

Technical Brief: Functional Prototype 5

Boecillo, Valladolid Spain

Responsible



Partner



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA

Anaerobic digestion system coupled with a microbial electrolysis cell for biogas upgrading

Production Line

Anaerobic Digestion

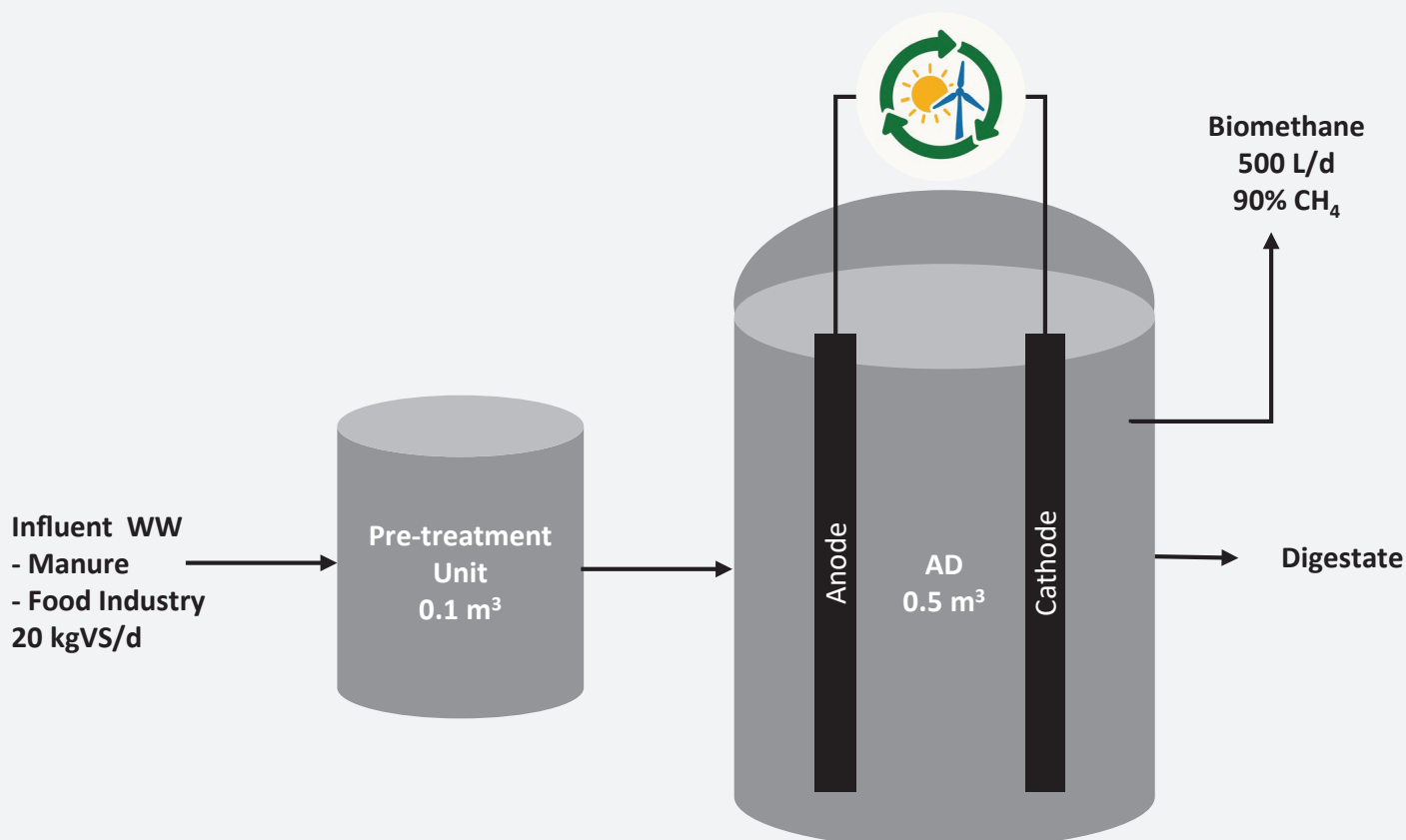
Biogenic Gas CO₂

End-Product

Upgraded Biogas / digestate

Technologies

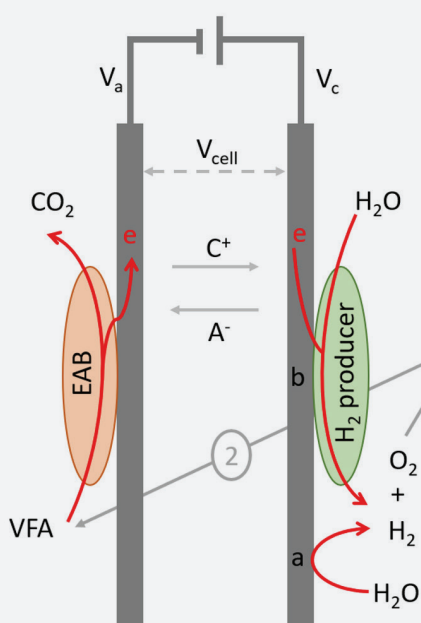
**Integration of anaerobic digestion
& microbial electrolysis for in-situ
bio-methanation**



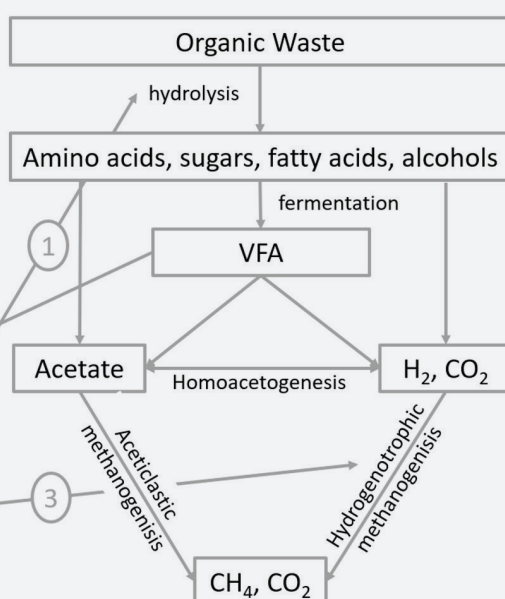
Performance Indicators

Indicator		Baseline	CRONUS FP5	Improvement (%)
CO₂ emissions	$\frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ emissions}}{\text{kg biofuel produced}}$	2,9	1,5	48
Carbon captured / Carbon utilized	$\frac{\text{kg C captured}}{\text{kg C initial feedstock}}$	-	0.08	-
Bioenergy efficiency 1 (%BE1)	$\frac{\text{Energy content of produced biofuels}}{\text{Energy input in the whole system}}$	1,0	4.0	300
Bioenergy efficiency 2 (%BE2)	$\frac{\text{Energy content of produced biofuels}}{\text{Energy content of initial feedstock}}$	1,5	6,8	350
Biomass resource utilization (%BR)	$\frac{\text{kg products}}{\text{kg initial feedstock}}$	40	53	33

Microbial Electrolysis Cell



Anaerobic Digestion



Integration of anaerobic digestion & microbial electrolysis for in-situ bio-methanation

Possible synergies between the 2 technologies:

1. Formation of micro-oxic zones enhancing hydrolysis,
2. Consumption of VFAs by electrochemically active bacteria limiting VFA accumulation promoting AD stability
3. Production of H₂ promoting hydrogenotrophic methanogenesis and thereby enhancing CH₄ content.