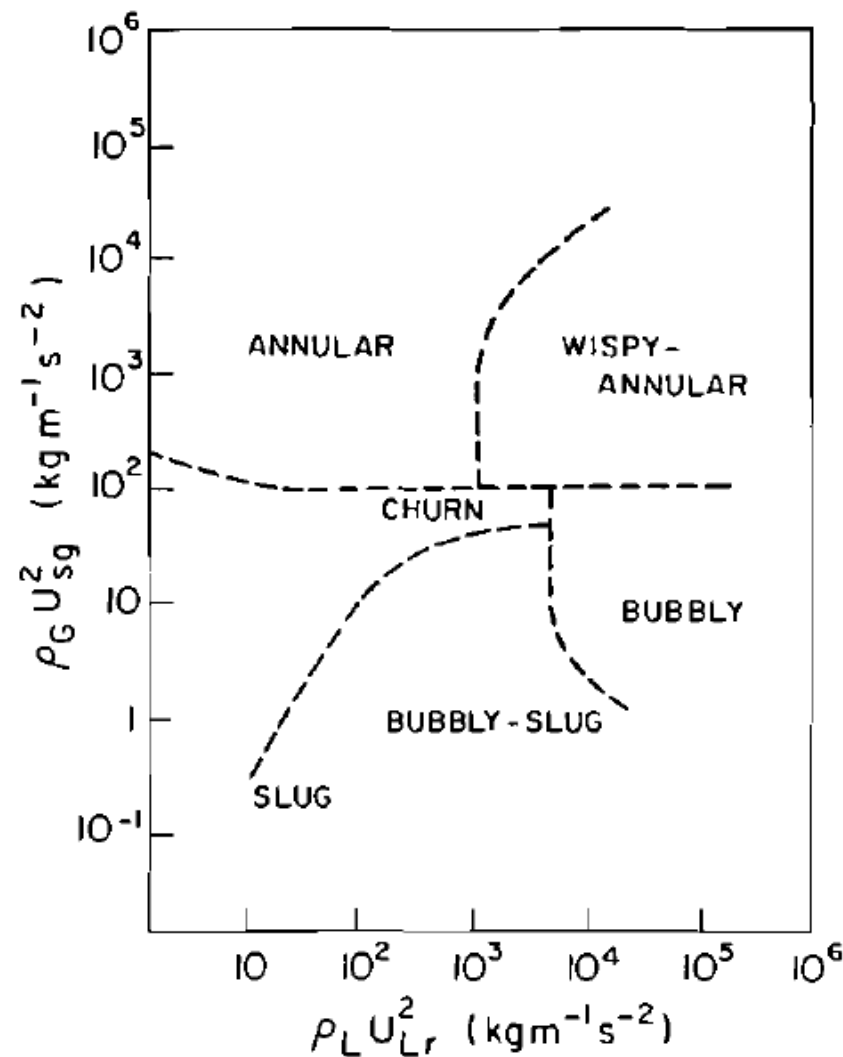
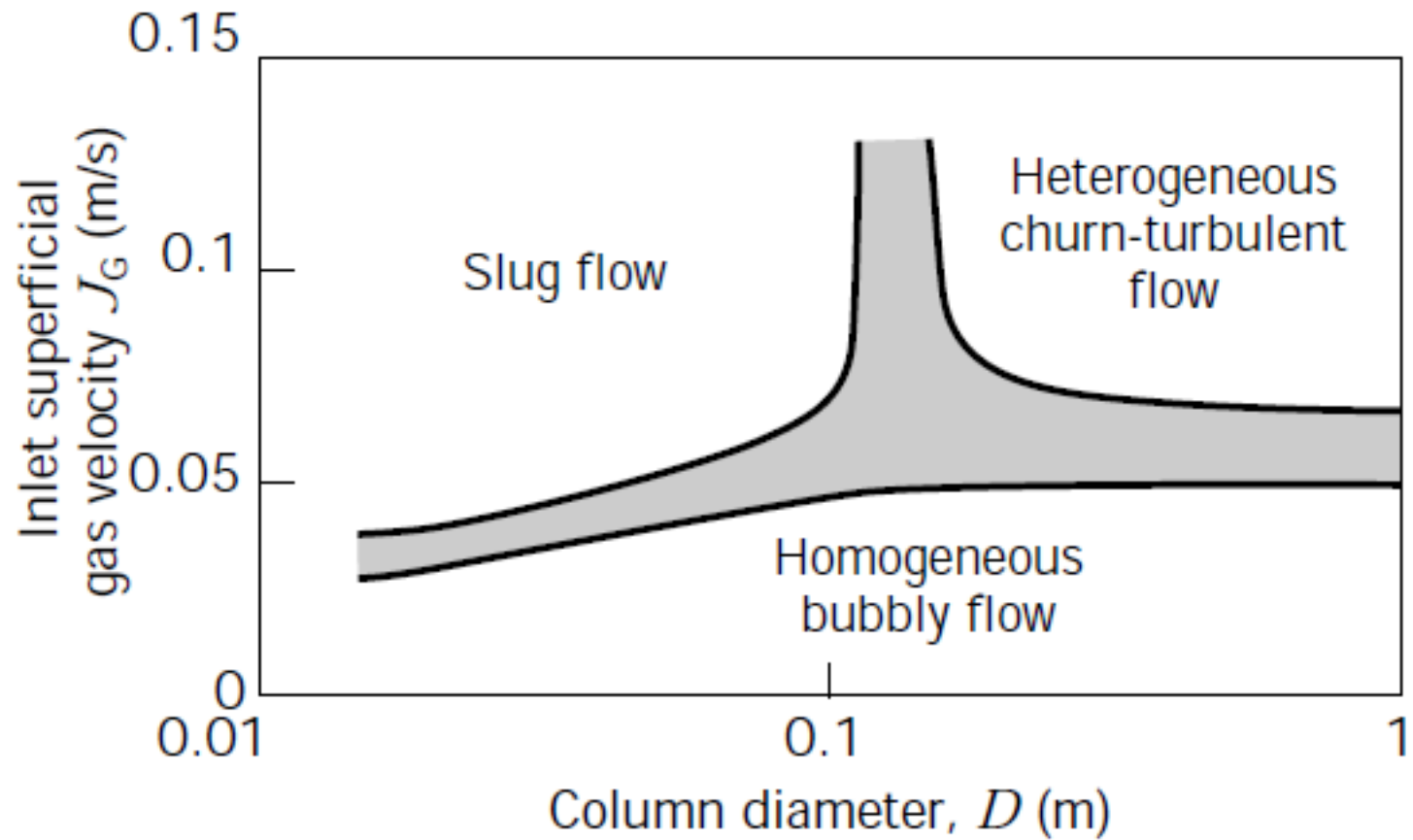


FIGURE 4b Flow pattern map for vertical gas-liquid flow for low viscosity Newtonian liquids. Adapted from Collier.³⁷

M.Y. CHISTI & M. MOO-YOUNG (1987) AIRLIFT REACTORS:
CHARACTERISTICS, APPLICATIONS AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS, CHEMICAL
ENGINEERING COMMUNICATIONS, 60:1-6, 195-242, DOI: 10.1080/009864487



K. Wiswanathan, *Flow Patterns in Bubble Columns*, Gulf, Houston, TX., 1986, pp. 291–308.

Antibiotics

- Specific chemical substances derived from or produced by living organisms that are capable of inhibiting the life processes of other organisms
- Various mechanisms are known
 - Interfere with protein synthesis
 - Interfere with key enzymes needed for synthesizing cell wall/membrane

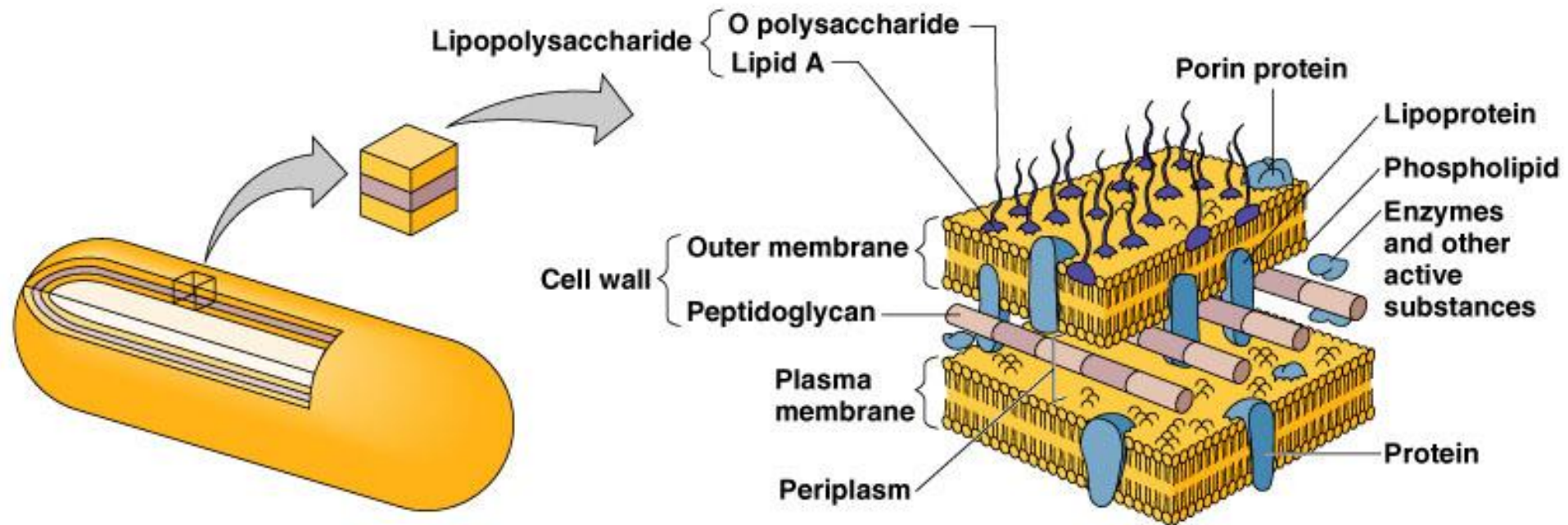
Bacteria – Gram Stain

- Method for identifying bacteria by differential staining
- Gram + bacteria hold stain when washed with solvent (purple/blue)
- Gram – bacteria do not hold stain (counter stain, pink/red)

Gram (+) vs Gram (-) Bacteria

- Gram (+) Bacteria: Thick cell walls of amino acid cross-linked polysaccharides
- Gram (-) Bacteria: Thin polysaccharide cell wall coated with a lipid layer (lipopolysaccharides, LPS)
- Pathogenic forms of both are known

Bacterial Cell Wall

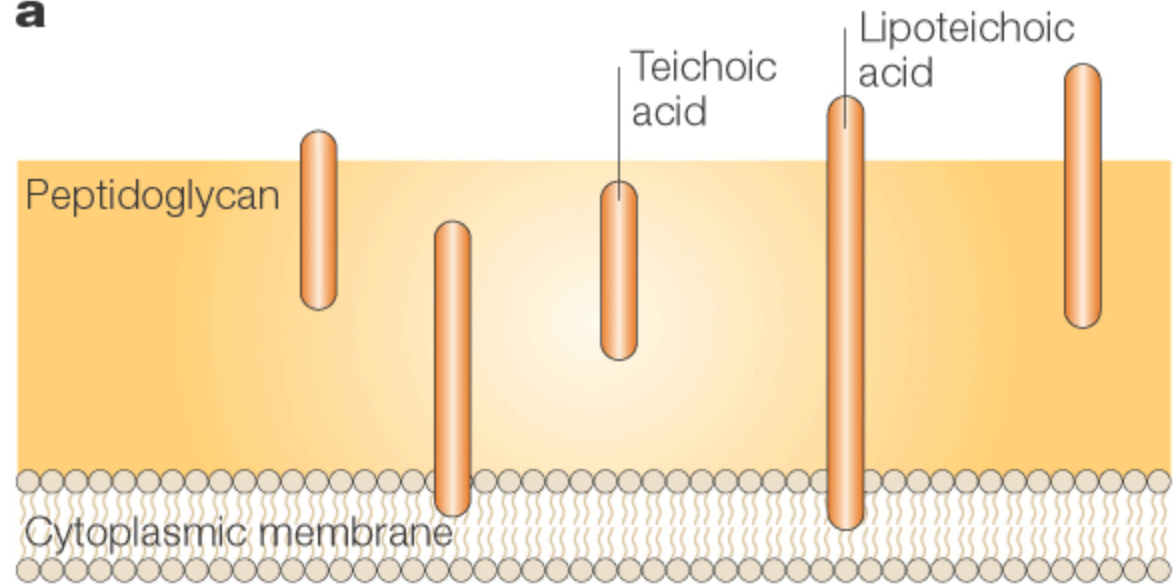


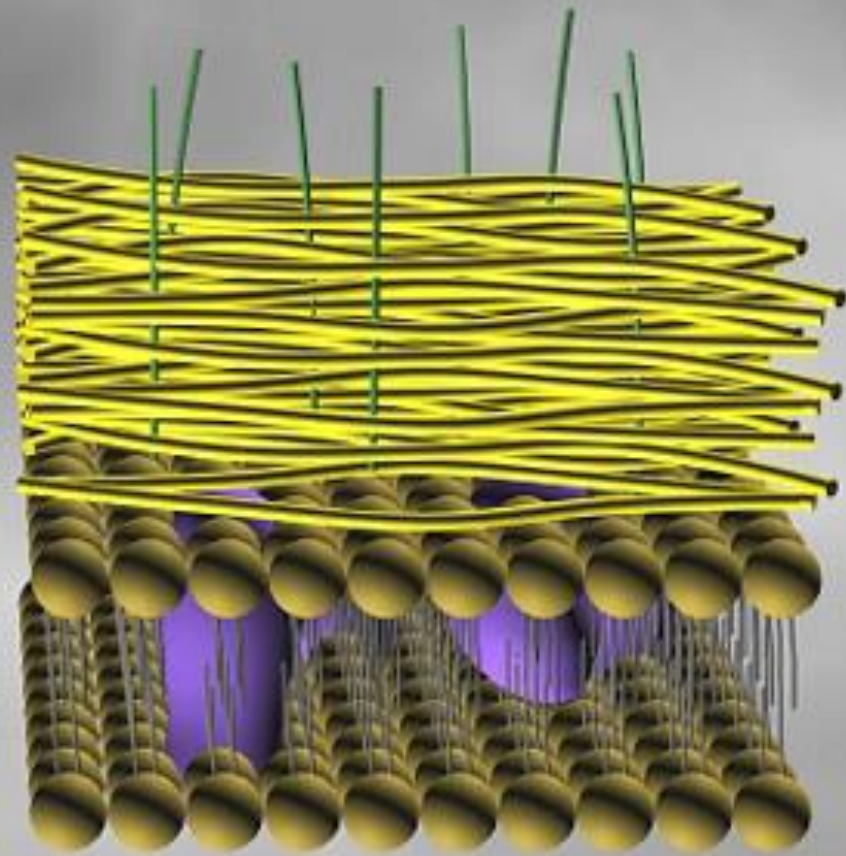
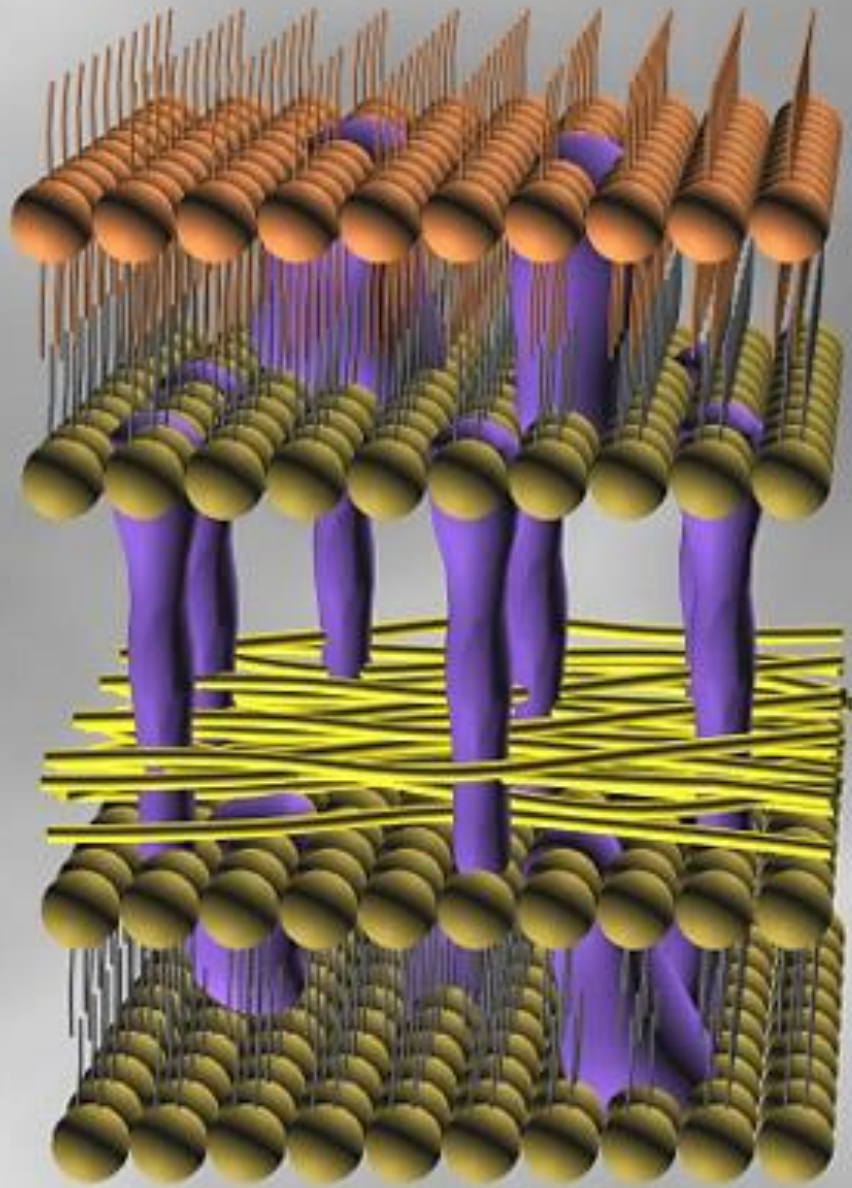
(c) Gram-negative cell wall

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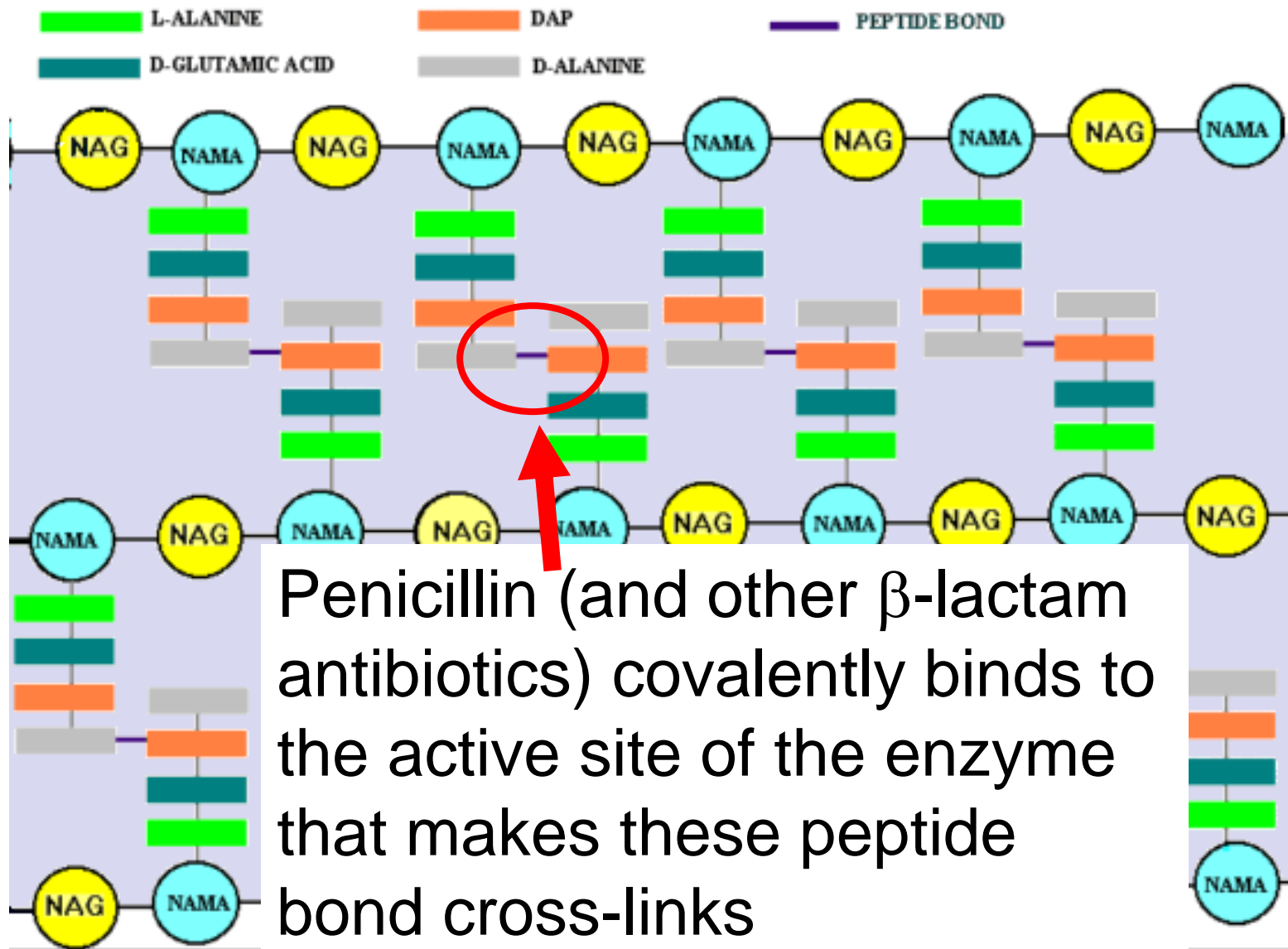
Gram +

a

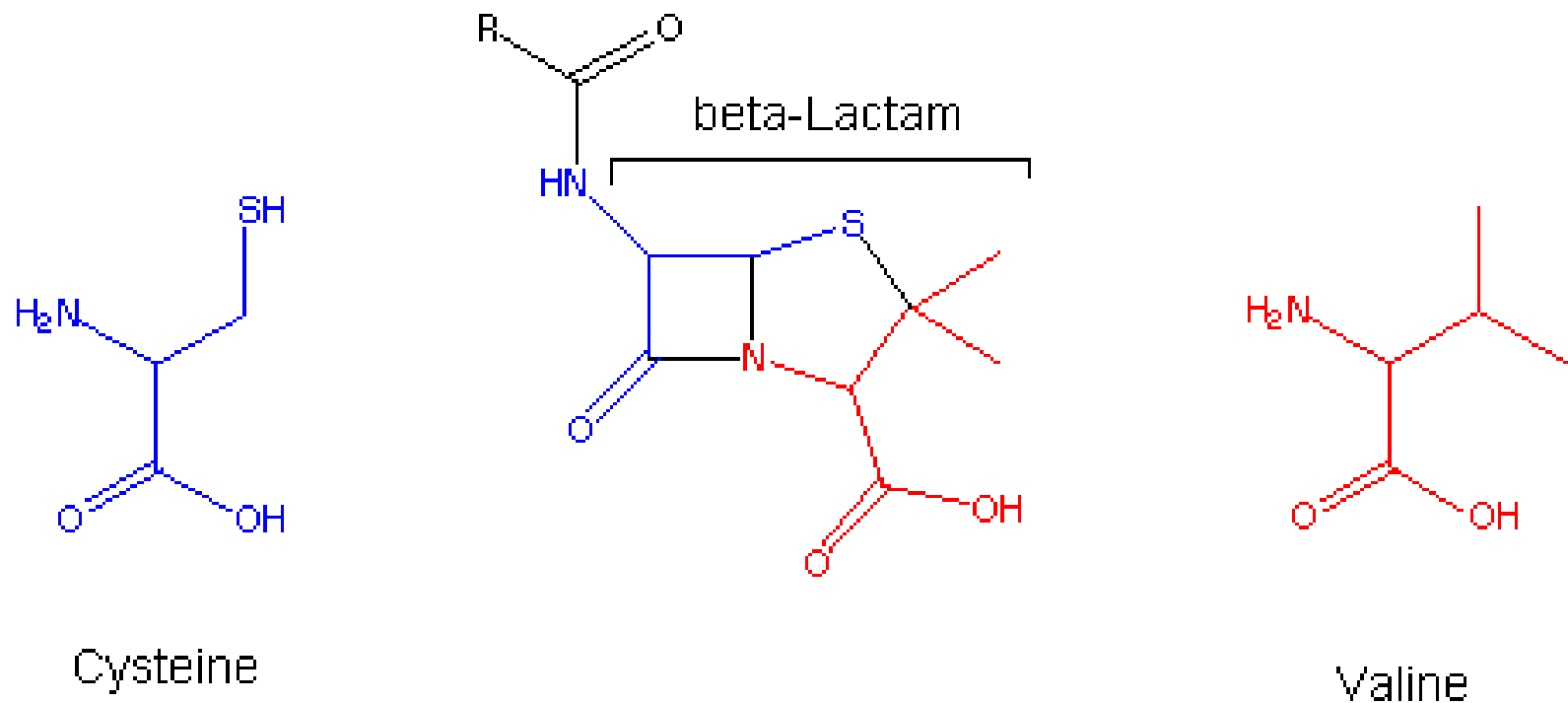


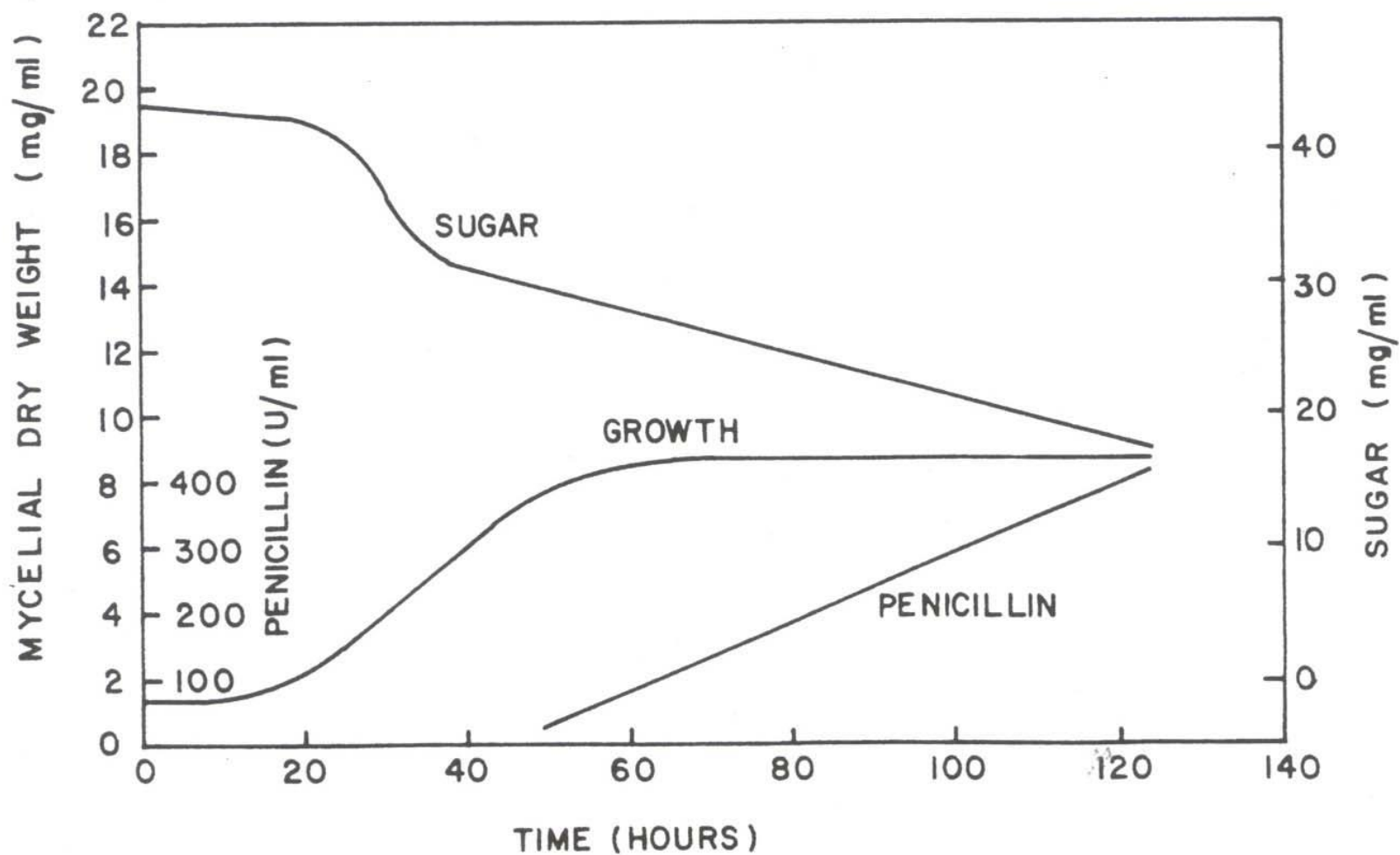


THE GRAM(+) CELL WALL



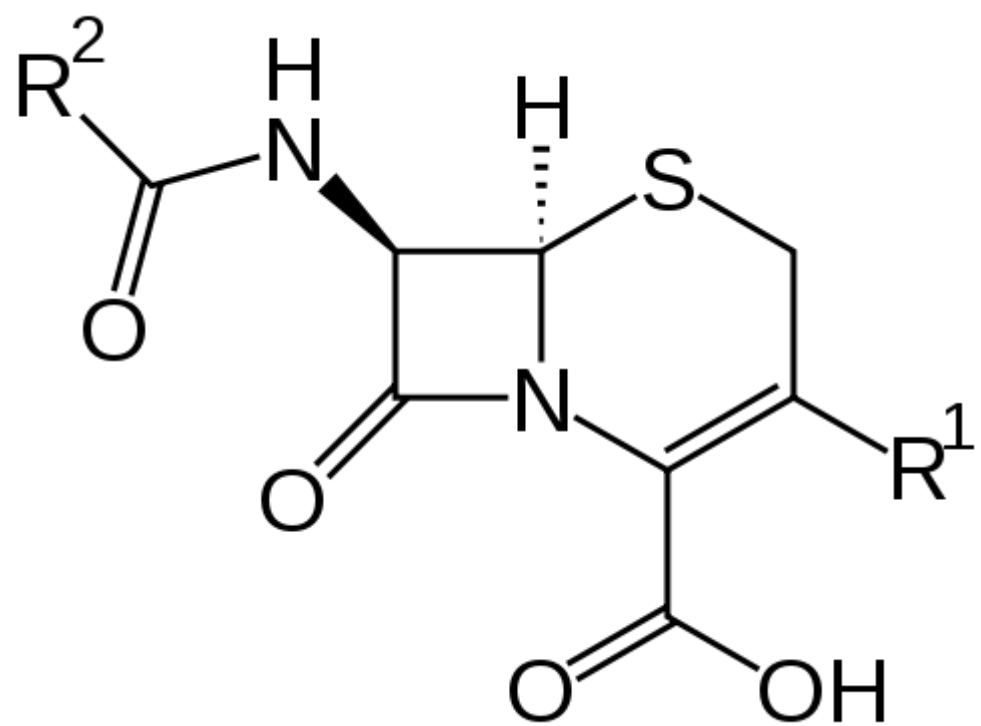
Penicillin - Beta Lactam Structure



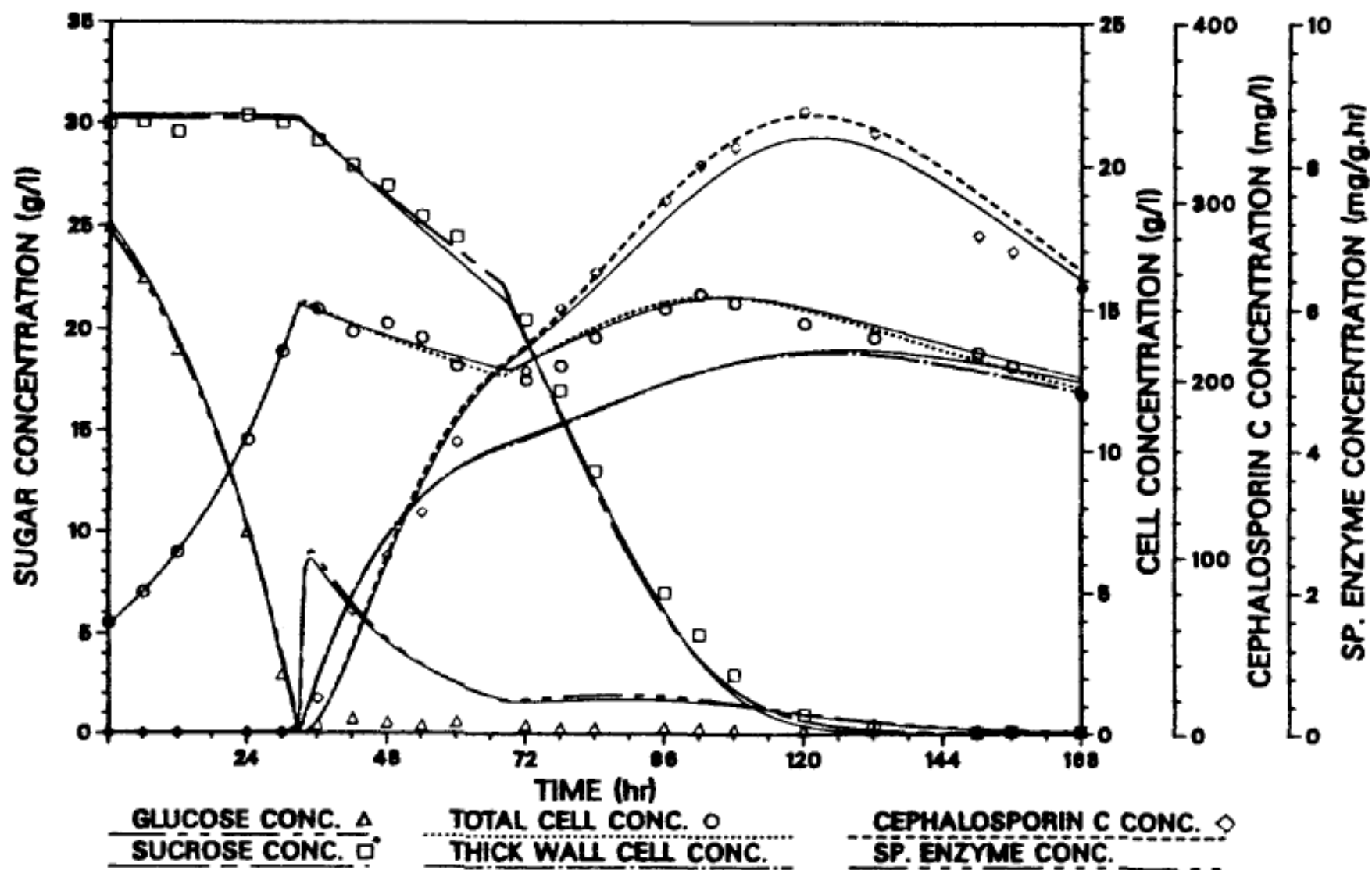


Cephalosporin C

- Beta lactam antibiotic
- *Cephalosporium acremonium*
- Discovered in a sewer in Sardinia in 1948 by Italian scientist Giuseppe Brotzu
- First commercial product released by Eli Lilly in 1964



CEPHALOSPORIN C FERMENTATION AT PH 8.2 AND 32°C



Vancomycin

- Gram (+)
- Binds with the substrate, not the enzyme (contrast with penicillin)
- Binds the D-alanyl-D-alanine terminal dipeptide of peptidoglycan precursors
- Prevents the reaction used to link peptidoglycan precursors together from taking place

Streptomycin

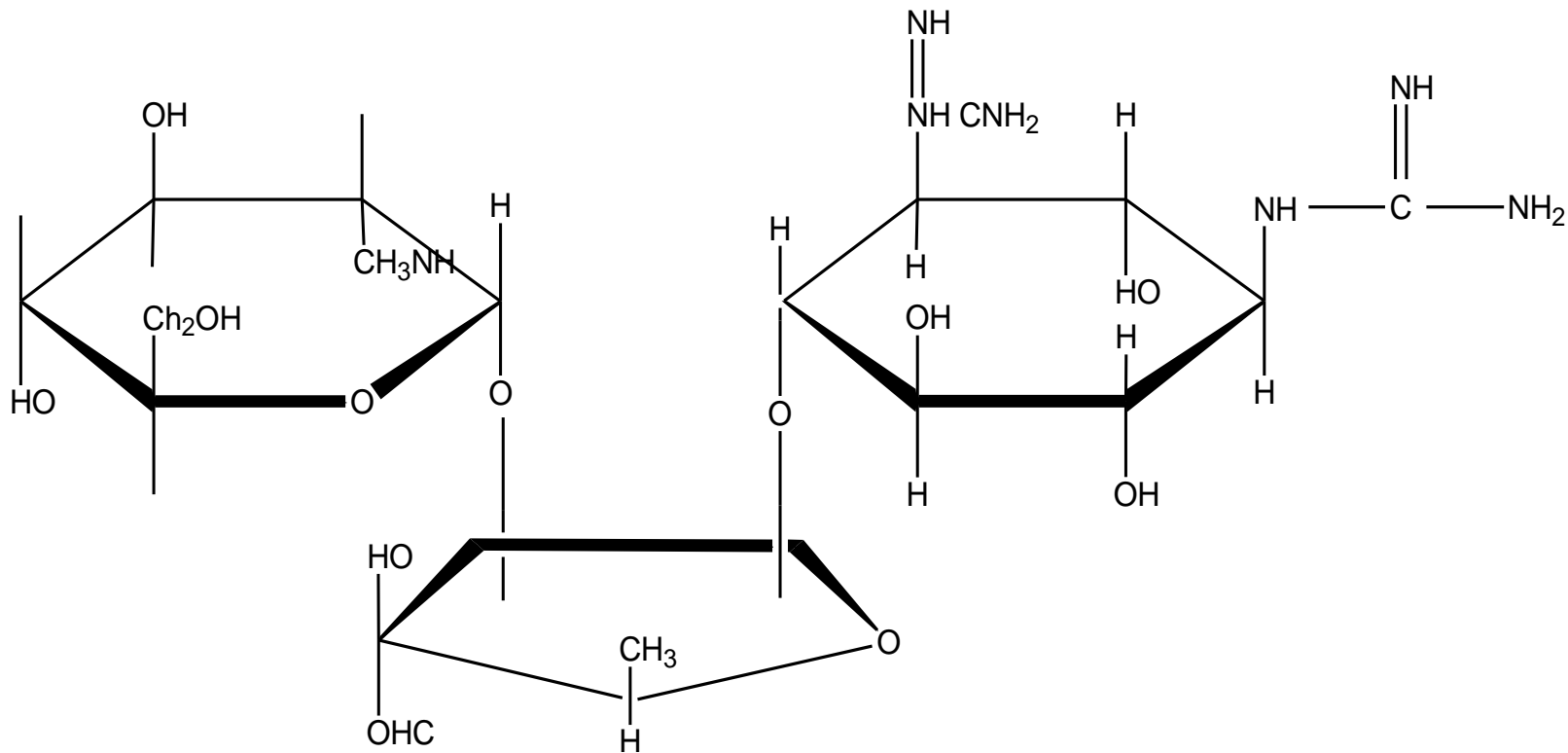
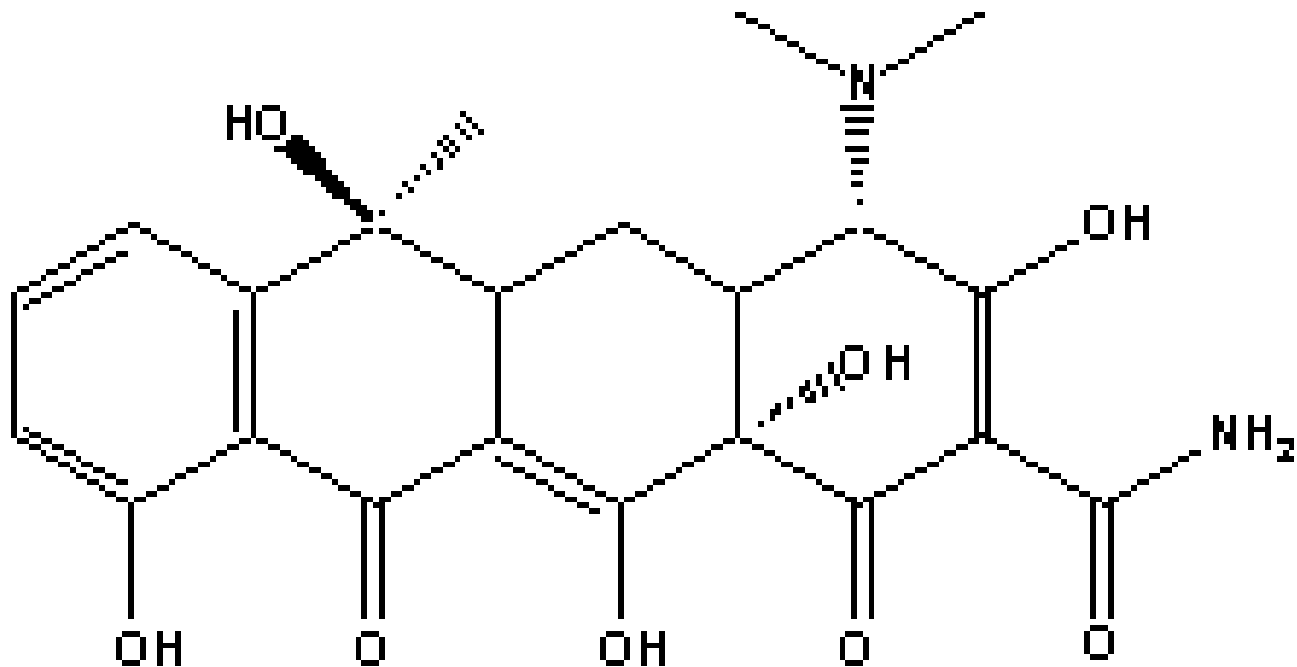


Figure 7-16

Streptomycin

- Effective against gram-negative bacteria
- Binds to the 30S ribosome - changes its shape so that it inhibits protein synthesis by causing a misreading of messenger RNA information.

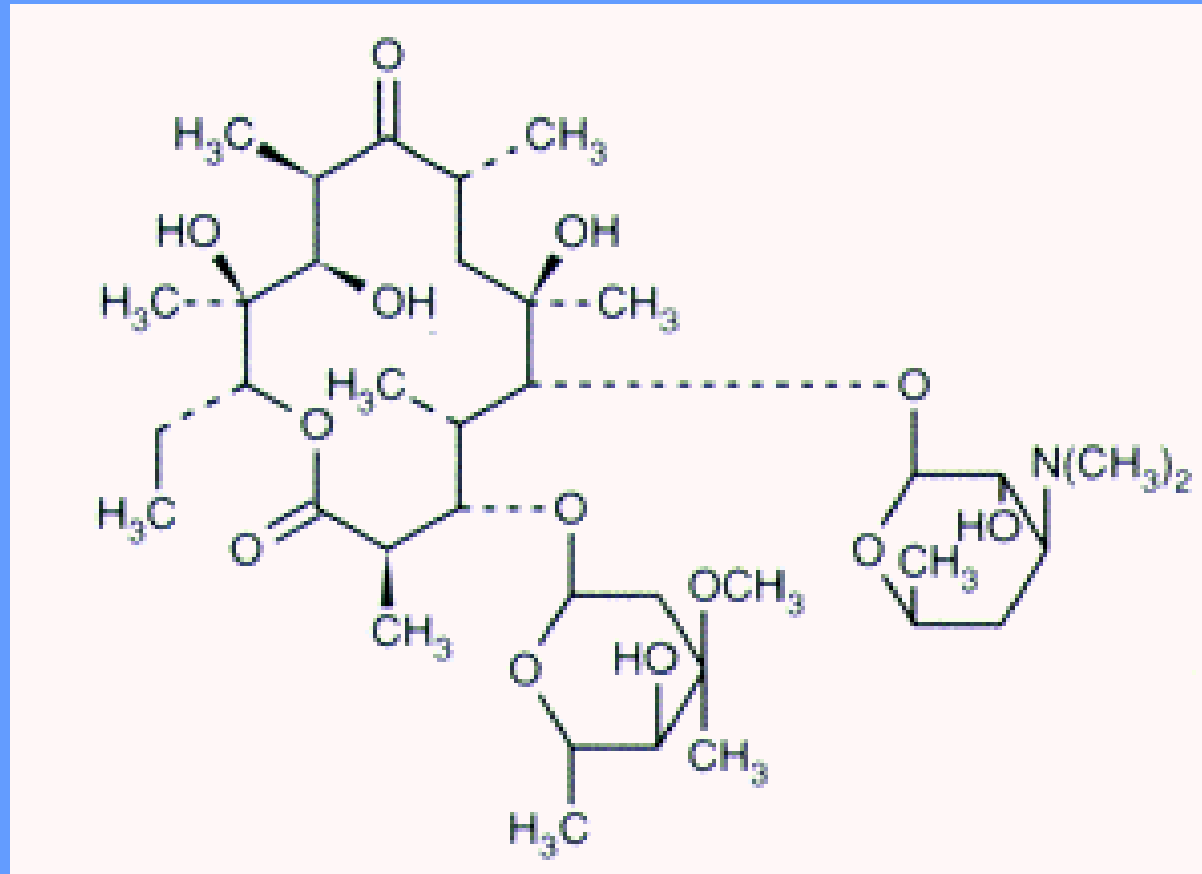
Tetracycline



Tetracycline

- Very broad spectrum - both Gram (+) and Gram (-)
- Inhibit bacterial protein synthesis by blocking the attachment of the transfer RNA-amino acid to the ribosome. More precisely they are inhibitors of the codon-anticodon interaction.

Erythromycin



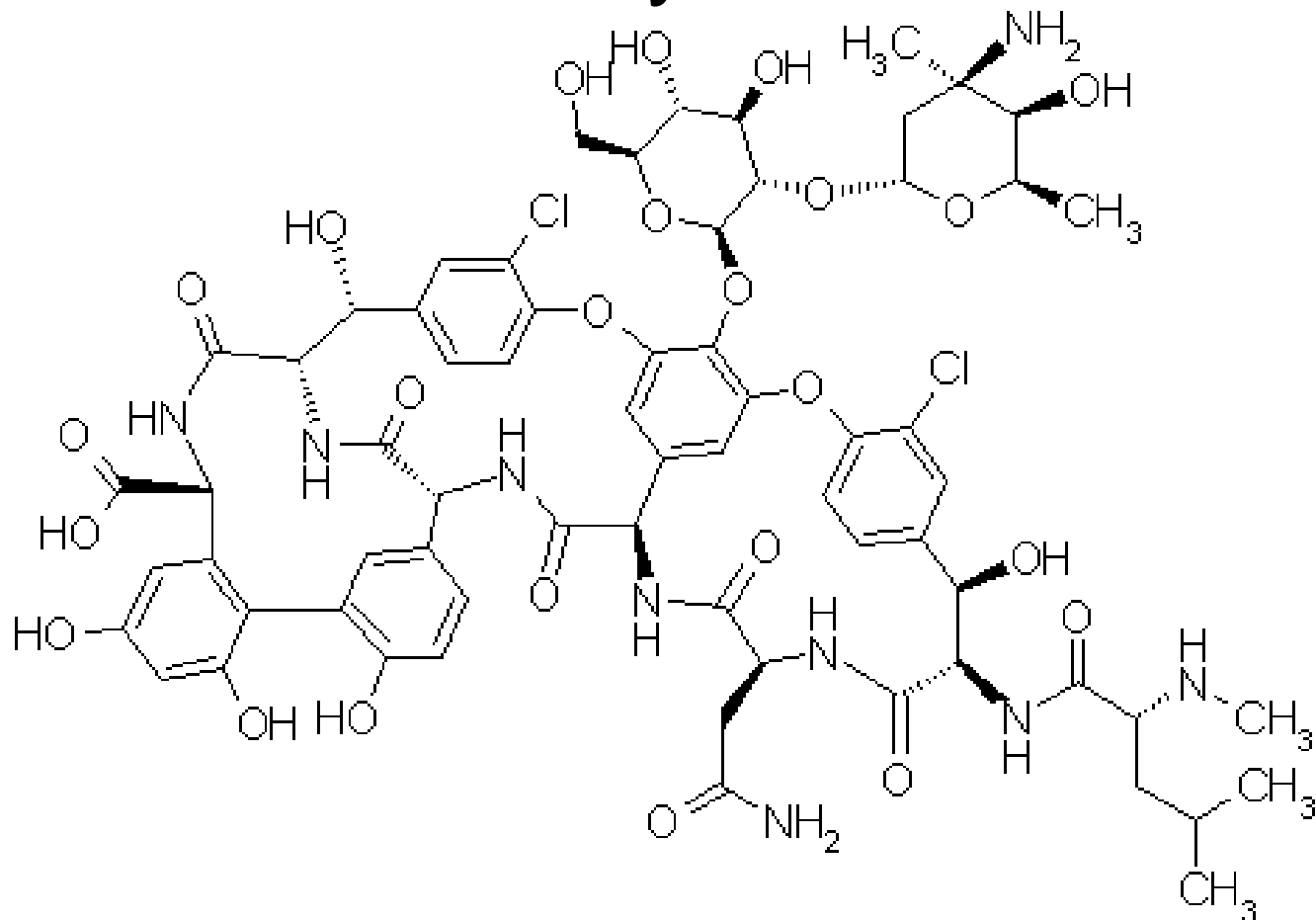
G.L. Coppoc, DVM, PhD, Purdue University

Erythromycin

- Macrolide (a product of actinomycetes - soil bacteria) or semi-synthetic derivatives of them.
- Erythromycin was discovered in 1952 in the metabolic products of a strain of *Streptococcus erythraeus*, originally obtained from a soil sample
- Inhibit protein synthesis by binding to the 23S rRNA molecule (in the 50S subunit) of the bacterial ribosome blocking the exit of the growing peptide chain (Humans do not have 50 S ribosomal subunits, but have ribosomes composed of 40 S and 60 S subunits)



Vancomycin

☐ Display 3D model