

Milieutechnologie

Dr. ir. AR (Annemerel) Mol

11 september 2024 | Bezoek Da Vinci Senioren



Wageningen & ETE mission

Environmental Challenge focus of ETE



To explore
the potential
of nature to
improve the
quality of life

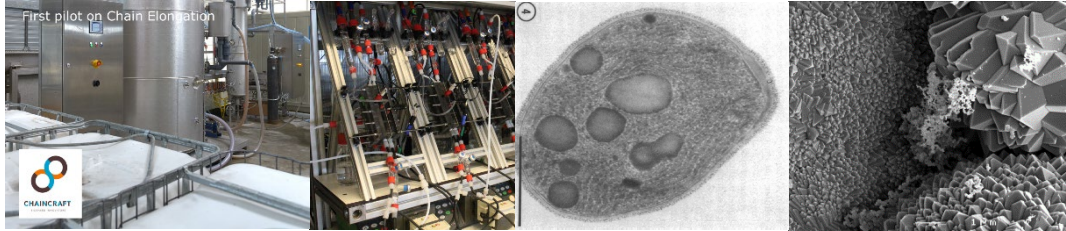
Resume

- Dr.ir. AR (Annemerel) Mol
- BSc at UCR Middelburg (part of UU), 2014
- Bachelor thesis on Selenium Biomineralization
- MSc Environmental & Biobased Biotechnology at WUR, 2016
- Interest in biological processes for resource recovery
- PhD Environmental Technology WUR (2016-2022)
- Assistant professor Biorecovery (2022-now)
- Supervising 5 PhD candidates, various MSc and BSc thesis students and teaching BSc and MSc courses.



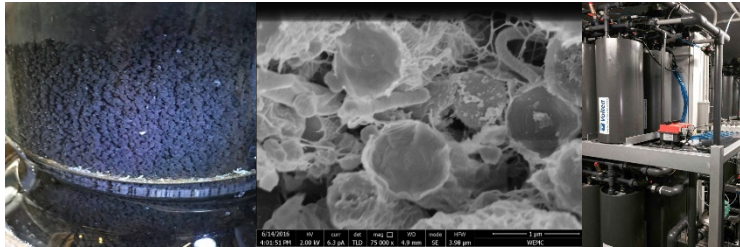
Environmental Technology

Biorecovery



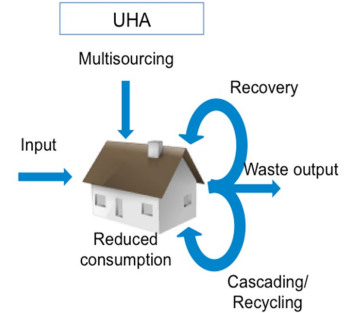
Bioelectrochemistry, Novel Fermentations,
biocrystallization

Reusable Water



Micropollutant and Pathogens, Desalinization,
Granulation

Urban System Engineering

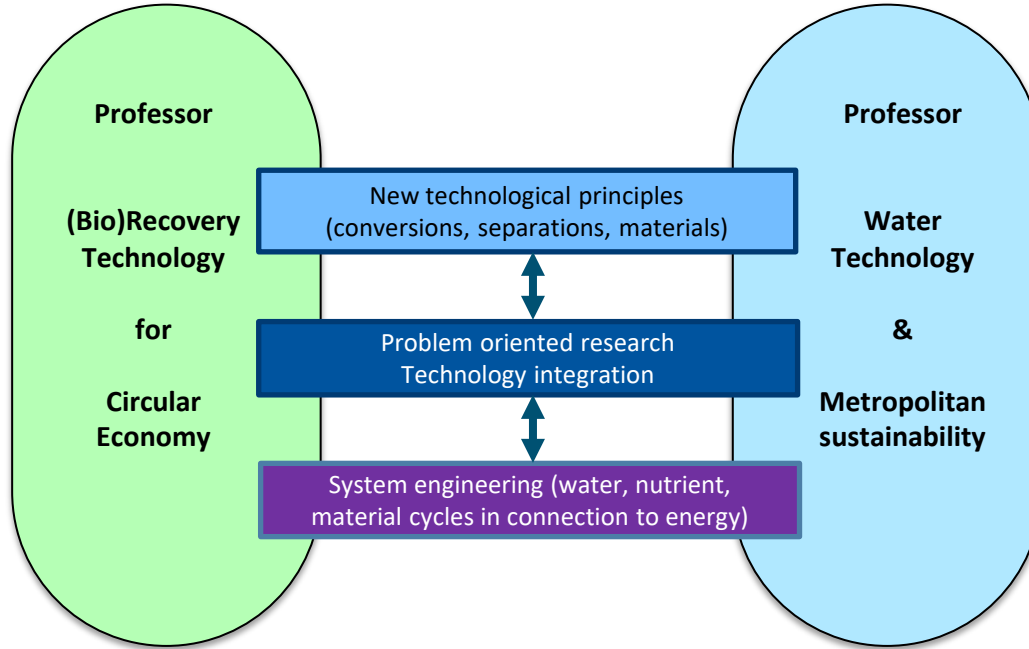


Material Flow Modelling,
Geospatial Analysis, System
Design

Environmental Technology



Annemiek ter Heijne



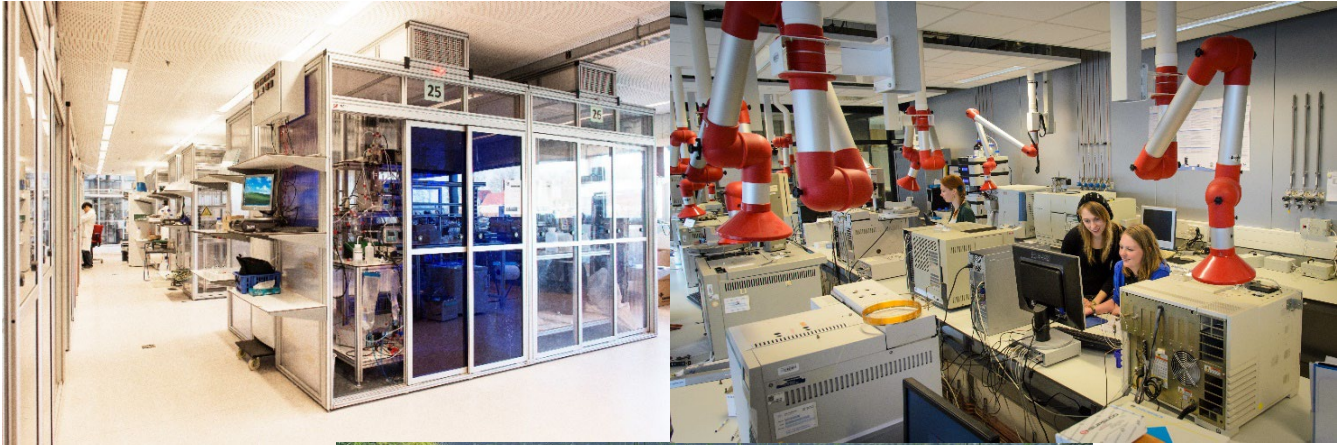
PhD
graduates:
10-15/yr

MSc & BSc
graduates:
100/yr



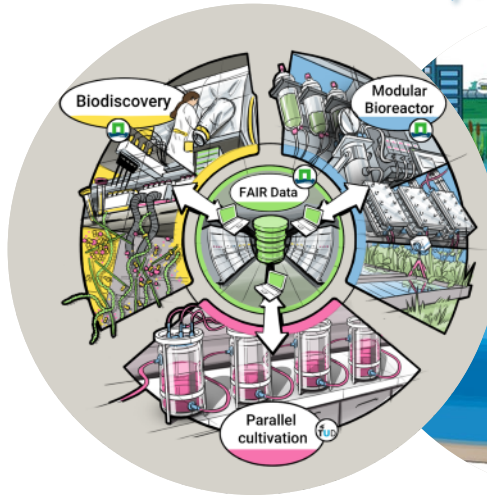
Interim: Nora Sutton

Environmental Technology; Facilities

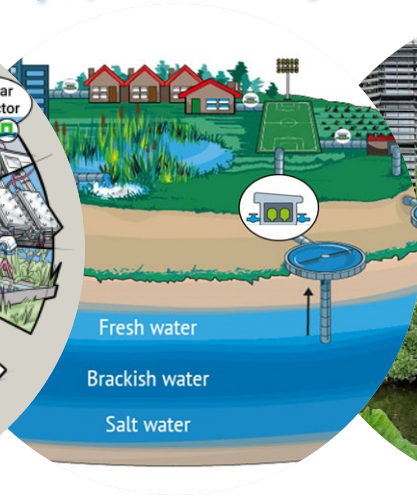


Research Ecosystems in the Netherlands

UNLOCK



AquaConnect



Wetsus



AMS



EWUU-CS



Biorecovery Technology for the Circular Economy

organic compounds & organic matter from waste(water)



Dr. David Strik



Dr. Miriam van Eekert



Dr. Kasper de Leeuw



Dr. Paula van de Brink

renewable energy from waste(water)



Dr. Philipp Kuntke



Prof. Bert Hamelers



Dr. Sanne de Smit

Biocrystallisation

Fermentation

Bioelectrochemistry



Prof. Annemiek ter Heijne



Dr. Annemerel Mol

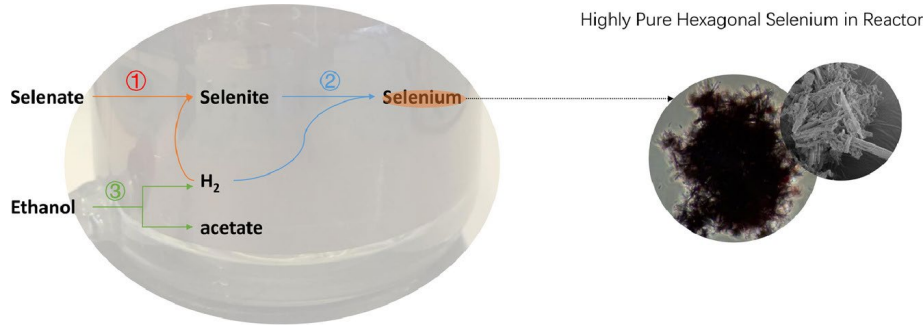
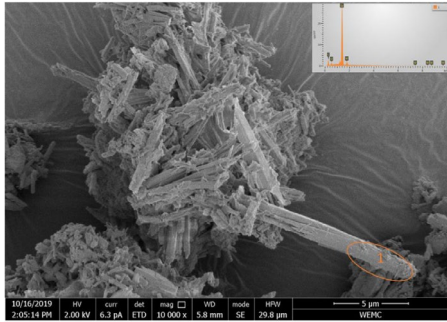


Dr. Renata van der Weijden

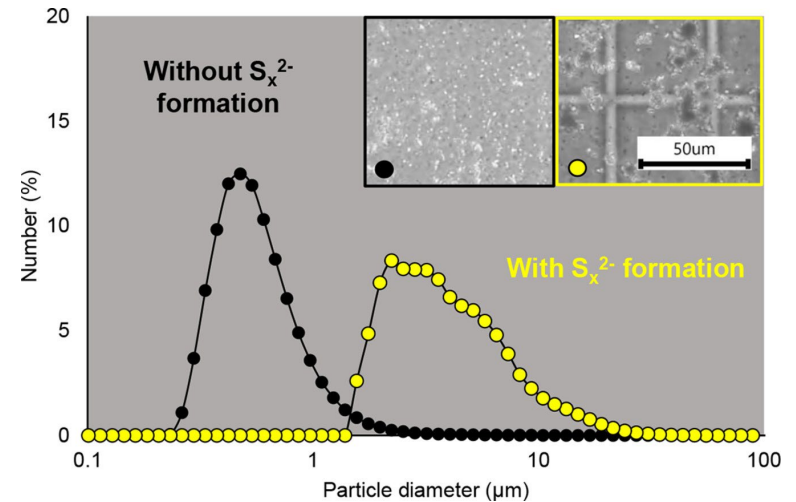
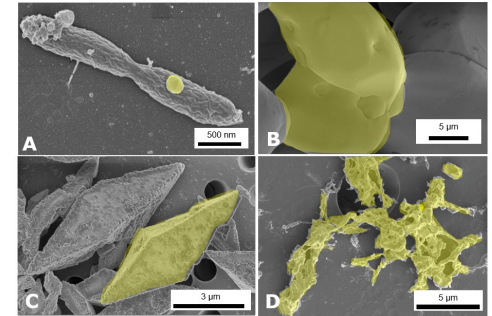
minerals (e.g. N and P) and metals from waste(water) & gas

Highlights Biocrystallization group

Solid with 85% selenium from diluted stream

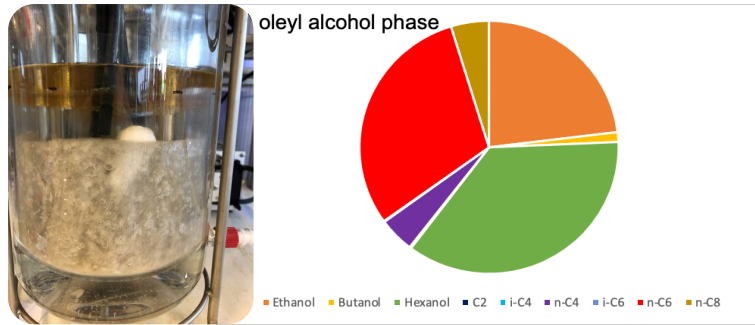


Sulfur particle size and morphology control



Highlights fermentation group

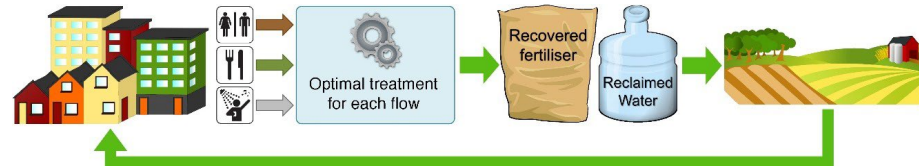
Microbial chain elongation for production of medium chain volatile fatty acids



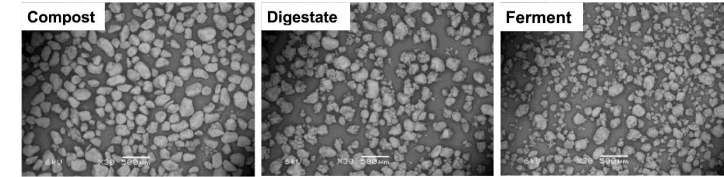
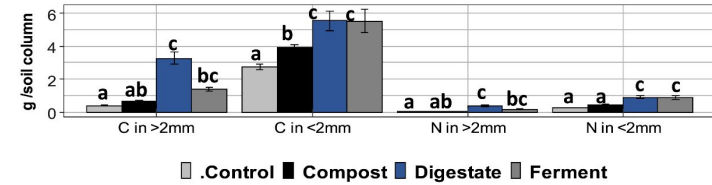
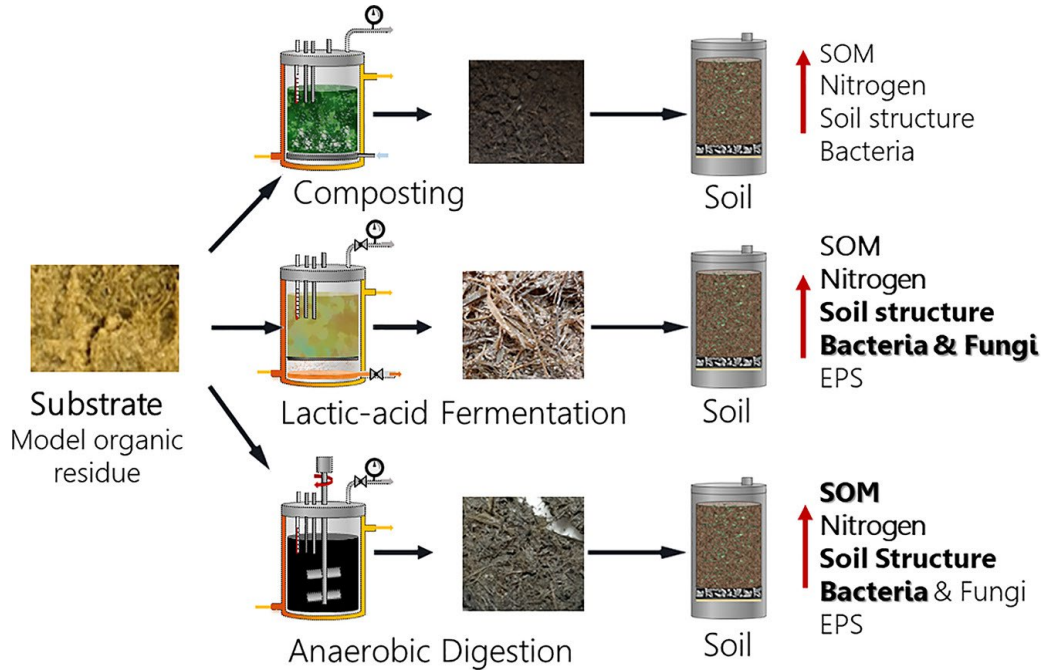
Increasing organic matter in soils with organic amendments



Source separated sanitation

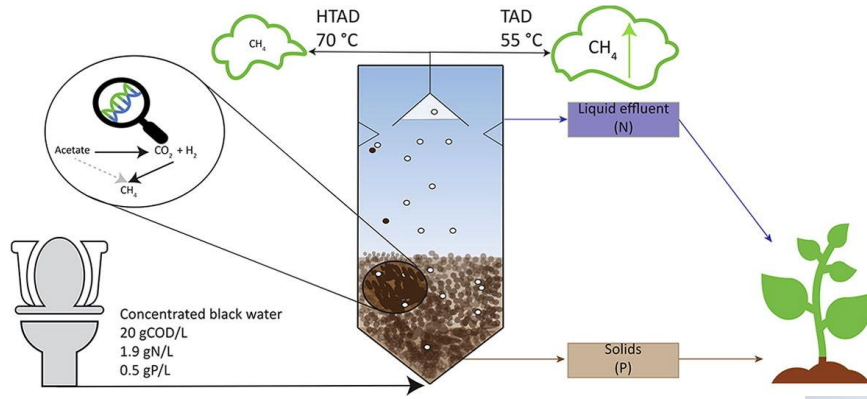


Increasing organic matter in soils

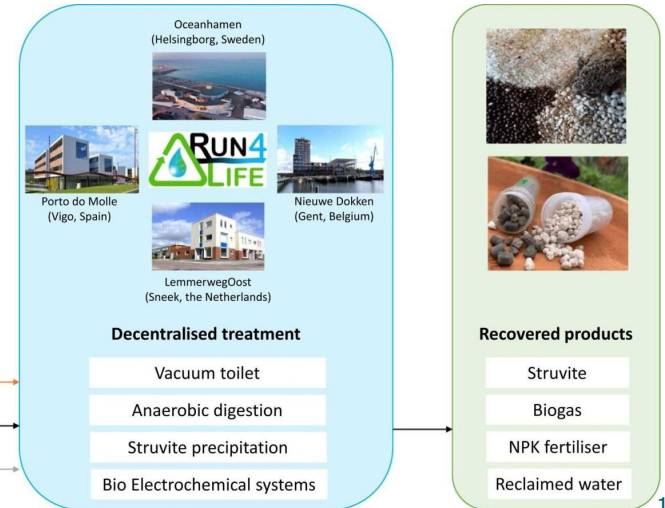


- Digestate, compost and fermented product affect bacteria:fungi ratio differently
- Digestate and fermented product addition in soil increase:
 - microbial activity.
 - EPS in soil.
 - aggregate formation.

Source separated sanitation



Moerland et al. [10.1016/j.biortech.2021.125705](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biortech.2021.125705)



Rey-Martinez et al. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clwas.2024.100139>

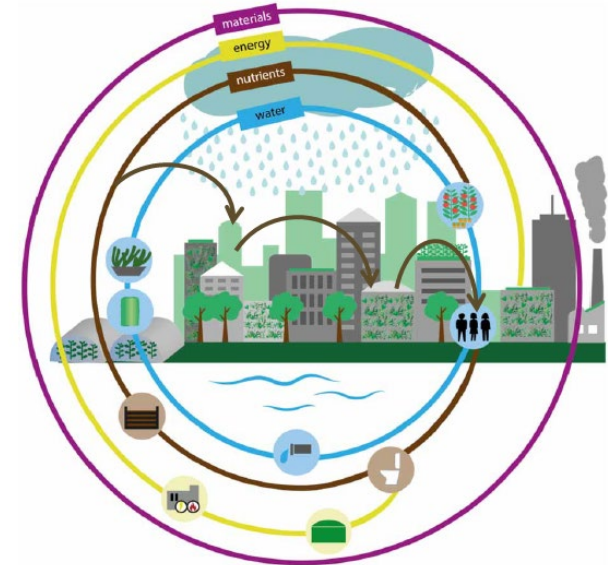
Closing nutrient and carbon cycles

Recovery of carbon (energy) and (micro) nutrients for reuse in agriculture and industry from e.g.



Methods:

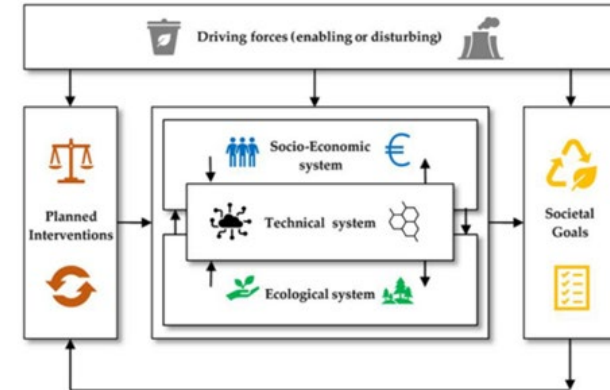
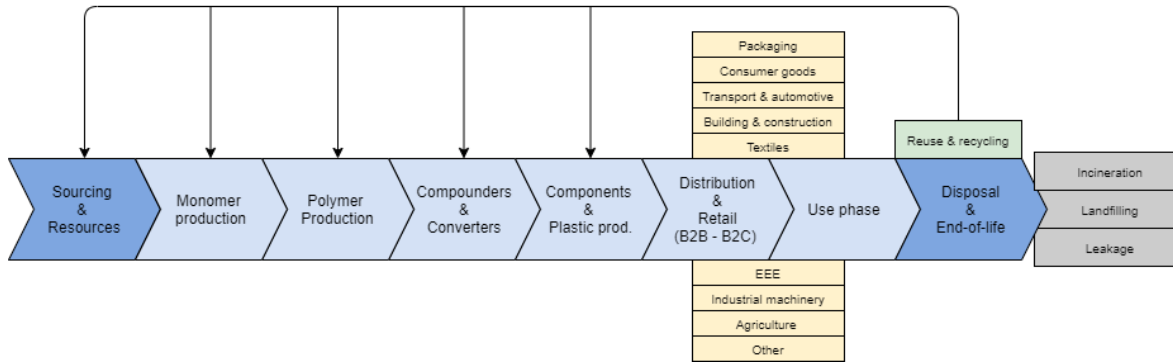
- System engineering at varying temporal and spatial scales
- Technological innovation
- Demand-supply balancing in regional Urban and Urban-Rural



Plastics recycling

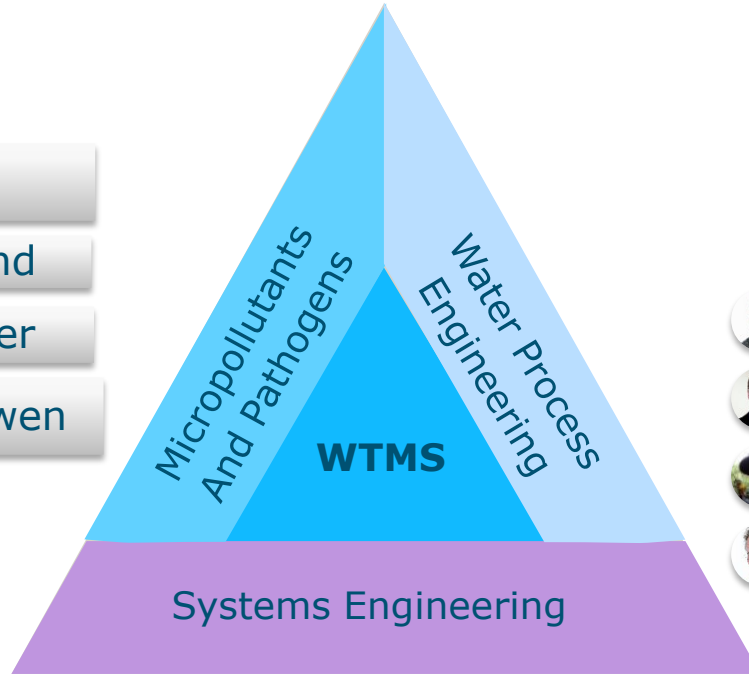
SUR-PLAS-PATH: Co-create **S**ustainable & **R**enewable **PL**astic transition **PATH**ways with stakeholders via developing and applying a novel transition design and multi-impact assessment methodology

Objective: interdisciplinary review and analysis of the **status quo** and **current circular advances** of the Dutch plastic system.



Source: Yme van Lith, 2024

Water Technology & Metropolitan Sustainability



Dr. Nora Sutton



Dr. Gabriel Sigmund



Dr. Thomas Wagner



Dr. Stefan van Leeuwen



Nora Sutton/Vacancy



Dr. Jouke Dykstra



Prof. Bert van der Wal



Dr. Dainis Sudmalis



Dr. Harry Bruning



Dr. Wei-shan Chen



Dr. Lixia Chu



Dr. Shahab Torbaghan



Dr. Hans Cappon



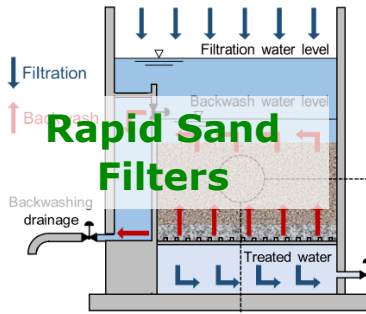
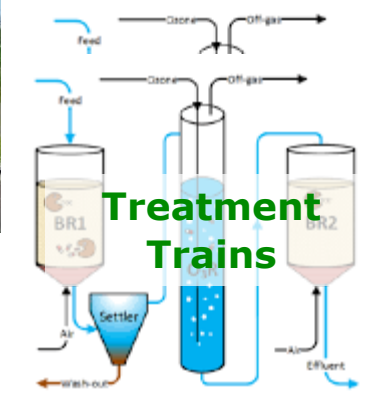
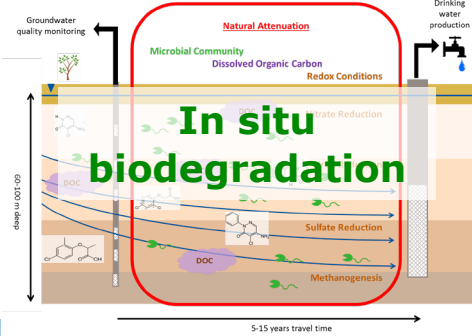
Dr. Kasia Kujawa



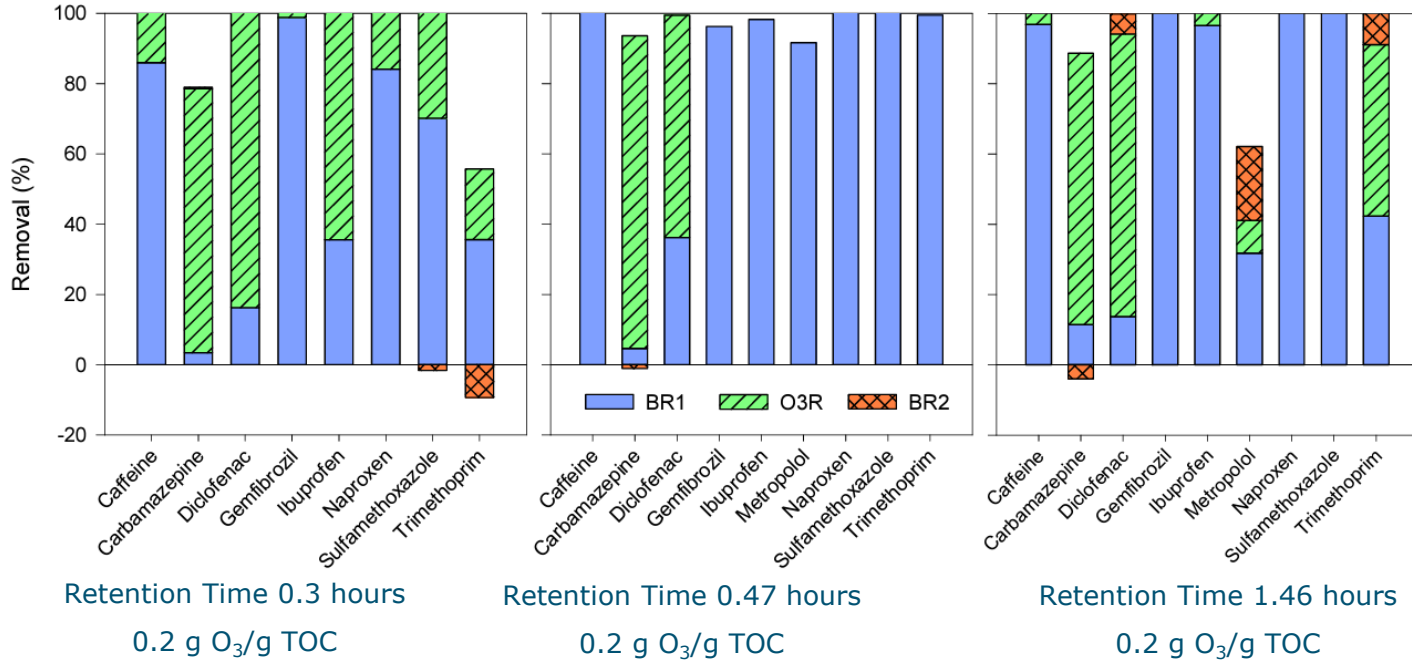
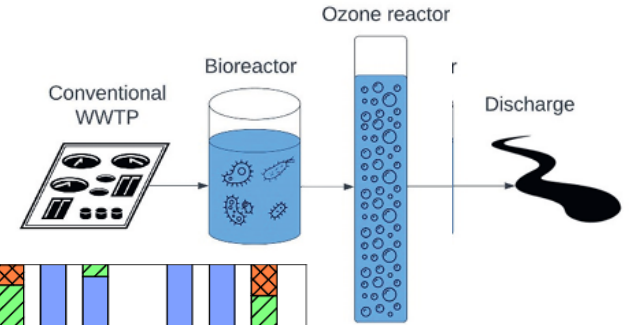
Dr. Kamon. Haldar

Micropollutant and Pathogen Research

Use a fundamental understanding of physical, chemical, and biological mechanisms of micropollutant and pathogen removal to design new treatment technologies



Research highlights



Research Highlights

Currently being
piloted for real
treatment
conditions in
The Netherlands



Water Process Engineering

Topics:

- Anaerobic sludge granulation
- Natural flocculants
- Electrodialysis for selective separations
- Electrochemical, membrane, adsorptive micropollutant removal/degradation (PFAS)

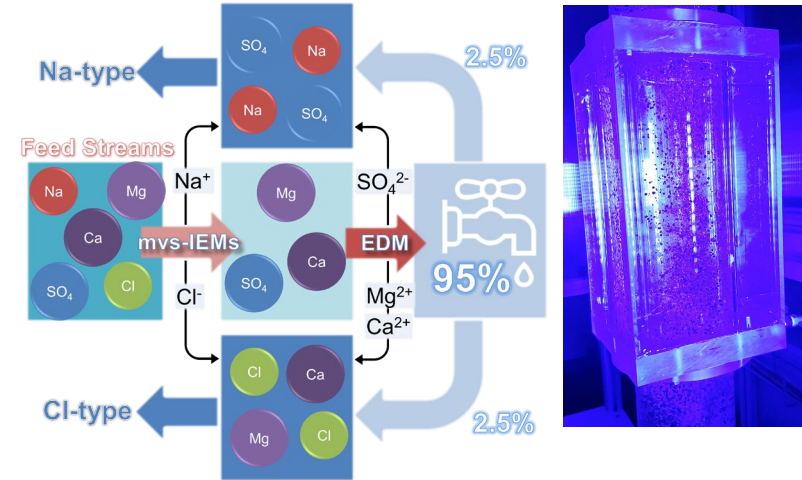
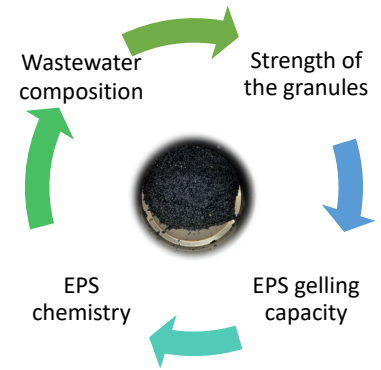
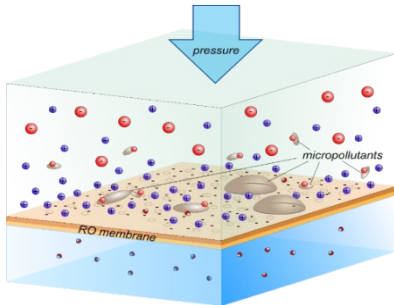


Fig 2. High-recovery and chemical-free EDM configurations: NaCl in the feed streams is used for EDM ionic rearrangement; only source water and electricity as the input.



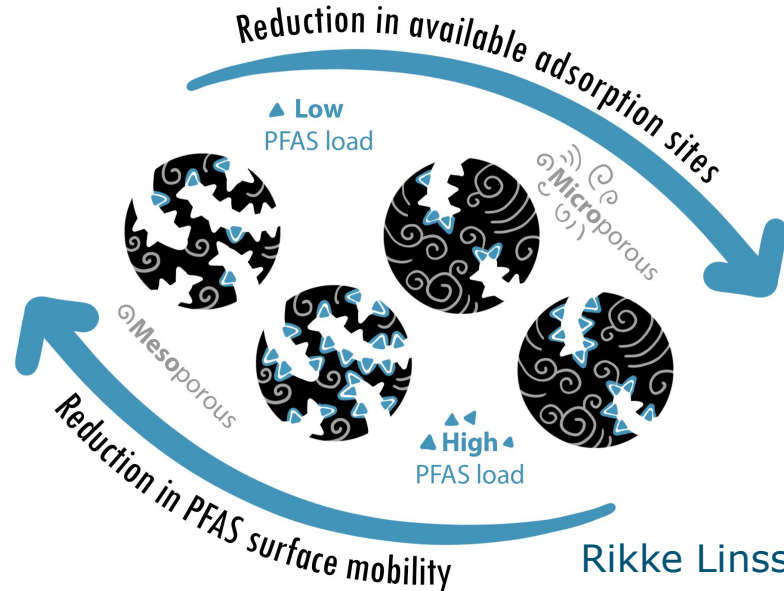
Research Highlights



Why is the adsorption of PFAS low?

Very slow surface diffusion inside activated carbon granules

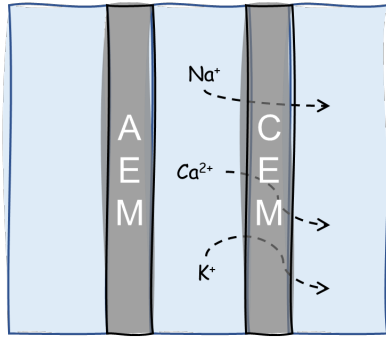
Very low adsorption capacity at low concentrations



Rikke Linssen

Research Highlights

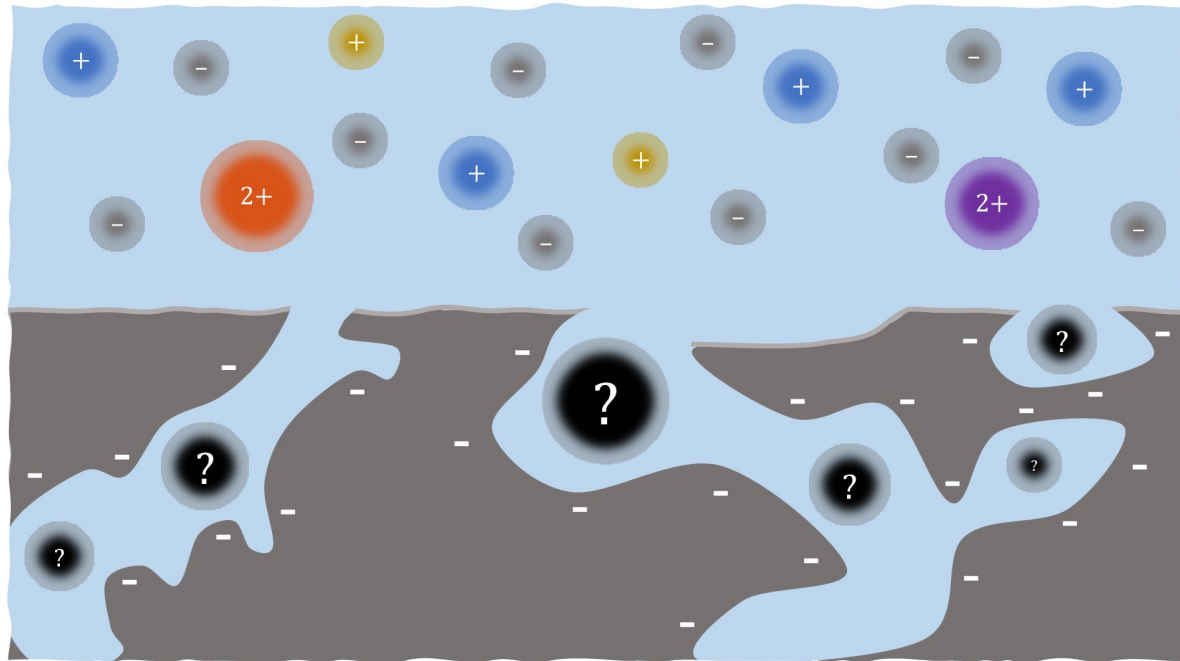
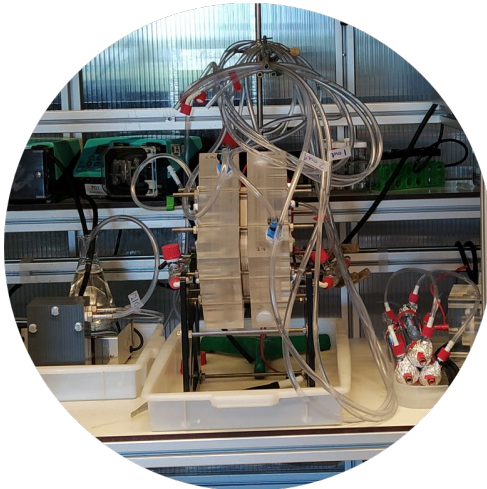
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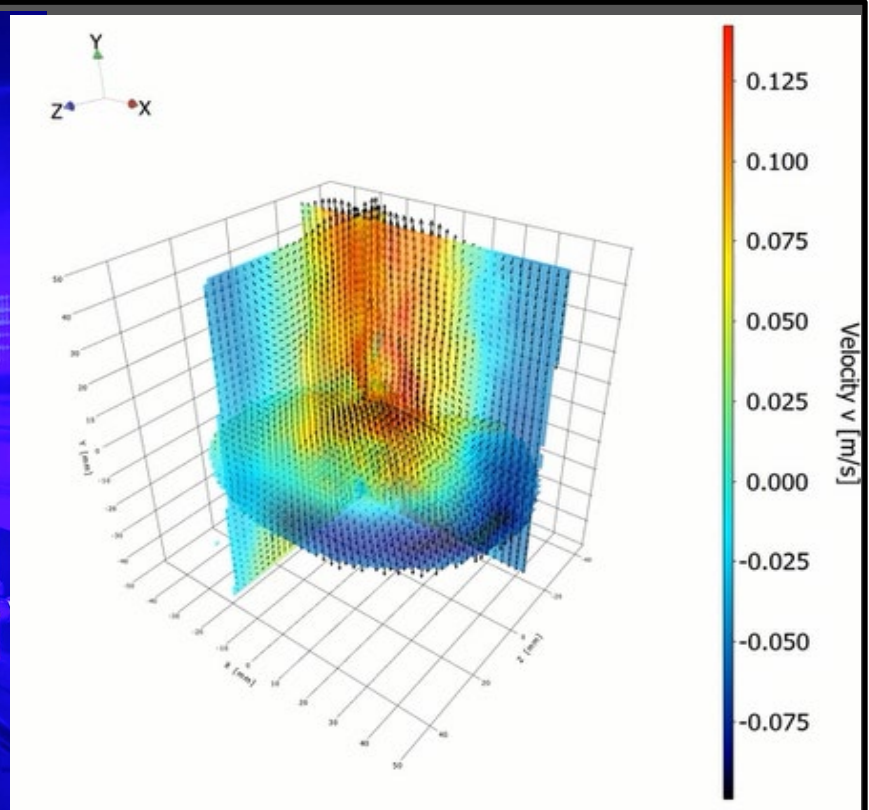
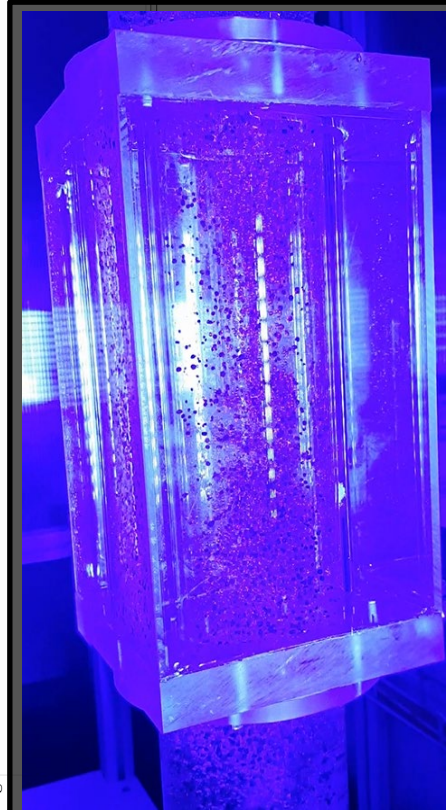
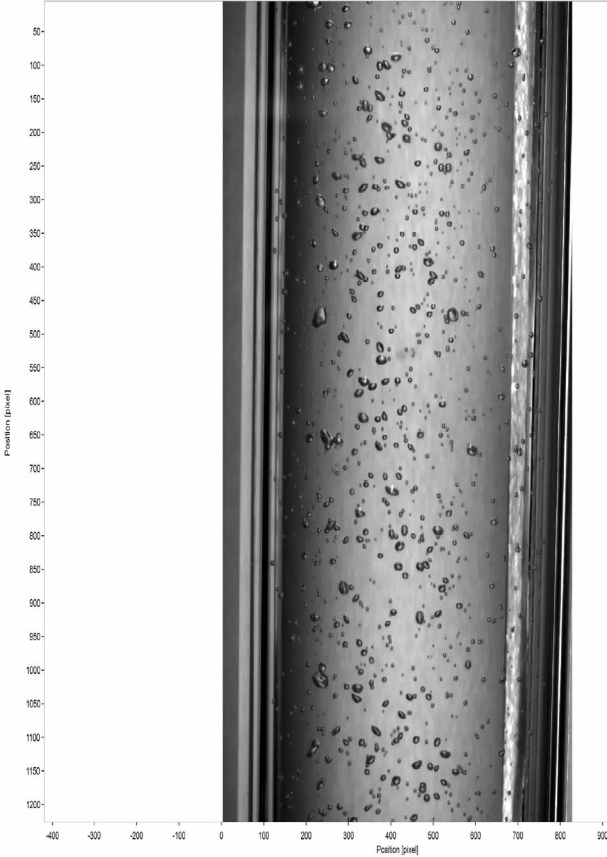
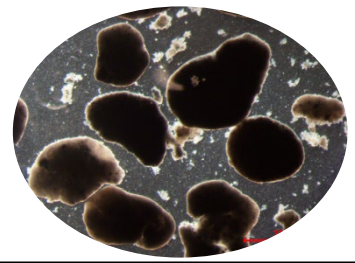
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Understanding ion transport in ion exchange membranes for selective separations

Electrodialysis:



How fluid flows shape anaerobic granules





Engineer urban water system for climate adaptation

Urban space transition via Blue-green Infra. planning using GIS (BGIS; Alida)

- ✓ How to choose BGI : Multi-objective planning via digital twin
- ✓ How to implement: Long-term adaptative & flexible planning

BGI Measures

-  Bioretention Area
-  Constructed Wetland Area
-  Grass
-  Green Roof
-  Infiltration Trench
-  Permeable Pavement
-  Rain Barrels
-  Rain Garden
-  Swale
-  Trees
-  Unsuitable Area for BGI



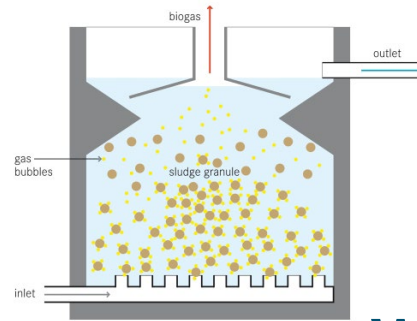
Sulfur removal from (bio)gas



Organic sulfur/
inorganic sulfates



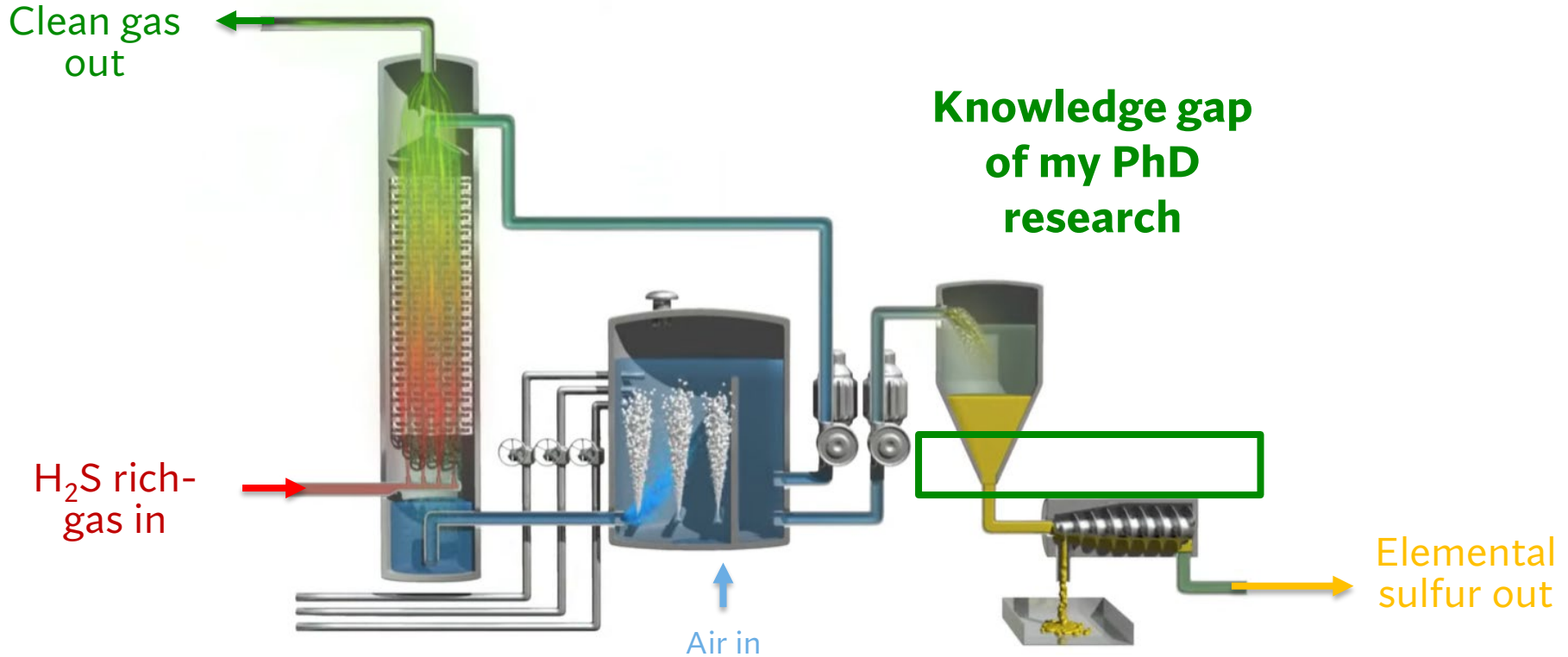
Hydrogen sulfide



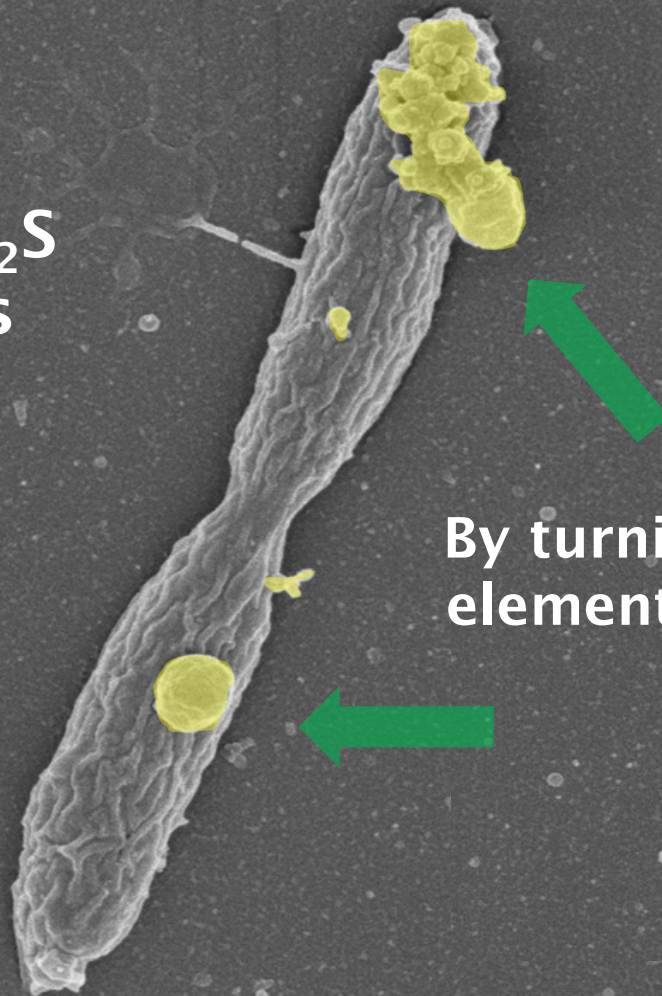
Elemental sulfur



How does biological desulfurization work?

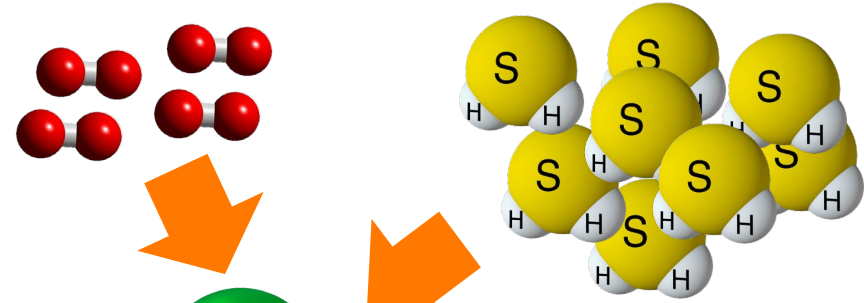


**Bacteria
remove H₂S
from gas**

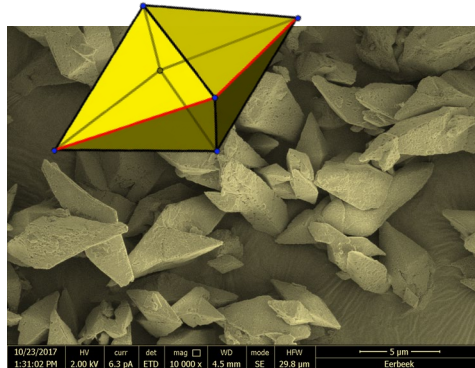
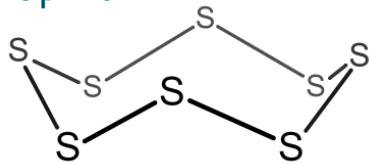


**By turning it into
elemental sulfur!**

From toxic gas to useful product

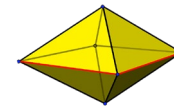


e.g. *Thiobacillus*
Chemolithoautotrophic

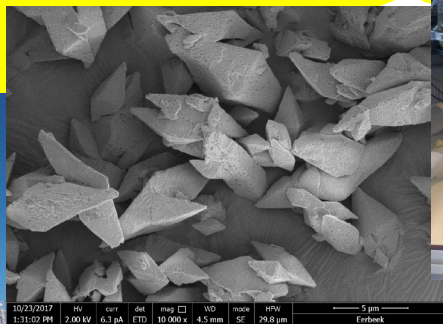


e.g. Fertilizer

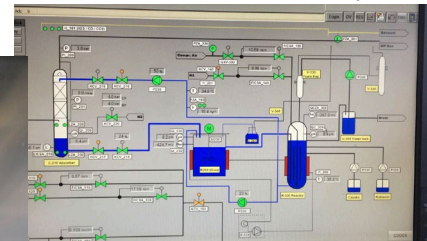
Time-line PhD project: a pyramid approach



Scale



10/23/2017	Hv	curr	det	mag	WD	mode	HW	
1:31:52 PM	2.00 kV	6.3 pA	ETD	10,000x	4.5 mm	SE	20.8 µm	
							5 µm	Forbruk



Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

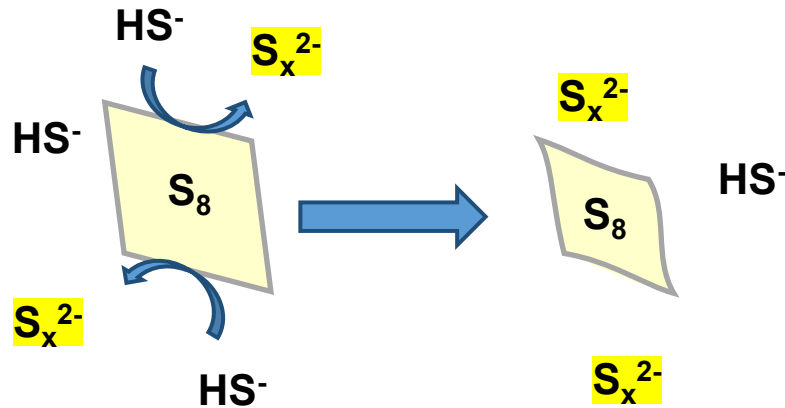
Year 4 (plus a bit...)

Time

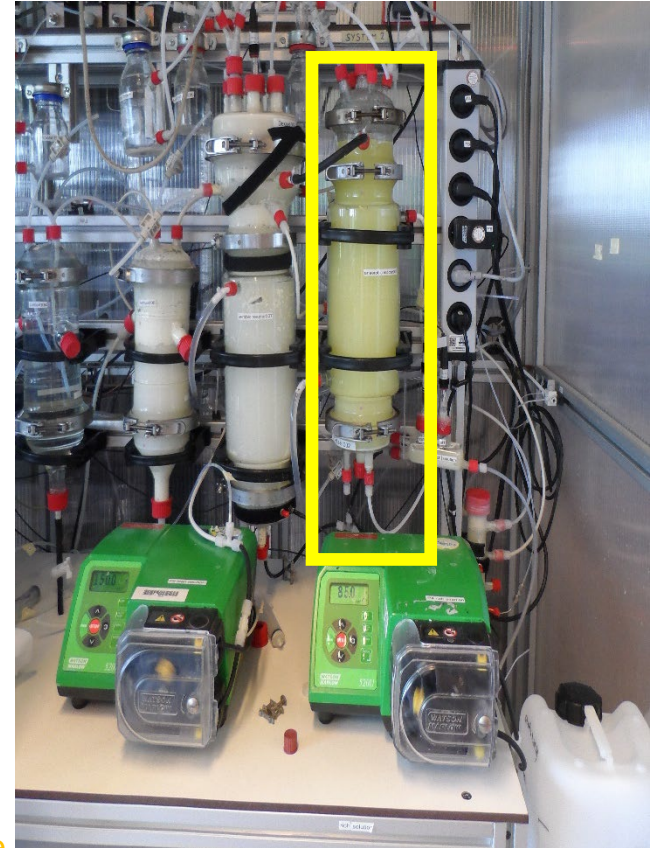
Project duration: Aug 2016 - Nov 2021

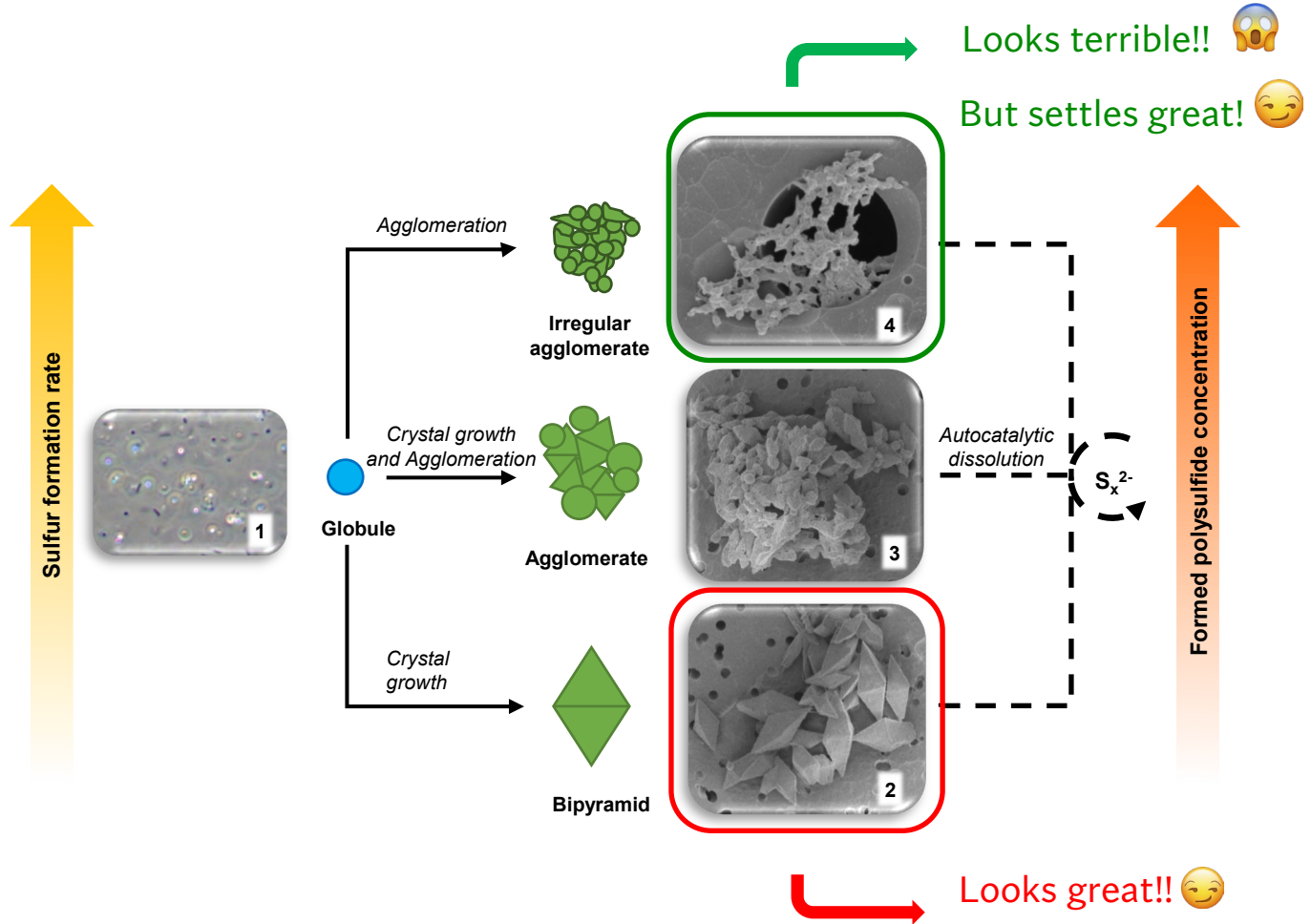
The key: polysulfide formation

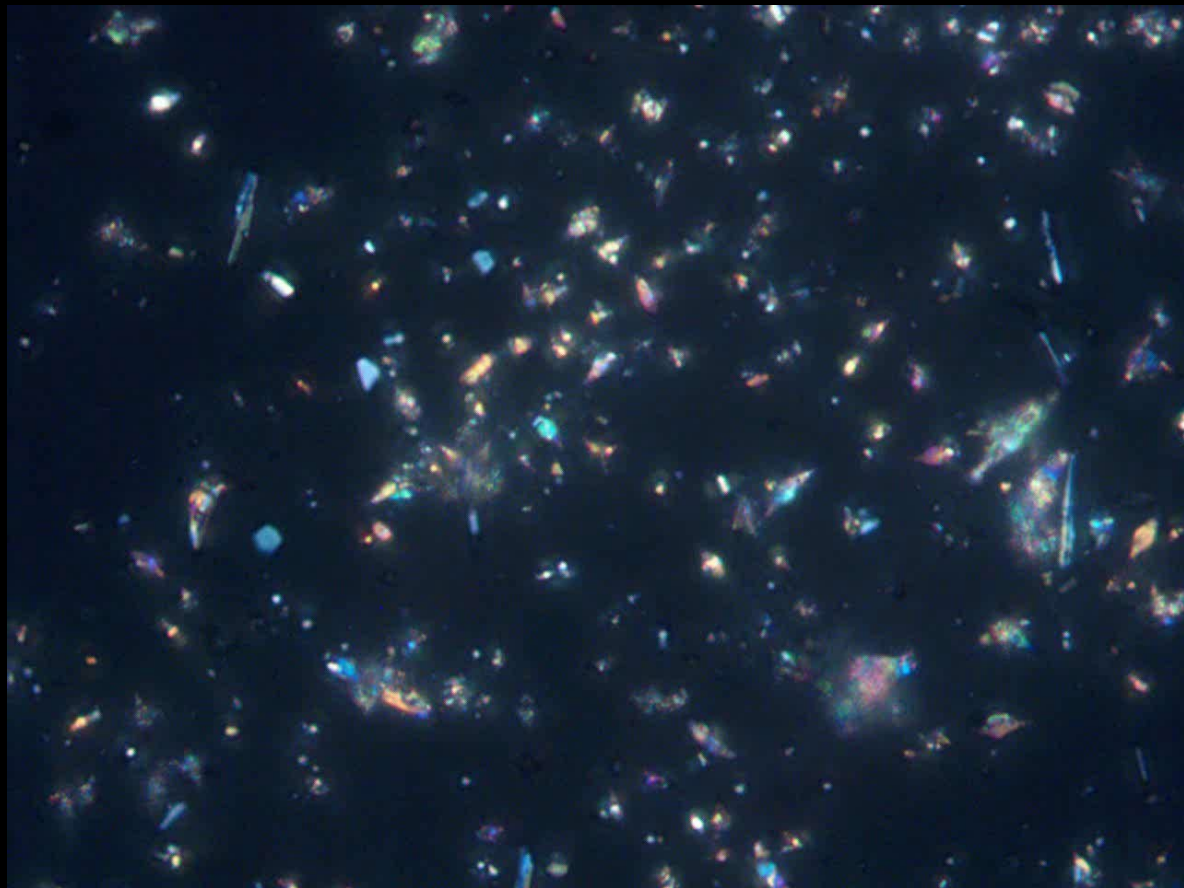
- Partially 'dissolves' sulfur particles



Soluble reactant + solid product in equilibrium with soluble intermediate







Bedankt voor uw aandacht! Zijn er vragen?

