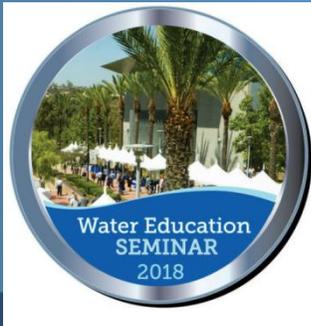


Maintaining Water Quality from Reverse Osmosis Systems in Advanced Treated Water Facilities

Presentation for



August 22, 2018

Presented by

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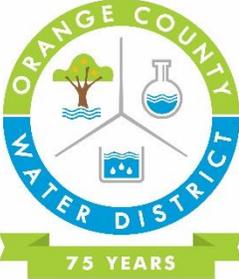
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Acknowledgements for Use of Data Shown

Orange County Water District





Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Reverse Osmosis Basics
3. Reverse Osmosis Removal
4. Data Normalization
5. Monitoring RO Integrity
6. Pathogen Removal
7. Yucaipa Virus Testing Results
8. Summary





Introduction



◀ ST Microscope ◀ Scanning Electron Microscope ◀ Optical Microscope ◀ Visible to Naked Eye

Ionic Range Molecular Range Macro Molecular Range Micro Particle Range Macro Particle Range

Micrometers
(Log Scale)

0.001 0.01 0.1 1.0 10 100 1000

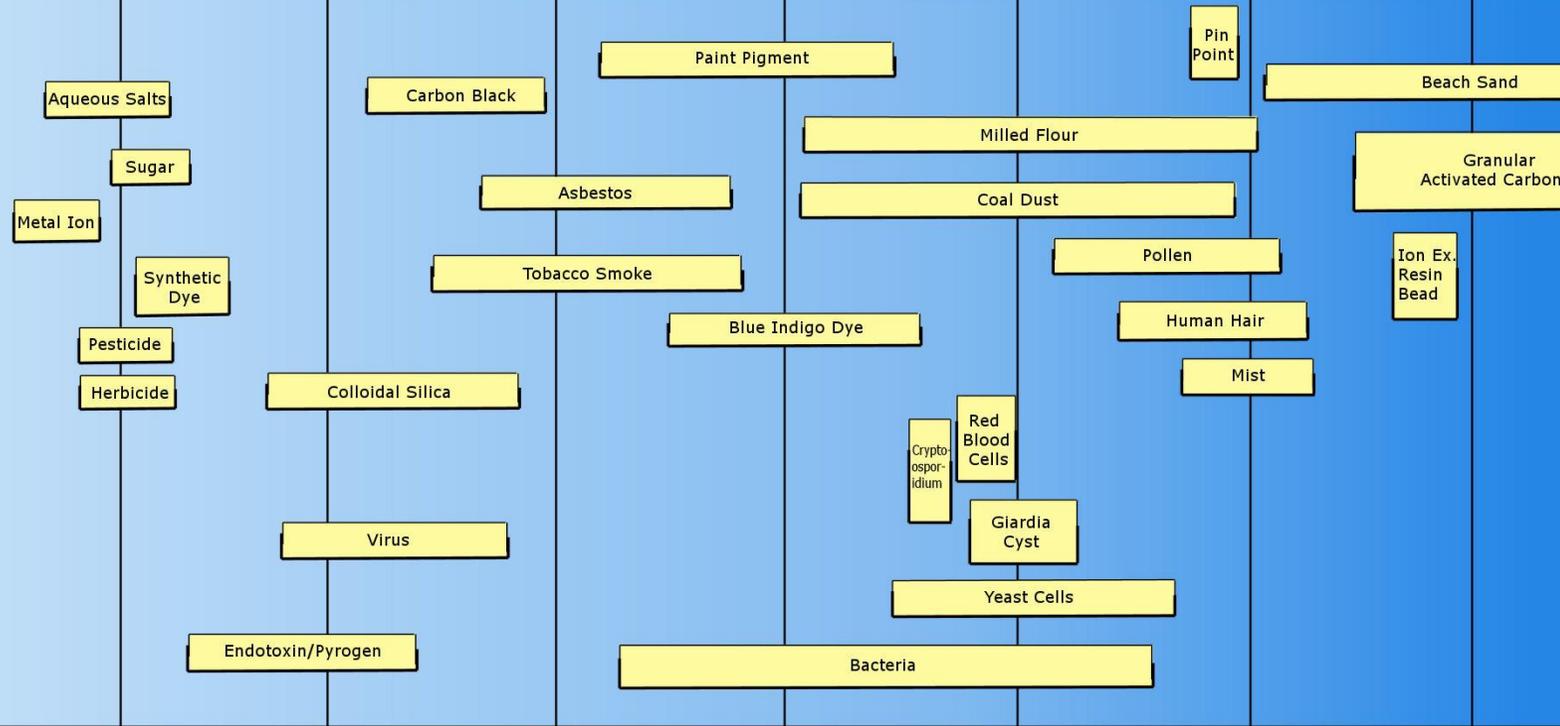
Angstrom Units
(Log Scale)

1 2 3 5 8 10 20 30 50 80 100 200 300 500 800 1000 2000 3000 5000 8000 10⁴ 2 3 5 8 10⁵ 2 3 5 8 10⁶ 2 3 5 8 10⁷ 2

Approx. Molecular Wt.

100 200 1000 10,000 20,000 100,000 500,000

Relative
Size of
Common
Materials



Process For
Separation

Reverse Osmosis

Nanofiltration

Ultrafiltration

Microfiltration

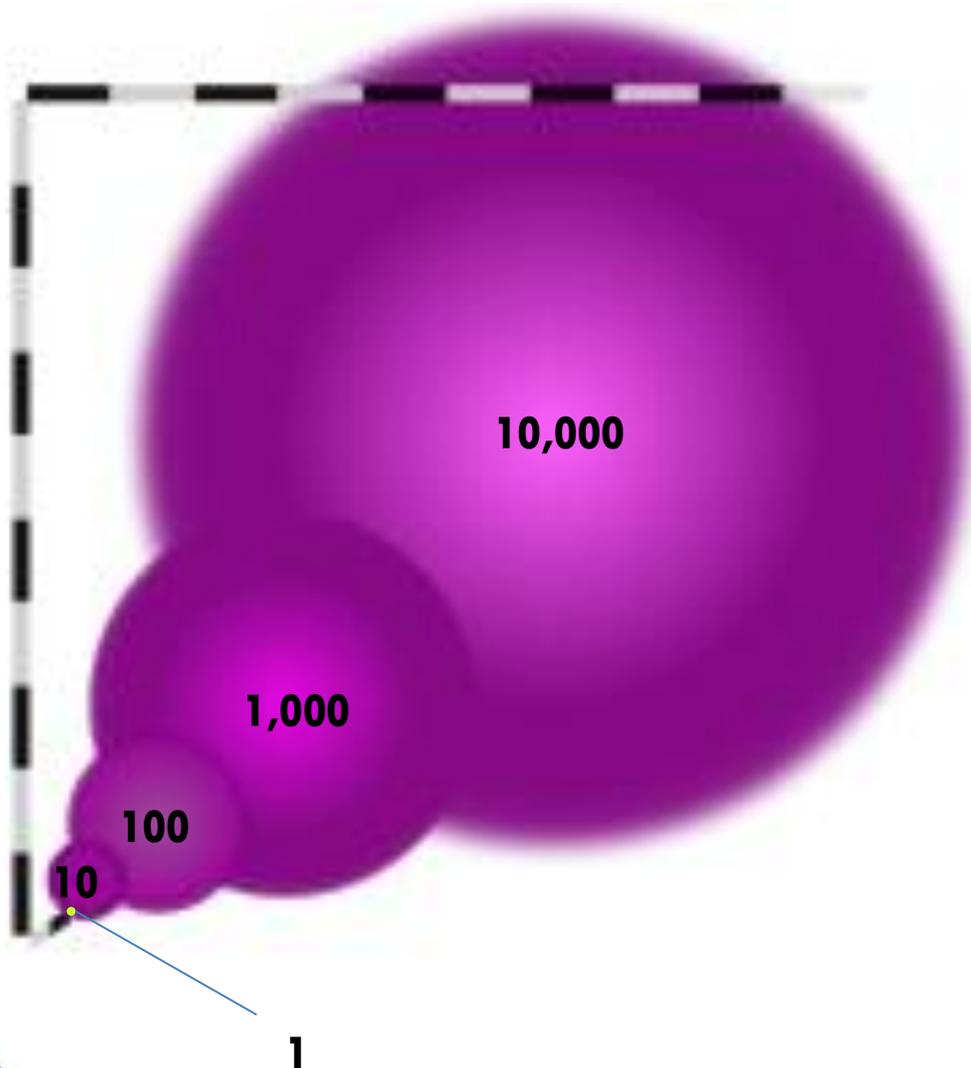
Particle Filtration

Note: 1 Micron (1x10⁻⁶ Meters) ≈ 4x10⁻⁵ Inches (0.00004 Inches)

1 Angstrom Unit = 10⁻¹⁰ Meters = 10⁻⁴ Micrometers (Microns)



Volumetric Representation of Scale



Comparative Sizes

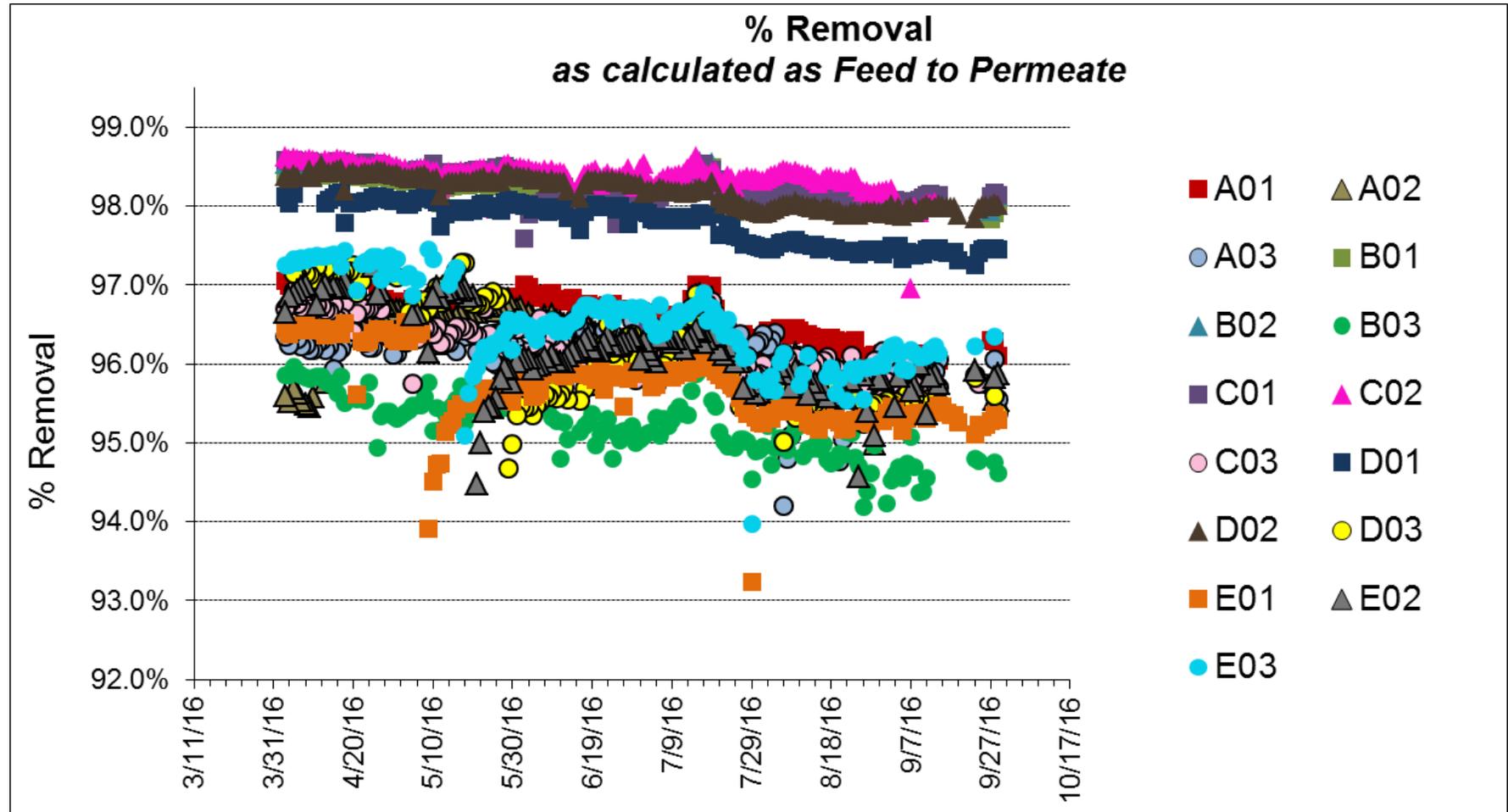
- 3 microns = Cryptosporidium
- 0.2 microns = smallest bacteria
- 0.04 microns = virus
- 0.002 microns = TOC
- 0.001 microns = sulfate ion
- 0.0002 microns = sodium ion

What are the Basics Reverse Osmosis?

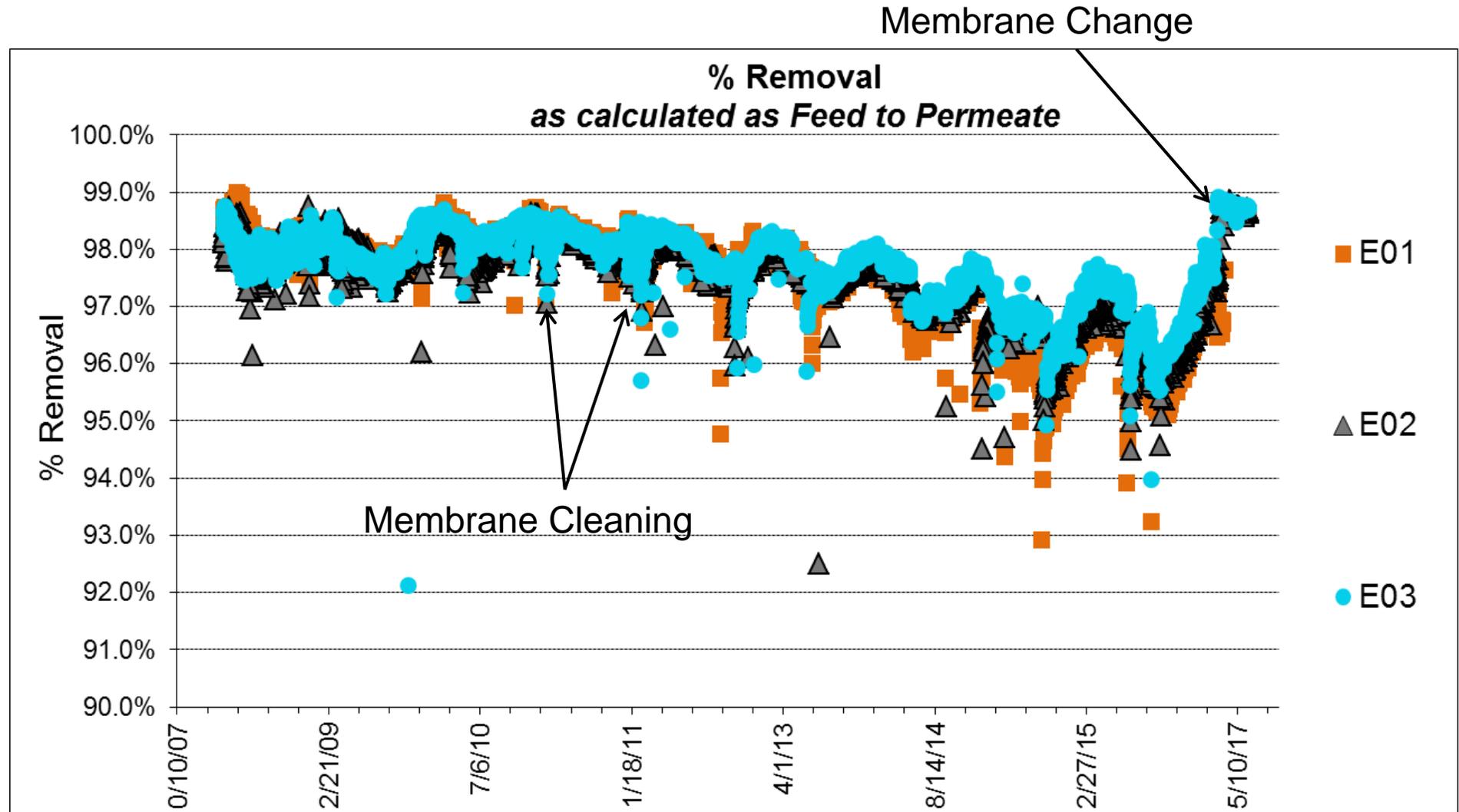
- Removes constituents in water including:
 - Inorganic Ions (sodium, chloride, calcium, sulfate)
 - Total Organic Carbon (TOC)
 - Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC)
 - Unregulated Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC)
 - Personal Care Products
 - Pharmaceutical Compounds
 - Endocrine disrupting compounds
- RO permeate is essentially free of most contaminants of regulatory concern with the exception of:
 - Nitrosamines (NDMA)
 - 1,4-dioxane



GWRS Reverse Osmosis Removal Performance (Trains A-E)



GWRS Train E Percent Removal 2007-2017 (Raw Data)





RO Basics



RO Membranes

- RO membranes are non-porous.
 - Thin-Film Composite Membrane
 - Membrane is coated on the surface of a Polysulfone UF Membrane
 - Underlying non-woven support layer
- Thickness and Evenness of Membrane layer are important
- Pin holes are defects.
- Sealing of the membrane has improved over the years.
- Oxidants and improper cleaning can destroy the membrane

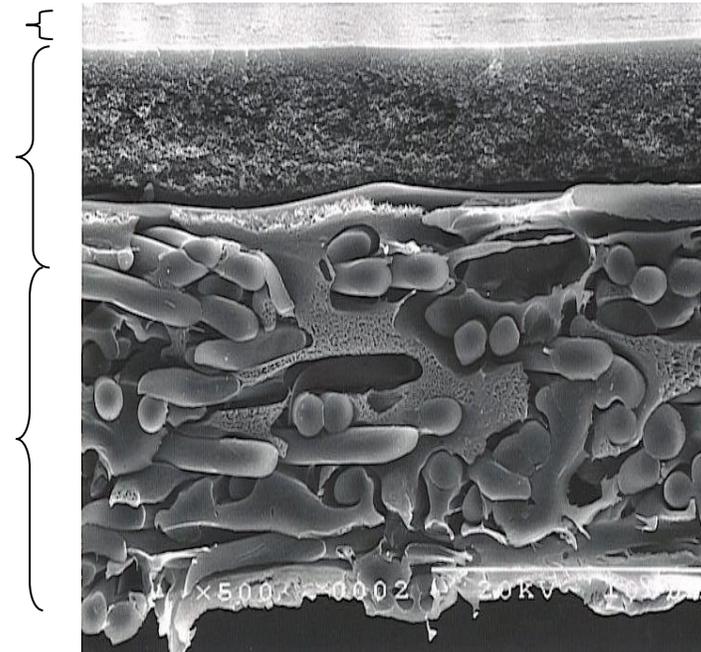


Thin Film Composite Membrane Cross Section

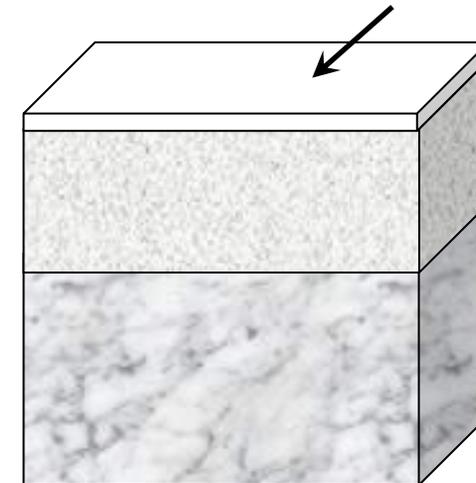
Polyamide
0.04 - 0.1 microns

Polysulfone
75 - 100 microns

Polyester Fabric
2000 microns



Membrane surface



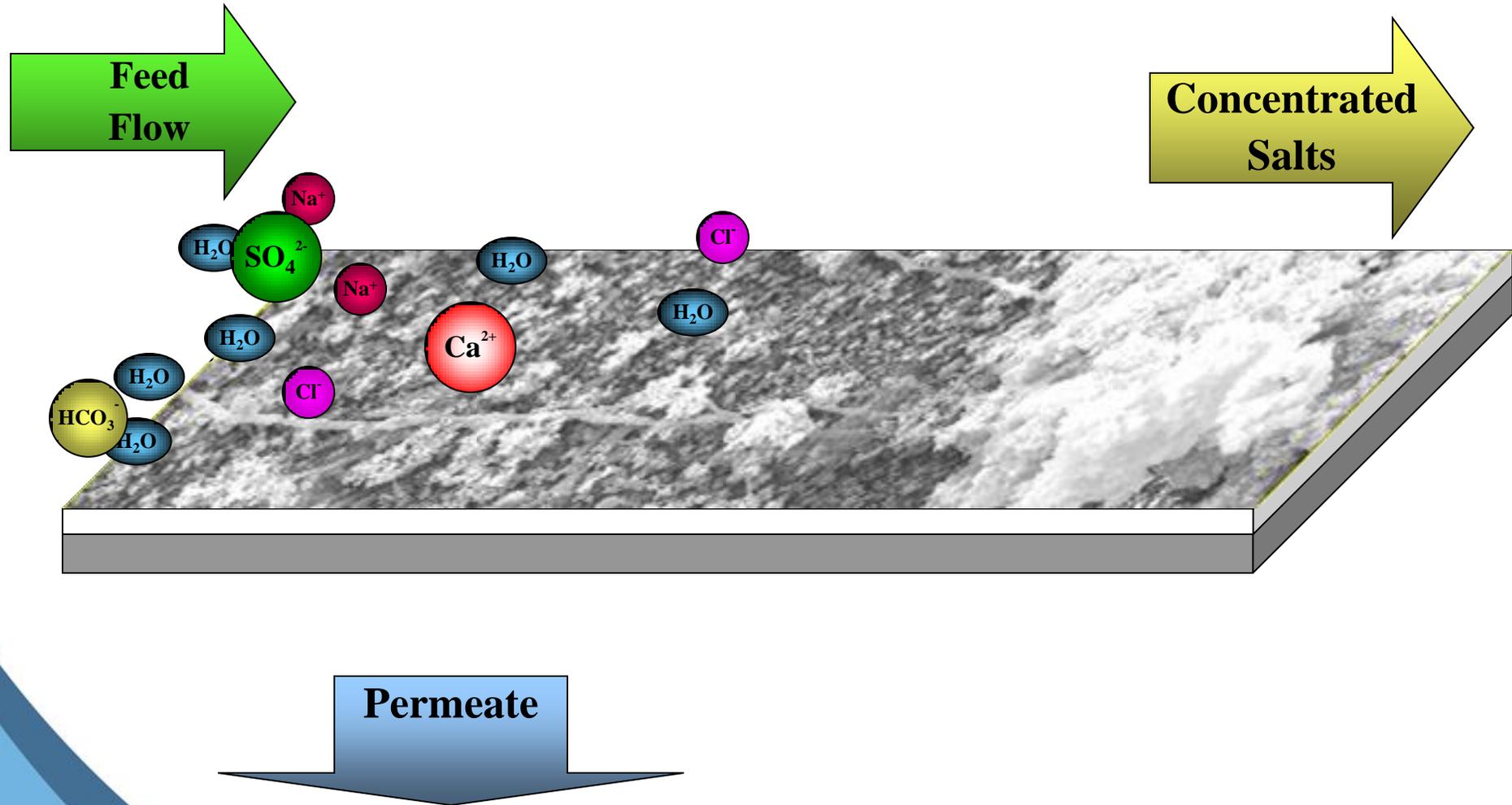
Reverse Osmosis Theory and Principals

- Water and Salt pass through interstitial (molecular) spaces
- Solution-Diffusion Model is most commonly used
- Water Flow is controlled by the Net Driving Pressure (NDP)
 - NDP is the Average Pressure Differential minus the Osmotic Pressure
- Salt Flow is controlled by diffusion
 - Concentration Difference across the membrane.



RO Removal

Mechanism = Solution-Diffusion

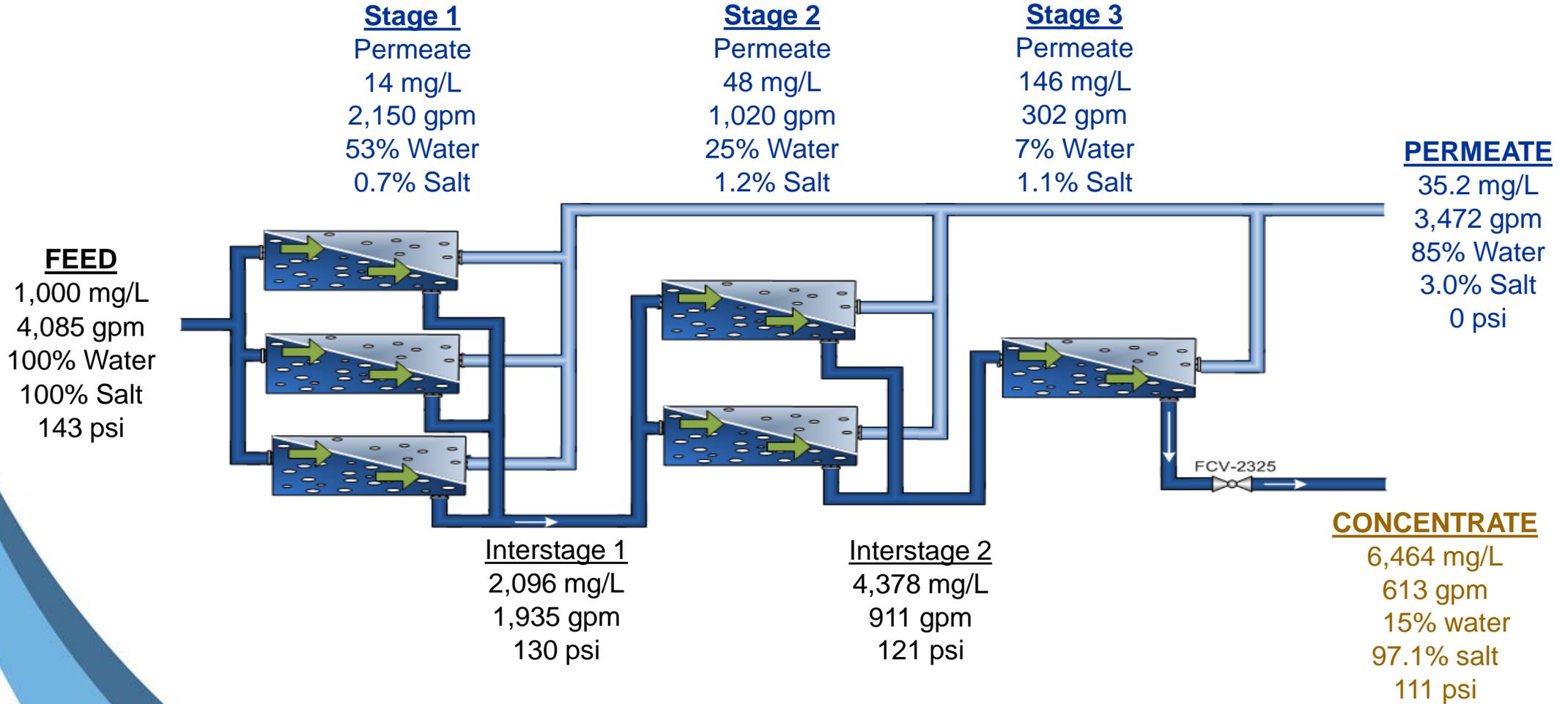


Practical Points about Reverse Osmosis

- Membrane Performance is local to the element under consideration.
- Osmotic pressure can be viewed as a threshold pressure that must be overcome to obtain flow.
- The flow of water through a membrane is a function of the localized net driving pressure
- The flow of salt through a membrane is a function of the localized concentration difference.
- The osmotic pressure increases as salts are retained, lowering the net driving pressure
- Increasing water temperature will decrease feed pressure and increase salt flow.

How are water and salts separated through a RO Unit?

77:49:24 ARRAY - 85% RECOVERY



All membranes are the same





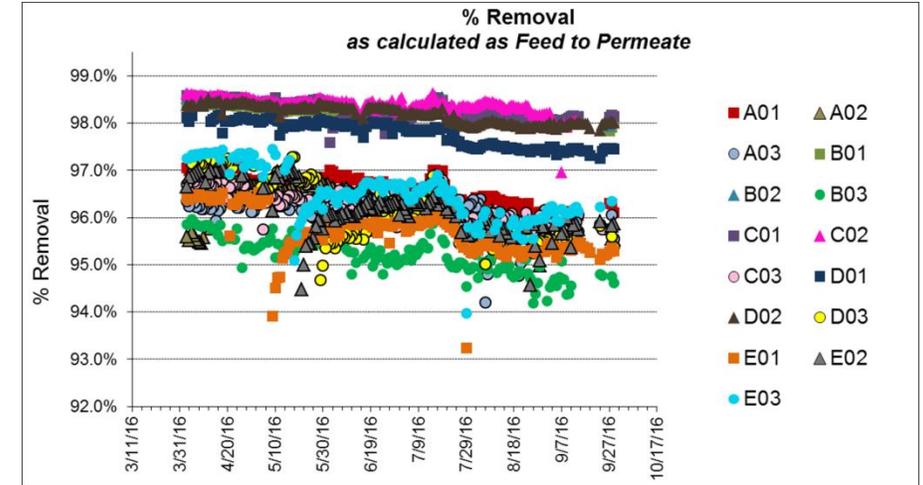
RO Removal



Train/Unit Rejection (Feed to Permeate)

$$\% \text{ Removal} = \frac{C_F - C_P}{C_F} \times 100\%$$

where : C_F = Conductivity of Feed ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)
 C_P = Conductivity of Permeate ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)



Membrane Rejection (Avg. Feed to Permeate)

$$\% \text{ Removal} = \frac{C_{FB} - C_P}{C_F} \times 100\%$$

where : C_F = Log Mean Average Conductivity of Feed/Brine ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)
 C_P = Conductivity of Permeate ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)

Removal of Constituents by RO

	Feed mg/L	Permeate mg/L	% Rejection*
Ca ²⁺	93	0.01	100.0%
Mg ²⁺	24.9	0.01	100.0%
Na ⁺	214	6.38	97.0%
NH ₄ ⁺ (as N)	30.2	1.24	95.9%
Cl ⁻	236	3.64	98.5%
HCO ₃ ⁻	287.7	16.45	94.3%
SO ₄ ²⁻	298.5	0.48	99.8%
TOC	11.1	0.18	98.4%
SiO ₂	23.7	0.10	99.6%
Total Nitrogen (as N)	33.5	1.53	95.4%
TDS	991	19.86	98.0%

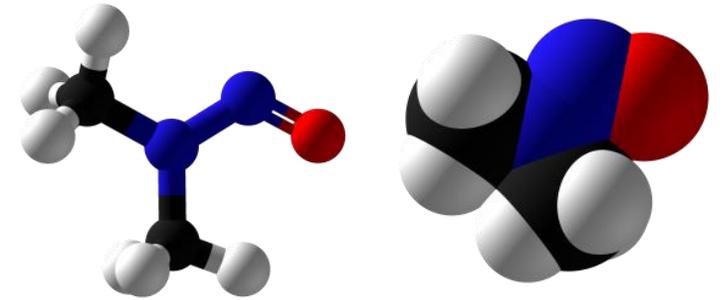
* System Rejection: 11gfd @ 85% Recovery



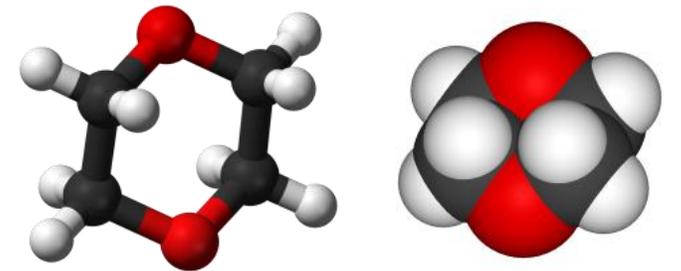
$$\% \text{ Rejection} = \left(1 - \frac{\text{Permeate TDS}}{\text{Feed TDS}} \right) \times 100$$

Chemical Constituent Factors that Effect Membrane Rejection

- Molecular Weight (size)
 - higher weight, higher removal
- Ionic Charge (valence)
 - Higher charge, higher removal
- Molecular Structure (shape)
 - Nitrogen Compounds have higher diffusion (e.g. ammonium, (MW 17,+1), NDMA (MW 74)) and can “align” with polyamide membranes
 - 1,4-dioxane (MW 88)



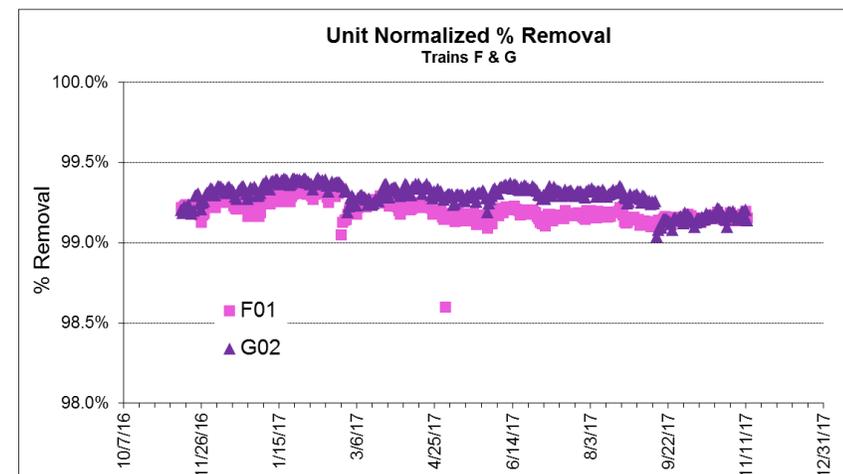
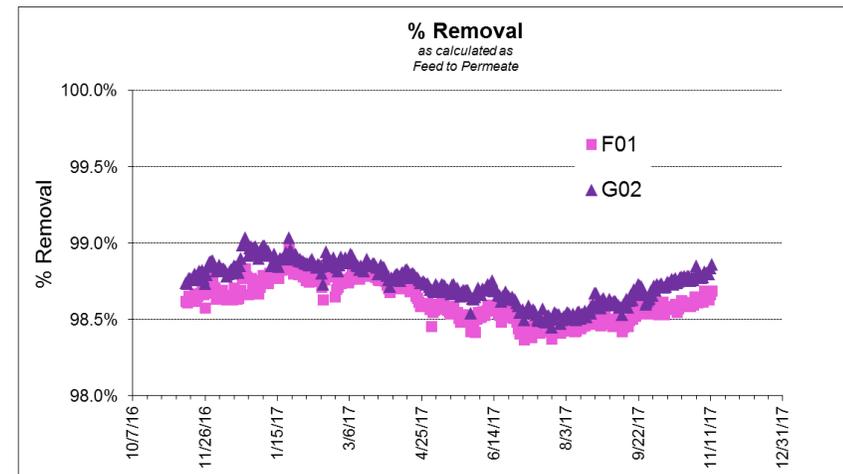
NDMA



1,4-Dioxane

Operational Factors also Effect Membrane Rejection

- Temperature (higher diffusion, lower removal)
- Membrane Flux (higher dilution, higher removal)
- Boundary Layer and other Concentration Effects (higher concentration, lower removal)
- Calculation Method
 - feed (lower concentration, lower removal)
 - average (higher concentration, higher removal)
 - Normalized Performance Calculations
- Ionic Equilibrium between feed and permeate
- Chemical Cleaning and Age (years in service)



Why is my rejection less than the published values?

- Membrane Test Conditions
 - 10,000 gpd = 25 gfd
 - Typical Design Flux is 12 gfd
- Test Data Normalization
 - Average Feed Brine Concentration
 - Higher than Feed Concentration
 - Temperature Correction to 25 degrees C.
- Unit Staging

Nitto

HYDRANAUTICS
Nitto Group Company

	Membrane Element	ESPA2-LD (Low Fouling Technology)
Performance:	Permeate Flow: Salt Rejection:	10,000 gpd (37.9 m ³ /d) 99.6% (99.5% minimum)
Type	Configuration: Membrane Polymer: Membrane Active Area: Feed Spacer:	Low Fouling Spiral Wound Composite Polyamide 400 ft ² (37.1m ²) 34 mil (0.864 mm)
Application Data*	Maximum Applied Pressure: Maximum Chlorine Concentration: Maximum Operating Temperature: pH Range, Continuous (Cleaning): Maximum Feedwater Turbidity: Maximum Feedwater SDI (15 mins): Maximum Feed Flow: Minimum Ratio of Concentrate to Permeate Flow for any Element: Maximum Pressure Drop for Each Element:	600 psig (4.14 MPa) < 0.1 PPM 113 °F (45 °C) 2-10.6 (1-12) 1.0 NTU 5.0 75 GPM (17.0 m ³ /h) 5:1 15 psi

* The limitations shown here are for general use. For specific projects, operating at more conservative values may ensure the best performance and longest life of the membrane. See Hydranautics Technical Bulletins for more detail on operation limits, cleaning pH, and cleaning temperatures.

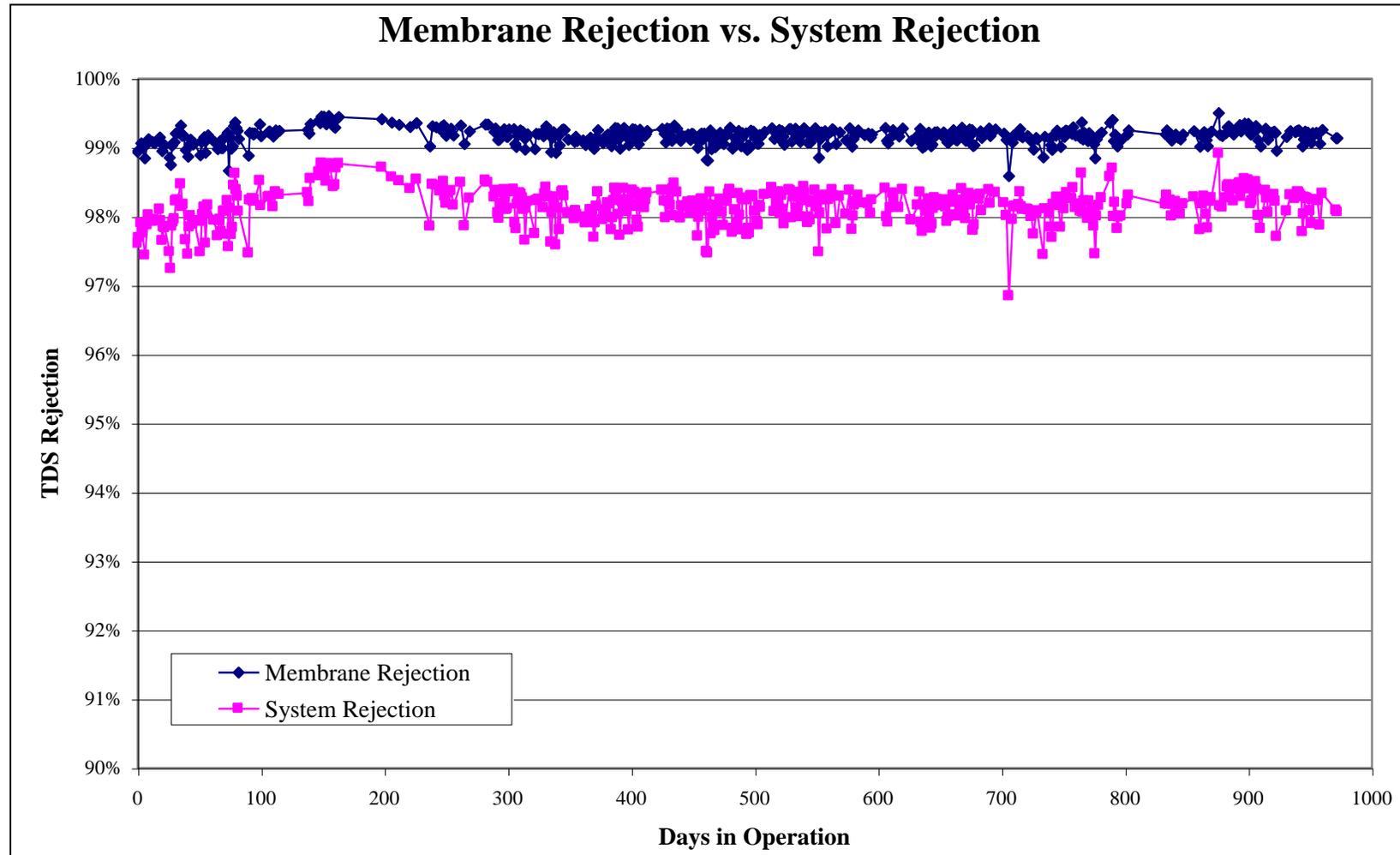
Test Conditions

The stated performance is initial (data taken after 30 minutes of operation), based on the following conditions:

1500 PPM NaCl solution
150 psi (1.05 MPa) Applied Pressure
77 °F (25 °C) Operating Temperature
15% Permeate Recovery
6.5 - 7.0 pH Range



TDS Rejection





Data Normalization



Data Normalization

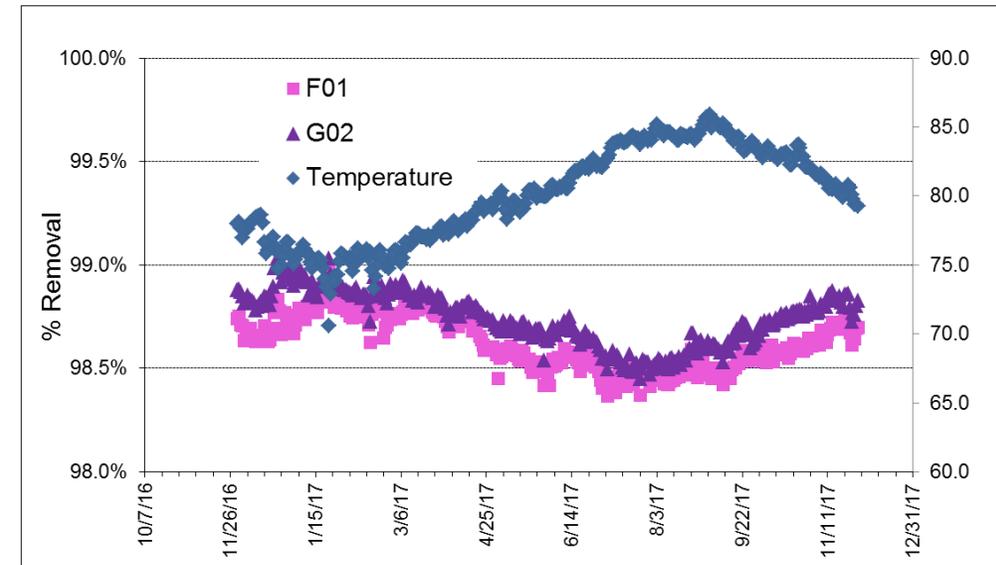
- Calculation of values that describe membrane performance at design conditions even when system is not operated at design conditions (flow, temperature, recovery, etc.)
- Allows the user to make an approximation of membrane performance despite changes in operating conditions to determine if the system performance is stable or developing problems
 - Unit Specific – General Idea
 - Stage Specific – Better for detailed analysis



Basics of Normalized Data

- Accounts for Multiple Variables of Interest
 - Feed Conductivity
 - Temperature
 - Flow
 - Pressure
- Used as a tool to manage
 - Energy
 - Cleaning
 - Membrane Replacement
 - Maintenance
- Monitor both Unit and Stage Performance
 - Specific Flux
 - Normalized Differential Pressure
 - Normalized Percent Removal

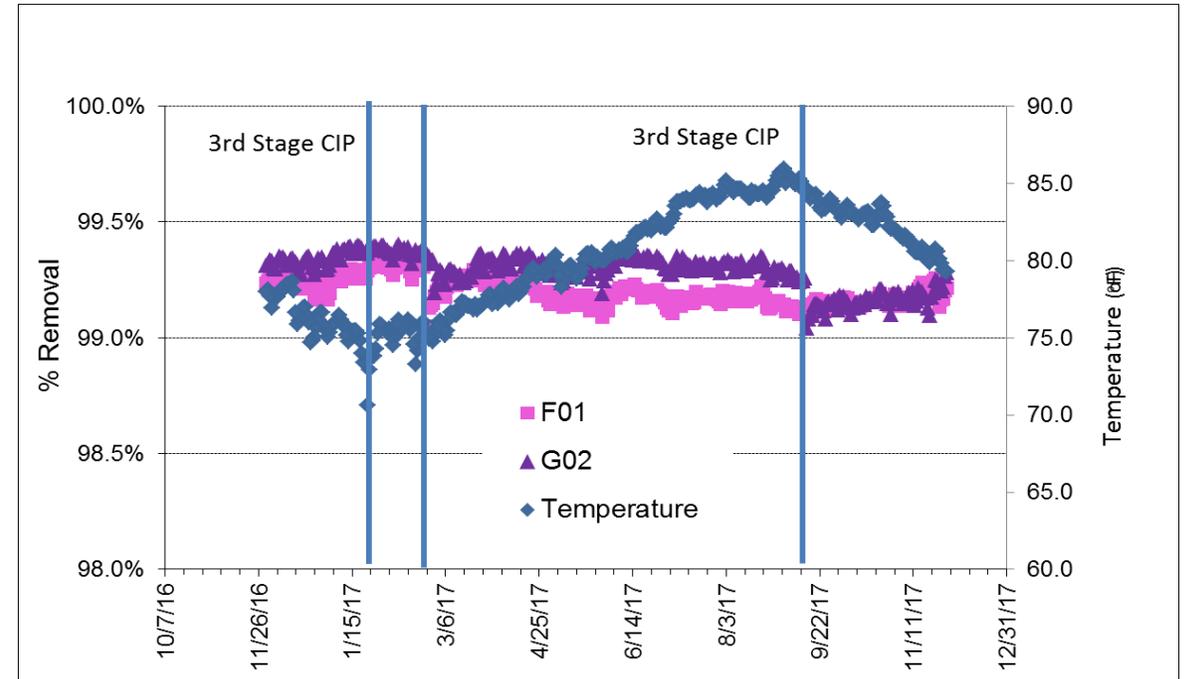
Percent Removal – Feed to Permeate



Why do we use Normalized Data?

- When Data is Normalized, variations are attenuated.
- Membrane Cleaning has a significant but temporary effect on removal.
- The duration is typically a week or so.
- Average Feed/Brine Conductivity
 - ASTM Standard
 - higher removal than feed to permeate

Normalized Percent Removal - AFBC Method



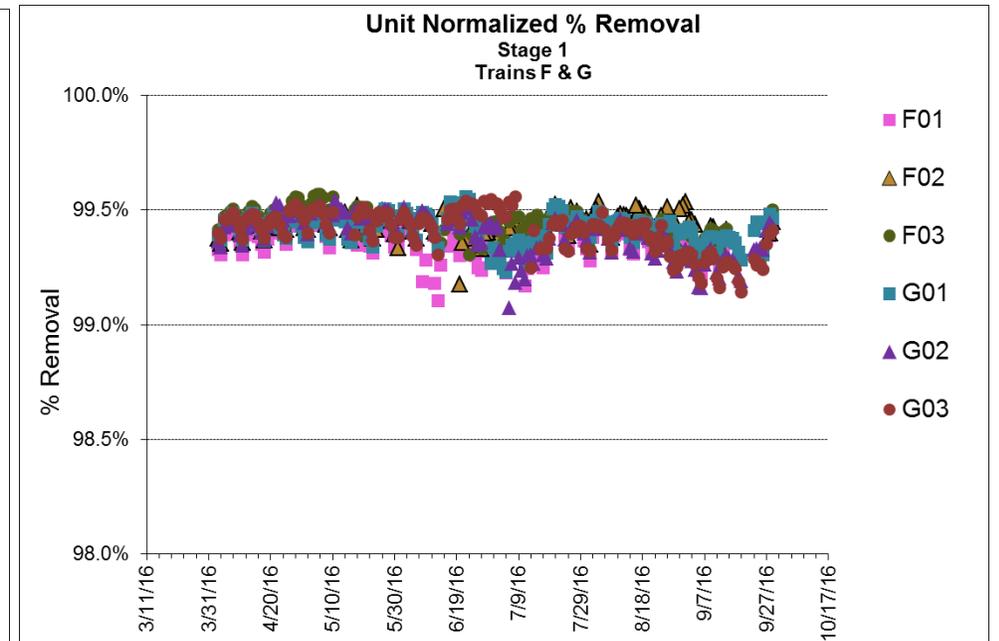
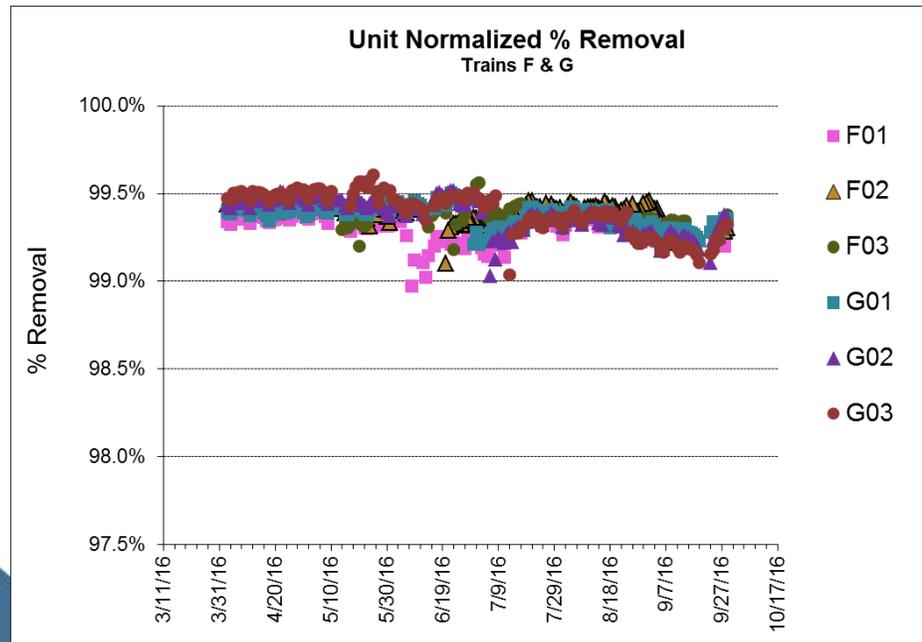
Impact of Membrane Cleaning Becomes More Obvious

Normalized Percent Removal

$$\% \text{ Normalized Removal} = \frac{C_{FBS} - C_{PN}}{C_{FBS}} \times 100\%$$

C_{FBS} = AFBC Conductivity at Standard conditions ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)

C_{PN} = Normalized Permeate Conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)





Monitoring RO Integrity



Compliance Monitoring & Reporting is beginning to approach the Drinking Water Standards

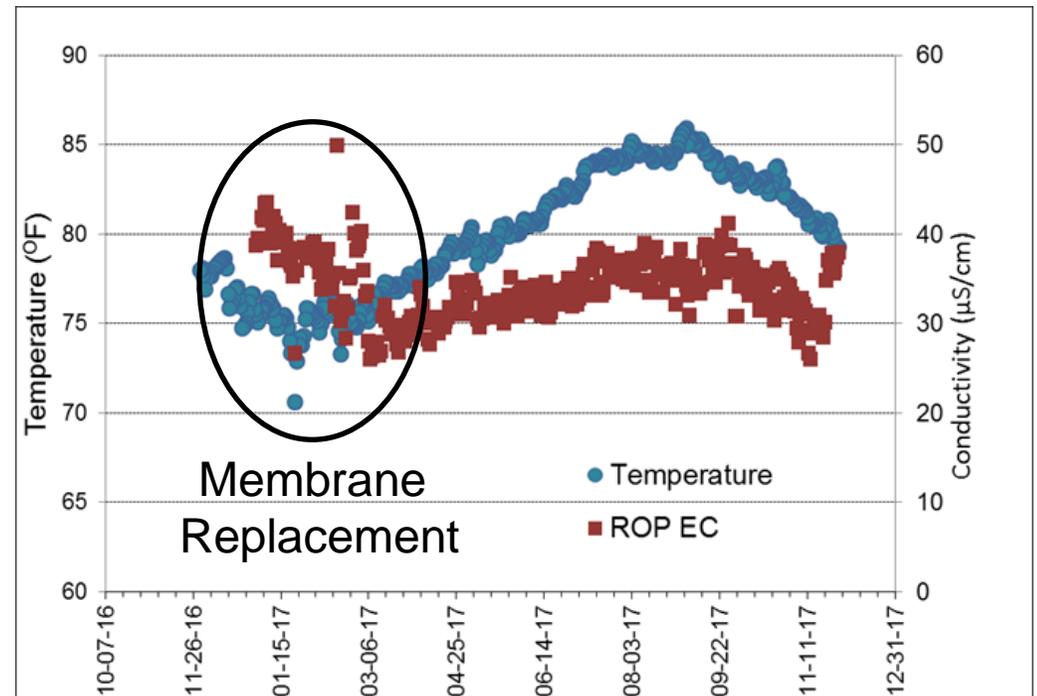
- For IPR facilities,
 - The percentage of time of non-compliance is determined
 - Must be reported to the State
 - Failure of greater than 10 percent requires corrective action.
- Operational Monitoring
 - SCADA Historians normally collect data at 1 to 5 minute intervals.
 - SCADA Operational Data contains transitional /nuisance vents
 - start up, shut and analyzer issues
- Compliance Monitoring (Key Elements)
 - Prepare the Compliance Report after the data is formatted in accordance with procedure
 - A time basis is established (15 min, 3 hour, daily)
 - A singular event cannot be the basis of a compliance violation.
 - Instrumentation used for regulatory compliance is designated
 - verification and calibration protocols established



RO Permeate Water Quality is Very Stable

- Combined permeate conductivity is very low.
- Recent membrane replacement in 6 units lowered the overall system permeate conductivity.
- Conductivity removal is in the range of 97 to 98 percent.
- There are temperature effects.

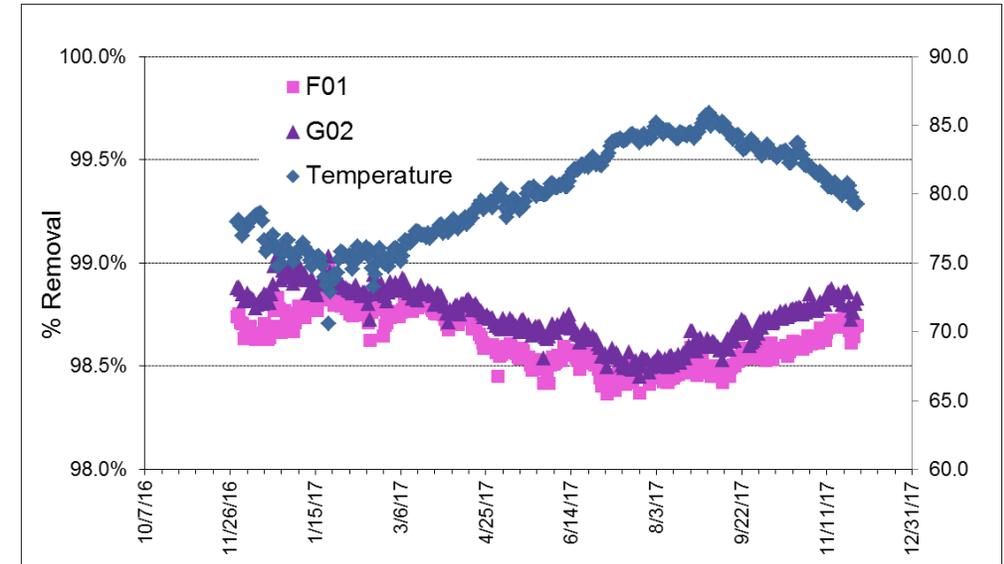
GWRS – Combined Permeate



RO Membrane Issues and 12-10-10

- For IPR Facilities, meeting LRV 12-10-10 brings a new challenge to operations
- RO systems are being used to obtain LRV credit for virus, Giardia and Cryptosporidium. (e.g. 2-2-2)
- EC (Conductivity) and TOC are not the best indicators for microbial integrity
- There is an challenge with going above 3 log because of Membrane Filtration Guidance Manual precedence for Cryptosporidium Removal and the Direct Integrity Test Requirement.

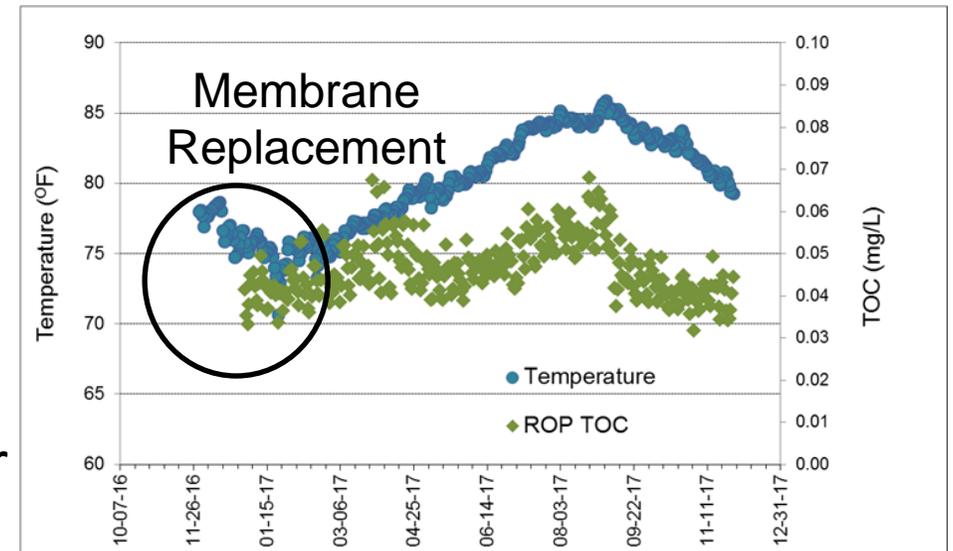
Percent Removal – Feed to Permeate



Permeate Water TOC is Significantly less than 0.5 mg/L (BDL/BRL)

- Operationally, TOC is monitored sensitive equipment with a RDL of 0.05 mg/L.
- The lower range of the analyzer is 0.04 mg/L and is more accurate with lower conductivity water (35 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ maximum).
- Technically this can a compliance issue
- Overall TOC removal is only slightly higher than 99 percent but approaches 99 percent (2 log) during summer.

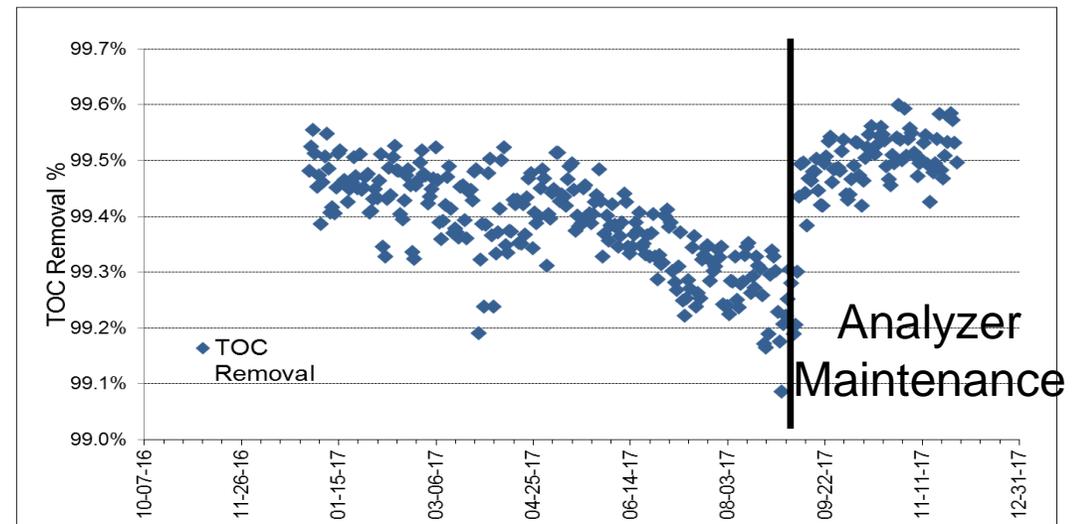
GWRS – Combined Permeate TOC



The quandary – use of TOC as “surrogate” indicator for virus removal credits

- OCWD uses RO for log virus, Giardia, and Cryptosporidium removal credit (2-2-2).
- Salts and Organic removal is controlled by diffusion.
- Diffusion is a temperature and concentration controlled parameter.
- Virus removal is governed by the principal of size exclusion.

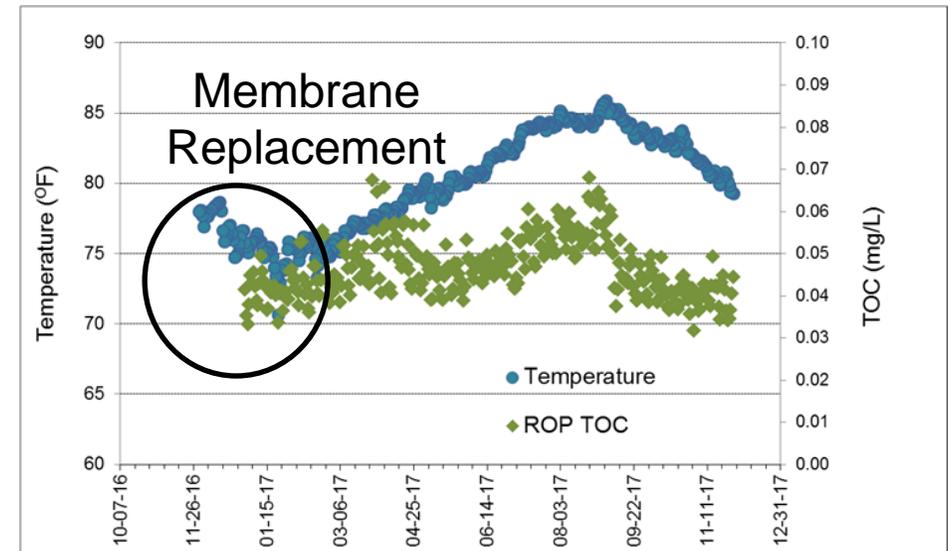
GWRS – TOC Removal Percentage



Factors that Affect TOC Removal

- Amount of TOC in Feed Water
 - Secondary 12-16 mg/L
 - Nitrified – 7 to 10 mg/L
 - Nitrified/Denitrified 4-7 mg/L
- Ozonation Pretreatment to reduce MF Fouling creates smaller TOC fragments.
- The 0.25 mg/L (First 20 weeks) and 0.5 mg/L TOC requirements may pose challenges to facilities that use ozone or have low TOC.

GWRS – Combined Permeate TOC

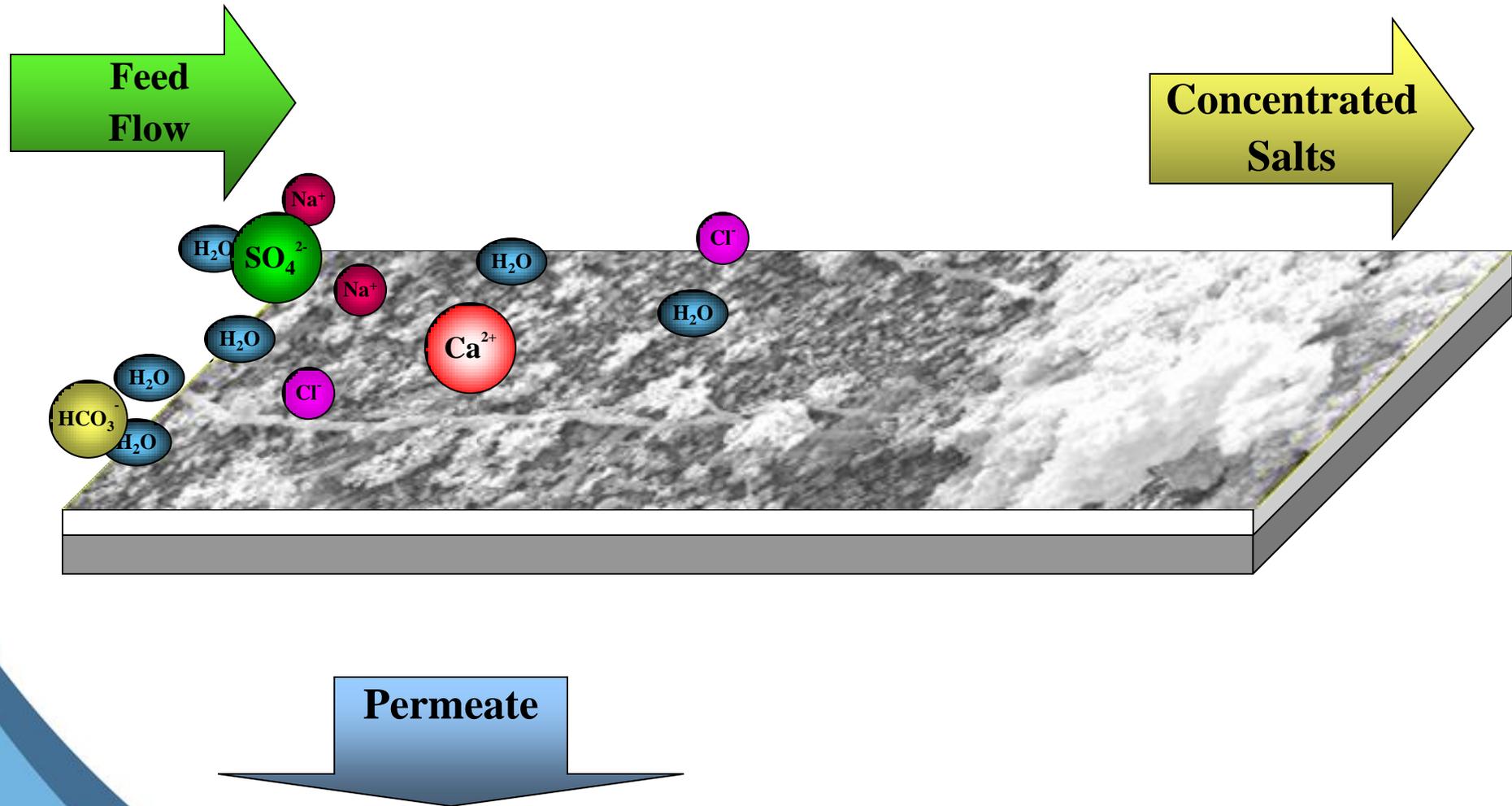




Pathogen Removal

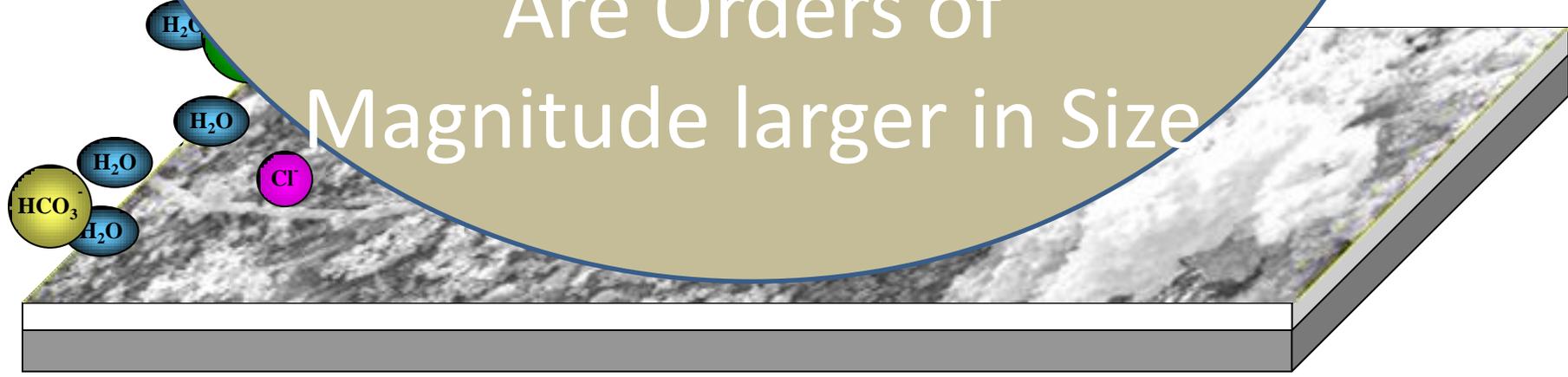
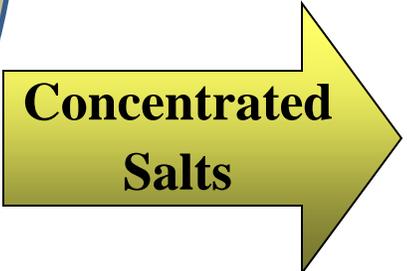


Basic Training for RO Removal Mechanism = Solution Diffusion



Virus, Giardia and
Cryptosporidium

Are Orders of
Magnitude larger in Size



What are the types of defects that would create a loss of microbial integrity?

- Missing or deteriorated o-rings on interconnectors and end adapters. (Some types of EPDM)
- Vessel sagging creating stress on vessel and interconnectors
- Broken Glue line (rarer occurrence than previously)
- High Feed Side Differential Pressure (telescoping)
- Permeate Backpressure Incident (catastrophic)

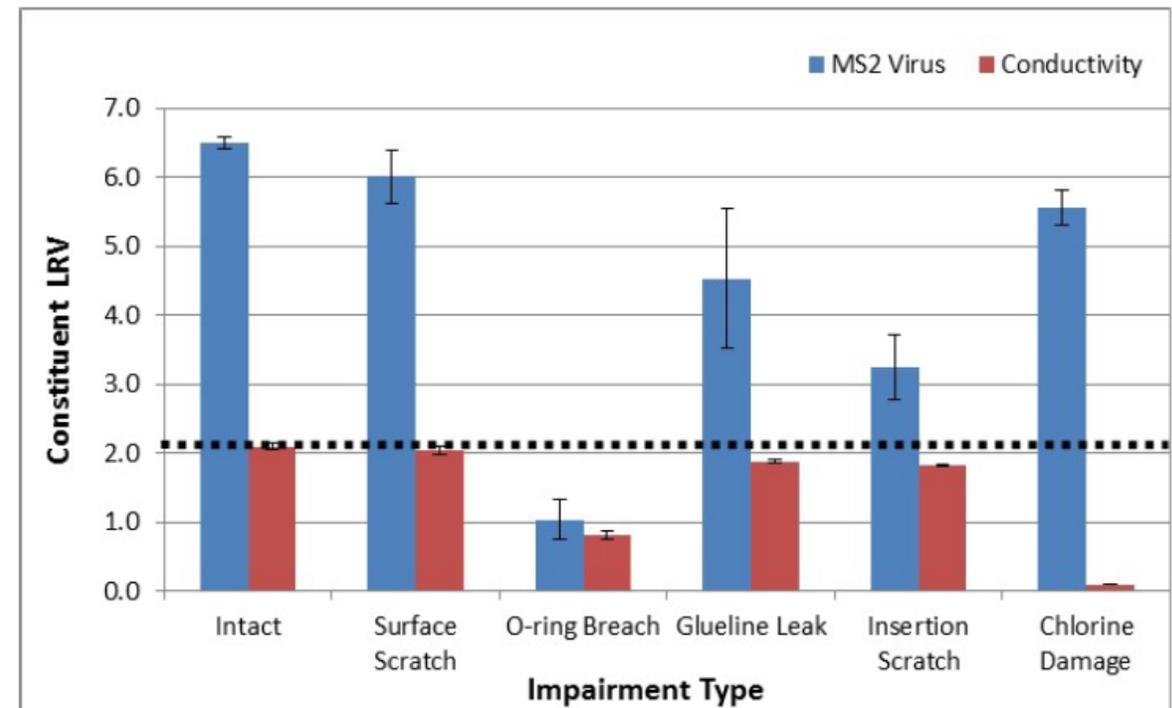
Most integrity occurrences are easily identifiable.

Integrity issues for RO are relatively uncommon



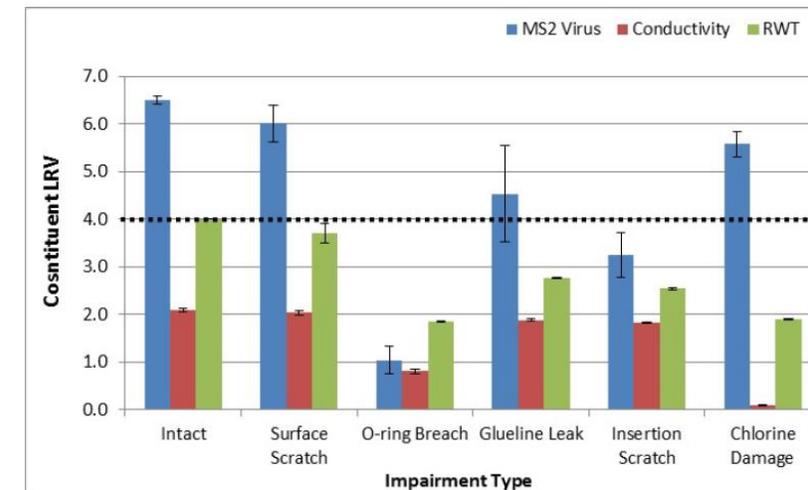
What causes an increase in permeate conductivity and is unrelated to integrity?

- Membrane Oxidation in Chloramines
- Aggressive Membrane Cleaning
- Scaling of Membranes
- Temperature Variations
- Increased Recovery



What are the emerging methods that can be used to determine RO Membrane Integrity

- Fluorescence Marker Based Testing
 - Trasar (MW 610)
 - Uranine (MW 376)
 - Rhodamine WT (MW 440)
- All markers are relatively low molecular weight
- Higher Sensitivity because the compounds are Fluorescent at various wavelengths.
- Requires fluorometer and approach to the application
- Data suggests that sensitivity is increased to greater than 4 log.
- A combined permeate measurement does not tell us where the integrity is located.



What are the other methods that can be used to determine RO Membrane Integrity

- Ions such as Strontium and Sulfate
 - Naturally present in water
 - Instrumentation exists from power plants
- Microbial ATP
 - Molecular marker that is associated with wastewater
 - Reduction across RO



Measurement	
Range	0-500 ppb
Limit of detection	0.5 ppb
Accuracy	Chloride: $\pm 5\%$ of reading ± 0.5 ppb, typical Sulfate: $\pm 5\%$ of reading ± 1 ppb, typical
Measurement cycle time	45 min typical, programmable between 15 minutes and 1 hour
Sample flowrate	25-50 mL/min
Sample temperature	10-45 °C (50-113 °F)
Sample pressure	0.3-7 bar (5-100 psig)
Grab sample measurement	100 mL capacity



Conductivity Profiling



Historical RO Integrity Monitoring Tools

- Conductivity profiles
- Vessel Probing
- Individual Element Testing

- Used as part of commissioning of a RO system to verify that all membranes are integral and performing similarly
- Routinely performed by most facilities to assure vessels are operating properly.



Conductivity Profiling – Fast and Reliable

- Always use the same handheld meter and do not use any values from unit conductivity meters.
- Write down conductivity values along with system flow and pressures.
- Vessels from each stage should have similar conductivity.
- Conductivity is lowest in the first stage, and highest in the third.
- Once per week initially, then once per month.
- Vessels that exhibit higher than normal conductivity should have their seals checked or the elements in the vessel profiled by probing.
- Review data from prior or similar testing to identify outliers



At the GWRS Integrity Defects are Identified by Conductivity Profiling

Stage 1

25	24	26	25	20	31	31	21	25	29	24	30	27	Average
23	22	30	25	22	29	25	22	26	23	26	21	21	25
24	20	20	27	21	21	23	26	24	24	24	26	25	
22	26	24	26	24	22	19	23	25	27	30	24	23	
24	25	25	27	22	25	22	23	32	22	25	24	22	
22	28	25	27	23	22	28	27	27	24	28	21	22	

Stage 2

71	53	73	57	71	56	85	75	Average
58	47	75	87	65	67	65	47	63
66	72	79	80	65	69	52	66	
54	61	80	76	57	58	51	56	
56	56	55	60	57	60	48	58	
67	60	57	72	67	74	51	53	

Stage 3

302	319	260	250	Average
274	318	272	205	275
313	300	216	215	
315	338	253	252	
291	351	213	230	
307	306	255	241	

Membranes: ESPA2, 8 years

Stage to state performance is variable, but similar within a stage

Limits for New Membranes: No more than 40 percent of median

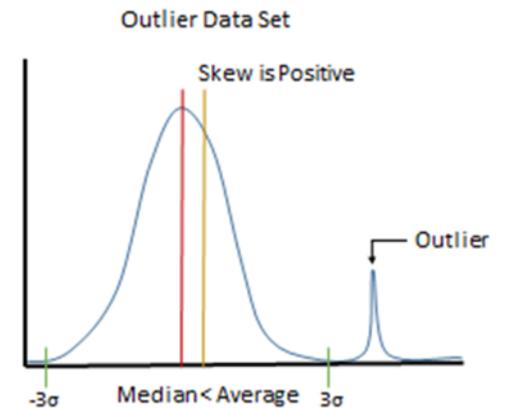
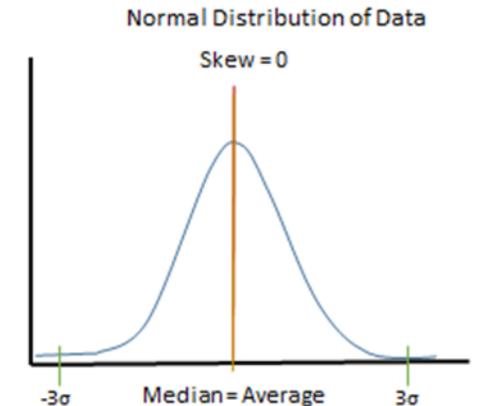
Limits for Installed Membranes: No more than 50 percent of median

Routinely monitored

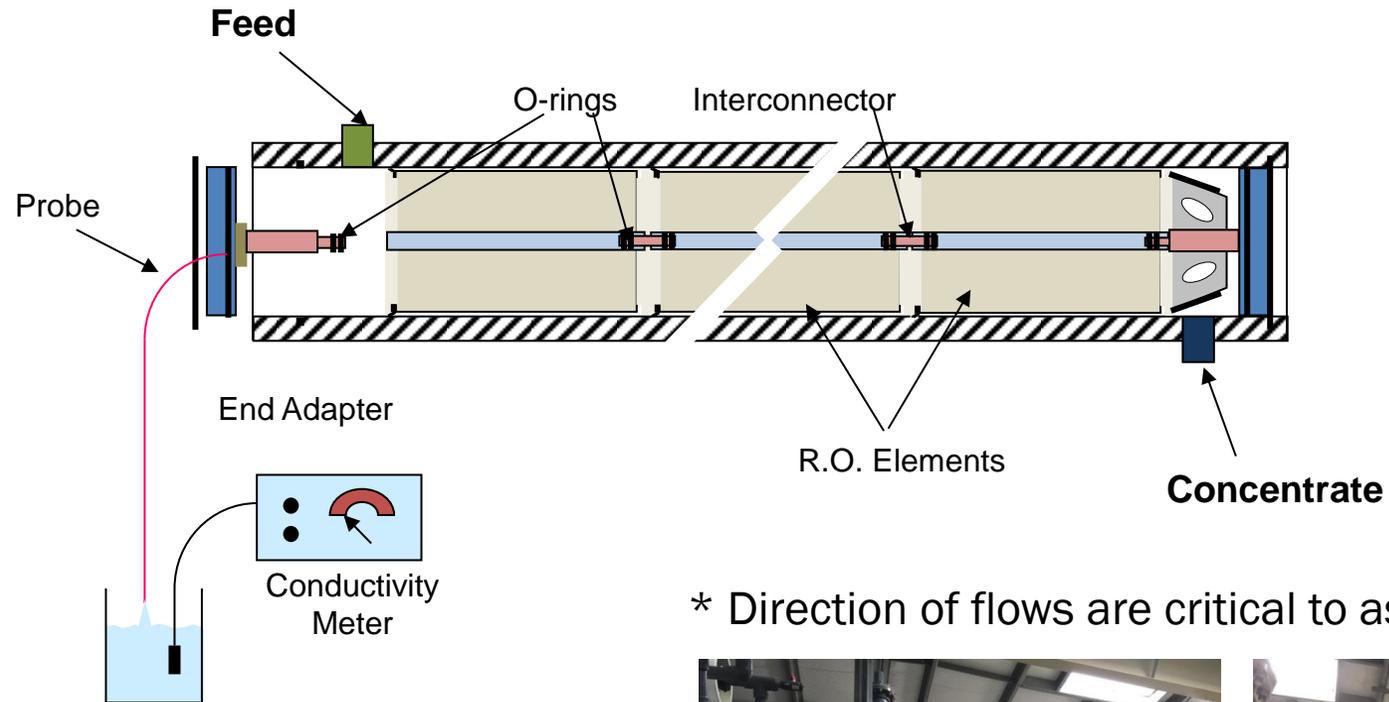


Principals associated with a Conductivity Profile

- Diffusion is an intrinsic property of RO Operation
 - Water Temperature
 - Membrane Age and Flux
 - Concentration Difference / Staging
- There is conductivity that is associated with normal operation, and conductivity (outliers) that would be associated with a defect.
- Parsing the data has been left to operators for interpretation, but statistical methods are available. (JAWWA August 2018)



RO Vessel Probing



* Direction of flows are critical to assessing the data

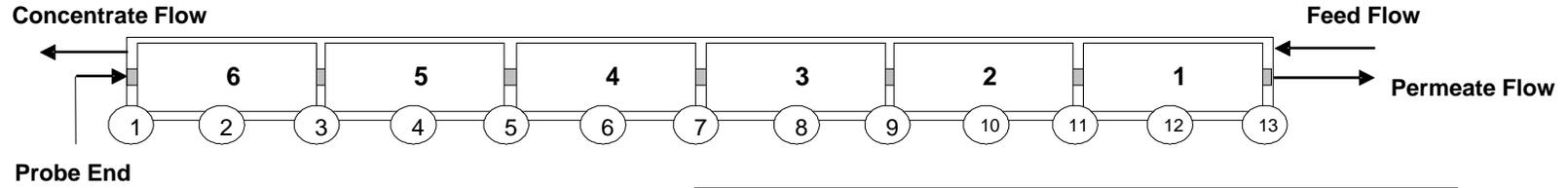


RO Vessel Probing

Example

RO Pressure Vessel Conductivity Probe Data

Stage 1 Pressure Vessel



Date: _____
 Operator: _____
 RO Train No.: _____
 Pressure Vessel No.: _____
 Total Vessel Conductivity: _____

System Data

Feed pH: _____
 Feed Cond. (umho/cm): _____
 Feed Temperature (deg F): _____
 Feed Pressure (psi): _____
 Stage 1 dP (psi): _____
 Stage 2 dP (psi): _____
 Concentrate Flow (gpm): _____
 Permeate Flow (gpm): _____
 Permeate Cond. (umho/cm): _____
 Permeate Pressure (psi): _____

Stage 1	
Vessel Sample Location	Conductivity (umho/cm)
① End Connector	
② Element 6	
③ Interconnector	
④ Element 5	
⑤ Interconnector	
⑥ Element 4	
⑦ Interconnector	
⑧ Element 3	
⑨ Interconnector	
⑩ Element 2	
⑪ Interconnector	
⑫ Element 1	
⑬ End Connector	





Yucaipa Virus Testing Results



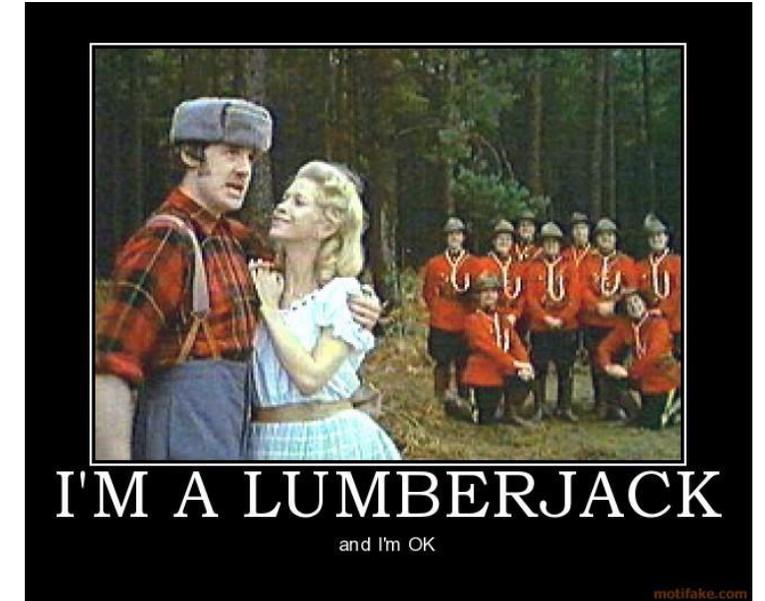
Yucaipa Valley UV/RO MS-2 Virus Testing

- Full Scale MS-2 virus testing was required for open channel UV System to update to the 2012 NWRI Standard (Spot Check Bio-Assay)
- Partial RO is used to reduce salinity in order to comply with Groundwater Basin Plan
- Single RO Unit
 - 52:20 array
 - 1650 gpm unit
 - 85 percent recovery
 - CSM RE-8040-FE Membranes (2013)
- A retest was required for the UV System, so the RO system was tested as well.
- RO system was operating under normal conditions
 - no special preparation

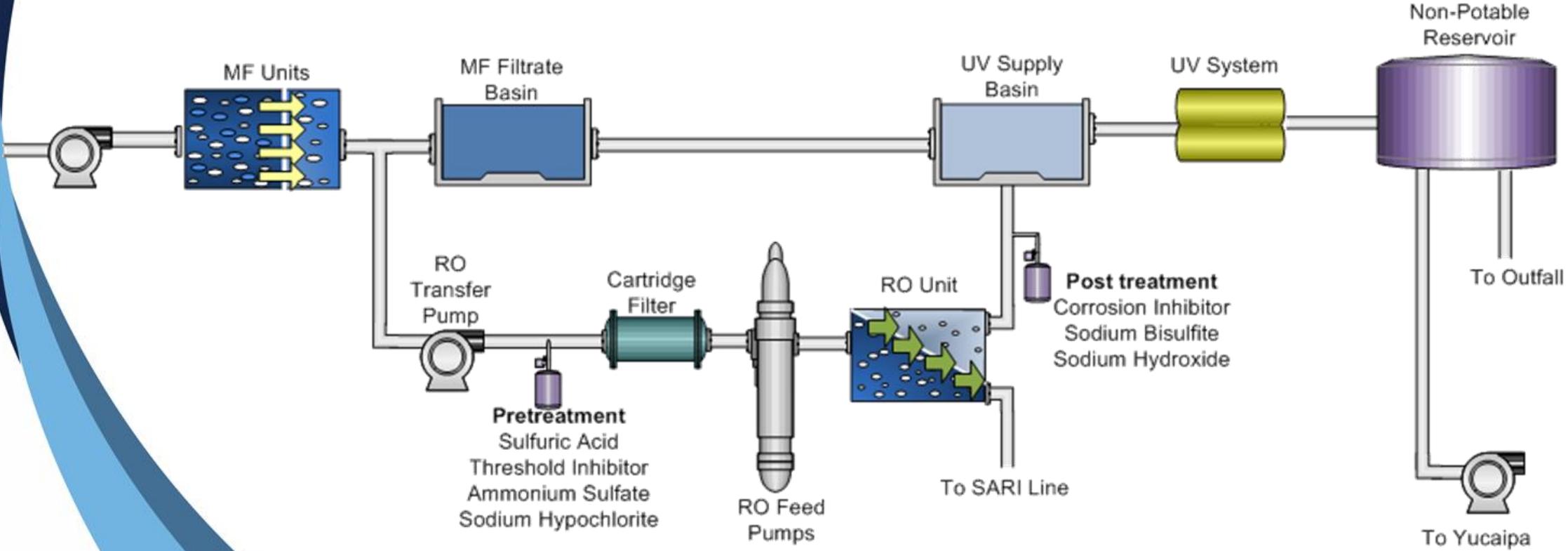


Rationale Behind Yucaipa Work

- Changes in IPR regulations (aka 12-10-10) means that RO will be operated for virus removal credits.
- WaterReuse and State of California suggest LRV's of 1.5 to 2.0 (although the actual range is broader)
- Water Reuse Project 12-07 suggests on a lab/pilot level RO removal is above 5.0.
- Fluorescence Testing (WaterReuse Project 09-06b) indicates that LRV's are above 4.0 based on RO pilot studies.
- Information on full scale system RO performance is limited (or non-existent).
- Because we wanted to find out for ourselves as the information is missing.



Yucaipa Valley Water District Process Flow Diagram

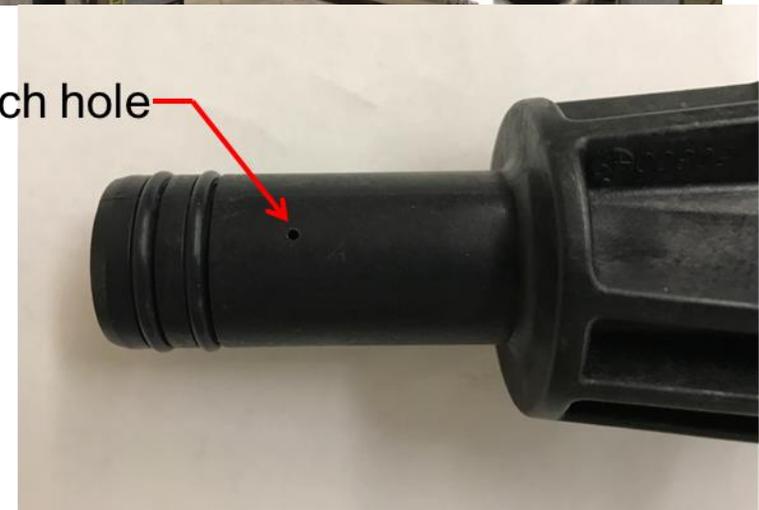


Our Questions to be addressed

- How does the feed concentrate?
- Is there different performance between vessels and stages?
- Is Removal Flow/Flux dependent?
- Do chloramines make a difference in performance (inactivation/disinfectant effect)
- Can a Loss of Integrity be detected by Conductivity Profiling
- Does permeate water quality change as a result of “osmotic shock”
 - MS-2 die-off in permeate (aka inactivation)
 - Laboratory Confirmed that MS-2 would not survive overnight shipment in RO Permeate, so buffer was necessary.



1/16th inch hole



Testing Matrix – Spiked Challenge Testing

Flux Characterization (w/o chloramine)

- Test 1: 10 gfd @ 85 percent Recovery
- Test 2: 12 gfd @ 85 percent Recovery

Chloramine Effect

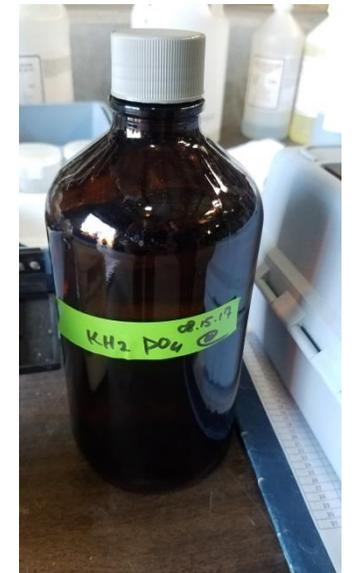
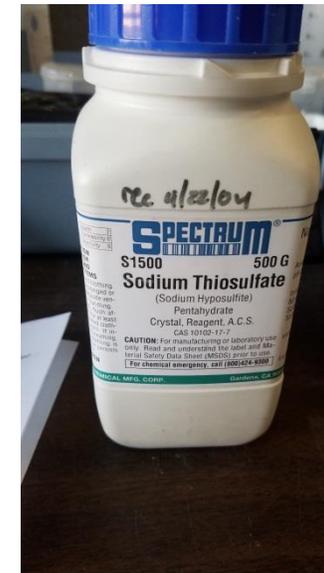
- Test 3: Chloramines Dosed At 2-3 mg/L

Integrity (w/o chloramine)

- Test 4 : Compromised interconnector

Buffer Effect -Parallel Sampling

- Immediately into Buffer (KH_2PO_4)
- Wait 5 minutes before adding buffer



YVWD Initial Conductivity Profile

								18	18	18	17	7
				20	19	18	17	17	18	18	19	6
51	42	48	43	19	18	18	20	19	18	18	18	5
43	53	43	45	19	20	21	18	18	20	19	18	4
46	42	39	45	19	19	18	18	18	18	20	19	3
43	45	46	46	17	19	20	19	21	19	18	18	2
39	39	40	43	17	19	20	20	18	19	21	21	1
2-4	2-3	2-2	2-1	1-8	1-7	1-6	1-5	1-4	1-3	1-2	1-1	



Yucaipa Valley Water District

August 2017

YVWD Conductivity profile with Compromised Interconnector

								15	15	15	15	7
				17	16	16	15	15	16	16	16	6
40	42	37	33	16	15	15	18	16	16	16	15	5
33	33	33	35	16	15	17	16	15	16	16	16	4
35	32	30	35	16	16	16	15	16	15	34	16	3
34	35	36	36	15	16	17	17	27	15	15	15	2
30	29	30	32	15	16	17	17	15	16	17	17	1
2-4	2-3	2-2	2-1	1-8	1-7	1-6	1-5	1-4	1-3	1-2	1-1	



Yucaipa Valley Water District

August 2017

MS2 Testing – Spiked Feed Concentrations

Feed

1.04-1.45 x 10⁶

Interstage

2.19-5.55 x 10⁶

Concentrate

4.3-7.3 x 10⁶

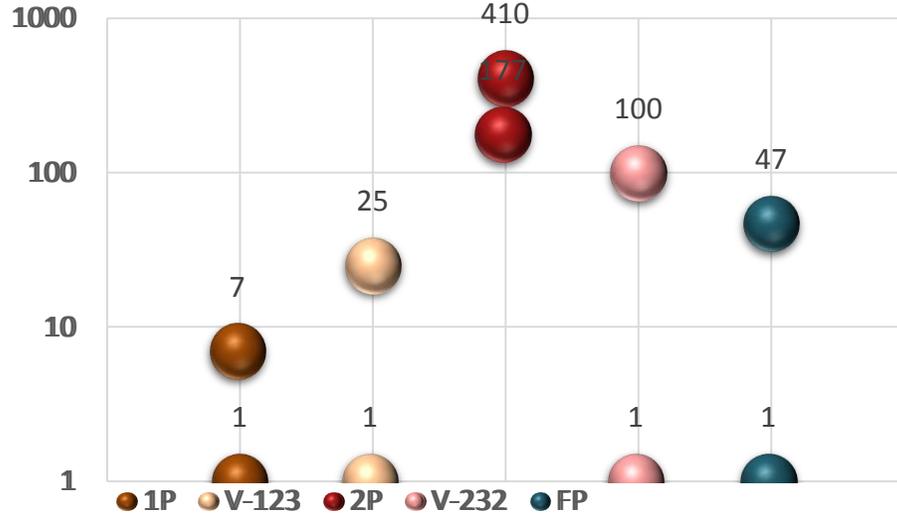
	Feed	Interstage	Concentrate
Test 1 (10 gfd)	1.22*10 ⁶	2.44*10 ⁶	5.70*10 ⁶
Test 2 (12 gfd)	1.21*10 ⁶	2.55*10 ⁶	6.10*10 ⁶
Test 3 (Total Cl2)	1.45*10 ⁶	5.55*10 ⁶	5.70*10 ⁶
Test 4 (Integrity)	1.33*10 ⁶	2.22*10 ⁶	4.30*10 ⁶

	Feed	Interstage	Concentrate
Test 1 (10 gfd)	1.04*10 ⁶	3.08*10 ⁶	7.30*10 ⁶
Test 2 (12 gfd)	1.10*10 ⁶	2.44*10 ⁶	5.35*10 ⁶
Test 3 (Total Cl2)	1.38*10 ⁶	2.91*10 ⁶	6.30*10 ⁶
Test 4 (Integrity)	1.21*10 ⁶	2.19*10 ⁶	4.65*10 ⁶

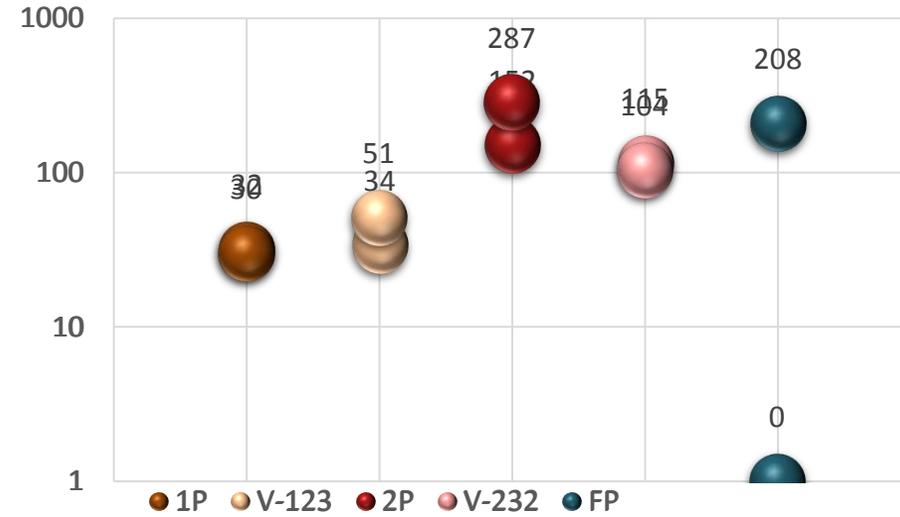


Permeate Virus (pfu/mL) – combined results

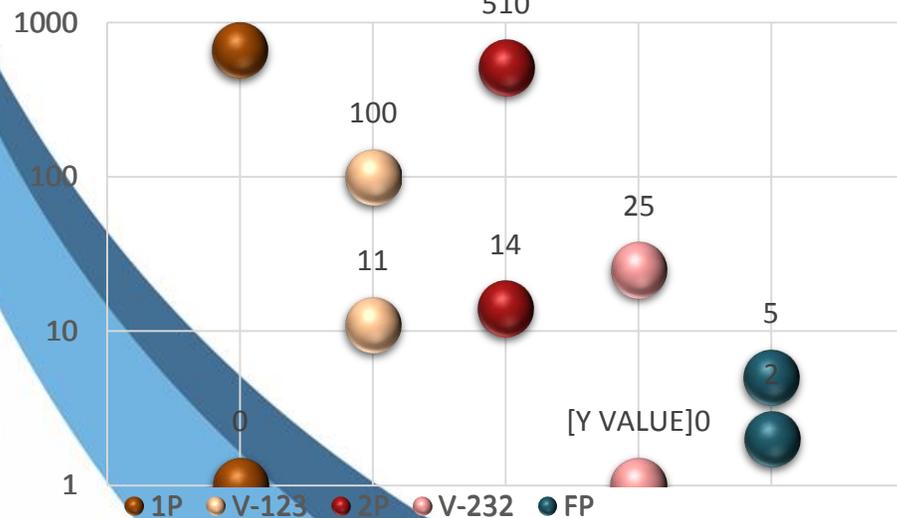
Test 1



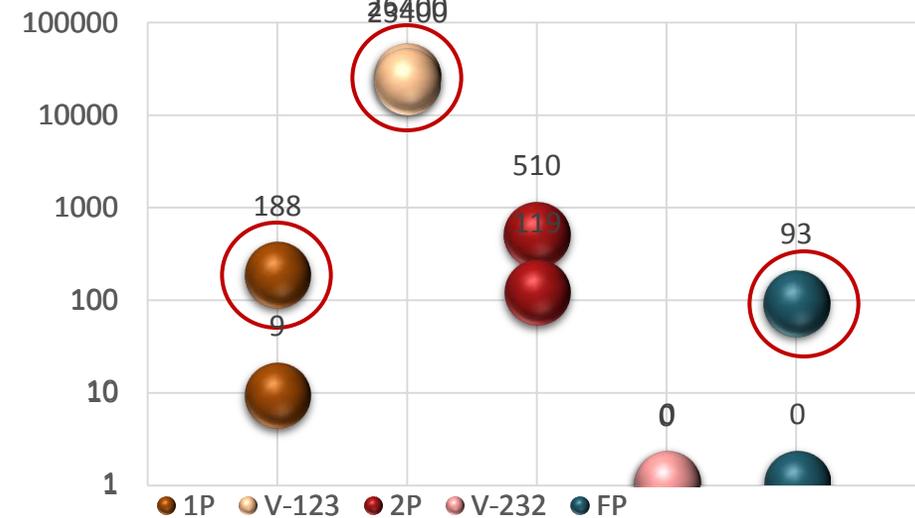
Test 3



Test 2



Test 4

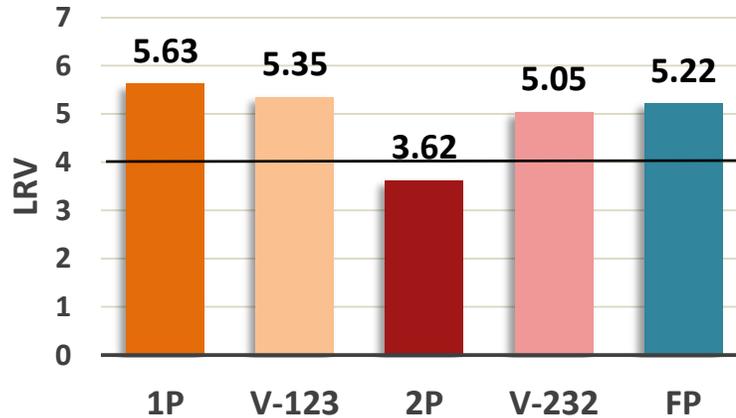


○
Compromised location

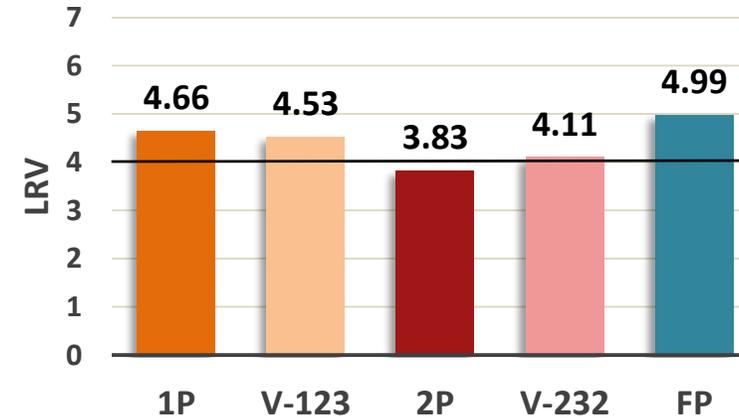


LRV (Avg. Feed to Avg. Permeate)

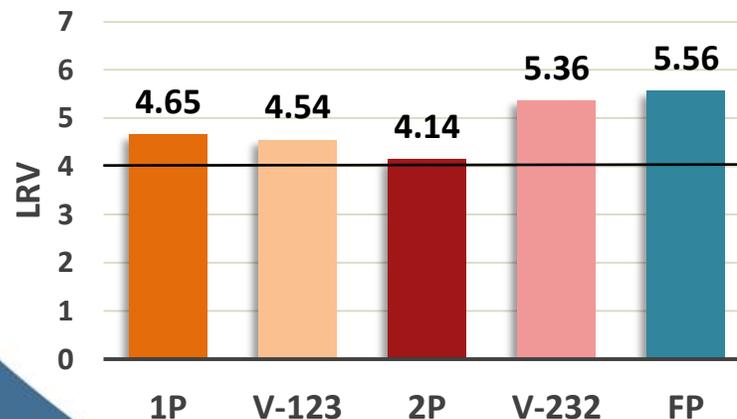
Test 1 - 10 gfd



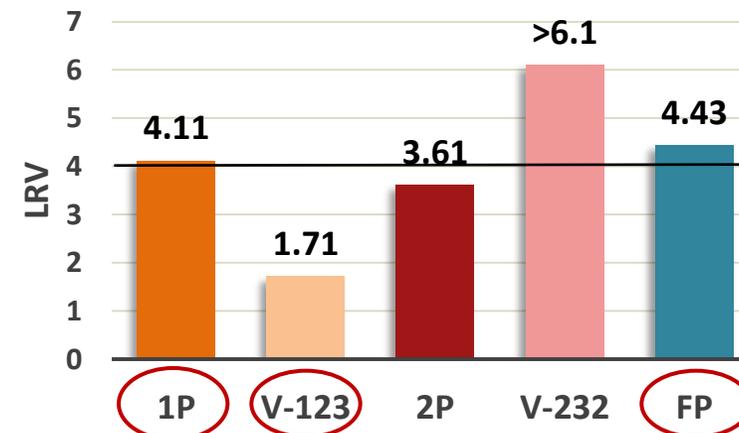
Test 3 - Total Cl2



Test 2 - 12 gfd



Test 4 - Integrity

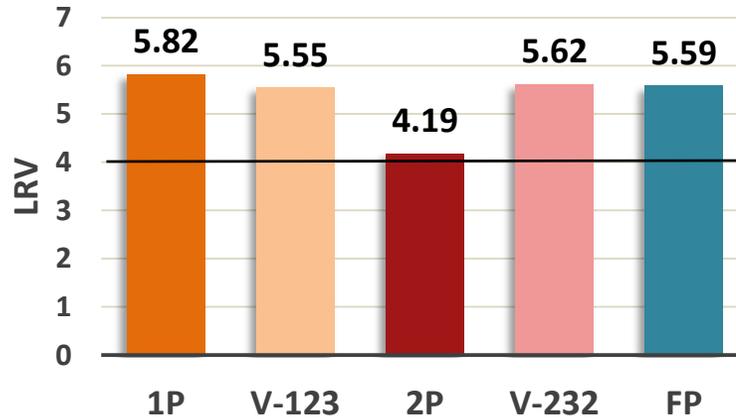


 Compromised location

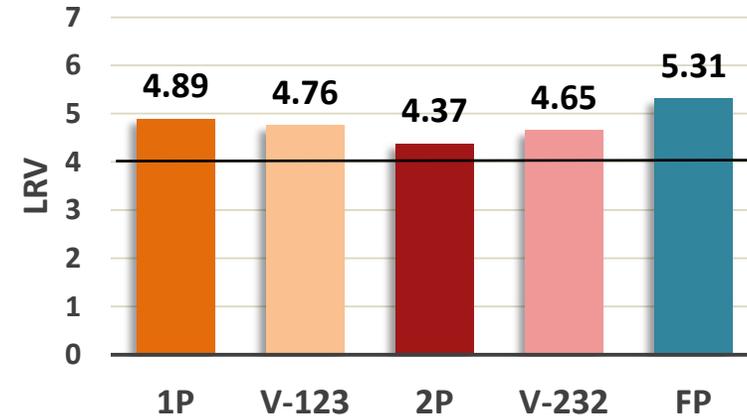


LRV (AFBC Avg. Feed to Avg. Permeate)

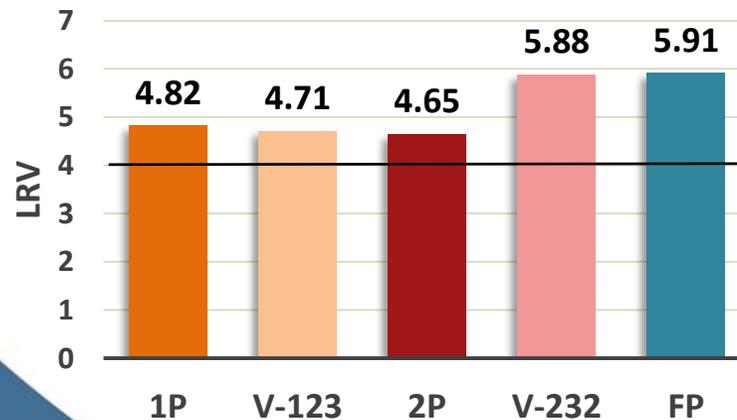
Test 1 - 10 gfd



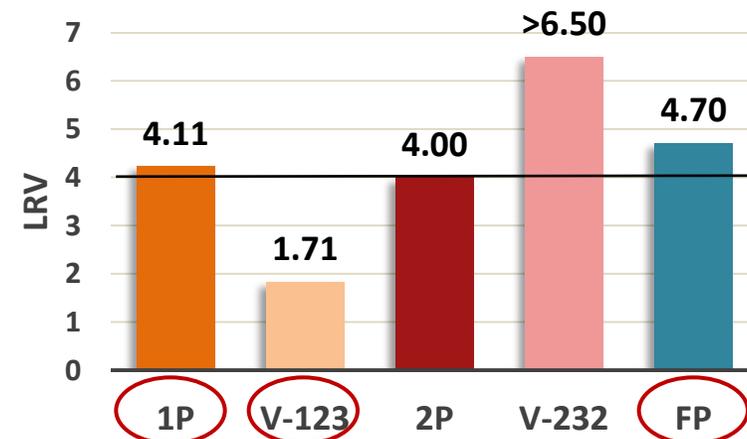
Test 3 - Total Cl2



Test 2 - 12 gfd



Test 4 - Integrity



 Compromised location



What did we learn from the testing?

- Scatter in the data results, take multiple samples.
- Results of testing at 10 gfd and 12 gfd membrane flux were similar and greater than 5 log.
- We could identify a compromised vessel with a conductivity profile, and the vessel LRV as reduced from ~5 to less than 2.
- Overall reduction from the system remained above 4 LRV even with a compromised vessel.





Summary





Summary (1)

- RO Removal is diffusion based and affected by the feed composition/concentration and process conditions.
- Normalization of data is useful in characterizing RO system performance and diagnosing operational problems (temperature, conductivity, TOC, flow).
- Water Quality Indicators (Conductivity, TOC) are influenced by diffusion and unless considered, underestimate the removal of regulated virus, Giardia and Cryptosporidium.
- Fluorescence (marker) measurement is useful and provides higher sensitivity, and is useful for pilot testing and may be applied to full scale systems.





Summary (2)

- For full scale systems, integrity issues can be identified by conductivity profiling and subsequent diagnostic testing.
- Recent challenge studies suggests that virus removal through a RO unit is significantly higher than removal credits currently awarded.
- Membrane cleaning has a temporary effect upon salt removal performance.
- In the future, individual vessel integrity will require monitoring to obtain higher pathogen removal credits.
- Approved Compliance methods will be needed to obtain higher Log Removal Values for RO if used on combined permeate.





Questions?

