



Queen Mary  
University of London



# DEN5406: Mass Transfer and Separations Processes I

*Week 6: Overview of Separations by examples in  
Water Processing. Comparing methods. Searching Literature.*

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[www.aimlabs.org](http://www.aimlabs.org)

# What we will cover

**By the end of this lecture you'll be able to:**

**Start to know what you don't know**

**Think of alternative separation strategies**

**Recognize Vocabulary:** Phase-change separations? Distillation, crystallization, membrane separation, centrifugation, adsorption and phase transfer,

**Understand why all separations come with a cost**

**Start thinking of comparing and contrasting**

Get familiar with the dangers but also possibilities of  
**drinking from a dirty pool of water**

# Recommended Reading

**Available on Knovel – in the library:**

**De Haan & Bosch, Industrial Separation Processes, 2013, de Gruyter (Berlin)**

**Distillation Fundamentals and Principles, Gorak & Sorensen, eds., 2014, Elsevier**

**Reactive & Membrane-Assisted Separations, Lutze & Gorak, eds., 2016, de Gruyter**

**Also from**

**Seader, Henley, & Roper, Separations Process Principles, 2011, Wiley**

**Will assign pre-class reading -> will have a chance to discuss problems in class**

**Applications in courseworks:**

Surviving in Space,

Surviving on a desert island without fresh water

Generating power from fresh and salty water,

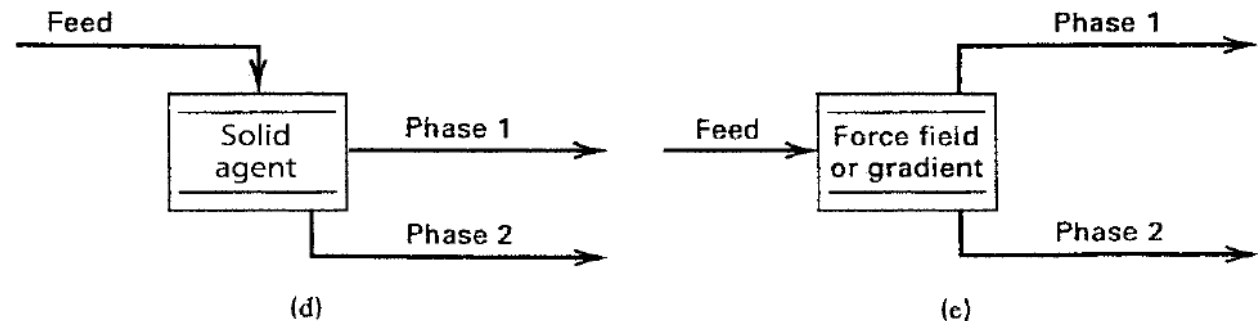
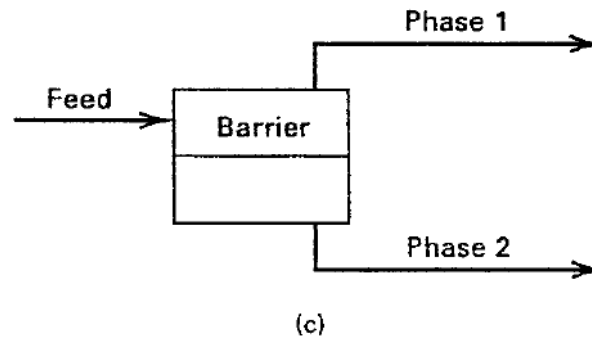
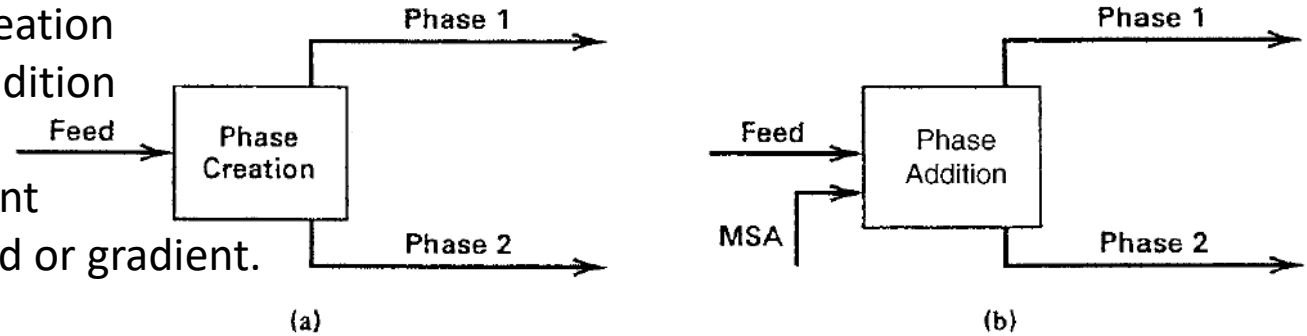
**Etc.**

# Introduction

Goals: Five basic separation methods: Learn and Explain how they work.

They are (Seader, p.6) :

1. separation by phase creation
2. separation by phase addition
3. separation by barrier
4. separation by solid agent
5. separation by force field or gradient.



# Introduction

Some important bulk thermodynamic and transport properties are:

**Vapor pressure, Adsorptivity, Solubility and Diffusivity.**

Differences in bulk properties result from molecules with different properties, such as:

Molecular weight

Van der Waals volume

Van der Waals area

Molecular shape

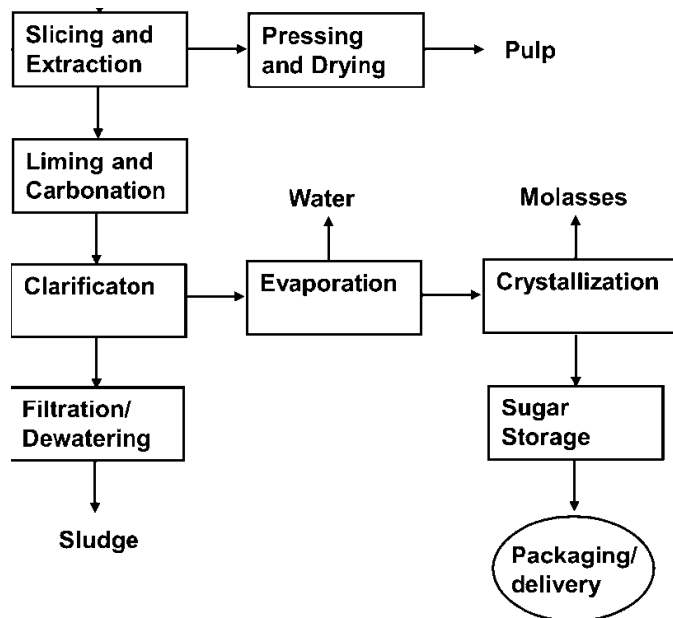
Dipole moment

Polarizability

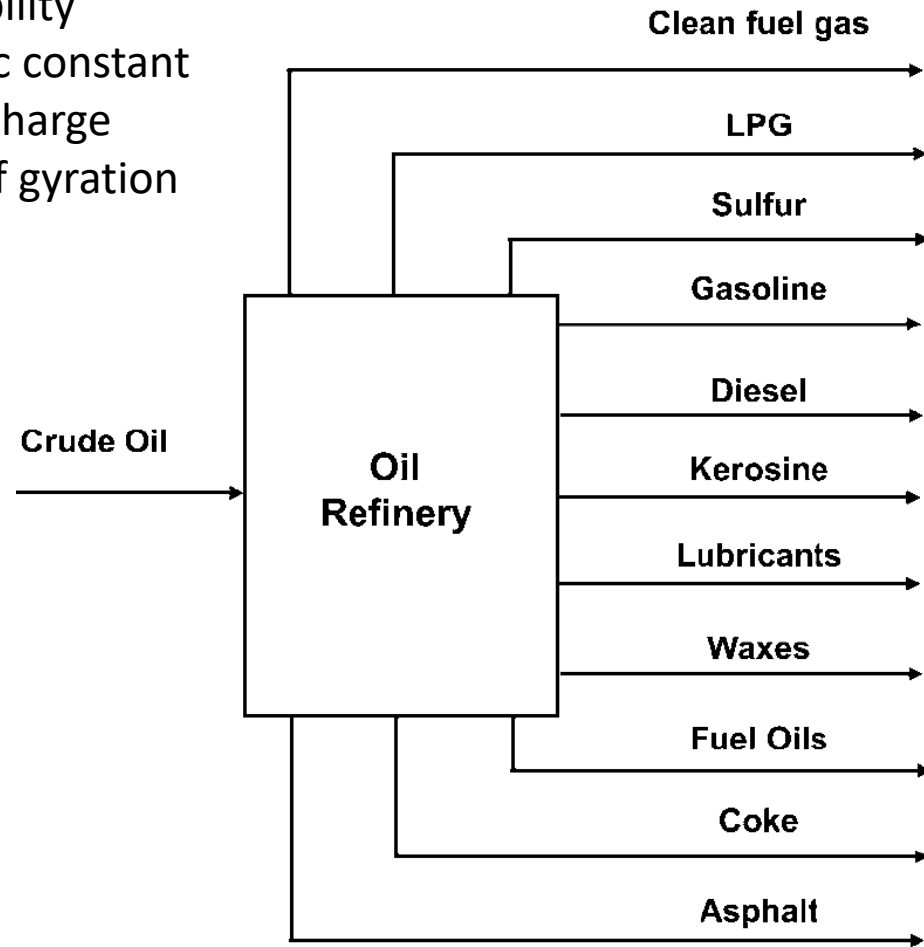
Dielectric constant

Electric charge

Radius of gyration



Sugar from Sugar Beets



Oil Refinery – oil fractionation

# Conceptual Framework

**What do you already know about separation?**

**Coloring flowers – which processes involved?**

**Wearing face mask in polluted air?**

**Carrots in oil – oil is orange – why?**

**Phase transformation by itself – not enough – Honey freezing.**

**Drying foods -> solar, thermal,,, (to preserve)**

**What's another preservation method – salt... -> cure, pickle**

**We smell food, we also smell ourselves**

**Oil – we eat, but we also secrete.**

**Phase transfer - Washing – hands, hair, clothes.. Same**

# Conceptual Framework

**What do you already know about separation?**

**Washing rice – with a strainer**

**Letting aerated water clear:**

**Separating fat from milk:**

**Boiling water out to concentrate a meal:**

**Selectively crystallizing something in cooking?**

**Purifying water: Filter, added salts + precipitation,  
Filter sterilization?, Boiling? Distillation?**

**Sometimes components are so small, need a molecular filter.**

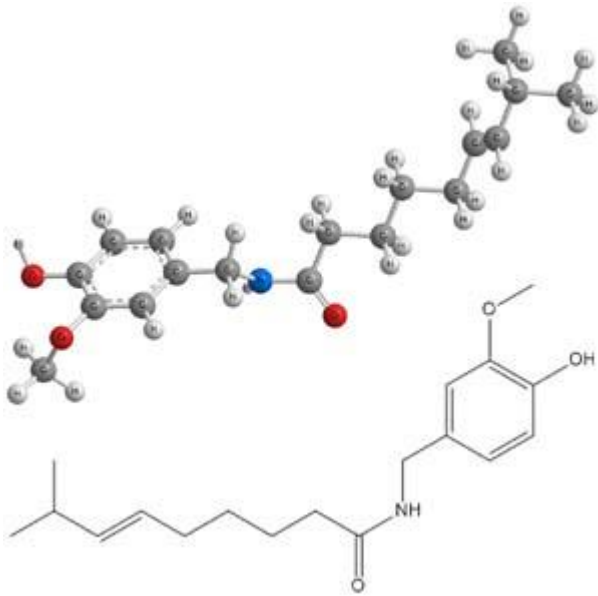
**Separation of liquids by distillation**

**Milk? As a separator?**

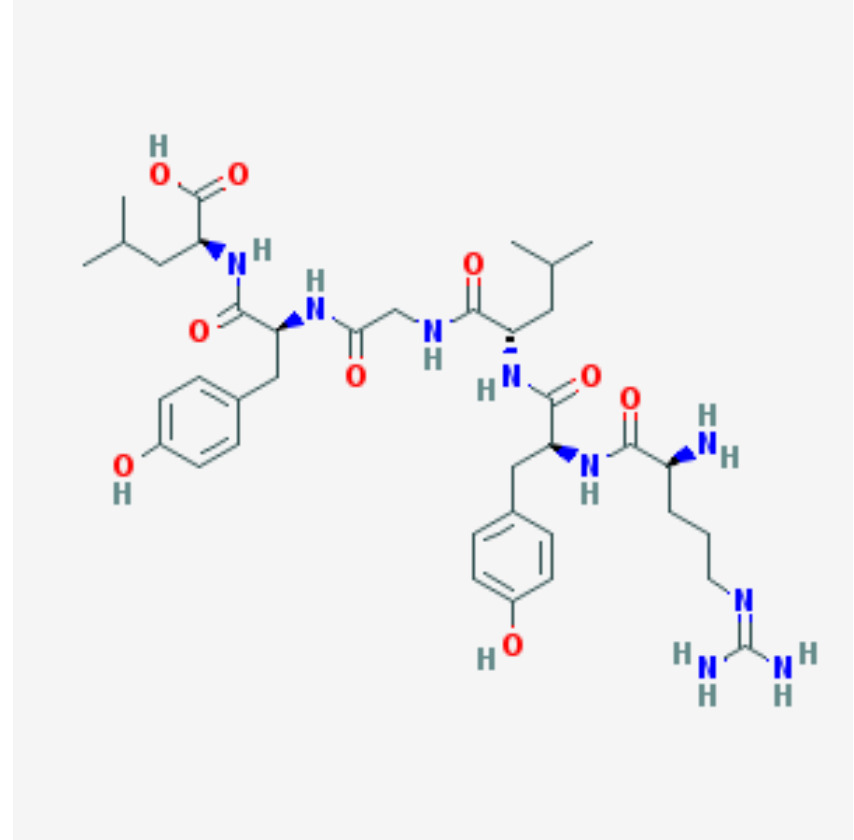
**Applications: Surviving in Space, on a desert island without fresh water**

# How to Deal with a Hot Meal

## Molecular Structure - Capsaicin



Molecular weight<sup>2</sup>: 305.462 g/mol  
Solubility (water)<sup>2</sup>: 10.3 mg/L at 25 °C  
Octanol-Water Partition Coefficient (K<sub>ow</sub>)<sup>2</sup>: 3.04



Arg-tyr-leu-gly-tyr-leu; Alpha-Casein(90-95);  
Molecular Formula: C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>57</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>9</sub>  
Molecular Weight: 783.928 g/mol



# Tutorial 1: Osmosis calculations

Pressure from differences in concentration of solute

$$\Pi_{osm} \approx c R T$$

**R = 0.082 L atm K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>**  
**C is in mole/L (count each ion)**  
**Π is in atmospheres. 1atm = 10<sup>5</sup> Pa**

**Table 11.1** Osmotic pressures of various aqueous solutions [1].

Sodium Chloride Solutions			Sea Salt Solutions		Sucrose Solutions	
$\frac{\text{g mol NaCl}}{\text{kg H}_2\text{O}}$	Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Osmotic Pressure (atm)	Wt.% Salts	Osmotic Pressure (atm)	Solute mol frac ( $\times 10^3$ )	Osmotic Pressure (atm)
0	997.0	0	0	0	0	0
0.01	997.4	0.47	1.00	7.10	1.798	2.48
0.10	1001.1	4.56	3.45 <sup>a</sup>	25.02	5.375	7.48
0.50	1017.2	22.55	7.50	58.43	10.69	15.31
1.00	1036.2	45.80	10.00	82.12	17.70	26.33
2.00	1072.3	96.2				

<sup>a</sup> Value for standard seawater

$$\Pi_{osm} \approx c R T = \rho g \Delta h$$

**Reverse Osmosis –  
Can counteract that with  
Hydrostatic pressure!**



**12% Sugar  
by wt  
(MW =  
342 g/mol)  
Π<sub>osm</sub>=?**

# Osmosis – practice that could save a life

2. For blood transfusions, so your red blood cells don't explode, you need Sodium Chloride 0.9% intravenous **infusion** is an **isotonic solution**, with an approximate osmolarity of 308 mOsm/l. You have many bags of isotonic solution, but you need fresh drinking water from them.

How much minimum pressure do you need to purify this solution by reverse osmosis?

What about starting from sea water?

# Separations and Syllabus Goals

**Obtain Quantitative Understanding of the following processes:**

**Filtration**

**Aggregation**

**Centrifugation**

**Crystallization (controlled freezing) separation**

**Adsorption**

**Leaching (extracting metals from ores, making coffee)**

**Osmosis**

**Forward Osmosis**

**Reverse Osmosis**

**Ion-exchange membranes**

**Drying**

**Distillation (controlled evaporation and condensation)  
and the many kinds of distillation**

**Applications:** Surviving in Space, on a desert island without fresh water

# Water Processing

can involve all of the following:

**Filtration**

**Aggregation**

**Centrifugation**

**Crystallization (controlled freezing) separation**

**Adsorption**

**Leaching (extracting metals from ores, making coffee)**

**Osmosis**

**Forward Osmosis**

**Reverse Osmosis**

**Distillation (controlled evaporation and condensation)  
and the many kinds of distillation**

**Applications:** Surviving in Space, on a desert island without fresh water

# Searching Scientific Literature

Web of Science -> <http://isiknowledge.com>

Google Scholar -> <http://scholar.google.com>

**Keywords**

**Finding reviews – new concepts and keywords**

**Sorting to find important articles**

**How to get the articles**

**How to read them – start with abstract (often you can stop there)**

**Further searching – keywords, search, repeat**

# Making Products, Making a Difference

**Water Purification for Disaster situations:**

**How to make it:**

**Cheap**

**Safe**

**Clear**

**Good-tasting**

**Easy to Deliver**

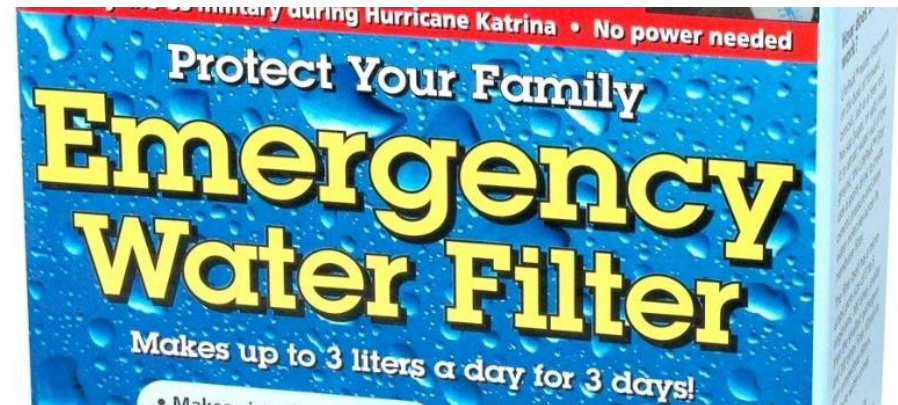
**and**

**Extra benefits and**

**Local considerations**



VS.



VS.





## Hydration Technology Innovations LifePack Water Filter

by Hydration Technology

★★★★☆ 9 reviews from Amazon.com

Price: **£124.00** + £4.38 delivery

**Note:** Not eligible for Amazon Prime.

1 new from **£124.00**

- Compact water filter that produces 3-day supply of drinking water
- Ultra-pure forward osmosis filter works with virtually any water source
- Uses sports drink syrup to add electrolytes to water; non-clogging filter design
- Includes six 2-ounce syrup charges and 60-fluid-ounce filter
- Meets or exceeds all EPA criteria for bacteria, viruses, and cysts

[Report incorrect product information.](#)



Share    

**£124.00**

+ £4.38 delivery

**Get it as soon as 6 - 18 Dec.** when you choose **Standard Delivery** at checkout. [Details](#)

**Usually dispatched within 2 to 3 days.**

Dispatched from and sold by [MMC America Direct](#).

**£124.00** + £4.38 delivery

Quantity:



# WARNING!

Although we are continuing to list HTI products (at least temporarily), there is a real possibility that the company has been forced out of business because of a fire at their manufacturing plant. Consequently, we will not be filling orders at this time. Shipping will resume as soon as HTI is able to advise us that their difficulties have been rectified.

## Meeting Outdoor Needs



HTI X-Pack Personal Water Filtration System

Price \$57.95

Qty

Add to Cart



HTI LifePack Family Water Filtration System

Price \$34.00

Qty

Add to Cart



HTI HydroPack Self-Hydrating Water Filter Pouches

Price \$229.95

Qty

Add to Cart



HTI SeaPack Personal Desalination Kit

Price \$79.95

Qty

Add to Cart

16L  
(10x1.6L)

\$3.56/L

9L

\$3.8/L

38.3L  
(108x0.355L)

\$6/L

4L  
(8x0.5L)

\$20/L



# SEAL™ WATER FILTER

EMERGENCIES • TRAVEL • RECREATION  
FOR USE IN FRESH OR SALT WATER

JUST DROP IN WATER AND  
LET HYDRATE FOR A CLEAN,  
REFRESHING SPORTS DRINK

BLOCKS \*\* BACTERIA, VIRUSES  
& CYSTS

- ◆ EASY TO USE
- ◆ NON-CLOGGING
- ◆ NUTRIENTS
- ◆ HIGH RELIABILITY

REMOVES MORE THAN  
**93% OF SALT**  
FROM SEA WATER

NOMINAL PORE SIZE:  
0.0007 MICRON

DRINKANYWATER.COM

**FTSH<sub>2</sub>**™  
Fluid Technology Solutions



## HOW TO USE

Simply place the dry pouches in the water source. In open water, use the provided net and tether to life raft or other object. The Seal will swell over time as water flows through the membrane wall into the pouch. When finished, simply poke with the included straw and drink.



SUBMERGE  
DRY POUCH IN  
WATER SOURCE



REMOVE  
WHEN POUCH  
IS FULL



DRINK  
STICK STRAW  
IN TOP CORNER

[NOTE: UNUSED POUCH MAY BE MOIST IN PACKAGE]



CONSUME DRINK WITHIN 24 HOURS OF PLACING POUCH IN WATER. POUCH CANNOT BE RE-USED. DO NOT USE IN ANTIFREEZE. USE IN NATURAL WATERS. DO NOT USE IN INDUSTRIAL WASTE WATERS.

## Nutrition Facts

Serving Size 1 pouch (50g)

Amount Per Serving

**Calories** 205

Total Fat 0g 0%

Sodium 18mg 4%

Potassium 170mg 5%

Total Carbohydrate 50g 18%

Sugars 50g

Protein 0g

Not a significant source of saturated from Fat, Saturated Fat, Cholesterol, Dietary Fiber, Vitamin A, Calcium, Iron.

\*Percent Daily Values are based on a diet of 2000 calories per day. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

Ingredients: Dextrose, Fructose, Monopotassium Phosphate, Salt, Malic Acid, Tartaric Acid.

SINGLE USE ONLY.  
DISCARD AFTER USE.  
EXPIRATION DATE: 5 years after packaging date when stored continuously below 90°F (33°C). If possible, store cool and away from direct sunlight.

\*\*In independent laboratory tests FTS filter technology meets or surpasses the 6-log bacteria (99.9999%) reduction as specified by the EPA for water purifiers.

## WATER TEMPERATURE MATTERS!

Approx volume to expect at 8 hours in **SALTWATER** temperatures:

Temp	Vol (ml)
5°C	155
20°C	210
30°C	216
20°C	210
5°C	155

## SEAL IN FRESHWATER AT 8 HOURS

Temp	Vol (ml)
5°C	310
20°C	365
30°C	370

**FTSH<sub>2</sub>**™  
Fluid Technology Solutions  
DRINKANYWATER.COM  
info@drinkanywater.com



# MARINER F<sub>2</sub>O™

FTS H<sub>2</sub>O™  
Fluid Technology Solutions

EMERGENCY DESALINATOR



<http://skallywagtactical.com/product/marine-r-f20-emergency-desalinator/>

1.5L (3x0.5L) = \$70, so  
\$47/L

That is £37 / L – ok to save your life but  
not the kind of price you want to pay for water.

**Used by the  
US Coast Guard  
and militaries  
around the globe**

**production:** 500ml per use

**uses:** one time

**purity:** 6-log bacteria reduction, 97% salt rejection

**hydration time:** 8 hours at 20° C

**calories:** 480 per use

**FTS H<sub>2</sub>O™**  
Fluid Technology Solutions

Simple and easy emergency desalination. The Mariner F<sub>2</sub>O desalinator works by osmosis, the natural way of filtering water.

When placed in a salt water source, the nutrient powder blend inside the Mariner draws water through the pouch's membrane filter walls while blocking contaminants -- including 97% of salt.

To use, simply place the Mariner F<sub>2</sub>O directly in the sea water and tether the filter to the raft or stationary object. That's it. As water flows into the pouch by osmosis, salt and other contaminants are kept outside the filter. No pumping or manipulation is required.

The result is a clean and hydrating drink that provides 480 critical calories invaluable in survival situations at sea.

# Cost of Water

Engineers sit in between studies of pure science and applications

We must understand not only

- Focused scientific studies but
- Cross-disciplinary view of the problems
- Scale-up
- Process Efficiencies
- Economics
- Marketing
- ...
- Applications

**Entrepreneurs:** Read this and articles & patents citing it: New commercial cellulose acetate membrane for forward osmosis, Desalination 343 (2014) 187–193  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.desal.2013.11.026>

An Engineer can make for a £1... what any fool can make for £2!



**£3.51/2000L =  
0.0017 £/L**



HTI LifePack Family Water Filtration System

**3.0 £/L**

**Local Utility Cost**

<https://www.thameswater.co.uk/>

# Membrane Separation

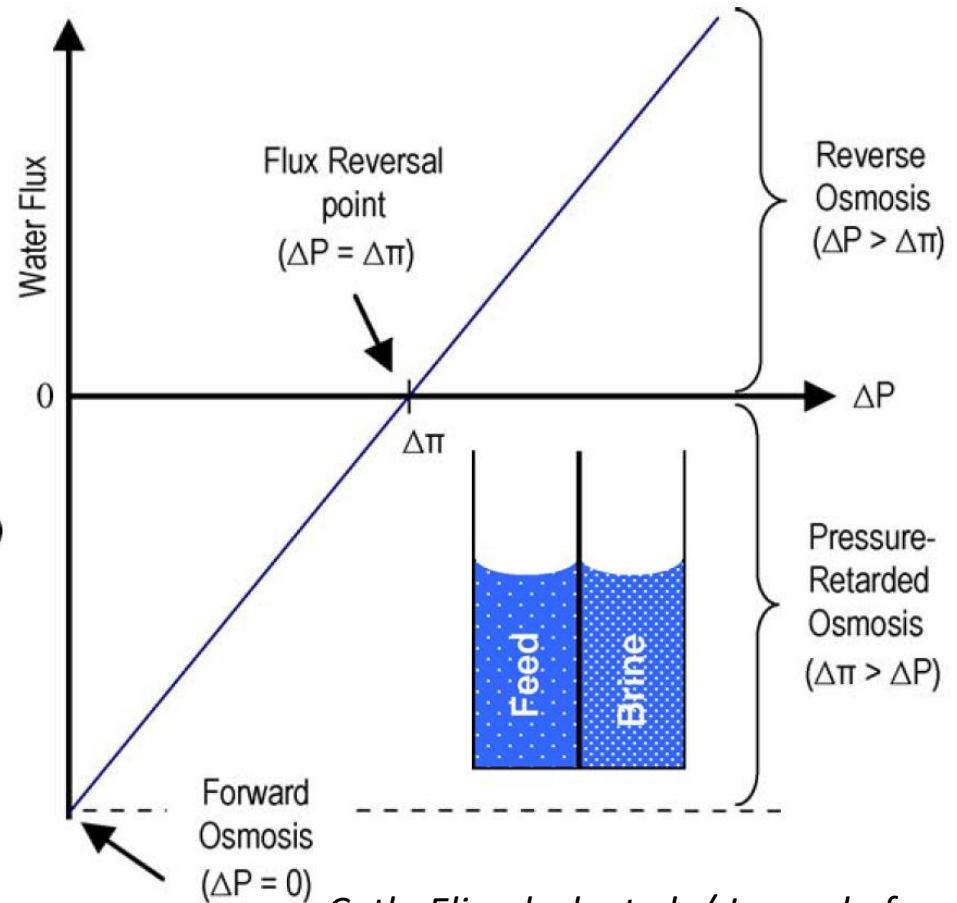
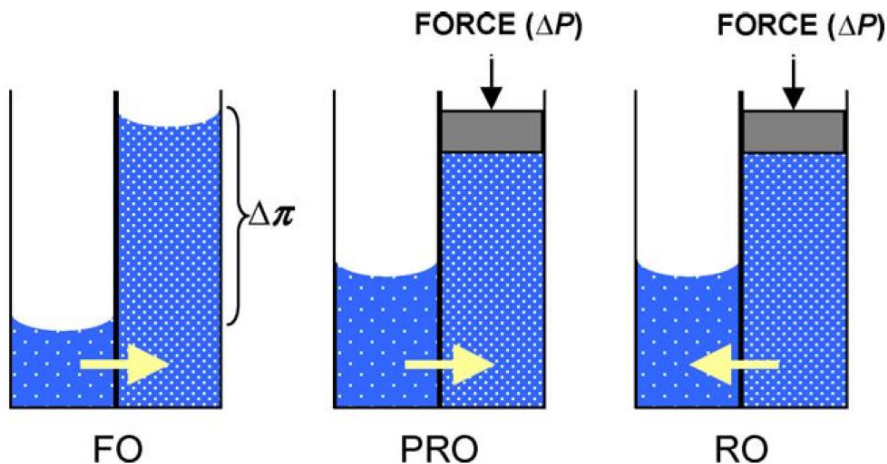
$$J_W = A (\sigma \Delta \pi - \Delta P)$$

Where  $J_w$  is the water flux,  $A$  – membrane area,  $\sigma$  – reflection coefficient,  $\Delta \Pi$  osmotic pressure and  $\Delta P$  operating pressure

For Forward Osmosis  $\Delta P = 0$

For Reverse Osmosis  $\Delta P > \Delta \pi$

For Pressure-retarded Osmosis (PRO)  $\Delta \pi > \Delta P$



# Forward Osmosis

$$J_W = A (\sigma \Delta \pi - \Delta P), \text{ where } \Delta P = 0$$

Where  $J_W$  is the water flux,  $A$  – membrane area,  $\sigma$  – reflection coefficient,  $\Delta \pi$  osmotic pressure and  $\Delta P$  operating pressure

$$J_W = A (\sigma \Delta \pi), \text{ and}$$

$$\Delta \pi = c R T, \text{ so}$$

$$J_W = A \sigma c R T$$

If  $A$  and  $\sigma$  are constant, and a bag fills at 25 °C in 4 hrs, how long it would take to fill at 20 °C?

HTI Sea Pack Crew instructions say:

Hydration complete at 10 hrs at 20 °C and 15 hrs at 5 °C.

What does this say about  $\sigma$ ?

# Centrifugation

$$V_g = \frac{d^2 (\rho_p - \rho_l)}{18 \eta} g$$

**Stokes flow** of particle with diameter ( $d$ ) determines **sedimentation velocity**  
Driven from difference in densities, + depends on fluid viscosity ( $\eta$ ) and acceleration ( $g$ )  
 $\rho_p, \rho_L$  are the particle and liquid densities.

$g = r \omega^2$ , where  $r$  = radius of rotor, and  
 $\omega$  is angular velocity (rpm or Hz)

If we need to settle something to the bottom of a 1cm vial, then instead of velocity, we need **settling time**.  $S_{\text{settle}} = V_g * t_{\text{settle}}$

$$T_{\text{settle}} = S_{\text{settle}} / V_g = \frac{18 \eta S_{\text{settle}}}{d^2 (\rho_p - \rho_L) g}$$



# Centrifugation - Practice

What is the **sedimentation velocity**  
Of an oil droplet with size 100 microns.  
 $\rho_p, \rho_L$  are 900 and 1000 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (oil & water)

$$V_g = \frac{d^2 (\rho_p - \rho_L)}{18 \eta} g$$

$g = r \omega^2$ , your centrifuge runs at  $\omega = 2000$  rpm

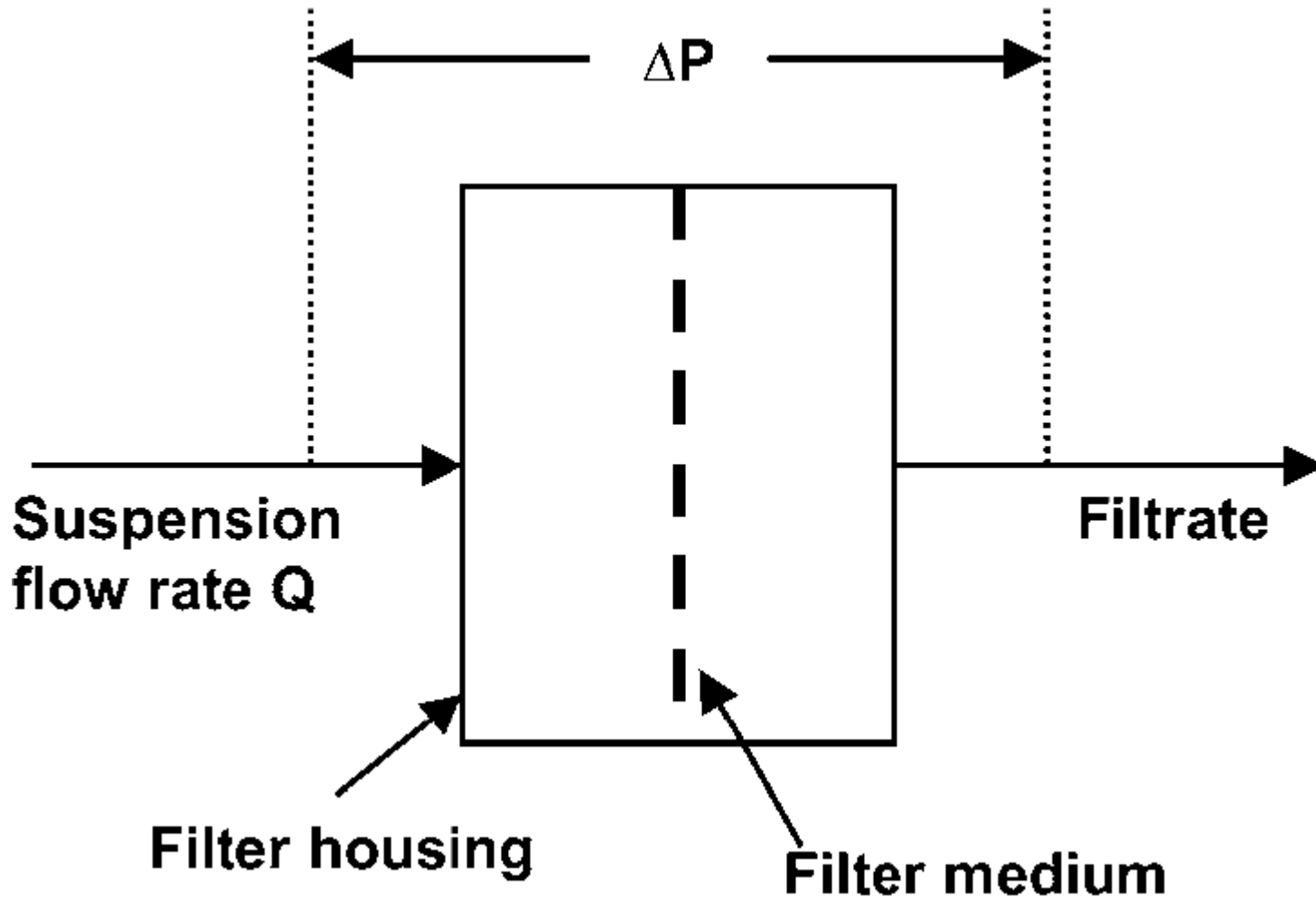
And  $S_{settle} = 1$ cm. How much time do you need?

$$T_{settle} = S_{settle} / V_g = \frac{18 \eta S_{settle}}{d^2 (\rho_p - \rho_L) g}$$

What if  $d = 10 \mu\text{m}$ ?

What about  $d = 1 \mu\text{m}$ ?

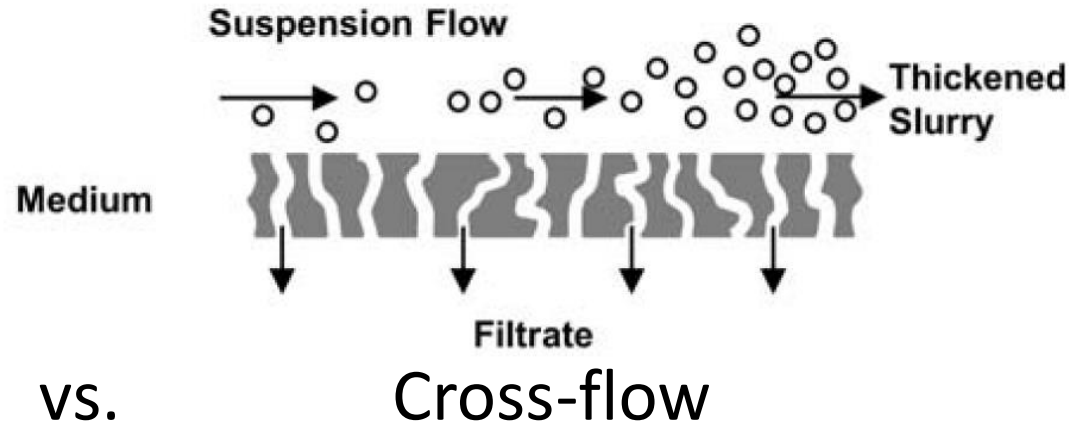
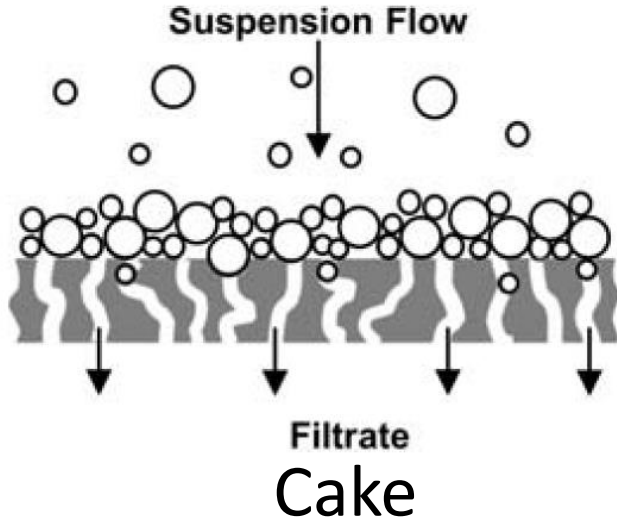
# Filtration



Efficiency of filter = % particles retained (of a given size)  
Efficiency vs. pressure drop (lower pressure is better)



# Filtration – Caking and membranes

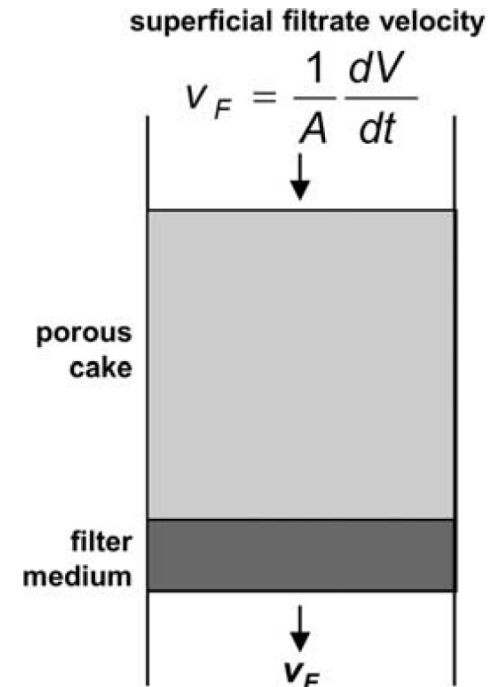


Filter Porosity

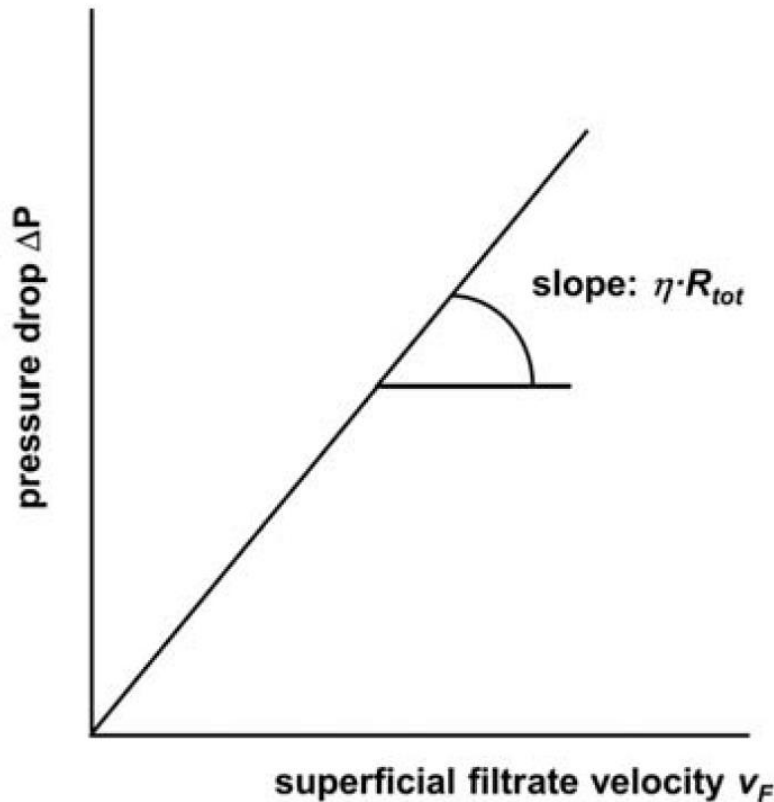
$$\varepsilon = \frac{\text{volume of voids}}{\text{total bed volume}}$$

Filtrate Velocity

$$v_F = \frac{\Delta P}{\eta R_{tot}}$$



# Filtration – Quantitation



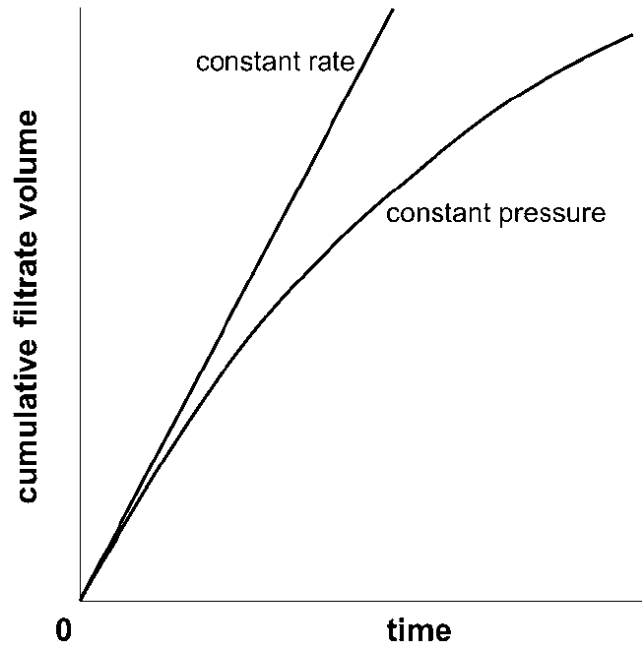
$$v_F = \frac{\Delta P}{\eta (R_M + R_C)}$$

Resistance due to filter medium  
And to cake ( $R_M$  and  $R_C$ )

$$\Delta P = \Delta P_C + \Delta P_M = \eta \frac{R_C + R_M}{A} \frac{dV}{dt}$$

**Darcy's Law**

# Filtration – Quantitation



Constant pressure and constant rate filtration.

Resistance due to caking  
Increases pressure, or  
At constant pressure –  
decreases flow

Let's find how quickly our filters  
will cake so we cannot get water  
out of them anymore.

For next time, read Ch. 10 of  
**De Haan & Bosch, Industrial Separation Processes, 2013, de Gruyter (Berlin)**

