



Better Plants

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



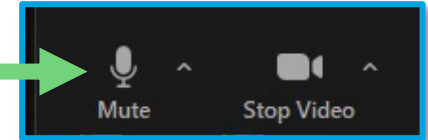
VIRTUAL WASTEWATER INPLT SESSION 4

Using Zoom!

Mute yourself!

Have a question?
Use the chat feature.

Controls accessed at the bottom

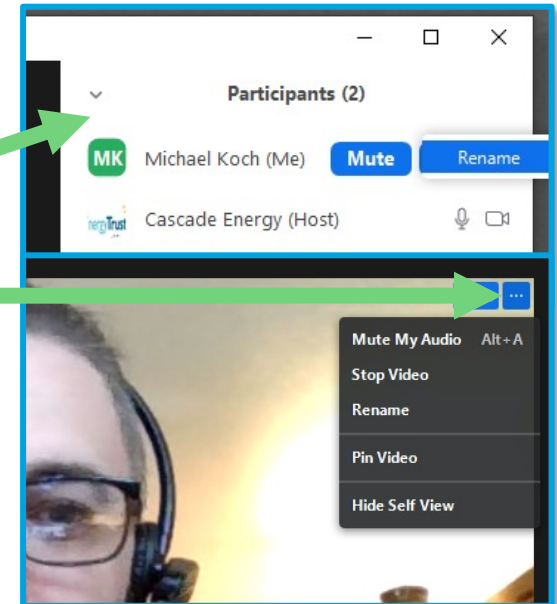


Rename yourself

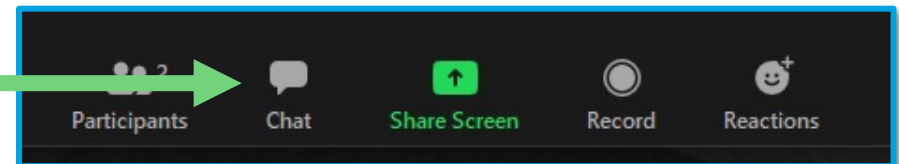
“Name (Company)”

*Right click on your picture or 3 dots
OR*

*Controls accessed at the right after
clicking ‘Participants’ at bottom.*



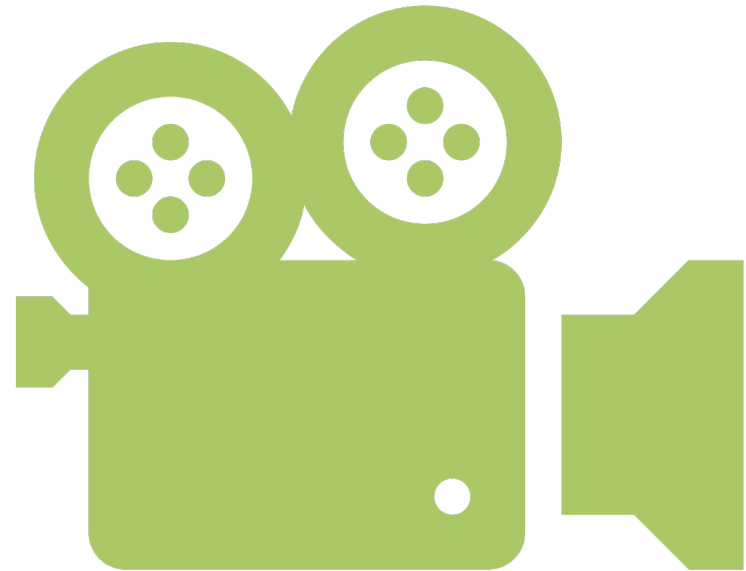
Access Chat at the bottom



Recording

This meeting is being recorded (both audio and video)

*If you do not consent to being recorded,
please let the meeting moderator know
ASAP and we will facilitate your
participation in another way or adjust our
procedure.*



Chat question for the week

- ***What has been your favorite vacation?***

Thank You!

Sponsor:



Today's Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Plant Energy Basics

Bacterial Energetics and Aeration

Break

Aeration Blower Opportunities

Fans & Odor Control

Opportunity Jam

Done

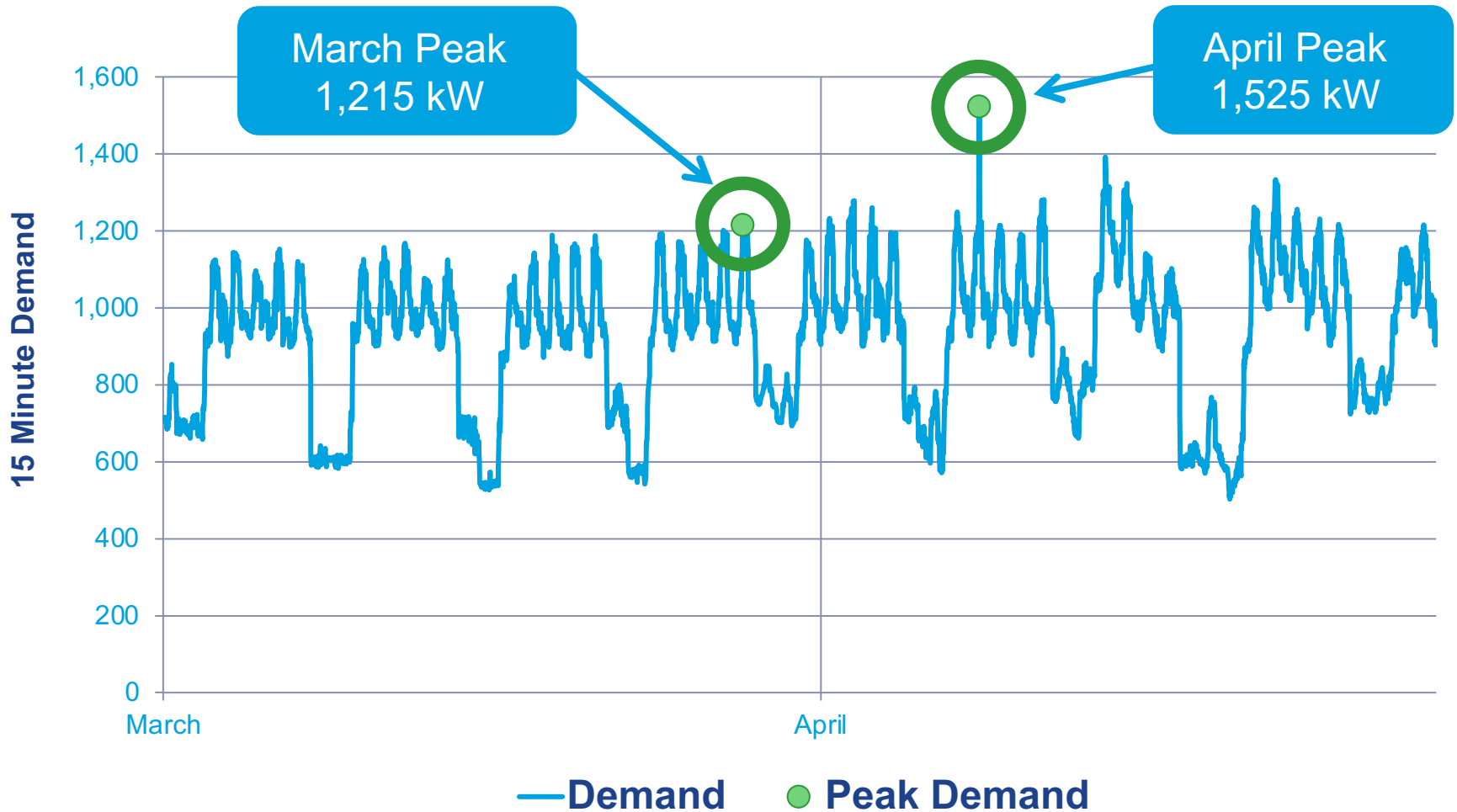
Energy Basics — Peak Demand

GENERATION

TRANSMISSION

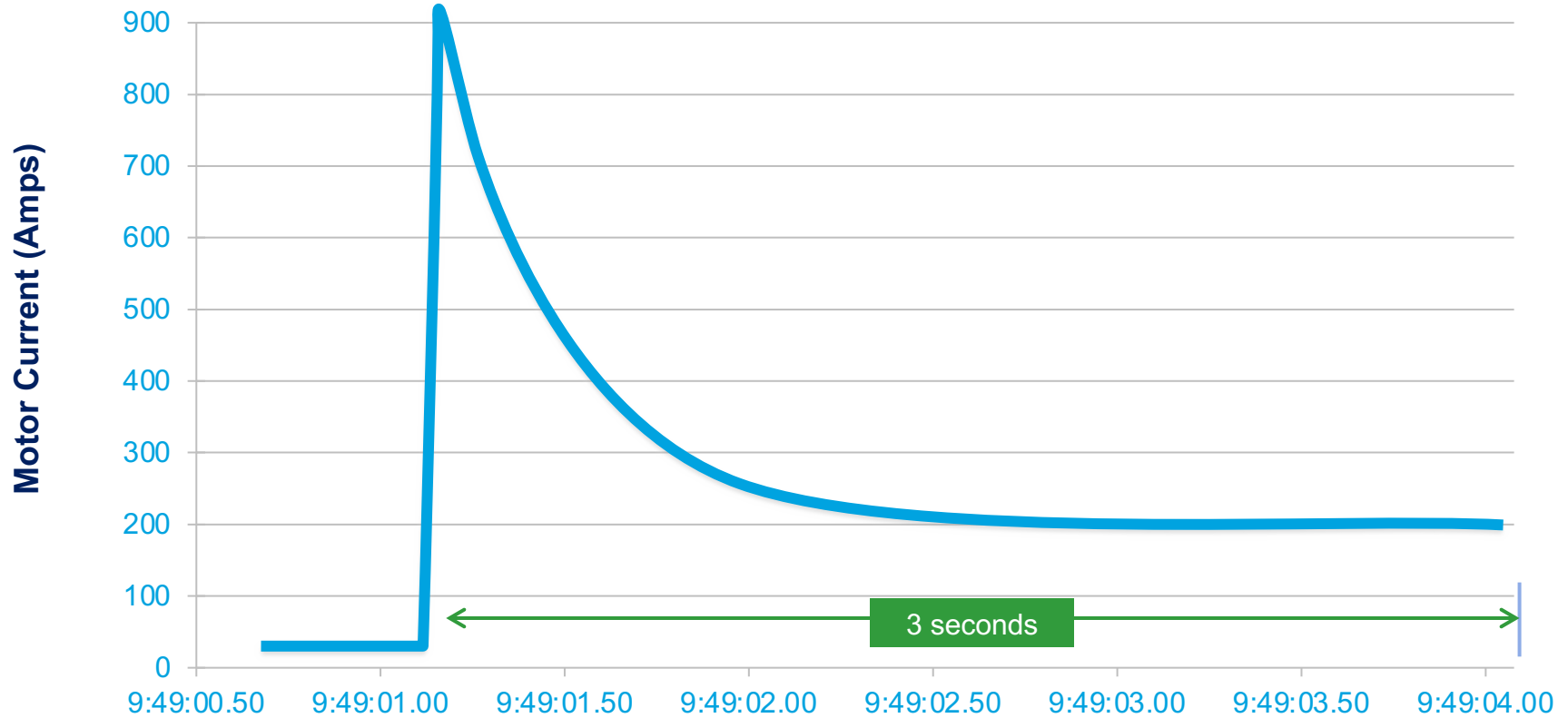
DISTRIBUTION

Peak Demand Example



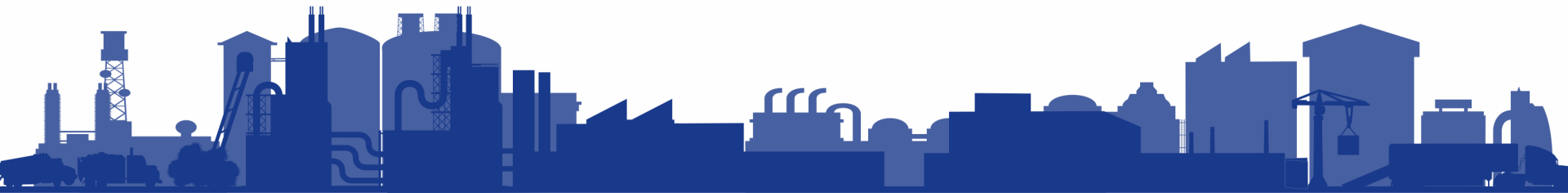
Motor Inrush Current — Concern or Not?

Motor Current vs. Time



Session 4

Bacterial Energetics and Aeration



What DO setpoint (mg/l) are you running in your aeration basin?

- a. 0 – 1**
- b. 1 - 2**
- c. 2 - 3**
- d. 3 – 4**
- e. > 4**
- f. It depends on where in the basin**

Four Requirements of Life to Live and Thrive

1

Carbon

2

Energy

3

Inorganic nutrients

4

Reducing power

Heterotrophs Get Carbon and Energy From Organic Carbon (Like Us)

1

Carbon

2

Energy

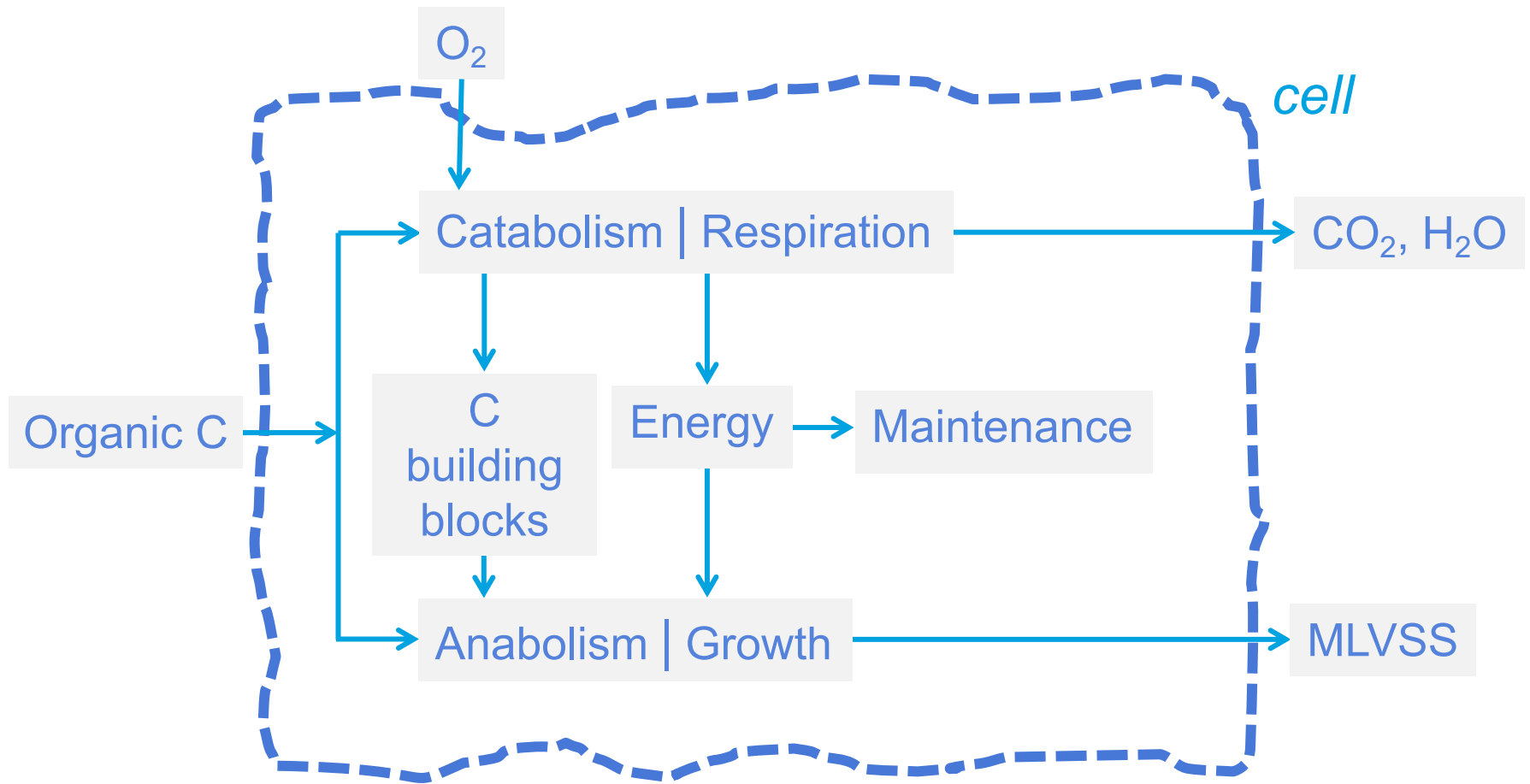
3

Inorganic nutrients

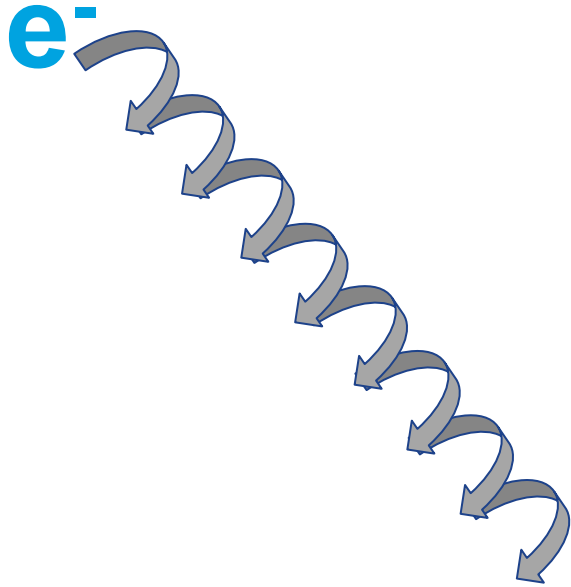
4

Reducing power

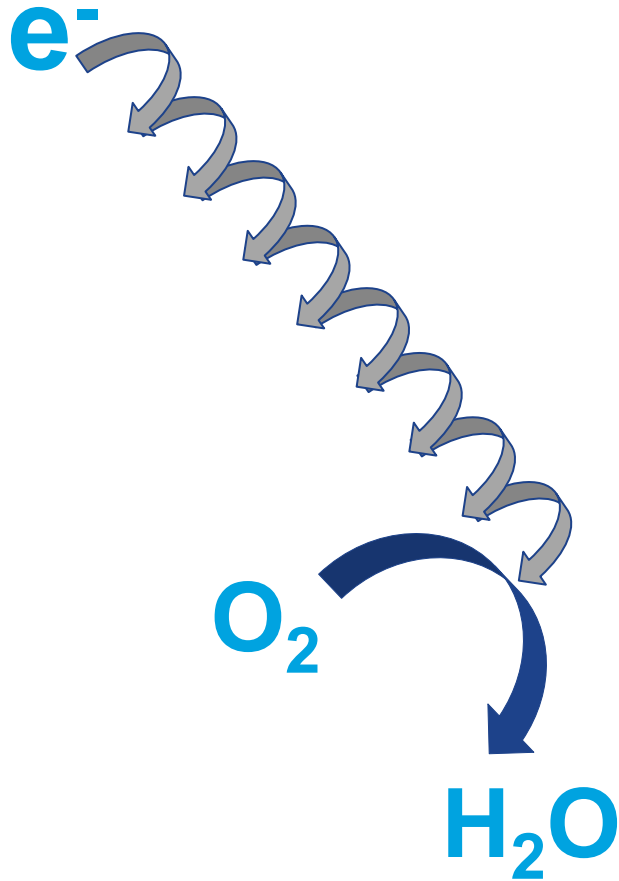
Heterotrophic Metabolism: Catabolism and Anabolism, Energy and Growth



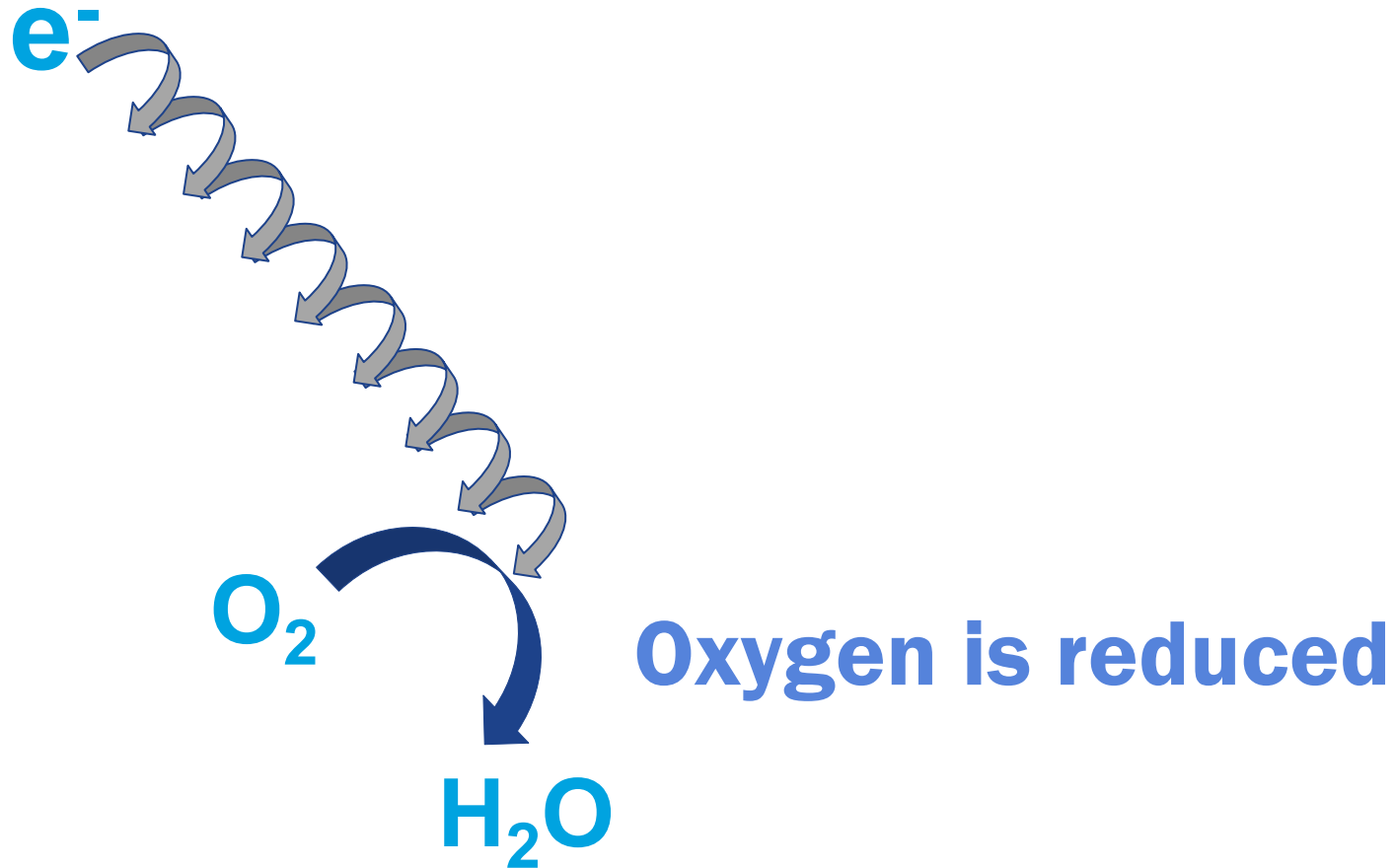
Electron Transport Chains in Cell Membranes Extract Energy



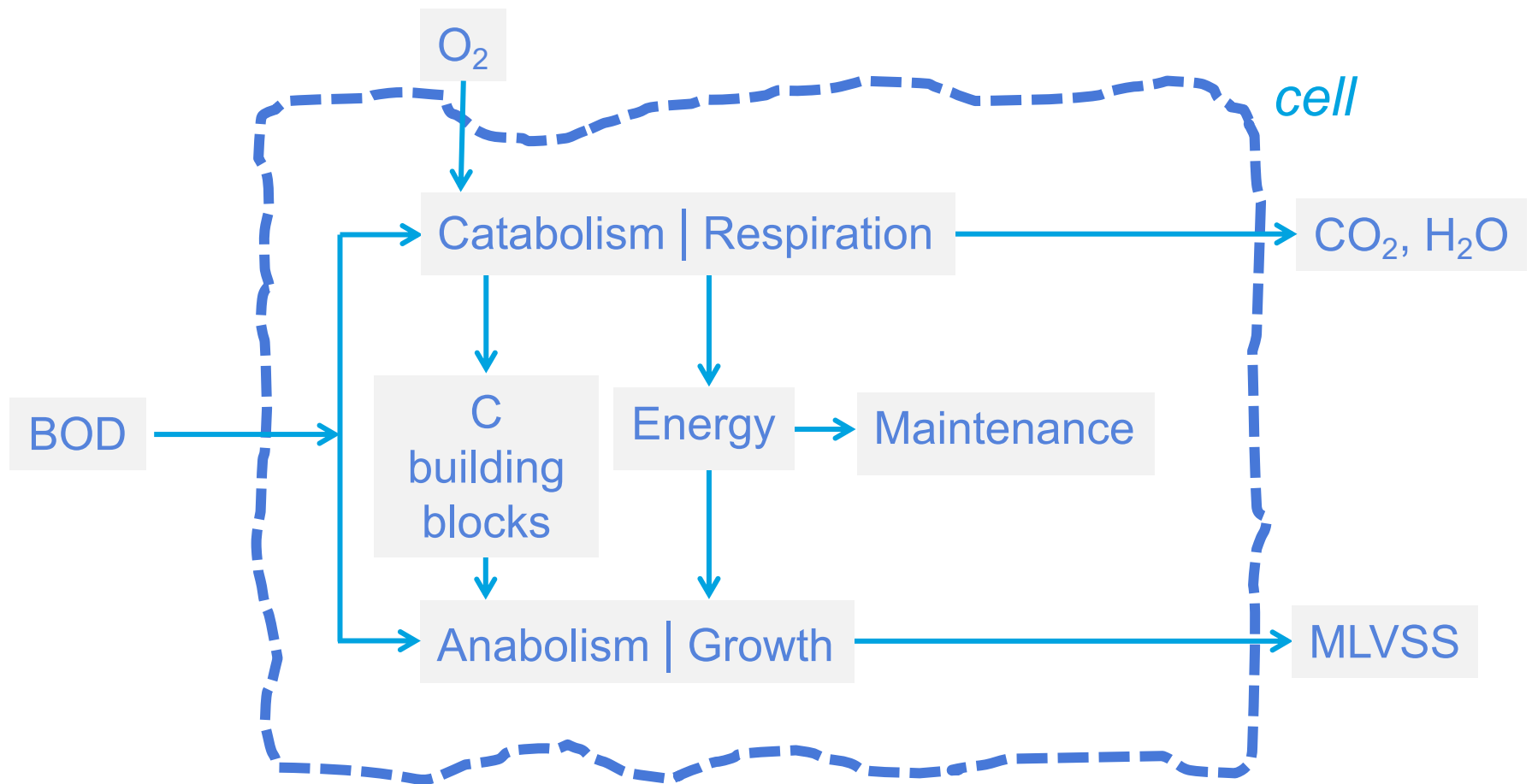
O₂ Serves as the *Terminal Electron Acceptor* in Aerobic Respiration



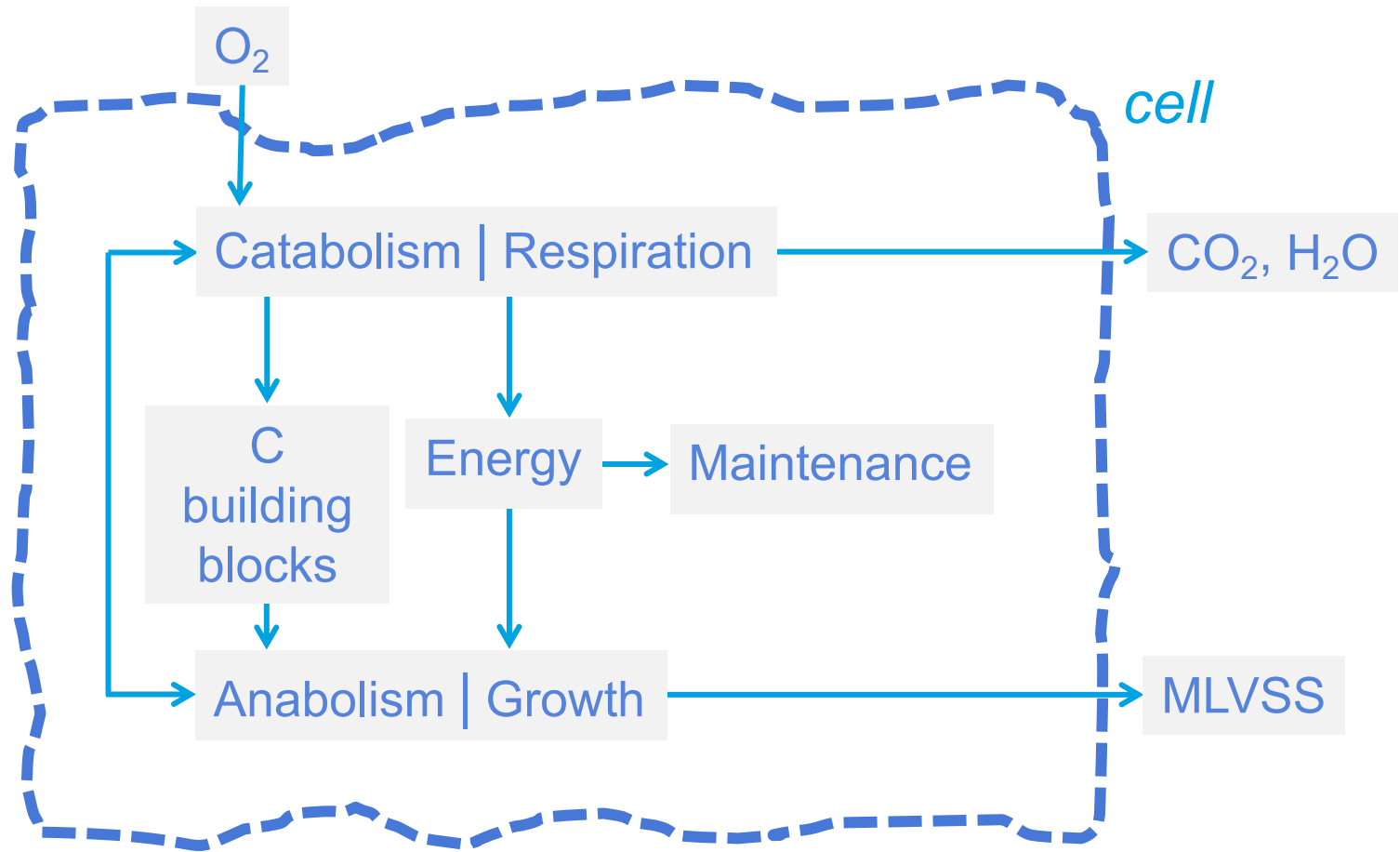
When an Atom Gains Electrons, it is Reduced



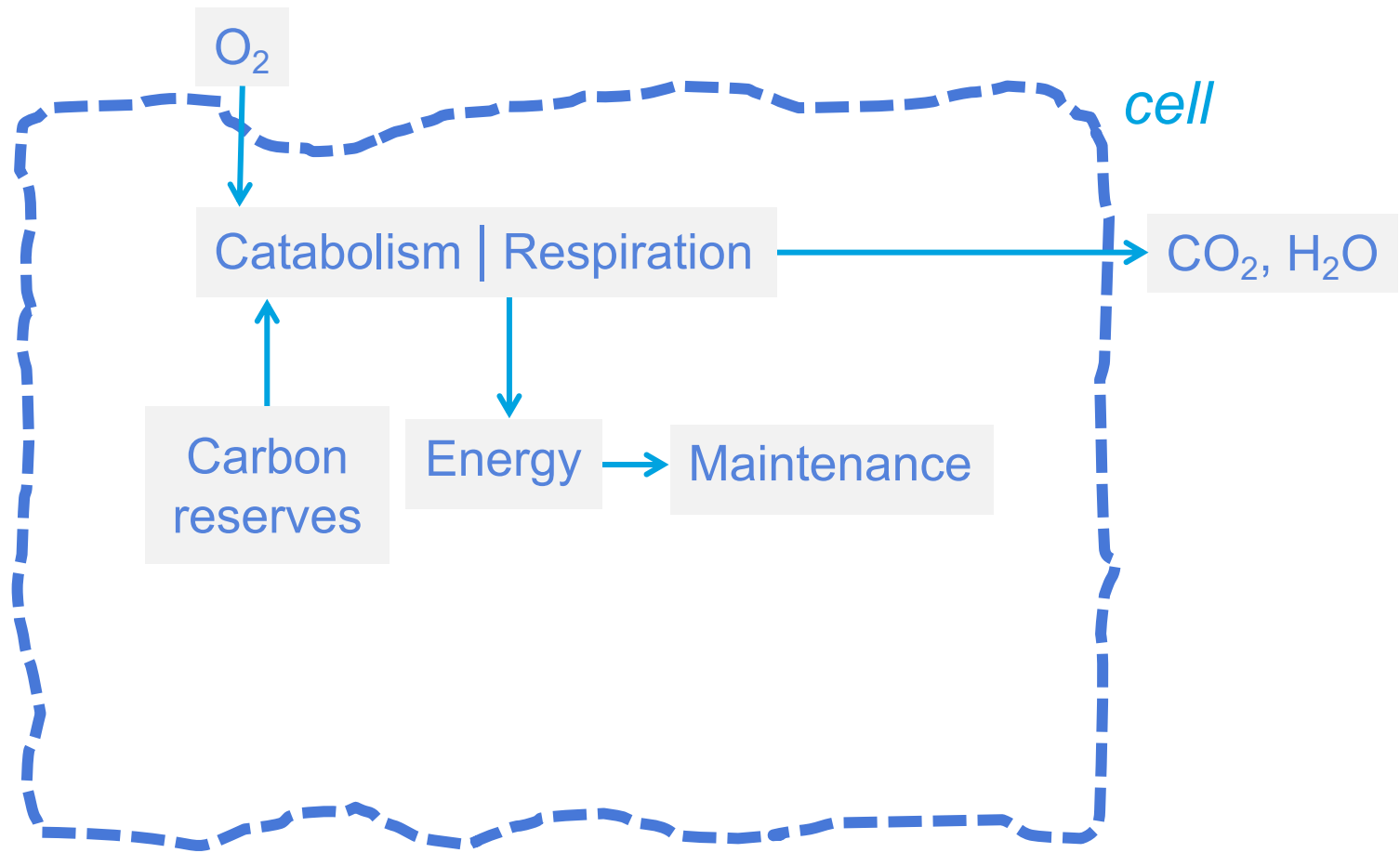
BOD Decreases Until Gone (That's the Goal) What Happens Then?



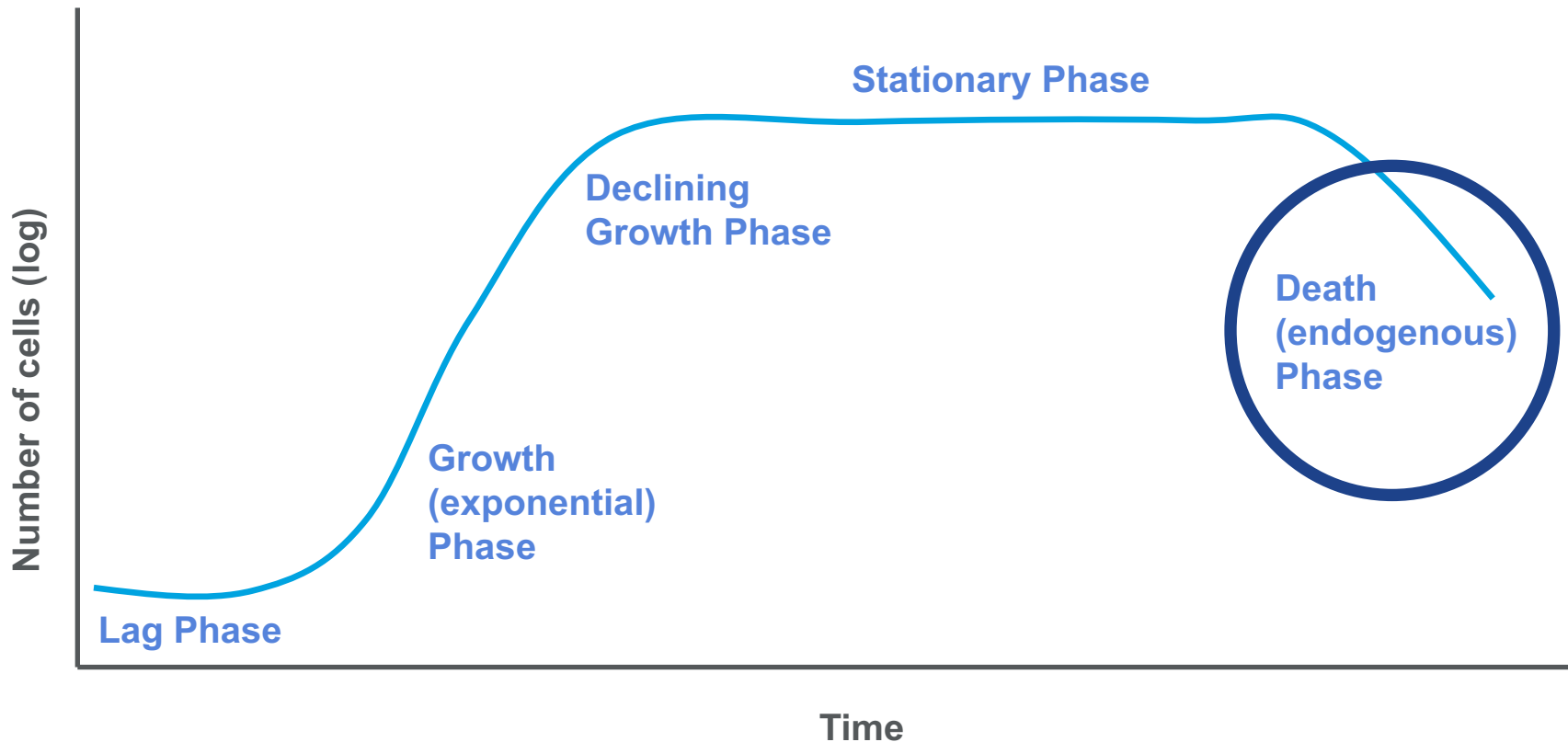
Anabolic Metabolism Shuts Down Energy Still Needed to Maintain Cell Integrity



Endogenous Respiration Begins When the Cell Starts Using its Own Carbon Reserves

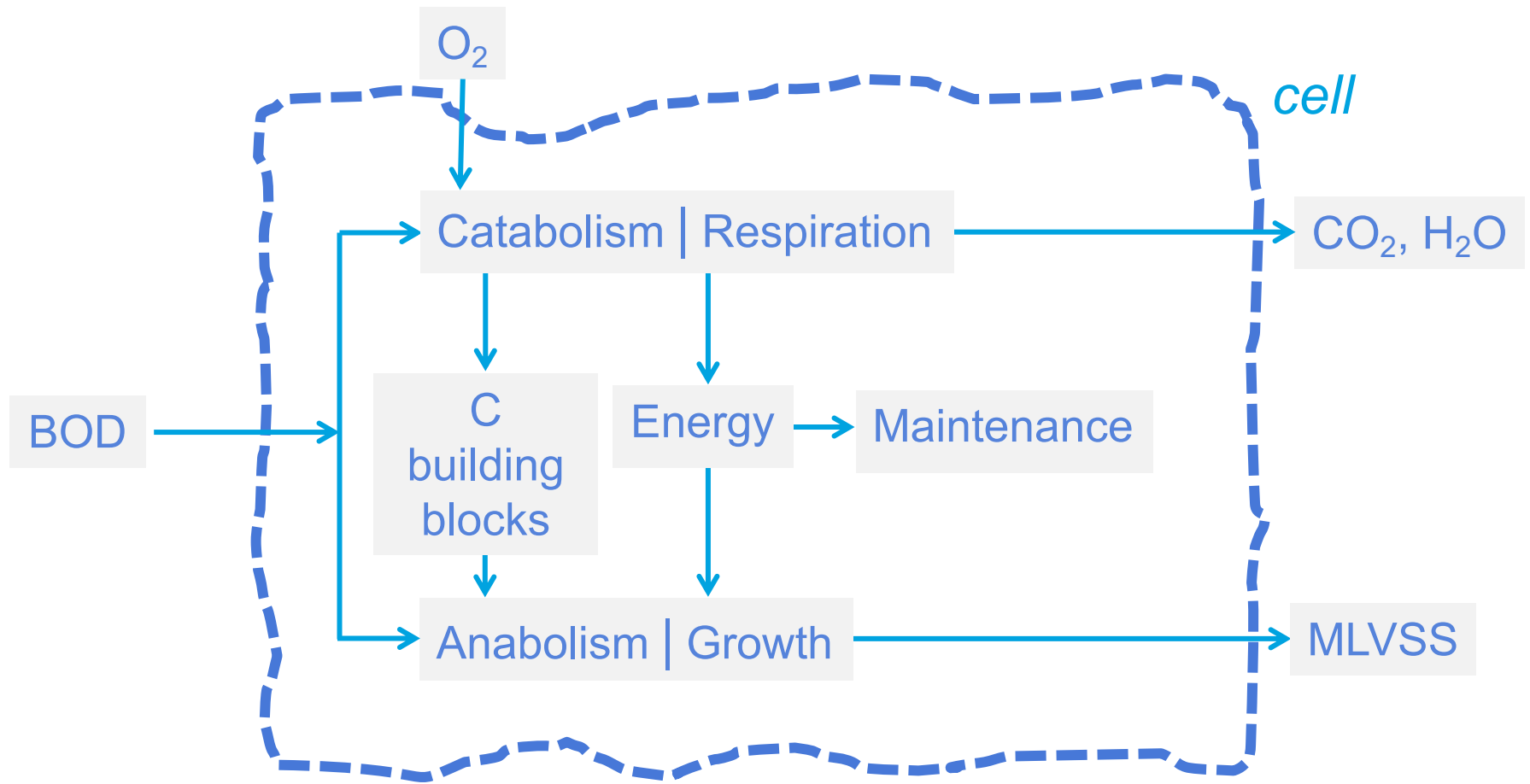


This Graphic is Wrong: Death and Endogenous are Not Synonymous

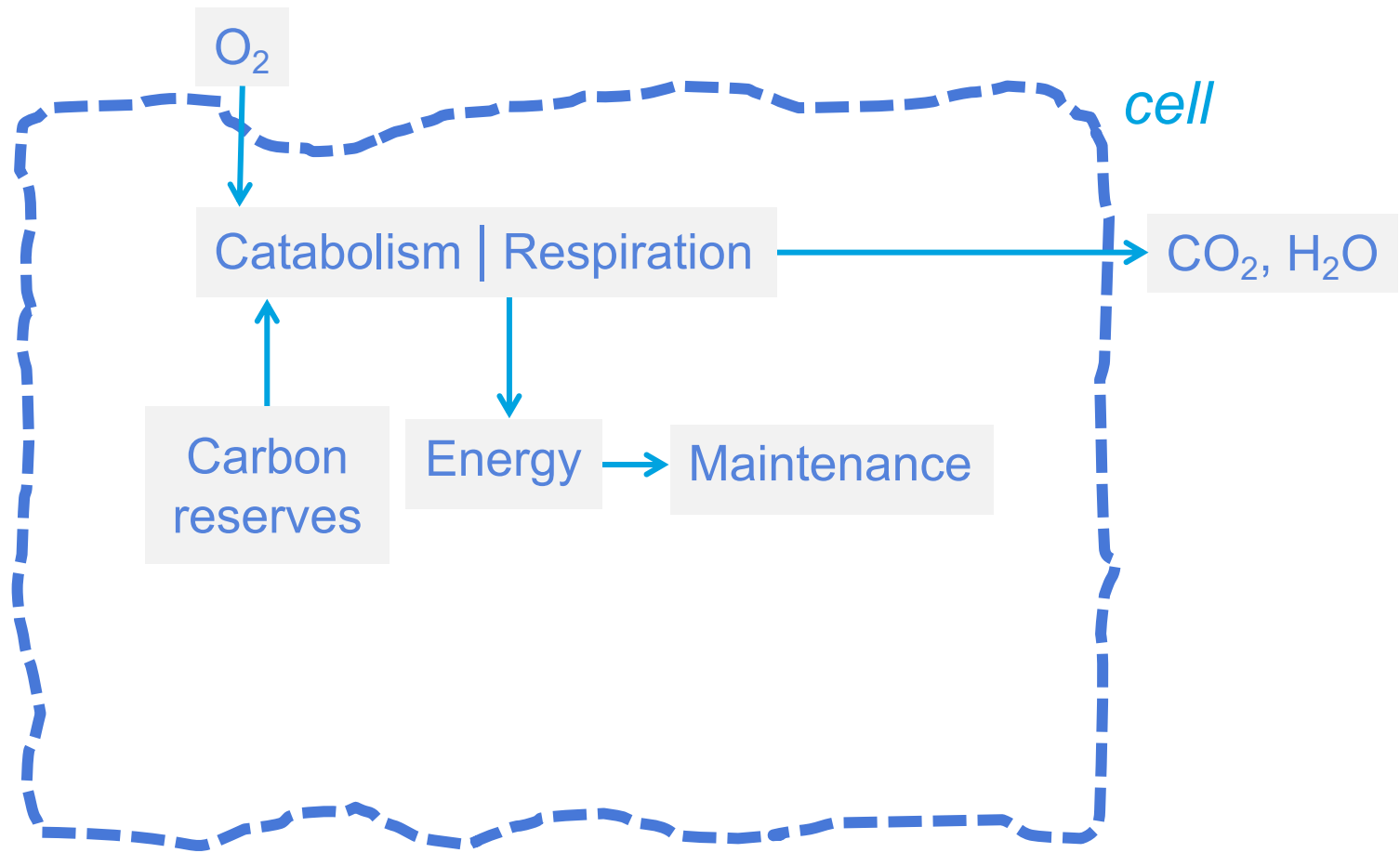


Bacterial Growth Curve
from Auralene Glymph

When the BOD is Gone, the Biomass Goes Endogenous; it Does Not Die

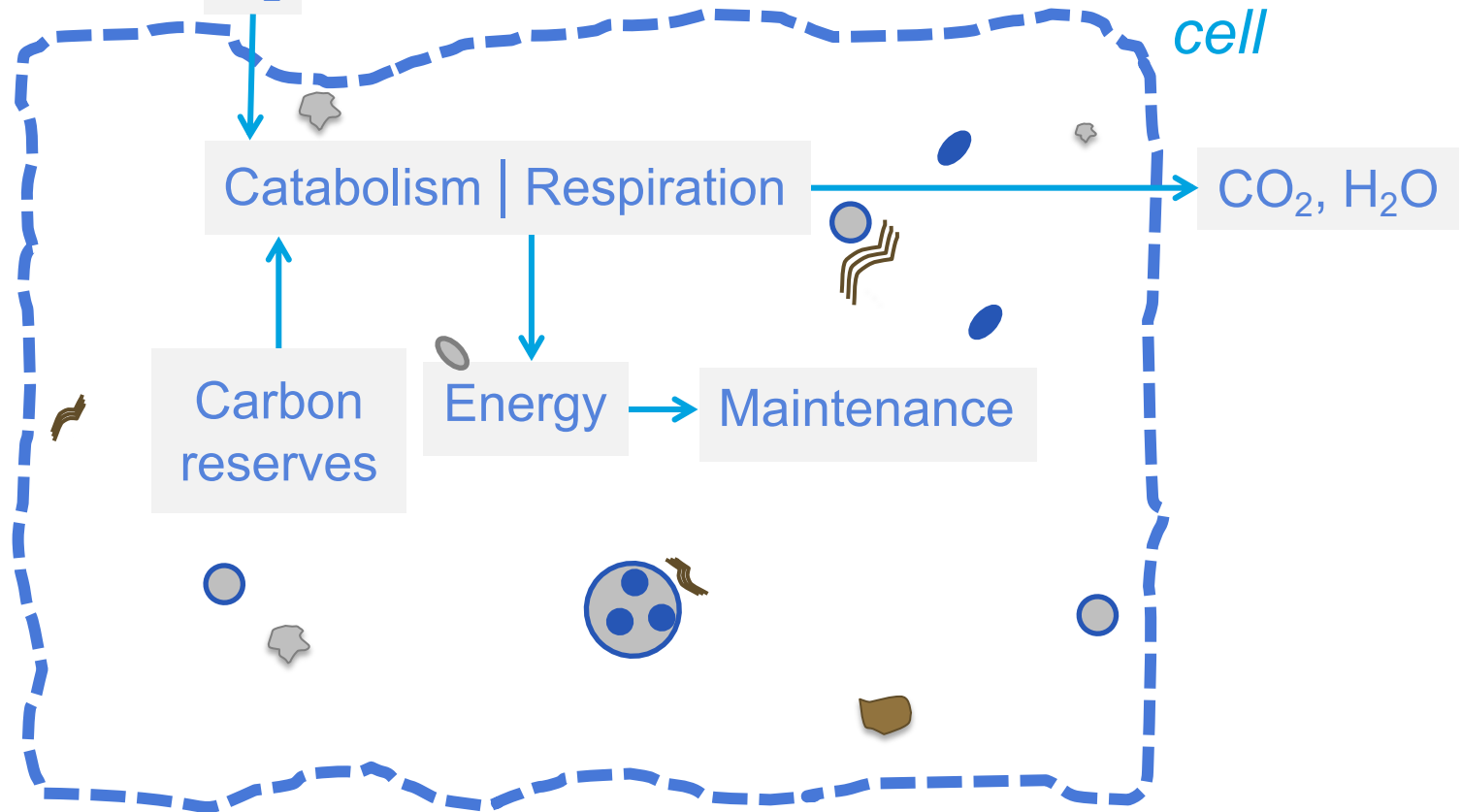


When the BOD is Gone, the Biomass Goes Endogenous; it Does Not Die

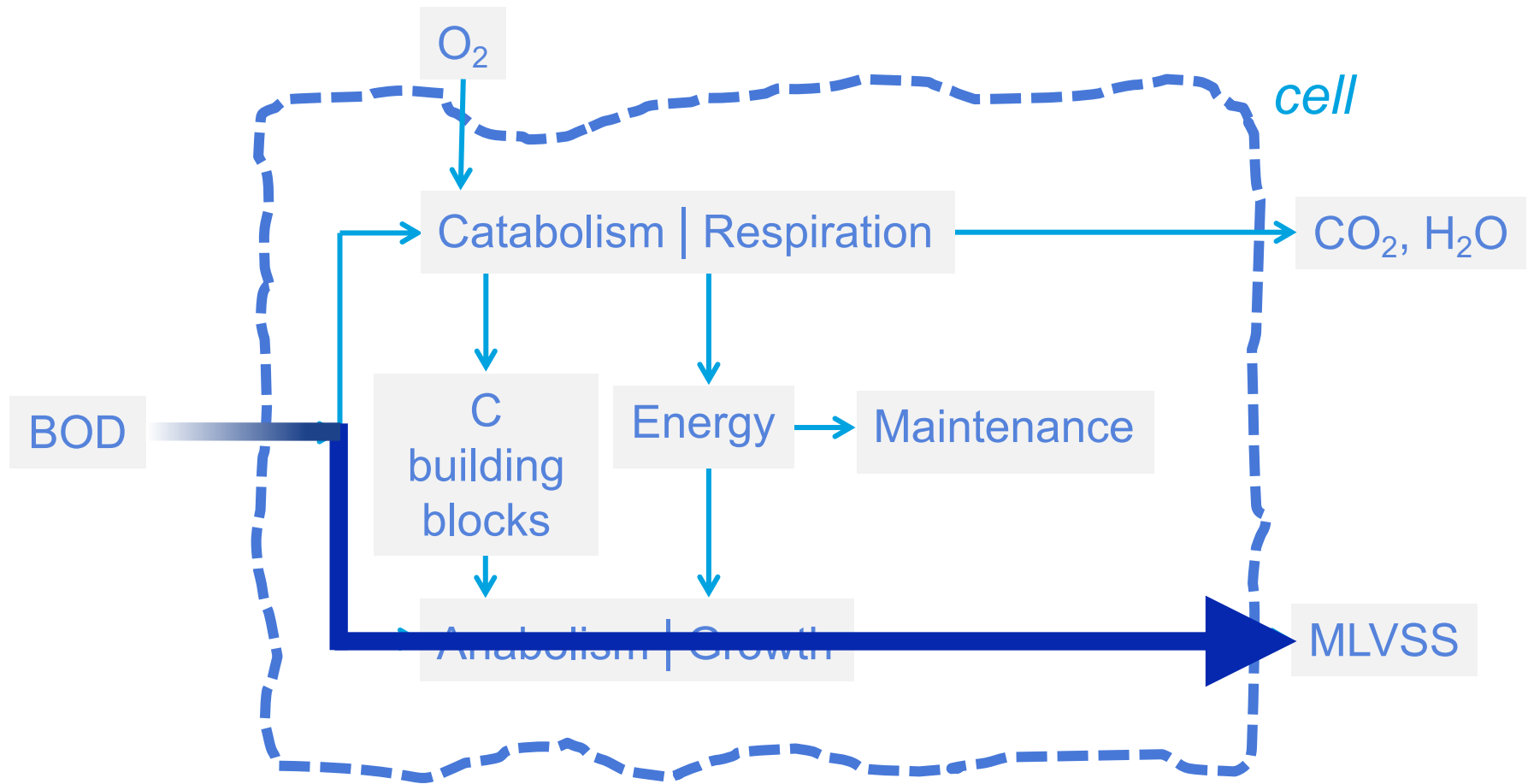


A Different Story When Carbon Reserves Run Out

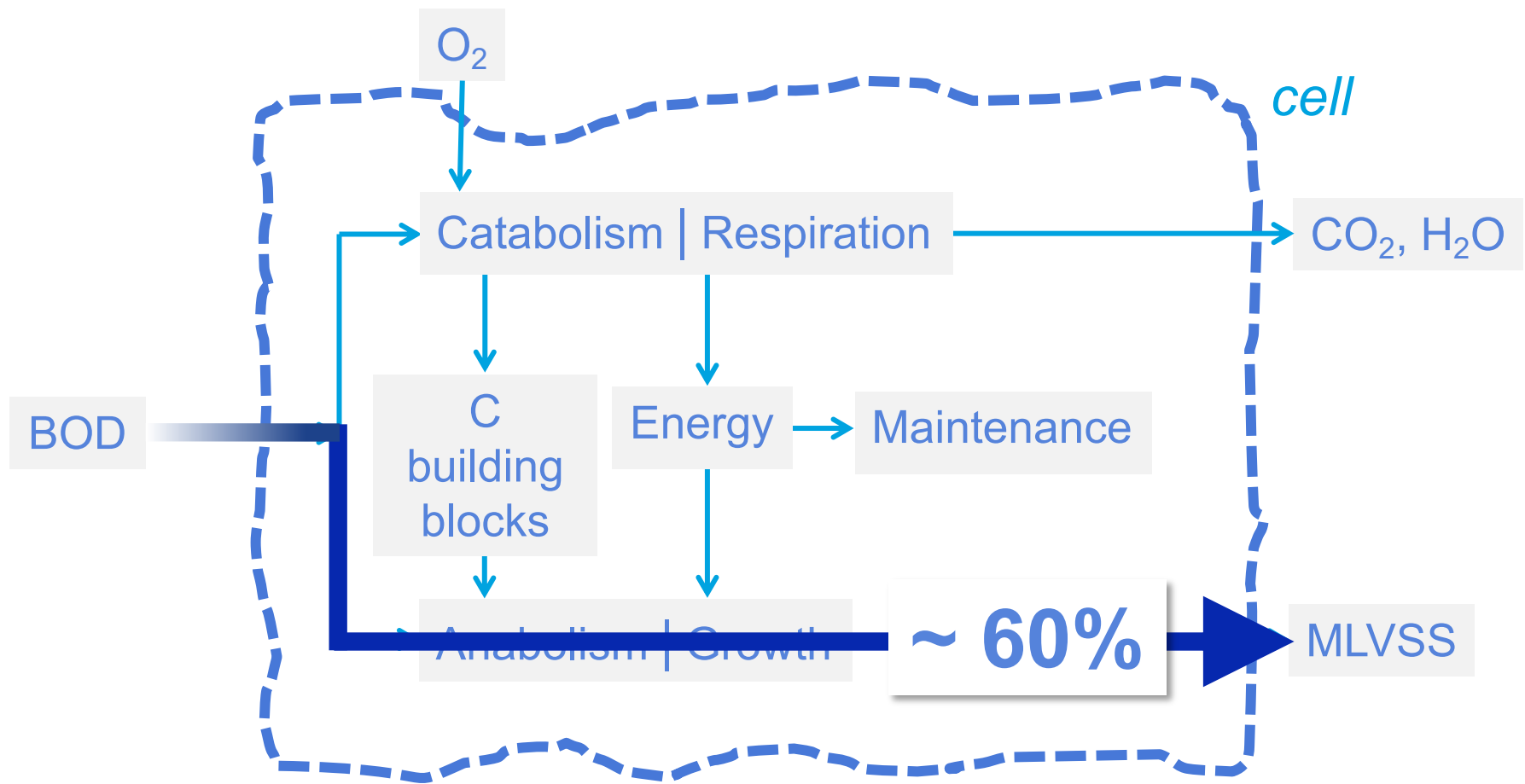
Cell contents = BOD + nutrients



Yield: How Much Influent Organic C (BOD) is Converted to Organic C in New Cells (MLVSS)

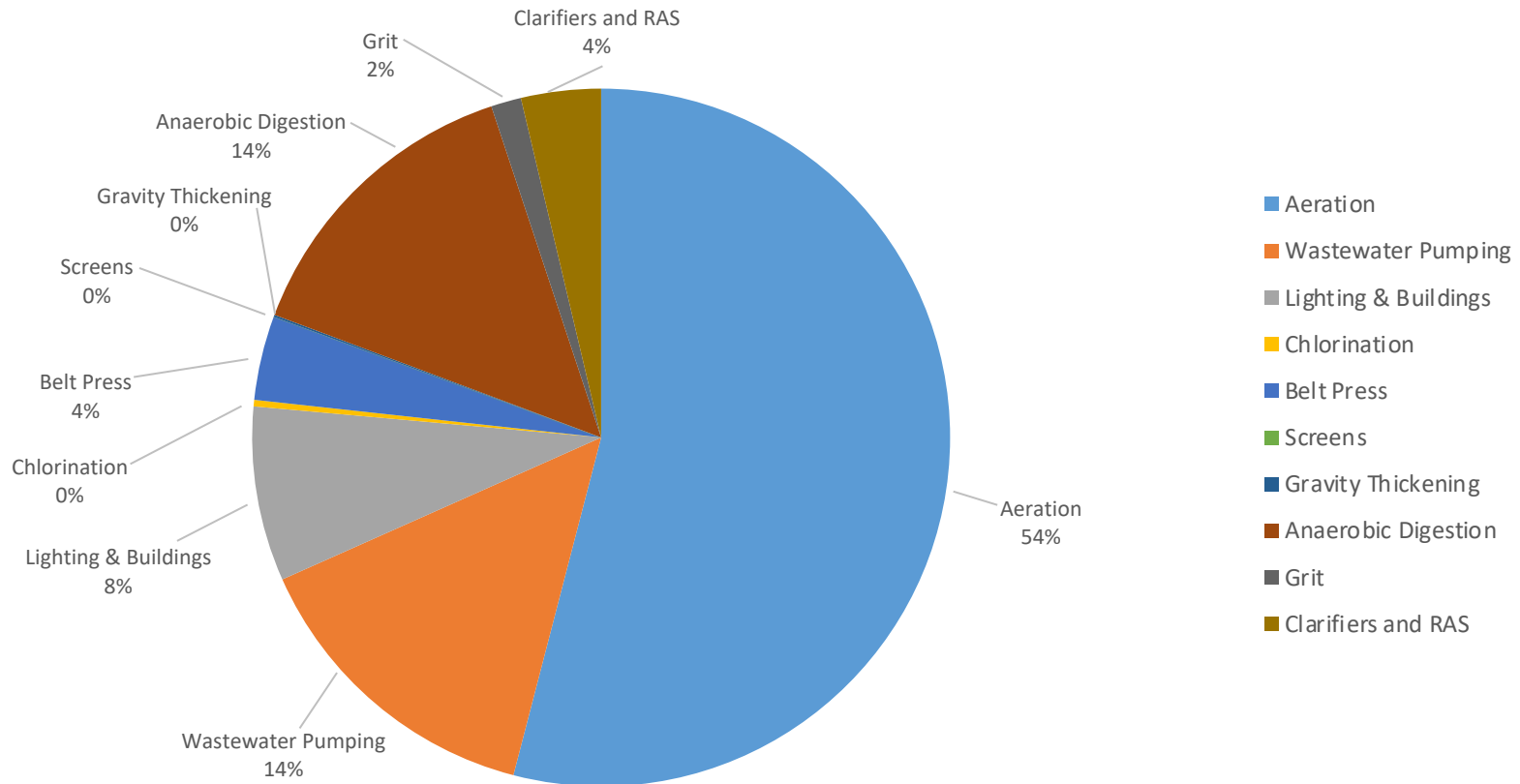


More Influent BOD is Converted to New Cells Than Oxidized for Energy (and respired)



Plant Process Electricity Use Overview

Electricity Requirements for Activated Sludge Wastewater



Derived from data from Focus On Energy WWOA 49th Annual Conference, October 7, 2015 presentation by Joseph Cantwell, PE

A Gallon of Milk...



Weights ~8.34 lb

Has a BOD concentration of approximately 120,000 mg/L

How many pounds of BOD?

A Gallon of Milk = One Pound of BOD

What does that mean?



A Pound of Oxygen From the Atmosphere...



~Eight 55-gallon drums of air

The Reason so Much Aeration is Required. . . .

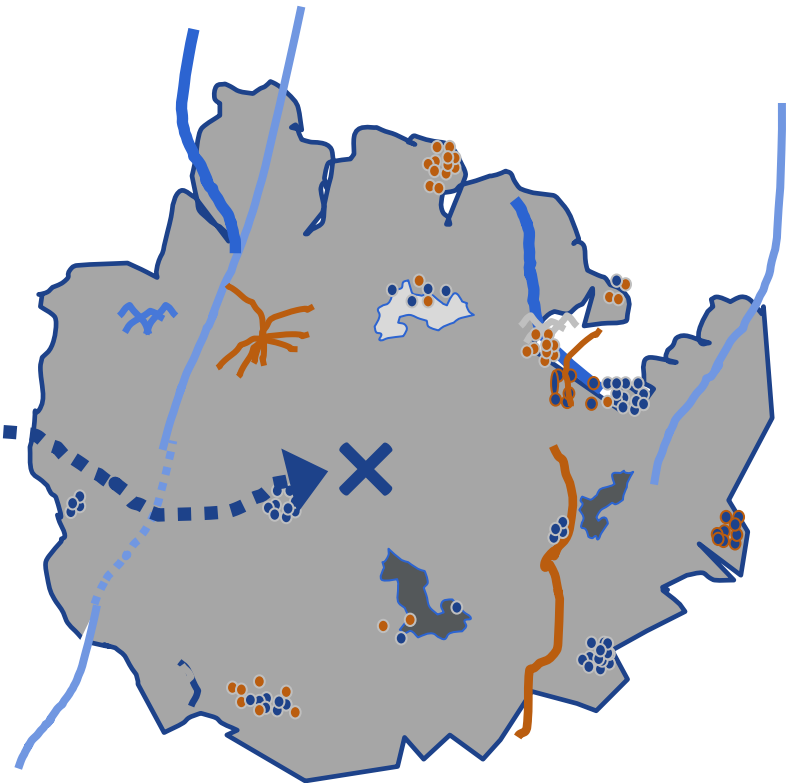
Bubble



**Mixed
Liquor**

DO

Floc



Eighty 55-Gallon Drums of Air



Mixed Liquor DO Concentration Must Be High Enough to Accomplish Two Things

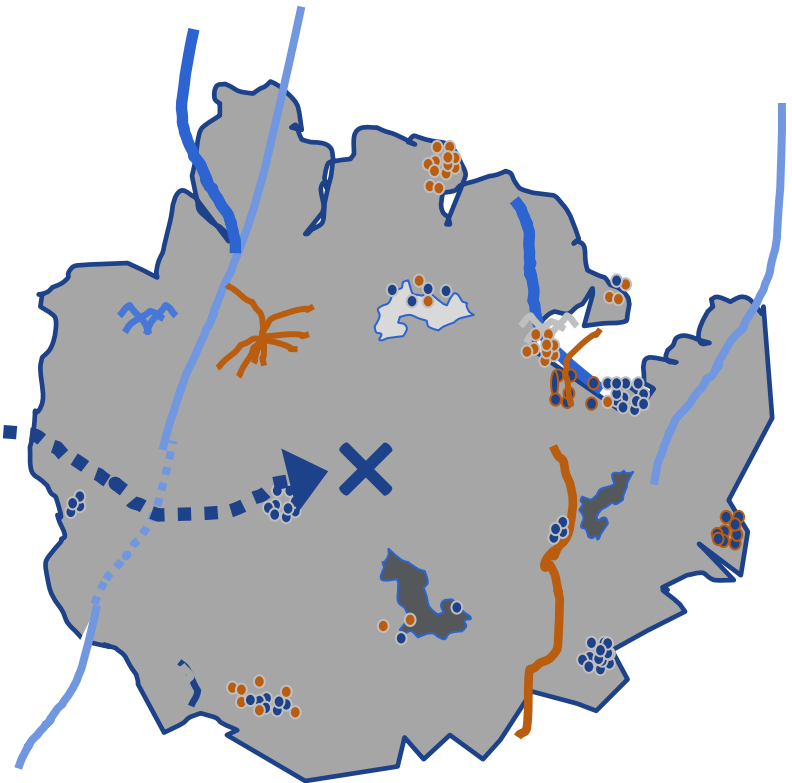
Bubble



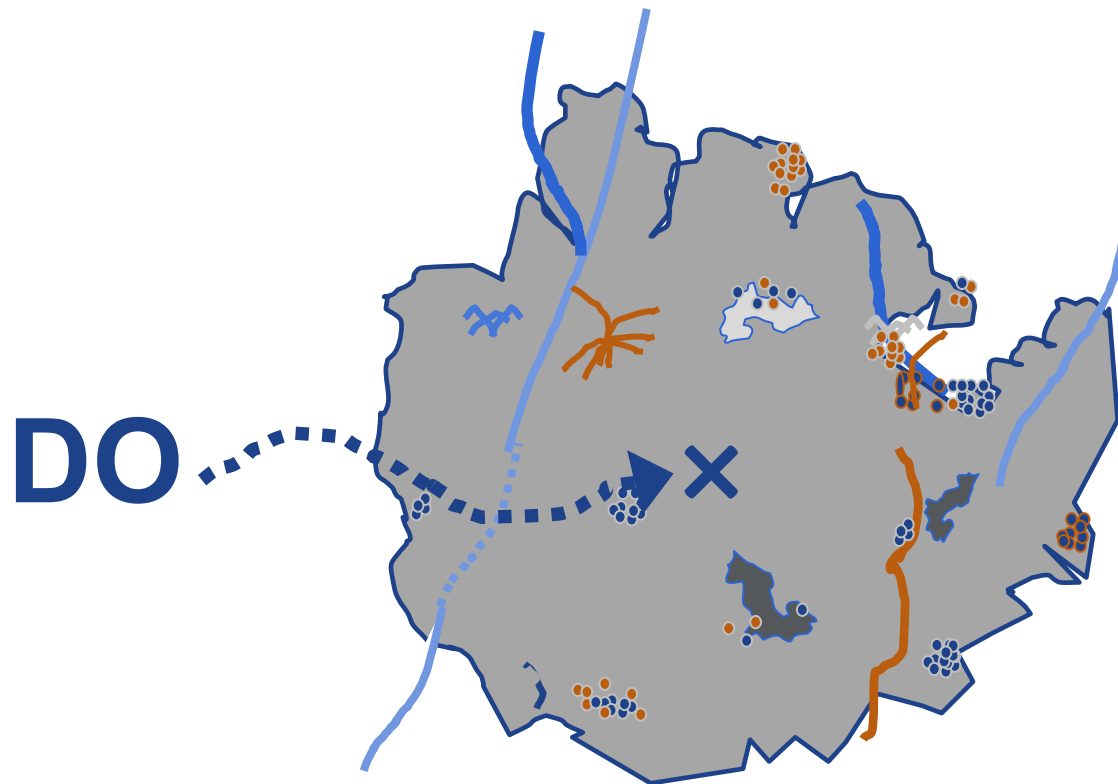
**Mixed
Liquor**

DO

Floc

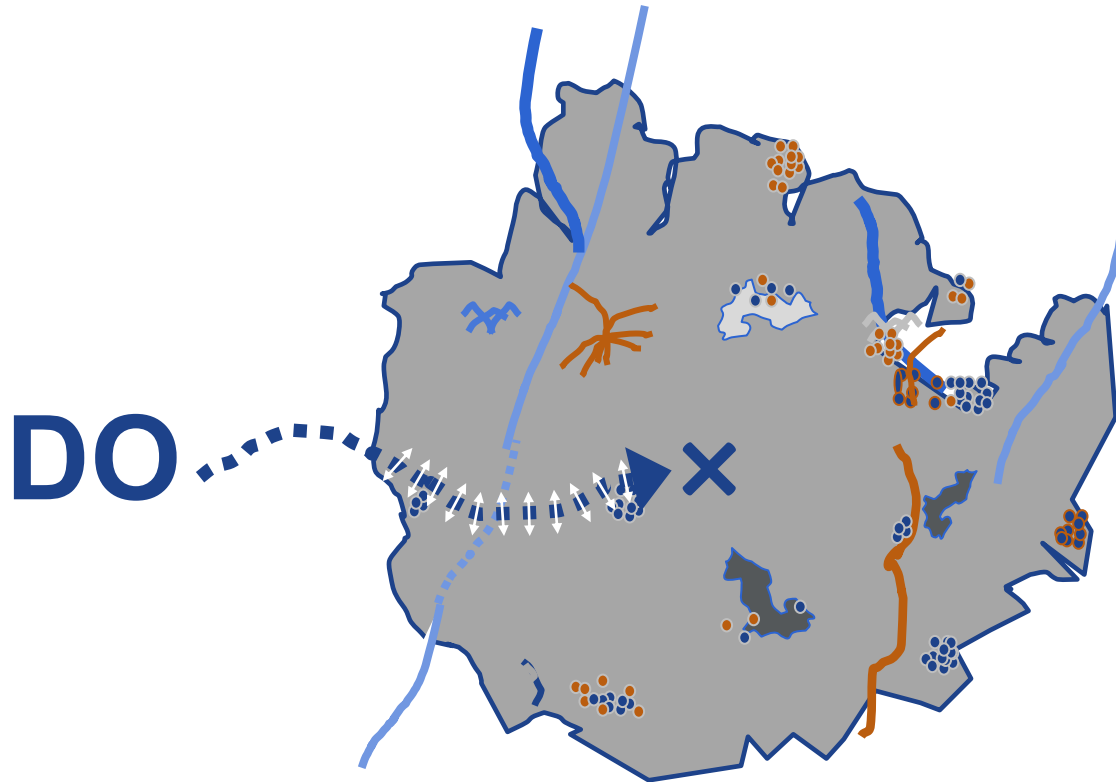


1. Must Provide Sufficient Gradient to Diffuse Oxygen Into Floc Center



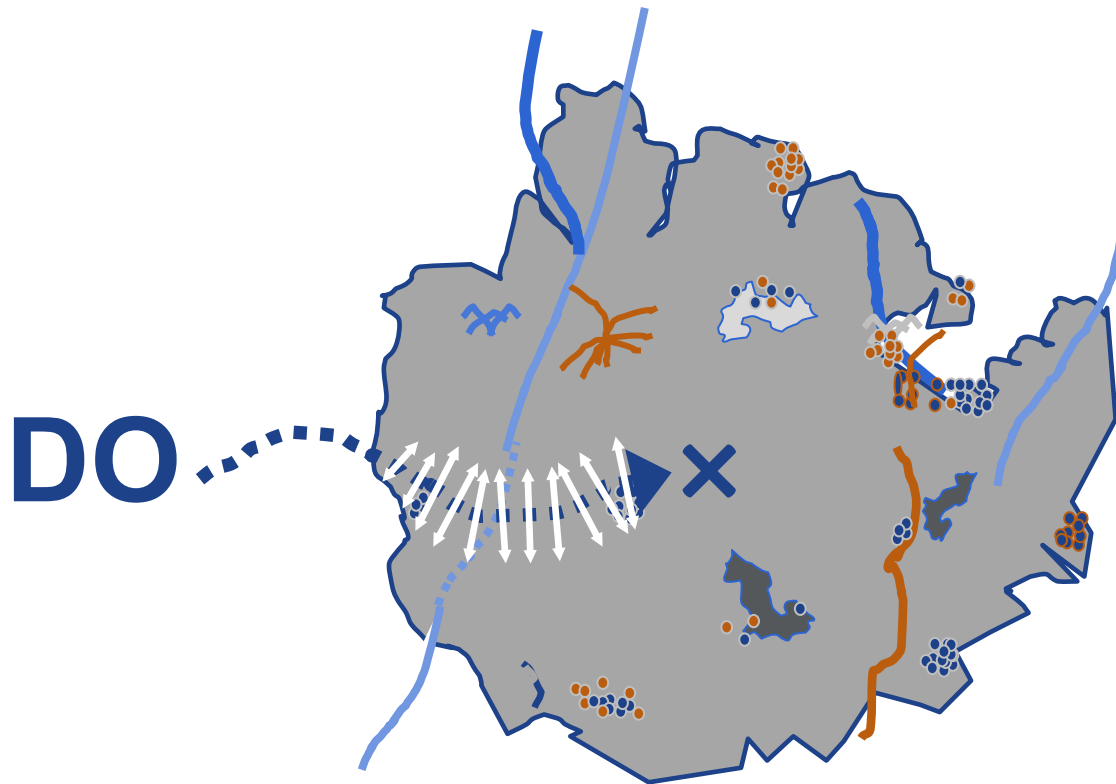
2. While Oxygen is Being Continuously Consumed for Aerobic Respiration

↙ Oxygen Uptake Rate = OUR

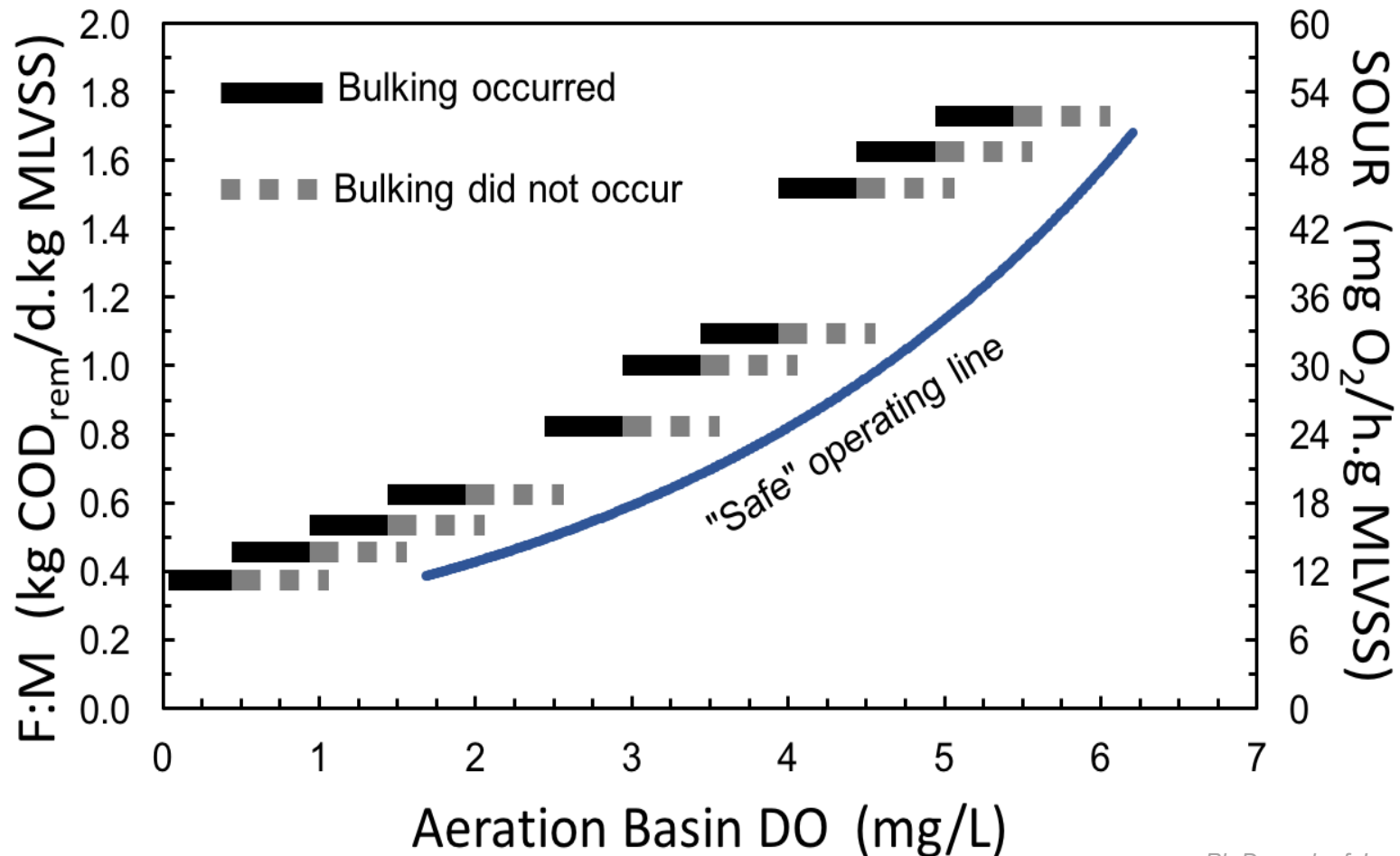


More BOD Results in Greater OUR, Requiring Higher DO Concentration in Mixed Liquor

↙ Oxygen Uptake Rate = OUR



Jon Palm's Ph.D. Work: DO Set Point Depends On Organic Loading and OUR (here SOUR)



Ph.D. work of Jon Palm

Need High DO Where There's High BOD Given Enough DO, BOD Goes Fast

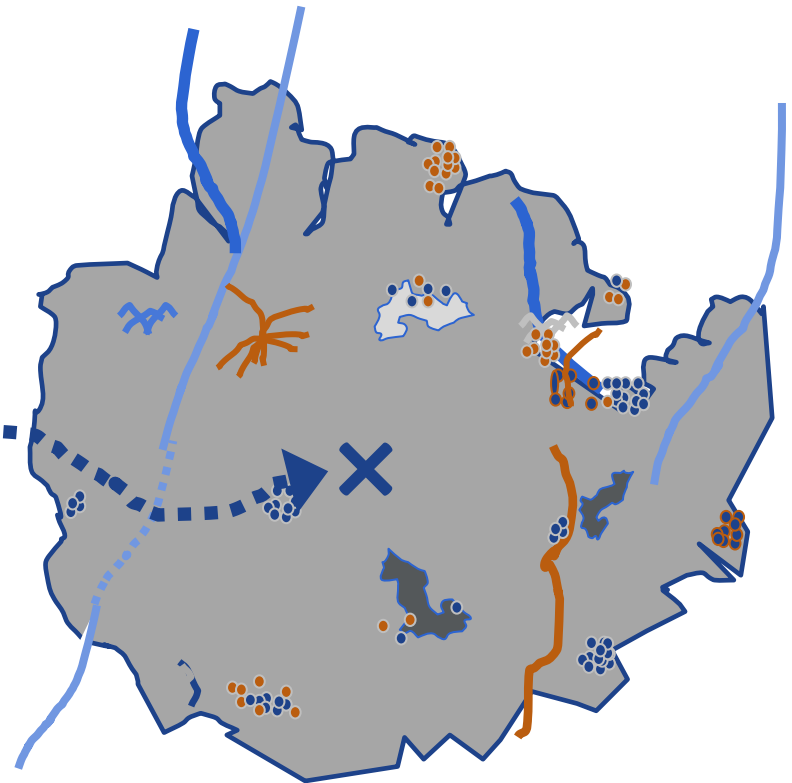
Bubble



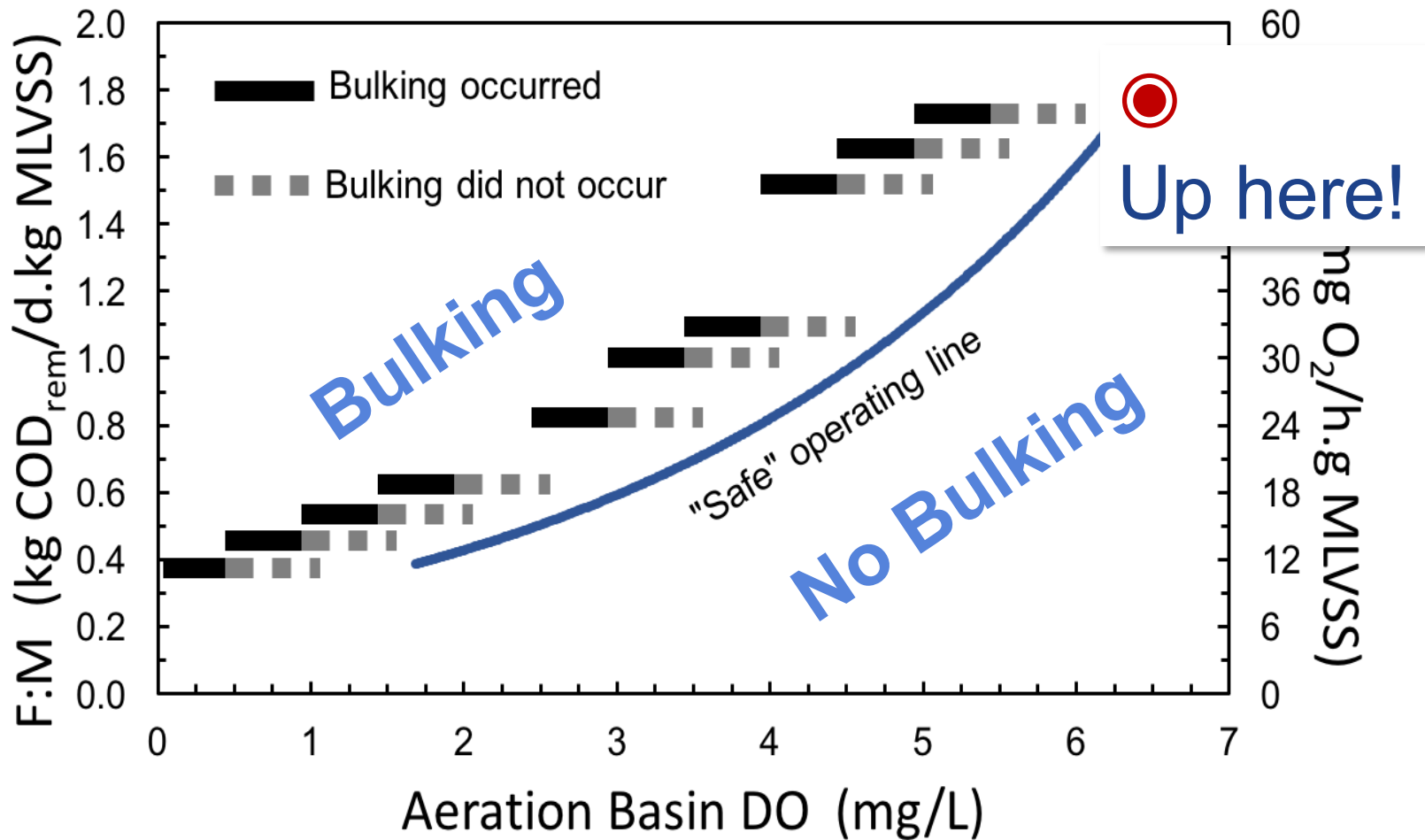
**Mixed
Liquor**

DO

Floc

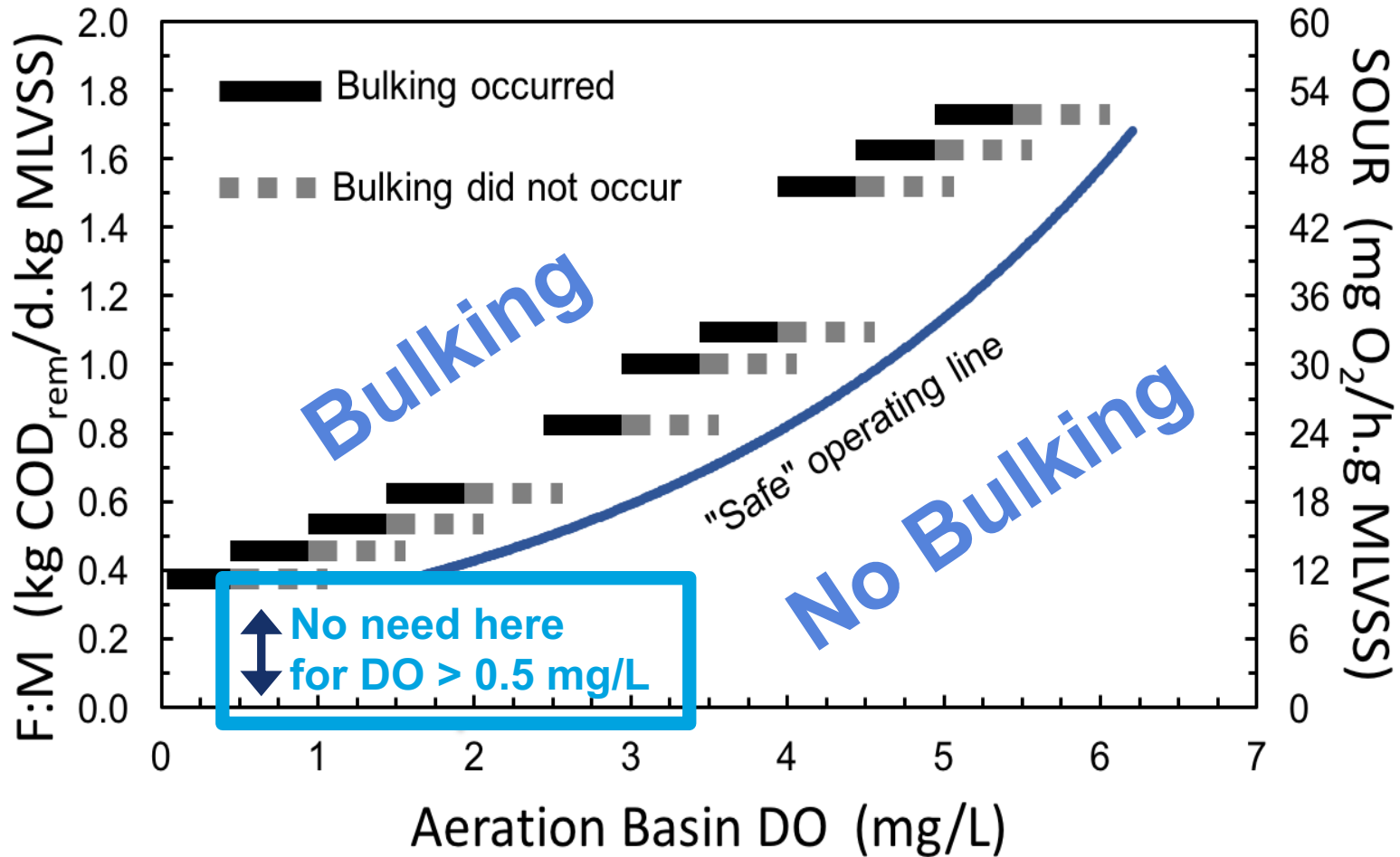


DO Requirement Greatest When Oxygen Uptake Rate is Highest (High BOD)



Ph.D. work of Jon Palm

When BOD is Gone, DO Requirement Minimal—Potential for Huge Energy Savings



Ph.D. work of Jon Palm

Another Problem With Inadequate DO: Small Floc Size

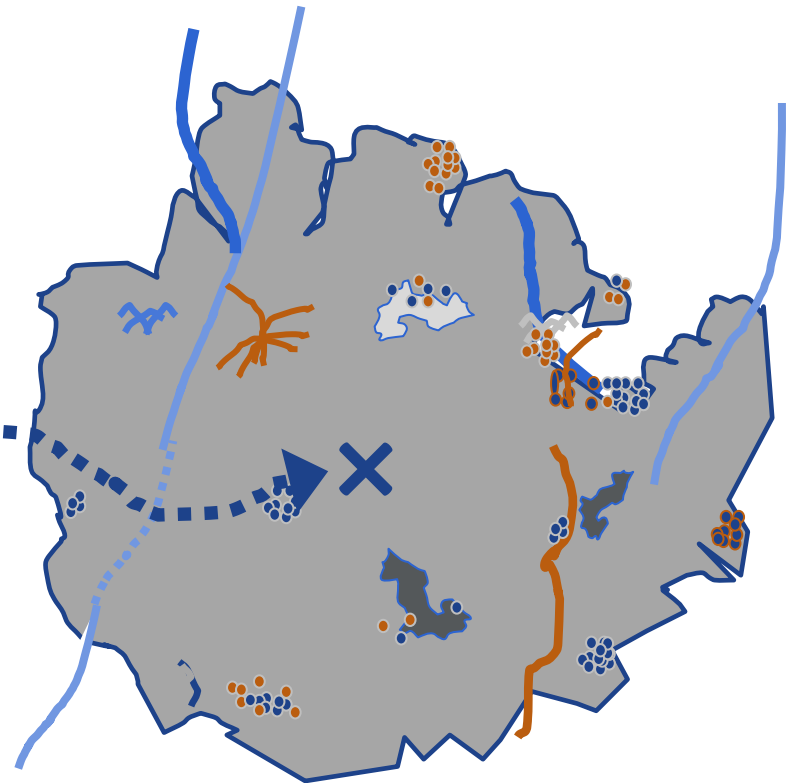
Bubble



**Mixed
Liquor**

DO

Floc



Insufficient DO to Drive Diffusion Results in Low/No DO in Center of Floc

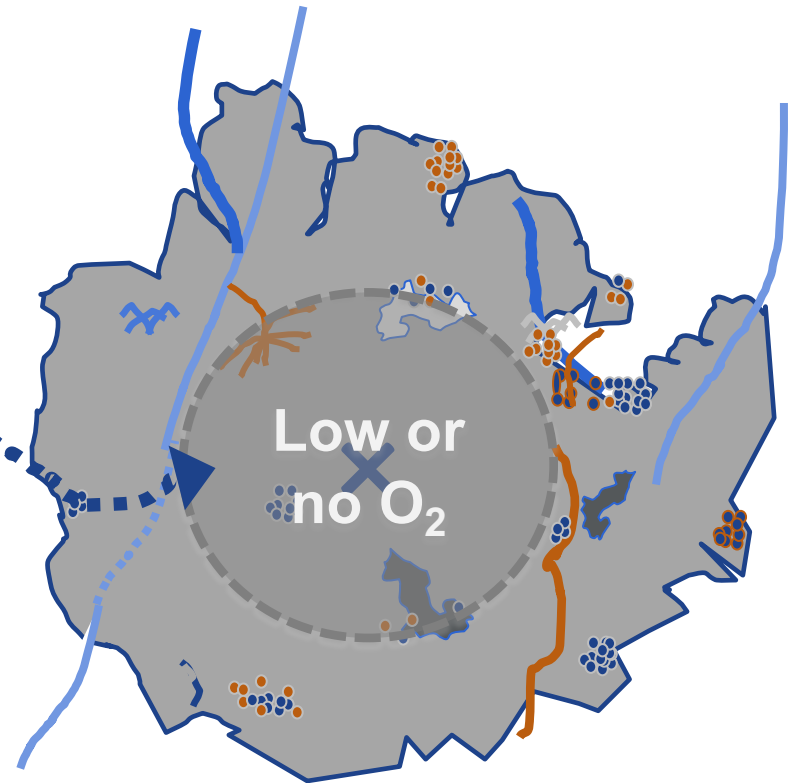
Bubble



**Mixed
Liquor**

DO

Floc



Small Floc Settle Slowly, if at All

Bubble



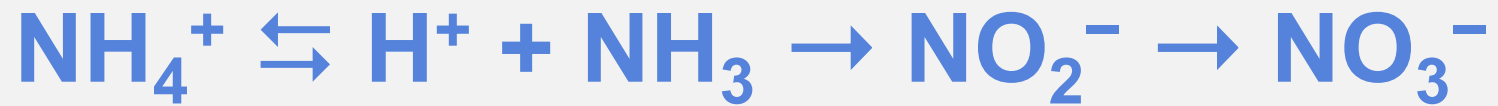
**Mixed
Liquor**

DO

Floc



Nitrifiers are Autotrophs



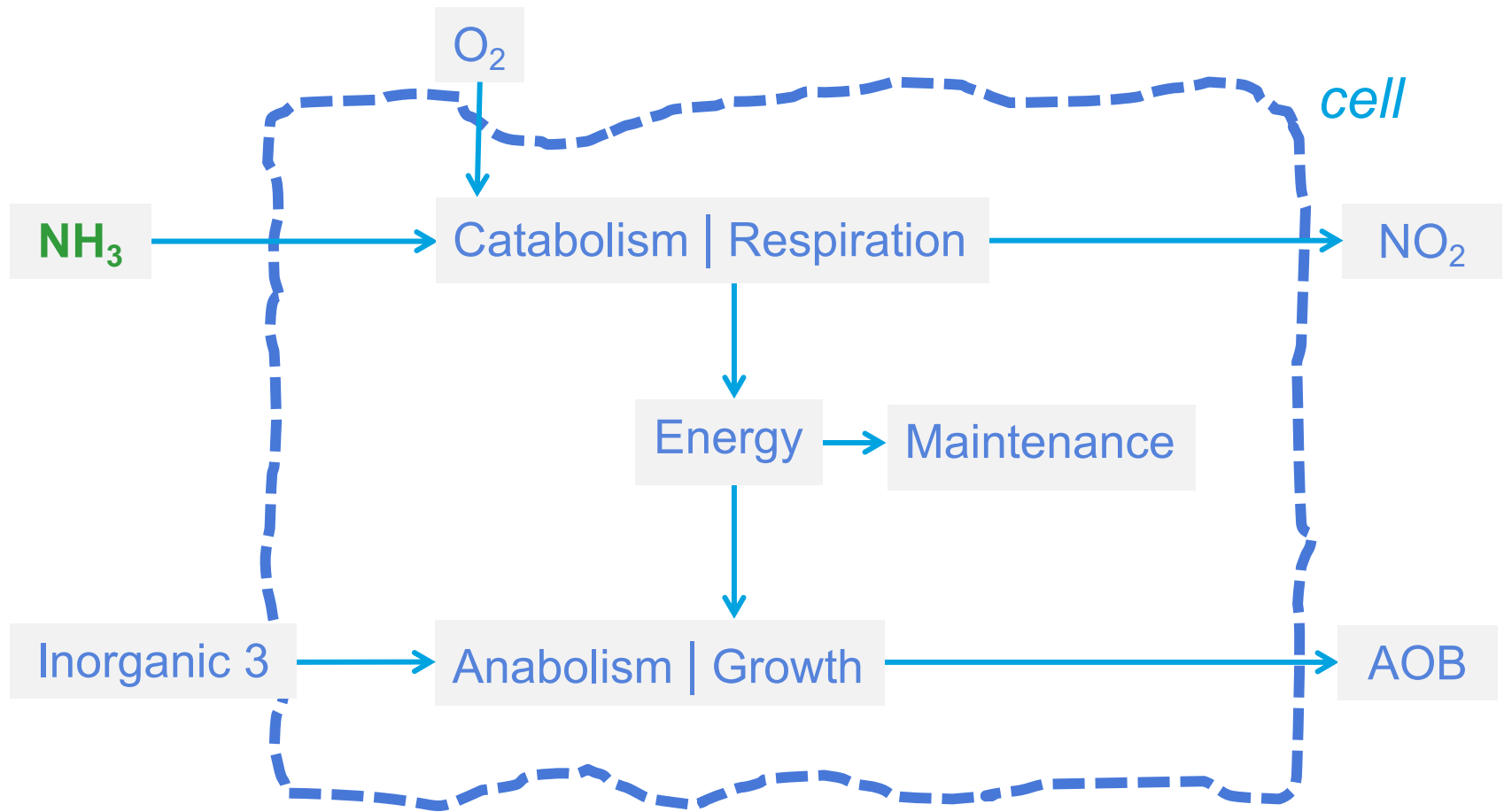
Ammonium

Ammonia

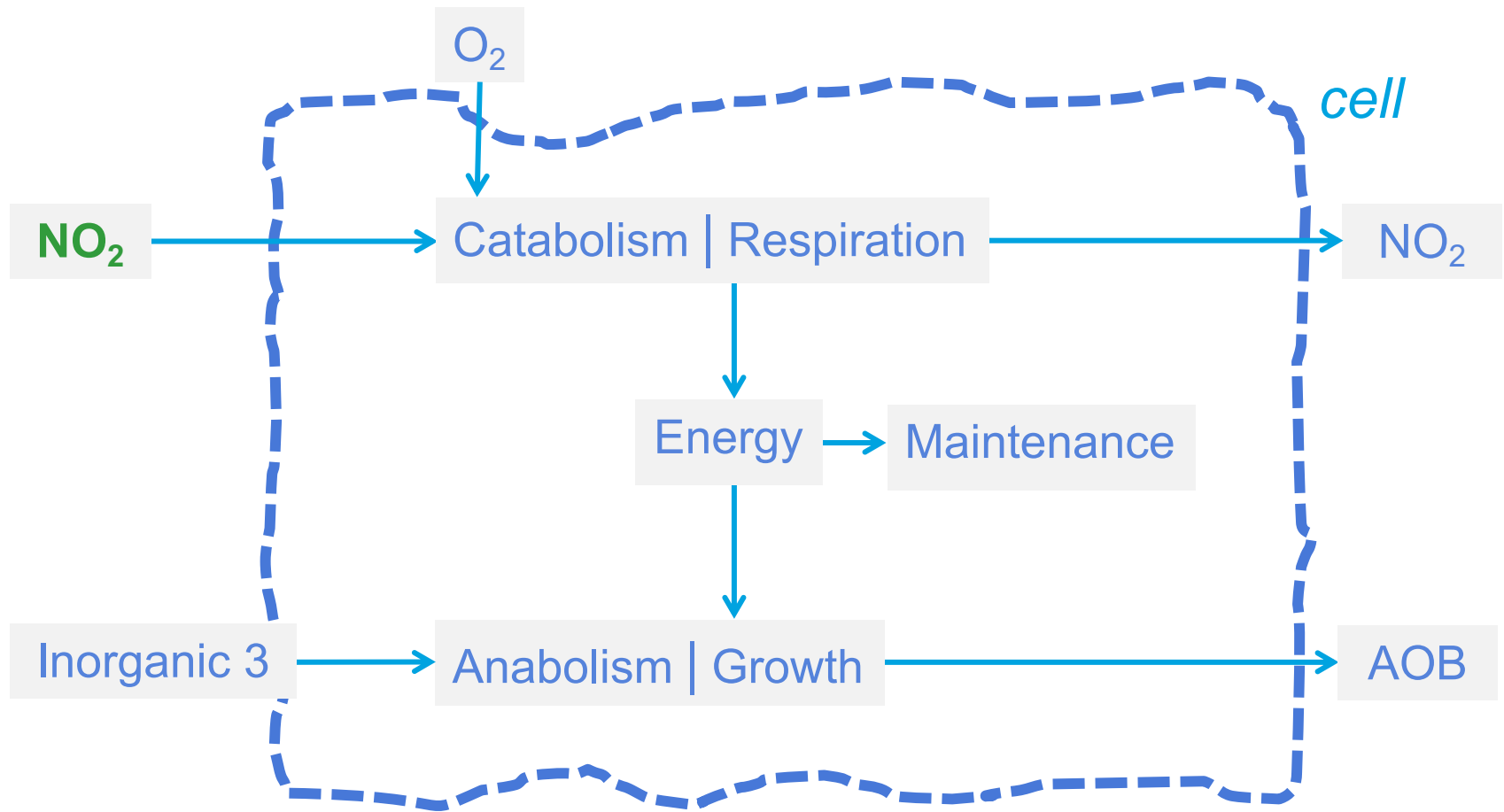
Nitrite

Nitrate

Ammonia Oxidizing Bacteria (AOB)



Nitrite Oxidizing Bacteria (NOB)



Total Oxygen Needed to Oxidize NH_4^+ to NO_2^- and NO_3^- Determined from Stoichiometry

For AOB



[Every 1 lb $\text{NH}_4\text{-N}$ requires 3.4 lb O_2]

For AOB + NOB



[Every 1 lb $\text{NH}_4\text{-N}$ requires 4.6 lb O_2]

Nitrification Proceeds as a “First-order Reaction”

Two Hugely Important Consequences



- 1. Oxygen uptake rate (OUR)**
during nitrification is constant
- 2. As a result of No. 1**
High ammonia concentrations
do not require high DO concentrations

Nitrifiers are Strict Aerobes but Can't Compete When BOD Concentration is High

1. **Some inhibition**

when DO is less than 1.5 mg/L

2. **Significant inhibition**

when DO is less than 1.0 mg/L

3. **Complete inhibition**

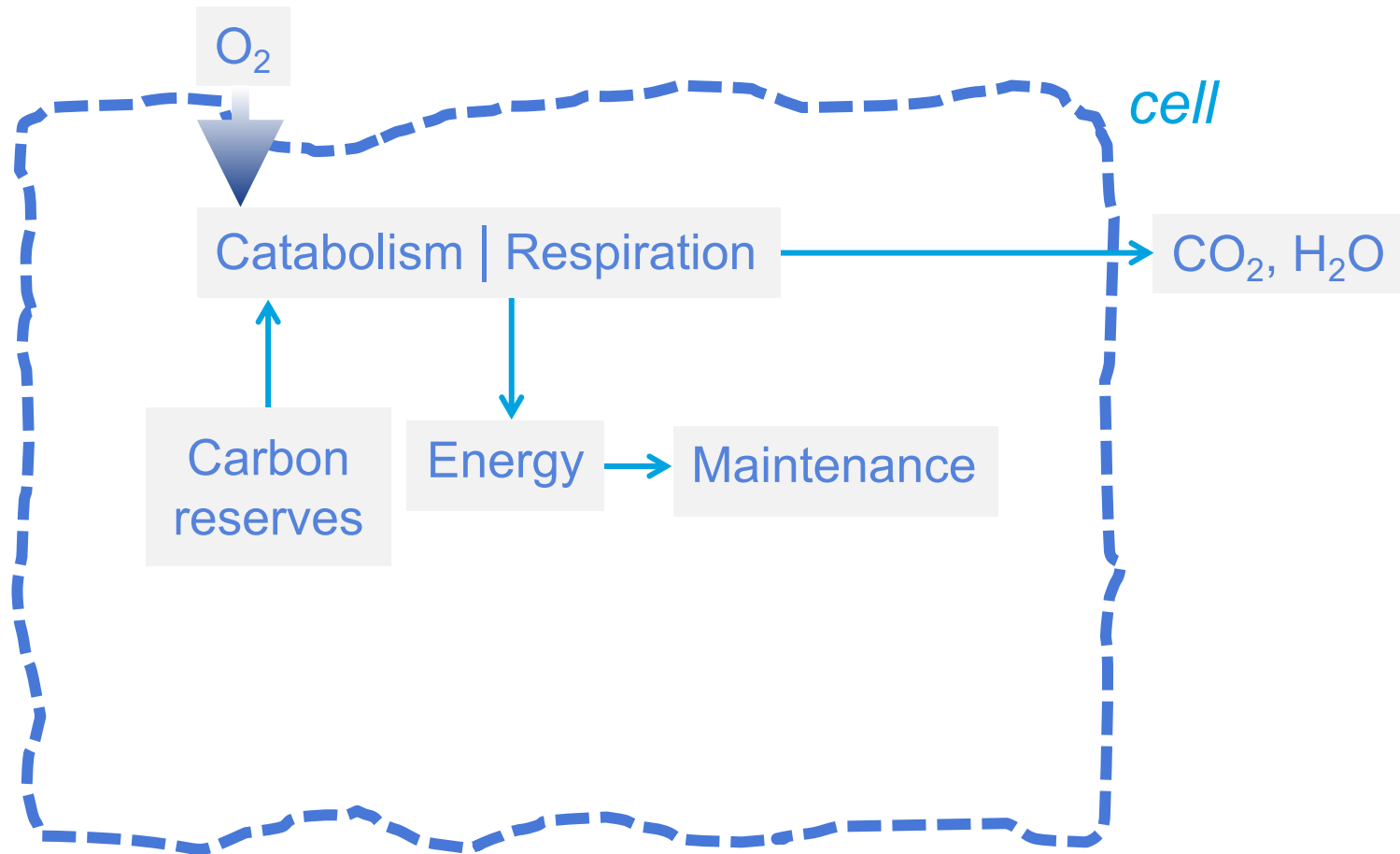
when DO is less than 0.5 mg/L

4. **Heterotrophs out-compete nitrifiers**

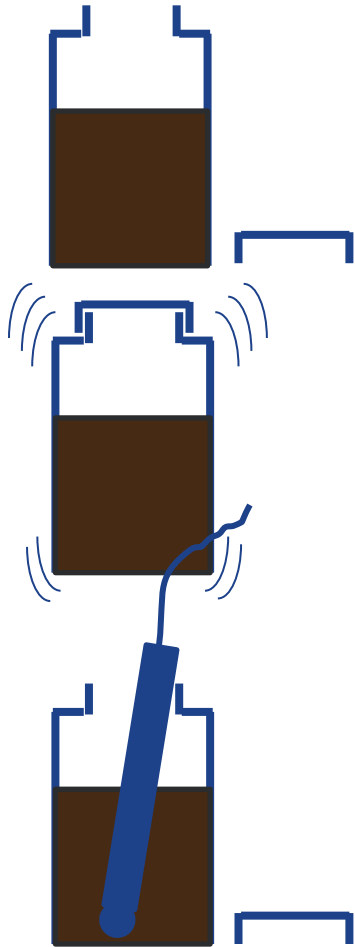
for oxygen when the BOD concentration is high

Endogenous OUR (when BOD and NH₃ are gone) is Relatively Constant and Measurable

12–25 mg DO/L.hr



Simplified OUR Test Provides Tremendous Insight and Control



Collect mixed liquor sample
(~300 mL in 500-mL Nalgene)

Cap and shake to aerate

Insert DO probe

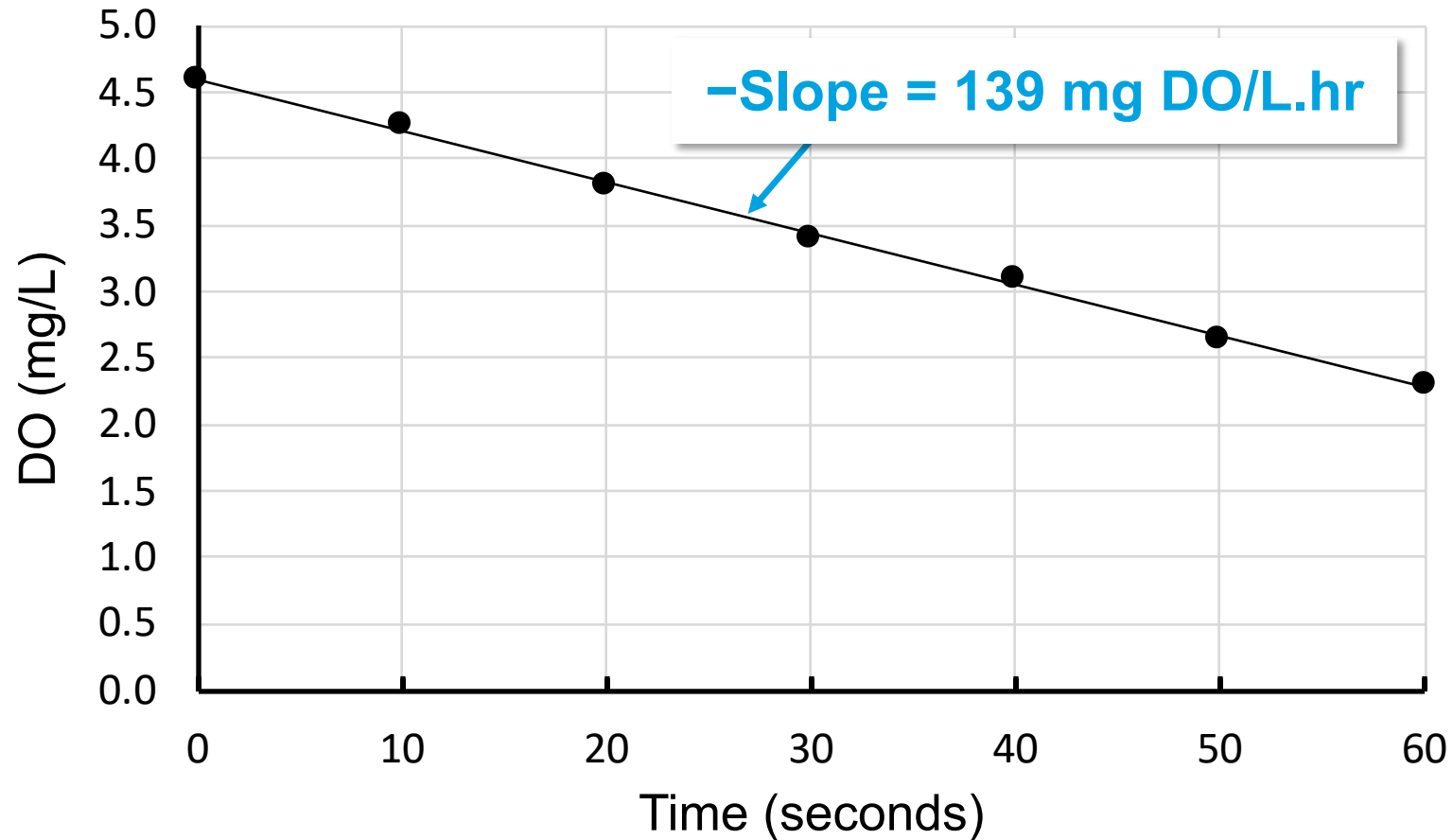
Once DO is falling constantly,
read DO as you start a stopwatch

Read DO every 10 sec for 60 sec

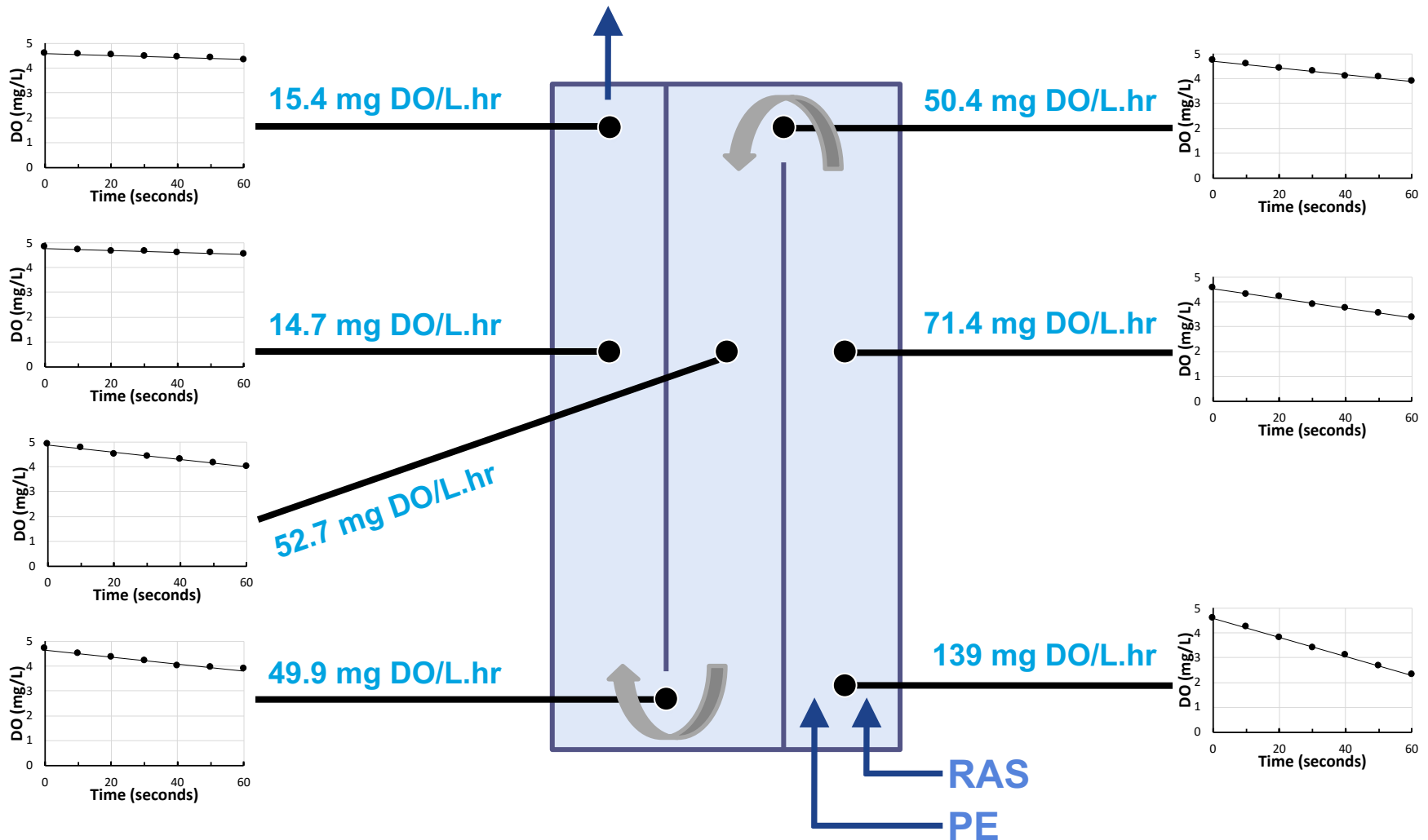
Plot DO (y-axis) as a function of seconds (x-axis)
to make sure decrease is linear

Calculate OUR, mg DO/L.hr, from slope

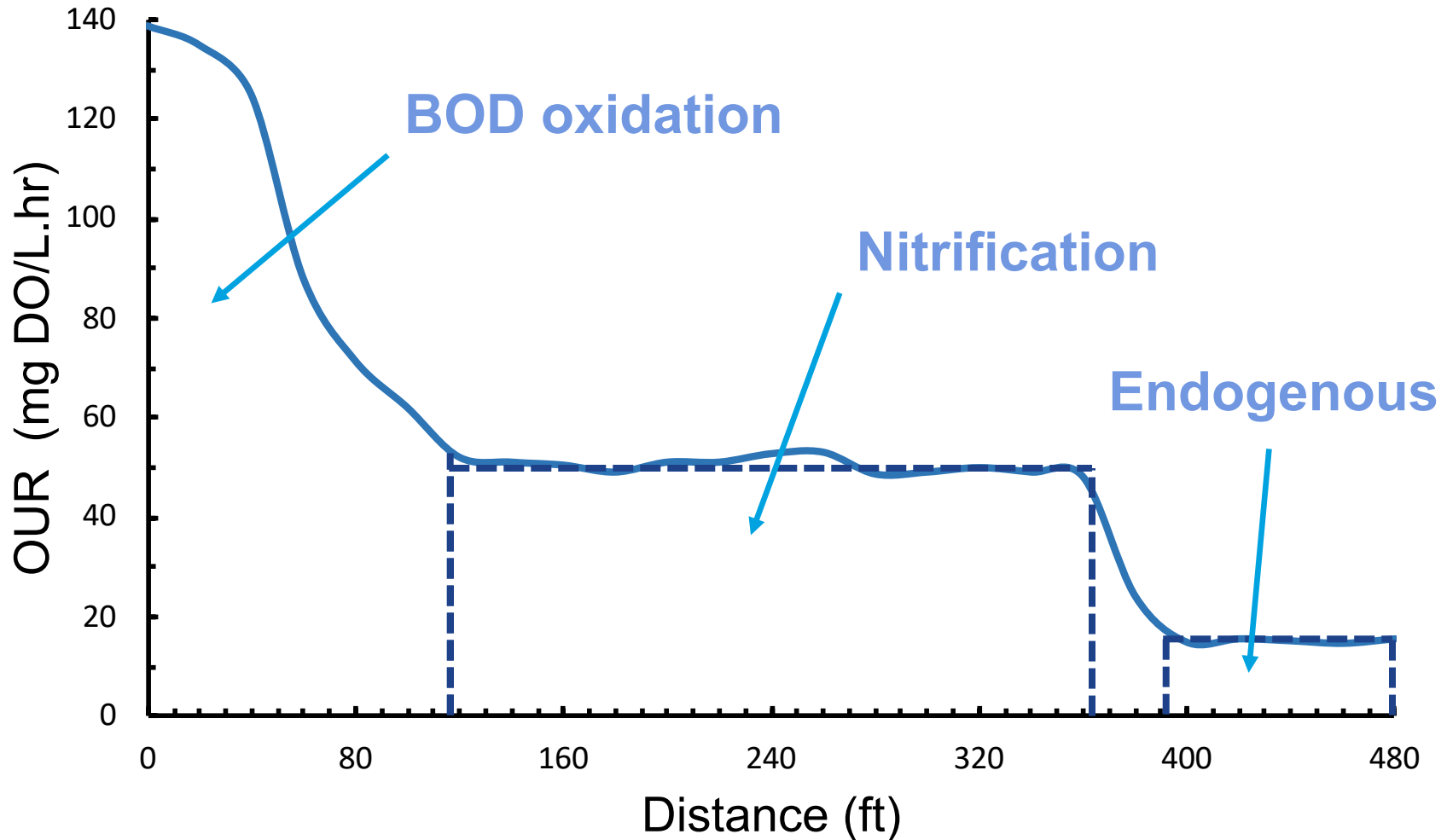
Results at the Beginning of an Aeration Basin



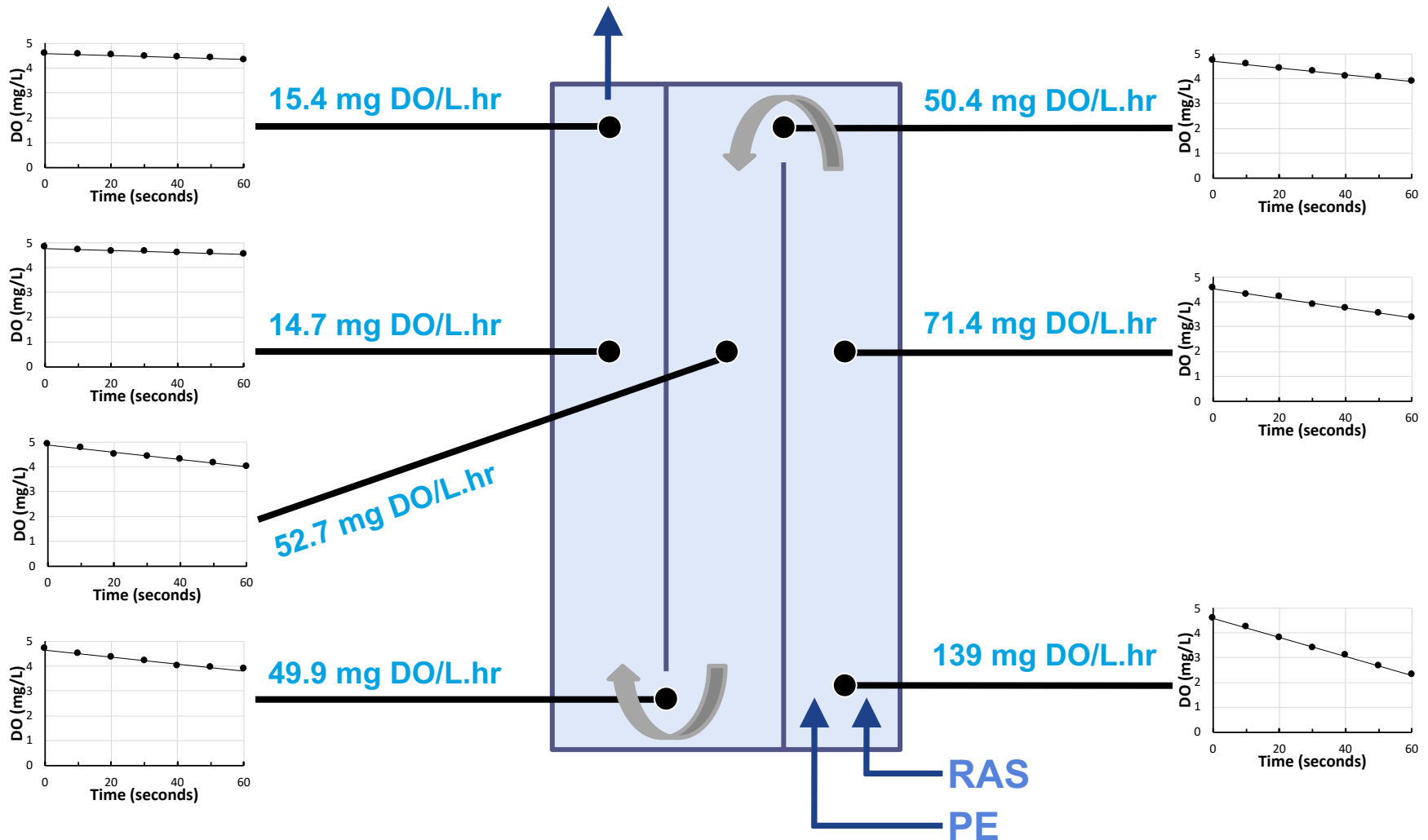
OUR Profile



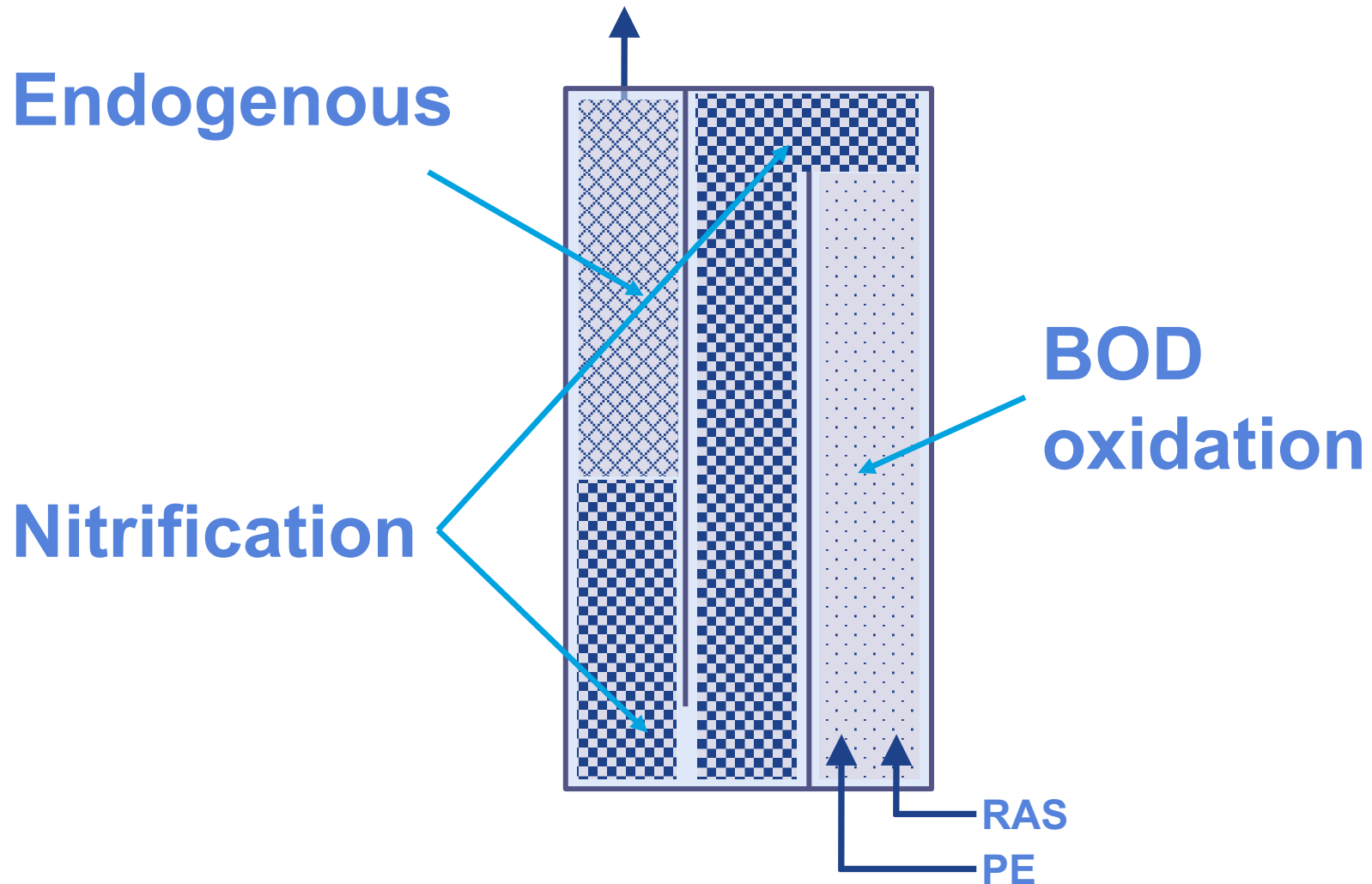
Subzones Delineated by OUR Profile



Subzones Identified



Subzones Identified



Different Subzones Have Different DO Set-Point Requirements

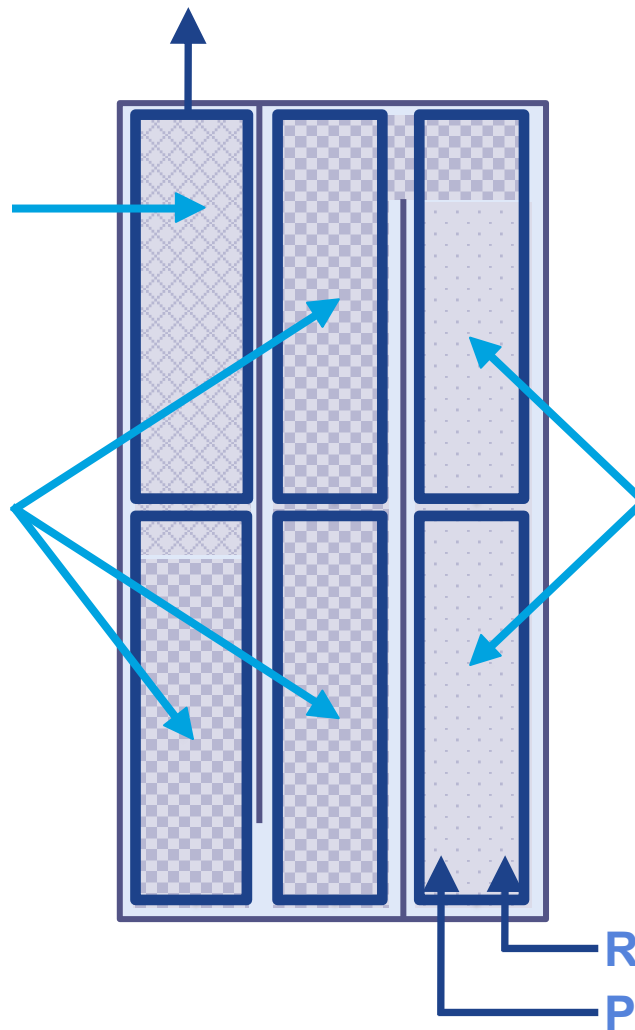
Endogenous

0.5 mg DO/L

(or whatever is required for mixing)

Nitrification

2-4 mg DO/L



BOD oxidation

5 mg DO/L or more

Recommendation of 2.0 mg DO/L Throughout Not Enough Sometimes, Too Much Others

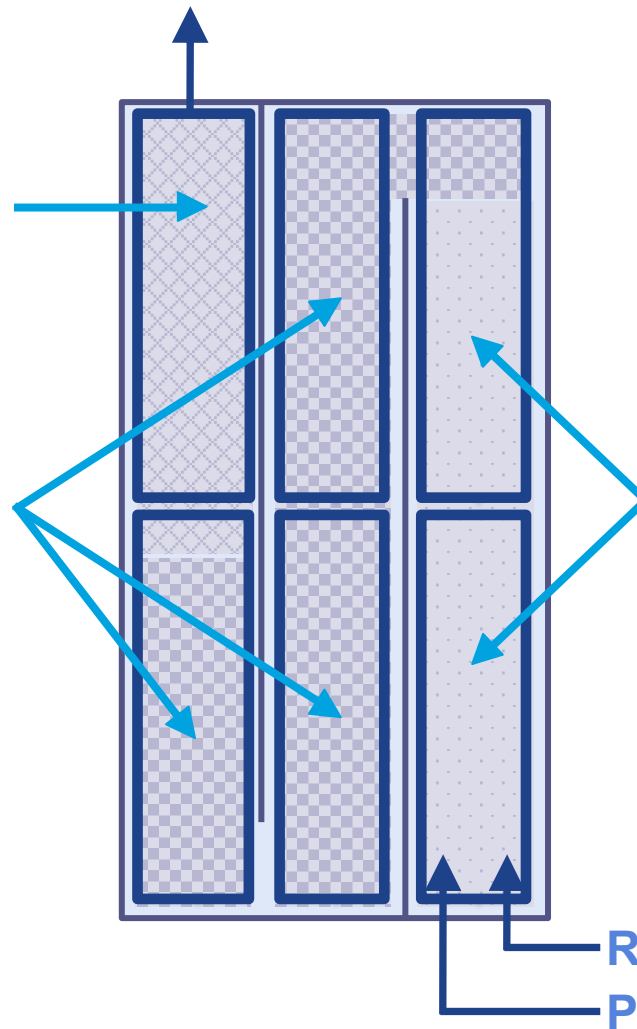
Endogenous

0.5 mg DO/L

(or whatever is required
for mixing)

Nitrification

2–4 mg DO/L



**BOD
oxidation**

**5 mg DO/L
or more**

RAS

PE

Depending on Size of Endogenous Subzone, Huge Potential for Energy Savings

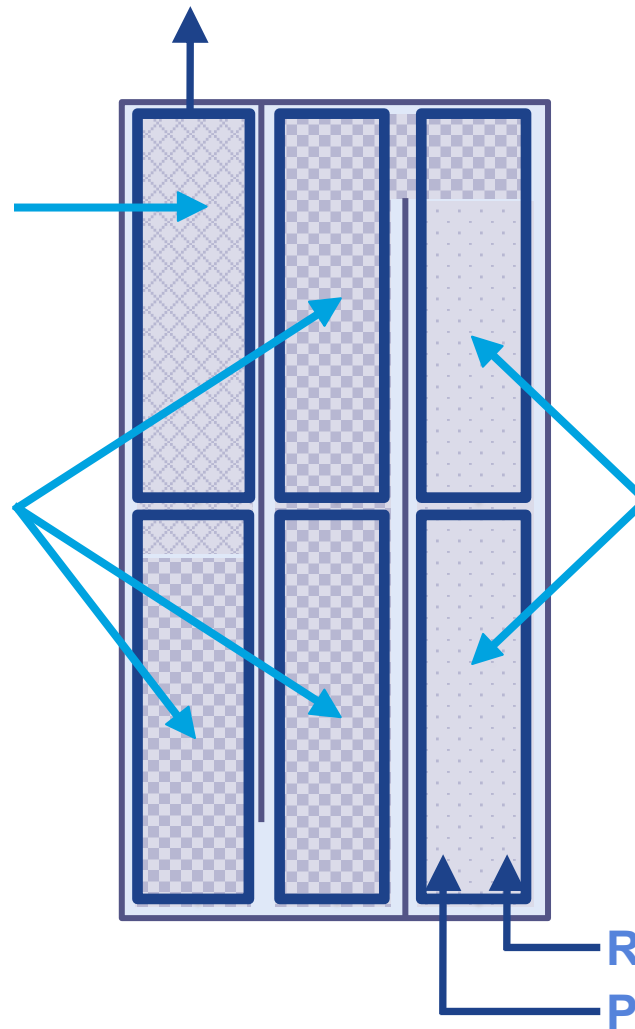
Endogenous

0.5 mg DO/L

(or whatever is required for mixing)

Nitrification

2-4 mg DO/L



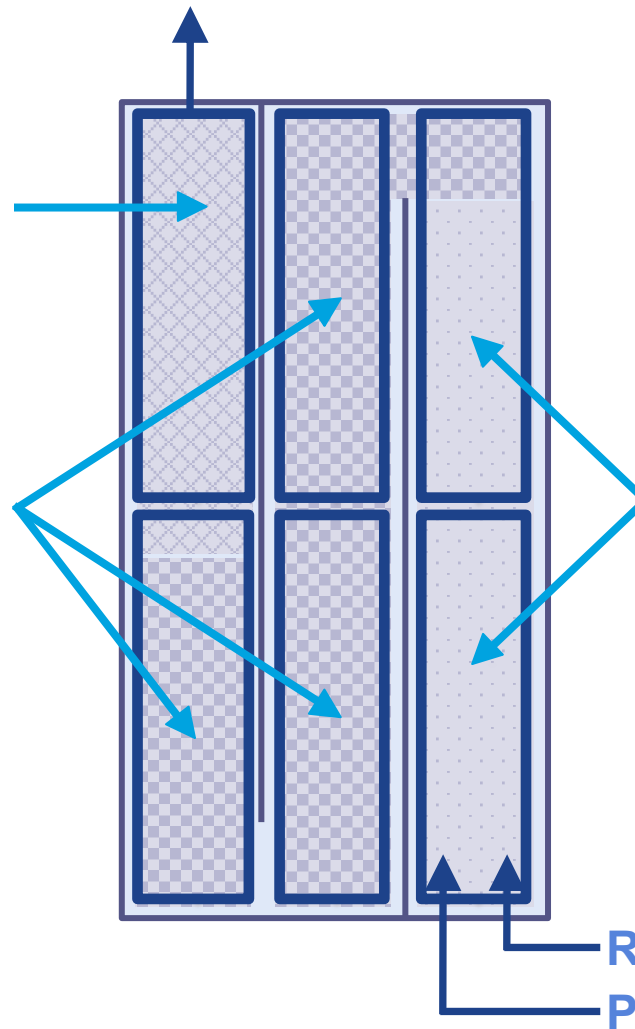
BOD oxidation

5 mg DO/L or more

Takeaway Process Knowledge Takes Guesswork Out of Setting DO Targets

Endogenous
0.5 mg DO/L
(or whatever is required
for mixing)

Nitrification
2-4 mg DO/L



BOD
oxidation
5 mg DO/L
or more

OUR Example & MEASUR

MEASUR



Waste Water Example

Last modified: Apr 30, 2022

System Basics Assessment Analysis Diagram Report **Calculators**



O₂ Utilization Rate State Point Analysis Tool Water/Wastewater Reduction



O₂ UTILIZATION RATE

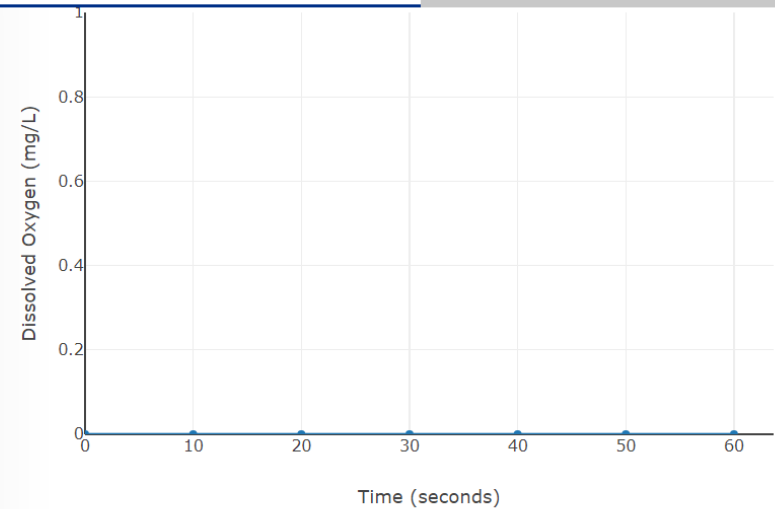
Time	Dissolved Oxygen (DO)
0 seconds	<input type="text" value="0"/> mg/L
10 seconds	<input type="text" value="0"/> mg/L
20 seconds	<input type="text" value="0"/> mg/L
30 seconds	<input type="text" value="0"/> mg/L
40 seconds	<input type="text" value="0"/> mg/L
50 seconds	<input type="text" value="0"/> mg/L
60 seconds	<input type="text" value="0"/> mg/L

Generate Example

Reset Data

GRAPH

HELP



$$y = 0x$$

O₂ Utilization Rate

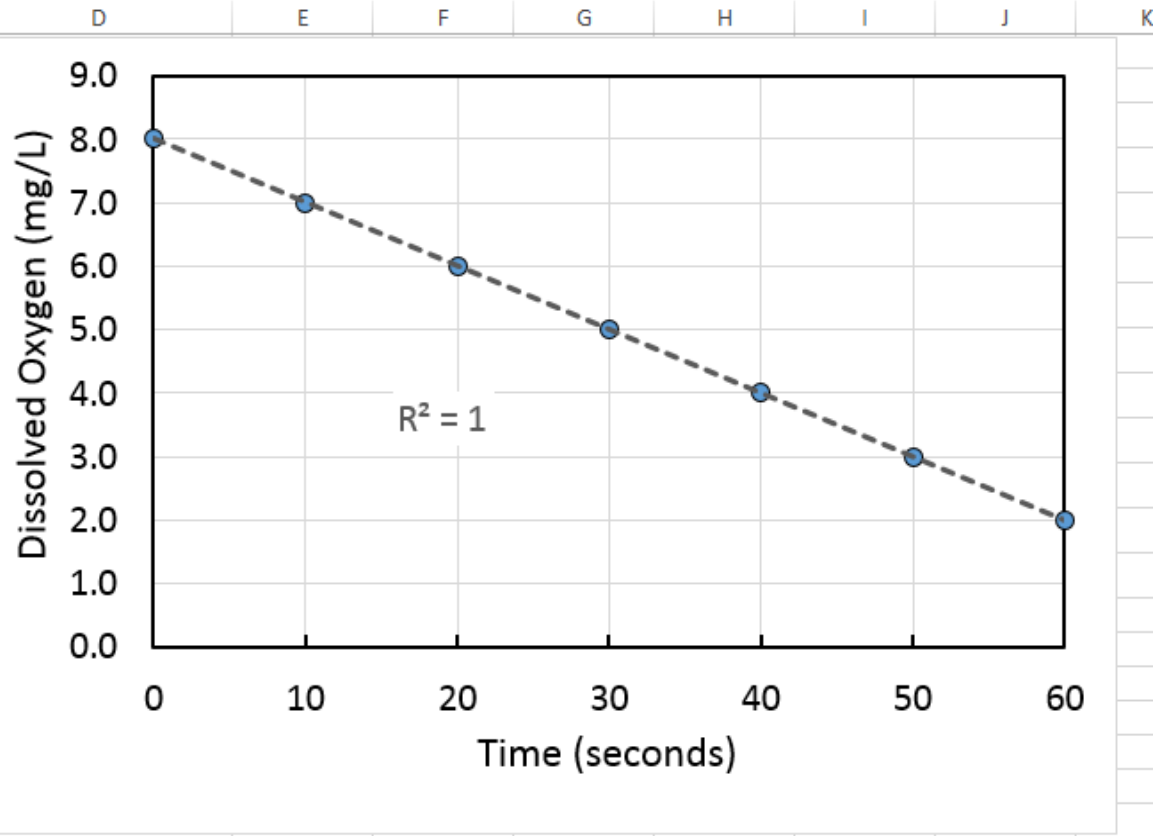
0.0 mg DO/L.hr

R²

Copy Table

OUR Exercise

Enter DO data in green area	
Time (seconds)	DO (mg/L)
0	8.00
10	7.00
20	6.00
30	5.00
40	4.00
50	3.00
60	2.00



OUR = 360.0 mg DO/L.hr

Break



Aeration/Secondary Treatment



Coarse Bubble Aeration



Aeration → *Priorities!*

1. **Satisfy the process need (BOD conversion).**
2. **Minimize the residual.**
- ~~3. **Keep solids in suspension.**~~

Avoid if you can!

This is what mixers are for!

Header Pressure



Distance from
diffuser to water
surface in feet
divided by 2.31 =
minimum header
pressure in PSIG
to form a bubble.

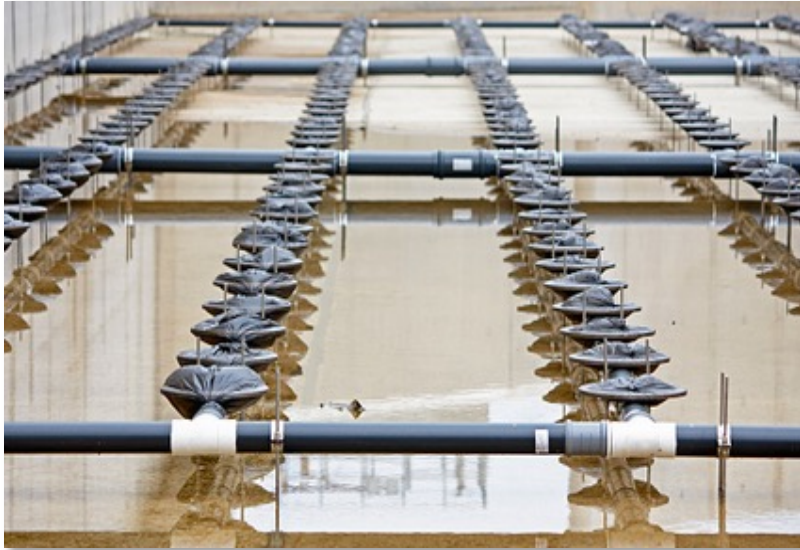
Exercise - Aeration Pressure

3 IMPACT OF BLOWER PRESSURE ON ENERGY

Disch. pressure	Reduction in pressure of ___ psig				
	-0.2	-0.4	-0.6	-0.8	-1.0
12	1.3%	2.7%	4.0%	5.4%	6.7%
11	1.5%	2.9%	4.4%	5.9%	7.4%
10	1.6%	3.3%	4.9%	6.6%	8.3%
9	1.8%	3.7%	5.5%	7.4%	9.3%
8	2.1%	4.2%	6.3%	8.4%	10.6%
7	2.4%	4.8%	7.3%	9.7%	12.2%

***Assumes 70% blower eff & 92% motor/drive eff**

Aeration



Fine bubble diffused aeration High efficiency, moderate maintenance

Mechanical aeration Low efficiency, high maintenance

Jet aeration High efficiency, low-to-moderate maintenance

Coarse bubble diffused aeration Low efficiency, low maintenance

DO Residual Aeration Impact

2 IMPACT OF DO LEVELS ON ENERGY

Saturated DO

DO in basin = driving force for oxygen transfer
Driving force UP means Energy goes DOWN

DO rule of thumb

0.5 mg/l reduction creates ~ 6% energy savings

DO calibration & cleaning

A probe that reads 10% low (e.g. 2.0 when actual is 2.2)
is costing you 2.4% at the blower.

DO level increases

As mixed liquor temp increases, the impact of elevated
DO levels increases.

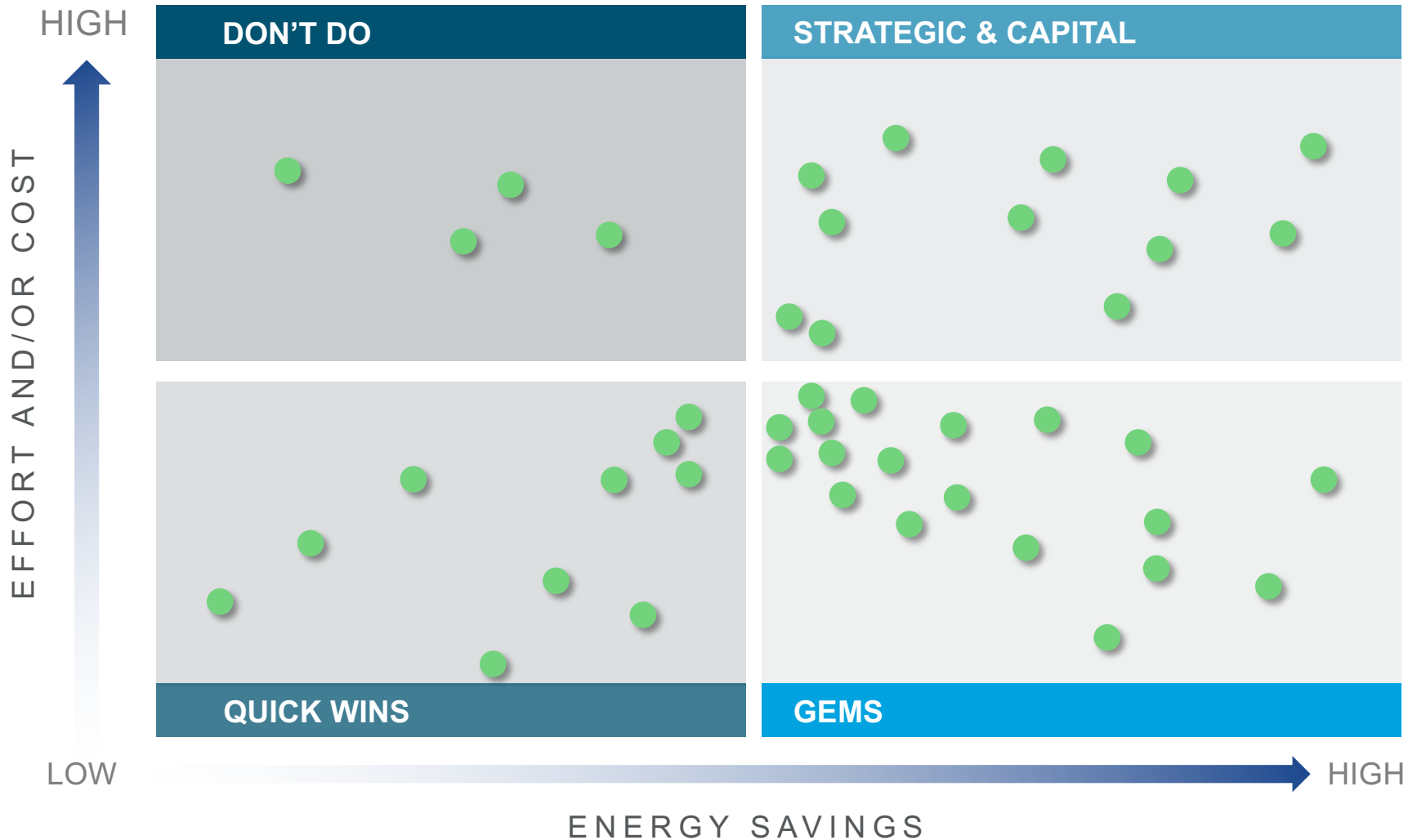
IMPACT OF AVERAGE DO LEVEL ON BLOWER ENERGY

Mixed liquor temp		DO sat mg/l	Energy savings potential if DO reduced from __ to 2.0 mg/l			
°C	°F		2.5	3	4	5
0	32	14.6	4.0%	7.9%	15.9%	23.8%
2	36	13.8	4.2%	8.5%	16.9%	25.4%
5	41	12.8	4.6%	9.3%	18.5%	27.8%
10	50	11.3	5.4%	10.8%	21.5%	32.3%
15	59	10.1	6.2%	12.3%	24.7%	37.0%
20	68	9.1	7.0%	14.1%	28.2%	42.3%
25	77	8.2	8.1%	16.1%	32.3%	48.4%

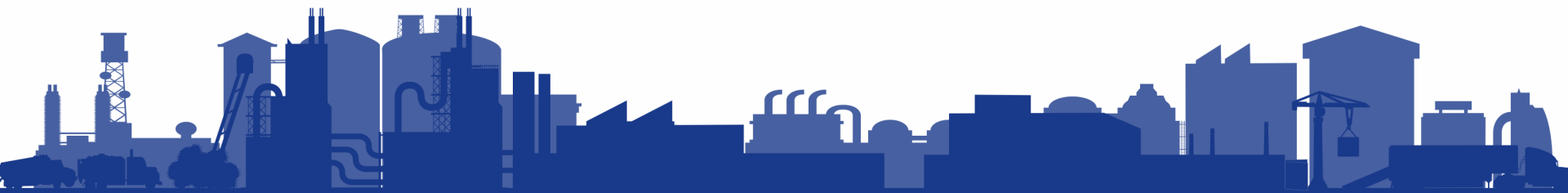
NOTE Higher impact as elevation increases



Value Matrix



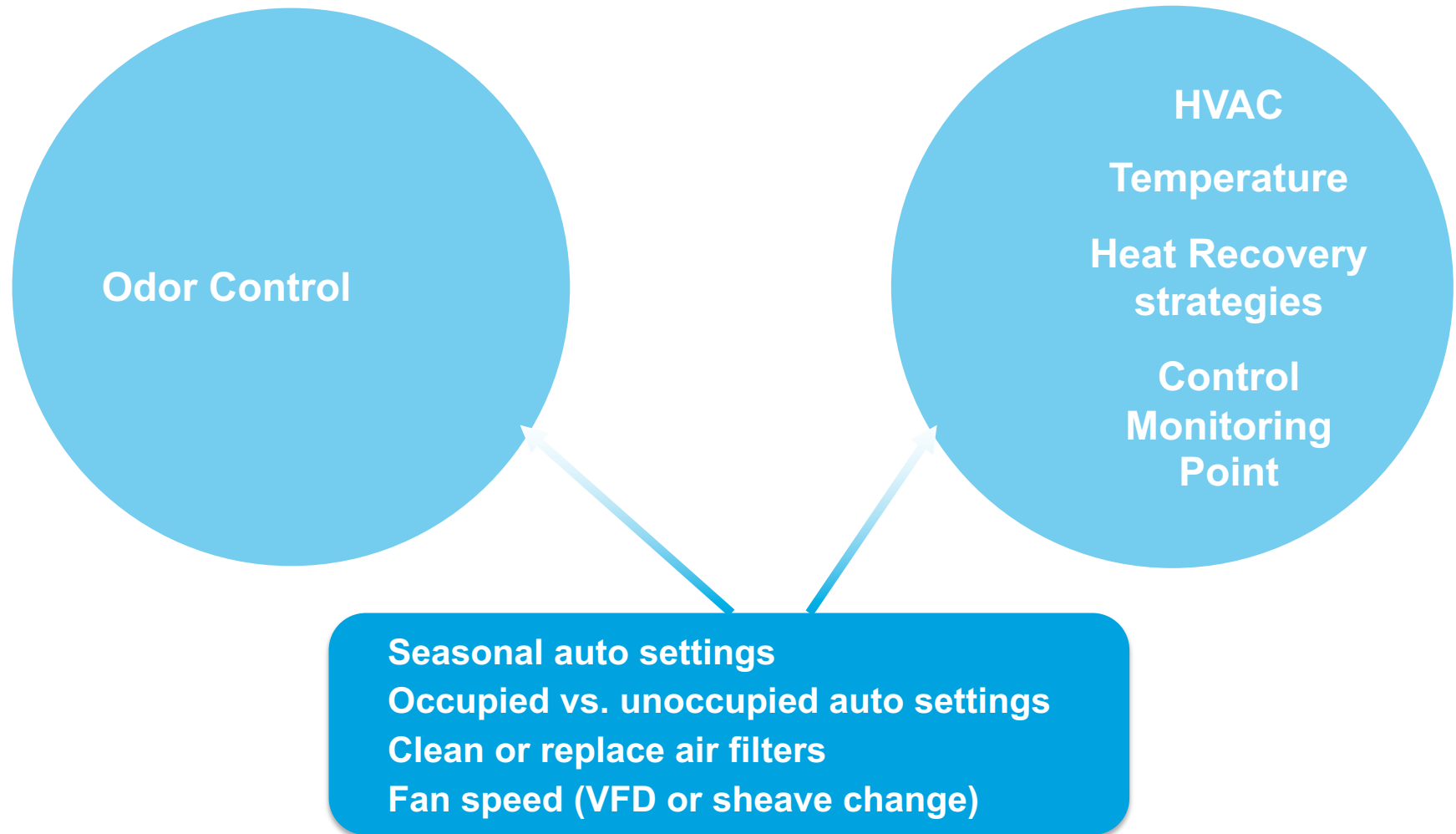
FANS AND ODOR CONTROL



Fans and Odor Control



What You Can Control to Reduce Energy



Turning Ideas Into Savings

List your “top three” ideas

List the motor equipment involved in the table in your Workbook:

Equipment	HP	Current runtime	New runtime

Estimate savings

Participation Raffle

Tickets, please!



Closing

See You Next Tuesday!

