

A COMPARISON OF BATCH AND CONTINUOUS FLOW  
KINETIC BEHAVIOR FOR ACRYLONITRILE,  
2,4 DINITROPHENOL, AND  
1,3 DICHLOROBENZENE

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## LIST OF SYMBOLS

- $\alpha$  = Recycle Rate  
 $C$  = Monod's Consumption Rate Constant  
 $D$  = Dilution Rate as  $1/t$  = Retention Time  
 $D_m$  = Maintenance Dilution Rate  
 $d^{-1}$  = 1/days  
 $F$  = Flow Rate  
 $hr^{-1}$  = 1/Hours  
 $[I]$  = Inhibitor Concentration mg/l  
 $K' + K''$  = Saturation Constants  
 $K_e$  = Eckenfelder's First Order Rate Constant  
 $K_e'$  = Eckenfelder's Second Order Rate Constant  
 $K_i$  = Inhibitor Saturation Constant  
 $K_m$  = McKinney's Rate Constant  
 $l$  = Volume in Liters  
 $mg$  = Milligram Mass  
 $S$  = Substrate Concentration in mg/l  
 $S_0$  = Substrate at  $t = 0$   
 $S_e$  = Effluent substrate or any  $t$  where  $t \neq 0$   
 $S_R$  = Substrate Removed  
 $\Delta S$  = Change in  $S$   
 $t$  = Real Time  
 $U$  = Specific Substrate Utilization Rate Defined by  $\frac{(S_0 - S_e)}{Xt}$

$X$  = Biomass as mg/l

$X_A$  = Mean Value of  $X$  as mg/l

$\Delta X$  = Change in  $X$

$\mu$  = Specific Growth Rate

$\mu_m$  = Maximum Specific Growth Rate

$Y$  = Yield - Production of Biomass Per Removal of Substrate

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

The microscopic biota present in the biosphere may be the most important agent in equilibrating the environment so all forms of life can coexist. Their foremost and primary function is the degradation of organic materials present to  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , thus serving as the apex for the recycling of carbon.

Industrialization and advancement in science and technology has lead to increased usage of both naturally occurring and synthetic organic compounds in processes to achieve desired goods and services. Industrial processes utilizing organic compounds result in the compounds or an altered form (oxidized, reduced, or polymerized) of them discharged as effluent waste waters. Discharged organic substances into a receiving water system may adversely affect the system and those using the system. Effects may be short- and/or long-term in their manifestations. Short-term impacts would be oxygen depletion, aesthetics (taste, color, and odor), and economics (restoration for potable and industrial reuse). Long-term effects would result from continued discharge and/or the presence of stable toxic substances which are acutely or chronically harmful.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act (P.L. 92-500) enacted by the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) provided for legal restriction and control of the discharge of chemicals from industrial processes.

In an effort to further delineate the regulations of P.L. 92-500, E.P.A. through extensive research published a priority pollutant list of toxic compounds composed of 129 substances, of which 115 were organic. The basis for appearing on this list was a compound's evidenced or suspected potential health hazard, tenacious endurance in the environment, bio-accumulation tendencies, and in combinations of their tendency for synergism. The list of 115 organic compounds is categorized in three parts according to their acute or chronic health effects (30). The first category consists of those compounds known to be adversely biogenic. The second classified as structurally similar to the first and the third as those showing acute toxicity in bioentities. The importance of the list was to futuristically (1) develop a logistic "cradle to grave" approach for control of these compounds, (2) establish specific guidelines for effluent concentrations, and (3) set standards for the analysis for them.

Of great interest, therefore, is an economical method of removal. This becomes more evident in considering the vast amounts of use and presence in waste waters.

Since the compounds are organic and the environment provides a source of treatment, microorganisms, the most economical method would then be biological oxidation or reduction of them. Research in the past few years has expanded in the compatibility and treatability of priority pollutants using microbiological systems (activated sludge). Two types of studies to achieve this goal are bench scale pilot plant continuous flow systems and bench scale batch systems, to determine kinetic behavior and develop models to predict compatibility and treatability.

The objective and scope for the research presented are to study

three compounds from the list and examine their kinetic behavior in batch systems and compare this behavior to that expressed in continuous systems.

## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

The quantitative study of the kinetics and dynamics of activated sludge systems involves knowledge of the mechanism(s) of reaction(s) and reaction rates between microorganisms and the substrate they are subjected to. Kinetics is the study of mass transfer rates occurring for each reaction mechanism to yield and predict an overall reaction rate between the species present (6).

#### Mechanisms

Recognition and transportation of a substrate to (into) the cell is accomplished by extracellular and/or membrane bound enzymes which are constitutive or induced (56). Induced enzymes are those whose synthesis is stimulated and activity regulated by exposure to a specific substrate (59). Constitutive enzymes are those whose synthesis is independent of need not regulated by inducers or repressors, and function primarily in cellular maintenance functions (56) (57).

Monod (32) (33) proposed the mechanism of induction and repression of protein synthesis in his studies with *E. coli* in which the bacteria exposed to two substrates effected a dynamic growth curve, and preferential removal of substrates. Gaudy and his associates have investigated this phenomena extensively in both batch and continuous systems. In a once through continuous system, Kómolrit and Gaudy (21)

demonstrated preferential removal of glucose over sorbitol with negligible change in growth rate. Su and Gaudy (53) showed that increasing growth rate increased sequential utilization of substrates. Yu and Gaudy (59) demonstrated that using cells harvested from continuous flow systems placed in a batch reactor achieved sequential removal. However, this tendency decreased as culture age increased.

Once in the cell, the carbon source is inserted into metabolic pathways to be catabolized for energy or serve as a precursor for anabolism in the synthesis of cellular constituents, or both (57). The complexities of the catabolic and anabolic pathways and the interactions between them are beyond the scope of this study. For enlightenment and further information, the reader is referred to the publication by Watson (56).

Many synthetic and naturally occurring organic compounds exhibit inhibition over cellular functions, thus, limiting growth and even affecting death of the organism (15). Such inhibition of metabolic enzymatic processes are one or a combination of three types: (1) competitive, (2) noncompetitive, and (3) uncompetitive, inhibition (35). Competitive inhibition is the result of competition between the inhibitor and preferred substrate for the active site on the enzymes. Uncompetitive inhibition is exhibited when inhibitor complexes with the enzyme substrate complex preventing it from separating and is seen more often in multiple substrate systems. When the inhibitor combines with the enzyme at a site other than the specific site of the substrate, non-competitive inhibitions occur. All three types of inhibition are discussed in the publication by Morris (35).

Reddy and Kincannon (21) demonstrated competitive growth inhibition



in a batch activated sludge system using phenol modeled by Haldane's equation.

Finally, included in a review of mechanisms is the interactions and relationships between species of microorganisms in a heterogeneous population. Bull and Brown (5) in a review of microbial biochemistry, cite work showing the dependence of microbiological communities to achieve degradation of complex organic material such as petroleum wastes and pesticides. The work cited by them and by Hill and Wright (14) demonstrates the existence of functional communities which are mutualistically dependent on its members to achieve degradation of organic compounds by co-metabolism, i.e., enzymatic interaction between organisms.

#### Kinetics

Assuming growth and growth rate as the sum total of all the mechanisms occurring in a cell provides a mechanism for modeling biological systems. The discussion of kinetic models for modeling growth rates in response to substrate concentration is drawn from Kincannon and Gaudy (18), Fredrickson and Tsuchiya (7), and Gaudy and Gaudy (10), along with the original works of the model developers.

The first model to enjoy success for microbiological systems was that of Monod (32). Monod recognized that growth rates of E. coli subjected to varying concentrations of substrate responded according to a first order monomolecular kinetic relationship, i.e.,

$$\mu = \frac{\mu_m S}{K_S + S} \quad (1)$$

The concepts for the model are substrate is rate limiting for a specific

growth rate and the consumption (C) of the rate-limiting substrate(s) equals the yield times  $\frac{ds}{dt}$ .

Teisser (55) proposed that specific growth rate was a function of substrate concentration such that the substrate over  $K_S$  was raised to an exponent of maximum growth rate, i.e.,

$$\mu(S) = \mu_m \left[ 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{s \ln 2}{K}\right) \right] \quad (2)$$

resulting in a sinusoidal perturbation (47).

Other models have been proposed by Moser, (7) Shehath and Marr (50), Powell (7), and Jost et al. (17). A review of these models is presented by Fredrickson and Tsuchiya (7).

Adaptation to continuous systems of Monod's model results in Equation (3), or (4)

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = -DC + \frac{\mu_m CS}{K_S + S} \quad \text{or} \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = D(S_f - S) - \frac{1}{Y} \frac{\mu_m CS}{K_S + S} \quad (4)$$

where D is the dilution rate or the inverse of the retention time (7).

In using Monod's model in chemostate studies, Herbert found that the apparent yield from the data was different from the theoretical yield (13). This was also observed by Marr et al. (29) and Pirt (41). Herbert assumed that the difference in yields was due to energy required for cell maintenance and the source of this energy came from endogenous respiration. Herbert's addition to Monod's model to compensate for yield is

$$D_m = \mu_m \left[ 1 - \frac{\sqrt{K_S}}{K_S + S_R} \right] \quad (5)$$

while Marr et al. (29) and Pirt (41) used

$$1/2 \frac{\Delta X}{(\Delta S)_g} + (\Delta S)_m \quad (6)$$

The models of Monod and Herbert have become the bases for two of the models used in activated sludge systems to date, i.e., Gaudy's (18) Equation (7) and Lawrence-McCarty's (18) models, Equation (8), i.e.,

$$\frac{ds}{dt} V = FS_i + \alpha FS_e - F(1 + \alpha)S_e - \mu_m \frac{X}{Y_t} \frac{S_e}{K_S + S_e} V \quad (7)$$

and

$$\frac{ds}{dt} V = FS_i - FS_e - KX \frac{S_e}{K_X + S_e} V, \quad (8)$$

respectively. The difference between the two being the influence of the recycle rate by Gaudy.

The other major models used in design of activated sludge units are those of Eckfelder (18) and McKinney (26). Eckfelder (18) assuming first order decreasing rate substrate removal followed discontinuous kinetics and proposed

$$\frac{ds}{dt} V = FS_i - FS_e - K_e X S_e V \quad (9)$$

McKinney (26) conceptualized a number of constants for mechanisms he felt were occurring in activated sludge systems and suggests that

$$\frac{ds}{dt} V = FS_i - FS_e - K_m S_e V \quad (10)$$

effluent substrate concentration is dependent on hydraulic detention time with no correlation to the concentration of the microorganisms. A comparison of application for design, of these four models may be found in Kincannon and Gaudy (18) .

Grady and Williams (8) recognizing that influent substrate concentration may have a bearing on effluent quality used a modified form of Monod's equation, i.e.,

$$S = K' S_0 D + K'' S_0 \quad (11)$$

to try and predict changes in  $S_e$ . He emphasized the empirical derivation of the model. Common to all the models for both batch and continuous systems is the lack of modeling for inhibition. Andrews (1) used Haldane's equation for competitive substrate inhibition, i.e.,

$$\mu(S) = \frac{\mu_m \cdot S}{K_S + S + (S^2/K_i)} \quad (12)$$

Competitive inhibition is exhibited by a change in the denominator while  $\mu_m$  remains the same. The other two types of inhibition introduced in the section on mechanisms demonstrate different transformations than competitive on a Linweaver-Burk plot. Noncompetitive inhibition results in a change in  $\mu_m$  but not in  $K_s$ , i.e.,

$$\mu = \frac{\mu_m \cdot S}{(1 + \frac{[I]}{K_i}) (S + K_S)} \quad (13)$$

Uncompetitive inhibition depicts a change in both  $K_S$  and  $U_m$ , i.e.,

$$\mu = \frac{\frac{\mu_m}{(1 + \frac{[I]}{K_i})}}{S + K_S} \cdot S \cdot \frac{1}{(1 + \frac{I}{K_i})} \quad (14)$$

The models for inhibition are reviewed by Morris (35).

Yang and Humphrey (58) using both a pure culture batch and continuous system with phenol tested the three models above along with two others and found no statistically significant difference between them.

Neufeld and Valiknac (37) working with waste waters from a coal carbonization process, which contain cyanates and phenols utilized a continuous flow reactor system with them. They concluded the cyanate interfered with the removal of phenol and to maintain the desired levels of both phenol and cyanate in the effluent, the  $\theta_C$  had to be increased as cyanate concentration increased. They used the modified form of Equations 12, 13, and 14, i.e.,

$$\left[ 1 + \sum_{j=0}^n I \frac{j+K}{K_{I,j}} \right] \cdot \quad (15)$$

Reddy and Kincannon (46) demonstrated competitive growth inhibition using phenol in batch systems and modeled it using Haldane's equation with  $K_i = 168-182$  mg/l. They did not experience any discontinuity in the kinetics as Lowe and Kincannon (22) did with phenol. Lowe had discontinuity develop between 7 and 9 days  $\theta_C$ .

## Compounds

The compounds chosen for the kinetic study were 2,4 dinitrophenol, 1,3 dichlorobenzene, and acrylonitrile. All three appear on the E.P.A. priority pollutant list (43). The early work performed on these compounds was primarily in pure culture work following Koch's procedures (5). Results showing inhibition and toxic effects from this type of research is one reason these compounds appear on the E.P.A. List.

Phenols and substituted benzenes are aryl compounds synthetically derived from diazonium salts and water as outlined in Morrison and Boyd (36). Thus, 2,4 dinitrophenol and 1,3 dichlorobenzene are the nucleophilic substitution of an aryl (benzene) that has reacted with a diazonium salt to produce ortho, para substituted dinitrobenzene and ortho, meta substituted dichlorobenzene, respectively.

Interesting then is the similarities between the metabolic pathways used by microorganisms to degrade and utilize benzenes and phenols. 2,4 Dinitrophenol predominately undergoes a reduction of the nitrogen groups to amines which then are removed by deamination (14). Benzene, in bacteria can be converted to phenol in a reversible reaction which can further be substituted forming hydroquinone (16). Quinones present in the electron transport system of bacteria appear to function as intermediate carriers between the flavoproteins and the cytochromes (56).

Haller (11) reported that the nitro group on 2,4 DNP phenol was cleaved off as nitrate. Raymond and Alexander (45) demonstrated the conversion of para and meta-nitrophenols to nitrohydroquinone in a pure culture, with the release of nitrate. An intermediate formed in the process was nitrocatechol which agrees with the pathway proposed by Stanier (49) for phenols. Hill and Wright (14) propose that nitrophenols

undergo reduction to amines and through subsequent reactions nitrates appear.

Hill (14) shows that benzenes and phenols are transformed to an intermediate catechol which undergoes ortho or meta fission, or are metabolized by a "gentisate" pathway to fumaric and pyruvic acid. The latter agrees with the findings of McKinney et al. (28) in what he terms as  $\beta$ -oxidation.

Halogenated benzenes and phenols as reported by Hill (14) undergo four major reactions for removal of the halogen. The four reactions are (1) hydroxyl replacement, (2) halogen migration, (3) reductive dehalogenation, and (4) dehydrodehalogenation. The cyclic ring then is processed as stated above.

2,4 Dinitrophenol is suspect of uncoupling oxidative phosphorylation in bacteria and mammalian tissues (57), with lethal inhibition levels of 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$  (15). For this reason, it has been used as a pesticide, and a precursor for pesticides (14). It is also used in making amylose dyes (36).

Very little work has been published using 2,4 dinitrophenol in bench scale studies with activated sludge and even less for 1,3 dichlorobenzene, until recently. Tabak (54) using a static flask method showed 100% degradation of 2,4 dinitrophenol and only 40% for 1,3 dichlorobenzene after seven days. Medely and Stover (30) determined 2,4 DNP to be a poor economical candidate for complete oxidation by ozone but showed it was more easily degraded after ozonation had occurred. McCartney (26) using 2-nitrophenol as a sole carbon source showed it to be biodegraded, while total removal of the compound involved approximately 13% stripping.

Kincannon and Stover (19) using continuous flow recycle sludge systems achieved better than 95% removal of 2,4 DNP and 1,3 DCB. This was determined by specific G. C. analysis.

A substantial amount of research has been performed on phenols and benzenes using activated sludge. This warrants a brief presentation as a possible predictable tool for the behavior of 2,4 DNP and 1,3 DCB. McKinney et al. (28) using several substituted phenols and benzenes in Warrburg studies showed benzene to be less inhibitory than phenol and decreased  $O_2$  utilization increased with substitution on the cyclic ring. Beltrame et al. (2) (3) (4) show phenol to be inhibitory in batch but not in continuous systems. Graham (9) utilized phenol in a once through and a recycle continuous system which revealed unsteady state kinetics for the once through system and steady state kinetics in the recycle. Pawlowsky and Howell (38) (39) (40) reported that in batch and continuous systems with phenol, two steady states existed, one for wall growth, the other for the completely mixed portion. All the researchers achieved high removal efficiencies with phenols and benzenes of 90 to 100% and yields around 0.80%. However, the discrepancies seem to be mainly in  $K_S$  values.

Much of the research performed on benzenes and phenols has been with the use of nonspecific analysis, i.e., total organic carbon, biochemical oxygen demand, (BOD) and chemical oxygen demand (COD). Pitter (42) showed 2,4 dinitrophenol to be 85% degraded by activated sludge at 200 mg/l COD. He also performed this test on several other phenols and substituted benzenes and found the greatest majority biodegradable.

Radhakrishnon and Ray (44) using a pure culture of B. cerus achieved high rates of yield, and  $\mu_m$  for phenol. They reported  $\mu_m$  at



0.628 hr<sup>-1</sup> in a continuous system versus 0.144 hr<sup>-1</sup> for the batch. The yield of 0.81% was higher in the continuous system than the batch.

Acrylonitrile is a vinyl cyanide which is prevalent in the waste waters from chemical, rubber, plastic, textiles, and steel industries (36). It also has been shown to uncouple oxidative phosphorylation (57). A very toxic and even lethal substance, it has been removed from waste waters by stripping, absorption on soil columns, and biological oxidation (47). Ludzack (15) reports that the mechanism for removal is by hydrolysis to organic acids and ammonia.

Mills and Stack (31) in attempting to acclimate municipal sludge to acrylonitrile could not achieve utilization until it had been hydrolyzed to acrylic acid or sodium acrylate.

## CHAPTER III

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

To achieve kinetic constants for 2,4, DNP, 1,3 DCB, and acrylonitrile, a completely mixed batch one-step growth curve with an acclimated heterogeneous population was employed. The constants for the continuous flow completely mix, sludge recycle systems, are those developed by Kincannon and Stover (52).

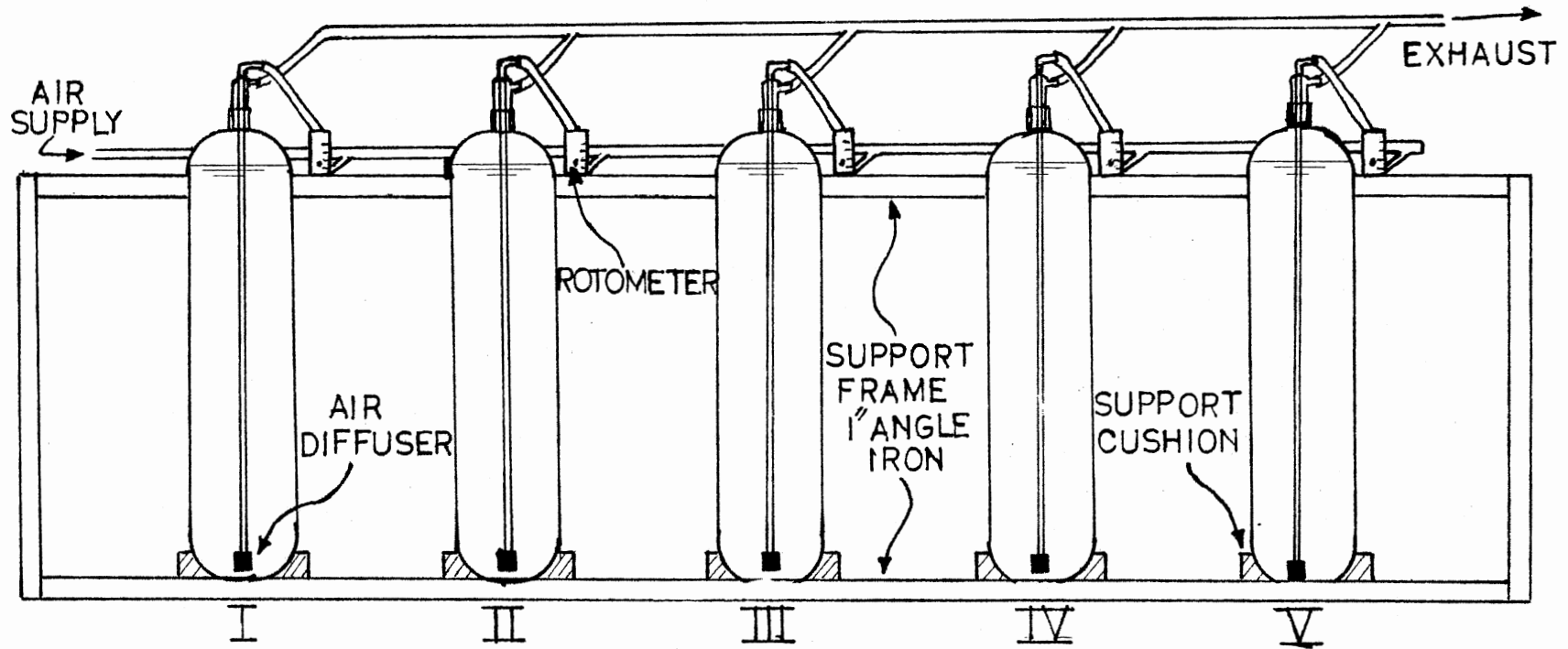
In both experimental approaches, the specific compound was used in conjunction with a "base mix", to simulate a complex industrial waste.

#### Experimental Units

Reactors used to expose and propagate the activated sludge biomass consisted of five 3.2 liter round bottom graduated glass cylinders (see Figure 1). They were 10 cm in diameter by 105 cm in height. Each had a ground glass cap with an influent airline extending to the bottom terminated by a sintered air diffuser and an effluent airline open to the atmosphere for pressure equalization. All the effluent airlines were connected in parallel to a manifold vented outside the building. Thus, each reactor was in a positive air flow system.

Air flow was filtered over glass wool to remove dust and oil condensates and regulated to each reactor by a Rotometer at .5 liter/min. At this flow rate, complete mixing ensued and the dissolved oxygen maintained above 2 mg/l.

Figure 1. Illustration of Biological Reactors and Hardware  
Used for Study



BIOLOGICAL REACTORS I-V

Temperature was monitored at the onset and completion of each experiment and remained at  $22^{\circ} \pm 1^{\circ} \text{ C}$ .

In each of the five reactors, pH was maintained in the range of 6.8 to 7.2 using sodium hydroxide or hydrochloric acid.

#### Base Mix and Compounds

The base mix consisted of the organic compounds listed in Table I showing their composition, concentration, and proportions. The same ratios were maintained for the entire study for both batch and continuous flow units. Specific compound(s) to be studied were weighed or measured volumetrically and added to the units at the desired concentration. The concentrations were chosen on known adverse effects in biological systems, saturation properties, and experimentation, due to difficulties getting them in solution.

Use of the five reactors thus allowed for a doubling of base mix concentration between each reactor, starting with 50 mg/l in Reactor I ending with 800 mg/l in Reactor V. The quantitative amounts of base mix were based on total organic carbon (TOC). The graduated concentrations from 50 to 800 mg/l TOC of base mix were maintained for the entire study.

The specific compounds used for the investigation 2,4 dinitrophenol, 1,3 dichlorobenzene, and acrylonitrile, were then added to the existing solution of base mix.

2,4 Dinitrophenol, a yellow crystal at standard temperature and pressure with a molecular weight of 184.11 g/m<sup>3</sup> (CRC) (12) was added to the reactors at 25 and 50 mg/l for two experiments. Due to the difficulty of getting it into solution, part of the final three liter volume was

TABLE I  
COMPONENTS OF THE BASE MIX

(A) Organic Compounds		Concentration
Ethylene glycol		113 ml/l
Ethyl alcohol		113 ml/l
Acetic acid		113/ml/l
Glutamic acid		113 gms/l
Glucose		113 gms/l
Phenol		22.6 gms/l
(B) Inorganic Compounds		
$(\text{NH}_4)_2 \text{SO}_4$		100 gms/l
$\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$		15.7 ml/l
$\text{CaCl}_2$		4 gms/l
$\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$		4 gms/l
$\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$		0.2 gms/l
Reactors	(A)	(B) to 3/1 $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
I	3 ml	2 ml
II	6 ml	4 ml
III	12 ml	8 ml
IV	24 ml	16 ml
V	48 ml	32 ml

used outside the reactor to dissolve it before addition to the system.

1,3 Dichlorobenzene, a clear liquid at standard temperature and pressure, has a density of  $\rho = 1.2884$  g/ml (CRC) (12) and was measured volumetrically for distribution into the reactors. Again, to be assured of the compound being in solution, the same procedure was used as that for 2,4 DNP.

Acrylonitrile, a clear pungent liquid at STD temperature and pressure, with a  $\rho = .806$  g/ml (CRC) (12) was measured volumetrically at 50 and 100 mg/l for addition to the systems. Due to the volatile nature of the compound, it was added directly to the reactor cylinders, the cylinders capped, and then vigorously shaken to drive it into solution.

The final set of experiments involved the addition of all three compounds. The lowest quantities for each compound were utilized in an effort to determine the combined effect on the growth curve and sequential removal of the compounds, if any.

Water utilized for the experiments was tap water, since it was being used in the continuous systems. However, due to chlorine residuals and dissolved gasses in tap water, it was aerated for one hour at three liters/min air flow to ensure the absence of these substances.

At all times, an effort was made to minimize deviation from the procedures used for the continuous flow units.

#### Biomass

Preceding each experimental run for the specific compounds, a seed of 500 ml of activated sludge was taken from the control unit of the continuous flow research program, for acclimation. The seed was then

placed in a 4L reactor and gradually exposed to increasing concentrations of the base mix and compound(s), until a dispersed exponential growth was realized and maintained.

Determination of the state of growth of the systems for acclimation and the kinetic experiments was performed using optical density. Solids (biomass) in solution were measured using a Bausch and Lomb Ser. 0617447 J Spectrophotometer set at 540 nm. The sample was then filtered with a .45 um millipore filter at 15 in. hg and dried as per standard methods (48) for total suspended solid. A plot of absorbance versus dry solids established the standard curve in Figure 2. The curve was randomly verified for the entire project. The curve established had a slope of ~50 mg/l solids/absorbance unit.

Once acclimated to the compound, the culture became the stock culture for that compound. It was maintained in exponential dispersed growth using optical density measurements by wasting all but 100 ml of the system and resuspending in new substrate. An aliquot of the stock culture became the seed for the experimental runs. The solids at time zero was desired to be at 40-50 mg/l.

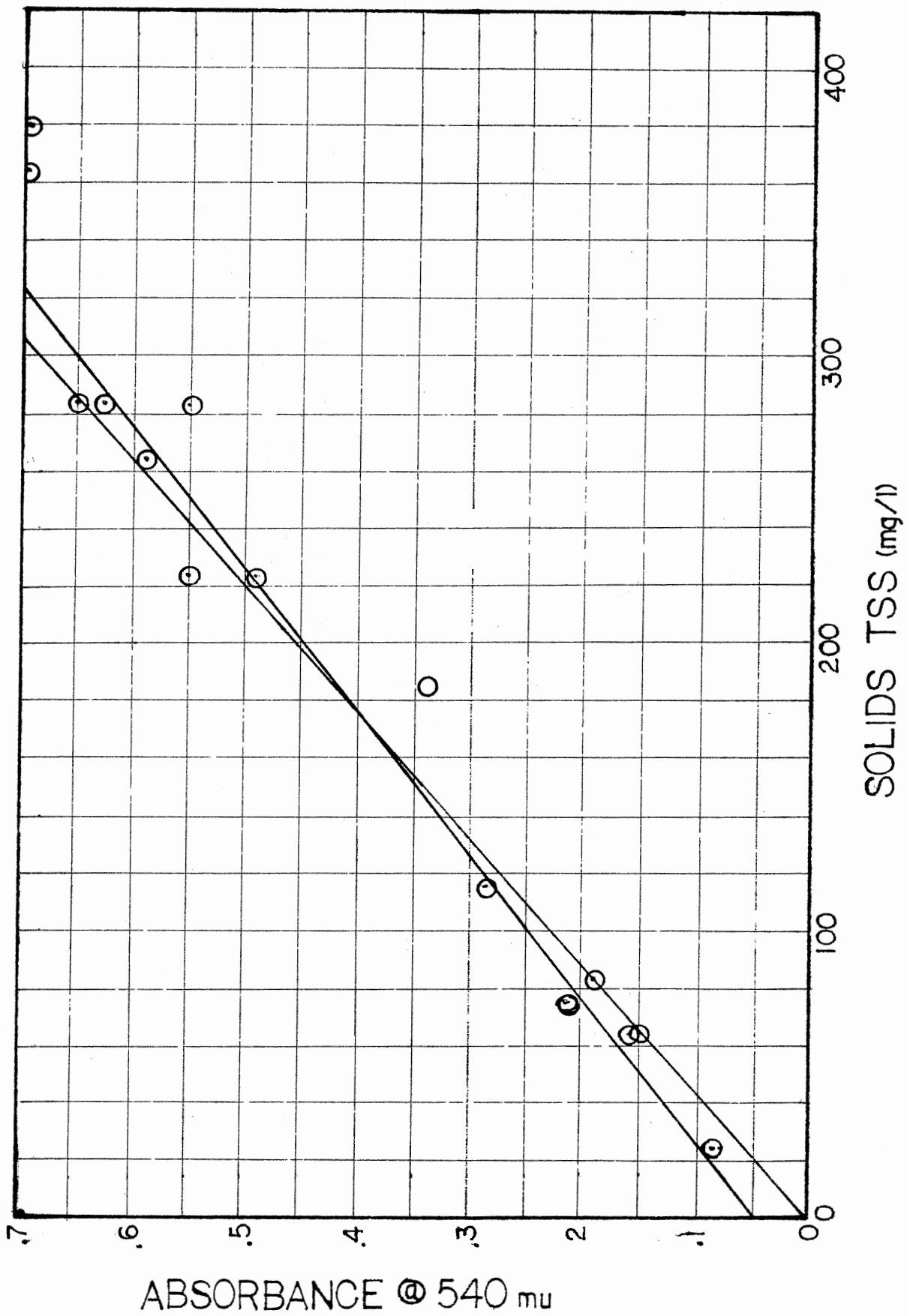
#### Parameters and Analysis

Parameters selected for use in determining kinetic constants were, total organic carbon (TOC), biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), and specific compound analysis by gas chromatography. TOC was accomplished using a Beckman Model 915 TOC analyzer and an Oceanographic International Model 0524B-HR TOC analyzer as per standard methods (57).

BOD, dissolved oxygen, and  $O_2$  uptake employed the use of an Orion



Figure 2. Standard Curve for Adsorbance Vs. Biomass



D. O. Probe Model 97-08 and a Beckman Model 76 pH meter. BOD<sub>5</sub> was performed according to standard methods with the modification recommended by Stover (51).

Specific analysis by gas chromatography involved the use of the procedures outlined in the Federal Register #69464, Vol. 44, No. 233 (60), for each compound. 2,4 DNP, an acid extractable, was analyzed using a Hewlett Packard Model 7600 G. C. with flame ionization and a 6' glass column packed with SP 1240-DA. The purge air flow was 300 ml/min, hydrogen, 30 ml/min and nitrogen, 30 ml/min. The G. C. was programmed at 90° C for 2 min isothermol, increased by 8°/min by 200° C and held for 8 min. The compound had a retention time of 12 minutes.

1,3 DCB, a base neutral extractable, was analyzed using F/M Model 810 G. C. with flame ionization and a 8' stainless steel column packed with SP-2250. The gas conditions for the G. C. were purge air 300 ml/min, H<sub>2</sub> 30 ml/min, and N<sub>2</sub> 30 ml/min. The G. C. was programmed for 150 thermal operation at 100° C. The compound had a retention time of 3.4 min.

Acrylonitrile, a volatile organic acid (VOA), was analyzed using a Tekmar purge and trap coupled with the aforementioned F/M 810 G. C. for flame ionization. The gas setting remained the same. The sample was purged from the purge tube or gas trap by nitrogen at 60 ml/min for 12 min. Then it was driven off at 180° C and passed over a 8' stainless steel column packed with carbowa 1500 for ionization at 100° C isothermal conditions. The compound has a retention time of 4.0 min.

All three compounds were recorded using a Hewlett Packard Model 3380 A Recorder Integrator interfaced with the G. C.'s.

## Data Analysis

Absorbance was converted to total suspended solids (X) from the curve (see Figure 2). The specific growth rate ( $\mu$ ) was then calculated using

$$\mu = \frac{\ln X_t - \ln X_o}{t} \quad (16)$$

which describes log growth (10). The specific growth rates for each substrate concentration (S) were plotted on a plot of  $\mu$  vs. S, Linweaver-Burk double reciprocal plot ( $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$ ), and Michaelis-Menton plot of  $S/\mu$  vs. S and the slopes and intercepts were then used to determine  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  using linear regression analysis.

If a reduction in  $\mu_m$  occurred over the base mix with the compound, the data was modeled using models borrowed from enzyme kinetics. The equations presented in the literature review were used if a particular type of inhibition was exerted, i.e.,

competitive Equation (17) 
$$\mu = \frac{\mu_m S}{S + K_S \left(1 + \frac{[I]}{K_I}\right)}$$

noncompetitive Equation (13) 
$$\mu = \frac{\mu_m S}{\frac{1 + \frac{[I]}{K_I}}{S + K_S}}$$

uncompetitive Equation (14) 
$$\mu = \frac{\mu_m \cdot S}{\frac{(1 + \frac{[I]}{K_i})}{S + K_S} \cdot (1 + \frac{[I]}{K_i})}$$

$$\text{or } \mu = \frac{\mu_m \cdot S}{(K_S + S + \frac{S^2}{K_i})}$$

The model used depended on whether  $\mu_m$  or  $K_S$  was affected (55).

Yields were determined by  $\Delta X$  vs.  $\Delta S$  and specific growth rate vs. specific substrate utilization rate  $U$ , respectively. Specific substrate utilization rate was calculated using the substrate removed divided by the mean mass time retention time  $t$ , i.e.,

$$U = \frac{\frac{S_o - S_t}{X_t + X_o}}{2} \cdot t \quad (18)$$

Eckenfelder's rate constants were delineated plotting  $U$  vs.  $S_e$  for  $K_e$  and the second order constant  $K_e'$  by plotting  $S \cdot U$  vs.  $S_e$ .

## CHAPTER IV

### RESULTS

The results of the completely mixed dispersed growth batch system experiments will be presented in this chapter along with the kinetic constants achieved in the completely mixed continuous flow pilot plant studies. The constants will be used as the basis for comparing similar and dissimilar kinetic behavior patterns expressed by the two systems.

Kinetic analysis for the batch system study involved determinations of specific growth rates to establish a maximum specific growth rate  $\mu_m$  with a saturation constant  $K_S$ , specific substrate utilization rate  $U$ , biomass yield, and Eckenfelder's rate constants  $K_e$  and  $K_e'$ . The data discussed and utilized for the batch system can be reviewed in the Appendix.

In order to present a kinetic behavior analysis each analytical procedure and resulting constant(s) developed will be presented for all the compounds. With each parameter sectionalized, changes between the compounds may become more apparent and distinguishable. The order of presentation will be as follows: (A) growth curves based on optical density versus time, (B) derivation of maximum specific growth rate ( $\mu_m$ ) and substrate saturation constant ( $K_S$ ) by (1)  $\mu$  versus  $S$ , (2) Lineweaver-Burke plot of  $1/\mu$  versus  $1/S$ , and (3) Michaelis-Menton plot of  $S/\mu$  versus  $S$ ; (C) determination of Eckenfelder's rate constants  $K_e$  and  $K_e'$ ; and (D) biomass yield coefficients.

## Growth Curves

The response of the activated sludge to the base mix was critical to the entire study. Quantitative amounts of base mix remained constant for each reactor at the initial concentrations used. Data for the base mix and the kinetic response achieved from it serves as the reference point for any changes in response from the biomass due to the addition of the specific compounds.

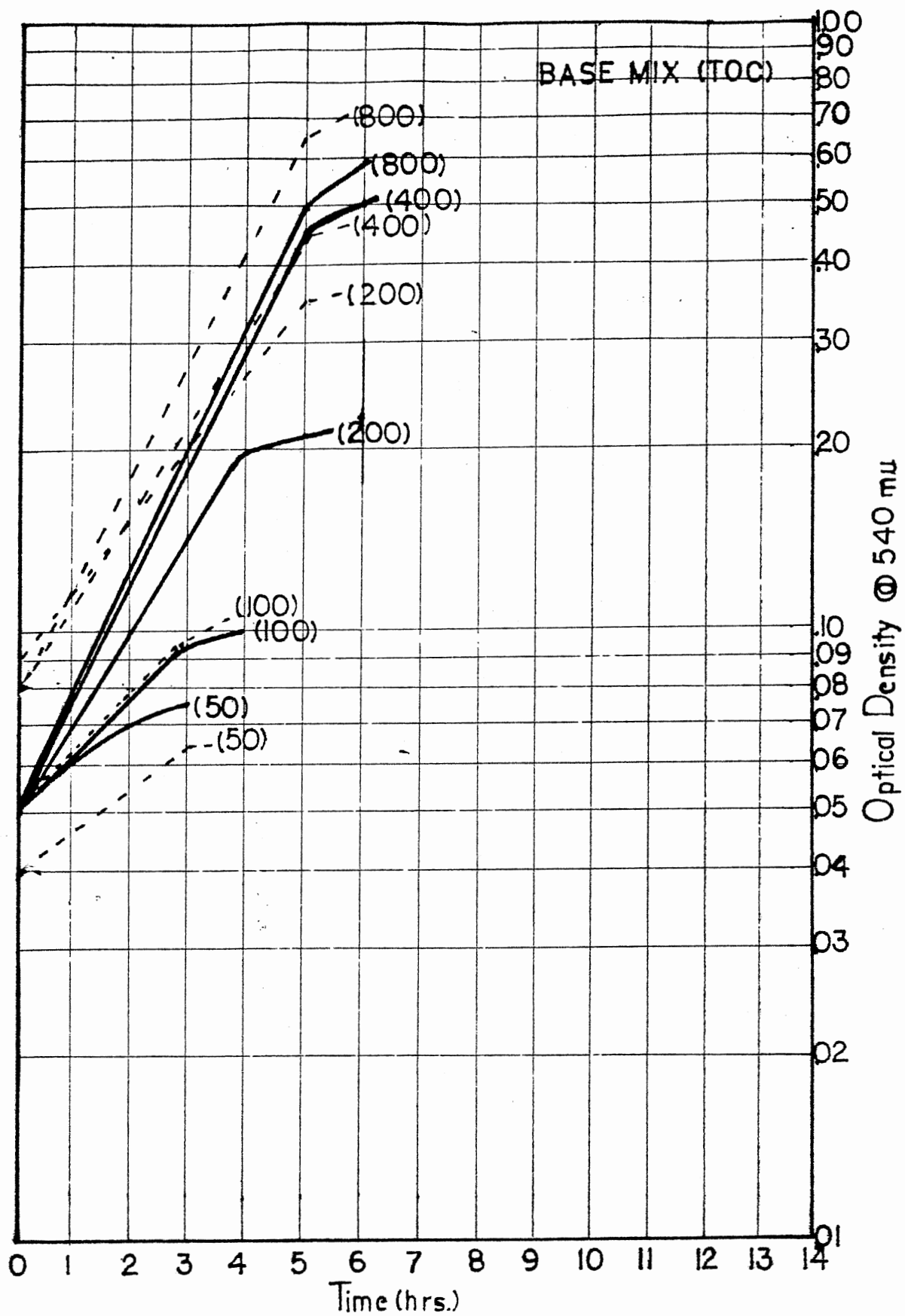
The growth curves presented in the text for the base mix and compounds appear as the increase in biomass, measured by optical density with respect to time. The time frame represented on each graph is that relative to the occurrence of the doubling of biomass with lag times deleted. Existence and duration of lag periods to the initiation of growth were consistent for all the experiments at approximately one hour. The only exception to the short lag periods was acrylonitrile. This event will be discussed in the presentation of the growth response to acrylonitrile by the sludge.

### Base Mix

Quantitative increases of the base mix in the five reactors from 50 to 800 mg/l TOC resulted in corresponding increases in the slopes of the lines depicting increases in biomass per unit time. This is seen in Figure 3. The specific growth rate  $\mu$  for a given substrate concentration is determined from the straight line portion of each curve.  $\mu$  values obtained for substrate applied (in parenthesis) are 0.169 hr<sup>-1</sup> (79 mg/l), 0.213 hr<sup>-1</sup> (115 mg/l), 0.347 hr<sup>-1</sup> (248 mg/l), 0.496 hr<sup>-1</sup> (469 mg/l), and 0.510 hr<sup>-1</sup> (835 mg/l) based on TOC. A subsequent experiment with the base mix (dashed lines) achieved  $\mu$  values of 0.156 hr<sup>-1</sup> (97 mg/l), 0.250 hr<sup>-1</sup> (175 mg/l), 0.420 hr<sup>-1</sup> (310 mg/l), 0.475 hr<sup>-1</sup> (530 mg/l), and 0.502 hr<sup>-1</sup> (720 mg/l) TOC.

Figure 3. Growth Curve for the Base Mix





The values for substrate reported are higher than those printed in the figures for the growth curves. The values in parentheses are actual measured values for TOC. Initial substrate concentrations were higher than the substrate applied because the method of maintaining the stock cultures in the log growth resulted in a residual TOC carry-over. The graphs presented in the text are labeled as the theoretical substrate applied, and graphed as actual substrate quantified. Table II presents the measured values for substrate S, specific growth rate, and  $S_e$ . For a review of the data, see the Appendix.

### Acrylonitrile

Incorporation of 50 mg/l acrylonitrile to the corresponding base mix concentrations resulted in the growth curves seen in Figure 4. The specific growth rates obtained reveal an apparent reduction in the specific growth rates compared to those realized with the base mix alone. Acrylonitrile also effected a more pronounced secondary phase of growth than did the base mix.

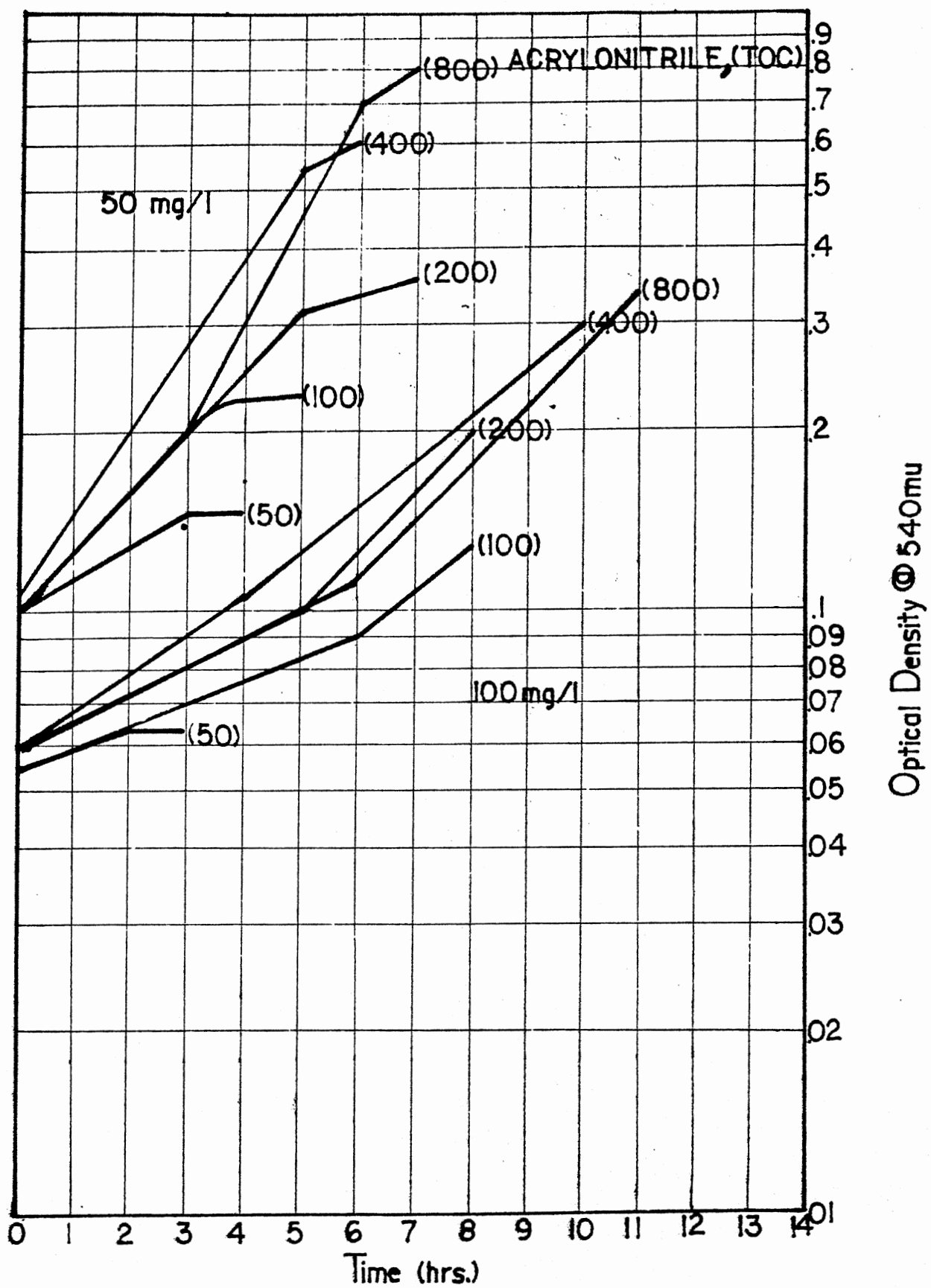
One hundred mg/l acrylonitrile resulted in a further reduction of the specific growth rates occurring in the primary phase of growth. The ensuing secondary growth phase is steeper as seen in Figure 4. This indicates the system's ability to overcome the effects of the compound, by mechanical or metabolic means.

Specific growth rates achieved during the primary response to the compound resulted in values for  $\mu$  of 0.135 hr<sup>-1</sup>, 0.231 hr<sup>-1</sup>, 0.291 hr<sup>-1</sup>, 0.304 hr<sup>-1</sup> at 50 mg/l ACN, and 0.068 hr<sup>-1</sup>, 0.082 hr<sup>-1</sup>, 0.139 hr<sup>-1</sup>, 0.132 hr<sup>-1</sup> and 0.123 hr<sup>-1</sup> at 100 mg/l ACN. These values show that as the compound remained constant in concentration and the concentration of the base mix increased the values reached a maximum and declined. The

TABLE II  
GROWTH RATE  $\mu$  and  $S_e$  From S

Compound	S TOC (mg/l)	S BOD (mg/l)	$\mu$ (hr <sup>-1</sup> )	$S_e$ TOC (mg/l)	$S_e$ BOD (mg/l)
Base Mix	79	170	.168	50	50
	97	174	.156	62	67
	115	297	.213	66	64
	175	252	.250	115	160
	248	630	.347	148	83
	310	389	.420	190	104
	469	1200	.496	205	123
	530	780	.475	250	515
	835	1740	.510	492	240
	720	1433	.502	380	1015
Acrylonitrile	147	234	.135	123	186
	188	330	.213	82	162
	(50mg/l) 300	450	.291	94	240
	617	615	.304	194	200
	823	1410	.231	512	300
	198	285	.068	115	198
	265	303	.082	94	120
	(100mg/l) 341	435	.139	200	190
	588	670	.132	317	420
	929	1575	.123	788	1440
2,4 Dinitrophenol	250	312	.252	130	96
	450	435	.256	275	235
	(25mg/l) 510	1050	.340	300	825
	825	1660	.391	490	1180
	205	156	.138	150	51
	270	375	.187	180	185
	(50mg/l) 380	355	.217	220	95
	445	660	.236	225	435
	730	1500	.266	380	1020
	1,3 Dichlorobenzene	180	240	.147	130
300		300	.161	130	210
(25mg/l) 350		480	.203	230	420
490		1140	.220	350	720
860		1380	.296	540	1200
180		150	.131	140	90
325		270	.183	160	105
(50mg/l) 390		420	.213	280	300
540		1320	.315	600	600
Combined		190		.119	140
	280		.119	240	
	470		.126	315	
	800		.119	625	
	930		.067	880	

Figure 4. Growth Curve for Acrylonitrile



values themselves hold no enlightenment as how the combination of ACN and base mix are exerting an effect on the system.

The secondary growth phase in the diauxic growth response at 100 mg/l ACN resulted in specific growth rate values approaching those of the primary phase at the 50 mg/l ACN. Phase II resulted in  $\mu$  values of 0.184, 0.223, 0.217 and 0.214  $\text{hr}^{-1}$  which compares to values of 0.231, 0.291, 0.304, and 0.23  $\text{hr}^{-1}$  for Phase I with 50 mg/l ACN.

Off-gas analysis performed on samples collected during operation of the system showed some evidence of acrylonitrile stripping from the reactors during the first two hours of the study. Quantitative amounts were 7.8 mg/hr in Reactor II, 5.4 mg/hr in Reactor IV and 3.3 mg/hr in Reactor V. Continued sampling did not reveal any further stripping of the compound. The values presented are found in Table III.

#### 2, 4 Dinitrophenol

Incorporation with the base mix of 2, 4 dinitrophenol (2, 4 DNP) in the systems as potential substrate, produced the growth curves seen in Figure 5. Solid lines depict the response of the activated sludge to 25 mg/l, 2,4 DNP, and the dashed lines are for 50 mg/l, 2,4 DNP. The growth curves again manifest a diphasic response for both concentrations of 2,4 DNP used. Different from the response to acrylonitrile, the  $\mu$  values achieved with 2,4 DNP are still increasing as the substrate concentration in the reactors increases. The quantitative increase in 2,4 DNP from 25 to 50 mg/l resulted in lowered specific growth rates from 0.252, 0.256, 0.340, and 0.391  $\text{hr}^{-1}$  with 25 mg/l to 0.138, 0.187, 0.217, 0.236, and 0.266 with 50 mg/l.

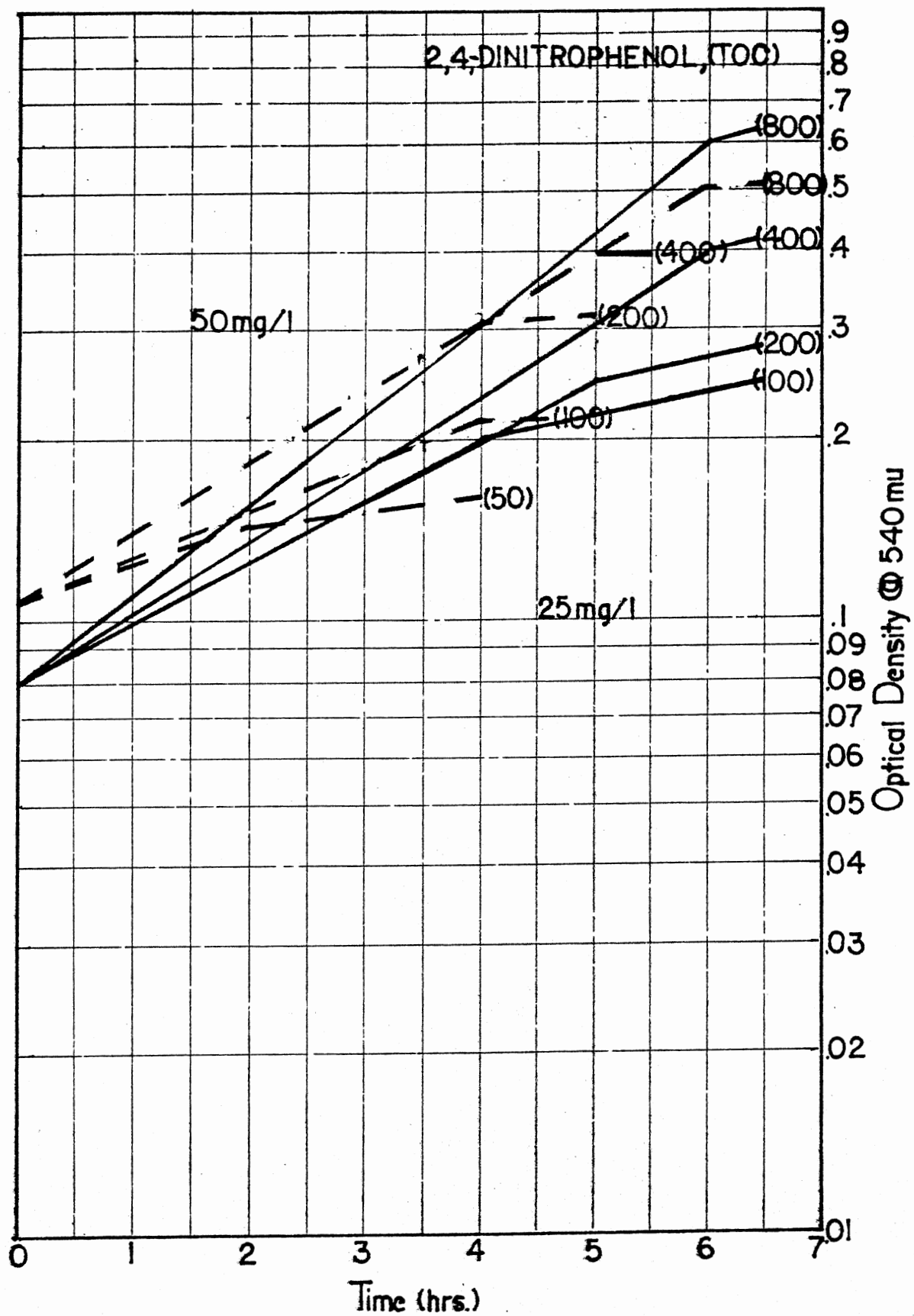
The reduction in specific growth rates by acrylonitrile and

TABLE III  
GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY RESULTS FOR  
THE COMPOUNDS

Compound	Column	C.C.	Reactor	Time (hrs)	Conc (ug/l)	Time (hrs)	Conc (ug/l)	Time (hrs)	Conc (ug/l)
<u>Acrylonitrile</u> Off-Gas (ACN)	Carbowax 1500	F/M	II	2	7.8 (ug/hr)	4	ND		
			IV	2	5.4 (ug/hr)	4	ND		
			V	2	3.3 (ug/hr)	4	ND		
<u>2,4 Dinitrophenol</u> (2,4 DNP)	SP1240-DA	HP	III	0	55	8	57	24	48.7
			V	0	63	8	60	24	50.6
			I-V	0	—	4	ND		
<u>Phenol</u>	SP 1240 DA	HP	III	0	10	8	4.7	24	< .5
			V	0	40	8	28	24	< .5
			I-V	0	—	4	ND		
<u>1,3 Dichlorobenzene</u>	SP 2250	F/M	I	0	32.6	6	6.6		
			V	0	35.3	6	0.24		
			I-V	0	—	4	ND		
<u>Combined</u>	CARB. 1500	F/M	II	0	80	4	7.6	8	6.8
			IV	0	72	4	—	8	3.6
			V	0	86	4	—	8	2.8
			II	0	—	4	9.2	8	ND
			IV	0	—	4	5.1	8	ND
			V	0	—	4	4.3	8	ND
			II	0	44	8	1.36	38	0.14
			IV	0	47.6	8	0.83	38	0.18
			V	0	46.7	8	1.03	38	0.15
			II	0	32.2	8	30.0	38	33.0
			IV	0	30.4	8	32.6	38	25.5
			V	0	40.0	8	37.8	38	12.0
			II	0	5.4	8	< .5		
			IV	0	22.5	8	< .5		
			V	0	38.4	8	< .5		

Figure 5. Growth Curve for 2,4 Dinitrophenol





2,4 dinitrophenol over those of the base mix showed similar amounts based on equivalent mass of compound. The 50 mg/l concentration of the two compounds had  $\mu$  values of 0.138, 0.187, 0.217, 0.236 and 0.266  $\text{hr}^{-1}$  for 2,4 DNP compared to 0.135, 0.231, 0.291, 0.304, and 0.231  $\text{hr}^{-1}$  for ACN, at equivalent base mix concentrations. Unlike acrylonitrile 2,4 dinitrophenol did not have the declining specific growth rates at the higher substrate concentrations.

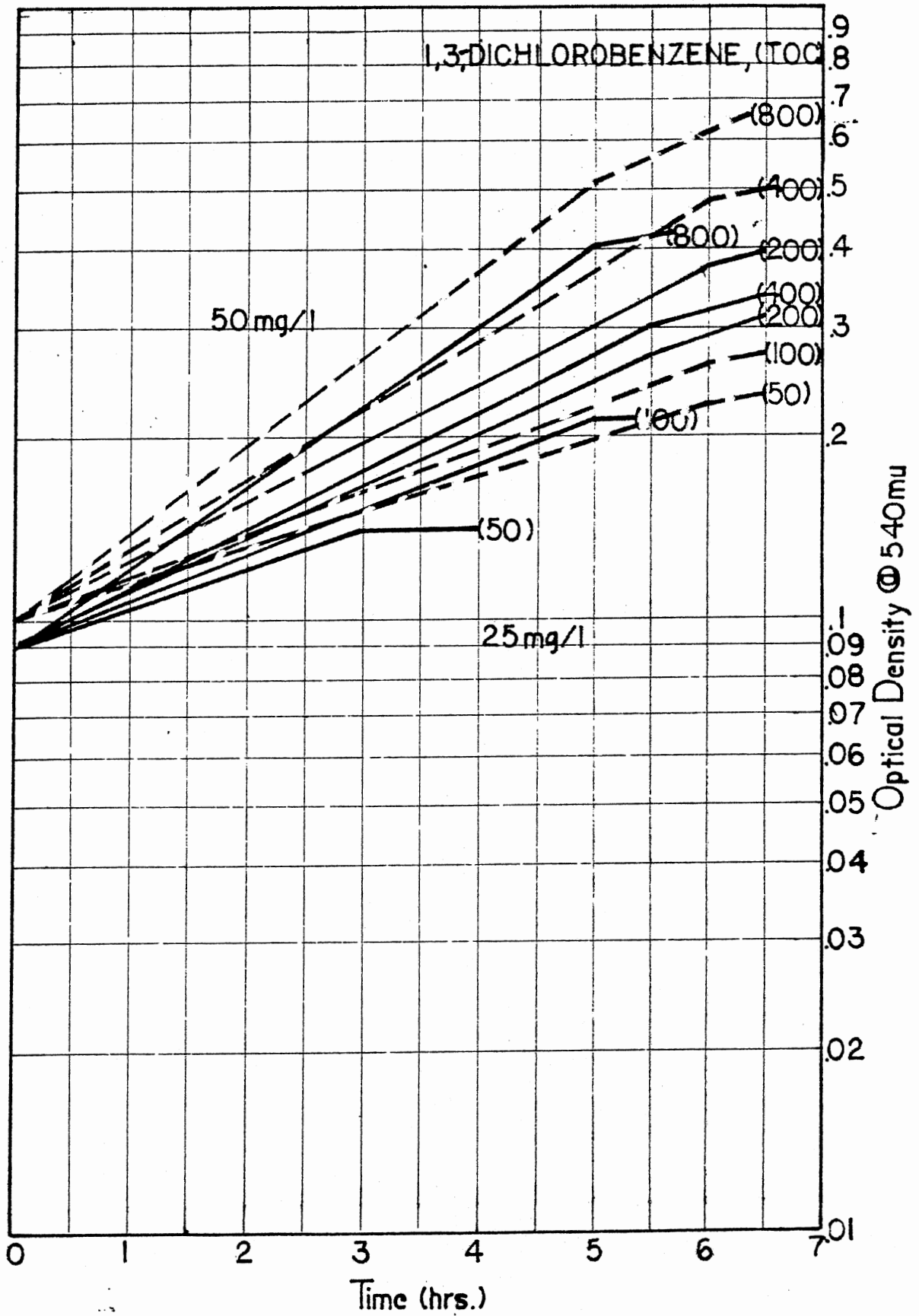
Specific analysis by gas chromatography showed no significant removal of 2,4 DNP during the primary growth phase. Its removal transpired at a very slow rate initiated in the latter stages of the primary growth phase. This occurred at approximately eight hours. Comparatively the phenol present in the base mix was removed  $\sim 40\%$  by eight hours in Reactor III and V. At 50 mg/l 2, 4 DNP was reduced by 15% in Reactor IV and 20% in Reactor V at 24 hours. This is seen in Table III.

### 1,3 Dichlorobezene

1,3 Dichlorobenzene introduced into the growth systems as substrate achieved the growth curves seen in Figure 6. The overall observation of the addition of 25 and 50 mg/l 1,3 DCB appears similar to that seen with 2,4 DNP. The significant difference is that the increase from 25 to 50 mg/l 1,3 DCB resulted in a slight increase in specific growth rates. The increase from 25 to 50 mg/l 2,4 DNA had an overall decrease in  $\mu$ .

Specific growth rates achieved with 25 mg/l 1,3 DCB were similar to those produced by 25 mg/l 2,4 DNP. 1,3 DCB achieved values of 0.147, 0.161, 0.203, 0.220, and 0.296  $\text{hr}^{-1}$  compared to 0.220, 0.256, 0.340, and 0.391  $\text{hr}^{-1}$  for 25 mg/l DNP. These values, which are presented in Table II, have very little comparative value without a comparison of total substrate applied. This will become apparent in the  $\mu$  vs. S and  $1/\mu$  vs.

Figure 6. Growth Curve for 1,3 Dichlorobenzene



1/S plots presented later.

50 mg/l 1,3 DCB resulted in slightly higher values for  $\mu$  over that achieved with 25 mg/l. These values were still lower than those achieved with the base mix alone. Values for  $\mu$  in response to 50 mg/l 1,3 DCB were 0.131, 0.183, 0.213, 0.247, and 0.315  $\text{hr}^{-1}$ .

Specific analysis for 1,3 dichlorobenzene is found in Table III. At 6 hours, 1,3 DCB had a concentration of 6.59 mg/l in Reactor I, and at 10 hours a concentration of 0.24 mg/l in Reactor V. The initial concentrations of 1,3 DCB were 32 mg/l in I and 35 mg/l in V. Thus a better than 80% removal of the compound was achieved in Reactor I and better than 90% in Reactor V.

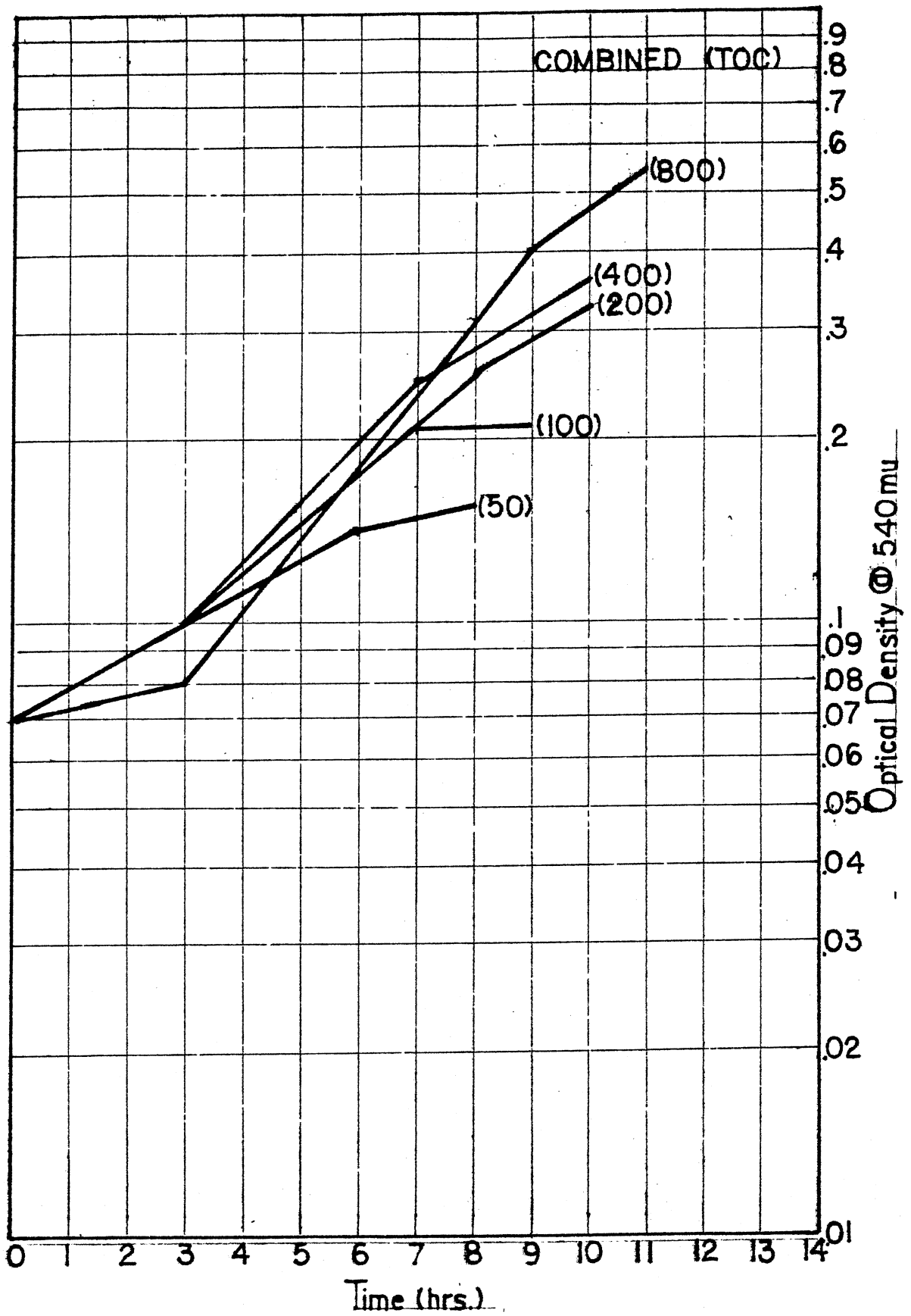
#### Combined

Addition of all three compounds; acrylonitrile, 2,4 dinitrophenol, and 1,3 dichlorobenzene, at the lower concentrations used in the individual studies, resulted in the growth curves in Figure 7. As can be seen, a triphasic curve was established. The first phase of the growth response to increased substrate yielded values for  $\mu$  of 0.119, 0.119, 0.126, 0.119, and 0.067  $\text{hr}^{-1}$ . Phase II resulted in values of 0.150, 0.185, 0.196, 0.239, and 0.282  $\text{hr}^{-1}$ . Phase III had  $\mu$  values of 0.033, 0.032, 0.106, 0.118, and 0.181  $\text{hr}^{-1}$ .

The primary phase of growth had very little change in  $\mu$  in response to S. Phase II had higher values resembling the primary phases of 1,3 DCB and 2,4 DNP. Phase III also had lower values possibly due to the availability of substrate at this time in the growth curve.

G. C. analysis on the combined unit depicted again some evidence of stripping of acrylonitrile similar to that seen in the individual study. No stripping of 2,4 DNP or 1,3 DCB was witnessed in any of the studies.

Figure 7. Growth Curve for Combined Study



1,3 Dichlorobenzene and phenol showed evidences of sequential removal in the growth systems. At eight hours, 1,3 DCB had a concentration of 1.4 mg/l in Reactor II, 0.83 mg/l in Reactor IV, and 1.03 mg/l in Reactor V. Comparatively, Phenol at eight hours was 0.12 mg/l (II), 12.8 mg/l (IV), and 35.7 mg/l (V). This suggests that 1,3 dichlorobenzene is more easily utilized by the sludge than phenol.

2,4 Dinitrophenol was reduced by less than 1% in Reactors II, IV, and V by eight hours. At 38 hours, Reactor II had achieved no removal of 2,4 DNP, Reactor IV had a 21% reduction, and Reactor V achieved a 70% reduction. The increased removal of 2,4 DNP as base mix concentration increased suggests that higher substrate concentrations effect increased utilization of the compound.

Acrylonitrile at eight hours, well after the primary phase had ended, had residual concentrations of 6.8 mg/l (II), 3.6 mg/l (IV), and 3.8 mg/l (V). Again, as in the individual studies, acrylonitrile involvement appears to be in the primary growth phase.

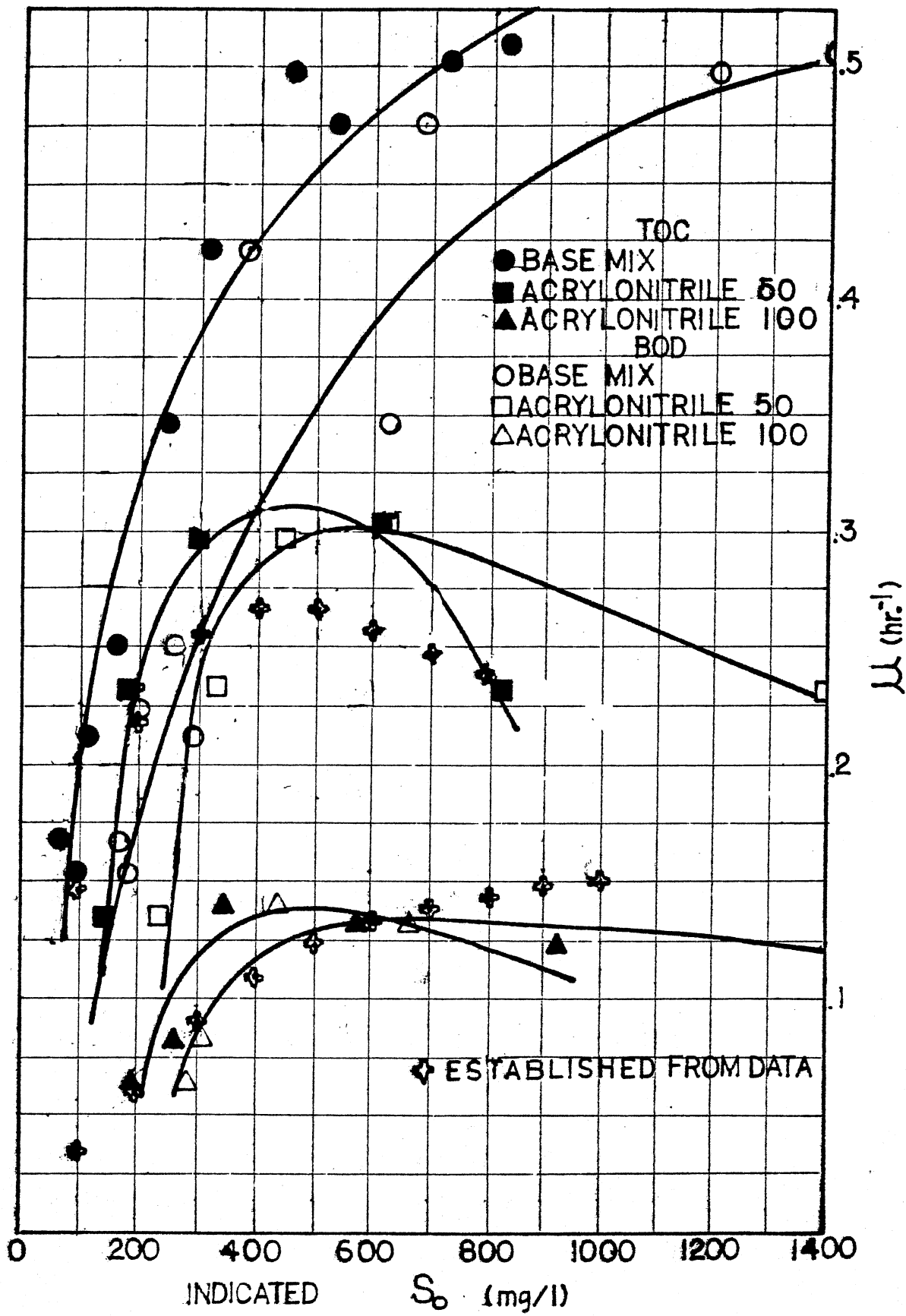
#### Determination of $\mu_m$ and $K_S$

##### $\mu$ Versus S

Base Mix. Plot of specific growth rate versus substrate applied delineates the curve-linear relationship of  $\mu$  to S as seen in Figure 8. The growth rate response to substrate increases as substrate concentration increases until  $\mu$  reaches a maximum. The plot for the base mix shows no tendency for a maximum specific growth rate as it has no defined inflection point and the curve has not become asymptotic to the X-axis. The plots for TOC and BOD<sub>5</sub> of the base mix have slopes that are similar and appear to be approaching a common maximum value. The



Figure 8. Plot of  $\mu$  Vs. S for Base Mix and Acrylonitrile



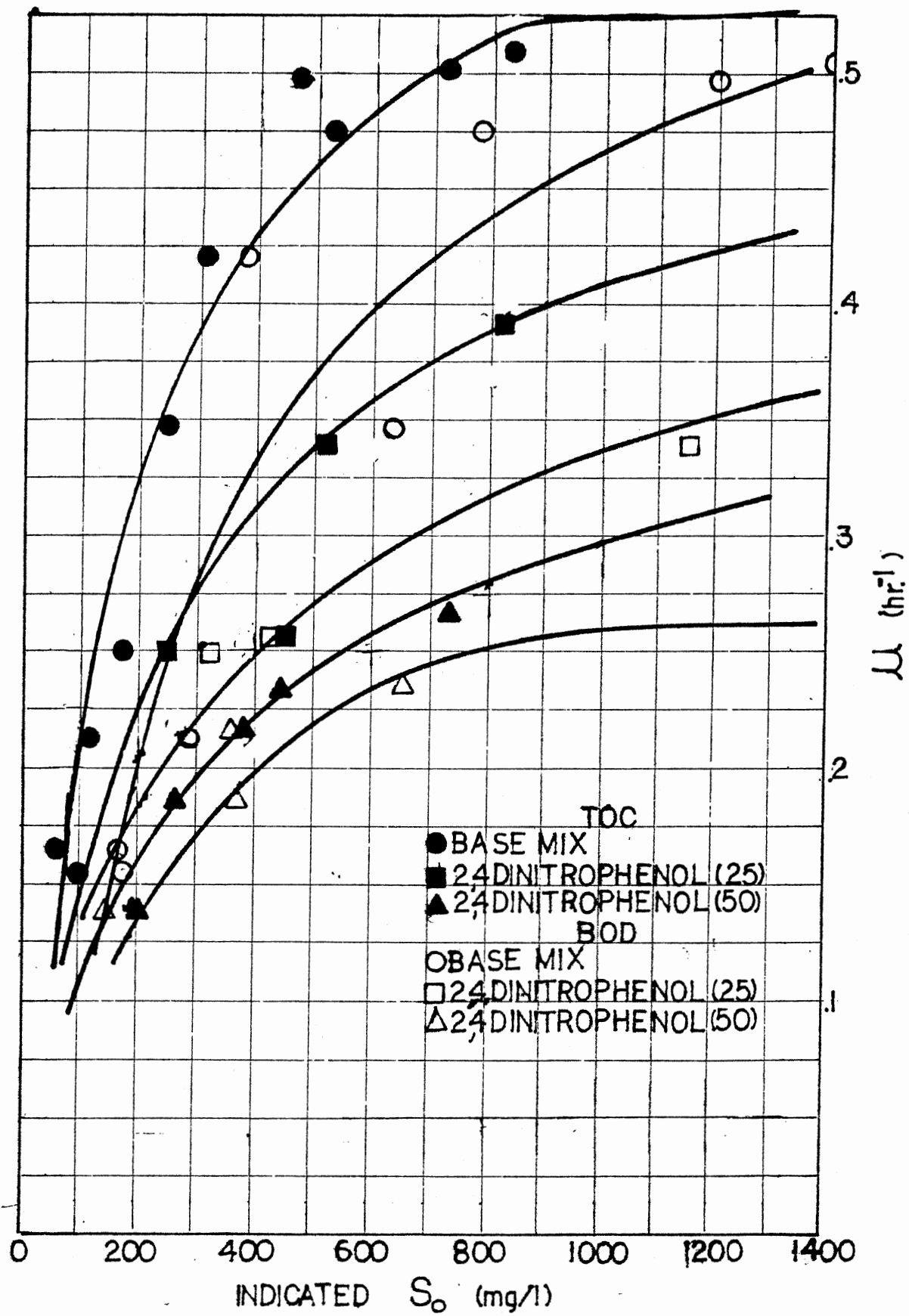
difference between the curves is the relative substrate required to achieve a maximum rate greater for BOD<sub>5</sub> than for TOC.

Acrylonitrile. Curves for the base mix show no evidence of an atypical response in  $\mu$  to S. Acrylonitrile, as seen in Figure 8, delineates the atypical values presented in the discussion on growth curves. As depicted, the increase in concentration of the base mix in combination with acrylonitrile resulted in higher specific growth rates which reached an apparent maximum and then diminished. This type of behavior is exhibited for both concentrations of ACN used. The difference between the two concentrations is seen in the seemingly quantitative reduction in  $\mu$  as ACN is quantitatively increased.

If the curves for acrylonitrile or the base mix had become asymptotic to the X-axis, the X-asymptote would delineate a maximum specific growth rate ( $\mu_m$ ) and the substrate concentration at a value of  $1/2 \mu_m$  would establish the saturation constant  $K_S$ . Since acrylonitrile has exhibited an atypical plot for  $\mu$  vs. S, the derivation of  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  must be accomplished by other means. This will be presented in the  $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$  section.

2,4 Dinitrophenol. 2,4 DNP resulted in the plot in Figure 9 for  $\mu$  vs. S. When compared to that of the base mix, the curves show no delineation of a  $\mu_m$  as does the base mix. Apparent between the curves for 2,4 DNP and the base mix is an effective increase in  $K_S$ . Similarly, a quantitative increase in 2,4 DNP from 25 to 50 mg/l shows a further increase in  $K_S$ . Evaluation of the curves for the base mix and DNP systems demonstrates the increased relative amount of substrate needed to achieve an equivalent specific growth rate. At a specific growth rate of  $0.3 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  the base mix alone required 150 mg/l TOC, the base mix plus

Figure 9. Plot of  $\mu$  Vs., S for 2,4 Dinitrophenol



25 mg/l 2,4 DNP required 350 mg/l TOC, and the base mix plus 50 mg/l 2,4 DNP required 675 mg/l TOC.

1,3 Dichlorobenzene. Specific growth rate plotted against substrate applied for 1,3 dichlorobenzene appears in Figure 10. The response for 1,3 DCB appears similar to that of 2,4 DNP. Again,  $\mu_m$  is not clearly defined by the curve. The change in  $K_S$  from that of the base mix with the addition of 25 mg/l (1,3 DCB) is similar to that seen with 25 mg/l 2,4 DNP. 50 mg/l of 1,3 DCB achieved no further change in  $K_S$  as was seen with 50 mg/l 2,4 DNP. Both compounds changed the shape of the curves and at this point do not delineate any inhibition or changes in  $\mu_m$ .

Combined. Figure 11 presents the combined effects of the three compounds and the three phases of growth achieved. The different phases of growth appear to mimic the primary growth phases experienced by the individual compounds. Growth Phase I is the only phase which indicates an inhibited response over that of the individual studies. This assumes that each growth phase is relative to a specific compound.

G. C. analysis from Table III shows that for each growth phase, one compound out of the three was removed and presumably exerting the most effect on  $\mu$ . Acrylonitrile appears to be involved in the Phase I, 1,3 DCB in Phase II, and 2,4 DNP in Phase III. The corresponding growth curves for each phase show marked agreement in shape with the curves established by the individual studies. As stated earlier, acrylonitrile was removed by 90% in 8 hours, 1,3 dichlorobenzene 95% in 8 hours, and 2,4 DNP 2% in 8 hours.

Figure 10. Plot of  $\mu$  Vs. S for 1,3 Dichlorobenzene

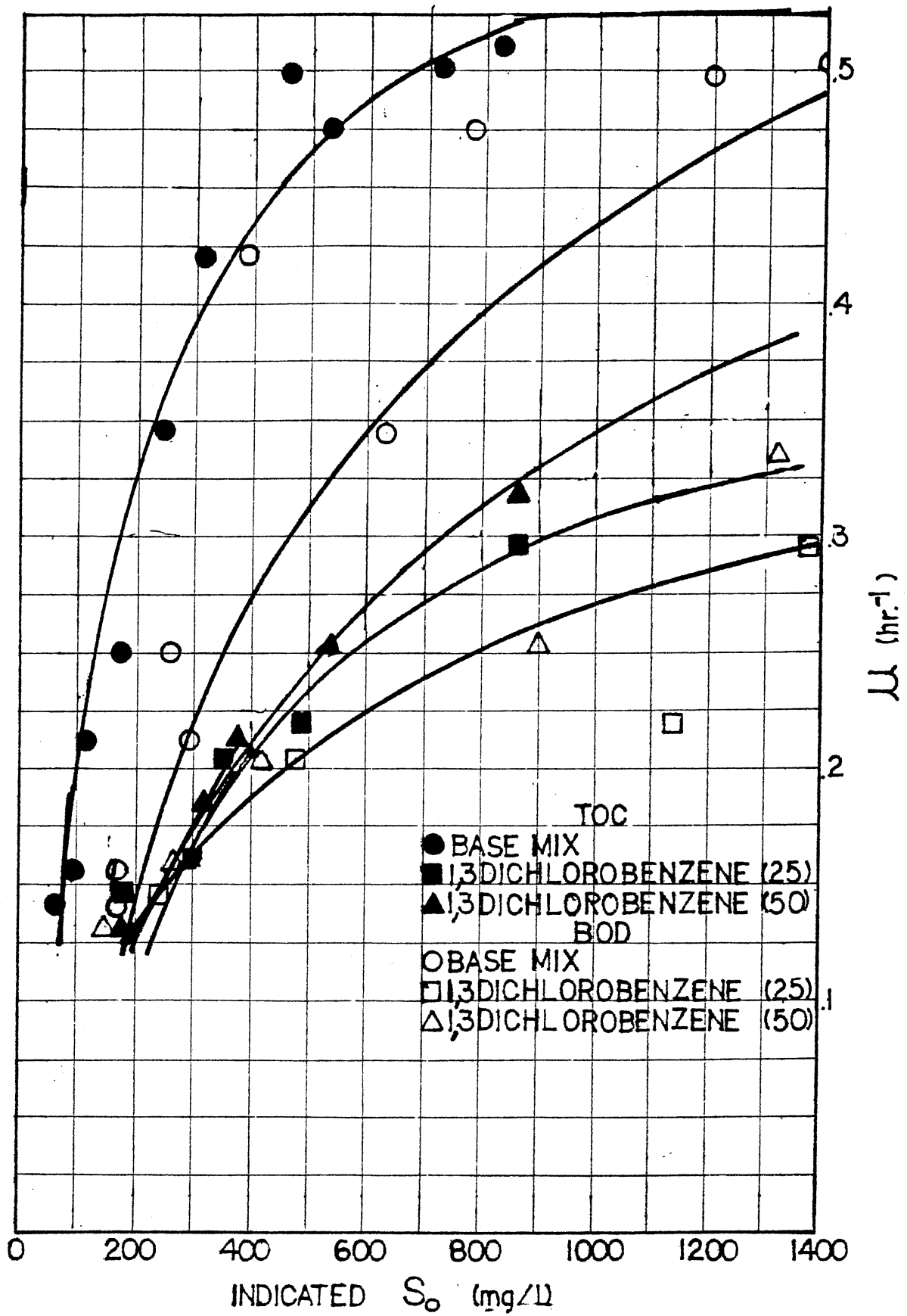
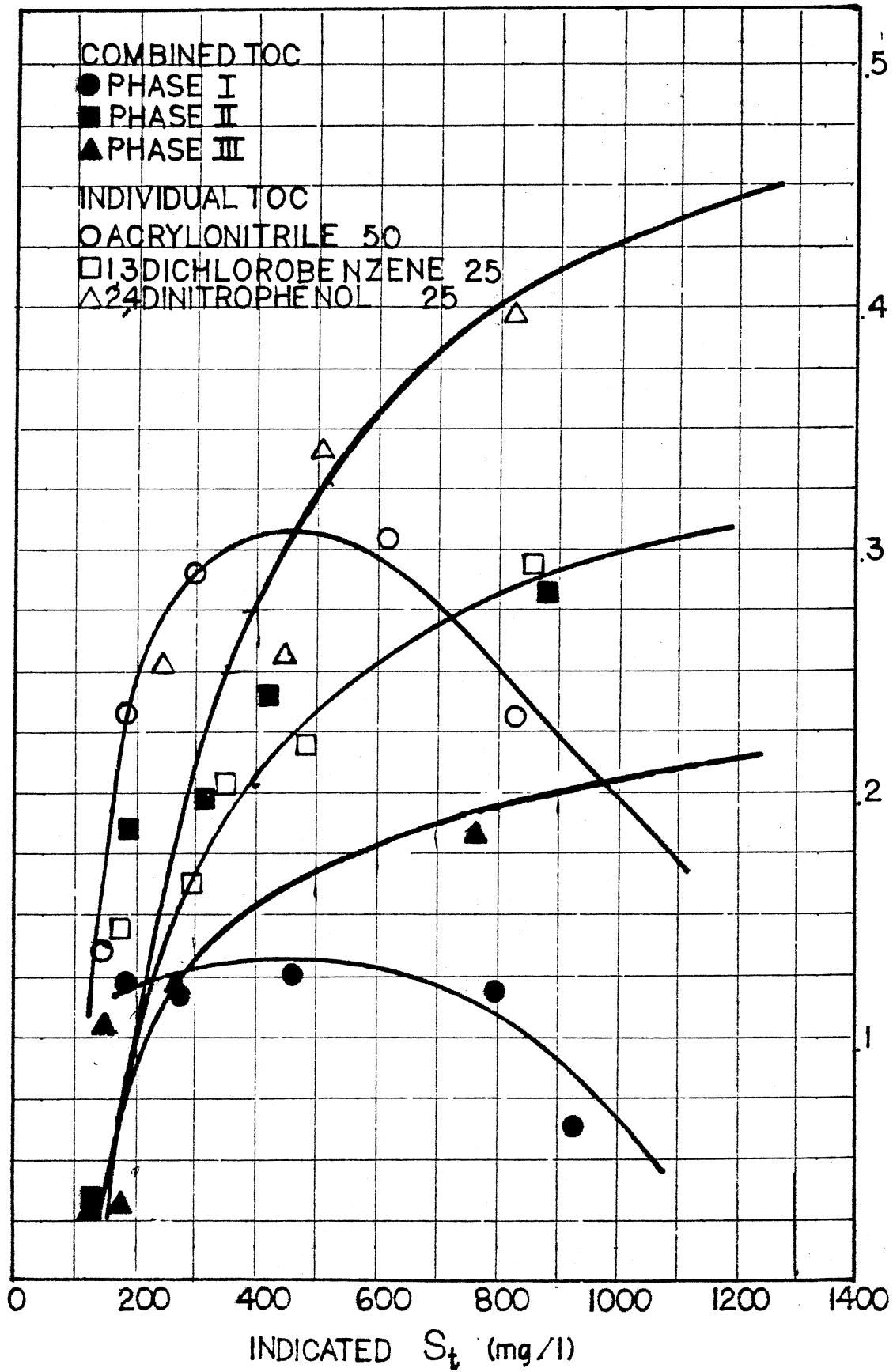




Figure 11. Plot of  $\mu$  Vs.  $S_t$  for Combined Study



### Lineweaver-Burke

Lineweaver-Burke plots are a method of linearizing the data from the  $\mu$  versus  $S$  curves by taking the reciprocal of  $\mu$ ,  $(1/\mu)$  plotted against the reciprocal of  $S$ ,  $(1/S)$ .

Base Mix. The double reciprocal plot for the base mix is found in Figure 12. The data forms a linear array establishing a line with a  $1/\mu$  axis intercept at 1.50 hr and a slope of 346 mg/hr. For this plot, the  $1/\mu$ -axis intercept has a value of  $1/\mu_m$  with the slope of the line equal to  $K_S/\mu_m$ . The value for  $\mu_m$  established by the curve is  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with a  $K_S$  of 225 mg/l. BOD<sub>5</sub> data for the base mix exhibits the same  $\mu_m$  as that for TOC of  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with a change in  $K_S$  to 502 mg/l BOD<sub>5</sub>. This would stand to reason since the units for  $\mu_m$  are  $\text{hr}^{-1}$  with no reference to mass. Values for  $\mu_m$ ,  $K_S$ , and  $K_i$  are found in Table IV.

Acrylonitrile. The plot of  $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$  for ACN also appears in Figure 12. The data does not form a linear function but rather reflects an inverted curve like the one seen in the  $\mu$  vs.  $S$  plots. Evaluation of the data then is dependent on the data points in Figure 8 that occur prior to the bending over of the curve as demonstrated by Reddy and Kincannon (46). Based on the first three points in the 50 mg/l ACN and the first two points in the 100 mg/l ACN experiments, both establish a  $\mu_m$  or  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$ . This is equal to the  $\mu_m$  of the base mix at  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$ .

With  $\mu_m$  the same, it is also seen that the points establish an increase in  $K_S$  from 200 mg/l TOC to 325 mg/l TOC at 50 mg/l ACN and 1755 mg/l TOC at 100 mg/l ACN. The model used to describe this type of relationship is that of Haldane's (46) where

Figure 12. Lineweaver-Burke Plot of  $1/\mu$  Vs.  $1/S$  for Base Mix  
and Acrylonitrile

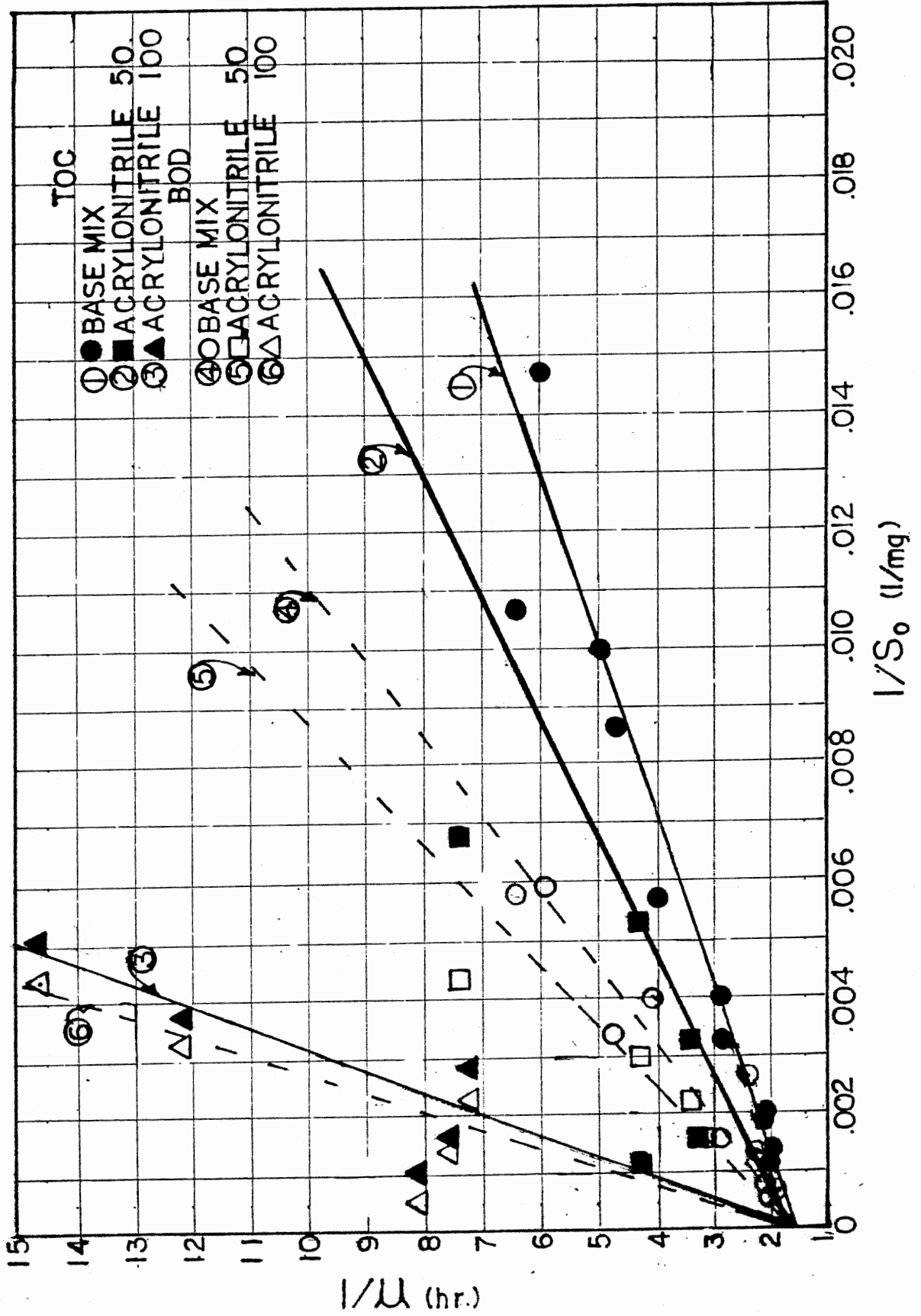


TABLE IV  
KINETIC CONSTANTS:  $\mu_m, K_s, K_i$

Compound	Conc.	TOC			BOD		
		$\mu_m$ (hr. <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_s$ (mg/l)	$K_i$ (mg/l)	$\mu_m$ (hr. <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_s$ (mg/l)	$K_i$ (mg/l)
Base Mix							
	1/ $\mu$ vs 1/s	0.65	225		0.65	487	
	s/ $\mu$ vs s	0.65	260		0.65	585	
Acrylonitrile (50mg/l)							
	1/ $\mu$ vs 1/s	0.65	325	600	0.65	620	600
	s/ $\mu$ vs s	0.65	325	600	0.65	683	600
(100mg/l)							
	1/ $\mu$ vs 1/s	0.65	1755	600	0.65	2031	600
	s/ $\mu$ vs s	0.65	1755	600	0.65	2000	600
2,4 Dinitrophenol (25mg/l)							
	1/ $\mu$ vs 1/s	0.50	250	80	0.50	400	80
	s/ $\mu$ vs s	0.51	259	80	0.50	400	80
(50mg/l)							
	1/ $\mu$ vs 1/s	0.40	356	80	0.40	400	80
	s/ $\mu$ vs s	0.40	374	80	0.40	400	80
1,3 Dichlorobenzene							
	1/ $\mu$ vs 1/s	0.45	450		0.45	439	
	s/ $\mu$ vs s	0.43	430		0.43	473	
Combined							
	1/ $\mu$ vs 1/s						
	PHASE I	0.126	30				
	PHASE II	0.45	450				
	PHASE III	0.50	1400				
	s/ $\mu$ vs s						
	PHASE I	0.126	30				
	PHASE II	0.45	430				
	PHASE III	0.5	850				

$$\mu = \frac{\mu_m \cdot S}{(K_S + S + \frac{S^2}{K_i})}$$

Using the  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  established by the plots with a  $K_i$  of 600 mg/l, the relative agreement with the data is seen in Figure 8. The calculated values used are found in Table V.

Again, as seen with the base mix, the BOD<sub>5</sub> data establishes the same  $\mu_m$  as that of TOC with a change in  $K_S$ .  $K_S$  increased from 500 mg/l BOD<sub>5</sub> for the base mix to 620 mg/l BOD<sub>5</sub> for 50 mg/l ACN and 2031 mg/l BOD<sub>5</sub> for 100 mg/l ACN.

2,4 Dinitrophenol. The  $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$  plot for 2,4 DNP, Figure 13, resulted in a different response than acrylonitrile. Both the 25 and 50 mg/l 2,4 DNP concentrations effected changes in the  $1/\mu$ -axis intercept and the slope of the line. The  $\mu_m$  for 25 mg/l, 2,4 DNP, is  $0.5 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with a  $K_S$  of 250 mg/l TOC. 50 mg/l of 2,4 DNP resulted in a  $\mu_m$  of  $0.4 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with a  $K_S$  of 356 mg/l TOC.

Kinetic models available to model changes in  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  are those used in enzyme kinetics. In enzyme systems, changes in  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  are evaluated based upon three basic types of response and labeled as competitive, uncompetitive, and non-competitive inhibition. The terminology is applied to specific-enzyme substrate-inhibitor interactions. In dealing with complex cellular systems, the same terminology is not necessarily adequate. The mixture of two waste waters could effect a change in the metabolic activities in the system reflected by a change in  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  (5).

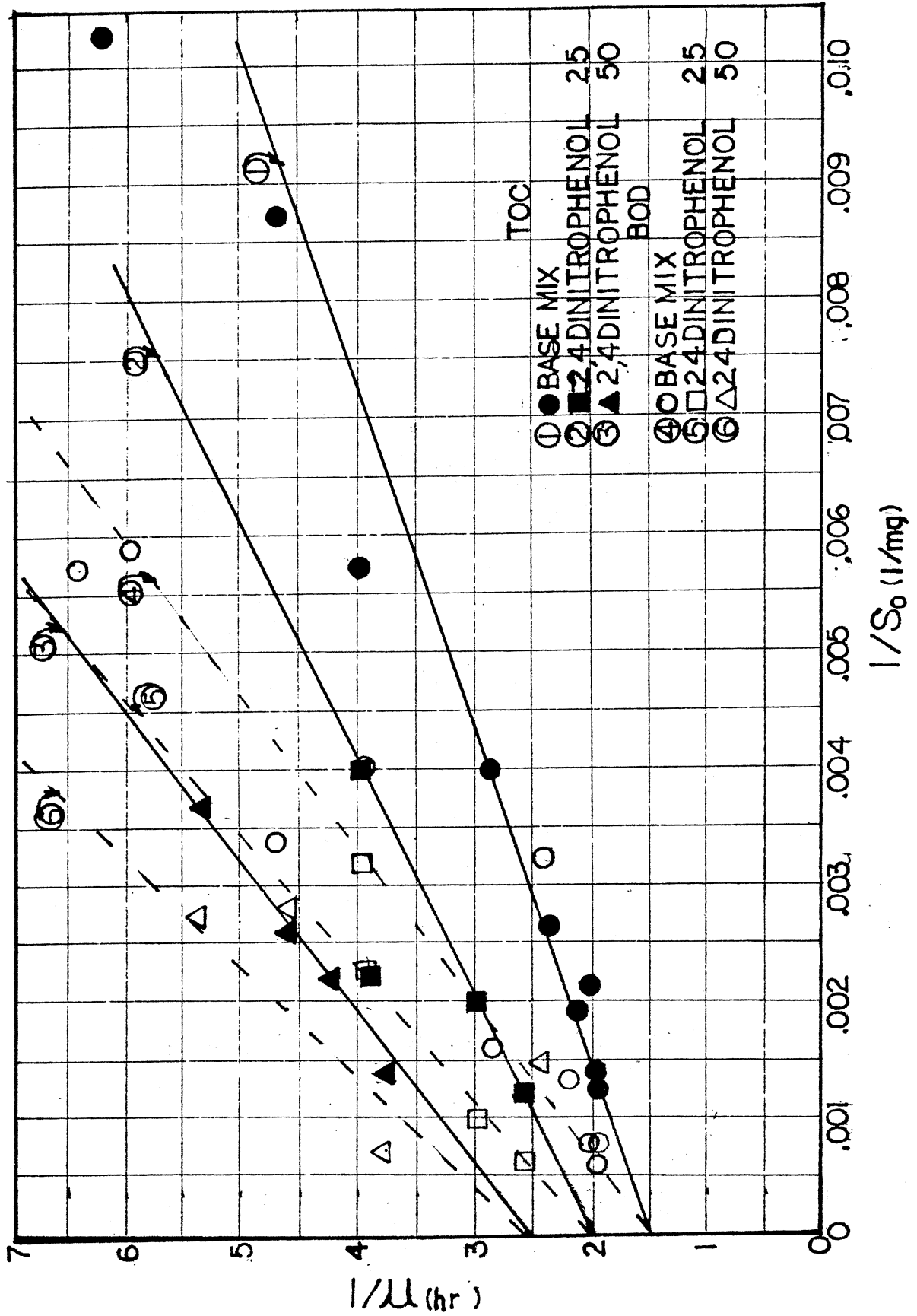
Evaluating the change in  $1/\mu$ -axis intercept as seen in Figure 13 depicts a change in  $\mu_m$ . This is equal to  $(1 + \frac{[I]}{K_i})/\mu_m$  (35). Solving

TABLE V  
CALCULATED VALUES FOR MODEL

Compound	$\mu$ (hr <sup>-1</sup> )	Given	S (mg/l)	Equation
Acrylonitrile	.147		100	$\mu = \frac{\mu_m \cdot S}{(K_s + S + S/K_i)}$
	.220		200	
	$\mu_m = 0.65$ (hr <sup>-1</sup> )	.252	300	
	$K_s = 325$ (mg/l)	.252	400	
	$K_i = 600$ (mg/l)	.262	500	
		.262	600	
		.256	700	
		.247	800	
		.035	100	
		.064	200	
	$\mu_m = 0.65$ (hr <sup>-1</sup> )	.088	300	
	$K_s = 1755$ (mg/l)	.107	400	
	$K_i = 600$ (mg/l)	.122	500	
		.132	600	
	.139	700		
	.144	800		



Figure 13. Lineweaver-Burke Plot of  $1/\mu$  Vs.  $1/S$  for  
2,4 Dinitrophenol



for  $K_1$  in both cases, gives a  $K_1$  of 80 mg/l.

BOD<sub>5</sub> achieved agreement with the  $\mu_m$  obtained for both experiments with subsequent changes in  $K_S$  from 487 mg/l to 429 mg/l at 25 mg/l 2,4 DNP and 567 mg/l BOD<sub>5</sub> at 50 mg/l 2,4 DNP.

The TOC data realized a reduction in  $\mu_m$  with an increase in  $K_S$ . This is not addressed by the models presented in the literature, i.e., Equations (12), (13), and (14).

1,3 Dichlorobenzene. 1,3 Dichlorobenzene produced a different response to substrate than 2,4 dinitrophenol and acrylonitrile as seen in Figure 14. The quantitative increase in 1,3 dichlorobenzene from 25 to 50 mg/l effected an apparent increase in the specific growth rates but, as can be seen in Figure 14,  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  are common to both concentrations used.  $\mu_m$  is determined to be 0.45 hr<sup>-1</sup> with  $K_S$  of 450 mg/l. Again, BOD<sub>5</sub> had the same  $\mu_m$  of 0.45 hr<sup>-1</sup> with a  $K_S$  of 439 mg/l.

Combined. The combined study plotted on the double reciprocal plot in Figure 15 shows the relationship of the three growth phases compared to the individual studies. Assuming each of the three growth phases was resultant from the effect of an individual compound, the  $1/\mu$ -axis intercepts and slopes should mimic those seen with the individual studies.

Phase I of the growth curve was the only phase affected as far as a change in  $\mu_m$  over that of the individual studies.  $\mu_m$  for Phase I is 0.125 hr<sup>-1</sup>. Looking at the  $\mu$  vs. S (Figure 8) curve it is seen that a similar curve to that for acrylonitrile was established. Phase II and Phase III both show agreement with the  $\mu_m$  from the individual studies, Phase II had no change in  $K_S$ , while Phase III saw an increase from 250 mg/l to 1400 mg/l TOC.

Figure 14. Lineweaver-Burke Plot of  $1/\mu$  Vs.  $1/S$  for  
1,3 Dichlorobenzene

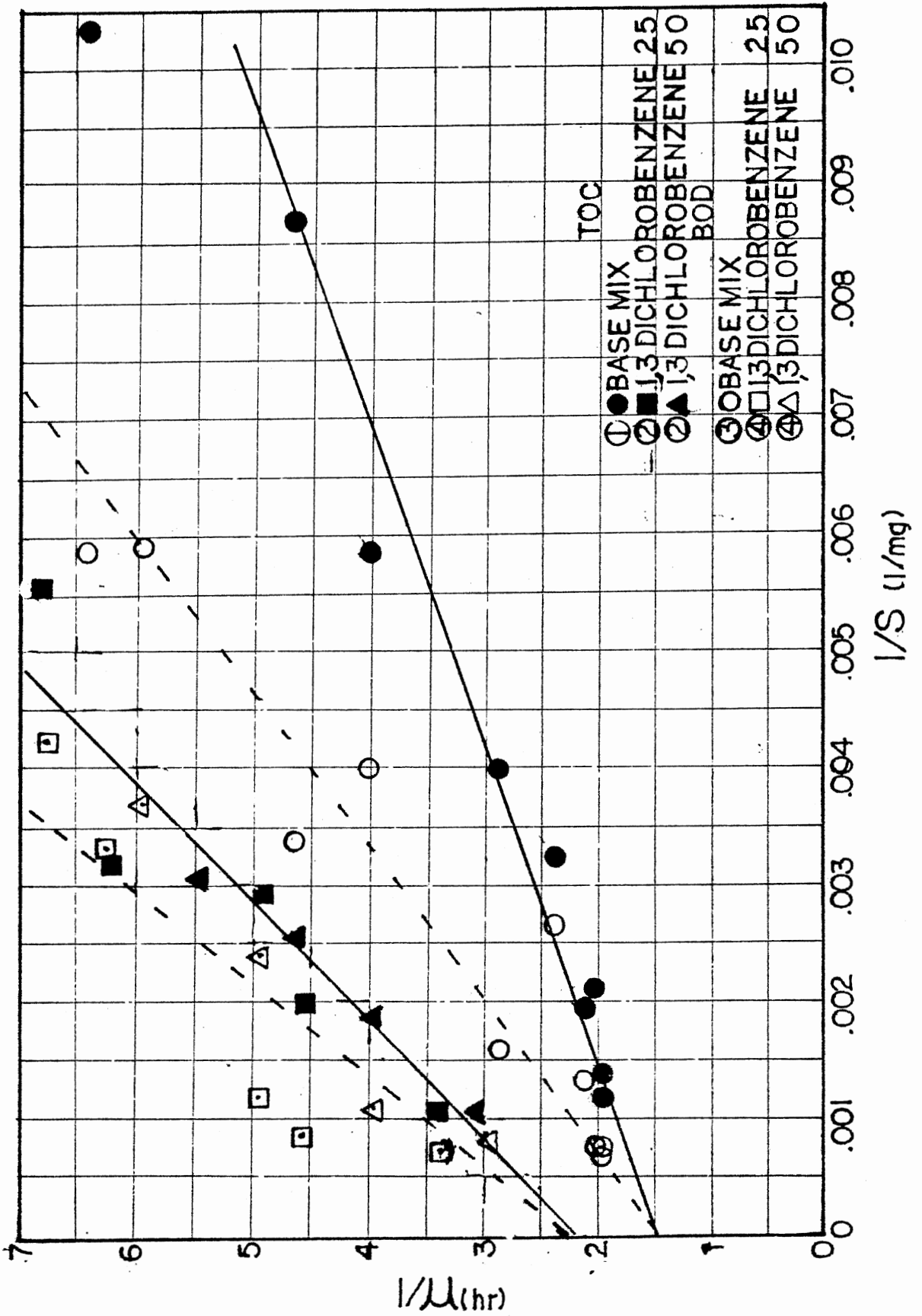
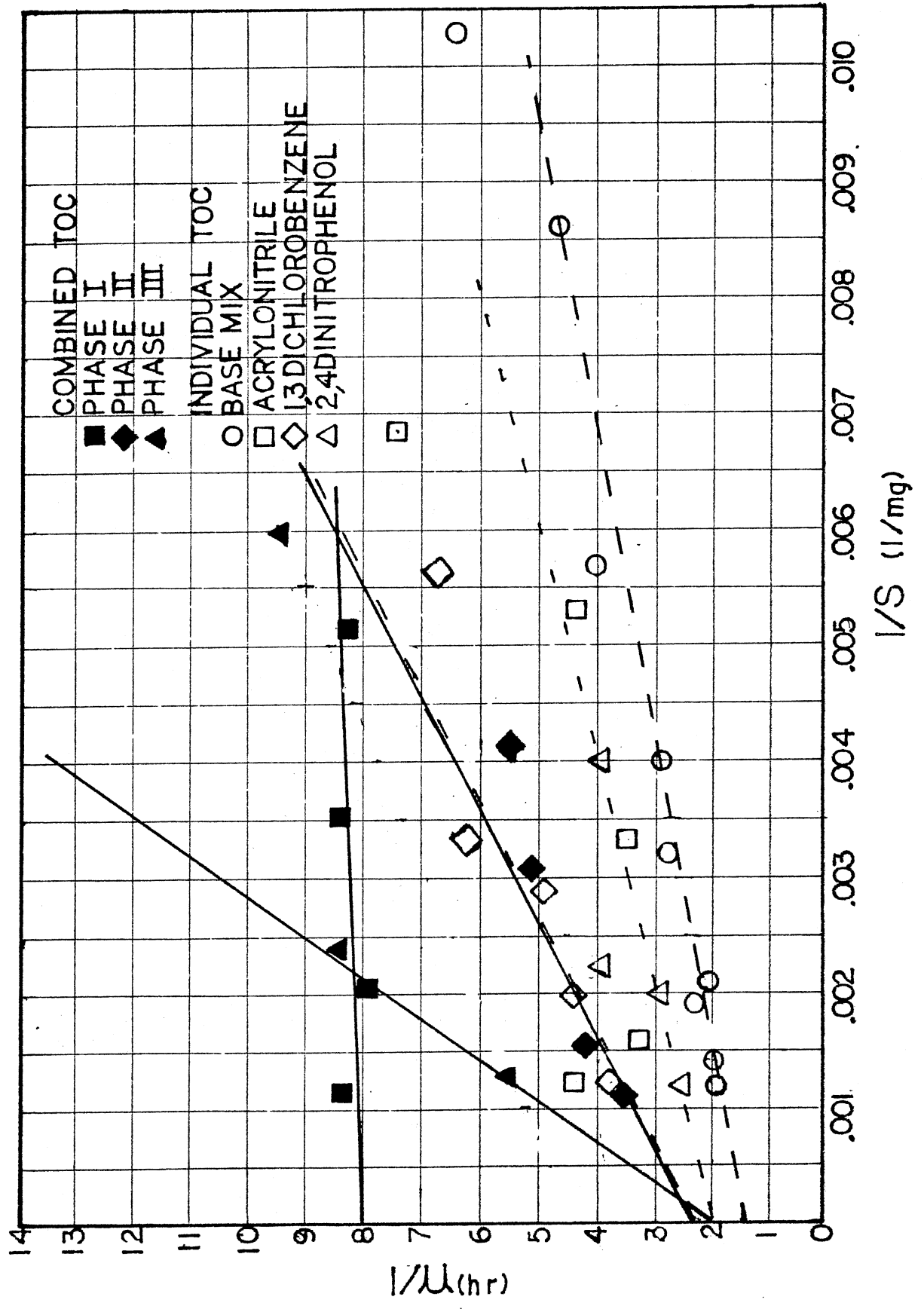


Figure 15. Lineweaver-Burke Plot of  $1/\mu$  Vs.  $1/S$  for Combined Study



### Michaelis-Menton

Base Mix. Evaluation of the specific growth rates as a function of substrate by the  $S/\mu$  vs.  $S$  plot gives a value for  $\mu_m$  as the slope of the line established and the  $S/\mu$  axis intercept has a value of  $K_S/\mu_m$ .

The base mix data based on this method is seen in Figure 16.  $\mu_m$  is  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with  $K_S$  of 260 mg/l TOC which is in agreement with  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  and  $K_S$  of 225 mg/l from Lineweaver-Burke. As with the Lineweaver-Burke plots, we see that  $BOD_5$  achieves the same  $\mu_m$  as TOC but with a higher  $K_S$  value.  $K_S$  for  $BOD_5$  is 585 mg/l from the  $S/\mu$  vs.  $S$  curve compared to 487 mg/l from the  $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$  plot.

Acrylonitrile. Acrylonitrile, Figure 16, establishes the same non-linear plot as was seen in the Lineweaver-Burke plot. Analyzing the same two points that were used before, the value for  $\mu_m$  is  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with a  $K_S$  of 325 which agrees with the values from the  $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$  plot.  $BOD_5$  established a  $\mu_m$  of  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with an increase in  $K_S$  to 683 mg/l which compares to 620 mg/l from Lineweaver-Burke as seen in Table IV.

Both the Lineweaver-Burke and Michaelis-Menton plots of the data for acrylonitrile fail to establish a linear relationship for the data. Haldane's model (46) for the data appears to address the changes in  $\mu$  as presented earlier.

2,4 Dinitrophenol. 2,4 Dinitrophenol plotted on  $S/\mu$  vs.  $S$  is seen in Figure 17. The data shows addition of the compound changed the slope and intercepts relating to the reduction in overall reaction rate as seen with the Lineweaver-Burke plot.

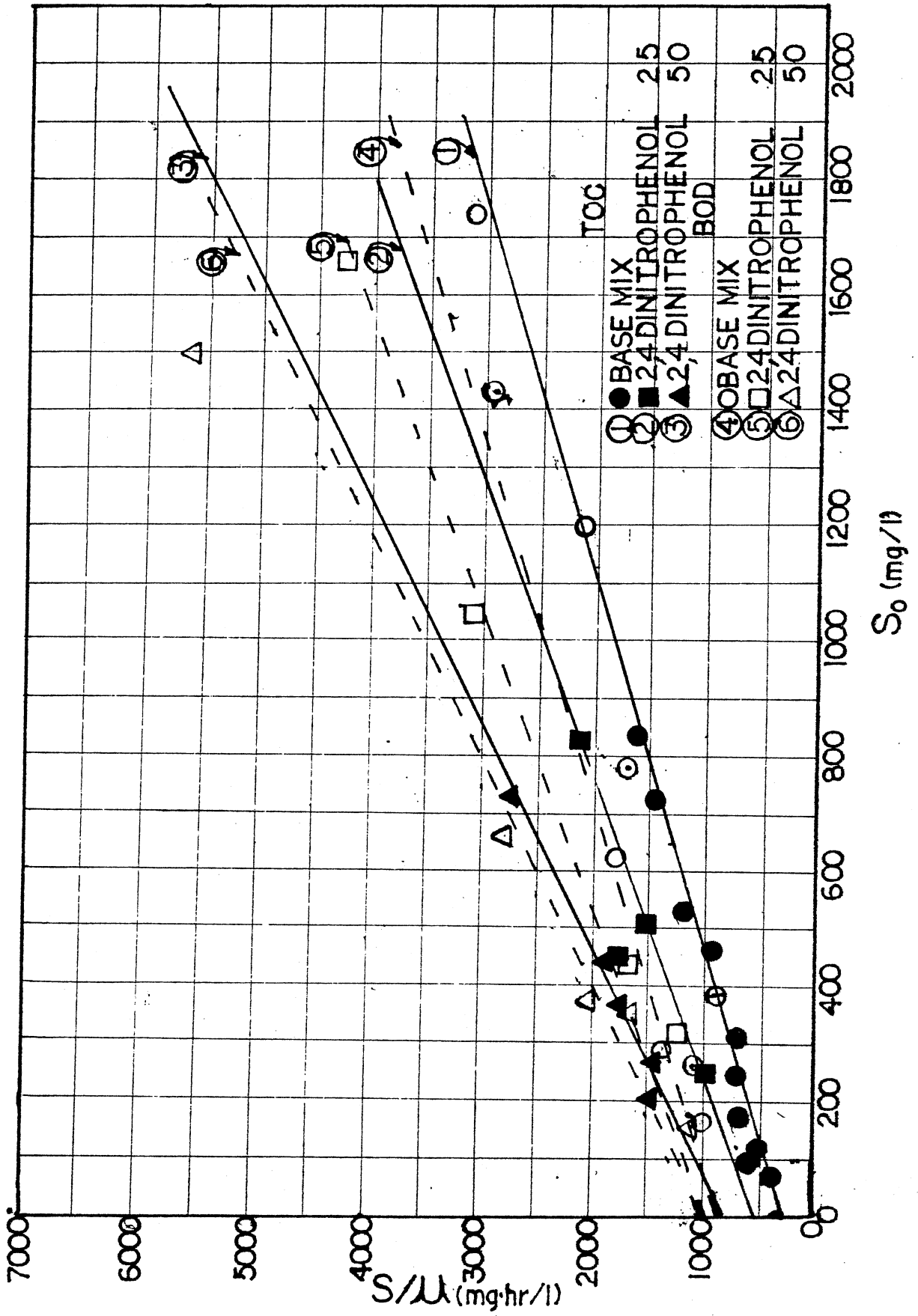
Values for  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  from this plot are  $0.51 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  for  $\mu_m$  with 259 mg/l for  $K_S$  at 25 mg/l 2,4 DNP. With 50 mg/l, 2,4 DNP,  $\mu_m$  was reduced



Figure 16. Michaelis-Menton Plot of  $S/\mu$  Vs.  $S$  for Acrylonitrile



Figure 17. Michaelis-Menton Plot of  $S/\mu$  Vs.  $S$  for  
2,4 Dinitrophenol



to  $0.40 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  while  $K_S$  increased to  $374 \text{ mg/l TOC}$ . Again, the change in slope and intercept follows the same relationship seen with Lineweaver-Burke and develops a  $K_i$  of  $80 \text{ mg/l}$ .

$\text{BOD}_5$  for both experiments established the same  $\mu_m$  but a higher  $K_S$  than the base mix of  $400 \text{ mg/l BOD}_5$ .

1,3 Dichlorobenzene. Figure 18 shows the determination of  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  for 1,3 DCB using the  $S/\mu$  vs.  $S$  plot. As with the Lineweaver-Burke plot, both concentrations tend to achieve a common  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  of  $0.43 \text{ h}^{-1}$  with a  $K_S$  of  $430 \text{ mg/l}$ . This compares to a  $\mu_m$  of  $0.45 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  and  $K_S$  of  $405 \text{ mg/l}$  from the  $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$  as seen in Table IV.

$\text{BOD}_5$  achieved a  $\mu_m$  of  $0.43 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with a  $K_S$  of  $473 \text{ mg/l}$  which compares to  $0.45 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  and  $K_S$   $475 \text{ mg/l}$  from Lineweaver-Burke plot.

Combined. The Michaelis-Menton plot for the three phases of growth resulting from the combined study are presented in Figure 19. The outcome of the plot shows a change in Phase I with no changes in Phase II or III as far as  $\mu_m$ .  $K_S$  increased in Phase III while remaining constant for Phase II, as seen in Table IV.

#### Determination of Eckenfelder's Rate Constants

##### $K_e$ and $K_e'$

##### $K_e$

Data plotted for the base mix and the three compounds to establish  $K_e$  based on TOC is seen in Figure 20. All the data for this plot show some degree of scatter, with not one compound having any more than another. Scatter would be more understandable for acrylonitrile than the other studies since stripping from the reactors appears to be

Figure 18. Michaeli-Menton Plot of  $S/\mu$  Vs.  $S$  for  
1,3 Dichlorobenzene

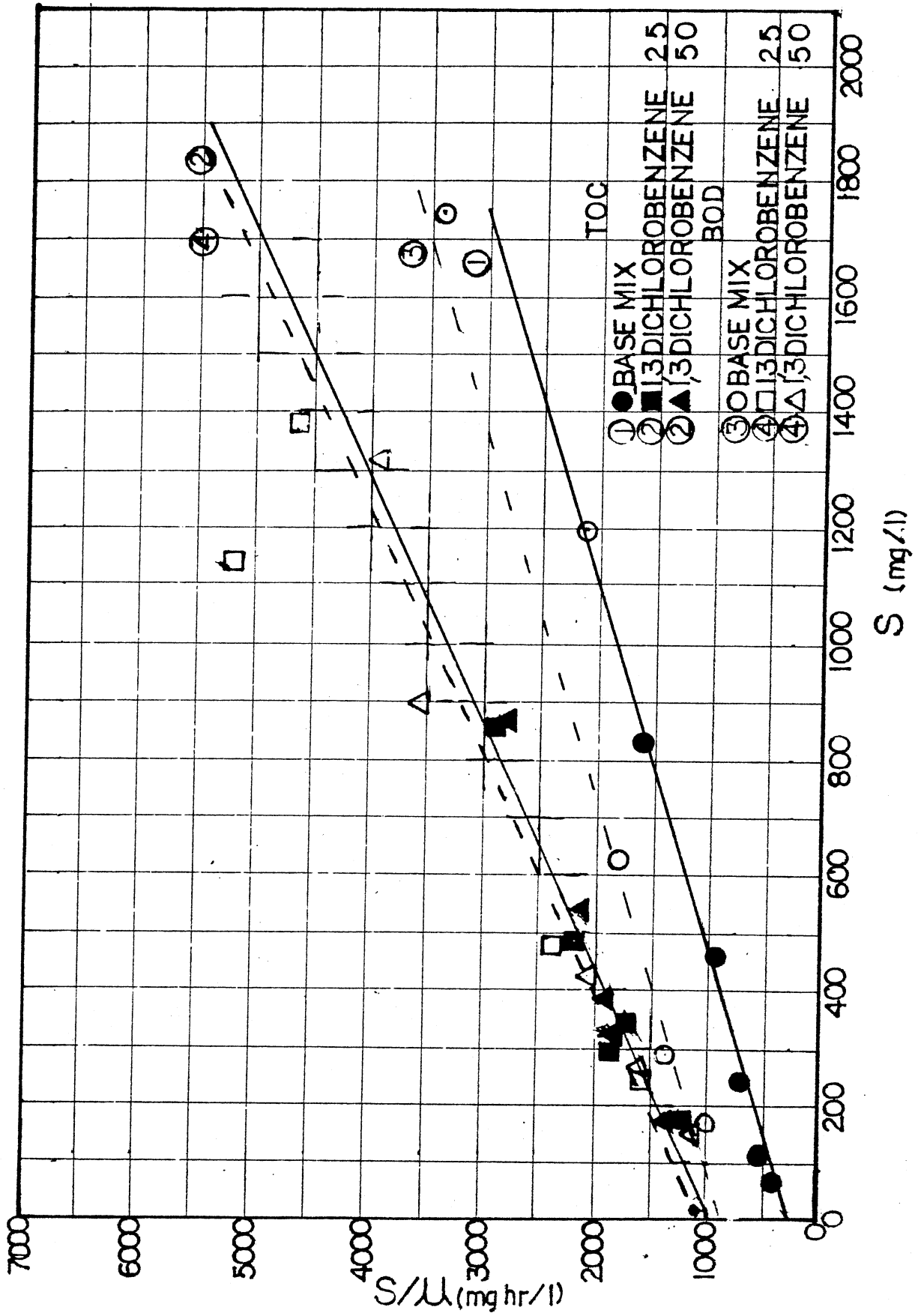


Figure 19. Michaelis-Menton Plot of  $S/\mu$  Vs.  $S$  for Combined Study



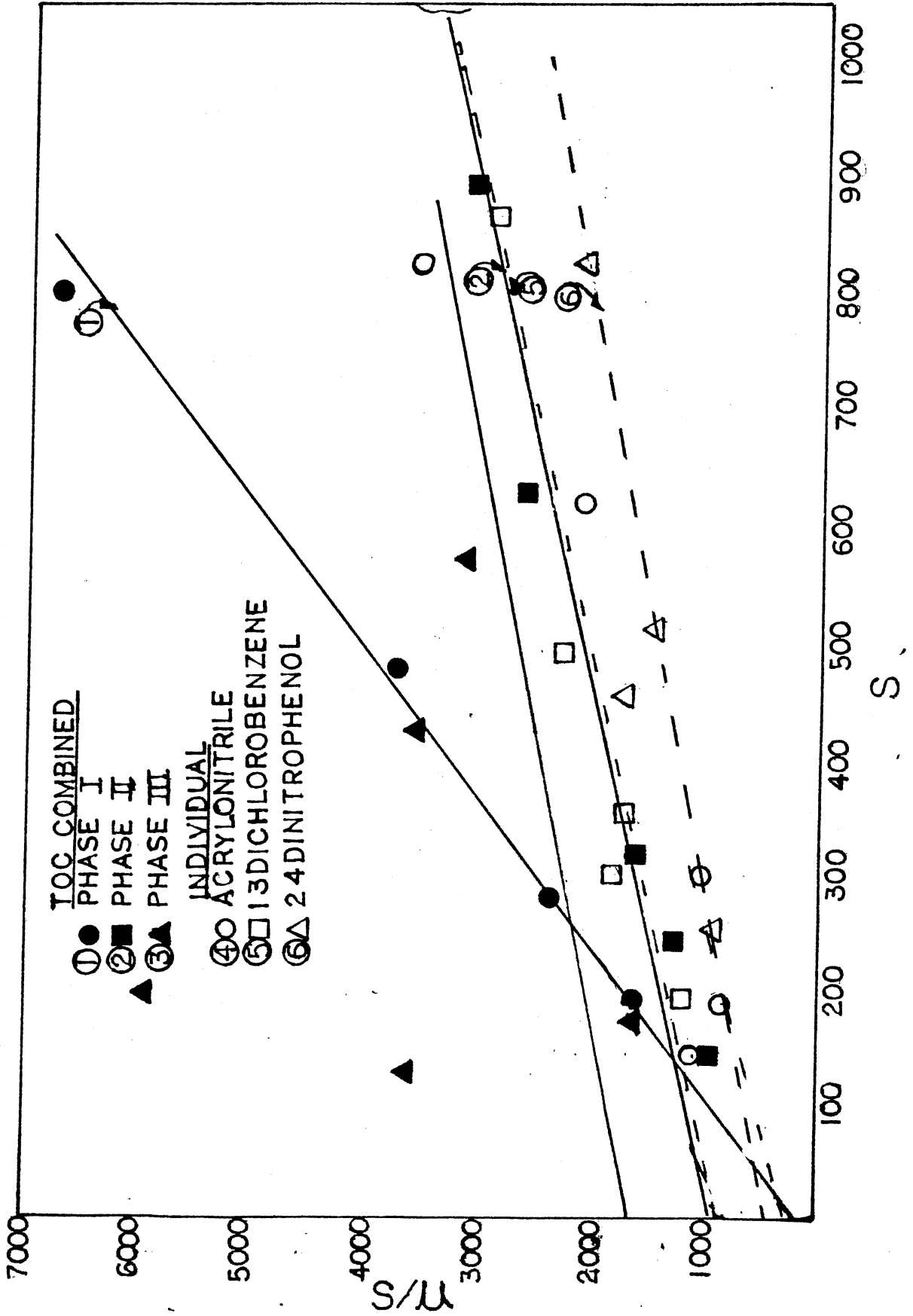
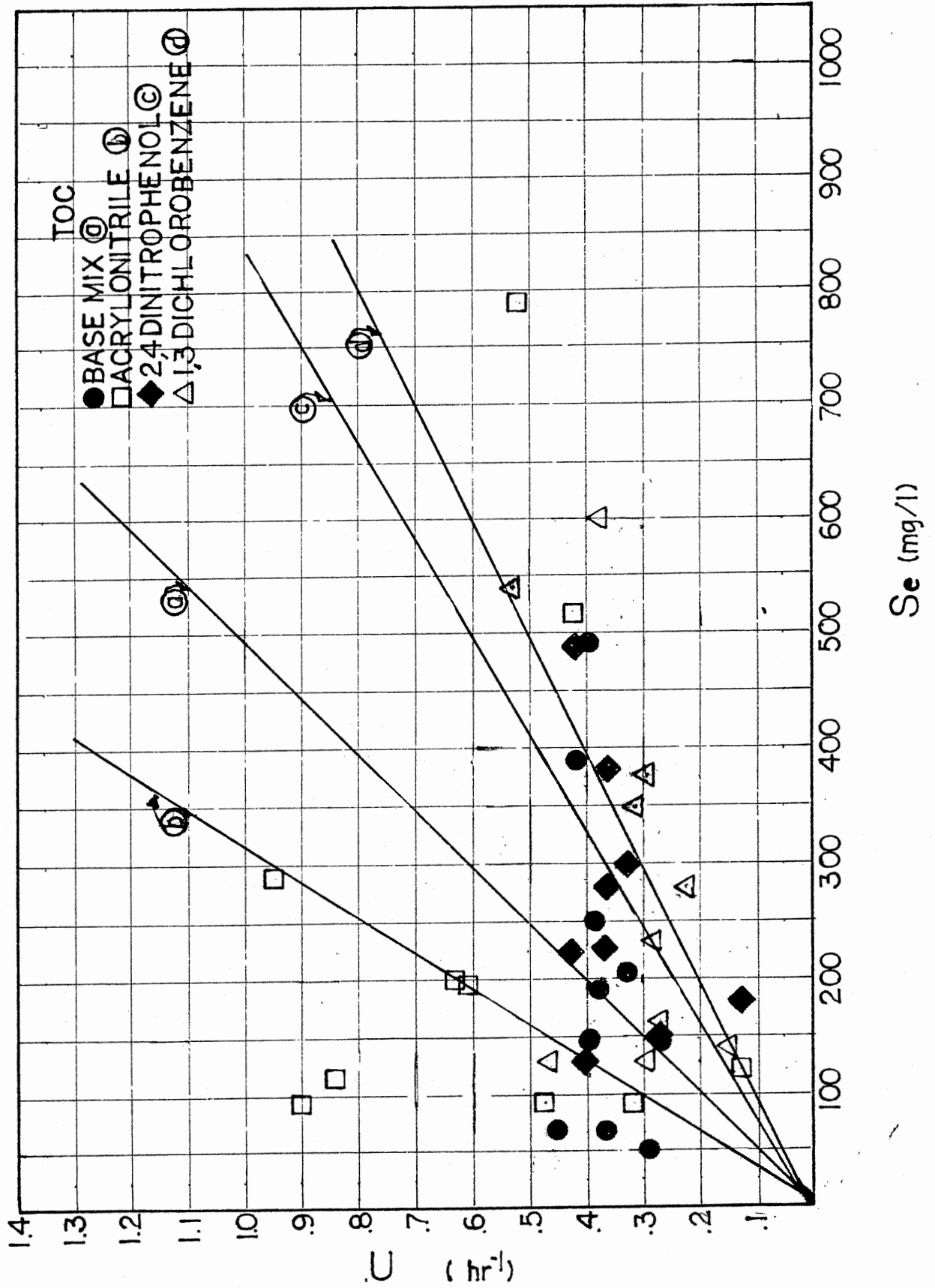


Figure 20. Plot of  $U$  Vs.  $S_e$  to Determine  $K_e$  for Compounds  
Depicted Based on TOC



occurring none of the other compounds showed any evidence of stripping. Values for  $K_e$  and  $K_e'$  are found in Table VI.

$K_e$  determined for the base mix is  $0.002 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{hr)}^{-1}$  from Figure 20. This value was higher than all the other values achieved except for the 100 mg/l experiment for acrylonitrile which was  $0.0031 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{hr)}^{-1}$ . This quantity was higher than that for the 50 mg/l ACN study even though the inhibition in specific growth rates for the 100 mg/l study were extremely reduced. This tends to suggest involvement of several removal mechanisms in the  $K_e$  value for acrylonitrile.

2,4 Dinitrophenol achieved a  $K_e$  value of  $0.0012 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{hr)}^{-1}$  compared to a similar value of  $0.001 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{hr)}^{-1}$  for 1,3 dichlorobenzene. Both values were lower than that achieved for the 100 mg/l acrylonitrile study which as stated earlier showed a very reduced growth rate.

$K_e$  determined using  $BOD_5$  for the studies performed are found in Figure 21. Overall, the  $BOD_5$  data showed less scatter than did the TOC. Values achieved were  $0.015 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{hr)}^{-1}$  for the base mix,  $0.0045 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{hr)}^{-1}$  for acrylonitrile,  $0.003 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{hr)}^{-1}$  for 2,4 dinitrophenol and  $0.0021 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{hr)}^{-1}$  for 1,3 dichlorobenzene. Acrylonitrile was still higher than 2,4 DNP and 1,3 DCB.

#### $K_e'$

Data plotted to establish  $K_e'$  is found in Figure 22 and, as can be seen, shows better correlation than that for  $K_e$ , although some scatter is still evident.  $K_e'$  for the base mix TOC was  $0.68 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  compared to  $1.0 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  for acrylonitrile,  $0.73 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  for 2,4 dinitrophenol, and  $0.46 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  for 1,3 dichlorobenzene.

$BOD_5$  used as a parameter for  $K_e'$  resulted in the plot in Figure 23.

TABLE VI  
KINETIC CONSTANTS:  $K_e, K_e', Y$

Compound	$K_e$ (mg/l·hr) <sup>-1</sup>	$K_e'$ (hr <sup>-1</sup> )	$Y(dX/dS)$ (mg/mg)	$Y(\mu/U)$ (hr/hr)
<u>TOC</u>				
Base Mix	.0020	.68	.83	.82
Acrylonitrile	.0031	1.00	.49	.50
2,4 Dinitrophenol	.0012	.73	.63	.64
1,3 Dichlorobenzene	.0011	.46	.71	.75
<u>BOD</u>				
Base Mix	.0015	8.00	.38	.30
Acrylonitrile (50mg/l)	.0045	1.50	.30	.45
(100mg/l)	.0045	1.50	.11	.11
2,4 Dinitrophenol	.003	1.8	.45	.45
1,3 Dichlorobenzene	.0021	1.2	.57	.57

Figure 21. Plot of  $U$  Vs.  $S_e$  to Determine  $K_e$  for Compounds  
Depicted Based on  $BOD_5$

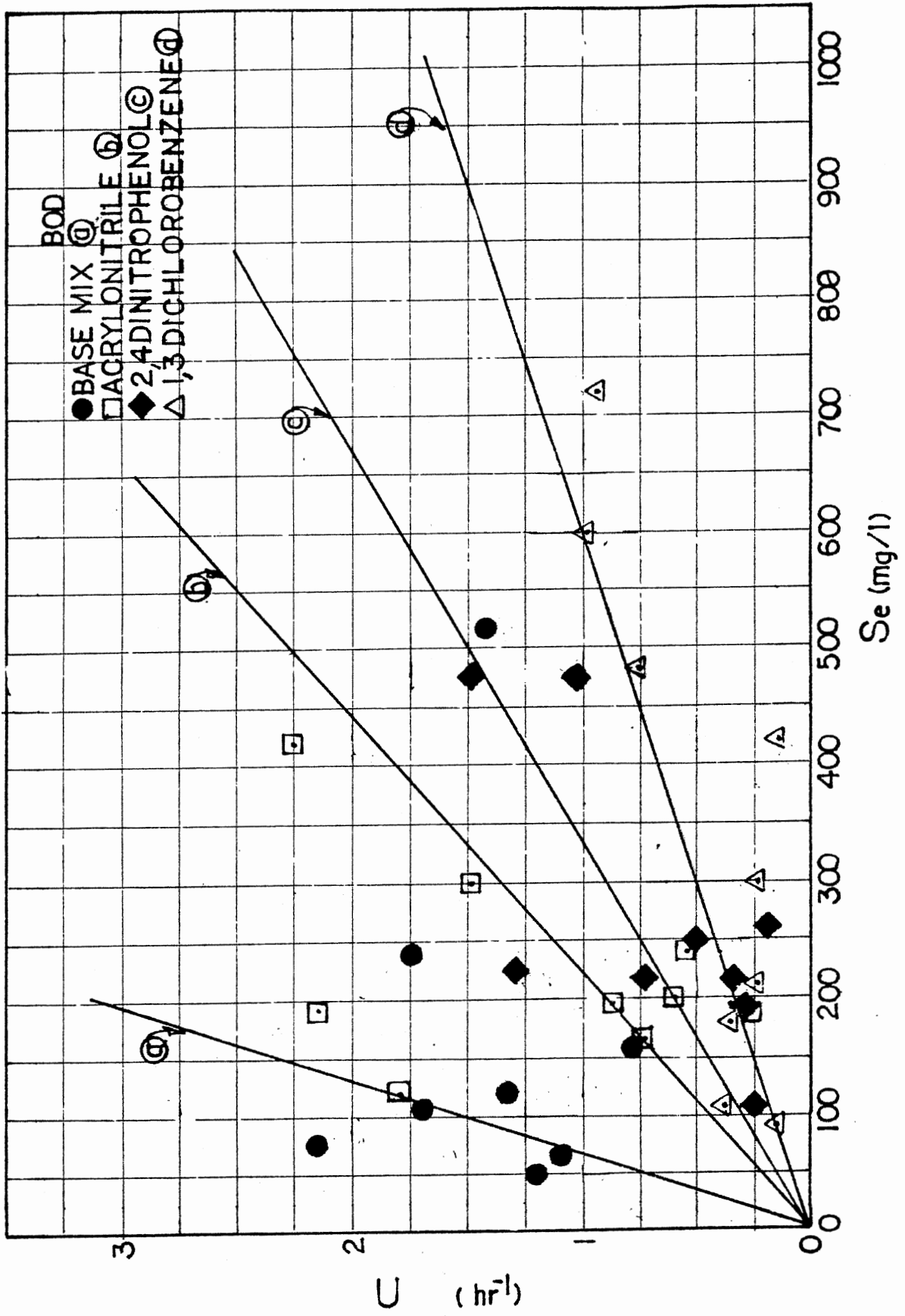


Figure 22. Plot of  $S \cdot U$  Vs.  $S_e$  to Determine  $K_e'$  for Compounds  
Depicted Based on TOC



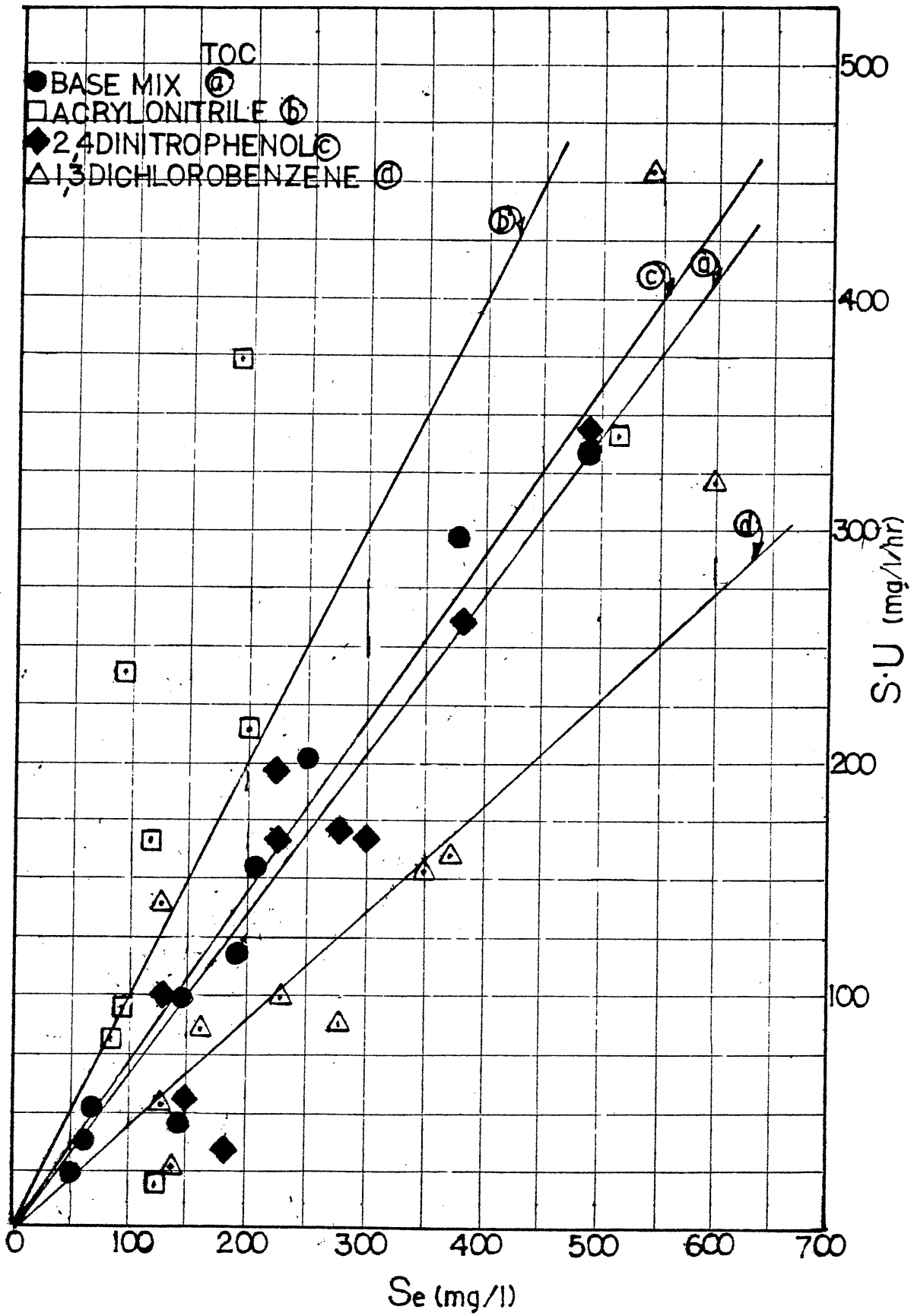
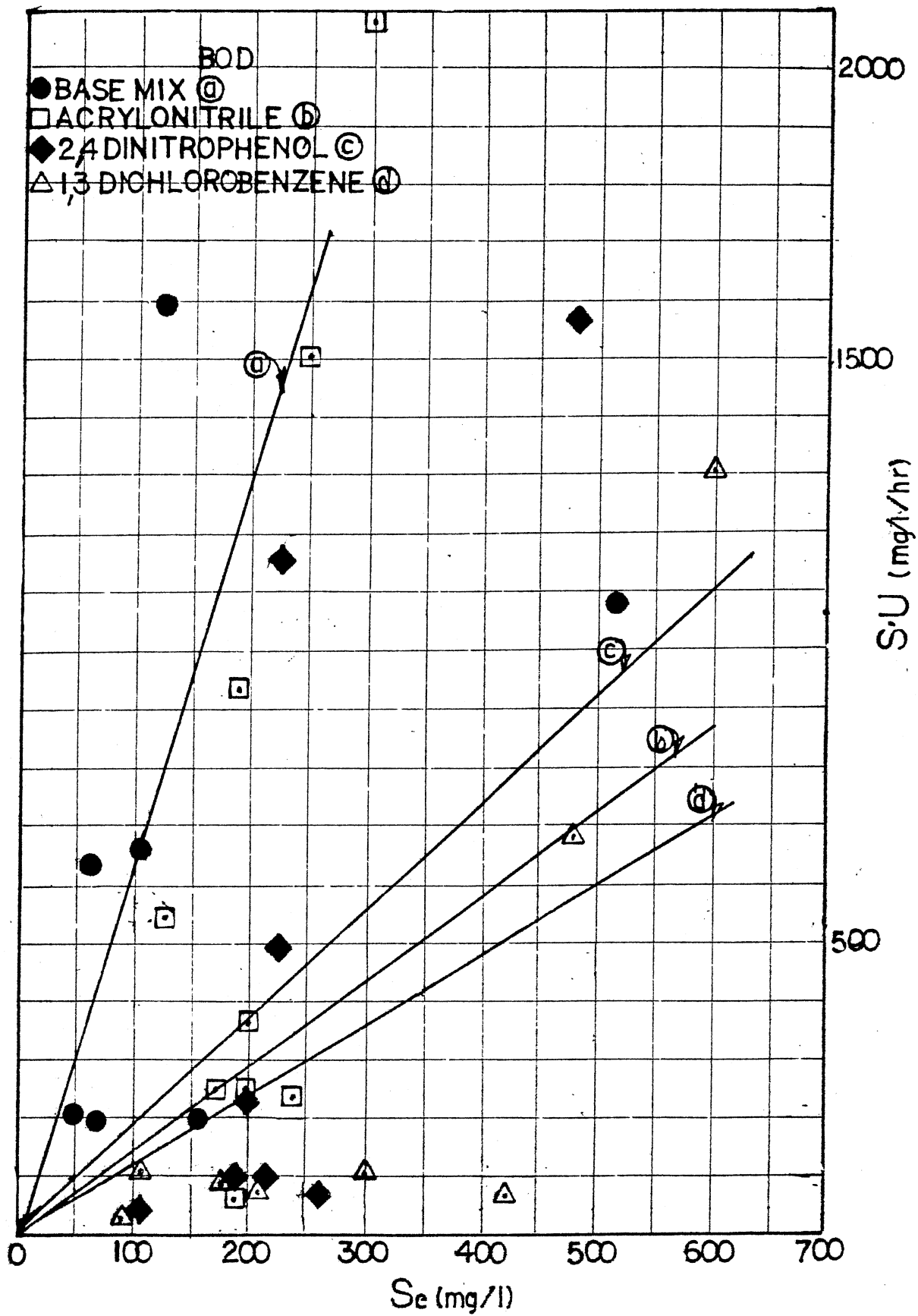


Figure 23. Plot of  $S \cdot U$  Vs.  $S_e$  to Determine  $K_e'$  for Compounds  
Depicted Based on  $BOD_5$



Data for the base mix showed very good correlation while the other compounds still evidence some scatter. Values for  $K_e'$  determined by the plot are  $8.0 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  for the base mix,  $1.5 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  for acrylonitrile,  $1.8 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  for 2,4 dinitrophenol and  $1.12 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  for 1,3 dichlorobenzene.

#### Determination of Yield

##### Y Using $\Delta X$ Vs. $\Delta S$

The yield values for mass produced versus substrate removed are presented in Figure 24 based on TOC analysis. The data for the determination of yield did not experience as much scatter as seen for  $K_e$  and  $K_e'$ . The values achieved from the plot of  $X$  as  $\Delta X$ , vs.  $S_R$  or  $\Delta S$ , are  $0.83 \text{ mg/mg TOC}$  for the base mix. Acrylonitrile at  $50 \text{ mg/l}$  achieved a value of  $0.49 \text{ mg/mg}$  which dropped to  $0.17 \text{ mg/mg}$  at  $100 \text{ mg/l}$  compound. 2,4 Dinitrophenol resulted in a yield of  $0.63 \text{ mg/mg}$  while 1,3 dichlorobenzene showed a value of  $0.71 \text{ mg/mg TOC}$ . Yield values may be found in Table VI. Yield based on  $\text{BOD}_5$ , Figure 25, resulted in considerably lower values than those seen with TOC. Yield for base mix was  $0.38 \text{ mg/mg BOD}_5$ . Acrylonitrile again had a value higher at  $50 \text{ mg/l}$  of compound with  $0.30 \text{ mg/mg BOD}_5$ , than the  $100 \text{ mg/l}$  study which achieved  $0.11 \text{ mg/mg BOD}_5$ . 2,4 Dinitrophenol and 1,3 dichlorobenzene achieved higher values than acrylonitrile of  $0.45 \text{ mg/mg BOD}_5$  and  $0.57 \text{ mg/mg BOD}_5$ , respectively.

$$\text{Y Using } \mu \text{ Vs. } \frac{(S_o - S)}{Xt}$$

As a further evaluation for yield of biomass versus substrate

Figure 24. Observed Yield Plot of X Vs.  $S_R$  for Compounds  
Depicted Based on TOC

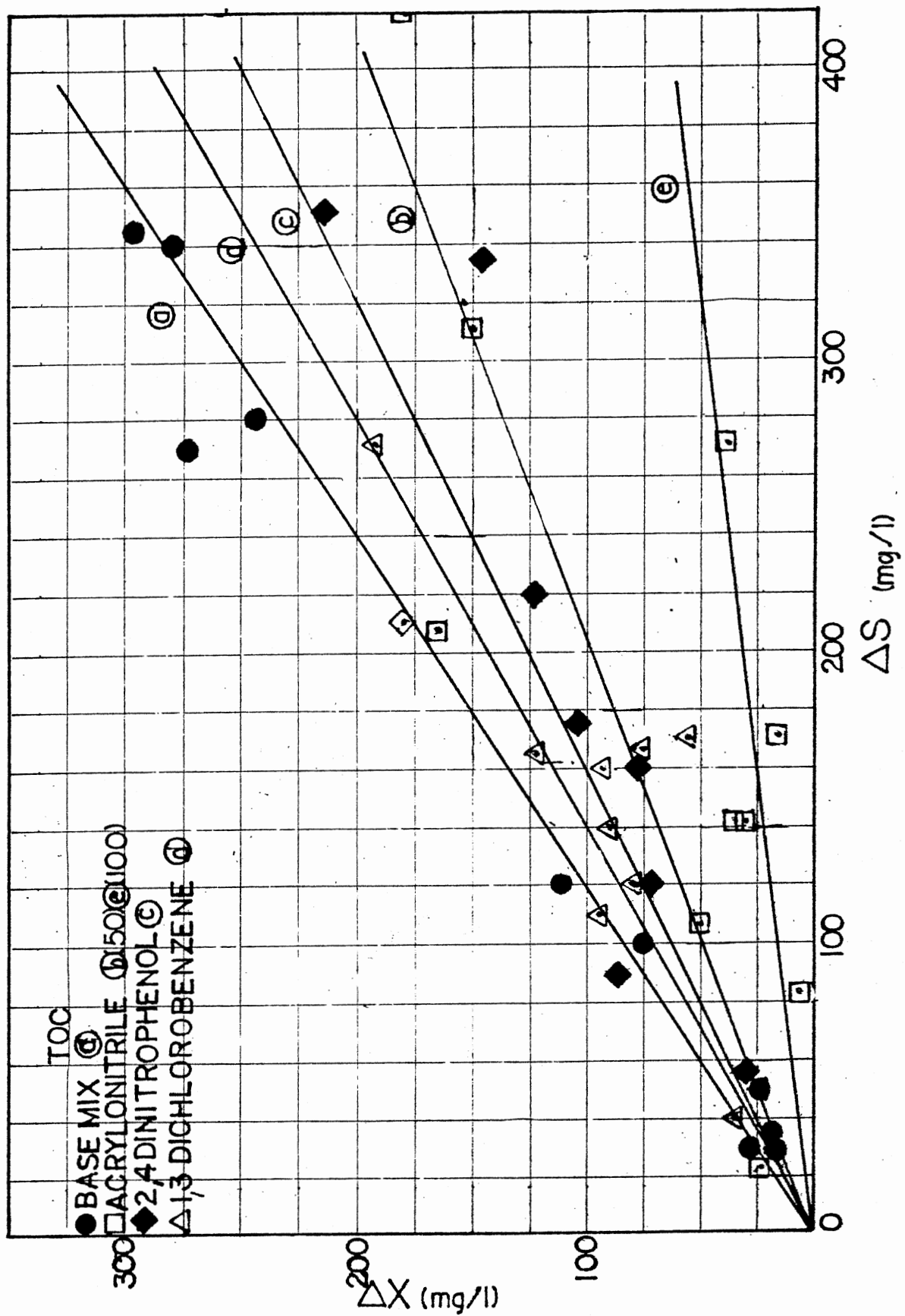
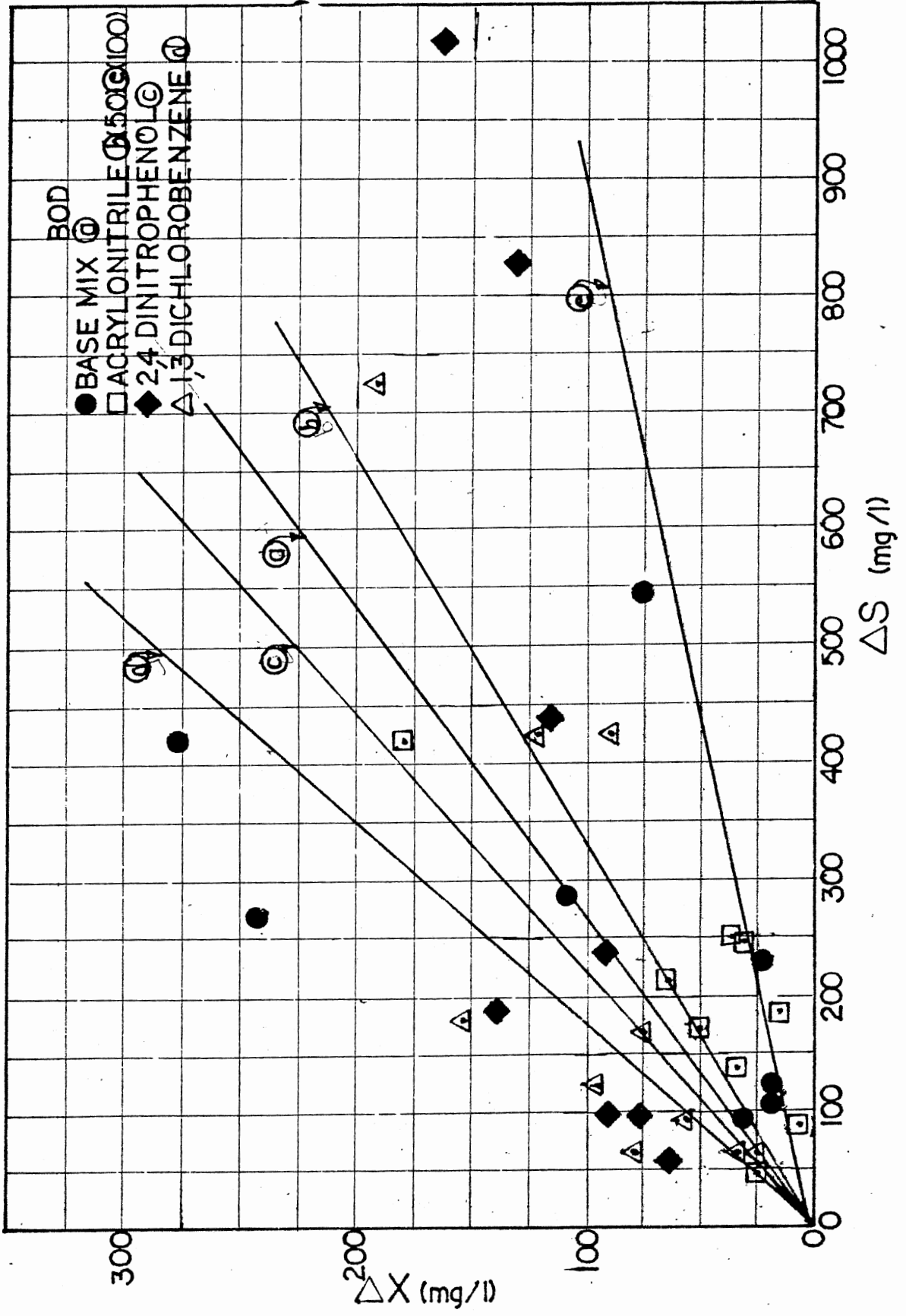


Figure 25. Observed Yield From X Vs.  $S_R$  for Compounds  
Depicted Based on BOD<sub>5</sub>





removed, specific growth rate was plotted against specific substrate removal rate for TOC (Figure 26) and BOD<sub>5</sub> (Figure 27).

The data plotted for all the studies as seen in Figure 26 showed some scatter. The values resulting from the plot are 0.82 for the base mix, 0.50 for acrylonitrile at 50 mg/l, 0.16 for acrylonitrile at 100 mg/l, 0.64 for 2,4 dinitrophenol and 0.75 for 1,3 dichlorobenzene. These values agree with those from the  $\Delta X$  vs.  $\Delta S$  plot as seen in Table VI, BOD<sub>5</sub> resulted in the plot presented in Figure 27. Quantities obtained were 0.30 BOD<sub>5</sub> for the base mix, 0.45 for acrylonitrile at 50 mg/l, 0.11 for acrylonitrile at 100 mg/l, 0.45 for 2,4 dinitrophenol and 0.57 for 1,3 dichlorobenzene. Like TOC, BOD<sub>5</sub> showed agreement with those obtained from the  $\Delta X$  vs.  $\Delta S$  plots, as seen in Table VI.

#### Comparison of Kinetic Behavior

As stated in the objective of the thesis, the completely mixed, dispersed batch system experiments were performed in order to obtain kinetic constants to compare to the constants achieved from the completely mixed internal recycle system. The objective of the comparison is to examine similarities or dissimilarities between the two systems. The values used for the comparison found in Table VII are the constants developed in the previous sections of the text and those obtained from the continuous flow pilot plant studies (52).

In comparing kinetic behavior between two distinct systems, the systems themselves warrant some description. In the dispersed batch system, the activated sludges were exposed to an excess of substrate for the major portion of time in which the primary growth phase ensued. In comparison, the continuous flow internal recycle systems exposed the

Figure 26. Specific Growth Rate  $\mu$  Vs. Specific Substrate Utilization Rate U for Compounds Depicted Based on TOC

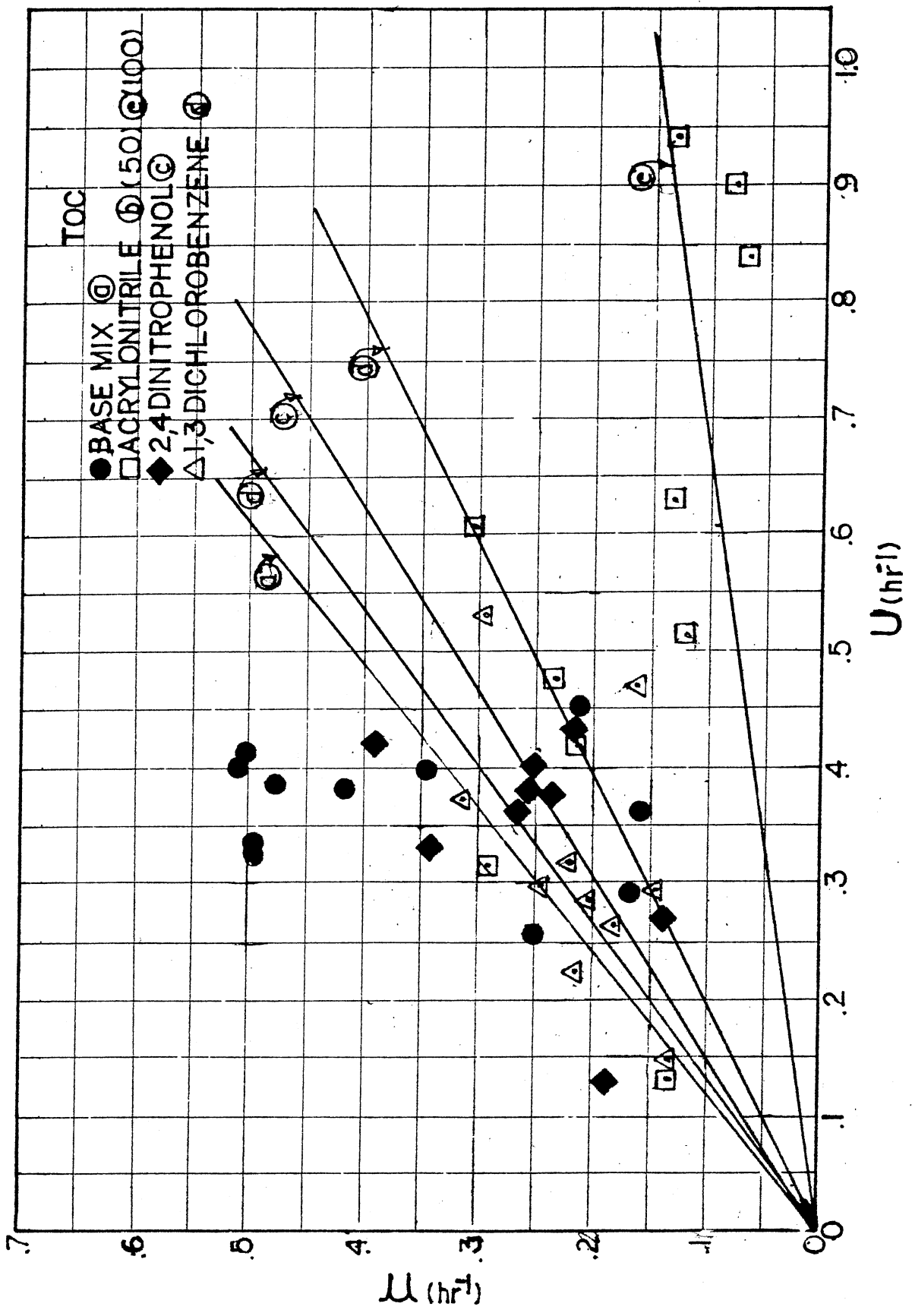


Figure 27. Specific Growth Rate  $\mu$  Vs. Specific Substrate Utilization Rate U for Compounds Depicted Based on BOD<sub>5</sub>

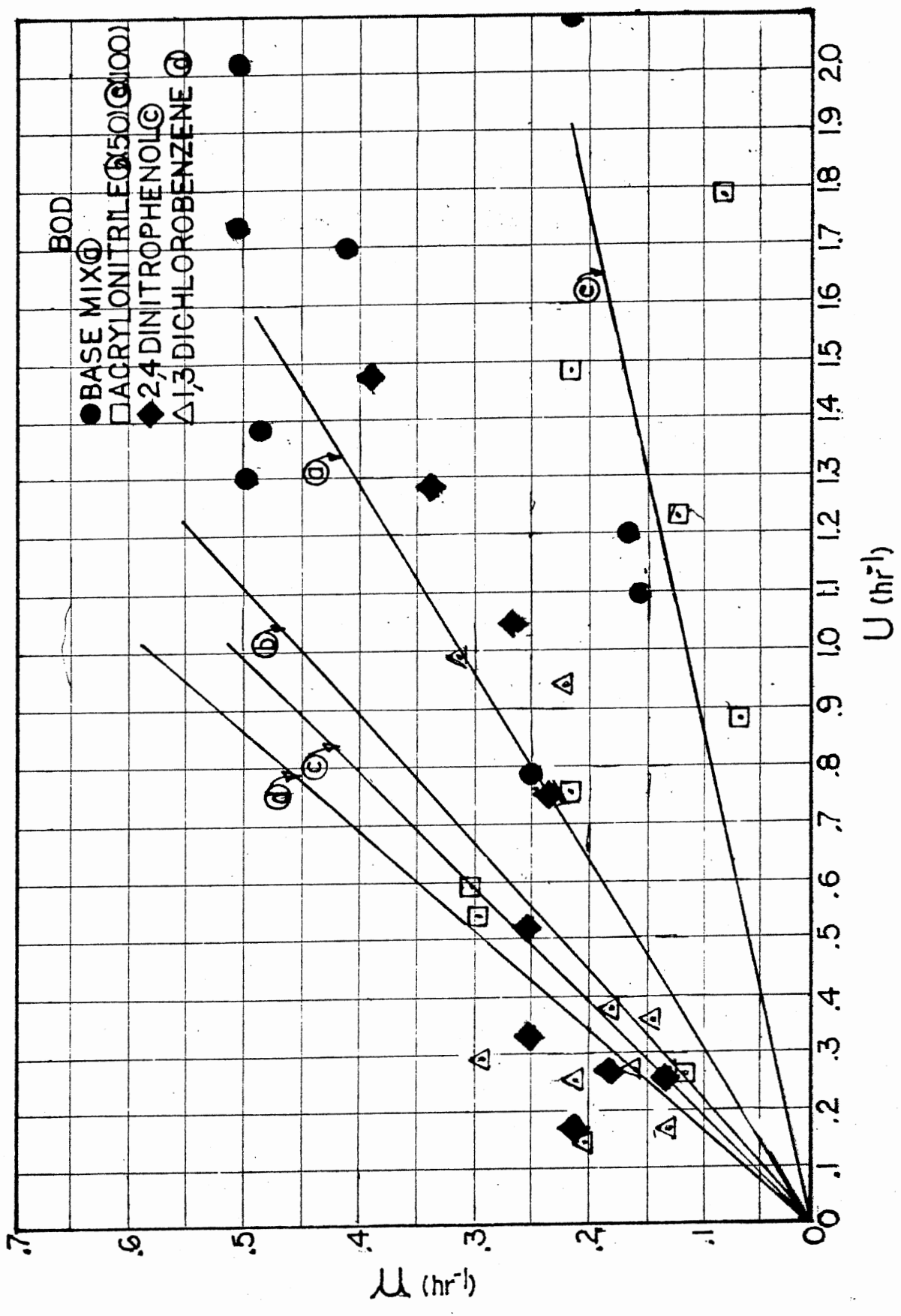


TABLE VII  
KINETIC CONSTANTS BATCH AND CONTINUOUS FLOW

Compound	$\mu_m$ (hr.) <sup>-1</sup>	$\mu$ (d <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_S$ (mg/l)	$K_i$ (mg/l)	$K_e$ (mg/l·hr) <sup>-1</sup>	$K_e$ (mg/l·d) <sup>-1</sup>	$K_L$ (hr.) <sup>-1</sup>	$K_L$ (d <sup>-1</sup> )	$Y$ (mg/mg)
<u>TOC BATCH</u>									
Base Mix	.65	15.6	225		.002	.048	.68	16.3	.83
Acrylonitrile	.65	15.6	325	600	.003	.072	1.00	24.0	.50
2,4 Dinitrophenol	.50	12.0	250	80	.0012	.029	.73	17.5	.64
1,3 Dichlorobenzene	.45	10.8	450		.0011	.026	.46	11.0	.75
<u>BOD BATCH</u>									
Base Mix	.65	15.6	500		.015	.36	8.0	192	.38
Acrylonitrile	.65	15.6	650	600	.0045	.108	1.5	36	.30
2,4 Dinitrophenol	.50	12.0	400	80	.0030	.072	1.8	43	.45
1,3 Dichlorobenzene	.45	10.8			.0021	.050	1.2	28	.57
<u>TOC CONTINUOUS FLOW</u>									
Base Mix		3.2	110			.03		4.1	.81
Acrylonitrile		3.8	167			.02		3.8	.96
2,4 Dinitrophenol		1.6	32			.03		5.6	.96
1,3 Dichlorobenzene		1.7	16			.08		11.5	.97
<u>BOD CONTINUOUS FLOW</u>									
Base Mix		.90	1.4			.26		82	.62
Acrylonitrile		2.90	26			.73		22	.73
2,4 Dinitrophenol		5.90	29			.88		56	.88
1,3 Dichlorobenzene		1.20	2.9			.65		73	.65

activated sludge to a substrate at constant concentrations on a continuous basis at steady state conditions. In such systems and dependent on the wastage from the reactor basin, the activated sludge is maintained in excess to the substrate.

### $\mu_m$ and $K_S$

The importance of  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  is basic to kinetic modeling of activated sludge systems whether batch or continuous systems when using Monod's model (32)(10). It allows for a predictive tool in modeling behavior of activated sludge systems on a monomolecular basis.

The behavior of the three compounds in the batch system demonstrated a different response from that of the base mix. Acrylonitrile achieved a  $\mu_m$  of  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  the same as the base mix. Also seen with ACN is a dynamic relationship with the base mix as modeled by Haldane's equation (46).

2,4 DNP and 1,3 DCB both achieved reductions in  $\mu_m$  over that achieved with the base mix. In the batch system, 2,4 DNP responded with quantitative decreases in  $\mu_m$  from  $0.65 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  to  $0.50 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  to  $0.40 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  with increases in compound. 1,3 DCB resulted in a single value reduction in  $\mu_m$  of  $0.45 \text{ hr}^{-1}$  independent of compound concentration.

In the continuous flow system the base mix and three compounds achieved a similar pattern in values for  $\mu_m$  relative to that of the base mix. Acrylonitrile achieved a  $\mu_m$  of  $3.8 \text{ d}^{-1}$  close to that of the base mix at  $3.2 \text{ d}^{-1}$ . There was no inhibition seen in the continuous system for acrylonitrile. 2,4 DNP and 1,3 DCB both effected reductions in  $\mu_m$  with values of  $1.6 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for 2,4 DNP and  $1.7 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for 1,3 DCB.

The changes in both systems address changes in metabolic response

of the activated sludge to the compounds. Such a change in response could be attributed to the biodegradability of the compound or a change in predominant species in the heterogeneous population (5).

A comparison of the values for  $\mu_m$  and the  $K_S$  between the batch and continuous flow system shows the batch constants were several times higher compared to the continuous flow constants. This is seen in Table VII. The batch compared to the continuous flow achieved values for  $\mu_m$  of  $15.6 \text{ d}^{-1}$  versus  $3.2 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for the base mix,  $15.6 \text{ d}^{-1}$  versus  $3.8 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for acrylonitrile,  $12.0 \text{ d}^{-1}$  versus  $1.6 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for 2,4 DNP and  $10.8 \text{ d}^{-1}$  versus  $1.7 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for 1,3 dichlorobenzene.

The use of  $\mu_m$  derived from each system has totally different objectives. The objective of the  $\mu_m$  for the batch is to obtain a maximum growth rate in the presence of excess substrate not concerned with the state of  $S_e$ . In comparison,  $\mu_m$  for the continuous flow system has an objective of establishing a maximum specific growth rate under steady state conditions to achieve an effluent quality,  $S_e$ .

#### Ke and Ke'

Ke. Ke, Eckenfelder's first order removal rate constant based on TOC resulted in mixed pattern between the two systems. The base mix and acrylonitrile achieved values higher than the continuous flow system while 2,4 dinitrophenol showed agreement in value and 1,3 dichlorobenzene was lower. The base mix achieved a value of  $0.048 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  for the batch compared to  $0.03 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  for the continuous flow system. Acrylonitrile with problems of scatter and possible effect of stripping on Ke resulted in  $0.072 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  at 50 mg/l for the batch compared to  $0.02 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  for the continuous flow. 2,4



Dinitrophenol achieved a value from the batch of  $0.029 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  which compared to  $0.03 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  for the continuous system. The only value from the batch system that was lower than that achieved in the continuous flow was for 1,3 dichlorobenzene with  $0.026 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  compared to  $0.08 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$ .

$K_e$  based on  $BOD_5$  resulted in all the values except for the base mix, for the continuous flow being higher than the batch unit. The base mix batch gave a  $K_e$  of  $0.36 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  compared to  $0.26 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  for the continuous flow. For the three pollutants  $K_e$  for the continuous vs. batch was  $0.73 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  vs.  $0.108 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  for acrylonitrile,  $0.88 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  vs.  $0.072 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  for 2,4 dinitrophenol, and  $0.65 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  vs.  $0.050 \text{ (mg/l} \cdot \text{d)}^{-1}$  for 1,3 dichlorobenzene.

$K_e'$ .  $K_e'$  determined from TOC achieved similar results to that of  $K_e$ . All the studies performed in the batch system achieved higher values than the continuous flow except 1,3 dichlorobenzene. The values from the batch compared to the continuous flow are:  $16.3 \text{ d}^{-1}$  vs.  $4.1 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for the base mix,  $24.0 \text{ d}^{-1}$  versus  $3.8 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for acrylonitrile,  $17.5 \text{ d}^{-1}$  versus  $5.6 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for 2,4 dinitrophenol and  $11.0 \text{ d}^{-1}$  versus  $11.5 \text{ d}^{-1}$  for 1,3 dichlorobenzene.

$BOD_5$  used to determine  $K_e'$  had a little different pattern than  $K_e$  as the base mix was higher at  $192 \text{ d}^{-1}$  vs.  $82 \text{ d}^{-1}$  from the continuous flow. Acrylonitrile resulted in relative agreement between the batch and continuous flow, with  $36 \text{ d}^{-1}$  vs.  $22 \text{ d}^{-1}$ . 2,4 Dinitrophenol and 1,3 dichlorobenzene were both lower in the batch than the continuous flow with  $43 \text{ d}^{-1}$  vs.  $56 \text{ d}^{-1}$  and  $29 \text{ d}^{-1}$  vs.  $73 \text{ d}^{-1}$ , respectively.

The yield values achieved from the batch system were lower than

those achieved with the continuous flow system except for the base mix for both TOC and BOD5, as seen in Table VI. In comparison, the yield based on TOC for the compounds between the batch and continuous flow were, 0.82 mg/mg vs. 0.81 mg/mg for the base mix, 0.50 mg/mg vs. 0.96 mg/mg for acrylonitrile, 0.64 mg/mg vs. 0.96 mg/mg for 2,4 dinitrophenol, and 0.75 mg/mg vs. 0.97 mg/mg for 1,3 dichlorobenzene.

Finally, the batch system constants were developed for the primary phases of growth resulting from each compound. The removal of substrate relative to the occurrence of the growth phases studies averaged approximately a 50% reduction in substrate compared to the continuous flow systems which averaged better than 90% removal of substrate. The key importance of  $K_e$  and  $K_e'$  is their use in Eckenfelder's design equation as a factor in the quantity  $K_e S_e X_v$ . Realizing this, would demonstrate that even though the numbers for  $K_e$  and  $K_e'$  show some relative agreement, that  $K_e S_e X_v$  from the batch would not be assured of being equal to  $K_e S_e X_v$  from the continuous flow for design purposes.

#### Discussion

The dynamics involved in a "simple" dispersed batch system with a heterogenous population and a complex substrate for specific modeling is in need of continued investigation as many questions are still unanswered. When a system is placed in a continuous mode, this further complicates the mechanics involved as the system becomes one of "constant molecular motion", in more than one dimension.

The three compounds studied, acrylonitrile, 2,4 dinitrophenol, and 1,3 dichlorobenzene in conjunction with a synthetic industrial waste base mix, exhibited kinetic behavior consistent with proposed metabolic

mechanisms in the literature (15)(50)(59). The batch and continuous flow systems both experienced changes in kinetic constants in reference to the base mix from the compounds.

In the completely mixed dispersed batch studies, three methods were utilized to determine  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$ , a plot of  $\mu$  vs.  $S$ ,  $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$ , and  $S/\mu$  vs.  $S$ . All three methods showed agreement for values of  $\mu_m + K_S$  obtained, however, in the case of acrylonitrile that had inhibition occurring which could be modeled by Haldane's relationship the  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$  values could not be determined readily with  $1/\mu$  vs.  $1/S$  and  $S/\mu$  vs.  $S$  plots.

Of the three compounds studied in the batch unit system, acrylonitrile was the only compound which at the concentration's used exhibited inhibition. 2,4 Dinitrophenol and 1,3 dichlorobenzene both effected a reduction in the specific growth rates and  $\mu_m$ . This may be due to the decreased ease of biodegradation of the compounds. The continuous flow systems experience the same type of behavior with 2,4 DNP and 1,3 dichlorobenzene with the differences in their  $\mu_m$  to that of the base mix approaching a constant in both systems, i.e.,  $\mu_m$  base mix/ $\mu_m$  2,4 DNP for the continuous flows 2 vs. a  $\mu_m/\mu_m$  or 1.3 in the batch while 1,3 DCB had a ratio of 1.4 for the batch and 1.9 for the continuous flow system. Acrylonitrile achieved a  $\mu_m$  for each system which showed agreement with that of the base mix, except that the continuous flow system showed no evidence of inhibition.

The modeling of inhibition and/or a reduction in  $\mu_m$  in batch and continuous systems is lacking for models which address the results. The kinetic models used for inhibition for enzyme kinetics carry labels and terminology that are not adequate for whole cell systems in which

multiple enzyme systems are present and under the direct control of the cell. The importance to the environmental engineer for modeling reduction and inhibition from waste waters is to be able to design and predict the operation of a waste water treatment plant which is receiving toxic wastes or a mixture of wastes which effect changes in  $\mu_m$  and  $K_S$ . With such a model, the operation of a continuous flow waste treatment plant could be changed as the proportional amounts of the materials in the waste water changed.

A very important observation made between the two systems studied was the consistency of the activated sludge in the reproducible response to substrate. With the complex heterogeneous populations present and the dynamics involved in such populations, it is encouraging that the response is reproducible. The ability of these populations to achieve biodegradation of compounds that are not easily degraded in pure culture or limited cultures systems, holds mechanistic possibilities for exploitation for the enhancement of our environment.

Synthesis of byproducts occurring in the batch system was quite evident as a soluble color developed in all of the experiments except the one for acrylonitrile. The color was a light green appearing at about 4 hours progressing to a dark green at 8 hours and finally a brown as 12 hours. The intensity of the color was proportional to the base mix concentration in the systems. The production of metabolic products is of primary concern to environmental engineers since it effects the quantity  $S_i - S_e$  for use in mass balances. If the products are a direct function of metabolism then the effluent quality designed for must take into consideration the presence and existence of such products and be adjusted accordingly. Synthesis products may be one explanation for the

scatter seen in the data plotted for  $K_e$ ,  $K_e'$  and  $Y$ . This could also offer a possible explanation for the specific substrate utilization rate being lower than the specific growth rate at the higher concentrations used in the study. This is seen in the Appendix.

Another problem experienced in the study was the evidenced stripping of acrylonitrile. This was not seen in the continuous flow systems. Stripping presents a real problem to contend with in creating mass balances for systems. Stripping coupled with the probability of the existence of synthesis products would change the mass balance to include these factors.

It is quite obvious that the kinetic constants developed from a dispersed batch system should not be applied to the design of continuous flow systems. The intent of the approach in the text by the author was not to develop design criteria for continuous flow biological systems from batch systems, but rather to determine the kinetic behavior exhibited by the two systems as an aide in understanding and prediction of behavior in the design of continuous flow systems.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSIONS

1. Acrylonitrile; 1,3 dichlorobenzene; and 2,4 dinitrophenol are biodegradable in batch systems with heterogeneous populations.
2. Inhibition occurred with acrylonitrile while 2,4 DNP and 1,3 DCB effected a reduction in  $\mu_m$  over that of the base mix.
3. The existence of more than one type of reduction in  $\mu_m$  occurred with each compound compared to that predicted by the models.
4. All the compounds are compatible with activated sludge from a municipal waste treatment system.
5. 2,4 dinitrophenol and 1,3 dichlorobenzene result in a mechanistically similar response by the microorganisms at equal concentrations.
6. The three compounds studied were preferentially removed on an order of (a) acrylonitrile, (b) 1,3 dichlorobenzene, and (c) 2,4 dinitrophenol when in combination in the batch units.
7. Synthesis products occurred in the experiments as evidenced by soluble color changes.

## CHAPTER VI

### SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

1. Investigate the intercell enzymatic relationship in heterogeneous populations, to further exploit their use.
2. Investigate inhibition mechanisms involved in complex wastes to develop a predictable model.
3. Investigate synthesis products in heterogeneous populations by gas chromatography.

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APPENDIX

DATA

Thero. TOC (mg/l)	Poll. Conc. (mg/l)	S (mg/l)	L/S (hr.)	M (hr.)	L/M (hr.)	S/M		S/L		S/X		S/S		S/L		S/S		S/L		S/S		S/L		S/S					
						M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S	M	S
						(mg/l)	(mg/l)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)	(hr.)
Base Mix	50	79	.0147	.168	5.95	470	50	29..16	33	3	.291	23																	
	50	97	.0103	.156	6.11	622	62	35 15	32	3	.360	35																	
	100	115	.0087	.213	4.69	539	66	49 22	36	3	.451	52																	
	100	175	.0057	.250	4.00	700	405	30 28	39	3	.256	45																	
	200	218	.0040	.347	2.88	714	418	100 75	63	4	.357	98																	
	200	310	.0032	.420	2.38	738	490	120 109	79	4	.386	118																	
	400	469	.0021	.496	2.02	967	205	241 274	162	5	.326	153																	
	400	530	.0019	.475	2.11	1118	250	283 244	147	5	.381	202																	
	800	835	.0012	.510	1.96	1637	492	343 295	173	5	.397	331																	
	800	720	.0014	.502	1.99	1431	380	240 290	165	5	.412	297																	
Acrylonitrile	100	50	.0068	.135	7.43	1382	173	24 25	68	3	.129	19																	
	150	50	.0053	.231	4.33	614	82	106 50	75	3	.427	187																	
(50mg/l)	250	50	.0033	.291	3.44	1832	94	206 161	132	5	.312	94																	
	450	50	.0016	.304	3.29	2030	194	123 179	140	5	.504	373																	
	850	50	.0012	.211	4.33	3564	512	311 150	125	6	.415	241																	
(100mg/l)	150	100	.0051	.088	11.71	2931	115	83 7	33	3	.316	136																	
	200	100	.0040	.082	12.20	3233	94	174 15	38	5	.960	239																	
	100	100	.0029	.139	7.19	2652	200	141 30	45	5	.627	214																	
	500	100	.0017	.132	7.58	4457	317	271 36	48	6	.741	553																	
	900	100	.0011	.123	8.13	7553	788	141 32	46	6	.511	475																	
2,4-Dinitrophenol	75																												
(25mg/l)	125	25	.0040	.252	3.97	993	130	120 70	75	4	.400	100																	
	225	25	.0022	.256	3.91	1150	275	175 124	92	5	.380	171																	
	425	25	.0010	.340	2.94	1199	300	210 175	129	5	.326	166																	
	825	25	.0012	.291	2.56	2112	490	335 243	161	5	.416	143																	
(50mg/l)	100	50	.0047	.138	7.35	1181	153	55 28	69	3	.246	55																	
	150	50	.0037	.187	5.35	1445	180	90 85	140	5	.129	35																	
	250	50	.0026	.217	4.61	1759	220	160 76	93	4	.430	198																	
	450	50	.0012	.246	4.24	1851	225	220 174	117	5	.376	167																	
	850	50	.0014	.266	3.76	2745	380	350 216	163	6	.668	261																	
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	75	25	.0056	.447	6.83	1226	130	50 25	57	3	.292	53																	
(25mg/l)	125	25	.0033	.461	6.21	1863	130	170 56	73	5	.466	140																	
	225	25	.0029	.203	4.93	1726	230	120 79	85	5	.282	99																	
	425	25	.0020	.220	4.55	2230	250	140 90	90	5	.311	152																	
	825	25	.0017	.296	3.38	2937	340	320 153	121	5	.529	154																	
(50mg/l)	100	50	.0056	.131	7.63	1373	160	40 36	67	4	.149	27																	
	150	50	.0031	.183	5.46	1775	160	165 75	87	5	.264	86																	
	250	50	.0026	.213	4.69	1819	260	110 95	98	5	.224	88																	
	450	50	.0019	.247	4.05	2187	375	165 122	111	5	.297	150																	
	850	50	.0011	.235	3.17	2798	657	276 166	147	5	.370	122																	
Combined	250	100	.0095	.119	8.11	1598	140	56																					
	350	100	.0036	.119	8.16	2352	240	40																					
	400	100	.0021	.126	7.94	3732	315	155																					
	600	100	.0013	.119	8.40	6723	625	175																					
	1000	100	.0011	.087	11.93	13885	880	50																					

VITA

Kermit Lee Robertson

Candidate for the Degree of

Master of Science

Thesis: A COMPARISON OF BATCH AND CONTINUOUS FLOW KINETIC BEHAVIOR FOR ACRYLONITRILE, 2,4 DINITROPHENOL, AND 1,3 DICHLOROBENZENE

Major Field: Bioenvironmental Engineering

Biographical:

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