

New Insights and Innovations for Advanced Water Treatment

01/02/2023



WEBINAR INFORMATION



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WEBINAR INFORMATION



- **'Chat' box:** please use this for general requests and for interactive activities.
- **'Q&A' box:** please use this to send questions to the panelists. (We will answer these during the discussions)

Please Note: Attendees' microphones are muted. We cannot respond to 'Raise Hand'.

IWA DESIGN, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF DRINKING WATER TREATMENT PLANTS SG



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Specialist Group | Design Operation and Maintenance of Drinking Water Treatment Plants

Feeds Events Members

Mohammad Anwar Hossain
Posted in Design Operation and Maintenance of Drinking Water Treatment Plants | 6 days ago

Sustainable Water Management Expo-2023
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The core issues relating to the drinking water treatment plants include many aspects such as health risk related to emerging parameters (chemical and microbiological), NOM removal, advanced treatment processes for new micro-pollutants...

Join

Group Admins → See all

- Norbert Jardin**
Group Admin
- Rachna Sakari**
Group Admin

This SG aims to enhance networking and exchange of practices and experience on operational issues for those involved in the design and operation of drinking water treatment plants, and contribute to better understand the operational needs (ex. in terms of Training) and help solving operational problems.

www.iwaconnectplus.org/group/feeds?CommunityKey=a0M4K0000027gbSUAQ

Join the IWA SG on IWA Connect+

IWA “**DESIGN, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF DRINKING WATER TREATMENT PLANTS**” Specialist Group

The core issues related to the drinking water treatment plants:

- Health risk related to emerging parameters (chemical and microbiological)
- NOM removal
- Advanced treatment processes for new micro-pollutants removal
- Application and case studies solving operational issues
- Smart tools for analyzing plant data

IWA “DESIGN, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF DRINKING WATER TREATMENT PLANTS” Specialist Group

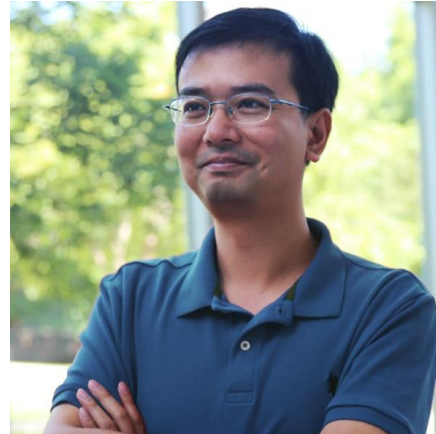
- **Prof. Jun Ma**, Harbin Institute of Technology, China (Committee Chair)
- **Dr. Yeek Chia Ho**, Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS, Malaysia (Committee Vice Chair)
- **Prof. Qianhong She**, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- **Dr. Inês Breda**, Silhorko-Eurowater A/S, Denmark
- **Dr. Zdravka Do-quang**, Suez Environment, France
- **Jacob Kwasi Amengor**, Ghana Water Company Limited, Ghana
- **Rui Sancho**, Water Safety Plan, Portugal



MODERATOR & SPEAKERS



Yumeng Zhao
Harbin Institute of
Technology, China
(Moderator)



Xing Xie
Georgia Institute of
Technology, USA



Urs von Guten
Eawah/EPFL,
Switzerland



Rhea Verbeke
Ku Leuven,
Belgium

AGENDA

- Welcome, housekeeping rules, introduction
Yumeng Zhao, Harbin Institute of Technology (moderator)
- Application of chemical oxidants for enhanced water treatment
Urs Von Guten, Eawag/EPFL
- Locally enhanced electric field treatment (LEEFT) for drinking water disinfection
Xing Xie, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Recent advances and scale up challenges in oxidants production by electrochemical processes for water disinfection
Rhea Verbeke, KU Leuven
- Q&A Discussion
Speakers & Moderator
- Final remarks and conclusion
Yumeng Zhao, Harbin Institute of Technology

Application of chemical oxidants for enhanced water treatment

URS VON GUNTEN

**EAWAG, SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF AQUATIC SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY**

EPFL, ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FEDERALE, LAUSANNE



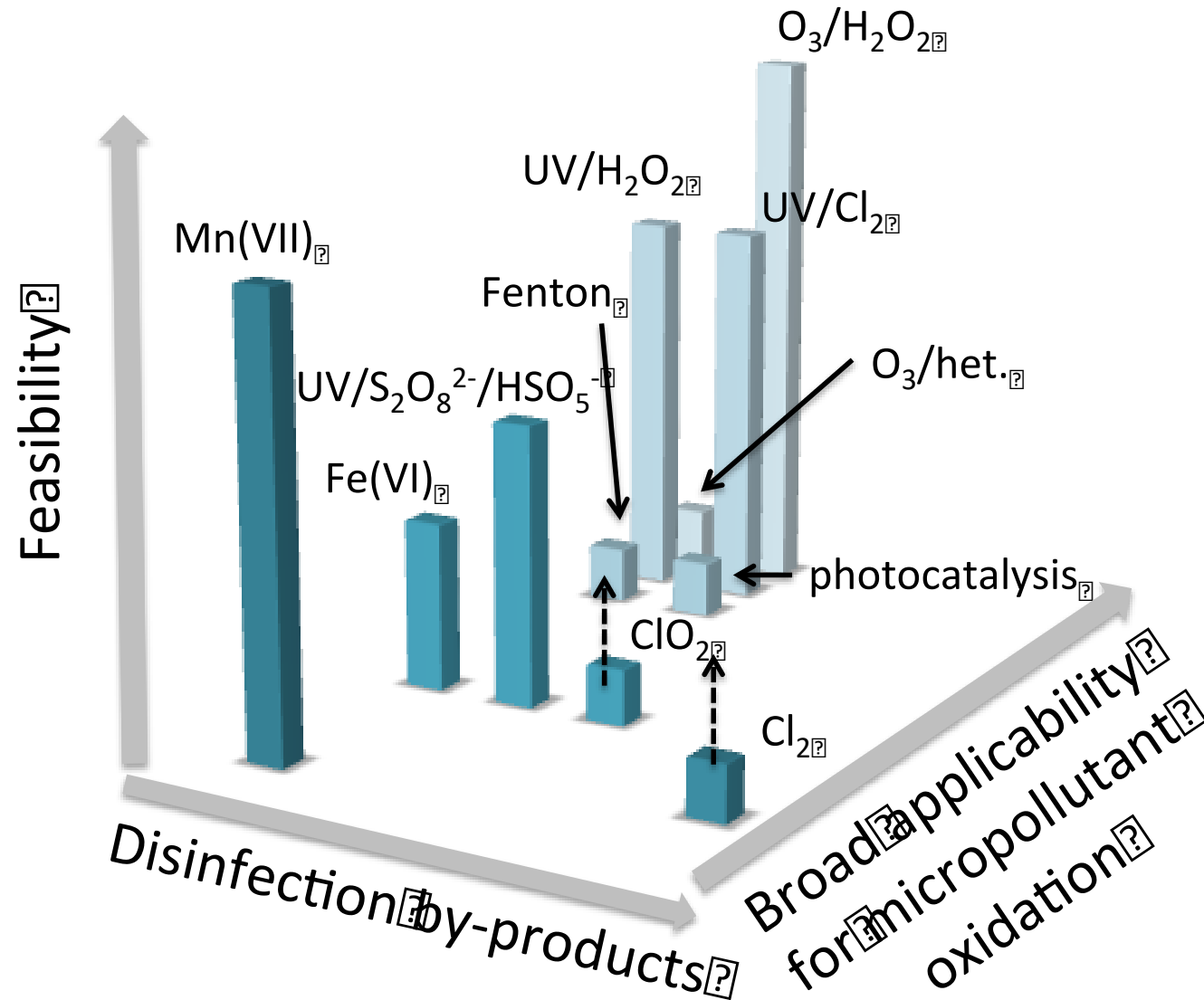
ENHANCED WATER TREATMENT

APPLICATION OF CHEMICAL OXIDANTS FOR MICROPOLLUTANT ABATMENT



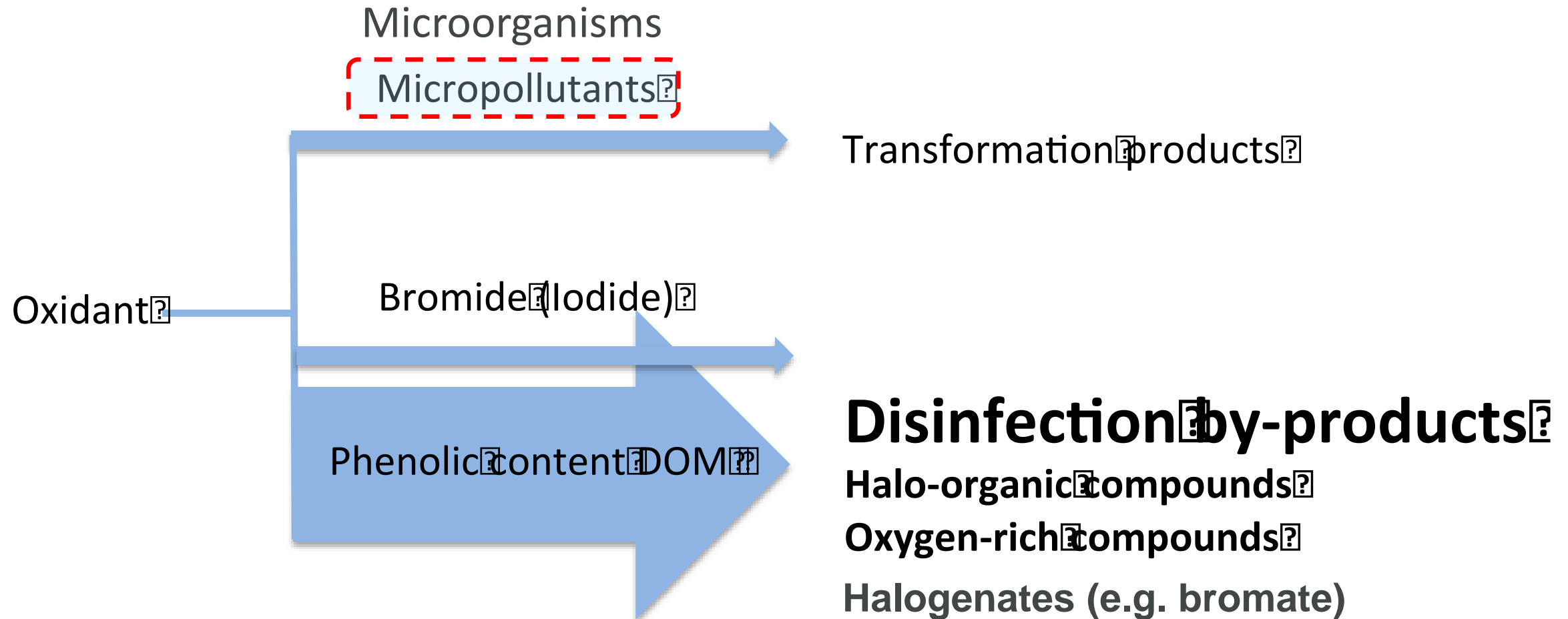
- Initial success story!
- Application to drinking water
- Inorganic compounds (sulfide, nitrite, iron(II), manganese(II))
- Taste and odor compounds, color
- Organic contaminants:
 - Biologically active compounds are **abated** but what happens to them?
 - Application to wastewaters (enhanced wastewater treatment, water reuse): Role of matrix components?

SEARCH FOR A PERFECT OXIDANT: DECADES OF RESEARCH



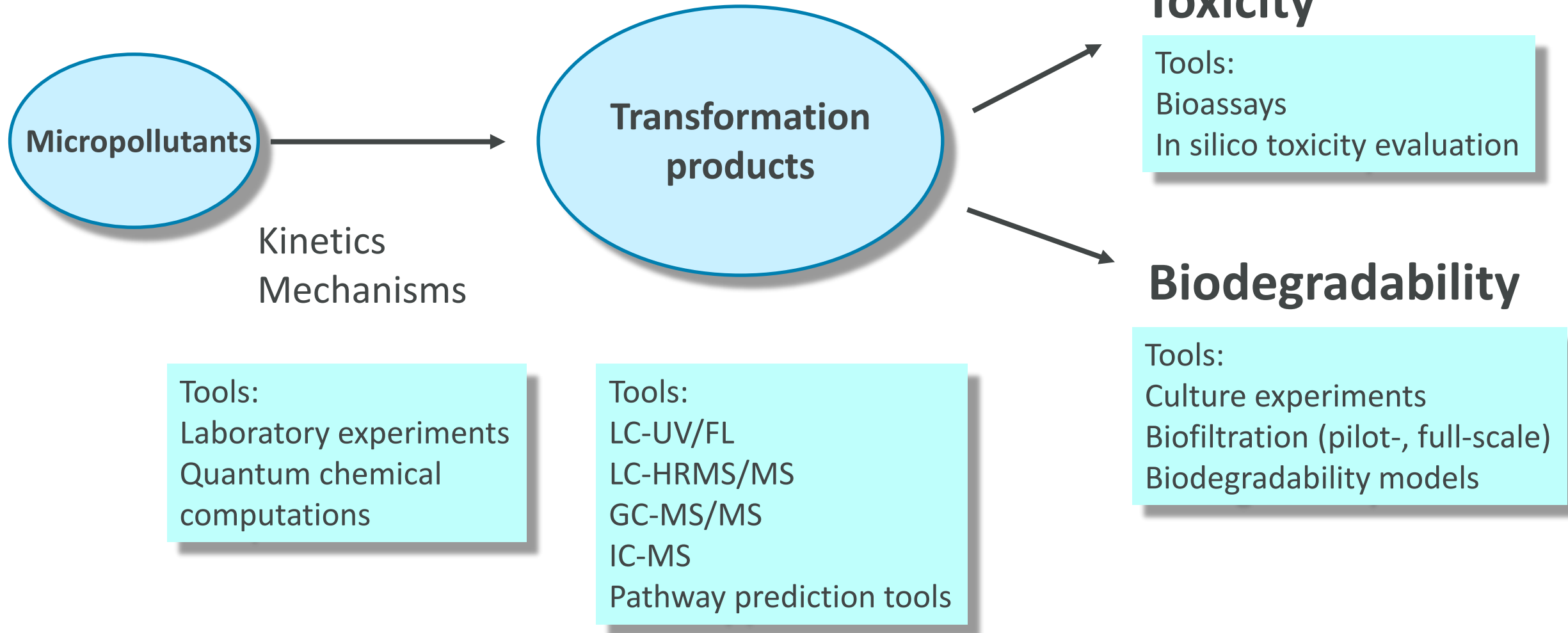
von Gunten, ES&T, 2018

OXIDATION REACTIONS WITH MICRO-ORGANISMS/POLLUTANTS AND MATRIX COMPONENTS

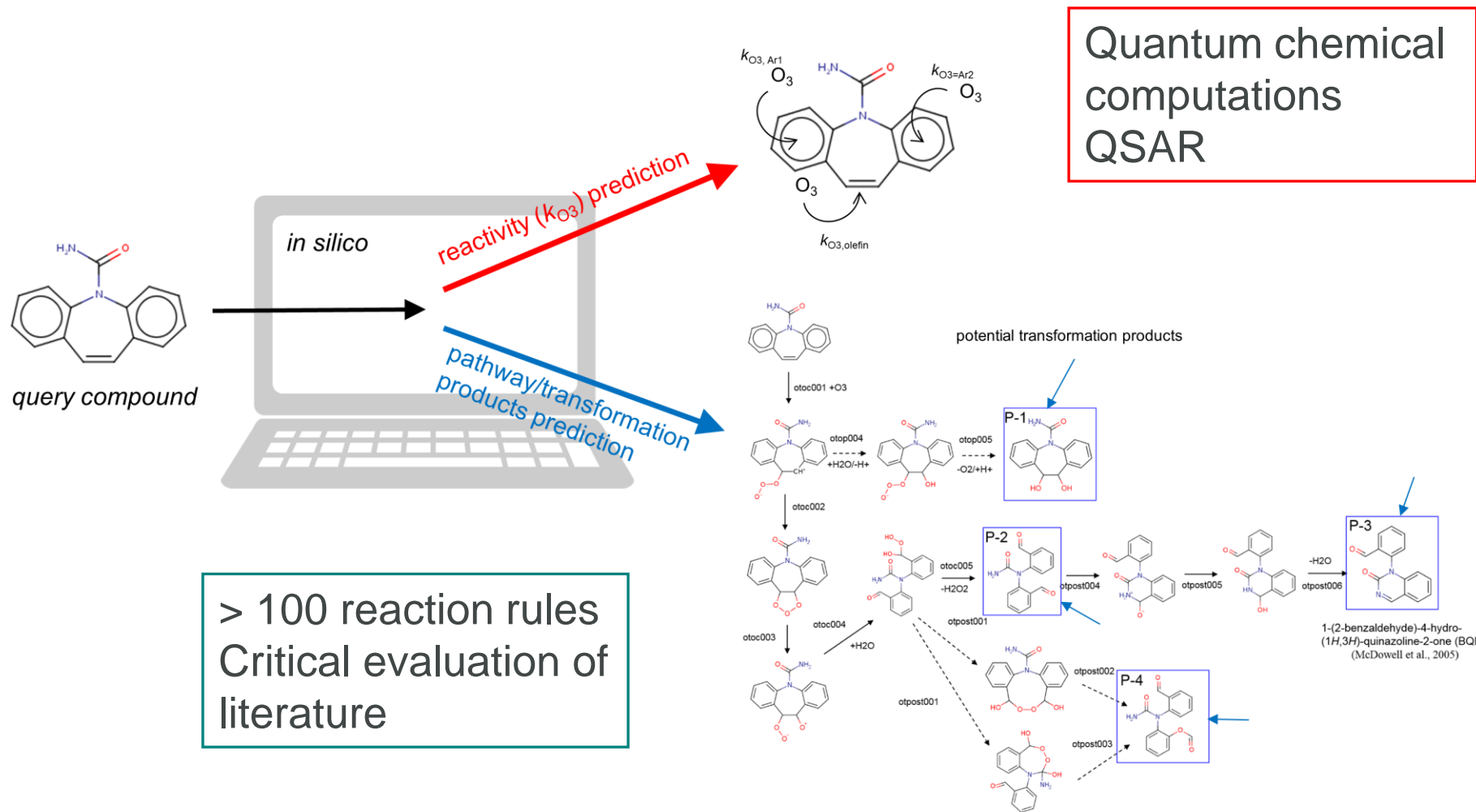


von Gunten, ES&T, 2018

OXIDATION OF MICROPOLLUTANTS



PLATFORM FOR PREDICTION OF TRANSFORMATION PRODUCTS FORMATION DURING OZONATION



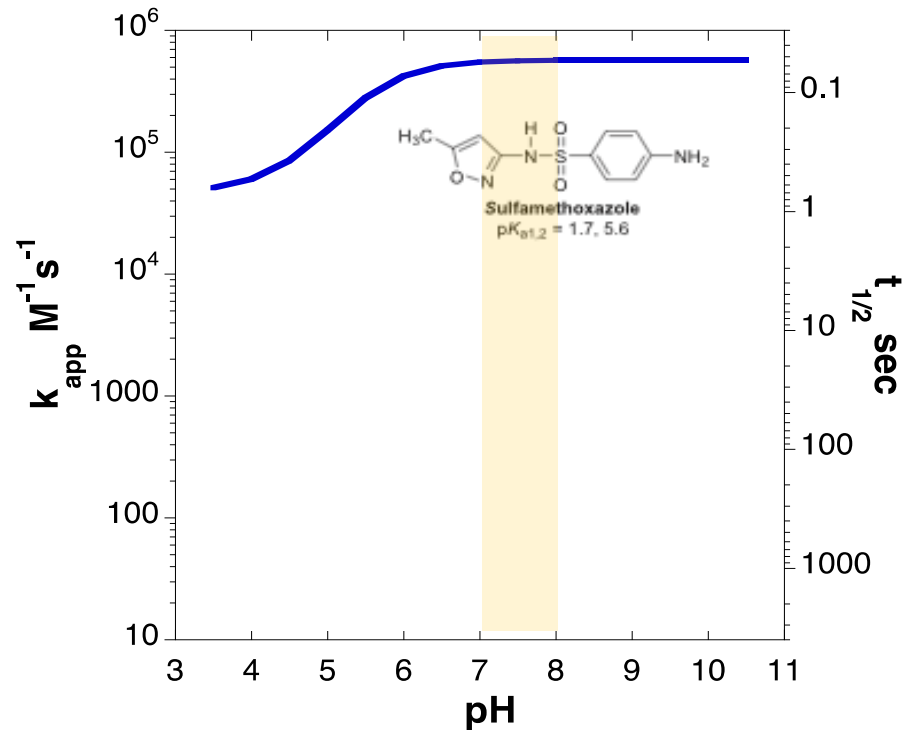
Quantum chemical computations
QSAR

Lee et al., ESPI, 2017

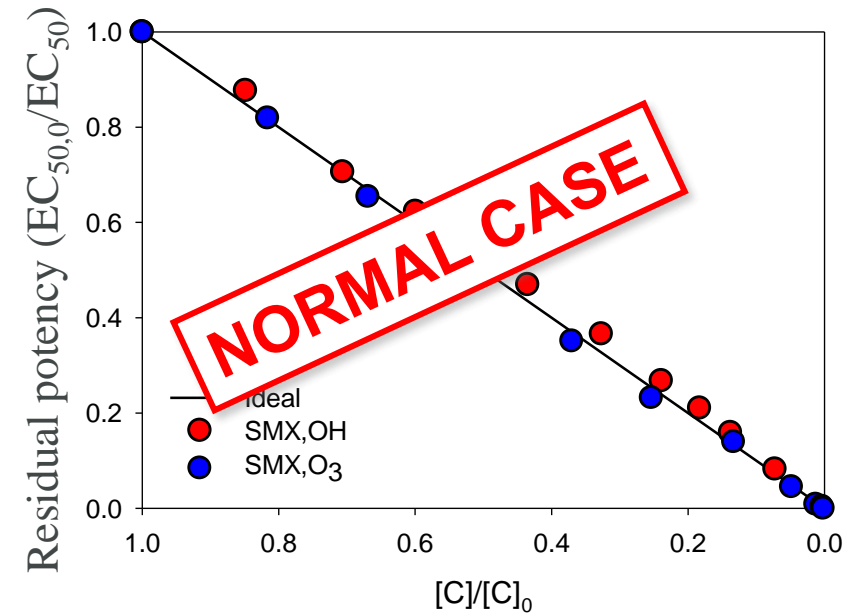
LOSS OF PRIMARY BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY CAUSED BY THE PARENT COMPOUND

OXIDATION OF SULFAMETHOXAZOLE BY OZONE AND ·OH

Ozone oxidation kinetics



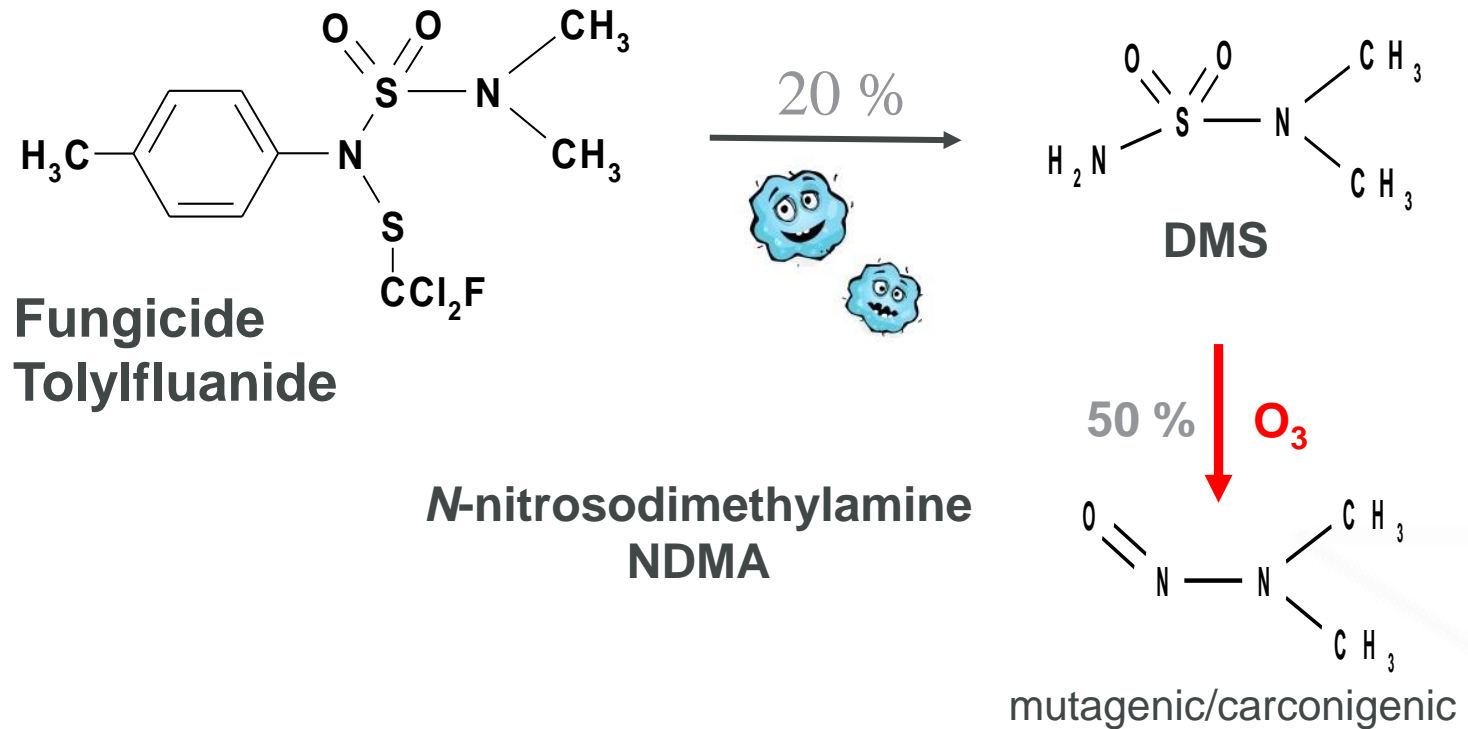
Antimicrobial activity as a function of transformation



Huber et al., ES&T, 2003, Dodd et al., ES&T, 2006, Dodd et al. ES&T, 2009

TRANSFORMATION PRODUCTS OF BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE/NON-ACTIVE MICROPOLLUTANTS

COMPOUNDS WITH HIGHER TOXICITY THAN THE PARENT COMPOUND

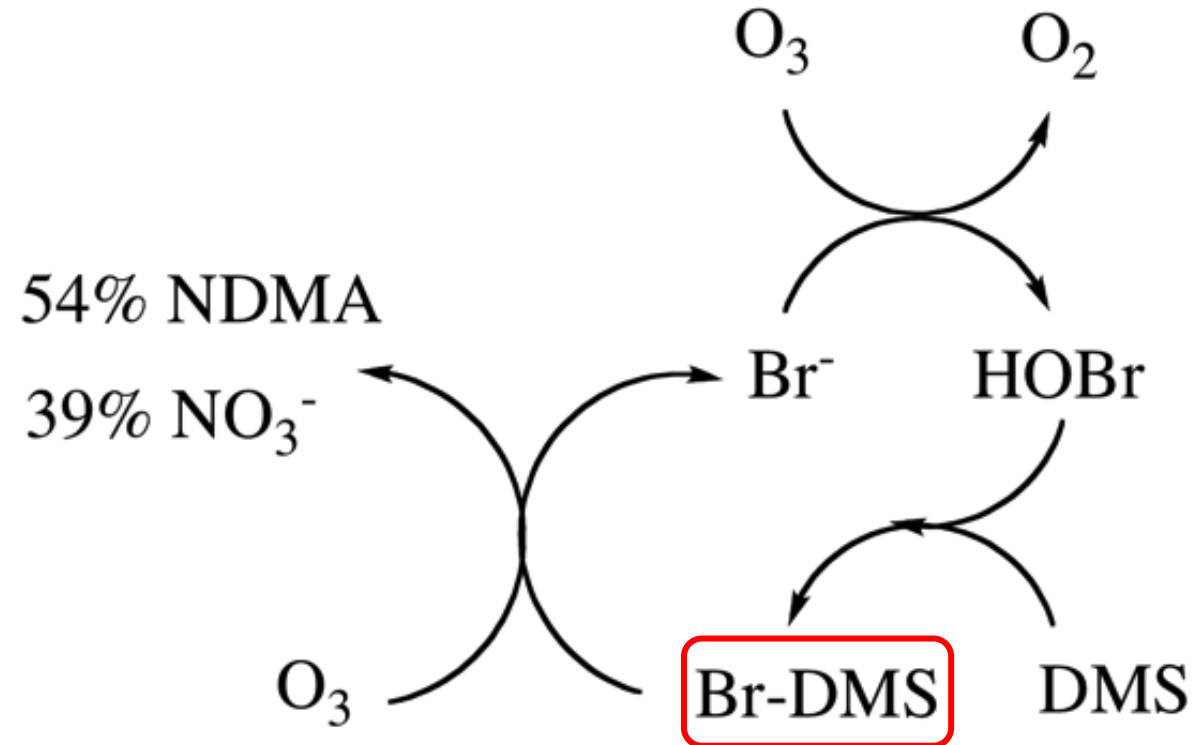
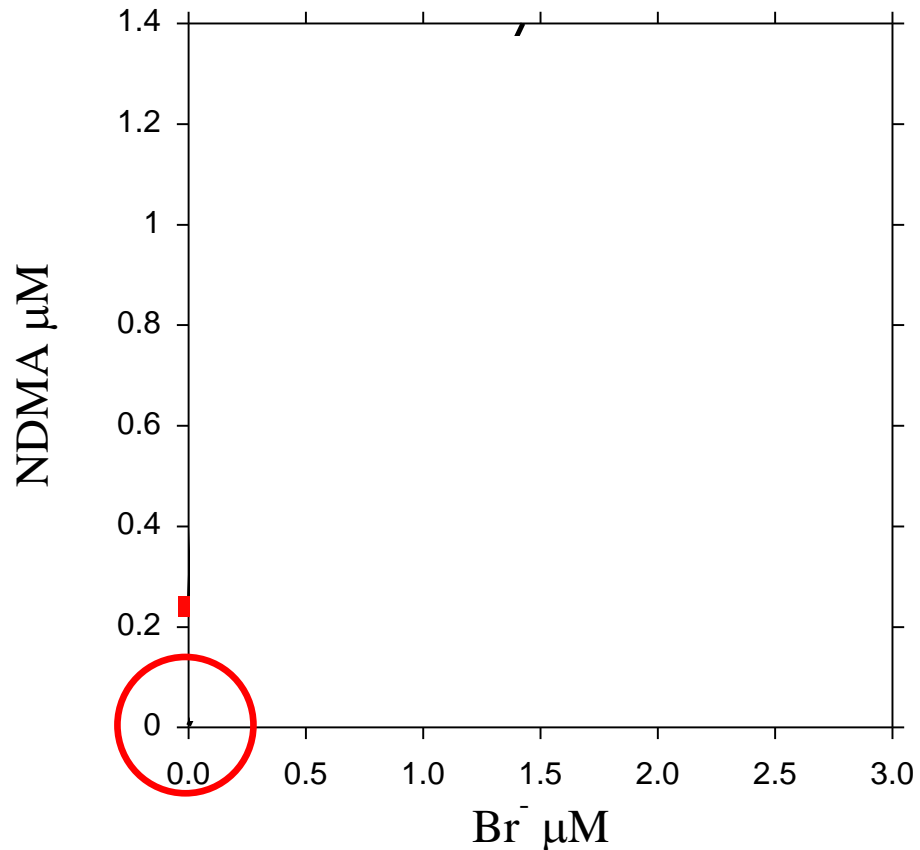
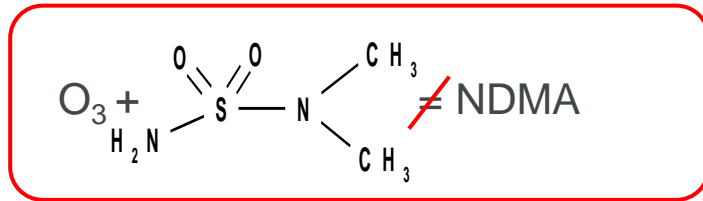


- Ozonation of drinking water
- DMS in low $\mu\text{g/L}$ levels \Rightarrow several 100 ng/L NDMA in drinking water
- Shutdown of ozonation
- Ban of tolyfluanide in most European countries

Schmidt and Brauch, ES&T, 2008

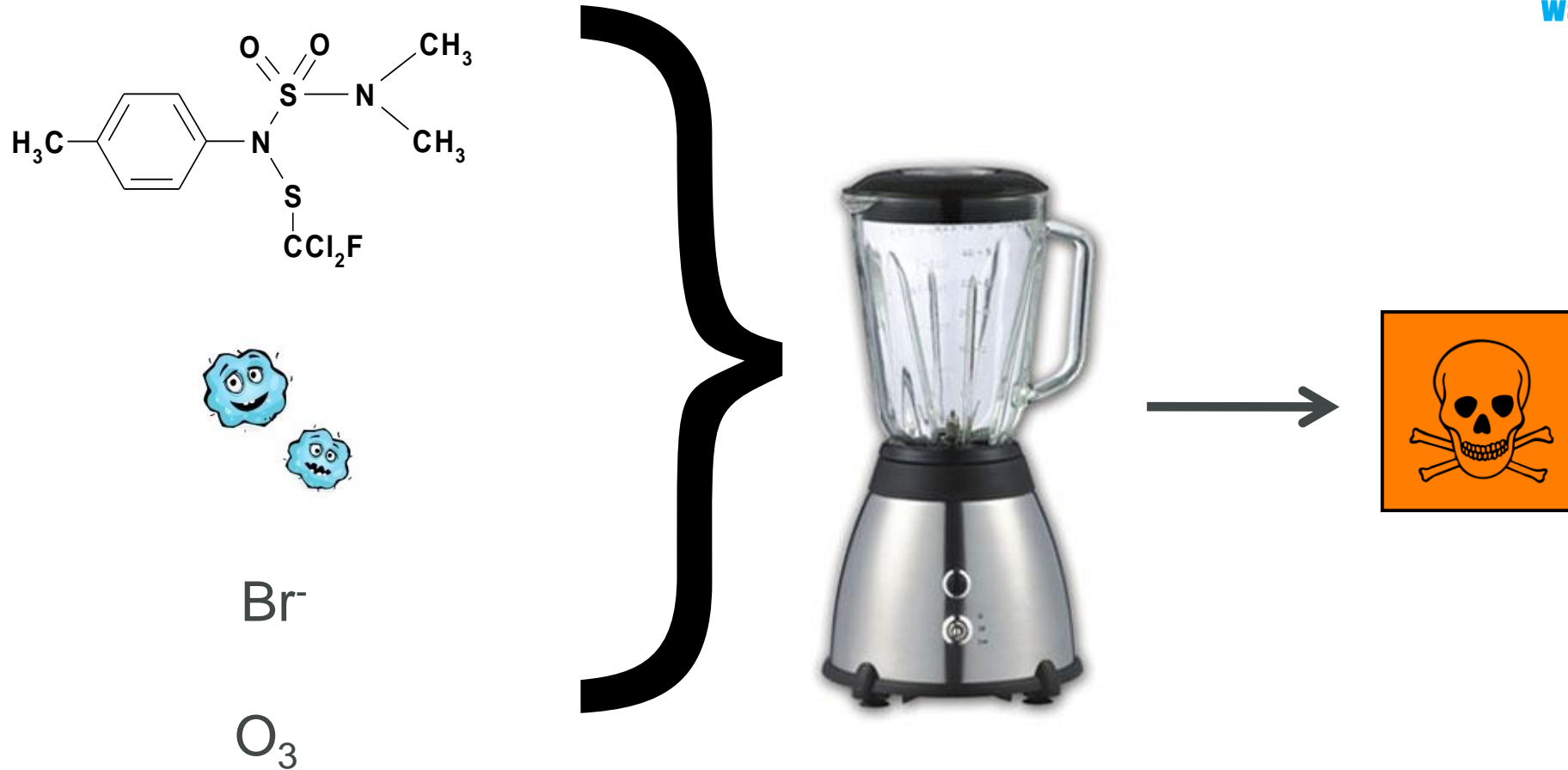
NDMA FORMATION DURING OZONATION OF DMS

ROLE OF BROMIDE



von Gunten et al., ES&T, 2010

AN UNPREDICTABLE COCKTAIL



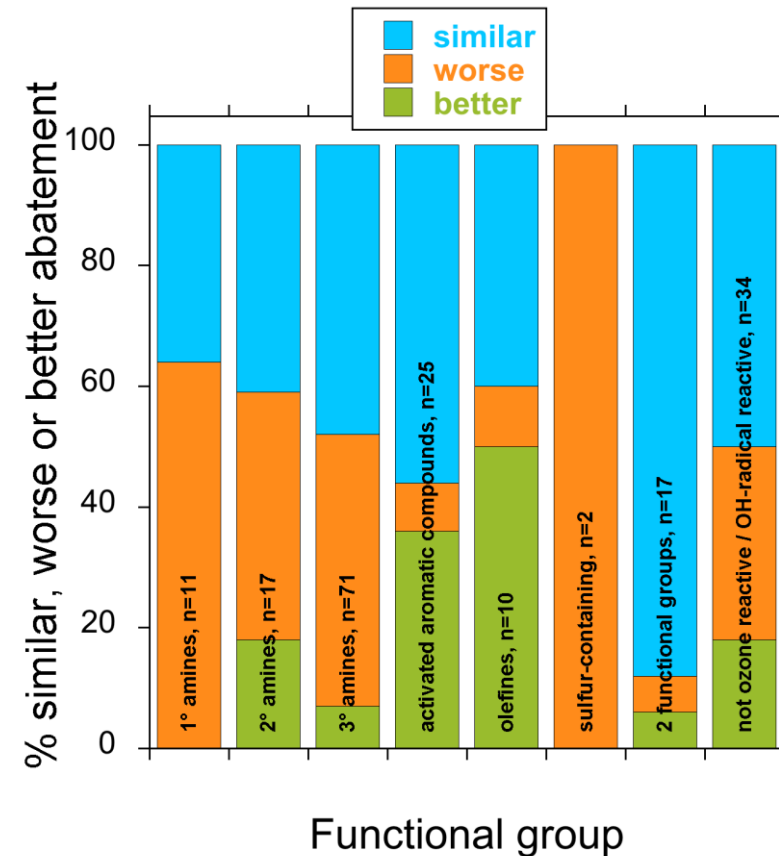
OZONATION-SAND FILTRATION OF LAKE WATER

BIODEGRADABILITY OF TRANSFORMATION PRODUCTS RELATIVE TO THE PARENT COMPOUNDS

TP measurement with
LC-HRMS/MS (pos./neg. mode)

- 51 compounds spiked
- 187 TP: 143 (76%) stable, 35 (19%) abatement, 9 (5%) formation
- Abated structures contain: Aldehydes, carbonyls, carboxylic acids, alcohols, amides
- Formed from aromatic, olefinic, aliphatic functional groups
- 24 (13%) of TPs were better biodegradable than the parent compounds

51 compounds spiked, TPs from 39



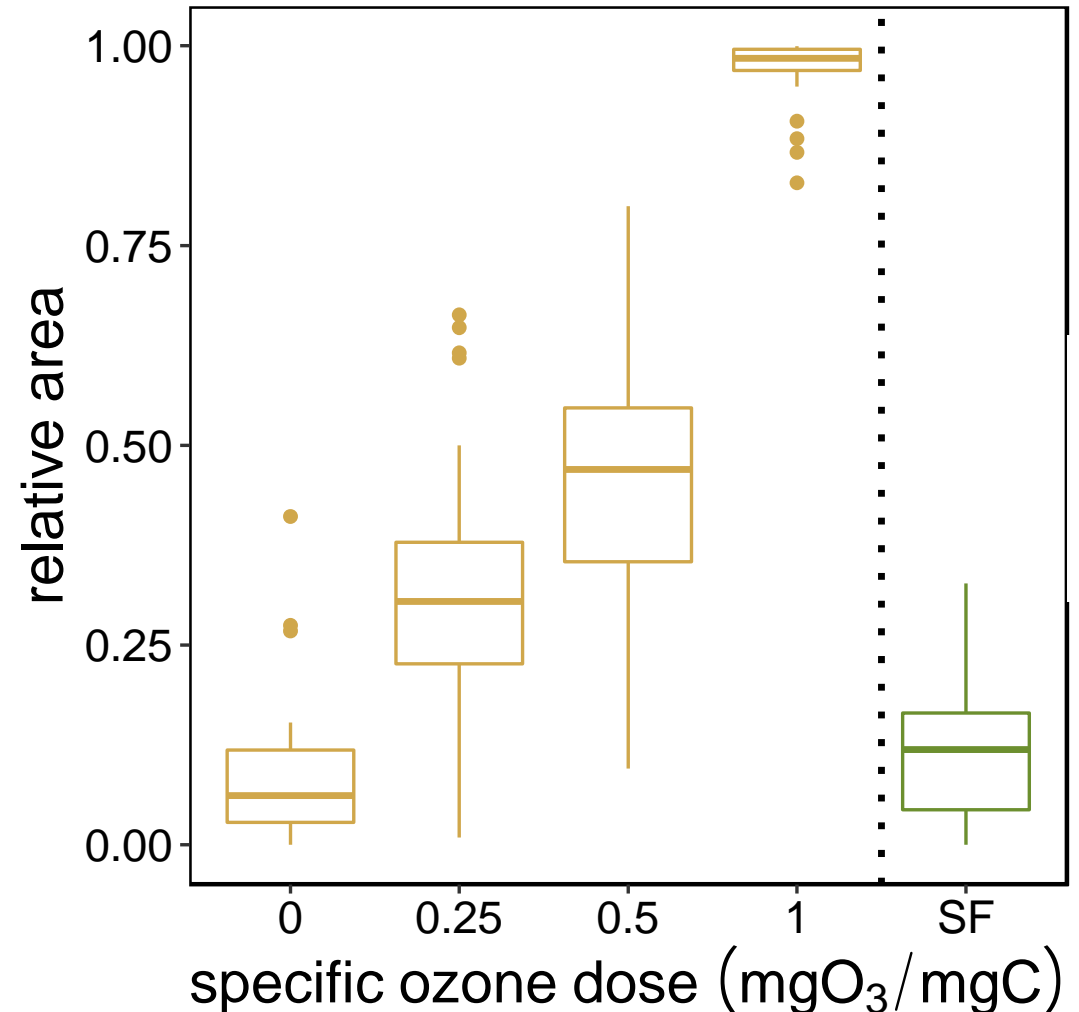
OXIDATION REACTIONS WITH MATRIX COMPONENTS

DISSOLVED ORGANIC MATTER (DOM)

- DOM is the main consumer of oxidants
- Phenolic moieties (1-2 mmol/gDOC): 10 μM for 5 mg/L DOC
- Sum of micropollutant concentrations (WW effluent):
20 $\mu\text{g/L} \approx 0.2 \mu\text{M}$ (Bourgin et al. WR, 2018)
- Ozone: $\ll 2\%$ reaction with micropollutants
- $\cdot\text{OH}$: $\ll 0.5\%$ reaction with micropollutants
- Products of reactions of DOM with O_3 and $\cdot\text{OH}$ have to be considered!
- Phenolic moieties are important precursors for DBPs

FORMATION OF CARBONYL COMPOUNDS DURING OZONATION OF A WASTEWATER

- Full-scale ozonation of wastewater effluent
- Carbonyl compounds formed from aromatic (EDC), olefinic, aliphatic functional groups
- Derivatization of samples to detect carbonyl compounds with *p*-toluenesulfonyl-hydrazine (TSH)
- 46 carbonyl formulas detected (data with clear formation trend)
- Formation proportional to ozone dose
- Degradation during biological sand filtration



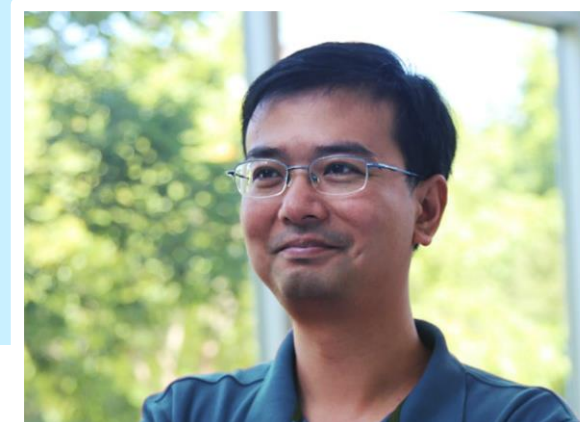
Houska et al. Water Res. 2023, Manasfi et al. Water Res. 2023

OUTLOOK

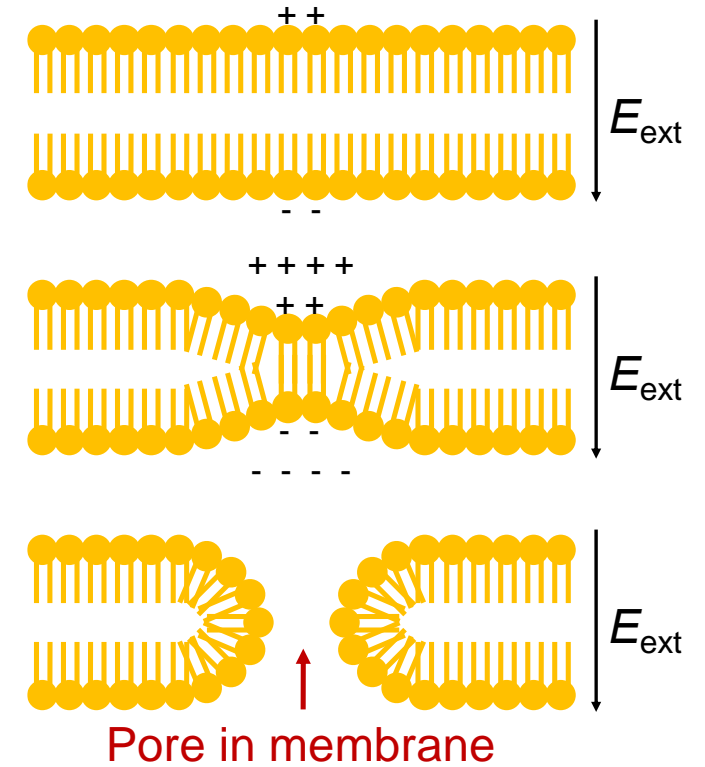
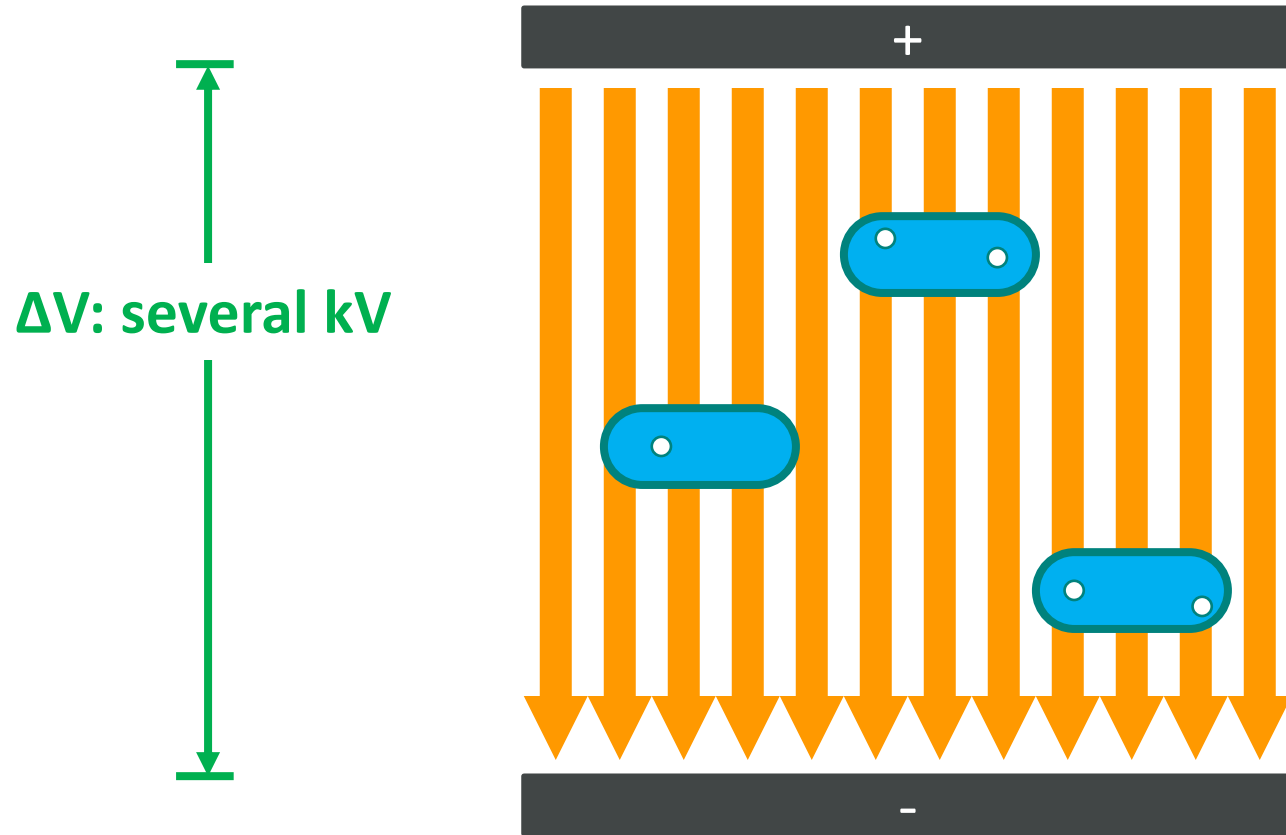
- Development of predictive reaction tools for kinetics and product formation
- Combination of experimental studies with quantum chemical computations
- Coupling of prediction tools with *in silico* toxicity evaluation and biodegradation tools
- Better understanding of DOM by tailored chemical approaches (selective titrations, derivatization, tagging)
- Improved tools for interpretation of non-target MS data
- Use of stable isotopes to elucidate reaction mechanisms

Locally Enhanced Electric Field Treatment (LEEFT) for Drinking Water Disinfection

XING XIE, GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

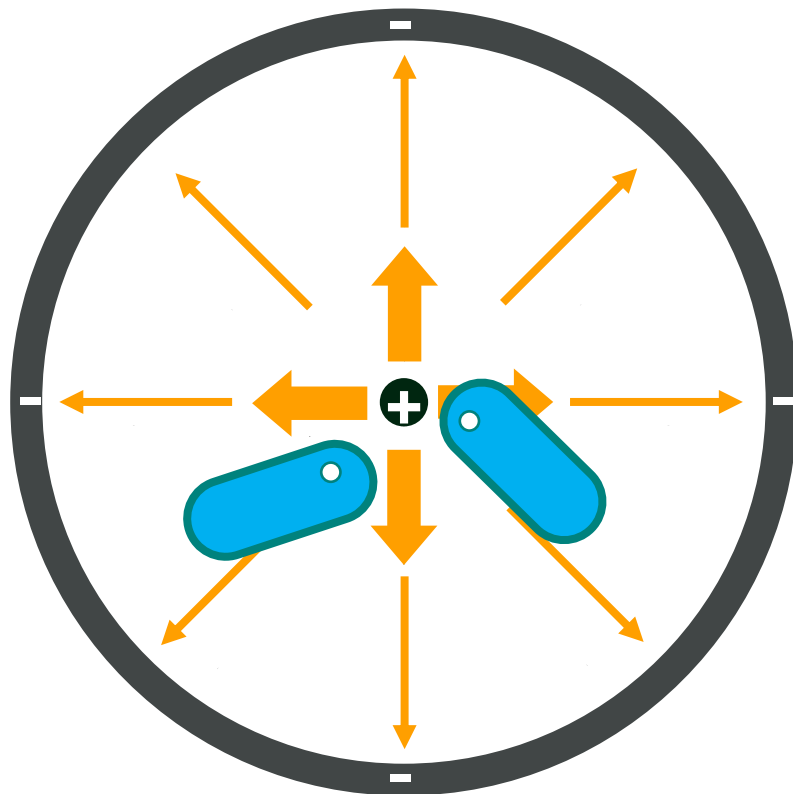


ELECTRIC FIELD TREATMENT (EFT)

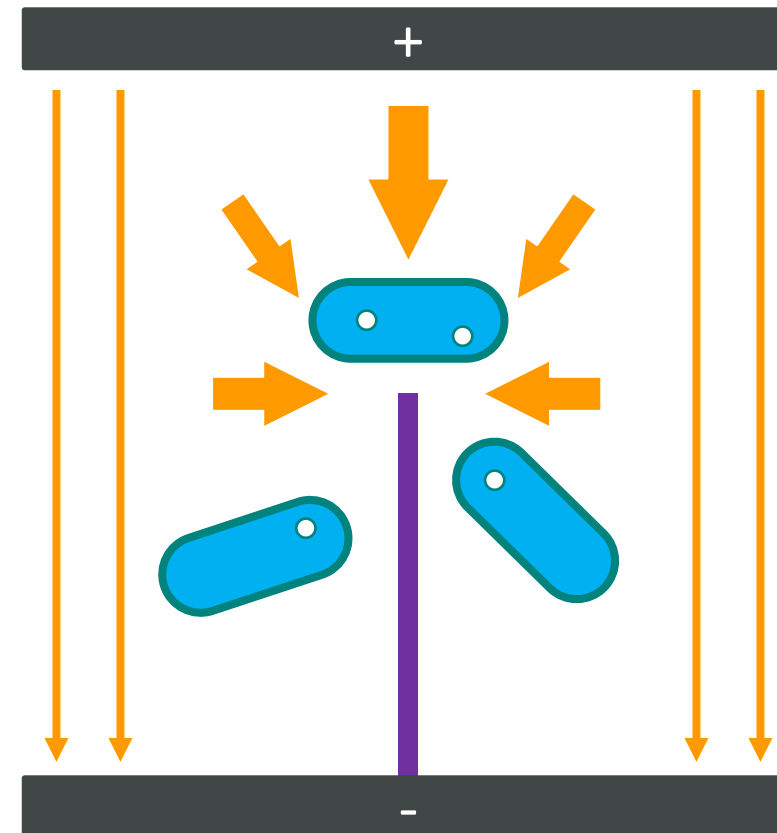


LOCALLY ENHANCED ELECTRIC FIELD TREATMENT (LEEFT)

Macro-scale enhancement

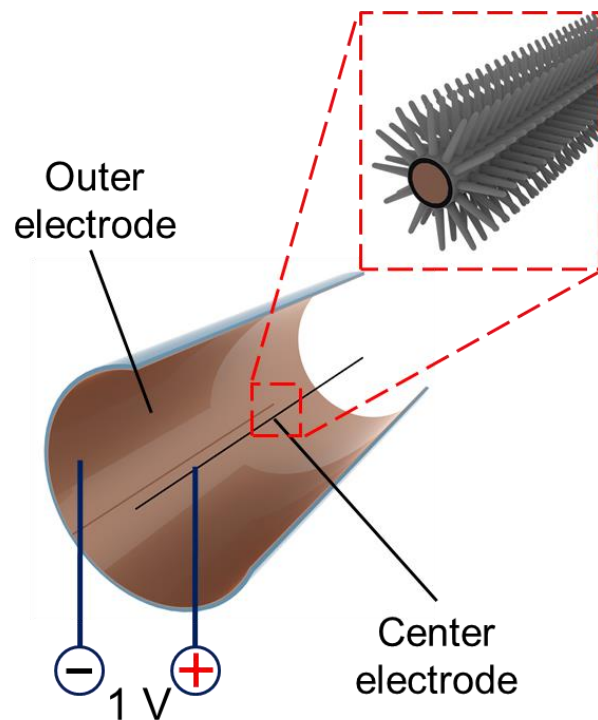


Micro-scale enhancement

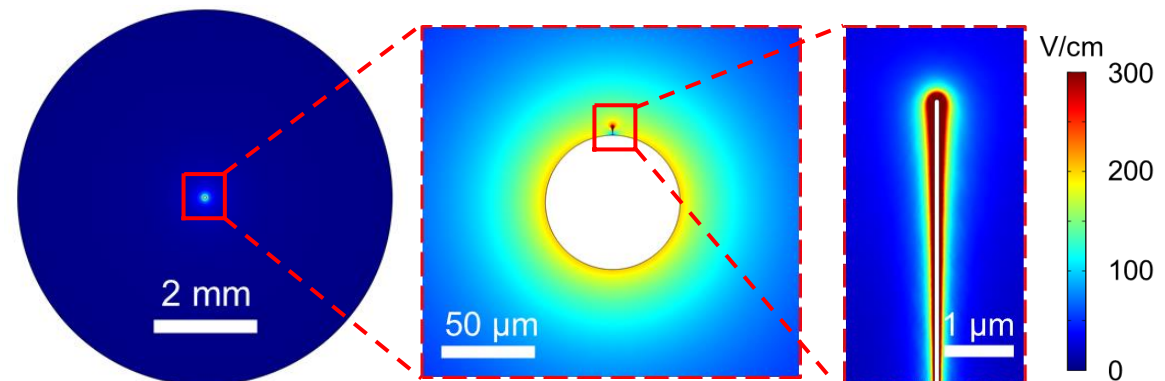
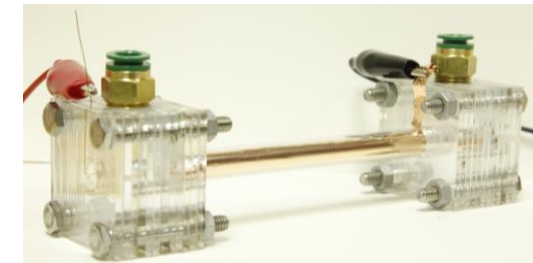


TUBULAR COAXIAL-ELECTRODE LEEFT

- Combine Macro- & Micro-scale enhancement
- Tubular coaxial-electrode** configuration
 - **Two levels** of electric field enhancement



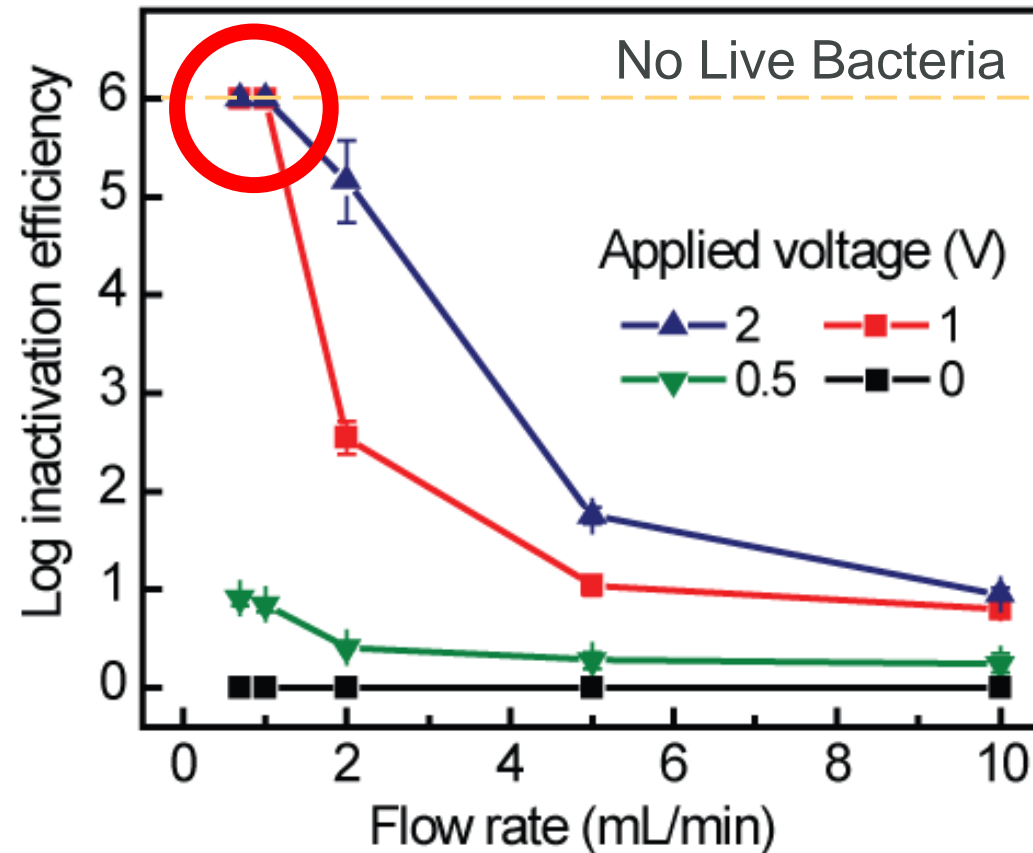
Length: ~12 cm
Diameter: ~1 cm



Electric field simulation

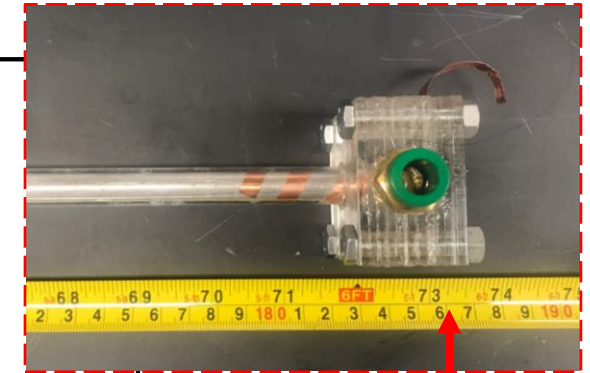
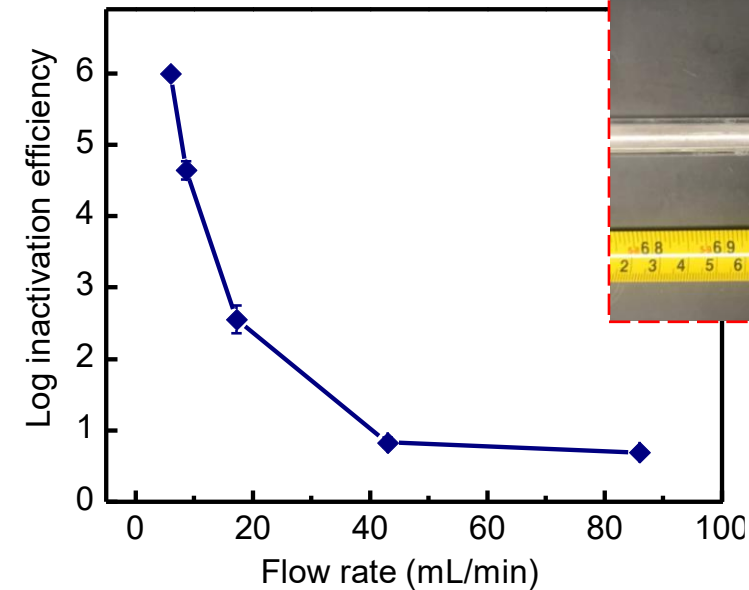
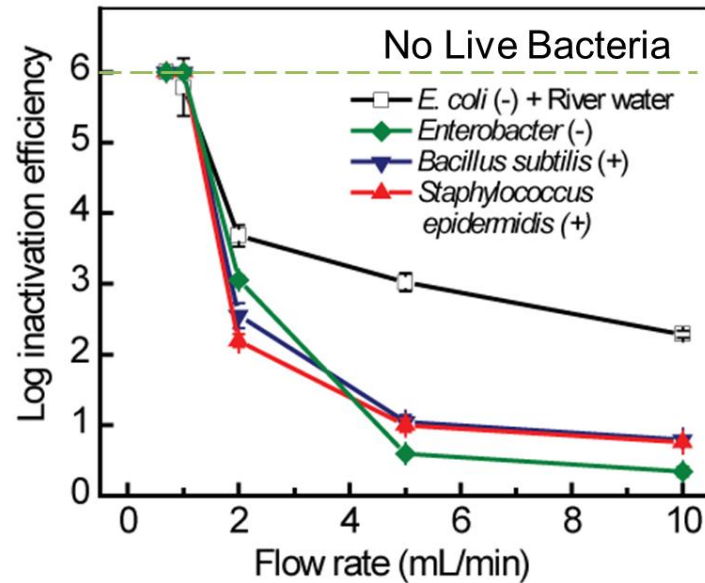
TUBULAR COAXIAL-ELECTRODE LEEFT

- Water disinfection performance (*E. coli*)
 - 99.9999% inactivation with 1 V

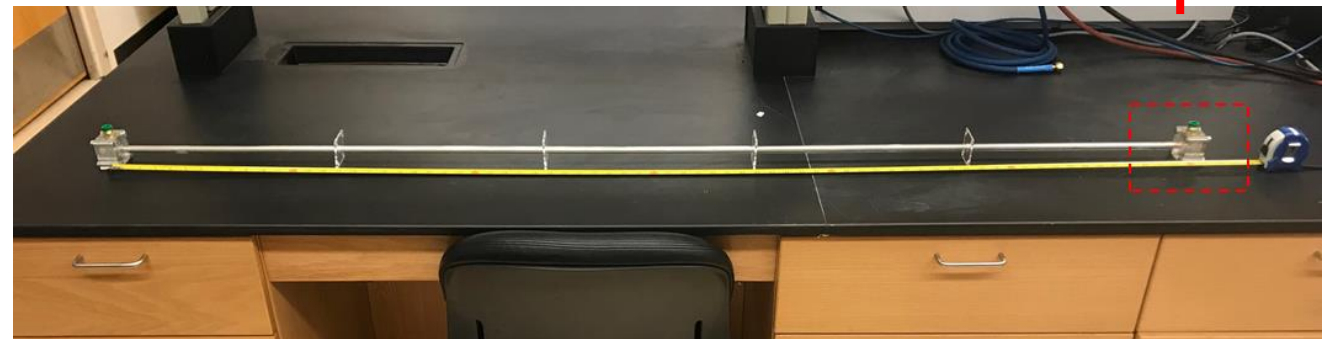


TUBULAR COAXIAL-ELECTRODE LEEFT

- Effective against *multiple strains of bacteria*

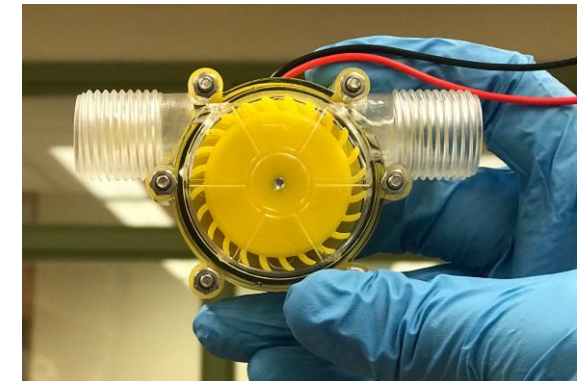
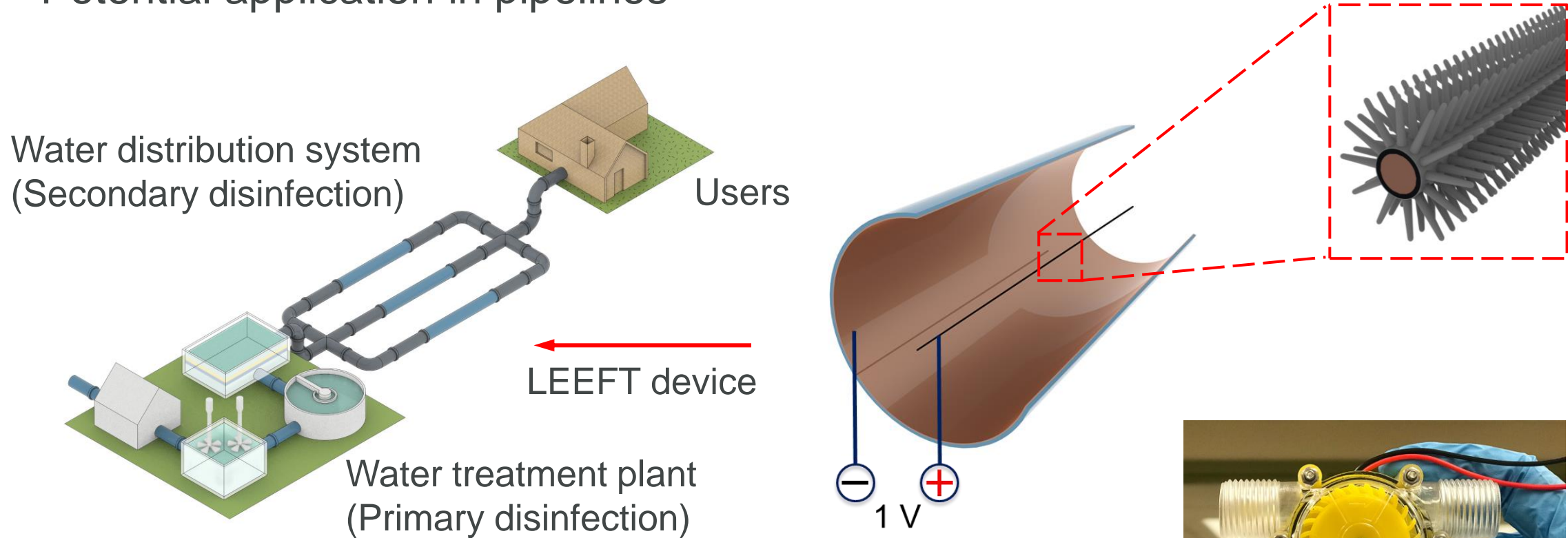


- Highly *scalable* (180 cm)

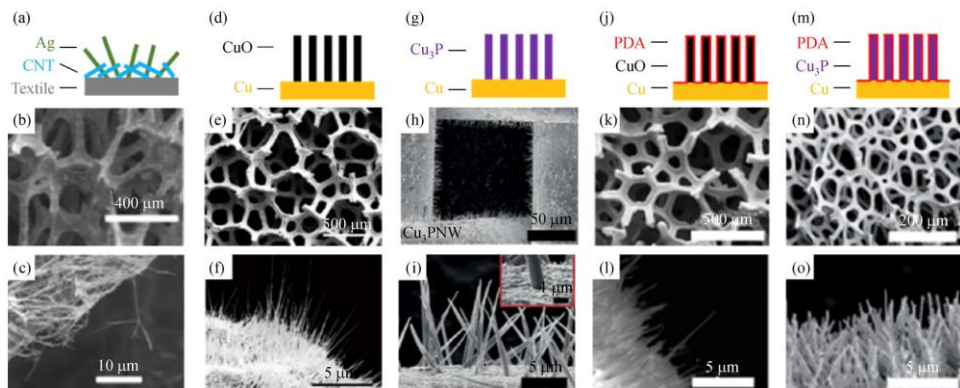


TUBULAR COAXIAL-ELECTRODE LEEFT

- Potential application in pipelines



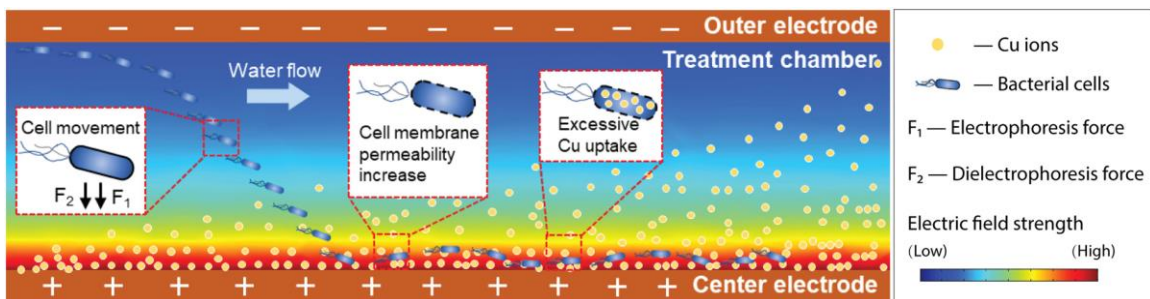
DEVELOPMENT OF LEEFT



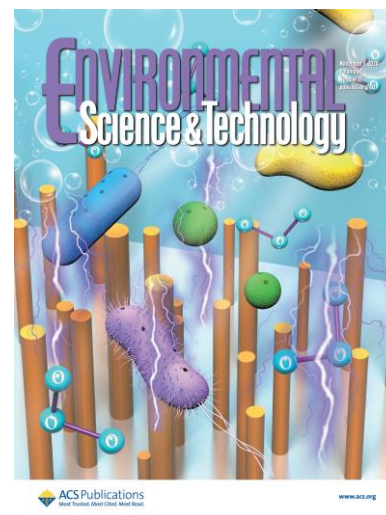
Electrodes



Power Source



LEEFT-Cu



LEEFT-O₃

Environmental Science Technology, 2016, 50: 7641-7649

Environmental Science: Water Research & Technology, 2018, 4, 872-881

Scientific Reports, 2018, 8, 15832

Journal of Materials Chemistry A, 2018, 6, 18813-18820

Advanced Energy Materials, 2019, 1901320

Chemical Engineering Journal, 2019, 369, 1005-1013

Journal of Materials Chemistry A, 2019, 7, 7347-7354

Environment International, 2019, 128: 30-36

Environment International, 2019, 132: 105040

Environmental Science: Nano, 2020, 7: 397-403

Environmental Science: Nano, 2020, 7: 2021-2031

Environmental Science Technology, 2020, 54: 14017-14025

Frontier of Environmental Science & Engineering, 2020, 14: 78

Journal of Materials Chemistry A, 2020, 8, 12262-12277

npj Clean Water, 2020, 3(1): 1-9

Journal of Hazardous Materials, 2020, 400(5): 123320

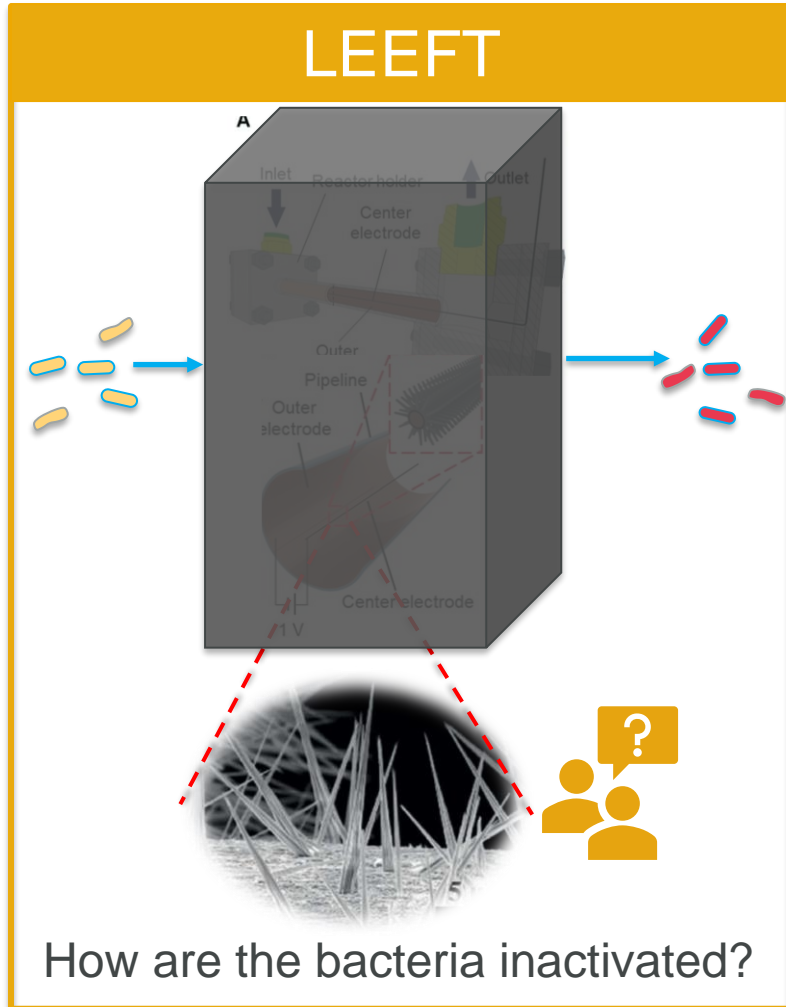
Water Research, 2021, 207: 117817

Nano Letters, 2022, 2: 860-867

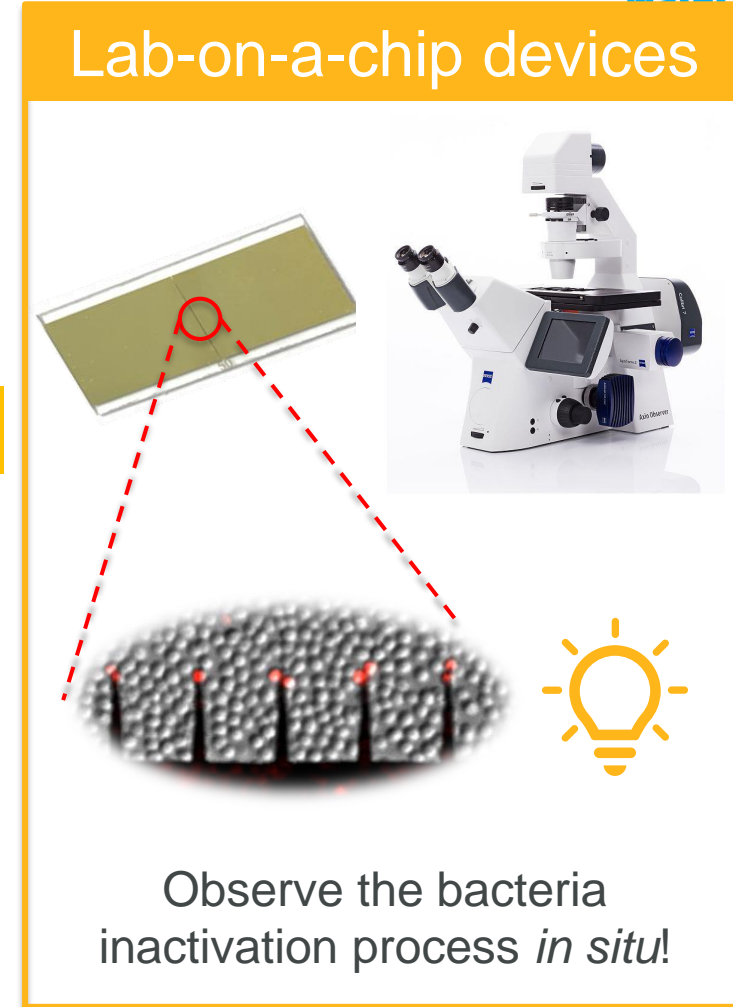
Journal of Hazardous Materials, 2023, 445(5): 130561

Nature Water, 2023, 1: 104-112

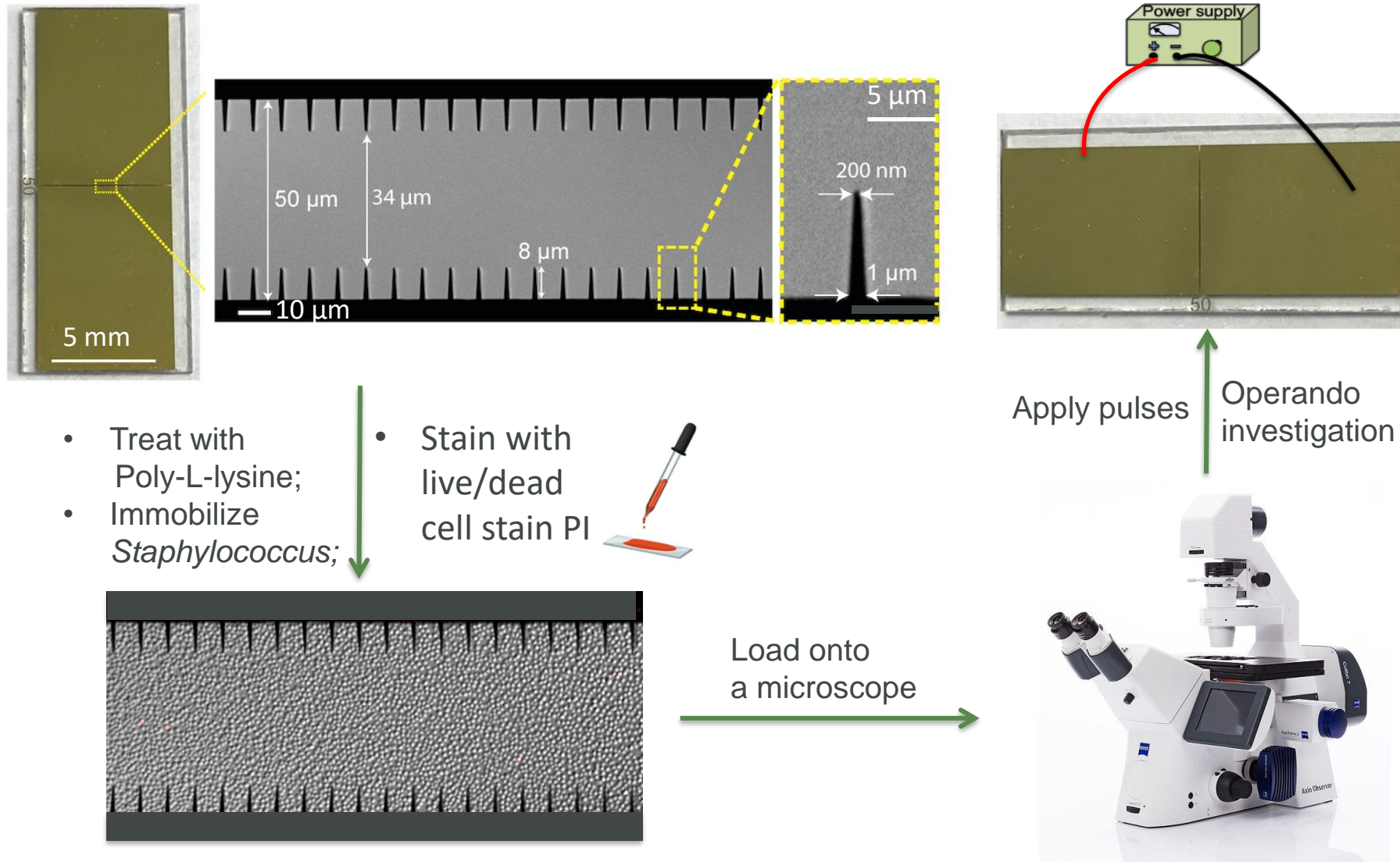
OPERANDO INVESTIGATION OF LEEFT



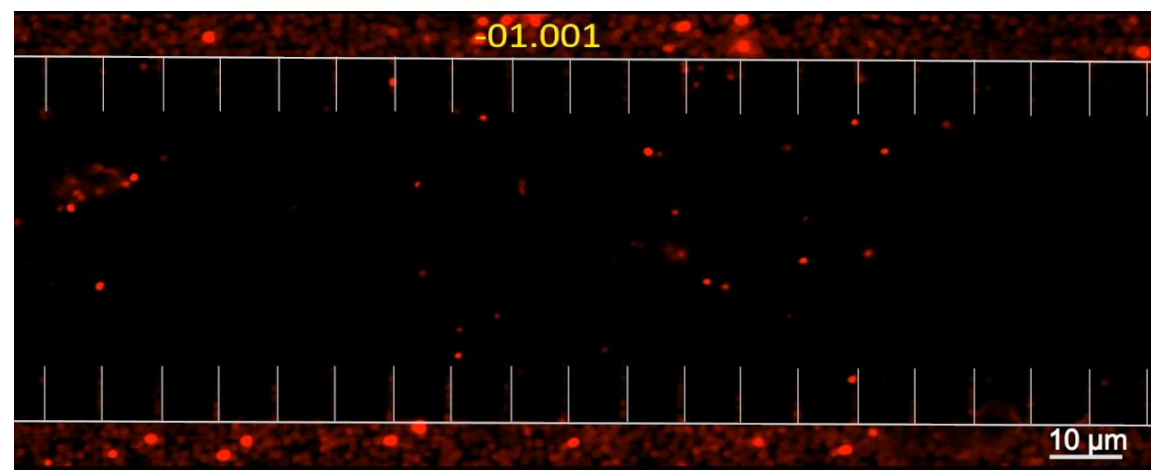
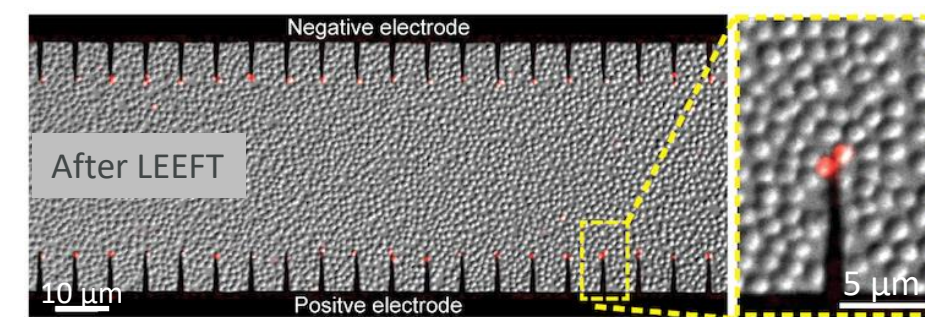
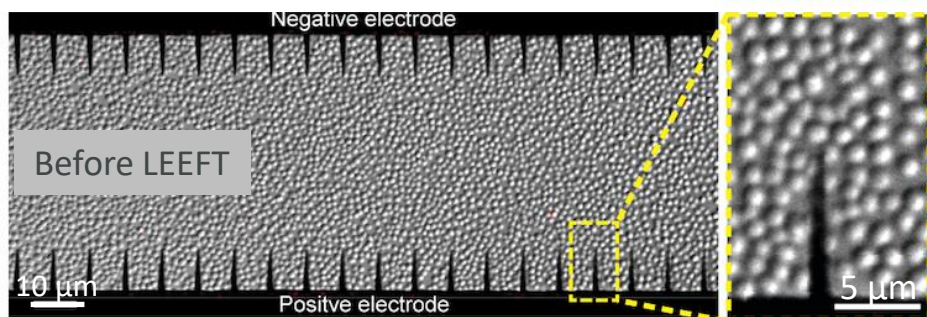
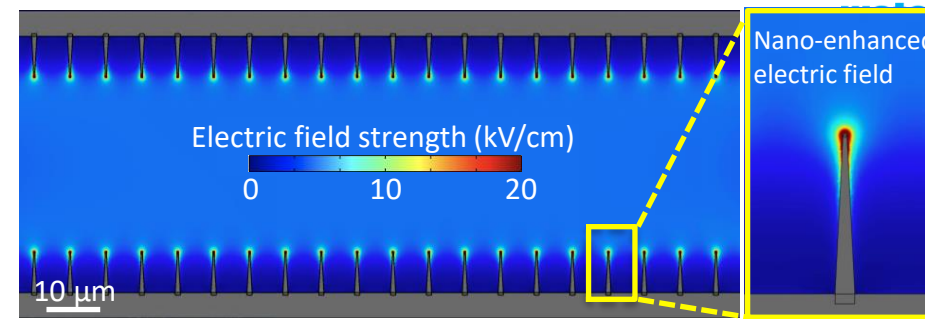
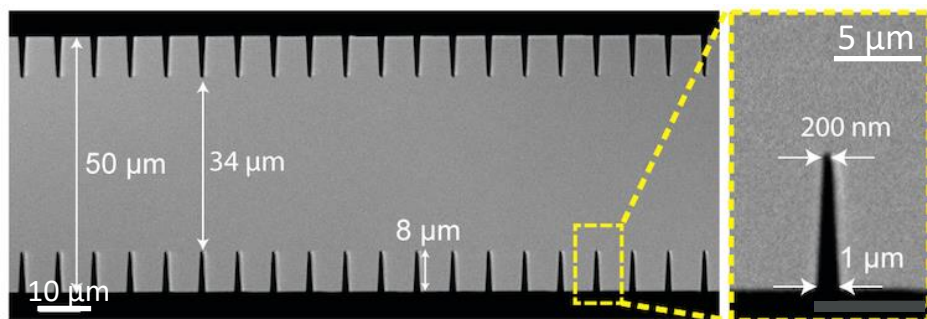
Open the black box!



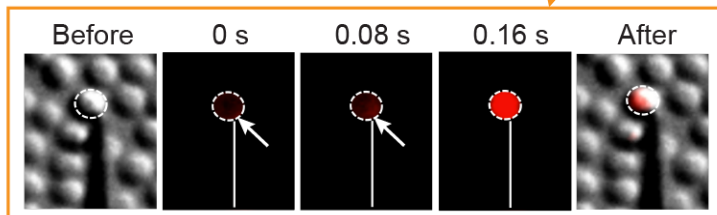
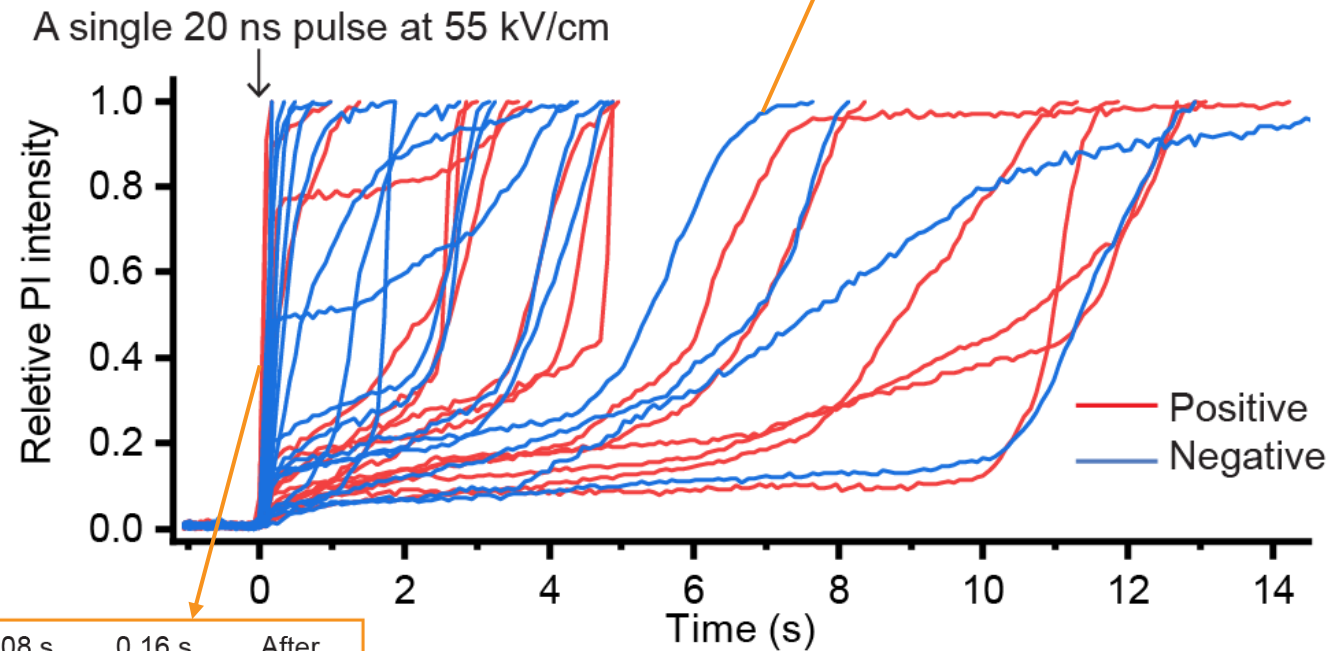
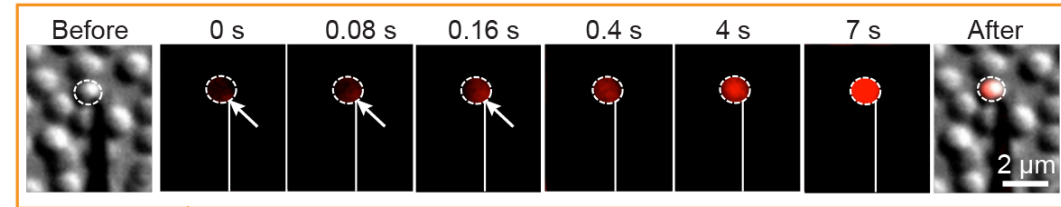
OPERANDO INVESTIGATION OF LEEFT



OPERANDO INVESTIGATION OF LEEFT

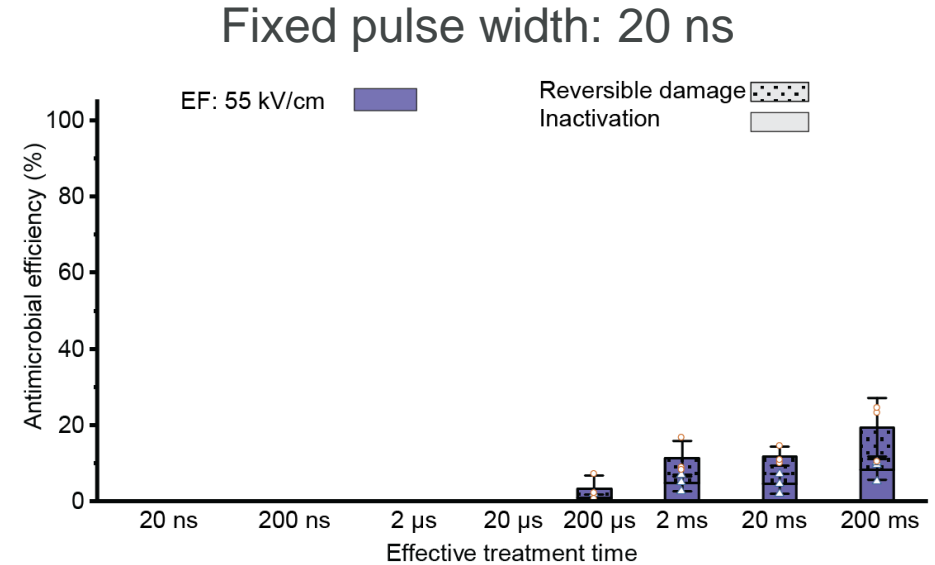


NANOSECOND LEEFT

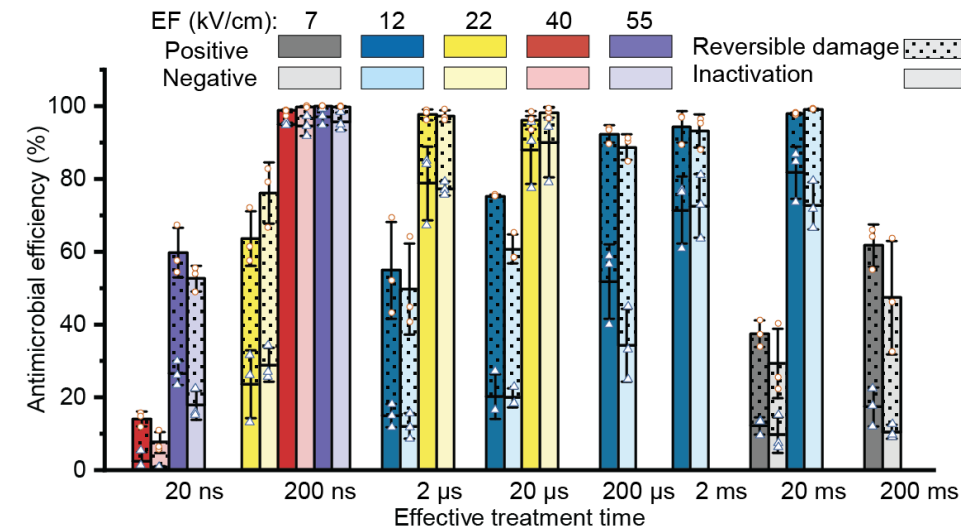


NANOSECOND LEEFT - PERFORMANCE

Conventional EFT
(no nanowedges)



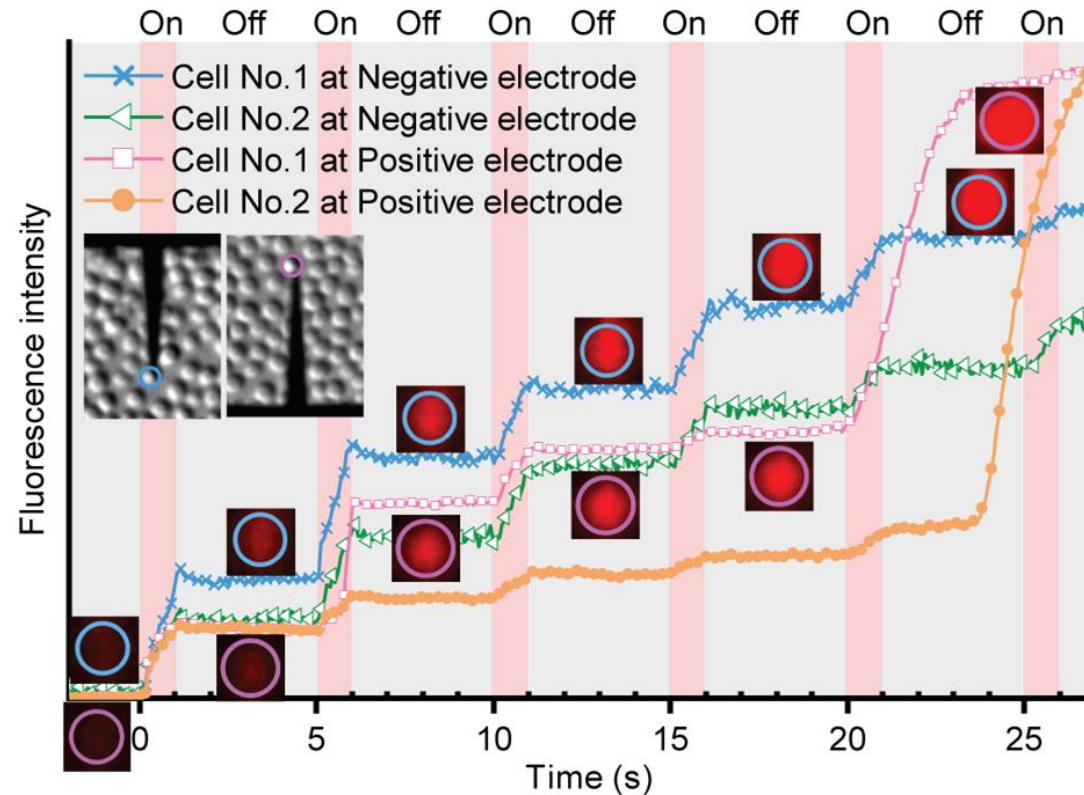
LEEFT



Electric field is reduced by 8 times
or
Treatment time is reduced by 10⁶ times.

NANOSECOND LEEFT - MECHANISM

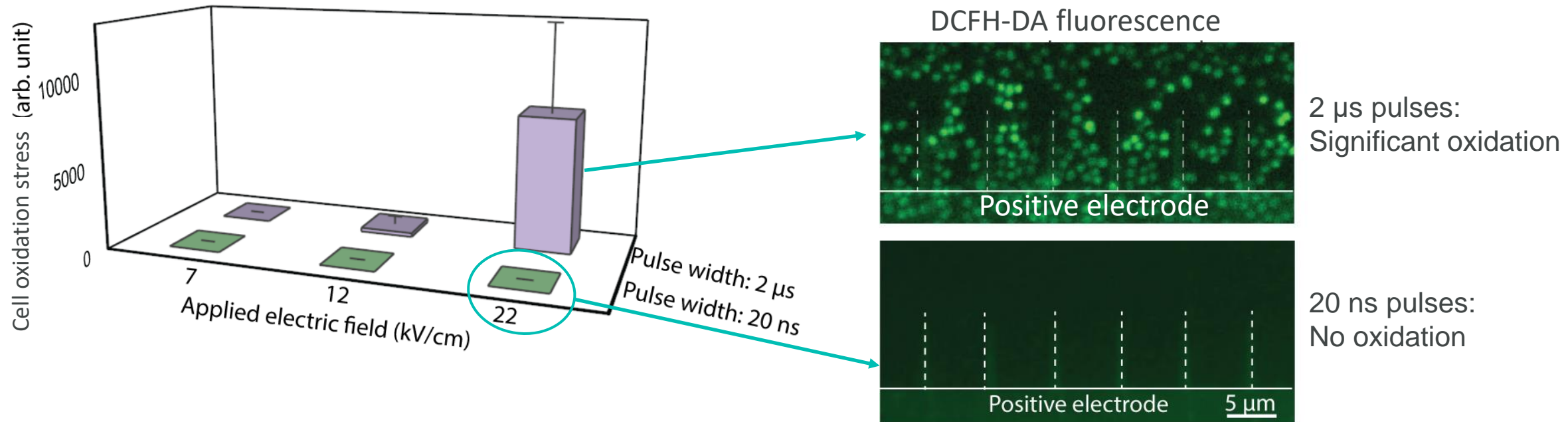
- Reversible electroporation - a unique property of electroporation.
- Quick pore closure under 20 ns pulses at 12 kV/cm.



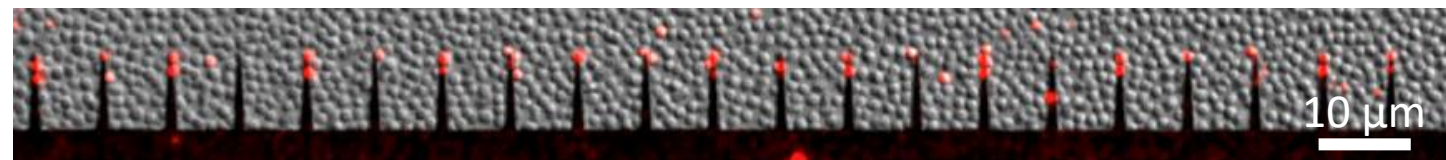
The ultrafast bacteria inactivation is induced by electroporation.

NANOSECOND LEEFT - MECHANISM

- The bacteria oxidative stress is detected using DCFH-DA.



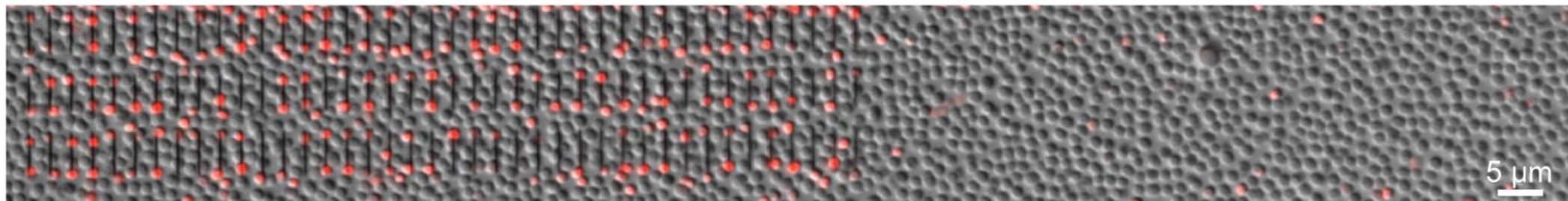
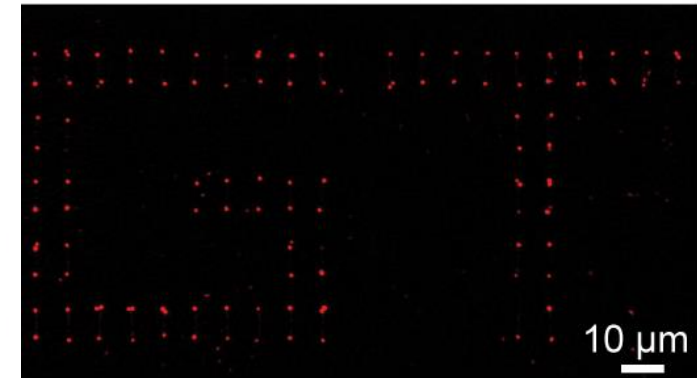
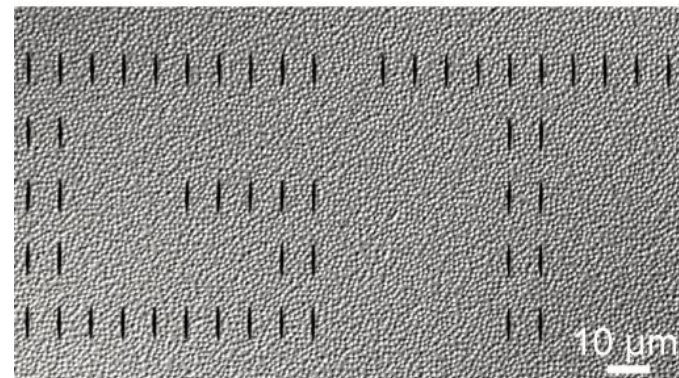
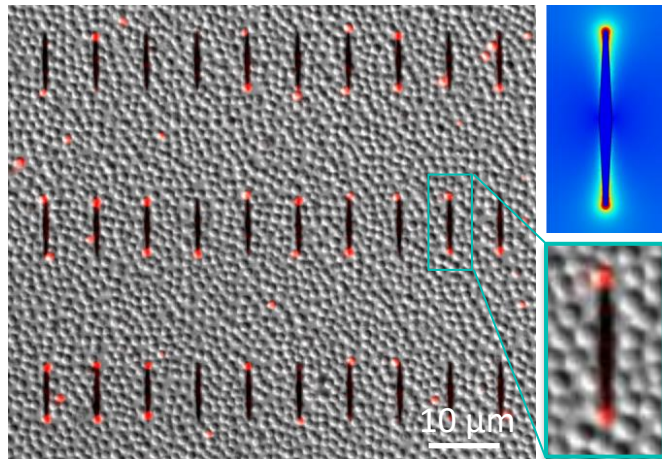
- No significant cell oxidation when 90% bacteria inactivation is achieved.



The ultrafast bacteria inactivation is not due to oxidation.

NANOSECOND LEEFT - MECHANISM

- LEEFT with non-connected electrodes



TRANSFORMATIVE WATER DISINFECTION METHOD



■ Demonstrated/Potential Advantages of LEEFT

- **High** microbial inactivation **efficiency**
- **Broad-spectrum** effective to all pathogens
- **Fast** treatment process
- **Low** capital, operational, and maintenance **cost**
- **No impact on** the physical and chemical property of the **treated water** (i.e., neither generating DBPs nor releasing toxic metals nor increasing the corrosivity)
- Operate on electricity **without** any **chemical** consumption
- **No overtreatment** concerns
- **No secondary pollution** in terms of odor, sound, or light
- **Easy to operate** and possible for automatic operation
- Completely **safe** to operators and nearby community

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Students
 - Ting Wang
 - Cecilia Yu
 - Mourin Jarin
 - Feifei Liu
 - Feiyang Mo
- Alumni
 - Zeou Dou, PhD
 - Wensi Chen, PhD
 - **Jianfeng Zhou, PhD**
 - etc.
- Visiting scholars
- Collaborators
- Lab/Administration Support



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation





香港大學
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG



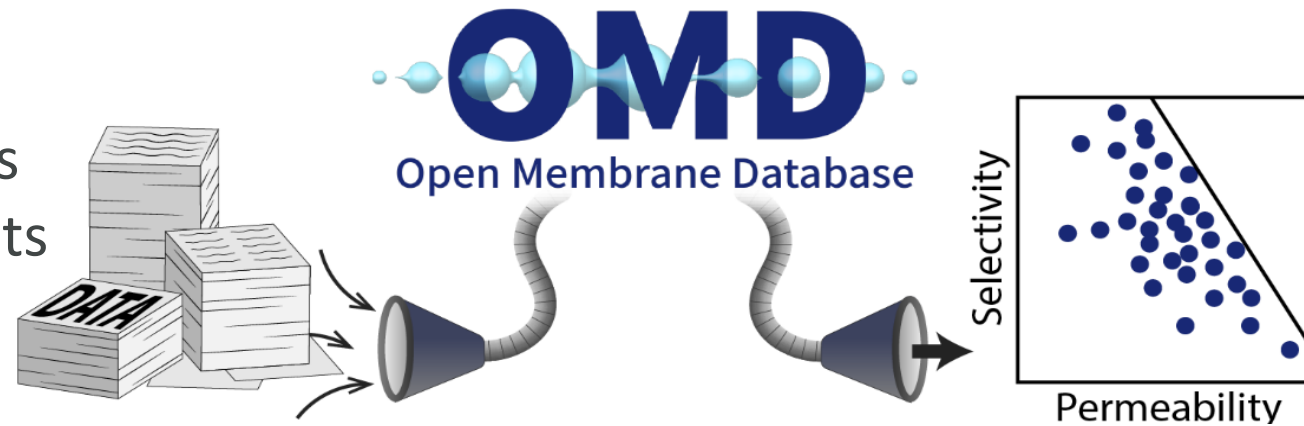
The Open Membrane Database (OMD): An open-access, user-sourced library of water purification and desalination membranes

RHEA VERBEKE, KU LEUVEN, BELGIUM



THE OPEN MEMBRANE DATABASE (OMD) FOR DESALINATION MEMBRANES

Peer-reviewed articles
Commercial datasheets
Patents



>1000 RO datapoints

www.OpenMembraneDatabase.org

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Journal of Membrane Science

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/memsci



The open membrane database: Synthesis–structure–performance relationships of reverse osmosis membranes

Cody L. Ritt^{a,1}, Timothée Stassin^{b,1}, Douglas M. Davenport^b, Ryan M. DuChanois^a, Ines Nulens^b, Zhe Yang^c, Adi Ben-Zvi^d, Naama Segev-Mark^d, Menachem Elimelech^a, Chuyang Y. Tang^c, Guy Z. Ramon^d, Ivo F.J. Vankelecom^b, Rhea Verbeke^{b,*}

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doi: 10.1016/j.memsci.2021.119927

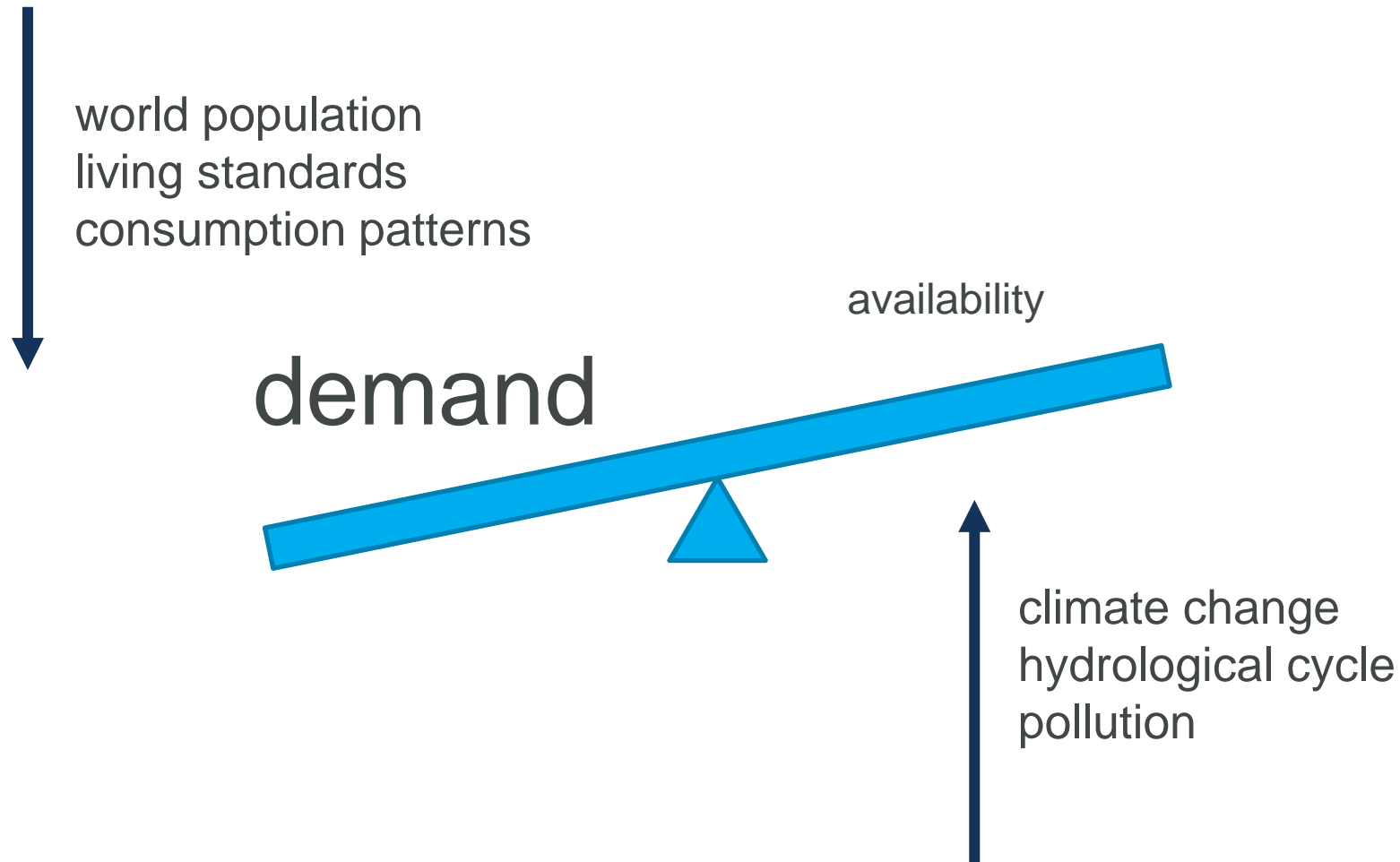
Journal of Membrane Science, 641, 119927.

TOPICS COVERED

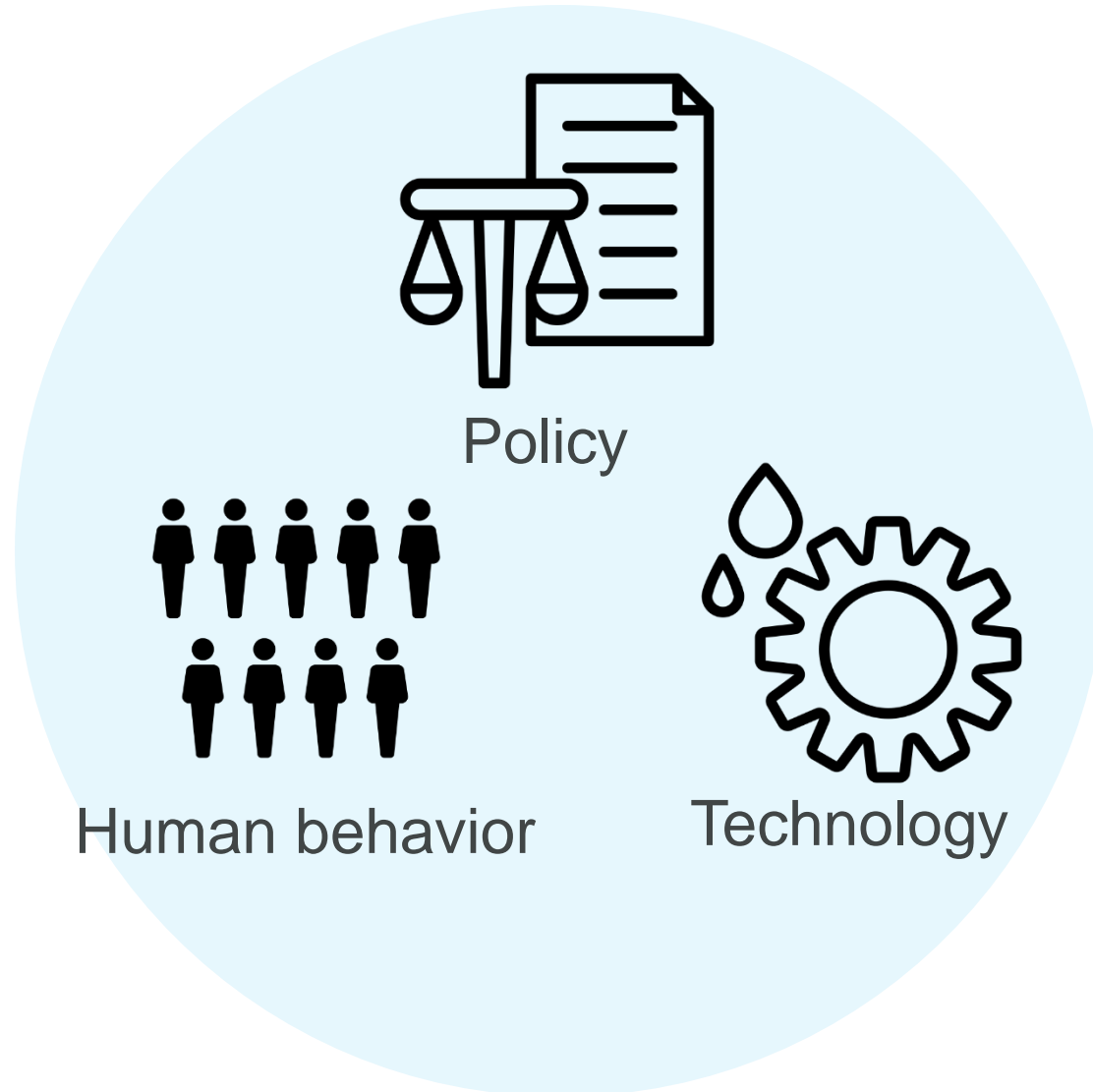


- Water scarcity and state-of-the art membrane desalination
- Why is a database useful?
- OMD founding principles
- OMD data and constraints
- Online tools: membrane submission & calculators
- Where are we and where do we go ?

WATER SCARCITY OCCURS WHEN DEMAND EXCEEDS AVAILABILITY

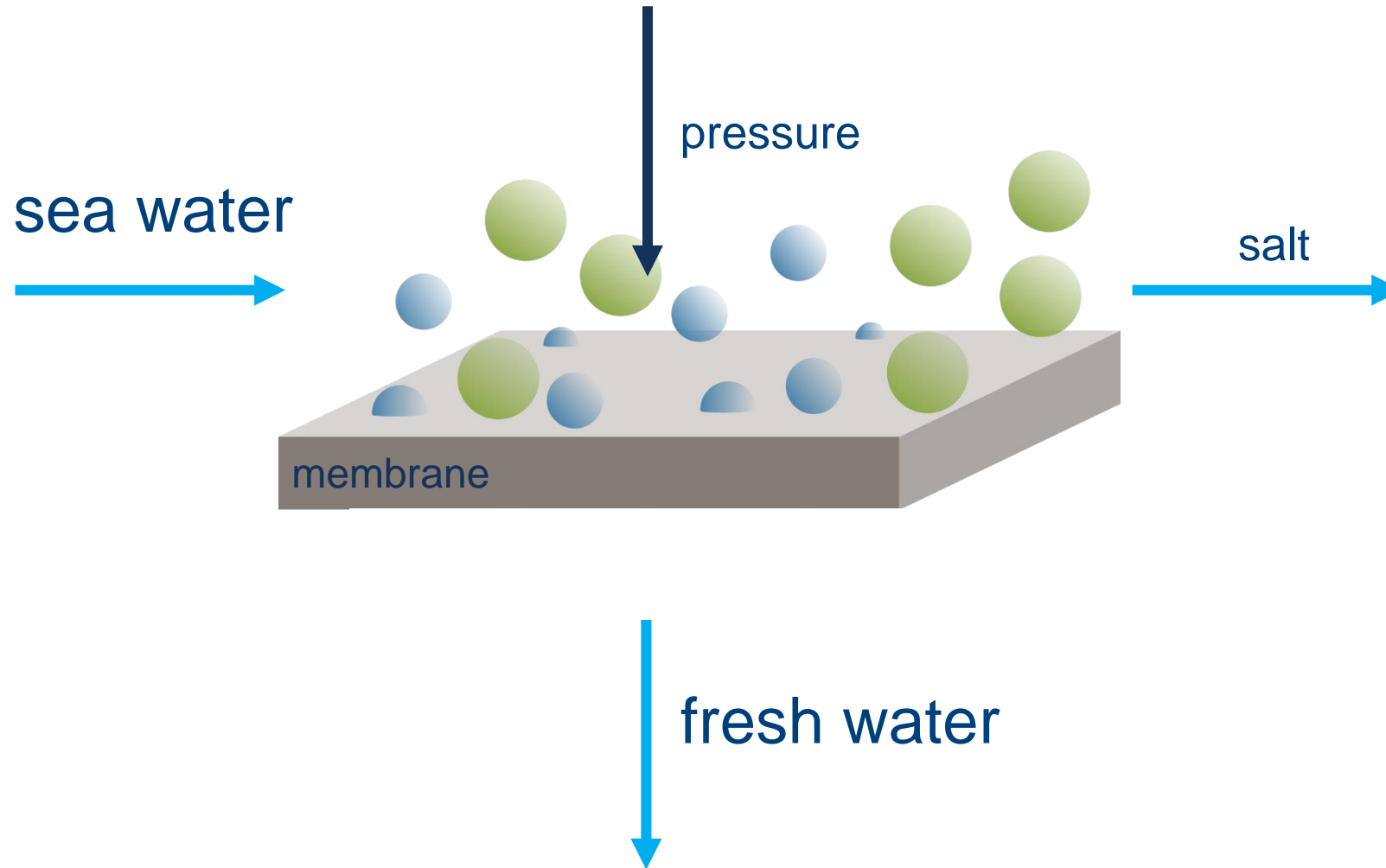


COMBINED SOLUTIONS NEEDED TO FIGHT WATER SCARCITY

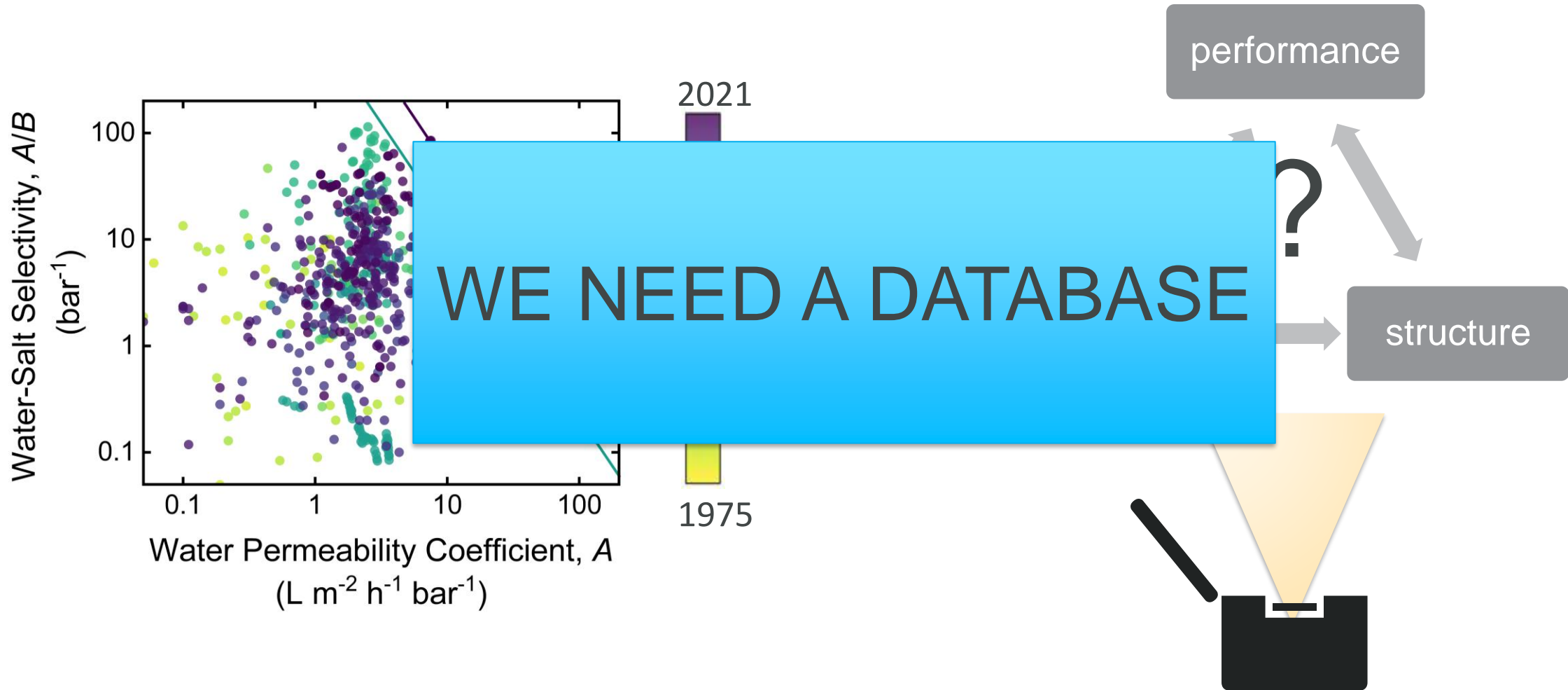


Desalination

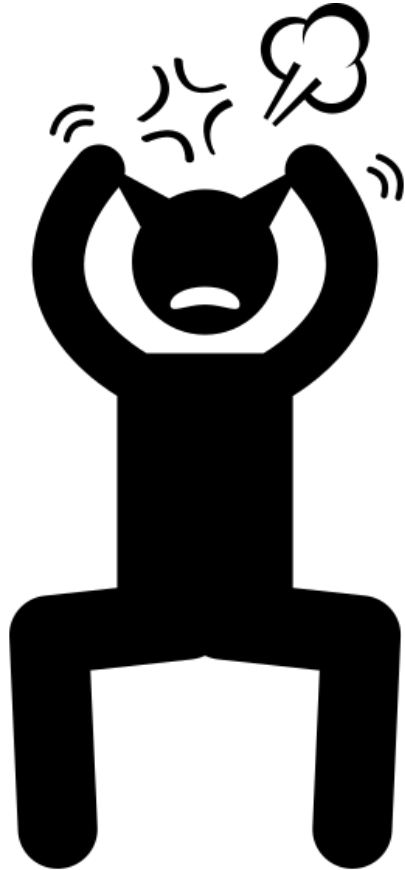
DESALINATION MEMBRANES CAN HELP INCREASE FRESH WATER AVAILABILITY



MARGINAL IMPROVEMENTS IN RO MEMBRANE PERFORMANCE IN THE LAST 30 YEARS



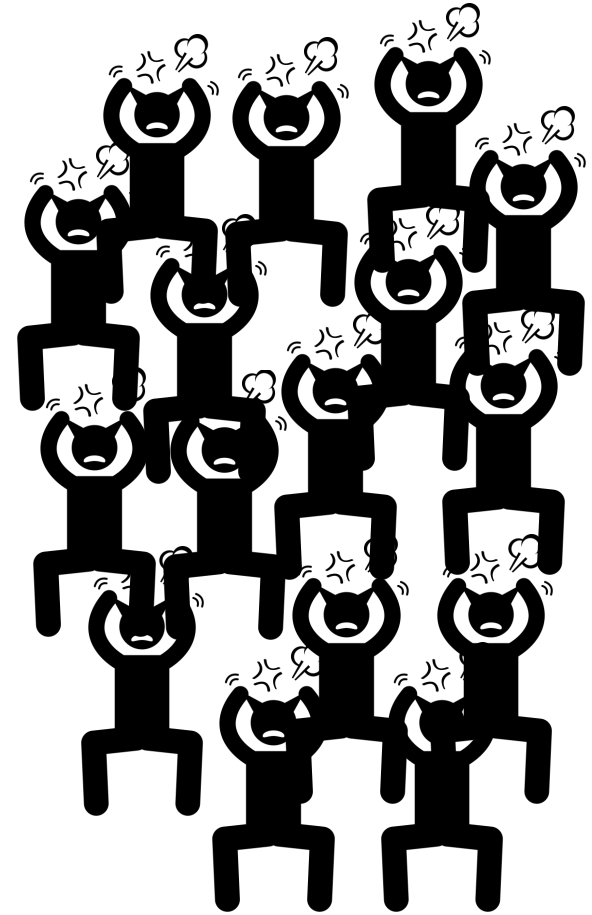
WE ALSO NEED A DATABASE TO INCREASE RESOURCE AND TIME EFFICIENCY



Data scattered

Data not
readable

Data not
standardized



WHY WOULD A DATABASE IMPROVE THE FIELD?

Understand

Standardize

Share

Inspiration:

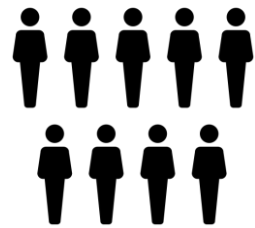
- Cambridge Structural Database (since 1965): MOF explorer
- Protein Data Bank (since 1971)

THE FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF THE OMD

OMD



Free
Open Access



Crowd-sourced



Peer-reviewed



Unified reporting



International
collaboration

ADVANTAGES OF OMD OVER STATUS QUO

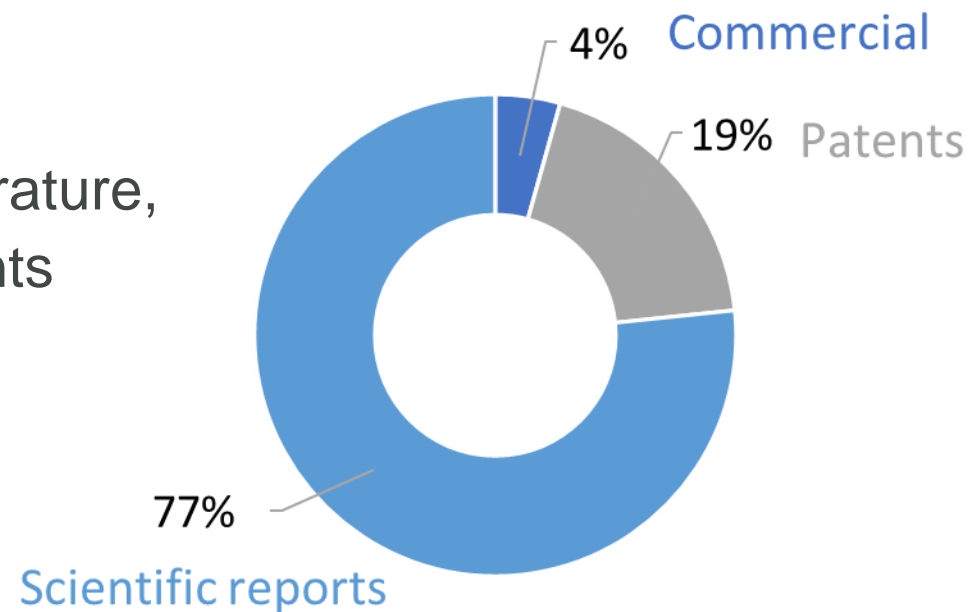
Data Features	Status Quo	OMD
Update Frequency		
Data Sourcing		
Processing		
Exploration		
Accessibility		

OMD CAN HELP ADVANCE MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY

- 1 Benchmark novel RO membranes against the state of the art
- 2 Conduct meta-analysis
- 3 Develop membrane synthesis-structure-performance relationships
- 4 Calculate membrane performance, concentration polarization, osmotic pressure
- 5 Facilitate interdisciplinary research

OMD DATA: ORIGINS AND CONSTRAINTS

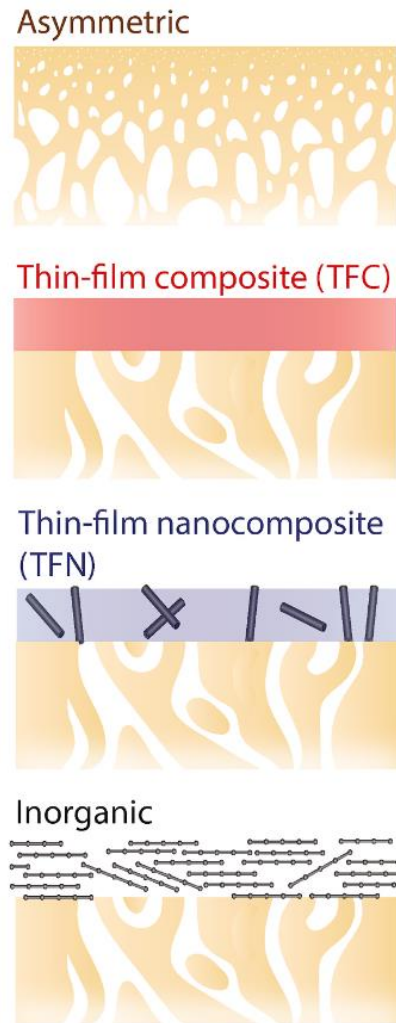
- Data only from peer-reviewed literature, commercial datasheets and patents



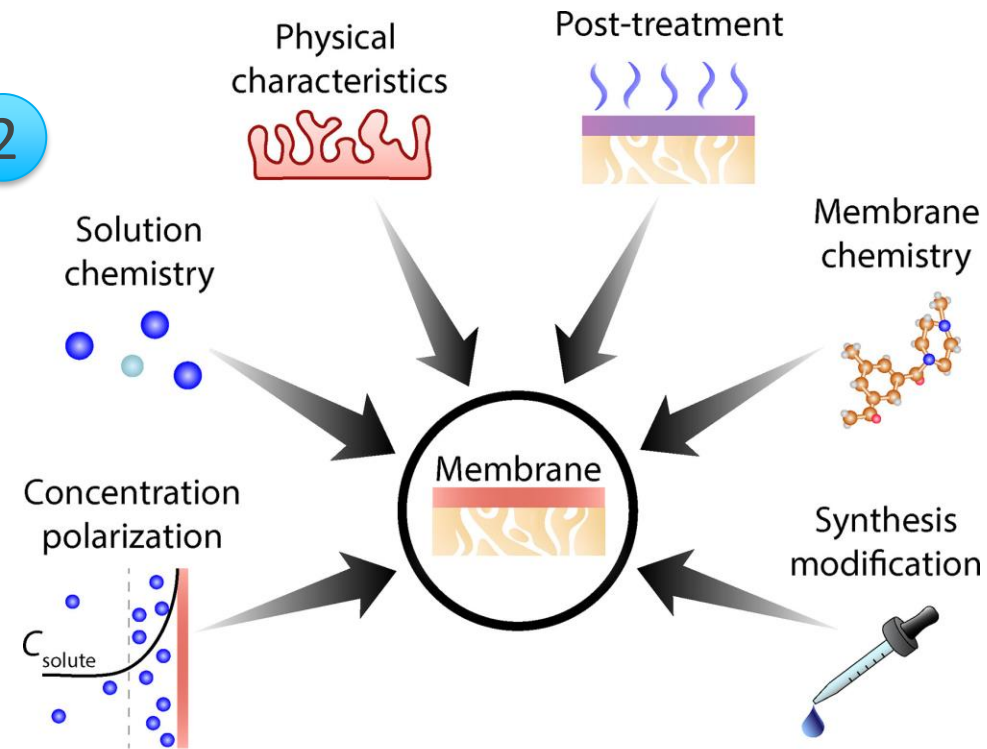
- Definition of RO membrane: $R_{\text{NaCl}} > 80\%$
- Not only the best performing → data series

INPUT COLLECTED BY THE OMD

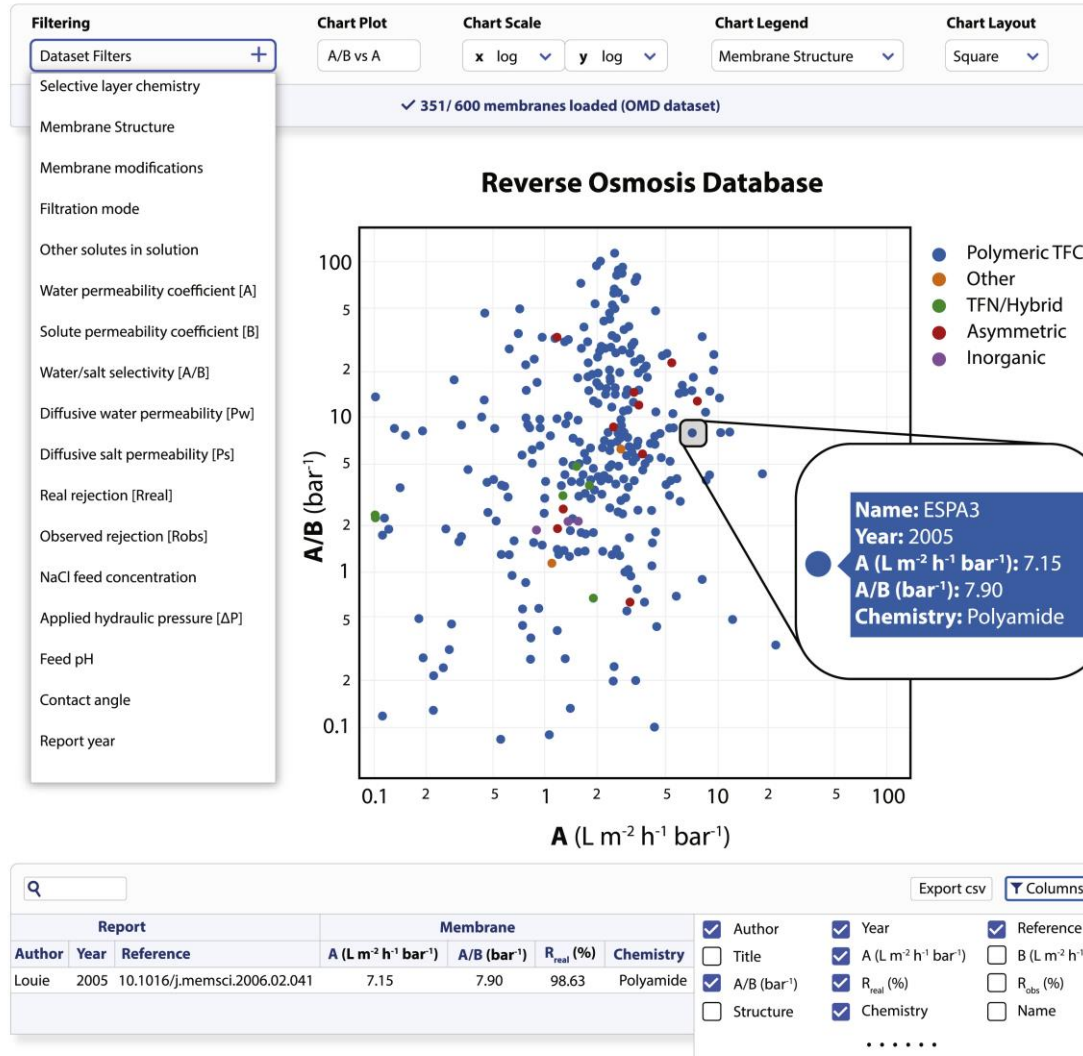
1



2



FUNCTIONALITY OF THE OMD



- Filtering
- Interactive chart
- Data callouts
- Tabulated details
- Data export as csv
- Figure export as png

SUBMISSIONS OPEN TO EVERYONE

- 1 Enter report and data
- 2 Provide contact info
- 3 Submit membrane data
- 4 Post-submission review by OMD team
- 5 Upon acceptance: data directly online

Contact information and additional details

First name	<input type="text" value="Verbeke"/>	Last name *	<input type="text" value="Rhea"/>
University / company / other *	<input type="text" value="KU Leuven"/>	E-mail *	<input type="text" value="rhea.verbeke@kuleuven.be"/>

Membrane information

Membrane name * ⓘ
Write a unique name for the membrane that it can be identified in your reference document.

Chemistry * ⓘ
Selective layer chemistry

Modifications * ⓘ
Membrane modifications

Structure * ⓘ
Membrane Structure

ONLINE CALCULATORS TO HELP USERS

[Membrane Performance Calculator](#)

[Concentration Polarization Calculator](#)

[Osmotic Pressure Calculator](#)

[Common Unit Converters](#)

- Facilitate accurate determination to avoid errors
- Step-by-step process

Membrane Performance Calculator

Step 1. Water permeability coefficient, A

$$J_{w, \text{ pure}} = A\Delta P$$

i. Measure pure water flux (no solutes present), $J_{w, \text{ pure}} =$

Enter value L m⁻² h⁻¹

ii. Fill in applied hydraulic pressure, $\Delta P =$

Enter value bar

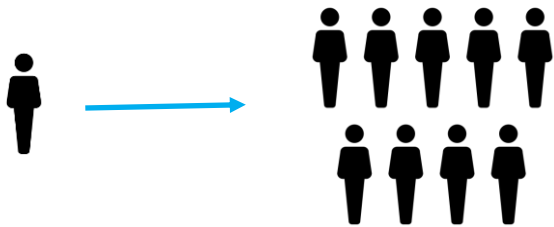
Output, $A =$

Please fill all the fields L m⁻² h⁻¹ bar⁻¹

WHERE DO WE STAND NOW?



- Very positive feedback, many visitors, highly cited paper



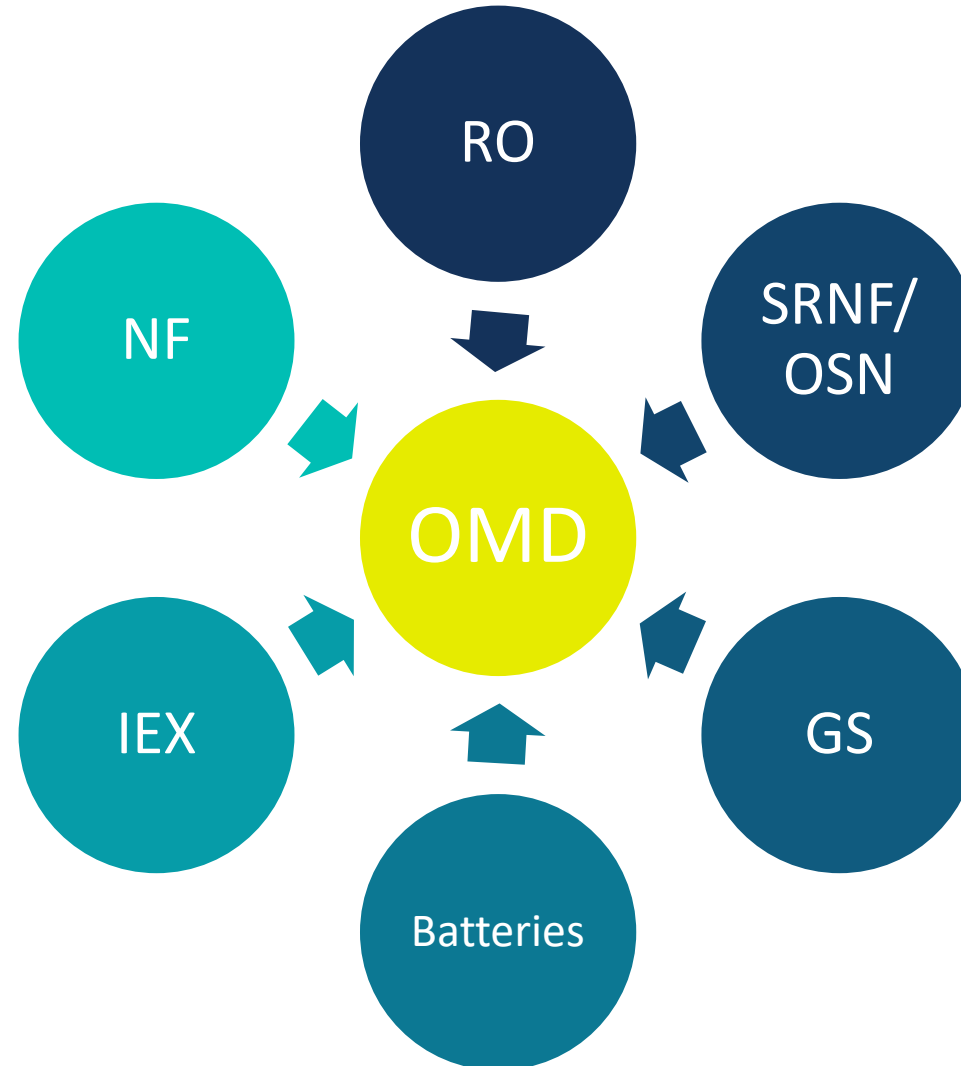
- Only 1 external submission since August 2021
- Involvement of the field needed
 - You and your colleagues !
 - Journals → open repository → OMD
 - Other ideas?

OUTLOOK OF THE OMD FOR RO



- Revisit concentration polarization assumptions
- Membranes tested under standard conditions → gold standard
- Addition of trace organic contaminants
- Include dynamic upper bound
- Establish connections with journals to facilitate automatic data transfer

LONG TERM VISION: OMD AS A DATABASE 'HUB'



COLLABORATIVE PROJECT TO ADVANCE OUR FIELD



Submit your membrane data

More data = higher chance of a
scientific breakthrough



THANK YOU TO ALL INVOLVED PARTIES



Yale



香港大學
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG



**MEMBRANE
SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALASIA**

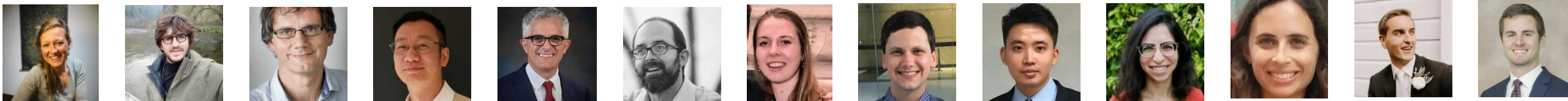


Please spread the word & get involved!



Dr. Rhea Verbeke

rhea.verbeke@kuleuven.be
info@openmembranedatabase.org



. codefathers

Q&A Discussion

MODERATOR & SPEAKER

Final remarks & Conclusion

MODERATOR: YUMENG ZHAO

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Understanding urban
sanitation regulation
challenges**



8 FEBRUARY 2023
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