

# Supporting Information

## **Title:**

### **A Novel Protocol for Model Calibration in Biological Wastewater Treatment**

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**Table S1. Characterizations explanations of the symbols.**

Symbol	Characterization
$x$	State variables of the Ordinary Differential Equations(ODEs)
$u$	Input variables of the ODEs
$y$	Outputs of the ODEs , such as $[COD S_{NH4} S_{NO2} S_{NO3}]^T$ , $y^s$ the simulation ones and $y^o$ the observed measurements
$\theta$	Parameter set of the ODEs
$\omega$	the square noise variance matrix, whose inverse form $\omega^{-1}$ acts as the weights
$E(\theta)$	Objective function of the parameter estimation
$y_i, N_y$	the $i$ -th state variable or output, the number of outputs
$\theta_j, N_\theta$	the $j$ -th parameter in the parameter set, the number of parameters
$t_k, N_t$	the $k$ -th measuring time, the number of measuring times
$\bar{S}$	the local relative time varying sensitivity matrix at parameter point $\hat{\theta}$
$\bar{M}$	the global relative time varying sensitivity matrix over the bounds-defined parameter space
<b>FIM</b>	the local Fisher Information Matrix
$C$	the local covariance matrix derived from the <b>FIM</b>
$\bar{C}$	the pseudo-global covariance matrix, derived from $C$ and $E(\theta)$
$R$	the pseudo-global correlation matrix, derived from $\bar{C}$

Table S2. Summary of the process rates equations for related processes.

	j	Process	Modified process rate equation
Heterotrophic organisms	1	p1 Hydrolysis	$k_H \frac{X_S / X_H}{K_X + X_S / X_H} X_H$
	2	p2 Aerobic Storage of $S_S$	$k_{STO} \frac{S_O}{K_{H,O_2} + S_O} \frac{S_S}{K_{H,SS} + S_S} X_H$
	3	p3(a) Anoxic Storage of $S_S$ $NO_3$ - $NO_2$	$k_{STO} \eta_{H,NO_3} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_S}{K_{H,SS} + S_S} \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{H,NO_3} + S_{NO_3}} X_H$
	4	p3(b) Anoxic Storage of $S_S$ $NO_2$ - $N_2$	$k_{STO} \eta_{H,NO_2} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_S}{K_{H,SS} + S_S} \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{H,NO_2} + S_{NO_2}} X_H$
	5	p4 Aerobic Growth of $X_H$	$\mu_H \frac{S_O}{K_{H,O_2} + S_O} \frac{S_{NH_4}}{K_{H,NH_4} + S_{NH_4}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{H,ALK} + S_{ALK}} \frac{X_{STO} / X_H}{K_{H,STO} + X_{STO} / X_H} X_H$
	6	p5(a) Anoxic Growth of $X_H$ $NO_3$ - $NO_2$	$\mu_H \eta_{H,NO_3} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_{NH_4}}{K_{H,NH_4} + S_{NH_4}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{H,ALK} + S_{ALK}} \frac{X_{STO} / X_H}{K_{H,STO} + X_{STO} / X_H} \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_{NO_3}} X_H$
	7	p5(b) Anoxic Growth of $X_H$ $NO_2$ - $N_2$	$\mu_H \eta_{H,NO_2} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_{NH_4}}{K_{H,NH_4} + S_{NH_4}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{H,ALK} + S_{ALK}} \frac{X_{STO} / X_H}{K_{H,STO} + X_{STO} / X_H} \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_{NO_2}} X_H$
	8	p6 Aerobic Endog. Resp. of $X_H$	$b_{H,O_2} \frac{S_O}{K_{H,O_2} + S_O} X_H$
	9	p7(a) Anoxic Endog. Resp. of $X_H$ $NO_3$ - $NO_2$	$b_{H,O_2} \eta_{H,endNO_3} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{H,NO_3} + S_{NO_3}} X_H$
	10	p7(b) Anoxic Endog. Resp. of $X_H$ $NO_2$ - $N_2$	$b_{H,O_2} \eta_{H,endNO_2} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{H,NO_2} + S_{NO_2}} X_H$
	11	p8 Aerobic Endog. Resp. of $X_{STO}$	$b_{STO,O_2} \frac{S_O}{K_{H,O_2} + S_O} X_{STO}$
	12	p9(a) Anoxic Endog. Resp. of $X_{STO}$ $NO_3$ - $NO_2$	$b_{STO,O_2} \eta_{H,endNO_3} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{H,NO_3} + S_{NO_3}} X_{STO}$
	13	p9(b) Anoxic Endog. Resp. of $X_{STO}$ $NO_2$ - $N_2$	$b_{STO,O_2} \eta_{H,endNO_2} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{H,NO_2} + S_{NO_2}} X_{STO}$
AOB	14	p10(a) Aerobic Growth of $X_{AOB}$ , Nitritation	$\mu_{AOB} \frac{S_O}{K_{AOB,O_2} + S_O} \frac{S_{NH_4}}{K_{AOB,NH_4} + S_{NH_4}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{N,ALK} + S_{ALK}} X_{AOB}$
	15	p11(a) Aerobic End. Resp. of $X_{AOB}$	$b_{AOB} \frac{S_O}{K_{H,O_2} + S_O} X_{AOB}$
	16	p12(a) Anoxic End. Resp. of $X_{AOB}$	$b_{AOB} \eta_{N,end} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{H,NO_3} + S_{NO_3}} X_{AOB}$
NOB	17	p10(b) Aerobic Growth of $X_{NOB}$ , Nitratation	$\mu_{NOB} \frac{S_O}{K_{NOB,O_2} + S_O} \frac{S_{NH_4}}{K_{H,NH_4} + S_{NH_4}} \frac{S_{NO_2}}{K_{NOB,NO_2} + S_{NO_2}} \frac{S_{ALK}}{K_{N,ALK} + S_{ALK}} X_{NOB}$
	18	p11(b) Aerobic End. Resp. of $X_{NOB}$	$b_{NOB} \frac{S_O}{K_{H,O_2} + S_O} X_{NOB}$
	19	p12(b) Anoxic End. Resp. of $X_{NOB}$	$b_{NOB} \eta_{N,end} \frac{K_{H,O_2inh}}{K_{H,O_2inh} + S_O} \frac{S_{NO_3}}{K_{H,NO_3} + S_{NO_3}} X_{NOB}$
	20	Aeration	$e^{0.024(T-20)} \cdot K_L a_{-20} \cdot (S_{O,SAT} - S_O)$

**Table S3. Stoichiometric matrix for the extended processes and selected compounds.**

j	Process	S <sub>O</sub>	S <sub>S</sub>	S <sub>NH</sub>	S <sub>NO2</sub>	S <sub>NO3</sub>	S <sub>N2</sub>	S <sub>ALK</sub>	S <sub>I</sub>	X <sub>I</sub>	X <sub>H</sub>	X <sub>S</sub>	X <sub>STO</sub>	X <sub>AOB</sub>	X <sub>NOB</sub>
1	p1 Hydrolysis	0	$1-f_{SI}$	0	0	0	0	$\frac{i_{N,SS} - f_{SI} \cdot i_{N,SI} - (1-f_{SI}) \cdot i_{N,SS}}{14}$	$f_{SI}$	0	0	-1	0	0	0
2	p2 Aerobic Storage of S <sub>S</sub>	$Y_{STO,O_2} - 1$	-1	$i_{N,SS}$	0	0	0	$\frac{i_{N,SS}}{14}$	0	0	0	0	$Y_{STO,O_2}$	0	0
3	p3(a) Anoxic Storage of S <sub>S</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> -NO <sub>2</sub>	0	-1	$i_{N,SS}$	$\frac{1-Y_{STO,NO_3}}{1.14}$	$-\frac{1-Y_{STO,NO_3}}{1.14}$	0	$\frac{i_{N,SS}}{14}$	0	0	0	0	$Y_{STO,NO_3}$	0	0
4	p3(b) Anoxic Storage of S <sub>S</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>2</sub>	0	-1	$i_{N,SS}$	$-\frac{1-Y_{STO,NO_2}}{1.72}$	0	$\frac{1-Y_{STO,NO_2}}{1.72}$	$\frac{i_{N,SS} - (Y_{STO,NO_2} - 1)/1.72}{14}$	0	0	0	0	$Y_{STO,NO_2}$	0	0
5	p4 Aerobic Growth of X <sub>H</sub>	$1-1/Y_{H,O_2}$	0	$-i_{N,BM}$	0	0	0	$-\frac{i_{N,BM}}{14}$	0	0	1	0	$-1/Y_{H,O_2}$	0	0
6	p5(a) Anoxic Growth of X <sub>H</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> -NO <sub>2</sub>	0	0	$-i_{N,BM}$	$\frac{1-Y_{H,NO_3}}{1.14 \cdot Y_{H,NO_3}}$	$-\frac{1-Y_{H,NO_3}}{1.14 \cdot Y_{H,NO_3}}$	0	$-\frac{i_{N,BM}}{14}$	0	0	1	0	$-1/Y_{H,NO_3}$	0	0
7	p5(b) Anoxic Growth of X <sub>H</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>2</sub>	0	0	$-i_{N,BM}$	$-\frac{1-Y_{H,NO_2}}{1.72 \cdot Y_{H,NO_2}}$	0	$\frac{1-Y_{H,NO_2}}{1.72 \cdot Y_{H,NO_2}}$	$\frac{(Y_{H,NO_2} - 1)/(1.72 \cdot Y_{H,NO_2}) - i_{N,BM}}{14}$	0	0	1	0	$-1/Y_{H,NO_2}$	0	0
8	p6 Aerobic Endog. Resp. of X <sub>H</sub>	$-(1-f_{XI})$	0	$-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}$	0	0	0	$\frac{-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}}{14}$	0	$f_{XI}$	-1	0	0	0	0
9	p7(a) Anoxic Endog. Resp. of X <sub>H</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> -NO <sub>2</sub>	0	0	$-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}$	$\frac{1-f_{XI}}{1.14}$	$-\frac{1-f_{XI}}{1.14}$	0	$\frac{-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}}{14}$	0	$f_{XI}$	-1	0	0	0	0
10	p7(b) Anoxic Endog. Resp. of X <sub>H</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>2</sub>	0	0	$-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}$	$-\frac{1-f_{XI}}{1.72}$	0	$\frac{1-f_{XI}}{1.72}$	$\frac{i_{N,BM} - f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} - (f_{XI} - 1)/1.72}{14}$	0	$f_{XI}$	-1	0	0	0	0
11	p8 Aerobic Endog. Resp. of X <sub>STO</sub>	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0
12	p9(a) Anoxic Endog. Resp. of X <sub>STO</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> -NO <sub>2</sub>	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{1.14}$	$-\frac{1}{1.14}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0
13	p9(b) Anoxic Endog. Resp. of X <sub>STO</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>2</sub>	0	0	0	$-\frac{1}{1.72}$	0	$\frac{1}{1.72}$	$\frac{1}{24.08}$	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0
14	p10(a) Aerobic Growth of X <sub>AOB</sub> , Nitrification	$1 - \frac{48}{14 \cdot Y_{AOB}}$	0	$-\frac{1}{Y_{AOB}} - i_{N,BM}$	$\frac{1}{Y_{AOB}}$	0	0	$-\frac{1}{14} \left( \frac{2}{Y_{AOB}} + i_{N,BM} \right)$	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
15	p11(a) Aerobic End. Resp. of X <sub>AOB</sub>	$-(1-f_{XI})$	0	$-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}$	0	0	0	$\frac{-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}}{14}$	0	$f_{XI}$	0	0	0	-1	0
16	p12(a) Anoxic End. Resp. of X <sub>AOB</sub>	0	0	$-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}$	0	$-\frac{1-f_{XI}}{2.86}$	$\frac{1-f_{XI}}{2.86}$	$\frac{i_{N,BM} - f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} - (f_{XI} - 1)/2.86}{14}$	0	$f_{XI}$	0	0	0	-1	0
17	p10(b) Aerobic Growth of X <sub>NOB</sub> , Nitrification	$1 - \frac{16}{14 \cdot Y_{AOB}}$	0	$-i_{N,BM}$	$-\frac{1}{Y_{NOB}}$	$\frac{1}{Y_{NOB}}$	0	$-\frac{i_{N,BM}}{14}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
18	p11(b) Aerobic End. Resp. of X <sub>NOB</sub>	$-(1-f_{XI})$	0	$-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}$	0	0	0	$\frac{-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}}{14}$	0	$f_{XI}$	0	0	0	0	-1
19	p12(b) Anoxic End. Resp. of X <sub>NOB</sub>	0	0	$-f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} + i_{N,BM}$	0	$-\frac{1-f_{XI}}{2.86}$	$\frac{1-f_{XI}}{2.86}$	$\frac{i_{N,BM} - f_{XI} \cdot i_{N,XI} - (f_{XI} - 1)/2.86}{14}$	0	$f_{XI}$	0	0	0	0	-1

Table S4. Kinetic and stoichiometric parameters at 20 °C.

Index	Symbol	Characterization	Low	Value	High	$\theta$	Units	references
	$i_{N,SI}$	N content of inert soluble COD $S_I$	0.005	0.01	0.01		[g N/g COD]	1
1	$i_{N,SS}$	N content of readily biodegradable substrate	0.01	0.03	0.05		[g N/g COD]	1
2	$i_{N,XI}$	N content of inert particulate COD $X_I$	0.01	0.04	0.07		[g N/g COD]	1
	$i_{N,XS}$	N content of slowly biodegradable substrate	0.01	0.03	0.05		[g N/g COD]	1
3	$i_{N,BM}$	N content of biomass $X_H$ , $X_{AOB}$ , $X_{NOB}$	0.03	0.07	0.11		[g N/g COD]	1
	$f_{SI}$	Production of $S_I$ in hydrolysis	0.00	0.00	0.02		[g COD/g COD]	2
4	$f_{XI}$	Fraction of inert COD generated in biomass lysis	0.1	0.2	0.3		[g COD/g COD]	1
5	$Y_{H,O_2}$	Yield coeff. for heterotrophs in aerobic growth	0.65	0.8	0.95		[g COD/g COD]	1
6	$Y_{H,NO_3}$	Yield coeff. for heterotrophs in anoxic growth ( $NO_3^-$ -N- $NO_2^-$ -N)	0.5	0.65	0.8		[g COD/g COD]	1
7	$Y_{H,NO_2}$	Yield coeff. for heterotrophs in anoxic growth ( $NO_2^-$ -N- $N_2$ -N)	0.5	0.65	0.8		[g COD/g COD]	1
8	$Y_{STO,O_2}$	Yield coeff. for $X_{STO}$ in aerobic growth	0.2	0.8	1		[g COD/g COD]	1
9	$Y_{STO,NO_3}$	Yield coeff. for $X_{STO}$ in anoxic growth ( $NO_3^-$ -N- $NO_2^-$ -N)	0.2	0.7	1		[g COD/g COD]	1
10	$Y_{STO,NO_2}$	Yield coeff. for $X_{STO}$ in anoxic growth ( $NO_2^-$ -N- $N_2$ -N)	0.2	0.7	1		[g COD/g COD]	1
11	$Y_{AOB}$	Yield coeff. for $X_{AOB}$	0.1	0.18	0.3		[g COD/g N]	3
12	$Y_{NOB}$	Yield coeff. for $X_{NOB}$	0.02	0.06	0.1		[g COD/g N]	3
13	$k_H$	Hydrolysis rate constant	4	9	15	0.04	[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	1
14	$k_{STO}$	Maximum storage rate	4	12	20	0.07	[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	1
15	$\mu_H$	Maximum growth rate on substrate of heterotrophs	1	3	6	0.07	[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	1
16	$\mu_{AOB}$	Maximum growth rate of $X_{AOB}$	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.12	[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	3
17	$\mu_{NOB}$	Maximum growth rate of $X_{NOB}$	0.5	0.65	1.0	0.078	[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	3
18	$b_{H,O_2}$	Aerobic end. resp. rate for $X_H$	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.07	[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	1
19	$b_{STO,O_2}$	Aerobic end. resp. rate for $X_{STO}$	0.1	0.3	0.5		[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	1
20	$b_{AOB}$	Decay rate of $X_{AOB}$	0.05	0.15	0.25	0.12	[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	4
21	$b_{NOB}$	Decay rate of $X_{NOB}$	0.1	0.22	0.34	0.078	[d <sup>-1</sup> ]	4
22	$\eta_{H,NO_3}$	Reduction factor for denitrification ( $NO_3^-$ -N- $NO_2^-$ -N)	0.1		1		-	3
23	$\eta_{H,NO_2}$	Reduction factor for denitrification ( $NO_2^-$ -N- $N_2$ -N)	0.1		1		-	3
24	$\eta_{H,end,NO_3}$	Reduction factor for $b_H$ , anoxic condition ( $NO_3^-$ -N- $NO_2^-$ -N)	0.25		1		-	3
25	$\eta_{H,end,NO_2}$	Reduction factor for $b_H$ , anoxic condition ( $NO_2^-$ -N- $N_2$ -N)	0.35		1		-	3
26	$\eta_{N,end}$	Reduction factor for $b_{AOB}$ and $b_{NOB}$ , anoxic condition	0.1		1		-	4
27	$K_X$	Hydrolysis saturation constant	0.2	1.0	2		[g $X_S$ g <sup>-1</sup> $X_H$ ]	1
28	$K_{H,O_2}$	Saturation coeff. for oxygen, het. growth	0.05	0.2	0.5		[g O <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1
29	$K_{H,O_2,inh}$	Inhibition coeff. for oxygen, het. growth	0.05	0.2	5		[g O <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1
30	$K_{H,SS}$	Saturation coeff. for readily biodegradable substrates, het. growth	5	10	20		[g COD m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1
31	$K_{H,NH_4}$	Saturation/inhibition coefficient for ammonium, het. growth	0.001	0.01	0.1		[g N m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1
32	$K_{H,NO_3}$	Saturation/inhibition coefficient for nitrate, het. growth	0.1	0.5	10		[g N m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1
33	$K_{H,NO_2}$	Saturation/inhibition coefficient for nitrite, het. growth	0.1	0.5	10		[g N m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1
34	$K_{H,ALK}$	Saturation/inhibition coefficient for alkalinity, het. growth	0.01	0.1	1		[mole HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1
35	$K_{H,STO}$	Saturation coeff. for storage products	0.01	0.1	1		[g COD m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1
36	$K_{AOB,O_2}$	Saturation coefficient for oxygen, AOB	0.2	0.8	5		[g O <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup> ]	5
37	$K_{NOB,O_2}$	Saturation coefficient for oxygen, NOB	0.2	0.8	5		[g O <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup> ]	5
38	$K_{AOB,NH_4}$	Saturation coeff. for ammonium, AOB	0.05	0.14	0.5		[g N m <sup>-3</sup> ]	5
39	$K_{NOB,NO_2}$	Saturation coefficient for nitrite, NOB	0.05	0.28	0.5		[g N m <sup>-3</sup> ]	5
40	$K_{N,ALK}$	Saturation/inhibition coefficient for alkalinity, aut. growth	0.1	0.5	1		[mole HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1

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