





# A GLOBAL COMMUNITY WITHIN ANAMMOX BIOREACTORS

Jennifer Lawrence, Tighe & Bond  
Ray Keren, University of California Berkeley

# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

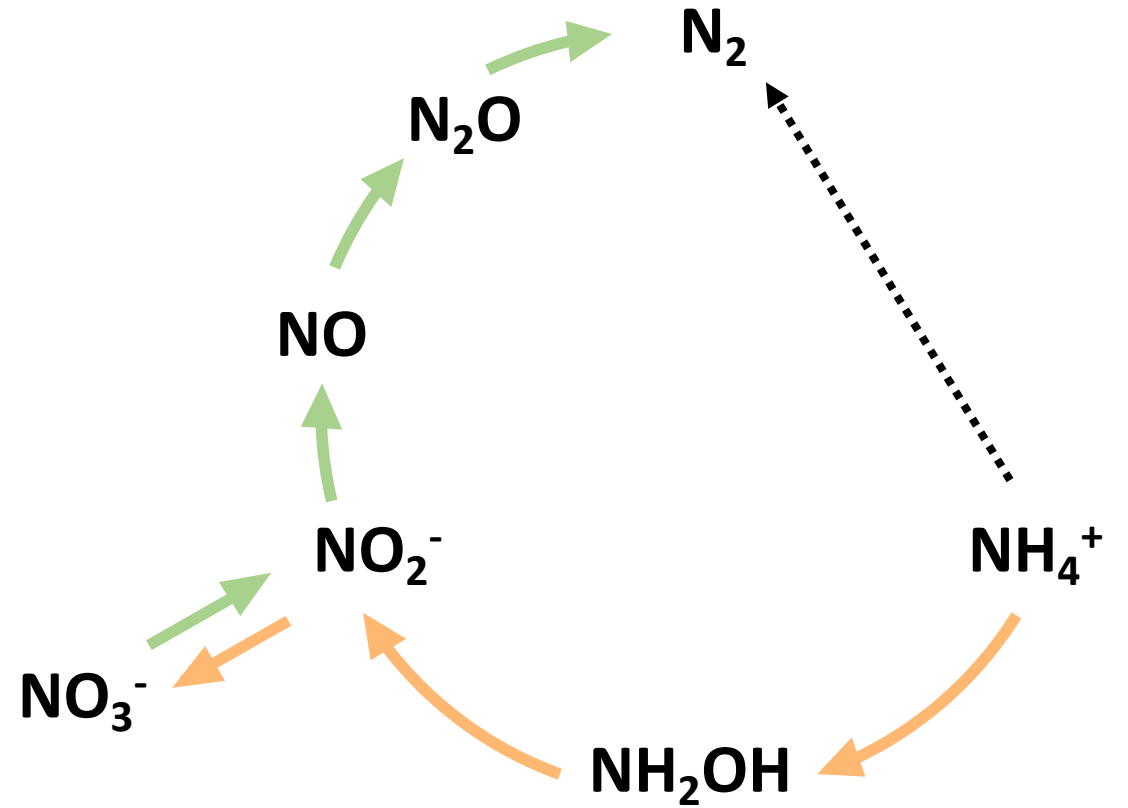
- **Anaerobic Ammonium Oxidation (Anammox)**
- **Metagenomics**
- **Case Study – Application of Metagenomics to Anammox Reactors**

# ANAMMOX

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Conventional Nitrogen Removal

- Nitrification
- Denitrification



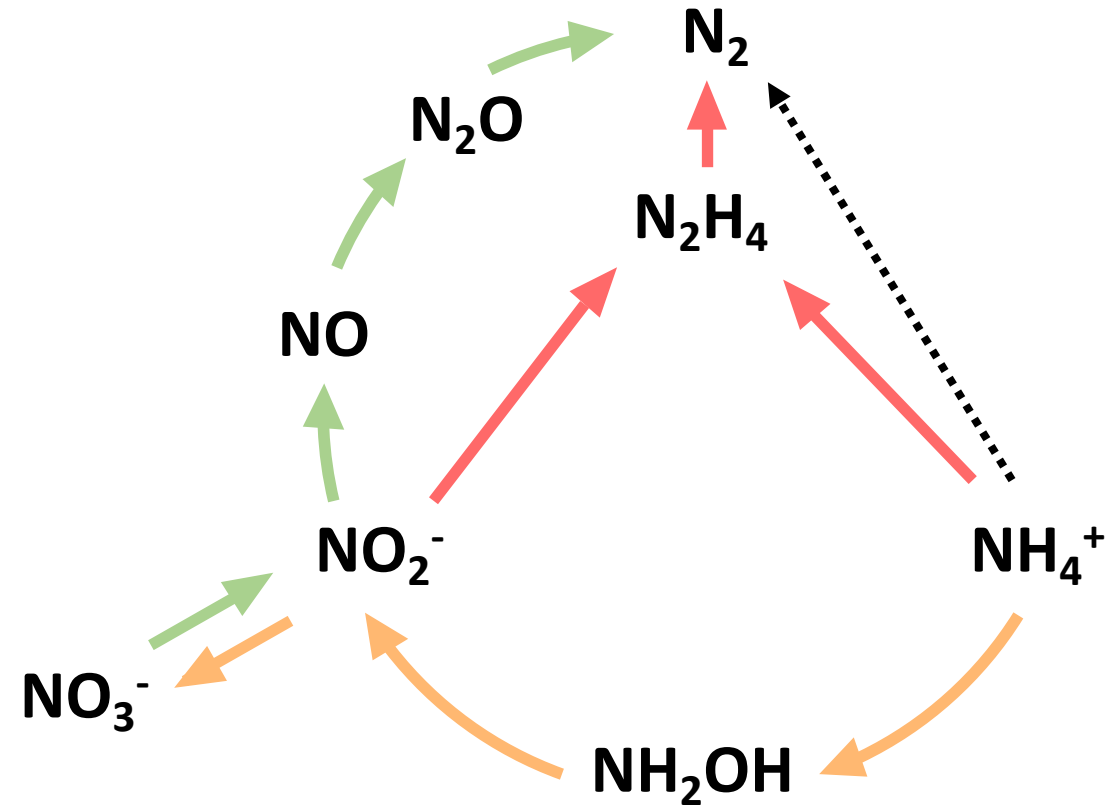
# ANAMMOX

## Conventional Nitrogen Removal

- Nitrification
- Denitrification

## Anammox / Deammonification

- Partial nitritation
- Anaerobic ammonium oxidation (anammox)



# ANAMMOX



Denver, CO



Alexandria, VA

# ANAMMOX

## Strengths:

- ▶ Decreased aeration demands
  - 60% reduction in energy consumption
- ▶ Decreased organic carbon demands
  - 90% reduction in waste biomass
  - Reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- ▶ Reduction in N<sub>2</sub>O emissions



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## Weaknesses:

- ▶ Slow growth rate
  - Long start-up periods
- ▶ Sensitivity to reactor conditions
  - Instability
  - Periodic Failures
- ▶ Bacteria not yet isolated

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**What are these bugs doing?**

# METAGENOMICS

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# GENE



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## GENOME



- The complete set of genetic material present in a cell or organism

## GENE



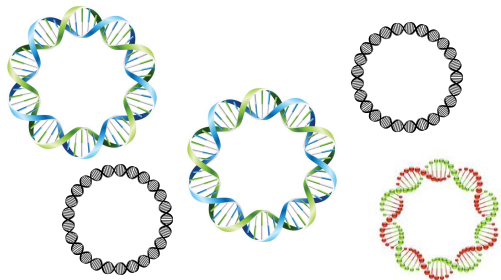
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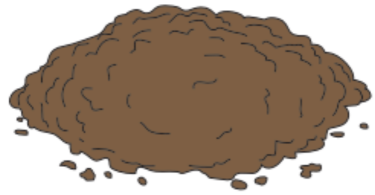
## METAGENOMICS



- The study of genetic material recovered directly from environmental samples

# METAGENOMICS

**1 g soil / biomass**



$\sim 10^9$  cells (genomes)  
 $\sim 10^{12}$  genes

**$10^{12}$  genes**

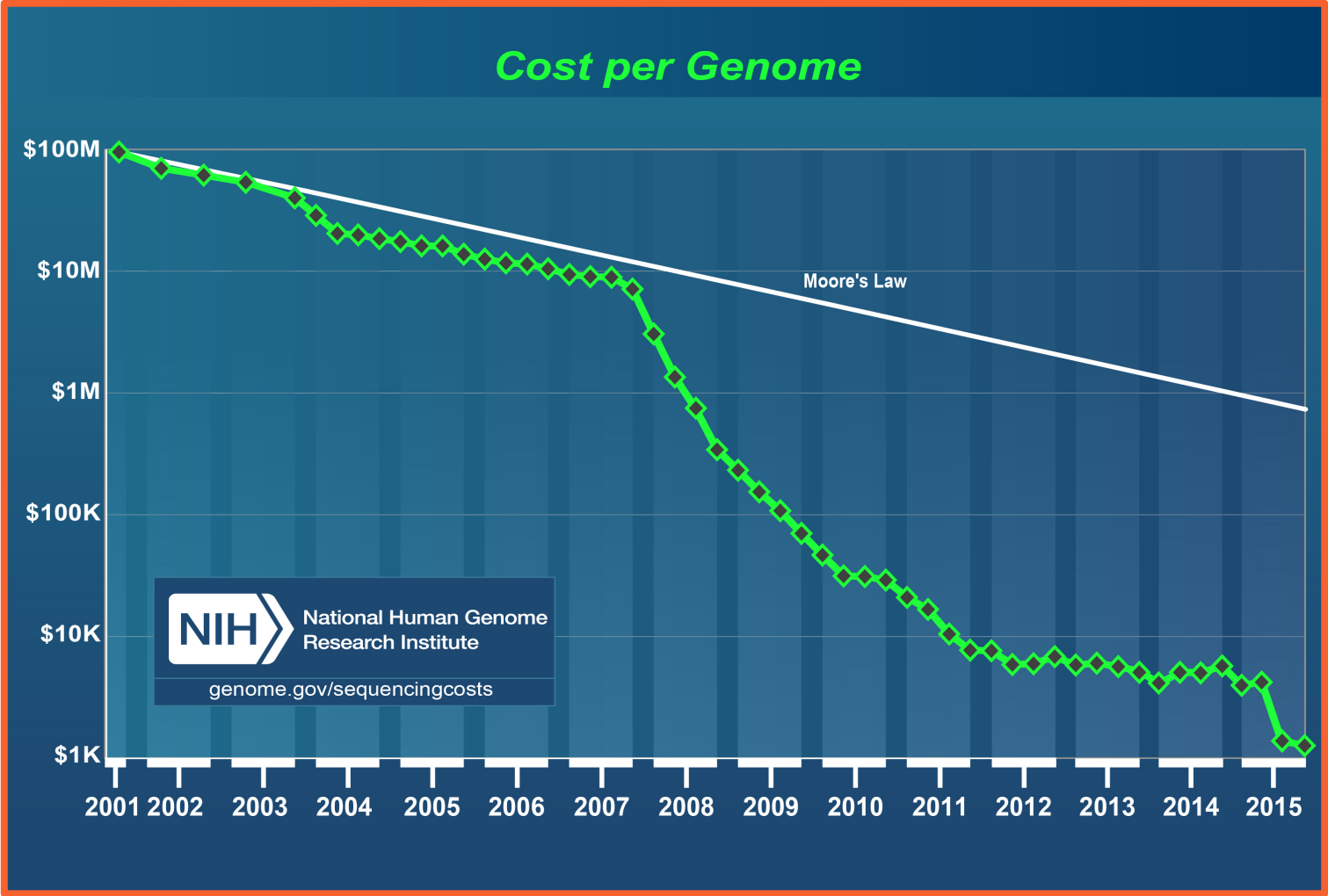


**$10^9$  genomes**





# METAGENOMICS





## ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES

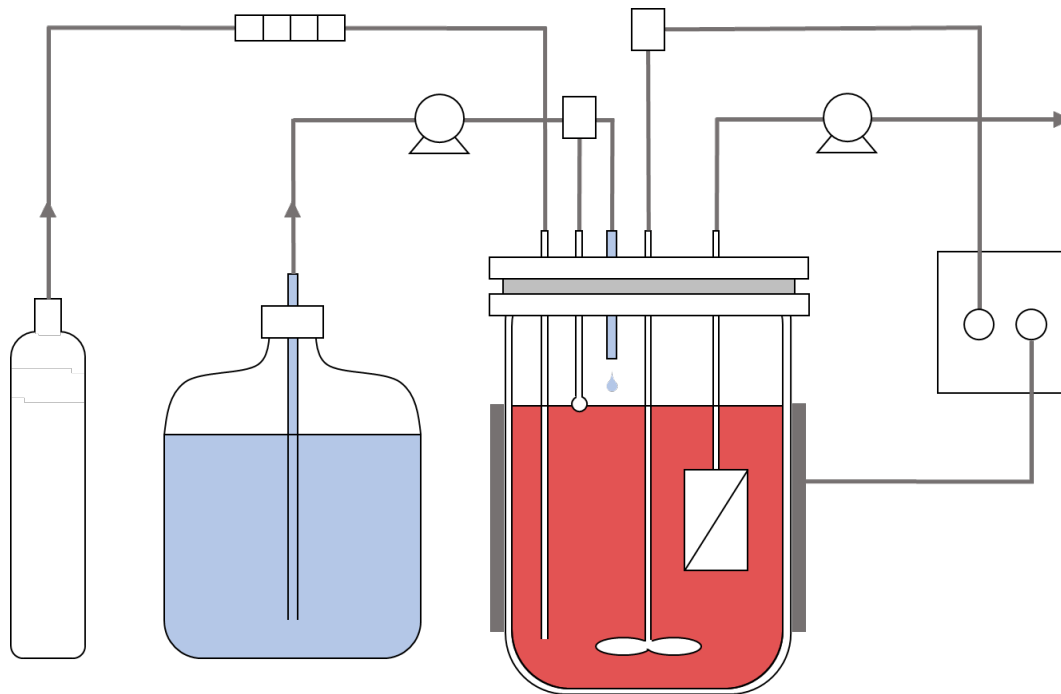
# ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES

- **Research Goal: Utilize insights from metagenomes to understand and improve the functionality of the anammox bioreactor**

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## Bioreactor Setup:



## Operating Conditions:

- Reactor:
  - Volume: 1L
  - Temperature: 37°C
  - HRT: 48-12 hours
  - SRT:  $\infty$ -50 days
- Influent:
  - Synthetic wastewater
  - ArCO<sub>2</sub>

# ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES

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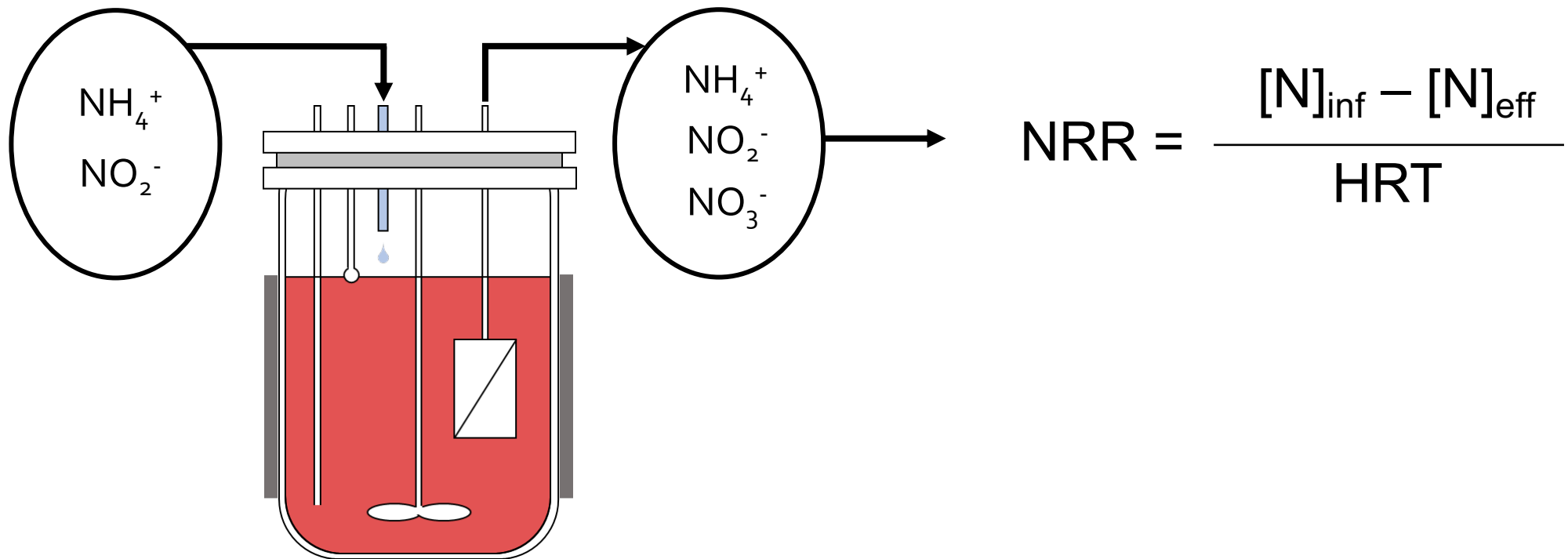
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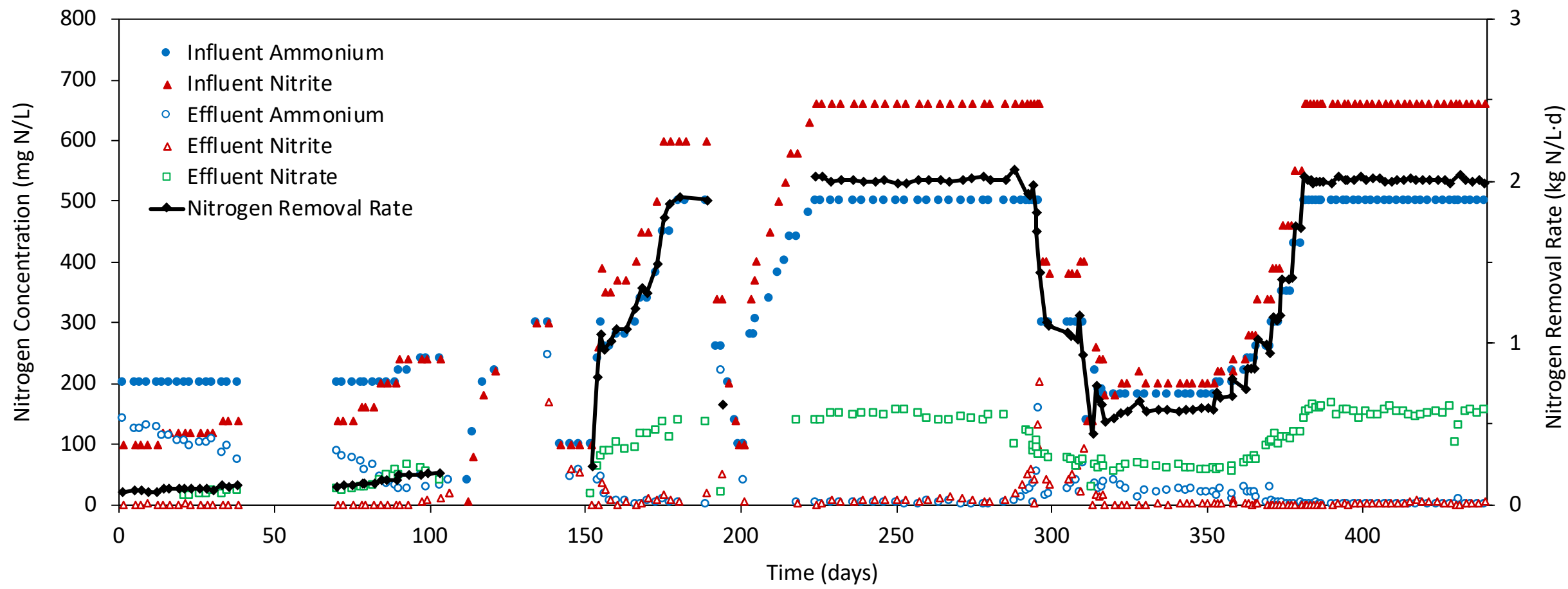


# ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES

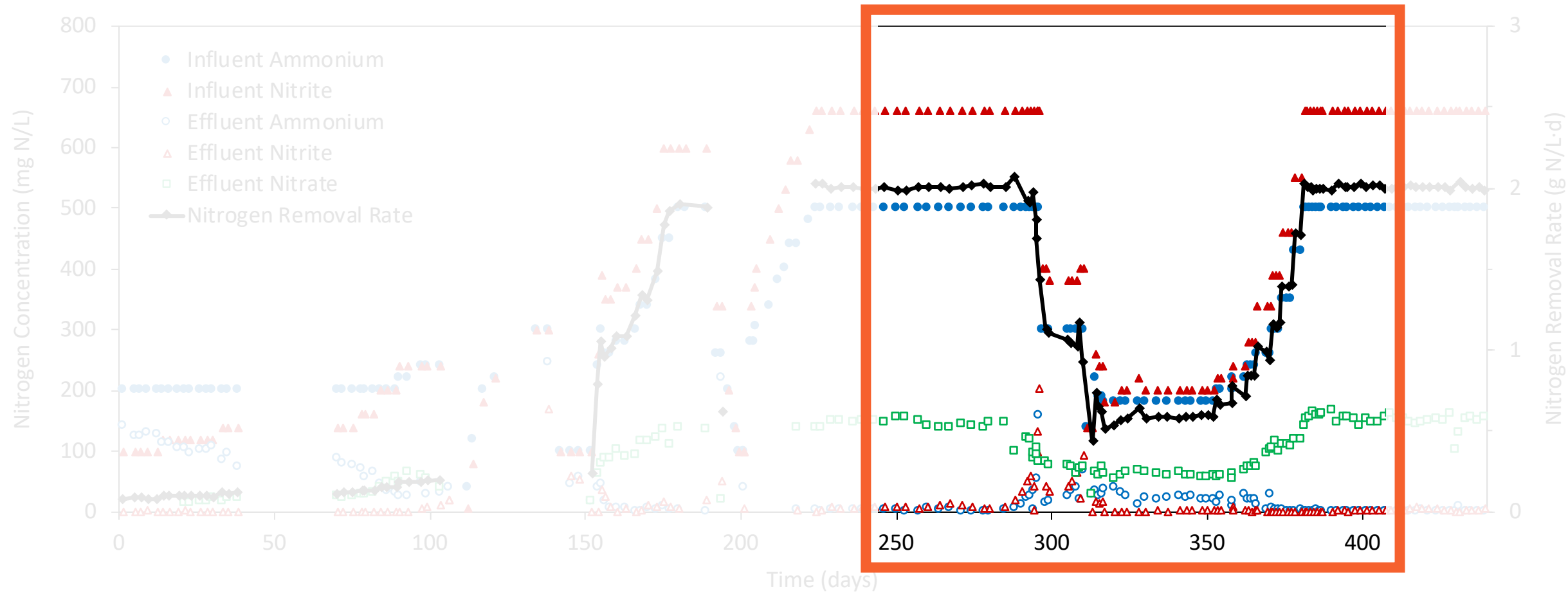
- **Performance: Tracked for over 400 days**



# ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES

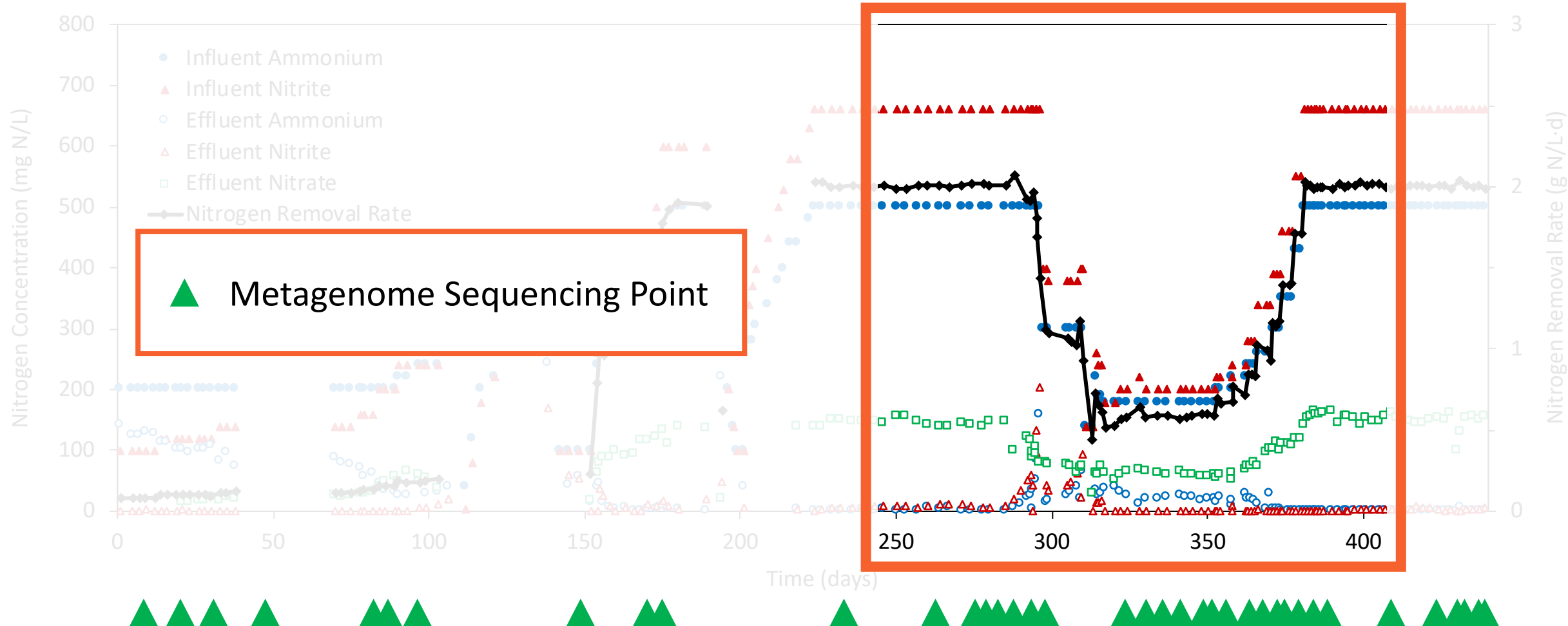


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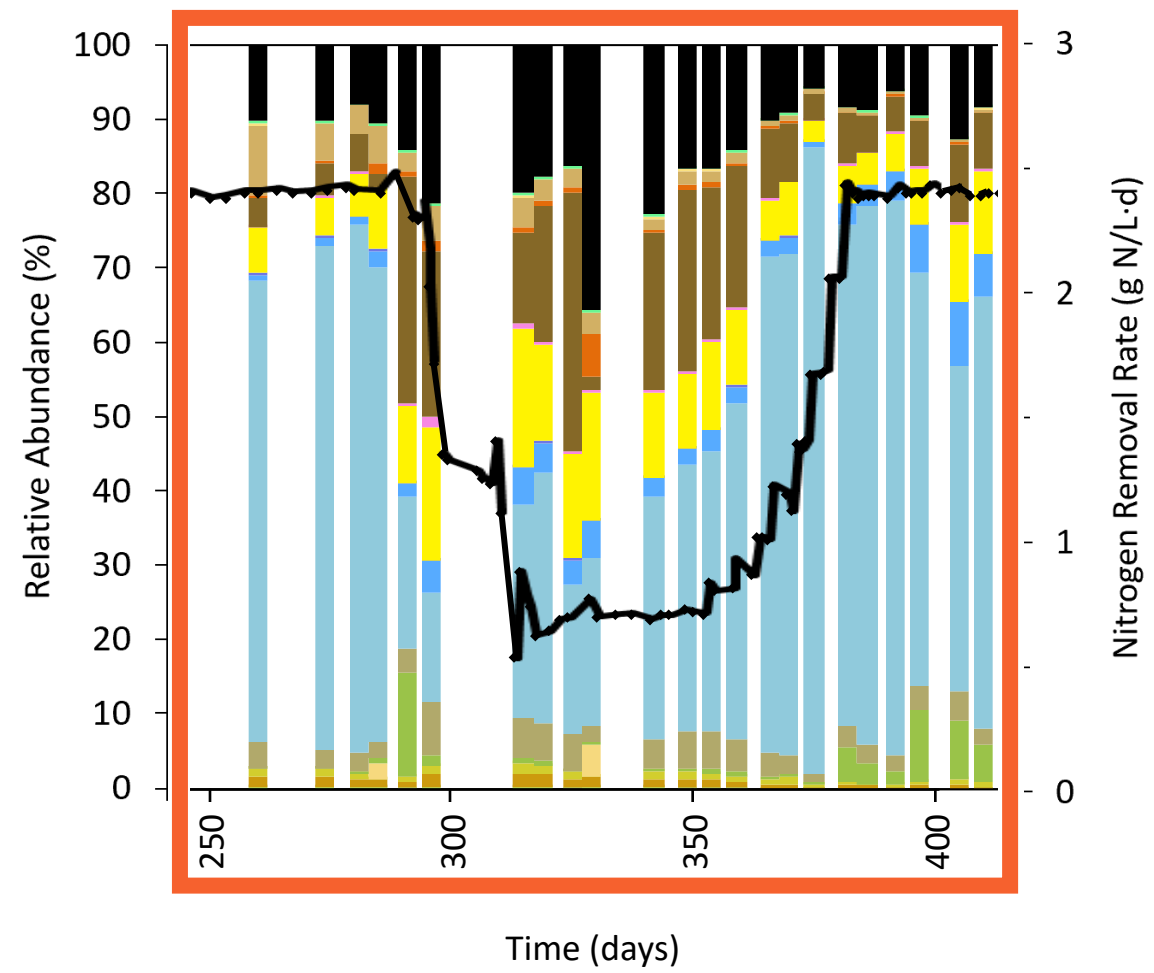


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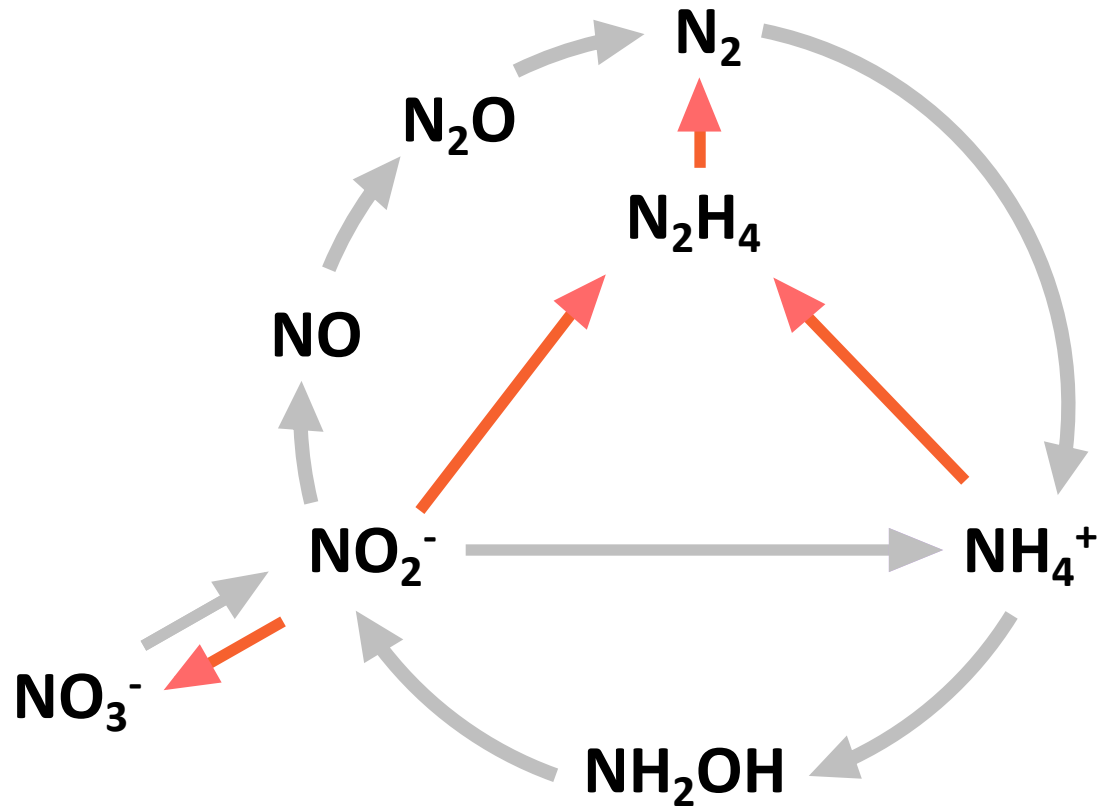
# ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES

Phylum	Classification
Unmatched	-
Acidobacteria	-
Bacteroidetes	-
Bacteroidetes	Sphingobacteria; Sphingobacteriales
Chloroflexi	-
Chloroflexi	Anaerolineae
Deinococcus-Thermus	Deinococci; Deinococcales; Truepera
Ignavibacteriae	Ignavibacteria
Nitrospirae	Nitrospira; Nitrospirales; Nitrospira
Planctomycetes	-
Planctomycetes	Planctomycetia; Brocadiales; Brocadia
Proteobacteria	-
Proteobacteria	Alphaproteobacteria
Proteobacteria	Betaproteobacteria; Burkholderiales
Proteobacteria	Betaproteobacteria; Rhodocyclales
Proteobacteria	Gammaproteobacteria
Proteobacteria	Gammaproteobacteria; Xanthomonadales
Verrucomicrobia	-

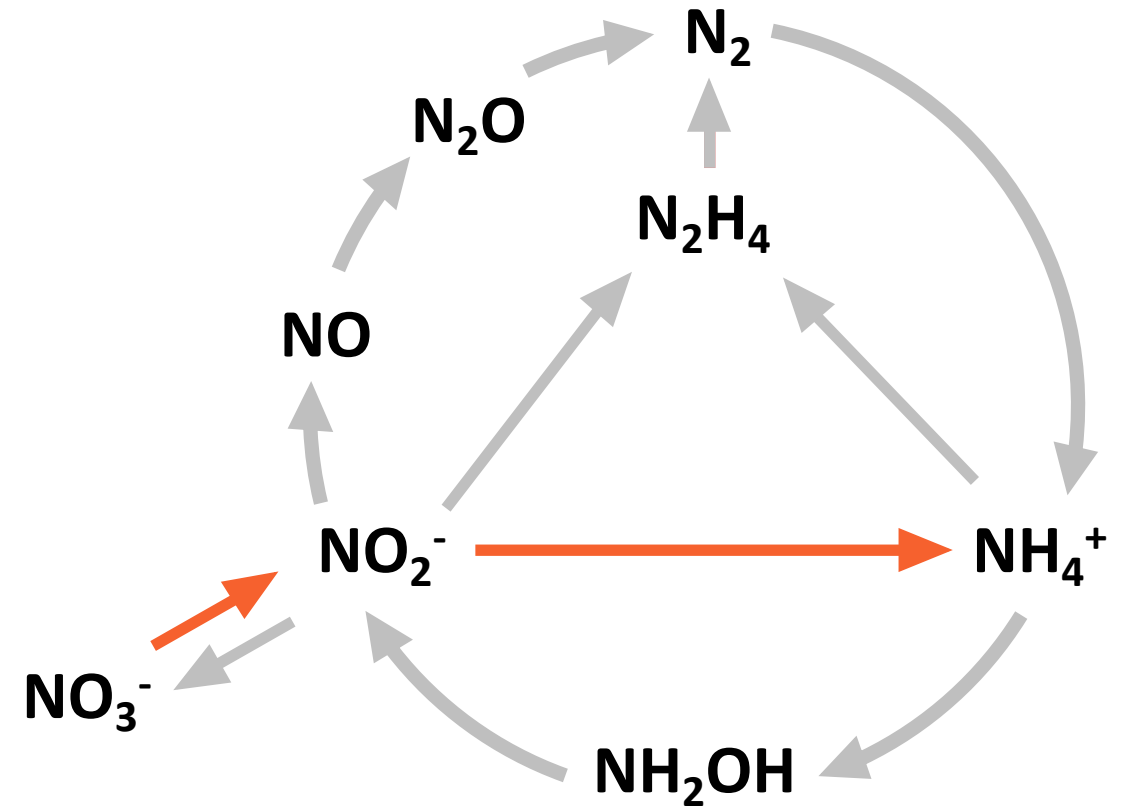


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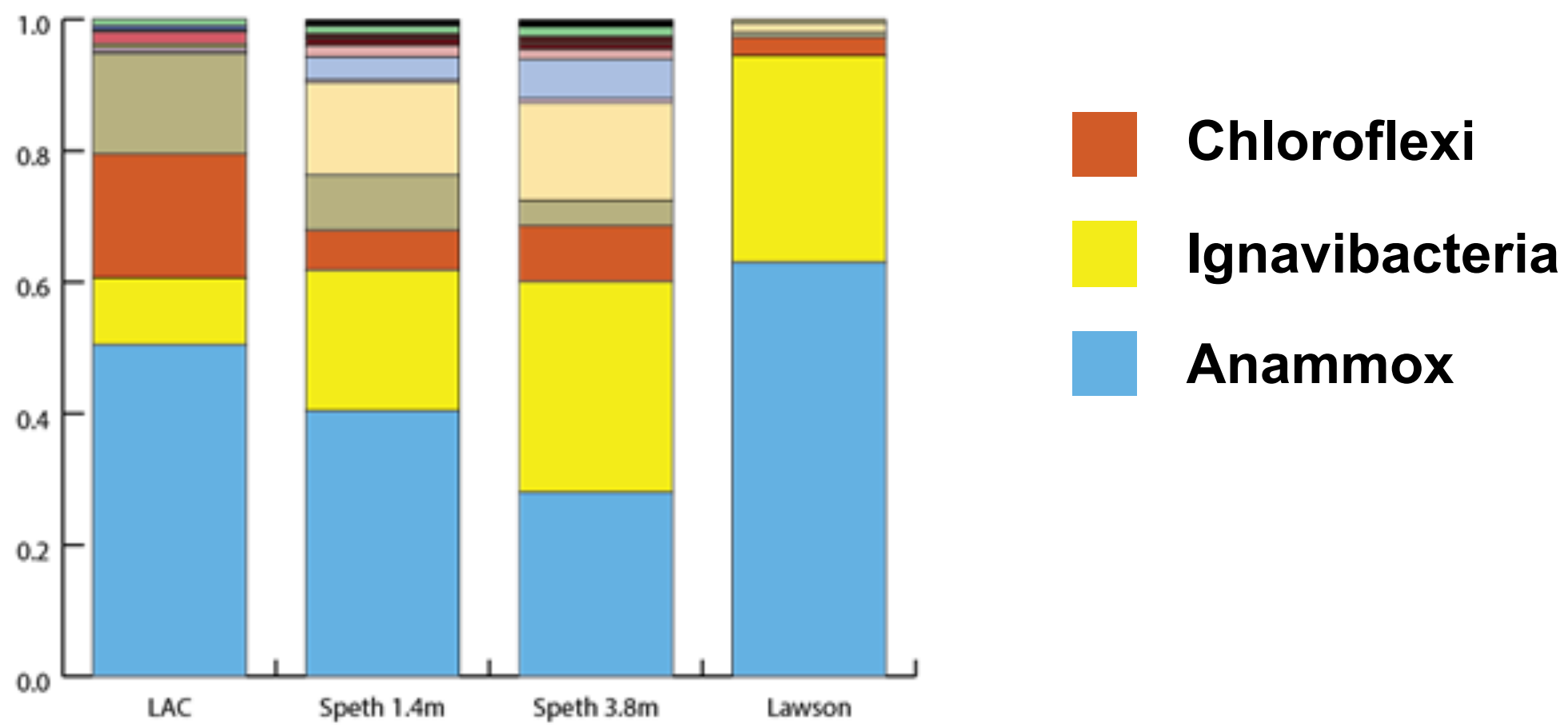
## Anammox:



## Chloroflexi: Ignavibacteria:



# ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES



# ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES

## What we know:

Chloroflexi and Ignavibacteria increased before the performance crash

- Both are capable of DNRA

Chloroflexi and Ignavibacteria are uniquely ubiquitous in anammox bioreactors.

## What this means:

Competing anaerobic nitrogen cycling pathways may have caused the anammox performance crash.

A strategy must be devised to manage their presence in anammox bioreactors.

# ANAMMOX & METAGENOMES

## Next Steps:

Identify operational or biological strategies to manage microbial interactions in an anammox reactor

- Real-time nitrogen amendments
- Microbe-specific inhibitors



# THANK YOU

Ray Keren, **Jennifer Lawrence**, Weiqin Zhuang, David Jenkins, Jill Banfield, Lisa Alvarez-Cohen, Lijie Zhou, Ke Yu “Increased Replication Rates of Dissimilatory Nitrate-Reducing Bacteria Lead to Decreased Anammox Bioreactor Performance.” *In Submission*.

**Jennifer Lawrence, Tighe & Bond**  
**JLawrence@TigheBond.com**

# ADDITIONAL SLIDES



# TEXT AND IMAGE SAMPLE

- Text first level bullet may be orange, dark grey, or blue (from theme color menu)
  - Embedded photos should have green or yellow border
  - XXX
    - XXX
    - XXX



# TABLE SAMPLE

Title	Description	Xxx	Xxx	xxx
Blue text	ewewq	wqeqeq	12	15