

# Mass balances

WAT-E2120 Physical and Chemical Treatment of Water and Waste

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# General mass balance

- Also called material balances
- "A mass balance is a tool to keep track of how much substance is in a given region of space at a given time"
- Conservation of mass, or rate at which substance  $i$  enters, exit, reacts and accumulates

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \text{Rate of change} & & \text{Rate at which} & & \text{Rate at which} & & \text{Rate at which} & & \text{Rate at which} \\ \text{of mass of } i & & i \text{ enters the} & & i \text{ exits the} & & i \text{ is generated} & & i \text{ is destroyed} \\ \text{stored in the} & = & \text{system from} & - & \text{system to} & + & \text{inside the} & - & \text{inside the} \\ \text{system} & & \text{outside} & & \text{the outside} & & \text{reactor} & & \text{reactor} \end{array}$$

- Rate: mass/time, volume/time, moles/time (... ..)

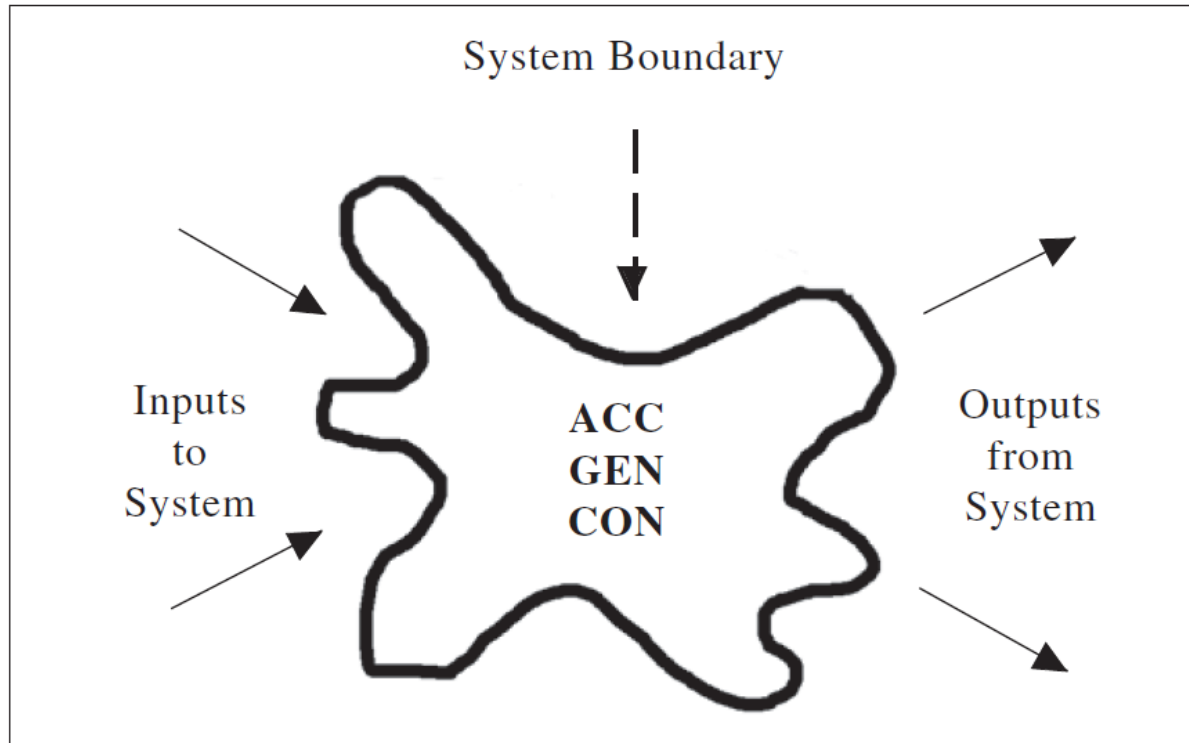
# Short form of the mass balance

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Accumulation} & = & \text{Input} & - & \text{Output} & + & \text{Generation} - \text{Consumption} \\ \text{in system} & & \text{to system} & & \text{from system} & & \text{in system} - \text{in system} \end{array}$$

Even shorter:

$$\text{ACC} = \text{IN} - \text{OUT} + \text{GEN} - \text{CON}$$

# Mass balance system boundaries



**Figure 1.01. Conceptual diagram of a system.**

A rain drop



An ocean



A cloud



When studying climate change  
You can set your system boundaries as...



A tree



The whole earth



# Mass balances

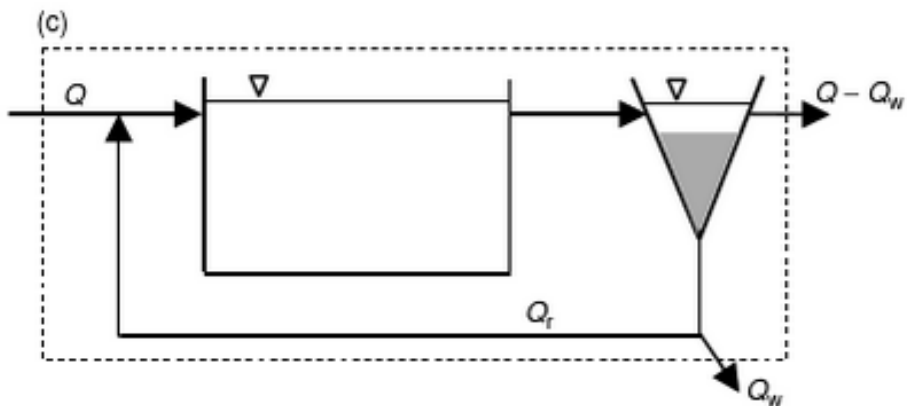
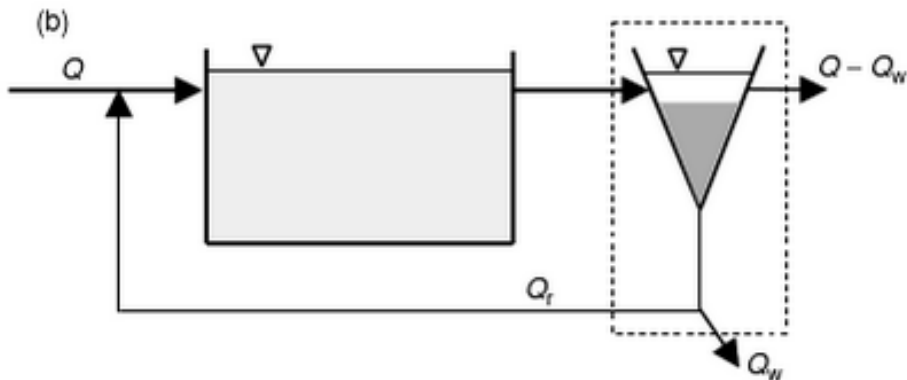
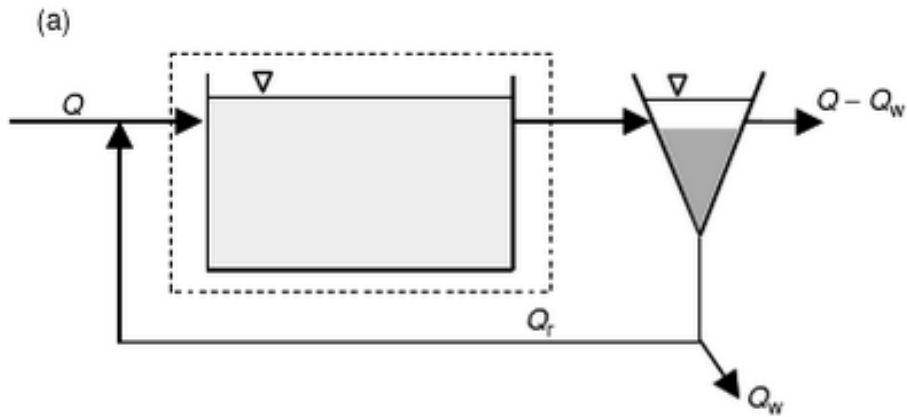


- System (boundaries) = Control volume = CV
- You choose the boundaries
  - For each purpose

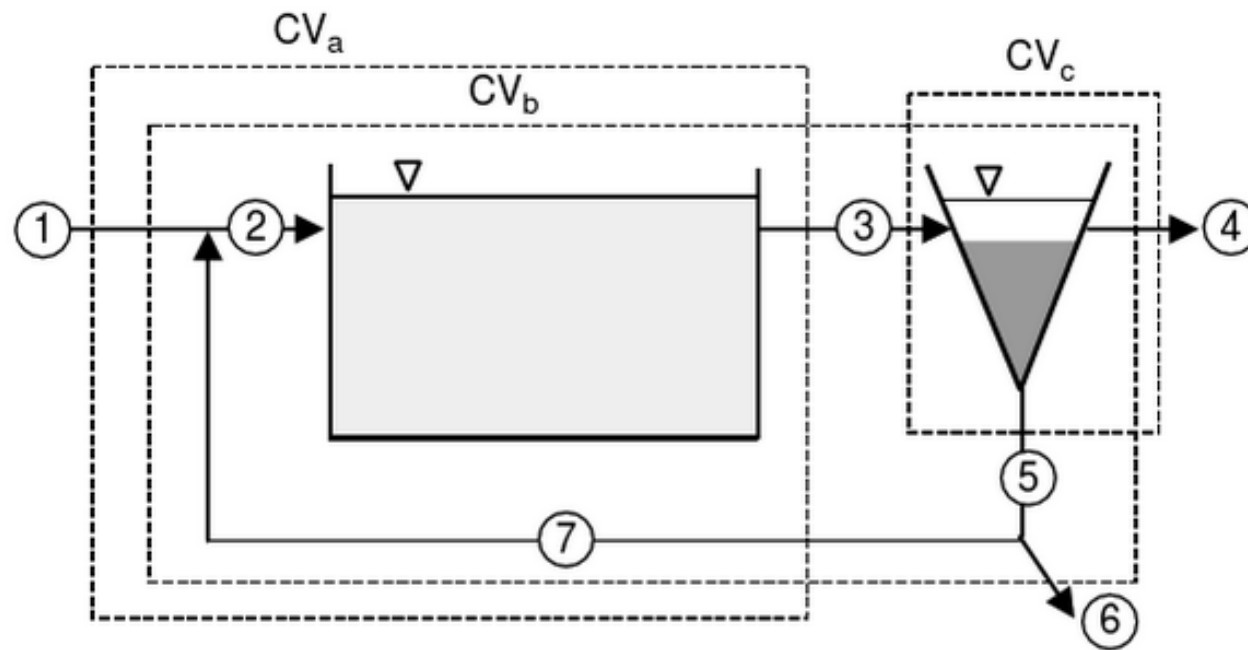
# To choose the control volumes

- An open reactor and a settling basin
- With recycle of settled solids to the reactor influent
- Waste stream from the recycle stream
- Balance boundaries shown with broken line
- $Q$  = Influent flow rate
- $Q_r$  = Recycle stream flow rate
- $Q_w$  = waste stream flow rate

In the picture the mass balances have been already utilized to calculate flow rates



# Marking control volumes



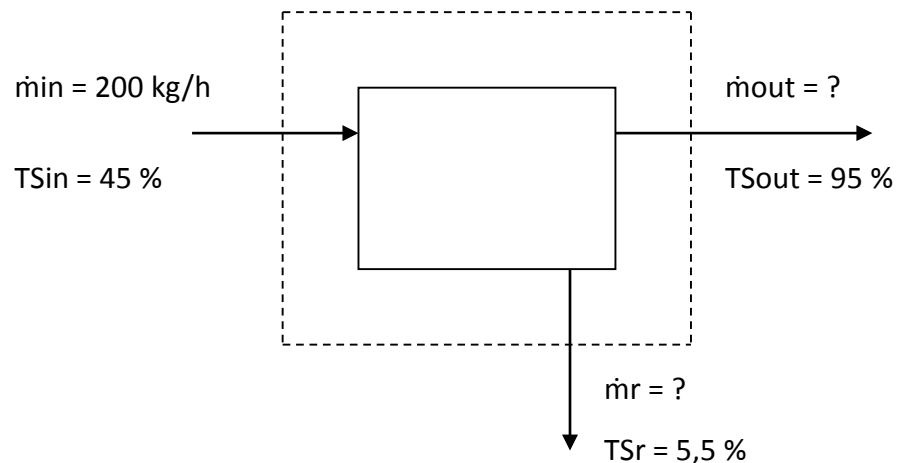
Mark down the flow rates and control volumes

Various control volumes for mass balances that are useful for solving the example problem.



# Separation of solids

A capillary sludge drying system is fed 200 kg/h sludge, with suspended solids of 45% (55% water). In the dried sludge there is 95% of suspended solids and in the reject water stream leaving the drying system contains suspended solids 55 g/l. What is the flow of dried sludge (kg/h) and the reject water (kg/h)?



$$\dot{m}_{in} = \dot{m}_{out} + \dot{m}_r \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{m}_{in} \cdot T_{Sin} = \dot{m}_{out} \cdot T_{Sout} + \dot{m}_r \cdot T_{Sr} \quad (2)$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow \dot{m}_{out} = \dot{m}_{in} - \dot{m}_r$$

Insert in (2)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \dot{m}_{in} \cdot T_{Sin} &= (\dot{m}_{in} - \dot{m}_r) \cdot T_{Sout} + \dot{m}_r \cdot T_{Sr} \\ &= \dot{m}_{in} \cdot T_{So} - \dot{m}_r \cdot T_{Sout} + \dot{m}_r \cdot T_{Sr} \\ &= \dot{m}_{in} \cdot T_{Sout} + (T_{Sr} - T_{Sout}) \cdot \dot{m}_r \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (T_{Sr} - T_{Sout}) \cdot \dot{m}_r = \dot{m}_{in} \cdot T_{Sin} - \dot{m}_{in} \cdot T_{Sout}$$

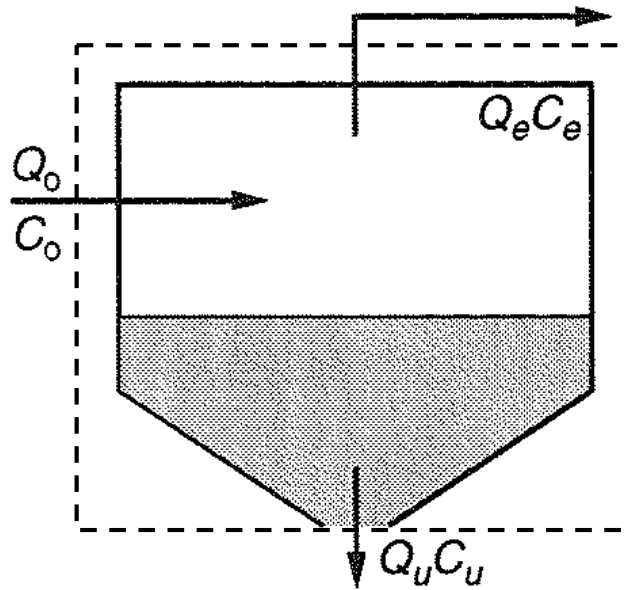
$$\begin{aligned} \Leftrightarrow \dot{m}_r &= (\dot{m}_{in} \cdot T_{Sin} - \dot{m}_{in} \cdot T_{Sout}) / (T_{Sr} - T_{Sout}) \\ &= (200 \text{ kg/h} \cdot 0.45 - 200 \text{ kg/h} \cdot 0.95) / (0.055 - 0.95) \\ &= (90 \text{ kg/h} - 190 \text{ kg/h}) / (-0.895) \\ &= (-100 \text{ kg/h}) / (-0.895) = 112 \text{ kg/h} = \underline{110 \text{ kg/h}} \end{aligned}$$

$$(1) : \dot{m}_{out} = \dot{m}_{in} - \dot{m}_r = 200 \text{ kg/h} - 110 \text{ kg/h} = \underline{90 \text{ kg/h}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{m}_r = 110 \text{ kg/h}$$

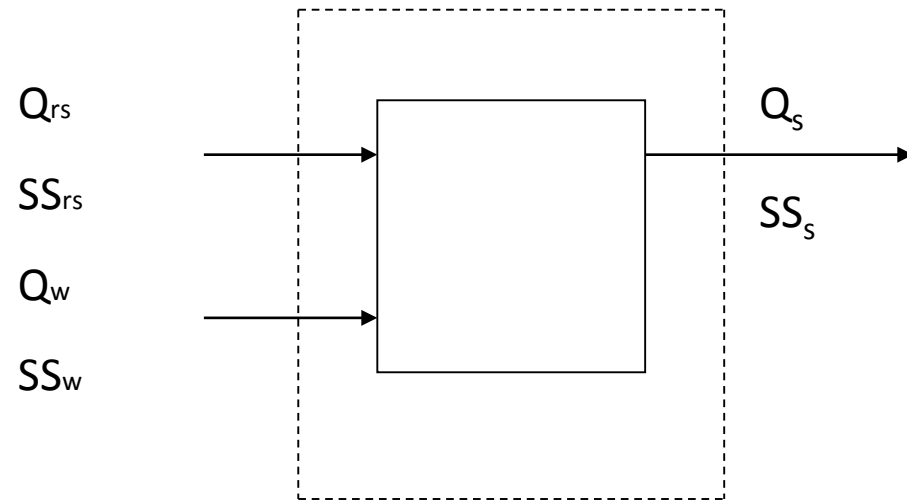
$$\text{ja } \dot{m}_{out} = 90 \text{ kg/h}$$

# Thickener



- $Q_0 = Q_u + Q_e$
- $Q_0 C_0 = Q_u C_u + Q_e C_e$
- Sedimentation (settling) tank is similar to thickener

# Mixing of solids



Exercise 4.

# Sand filtration

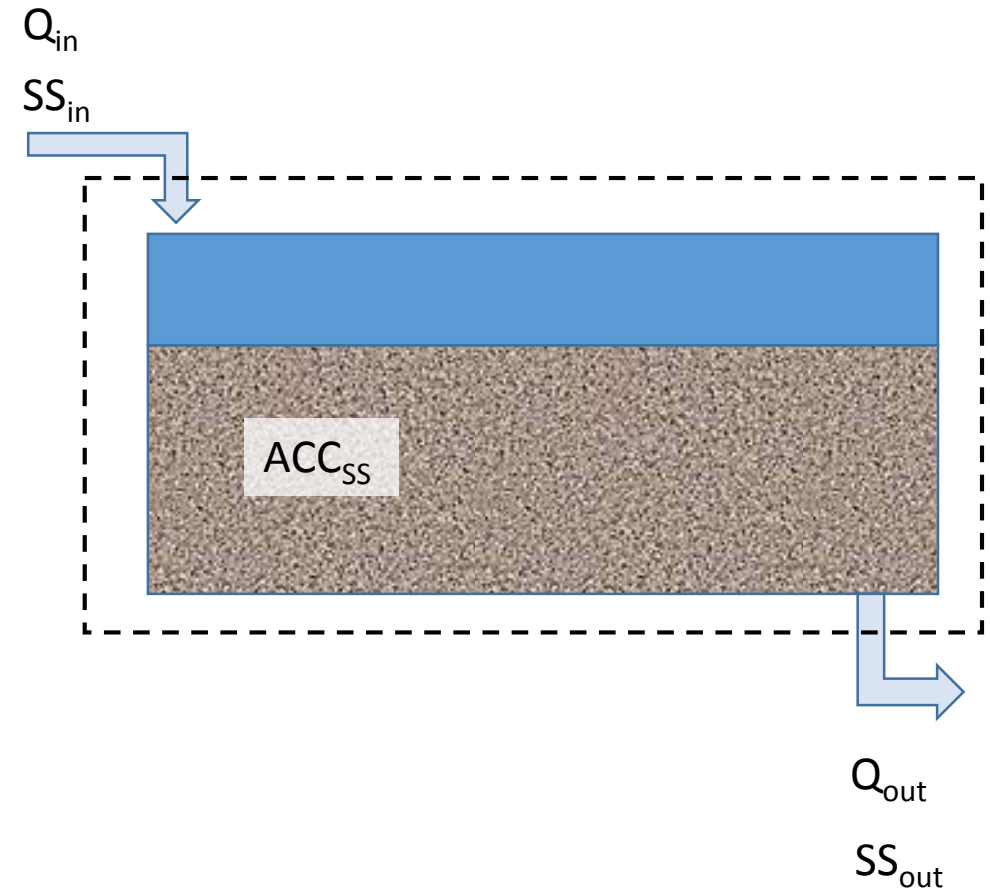
- Water treatment plant receives raw water that is treated with sand filtration to remove suspended solids (SS)
- SS is accumulated in the filter bed and removed by washing regularly

- $Q_{in}$ ,  $Q_{out}$
- $SS_{in}$ ,  $SS_{out}$
- $ACC_{SS}$

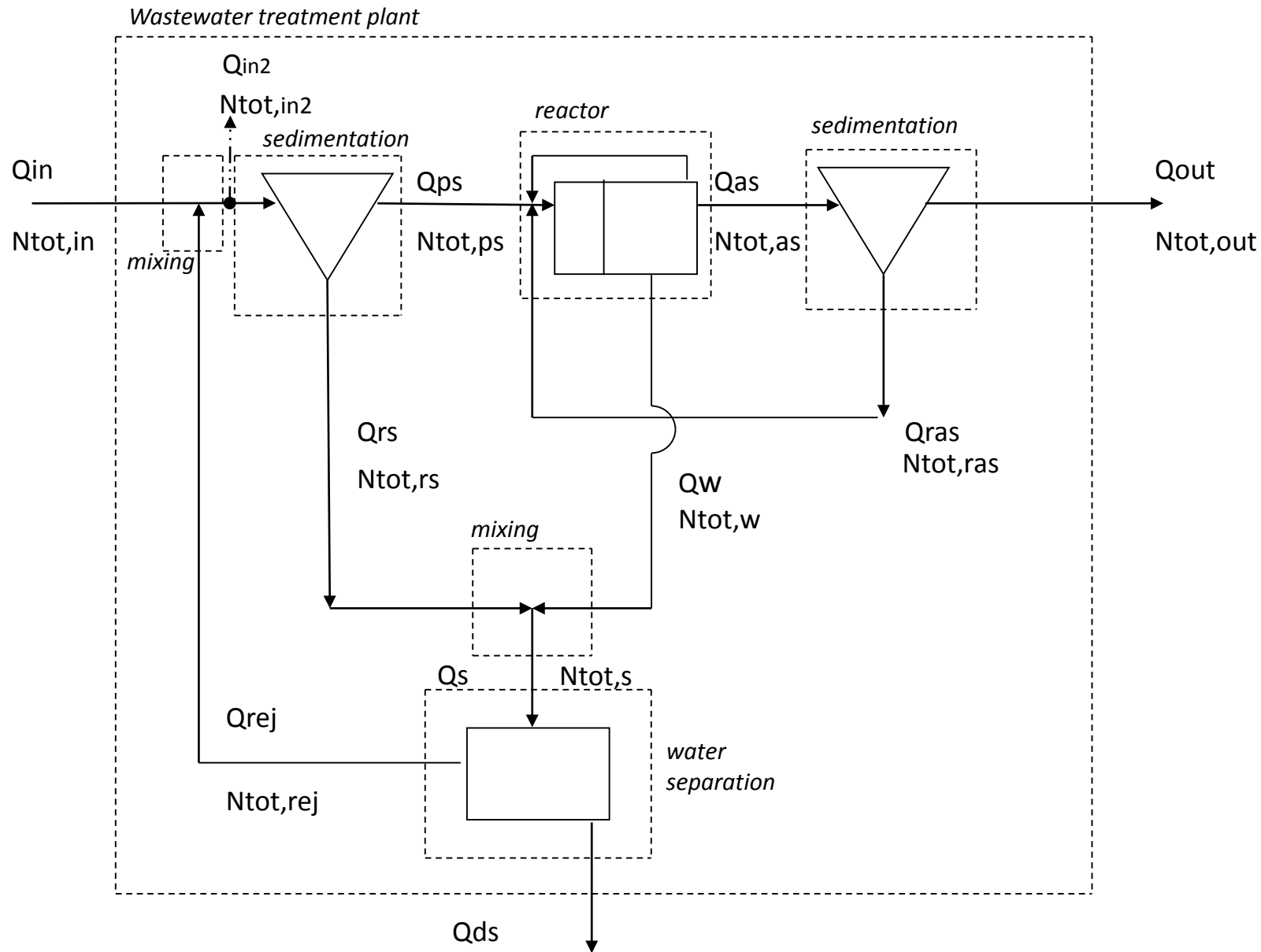
- Material balances:

$$Q_{in} = Q_{out}$$

$$ACC_{SS} = Q_{out} * SS_{out} - Q_{in} * SS_{in}$$



# Wastewater treatment plant balance as a block diagram



- The diagram shows both flow and nitrogen

$ps$  = primary sedimentation  
 $as$  = activated sludge  
 $ras$  = return activated sludge  
 $w$  = waste sludge  
 $rs$  = raw sludge from primary sedimentation  
 $rej$  = reject water from sludge drying  
 $s$  = sludge  
 $ds$  = dried sludge

Note.Ex. 4

# Systems and processes

Practical problems are classified according to the type of system and the nature of the process occurring in the system, as follows:

**Closed system**      Zero material\* is transferred in or out of the system [during the time period of interest].  
[Controlled mass]      i.e. in the material balance equation:       $IN = OUT = 0$   
A process occurring in a closed system is called a BATCH process.

**Open system**      Material is transferred in and/or out of the system.  
[Controlled volume]      i.e. in the material balance equation:       $IN \neq 0$  and/or  $OUT \neq 0$   
A process occurring in an open system is called a CONTINUOUS process.

**Steady-state process**      A process in which all conditions are invariant with time.  
i.e. at steady-state:      Rate ACC = 0      for all quantities.

**Unsteady-state process**      A process in which one or more conditions vary with time [these are *transient*  
conditions], i.e. at unsteady-state:      Rate ACC  $\neq 0$       for one or more  
quantities.

\* Energy can be transferred in and/or out of both closed and open systems.

# ”How to” of mass balances

1. Draw a diagram and balance boundary/ies
2. Write down all known quantities
3. Identify and assign symbols to all unknown quantities
4. Determine the appropriate set of equations to solve the unknowns
5. Solve the unknowns