


IWA International Water Association  
IWA Task Group on 'Benchmarking of Control Strategies for Wastewater Treatment Plants'  
Watermatex2007 Workshop, 6 May 2007, Washington DC, USA

## IWA TG on Benchmarking of Control Strategies for WWTPs The Beginning: BSM1

6 May 2007  
Washington DC, USA

Dr John B. Copp  
Primodal Inc.  
Canada




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## SIMULATION BENCHMARK #1

- WHAT IS IT ...
- WHY DO WE NEED IT ...
- BRIEF HISTORY & BACKGROUND ...
- BENCHMARK DESCRIPTION ...

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## SIMULATION BENCHMARK

- WHAT IS IT?:
  - DEFINITION OF A SIMULATION PROTOCOL FOR EVALUATING ACTIVATED SLUDGE CONTROL STRATEGIES
    - plant layout (configuration)
    - simulation models (biological and settling)
    - model parameter values
    - influent loads and disturbances
    - test procedures
    - evaluation criteria

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## SIMULATION BENCHMARK

- WHY?:
  - STANDARDISE THE EVALUATION PROCEDURE
    - experimental evaluation prohibitively expensive
    - innumerable perturbations in possible configurations and simulation results (i.e. model parameters, influent waste ...)
    - unbiased comparison of reported simulation results impossible

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## BENCHMARK HISTORY

- ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED OF BY 1<sup>ST</sup> IAWQ TASK GROUP ON RESPIROMETRY
  - aim: standardise method for the evaluation of activated sludge respirometry-based control strategies through simulation

↓
- FORMULATION OF THE BENCHMARK ADOPTED BY 'COST'
  - aim: a 'general' standardised method for the evaluation of activated sludge control strategies
  - EU publication

↓

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## BENCHMARK HISTORY


- EXTENSION BY 2<sup>ND</sup> TASK GROUP ON RESPIROMETRY
  - aim: to remain as consistent as possible with the generalised benchmark
  - IWA Scientific and Technical Report

↓
- EXTENSION BY NEW TASK GROUP ON BENCHMARKING
  - aim: to extend BSM system to whole plant modelling
  - BSM1\_LT, BSM2, BSM3...

↓

### NEW STR - 2008

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**IWA Task Group on Respirometry in Control of the Activated Sludge Process**

(5 common participants)

**European Co-operation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST)**

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### 'COST-624' DEFINITION

#### PRE-DENITRIFICATION PLANT LAYOUT

- 5 TANKS-IN-SERIES & 1 SETTLER, WITH DEFINED VOLUMES

2 ANAERATED TANKS 3 AERATED TANKS WITH DEFINED AERATION

2 INTERNAL RECYCLE STREAMS 1 10-LAYER SETTLER

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### 'COST-624' DEFINITION

#### DEFINED BIOLOGICAL AND SETTLING MODELS

- INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED ACTIVATED SLUDGE MODELS

**BIOLOGICAL:**  
IAWQ's ACTIVATED SLUDGE MODEL #1 (ASM#1)

**SETTLING:**  
TAKACS DOUBLE EXPONENTIAL SETTLING VELOCITY MODEL

NO BIOLOGICAL REACTIONS IN THE SETTLER OR RECYCLES

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### DYNAMIC DISTURBANCES

#### DEFINED INFLUENT WASTEWATER

- 3 different 14-DAY influent files
- representations of 3 potential weather disturbances

**CHARACTERISTICS:**  
DIURNAL VARIATIONS IN FLOW AND CONSTITUENT CONCENTRATIONS

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### RESPIROMETRY EXTENSION

- SAME 5 TANKS-IN-SERIES DESIGN
- PROCESS EXPANSION
  - completely aerobic C-only
  - completely aerobic nitrifying
- STEP-FEED CAPABILITY
- EFFLUENT QUALITY VARIANCE ADDED TO PERFORMANCE INDEX

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### PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

- PLANT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT
  - effluent quality
  - effluent violations
  - sludge production & disposal
  - pumping & aeration energy
- CONTROLLER ASSESSMENT
  - error calculations (setpoint tracking)
  - variance in manipulated variables

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## SIMULATION DEFINITION

**DEFINED STEP-WISE TESTING PROCEDURE:**

- SIMULATION SET-UP IN SIMULATOR OF CHOICE** (benchmark definition is platform independent)
- STEADY STATE SIMULATIONS** (without any active controllers)
- DYNAMIC SIMULATIONS** (using dynamic influent files)
- DEFINED CONTROL STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION** (NO3 and DO)
- EVALUATION OF USER-DEFINED STRATEGY**

NOTE: simulation output is compared to verified data at each step (excluding the last) to ensure simulator tuned correctly.

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## BENCHMARK SET-UP

**STEP 1:**

- CHOOSE APPROPRIATE PLANT LAYOUT BASED ON CHARACTERISTICS OF CONTROL STRATEGY TO BE EVALUATED

CARBON REMOVAL OR NITRIFYING LAYOUT

DENITRIFYING LAYOUT

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## BENCHMARK SET-UP

**STEP 2:**

- CONFIGURE LAYOUT ACCORDING TO DESCRIBED FEATURES

	Carbon Removal	Nitrification	Denitrification	Units
Influent flow rate	18446	18446	18446	m <sup>3</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>
Recycle flow rate	9223	18446	18446	m <sup>3</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>
Internal recycle flow rate	0	0	55338	m <sup>3</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>
Wastage flow rate	385	385	385	m <sup>3</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>
Volume - Tank 1	600	1200	1000	m <sup>3</sup>
Volume - Tank 2	600	1200	1000	m <sup>3</sup>
Volume - Tank 3	600	1200	1333	m <sup>3</sup>
Volume - Tank 4	600	1200	1333	m <sup>3</sup>
Volume - Tank 5	600	1200	1333	m <sup>3</sup>
Depth - Settler	3	4	4	m
Area - Settler	1000	1500	1500	m <sup>2</sup>
Volume - Settler	3000	6000	6000	m <sup>3</sup>

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## BENCHMARK SET-UP

**STEP 3:**


- ASSIGN THE APPROPRIATE MODEL TO EACH UNIT PROCESS
- INPUT THE DEFINED PARAMETER VALUES

DEFINED STOICHIOMETRIC & KINETIC PARAMETERS

DEFINED SETTLING PARAMETERS (no biological reactions)

ASM#1

TAKACS SETTLING MODEL

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## BENCHMARK SIMULATIONS

**STEP 4:**

- STEADY STATE (100 DAYS or STEADY STATE)

Component	Dry Weather	Units
S <sub>S</sub>	69.50	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>SLH</sub>	28.17	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>S</sub>	202.32	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>I</sub>	51.20	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>NH</sub>	31.56	g N m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>I</sub>	30.00	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>ND</sub>	6.95	g N m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>ND</sub>	10.59	g N m <sup>-3</sup>
Q	18446	m <sup>3</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>

CONSTANT FLOW-WEIGHTED AVERAGE INFLUENT (from dry weather file)

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## BENCHMARK SIMULATIONS

**STEP 5:**

- OUTPUT COMPARISON (simulator tuning)

Component	Tank 1	Tank 5	Settler Underflow	Settler Discharge	Units
VSS	2969.7	2945.9	5760.5	11252	g m <sup>-3</sup>
TSS	3295.2	3269.8	6393.9	12497	g m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>S</sub>	30	30	30	30	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>I</sub>	2.8092	0.88949	0.88949	0.88949	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>I</sub>	1149.2	1149.2	2247.1	43955	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>S</sub>	82.135	49.305	96.415	0.18834	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>NH</sub>	2551.5	2559.4	5004.7	97791	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>SLH</sub>	143.39	149.8	292.92	0.5722	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>I</sub>	448.85	452.22	884.29	1.7274	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>O</sub>	0.00430	0.49093	0.49093	0.49093	g COD m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>NO</sub>	5.3959	10.415	10.415	10.415	g N m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>NH</sub>	7.9179	1.7333	1.7333	1.7333	g N m <sup>-3</sup>
S <sub>ND</sub>	1.2166	0.6883	0.6883	0.6883	g N m <sup>-3</sup>
X <sub>ND</sub>	5.2949	3.5772	6.8973	0.01347	g N m <sup>-3</sup>
OUR	1.4928	31.869			g m <sup>-3</sup> hr <sup>-1</sup>

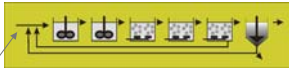
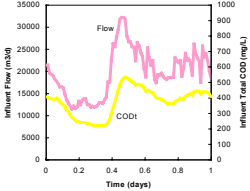
COMPARISON WITH VERIFIED OUTPUT (data verified using 6 different simulators and one user defined FORTRAN coded implementation)

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## BENCHMARK SIMULATIONS

**STEP 6:**  
DYNAMIC INFLUENT  
(28 DAYS, DATA ANALYSIS ON LAST 7 DAYS OF OUTPUT)

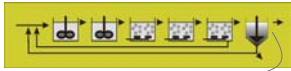
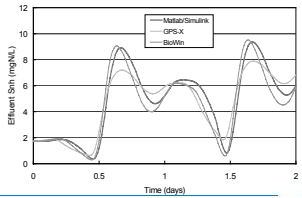
**DYNAMIC INFLUENT FILES**  
(dry weather, rain weather & storm weather files)

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## BENCHMARK SIMULATIONS

**STEP 7a:**  
OUTPUT COMPARISON  
(qualitative)


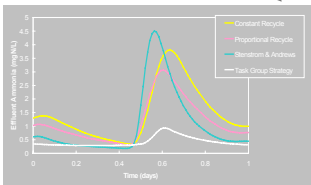
**SIMULATOR SPECIFIC OPTIONS PREVENT EXACT DUPLICATION OF DYNAMIC RESULTS**

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## BENCHMARK SIMULATIONS

**STEP 7a:**  
OUTPUT COMPARISON  
(qualitative)

**QUALITATIVE COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT STRATEGIES**

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## BENCHMARK SIMULATIONS

**STEP 7b:**  
OUTPUT COMPARISON  
(performance index)

Process Summary	
IQ Index =	1.482E+07 kg/d
EQ Index =	2.896E+06 kg/d
Avg Sludge Production (disposal) =	2432.7 kg SS/d
Avg Sludge Production (effluent) =	234.8 kg SS/d
Avg Sludge Production (total) =	2673.5 kg SS/d
Aeration Energy =	6476.1 kWh/d
Pumping Energy =	2966.8 kWh/d
Total N (constraint limit) =	18 g N/m <sup>3</sup>
% of time plant in violation (Ntot) =	0.89 %
# of violations (Ntot) =	1

Composite Summary		
Effluent avg. TSS conc. =	13.0	5.4 g SS/m <sup>3</sup>
Effluent avg. TRN conc. =	6.8	3.2 g N/m <sup>3</sup>
Effluent avg. N conc. =	15.7	4.8 g N/m <sup>3</sup>
Effluent avg. total COD conc. =	48.3	16.0 g COD/m <sup>3</sup>
Effluent avg. BOD5 conc. =	2.8	1.1 g/m <sup>3</sup>

**USE OF THE PERFORMANCE INDEX ALLOWS FOR A MORE QUANTITATIVE COMPARISON**

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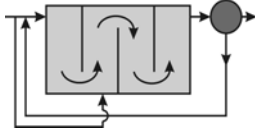
## STRATEGY EXAMPLE

■ **STENSTROM AND ANDREWS (1979)**


**AIM:** TO DECREASE THE INFLUENCE OF A DYNAMIC INFLUENT ON EFFLUENT QUALITY

**APPROACH:** CONTROL REACTOR SOUR

**METHOD:**  $Q_{RAS}$  MANIPULATION



Part I

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## STRATEGY EXAMPLE


■ **TASK GROUP STRATEGY**

**AIM:** TO DECREASE THE VARIABILITY IN EFFLUENT QUALITY

**APPROACH:** CONTROL OUR IN 5<sup>TH</sup> TANK

**METHOD:** STEP-FEED MANIPULATION



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## PROBLEM DEFINITION

- TWO STRATEGIES
- SIMILAR, BUT DIFFERENT PROCESS AIMS
- DIFFERENT LAYOUTS
- DIFFERENT CONTROL OBJECTIVES
- DIFFERENT MANIPULATED VARIABLES

How is an unbiased comparison made?



## BENCHMARK RESULTS

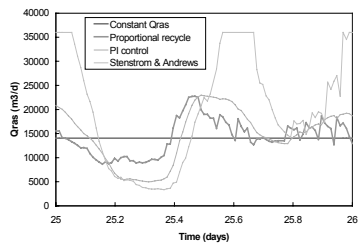
- SIMILARLY APPLIED ANALYSES ALLOW A MULTI-CRITERIA COMPARISON TO BE MADE
- FURTHER ANALYSES CAN BE BASED ON LOCATION SPECIFIC CRITERIA AND TERM WEIGHTING (i.e. SLUDGE PRODUCTION MORE IMPORTANT THAN PUMPING COSTS...)

	constant Oxas	proportional Oxas	SA Part I	Task Group Strategy
EQ index =	5239	5180	5195	4960
td				
Avg Sludge Production (total) =	2628	2638	2598	2864
kg SS/d				
Aeration Energy =	14247	14247	14247	12175
MWh/d				
Pumping Energy =	577	577	1014	813
kWh/d				
Effluent avg. S <sub>tot</sub> conc. =	34.6	34.6	34.6	34.0
g N/m <sup>3</sup>				
Effluent avg. S <sub>5h</sub> conc. =	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.5
g N/m <sup>3</sup>				
Effluent avg. TSS conc. =	12.1	12.2	13.1	13.0
g SS/m <sup>3</sup>				
Effluent avg. TN conc. =	3.3	3.0	3.1	2.4
g N/m <sup>3</sup>				
Effluent avg. N conc. =	37.8	37.6	37.6	36.3
g N/m <sup>3</sup>				
Effluent avg. total COD conc. =	47.0	47.1	48.3	48.1
g COD/m <sup>3</sup>				
Effluent avg. SCOD conc. =	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7
g/m <sup>3</sup>				



## BENCHMARK RESULTS

- VARIATIONS IN THE MANIPULATED VARIABLE  
→ ARE THE VARIATIONS PRACTICAL



## FEATURES RECAP

- DEFINED CONFIGURATIONS
  - C-only, Nitrifying, Denitrifying (IWA)
  - Denitrifying (COST)
- FIXED PROCESS MODELS & PARAMETERS
  - ASM#1, Takacs
- DEFINED DYNAMIC DISTURBANCES
- DEFINED SIMULATION PROCEDURES
- DEFINED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT



## CONCLUSION

- BENCHMARKING IS:
  - a valuable tool for the comparison of multi-facetted simulation problems
  - the first step in evaluating the potential impact of particular control strategies
  - a multi-criteria decision making problem

