

# Simulation and Optimization of Recirculating Aquaculture Systems

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# Simulation





# Why simulate?

- Operator training
- RAS development
- Prediction
- ...?



## A brief history of RAS modelling/simulation

- Losordo and Westers (1994): Basic principles for design
- Losordo and Hobbs (2000): Computerized version (Excel)
- Wik et al. (2009): Dynamical models, integrated fish & WT
- Pedersen et al. (2012): Steady-state, evaluated against replicated RAS, nitrogen focus
- More?

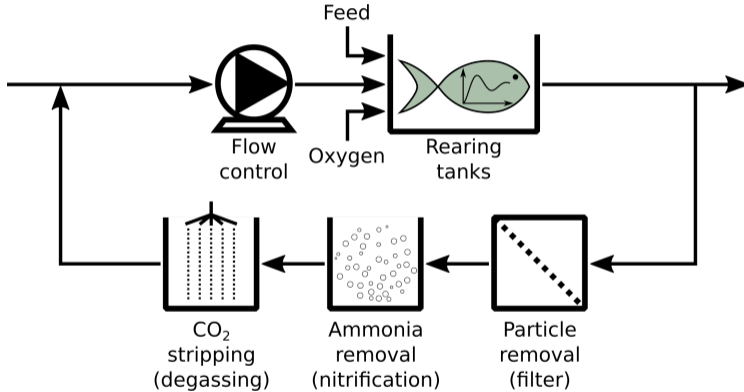


2018: LibRAS – A Modelica **Lib**rary for **Recirculating Aquaculture Sim**ulation

Direct successor to FishSim (Wik et al. 2009).



# A basic RAS



- Fish growth
- Feeding, Digestion, Evacuation
- Water flow
- Microbiology
- Chemistry



Fish





# Fish calculations

- How much fish?
  - How much growth? (TGC)
  - FCR?
- ⇒ Optimal feed amount



- How much fish?
- How much growth? (TGC)
- FCR?

⇒ Optimal feed amount

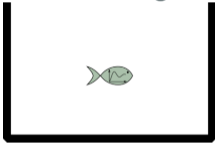
Optimal feed amount  
+ Overfeeding/loss  
+ Digestion dynamics  
+ Chemical waste  
distribution  
= Waste production (incl.  
lost feed)



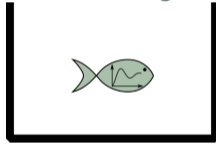
# Fish density

Four tanks with  $V = 10 \text{ m}^3$ , max density  $\rho = 40 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , grading period 30 days,  $IBW = 20 \text{ g}$ , 2% death per month.

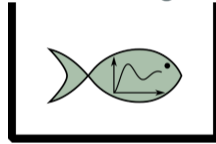
30 days  
 $BW = 35 \text{ g}$



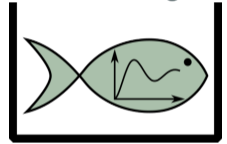
60 days  
 $BW = 60 \text{ g}$



90 days  
 $BW = 90 \text{ g}$



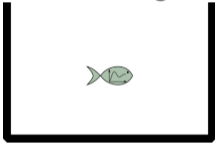
120 days  
 $BW = 125 \text{ g}$



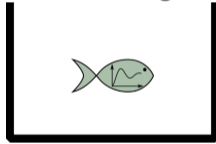
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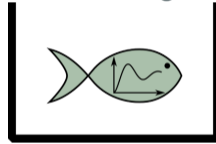
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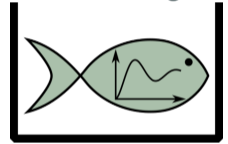
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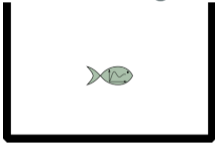
$$\rho = 40 \text{ kg/m}^3$$
$$m_4 = 400 \text{ kg}$$
$$n_4 = \frac{400}{0.125} = 3200$$



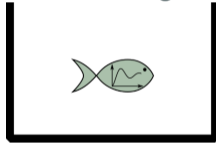
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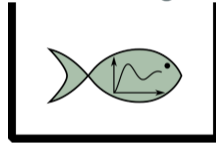
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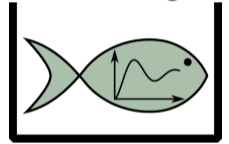
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$$n_3 = 3265$$

$$m_3 = n_3 \times 90 \text{ g} = 294 \text{ kg}$$

$$\rho = 29 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$\rho = 40 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$m_4 = 400 \text{ kg}$$

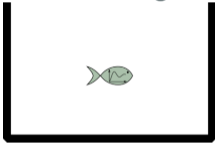
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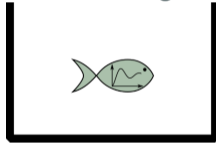
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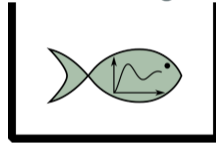
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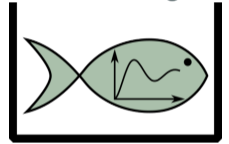
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$$m_2 = n_2 \times 60 \text{ g} = 200 \text{ kg}$$

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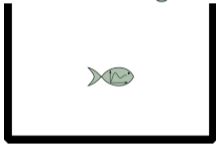
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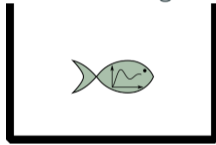


$$n_1 = 3399$$

$$m_1 = n_1 \times 35 \text{ g} = 119 \text{ kg}$$

$$\rho = 12 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

60 days  
 $BW = 60 \text{ g}$

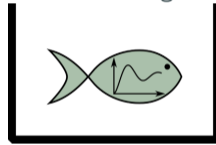


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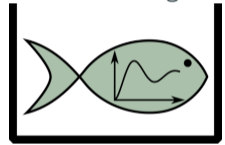


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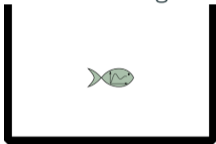
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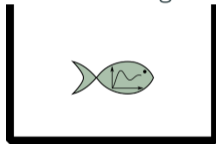


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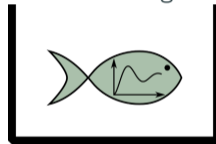


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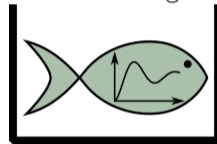


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$\Rightarrow$  Stock with  $3468 \times 20 \text{ g} = 69 \text{ kg}$  after each grading.

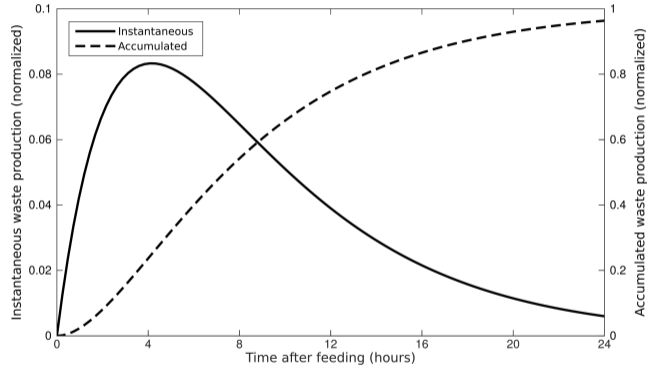
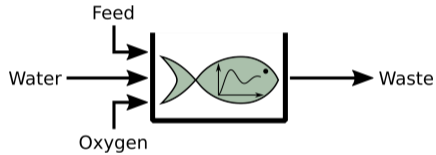




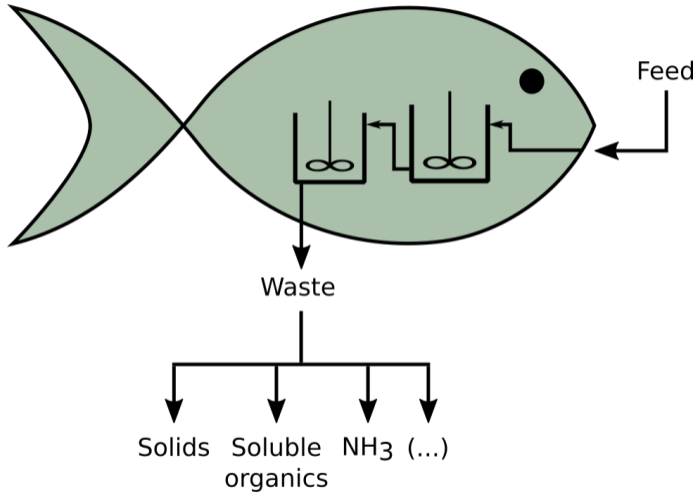
Makes sense?



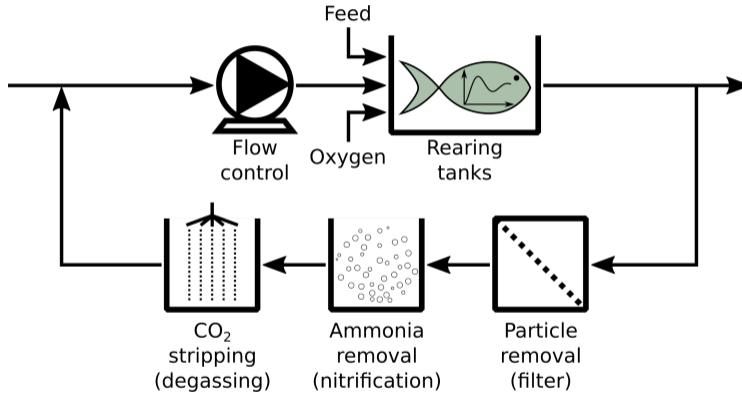
# Waste production



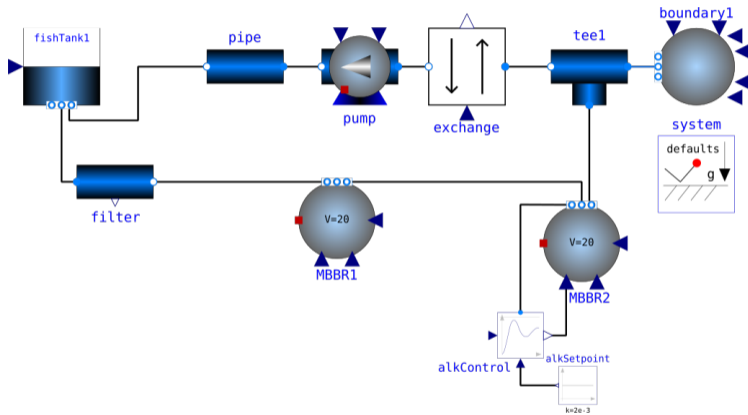
# Waste production cont.



# Water treatment



# Water treatment



- Soluble organic components
- Oxygen
- Nitrite
- Nitrate
- TAN
- Alkalinity
- Inert matter
- Particulate organic material
- Heterotrophic bacteria
- Ammonia oxidizing bacteria (AOB)
- Nitrite oxidizing bacteria (NOB)
- Organic nitrogen



All models are wrong, but some models are useful!

