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Selected Membrane Applications :  
Arsenic(As), Perchlorate( $\text{ClO}_4^-$ ),  
Natural Organic Matter(NOM), and  
Effluent Organic Matter(EfOM)

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Gary Amy\*, Phil Brandhuber,  
Yeomin Yoon, Jaeweon Cho,  
and Chalor Jarusutthirak  
(\*University of Colorado, USA)

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and Effluent Organic Matter (EfOM)**

**Gary Amy\*,  
Phil Brandhuber, Yeomin Yoon,  
Jaeweon Cho, and Chalor Jarusutthirak  
\*University of Colorado  
USA**

***Part 1*  
Treatment of Arsenic in Drinking Water  
via Membrane Technology**

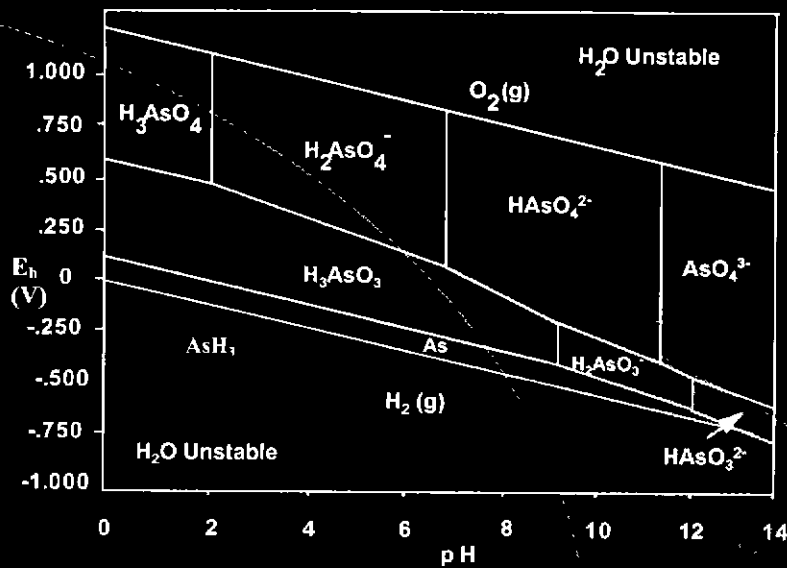
**Philip Brandhuber and Gary Amy  
Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
Boulder, Colorado USA**

## Outline

- Arsenic Chemistry
- Performance of (Spiral Wound) RO/NF/UF
  - Factors Influencing Performance
- Performance of Coagulation/Microfiltration
  - Factors Influencing Performance

## Arsenic $E_h$ - pH Diagram in Pure Water

Ferguson and Garvis (1972)



## RO/NF/UF Performance - 20 to 50 µg/l As Spike

### MQ Water

Class	# Tested	As(V) Removal	As(III) Removal
NF	3	85 - 96 %	5 - 40 %
UF	3	5 - 63 %	0 - 5 %

### Groundwaters (2)

Class	# Tested	As(V) Removal	As(III) Removal
RO	1	86 - > 94 %	NA
NF	1	62 - 89 %	NA
UF	1	34 - 72 %	NA

### Surface Water

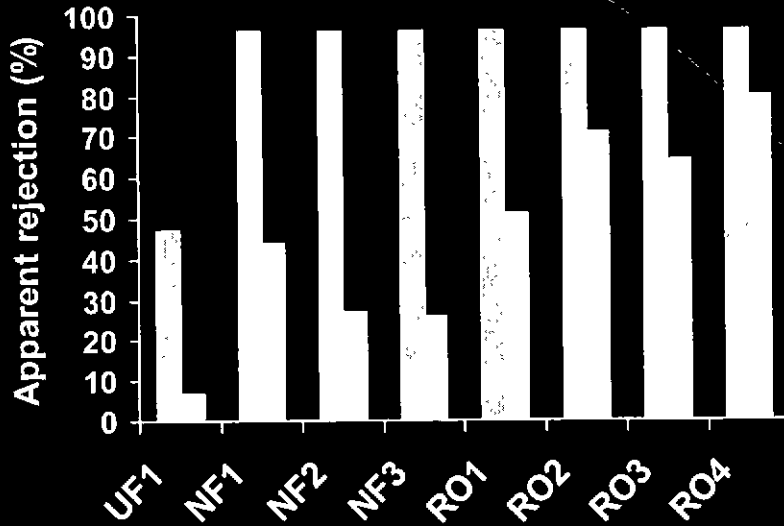
Class	# Tested	As(V) Removal	As(III) Removal
RO	4	> 96 %	51 - 80 %
NF	3	> 96 %	20 - 44 %
UF	1	47 %	7 %

## Factors Influencing As Rejection by RO/NF/UF Membranes

- Arsenic Speciation
- Membrane Charge/Permeability
- Source Water Composition
- Hydraulic Operation of Membrane
- Treatment pH

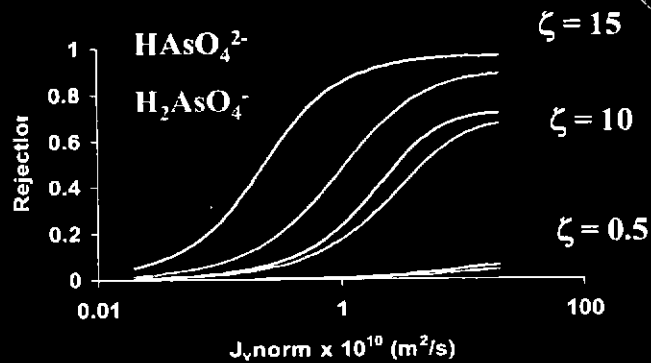
### Influence of Arsenic Speciation (Single Element - Surface Water)

Flux = 15 GFD; 20% Recovery; Mean As(III) = 17.7  $\mu\text{g/l}$ ; Mean As(V) = 25.5  $\mu\text{g/l}$

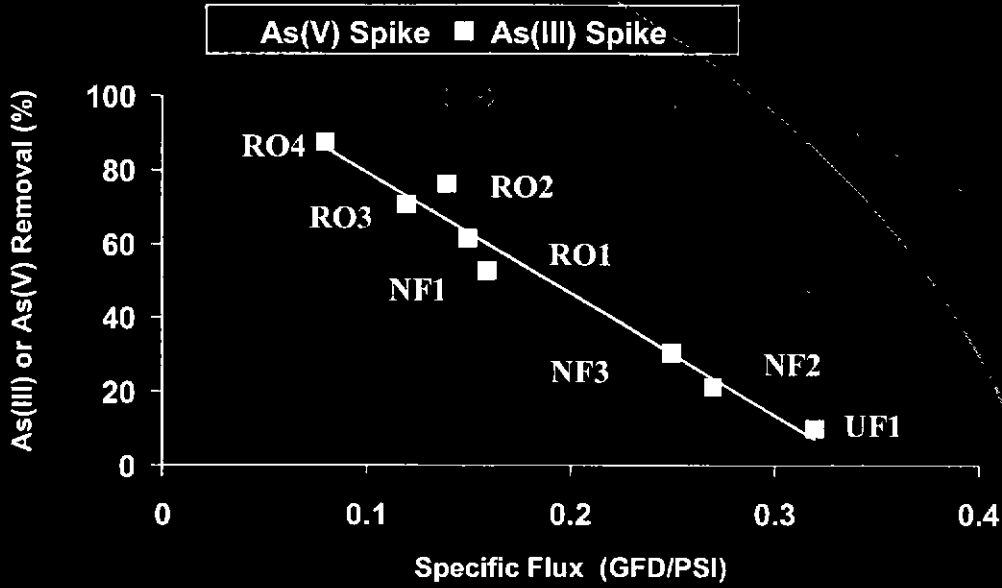


### Influence of Membrane Charge on As(V) Rejection

Theoretical Influence of Membrane Charge ( $\zeta$ ) on Rejection

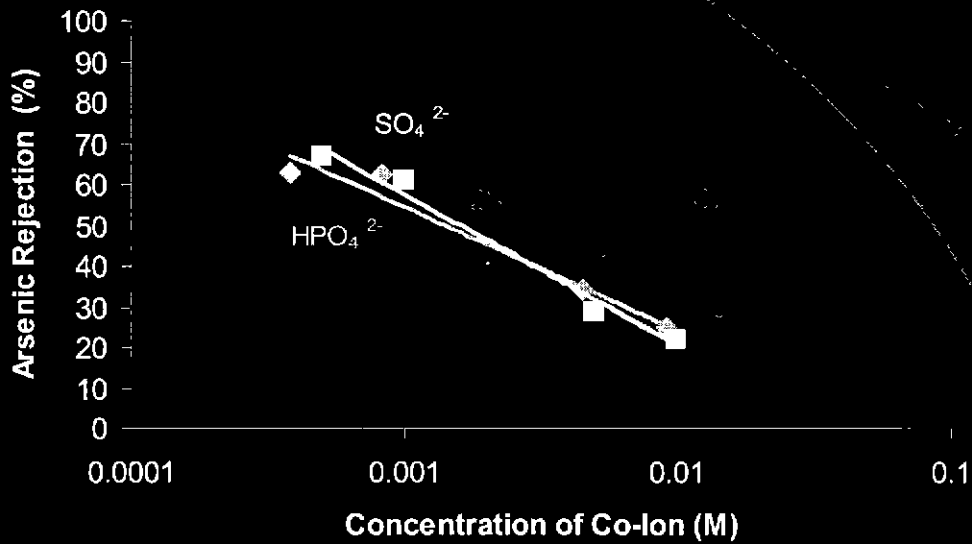


### Influence of Membrane Permeability



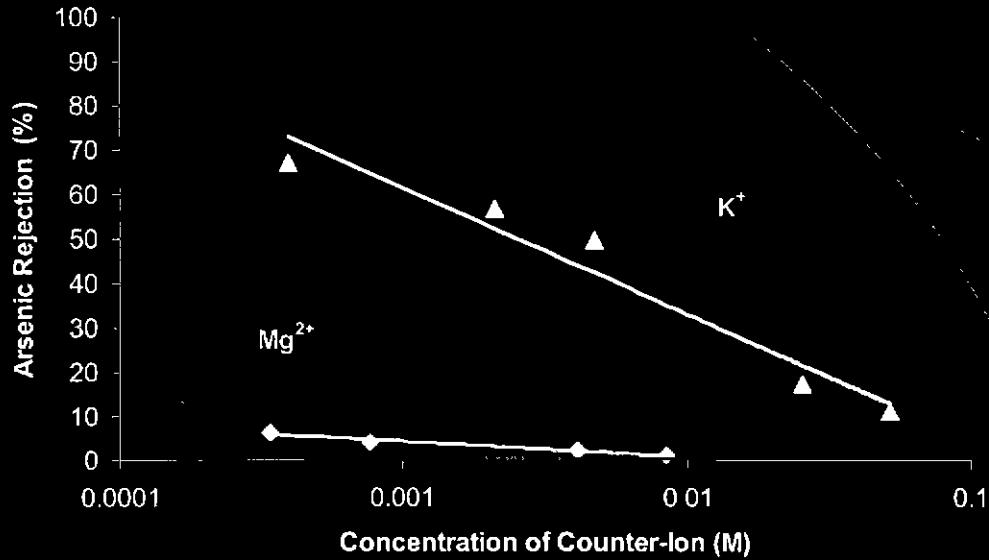
### Influence of Source Water Quality - Presence of Co-Ions

MQ, As = 50 µg/l; Flux = 40 GFD; 2.5% Recovery; pH = 8.3; K<sup>+</sup> Common Cation



## Influence of Source Water Quality - Presence of Counter Ions

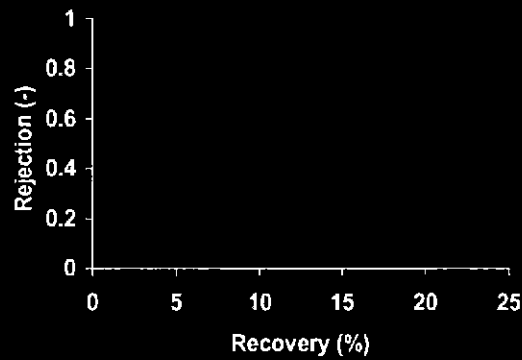
MQ, As = 50  $\mu\text{g/l}$ ; Flux = 40 GFD; 2.5% Recovery; pH = 8.3; Cl<sup>-</sup> Common Anion



## Influence of Hydraulic Operation of Membrane

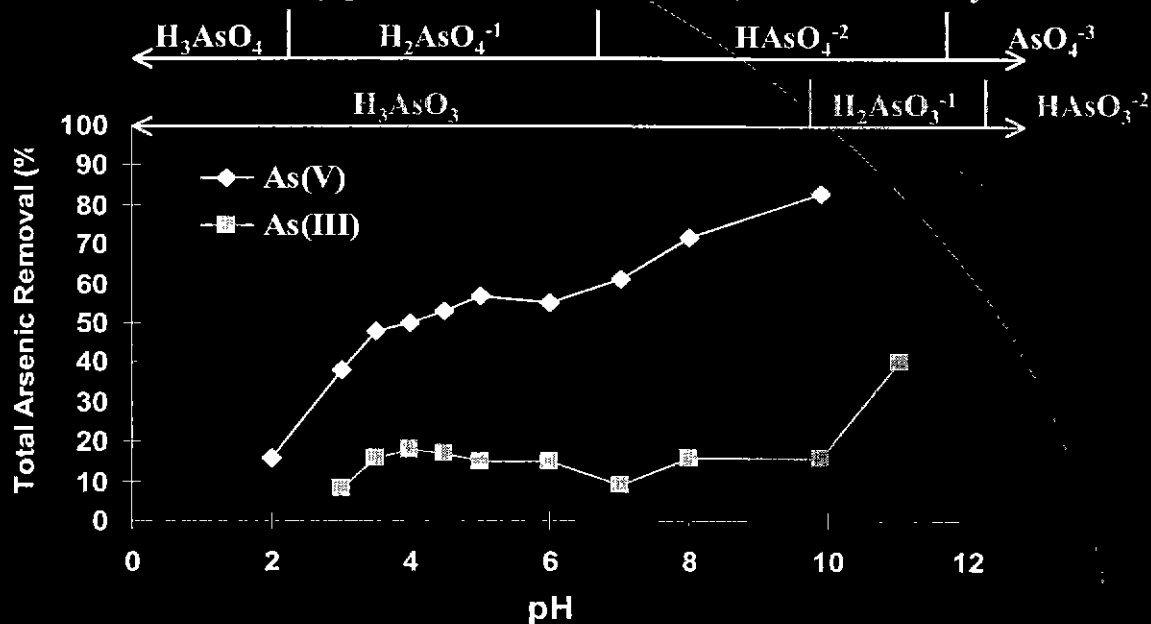
As = 50  $\mu\text{g/l}$ ; I = 0.001M; pH = 8.2; Constant Flux = 40 GFD

Rejection vs. Recovery at Constant Flux



## Influence of pH on Rejection

I = 0.01M; As = 50 µg/l; DI; Flux = 15 GFD; 5% Recovery

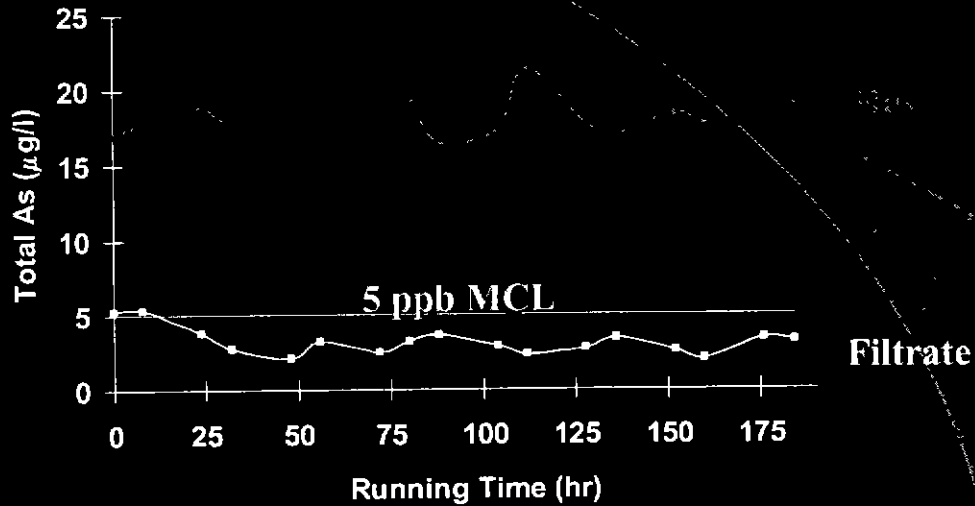


## Summary of Factors Influencing As Rejection by RO/NF/UF Membranes

- **Arsenic Speciation**
  - As(V) Rejection > As(III) in RO
  - As(V) Rejection >> As(III) in NF and UF
- **Membrane Charge/permeability**
  - Presence of Membrane Charge vs. Magnitude
  - Low Specific Flux for High As(III) Rejection
- **Source Water Composition**
  - Influence of Co- and Counter Ions on As(V) Rejection
  - Indirect Influence of NOM?
- **Hydraulic Operation of Membrane**
  - Possibility of Concentration Polarization
- **Treatment pH**
  - Treat as  $\text{HAsO}_4^{2-}$



## Coagulation-Microfiltration (C-MF): Arsenic Removal for 5 ug/L Pilot Test

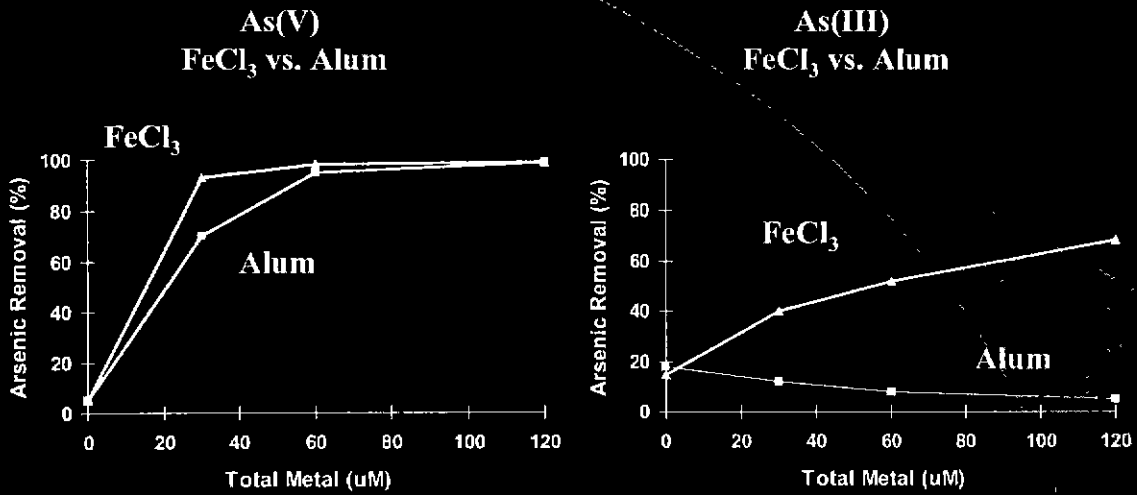


$\text{FeCl}_3$  Dose = 6.99 mg/l, Flux = 68 GFD (2 GPM) or 101 GFD (2.97 GPM),  
Recovery = 92%, As Removal 83%

## Factors Influencing As Rejection by MF Membranes

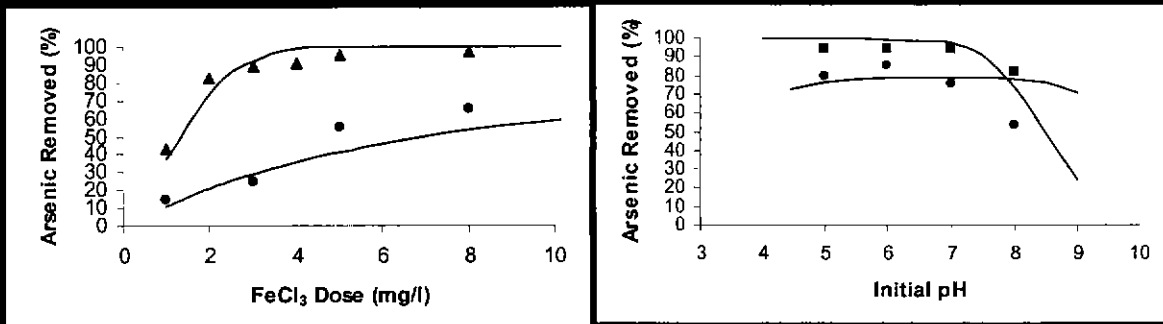
- Arsenic Speciation/Coagulant Selection
- Coagulation pH
- Coagulation Kinetics/Floc Size

## Influence of As Speciation and Coagulant Selection



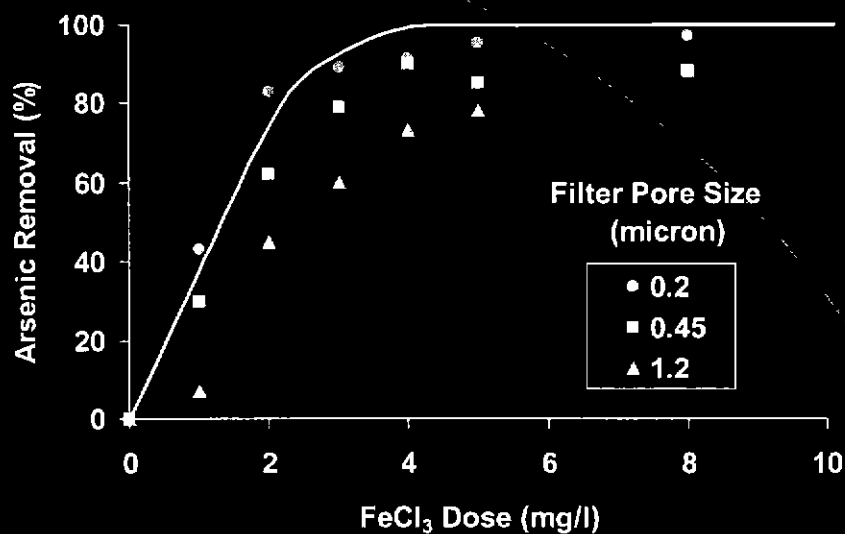
Hering et al. 1996

## Influence of Coagulant Dose and pH



Solid Line - Surface Complexation Model (MINEQL<sup>+</sup>)

## Coagulation/MF Performance - Floc Size



Solid Line - Surface Complexation Model (MINEQL<sup>+</sup>)

## Summary of Factors Influencing As Rejection Coagulation/Microfiltration

- **Arsenic Speciation/Coagulant Selection**
  - At pH < 7, Alum and Ferric Coagulation Equally Effective on Molar Basis, Ferric More Efficient on Weight Basis
  - Ferric As(III) Removal < As (V)
  - Alum As(III) Removal << As(V)
- **Coagulation pH**
  - < pH 7.5 for As(V) with Ferric
- **Coagulation Kinetics/Floc Size**
  - Sorption Faster than Aggregation
  - Floc Size Optimization for Fouling Control vs. As Removal

***Part 2***  
**Perchlorate Rejection:  
Effect of Zeta Potential of Negatively  
Charged Nanofiltration Membranes**

Yeomin Yoon and Gary Amy  
University of Colorado at Boulder, CO

## Outline

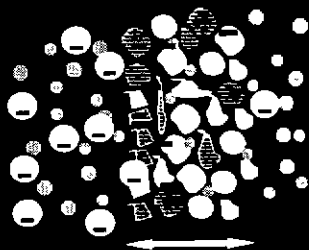
- Objectives
- Hypotheses
- Membrane Unit
- Membrane Characterizations
- Results
  - Perchlorate rejection
  - Zeta potential (ZP)
    - Effect of ZP on  $\text{ClO}_4^-$  and arsenite (As (III)) rejection
- Summary

# Hypotheses

## Factors promoting perchlorate rejection

- Membrane: lower MWCO (steric rejection) and higher negative charge (electrostatic rejection; surface charge based on functional groups)
- Water quality: higher pH and lower conductivity (ionic strength), ionic composition based on mono- and divalent co- and counter- ion concentration

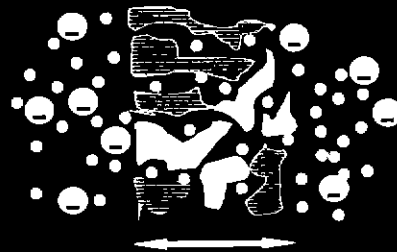
## Dominant mechanisms for porous and negatively charged NF membranes



Membrane  
Tight Nanofiltration  
(negatively charged):

steric/size exclusion and  
electrostatic exclusion

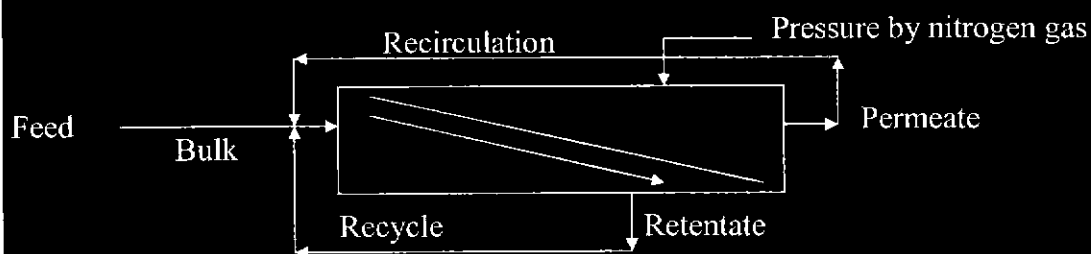
- :H<sub>2</sub>O
- :ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>



Membrane  
Loose Nanofiltration  
(negatively charged):

electrostatic exclusion

• Bench-scale cross-flow flat-sheet unit



\* Membrane effective area: 154.8 cm<sup>2</sup>

## Membrane characterizations

### Physical-chemical properties

Membrane	Material	MMCO/ MWCO	ZP at pH 8 and 30 mS/m with conductivity (KCl)
ESNA (NF)	Composite aromatic polyamide	200	-41.2 mV
MX07 (NF)	Composite aromatic polyamide	400	-39.7 mV

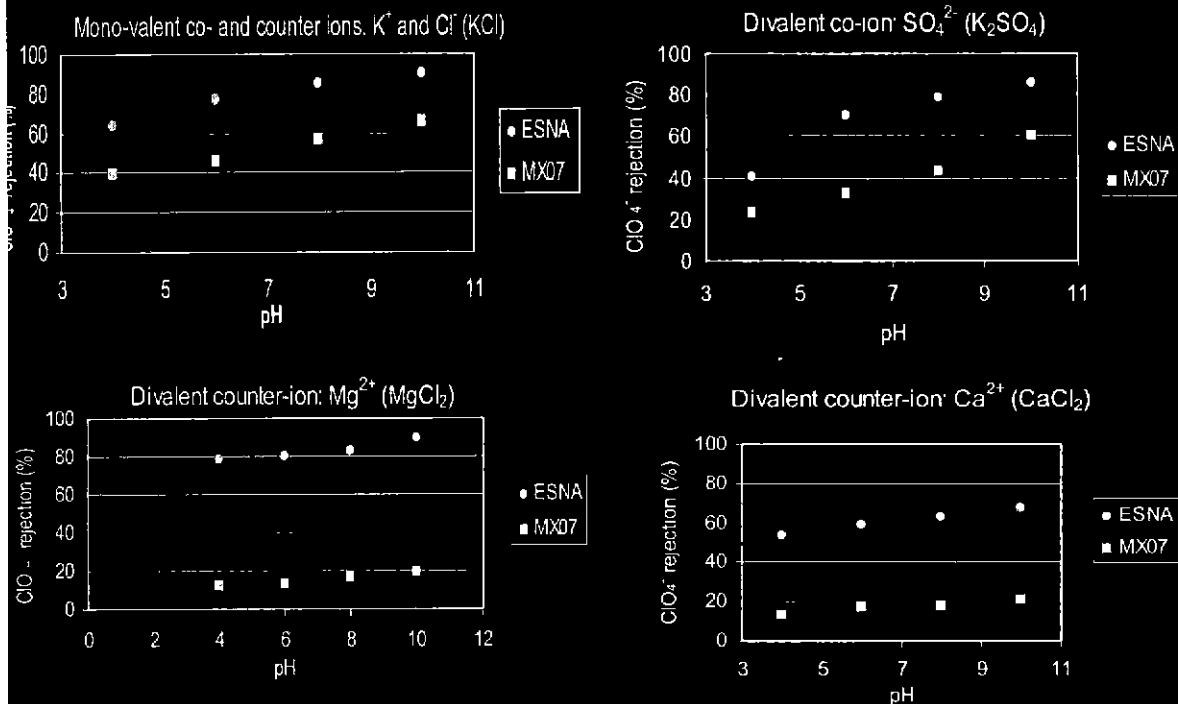
### Pure water permeability

Membrane	Manufacturer	L/day-m <sup>2</sup> -kPa
ESNA	Hydranautics	1.05
MX07	Osmonics	0.47

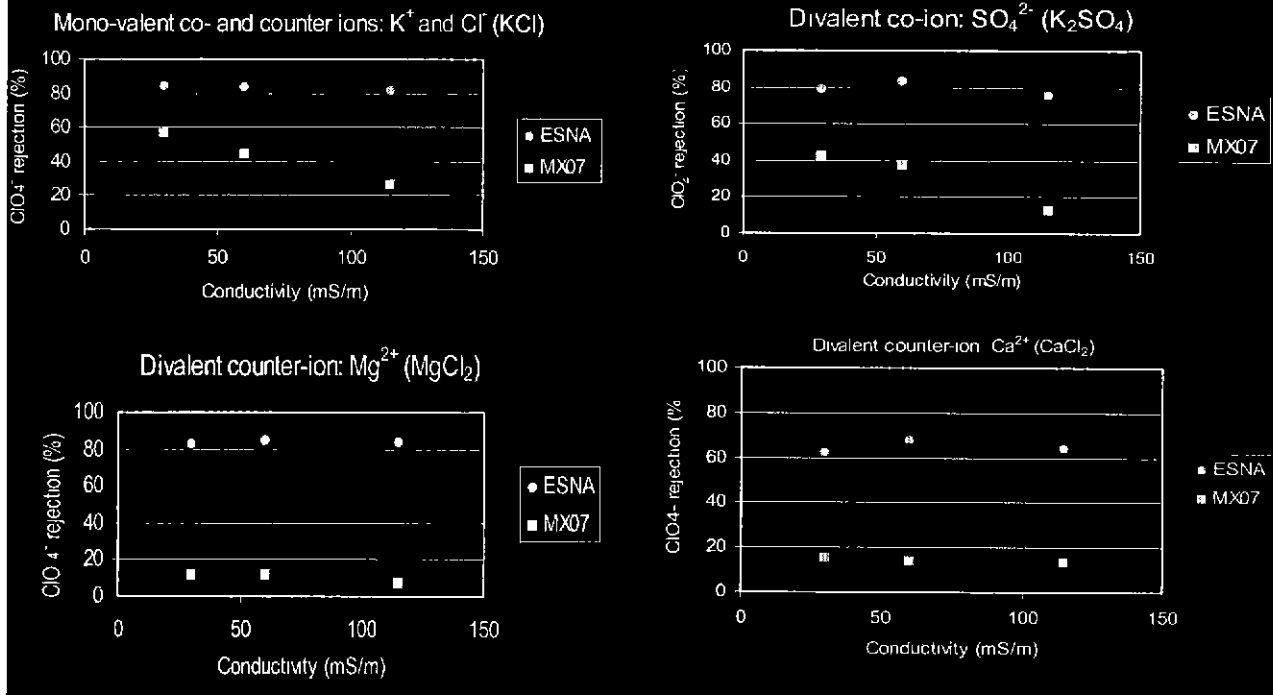
# Results

- $\text{ClO}_4^-$  rejection with cross-flow flat-sheet test unit as a function of pH and conductivity
- Zeta potential based on measured streaming potential as a function of pH and conductivity
- Effect of ZP on  $\text{ClO}_4^-$  and arsenite (As (III)) rejection

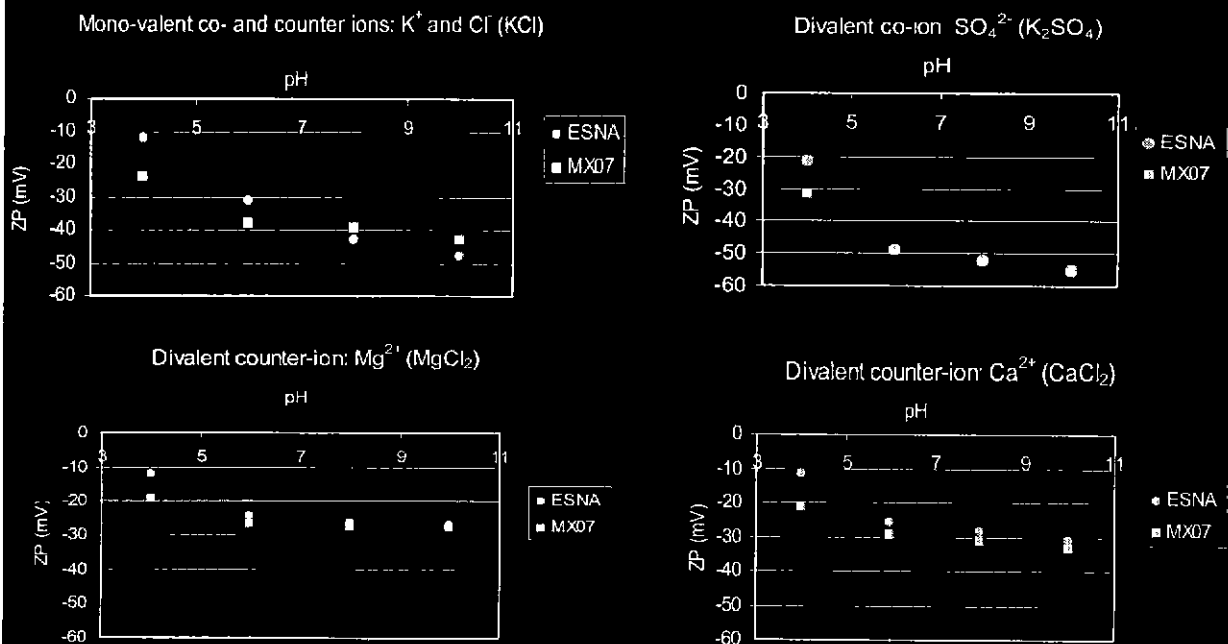
## Effect of mono- and divalent co- and counter ions on perchlorate rejection as a function of pH at conductivity 30 mS/m



## Effect of mono- and divalent co- and counter ions on perchlorate rejection as a function of conductivity at pH 8



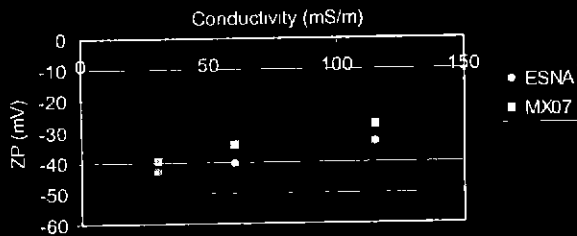
## Effect of pH on zeta potential in the presence of mono- and divalent co- and counter ions at conductivity 30 mS/m



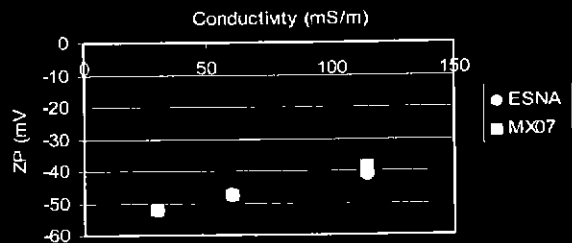


## Effect of mono- and divalent co- and counter ions on zeta potential at pH 8

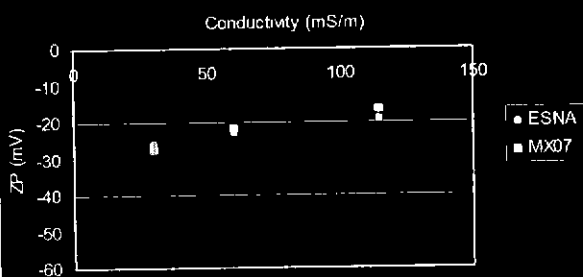
Monovalent co- and counter ions:  $K^+$  and  $Cl^-$  ( $KCl$ )



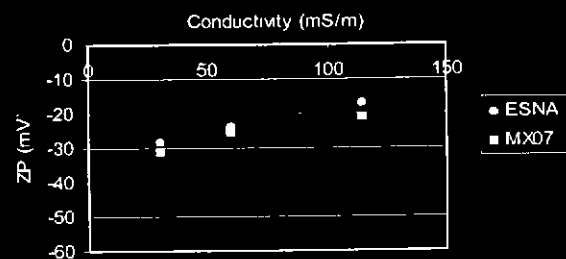
Divalent co-ion:  $SO_4^{2-}$  ( $K_2SO_4$ )



Divalent counter ion:  $Mg^{2+}$  ( $MgCl_2$ )



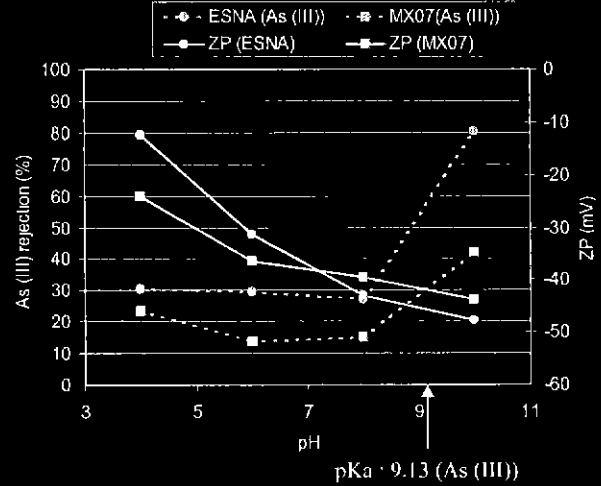
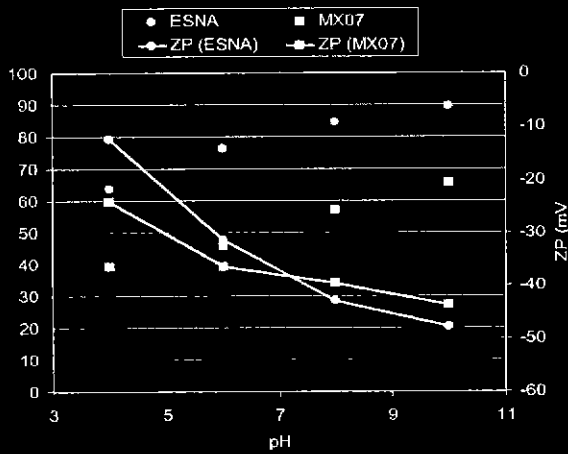
Divalent counter ion:  $Ca^{2+}$  ( $CaCl_2$ )



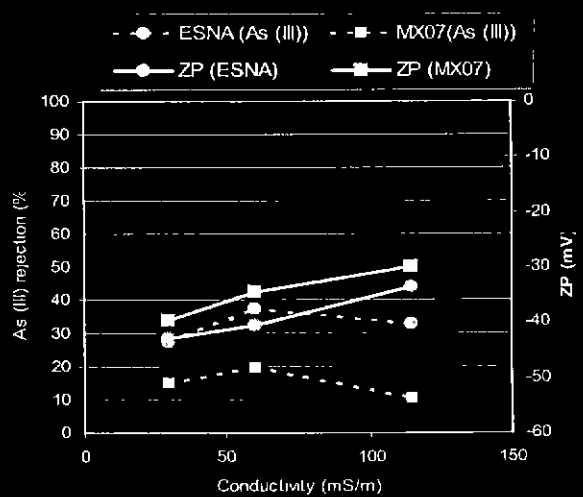
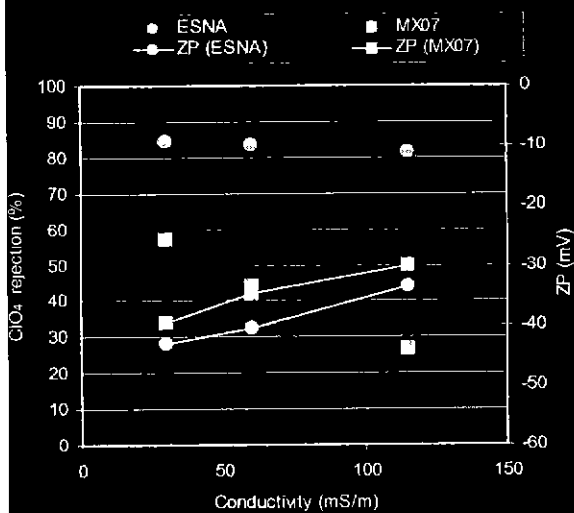
## Comparison of estimated ionic radius of anions and As (III) based on mobility (Adkins (1990), Adamson (1979), Brandhuber (1999) )

Ionic radius/ hydrated radius:					
	$OH^-$	$Cl^-$	As (III)	$ClO_4^-$	$SO_4^{2-}$
molecular mass:	17	35.5	126	99.5	96
Mobility * $10^{13}$ ( $mol\ m^{-2}\ J^{-1}\ s^{-1}$ ):	21.3	8.2	N/A	N/A	4.3

## Effect of pH and ZP on $\text{ClO}_4^-$ and As (III) rejection at conductivity 30 mS/m with KCl



## Effect of solution conductivity (KCl) and ZP on $\text{ClO}_4^-$ and As (III) rejection at pH 8



## Summary

- Perchlorate rejection
  - $\text{ClO}_4^-$  significantly rejected by a negatively charged and relatively small pore NF (ESNA) membrane regardless of presence of co-/counter-ions.
  - $\text{ClO}_4^-$  rejection greatly reduced by the presence of co-/counter-ions for a negatively charged and relatively large pore NF (MX07) membrane.
- Zeta potential
  - Zeta potential of both ESNA and MX07 membranes significantly increased with increasing pH in presence of co- and counter ions
  - Zeta potential of both ESNA and MX07 membranes slightly decreased with increasing co- and counter ions
- Effect of ZP on  $\text{ClO}_4^-$  and As (III) rejection
  - $\text{ClO}_4^-$  rejection significantly influenced by size (steric) exclusion for ESNA membrane regardless of membrane charge
  - $\text{ClO}_4^-$  rejection significantly influenced by electrostatic exclusion for MX07 membrane
  - As (III) used as a non-charged model solute to verify electrostatic interaction between  $\text{ClO}_4^-$  and negatively charged membrane

## Part 3

### Interactions Between Natural Organic Matter (NOM) and Membranes: Rejection and Fouling

Jaeweon Cho\* and Gary Amy  
University of Colorado, USA  
\*KJIST, Kwangju Korea

## Outline

- Hypotheses
- Hydrodynamic Conditions:  $f/k$  Ratio
- Membrane Unit
- Membrane Properties and NOM Characteristics
- Flux-Decline and Fouling Results
- NOM Rejection Results
- NOM Rejection Equations & Flux-Decline Models
- $J_0/k$  Ratio: Effects on Flux-Decline & NOM Rejection
- Fouled Membrane Characterization

## Hypotheses

- Factors Promoting Flux-Decline (& Fouling)
  - NOM: Greater Hydrophobicity, Lower Charge Density
  - Membrane: Greater Hydrophobicity, Lower Negative Charge
  - Water Quality: Lower pH, Higher I, Higher Ca
- Factors Promoting NOM Rejection
  - NOM: Higher MW, Higher Charge Density
  - Membrane: Lower MWCO, Greater Surface Charge
- Rejection (and Fouling) Mechanisms
  - Steric Rejection
  - Electrostatic Exclusion
  - (Adsorption)

## Hydrodynamic Conditions: $J_0/k$ Ratio

- $k$  (cm/s)
  - Mass Transfer Coefficient; Back-Diffusional Transport away from the Membrane Surface
- $J_0$  (cm/s)
  - Permeate Flux
- $J_0/k$  Ratio Related to Concentration Polarization
- Implications of  $f/k$  Ratio:
  - Optimum Operating Conditions for Minimizing Flux-Divide and Maximizing NOM Rejection

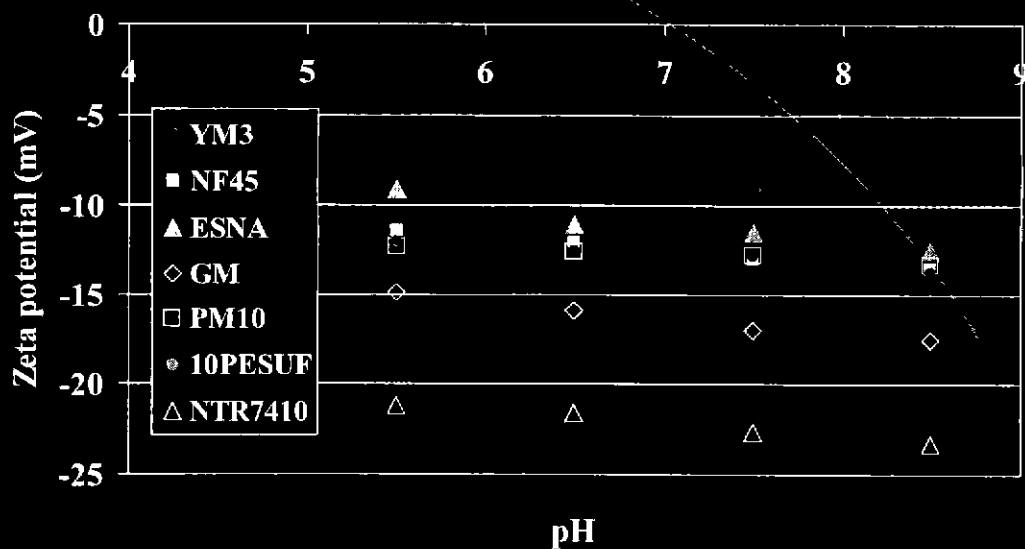
## Hypotheses for the $J_0/k$ Ratio

- As the  $J_0/k$  Ratio Increases, C.P. Increases,
  - Flux Decline Increases
  - NOM Rejection Decreases
- As the  $J_0/k$  Ratio Decreases, C.P. Decreases,
  - Flux Decline Decreases
  - NOM Rejection Increases
- At the Same  $J_0/k$  Ratio,
  - Flux Decline and NOM Rejection Trends are Similar for Different Membranes

## Membrane Properties: Type (Polyamide, Polyethersulfone, Cellulose), MWCO, & Contact Angle

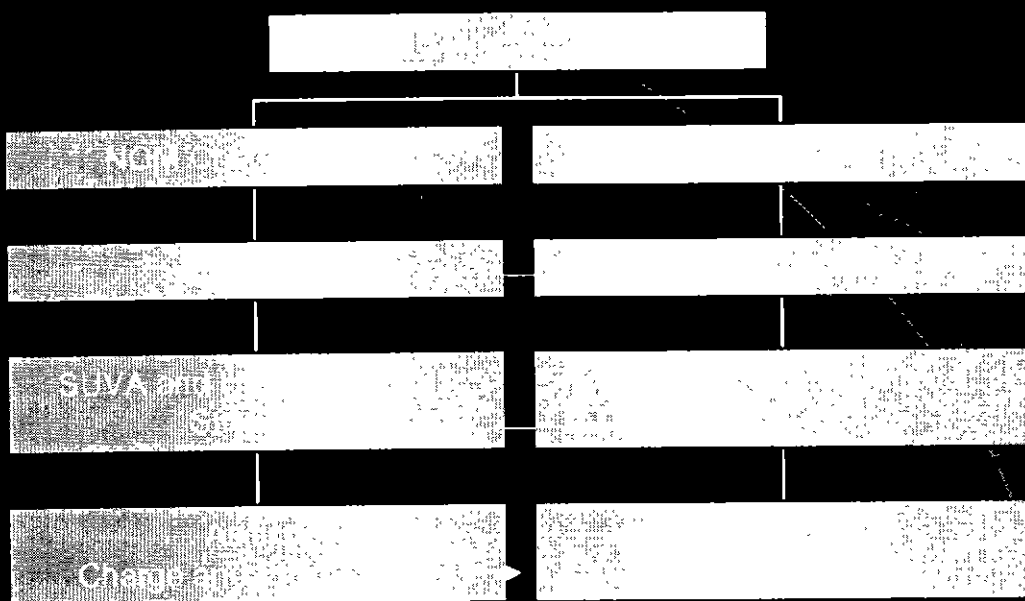
<i>Type</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>MWCO</i>	<i>Contact Angle</i>
PA	NF45	400	45
PA	ESNA	200	60
PA	GM	8,000	55
PES	NTR7410	20,000	61
PES	PM10	20,000	62
PES	10PESUF	10,000	51
CL	YM3	3,000	13

## Membrane Properties: Zeta Potentials

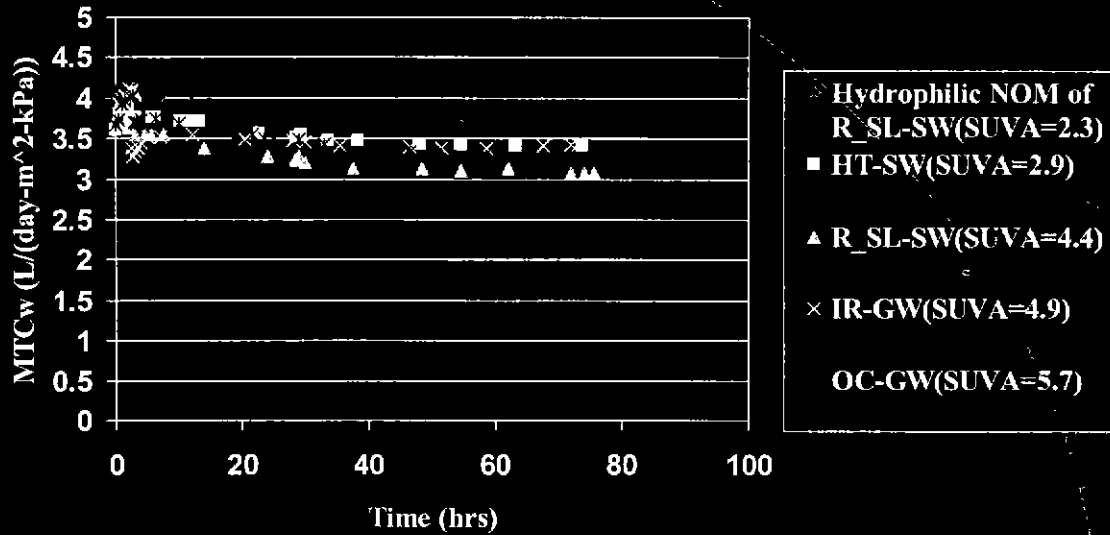


## NOM Characteristics: SUVA and Humic Content, and MW

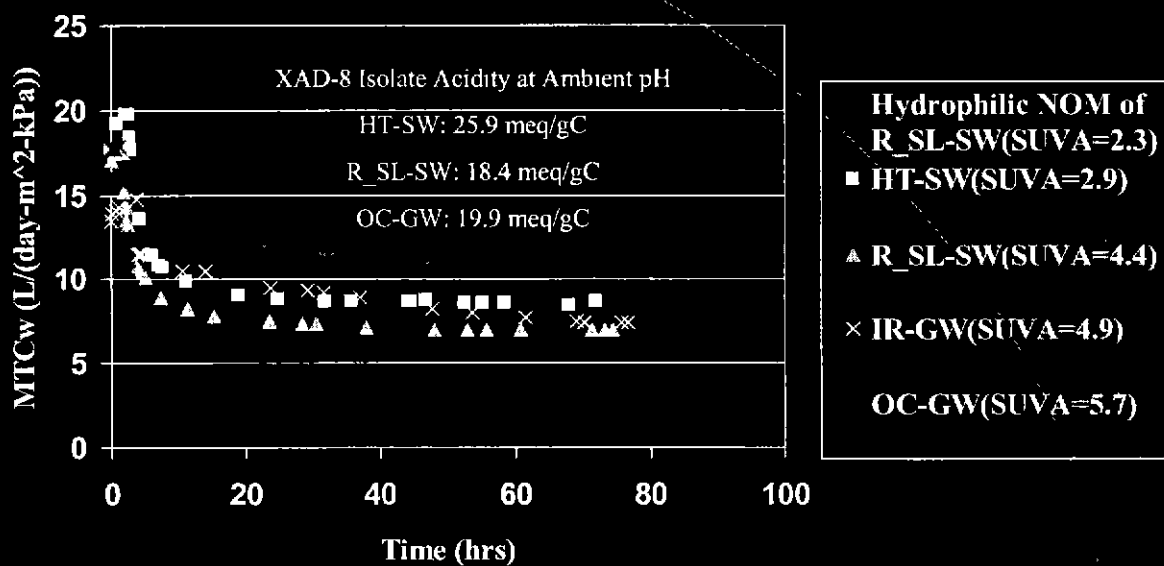
NOM Source	SUVA (m <sup>-1</sup> mg <sup>-1</sup> L)	Humic Content (%)	Molecular Weight
Baseflow SL-SW	2.4	43	1,200
HT-SW	2.9	59	1,100
Twitchell	3.7	61	
Runoff SL-SW	4.4	57	1,650
IR-GW	4.9	80	1,540
OC-GW	5.7	90	1,550



## Flux-Decline for GM (at $J_0/k=2$ ): NOM Source Effects

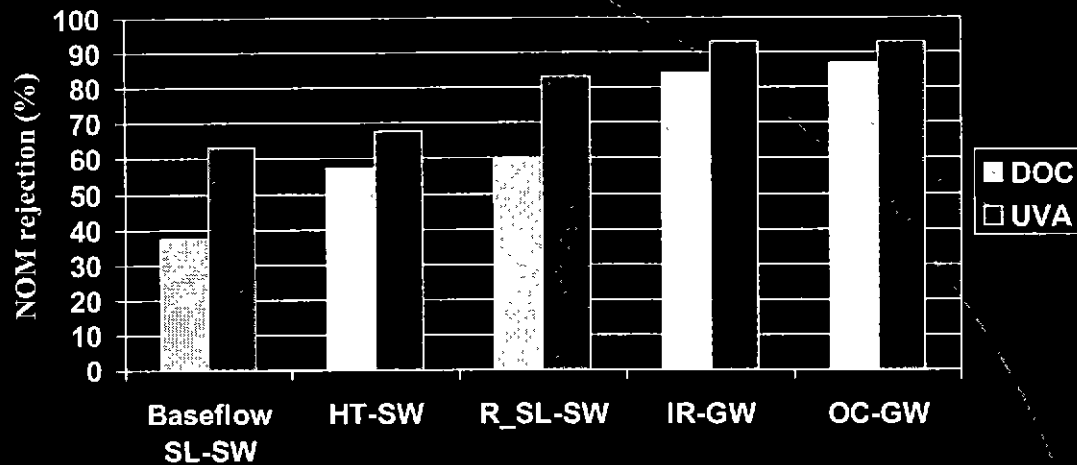


## Flux-Decline for NTR7410 (at $J_0/k=10$ ): NOM Source Effects



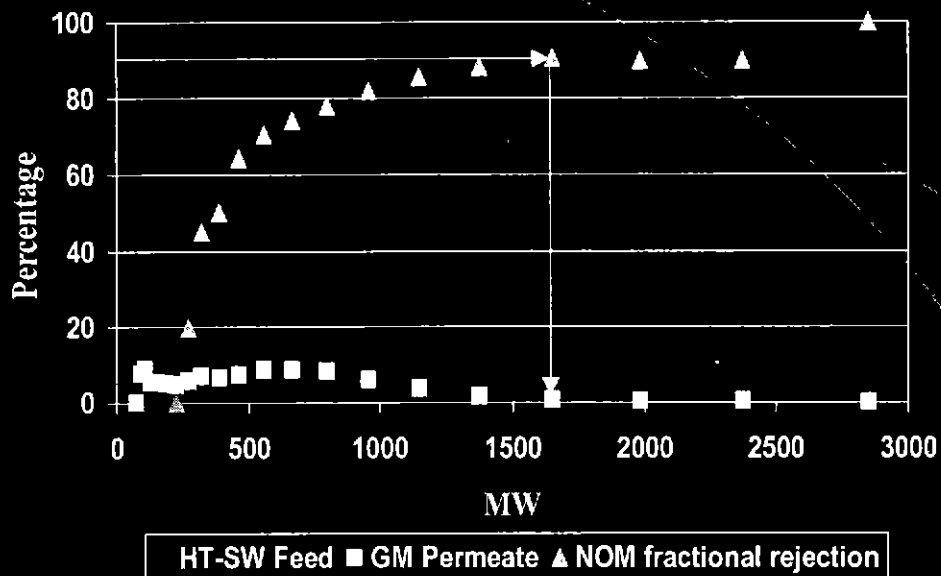


## NOM Rejection for GM Membrane at $J_0/k=2$ : MW Size and Humic Content Effects

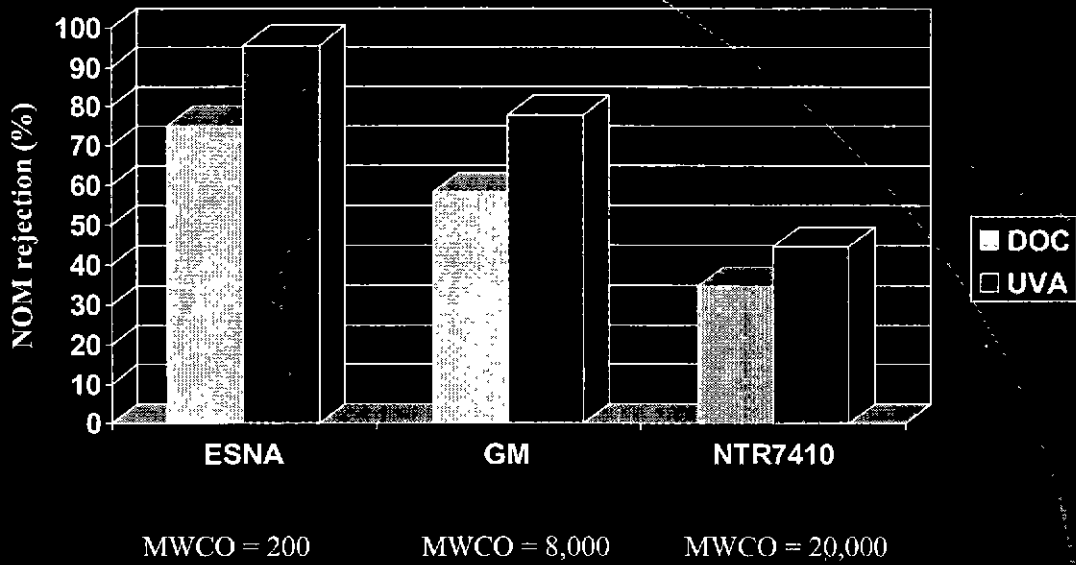


	Baseflow SL-SW	HT-SW	R_SL-SW	IR-GW	OC-GW
Mw =	1200	1097	1650	1538	1546
SUVA =	2.4	2.9	4.4	4.9	5.7
Humic Content =	43	58	57	80	90

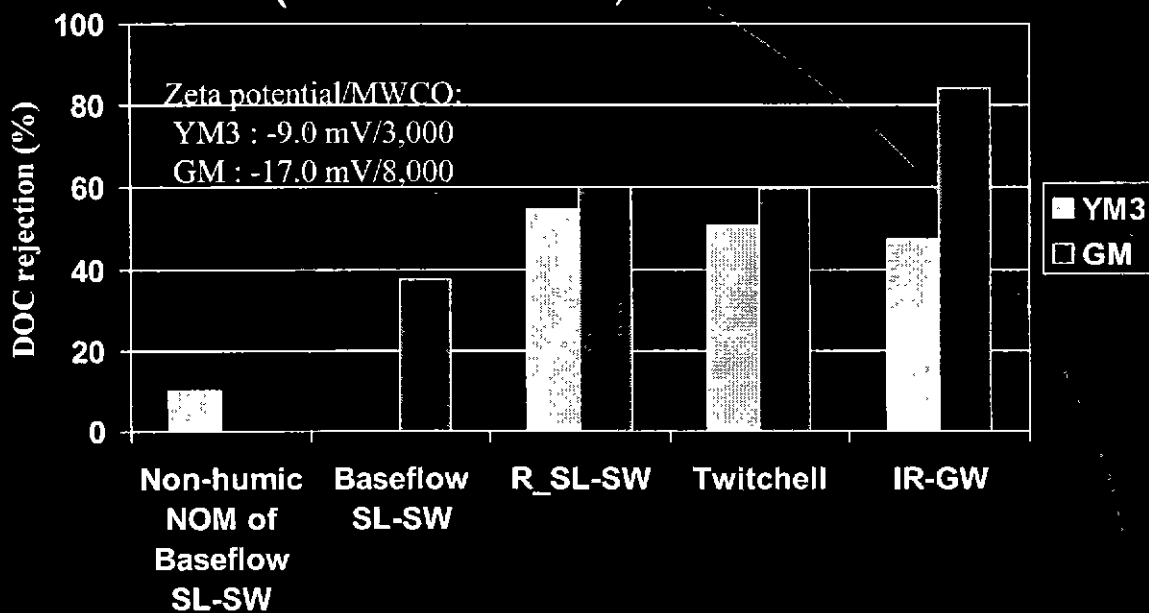
## NOM Rejection: Effective MWCO Determination



## NOM Rejection: Membrane MWCO Effects with HT-SW at $J_o/k=1$ (SUVA=2.9, Humic Content=58%)



## NOM Rejection: Membrane Surface Charge Effects (YM3 versus GM)



# NOM Rejection: Predictive Equations

○  $R_{\text{DOC}} = 0.251 + 0.134(\text{SUVA}) - 0.073(J_0/k)$  for GM

for NOM with  $2.4 < \text{SUVA} < 5.7$ ,  $1 < J_0/k < 2$

$R^2 = 87\%$

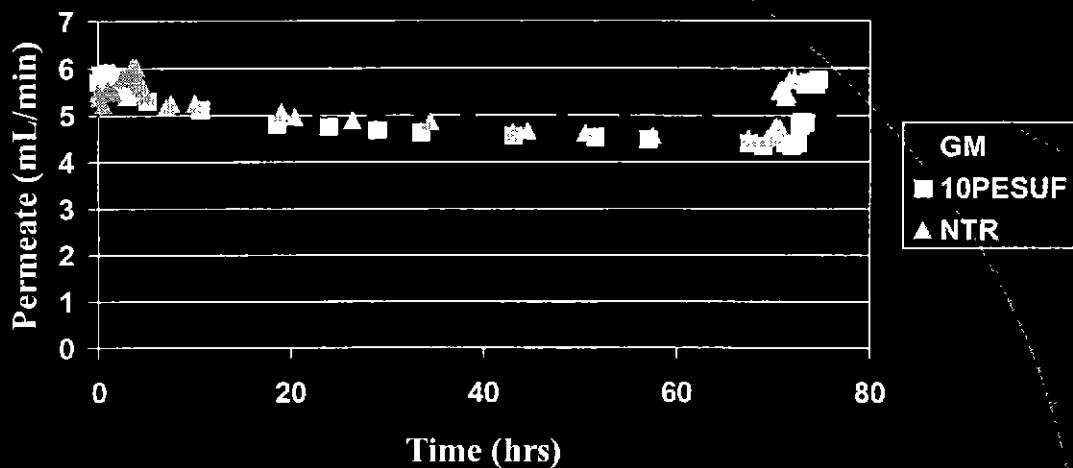
○  $R_{\text{DOC}} = -0.369 + 0.204(\text{SUVA}) - 0.065(J_0/k)$  for NTR7410

for NOM with  $2.4 < \text{SUVA} < 5.7$ ,  $1 < J_0/k < 10$

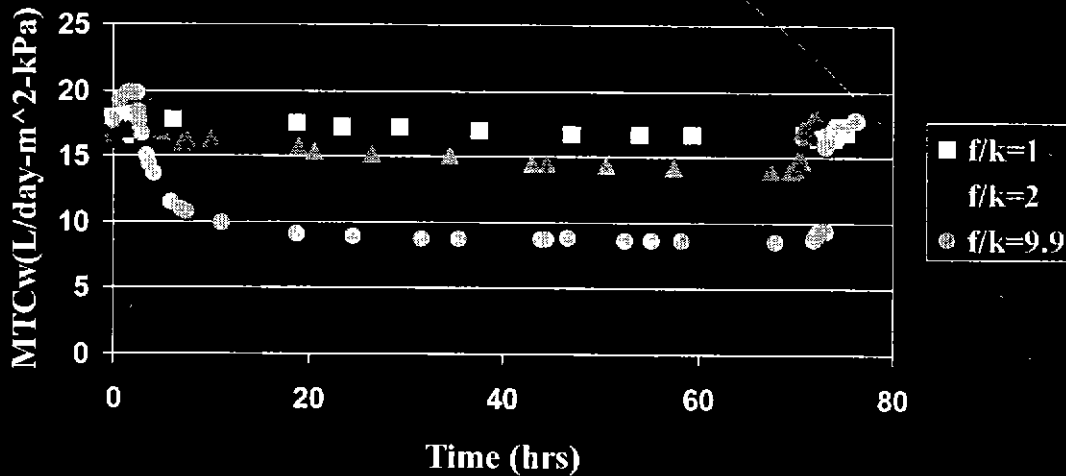
$R^2 = 86\%$

## Effects of $J_0/k$ Ratio on Flux Decline: Comparison of GM, 10PESUF, and NTR7410 with HT-SW at Same $J_0/k=2$

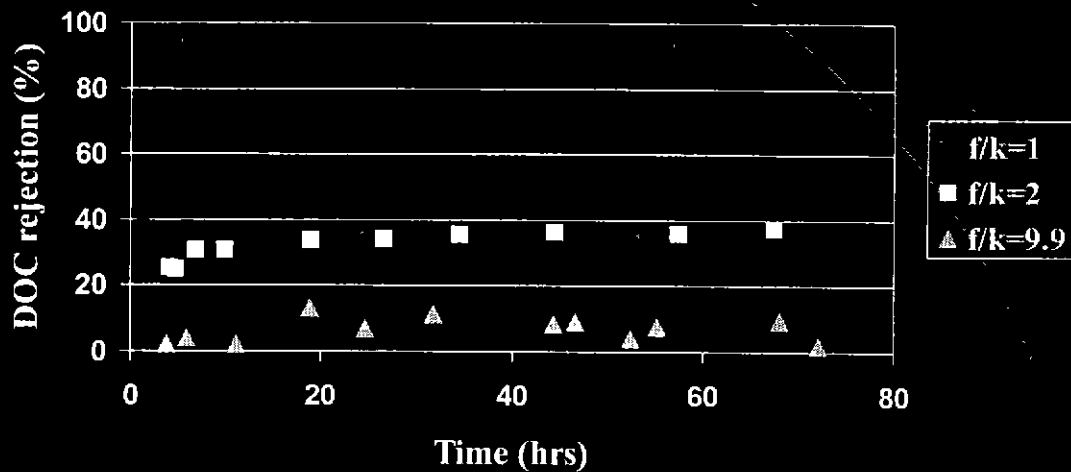
( $\Delta P = 50\text{psi}$  (GM),  $10\text{psi}$  (10PESUF),  $17\text{psi}$  (NTR7410))



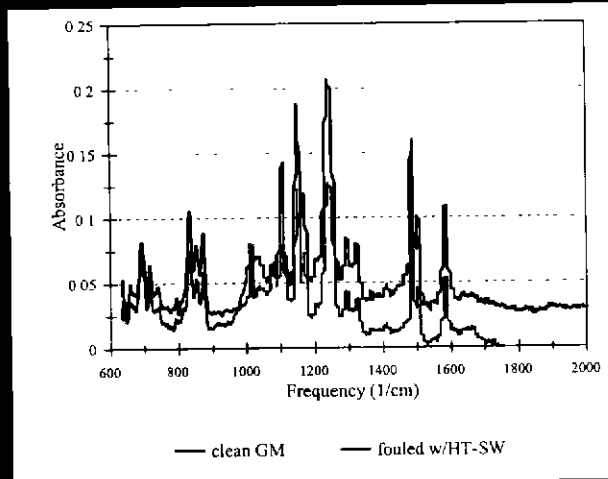
Effect of  $J_o/k$  ratio on Flux-Decline:  
 NTR7410 with HT-SW at Variable  $J_o/k$   
 ( $\Delta P$ : 7psi for  $J_o/k=1.0$ , 17psi for  $J_o/k=2.0$ , 50psi for  $J_o/k=9.9$ )



Effect of  $J_o/k$  ratio on NOM rejection:  
 NTR7410 with HT-SW at Variable  $J_o/k$



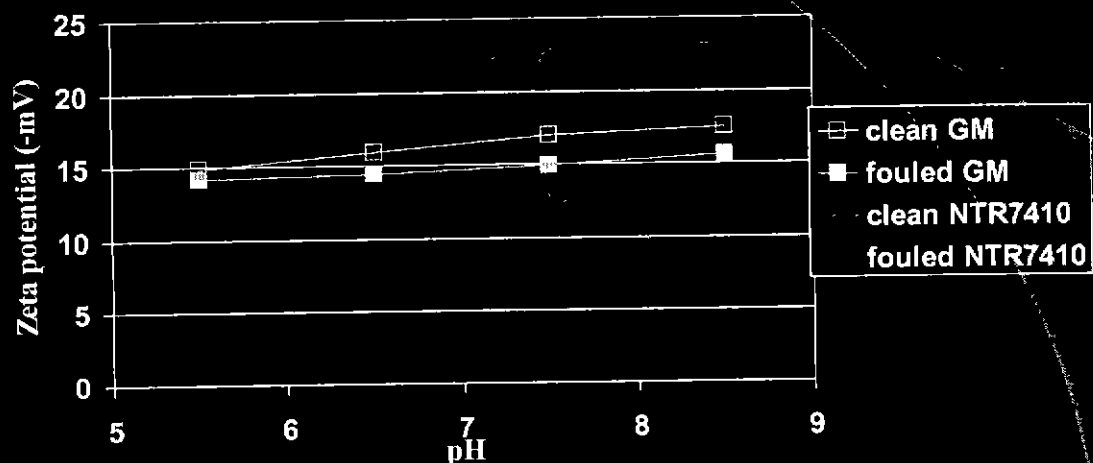
## Fouled Membrane Characterization: IR Spectra for NOM-Fouled Membrane



Leenheer/Bruchet:

Cell Fragments/Polysaccharides

## Fouled Membrane Characterization: Zeta Potentials for Clean and NOM-Fouled Membranes



# Summary

## Flux-Decline :

- NOM Characteristics and Membrane Properties have Little Effect at equal  $J_0/k$  ratio
- Hydrophilic NOM was a Major Membrane Foulant

## NOM Rejection :

- Negative Charge-Density of Hydrophobic Acids Promoted NOM Rejection by Electrostatic Repulsion
- Membrane Surface Charge Influenced NOM Rejection
- NF Rejected More NOM than UF for typical NOM-Source Waters; More Similar Rejections by NF and UF Observed for High Humic NOM-Source Waters

## *Part 4*

### **Membrane Filtration of Wastewater Effluents for Reuse : Effluent Organic Matter (EfOM) Rejection and Fouling**

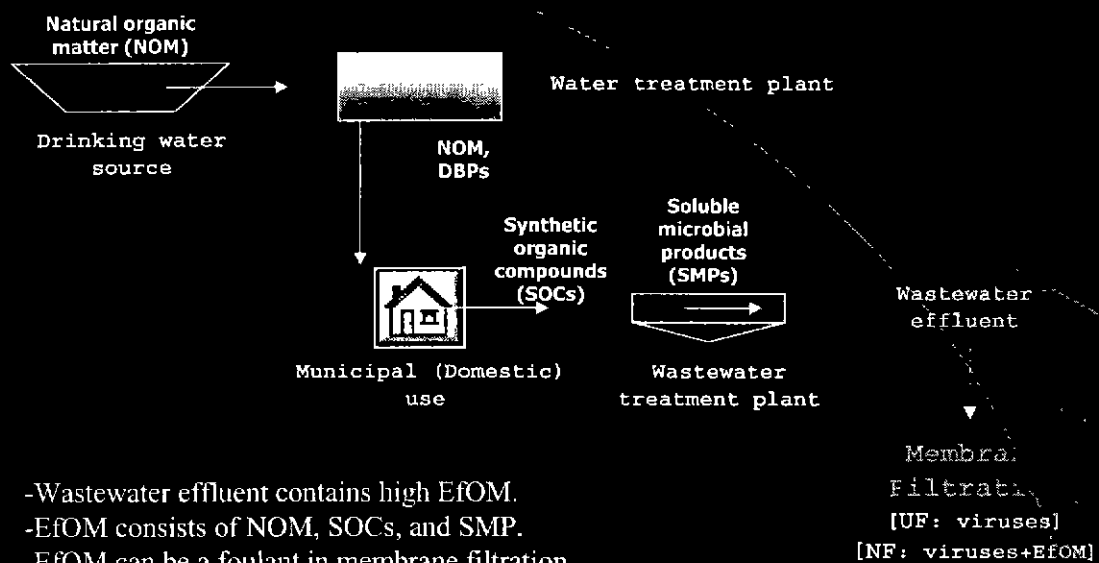
Chalor Jarusutthirak and Gary Amy

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
University of Colorado at Boulder, Colorado, USA.

# Outline

- Introduction
- Objectives
- Experimental methods
- Results
- Summary

## Effluent organic matter (EfOM)



- Wastewater effluent contains high EfOM.
- EfOM consists of NOM, SOC, and SMP.
- EfOM can be a foulant in membrane filtration.
- EfOM-fouling leads to a decrease in flux and productivity.
- EfOM as a DBP precursor.

## Objectives:

- To investigate the effects of EfOM-fouling on permeate flux and EfOM-rejection by nanofiltration (NF) and ultrafiltration (UF) membranes
- To study the characteristics of EfOM affecting EfOM-fouling and EfOM-rejection

## Experimental methods

### Source waters:

- Boulder (Colorado, USA) secondary effluent → BO-SE
- Mesa (Arizona, USA) secondary effluent → ME-SE
- Mesa (Arizona, USA) tertiary effluent → ME-TE

### Characteristics of source waters:

Source water	pH	Conductivity $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$	DOC $\text{mg}\cdot\text{T}^{-1}$	UV <sub>254</sub> $\text{cm}^{-1}$	SUVA $\text{L}\cdot\text{mg}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$	DOC fract. % DOC
BO-SE	7.04	697	7.1	0.135	1.9	41
ME-SE*	7.58	1812	5.6	0.108	1.9	38
ME-TE*	6.61	1565	7.0	0.123	1.7	36

\* different sampling time



## Membranes

- ❖ Nanofiltration (NF) membrane
  - ESNA membrane
  
- ❖ Ultrafiltration (UF) membranes
  - GM membrane
  - PM10 membrane
  - NTR7410 membrane

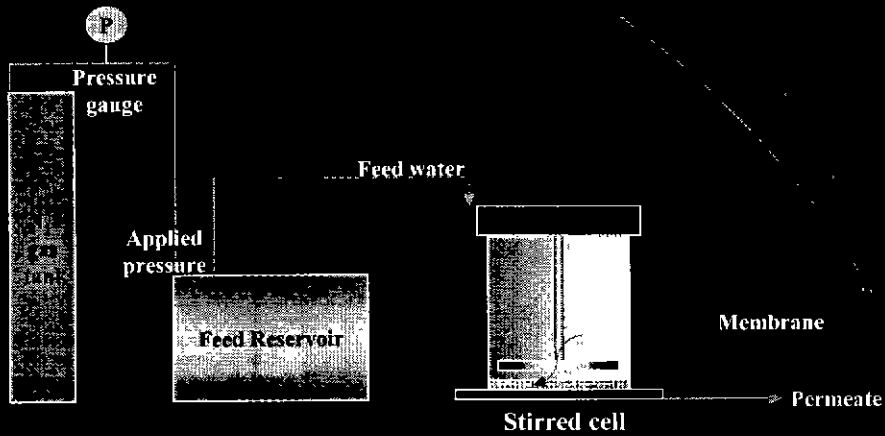
## Characteristics of Membranes

Membrane	Type	Material	MWCO	Contact angle(°)	Zeta potential (mV) at pH 7	PWP L.day <sup>-1</sup> .m <sup>2</sup> .kPa
ESNA	NF	PA	200	60.3	-11.5	1.35
GM	UF	PA	8,000	45.5	-17.0	2.96
PM10	UF	Sulfonated PES	10,000	55.1	-12.8	25.32
NTR7410	UF	PES	20,000	49.5	-22.6	4.86

PA = Polyamide

PES = Polyethersulfone

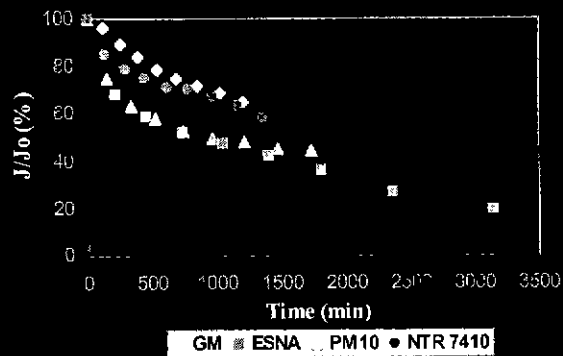
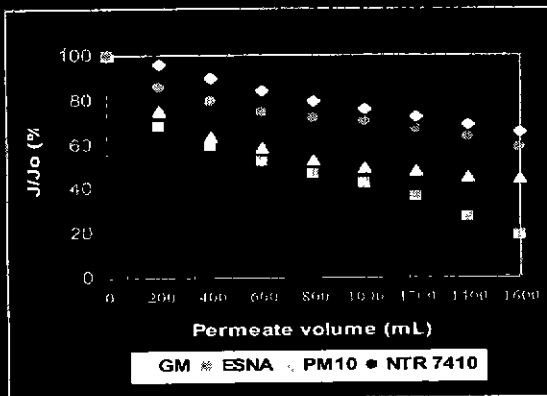
## Dead-end stirred cell membrane filtration



## Results:

### 1. Flux-decline test

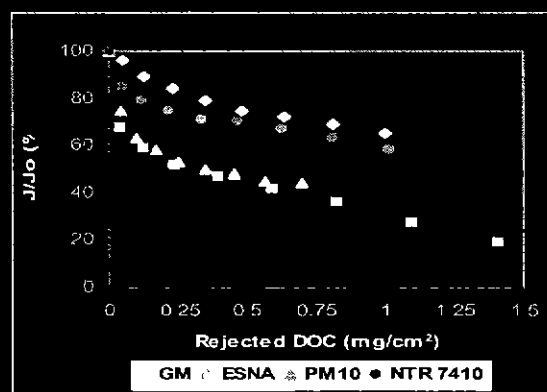
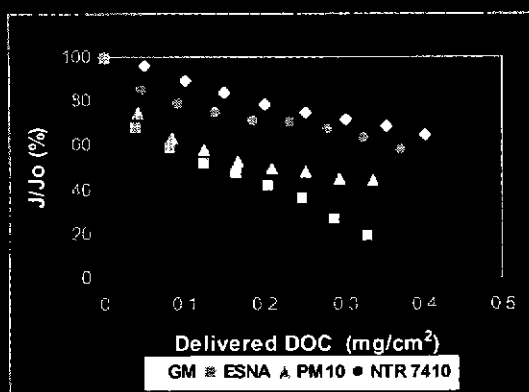
Flux decline tests with BO-SE and different membranes



Transmembrane pressure

- ESNA : 73 psi - GM : 42 psi  
 - PM10 : 5 psi - NTR7410 : 25 psi

## Flux decline test with BO-SE based on delivered and rejected DOC \*



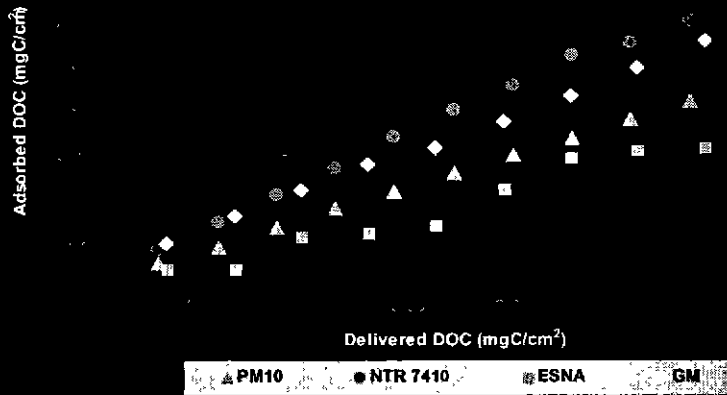
\* Delivered DOC = summation of feed DOC mass per unit area of membrane  
 Rejected DOC = summation of rejected DOC mass per unit area of membrane

## Characteristics of membranes vs. flux decline trends

Membrane	MWCO	Contact angle (°) (Hydrophobicity)	Zeta potential (mV) at pH 7	% flux decline for 1.6 L permeate	Volume (mL) For 20% flux decline
ESNA	200	60.3	-11.5	80	125
GM	8,000	45.5	-17.0	35	760
PM10	10,000	55.1	-12.8	58	160
NTR7410	20,000	49.5	-22.6	42	367

Fouling ⚡ Hydrophobicity, 1/Surface charge, and 1/MWCO

## 2. EfOM dynamic adsorption test



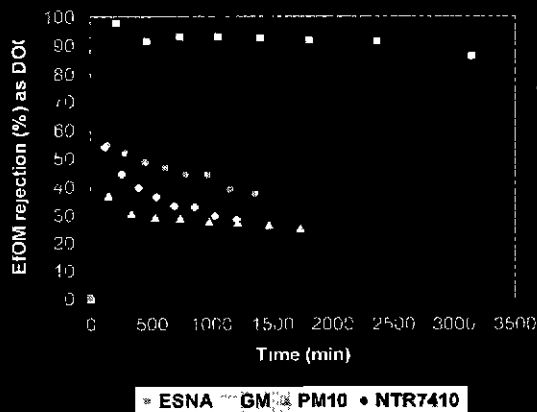
Adsorbed DOC : NTR7410 > GM > PM10 > ESNA

Flux decline : ESNA > PM10 > NTR7410 > GM

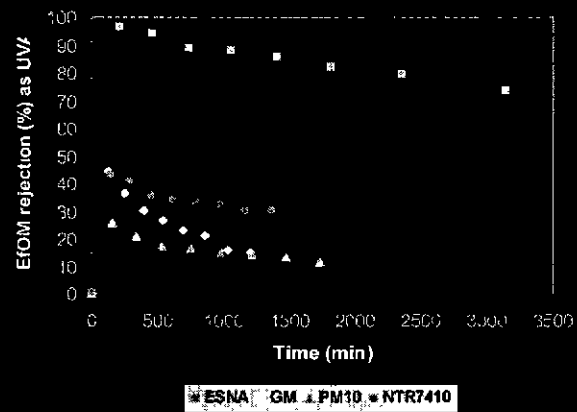
Pore size : NTR7410 > PM10 > GM > ESNA

## 3. EfOM rejection

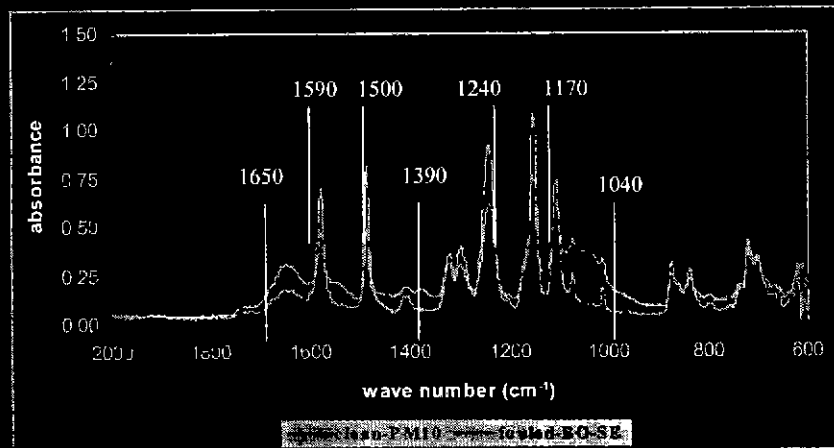
Based on DOC



Based on UVA



#### 4. Fouling analysis using FTIR: FTIR spectra of clean and fouled PM10



Foulants : polysaccharides (1170-950), aromatic acids (1240), aromatic C=C (1620-1600), OH deformation and C-O stretching of phenolic OH (1400-1390), COO-, N-H, and C=N (1590-1517)

## Conclusions

1. Flux decline by EfOM , EfOM-rejection, and EfOM-fouling mechanisms are dependent on MWCO, surface charge, and hydrophobicity of membrane; likewise, they are dependent on the characteristics of the source water EfOM as well.
2. Besides the hydrophobic fraction, the hydrophilic fraction of EfOM, e.g. polysaccharides, may act as a major foulant in membrane filtration of wastewater effluent.