

## Article

# New Insights into the Microbial Diversity of Cake Layer in Yttria Composite Ceramic Tubular Membrane in an Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactor (AnMBR)

Rathmalgoda Thejani Nilusha <sup>1,2,3,4</sup> and Yuansong Wei <sup>1,3,4,5,\*</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> State Key Joint Laboratory of Environmental Simulation and Pollution Control, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100085, China; ntthejani@yahoo.com  
<sup>2</sup> Environment Technology Section, Industrial Technology Institute, 363, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07 00700, Sri Lanka; thejani@iti.lk  
<sup>3</sup> Department of Water Pollution Control Technology, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100085, China  
<sup>4</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China  
<sup>5</sup> Institute of Energy, Jiangxi Academy of Sciences, Nanchang 330029, China  
\* Correspondence: yswei@rcees.ac.cn; Tel.: +86-10-6284-9690

**Citation:** Nilusha, R.T.; Wei, Y. New Insights into Microbial Diversity of Cake Layer in Yttria Composite Ceramic Tubular Membrane in an Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactor (AnMBR). *Membranes* **2021**, *11*, 108.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/membranes11020108>

Academic Editor: Amine Charfi

Received: 23 December 2020

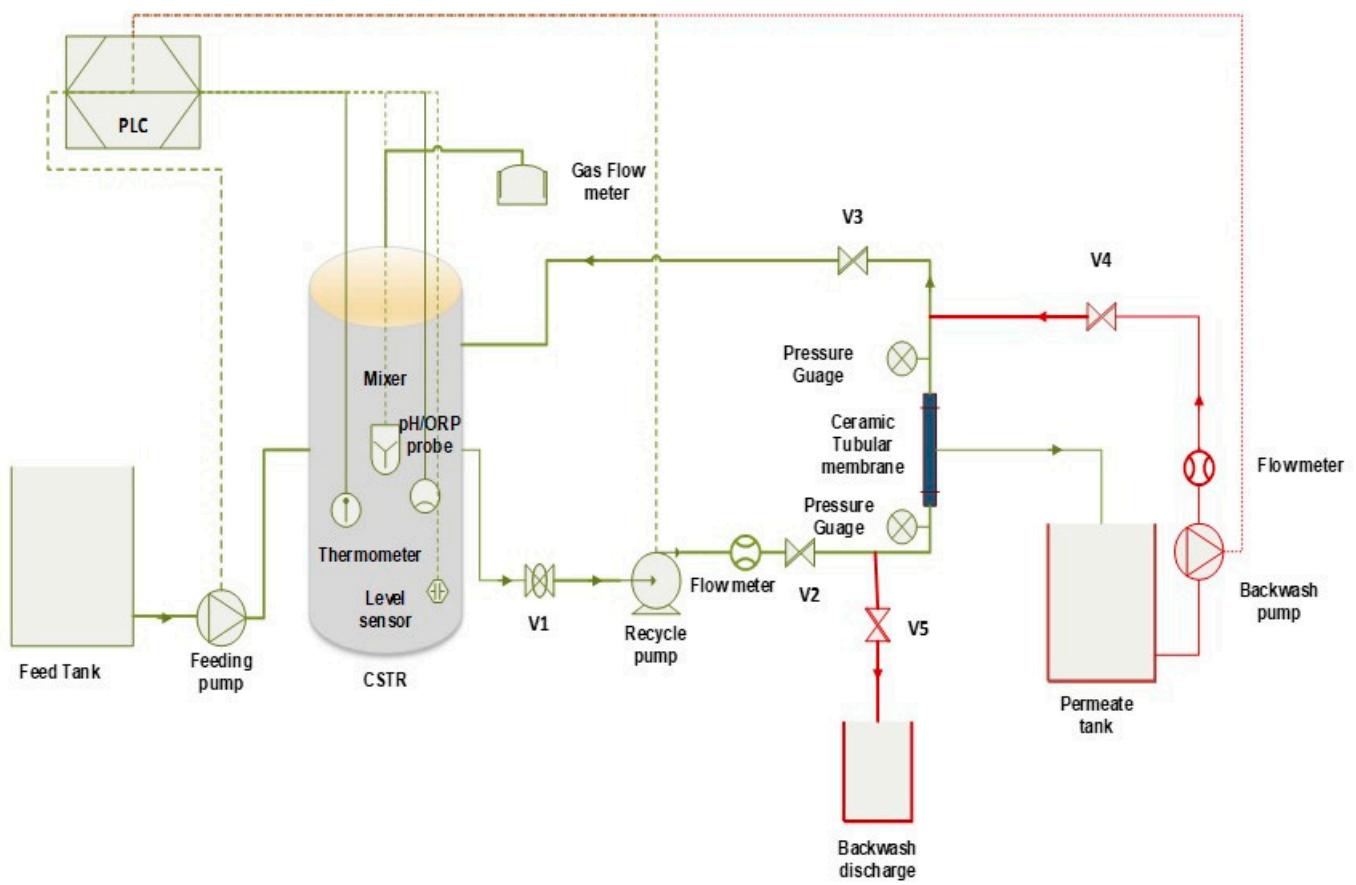
Accepted: 27 January 2021

Published: 3 February 2021

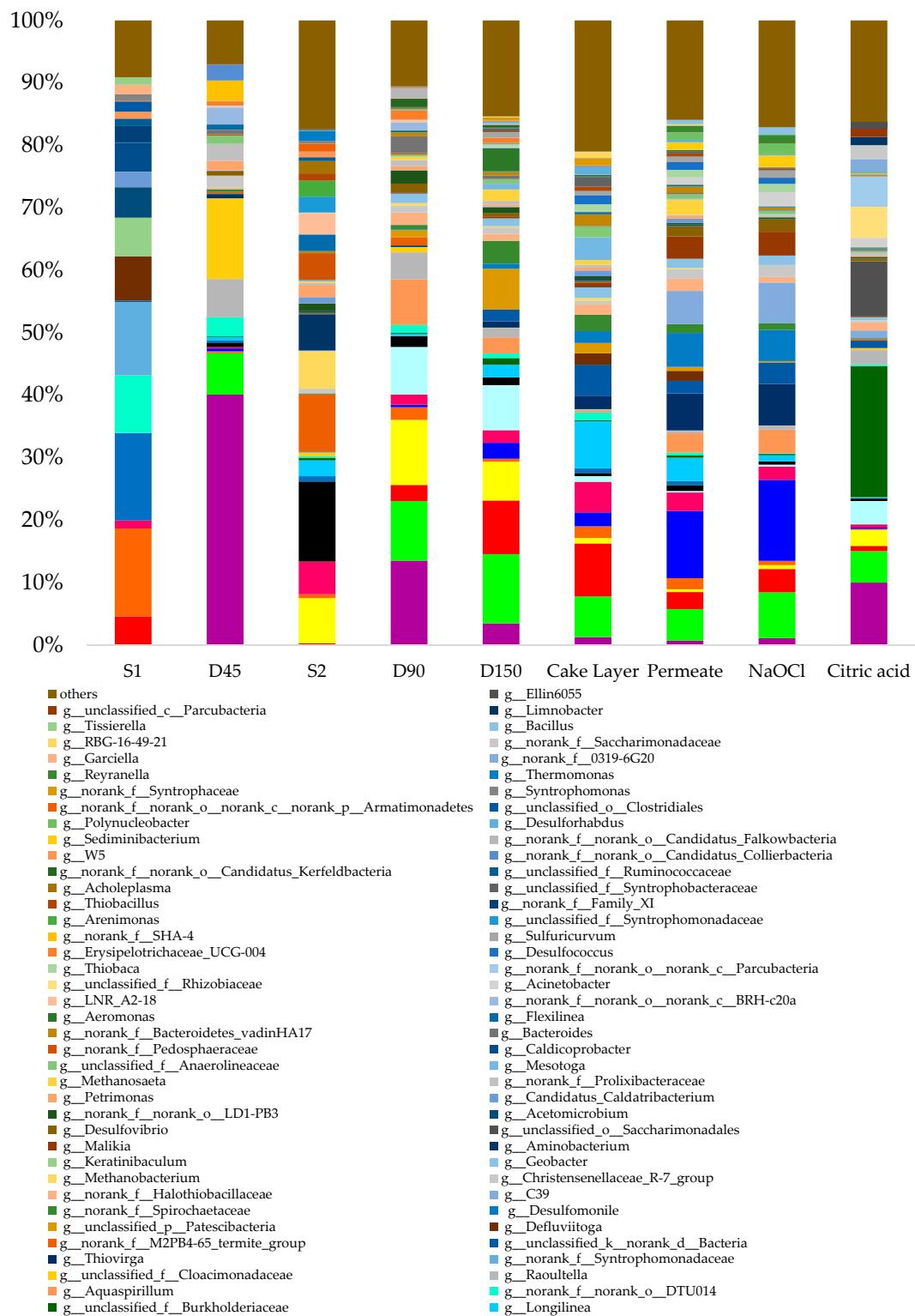
**Publisher's Note:** MDPI stays neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.



**Copyright:** © 2021 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

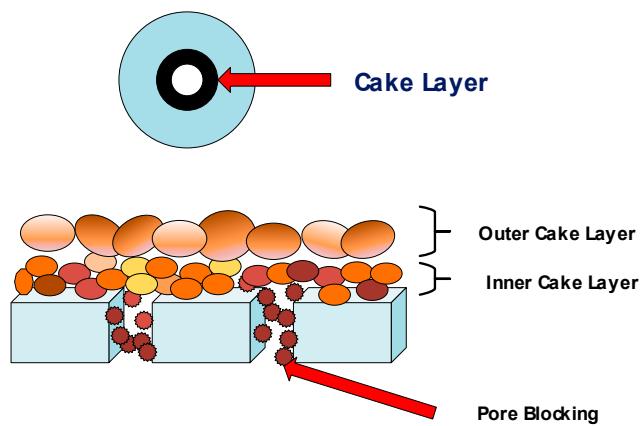


**Figure S1.** The Schematic diagram of the reactor setup.



**Figure S2.** The microbial community bar plot analysis at genus level.

Outer Cake Layer (permeate cleaning)	Inner Cake Layer (NaOCl cleaning)	Pore blocking (Citric acid cleaning)
<i>Bacteroidetes</i> (10.65%)	<i>Bacteroidetes</i> (11.80%)	<i>Bacteroidetes</i> (19.41%)
<i>Proteobacteria</i> (51.96)	<i>Proteobacteria</i> (58.31%)	<i>Proteobacteria</i> (45.20%)
<i>Firmicutes</i> (11.29%)	<i>Firmicutes</i> (13.84%)	<i>Firmicutes</i> (7.97%)
<i>Choroflexi</i> (9.80%)	<i>Choroflexi</i> (5.19%)	<i>Choroflexi</i> (1.91%)
<i>Spirochaetes</i> (1.94%)	<i>Spirochaetes</i> (1.16%)	<i>Spirochaetes</i> (0.29%)
<i>Actinobacteria</i> (1.19%)	<i>Actinobacteria</i> (1.10%)	<i>Actinobacteria</i> (0.92%)
<i>Thermotogae</i> (1.78%)		<i>Pastescibacteria</i> (0.84%)
<i>Atribacteria</i> (0.69%)		
<i>Synergistetes</i> (1.32%)		
<i>Euryarcheota</i> (2.84%)		
<i>Pastescibacteria</i> (1.69%)		



**Figure S3.** Conceptual visualization of yttria-based tubular ceramic membrane fouling bacterial diversity.

**Table S1.** The membrane flux recovery of cleaning solutions.

Parameter	Flux (LMH)	Flux recovery
Virgin membrane	234.50	--
Fouled membrane	16.36	--
After permeate cleaning	99	7%
NaOCl cleaning	218.18	86%
Citric acid cleaning	135.45	57.5%