

Final MBR-Network Workshop

**“Salient outcomes of the European R&D
projects on MBR technology”**

Presentation handouts

31 March – 1 April, Berlin 2009 (Germany)



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1. INTRODUCTIVE REMARKS

Roger Ben Aim

Final MBR-Network workshop

Introductory remarks

Roger Ben Aim

IWA Membrane Technology
Group

IWA

- ❑ Drinking and Industrial water production (including desalination)
- ❑ Wastewater and sewage treatment including water reuse
- ❑ Sludge treatment
- ❑ About 6000 members
- ❑ Membrane Technology group : about 1300 members

MBR

- From the first events devoted to MBR (Cranfield 1995, Tokyo 1999) to this final MBR-Network Workshop.
- From the first patents 40 years ago to the first bubbling submerged MBR (20 years ago) to the huge research programs in Japan and then in Korea and Europe .

Some facts about MBR network

- In 2004: EC decide to support the development of the technology and open a call for tender
- Oct. 2005 – Jan. 2006: start of 4 EU projects fully dedicated to MBR development Amedeus, Euombra, MBR-Train (Marie-Curie) and Puratreat (Inco project). The 4 projects will cluster under the coalition of projects “MBR-Network”.
- Total budget of 16 M€ over 4 years (9 M€ from EU)

The importance of the research effort

- 50+ European and international partners (Australia, South-Africa)
- About 1.800 person-months = 150 person-years (~ 40 full-time p.a.) !
- => in average, each 15 min presentation in the workshop represents the equivalent of about 3 years of work for one engineer or PhD !!! (therefore very tight program)

MBR network Website

- MBR-Network edits also website dedicated to MBR technology:
 - Already 1000 international individual members, and about 150 corporate members
 - Reports of EU project
 - Monthly literature scan: database of about 1200 references
 - Discussion / information forum

MBR

- ❑ Equivalent population treated by MBR to day: about 10 millions (roughly estimated!) much less than the annual growth of the World population!
- ❑ Growth rate of MBR technology : about 25% , more than any other membrane process (including RO)

Important potential market for MBR

- ❑ Depending on regulation (discharge in surface water, water reuse)
- ❑ Depending on economic factors (pricing of treated water)

Bellagio statement

- ❑ The future of MBR linked with a new vision of more sustainable water management .
- ❑ New paradigm : from centralized management to more decentralized

In conclusion

- ❑ Considerable progress : much better understanding, more robust technology
- ❑ Some new questions
 - Micropollutants ,...
 - Accessibility to developing countries
- ❑ A decisive step but hopefully we are still far from the inflexion point of the Scurve:
 - dissemination of the results for geographical extension
 - Technical issues (standardization?)



Big Thanks to Boris and
TorOve!

2. EUROPEAN STRATEGY AND ACTIVITIES RELATED TO MEMBRANE AND WATER RESEARCH

Andrea Tilche and Michel Schouppe

European strategy and activities related to membrane and water research

MBR-Network final workshop, Berlin (DE), 31/03/2009

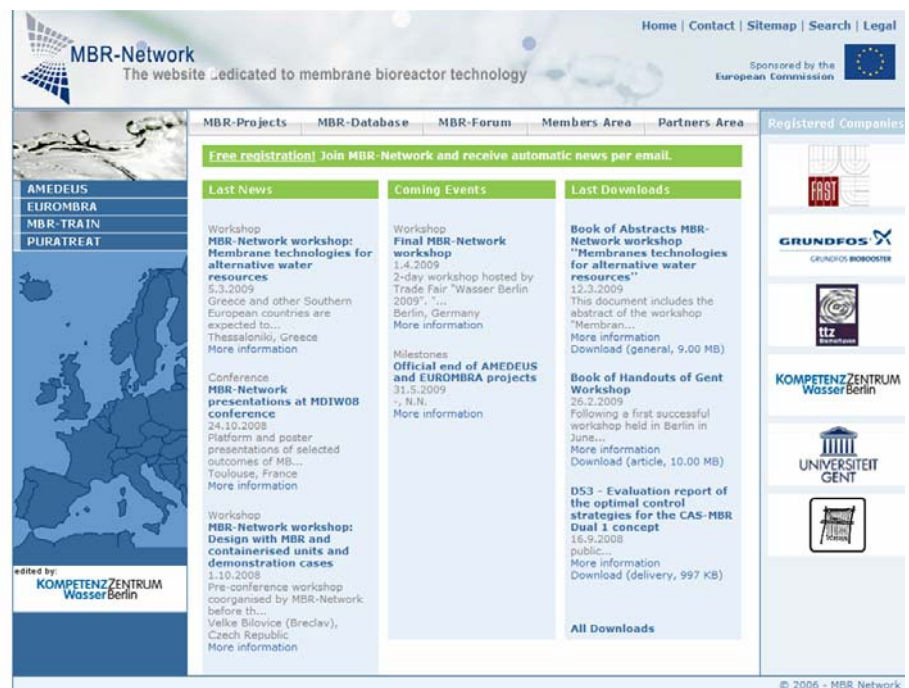
Andrea TILCHE and Michel SCHOUPPE

European Commission, Research Directorate General
Unit Environmental technologies and pollution prevention
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michel.schoupe@ec.europa.eu

Slide 1

The MBR-Network

- Successful example of cooperation
- Formalised links between four individual projects
- 50 partners initiating an international network of 1000 members
- Increased visibility, leveraged outreach

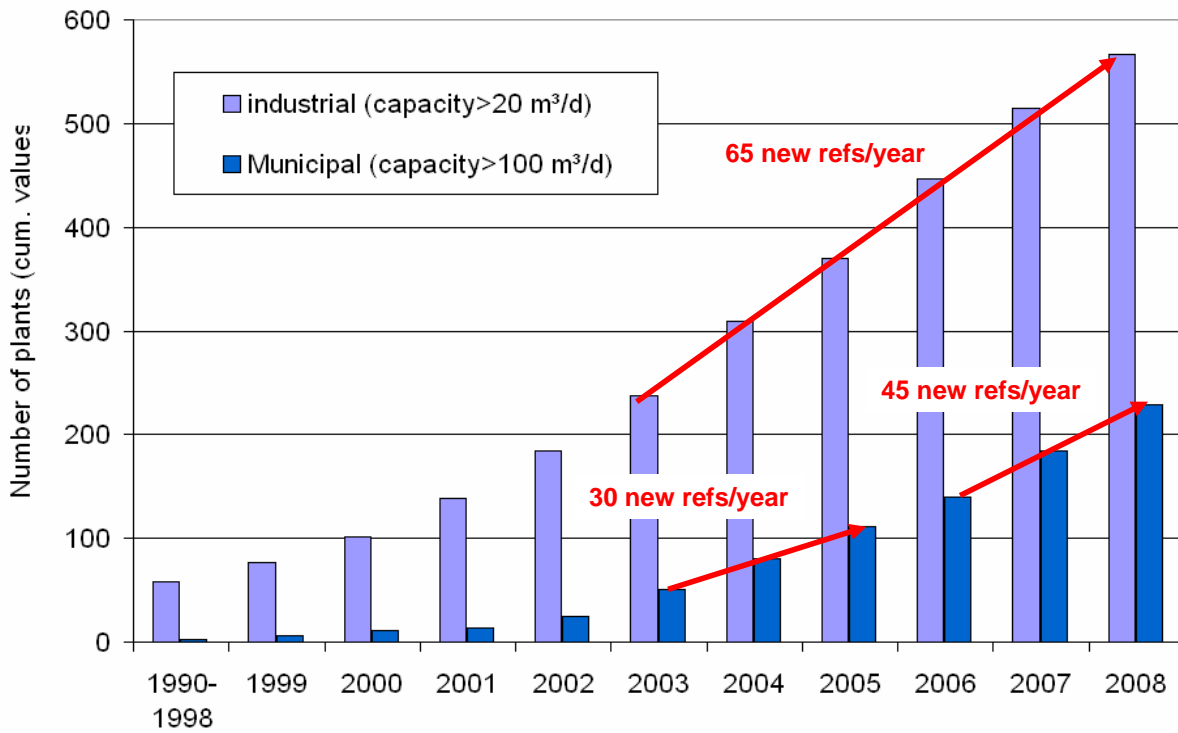


The screenshot shows the MBR-Network website interface. At the top, it says "MBR-Network The website dedicated to membrane bioreactor technology". Navigation links include Home, Contact, Sitemap, Search, and Legal. A sidebar on the left lists projects: AMEDEUS, EUROMBRA, MBR-TRAIN, and PURATREAT. The main content area is divided into three columns: Last News, Coming Events, and Last Downloads. The Last News section includes a workshop on membrane technologies for alternative water resources (5.3.2009) and a conference on MBR-Network presentations at MDIWO8 (24.10.2008). The Coming Events section lists a final MBR-Network workshop (1.4.2009) and the official end of AMEDEUS and EUROMBRA projects (31.5.2009). The Last Downloads section includes a book of abstracts, a book of handouts, and an evaluation report. A footer at the bottom right indicates "© 2006 - MBR Network".

- Common aim: MBR as a common competitive treatment alternative

Slide 2

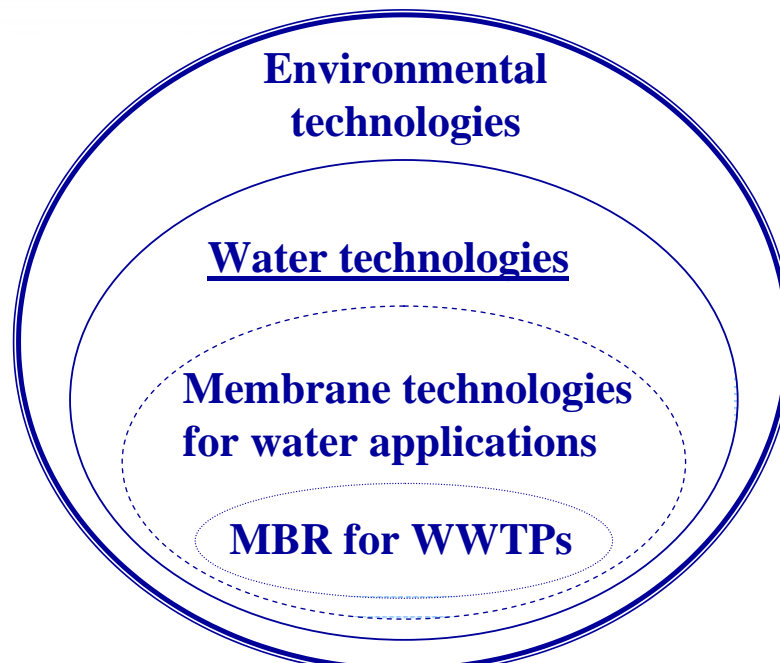
The growing MBR market in Europe



Project AMEDEUS, 2009

Slide 3

Overall research context: Environmental technologies



Slide 4

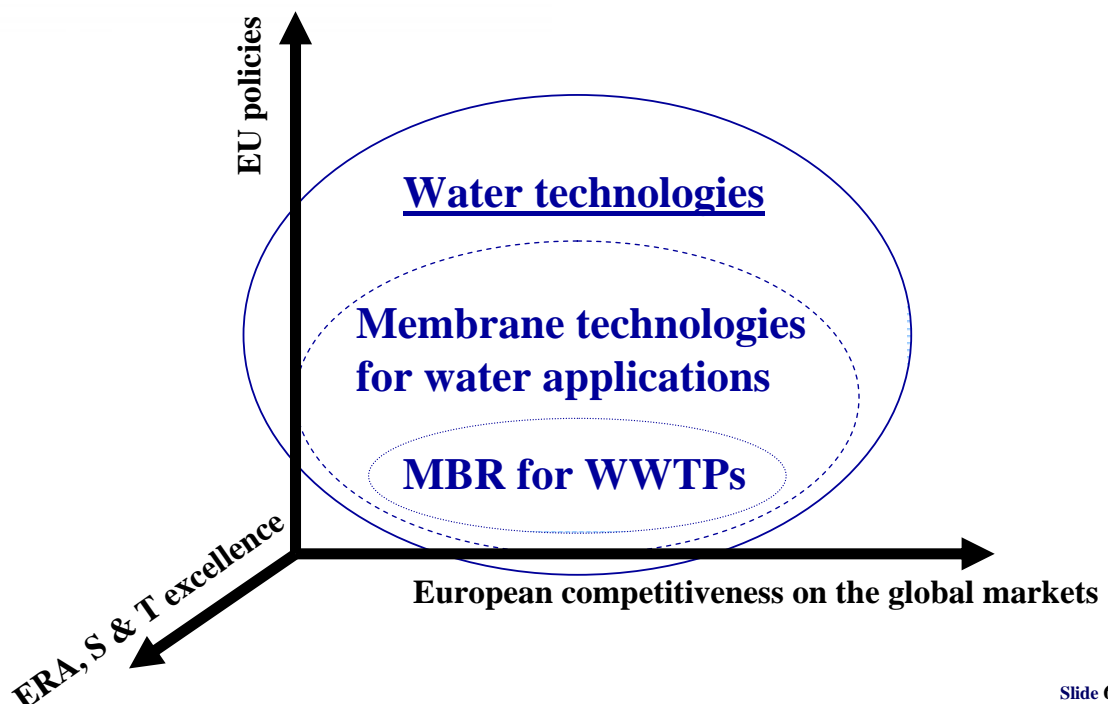
Water technologies: Past/ongoing EU research



- Technologies for municipal waste water treatment
- Water treatment for industries
- Artificial aquifer recharge with reclaimed water
- Nano-structured membranes for water filtration
- Technologies for safe sewage sludge treatment and disposal
- Advanced membrane-based desalination
- Technologies for drinking water production and distribution

Slide 5

Three axes for a research strategy



Slide 6

EU Policies Competitiveness and markets

- ✓ Recovery Plan (2008)
- ✓ Lisbon Strategy (2000, 2005)
- ✓ SDS (2001, 2006)

EU policies

Policy instruments (e.g. Directives, Action Plans) may:

- **Formulate objectives**
(to be achieved within a pre-defined time-scale)
- Call for overall **management plans** and **protection measures**
- Specify **limit values** for concentrations of priority substances
- Specify general **technical requirements** (e.g. BATs)
- Specify **rules for monitoring**
 - List of parameters to be monitored,
analytical method and sampling frequency
- **Set standards** and reporting procedures for parameters to allow for later assessment.
- Usually foresee **periodic progress reviews**
 - revision of the legislation when appropriate

European competitiveness on the global markets

Slide 7

EU environmental policies

Examples of EU Policy drivers for water Community research

- ✓ Environmental Technology Action Plan - ETAP (2004)

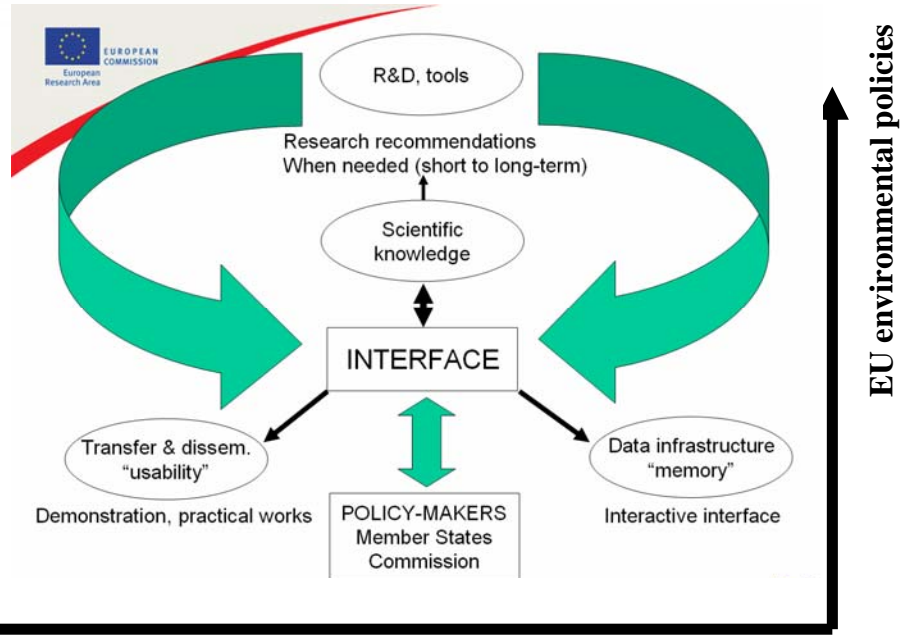
- 2007 – **Flood Directive**
- 2007 – **Water Scarcity and Drought Communication**
- 2007 – Green Paper “**Adapting to climate change in Europe**”
- 2006 – **Groundwater Directive**
- 2006 – New **Bathing Water**
- 2006 – First list of priority hazardous substances
- 2000 – **Water Framework Directive**
- 1998 – **Drinking Water Directive**
- 1996 – Directive concerning Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
- 1992 – Habitats and Birds Directive
- 1991 – Urban **Waste water** treatment Directive
- 1991 – Nitrates Directive
- 1986 – **Sewage Sludge Directive**

European competitiveness on the global markets

Slide 8

Science - policy interface

✓ Common Implementation Strategy (CIS) of the Water Framework Directive

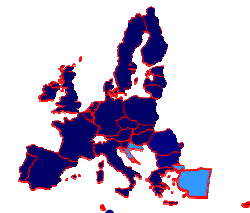
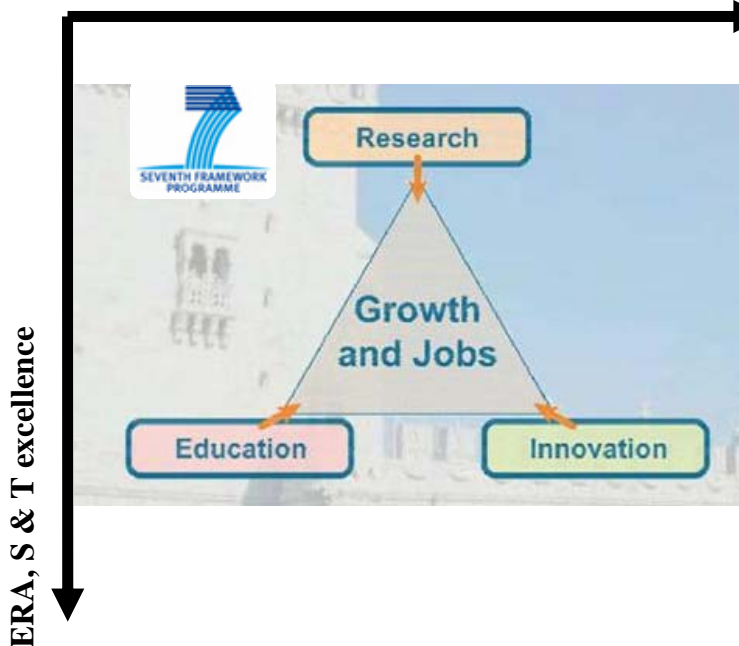


ERA, S & T excellence

Slide 9

EU Policies Competitiveness and markets

European competitiveness on the global markets



Slide 10

Research strategy (1/2)

- **Several motivations:**
 - To strengthen the European water industry
 - To strengthen the European Research Area
 - To help implementing EU environmental policies
 - To provide cost-effective solutions to water treatment operators
- **Driven by what markets will deliver in 2020-2025**
 - 10+ years to go from labs to markets
- **Use of a panoply of RTD instruments**
 - Upstream/downstream research, demonstration, benchmarking, training, awareness raising, standardisation, innovation and up-take, coordination...
- **Involves multidisciplinary consortia**
 - Consolidated user community, industrial networks of SMEs and larger players, centres of S & T excellence, policy makers

Slide 11

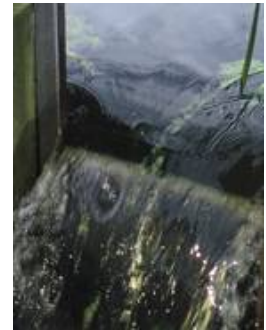
Research strategy (2/2)

- **Particular attention to up-scaling issues**
 - From molecules to pilot plants and markets
- **Requires a case-study approach**
 - With public and private end users' involvement
 - Cost-effective in various operational water treatment contexts
- **System approach: towards highly controllable and modular wastewater treatment plants**
 - Optimised performance according to needs/time, customers and wastewater contexts
 - Reduce local ecological footprint
- **Life cycle assessment**
 - Greenhouse gases emissions (such as NO, NO₂, CH₄ and CO₂)
 - Energy consumption
 - Routes of involved toxicants in water and sludge
- **Other recurrent issues include notably:**
 - Wastewater characterisation, membrane fouling, hybrid membranes, sludge age, sludge disposal, effluent re-use, costs of purchase and maintenance, training of operators

Slide 12



Thank you for your attention



Slide 13



Emerging research topics

Research topics proposed by the membrane and water communities include notably:

- Alternative filtration techniques (e.g. microtextile)
- Alternative membrane systems (e.g. anaerobic systems, algae membrane bioreactors)
- Techniques for reduced fouling, alternative cleaning strategies
- Reduction of harmful by-products resulting from wastewater treatment, recycling of usable by-products
- Lower energy systems
 - New technologies for low energy desalination
- Easy customisation / optimisation of membrane systems integrated into hybrid treatment plants
- Operation/maintenance costs
 - Centralised versus decentralised systems
- Etc ...

✓ To be consolidated and reviewed

Slide 14



3. TRENDS IN WORLDWIDE MBR RESEARCH AND COMMERCIAL APPLICATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

Nazim Cizek

Trends in Worldwide MBR Research and Commercial Applications in North America

Nazim Cicek,
Associate Professor

Wenbo Yang,
PhD Candidate

Department of Biosystems Engineering
University of Manitoba, Canada

IWA, MBR-Network Workshop,
Berlin, March 31st - April 1st, 2009



MBR Related Conferences

Water Environment- Membranes
Technology
Seoul, South Korea
June 2004

Membranes for Water and
Wastewater Treatment
Harrogate, UK
May 2007

International Membrane Science
and Technology Conference
Sydney, Australia
November 2007

Membrane Technologies in
Water & Wastewater Treatment
Moscow, Russia
June 2008

North American Membrane
Research Conference
Amherst, MA, USA
August 2008

Aquatech 2008: Design and
operation of membrane plants
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
October 2008

5th IWA Specialized Membrane
Technology Conference
Beijing, China
September 2009

Membrane Technology and
Water Reuse
Istanbul, Turkey
October 2010

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Scope

- Summarize the research status on MBRs based on a worldwide literature search
- Present recent global and North American trends and compare with 2004 study
- Touch on MBR commercial developments in North America

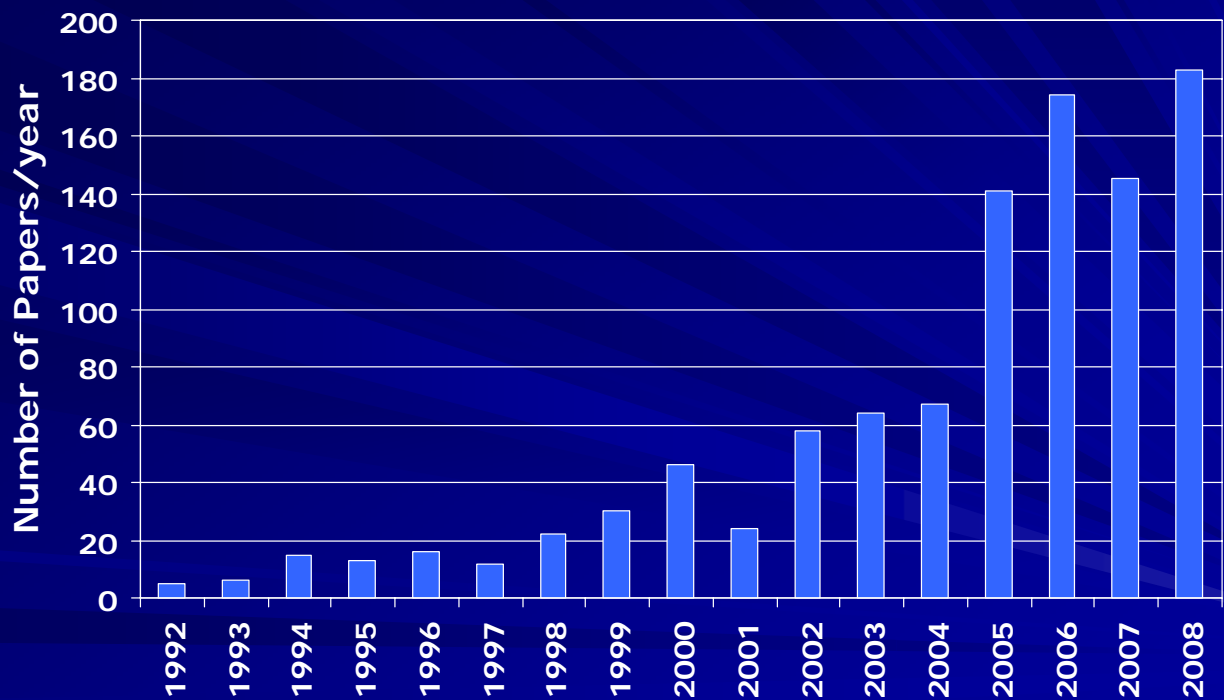


Study Methodology

- A total of 1027 research papers published in peer-reviewed international journals from 1991 to 2008 were compiled in a searchable database
- Information on full-scale MBR installations in North America were obtained from GE-Zenon
- All municipal installations larger than 1 MGD (4MLD) and industrial installations larger than 0.1 MGD (0.4MLD) were assessed in detail



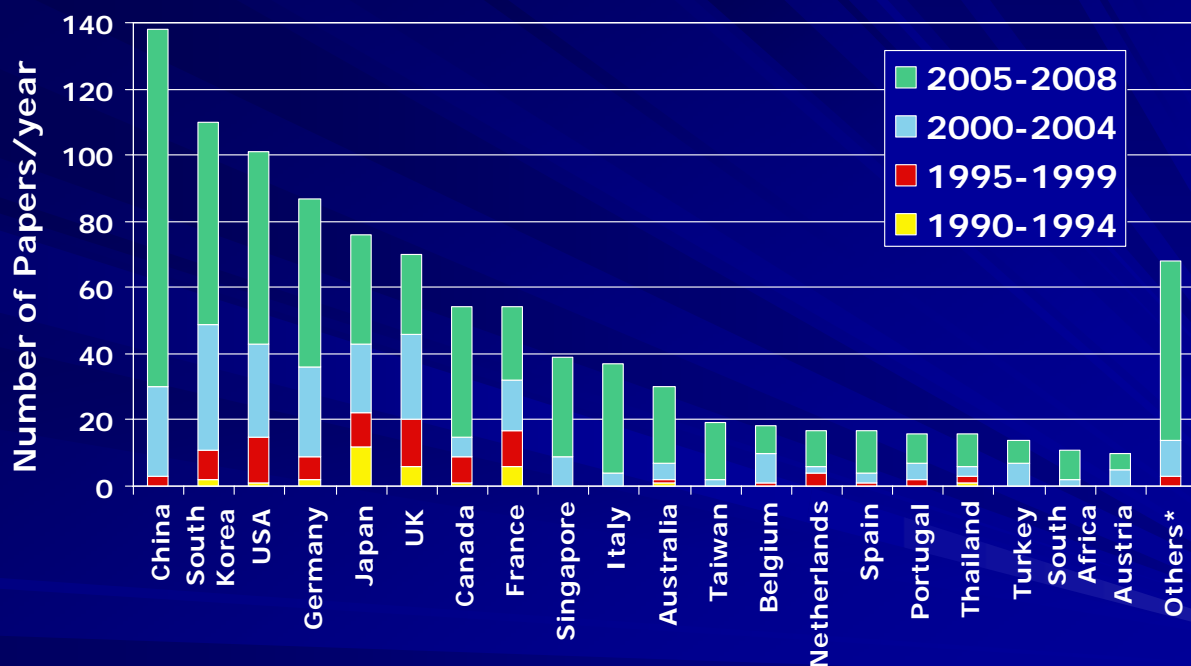
Worldwide MBR Journal Publications



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Geographical Distribution

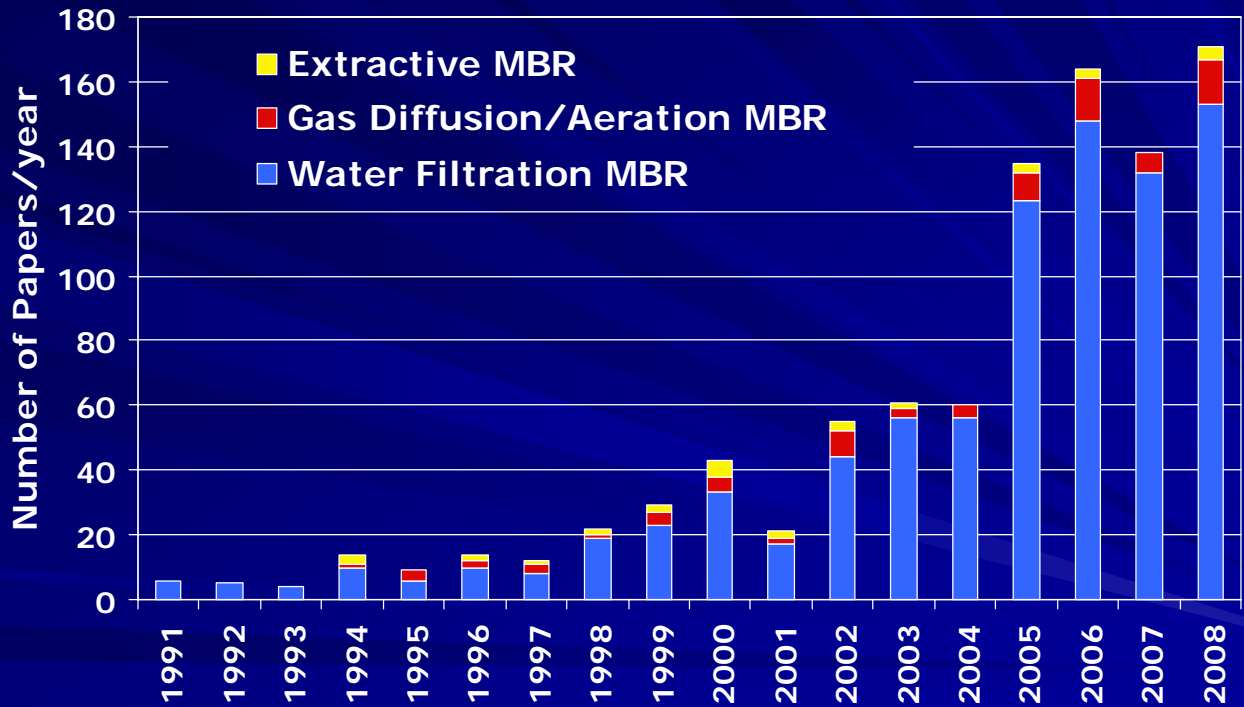


*Total of 19 countries including Israel, Brazil, Norway, Poland, Croatia, Switzerland, with less than 10 publications overall

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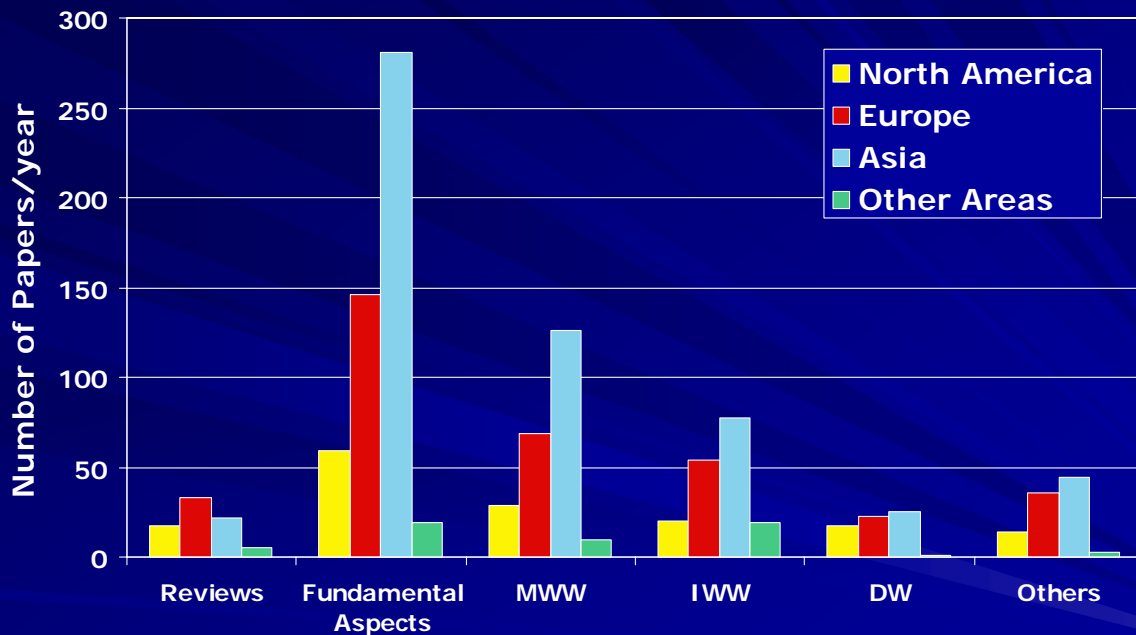
Main Types by Filtration



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MBR Research Areas



Fundamental Aspects: fouling, operation and design parameters, sludge properties, bacteria characteristics, cost, modeling)

Others: gas treatment, sludge treatment, priority pollutants. etc

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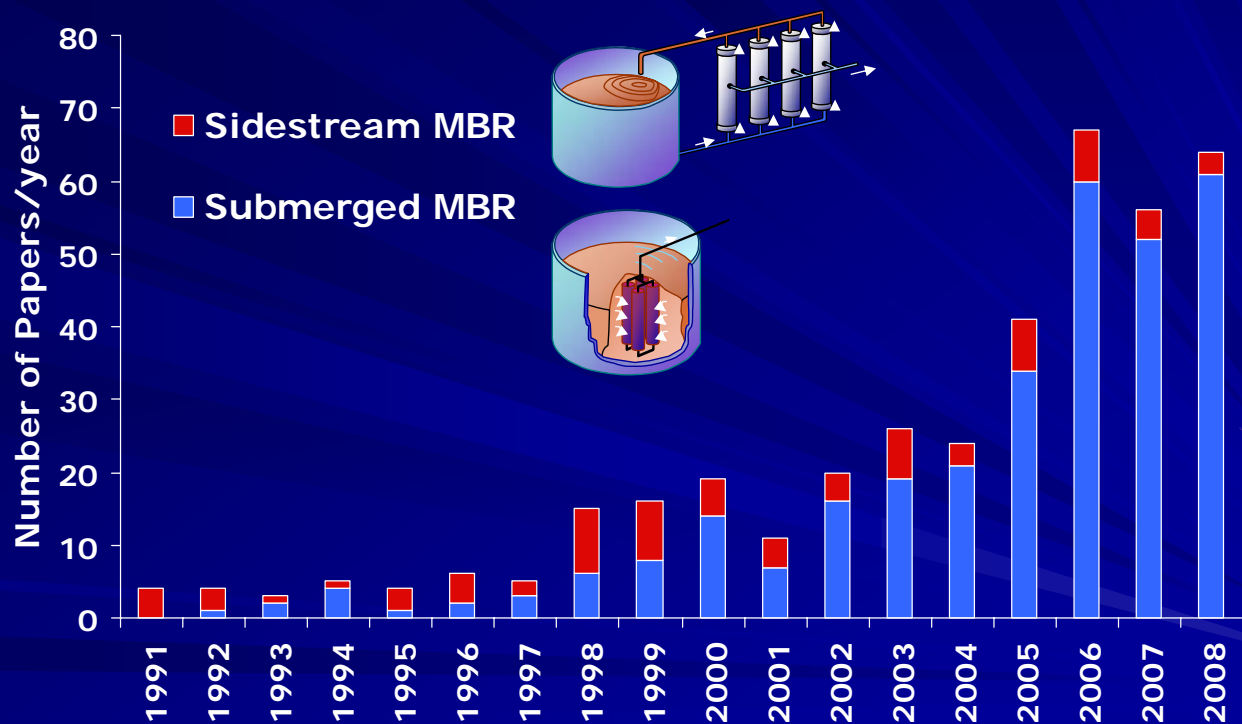
Some Observations...

- Since 2005, focus has switched from feasibility studies to fundamental aspects (FA)
 - Pre-2005: ~20% of all studies on FA
 - By 2009: ~50% of all studies on FA
- More than 80% of all FA papers involved membrane fouling (this was less than 40% prior to 2005)
- Asia based research has moved from primarily application/feasibility studies to FA since 2005
- North American research was predominantly in the industrial wastewater area prior to 2005 and is now exhibiting a similar pattern to the rest of the world

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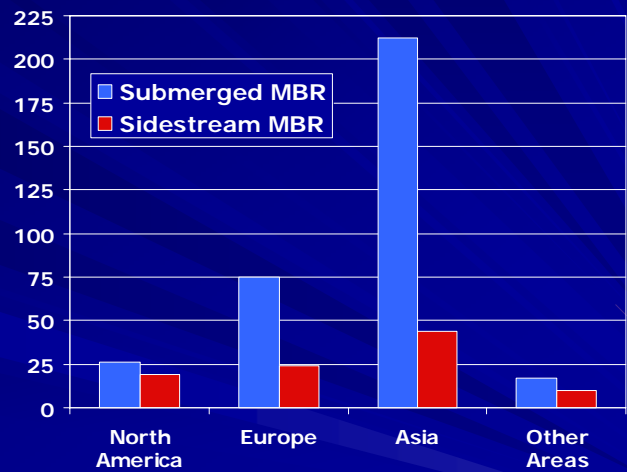
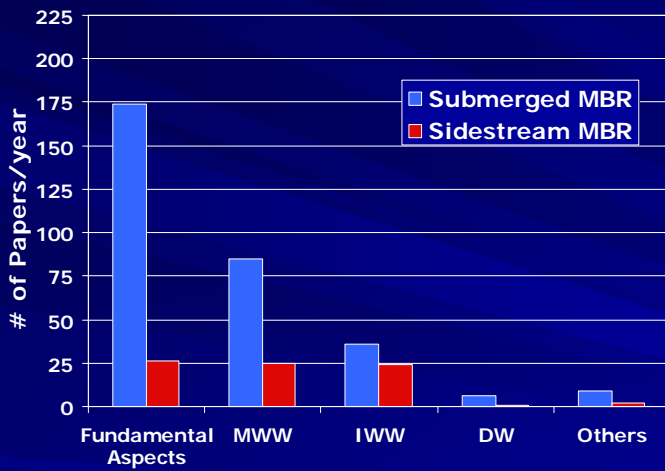
MBR Research Configurations



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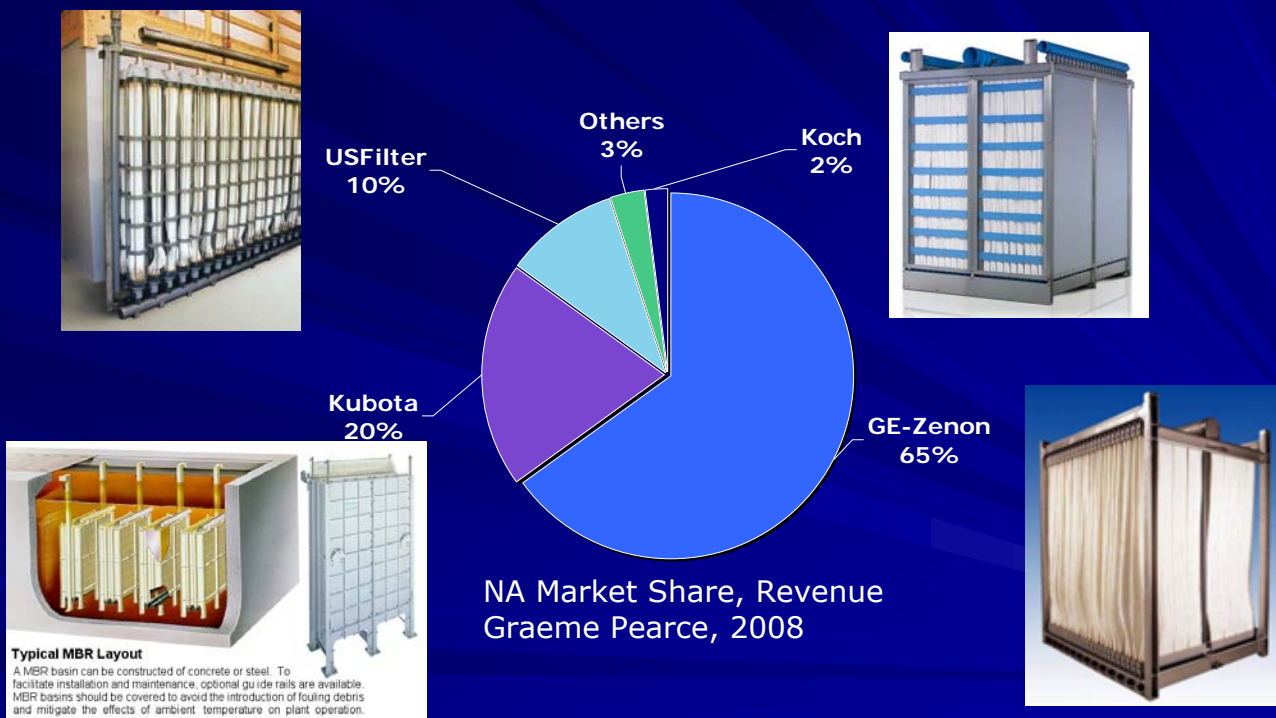
MBR Research Configurations (Cont'd)



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MBR Providers in North America



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Largest Operating MBRs in NA

Location	Technology	Date	ADF/MDF (MLD)
Peoria, AZ	GE/ZENON	2008	40 / 80
Loudon County, VA	GE/ZENON	2008	40 / 50
Tempe Kyrene, AZ	GE/ZENON	2006	36 / 47
Traverse City, MI	GE/ZENON	2004	32 / 41
North Kent Sewer Authority, MI	GE/ZENON	2008	24 / 37
Redlands, CA	GE/ZENON	2004	24 / 26
Cauley Creek, GA	GE/ZENON	2002	20 / 25



Traverse City, MI, USA



Tempe Kyrene, AZ, USA



Redlands, CA, USA

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Largest MBRs awarded in NA

Location	Technology	Date	ADF/MDF (MLD)
Municipal MBR, NV	GE/ZENON	2012	100 / 200
Brightwater, WA	GE/ZENON	2011	124 / 152
Frederick County, MD	GE/ZENON	2011	60 / 140
Yellow River, GA	GE/ZENON	2011	73 / 119
Johns Creek, GA	GE/ZENON	2010	44 / 97
Jordan Basin WRF, UT	GE/ZENON	2010	56 / 84



Johns Creek, GA

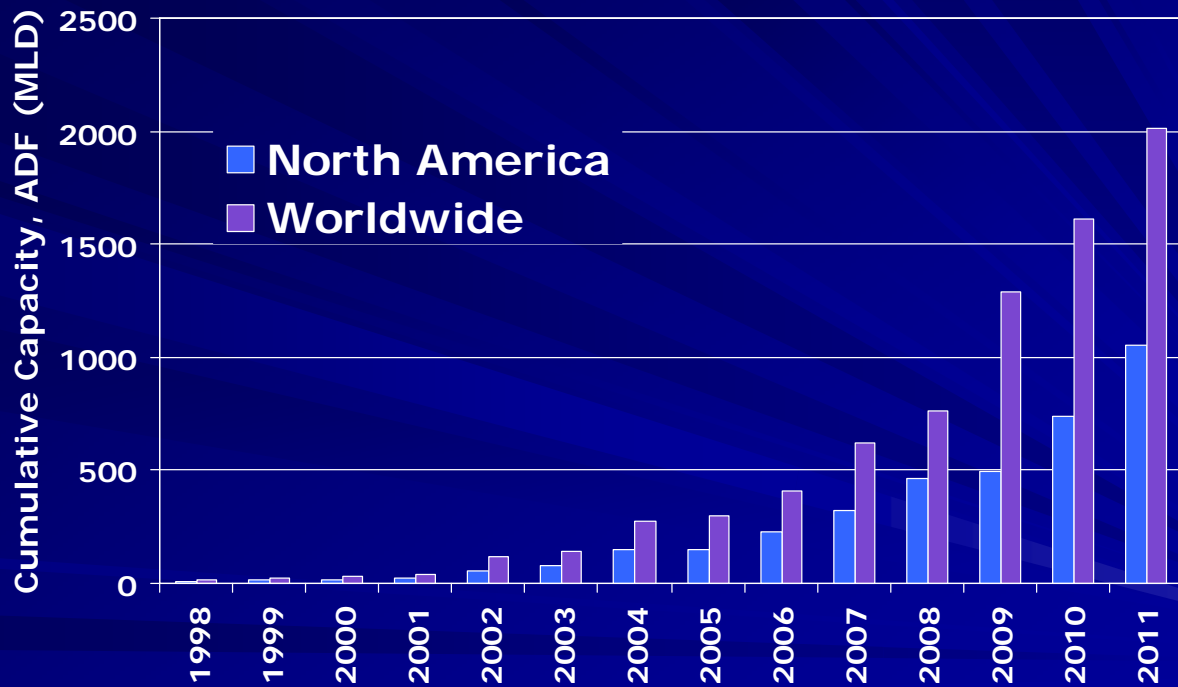


Brightwater, WA

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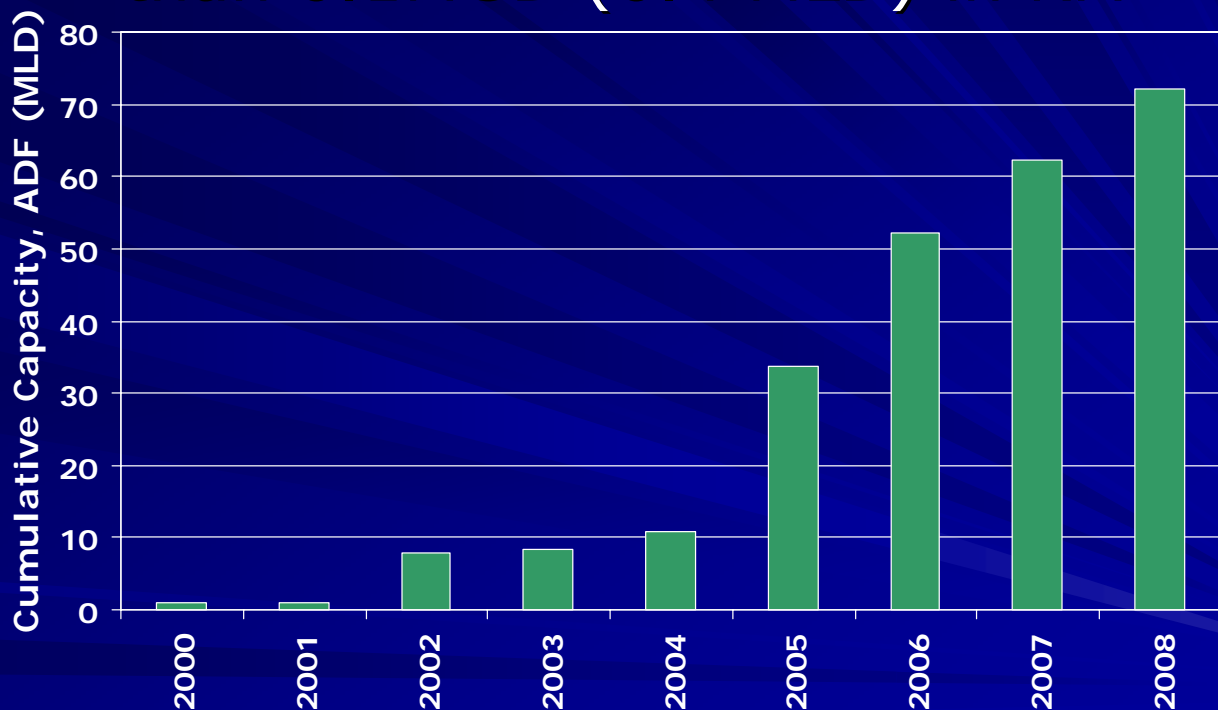
Municipal GE-Zenon MBRs larger than 1MGD (4MLD)



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Industrial GE-Zenon MBRs larger than 0.1MGD (0.4 MLD) in NA



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Industrial GE-Zenon MBRs larger than 0.1MGD (0.4 MLD) in NA

Wastewater source	Number of plants	Total Capacity (MLD)
Food and beverage processing	14	52.0
Chemical plant	5	11.6
Manufacturing	3	2.8
Pharmaceutical plant	2	0.8
Automotive plant	1	1.6
Dairy plant	1	0.8
Total	26	69.6

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Potential Expansion Areas in North America

- Larger-scale municipal wastewater treatment and water reuse
- Future Expansion in Industrial Wastewater
 - Food Processing
 - Slaughterhouse wastewater
 - Intensive Livestock production facilities
 - Landfill Leachate
- EDCs, Pesticides, Pharmaceuticals, SOCs removal from water or tertiary wastewater
- Full BNR plants, with more stringent phosphorus and nitrogen standards (requiring solids free effluent)
- Novel processes (Annamox, membrane biofilm reactors, anaerobic systems, fermentation etc.)

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Closing Thoughts...

■ Research

- There is a shift in MBR research to Asia, particularly China and South Korea
- Research is more widespread globally
- North American research is unique with relatively more emphasis on sidestream MBRs

■ Applications in North America

- Submerged MBRs have now emerged as a mainstream technology
- Installation capacity continues to increase exponentially
- Many potential areas of expansion and significant future growth can be expected
- Water re-use, tightening discharge standards, continued urbanization are main drivers behind MBR expansion in municipal wastewater in North America

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tel: 1-204-474-6208



4. MBRS AND THE TMP JUMP - SELF ACCELERATING FOULING PHENOMENA

Tony Fane

MBRs and the TMP Jump - Self Accelerating Fouling Phenomena

Tony Fane,

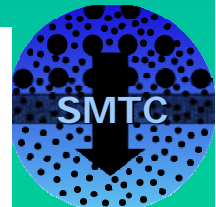
Singapore Membrane Technology Centre, NTU, Singapore
UNESCO Centre for Membrane Science and Technology, UNSW, Australia



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW SOUTH WALES
SYDNEY AUSTRALIA



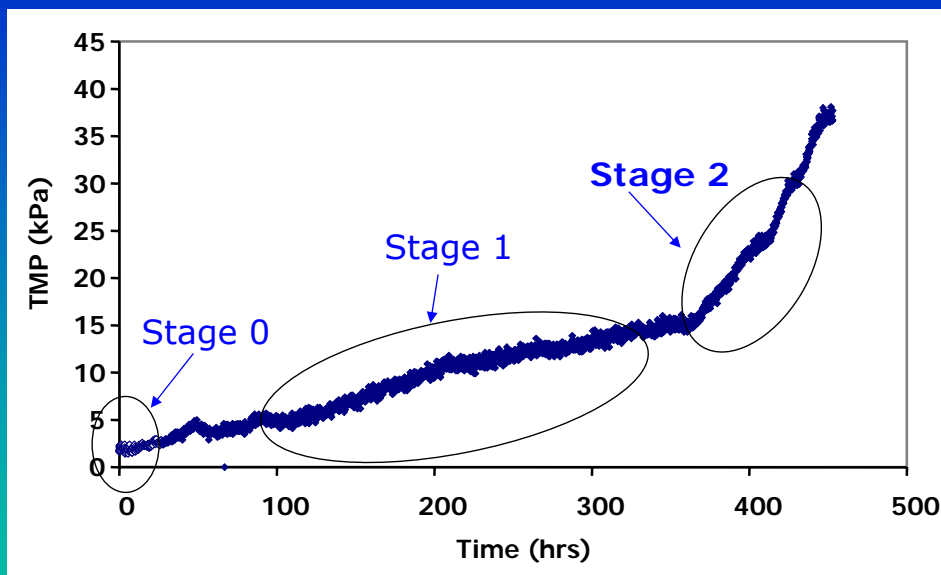
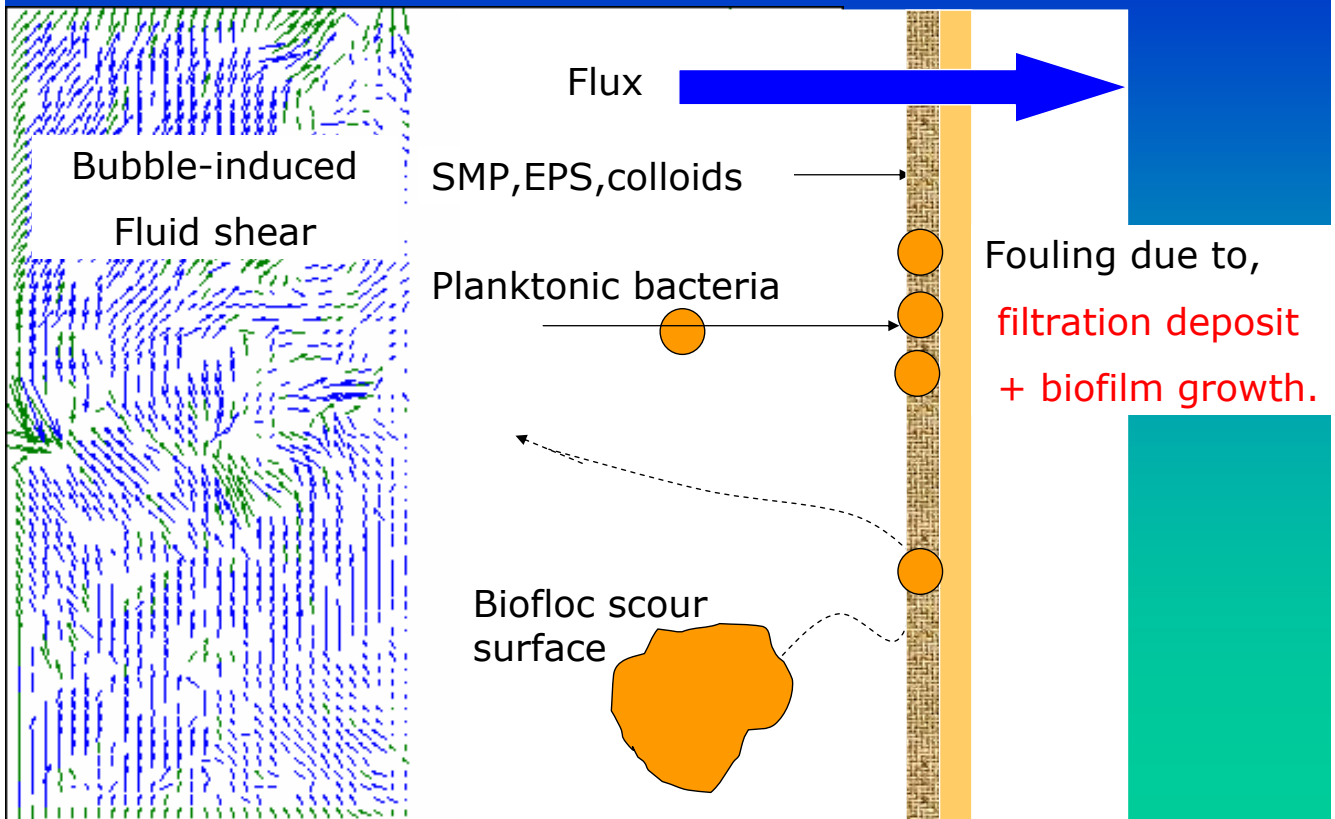
NANYANG
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY



Contents



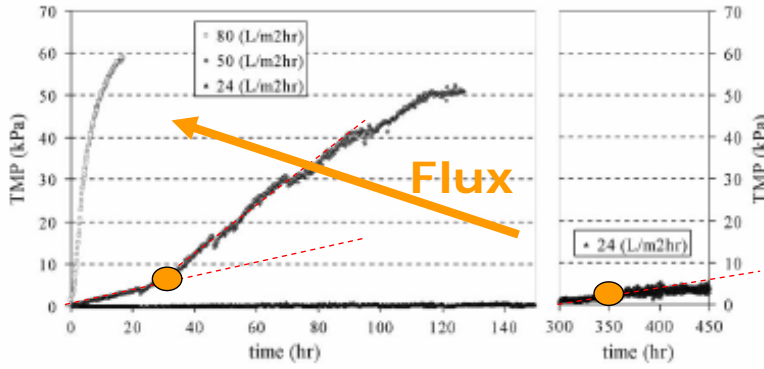
- **Introduction.**
- **Fouling Stages and the TMP Jump.**
- **Possible Mechanisms.**
- **Conclusions**



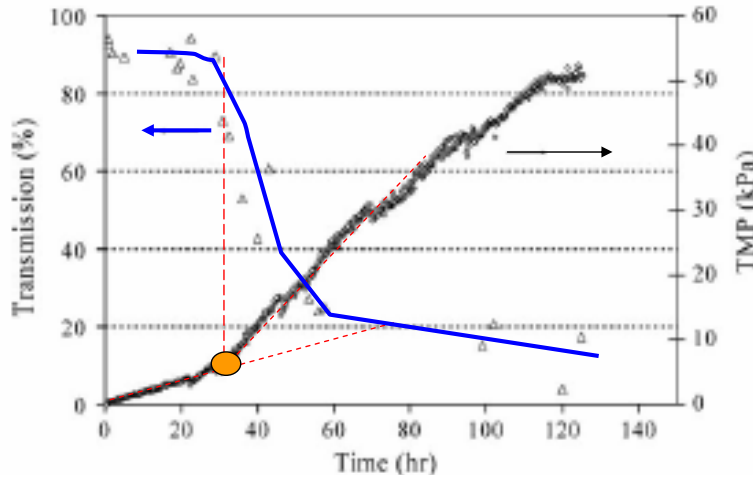
- Stage 0 Initial conditioning (mins-hrs)
- Stage 1 Slow 'sustainable' fouling (weeks)
- Stage 2 TMP jump (hrs-days)

Fouling is a function of flux; $= f(\text{Flux})$

Constant flux leads to accelerating fouling



TMP jump observed with alginate feed.



TMP jump and a decrease in transmission coincide.

Y.Ye et al., Evolution of fouling during crossflow filtration of model EPS, J.Memb.Sci., 264 (2005)

Stage 2 ~ TMP Jump

~ Possible Mechanisms

- Local Area loss model
- Local Pore loss model

Local flux suddenly > critical flux value

- Critical suction pressure ~ deposit collapse
- Percolation theory ~ deposit layer fills up

Cake porosity < critical value

- Osmotic effects

Retention of organics & Cake Enhanced OP

- Inhomogeneous fibre bundle

Hollow issues:
- Local flow variation in bundle causes blocking.

- Lumen 'obstruction'

- Stagnant bubbles in lumen

Stage 3 ~ TMP Jump

~ Possible Mechanisms

- **Local Area loss model**
- **Local Pore loss model**



Local flux suddenly $>$ critical flux value

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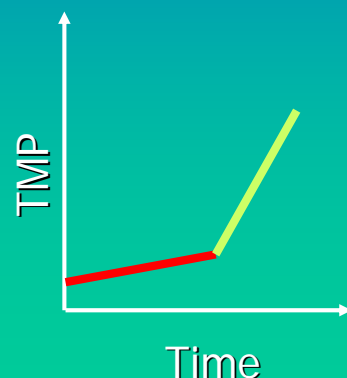
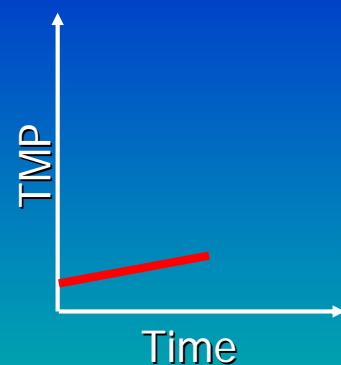
- **Lumen 'obstruction'**

- Stagnant bubbles in lumen

Local Area loss model

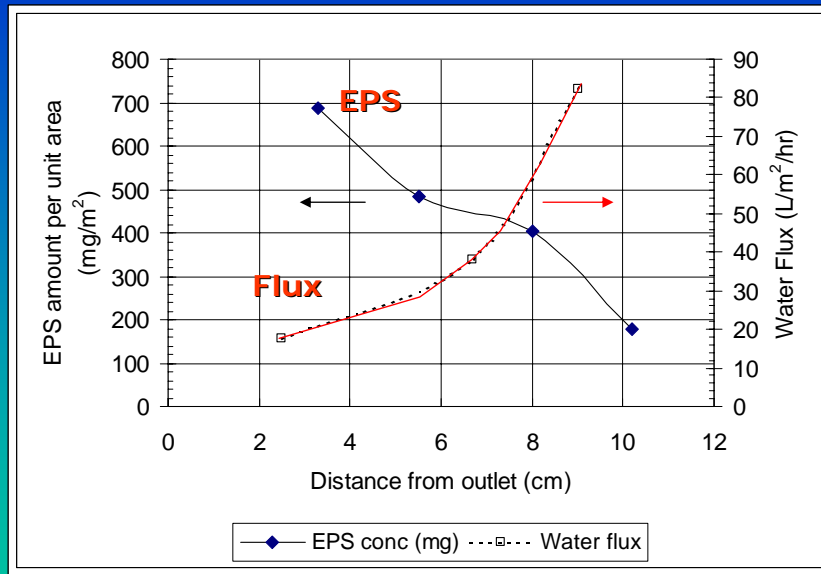
□ Fouling involves two-step process

- Step 1 : Slow rise in TMP due to slow fouling by EPS etc.
- Step 2 : Sudden rise in TMP when local flux $>$ critical flux of dominant foulant



Local Area Loss

Distribution of foulant and flux



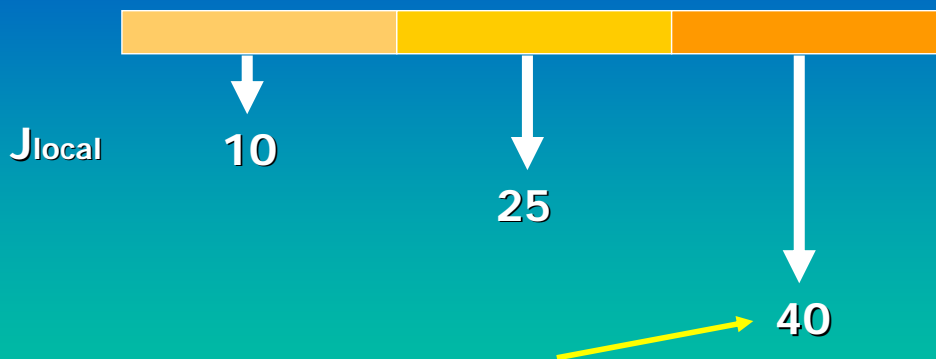
- Autopsy just before TMP jump
- EPS load varies by factor of 4x along membrane
- Water flux distribution gives, **$J_{max}/J_{min} \sim 4$**

Cho and Fane, Fouling transients in nominally subcritical flux of a MBR JMS 209 (2002)

Local Area Loss

Implications of flux distribution

- For imposed surface-average flux of 25 l/m²/hr



- J_{local} can be $> J_{crit}$ (dominant foulant)**

Similar argument applies to local pore loss model

Stage 3 ~ TMP Jump

~ Possible Mechanisms

- Local Area loss model
- Local Pore loss model



Local flux suddenly > critical flux value

- Critical suction pressure ~ deposit collapse
- Percolation theory ~ deposit layer fills up



Cake porosity < critical value

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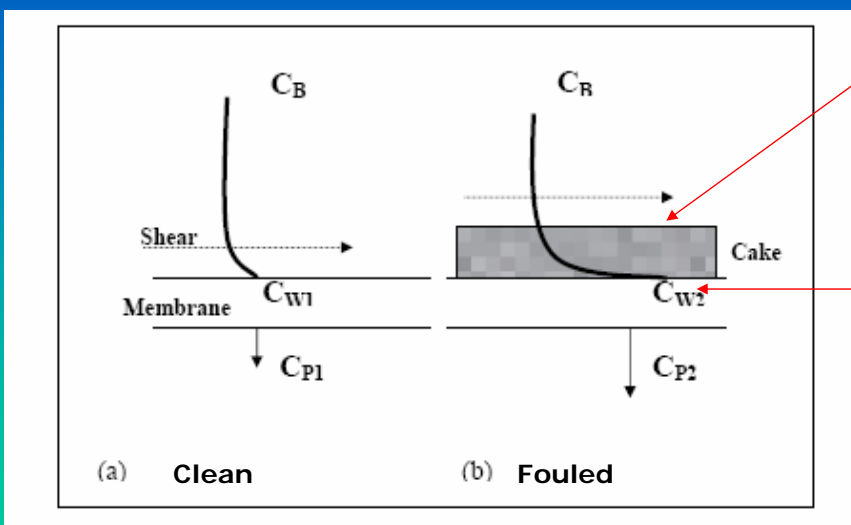
Hollow issues:
- Local flow variation in bundle causes blocking.

- Lumen 'obstruction'

- Stagnant bubbles in lumen

Osmotic Pressure of retained solutes and Cake Enhanced Polarization

'Cake' deposits and accumulates



Cake resistance R_F

Cake enhanced concentration Polarization*

* Hoek & Elimelech, ES&T (2003)
Chong et al., JMS 287 (2007)

$$\Delta P = J\mu(R_M + R_F) + M\Delta\pi_{BP}$$

Pressure increases due to R_f + osmotic pressure

$$M = C_W / C_B = \exp(J/k)$$

Polarization increases with flux & decreases with mass transfer, k

$$k_{cake} = (D\varepsilon/\tau) / \delta_C$$

Mass transfer in deposit layer is $\ll k$ in the boundary layer

Cake **height** is a key factor

**CEOP can be significant effect in RO fouling.
Could it have an effect in MBRs ?**

$$M = C_W / C_B = \exp(J/k)$$

For clean membrane, $J \sim k$
 M is <10 for macrosolutes.

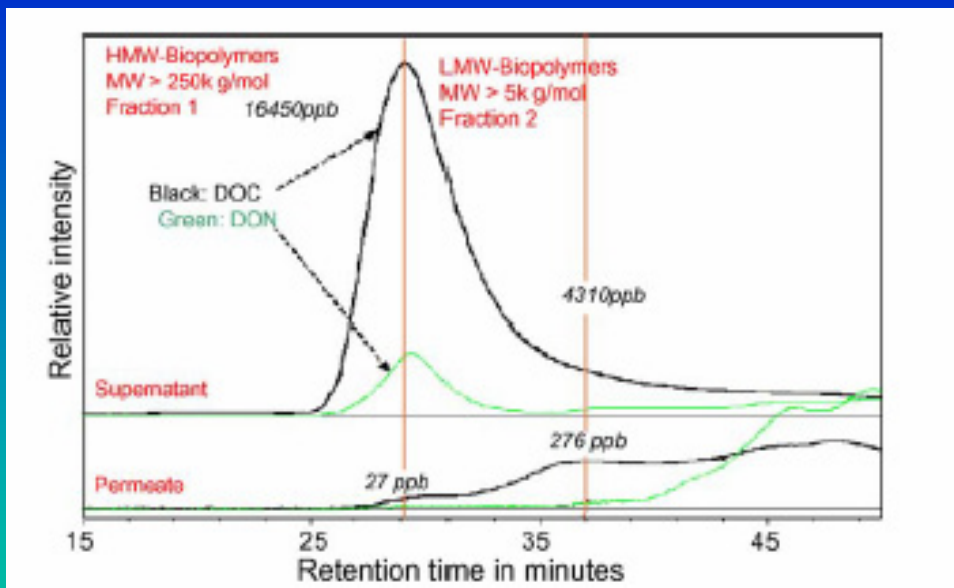
$$k_{cake} = (D\varepsilon/\tau) / \delta_C$$

Fouled membrane, $k_{cake} \ll k$
 $(\varepsilon/\tau) \sim 0.1$ and δ_C increasing.
 $J > k_{cake}$ so M increases exponentially.

$$D = 1.56 \times 10^{-9} \times M_W^{-0.356}$$

$$\Pi = C_m RT = \frac{C}{M_W} RT$$

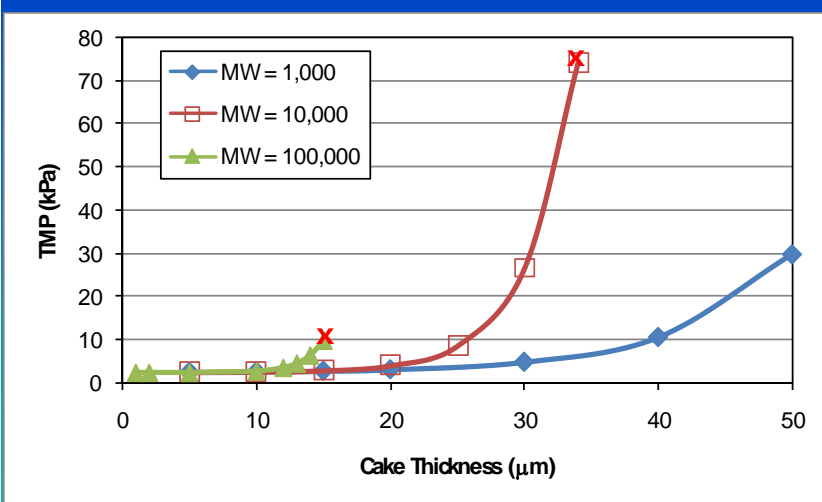
Solute diffusivity and osmotic pressure are related to MWt.



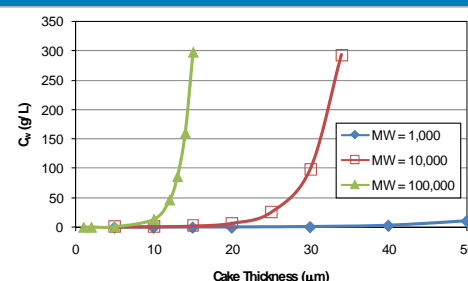
Permeate and MBR sludge supernatant content comparison

Sample	Total CDOC Hydrophilic TOC (ppb)	Approx molecular weight g/mol:			
		fr.1 \gg 250k, 250k>fr.2 > 5k (biopolymers in fr.1&2)		<5000 (LMW compounds)	
		TOC (ppb)	TOC %	TOC (ppb)	TOC %
Supernatant	22359	20762	92.8%	1597	7.1
Permeate	1508	303	19.9%	1205	79.9

Biopol retention 98.6%
(6.5% protein 93.5% polysacch)



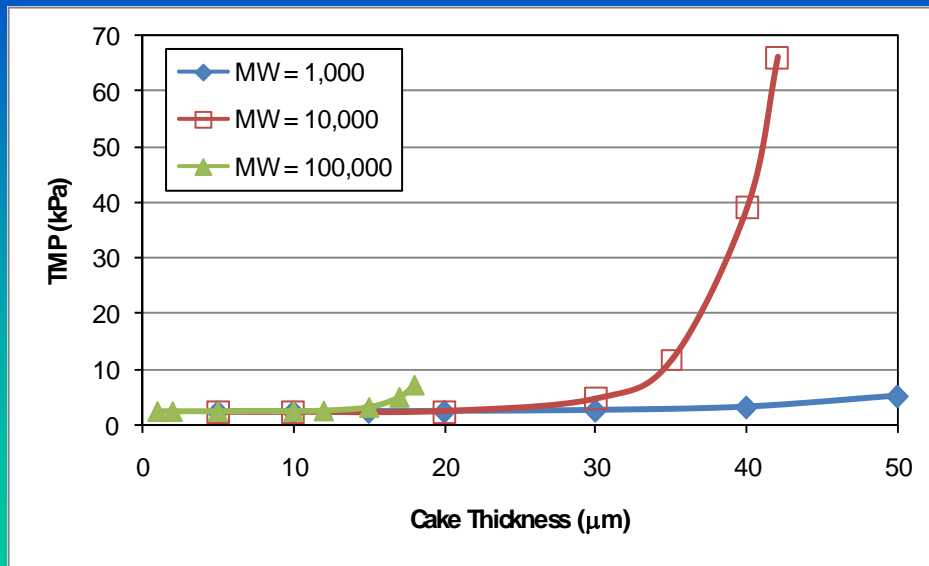
Possible gelling limit



TMP vs. cake thickness profile at various M_w with $J_v = 10$ LMH, $C = 0.025$, $e = 0.45$

Lower Supernatant Concentration

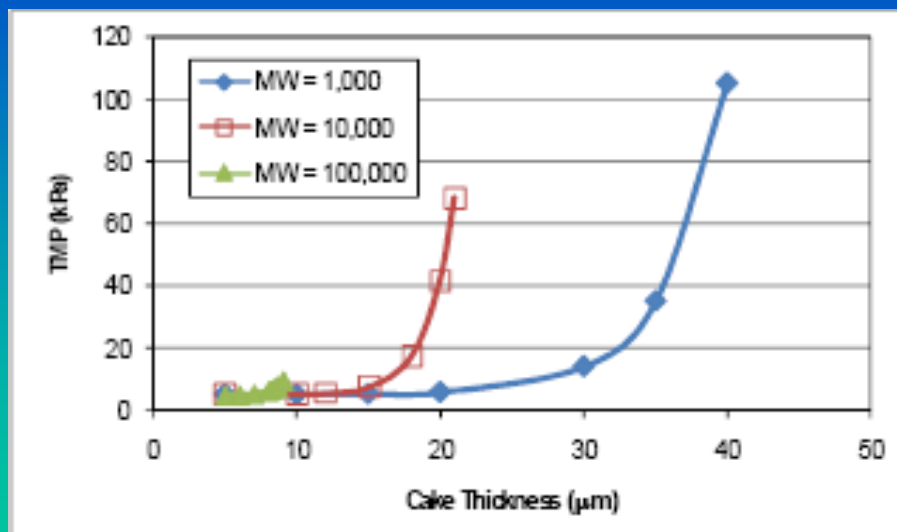
Delays CEOP until δ_c increases



TMP vs. cake thickness profile at various M_w with $J_v = 10$ LMH, $C = 0.0025$, $e = 0.45$

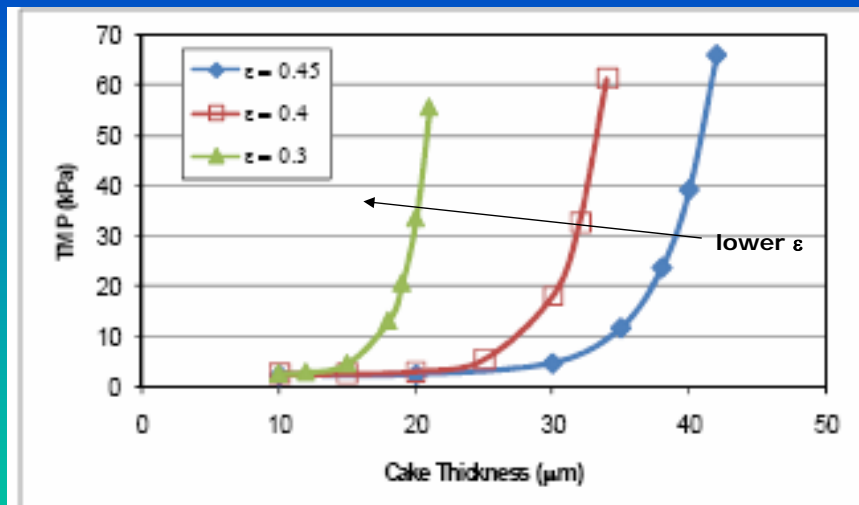
Higher Flux (20)

Earlier CEOP effect due to $(\exp J/k)$



TMP vs. cake thickness profile at various M_w with $J_v = 20$ LMH, $C = 0.0025$, $e = 0.45$

CEOP effect increases as cake porosity decreases



TMP vs. cake thickness at various cake porosity with $M_w = 10,000$ g/mol, $J_v = 10$ LMH, $C = 0.0025$

CEOP effect in MBRs ?

- Cake layer (δ_c) slowly builds up
- Pores gradually close
- Retention of organics increases
- CEOP develops exponentially with δ_c
- Required TMP starts to rise rapidly.
- Implication is to minimise δ_c and avoid high fluxes . $M = \exp f (J \delta_c)$

- Uncertainties:
 - Osmotic pressure relationship in cake;
 - Other solute – cake interactions.

Stage 3 ~ TMP Jump

~ Possible Mechanisms

- Local Area loss model
- Local Pore loss model

Local flux suddenly > critical flux value

- Critical suction pressure ~ deposit collapse
- Percolation theory ~ deposit layer fills up

Cake porosity < critical value

- Osmotic effects

Retention of organics & Cake Enhanced OP

- Inhomogeneous fibre bundle

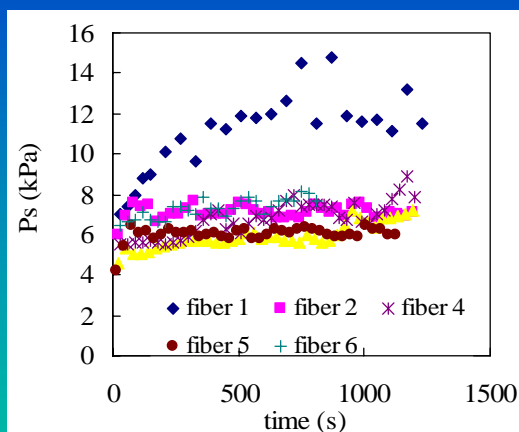
Hollow issues:
- Local flow variation in bundle causes blocking.

- **Lumen 'obstruction'**

- Stagnant bubbles in lumen

Lumen 'obstruction'

Low pressure in the lumen (suction) causes bubble formation.



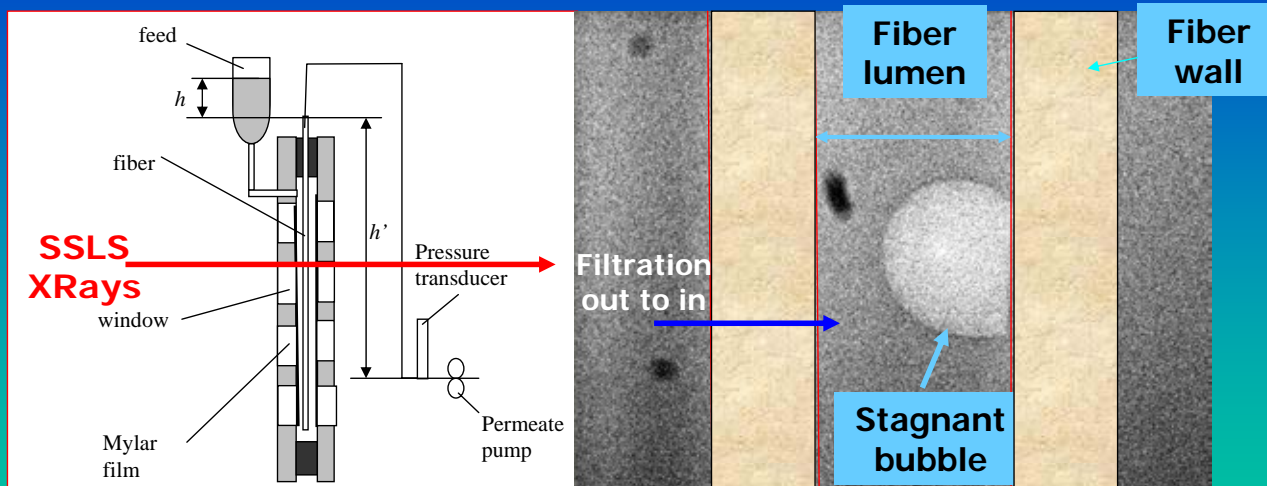
Unstable filtration behavior observed for some individual hollow fibres operated under suction ~ MQ water

Why?

Postulated that air bubbles present in lumen cause 'obstruction' to flow

? Can we observe bubbles inside the lumen

- Noninvasive observation (XRMI) of bubbles in fibre lumen



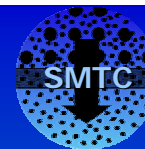
Stagnant and moving bubbles observed

- ~ Exacerbates the TMP rise at high suction
- ~ Avoid high TMP, and fibres with high L/d_i

- In MBRs after long term 'subcritical' flux operation with a slow TMP rise, a rapid TMP 'jump' may be observed.
- Several 'self accelerating' phenomena could contribute to the jump.
- It is likely that more than one mechanism applies.
- The TMP jump can be avoided, or delayed, by modest fluxes and limiting cake formation.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



**Colleagues and students
at NTU and UNSW.**

**ASTAR & EWI Singapore
ARC Australia**

5. QUORUM QUENCHING: A NEW BIOFOULING CONTROL PARADIGM IN MBRS

*Chung-Hak Lee, Kyung-Min Yeon, S.Y. Kim, J.H.
Kim*

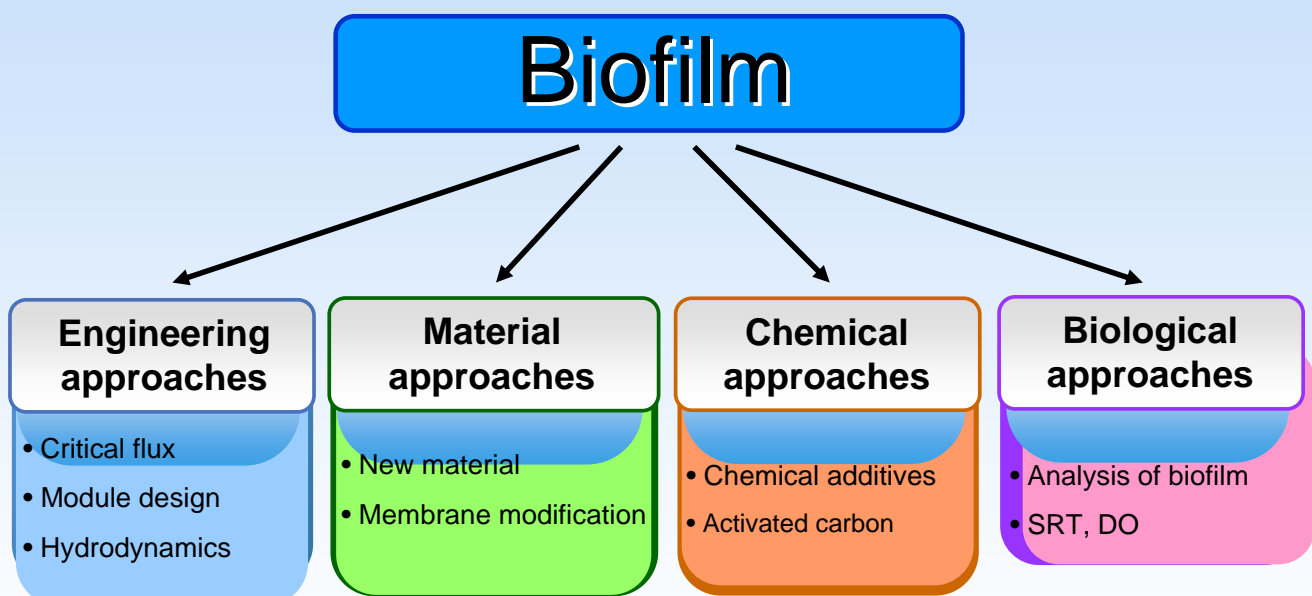
Quorum Quenching: a new biofouling control paradigm in MBRs

Chung-Hak Lee, Kyung-Min Yeon, S.Y. Kim, J.H. Kim

School of Chemical and Biological Engineering,
Seoul National University, Korea

e-mail: leech@snu.ac.kr

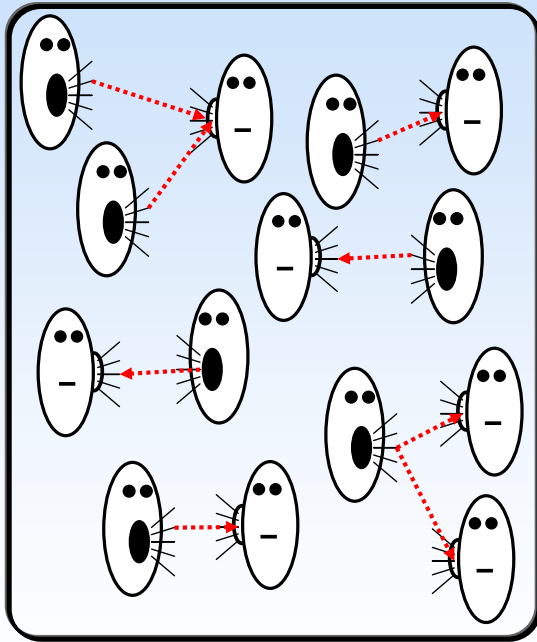
Biofilm control techniques: *Current state of the art*



New Paradigm : How to essentially prevent biofouling
by uprooting the biofilm formation ?

Quorum Sensing ?

Microbial community



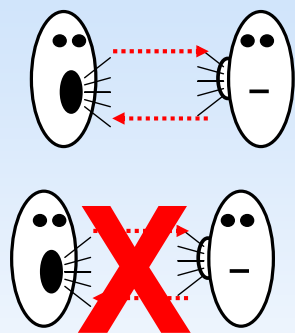
: Bacteria

: Signal molecules (autoinducer)

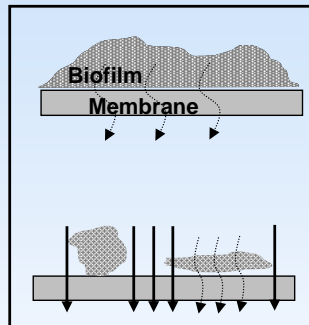
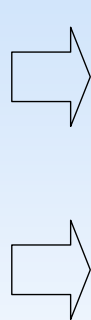
Group behavior

- Symbiosis
- Virulence
- Competence
- Conjugation
- Antibiotic production
- Motility
- Sporulation
- **Biofilm formation**

Quorum Quenching based biofouling control in MBR

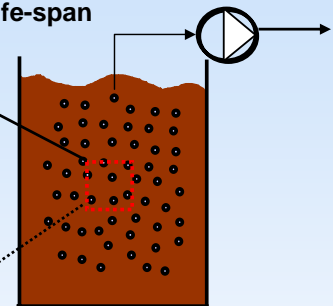


Molecular level
(Destruction of autoinducer)



Micro-scale
(membrane-biofilm)

- Low flux
- High energy
- Short life-span



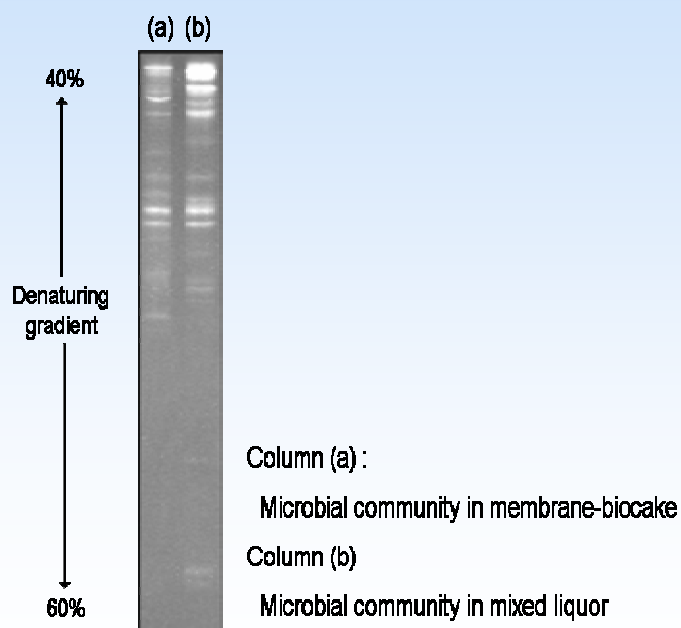
- High flux
- Low energy
- Long life-span

Engineering system
(Uproot of Biofouling)

Phase 1

Evidence of QS activity in MBR.

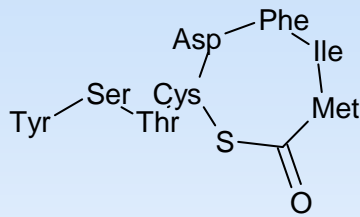
- MBR sludge is undefined mixed culture system



PCR-DGGE :
> 10 species

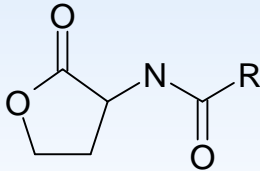
Three kinds of Autoinducers

- 1) **Modified oligopeptide** of Gram-positive bacteria

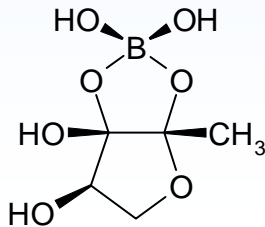


Ex. *Staphylococcus aureus*

- 2) ***N*-acyl homoserin lactone** (AHL) of Gram-negative bacteria

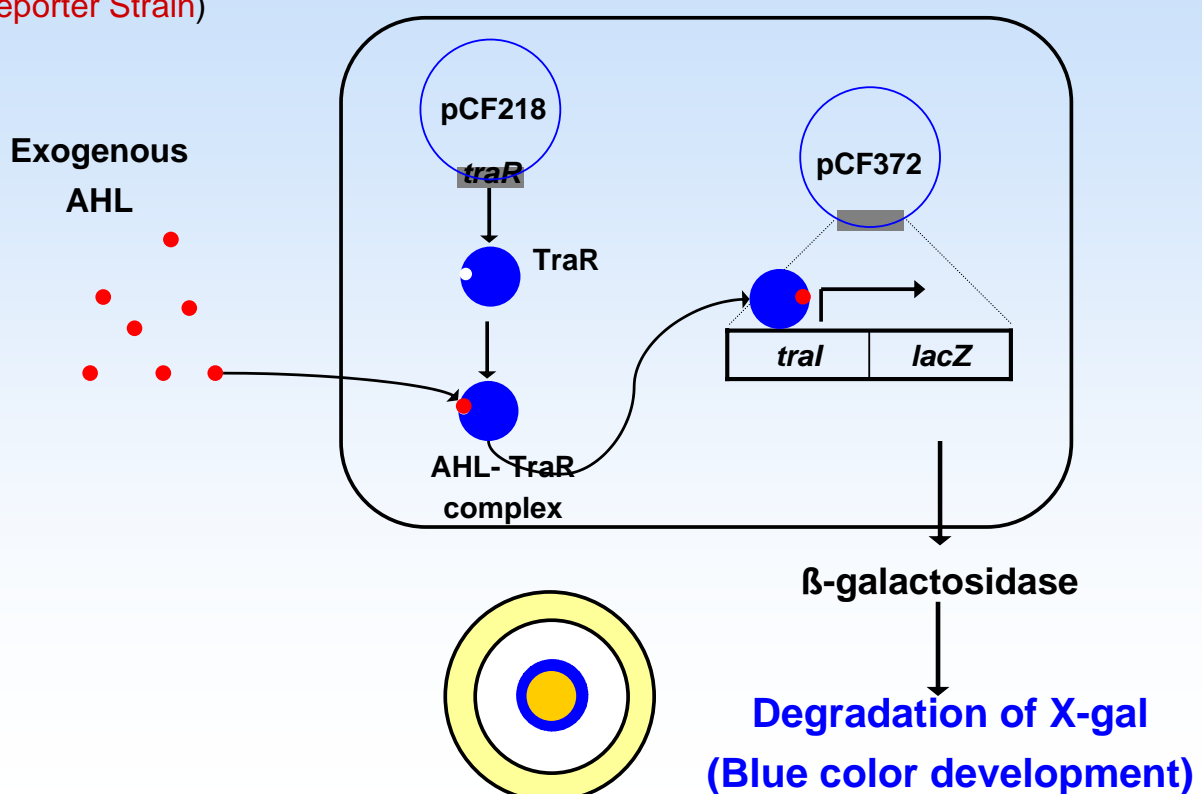


- 3) **Autoinducer-2 (AI-2)** for interspecies communication

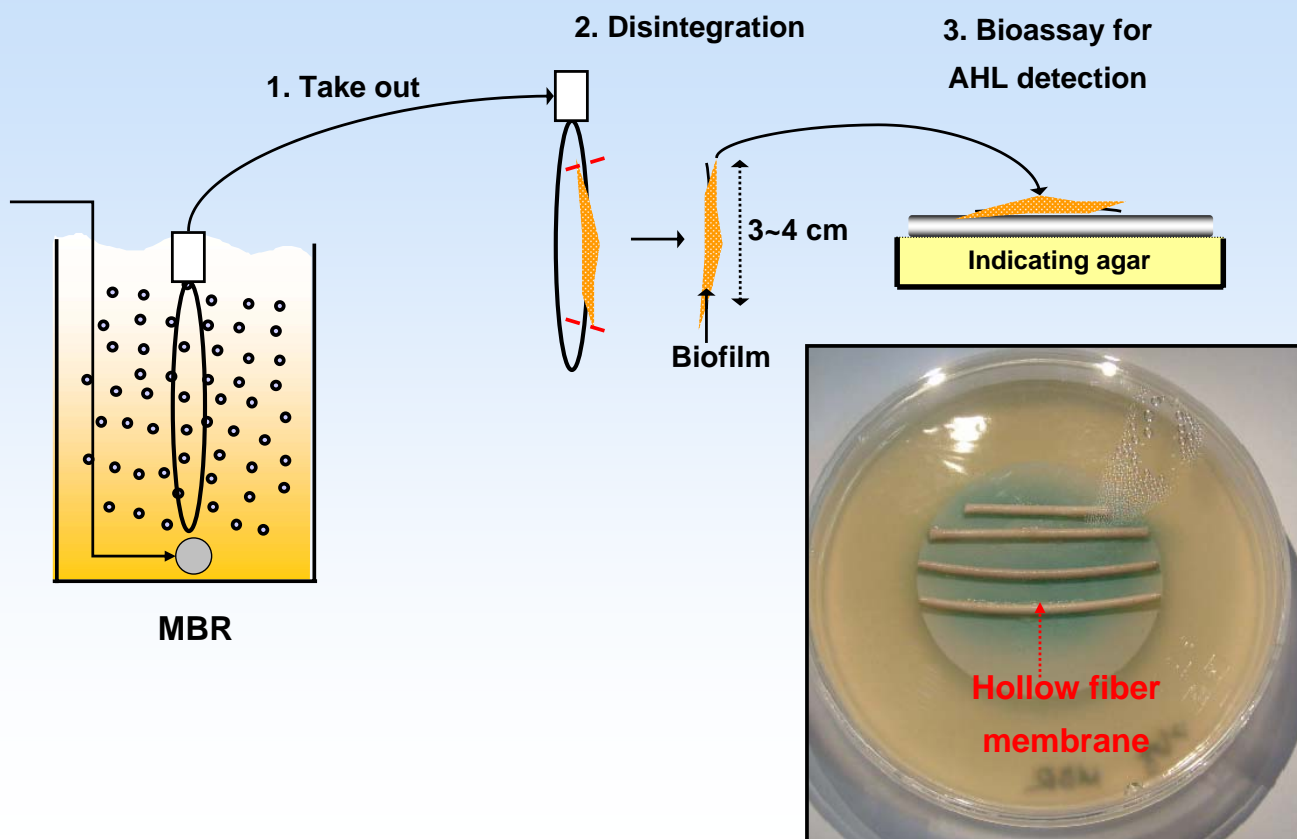


How to detect AHL : *A. tumefaciens* Biosensor

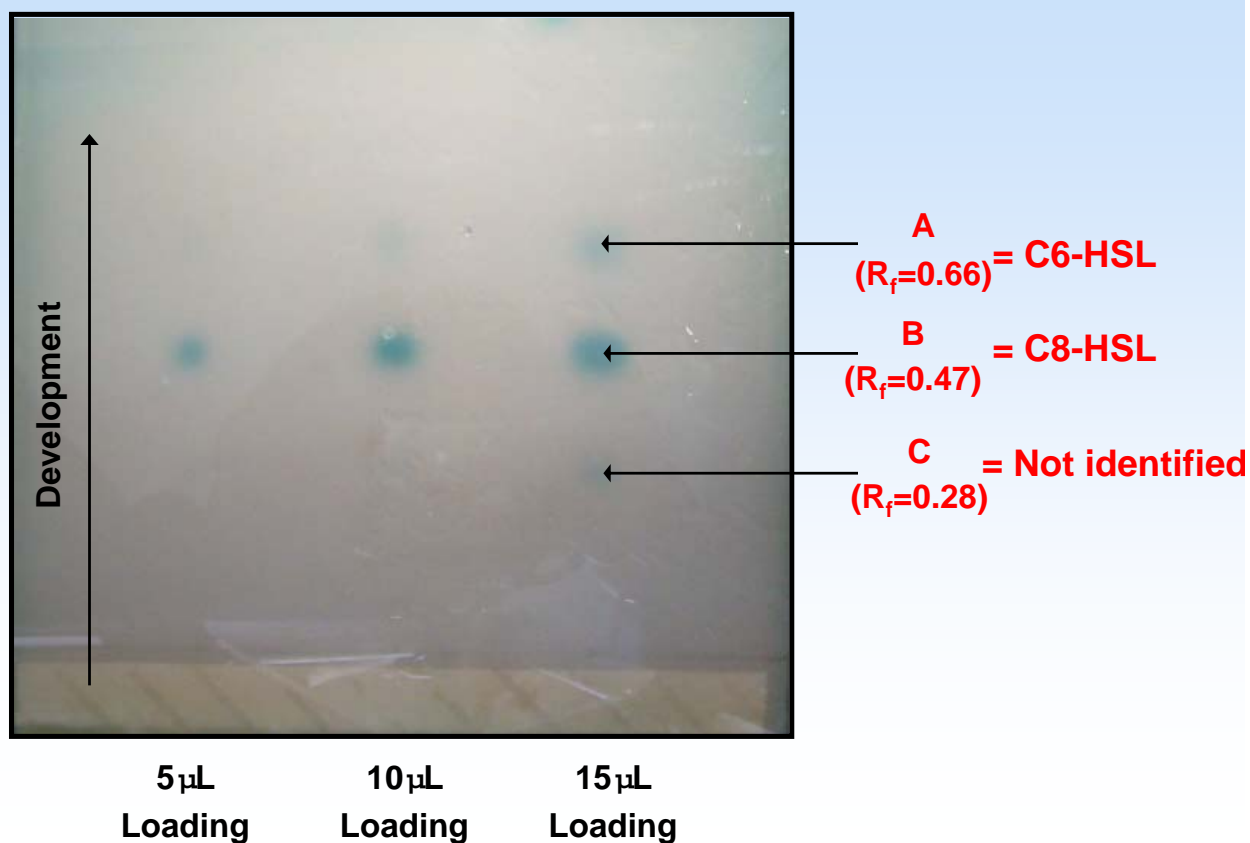
Agrobacterium tumefaciens A136 (Ti)(pCF218)(pCF372)
(Reporter Strain)



AHL QS activity in MBR : Experiment scheme



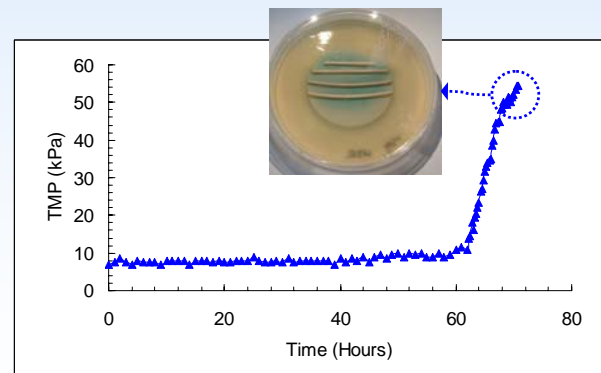
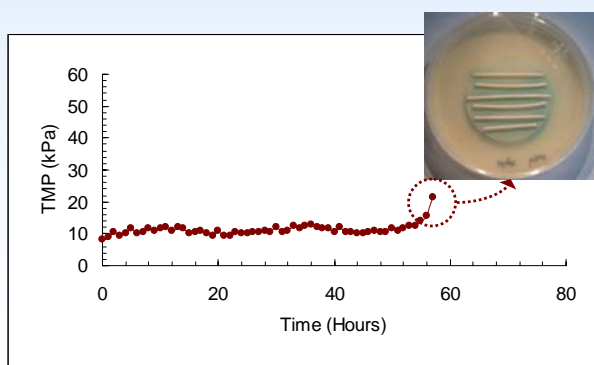
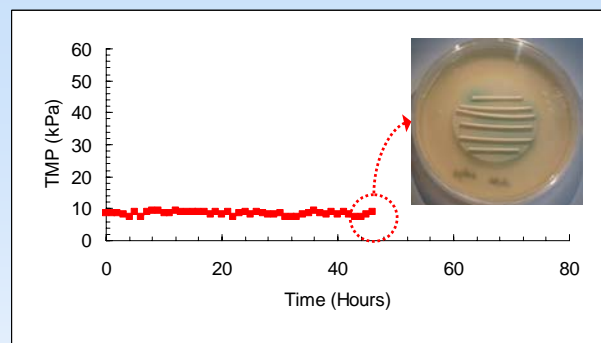
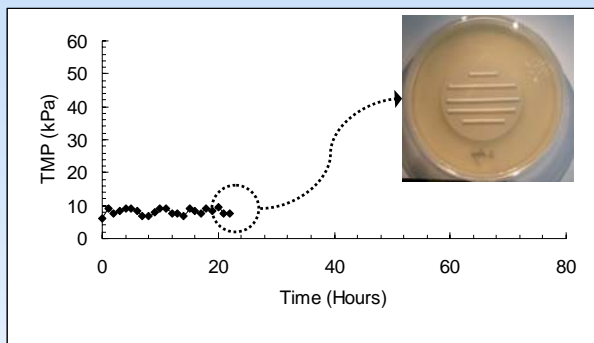
TLC chromatogram : Extracts of membrane-biofilm



Phase 2

Correlation between QS and biofouling in MBR.

Correlation between QS and biofouling in MBR

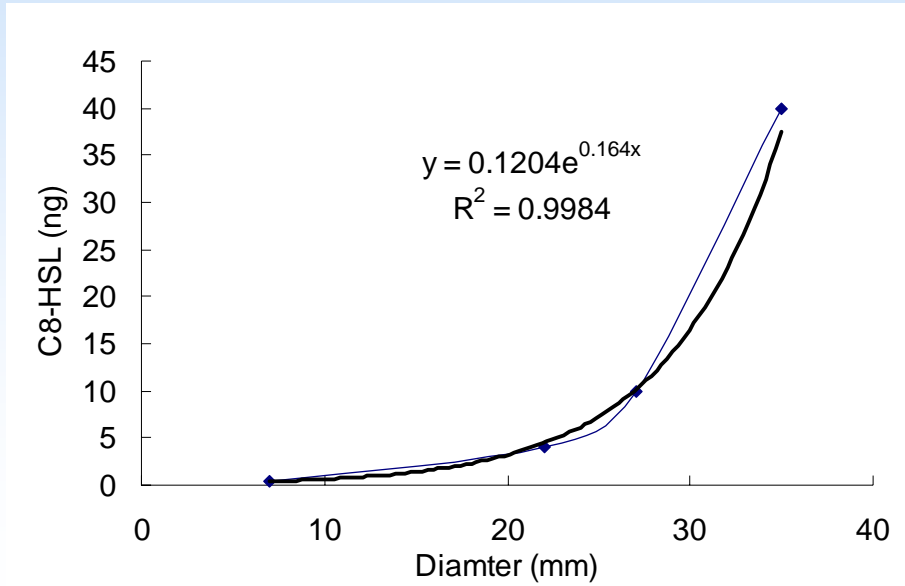


Quantitative analysis of AHL level in the sample :

- **Calibration Curve** (AHL standard : Synthetic C8-HSL) ;

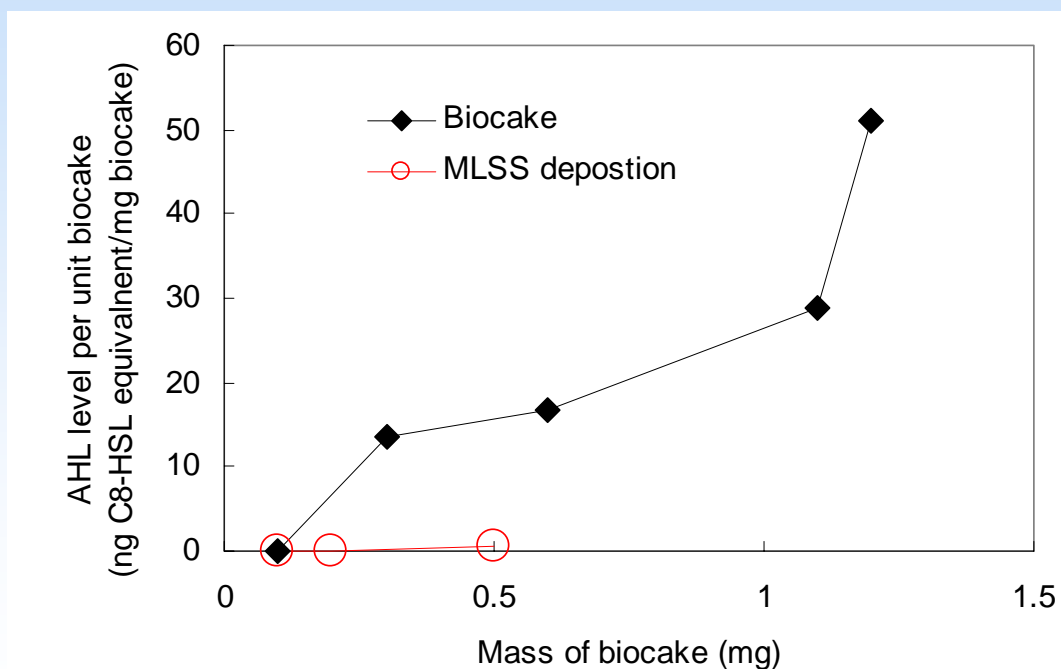
Amount of AHL (ng C8-HSL) = $0.1204 e^{0.164X}$ ($r^2=0.9984$)

X : distance of blue color on bioassay agar (mm)

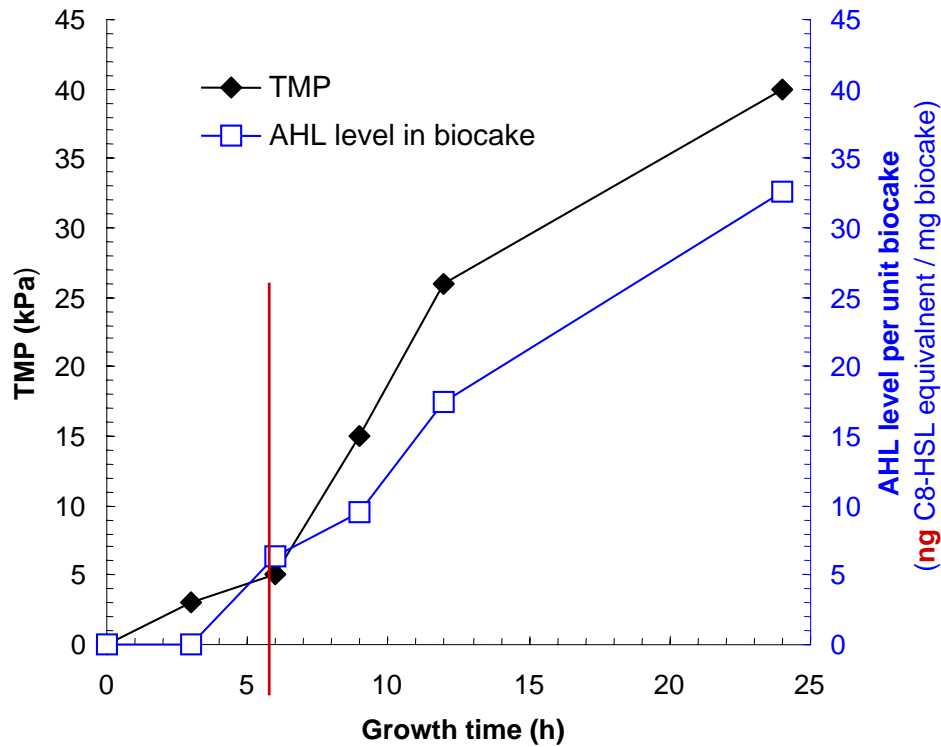


Dong et al., PNAS 2000, 97, 3526–3531.

Comparison of AHL level per unit biomass



Correlation between TMP and AHL level in membrane-biofilm



Autoinducer → self-acceleration

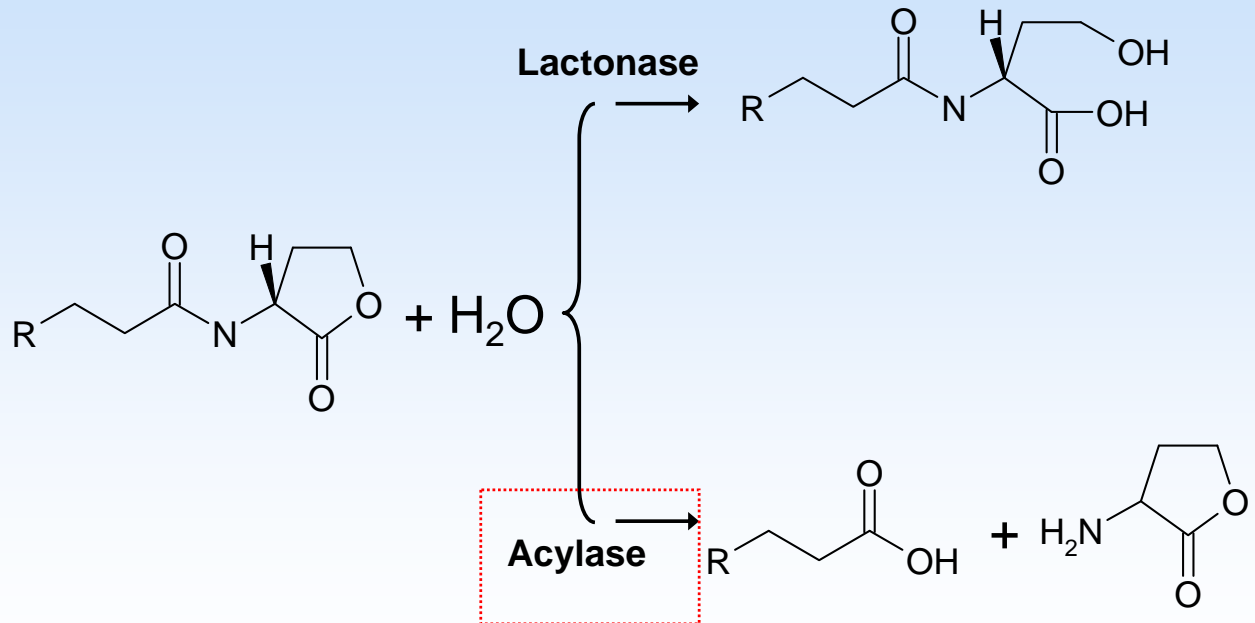
Phase 3

How to control QS in MBR:

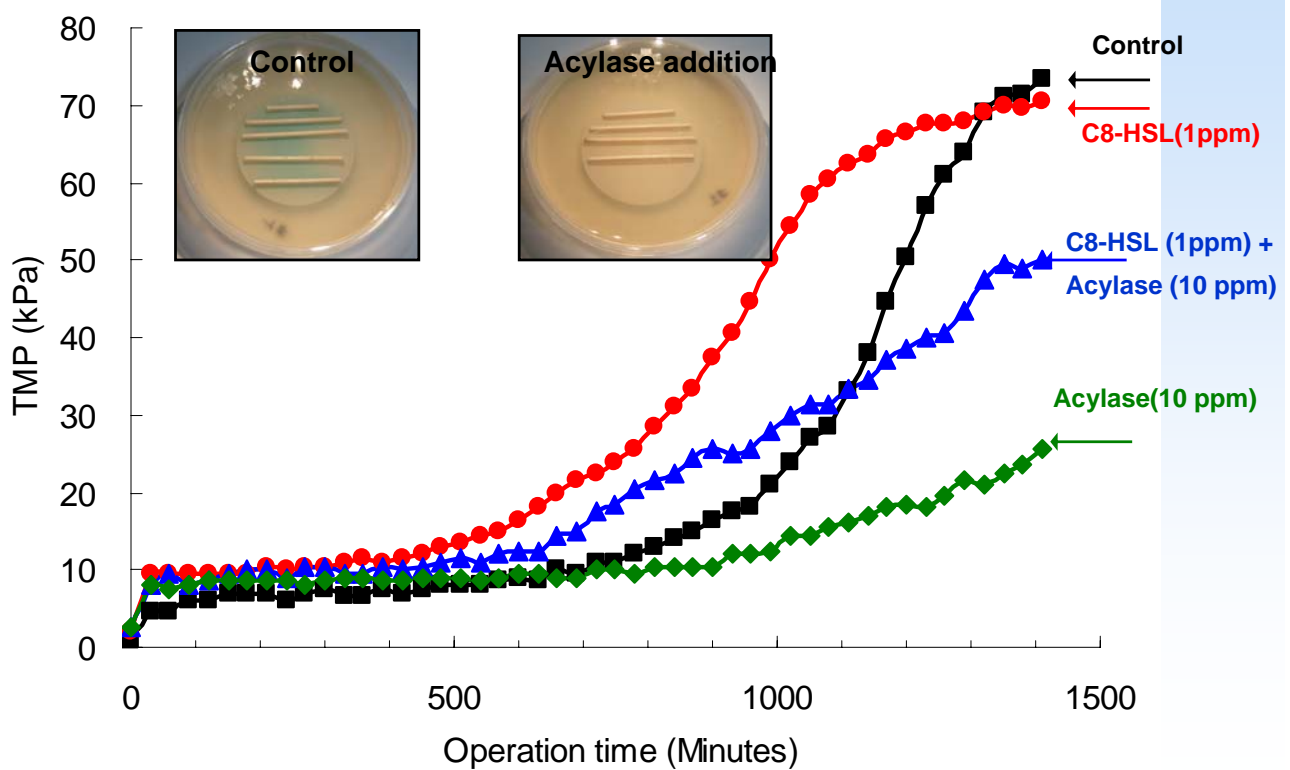
Quorum Quenching

Quorum quenching

- Definition;** Destruction of autoinducer by an enzyme



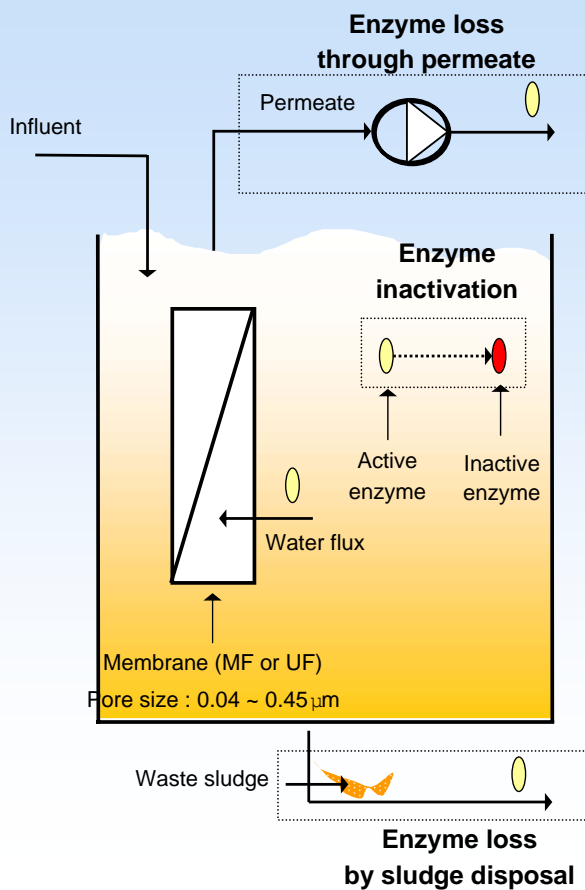
Biofouling prevention by quorum quenching



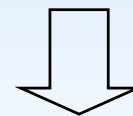
Phase 4

Practical application of Quorum Quenching: *Problems and solutions*

Loss of soluble acylase in continuous MBR operation

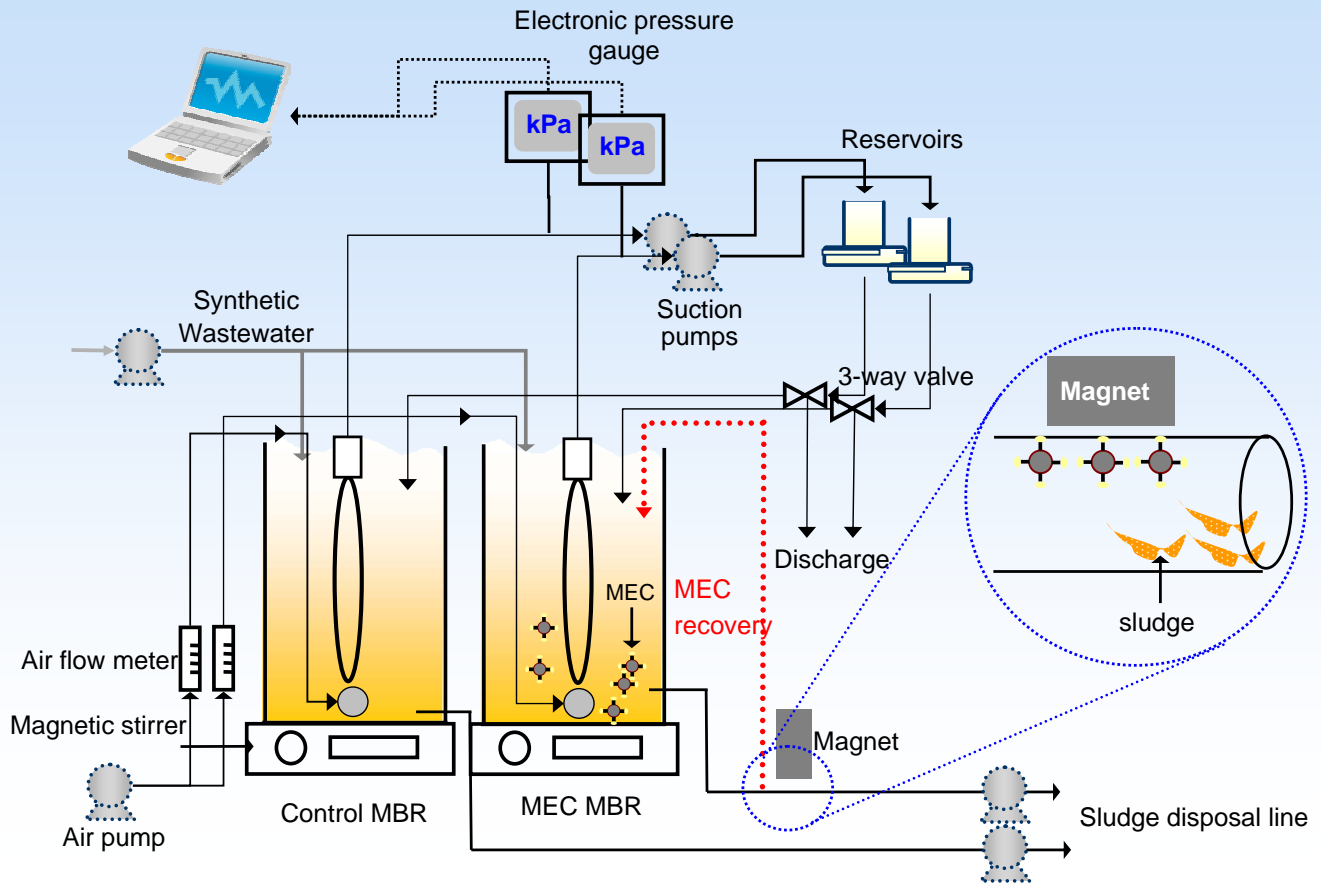


How to apply quorum quenching enzyme to MBR in continuous operation ?



Magnetic Enzyme Carrier (MEC)

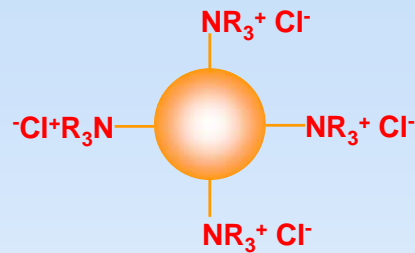
Schematic diagram of MBR in continuous operation



Preparation of Magnetic Enzyme Carrier

- Magnetic core**

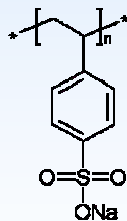
Magnetic ion exchange resin (MIEX)



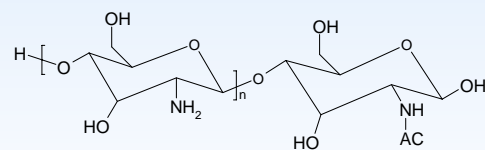
- Immobilization layer**

Poly(sodium-4-styrenesulfonate) (PSS)

Poly(D-glucosamine) deacetylated chitin



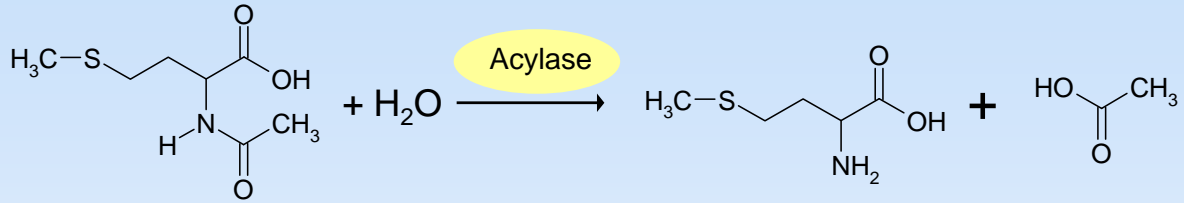
(chitosan)



- Enzyme** : Acylse (EC Number 3.5.1.14)

Enzymatic stability of MEC : Scheme

Enzyme reaction



N-acetyl-L-methionine ($\lambda_{\max}=238$ nm)

L-methionine

Acetic acid

Definition of the terms

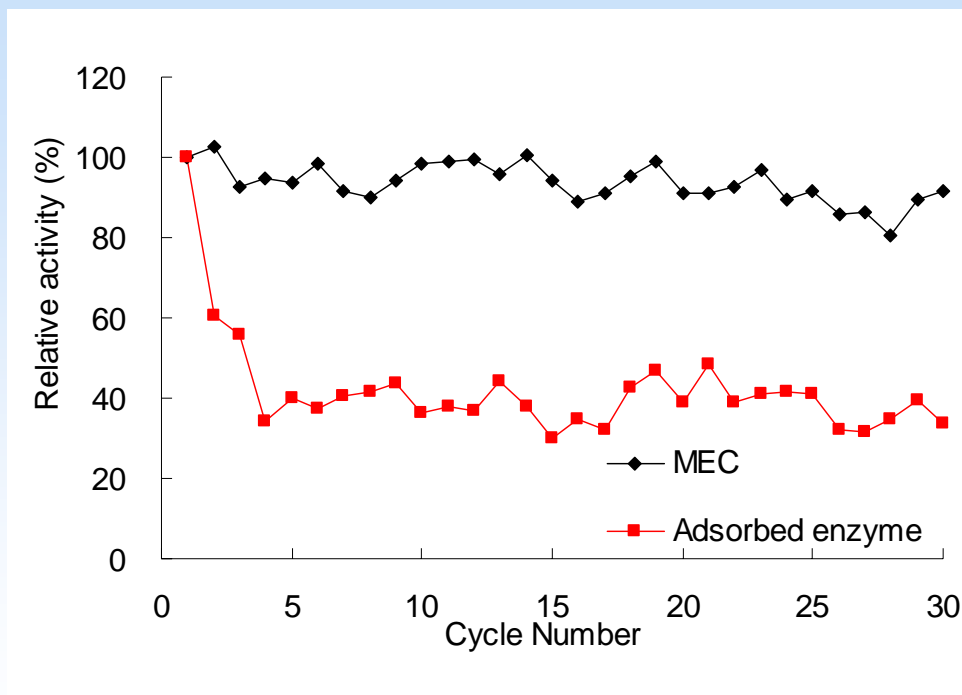
- Activity = slope of A₂₃₈ with time
- Initial activity = activity measured in the 1st run or at time 0
- Residual activity = activity measured in the nth run or at time t

• Relative activity (%) = $\frac{\text{Residual activity}}{\text{Initial activity}} \times 100$ → Indicator of the enzyme stability

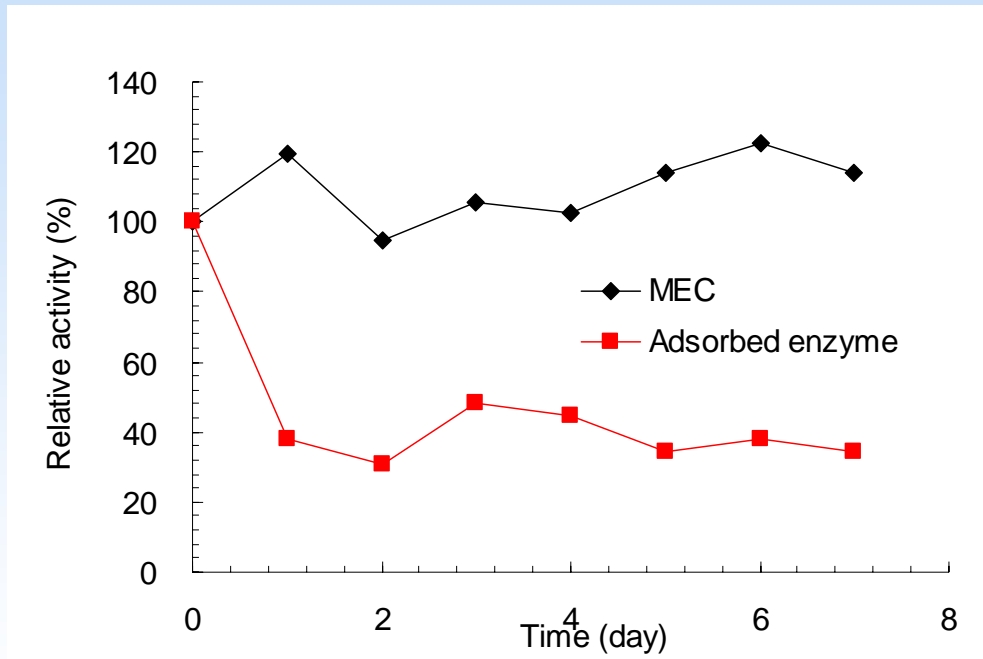
Methods

- Iterative cycle experiment
- Continuous shaking experiment

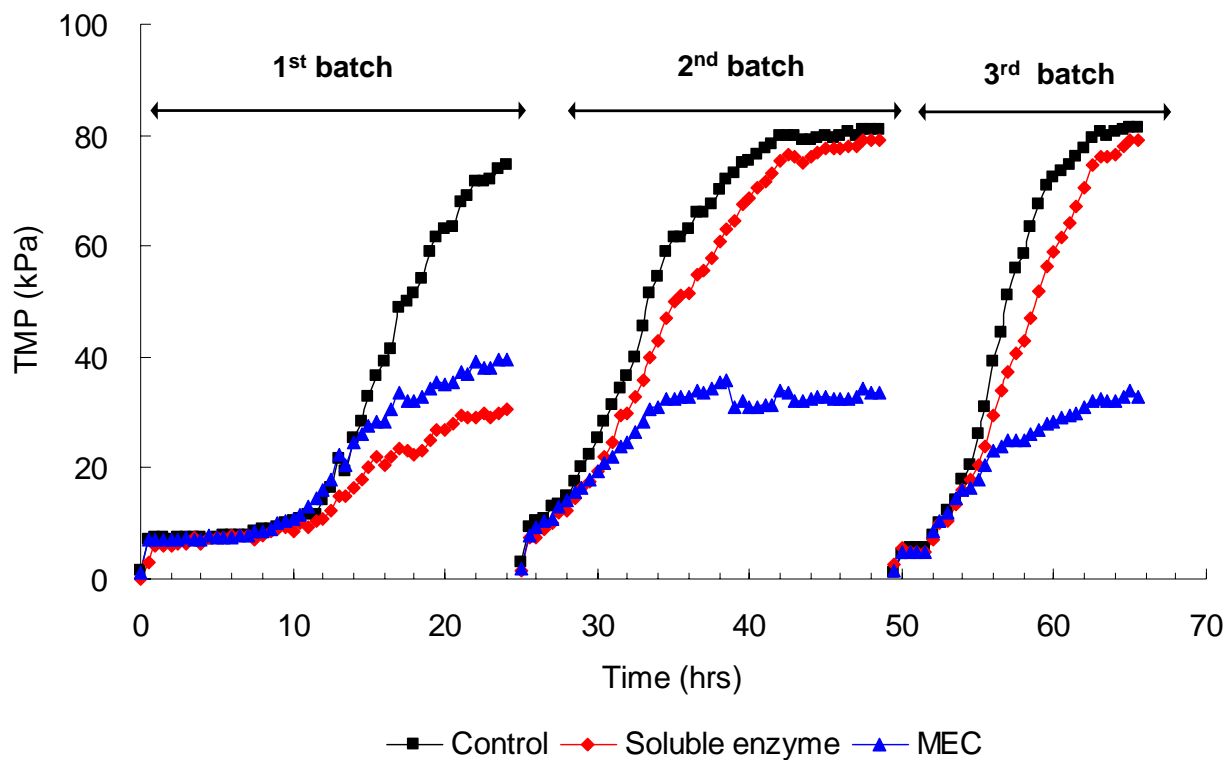
Iterative cyclic experiment



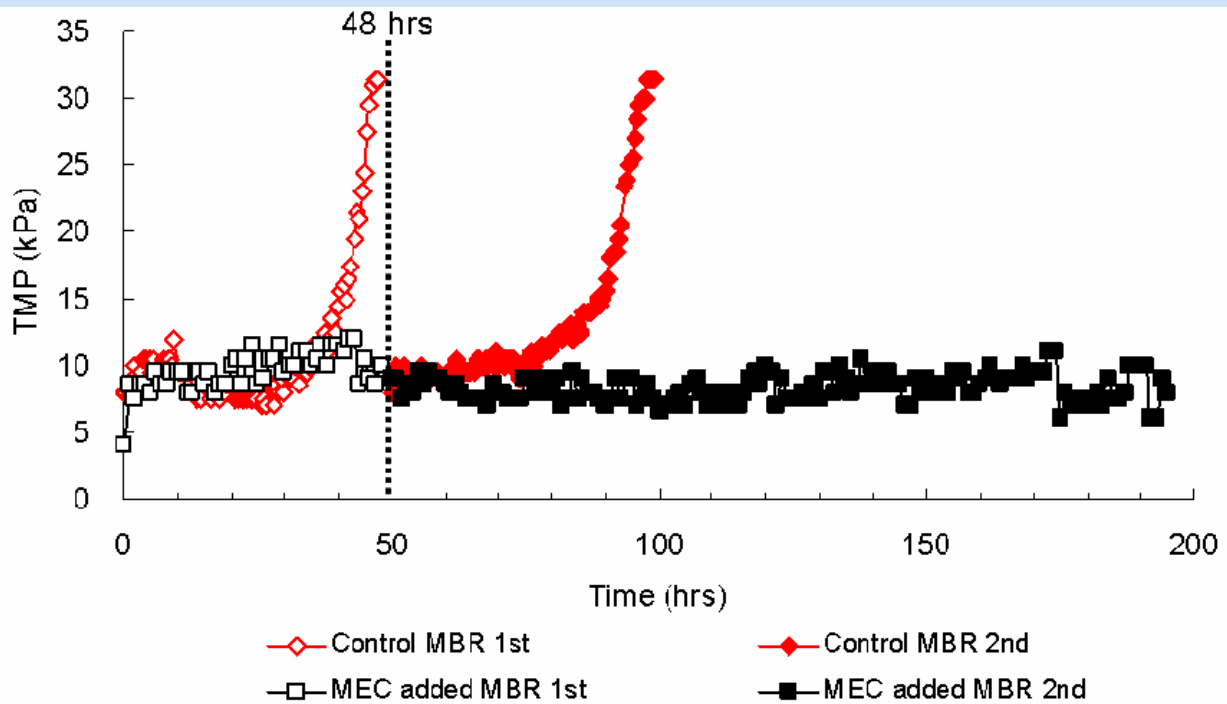
Continuous shaking experiment



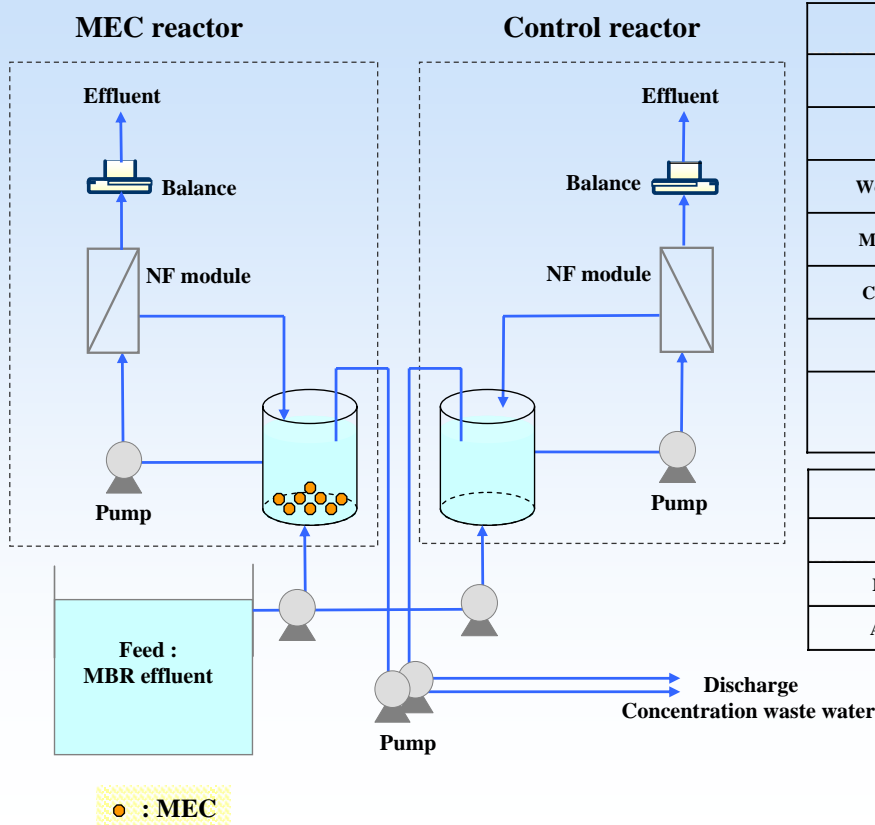
Magnetic enzyme carrier vs Soluble acylase



Effect of MEC on MBR performance: TMP profile



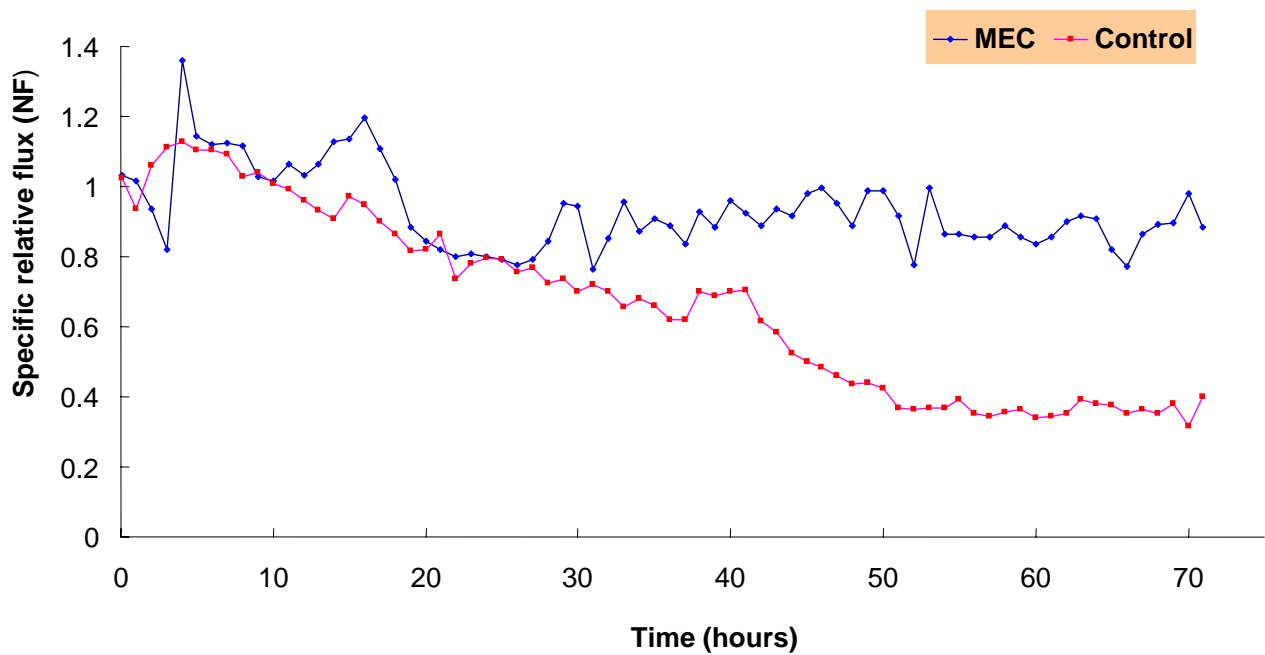
Effect of MEC on Nanofiltration of MBR effluent



Operating conditions	
Pressure	3.3 ~ 3.6 bar
Membrane	NF (Woongjin)
Working volume	1 L
Membrane area	0.0025 m ²
Cross flow rate	100 ml/min
Feed COD	20 ~ 40 mg/L
Discharge flow rate	2.0 ml/min

MEC reactor	
MEC size	100 ~ 200
MEC dosage	1.0 g
Acylase conc.	9.05 mg/L

Effect of MEC on Nanofiltration in crossflow operation



Conclusions

Quorum Sensing:

It opens a new horizon to the biofouling control in MBRs.

Acknowledgements

Thank You!

Chung-Hak Lee, K.M. Yeon, S.Y. Kim, J.H. Kim

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SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

<http://wemt.snu.ac.kr>