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Bioprocess trends and solutions, facing the challenges encountered in biopolymer production.

Shaman M. Gaspar
(Regional Director Southeast Asia & Oceania)



Challenges faced in production:



The battle against known, industrially produced polymers

Public awareness on the types of biodegradable plastics

Cost vs performance in bioreactor design.

CAPEX & OPEX in bioprocess, time, energy and infrastructure leads to the need for midpriced ~ high volume product.

The right way forward for higher end applications, single use bioreactors, membranes, diaphragm, medical implants or microcarriers for cell culture.



Challenges in biopolymer production



Foaming conditions are difficult to manage, poor response to Antifoam



Oxygen limitations due to high OUR, O₂ blending is expensive in scale up, 300g/L is possible



Metal leaching in some applications where extremophiles are used, PEEK material is needed (*PHA could be viable*)



Multiple feedlines required; Challenge is in building a cost optimised approach from upstream to downstream in bioprocess

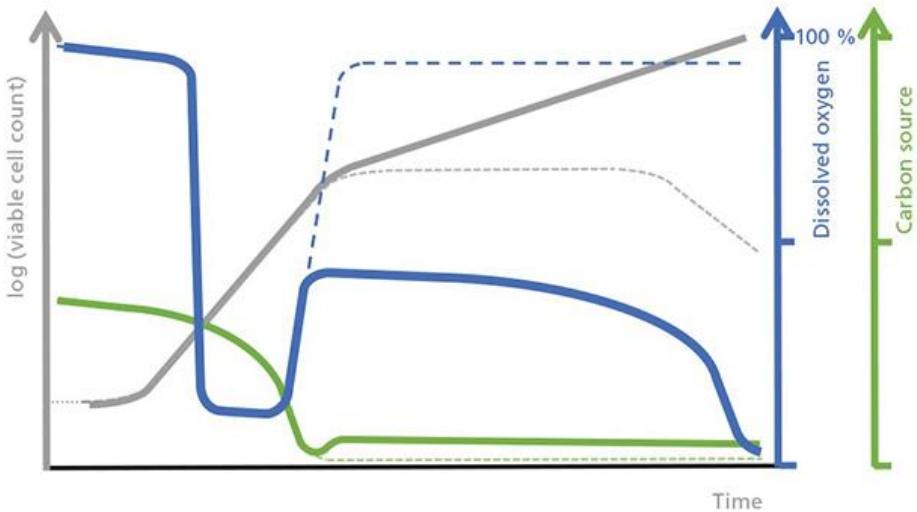


Biopolymer production in pilot scale

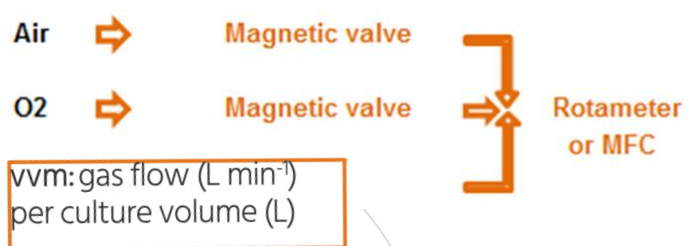
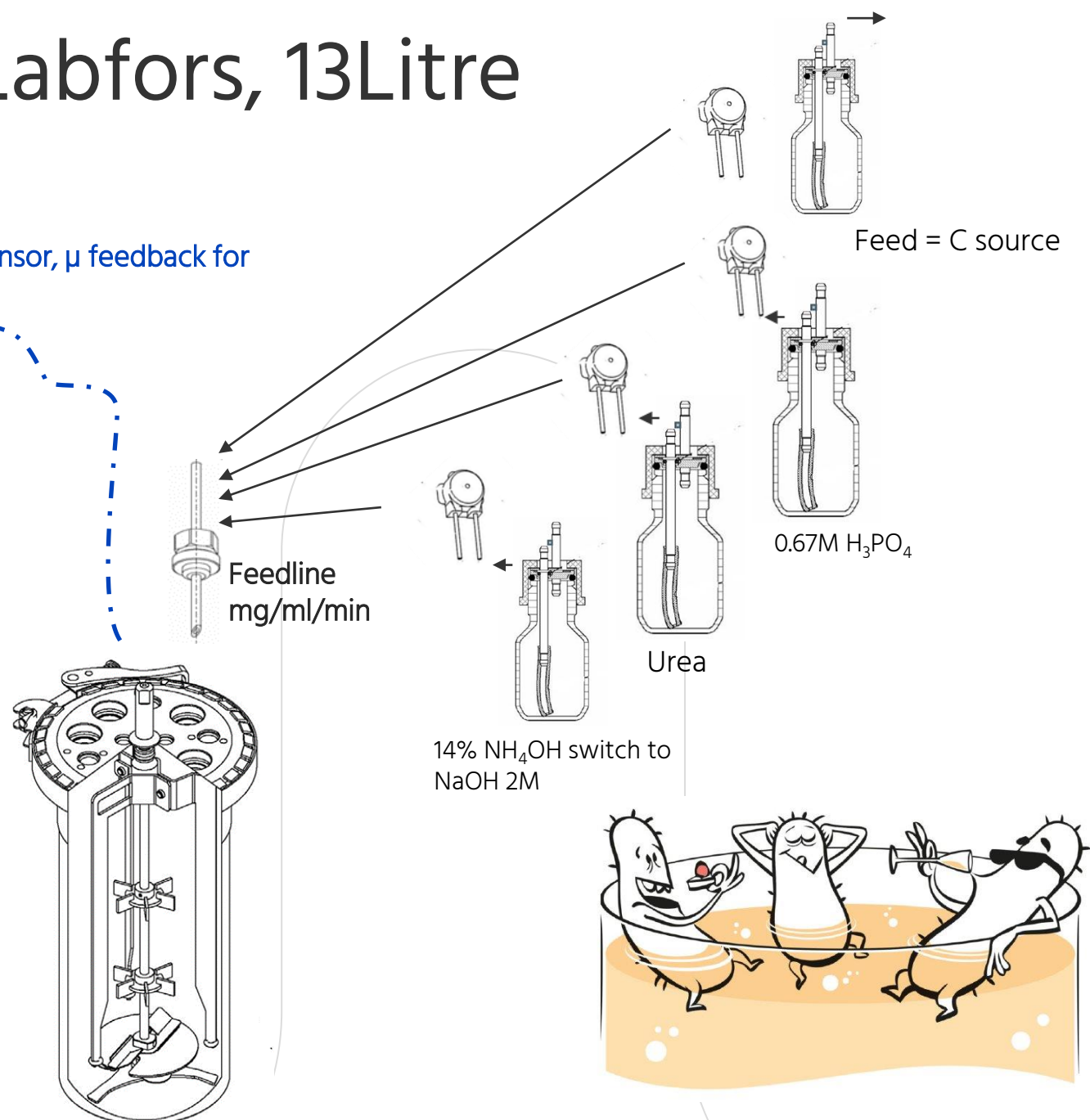
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in vitro
Technologies

Fed-batch process in a Labfors, 13Litre



Soft-sensor, μ feedback for feed



pO₂ ~ 40%, MSM
 Stirrer 300 to 1500rpm
 Centrifugal foam breaker

c. necator
 Charles F. Budde & Sebastian L. Riedel &
 Florian Hübner & Stefan Risch & Milan K. Popović &
 ChoKyun Rha & Anthony J. Sinskey -
 Growth and polyhydroxybutyrate production by *Ralstonia*
eutropha in emulsified plant oil medium (2010) *Appl Microbiol Biotechnol*
 DOI 10.1007/s00253-011-3102-0

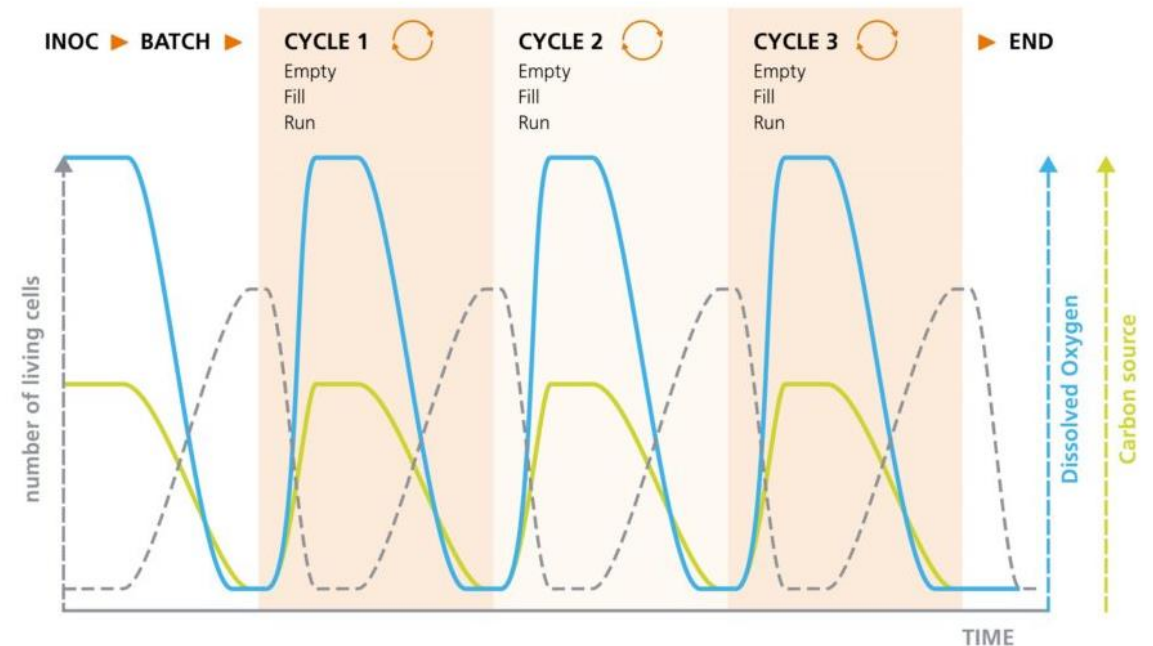
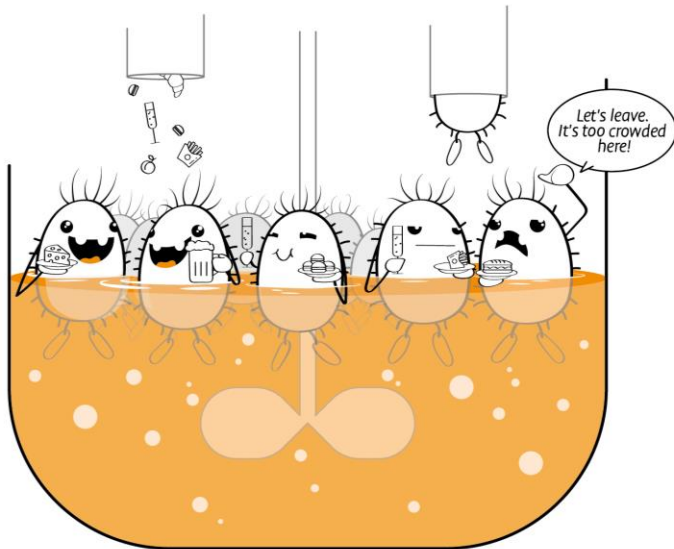
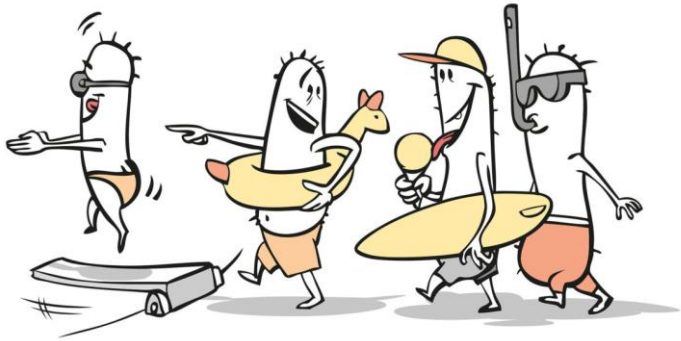
Tangible solutions in process improvement with **continuous** and **repeated fed-batch**

Studies are being conducted, aimed at simplifying and reducing issues with handling

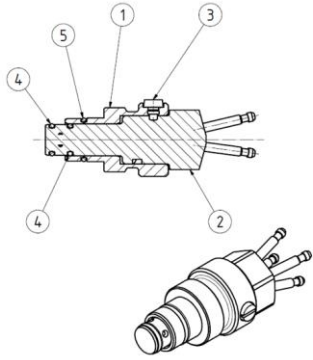
Repeated fed-batch allows several cycles in succession

Reduces the need for large bioreactors and eliminates the need for a repeat in inoculum preparation

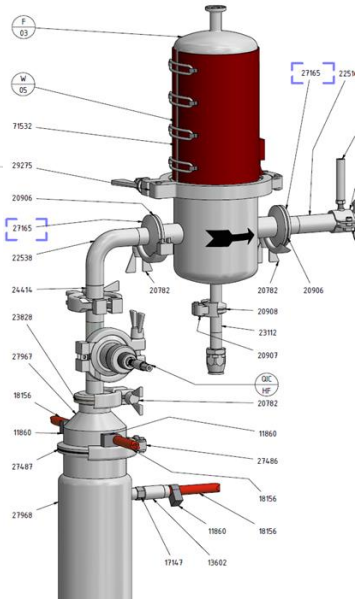
More sophistication in software technology needed for automation, **eve[®]**



In Pilot scale things get radically different



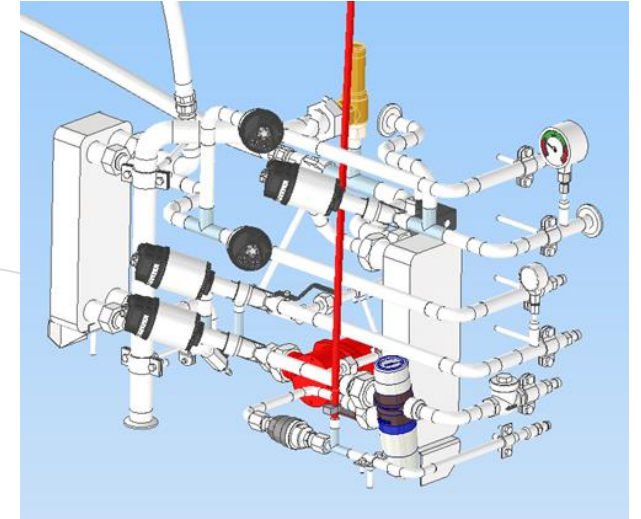
4 inlet push valve



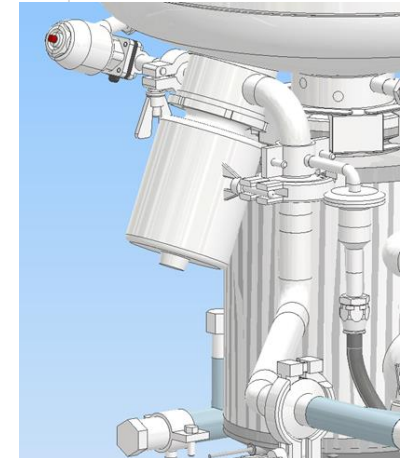
Foam sensor in exhaust line



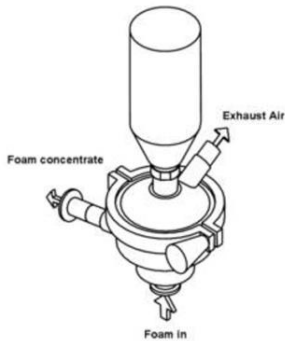
Pressure Control, OTR



Multiple heat exchangers



Novaseptic harvest valve, total emptying



Mechanical Foam Disruptors, Ultrasonic

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We bring life to your laboratory
20 years of experience in process development for
biopolymers