

LSN 27 In Class—BOD

CEEG 340—Introduction to Environmental Engineering

Instructor: Deborah Sills

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BOD Test—From Last Year's Midterm Exam

Methylcyclohexanolmethanol (MCHM, $C_8H_{16}O$) is used to condition coal. An energy company has asked you to design a wastewater treatment plant that will treat MCHM and ammonia (a byproduct of the coal conditioning process). As a first step for the design, you need to conduct a **5-day BOD test** on the wastewater. The wastewater has an MCHM concentration of 2100 mg/L, an ammonia concentration of 30 mg/L NH_3-N (i.e., as N), and a dissolved oxygen (DO) concentration of 4 mg/L. The biodegradability of MCHM is 40 %, and the wastewater has a first order degradation coefficient of 0.06 day^{-1} .

1. What is the theoretical oxygen demand of the wastewater?

GIVEN: $[MCHM] = 2100 \text{ mg/L}$; $[NH_4-N] = 30 \text{ mg/L}$

FWD: ThOD

STEP 1: FIND C_{ThOD}



$$C_{ThOD} = \frac{2100 \text{ mg MCHM}}{L} \times \frac{368 \text{ g OXY.}}{128 \text{ g MCHM}}$$

$C_{ThOD} = 6037 \text{ mg/L}$

STEP 2: FIND N_{ThOD}

$$N_{ThOD} = \frac{30 \text{ mg } NH_4-N}{L} \times \left(\frac{64 \text{ g } O_2}{14 \text{ g } NH_4-N} \right)$$

ALWAYS FOR N_{ThOD}

$N_{ThOD} = 137 \text{ mg/L}$

STEP 3: FIND T_{ThOD}

$$T_{ThOD} = C_{ThOD} + N_{ThOD} = 6037 + 137$$

$T_{ThOD} \approx 6100 \text{ mg/L}$

2. If you want the final DO concentration of the test bottle to be 2 mg/L, what volume of wastewater should be added to the BOD bottle. The dilution water has a DO concentration of 9 mg/L, and the test bottle has a volume of 300 mL.

GIVEN: $DO(5) = 2 \text{ mg/L}$; BIODEGRADABILITY = 0.4

$$D.O._{DW} = 9 \text{ mg/L}; k = 0.06 \frac{1}{\text{day}}$$

FIND: V_{ww}

STEP 1: FIND L_0

$$L_0 = \text{BIODEGRAD.} \times C_{THOD} = 0.4 \times 6100$$

$$L_0 = 2440 \text{ mg/L}$$

STEP 2: FIND Y_5 $Y = L_0(1 - e^{-kt})$

$$Y_5 = 2440 \times (1 - e^{-0.06 \times 5})$$

$$Y_5 = 625 \text{ mg/L}$$

STEP 3: CREATE EXPRESSION FOR $DO(0)$

$$DO(0) = \frac{DO_w \times V_w + DO_{DW} \times V_{DW}}{V_{BOTTLE}}$$

$$V_{DW} = \frac{300 \text{ mL}}{V_{BOTTLE}} - V_w$$

$$DO(0) = \frac{2 \text{ mg/L} \times V_w + 9 \text{ mg/L} \times (300 - V_w)}{300}$$

STEP 4: CREATE EXPRESSION FOR DF

$$DF = \frac{V_{BOTTLE}}{V_w}; DF = \frac{300}{V_w}$$

STEP 5: FIND V_w

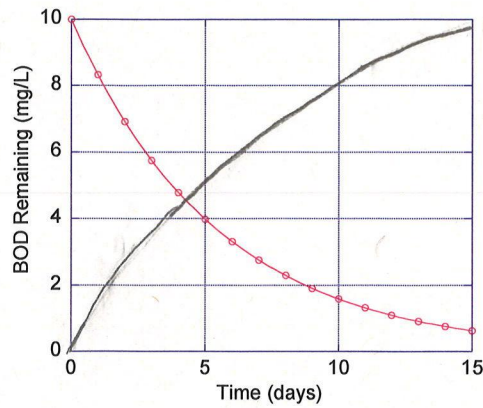
$$Y_5 = BOD_5 = [DO(0) - DO(5)] DF$$

$$625 \frac{\text{mg}}{\text{L}} = \left[\frac{4 \text{ mg/L} \times V_w + 9 \text{ mg/L} \times (300 - V_w)}{300} - 2 \text{ mg/L} \right] \frac{300}{V_w}$$

$$\frac{625 V_w}{300} = \frac{-5 V_w}{300} + 9 - 2 \quad \left\{ 630 V_w = 7 \times 300 \right.$$

$$V_w = 303 \text{ mL}$$

The figure below shows data from a BOD test. BOD remaining is plotted versus time for a sample taken from the effluent of a wastewater treatment plant. The BOD test which was run at 20 °C with a total sample size of 200 mL.



1. What is the ultimate BOD (L_0)?

$$L_0 = 10 \text{ mg/L}$$

2. What is L_5 ?

$$L_5 = 4 \text{ mg/L}$$

3. What is the BOD exerted at time = 5 days, or Y_5 ?

$$Y_5 = L_0 - L_5 = 10 - 4 = 6 \text{ mg/L}$$

4. How much oxygen (in mg/L) was consumed during the first 5 days of the BOD test?

$$DO_{\text{CONSUMED}} = Y_5 \text{ (NUMERICALLY)} ; DO_{\text{CONSUMED}} = 6 \text{ mg/L}$$

5. Plot BOD Exerted (Y) versus time on the plot above.