



Aalto University
School of Engineering

Biological treatment processes of water and waste

WAT - E2180

Anna Mikola Professor of Practice D Sc (Tech)

Lecture outline

Course team introduction

Participants' introduction

Course's learning outcomes

Content of the course

- Lectures & exercises
- Laboratory work
- Excursion

Introduction discussion:
What kind of biological
processes do you already
know?

**! 4 groups for the group work → In
MyCourses**



Lecturer Anna Mikola

- **M.Sc. From HUT Water lab 1999**
- **Exchange year in France at ENCR 1994-1995**
- **D. Sc. (Tech.) Spring 2013
Dissertation: The effect of flow equalization and prefermentation on BNR**
- **Working experience:**
 - 3 years at Nopon Oy
 - Researcher at HUT/Aalto
 - 18 years with a consultant (Kiuru&Rautiainen Oy, Ramboll Finland)
 - Post-doctoral researcher at Aalto 2013-2018
 - Lived 5 years in Berlin, 4 children
 - Visiting researcher in INSA Toulouse in 2017
 - Professor of Practice since 2018

The course team

Course's microbiology content and lab reactors: Dr. Antonina Kruglova



Course assistant: Maija Sihvonen



Lab staff: Aino Peltola, Heikki Särkkä and Marina Sushko

Lecturers from the lab:

Irina Levchuk



Antonina Kruglova

Guest lecturers from Griffin Refineries and Tampere University

Participants' introduction

1 minute each containing e.g.

- **Background?**
- **Experience with biological processes**
- **Expectations for this course?**

Learning outcomes

Upon completion, the student should be able to:

Knowledge

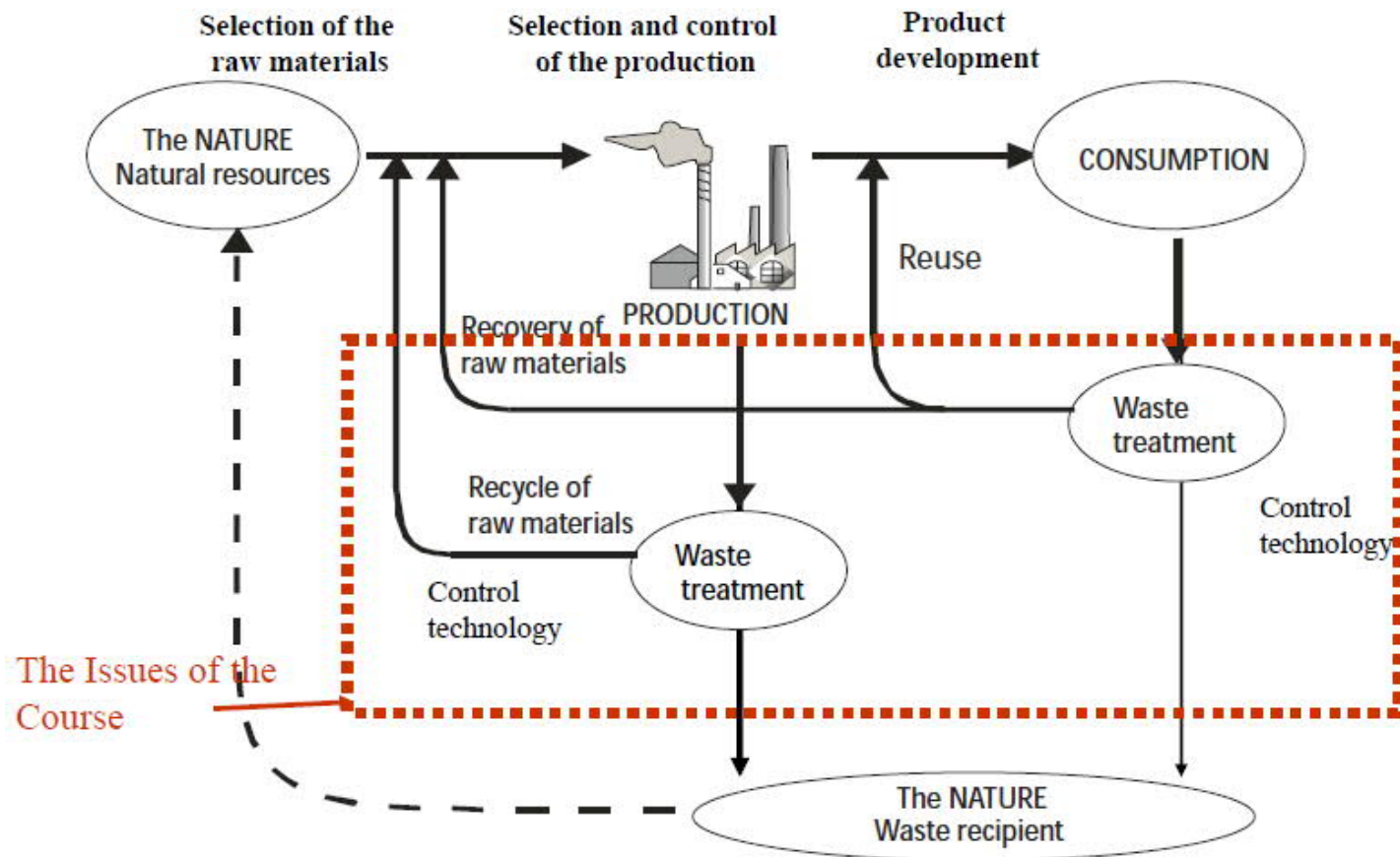
- 1) Describe the most important biological water, wastewater, sludge, waste and gas treatment processes
- 2) Explain biochemical, microbiological and ecological phenomena in biological treatment processes

Skill

- 3) Form simple mass balances of biological unit processes
- 4) Identify the critical factors affecting the efficiency of biological treatment processes and describe their control systems

The focus will be on wastewater treatment but same principles and phenomena are applicable everywhere!!

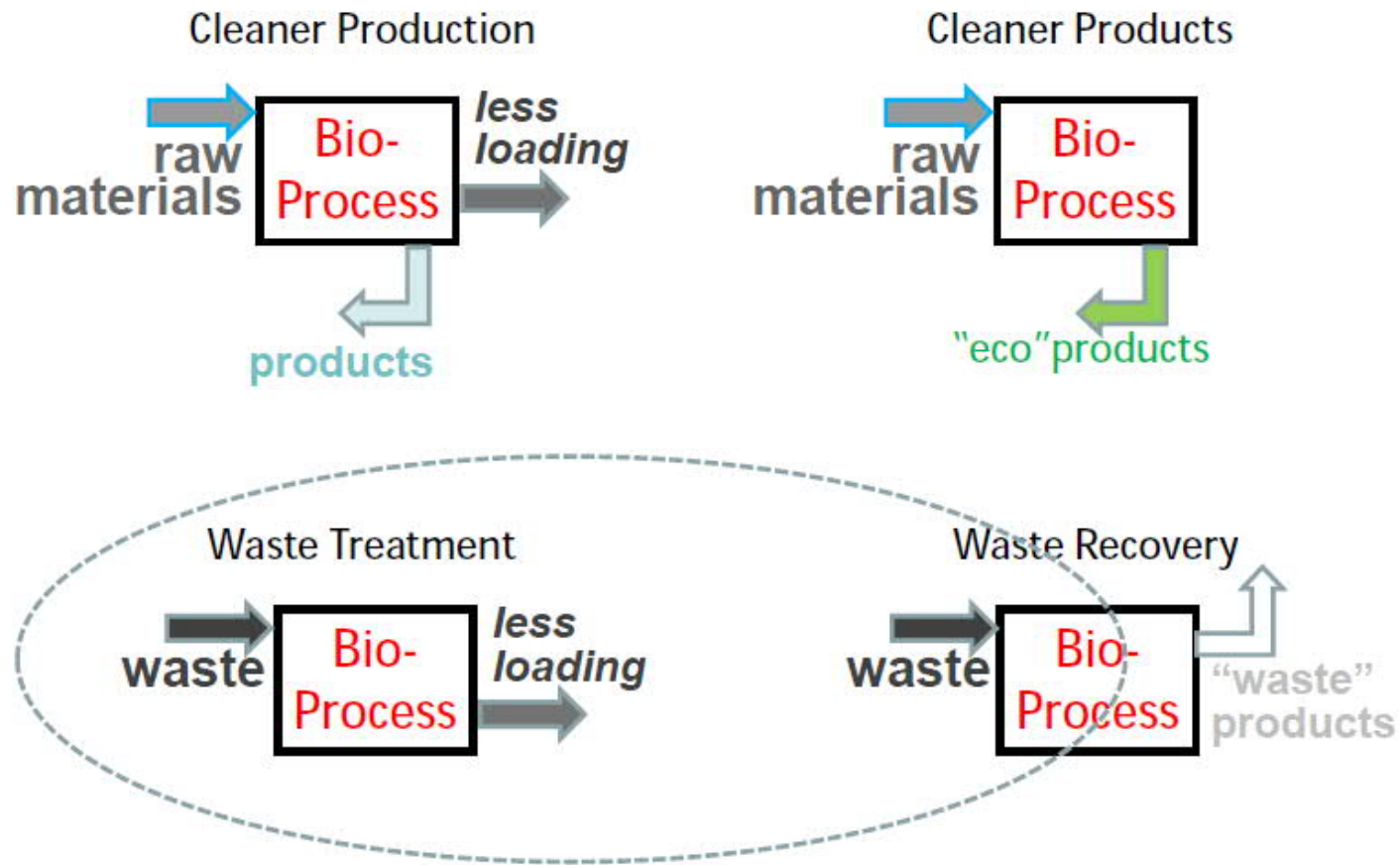
Material flows of the human economy



18.2.2018

Timo Laukkanen

Environmental Sound Bioprocesses



18.2.2018

Timo Laukkanen


Environmental challenges to be solved



Biological = ecology, microbiology and biochemistry


	Particles	Colloids	Dissolved	Gas
Mechanisms	<p>Biodegradation</p> <p>Bioaugmentation Bio-oxidation and bioreduction</p> <p>Bioflocculation Biosorption</p> <p>Biomass production Bioenrichment and bioextraction</p> <p>Biochemicals production</p> <p>Course on Physical & chemical processes</p>			
Unit processes	<p>Nitrification</p> <p>Denitrification</p> <p>Deammonification</p> <p>Nitritation</p> <p>Denitritation</p> <p>Organic matter removal</p> <p>Removal of micropollutants</p>	<p>Biological phosphorus removal</p>	<p>Anaerobic digestion</p> <p>Fermentation</p> <p>Bio-fuel production</p> <p>Bio-methanation</p> <p>Suspended growth</p> <p>Biofilm growth</p> <p>Aerobic granular sludge</p>	<p>Biopolymer, -protein and oil production</p> <p>Microbial fuel cells</p> <p>Composting</p> <p>Bioremediation</p>
Objective of treatment	<p>Degradation?</p> <p>Emission reduction?</p>		<p>Separation?</p> <p>Remediation?</p>	
			<p>Recovery?</p> <p>Recycling?</p>	

Course content




Theoretical knowledge

- Lectures
- “Einstein” exercises
- Lab project



Practical knowledge

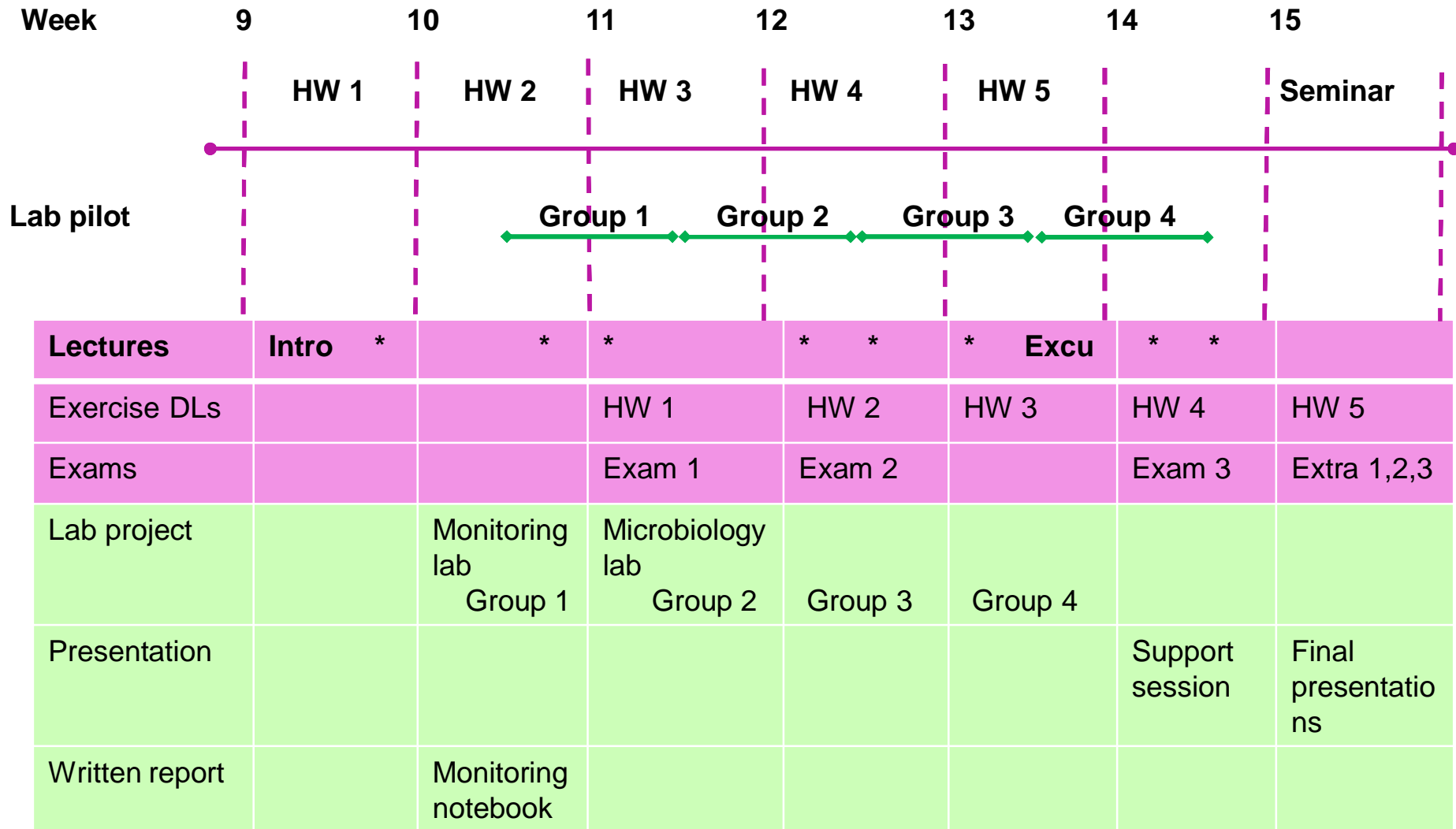
- Lectures
- “Worker” exercises



Hands-on knowledge

- Laboratory pilot operation
- Lab project
- Excursion

Timeline for the course



Course content – lectures, exercises and exams

- **Lectures and exercises**

- Lecture sessions: 3.5 hours
Tuesday afternoon at 13:00 and
Thursday morning at 8:30
- Each session will be divided into several interactive lectures, demo exercises and group discussions
- For many sessions some reading material will be given before
- Lecture 2-3: Basic process principles
- Lectures 4 – 5: Microbiology
- Lectures 6 - 8: Process design and applications

- Homework exercises from most of the sessions (5 sessions, totally 20 exercises)

- The content will be divided into theoretical and practical parts



- **Three mid-term exams**

- 40 – 50 min on two Thursdays (at 16:30) and the last one in the beginning of the last lecture
- One extra during the last week
→ objective to learn the theory and design principles of the processes

Software used during the course

Support sessions for homework exercises

With Maija in the Water lab computer room

- **Wednesdays starting at 10:00**
- **Other suitable slots?**

SUMO

- Available in our computer room + TUAS 1621 + MaariE



Course books

Biological wastewater treatment

Author(s) / Editor(s) Henze, Mogens;
Loosdrecht, Mark C. M. van; Ekama, George A.;
Brdjanovic, Damir

Publisher IWA Publishing

Copyright Date 2008

ISBN 978-1-84339-188-3

Electronic ISBN 978-1-68015-582-2

Environmental biotechnology

Author(s) / Editor(s) Bhattacharyya, Bimal C.;
Banerjee, Rintu

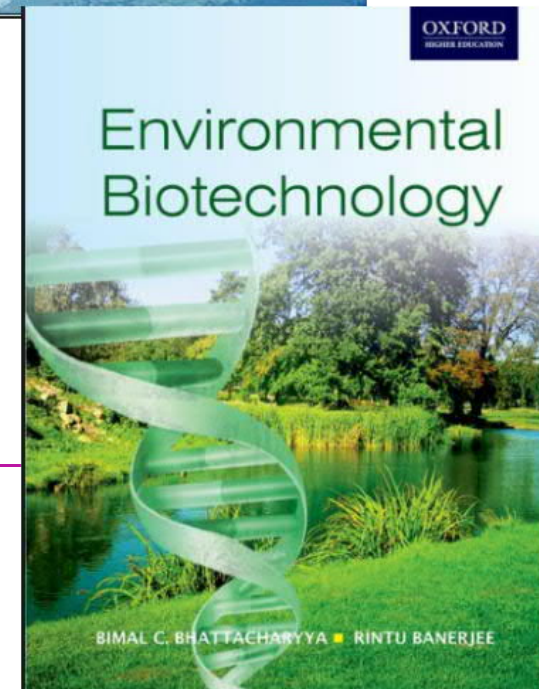
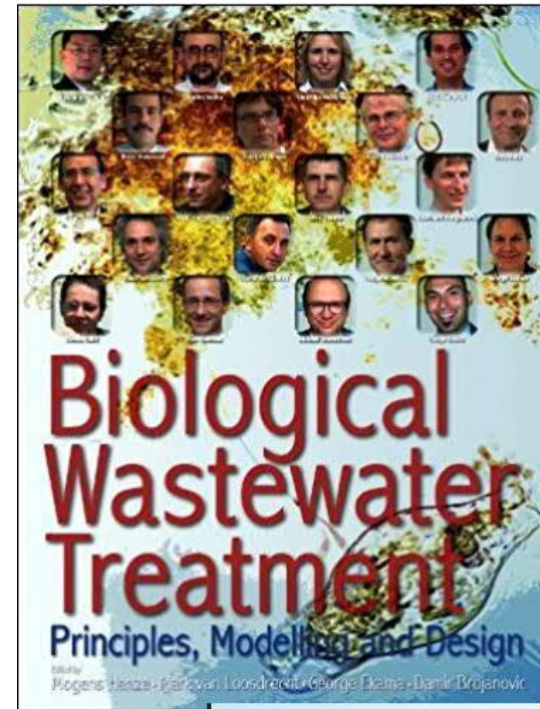
Publisher Oxford University Press

Copyright Date 2007

ISBN 978-0-19-568782-8

Electronic ISBN 978-1-61344-143-5

Both available as eBook



Course content – lab project

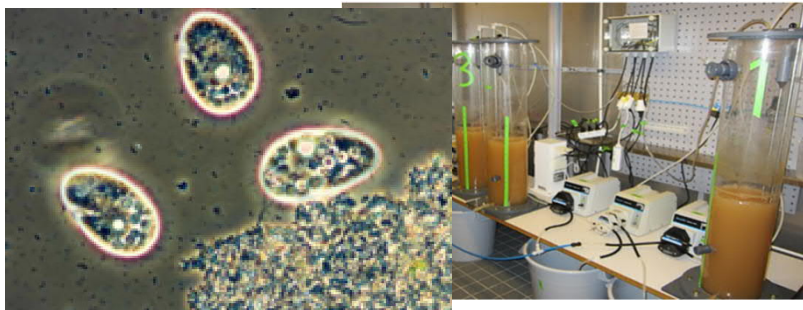
- **Laboratory work**

- Task: to operate and monitor two lab reactors during four weeks in different conditions
- Weeks 1-2: Introduction to basic monitoring and microbiology → monitoring notebook
- Weeks 2-5: Four groups of students will operate the reactor in different conditions (oxygen, temperature, total N removal, bioP)
- Week 6: Scientific papers
- Week 7: Presentation and/or poster

- **Excursion**

- Excursion to Viikinmäki wastewater treatment plant on Thursday 28.3.
- WWTP caching at the plant
- → Objective to understand the theories and design principles in practice, to learn about the process monitoring and to assess, present, plan and report practical laboratory work.

Lab project



Content and objectives, linking to theory

Learning the basic monitoring, Focusing on microbiology
Preparing own lab toolbox

Presenting the results, learning from each other, feedback

Students operating the reactors independently

Conditions: 1: DO 2: Anoxic 3: Anaerobic 4: Temperature

EXCURSION

To Viikinmäki wastewater treatment plant

THURSDAY 28.3. during the course teaching session

Some assignments during the visit

Using public transportation

COMPULSORY



Pictures: HSY

Reactor operation and monitoring



- Reactors: Sequencing batch reactor SBR and membrane bioreactor MBR
- Objective: Study two different suspended growth reactors with different sludge age during 4 weeks
- Monitoring process conditions, effluent water quality and sludge characteristics
- Week 1: Effect of oxygen
- Week 2: Implementation of anoxic sequence in the SBR
- Week 3: Implementation of anaerobic sequence in the SBR
- Week 4: Effect of temperature
- Influent water: synthetic wastewater

Written outcome – Individual work

Monitoring toolbox DL 7.3.2019

- **Written based on the monitoring lab on Tuesday 5.3.**
- **Purpose:**
 - Work as a toolbox and checklist for you further work with the reactors
- **Submitted to MyCourses and evaluated**

1) Short work description of all the monitoring methods

- **On-line probes**
- **Sampling**
- **Analysis**

2) Purpose of the method

3) Special hints for avoiding problems (e.g. typical values, calibration needs, ...)

Seminar and poster – Group work

Tuesday 4.4. at 13:00

- **Three roles in the groups:**
 - Presenters
 - Competitors
 - Planners
- **Three outcomes:**
 - Presentation of the lab study
 - Presentation of another study (from the literature)
 - Experimental plan and expected outcomes for your further study
- **Presentations: 10 min + 10 min + 10 min**
- **Discussion (10 – 15 min)**

Forming the groups for the lab work

Some boundary conditions:

- Responsibility over the reactor during one week
- 4 groups (1,2,3 and 4) for each week of the pilot operation (from Wednesday to Wednesday)
- Each group decides the monitoring (about 3 hour) schedule and informs the lab (Aino)

Bonus points from the lecture presentation

- Lecture on April 2nd
- Several short presentations about various applications of biological processes
- If you are especially interested in something or have acquired special knowledge of a process, you can prepare a 20 min presentation for the lecture

Topics:

- Membrane bioreactors
- Microbial fuel cells
- Aerobic granular sludge
- Biological iron removal
- Biomethanation

Workload

Learning activity	Workload calculation (hours)	Remarks
Lectures + excu	35	10 x 3,5 hours
Exercises	10	Support sessions (not obligatory)
Home assignments	15	3 hours per homework assignment
Reading materials	10	5-10 pages for each session (5 sessions)
Lab project work	34	12 hour in the lab, 4 hours in presentations, 20 h for preparing, reporting and preparing the presentation
Midterm exam (3x)	15	4h preparation for each mid-term exam + 1h writing the exam
Independent reflection	15	
In total	134	

Our attempts to reduce the workload:

- Good instructions and clear separation between theoretical and practical assignments
- Clear links and supporting elements between different assignments
- Motivating and inspiring course content

Communication

- MyCourses -page
 - Lecture material available mostly before the lecture
 - Instructions for homework assignments
 - Submission of home assignments & grades
 - Information and submissions for the lab project
 - Communicating
 - *Whole course:* MyCourses & email
 - anna.mikola@aalto.fi, Antonina.kruglona@aalto.fi,
Maija.sihvonen@aalto.fi
 - *Within the groups:* please organize the communication within the group already in the beginning!
-

Course grading

- **40 % mid-term exams - 3 exams 20 points each**
- **30 % lab project (monitoring toolbox, excursion assignment, presentation)**
 - 1/3 from the individual part, 2/3 from the group work
 - Grading scale 1 – 5
 - The same grade for the whole group unless the group communicates differences in contribution
- **30 % homework exercises**
 - 5 exercises, 75 points total
 - **Bonus possibility up to 0.5 grade when attending the lectures**
 - **NOTE!! Late submission – 1 week → 50% off, more → 100% off**

Grading thresholds:

1-40% of total points 2-52% 3-64% 4-76% 5-88%

Important to do after the introduction lecture

Register to one of the groups 1 - 4 in MyCourses

Share contact information with your group members (1-4)

Start planning your monitoring week schedule (2 students – 2-3 hours every day during your week)

Submit the schedule in MyCourses

Biological processes

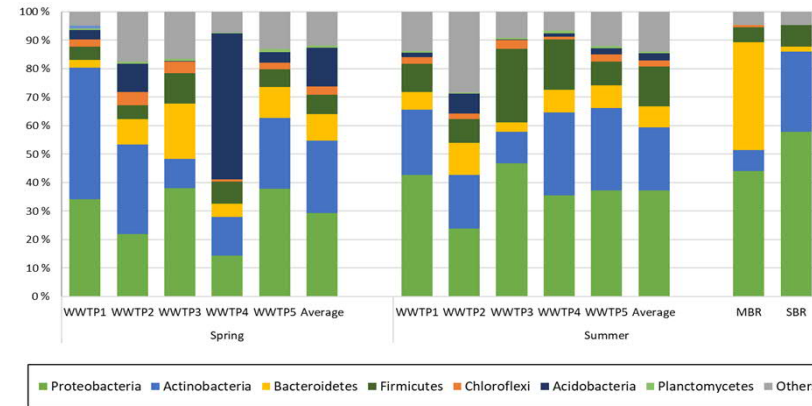
What kind of biological processes in environmental engineering you already know?

Discussion in groups

Examples of on-going research

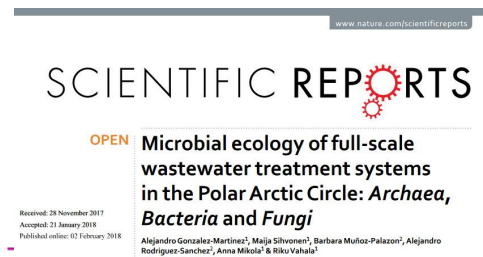
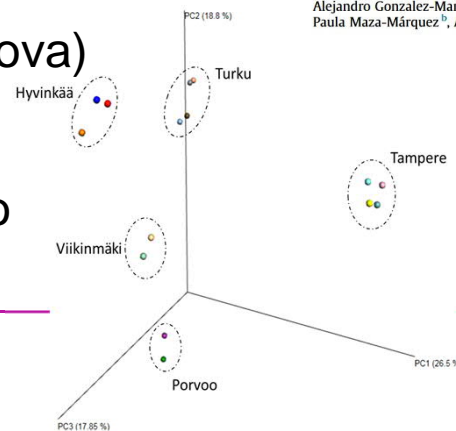
Development of cold-climate treatment processes using microbial population information

- I. Bacteria of low-temperature processes (Doctoral student Antonina Kruglova, PostDoc Alejandro Gongalez-Martinez, M.Sc. Jenni Kesulahti, M.Sc. student Khoi Le Minh)
- II. Comparison of conventional activated sludge with advanced activated sludge community (Doctoral student Antonina Kruglova)
- III. Aerobic granular sludge in low temperatures (PostDoc Alejandro Gongalez-Martinez)



Start-up and operation of an aerobic granular sludge system under low working temperature inoculated with cold-adapted activated sludge from Finland

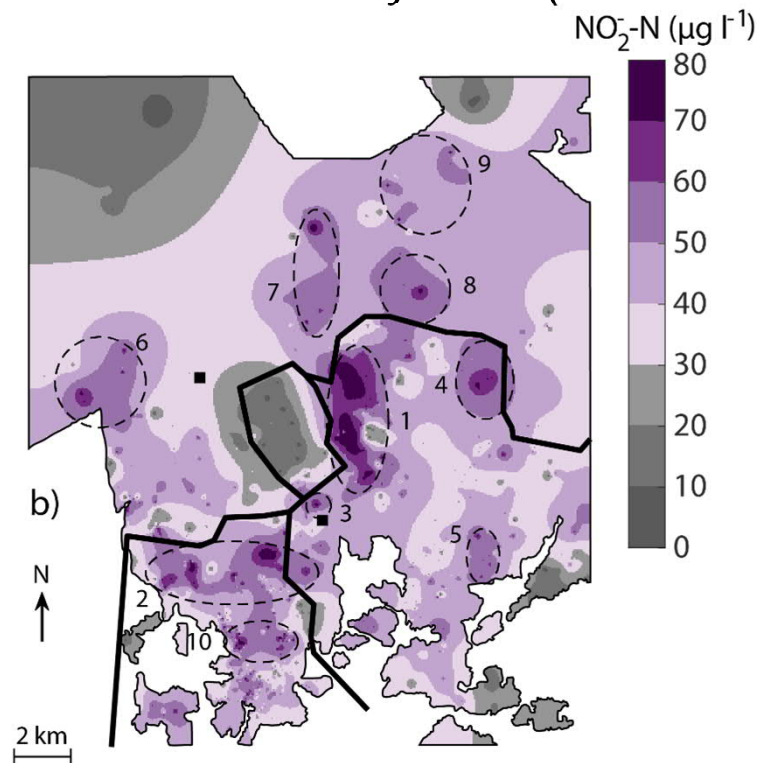
Alejandro Gonzalez-Martinez^{a,*}, Barbara Muñoz-Palazon^b, Alejandro Rodriguez-Sanchez^b, Paula Maza-Márquez^b, Anna Mikola^a, Jesus Gonzalez-Lopez^b, Riku Vahala^a



Water Supply

In drinking water quality the focus is in the role of natural organic matter in the water quality changes in the distribution system.

- The influence of organic matter on nitrification in the drinking water distribution system (Lic. Tech. Pirjo Rantanen)



Journal of Water Resource and Protection, 2017, 9, 1026-1042

<http://www.scirp.org/journal/iwarp>

ISSN Online: 1945-3108

ISSN Print: 1945-3094

The Spatial Distribution of Nitrite Concentrations in a Large Drinking Water Distribution System in Finland

Pirjo-Liisa Rantanen^{1*}, Minna M. Keinänen-Toivola², Merja Ahonen², Ilkka Mellin³, Duoying Zhang⁴, Tuula Laakso⁵, Riku Vahala¹

¹Department of Built Environment, School of Engineering, Aalto University, Espoo, Finland

²Faculty of Technology, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences, Rauma, Finland

³Department of Mathematics and Systems Analysis, School of Science, Aalto University, Espoo, Finland

⁴School of Civil Engineering, Heilongjiang University, Harbin, China

⁵Helsinki Regional Environmental Services Authority, Helsinki, Finland

Enhanced treatment of micropollutants from wastewater

Optimization of micropollutants biological removal at low temperatures



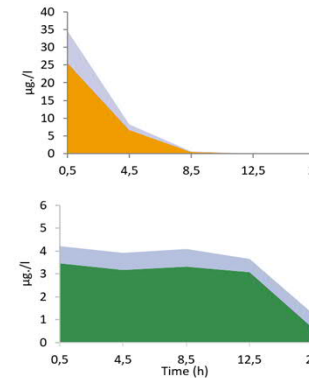
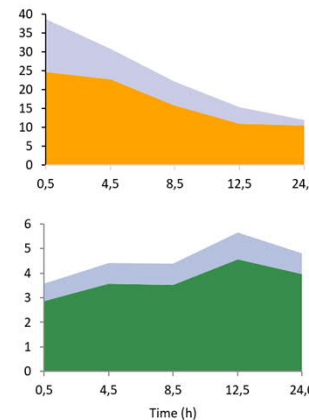
Biodegradation of ibuprofen, diclofenac and carbamazepine in nitrifying activated sludge under 12 °C temperature conditions
 Antonina Kruglova ^a, Pia Ahlgren, Nasti Korhonen, Pirjo Rantanen, Anna Mikola, Riku Vahala



Comparative study of emerging micropollutants removal by aerobic activated sludge of large laboratory-scale membrane bioreactors and sequencing batch reactors under low-temperature conditions
 Antonina Kruglova ^{a,*}, Matilda Kråkström ^b, Mats Riska ^a, Anna Mikola ^a, Pirjo Rantanen ^a, Riku Vahala ^a, Leif Kronberg ^b



Bacterial diversity and population shifts driven by spotlight wastewater micropollutants in low-temperature highly nitrifying activated sludge
 Antonina Kruglova ^{a,*}, Alejandro Gonzalez-Martinez ^a, Matilda Kråkström ^b, Anna Mikola ^a, Riku Vahala ^a



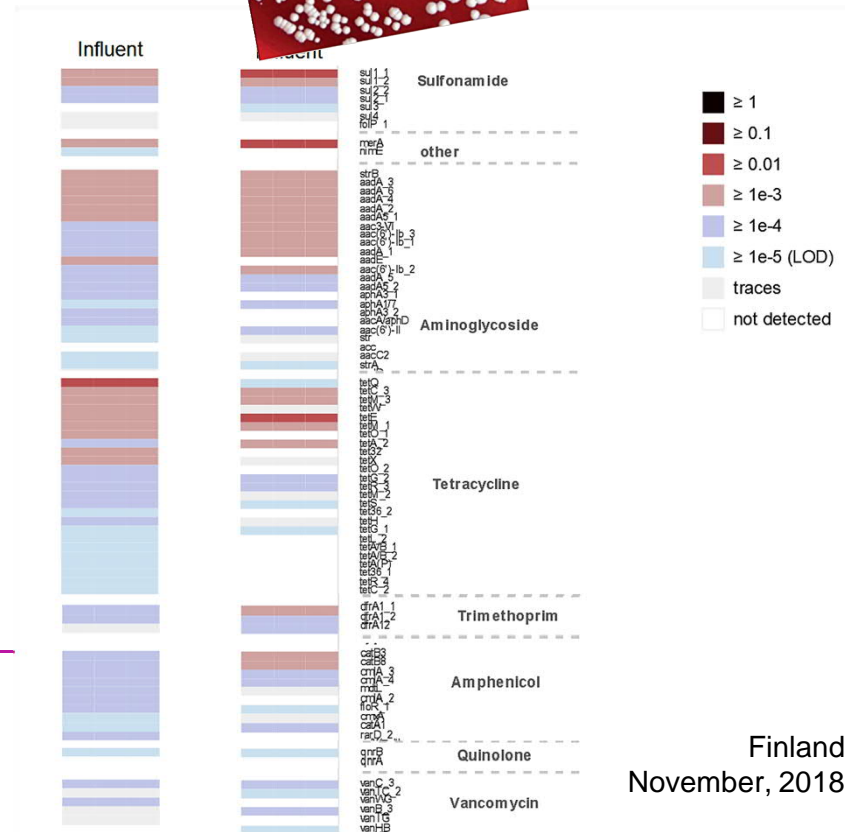
- Concentration of ibuprofen in bacteria
- Concentration of diclofenac in bacteria
- Concentration in water



Antibiotics and antibiotics resistance bacteria in wastewater treatment

- Global antibiotics resistance crisis
- WWTPs are among the main sources of antibiotics resistance in the environmental
- Removal rates in wastewater treatment are highly dependent on process conditions and temperature

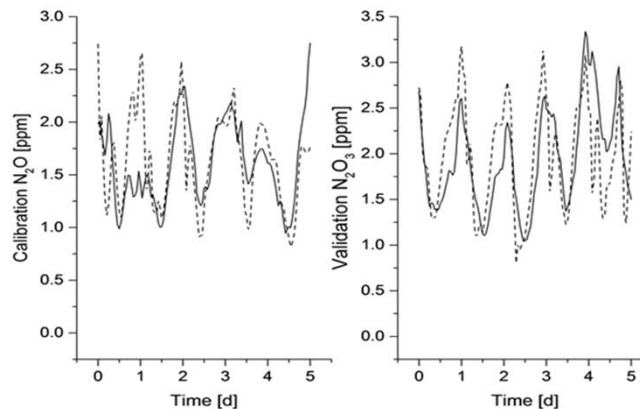
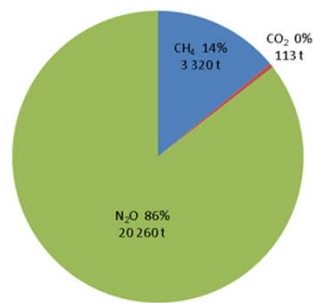
(Kruglova et al., 2014, Kruglova et al., 2016)



GHG emission studies from advanced nutrient removal processes

Comprehensive inventory of N₂O emissions from an advanced WWTP and implementation of N₂O in the plant wide process model (Collaboration with HSY)

Total greenhouse gas emissions from the Viikinmäki wastewater treatment process (CO₂ equivalents)



Article
pubs.acs.org/est

¹ Nitrous Oxide Production at a Fully Covered Wastewater-Treatment Plant: Results of a Long-Term Online Monitoring Campaign

³ Heta Kosonen,[†] Mari Heinonen,^{*‡} Anna Mikola,[†] Henri Haimi,[†] Michela Mulas,^{†,||} Francesco Corona,^{‡,⊥} and Riku Vahala[†]



Smarter monitoring of micropollutants from wastewater

- Screening of wastewater toxicity based on Effect-Directed Analysis (EDA) (Doctoral student Pia Välitalo)



Estrogenic activity in Finnish municipal wastewater effluents

Pia Välitalo ^{a,b,*}, Noora Perkola ^a, Thomas-Benjamin Seiler ^c, Markus Sillanpää ^a, Jochen Kuckelkorn ^c, Anna Mikola ^b, Henner Hollert ^c, Eija Schultz ^a

^a Finnish Environment Institute, Laboratory Centre, Hakuninmaantie 6, 00430 Helsinki, Finland
^b Aalto University, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Tietotie 1E, 02150 Espoo, Finland
^c RWTH Aachen University, Department of Ecosystem Analyses, Institute for Environmental Research, Worringerweg 1, 52074 Aachen, Germany

Water Research 126 (2017) 153–163



Effect-based assessment of toxicity removal during wastewater treatment



Pia Välitalo ^{a,b,*}, Riccardo Massei ^{c,d}, Ilse Heiskanen ^a, Peter Behnisch ^c, Werner Brack ^{c,d}, Andrew J. Tindall ^f, David Du Pasquier ^f, Eberhard Küster ^c, Anna Mikola ^b, Tobias Schulze ^c, Markus Sillanpää ^a

- WWP1
- WWP2
- WWP3
- WWP4
- WWP5
- WWP6
- WWP6 MBR
- WWP7

