

Comprendre et modéliser le fonctionnement des écosystèmes microbiens dans les procédés de biotechnologie environnementale

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Pour mieux
affirmer
ses missions,
le Cemagref
devient Irstea



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Chaire Modélisation Mathématique et Biodiversité
Ecole Polytechnique, le 22 septembre 2017

Irstea-Antony

National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture

Environmental research through a multidisciplinary, action-oriented approach

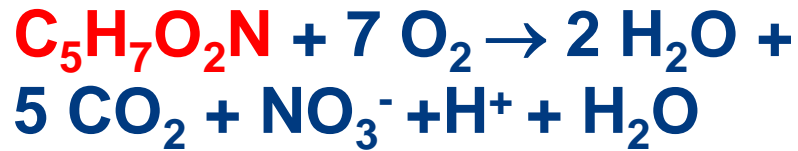


- 1500 collaborators, 113 M€ budget (27% from contracts)
- 3 scientific departments: Waters, Ecotechnologies, Territories
- 9 locations



Facing the sanitary threat...

With the help of our microscopic allies!



Granular beds of Dr Calmette

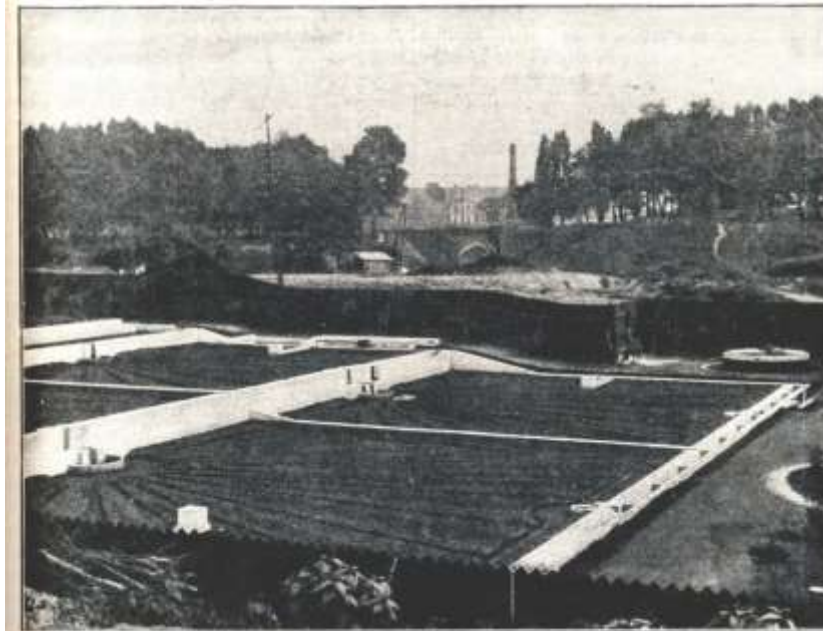
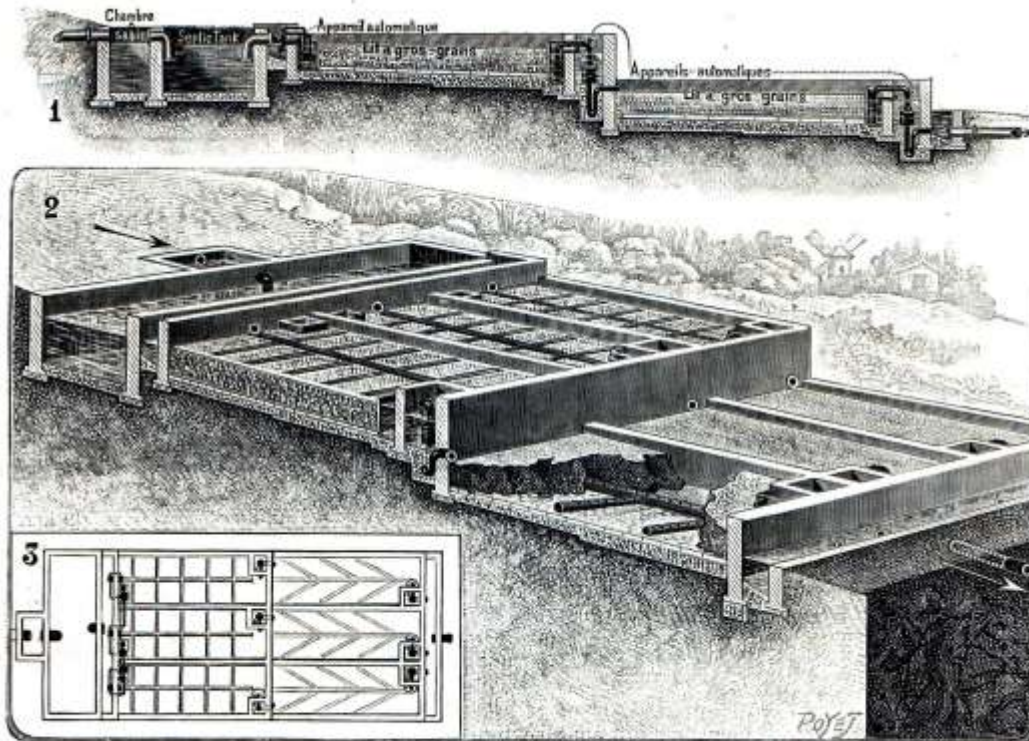
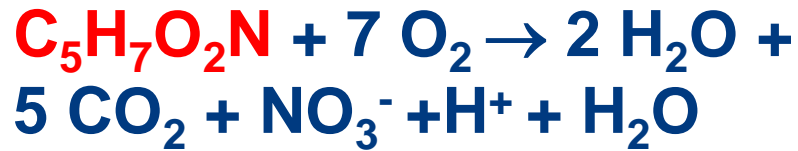


Fig. 5. — Vue générale des lits bactériens de premier et de second contact à la station expérimentale de la Madeleine.

Experiments in Madeleine-Les-Lille, 1904

Facing the sanitary threat...

With the help of our microscopic allies!



Granular beds of Dr Calmette

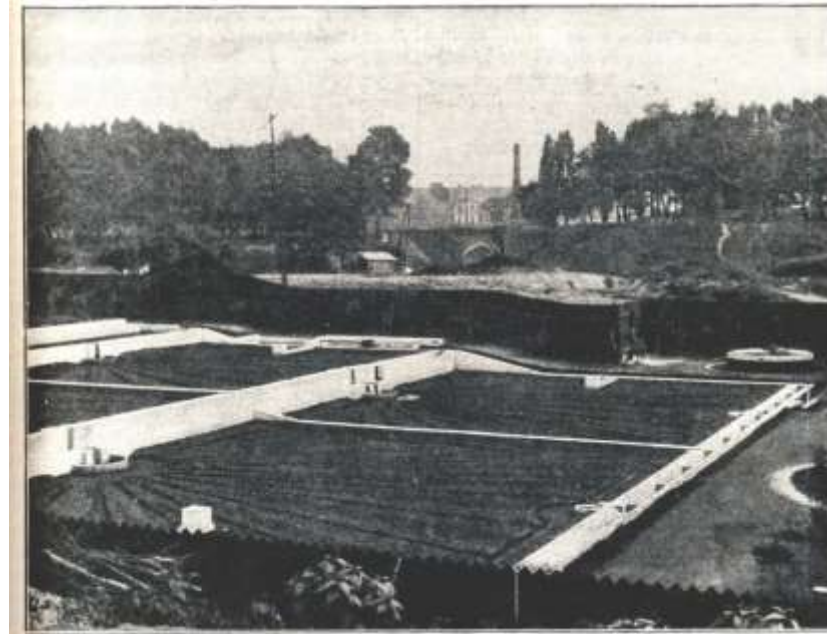
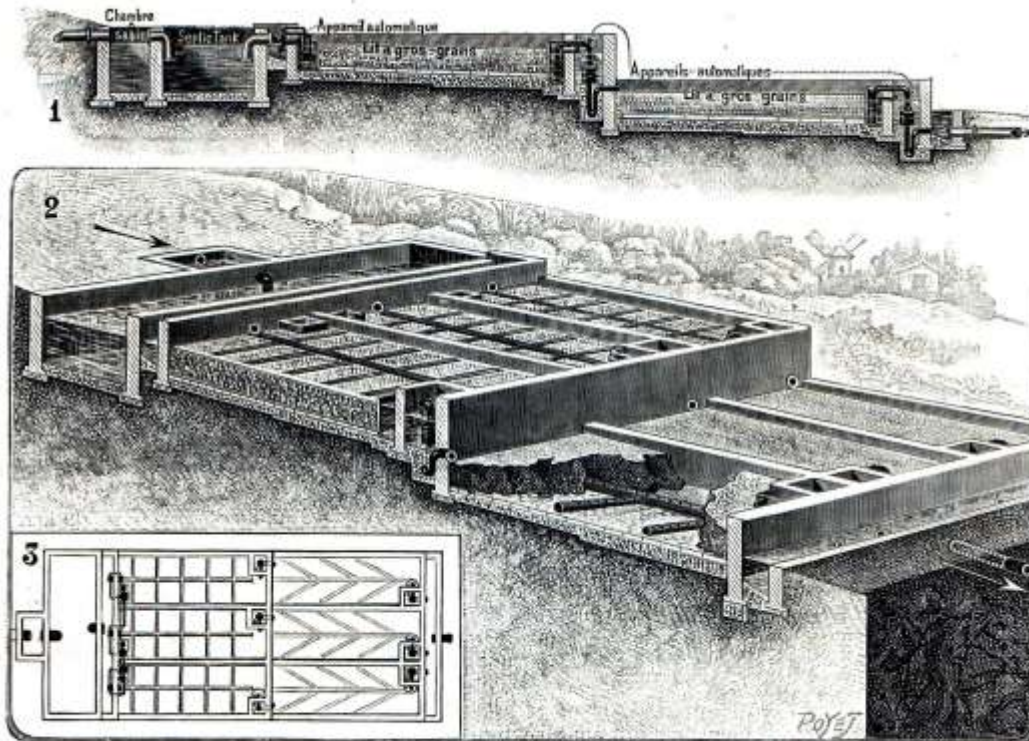
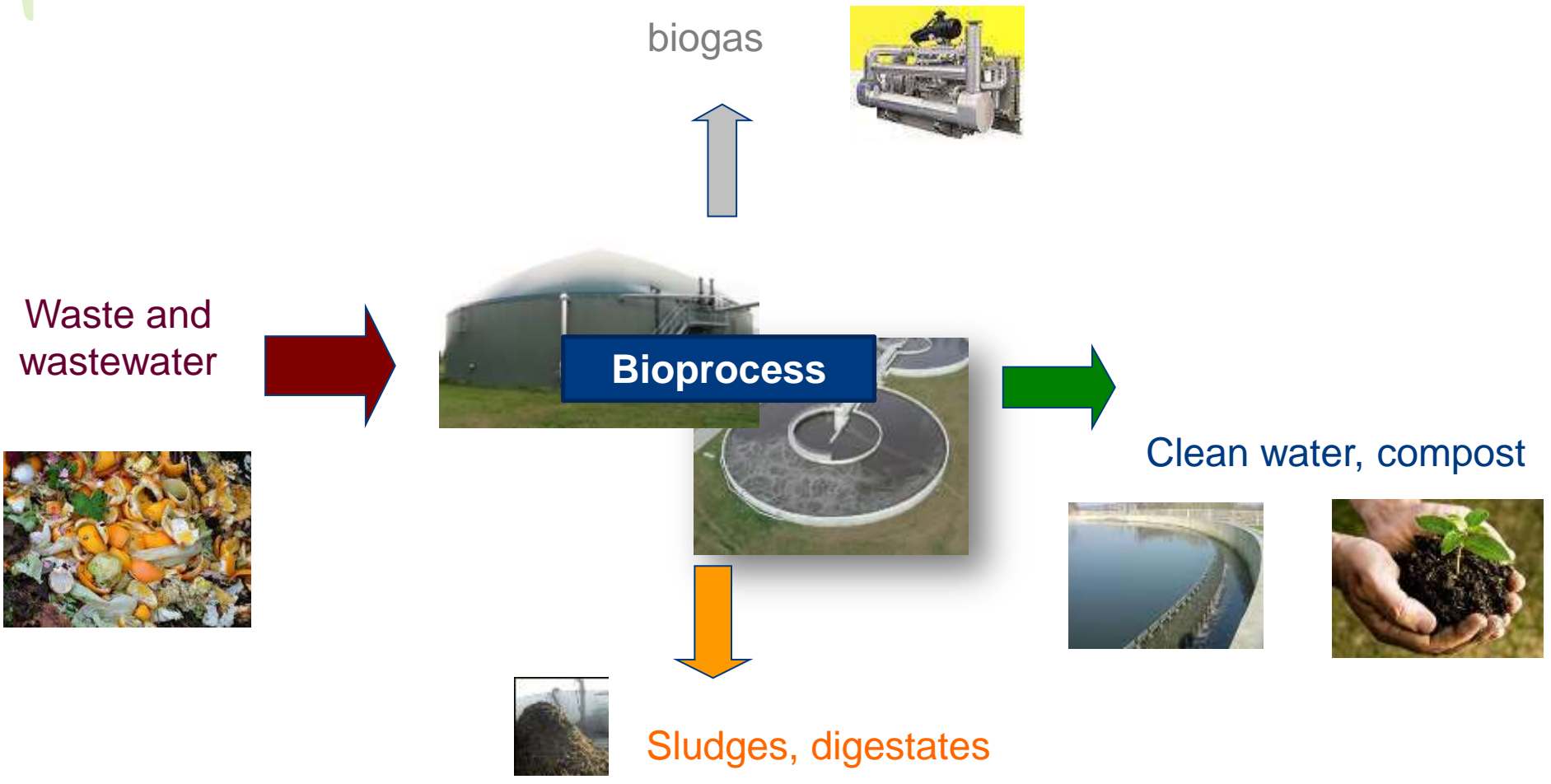


Fig. 3. — Vue générale des lits bactériens de premier et de second contact à la station expérimentale de la Madeleine.

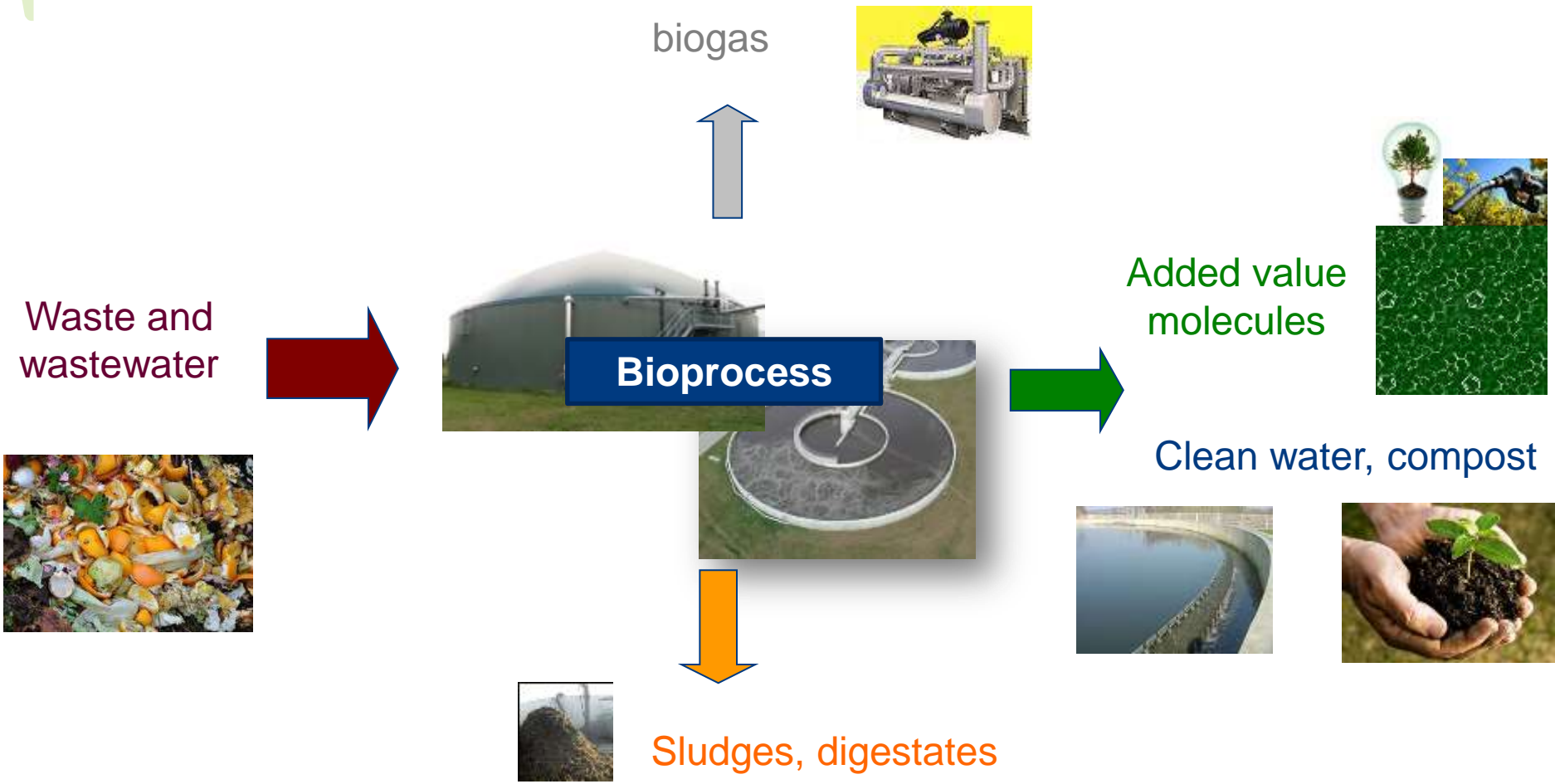
Experiments in Madeleine-Les-Lille, 1904

**Environmental
biotechnologies**

Environmental biotechnologies



Environmental biotechnologies

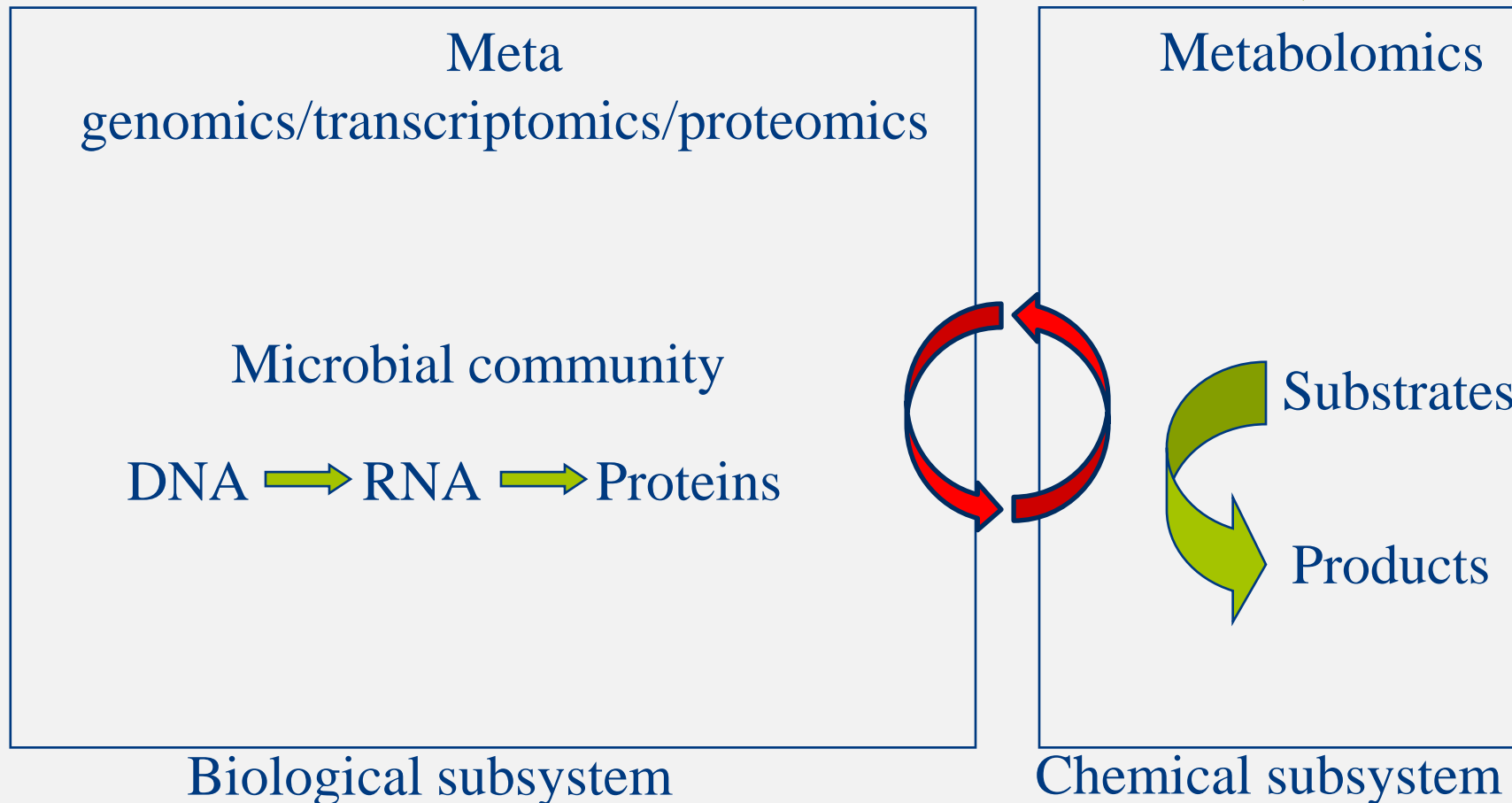


Harvest, manage and exploit the natural conversion abilities of the earth microbiome
= process engineering + microbial ecology

2010 : the meta-omics decade

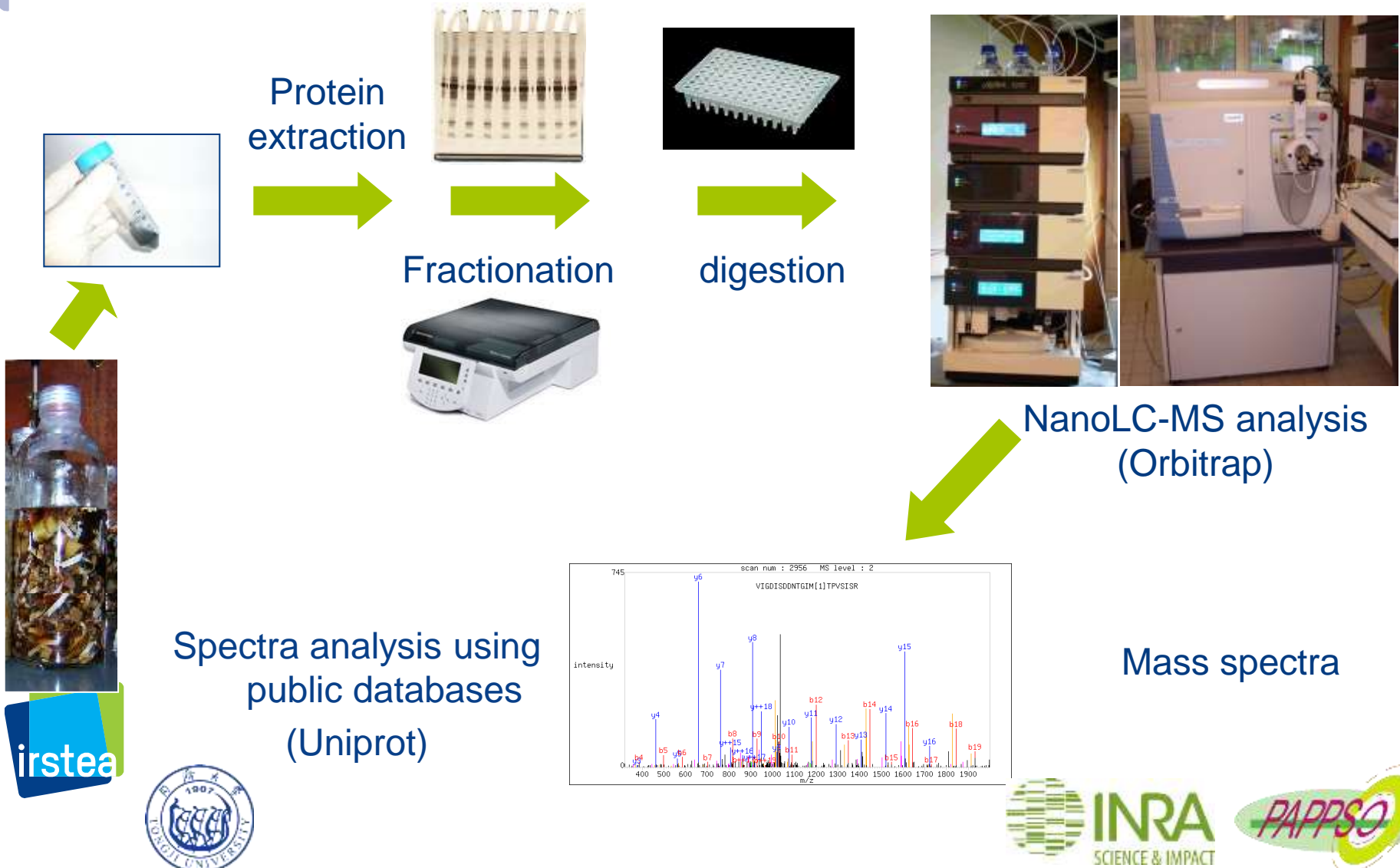
8

Microbiome

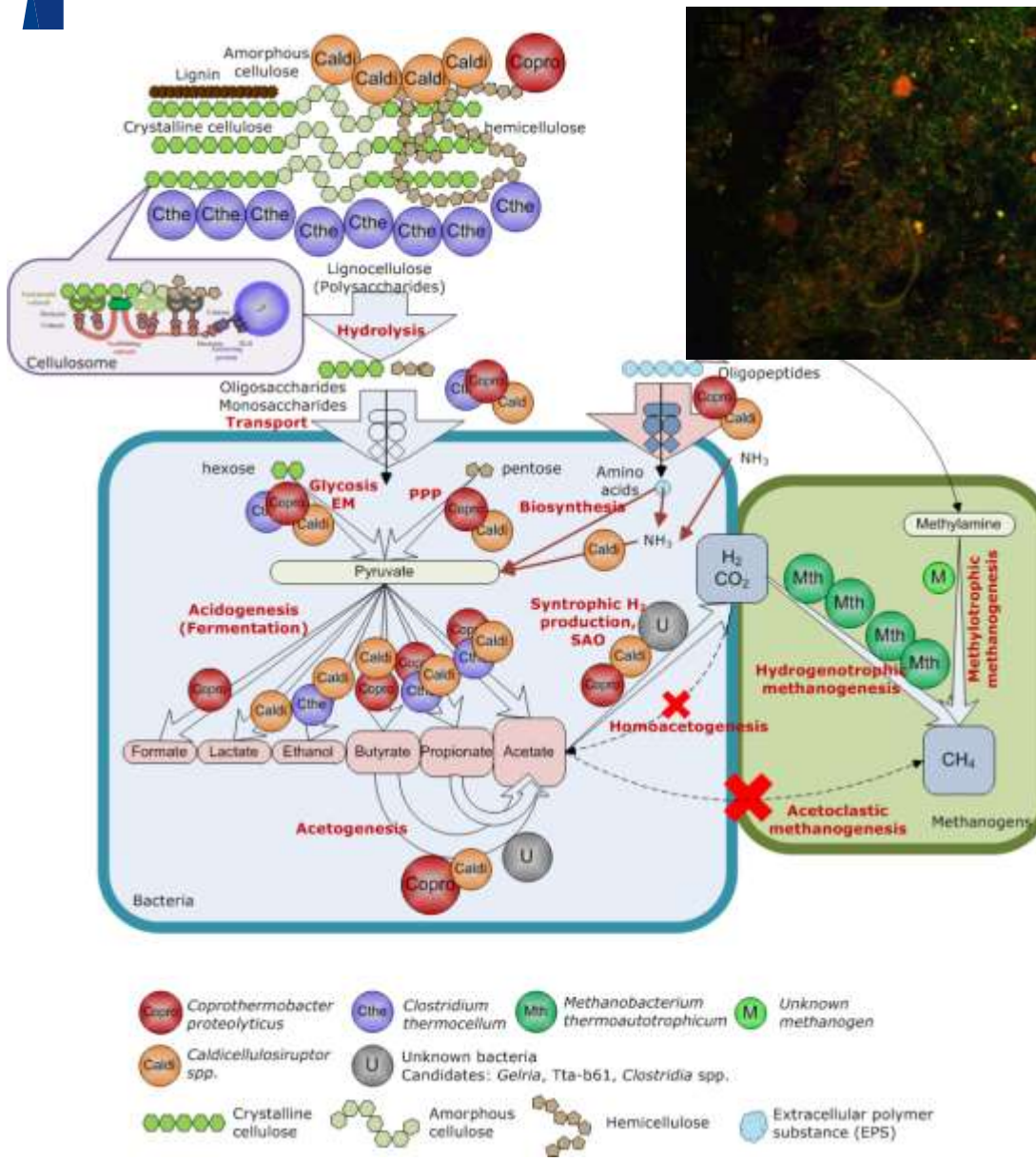


Shotgun metaproteomics of thermophilic anaerobic digestion of cellulose

(Lü *et al.*, The ISME-J, 2014, 8, 88–102)



Confirmations, findings and...surprises!



← *The Coprothermobacter proteolyticus surprise:*

- 22 **peptidases**
 - membrane bound
 - extracellular peptidases
- 3 **Microcins**
- 7 **ABC transporters** among which 3 are specific for peptides

⇒ **Evidencing new and unexpected competitive interaction between community members**

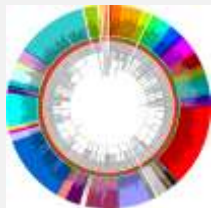
⇒ **Consequences on process performances require further studies**

From a blackbox to a flood of data...

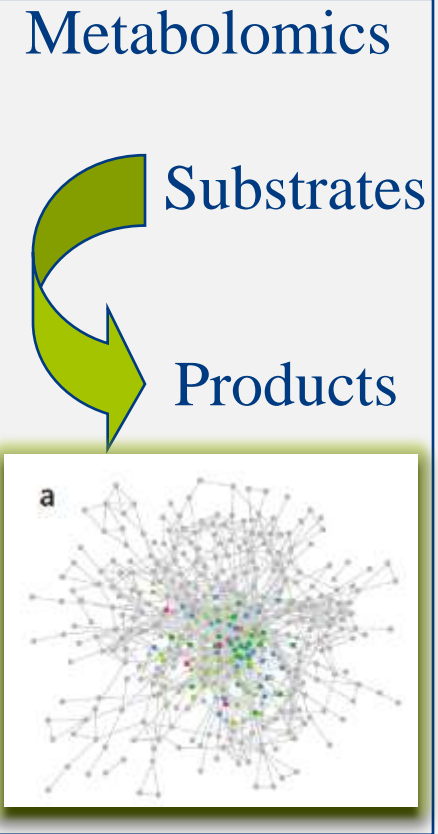
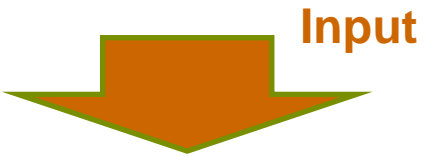
Microbiome

Meta-
genomics/transcriptomics/proteomics

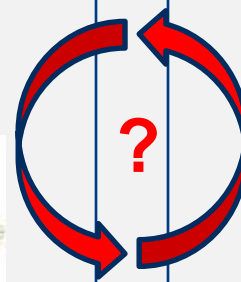
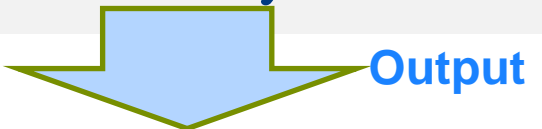
DNA → RNA → Proteins



Biological subsystem

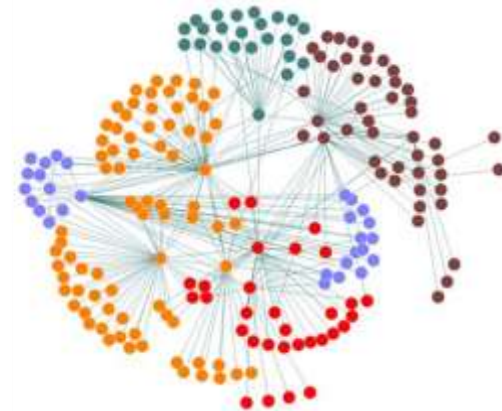


Chemical subsystem



The next challenge: making sense out of the data...¹²

- Data driven approaches



- ❖ Organizing data-derived knowledge into specific databases
- ❖ Computational and statistical approaches

- The need for new abstractions (P. Medawar, 1982)

“...an epoch in the growth of a science during which facts accumulate faster than theories can accommodate them

[...]

As science advances, particular facts are comprehended within, and therefore in a sense annihilated by, **general statements** of steadily increasing explanatory power... “



Selection as a key tool for managing microbes in environmental biotechnology processes

Dispersal

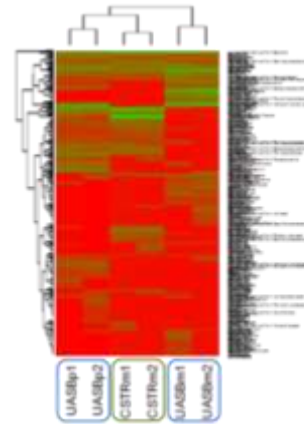
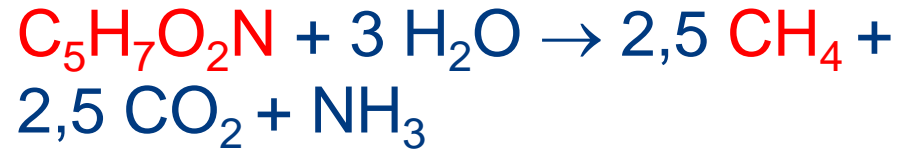
"open diversity systems"



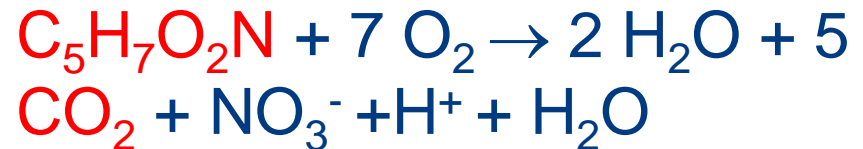
Selection



Process design and operation



**Taxonomically diverse
but functionally
reproducible microbial
community patterns**



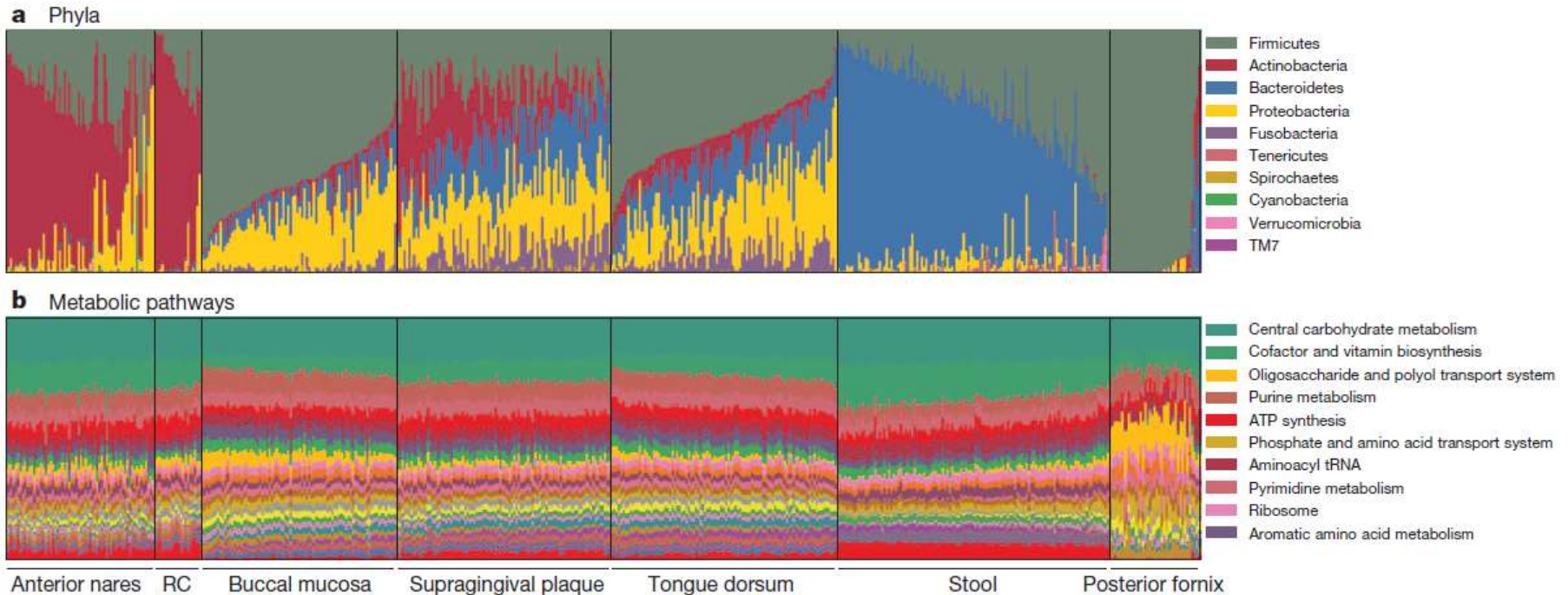
Ecological niches available => environmental filtering => fitness selection

Environmental biotechnology processes are typical "Bass Becking ecosystems"!

"Everything is everywhere, but the environment selects" Baas Becking, 1934

Diverse biotopes exhibit coherent functional assembly patterns

Healthy human microbiome



JUNE 2012 | VOL 486 | NATURE

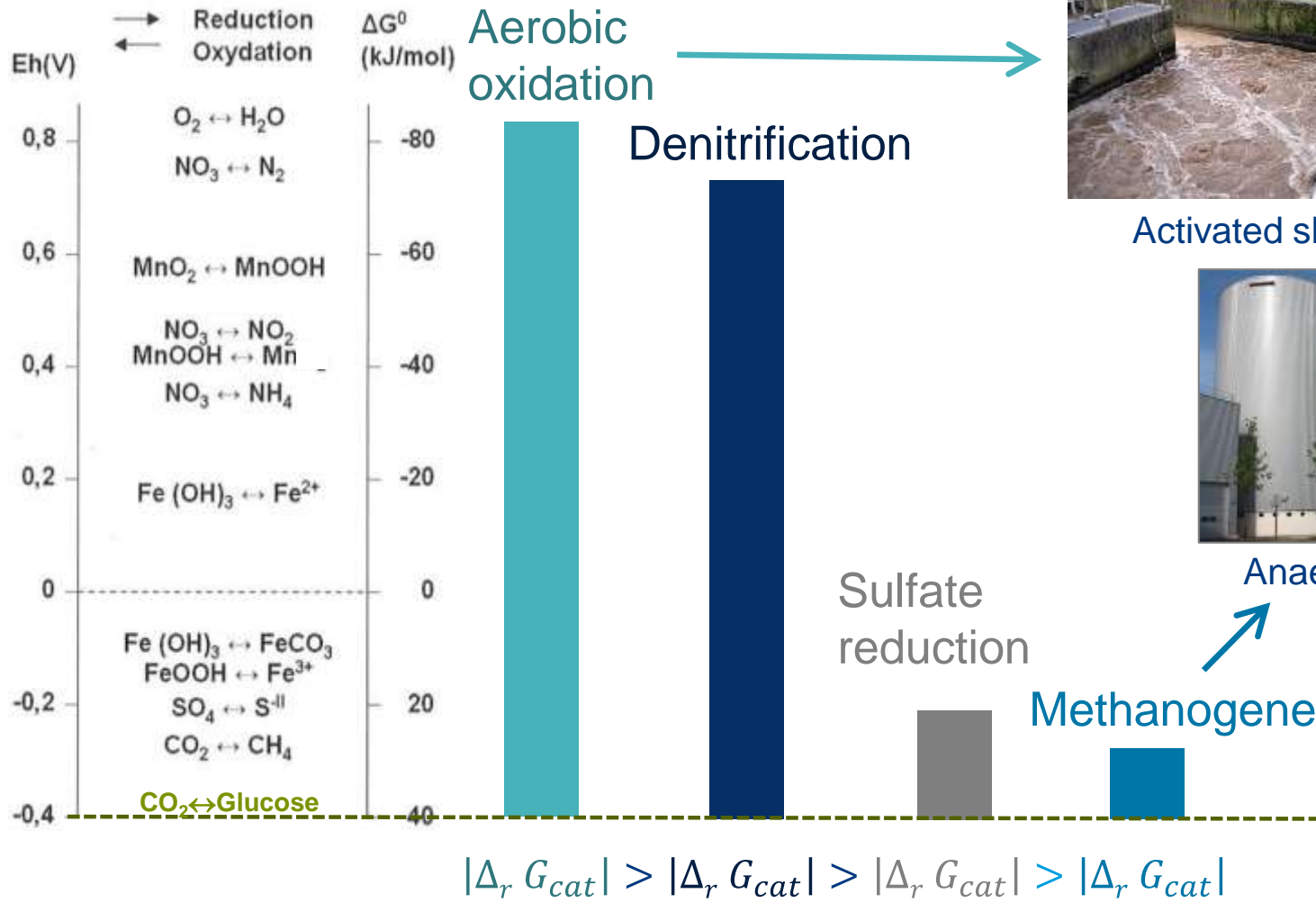


Ocean microbiome (Raes *et al.*, 2011 MSB 7:473; MSBLouca *et al.*, 2016; Science 353: 6305)

Soil microbiome (Nelson *et al.*, 2016 PNAS 113: 29)

Plant foliage microbiome (Louca *et al.*, 2016 Nat. E&E 1:15)

Environmental biotechnology processes: selection through energy gradients



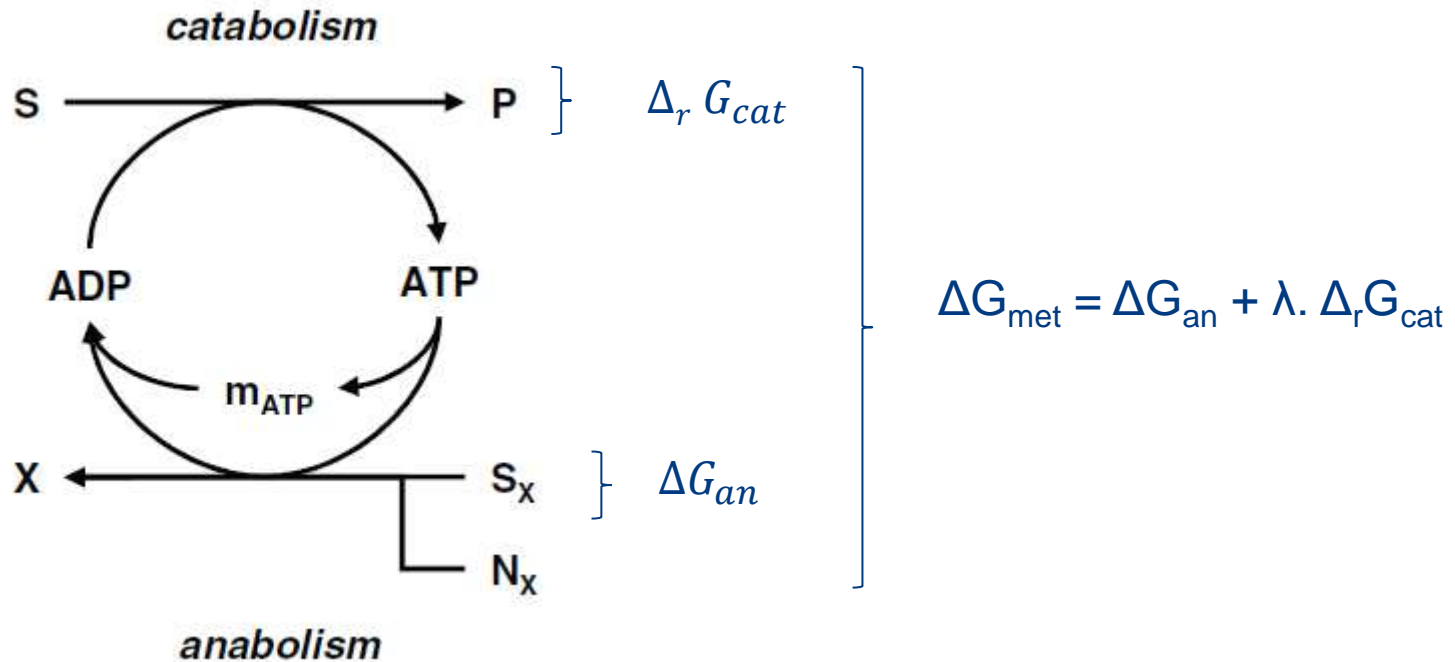
Activated sludge



Anaerobic digestion

A thermodynamic principle underlying functional community assembly in environmental biotechnology processes?

Thermodynamic balances of microbial growth



$$\Delta G_{met} = \Delta G_{an} + \lambda \cdot \Delta_r G_{cat} = \Delta G_{dis} = f(\text{substrate})$$

Introducing the exergy concept

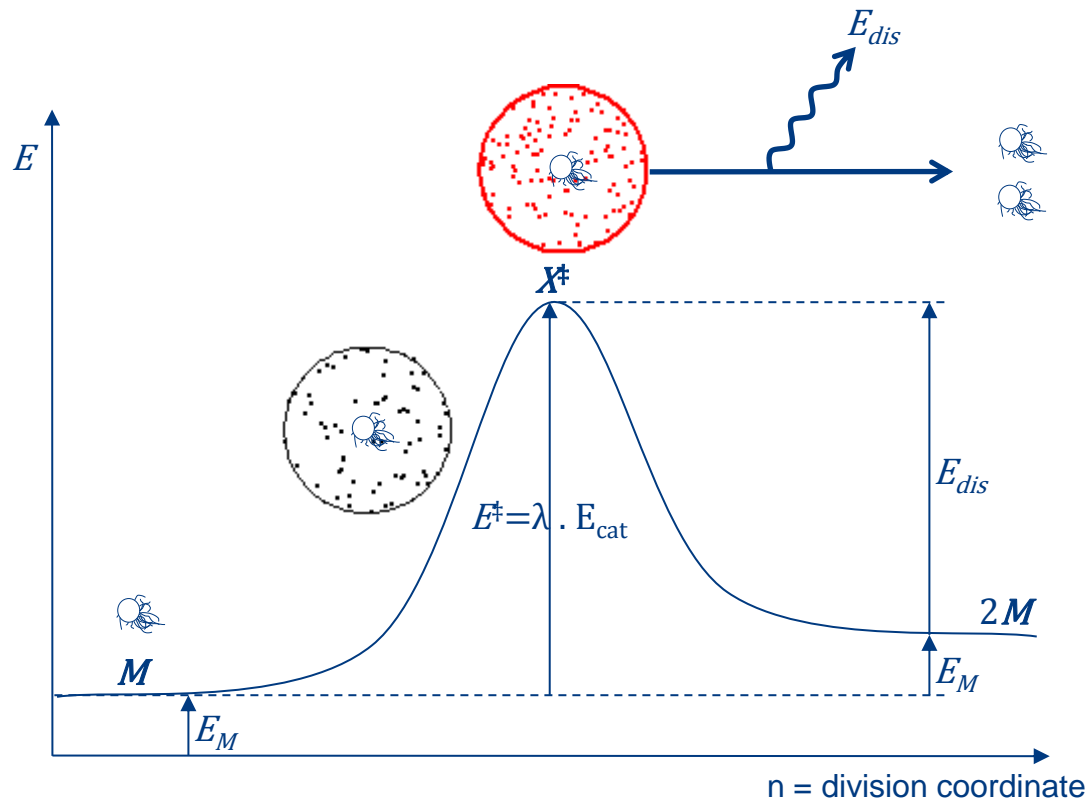
$$E_{dis} = \lambda \cdot E_{cat} - E_M$$

From thermodynamic balances to kinetics using first principles?

The Microbial “Transition State” theory (MTS)

Desmond-Le Quéméner and Bouchez, *The ISME-J*, 2014

17



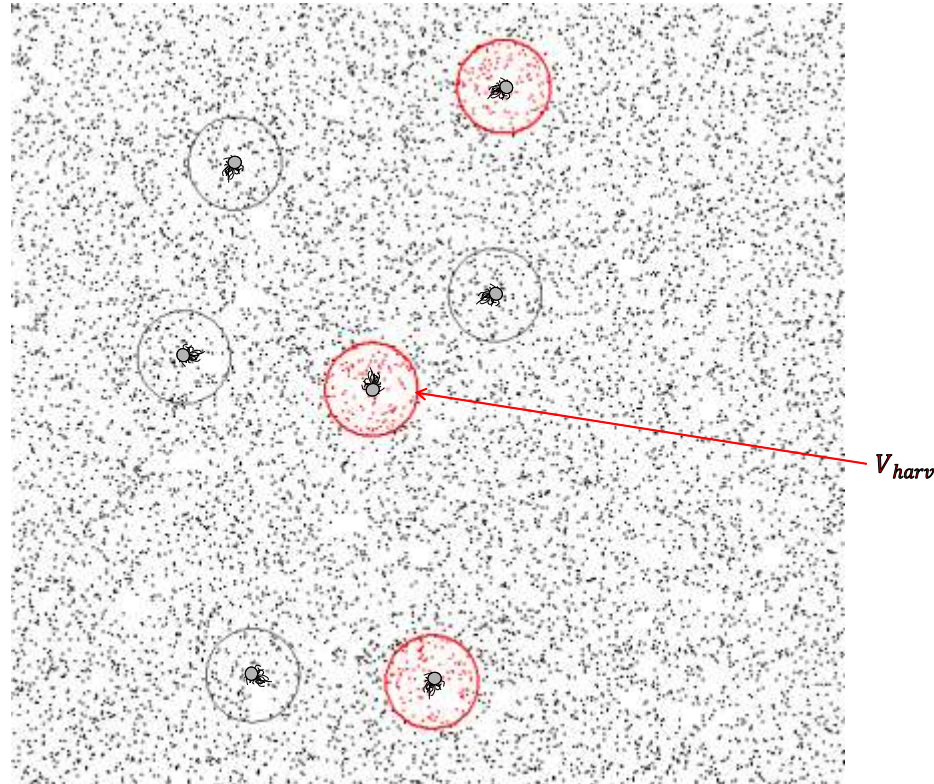
$$K = \frac{[X^\ddagger]}{[M]} = \frac{N^\ddagger}{N} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dN}{dt} = \mu_{max} \cdot N^\ddagger$$

N is the number of microbes

N^\ddagger is the number of activated microbes

Resource allocation among microbes: a statistical question

18



- Define the spatial distribution of molecules in the medium
 - Introduce V_{harv} « the harvesting volume »
 - Compute the distribution of molecules in the various harvesting volumes
- $\Rightarrow N^\ddagger$ can be deduced from this calculation

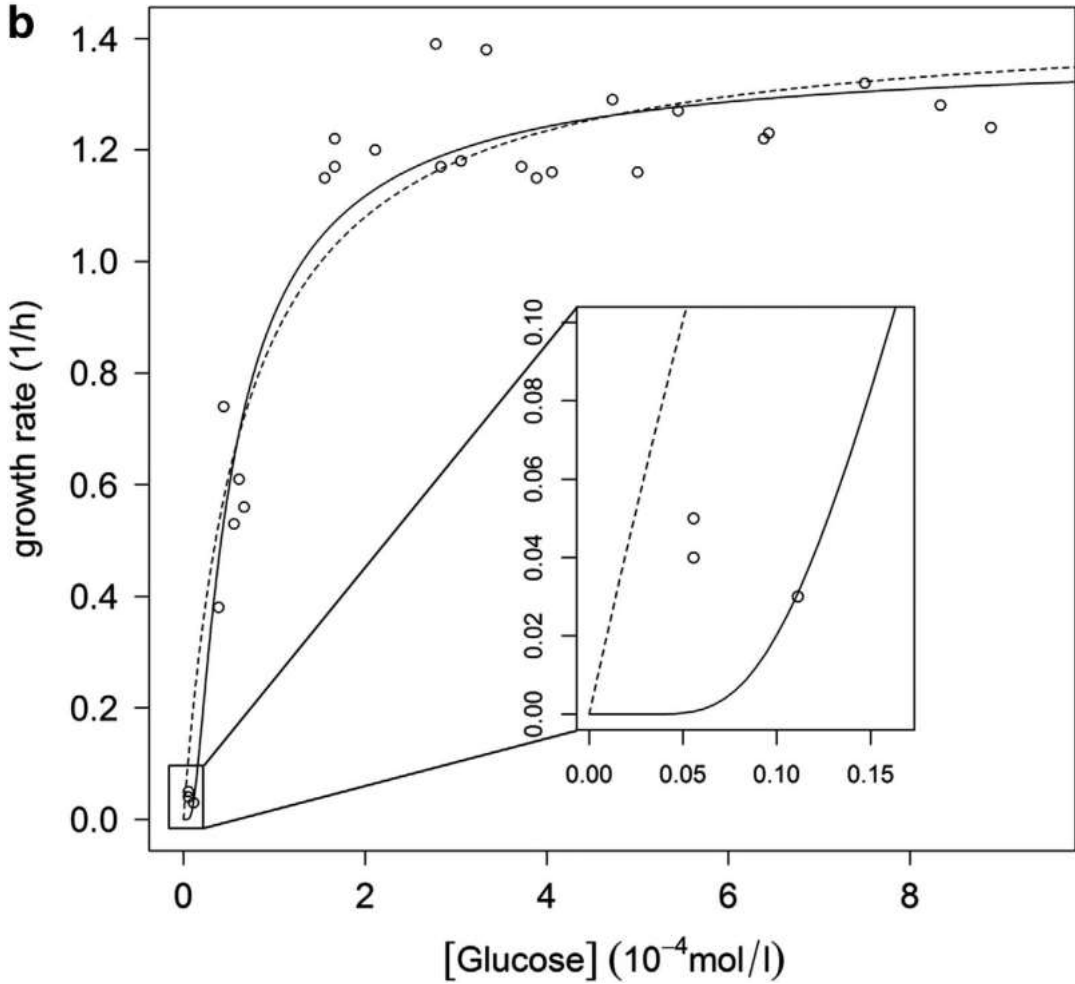
$$\frac{N^\ddagger}{N} = \exp\left(-\frac{E_M + E_{dis}}{V_{harv} \cdot [S] \cdot E_{cat}}\right)$$

Growth rate as a function of substrate according to MTS theory

$$\underbrace{\mu}_{\text{Flux: growth rate}} = \mu_{max} \cdot \exp\left(-\underbrace{\frac{E_M + E_{dis}}{V_{harv} \cdot [S] \cdot E_{cat}}}_{\text{Force: accessible energy compared to energy barrier}}\right)$$

Flux: growth rate

Force: accessible energy compared to energy barrier



— MTS model

- - - Monod equation

$$\mu = \mu_{max} \cdot \frac{[S]}{K_S + [S]}$$

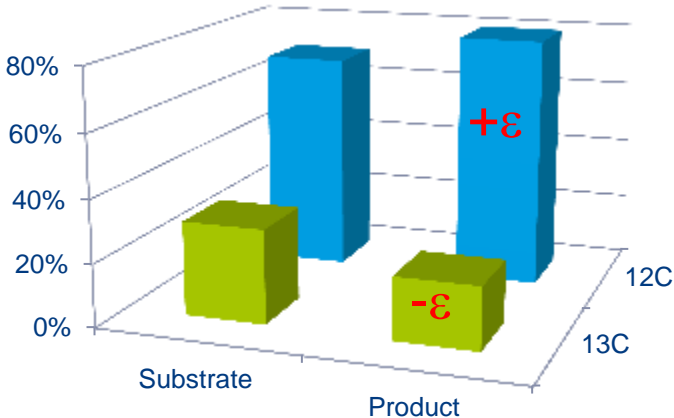
Illustrating MTS model properties

1. Predictions in relation to the microbial isotopic fractionation phenomenon
2. From modeling a pure culture in a minimal medium*...
3. ...to mixed culture ecosystem models*



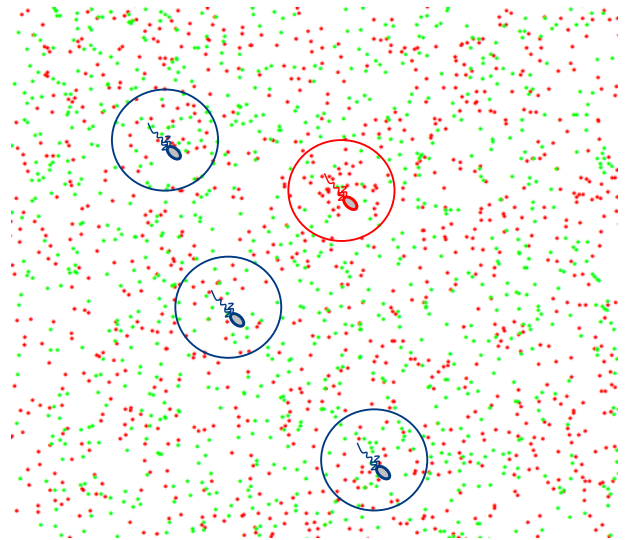
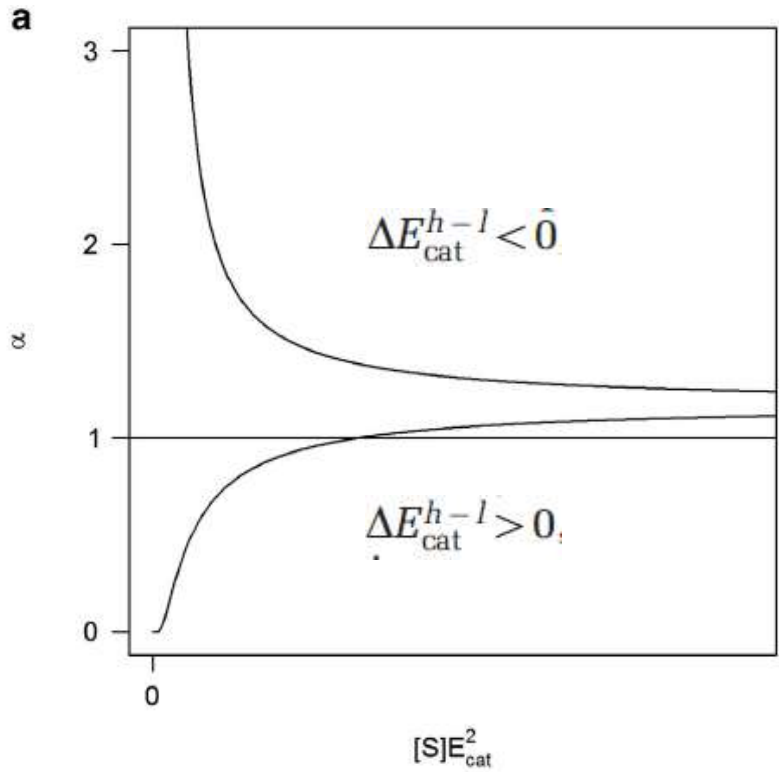
***Hadrien Delattre
PhD**

Analyzing the microbial isotopic fractionation phenomenon with MTS theory



$$\alpha_{S/P} = \alpha_0 \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{E_M + E_{dis}}{V_{harv} \cdot [S_{lim}] \cdot E_{cat}^2} \Delta E_{cat}^{h-l}\right)$$

Isotopomer have different energy!
 ⇒ Should lead to different rates!



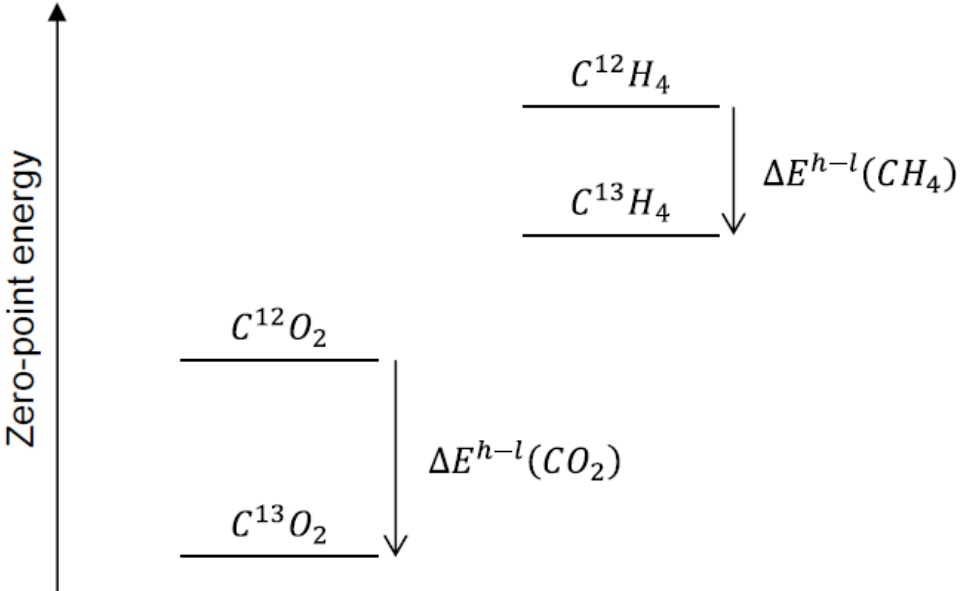
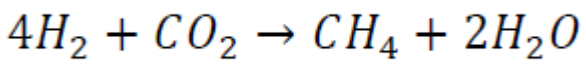
Challenging these predictions with real datasets...

Light resource (¹²C, ¹⁴N,...)
 Heavy resource (¹³C, ¹⁵N,...)

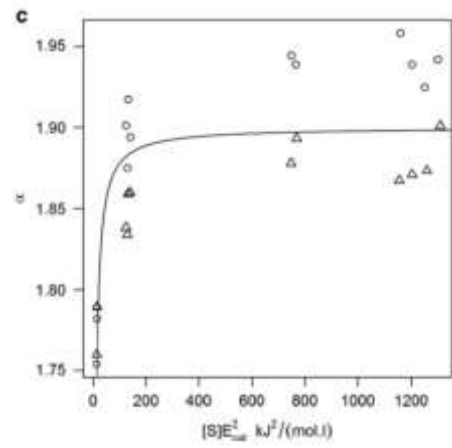
Challenging thermodynamic growth model's predictions with actual isotopic data

$$\alpha_{S/P} = \alpha_0 \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{E_M + E_{dis}}{V_{harv} \cdot [S_{lim}] \cdot E_{cat}^2} \Delta E_{cat}^{h-l}\right)$$

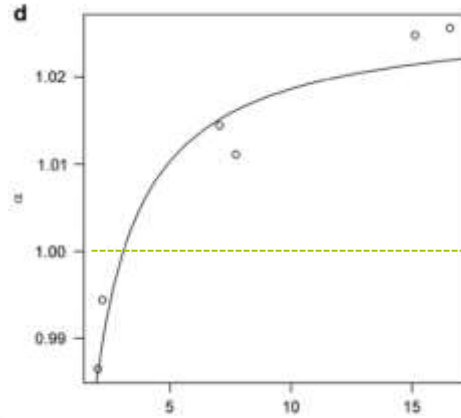
Hydrogenotrophic methanogenesis



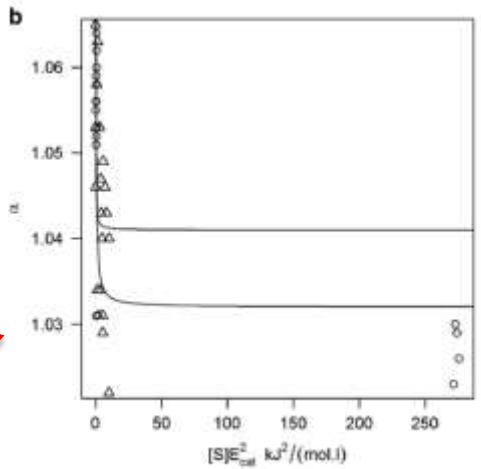
$$\Delta E_{cat}^{h-l} = \Delta E^{h-l}(CH_4) - \Delta E^{h-l}(CO_2) < 0$$



D/H
Aerobic phenol
Degradation
Kampara *et al.*, 2008



¹³C/¹²C
Acetoclastic
Methanogenesis
Govert and Conrad,
2009



¹³C/¹²C
Hydrogenotrophic
Methanogenesis
Valentine *et al.*, 2004
Penning *et al.*, 2005

Illustrating MTS model properties

1. Predictions in relation to the microbial isotopic fractionation phenomenon
- 2. From modeling a pure culture in a minimal medium* ...**
3. ...to mixed culture ecosystem models*



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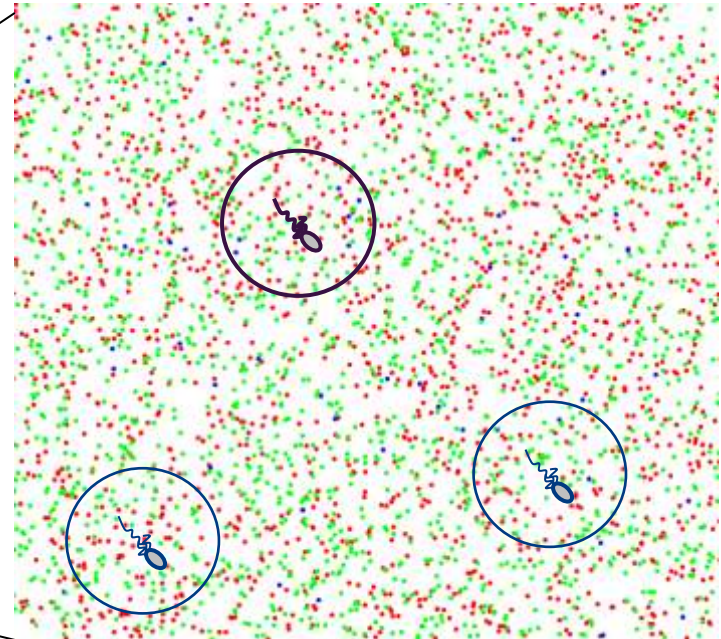
Modeling the growth of a pure culture in a minimal medium

(Delattre et al., submitted)

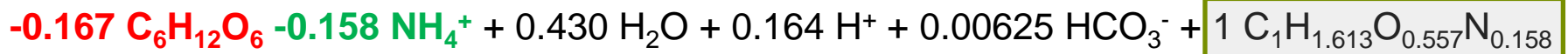


Pure culture in a minimal medium

Glucose
Oxygen
Ammonium



Anabolism



new biomass

Catabolism



$$\lambda = \frac{-\Delta G_{an} + \Delta G_{dis}}{\Delta G_{cat}}$$

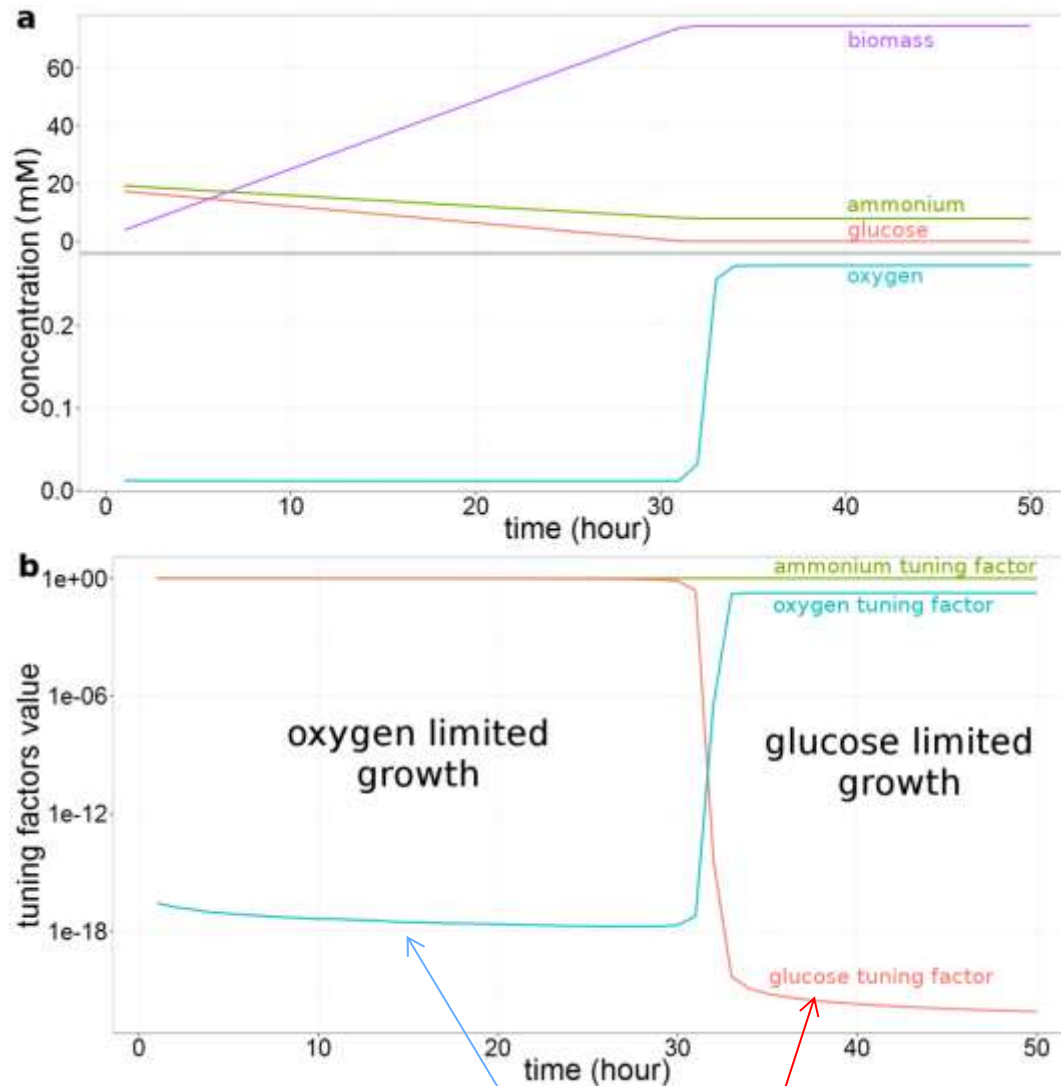
Metabolic energy coupling

MTS multi-resources growth dynamics

$$\mu = \mu_{max} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{Glucose}(\lambda)}{V_h \cdot [Glucose]}} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{oxygen}(\lambda)}{V_h \cdot [oxygen]}} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{ammonium}}{V_h \cdot [ammonium]}}$$

Tuning factors

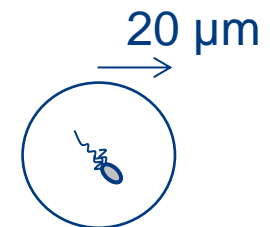
Dynamics arising from MTS theory for a pure culture



Fixed parameters

$$\mu_{max} = \frac{k_B \cdot T}{h}$$

$$V_h = 1 \text{ m}^3 \cdot \text{C} - \text{mol}^{-1}$$

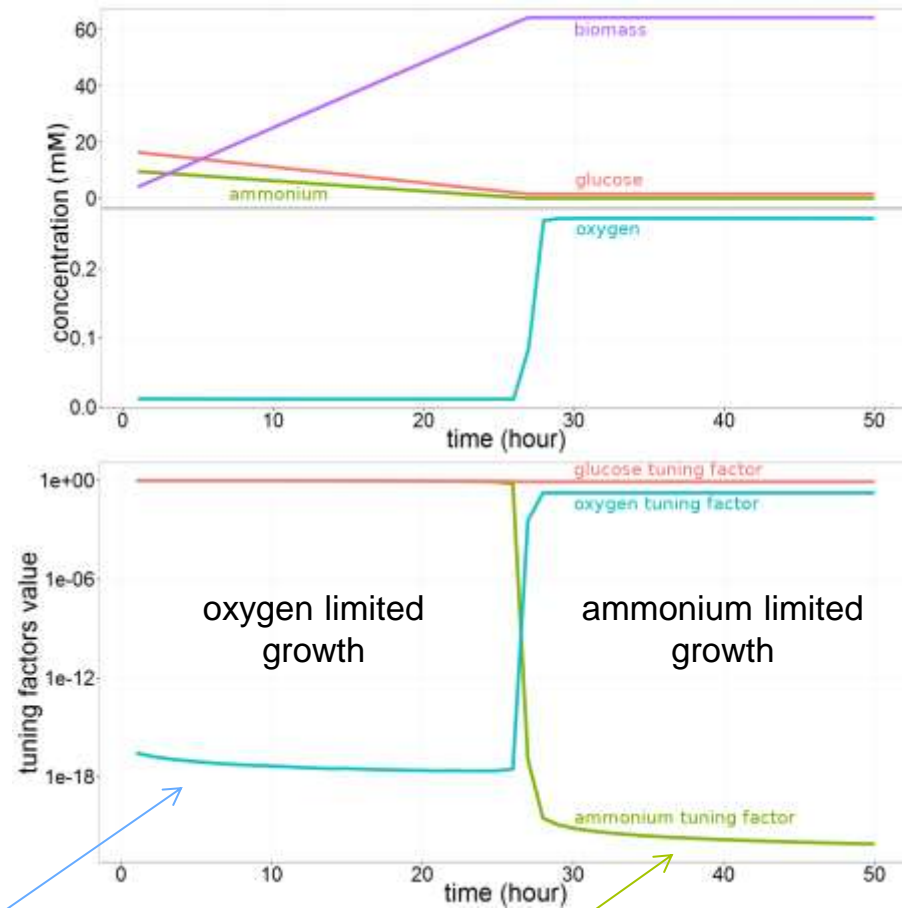
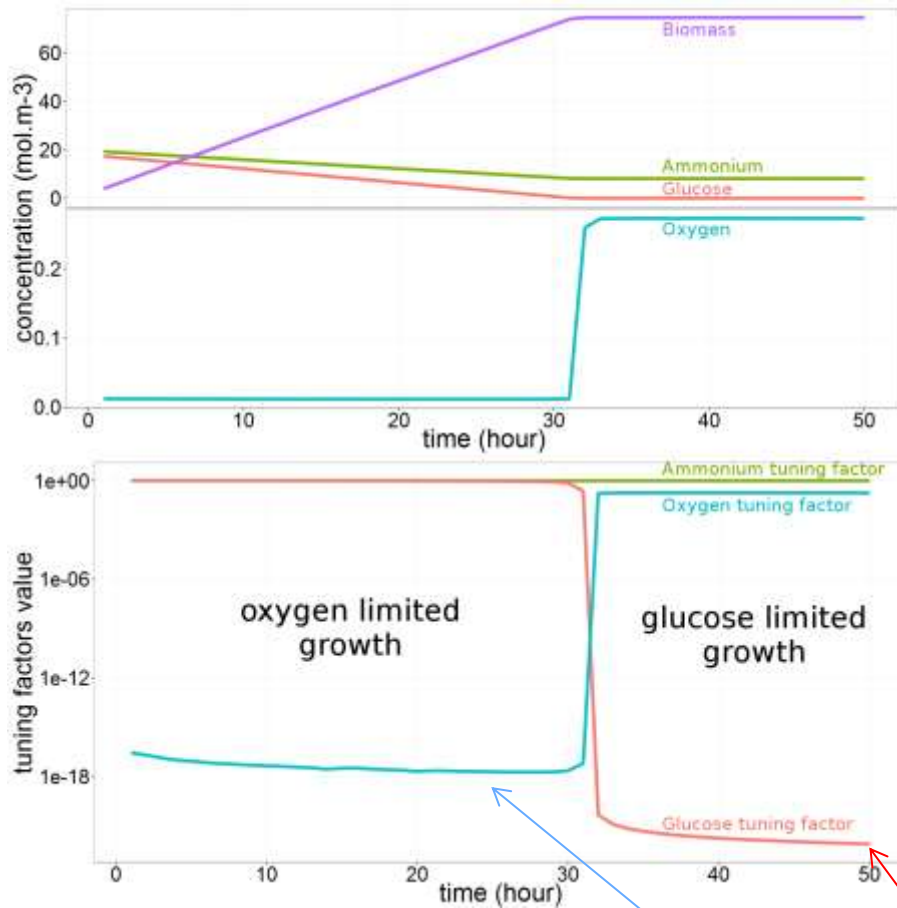


$$\mu = \mu_{max} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{oxygen}(\lambda)}{V_h \cdot [oxygen]}} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{Glucose}(\lambda)}{V_h \cdot [Glucose]}} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{ammonium}}{V_h \cdot [ammonium]}}$$

Capturing the effect of all resources on anabolism and catabolism

Initial ammonium 18.7 mM

Initial ammonium 10.0 mM 26



$$\mu = \mu_{max} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{oxygen}(\lambda)}{V_h \cdot [oxygen]}} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{Glucose}(\lambda)}{V_h \cdot [Glucose]}} \cdot e^{\frac{v_{ammonium}}{V_h \cdot [ammonium]}}$$

➤ Growth patterns still compatible with « Liebig rule » of the single limiting substrate

Illustrating MTS model properties

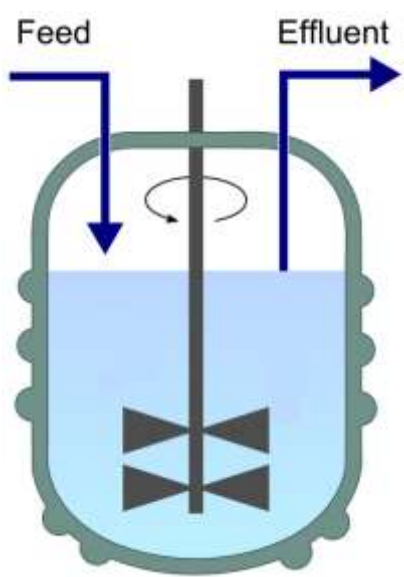
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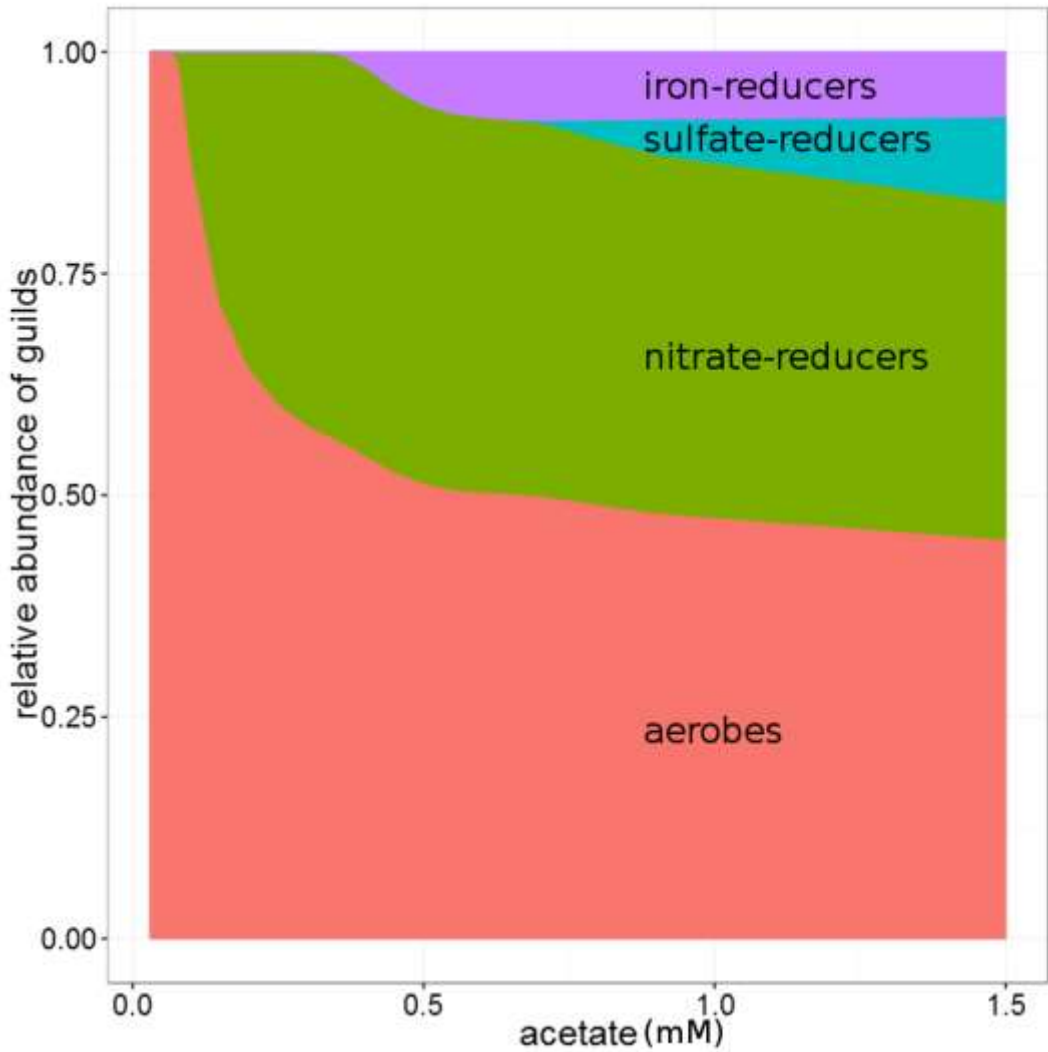
*Hadrien Delattre
PhD

Energy dependent competition arising without parameter adjustment

Acetate + oxygen + nitrate + sulfate + ferric iron + nutrients



Aerobes, denitrifiers, iron reducers, sulfate reducers... all having the same fixed parameters values (μ_{max} , V_{harv})

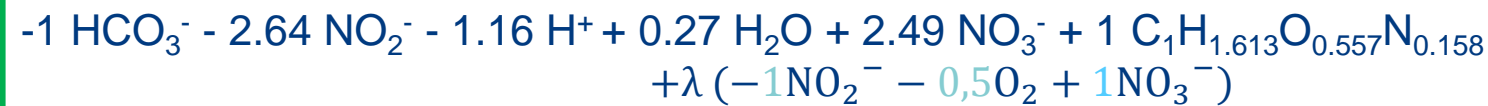
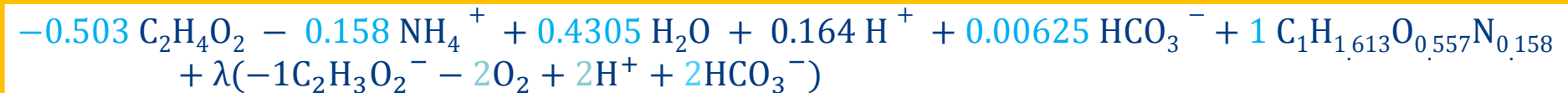
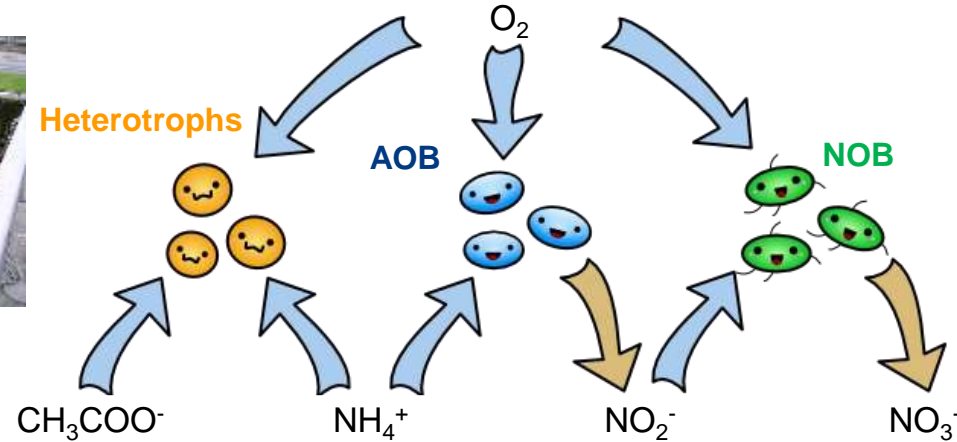


Hadrien Delattre PhD

Microbial successions according to redox tower are obtained parsimoniously

Modeling a simplified activated sludge batch ecosystem

29



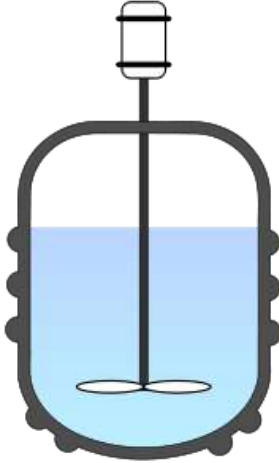
λ is dynamically adjusted using the Gibbs energy dissipation method (Kleerebezem and van Loosdrecht, 2010)

MTS derived-dynamics:
$$\mu = \mu_{max} \cdot \prod_i e^{\frac{v_i(\lambda)}{V_h \cdot C_i}}$$

where (i) μ_{max} is fixed to $(\frac{k_B \cdot T}{h})$ and (ii) V_h is kept the same for all substrates and all groups

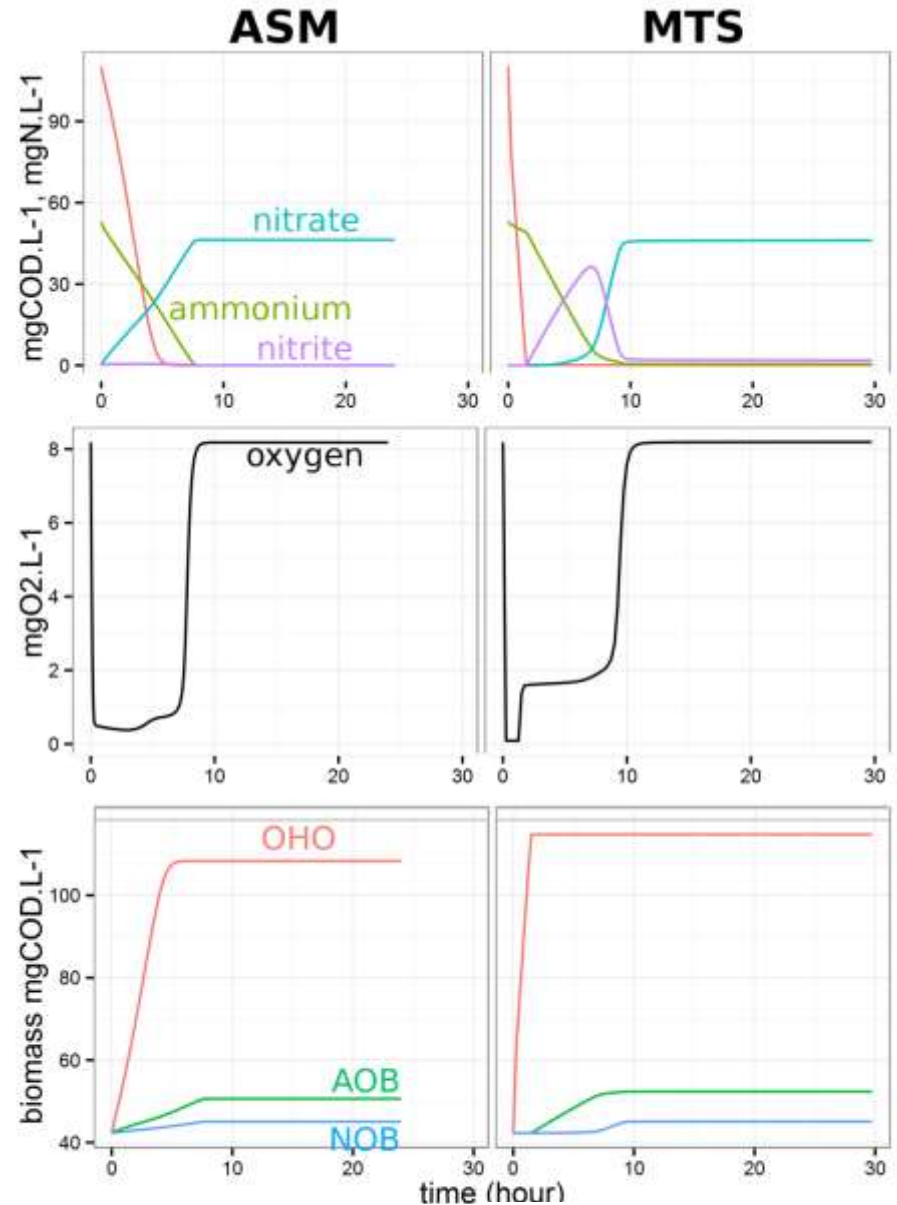
Modeling a simplified activated sludge batch ecosystem

(Delattre et al., submitted)



- [acetate] = 103.9 mg.L⁻¹
- [ammonium] = 68 mg.L⁻¹
- microbial inoculation: 1 mM (25e6 cell.mL⁻¹)
- $k_{la} = 100 \text{ d}^{-1}$

Consistent dynamic patterns are obtained parsimoniously



Kinetic parameters: 9 Kinetic parameters: 2
Yield parameters: 3 Yield parameters: 0

ANR-THERMOMIC : general objectives and workpackages

Establish and assess a general THERMOdynamic framework for modelling MICrobial growth and community dynamics (2016-2020, ANR 16-CE04-0003)

1. Refine the theory and check concepts with experiments (WP1 : coord. Irstea-HBAN)
2. Explore the mathematical properties of the MTS model (WP2 : coord. INRA-LBE)
3. Assess MTS approaches for environmental biotechnology applications (WP3 : coord. INSA-LISBP)

3 positions currently opened

- **Postdoctoral position 1:** Studying the effect of temperature on growth rates with MTS
- **Postdoctoral position 2:** MTS theory and phototrophic growth
- **PhD position:** Challenging MTS theory with experiments

email to theodore.bouchez@irstea.fr

Thermodynamics and microbial community management in environmental biotechnology processes

- In microbial ecology, scientific bottlenecks are progressively shifting from analytical methodologies to **knowledge integration** into an inclusive picture
- In addition to data integration, the development of a more **conceptual framework** is needed
- **Generic** abstractions to grasp a **whole category** of phenomena
- Microbiology is a fertile thinking ground for **crossing disciplinary boundaries** between biology, physics and math
- Linking **thermodynamics** and **growth kinetics** to could ultimately give rise to more **generic** (less parameter dependent) and **predictive** models to manage microbial community in environmental biotechnology processes

Many thanks to...

All the BIOMIC team members in Irstea-Antony

<http://www.irstea.fr/la-recherche/themes-de-recherche/ted/biomic>



Hadrien Delattre,
PhD candidate
Microbial
thermodynamics



Elie Desmond-Le
Quéméner, INRA-
LBE
Microbial
thermodynamics

Agence Nationale de la Recherche
ANR

Project number **ANR-16-CE04-0003-01**

- **Postdoctoral position1:** MTS theory and effect of temperature
- **Postdoctoral position2:** MTS theory and phototrophic growth
- **PhD position:** Challenging MTS theory with experiments

