

New Advances in Process Control and Modeling for WWTPs/WRRFs

Metropolitan Water
Reclamation District
of Greater Chicago

Chicago, IL

24 JUN 2016

Peter VANROLLEGHEM



*Canada Research Chair
in Water Quality Modelling*



Content of the seminar

- Three recent and ongoing developments on modeling and control in my research team



Content of the seminar

- Three developments on modeling and control in my research team:
 - Modeling and control of the integrated urban wastewater system (sewer, treatment plant and receiving water body)
 - Modeling and control of greenhouse gas emissions and the impact of climate change on WWTPs
 - Modeling and control of resource recovery in WRRFs (water resource recovery facilities)

Water quality-based control evaluation by means of an integrated urban wastewater model

Sovanna Tik, Thibaud Maruéjols, Paul Lessard, Peter Vanrolleghem



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Introduction



Introduction

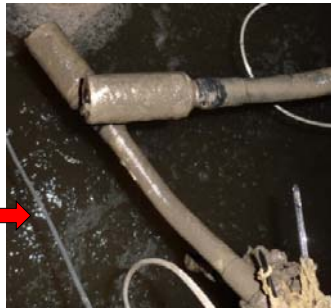


Introduction – Context

- CSO
 - Major source of pollution of urban rivers
 - Insufficient evaluation in practice
 - Quantity (on occasion – rudimentary)
 - Quality (rare)
- Real Time Control (RTC)
 - Cost ? → instrumentation VS construction
 - Effectiveness ? → modelling...

Introduction – Challenges

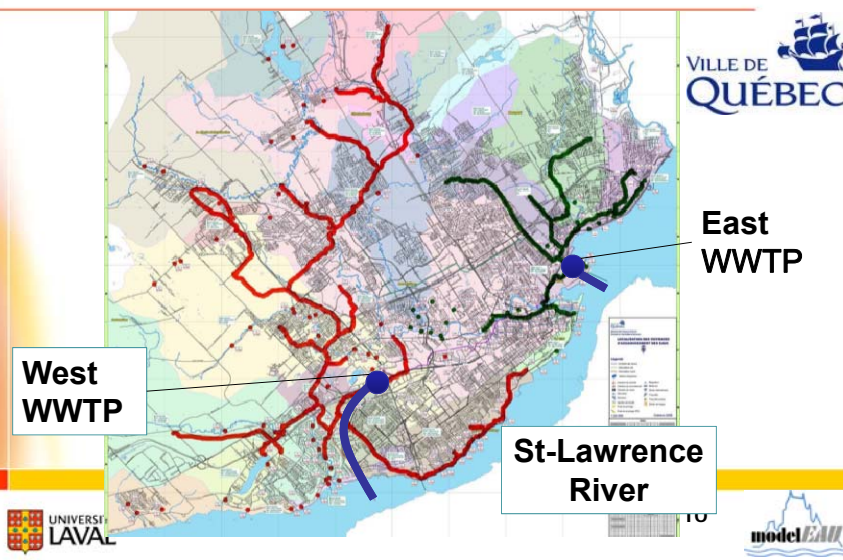
- Many discharge points
- Challenging conditions
 - Installation
 - Cleaning
 - Maintenance



Objectives

- Evaluate the global impact of an urban wastewater system on the receiving water
 - Integrated model
 - Focus on particulate pollution
- Show the interest of developing water quality based control strategies
 - Quantity- VS quality-based control

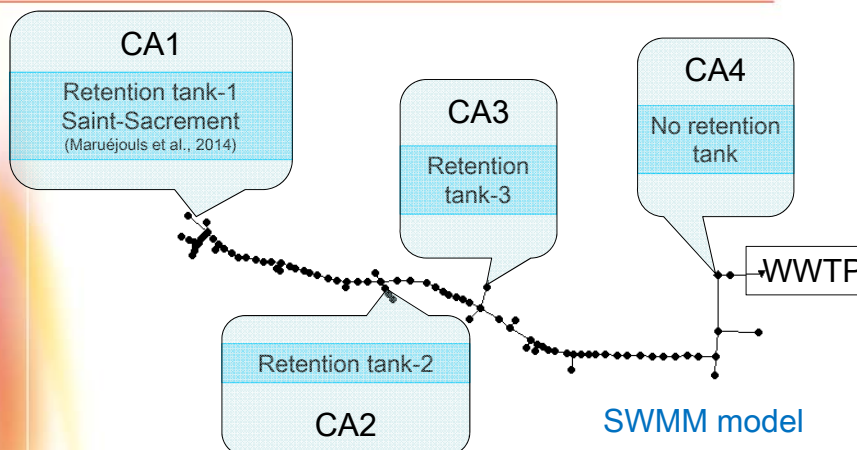
Methods – Case study Québec



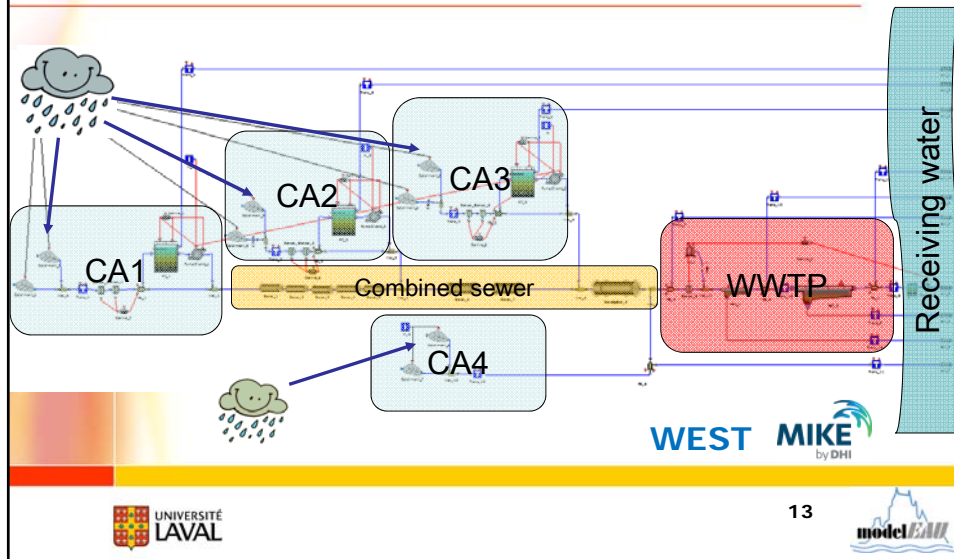
Methods – Case study Québec



Methods – Québec case study



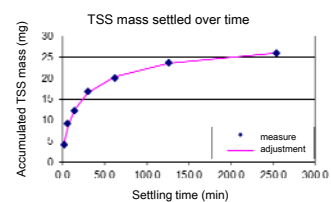
Methods – Integrated model



Methods – ViCAs

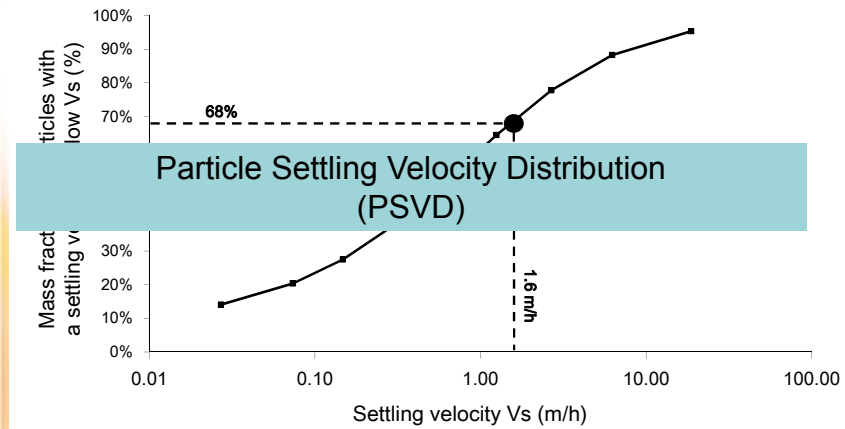


Vitesse de Chute en
Assainissement (ViCAs)
=
Sewage settling velocity



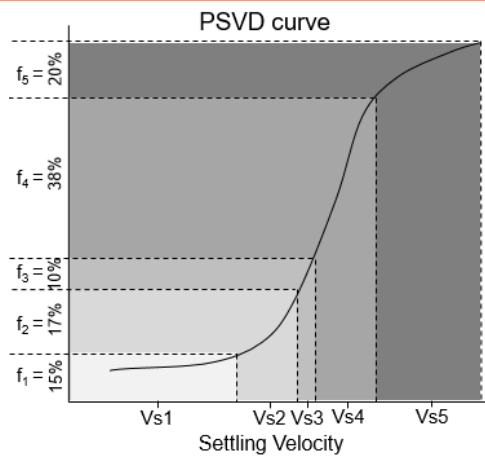
Reference : Chebbo and Gromaire (2009) – *Journal of Environmental Engineering*

Methods – ViCAs

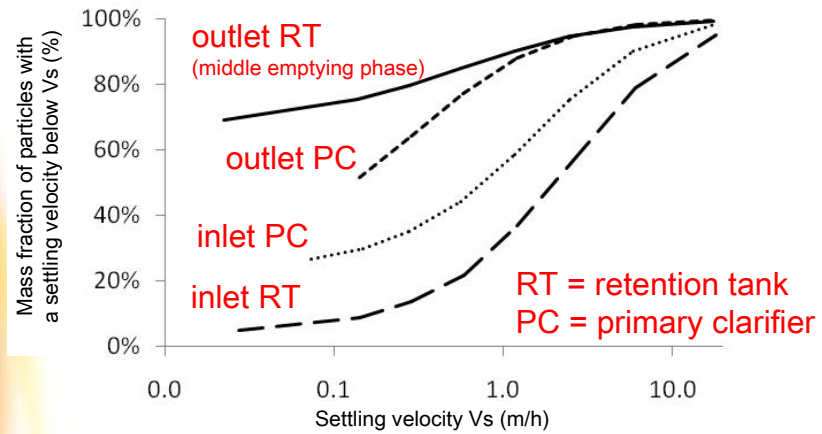


Reference : Chebbo and Gromaire (2009) – *Journal of Environmental Engineering*

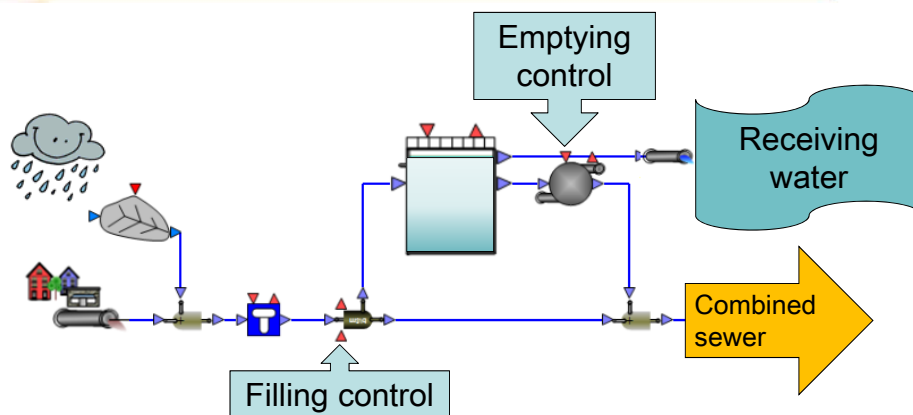
Methods – PSVD



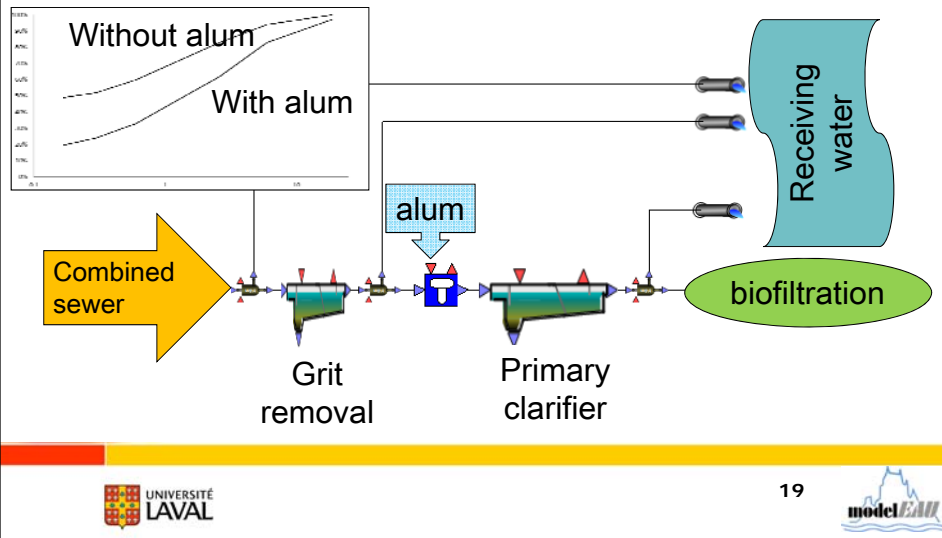
Methods – Typical PSVD



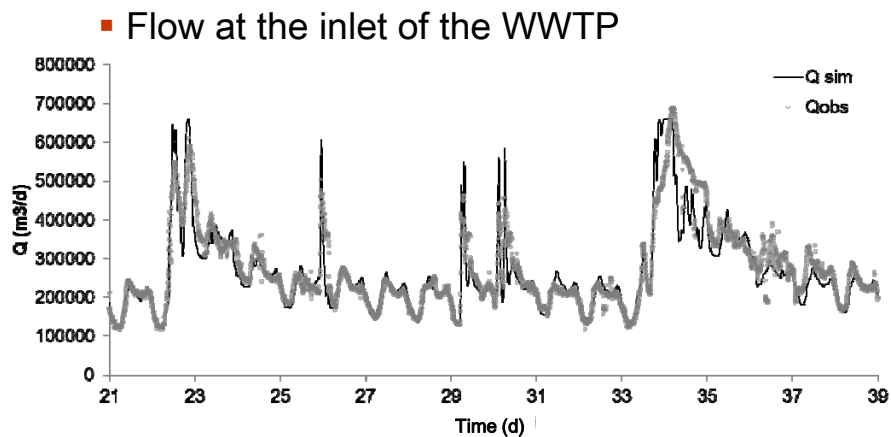
Methods – CA and RT sub-system



Methods – WWTP sub-system

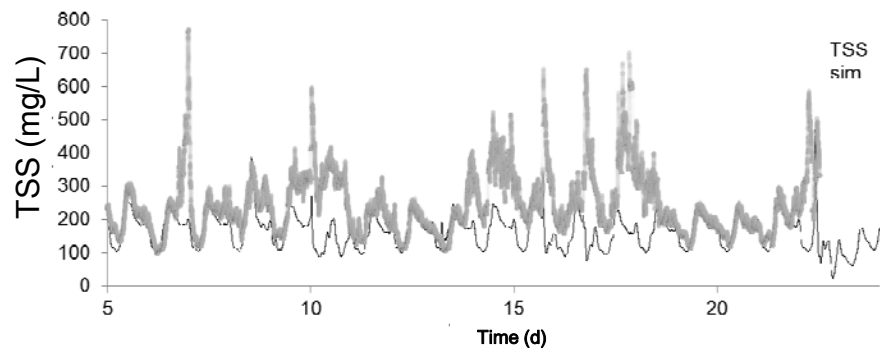


Methods – Model calibration



Methods – Model calibration

- TSS at inlet of primary clarifiers



Methods – RTC comparison

- Wastewater discharges in receiving water without primary treatment
 - Volume of water discharged
 - Load of TSS discharged
- Retention tanks usage time
- Amount of alum added

Results

- Two rain events evaluated in detail
 - Average intensity (20 mm in 24h)
 - High intensity (58 mm in 19h)
- Reduction by WQ-based RTC of the WW discharges not receiving primary treatment

Rain intensity	Volume	TSS-load
Average	-32%	-40%
High	-18%	-25%

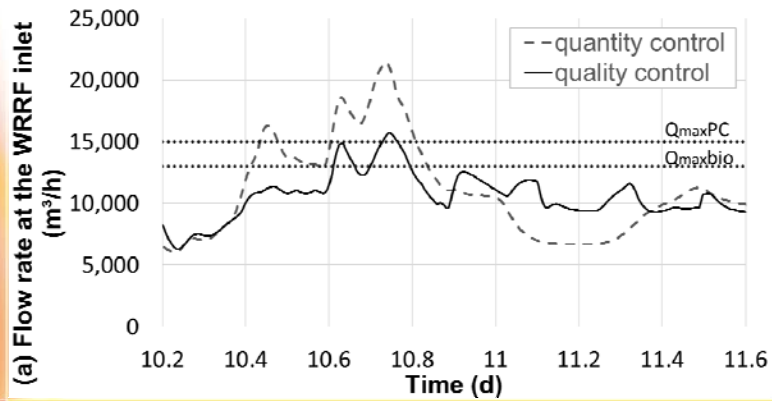
Results

- At the retention tanks

	Rain intensity	Max volume	Usage time
Quantity-based	Average	42%	32h
	High	100%	36h
Quality-based	Average	58%	35h
	High	100%	43h

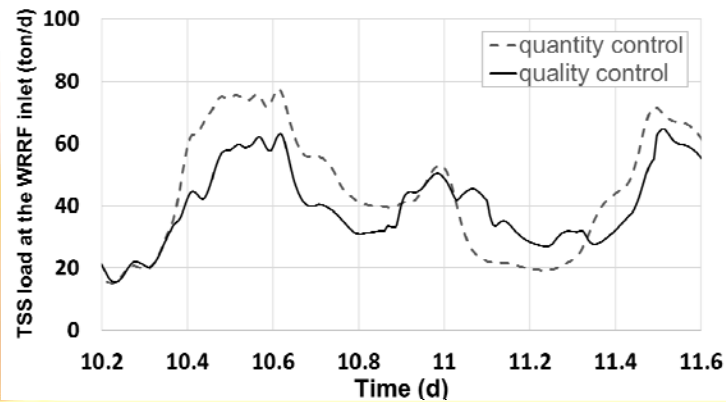
Results

- At the WWTP inlet (flow rate – average rain)



Results

- At the WWTP inlet (TSS load – average rain)



Results

- Increase of alum consumption

Rain intensity	Injection time	Amount of alum used
Average	+43%	+35%
High	+41%	+36%

Take home

- Advantages
 - Reduction of discharges into receiving water
 - Volume (+)
 - Load (++)
 - Biofilter clogging is expected to be reduced
- Disadvantages
 - Higher retention tanks usage time
 - Higher alum addition

Acknowledgements – Integrated RTC



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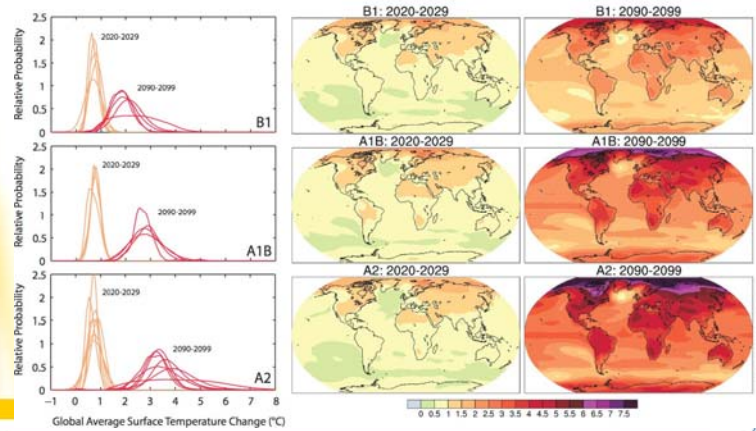
Climate change and wastewater management – a two-way street

Peter VANROLLEGHEM



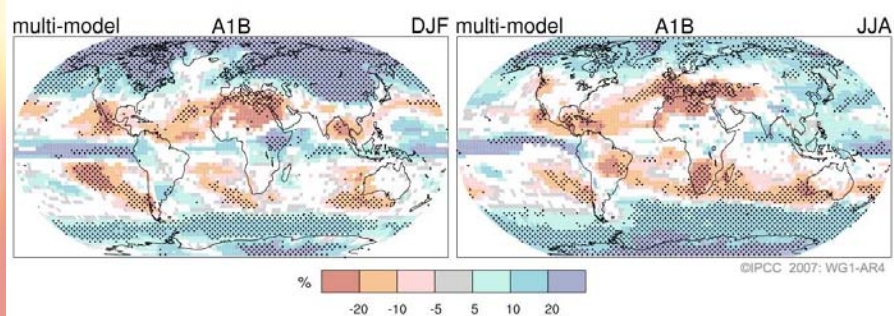
Climate change

- Global warming... (3 scenarios)



Climate change (cont'd)

- ... and precipitation (winter - summer)



Potential effects of climate change

- Higher temperatures
 - => Faster reaction rates
 - More important algae growth
 - Increased biodegradation activity
 - Faster oxygen depletion



Potential effects of climate change

- More intense rains
 - More important erosion, more run-off
 - Higher flow rate in (combined & storm) sewers
 - Resuspension and transport of sediments
 - Increased number/volume of overflows





Potential effects of climate change

- More intense rains
 - More important erosion, more run-off
 - Higher flow rate in (combined & storm) sewers
 - Resuspension and transport of sediments
 - Increased number/volume of overflows
 - Overloads on treatment plants (wet weather operation)
 - Higher flow rate in rivers
 - Resuspension and transport of sediments
 - Hydromorphology affected, « eco-hydraulics »

Potential effects of climate change



Potential effects of climate change



Questions to be answered:

- How to manage infrastructures that have a lifetime of 30 years (wastewater treatment), or even 100 years (storm and combined sewers)?
- What characteristics of these infrastructures must we focus on and develop now in view of the changes (climate and others) we anticipate?
- What can we do?

What can we do? Retention!



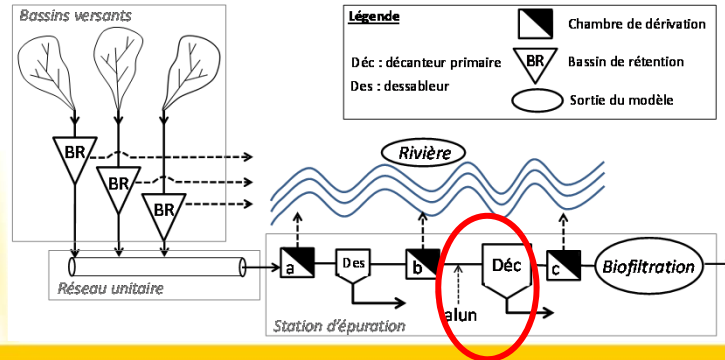
What can we do? Flexible retention!

- RTC = Real-time Control
- Improved combined sewer retention tank operation



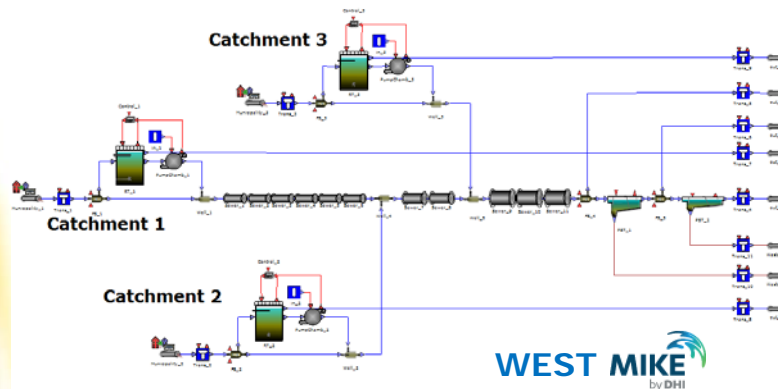
What can we do? RTC!

- Improved retention tank operation to minimize WWTP overload

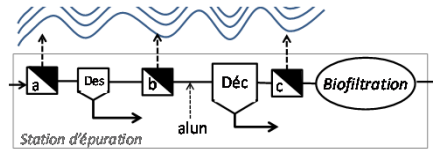


What can we do? RTC!

- Evaluation through integrated WQ simulation



What can we do?



- Discharges for different operating scenarios
 - Optimal emptying scenario depends on
 - Weather forecast
 - Current treatment capacity

Location of overflow	Scenario									
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Discharged Volume (m ³)	a	2430	2430	2430	0	0	0	0	0	0
	b	2038	2038	2038	1943	1943	1943	0	0	0
	c	8041	8041	4394	8997	8997	4777	9691	9691	5187
	Total	12509	12509	8862	10940	10940	6720	9691	9691	5187
Discharged Solids (kg)	a	259	259	259	0	0	0	0	0	0
	b	211	211	211	188	188	188	0	0	0
	c	441	136	68	478	147	71	500	154	76
	Total	911	606	538	666	335	259	500	154	76

Climate change and wastewater management – a two-way street (Part II)

Peter VANROLLEGHEM



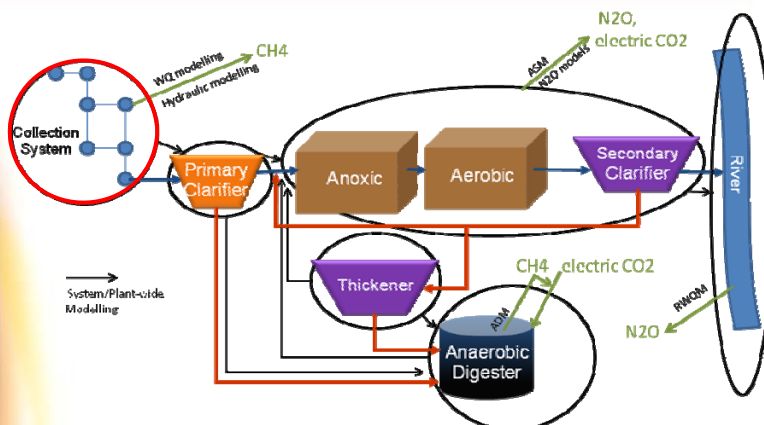
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Wastewater utility GHG

- Greenhouse gases in wastewater systems:

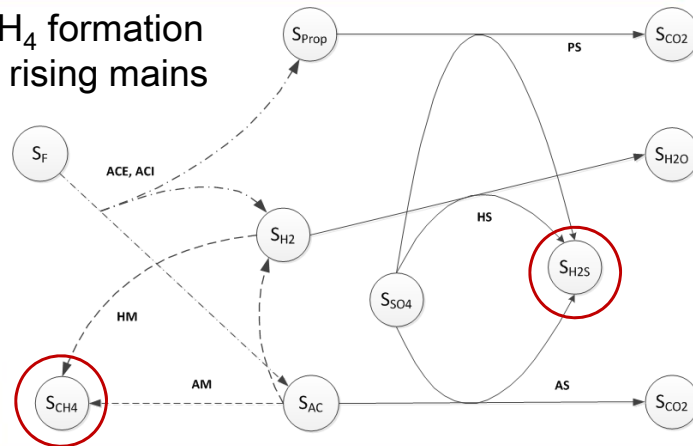
- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ▪ CO ₂ | (Biodeg., energy, chemicals) | 1 CO _{2eq} |
| ▪ CH ₄ | (Anaerobic digestion) | 34 CO _{2eq} |
| ▪ N ₂ O | (Nitrogen removal) | 265 CO _{2eq} |

Wastewater utility GHG



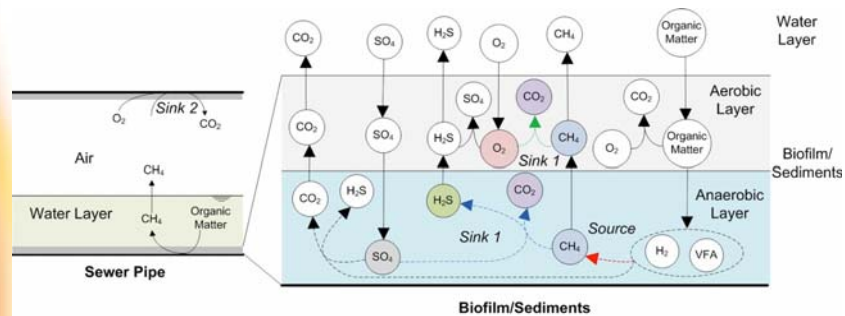
GHG in sewer systems

- CH₄ formation in rising mains



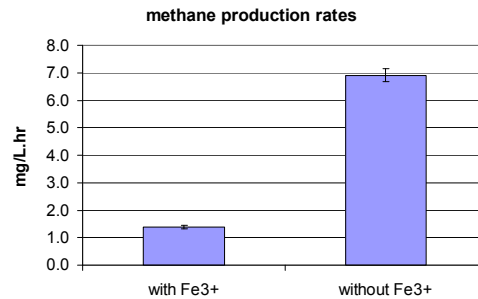
GHG in sewer systems

- CH₄ formation in gravity sewers (with O₂ transfer)



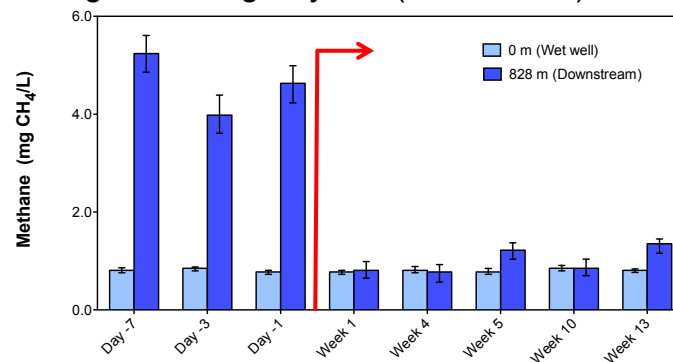
What can we do? Add chemicals!

- Chemicals used for sulfide control
(Brisbane: 6 M\$/yr repair → 1 M\$/yr chemical addition)
also reduce methane formation

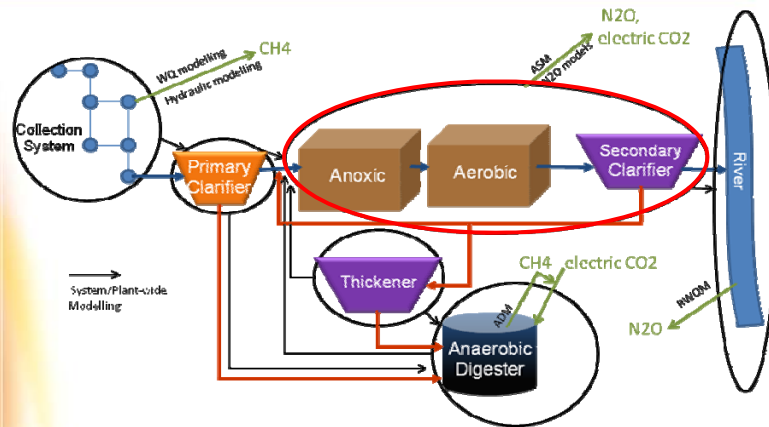


What can we do? Add chemicals!

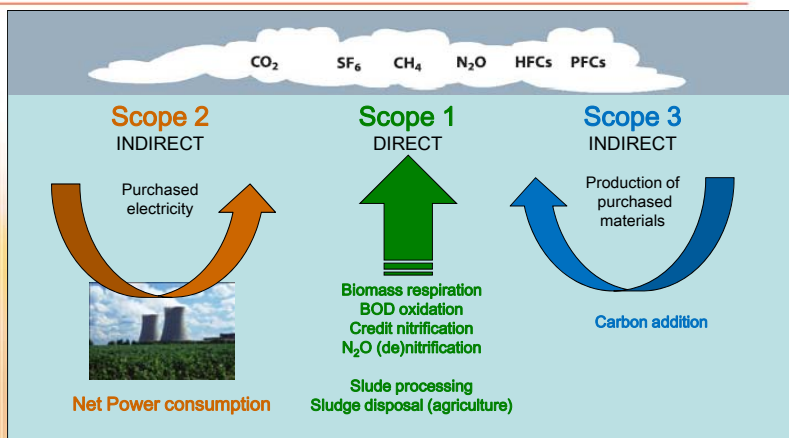
Acidified nitrite was added in the sewer intermittently at 100 mg N/L during Day 0–2 (for 33 hours)



Wastewater utility GHG



GHG emissions from WWTP



Evaluation of GHG emissions

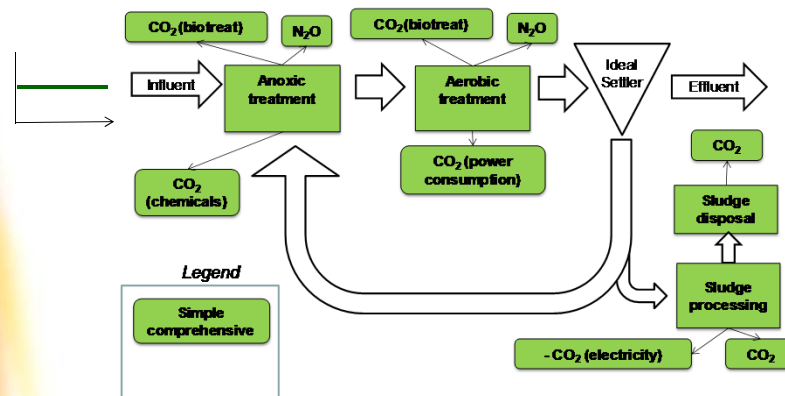
▪ Different approaches to estimate GHG emissions:

- Empirical factors:
 - e.g. IPCC, 2006; LGO, 2008; NGER, 2008
- Simple comprehensive models:
 - e.g. Cakir and Stenstrom, 2005; Monteith *et al.*, 2005; Bridle *et al.*, 2008; Foley *et al.*, 2009
- Dynamic deterministic models:
 - ASMG1 (Guo & Vanrolleghem, 2014) → N₂O
 - ADM1 (Batstone *et al.*, 2002) → CH₄

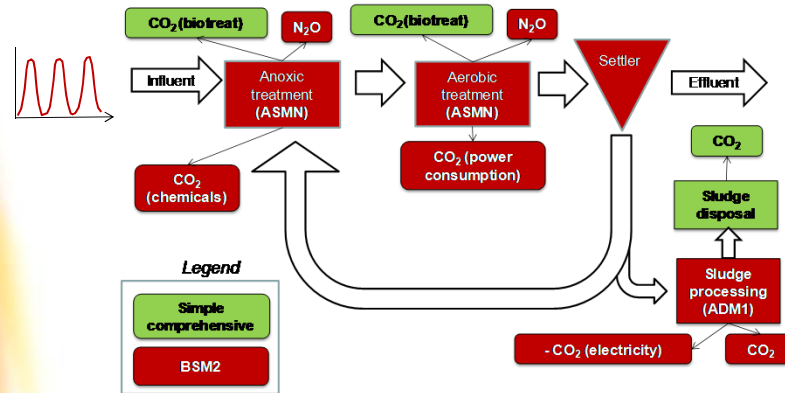
↓
+ complexity

BSM2G benchmarking platform

Evaluation of GHG emissions



Evaluation of GHG emissions



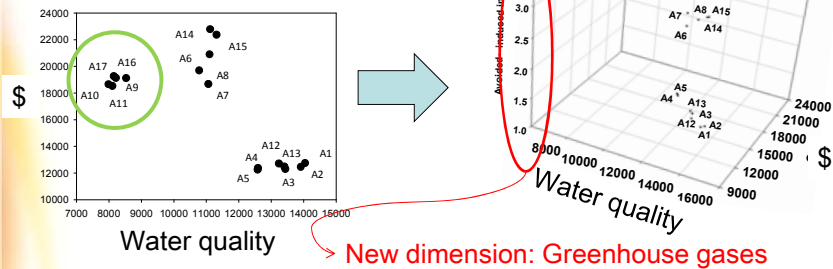
What can we do? Control!

- Comparison of *no control* and *yes control* (DO control in aerobic reactors, DO = 2mg·L⁻¹)

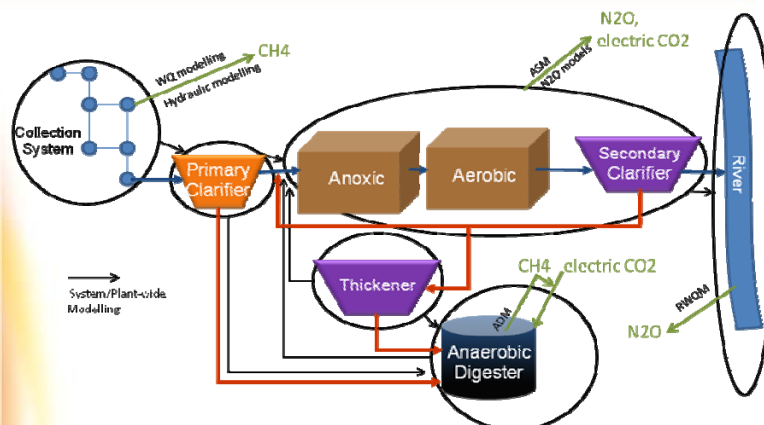
Breakdown of GHG emissions (kg CO ₂ e·m ⁻³)	No control	Yes control	%
Bio-treatment GHG emissions	0.451	0.376	-17
Biomass respiration	0.179	0.178	-1
BOD oxidation	0.212	0.212	0
Credit nitrification	-0.168	-0.167	-1
N ₂ O emissions	0.228	0.152	-33
Sludge processing GHG emissions	0.231	0.231	0
Net power GHG emissions	0.000	-0.038	-13
Power	0.311	0.272	-13
Credit power GHG emissions	-0.311	-0.310	0
Embedded GHG emissions from chemical use	0.099	0.099	0
Sludge disposal and reuse GHG emissions	0.193	0.193	0

Benchmarking control strategies

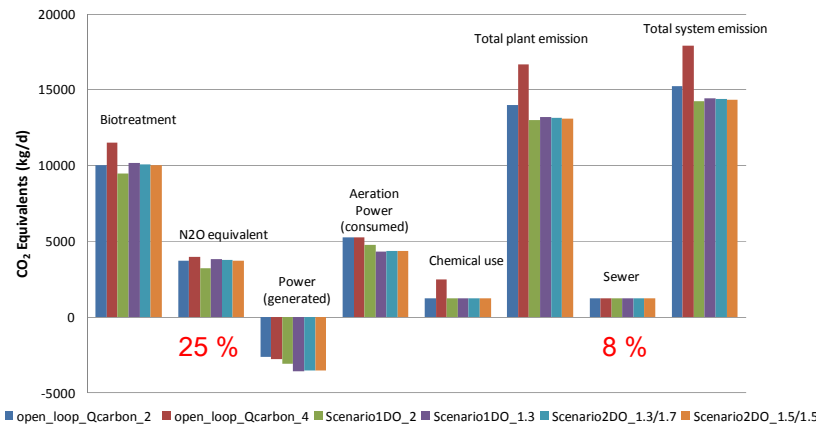
- Overall result of our studies so far:
- Compromise between:
 - Effluent quality
 - Treatment costs
 - GHG emissions



Wastewater utility GHG



GHG emissions from a WW utility



Take home

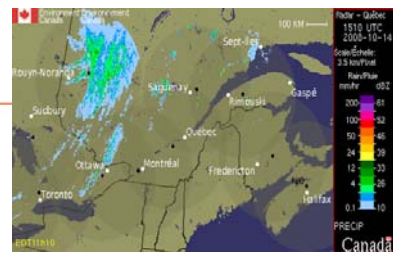
- Climate change and wastewater management - A two way street

Take home

- Wastewater systems emit greenhouse gases



The revenge ...



Take home

- Climate change and wastewater management - A two way street:
 - Mitigation
 - Adaptation

Take home

- Mitigation
 - Reduce GHG emissions
 - Sewer → chemical addition
 - WWTP → improved operation,
but compromise with effluent quality
- Adaptation
 - Pursue flexibility in long-living WW systems
 - Sewer → Retention tank operation – RTC
 - WWTP → Wet weather handling – RTC

Acknowledgements for GHG work



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Développement
économique, Innovation
et Exportation
Québec



Otto
Mønsted

BIOMATH

TU Delft



NORDEA
FONDEN



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Resource Recovery from Wastewater and Sludge: Modelling and Control Challenges

Peter VANROLLEGHEM and Céline VANEECKHAUTE



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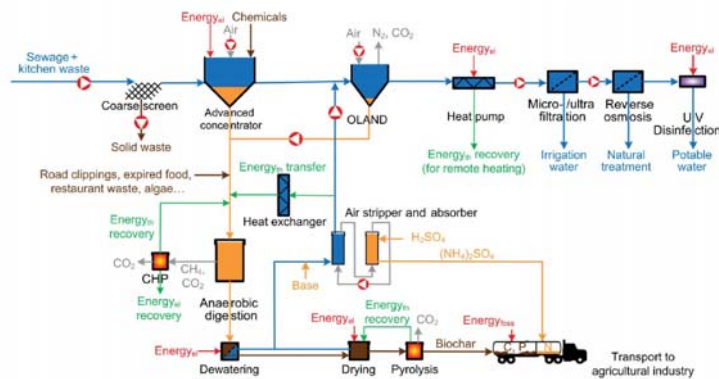


Outline

- Water resource recovery
- Modelling challenges
- Control challenges
- Take home

“Wurfs”

- Water resource recovery facility (WRRF)



Resource recovery processes

- Stripping (NH_3 , fatty acids)
- Air scrubbing (ammonium sulfate)
- Precipitation (struvite, Ca-phosphate)
- Filtering (paper fibers)
- Extraction (PHA)
- Ion exchange (NH_4^+)
- Reverse osmosis (H_2O , N-K concentrates)
- Phase separation (butanol)
- Pyrolysis, gasification, incineration (energy)
- Chemically enhanced primary treatment (COD)

All
physico-
chemical
unit
processes

Outline

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Modelling physicochemical processes

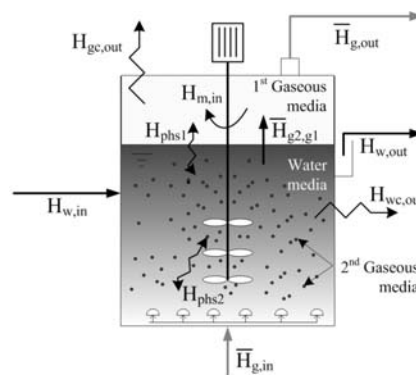
- We've done it simply:
 - Aeration: $Kla (C_{sat}-C)$
 - pH: $f(pKa, TAN, Alk, \dots)$
 - Precipitation: MeOH/MeP
 - Membrane: $J = TMP/\mu \cdot (R_m + R_f + R_c)$



Modelling physicochemical processes

- We have to do it differently:

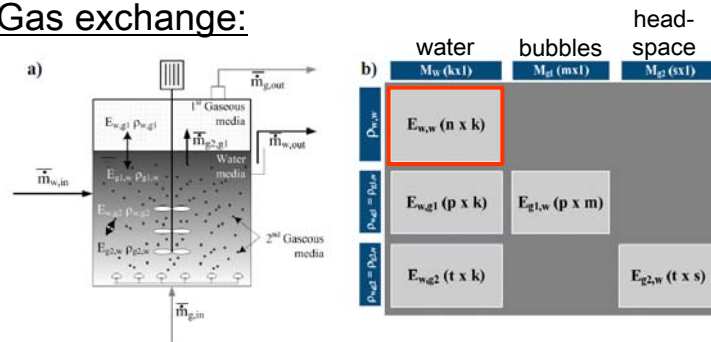
Temperature:



Modelling physicochemical processes

- We have to do it differently:

Gas exchange:



Fernandez-Arevalo T., Lizarralde I., Grau P., Ayesa E. 77
Water Res., 60, 141-155 (2014)



Modelling physicochemical processes

- We have to do it differently:

Precipitation:

1147 © IWA Publishing 2012 Water Science & Technology | 66:6 | 2012

Towards a generalized physicochemical framework

Damien J. Batstone, Youri Amerlinck, George E. ...
 Paloma Grau, Bruce Johnson, Ishin Kaya, Jean-...
 Stephan Tait, Imre Takács, Peter A. Vanrollegh...
 Christopher J. Brouckaert and Eveline Volcke

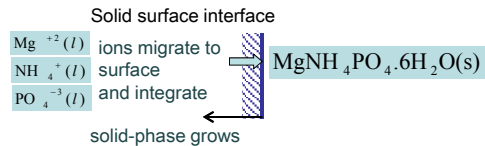
ABSTRACT



Modelling physicochemical processes

- We have to do it differently:

Precipitation:

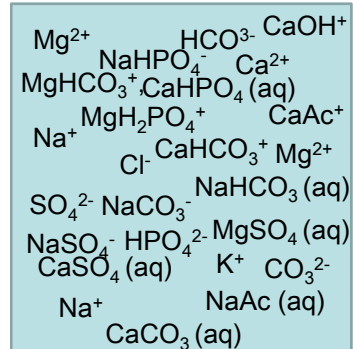


Modelling physicochemical processes

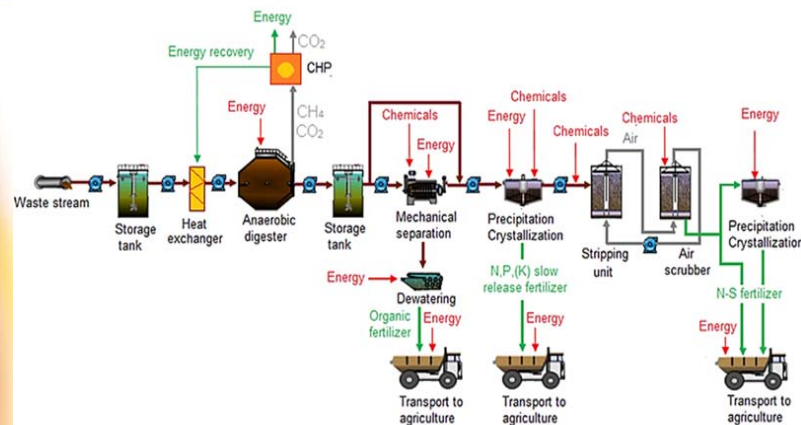
- We have to do it differently:

Precipitation:

It gets a little crowded in wastewater



Model-based optimization of resource recovery trains in WRRFs



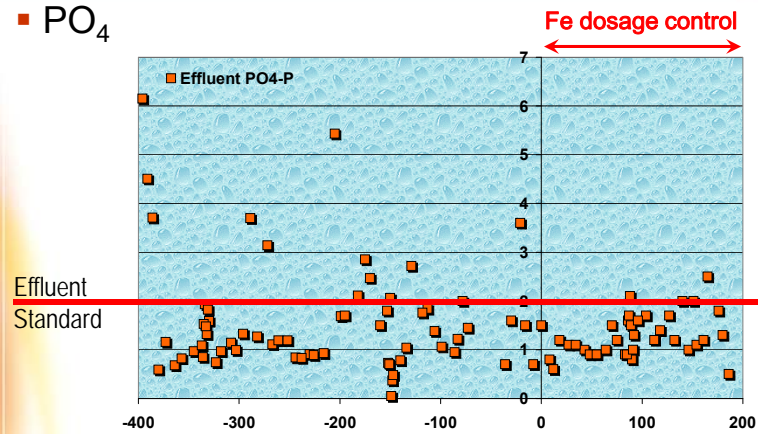
Outline

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- Control challenges
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Successful control in WWTP



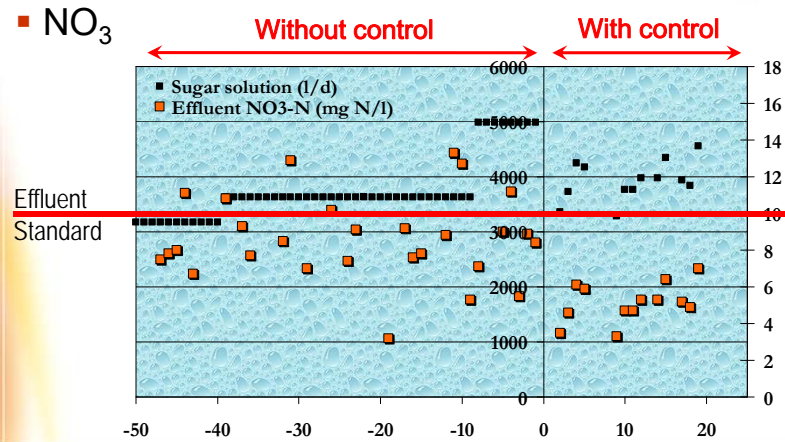
PO₄



Successful control in WWTP

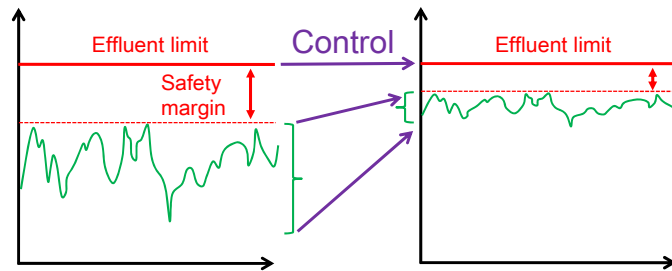


NO₃



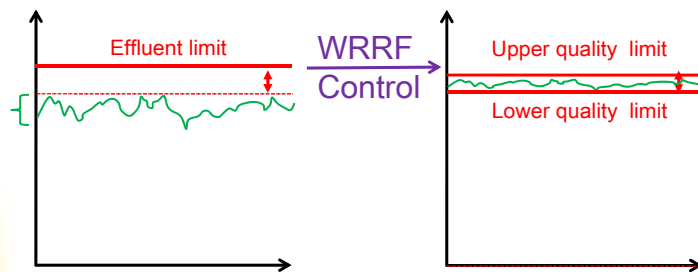
Control challenges

- Paradigm shift:



Control challenges

- Paradigm shift:



Control challenges

- Much stricter product specifications!



Control challenges

- No more forgiving client



Control challenges

- No selection of raw materials



Outline

- Water resource recovery
- Modelling challenges
- Control challenges
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Take home messages

- WWTPs → WRRFs !
- Physico-chemical processes !
- Modelling challenges are non-trivial
- Resource recovery products must compete with existing products
- Product specifications are strict
- Control is much more strict (upper & lower limit) (no more forgiveness!)

Acknowledgements on WRRFs



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 - Modeling and control of greenhouse gas emissions and the impact of climate change on WWTPs
 - Modeling and control of resource recovery in WRRFs (water resource recovery facilities)



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