

# ***Industrial Membrane Processes***

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Dr. Peter Schirg  
PS Prozesstechnik GmbH  
Basel, Switzerland

# *Topics*

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- 1. definitions**
- 2. from membrane to process**
- 3. different membrane processes**
- 4. membranes, modules and plant construction**
- 5. fundamentals**
- 6. mass transfer at and in membranes**
- 7. development and planning of membrane processes**
- 8. plants and equipment (lab - industrial)**
- 9. applications**
- 10. cleaning and conservation of membranes**

# PS Prozesstechnik GmbH

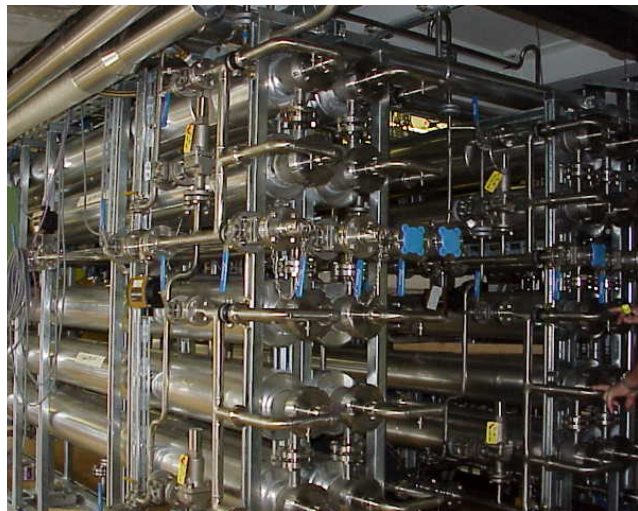
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From Lab and Pilot.....



# to industrial scale

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# ***Membrane***

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## Definition:

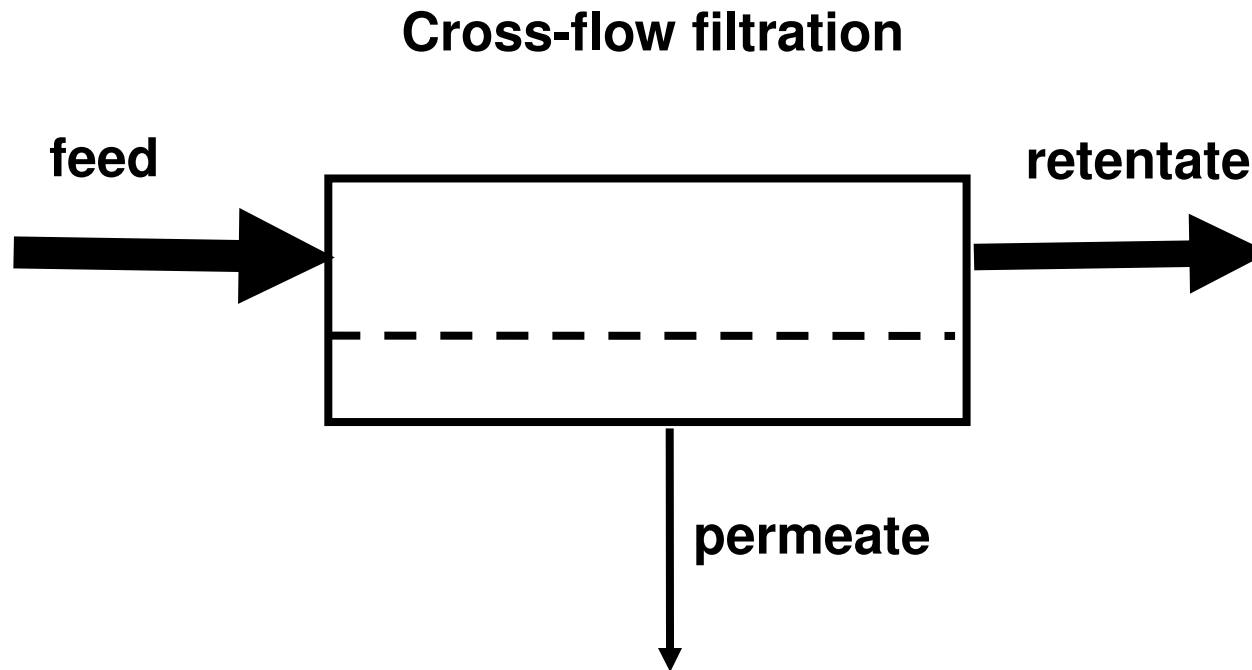
„A membrane is a barrier that separates two phases and has different resistance for the transport of different components through it“

## Qualities:

- high selectivity
- high permeability
- stability (mechanical, temperature, chemical)

# ***Cross-flow / dead end***

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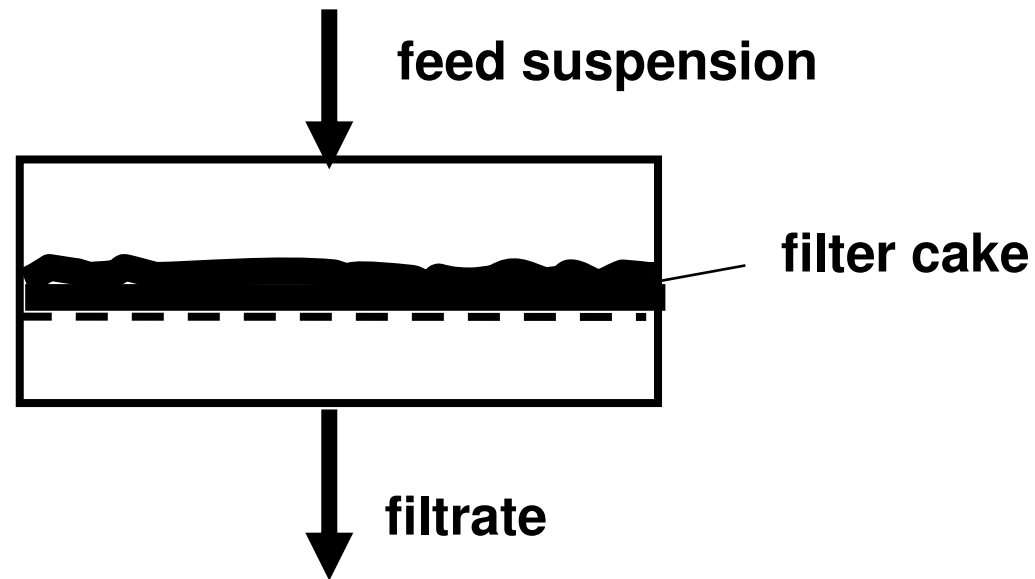


- no cake formation
- feed to retentate flow  $\gg$  permeate flow

# ***Cross-flow / dead end***

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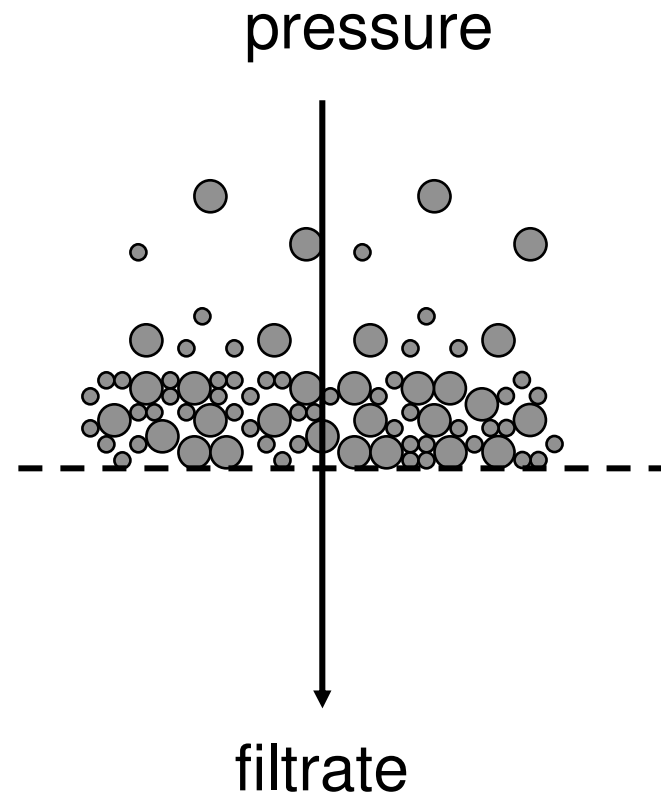
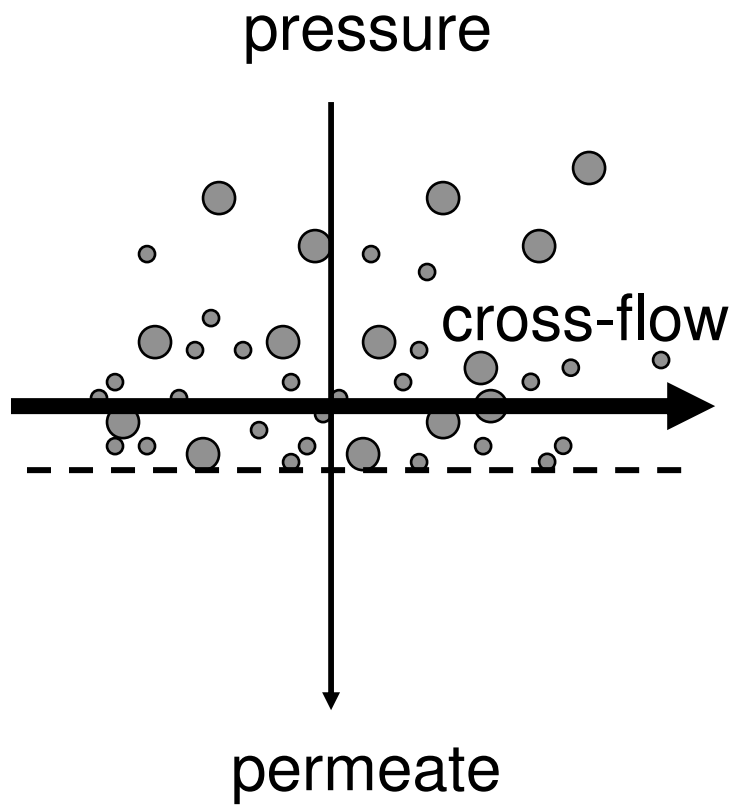
**classical dead-end filtration**



- cake formation limits filtrate flow
- only for big suspended material

# Cross-flow / dead-end

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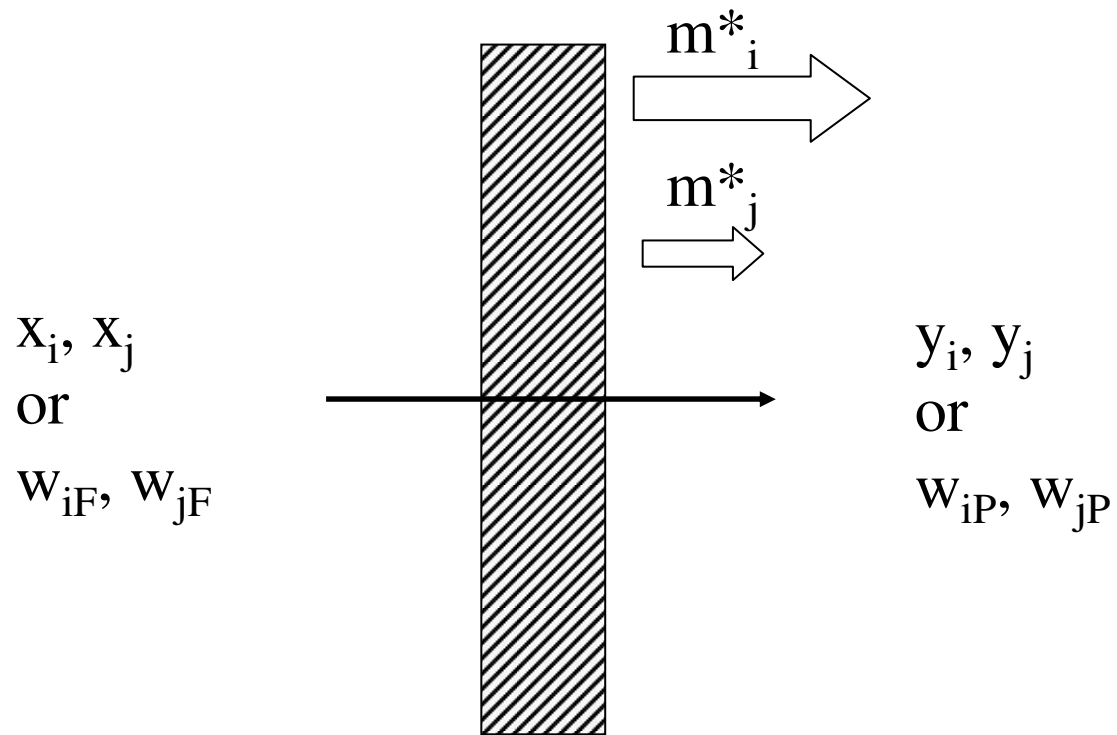
# Zoom out - from membrane element to integrated process

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- mass transfer through a membrane element
- mass transfer close to the membrane
- membrane module
- basic membrane process
- module combination and membrane plant stages
- integrated membrane process

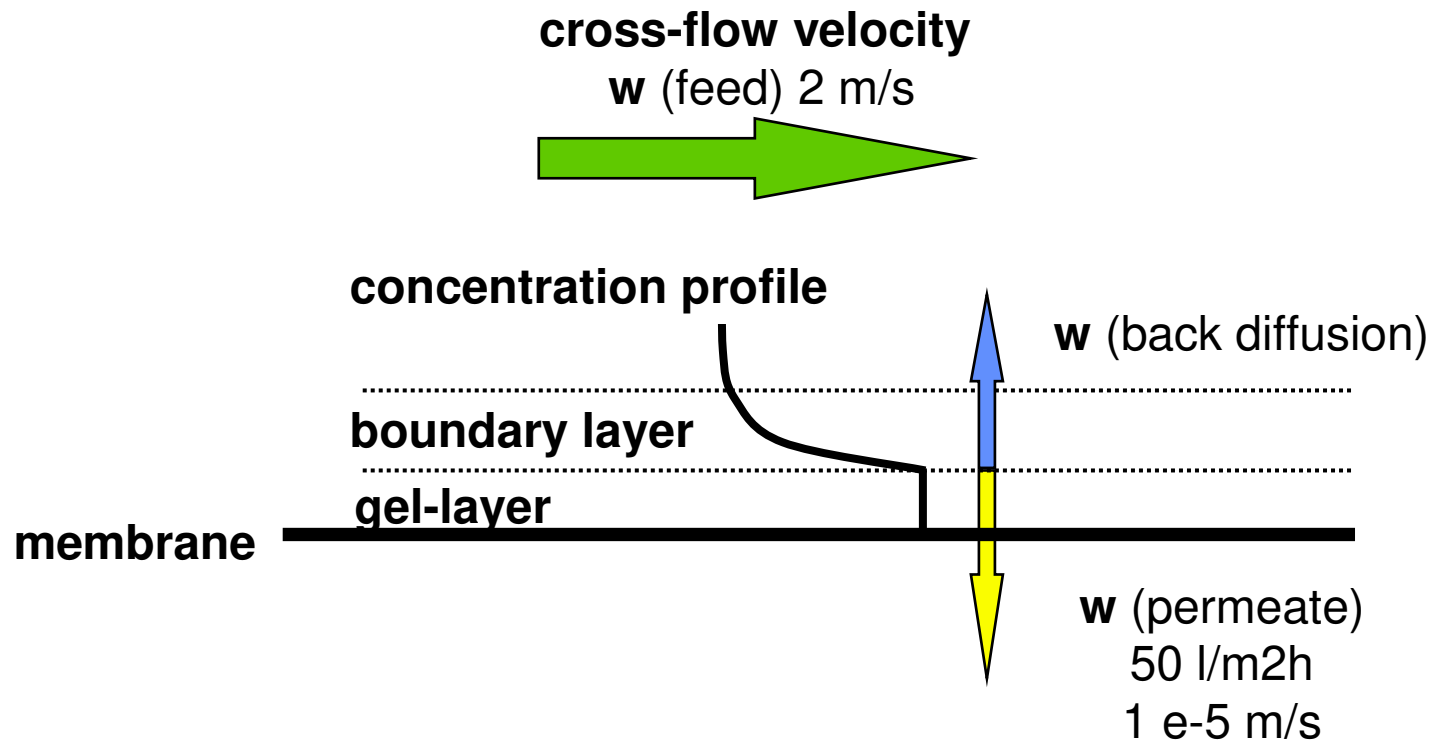
# Mass transfer through a small membrane element

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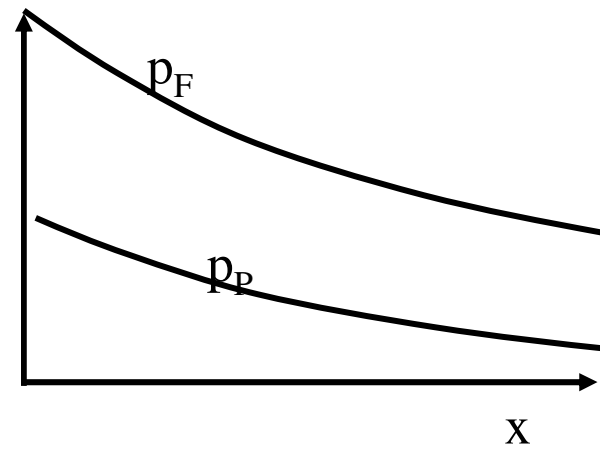
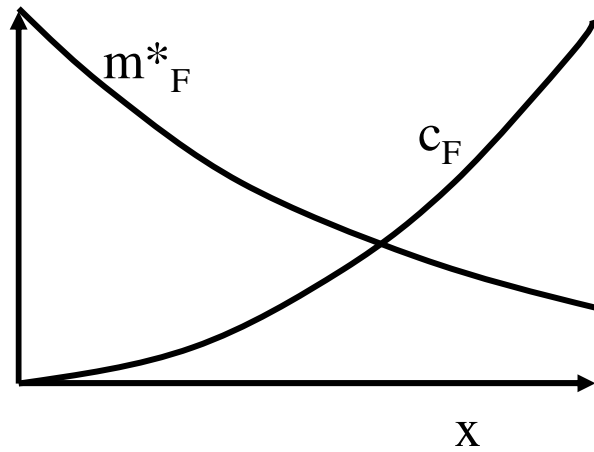
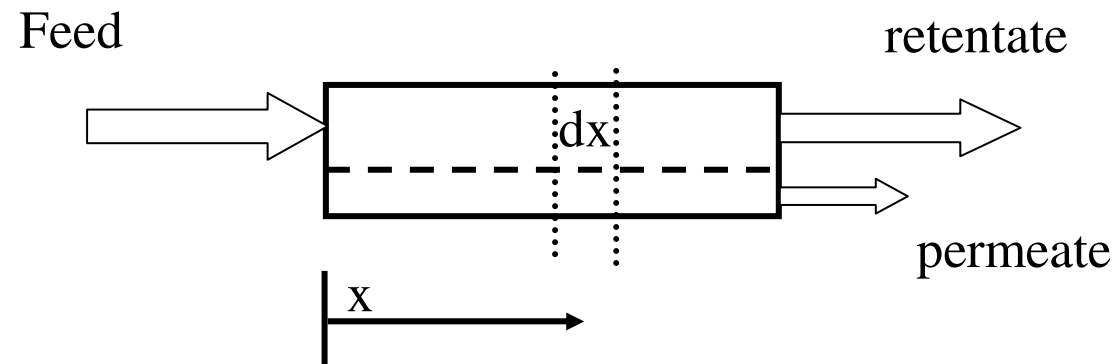


# Mass transfer close to the membrane

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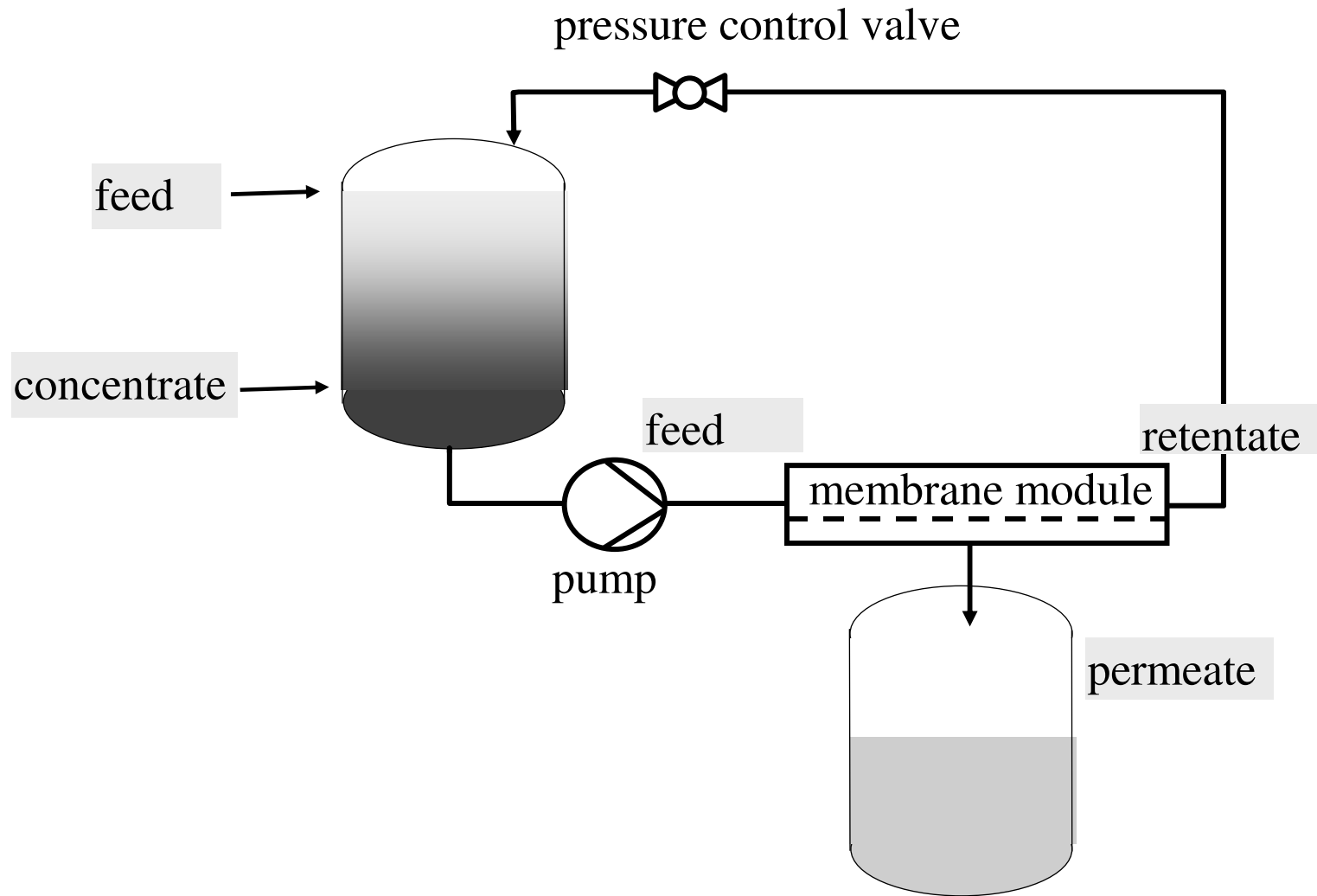


# Membrane module



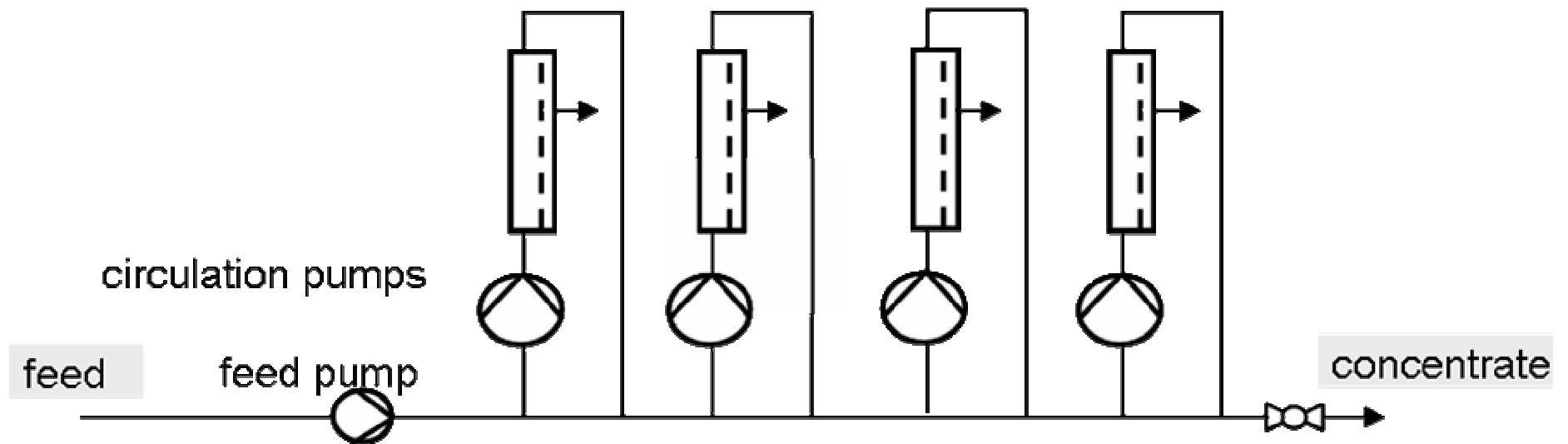
# Basic membrane process (batch)

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# Basic membrane process (continuous)

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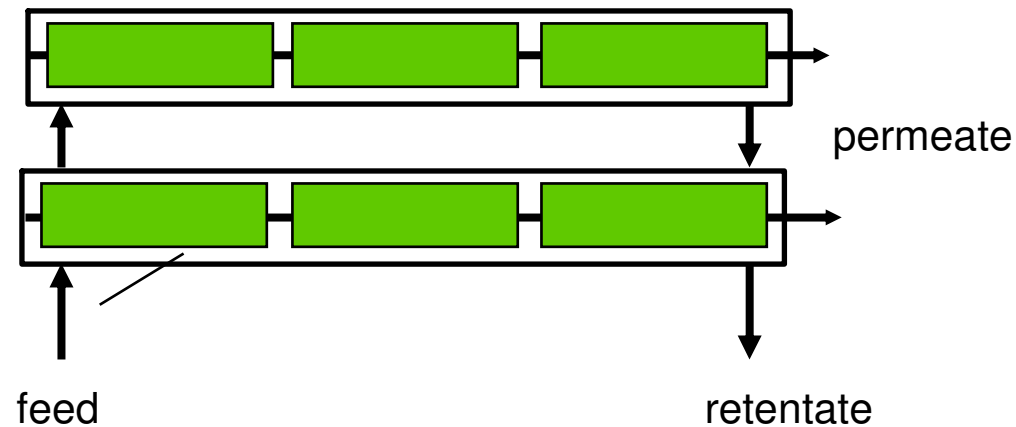


# Module combination and membrane plant stages I

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membrane elements serial in pressure vessels

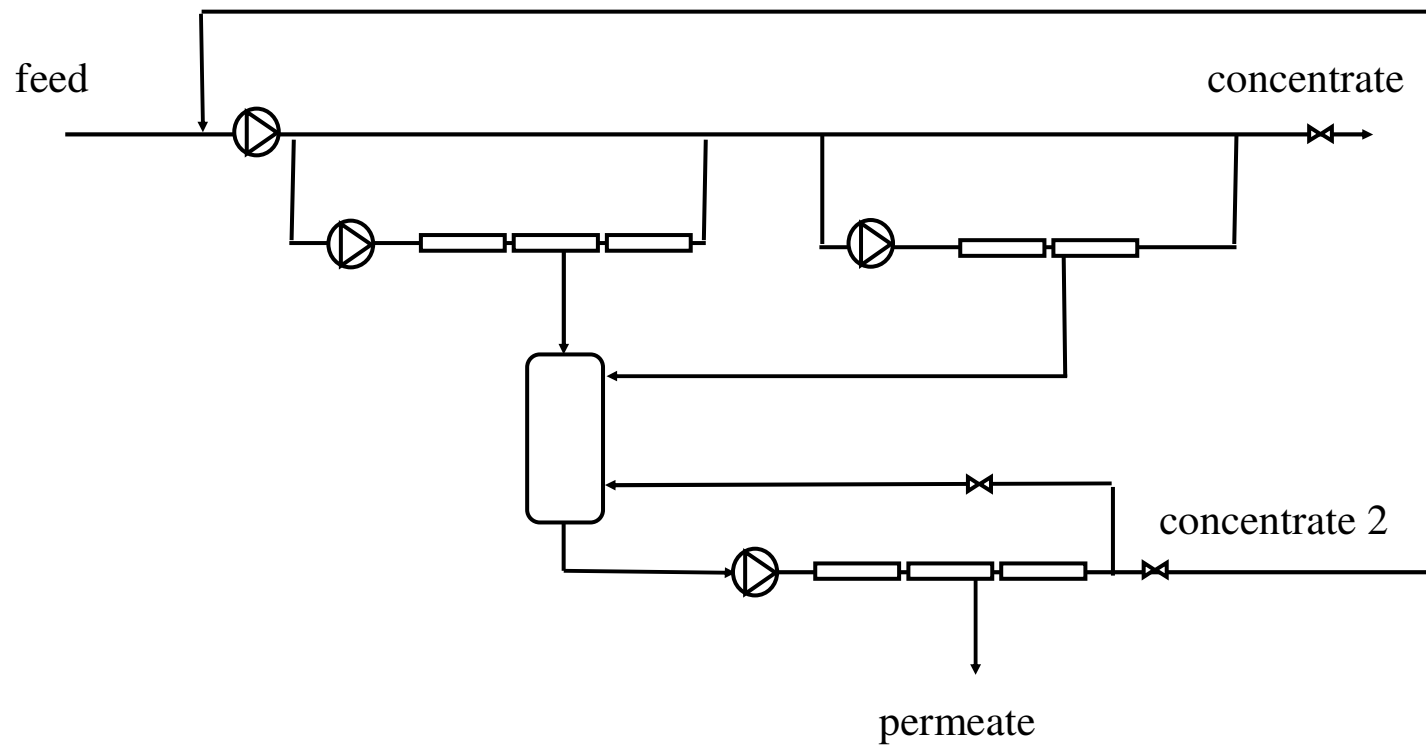
pressure vessels serial / parallel



# Module combination and membrane plant stages II

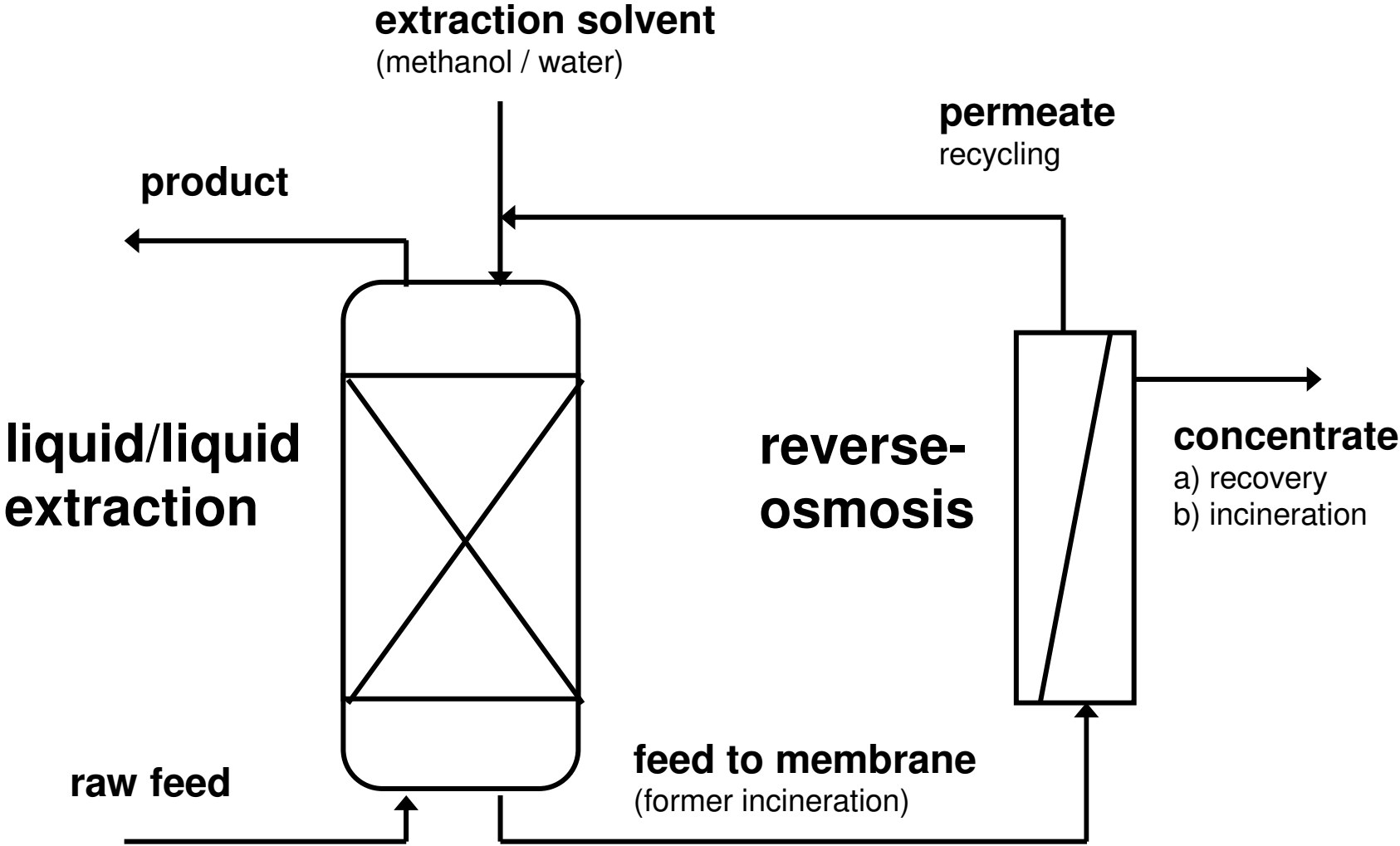
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multiple loops in one stage  
permeate stages



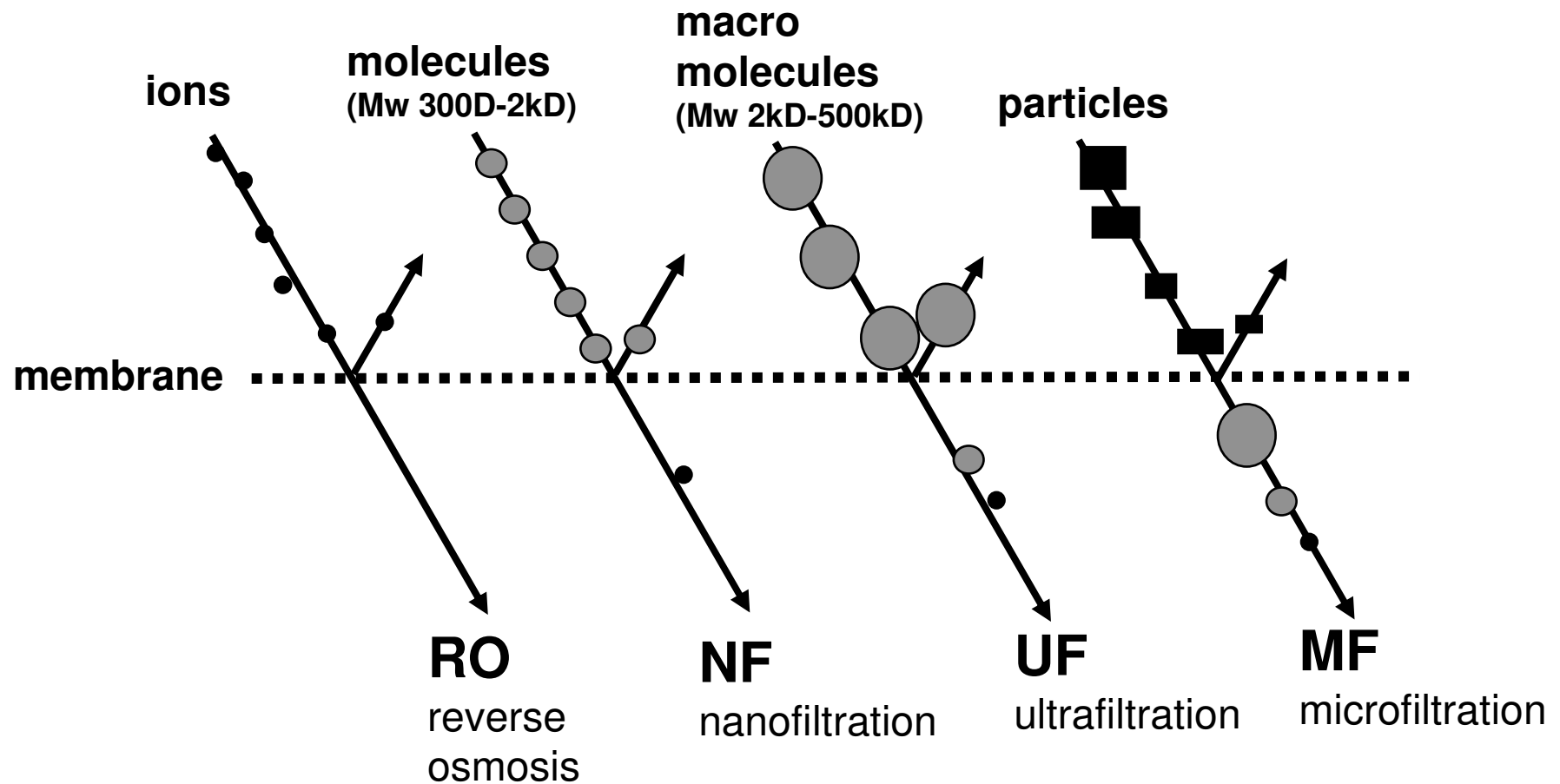


# Integrated membrane process



# Membrane processes I: pressure driven

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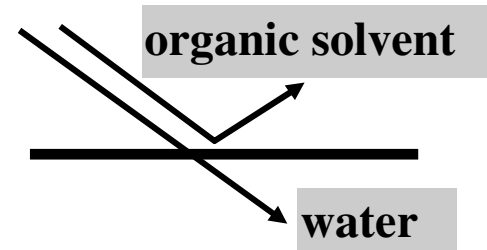




# Membrane processes II: others

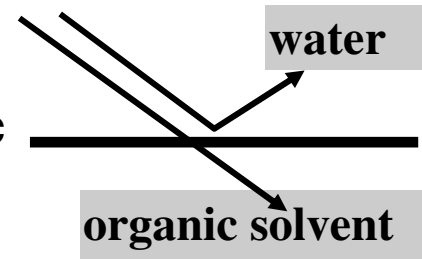
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**PV: pervaporation a) hydrophilic**



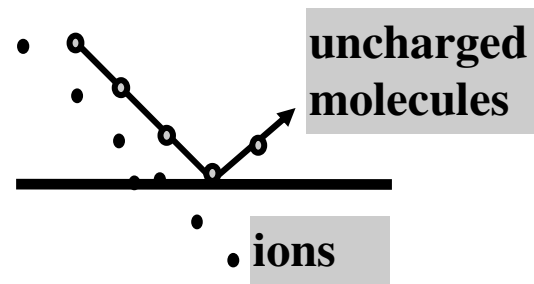
driving force:  
partial pressure  
difference

**PV: pervaporation a) organophilic**



driving force:  
partial pressure  
difference

**ED: electro dialysis**

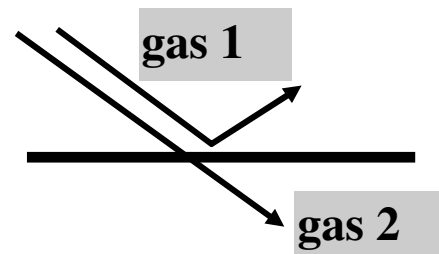


driving force:  
electric field

# Membrane processes III: others

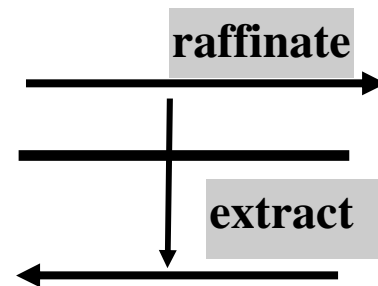
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**GS: gas separation**



driving force:  
partial pressure  
difference

**ME: membrane extraction**



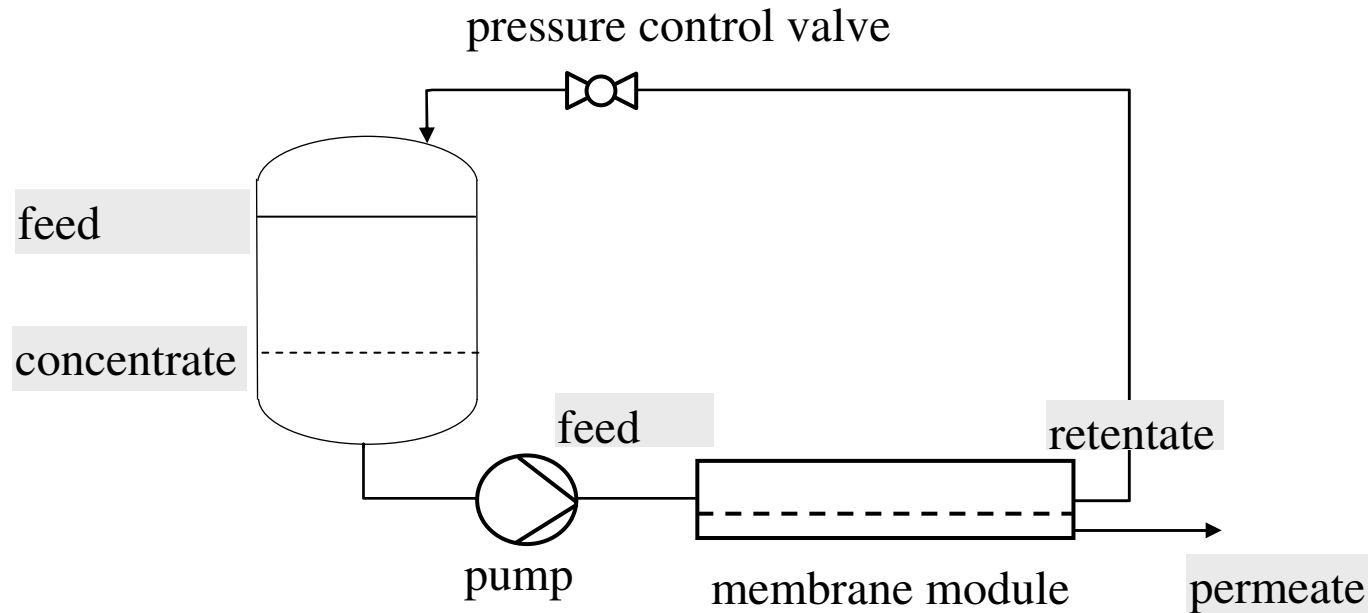
driving force:  
concentration  
difference

# Membrane processes

process	pressure [bar]	retained component	Application examples
MF	1	microparticles > 0.1 μm	particle removal, concentration or washing (e.g. pigments, fermentation broths) oil/water emulsion splitting
UF	5	macro molecules > 2 kD	concentration and cleaning of fermentation products, egg-white, gelatine, cheese-whey
NF	20	molecules > 300 D	concentration and desalting of chemical products (dye, optical brighteners, pharmaceuticals) or waste streams
RO	50 (200)	molecules > 150 D	sea water desalination, chemical product concentration, waste water concentration,
GS	10	different gases	N <sub>2</sub> /O <sub>2</sub> separation solvent recovery from waste air
PV	Vakuum	org. solvent / water	(azeotrope-) dehydration e.g. alcohols, ketones, esters, organic acids // organic solvent removal from wastewater
ED	electric field	uncharged molecules	desalting, eletrochemical reactions, acid/base recovery from salts
ME	conc. difference		hämodialysis, membrane suported extraction

# MF - RO in common / differences

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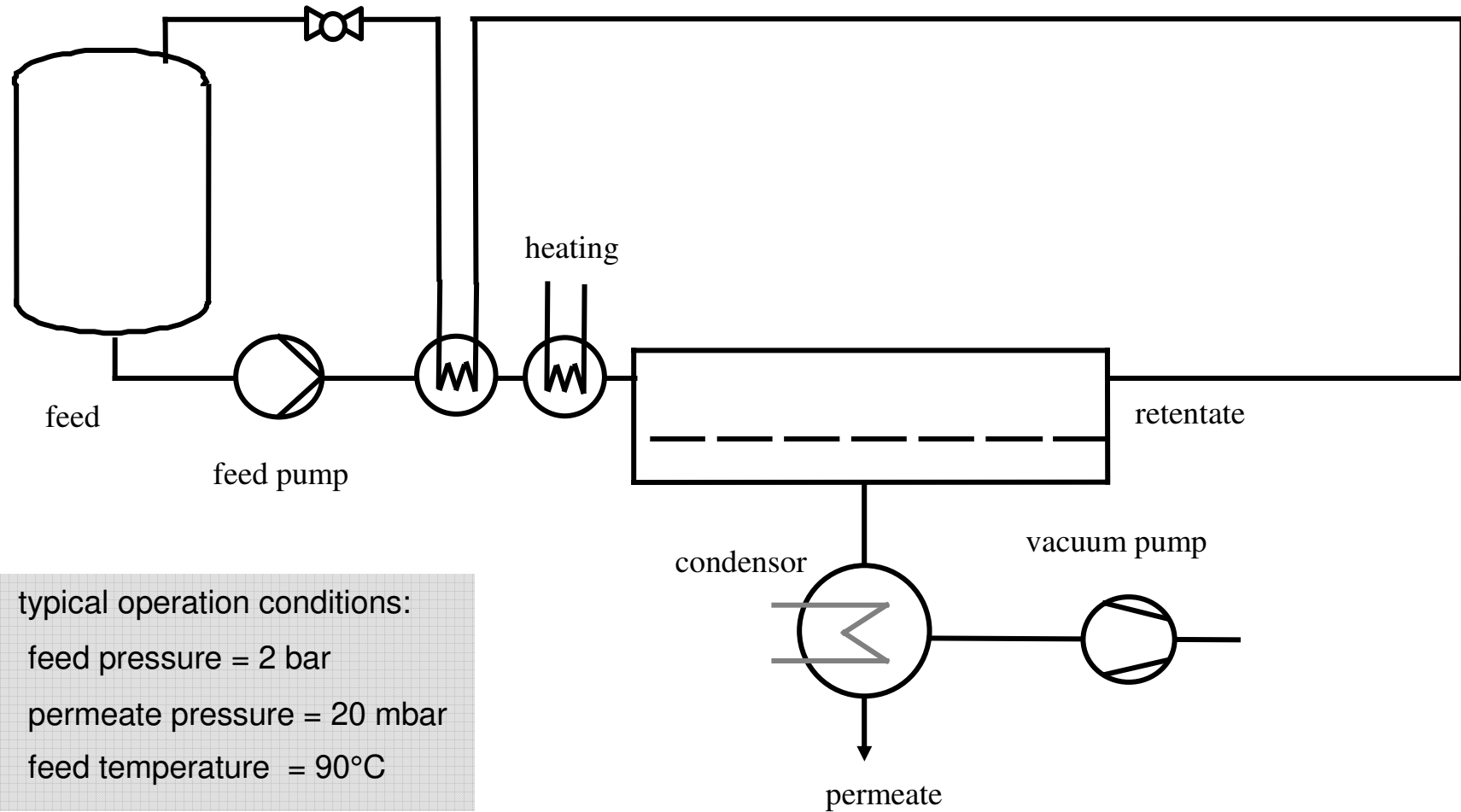
## in common:

- pressure driven
- all streams liquid
- minimum components as above
- permeate flux  
from 20 to 100 l/m<sup>2</sup>h

## differences:

- no osmotic pressure in MF
- MF has highest permeate flow  
needs highest cross flow velocity
- pressure drop in MF important
- driving pressure 0.5 bar MF to 200 bar RO

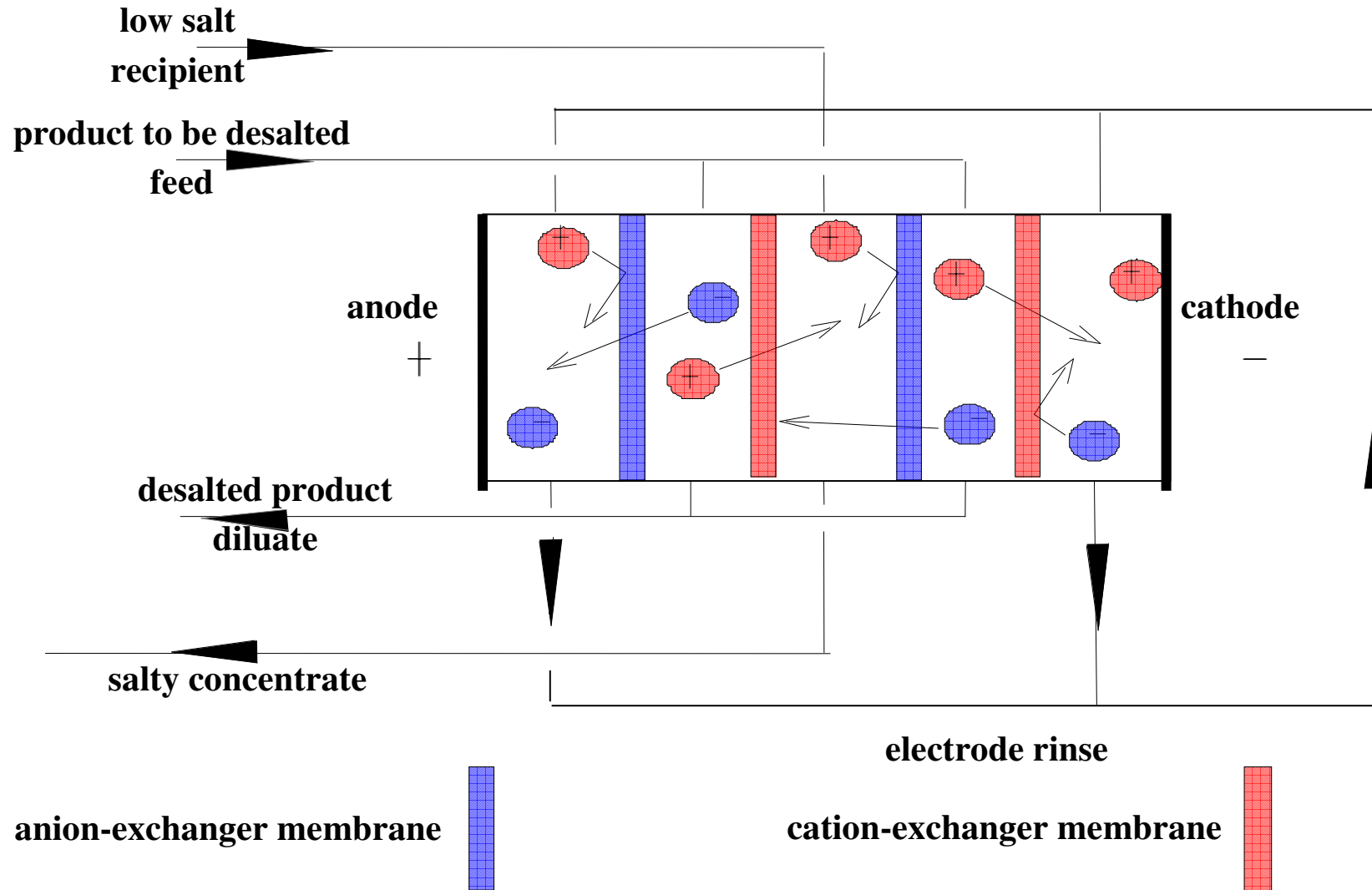
# Pervaporation PV



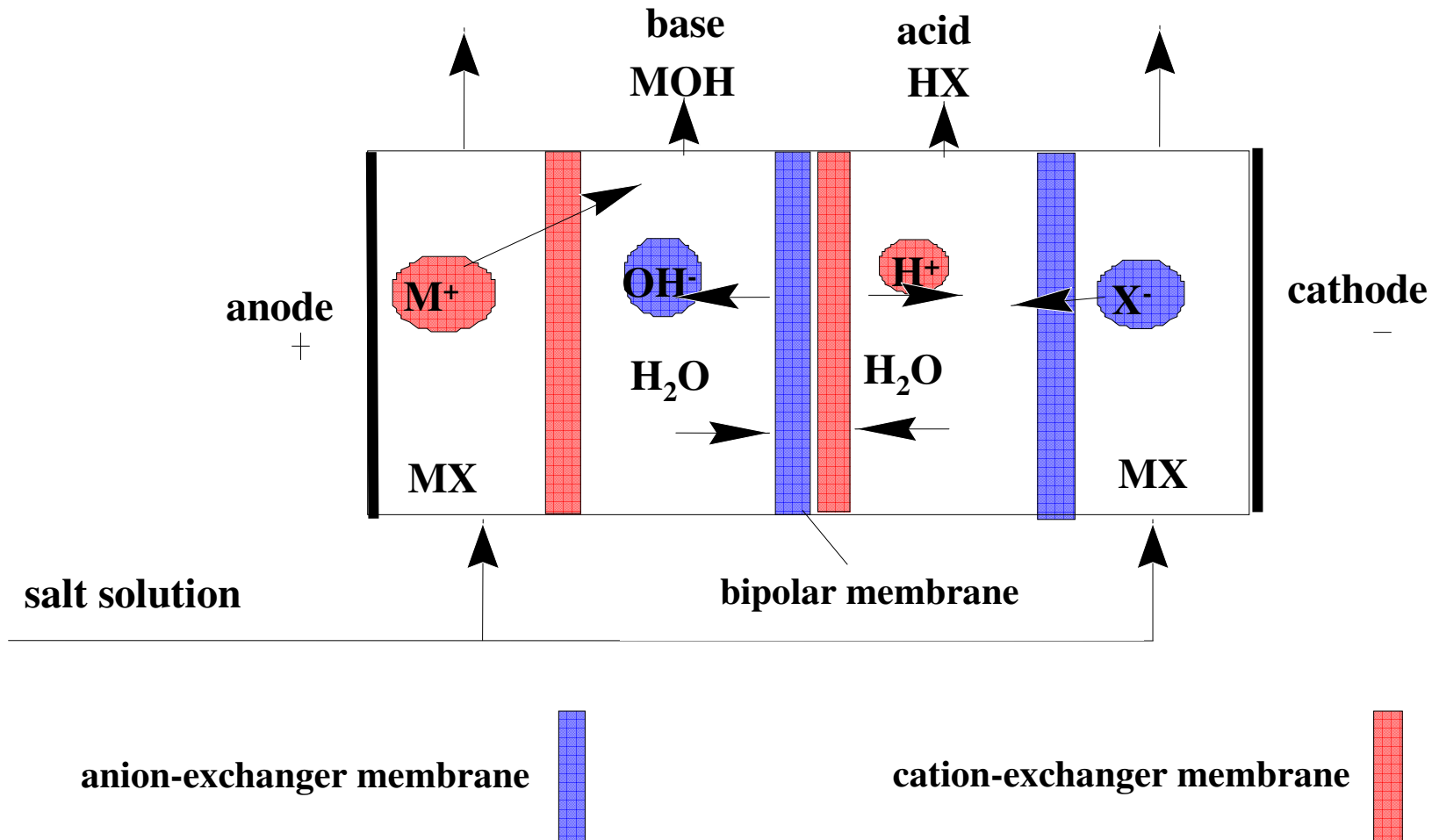
typical operation conditions:  
feed pressure = 2 bar  
permeate pressure = 20 mbar  
feed temperature = 90°C



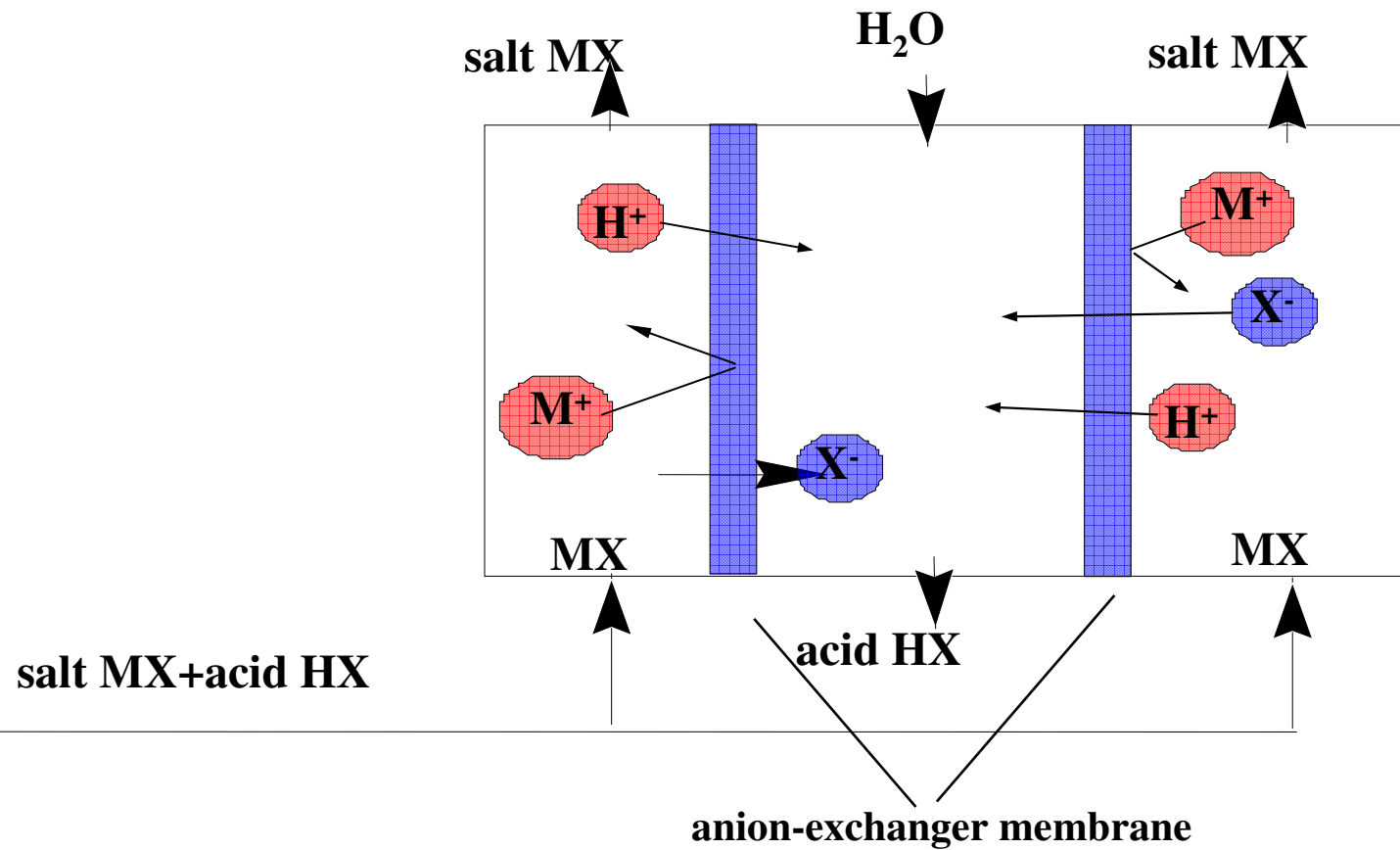
# Electrodialysis ED



# Electrodialysis with bipolar membranes



# Acid dialysis (acid cleaning)

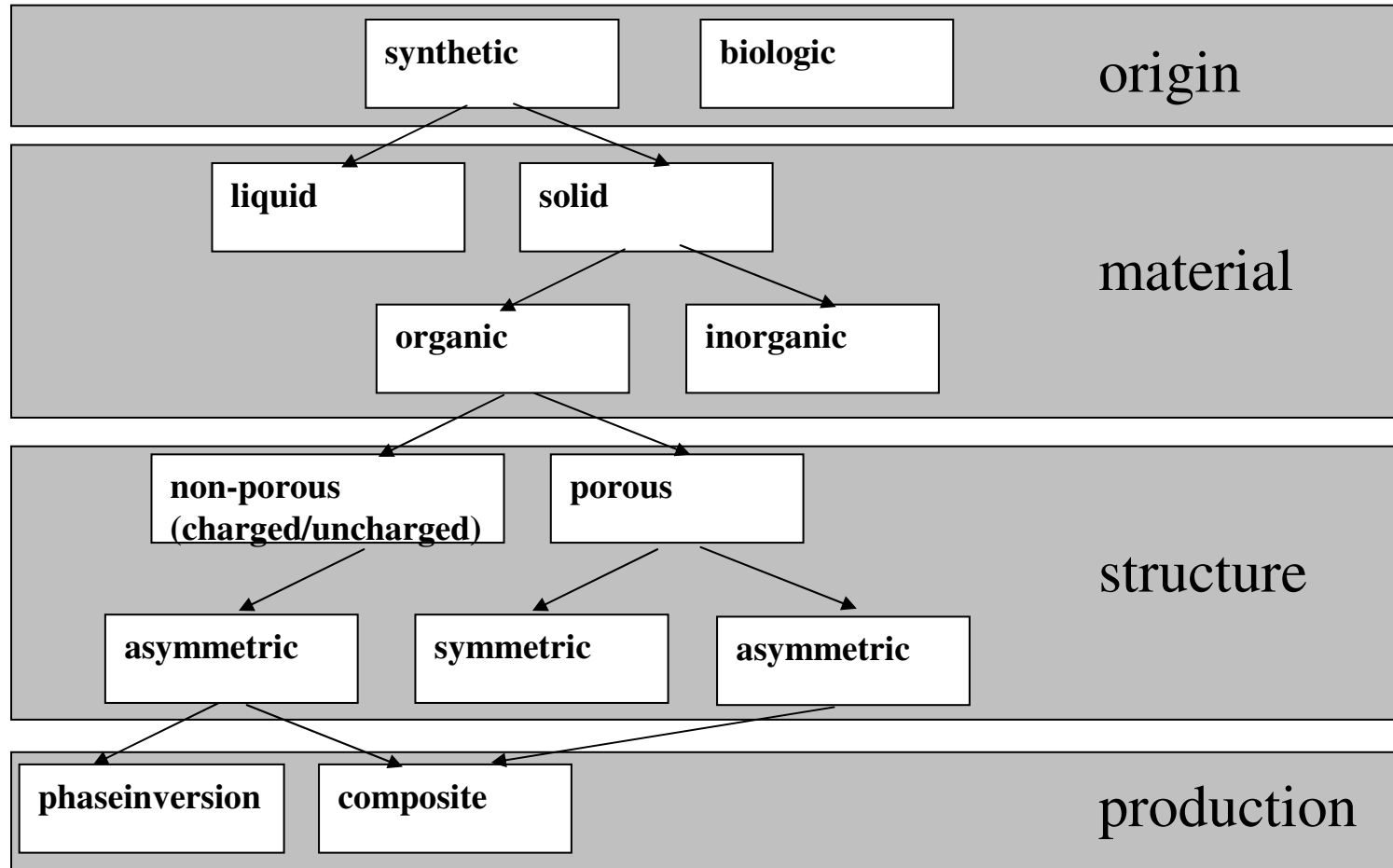


# Other membrane processes

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- variants of electrodialysis
- membrane extraction
- membrane distillation
- **gas separation**
- **dialysis**
- membrane reactor
- catalytic membrane
- liquid membranes
- active transport

# Membrane materials



# Membranes and modules

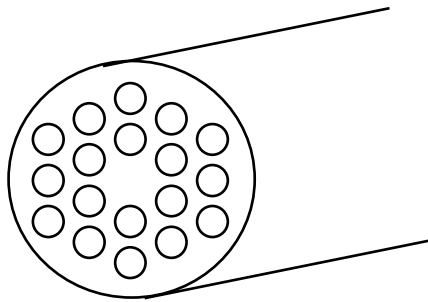
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<b>tubular</b>	<b>flat</b>
tubular (Ø 6-25 mm)	plate and frame
capillary (Ø 0.5-6 mm)	spiral wound
hollow fibre (Ø 0.04-0.5 mm)	cushion type

most common membrane module types

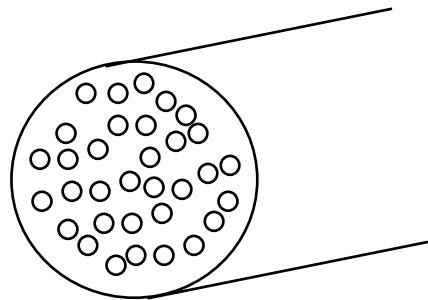
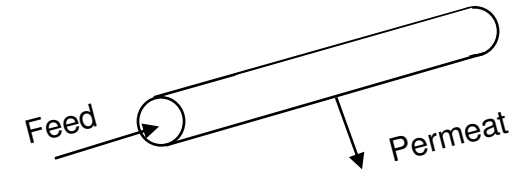
# Module types I

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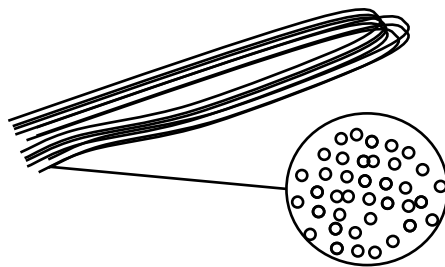
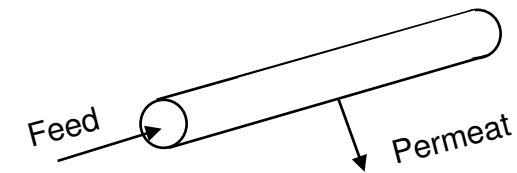
## tubular

e.g. 18 tubes in series  
12.5mm $\varnothing$   
2.4 m<sup>2</sup>  
0.1m x 3.6m  
1000 EUR



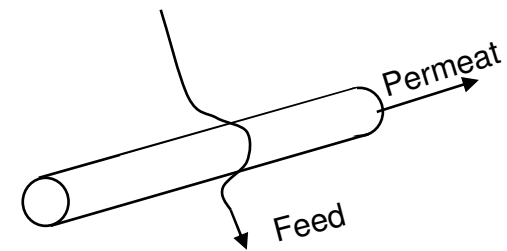
## capillary

many tubes in parallel  
1.5mm $\varnothing$   
12 m<sup>2</sup>  
0.2m x 1.0m  
4000 EUR



## hollow-fibre

0.15mm  $\varnothing$   
24 m<sup>2</sup>  
0.1m x 1m



# Tubular





# Capillary

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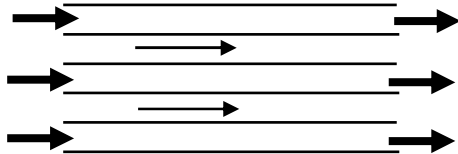
# Ceramic capillary

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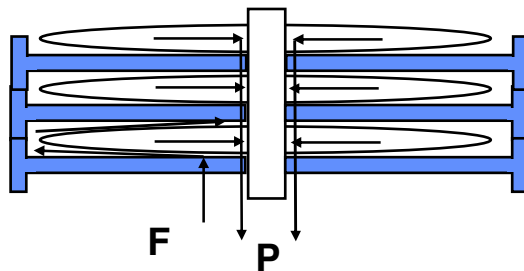
# Module types II

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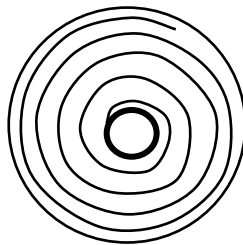
## plate and frame

with seals / without seals  
all sizes



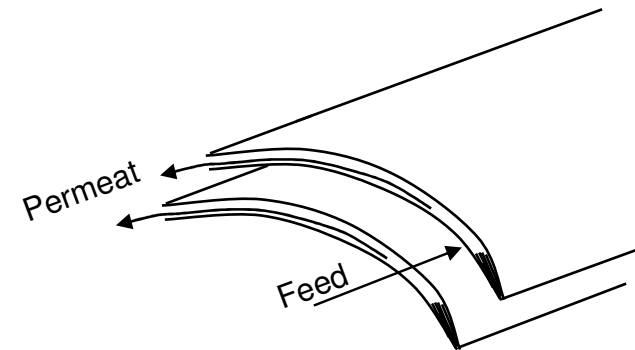
## cushion type

membranes welded  
high pressure up to 200 bar

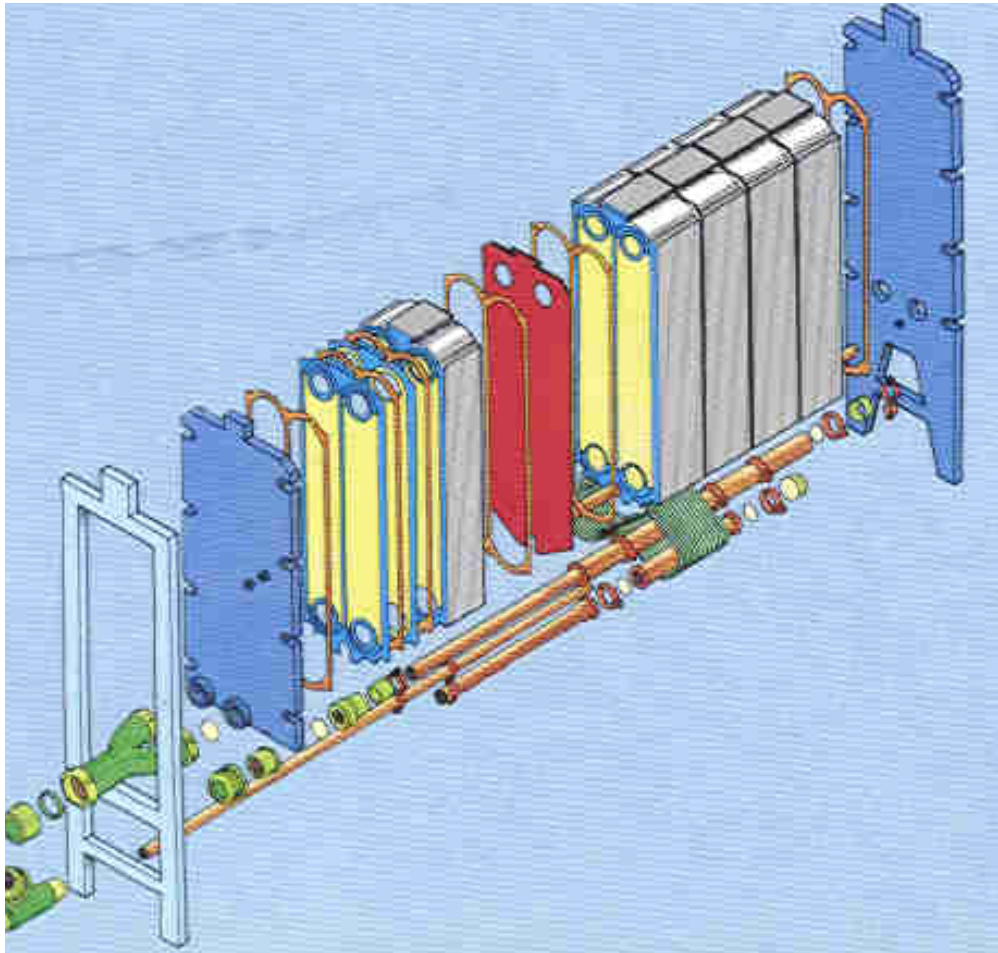


## spiral

membrane pockets wrapped  
8 / 32 m<sup>2</sup> Membranfläche  
0.1m x 1m, 0.2 x 1m  
500 EUR

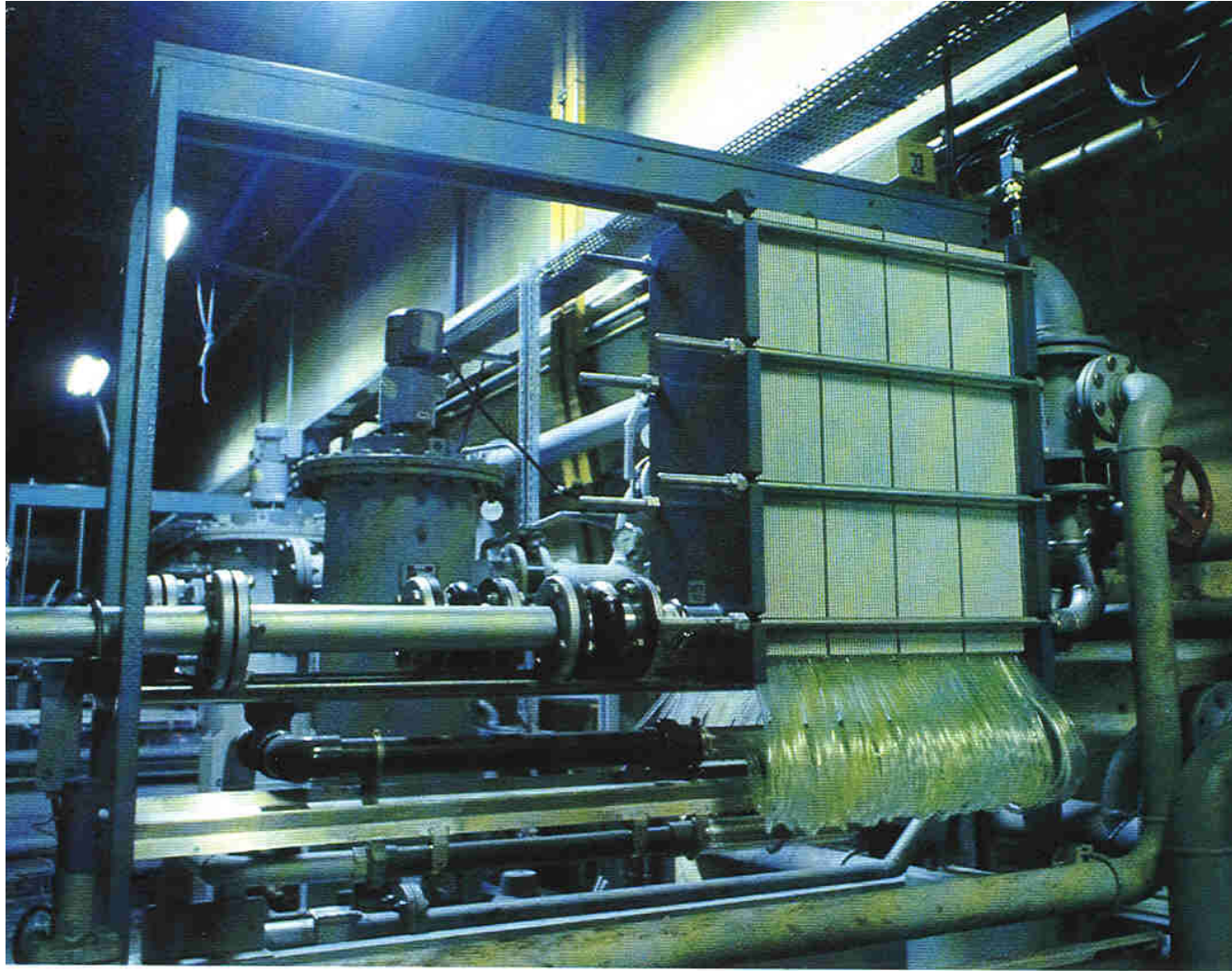


# Plate-and-frame



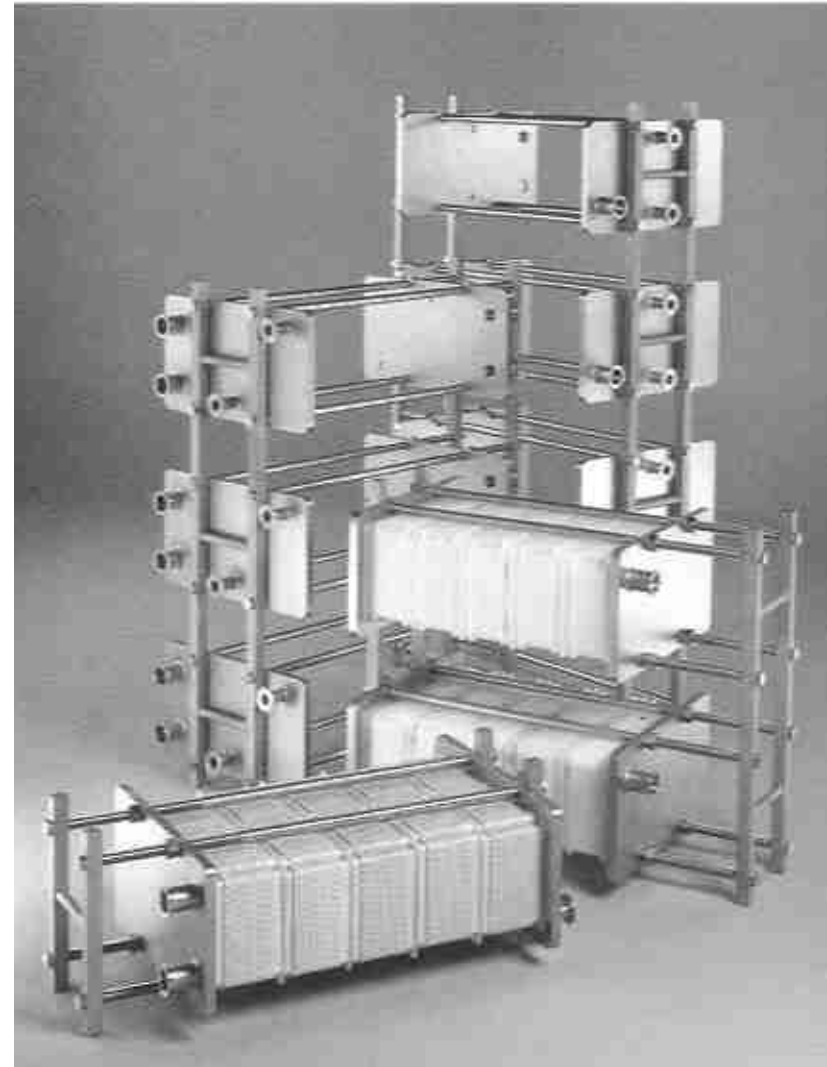
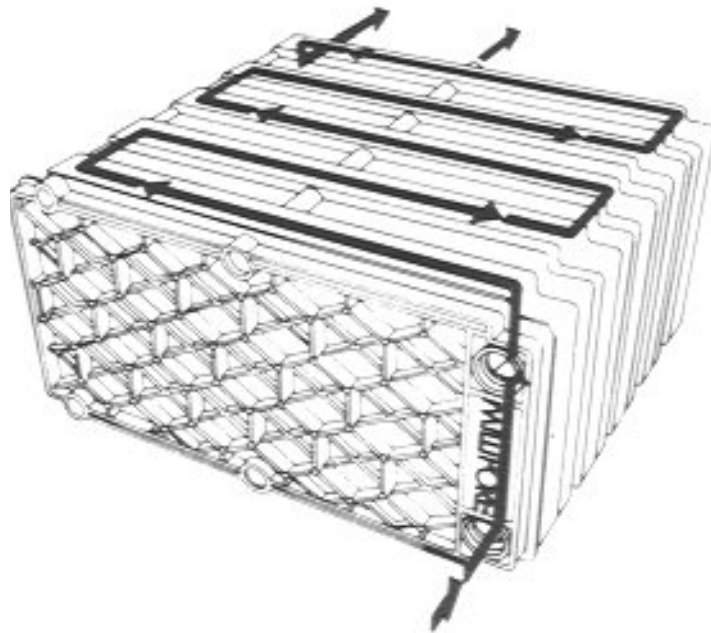
# Plate-and-frame

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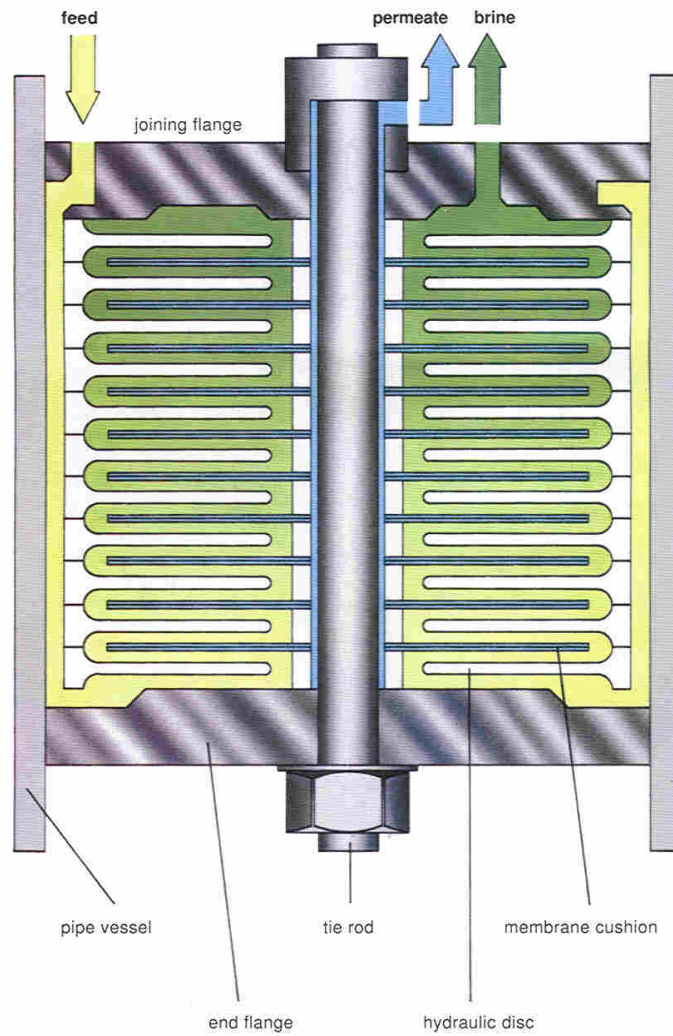


# Cassette modules

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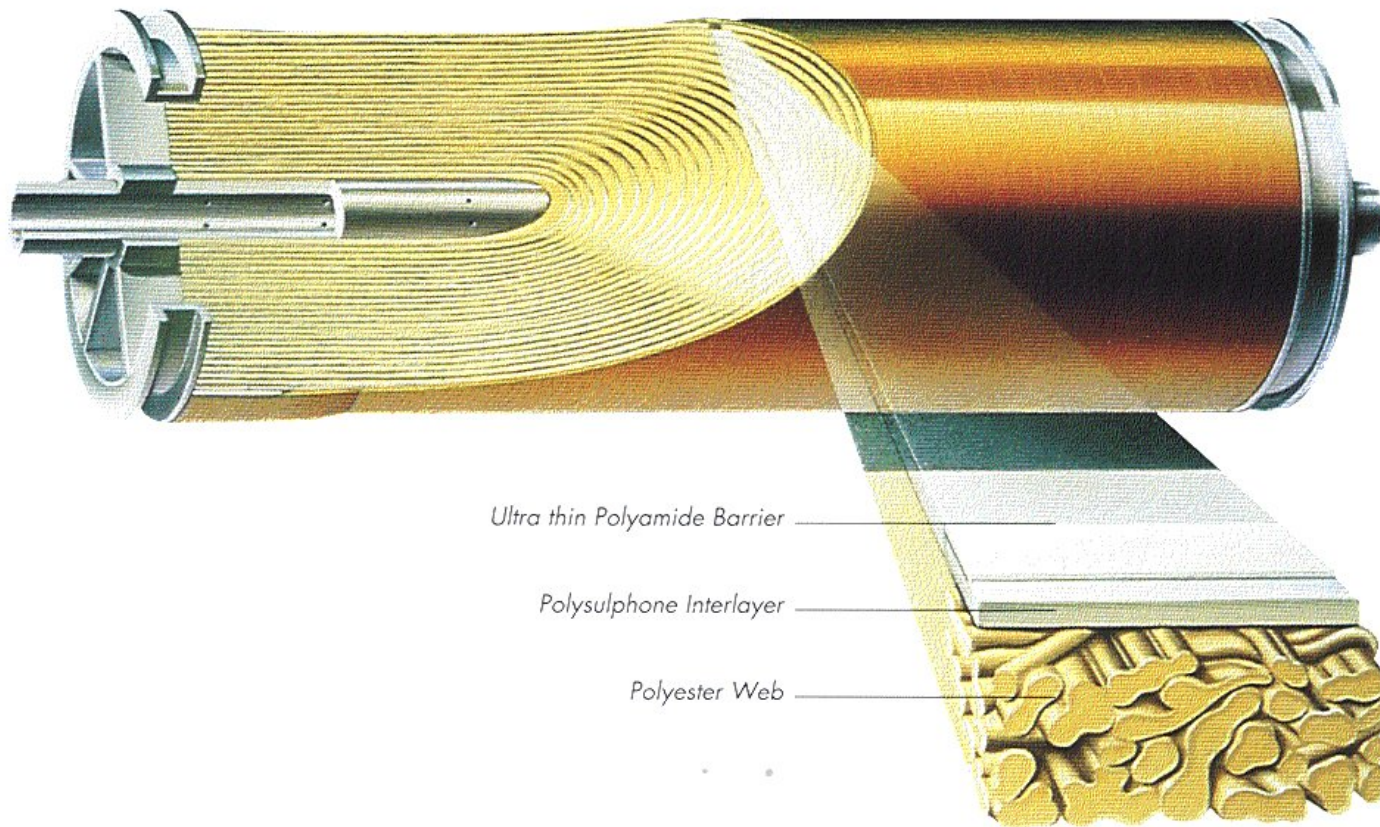


# Cushion module



# Spiral-wound

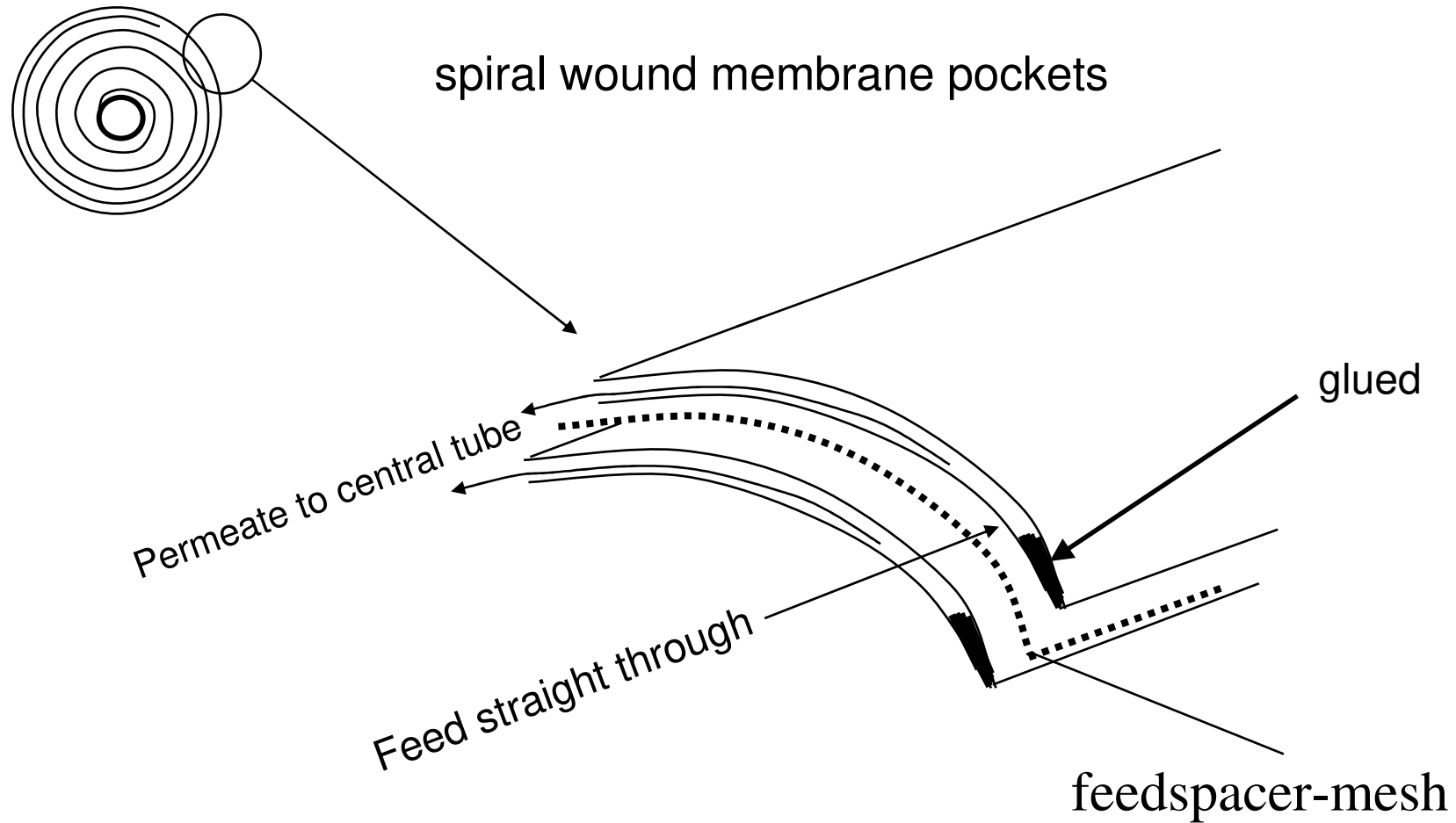
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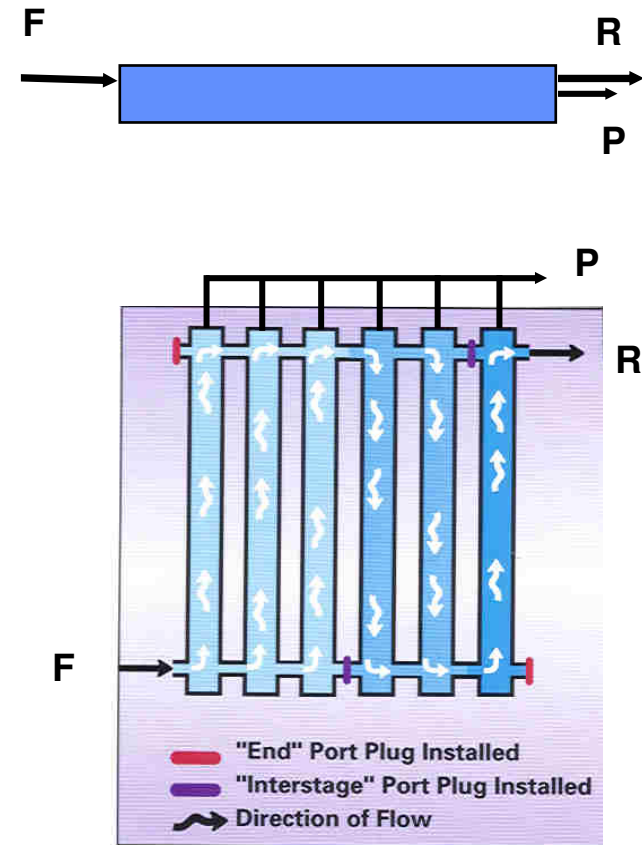


# Spiral-wound

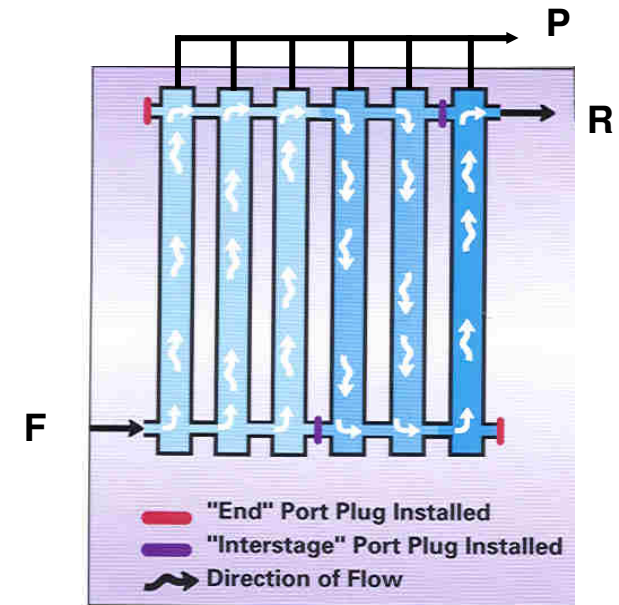
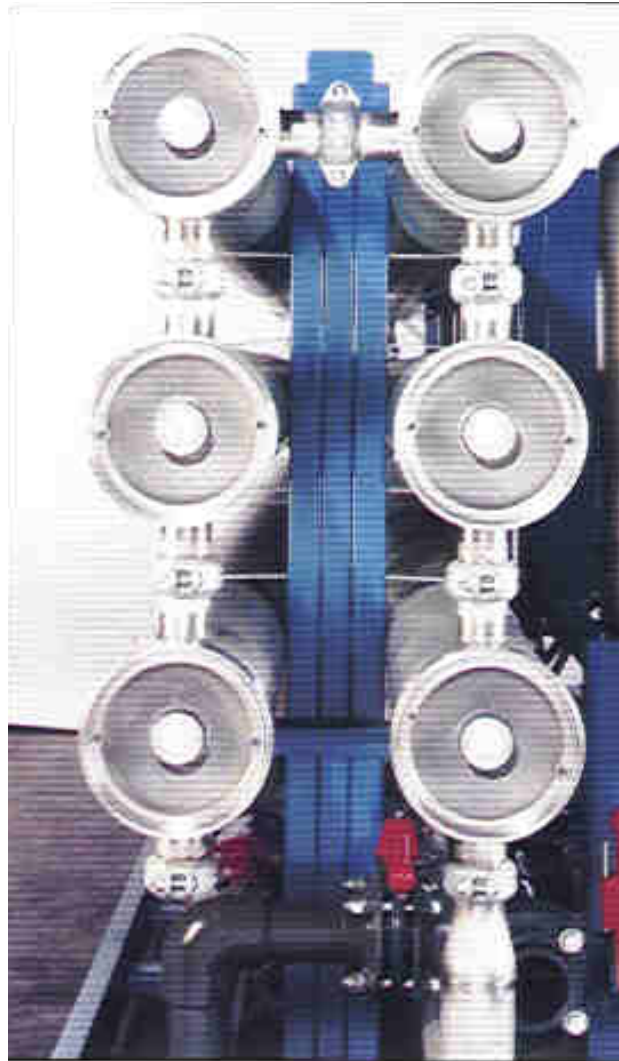
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# Pressure vessels for spiral elements



# Side-port pressure vessels for spiral elements



# Membranes and modules

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membrane material	module types	separations
ceramic	multitube	MF, UF, NF
carbon	tubular	MF
zeolithe	tubular	PV
metal	tubular	MF
cellulose aceate	plate, spiral	NF, RO
regenerated cellulose	plate, spiral	MF, UF
PA/PSU	plate, spiral	UF, NF, RO
PVDF	plate, spiral	MF
PVA/PAN	plate	PV
PES/PVP	plate, spiral, capillary	MF, UF, NF
PE, PP	capillary	MF

# Membrane racks

*oben links: Rohrmodulanlage zur Abwasserbehandlung*

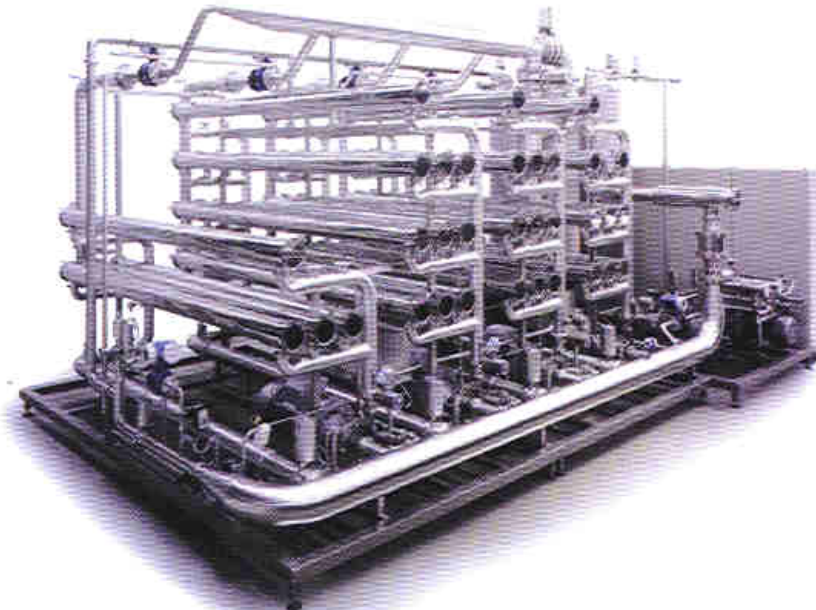
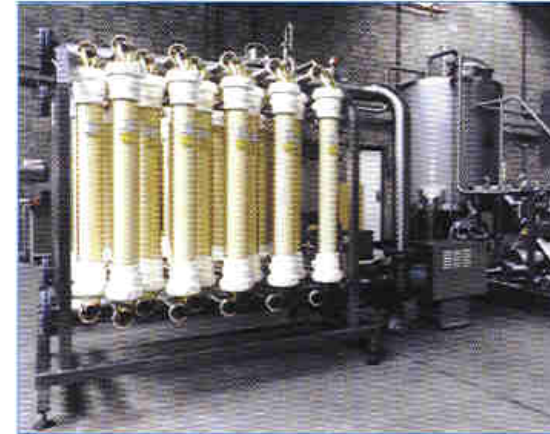
*oben rechts:*

*Mikrofiltrationsanlage zur Weinklärung*

*unten links: Mehrstufige Spiralmodul-Anlage zur Proteinkonzentrierung/*

*-fraktionierung*

*unten rechts: Mehrstufige Umkehrosmoseanlage zur Aufbereitung von Wasser/ Abwasser*



# Other plant components: piping

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- material (stainless steel, PVC, PP)
- pressure rating, cost relevant, also for instrumentation, espec. >40bar
- connectors (lab units: Swagelok, sanitary: Tri-Clamp, high pressure: flanges)

# Other plant components: pumps

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- centrifugal: high volumes, limited pressure (max. 20-40 bar)
- side channel: smaller volume, higher pressure
- piston: small volume, high pressure (<10m<sup>3</sup>/h, >100 bar) no solids
- membrane: similar to piston, max. 100 bar, solids allowed

# Other plant components: instrumentation

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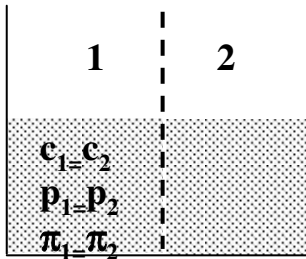
- pressure gauge: piezo-resistive or classical, with diaphragm
- flowmeter: magnetic, rotary, (rarely coriolis)
- pressure control valve: critical size choice, needle (no solids), ball valve (solids broad flow range)
- pump flow: frequency converters are cheap today !



# Osmosis

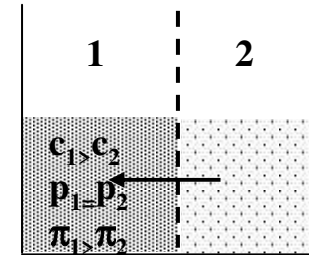
## natural equilibrium

$c_1=c_2$  same concentration (so  $\pi_1=\pi_2$ )  
 $p_1=p_2$  same pressure  
 no solvent flux



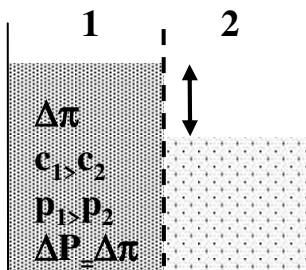
## osmosis

$c_1 > c_2$  concentration difference (so  $\pi_1 > \pi_2$ )  
 $p_1 = p_2$  same pressure  
 solvent flux from 2 to 1



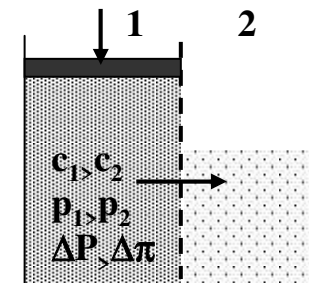
## osmotic equilibrium

$c_1 > c_2$  same concentration (so  $\pi_1 > \pi_2$ )  
 $p_1 > p_2$  pressure difference ( $\Delta p = \Delta \pi$ )  
 no solvent flux



## reverse osmosis

$c_1 > c_2$  same concentration (so  $\pi_1 > \pi_2$ )  
 $p_1 > p_2$  pressure difference ( $\Delta p > \Delta \pi$ )  
 solvent flux from 1 to 2



# Osmotic pressure and reverse osmosis

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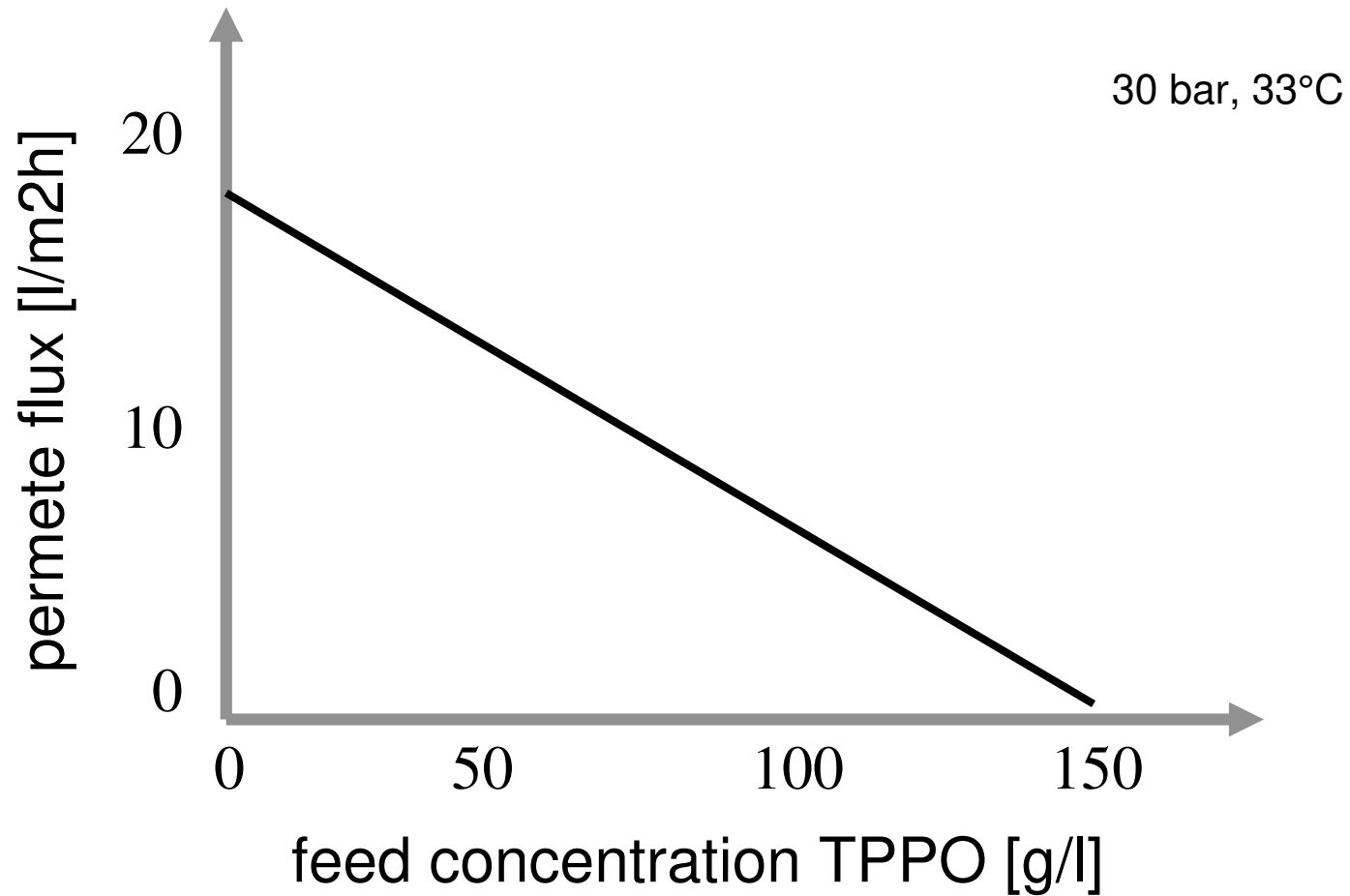
osmotic pressure difference:  $\Delta \pi = \beta \Delta c R T$

dissoziation of ions:  $\beta = 1 + \alpha(v - 1)$

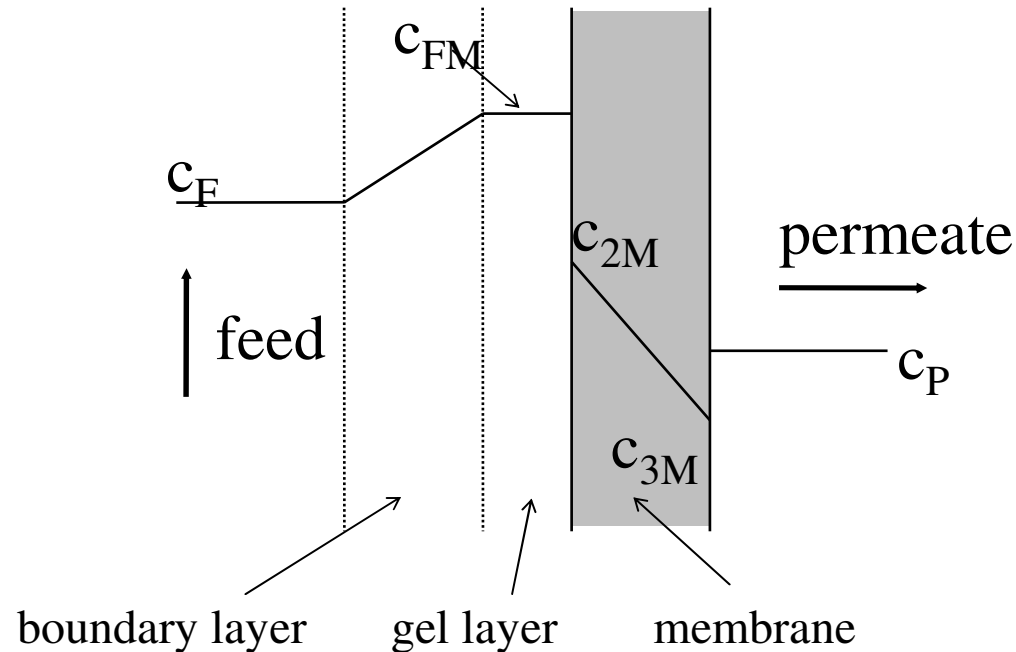
reverse osmosis flux:  $J_{LSM} = A(\Delta p - \Delta \pi)$

# Influence of feed concentration

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# Membrane retention: definitions



**true membrane retention:    apparent retention:    mass balance retention (yield):**

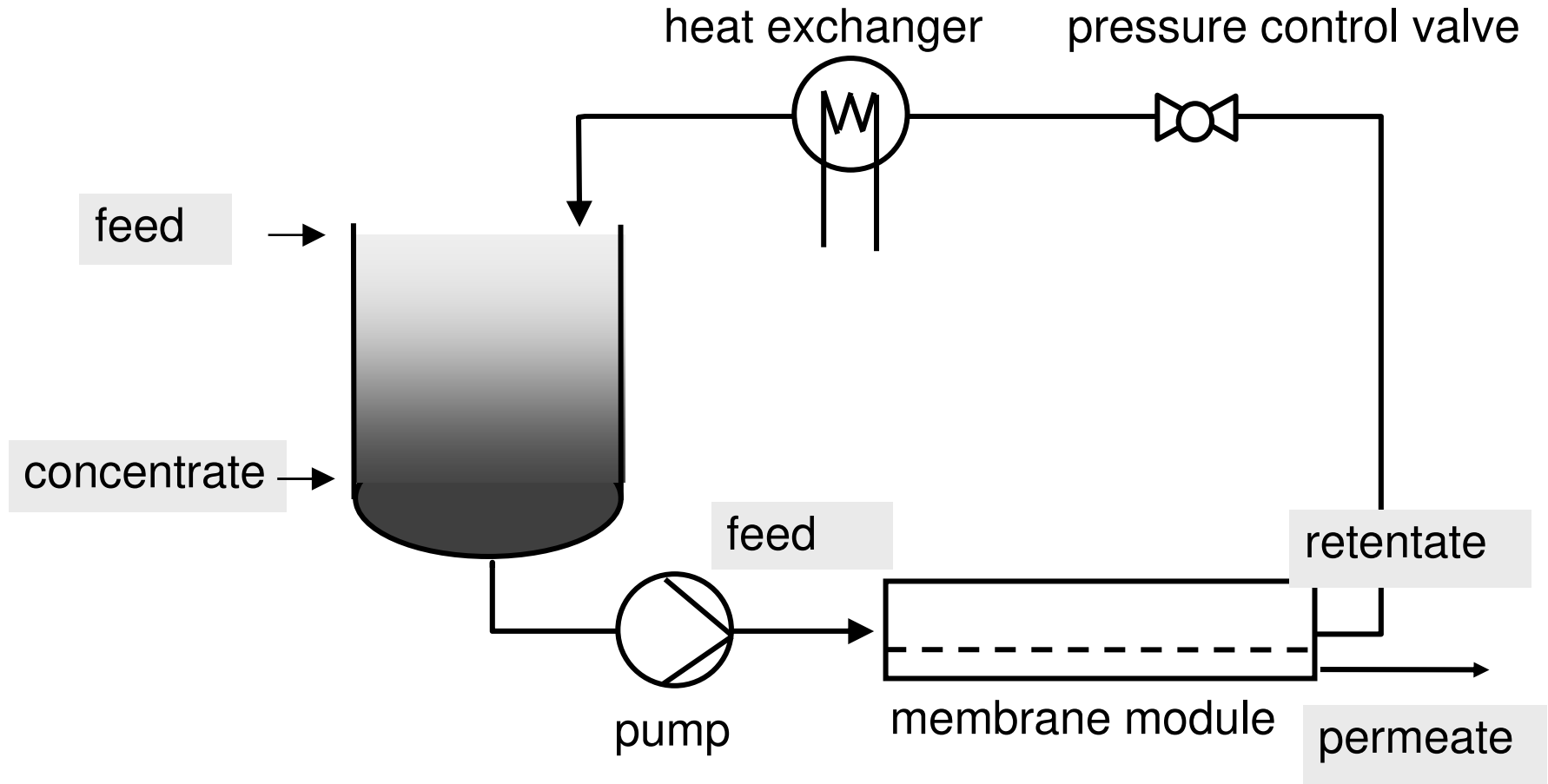
$$R_W = 1 - \frac{c_P}{c_{FM}}$$

$$R_S = 1 - \frac{c_P}{c_F}$$

$$R_{mb} = \frac{V_R c_K}{V_F c_0} = 1 - \frac{V_P c_{\Sigma P}}{V_F c_0}$$

# Batch process

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# Batch process: concentrating

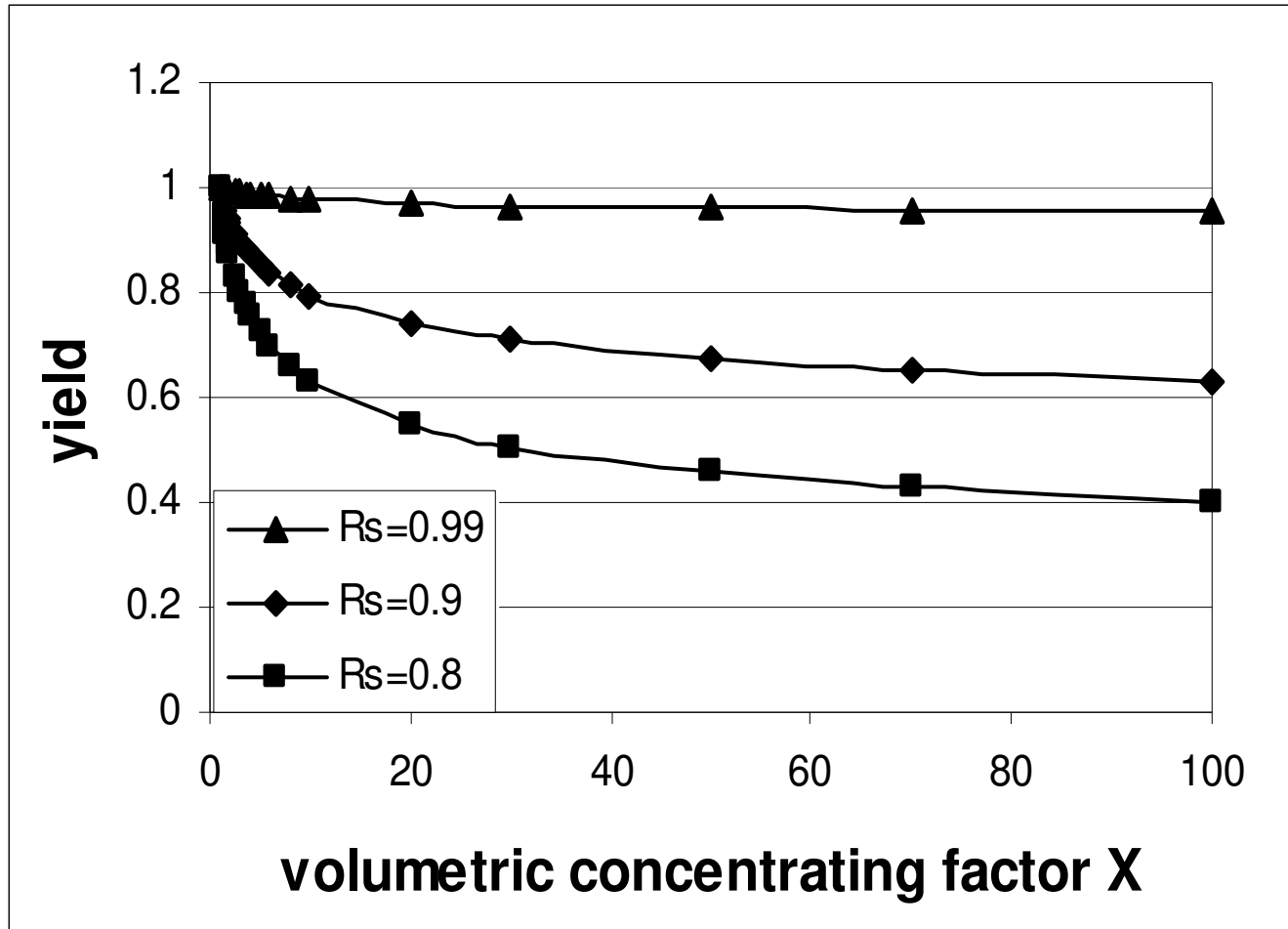
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volumetric concentrating factor:  $X = \frac{V_0}{V_K}$

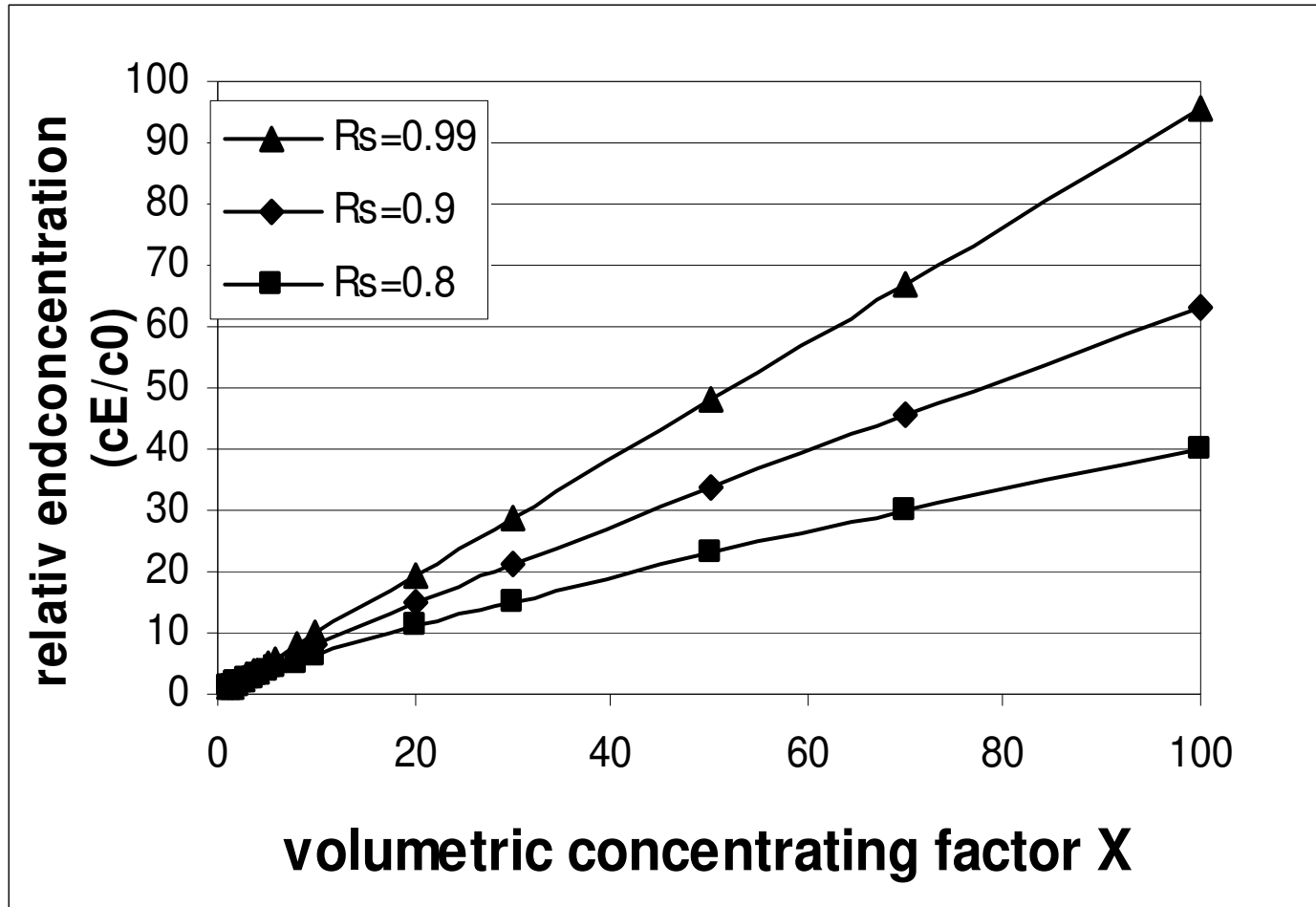
end concentration:  $\frac{c_K}{c_0} = X^{R_S}$

yield:  $R_{MB} = \frac{V_R c_K}{V_0 c_0} = X^{R_S - 1}$

# Batch process: concentrating



# Batch process: concentrating





# Batch process: diafiltration (at $V=c$ )

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volumetric diafiltration factor:

$$A = \frac{V_{Wasser}}{V_0}$$

end concentration:

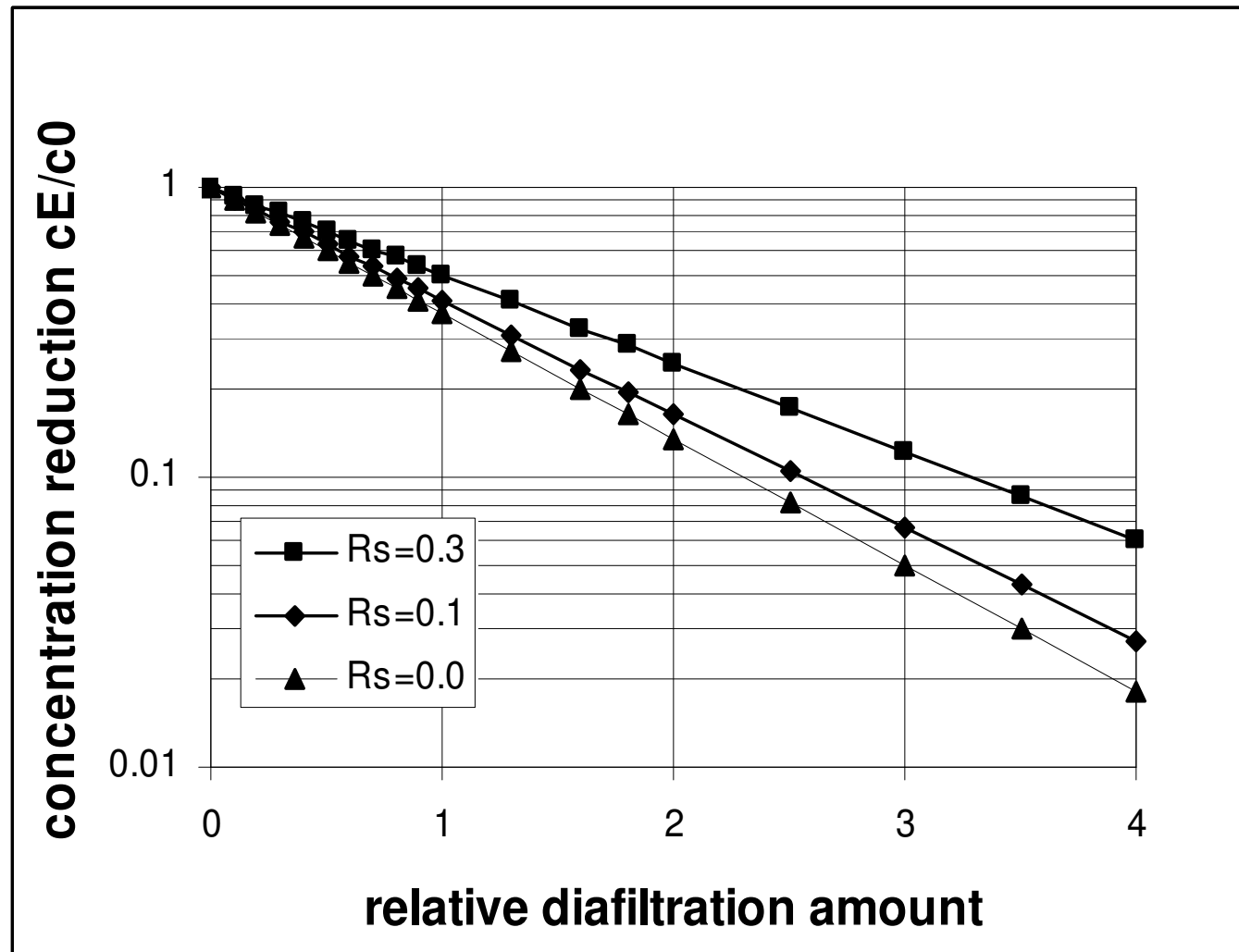
$$\frac{c_E}{c_0} = \exp(A(R_S - 1))$$

yield:

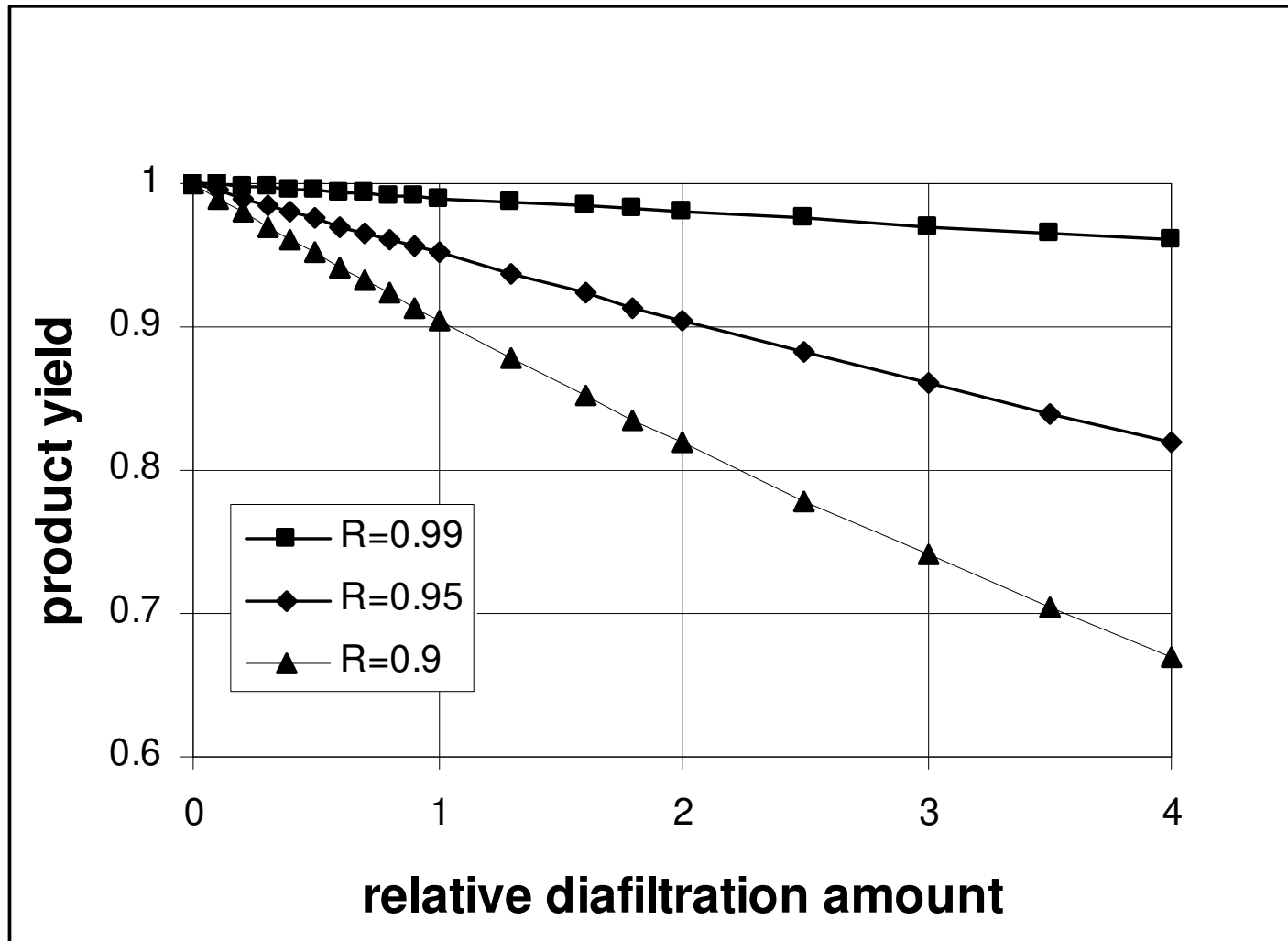
$$R_{MB} = \frac{V_E c_E}{V_0 c_0} = \exp(A(R_S - 1))$$

# Batch process: diafiltration effect

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# Batch process: diafiltration yield



# Solution-diffusion membrane model

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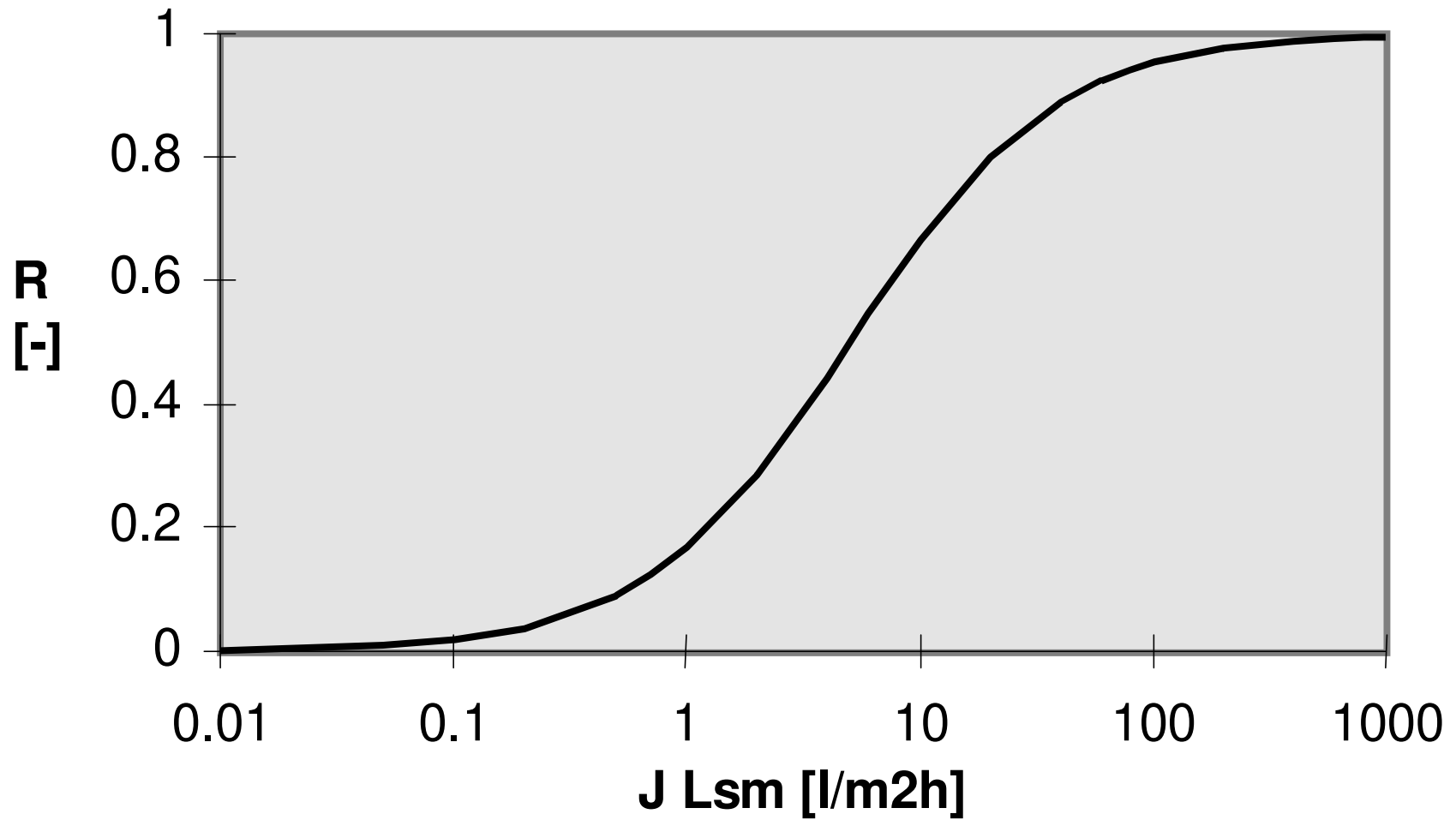
solvent flux:  $J_{LSM} = A(\Delta p - \Delta \pi)$

solute transport:  $J_S = B\Delta c_S$

retention:  $R = \frac{J_{Lsm}}{J_{Lsm} + B}$

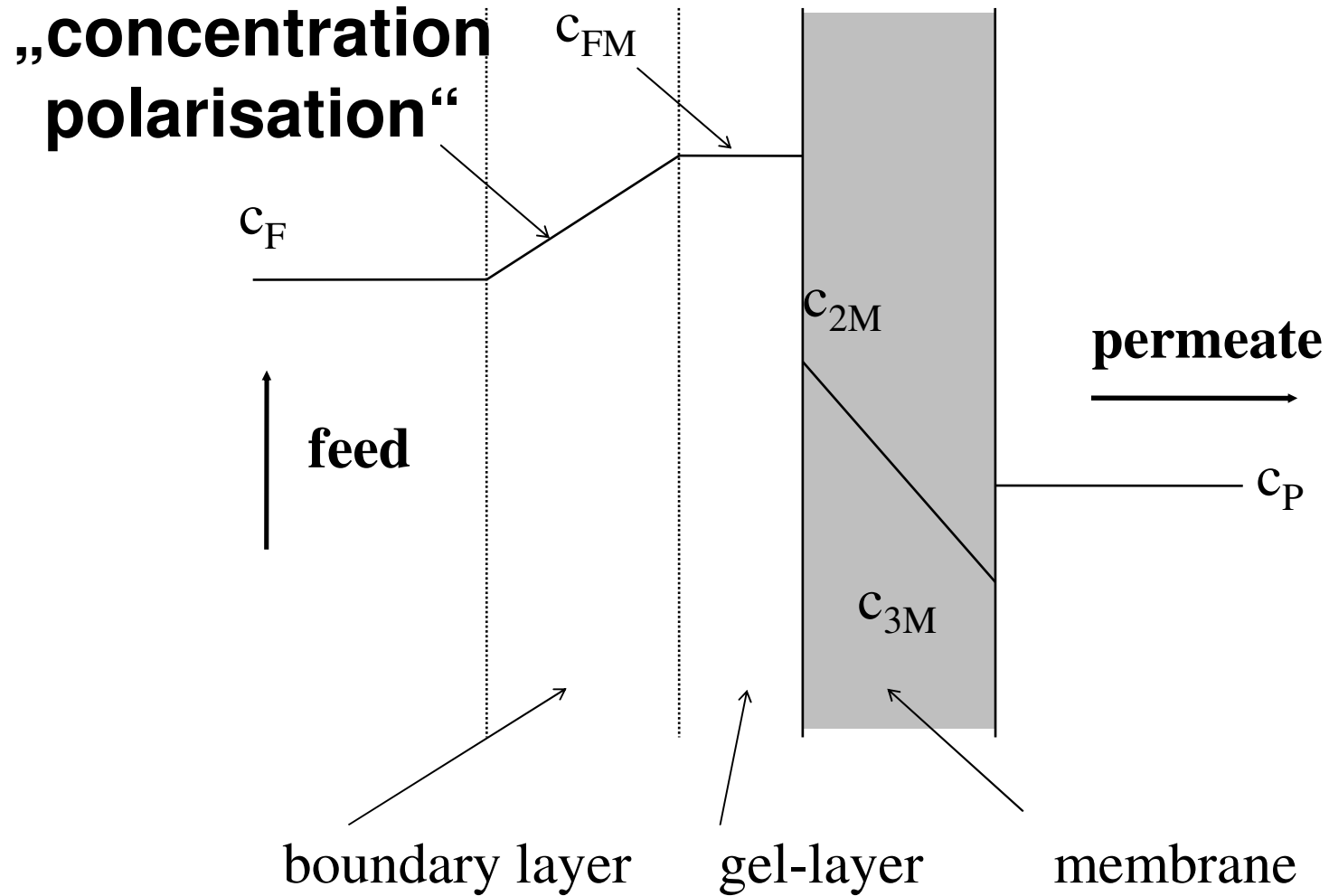
# retention curve of a solution-diffusion membrane

---



# Concentration increase at the membrane surface

---



# Calculation of concentration polarisation

---

$$\frac{c_{FM} - c_P}{c_F - c_P} = \exp\left(\frac{J_v}{D} \delta\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow R_w = \left(1 + \frac{(1 - R_s)}{R_s} \exp\left(-\frac{J_v}{D} \delta\right)\right)^{-1}$$

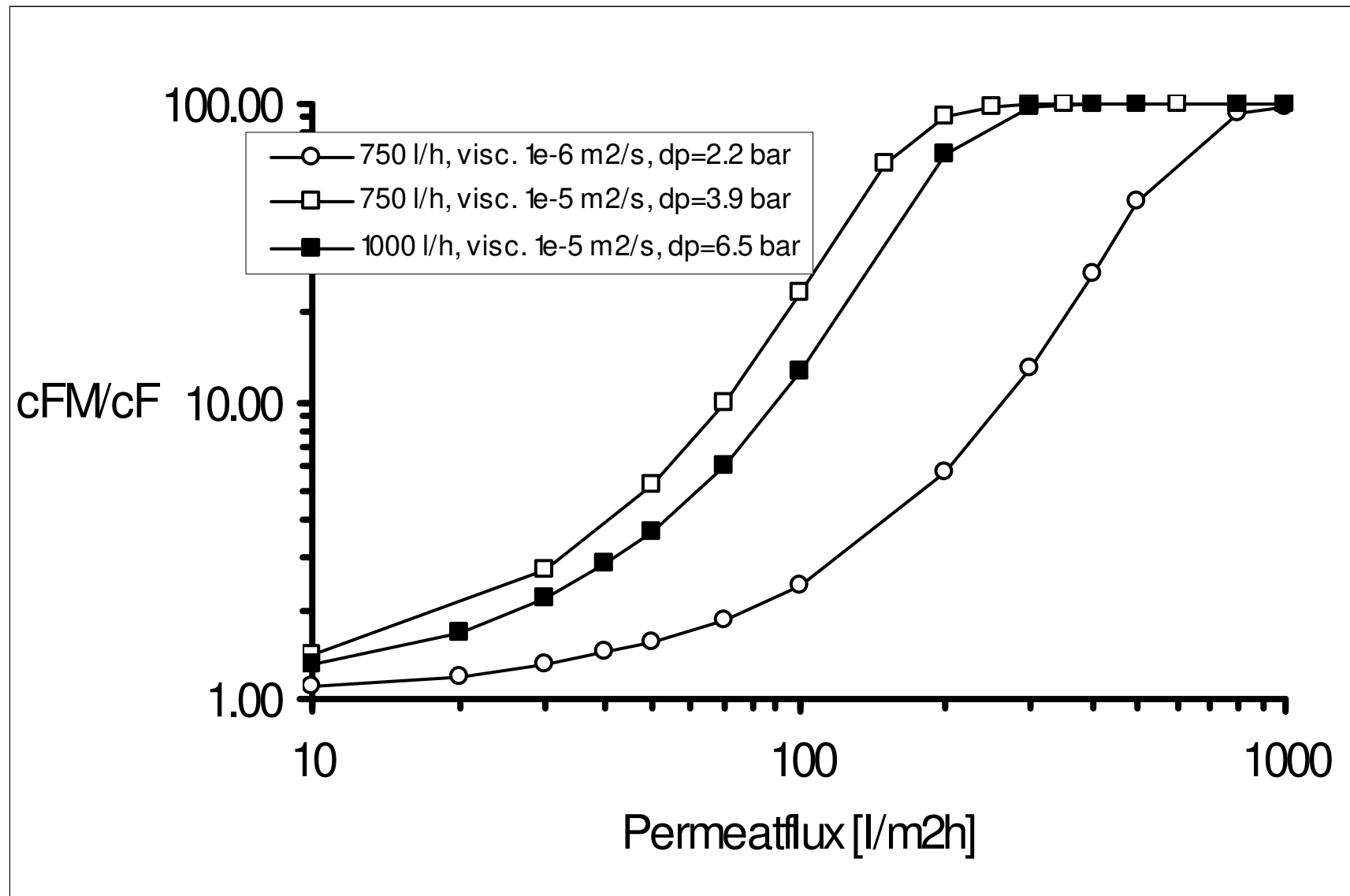
$$\delta = \frac{d_h}{Sh}$$

$$Sh = \zeta \cdot Re^x Sc^y$$

$$Re = \frac{w \cdot d_h}{\nu}$$

$$Sc = \frac{\nu}{D}$$

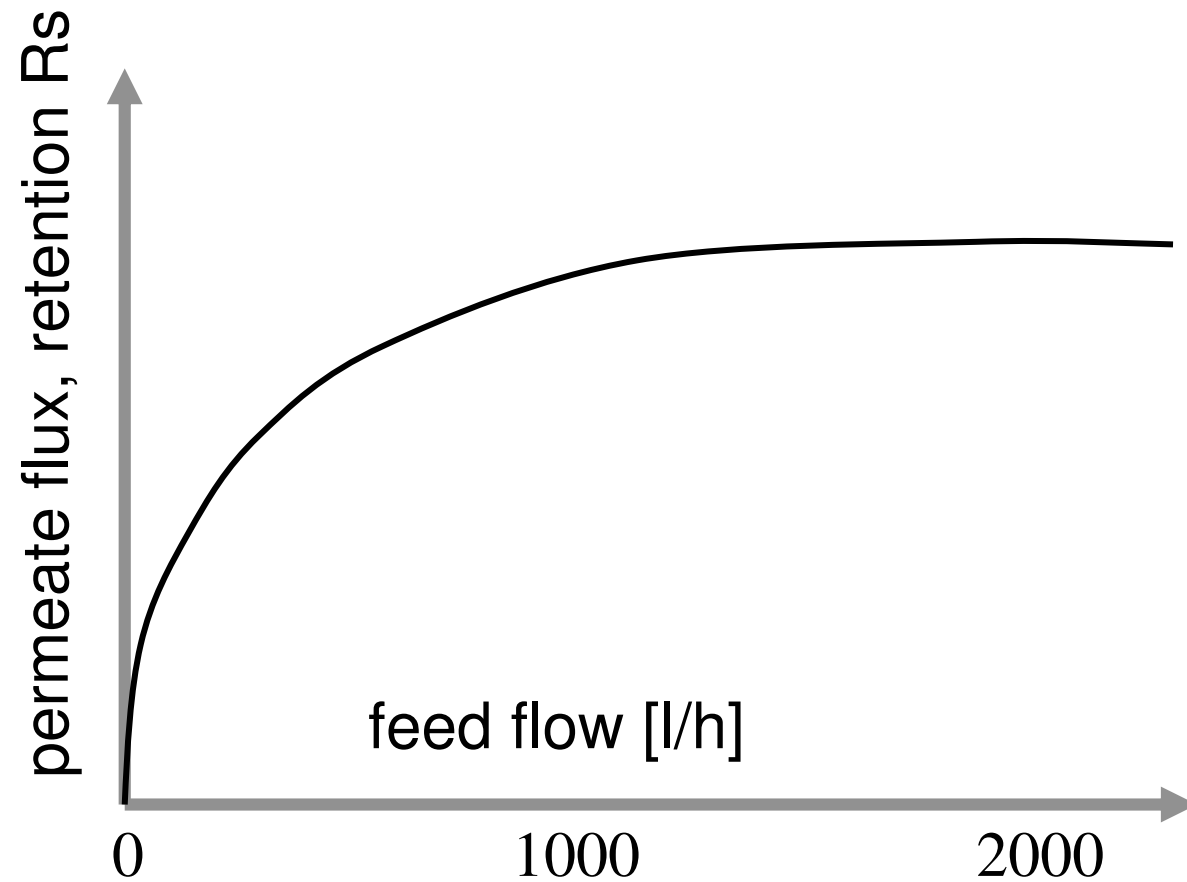
# Calculation of concentration polarisation





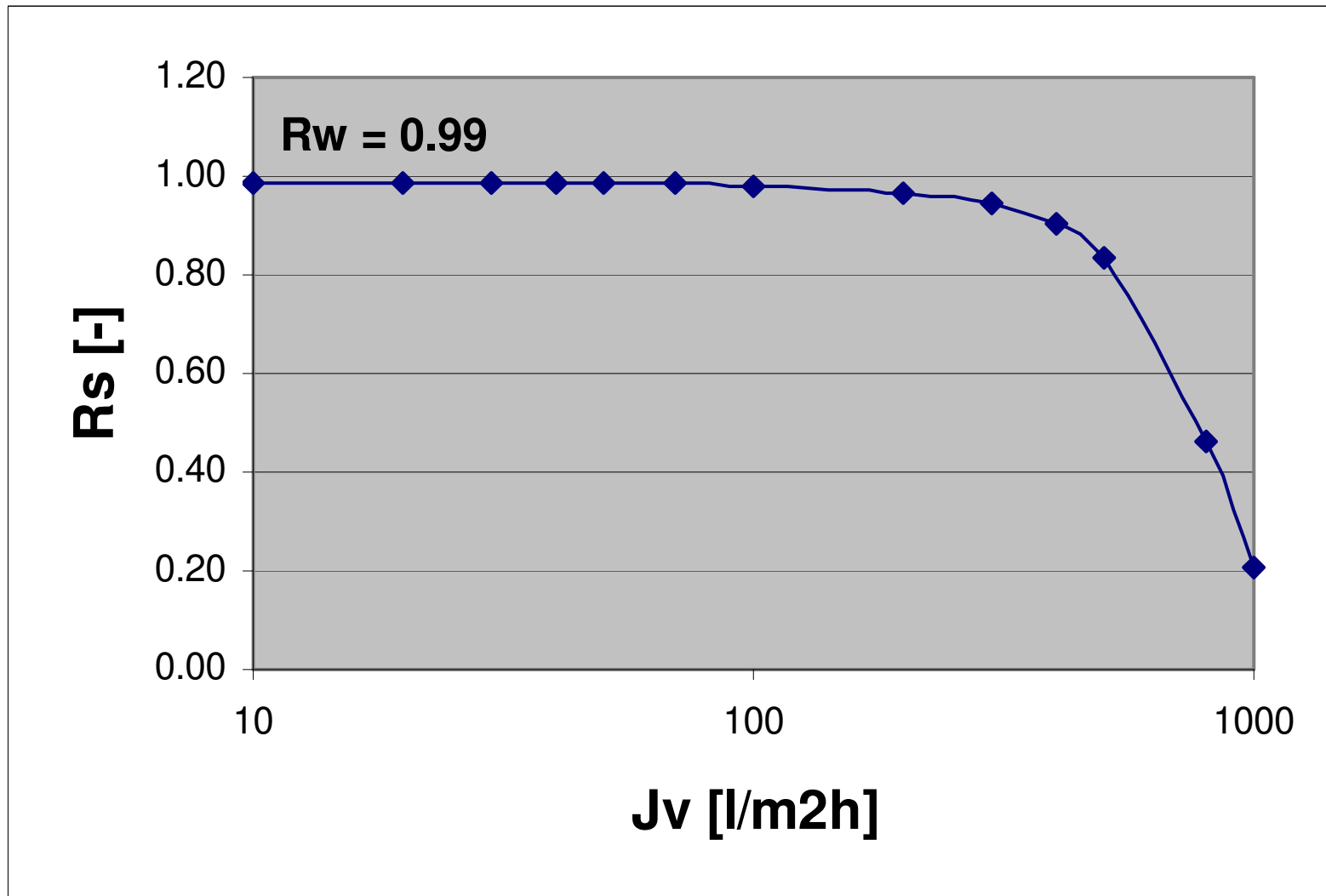
# Influence of feed flow

---



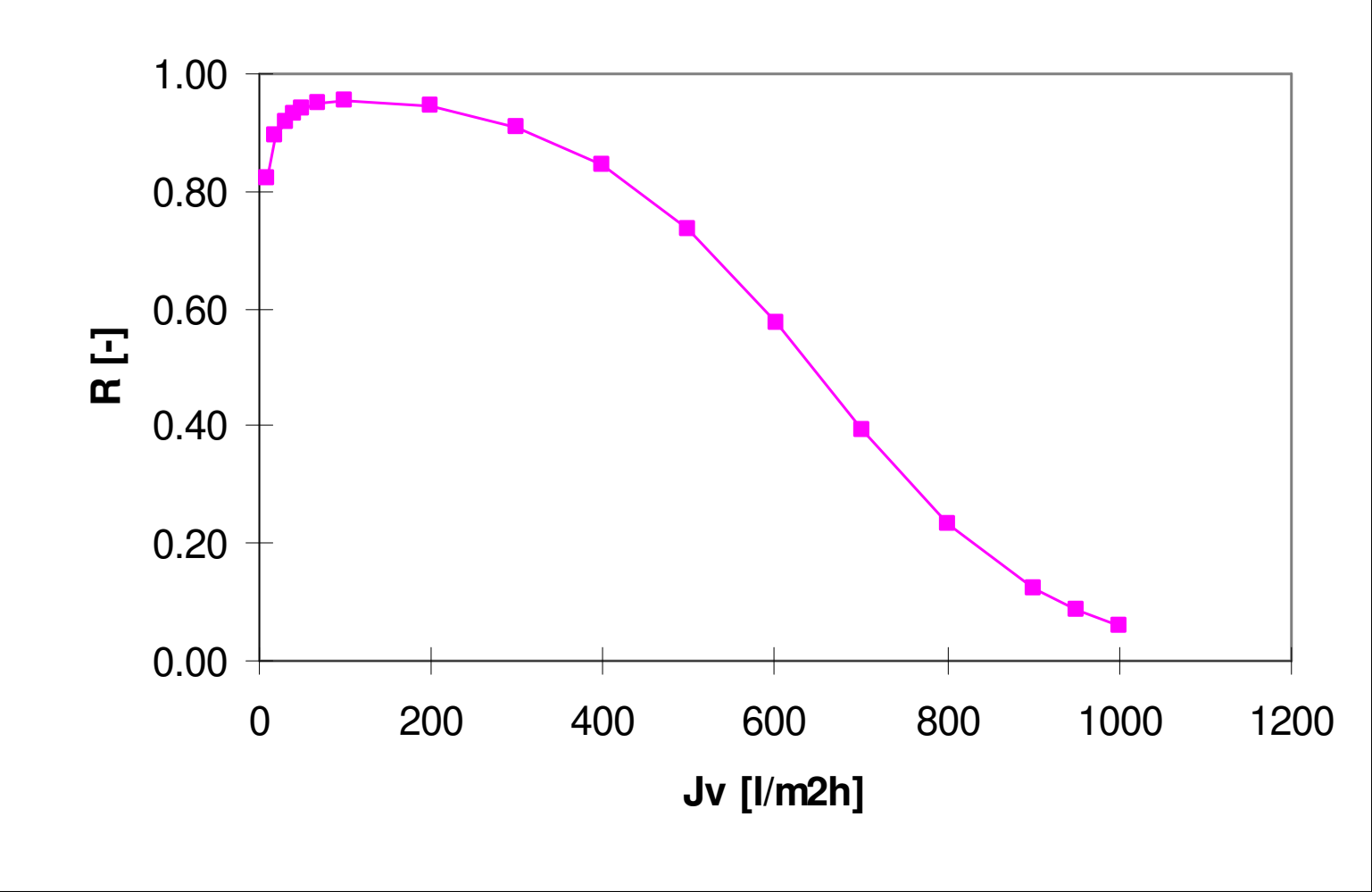
# Retention curve due to conc.-polarisation

---

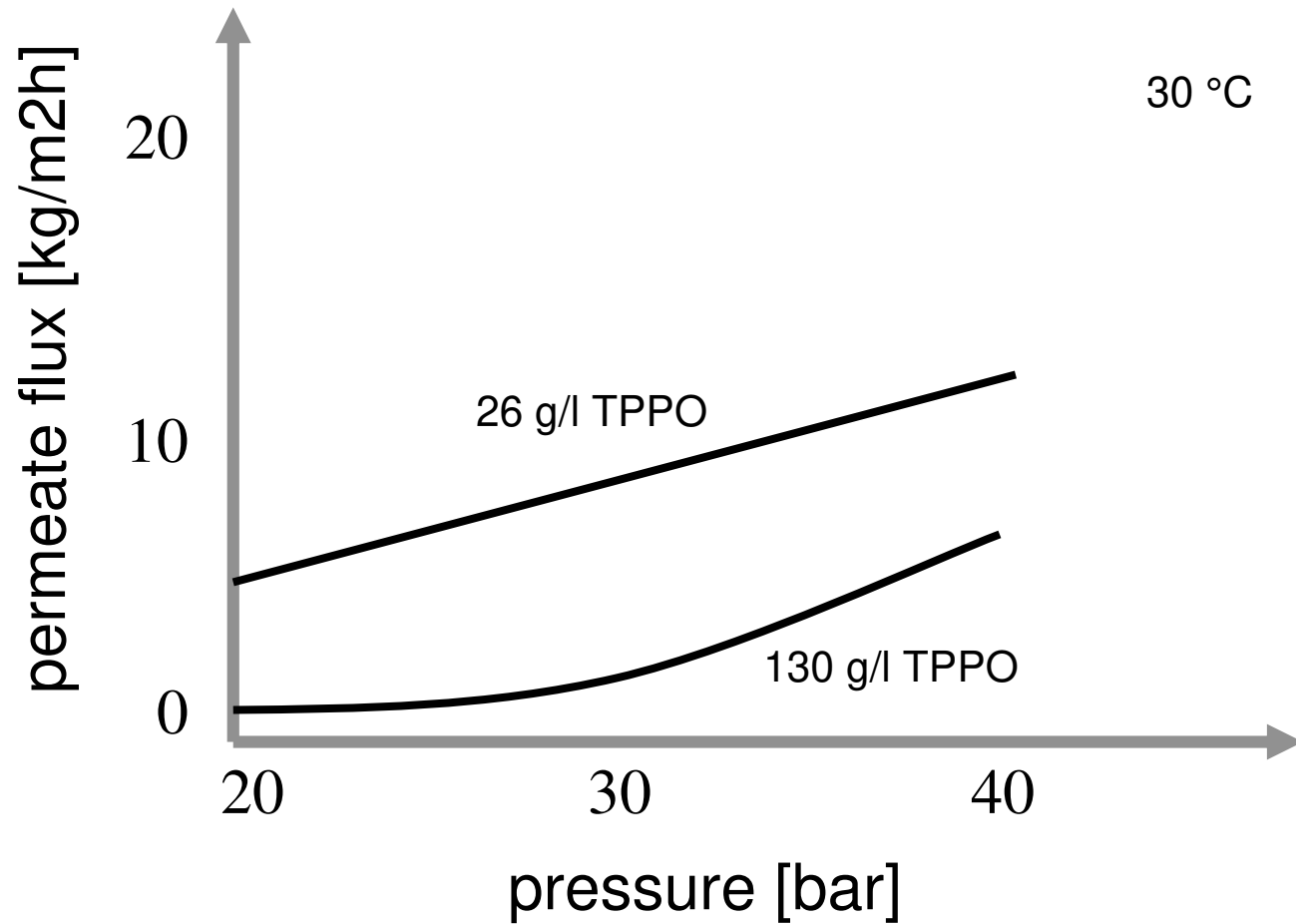


# Retention curve: SDM + conc.-polarisation

---



# Influence of pressure



# Questionnaire I

Question	Example	Background
what are the main components of the feed ? molecular weight, partical size and shape	solution of 20 g/l reactive dye, Mw 800 g/mol, 10 g/l NaCl	membrane choice, cut-off
solids present ?	100 µm prefiltered	module choice, channel blocking
what should be retained, what should permeate ?	retention of dye, permeation of NaCl and water	process and membrane choice
requested concentration in concentrate and permeate	100 g/l dye, 2 g/l NaCl in concentrate, dye yield > 99%	osmotic pressure, membrane choice
requested capacity, batch / continuous	2 batches/day, 16m <sup>3</sup> each	plant size, membrane area
use of concentrate and permeate	concentrate = product permeate = waste water treatment plant	membrane process separated into 2 streams. One is product, second sometimes waste

# Questionnaire II

Question	Example	Background
temperature and allowed temperature range of feed	enters at 80°C, may be cooled, solubility curve known	membrane/module choice, temperature stability
pH, allowed change	pH neutrale	membrane stability
by-components, organic solvents	various bye products from synthesis, no org. solvents	membrane stability
viscosity	feed 2 cP at 80°C, 5 cP at 40°C	pressure drop, module choice
solubilitys	dye 300 g/l at 40°C, influenced by salt concentration	max. concentrating factor optimisation of diafiltration
experience with similar products on a membrane plant	yes, known application, personal experience	
alternative processes	salting-out and filter press	advantages/disadvantages, costs
analytics for measurement of membrane retention	NaCl = titration with AgNO <sub>3</sub> , dye = UV/VIS	
GMP, sterile, biological growth	no	requirements membrane modules and plant
exclusion of air, inertisation	not required	oxidation

# Development of a membrane process

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**step 1: feasibility: project evaluation, questionnaire, order of magnitude for size and cost**

**step 2: lab test, membrane screening, cost and size estimate**

**step 3: process optimization in bench or pilot, plant design (modules, loops, stages, flows, pressures)**

**step 4: long term pilot: stability, changing feed, adaption of prior design. Decision for production plant.**

**step 5: detailed plant design, building and start-up**

# step 1: project evaluation

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- **feasibility**
- **orders of magnitude**
- **experiences (own or literature)**
- **may be a one day lab experiment**



## **step 2: membrane screening**

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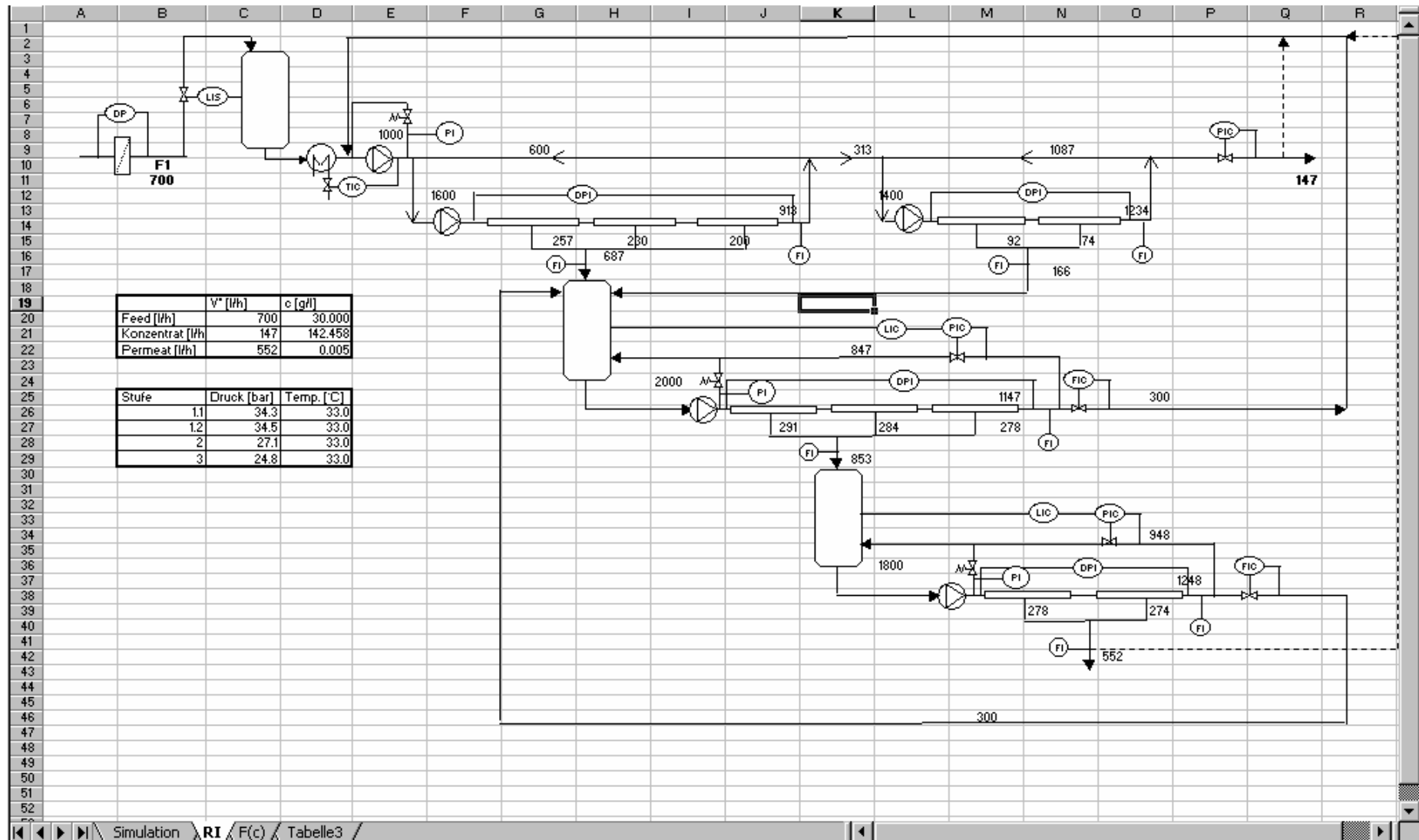
- **choice of membrane (later scale-up!)**
- **measurement of performance (R, Jv)**
- **2 pressures, 2 temperatures**
- **possible concentration factors**
- **indications of fouling**

## **step 3: process optimization bench/pilot**

---

- **influence of parameters (p, T, velocity, pH, Concentration/Diafiltration)**
- **measurement of performance (R, Jv,  $\Delta p$ )**
- **circulation run (fouling, backflush, cleaning)**
- **plant design (modules, loops, stages, flows, pressures, process integration)**

# step 3/4: process simulation



# step 3/4: process simulation

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1													
2	<b>Feeddruck [bar]</b>		34.3					27.1			24.8		
3	<b>Retentatdruck [bar]</b>		33.0					25.5			23.8		
4	<b>RetDruck Param. [bar]</b>		<b>33.0</b>					<b>21.5</b>			<b>16.1</b>		
5													
6	<b>m Feed Roh [l/h]</b>		700			<b>AK</b>	4.75						
7	<b>cF TPPO Roh [kg/l]</b>		<b>0.030</b>										
8	<b>Rs</b>		<b>0.97</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.98</b>	
9	<b>Pumpendurchsatz [l/h]</b>	<b>1000</b>	1600			1400		2000			1800		
10	<b>Konzentrate [l/h]</b>									<b>300</b>		<b>300</b>	
11	<b>Rezirkulation [l/h]</b>		-	-	600	-	1087	-	-	847	-	948	
12	<b>p [bar]</b>		34.0	33.5	33.2	34.1	33.4	26.8	26.4	26.2	24.5	24.2	
13	<b>T [°C]</b>		<b>33.0</b>	33.0	33.0	33.0	33.0	<b>33.0</b>	33.0	33.0	<b>33.0</b>	33.0	
14	<b>Module</b>				<b>12</b>		<b>8</b>			<b>12</b>		<b>8</b>	
15	Fläche [m <sup>2</sup> ]				96		64			96		64	
16	AK				1.75		1.13			3.84		2.84	
17	Regeldifferenz							0.10			0.52		
18	Δp [bar]		0.59	0.43	0.31	0.82	0.73	0.71	0.53	0.37	0.58	0.42	
19					1.33		1.55			1.61		1.01	
20	Hydr. Widerstand Wickelement		0.075			0.12		0.06			0.06		
21			1.1.I	1.1.II	1.1.III	1.2.I	1.2.II	2.I	2.II	2.III	3.I	3.II	
22	Feed (Stufe) [l/h]		1000	1343	1114	313	1308	1153	1709	1425	852	1522	
23	Feed (Modul) [l/h]		1600	1343	1114	1400	1308	2000	1709	1425	1800	1522	
24	Permeat [l/h]		257	230	200	92	74	291	284	278	278	274	
25	Konzentrat (vor Rezirk.) [l/h]		1343	1114	<b>913</b>	1308	<b>1234</b>	1709	1425	<b>1147</b>	1522	<b>1248</b>	
26	Konzentrat (nach Rezirk.) [l/h]		1343	1114	313	1308	147	1709	1425	300	1522	300	
27	m TPPO F (Modul) [kg/h]		65.54	65.20	64.83	176.91	176.30	8.55	8.52	8.49	0.39	0.38	
28	m TPPO P [kg/h]		0.34	0.37	0.39	0.60	0.51	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.00	0.00	
29	m TPPO K (vor Rezirk.) [kg/h]		65.20	64.83	64.44	176.30	175.79	8.52	8.49	8.45	0.38	0.38	
30	m TPPO K (nach Rezirk.) [kg/h]		65.20	64.83	39.60	176.30	21.00	8.52	8.49	2.21	0.38	0.09	
31	cF (Modul) [kg/l]		0.040963	0.048530	0.058213	0.126361	0.134826	0.004274	0.004984	0.005956	0.000215	0.000253	
32	cP [kg/l]		0.001342	0.001601	0.001931	0.006530	0.006932	0.000093	0.000109	0.000133	0.000005	0.000006	
33	cK [kg/l]		0.048530	0.058213	0.070551	0.134826	0.142458	0.004984	0.005956	0.007366	0.000253	0.000307	
34													
35	Arrheniusfaktor		3777	3753	3700	2113	1658	3800	3800	3800	3800	3800	
36													
37	Jv (c) [l/m <sup>2</sup> h]		10.84	9.88	8.73	3.33	2.86	15.86	15.74	15.58	16.47	16.46	
38	Jv (c, p) [l/m <sup>2</sup> h]		11.30	10.11	8.80	3.86	3.03	12.80	12.52	12.24	12.24	12.09	
39	Jv (c, p, T) [l/m <sup>2</sup> h]		8.02	7.18	6.26	2.89	2.30	9.08	8.88	8.68	8.68	8.57	
40			<b>0.80</b>					<b>0.80</b>			<b>0.80</b>		
41													
42													

## **step 4: long term pilot on site**

---

- **process stability**
- **changing feed**
- **staff hands-on training**
- **different operation modes**
- **adaption of prior design**
- **decision for production plant**

## **step 5a: plant design**

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- **limits to other processes**
- **energies**
- **in-house / external**
- **detail design**
- **components choice**
- **controll system**
- **operation modes**

## **step 5b: construction and start-up**

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- **construction supervision**
- **functional tests**
- **water tests**
- **product run**

# Membrane unit types

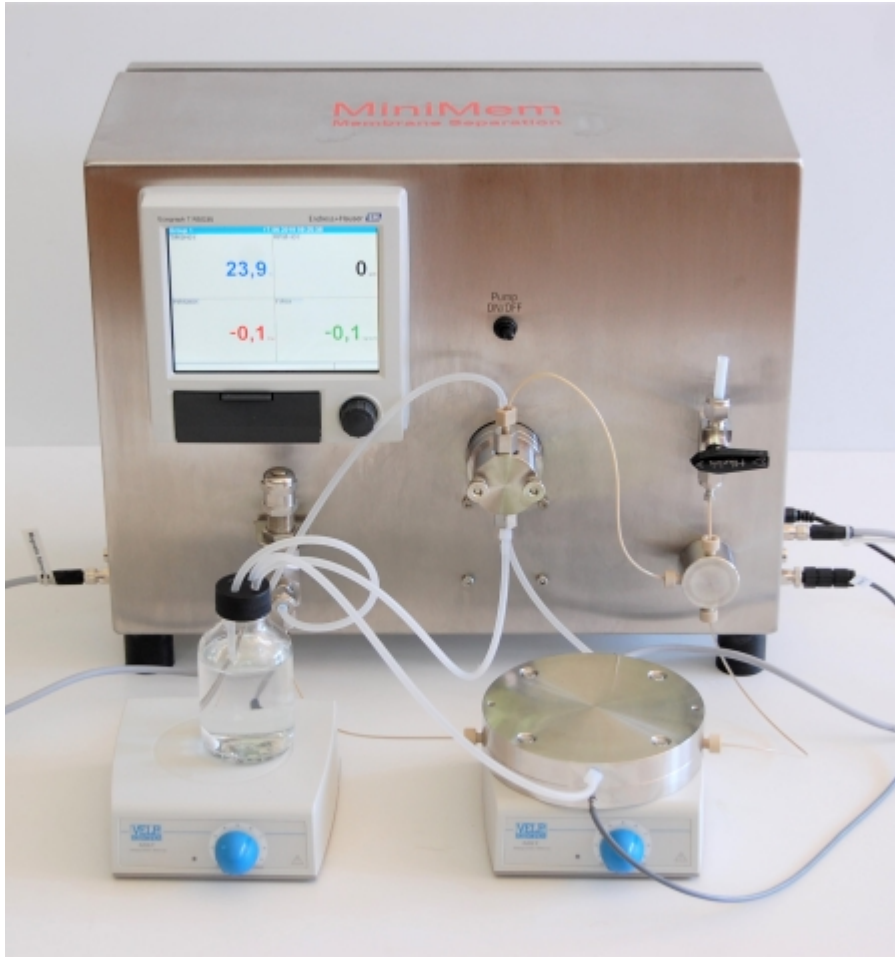
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- **lab**
- **bench top**
- **pilot**
- **industrial**
- **municipal**



# Lab unit MiniMem

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- aqueous and all organic solvents
- minimum operating volume 10ml
- up to 50 (100) bar
- operation possibilities: concentration, circulation, diafiltration, batch / conti
- different modules 30-120cm<sup>2</sup> membrane area

# Bench scale unit MaxiMem

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- aqueous and all organic solvents
- Flat, spiral, tubular membranes
- up to 40 (80) bar
- operation possibilities: concentration, circulation, diafiltration, batch / conti
- Batch size 1-100 l

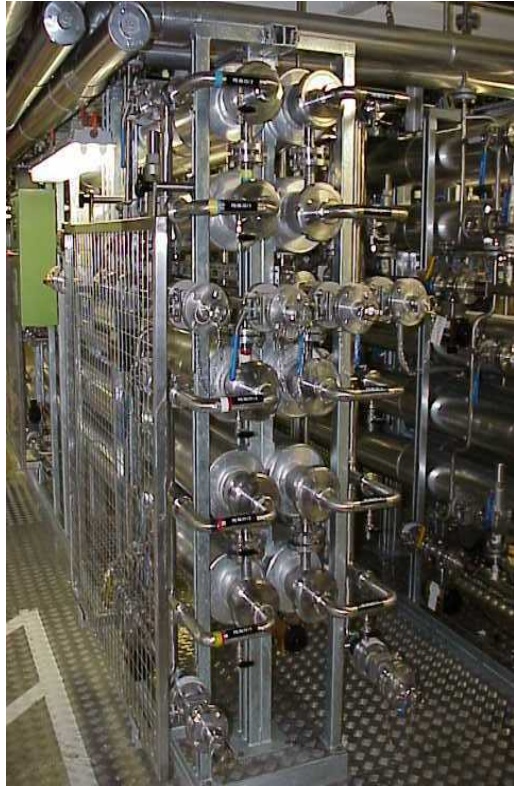
# Versions of PiloMem pilot units

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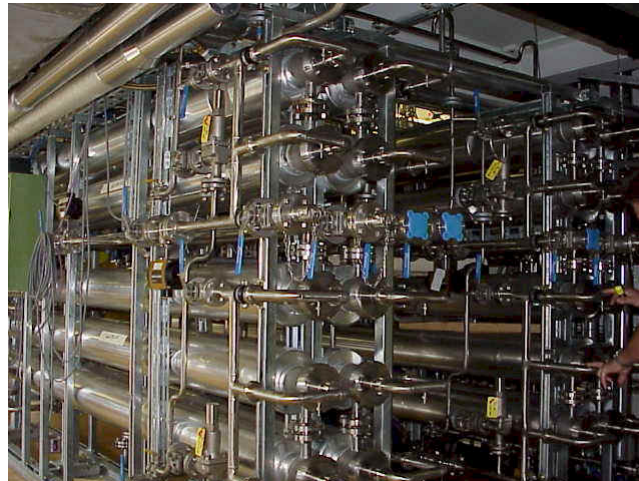
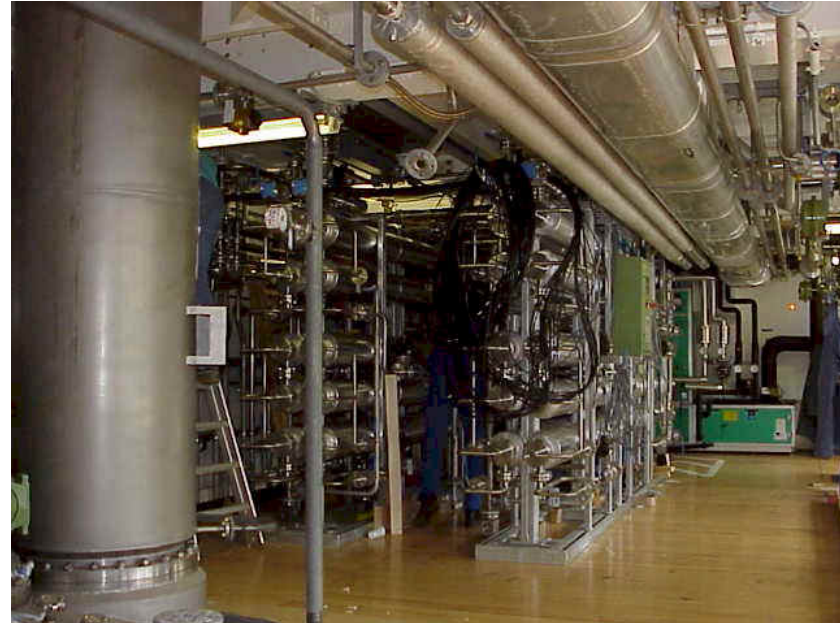
# Industrial

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# Industrial

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# Membrane plant components

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- **membrane module**
- **piping (material, pressure, connections)**
- **pumps (centrifugal, side channel, piston/membrane)**
- **measurement and control (p,  $\Delta p$ , T, Flow, frequency converter, pressure control valve)**
- **vessels**

# Application of membrane processes

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- **biotechnology**
- **food**
- **chemical industry production  
and waste**
- **water treatment**

# Biotechnology

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Product	Process
	<b>Mikrofiltration</b>
cell suspension, lysate bakteria, fungi, yeats, mamallian cells, colloids	concentrating, clarification, washing, desalting, buffer exchange
	<b>Ultrafiltration</b>
Peptide, Proteine, Enzyme, Polysaccharide, Lipide	concentrating, clarification, washing, desalting, buffer exchange, decolorization
proteins of diifferent Mw	pre-fractionation
solutions upstream of chromatografie	clarification, solvent exchange
	<b>Nanofiltration</b>
solutions of low molecular weight substances (Mw 300-1500): antibiotics, peptides, vitamins, sugar	concentrating and desalting, solvent exchange
	<b>Umkehrosrose</b>
all dissolved substances	concentrating



# Biotechnology, a typical downstream process

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- Microfiltration for product recovery from fermentation broth or lysate
- Ultrafiltration for retention of higher-Mw proteins,  
(diafiltration of lower-Mw product)
- Nanofiltration for buffer-exchange upstream of a chromatografie
- Chromatografie for specific product cleaning
- Nanofiltration for product washing  
(removal of eluent, buffer, NaCl)  
and concentrating of product

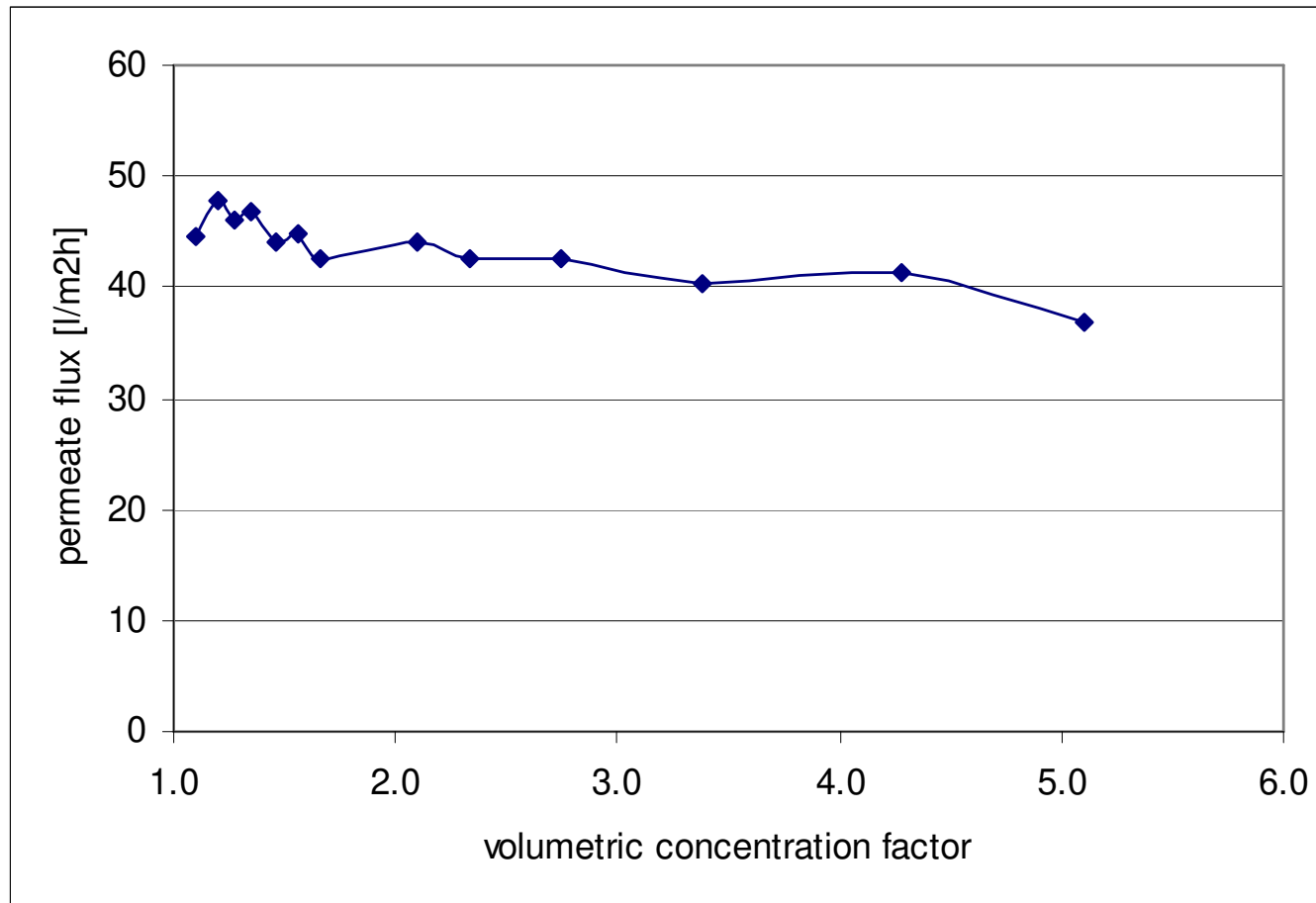
# Biotechnology, application example N

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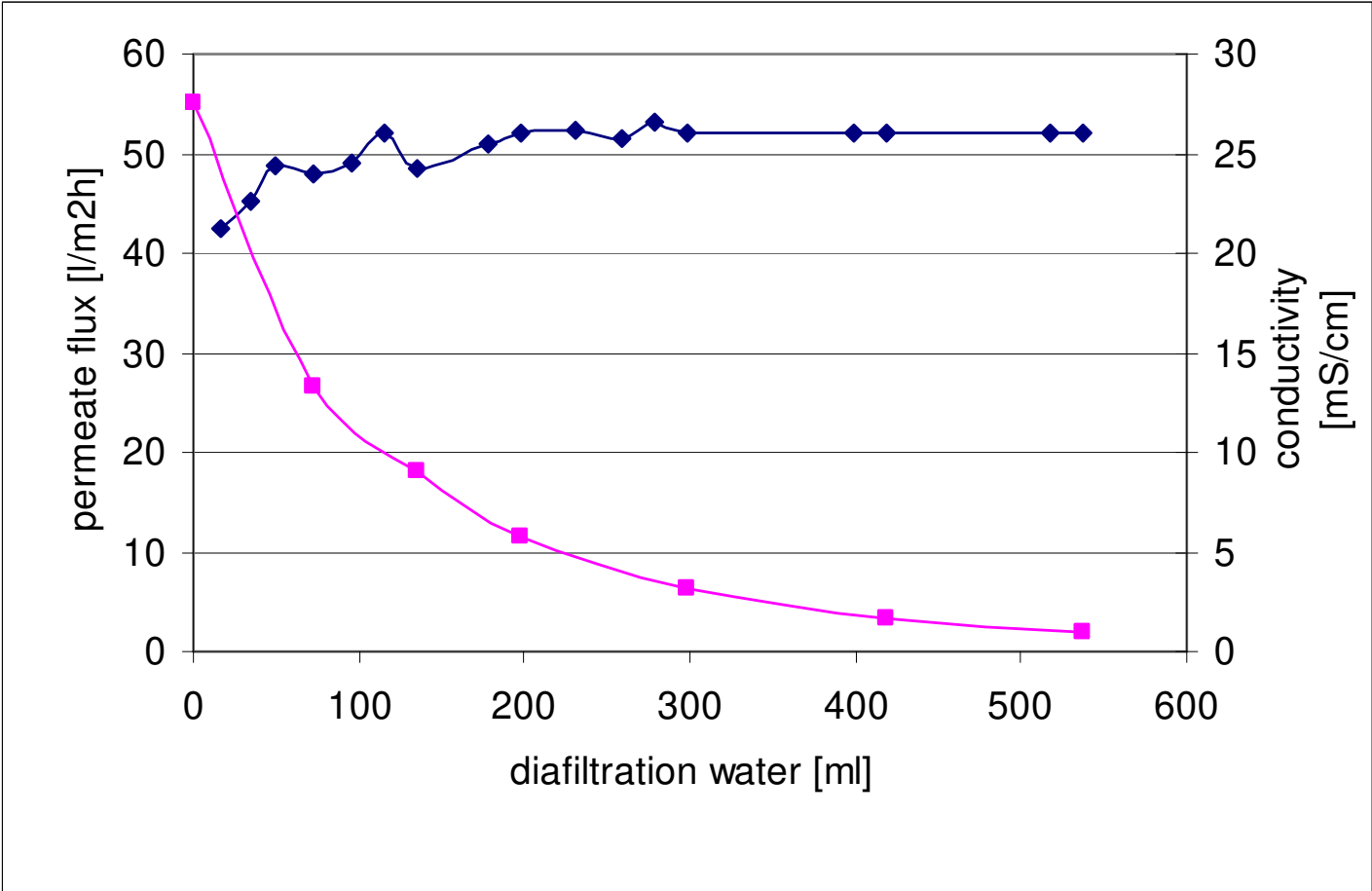
- specialty chemical manufacturer for biotech
- production scale 5-10l/Batch
- fermentation and MF for cell retention
- product N, Mw 900 g/mol must be purified
- Tris-buffer or NaCl must be removed
- Nanofiltration tested in Lab  
(250 ml, AK=5, DF=10)
- product / salt ratio shifted by factor 34
- further optimization possible
- „production plant“ built

# Biotechnology, application example N

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# Biotechnology, application example N



# Food

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Main reasons for use of membrane processes in the food industry:

- moderate operating conditions
- no additional chemicals

# Food

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**Clarification:** fruit juice  
sugar sirup  
wine  
acetic acid  
gelatine  
bacterial count reduction in milk

**Concentration:** fruit juice  
cheese whey (sugar)  
olive oil waste water  
plant extracts

**Desalting:** cheese whey

**Water recovery:** water recovery bottle wash

# Chemical Industry

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## **Water treatment: demineralized water**

(from boiler feed water to chip industry)

## **Waster water treatment / water recovery:**

**dye and chemicals production**

**oil/water separation**

**textile and paper industry**

**metal etching bath**

**chemicals recovery**

## **Desalting:**

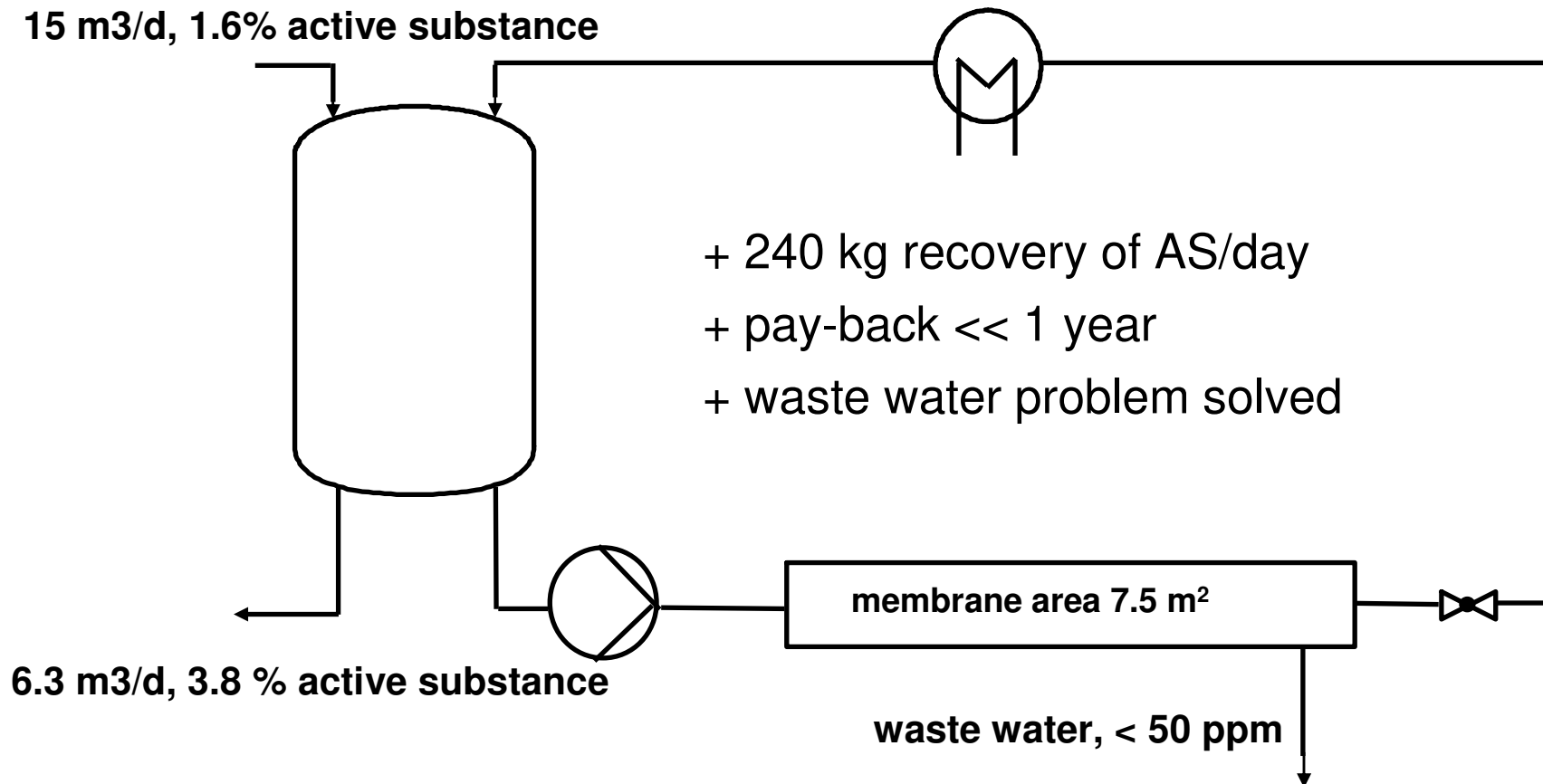
**liquid dye**

**optical brightener**

## **Extraction solution recycling**

# Reverse osmosis for product recovery

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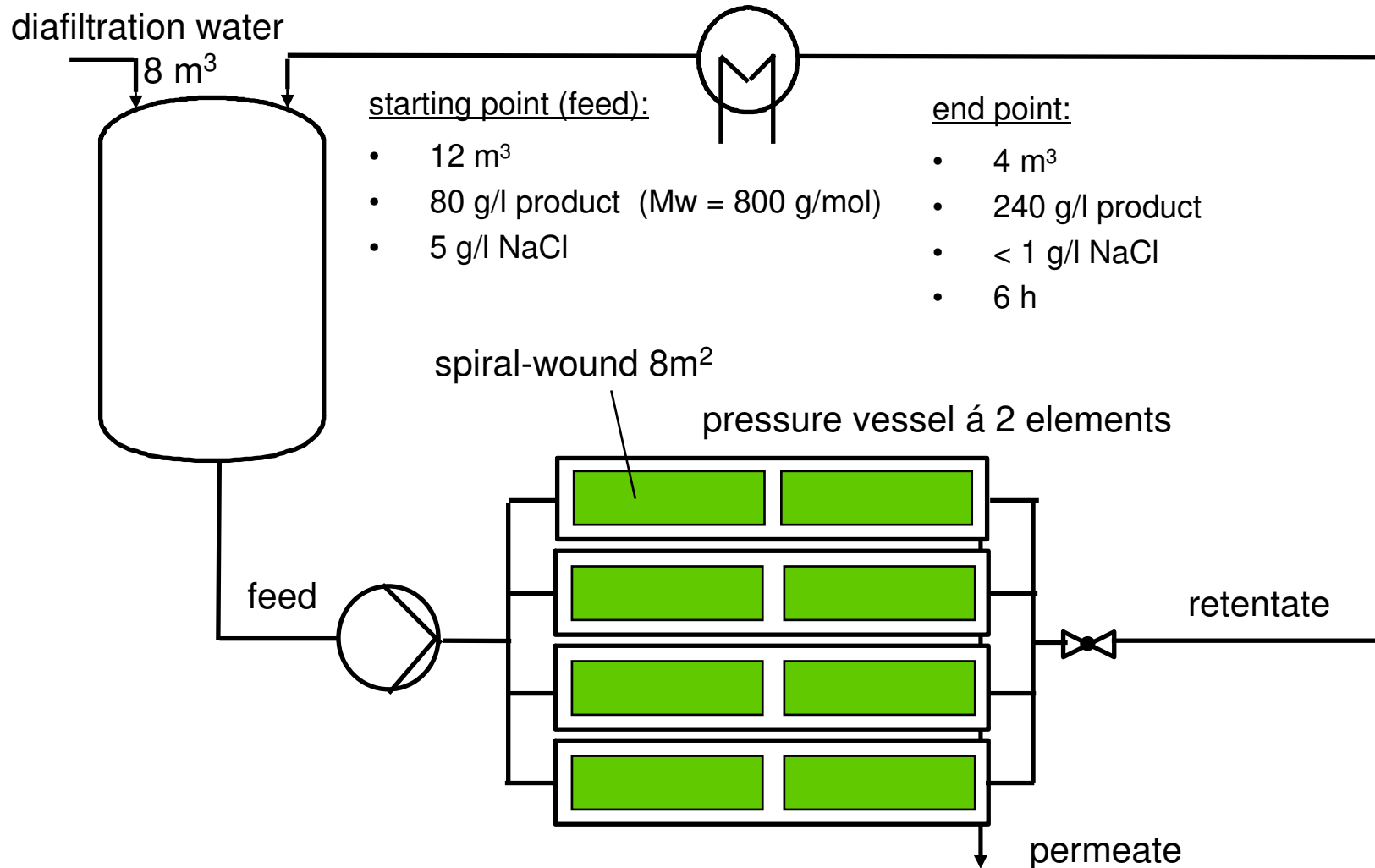




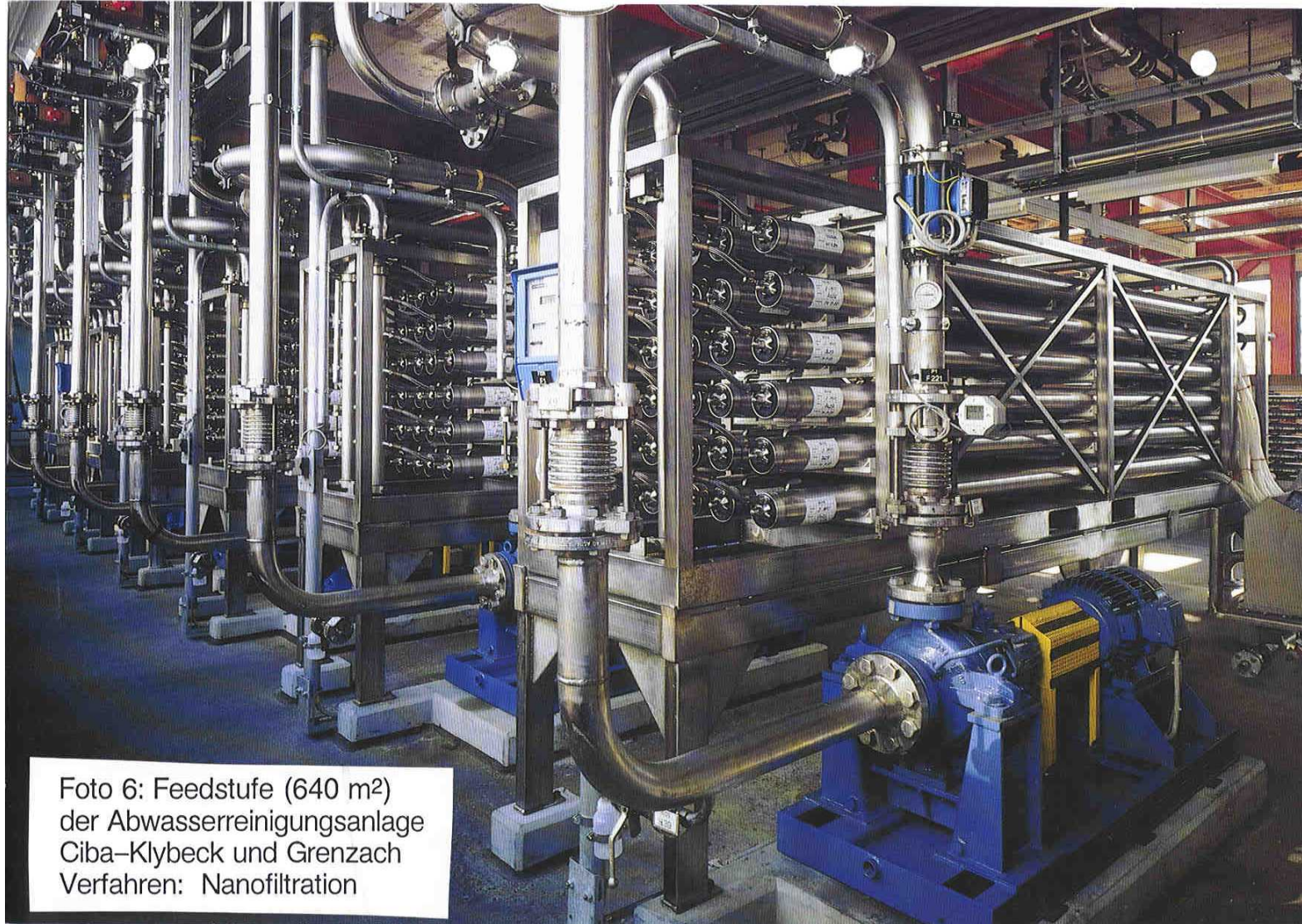
# Nanofiltration: concentration and desalting of a liquid dye

	Starting point (feed)	End point
Batch size	12 m <sup>3</sup>	4m <sup>3</sup>
Dye concentration	80 g/l	240 g/l
NaCl	5 g/l	1 g/l
Batch time		6h
Membrane area		60 m <sup>2</sup>

# Dye concentration and desalting: NF



# NF-plant (tubular modules)



# Energy cost example NF

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**pump 16m<sup>3</sup>/h, 25bar = 11kw / 0.7 = 16kW: 16 kWh für 2600 kg/h permeate = 1.3 EUR**

**evaporation: 2.6 to vapor for 2.6 to water = 85 EUR**

**→ energy costs nanofiltration = 1.5 % of evaporation**

**5000 h / year**

**→ energy savings = 418'000 EUR / year**

**unit cost 300'000 EUR**

# Drinking water supply

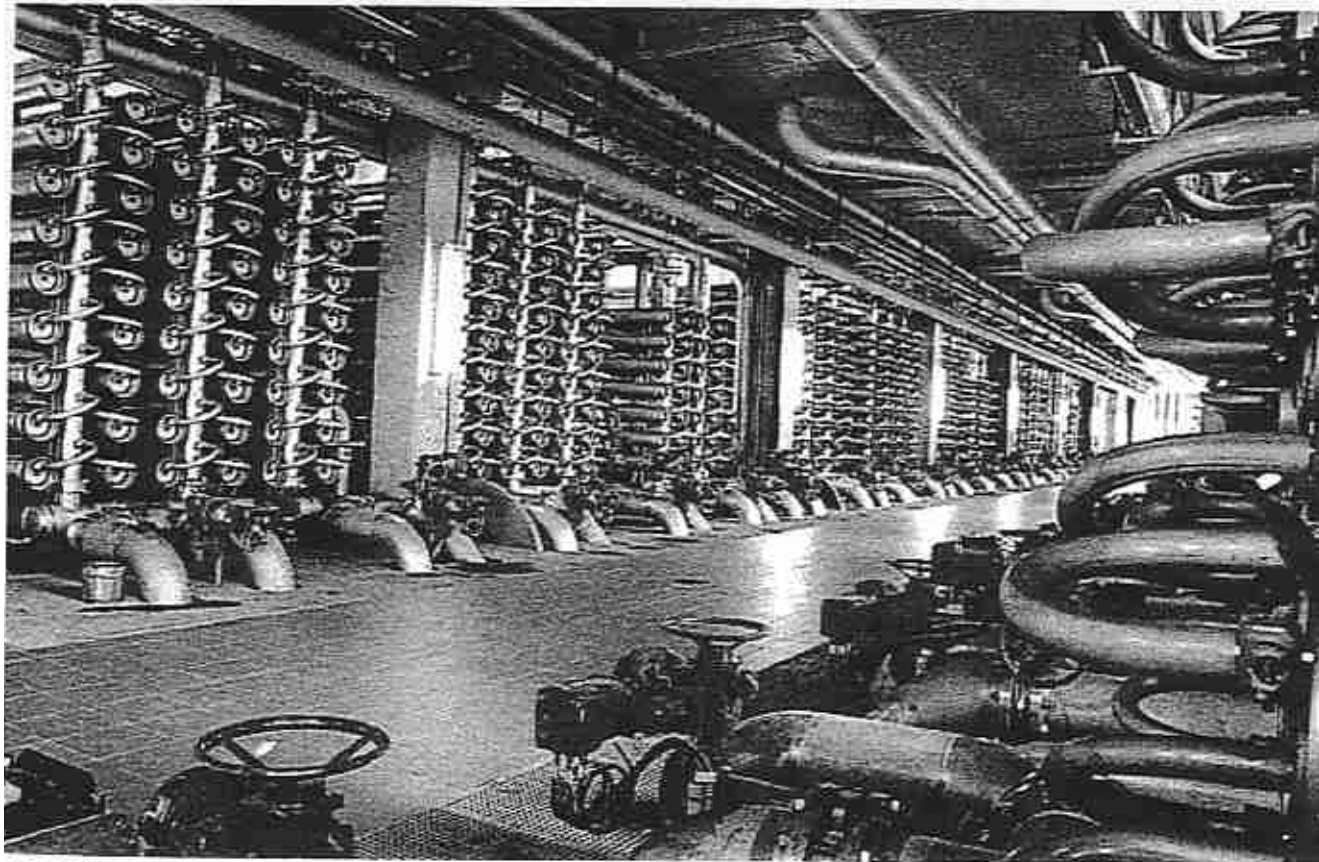
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- **sanitation**
- **desalting**
- **color removal**
- **THM, heavy metal removal**

# NF plant Méry-sur-Oise

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150 Mio EUR, 340'000m<sup>2</sup>, 140'000m<sup>3</sup>/day



# Typical observations MF-RO

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„permeate flux to low“

pressure ↑↑  
permeate flux ↑↑

osmotic pressure controlled

pressure ↑↑  
permeate flux =

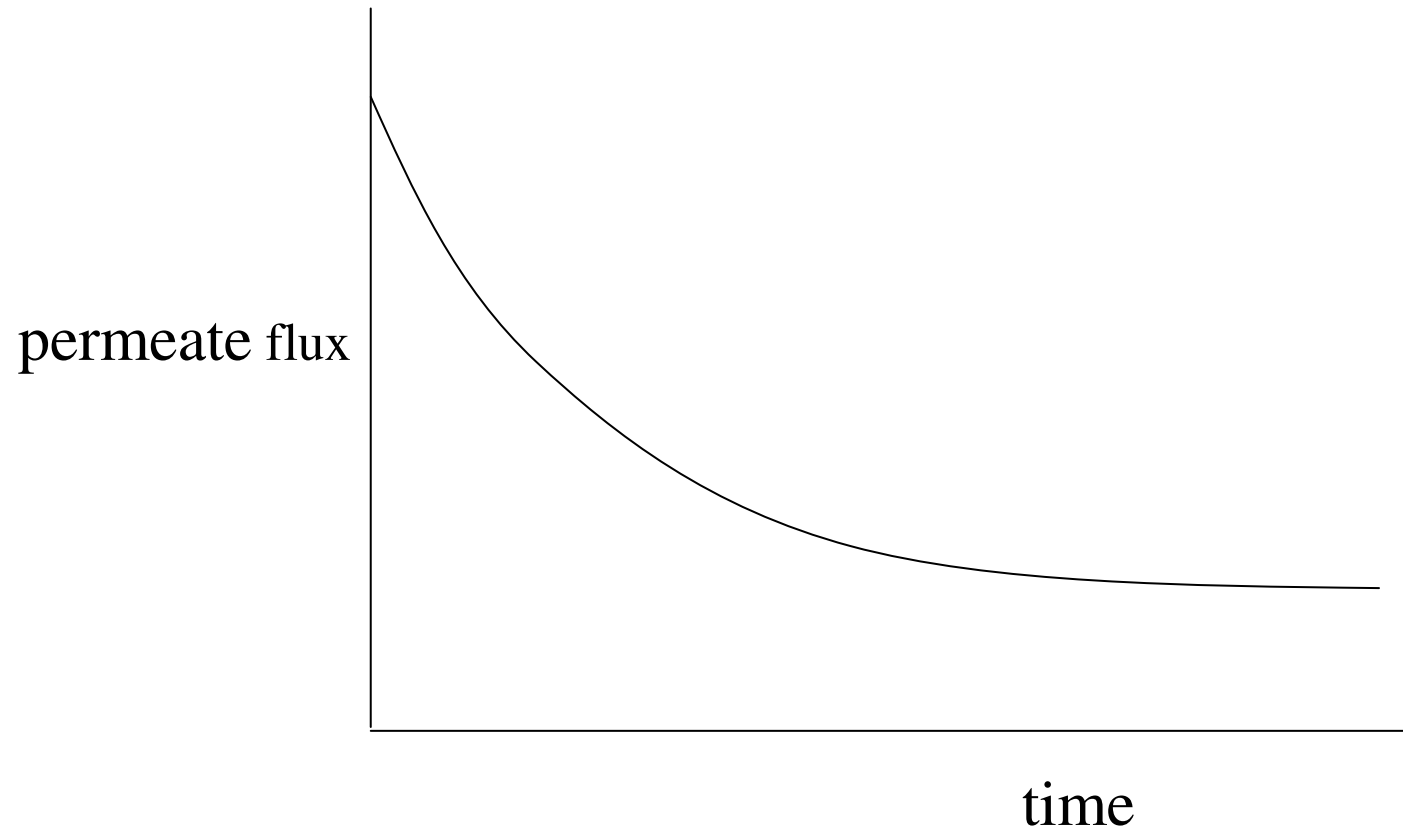
gel-layer controlled  
try to increase cross-flow  
( but this increases  
pressure drop )  
decrease viscosity  
increase temperature  
increase solubility

UF, NF, RO : 10 - 50 l/m<sup>2</sup>

MF : 50 - 200 l/m<sup>2</sup>h

# Membrane cleaning

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# Reasons of flux decline

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- fouling (biofouling)
- scaling (precipitations of product or by-product)

# Membrane cleaning

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- product layer (supersaturation due to concentrating).

Flush with solvent. Sometimes enzymatic  
or other membrane cleaner needed

- anorganic precipitation

(typical scaling by  $\text{CaCO}_3$ ). Acid clean

- biofouling: membrane cleaner often caustic

# Membrane cleaning principle

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- flush product with water
- high feed flow, low pressure partly permeate closed
- high temperature
- often caustic/acid/caustic clean with water flush
- support by supplier of membrane cleaning substances
- check cleaning success with water test