

GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT ADVANCED OXIDATION PROCESSES

2nd Summer School on Environmental applications of AOPs, University of Porto,
Faculdade de Engenharia, Porto (Portugal), July 10-14, 2017



GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT ADVANCED OXIDATION PROCESSES (AOPs)

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OVERVIEW

- **INTRODUCTION**
 - ✓ Water
 - ✓ Conventional water treatments
 - ✓ Wastewater quality parameters
 - ✓ AOPs
- **AOPs**
 - ✓ Classification
 - ✓ Process description – Recent Studies
- **WHAT IS REQUIRED TO AOPs IMPLEMENTATION?**
- **STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE AOPs**
 - ✓ Dosage of reagents
 - ✓ On-line monitoring
- **CONCLUSIONS**

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WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH WATER?

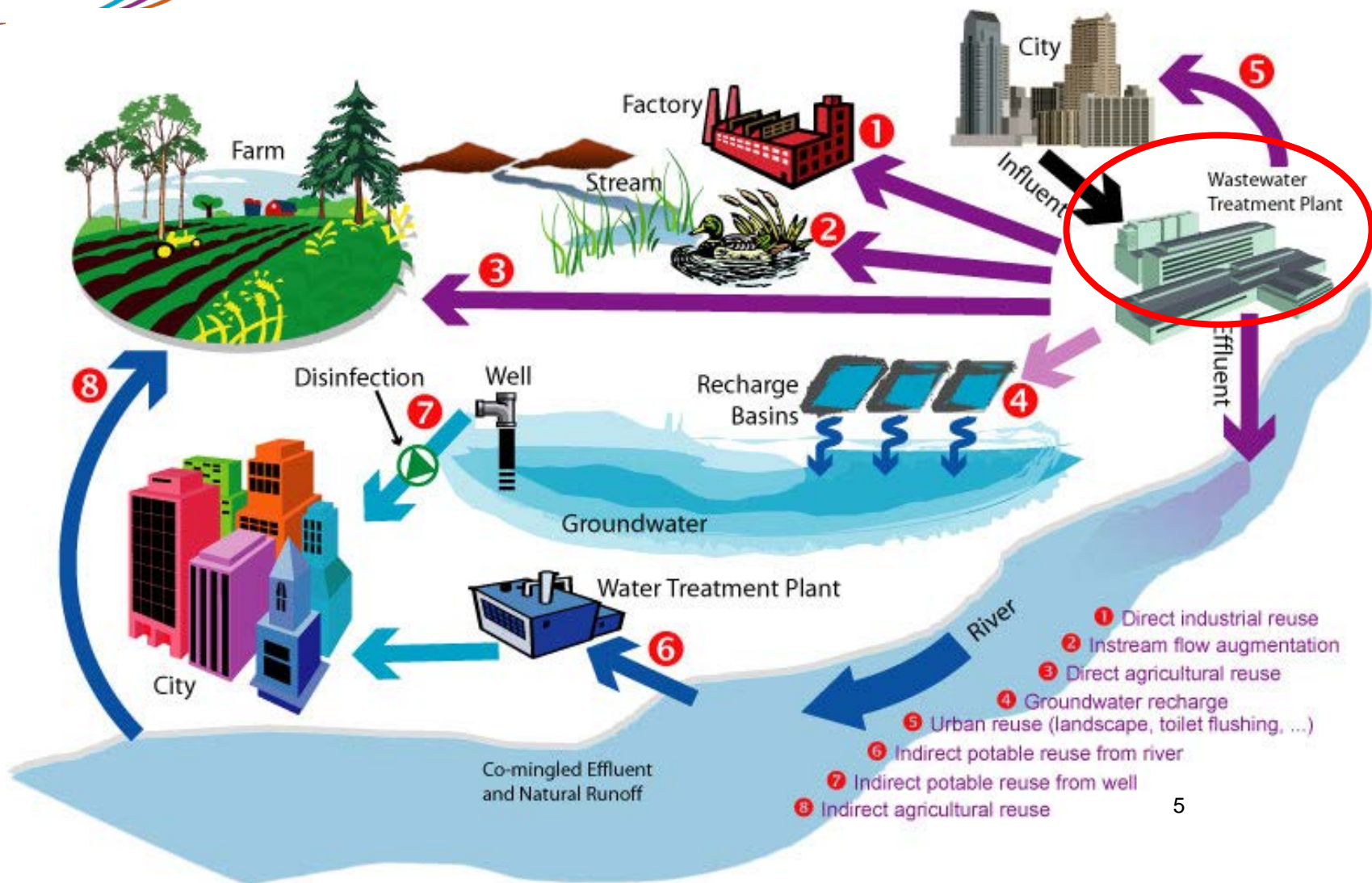
- **LIMITED** (97,5% salty water, 2,5 % fresh water)
- **NECESSARY FOR HUMAN** (human dies after 5-10 days without water)
 - ✓ **LIVING**
 - ✓ **DEVELOPMENT**

Water treatment and recycling is required

- **RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION ABOUT WATER CONTAMINATION**
- **MAJOR SOCIAL AWARENESS**

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- 1 Direct industrial reuse
- 2 Instream flow augmentation
- 3 Direct agricultural reuse
- 4 Groundwater recharge
- 5 Urban reuse (landscape, toilet flushing, ...)
- 6 Indirect potable reuse from river
- 7 Indirect potable reuse from well
- 8 Indirect agricultural reuse

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WHAT'S THE AIM OF THE WATER TREATMENTS?

- **Public health**
- **Environmental care**
- **Do in a reduced space what is doing the environment in a large space**
- **Evolution in the aim of the water treatments:**



Contaminants of emerging concern (CEC)

Before 90s - Hazardous, non-polar and persistent compounds



Drastic reduction of discharges

“New” contaminants
(Contaminants of emerging concern)



- Non-regulated
- Low concentration (ng L⁻¹ to µg L⁻¹)
- Continuous introduction into the environment

- Endocrine disrupting compounds (EDC)
- Pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCP)
- Pesticides
- Dyes

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CEC - Pharmaceuticals

Therapeutic classes	Pharmaceutical	Source
Analgesic	Naproxen, paracetamol, salicylic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mainly human excretion (partial absorption) ▪ Inefficiency of sewage treatment plants (STP) for pharmaceutical residues elimination ▪ Livestock ▪ Veterinary medicine ▪ Effluent from drug manufacture
Anti-inflammatory	Diclofenac, ibuprofen	
Antihypertensive	Atenolol, celiprolol, metoprolol, propranolol, sotalol	
Lipid regulator	Bezafibrate, clofibrac acid, fenofibrac acid, gemfibrozil	
Antiepileptic	Carbamazepine, diazepam, primidone	
Antibiotics	Amoxicillin, ofloxacin, sulfamethoxazole, sulfathiazole, erythromycin	
Contraceptive	17 β -Estradiol, estrone, 17 μ -ethinylestradiol, diethylstilbestro	

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Removal rates of pharmaceuticals in sewage streams

	Verlicchi et al, 2012	Petrie et al, 2014	Gurke et al., 2015
Amitriptiline	-	M-H	L (15%)
Atenolol	L-M	M-H	L (23%)
Bezafibrate	L-M	L-M	L (49%)
Carbamazepine	L	I	L (-7%)
Gabapentin	H	L-H	L (6%)
Metoprolol	L	L-M	L (-9%)
Propranolol	L-M	-	L (-4%)
Sulfamethoxazole	L-H	L-M	L (43%)
Trimethoprim	L-H	L-M	L (-11%)
Valsartan	-	L	L (24%)

Removal rates

L: < 50%
M: 50-80%
H: > 80%

Sewage treatment plants have not been designed to remove pharmaceutical residues from wastewaters

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Effects of CEC

- Few data available about the toxicity of these emerging contaminants and effects to humans and aquatic organisms
 - feminization of male fish (endocrine disruptors)
 - bacterial resistance (antibiotics)

- Chronic effects?
- Synergistic effects?

Lack of Information

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WASTEWATER QUALITY PARAMETERS

- **Suspension solids**
- **Evaporation solids**
- **Calcination solids**
- **Turbidity**
- **Hardness**
- **Color**
- **CO₂ free**
- **Cl⁻, SiO₂, SO₄²⁻**
- **On-line parameters:**
 - **Temperature**
 - **Alkalinity, pH**
 - **O₂ dissolve**
 - **Conductivity, [soluble salts]**
 - **Redox Potential**
- **Organic Matter:**
 - **TOC (Total Organic Carbon)**
 - **COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand)**
 - **BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand)**
- **Toxicity**
- **AOX (Absorbable Organics Halogens)**
- **Specific contaminant monitoring (HPLC, GC_MS,...)**

Which parameters are usually check in legislation?

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▪ On-line parameters:

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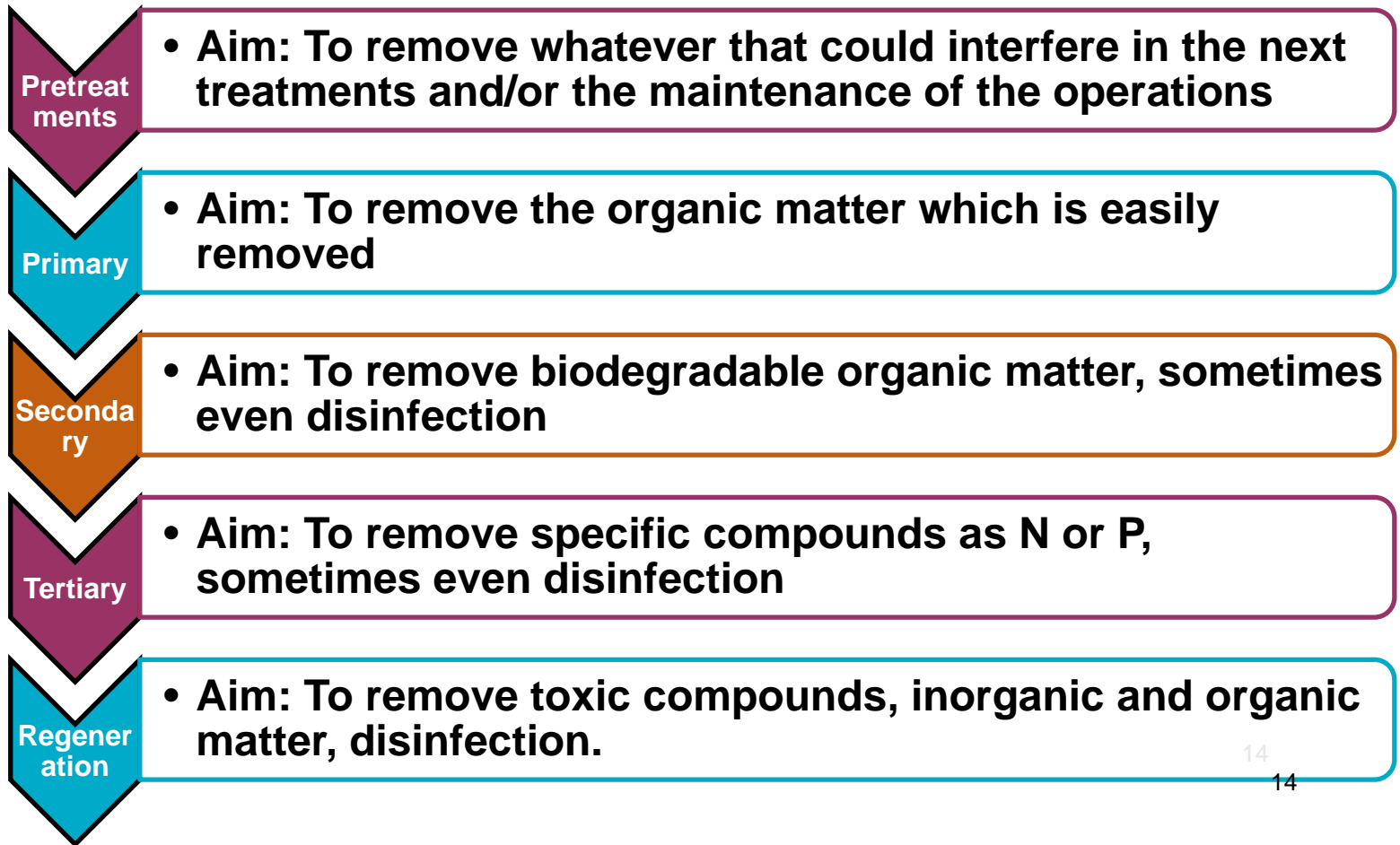
▪ Specific contaminant monitoring (HPLC, GC_MS,...)

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CONVENTIONAL TREATMENTS CLASSIFICATION



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WHAT'S WRONG WITH CONVENTIONAL WATER TREATMENT?

- **THERE ARE INSUFFICIENT IN MANY CASES**
- **CONTAMINANT IS NOT ALWAYS**
 - ✓ REMOVED
 - ✓ DEGRADATED (turn into biodegradable matter)
 - ✓ MINERALIZED



Advanced Oxidation Processes (AOPs) presents
and interesting alternative or complement

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WHAT'S AN ADVANCED OXIDATION PROCESS?

Technologies based on the generation of an active and non selective oxidants



HO• radical

(“activated oxygen species”)



Oxidative degradation of pollutants (organic and inorganic) in aqueous or air media.

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ADVANCED OXIDATION PROCESS

·OH generation achieved by a combination of oxidizing agents (ozone, hydrogen peroxide), ultraviolet (UV), visible or ultrasound radiation and catalysts (metallic ions or semiconductors).

Main advantages:

- The contaminant is **chemically transformed** not only transported from a phase to another
- It is possible to reach **complete mineralization**
- It is possible to transform refractory contaminants into **biologically treatable substances**

Main disadvantages:

- Cost
- Modeling/ Prediction/ Automation

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RADICALS REACTS IN A WELL-KNOWN WAYS WITH ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

- ✓ Abstracting H from C-H, N-H or O-H bonds



- ✓ Adding to C = C bonds



- ✓ Adding to aromatic rings

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OXIDATION / MINERALIZATION

OXIDATION



In the presence of molecular oxygen



MINERALIZATION

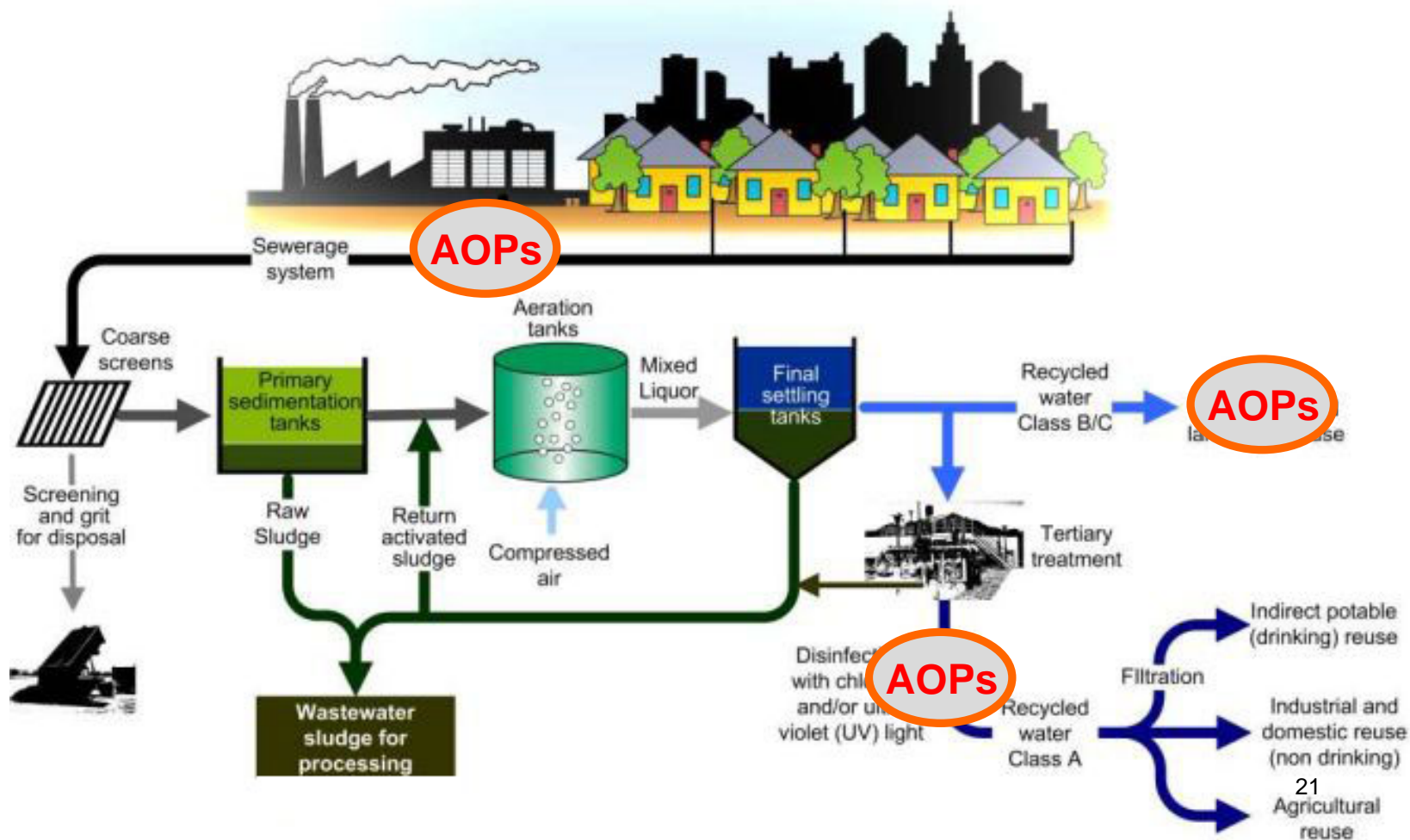


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WHEN / WHERE TO USE AN AOP?



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Wastewater containing:

Recalcitrant species

Endocrine disruptors

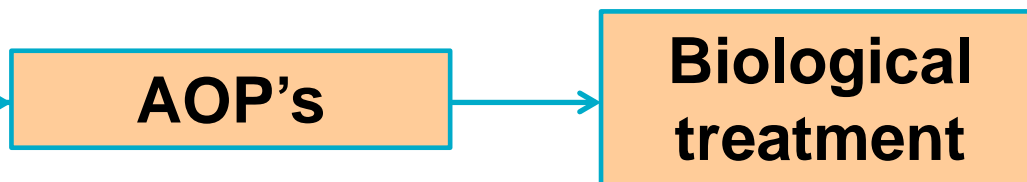
Antibiotics

Antiseptics

High TOC

⇒ **High toxicity and persistent nature**

Low biodegradability



Low toxicity
High biodegradability

Treated water

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Process	λ (nm)	Solar light
Photolysis	< 290	NO
Photo catalysis TiO ₂ + hv	< 380	YES
H ₂ O ₂ H ₂ O ₂ + hv	----- < 290	NO
H ₂ O ₂ + catalyst H ₂ O ₂ + catalyst + hv	----- < 400	YES
O ₃ O ₃ + hv	----- < 290	NO
H ₂ O ₂ + O ₃ H ₂ O ₂ + O ₃ + hv	----- < 290	NO
Fenton (Fe ⁺² +H ₂ O ₂) Photo -Fenton (Fe ⁺² +H ₂ O ₂ + hv)	UV + Visible (<550 nm)	YES

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Infrared > 700 nm

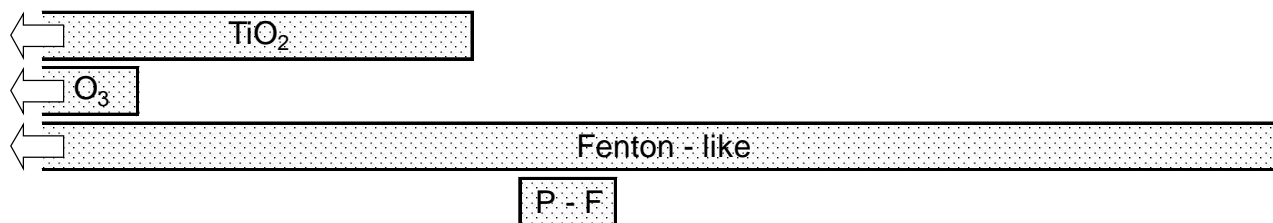
Visible – low energy photons (400 - 700 nm)

UV (40 – 400 nm / 30 – 3 eV):

UVA (320 - 400 nm), UVB (290 – 320 nm), UVC (220 – 290 nm), Far UV (190 – 220 nm), VUV (40 – 190 nm)

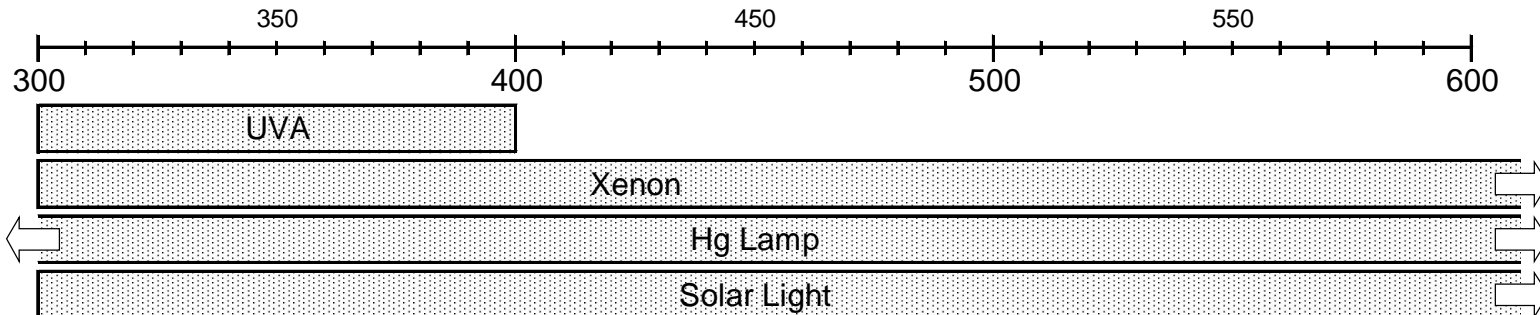
Processes

- Photocatalysis
- Ozonation
- Fenton - like
- Photo - Fenton

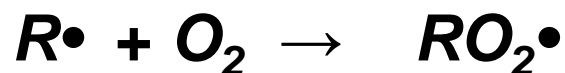
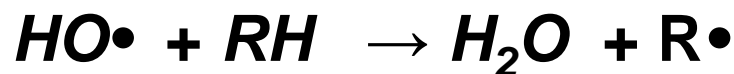
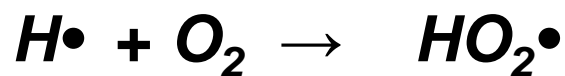


Lights

- UVA
- Xenon
- Hg Lamp
- Solar



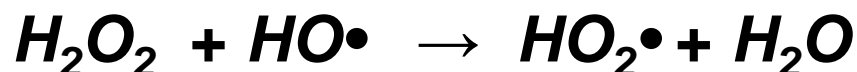
Photolysis, $h\nu \leq 290 \text{ nm}$

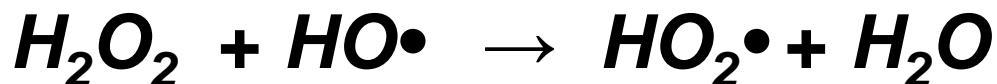


Limited penetration of V-UV radiation

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*Suprasil envelope

Lopez, J.; García Einschlag, F.; Gonzalez, M.; Capparelli, A. L.; Oliveros, E.; Hashem, T.; Braun, A. M.

J. Photochem. Photobiol., A: Chem. 2000, 137,177-184

Photolysis / $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + h\nu \leq 290 \text{ nm}$

Recent Studies

- **New lamp technology - enhancement of H_2O_2 excitation (UVC) ($\lambda = 185, 222 \text{ nm}, \dots$)**
- **partial / total substitution of H_2O_2 by the use of VUV radiation**
- **Improvements in reactor design**

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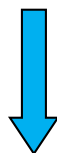
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PHOTOCATALYSIS PROCESS

It is a heterogenic process which combine:

PHOTOCHEMISTRY



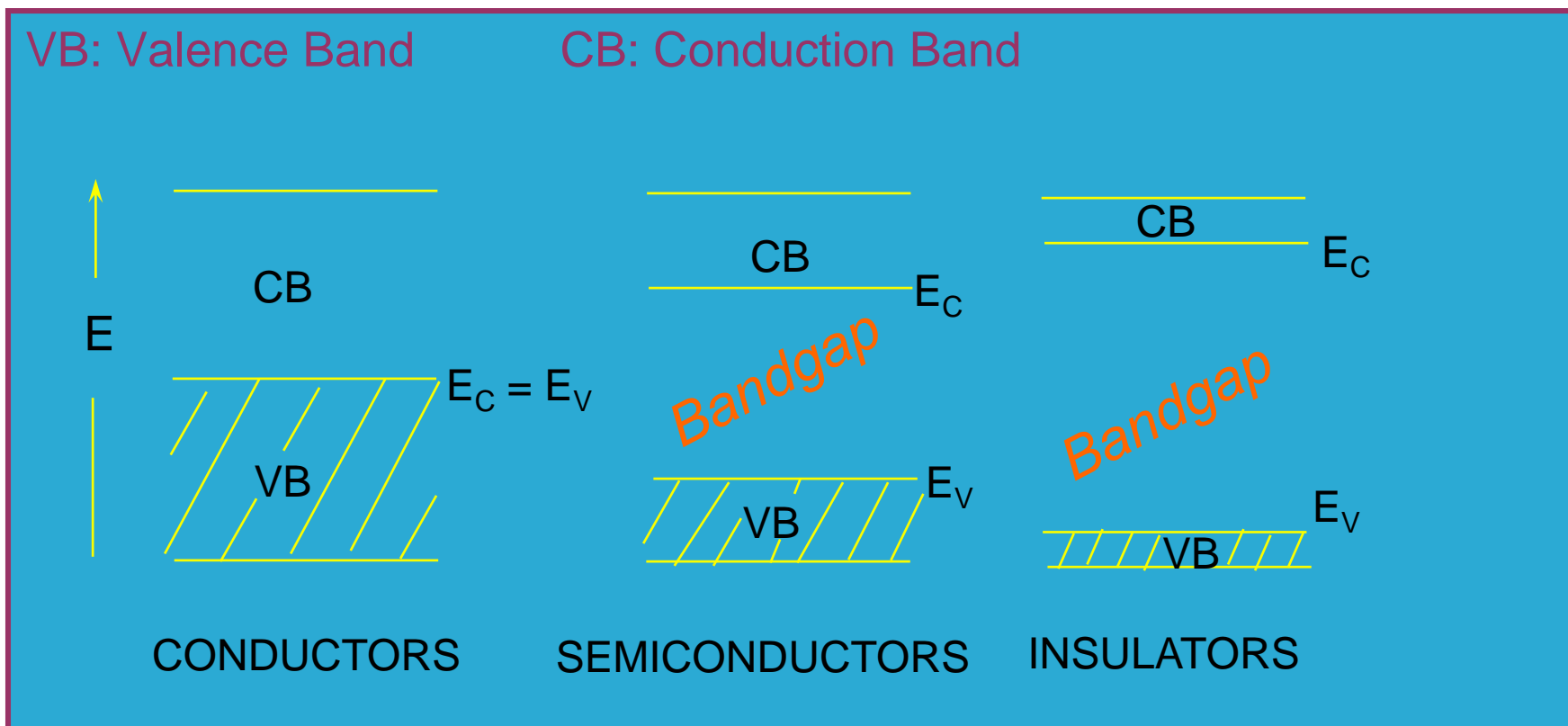
Light ($h\nu \leq 380 \text{ nm}$)

CATALYSIS



Semiconductor

Energetic structures

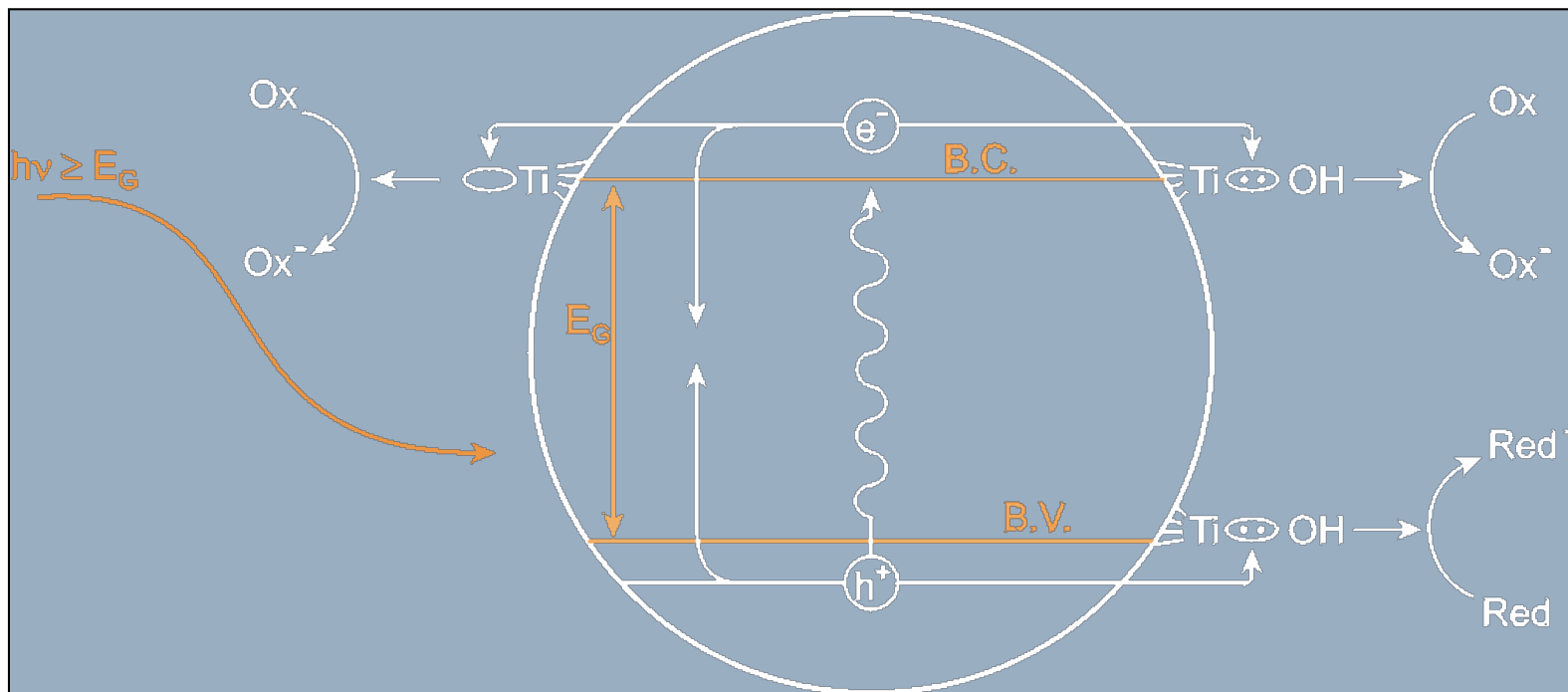


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It is necessary to avoid h^+ and e^- recombination in the catalyst (inside /superficially)



PHOTOCATALYSIS PROCESS

Recent Studies

- **Improvement by the use of doped TiO_2 or TiO_2 / sensitizer / co-catalyst combinations**
- **Doped TiO_2 or TiO_2 / sensitizer / co-catalyst-combinations suitable for Vis- (solar) radiation**
- **Large, mechanically stable TiO_2 particles or mechanically stable TiO_2 on particulate inert support for simple photocatalyst recycling**

Ozone, O₃

**Ozone is a well-known oxidant agent
(Reduction potential 2.08 V)**

Poor solubility in water

Unfortunately, to generate ozone is required:

- **High energetic demand**
- **Significant reagent consume**

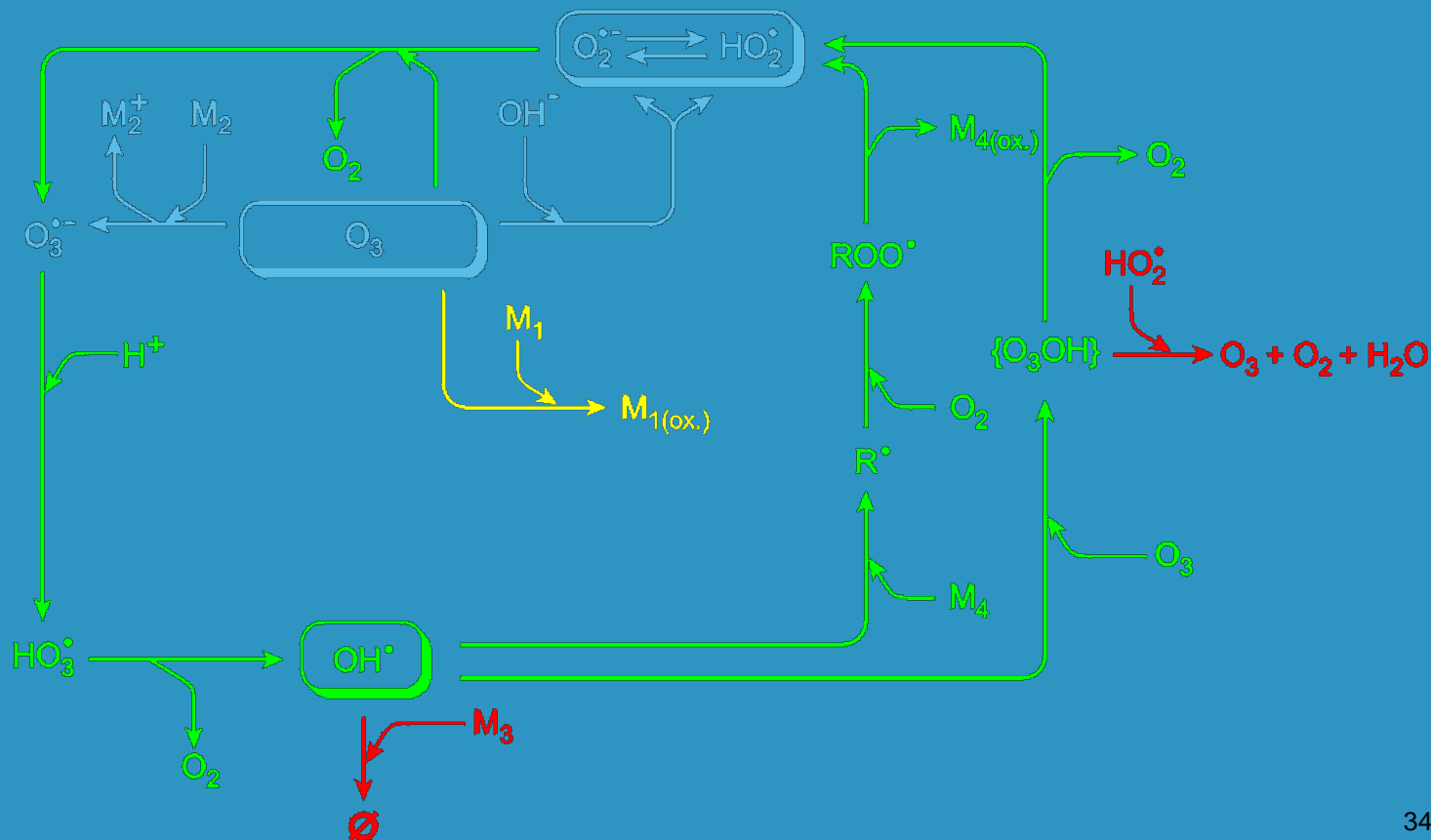
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→ Iniciación
 → Propagación
 → Terminación

Dark mechanism



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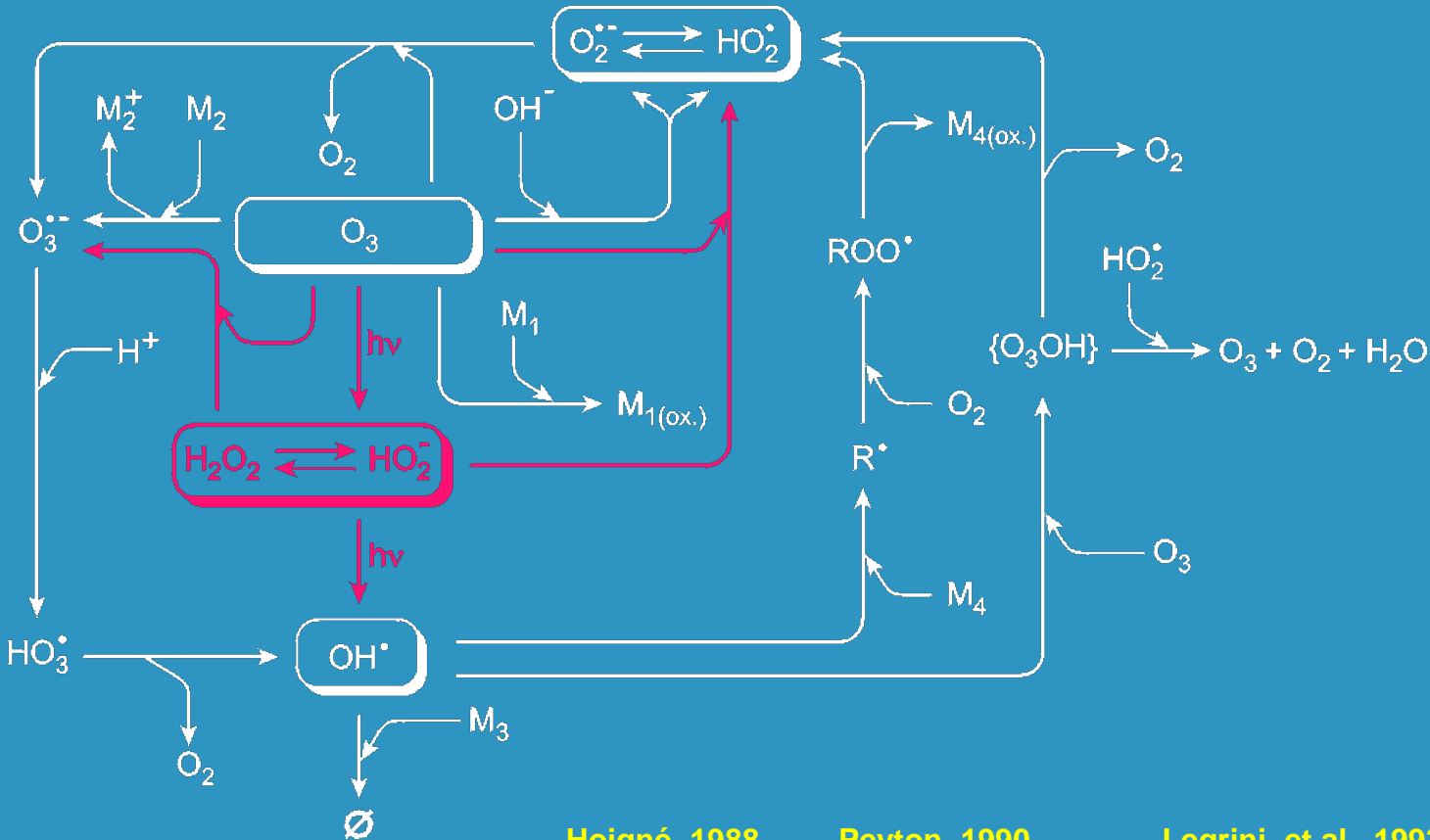
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→ O₃ Mecanismo en oscuridad

→ Mecanismo bajo radiación

Light mechanism



Ozone, O₃

Recent Studies

- partial / total substitution of O₃ by the use of VUV radiation
- Improvements in reactor design

FENTON AND FENTON-LIKE REACTIONS

Fenton Reagents

Hydrogen peroxide

- ✓ relative cheap and easy to handle oxidant (environmentally benign)
- ✓ infinite solubility in water

Iron

- ✓ abundant in the earth + non toxic, (iron(II), iron(III))

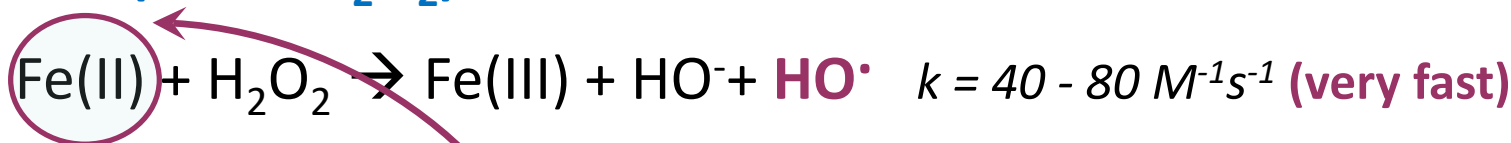
Applications

Large variety of organic compounds has been oxidized by this process:
Acids, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, ethers, amines, aromatics, dyes,...

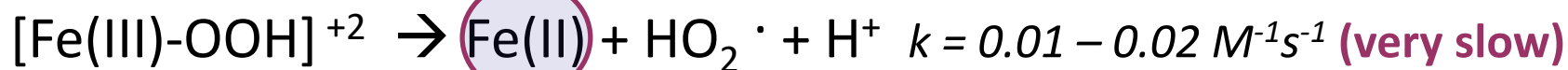
FENTON AND FENTON-LIKE REACTIONS

Accepted mechanism

Fenton ($\text{Fe}^{+2} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$)



Fenton-like reaction - Fe^{+2} regeneration



Much lower rate \Rightarrow Fe(III) accumulates in reaction medium

$\bullet\text{OH}$ + organic contaminants $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$ oxidation products

FENTON REACTIONS - Limitations

- pH = 2.8 – 4
- Only partial mineralization when

Formation of ferrioxalate and other stable Fe^{3+} complexes (prevent recycling of Fe^{3+} to Fe^{2+})

To improve the overall degradation process

- Relatively high concentrations of Fe(II) \Rightarrow stoichiometric amounts
 - Generation of **high amount of** iron sludge due to separation before discharge
 - Limits for iron discharge in effluents in Europe: **10 mg L⁻¹ (0.18 mmol L⁻¹)**
- Concentrations of H_2O_2 \Rightarrow above stoichiometric amounts

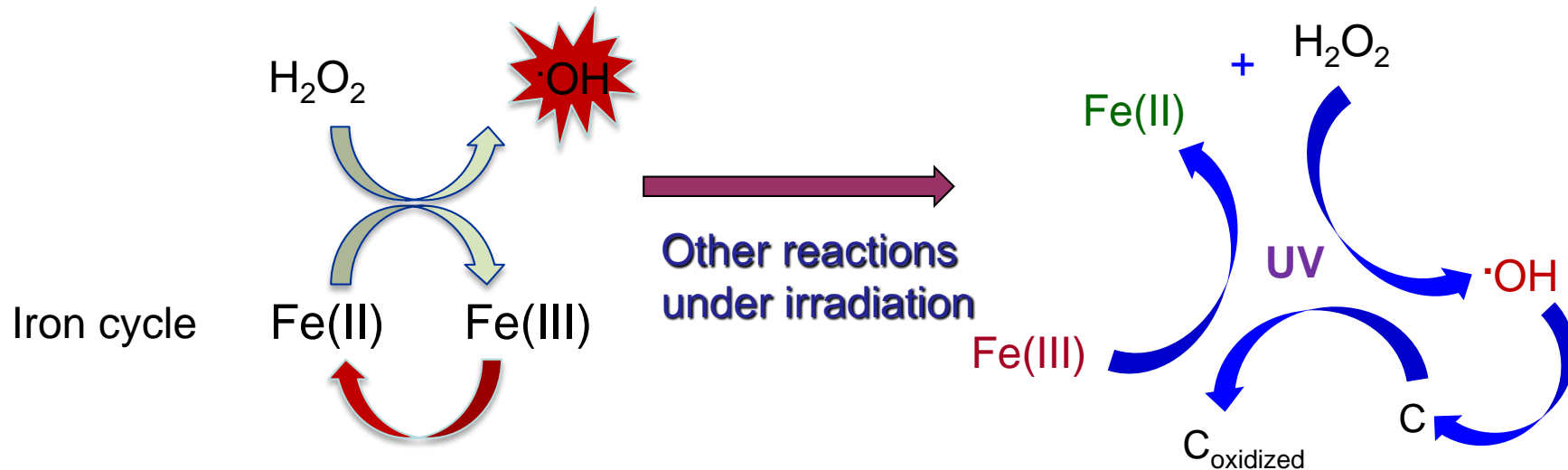
Too high concentrations must be avoided: $\cdot\text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{HO}_2\cdot$

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Reduction of Fe(III) \Rightarrow limiting step of the process



- UV-Vis irradiation
- Iron reducing species

C: contaminant

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LIGHT SOURCE

Increases the oxidant production rate

- Reaction given by low-energy photons
- Photo-Fenton** reactions (photon absorption close to 400 nm)



- Fenton like reactions (**photon absorption up to 550 nm**)

✓ Formation of high valence Fe-based oxidants



✓ Direct attack on organic matter

Limitations ⇒

- pH restrictions as in dark Fenton
- need of transparent solution

COMPETITIVE REACTIONS

Fenton reagent excess decreases the oxidation rate

- Experimental conditions should be established to avoid the competitive reactions for HO• radical:



FENTON AND PHOTO-FENTON REACTIONS

Recent Studies

- Replacement of Fe(II) or Fe(III) salts by
 - Immobilize Fe (Heterogeneous Fenton Process)
 - Non dependable pH Fe
- Catalyst or process design to enable Fe(III) recycling
- Development of
 - large scale solar applications
 - combinations of solar and artificial light reactors

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WHAT IS REQUIRED TO INDUSTRIALLY APPLY AOPs?

DECREASE:

- » Energy demand
- » Reagent demand
- » pre or post treatment needs



To minimize cost treatment

STRATEGIES TO REDUCE ENERGY DEMAND

- » **Use of Solar radiation**
- » **Develop catalyst to modify the radiation necessary to activate them**
- » **Effective reactors' design to use all the available radiation**
 - » Modeling / Simulation
 - » Appropriate materials selection

STRATEGIES TO REDUCE REAGENT DEMAND

- » **Select appropriate reagent ratios**
 - » Contaminant:Reagent ratio, Reagents ratios
- » **Dosage of reagents***
- » **Work in the better reaction conditions**
- » **On-line monitoring***

STRATEGIES TO AVOID PRE- / POST-TREATMENTS

- » **Wastewater segregation/ management**
 - **to use natural conditions**
 - **avoid specific pretreatments**
 - **Reduce treatment cost**
 - **Select the better treatment for every wastewater**

STRATEGIES TO AVOID PRE- / POST- TREATMENTS

» Modified catalyst

- Fenton - pH necessary to better usage
- Photocatalysis - light radiation in visible

» Immobilize catalyst helps to

- avoid post- elimination
- Reutilization - Reduce catalyst demand
- Apply treatment in natural ecosystems (sea, lake, river,...)

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STRATEGIES TO REDUCE REAGENT DEMAND

- » Select appropriate reagent ratios
 - » Contaminant : ratio, Reagents : ratios
- » **Dosage of reagents* Exemple: Photo-Fenton**
- » Work in the better reaction conditions
- » On-line monitoring*

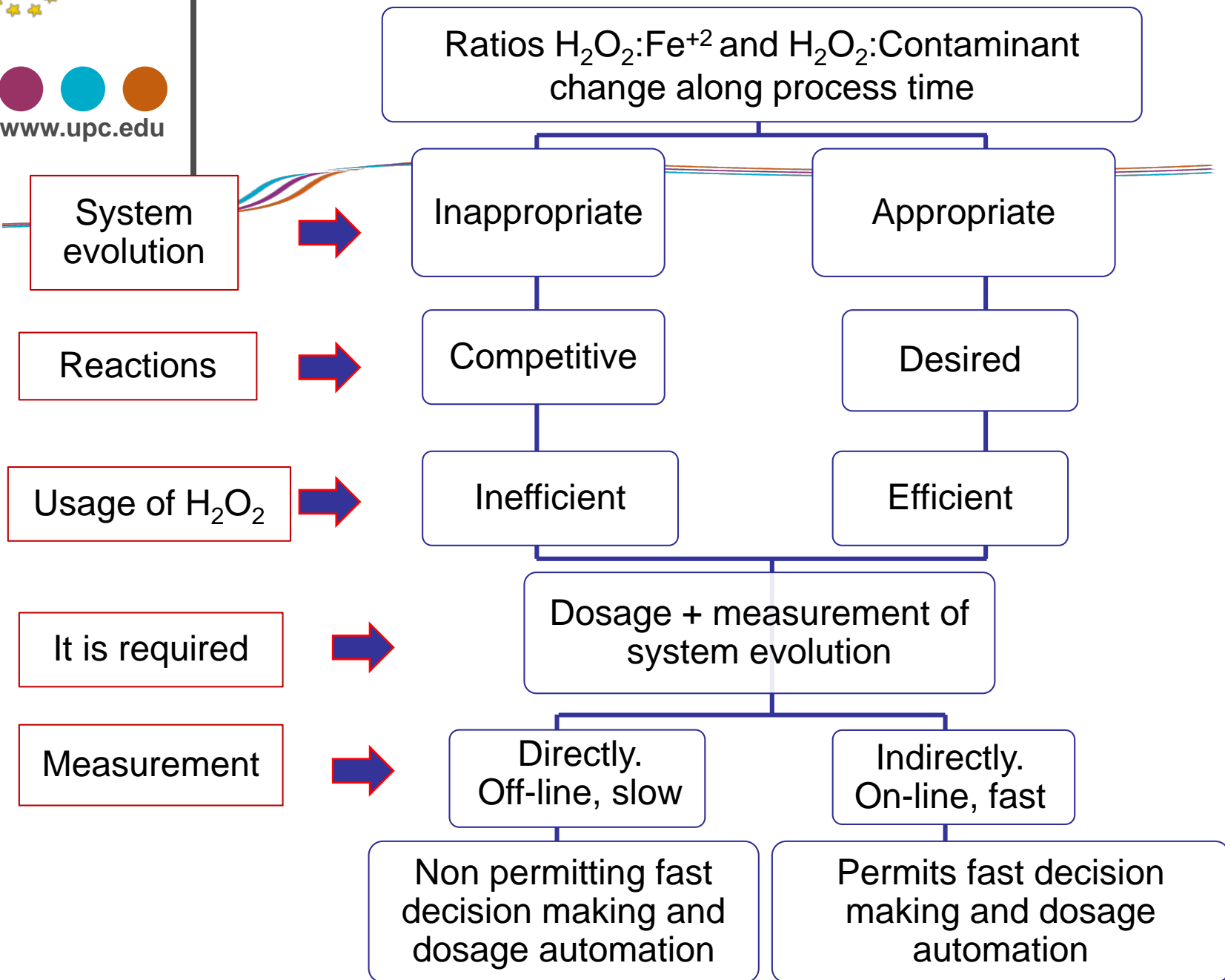
DOSAGE PROTOCOLS FOR HYDROGEN PEROXIDE

State of the Art

- Dosage has been recently described as a relevant factor
- Batches – addition of load portions along the reaction time
- Continuous dosage
- Continuous automatic dosage

➔ A new systematic dosage protocol for a two factor analysis:

- Fixed total load = Initial load + Continuous flow time-span

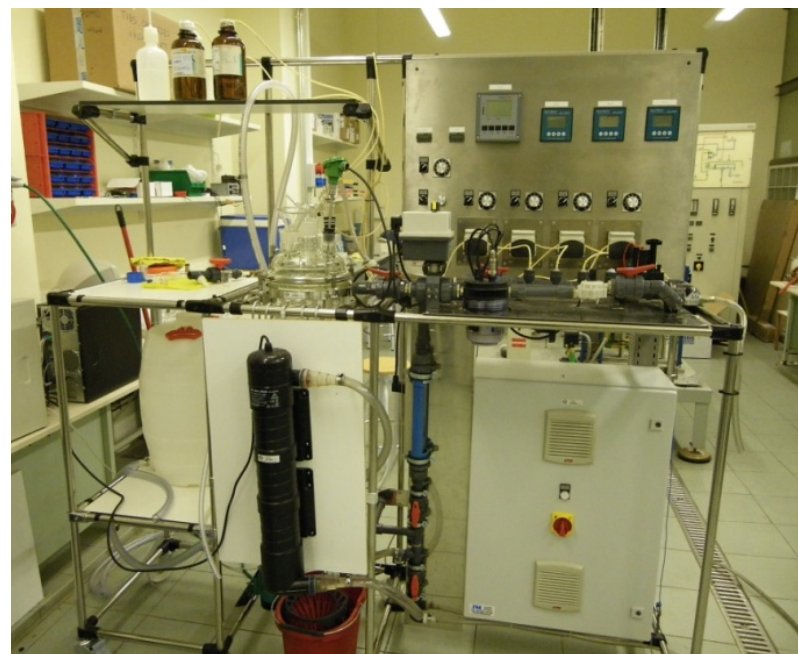
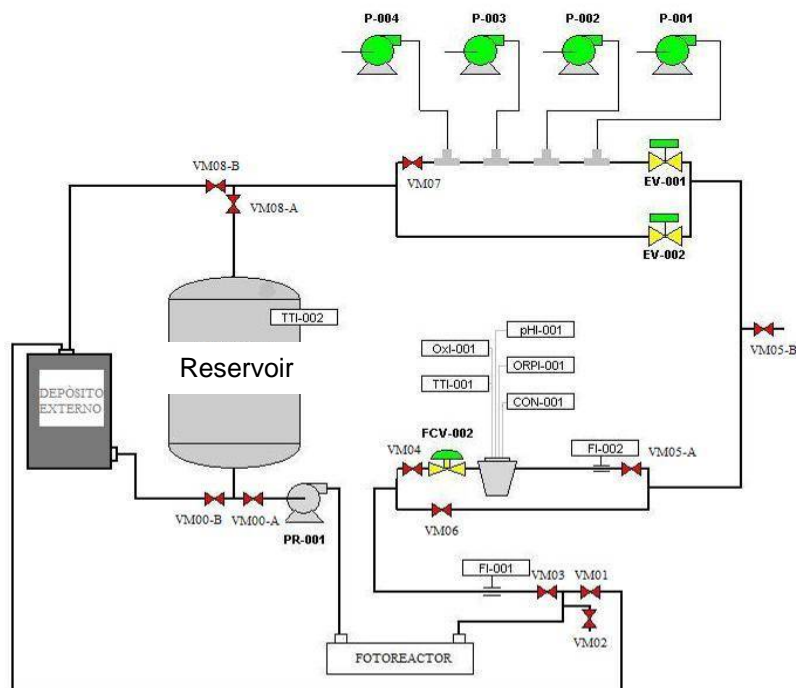


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EXPERIMENTAL METHODS



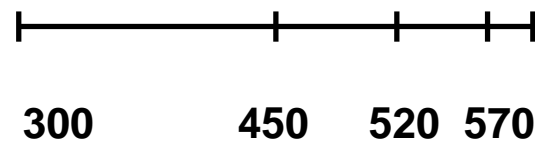
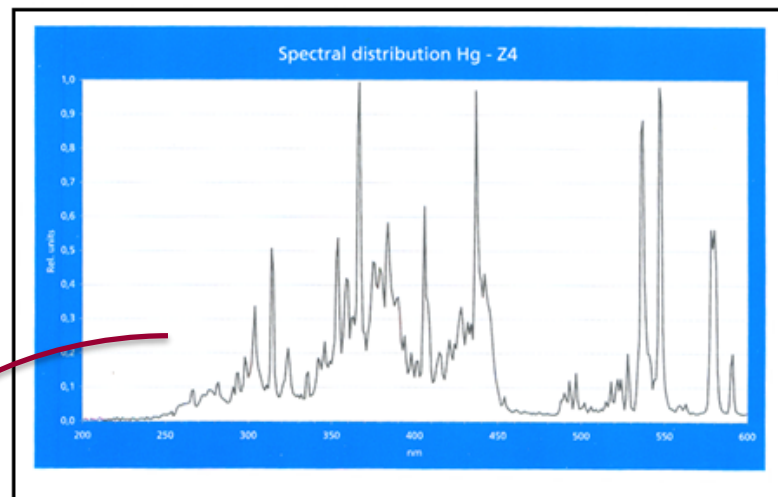
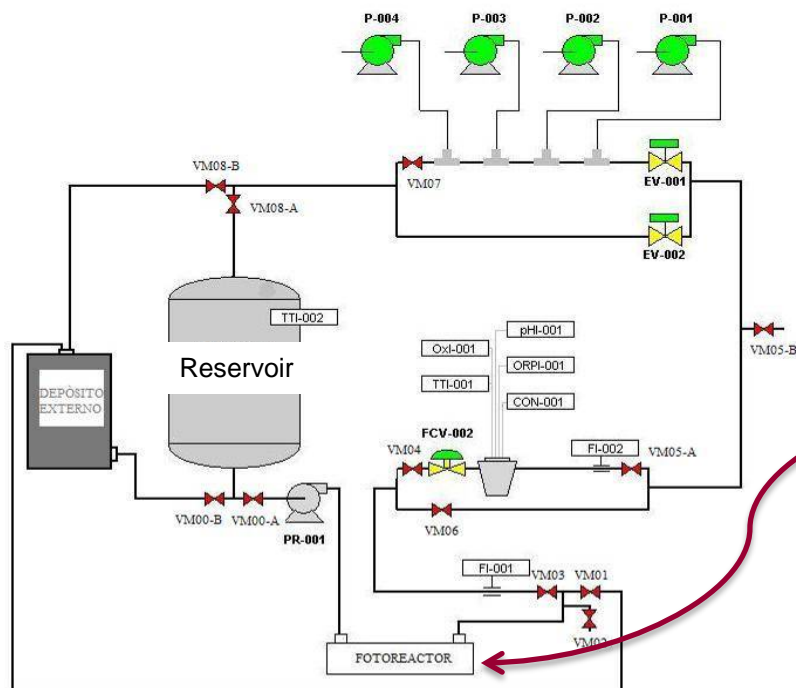
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EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

Hg medium pressures
(0-750)W/Glass

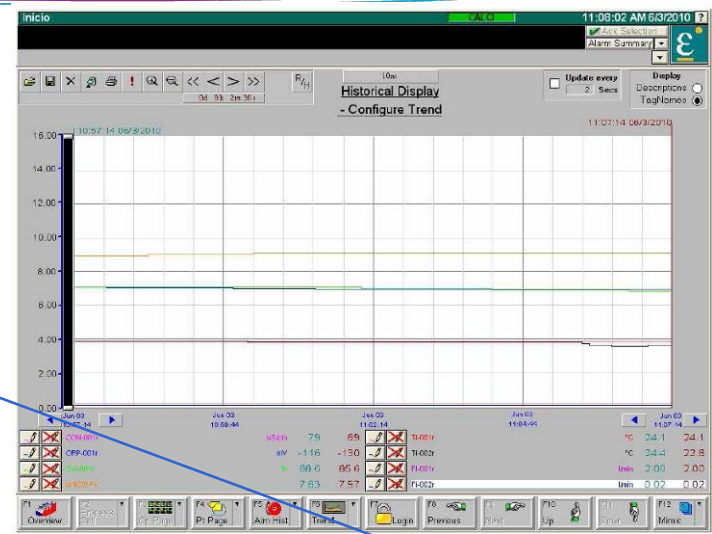
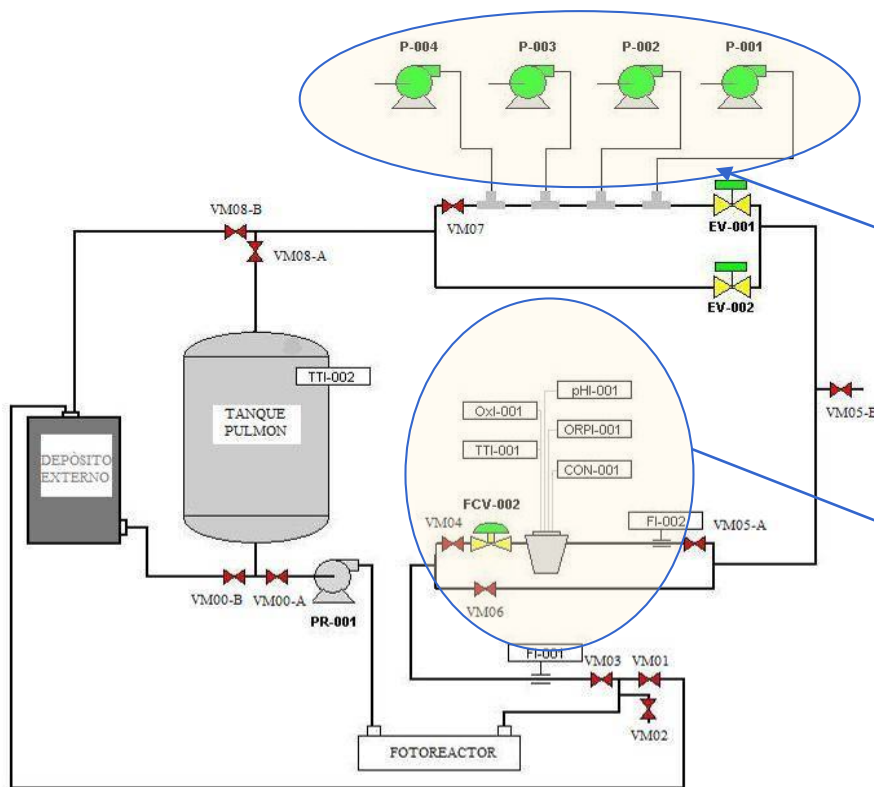


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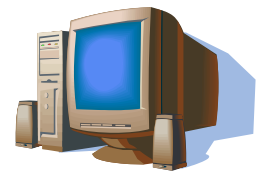


EXPERIMENTAL METHODS



Data on-line:

- pH
- Temperature (°C)
- Conductivity (mS)
- Dissolved Oxygen (%)
- Oxidation reduction potential (mV)

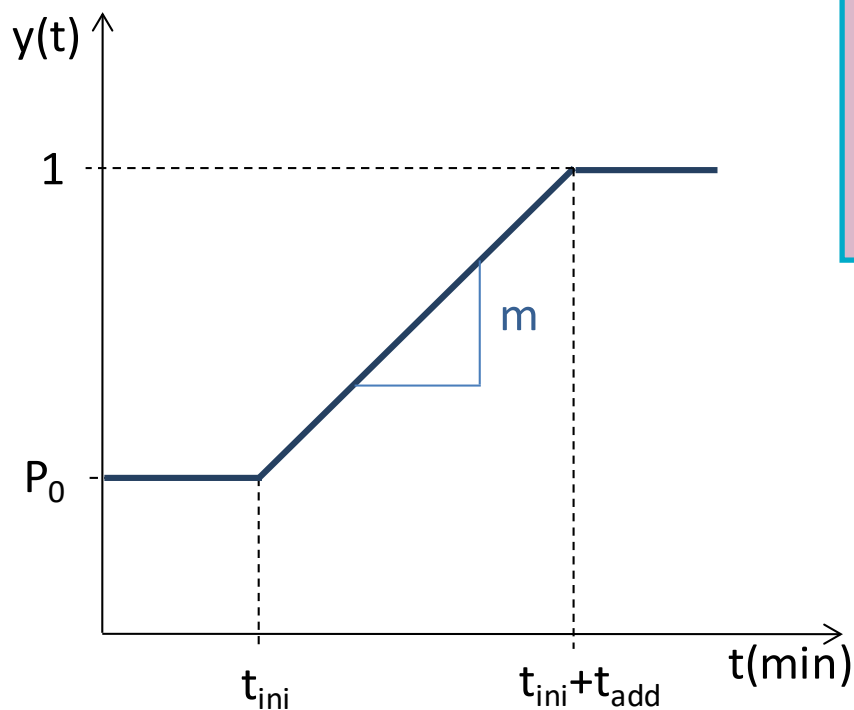


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PROPOSED DOSAGE PROTOCOL



$$y(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t < 0 \\ P_0 & \text{if } 0 \leq t < t_{ini} \\ P_0 + m \cdot (t - t_{ini}) & \text{if } t_0 \leq t \leq t_{ini} + t_{add} \\ 1 & \text{if } t > t_{ini} + t_{add} \end{cases}$$

Variables	min	max	centre
t_{ini} (min)	0	30	15
P_0 (%)	10	30	20

Parameters	Fe(II) (mg·L ⁻¹)	H ₂ O ₂ (mg·L ⁻¹)	TC (mg·L ⁻¹)	t_{add} (min)
	5	65	40	30

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RESULTS DOE (2²)

	t _{ini}	P ₀	t _{ini}	P ₀	ξ ^{max}	St.Dev
R	-1	8	0	100%	0,7743	0,0290
A	-1	-1	0	10%	0,9113	0,1254
B	1	-1	30	10%	0,8529	0,2081
C	-1	1	0	30%	0,9410	0,0392
D	1	1	30	30%	0,9033	0,1368
E	0	0	15	20%	1,0000	0,0000
F	0	0	15	20%	0,9355	0,0912
G	0	0	15	20%	1,0000	0,0000
H	-1	0	0	20%	0,8474	0,1206
I	1.414	0	36.21	20%	0,7995	0,0421
J	0	-1.414	15	5.86%	0,9108	0,1123
K	0	1.414	15	34.14%	0,9457	0,2151

Variables	min	max	centre
t _{ini} (min)	0	30	15
P ₀ (%)	10	30	20

“R” : Reference experiment
(no dosage protocol)

$$\xi^{\max} = \left(1 - \frac{[\text{TOC}]^{\text{p}}}{[\text{TOC}]^{\text{b}}} \right)$$

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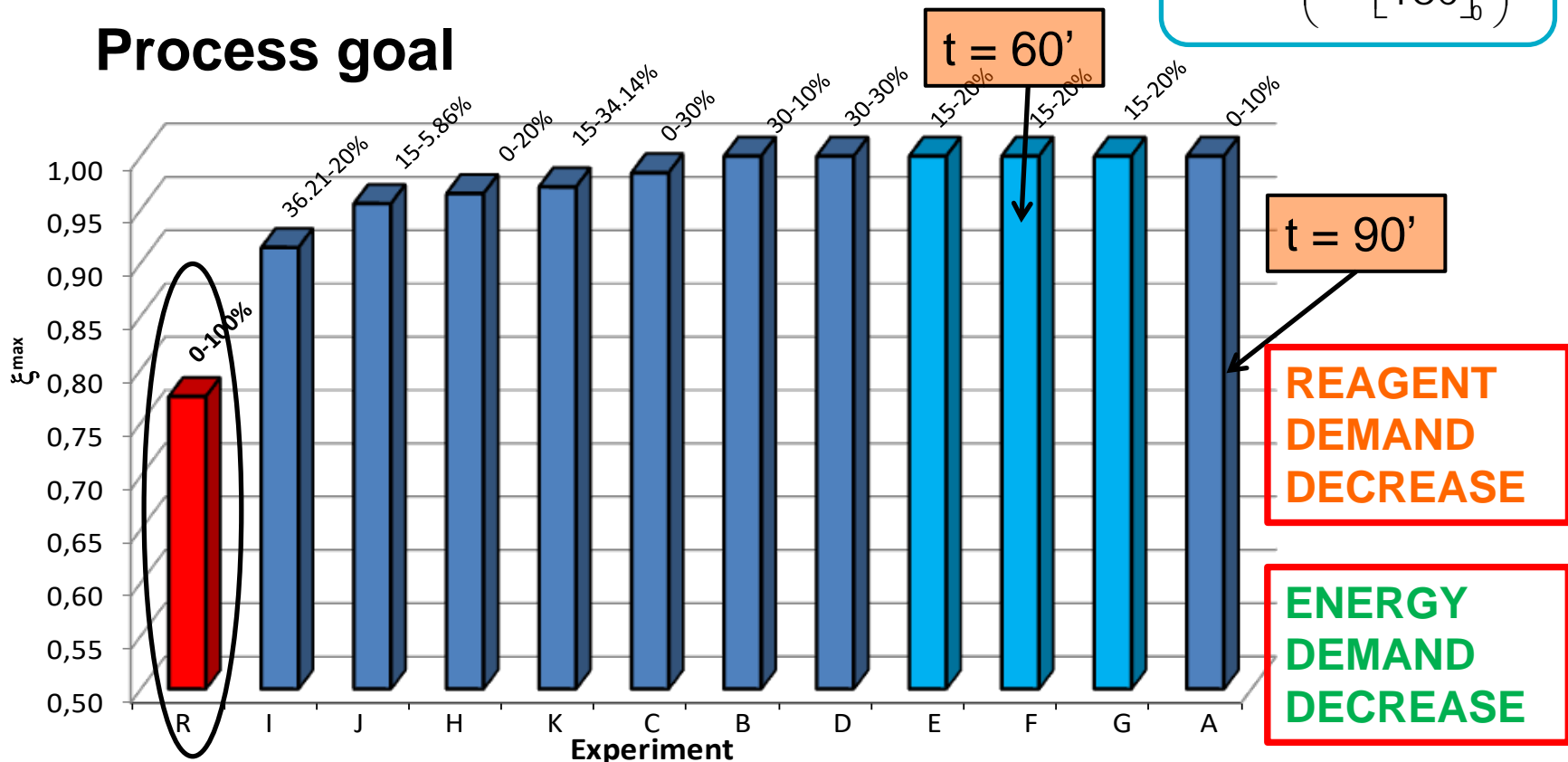
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MAXIMUM CONVERSION ACHIEVED

$$\xi^{\max} = \left(1 - \frac{[\text{TOC}]^{\circ}}{[\text{TOC}]_0} \right)$$

Process goal



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STRATEGIES TO REDUCE REAGENT DEMAND

- » Select appropriate reagent ratios
 - » Contaminant : ratio, Reagents : ratios
- » Dosage of reagents*
- » Work in the better reaction conditions
- » **On-line monitoring* Exemple: Photo-Fenton**

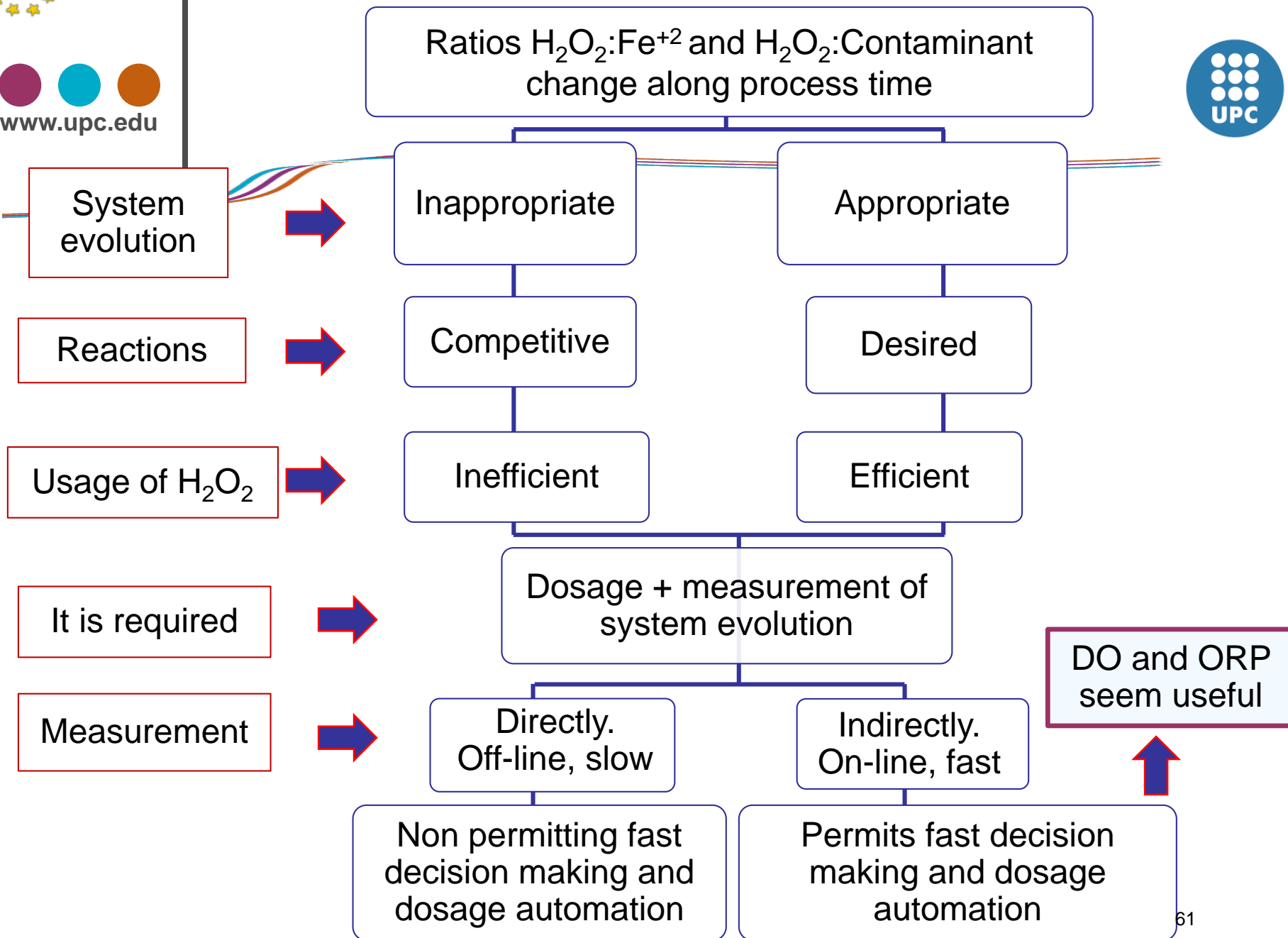
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On-line Monitoring & Dosage

- H_2O_2 is usually measured by off-line methods.
- On-line H_2O_2 monitoring appears to be required for optimal dosage.
- Scarce investigation on the relationship between H_2O_2 evolution during the photo-Fenton process and on-line operational parameters.
- Additionally:
 - ORP, has been one of the first on-line parameters suggested.
 - Recently DO has been related with the H_2O_2 evolution during the photo-Fenton process.



Oxidation Reduction Potential (E, mV)

Measure the affinity of a substance for electrons, referred to hydrogen (E=0).

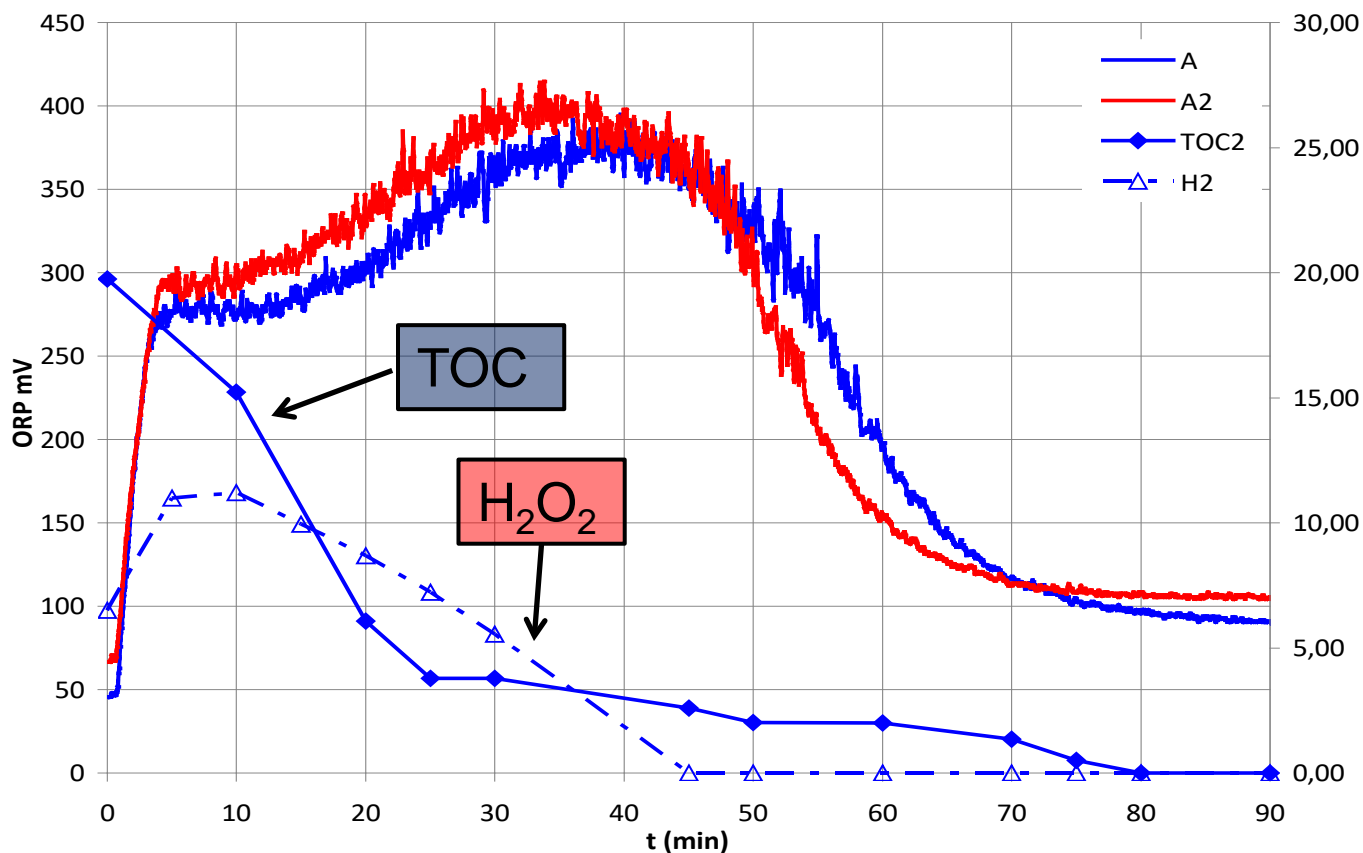
Any substance — atom, ion, or molecule — that

- is more capable of oxidizing than hydrogen is assigned a positive (+) redox potential;
- those less capable than hydrogen has negative (–) redox potential.

When electrons flow "downhill" in a redox reaction, they release free energy. We indicate this with the symbol ΔG (delta G) preceded by a minus sign.

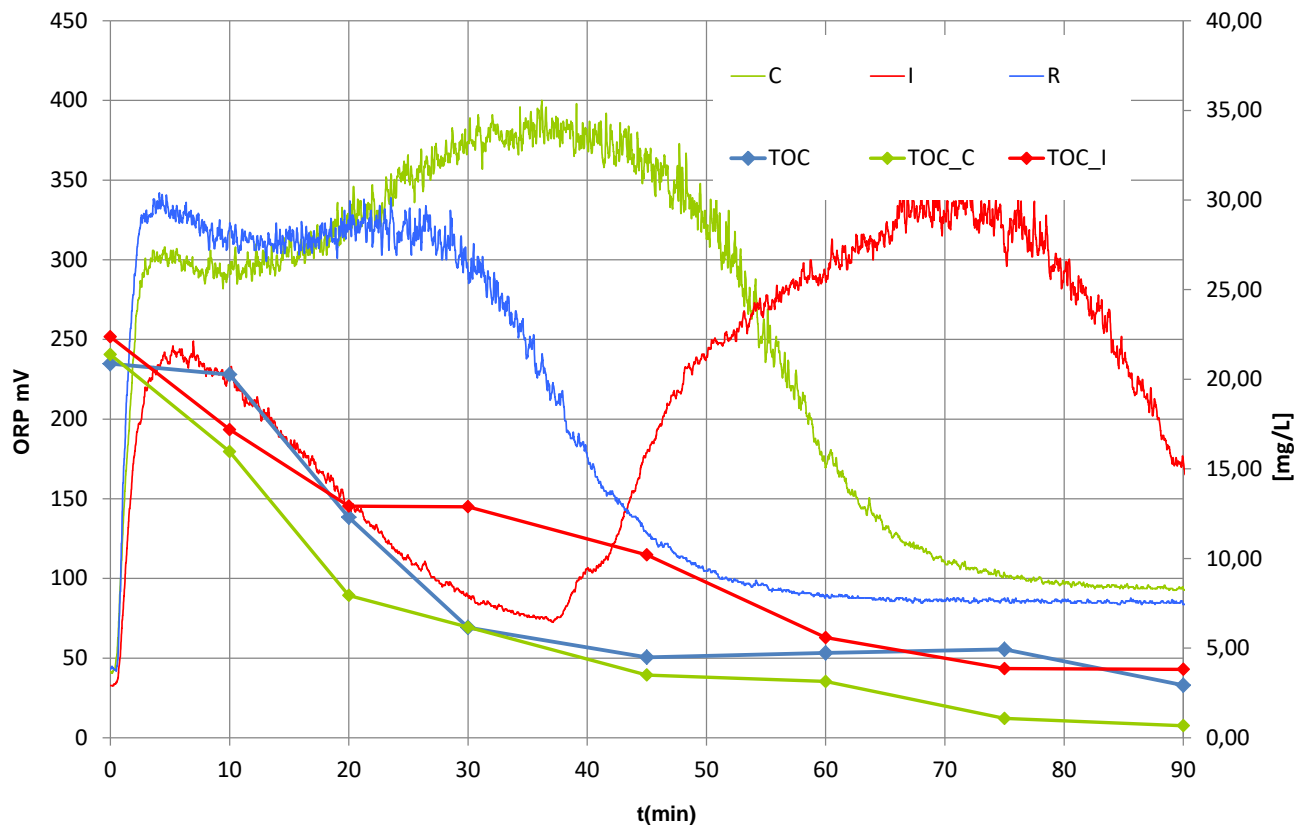
It requires an input of free energy to force electrons to move "uphill" in a redox reaction. We show this with ΔG preceded by a plus sign.

ON-LINE MONITORING & DOSAGE - ORP



Variables	Assay A
t_{ini} (min)	0
P_0 (%)	10

ON-LINE MONITORING & DOSAGE - ORP



Var.	C	I	R
t_{ini} (min)	0	36.2	0
P_0 (%)	30	20	100

GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT ADVANCED OXIDATION PROCESSES

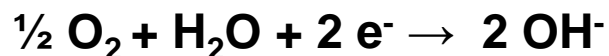
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O₂ dissolve, DO (mg·L⁻¹, %)

Sensitive electrode determination

Cathode



Anode



Electrode must be calibrated each time it is used:

100% O₂ saturation, fully aerated water

0% O₂ (dissolved sodium sulfite is added into water)

The results can be expressed relative percentage to the amount of dissolved oxygen saturated water (at 25 ° C, 8.24 mg L⁻¹O₂).

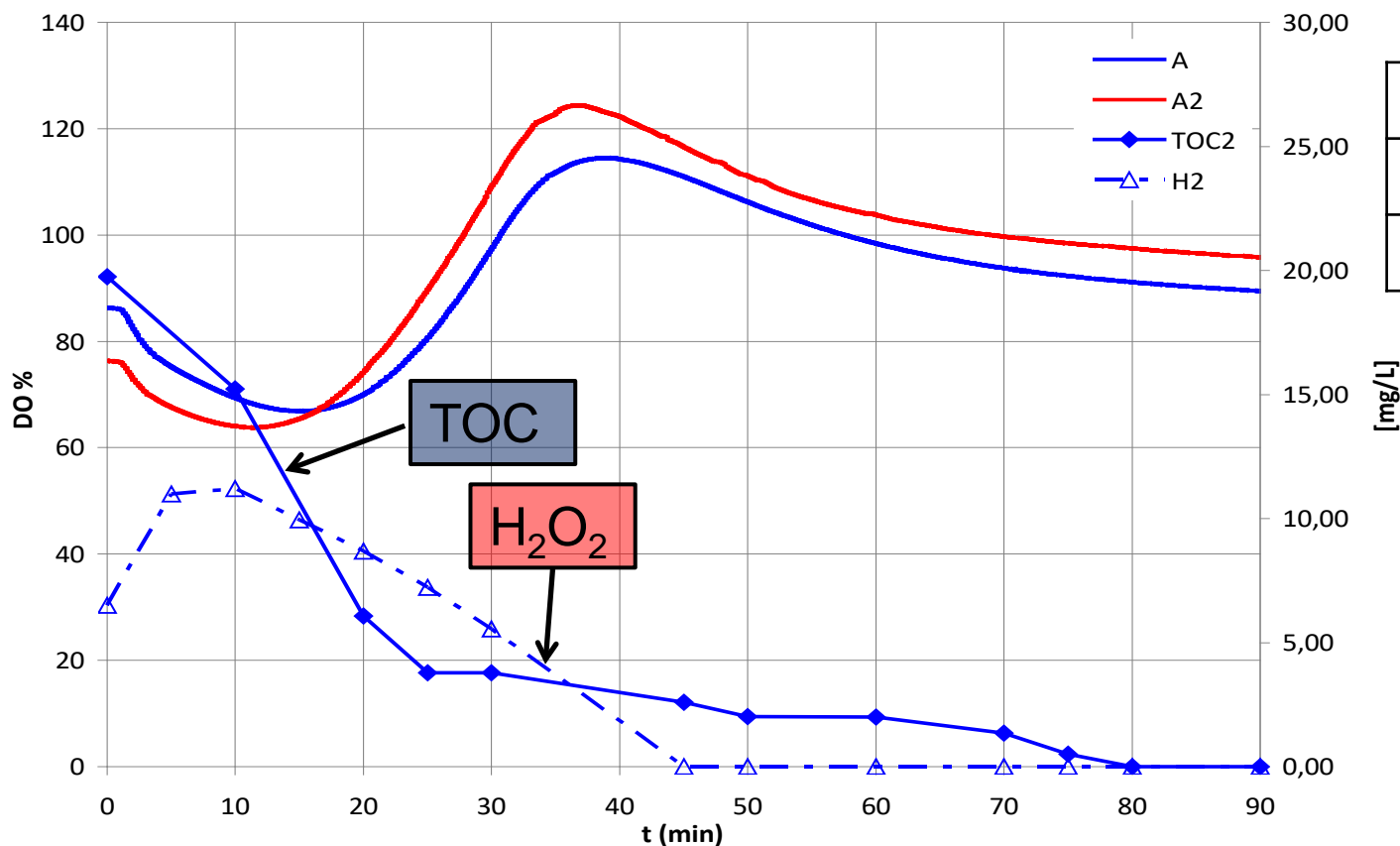
DO value depends on temperature, pressure and water salinity.

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ON-LINE MONITORING & DOSAGE - DO



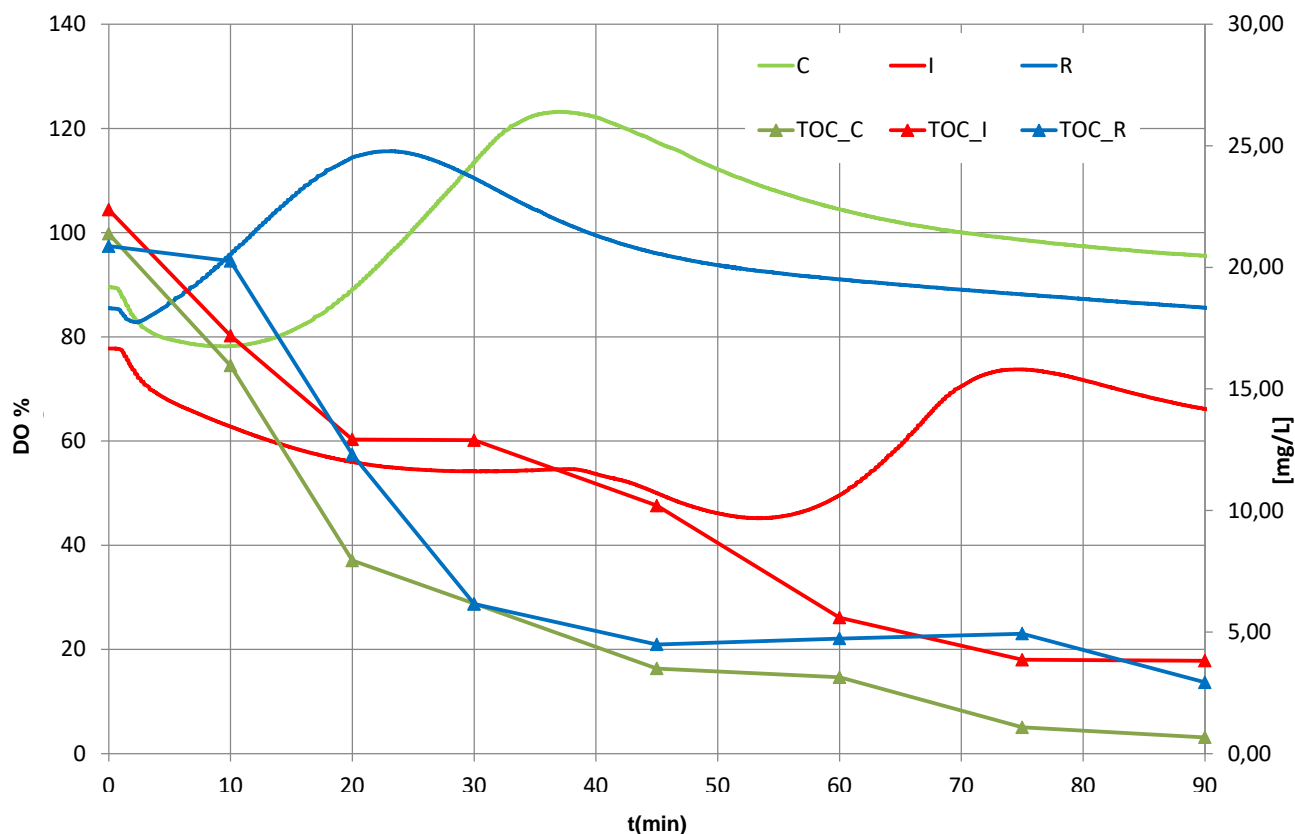
Variables	Assay A
t_{ini} (min)	0
P_0 (%)	10

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ON-LINE MONITORING & DOSAGE - DO



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On-line Monitoring & Dosage

- Investigation on the relationship between H_2O_2 evolution and on-line operational parameters, ORP and DO is required.
- Preliminary results suggest a dependence. Further work is required to model this dependence.

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OVERVIEW

- INTRODUCTION
 - ✓ Water
 - ✓ Conventional water treatments
 - ✓ Wastewater quality parameters
 - ✓ AOPs
- AOPs
 - ✓ Classification
 - ✓ Process description – Recent Studies
- WHAT IS REQUIRED TO AOPs IMPLEMENTATION?
- STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE AOPs
 - ✓ Dosage of reagents
 - ✓ On-line monitoring
- CONCLUSIONS

CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ Advanced Oxidation Processes (AOPs) are and interesting **alternative** or **complement** to conventional wastewater treatment.
- ✓ Select the adequate AOPs and its right operation condition leads to a more effective and inexpensive treatment.
- ✓ It should be clear the goal of the treatment .
- ✓ More research is required in order to improve the existing AOPs
- ✓ Interdisciplinary studies helps faster AOP improvement in order to be applied.
- ✓ pre- and post- AOPs treatment improve the efficient and reduce the cost of the overall process.

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Cap a l'excel·lència en la formació del nostre futur



OBRIGADA PELA SUA ATENÇÃO

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QUESTIONS

