



# Assessment of the electrical energy demand for different aeration regimes in aerobic wastewater treatment

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- Research group: Environmental technology



**Optimisation of WWTP** 

use of eDNA in aquatic biodiversity studies

Ecuador: VLIR-UOS: IKIAM - Network







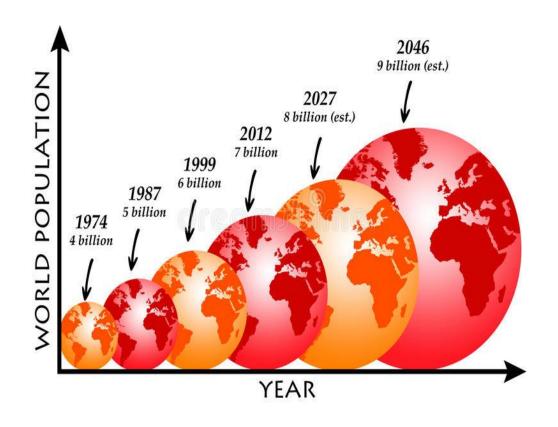






#### GLOBAL WARMING:























→ Waste water → WWTP













Wastewater treatment contributes to global warming





**GUAYAQUIL**, **ECUADOR**| 30.9. – 3.10.2019





 $NO_3^- \rightarrow NO_2^- \rightarrow NO \rightarrow N_2O \rightarrow N_2$ denitrification

 $NH_3 \rightarrow NH_2OH \rightarrow NOH \rightarrow NO \rightarrow NO_2^- \rightarrow NO_3^$ nitrification



THE WATER SECTOR





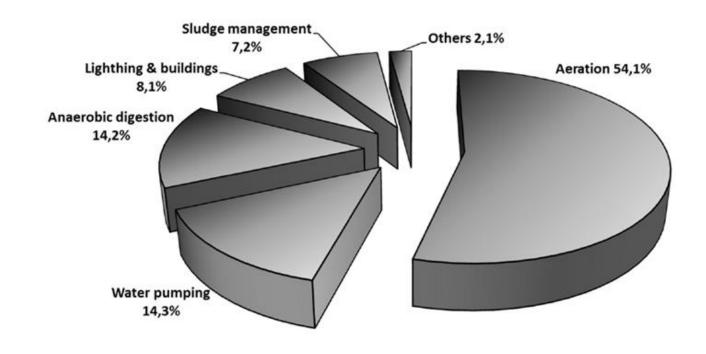




Wastewater treatment contributes to global warming





















- Industrial wastewater treatment in Flanders (Belgium)
  - Results of a survey conducted between September 2016 May 2018
  - 90 companies managing their own WWTP (response=26%) (Cornelissen et al., 2018)
- In accordance with results of Duck & Berckmoes (2019)
  - 157 companies adressed
  - 49 responses (response = 31%)



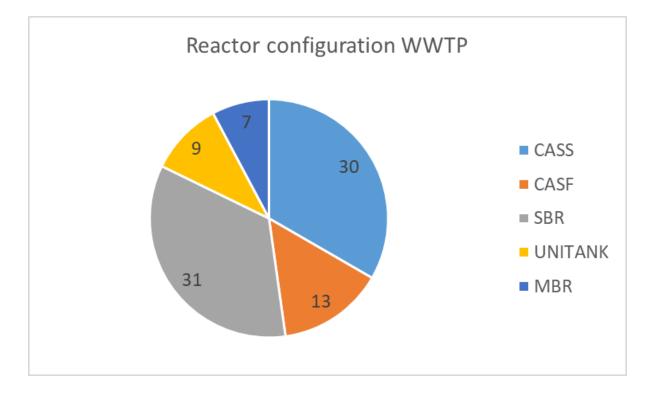








• (Cornelissen et al., 2018)







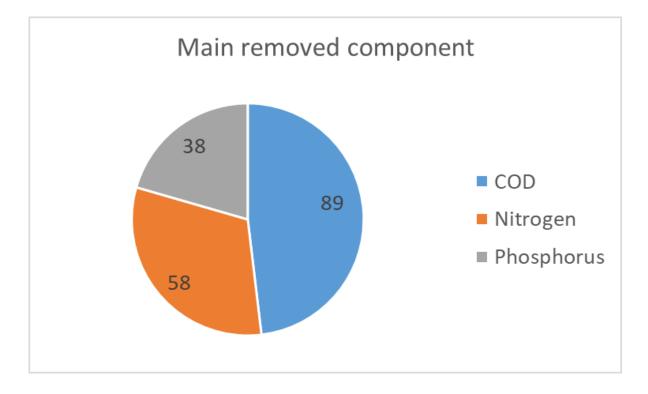








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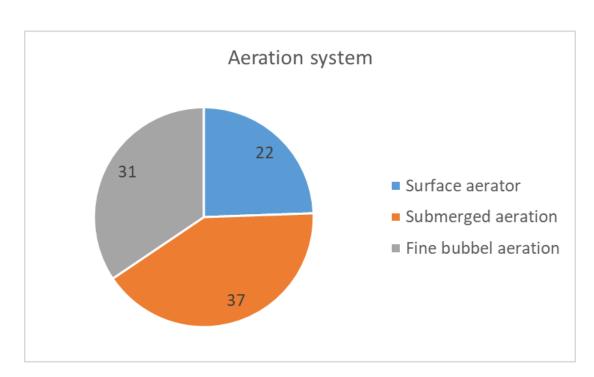


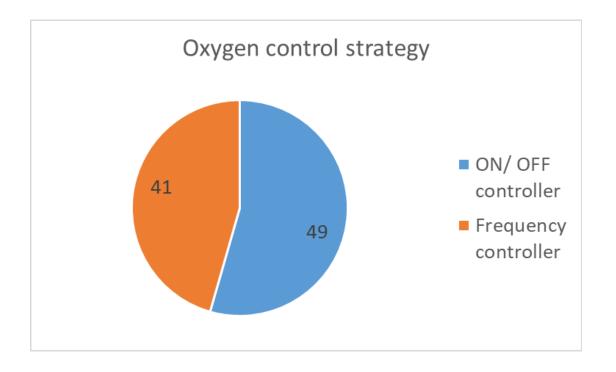






• (Cornelissen et al., 2018)









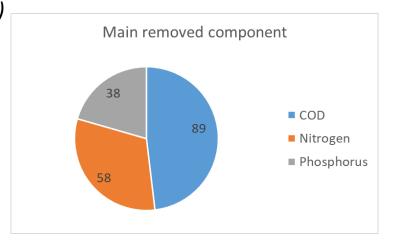








- (Cornelissen et al., 2018)
  - $E = 2.11 \pm 1.22 \, kWh \, m_{wastewater}^{-3}$
  - $E = 1.22 \pm 0.33 \ kWh \ kg_{COD\ removed}^{-1}$  (in case of only COD removal)
  - $E = 4.58 \, kWh \, kg_{COD \, and \, N \, removed}^{-1}$  (COD and nitrogen removal)













#### RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- Implementation of different oxygen control strategies
  - Lab scale SBR reactor
- Assessment of the energy demand for each oxygen control strategy

Evaluation of the sludge characteristics and effluent quality







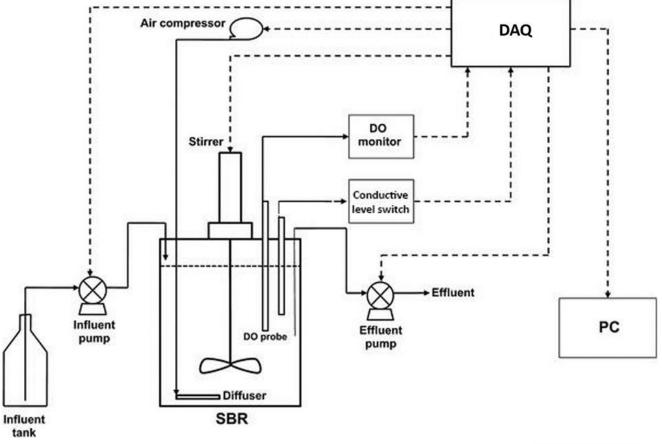
























| Parameter                | Unit   | Value           |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Chemical oxygen demand   | $mg O_2 L^{-1}$                              | $1723 \pm 159$  |
| Total nitrogen           | mg N L <sup>-1</sup>                         | $21.0 \pm 13.6$ |
| Total phosphorus         | mg P L <sup>-1</sup>                         | $1.86 \pm 0.55$ |
| Hydraulic retention time | d <sup>-1</sup>                              | 1.34            |
| Organic load             | kg COD kg <sup>-1</sup> MLSS d <sup>-1</sup> | 0.35            |





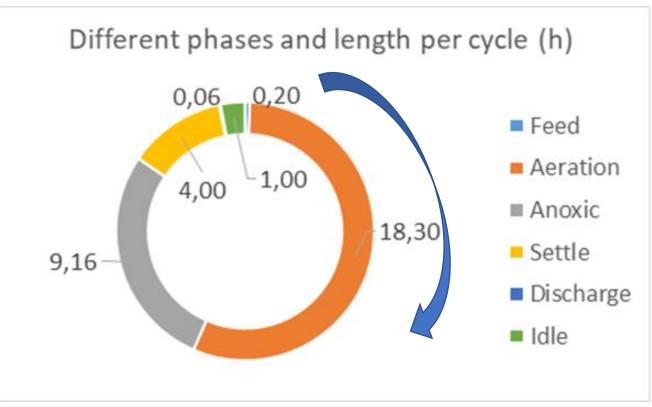


























Two different control strategies were used:

1° On – off control within oxygen range

2° On – off control with addition of inline OUR measurement





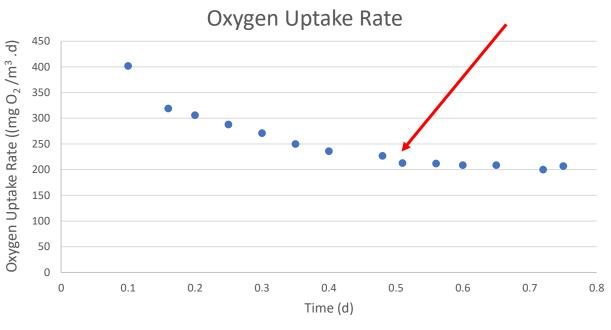
















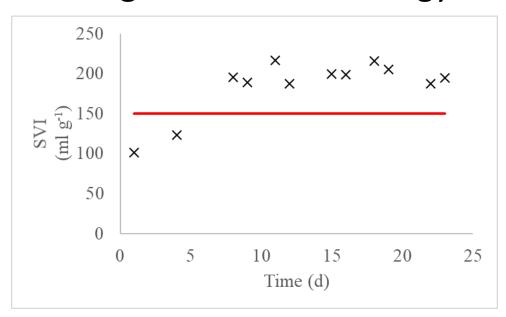


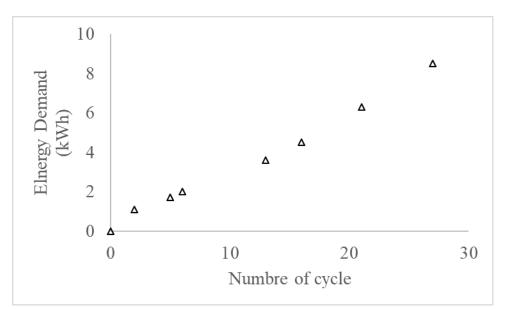






 Evolution of sludge volume index (SVI) and energy demand (ED) during first control strategy





 $E = 1.57 \text{ kWh m}^{-3}$ 













Microscopic research of the sludge





**Gram Staining** 



**Neisser Staining** 





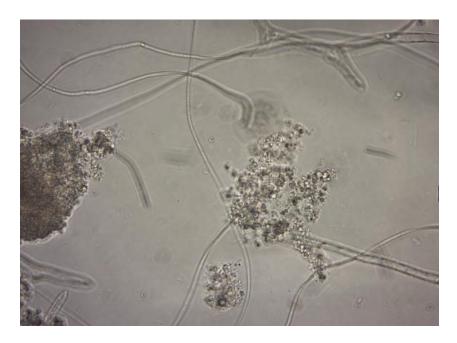


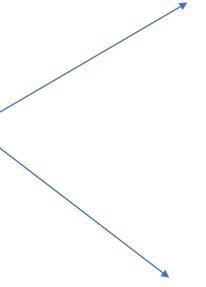




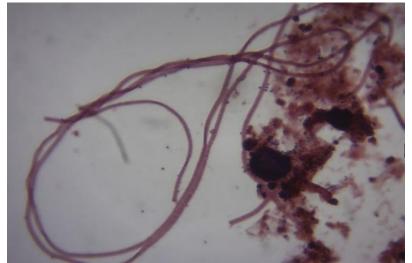


Microscopic research of the sludge





Filament T 021N



Gram
Staining

Negative



Neisser Staining

**Negative** 



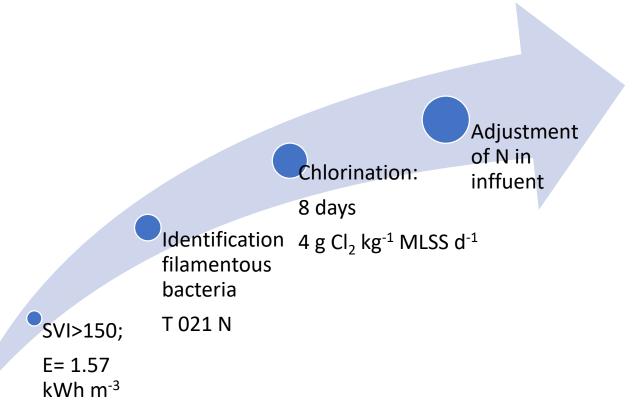


























Adjustment of N in inffuent

Identification filamentous bacteria

T 021 N

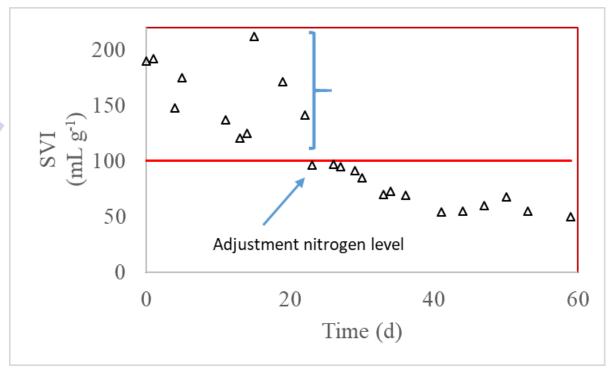
**Chlorination:** 

8 days,

4g Cl<sub>2</sub> kg<sup>-1</sup> MLSS d<sup>-1</sup>

SVI>150;

 $E = 1.57 \text{ kWh m}^{-3}$ 

















Adjustment of N in inffuent

Identification filamentous bacteria

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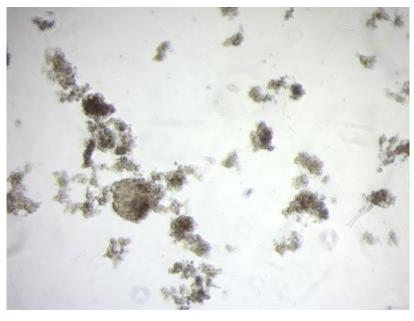
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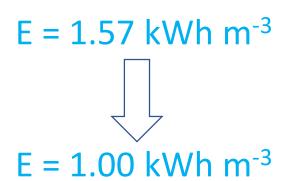
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8 days,

4g Cl<sub>2</sub> kg<sup>-1</sup> MLSS d<sup>-1</sup>

SVI>150;

 $E = 1.57 \text{ kWh m}^{-3}$ 



57% reduction





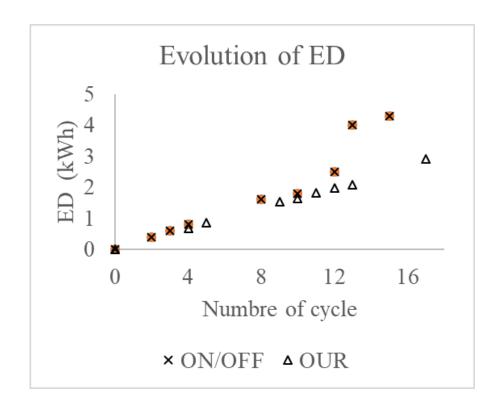








Comparison of energy demand with different control setting



 $ON/OFF : E = 1.00 \text{ kWh m}^{-3}$ 

OUR:  $E = 0.86 \text{ kWh m}^{-3}$ 

14% reduction





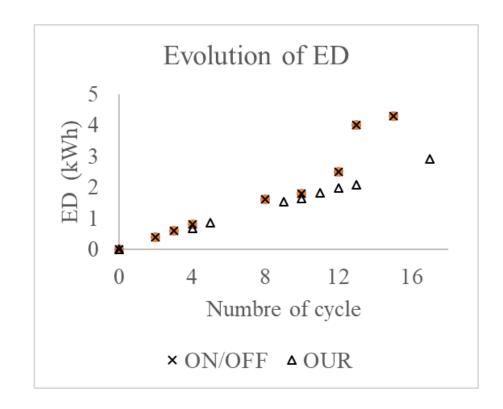


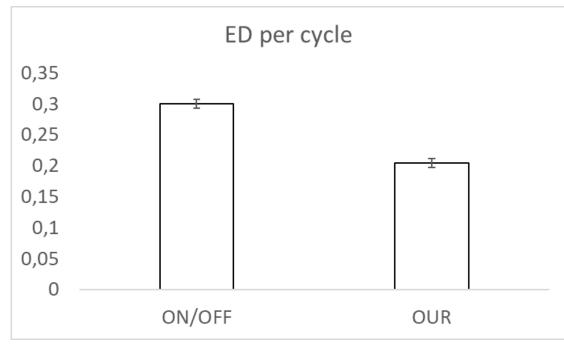






Comparison of energy demand with different control setting





 $ED_{OUR} < ED_{ON/OFF}$  P = 0.01 ( $\alpha$ =0.05)





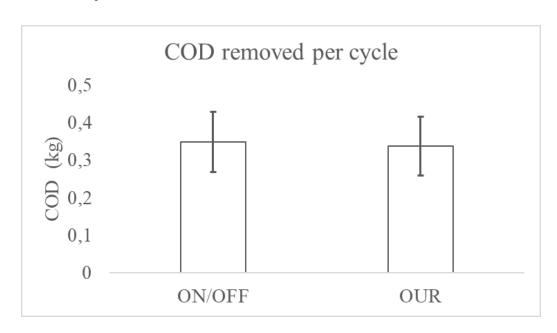


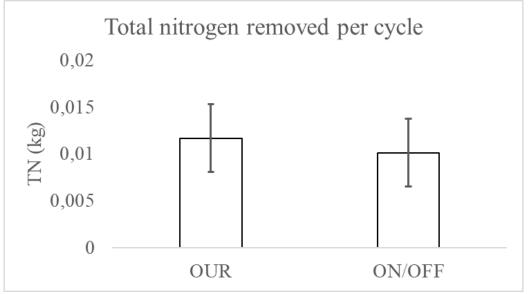






Comparison of removed COD and N















#### General Conclusions

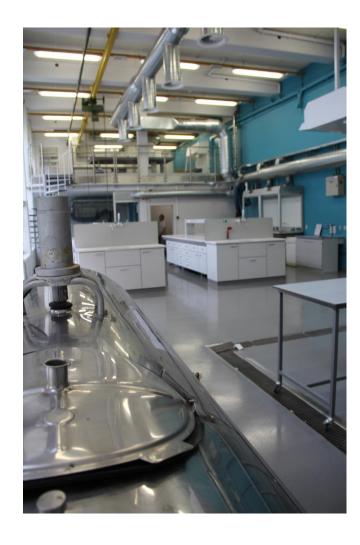
- Abundant hydrophobic filamentous bacteria in activated sludge have next to a negative effect on the sludge settleability, also a negative effect on the ED of the blowers for aeration
  - It is important to identify the filamentous species and how to prevent them, in order to obtain an energy efficient aeration
- The usage of a more advanced aeration control, like an additional inline OUR control has the potential reduce the ED of the aeration system and will not have a negative effect on the effluent quality











Questions?









