

# Optical Reagent-Free Measurement

COD, Nitrate and Nitrite with photoLab<sup>®</sup> 7600 UV-VIS

WEBINAR //  
SUSANNE GOLLOR & QUENTIN MIRABEL



# Today's Topics

- ① Xylem Intro
- ② Basics of Opt-RF
- ③ Opt-RF Implementation
- ④ Question & Answer Session

## House Keeping

- We are recording!
- A link to the recording & a pdf version of this presentation will be shared in a follow up email
- Ask your question at any time in the “question” section of your Zoom screen
- All questions will be answered at the end of the webinar

# What is Xylem?



**Xylem (XYL)** is a leading global water technology company committed to developing innovative technology solutions to the world's water challenges.



**\$5.2bn**  
Revenue



**18,000**  
Employees

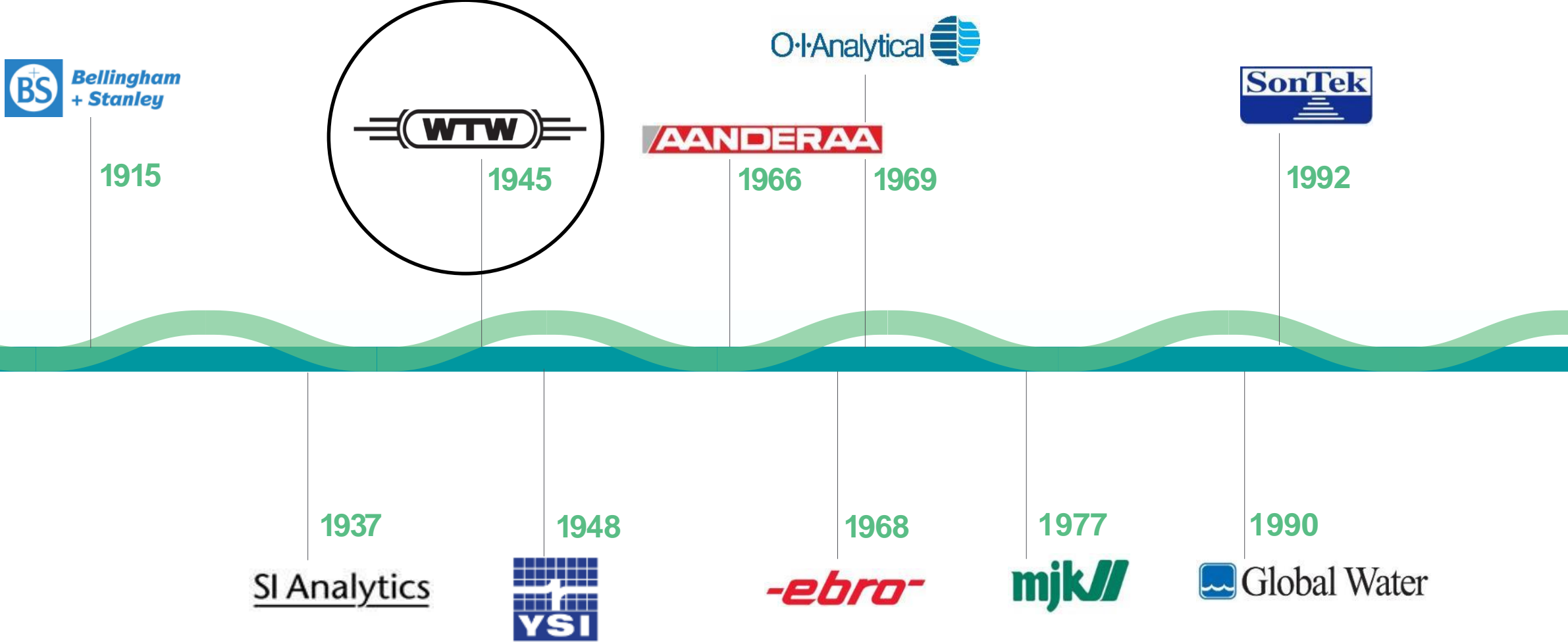


**150**  
Countries



**6**  
Continents

# Bringing together the most progressive Analytics brands



# Factories & EM Regional Offices

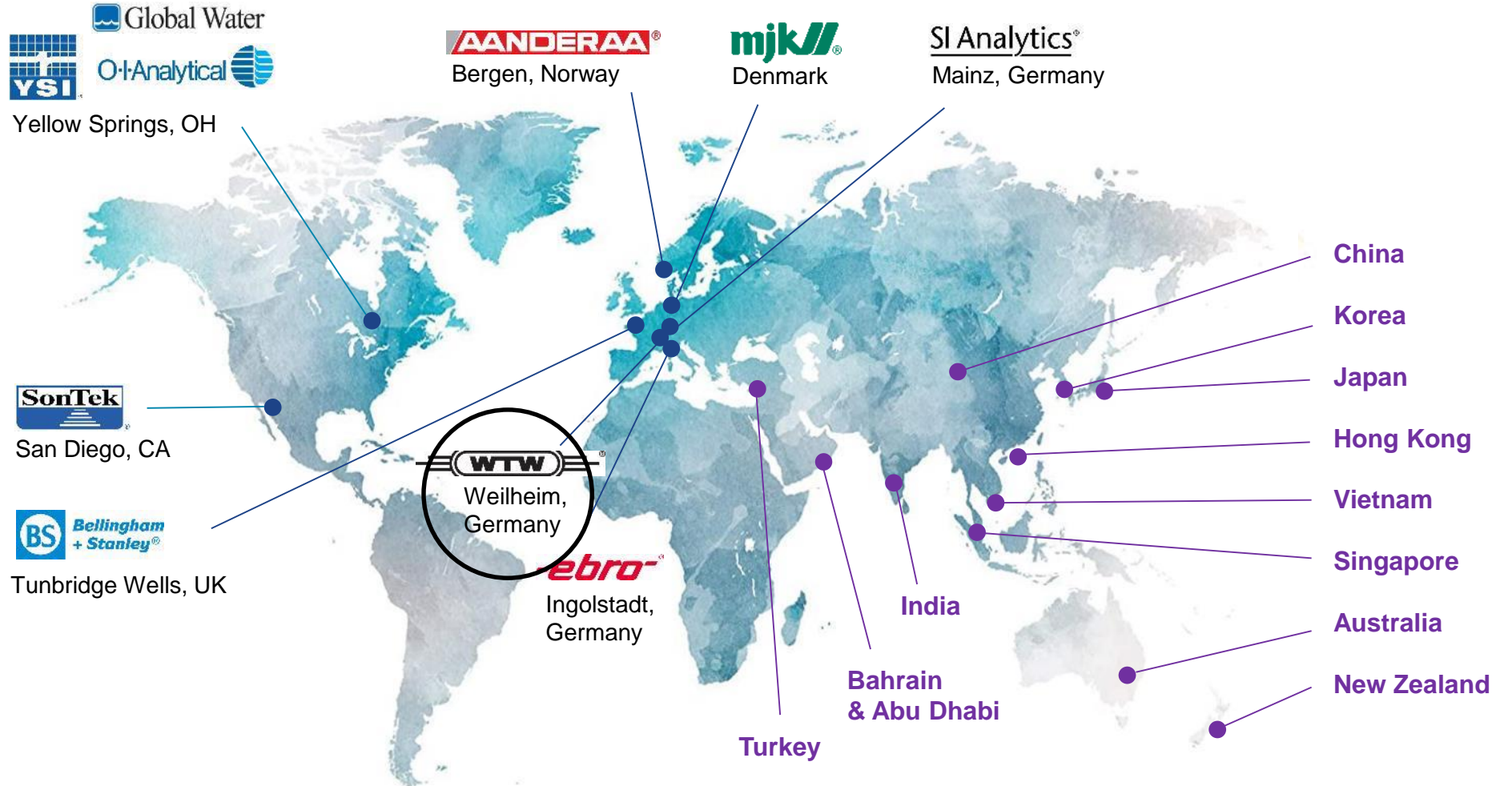


## Analytics:

60 Facilities

23 Companies

3300 employees



# Market Segments



## Environmental

- Desalination plants
- Groundwater
- Surface water, rivers, lakes
- Aquaculture
- Ports & harbors



## Laboratory

- QA & QC Lab
- Pharmaceuticals
- Industrial
- Food and beverage

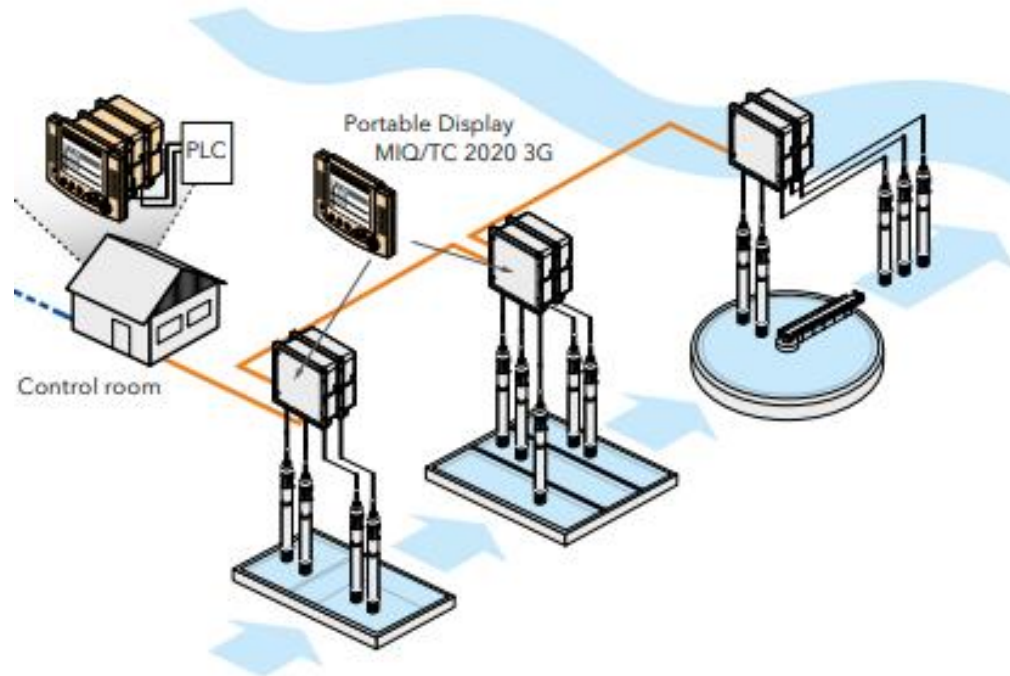


## Process

- Drinking water
- Domestic wastewater
- Industrial wastewater

# WTW - reliability, operational safety and versatility

## Process / Online



## Laboratory



# Optical Reagent-Free Measurement

COD, Nitrate and Nitrite with photoLab<sup>®</sup> 7600 UV-VIS

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# Spectrophotometer photoLab<sup>®</sup> 7600 UV-VIS

## One for all – all in One

- **Routine analysis:**  
Test programs for all standard parameters
- **Pioneering:**  
**Spectral analysis - OptRF**  
**Optical Reagent-Free** Measurement in the UV range for COD, Nitrate, Nitrite
- **Multistep measurement procedures**  
e.g. chlorophyll determination in water  
enzymatic test kit support, color for wine quality
- **Comprehensive color measurement, CIE based & standard methods**



# The importance of COD measurement

## Chemical oxygen demand (COD) :

COD is a sum parameter for determination of organic compound in waste water and is measured and determined as the equivalent of its oxidation in  $O_2$  mg/l.

The oxygen required for its oxidation is provided by the agent (Potassium-Dichromate) within a 2 hrs. digestion process.

### DIN 38409-41 standard method

Describes the procedure for its determination.

### ISO 15705:2002

Specifies the procedure using the sealed test tube method allowing reduced reagent consumption!



# The importance of COD measurement

## Chemical oxygen demand (COD) :

- ❖ is the measure and **the main parameter** for successful wastewater cleaning
- ❖ is the parameter to pay discharge fees
- ❖ underlies an additional self control
- ❖ is a time-consuming test following standard methods: 2hr digestion + cool down process

## Optical reagent-free measurement of COD

- ❖ Constant optical reagent-free monitoring has been introduced with the WTW® **IQ SENSORNET** 2001, **optical UV-VIS sensors** 2004, improved 2012
- ❖ **OptRF transferred to lab** in the year 2015: Pioneering photoLab® 7600 UV-VIS offers reagentfree outlet test!



## WTW - IQ SENSOR NET Highlights

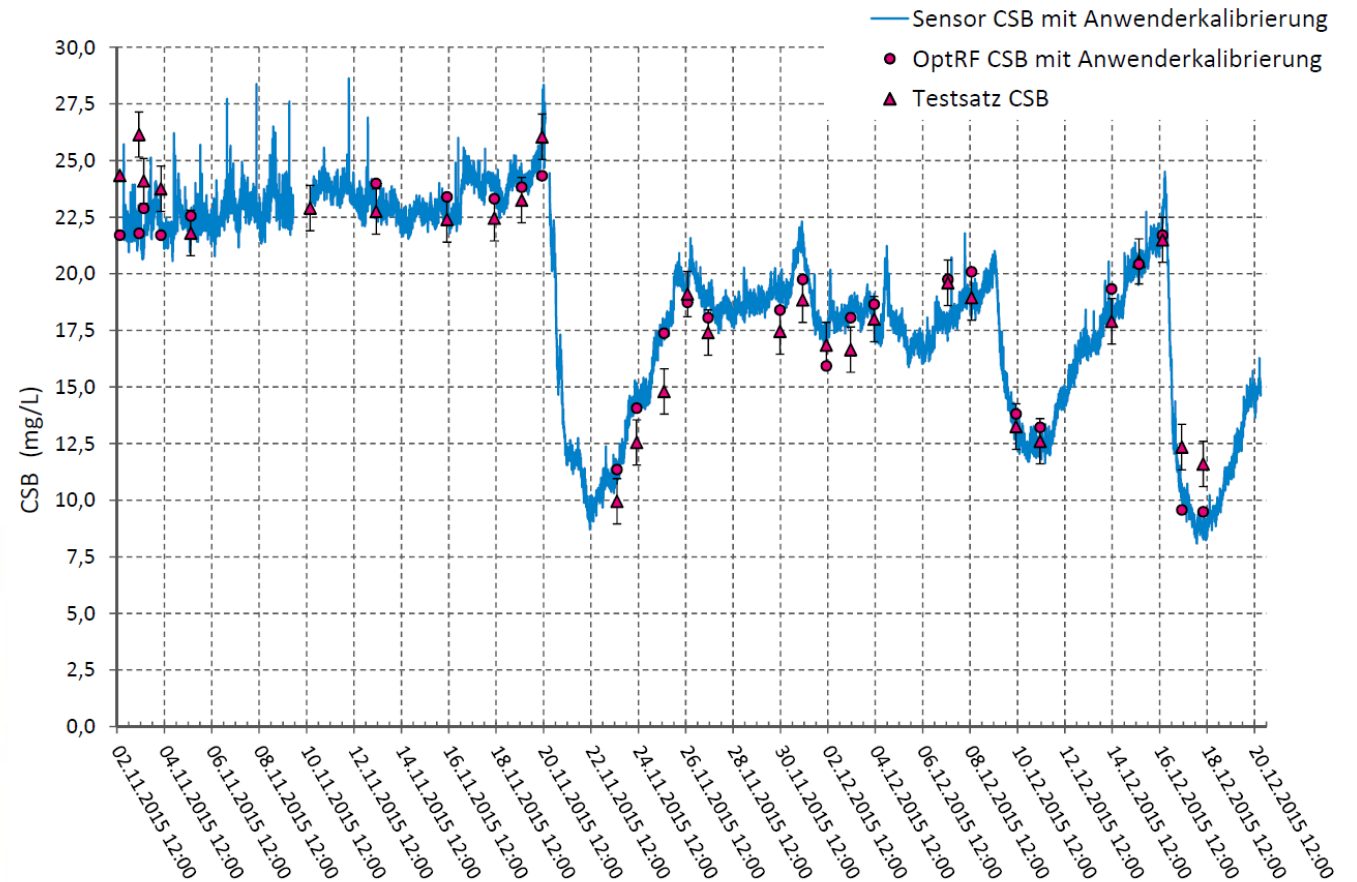
|      |  |  |
|------|--|--|
| 2001 | <b>IQ SENSOR NET</b>                     | the multi-parameter measuring system offers unlimited possibilities for online measurements  |
| 2004 | <b>NitraVis*, CarboVis* and NiCaVis*</b> | spectral "in-situ" Online sensors for Nitrate, Carbon and TSS measurement for wastewater control                                     |
| 2012 | <b>UV-VIS sensors - Next generation</b>  | CarboVis*, NitraVis* and NiCaVis* sensors with the optical design, integrated ultrasonic cleaning technology and high-tech materials |

# Process Measurement in Sewage Plants

## Process Measurement with IQ SENSORNET

- Spectral probes for COD, NO<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>: CarboVis, NitraVis, NiCaVis...
- Can monitor inlet, aeration and outlet

Many years of experience in optical reagent-free measurement => transferred to Lab



# Pioneering Online procedures transferred to Lab!

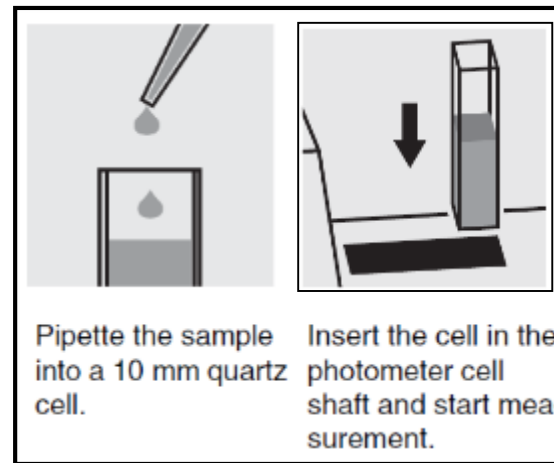
## Optical Reagent-Free Measurement OptRF

for outlets of municipal waste water treatment plants (WWTP)

and in many surface waters applications with photoLab<sup>®</sup> 7600 UV-VIS

# COD, NO<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> - Just measure!

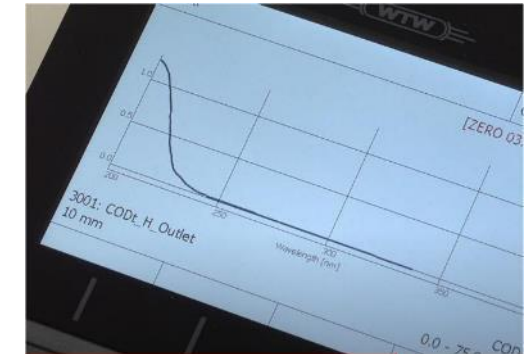
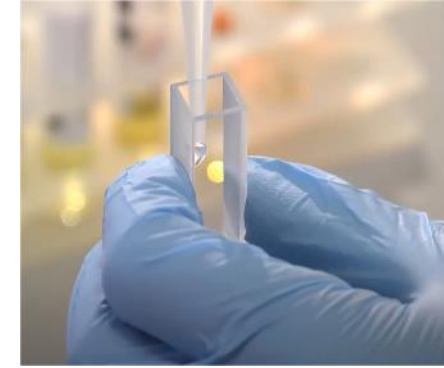
| Select method (all)                                      | 16.01.15 9:52 |
|--|---------------|
| Search: <input type="text"/>                             |               |
| <b>3001 CODt_H_Outlet_10 COD 0.0 - 75.0 mg/l</b>         |               |
| 3002 CODs_H_Outlet_10 COD 0.0 - 75.0 mg/l                |               |
| 3003 NO3_H_Outlet_10 NO <sub>3</sub> -N 0.0 - 3.0 mg/l   |               |
| 3004 NO2_H_Outlet_10 NO <sub>2</sub> -N 0.00 - 4.00 mg/l |               |
| Last used  |               |



| OptRF measurement    | 16.01.15 9:52      |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| [ZERO 16.01.15 9:51] |                    |
| [MQ 1]               |                    |
| <b>2.3</b> mg/l      |                    |
| Raw value: #2.0 mg/l |                    |
| 3003:NO3_H_Outlet    | NO <sub>3</sub> -N |
| 10 mm                | 0.0 - 3.0 mg/l     |
| Setup                | Method list        |
| Citation form        |                    |

# OptRF – The principle

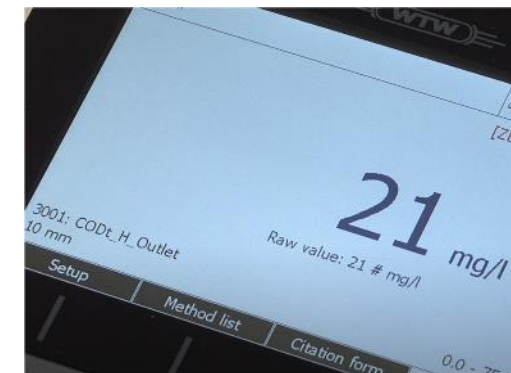
- Direct absorbance measurement by **NO<sub>3</sub>**, **NO<sub>2</sub>** in UV range
- **COD = sum parameter** with absorbance „behaviour“ depending on sample matrix
- Pipette sample in 10 mm **quartz** cuvette (UV!)
- Spectral reading from 200-390 nm
- Evaluation of scan based on reference spectra by water matrix from many sewage plants: so **based on real samples**
- Instant value output on display



## Methods designed for sewage plant outlets!

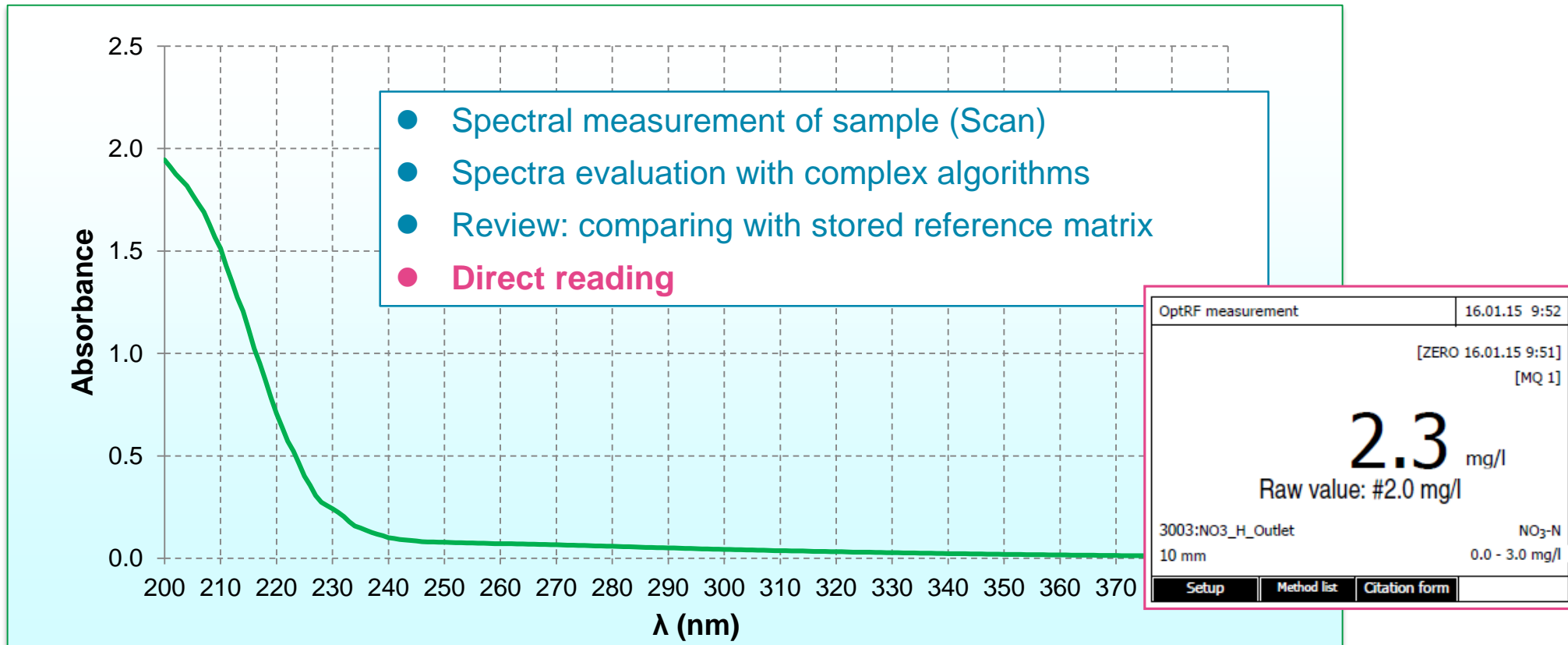
**Not** suitable for most of industrial waste water since not all carbon sources (sugar/alcohol...) absorb in UV-range!

Turbidity effects are disturbing, no inlet method available actually.



# OptRF – based on spectral measurement

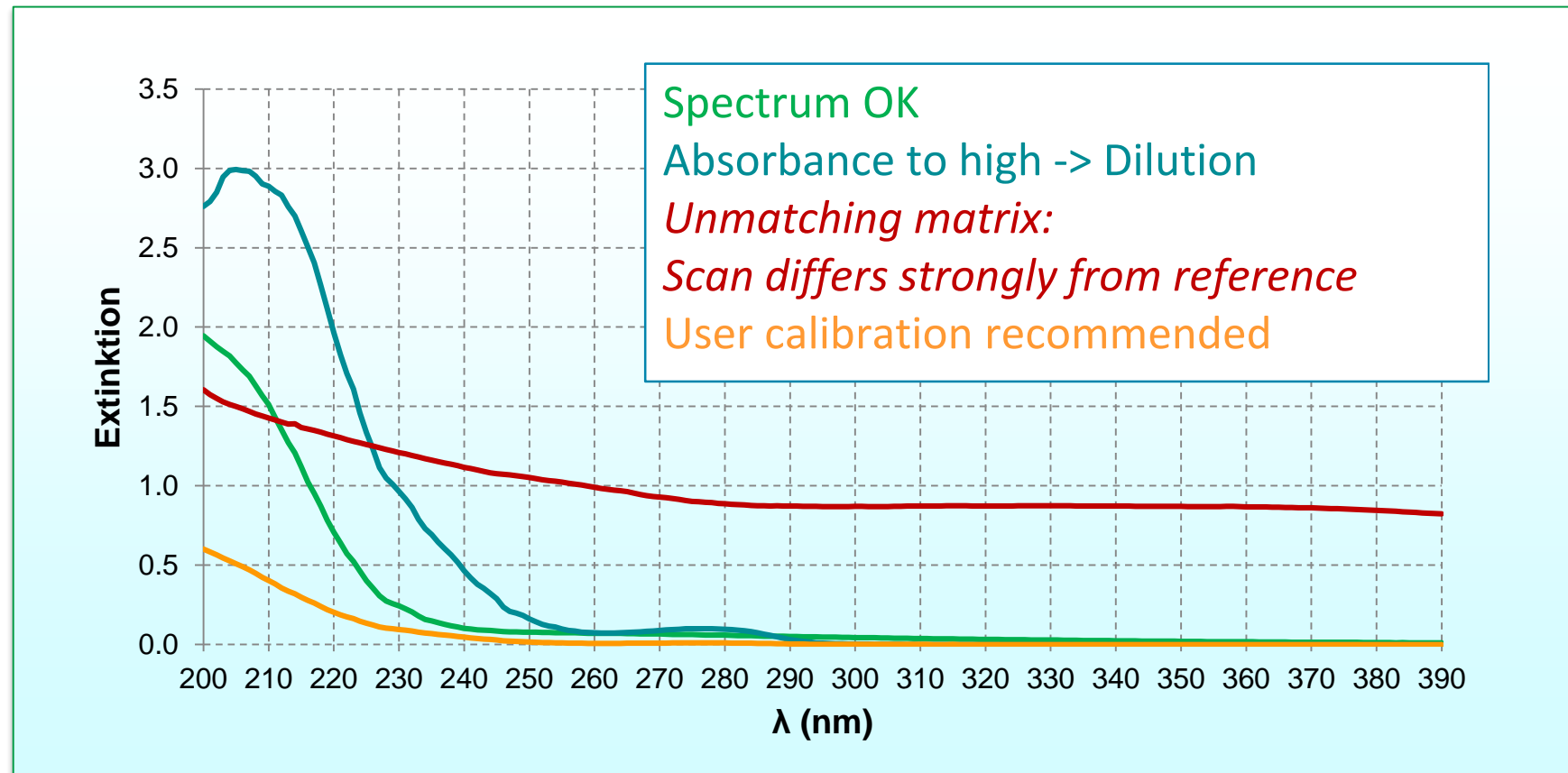
From spectral measurement to instant data output:



# OptRF : menu-guided procedure

No water is alike = varying matrix!

## Background evaluation and qualitative review of spectra





# OptRF - Procedures

## What is the measurement range?

based on standard solutions; for real samples they are matrix-dependent

COD 2.0 - 75.0 mg/l

NO<sub>3</sub>-N 0.1 - 3.00 mg/l

NO<sub>2</sub>-N 0.1 - 4.00 mg/l depending on absolut NO<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>2</sub> conc.!

## Is dilution possible?

Absorbance behaviour of the parameters and algorithms are different:

To measure all parameters in a sample, it might be necessary to dilute with different dilution factors per parameter: This changes the matrix of the water =>

**Dilution as low as possible as much as needed!**

## OptRF can be used in surface water

Depending on environment and matrix, but frequently suitable: Verification with test kits ahead

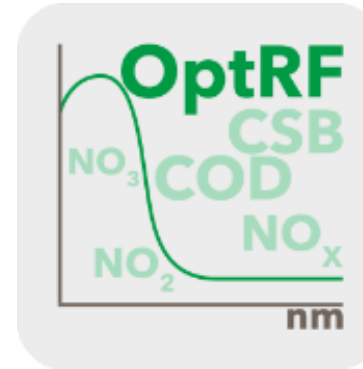
recommended, especially when high dynamics like heavy rain events etc.: **method COD<sub>s</sub> (dissolved)**

# Pioneering!

## Optical Reagent-Free measurement

### Many benefits:

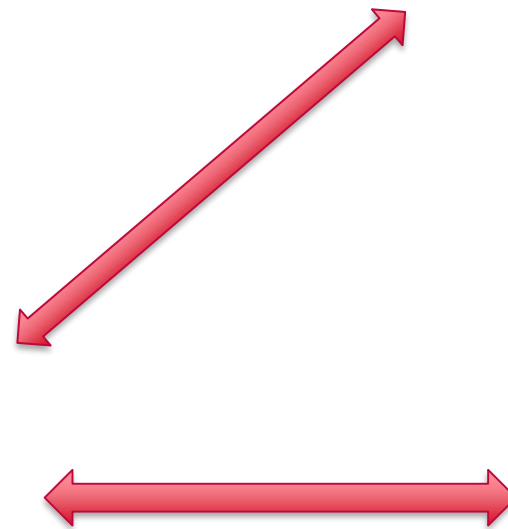
- ✓ Faster than any digestion  
(1 min vs. COD standard method: 2.5 hrs min.)
- ✓ Cost free w/o need of chemicals
- ✓ Reduction of over-all costs
- ✓ Check of required measurement range
- ✓ Cost-free test of retainer samples
- ✓ Ecofriendly w/o potassium Dichromate, Hg...
- ✓ Non-hazardous, non carcinogenic



# OptRF – Linking with IQ SENSORNET

- Fast check of abnormal events
- Onsite check for process sensors
- Matrix adjustment of process sensors

For both, process and OptRF measurement,  
**the lab testing is the reference!**



**Q1** How many determinations per parameter do you usually perform for each sample?

1. Single determination (1 test)
2. Double determination (2 test)
3. Triple determination (3 tests)

# OptRF - Higher Convenience

## OptRF – even more comfortable in daily use

- ✓ Profiles can be saved as user calibrations for various locations
- ✓ ID for each actual user calibration (storing seasonal settings)
- ✓ AQA: Chosen profile is displayed and printed with ID and name
- ✓ Selection of the stored calibration settings comfortable via F1-Key
- ✓ Dilution setting can be kept for several measurement series



# OptRF – User Calibration to match your site!

Optimization for the individual sewage plant or even basins:

Adjustment of characteristics via **raw** & **reference value** pairs

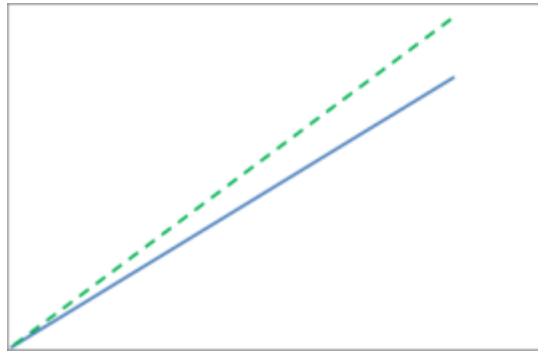
|                    |                         |                               |       |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| User calibration   |                         | 16.01.15 9:52                 |       |
| Value pair 1       | Raw value<br>0.00 #mg/l | Reference value<br>0.00 #mg/l |       |
| Value pair 2       | 5.00 #mg/l              | 6.00 #mg/l                    |       |
| Reset all          |                         |                               |       |
| 3007: CODt_Outlet_ |                         |                               |       |
| Back               |                         | Reset entry                   | Apply |

Directly measured sample (OptRF)  
Negative raw values **must** be entered negatively!

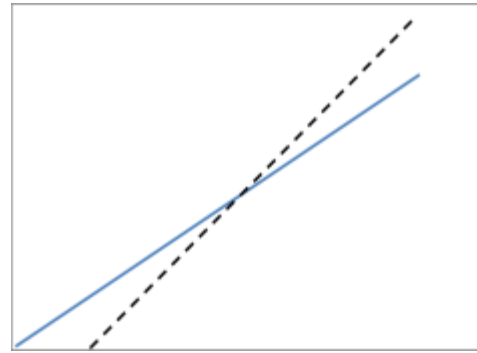
Concentration determination with test kits or standard methods

# OptRF – User Calibration

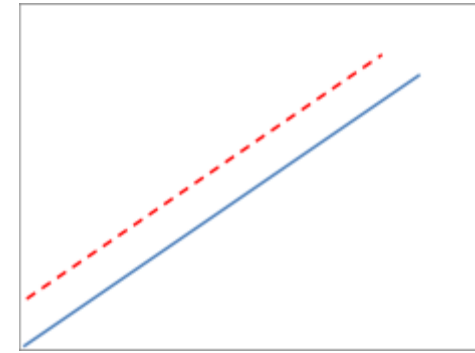
Adjustment of characteristics („calibration curve“) via reference measurements:



1-point calibration changing second pair at the end of measurement range:  
**Slope correction**



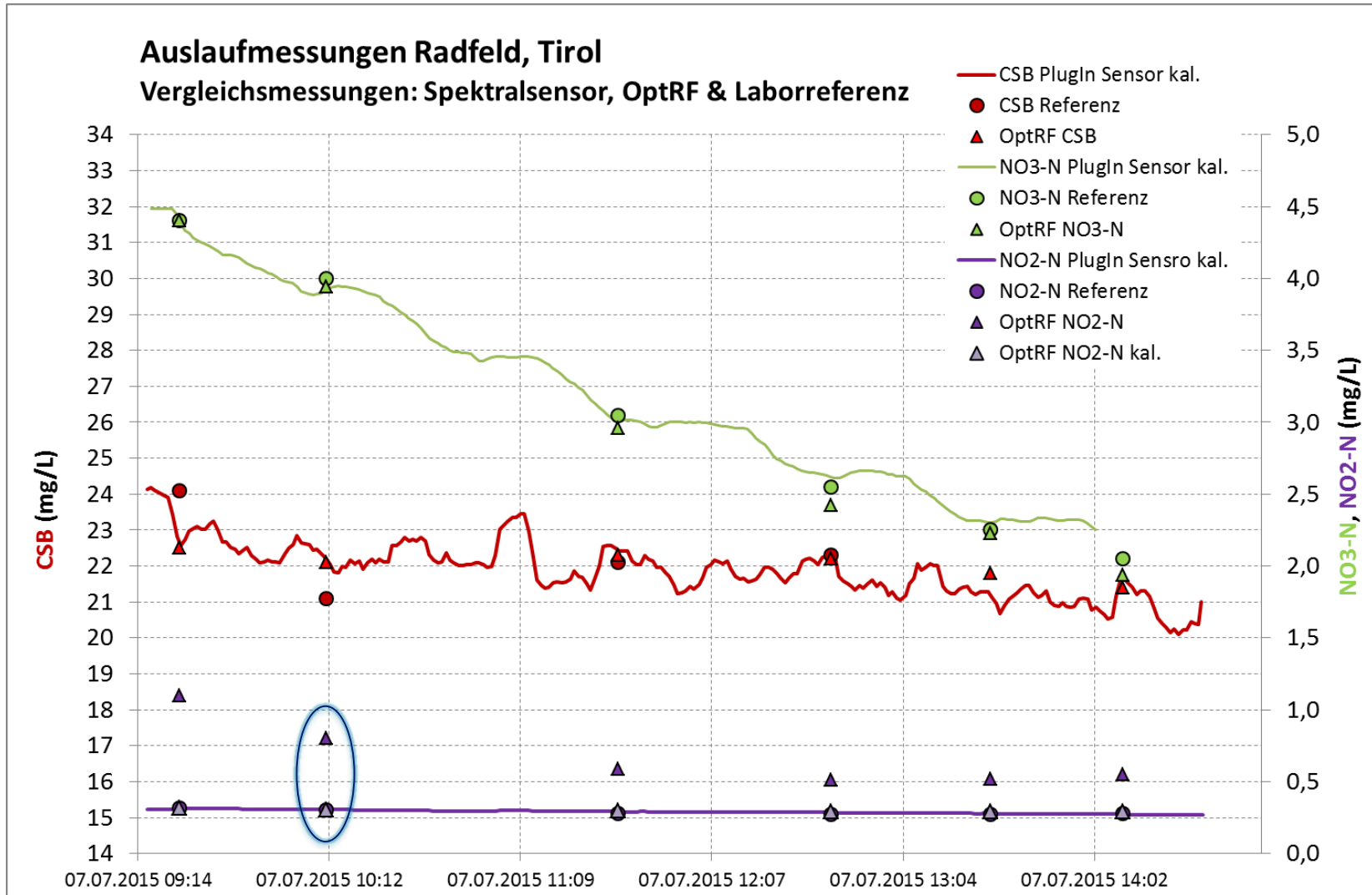
2-point calibration changing both pairs of variates:  
**slope correction**



2-point calibration, change of both pairs of variates:  
**Offset-correction**

- Periodical reference measurements:  
e.g. seasonal variations of  $\text{NO}_3$  => seasonal optimization take place in Europe

# Comparison of OptRF, WTW sensors and test kits



After user calibration for  $\text{NO}_2^-$ :

the values of

- the sensor,
- the lab test and
- the OptRF result

are matching as seen in violet curve



# Implementation Guide for OptRF:

*How to Assure best results*

# Implementing OptRF at Customer Sites (Sewage)

- ❖ The optical reagent-free (OptRF) measurement of COD and Nitrate can be a **powerfull option** for monitoring, self check and range detection. OptRF results are highly precise, when optimized.
- ❖ To achieve valuable and good results, there are some key facts to consider: lab skills & user calibration with matrix adjustment
- ❖ Read manual first, even for preparation and evaluation, if this methods can be performed at your site.

A seperate operations manual OptRF tests can be downloaded from Xylem Analytics

[https://www.xylemanalytics.com/en/File%20Library/Resource%20Library/WTW/01%20Manuals/ba77167e03\\_PhotoLab\\_7600\\_OptRF\\_Tests.pdf](https://www.xylemanalytics.com/en/File%20Library/Resource%20Library/WTW/01%20Manuals/ba77167e03_PhotoLab_7600_OptRF_Tests.pdf)

**Our team and our partners consult and support the implementation!**

# Implementing OptRF at Customer Sites

## Which sample/waters **can** be measured via OptRF?

(Testing and matrix adjustment period is useful respectively mandatory!)

1. Sewage plants – Outlets = based matrix of the OptRF algorithms  
(If industrial waste water does not exceed aprox. 30%, OptRF may work: trial period required)
2. River and Surface waters: are working mostly

## Which sample/waters **cannot** be detected via OptRF

1. Industrial waste water: non-absorbing substances in UV such as sugars, alcohol, ...
2. Samples with high turbidity or TSS due to high matrix variations
3. For photoLab<sup>®</sup> 7600 OptRF measurement cannot offer matrix models for inlets and biological tanks (due to scan speed/settlement, cuvette sizes etc.)



# Q2 Do you have changing industrial compounds in waste water plants?

1. Yes
2. Less than 30%
3. No

# OptRF Implementation - Overview

1. Make good handling skills sure: of sampling and data collection
2. Be aware of the difference in sample handling for OptRF measurement
3. Improve your lab skills, if necessary: this helps in daily routine too!
4. Be aware of negative OptRF # (raw) values
5. Perform a matrix adjustment / user calibration with the reference results for your site using our [Xylem Analytics Excel sheet for OptRF implementation](#):

This will calculate your entered data via linear regression to optimize the OptRF-testing procedure to your ambient condition.

# Implementing OptRF: Sampling and preparation

- ✓ Grab sample **at a good = matching spot**:  
Representative sample showing the average,  
well mixed matrix

*For lab/matrix adjustment: near IQ SENSOR NET UV-VIS sensors*

- ✓ Note time and date of sample (and IQ Sensor values)
- ✓ Do **not filter** samples for OptRF measurement
- ✓ => **Fix only a part** for the routine analysis of sample  
with lab methods:  $\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$  turn over quickly  
Method: Syringe Filter 45  $\mu\text{m}$  or fixation with acid, cooling



# Implementing OptRF: Referencing in the lab

## Best lab performance required!

- ✓ Start with daily measurement, evtl. drop down to 1-2 per week
- ✓ Best matching measurement range of reference kit
- ✓ GLP: double, better triple determinations per sample in the beginning, control standards help to check skills
- ✓ Lab measurement of filtered samples for  $\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$
- ✓ **COD: standard digestion method**  
(148° C, 2 hrs, slow cool down)
  - Blank value per new box for optimum accuracy
  - 10 min. after digestion end, swivel cuvette (hot!) to pick up condensation drops in the lid
  - Let the kits cool down slowly to complete settlement of particles  
=> no turbidity effects will disturb the readings!



# Implementing OptRF: OptRf reading

## The procedure differs from lab method


- ✓ No matter, what the standard regulation is for lab testing:  
do **not filter** the OptRF sample, since the models are based on IQ SENSOR NET sensors algorithms measuring original water matrix unfiltered in the outlet of sewage plants
- ✓ Easy method selection, settings and zeroing acc. to operations manual and menu guidance
- ✓ Pipette the sample directly in the 10 mm quartz cuvette  
**NO single use UV-plastic cells – no transmission below 220 nm**
- ✓ No bubbles, no condensation no finger prints in or on the cuvette
- ✓ Minimum sample dilution to keep original matrix unchanged as much as possible
- ✓ **Note OptRF #value with date/time** to match lab results



# Implementing OptRF in surface water monitoring

- **Different water matrix in rivers, lakes..**
  - => Check with reference measurements!
  - => **OptRF reading w/o filtering the sample !**
- **COD method: dissolved COD for surface water**

Difference to sewage water: COD results from sludge particles in the outlet surface and river waters carry sand and others instead with less organic load of bacteria:

 *it is better to choose OptRF method for dissolved COD of the reagent-free measurement with the spectrophotometer photoLab® 7600 UV-VIS*



# Implementing OptRF at waste water treatment plants

## Optimization = User calibration = Matrix Adjustment

Each matrix is different => Optimization for each location!

- ✓ Even for several basins in the same sewage plant
- ✓ Each location has an individual biology = bacteria mix  
*due to sun, tree shade, adaption of bacteria to seasons or geographical regions, temperature ... => also seasonal adjustment can be useful/needed*
- ✓ Easy handling: Profiles and user calibration with ID for various locations can be stored (F1-key)
- ✓ **1** profile for Nitrate in sewage plants often matches many locations  
*(experience in Denmark, Germany.....)*
- ✓ Link the OptRF (raw) #values correctly to reference lab values!  
(Note date and time!) Enter **negative** #values being negative!



# Implementing OptRF: User Calibration Process

## The Linear Regression Tool from Xylem Analytics

- ✓ Making your life easy with our XLS Sheet
- ✓ Enter matching value pairs in the green fields for Lab and OptRF (!) The more values over a 2-3 weeks period, the better the adjustment will be achieved, periods are depending on each site.
- ✓ For OptRF values enter the raw values (!) including negative values!
- ✓ Don't enter values into red fields: they are reserved for automatic calculation based on your entries
- ✓ 2-3 lab determinations per value:  
*calculate the average value, eliminating outlier ins case of triple determinations, if usefull*

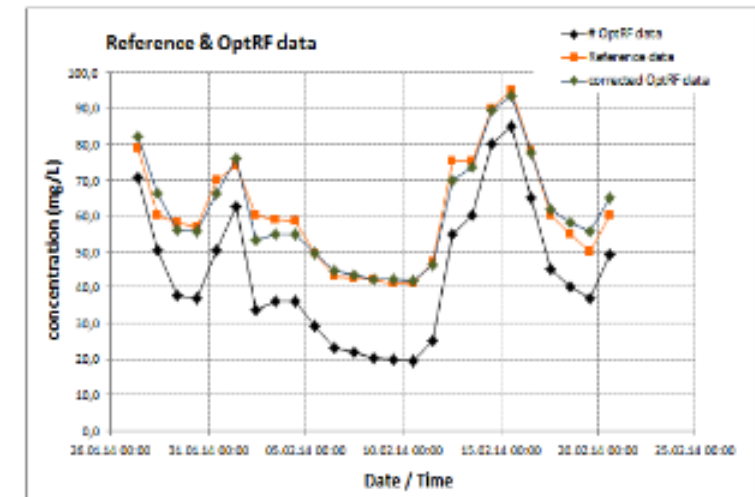
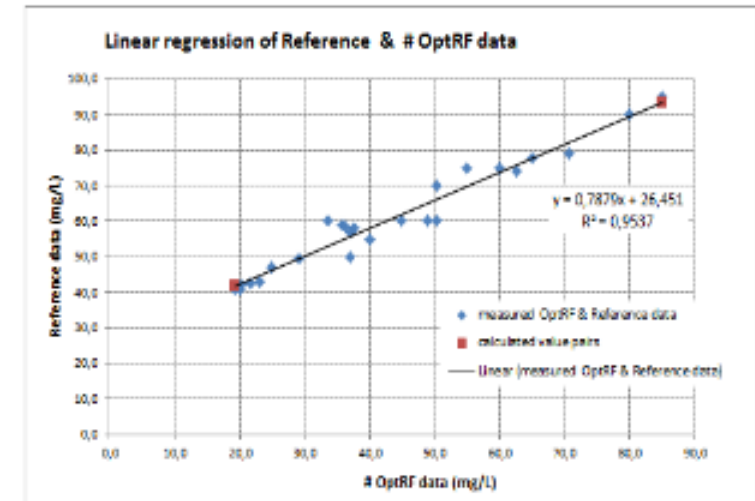
| enter Date and Time | enter measured # Sensor data mg/L | enter measured Lab data mg/l | corrected Sensor data calculated with slope & off-set from linear regression mg/L |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 27.01.2014 09:00    | 70,8                              | 79,0                         | 82,2  |
| 28.01.2014 09:15    | 50,3                              | 60,0                         | 66,1  |
| 29.01.2014 09:30    | 37,6                              | 58,0                         | 56,1  |
| 30.01.2014 09:45    | 37,1                              | 57,0                         | 55,7  |
| 31.01.2014 10:00    | 50,3                              | 70,0                         | 66,1  |
| 01.02.2014 10:15    | 62,7                              | 74,0                         | 75,9  |
| 02.02.2014 10:30    | 33,7                              | 60,0                         | 53,0  |
| 03.02.2014 10:45    | 35,9                              | 59,0                         | 54,7  |
| 04.02.2014 11:00    | 36,2                              | 58,5                         | 55,0  |
| 05.02.2014 11:15    | 29,2                              | 49,5                         | 49,5  |
| 06.02.2014 11:30    | 23,2                              | 43,0                         | 44,7  |
| 07.02.2014 11:45    | 21,8                              | 42,5                         | 43,6  |
| 08.02.2014 12:00    | 20,2                              | 42,0                         | 42,4  |
| 09.02.2014 12:15    | 20,0                              | 41,0                         | 42,2  |
| 10.02.2014 12:30    | 19,3                              | 41,0                         | 41,7  |
| 11.02.2014 12:45    | 25,0                              | 47,0                         | 46,1  |
| 12.02.2014 13:00    | 55,0                              | 75,0                         | 69,8  |
| 13.02.2014 13:15    | 60,0                              | 75,0                         | 73,7  |
| 14.02.2014 13:30    | 80,0                              | 90,0                         | 89,5  |
| 15.02.2014 13:45    | 85,0                              | 95,0                         | 93,4  |
| 16.02.2014 14:00    | 65,0                              | 78,0                         | 77,7  |
| 17.02.2014 14:15    | 45,0                              | 60,0                         | 61,9  |
| 18.02.2014 14:30    | 40,0                              | 55,0                         | 58,0  |
| 19.02.2014 14:45    | 37,0                              | 50,0                         | 55,6  |
| 20.02.2014 15:00    | 49,0                              | 60,0                         | 65,1  |
| min values          | 19,3                              | 41,0                         |   |
| max values          | 85,0                              | 95,0                         |   |

| Calculation of value pairs for local COD Sensor Calibration |                    |   |
|---|--------------------|---|
|   | # Sensor data mg/L | calculated Lab data reference value calculated with slope & off-set from linear regression mg/L |
| value pair 1  | 5                  | 30  |
| Value pair 2  | 90                 | 97  |

enter values only in green cells  
do not change red cells

# Optimized results with OptRF

- ✓ Automatic calculation of the corrected value pairs for **2 point calibration**: red squares in graph 1
- ✓ Graph 2 shows OptRF #values before (black) and corrected OptRF values (green) via linear regression: it can be seen clearly, that the user calibration is **almost 100% matching** the reference lab values (orange).
- ✓ Finally: **enter the calculated value pair** in the respective OptRF user calibration menu of the spectrophotometer photoLab® 7600 UV VIS



| Calculation of value pairs for local OptRF Calibration |                      |   |
|--|----------------------|---|
|  | # OptRF data<br>mg/L | calculated reference value<br>calculated with slope & off-set<br>from linear regression<br>mg/L |
| value pair 1   | 19,3                 | 41,7  |
| Value pair 2   | 85,0                 | 93,4  |

**This ensures the best and reliable matching results!**

# To Go - Get instant results – Routine and OptRF

## Handy: Analysis-to-Go for onsite-testing

- Low weight, just 4.5 kg
- Power supply via standard car battery
- Standard cable for car batteries
- Onsite needs: weather protected location like a customer lab, a trunk, a van, a shed....
- Optional field case for transportation



**Ideal for huge location, surface water monitoring and at multiple locations!**

# photoLab<sup>®</sup> 7000 Series Spectrophotometers

## Well proven and reliable photometric analysis

### Barcode for round **and** rectangular cells

- Advantage of **cell tests: very fast & convenient**
  - Reagent mix, lot certificated
  - method selection with all settings, fault-free
- Advantage of **reagent test kits: fast & economic**
- Unique with barcode support = method setting selection
- Offering lot certificated quality at cost level of powder pillows

### Automatic cell recognition for all cells without adapters

- Round **and** rectangular cell identification (10, 20, 50 mm)
- Automatic measurement range switch:  
corresponding range matching cell size



# photoLab<sup>®</sup> 7000 Series Spectrophotometers

## Application Overview

- Aquaculture
- General Labs
- Beverage Industry
- Education
- Fish Farming
- Food Industry
- Mining
- Petro Industry
- Pharma
- Research Labs
- Service labs
- Universities & schools
- **Water Analysis**
- Wine & Beer
- .....



**Q3** Would you like a WTW Specialist to contact you with more information?

1. Yes, please
2. No, thanks.



# Questions?

## CONTACT US

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**Xylem Marketing**  
[info.em@xylem.com](mailto:info.em@xylem.com)

*\*\*An email will be sent out in the next few days that will include a link to the recording*