

A homogeneous bioreactor model reproducing waste column data

Considering a minimum set of dominant reactions

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General assumptions:

- Homogeneous, perfectly mixed, (scale: 0.75 m³)
- pCO₂ and pH₂ are constant and low
- All VFA is converted immediately to acetic acid
- Chemical reactions in equilibrium at all times
- Lumped buffer system, NaHPO₄⁻ (in blue)

(Bio)chemical parameters (optimized):

k_{hyd}	0.0026 day ⁻¹	Substrate specific
μ^{max}	0.079 day ⁻¹	Biologic intrinsic
K_s	0.0003 mol L ⁻¹	Biologic intrinsic
$IC_{x, meth}$	0.004 mol L ⁻¹	Initial concentration
$IC_{C_{27}H_{41}O_{19}N}$	0.095 mol L ⁻¹	Initial concentration
$IC_{C_2H_4O_2}$	0.4 mol L ⁻¹	Initial concentration
$C_{NaHPO_4^-}$	0.9 mol L ⁻¹	Lumped buffer

Kinetics (MATLAB)

1. Hydrolysis, acedo- and acetogenesis (lumped):



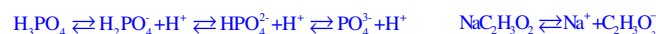
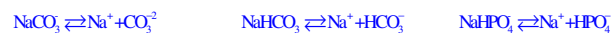
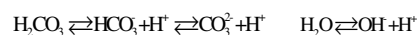
$$\frac{dC_{s,hyd}}{dt} = k_{hyd} \cdot C_{s,hyd} \quad \text{Rate limiting step}$$

2. Acetic acid methanogenesis:



$$\mu_{meth} = \mu_{meth}^{max} \cdot \frac{C_{s,meth}}{K_{s,meth} + C_{s,meth}}$$

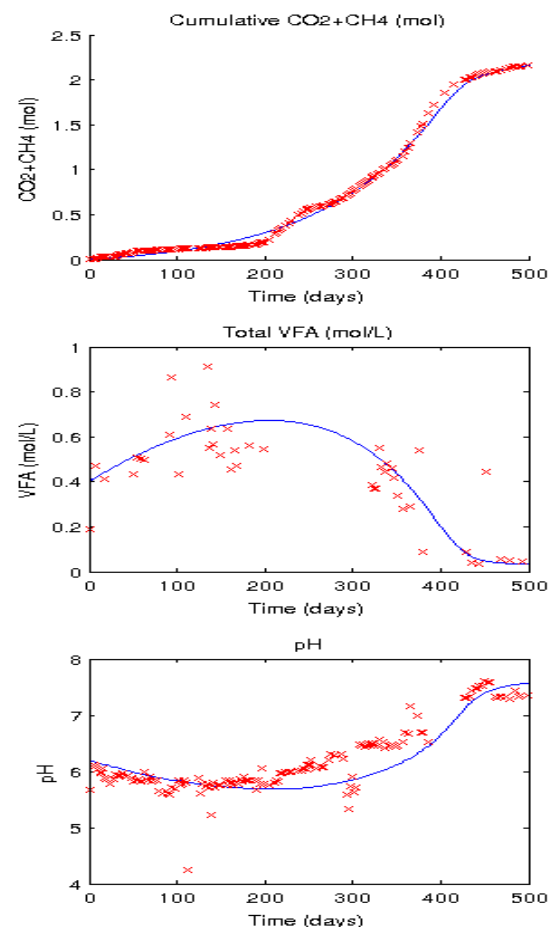
Chemical equilibria (ORCHESTRA)



Parameter optimization (DREAM)

Optimization of model parameters within biochemical relevant ranges for experimental pH, VFA and biogas data.

Results



Experimental data from dissertation of R. Valencia Vazquez 2008