

## BIOREACTOR ENGINEERING Chapter 7 Stoichiometry of Microbial Growth and Product Formation

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## Exercise 1

Cells from a fermentation were analysed and had an average composition of 47% carbon, 6.5% hydrogen, 31% oxygen, 10% nitrogen (on a weight basis) and the rest is ash. Determine the molecular formula of the cell  $(CH_{\alpha}O_{\beta}N_{\delta})$ 



## Exercise 2

Develop a stoichiometric equation for growth of a single-cell protein from hexadecane ( $C_{16}H_{34}$ ) with an RQ value of 0.43.

$$C_{16}H_{34} + aO_2 + bNH_3 \rightarrow cCH_{1.66}O_{0.27}N_{0.20} + dCO_2 + eH_2O$$



## Exercise 3

Suppose we want to produce 10 g of cell using hexadecane ( $C_{16}H_{34}$ ) as a carbon source. Determine the minimum amount of hexadecane that would be needed.

$$C_{16}H_{34} + 12.5 O_2 + 2.13 NH_3$$
  
 $\rightarrow 10.6 CH_{1.66}O_{0.27}N_{0.20} + 5.37 CO_2 + 11.4 H_2O_3$ 

