

Civil Engineering

Environmental Engg : Vol-II

(Sewage Disposal & Air Pollution Engineering)

Comprehensive Theory

with Solved Examples and Practice Questions



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Environmental Engineering : Vol-II (Sewage Disposal & Air Pollution Engineering)

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Contents

Environmental Engg : Vol-II (Sewage Disposal & Air Pollution Engineering)

Chapter 1

Waste Water Characteristics 1

1.1	Characteristics of Sewage	2
1.1.1	Physical Characteristics of Sewage and their Testing	2
1.1.2	Chemical Characteristic	3
1.2	Population Equivalent	10
1.3	Relative Stability	12
1.4	Ratios	13
1.4.1	BOD/COD Ratio	13
1.4.2	COD/TOC Ratio	13
	Objective Brain Teasers	18

Chapter 2

Biochemical Reactions in Treatment

of Waste Water 23

2.1	Biochemical Reactions	23
2.2	Biological Growth	24
2.3	Decomposition of Sewage	26
2.3.1	Aerobic Decomposition	26
2.3.2	Anaerobic Decomposition	26
2.4	Various Types of Bacteria	31
	Objective Brain Teasers	32

Chapter 3

Disposing of the Sewage Effluents..... 33

3.1	Disposal by Dilution	33
3.1.1	Condition Favouring Disposal by Dilution	33
3.1.2	Standards of Dilution for Discharge of Wastewaters into Rivers	33
3.2	Dilution in Rivers and Self Purification of Natural Streams	34
3.2.1	Dilution and Dispersion	35

3.2.2	Sedimentation	37
3.2.3	Sunlight	37
3.2.4	Oxidation	37
3.2.5	Reduction	37
3.3	Various Factors on which Natural Forces of Purification Depends	37
3.3.1	Temperature	37
3.3.2	Turbulence	37
3.4	Zone of Pollution in River Stream	38
3.5	Indices of Self Purification	39
3.6	Oxygen Deficit of a Polluted River Stream	40
3.6.1	Reaeration	40
3.6.2	Rate of Oxygen Removed	40
3.6.3	The Oxygen Sag Curve	41
3.7	Disposal of Waste Waters in Lakes and Management of Lake Water	46
3.8	Stratification of Lakes	46
3.9	Biological Zones in Lakes	46
3.10	Productivity of Lake	47
3.11	Disposal of Waste Water in Sea Water	48
	Objective Brain Teasers	56

Chapter 4

Design of Sewerage System

and Sewer Appurtenances..... 60

4.1	Difference in the Design of Water Supply Pipes and Sewer Pipes	60
4.2	Sewer Materials	61
4.3	Laying of Sewer Pipes	67
4.3.1	Marking of the Alignment	67
4.3.2	Excavation of Trench	68
4.3.3	Bracing of the Trench	68
4.3.4	Dewatering of Trench	68

4.3.5	Laying of Pipes	68
4.3.6	Testing of the Sewer Pipes	69
4.4	Types of Collection System	69
4.4.1	Sanitary Sewer	69
4.4.2	Storm Sewer	70
4.4.3	Combined Sewer System	71
4.5	Assumptions in Sewer Design	72
4.6	Design Data	73
4.7	Maximum Velocity	74
4.8	Equal Degree of Self cleansing	78
4.8.1	Shield's Expression for Self-cleansing Velocity	78
4.9	Egg Shaped Sewer	80
4.10	Storm Water Drainage	81
4.10.1	Computing the Peak Drainage Discharge by the Use of Rational Formula	81
4.10.2	Rational Formula	83
4.11	Sewer Appurtenances	85
4.11.1	Manholes	85
4.11.2	Drop Manhole	86
4.11.3	Lamp Holes	87
4.11.4	Clean-Outs	87
4.11.5	Street Inlets or Gullies	88
4.11.6	Catch Basins or Catch Pits	88
4.11.7	Flushing Tanks	89
4.11.8	Grease and Oil Traps	89
4.11.9	Inverted Siphons	90
4.11.10	Storm Water Regulators or Storm Relief Works	92
4.12	Shape of Sewer Pipes	94
4.13	Corrosion of Concrete Sewers Due to Biological Reaction	95
4.14	Methods of Ventilation	96
4.15	Maintenance of Sewer	96
4.16	Cleaning of Sewers	96
4.16.1	Precautions to be Taken While Entering Sewers	97
	Objective Brain Teasers	104

Chapter 5

Treatment of Sewage 110

5.1	Treatment Methods	110
5.1.1	Unit Operations	110
5.1.2	Unit Process	110
5.2	Primary Treatments	115
5.2.1	Screening	119
5.2.2	Comminutors	121
5.2.3	Disposal of Screenings	122
5.2.4	Grit Removal Basins	123
5.2.5	Design Criteria	123
5.2.7	Grit Chambers or Grit Channels	128
5.2.8	Detritus Tanks	132
5.2.9	Tanks for Removing Oils and Grease	132
5.2.10	Sedimentation	134
5.2.11	Types of Settling	135
5.3	Secondary Treatment of Sewage	137
5.3.1	Secondary Treatment Through Biological Filtration of Sewage	137
5.3.2	Contact Beds for Biological Filtration of Sewage	138
5.3.3	Intermittent Sand Filters for Biological Filtration of Sewage	139
5.3.4	Trickling Filters for Biological Filtration of Sewage : (Attached Growth System)	139
5.4	Secondary Sedimentation	149
5.4.1	Secondary Settling Tanks or Humus Tanks ..	149
5.5	Digestion and Disposal of Primary and Secondary Sludge	151
5.5.1	Sludge Sources, Characteristics and Quantities	151
5.5.2	Sludge Treatment Processes	151
5.5.3	Constituents	153
5.5.4	Sludge Digestion Process	155
5.5.5	Stages of the Sludge Digestion Process	157
5.5.6	Factors affecting Sludge Digestion and their Control	158
5.6	Sludge Digestion Tank or Digesters (Aerobic Suspended Culture)	160
5.6.1	Constructional Details	160
5.6.2	Design Consideration	160
5.6.3	High Rate Digesters	161
5.6.4	Two Stage Sludge Digesters	162
5.7	Dewatering Disposal of Digested Sludge	165
5.7.1	Objective and Process Selection	165
5.7.2	Disposal of Dewatered Sludge	167

5.8	Secondary Treatment Through Activated Sludge Process (Aerobic Suspended Culture)	170
5.8.1	Various operations and Units of an Activated Sludge Plant	170
5.8.2	Secondary Sedimentation Tank of an Activated Sludge Plant	174
5.8.3	Sludge Thickener and Sludge Digestion Tank of an Active Sludge Plant	176
5.8.4	Bulking and Foaming Sludge in an Activated Sludge Treatment Plant	178
5.8.5	Sludge Stabilization	179
5.8.6	Chlorine Stabilization	180
5.8.7	Design Consideration Involved in an Activated Sludge Plant	180
5.8.8	Modification of the Basic Activated Sludge Process	186
5.8.9	Advantages Offered by an Activated Sludge Plant	190
5.8.10	Disadvantages Offered by an Activated Sludge Plant	191
5.9	Secondary Treatment Through Rotating Biological Contactors	193
5.10	Oxidation Ditches or Extended Aeration Lagoons ..	194
5.10.1	Continuous Flow Type	195
5.10.2	Intermittent Flow Type	195
5.10.3	Reaction Kinetics	195
5.11	Aerobic Stabilization Units	197
5.11.1	Oxidation Ponds and Stabilization Ponds ...	197
5.11.2	Design Parameter for Oxidation Pond	198
5.11.3	Use of Lagoons for Disposal of Raw Sludge	202
5.11.4	Aerated Lagoons	203
5.12	Anaerobic Stabilisation Units	204
5.12.1	Anaerobic and Facultative Stabilisation Ponds	204
5.12.2	Septic Tanks	204
5.12.3	Imhoff Tank	212
5.12.4	High Rate Anaerobic Systems	213
	<i>Objective Brain Teasers</i>	234

Chapter 6

Solid Waste Management250

6.1	Types of Solid Wastes	250
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6.1.1	Municipal Solid Wastes	250
6.1.2	Industrial Wastes	251
6.1.3	Municipal Solid Waste Composition and Quality of Generated Municipal Solid Wastes	252
6.2	Functional Elements of Solid Waste Management ...	253
6.2.1	Factors affecting Generation Rates	254
6.2.2	On-site Handling, Storage and Processing ..	254
6.2.3	Collection of Solid Wastes	255
6.2.4	Transfer and Transport	257
6.2.5	Processing Techniques	257
6.3	Disposal of Municipal Solid Wastes (MSW)	258
6.3.1	Disposal of Refuse by Open Dumping	259
6.3.2	Disposal of Refuse by Land Filling	259
6.3.3	Disposal of Refuse by Shredding and Pulverisation	267
6.3.4	Disposal of Refuse by Composting	268
6.3.5	Disposal of Refuse by Incineration and Thermal Pyrolysis	271
6.3.6	Disposal of Refuse by Barging it out into the Sea	273
6.4	Storage, Transportation and Disposal of Industrial Solid Wastes	273
	<i>Objective Brain Teasers</i>	275

Chapter 7

Air Pollution277

7.1	Source and Classification of Air Pollutants	277
7.1.1	Air Contaminants	278
7.1.2	Natural Contaminants	278
7.2	Gases	280
7.3	Primary and Secondary Air Pollutants	281
7.4	Effects of Air Pollution	282
7.4.1	Effects of Air Pollution on Human Health	282
7.4.2	Effects of Air Pollution on Plants	283
7.4.3	Effects of Air-pollutants on Live Stock Animals	283
7.4.4	Effects of Air Pollutant on Materials and Services	284
7.4.5	Effects of Air Pollutant on Aquatic Life	284
7.4.6	Effects of Air Pollutant on Global and Regional Environment	284

7.5	Photochemical Air Pollution	284
7.5.1	Nitrogen Dioxide Photochemical Reaction ..	284
7.5.2	Sulphur Dioxide Photochemical Reaction	285
7.5.3	Aldehyde Photochemical Reaction	285
7.6	Photochemical Smog	285
7.7	Composition and Structure of the Atmosphere	286
7.8	Acid Rain.....	286
7.9	Global Warming.....	287
7.10	Ozone Layer Depletion	288
7.11	Meteorology and Natural Purification Process.....	289
7.12	Elemental Properties of the Atmosphere.....	289
7.13	Control of Air Pollution	291
7.13.1	Natural Self Cleansing Properties of the Environment.....	291
7.13.2	Engineered System.....	292
7.14	Control Devices for Particulates.....	292
7.15	Control Devices for Gaseous Pollutants.....	301
7.15.1	Adsorption Unit	301
7.15.2	Absorption Units	302
7.15.3	Condensation Units.....	305
7.15.4	Combustion Unit.....	305
7.16	Automotive Emission Control.....	308
7.17	Dispersion of Air Pollutants into the Atmosphere	308
7.18	Negative Lapse Rate and Inversion	310
7.18.1	Radiation Inversion.....	311
7.18.2	Subsidence Inversion.....	311
7.19	Impact of Winds on Dispersion of Pollutants.....	311
7.20	Plume Behaviour	312
7.21	Design of Stack Height.....	315
	<i>Objective Brain Teasers</i>	319

Chapter 8

Noise Pollution328

8.1	The Effects of Noise	328
8.1.1	Noise induced Annoyance	328
8.1.2	Noise induced Disease	328
8.1.3	Sleeplessness.....	328
8.1.4	Communication Interference	328
8.1.5	Noise induced Hearing Loss.....	329

8.1.6	Effect of Noise on Wildlife	329
8.2	Characteristics of Sound and its Measurement	329
8.2.1	Levels of Noise.....	330
8.2.2	Sound Intensity Level	331
8.2.3	Octave Band Analysis	332
8.2.4	Averaging Sound Pressure Levels	332
8.3	Noise Rating Systems	333
8.3.1	The LN Concept	333
8.3.2	The Leq Concept	333
8.4	Sources of Noise and Their Noise Levels.....	334
8.4.1	Traffic Noise.....	334
8.4.2	Industrial Noise	334
8.4.3	Noise Produced by Other Sources	334
8.5	Noise Abatement and Control	335
	<i>Objective Brain Teasers</i>	336

Chapter 9

Ventilation of Buildings for Controlling Indoor Air Pollution.....339

9.1	Effects of Occupancy of a Space.....	339
9.2	Purpose of Ventilation	340
9.3	Systems of Ventilation	340
9.3.1	Natural Ventilation.....	340
9.3.2	Mechanical Ventilation.....	341
9.4	Functions and Types of Traps being Used in Sanitary Plumbing System.....	345
9.5	System of Plumbing	347
9.5.1	Two Pipe System.....	347
9.5.2	One Pipe System.....	348
9.5.3	Single Stack System.....	349
9.5.4	Partially Ventilated Single Stack or Single Pipe System.....	349
9.6	Sanitary Fitting and Other Accessories	351
9.6.1	Water Closets (W.C.)	351
9.6.2	Urinals	352
9.6.3	A Flushing Cistern	352
9.7	Ventilation of House Drains.....	352
9.8	Antisiphonage Pipes.....	352
	<i>Objective Brain Teasers</i>	353



Waste Water Characteristics

INTRODUCTION

- When untreated sewage is discharged into river stream, floating solids present in the discharged sewage get decompose and create foul smells and bad odours.
- The organic matter present in the discharged sewage consume the dissolved oxygen of river stream in getting oxidised and decrease the dissolved oxygen causing fish kills and other undesirable effects.
- Waste water are usually classified as industrial waste water or municipal waste water.
- Industrial waste water with characteristic compatible with municipal waste water is often discharged into the municipal sewers.
- Many industrial waste water require pretreatment to remove non-compatible substances prior to discharge into the municipal system.
- Water collected in municipal waste water system contains wide variety of contaminants.
- Commonly found contaminants with their source and environmental significance are given below.

Table: 1.1 Important waste water contaminants

SL. No.	Contaminant	Source	Environmental Significance
1	Suspended Solids	Domestic use, Industrial wastes	Cause sludge deposits and anaerobic condition in aquatic environment
2	Biodegradable Organics	Domestic use, Industrial wastes	Cause biological degradation
3	Pathogens	Domestic water	Transmit communicable diseases
4	Nutrients	Domestic and Industrial waste	Cause eutrophication
5	Refractory Organics	Industrial waste	Cause taste and odour problems

- Hence for its safe disposal, it is very necessary to study the characteristics and behavior of sewage.

NOTE: Even though municipal sewage is 99.9 percent water, it requires treatment, if nuisance is to be avoided.

1.1 Characteristics of Sewage

The quality of sewage can be checked and analysed by studying and testing its physical, chemical and bacteriological (biological) characteristics.

1.1.1 Physical Characteristics of Sewage and their Testing

The most important physical characteristics of waste water are

- (i) Turbidity (ii) Colour (iii) Odour (iv) Temperature

(i) Turbidity

- Sewage is normally turbid, resembling dirty dish water or waste water from baths having other floating matter like faecal matter, pieces of paper, cigarette-ends, match-sticks, greases, vegetable debris, fruit skins, soaps, etc. The turbidity increases as sewage becomes stronger.
- Turbidity is measured photometrically by determining the percentage of light of a given intensity that is either absorbed or scattered.
- It is expressed as the amount of suspended solids in mg/L or ppm (parts per million).
- The degree of turbidity can be measured and tested by
 - (i) Turbidity rods
 - (ii) Turbidimeters

NOTE



- (i) Turbidity rod consists of an aluminium rod which is graduated, as to give the turbidity in silica units.
- (ii) Turbidimeter works on the principle of measuring the interference caused by water sample to the passage of light rays.

(ii) Colour

- The colour of sewage can normally be detected by the naked eye and it indicates the freshness of sewage.
- If colour is yellow, grey or light brown, it indicates fresh sewage and if the colour is black or dark brown it indicates stale or septic sewage.
- Some industrial waste water may also add colours to the domestic waste water.
- The common method of colour removal is by coagulation followed by sedimentation.

NOTE: When all the oxygen has disappeared from sewage, it becomes septic

(iii) Odour

- Fresh sewage is practically odourless.
- Odour in waste water usually is caused by gases produced by the decomposition of organic matter.
- The most characteristic odour of stale or septic waste water is that of hydrogen sulphide which is produced by anaerobic microorganisms that reduces sulphate to sulphides.
- The extent of odour present in a particular sample of waste water is measured by a term called odour intensity, which is related with the Threshold Odour Number (TON).

NOTE: Threshold odour number, represents the number of dilutions required to reduce an odour.

(iv) Temperature

- The temperature of waste water is commonly higher than that of water supply because of addition of warm waste from households and industrial activities.
- The average temperature of sewage in India is 20°C, which is near about the ideal temperature for the biological activities.
- The temperature of water is very important parameter because of its effect on the aquatic life, the chemical reactions and reaction rates and suitability of the water for beneficial uses.

1.1.2 Chemical Characteristic

Chemical characteristics are result of the solvent properties of water and they are often important in specifying water quantity. Important chemical characteristics of waste water are listed below:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| (a) Total solids, suspended solids and settleable solids | (b) pH value |
| (c) Chloride content | (d) Nitrogen content |
| (e) Presence of fats, greases and oils | (f) Sulphides, sulphates and H ₂ S gas |
| (g) Dissolved oxygen | (h) Chemical oxygen demand (COD) |
| (i) Theoretical oxygen demand (ThOD) | (j) Total organic carbon |
| (k) Bio-chemical oxygen demand (BOD) | |

(a) Total Solids, Suspended Solids and Settleable Solids

- Solids present in sewage may be in any of the four forms, suspended solids, dissolved solids, colloidal solids and settleable solids.
- Suspended solids are those solids which remain floating in sewage.
- Colloidal solids are finely divided solids remaining either in solution or in suspension.
- Settleable solids are that portion of solid matter which settles out, if the waste water is allowed to remain undisturbed for a period of 2 hours.

NOTE: It has been estimated that about 1000 kg of sewage contains about 0.45 kg of total solids, out of which 0.225 kg is in solution, 0.112 kg is in suspension and 0.112 kg is settleable.

- The solids in sewage comprise of both: the organic and inorganic solids, which is about 45 and 55 percent of total solids respectively.
- Inorganic matter consist of sand, gravel, debris, chlorides, sulphates etc.
- Organic matter consist of
 - Carbohydrates such as cellulose, cotton, fibre, sugar etc.
 - Fats and oils from kitchen, garages, shops etc.
 - Nitrogenous compounds like proteins, urea, fatty acids etc.
- The amounts of various kinds of solids present in waste water can be determined as follows:
 - (a) Total amount of solids can be determined by evaporating a known volume of waste water sample and weighing the dry residue left. The mass of residue left divided by the volume of sample is total solids in mg/l.
 - (b) The suspended solids also called non-filtuable solids, as they are retained by a filter of 1 µm pores. Their quantity can be determined by passing a known volume of sewage sample through glass-fibre filter apparatus and weighing the dry residue left and dividing by volume of sample filtered will give suspended solids in mg/l.

- (c) The difference between the total solids (S_1) and the suspended solids (S_2) represent dissolved solids plus colloids or filterable solids (S_3)

i.e. $S_3 = S_1 - S_2$.

- (d) Now the total suspended solids (S_2) may either be volatile or fixed. Let the volatile suspended solids concentration be S_4 (mg/l).

$\therefore S_2 - S_4 = S_5$ will represent the fixed solids

- (e) The quantity of settleable solids can be determined using Imhoff cone. Waste water is allowed to stand in the cone for two hours and the quantity of solids settled down in the bottom is directly read out, which gives an approximate amount of settleable solids.

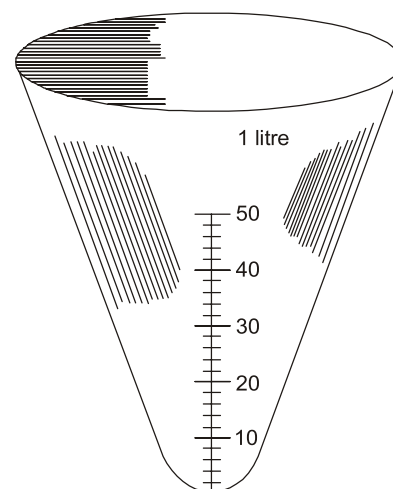


Fig. 1.1 Imhoff cone
(Conical Glass Vessel)

(b) pH Value

- The pH value of sewage indicates the negative log of hydrogen ions concentration present in sewage.
i.e. $\text{pH} = -\log H^+ \text{ or } H^+ = (10)^{-\text{pH}}$
- The determination of pH value is very important, as it gives an idea about certain treatments which depends upon pH value.
- The pH value can be measured by the help of potentiometer which measure the electrical potential exerted by the hydrogen ions, and thus indicating their concentration.

NOTE: The fresh sewage is generally alkaline in nature (with pH more the 7) but as time passes its pH tends to fall due to production of acids by bacterial action in anaerobic or nitrification processes.

(c) Chloride Content

- Chlorides are generally present in municipal sewage and are derived from the kitchen wastes, human faeces and urinary discharge etc.
- The normal chloride content of domestic sewage is 120 mg/l, however, large amount of chlorides may enter from industries like ice-cream plants, meat salting etc. thus increasing the chloride content of waste water.
- The chloride content can be measured by titrating the waste water with standard silver nitrate solution, using potassium chromate as an indicator.

(d) Nitrogen Content

The presence of nitrogen in sewage indicates the presence of organic matter and may occur in one or more of the following forms:

- Free ammonia called ammonia nitrogen (indicates recent pollution).
- Albuminoid nitrogen called organic nitrogen (indicates quantity of nitrogen before decomposition has started).
- Nitrites (indicates partly decomposed condition).
- Nitrates [indicates old pollution (fully oxidised)]

NOTE: Lack of nitrates causes the body to turn bluish, it may lead the child to turn blue. Hence, this disease, popularly called blue baby disease or methemoglobinemia.

(e) Presence of Fats, Oils and Greases

- Greases, fats and oils are derived in sewage from the discharge of animals and vegetable matter or from industries like garages, kitchen of hotels and restaurants etc.
- Such matter form scum on the top of the sedimentation tanks and clog the voids of the filtering media. Therefore, they interfere with the normal treatment methods, and hence need proper detection and removal.
- Fats and oils are compounds of alcohol or glycerol with fatty acids.
- The amount of fats and greases in sewage sample can be determined by evaporating it and then mixing the residual solids left, with ether (hexane). The solution is then poured off and evaporated, leaving behind the fats and greases as residue, which can be easily weighed.

(f) Sulphides, Sulphates and Hydrogen Sulphide Gas

- Sulphides and sulphates are formed due to the decomposition of various sulphur containing substances present in sewage.
- This decomposition also leads to evolution of hydrogen sulphide gas, causing bad smells and odours, besides causing corrosion of concrete sewer pipes.
- The aerobic and facultative bacteria, oxidise the sulphur and its compounds present in sewage to initially form sulphides, which ultimately breakdown to form sulphate ions (SO_4^-), which is a stable and unobjectionable end product.

(g) Dissolved Oxygen (D.O)

- Dissolved oxygen present in sewage is very important for respiration of aerobic micro-organism as well as for all other aerobic life forms.
- The dissolved oxygen in fresh sewage depends upon temperature. If the temperature of sewage is more, the D.O. content will be less. Maximum quantity of D.O. that can remain mixed in water at a particular temperature is called Saturation Dissolved Oxygen.
- The D.O. content of sewage is generally determined by the Winkler's Method.

NOTE: The solubility of oxygen in sewage is 95% of that in distilled water.



1. It is necessary to ensure at least 4 ppm of dissolved oxygen in discharged treated sewage, otherwise fish are likely to be killed.
2. Dissolved oxygen is desirable in drinking water but it is usually removed from boiler feed waters because of the manner in which it accelerates corrosion of metals.

(h) Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)

- The COD test is used to measure the content of organic matter of waste water, both biodegradable and non biodegradable.
- The oxygen equivalent of organic matter that can be oxidised is measured by using a strong chemical oxidising agent in an acidic medium. [Potassium dichromate has been found to be excellent for this purpose. ($\text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7$)]
- This test is also called dichromate-oxygen demand test

(i) Theoretical Oxygen Demand (ThOD)

The oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter present in a given waste water can be theoretically computed, if the organics present in waste water are known. Thus, if the chemical formulas and the concentration of the chemical compounds present in water are known, we can easily calculate the ThOD of each of these compounds by writing the balanced reaction for the compound with oxygen to produce CO_2 , H_2O and oxidised inorganic components.

Remember: For most practical cases $\text{COD} = \text{ThOD (taken)}$ [However, generally $\text{ThOD} \geq \text{COD} \geq \text{BOD} > \text{TOC}$]

(j) Total Organic Carbon

It is another important method of expressing organic matter in terms of its carbon content.

(k) Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand

The organic matter is of two types :

- (a) Biologically active or biologically degradable (b) Biologically inactive
- Biochemical oxygen demand is used as a measure of the quantity of oxygen required for oxidation of biodegradable organic matter present in water sample by aerobic biological action.
- Oxygen demand of waste water is exerted by three classes of materials
 - (a) Carbonaceous organic materials.
 - (b) Oxidisable nitrogen derived from nitrite, ammonia and other organic nitrogen compounds which serves as food for specific bacteria (Nitrosomonas and nitrobacter).
 - (c) Chemical reducing compounds e.g. Fe^{2+} , SO_3^{2-} (sulfites), S^{2-} (sulfide) which are oxidised by dissolved oxygen.
- For domestic sewage, nearly all oxygen demand is due to carbonaceous organic material and is determined by BOD test.

NOTE


When the nitrogenous matter is also to be removed in treatment process, Nitrogenous demand is also found out. This is called N-BOD (i.e. O_2 required for conversion of nitrogenous matter to nitrate). Removal of nitrogen from the system is achieved by 1st oxidising the nitrogenous organic matter to nitrate (i.e. nitrification) and then denitrifying the nitrate to release nitrogen gas (N_2) which goes out of the waste water.

- BOD test constitutes the most important test for waste waters and is discussed below:
 - (i) If sufficient oxygen is available in waste water, the useful aerobic bacteria will flourish and cause the aerobic biological decomposition of waste water, which will continue until oxidation is completed. The amount of oxygen consumed in this process is the BOD.
 - (ii) Hence the BOD of water during 5 Days at 20°C is generally taken as the standard and is about 68% of the total demand. A 10 days BOD is about 90% of the total.
 - (iii) This standard 5 day BOD, is written as BOD_5 or simply as BOD and is determined in the laboratory by mixing or diluting a known volume of a sample of waste water with known volume of aerated pure water and then calculating the D.O. of this diluted sample. The diluted sample is then incubated for 5 days at 20°C . The D.O. of diluted sample after this period of incubation, is again calculated. The difference between the initial D.O. value and the final D.O. value will

indicate the oxygen consumed by the sewage sample in 5 days. The BOD in ppm is then calculated by using the equation.

$$\text{BOD or BOD}_5 = \frac{\text{D.O. consumed in the test by the diluted sample}}{\left[\frac{\text{volume of the diluted sample}}{\text{volume of the undiluted sewage sample}} \right]}$$

The factor in the bracket is called dilution factor

NOTE: Sample is diluted with dilution water so that sufficient oxygen is available during the incubation period of 5 days

- The first demand occurs due to the oxidation of organic matter and is called carbonaceous demand or first stage demand or initial demand and the later demand occurs due to biological oxidation of ammonia, and is called Nitrogenous demand or second stage demand. The term BOD is usually used to mean the first state BOD i.e. the demand due to the presence of Carbonaceous matter alone.
- Nitrogenous demand starts only after 5-8 days because the reproduction rate of nitrification bacteria is slow.

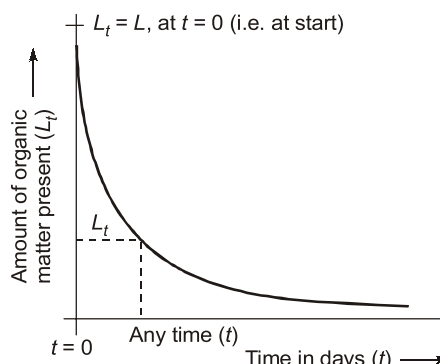


Fig. 1.2 1st Stage BOD curve

NOTE



Nitrification bacteria are autotrophs. They derive carbon for their growth from CO_2 . Hence they have to spend energy in reducing ' CO_2 ' to C. Thus energy available for their reproduction is less, thereby growth rate is less. Carbonaceous matter oxidising bacteria are heterotrophs. They derive carbon from organic matter directly. Hence energy is not spent in getting carbon, thereby their reproduction rate is more.

Reaction Kinetics

At a certain temperature, the rate of deoxygenation is assumed to be directly proportional to the amount of organic matter present in sewage at that time. i.e.

$$\frac{dL_t}{dt} = -kL_t \quad \dots(i)$$

where L_t = oxygen equivalent of carbonaceous oxidisable organic matter present in sewage after t days from the start of oxidation in mg/l.

t = time in days

k = rate constant signifying the rate of oxidation of organic matter and it depends upon the nature of organic matter and temperature. Its unit is per day.

Integrating equation (i)

$$\int \frac{dL_t}{L_t} = \int -k dt$$

$$\text{or} \quad \log_e L_t = -kt + C \quad \dots(ii)$$

when $t = \text{zero}$ i.e. at start $L_t = L$. Substituting in equation

$$\log_e L = k(0) + C$$

$$C = \log_e L$$

or

$$\therefore \text{From equation (ii)}$$

$$\log_e L_t = -kt + \log_e L$$

or

$$\log_e L_t - \log_e L = -kt$$

or

$$\log_e \frac{L_t}{L} = -kt$$

or

$$2.3 \log_{10} \frac{L_t}{L} = -kt$$

or

$$\log_{10} \frac{L_t}{L} = \frac{-k \cdot t}{2.3} = -0.434 kt$$

using $0.434 k = K_D$, where K_D is the Deoxygenation rate constant or more strictly, the BOD rate constant (on base 10) at the given temperature

$$\therefore \log_{10} \frac{L_t}{L} = -K_D t$$

or

$$\boxed{L_t = L(10)^{-K_D t}} \quad \dots(\text{iii})$$

Now, L is the organic matter present at the start of BOD reaction and L_t is the organic matter left after t days (Fig. 1.3)

$$\therefore \text{BOD} = L - L_t = L - L(10)^{-K_D t}$$

$$\boxed{(\text{BOD})_t = L[1 - 10^{-K_D t}]} \quad \dots(\text{iv})$$

The value of K_D determines the speed of the BOD reaction, without influencing the ultimate BOD. It is found to vary with temperature of sewage and this relationship is approximately given by the equation.

$$K_{D(T^\circ)} = K_{D(20^\circ)} [1.047]^{T-20^\circ} \quad \dots(\text{v})$$

$K_{D(20^\circ\text{C})}$ = Deoxygenation constant at 25°C . Its numerical value varies between 0.05 to 0.2 per day, depending upon the nature of the organic matter present in sewage.

Simple compounds such as sugars and starches are easily utilised by the micro-organism and have a high K_D rate, while complex molecules such as phenols are difficult to assimilate and hence have low K_D values. Some typical K_D values are given in Table 1.2.

$K_{D(T^\circ)}$ = Deoxygenation constant at temperature $T^\circ\text{C}$.

- Equation (v) shows that K_D will be higher at higher temperature, which means that the speed at which BOD is consumed in the oxidation of the organic matters is higher at higher temperature. This means that the entire carbonaceous organic matter will get oxidised quickly and in lesser time at higher temperature.
- Equation (iv) is called the first stage equation of BOD reaction and is presented by the curve OAB in figure 1.4 below:

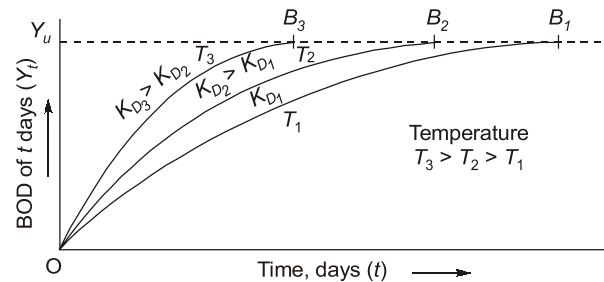


Fig. 1.3 BOD exertion as a function of K_D

Table: 1.2 Typical Values of K_D at 20°C for Various Types of Waters and Waste water

Water Type	K_D value per day
Tap waters	< 0.05
Surface waters	0.05 – 0.1
Municipal wastewaters	0.1 – 0.15
Treated sewage effluents	0.05 – 0.1

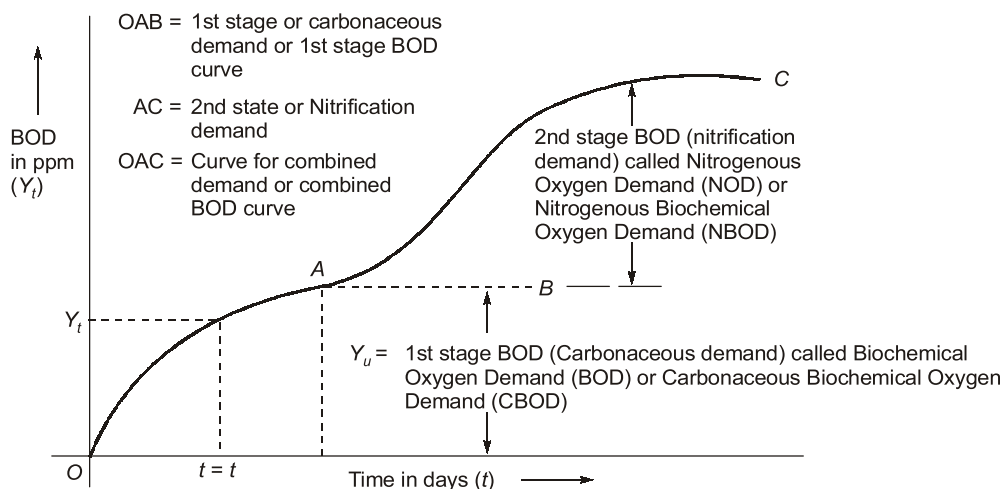


Fig. 1.4 Different BOD stages with time

- The portion AC of the curve represent the nitrification stage which follows the carbonaceous stage, so that the BOD curve for the complete oxidation is represented by OAC.

NOTE



- The equations given is only for the first stage BOD and have nothing to do with the second stage BOD.
- Values of 5-days 20°C BOD of municipal waste water generally vary between 100 to 500 mg/l.

Estimation of K_D

$$K_D = 2.61 \frac{A}{B}$$

where, A = Slope of line
 B = Intercept of the line on y-axis

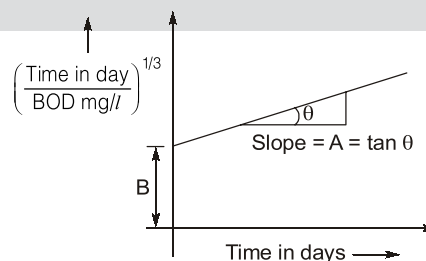


Fig. 1.5 Relation between K_D and Time (in days)

Example 1.1

For a waste, the 5-day BOD at 20°C is found to be 200 mg/L. For the same waste, 5-day BOD at 30°C will be

- less than 200 mg/L
- more than 200 mg/L
- 200 mg/L
- zero, as the bacteria cannot withstand such a high temperature

Ans. (b)

The effect of temperature on BOD can be approximately given by the Van't Hoff-Arrhenius models:

$$K_T = K_{20}(1.047)^{T-20}$$

At $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, $K_T > K_{20}$

$$\text{BOD}_{5,30^\circ\text{C}} = L_0(1 - e^{-K_T t})$$

$$\therefore \text{BOD}_{5,30^\circ\text{C}} > \text{BOD}_{5,20^\circ\text{C}}$$

Example 1.2 The ultimate BOD value of a waste

- (a) increases with temperature (b) decreases with temperature
(c) remains the same at all temperatures (d) doubles with every 10°C rise in temperature

Ans. (c)

Ultimate BOD represents the biodegradable organic matter, so it will remain unchanged.

Example 1.3 For a waste water the BOD₅ at 20° is found to be 200 mg/l. For same waste BOD₃ at 30°C will be? The reaction constant 'K' (to the base e) is 0.2 per day.

Solution:

$$\text{BOD}_5 \text{ at } 20^\circ\text{C} = L_0[1 - e^{-K \times 5}]$$

$$\text{BOD}_3 \text{ at } 30^\circ\text{C} = L_0[1 - e^{-K' \times 3}]$$

$$L_0 = \text{BOD}_u \quad (\text{Remain constant})$$

$$200 = L_0[1 - e^{-5K}] \quad \dots(i)$$

$$\text{BOD}_3 = L_0[1 - e^{-3K'}] \quad \dots(ii)$$

From (i) and (ii)

$$\frac{200}{1 - e^{-5K}} = \frac{\text{BOD}_3}{1 - e^{-3K'}} \Rightarrow \frac{1 - e^{-3K'}}{1 - e^{-5K}} = \frac{\text{BOD}_3}{200}$$

But,

$$K' = K(1.047)^{30-20} = 0.2[1.047]^{10} = 0.316$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{BOD}_3 = 200 \left[\frac{1 - 2.72^{-3 \times 0.316}}{1 - 2.72^{-5 \times 0.2}} \right] = \frac{0.6127}{0.632} \times 200 = 193.89 \text{ mg/l}$$

1.2 Population Equivalent

- Average standard BOD of domestic sewage is 80 gms per person per day.
- The number of person which produce the amount of BOD at the rate of 80 gms per person per day equal to that produced by industrial sewage is called population equivalent of industrial sewage.
- Industrial wastewater are generally compared with per capita normal domestic wastewater, so as to rationally charge the industries for the population caused by them. The strength of the industrial sewage is, thus worked out as below.

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \text{Standard BOD (5 days)} \\ \text{of industrial sewage} \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{Standard BOD (5 days) of domestic} \\ \text{sewage per person per day} \end{array} \right] \times \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{Population} \\ \text{equivalent} \end{array} \right]$$

- The average standard BOD₅ of domestic sewage is worked out to be about 0.08 kg/day/person. Assume, BOD₅ of sewage coming from on industries is worked out as 300 kg/day, then

$$\Rightarrow \text{The population equivalent} = \frac{\text{Total BOD}_5 \text{ of the industry in kg/day}}{0.08 \text{ kg/day/person}} = \frac{300}{0.08} = 3750$$

Example 1.4 Data from an unseeded domestic waste water BOD test are : 5 m³ of waste in 300 m³ bottle, initial D.O. of 7.8 mg/l, and 5 days DO equal to 4.3 mg/l. Compute
(a) the BOD; and (b) the ultimate BOD, assuming a k_D of 0.10 day⁻¹

Solution:

- (a) Initial D.O. = 7.8 mg/l
D.O. after 5 days of incubation = 4.3 mg/l
 \therefore D.O. consumed in 5 days = 7.8 – 4.3 = 3.5 mg/l

$$\begin{aligned}\text{BOD}_5 \text{ of wastewater} &= \text{D.O. consumed by diluted sample} \times \left[\frac{\text{vol. of diluted sample}}{\text{vol. of undiluted sewage used}} \right] \\ &= 3.5 \text{ mg/l} \times \left[\frac{300 \text{ ml}}{5 \text{ ml}} \right] = 210 \text{ mg/l}\end{aligned}$$

- (b) Now, using equation $Y_t = L(1 - (10)^{-K_D \cdot t})$, we have

$$Y_5 = L(1 - (10)^{-K_D \cdot 5}) \quad \text{where, } K_D = 0.1 \text{ per day and } Y_5 = 210 \text{ mg/l}$$

$$\therefore 210 = L[1 - (10)^{-0.1 \times 5}] = L\left[1 - \frac{1}{(10)^{0.5}}\right] = L[1 - 0.316] = 0.684 L$$

or
$$L = \frac{210}{0.684} \text{ mg/l} = 307.1 \text{ mg/l}$$

Example 1.5

A certain waste has a BOD of 162 mg/L and its flow is 1000 cubic metres per day. If the domestic sewage has a BOD of 80 gram per capita per day, then the population equivalent of the waste would be

- (a) 20.25 (b) 1296 (c) 2025 (d) 12960

Ans: (c)

$$\text{Daily BOD contributed by waste} = 162 \times \frac{1000 \times 1000}{10^3} = 162,000 \text{ g/day}$$

$$\text{Population equivalent} = \frac{162,000}{80} = 2025 \text{ persons}$$

NOTE: The population equivalent, thus, indicates the strength of the industrial wastewater for estimating the treatment required at the municipal treatment plant

Example 1.6

A dairy processing about 1,33,000 kg of milk daily produces an average of 246 cubic metre per day of waste water with a BOD of 1400 mg/l. The principal operations are bottling of milk, and making ice cream, with limited production of cheese. Compute the waste water flow and BOD per 1000 kg of milk received, and the equivalent population of the daily waste discharge.

Solution:

$$\text{Daily milk processed} = 1,33,000 \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{Daily wastewater produced} = 246 \text{ m}^3$$

$$\text{BOD of wastewater} = 1400 \text{ mg/l}$$

Evidently,

$$\text{Wastewater produced per 1000 kg of milk} = \frac{246}{133000} \times 1000 \text{ m}^3 = 1.85 \text{ m}^3$$

or
$$K_{D(15)} = 0.1[1.047]^{15-20}$$
$$= 0.1(1.047)^{-5}$$
$$= \frac{0.1}{(1.047)^5} = 0.079$$

Now, using

$$Y_{t \text{ at } T} = L \left[1 - (10)^{-K_D \cdot t} \right], \text{ we have}$$
$$Y_{3 \text{ at } 15} = 150$$
$$= L \left[1 - (10)^{-0.079 \times 3} \right]$$
$$= L \left[1 - \frac{1}{(10)^{0.237}} \right] = 0.422 L$$

or
$$L = 355.53 \text{ mg/l}$$

$$K_{D(10^\circ\text{C})} = 0.1[1.047]^{10-20} = 0.063$$
$$K_{D(15^\circ\text{C})} = 0.1[1.047]^{15-20} = 0.1258$$
$$K_{D(20^\circ\text{C})} = 0.1[1.047]^{20-20} = 0.1583$$

(i) $Y_{5 \text{ at } 10^\circ\text{C}} = 355.33[1 - (10)^{-0.063 \times 5}] = 183 \text{ mg/l}$

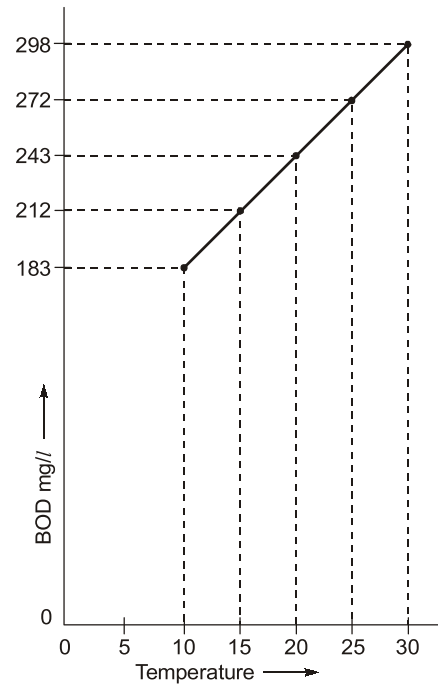
(ii) $Y_{5 \text{ at } 15^\circ\text{C}} = 355.33[1 - (10)^{-0.079 \times 5}] = 212 \text{ mg/l}$

(iii) $Y_{5 \text{ at } 20^\circ\text{C}} = 355.33[1 - (10)^{-0.1 \times 5}] = 243 \text{ mg/l}$

(iv) $Y_{5 \text{ at } 25^\circ\text{C}} = 355.33[1 - (10)^{-0.1258 \times 5}] = 272 \text{ mg/l}$

(v) $Y_{5 \text{ at } 30^\circ\text{C}} = 355.33[1 - (10)^{-0.1583 \times 5}] = 298 \text{ mg/l}$

These calculated five number BOD values w.r.t. temperature are plotted in figure, so as to obtain the requisite graph, which is almost a straight line.



Important Expressions

1.
$$\text{BOD or BOD}_5 = \frac{\text{D.O consumed in the test by the diluted sample}}{\frac{\text{Volume of the diluted sample}}{\text{Volume of the undiluted sewage sample}}}$$
2.
$$(\text{BOD})_t = L \left[1 - 10^{-K_D \cdot t} \right]$$
$$\Rightarrow L_t = L \left[10^{-K_D \cdot t} \right]$$

where, K_D = Deoxygenation constant
 L = Organic matter present at the start of BOD reaction
 L_t = Organic matter left after t days
3.
$$K_{D(T^\circ\text{C})} = K_{D(20^\circ\text{C})} [1.047]^{T-20^\circ\text{C}}$$
4.
$$K_D = 2.61 \frac{A}{B}$$

where, A = Slope of line of $(\text{time/BOD})^{1/3}$ Vs time
 B = Intercept of the line on Y-axis

5. Relative stability, $S = 100 \left[1 - (0.794)^{t_{20}} \right]$

$$S = 100 \left[1 - (0.630)^{t_{37}} \right]$$

6. Population Equivalent = $\frac{\text{Total BOD}_5 \text{ of the industry in kg/day}}{0.08 \text{ kg/day/person}}$

Summary


- The most obnoxious odour of waste water is that of hydrogen sulphide, which is produced by anaerobic microorganisms that reduce, sulphates to sulphites.
- The average temperature of sewage in India is 20°C, which is near about the ideal temperature for the biological activities.
- The quantity of settleable solids can be determined using Imhoff cone.
- The pH value can be measured by the help of potentiometer which measure the electrical potential exerted by the hydrogen ions, and thus indicating their concentrations.
- The chloride content can be measured by titrating the sample of waste water with standard silver nitrate solution, using potassium chromate as an indicator.
- Free ammonia indicates recent pollution, nitrates indicates partly decomposed condition and nitrates indicates old pollution.
- Dissolved oxygen less than 4 ppm is detrimental to the survival of fish.
- For most practical cases, $\text{COD} = \text{ThOD}$
 However, generally $\text{COD} > \text{ThOD} > \text{BOD} > \text{TOC}$
- Average standard BOD of domestic sewage is 80 gms per person per day.


Objective Brain Teasers

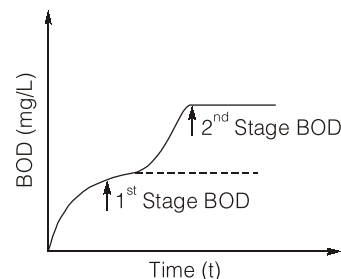
- Q.1** An industrial waste water enters a stream having a BOD concentration of 10 mg/L and a flow of 20 m³/s. If the flow of wastewater is 1.5 m³/s and its BOD concentration is 250 mg/L, then the BOD concentration in the stream at a point downstream of the point of confluence of wastewater with the stream will be
- (a) 2.67 mg/L (b) 12.09 mg/L
 (c) 13.00 mg/L (d) 26.74 mg/L

- Q.2** The following data pertain to a sewage sample:
 Initial DO = 10 mg/L
 Final DO = 2 mg/L
 Dilution to 1%

The BOD of the given sewage sample is

- (a) 8 mg/L (b) 10 mg/L
 (c) 100 mg/L (d) 800 mg/L

- Q.3** The second stage BOD as shown in the figure is due to



- (a) experimental error
- (b) increased activity of bacteria
- (c) nitrification demand
- (d) interference by certain chemical reactions

Q.4 If the BOD_3 of a wastewater sample is 75 mg/L and reaction rate constant k (base e) is 0.345 per day, the amount of BOD remaining in the given sample after 10 days is

- (a) 3.12 mg/L (b) 3.45 mg/L
- (c) 3.69 mg/L (d) 3.92 mg/L

Q.5 Which one of the following pairs is not correctly matched?

- (a) $BOD/COD = 0$: Waste-water is toxic
- (b) $BOD/COD \leq 0.2$: Acclimatization of seed is necessary
- (c) $BOD/COD \geq 0.6$: Waste-water is non-biodegradable
- (d) $BOD = COD = 0$: Waste-water is devoid of organic matter

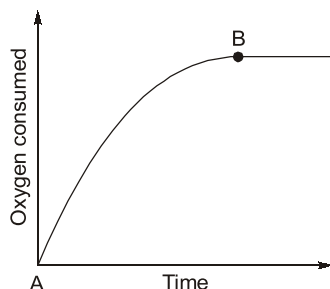
Q.6 What is 5 days 20°C BOD equal to?

- (a) 3 days 27°C BOD
- (b) 4 days 30°C BOD
- (c) 6 days 32°C BOD
- (d) 7 days 35°C BOD

Q.7 In context of water polluted with sewage, what does BOD signify?

- (a) Biological oxygen demand
- (b) Bacteriological oxygen demand
- (c) Biochemical oxygen demand
- (d) Biology of degradation

Q.8 The figure below shows, BOD curve when the experiment was conducted at 20°C . If the experiment is conducted at 30°C , then the portion AB of the curve



- (a) shifts to the left
- (b) shifts to the right
- (c) remains unchanged
- (d) shrinks

Q.9 In aerobic environment, nitrosomonas convert

- (a) NH_3 to NO_2^- (b) NO_2^- to NO_3^-
- (c) NH_3 to N_2O^- (d) NO_2^- to HNO_3

Q.10 A sample of sewage is estimated to have a 5 day 20°C BOD of 250 mg/l. If the test temperature be 30°C , in how many days will the same value of BOD be obtained?

- (a) 1.5 days (b) 2.5 days
- (c) 3.3 days (d) 7.5 days

Q.11 Consider the following statements:
The time of BOD assimilation in a stream can be affected by

1. Ratio of stream depth to flow width.
2. Stream BOD value.
3. BOD rate constant.

Which of these statements are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1 and 3 only

Q.12 **Statement (I)** : The BOD test is conducted for 5 days at 20°C .

Statement (II) : The amount of oxygen utilized by microorganisms anaerobically is called BOD.

- (a) Both Statement (I) and Statement (II) are individually true and Statement (II) is the correct explanation of Statement (I)
- (b) Both Statement (I) and Statement (II) are individually true but Statement (II) is NOT the correct explanation of Statement (I)
- (c) Statement (I) is true but Statement (II) is false
- (d) Statement (I) is false but Statement (II) is true

Q.13 High COD to BOD ratio of an organic pollutant represents

- (a) high biodegradability of the pollutant
- (b) low biodegradability of the pollutant
- (c) presence of free oxygen for aerobic decomposition
- (d) presence of toxic material in the pollutant

- Q.14** Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) of waste-water is a measure of
 (a) total concentration of biochemicals
 (b) total concentration of organic matter
 (c) concentration of biodegradable organic matter
 (d) concentration of chemically oxidizable matter
- Q.15** Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) of a sample is always greater than Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) since it represents
 (a) biodegradable organic matter only
 (b) biodegradable and non-biodegradable organic matter
 (c) non-biodegradable organic matter
 (d) inorganic matter
- Q.16** A waste water sample diluted to 100 times with aeration water had an initial dissolved oxygen (DO) of 7.0 mg/L and after 5 days of incubation at 20°C, the DO was zero. The BOD of waste water is
 (a) 700 mg/L
 (b) 100 mg/L
 (c) Cannot be determined
 (d) 7 mg/L
- Q.17** A student began an experiment of 5 day 20°C BOD on Monday. Since the 5th day fell on Saturday. The final DO reading was taken on Monday. On calculation BOD (i.e. 7 day 20°C) was found to be 150 mg/L. What would be the 5 day, 20°C BOD (in mg/L). Assume value of BOD rate constant (K) at standard temperature of 20°C as 0.23/day (base e).
- Q.18** A single rapid test to determine the pollution status of river water is
 (a) biochemical oxygen demand
 (b) chemical oxygen demand
 (c) total organic solids
 (d) dissolved oxygen
- Q.19** The 5-day BOD of a wastewater sample is obtained as 190 mg/L (with $k = 0.01 \text{ h}^{-1}$). The ultimate oxygen demand (mg/L) of the sample will be
 (a) 3800 (b) 475
 (c) 271 (d) 190
- Q.20** A portion of waste water sample was subjected to standard BOD test (5 days, 20°C), yielding a value of 180 mg/L. The reaction rate constant (to the base 'e') at 20°C was taken as 0.18 per day. The reaction rate constant at other temperature may be estimated by $k_T = k_{20} (1.047)^{T-20}$. The temperature at which the other portion of the sample should be tested, to exert the same BOD in 2.5 days, is
 (a) 4.9°C (b) 24.9°C
 (c) 31.7°C (d) 35.0°C
- Q.21** **List-I** contains some properties of water/waste water and **List-II** contains list of some tests on water/ waste water. Match **List-I** with **List-II** and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:
- List-I**
- A.** Suspended solids concentration
B. Metabolism of biodegradable organics
C. Bacterial concentration
D. Coagulant dose
- List-II**
- 1.** BOD
2. MPN
3. Jar test
4. Turbidity
- Codes:**
- | | A | B | C | D |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| (a) | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| (b) | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| (c) | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| (d) | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
- Q.22** To determine the BOD_5 of a waste water sample, 5, 10 and 50 mL aliquots of the waste water were diluted to 300 mL and incubated at 20°C in BOD bottles for 5 days. The results were as follows:
- | S.No. | Waste-water volume, mL | Initial DO, mg/L | DO after 5 days, mg/L |
|-------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | 5 | 9.2 | 6.9 |
| 2. | 10 | 9.1 | 4.4 |
| 3. | 50 | 8.4 | 0.0 |

Based on the data, the average BOD₅ of the waste water is equal to

- (a) 139.5 mg/L (b) 126.5 mg/L
(c) 109.8 mg/L (d) 72.2 mg/L

Answers

1. (d) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (c) 5. (c)
6. (a) 7. (c) 8. (a) 9. (a) 10. (c)
11. (c) 12. (c) 13. (b) 14. (c) 15. (b)
16. (c) 17. 128 18. (d) 19. (c) 20. (d)
21. (b) 22. (a)

Hints and Explanations:

Ans.1 (d)

$$\begin{aligned} BOD_{stream} &= \frac{Q_1 y_1 + Q_2 y_2}{Q_1 + Q_2} \\ &= \frac{20 \times 10 + 1.5 \times 250}{20 + 1.5} \\ &= 26.74 \text{ mg/L} \end{aligned}$$

Ans.2 (d)

BOD = [Initial DO – Final DO] × Dilution Factor
Where Dilution Factor

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\text{Volume of diluted sample}}{\text{Volume of undiluted sample}} \\ &= (10 - 2) \times \frac{100}{1} = 800 \text{ mg/L} \end{aligned}$$

Ans.4 (c)

The BOD at any instant is given by

$$\begin{aligned} L_t &= L(1 - e^{-kt}) \\ \Rightarrow 75 &= L(1 - e^{-0.345 \times 3}) \\ \Rightarrow L &= \frac{75}{1 - 0.355} = 116.32 \text{ mg/L} \end{aligned}$$

BOD after 10 days,

$$\begin{aligned} L_{10} &= L(1 - e^{-0.345 \times 10}) \\ &= 116.32 \times 0.968 = 112.63 \text{ mg/L} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Amount of BOD remaining} &= L - L_{10} \\ &= 116.32 - 112.63 = 3.69 \text{ mg/L} \end{aligned}$$

Ans.5 (c)

BOD₅/COD ≥ 0.6 means waste water is biodegradable

Ans.6 (a)

$BOD_t = L_0 (1 - e^{-kt})$
and $k_T = k_{20} (1.047)^{T-20}$
BOD₅ at 20°C will be equal to a BOD_t for given temperature when $k_T t$ is equal to $k_{20} \times 5$.

$$\begin{aligned} k_T t &= k_{20} \times 5 \\ \text{or } \frac{k_T}{k_{20}} &= \frac{5}{t} = (1.047)^{T-20} \end{aligned}$$

$$t = \frac{5}{(1.047)^{T-20}}$$

T	t(days)
27°C	3.63
30°C	3.16
32°C	2.88
35°C	2.51

There is no correct answer but (a) is closest.

Ans.8 (a)

The BOD of water at any time t is expressed as

$$y_t = L_0 (1 - e^{-kt})$$

The value of k is temperature dependent. Because micro-organisms are more active at higher temperatures, the value of k increases with increasing temperatures. The value of y_t approaches L_0 asymptotically indicating that the total, or ultimate, BOD (y_u) is equal to the initial oxygen equivalent of the water L_0 . Thus, at higher temperatures the value of y_t approaches to ultimate BOD earlier, shifting point B on the curve towards the left.

Ans.10 (c)

$$BOD_{5, 20^\circ\text{C}} = L(1 - 10^{-K_D \times t})$$

The effect of temperature on BOD can be given by

$$\begin{aligned} K_{D_{T^\circ\text{C}}} &= K_{D_{20^\circ\text{C}}} (1.047)^{T-20} \\ \therefore K_{D_{30^\circ\text{C}}} &= K_{D_{20^\circ\text{C}}} (1.047)^{10} \\ K_{D_{30^\circ\text{C}}} &= 1.583 K_{D_{20^\circ\text{C}}} \\ \therefore L(1 - 10^{-K_D \times 5}) &= L(1 - 10^{-1.583 \times K_D \times t}) \\ \Rightarrow 10^{-K_D \times 5} &= 10^{-1.583 \times K_D \times t} \\ \therefore t &= \frac{5}{1.583} = 3.16 \text{ days} \end{aligned}$$