

## Article

# Proposal of a Laboratory-Scale Anaerobic Biodigester for Introducing the Monitoring and Sensing Techniques, as a Potential Learning Tool in the Fields of Carbon Foot-Print Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation

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**Abstract:** This article presents a proposal of an anaerobic biodigester on a laboratory scale for introducing the monitoring and sensing techniques of the growth of microorganisms according to different parameters, where the redox potential, pH, pressure, and temperature have been measured in quasi-continuous mode. For this task, a microcontroller system was used (Atmega328—Arduino). Importantly, the design is based on flexible and open-source software, hardware, and firmware (Scilab, Arduino, Processing), facilitating its modification for other related studies. This design was developed to help engineering students to learn and to understand the operation of an anaerobic biodigester, which allows us to know various properties of the system at any time, as well as its evolution over time. In this way, property curves can be drawn and related to each other to obtain a better understanding of the biodigester operation. In this context, the relationship between the oxide-reduction reaction and microbial activity was studied so that the redox potential can be a way of measuring the growth of microorganisms in an anaerobic environment. With all this, through these parameters, it is possible to introduce to engineering students the operation of this technology used normally like a very powerful tool for the control of the carbon footprint, for example in wastewater sector, and consequently for the mitigation of the climate change.

**Keywords:** wastewater; low-carbon; biodigester; laboratory scale; open-source tools

## 1. Introduction

Anaerobic digestion technologies, applied to organic water treatment, are efficient ways to solve environmental problems also provide energy. They are considered sustainable, safe, and efficient biotechnologies in which carbon footprint reduction, by CH<sub>4</sub> capture and fossil fuel replacement, is clearly a factor to take under advisement [1–7]. The process of anaerobic digestion has been known and applied since ancient times; however, it was understood in terms of its final products and not its processes [3]. The versatility of anaerobic digestion applied as an effective technology in the face of certain fundamental challenges has found its usefulness in biotechnological industries [4–7]. Unlike aerobic processes where dissolved oxygen can be measured continuously, there is a great challenge for fermentative processes in anaerobic organisms where the technologies referring to control processes are currently insufficient [6–10]. Since pH detection has been commonly used in fermentation processes, where only the activity of the proton is reflected, it is not sensitive to small changes in the intracellular metabolism. The redox potential (ORP) known as



### 2.1.1. Digestion System

It is made up of an insulated hermetic container, with a feeding and evacuation system arranged so that the mixture is guaranteed in each loading and unloading process. The upper part of the container has a series of sensors that are defined below:

- pH Sensor: Scientific Grade Silver/Silver Chloride pH), 10 sensor with a response speed of 95% in one second.
- ORP sensor, (E): High quality sensor from Atlas Scientific [10,45–48]. The data transmission mode is through an integrated system and with a simple serial communication protocol which gives us an immediate response of the E value.
- Absolute Pressure Sensor: Phidgets mod. 1141-0—Absolute Sensor of gas pressure from 15 to 115 kPa [49,50]. This is a high-level sensor with analogue input, with input proportional to the of the environment. The pressure measurement for this sensor is 15 kPa. The formula used to translate the sensor value into pressure was the following [2,51,52]:

$$\text{Pressure (kPa)} = (\text{Sensor Value}/9.2) + 10. \tag{1}$$

- Temperature sensor: Two miniature Vishay NTC thermistors (Figure 2) were used to take external and internal temperature readings. Their main characteristics are described in Table 1.

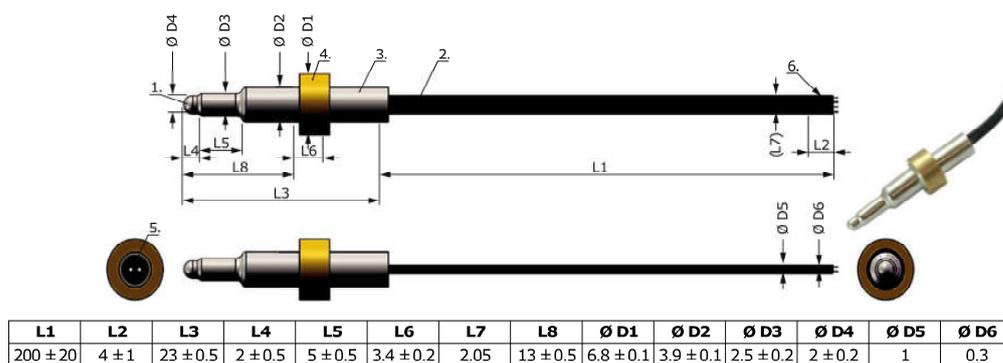


Figure 2. Thermistor NTC Vishay, dimensions in millimeters.

For the calculation of the temperature from the analogical measurement, considering the resistive values depending on the temperature provided by the manufacturer, and with an algorithm in Scilab, we obtain Equation (2).

$$f(x) = 2.249 \times 10^{-5}x^2 + 0.06872x - 16.03 \tag{2}$$

Table 1. Characteristics of the thermistor NTC, Vishay.

Parameter	Value	Units
Resistance value at 25 °C	10 K	Ω
Tolerance of R25	±3	%
B25/85 (Beta)	3984	K
Temperatura range of operation	−25 to 105	°C

### 2.1.2. Circuits and Control System

Arduino Uno (Figure 3) microcontroller model ATmega328 (Atmel) was implemented within an embedded system in order to control the measuring processes providing bidirectional communication with the circuit of the electrical conductivity probe, transferring the respective data to the PC via USB for archival purposes.

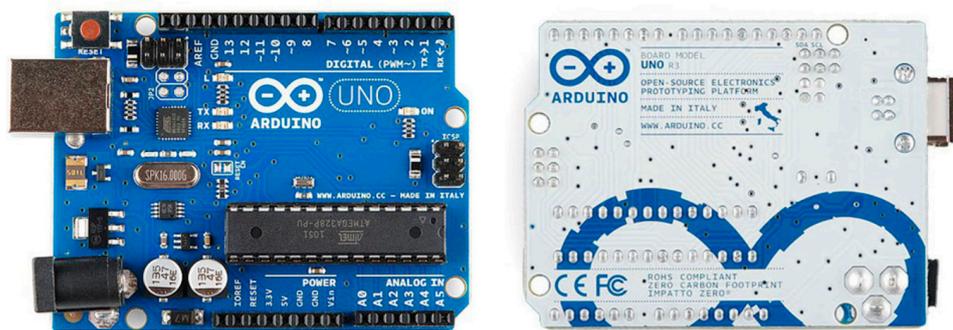


Figure 3. Arduino Uno.

Figures 4 and 5 show the general circuit diagram and pictures where all the elements necessary for the correct operation of the system are collected, as well as the data collection to be processed later. It is composed of a voltage source of 12 V that feeds: the transistor, a heat source, thermistors and a stirring system, a microcontroller hard plate, a PWM plate through which the bioreactor temperature is controlled by a transistor, a plate for the temperature sensors, auxiliary connection plates and sensor plates, resistors, diodes, and wiring.

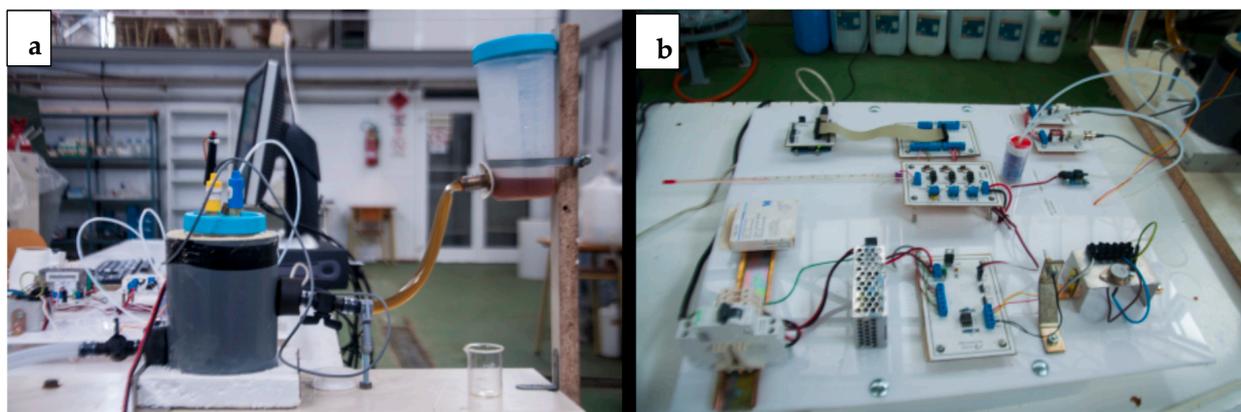


Figure 4. Photos of the reactor and sensors (a) and the circuits with the controls systems (b).

### 2.1.3. Computer System, Communication Interface, and Software

As for the computer system, a data transmission source code was developed for the pH, E, pressure, and temperature sensors with Processing software (source code in Appendix C). The output data was transferred to the Arduino ide serial monitor for checking and control, and then through the Processing software interface for saving into file the sensor samplings.

### 2.1.4. Auxiliary Equipment and Laboratory Material

The auxiliary equipment were the following: an Atago RX-7000 Alfa3 refractometer used for the effluent measurements, the refraction product, and the Brix degrees ( $^{\circ}\text{Bx}$ ); and precision weights. As far as materials are concerned, all those related to the sampling and measurement of volumes (typical of a laboratory) were used, such as flasks, pipettes, spoons, etc.



### 2.2.2. Microbial Inoculum

Brewer's yeast was used whose species includes *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* with a yield of 0.25–0.33 kg of dry cell weight per kg of substrate.

### 2.2.3. Control and Saving Data

Through the Arduino (Appendix B shows the Arduino source code), the temperature was controlled and the signals from the pH, ORP, absolute pressure, and temperature sensors (inside the digester and outside the environment) were read. Data were sent to the computer where they were stored by means of the use of Processing tool. Shown in Appendix C is the Processing source code, and Figure 6 displays the interface. Once all the information was entered, it was saved in a file on the computer's hard disk.

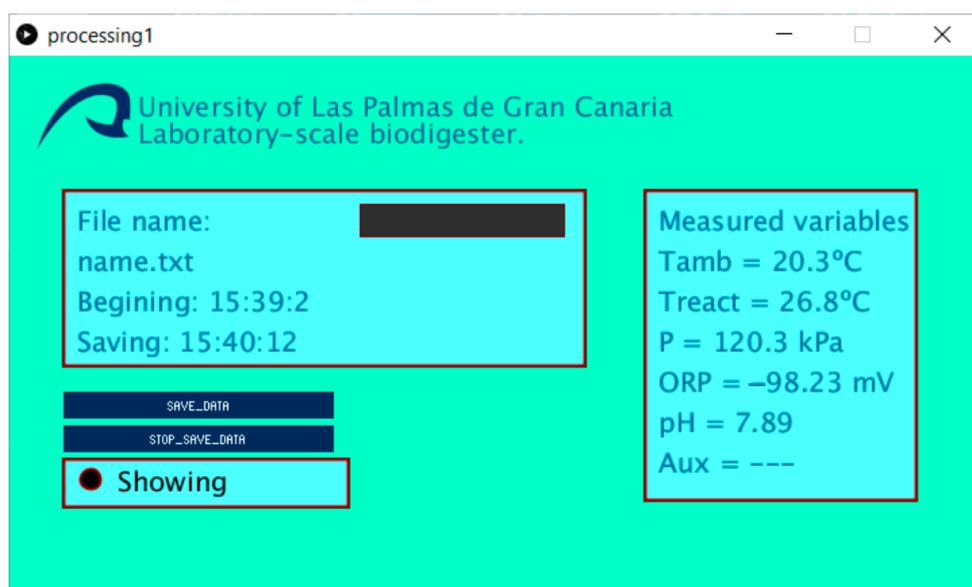


Figure 6. Processing PC interface data logger.

## 3. Results

### 3.1. Digestion Model

Dynamic simulation between reality and model is a very important way for research, as it enables to provide strategies for the digester operation. In the model, the description of all metabolic rates is based on the classical Monod equation,

$$\mu = \mu_{max} \frac{S}{K_s + S}$$

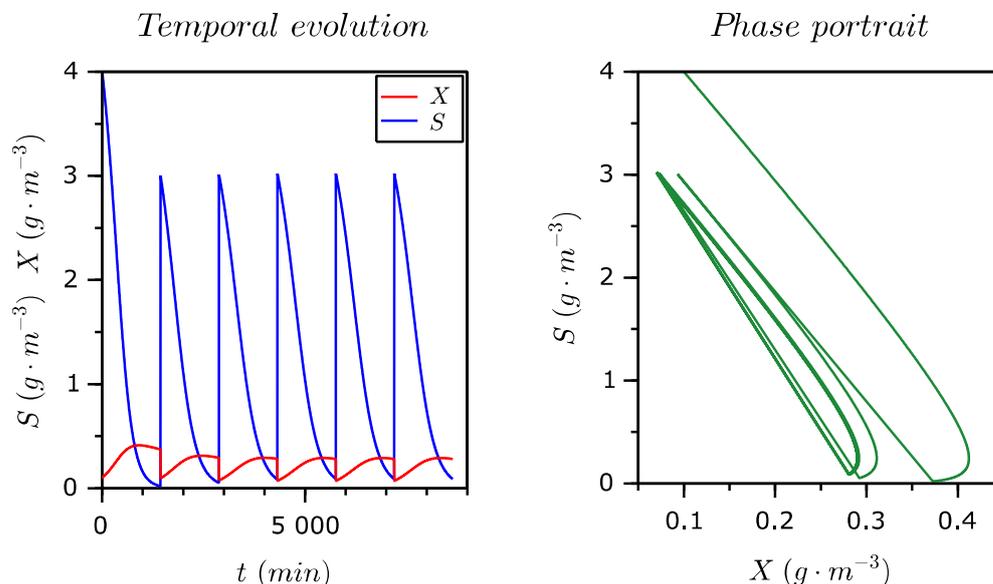
where  $\mu$  is the growth rate of a considered biomass,  $\mu_{max}$  is the maximum growth rate of this microorganism,  $S$  is the concentration of the limiting substrate  $S$  for growth,  $K_s$  is the half-velocity constant for the substrate  $S$  when  $\frac{\mu}{\mu_{max}} = 0.5$ .

The matrix differential equation related to biomass and substrate dynamic is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dX}{dt} &= \left( \mu_{max} \frac{S}{K_s + S} \right) X \\ \frac{dS}{dt} &= \left( \beta_s \mu_{max} \frac{S}{K_s + S} \right) X \end{aligned}$$

where  $S$  and  $X$  are the substrate and biomass concentration respectively,  $\beta_s$  is the stoichiometric ratio for  $S$ .

Figure 7 shows a simulation with discontinuous dynamics (Scilab source code in Appendix A) with period  $T = 24$  h. Both the evolution of the substrate and that of the biomass, as can be seen in the system, start from an initial state and, after the transitory process, reach a stationary state.



**Figure 7.** Concentration of biomass and substrate where  $\mu_{max} = 0.75$  ( $\text{h}^{-1}$ ),  $K_s = 10$ ,  $\beta_s = 1.8$ ,  $X_{(t=0)}$  is  $0.1$  ( $\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and  $S_{(t=0)}$  is  $4$  ( $\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ).

### 3.2. Anaerobic Digester Start-Up and Operation

An average representation of the tests, carried out in the biodigester over 5 weeks, is shown in Table 2. The data was processed using a computerised tool from Scilab. Scilab is a software for numerical analysis, with a high-level programming language for scientific calculation. With the obtained data, a series of graphs were elaborated and the most relevant ones are presented in Figures 8–10.

**Table 2.** Laboratory-scale biodigester; performance periods, operating volume, and Brix measures.

Stage	Date	Feeding/Evacuation		Brix Grades			Remarks
		(mL)	1st Lecture	2nd Lecture	Average		
1	13 June	300	20.30		20.30		
2	18 June	75	20.31	20.29	20.30		
3	23 June	50	20.33	20.24	20.26		Addition NaOH ( $\uparrow$ alkalinity)

The expression of the oxidation-reduction reactions can be expressed by the Nernst Equation (3).

$$E = E^0 + \frac{2.303RT}{nF} \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{Product of activities of oxidized species}}{\text{Product of reduced species activities}} \right) \quad (3)$$

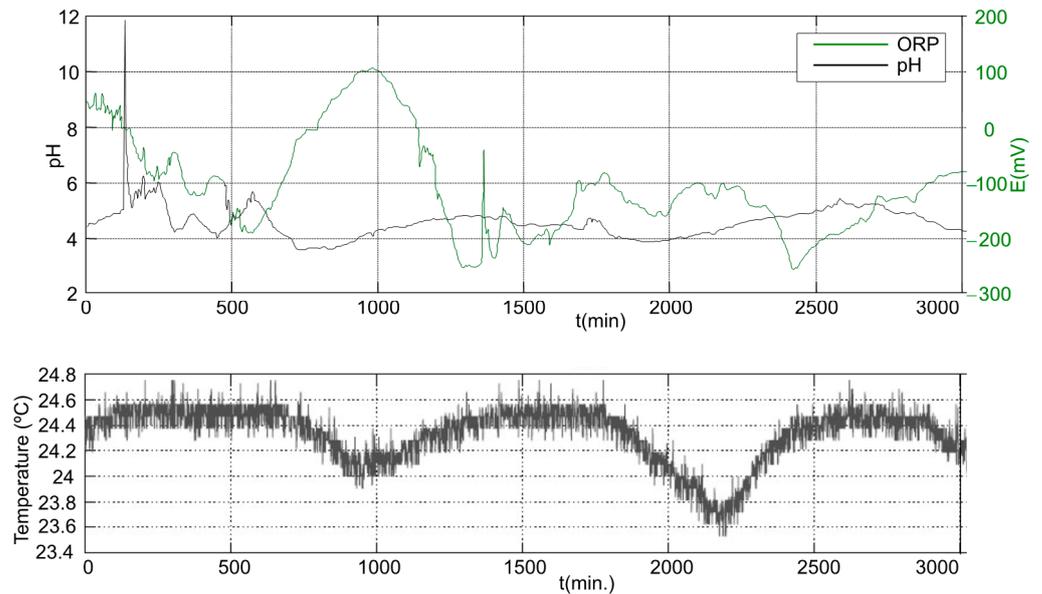
where  $E^0$  is the standard ORP,  $n$  is the number of exchanged electrons, and  $F$  is the Faraday constant (96.42 kJ/g equivalent volts).

The three periods from Table 2 are represented in the graphs as they are the most illustrative. It had taken a time of 1–3000 min for each of them.

#### 3.2.1. First Stage

This stage includes from the start-up of the bioreactor to the first charge/discharge process. Figure 8 shows the ORP, pH, and temperature versus the time, in minutes. The

pH profile remains stable with adequate value for fermentative processes, around 4.4, with slight oscillations, while the ORP values indicate, practically, reducing conditions, in a slightly wider range than the previous one. This last achieves its maximum value, 100 (mV), at 1000 min, and minimum value,  $-250$  mV at 1300 min; however, it tends to stabilize with fermentation time. This performance is reflected as well in other works [53,54]. On the other hand, during the whole of this period, temperature moved between 23.6 and 24.6 °C. It is observable that for high value of temperature, the ORP's graph tends to drop.



**Figure 8.** ORP, pH, and temperature in the first period.

In general, the ORP graph shows a downward slope with a very irregular profile.

### 3.2.2. Second Stage

In this occasion, the system was fed back by 75 mL of a new mixing (see Table 2). From Figure 9, it is observed, in the first third of the stage, a sharp fall in ORP,  $-85$  mV; it immediately increases until it reaches a maximum value, 40 mV, then it begins to decrease gradually. This may have occurred due to the supply of substrate indicating an increase in activity in the first third of the period recorded. The difference in feedstock could change the microbial community and dominant species in anaerobic digestion process. In relation to temperature, the ORP maintains the same vein as that in the previous case.

### 3.2.3. Third Stage

For this stage, the alkalinity in the reactor was increased by the adding NaOH mixed with the substrate in the follow feeding. The basic environment of the system reflects negative ORP values, between  $-300$  and  $-470$  mV. The graph, Figure 10, shows a gradual decreasing trend of ORP along this period. It is due to the buffering capacity of anaerobic digestion. Similar results have been achieved by other authors [55–58].

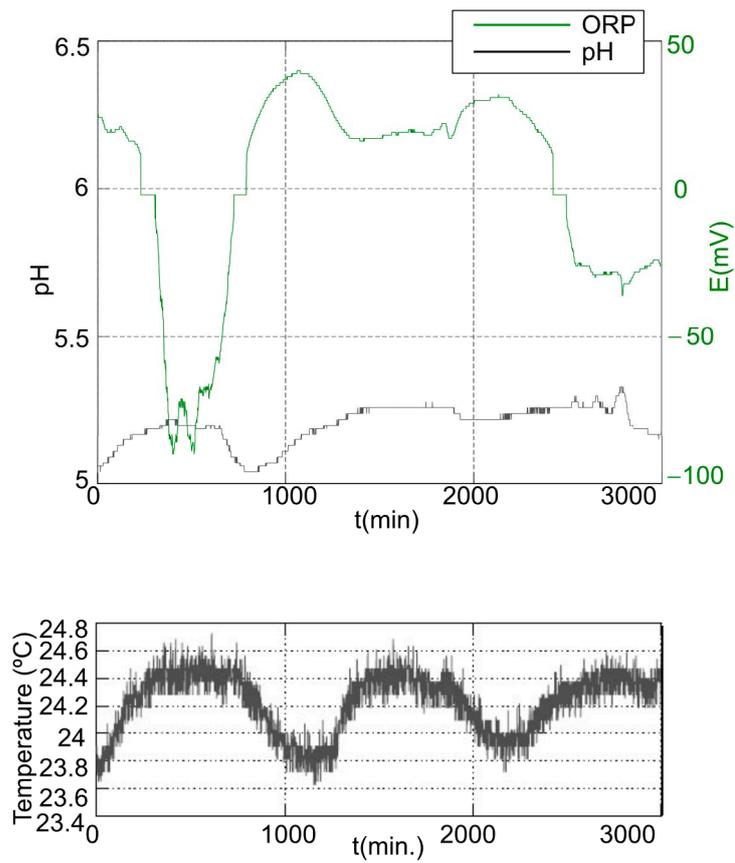


Figure 9. ORP, pH, and Temperature in the second period.

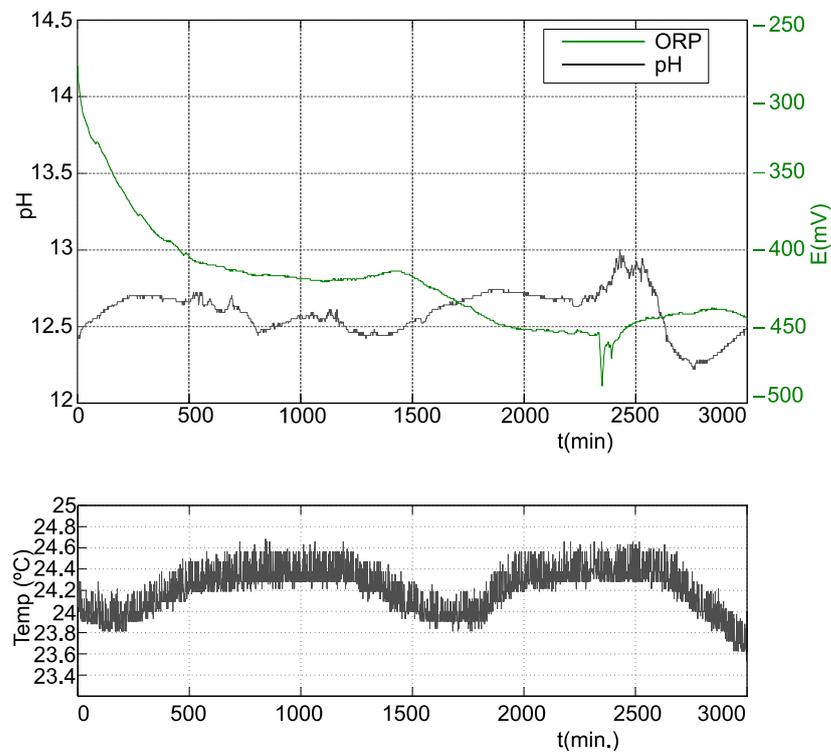


Figure 10. ORP, pH, and Temperature in the third period.

#### 4. Conclusions

The proposed anaerobic biodigester monitored system works well, allowing for small-scale testing. Its use in research and teaching will allow the development of new research projects in the same way that it will help engineering students in their learning. With this design, it will be easy to determine the factors that can affect the growth of the anaerobic microorganism through the continuous data collection by the ORP, pH, temperature, and pressure sensors. Subsequently, with the subsequent processing of the data, it is possible to make graphs to be contrasted with a previously proposed theoretical model, and at the same time it can be compared with the equations that govern its behavior (Nernst equation).

On the other hand, this design has been supported by flexible and easily accessible free software, this being an important advantage for students since it offers the possibility of adapting this experimental design to each specific case, and the whole software used is free and open source.

The results show that the experimental design is feasible for the control and data collection of magnitudes related to the growth of an anaerobic bacteria in a digester.

Finally, it should be remembered that the design and construction of a laboratory-scale biodigester, due to its economic viability, is a tool available to engineering students for the development of their knowledge and learning.

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**Data Availability Statement:** In this section, please provide details regarding where data supporting reported results can be found, including links to publicly archived datasets analyzed or generated during the study.

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**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

#### Appendix A SCILAB Source Code

```
clear; clc;
mu_max=.1/3600;
k_s=100; k_d=.00001; k_x=.00000150;
V_1=.01; V_2=3.99; V_T=V_1+V_2;
S_min=k_d*k_s/(mu_max-k_d); S_in=130;
dt=100; time=200*24*3600; Delta_t=.05*24*3600;
q=round(Delta_t/dt);
t=0:dt:time;
X=zeros(1,length(t)); S=zeros(1,length(t));
X(1)=.1; S(1)=0; S_in=S_in; X_in=.1;
e=1; f=0; g=0;
for k=2:length(t)
```

```

f=f+1;
if f>=q //Impulse input
    S(k-1)=(V_2*S(k-1)+V_1*S_in)/V_T;
    X(k-1)=(V_2*X(k-1)+V_1*X_in)/V_T;
    f=0;
end

//Prediction step.
X(k)=(1+(mu_max*S(k-1)/(k_s+S(k-1))-k_d)*dt)*X(k-1);
S(k)=(1-k_x*X(k-1)/(k_s+S(k-1))*dt)*S(k-1);

//Initialization and recursive correction steps.
While (e>=.01)
    x=X(k);
    s=S(k);
    X(k)=X(k-1)+dt/2*((mu_max*S(k-1)/(k_s+S(k-1))-k_d)*X(k-1)+
+(mu_max*S(k)/(k_s+S(k))-k_d)*X(k));
    S(k)=S(k-1)-k_x*dt/2*(S(k-1)/(k_s+S(k-1))*X(k-1)+S(k)/(k_s+S(k))*X(k));
    e=sqrt((x-X(k))^2+(s-S(k))^2);
end
end

```

## Appendix B Microcontroller Source Code (Arduino)

```

// ****Digital inputs for pH y ORP****
#include <SoftwareSerial.h> //add the soft serial libray
#define rxph 4 //set the RX pin to pin 2
#define txph 5 //set the TX pin to pin 3
#define rxorp 2#define txorp 3
// ****pH data***
SoftwareSerial phserial(rxph, txph); //enable the soft serial port
String inputstringph = ""; // string to hold incoming data from the PC
String sensorstringph = ""; //a string to hold the data from the Atlas Scientific product
boolean input_stringcompleteph = false; //have we received all the data from the PC
boolean sensor_stringcompleteph = false; //have we received all the data from the Atlas
Scientific product
// ****ORP data***
SoftwareSerial orpserial(rxorp, txorp);
String inputstringorp = ""; //a string to hold incoming data from the PC
String sensorstringorp = ""; //a string to hold the data from the Atlas Scientific product
boolean input_stringcompleteorp = false; //have we received all the data from the PC
boolean sensor_stringcompleteorp = false; //have we received all the data from the Atlas
Scientific product
// ****Analog inputs***
String sensorpresion=""; //presion
float ntcbidig=0; //termistor NTC lectura sistema de control
float ntcext=0; //termistor NTC lectura entorno
int analogPin1 = A1; //definimos los pines de entrada para la temperatura entorno
int analogPin2 = A2; //definimos los pines de entrada para la temperatura sistema
// **** SETUP ****
void setup(){ //set up the hardware

Serial.begin(9600);

```

```
phserial.begin(9600); //set baud rate for software serial port to 38400

orpserial.begin(9600);

phserial.print("r\r");

orpserial.print("r\r");

phserial.print("r\r");

orpserial.print("r\r");

inputstringph.reserve(5); //set aside some bytes for receiving data from the PC

sensorstringph.reserve(30); //set aside some bytes for receiving data from Atlas Scientific
product

inputstringorp.reserve(5); //set aside some bytes for receiving data from the PC

sensorstringorp.reserve(30);

pinMode(analogPin1, INPUT); //def de los pines de entrada

pinMode(analogPin2, INPUT);
}
//**** loop ****

void loop(){
// *****Digital inputs *****

delay(60000);

input_stringcompleteph = true;

input_stringcompleteorp = true;

inputstringph="r\r";

inputstringorp="r\r";

bool mandar=true;

// *****pH*****

if (input_stringcompleteph){ //if a string from the PC has been recived in its entierty

phserial.print(inputstringph); //send that string to the Atlas Scientific product

inputstringph = ""; //clear the string:

input_stringcompleteph = false; //reset the flage used to tell if we have recived a completed
string from the PC
```

```
    }

    while(mandar){

    phserial.listen();

    while (phserial.available(>0) { //while a char is holding in the serial buffer

    char inchar = (char)phserial.read();//get the new char

    sensorstringph += inchar; //add it to the sensorstringph

    if (inchar == '\r') {sensor_stringcompleteph = true;} //if the incoming character is a <CR>,
    set the flag

    }

    if (sensor_stringcompleteph){ //if a string from the Atlas Scientific product has been re-
    ceived in its entirety

    Serial.print(sensorstringph); //use the hardware serial port to send that data to the PC

    sensorstringph = ""; //clear the string:

    sensor_stringcompleteph = false; //reset the flag used to tell if we have received a com-
    pleted string from the Atlas Scientific product

    mandar=false;

    }
    }

    // *****ORP*****

    if (input_stringcompleteorp){ //if a string from the PC has been recived in its entierty

    orpserial.print(inputstringorp); //send that string to the Atlas Scientific product

    inputstringorp = ""; //clear the string:

    input_stringcompleteorp = false; //reset the flage used to tell if we have recived a com-
    pleted string from the PC

    }

    mandar=true;

    while(mandar){
    orpserial.listen();

    while (orpserial.available(>0) { //while a char is holding in the serial buffer
```

```
char inchar = (char)orpserial.read();//get the new char

sensorstringorp += inchar; //add it to the sensorstringorp

if (inchar == '\r') {sensor_stringcompleteorp = true;} //if the incoming character is a <CR>,
set the flag

}

// *****Analogic inputs*****
// *****THERMISTOR*****

int ntctxt=analogRead(analogPin2); // leemos
// *****TERMISTOR SISTEMA*****

int ntcbiodig=analogRead(analogPin1); // leemos
//****print ****

int sensorpresion= analogRead(A0); // lee valor de presion

if (sensor_stringcompleteorp){//if a string from the Atlas Scientific product has been re-
ceived in its entirety

Serial.print(sensorstringph);//use the hardware serial port to send that data to the PC

Serial.print(","); //use the hardware serial port to send that data to the PC

Serial.print(sensorstringorp);

Serial.print(",");

Serial.print(sensorpresion); // imprime valor de presion

Serial.print(",");

Serial.print(ntctxt);

Serial.print(",");

Serial.println(ntcbiodig);

sensorstringorp = ""; //clear the string:

sensor_stringcompleteorp = false; //reset the flag used to tell if we have received a com-
pleted string from the Atlas Scientific product

mandar=false;

}

}

}
```

### Appendix C Processing Source Code

```
import processing.serial.*;
import controlP5.*;

String nom_archivo="name.txt";
String hora_inicio="Beginning: "+hour()+":"+minute()+":"+second();
PrintWriter archivo;
ControlP5 cp5;
Serial myPort; // The serial port
boolean serialNited;
int xPos = 1; // horizontal position of the graph
int esquina_x=600;
int esquina_y=100;
int ancho=500;
int alto=300;
int posicion_alto=0; // posicion donde se colocan los datos en la grafica, menor que alto.
int guardar_datos=-1;
String dato_1="hola",dato_2="adios",dato_3="hasta",dato_4="luego",dato_5="vengo",
dato_6="voy";
PShape bot;
int ancho_ventana=720,alto_ventana=400;
int x_r1=470,y_r1=100,dx_r1=200,dy_r1=230;
int mx_r1=10,my_r1=30,dy_t=30;
int x_r2=40,y_r2=100,dx_r2=385,dy_r2=130;
int mx_r2=10,my_r2=30;
int ancho_campo_texto=210;
int x_resto=40,y_resto=250,dy_resto=25;
int x_r3=40,y_r3=300,dx_r3=210,dy_r3=35;
int mx_r3=10,my_r3=30;
int ancho_boton=200,alto_boton=20;
int lf = 10; // Salto de linea en ASCII
int BAUD_RATE=9600;
String inString=null;

void setup () {

cp5 = new ControlP5(this);

cp5.addButton("Save_data")

.setValue(0)

.setPosition(x_resto,y_resto)

.setSize(ancho_boton,alto_boton)

;
```

```
cp5.addButton("Stop_save_data")

.setValue(0)

.setPosition(x_resto,y_resto+dy_resto)

.setSize(ancho_boton,alto_boton)

;

cp5.addTextfield("nom_archivo")

.setPosition(x_r2+mx_r2+ancho_campo_texto, y_r2+my_r2/3)

.setSize(150,25)

.setCaptionLabel("")

.setColorBackground(color(50,50,50))

.setColorActive(color(100,0,0))

.setColorForeground(color(100,0,0))

.setFont(createFont("arial",15))

;

//size(ancho_ventana,alto_ventana);
size(720,400);
stroke(127,0,0);
//rect(esquina_x, esquina_y, ancho, alto);

println(Serial.list());

myPort = new Serial(this, Serial.list()[0], 9600); //Se crea una comunicación serial en el
puerto 0, con 9600bd.
myPort.clear();
myPort.buffer(50);
inString = myPort.readStringUntil(lf);
inString = null;

background(0,255,200);

bot = loadShape("ULPGC.svg");
shape(bot, 20, 20, 70, 50);

String s_1="University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria";
String s_2="Laboratory-scale biodigester.";
String s_3="Saved data";
```

```

String s_4="T= ";

 textSize(20);
 fill(0, 102, 153);
 text(s_1, 95, 45);
 text(s_2, 95, 65);
 text(s_3, 95, 205);
 fill(255, 255, 255);
 }

 void draw () {

 //background(0,255,200);
 fill(155, 255, 255);
 rect(x_r1,y_r1,dx_r1,dy_r1);
 color(250,0,0,205);
 fill(0, 102, 153);
 text("Measured variables", x_r1+mx_r1, y_r1+my_r1);
 text("Tamb = "+dato_1+ "°C", x_r1+mx_r1, y_r1+my_r1+dy_t);
 text("Treact = "+dato_2+ "°C", x_r1+mx_r1, y_r1+my_r1+2*dy_t);
 text("P = "+dato_3+ " kPa", x_r1+mx_r1, y_r1+my_r1+3*dy_t);
 text("ORP = "+dato_4+ " mV", x_r1+mx_r1, y_r1+my_r1+4*dy_t);
 text("pH = "+dato_5, x_r1+mx_r1, y_r1+my_r1+5*dy_t);
 text("Aux = "+dato_6, x_r1+mx_r1, y_r1+my_r1+6*dy_t);
 fill(155, 255, 255);
 rect(x_r2,y_r2,dx_r2,dy_r2);
 //rect(40, 130, 385, 130);
 color(250,0,0,205);
 fill(0, 102, 153);
 text("File name:",x_r2+mx_r2, y_r2+my_r2);
 text(nom_archivo,x_r2+mx_r2, y_r2+my_r2+dy_t);
 text(hora_inicio,x_r2+mx_r2, y_r2+my_r2+2*dy_t);
 text("Saving: "+hour()+":"+minute()+":"+second(),x_r2+mx_r2, y_r2+my_r2+3*dy_t);
 fill(255, 255, 255);
 strokeWeight(1);
 color(250,0,0,255);
 strokeWeight(2);
 fill(155, 255, 255);
 rect(x_r3,y_r3,dx_r3,dy_r3);
 color(250,0,0,205);
 fill(0, 102, 153);

 if(guardar_datos>0){
   color(255,255,0,0);
   fill(255, 0, 0);
   ellipse(x_r3+2*mx_r3, y_r3+my_r3/2, 15, 15);
   text("Saving",x_r3+4*mx_r3,y_r3+my_r3/1.25);
 }
 else{
   color(250,0,0,0);
   fill(0, 0, 0);
   ellipse(x_r3+2*mx_r3, y_r3+my_r3/2, 15, 15);
   text("Showing",x_r3+4*mx_r3,y_r3+my_r3/1.25);
 }
 }

```

```
}

void serialEvent (Serial myPort) {
// Toma una cadena de caracteres ASCII:
inString = myPort.readStringUntil('\n');
inString = trim(inString);

if (inString != null) {
    println(inString);
    String[] lista = split(inString, ",");
    dato_1=lista[0];
    dato_2=lista[1];
    dato_3=lista[2];
    dato_4=lista[3];
    dato_5=lista[4];
    dato_6="—"//lista[5];

if(guardar_datos>0){
    archivo.print(month()+" ");
    archivo.print(day()+" ");
    archivo.print(year()+" ");
    archivo.print(hour()+" ");
    archivo.print(minute()+" ");
    archivo.print(second()+" ");
    archivo.print(dato_1+" ");
    archivo.print(dato_2+" ");
    archivo.print(dato_3+" ");
    archivo.print(dato_4+" ");
    archivo.print(dato_5+" ");
    archivo.println(dato_6+" ");
    archivo.flush(); // Writes the remaining data to the file
}
}
}

public void Save_data(int theValue) {

println("a button event from colorA: "+theValue);

//++dato_prueba;

archivo = createWriter(nom_archivo);

hora_inicio="Begining: "+hour()+":"+minute()+":"+second();

if(guardar_datos>0){int r=0;}

else{

guardar_datos=-1*guardar_datos;

}
}
```

```

public void Stop_save_data(int theValue) {

    println("a button event from colorA: "+theValue);

    //++dato_prueba;

    guardar_datos=-1;

    archivo.flush(); // Writes the remaining data to the file

    archivo.close(); // Finishes the file

    nom_archivo="name.txt";
}

```

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