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# **Sidestream and mainstream deammonification – opportunities and challenges**

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IWAMA 6th International Capacity Development Workshop on Constructional and Operational Challenges

Gdańsk, 19-21 September 2018



- | **Fundamentals of the anammox and deammonification processes**
- | **Sidestream vs. mainstream deammonification**
- | **Challenges and recipe for implementation of mainstream deammonification**
- | **Deammonification studies at Gdańsk University of Technology**

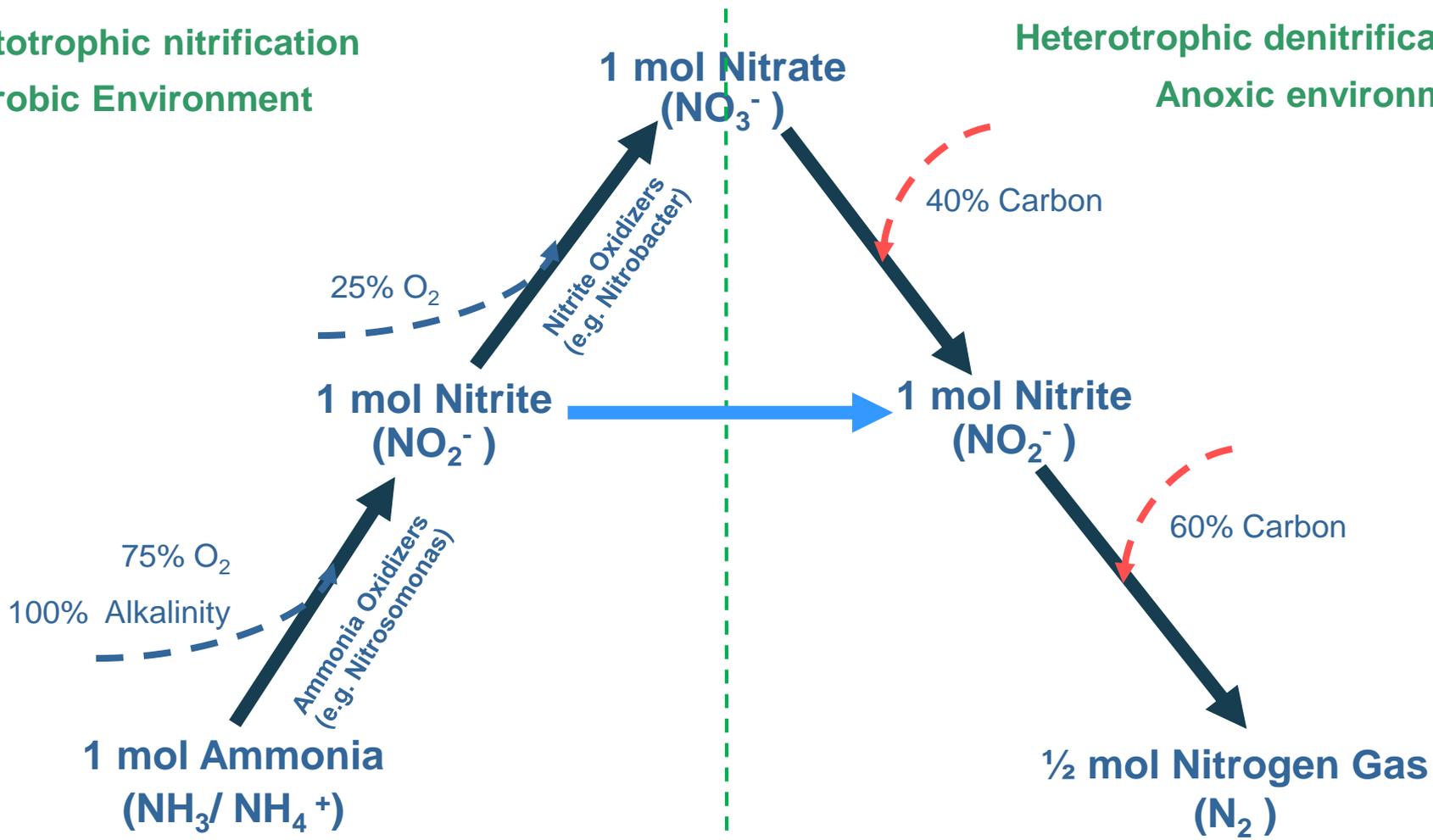




## Fundamentals of nitrification-denitrification

Autotrophic nitrification  
Aerobic Environment

Heterotrophic denitrification  
Anoxic environment



### Full nitrification-denitrification

$\text{O}_2$  demand 4.57 g/g  $\text{NH}_4^+$ -N oxidized  
C demand 4.77 g COD/g  $\text{NO}_3^-$ -N reduced

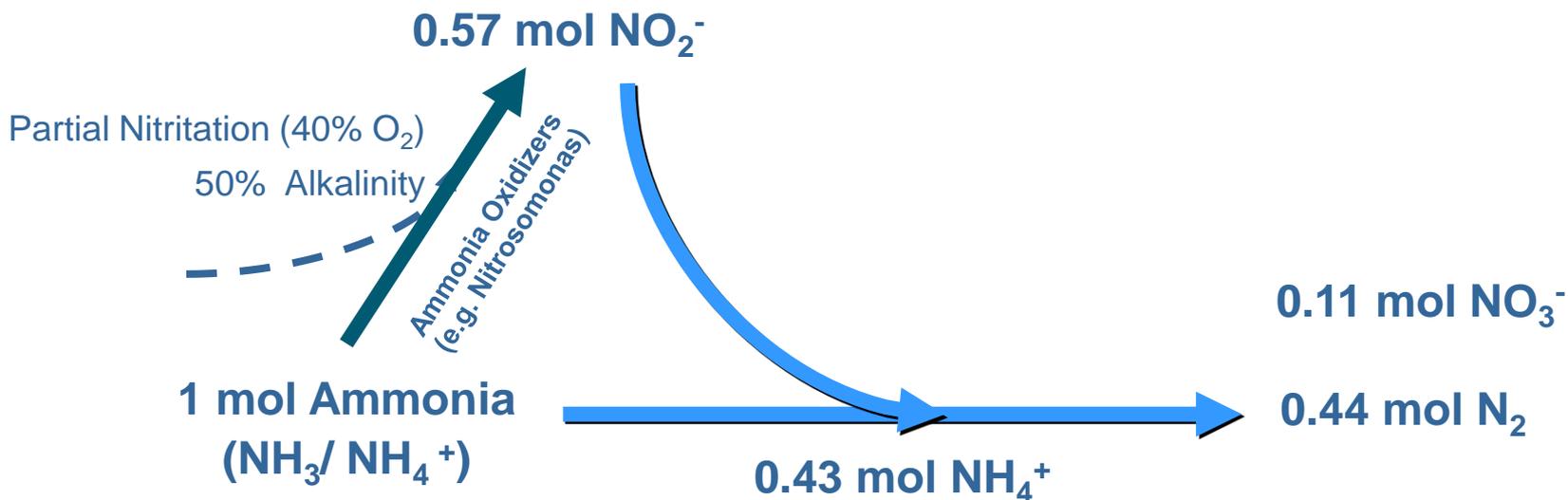
### Nitritation-denitrification

$\text{O}_2$  demand 3.41 g/g  $\text{NH}_4^+$ -N oxidized  
C demand 2.86 g COD/g  $\text{NO}_3^-$ -N reduced



**Partial Nitrification**  
Aerobic environment

**ANAMMOX**  
Anoxic environment



**Deammonification (partial nitrification – anammox)**

$\text{O}_2$  demand 1.9 g / g  $\text{NH}_4^+$ -N oxidized (60% reduction)

No carbon required

50% reduction in the alkalinity demand

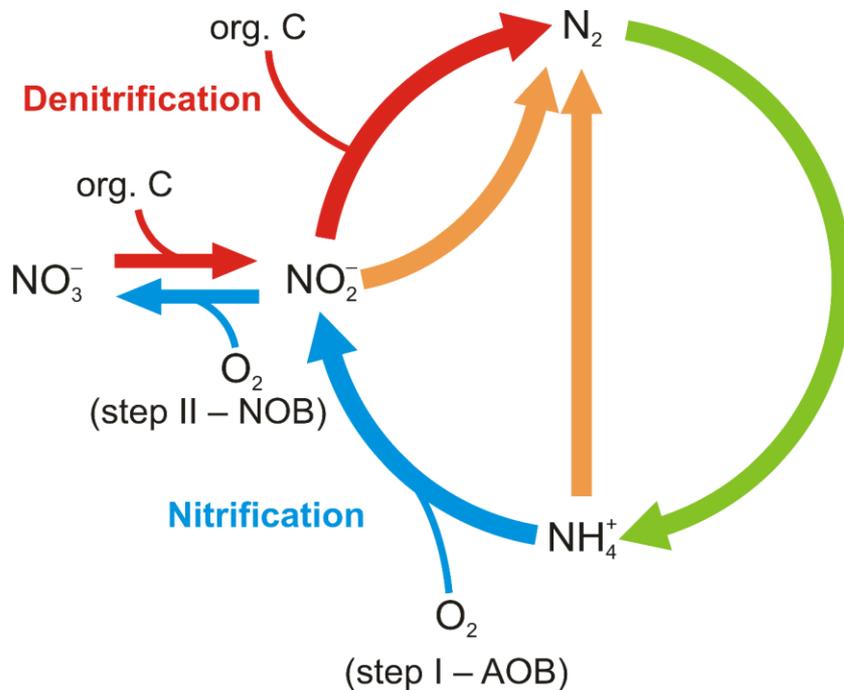


### Advantages

- Less oxygen required
- No organic C required
- Less excess sludge produced

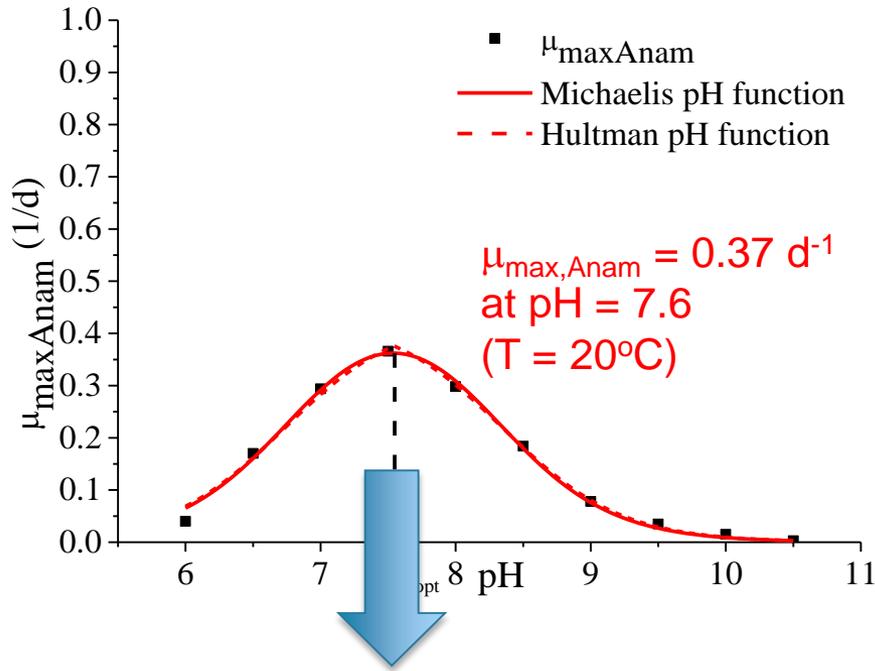
### Disadvantages

- Very slow growing bacteria  
→ need for long biomass retention
- Need for preventing nitrite oxidation
- Sensitive to nitrite, oxygen and ammonia





## Growth rates of anammox bacteria



- **Fast-growing** anammox-enriched cultures ( $0.38\text{-}0.58\text{ d}^{-1}$  at  $35\text{-}37^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) (e.g. *Isaka et al., 2006; Bae et al., 2010*)
- **Slow-growing** anammox cultures ( $0.02\text{ d}^{-1}$  at  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $0.04\text{-}0.077\text{ d}^{-1}$  at  $32\text{-}33^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $0.13\text{-}0.19\text{ d}^{-1}$  at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) (e.g. *van de Graaf et al., 1996; van der Star et al., 2007; Hao et al., 2009*)

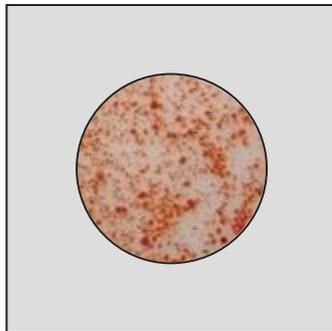
Lu et al. (2016)

Specific growth rate ( $\text{d}^{-1}$ )	Temp. ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	Reference
0.190-0.130	37	Tsushimaa et al., (2007)
0.084	nd	Van der Star et al., (2008)
0.150-0.092	nd	Van der Star et al., (2008)
0.230	nd	Van der Star et al., (2008)
0.140	30	Sobotka et al., (2017)
0.118	35	Liu and Ni (2015)
0.172	35	Liu and Ni (2015)
0.210	30	Lotti et al., (2014a)
<b>0.334</b>	30	Lotti et al., (2015c)
0.017	15	Lotti et al., (2014b)
0.020	20	Lotti et al., (2014c)
0.009	15	Lotti et al., (2014c)
0.038	29	Laurenii et al., (2015)
<b>0.0088</b>	12.5	Laurenii et al., (2015)
0.040	20	Hendrickx et al., (2012)
0.011	10	Hendrickx et al., (2014)

Tomaszewski et al. (2017)

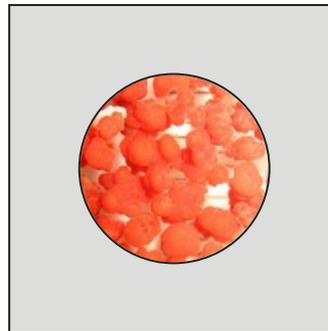


## Methods for anammox biomass retention



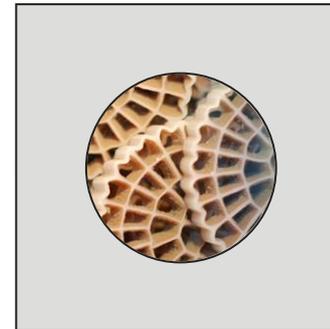
**Suspended  
Growth  
Anammox  
Biomass**

e.g. Activated  
Sludge Systems



**Large  
Anammox  
Granules**

e.g. Granular  
Sludge Systems



**Hybrid  
Suspended  
and Attached  
Growth  
Biomass**

e.g. IFAS,  
MBBR

Increasing diffusivity or mass transfer resistance

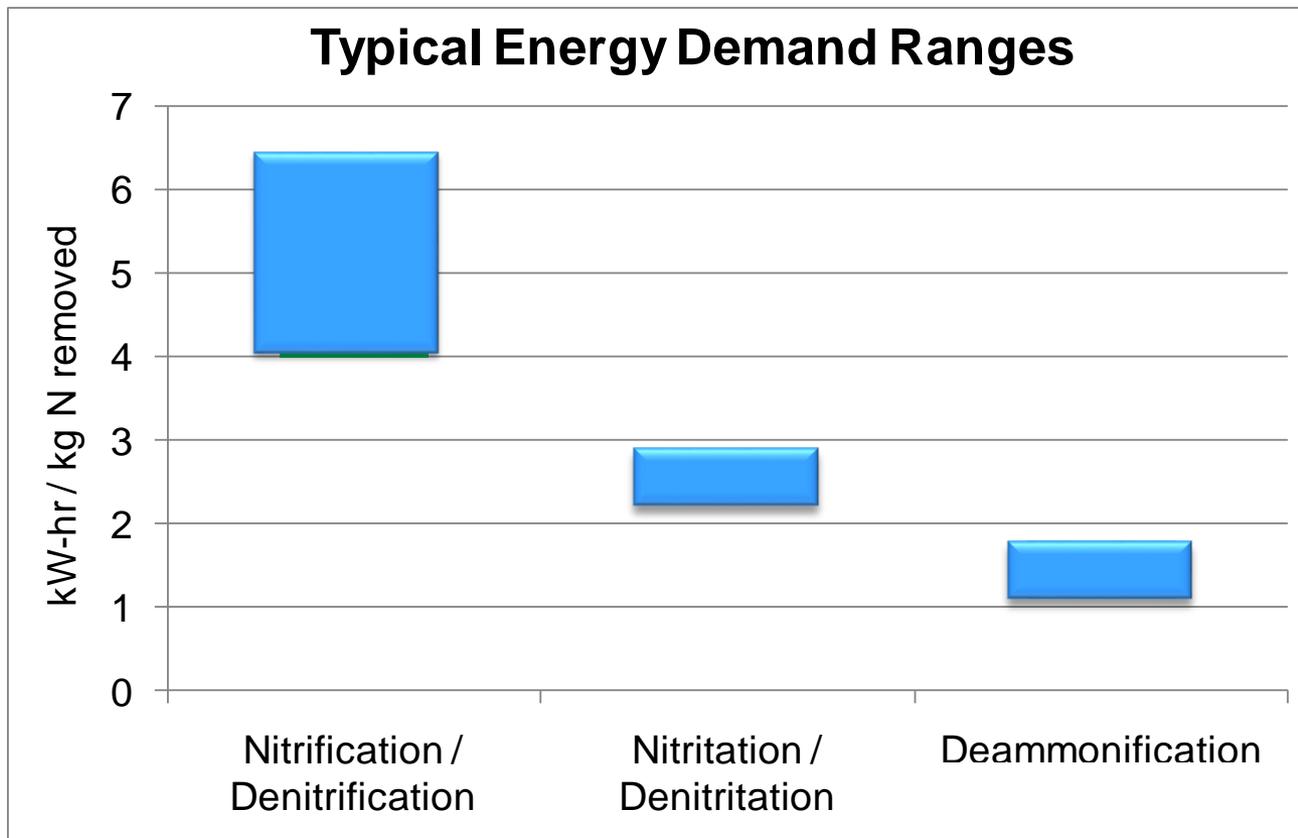


## Comparison of different deammonification technologies

Parameter	Unit	Process				
		ANAMMOX <sup>®</sup>	Demon <sup>®</sup>	Anita <sup>™</sup> Mox	DeAmmon <sup>®</sup>	Cleargreen <sup>™</sup>
Biomass carrier		Granular	Granular	MBBR	MBBR	Suspended biomass
Volumetric loading rates	kgN/m <sup>3</sup> /d	<b>1.7-2.0</b>	0.7-1.2	0.7-1.2	<1.2	<1.2
Performance TN removal	%	~90 (NH <sub>3</sub> ), ~85 (TN)	~90 (NH <sub>3</sub> ), ~85 (TN)	~90 (NH <sub>3</sub> ), ~85 (TN)	~90 (NH <sub>3</sub> ), ~85 (TN)	~90 (NH <sub>3</sub> ), ~85 (TN)
Energy demand	kWh/kgN removed	1.0-1.3	1.0-1.3	1.45-1.75	TBC	TBC
Start-up	months	1-3 (seed)	2-5 (seed & cyclone)	4-5 (seed)	2-5 (seed)	TBC
Sensitivity/ flexibility		Tolerates elevated NO <sub>2</sub>	pH & DO control, NO <sub>2</sub> < 5 mgN/L	DO control, tolerates elevated NO <sub>2</sub>	pH & DO control, NO <sub>2</sub> < 5 mgN/L	TBC

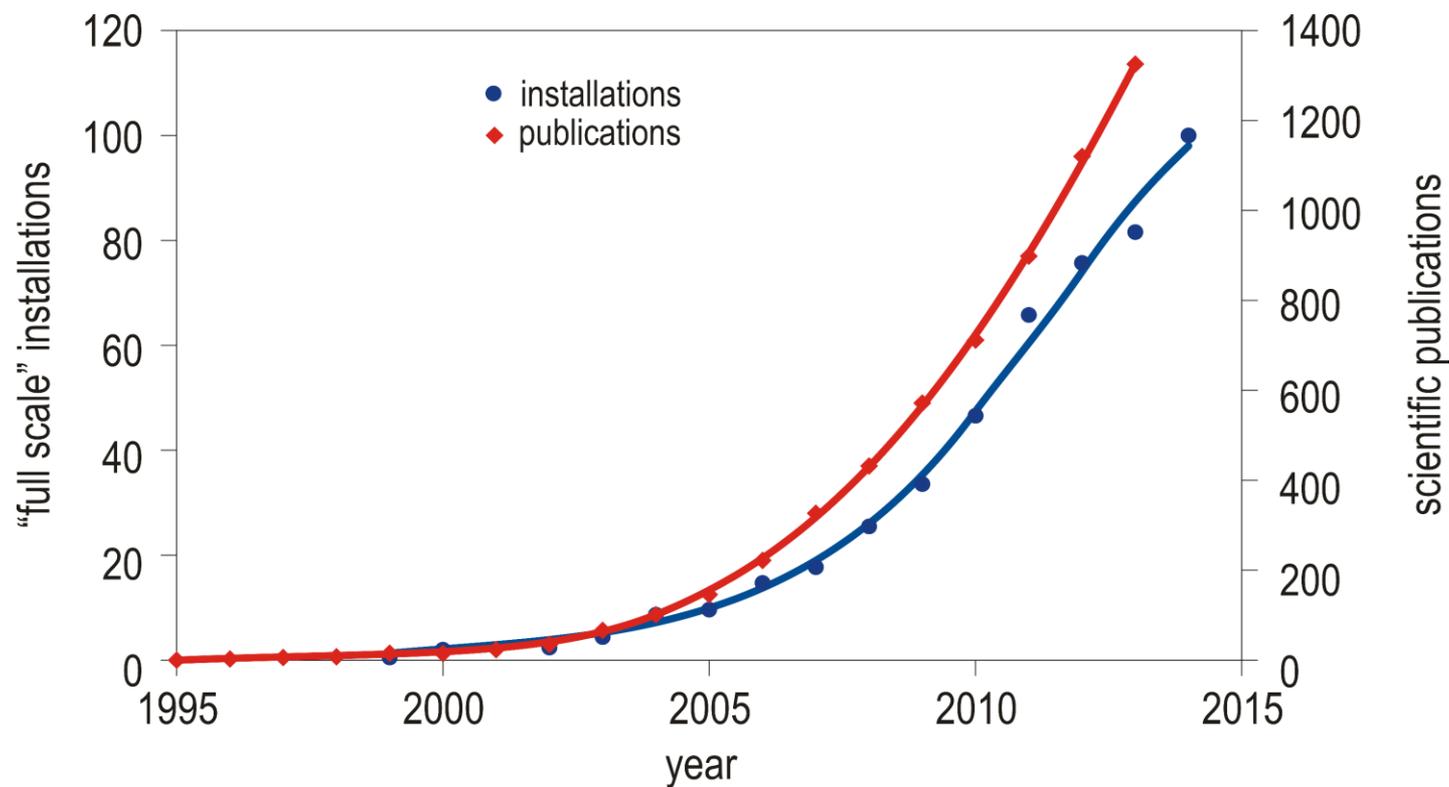


## Comparison of energy demand for different N removal technologies



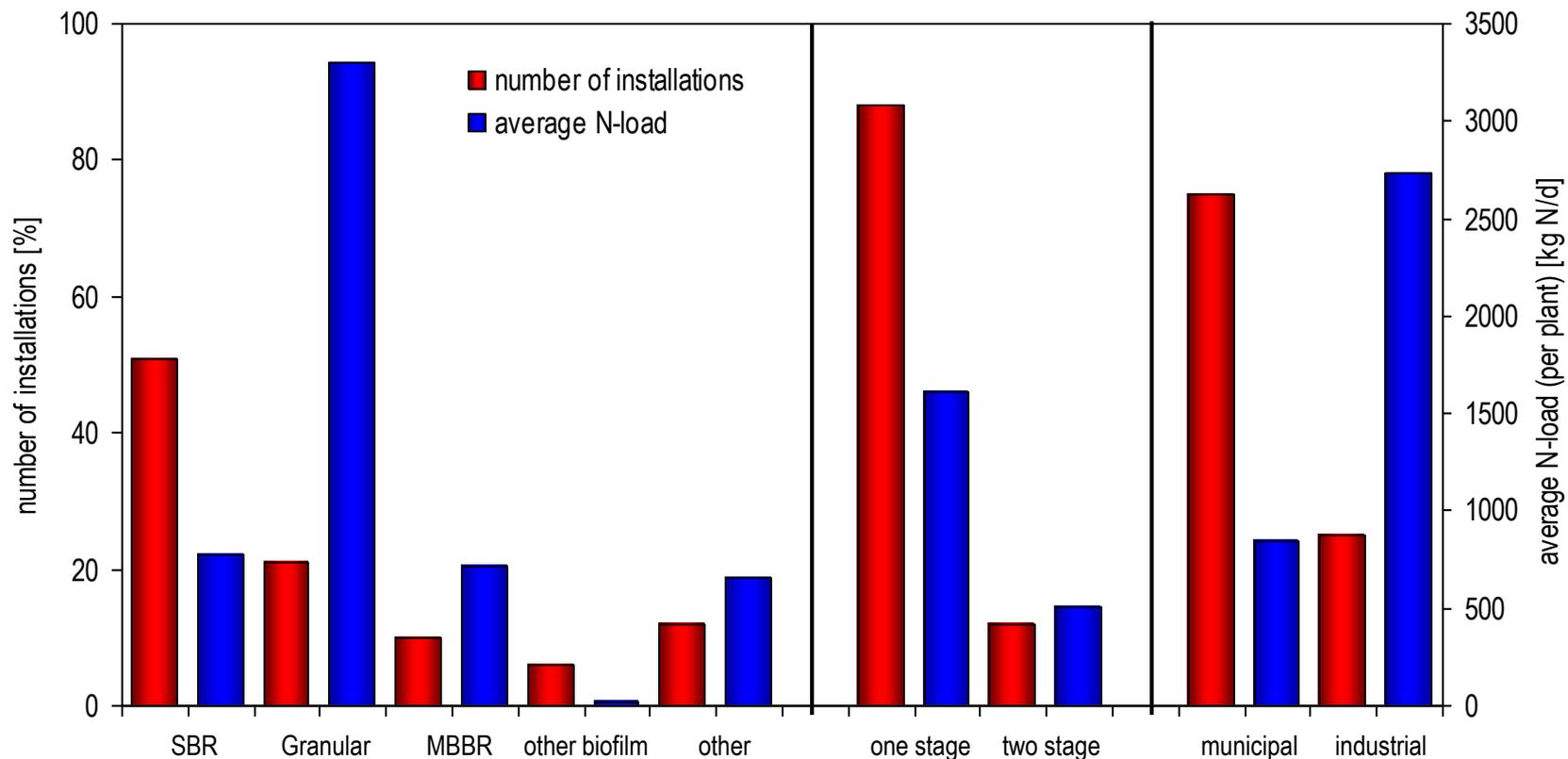


## Deammonification development – full-scale installations and scientific publications





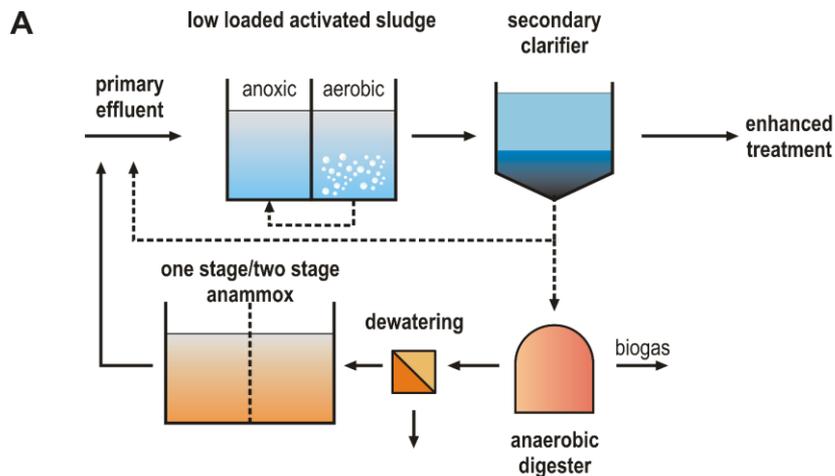
## Distribution of deammonification applications





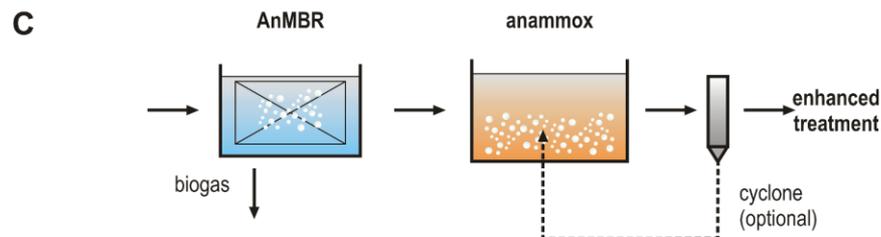
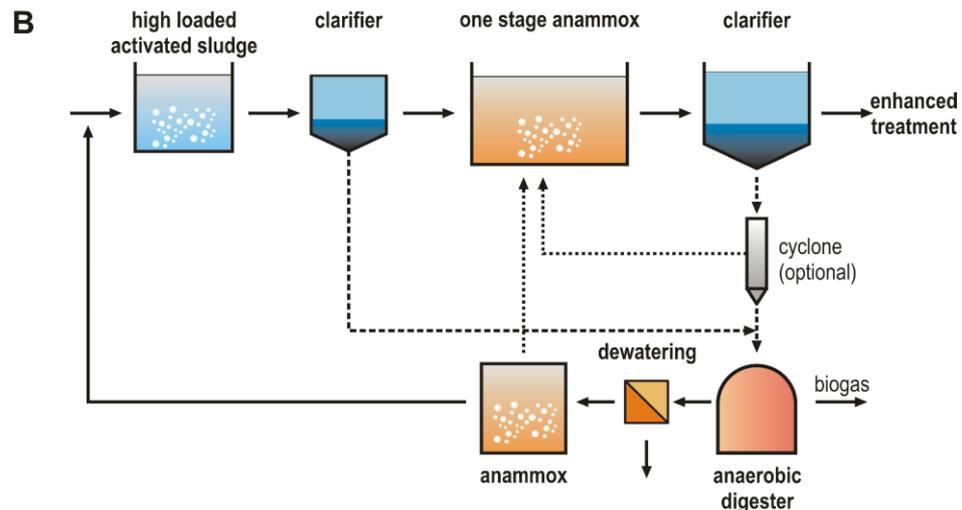
## Sidestream treatment

Emerged technology  
Established state of the art



## Mainstream treatment

Emerging technology





## Nutrient Recovery and Management 2011

January 9 – 12, 2011 • Hilton Miami Downtown • Miami Florida, USA



### Session 15: Focused Discussion: Advances in Deammonification Processes

#### OLAND is Feasible to Treat Sewage-Like Nitrogen Concentrations at Low Hydraulic Residence Time

H. De Clippeleir, X. Yan, W. Verstraete, S. E. Vlaeminck, *Ghent University*

#### Implementation of a Full-Scale Anammox-Based Facility to Treat Anaerobic Digestion Sidestreams at the Alexandria Sanitary Authority Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility

G. T. Daigger, P. Sanjines, *CH2M Hill*; K. Pellensch, J. Sizemore, *Alexandria Sanitation Authority*; B. Wett, *University of Innsbruck*

#### Deammonification of Dewatering Sidestream from Thermal Hydrolysis-Mesophilic Anaerobic Digestion Process

B. Figdore, *AECOM*; B. Wett, *ARAconsult*; M. Hell, *Achental-Intal-Zillertal Wastewater Cooperation*; S. Murthy, *DC Water*

#### Influence of Aeration Conditions on Nitrogen Removal Rate in One Stage Partial Nitrification/Anammox Process

J. Yang, *Royal Institute of Technology*; M. Zubrowska-Sudol, *Warsaw University of Technology*; J. Trela, E. Plaza, *Royal Institute of Technology*

#### 1-Stage Deammonification MBBR Process for Reject Water Sidestream Treatment: Investigation of Start-up Strategy and Carriers Design

R. Lemaire, *Veolia Water Research Centre*; I. Liviano, *Kruger A/S*; S. Ekström, C. Rosellius, *AnoxKaldnes AB*; J. Chauzy, *Technical Direction Veolia Water*; D. Thornberg, *Copenhagen Development Cooperation*; C. Thirsing, *Lynettefaellesskabet I/S*; S. Deleris, *Veolia Water Research Centre*

#### Swedish Experience with Deammonification Process in Biofilm System

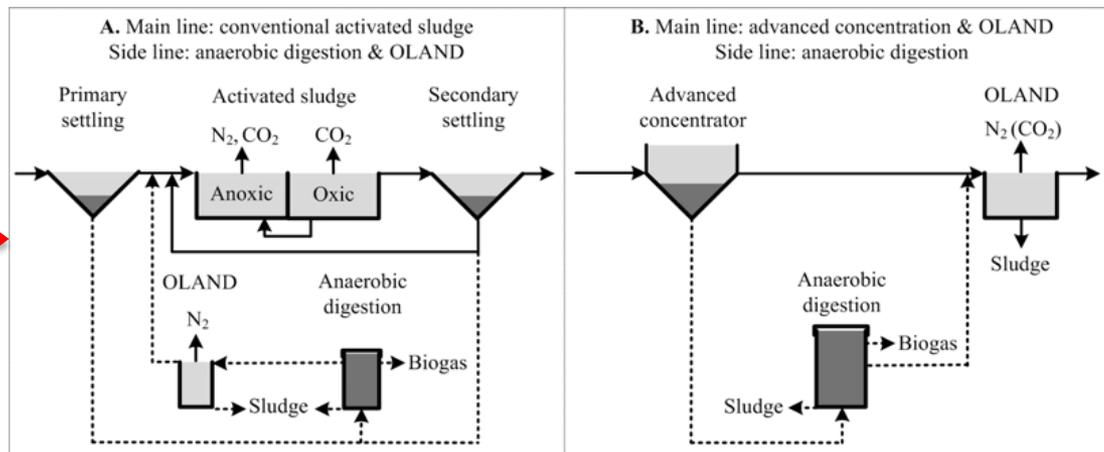
E. Plaza, *Royal Institute of Technology*; S. Stridh, J. Örnmark, *SYVAB AB*; L. Kanders, *Purac, Läckby Water AB*; J. Trela, *Royal Institute of Technology*

#### The Positive Effect of Inorganic Carbon on Anammox Process

J. Yang, Li Zhang, *Kumamoto University*; Y. Fukuzaki, *Meidensha Corporation*; D. Hira, K. Furukawa, *Kumamoto University*

#### Anammox Process Inhibition by Oxytetracycline: Short- and Long-Term Experiments and Model Evaluation

P. Noophan, *University, Bangkok*; P. Narinkongnong, *Silpakorn University*; C. Wantawin, *King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Bangkok*; J. Munakata-Marr, *Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO*





## Session 14: Mainstream Deammonification I

### [Roadmaps Toward Energy Neutrality: Chemical Optimization at Enhanced Nutrient Removal Facilities](#)

Beverly M. Stinson, AECOM; Sudhir Murthy, DC Water; Charles Bott, Hampton Roads Sanitation District; Bernhard Wett, ARA Consult; Ahmed Al-Omari, DCWater; Gregory Bowden, Yalda Mokhyerie, AECOM; Haydee De Clippeleir, Columbia University

### [Mainstream Partial Nitrification–ANAMMOX Nitrogen Removal in the Largest Full-Scale Activated Sludge Process in Singapore: Process Analysis](#)

Yeshi Cao, PUB; Bee Hong Kwok, Wei Hin Yong, PUB/Changi Water Reclamation Plant; Seng Chye Chua, Yuen Long Wah, Yahya ABD Ghani, PUB

### [Modification of a B-stage MLE to Take Advantage of SND and Nitrite Shunt in an A/B Process Pilot Study](#)

Ryder Bunce, Old Dominion University; Mark Miller, Virginia Tech; Pusker Regmi, Old Dominion University; Daniel Hingley, David Kinnear, HDR; Charles Bott, Hampton Roads Sanitation District

### [Measuring Nitrite – The Key to Controlling Deammonification Reactions](#)

Henry Melcer, Brown & Caldwell; Charles B. Bott, Hampton Roads Sanitation District; Pushker Regmi, Old Dominion University; Leiv Rieger, InCNTRL Solutions Inc; Jiang Wan, Pierce County, Chandler Johnson, World Water Works, Oklahoma City; Kartik Chandran, Yiwei Ma, Columbia University

### [Effect of Temperature on Anammox Bacteria Cultivated Under Different Conditions](#)

Tommaso Lotti, R. Kleerebezem, M.C.M. van Loosdrecht, Delft University

### [Effects of Organic Carbon Source, COD/N Ratio and Temperature on Anammox Organisms](#)

Javier A. Sánchez Guillén, Yesuf A. Yimmam, Carlos M. Lopez Vazquez, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education; Damir Brdjanovic, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education/Delft University; Jules B. van Lier, Delft University/UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education

### [Mainstream Sewage Treatment with Partial Nitrification- Anammox: Potential Role of NO Production](#)

Haydée De Clippeleir, Ghent University/Columbia University; Siegfried Vlaeminck, Fabian De Wilde, Robin Jordaens, Emilie Courtens, Pascal Boeckx, Willy Verstraete, Nico Boon, Ghent University

### [Competition Over Nitrite in Single Sludge Mainstream Deammonification Process](#)

Ahmed A. Al-Omari, Gent University; Bernhard Wett, ARAconsult; Mofei Han, Delon Hampton and Associates; Haydee De Clippeleir, Columbia University; Charles Bott, HRSD; Ingmar Nopens, Ghent University; Sudhir Murthy, DCWater

### [Simultaneous Chemical Precipitation of Phosphate and Shortcut Nitrogen Removal by Aerobic Granular Sludge](#)

Yongmei Li, Jinte Zou, Qi Zhou, Tongji University

## Session 16: Mainstream Deammonification II

### [NOB Out-Selection in Mainstream Makes Two-Stage Deammonification and Nitrite-Shunt Possible](#)

Pusker Regmi, Becky Holgate, Old Dominion University; Mark Miller, Virginia Tech; Ryder Bunce, Old Dominion University; Hongkeum Park, Kartik Chandran, Columbia University; Bernhard Wett, ARA Consult; Sudhir Murthy, DC Water; Charles Bott, Hampton Roads Sanitation District

### [Integration of Anammox into The Aerobic Granular Sludge Process for the Conversion of BOD in Wastewater Treatment at Ambient Temperatures](#)

Mari-Karoliina Winkler, Robbert Kleerebezem, Mark C. van Loosdrecht, Delft University

### [Pilot Scale Evaluation of Anammox Based Main Stream Nitrogen Removal from Municipal Wastewater](#)

Tommaso Lotti, R. Kleerebezem, Delft University; B. Kartal, Radboud University Nijmegen; M.K. de Kreuk, Delft University; C. van Erp Taalman Kip, Hollandse Delta; J. Kruit, T.L.G. Hendrickx, Paques BV; M.C.M. van Loosdrecht, TU Delft

### [Assessment of CFD and Biological Modelling with a Multiphase Euler-Euler Model for an Anammox Reactor](#)

Albert Vilà, Mael Rusalleda, Maria Dolors Balaguer, Jesús Colprim, LEQUA - Institut of Environment

### [Enhancing Nitrogen and Tiny Suspended Particulates Removal by the Combination Process of Nitrogen Removal via Nitrite and Limited Filamentous Bulking](#)

Jianhua Guo, Beijing University of Technology

\*Manuscript Unavailable



## Net energy consumption in different wastewater treatment systems

Oxygen and energy demand	Mass Flux (g p <sup>-1</sup> d <sup>-1</sup> )			Energy (Wh p <sup>-1</sup> d <sup>-1</sup> )		
	Case A	Case B	Case C	Case A	Case B	Case C
Aeration for COD removal	40	30	15	-40	-30	-15
Aeration for Nitrogen removal	22	22	16	-22	-22	-16
Pumping/Mixing energy				-20	-20	-15
Methane-COD and electrical energy production from biogas	30	40	55	+38	+51	+70
<b>Net Energy</b>				<b>-44</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>+24</b>

**Case A** - Conventional treatment;

**Case B** - Conventional treatment, with anammox used in the sidestream;

**Case C** - Optimized treatment, with anammox in the mainstream

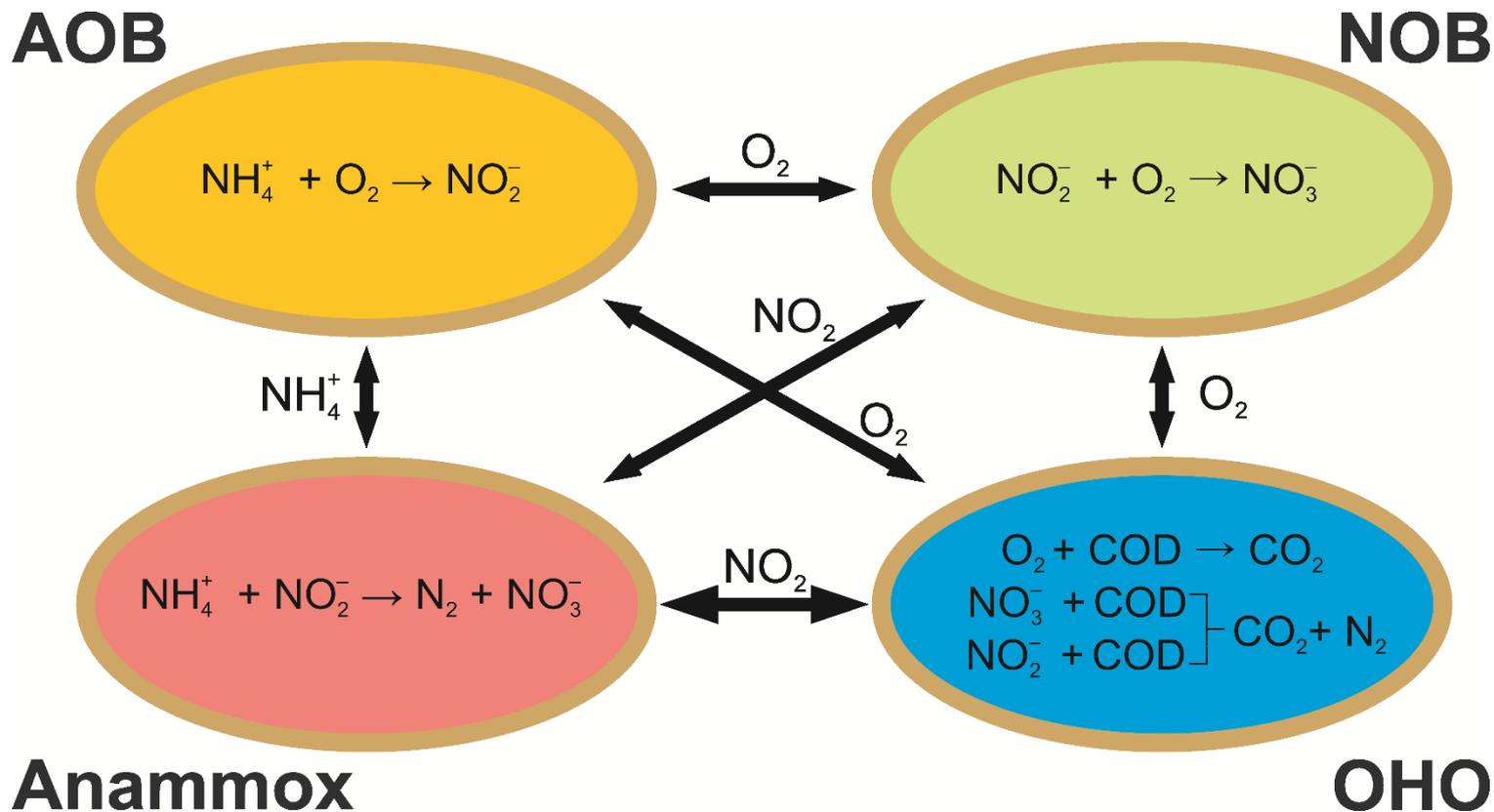


## Comparison of typical mainstream and sidestream systems

- Different influent characteristics

Feature	Unit	Mainstream	Sidestream
Influent TN	mg N/L	20 - 100	500 - 3000
COD/N ratio	mg COD/mg N	>10	<2
Temperature	°C	10 - 25	>30

- N effluent standards need to be considered for mainstream systems (e.g. 10-15 mg N/L in EU)
- More microbial competition in mainstream systems





### Drivers

- Eliminate External Carbon
- Energy
  - decreases aeration demand for N removal
  - decreases aerobic COD oxidation
  - diverts wastewater carbon to anaerobic digestion
- Intensification
  - carbon diversion = much smaller aeration tank volume required



### Challenges

- Unstable performance of the carbon concentrating pretreatment
- Suppression of nitrite oxidizing bacteria (NOB), especially under low temperatures (10-15°C)
- Low activity of anammox bacteria under the low temperatures
- Effective retention of the anammox biomass in the system
- Effective final polishing step for N residuals



## Strass, Austria (cold with bioaugmentation)



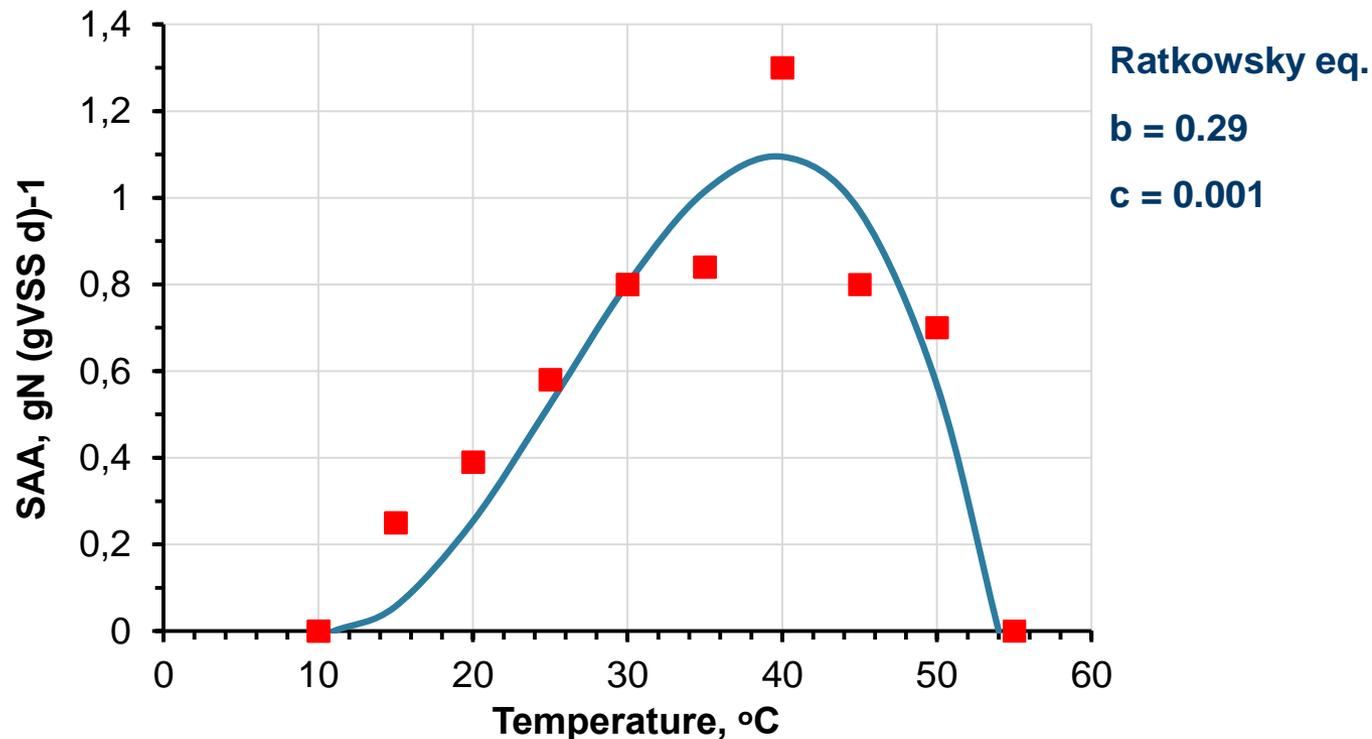
## Changi, Singapore PUB (warm without bioaugmentation)



## Arrhenius vs. Ratkowsky equation

$$r(T) = r_{30} \cdot \theta^{(T-30)}$$

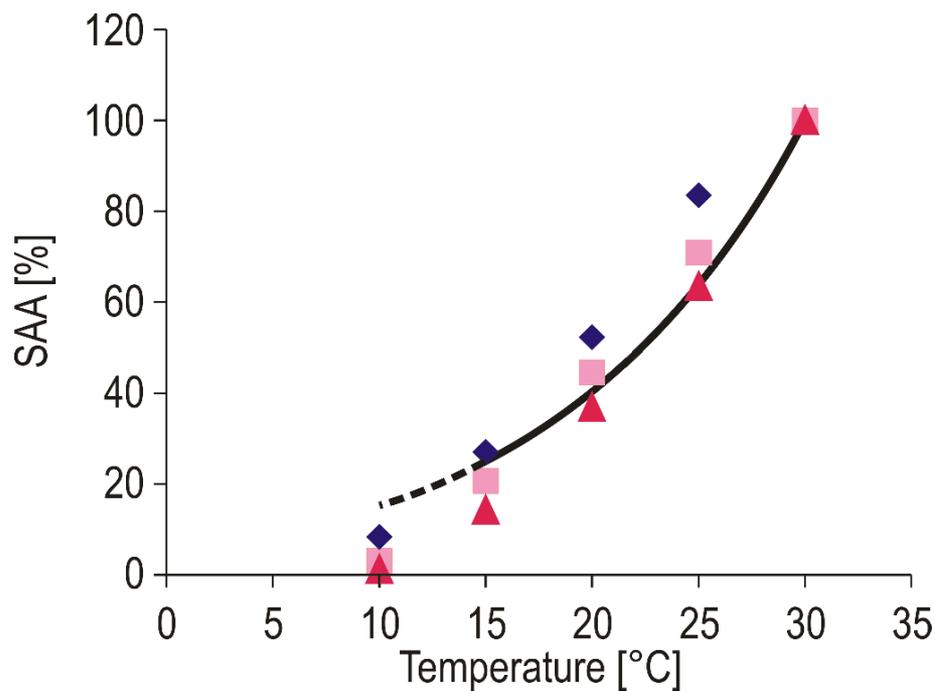
$$r(T) = [b \cdot (T - T_{\min})]^2 \cdot (1 - \exp(c(T - T_{\max})))$$





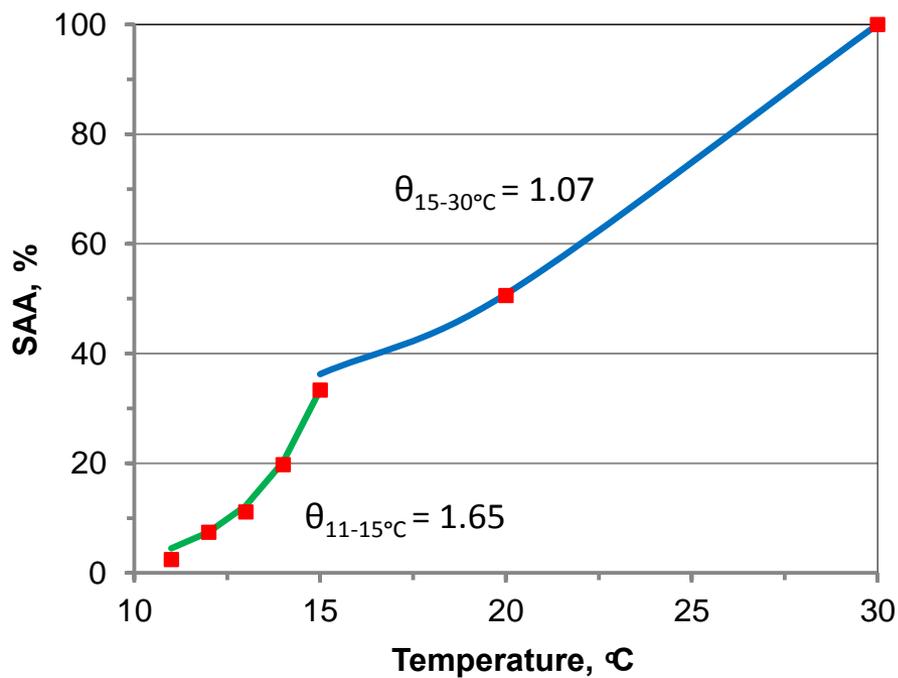
# Effect of temperature change on anammox activity

## IC reactor, airlift reactor and MBR



*Lotti et al. (2015)*

## SBR



*Sobotka et al. (2016)*



- AOB & anammox bioaugmentation from sidestream
- Effective anammox retention in mainstream
- Aggressive SRT Control
  - Lower SRT results in selective washout of NOB at warmer temperatures
- Intermittent high DO “transient anoxia”
  - At high DO AOB grow faster than NOB
  - NOB seem to have a delayed response as they move from anoxic to aerobic zones
- Rapid transition to anoxia
  - DO must be scavenged quickly to avoid a “low” DO environment
  - Step-feed to anoxic zones to deplete DO quickly
  - CEPT by-pass to enhance soluble COD as needed
- Maintain residual ammonia > 2 mg/l
  - Ensure higher ammonia oxidation rates so AOB outcompete NOB for DO
  - Ammonia-based aeration control (AvN controller)



## Anammox

Inoculum



After 300 d



## SBR (10 L)

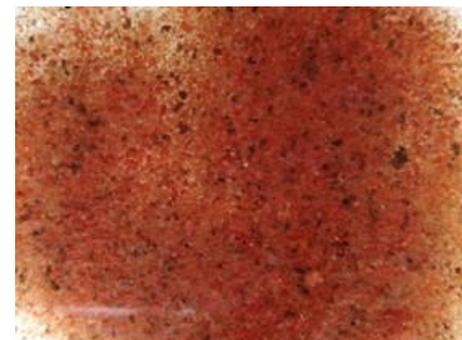


## Deammonification

Inoculum



After 300 d





## Separation of biomass on a sieve

### Anammox

### SBR (10 L)

### Deammonification



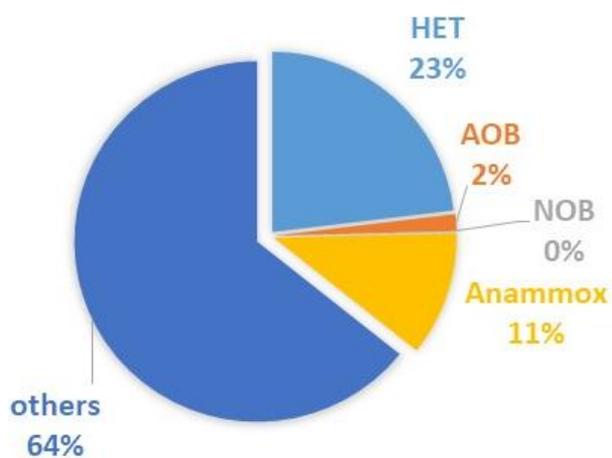
sieve  
( $200 \mu\text{m}$ )



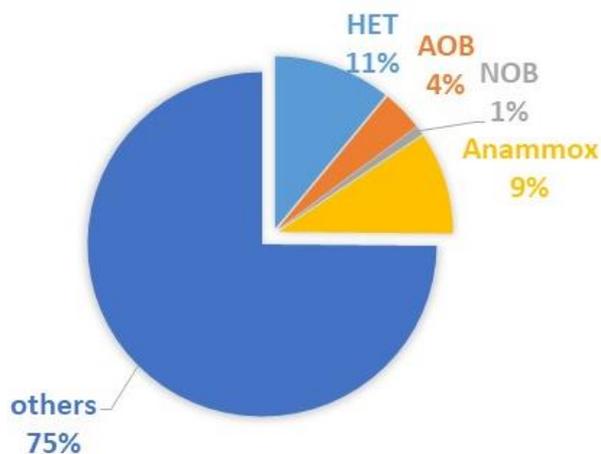
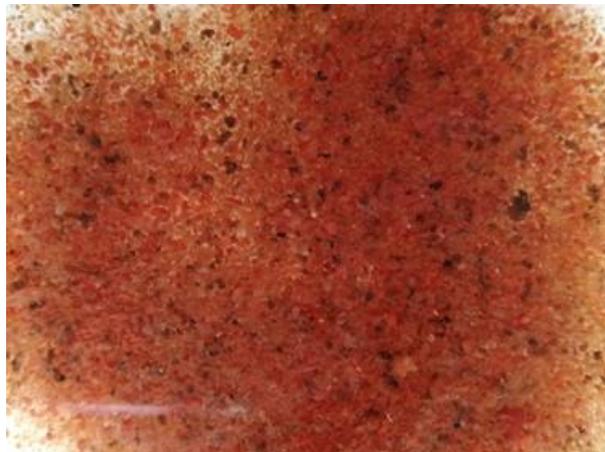


## Microbial (metagenomic) analysis

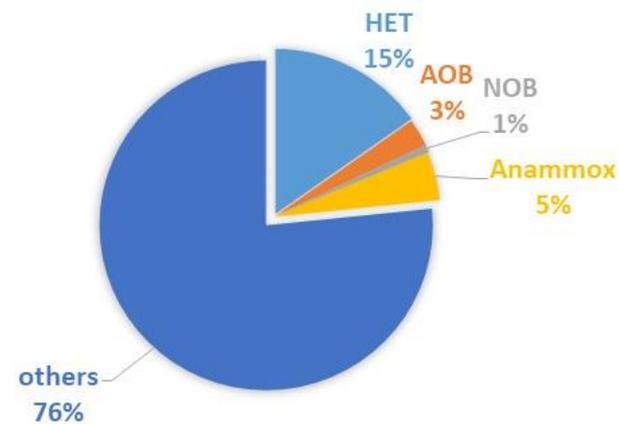
### Anammox



### Granules (deammmonification)

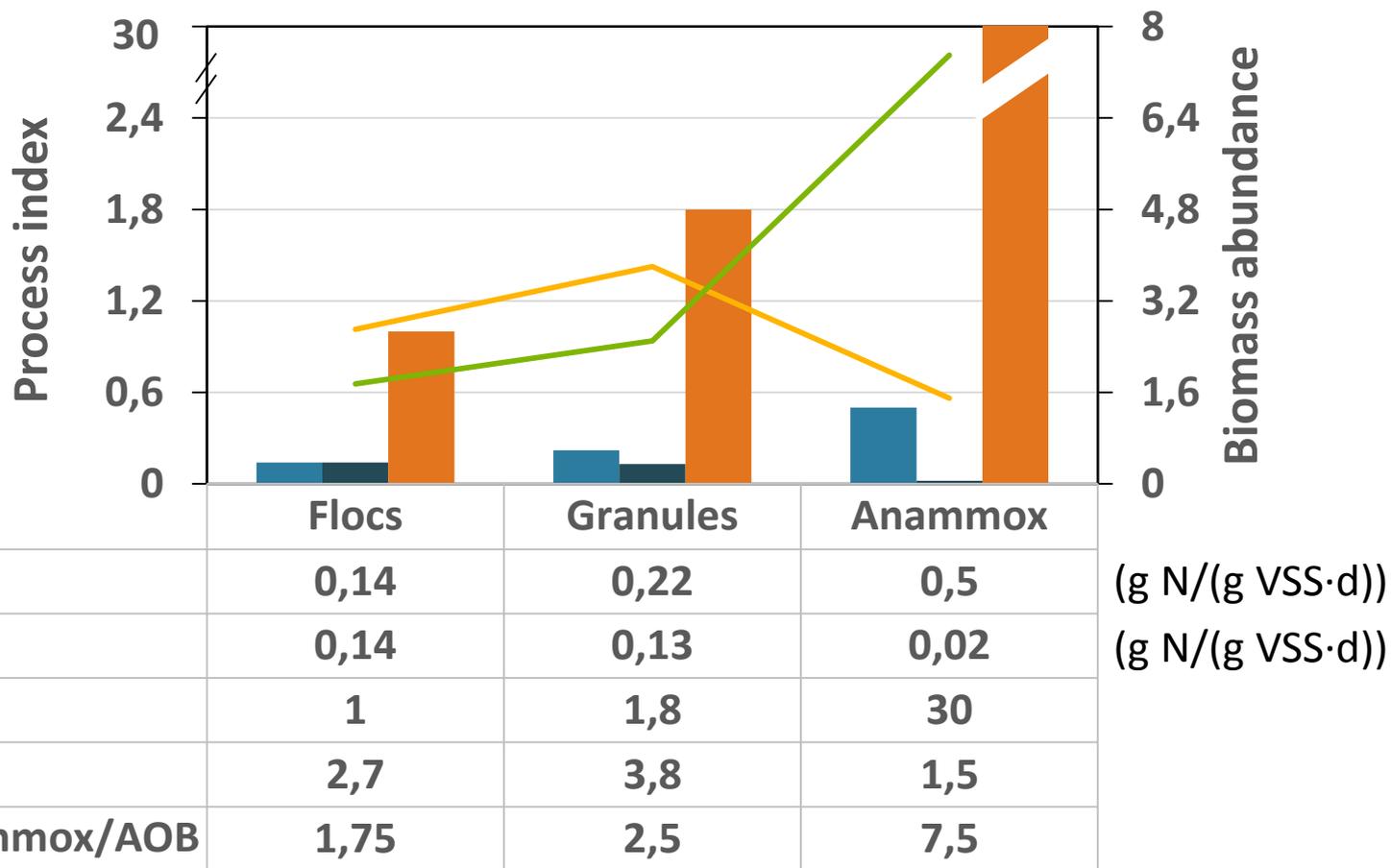


### Flocs (deammmonification)



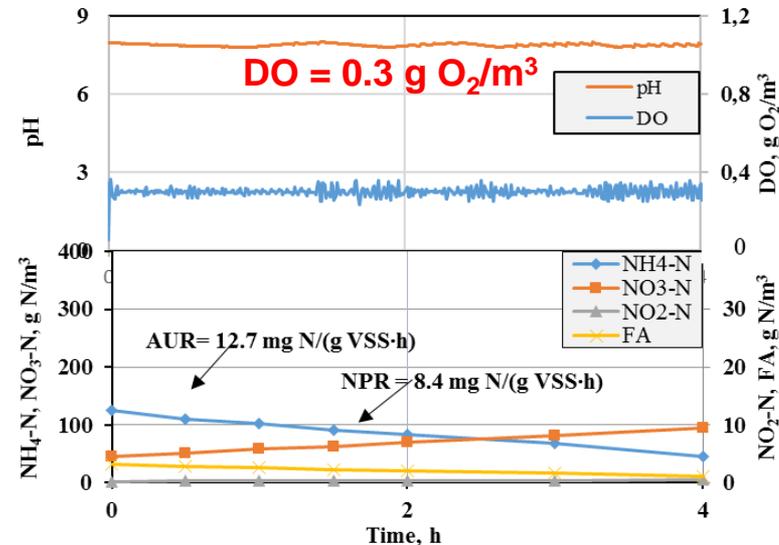
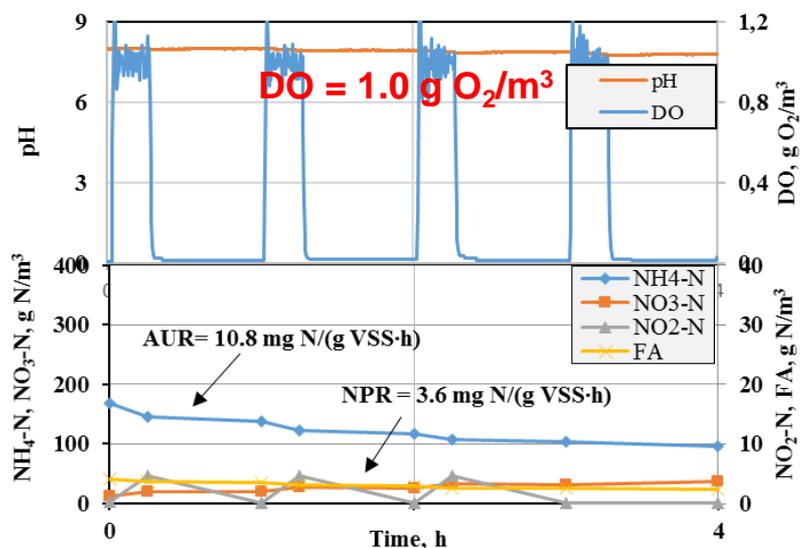
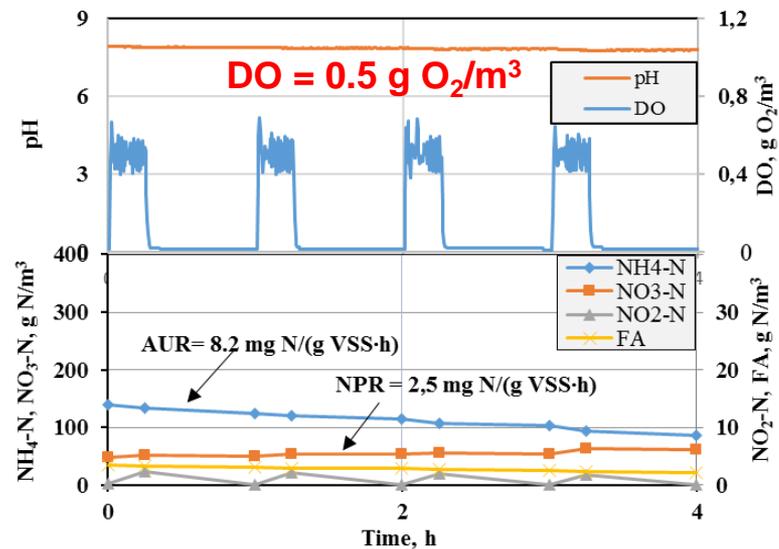
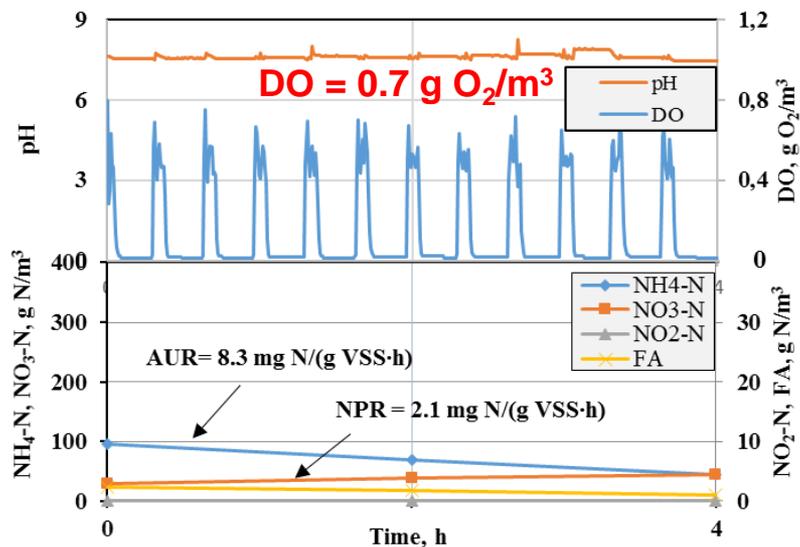


## TN removal rates - measured





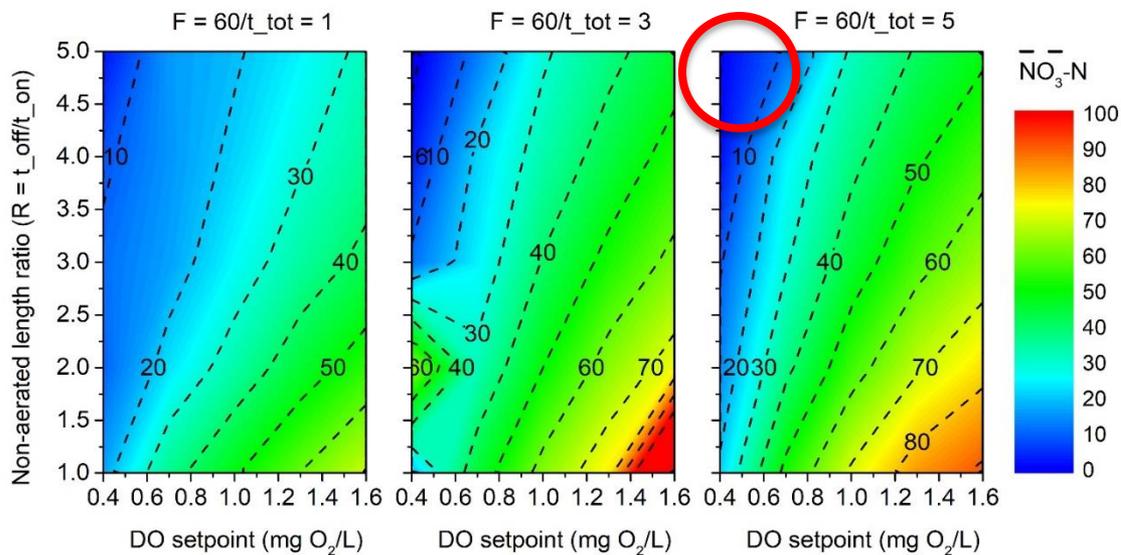
# Effects of aeration modes on deammonification (1)



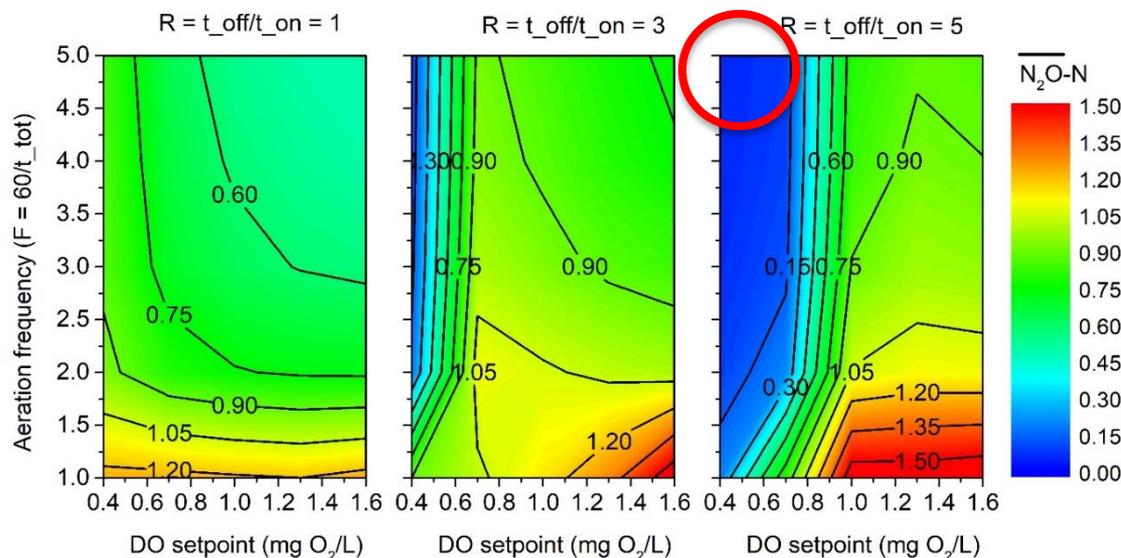


## Effects of aeration modes on deammonification (2)

**NO<sub>3</sub>-N**



**N<sub>2</sub>O-N**





## Conclusions

- | Mainstream deammonification (MD) is an emerging technology with a great potential for achieving a positive energy balance in WWTPs.
- | There are five main challenges for implementation of MD in full-scale WWTPs.
- | A potential recipe for MD consists of several factors that need to be taken into consideration.
- | Long-term studies with granular sludge at GUT showed an effective way of suppression of the NOB activity and mitigation of  $N_2O$  production.





GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY  
OF TECHNOLOGY

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION !**



# Questions???



**Contact:**  
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**[jmakinia@pg.edu.pl](mailto:jmakinia@pg.edu.pl)**