

**Supplementary information with**

**MODELLING SALINITY EFFECTS ON AEROBIC GRANULAR SLUDGE  
TREATING FISH-CANNING WASTEWATER**

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## **Appendix A. Supplementary data**

In this appendix, details of the developed one-dimensional biofilm model are given. They include the data used for the calibration and validation of the model (Appendix A.1), the biological conversion reactions, stoichiometric matrix and kinetic and stoichiometric parameters (Appendix A.2). As for salinity inhibition, a literature review of different non-competitive inhibition terms is given in Appendix A.3, also dealing with, the estimating procedure of the inhibition constants used in the model. Some model calibration results are included in Appendix A.4.

### **Appendix A.1: Model input data**

The experimental data used to calibrate and validate the model corresponds to the reactor operation described by Carrera et al. (2019) and is summarized in Table S.1.

Table S.1. Model input data used for the calibration and validation. Experimental data mentioned in the table can be found in Carrera et al. (Carrera et al., 2019).

Symbol	Definition	Calibration	Validation	Units	Reference
<b>Influent characteristics</b>					
$S_{NH_x, in}$	Influent $NH_x$ concentration	73	106	$g\ N.m^{-3}$	Exp. data
$S_{S, in}^1$	Influent soluble readily biodegradable COD	440	700	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$	Exp. data
$S_{I, in}^1$	Influent soluble inert COD	170	200	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$	Exp. data
$X_{S, in}^1$	Influent particulate slowly biodegradable COD	83	34	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$	Exp. data
$X_{I, in}^1$	Influent particulate inert COD	87	36	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$	Exp. data
<b>Granule characteristics</b>					
$\epsilon_w$	Granule porosity	0.8	0.8	-	De Kreuk et al. (2007)
$R_{SS}$	Surface mean diameter of granules at steady state	1.25	1.1	mm	Exp. data
$\rho^2$	Density of the granules	165	140	$g\ VSS.m^{-3}$	Exp. data
$\rho_{BM}$	Density of biomass	$1.13 \times 10^6$	$9.62 \times 10^5$	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$	Calculated (this study)
$\rho_{PHA}$	Density of PHA	$1 \times 10^9$	$1 \times 10^9$	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$	De Kreuk et al. (2007)
$n_g$	Number of granules	59593	89000	-	Calculated (this study)
$\epsilon_{PHA}$	Initial concentration of PHA	0	0	-	Calculated (this study)
$\epsilon_{OHO}$	Initial concentration of OHO	0.19	0.19	-	Calculated (this study)
$\epsilon_{AOB}$	Initial concentration of AOB	0.01	0.01	-	Calculated (this study)
$\epsilon_{NOB}$	Initial concentration of NOB	0	0	-	Calculated (this study)
<b>Reactor and operational conditions</b>					
$V_{reactor}$	Total reactor volume	1.7	1.7	L	Exp. data
VER	Volume exchange ratio	50	50	%	Exp. data
$t_{cycle}$	Total operation time cycle	4	4	h	Exp. data
$t_{feeding}$	Time of feeding	5	5	min	Exp. data
$t_{settling}$	Time of settling	1	1	min	Exp. data
$t_{discharge}$	Time of discharge	7	7	min	Exp. data
T	Temperature	23	23	$^{\circ}C$	Exp. data
$S_{O_2}$	Oxygen concentration	8.6	8.6	$g\ O_2.m^{-3}$	Exp. data
$VSS_{reactor}$	Sludge concentration in the reactor	5.9	3.6	$kg\ VSS.m^{-3}$	Exp. data
$\frac{ISS_{reactor}}{TSS_{reactor}}$	Ash content of the reactor	0.16	0.2	$\frac{kg\ ISS}{kg\ TSS}$	Exp. data

<sup>1</sup>The COD fractions were measured through fractionation tests following the procedure described by Cristóvão et al. (2016).

<sup>2</sup>The density of the granules was measured following the procedure described by Beun et al. (2002).

The number of granules in the reactor was calculated based on the volatile suspended solids concentration ( $X$ , in g VSS/m<sup>3</sup>) and the density of the granules ( $\rho$ , in g VSS/m<sup>3</sup>), which were both determined experimentally. Granules were assumed to be spherical particles with a uniform radius ( $R_m$ ), which was taken as the average value measured experimentally. The number of granules was calculated as the ratio between the total volume of granules ( $V_X$ , in m<sup>3</sup>) and the volume of a single granule (Eq. 1):

$$n_g = \frac{V_X}{\frac{4}{3}\pi R_m^3} \quad (\text{Eq.1})$$

in which

$$V_X = \frac{V_R X}{\rho} \quad (\text{Eq.2})$$

Where  $V_R$  is the volume of the reactor (m<sup>3</sup>) and  $\rho$  is the density of the granules (g VSS/m<sup>3</sup>), determined experimentally.

The density of the biomass, expressed in terms of COD ( $\rho_{BM}$ ), was calculated following Eq.3.

$$\rho_{BM} = \rho \left( 1 - \frac{ISS_R}{TSS_R} \right) 1.3659 \left( \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon_w} \right) \quad (\text{Eq.3})$$

Where  $\rho$  is the density of the granules (g TSS/m<sup>3</sup>, determined experimentally), ISS are the inert suspended solids and TSS the total suspended solids of the reactor, 1.3659 is the ratio COD/VSS of the biomass (g COD/g VSS, Henze et al. (2008)) and  $\epsilon_w$  is the porosity of the granules, which was estimated as 0.8 (De Kreuk et al., 2007).

## Appendix A.2: model description

In this appendix, a list of the state variables (Table S.2), the stoichiometric matrix (Table S.3), kinetic rate expressions (Table S.4) and stoichiometric and kinetic parameters (Table S.5) are provided.

Table S.2. State variables used in the model

Symbol	Definition	Units
$S_{O_2}$	Dissolved oxygen	$g\ O_2.m^{-3}$
$S_I$	Soluble inert COD	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$
$S_S$	Soluble easily biodegradable COD	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$
$S_{COD}^1$	Soluble COD ( $S_I+S_S$ )	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$
$S_{NH}$	Ammonium and ammonia	$g\ N.m^{-3}$
$S_{NO_2}$	Nitrite	$g\ N.m^{-3}$
$S_{NO_3}$	Nitrate	$g\ N.m^{-3}$
$X_I$	Particulate inert COD	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$
$X_S$	Particulate slowly biodegradable COD	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$
$X_H$	Heterotrophic organisms	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$
$X_{STO}$	Storage compounds	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$
$X_A$	Ammonia oxidizing bacteria	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$
$X_N$	Nitrite oxidizing bacteria	$g\ COD.m^{-3}$

<sup>1</sup>This state variable is not shown in the stoichiometric matrix as it was directly calculated as the sum of  $S_I$  and  $S_S$  and it was only used to compare the results of the model with experimental data.

Table S.3. Stoichiometric matrix. The highlighted processes correspond to the modifications applied to ASM3: in **blue** heterotrophic growth based on easily biodegradable COD (added to the model to describe simultaneous growth-storage), in **green** two-step nitrification.

		S <sub>O2</sub>	S <sub>I</sub>	S <sub>S</sub>	S <sub>NH</sub>	S <sub>NO2</sub>	S <sub>NO3</sub>	X <sub>I</sub>	X <sub>S</sub>	X <sub>H</sub>	X <sub>STO</sub>	X <sub>A</sub>	X <sub>N</sub>
<b>Heterotrophic Bacteria</b>													
1	Aerobic hydrolysis		f <sub>SI</sub>	1-f <sub>SI</sub>	$\frac{-i_{NSS} \cdot (1-f_{SI}) - (f_{SI} \cdot i_{NSI}) + i_{NXS}}{(f_{SI} \cdot i_{NSI}) + i_{NXS}}$				-1				
2	Aerobic storage of S <sub>s</sub>	-(1/Y <sub>STO</sub> -1)		-1/Y <sub>STO</sub>							1		
3	Anoxic storage of S <sub>s</sub> - NO <sub>2</sub>			-1/Y <sub>STO</sub>		-(1/Y <sub>STO</sub> -1)/1.71					1		
4	Anoxic storage of S <sub>s</sub> - NO <sub>3</sub>			-1/Y <sub>STO</sub>			-(1/Y <sub>STO</sub> -1)/2.86				1		
5	Aerobic growth - S <sub>s</sub>	-(1/Y <sub>H</sub> -1)		-1/Y <sub>H</sub>	-i <sub>NXB</sub>					1			
6	Anoxic growth - NO <sub>2</sub>			-1/Y <sub>H</sub>	-i <sub>NXB</sub>	-(1/Y <sub>H</sub> -1)/1.71				1			
7	Anoxic growth - NO <sub>3</sub>			-1/Y <sub>H</sub>	-i <sub>NXB</sub>		-(1/Y <sub>H</sub> -1)/2.86			1			
8	Aerobic growth - X <sub>STO</sub>	-(1/Y <sub>HSTO</sub> -1)			-i <sub>NXB</sub>					1	-1/Y <sub>HSTO</sub>		
9	Anoxic growth - NO <sub>2</sub>				-i <sub>NXB</sub>	-(1/Y <sub>HSTO</sub> -1)/1.71				1	-1/Y <sub>HSTO</sub>		
10	Anoxic growth - NO <sub>3</sub>				-i <sub>NXB</sub>		-(1/Y <sub>HSTO</sub> -1)/2.86			1	-1/Y <sub>HSTO</sub>		
11	Aerobic respiration - S <sub>s</sub>	-(1-f <sub>x</sub> )			i <sub>NXB</sub> -i <sub>XI</sub> ·f <sub>x</sub>			f <sub>x</sub>		-1			
12	Anoxic endogenous respiration - NO <sub>2</sub>				i <sub>NXB</sub> -i <sub>XI</sub> ·f <sub>x</sub>	-(1-f <sub>x</sub> )/1.71		f <sub>x</sub>		-1			
13	Anoxic endogenous respiration - NO <sub>3</sub>				i <sub>NXB</sub> -i <sub>XI</sub> ·f <sub>x</sub>		-(1-f <sub>x</sub> )/2.86	f <sub>x</sub>		-1			
14	Aerobic respiration - X <sub>STO</sub>	-1									-1		
15	Anoxic respiration of X <sub>STO</sub> - NO <sub>2</sub>					-1/1.71					-1		
16	Anoxic respiration of X <sub>STO</sub> - NO <sub>3</sub>						-1/2.86				-1		

<b>Ammonia Oxidising Bacteria</b>												
17	Aerobic growth	$-(3.43-Y_A)/Y_A$			$-i_{XB}-1/Y_A$	$1/Y_A$						1
18	Aerobic endogenous respiration	$-(1-f_X)$			$i_{NXB}-i_{XI} \cdot f_X$			$f_X$				-1
19	Anoxic endogenous respiration - NO <sub>2</sub>				$i_{NXB}-i_{XI} \cdot f_X$	$-(1-f_X)/1.71$		$f_X$				-1
20	Anoxic endogenous respiration - NO <sub>3</sub>				$i_{NXB}-i_{XI} \cdot f_X$		$-(1-f_X)/2.86$	$f_X$				-1
<b>Nitrite Oxidising Bacteria</b>												
21	Aerobic growth	$-(1.14-Y_N)/Y_N$			$-i_{XB}$	$-1/Y_N$	$1/Y_N$					1
22	Aerobic endogenous respiration	$-(1-f_X)$			$i_{NXB}-i_{XI} \cdot f_X$			$f_X$				-1
23	Anoxic endogenous respiration - NO <sub>2</sub>				$i_{NXB}-i_{XI} \cdot f_X$	$-(1-f_X)/1.71$		$f_X$				-1
24	Anoxic endogenous respiration - NO <sub>3</sub>				$i_{NXB}-i_{XI} \cdot f_X$		$-(1-f_X)/2.86$	$f_X$				-1

Table S.4. Kinetic rate expressions for the bioconversion reactions

1	Hydrolysis	$k_h \left( \frac{X_S/X_{BH}}{K_X + (X_S/X_{BH})} \right) X_H$
<b>Heterotrophic bacteria</b>		
2	Aerobic storage of $X_{STO}$	$k_{STO} \left( \frac{S_S}{K_{SH} + S_S} \right) \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) X_H$
3	Anoxic storage of $X_{STO}$ ( $NO_2$ )	$k_{STO} \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_S}{K_{SH} + S_S} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NO_2H} + S_{NO_2}} \right) X_H$
4	Anoxic storage of $X_{STO}$ ( $NO_3$ )	$k_{STO} \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_S}{K_{SH} + S_S} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_3H} + S_{NO_3}} \right) X_H$
5	Aerobic growth on $S_S$	$\mu_H \left( \frac{K_{Inh,H}}{S_{Inh} + K_{Inh,H}} \right) \left( \frac{S_S}{K_{SH} + S_S} \right) \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NHH} + S_{NH}} \right) X_H$
6	Anoxic growth on $S_S$ $NO_2$	$\mu_H \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{Inh,H}}{S_{Inh} + K_{Inh,H}} \right) \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_S}{K_{SH} + S_S} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NO_2H} + S_{NO_2}} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NHH} + S_{NH}} \right) X_H$
7	Anoxic growth on $S_S$ $NO_3$	$\mu_H \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{Inh,H}}{S_{Inh} + K_{Inh,H}} \right) \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_S}{K_{SH} + S_S} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_3H} + S_{NO_3}} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NHH} + S_{NH}} \right) X_H$
8	Aerobic growth on $X_{STO}$	$\mu_H \left( \frac{K_{Inh,H}}{S_{Inh} + K_{Inh,H}} \right) \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NHH} + S_{NH}} \right) \left( \frac{X_{STO}/X_{BH}}{K_{STO} + (X_{STO}/X_{BH})} \right) X_H$
9	Anoxic growth on $X_{STO}$ ( $NO_2$ )	$\mu_H \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{Inh,H}}{S_{Inh} + K_{Inh,H}} \right) \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NO_2} + S_{NO_2}} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NHH} + S_{NH}} \right) \left( \frac{X_{STO}/X_{BH}}{K_{STO} + (X_{STO}/X_{BH})} \right) X_H$
10	Anoxic growth on $X_{STO}$ ( $NO_3$ )	$\mu_H \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{Inh,H}}{S_{Inh} + K_{Inh,H}} \right) \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_3} + S_{NO_3}} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NHH} + S_{NH}} \right) \left( \frac{X_{STO}/X_{BH}}{K_{STO} + (X_{STO}/X_{BH})} \right) X_H$
11	Aerobic endogenous respiration	$b_H \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) X_H$
12	Anoxic endogenous respiration ( $NO_2$ )	$b_H \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NO_2N} + S_{NO_2}} \right) X_H$
13	Anoxic endogenous respiration ( $NO_3$ )	$b_H \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_3N} + S_{NO_3}} \right) X_H$
14	Aerobic endogenous respiration of $X_{STO}$	$b_{STO} \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) X_{STO}$
15	Anoxic endogenous respiration $X_{STO}$ ( $NO_2$ )	$b_{STO} \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NO_2N} + S_{NO_2}} \right) X_{STO}$
16	Anoxic endogenous respiration $X_{STO}$ ( $NO_3$ )	$b_{STO} \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{OH}}{K_{OH} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_3N} + S_{NO_3}} \right) X_{STO}$
<b>Ammonia oxidizing bacteria (AOB)</b>		



17	Aerobic growth AOB	$\mu_A \left( \frac{K_{Inh,A}}{S_{Inh} + K_{Inh,A}} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NHA} + S_{NH}} \right) \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{OA} + S_O} \right) X_A$
18	Aerobic endogenous respiration	$b_A \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{OA} + S_O} \right) X_A$
19	Anoxic endogenous respiration (NO <sub>2</sub> )	$b_A \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{OA}}{K_{OA} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NO_2A} + S_{NO_2}} \right) X_A$
20	Anoxic endogenous respiration (NO <sub>3</sub> )	$b_A \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{OA}}{K_{OA} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_2A} + S_{NO_3}} \right) X_A$
<b>Nitrite oxidizing bacteria (NOB)</b>		
21	Aerobic growth NOB	$\mu_N \left( \frac{K_{Inh,N}}{S_{Inh} + K_{Inh,N}} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NO_2N} + S_{NO_2}} \right) \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{ON} + S_O} \right) X_N$
22	Aerobic endogenous respiration	$b_N \left( \frac{S_O}{K_{ON} + S_O} \right) X_N$
23	Anoxic endogenous respiration (NO <sub>2</sub> )	$b_N \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{ON}}{K_{ON} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NO_2N} + S_{NO_2}} \right) X_N$
24	Anoxic endogenous respiration (NO <sub>3</sub> )	$b_N \eta_g \left( \frac{K_{ON}}{K_{ON} + S_O} \right) \left( \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{NO_3N} + S_{NO_3}} \right) X_N$

Table S.5. Kinetic and stoichiometric parameters

<b>Stoichiometric parameters</b>				
<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Reference</b>
$Y_A$	AOB yield	0.18	kg COD·kg COD	Vázquez-Padín et al. (2010)
$Y_N$	NOB yield	0.08	kg COD·kg COD	Vázquez-Padín et al. (2010)
$Y_{STO}$	Yield for storage substrate	0.8	kg COD·kg COD	Vázquez-Padín et al. (2010)
$Y_{HSTO}$	Heterotrophic yield from $X_{STO}$	0.68	kg COD·kg COD	Vázquez-Padín et al. (2010)
$Y_H$	Heterotrophic yield	0.57	kg COD·kg COD	Vázquez-Padín et al. (2010)
$f_{SI}$	Production of $S_I$ in hydrolysis	0	kg COD·kg COD	Henze et al. (2000)
$i_{NXB}$	Mass of N per mass of COD in biomass	0.07	g N·(g COD) <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$i_{NSS}$	N content of $S_S$	0.03	g N·(g COD) <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$i_{NSI}$	N content of $S_I$	0.01	g N·(g COD) <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$i_{NXI}$	N content of $X_I$	0.02	g N·(g COD) <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$i_{NXS}$	N content of $X_S$	0.04	g N·(g COD) <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
<b>Kinetic parameters</b>				
<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Reference</b>
$\mu_H^*$	Maximum specific growth rate for heterotrophs	2.46	d <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$\mu_A^*$	Maximum specific growth rate for AOB	1.10	d <sup>-1</sup>	Wiesmann (1994)
$\mu_N^*$	Maximum specific growth rate for NOB	1.28	d <sup>-1</sup>	Wiesmann (1994)
$\mu_H$	Maximum specific growth rate for heterotrophs	<b>7.76</b>	d <sup>-1</sup>	Calibrated - this study
$\mu_A$	Maximum specific growth rate for AOB	<b>0.27</b>	d <sup>-1</sup>	Calibrated – this study
$\mu_N$	Maximum specific growth rate for NOB	<b>0.16</b>	d <sup>-1</sup>	Calibrated – this study
$b_H$	Decay coefficient for heterotrophs	0.25	d <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$b_A$	Decay coefficient for AOB	0.074	d <sup>-1</sup>	Wiesmann (1994)
$b_N$	Decay coefficient for NOB	0.074	d <sup>-1</sup>	Wiesmann (1994)
$b_{STO}$	Aerobic respiration rate of $X_{STO}$	0.25	d <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$K_{OH}$	Oxygen half-saturation coefficient for heterotrophs	0.2	g O <sub>2</sub> ·m <sup>-3</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$K_{OA}$	Oxygen half-saturation coefficient for AOB	0.3	g O <sub>2</sub> ·m <sup>-3</sup>	Wiesmann (1994)
$K_{ON}$	Oxygen half-saturation coefficient for NOB	1.1	g O <sub>2</sub> ·m <sup>-3</sup>	Wiesmann (1994)
$K_S$	Org. Mat. Half-saturation coefficient for heterotrophs	2	g COD·m <sup>-3</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$K_{STO}$	$X_{STO}$ half-saturation coefficient for heterotrophs	1	g COD <sub>STO</sub> ·(g COD <sub>XH</sub> ) <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$K_{NO2}$	NO <sub>2</sub> half-saturation coefficient for denitrifying heterotrophs	0.5	g NO <sub>2</sub> -N·m <sup>-3</sup>	Vázquez-Padín et al. (2010)
$K_{NO3}$	NO <sub>3</sub> half-saturation coefficient for denitrifying heterotrophs	0.5	g NO <sub>3</sub> -N·m <sup>-3</sup>	Vázquez-Padín et al. (2010)
$K_{NH_A}$	Ammonia half-saturation coefficient for AOB	5.71	g NH <sub>4</sub> -N·m <sup>-3</sup>	Wiesmann (1994)
$K_{NH_{HB}}$	Ammonia half-saturation coefficient for heterotrophs	0.05	g NH <sub>4</sub> -N·m <sup>-3</sup>	Hauduc et al. (2010)
$K_{NO2N}$	NO <sub>2</sub> half-saturation coefficient for NOB	0.001	kg NO <sub>2</sub> -N·m <sup>-3</sup>	Vázquez-Padín et al. (2010)
$k_{STO}^*$	Storage rate constant	6.16	g COD <sub>Ss</sub> ·(g COD <sub>XH</sub> ) <sup>-1</sup> ·d <sup>-1</sup>	Henze et al. (2000)
$k_{STO}$	Storage rate constant	<b>8</b>	g COD <sub>Ss</sub> ·(g	Calibrated – this study

			$\text{COD}_{\text{XH}})^{-1} \cdot \text{d}^{-1}$	
$\eta_g$	Corrector factor for $\mu_H$ under anoxic conditions	0.6	-	Henze et al. (2000)
$k_h$	Maximum specific hydrolysis rate	3.69	$\text{g COD}_{\text{sd}} \cdot (\text{g COD}_{\text{cell}}/\text{day})^{-1}$	Henze et al. (2000)
$K_X$	Half-saturation coefficient for hydrolysis of slowly biodegradable substrate	1	$\text{g COD}_{\text{sd}} \cdot (\text{g COD}_{\text{cell}})^{-1}$	Henze et al. (2000)
$K_{\text{Inh,H}}$	Salinity inhibition constant for heterotrophs	44.3	$\text{g NaCl} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$	This study
$K_{\text{Inh,A}}$	Salinity inhibition constant for AOB	24.8	$\text{g NaCl} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$	This study
$K_{\text{Inh,N}}$	Salinity inhibition constant for NOB	21.7	$\text{g NaCl} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$	This study

\*Default values used as a first step during the calibration of the model.

The kinetic parameters were corrected taking into account the operation temperature, as suggested by Hauduc et al., (2010), with Eq.4.

$$k(T) = k(20^\circ\text{C}) \cdot \theta_{pow}^{T-20} \quad (\text{Eq.4})$$

Where  $k(T)$  is the kinetic parameter corrected to the working temperature,  $k(20^\circ\text{C})$  is the value of the kinetic parameter at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $T$  is the temperature ( $^\circ\text{C}$ ) and  $\theta_{pow}$  is calculated from Eq. 5:

$$\theta_{pow} = \left( \frac{k(T_1)}{k(T_2)} \right)^{1/(T_1 - T_2)} \quad (\text{Eq.5})$$

The values of  $k(T_1)$  and  $k(T_2)$  corresponded to the values of the kinetic parameters from ASM3 at 10 and  $20^\circ\text{C}$ .

### Appendix A.3: salinity inhibition

#### Overview

An overview of various non-competitive inhibition models proposed in literature is given in Table S.6.

Table S.6: Non-competitive inhibition models reported in literature.  $K_{Inh,50}$  is the 50% inhibition constant,  $K_{Inh,100}$  is the 100% inhibition constant, and  $S_{Inh}$  is the inhibitor concentration.  $K_{IL}$  (100% inhibition constant),  $m$ ,  $n$  and  $b$  are other model constants.

Inhibition term	Inhibitor	Affected bacteria	Reference
(1) $\frac{K_{Inh,50}}{K_{Inh,50} + S_{Inh}}$	Free nitrous acid	AOB	Jiménez et al. (2012) Torà et al. (2010)
	Fluoride	AOB	Carrera et al. (2003)
	Chloramphenicol	Anammox	Phanwilai et al. (2020)
	Cadmium and cooper	HB	Pai et al. (2009)
	Benzene, toluene, phenol, benzoate	Anammox	Peng et al. (2018)
(2) $1 - \frac{S_{Inh}}{K_{Inh,100}}$	Salinity	HB Yeast	Dan et al. (2003)
(3) $\frac{K_{Inh,50}}{S_{Inh}^m + K_{Inh,50}}$	Benzene, toluene, phenol, benzoate	Anammox	Peng et al. (2018)
(4) $1 - (S_{Inh}/K_{IL})^n$	Benzene, toluene, phenol, benzoate	Anammox	Peng et al. (2018)
	Aromatic substances	Anammox	Ramos et al. (2015)
(5) $1 - \frac{1}{1 + (S_{Inh}/K_{Inh,50})^b}$	Quinoline	Anammox	Chen et al. (2019)
	Nanoparticles	Anammox	Song et al. (2018)
	Copper	Denitrifying bacteria	Chen et al. (2016)

### Estimation of the inhibition constants

The figures corresponding to the reduction of the biological activity associated to the increase of the salt concentrations in biofilms non-adapted to salinity are shown in Figure S.1.

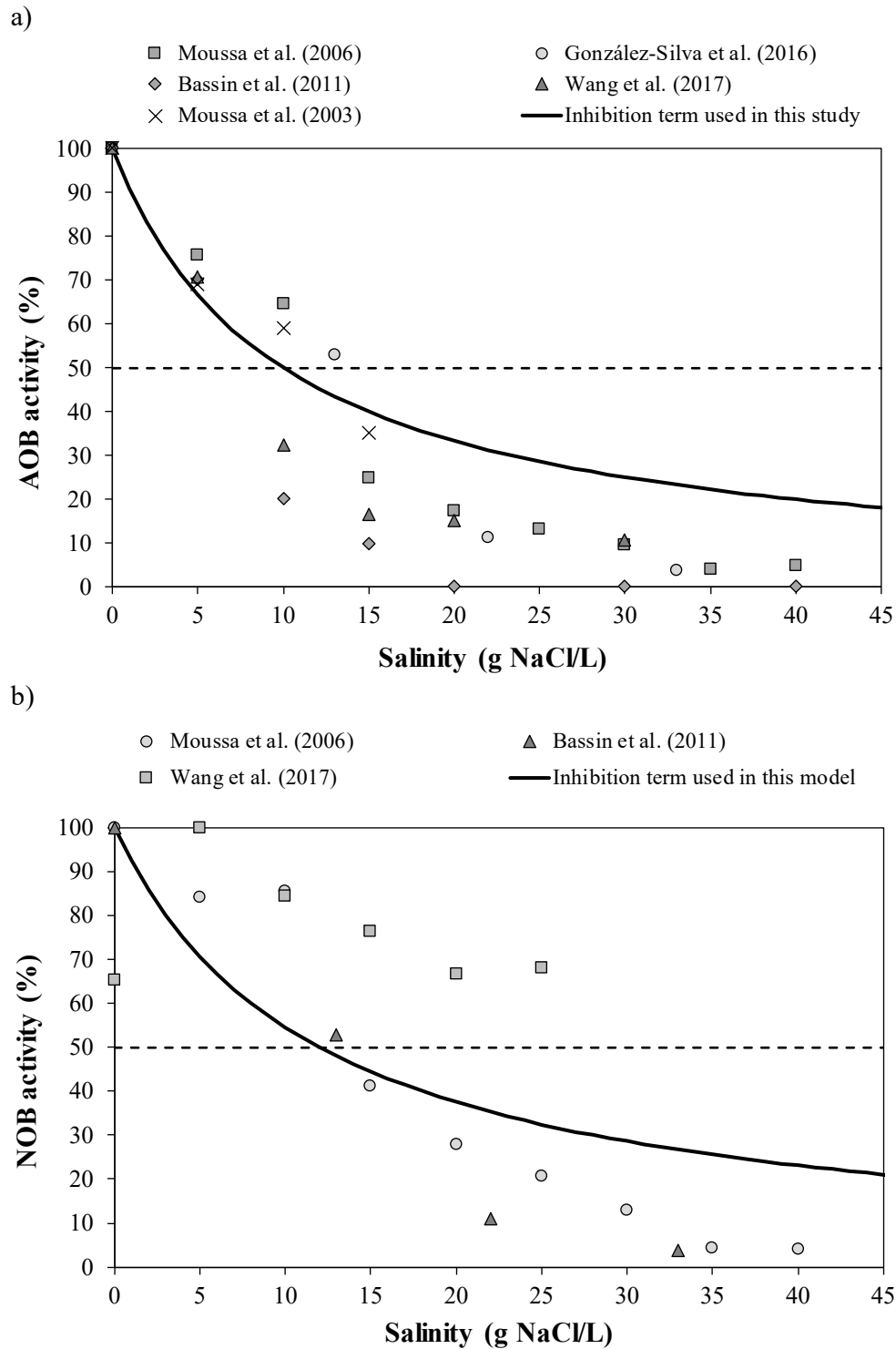


Figure S.1: (a) AOB activity with different salt concentrations of biomass non-adapted to salinity. (b) NOB activity with different salt concentrations of biomass non-adapted to salinity.

## Appendix A.4: model calibration results

### ASM1

Firstly, the results of the ASM1 calibration are shown (Figure S.2). The figure corresponds to the calibration step with a maximum growth rate of heterotrophs of  $20 \text{ d}^{-1}$ . The kinetic parameters of both AOB and NOB were not calibrated.

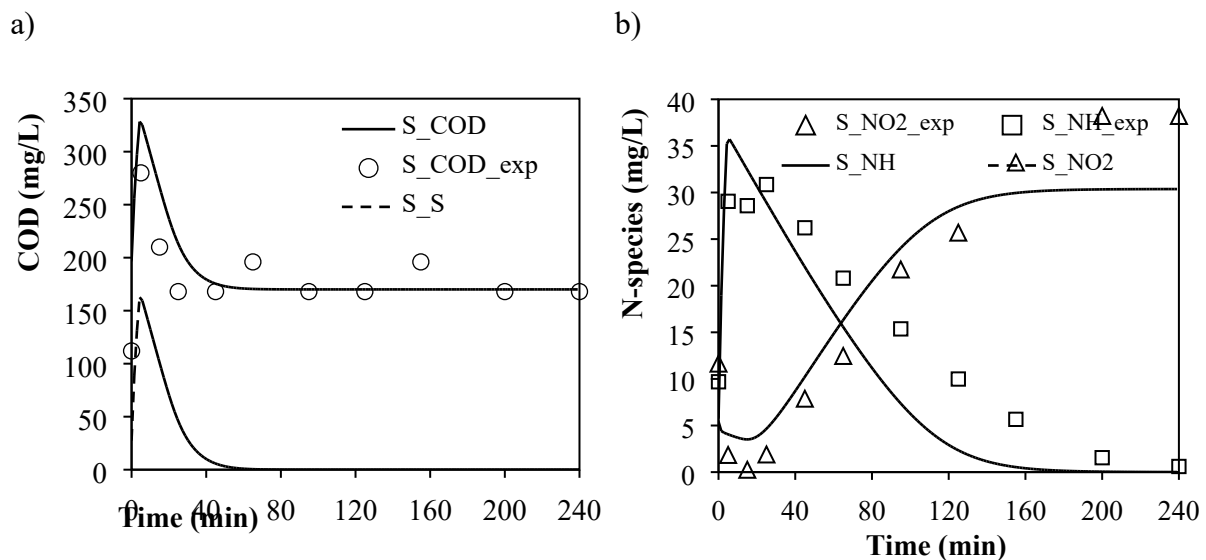


Figure S.2: (a)  $S_{\text{COD}}$  and  $S_{\text{S}}$  profiles predicted with ASM1; and  $S_{\text{COD}}$  profile from experimental data. (b)  $S_{\text{NH}}$  and  $S_{\text{NO}_2}$  profiles predicted with ASM1; and  $S_{\text{NH}}$  and  $S_{\text{NO}_2}$  profiles from experimental data. The experimental data corresponds to a reactor cycle profile measurement performed during the operational phase III.b (salinity of 13 g NaCl/L).

### ASM3

Figure S.3 shows the spatial distribution of each type of bacterial population in the granule. It corresponds to the calibrated ASM3.

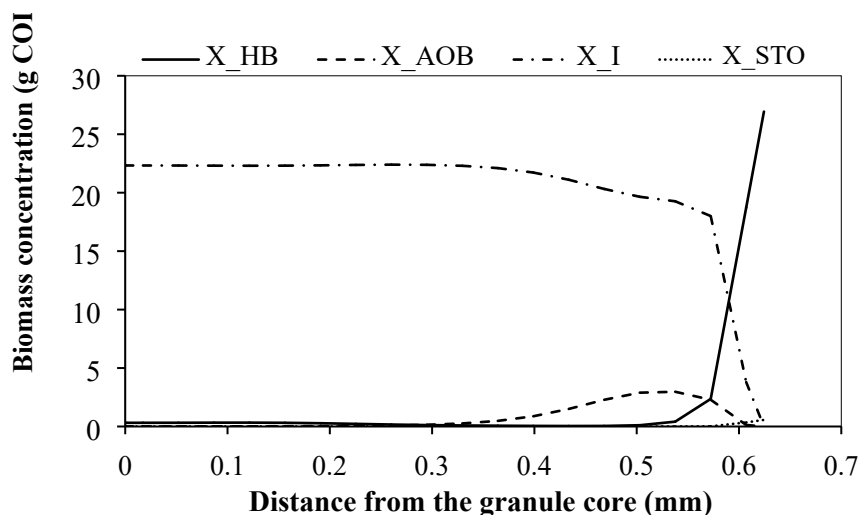


Figure S.3:  $X_H$ ,  $X_A$ ,  $X_{STO}$  and  $X_I$  distribution in the granule predicted by the modified ASM3.

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