

## Sewage Treatment - Choices

- **Selection of Microorganisms**
  - Heterotrophic or Autotrophic
  - Aerobic or Anaerobic
  - Chemosynthetic or Photosynthetic
- **Growth Rate/Condition of Microbes**
  - High Growth Rate or Auto Oxidation/Endogenous Phase
- **Physical and Chemical Environment**
  - Temperature, pressure
  - pH, nutrition, toxic substances
- **Housing and Mixing**
  - Suspended/immobilized or fixed or attached, homogenous/heterogeneous, stratified/un-stratified, uniform/non-uniform, steady/unsteady, Plug Flow or Completely Mixed
- **Oxygen Supply → Mechanically** (Air/Pure Oxygen; Surface Aerators/Diffused Aeration; Atmospheric Pressure/High Pressure) **or Biologically**
- **Ecology →** Competition, symbiosis, predation, etc.
- **System Performance Criteria**
  - Removal, sludge production, gas production, energy requirement, etc.

## How Organisms Grow and Survive

All organisms need the following to survive,

- 1) Water
- 2) Carbon
- 3) Macro Nutrients (N and P)
- 4) Micronutrients (many other elements)
- 5) Energy:           Obtained by oxidation-reduction reaction involving chemical compounds → This process is known as **Respiration**
- 6) Electron Donor (Compound which is oxidized is known as an **Electron Donor**)
- 7) Electron Acceptor (Compound which is reduced is known as an **Electron Acceptor**)

# Source of Carbon: Heterotrophic and Autotrophic Microorganisms

Microorganisms are of two types, Autotrophic and Heterotrophic

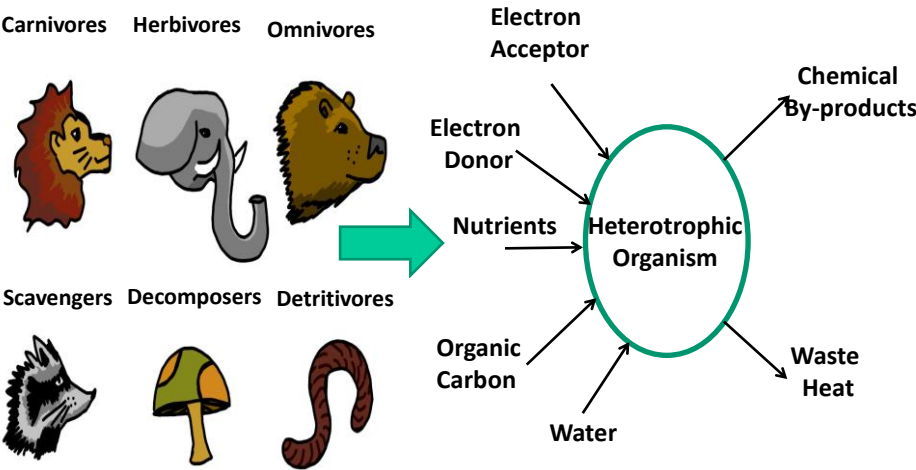
Autotrophic microorganisms use **Inorganic Carbon** as carbon (food) source

Heterotrophic microorganisms use **Organic Carbon** as carbon (food) source

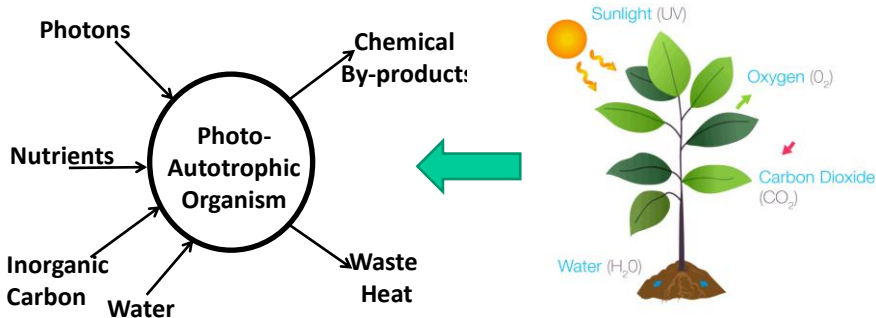
Heterotrophic microorganisms use **Organic Carbon** as electron donor.  
They also use **Organic Carbon** as carbon (food) source.

Photo-Heterotrophic microorganisms use light (photons) as energy source. However, they use **Organic Carbon** as carbon (food) source.

## Heterotrophic Organism



## Photosynthetic Autotrophic Organisms



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## Heterotrophic and Autotrophic Microorganisms

**Chemo-Autotrophic** microorganisms use *chemical compounds other than organic carbon* as electron donor. They use **Inorganic Carbon** as carbon (food) source

**Photo-Autotrophic** microorganisms use light (photons) as energy source. They use **Inorganic Carbon** as carbon (food) source

**Aerobic** microorganisms use **Oxygen** as the electron acceptor. They may be either **Heterotrophic** or **Autotrophic**

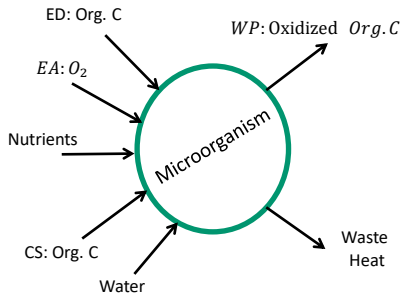
**Anaerobic** microorganisms use **Chemicals** (other than oxygen) as electron acceptor. They may also be either **Heterotrophic** or **Autotrophic**

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## Examples: Aerobic Heterotrophs



Aerobic Heterotrophic Microorganisms:  
*Fungi, Protozoa, many bacteria,*

**These are aerobic heterotrophic microorganisms**

**Aerobic:** oxygen is the electron acceptor

**Heterotrophic:** Organic carbon is the carbon source as well as electron donor.

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## Oxidation State of Carbon in Various Compounds

**Oxidation state of carbon in inorganic and organic compounds:**

- Oxidation state of carbon in most inorganic carbon compounds is +4

i.e.,  $CO_2, H_2CO_3, HCO_3^-, CO_3^{2-}$

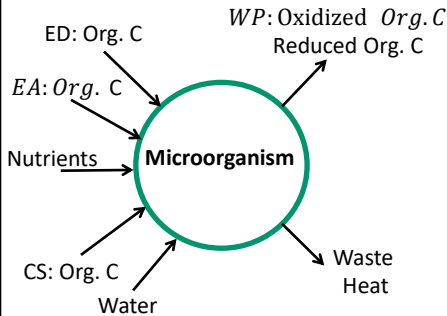
- The average oxidation state of carbon in most organic compounds varies between -4 and +3. Generally oxygenated organic compounds have carbon atoms at higher oxidation states.
- The average oxidation state of carbon in glucose is 0. Since glucose has 6 carbon atoms, it may mean that oxidation states of all C atoms in glucose is not 0, but the average value is indeed 0.
- When an organic compound is oxidized, the average oxidation state of C in that compound increases. Oxidation state of C atoms can increase up to +4.

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## Examples: Anaerobic Heterotrophs



Anaerobic heterotrophic bacteria, archaea, parasitic protozoa, some fungi

**These are anaerobic heterotrophic microorganisms**

**Anaerobic:** Any molecule (except oxygen) is the electron acceptor

**Heterotrophic:** Organic carbon is the carbon source as well as electron donor.

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## Different Groups of Bacteria

### Denitrifying bacteria

ED: Organic Carbon; EA:  $NO_3^-$ ;  
CS: Organic Carbon;  
WP:  $N_2$  and Oxidized Organic Carbon

### Nitrogen Fixing Bacteria:

ED: Organic Carbon; EA:  $N_2$ ;  
CS: Organic Carbon;  
WP:  $NH_3$  and Oxidized Organic Carbon

### Sulfate reduction bacteria

ED: Organic Carbon; EA:  $SO_4^{2-}$ ;  
CS: Organic Carbon;  
WP:  $S^{2-}$  and Oxidized Organic Carbon

### Methanogenesis:

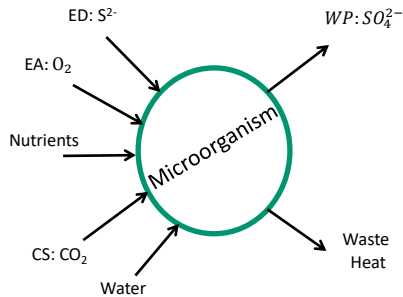
ED:  $CH_3COO^-$ ; EA:  $CH_3COO^-$ ;  
CS:  $CH_3COO^-$   
WP:  $CH_4$  and  $CO_2$

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## Examples: Aerobic Chemo-autotrophs



Mainly bacteria

Sulfur Oxidizing Bacteria: *Thiobacillus*

There are many types of *Thiobacillus*, which use  $S^{2-}$ ,  $S^0$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $O_3^{-2}$  as electron donors

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## Examples: Aerobic Chemo-autotrophs

**Nitrosomonas bacteria**

$ED: NH_3$ ;  $EA: O_2$ ;  $WP: NO_2^-$ ;  $CS: CO_2$

**Nitrobacter**

$ED: NO_2^-$ ;  $EA: O_2$ ;  $WP: NO_3^-$ ;  $CS: CO_2$

The whole process is known as Nitrification;  
Nitrosomonas and Nitrobacter together are  
known as Nitrifying bacteria

**Iron oxidizing bacteria:**

$ED: Fe^{2+}$ ;  $EA: O_2$ ;  $WP: Fe^{3+}$ ;  $CS: CO_2$

**Manganese oxidizing bacteria:**

$ED: Mn^{2+}$ ;  $EA: O_2$ ;  $WP: MnO_2$ ;  $CS: CO_2$

**These are aerobic chemoautotrophic microorganisms**

**Aerobic:** Oxygen is the electron acceptor

**Autotrophic:** Inorganic carbon is the carbon source

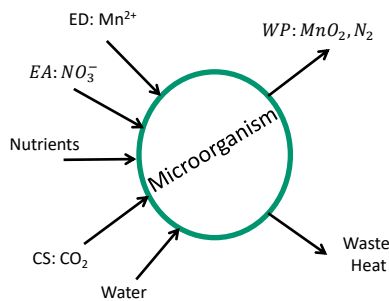
**Chemo-:** A chemical molecule (other than organic carbon) is the electron donor

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## Examples: Anaerobic Chemo-autotrophs



Mainly bacteria  
Denitrifying bacteria:

There are many types of denitrifying bacteria which use  $Fe^{2+}$ ,  $S^{2-}$ , etc. as electron donors

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## Examples: Anaerobic Chemo-autotrophs

### Anamox bacteria

ED:  $NH_3$ ; EA:  $NO_2^-$ ; WP:  $N_2$ ; CS:  $CO_2$

### Sulfate reduction bacteria

ED:  $Fe^{2+}$ ; EA:  $SO_4^{2-}$ ; WP:  $Fe^{3+}, S^{2-}$ ; CS:  $CO_2$

### Methanogenesis:

ED:  $H_2$ ; EA:  $CO_2$ ; WP:  $CH_4$ ; CS:  $CO_2$

### Iron reduction bacteria:

ED:  $S^{2-}$ ; EA:  $Fe^{3+}$ ; WP:  $SO_4^{2-}, Fe^{2+}$ ; CS:  $CO_2$

These are anaerobic  
chemoautotrophic microorganisms

**Anaerobic:** Any molecule (except oxygen) is the electron acceptor

**Autotrophic:** Inorganic carbon is the carbon source

**Chemo-:** A chemical molecule (other than organic carbon) is the electron donor

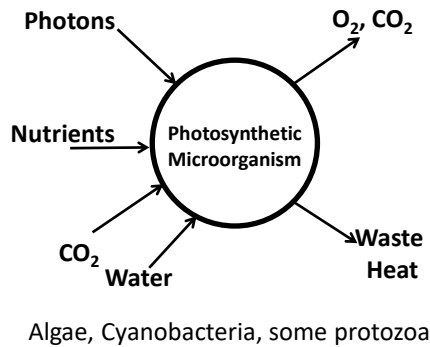
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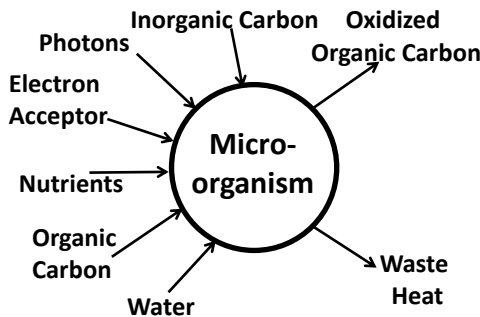


### Examples: Photo-autotrophs



These microorganisms produce organic compounds through photosynthesis. Oxygen is produced as a by-product. The organic compounds produced are partly used for cell synthesis and partly oxidized to CO<sub>2</sub> (using oxygen as electron donor) to energy production. Algae may be net oxygen consumers when photosynthesis is not possible. Some algal species can grow heterotrophically in the absence of light when organic substrate is present.

### Examples: Photo-heterotrophs



Purple non-sulfur bacteria, green non-sulfur bacteria, heliobacteria

Photoheterotrophs mostly use light as their source of energy and derive its carbon (food) from organic compounds. Some photoheterotrophs can also partially derive energy from the oxidation of organic compounds.

## Housing and Mixing

- Suspended Growth Systems - Activated Sludge Process and its Modifications
- Immobilized/Attached Growth or Fixed Film Systems - Trickling Filter/Rotating Biological Contactors

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## Other Aerobic Reactors

**Commonly used variations of ASP are:**

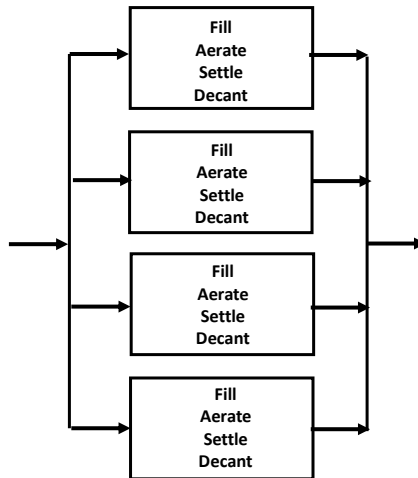
1. ASP → Aerated Lagoons (High Growth System) to Extended Aeration Process (Oxidation Ditch)
2. Pure Oxygen to High Pressure Systems (Deep Shaft Process)
3. Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR): suspended growth, does not require separate SST
4. Membrane Bio-Reactor (MBR) : suspended growth, Membrane Filtration instead of SST
5. Oxidation Ponds → Not to be confused with Oxidation Ditch; In Oxidation Ponds additional oxygen supply through photosynthesis by algae utilizing algal-bacterial symbiosis.

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## Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR)



### Main Characteristics

1. Suspended growth sequential batch process
2. Fine bubble aeration
3. High quality effluent
4. Moving system of weirs/decanter required
5. Complex operation requiring electronic controls

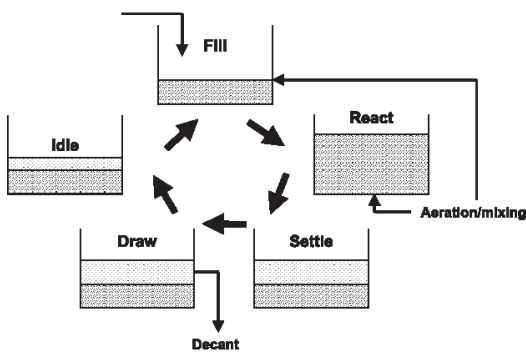
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## Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR)

### Operating Cycle of SBR



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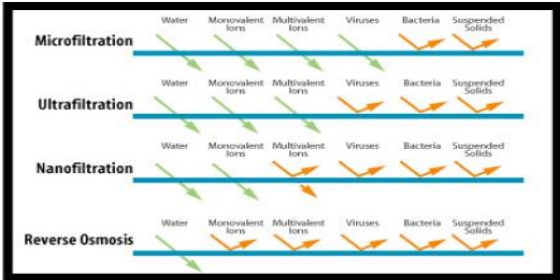
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# Membrane Bioreactors

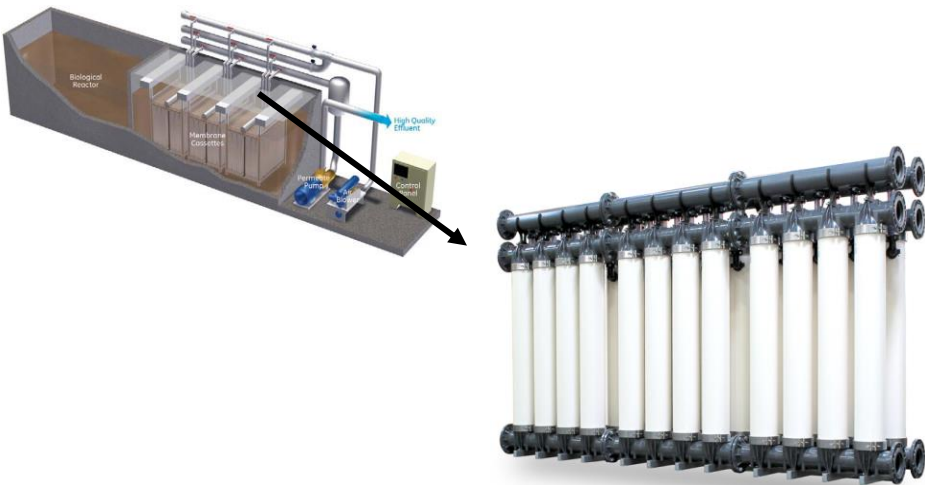
Similar to the conventional activated sludge system, except that the SST has been replaced by a membrane (micro-filtration) module.

This ensures better solid-liquid separation and hence higher quality effluent fit for recycling is guaranteed on a regular basis.

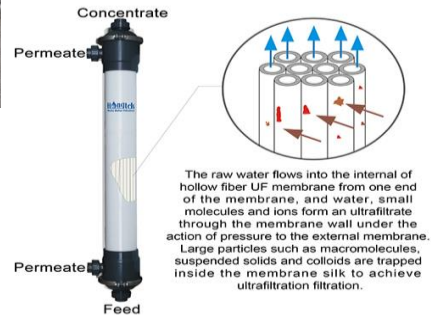


Membrane Process Characteristics

## Membrane Bioreactor (Continued)



## Membrane Bioreactor (Continued)



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## Other Aerobic Reactors

**Commonly used aerobic bio-reactors (other than ASP) are,**

1. Trickling Filter (TF): attached growth, does not require mechanical aeration
2. Rotating Biological contactor (RBC): attached growth, does not require mechanical aeration
2. Mixed Bed Biofilm Reactor (MBBR): Hybrid suspended-attached growth

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## Essential Requirements for Efficient BOD and TKN Removal in an Aerobic Reactor

1. Availability of large concentration of Biomass
2. Availability of sufficient amount of oxygen

Any reactor where the above two conditions are satisfied is likely to show efficient removal of BOD and TKN

Suspended growth reactors: Biomass suspended in a tank, e.g., ASP

Attached growth reactors: Biomass attached to media kept in a tank

## Trickling Filter

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## Concept of Attached Growth

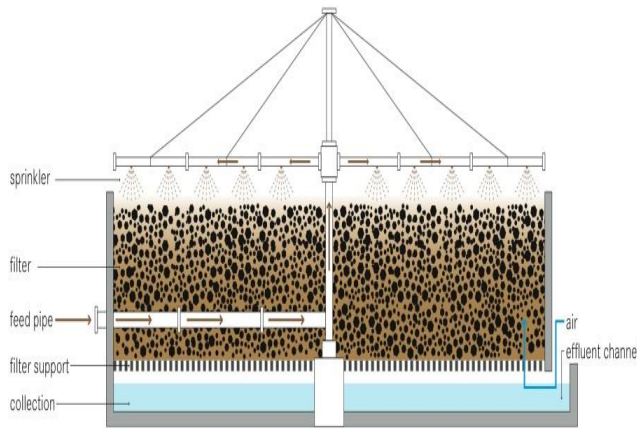
1. One of the essential requirements for efficient BOD/TKN removal in a bio-reactor is the maintenance of high biomass concentration in the reactor
2. In the suspended growth system, the biomass is allowed to escape from the reactor along with the treated effluent. However, the escaped biomass is captured in the SST and recycled back into the reactor. High biomass concentration is maintained in this way.
3. The attached growth concept is based on the observation that biomass prefers to attach itself to inert surfaces (if available).
4. Hence if inert media is provided inside the reactor, biomass will grow attached to this media. Such biomass will not be able to escape from the reactor easily (since it is attached). Thus, high biomass concentration can be maintained inside the reactor.

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## Trickling Filter



Media: 25 – 100 mm size, rock, gravel, plastic

The sewage must “trickle”, i.e., air must be present inside the filter at all times.

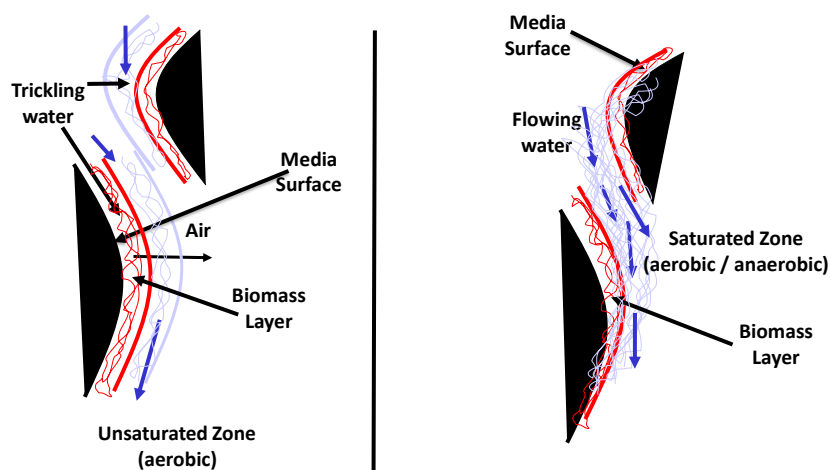
Air supply through convective currents in the TF

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## Concept of Bio-film



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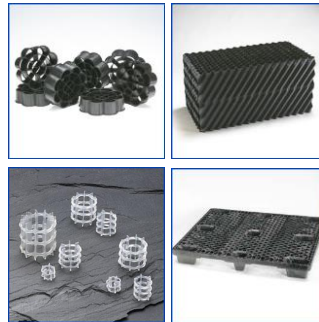
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## Trickling Filter



### Plastic Media used in TF



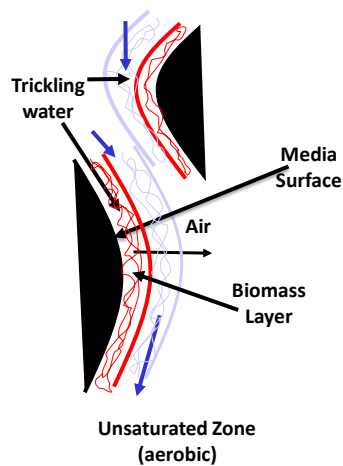
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## Trickling Filter

### Mode of Operation



Media: 25 – 100 mm size,  
rock, gravel, plastic

The sewage must  
“trickle”, i.e., air must be  
present inside the filter at  
all times.

Sludge Wastage by  
Sloughing:

Air supply through  
convective currents in the  
TF

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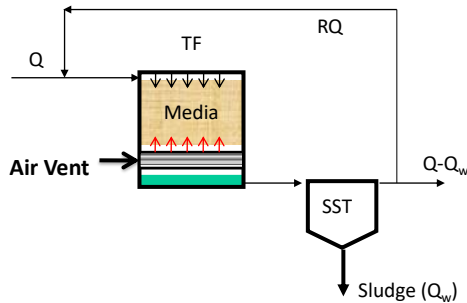
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## Trickling Filter

### Recirculation in TF



#### Design Parameters:

Organic Loading Rate (OLR):  $Q \cdot S_0 / V$

#### Units:

Kg  $BOD_5$  applied /  $m^3$  reactor volume/d

Hydraulic Loading Rate (HLR):  $(Q + R \cdot Q) / A_s$

#### Units:

$m^3$  sewage applied /  $m^2$  reactor surface area/d

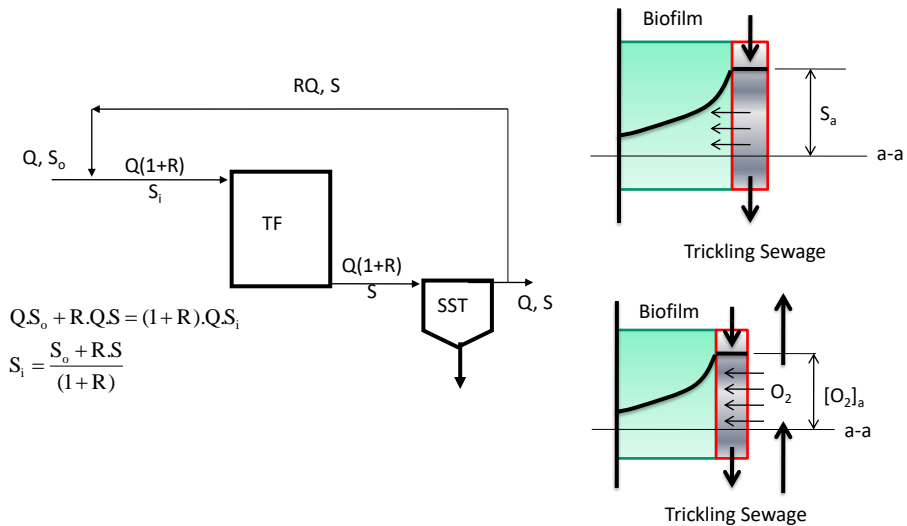
## Trickling Filter

Recirculation is from SST. Treated effluent (**not sludge**) is re-circulated.

Recirculation enables the variation of HLR independent of OLR. This is important for high strength waste and also for maintaining most of the media in wetted condition.

Depending on applied OLR, HLR and other factors, trickling filters can be divided into the following types,

## Trickling Filter



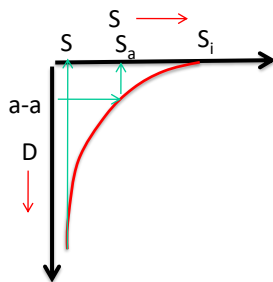
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## Trickling Filter

### BOD<sub>5</sub> Profile in a Trickling Factor



A trickling filter is **NOT** a completely mixed reactor

$$q = \left[ \frac{q_m \cdot S}{K_s + S} \right] \cdot \left[ \frac{(q_m)_o \cdot [O_2]}{(K_s)_o + [O_2]} \right]$$

When  $[O_2]$  is large compared to  $(K_s)_o$ ,

$$q = \left[ \frac{q_m \cdot S}{K_s + S} \right] \cdot (q_m)_o = \frac{q_{max} \cdot S}{K_s + S}$$

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### Trickling Filter

$$\frac{S}{S_i} = \text{Exp} \left[ -K.D. \left( \frac{Q.(1+R)}{A} \right)^{-n} \right]$$

K, n: Treatability Constants  
D: Depth of Filter  
A: Filter Cross-Sectional Area

**To determine K and n:**  
Get data on percent BOD<sub>5</sub> Remaining [(S/S<sub>o</sub>). (100)] through pilot tests (without recycle) conducted at various HLR values

Depth (m)	HLR (L/min/m <sup>2</sup> )			
	20	40	60	80
0.50	50	70	75	82
1.00	40	50	60	60
1.50	25	30	40	50
2.00	15	20	30	40

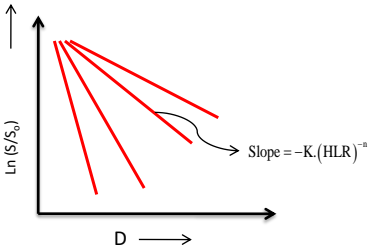
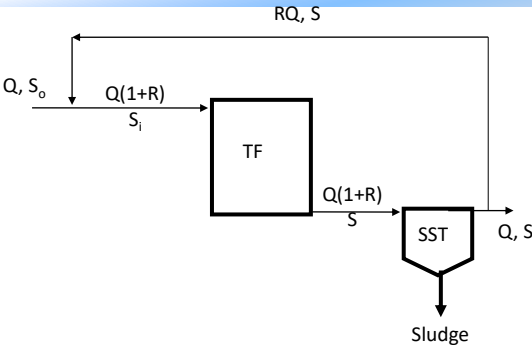
$$\ln \left[ \frac{S}{S_o} \right] = \left[ -K.(HLR)^{-n} \right].D$$

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### Trickling Filter



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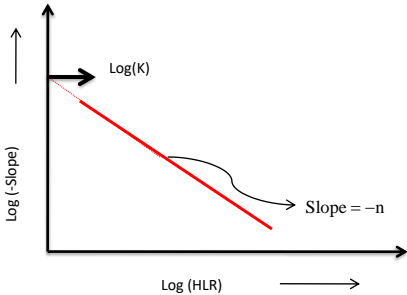
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## Trickling Filter

$$\text{Slope} = -K \cdot (\text{HLR})^{-n}$$

$$\text{Log}(-\text{Slope}) = \text{Log}(K) - n \cdot \text{Log}(\text{HLR})$$



### Example Problem

A trickling filter with the following dimensions is available. Depth: 2 m, Surface area: 150 m<sup>2</sup>. The media consists of stones of 7-10 cm diameter. This filter will be used to treat 0.6 MLD wastewater with BOD<sub>5</sub> = 300 mg/L. Based on this information, calculate the expected BOD<sub>5</sub> removal efficiency. K = 1.36; n = 0.5

**Solution:**

$$\text{Volume of trickling filter} = D \cdot A = (2) \cdot 150 = 300 \text{ m}^3$$

Organic Loading Rate (OLR) =

$$\frac{Q S_0}{V} = \frac{(0.6 \cdot 10^6) \cdot (300)}{300 \cdot 10^6} = 0.6 \text{ Kg/m}^3/\text{d}$$

(okay for intermediate rate)

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## Trickling Filter

Filter Type	Filter Medium	OLR, kg/m <sup>3</sup> /d	HLR, m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>2</sup> /d	% Removal	Depth (m)	R
<b>Low Rate</b>	Rock, Slag	0.1 - 0.3	1 - 4	80 - 85	1.8 - 3	0
<b>Intermediate Rate</b>	Rock, Slag	0.3 - 1.2	10 - 30	65 - 85	1 - 3	0.5 - 3
<b>High Rate</b>	Rock	1.2 - 3	40 - 90	65 - 85	2 - 5	1 - 4
<b>Super High Rate</b>	Plastic	3 - 4	60 - 120	65 - 80	4 - 12	1 - 4
<b>Roughing</b>	Plastic	4 - 6	60 - 180	40 - 65	4 - 12	1 - 4

Generally, higher values of OLR and HLR results in diminished filter performance. Increasing the reactor height improves filter performance.

Plastic media is generally used if the filter height is more than 5 m.

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## Trickling Filter

Without recycle, Hydraulic Loading Rate (HLR) =  $\frac{Q}{A} = \frac{(0.6) \cdot 10^3}{150} = 4 \text{ m}^3 / \text{m}^2 / \text{d}$  (not okay)

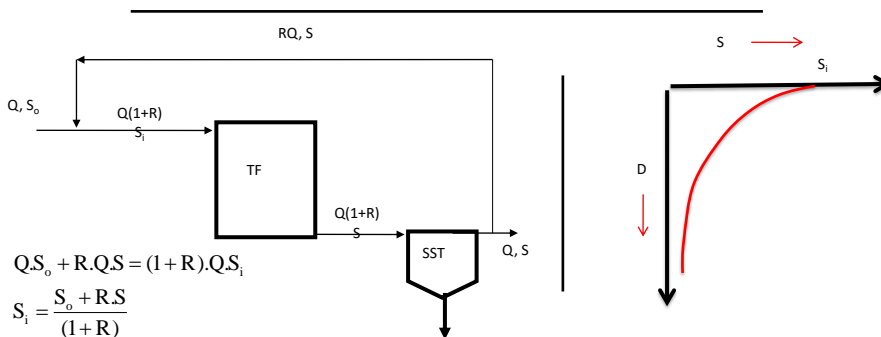
So, let  $R = 3$ ; Hence,  $\text{HLR} = \frac{(Q + RQ)}{A} = \frac{(0.6 + 1.8) \cdot 10^3}{150} = 16 \text{ m}^3 / \text{m}^2 / \text{d}$  (okay)

$$\frac{S}{S_i} = \exp[-k \cdot D \cdot (\text{HLR})^{-n}] \quad S_i = \frac{S_o + R \cdot S}{(1 + R)} \quad \frac{S}{S_i} = \exp[(-1.36) \cdot (2) \cdot (16)^{-0.5}] = 0.507 = \frac{S \cdot (1 + R)}{S_o + R \cdot S}$$

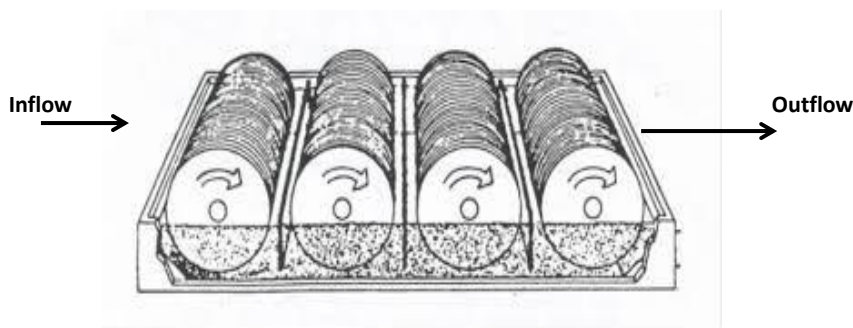
$$0.507 \cdot S_o + 1.520 \cdot S = 4 \cdot S \quad \frac{S}{S_o} = 0.204 \quad \left(1 - \frac{S}{S_o}\right) = 1 - 0.204 = 0.796$$

$S_o = 300 \text{ mg/L}$ ;  $S = 61.2 \text{ mg/L}$ ;  $S_i = 120.9 \text{ mg/L}$

**BOD Removal Efficiency: 79.6% Removal**



## Rotating Biological Contactor



# Rotating Biological Contactor

Rotating Discs



Actual Installation



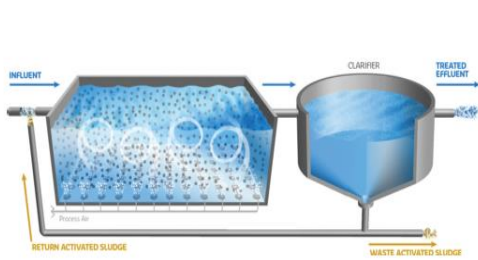
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# Mixed Bed Biofilm Reactor (MBBR)

# Aeration Tank



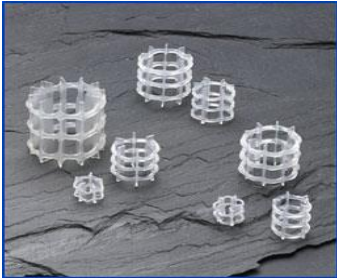
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# Mixed Bed Biofilm Reactor (MBBR)

## Plastic Media



## Plastic Media with Biofilm

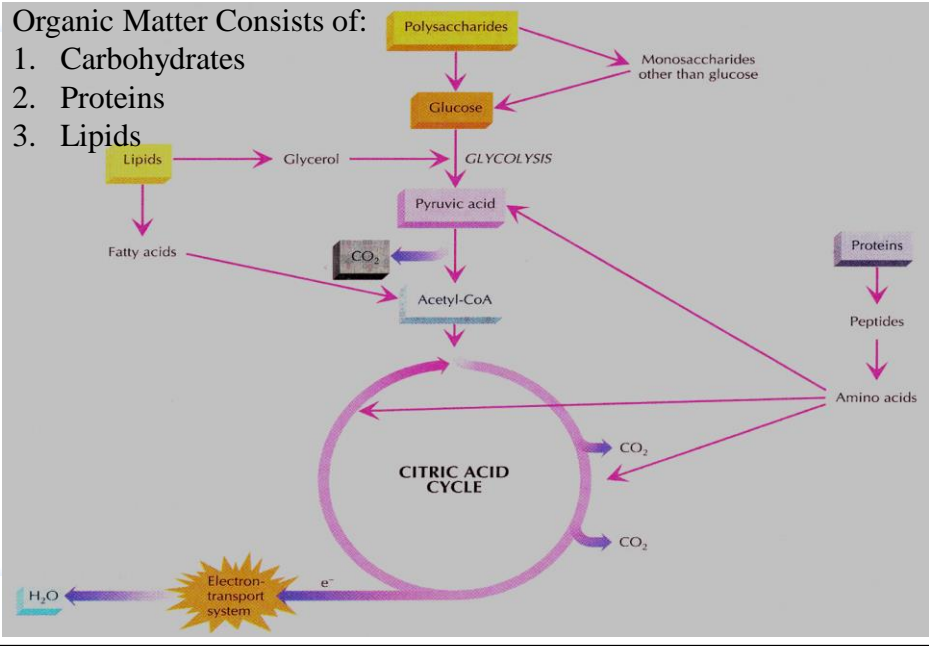


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## Overall general scheme showing some of the dissimilatory pathways used by organisms for the breakdown of complex nutrients

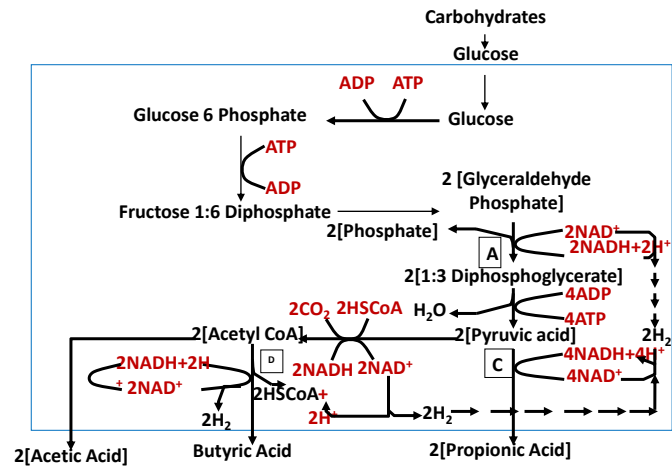






# Biodegradation Pathways

## Anaerobic Degradation

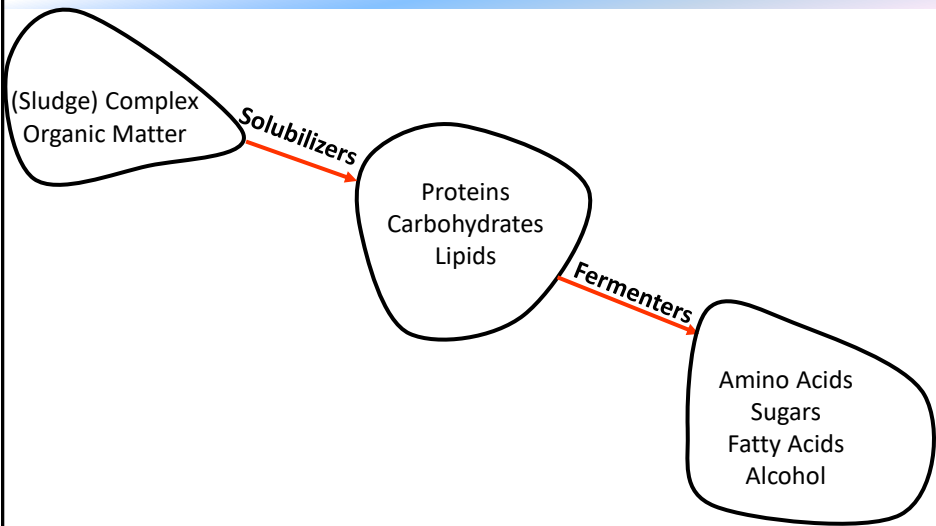


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# Anaerobic Biodegradation Biochemistry



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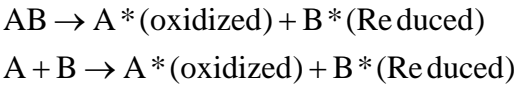
# Biochemistry of Anaerobic Biodegradation....Fermentation

**Solubilizers: Anaerobic, Heterotrophic**

Energy Source: Complex Organic Carbon  
Food Source: Organic Carbon  
Electron Acceptor: Organic Carbon  
By products: Proteins, Carbohydrates, Lipids

**Fermenters: Anaerobic Heterotrophic**

Energy Source: Organic Carbon (Proteins, Carbohydrates, Lipids)  
Food Source: Organic Carbon  
Electron Acceptor: Organic Carbon  
By-products: Amino Acids, Sugars, Fatty Acids, Alcohol



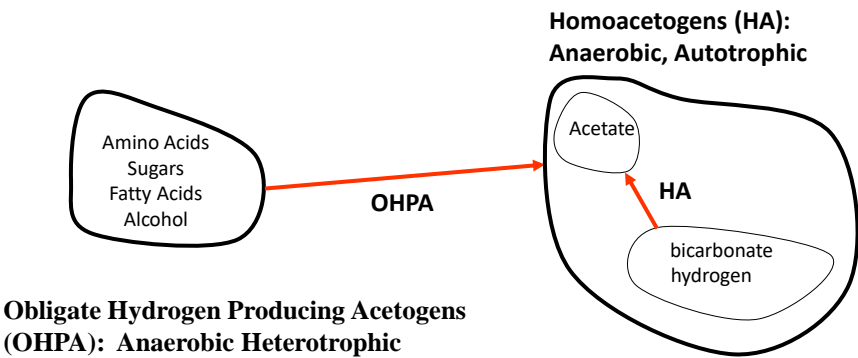
**AB, A and B are organic Compounds**

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# Biochemistry of Anaerobic Biodegradation....Acid Formation



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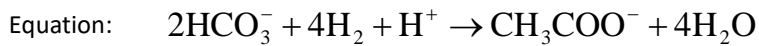
## Biochemistry of Anaerobic Biodegradation....Fermentation

### Obligate Hydrogen Producing Acetogens (OHPA): Anaerobic Heterotrophic

Energy Source: Organic Carbon  
 Food Source: Organic Carbon  
 Electron Acceptor:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
 By-products: Acetate, inorganic carbon, hydrogen

### Homoacetogens (HA): Anaerobic, Autotrophic

Energy Source:  $\text{H}_2$   
 Food Source: Inorganic Carbon  
 Electron Acceptor: Inorganic Carbon  
 By-product: Acetate

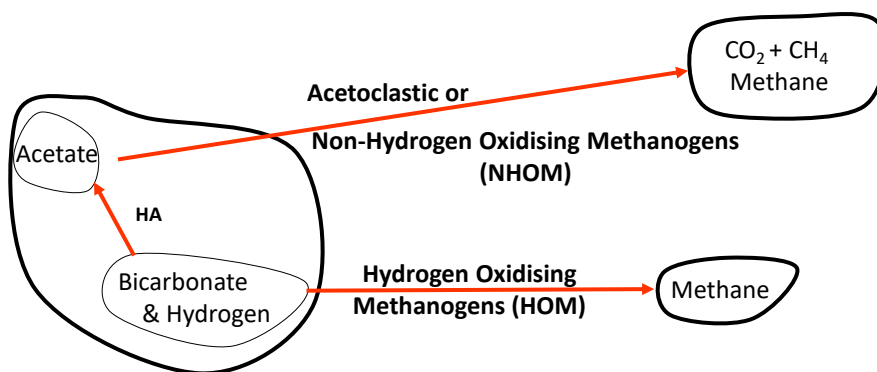


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## Biochemistry of Anaerobic Biodegradation....Methane Formation



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## Biochemistry of Anaerobic Biodegradation....Fermentation

**Acetoclastic or Non-Hydrogen Oxidizing Methanogens (NHOM): Anaerobic, Heterotrophic**

Energy Source: Acetate  
Food Source: Acetate  
Electron Acceptor: Acetate  
By-products: Methane and Bicarbonate  
Equation:  $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^- + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CH}_4$

**Hydrogen Oxidizing Methanogens (HOM): Autotrophic Anaerobic**

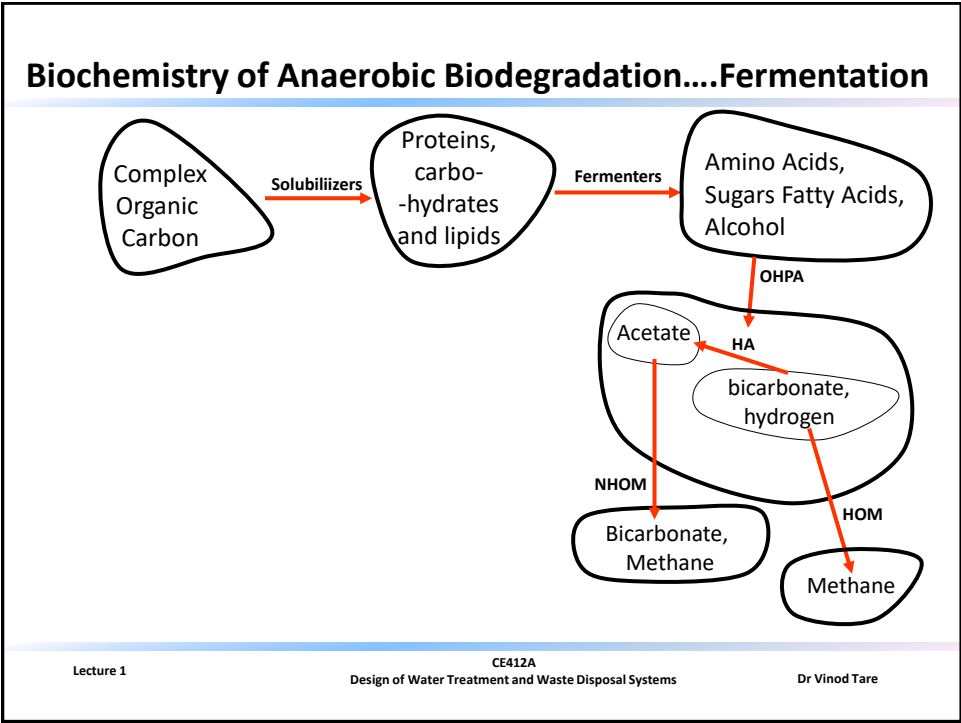
Energy Source:  $\text{H}_2$   
Food Source: Inorganic Carbon  
Electron Acceptor: Inorganic Carbon  
By-product: Methane  
Equation:  $\text{HCO}_3^- + 4\text{H}_2 + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{CH}_4 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$

**Complex Organic Matter is Converted to Methane and Inorganic Carbon**

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## Biochemistry of Anaerobic Biodegradation....Fermentation

### Importance of Reactor pH

Methanogens are active in the pH range of 7.5 – 8.5

Lowering of pH due to accumulation of acids disrupts methane production

### What Happens to the Oxygen Demand of Wastewater ??

Oxygen demand is removed from the wastewater and transferred primarily to the methane gas.

Oxygen demand is not satisfied, merely transferred to the gaseous phase (methane).

Thus, COD of methane gas produced ~ COD reduction of wastewater

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## COD of Methane

Stoichiometry:  $\text{CH}_4 + 2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Methane is a flammable gas.

COD of methane = 4 kg/kg

Heat is generated when methane is burnt.

### Importance of Hydrogen

Increase in  $\text{H}_2$  partial pressure has a negative impact on OHPA activity

This leads to the accumulation of higher aliphatic acids and reduces the production of acetate. Lower acetate means lower methanogenic activity.

Propionate to acetate  $\rightarrow$  below  $10^{-4}$  atm. pp

Butyrate to acetate  $\rightarrow$  below  $10^{-4}$  atm.  $\text{H}_2$  pp

Ethanol to acetate  $\rightarrow$  below 1 atm.  $\text{H}_2$  pp

Lactate to acetate  $\rightarrow$  below 1 atm.  $\text{H}_2$  pp

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Bio-kinetic Constant Comparison: Aerobic vs Anaerobic Growth		
Aerobic (BOD basis)	Anaerobic (COD basis)	Maximum Removal
$Y_T = 0.50$	$Y_T = 0.04$	Assuming $\mu = 0$ ; $q = k_d/Y_T$ $S = q \cdot K_s / (q_m - q)$
$K_d = 0.05 \text{ / d}$	$K_d = 0.015 \text{ / d}$	$q(\text{aerobic}) = 0.05/0.5 = 0.1 \text{ / d}$ $S = (0.1) \cdot (40)/(4 - 0.1) = 1.02 \text{ mg/L}$ $q(\text{anaerobic}) = 0.015/0.04 = 0.375 \text{ / d}$
$K_s = 40 \text{ mg/L}$	$K_s = 2224 \cdot [10^{0.046(35-T)}]$ $(K_s)_{20} = 10892 \text{ mg/L}$ $(K_s)_{35} = 2224 \text{ mg/L}$ $(K_s)_{45} = 771 \text{ mg/L}$	$S \text{ (at } 45^\circ\text{C)} =$ $0.375 \cdot (771)/(9.42 - 0.375) = 32 \text{ mg/L}$ $S \text{ (at } 35^\circ\text{C)} =$ $0.375 \cdot (2224)/(6.67 - 0.375) = 132 \text{ mg/L}$ $S \text{ (at } 20^\circ\text{C)} =$ $0.375 \cdot (10892)/(3.97 - 0.375) = 1136 \text{ mg/L}$
$q_m = 4 \text{ / d}$	$q_m = 6.67 \cdot [10^{-0.015(35-T)}]$ $(q_m)_{20} = 3.97 \text{ / d}$ $(q_m)_{35} = 6.67 \text{ / d}$ $(q_m)_{45} = 9.42 \text{ / d}$	
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### Suspended Growth Anaerobic Reactor: Similar to ASP

Not Possible

Unfavorable biodegradation and poor settling characteristics of anaerobic sludge means that suspended growth anaerobic reactors are not feasible for domestic wastewater treatment due to poor effluent quality.

However, such reactors are used extensively for biological sludge digestion and industrial wastewater treatment.

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## Hydraulic Considerations during Water / Wastewater Plant Design

Vertical leveling of the various treatment plant units are of extreme importance during water / wastewater plant design.

The line showing the water levels through various units of a treatment plant is known as the hydraulic grade line.

A treatment plant is generally designed to keep pumping to a minimum. Pumping is generally done at the beginning of the treatment train, i.e., from equalization tank. Water is then expected to flow through various treatment units by gravity.

Hence the hydraulic grade line in a treatment plants goes down as the water passes through the treatment plant.

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## Hydraulic Considerations during Water / Wastewater Plant Design

The hydraulic grade line of a treatment unit, along with the designed depth of water in that unit determine the bottom level of the unit.

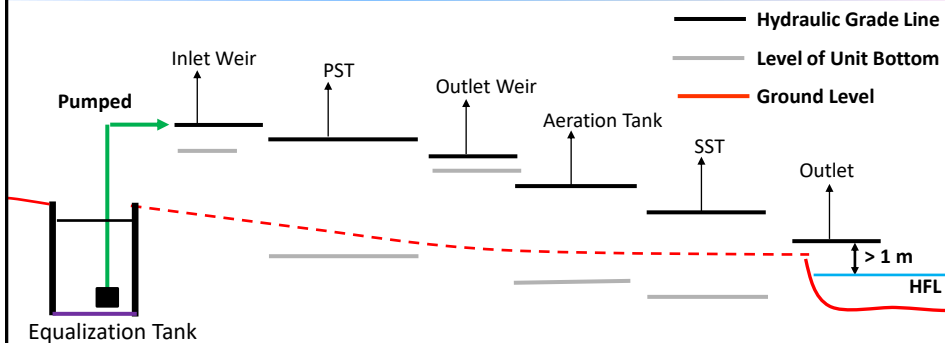
Providing the required hydraulic grade line in a treatment plant will require that the upstream treatment units in a treatment plant be at a higher level. This is easy to achieve if the site of the treatment plant is naturally sloping. Otherwise, earthwork is required to re-contour the ground at the treatment plant site or the upstream units of the treatment plants may have to be built on stilts.

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## Hydraulic Grade Line, Level of the Unit Bottom and Ground Level



The hydraulic grade line of the last unit of a water treatment must be approximately at the ground level, such that the treated water is conveyed to the underground storage tank by gravity.

The hydraulic grade line of the last unit of a wastewater treatment plant should be at least 1m above the HFL of the receiving water body.

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## Consequences of Pollutant Loading to Natural Water Bodies

### Consequences of Oxygen Depletion In Rivers/Lakes



High BOD demand in rivers/lakes causes dissolved oxygen depletion and suffocation / death of fish.

### River Classification:

- Class A: Drinking Water Quality
- Class B: Bathing Quality
- Class C: Drinking Water after Treatment
- Class D: Wildlife and Fisheries
- Class E: Irrigation, Industrial Uses

Below Class E: Basically a drain

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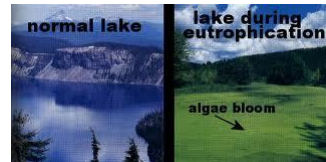


## Consequences of Nutrient Addition in Lakes

High nutrient loading in lakes and slow flowing rivers causes eutrophication, i.e., excessive growth of aquatic algae/plants.

### Algae:

Present as a suspension in water;  
Increases dissolved oxygen concentration of water  
Important fish food  
Dead Algae may cause DO depletion



Dead algae causes  
Oxygen depletion



### Aquatic Plants:

The leaves are outside the water  
Causes DO depletion  
Dead aquatic plants increase DO depletion