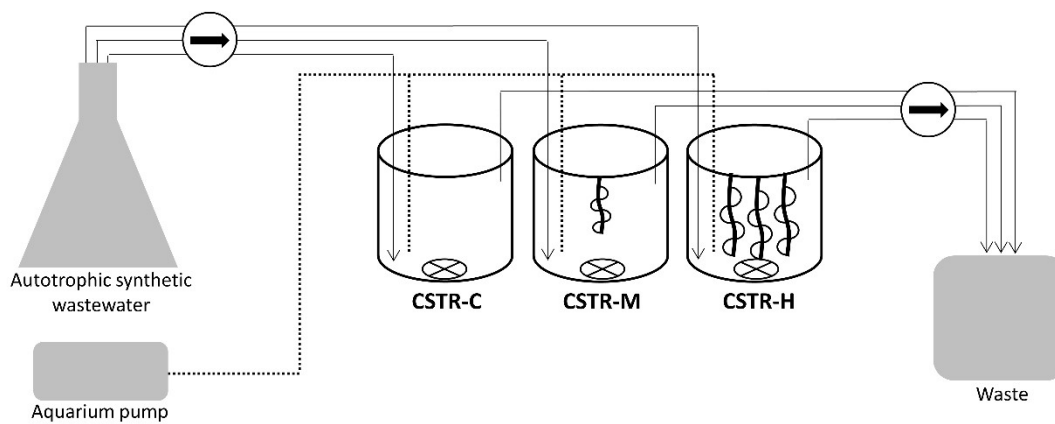
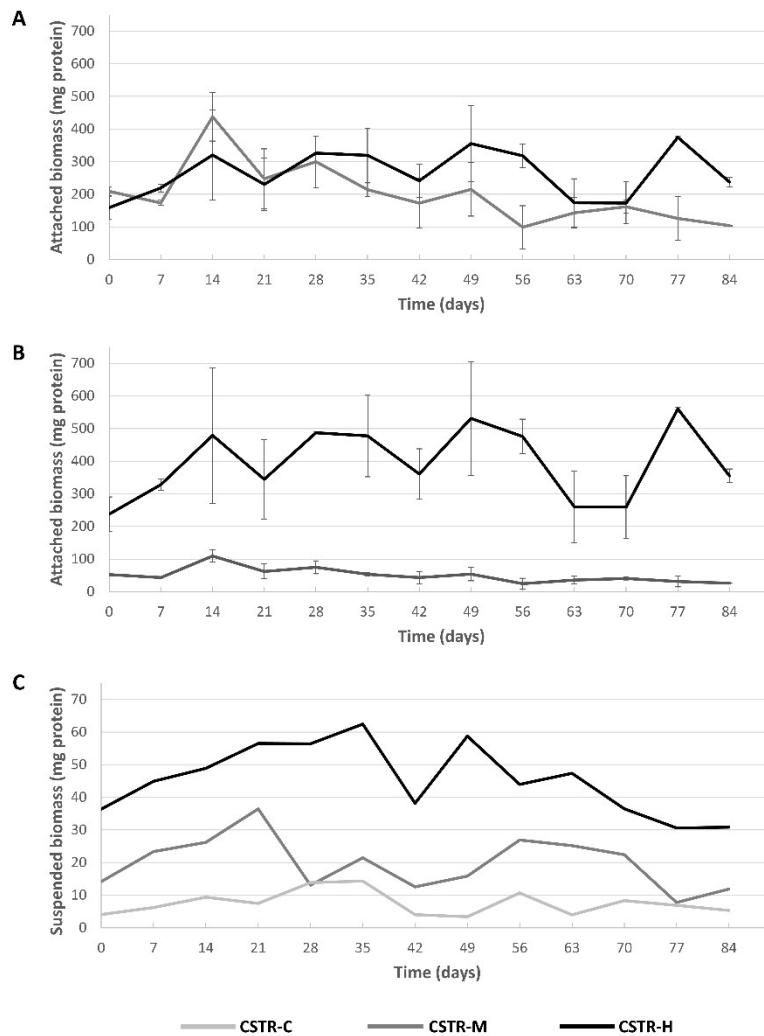


Electronic Supplementary Information



**Fig. S1:** Schematic diagram of the experimental set-up. CSTR-C contained no BioCord™ and was considered to be a control reactor, whereas CSTR-M and CSTR-H contained different lengths of BioCord™ to achieve medium and high surface area to volume ratios, respectively.



**Fig. S2:** Weekly quantification of attached and suspended biomass. **A:** Attached biomass per m<sup>2</sup> of BioCord™; **B:** Attached biomass extrapolated to total BioCord™ surface area; **C:** Suspended biomass extrapolated to bioreactor working volume. Data points in A and B represent the average and standard deviation of four BCA reactions (two reactions per sampled BioCord™ loop), while data points in C are the average of two BCA reactions performed on the bulk liquid.

