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Keynote Lecture: Biomimetic membranes incorporating artificial water channels for highperformance water reverse osmosis desalination

Mihail Barboiu

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Mihail Barboiu. Keynote Lecture: Biomimetic membranes incorporating artificial water channels for highperformance water reverse osmosis desalination. intelWATT Workshop on European leadership in action: enabling technologies to boost freshwater preservation, University of Birmigham, Feb 2024, Birmigham, United Kingdom. hal-04742273

HAL Id: hal-04742273

<https://hal.science/hal-04742273v1>

Submitted on 18 Oct 2024

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Biomimetic membranes incorporating artificial water channels for high-performance water reverse osmosis desalination

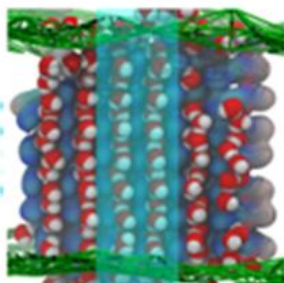
Mihail Barboiu*

Institut Européen des Membranes, Adaptive Supramolecular Nanosystems Group,
University of Montpellier, ENSCM, CNRS, Place Eugène Bataillon, CC 047, F-34095, Montpellier, France.
*mihail-dumitru.barboiu@umontpellier.fr

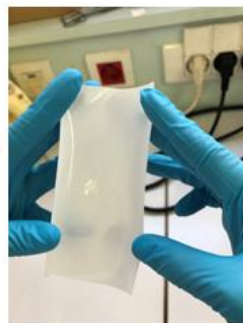
Inspired by biological models, artificial water channels can be used to overcome the permeability/selectivity trade-off of traditional desalination membranes. We demonstrate that rational incorporation of I-quartet artificial water channels in composite polyamide membranes synthesized *via* interfacial polymerization, provide defect free biomimetic membranes with intrinsic water-to-salt permeability on the operational SWRO-BWRO/TWRO desalination pressure and high/medium/low salinity conditions. The best biomimetic composite membranes, which can be easily scaled for industrial standards ($> \text{m}^2$), provide remarkable 99.5% rejection of NaCl and 91.2% boron rejection with water flux of $75 \text{ L m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ at 65 bar applied pressure with a 35000 ppm NaCl feed solution at pH 8, representative of seawater desalination. This flux is more than 75% higher than that observed with current state-of-the-art membranes with equivalent solute rejection, translating into an equivalent reduction of the membrane effective area for the same water output and a $\sim 12\%$ reduction of the required energy for desalination.

« Towards the ultimate reverse osmosis desalination membranes »

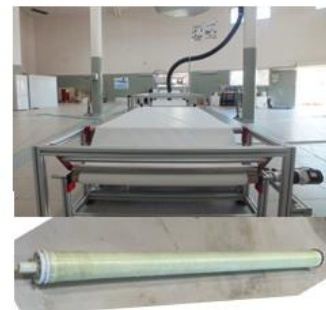
**Fundamental
science
Artificial Water
Channels**



**Lab scale
Membranes**



**Industrial
Modules**



Acknowledgments



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 958454"

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