

Modeling of contaminant biodegradation and compound-specific isotope fractionation in chemostats at low dilution rates

Mehdi Gharasoo^{†,‡,*}, Benno N. Ehrl[‡], Olaf A. Cirpka[§], and Martin Elsner^{†,‡,*}

[†]Technical University of Munich, Chair of Analytical Chemistry and Water Chemistry,
Marchioninistr. 17, 81377 Munich, Germany

[‡]Helmholtz Zentrum München, Institute of Groundwater Ecology, Ingolstädter Landstr.
1, 85764 Neuherberg, Germany

[§]University of Tübingen, Center for Applied Geoscience, Hölderlinstr. 12, 72074
Tübingen, Germany

*Corresponding authors: Tel. +49 89 2180-78232, E-mail: m.elsner@tum.de,
mehdi.gharasoo@helmholtz-muenchen.de

Supplementary material (number of pages: 5, number of listings:6)

The source code for all the MATLAB files essential for the modeling are listed here. Listing S.1 shows the source for the main file **chemo_run.m** where the parameter values are given as input. **chemobio.m** (Listing S.2) and **chemo.m** (Listing S.3) are called through **chemo_run.m** depending which system of equations (Eq. 1 or Eq. 2 in the main text) is intended to be solved. **chemobio.m** (Listing S.2) solves Eq. 2 where mass-transfer limitations are considered and uses the function file **chmoFbiomm.m** (Listing S.5) to call the relevant ODEs. In contrast, **chemo.m** (Listing S.3) solves Eq. 1 where mass-transfer limitations are neglected and uses the function file **chmoFmm.m** (Listing S.4) to call the relevant ODEs. Note that the ordinary differential equations are entered directly into the function files **chmoFbiomm.m** and **chmoFmm.m**. The smoothed periodic inlet is generated by **chmoP.m** (Listing S.6).

Listing S.1: Source code for the file **chemo_run.m**.

```
1 clearvars
2 close all
3 tic;
4
5 % final time
6 endtime=4*3600;
7 %Chemostat volume [ml]
8 chemo_vol=2000;
9 %Volume of drops [ml]
10 drop_vol=0.1;
11 %Time distance between the drops [s]
```

```

12 drop_rate= 20;
13 %Smoothing time of a droplet [s]
14 %(the larger the number, the better numerical stability is achieved)
15 drop_time=4;
16 % how the drop period will be generated.
17 drop_type = 2; %1:to reach to a specific value, 2:to have a specific area
18 %Time step for solution
19 time_step = drop_time/20;
20
21 %input concentration
22 Sinit=3e4;% microgr/ L
23 %biomass filtration from outlet
24 %0=no filtration at outlet so biomass fully leaves the system (chemostat)
25 %1=complete filtration at outlet and so no biomass exits (full retentostat)
26 frac = 0;
27 %max growth rate of culture
28 mio = 0.11/3600;%/hr==>/s
29 %maintenance term
30 mm = 0.1/3600; %/hr ==> /s
31 %growth yield
32 yield = .018;
33 %maximum conversion rate
34 qmax = mio/yield -mm;
35 %half-saturation constant
36 km=237;% microgr/ L
37 %isotope fractionation factor
38 alfa = .9946;
39 %initial susbstrate concentration in tank
40 Sinit = 65; %microgr/ L
41 %initial concentration of biomass in tank
42 Xinit = 550;%microgr/ L
43 % mass limiting coefficient
44 ktr = .0025; %1/s
45
46 % To run the model with mass-transfer limitations at cell membrane, Eq. 2
47 chemobio
48 outlet_c_light = mean(SXmm(end-5*drop_rate:end,1))
49 delta13cbio = mean(deltac(end-5*drop_rate:end))
50
51 % To run the model without mass-transfer limitations at cell membrane, Eq. 1
52 chemo
53 delta13c = mean(deltac(end-10*drop_rate:end))
54
55 toc%shows the time elapsed

```

Listing S.2: Source code for the file **chemobio.m**.

```

1 tvin=0:time_step:endtime;
2 vin=drop_vol/chemo_vol.*chemoP(tvin,drop_time,drop_rate,drop_type); %Dilution
   rate
3

```

```

4 % Solving the ODEs
5 % with mass-transfer of substrate across the membrane and maintenance energy
6 SX0 = [Sinit Sinit*0.0112372 0 0 Xinit];
7 tspan = [0 drop_rate];
8 opts = odeset('RelTol',1e-5,'AbsTol',1e-15,'nonnegative',1:5,'MaxOrder',5);%,'
    MaxStep',time_step
9 sol = ode15s(@(t,SX) chemoFbiomm(t,SX,tvin,vin,Sin,frac,qmax,km,yield,alfa,ktr,mm
    ), tspan, SX0, opts);
10 tdiv = 40;%divide the distance of each period
11 t = transpose(linspace(0,drop_rate,tdiv));
12 SXmm = transpose(deval(sol,t));
13
14 % Extending the ODE solution for each drop
15 for iter=2:endtime/drop_rate
16
17     solnew = odextend(sol,[],iter*drop_rate);
18     tnew = transpose(linspace((iter-1)*drop_rate,iter*drop_rate,tdiv));
19     SXnew = transpose(deval(solnew,tnew));
20
21     t= [t; tnew];
22     SXmm = [SXmm; SXnew];
23
24     sol = solnew;
25 end
26
27 % plotting
28 figure;
29 subplot(4,1,1);plot(t,SXmm(:,1), 'b-')
30 ylabel('^{12}S(\mu gr/l)');
31 subplot(4,1,2);plot(t,SXmm(:,2), 'b-')
32 ylabel('^{13}S(\mu gr/l)');
33 subplot(4,1,3);plot(t,SXmm(:,5), 'b-')
34 ylabel('Biomass(\mu gr/l)');
35 deltax = (SXmm(:,2)./SXmm(:,1)/0.0112372 -1).*1000;
36 deltax(SXmm(:,1)+SXmm(:,2)<1e-4)=nan;
37 subplot(4,1,4);plot(t,deltax, 'b-')
38 ylabel('\delta ^{13}C');
39 xlabel('Time(s)');

```

Listing S.3: Source code for the file **chemo.m**.

```

1 tvin=0:time_step:endtime;
2 vin=drop_vol/chemo_vol.*chemoP(tvin,drop_time,drop_rate,drop_type); %Dilution
    rate
3
4 % Solving the ODEs
5 % no mass-transfer limitaions, with maintenance energy
6 SX0 = [Sinit Sinit*0.0112372 Xinit];
7 tspan = [0 drop_rate];
8 opts = odeset('RelTol',1e-5,'AbsTol',1e-15,'nonnegative',1:3,'MaxOrder',5);%,'
    MaxStep',time_step

```

```

9 | sol = ode15s(@(t,SX) chemoFmm(t,SX,tvin,vin,Sin,frac,mio,km,yield,alfa,ktr,mm),
10|   tspan, SX0, opts);
11| t = transpose(linspace(0,drop_rate,40));
12| SXmm = transpose(deval(sol,t));
13% Extending the ODE solution for each drop
14| for iter=2:endtime/drop_rate
15|
16|     solnew = odextend(sol,[],iter*drop_rate);
17|     tnew = transpose(linspace((iter-1)*drop_rate,iter*drop_rate,40));
18|     SXnew = transpose(deval(solnew,tnew));
19|
20|     sol = solnew;
21|
22|     t= [t; tnew];
23|     SXmm = [SXmm; SXnew];
24| end
25%
26% Plotting dilution rates
27| figure(1)
28| plot(tvin,vin)
29| axis([0 100 0 1e-4])
30| ylabel('Dilution rate (1/s)');
31| xlabel('Time(s)');
32% plotting concentrations and isotope signatures
33| figure(2)
34| subplot(4,1,1);plot(t,SXmm(:,1),'r-')%,t,SX(:,2),'r-.',t,SX(:,3),'-o'
35| ylabel('^{12}S(\mu gr/l)');
36| subplot(4,1,2);plot(t,SXmm(:,2),'r-')%
37| ylabel('^{13}S(\mu gr/l)');
38| subplot(4,1,3);plot(t,SXmm(:,3),'r-')
39| ylabel('Biomass(\mu gr/l)');
40| deltac = (SXmm(:,2)./SXmm(:,1)/0.0112372 -1).*1000;
41| deltac(SXmm(:,1)+SXmm(:,2)<1e-4)=nan;
42| subplot(4,1,4);plot(t,deltac,'r-')
43| ylabel('\delta ^{13}C');
44| xlabel('Time(s)');

```

Listing S.4: Source code for the function file **chemoFmm.m**.

```

1 % ODEs of Eq. 1 in manuscript
2 % no mass-transfer limitaions, with maintenance energy
3 function dSX = chemoFmm(t,SX,tvin,vin,Sin,frac,mio,km,yield,alfa,ktr,mm)
4     dSX = zeros(3,1);
5
6     vint=interp1(tvin, vin, t,'pchip'); % Interpolate between tvin and vin at
7         times t
8     lSin=Sin;
9     hSin=Sin*0.0112372;
10    dSX(1) = vint*(lSin-SX(1))-SX(3)*mio*SX(1)/(SX(1)+SX(2)+km)/yield; %Light
        isotopologue

```

```

11 dSX(2)= vint*(hSin-SX(2))-alfa*SX(3)*miom*SX(2)/(SX(1)+SX(2)+km)/yield; %
   Heavy isotopologue
12 dSX(3) = SX(3)*miom*(SX(1)+alfa*SX(2))/(SX(1)+SX(2)+km)-(1-frc)*vint*SX(3)-
   mm*yield*SX(3); %Biomass

```

Listing S.5: Source code for the function file **chemoFbiomm.m**.

```

1 % ODEs of Eq. 2 in manuscript
2 % with mass-transfer of substrate across the membrane + maintenance energy
3 function dSX = chemoFbiomm(t,SX,tvin,vin,Sin,frac,qm,km,yield,alfa,ktr,mm)
4   % 1: light S, 2: Heavy S, 3: bioavailable light S, 4: bioavailable heavy S,
5   % 5: biomass X
6   dSX = zeros(5,1);
7
8   vint=interp1(tvin, vin, t,'pchip'); % Interpolate the data set (tvin, vin) at
9   time t
10
11  lSin=Sin;
12  hSin=Sin*0.0112372;
13
14  %% mass transfer limitations
15  dSX(1) = vint*(lSin-SX(1)) - ktr*(SX(1)-SX(3)); %light
16  dSX(2) = vint*(hSin-SX(2)) - ktr*(SX(2)-SX(4)); %Heavy
17  dSX(3) = + ktr*(SX(1)-SX(3)) - SX(5)*qm*SX(3)/(SX(3)+SX(4)+km); %light bio
   dSX(4) = + ktr*(SX(2)-SX(4)) - alfa*SX(5)*qm*SX(4)/(SX(3)+SX(4)+km); %heavy
   bio
   dSX(5) = SX(5)*qm*yield*(SX(3)+alfa*SX(4))/(SX(3)+SX(4)+km) - (1-frc)*vint*
   SX(5)-mm*yield*SX(5); %biomass

```

Listing S.6: Source code for the function file **chemoP.m**.

```

1 % periodic function of t with period T.
2 % For 0 < t < r, the function is a polynomial spike with either height or area 1.
3 % For r < t < T, the function is zero. Outside of 0 < t < T, the function is
4 % defined to be periodic.
5 function y = chemoP(t,r,T,sw)
6   t = mod(t,T);
7   switch sw
8     case 1 %the function is a polynomial spike with height 1
9       y = (t<r) .* (256*t.^4 .* (t/r-1).^4 ./ r.^4);
10    case 2 %the function is a polynomial spike with area 1
11      y = (t<r) .* (630*t.^4 .* (t/r-1).^4 ./ r.^5);
12    otherwise
13      error('Switch must be either 1 or 2!')
end

```