

## Modelling SMPs in MBRs

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International  
Water Association

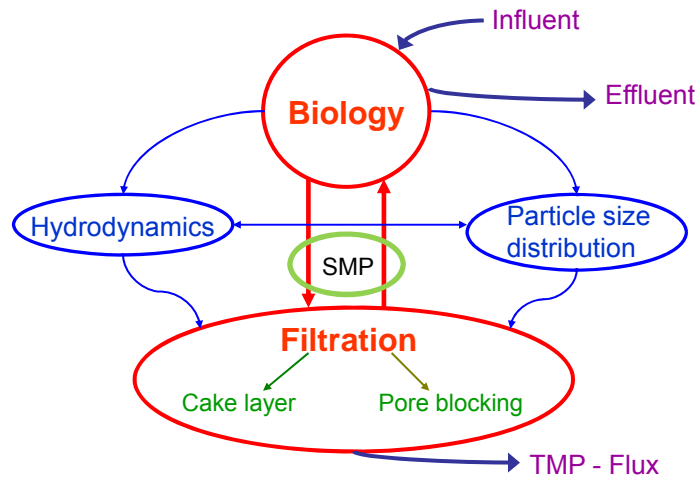
1<sup>st</sup> IWA/WEF Wastewater Treatment Modelling Seminar  
Mont-Sainte-Anne QC, Canada, June 1-3, 2008



## Outline

- ASM2d model application to MBR:
  - Parameters
  - Performance
- Soluble Microbial Products
  - UAP & BAP experiments
  - Characterization by LC-OCD
- ASM2dSMP model development
- SMP and fouling

## MBR Research @ BIOMATH

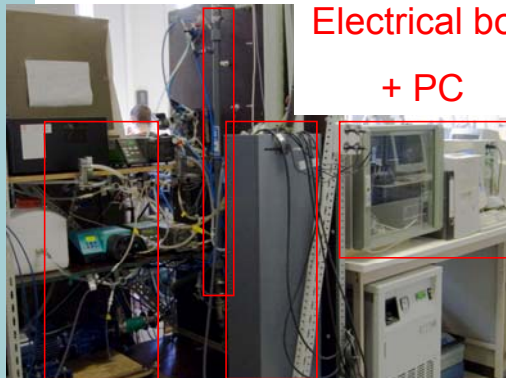


Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

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## Lab-scale sidestream MBR

Membrane



Electrical box

+ PC

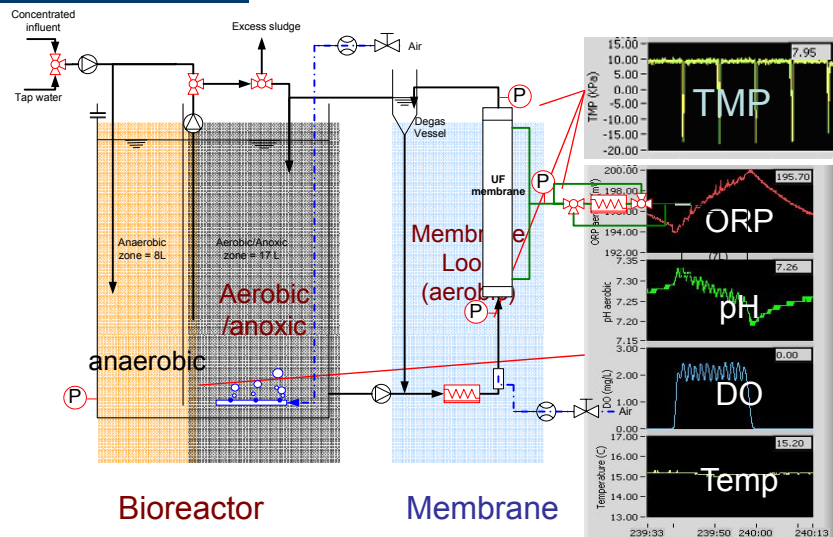
- ▶ Biol. COD, N & P removal
- ▶ SRT = 17 d
- ▶ HRT = 6.4 hr
- ▶ Temperature = 15 °C
- ▶ Fully automated
- ▶ Cyclical aeration & recirculation for N/P rem.

4 pumps reactor

Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

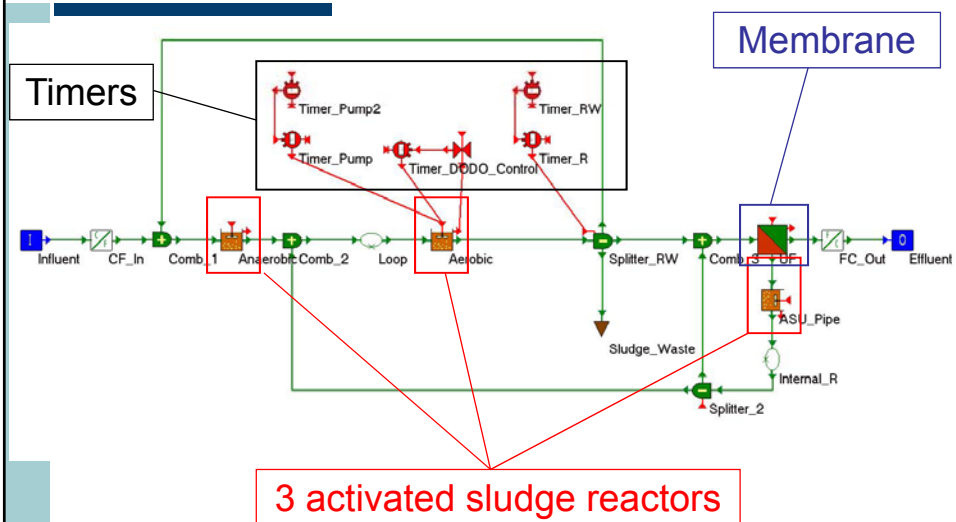
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# Lab-scale sidestream MBR



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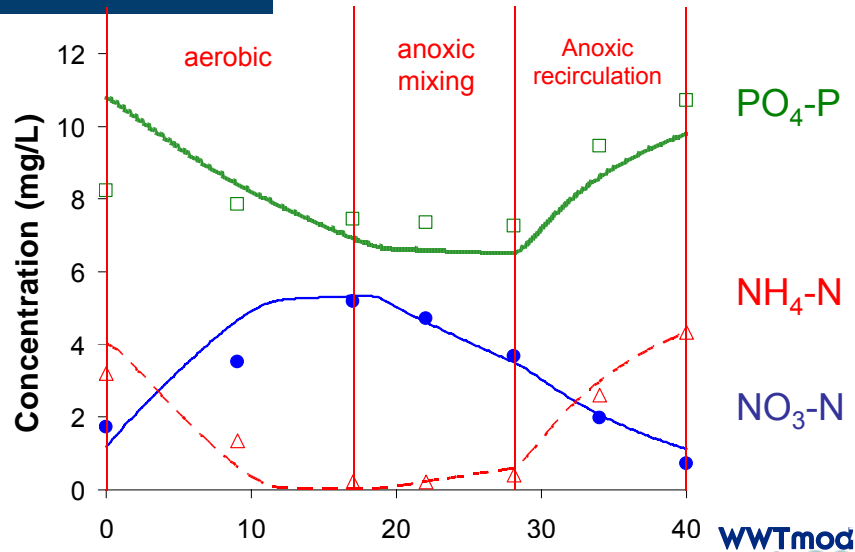
# ASM2d Model in WEST<sup>®</sup>



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## ASM2d Calibration: N & P results



## ASM2d calibration: Parameters

Parameter name	Symbol	Unit	Default	Calibrated
Decay rate of nitrifiers	$b_{\text{aut}}$	1/d	0.15	0.055
Maximum growth rate of nitrifiers	$\mu_{\text{aut}}$	1/d	1	0.6
Oxygen half-saturation coefficient of nitrifiers	$K_{\text{O,aut}}$	mg $\text{O}_2$ /L	0.5	0.2
Ammonium half-saturation coefficient of nitrifiers	$K_{\text{NH}_4,\text{aut}}$	mg N/L	1	0.2
Reduction factor of anoxic growth of heterotrophs	Higher affinity ← smaller flocs			
Fermentation rate of acetate production	$q_{\text{fe}}$	1/d	3	1
PHA storage rate	$q_{\text{PHA}}$	1/d	3	5
Phosphate uptake rate	$q_{\text{pp}}$	1/d	1.5	1.1
Reduction factor of anaerobic hydrolysis	$\eta_{\text{NO}_3, \text{PAO}}$	-	0.6	0.4

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## ASM2d calibration: COD results

Sample	Item (Unit)	Measured	Simulation (ASM2d)
Waste sludge	Total COD (g COD/L)	10.9	10.83
Sludge water (reactor)	SCOD (mg COD/L)	87.4	4.5
Sludge water (mem. loop)	SCOD (mg COD/L)	107.4	5
Effluent	COD (mg COD/L)	11	5
	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> -N (mg N/L)		ASM2d ☹
	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> -N (mg N/L)	7.03	8.6
	PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> -P (mg P/L)	5.63	5.3

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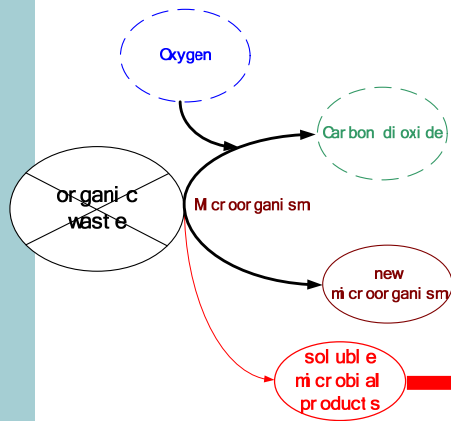
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Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

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## Soluble Microbial Products (SMP)



- SMP < 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$
- SMP  $\rightarrow$  fouling
- SMP  
= protein + polysaccharide  
...
- SMP  
= BAP (decay products)  
+ UAP (growth by-products)

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## SMP experiment: Overview

### SMP (BAP+UAP)

- Directly from MBR (< 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$ )

### BAP (*Biomass Associated Products*)

- Produced in BAP batch (starvation, < 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$ )

### UAP (*Utilization Associated Products*)

- Produced in UAP batch (growth on  $S_s$ , <0.45 $\mu\text{m}$ )

### Non-stirred cell filtration of SMP, BAP & UAP

- Same membrane characteristics as MBR one
- LC-OCD analysis of feed and permeate



Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

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## Batches producing BAP & UAP

- Experimental conditions
  - 2 L reactor
  - Washed MBR sludge
  - 15 °C, pH=7.5±0.1,
  - Aerobic : Anoxic time = 7:10
  - DO = 1.5-2.5 mg/L (aerobic)
- BAP production
  - No substrate addition (decay process for 19 days)
- UAP production
  - Acetate addition (growth process for 24 hours)
  - No acetate addition (reference)



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## Understanding LC-OCD

Liquid chromatography

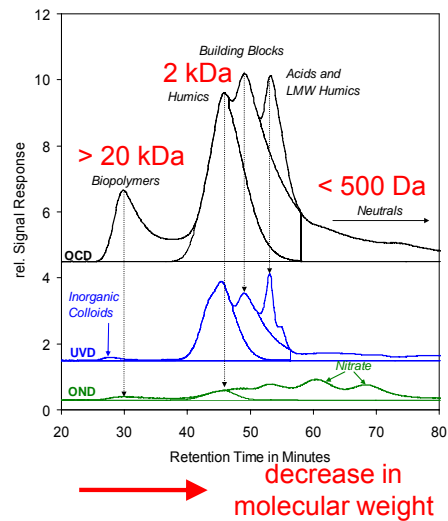
- SEC, size exclusion chromat. separation by size, size expressed in dalton (Da)

Organic carbon detection – OCD

Organic nitrogen detection – OND

UV detection 254 nm – UVD

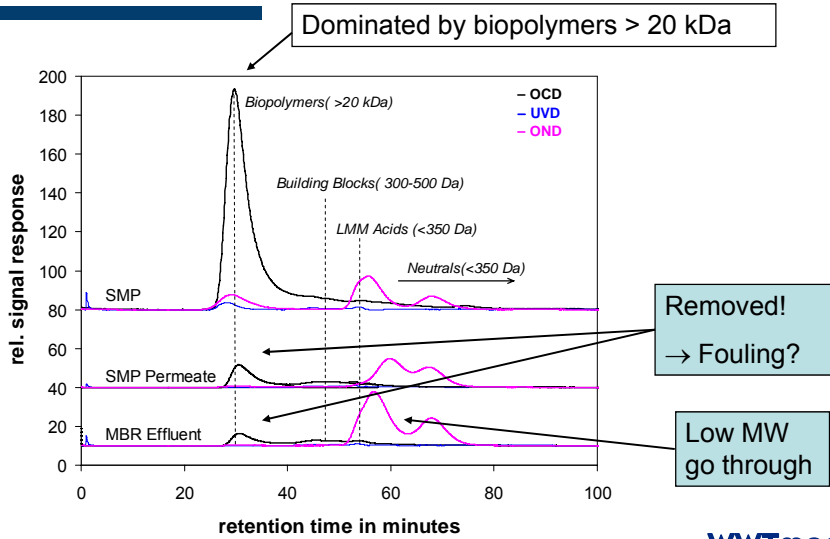
SUVA =  $UV_{254}/DOC$



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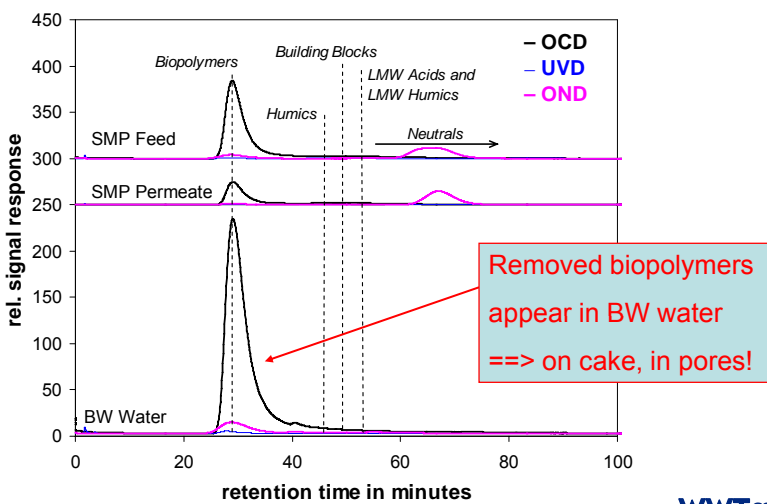
## Batch filtration of SMP



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## Membrane backwashing



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## SMP experiment: Overview

### SMP (*BAP+UAP*)

- Directly from MBR ( $< 0.45 \mu\text{m}$ )

### BAP (*Biomass Associated Products*)

- Produced in BAP batch (starvation,  $< 0.45 \mu\text{m}$ )

### UAP (*Utilization Associated Products*)

- Produced in UAP batch (growth on  $S_s$ ,  $< 0.45 \mu\text{m}$ )

### Non-stirred cell filtration of SMP, BAP & UAP

- Same membrane characteristics as full-scale one
- LC-OCD analysis of feed and permeate

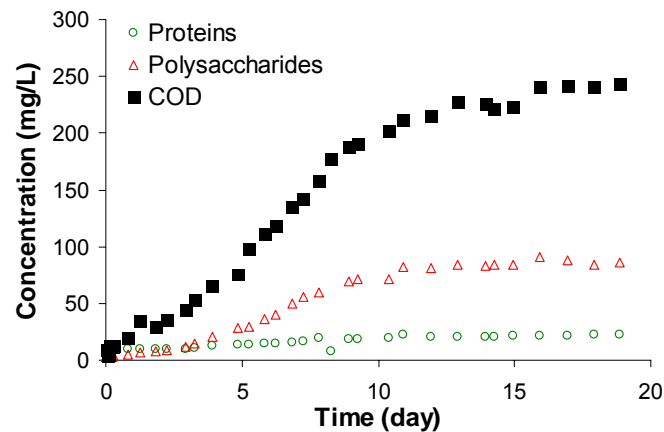


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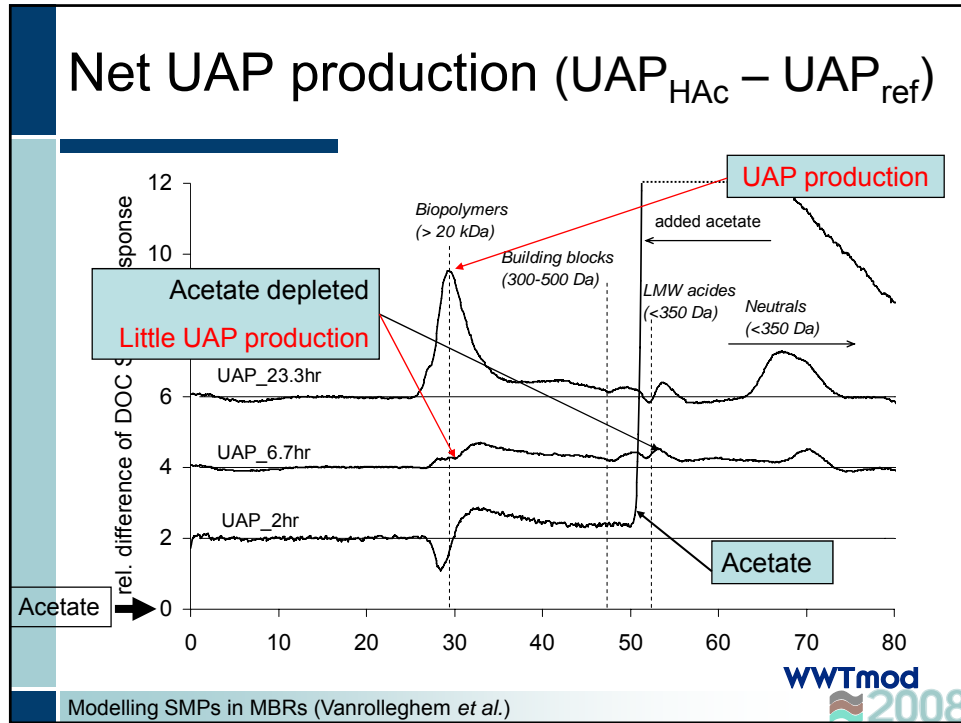
## BAP production (starvation)

### Sludge water composition



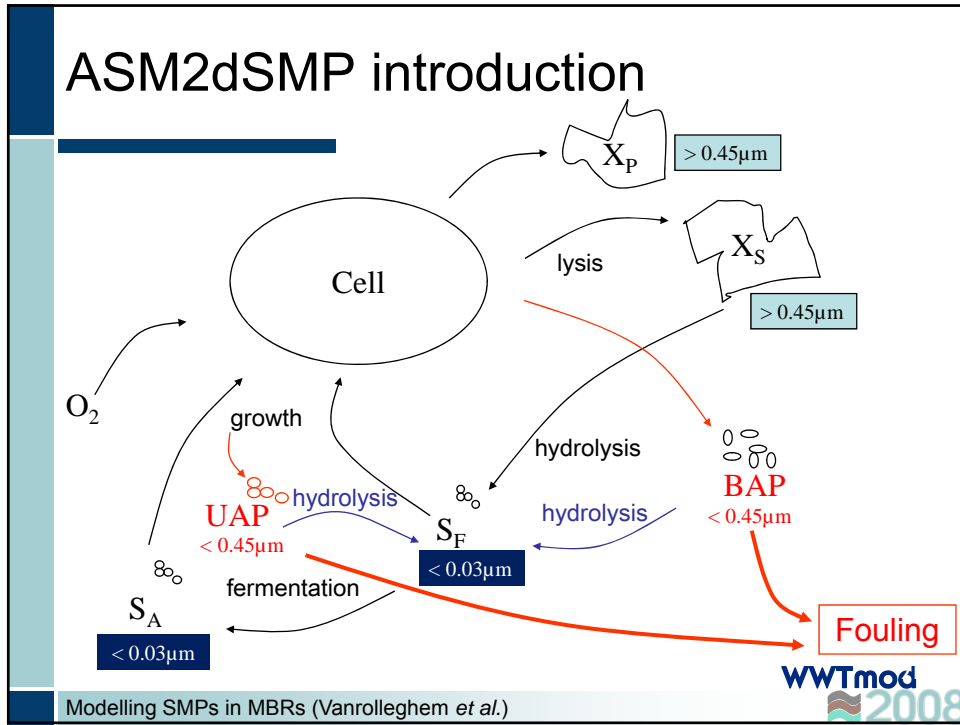
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- SMP and fouling



### ASM2dSMP – Gujer matrix: BAP

Processes	$S_F$	$S_{BAP}$	$S_I$	$X_I$	$X_S$	$X_H$	$X_{PAO}$	$X_{AUT}$	rate
Aerobic Hydrolysis of BAP	$1-f_{SI}$	-1	$f_{SI}$						$k_{h,BAP} \frac{S_{O_2} - S_{BAP} X_H}{K_{O_2} + S_{O_2}}$
Anoxic Hydrolysis of BAP	$1-f_{SI}$	-1	$f_{SI}$						$k_{h,BAP} \frac{K_{O_2}}{K_{O_2} + S_{O_2}} \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_3} + S_{NO_3}} S_{BAP} X_H$
Anaerobic Hydrolysis of BAP	$1-f_{SI}$	-1	$f_{SI}$						$k_{h,BAP} \frac{K_{O_2}}{K_{O_2} + S_{O_2}} \frac{K_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_3} + S_{NO_3}} S_{BAP} X_H$
Lysis of $X_H$		$f_{BAP}$		$f_{XI}$	$1 - \frac{f_{XI}}{f_{BAP}}$	-1			$b_H X_H$
Lysis of $X_{PAO}$		$f_{BAP}$		$f_{XI}$	$1 - \frac{f_{XI}}{f_{BAP}}$		-1		$b_{PAO} X_{PAO} \frac{S_{O_2}}{K_{O_2} + S_{O_2}}$
Lysis of $X_{AUT}$		$f_{BAP}$		$f_{XI}$	$1 - \frac{f_{XI}}{f_{BAP}}$			-1	$b_{AUT} X_{AUT}$

Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

# ASM2dSMP – Gujer matrix: UAP

Processes	$S_O$	$S_F$	$S_A$	$S_{UAP}$	$S_{NO}$	$S_I$	$X_H$	$X_{PAO}$	$X_{AIT}$	rate
Aerobic Hydrolysis of UAP		$1-f_h$		-1			$f_h$			$k_{h,UAP} \frac{S_O}{K_O + S_O} S_{UAP} X_H$
Anoxic Hydrolysis of UAP		$1-f_h$		-1			$f_h$			$k_{h,UAP} \eta_{INDO3} \frac{K_O}{K_O + S_O} \frac{S_{NO3}}{K_{NO3} + S_{NO3}} S_{UAP} X_H$
Anaerobic Hydrolysis of UAP		$1-f_h$		-1			$f_h$			$k_{h,UAP} \eta_B \frac{K_O}{K_O + S_O} \frac{K_{NO3}}{K_{NO3} + S_{NO3}} S_{UAP} X_H$
Aerobic growth of $X_H$ on $S_F$	$-\frac{1-Y_H - f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$	$-\frac{1}{Y_H}$		$\frac{f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$			1			$\mu_H \frac{S_O}{K_O + S_O} \frac{S_F}{K_F + S_F} \frac{S_A}{S_A + S_F} \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \frac{S_{NO}}{K_{NO} + S_{NO}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{ALK} + S_{ALK}} X_H$
Aerobic growth of $X_H$ on $S_A$	$-\frac{1-Y_H - f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$		$-\frac{1}{Y_H}$	$\frac{f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$			1			$\mu_H \frac{S_O}{K_O + S_O} \frac{S_A}{K_A + S_A} \frac{S_F}{S_F + S_A} \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \frac{S_{NO}}{K_{NO} + S_{NO}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{ALK} + S_{ALK}} X_H$
Anoxic growth of $X_H$ on $S_F$		$-\frac{1}{Y_H}$		$\frac{f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$	$-\frac{1-Y_H - f_{UAP}}{2.86 Y_H}$		1			$\mu_H \eta_{INDO3} \frac{K_O}{K_O + S_O} \frac{S_{NO3}}{K_{NO3} + S_{NO3}} \frac{S_F}{K_F + S_F} \frac{S_A}{S_A + S_F} \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \frac{S_{NO}}{K_{NO} + S_{NO}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{ALK} + S_{ALK}} X_H$
Anoxic growth of $X_H$ on $S_A$			$-\frac{1}{Y_H}$	$\frac{f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$	$-\frac{1-Y_H - f_{UAP}}{2.86 Y_H}$		1			$\mu_H \eta_B \frac{K_O}{K_O + S_O} \frac{S_{NO3}}{K_{NO3} + S_{NO3}} \frac{S_A}{K_A + S_A} \frac{S_F}{S_F + S_A} \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \frac{S_{NO}}{K_{NO} + S_{NO}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{ALK} + S_{ALK}} X_H$
Aerobic growth of $X_{PAO}$	$-\frac{1-Y_H - f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$			$\frac{f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$			1			$\mu_{PAO} \frac{S_O}{K_O + S_O} \frac{S_{NO}}{K_{NO} + S_{NO}} \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{ALK} + S_{ALK}} \frac{X_{THA}}{X_{PAO}} X_{PAO}$
Anoxic growth of $X_{PAO}$ on $NO_3^-$				$\frac{f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$	$-\frac{1-Y_H - f_{UAP}}{2.86 Y_H}$		1			$\eta_{INDO3} \mu_{PAO} \frac{K_O}{K_O + S_O} \frac{S_{NO3}}{K_{NO3} + S_{NO3}} \frac{S_{NO}}{K_{NO} + S_{NO}} \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{ALK} + S_{ALK}} \frac{X_{THA}}{X_{PAO}} X_{PAO}$
Growth of $X_{AIT}$	$-\frac{4.57 - Y_A - f_{UAP}}{Y_A}$			$\frac{f_{UAP}}{Y_H}$	$\frac{1}{Y_A}$			1		$\mu_{AIT} \frac{S_O}{K_{OAIT} + S_O} \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NHIT} + S_{NH}} \frac{S_{NO}}{K_{NO} + S_{NO}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{ALK} + S_{ALK}} X_{AIT}$

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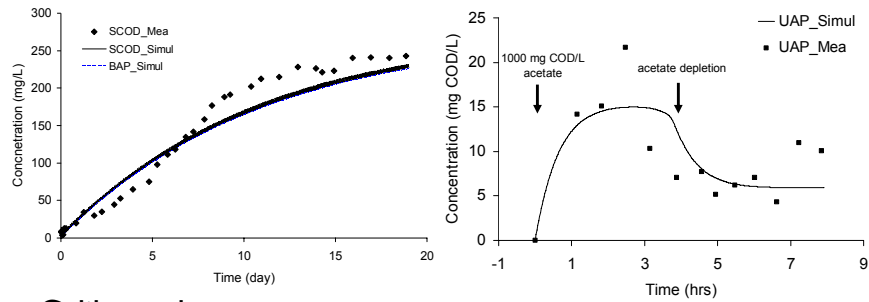
# ASM2dSMP

- Summary: Addition of only:
  - 2 components
  - 6 processes
  - 4 parameters ( $f_{BAP}$ ,  $k_{h,BAP}$ ,  $f_{UAP}$ ,  $k_{h,UAP}$ )
- Parameter values?

Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)



## ASM2dSMP Calibration: Parameters



### ► Calibrated parameters

- $f_{BAP} = 0.0215$  (CI=0.0021)
- $k_{h,BAP} = 7.41 \times 10^{-7} \text{ 1/d}$  (CI=0.54x10<sup>-7</sup>)
- $f_{UAP} = 0.0963$  (CI=0.0387)
- $k_{h,UAP} = 0.0102 \text{ 1/d}$  (CI=0.0044)



Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

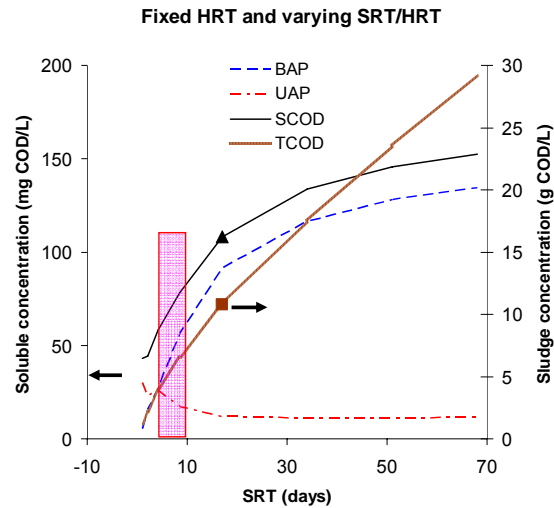
## ASM2dSMP Calibration: Performance

Sample	Item (Unit)	Measured	Simulation (ASM2d)	Simulation (ASM2dSMP)
Waste sludge	Total COD (g COD/L)	10.9	10.83	10.85
Sludge water (reactor)	SCOD (mg COD/L)	87.4	4.5	92.5
Sludge water (mem. loop)	SCOD (mg COD/L)	107.4	5	107.5
Effluent	COD (mg COD/L)	11	5	13.2
	BAP (mg COD/L)		ASM2d ☹ vs. ASM2dSMP ☺	
	UAP (mg COD/L)	n.a.	n.a.	0.9
	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> -N (mg N/L)	0.18	0.18	0.4
	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> -N (mg N/L)	7.03	8.6	8.6
	PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> -P (mg P/L)	5.63	5.3	5.7



Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

## ASM2dSMP Application: SRT effect



- SRT → SMP
- Optimal SRT 5-10 days ?

Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

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Modelling SMPs in MBRs (Vanrolleghem *et al.*)

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## SMP: Fouling

### Specific Resistance to Filtration (SRF)

= *increase in filtration resistance (1/m)  
per kg of COD present in sludge water  
delivered to 1 m<sup>2</sup> of membrane*

### Alternatives:

- *MFI: Modified Fouling Index*
- *SUR: Specific UF Resistance*



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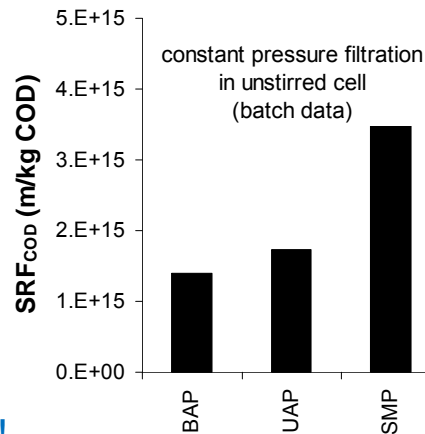
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## SMP: Fouling

### SRF measured for different SMPs:

- MBR sludge water
- SMP from BAP test
- SMP from UAP test



Expressed per kg COD !

BAP + UAP also contain low MW components  
that pass the membrane

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## Conclusions

- MBR nutrient removal performance can be modelled with classic models, using some adapted parameters
- SMP can be characterized using:
  - LC-OCD and batch tests for UAP and BAP
- SMP production can be modelled
- Different SMPs seem to have different fouling potential